Korea's Birthrate Problem

Team 8

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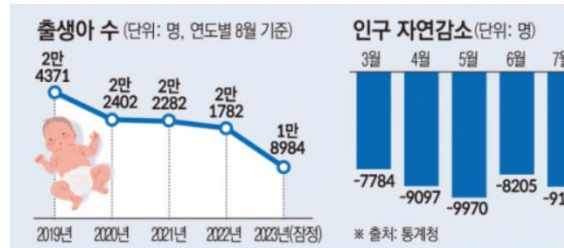# Background/Necessity

출산율 0.7명도 위태…반등 못하면 인구 구조 무너진다
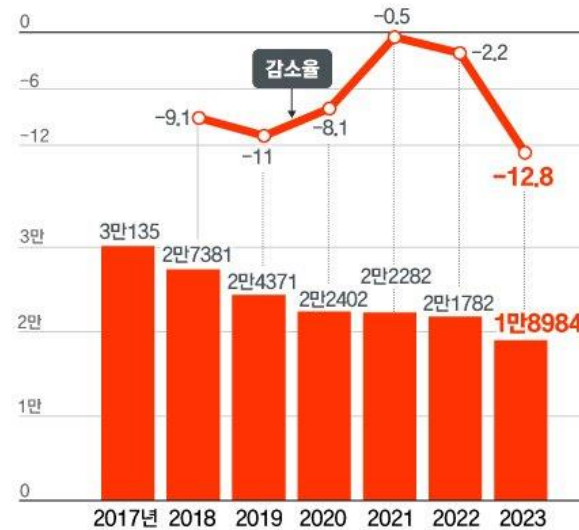
입력 2023-10-25 14:28 | 수정 2023-10-25 17:46

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출생아 감소 폭 1분기 6.0%, 2분기 6.8%에서 7~8월 9.9%로 확대

출생아 수 감소 계속…감소율 역대 2번째

단위: 명, 감소율은 전년대비 증감률로 %, 8월 기준

자료: 통계청 The JoongAng

Korea's fertility rate hits 0.78, a new low and still lowest in OECD

[SHUTTERSTOCK]

Background/Necessity

- **What are the risks of decreasing the birth rate in Korea?**

  - Demographic Challenges: A declining birth rate leads to demographic challenges due to its rapidly aging population and shrinking workforce.

  - Economic Impact: A low birth rate can lead to a reduced consumer base, decreased demand for goods and services, and potential stagnation in economic growth.

  - National Defense Concerns: A reduced younger population might pose challenges in terms of military recruitment and national defense capabilities.

〈그림 1〉 부양부담 변화 추이

〈그림 2〉 국민연금 재원 전망(2018년 기준)
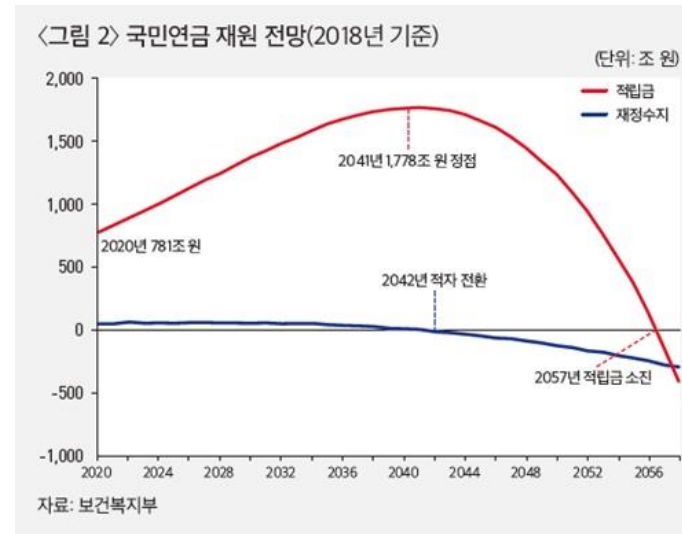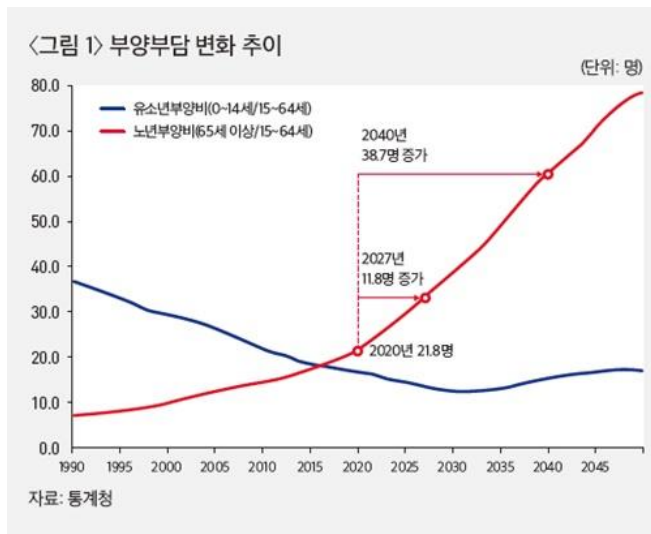
Background/Necessity

