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A Comparative Study of Citizen Perceptions of Societal Challenges in Welfare States

Young-Kyu Shin
Sunhee Woo·Yuhwi Kim·Sejeong Cheong·Hyejin Ko·Seonga Kim·Soo-Jung Byoun

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Foreword

This study was undertaken to gain a deeper understanding of citizens' perceptions and attitudes from a comparative social policy perspective, in light of the rapidly evolving challenges facing welfare states. I am deeply appreciative of the collaboration and contributions of researchers from Copenhagen Business School, the University of Sussex, Politecnico di Torino, and Roskilde University, who, together with the Korea Institute for Health and Social Research, formed a consortium to conduct the 10-country survey. In particular, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Professor Caroline de la Porte at Copenhagen Business School for her invaluable efforts in ensuring the success of this international project.

I look forward to future research that will further explore the valuable insights made possible by the data collected in this study.

March 2024

Tae Soo Lee

President, Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs

Contents

Tables

Figures

Abstract

A Comparative Study of Citizen Perceptions of Societal Challenges in Welfare States

Project Head: Young-Kyu Shin

This study aimed to collect data on public perceptions regarding key issues such as organizational diversity, social risks, digitalization and automation, and climate change policies, in the context of welfare states facing global challenges like automation, globalization, immigration, war, and climate change. To achieve this, the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs conducted a cross-national survey in collaboration with Copenhagen Business School, the University of Sussex, Politecnico di Torino, and Roskilde University, covering Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, South Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The survey results provide valuable insights into South Korean public attitudes compared to those in other countries, offering guidance for policy development. First, regarding concerns about global challenges, the survey found that South Koreans are generally less concerned than their global counterparts, though they expressed a higher-than-average level of concern about globalization. South Koreans were less worried about immigration, reporting higher non-concern rates than respondents from Germany, Italy, and Sweden, and their concerns about war were slightly below the average. However, South Koreans expressed the highest level of concern about climate change, significantly exceeding the global average.

Second, in terms of diversity in organizations, South Korean respondents showed greater discomfort with racial diversity in leadership compared to

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countries like the UK and the US, where openness to diverse leadership was more common. Support for policies facilitating the employment of immigrants was also lower in South Korea than in Norway and Germany.

Third, regarding social risks and trust, South Koreans demonstrated significant concern about the economic impact of an aging population, more so than respondents from most other countries. Trust in public institutions varied, with South Koreans showing lower trust in police transparency but relatively high trust in tax authorities and public benefit providers.

Next, on digitalization and automation, South Koreans reported lower confidence in their digital skills than respondents from Finland and Sweden. Despite this, they expressed higher comfort with new technologies—such as autonomous vehicles, AI in medical diagnostics, and AI for financial calculations—compared to the global average. Support for AI regulatory oversight was lower in South Korea than in the UK and Finland.

Finally, in terms of climate change, South Koreans were skeptical about the effectiveness of their country's emission reduction efforts. However, there was a strong sense of intergenerational responsibility, with many expressing a willingness to make personal sacrifices to achieve climate goals.

The policy implications for South Korea highlight several key areas. Despite its high global competitiveness, public concern about globalization remains strong, and the government should explore the underlying causes of these concerns to align public opinion with the nation's economic strengths. Additionally, the findings suggest challenges in promoting ethnic diversity in the workplace. As South Korea becomes more ethnically diverse, it is crucial for the government to prioritize policies that promote inclusion and reduce discomfort around diversity in leadership. Addressing the significant concern about the aging population will require policies focused on retirement planning, delayed retirement, and family incentives to mitigate the economic challenges posed by demographic shifts. Furthermore,

the gap between actual digital competence and perceived confidence should be addressed through initiatives that boost public confidence in digital skills and prepare the workforce for future automation. Lastly, South Korea's strong public concern about climate change presents an opportunity for the government to implement ambitious climate policies. However, policymakers must ensure these policies are equitable, particularly regarding economic and labor market impacts.

Key words: Welfare States, Public Opinion, Social Risks, Social Trust, Automation, Immigration, Climate Change

1

Introduction

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Recent societal challenges have underscored the need to reassess and restructure welfare states. The imperative to mitigate climate change has driven industries and businesses to adopt renewable energy sources and reconfigure their supply chains for minimal environmental damage. This shift has led to a structural transformation of the economy and labor markets. Additionally, with digitalization and automation, the labor market has undergone significant changes, affecting the nature of work, patterns of employment, and skill requirements. Moreover, with digitalization and automation, the labor market has undergone significant changes, affecting the nature of work, patterns of employment, and skill requirements. These changes are reported to likely exacerbate various forms of inequality and increase the number of people not covered by existing social protection systems. In this context, it is argued that social security systems must be restructured or reformed to effectively tackle the rising needs and expanding inequalities.

Before undertaking the transformation of welfare states to address such significant challenges, it's crucial to first grasp citizens' views and attitudes towards these challenges and their relevant needs. Moreover, examining how citizens, the end-users of social security systems, perceive related institutions and policies is vital for designing and implementing effective approaches that cater to their needs. Given that individual perceptions and opinions may differ due to institutional and environmental factors, conducting a cross-country comparative survey is crucial for a thorough understanding

of citizens in South Korea by contrasting them with those in other welfare states. This study endeavors to collect data on people's perceptions of significant societal challenges and attitudes towards relevant issues and policy interventions via a comparative survey conducted in ten welfare states, including South Korea, with the aim of comparing the findings across countries. Although many domestic surveys have been carried out to assess people's perceptions and attitudes towards their security systems, few studies have addressed the recent global environmental shifts impacting these systems or compared the views of South Koreans with those of people in other countries. Therefore, this study can provide important insights into the universal and unique aspects of citizens' perceptions in the changing landscape of welfare states, emphasizing both the shared perceptions across borders and the particular views of the South Korean society.

1.2 Objectives and Main Themes

1.2.1 Objectives

The first objective of this study is to collect cross-national survey data on the perceptions of grand societal challenges facing welfare states, as well as opinions on relevant issues, institutions, and policies from citizens in ten countries: Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, South Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. To facilitate a comparative survey, the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) formed a consortium in October 2023 with several European institutions: Copenhagen Business School and Roskilde University in Denmark, the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom, and Politecnico di Torino in Italy. Together, these five research institutes developed a

questionnaire, which was subsequently translated into the respective languages of the surveyed countries. The pilot survey was conducted in early February 2024, targeting 100 respondents each in Denmark, Italy, and the United Kingdom. Following the final editing and revision of the questionnaire, the main survey was executed in late February 2024. YouGov, a British international Internet-based market research and data analytics firm, oversaw the fieldwork and data collection.

The second objective is to analyze the survey data and compare the results between countries. Specifically, this study seeks to elucidate the perceptions and opinions of the public, with a focus on comparing the responses concerning South Korea with those from other countries. This analysis will facilitate a deeper understanding of South Korean public opinions from a comparative perspective.

Lastly, the third objective is to propose alternative policy directions for South Korea, aimed at restructuring or reforming its welfare state in response to global societal challenges, drawing on the insights gleaned from the survey results.

1.2.2 Main Themes

This survey encompasses four central themes associated with societal challenges and their socioeconomic implications: organizational diversity, social risks and trust, digitalization and automation, and climate change. This section will provide a brief overview of the global situation pertaining to each theme, outlining the issues that the survey will address.

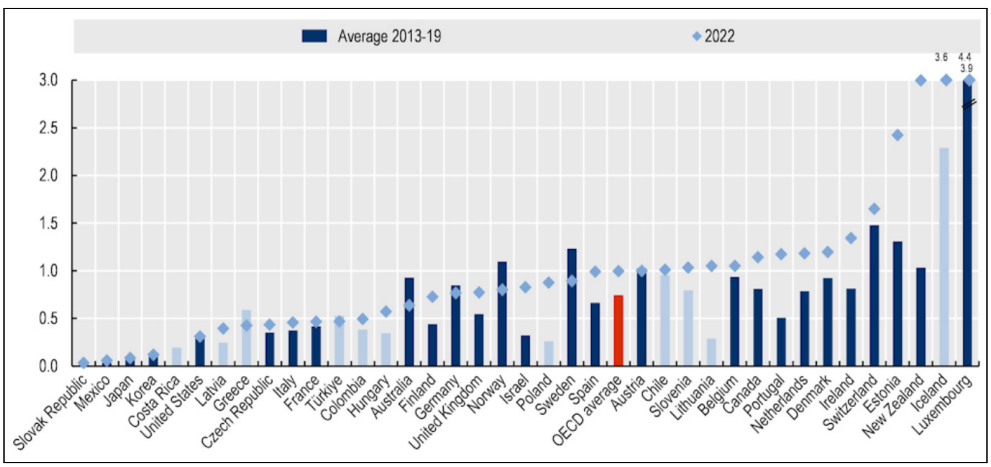
1.2.2.1 Diversity in Organizations

Migration is a global phenomenon and has pronounced impacts in particularly developed countries like member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). These countries are likely seen as attractive destinations due to their robust economies, stable political environments, and higher standards of living.

It has been found that the preference for permanent migration to the OECD area has strengthened, resulting in increased migration volumes. In 2022, migration of a permanent nature to OECD countries surged to an unprecedented level, with 6.1 million new permanent immigrants marking a record high. This represents a significant 26% increase compared to the previous year, primarily fueled by a rise in humanitarian (excluding Ukrainian refugees) and labor migration. For numerous OECD nations, the volume of permanent-type migration in 2022 exceeded that of any year in the preceding 15-year period. Additionally, as of 2022, OECD countries host 145 million individuals living outside their country of birth, reflecting a 25% increase over the past decade. In the OECD region, foreign-born residents now constitute approximately 10.6% of the total population, an increase from 8.9% in 2012 (OECD, 2023).

As Figure 1-1 illustrates, in 2022, OECD countries, on average, received 10 new permanent-type migrants for every thousand residents, although significant variations were observed across countries. Countries with smaller populations, such as Estonia, Iceland, Luxembourg, and New Zealand, typically experienced higher rates of migration. In contrast, nations with populations exceeding 10 million generally saw rates below 10 migrants per thousand inhabitants. Specifically, South Korea recorded the lowest level of permanent-type migration as a percentage of its total population, both during 2013-2019 and in 2022 (OECD, 2023).

[Figure 1-1] Permanent-type migration to OECD countries as a percentage of the total population, 2022 compared with the 2013-19 average



Source: OECD (2023). International Migration Outlook 2023. https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/b0f40584-en/1/3/1/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/b0f40584-en&_csp_=f32aa69b63450530407ffa5853cb88a4&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book

It has been said that economically, migrants contribute to the labor force, often filling gaps in both high-skilled and low-skilled sectors. They also enrich the cultural diversity and dynamism of their host societies. However, the challenge of integration remains formidable, involving language acquisition, employment, and fostering social cohesion. Political and social tensions frequently arise over migration policies and resource allocation. Consequently, understanding public perceptions and attitudes toward ethnic diversity within various organizations is vital. This understanding is essential for designing and implementing policy strategies that not only maximize the benefits of migration but also promote harmony within society by acknowledging and addressing public sentiments towards individuals from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

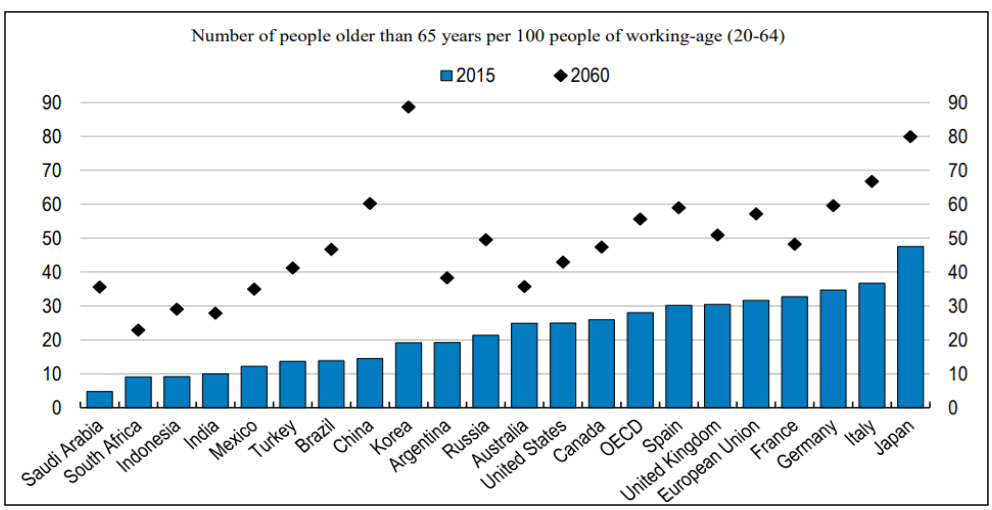
1.2.2.2 Social Risks and Trust

The second theme, social risks and trust, focuses on citizens' thoughts concerning population aging and government's relevant functions and decision making. The rapid growth of the aging population in most welfare states is well-documented, attributed to a combination of increased longevity and decreased fertility rates. Economically, population aging is expected to result in a smaller proportion of the population in the workforce, potentially leading to labor shortages, diminished productivity growth, and heightened pressure on pension systems. The dependency ratio, which gauges the number of dependents (both young and old) reliant on the working-age population, has increased. According to Rouzet, Sanchez, Renault, and Roehn (2019), in the absence of policy adjustments, old-age dependency ratios are projected to rise in all G20 member states over the next few decades, surpassing 30 in the majority of these countries. Specifically, South Korea's ratio is anticipated to nearly reach 90, the highest among the advanced economies in the G20 (Figure 1-2).

According to Pierson (2002), welfare states are increasingly confronted with the challenges of permanent austerity, with public debt and budget deficits escalating significantly due to social risks emerging or intensifying in the post-industrial era. The aging population is expected to amplify demand for healthcare services, long-term care, and social support, while increasingly relying on public pension systems. This scenario suggests that public debt will pose even more pressing challenges for welfare states in the future. As a result, policy-making under fiscal constraints is likely to become more frequent. To ensure that decision-making aligns with citizens' preferences and garners political support, it is crucial to understand public opinion regarding various policy options within budgetary trade-offs, as well as the level of trust people have in different societal institutions.

Therefore, the questionnaire items concerning social risks and trust seek to elicit respondents' opinions on labor market problems linked to aging populations, their level of trust in government bodies, and their policy choices in the context of budgetary trade-offs.

[Figure 1-2] Projected old-age dependency ratios in 2060



Note: According to Rouzet et al. (2019), the data for Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States came from national sources, the data for France and the European Union came from Eurostat Population Projections (2008 revision), and the data for China, India, Saudi Arabia and South Africa came from UN World Population Prospects, 1950-2050.
Source: as cited in Rouzet, D., et al. (2019).

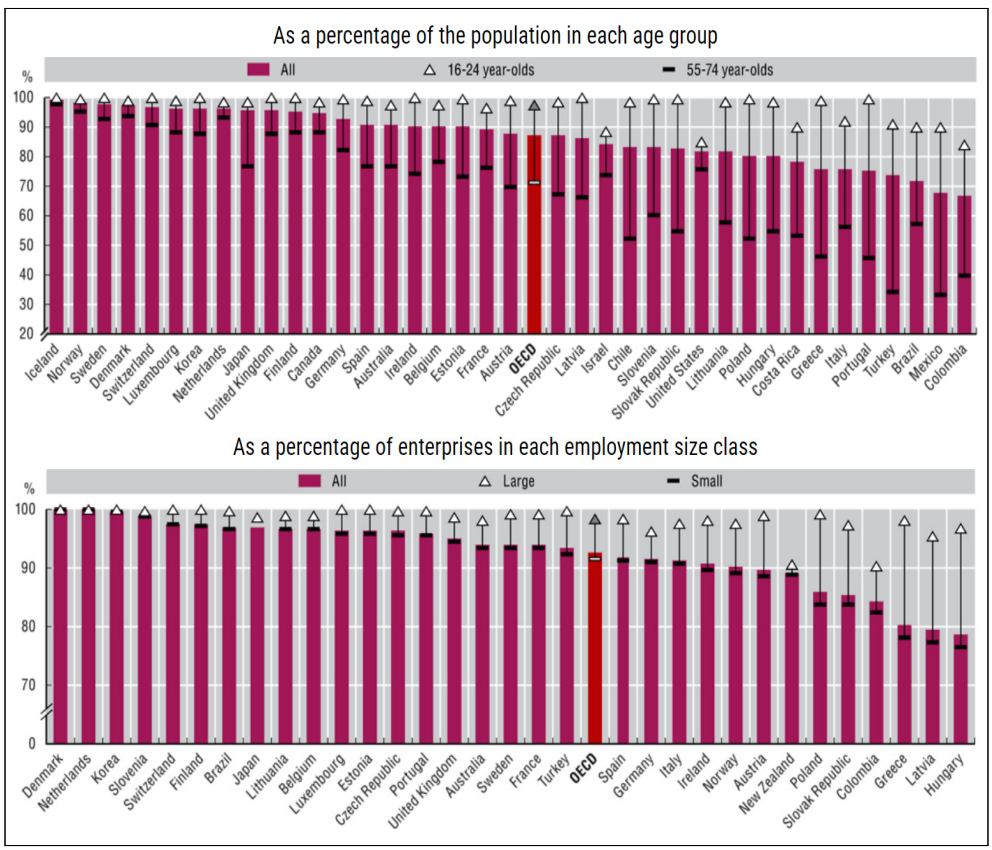
1.2.2.3 Digitalization and Automation

In recent decades, digitalization and automation have accelerated due to advancements in technologies such as smartphones, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and robotics. This trend is more pronounced in advanced economies. According to the OECD (2020), approximately 90% of the population in half of the OECD member states used the internet as of 2019. In particular, internet usage is nearly universal among the 16-24 age group across OECD countries. In countries like the Nordic nations, Canada,

Korea, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the UK, more than 85% of those aged 55-74 use the internet. By 2019, internet use had become a daily activity for nearly 95% of the younger demographic, a significant increase from 80% in 2010. Moreover, smartphones have emerged as the primary means of internet access, with their usage for this purpose in the EU increasing from 65% in 2016 to 75% in 2018, a figure that is similar to the usage rates of computers or tablets. In addition, the majority of businesses have incorporated information and communication technologies (ICTs). As of 2019, an average of 93% of enterprises in OECD countries had broadband connections, marking an increase from 85% in 2010. It is expected that ongoing digitalization will be driven by advances such as 5G networks and the Internet of Things (IoT), further enhancing connectivity (OECD, 2020).

The most typical example of automation is the introduction of industrial robots. The report by the International Federation of Robotics, authored by Christopher (2021), demonstrates robust growth in the global deployment of industrial robots. According to Figure 1-4, which displays the annual installations of industrial robots by region, Asia/Australia experienced a significant increase, peaking at 283,000 in 2018, then declining to 266,000 in 2020. Europe's installations showed consistent growth, reaching a high of 76,000 in 2019. The Americas also observed an upward trend, with a slight dip in 2020 to 39,000. In terms of robot density, measured as the number of robots per 10,000 employees, South Korea leads significantly with a density of 932, followed by Singapore and Japan with densities of 605 and 390, respectively. Germany (371) and Sweden (289) complete the top five, showcasing high levels of automation in manufacturing. Denmark (275), the United States (255), Chinese Taipei (248), and Belgium (246) also display substantial robot densities, indicating advanced industrial automation (Figure 1-5). Overall, it is evident that increased automation is a prominent global trend in the industry.

[Figure 1-3] Internet Use by Individuals and Broadband Connectivity in Firms in OECD Countries (2019)

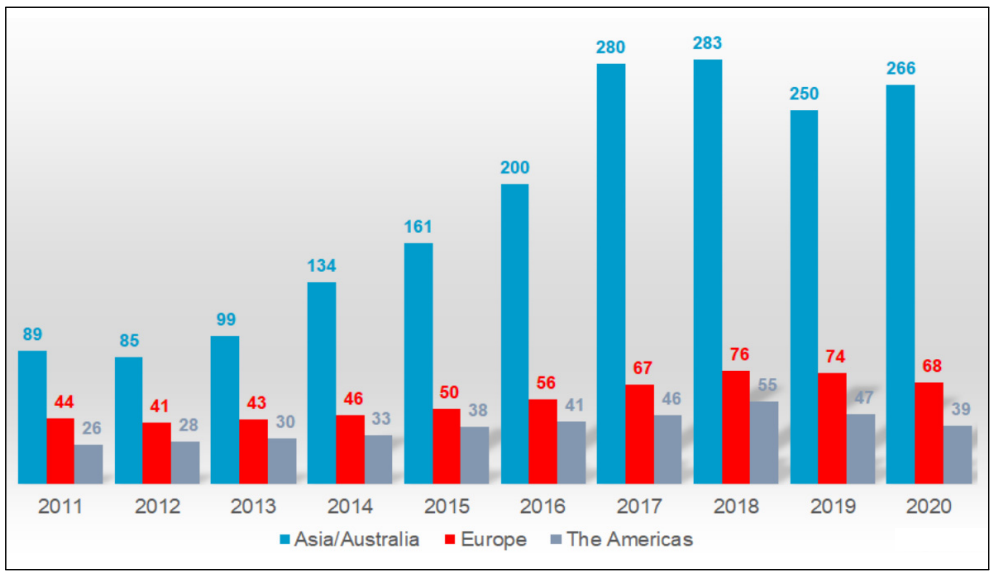


Source: OECD (2020).

While a vast number of studies have analyzed the economic and social impacts of digitalization and automation, few surveys have explored people's opinions on becoming familiar with these technologies and the instability they may cause in the labor market, especially from a comparative perspective. Moreover, attitudes toward generative AI have scarcely been addressed on a global scale, despite its rapid advancements in recent years. Therefore, the questionnaire section related to this theme includes questions that deal with such issues.

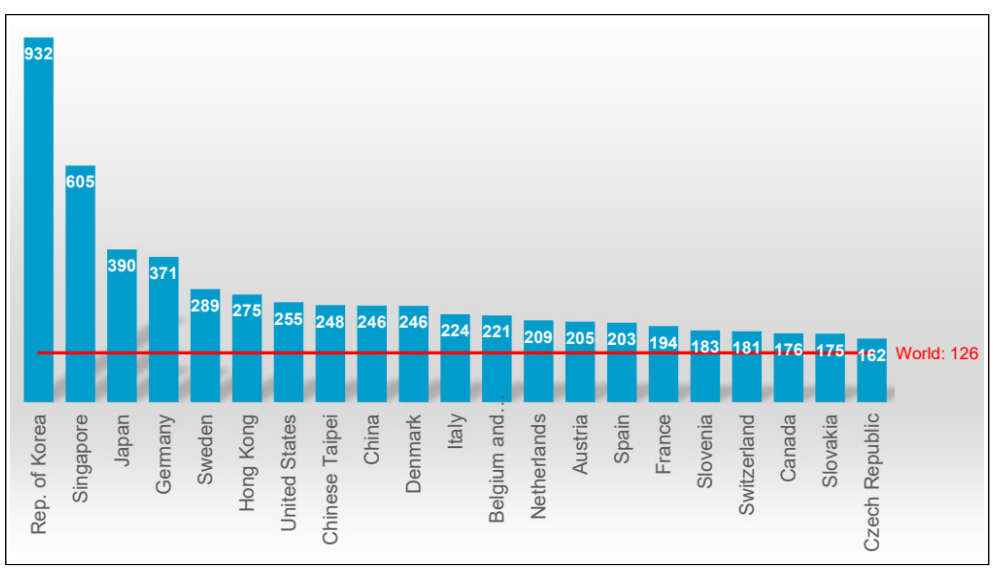
[Figure 1-4] Annual installations of industrial robots (2011-2020)

Unit: Thousands



Source: Christopher (2021: 55).

[Figure 1-5] Robot density in the manufacturing industry (2020)



Note: Robot density refers to the number of robots installed per 10,000 employees.
Source: Christopher (2021: 60).

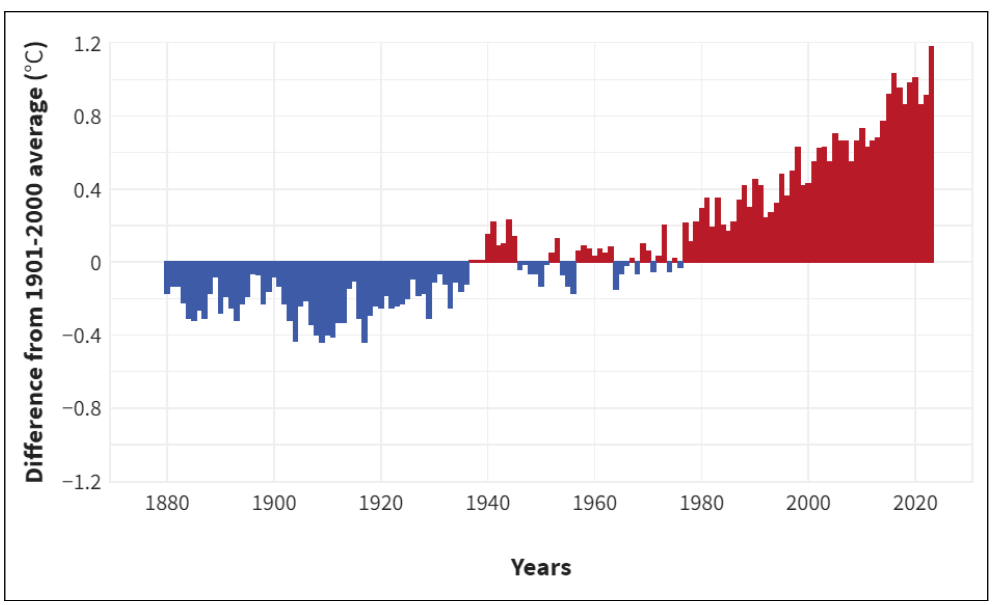
1.2.2.4 Climate Change

Globally, climate change is undeniably the most urgent and controversial issue. Diverse scientific evidence shows that the globe has been rapidly warming over the last couple of centuries. Figure 1-6, sourced from Lindsey and Dahlman (2024), depicts the global average surface temperature change relative to the 1901-2000 average from 1880 to the present. It shows a clear trend of rising temperatures over time, with significant warming particularly evident in recent decades. In the early part of the record, from 1880 to approximately the mid-20th century, there is noticeable variability in temperature anomalies, with many years exhibiting average temperatures below the 1901-2000 baseline, as indicated by the blue bars. In contrast, from around the 1960s onwards, a marked and consistent upward trend is observed, with red bars indicating temperatures above the 20th-century average. This warming trend accelerates notably from the late 20th century into the 21st, culminating in recent years with temperature anomalies exceeding +1.0°C above the baseline.

