Ministry of Data and Statistics

Press Release

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Internal Migration in September 2026

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Internal Migration in September 2026

☐ **The number of internal migrants was 444 thousand persons in September 2026, which fell by 10.1% year-on-year.**

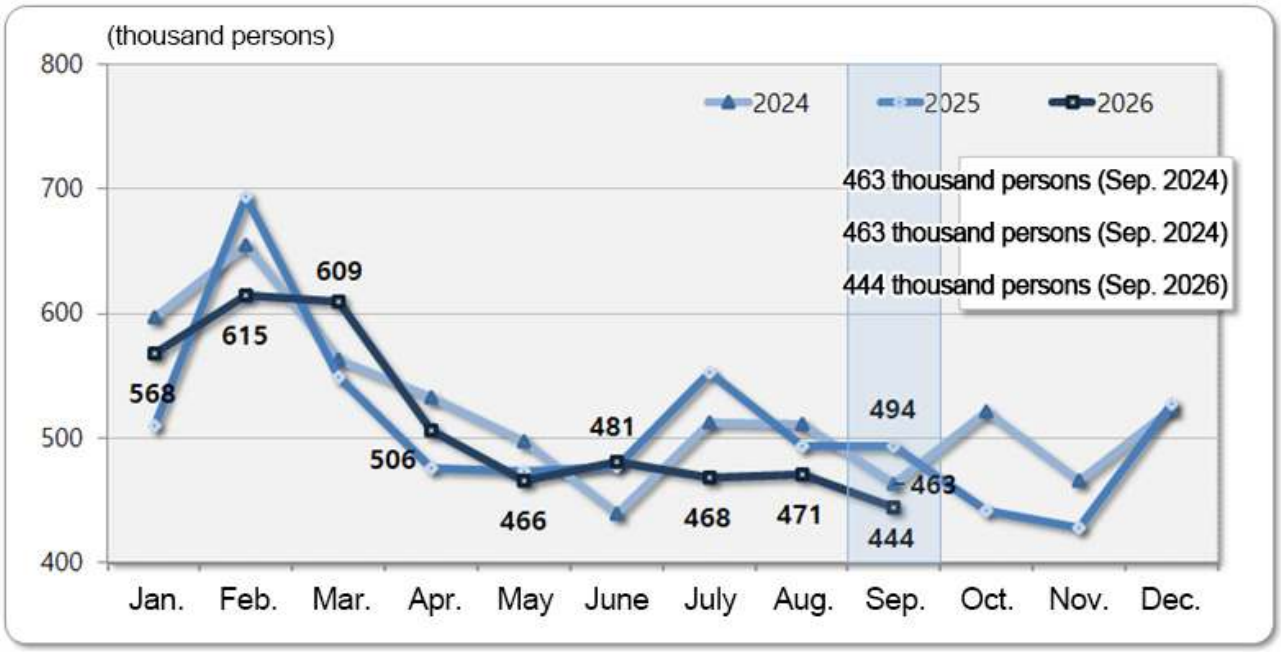
☐ **In September 2026, the internal migration rate (the number of migrants per 100 population) stood at 10.6%, which went down by 1.2%p year-on-year.**

< Internal migration in September >

	Internal migration in September			Year-on-year*	
	2024	2025	2026	2025	2026
Number of internal migrants (thousand persons, %)	463	494	444	6.5	-10.1
Migration rate** (%, %p)	11.1	11.8	10.6	0.7	-1.2

* 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 444 thousand persons in September 2026, dropping by 10.1% (-50 thousand persons) year-on-year.

☐ The intra-province migrants and the inter-province migrants accounted for 66.5% and 33.5% of the total internal migrants in September 2026, respectively.

❍ Compared to September 2025, the intra-province migrants and the inter-province migrants declined by 8.9% and 12.4%, respectively.