- **What are the reasons for decreasing the birth rate in Korea?**

  - Economic Pressures: Rising living and housing costs, unstable job market.

  - Demanding Work Culture: Long working hours and prioritization of job over personal life.

  - Educational Pressure: High investment in children's education and extracurricular activities.

  - Limited Childcare & Parental Leave: Gaps in accessibility and quality.

  - Delay in Marriage: Increase in the average age of first marriage.

  - Housing Challenges: High cost and limited availability in urban areas.

    :

There are so many reasons !!

Purpose of Analysis

1. Identifying the Primary Causes for the Decline in Birth Rates

   - Focusing on numerous factors, particularly from a socio-economic perspective.

2. Apply data analysis to explore **relationships and** correlations between socio-economic variables and birth rates.

3. Construction of a birth rate prediction model using derived variables

↓

Make recommendations for policies or strategies that could potentially reverse the decline in birth rates.

Data Acquisition

- **Introducing data to use :** We have categorized our data into several sections. This classification was inspired by the "2020 Humanities and Social Forum" which identified five major socio-economic factors influencing birth rates. Our aim was to comprehensively analyze the multifaceted factors affecting childbirth.

1) Population and birth rate data:

- Total birth rate in year (The World Bank)

2) Family and marital data:

- Mean age of women at childbirth (OECD)

- Average age at marriage (Our World in Data)

- Mean age at first marriage (The World Bank)

3) Data related to women:

- Labor force participation rate (The World Bank)

Data Acquisition

4) Work and employment data:

- Average annual hours worked (OECD)

- Employment status (OECD)

- Unemployment rate by age group (OECD)

- Employment rate by age group (OECD)

- Part-time employment rate (OECD)

6) Housing-related data:

- Housing prices (OECD)

- Short-term interest rates (OECD)

5) Economic and financial data:

- Current health public expenditure (The World Bank)

- Family benefits public spending (OECD)

- Public spending on labor markets (OECD)

- Gross national income – GNI (OECD)

- Gender Development Index - GDI (Our World in Data)

