**Human Activities**

### Transformation of the Nation

The year 1953 was the aftermath of decades of Japanese occupation (1910-1945) and fighting the Korean War (1950-1953). South Korea was a war-torn nation with poverty, land devastation, and destroyed infrastructure. With the lack of natural resources and little national capital, rebuilding a nation was a daunting task. Until the early 1960s, Korea was forced to focus on recovering from the devastation of war by utilizing international aid to restore public facilities and rebuild the national economy.

The governmental master plan for land development was put into action in the early 1960s. Many parts of the plan were based on principles and theories of human geography and the practice of cartographic analysis. At that time, the government based the plan on the growth pole theory, concentrating in a small number of places with the highest promise of success. This approach was aimed at maximizing the development effect in the shortest of time. However, the growth pole theory resulted in the intensified flow of people and capital to only a few development centers. Under the Special Area Development Project, Seoul, Inchon, and Ulsan were selected as growth poles or Special Areas to be developed first on the premise that the effects of such development would gradually envelop the surrounding areas. The Industrial Park Development Project began in Ulsan and Seoul in the early 1960s. Also, during the 1960s and 1970s, the Industrial City Construction Project was launched with targeted sites near each industrial parks. This led to the emergence of major chemical industries concentrated in Ulsan, Yeocheon, Pohang, and Gunsan with a consequent rise in population in each of these cities.

Urbanization, families moving to live in the city, increase in national income, and more widespread expectations for a higher quality of life led to soaring demands for housing in the 1960s and 1970s. The housing supply rose to keep pace with the demand. In 1950, the number of housing units was 5,280,000. By 2011 it had increased five-and-a-half times to 18,130,000. The increase was a result of many government-led land development projects, urbanization, social behavioral institutions, as well as the economy. Both the number and sizes of cities and urban areas are notable examples. These all possess hydrometric power generation capabilities. In 1975, the first nuclear power plant, the Gori Nuclear Power Plant No. 1 was built and began operations near Daejeon. Subsequently, more nuclear power plants were built in Wolsong, Uljin, and Yeonggwang. For the last 60 years, there have been many changes in the Korean landscape, most of which have stemmed from government-led land development projects, urbanization, industrialization, and the building of important infrastructure that stimulate growth. The progress since the Korean War is nothing short of an impressive and rapid transformation of the nation.

### Major Land Development Projects

Air traffic development began with the construction of airfields built for military purposes during Japanese colonization. Gimpo Airport opened in 1958 and Jeju Airport began operations in 1968. Air transportation in Korea has opened a new chapter with the opening of the ultra-modern Incheon International Airport on Yeongjong Island in 2001. Other major development projects from the 1970s to the present include a number of natural resource and energy related projects such as reforestation, land reclamation, multipurpose dam construction, and nuclear power plant construction. Urbanization has had major impacts on Korean demographics, the physical landscape, social behavioral institutions, as well as the economy. Both the number and sizes of cities increased, as the population of rural areas declined, which also led to a decrease in the percentage of the population that was engaged in agriculture, fishing and fishing-related activities.

The emergence of metropolitan centers is a major feature of development in Korea. During the 1960s and 1970s, the Industrial City Construction Project was launched with targeted sites near each industrial parks. This led to the emergence of major chemical industries concentrated in Ulsan, Yeocheon, Pohang, and Gunsan with a consequent rise in population in each of these cities.

As economic development gained momentum in the 1960s, the transportation infrastructure was quickly built to support the transformation of the nation. The most notable project was the 428 kilometer (260 miles) Yangyong Expressway which connects Seoul with Busan. Construction began in 1960, and the expressway opened for service in 1970. It serves as the main corridor through the country. Since the late 1980s more and more roads have been built and improved as the number of cars has soared and the volume of road traffic has increased. The modernization of road traffic has been ongoing. In 2004, the Seoul- Incheon High Speed Railway began operation with a bullet train capable of traveling at 300 miles per hour. The railway of economic transportation is used for economic transportation rather than domestic purposes. Major port facilities of Korea are primarily located along the southeastern coast, which facilitates the import and export of materials and products needed for chemical industrial plants located in the same region. In 2006, the Busan New Port began operation and has become the center for international marine transportation.

**The Growth of Seoul**

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**The Development of Transportation Infrastructure**

Human Activities
**The National Assembly**

Transforming a nation also means making improvements in the structure of the government. Although the Republic of Korea has gone through six different republics in the national transformation since the Korean War, it has now been stabilized. Korea held its first free election in 1987. The sixth (and current) republic is a democracy that has universal suffrage at age 19. Similar to the United States, the government is divided into three branches: the National Assembly (legislative branch), the Executive Branch, and the Judicial Branch.

The National Assembly is the legislative body of the Republic of Korea composed of members who are elected by the people in whom sovereignty belongs and, on their behalf, enact laws which are the foundation of state operation. They also deliberate and finalize the budget and make important policy decisions.

The National Assembly has the legislative power to propose and pass constitutional amendments and to enact and revise laws. It deliberates and decides upon budget proposals and settlement of accounts submitted by the government, controls state affairs by auditing the overall performance of the government, and proposes and passes constitutional amendments and legislation. The National Assembly is the legislative body of the Republic of Korea and has the right to propose and pass constitutional amendments and to enact legislation. The National Assembly is also responsible for the approval of the President's appointment of key public officials, such as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the President of the Constitutional Court, the Prime Minister, and other high-ranking officials.

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Spatial Planning

In the process of rebuilding the nation, stabilizing the government and transforming the land, careful thought and legislation must be implemented to realize successful results. Korea has implemented the Spatial Planning Program that must consider a very complex and necessarily harmonious interplay of economic growth, land development, environmental issues, urbanization, transportation efficiency, population distribution, employment, proximity between the work place and home, health care, education, and other social welfare and social services that take in totally will produce a sustainable high quality of life.

Spatial planning in Korea has been greatly advanced with the development of the national territory since 1980. It is the standardized and refined framework that is utilized to maximize the efficient use of Korean territorial land and water bodies. Spatial planning is also a key component in the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan (CNTP), regional development plans, and comprehensive city/county plans. The intent of spatial planning is to seek balanced approaches to land development, to enhance the competitiveness between regions, and to pursue the environmentally-friendly management of land.

More specifically, the CNTP is a master plan to efficiently manage territorial land resources in a manner that is compatible with the goals and underlying strategies of national policies. The first CNTP (1972–1981) was implemented in 1971, it was followed subsequently by the second CNTP (1982–1991), the third CNTP (1992–2001), and the fourth CNTP (2000–2020). After the implementation of each of the first three comprehensive national territorial plans, newer concerns and unanticipated situations and priorities were revealed. New insights were envisioned and adjustments were made to improve planning strategies for the future.

With the rapid economic growth and urbanization in Korea national development has been proposed in an unplanned manner. In order to narrow the development gap between regions, various regional development plans have been carried out. Plans such as the Enterprise City, the Innovative City, and the Multinational Administrative City have been designed and implemented. In the mid-2010s, a five-year regional innovative development plan has been executed with the aim of promoting local economic self-reliance through regionally specialized development. Additionally a distinct development promotion plan has also been applied to areas that remain significantly underdeveloped. A culture and tourism development plan has also been proposed to help foster more distinctive regional development projects.

The Fourth Comprehensive National Territorial Plan reflects the integrated national territory of the twenty-first century. It seeks to realize a globally oriented national territory and to promote globally competitive cities based on “Wide Area Economic Zones.” To achieve this goal, the Fourth Plan established a national supra-economic network of regional areas which linked Wide Area Economic Zones as well as the coastal areas with inland areas, and further linked the three coastal areas and the border area between South and North Korea.

The map illustrates details on Korean developments such as the history of development, regionally specialized development, and requires careful examination of the symbols for a full comprehension of the various distributions of development and the northeastern ports.

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The Development of Transportation and Communication

One of the most important factors that enable a nation to grow is the transportation infrastructure. It allows for the movement of people, goods, raw materials, food, and other necessary supplies. Roads, railways, airports, and ports are all essential facilities in the process of building a nation. Since the 1960s, construction of transportation infrastructure took place rapidly. Major national networks such as expressways, railways, airports, and seaports were developed and the whole nation became more accessible to commuters, making it possible for tourists to move point-to-point in the country. With the opening of the Gyeongbu Expressway in 1970, the entire nation was established to connect Seoul with Busan. With the transportation expansion, numerous important industries were developed along the Gyeongbu Axis, and in order to maintain their competitiveness, transportation was established to cover the country. The effect of transportation development has been steady. Total capacity increased from 82 million tons in 2000 to more than one billion tons in 2013. Busan and Gwangyang are the ports that process the largest amount of cargo in Korea, increasing 27% and 20%, respectively. The number of passenger vessels has also increased steadily. It was 8.2 million in 1990, and doubled to 16.1 million by 2013. Catering to passengers into visitors and island residents, the number of trips by island residents decreased, while trips by visitors have greatly increased. The Mulpo port accounts for the largest portion of passenger travel (39.2%), followed by the Nihan port (14.8%) and the Yeosu port (13.1%). As of 2013, there were 55 ports: 14 national ports, 17 local ports, and 24 domestic ports. The number of passengers in 2013 was 73 million passengers and 2.9 million cargo tons in 1999. It increased to 152 million passengers and 6.8 million cargo tons by 2014. The growth of airport capacity is in line with the global increase in air travel during the period. Comparing domestic and international travel, domestic travel shows little change during the mid-1990s, followed by a slight increase after 2010. On the other hand, international travel steadily increased after the 1990s, with some fluctuation points during specific periods. A total of 77 airlines operated in Korea during 2013 (7 domestic airlines and 70 foreign airlines), serving the destinations of 152 international cities in 51 countries. The most frequent international destination is Southeast Asia (33.1%), followed by Japan (24.2%) and China (23.0%). Domestically, the Gampo–Seoul–Ajou route has been the most popular, accounting for 55.9% of domestic trips. As a nation, communication has become more widely used, communication through diverse digital devices continued to grow. The growth of domestic communications facilitates the development of the Internet, in particular, has made a massive amount of information accessible to people using computers, cell phones, and tablets. Unlike in the past, the bilateral exchange of information is taking place in a diverse and complex manner. The local telephone companies, which were the most important information providers in the past, have been steadily losing subscribers dropping by 33% between 2004 and 2012. Simultaneously, the number of mobile phone subscribers has continued to increase by as much as 66% during the same time frame, among mobile phone subscribers the use of smart phones has soared. Since 2012, the number of smart phone users has equalized that of regular mobile phone users, and the customer market share of smart phone providers has increased 50%. As of 2011, 78% of the South Korean population has access to the Internet and 65.2% uses wireless Internet. The number of wireless Internet users has also dramatically increased due to the widening distribution of smart phones.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

