

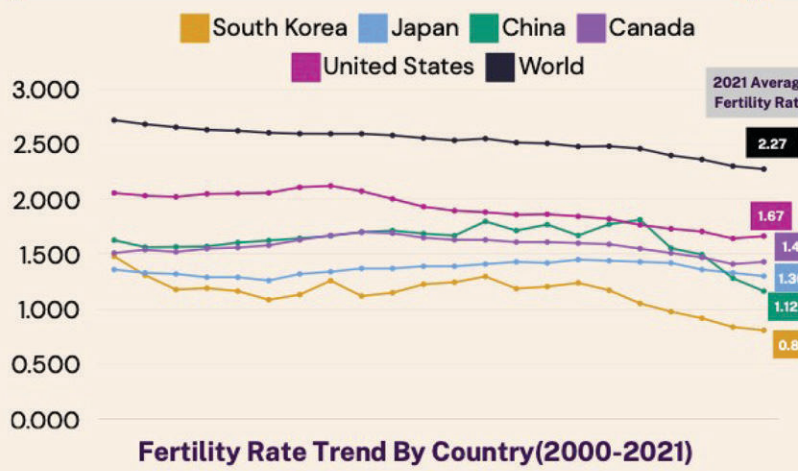
# Analysis of Fertility Rates in North America and Eastern Asia

## WHY ARE WOMEN DELAYING OR SKIPPING MATERNITY?

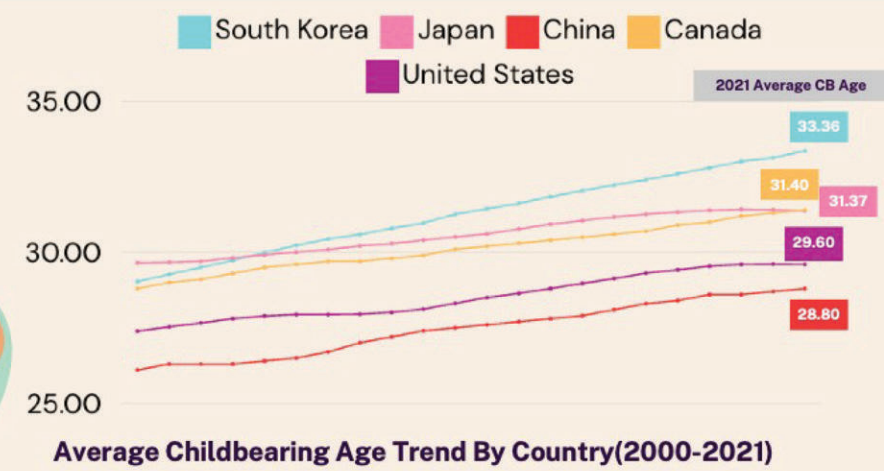
The global demographic scenario is characterized by decreasing fertility rates and a marked trend towards delaying motherhood. Analyzing and understanding diverse factors involved in these trends is relevant due to their effects in the structure of society and their influence in the shaping of new governmental policies.



### What is happening?



**2.1**  
children per woman is the recommended Fertility Rate



### Key Findings

- Fertility rates have been constantly dropping in the latest years. Starting this century, this set of nations were already below the 2.1 recommended ratio to maintain a stable population flow, going to below 1.6 in the year 2021. With the most accentuated case being South Korea with less than one child per woman.
- While fertility rates decrease, the childbearing age seems to be increasing. In average it has gone up by 2 years from the year 2000, with the age to bear the first child surpassing the 30-year-old mark.

### Influencing Factors

Rise of education level for women

Growing inclusion of women in the workforce

Role of women in society and the changes in paradigms

Access to family planning methods

- North American: women prioritize their professional career.
- Eastern Asia: The traditional family ideals are incompatible with women's desire for more independence and autonomy.

### Consequences

AGING POPULATION



WORKFORCE DWINDLING



SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEMS



BURDEN OF ELDERLY CARING

### Governmental Actions

- Eastern Asian governments are offering allowances per child as an incentive and projecting new accommodating policies for working parents.
- The North American countries have been compensating for their low fertility rates with welcoming immigration policies.



### Recommendations

#### IMMIGRATION

- Developing and promoting immigration policies to welcome young families and individuals who can contribute to the population growth and economic stability.
- Establishing support systems that aid integration of newcomers, surpassing cultural barriers.



#### ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

- Making ART more accessible through healthcare policies, increasing the availability of services such as IVF, sperm donation, egg freezing, and surrogacy.
- Hence, women would have more chances of succeeding at bearing children when they decide the right time.



#### SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

- Adapting same-sex marriage legislation to ensure equal rights to marry, which could motivate more people to start a family.
- Supporting LGBTQ+ family planning, strengthening adoption and foster policies.



#### GENDER EQUALITY

- Promoting a gender equality culture from a young age, aiming to dismantle stereotypes about gender roles.
- Procuring work-life balance, parental leave legislation for both parents, flexible working hours, and childcare support, preventing the need of women to leave their careers to become mothers.