- Gross domestic product – GDP (OECD)
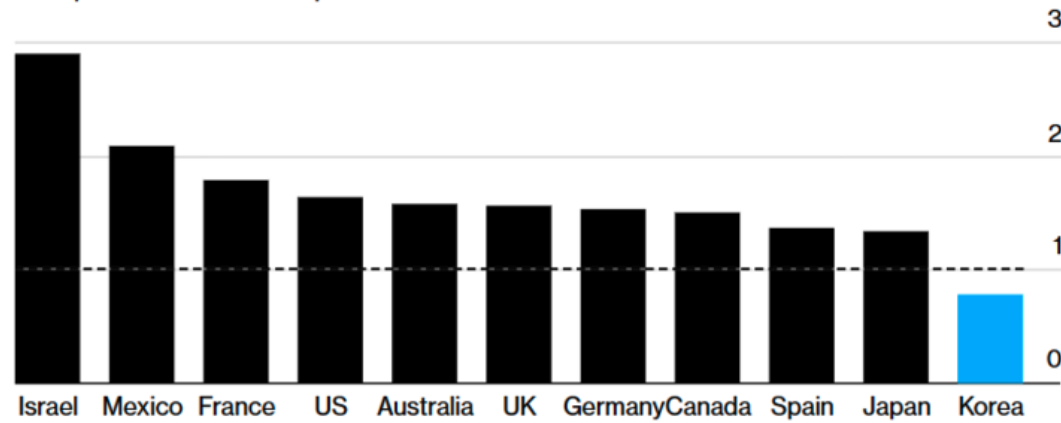
- Part-time employment rate (OECD)
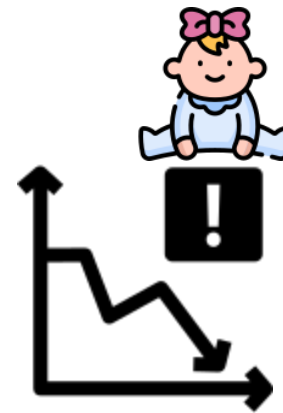
Data Acquisition

- Countries

Low Birth rate Countries in OECD

No Country For Babies
South Korea lags well behind all OECD member nations on fertility

- Expected lifetime births per woman

Israel · Mexico · France · US · Australia · UK · Germany · Canada · Spain · Japan · Korea

