

2015 Statistics on the Youth

I. Population and family

(Youth population)

In 2015, the youth population aged 9 to 24 was 9,610 thousand persons, which occupied 19.0 percent of the total population. The youth population is predicted to occupy 11.4 percent in 2060.

【 Youth population 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %)

	Total population	9 to 24 years		0 to 18 years	
			Percent		Percent
1970	32,241	11,330	35.1	16,419	50.9
1978	36,969	13,647	36.9	16,832	45.5
1980	38,124	14,015	36.8	16,545	43.4
1990	42,869	13,553	31.6	14,489	33.8
2000	47,008	11,501	24.5	12,904	27.5
2010	49,410	10,465	21.2	10,763	21.8
2015	50,617	9,610	19.0	9,538	18.8
2020	51,435	8,403	16.3	8,659	16.8
2040	51,091	6,894	13.5	7,448	14.6
2060	43,959	5,011	11.4	5,689	12.9

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Population Projections」 Dec. 2011

(School-going population)

In 2015, the school-going population aged 6 to 21 occupied 17.5 percent of the total population. This share is predicted to record a continuously downward trend.

【 School-going population 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %)

	Total population	6 to 21 years		6 to 11 years		12 to 14 years		15 to 17 years		18 to 21 years	
			Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent
1970	32,241	12,604	39.1	5,711	17.7	2,574	8.0	2,101	6.5	2,218	6.9
1980	38,124	14,401	37.8	5,499	14.4	2,599	6.8	2,671	7.0	3,632	9.5
1990	42,869	13,361	31.2	4,786	11.2	2,317	5.4	2,595	6.1	3,663	8.5
2000	47,008	11,383	24.2	4,073	8.7	1,869	4.0	2,166	4.6	3,275	7.0
2010	49,410	10,012	20.3	3,276	6.6	1,974	4.0	2,090	4.2	2,672	5.4
2015	50,617	8,874	17.5	2,736	5.4	1,563	3.1	1,846	3.6	2,730	5.4
2020	51,435	7,757	15.1	2,719	5.3	1,359	2.6	1,370	2.7	2,308	4.5
2040	51,091	6,698	13.1	2,378	4.7	1,271	2.5	1,298	2.5	1,751	3.4
2060	43,959	4,884	11.1	1,805	4.1	906	2.1	910	2.1	1,264	2.9

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Population Projections」 Dec. 2011

■ (Multi-cultural students)

In 2014, the number of students in multi-cultural families was 67,806 persons, which rose by 21.6 percent from 2013.

【 Multi-cultural students 】

(Unit: person, %)

	Total students (thousand persons)	Multi-cultural students		Elementary school		Middle school		High school	
		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	
2006	7,776	9,389	0.1	7,910	84.2	1,139	12.1	340	3.6
2007	7,735	14,654	0.2	12,199	83.2	1,979	13.5	476	3.2
2008	7,618	20,180	0.3	16,785	83.2	2,527	12.5	868	4.3
2009	7,447	26,015	0.3	21,466	82.5	3,294	12.7	1,255	4.8
2010	7,236	31,788	0.4	24,701	77.7	5,260	16.5	1,827	5.7
2011	6,987	38,678	0.6	28,667	74.1	7,634	19.7	2,377	6.1
2012	6,732	46,954	0.7	33,792	72.0	9,647	20.5	3,515	7.5
2013	6,529	55,780	0.9	39,430	70.7	11,294	20.2	5,056	9.1
2014	6,334	67,806	1.1	48,297	71.2	12,525	18.5	6,984	10.3

Source: Ministry of Education

■ (Satisfaction with family relationship)

In 2014, 68.8 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 were satisfied with their overall family relationship.

■ (Attitude toward marriage)

In 2014, 56.8 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 thought that 'A couple can live together without being legally married'.

II. Health

■ (Physique)

In 2014, the average height of six grade male elementary school students rose by 2.3cm from 2004. The average weight of six grade male elementary school students rose by 2.4kg from 2004.

