



# Analyzing the Operation of Korean School Libraries based on Staffing

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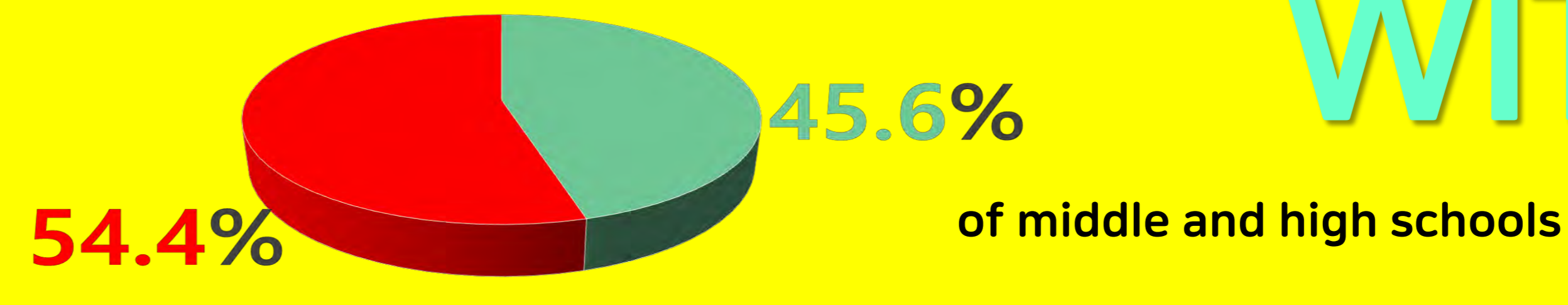
Standing on the Shoulders of Giants (Newton, 1675)

Every Librarian Brings the Giants (Kang, 2023)

## K-SCHOOL LIBRARY

### WITHOUT SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

### WITH SCHOOL LIBRARIAN



12,703 books

17,595 books/school

₩6,873,191 (\$5,247 or €4,900)