The Infrastructure Map depicts the location of all the airports, ports, expressways, and major roads. It is a complex pattern that blankets the entire country. Consider with other maps that show development, the north and northeast coastal regions have much less infrastructure, mostly due to topography and the proximity to North Korea. The air traffic map clearly illustrates the north-south trend with an east-west air travel, perhaps because it may be more feasible to drive the east-west spans. The four maps display a time-series spatial arrangement of the time it takes to reach any expressway entrance. This map series is a testimonial to the rapid improvement of the efficiency of expressway traffic, and to the coverage of the nation that is serviced by expressways. It also grows parallel to the Korean automobile industry, giving citizens greater freedom of travel on the road. The railway map identifies the high-speed rail connection between Seoul, Busan, Gwangyang, and major cities along these lines. Other railroads also blanket the nation, even to parts of the northeast coast. Perhaps the most intriguing graphics are the distribution and volume map of Wi-Fi usage and the graphs on the number of Internet and smart phone users. The growth of Korean high tech manufacturing and communication industries has enabled the Korean citizens to become global citizens who are expert in global events.

Given the current pattern of the transportation system, do you feel that Korea has achieved the national transportation goals? Justify your answers. Is there still room for improvements? Make suggestions for improvement and where these changes should be implemented.
Urbanization
The metropolitan area includes the city of Seoul, as well as other metropolitan cities, all exhibit high urbanization rate. This statistical number can show the share of people living in urban areas out of the total national population. The statistical number can vary depending on which administrative level unit, the Urban Planning Area defined by Urban Planning Law.

Urban Population and Urbanization Rate

Note 1: The Ratio of City Area is the ratio of land in Urban Planning Area defined by Urban Planning Law.

2010

The Growth of Commuters in the Capital Region

Brief Interpretation of the Maps
Both the urbanization rate map and the spatial pattern of cities maps exhibit similar patterns that begin with the linkage of Seoul to Daegu. The linkage then split into two, one to the southeast to connect to Gwangju and the other to the southwest to connect to Daegu and Busan and other southwestern cities that are industrial centers. These cities have population because of job opportunities.

A few maps that show commuter traffic in the greater capital area are time sequence maps between 1980 and 2010. The two maps on the left display the increase and changing pattern of commuters between Seoul and the immediate surroundings. The very obvious change is the volume of commuters that have increased over the three decades. Another observable change is the direction of the commuters; by 2010, there was a significant amount of commuters coming into Seoul from the northwest, which did not occur in 1980.

The two maps on the right illustrate the changing patterns of intra-urban commuters in Greater Seoul. From these maps, the volume of intra-urban commuters appears to have declined; however, the origins and destinations have changed. In 1980 commuter origins and destinations centered on Jung-gu whereas in 2010 they shifted to Gangnam-gu. This is a very significant change in the intra-urban commuter spatial pattern.

Referring to the two maps on the right from the Growth of Commuter in the Capital Region maps, what kind of questions can you raise as to why there is a significant change that attracted commuters to go to Gangnam-gu? Is it because of better housing, or jobs, or even entertainment, as Gangnam-gu has a lot of attractions?
Urban Revitalization and New Towns

Since the beginning of rebuilding Korean urban structures in the 1960s, many areas in the inner cities have become old and inadequate for population demands of the 21st century. In order to cope with the physical, social, and economic deterioration of the inner-city, the central government announced the national urban regeneration policy guidelines in 2013. The target areas were selected by three specific indices: decrease in population, decline of industry, and deterioration of housing and overall community condition. Based on these criteria the government has designated 21 regions that are at a high priority for development according to urban regeneration policies. These priority regions have been categorized into one of two types: economic revitalization or community restoration. Since 2013, the projects have been financed by the urban regeneration fund with the expectation that individual pilot projects will result in positive ripple effects throughout the region.

The construction of new, entirely modern towns in Korea began in earnest after the 1960s. This new town policy was centered upon two goals: first, the development of the national territory and all regions of South Korea, second, the resolution of urban problems.

During the 1970s, industrial cities were constructed in maritime regions with the primary goal of promoting heavy chemical industries. The construction of Changwon as a newly industrialized city with a population of 200,000 led to the use of the term “New Town.” In the 1980s, new towns in large cities were constructed in both Mok-dong and Sanggye-dong with the primary goal of providing adequate housing. Five new towns in the capital areas associated with the First Stage New Town Development were also constructed as a part of a plan to facilitate population dispersal by building two million homes. Daejeon-Dusan and the Gyeryong area were constructed to facilitate the partial relocation of administrative functions out of Seoul and into the greater metropolitan area. Bundang, Buseok, Pyeongtong, and Sihwa were all First Stage New Towns.

By the 1990s, there were many criticisms of these simultaneously developed large-sized new towns, and the policy trend shifted toward the development of small-sized communities that were dispersed throughout the outer areas surrounding major metropolitan communities. Unfortunately, the attempt to solve the problems of First Stage New Towns was hindered by many serious obstacles, not the least of which included the lack of suitable infrastructure. By the turn of the last century, Second Stage New Towns were constructed according to the concept of planned cities. The goal of these was to reduce the problems caused by the past approach to development and to supply the smaller-sized dispersed model with a more idealized model. Pangyo, Dongtan, Gimpo-Hangang, Paju Unjeong, Yangju, Gyeong, Goseok, Gumi, Asan, and Daegun-Daeum are all examples of planned cities. A new approach to developing Korean national territory resulted in the adoption of a multi-core distribution structure that displaced the focus on the capital region to the nation at large thereby allowing more region-to-region balance. This approach to decentralization can be seen in projects such as the construction of multiple “Enterprise Cities” in the late 2000s that were central to the government strategy to foster five megaregional economic zones, and two individual economic zones. The goal was to provide a broader distribution of development initiatives which might help to create competitive agglomeration economies. The main strategy was to attract private investment and to expand the growth potential in development initiatives which might help to create competitive agglomeration economies.

The case of Sejong City, which was built as a completely new city to house many governmental ministries, is a prime example of carefully researched and planned exemplary work in urban planning. Here, the government office complex is designed with sufficient housing for comfortably relocating government workers who were moved here from Seoul. Rooftop garden spaces and executive facilities adorn the government office complex.

The Park Geun-hye government established a new regional development policy that created what was called the “HOPE Area,” in which all basic daily services are integrated into a single living area. Here “HOPE” refers to the first characters of four policy visions, “Happiness, Opportunity, Partnership, and Equality.” The new policy was designed to establish autonomous development plans based on local conditions and aims to improve the quality of life for local residents no matter where they are located: in the rural areas, the rural-urban transition zones, or the core of the cities.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

The Sejong City map illustrates the careful urban planning process that maximizes the interactions between government, high-tech development, university research, medical facilities, cultural centers, and residential districts. The new town map shows the boundary of Sejong and proximity to the First Stage New Town and Second Stage New Town developments. The Second Stage was implemented to correct some of the unforeseen inadequacies of the First Stage New Town developments.

If you are building a completely new city, set and discuss the major work that you have to do to achieve this accomplishment. What must you provide to sustain the population that is expected to move in and live here?
In addition to a functional government, good transportation infrastructure, and sound spatial planning, the transformation of a nation also makes economic growth and successful industries. Since the founding of the Republic of Korea in 1948, there was a gradual transformation of the Korean economy from agriculture, fisheries, and forestry to that of industrialization. Plan for industrialization began in the 1960s that resulted in achieving growth rates of 6.4% in the 1960s, 9% in the 1970s, and 9.3% in the 1980s. Manufacturing, in particular, maintained an average growth rate in excess of 10% in the 1960s, 10.6% in the 1970s, and 12.2% in the 1980s even with decadal fluctuations.