【 Average height by school level 】

(Unit: cm)

	Sixth grade students of elementary school		Third grade students of middle school		Third grade students of high school	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
2004	149.1	150.3	167.8	159.4	173.6	161.1
2011	150.4	151.1	168.9	159.5	173.7	161.1
2012	150.6	151.1	168.7	159.3	173.6	160.9
2013	150.9	151.2	169.0	159.5	173.5	160.8
2014	151.4	151.8	169.2	159.8	173.5	160.9
Change from 2004	2.3	1.5	1.4	0.4	-0.1	-0.2

Source: Ministry of Education

【 Average weight by school level 】

(Unit: kg)

	Sixth grade students of elementary school		Third grade students of middle school		Third grade students of high school	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
2004	44.4	43.2	60.2	53.4	68.1	55.8
2011	46.0	44.4	61.6	53.6	68.3	56.2
2012	46.2	44.2	61.6	53.7	68.4	56.2
2013	46.3	44.7	62.1	54.2	68.7	56.3
2014	46.8	45.1	61.9	54.5	68.5	56.8
Change from 2004	2.4	1.9	1.7	1.1	0.4	1.0

Source: Ministry of Education

■ (Health care)

In 2014, 61.1 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 ate breakfast regularly. 71.0 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 got enough sleep. In the meantime, 35.8 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 exercised regularly.

【 Health care of the youth 】

(Unit: %)

	Eat breakfast regularly		Get enough sleep (6 to 8 hours)		Exercise regularly	
	Do	Don't	Do	Don't	Do	Don't
2012	66.1	33.9	72.2	27.8	33.3	66.7
2014	61.1	38.9	71.0	29.0	35.8	64.2
13 to 19 years	70.0	30.0	71.9	28.1	36.7	63.3
20 to 24 years	48.3	51.7	69.6	30.4	34.6	65.4

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Social Survey」

■ (Stress)

In 2014, 61.4 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 got stress from their general life.

【 Stress recognition rate of the youth 】

(Unit: %)

	General life	Home life	School life	Work life
2012	66.9	40.7	58.4	66.2
2014	61.4	34.4	54.4	67.2
Males	56.4	31.2	49.9	60.5
Females	66.2	37.5	59.0	72.1
13 to 19 years	58.7	35.0	51.8	55.2
20 to 24 years	65.1	33.4	62.6	70.2

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Social Survey」

■ (Smoking and drinking)

In 2014, the smoking and drinking rate of middle and high school students stood at 9.2 percent and 16.7 percent, respectively.

■ (Problems to worry)

In 2014, the youth aged 13 to 24 were concerned about 'Study' (35.3 percent), 'Job' (25.6 percent) and 'Appearance & health' (16.9 percent).

■ (Impulse to commit suicide)

In 2014, 7.9 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 had impulse to commit suicide, which fell by 3.3%p from 11.2 percent in 2012.

■ (Cause of death)

In 2013, the leading cause of death for the youth aged 9 to 24 was 'Intentional self-harm', which were followed by 'Transport accidents' and 'Malignant neoplasms'.

【 Leading causes of death for the youth aged 9 to 24 】

(Unit: per 100,000 population)

		1st	2nd	3rd
2003	Cause of death	Transport accidents	Intentional self-harm	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)
	Death rate	9.6	7.4	4.2
2012	Cause of death	Intentional self-harm	Transport accidents	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)
	Death rate	8.0	4.9	3.4
2013	Cause of death	Intentional self-harm	Transport accidents	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)
	Death rate	7.8	4.4	3.1

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Leading Causes of Death Statistics」

III. Education and labor

■ (Satisfaction with school life)

In 2014, 49.6 percent of students were satisfied with their general school life.

■ (Expected purpose of education)

In 2014, 48.6 percent and 36.0 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 wanted to get university education or more so as to 'To secure a good job' and to 'To achieve personal development', respectively.

■ (Private education and after-school program)

In 2014, 68.6 percent of elementary, middle and high school student participated in private education. 59.3 percent of elementary, middle and high school student participated in after-school programs.

【 Private education participation by school level 】

(Unit: %, ten thousand won)

	Total		Elementary school		Middle school		High school ¹⁾	
	Participation rate	Expenditure ²⁾	Participation rate	Expenditure ²⁾	Participation rate	Expenditure ²⁾	Participation rate	Expenditure ²⁾
2012	69.4	23.6	80.9	21.9	70.6	27.6	57.6	26.5
2013	68.8	23.9	81.8	23.2	69.5	26.7	55.9	26.2
2014	68.6	24.2	81.1	23.2	69.1	27.0	56.2	26.9

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Private Education Expenditures Survey」

Note 1) General high school

2) Monthly average expenditures, which are based on students who participate in private education as well as those who don't participate in private education

■ (Employment-population ratio)

In 2014, the employment-population ratio for the youth aged 15 to 29 was 40.7 percent, up 1.0%p from 2013.