As the trend of climate change has become increasingly recognized, the international community has endeavored to stabilize or reduce CO2 emissions, which are a major contributor to climate change. Most countries with advanced economies have introduced climate change policies and initiatives, including carbon pricing, renewable energy investments, and the promotion of sustainable transportation. According to Figure 1-7, Many OECD countries have reduced their annual greenhouse gas emissions to varying degrees through national climate change policies. On average, these countries have succeeded in lowering emissions. Despite having the highest level of emissions over the past decades, the United States has achieved a significant reduction since the early 2000s. In contrast, South Korea's emissions have consistently risen, doubling from 5.9 million metric tons of CO2 equivalent in 1990 to approximately 11.9 million in 2020.

Variations in emission reduction levels among countries could stem from the public's perceptions of climate change or, in contrast, these perceptions might be influenced by their country's policy efforts to reduce emissions. Moreover, transitioning to a low-carbon economy requires significant investments, technological advancements, and shifts in societal consumption and lifestyle patterns. There may be a critical need to ensure this transition is just and equitable, to prevent undue hardship on vulnerable groups or communities reliant on high-emission industries. Achieving a just transition necessitates planning and policy implementation based on broad public consensus. Consequently, the climate change section of the questionnaire includes queries addressing these issues.

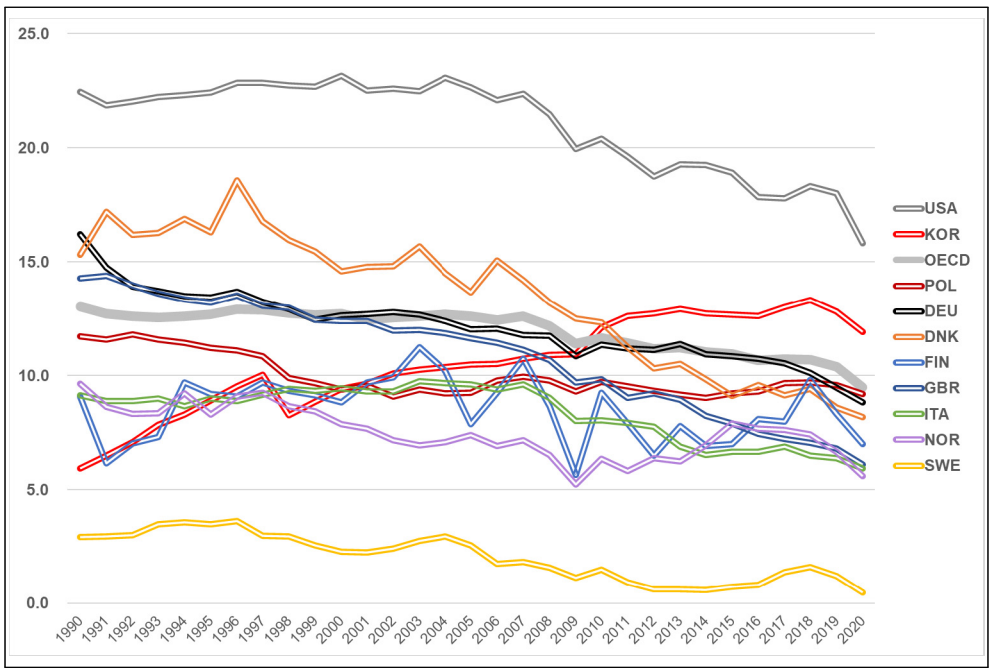
[Figure 1-6] Global average surface temperature



Notes: This graph is based on data from the National Centers for Environmental Information (2021). The bars represent the annual surface temperature deviation from the 20th-century average, spanning from 1880 to 2023. Blue bars indicate years that were cooler than average, while red bars denote years that were warmer than average.
Source: as cited in Lindsey and Dahlman (2024).

[Figure 1-7] Greenhouse gas emissions (1990-2020)

Unit: Kilograms per capita, Thousands



Note: The greenhouse gas emissions figures include emissions from land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF).

Source: OECD.Stat (2024).

2

Methodology

2 Methodology

2.1 Survey Design and Data collection

2.1.1 Comparative Survey Design

The primary objective of this research is to collect comparative data across ten carefully selected welfare states. The initial selection criterion mandated that these nations possess advanced economies and well-developed welfare systems, leading to the selection of countries from among the OECD member states. The second criterion aimed to ensure a diverse representation of welfare state regimes. The third criterion sought to include at least one country from each of the following regions: America, Asia, and Europe. Additionally, countries with remarkable advancements in digitalization, automation, or climate change policies were given priority. This approach resulted in the choice of eight European countries, along with South Korea and the United States, for the survey. South Korea exemplifies the Asian region, while the United States serves as a representative for the Americas. Within Europe, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden epitomize the Social Democratic welfare regime, while the United Kingdom exemplifies the Liberal welfare regime. Germany is selected to represent the Conservative welfare state regime, Italy demonstrates the characteristics of the Southern European welfare regime, and Poland is chosen as an example of the post-communist welfare states.

The aimed sample size for this study is set at 2,000 individuals per country, except for the United States, where the target is doubled to 4,000 individuals due to its significantly larger population compared to the other nations.

This adjustment brings the total target sample size to 22,000 respondents. The demographic focus is on adults aged 18 and older from both genders in each country. To guarantee that the sample is demographically representative, efforts focus on achieving balance across gender, age, geographical distribution, and educational attainment. Through the YouGov panel, sampling is designed to be either nationally representative or focused on particular demographic segments, based on YouGov's established background variables. Panelists are selected via a quota system for this purpose. However, technical restrictions have precluded the enforcement of educational quotas in Finland, Norway, Poland, and South Korea.

2.1.2 Data Collection

YouGov successfully collected data from respondents in ten countries through an online survey, utilizing a questionnaire that the consortium research team developed collaboratively from March 2023 to January 2024. In principle, all participants in the online survey were sourced from the YouGov panel. To ensure the panel's representativeness in the broadest sense—not only demographically but also attitudinally—YouGov regularly evaluates the panel's composition and research methodology in countries where it conducts political polling. Furthermore, panel recruitment is carried out via a diverse mix of channels, intentionally designed to reach the broadest possible audience. Data collection was exclusively conducted online, employing the Computer-Assisted Web Interview (CAWI) method. Survey participants, selected from the panel, received a survey link via email. Panelists had the discretion to complete the survey at any time within the allocated data collection period for the project.

2.2 Composition of Survey Questionnaire

The survey questionnaire is divided into five sections: socio-demographic characteristics and attitudes, diversity in organizations, social risks and trust, digitalization and automation, and climate change. This section details the survey items included in each part.

2.2.1 Socio-demographic Characteristics and Attitudes

The questionnaire omits the following ten socio-demographic questions because the YouGov panel's database already contains this information about respondents: age, gender, country of birth (in Denmark, this is substituted with the work sector variable due to technical limitations), region, highest level of education, industry, urbanicity, personal income (in Poland, this is substituted with the work sector variable due to technical limitations), household income, and household type.

The first group of questions pertains to trade union membership, children in the household, and ethnicity. The demographic questions provide insights into the respondents' socio-demographic backgrounds. These questions are tailored by country to reflect relevant ethnic categories and legal definitions.

The second group is composed of attitudinal and opinion-based questions. These include views on political orientation, concerns about global challenges such as automation and climate change, and attitudes towards job security and employability. In addition, respondents are asked about their party preference if an election were held tomorrow, with options varying by country to reflect the local political landscape.

The final group of questions deals with activity and employment-related issues. Queries here ascertain the respondent's main activity (e.g., working, studying, caring for family), employment status, and working hours.

2.2.2 Diversity in Organizations

The survey questions in the theme of "Diversity in Organizations" ask respondents' perceptions, experiences, and attitudes towards diversity in the workplace. These questions collectively provide a nuanced view of diversity in organizations by covering perceptions of leadership diversity, personal importance of diversity, experiences of support and discrimination, and organizational commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The first question concerns comfort with a manager, asking respondents about their comfort level with a hypothetical individual as their immediate manager, aided by a randomly selected visual (picture). The second is a straightforward question about the gender of the respondent's immediate manager. The third question employs a grid format, asking respondents to rate the importance of various diversity dimensions in their workplace, including gender, ethnic/racial backgrounds, age, and sexual orientation. The subsequent question, also in a grid format, explores respondents' experiences at work, focusing on support, involvement, stress, and fairness. Following this, another grid format question addresses aspects of job satisfaction, such as pay, career advancement, and recognition. Additionally, there is a multiple-selection question designed to inquire about experiences of discrimination based on various grounds. Lastly, this theme ends with a grid question about the presence of diversity-focused roles, training, and policies within the respondent's company.

2.2.3 Social Risks and Trust

The survey questions under the theme "Social Risks and Trust" are designed to explore respondents' perceptions and attitudes towards social policy issues, demographic challenges, public service effectiveness, trust in public authorities, and fiscal strategies in the context of increased military spending.

This section evaluates public attitudes towards demographic shifts, retirement policies, trust in public authorities, and funding preferences for military spending without specifying question numbers. It begins with an assessment of perceptions regarding demographic changes, focusing on the economic and social implications of an aging population, early retirement, and the effects of increasing the retirement age on younger workers' employment opportunities. The willingness of individuals to accept pension reductions for the option of early retirement is explored through a conditional question, offering insights into retirement planning and financial compromises. Additionally, the section addresses solutions to demographic challenges, proposing policy adjustments such as pension reforms, incentives for delayed retirement, and support for immigration and families. Trust in various public authorities, based on their performance and transparency, is assessed through randomized grid questions, alongside the frequency of public interactions over the last year, highlighting areas for potential improvement in public services. A scenario-based question examines trust in local authorities' handling of complaints, and finally, preferences for financing an increase in military spending are evaluated, providing a comprehensive overview of public opinion on these critical issues.

2.2.4 Digitalization and Automation

The part of the survey questionnaire focusing on "Digitalization and Automation" investigates respondents' perspectives on the rapid technological advancements and their implications for the workforce, personal privacy, and society at large. The survey items were designed to examine a nuanced view of public attitudes towards digitalization and automation.

These inquiries delve into respondents' self-assessed digital literacy, adaptability to technological changes, perceptions of job security amidst

automation and AI, comfort with specific technological applications, trust in organizations to responsibly handle personal data, and preferences for government intervention in technological disruption. Additionally, they explore societal values on the regulation of labor-replacing technologies, preferred governance levels for AI, digital inclusion regarding access and affordability of digital tools, current workplace technology utilization, and digital literacy as reflected in the ease of accessing online services. This comprehensive evaluation is essential for understanding the multifaceted impacts of technological advancement on society, informing policymakers, businesses, and educational entities as they seek to foster a digital transformation that is inclusive, ethical, and beneficial for all, while addressing potential disparities and ethical concerns.

2.2.5 Climate Change

The section on“Climate Change” in the survey encompasses a range of questions designed to assess respondents’ attitudes towards climate policies, perceived personal impacts of these policies, willingness to make sacrifices for climate goals, and views on intergenerational responsibilities.

It begins with a grid question format that captures respondents’ agreement levels on how climate policies impact them personally, addressing concerns over sacrifices, job risks, and societal valuation changes due to carbon reduction efforts, including the contentious view that older workers should face greater job losses. Following this, a comparative single question asks respondents to choose between two policy packages aimed at supporting younger workers impacted by climate policies, highlighting the trade-offs involved in policy preferences. The survey then ventures into examining the willingness to make sacrifices for climate goals through a randomized experimental design with three distinct arms. The first arm inquires about

the extent of personal consumption reduction respondents are willing to undertake for achieving specific global warming targets. The second arm sets the stage by evaluating national emission reduction efforts before asking about personal consumption sacrifices, aiming to gauge the influence of perceived national efforts on individual responsibility. The third arm introduces intergenerational responsibility by reflecting on younger generations' climate protests and querying about older generations' duties, followed by a question on consumption sacrifice identical to the previous arms. This multifaceted approach provides a comprehensive understanding of the public's readiness to accept personal and societal changes in pursuit of climate objectives, emphasizing the complex interplay between individual sacrifices, policy preferences, and intergenerational equity.

[Table 2-1] Survey Question List

Topic	ID	Question Content	Notes
Respondent information	D1	Age	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D2	Gender	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D3	Country of Birth	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D4	Region	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D5	Highest Level of Education	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D6	Industry	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D7	City	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D8	Personal Income	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D9	Household Income	Retrieved from YouGov Database
	D10	Household Type	Retrieved from YouGov Database

Topic	ID	Question Content	Notes
Socio-demographic Characteristics and Attitudes	Q1	Membership in a Trade Union or Similar Organization	Single Choice Question
	Q2	Number of Children Under 17 in the Household	Single Choice Question
	Q3	Ethnicity/Race	Single Choice Question
	Q4	Description of Current Activity	Multiple Choice Question
	Q5	Most Important Activity	Single Choice Question
	Q6	Employment Status of Main Job	Single Choice Question
	Q7	Typical Weekly Working Hours	Single Choice Question
	Q8a	Position in Current Main Job	Single Choice Question
	Q8b	Position in Last Job	Single Choice Question
	Q9	Agreement with Statements on Job Security and Opportunities	Single Choice Question
	Q10	Political Position on a Left-Right Scale	Single Choice Question
	Q11	Preferred Political Party if General Election were Held Tomorrow	Single Choice Question
	Q12	Interest in Various Global and Social Issues	Grid Design Scale Question
Diversity in the Organization	Q13	Comfort with Having a Specific Person as a Direct Manager	Single Choice Question
	Q14	Gender of Direct Manager	Single Choice Question
	Q15	Importance of Workplace Diversity	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q16	Work Situation (Help and Support, Stress, etc.)	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q17	Agreement with Statements on Job Satisfaction and Recognition	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q18	Experiences of Discrimination at Major Workplace	Multiple Choice Question
	Q19	Company Policies on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Grid Design Scale Question

Topic	ID	Question Content	Notes
Social Risks and Trust	Q20	Opinions on Social Risks and Trust Regarding Population Aging and Early Retirement	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q21	Acceptable Level of Pension Benefit Reduction Due to Early Retirement	Single Choice Question
	Q22	Opinions on Measures to Address Population Aging and Pension Issues	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q23 (a/b/c)	Agreement with Statements about Police, Tax Authorities, and Public Benefit Providers	Experimental Design Question
	Q24	Contact with Public Institutions	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q25	Trust in Authorities After Handling Neighbor's Noise Disturbance	Single Choice Question
	Q26	Financial Support for Increased Military Spending	Grid Design Scale Question
Digitalization and Automation	Q27	Agreement with Statements on Technology and Technology Use	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q28	Impact of Artificial Intelligence or Robotic Equipment on Job Losses	Single Choice Question
	Q29	Comfort with Technology Use	Experimental Design Question
	Q30	Trust in Organizations Responsibly Using Personal Data	Multiple Choice Question
	Q31	Opinions on Policy Measures Related to Automation, Globalization, or Economic Recession	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q32	Government Regulation of Technologies Replacing Human Labor	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q33	Monitoring and Regulation of Generative AI by Independent Agencies	Single Choice Question
	Q34	Appropriate Governance Level for Monitoring and Regulating Generative AI	Single Choice Question
	Q35	Access to Technology at Home	Multiple Choice Question
	Q36	Affordability of Technological Devices and Services	Multiple Choice Question
	Q37	Technology Use in the Workplace	Multiple Choice Question
	Q38	Ease of Using Online Services	Experimental Design Question

Topic	ID	Question Content	Notes
Climate Change	Q39	Agreement with Statements on Climate Change Policies	Grid Design Scale Question
	Q40	Preference for Two Policy Packages for Workers Under 55 Affected by Carbon Emission Reduction	Single Choice Question
	Q41 (a/b)	Willingness to Reduce Annual Consumption to Address Climate Change (Varies by Experimental Treatment)	Experimental Design Question

3

Findings

3 Findings

3.1 Socio-demographic Characteristics and Attitudes

3.1.1 Socio-demographic characteristics

The transnational survey included a total of 21,862 respondents, with the distribution of respondents by country detailed in [Table 3-1]. With the exception of the US and Norway, each of the eight other countries had a sample size of approximately 2,000 respondents. The US and Norway had 4,052 and 1,522 respondents, respectively.

While the gender distribution across the 10-country sample was 51.58% female and 48.42% male, the Korean sample had a higher proportion of male respondents, with 44.66% female and 55.34% male, which is lower than the global average for female respondents. For the age distribution, 24.76% of respondents across all 10 countries were aged 18-34, 34.25% were aged 35-54, and 40.99% were aged 55 and older. In South Korea, the proportion of 18-34-year-olds was relatively low at 18.96%, while those aged 35-54 were higher at 44.01%. Respondents aged 55 and older made up 37.03%, indicating that South Korea tends to have a higher proportion of middle-aged people and a lower proportion of young people. Regarding education levels, 12.52% of respondents across all countries had a secondary education or less, 47.07% had higher or vocational education, and 40.41% held a bachelor's degree or higher. In South Korea, only 0.20% had a secondary education or less, 25.00% had higher or vocational education, and a significant 74.80% had a bachelor's degree or higher, highlighting a high level of educational attainment, especially among those with a bachelor's degree

or higher. In terms of main activities, 55.28% of respondents across all countries were employed, 4.08% were unemployed, and 37.54% were retired or economically inactive. In South Korea, 72.41% were employed, 4.74% were unemployed, and 20.01% were retired or economically inactive.

[Table 3-1] Number of respondents by country

Country	No. of respondents	Percent
United Kingdom	2,025	9.26%
Denmark	2,057	9.41%
Italy	2,083	9.53%
South Korea	**2,004**	**9.17%**
Sweden	2,026	9.27%
Norway	1,522	6.96%
Finland	2,032	9.29%
Germany	2,021	9.24%
Poland	2,040	9.33%
United States	4,052	18.53%
Total	21,862	100.00%

Source: created by authors

[Table 3-2] Socio-demographic description by all countries and South Korea

Socio-demographic factor	All samples (10 countries)		South Korea	
	No. of respondents	Percent	No. of respondents	Percent
Gender				
Female	11,277	51.58%	895	44.66%
Male	10,585	48.42%	1,109	55.34%
Total	21,862	100.00%	2,004	100.00%
Age				
18-34 years	5,412	24.76%	380	18.96%
35-54 years	7,488	34.25%	882	44.01%
55+ years	8,962	40.99%	742	37.03%
Total	21,862	100.00%	2,004	100.00%

Socio-demographic factor	All samples (10 countries)		South Korea	
	No. of respondents	Percent	No. of respondents	Percent
Education level				
Lower secondary education or below	2,479	12.52%	4	0.20%
Upper secondary or vocational education	9,323	47.07%	501	25.00%
Bachelor degree or above	8,003	40.41%	1,499	74.80%
Total	19,805	100.00%	2,004	100.00%
Main activity				
In employment	12,086	55.28%	1,451	72.41%
Unemployed job-seeking	891	4.08%	95	4.74%
Retired or economically inactive	8,208	37.54%	401	20.01%
Other or prefer not to say	677	3.10%	57	2.84%
Total	21,862	100.00%	2,004	100.00%

Source: created by authors

3.1.2 Attitudes towards grand challenges

3.1.2.1 Concerns about automation including AI

South Koreans' concern about automation is on par with the 10-country average, with 42.5% expressing concern and 53.5% expressing little to no concern, slightly higher than the 10-country average non-concern rate of 52.1%. People in Finland and Norway are particularly optimistic about automation, with low concern rates of 37.7% and 37.2%. Germany and Denmark have a concern balance similar to South Korea, while Norway, Finland and the UK display a relatively high non-concern rate, indicating less worry about automation.

In South Korea, the level of concern about automation varies by age group. Respondents aged 18-34 have the highest concern rate ("very worried" + "worried") at 47.3%, while those aged 55 and older have the lowest

concern rate at 40.5%. On the other hand, the non-concern rate ("not worried at all" + "slightly worried") is highest among those aged 55 and older at 56.8% and lowest among those aged 18-34 at 47.7%. By income level, respondents earning 45-60 million won per year are the least concerned about automation, with a concern rate of 36.0%, and a non-concern rate peaking at 60.6%%. Education level also affects concern rates. Those with a high school education or less have a concern rate of 44.3%, while respondents with a master's degree or higher have a slightly lower concern rate of 43.7%. Main activity status demonstrates that there is no significant differences across employment statuses. However, it should be noted that the proportion of "Don't know" responses among the unemployed job seekers is relatively higher, accounting for 9.6%.

[Table 3-3] Concerns about automation including AI by country

Country	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
United Kingdom	20.4%	36.5%	23.5%	16.2%	3.4%
Denmark	19.8%	33.0%	25.4%	15.6%	6.3%
Italy	16.7%	29.9%	26.1%	22.1%	5.3%
South Korea	**20.8%**	**32.7%**	**28.9%**	**13.6%**	**4.0%**
Sweden	19.2%	33.5%	22.8%	17.1%	7.4%
Norway	19.2%	39.2%	25.4%	11.8%	4.5%
Finland	19.6%	37.6%	23.3%	14.4%	5.2%
Germany	18.3%	33.7%	26.1%	19.4%	2.5%
Poland	20.1%	29.5%	24.5%	15.3%	10.6%
United States	17.5%	30.1%	26.3%	21.3%	4.8%
Total	19.0%	33.1%	25.3%	17.2%	5.4%

[Table 3-4] Concerns about automation including AI by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
18-34 years	20.4%	27.3%	29.3%	18.0%	5.0%
35-54 years	20.5%	33.9%	27.7%	13.4%	4.5%
55+ years	21.4%	35.4%	29.8%	10.7%	2.7%
Total	20.8%	32.7%	28.9%	13.6%	4.0%

Personal income	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
Under 25 million won	19.0%	30.4%	29.7%	15.1%	5.9%
25-35 million won	22.4%	30.6%	28.2%	15.8%	3.1%
35-45 million won	18.7%	39.9%	28.3%	10.6%	2.6%
45-60 million won	24.0%	36.6%	27.5%	8.5%	3.4%
60 million won or higher	23.1%	31.4%	29.6%	14.3%	1.6%
Total	20.8%	32.7%	28.9%	13.6%	4.0%

Education level	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
High school or lower	19.2%	30.8%	28.8%	15.5%	5.8%
College or vocational school	20.2%	28.6%	29.0%	13.3%	8.9%
BA	20.3%	34.7%	28.8%	13.0%	3.1%
MA or PhD	26.2%	28.5%	29.6%	14.1%	1.7%
Total	20.8%	32.7%	28.9%	13.6%	4.0%

Main activity	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
In employment	21.8%	31.8%	29.2%	13.5%	3.8%
Unemployed job seeking	17.3%	35.5%	21.2%	16.4%	9.6%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	19.3%	34.3%	29.0%	14.0%	3.3%
Other or prefer not to answer	13.6%	37.2%	35.8%	9.9%	3.5%
Total	20.8%	32.7%	28.9%	13.6%	4.0%

3.1.2.2 Concerns about globalization

South Korea ranks in the middle regarding concerns about globalization. Among South Korean respondents, 41.0% are either "very worried" or "worried", which is higher than the average of the 10 countries, 36.3%. The figure of South Korea indicates a relatively greater concern about globalization. Meanwhile, the combined non-concern rate ("not worried at all" + "slightly worried") in South Korea is 51.3%, slightly below the 10-country average of 53.5%. Italy displays the highest concern rate at 49.5% and the lowest non-concern rate at 43.1%, reflecting a significantly more negative view of globalization. In contrast, Denmark shows the lowest concern rate at 25.0% and the highest non-concern rate at 60.7%, indicating the most positive view of globalization.

In South Korea, globalization concerns vary by age. Respondents aged 18-34 have the lowest combined "very worried" and "worried" rates at 36.6%. This rate increases to 42.6% for those aged 35-54 and 42.5% for those aged 55 and older, suggesting that middle-aged and older adults tend to be more concerned about globalization. The highest percentage of unconcerned individuals (the sum of "not worried at all" and "slightly worried") was among the 18-34 age group at 52.4%. Education level also affects perceptions of globalization. Respondents with a master's or doctoral degree have the highest percentage of unconcerned individuals at 53.9%, followed by those with a bachelor's degree at 52.2%. In comparison, only 47.4% of those with a degree from a college or vocational school express no concern in this regard. This indicates variations in globalization perceptions based on educational attainment. When examining primary activity status, those who were economically inactive had the lowest concern rate at 40.1%, while the non-concern rate was relatively high at 51.2% for those who were employed.