Since the 1980s, the government adopted a different economic policy, and promoted and implemented several ideas including export-oriented manufacturing, development of intellectual talent to conduct research and development across all industries, and encouraged ‘chaebols’ or conglomerates. Through spatial planning, the government also developed multiple port facilities on the south coast that expanded import-export activities. This strategy began to pay off in the 1990s when the high-tech manufacturing industry rapidly expanded because Korea had the vision of developing industries in research and development. As these industries developed, the need for service industries became more important and ultimately became indispensable. Service industries such as banking, communications, transport and other tertiary sectors, have steadily increased accompanied by a steady increase in the service, energy and construction sectors. The service industries have steadily increased accompanied by a steady increase in the service, energy and construction sectors. The service industries have steadily increased accompanied by a steady increase in the service, energy and construction sectors.

GDP and the Real Growth Rate of Manufacturing

Employment
National economic activities can be reviewed through the characteristics of employment. Labor force participation rate is the share of the economically active population (both employed and unemployed) as a percentage of the population group older than 15 years of age. It is the most typical indicator to evaluate the active economic activity of a nation. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the entire population group older than 15 years of age. The unemployment rate indicates the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of this economically active population.

The employment rate is lower in metropolitan areas even though there are a lot of jobs, but this is due to the high urban population that shares the statistics. On the other hand, the unemployment rate is high in urban areas due to the high number of job seekers compared to the size of the urban population. In non-urban areas, even though the share of the non-economically active population is high, unemployed adults are either not interested in working or are not active job seekers; thus, they are not counted in the statistics.

As of 2013, the total employable population in Korea over 15 years old was about 47.1 million. Of that, the economically inactive population, who are not actively searching for jobs (for reasons such as child rearing, homemaking, in school, in national defense, and for any other social reason) was 16.2 million. Therefore, the economically active population, those who are currently employed or actively searching for jobs, was 25.9 million. In 2015, the employed population was 25.1 million (98.9 percent), while the unemployed was 0.8 million (3.1 percent).
New Growth Engine Industries

When existing major Korean industries have matured, they may experience slowed economic growth and low job creation potential. New growth engine industries are those that will continually bring high value-added industries through the evolution of existing industries in technological innovations, convergence, and services. In 2009, the government selected 17 new growth engine industries in these major growth fields, namely green technology, high technology convergence industry, and high value-added industry. Convergence industry is one that integrates digital components to industries that did not utilize them before. New growth engine industries that belong to manufacturing categories include the broadcasting and communications convergence industry, IT convergence system industry, nanotechnology convergence industry, bio-pharmaceutical convergence industry, IT convergence system industry, and broadcasting and communications components to industries that did not utilize them before.

Three major growth fields, namely green technology, high innovations, convergence, and services. In 2009, the government selected 17 new growth engine industries in Korea with 2.69 million employees, constituting 62.9% of the total manufacturing enterprises and employment in growth industries take place in all parts of the country. In almost all areas of the country, the size sector that is over 50% of the new industries is in the small to medium-sized firms.

Nine of the larger districts and most of the sub-districts of Seoul have the least number of employees in the country. In the mid-1970s, government industry promotion has shifted from the heavy chemical industry. In the 1990s, there was a shift in investment emphasis to high-tech industries. Significant high-tech growth, including the development of semiconductors, computers, and information and communication technology, was accompanied by advanced technology training.

Analyzing trends by comparing the proportion of manufacturing growth in Korea to GDP (Gross Domestic Product) reveals that manufacturing accounted for only 10% of the GDP before 1960. During the decade from 1960 to 1970, manufacturing grew from 11.8% to 17.2%. By the 1980s, manufacturing accounted for over 20% of the total GDP. In the 1980s, the growth rate for the decade was 24.3% and manufacturing became the major driving force of economic growth in Korea. Between the late 1980s and early 1990s, the manufacturing share of the GDP declined slightly from 27.2% (1988) to 25.9% (1992), after which it gradually rose again, remaining at around 27–28% into the 2010s. Although the real growth rate of the manufacturing industry remained at relatively high levels (16.8% in the 1980s, 19.8% by the 1990s, and 12.2% by the 2000s), it later declined to 6.9% in the 1990s and to 4% by the 2000s. In particular, with the 1997 financial crisis resulting from internal and external factors and the global financial crisis of 2008, manufacturing fell significantly, recording a negative rate of growth.

During the early industrialization stage in the 1960s, Seoul was the most important manufacturing center in the country. Since the 1980s, however, manufacturing has become suburbanized and decentralized outside of the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area. As the same time, foreign direct investments in China and Southeast Asia have accelerated as the wage increases have surpassed productivity and weakened cost-competitiveness.

Brief Interpretation of the Map

The map on this page explores how different sectors (very small to large) of the manufacturing industry contribute to the Korean economy. Using the uncommon statistic of Value-Added by Employee Indexes, the sizes of the industries in the different provinces and metropolitan areas are compared. Throughout the country, small to medium sized manufacturing industry dominates, ranging from 4% up to 65% of the total everywhere. The largest employers are located in the newest locations, while the traditional 1960s growth centers employ fewer people. It is interesting that the highest Value-Added (VA) districts are not associated with the larger metropolitan areas but with locations designated by the government for special development attention.

The growth rate of manufacturing compared to proportional contribution to the GDP shows a steady increase relationship since 1953. The growth rate has steadily decreased to the present while the proportion of contribution to the GDP has steadily increased, bringing attention to the growth of economic contribution of manufacturing of all sizes.

Manufacturing does not have the same working conditions and worker training requirements compared to other types of industry. If you were exploring sites for a new factory processing and canning plant, would the Value-Added industry cost and requirements of the average sub-district worker match your site options? Would other locational differences and worker training requirements compared to other types of industry be relevant to your choice, rather than the Value-Added Employee Indexes of a sub-district?
In the 1980s, the electrical and electronics industries, which centered on household electrical appliances as well as industrial products, were the driving force of the Korean economy. Major sectors were the household electronic appliance industry, semiconductor industry, computer and telecommunication industry, and electronic components industry.

These trends have continued. Location quotients for electronic industries (indices for quantifying how concentrated an industry is by location) indicate that the regional concentrations are clearly in Gyeonggi-do, Chungcheongnam-do, and Gyeongsangbuk-do. Value-added production costs, and firm sizes in Gyeonggi-do, in particular, are highest in the country instead of metropolitan centers. The distribution of specialized items or industries also appears to be different for each sub-section. The household appliances industry is regionally concentrated in Suwon, Gimcheon, and Gumi while the semiconductor industry shows a high concentration in Icheon, Yongin, and Hwaseong. The electronic components industry is concentrated in Paju, Asan, and Gumi. The computer and communication equipment industry is concentrated in Gumi, Pyeongtaek, and Chilgok-gun. Thus Gyeonggi-do and Gyeongsangbuk-do Provinces have prominent regional concentrations.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps
As noted above the Electronics Industry is exceptionally concentrated in just a handful of locations in South Korea. In addition, the four different sectors of the industry are also concentrated in distinct locations within the overall distribution of the industry in general. The four upper right maps illustrating the different sectors emphasize just how much spatial compression exists in the industry that has comprised in excess of 11% of the manufacturing industry over the last five years.

The lower right map displays a “location quotient.” This is an index of concentration that emphasizes the visual concentration of the industry which the maps above illustrate. In addition to concentration, the lower map depicts with graduated circles the distribution of the value of the products shipped from the different areas in Gyeongsang-do Province.

When an industry sector is densely concentrated, it indicates that the economies of scale and associations exist that old companies need and new firms use to grow. When these factors are apparent, what are they? In many such high value product sectors rapid communication contributes to success. Are these communications in a digital or a physical form? What type of break in this communication would cause a major disruption in production?
According to the 9th Korean Standard Industrial Classification, the automobile industry can be subdivided into manufacturers of motor vehicles, engines for motor vehicles, bodies for motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, and other parts and accessories for motor vehicles. The places with the highest location quotients for the automobile industry are Ulsan, Wanju-gun, Seosan, Dalseong-gun, Yeongcheon, and Asan, with prominent concentrations in Ulsan, Chungcheongnam-do, and Gyeongsangbuk-do. The locations with the highest number of manufacturing enterprises are Gyeonggi-do, Ulsan, Gyeongsangnam-do, and Chungcheongbuk-do. The locations with the highest production cost and value-added manufacturing rankings are Gyeonggi-do, Ulsan, Chungcheongnam-do, and Gyeongsangnam-do. In reviewing the subsections of the automotive industry, manufacturers of motor vehicles are concentrated in Buyeo-gun in Chungcheongnam-do, Ulsan, Gyeongsangnam-do, and Gyeonggi-do. The locations with the highest concentration of manufacturers of engines for motor vehicles are Changwon-si, Dalseong-gu in Daegu, Nam-gu in Ulsan, Paju-si in Gyeonggi-do, and Asan. Manufacturers of parts and accessories for motor vehicles and manufacturers of engines for motor vehicle are highly concentrated in the top five cities with a location quotient of 50 or above. A similar pattern can be found for manufacturers of engines for motor vehicles in the top five cities with a location quotient of 10 or above. For areas outside of these top five cities in each category, the location quotient was mostly less than 1.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps
The different sectors of the Automotive Industry (engine, body, parts, and assembly) in South Korea exhibit a clustered pattern quite similar to the Electronic Industry. The clustered behavior of the Automotive and Electronic industries likely share some similar characteristics that contribute to the advantages of close proximity to related industries, but there are also some major differences in the industries clustering. Can you think of two or more important differences in the advantage of clustering in the automotive versus the electronic industry?
Distribution of Industrial Complexes

Location of Industrial Complexes (2014)

Energy

To operate any kind of industry, a major requirement is an adequate supply of energy. Korea relies on imports for primary energy such as oil, liquefied natural gas, coal, and uranium all of which are then converted to final consumer energy such as natural gas, thermal energy, and electricity. The energy consumption (210 million toe [metric tons of oil equivalent]) in Korea in 2015 was at least five times more than 50 years ago. The dependency on imports also increased, from 75.8% in 1961 to 99.7% by 2013. The single most consumed energy source is oil (57.8%), and over 85% of oil is imported from the Middle East. Coal, bituminous coal (27.2% of consumption), and anthracite (2.1%) are converted into thermal energy and electricity. Liquefied natural gas (16.7% of consumption) is converted into natural gas and electricity. Meanwhile, nuclear energy and hydroelectric/irrigational renewable energy account for 10.4% and 5.3% of the primary energy supply respectively. The industrial sector consumes the largest amount (62.3%) of energy, followed by the residential and the commercial sectors (17.9%), the transportation sector (15.8%), and the public sector (2.2%).