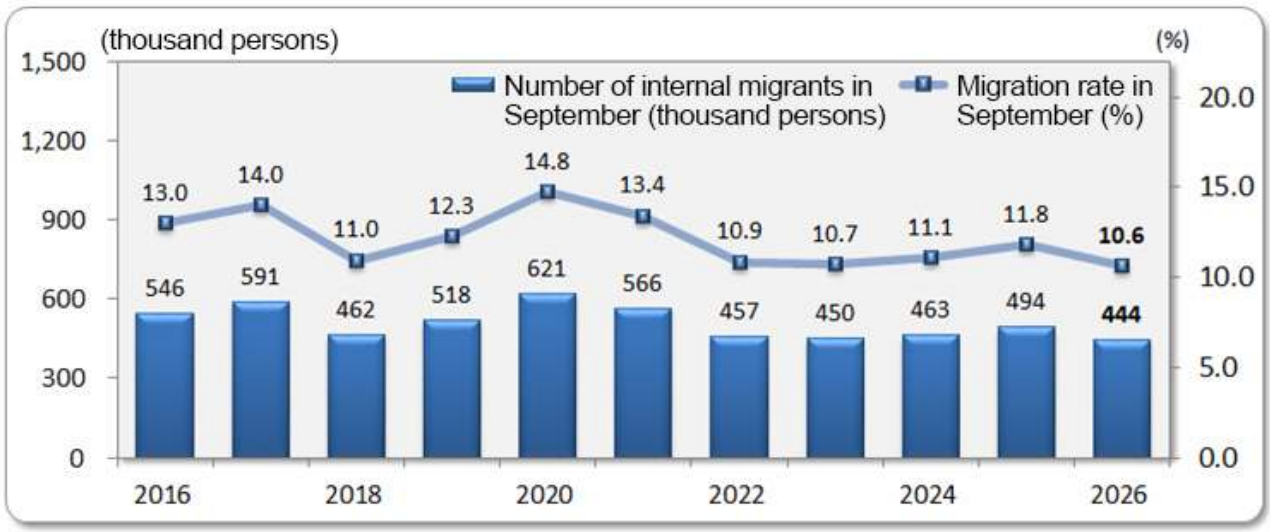
□ The internal migration rate (the number of migrants per 100 population) stood at 10.6%, down 1.2%p year-on-year.

[Table 1] Trends in internal migration

		2024	2025	2025		2026			
				Sep.	Compo-sition	Aug.	Sep.	Compo-sition	Year-on-year*
Number of internal migrants (thousand persons, %)	Total	6,283	6,118	494	100.0	471	444	100.0	-10.1
	Intra-province migration	4,109	3,932	324	65.6	305	295	66.5	-8.9
	Inter-province migration	2,175	2,186	170	34.4	166	149	33.5	-12.4
Migration rate** (%, %p)	Total	12.3	12.0	11.8	-	10.9	10.6	-	-1.2
	Intra-province migration	8.1	7.7	7.7	-	7.1	7.1	-	-0.7
	Inter-province migration	4.3	4.3	4.1	-	3.8	3.6	-	-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 September



2. Internal migration for metropolitan cities and provinces

□ Regarding the net migration of metropolitan cities and provinces, 6 regions recorded a plus net migration.: Incheon (1,956 persons), Chungnam (1,032 persons), Chungbuk (830 persons), etc. On the other hand, 10 regions recorded a minus net migration.: Seoul (-2,359 persons), Jeonnam-Gwangju (-531 persons), Busan (-401 persons) and so on.

□ Incheon, Chungbuk and Chungnam recorded a plus net migration rate of 0.8%, 0.6% and 0.6%, respectively. On the other hand, Sejong, Ulsan and Jeju recorded a minus net migration rate of -0.9%, -0.4% and -0.4%, respectively.

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

	Number of migrants (person)				Migration rate* (%)			
	In-migration	Out-migration	Net migration	Sep. 2025	In-migration	Out-migration	Net migration	Sep. 2025
The nation	443,766	443,766	0	0	10.6	10.6	0.0	0.0
Seoul	99,548	101,907	-2,359	-3,382	13.1	13.5	-0.3	-0.4
Jeonnam- Gwangju	23,423	23,954	-531	-770	9.1	9.3	-0.2	-0.3
Gwangju	11,693	12,187	-494	-526	10.3	10.7	-0.4	-0.5
Jeonnam	11,730	11,767	-37	-244	8.1	8.1	-0.0	-0.2
Busan	24,205	24,606	-401	-731	9.2	9.3	-0.2	-0.3
Daegu	17,858	18,028	-170	65	9.3	9.4	-0.1	0.0
Incheon	28,265	26,309	1,956	3,422	11.3	10.5	0.8	1.4
Daejeon	13,914	13,664	250	649	11.8	11.6	0.2	0.5
Ulsan	7,775	8,169	-394	-359	8.7	9.2	-0.4	-0.4
Sejong	3,236	3,511	-275	127	10.1	11.0	-0.9	0.4
Gyeonggi	124,612	124,142	470	422	11.1	11.0	0.0	0.0
Gangwon	13,671	13,198	473	211	11.1	10.7	0.4	0.2
Chungbuk	14,108	13,278	830	861	10.7	10.1	0.6	0.7
Chungnam	17,686	16,654	1,032	823	10.1	9.5	0.6	0.5
Jeonbuk	13,021	13,105	-84	108	9.3	9.3	-0.1	0.1
Gyeongbuk	16,181	16,357	-176	-620	7.9	8.0	-0.1	-0.3
Gyeongnam	20,898	21,297	-399	-576	8.0	8.1	-0.2	-0.2
Jeju	5,365	5,587	-222	-250	9.9	10.3	-0.4	-0.5

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

[Figure 2] Net migration rate by province

