



Ministry of Data
and Statistics

Press Release



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2025 Statistics on Returned Farmers & Fishermen, and Migrators to Rural Regions

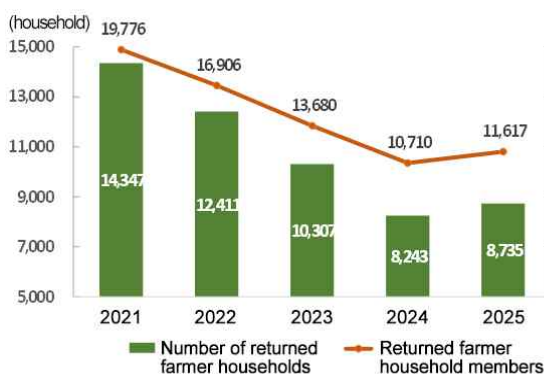
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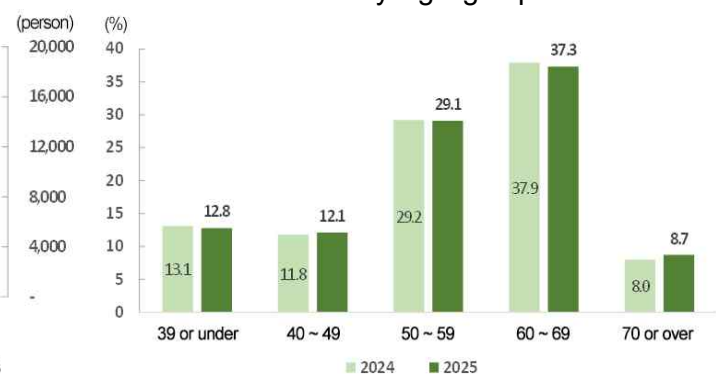
1 Returned farmers

- The number of returned farmer households was 8,735 households in 2025, which rose by 492 households (6.0%) from 8,243 households in 2024.
- Returned farmer household members recorded 11,617 persons, rising by 8.5% from 10,710 persons in 2024.
 - The average returned farmer household size stood at 1.33 persons in 2025, rising by 0.03 persons from 1.30 persons in 2024.
- 1-person and 2-person households took up 77.8% and 15.4% of the total returned farmer households, respectively.
- The average age of returned farmer household heads stood at 55.8 years in 2025. Males accounted for 64.8% of the total returned farmer household heads.
- Regarding returned farmer household heads by age group, those aged '60~69' occupied the largest share at 37.3%, which was followed by those aged '50~59' (29.1%). These two age groups took up 66.4% of the total returned farmer household heads.

<Returned farmer households and household members>



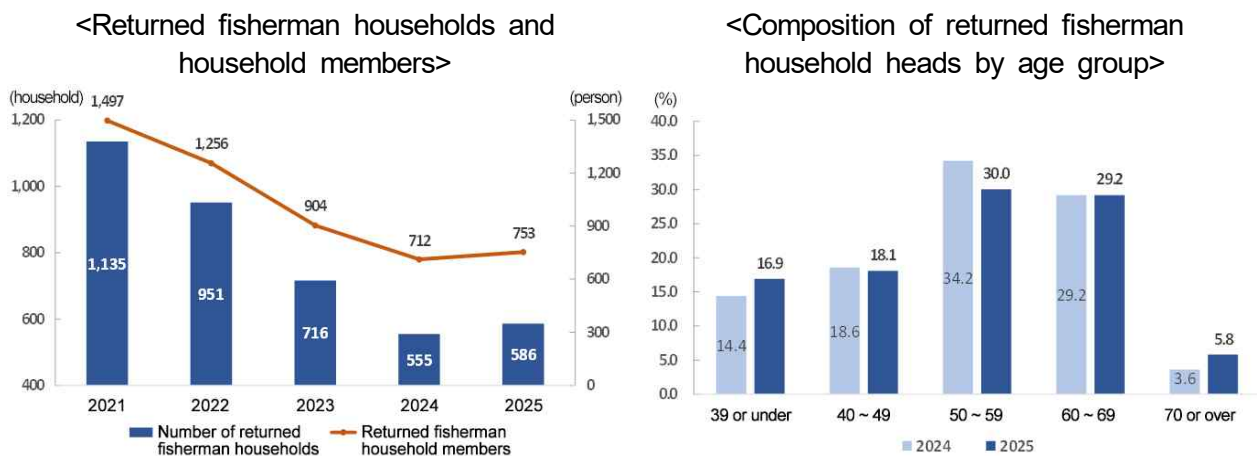
<Composition of returned farmer household heads by age group>



- Full-time returned farmers amounted to 6,156 persons, which occupied 67.4% of the total returned farmers. In the meantime, part-time returned farmers amounted to 2,978 persons, which occupied 32.6% of the total returned farmers.
- Regarding full-time returned farmers by age group, those aged 60~69 occupied the largest share at 41.7%, which was followed by those aged 50~59 (24.8%) and those aged 39 or under (12.9%). Regarding part-time returned farmers by age group, those aged 50~59 occupied the largest share at 39.1%, which was followed by those aged 60~69 (28.7%) and those aged 40~49 (16.5%).