【 Employment-population ratio for the youth aged 15 to 29 】

(Unit: thousand persons, %, %p)

	Population aged 15 to 29		Employment-population ratio ¹⁾	Change from the previous year
		Employed persons		
2000	11,243	4,879	43.4	-
2005	9,920	4,450	44.9	-0.2
2010	9,705	3,914	40.3	-0.2
2011	9,589	3,879	40.5	0.2
2012	9,517	3,843	40.4	-0.1
2013	9,548	3,793	39.7	-0.7
2014	9,503	3,870	40.7	1.0
15 to 24	6,223	1,604	25.8	1.6
25 to 29	3,280	2,266	69.1	0.3

Source: Statistics Korea, 「Annual Report on the Economically Active Population Survey」

■ (Wage)

In 2013, the monthly average wages of workers aged 29 or less marked 1,956 thousand won.

【 Wages of workers aged 29 or less 】

(Unit: thousand won, %)

	Wages ¹⁾			Year-on-year percent change		
	29 or less	24 or less	25 to 29	29 or less	24 or less	25 to 29
2000	978	821	1,077	8.3	8.3	8.1
2005	1,410	1,190	1,532	8.8	7.9	8.3
2006	1,494	1,278	1,590	5.9	7.4	3.8
2007	1,542	1,317	1,632	3.2	3.1	2.6
2008	1,644	1,364	1,741	6.6	3.6	6.7
2009	1,661	1,364	1,757	1.1	0.0	0.9
2010	1,733	1,400	1,841	4.3	2.6	4.8
2011	1,832	1,545	1,942	5.7	10.3	5.4
2012	1,897	1,597	2,017	3.6	3.4	3.9
2013	1,956	1,645	2,087	3.1	3.0	3.5

Source: Ministry of Employment and Labor

■ (Way of getting a job)

As for the youth aged 15 to 29 who had ever been employed as of May 2014, the largest share of them (31.4 percent) got their job 'Via newspapers, magazines or the Internet'.

■ (Reason for quitting the first job)

As for the youth aged 15 to 29 who had ever quit their job as of May 2014, the largest share of them (47.0 percent) quit their job due to 'Dissatisfaction with working conditions'. This share was followed by 'Personal and family reasons' (17.6 percent).

IV. Culture

■ (Participation in youth activities)

In 2014, 77.2 percent of the youth aged 9 to 24 participated in 'Cultural and artistic activities'. 52.3 percent and 48.6 percent of them participated in 'Future job and career activities' and 'Volunteer work', respectively.

■ (Internet access)

In 2014, 95.2 percent of the youth in their teens used the Internet more than one time a day. Their main purposes were 'Communication', 'Leisure activities' and 'Information search'.

■ (Use of Social Networking Services (SNS))

In 2014, 90.4 percent of university students used SNS. 78.1 percent of high school students used SNS.

■ (Use of entertainment establishments)

In 2014, 91.7 percent of middle and high school students used 'Karaoke'. This percentage was followed by 'PC rooms' (82.9 percent) and 'Video game rooms' (48.7 percent).

■ (Awareness of gender equality)

In 2014, 93.5 percent of the youth thought that 'Males and females should have equal rights in all aspects'.

■ (Awareness of human rights)

In 2014, 93.4 percent of the youth thought that 'Everyone should have a right to express their opinions freely'.

V. Safety

■ (Use of harmful media)

In 2014, 52.6 percent of middle and high school students had experience of 'Contents only for adults over the mobile phone'.

■ (Experience and reason for runaway from home)

In 2014, 11.0 percent of middle and high school students ran away from home. Their main reason for runaway from home was 'Conflict with family members including parents'.

■ (Child abuse)

In 2013, the number of child abuses was 6,796 cases. The majority of children were abused by their biological parents.

■ (Views on social safety)

In 2014, 46.9 percent of the youth aged 13 to 24 were worried about social safety.

■ (Reason for social anxiety)

In 2014, the youth aged 13 to 24 mentioned 'Crimes' as a leading cause of social anxiety.