In Korea, electricity is generated using hydroelectric power, gas, internal combustion, nuclear reaction, combined cycle power, and cogeneration/alternative energy. The total power generation capacity in Korea increased from 1.94 million MWs (Megawatt-hours) in 1961 to 542 million MWs by 2014 (an increase of about 300 times) according to the Korea Electric Power Corporation (2015). Internal combustion accounts for 38.9% (211 million MWs) of total electricity generation. Nuclear power ranks second at 26.8%, followed by combined cycle power (12.1%). Internal combustion systems increased from 0.002 million MWs in 1961 to 0.66 million MWs in 2014 (an increase of about 320 times). The second highest growth rate appears in the cogeneration/alternative energy sector, with an increase of 308 times (from 0.01 million MWs in 2004 to 3.16 million MWs in 2014). Geopositioned stations are located along the western and southeastern coasts. The electric power grid delivers electricity from the large, coastal power plants to inland areas.

Because of the expense of transmitting power, some needs must be satisfied by other means especially in inland and other isolated communities. In these situations, smaller combustion and alternative energy sources fill in as important gaps for industrial and residential needs.

As population and technologizing continue to grow in South Korea, the need for increasing energy sources will also expand. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of technologies in the thermal and nuclear sectors of energy production. Energy needs are built on reliable continuous supplies. Recent United States hurricanes have focused on the instability of energy. Typhoons in Korea are not as large or as frequent as elsewhere. What are the other natural and human-generated events that can threaten the energy infrastructure?
Service Industries

Since the 1960s, the Korean industrial structure has changed from traditional agricultural-, forestry-, and livestock-based primary industries to manufacturing-based secondary industries led by the government’s manufacturing promotion policies. But manufacturing reached its peak in the 1990s and in the mid-2010s service industries are growing continuously and have become the main foundation of the Korean economy.

Service industries provide non-material products including commerce, food and lodging services, tourism, transportation, communication, finance, real estate, health and medical care, and so forth. Unlike manufacturing, the final products of service industries are non-material.

The spectrum of service industries is almost limitless as it includes all types of economic activities that satisfy human desires apart from material goods. The activities are diverse and vary from simple labor to complex knowledge dissemination, and from satisfying individual needs to assisting with various other production activities.

Moreover, as the scale of the economy gets larger and the standard of living improves, the demand for various service sectors becomes more diverse and rapidly-changing. The categories of service industries have expanded and the activities have become more complex. Producer services, those services assisting a business in conducting its economic activities. A more common classification of service industries is the division by groups that demand services (i.e., consumer services and business services).

The categories of consumer services include retail, lodging, leisure and tourism industries, personal services, and public services. Producer services include transportation, warehousing, financing, insurance, real estate, research and development, and advertising.

According to the KSIC (Korean Standard Industry Code) classification by the Bureau of Statistics, the service industries of Korea can be divided into 13 classifications: wholesale trade and retail trade services; transportation services; lodging and food industries; public administration, national defense, and social services; education services; health care and social welfare services; art, sports, and entertainment related services; organizations and associations services, and repair and other personal services.

Service industries have continued to grow, even today. In 2013, the number of service industry business establishments had reached 3.2 million and accounted for 86.6% of the total number of industrial establishments. There were 14.2 million service workers, 76.1% of the total number of employees. The total sales for service industries were about 2 trillion US dollars, 51.2% of the gross domestic industrial sales. The service industry has continued its steady growth annually with the exception of the economic crisis of 1997.

When computing service industry employment among the greater metropolitan areas and provinces, the number of service employees in Seoul is 3.5 million, or 28.7% of the total number of service employees. Gyeonggi-do had 2.75 million (19.9%) and Busan had 1.09 million (7.2%). About half of the service workers are concentrated in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area (Seoul and Gyeonggi-do), which is similar to the geographic distribution of the population. The average number of employees per service establishment in 2013 was 8.5 persons, indicating that small businesses are the norm. In terms of the number of employees by the size of establishment, small businesses with fewer than 10 employees accounted for about 48.9% of establishments with 10-299 employees accounted for 41.1%, indicating that most service establishments are small- and medium-sized businesses.

Brief Interpretation of Map and Graphics

The statistics relating to the growth and status of Service Industries in South Korea show some very interesting contrasts and changes. The long central graph plots the percentage annual growth rate against the percentage share of services industries in the annual Gross Domestic Product.

The graph shows a pattern of spikes and valleys throughout the period from 1953 until 2013. There was a large spike in 1958 and then a general decrease until the present. However, the percentage of GDP beyond between approximately 11 or 12 percent for the whole period indicating a continuous growth of the value of the service sector since the GDP has grown throughout that period.

The lower right graph shows the growth of enterprises plotted against the growth of employees in the period from 1997 to 2013. This graph shows a slowing growth of the number of enterprises in the period but an increasing growth in the number of employees. It reflects an increasing rate of employment for existing enterprises which also indicates increasing levels of business in current firms.

The map shows that there is a degree of stability in the Service sector. Over 70% of the firms nationwide are the very small to medium-sized category and over 40% of the enterprises are classified as “Petty” or very small with less than four employees. This indicates that while the Service sector is very large, the largest sector in the country, there is a continuous potential for the establishment of new enterprises as part of the normal attrition of smaller firms.

There are relatively few high value-added employee sub-districts in South Korea, with most concentrated on the southern-most areas along the DMZ. What factors might be assumed to be a part of these high value-added per employee areas? The Seoul Metropolitan shows the largest number of employees in small and medium-sized enterprises, while Busan has many fewer employees in these categories. What might account for these differences in these relatively large urban areas?
As the Korean economy has become more industrialized, the primary industries (agriculture, forestry, and fisheries) have also gradually declined, and the share of the primary industries in the national economy has gone down dramatically. The proportion of employment in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries to the total employment was only 5.7% in 2014, falling from just below 10% in the 1970s to less than 5% in 2000. In 1970, the share of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries in gross value added was 37.7%, and then dropped to 9% by the early 1990s, and below 5% by the year 2000.

The decline and structural changes in the primary industries did not occur uniformly across regions in Korea. Most rural areas did not have enough local jobs to absorb the surplus agricultural labor force. Therefore, there was mass out-migration to the cities while in-migration to rural areas was negligible. However, there are still some areas that maintain a high proportion of employment in the primary industries.

The age of employees in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries has shifted significantly since the 1980s. In 1980, most (72.1%) of the agriculture, forestry and fisheries workers were young (under age 25), while only 5.7% were over age 65. But in 2010, the age distribution was reversed, at 3.5% and 41.4%, respectively. Aging of the farming population is expected to intensity for some time yet. But new changes seem to be appearing; though engaged in urban non-agricultural sectors previously, some people (about 0.1% per year) have begun to migrate to rural areas to farm. Among them, over 70% are younger than age 25, and over one third of them are younger than age 40. As of now, however, the implications of this new change in migration for the demographic structure of the agricultural sector in the future are hard to predict.

The most prominent trend in Korean agricultural production has been the decline in rice production. The rice production area was about 3,200,000 hectares (1,240,000 acres) in 1980, but declined steadily to 804,000 hectares (3,150,458 acres) in 1994. By 2014, a reduction of about one third (to 468,000 hectares or 1,803,240 acres) in 34 years. Nevertheless, the per capita annual rice consumption was greatly reduced during the same period. Rice has become rather seriously oversupplied. Moreover, the amount of rice imports by the MMA (Minimum Market Access) based on the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement, has increased annually, which creates an added burden to the rice production oversupply problem. Eventually, many rice growers either reduce their rice crop area or switch to other crops due to a lack of profit.

The share of forestry to the national economy has traditionally been low. From 1990 to the present, the annual forestry production value remained between 5.2 and 6.5% of the Gross National Product (GNP). Forestry products that used to be exported from the forest are cultivated directly or now. Forestry households, whose main source of income is forestry, have increased slightly compared to the past. Even so, forestry still remains only a very small part of the national economy.

The Korean fishing industry has experienced a lot of uncertainty due to the depletion of fishing resources and increased fishing products over the last few decades. The decline is more prominent in coastal and deep-sea fishing, which have traditionally been important in the Korean fishing industry. Only after 2000, with a gradual increase in aquaculture and island fisheries, has the total fishing industry output and value of production slightly improved. In recent years, however, even the aquaculture industry has begun to decline. This overall depression in the fishing industry has caused a persistent decline in the fishing industry population. The number of fishermen employed in offshore or coastal fishing by 2010 was reduced to almost half, while island fishing decreased 30%. This trend is expected to continue in the future because there is hardly any influx of new fishing industry workers, and current fishing industry workers are aging.