[Table 3-5] Concerns about globalization, by country

Country	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
United Kingdom	24.8%	30.7%	23.4%	9.7%	11.5%
Denmark	29.2%	31.5%	20.8%	4.2%	14.3%
Italy	13.8%	29.3%	31.8%	17.7%	7.4%
South Korea	**24.7%**	**26.6%**	**30.1%**	**10.9%**	**7.8%**
Sweden	27.3%	29.0%	20.3%	9.6%	13.8%
Norway	24.9%	33.7%	22.7%	8.6%	10.2%
Finland	22.4%	36.6%	23.3%	6.3%	11.5%
Germany	20.2%	32.6%	30.5%	12.1%	4.6%
Poland	21.8%	30.5%	24.5%	9.2%	14.0%
United States	20.5%	29.8%	25.7%	15.5%	8.6%
Total	22.7%	30.8%	25.4%	10.9%	10.2%

[Table 3-6] Concerns about globalization by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
18-34 years	28.3%	24.1%	26.8%	9.8%	11.1%
35-54 years	23.0%	26.7%	31.3%	11.3%	7.8%
55+ years	23.9%	28.2%	31.2%	11.3%	5.4%
Total	24.7%	26.6%	30.1%	10.9%	7.8%

Personal income	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
Under 25 million won	22.9%	26.3%	30.2%	8.9%	11.7%
25-35 million won	27.6%	24.3%	29.1%	11.7%	7.3%
35-45 million won	25.7%	25.1%	31.2%	12.6%	5.4%
45-60 million won	25.2%	29.4%	28.1%	12.7%	4.7%
60 million won or higher	24.2%	30.0%	31.8%	12.2%	1.8%
Total	24.7%	26.6%	30.1%	10.9%	7.8%

Education level	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
High school or lower	24.2%	24.4%	29.8%	11.1%	10.4%
College or vocational school	25.5%	21.9%	28.5%	8.2%	15.8%
BA	24.7%	27.5%	30.8%	11.0%	6.2%
MA or PhD	24.9%	29.0%	27.8%	12.3%	6.1%
Total	24.7%	26.6%	30.1%	10.9%	7.8%

Main activity	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
In employment	24.2%	27.0%	30.9%	11.1%	6.9%
Unemployed job seeking	24.8%	27.7%	29.4%	4.8%	13.3%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	26.9%	24.6%	27.2%	12.9%	8.4%
Other or prefer not to answer	19.8%	29.2%	32.2%	4.9%	13.9%
Total	24.7%	26.6%	30.1%	10.9%	7.8%

3.1.2.3 Concerns about immigration

South Koreans display relatively low levels of concern about immigration compared to other countries. The combined concern rate ("very worried" and "worried") among South Korean respondents is 27.0%, significantly lower than the 10-country average of 49.4%. On the other hand, the combined non-concern rate ("not worried at all" and "slightly worried") is 64.2%, significantly higher than the average of the 10 countries, indicating that South Koreans are generally less worried about immigration. Germany has the highest concern rate at 64.9%, exhibiting a strong concern about immigration. Italy and Sweden also have high concern rates at 63.6% and 56.7%, respectively.

Focusing on the South Korean respondents, older people are likely to be less worried about immigration. Those aged 55 and over have the lowest concern rate at 24.1% and the highest non-concern rate at 66.8%. Respondents with higher incomes, specifically those earning more than KRW 60 million per year, are less worried about immigration, with a concern rate of 25.4% and a non-concern rate of 69.0%. Education level influences immigration concerns, with respondents holding a high school degree or lower showing the highest rate of non-concern at 60.8%. In terms of main activity, unemployed respondents have the lowest concern rate at 25.5% and a relatively high non-concern rate at 62.6%.

[Table 3-7] Concerns about immigration by country

Country	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
United Kingdom	26.3%	26.3%	19.1%	24.4%	4.0%
Denmark	14.6%	28.8%	24.6%	22.4%	9.7%
Italy	10.5%	22.3%	31.0%	32.6%	3.6%
South Korea	**38.1%**	**26.1%**	**20.4%**	**6.6%**	**8.8%**
Sweden	14.5%	23.5%	21.8%	34.9%	5.4%
Norway	24.6%	29.6%	21.5%	18.0%	6.3%
Finland	13.8%	32.0%	26.5%	18.7%	9.1%
Germany	11.0%	21.7%	22.5%	42.4%	2.5%
Poland	9.7%	26.5%	32.5%	24.1%	7.3%
United States	20.7%	25.0%	21.0%	27.2%	6.1%
Total	18.4%	26.0%	23.9%	25.5%	6.3%

[Table 3-8] Concerns about immigration by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
18-34 years	34.2%	29.9%	20.1%	8.8%	7.0%
35-54 years	38.6%	23.2%	20.2%	8.2%	9.8%
55+ years	40.4%	26.4%	20.7%	3.4%	9.1%
Total	38.1%	26.1%	20.4%	6.6%	8.8%

Personal income	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
Under 25 million won	38.4%	23.2%	20.1%	6.8%	11.4%
25-35 million won	34.6%	29.3%	22.4%	5.1%	8.6%
35-45 million won	35.6%	28.4%	21.8%	7.3%	6.9%
45-60 million won	41.1%	27.3%	19.6%	5.9%	6.1%
60 million won or higher	42.3%	26.7%	17.2%	8.2%	5.5%
Total	38.1%	26.1%	20.4%	6.6%	8.8%

Education level	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
High school or lower	35.7%	25.1%	24.4%	4.8%	10.0%
College or vocational school	43.4%	19.7%	14.6%	9.5%	12.8%
BA	38.4%	26.2%	20.5%	7.0%	8.0%
MA or PhD	36.2%	32.4%	17.2%	5.8%	8.3%
Total	38.1%	26.1%	20.4%	6.6%	8.8%

Main activity	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
In employment	37.8%	27.6%	20.4%	7.0%	7.2%
Unemployed job seeking	40.8%	21.8%	16.8%	8.7%	11.9%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	38.9%	22.5%	21.6%	4.5%	12.6%
Other or prefer not to answer	33.8%	27.1%	16.1%	9.1%	13.9%
Total	38.1%	26.1%	20.4%	6.6%	8.8%

3.1.2.4 Concerns about war

South Korea is positioned in the middle of the ranking regarding war concern. Among South Korean respondents, the combined concern rate of "very worried" and "worried" is 64.3%, which is slightly lower than the 10-country average of 68.4%. The combined non-concern rate ("not worried at all" and "slightly worried") is 34.0%, higher than the 10-country average of 29.6%, suggesting that South Koreans are relatively less concerned about war. Italy demonstrated the highest rate of concern at 88.4% and the lowest rate of non-concern at 10.1%, indicating a significant level of worry about war. On the other hand, Sweden has the lowest concern rate at 57.1% and the highest non-concern rate at 40.9%, indicating that Swedes are relatively less worried about war.

Looking at South Korean respondents, firstly, by age, respondents aged 55+ had the highest combined "very worried" and "worried" concern rate at 69.5%, compared to 62.7% for 18-34 year olds, indicating that older people are more concerned about war. The unconcerned rate (the combination of "not worried at all" and "slightly worried") was highest among 35-54 year olds at 37.0%, suggesting that middle-aged people tend to be less concerned. By income level, those earning between KRW 35-45 million per year had the highest rate of non-concern (36.6%), with lower incomes tending to be associated with higher rates of concern. By education, respondents with a master's degree or higher had the highest rate of concern (69.6%), indicating that those

with higher education are more concerned about the war. In terms of main activity status, those who were economically inactive had the highest rate of concern at 66.8%, while unemployed job seekers had a relatively low rate of concern at 58.6%.

[Table 3-9] Concerns about war by country

Country	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
United Kingdom	7.8%	27.5%	31.2%	32.3%	1.2%
Denmark	5.8%	25.3%	36.8%	30.5%	1.6%
Italy	1.8%	8.3%	22.8%	65.6%	1.5%
South Korea	**7.9%**	**26.1%**	**31.6%**	**32.7%**	**1.8%**
Sweden	10.1%	30.8%	30.9%	26.2%	2.0%
Norway	9.0%	30.5%	33.8%	25.6%	1.1%
Finland	6.6%	29.9%	30.8%	31.1%	1.6%
Germany	5.2%	17.8%	27.9%	47.7%	1.4%
Poland	5.0%	14.1%	28.8%	48.4%	3.8%
United States	7.9%	21.4%	29.1%	38.8%	2.9%
Total	6.8%	22.8%	30.1%	38.3%	2.0%

[Table 3-10] Concerns about war by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
18-34 years	7.7%	27.6%	37.7%	25.0%	2.0%
35-54 years	10.0%	27.0%	31.2%	29.1%	2.6%
55+ years	5.8%	24.1%	27.6%	41.9%	0.7%
Total	7.9%	26.1%	31.6%	32.7%	1.8%

Personal income	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
Under 25 million won	5.7%	26.7%	30.9%	34.1%	2.7%
25-35 million won	8.3%	26.2%	31.7%	32.4%	1.4%
35-45 million won	12.5%	24.1%	31.6%	30.3%	1.6%
45-60 million won	8.6%	24.1%	34.7%	31.8%	0.9%
60 million won or higher	8.1%	28.6%	30.7%	32.2%	0.4%
Total	7.9%	26.1%	31.6%	32.7%	1.8%

Education level	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
High school or lower	7.5%	26.1%	28.7%	36.7%	1.1%
College or vocational school	8.6%	26.5%	32.2%	28.6%	4.2%
BA	7.8%	27.0%	32.1%	31.3%	1.8%
MA or PhD	8.6%	21.3%	33.3%	36.3%	0.6%
Total	7.9%	26.1%	31.6%	32.7%	1.8%

Main activity	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
In employment	8.7%	26.0%	32.3%	31.4%	1.5%
Unemployed job seeking	10.8%	27.0%	32.9%	25.7%	3.6%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	5.0%	26.4%	27.9%	38.9%	1.9%
Other or prefer not to answer	4.1%	25.2%	39.0%	28.6%	3.2%
Total	7.9%	26.1%	31.6%	32.7%	1.8%

3.1.2.5 Concerns about climate change

South Koreans express a high level of concern about climate change compared to other countries. The combined concern rate of "very concerned" and "concerned" among South Korean respondents is 81.6%, significantly higher than the 10-country average of 61.7% and the highest among the countries surveyed. In contrast, the combined non-concern rate ("not worried at all" and "slightly worried") is 16.9%, lower than the 10-country average of 35.8%, indicating a less positive view of climate change. Italy also shows a high concern rate at 79.4%, though still lower than South Korea. In contrast, Sweden and Finland have relatively low concern rates at 53.8% and 52.1%, respectively, and high non-concern rates at 43.6% and 46.3%, indicating a tendency to be less concerned about climate change.

Among South Korean respondents, older individuals express the greatest concern about climate change, with 85.9% of those aged 55 and over indicating they are “very worried” or “worried”. In contrast, younger respondents aged

18-34 show the highest rate of being "not worried at all" or "slightly worried" at 22.6%, suggesting they are generally less worried about climate issues. Income levels also reflect concern, with the highest rate of worry, 83.3%, found among those earning more than 60 million KRW annually. Educational attainment influences concern levels, as individuals with a high school education or less show the highest concern rate at 82.2%, indicating that lower education levels may correlate with greater climate change anxiety. Regarding primary activity status, economically inactive individuals report the highest concern at 81.4%, demonstrating significant concern across various economic activity groups.

[Table 3-11] Concerns about climate change by country

Country	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
United Kingdom	13.8%	23.5%	26.4%	34.8%	1.6%
Denmark	10.2%	22.7%	31.7%	32.9%	2.5%
Italy	5.6%	13.0%	26.6%	52.8%	2.0%
South Korea	**3.3%**	**13.6%**	**26.2%**	**55.4%**	**1.5%**
Sweden	18.3%	25.3%	26.6%	27.2%	2.7%
Norway	16.6%	28.4%	28.3%	24.6%	2.3%
Finland	16.5%	29.8%	27.7%	24.4%	1.6%
Germany	14.8%	21.8%	24.3%	37.5%	1.6%
Poland	14.3%	23.1%	30.6%	26.5%	5.5%
United States	21.8%	18.9%	23.0%	33.3%	3.0%
Total	14.2%	21.6%	26.7%	35.0%	2.5%

[Table 3-12] Concerns about climate change by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
18-34 years	4.1%	18.5%	32.2%	43.0%	2.2%
35-54 years	4.0%	12.3%	25.5%	56.4%	2.0%
55+ years	2.0%	11.5%	22.5%	63.4%	0.6%
Total	3.3%	13.6%	26.2%	55.4%	1.5%

Personal income	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.8%	12.1%	25.1%	56.7%	2.3%
25-35 million won	3.0%	15.2%	25.8%	54.5%	1.4%
35-45 million won	2.4%	16.8%	27.0%	53.1%	0.8%
45-60 million won	3.7%	12.8%	26.7%	55.8%	1.0%
60 million won or higher	2.6%	13.3%	28.6%	54.7%	0.8%
Total	3.3%	13.6%	26.2%	55.4%	1.5%

Education level	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
High school or lower	3.3%	13.7%	23.0%	59.2%	0.9%
College or vocational school	4.3%	13.3%	31.8%	47.0%	3.7%
BA	3.2%	13.4%	25.9%	55.9%	1.6%
MA or PhD	2.9%	15.1%	28.9%	52.4%	0.7%
Total	3.3%	13.6%	26.2%	55.4%	1.5%

Main activity	Not worried at all	Slightly worried	Worried	Very worried	Don't know
In employment	3.3%	13.9%	26.5%	55.2%	1.1%
Unemployed job seeking	2.8%	16.3%	34.4%	43.8%	2.7%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	3.9%	12.4%	22.1%	59.3%	2.3%
Other or prefer not to answer	0.0%	12.0%	32.1%	51.5%	4.4%
Total	3.3%	13.6%	26.2%	55.4%	1.5%

3.2 Diversity in Organizations

3.2.1 Perspectives on ethnic diversity in the workplace

3.2.1.1 Attitudes towards supervisors with different ethnic backgrounds

South Koreans report relatively high discomfort levels with the idea of having someone of a different race as their direct manager. Among South Korean respondents, 21.6% combined "very uncomfortable" and "uncomfortable",

which is significantly higher than the 10-country average of 12.2%. Conversely, the combined rate of "very comfortable" and "comfortable" was only 11.9%, markedly lower than the 10-country average of 37.9%. This suggests that South Koreans are less comfortable with managers of different races compared to respondents from other countries. In contrast, respondents from the UK and US are more open to having a manager of a different race. They report lower rates of discomfort (7.3% and 9.9% for "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable", respectively) and higher rates of comfort (53.5% and 47.8% for "very comfortable" or "comfortable", respectively).

Focusing on South Koreans, discomfort with having a manager of a different race differs across various demographics. Among age groups, individuals aged 55 and over experience the highest level of discomfort, with 22.5% reporting they are "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable" with managers of different races. In contrast, the 35-54 age group shows the highest percentage of those who are "very comfortable" or "comfortable" at 13.2%, suggesting greater openness among middle-aged individuals. Income levels do not significantly impact discomfort, although the highest discomfort rate, 23.9%, is found among those earning over 60 million KRW annually. Educational attainment influences discomfort with those holding a college degree or less showing lower levels of comfort than those with a bachelor's degree or higher. Regarding primary activity status, employed individuals report the highest discomfort rate at 22.2%, though overall discomfort levels are similar across different economic activities.

[Table 3-13] Degree of comfort with supervisors from different ethnic backgrounds at work, by country

Country	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
United Kingdom	3.2%	4.1%	34.4%	25.7%	27.8%	4.9%
Denmark	2.5%	6.4%	32.7%	29.3%	20.9%	8.3%
Italy	2.5%	6.7%	42.9%	27.3%	15.1%	5.5%
South Korea	**3.7%**	**17.9%**	**59.9%**	**10.6%**	**1.3%**	**6.7%**
Sweden	4.0%	9.2%	38.1%	24.5%	16.3%	7.9%
Norway	3.3%	6.9%	30.8%	27.4%	23.1%	8.5%
Finland	2.9%	7.6%	60.2%	14.6%	7.9%	6.8%
Germany	4.8%	12.6%	49.8%	18.3%	9.2%	5.3%
Poland	3.7%	11.5%	51.1%	17.9%	7.2%	8.7%
United States	3.8%	6.1%	37.4%	27.7%	20.1%	4.9%
Total	3.5%	8.7%	43.4%	22.7%	15.2%	6.6%

[Table 3-14] Degree of comfort with supervisors from different ethnic backgrounds at work, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
18-34 years	4.0%	18.0%	58.1%	10.3%	2.6%	7.1%
35-54 years	4.1%	16.2%	59.3%	12.5%	0.7%	7.2%
55+ years	3.0%	19.5%	61.7%	8.9%	1.0%	5.9%
Total	3.7%	17.9%	59.9%	10.6%	1.3%	6.7%

Personal income	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.4%	16.8%	61.0%	10.1%	1.3%	7.4%
25-35 million won	3.1%	17.7%	60.0%	9.6%	1.7%	7.9%
35-45 million won	2.7%	19.8%	57.3%	13.1%	1.7%	5.5%
45-60 million won	3.1%	20.5%	57.9%	11.7%	0.8%	6.1%
60 million won or higher	7.3%	16.6%	60.9%	10.1%	0.9%	4.3%
Total	3.7%	17.9%	59.9%	10.6%	1.3%	6.7%

Education level	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
High school or lower	2.8%	18.1%	62.4%	8.9%	1.6%	6.2%
College or vocational school	4.1%	19.9%	57.3%	8.7%	1.1%	8.9%
BA	3.7%	17.7%	59.2%	11.6%	1.2%	6.6%
MA or PhD	4.6%	16.9%	60.8%	9.9%	1.6%	6.3%
Total	3.7%	17.9%	59.9%	10.6%	1.3%	6.7%

Main activity	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
In employment	4.0%	18.2%	59.3%	11.0%	1.3%	6.2%
Unemployed job seeking	2.6%	18.5%	57.4%	9.4%	2.4%	9.7%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	3.5%	17.8%	60.7%	10.2%	1.3%	6.6%
Other or prefer not to answer	0.0%	10.6%	69.5%	8.1%	0.0%	11.8%
Total	3.7%	17.9%	59.9%	10.6%	1.3%	6.7%

3.2.1.2 Perceived importance of ethnic diversity in the workplace

In South Korea, the perceived importance of having a mix of employees from different ethnic and racial backgrounds in the workplace is relatively low. Only 4.8% of respondents consider it "extremely important" and 15.8% consider it "important", for a combined total of 20.6%. This is significantly lower than in the United States, where the combined rate is 39.3%, and other countries with relatively high rates among the 10 surveyed. On the other hand, 11.8% of South Korean respondents feel it is "never important" and 40.0% consider it "not too important", for a total of 51.8%. This suggests a tendency to view diversity as relatively unimportant, a trend similar to that in Denmark (64.1%) and Finland (62.6%), where a high proportion of respondents also do not consider diversity important.

Among South Korean respondents, attitudes towards the importance of diversity vary across different demographics. Among age groups, individuals aged 18-34 place the highest emphasis on diversity, with 22.9% considering it "extremely important" or "important", followed by 20.5% of those aged 35-54 and 19.0% of respondents aged 55 and over. Income levels also impact these perceptions, as those earning over 60 million KRW annually show the greatest importance at 26.4%, whereas those earning between 25-35 million KRW have a lower importance rate of 21.6%. Education plays a significant role as well, with 25.9% of individuals holding a graduate degree or higher

viewing diversity as crucial, in contrast to only 18.6% of those with a high school education or less. Employment status shows minimal variation, with 21.0% of employed individuals and 20.9% of economically inactive individuals valuing diversity similarly.

[Table 3-15] Perceived importance of ethnic diversity in the workplace, by country

Country	Never important	Not too important	Somewhat important	Important	Extremely important	Don't know
United Kingdom	21.4%	21.6%	22.7%	23.1%	9.0%	2.1%
Denmark	27.1%	37.0%	15.6%	9.5%	3.1%	7.7%
Italy	25.9%	30.1%	17.3%	13.6%	4.3%	8.8%
South Korea	**11.8%**	**40.0%**	**22.5%**	**15.8%**	**4.8%**	**5.1%**
Sweden	22.6%	28.4%	22.7%	16.1%	5.2%	5.1%
Norway	17.5%	29.0%	22.5%	19.8%	6.4%	4.7%
Finland	27.6%	35.0%	18.0%	8.9%	2.9%	7.6%
Germany	32.6%	28.3%	14.5%	13.7%	6.2%	4.8%
Poland	20.8%	29.9%	16.4%	12.9%	7.3%	12.7%
United States	19.3%	17.0%	20.0%	25.3%	14.0%	4.4%
Total	22.5%	28.5%	19.2%	16.6%	7.0%	6.2%

[Table 3-16] Perceived importance of ethnic diversity in the workplace, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Never important	Not too important	Somewhat important	Important	Extremely important	Don't know
18-34 years	14.6%	34.4%	20.3%	17.6%	5.3%	7.9%
35-54 years	13.1%	41.6%	20.5%	14.4%	6.1%	4.3%
55+ years	8.3%	42.5%	26.2%	16.0%	3.0%	4.0%
Total	11.8%	40.0%	22.5%	15.8%	4.8%	5.1%

Personal income	Never important	Not too important	Somewhat important	Important	Extremely important	Don't know
Under 25 million won	11.0%	40.3%	23.4%	13.2%	4.6%	7.4%
25-35 million won	13.0%	44.0%	18.4%	18.4%	3.2%	3.0%
35-45 million won	9.8%	38.2%	26.7%	16.3%	2.5%	6.4%
45-60 million won	9.3%	42.0%	22.7%	16.5%	7.5%	2.1%
60 million won or higher	17.1%	32.7%	21.2%	18.9%	7.5%	2.6%
Total	11.8%	40.0%	22.5%	15.8%	4.8%	5.1%

Education level	Never important	Not too important	Somewhat important	Important	Extremely important	Don't know
High school or lower	11.9%	37.8%	25.9%	15.0%	3.6%	5.8%
College or vocational school	13.1%	38.8%	22.9%	12.4%	4.8%	8.1%
BA	11.7%	41.5%	21.3%	16.4%	4.3%	4.8%
MA or PhD	10.6%	37.1%	22.9%	16.6%	9.3%	3.5%
Total	11.8%	40.0%	22.5%	15.8%	4.8%	5.1%

Main activity	Never important	Not too important	Somewhat important	Important	Extremely important	Don't know
In employment	12.6%	41.2%	21.2%	16.1%	4.9%	3.8%
Unemployed job seeking	10.0%	40.0%	26.1%	11.2%	4.5%	8.3%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	9.6%	37.6%	25.3%	16.3%	4.6%	6.7%
Other or prefer not to answer	10.2%	30.5%	25.7%	13.8%	2.9%	16.9%
Total	11.8%	40.0%	22.5%	15.8%	4.8%	5.1%

3.2.2 Preferences regarding support for immigrant workers

South Koreans show relatively low support for making it easier for immigrants to work in the country. The combined percentage of South Koreans who "strongly agree" and "agree" with making it easier for immigrants to work in the country is 36.8%. This is lower than the global average of 42.2% and significantly lower than countries such as Norway (50.3%) and Germany (54.3%). These results suggest that positive perceptions of immigrant support in South Korea are relatively low compared to other countries, with the exception of Poland (28.7%).

South Koreans' attitudes towards supporting immigrants differ across various demographics. Older individuals, particularly those aged 55 and over, show the highest level of agreement, with 41.7% either "strongly agree" or "agree" with immigrant support. This is followed by 35.5% of those aged 35-54 and 32.1% of those aged 18-34, indicating that support increases with age. Income also plays a significant role, as respondents earning 60 million KRW or more

annually exhibit the highest support rate at 47.5%, while those making less than 25 million KRW show a lower agreement rate of 31.8%. Educational attainment further impacts opinions, with individuals holding master's or doctoral degrees demonstrating the greatest support at 43.5%, compared to 36.3% among those with only a high school education or less. Additionally, employment status affects support levels, with employed individuals showing the highest rate of agreement at 38.2%, while 35.4% of those who are economically inactive express similar support.

[Table 3-17] Preferences regarding support for immigrant workers by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	18.6%	13.4%	19.2%	28.8%	16.0%	4.1%
Denmark	12.8%	11.8%	25.4%	28.5%	10.7%	10.8%
Italy	13.4%	13.1%	30.4%	26.8%	10.5%	5.8%
South Korea	**7.3%**	**15.8%**	**35.2%**	**29.0%**	**7.8%**	**4.9%**
Sweden	15.5%	8.6%	23.3%	26.2%	17.1%	9.4%
Norway	8.5%	8.6%	25.5%	34.1%	16.2%	7.2%
Finland	9.7%	10.6%	21.4%	34.3%	17.3%	6.7%
Germany	10.3%	7.1%	21.9%	31.4%	22.9%	6.4%
Poland	14.1%	16.2%	30.3%	22.0%	6.7%	10.8%
United States	18.7%	11.9%	22.3%	24.8%	15.3%	6.9%
Total	13.5%	11.8%	25.2%	28.1%	14.1%	7.3%

[Table 3-18] Preferences regarding support for immigrant workers by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	10.1%	15.6%	33.9%	22.3%	9.8%	8.3%
35-54 years	8.7%	17.3%	33.7%	26.9%	8.6%	4.9%
55+ years	3.9%	14.4%	37.6%	36.1%	5.6%	2.3%
Total	7.3%	15.8%	35.2%	29.0%	7.8%	4.9%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	7.6%	17.1%	37.0%	25.0%	6.8%	6.5%
25–35 million won	5.9%	16.6%	36.3%	29.8%	7.4%	3.9%
35–45 million won	5.8%	14.8%	37.1%	28.1%	10.0%	4.3%
45–60 million won	9.5%	15.2%	31.0%	34.5%	5.8%	4.0%
60 million won or higher	8.4%	11.9%	29.5%	36.1%	11.4%	2.7%
Total	7.3%	15.8%	35.2%	29.0%	7.8%	4.9%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	5.5%	15.0%	37.5%	28.3%	8.0%	5.7%
College or vocational school	8.7%	16.7%	37.2%	22.5%	8.4%	6.4%
BA	7.2%	16.8%	34.5%	29.1%	7.5%	4.9%
MA or PhD	10.1%	11.1%	33.1%	34.5%	9.0%	2.3%
Total	7.3%	15.8%	35.2%	29.0%	7.8%	4.9%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	7.7%	15.9%	34.0%	29.6%	8.6%	4.2%
Unemployed job seeking	9.4%	13.5%	34.9%	23.0%	10.4%	8.8%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	6.5%	16.0%	38.1%	30.0%	5.4%	4.0%
Other or prefer not to answer	1.7%	16.4%	40.9%	19.5%	2.7%	18.8%
Total	7.3%	15.8%	35.2%	29.0%	7.8%	4.9%

3.3 Social Risks and Trust

3.3.1 Perceptions of of the economic impact of an aging population

In South Korea, there is a strong perception that the increase in the number of elderly people relative to the working-age population is a threat to the country's economy. The combined percentage of respondents who "strongly agree" and "agree" with the statement, "The increasing number of elderly people relative to working age population poses a threat to our economy", is 76.1%, the highest among the 10 countries surveyed. This reflects the seriousness with which South Korean society perceives the issue of aging. In contrast, the rate of "neither agree nor disagree" in South Korea is only 15.3%, compared to the global average of 24.9%. Among other countries, Italy and Finland also show high rates of agreement at 47.9% and 58.1%, respectively, while the United States and Denmark have relatively low agreement rates at 30.9% and 35.2%.

