Ministry of Data and Statistics

Press Release

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Supplementary Results of the Economically Active Population Survey by Employment Type in August 2026

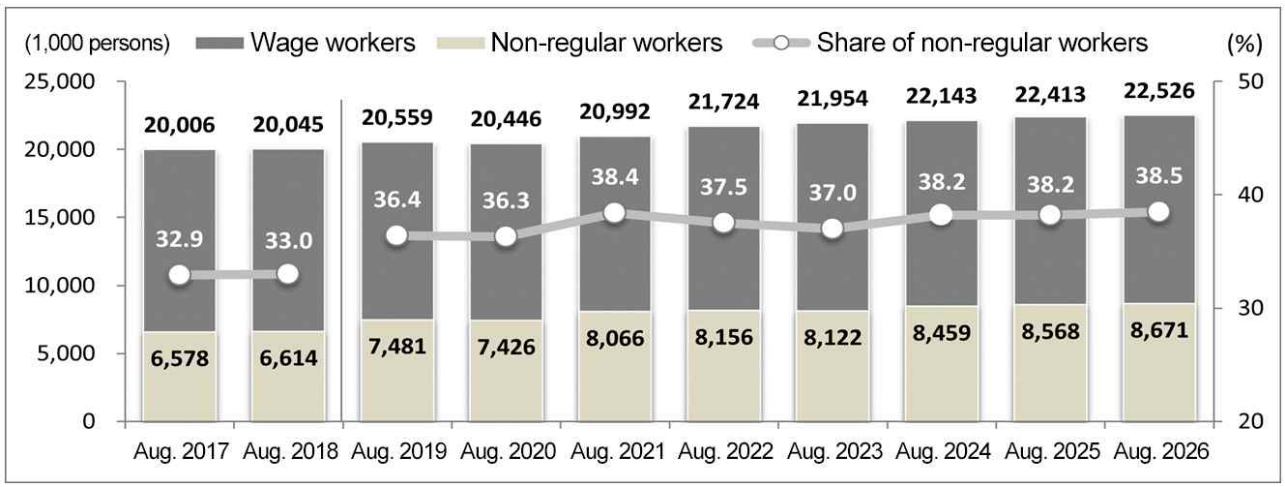
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Supplementary Results of the Economically Active Population Survey by Employment Type in August 2026

□ In August 2026, the non-regular workers totaled 8.671 million persons, which grew by 103 thousand persons from August 2025. The non-regular workers accounted for 38.5% of the total wage workers, up 0.3%p from August 2025.

○ The regular workers totaled 13.855 million persons, which rose by 10 thousand persons year-on-year.

< Size and share of non-regular workers >



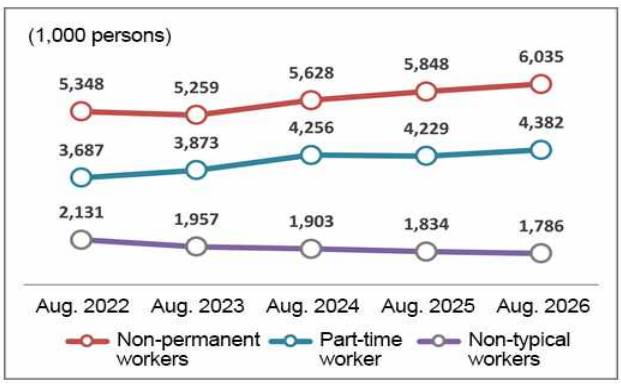
※ In the past, the Economically Active Population Survey partially identified Fixed-term Contract Workers, which has been newly added in August 2019. Therefore, 2019 and later data related to Fixed-term Contract Workers, Non-permanent Workers, Non-regular Workers and Regular Workers should not be compared to 2018 and previous data to confirm an increase or a decrease.

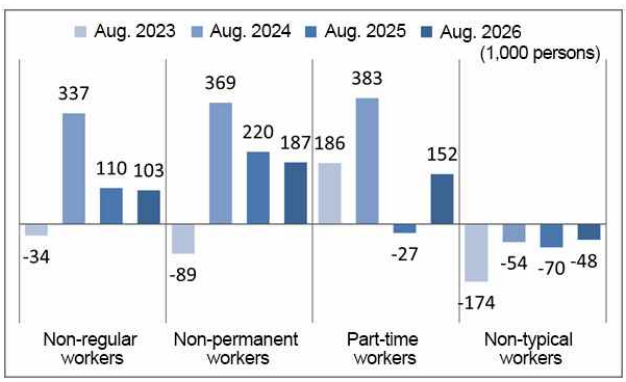
□ Year-on-year changes in non-regular workers by characteristics

○ As for non-regular workers by employment type, the non-permanent workers marked 6.035 million persons, occupying 69.6% of the total non-regular workers. The part-time workers marked 4.382 million persons, occupying 50.5% of the total non-regular workers. The non-typical workers marked 1.786 million persons, occupying 20.6% of the total non-regular workers.

