



Statistics Korea

Press Release

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2024 Statistics on Returned Farmers & Fishermen, and Migrators to Rural Regions

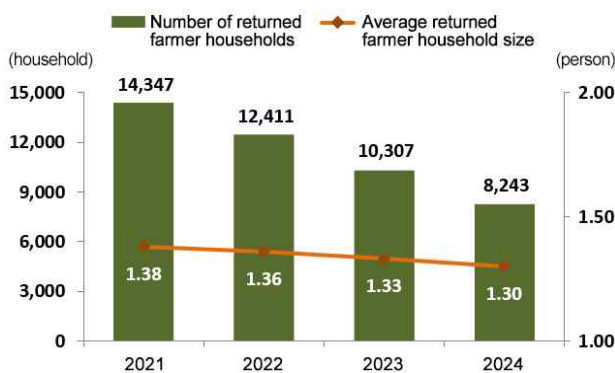
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2024 Statistics on Returned Farmers & Fishermen, and Migrators to Rural Regions

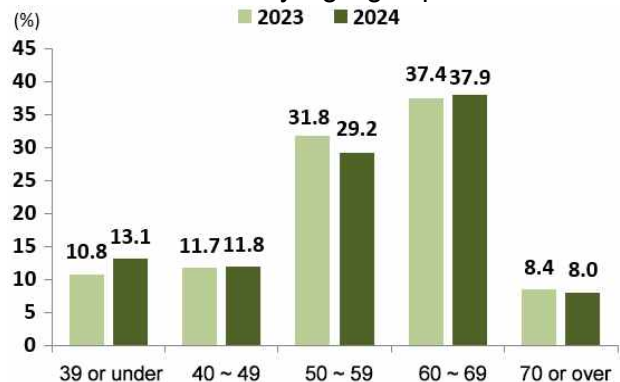
1 Returned farmers

- **(Returned farmer households)** The number of returned farmer households was 8,243 households in 2024, which fell by 2,064 households ($\Delta 20.0\%$) from 10,307 households in 2023.
 - The average returned farmer household size stood at 1.30 persons in 2024, dropping 0.03 person from 1.33 persons in 2023.
 - * Year-on-year percent change in returned farmer households (%): (2021) 14.9 \rightarrow (2022) $\Delta 13.5$ \rightarrow (2023) $\Delta 17.0$ \rightarrow (2024) $\Delta 20.0$
- **(Characteristics of returned farmer household heads)** The average age of returned farmer household heads stood at 55.6 years in 2024. Males accounted for 65.9% of the total returned farmer household heads.
 - As for returned farmer household heads by age group, heads aged '50~59' and '60~69' occupied 29.2% and 37.9%, respectively. These two age groups took up 67.1% of the total returned farmer household heads.
- **(Characteristics of returned farmer households)** 1-person and 2-person households took up 78.7% and 15.3% of the total returned farmer households, respectively.
 - Unmixed returned farmer households, in other words, households consisting of only returned farmer household members, occupied 70.1%. Whereas, mixed returned farmer households, in other words, households consisting of returned farmer household members as well as residents in farming villages, occupied 29.9%.

<Returned farmer households and average household size>



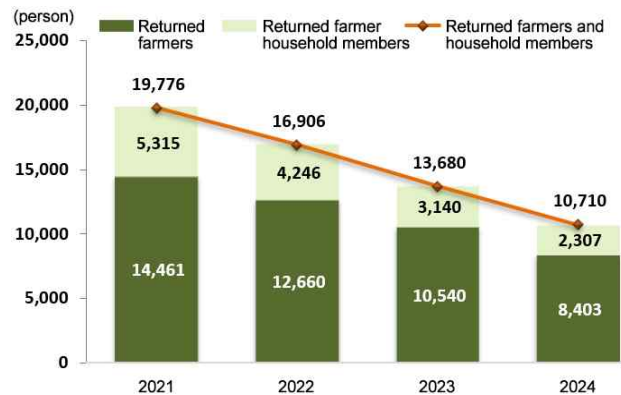
<Composition of returned farmer household heads by age group>



□ **(Size of returned farmer household members)** Returned farmers and their household members recorded 10,710 persons in 2024, decreasing by 2,970 persons ($\triangle 21.7\%$) from 13,680 persons in 2023.

○ Returned farmers totaled 8,403 persons in 2024, falling by 2,137 persons ($\triangle 20.3\%$) from 10,540 persons in 2023. Their household members totaled 2,307 persons in 2024, falling by 833 persons ($\triangle 26.5\%$) from 2023.

<Size of returned farmers and returned farmer household members>



□ **(Returned farmers by type)** Full-time returned farmers amounted to 5,705 persons, which occupied 67.9% of the total returned farmers. In the meantime, part-time returned farmers amounted to 2,698 persons, which occupied 32.1% of the total returned farmers.