For South Koreans, views on aging as an economic threat show notable variation across different demographics. Older individuals, specifically those aged 55 and over, display the highest level of concern, with 79.3% either "strongly agree" or "agree" with this sentiment. This is followed by 75.3% of respondents aged 18-34 and 73.8% of those aged 35-54. Income levels also play a role, as those earning more than 60 million KRW annually report a 76.3% agreement rate, while individuals earning between 25-35 million KRW have an even higher rate of 79.4%. Educational background influences perceptions as well, with the highest agreement rate of 78.8% found among those with a bachelor's degree, compared to 70.0% among those with only a high school education or less. Furthermore, agreement rates are highest among those who are not economically active, at 78.4%, followed closely by employed individuals, who have a 76.6% agreement rate.

[Table 3-19] Degree of agreement with the perspective that the growing elderly population threatens the national economy, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	7.2%	20.5%	23.1%	33.3%	9.1%	6.9%
Denmark	8.0%	17.7%	28.6%	30.4%	4.8%	10.6%
Italy	6.4%	12.3%	29.0%	33.3%	14.6%	4.5%
South Korea	**1.2%**	**5.4%**	**15.3%**	**43.0%**	**33.1%**	**1.9%**
Sweden	7.9%	11.1%	27.8%	32.9%	9.5%	10.8%
Norway	8.6%	15.9%	26.6%	31.0%	10.7%	7.3%
Finland	5.2%	11.8%	19.5%	42.3%	15.8%	5.3%
Germany	13.1%	15.3%	25.1%	31.8%	9.3%	5.5%
Poland	7.1%	12.8%	24.5%	33.2%	12.4%	10.0%
United States	13.5%	20.6%	27.1%	23.7%	7.2%	7.9%
Total	8.3%	14.9%	24.9%	32.6%	12.2%	7.2%

[Table 3-20] Degree of agreement with the perspective that the growing elderly population threatens the national economy by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	1.2%	4.3%	15.5%	37.8%	37.5%	3.8%
35-54 years	1.3%	5.1%	17.9%	43.4%	30.4%	2.0%
55+ years	1.2%	6.5%	12.5%	46.5%	32.8%	0.5%
Total	1.2%	5.4%	15.3%	43.0%	33.1%	1.9%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	1.1%	5.6%	17.3%	42.5%	30.1%	3.4%
25-35 million won	0.7%	6.2%	12.9%	46.9%	32.5%	0.8%
35-45 million won	1.0%	3.8%	15.0%	43.1%	36.5%	0.6%
45-60 million won	1.7%	4.5%	14.0%	47.4%	31.3%	1.1%
60 million won or higher	2.1%	6.2%	14.5%	34.0%	42.3%	0.9%
Total	1.2%	5.4%	15.3%	43.0%	33.1%	1.9%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	2.0%	6.4%	18.2%	38.7%	31.3%	3.5%
College or vocational school	1.1%	2.8%	16.8%	42.1%	32.6%	4.6%
BA	1.1%	4.4%	14.3%	45.4%	33.4%	1.4%
MA or PhD	0.8%	11.2%	14.3%	38.3%	35.4%	0.0%
Total	1.2%	5.4%	15.3%	43.0%	33.1%	1.9%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	1.2%	5.7%	15.2%	42.4%	34.2%	1.2%
Unemployed job seeking	1.8%	7.7%	19.1%	41.2%	28.2%	2.0%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	1.3%	4.1%	13.7%	45.5%	32.9%	2.4%
Other or prefer not to answer	0.0%	3.4%	21.5%	42.9%	19.3%	13.0%
Total	1.2%	5.4%	15.3%	43.0%	33.1%	1.9%

3.3.2 Perceptions of the link between extending the retirement age and job reduction

Opinions on the claim that "increasing the retirement age of workers results in fewer job opportunities for younger workers" vary significantly across countries. First, the combined percentage of South Koreans who "strongly agree" and "agree" with this statement is 39.9%, which is lower than the global average of 44.9%. This rate is significantly different from countries like Italy, where 70.5% agree with the statement.

On the other hand, the proportion of South Koreans who "neither agree nor disagree" is 33.3%, which is higher the 10-country average of 24.2%. These results suggest that South Koreans tend to be neutral or somewhat in agreement about the impact of raising the retirement age on young people's employment. They are less likely to perceive a negative impact than some European countries.

When it comes to South Korean respondents, their attitudes towards raising the retirement age and its impact on job opportunities for younger workers vary by demographic factors. Younger individuals are more inclined to believe that increasing the retirement age negatively affects job prospects for younger generations, with 43.6% of those aged 18-34 "strongly agree" or "agree", compared to 40.3% of those aged 55 and older and 36.9% of those aged 35-54. Income also influences these perceptions, as those earning more than 60 million KRW exhibit the highest agreement rate at 46.4%, followed by individuals earning between 45-60 million KRW at 42.5%. Educational background impacts views as well, with those holding a high school education or less showing the highest agreement rate at 40.8%, closely followed by those with a master's or doctoral degree at 39.0%. Additionally, the belief that raising the retirement age will result in fewer job opportunities for younger workers is most prevalent among those actively seeking employment, with an agreement rate of 47.4%.

[Table 3-21] Degree of agreement with the perspective that extending the retirement age reduces jobs, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	3.0%	14.7%	20.3%	39.4%	17.3%	5.4%
Denmark	7.2%	24.4%	25.0%	19.9%	8.2%	15.3%
Italy	2.9%	6.4%	17.0%	35.3%	35.2%	3.3%
South Korea	**4.6%**	**19.0%**	**33.3%**	**30.4%**	**9.5%**	**3.2%**
Sweden	4.9%	12.4%	23.6%	28.2%	21.7%	9.1%
Norway	7.3%	19.6%	26.1%	26.1%	10.4%	10.6%
Finland	4.3%	16.3%	21.2%	32.8%	17.5%	7.8%
Germany	13.4%	22.3%	25.1%	22.5%	9.8%	7.0%
Poland	7.0%	16.9%	22.2%	28.4%	15.6%	9.8%
United States	7.5%	17.1%	26.5%	28.5%	12.9%	7.6%
Total	6.3%	16.9%	24.2%	29.2%	15.7%	7.8%

[Table 3-22] Degree of agreement with the perspective that extending the retirement age reduces jobs by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	2.1%	16.3%	32.4%	31.0%	12.6%	5.7%
35-54 years	5.8%	19.4%	35.1%	27.9%	9.0%	2.8%
55+ years	5.3%	20.6%	32.1%	32.6%	7.7%	1.7%
Total	4.6%	19.0%	33.3%	30.4%	9.5%	3.2%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.9%	17.7%	35.2%	29.0%	9.2%	5.0%
25-35 million won	4.5%	18.8%	36.9%	29.4%	8.4%	2.0%
35-45 million won	5.0%	19.1%	34.4%	30.4%	9.1%	1.9%
45-60 million won	4.9%	22.4%	27.8%	32.3%	10.2%	2.4%
60 million won or higher	6.7%	20.3%	25.4%	34.6%	11.8%	1.2%
Total	4.6%	19.0%	33.3%	30.4%	9.5%	3.2%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	5.9%	15.4%	33.5%	33.0%	7.8%	4.5%
College or vocational school	5.0%	17.9%	31.3%	28.0%	11.2%	6.7%
BA	4.3%	19.9%	33.4%	30.1%	9.8%	2.5%
MA or PhD	4.1%	21.4%	33.7%	29.7%	9.3%	1.8%
Total	4.6%	19.0%	33.3%	30.4%	9.5%	3.2%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	5.1%	19.4%	32.7%	31.3%	9.5%	2.1%
Unemployed job seeking	3.8%	12.7%	32.5%	32.4%	15.0%	3.6%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	3.6%	20.7%	35.4%	27.8%	8.6%	4.0%
Other or prefer not to answer	3.8%	11.3%	32.4%	26.3%	5.7%	20.6%
Total	4.6%	19.0%	33.3%	30.4%	9.5%	3.2%

3.3.3 Trust in government agencies and public officials

3.3.3.1 Trust in police

In South Korea, trust in police transparency is relatively low compared to other countries. Only 31.4% of South Koreans “strongly agree” or “agree” with the statement, “the police’s procedures are easy to understand and transparent” which is below the global average of 38.0%. This is especially low compared to Finland (60.1%) and Norway (43.9%). These results suggest that trust in police transparency is lower in South Korea than in other Nordic countries, and critical perceptions are relatively strong.

Within South Korea, perceptions of trust in police procedures differ across demographic factors. Younger respondents demonstrate higher levels of trust, with 33.0% of those aged 18-34 “strongly agree” or “agree” that police procedures are transparent, compared to 31.1% of those aged 35-54 and 30.5% of those aged 55 and older. Income also plays a role in shaping these perceptions, with the highest agreement rate of 36.0% reported among individuals earning between 35-45 million KRW, while those earning 25-35 million KRW show the lowest rate at 27.1%. Educational background influences trust as well, with individuals holding a high school education or less demonstrating the highest agreement rate of 35.8%, whereas those with a bachelor’s degree have a lower rate of 29.0%. Additionally, trust varies by primary activity status, with 32.5% of employed individuals expressing agreement with the transparency of police procedures, compared to 29.9% of those who are economically inactive.

[Table 3-23] Degree of agreement with the perspective that the police operate in a transparent manner by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	11.9%	22.6%	29.2%	24.9%	5.7%	5.7%
Denmark	5.4%	11.8%	27.9%	34.6%	8.6%	11.8%
Italy	9.8%	20.3%	35.2%	23.9%	4.8%	6.1%
South Korea	**7.8%**	**22.8%**	**35.1%**	**25.1%**	**6.3%**	**2.9%**
Sweden	8.7%	11.7%	26.9%	31.0%	9.5%	12.1%
Norway	7.4%	14.2%	26.9%	33.5%	10.4%	7.6%
Finland	4.3%	11.3%	19.4%	47.4%	12.7%	4.9%
Germany	7.2%	12.5%	30.3%	33.1%	9.2%	7.8%
Poland	15.3%	25.9%	30.3%	15.9%	3.0%	9.6%
United States	13.3%	17.5%	25.0%	29.3%	11.0%	4.0%
Total	9.5%	17.2%	28.3%	29.7%	8.3%	6.9%

[Table 3-24] Degree of agreement with the perspective that the police operate in a transparent manner, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	11.0%	18.7%	33.6%	25.3%	7.7%	3.7%
35-54 years	5.8%	24.7%	35.4%	25.2%	5.9%	3.0%
55+ years	7.7%	23.7%	35.8%	24.8%	5.7%	2.2%
Total	7.8%	22.8%	35.1%	25.1%	6.3%	2.9%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	9.2%	23.0%	34.4%	22.9%	5.9%	4.5%
25-35 million won	8.2%	23.7%	38.6%	22.2%	4.9%	2.4%
35-45 million won	5.4%	19.7%	36.3%	29.3%	6.7%	2.6%
45-60 million won	7.8%	22.0%	33.4%	27.4%	8.3%	1.1%
60 million won or higher	5.5%	24.8%	32.2%	29.5%	7.4%	0.6%
Total	7.8%	22.8%	35.1%	25.1%	6.3%	2.9%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	7.5%	20.6%	33.1%	27.7%	8.1%	3.0%
College or vocational school	9.0%	20.5%	28.1%	26.2%	10.0%	6.3%
BA	7.8%	23.9%	36.6%	24.7%	4.3%	2.7%
MA or PhD	7.6%	21.8%	35.9%	22.1%	11.2%	1.3%
Total	7.8%	22.8%	35.1%	25.1%	6.3%	2.9%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	7.3%	23.0%	34.9%	26.2%	6.3%	2.3%
Unemployed job seeking	10.8%	20.6%	31.6%	26.1%	7.5%	3.4%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	9.5%	21.8%	35.8%	23.3%	6.6%	3.1%
Other or prefer not to answer	4.0%	27.4%	40.7%	11.6%	3.1%	13.3%
Total	7.8%	22.8%	35.1%	25.1%	6.3%	2.9%

In South Korea, the perception that "the police provides equal level of services to all citizens" is relatively low compared to other countries. Only 26.8% of South Koreans "strongly agree" or "agree" with this statement, which is lower than the global average of 30.2% and significantly lower than in Finland (44.3%) and Germany (35.9%). Meanwhile, 40.2% of South Koreans "neither agree nor disagree", which is similar to the global average of 40.6% and lower than the rates in the UK (54.7%) and Poland (53.5%). These results suggest that trust in equal treatment by the police is lower in South Korea than in some European countries, and negative perceptions are relatively strong.

Focusing on South Korean respondents, perceptions of police equality reveal some variation across demographics. Trust in police fairness is somewhat higher among younger individuals, with 27.7% of those aged 18-34 "strongly agree" or "agree" that the police treat everyone equally, compared to 26.2% of respondents aged 35-54 and 26.9% of those aged 55 and older. Income levels also impact perceptions, with the highest agreement rate found among

those earning 35-45 million KRW at 34.2%, while individuals earning 60 million KRW or more show a lower rate of 28.4%. Educational background further influences views, as those with a high school education or less report the highest agreement rate at 32.6%, whereas individuals with a bachelor's degree have a lower rate of 23.7%. Across all primary activity groups, more than 40% express skepticism about equal treatment by the police, indicating a widespread level of doubt in police fairness.

[Table 3-25] Degree of Agreement with the Perspective that the police treat everyone equally, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	22.2%	32.5%	18.4%	15.3%	6.9%	4.9%
Denmark	12.7%	24.9%	22.4%	24.1%	6.7%	9.3%
Italy	14.3%	25.9%	29.5%	19.4%	6.1%	4.8%
South Korea	**11.2%**	**29.0%**	**30.3%**	**19.8%**	**7.0%**	**2.8%**
Sweden	13.3%	20.0%	23.7%	23.1%	10.8%	9.2%
Norway	12.3%	25.9%	22.8%	23.4%	8.9%	6.7%
Finland	7.0%	21.3%	22.3%	33.1%	11.2%	5.1%
Germany	12.5%	18.6%	26.7%	26.1%	9.8%	6.3%
Poland	21.4%	32.1%	22.7%	12.0%	3.2%	8.6%
United States	20.7%	23.4%	19.6%	21.2%	11.7%	3.3%
Total	15.4%	25.2%	23.5%	21.7%	8.5%	5.8%

[Table 3-26] Degree of Agreement with the Perspective that the police treat everyone equally, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	14.9%	23.3%	29.9%	19.7%	8.0%	4.3%
35-54 years	11.0%	29.1%	31.3%	18.4%	7.8%	2.6%
55+ years	8.6%	33.1%	29.5%	21.4%	5.5%	1.9%
Total	11.2%	29.0%	30.3%	19.8%	7.0%	2.8%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	12.5%	29.6%	29.6%	17.4%	6.6%	4.2%
25-35 million won	11.7%	29.8%	31.6%	19.8%	5.1%	2.0%
35-45 million won	10.1%	23.9%	29.4%	25.2%	9.0%	2.5%
45-60 million won	9.2%	26.6%	33.3%	20.1%	9.0%	1.9%
60 million won or higher	9.3%	34.1%	27.9%	21.3%	7.1%	0.3%
Total	11.2%	29.0%	30.3%	19.8%	7.0%	2.8%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	9.9%	25.7%	29.4%	21.9%	10.7%	2.5%
College or vocational school	12.4%	24.6%	27.4%	18.2%	11.6%	5.8%
BA	11.7%	30.4%	31.5%	18.6%	5.1%	2.7%
MA or PhD	9.2%	30.4%	27.3%	24.1%	7.7%	1.3%
Total	11.2%	29.0%	30.3%	19.8%	7.0%	2.8%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	11.1%	28.9%	30.0%	20.7%	7.1%	2.2%
Unemployed job seeking	16.0%	21.8%	31.0%	20.3%	6.6%	4.4%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	10.6%	29.7%	30.8%	18.3%	7.4%	3.1%
Other or prefer not to answer	6.9%	39.2%	30.7%	10.9%	2.7%	9.7%
Total	11.2%	29.0%	30.3%	19.8%	7.0%	2.8%

3.3.3.2 Trust in tax authorities

In South Korea, trust in the transparency of tax authorities is relatively high compared to other countries. A combined 41.9% of South Koreans "strongly agree" or "agree" with the statement "tax authorities' procedures are easy to understand and transparent". This is higher than the global average of 33.4% and comparable to Finland (52.5%) and Norway (49.2%).

The percentage of South Koreans who "neither agree nor disagree" is 32.9%, which is higher than the global average of 28.5%.

Focusing on South Korean respondents, trust in tax authorities shows remarkable variations across different demographics. Individuals aged 55 and over demonstrate the highest levels of trust, with 45.3% expressing agreement that tax authorities are fair and transparent, followed by 41.6% of those aged 35-54 and 37.6% of respondents aged 18-34. This pattern suggests that older South Koreans generally have more confidence in tax procedures. Income also plays a role in shaping perceptions, as those earning between 35-45 million KRW report the highest agreement rate at 48.2%, while those with incomes over 60 million KRW show a lower rate of 41.8%. Additionally, educational attainment impacts trust, with individuals holding master's or doctoral degrees registering an agreement rate of 44.8%, which is comparable to the 45.2% agreement rate among those with only a high school education.

[Table 3-27] Degree of agreement with the perspective that tax authorities operate in a fare and transparent manner, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	11.5%	21.0%	27.2%	23.9%	5.1%	11.4%
Denmark	13.3%	24.2%	25.9%	19.7%	4.1%	12.9%
Italy	16.0%	25.2%	34.7%	13.0%	1.9%	9.2%
South Korea	**5.2%**	**15.7%**	**32.9%**	**33.7%**	**8.2%**	**4.3%**
Sweden	5.5%	7.2%	25.0%	33.2%	11.9%	17.2%
Norway	3.9%	9.9%	25.9%	38.0%	11.2%	11.1%
Finland	4.8%	9.1%	24.9%	42.5%	10.0%	8.8%
Germany	12.8%	20.3%	32.4%	19.1%	3.4%	12.1%
Poland	13.6%	20.3%	32.2%	17.3%	3.1%	13.6%
United States	14.4%	16.7%	25.8%	27.1%	9.2%	6.8%
Total	10.7%	17.1%	28.5%	26.5%	6.9%	10.4%

[Table 3-28] Degree of agreement with the perspective that tax authorities operate in a fare and transparent manner, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	7.2%	14.6%	34.5%	28.9%	8.7%	6.2%
35-54 years	5.0%	15.7%	33.2%	34.8%	6.8%	4.5%
55+ years	4.0%	16.6%	31.3%	36.1%	9.2%	2.8%
Total	5.2%	15.7%	32.9%	33.7%	8.2%	4.3%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	5.3%	15.7%	33.1%	31.9%	7.5%	6.5%
25-35 million won	5.6%	15.2%	33.6%	34.1%	7.5%	4.0%
35-45 million won	3.9%	13.2%	31.9%	37.9%	10.3%	2.7%
45-60 million won	4.7%	17.3%	32.5%	34.6%	8.7%	2.2%
60 million won or higher	6.2%	17.9%	32.3%	33.2%	8.6%	1.8%
Total	5.2%	15.7%	32.9%	33.7%	8.2%	4.3%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	3.9%	16.1%	29.6%	34.7%	10.5%	5.1%
College or vocational school	10.4%	11.9%	29.3%	32.0%	7.4%	9.1%
BA	4.7%	16.2%	34.5%	33.6%	7.1%	3.9%
MA or PhD	6.3%	15.3%	32.1%	34.1%	10.7%	1.5%
Total	5.2%	15.7%	32.9%	33.7%	8.2%	4.3%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	5.3%	15.8%	32.7%	34.5%	8.6%	3.2%
Unemployed job seeking	4.6%	11.9%	34.6%	34.2%	9.2%	5.6%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	5.3%	16.4%	31.9%	33.0%	7.4%	5.9%
Other or prefer not to answer	3.5%	16.8%	39.5%	21.2%	3.7%	15.3%
Total	5.2%	15.7%	32.9%	33.7%	8.2%	4.3%

In South Korea, 35.3% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" with the statement "tax authorities provide equal level of services to all citizens". This percentage is slightly above the global average of 32.6%, but lower than in Sweden (46.8%) and Finland (47.4%). However, it is notably higher than in Italy (14.6%) and Poland (21.8%). On the other hand, 30.2% of South Koreans respond with "neither agree nor disagree", which is above the global average of 23.2%, and also higher than that of any other country. In terms of disagreement, only 30.4 % of South Korean respondents "strongly disagree" or "disagree", which is significantly lower than the United Kingdom (43.6%) and Italy (50.4%). These figures suggest that South Korea generally holds relatively positive perceptions of equal treatment by tax authorities.

Among South Korean respondents, perceptions of fairness in tax authorities vary by demographic factors. Older individuals show the most positive views, with 39.6% of those aged 55 and over agree that tax authorities treat all citizens equally. This contrasts with 32.5% of respondents aged 35-54 and 33.3% of those aged 18-34, suggesting that older people are more inclined to believe in equal treatment by tax authorities. Income also affects perceptions, with the highest agreement rate of 37.3% found among those earning between 45-60 million KRW, followed by 34.1% among those earning over 60 million KRW, indicating a link between higher income and favorable views on tax authority fairness. Educational attainment further influences these perceptions, as individuals with master's or doctoral degrees report the highest agreement rate at 39.8%, compared to 34.4% among university graduates. Additionally, economically inactive respondents display the highest agreement rate at 37.1%, reflecting a greater perception of equality in tax treatment compared to those in other primary activity statuses.

[Table 3-29] Degree of agreement with the perspective that tax authorities treat everyone equally, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	18.4%	25.2%	18.9%	20.1%	6.5%	10.8%
Denmark	13.2%	24.8%	19.1%	23.7%	5.4%	13.9%
Italy	20.5%	29.9%	26.8%	11.8%	2.8%	8.1%
South Korea	**7.3%**	**23.1%**	**30.2%**	**27.3%**	**8.0%**	**4.1%**
Sweden	6.7%	9.4%	20.7%	31.1%	15.7%	16.5%
Norway	7.2%	13.5%	22.7%	32.7%	12.6%	11.3%
Finland	7.8%	16.8%	20.1%	37.3%	10.1%	7.9%
Germany	16.6%	19.8%	24.7%	21.8%	5.8%	11.3%
Poland	14.9%	22.9%	27.3%	17.6%	4.2%	13.1%
United States	17.9%	19.3%	22.0%	23.2%	10.8%	6.8%
Total	13.7%	20.5%	23.2%	24.3%	8.3%	10.0%

[Table 3-30] Degree of agreement with the perspective that tax authorities treat everyone equally by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	10.3%	20.2%	30.4%	25.6%	7.7%	5.9%
35-54 years	7.4%	24.3%	31.6%	24.1%	8.4%	4.2%
55+ years	5.1%	23.9%	28.8%	31.9%	7.7%	2.6%
Total	7.3%	23.1%	30.2%	27.3%	8.0%	4.1%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	7.0%	22.9%	30.5%	27.0%	6.5%	6.0%
25-35 million won	8.5%	22.6%	29.3%	28.7%	7.4%	3.5%
35-45 million won	7.5%	20.5%	30.8%	29.4%	8.9%	2.9%
45-60 million won	5.5%	24.6%	30.1%	26.0%	11.3%	2.5%
60 million won or higher	8.0%	25.9%	30.5%	25.0%	9.1%	1.6%
Total	7.3%	23.1%	30.2%	27.3%	8.0%	4.1%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	5.6%	23.3%	28.0%	28.3%	9.4%	5.4%
College or vocational school	12.3%	21.8%	28.0%	22.6%	7.6%	7.5%
BA	7.4%	23.0%	31.6%	26.9%	7.5%	3.6%
MA or PhD	6.1%	24.2%	28.4%	31.3%	8.5%	1.5%
Total	7.3%	23.1%	30.2%	27.3%	8.0%	4.1%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	7.5%	23.7%	30.0%	26.7%	8.8%	3.2%
Unemployed job seeking	6.6%	11.3%	41.1%	27.0%	7.8%	6.2%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	7.2%	24.2%	26.5%	30.9%	6.2%	4.9%
Other or prefer not to answer	4.7%	22.2%	41.8%	16.1%	1.4%	13.8%
Total	7.3%	23.1%	30.2%	27.3%	8.0%	4.1%

3.3.3.3 Trust in public benefit providers

In South Korea, 45.7% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that public benefit provider's procedures are easy to understand and transparent. This is notably higher than the global average of 26.1%, indicating a generally positive perception in South Korea. This suggests that South Koreans have relatively higher trust in their welfare benefit organizations compared to any other country.

South Koreans' perceptions of transparency in public benefit agencies differ by demographic factors. Trust is highest among older individuals, with 52.3% of those aged 55 and over expressing confidence in these agencies, compared to 43.6% of those aged 35-54 and 39.5% of respondents aged 18-34. This trend suggests that older people generally have greater trust in welfare organizations. Income also plays a role, with those earning between 45-60 million KRW showing the highest level of trust at 51.0%, followed by those

earning 35-45 million KRW at 47.5%. This indicates a positive link between higher income and trust in welfare agencies. Education level appears less influential, as both individuals with a high school education or less and those with master's or doctoral degrees report similar trust levels at 49.2%. Finally, among different primary activities, 47.1% of employed respondents and 44.8% of those who are economically inactive agree on the transparency of welfare benefit organizations.