Brief Interpretation of Map and Graphs

The large map on the left page depicts the ratios of workers in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries in 2010. As would be expected, most of the metropolitan and province sub-districts with the highest ratios are outside of the major urban areas. As the text above indicated, the mining component of the natural resource category in the industrial sector has almost disappeared. The four graphs above display some interesting correlations. The graph of the Number of Workers in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries from 1970 to 2014 exhibits an expected pattern. As the number of workers has declined in this sector, the percentage share of the worker has declined proportionally. The graph of the Gross Value Added in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries when compared to the Share of Total Gross Value Added provides a clearer view of the role this sector plays in the whole economy. The Share of the Total Gross Value-Added is steadily decreasing; illustrating the natural resource sector is gradually taking a smaller role in the economy as a whole, while the manufacturing and service sectors are increasing. However, the value of the sector is gradually increasing illustrating the increasing production of the sector.

The area in rice paddy land has decreased by about 30% over the 44-year period, as shown on the graph but the Paddy Rice consumption has decreased by almost 65% indicating an increase in exported rice over the same time period. This factor may signal an increasing export market in agricultural products in general. The graph presenting the number of workers by type of fishery also displays some interesting changes. The three categories of type of fishery are fishing vessel sources, aquaculture and other (fresh water sources and shellfish). The sector relying on fishing vessels only slightly decreased from 1990 to 2009. In the same period, the aquaculture component shrank to only about a 30% contribution in 2009, compared to what it was in 1990 when aquaculture was about 3.8 times the vessel component. The ‘other’ component in 2009 was about only 40% of the total of 1990. With the three categories combined, the fishing industry in 2009 is about only 45% of the amount it was in 1990.

With the fisheries only approximately 45% of the amount it was in 1990, can you assume that fish product consumption has decreased accordingly? The natural resources sector of the South Korean economy is decreasing in general when compared to the other industrial and services sector. However, lumber for construction, fish, and for consumption, and agricultural feed products cannot be assumed to be decreasing with a growing population. Therefore these increasing needs of the nation must be assumed to be met by imports. Thinking about the nature of these three sectors, discuss the different types of import methods which the South Korean economy will have to undertake to meet the relatively low fuel costs at the present were to increase drastically over the next year, what type of natural resources products would be expected to reflect the highest cost increases?
The population of a country or a place can be studied in several different ways—each providing valuable information as well as foundations to make projections on increasing or decreasing trends. We can study the distribution of a population (where people are located); the density of the population; the net change that involves natural increase (births), decreases (deaths), and migrations (in and out of an area); the structure or composition such as age pyramid that shows the percentage or absolute numbers of each age group; the ratio between male and female; the fertility rate; the aging population; and many other social, economic, housing, and health characteristics.

Understanding the Korean population increase will greatly help government assign resources appropriately, make better spatial plans, and improve on living environments.

Geographically, the population is concentrated in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area. In 1949, the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area had 21% (4.2 million) of the total population. By 2010, this increased to 49% (23.8 million). The population percentages in all other regions declined during this period. Particularly, the Honam region (which is comprised of Jeollabuk-do and Jeollanam-do Provinces in southeast Korea), with a shrinking population, experienced the highest drop. From 1949 to 2010, the population of Korea grew by 28.4 million to 46.4 million. The Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area gained approximately 10.7 million, followed by 6.4 million in the Yeongnam area (which is comprised of Gyeongsangbuk-do and Gyeongsangnam-do Provinces in southeast Korea). These two areas account for about 50% of the total population increase during this period. This population growth also parallels the economic growth for these areas. Resources such as capital, technology, and labor have been concentrated in these two regions during the period of the fastest economic development of Korea.

The majority (over 90%) of the Korean population lives in urban areas. As of 2010, there were many neighborhoods in urban areas with population densities exceeding 10,000 persons per square kilometer, particularly in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area and regional metropolitan cities such as Busan, Daegu, and Daejeon.

Dependent on how population data are collected, there are multiple population statistics such as resident registration population, estimated population, and the census population. The resident registration population uses the household registration data, and it is exactly the longest of the three statistics. Frequently, an individual’s actual residence is different from how they are registered for a variety of reasons. To help address this issue, the population census is conducted every five years. In between the official censuses, Statistics Korea (the Korean census bureau) publishes an estimated population every year to provide information between censuses. Because the population census cannot attain a 100% response rate, the resident registration population is considered the highest total, followed by estimated population and census population.

Population density in Korea increased from approximately 110 persons per square kilometer in 1949 to 470 persons per square kilometer in 2010. Except for Bangladesh and some cities, Korea has one of the highest population densities in the world. Until 1966, both the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area and the Honam area had higher population densities than the national average. By the mid-2010s, only the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area exceeded the national average. The population density of the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area increased from approximately 350 persons per square kilometer in 1990 to 750 persons per square kilometer in 2010. It is one of the highest in the world, except for some city states such as Monaco (18,500 persons per square kilometer) or Singapore (7,250 persons per square kilometer). Reflecting this trend, the geographic center of Korean population continues to move towards the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area.


Population Growth Rates

1949–1959

1960–1970

1971–1980

1981–1990

1991–2000

2001–2010

Population Density by Region (1949–2010)
The 2010 population pyramid shows the population structure of South Korea by gender and age. The northern population temporarily declined during the Korean independence movement in 1945 and the Korean War (1950–1953). The baby boom generation (born between 1955 and 1963) has played a key role in determining the population structure. The birth rate declined slightly between 1964 and 1967 because of a relatively small population of childbearing age individuals due to the unstable period of Korean independence. The birth rate declined again between 1976 and 1978 because of a relatively small population of childbearing age persons born during the Korean War. Birth rates increased in the early 1980s as the baby boomer generation began having children. The population born between 1985 and 1989 decreased substantially because they were the offspring of the generation born between 1960 and 1967, and strong birth control policies were enforced during this period. Although the number of new births increased slightly after governmental birth control policies were abolished, birth rates have decreased due to people waiting longer to marry and choosing not to have children.

The total population of Korea was approximately 49.4 million in 2010. If the current trend continues, it is expected to peak at approximately 52.2 million in 2030, and decline thereafter. Estimating future trends in population growth or decline is normally studied by the fertility rate (i.e., number of births per 1000 females) that indicates that males outnumber females in the population under 55 years old, while females outnumber males in the population over 60 years old. The sex ratio map displays that the areas with lower ratios (i.e., the areas with more females) are often gun districts that are losing population. On the other hand, the high sex ratio districts appear in the areas where male workers are in demand, such as heavy manufacturing and chemical industries in Ulsan, Goyang (Gyeonggi-do), Gwangyang (Jeollanam-do), and the northern part of Chungcheongbuk-do, where many development projects have taken place. The military border region in Gyeongsangbuk-do also shows high sex ratios. In the age group including the early 30s, the sex ratio is above 100 (i.e., more males), but it drops below 100 in the population older than 50. The sex ratio drops further in the elderly group. The median age has risen continuously due to increased life expectancy. The median age map signifies the sex ratio map, illustrating that the median age is relatively lower in metropolitan areas and higher in gun districts.

Brief Interpretation of the Pyramid and the Maps

The population pyramid is a very useful graphic for analyzing the structure of a population. The left side of the pyramid (blue bars) represents tallies of male population by age groups while the right side represents females. The bottom bar represents infants between birth and one year old, the bar above that represents 1 to 2 year olds, and so on. In this particular pyramid depicting the population of Korea in 2010, one can immediately notice that the pyramid has a very narrow base (birth to 9 year olds) indicating that the birth rate has greatly declined compared to other age groups. There are bulges for the 28–32 age groups, meaning that the years when they were born (1978–1982), there were large numbers of births. The comments on the right side of the pyramid with arrows pointing to each specific age group indicate the causes and effects that may explain the size of population for that year, perhaps due to government regulations or perhaps due to war or other historical events. Demographers and geographers commonly use population pyramids to analyze the structure of a population.

The 2010 Sex Ratio map displays the geographic patterns that highlight the spatial distribution of places that have more males or more females. The blue colors indicate places with more males and the beige and pink colors indicate places where females outnumber males. Once again, we see a prominent northwest to southeastern band (primarily rural areas) that stands out to represent more female population. The 2010 Median Age map illustrates the distribution of people of ages below or above the national average of 38.1 years old. The two-shades of the lighter green shades of green represent young people who are under the national average of 38.1 years while the use of the darker shade of green represents people older than the national average. In general, young people tend to be urban dwellers, concentrated in crises of various sizes while older people live in the northeast-southwest band.

The information displayed on these two maps suggests that urban populations are younger and have a higher number of males. Suggest some reasons why this is the case and support your reasons with information shown in the population pyramid by looking into work-force age groups, school-age groups, and sex-ratio comparisons.
Population changes can be analyzed by tracking births, deaths, migration, marriages, and divorces. These statistics, related to important life events, are collectively referred to as Vital Statistics. The total fertility rate, which refers to the number of children born per woman in her lifetime, remained above 4 until 1975. It gradually fell to 2.1 by 1983, and by the 2000s became one of the lowest in the world at 1.2 as of 2014. The low fertility rate is directly related to the crude birth rate, which is the number of births per 1,000 persons. The estimated total fertility rate of South Korea is 1.6. Nevertheless, the crude death rate (the number of deaths per 1,000 persons) is 4.4. The rate of natural increase (the difference between births and deaths) is 3.2 per 1,000 persons. Metropolitan areas have higher total fertility rates, and the rates of natural increase are higher in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area, northern Chungcheongnam-do, and Gyeongsangbuk-do regions.