- Compared to August 2025, the non-permanent workers and the part-time workers grew by 187 thousand persons and 152 thousand persons, respectively. Whereas, the non-typical workers dropped by 48 thousand persons.

< Size and change in non-regular workers by employment type >



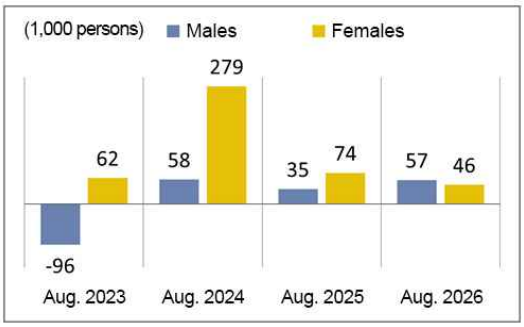


❍ As for non-regular workers by gender, the male non-regular workers totaled 3.708 million persons, which rose by 57 thousand persons year-on-year. Whereas, the female non-regular workers totaled 4.963 million persons, which rose by 46 thousand persons year-on-year.

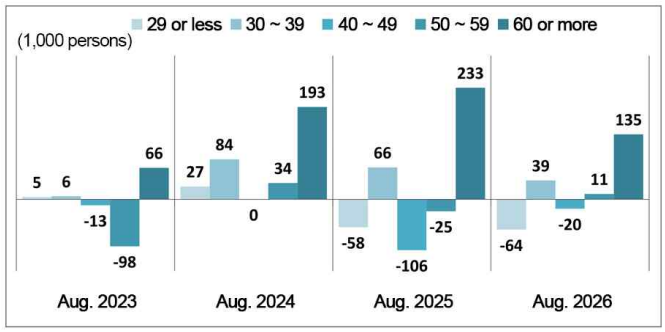
❍ As for non-regular workers by age group, the non-regular workers aged '60 or more' recorded the highest figure of 3.18 million persons (36.7%), which was followed by those aged '50 ~ 59' (1.647 million persons, 19.0%) and those aged '29 or less' (1.482 million persons, 17.1%).

- Compared to August 2025, the non-regular workers aged '60 or more', '30 ~ 39' and '50 ~ 59' grew by 135 thousand persons, 39 thousand persons and 11 thousand persons. In the meantime, the non-regular workers aged '29 or less' and '40 ~ 49' fell by 64 thousand persons and 20 thousand persons, respectively.

< Change in non-regular workers by gender >



< Change in non-regular workers by age group >



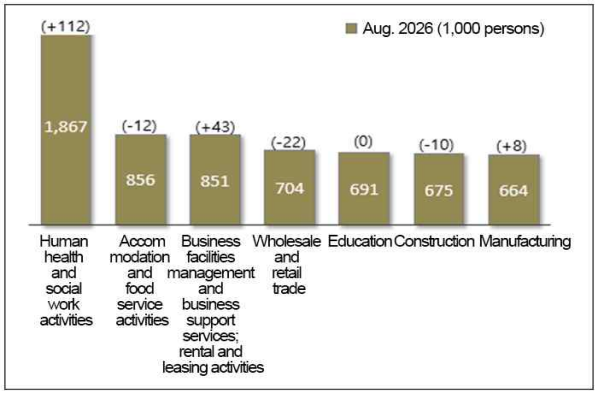
❍ As for non-regular workers by industry, 'Human health and social work activities' recorded the highest figure of 1.867 million persons (21.5%), which was followed by 'Accommodation and food service activities' (856 thousand persons, 9.9%) and 'Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities' (851 thousand persons, 9.8%).

- Compared to August 2025, 'Human health and social work activities' and 'Accommodation and food service activities' grew by 112 thousand persons and 43 thousand persons, respectively. In the meantime, 'Information and communication' and 'Public administration and defence; compulsory social security' fell by 24 thousand persons and 22 thousand persons, respectively.