[Table 3-31] Degree of agreement with the perspective that public benefit providers operate in a transparent manner, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	13.5%	22.9%	24.0%	19.4%	4.0%	16.2%
Denmark	12.2%	24.1%	27.8%	15.8%	3.0%	17.1%
Italy	11.3%	22.6%	38.3%	16.8%	2.1%	9.0%
South Korea	**3.6%**	**13.9%**	**32.7%**	**36.0%**	**9.7%**	**4.2%**
Sweden	11.8%	15.7%	29.4%	17.5%	4.5%	21.1%
Norway	15.8%	24.0%	27.1%	18.2%	3.8%	11.2%
Finland	11.9%	22.7%	22.4%	28.8%	5.9%	8.3%
Germany	12.8%	21.1%	32.8%	16.2%	3.8%	13.3%
Poland	11.1%	21.3%	36.0%	15.2%	2.6%	13.9%
United States	13.7%	19.2%	26.5%	23.0%	8.9%	8.8%
Total	11.9%	20.5%	29.5%	20.9%	5.2%	12.0%

[Table 3-32] Degree of agreement with the perspective that public benefit providers operate in a fare and transparent manner, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	5.1%	12.5%	35.7%	29.4%	10.1%	7.2%
35-54 years	3.7%	14.2%	35.2%	35.2%	8.4%	3.3%
55+ years	2.3%	14.6%	27.9%	41.4%	10.9%	2.9%
Total	3.6%	13.9%	32.7%	36.0%	9.7%	4.2%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	4.4%	13.2%	32.0%	35.4%	8.7%	6.3%
25-35 million won	3.4%	16.0%	33.8%	34.3%	9.2%	3.3%
35-45 million won	2.5%	11.8%	35.8%	37.4%	10.1%	2.4%
45-60 million won	2.4%	11.5%	31.5%	39.7%	11.3%	3.7%
60 million won or higher	3.6%	17.8%	30.5%	34.9%	12.0%	1.2%
Total	3.6%	13.9%	32.7%	36.0%	9.7%	4.2%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	2.3%	12.5%	32.5%	40.2%	9.0%	3.5%
College or vocational school	8.8%	10.2%	29.8%	32.7%	11.4%	7.1%
BA	3.6%	14.7%	33.3%	34.9%	9.3%	4.3%
MA or PhD	1.5%	15.1%	31.8%	37.0%	12.2%	2.4%
Total	3.6%	13.9%	32.7%	36.0%	9.7%	4.2%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	3.2%	14.1%	32.6%	37.2%	9.9%	3.0%
Unemployed job seeking	3.4%	10.9%	35.6%	33.4%	9.7%	7.0%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	4.9%	14.0%	30.8%	34.9%	9.9%	5.5%
Other or prefer not to answer	1.7%	13.4%	42.8%	20.4%	5.9%	15.8%
Total	3.6%	13.9%	32.7%	36.0%	9.7%	4.2%

In South Korea, 41.9% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that public benefit provider provides equal level of services to all citizens. This rate is notably higher than the global average of 25.8% and significantly exceeds the perceptions in Norway (18.6%) and Denmark (17.7%). Conversely, 22.3% of South Korean respondents "strongly disagree" or "disagree" with the statement, which is lower than the global average of 39.3%. This indicates that South Koreans generally have a more positive view of equal treatment by welfare

benefit agencies compared to other countries, including Sweden (33.8%) and Germany (41.2%).

For South Korean respondents, perceptions of equal treatment by public benefit agencies differ across various demographics. Among age groups, those aged 55 and older show the highest combined rate of "strongly agree and "agree at 45.4%, compared to 42.2% for respondents aged 35-54 and 36.7% for those aged 18-34. This indicates that older individuals generally have more confidence in the fairness of these agencies. Income levels also affect these perceptions, with respondents earning between 45-60 million KRW demonstrating the highest agreement at 48.2%, while those making over 60 million KRW have a slightly lower rate of 42.6%. This suggests that middle-income earners are more positive about equal treatment by welfare agencies. Educational attainment is associated with perceptions as well; those with master's or doctoral degrees report a 45.3% agreement rate, closely followed by individuals with a high school education or less at 41.0%. Interestingly, higher education does not necessarily translate into greater trust in the fairness of welfare agencies. Additionally, among primary activities, 44.1% of employed respondents feel that welfare benefit agencies treat all citizens equally, whereas 35.8% of those seeking work share this sentiment, indicating a more favorable view among the employed.

[Table 3-33] Degree of agreement with the perspective that public benefit providers treat everyone equally by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	16.9%	26.7%	19.5%	16.5%	5.8%	14.6%
Denmark	15.3%	29.2%	22.3%	14.5%	3.2%	15.4%
Italy	12.9%	27.1%	30.8%	17.8%	2.7%	8.7%
South Korea	**4.9%**	**17.4%**	**31.7%**	**31.3%**	**10.6%**	**4.1%**
Sweden	14.2%	19.6%	21.8%	18.7%	6.6%	19.1%
Norway	22.1%	29.5%	19.8%	13.5%	5.1%	10.1%
Finland	15.8%	25.9%	20.1%	24.7%	5.8%	7.8%
Germany	16.6%	24.6%	25.1%	17.4%	4.4%	11.9%
Poland	11.5%	26.7%	29.2%	15.3%	4.3%	13.1%
United States	17.6%	21.3%	21.8%	20.7%	11.3%	7.3%
Total	14.9%	24.4%	24.1%	19.3%	6.5%	10.9%

[Table 3-34] Degree of agreement with the perspective that public benefit providers treat everyone equally, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	7.5%	17.3%	32.7%	26.2%	10.5%	5.9%
35-54 years	4.8%	19.0%	30.6%	32.4%	9.8%	3.4%
55+ years	3.1%	15.9%	32.1%	33.9%	11.5%	3.4%
Total	4.9%	17.4%	31.7%	31.3%	10.6%	4.1%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	5.5%	16.9%	33.3%	29.6%	8.6%	6.1%
25-35 million won	5.2%	16.5%	33.2%	31.9%	10.5%	2.8%
35-45 million won	4.9%	16.5%	30.5%	34.2%	11.4%	2.4%
45-60 million won	3.4%	15.1%	29.6%	31.7%	16.5%	3.8%
60 million won or higher	3.9%	24.1%	27.7%	32.1%	10.5%	1.7%
Total	4.9%	17.4%	31.7%	31.3%	10.6%	4.1%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	3.7%	17.9%	33.3%	28.1%	12.9%	4.1%
College or vocational school	7.9%	16.4%	29.5%	26.1%	14.2%	6.0%
BA	5.2%	16.9%	32.2%	32.6%	9.2%	3.9%
MA or PhD	3.2%	20.1%	28.0%	33.9%	11.4%	3.3%
Total	4.9%	17.4%	31.7%	31.3%	10.6%	4.1%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	4.5%	17.8%	30.6%	32.8%	11.3%	3.0%
Unemployed job seeking	8.3%	11.3%	39.1%	28.3%	7.5%	5.6%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	6.0%	16.9%	32.2%	29.7%	10.0%	5.3%
Other or prefer not to answer	1.7%	22.4%	39.0%	16.1%	5.0%	15.8%
Total	4.9%	17.4%	31.7%	31.3%	10.6%	4.1%

3.3.3.4 Trust in public officials

In South Korea, only 30.7% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that most civil servants can be trusted to do what is best for the country, a figure lower than the global average of 37.3% and significantly behind trust levels in Finland (56.5%) and Norway (52.5%). This indicates that trust in public officials in South Korea is lower compared to Nordic countries but much higher than Italy (19.4%).

Focusing on South Korean respondents, trust varies by age, with the highest level of agreement at 36.5% among those aged 55 and older, compared to 27.7% for individuals aged 35-54 and 27.0% for those aged 18-34, suggesting that older South Koreans generally have more confidence in public officials. Income also plays a role, with those earning between 45-60 million KRW showing the highest agreement at 40.8%, while those earning 60 million KRW

or more have a rate of 36.1%. This implies that higher-income individuals tend to trust public officials more. Additionally, educational background influences trust, as those with master's or doctoral degrees report the highest agreement rate at 40.8%, whereas individuals with a high school education or less have a lower rate of 29.2%, indicating that greater educational attainment is associated with higher trust in public officials.

[Table 3-35] Degree of agreement with the perspective that most civil servants can be trusted to do what is best for the country, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	11.6%	18.7%	26.8%	29.2%	7.3%	6.4%
Denmark	8.7%	18.1%	29.0%	33.9%	3.0%	7.3%
Italy	19.2%	26.4%	31.6%	16.6%	2.8%	3.5%
South Korea	**8.7%**	**21.5%**	**37.8%**	**27.9%**	**2.8%**	**1.3%**
Sweden	12.3%	17.3%	29.5%	29.5%	5.3%	6.1%
Norway	7.8%	12.4%	24.9%	40.2%	12.3%	2.5%
Finland	5.9%	12.3%	22.3%	45.9%	10.6%	3.0%
Germany	10.9%	18.9%	35.2%	26.3%	4.4%	4.3%
Poland	11.8%	18.5%	34.7%	25.7%	2.6%	6.7%
United States	7.8%	15.5%	28.2%	34.7%	9.4%	4.5%
Total	10.3%	17.9%	29.9%	31.1%	6.2%	4.6%

[Table 3-36] Degree of agreement with the perspective that most civil servants can be trusted to do what is best for the country, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	9.9%	19.6%	40.9%	25.3%	1.7%	2.6%
35-54 years	9.5%	22.3%	39.1%	25.3%	2.4%	1.5%
55+ years	7.1%	22.0%	34.3%	32.5%	4.0%	0.1%
Total	8.7%	21.5%	37.8%	27.9%	2.8%	1.3%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	8.9%	20.0%	41.1%	26.2%	2.0%	1.8%
25-35 million won	9.5%	24.3%	39.4%	22.9%	2.7%	1.3%
35-45 million won	7.3%	21.5%	39.0%	30.0%	1.5%	0.7%
45-60 million won	7.4%	21.3%	29.8%	36.8%	4.0%	0.8%
60 million won or higher	10.0%	21.9%	31.5%	30.3%	5.8%	0.4%
Total	8.7%	21.5%	37.8%	27.9%	2.8%	1.3%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	7.2%	20.5%	41.8%	26.0%	3.2%	1.4%
College or vocational school	15.5%	25.3%	34.1%	19.4%	2.4%	3.4%
BA	8.2%	21.2%	39.1%	28.2%	2.4%	0.8%
MA or PhD	8.8%	21.5%	27.0%	36.5%	4.3%	1.9%
Total	8.7%	21.5%	37.8%	27.9%	2.8%	1.3%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	8.9%	21.5%	37.9%	27.5%	3.3%	1.0%
Unemployed job seeking	9.1%	13.1%	42.8%	31.4%	1.7%	1.9%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	8.0%	24.0%	34.2%	31.0%	1.6%	1.1%
Other or prefer not to answer	8.0%	18.3%	52.9%	11.6%	2.3%	7.1%
Total	8.7%	21.5%	37.8%	27.9%	2.8%	1.3%

3.4 Digitalization and Automation

3.4.1 Self-assessment of the ability to use digital technology

In South Korea, 55.4% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that they think that they feel sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies in their daily lives. This rate is below the global average of 66.1% and notably

lower than countries like Finland (77.2%) and Sweden (69.8%). In contrast, 29.8% of South Korean respondents selected "neither agree nor disagree", which exceeds the global average of 20.1% and is the highest number among ten countries. These findings suggest that while South Koreans generally feel confident in their digital skills, their self-assessed proficiency is lower compared to several other nations.

When it comes to the findings from South Korea, confidence in using digital technology shows notable variation across different demographic factors. The highest level of confidence is reported among respondents aged 18-34, with 66.2% feeling adept with digital tools, compared to 57.1% of those aged 35-54 and 45.7% of individuals aged 55 and older. This pattern suggests that younger individuals generally have greater self-assurance in their digital skills. Income also affects perceptions of digital proficiency, as those earning between 45-60 million KRW display the highest confidence at 63.5%, followed closely by those earning over 60 million KRW at 63.0%. Higher income is thus associated with a greater sense of competence in digital technology. Educational attainment further influences these perceptions, with respondents holding master's or doctoral degrees showing the highest confidence rate at 68.3%, compared to 55.8% among those with a bachelor's degree. This indicates that advanced education is linked to higher confidence in digital skills. Additionally, 59.4% of economically active individuals report feeling skilled in digital technology, whereas 46.5% of those seeking work share this sentiment. Despite these variations, the percentage of respondents who disagree with the statement remains below 20% across all groups, reflecting a generally high level of confidence in digital technology among South Korean respondents.

[Table 3-37] Degree of agreement with the view that I am sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies in my daily life, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	2.4%	8.0%	13.5%	51.1%	23.9%	1.1%
Denmark	3.7%	6.5%	17.1%	44.1%	24.4%	4.2%
Italy	2.9%	9.2%	27.7%	42.1%	16.2%	2.0%
South Korea	**2.4%**	**11.2%**	**29.8%**	**43.5%**	**11.9%**	**1.2%**
Sweden	2.8%	8.1%	16.9%	41.0%	28.8%	2.5%
Norway	2.8%	6.9%	21.0%	43.8%	22.7%	2.8%
Finland	2.0%	7.1%	11.9%	43.4%	33.8%	1.9%
Germany	2.2%	6.2%	21.7%	47.5%	18.8%	3.6%
Poland	4.1%	8.9%	23.2%	42.0%	16.0%	5.8%
United States	3.5%	8.8%	19.0%	45.8%	20.4%	2.6%
Total	2.9%	8.2%	20.1%	44.6%	21.5%	2.8%

[Table 3-38] Degree of agreement with the view that I am sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies in my daily life, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	1.9%	5.8%	23.5%	47.3%	18.9%	2.6%
35-54 years	2.1%	10.0%	29.8%	46.4%	10.7%	1.1%
55+ years	3.0%	16.4%	34.5%	37.7%	8.0%	0.5%
Total	2.4%	11.2%	29.8%	43.5%	11.9%	1.2%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.5%	14.7%	33.0%	36.9%	9.4%	2.5%
25-35 million won	2.1%	8.9%	28.3%	49.2%	11.5%	0.0%
35-45 million won	2.2%	9.5%	27.6%	47.3%	12.0%	1.4%
45-60 million won	0.3%	8.0%	27.9%	47.3%	16.2%	0.3%
60 million won or higher	1.6%	8.8%	26.6%	47.3%	15.7%	0.0%
Total	2.4%	11.2%	29.8%	43.5%	11.9%	1.2%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	4.7%	16.4%	29.2%	36.8%	10.2%	2.8%
College or vocational school	4.2%	10.0%	29.8%	39.9%	14.5%	1.6%
BA	1.4%	10.4%	31.9%	44.3%	11.5%	0.6%
MA or PhD	2.2%	7.8%	19.6%	53.6%	14.7%	2.1%
Total	2.4%	11.2%	29.8%	43.5%	11.9%	1.2%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	1.9%	10.0%	28.3%	46.5%	12.9%	0.3%
Unemployed job seeking	4.3%	12.9%	29.8%	38.4%	8.1%	6.5%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	2.5%	14.5%	33.4%	38.1%	9.5%	2.1%
Other or prefer not to answer	7.6%	11.6%	39.3%	23.4%	10.7%	7.4%
Total	2.4%	11.2%	29.8%	43.5%	11.9%	1.2%

In South Korea, 56.9% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that they feel sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies to do their jobs. This is below the global average of 63.3% and notably lower than countries like Sweden (69.0%) and Norway (70.2%). In contrast, 14.1% of South Korean respondents selected "neither agree nor disagree", which is higher than the global average of 8.6% and also exceeds the figures for Denmark (8.9%) and Finland (7.7%). These results indicate that while South Koreans generally feel confident about their digital skills for work, they lag behind some other nations and express greater uncertainty.

Among South Korean respondents, confidence in digital skills varies notably across different demographic factors. The highest level of confidence is reported among individuals aged 18-34, with 64.5% expressing assurance in their digital abilities. This is followed by 58.9% of respondents aged 35-54 and 49.5% of those aged 55 and older, indicating that younger individuals generally feel more capable with digital technology in their work. Income

levels also play a role, as those earning between 45-60 million KRW exhibit the highest confidence at 68.9%, with those earning over 60 million KRW close behind at 67.4%. Higher income is thus associated with greater confidence in digital skills. Educational background further impacts these perceptions, with respondents holding master's or doctoral degrees reporting the highest confidence rate at 70.0%, compared to 58.5% among those with a bachelor's degree. This suggests that higher educational attainment correlates with increased confidence in digital technology. Additionally, among different primary activities, 62.4% of employed individuals feel adept in digital technology for their jobs, whereas 45.5% of economically inactive individuals share this confidence. This trend underscores that active workforce engagement is linked to higher digital skills confidence.

[Table 3-39] Degree of agreement with the view that I am sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies to do my job, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	1.5%	3.7%	17.6%	46.9%	25.0%	5.3%
Denmark	3.2%	5.7%	17.2%	37.4%	20.1%	16.5%
Italy	2.3%	8.1%	24.3%	43.3%	17.6%	4.4%
South Korea	**2.5%**	**11.6%**	**27.7%**	**45.1%**	**11.8%**	**1.3%**
Sweden	2.4%	3.5%	16.1%	38.7%	30.3%	9.0%
Norway	1.0%	3.6%	18.3%	42.7%	27.5%	6.9%
Finland	1.9%	5.8%	15.3%	40.1%	27.1%	9.9%
Germany	2.3%	6.3%	21.3%	42.0%	18.6%	9.6%
Poland	2.9%	7.9%	23.1%	41.0%	15.4%	9.8%
United States	2.7%	6.0%	22.0%	40.3%	23.5%	5.4%
Total	2.3%	6.3%	20.5%	41.6%	21.7%	7.6%

[Table 3-40] Degree of agreement with the view that I am sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies to do my job, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	2.7%	6.8%	24.1%	50.8%	13.7%	2.0%
35-54 years	1.1%	9.0%	30.0%	47.6%	11.3%	1.0%
55+ years	3.8%	17.6%	28.0%	38.5%	11.0%	1.2%
Total	2.5%	11.6%	27.7%	45.1%	11.8%	1.3%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	4.0%	16.0%	31.9%	37.1%	8.5%	2.5%
25-35 million won	1.7%	11.0%	27.0%	50.2%	10.0%	0.2%
35-45 million won	2.8%	8.9%	22.7%	50.0%	14.5%	1.2%
45-60 million won	0.3%	5.8%	24.8%	51.7%	17.2%	0.3%
60 million won or higher	0.9%	7.1%	24.1%	50.6%	16.8%	0.6%
Total	2.5%	11.6%	27.7%	45.1%	11.8%	1.3%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	4.2%	18.2%	28.9%	37.0%	9.1%	2.6%
College or vocational school	3.9%	9.8%	32.3%	43.1%	9.3%	1.6%
BA	1.9%	10.4%	28.4%	46.5%	12.0%	0.7%
MA or PhD	1.7%	7.7%	18.4%	52.8%	17.2%	2.3%
Total	2.5%	11.6%	27.7%	45.1%	11.8%	1.3%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	2.0%	8.8%	26.6%	48.6%	13.8%	0.3%
Unemployed job seeking	4.9%	14.3%	30.5%	39.4%	5.4%	5.5%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	2.8%	19.1%	29.8%	37.4%	8.1%	2.8%
Other or prefer not to answer	7.6%	15.1%	33.3%	32.4%	5.6%	6.0%
Total	2.5%	11.6%	27.7%	45.1%	11.8%	1.3%

3.4.2 Concerns About the Potential Impact of New Technologies on Job Replacement

In South Korea, 35.5% of respondents “strongly agree” or “agree” with the concern that technology may make my work skills obsolete in the future. This rate is above the global average of 29.0% and is notably higher than Denmark (18.3%) and Sweden (20.1%), though it is slightly lower than Italy (39.1%) and Poland (32.5%). On the other hand, 33.0% of South Koreans chose “neither agree nor disagree”, which is higher than the global average of 27.2%. These findings indicate that South Koreans demonstrate a relatively high level of concern about the impact of technology on their job skills compared to other countries.

When it comes to South Korean survey participants, concerns about technological obsolescence vary across different demographic factors. The highest level of anxiety, with 40.9% of respondents “strongly agree” or “agree”, is observed among individuals aged 18-34, suggesting that younger people are more apprehensive about their skills becoming outdated due to technological advancements. This concern decreases with age, as 35.4% of those aged 35-54 and 31.5% of individuals aged 55 and older express similar worries. Income also influences these perceptions, with mid-range earners (25-35 million KRW) reporting the highest level of concern at 38.6%, while those earning 60 million KRW or more also exhibit significant concern at 33.8%. This indicates that those with moderate incomes are more worried about skill obsolescence compared to high-income earners. Educational background further affects these concerns, as respondents with a bachelor’s degree show the highest level of worry at 36.3%, while those with master’s or doctoral degrees are somewhat less concerned, at 33.1%. Among different primary activities, individuals seeking employment demonstrate the greatest anxiety about skill obsolescence, with 50.0% expressing this concern, compared to 36.2% of employed individuals.

[Table 3-41] Degree of concern about the potential for technology to render my work skills obsolete in the future, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	10.5%	32.2%	24.2%	21.8%	6.5%	5.0%
Denmark	17.6%	26.6%	23.5%	13.0%	5.3%	14.0%
Italy	6.2%	18.9%	31.6%	28.3%	10.8%	4.2%
South Korea	**4.9%**	**23.2%**	**33.0%**	**28.2%**	**7.3%**	**3.5%**
Sweden	24.9%	20.9%	24.2%	14.8%	5.3%	9.9%
Norway	11.2%	22.7%	29.8%	21.7%	7.6%	7.1%
Finland	16.4%	28.5%	22.2%	16.9%	7.2%	8.9%
Germany	16.9%	28.2%	25.4%	16.1%	5.0%	8.4%
Poland	7.5%	21.1%	29.7%	24.9%	7.6%	9.2%
United States	10.5%	21.5%	28.3%	23.6%	11.4%	4.7%
Total	12.5%	24.1%	27.2%	21.2%	7.8%	7.2%

[Table 3-42] Degree of concern about the potential for technology to render my work skills obsolete in the future, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	4.8%	15.7%	32.7%	31.7%	9.2%	5.9%
35-54 years	5.1%	22.7%	34.5%	28.3%	7.1%	2.4%
55+ years	4.7%	29.3%	31.6%	25.5%	6.0%	3.0%
Total	4.9%	23.2%	33.0%	28.2%	7.3%	3.5%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.9%	21.4%	33.8%	26.9%	7.2%	6.8%
25-35 million won	4.3%	24.4%	32.1%	32.2%	6.4%	0.6%
35-45 million won	6.5%	18.6%	35.9%	29.3%	8.0%	1.7%
45-60 million won	5.9%	27.4%	30.7%	27.3%	6.8%	1.9%
60 million won or higher	6.1%	28.6%	30.3%	25.4%	8.4%	1.2%
Total	4.9%	23.2%	33.0%	28.2%	7.3%	3.5%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	5.5%	17.4%	34.2%	29.1%	6.4%	7.4%
College or vocational school	7.2%	18.3%	38.0%	26.0%	6.5%	4.0%
BA	3.9%	25.1%	32.7%	29.1%	7.2%	2.1%
MA or PhD	7.3%	27.0%	28.6%	23.4%	9.7%	4.1%
Total	4.9%	23.2%	33.0%	28.2%	7.3%	3.5%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	5.2%	24.4%	32.3%	28.5%	7.7%	1.9%
Unemployed job seeking	7.1%	11.0%	24.6%	43.9%	6.1%	7.3%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	3.6%	22.7%	36.3%	24.5%	6.6%	6.3%
Other or prefer not to answer	2.3%	22.6%	40.0%	18.6%	2.7%	13.8%
Total	4.9%	23.2%	33.0%	28.2%	7.3%	3.5%

3.4.3 Comfort with applying new technologies in daily life

3.4.3.1 Autonomous vehicles

South Korea demonstrates a notably high level of comfort with autonomous vehicles. The combined percentage of respondents who are "very comfortable or "comfortable is 49.8%, markedly surpassing the global average of 23.1%. This rate is significantly higher compared to countries like the UK (20.8%), Denmark (18.1%), and Sweden (18.6%). On the other hand, only 19.1% of South Koreans report being "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable", a figure that is well below the global average of 50.8% and lower than in many countries such as Germany (56.0%) and the US (55.4%). These statistics indicate that South Koreans generally hold a more positive and accepting view of autonomous vehicles.

Within South Korea, comfort levels with autonomous vehicles differ across various socio-demographic factors. The highest combined percentage of "very comfortable" and "comfortable" responses is observed among individuals aged 35-54, at 52.7%, indicating that middle-aged respondents are generally more at ease with autonomous technology compared to other age groups. Income also plays a role, with those earning between KRW 45-60 million reporting the greatest comfort level at 59.6%, suggesting that higher income is linked to greater acceptance of autonomous vehicles. Educational background further influences comfort, as individuals with master's or doctoral degrees display the highest comfort level at 55.1%, followed by those with a bachelor's degree at 51.2%, pointing to a correlation between advanced education and comfort with autonomous vehicles. Regarding primary activity, 52.7% of employed individuals feel "very comfortable" or "comfortable" with autonomous vehicles, slightly higher than the 50.4% of those seeking employment. Despite these variations, fewer than 25% across all groups report being "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable", with higher income and education levels generally associated with increased comfort and reduced discomfort towards autonomous vehicles.