The annual number of births in Korea continuously decreased over the years to 470,000 while the number of deaths slowly rose and reached 200,000 by 2010. Examining the sex ratio (the number of males in 100 females) by birth order, the sex ratio fell into the natural range (103–107 males per 100 females) for the first child. In the case of the third or later child, the sex ratio reached as high as 180 in 1995, which was recognized as a serious social issue; however, the situation was improved and dropped to 111 by 2010. In the total birth, first children account for 52%, while children born third or later account for 11%. In 1990, the largest percentage (34%) of mothers giving birth was in the 25-29 age group. In 2010, the largest percentage (48%) of mothers giving birth was in the 30-34 age group, which indicates that the age of mothers giving birth is becoming older in relation to the increase in age of marriage.

Compared with 1990, the number of deaths by birth order increased to 140,000, while the number of deaths by birth order decreased to 200,000 by 2010. The child mortality rate is 1.0 while the infant mortality rate is 0.6. The rate of natural increase is 3.2 per 1,000 persons. The crude birth rate of South Korea in 2010 is 11.3 while the crude death rate is 4.4. Hence, the rate of natural increase is 3.2 per 1,000 persons.
Migration

Population migration can be characterized according to duration of stay, location, distance, and motivation. Domestic migration is a move within a national border while international migration crosses an international border. Domestic migration can be also in-migration or an out-migration between regions, provinces, or cities. Net migration is the difference between in-migration and out-migration of the same place in the same period of time. If the number of in-migrants is larger than the number of out-migrants, there will be an in-migration surplus. In the opposite case, there will be an out-migration surplus. The number of total migrants is the sum of in-migrants and out-migrants. The migration rate is the total number of migrants divided by the population of the administrative unit.

The 20-40 age group tallied the highest in-migration rate of 82% (at the administrative -si/-do level). Jeollabuk-do showed the highest rate of 24%, while the Sejong Special Self-Governing City had the lowest rate at 18%. In the case of net migration rates, statistics for Yongdo-in-Busan showed the highest negative rate at -25%, while the Sejong Special Self-Governing City had the largest positive rate at 24%.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

The 2014 Net Migration Rate map presents the net number of migrants to and from this area? Are there spatial pattern similarities and differences between the two 2014 migration maps (one on total number of migrants and one on net-migrants at the -si/-gun/gu level). The data indicates a range of less than -100 to more than 100. The spatial pattern of total migration rate is highest in two of the administrative units in the north central area near the DMZ, in the Ulsan-Shinan industrial region, and along the western part of Korea that coincides with one of the high traffic transportation corridors. The 2014 Net Migration Rate map presents the net migration range from more than 10% loss to more than 10% gain with the national average at 0. While most metropolitan and large urban centers show a net loss, all surrounding suburbs display net gains. These migration patterns clearly indicate that the central core of large cities has been saturated and people are willing to move into surrounding suburbs due to more efficient transportation modes in recent decades. The Seoul subway system extends in many directions to connect to all surrounding suburbs. The site also creates new spatial phenomena and patterns that relate to daily commutes (see page 77).

Koreans Living Overseas by Country and Year

million overseas Koreans, primarily in China, the United States, Japan, and the former Soviet Union countries. Initially, Korean immigrants overwhelmingly chose to live in the United States, but more recently they are also choosing many other countries, including Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. The number of foreign nationality Koreans who live in Korea increased from approximately 270,000 in 2006 to 700,000 in 2014. As of 2014, there were approximately 200,000-300,000 overseas Koreans with F-4 (overseas Korean) visas, followed by 200,000-250,000 with F-1 (permanent resident) visas, about 100,000-120,000 with F-2 (marriage to Korean citizen) visas, and about 20,000-30,000 with F-4 (marriage to Korean citizen) visas. As of 2014, more than 250,000 foreign nationals of Korean descent have reported their domestic residences. The number of Koreans who live in Korea with permanent resident in another country increased from approximately 4,000 in 2005 to 8,000 in 2014. Since the 2000s, the number of people who have escaped from North Korea has increased significantly, and among these refugees, there have been more women than men.
Housing

At the end of the Korean War (1950–1953), the Korean government started housing projects as a part of post-war reconstruction efforts. Until the 1960s, strategic investment priorities were placed on rebuilding industries. Government investment in housing was therefore very small, creating only 2.4% of GDP during the 1962–1966 period and 3.3% during the 1967–1971 period. During these periods, housing developments were mostly led by the private sector, and only about 1% of housing development was supported by the public sector.

As the population grew, the demand for and supply of housing units has both increased as well. The housing supply has soared since the 1980s, exceeding 10 million housing units by the year 2000. The housing supply rate exceeded 100%, even reaching 200%, meaning that nationally there is enough housing for everyone. There are, of course, regional differences; some regions have more than enough housing supply, other regions do not. Traditionally, the dominant housing type was single-detached dwellings; however, due to pressure on available space, there has been a transformation by apartments, thus increasing the apartment residence rate significantly. The single detached dwelling ratio was 87.5% in 1980, but dropped to 27.5% by 2010. During the same period, the apartment ratio has increased from 7% to 59%.

The supply of apartments varies by region, and the trend shows that the supply is mainly concentrated in the capital and metropolitan areas rather than in non-metropolitan areas.

In the 1970s, the Korean government began to invest more heavily in housing, and established a series of necessary policies and laws. For example, the Housing Construction Promotion Act was enacted in 1975, and the Act promoted provision of “national housing” using funds from government-owned banks or local governments. Priority to purchase was granted to people who never owned a home before, and this purchase-priority policy was maintained for more than thirty years. In addition, the national and local governments contributed to the improvement of the urban environment, with land improvement projects and residential land development projects. As a result, housing conditions in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area and other metropolitan cities improved significantly from the perspective of total housing stock as well as homeownership rates. In 1975 there were 4,734 million housing units in total. The number of total housing units in 2010 was 13,884 million, which was about a three-fold increase since 1975. In the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area, the number of housing units per 1,000 persons was only about 137 in 1975. It surpassed 200 by 2008, and reached 284 units per 1000 in 2010 (a 2.7-fold increase from 1975 and an average of 2.7 persons per unit), indicating that three out of every ten people own a house. Regardless the total number of housing units, the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area had 6.291 million houses in 2010 (45.4% of the national total). With such dramatic increases in housing supply, the housing supply rate in the Seoul Metropolitan Area in 2010 was 99%, and, nationally, it was greater than 100%.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

The 2010 Housing Type and Apartment Share map displays two sets of statistic maps: namely, map data pertaining to the percentage of apartments within each administrative unit. The map uses graduated circles to highlight the distribution of the number of housing units. The map legend shows three classes of housing supply rate at 105–109%, 109–114%, and higher than 114%. The darkest brown shades) present classes of housing supply rate at 105–109%, 109–114%, and higher than 114%. Thedarkest brown shades) present classes of housing supply rate at 105–109%, 109–114%, and higher than 114%. The darker shades of green (representing lower percentages of apartments) are located in rural areas. The green colors on the map highlight very high percentages of apartments within each administrative unit. The spatial pattern of high apartment percentages correlates with urban centers while the lighter shades of green (representing lower percentages of apartments) are located in rural areas.

The next in the circle diagram depicts that apartments make up 58.96% of all housing units. The number of single detached houses still make up 27.33% over time, although they are largely unable to achieve urban settings. The map legend of the Seoul area illustrates very high percentages of apartments with the exception of three administrative areas.

The Housing Distribution and Housing Supply Rate map displays the percentage of housing in 2012 by administrative units at the –0.5%–0.0% level with the quintile choropleth mapping method (refer to p. 11 for the explanation of this mapping method). The map uses graduated circles to highlight the distribution of the number of housing units. The scale legend shows three classes of administrative units that have a housing supply shortage represented by the three lightest shades of brown at rates of less than 87%, 87–97%, and 97–102%, respectively. A single-detached dwelling would be expected to allocate a 100% rate in a break-even point for the adequacy of housing supply; in reality, there needs to be a slightly higher percentage in order to be considered adequate because families of different sizes have different needs. The 102–105% class is considered enough housing for everyone. There are, of course, regional differences. The single detached dwelling ratios were 87.5% in 1980, but dropped to 27.5% by 2010. During the same period, the apartment ratio has increased from 7% to 59%.

The supply of apartments varies by region, and the trend shows that the supply is mainly concentrated in the capital and metropolitan areas rather than in non-metropolitan areas.

At the end of the Korean War (1950–1953), the Korean government started housing projects as a part of post-war reconstruction efforts. Until the 1960s, strategic investment priorities were placed on rebuilding industries. Government investment in housing was therefore very small, creating only 2.4% of GDP during the 1962–1966 period and 3.3% during the 1967–1971 period. During these periods, housing developments were mostly led by the private sector, and only about 1% of housing development was supported by the public sector.

As the population grew, the demand for and supply of housing units has both increased as well. The housing supply has soared since the 1980s, exceeding 10 million housing units by the year 2000. The housing supply rate exceeded 100%, even reaching 200%, meaning that nationally there is enough housing for everyone. There are, of course, regional differences; some regions have more than enough housing supply, other regions do not. Traditionally, the dominant housing type was single-detached dwellings; however, due to pressure on available space, there has been a transformation by apartments, thus increasing the apartment residence rate significantly. The single detached dwelling ratio was 87.5% in 1980, but dropped to 27.5% by 2010. During the same period, the apartment ratio has increased from 7% to 59%.