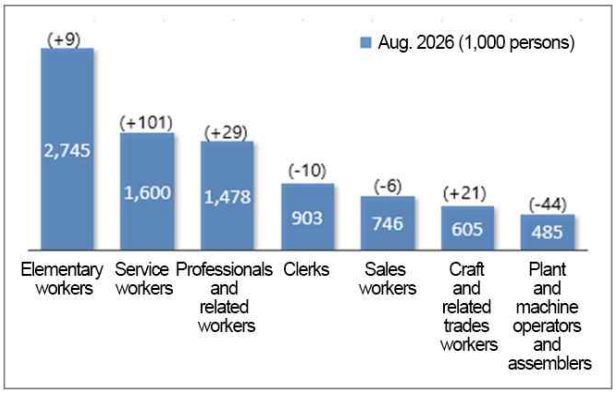
❍ As for non-regular workers by occupation, 'Elementary workers' recorded the highest figure of 2.745 million persons (31.7%), which was followed by 'Service workers' (1.60 million persons, 18.4%) and 'Professionals and related workers' (1.478 million persons, 17.0%).

- Compared to August 2025, 'Service workers' and 'Professionals and related workers' increased by 101 thousand persons and 29 thousand persons, respectively. Whereas, 'Plant and machine operators and assemblers' decreased by 44 thousand persons.

< Size and change in non-regular workers by industry >



< Size and change in non-regular workers by occupation >



□ Year-on-year change in working conditions of non-regular workers

❍ 68.0% of non-regular workers chose their employment type voluntarily, which went up by 0.2%p.

- As for reasons for choosing the employment type voluntarily, 'Being satisfied with working conditions' occupied the largest share at 59.9%, which went up by 2.0%p.

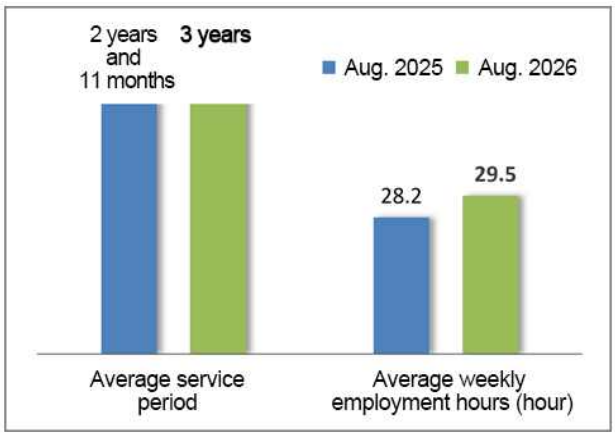
❍ The average service period in the current job recorded 3 years, which rose by 1 month.

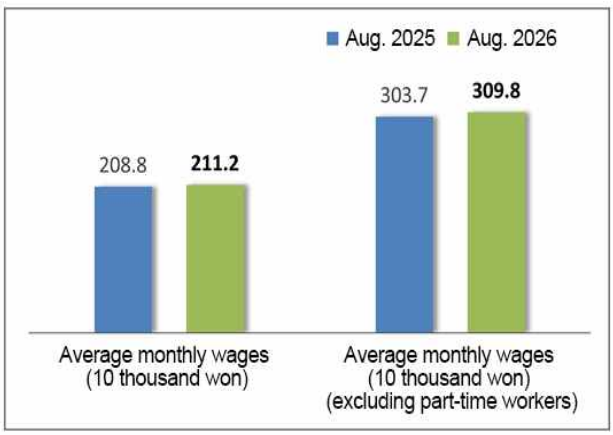
❍ The average employment hours recorded 29.5 hours per week, rising by 1.3 hours.

❍ The average monthly wages and salaries for the past three months (June ~ August) marked 2.112 million won, which increased by 24 thousand won.

- When excluding part-time workers, the average monthly wages and salaries stood at 3.098 million won, increasing by 61 thousand won.