[Table 3-43] Degree of comfort with autonomous vehicles, by country

Country	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
United Kingdom	31.2%	29.5%	16.7%	15.4%	5.4%	1.8%
Denmark	20.6%	31.7%	23.8%	14.8%	3.3%	5.8%
Italy	20.9%	26.7%	23.1%	17.8%	6.7%	4.8%
South Korea	**3.9%**	**15.2%**	**27.1%**	**35.8%**	**14.0%**	**4.1%**
Sweden	30.3%	26.0%	20.1%	13.6%	5.0%	5.0%
Norway	29.0%	28.0%	19.0%	14.6%	5.1%	4.3%
Finland	27.4%	31.3%	20.2%	12.2%	4.4%	4.5%
Germany	29.6%	26.4%	21.1%	12.9%	7.3%	2.7%
Poland	16.4%	25.0%	28.1%	14.8%	5.4%	10.4%
United States	32.2%	23.2%	19.5%	15.6%	6.6%	2.9%
Total	24.8%	26.0%	21.7%	16.7%	6.4%	4.5%

[Table 3-44] Degree of comfort with autonomous vehicles, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
18-34 years	3.1%	13.2%	28.1%	31.1%	17.3%	7.1%
35-54 years	3.1%	13.9%	27.2%	37.4%	15.3%	3.2%
55+ years	5.2%	17.9%	26.2%	37.6%	10.4%	2.8%
Total	3.9%	15.2%	27.1%	35.8%	14.0%	4.1%

Personal income	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
Under 25 million won	5.9%	18.7%	28.7%	30.9%	10.2%	5.7%
25-35 million won	2.5%	16.7%	24.8%	38.6%	13.9%	3.6%
35-45 million won	1.8%	10.5%	27.1%	40.4%	15.3%	5.1%
45-60 million won	2.2%	9.5%	26.6%	40.5%	19.1%	2.1%
60 million won or higher	3.7%	12.7%	25.7%	37.0%	20.2%	0.7%
Total	3.9%	15.2%	27.1%	35.8%	14.0%	4.1%

Education level	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
High school or lower	3.9%	19.2%	29.2%	29.6%	12.9%	5.3%
College or vocational school	5.6%	8.9%	25.6%	32.8%	17.1%	10.0%
BA	3.3%	14.7%	27.8%	37.4%	13.8%	3.1%
MA or PhD	5.7%	15.9%	20.4%	40.1%	15.0%	3.0%
Total	3.9%	15.2%	27.1%	35.8%	14.0%	4.1%

Main activity	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
In employment	3.1%	14.6%	26.6%	36.9%	15.8%	3.0%
Unemployed job seeking	0.8%	21.4%	17.4%	34.8%	15.6%	10.1%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	6.9%	16.8%	28.1%	34.1%	9.1%	5.1%
Other or prefer not to answer	5.7%	7.4%	46.4%	24.9%	6.2%	9.5%
Total	3.9%	15.2%	27.1%	35.8%	14.0%	4.1%

3.4.3.2 Generative AI at work

In South Korea, the combined percentage of individuals who are “very comfortable” or “comfortable” with using generative AI in the workplace stands at 50.5%. This is substantially above the global average of 28.9%, reflecting a notably favorable attitude towards generative AI compared to other countries such as the UK (29.4%) and Germany (27.8%). Conversely, only 9.1% of South Koreans feel “very uncomfortable” or “uncomfortable” with generative AI, a rate that is significantly lower than the global average of 29.0% and below the discomfort levels observed in Denmark (27.7%) and Sweden (31.6%). These figures suggest that South Koreans generally have a more open and positive view of generative AI technology.

Among South Koreans, comfort with generative AI varies across different socio-demographic factors. Individuals aged 55 and older express the highest level of comfort, with 51.4% feeling “very comfortable” or "comfortable“, closely followed by 54.0% of those aged 18-34. Those in the 35-54 age group report slightly lower comfort levels at 47.0%, suggesting that acceptance of generative AI is widespread across all age brackets. Income also influences comfort levels, with 62.7% of respondents earning over KRW 60 million showing the highest comfort, while those earning between KRW 45-60 million have a comfort rate of 57.2%. Higher income is therefore linked to a greater openness to generative AI. Educational attainment further affects comfort, as individuals with master’s or doctoral degrees have the highest comfort level at 58.3%, compared to 51.2% for those with a bachelor’s degree. In terms of primary activity, 52.6% of employed individuals feel “very comfortable or “comfortable with generative AI, compared to 43.5% of those seeking employment. Overall, fewer than 10% across all groups report being “very uncomfortable” or “uncomfortable”, indicating a broad acceptance and favorable attitude toward generative AI, particularly among those with higher incomes and more advanced education.

[Table 3-45] Degree of comfort with generative AI at work, by country

Country	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
United Kingdom	15.1%	20.9%	26.7%	21.4%	8.0%	7.9%
Denmark	10.2%	17.5%	31.4%	17.9%	5.0%	18.0%
Italy	10.7%	17.7%	33.0%	20.3%	6.1%	12.2%
South Korea	**2.0%**	**7.1%**	**33.8%**	**39.1%**	**11.4%**	**6.7%**
Sweden	15.7%	15.9%	26.1%	18.1%	8.1%	16.2%
Norway	10.2%	19.6%	27.8%	23.5%	7.6%	11.3%
Finland	10.4%	16.5%	34.7%	16.9%	4.3%	17.2%
Germany	14.2%	18.5%	32.7%	20.3%	7.5%	7.0%
Poland	10.6%	18.4%	34.2%	15.0%	6.1%	15.8%
United States	16.7%	17.3%	27.8%	20.8%	10.4%	7.0%
Total	12.1%	16.9%	30.6%	21.2%	7.7%	11.5%

[Table 3-46] Degree of comfort with generative AI at work, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
18-34 years	2.4%	5.4%	29.7%	39.2%	14.8%	8.6%
35-54 years	2.0%	7.5%	37.9%	37.2%	9.8%	5.6%
55+ years	1.7%	8.0%	32.5%	40.9%	10.5%	6.5%
Total	2.0%	7.1%	33.8%	39.1%	11.4%	6.7%

Personal income	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
Under 25 million won	2.5%	7.2%	35.2%	37.4%	8.3%	9.5%
25-35 million won	1.7%	7.9%	36.9%	35.9%	11.0%	6.7%
35-45 million won	1.4%	5.3%	34.6%	40.1%	11.9%	6.7%
45-60 million won	1.3%	8.1%	30.2%	42.9%	14.3%	3.2%
60 million won or higher	2.5%	6.6%	26.9%	44.3%	18.4%	1.3%
Total	2.0%	7.1%	33.8%	39.1%	11.4%	6.7%

Education level	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
High school or lower	2.2%	7.7%	34.5%	36.4%	10.7%	8.5%
College or vocational school	4.4%	8.2%	30.9%	29.6%	12.5%	14.6%
BA	1.4%	7.1%	34.8%	41.2%	10.0%	5.5%
MA or PhD	3.2%	5.5%	29.2%	39.4%	18.9%	3.9%
Total	2.0%	7.1%	33.8%	39.1%	11.4%	6.7%

Main activity	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
In employment	2.0%	7.2%	32.9%	40.8%	11.8%	5.3%
Unemployed job seeking	0.8%	8.2%	36.6%	31.1%	12.4%	10.8%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	2.5%	6.6%	35.6%	36.8%	9.7%	8.9%
Other or prefer not to answer	1.7%	6.3%	35.5%	31.0%	10.6%	15.0%
Total	2.0%	7.1%	33.8%	39.1%	11.4%	6.7%

3.4.3.3 Surgical robots

In South Korea, 48.1% of respondents report feeling "very comfortable" or "comfortable" with the use of robots performing surgery under human supervision. This is notably higher than the global average of 35.4%, highlighting a more favorable view of robotic surgery in South Korea compared to countries like the UK (39.4%) and Italy (43.0%). Furthermore, only 16.9% of South Koreans feel "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable" with robotic surgery, a figure significantly lower than the global average of 35.3% and lower than that observed in Sweden (39.5%), Norway (38.5%), and the United States (46.1%). These results indicate a relatively high level of acceptance of robotic surgery technology among South Koreans.

For South Korean respondents, individuals aged 55 and older are the most comfortable, with 52.9% expressing "very comfortable" or "comfortable" feelings about surgical robots, followed by 47.2% of those aged 35-54 and 43.0% of those aged 18-34, indicating that older respondents generally have a more favorable view. Income also plays a role, as 55.2% of those earning over 60 million won and 55.6% of those earning between 45-60 million won report high comfort level, suggesting that higher income is associated with greater acceptance of robotic surgery. Educational attainment further influences comfort, with individuals holding master's or doctoral degrees showing the highest comfort rate at 57.0%, compared to

50.2% among those with a bachelor's degree. Regarding primary activity, 48.9% of employed respondents and 48.7% of those who are economically inactive feel "very comfortable" or "comfortable" with robotic surgery. Across all groups, fewer than 20% report being "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable", with higher income and educational levels generally linked to reduced discomfort.

[Table 3-47] Degree of comfort with surgical robots under human supervision, by country

Country	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
United Kingdom	16.6%	21.3%	20.1%	30.5%	8.9%	2.7%
Denmark	17.5%	19.5%	22.9%	25.5%	7.4%	7.2%
Italy	12.3%	15.5%	23.9%	30.2%	12.8%	5.4%
South Korea	**4.2%**	**12.7%**	**29.2%**	**36.0%**	**12.1%**	**5.8%**
Sweden	21.1%	18.4%	22.9%	23.0%	8.1%	6.6%
Norway	18.4%	20.1%	20.7%	26.6%	8.2%	6.1%
Finland	16.3%	19.0%	26.1%	23.0%	9.4%	6.2%
Germany	15.4%	18.6%	23.5%	27.3%	11.0%	4.2%
Poland	13.7%	15.8%	26.2%	23.4%	10.5%	10.3%
United States	26.4%	19.7%	21.6%	20.6%	7.2%	4.5%
Total	17.1%	18.2%	23.6%	26.0%	9.4%	5.8%

[Table 3-48] Degree of comfort with surgical robots under human supervision by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
18-34 years	4.7%	11.1%	30.8%	29.0%	14.0%	10.5%
35-54 years	4.0%	11.9%	32.4%	36.6%	10.6%	4.5%
55+ years	4.0%	14.7%	24.9%	40.5%	12.4%	3.5%
Total	4.2%	12.7%	29.2%	36.0%	12.1%	5.8%

Personal income	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
Under 25 million won	5.1%	13.7%	29.7%	32.9%	10.1%	8.6%
25–35 million won	4.3%	14.1%	30.3%	35.1%	11.7%	4.5%
35–45 million won	2.9%	11.6%	30.0%	38.2%	13.5%	3.9%
45–60 million won	3.1%	11.5%	26.0%	43.7%	11.9%	3.8%
60 million won or higher	3.8%	9.7%	28.4%	37.1%	18.1%	2.8%
Total	4.2%	12.7%	29.2%	36.0%	12.1%	5.8%

Education level	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
High school or lower	5.4%	16.7%	29.4%	28.3%	13.1%	7.2%
College or vocational school	7.2%	14.4%	27.0%	25.2%	12.0%	14.3%
BA	3.0%	11.4%	30.8%	39.0%	11.2%	4.6%
MA or PhD	6.2%	11.8%	22.2%	41.1%	15.9%	3.0%
Total	4.2%	12.7%	29.2%	36.0%	12.1%	5.8%

Main activity	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
In employment	3.9%	12.9%	29.9%	35.9%	13.0%	4.3%
Unemployed job seeking	5.0%	14.6%	26.2%	30.6%	10.9%	12.8%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	4.6%	11.9%	26.9%	38.3%	10.4%	8.0%
Other or prefer not to answer	7.5%	10.0%	35.1%	30.6%	7.0%	9.8%
Total	4.2%	12.7%	29.2%	36.0%	12.1%	5.8%

3.4.3.4 Disease diagnosis by AI

In South Korea, 58.7% of respondents express feeling "very comfortable" or "comfortable" with using AI to diagnose diseases under human supervision. This rate surpasses the global average of 41.6% and is notably higher than in Italy (53.7%) and the UK (50.4%), reflecting a strong level of trust in AI technology for medical diagnostics. Additionally, only 10.4% of South Koreans report feeling "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable" with this application

of AI, significantly lower than the global average of 29.0% and lower than in Denmark (39.3%) and Sweden (41.3%). This indicates a greater acceptance of AI diagnostics among South Koreans compared to many other countries.

For South Korean respondents, comfort with AI in diagnosing diseases varies by age, income, education, and primary activity. Older individuals, particularly those aged 55 and older, show the highest comfort level, with 60.6% feeling "very comfortable" or "comfortable". This is followed by 58.2% of those aged 35-54 and 56.8% of those aged 18-34, indicating that older age groups generally view AI diagnostics more positively. Income also affects comfort levels, with 66.5% of respondents earning over 60 million KRW expressing high comfort, slightly above the 66.4% among those earning between 45-60 million KRW. Additionally, those with master's or doctoral degrees report the highest comfort at 66.0%, while those with a bachelor's degree have a comfort rate of 61.2%, suggesting that advanced education is linked to greater acceptance of AI diagnostics. Regarding primary activity, 60.1% of employed individuals are "very comfortable" or "comfortable" with AI diagnostics, compared to 57.8% of those who are economically inactive. Across all demographic groups, fewer than 10% report being "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable", with higher income and education levels generally correlating with lower discomfort.

[Table 3-49] Degree of comfort with disease diagnosis by AI under human supervision, by country

Country	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
United Kingdom	10.6%	15.2%	21.3%	35.9%	14.5%	2.5%
Denmark	18.5%	20.8%	24.3%	22.3%	6.5%	7.7%
Italy	8.2%	11.1%	22.2%	37.8%	15.9%	4.9%
South Korea	**2.0%**	**8.4%**	**26.3%**	**43.9%**	**14.8%**	**4.7%**
Sweden	22.8%	18.5%	19.2%	24.6%	8.6%	6.2%
Norway	11.6%	16.1%	18.7%	35.5%	11.8%	6.4%
Finland	14.2%	19.0%	27.1%	24.1%	9.1%	6.6%
Germany	12.4%	15.6%	24.7%	28.0%	15.6%	3.7%
Poland	9.6%	14.1%	27.7%	25.7%	11.9%	11.0%
United States	17.7%	17.1%	25.1%	25.7%	10.3%	4.1%
Total	13.3%	15.7%	23.9%	29.8%	11.8%	5.6%

[Table 3-50] Degree of comfort with disease diagnosis by AI under human supervision by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
18-34 years	2.3%	8.2%	24.5%	40.2%	16.6%	8.1%
35-54 years	1.5%	9.2%	27.3%	44.0%	14.2%	3.8%
55+ years	2.2%	7.6%	26.4%	46.5%	14.1%	3.2%
Total	2.0%	8.4%	26.3%	43.9%	14.8%	4.7%

Personal income	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
Under 25 million won	2.9%	9.1%	28.1%	40.5%	12.4%	7.0%
25-35 million won	1.7%	8.3%	26.6%	44.0%	16.0%	3.4%
35-45 million won	1.9%	7.3%	26.4%	46.7%	13.2%	4.5%
45-60 million won	1.0%	6.5%	24.0%	49.5%	16.9%	2.3%
60 million won or higher	0.3%	9.2%	21.9%	45.7%	20.8%	2.1%
Total	2.0%	8.4%	26.3%	43.9%	14.8%	4.7%

Education level	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
High school or lower	3.4%	8.6%	30.3%	35.4%	14.7%	7.7%
College or vocational school	3.2%	9.0%	25.0%	39.0%	12.0%	11.9%
BA	1.2%	8.5%	26.1%	46.4%	14.8%	3.0%
MA or PhD	2.7%	6.6%	21.4%	48.6%	17.4%	3.4%
Total	2.0%	8.4%	26.3%	43.9%	14.8%	4.7%

Main activity	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
In employment	1.6%	8.7%	25.8%	44.4%	15.7%	3.8%
Unemployed job seeking	2.2%	8.5%	25.9%	43.8%	9.7%	9.8%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	3.2%	6.7%	26.4%	43.5%	14.3%	6.0%
Other or prefer not to answer	0.0%	12.3%	36.7%	35.2%	8.7%	7.1%
Total	2.0%	8.4%	26.3%	43.9%	14.8%	4.7%

3.4.3.5 Taxes or social security benefits calculations by AI

In South Korea, 63.8% of respondents feel "very comfortable" or "comfortable" with using AI to calculate taxes or social security benefits. This level of comfort is notably higher than the global average of 38.4% and exceeds that of Italy (42.9%) and Norway (40.3%). This suggests a robust trust in AI technology for financial calculations among South Koreans. In contrast, only 7.1% of South Koreans express feeling "very uncomfortable" or "uncomfortable", which is significantly lower than the global average of 27.1% and much less than the figures for the UK (34.5%) and the US (34.5%). This indicates a greater acceptance of AI in financial matters compared to many other countries.

Among South Korean respondents, comfort with using AI for financial calculations varies by age, income, education, and primary activity. Older individuals express the highest comfort, with 69.3% of those aged 55 and

older feeling “very comfortable” or “comfortable’, compared to 64.0% of those aged 35-54 and 55.8% of those aged 18-34. Income levels also impact comfort, as those earning KRW 45-60 million exhibit the greatest comfort at 68.2%, closely followed by those earning over KRW 60 million at 68.0%. Educational attainment further influences comfort, with respondents holding master’s or doctoral degrees showing the highest comfort level at 68.2%, and those with a bachelor’s degree at 67.1%. Regarding primary activity, 65.5% of employed respondents are comfortable with AI, slightly higher than the 62.0% of economically inactive individuals. Despite these differences, fewer than 10% of respondents across all groups report feeling “very uncomfortable” or “uncomfortable”, with higher-income and more educated individuals generally experiencing less discomfort.

[Table 3-51] Degree of comfort with AI in calculating taxes or social security benefits, by country

Country	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don’t know
United Kingdom	14.9%	19.6%	25.9%	28.4%	7.4%	3.8%
Denmark	13.3%	19.9%	28.3%	24.9%	5.5%	8.1%
Italy	9.6%	13.4%	28.7%	31.6%	11.3%	5.3%
South Korea	**1.5%**	**5.6%**	**23.9%**	**46.7%**	**17.1%**	**5.2%**
Sweden	14.6%	13.3%	26.2%	27.2%	10.5%	8.2%
Norway	11.1%	16.8%	25.3%	31.8%	8.5%	6.5%
Finland	10.9%	14.8%	35.7%	22.5%	7.1%	9.0%
Germany	12.2%	16.9%	28.6%	26.2%	11.8%	4.3%
Poland	8.5%	12.2%	32.3%	24.4%	10.2%	12.5%
United States	18.0%	16.5%	26.0%	25.4%	9.7%	4.4%
Total	12.1%	15.0%	28.0%	28.5%	9.9%	6.5%

[Table 3-52] Degree of comfort with AI in calculating taxes or social security benefits, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
18-34 years	1.4%	6.9%	26.6%	36.4%	19.4%	9.4%
35-54 years	1.7%	6.1%	24.2%	48.1%	15.9%	4.0%
55+ years	1.5%	4.1%	21.7%	52.7%	16.6%	3.4%
Total	1.5%	5.6%	23.9%	46.7%	17.1%	5.2%

Personal income	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
Under 25 million won	2.2%	5.8%	24.5%	44.5%	15.1%	7.9%
25-35 million won	1.0%	6.5%	24.6%	48.6%	15.3%	4.0%
35-45 million won	1.1%	4.6%	21.0%	48.0%	20.0%	5.4%
45-60 million won	1.6%	3.1%	25.6%	48.2%	20.0%	1.6%
60 million won or higher	0.6%	7.0%	22.6%	47.8%	20.2%	1.9%
Total	1.5%	5.6%	23.9%	46.7%	17.1%	5.2%

Education level	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
High school or lower	0.7%	8.0%	27.1%	41.2%	15.2%	7.8%
College or vocational school	4.6%	4.7%	27.0%	35.3%	16.0%	12.5%
BA	1.1%	5.0%	23.1%	49.3%	17.8%	3.6%
MA or PhD	2.8%	5.0%	20.4%	50.7%	17.5%	3.7%
Total	1.5%	5.6%	23.9%	46.7%	17.1%	5.2%

Main activity	Very uncomfortable	Uncomfortable	Neutral	Comfortable	Very comfortable	Don't know
In employment	1.5%	5.9%	23.5%	47.0%	18.5%	3.7%
Unemployed job seeking	0.0%	5.4%	23.3%	41.3%	19.3%	10.9%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	1.9%	5.3%	23.4%	48.3%	13.7%	7.5%
Other or prefer not to answer	2.4%	1.2%	37.5%	38.2%	7.0%	13.7%
Total	1.5%	5.6%	23.9%	46.7%	17.1%	5.2%

3.4.4 Opinions on regulating the development of generative AI

In South Korea, 58.7% of respondents support the idea that the development of generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) should be monitored and regulated by an independent authority. This figure is lower than the global average of 64.5%, indicating a somewhat less strong consensus in South Korea compared to other countries. For instance, the UK (79.3%) and Finland (69.7%) show a higher level of agreement on the need for regulation. Conversely, 9.5% of South Koreans oppose regulation, a percentage that aligns closely with the global average of 8.1% and is lower than Germany (11.0%) but similar to Italy (10.7%). These figures suggest that South Korean awareness and support for regulating generative AI are somewhat lower than in many other nations.

When it comes to the South Korean respondents, support for regulating generative AI varies across different demographic factors. Older individuals show the strongest support, with 66.6% of those aged 55 and older agree, compared to 56.8% of those aged 35-54 and 50.5% of those aged 18-34. Income also influences attitudes, as those earning over KRW 60 million have the highest agreement rate at 69.4%, followed by those earning between KRW 45-60 million at 64.7%. In terms of education, respondents with master's and doctoral degrees demonstrate the highest support at 66.1%, while those with a bachelor's degree are next at 61.0%.

[Table 3-53] Degree of agreement on the need for independent institutions to monitor and regulate the development of generative AI, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	3.0%	2.7%	9.6%	35.8%	43.5%	5.5%
Denmark	2.8%	4.3%	16.9%	33.7%	31.2%	11.1%
Italy	5.1%	5.6%	24.3%	31.6%	22.7%	10.9%
South Korea	**2.6%**	**6.9%**	**27.0%**	**42.0%**	**16.7%**	**4.8%**
Sweden	3.7%	5.0%	18.5%	28.7%	30.7%	13.5%
Norway	3.2%	2.9%	17.0%	35.0%	32.4%	9.6%
Finland	2.1%	3.3%	14.7%	35.9%	33.8%	10.2%
Germany	4.4%	6.6%	19.3%	34.4%	28.1%	7.4%
Poland	3.4%	3.6%	17.7%	34.9%	31.0%	9.5%
United States	4.2%	4.6%	18.7%	32.8%	31.6%	8.1%
Total	3.5%	4.6%	18.4%	34.3%	30.2%	9.0%

[Table 3-54] Degree of agreement on the need for independent institutions to monitor and regulate the development of generative AI by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	4.2%	8.1%	30.6%	39.9%	10.6%	6.5%
35-54 years	1.9%	6.8%	29.8%	41.6%	15.2%	4.6%
55+ years	2.2%	6.0%	21.5%	44.0%	22.6%	3.8%
Total	2.6%	6.9%	27.0%	42.0%	16.7%	4.8%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.4%	8.1%	26.9%	38.4%	15.8%	7.4%
25-35 million won	1.1%	5.8%	28.5%	45.9%	13.5%	5.2%
35-45 million won	1.4%	6.9%	33.3%	41.7%	14.4%	2.3%
45-60 million won	3.5%	4.9%	24.3%	43.5%	21.2%	2.6%
60 million won or higher	3.0%	6.2%	20.4%	46.4%	23.0%	1.0%
Total	2.6%	6.9%	27.0%	42.0%	16.7%	4.8%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	3.5%	10.4%	29.0%	38.2%	11.6%	7.4%
College or vocational school	2.7%	4.6%	30.5%	37.2%	15.9%	9.1%
BA	2.3%	6.5%	26.6%	44.5%	16.5%	3.6%
MA or PhD	2.7%	4.4%	23.0%	39.0%	27.1%	3.8%
Total	2.6%	6.9%	27.0%	42.0%	16.7%	4.8%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	2.2%	6.9%	27.5%	44.3%	15.5%	3.6%
Unemployed job seeking	8.5%	12.1%	20.5%	35.7%	14.9%	8.4%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	2.4%	6.3%	25.9%	37.6%	21.1%	6.7%
Other or prefer not to answer	3.6%	1.7%	34.1%	32.7%	15.3%	12.7%
Total	2.6%	6.9%	27.0%	42.0%	16.7%	4.8%

3.5 Climate Change

3.5.1 Opinions on national efforts for carbon reduction

In South Korea, only 25.0% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that the country is doing enough to reduce emissions, marking the second-lowest level of support among the surveyed countries. On the other hand, a substantial 32.5% of South Koreans are neutral on this issue, the highest percentage compared to other countries. Finland stands out with the highest proportion of positive responses at 50.8% and the lowest rates of negative responses at 23.8%, highlighting a significant difference from the South Korean perspective. This finding suggests that South Koreans tend to be more critical regarding their country's emission reduction efforts compared to their global counterparts.

Socio-demographic factors reveal variations in opinions on emission reduction. Age-wise, respondents aged 55 and older show the highest agreement rate at 27.4%, compared to 25.4% among those aged 18-34. However, the "neither agree nor disagree" rate is lowest among the 55+ group at 27.6%, while it is highest among the youngest group at 36.7%. By income, those earning 60 million KRW or more are the most supportive, with a 40.5% agreement rate, while those earning 35-45 million KRW are more likely to be neutral. Education also plays a role: individuals with master's degrees or higher show the most positive views at 38.6%, whereas those with a bachelor's degree tend to be relatively negative with a disagreement rate of 37.8%. Additionally, employed respondents display a higher positive rate of 26.9%, whereas economically inactive individuals are more likely to be negative, reaching 44.3%.