2 Returned fishermen

□ **(Returned fisherman households)** The number of returned fisherman households was 555 households in 2024, which declined by 161 households ($\triangle 22.5\%$) from 716 households in 2023.

○ The average returned fisherman household size was 1.28 persons in 2024, rising 0.02 person from 1.26 persons in 2023.

* Year-on-year percent change in returned fisherman households (%): (2021) 26.5 \rightarrow (2022) $\triangle 16.2$ \rightarrow (2023) $\triangle 26.2$ \rightarrow (2024) $\triangle 22.5$

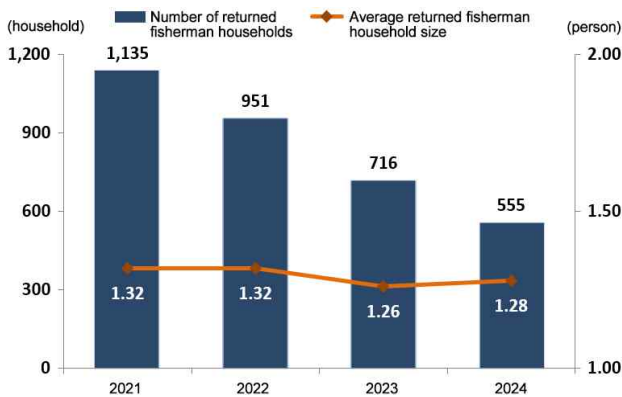
□ **(Characteristics of returned fisherman household heads)** The average age of returned fisherman household heads stood at 53.0 years in 2024. Males accounted for 67.0% of the total returned fisherman household heads.

○ As for returned fisherman household heads by age group, heads aged '50~59' and '60~69' occupied 34.2% and 29.2%, respectively. These two age groups took up 63.4% of the total returned fisherman household heads.

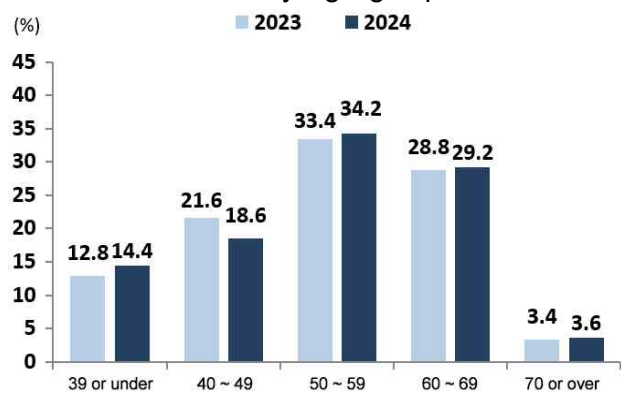
□ **(Characteristics of returned fisherman households)** 1-person and 2-person households took up 79.1% and 16.2% of the total returned fisherman households, respectively.

○ Unmixed returned fisherman households, in other words, households consisting of only returned fisherman household members, occupied 65.2%. Whereas, mixed returned fisherman households, in other words, households consisting of returned fisherman household members as well as residents in fishing villages, occupied 34.8%.

<Returned fisherman households and average returned fisherman household size>



<Composition of returned fisherman household heads by age group>



□ **(Size of returned fisherman household members)** Returned fishermen and their household members totaled 712 persons in 2024, dropping by 192 persons (Δ 21.2%) compared to 904 persons in 2023.

○ Returned fishermen totaled 585 persons in 2024, falling by 165 persons (Δ 22.0%) from 750 persons in 2023. Their household members totaled 127 persons in 2024, falling by 27 persons (Δ 17.5%) from 2023.

<Size of returned fishermen and household members>



□ **(Returned fishermen by type)** Full-time returned fishermen amounted to 389 persons, which occupied 66.5% of the total returned fishermen. In the meantime, part-time returned fishermen amounted to 196 persons, which occupied 33.5% of the total returned fishermen.

3 Migrators to rural regions

□ **The number of migrant households in rural areas was 318,658 households in 2024, which grew by 12,217 households (4.0%) from 306,441 households in 2023.**

○ The average migrant household size was 1.33 persons in 2024, rising by 0.02 person from 1.31 persons in 2023.

