



Ministry of Data
and Statistics

Press Release

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Internal Migration in January 2026

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Internal Migration in January 2026

- The number of internal migrants was 568 thousand persons in January 2026, which rose by 11.5% year-on-year.
- In January 2026, the internal migration rate (the number of migrants per 100 population) stood at 13.1%, which went up by 1.4%p year-on-year.

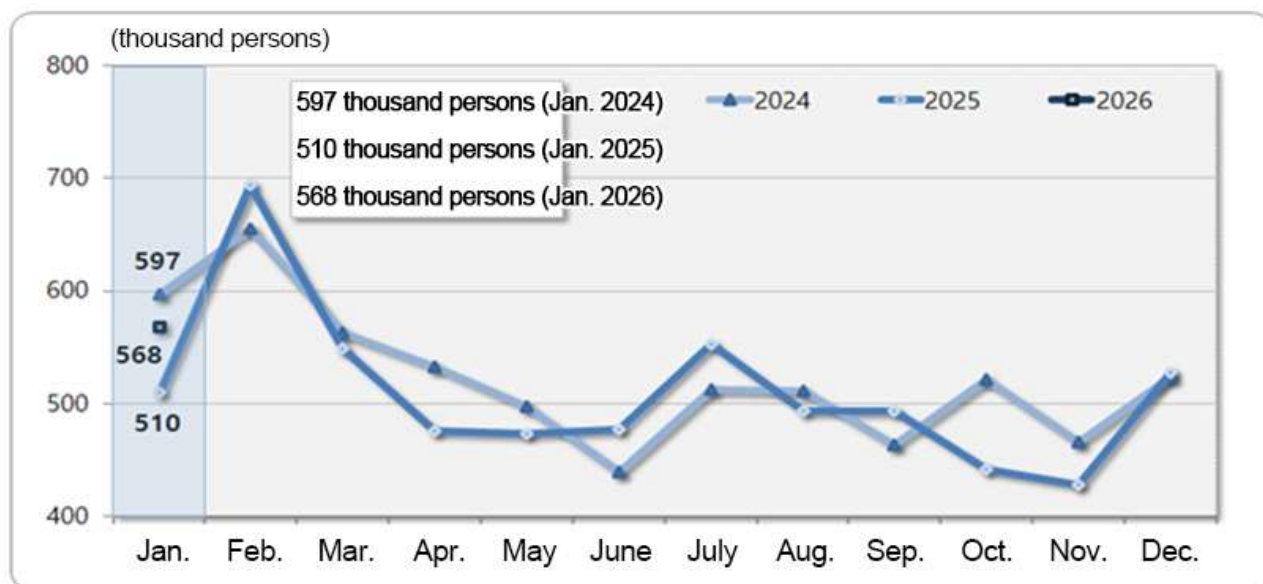
< Internal migration in January >

	Internal migration in January			Year-on-year*	
	2024	2025	2026	2025	2026
Number of internal migrants (thousand persons, %)	597	510	568	-14.6	11.5
Migration rate** (% , %p)	13.8	11.8	13.1	-2.0	1.4

* Percent changes (%) for the number of migrants and changes (%p) for the migration rate

** Monthly migration rates are converted by using annualized migration rates.

< Internal migration for the past 3 years >



1. Internal migration

- The number of internal migrants was 568 thousand persons in January 2026, rising by 11.5% (59 thousand persons) year-on-year.
- The intra-province migrants and the inter-province migrants accounted for 62.7% and 37.3% of the total internal migrants in January 2026, respectively.
- Compared to January 2025, the intra-province migrants and the inter-province migrants grew by 11.5% and 11.6%, respectively.

- The internal migration rate (the number of migrants per 100 population) stood at 13.1%, up 1.4%p year-on-year.