The supply of apartments varies by region, and the trend shows that the supply is mainly concentrated in the capital and metropolitan areas rather than in non-metropolitan areas.

In the 1970s, the Korean government began to invest more heavily in housing, and established a series of necessary policies and laws. For example, the Housing Construction Promotion Act was enacted in 1975, and the Act promoted provision of “national housing” using funds from government-owned banks or local governments. Priority to purchase was granted to people who never owned a home before, and this purchase-priority policy was maintained for more than thirty years. In addition, the national and local governments contributed to the improvement of the urban environment, with land improvement projects and residential land development projects. As a result, housing conditions in the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area and other metropolitan cities improved significantly from the perspective of total housing stock as well as homeownership rates. In 1975 there were 4,734 million housing units in total. The number of total housing units in 2010 was 13,884 million, which was about a three-fold increase since 1975. In the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area, the number of housing units per 1,000 persons was only about 137 in 1975. It surpassed 200 by 2008, and reached 284 units per 1000 in 2010 (a 2.7-fold increase from 1975 and an average of 2.7 persons per unit), indicating that three out of every ten people own a house. Regardless the total number of housing units, the Greater Seoul Metropolitan Area had 6.291 million houses in 2010 (45.4% of the national total). With such dramatic increases in housing supply, the housing supply rate in the Seoul Metropolitan Area in 2010 was 99%, and, nationally, it was greater than 100%.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

The 2010 Housing Type and Apartment Share map displays two sets of statistic maps: namely, map data pertaining to the percentage of apartments within each administrative unit. The map uses graduated circles to highlight the distribution of the number of housing units. The map legend shows three classes of housing supply rate at 105–109%, 109–114%, and higher than 114%. The darkest brown shades) present classes of housing supply rate at 105–109%, 109–114%, and higher than 114%. The darker shades of green (representing lower percentages of apartments) are located in rural areas. The green colors on the map highlight very high percentages of apartments within each administrative unit. The spatial pattern of high apartment percentages correlates with urban centers while the lighter shades of green (representing lower percentages of apartments) are located in rural areas.

The next in the circle diagram depicts that apartments make up 58.96% of all housing units. The number of single detached houses still make up 27.33% over time, although they are largely unable to achieve urban settings. The map legend of the Seoul area illustrates very high percentages of apartments with the exception of three administrative areas.

The Housing Distribution and Housing Supply Rate map displays the percentage of housing in 2012 by administrative units at the –0.5%–0.0% level with the quintile choropleth mapping method (refer to p. 11 for the explanation of this mapping method). The map uses graduated circles to highlight the distribution of the number of housing units. The scale legend shows three classes of administrative units that have a housing supply shortage represented by the three lightest shades of brown at rates of less than 87%, 87–97%, and 97–102%, respectively. A single-detached dwelling would be expected to allocate a 100% rate in a break-even point for the adequacy of housing supply; in reality, there needs to be a slightly higher percentage in order to be considered adequate because families of different sizes have different needs. The 102–105% class is considered enough housing for everyone. There are, of course, regional differences. The single detached dwelling ratios were 87.5% in 1980, but dropped to 27.5% by 2010. During the same period, the apartment ratio has increased from 7% to 59%.

The supply of apartments varies by region, and the trend shows that the supply is mainly concentrated in the capital and metropolitan areas rather than in non-metropolitan areas.
Education

Education has become the most important interest and concern for modern Koreans. Education is closely related to all aspects of society, such as family planning, population structure, household expenditure, residence selection, and city planning. In addition, a high level of enthusiasm for education and the high level of education expenditure, including private education expenditures, are conspicuous characteristics of Korean society. As many countries where modern education began at the birth of the republic, Korean education has undergone significant changes through the modernization process. The Korean school system is composed of elementary education for kindergartens and elementary school, secondary education for middle and high school, and higher education for college and related levels. Most Koreans acquire at least six years of elementary education and another six years of secondary education. The proportion amongst higher education institutions is among the highest in the world.

The numbers of students in various administrative units (year) 

Elementary and secondary education is provided by public educational institutions established by the state, along with a variety of private educational institutions. Various schools have been established for special purposes to cater to the characteristics of students. At the high school level, more choices such as college prep, vocational, and technical high schools are available. Higher education is based on four-year universities and two-year community colleges. There are also technical colleges covering various professions. Recently, online and extension colleges and distance education programs have been developed. Master’s and doctoral degrees are offered by many graduate schools, and many students also pursue postgraduate study abroad.

Changes in the number of students in various administrative units (year) 

The middle school entrance rate in Korea has reached a perfect 100 percent since the late 1980s, and the high school entrance rate has been close to 100 percent since the mid-1980s. Accordingly, the number of schools has decreased. In areas of population decrease, a large number of elementary schools were closed in areas of population decrease after the 1980s. Kindergarten enrollment has significantly increased since the 1980s as kindergarten education has become more widely available. On the other hand, the total number of students differs by age group, with the number of elementary students decreasing steadily due to decreasing fertility rates. A declining fertility rate has also resulted in a decrease in the middle and high school populations since the late 1980s. As a benefit, an increase in teacher forces has reduced the number of students per teacher. Changes in the age population vary greatly by region. Gyeongsang-do has experienced an increase in the school-age population while other regions show large decreases from 2000 to 2014.

The 2014 Number of Students by School Levels at Administrative Units map was created with two sets of spatial data. The first set displays the proportion of students to the total population of each administrative unit at the six-year age level with the range of changes from less than 9% to more than 17% and a national average of 13.5%. The second set depicts the number of students in each of the 17 major administrative units (metropolitan areas and provinces) with a breakdown by school levels. This map shows a spatial pattern that reflects high concentrations of students in urban areas and surrounding suburbs. Rural areas, which generally have lower population densities, do not have as many students. This creates a dilemma that the cost of operating a school in rural areas becomes proportionally higher based on per student expense. On the other hand, rural students may receive a better teacher-student ratio. From the graduation circles, one can clearly tell that the number of kindergarten students is the smallest group of students as affected by lower fertility rates and decreases in population in recent years.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

Although the 2000–2014 Changes in School Age Population map uses data from both 2000 and 2014 years, the spatial pattern does not differ from the 2014 Number of Students map; the only difference is that it illustrates one province, Gyeongsang-do, had a 10.1% increase while all other administrative units experienced a decrease. This increase is primarily due to population migration into the suburbs of Seoul, in Gyeongsang Province. In urban areas, students normally live within short distances to the school they attend. In this case for rural area students? Discuss the modes of transportation available. Due to availability and migration to urban areas, rural schools fall to close. One school in a remote area still serves with a small number of students and teachers.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Unit</th>
<th>Kindergarten Students</th>
<th>Elementary School Students</th>
<th>Middle School Students</th>
<th>High School Students</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
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<td>22,173</td>
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Higher Education

Higher education in South Korea has undergone significant changes. The number of colleges and college enrollments has increased rapidly, and various types of colleges have been established. There are many types of colleges: four-year universities, two-year colleges, teacher education colleges for training elementary school teachers; and universities that offer education through remote access. In addition, there are many specialized colleges such as military academies and academies that offer training for various professions.

Universities are classified into national and private universities, a few national universities were established in the central city of each province. Private universities have been established on the basis of unique educational goals. Since the 1990s, as the number of private universities has significantly increased, the percentage of students entering universities has also grown at a dramatic rate, to the point where the current percentage of students entering university in Korea is the highest among Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries. The positive aspect of this phenomenon is the achievement of a highly educated workforce, but this also results in significant economic burden to the students. The appropriate level of college tuition, scholarship support by the state, and the maintenance of fiscal sustainability of both public and private universities have emerged as important agenda items in debates among politicians.

Majors in universities are largely classified under humanities, social sciences, education, natural sciences, engineering, medicine, arts, music, and physical sciences. Many graduate schools have been established in accordance with increasing demands for development of higher education and professional knowledge. While many graduate schools operated by universities account for a significant portion of academic graduate degree holders, there are many graduate schools for religious training, executive development, medical expertise training, and legal professional training.

University professors mostly have doctoral degrees; their doctoral degrees are obtained at both domestic universities and foreign countries, such as the United States, Japan, and Germany. In addition, many foreign students have recently entered Korean colleges and graduate schools to take Korean language courses and to obtain a degree due to the increased quality of higher education garnered by Korean universities internationally.