Source: OECD/Statistics Korea
* Korea number for 2022, others for 2020

1. Korea
2. Japan
3. Spain
4. Canada
5. Germany

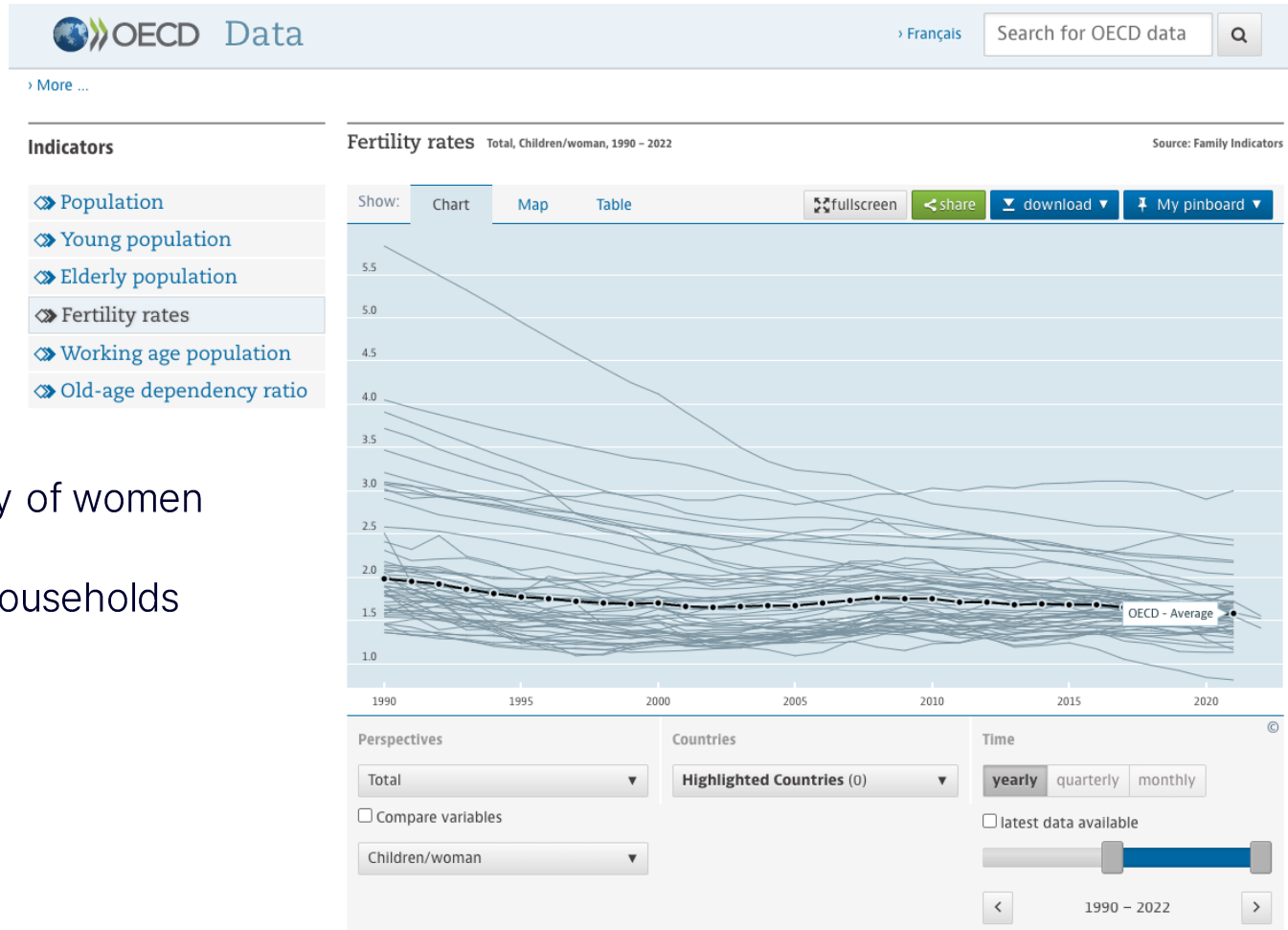And more…

Data Acquisition

- **Data Collection Period**

  # 1990 ~ 2023

- **Why?**

  - Increased economic activity of women

  - Increase in single-person households

  - Economic hardship

  - Rising house prices

Methods

- Correlation analysis
  - Pearson Correlation Coefficient : Useful when showing linear associations between variables. It is easy to interpret and intuitive.
  - Time Lagged Cross Correlation (TLCC) : Since the birth rate is time series data, we also want to use the method used to correlate time series data

Remove features that correlate lowly with birth rates (reduce computing power & memory)

- Feature Selection
  - Filter Methods : compare the suitability of correlation analysis with Feature Selection to assess its significance.

Methods

- **Prediction Models**

  - Polynomial Regression : A form of linear regression, a regression technique that uses polynomials to model data in a curved form.

  - XGBoost : A type of gradient boosting algorithm, a machine learning algorithm used to model and predict data with a tree-based ensemble model.

  - ARIMA (AutoRegressive Integrated Moving Average) : The ARIMA model is useful for predicting or analyzing data considering trends, seasonality, and autocorrelation in time series data.

"Train multiple models and Choose best model"
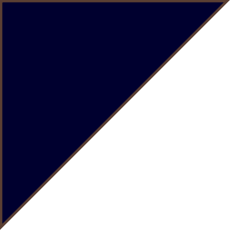
Expected Result / Impact

1. Through a comprehensive analysis of socio-economic factors and data exploration, identify the primary causes contributing to the decline in birth rates.

2. By using derived variables and data analysis, a birth rate prediction model that provides insights into the future trends will be developed.

3. Provide recommendations for policies or strategies that could potentially reverse the decline in birth rates.

By finding the most influential features and focusing on them,
we might figure out the "South Korea's low birthrate problem".

- References

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- OECD Data: https://data.oecd.org/

- Our World in Data: https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/gender-development-index?tab=table

- World Bank Open Data: https://data.worldbank.org/

- KOSIS: https://kosis.kr/statHtml/statHtml.do?orgId=101&tblId=DT_1ES4F13S&conn_path=I2

- OECD Stat: https://stats.oecd.org/

Q & A

Thank you