2 Returned fishermen

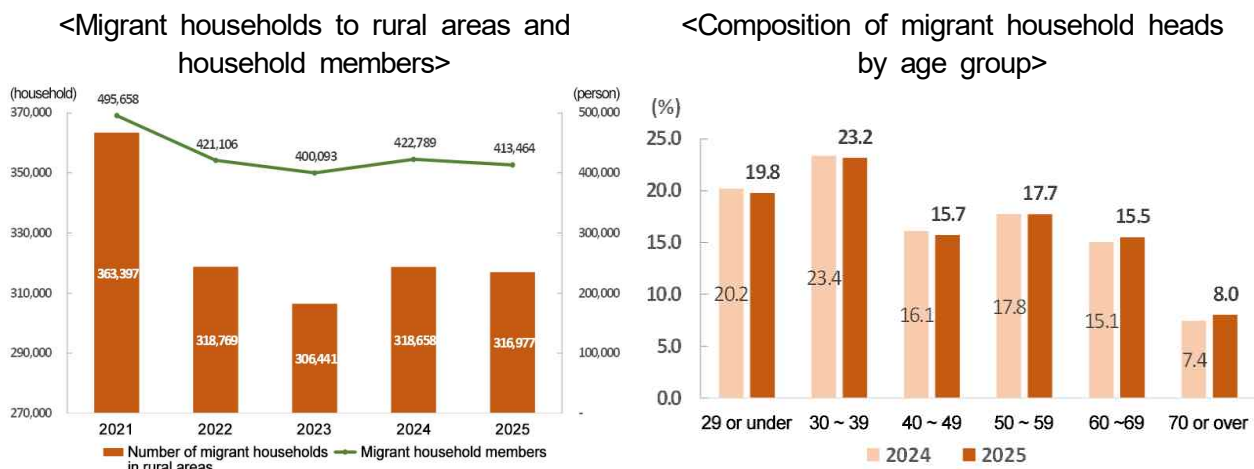
- The number of returned fisherman households was 586 households in 2025, which grew by 31 households (5.6%) from 555 households in 2024.
- Returned fisherman household members recorded 753 persons, rising by 5.8% from 712 persons in 2024.
- The average returned fisherman household size was 1.28 persons in 2025, remaining the same as 2024.
- 1-person and 2-person households took up 79.9% and 13.7% of the total returned fisherman households, respectively.
- The average age of returned fisherman household heads stood at 52.8 years in 2025. Males accounted for 60.2% of the total returned fisherman household heads.
- Returned fisherman household heads aged '50~59' and '60~69' accounted for 30.0% and 29.2%, respectively. These two age groups occupied 59.2% of the total returned fisherman household heads.



- Regarding the fishery type of returned fishermen, marine fishing occupied the largest share at 88.9%, which was followed by marine aquaculture (6.8%) and inland waters fishing (2.4%).
- Full-time returned fishermen amounted to 395 persons, which occupied 64.2% of the total returned fishermen. In the meantime, part-time returned fishermen amounted to 220 persons, which occupied 35.8% of the total returned fishermen.
- Regarding full-time returned fishermen by age group, those aged '50~59' and '60~69' each accounted for 28.4%. Those aged 40~49 accounted for 17.7%. Regarding part-time returned fishermen by age group, those aged 50~59 occupied the largest share at 33.2%, which was followed by those aged 60~69 (27.7%) and those aged 40~49 (20.0%).)

3 Migrants to rural regions

- The number of migrant households to rural areas was 316,977 households in 2025, which fell by 0.5% (-1,681 households) from 318,658 households in 2024. The number of migrant households to mountain areas was 40,350 households in 2025, which fell by 1.3% (-545 households) from 2024.
- Migrant household members recorded 413,464 persons, falling by 2.2% from 422,789 persons in 2024.
 - The average migrant household size was 1.3 persons in 2025, falling by 0.03 persons from 1.33 persons in 2024.
- 1-person and 2-person households occupied 78.0% and 15.6% of the total migrant households to rural areas, respectively.
- The average age of migrant household heads stood at 45.8 years in 2025. Males accounted for 60.0% of the total migrant household heads.
- Migrant household heads aged '30~39', '29 or less' and '50~59' occupied 23.2%, 19.8% and 17.7%, respectively.