* Year-on-year percent change in migrant households in rural areas (%): (2021) 5.3 \rightarrow (2022) Δ 12.3 \rightarrow (2023) Δ 3.9 \rightarrow (2024) 4.0

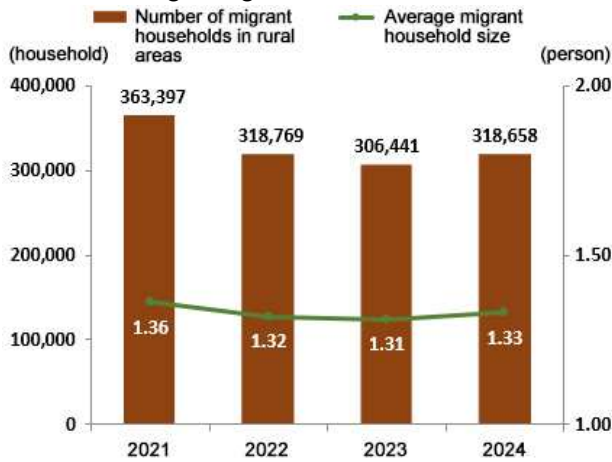
□ **(Characteristics of migrant household heads)** The average age of migrant household heads stood at 45.4 years in 2024. Males accounted for 60.1% of the total migrant household heads.

○ As for migrant household heads by age group, heads aged '30~39', '29 or under' and '50~59' occupied 23.4%, 20.2% and 17.8%, respectively.

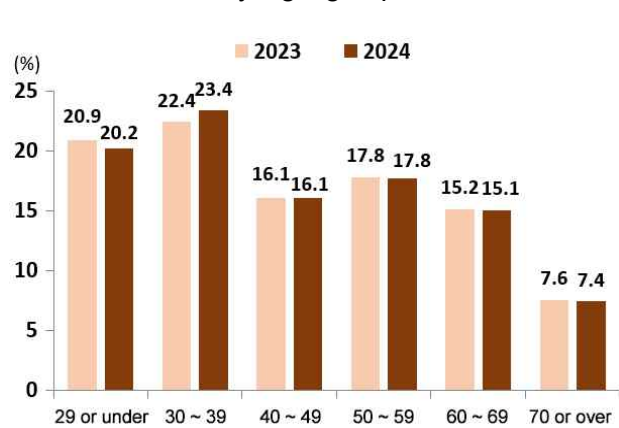
□ **(Characteristics of migrant households)** 1-person and 2-person households occupied 76.9% and 16.0% of the total migrant households in rural areas, respectively.

○ Unmixed migrant households in rural areas, in other words, households consisting of only migrant household members, occupied 68.1%. Whereas, mixed migrant households, in other words, households consisting of migrant household members as well as residents in farming and fishing villages, occupied 31.9%.

<Migrant households in rural areas and average migrant household size>



<Composition of migrant household heads by age group>

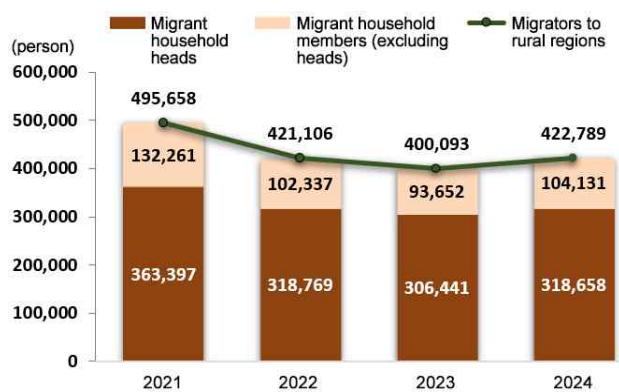


□ **(Size of migrant household members)**

The number of migrators to rural regions recorded 422,789 persons in 2024, increasing by 22,696 persons (5.7%) from 400,093 persons in 2023.

○ The average age of migrators to rural regions stood at 43.1 years in 2024. Migrators to rural regions aged 29 or less occupied the largest share at 24.1%, which was followed by those aged 30~39 (22.8%) and those aged 50~59 (16.8%).

<Migrators to rural regions and migrant household members>



□ **(Residence region before migration)** As for residence region before migration, Gyeonggi recorded the highest figure of 110,280 persons (26.1%), which was followed by Seoul (53,923 persons, 12.8%) and Gyeongbuk (32,478 persons, 7.7%). Migrators from Seoul Capital Area (Seoul, Incheon and Gyeonggi) accounted for 42.7% of the total migrators to rural regions.

4 New farmers and fishermen by years after the migration to rural areas

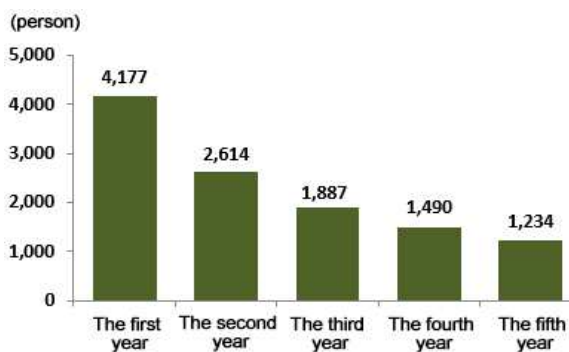
(New farmers) The number of new farmers in recent 5 years after the migration to rural areas was 11,402 persons in 2024.