[Table 3-55] Degree of agreement with the view that the country is doing enough to reduce emissions, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	10.7%	28.4%	20.6%	21.9%	10.8%	7.7%
Denmark	8.7%	22.5%	27.4%	20.0%	10.6%	10.9%
Italy	6.1%	28.3%	30.0%	20.3%	6.0%	9.3%
South Korea	**7.8%**	**29.4%**	**32.5%**	**21.9%**	**3.1%**	**5.3%**
Sweden	10.1%	18.4%	20.7%	21.2%	19.0%	10.6%
Norway	13.0%	24.8%	23.3%	16.5%	12.7%	9.8%
Finland	5.6%	18.2%	17.1%	30.1%	20.7%	8.2%
Germany	9.3%	21.6%	22.8%	21.6%	15.6%	9.1%
Poland	8.1%	21.3%	29.0%	15.6%	6.4%	19.6%
United States	10.8%	21.6%	25.1%	22.2%	11.0%	9.5%
Total	9.1%	23.2%	24.9%	21.3%	11.5%	10.0%

[Table 3-56] Degree of agreement with the view that the country is doing enough to reduce emissions, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	5.1%	24.4%	36.7%	22.6%	2.8%	8.5%
35-54 years	9.1%	29.3%	34.2%	18.9%	3.5%	5.0%
55+ years	8.5%	33.3%	27.6%	24.6%	2.8%	3.3%
Total	7.8%	29.4%	32.5%	21.9%	3.1%	5.3%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	7.4%	33.2%	31.5%	17.5%	2.1%	8.3%
25-35 million won	6.9%	25.4%	36.4%	24.2%	2.2%	5.0%
35-45 million won	11.7%	30.3%	30.9%	17.7%	4.8%	4.6%
45-60 million won	3.8%	27.7%	38.8%	23.6%	3.8%	2.4%
60 million won or higher	10.2%	23.8%	25.4%	35.2%	5.3%	0.0%
Total	7.8%	29.4%	32.5%	21.9%	3.1%	5.3%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	12.2%	29.0%	29.4%	22.1%	1.9%	5.4%
College or vocational school	7.6%	22.7%	43.5%	9.3%	2.5%	14.4%
BA	6.3%	31.5%	32.6%	22.5%	2.6%	4.5%
MA or PhD	8.7%	24.4%	27.4%	30.1%	8.5%	1.0%
Total	7.8%	29.4%	32.5%	21.9%	3.1%	5.3%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	8.4%	25.8%	35.4%	23.3%	3.6%	3.6%
Unemployed job seeking	2.3%	32.2%	42.2%	10.5%	0.0%	12.9%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	8.5%	35.8%	25.1%	21.3%	2.8%	6.5%
Other or prefer not to answer	0.0%	49.7%	16.4%	13.9%	0.0%	20.0%
Total	7.8%	29.4%	32.5%	21.9%	3.1%	5.3%

3.5.2 Opinions on generational differences in responsibilities for climate change

In South Korea, a remarkable 58.8% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that the older (living) generations have a special responsibility toward the younger generation regarding climate change. This figure represents the highest level of agreement among all surveyed countries and significantly surpasses the global average of 49.9%. It also exceeds countries like Italy (57.6%) and the United Kingdom (54.0%). Additionally, South Korea records the second-lowest rate of negative responses ("strongly disagree" or "disagree") at 12.8%. In comparison, Norway and Germany have higher negative response rates of 23.5% and 28.6%, respectively, suggesting a more varied perception of responsibility in other nations.

Within South Korea, attitudes vary across socio-demographic groups. Respondents aged 55 and older display the highest level of agreement at 62.1%, compared to 57.4% among those aged 35-54 and 56.4% among those aged 18-34. Income also influences perceptions: those earning over 60 million KRW annually show the highest positive response rate at 72.1%, while only 53.9% of those earning less than 25 million KRW per year share this view. Educational attainment further impacts opinions, with individuals holding a master's degree or higher demonstrating the greatest agreement at 69.7%. Employment status also plays a role; employed respondents demonstrate the highest positive rate at 61.0%, while those unemployed or seeking work have the lowest positive rate and the highest negative response rate at 7.0%.

[Table 3-57] Degree of agreement with the perspective that the older (living) generations have a special responsibility toward the younger generation regarding climate change, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	10.0%	12.7%	20.1%	29.2%	24.8%	3.3%
Denmark	7.1%	10.1%	26.6%	30.2%	20.2%	5.9%
Italy	5.2%	7.0%	25.2%	31.9%	25.7%	5.0%
South Korea	**3.3%**	**9.5%**	**25.2%**	**39.1%**	**19.7%**	**3.2%**
Sweden	13.2%	7.6%	26.9%	23.6%	20.2%	8.6%
Norway	12.4%	11.1%	24.0%	28.5%	17.8%	6.3%
Finland	7.9%	10.9%	23.6%	31.3%	18.5%	7.8%
Germany	16.7%	11.9%	26.1%	24.1%	16.1%	5.2%
Poland	12.6%	10.3%	26.8%	31.0%	11.8%	7.4%
United States	13.4%	9.5%	21.4%	28.1%	24.1%	3.6%
Total	10.4%	10.0%	24.3%	29.6%	20.3%	5.4%

[Table 3-58] Degree of agreement with the perspective that the older (living) generations have a special responsibility toward the younger generation regarding climate change, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	3.2%	10.8%	25.9%	33.7%	22.7%	3.7%
35-54 years	4.3%	7.4%	27.3%	38.9%	18.5%	3.6%
55+ years	2.4%	10.5%	22.6%	43.6%	18.5%	2.5%
Total	3.3%	9.5%	25.2%	39.1%	19.7%	3.2%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.5%	11.5%	27.2%	31.7%	22.2%	4.0%
25-35 million won	5.5%	10.1%	21.9%	40.9%	18.4%	3.2%
35-45 million won	2.6%	7.6%	27.5%	39.1%	21.3%	1.9%
45-60 million won	0.8%	7.7%	28.8%	45.9%	13.6%	3.2%
60 million won or higher	2.8%	5.4%	17.6%	54.4%	17.7%	2.1%
Total	3.3%	9.5%	25.2%	39.1%	19.7%	3.2%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	5.1%	10.0%	23.9%	36.0%	19.2%	5.8%
College or vocational school	4.4%	16.8%	26.1%	21.6%	22.6%	8.5%
BA	3.1%	9.3%	26.5%	42.3%	17.4%	1.4%
MA or PhD	1.0%	4.6%	20.6%	40.3%	29.4%	4.1%
Total	3.3%	9.5%	25.2%	39.1%	19.7%	3.2%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	3.6%	8.1%	24.9%	41.6%	19.4%	2.4%
Unemployed job seeking	7.0%	0.0%	34.3%	25.2%	22.2%	11.3%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	1.8%	17.2%	20.4%	37.3%	20.1%	3.2%
Other or prefer not to answer	0.0%	6.4%	51.2%	20.0%	17.9%	4.5%
Total	3.3%	9.5%	25.2%	39.1%	19.7%	3.2%

3.5.3 Opinions regarding carbon reduction policies

In South Korea, 31.5% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that policies to cut carbon emissions will lead to people like me making greater sacrifices than other people, slightly surpassing the global average of 28.7%. This figure is somewhat lower than Italy's 34.1% but comparable to Germany's 30.5%. On the other hand, 26.7% of South Koreans "strongly disagree" or "disagree", aligning closely with the global average of 24.4% and slightly below the UK's 29.4% and Denmark's 27.7%. These findings suggest that South Korean respondents, like those in other countries, believe they will face disproportionate sacrifices in efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

Examining socio-demographic differences in South Korea reveals variations in responses. The 18-34 age group shows the highest agreement at 37.6%, whereas those aged 55 and older have the lowest at 29.5%. Among income groups, individuals earning more than 60 million won annually are the

most likely to disagree (33.6%), compared to 24.5% of those earning less than 25 million won. In terms of education, individuals with a master's degree or higher report the highest rate of disagreement at 34.2%, while those with only a high school education or less have a higher agreement rate at 36.3%. Regarding employment status, employed individuals express the greatest agreement at 33.4%, while economically inactive respondents report the highest disagreement rate at 27.7%.

[Table 3-59] Degree of agreement that policies to cut carbon emissions will lead to people like me making greater sacrifices than other people, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	7.6%	21.8%	32.9%	18.9%	6.4%	12.3%
Denmark	8.3%	19.4%	32.4%	12.2%	4.4%	23.3%
Italy	4.5%	11.5%	37.7%	26.3%	7.8%	12.3%
South Korea	**4.7%**	**22.0%**	**36.0%**	**26.1%**	**5.4%**	**5.7%**
Sweden	11.6%	16.2%	29.7%	16.8%	11.0%	14.8%
Norway	10.0%	15.5%	36.0%	14.2%	6.0%	18.3%
Finland	7.8%	17.4%	30.5%	18.9%	8.4%	17.0%
Germany	8.7%	13.4%	35.8%	22.0%	8.5%	11.5%
Poland	6.0%	14.1%	29.6%	22.1%	12.5%	15.7%
United States	8.4%	15.7%	33.4%	21.5%	11.3%	9.8%
Total	7.8%	16.6%	33.4%	20.2%	8.5%	13.6%

[Table 3-60] Degree of agreement that policies to cut carbon emissions will lead to people like me making greater sacrifices than other people, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	4.8%	21.7%	27.6%	30.4%	7.2%	8.3%
35-54 years	4.6%	20.4%	39.8%	24.0%	5.4%	5.9%
55+ years	4.8%	23.9%	38.2%	25.3%	4.2%	3.7%
Total	4.7%	22.0%	36.0%	26.1%	5.4%	5.7%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	4.5%	20.0%	38.0%	25.2%	4.3%	8.0%
25-35 million won	4.2%	24.3%	35.5%	24.6%	6.4%	5.0%
35-45 million won	3.6%	19.5%	40.4%	26.1%	6.2%	4.4%
45-60 million won	4.1%	24.3%	30.6%	32.6%	4.2%	4.2%
60 million won or higher	8.4%	25.2%	30.9%	25.2%	7.9%	2.5%
Total	4.7%	22.0%	36.0%	26.1%	5.4%	5.7%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	3.6%	15.9%	35.6%	29.6%	6.7%	8.7%
College or vocational school	5.6%	16.0%	35.1%	26.8%	5.3%	11.3%
BA	4.3%	24.0%	35.8%	26.5%	4.7%	4.7%
MA or PhD	8.2%	26.0%	38.9%	18.0%	7.3%	1.8%
Total	4.7%	22.0%	36.0%	26.1%	5.4%	5.7%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	4.8%	22.0%	35.4%	27.9%	5.5%	4.5%
Unemployed job seeking	4.5%	18.5%	28.3%	26.8%	8.4%	13.5%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	4.6%	23.1%	39.1%	21.4%	4.9%	6.8%
Other or prefer not to answer	3.2%	21.1%	42.5%	19.1%	3.5%	10.6%
Total	4.7%	22.0%	36.0%	26.1%	5.4%	5.7%

In South Korea, 43.5% of respondents feel that "people like me will have no say in policies to cut carbon emissions", which is below the global average of 51.9%. This perception is notably less prevalent than in the UK (59.9%) and Italy (53.2%), but aligns more closely with Norway's 39.3%. On the other hand, 19.9% of South Koreans report "strongly disagree" or " disagree", which is above the global average of 14.7% but lower than Norway's 25.4%. This suggests that South Koreans generally feel somewhat less disenfranchised regarding carbon emissions policies compared to other countries.

Analyzing responses by socio-demographic factors in South Korea reveals distinct patterns. Respondents aged 55 and older are most likely to feel they have no influence, with 45.3% in agreement, compared to 41.3% of those aged 18-34. Income does not significantly affect perceptions, with those earning over 60 million KRW annually showing a 44.3% positive response. Educational attainment impacts views more distinctly: individuals with a master's degree or higher are the most likely to feel powerless (25.8%), whereas those with only a high school education or less report a lower rate of dissatisfaction (18.1%). Among primary activity statuses, employed individuals report the highest feeling of lack of influence at 45.3%, while economically inactive individuals have the lowest negative response rate at 20.0%.

[Table 3-61] Degree of agreement that people like me will have no say in policies to cut carbon emissions, by country

Country	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
United Kingdom	2.5%	10.7%	19.9%	40.4%	19.5%	7.0%
Denmark	1.9%	7.9%	23.3%	33.1%	16.5%	17.4%
Italy	2.6%	8.1%	26.8%	34.7%	18.5%	9.4%
South Korea	**3.4%**	**16.5%**	**31.3%**	**34.2%**	**9.3%**	**5.3%**
Sweden	3.9%	10.6%	22.0%	27.4%	25.8%	10.3%
Norway	6.8%	18.6%	23.4%	23.9%	15.4%	11.9%
Finland	2.0%	10.0%	18.4%	36.5%	23.0%	10.1%
Germany	4.6%	8.2%	25.7%	31.8%	19.2%	10.5%
Poland	3.0%	8.2%	20.6%	33.8%	22.5%	11.9%
United States	4.4%	13.4%	23.6%	30.7%	20.2%	7.7%
Total	3.5%	11.2%	23.5%	32.7%	19.2%	9.9%

[Table 3-62] Degree of agreement that people like me will have no say in policies to cut carbon emissions, by socio-demographic variables in South Korea

Age	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
18-34 years	4.6%	18.4%	27.9%	31.9%	9.4%	7.8%
35-54 years	3.0%	16.6%	32.0%	33.9%	9.4%	5.2%
55+ years	2.9%	15.1%	33.1%	36.2%	9.1%	3.6%
Total	3.4%	16.5%	31.3%	34.2%	9.3%	5.3%

Personal income	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Under 25 million won	3.2%	15.2%	32.8%	31.9%	8.7%	8.2%
25-35 million won	2.2%	14.2%	31.8%	38.4%	10.3%	3.1%
35-45 million won	3.6%	19.4%	28.9%	34.8%	8.9%	4.3%
45-60 million won	3.6%	15.1%	33.0%	33.7%	9.7%	4.9%
60 million won or higher	5.4%	22.7%	26.8%	34.5%	9.8%	0.9%
Total	3.4%	16.5%	31.3%	34.2%	9.3%	5.3%

Education level	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
High school or lower	3.4%	14.7%	29.5%	34.4%	9.4%	8.5%
College or vocational school	2.7%	14.4%	28.7%	31.2%	13.7%	9.4%
BA	3.0%	16.7%	32.4%	35.4%	8.3%	4.1%
MA or PhD	5.8%	20.0%	30.4%	29.8%	10.9%	3.2%
Total	3.4%	16.5%	31.3%	34.2%	9.3%	5.3%

Main activity	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
In employment	3.4%	17.1%	29.7%	35.4%	9.9%	4.5%
Unemployed job seeking	4.1%	12.6%	30.1%	34.3%	10.8%	8.0%
No economic activity (retired, studying, housework, disabled, etc.)	3.5%	16.5%	34.4%	31.8%	7.6%	6.2%
Other or prefer not to answer	1.5%	10.3%	47.4%	23.1%	4.7%	13.0%
Total	3.4%	16.5%	31.3%	34.2%	9.3%	5.3%

4

Conclusions

4 Conclusions

4.1 Summary of Key Findings

4.1.1 Concerns about grand challenges

The findings from the transnational survey indicate that South Koreans' concerns about automation, globalization, immigration, war, and climate change generally align with regional and global trends but show distinct variations compared to other surveyed countries. First, concerning automation, South Korean worries are in line with the 10-country average, though there is a slightly higher rate of non-concern compared to the average. The US and Italy exhibit greater anxiety, while Finland and Norway are notably more optimistic. Next, South Koreans' concerns about globalization are somewhat higher than the average, with Italy displaying the greatest level of concern and Denmark showing the most positive outlook. Regarding immigration, South Koreans are less worried than the average, with a significantly higher non-concern rate, whereas Germany, Italy, and Sweden report higher levels of concern. When it comes to war, South Koreans' level of worry is slightly below the 10-country average, with Italy demonstrating the highest concern and Sweden the lowest. Lastly, in terms of climate change, South Korea stands out with the highest level of concern among the countries surveyed, far exceeding the average, while Italy also shows high concern but still lower than South Korea. In contrast, Sweden and Finland have relatively lower concern levels.

4.1.2 Diversity in organization

When it comes to ethnic diversity in the workplace, South Korean citizens display relatively high discomfort with having managers of different races, with a significant portion expressing unease compared to the 10-country average. This contrasts sharply with the UK and US, where respondents show greater openness and comfort with ethnically diverse managers. Additionally, South Koreans place lower importance on workplace diversity, with fewer valuing ethnic and racial diversity as important compared to the US and other countries that highly value diversity. Similarly, South Koreans are less supportive of policies that facilitate easier employment for immigrants, reflecting lower approval rates compared to the global average and notably lower than countries like Norway and Germany, where support is considerably higher.

4.1.3 Social risks and trust

In South Korea, there is a pronounced concern about the economic threat posed by an aging population, with a notable majority viewing the increasing number of elderly people relative to the working-age population as a significant economic challenge. This level of concern is higher compared to other countries, where perceptions vary widely. While Italy and Finland also exhibit considerable worry about the economic impact of an aging population, South Korea stands out with its particularly intense concern. In contrast, the United States and Denmark display much lower levels of concern about this issue. Additionally, South Koreans are less likely to believe that raising the retirement age negatively influences job opportunities for younger workers compared to the global average. In this regard, Italy stands out with a much higher agreement rate on this issue,

highlighting a sharper divide in attitudes toward aging and its economic implications across different countries.

When it comes to social trust, South Korean citizens demonstrate relatively low trust in police transparency and equal treatment, with significantly more critical views compared to Nordic countries like Finland and Norway, which have higher trust levels. On the other hand, South Koreans' trust in tax authorities is relatively high, surpassing the global average and aligning closely with Nordic standards. South Koreans also display relatively strong confidence in the transparency and fairness of public benefit providers, outperforming several European countries, including Norway and Denmark. However, trust in civil servants in South Korea is lower than in Nordic countries but somewhat comparable to Italy.

4.1.4 Digitalization and automation

In South Korea, attitudes towards digitalization and automation reflect remarkable differences compared to other countries. South Koreans generally feel less confident in their digital skills than the global average, with lower self-assessed proficiency compared to countries like Finland and Sweden. While South Koreans acknowledge their digital skills for daily life and work, their confidence is lower than that of many other nations, such as Sweden and Norway. Additionally, South Koreans show relatively higher concern about technology potentially rendering their work skills obsolete compared to the global average, and more so than in Denmark and Sweden, although their concern is slightly less than in Italy and Poland.

With the adoption of various new technologies, South Koreans display a notably higher level of comfort compared to the global average and several other countries. They show exceptional ease with autonomous vehicles, generative AI, robotic surgery, AI in disease diagnosis, and AI for financial

calculations. South Korea's comfort with autonomous vehicles and generative AI significantly surpasses the global average and is notably higher than in countries like the UK and Denmark. Similarly, South Koreans exhibit strong acceptance of robotic surgery and AI for medical diagnostics, with comfort levels notably exceeding the global average and surpassing those in countries such as Sweden and the US. Additionally, South Korea demonstrates robust trust in AI for tax or benefit calculations, well above the global average and higher than in Italy and Norway.

When it comes to regulating the development of generative AI by an independent authority, there is comparatively less support in South Korea than the 10-country average. While a considerable portion of South Koreans are supportive of such regulation, their level of agreement is lower than in countries like the UK and Finland, where there is stronger consensus on the need for oversight.

4.1.5 Climate change

From a comparative perspective, in South Korea, there is remarkable skepticism about the effectiveness of the country's emission reduction efforts, with lower support compared to many other nations. Finland, in contrast, shows higher approval for such measures. South Koreans also demonstrate a strong belief in the inter-generational responsibility for climate change, surpassing other countries in this regard, with fewer negative responses compared to places like Sweden and Germany. Regarding the personal impact of carbon reduction policies, citizens in South Korean are somewhat more concerned about making greater sacrifices than others, a sentiment that aligns closely with the global average but is somewhat lower than in Italy and comparable to Germany.

4.2 Implications

Like many other advanced capitalist countries, South Korea is facing global grand challenges, including demographic transformation, immigration, automation, and climate change. In this context, there have been fierce debates on how to respond to these issues, and the government is eager to seek effective policy solutions. It is essential to understand public perceptions and attitudes to gain support for introducing and implementing policies successfully. However, there is still a lack of information and knowledge regarding what the public think and feel about these issues and how their opinions differ from those of citizens in other countries that have experienced similar challenges. This study begins with this knowledge gap.

From a comparative view, we identified several interesting aspects of public perception in South Korea based on the 10-county survey as follows:

First, South Korean citizens express a relatively high level of concern about globalization. This finding is somewhat unexpected, given that South Korea has rapidly developed its economy through expert-led policies and is consistently ranked high in global competitiveness across various indices. These concerns may stem from uncertainties about the country's future or dissatisfaction with the current situation. To continue responding effectively to globalization, it is important for the government to investigate the factors contributing to the gap between public opinion and the country's current status. Based on these findings, the government can then develop appropriate future policies.

Second, South Koreans remain largely insensitive to immigrants and ethnic diversity, despite a sharp increase in the number of people from different ethnic backgrounds in the country over the past few decades. The find-

ings reveal that the largest portions of respondents expressed discomfort working under supervisors from different ethnic backgrounds and showed negative attitudes toward policies designed to help immigrant workers find employment. As more expatriates come to South Korea for various purposes each year, these insensitive attitudes may lead to conflicts between native Koreans and those from different ethnic backgrounds. Thus, additional studies are needed to understand the determinants of these attitudes toward immigrants and to develop policies that promote harmony among all residents in the country.

Next, in terms of new technologies, South Koreans tend to be less confident in their digital skills and express greater concern about technology potentially rendering their work skills obsolete. This perception seems unreasonable, given that self-assessments of their digital skills for daily life and work are higher than those in other countries. To bridge this gap in understanding, additional studies are needed to identify the factors contributing to these less confident attitudes and heightened worries. Furthermore, the government should implement policy interventions to enhance confidence in digital skills and alleviate these concerns.

Lastly, the results reveal that South Korean citizens have the highest level of concern about climate change among the countries surveyed. This suggests that a majority of the public acknowledges that a response to climate change is inevitable. On the other hand, a considerable portion of the population believes that climate policies might require sacrifices in terms of political decision-making or labor market participation. This implies that the government needs to consider political and economic equality when implementing climate change policies in the future.

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Appendix. Survey questionnaire

DK26473824
CBS
10 countries - pilot
Qnr v6
Researcher: JUSC

After pilot, we should discuss how to ensure quality of responses based on a time floor for survey completion.

**** Questionnaire does not include 10 sociodemographic questions provided through YouGov's panel.**

1) Age
2) Gender
3) Country of birth *(*DK – replaced by "work sector (private / public)*
4) Region
5) Highest level of education
6) Industry
7) Urbanicity
8) Personal income *(*PL – replaced by "work sector (private / public)*
9) Household income
10) Household type

A - Sociodemo: 16 calculated

B – Diversity: 10 calculated

C – Social risks: 19,5 calculated

D – Digitalisation: 19 calculated

E – Climate change: 9 calculated

Total: 73,5 calculated

#A Sociodemo_attitudes

Text

This surveys responses are collected as part of the project "Citizens and Grand Challenges: a cross-country survey". Your responses are anonymous. Data from these anonymous responses will be used solely for scientific purposes which include but are not limited to scientific publications (e.g. journals, working papers, book chapters) and public outreach events where key findings from this survey are communicated to the public. The storage, sharing, and scientific use of this data will comply with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679). If you consent to these terms, please proceed with the survey. Please answer the following questions as honestly as possible.

Single; SPD tag Union

[q1] Are you or have you ever been a member of a trade union or similar organisation?

<1> Yes, currently

<2> Yes, previously

<3> No

<977> Don't know

Single

[q2] How many child(ren) are there in your household aged 17 or under?

<1> 0

<2> 1

<3> 2

<4> 3

<5> 4

<6> 5

<7> 6

<8> 7 or more

<977> Don't know

#US - PDL: [race]

#UK - PDL [profile_ethnicity]

#SPD=race in DK, FI, SE, NO, DE, PL, IT, KOR

Single

If DK, SE, NO, FI

[Ethnicity_DK_SE_NO_FI] Although you may not identify with these groups/labels, for the purpose of this study: how would you best describe your ethnicity/ethnic origin?

<1> White

<2> Black

<3> South Asian

<4> East Asian

<5> Arabic, Central Asian

<6> Indigenous

<7> Mixed / dual ethnicity

<955> Other

<977> Don't know

Single

If IT, DE, PL, KOR

[Ethnicity_IT_DE_PL_KOR] Although you may not identify with these groups/labels, for the purpose of this study: how would you best describe your ethnicity/ethnic origin?

<1> White

<2> Black

<3> South Asian

<4> East Asian

<5> Arabic, Central Asian

<7> Mixed / dual ethnicity

<955> Other

<977> Don't know

Multiple; add soft validation if more than 3 codes are selected or if both code 7 and 8 are selected: Please confirm your selections by continuing the survey

[q4] Which, if any, of the following options describe your current activity?

Please select all that apply

<1> Working full time (as an employee or self-employed)

<2> Working part time (as an employee or self-employed)

<3> Retired

<4> Permanently sick or disabled

<5> Looking after the home or caring for family members (e.g. child, parent, partner)

<6> In formal education / Student

<7> Unemployed and actively looking for work

<8> Unemployed and not actively looking for work

<955> Other

<977 xor> Don't know / prefer not to say

if ticked more than 1 code in q4_1-8,955

Single; include if ticked in q4_1-955

[q5] And which of these activities do you consider to be your most important activity?

<1> Working full time (as an employee or self-employed)

<2> Working part time (as an employee or self-employed)

<3> Retired

<4> Permanently sick or disabled

<5> Looking after the home or caring for family members (e.g. child, parent, partner)

<6> In formal education / Student

<7> Unemployed and actively looking for work

<8> Unemployed and not actively looking for work

<955> Other

<977> Don't know / prefer not to say

If q4=1,2

Single

[q6] You indicated that you are currently working, which of the following best describes your employment status in your main job (the one you spend the most time on)?

<1> On a permanent / open ended contract

<2> On a fixed-term contract lasting less than 6 months

<3> On a fixed-term contract lasting 6 months or longer

<4> Working for a temporary employment agency

<5> On a zero hours contract

<6> Self-employed with no employees/freelance

<7> Self-employed with employees

<8> On an apprenticeship, internship or other training scheme

<9> Volunteering

<955> Other

<977> Don't know

If q4=1,2

Single

[q7] In a typical working week, how many hours do you work in total (i.e. across all your jobs if you have more than one)?