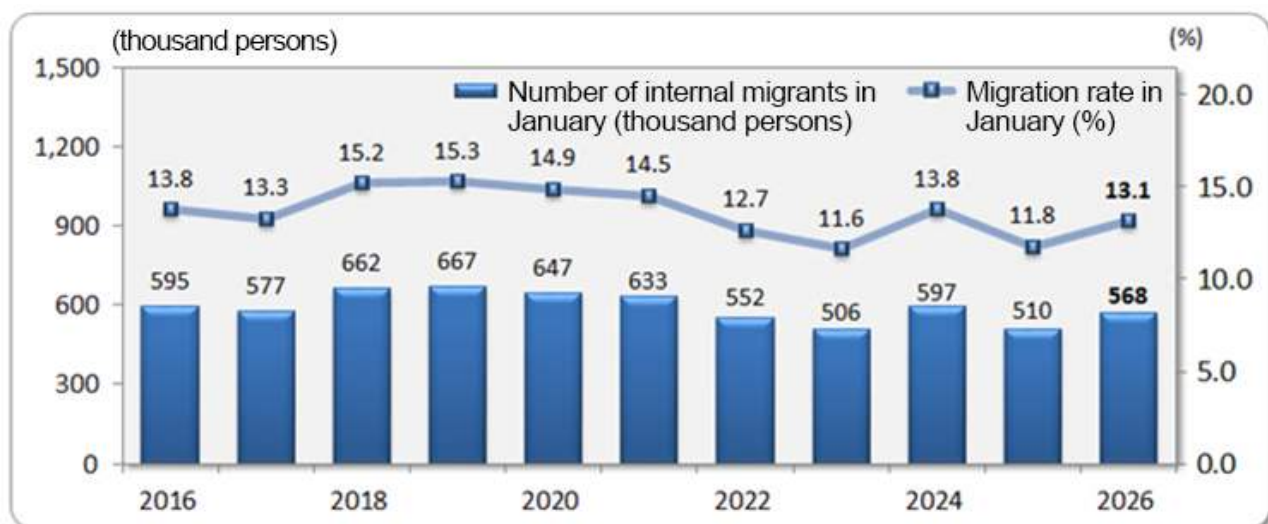
[Table 1] Trends in internal migration

		2024	2025	2025			2026		
				Jan.	Compo- sition	Dec.	Jan.	Compo- sition	Year-on- year*
Number of internal migrants (thousand persons, %)	Total	6,283	6,118	510	100.0	528	568	100.0	11.5
	Intra-province migration	4,109	3,932	320	62.7	341	356	62.7	11.5
	Inter-province migration	2,175	2,186	190	37.3	187	212	37.3	11.6
Migration rate** (%, %p)	Total	12.3	12.0	11.8	-	12.2	13.1	-	1.4
	Intra-province migration	8.1	7.7	7.4	-	7.9	8.2	-	0.9
	Inter-province migration	4.3	4.3	4.4	-	4.3	4.9	-	0.5

* Percent changes (%) for the number of migrants and changes (%p) for the migration rate

** Monthly migration rates are converted by using annualized migration rates.

[Figure 1] Internal migration in January



2. Internal migration for metropolitan cities and provinces

- Regarding the net migration of metropolitan cities and provinces, 4 regions recorded a plus net migration.: Gyeonggi (5,353 persons), Incheon (1,283 persons), Chungbuk (643 persons), etc. On the other hand, 13 regions recorded a minus net migration.: Gyeongbuk (-1,533 persons), Gwangju (-1,139 persons), Busan (-844 persons) and so on.
- Incheon, Chungbuk, and Gyeonggi recorded a plus net migration rate of 0.5%, 0.5% and 0.5%, respectively. On the other hand, Sejong, Jeju, and Gwangju recorded a minus net migration rate of -1.9%, -1.2% and -1.0%, respectively.

[Table 2] Number of migrants and migration rates for provinces

	Number of migrants (person)				Migration rate* (%)			
	In-migration	Out-migration	Net migration	Jan. 2025	In-migration	Out-migration	Net migration	Jan. 2025
The nation	568,310	568,310	0	0	13.1	13.1	0.0	0.0
Seoul	120,719	120,824	-105	-796	15.4	15.4	-0.0	-0.1
Busan	35,933	36,777	-844	-1,378	13.1	13.4	-0.3	-0.5
Daegu	26,338	26,589	-251	220	13.2	13.4	-0.1	0.1
Incheon	30,085	28,802	1,283	2,834	11.7	11.2	0.5	1.1
Gwangju	14,720	15,859	-1,139	-994	12.5	13.5	-1.0	-0.8
Daejeon	18,958	19,064	-106	-15	15.5	15.6	-0.1	-0.0
Ulsan	11,484	12,096	-612	-233	12.4	13.1	-0.7	-0.3
Sejong	5,523	6,156	-633	128	16.6	18.5	-1.9	0.4
Gyeonggi	151,964	146,611	5,353	4,588	13.1	12.6	0.5	0.4
Gangwon	16,457	16,677	-220	-1,167	12.9	13.1	-0.2	-0.9
Chungbuk	17,541	16,898	643	87	13.0	12.5	0.5	0.1
Chungnam	22,727	22,635	92	-24	12.6	12.5	0.1	-0.0
Jeonbuk	18,380	18,969	-589	-383	12.6	13.0	-0.4	-0.3
Jeonnam	16,233	16,312	-79	-161	10.8	10.8	-0.1	-0.1
Gyeongbuk	24,634	26,167	-1,533	-1,378	11.6	12.3	-0.7	-0.6
Gyeongnam	29,165	29,770	-605	-590	10.7	11.0	-0.2	-0.2
Jeju	7,449	8,104	-655	-738	13.3	14.4	-1.2	-1.3

* Monthly migration rates are converted by using annualized migration rates.

[Figure 2] Net migration rate by province

