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PREFACE

Improving the citizens' quality of life relies on sensible policymaking, and understanding the statistical dimensions of the city's issues is an important step in doing so. In order to foster transparency and accountability in its decision-making process Seoul Metropolitan Government has adopted the policy to release administrative information not only to experts but also to the general public. As the core think tank for Seoul Metropolitan Government, the Seoul Institute has expanded existing information dissemination system to broaden our audience. We want to reach out beyond experts to the citizens by making information more approachable and accessible. It is for this purposes hat we have published the Seoul Statistical Series.

Seoul Statistical Series aims to derive long-term trends and policy issues by providing key statistical indicators such as population, economy, industry, transportation, housing and household. As such, the series was designed not only for policymakers and experts who are directly involved in the decision-making process in the public sector, but also for citizens who wish to be informed about Seoul's agendas of the past and present. The series goes beyond mere figures to interpretations of trends. It reflects perspectives lying inside rather than surface level problems and phenomenon thereof. Furthermore, in order to increase accessibility to citizens it lays out its analysis through prose and in a variety of visualizations.

We hope that Seoul Statistical Series provide a statistical basis for policy alternatives and generate fruitful discussions on Seoul's policies. We invite citizens to observe the changes in their lives and in Seoul and to join us in making our town even better. In the future, we plan to bring you further additions of Seoul Thematic series on a wider range of topics.

Thank you.

President of the Seoul Institute

Kim Goohegun

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