< Working conditions of non-regular workers >



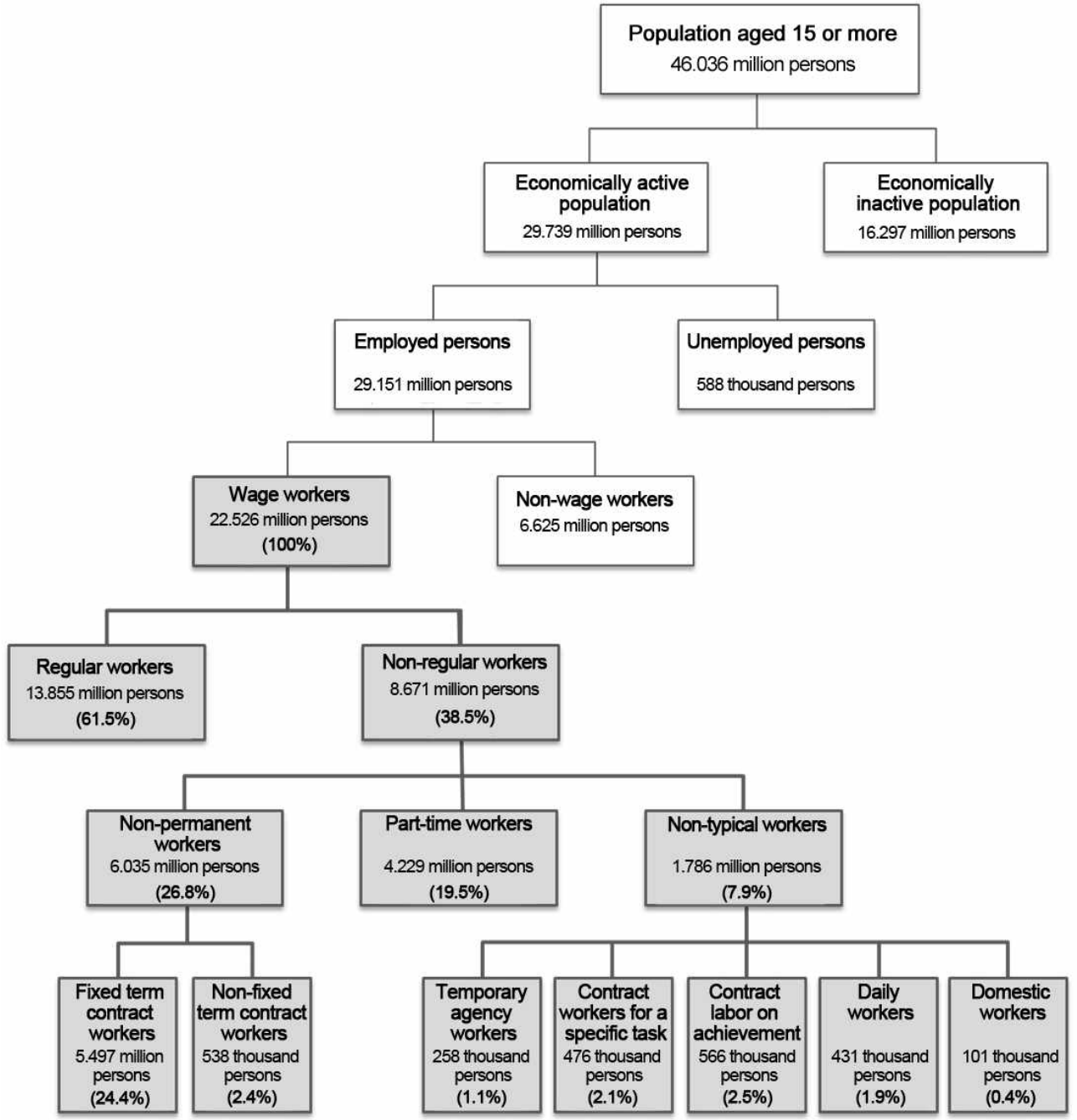


❍ As for social insurance, the share of non-regular workers joining a national pension stood at 36.5%, down 0.6%p year-on-year. The share of non-regular workers joining a health insurance marked 53.0%, down 0.2%p year-on-year. The share of non-regular workers joining an employment insurance stood at 54.0%, up 0.3%p year-on-year.

❍ As for the labor welfare recipient rate of non-regular workers, 'Severance payment' stood at 45.7%, down 0.3%p year-on-year. 'Bonus' marked at 39.2%, down 0.5%p year-on-year. 'Overtime pay' stood at 31.1%, down 0.1%p year-on-year. 'Paid holiday' marked 38.4%, down by 0.6%p.

❍ 6.3% of non-regular workers were eligible to join a labor union, down 0.3%p year-on-year. 53.8% of non-regular workers eligible to join a labor union joined a labor union, up 5.3%p year-on-year.

< Composition of workers by employment type (August 2026) >



※ The total size of non-regular workers is inconsistent with the sum of all employment types of workers due to the overlap of employment types.