<1> 0 - 4 hours

<2> 5 - 9 hours

<3> 10 - 14 hours

<4> 15 - 19 hours

<5> 20 - 24 hours

<6> 25 - 29 hours

<7> 30 - 34 hours

<8> 35 - 39 hours

<9> 40 - 44 hours

<10> 45 – 50 hours

<11> 51 – 54 hours

<12> 55 – 60 hours

<13> 61 hours or more

<977> Don't know

If q4=1,2

Open; add tickbox DK "Don't know/prefer not to say

[q8a] Please enter the title of your current main job (i.e. - the one you spend the most time on).

If q4 NOT in 1,2

Open; add tickbox "Don't know/prefer not to say/not relevant

[q8b] Please enter the title of the last job you had.

If q4=1,2

Grid

[q9] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

1. I might lose my job in the next 6 months
2. If I become unemployed, I can find a job in the next 6 months
3. If I become unemployed, there are education and training schemes to help me to retrain for a new job

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Neither agree nor disagree

<4> Agree

<5> Strongly agree

<977>Don't know

Single

[q10] In politics people sometimes talk of "left" and "right". Where would you place yourself on this scale, where 0 means the left and 10 means the right?

<1> 0 - left

<2> 1

<3> 2

<4> 3

<5> 4

<6> 5

<7> 6

<8> 7

<9> 8

<10> 9

<11> 10 - right

<966> Prefer not to say

<977> Don't know

One q11 per country

Single; SPD Politics -

[q11_DK] If there were a national election tomorrow, which party on this list would you vote for?

<1> Enhedslisten (Ø)

<2> Alternativet (Å)

<3> Socialistisk Folkeparti (SF)

<4> Socialdemokratiet (A)

<5> Radikale Venstre (B)

<6> Moderaterne (M)

<7> Venstre (V)

<8> Det Konservative Folkeparti (C)

<9> Liberal Alliance (I)

<10> Danmarksdemokraterne (D)

<11> Dansk Folkeparti (O)

<12> Nye Borgerlige (P)

<955> Andet

<966> Jeg ville ikke stemme

<977> Ved ikke

<988> Ønsker ikke at bevare

Single; SPD Politics -

[q11_IT] If there were a national election tomorrow, which party on this list would you vote for?

<1> Fratelli d'Italia

<2> Partito Democratico

<3> Lega per Salvini Premier

<4> Movimento 5 Stelle

<5> Forza Italia

<6> Italia Viva

<7> Azione

<8> Europa Verde

<9> Sinistra Italiana

<10> Più Europa

<11> Unione Popolare

<955 fixed> Altro

<966 fixed> Non voterei

<997 fixed> Non saprei

<988 fixed> Preferisco non rispondere

Single; SPD Politics -

[q11_UK] If there were a national election tomorrow, which party on this list would you vote for?

<1> Conservative Party

<2> Labour Party

<3> Liberal Democrats

<4> UK Independence Party

<5> Reform UK

<6> Scottish National Party

<7> Green Party

<8> Plaid Cymru

<9> Democratic Unionist Party

<10> Sinn Féin

<11> Ulster Unionist Party

<12> Alliance

<13> Social Democratic and Labour Party

<14> Alba Party

<15> Independent candidates

<955> Other

<966> I would not vote

<977> Don't know

<988> Prefer not to answer

Single; SPD Politics -

[q11_KOR] If there were a national election tomorrow, which party on this list would you vote for?

<1/"Democratic Party of Korea"> 더불어민주당

<2/"People Power Party"> 국민의힘

<3/"Green Justice Party">녹색정의당

<4/"Progressive Party"> 진보당

<955> 기타

<966> 투표하지 않을 것이다

<997> 모름

<988> 답변하고 싶지 않다

Grid

[q12] How worried are you about each of the following?

1. Automation, including artificial intelligence (e.g. ChatGPT)
2. Globalisation, including international trade
3. Migration
4. War
5. Climate Change

<1> Very worried

<2> Quite worried

<3> Moderately worried

<4> Slightly worried

<5> Not at all worried

<977> Don't know

#Modules B, C, D, E to be randomized

 # B Diversity in organisations

Single; show picture_q13; select picture randomly

[q13] Regardless of whether you are actually working or not, please indicate how comfortable you feel with having this person as your immediate manager at your job.

<1> Not comfortable at all

<2> Not comfortable

<3> Somewhat comfortable

<4> Comfortable

<5> Extremely comfortable

<977> Don't know

Single

[q14] In your main job, is your immediate manager a man or a woman?

If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.

<1> Man

<2> Woman

<964> Not applicable

<965> Never had a job

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q15] Regardless of whether you are working or not and how diverse the place where you work is, how important is it to YOU PERSONALLY to work at a place that

1. Has about an equal mix of men and women
2. Has a mix of employees of different ethnic and racial backgrounds
3. Has a mix of employees of different ages
4. Has a mix of employees of different sexual orientations

<1> Not at all important

<2> Not too important

<3> Somewhat important

<4> Very important

<5> Extremely important

<977> Do not know

Grid

[q16] Please indicate how often the following applies to your work situation in your main job?

If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.

1. Your colleagues help and support you
2. Your manger helps and supports you
3. You are involved in improving the work organisation or work processes of your department or organization
4. You experience stress in your work
5. You are treated fairly at your workplace

<1> Never

<2> Rarely

<3> Sometimes

<4> Often

<5> Always

<964> Not applicable

<965> Never had a job

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q17] To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your main job?

If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.

1. Considering all my efforts and achievements in my job, I feel I get paid appropriately
2. My job offers good prospects for career advancement
3. I receive the recognition I deserve for my work

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Neither disagree nor agree

<4> Agree

<5> Strongly agree

<964> Not applicable

<965> Never had a job

<977> Don't know

Multiple; randomize

[q18] Have you experienced any of the following forms of discrimination (you have been treated unfavourably) in your everyday life at your main workplace?

If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.

Please select all that apply

<1> Yes, based on my colour or ethnicity

<2> Yes, based on my religion

<3> Yes, based on my language

<4> Yes, based on my age

<5> Yes, based on my gender

<6> Yes, based on my sexuality

<7> Yes, based on my disability

<8 fixed xor> No experience of discrimination

<964 fixed xor> Not applicable

<965 fixed xor> Never had a job

<966 fixed xor> Prefer not to say

<977 fixed xor> Don't know

Grid

[q19] As far as you know, does the company or organization you work for at your main job have any of the following?

If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.

1. A staff member whose main job is to promote diversity, equity and inclusion at work
2. Trainings or meetings on diversity, equity and inclusion at work
3. Policies to ensure that everyone is treated fairly in hiring, pay or promotions

<1> Yes

<2> No

<964 xor> Not applicable

<965 xor> Never had a job

<977 xor> Don't know

#C Social risks and trust

Grid

[q20] We now turn to a separate set of questions. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statement:

1. The increasing number of elderly people relative to working age population poses a threat to COUNTRY ADJECTIVE economy
2. Everyone in COUNTRY should be allowed to choose early retirement from work, even if it implies a decrease in their standard of living at the time of retirement
3. Increasing the retirement age of workers results in fewer job opportunities for younger workers

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Neither disagree nor agree

<4> Agree

<5> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

If q4=1,2,5,6,7,8,955

Single

[q21] Which reduction in your pension benefit would you be willing to accept in exchange for every year of earlier retirement?

<1> I would not want to retire early

<2> 2 percentage points per year of earlier retirement

<3> 5 percentage points per year of earlier retirement

<4> 7 percentage points per year of earlier retirement

<5> 10 percentage points per year of earlier retirement

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q22] In COUNTRY people are living longer, while fewer children are being born. To tackle this issue, several actions could be taken by decision-makers. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following actions:

1. Reduce pensions benefits only for those who will retire in the future, leaving current pensioners untouched
2. Reduce pensions benefits for all, including current pensioners
3. Increase retirement age, except for those who have bad health
4. Increase retirement age, except for those with physically demanding jobs
5. Increase retirement age for all, with no exceptions
6. Provide economic incentives to retire later
7. Make it easier for immigrants to work in COUNTRY
8. Ensure free access to high quality public childcare services
9. Provide cash benefits to families who have more than 1 child

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Neither disagree nor agree

<4> Agree

<5> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Randomize q23a, q23b, q23c

Grid

[q23a] Please state the extent to which you agree with the statements below for the police authority, such as polizia, carabinieri, and vigili urbani (including through their online platform):

1. It's procedures are easy to understand and transparent
2. It provides equal level of services to all citizens
3. It has a positive impact on the well-being of citizens
4. It carries out its duties without delays or complications

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Somewhat disagree

<4> Neither disagree nor agree

<5> Somewhat agree

<6> Agree

<7> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q23b] Please state the extent to which you agree with the statements below for the tax authority, such as income declaration (including through their online platform):

1. It's procedures are easy to understand and transparent
2. It provides equal level of services to all citizens
3. It has a positive impact on the well-being of citizens
4. It carries out its duties without delays or complications

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Somewhat disagree

<4> Neither disagree nor agree

<5> Somewhat agree

<6> Agree

<7> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q23c] Please state the extent to which you agree with the statements below for the public benefit provider, public pensions, family benefits, unemployment benefits, housing benefits, social assistance benefits (including through their online platform):

1. It's procedures are easy to understand and transparent
2. It provides equal level of services to all citizens
3. It has a positive impact on the well-being of citizens
4. It carries out its duties without delays or complications

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Somewhat disagree

<4> Neither disagree nor agree

<5> Somewhat agree

<6> Agree

<7> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q24] Over the last 12 months, how many times have you been in contact (in person, via phone, or online) with the following public authorities?

1. Police authority, such as polizia, carabinieri, and vigili urbani
2. Tax authority such as income declaration
3. Public benefit provider (public pensions, family benefits, unemployment benefits, housing benefits, social assistance benefits)

<1> No contact

<2> 1-3 times

<3> 4-6 times

<4> 7 times or more

<966> Prefer not to say

<977> Don't know

#4 split test. Randomly select one of the 4 treatments. Make split variable

q25_treat1: The authority follows clear procedures and keeps you updated. The noise stops in all areas of your neighbourhood.

q25_treat2: The authority does not follow clear procedures and fails to update you. The noise stops in all areas of your neighbourhood.

q25_treat3:The authority follows clear procedures and keeps you updated. The noise stops only in the wealthier areas of your neighbourhood.

q25_treat4: The authority does not follow clear procedures and fails to update you. The noise stops only in the wealthier areas of your neighbourhood.

Single

[q25] Imagine you live in a quiet neighbourhood. However, for the past two weeks, there has been disruptive noise in your neighbourhood. It's affecting your sleep and ability to focus during the day. To handle this, you've contacted your local public authority to take action.

[Insert selected treatment]

Please indicate how much trust you have in the public authority after they have handled the case:

<1> Strongly distrust

<2> Moderately distrust

<3> Somewhat distrust

<4> Neutral

<5> Somewhat trust

<6> Moderately trust

<7> Strongly trust

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q26] Imagine that COUNTRY agrees to increase its military spending by 5% of its GDP over the next 5 years (roughly equivalent to X times public expenditure on road infrastructure investment for the same period). Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following ways to finance such increases.

1. Increasing public debt
2. Increasing taxation for everyone
3. Increasing taxation for the rich only
4. Increasing the number of weekly working hours (everyone should work more hours per week to fund the increase in military expenditure)
5. Reducing education expenditure
6. Reducing pension expenditure
7. Reducing healthcare expenditure
8. Reducing expenditure for social assistance / welfare

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Somewhat disagree

<4> Neither disagree nor agree

<5> Somewhat agree

<6> Agree

<7> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

#D Digitalisation and automation

Grid

[q27] We want to understand what you think about the use of new technologies, how they should be regulated and if you have access to them, even if some technologies may be quite new to you.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your skills and the use of technologies?

1. I think that I am sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies in my daily life
2. I think that I am sufficiently skilled in the use of digital technologies to do my job
3. I am concerned that technology may make my work skills obsolete in the future
4. I am confident in my ability to develop new digital skills for work

<1> Totally disagree

<2> Tend to disagree

<3> Tend to agree

<4> Totally disagree

<977> Don't know

Split sample; randomly select either treatment 1 or 2

Q28_treat_1: Software/ equipment that uses artificial intelligence (AI) (i.e. which is able to learn from data, reasoning or self-correction)

Q28_treat_2: Robotic/ automated equipment (i.e. to complete a physical task)

Single

[q28] Imagine 100 persons doing the same job as yours. Of these 100, how many do you think will lose their jobs in the next 10 years because they will be replaced by [treatment]

<1> 0

<2> 1-10

<3> 11-20

<4> 21-30

<5> 31-40

<6> 41-50

<7> 51-60

<8> 61-70

<9> 71-80

<10> 81-90

<11> 91-99

<12> 100

<977> Don't know

Grid; randomize

[q29] How comfortable/uncomfortable do you feel about the following uses of technology?

1. Self-driving cars
2. Generative AI at work (e.g. ChatGPT)
3. Robots to perform surgery
4. AI to diagnose diseases
5. Use of AI to choose the best candidate for a job
6. Use of AI to calculate my tax or social security benefits
7. AI-enabled robots for companionship in old age.

8. Use of AI to monitor performance at work and award bonuses

<1> Very uncomfortable

<2> Uncomfortable

<3> Somewhat uncomfortable

<4> Neutral

<5> Somewhat comfortable

<6> Comfortable

<7> Very comfortable

<977> Don't know

Multiple

[q30] Which of the following organisations do you trust to use your personal data responsibly? *Please select all that apply*

<1> National government (e.g. tax, driving and licensing authority, social security benefits and pensions).

<2> Local government (council administration)

<3> Multinational social media and tech companies (e.g. Google/Alphabet, Facebook/Meta, Twitter/X, Instagram)

<4> Online retailers

<5> Banks

<6> Public health providers

<7> Private health providers

<8> Education providers (schools, universities, colleges)

<9> Your current/most recent employer

<10> Online health apps (e.g. Strava, Fitbit, Garmin, MyFitnessPal)

<11> Insurance companies

<956 xor> None of these

<977 xor> Don't know

3 split. Randomly select treatment text

q31_treat_1: Automation. Some experts believe that the current pace of automation may result in some workers losing their job in COUNTRY.

q31_treat_2: Globalization. Some experts believe that the current pace of globalization may result in some workers losing their job in COUNTRY.

q31_treat_3: Economic downturn. Some experts believe that the current economic conditions may result in some workers losing their job in COUNTRY.

Grid

[q31] [q31_Treatment]

Are you against or in favour of the following policy measures?

1. Monthly payments for all citizens in need
2. Monthly payments, only for those who lose their job
3. Free education for all to provide people with skills along the life course
4. Free training courses to reskill those who lose their job
5. Publicly subsidized jobs for those who lose their job
6. Making it harder for companies to layoff employees

<1> Strongly against

<2> Against

<3> Somewhat against

<4> Neither against nor in favour

<5> Somewhat in favour

<6> In favour

<7> Strongly in favour

<977> Don't know

Grid

[q32] There is a lot of discussion about the potential for new technologies (like AI and smart robots) to replace human labour at work. To what extent do you think governments should regulate the use of these technologies in the following circumstances?

1. Where the technology replaces workers but increases the companies' profitability
2. Where the technology replaces workers but does not increase profitability
3. Where the technology replaces workers in some jobs but creates jobs for other workers in the company

<1> No regulation at all

<2> Minimal regulation

<3> Moderate regulation

<4> Strong regulation

<5> Very strong regulation

<977> Don't know

Single

[q33] To what extent do you agree that the development of generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT) should be monitored and regulated by an independent authority?

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Somewhat disagree

<4> Neither disagree nor agree

<5> Somewhat agree

<6> Agree

<7> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Single

[q34] If an independent authority is established to monitor and regulate the development of generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT), what in your opinion should be the correct level of governance?

<1> Sectoral / industry level

<2> Regional / State level

<3> National /Federal

<4> International (e.g. European Union, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, OECD)

<5> Global (e.g. United Nations)

<977> Don't know

Multiple

[q35] Which of the following do you currently have access to at home?

Please select all that apply

<1> A desktop computer or laptop

<2> A tablet computer

<3> A smart TV that connects to the internet

<4> A gaming console that connects to the internet

<5> A mobile phone connection with fast and reliable access to the internet

<6> A home broadband connection that is sufficient for your household needs

<956 xor> None of these

<977 xor> Don't know

Multiple

[q36] Which of these do you feel you can comfortably afford at present, if you needed it? *Please consider each item independently and tick as many as are applicable*

<1> A new desktop computer or laptop

<2> A new tablet computer

<3> A new smart TV

<4> A new gaming console

<5> A new smartphone

<6> A fast and reliable mobile phone connection

<7> A home broadband connection that is sufficient for your household needs

<956 xor> None of these

<977 xor> Don't know

Multiple

[q37] Which of the following technologies do you regularly use at work?

If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.

Please select all that apply

<1> Computers (e.g. desktops, laptops)

<2> Handheld devices (e.g. tablets, smartphones, barcode scanner)

<3> Robotic/ automated equipment (i.e. to complete a physical task)

<4> Software/ equipment that uses artificial intelligence (AI) (i.e. which is able to learn from data, reasoning or self-correction)

<5> Generative AI (e.g. ChatGPT)

<956 xor> None of these

<977 xor> Don't know

Grid; randomize

[q38] How easy would you find it to use the following services if you needed to?

1. Online health services, including booking appointments, getting medical advice, repeat prescriptions (e.g. NHS direct)
2. Online grocery delivery (e.g. supermarket deliveries for essentials).
3. Completing an education course online
4. Completing a tax return or social security benefit application online

<1> Very difficult

<2> Difficult

<3> Neither difficult nor easy

<4> Easy

<5> Very easy

<966 xor> Prefer not to say

<977 xor> Don't know

#E Climate change

Grid

[q39] Now the following set of questions will be about policies related to Climate Change. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

1. I am afraid that policies to cut carbon emissions will lead to people like me making greater sacrifices than other people in COUNTRY
2. I am afraid that people like me will have no say in policies to cut carbon emissions
3. I am afraid that policies to cut carbon emissions will put my own job at risk. *If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.*
4. I am afraid that policies to cut carbon emissions will make my job less valued by society. *If you don't currently work, please think about your last job when answering.*
5. Policies to cut carbon emissions may lead to job losses. Older workers (55 years old or older) should bear these job losses more than younger workers (younger than 55 years old)

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Somewhat disagree

<4> Neither disagree nor agree

<5> Somewhat agree

<6> Agree

<7> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Pairing test: Each respondent sees 2 vignettes. Each vignette consists of 3 randomly selected treats. One from each dimension. There needs to be at least one difference between the shown vignettes.

Create frame around each vignette and show side-by-side.

Dimension_1_treat_1: Can reject a job that does not correspond to the unemployed's professional skills acquired through education or previous work experience

Dimension_1_treat_2: Cannot reject a job that does not correspond to the unemployed's professional skills acquired through education or previous work experience

Dimension_2_treat_1: Can reject a job that pays less than the unemployed's previous job

Dimension_2_treat_2: Cannot reject a job that pays less than the unemployed's previous job

Dimension_3_treat_1: Can reject a job outside of a commuting radius of more than [X] hours (equivalent to a per day round trip of 2 times [X] hours) by public transport

Dimension_3_treat_2: Cannot reject a job outside of a commuting radius of more than [X] (equivalent to a per day round trip of 2 times [X] hours) by public transport

Single; can this be colourpic?

[q40] Policies to cut carbon emissions may lead to workers younger than 55 years old losing their jobs. Below are two policy packages to assist these workers. Even if some parts of these policy packages are absent in COUNTRY, please select the policy package which you prefer most.

#Example for scripter – but side-by-side

<1>Policy package 1

Dimension_1_treat_1 Dimension_2_treat_1 Dimension_3_treat_2

<2> Policy package 2

Dimension_1_treat_2 Dimension_2_treat_1 Dimension_3_treat_1

Experiment. Each respondent to be randomly selected to one of the 3 arms in q41. Please note that Arm2 and Arm3 each consist of 2 questions.

#Arm1

Single

[q41_Arm1] Stopping global warming is costly, and may require a reduction in individual levels of consumption. To what extent would you be willing to reduce your yearly consumption, if your decision will lead to outcomes described?

<1> 18% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 1.5 °C increase in global warming

<2> 15% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 1.7 °C increase in global warming

<3> 10% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 2.0 °C increase in global warming

<4> 5% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 2.5 °C increase in global warming

<5> No permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 3.0 °C increase in global warming

#Arm2

Single

[q41_Arm2_1] In COUNTRY, every citizen produces on average X tons of carbon dioxide. This is an improvement compared to the X tons it produced in year 2000. However, it is still higher than the world average emission per person (4.7 tons).

Is COUNTRY doing enough to reduce emissions?

<1> Not enough at all

<2> Not enough

<3> Neither/nor enough

<4> Enough

<5> More than enough

<977> Don't know

Single

[q41_Arm2_2] Stopping global warming is costly, and may require a reduction in individual levels of consumption. To what extent would you be willing to reduce your yearly consumption, if your decision will lead to outcomes described?

<1> 18% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 1.5 °C increase in global warming

<2> 15% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 1.7 °C increase in global warming

<3> 10% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 2.0 °C increase in global warming

<4> 5% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 2.5 °C increase in global warming

<5> No permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 3.0 °C increase in global warming

#Arm3

Single; show picture q41_Arm_3_1

[q41_Arm3_1] In recent years, representatives of the younger generations have taken the streets in different parts of the world to protest against global warming. They want policy makers to act fast, because global warming will affect their lives more than the life of earlier generations.

Do you agree that the older (living) generations have a special responsibility toward the younger generation regarding climate change?

<1> Strongly disagree

<2> Disagree

<3> Neither disagree nor agree

<4> Agree

<5> Strongly agree

<977> Don't know

Single

[q41_Arm3_2] Stopping global warming is costly, and may require a reduction in individual levels of consumption. To what extent would you be willing to reduce your yearly consumption, if your decision will lead to outcomes described?

<1> 18% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 1.5 °C increase in global warming

<2> 15% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 1.7 °C increase in global warming

<3> 10% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 2.0 °C increase in global warming

<4> 5% permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 2.5 °C increase in global warming

<5> No permanent reduction in yearly consumption leading to 3.0 °C increase in global warming

요약

본 연구는 자동화, 세계화, 이민, 전쟁, 기후변화 등 전 지구적 도전에 직면한 복지국가의 맥락에서 조직의 다양성, 사회적 위험, 디지털화 및 자동화, 기후변화 정책 등 주요 이슈에 대한 대중의 인식 데이터를 수집하는 것을 목표로 한다. 이를 위해 한국보건사회연구원은 Copenhagen Business School, University of Sussex, Politecnico di Torino, Roskilde University와 공동으로 덴마크, 핀란드, 독일, 이탈리아, 노르웨이, 폴란드, 한국, 스웨덴, 영국, 미국을 대상으로 국가 간 설문조사를 실시하였다. 이번 설문조사 결과는 한국인의 태도를 다른 국가와 비교하여 분석함으로써 정책 개발을 위한 함의를 제공한다.

다양한 변화 가운데 한국 시민들은 세계화에 대해 평균보다 높은 수준의 우려를 표명하지만, 이민에 대해서는 상대적으로 우려 수준이 낮은 것으로 나타났다. 한국인의 전쟁에 대한 우려는 평균보다 약간 낮은 것으로 조사되었으나 기후변화에 대해 세계 평균을 크게 상회하는 높은 수준의 우려를 표명하였다.

한국 응답자들은 영국과 미국과 같이 인종적 다양성에 대해 개방적인 국가들에 비해 더 큰 불편함을 드러냈으며, 이민자 고용 지원정책에 대한 지지도는 유럽 국가들보다 낮은 경향을 보였다. 사회적 위험과 관련해서는 한국인이 인구 고령화의 경제적 영향에 대해 다른 대부분의 국가 응답자들보다 더 크게 우려하는 것으로 나타났으며, 공공기관에 대한 신뢰와 관련해서는 경찰의 투명성에 대한 신뢰는 낮은 반면, 세무 당국과 복지급여 담당 기관에 대한 신뢰는 상대적으로 높은 수준이었다.

디지털화와 자동화에 대한 인식 조사에서 한국인은 북유럽 국가의 응답자들보다 자신의 디지털 기술에 대한 자신감이 낮았으나, 자율주행차, 의료 진단용 인공지능, 금융 계산용 인공지능 등 신기술에 대해서는 글로벌 평균보다 높은 신뢰도를 보였다. 그러나 독립기관을 통한 AI 규제 및 감독에 대한 지지도는 평균보다 낮게 나타났다. 기후변화와 관련하여 한국인은 자국의 온실가스 감축 노력의 효과에 대해 회의적인 태도를 보였으나 개인적으로 기후 목표 달성을 위해 희생할 의향이 있다는 응답이 많았다.

이번 연구를 통해 도출된 한국의 정책적 시사점은 다음과 같이 정리할 수 있다. 첫째, 한국의 높은 글로벌 경쟁력에도 불구하고 세계화에 대한 대중의 우려가 여전히 강하므로 정부는 이러한 우려의 근본 원인을 파악하고, 이를 한국 경제의 강점과 연결할 수 있는

방안을 모색해야 한다. 둘째, 한국 사회가 인종적으로 다양해짐에 따라 사회와 조직에서의 인종적 다양성에 대한 불편함을 줄이고 포용성을 증진시키기 위한 정책이 필요하다. 셋째, 인구 고령화에 대한 심각한 우려를 해결하기 위해서는 은퇴 계획, 은퇴 연기, 가족 인센티브 등 인구 구조 변화에 대비한 통합적인 정책이 요구된다. 넷째, 디지털 기술에 대한 대중의 신뢰를 높이고, 실제 디지털 역량과 인지된 자신감 사이의 격차를 줄이려는 노력도 필요해 보인다. 마지막으로 기후변화에 대한 한국의 높은 대중적 관심을 고려한다면 정부는 적극적이고 포괄적인 기후 정책을 추진할 수 기회를 갖고 있다고 볼 수 있다. 다만 이러한 정책은 경제 및 노동 시장에 미치는 영향을 고려하여 공정성을 보장하는 방향으로 진행되어야 한다.

주요 용어: 복지국가, 여론, 사회적 위험, 사회적 신뢰, 자동화, 이민, 기후변화