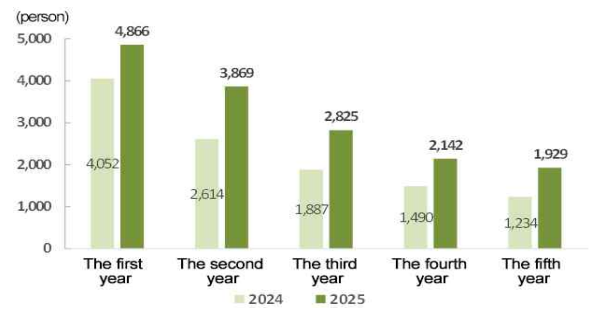


- Regarding the reason for migrating to rural areas, occupation occupied the largest share at 32.1%, which was followed by housing (26.1%) and family (25.4%).
- Regarding the reason for migrating to mountain areas, occupation occupied the largest share at 32.1%, which was followed by family (27.7%) and housing (17.8%).
- Regarding the residence region before migration, Gyeonggi recorded the highest share at 26.6%, which was followed by Seoul (12.8%) and Gyeongbuk (7.2%). Migrants from Seoul Capital Area (Seoul, Incheon and Gyeonggi) accounted for 43.2% of the total migrants to rural regions.

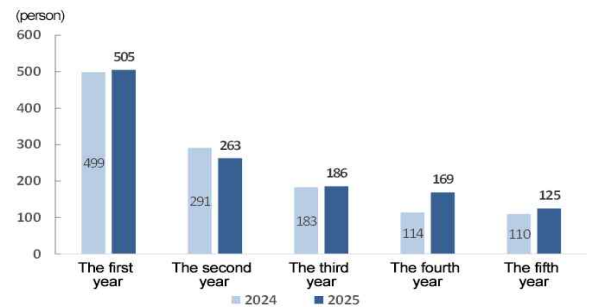
4 New farmers and fishermen by years after the migration to rural areas

- ☐ The number of new farmers after migrating to rural areas in recent 5 years was 15,631 persons in 2025.
- ☐ The number of new farmers in the first year of migration to rural areas was 4,866 persons, which occupied the largest share at 31.1%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of migration to rural areas (24.8%) and those in the third year of migration to rural areas (18.1%).
- ☐ The number of new fishermen after migrating to rural areas in recent 5 years was 1,248 persons in 2025.
- ☐ The number of new fishermen in the first year of migration to rural areas was 505 persons, which occupied the largest share at 40.5%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of migration to rural areas (21.1%) and those in the third year of migration to rural areas (14.9%).

<New farmers by years after migrating to rural areas>



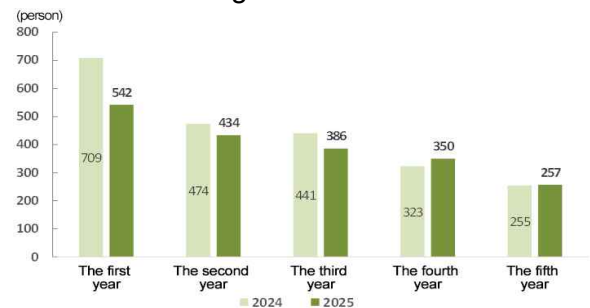
<New fishermen by years after migrating to rural areas>



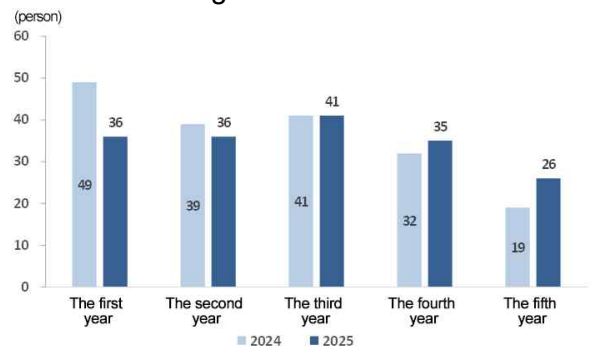
5 Re-migrators to urban areas by years after becoming returned farmers and fishermen, and migrators to rural areas

- ☐ The number of re-migrators to urban areas after becoming returned farmers in recent 5 years was 1,969 persons in 2025.
- ☐ The number of re-migrators to urban areas in the first year of returned farmers was 542 persons, which occupied the largest share at 27.5%. This figure was followed by those in the second year of returned farmers (22.0%) and those in the third year of returned farmers (19.6%).
- ☐ The number of re-migrators to urban areas after becoming returned fishermen in recent 5 years was 174 persons in 2025.
- ☐ The number of re-migrators to urban areas in the third year of returned fishermen was 41 persons, which occupied the largest share at 23.6%. This figure was followed by those in the first year of returned fishermen (20.7%), those in the second year of returned fishermen (20.7%) and those in the fourth year of returned fishermen (20.1%).

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



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



- ☐ The number of re-migrators to urban areas after becoming migrators to rural regions in recent 5 years was 184,144 persons in 2025.
- ☐ The re-migrators to urban areas in the first year of migrators to rural regions stood at 35.1%, which was followed by those in the second year of migrators to rural regions (24.2%) and those in the third year of migrators to rural regions (16.4%).