₩10,521,484 (\$8,032 or €7,500)/school

46 seats

62 seats/school

2,511 loans

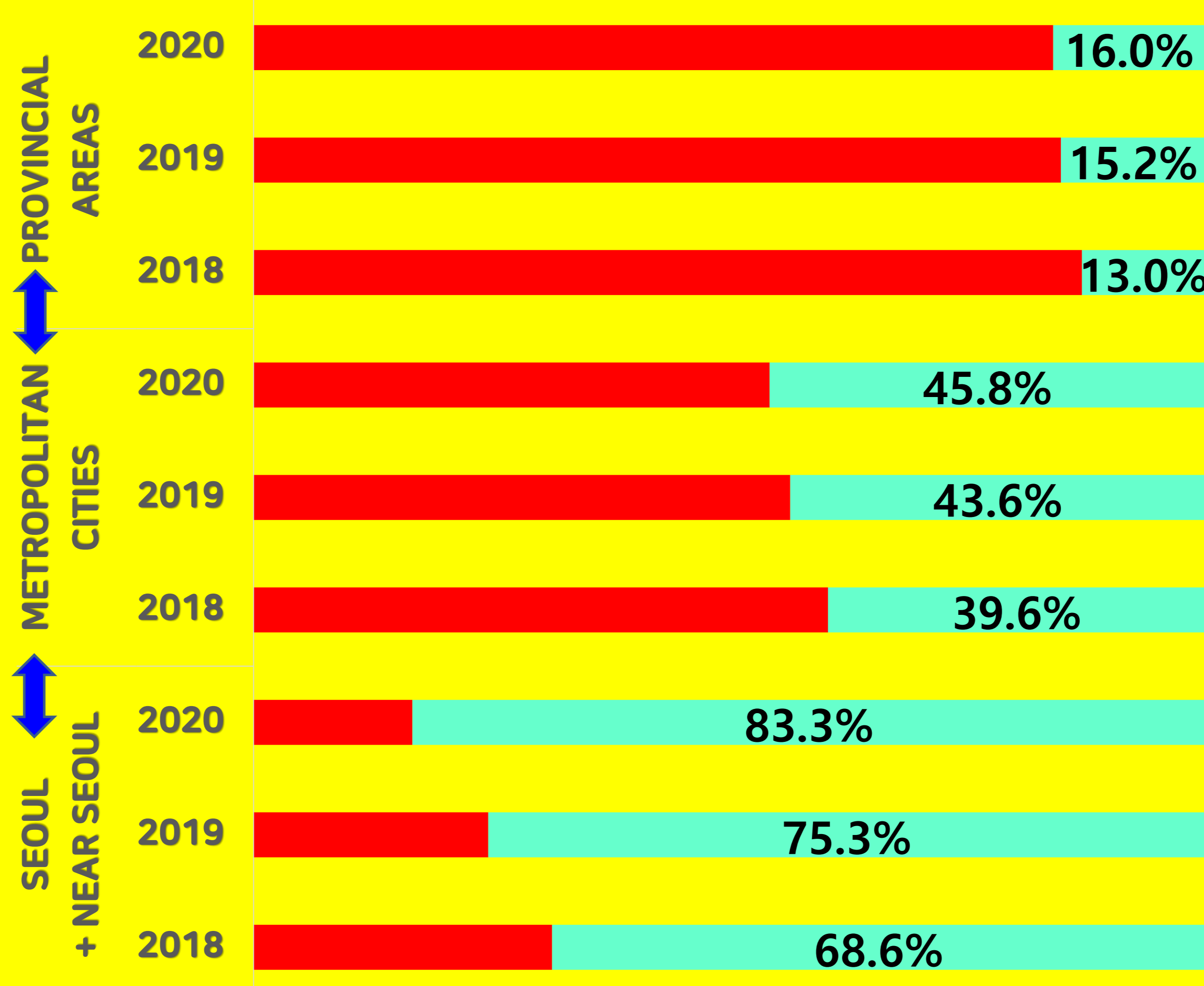
5,240 loans/school

- Collection
- Budget
- Seats
- Number of Loans

## Korean School Librarian Staffing Rate according to Regional Characteristics

Korea has a legal mandate all schools must assign school librarians. The 'School Library Promotion Act' was amended in 2018 to mandatorily assign one teacher librarian or librarian, or practical teacher to each school. We call 'school librarian' by combining all the manpower that must be assigned to the school library such as teacher librarian or librarian, or practical teacher. However, the staffing rate of school librarian in Korean middle and high school libraries is only 45.6%.

Among school librarians, teacher librarians who majored in library & information science at university, completed teaching courses at university or graduate school, and passed the national certified teacher recruitment test and work in school libraries are considered to be the most ideal school librarian in that they can teach information literacy education based on the 'library and information life' curriculum and textbooks. However, the staffing rate of teacher librarian is only about 15%. The workforce arrangement and Library service situation in Korea is not homogeneous.



Library resources are also poor in Provincial, rural areas with a small number of children and adolescents. As for children and youth services in poor environments, it is urgent to come up with measures to expand the service without considering the cost-effectiveness. Proving the service performance of libraries, which are public goods, is inevitably slow, but it is not socially controversial that utmost efforts are needed to protect children and adolescents from the negative influence of social gaps. The manpower stipulated in the 'School Library Promotion Act' should be deployed as soon as possible even in relatively poor areas to bridge the educational gap between regions.



- 1 NO POVERTY
- 4 QUALITY EDUCATION
- 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
- 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Newton told us to look at the wider world on the shoulders of giants. Every Librarian brings the Giants who enable us to see the invisible and reach the unreachable. Every Library with powerful librarian finally further strengthens the power to dream.



<http://bit.ly/lflakbs>



<https://bit.ly/jbnukbs>

I am really curious about the current state of staffing of school libraries in your country. Can you introduce me or point me to a source of information where I can find related material? Or you can answer in the form of a questionnaire.

A survey of the Staffing of school librarians worldwide ▶



<https://bit.ly/schoollibrarian>