The number of new farmers in the first year of migration to rural areas was 4,177 persons, which occupied the largest share at 36.6%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of migration to rural areas (2,641 persons, 22.9%) and those in the third year of migration to rural areas (1,887 persons, 16.5%).

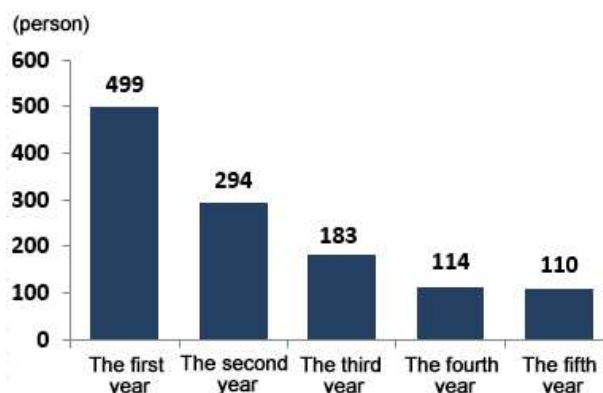
(New fishermen) The number of new fishermen in recent 5 years after the migration to rural areas was 1,200 persons in 2024.

The number of new fishermen in the first year of migration to rural areas was 499 persons, which occupied the largest share at 41.6%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of migration to rural areas (294 persons, 24.5%) and those in the third year of migration to rural areas (183 persons, 15.3%).

<New farmers by years after the migration to rural areas>



<New fishermen by years after the migration to rural areas>

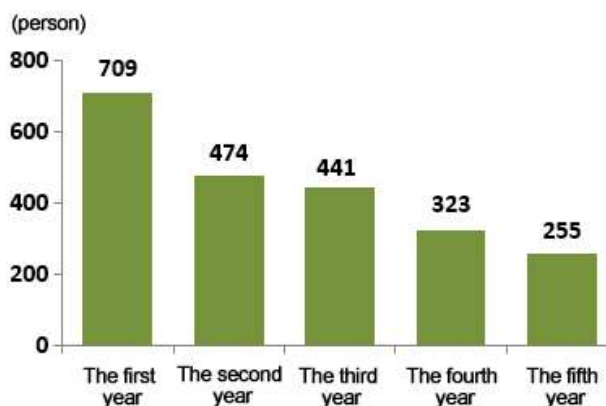


5 Re-migrators to urban areas by years after becoming returned farmers and fishermen, and migrators to rural areas

(Returned farmers) The number of re-migrators to urban areas in recent 5 years after becoming returned farmers was 2,202 persons in 2024.

The number of re-migrators to urban areas in the first year of returned farmers was 709 persons, which occupied the largest share at 32.2%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of returned farmers (474 persons, 21.5%) and those in the third year of returned farmers (441 persons, 20.0%).

<Re-migrators to urban areas by years after becoming returned farmers>



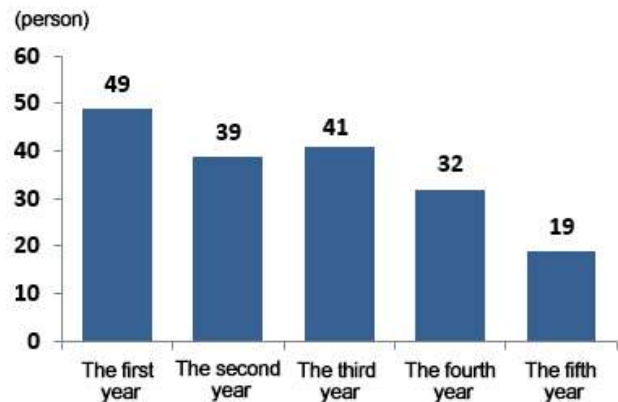
□ **(Returned fishermen)** The number of re-migrators to urban areas in recent 5 years after becoming returned fishermen was 180 persons in 2024.

○ The number of re-migrators to urban areas in the first year of returned fishermen was 49 persons, which occupied the largest share at 27.2%. This figure was followed by those in the third year of returned fishermen (41 persons, 22.8%) and those in the second year of returned fishermen (39 persons, 21.7%).

□ **(Migrators to rural regions)** The number of re-migrators to urban areas in recent 5 years after becoming migrators to rural regions was 190,525 persons in 2024.

○ The number of re-migrators to urban areas in the first year of migrators to rural regions was 63,909 persons, which occupied the largest share at 33.5%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of migrators to rural regions (47,963 persons, 25.2%) and those in the third year of migrators to rural regions (35,483 persons, 18.6%).

<Re-migrators to urban areas by years after becoming returned fishermen>



<Re-migrators to urban areas by years after becoming migrators to rural regions>