Brief Interpretation of the Maps

The 2015 Distribution of Colleges and Universities map is a color coded dot map with each dot showing a single institution of higher education. Blue dots represent universities and red dot represents colleges. Beyond the classification by university and college, there is no further distinction between four-year colleges, two-year colleges, technical colleges, or teacher education colleges. The spatial pattern for universities correlates with metropolitan centers and urban areas of all sizes. While colleges are located in both urban and rural areas. Many university students need to or choose to be away from home due to pursuing the most appropriate university programs that suit them best, some urban-based university students have the option of living at home while attending the university. While it is not unexpected that university students may have to be away from home to attend college and given your understanding of where the Korean university is distributed, describe the distances they may have to travel to attend a university or college. While tuition costs, living expenses, and availability of scholarships and financial support can enter into a student’s decision on where to attend higher education, what are your own personal thoughts on all these factors? How would you prioritize them?
Public Health and Welfare

Social welfare-related government expenditures are allocated according to welfare categories such as poverty, disabilities, women, children, and the elderly, or to sectors such as housing and labor. Recently, welfare in Korea has expanded at the center of political debate. Various debates relate to such issues as the range of welfare services offered, the appropriate level of welfare, welfare-related government expenditures in terms of fiscal soundness, and the priority of welfare spending. Whereas the growth of the national economy has been a longstanding political issue that requires national resources, recent political focus has concentrated on the expansion of social welfare and the maintenance of fiscal soundness. Recent welfare-related expenditures have considerably increased. The sum of social welfare expenditures in the primary private and public sectors has substantially increased every year. The ratio of social welfare expenditure to GDP in Korea has exceeded 10 percent in recent years, but this ratio is still lower than that of other OECD countries (20 to 30 percent in some European states). Although this difference should be considered in the context of the proportion of elderly in the population and differences in social welfare policies, the likelihood that social welfare expenditure in Korea will continue to increase in the future is strong. With the increase in social welfare spending, the related budget is also steadily increasing. The 2014 Recipients of Basic Living Expenses map is constructed from data based on provincial and municipal administrative units. Therefore, the statistics are not highly detailed. In other words, the spatial variations of which -si/-gum/-gun/-gu district receives more expenses are not identified in such a generalized map.

Brief Interpretation of the Map

As the title indicates, the 2012 Distribution of General Hospitals and Number of Beds map shows separate sets of statistics. While clinics that are designed to treat general or minor illnesses are abundantly available in urban areas throughout the entire nation, general hospitals that treat more serious health problems are mostly located in or near urban centers. Because population in urban centers is high, the ratio of the number of beds to population is relatively low in urban areas while modestly higher in rural areas. This does not mean that there is necessarily an inadequate number of beds in urban areas.

Do you think that the Korean government should invest more funds in building general hospitals in rural areas or is it a higher priority to find ways to increase the overall health care budget? Even though the spatial distribution of general hospitals is mostly in urban areas, how accessible are they? To answer a critical factor here for rural residents, particularly in emergency care and trauma situations?
The Korean people have developed and maintained their unique national culture for a long time. The national culture of Korea emerged as an adaptation to the natural environment. The arrangement of mountains and plains, as well as climate, is the foundation of the cultural determinants of the Korean people. The Korean way of life, as represented by food, clothing, and housing, is central to understanding Korean culture. Clothing materials and the development of clothing culture, various food processing methods and new food ingredients, and harmony between nature and residential space in overcoming natural restraints, all are components in the traditional culture that influence the Korean way of life. However, traditional Korean culture is not confined to a way of life formed through adaptation to the environment. Traditional Korean culture displays cultural diversity that embraces both traditional heritage and other cultures. Various cultures were introduced into the country, and then absorbed into Korean culture sometimes Korean culture has spread to the outside world. The traditional way of life changes to fit the conditions of modern life.

In addition to diversified cultural facilities, Korea has also established many national parks, some with geomorphic wonders, to supplement UNESCO World Heritage Centers to provide Koreans with leisurely activities as well as attract global visitors and tourists. All these facilities and parks are evenly distributed in each region of the country and designed to meet the basic cultural demands of the local population. In addition, the cultural infrastructure carries significant meaning related to the cultural rights of people. Facilities such as libraries, museums, and art galleries have been steadily increasing in number and expanding in size and diversity in accordance with the growing demands of local residents. Various programs operate in each region based on cooperation with local communities. Within libraries and museums, exhibitions and collections have been expanded. Theaters and exhibition centers which offer various programs have been increasing in number and attracting more patrons and visitors.

The digital age ushers in yet another dimension of Korean culture in the form of new wave and K-pop entertainment culture in songs, movies, and videos. Similar to the hong fu movie culture from Hong Kong and the Bollywood culture from India, the Korean Wave is invading the world. The diffusion of Korean Wave or K-pop into huge markets in China, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Southeast Asia, Europe and North America brings new women for cultural diffusion and a new and significant economy to the Korean entertainment industry. Internet apps such as YouTube helped popularize the now famous “Gangnam Style” dance videos worldwide. A large number of Korean movies are now available in major US movie channel providers. Koreans immigrants in large US cities such as Los Angeles, Atlanta, Honolulu, Houston, and Chicago are proud to showcase their culture, share their food, as well as music and dance with their US friends. In fact, Korean Town in New York City is adjacent to the Empire State Building where many business people as well as tourists are exposed to the Korean culture every day.

Brief Interpretation of the Map
The 2005-2013 Changes in Public Cultural Facilities map presents two sets of spatio-temporal data. The first set is based on the percentage of change on the number of cultural facilities at the w/-gun/-gu level. The green shades on the map illustrate the percentages of increase while the grey and dark grey shades depict percentage decreases. A quick scan of the yellow and red shades indicates that there are only a handful of-gu/county units that experienced a decrease the rest of the nation shows modest to very large increases, even in excess of 100%. The second dataset displays the absolute numbers of cultural facilities as classified into libraries, museums, art galleries, cultural and art centers, local cultural centers, and cultural houses. This second dataset clearly verifies the higher concentrations of cultural facilities in metropolitan centers as they must serve very large numbers of people.

Is it a fair statement to say that people who live in rural areas are disadvantaged as far as having so few cultural facilities available to them? Justify your yes or no answer by analyzing operating costs of these facilities, or by distances a rural resident must travel to visit these facilities, or by the efficiency of transportation. If you are a rural resident, would you welcome a trip to the city or would you be satisfied with just visiting the local cultural facilities?
Korean Culture and Daily Life

Koreans live their daily lives with a deeply rooted set of traditional cultural traits in harmony with modern age norms. While the population is mostly native Koreans, there are also substantial amounts of foreigners living in Korea, providing a diversity of cultures. Among foreigners, the Chinese are the most notable in Korean society. The Chineses in Incheon and Busan have thriving businesses of various kinds. There is a presence of Russians in Busan due to the dependency on Russian military compounds, infusing some Western culture and businesses into the cultural landscape. American fast food chain stores, convenience stores, banks, insurance companies, and delivery services are everywhere.

Religion is an important part of Korean daily life. While the population is mostly native Korean, these numbers may not be very accurate. The difficulty of collecting a proper tally of Korean religious citizens is that a substantial percentage of the population does not report itself as religious simply because there is no formal equivalent to a ‘baptism ceremony’ in Buddhist practices in Korea. However, those ‘non-religious’ persons give up following their parents in beliefs in Buddhism and offer prayers in Buddhist temples. There are over 20,000 Christian churches in Korea and 935 registered Buddhist temples but the number of persons believing in Buddhism remains elusive. In addition, Buddhism in Korea has undergone various suppressions, first by Sosan Dynasty rulers, then by Japanese colonial rule, and later by Christian presidents of Korea. Some of the Buddhist temples were purposely turned into tourist destinations so that they can be government controlled.

Confucianism is a religion, but Confucianism in China and in Korea is considered a branch of philosophy that deals with moral codes. Some sections of Confucian codes, such as the class system, have long been disbanded while others such as parental obedience and respect for elders are strongly practiced in Korea. When friends, work associates, or even strangers meet, they lightly bow to each other with respect before engaging in a conversation. Around the dinner table and out of respect, no one will raise a pair of chopsticks unless the oldest person starts to eat first.

The working age population is generally very hard-working, and students normally take their studies very seriously. Families also try to have quality playing time working, and students normally take their studies very seriously. Families also try to have quality playing time

Analytical Thoughts

- How is the culture to which you are accustomed different from the Korean culture? Do you feel that you could live in a society with a very different culture? Could you adapt your daily life in an attempt to understand a different culture and a different people? Are you open-minded enough to accept the culture, daily life, religion, or food of a different group? How important is it to be open-minded in the age of globalization?

- Are you, or your family, using any manufactured product from Korea?
In a nation with democracy, South Korean citizens enjoy the right to protest the government. Here, the police ensure that the protest is peaceful.

Leisurely activities are available in many urban settings. This picture was taken in Central Park within Incheon, where boating is popular with families.

A typical rural farming community with greenhouses nurturing marketable produce.

A woman takes a walk in an art park.

Some Korean restaurants today resemble some Japanese restaurants, where a diner sits on the floor with mats, while food is served on a very low table. Korean hosts are normally very gracious in offering lots of dishes.

A typical open-air Korean barbeque restaurant where the Bulgogi style of meat is freshly cooked at the table.

A banner in a traditional farming village proclaims "those who farm are the greatest foundations under heaven and on earth."

A preserved farming village with thatched-roof houses.

A day at the beach is popular with families. This beach is not crowded but conveniently accessible to those near urban areas.

A common sight is a traditional gazebo or pavilion, which is typically popular everywhere, especially under the hot summer sun.

Gazebos are typically popular everywhere, especially under the hot summer sun. World Heritage site at eastern Gyeongju City showing the mounds of burial tombs of royalty from the Silla Dynasty (57 BC–935 AD).

The Gwamul open-air bath or spa (Jeju Island) provides separate sections for men and women.

Gazebos in a farming village with thatched-roof houses.

Many people, especially those in the younger generation, like to hike to scenic places such as this waterfall near the city of Seogwipo on the south side of Jeju Island.

A day at the beach is popular with families. This beach is not crowded but conveniently accessible to those near urban areas.

A preserved farming village with thatched-roof houses.

As a leisurely activity, people enjoy fishing at the seaside.