

2015 Foreigner Labour Force Survey

■ Major results of the 2015 foreigner labour force survey

□ (Economically active population for foreigners)

As of May 2015, the number of foreigners aged 15 and more who resided in Korea was 1,373 thousand persons. The employed foreigners amounted to 938 thousand persons. The unemployed foreigners amounted to 48 thousand persons. The economically inactive foreigners amounted to 387 thousand persons.

- The labour force participation rate for foreigners stood at 71.8 percent. The employment-population ratio for foreigners stood at 68.3 percent. The unemployment rate of foreigners stood at 4.9 percent.

< Economically active population for foreigners >

(Unit: thousand persons, %)

Classification	Population aged 15 and more	Economically active population			Economically inactive population	Labour force participation rate (%)	Employment -population ratio (%)	Unemployment rate (%)
		Employed persons	Unemployed persons					
Economically Active Population Survey ¹⁾	42,975	27,211	26,189	1,022	15,764	63.3	60.9	3.8
Males	21,035	15,678	15,099	579	5,357	74.5	71.8	3.7
(Share)	(48.9)	(57.6)	(57.7)	(56.7)	(34.0)			
Females	21,940	11,533	11,091	443	10,406	52.6	50.6	3.8
(Share)	(51.1)	(42.4)	(42.3)	(43.3)	(66.0)			
Foreigner Labour Force Survey	1,373	986	938	48	387	71.8	68.3	4.9
Males	767	653	626	26	114	85.1	81.7	4.0
(Share)	(55.8)	(66.2)	(66.8)	(54.8)	(29.5)			
Females	606	333	312	22	273	55.0	51.4	6.5
(Share)	(44.2)	(33.8)	(33.2)	(45.2)	(70.5)			

1) Source: Economically Active Population Survey in May 2015, which Statistics Korea released on June 10, 2015

□ (Employed foreigners)

Out of the total employed foreigners (938 thousand persons), the employed male foreigners amounted to 626 thousand persons. The employment-population ratio for male foreigners recorded 81.7 percent. The employed female foreigners amounted to 312 thousand persons. The employment-population ratio for female foreigners recorded 51.4 percent.

- (Employed foreigners by status of sojourn)

As for employed foreigners by status of sojourn, 'Non-professional employment' totaled 264 thousand persons. This figure was followed by 'Working visit' (234 thousand persons), 'Overseas Koreans' (180 thousand persons), 'Permanent residence' (83 thousand persons) and 'Marriage immigrants' (61 thousand persons).

○ (Employed foreigners by nationality)

As for employed foreigners by nationality, Korean Chinese totaled 437 thousand persons. This figure was followed by Vietnamese (76 thousand persons), Chinese (56 thousand persons, excluding Korean Chinese) and Americans & Canadians (52 thousand persons).

○ (Employed foreigners by age group)

The employed foreigners aged 30 to 39 amounted to 265 thousand persons. This figure was followed by those aged 20 to 29 (255 thousand persons), those aged 40 to 49 (187 thousand persons) and those aged 50 to 59 (164 thousand persons).

○ (Employed foreigners by industry)

The employed foreigners in 'Manufacturing' marked 434 thousand persons. This figure was followed by 'Business, Personal and Public Services' (180 thousand persons), 'Wholesale & Retail Trade and Hotels and Restaurants' (179 thousand persons) and 'Construction' (86 thousand persons).

○ (Employed foreigners by occupation)

As for employed foreigners by occupation, 'Craft workers and machine operating & assembling workers' amounted to 376 thousand persons. This figure was followed by 'Elementary workers' (298 thousand persons), 'Service workers and sales workers' (106 thousand persons) and 'Managers, and professionals and related workers' (103 thousand persons).

□ **(Unemployed foreigners)**

Out of the total unemployed foreigners (48 thousand persons), male and female foreigners amounted to 26 thousand persons and 22 thousand persons, respectively. The unemployment rate of male and female foreigners recorded 4.0 percent and 6.5 percent, respectively.

□ **(Economically inactive population)**

Out of the total economically inactive population (387 thousand persons), male foreigners amounted to 114 thousand persons, which occupied 29.5 percent of the total economically inactive population. Female foreigners amounted to 273 thousand persons, which occupied 70.5 percent of the total economically inactive population.

○ (Economically inactive population by reason of inactivity)

As for reasons for economic inactivities, 'Child care and home duties' amounted to 152 thousand persons, which occupied 39.2 percent of the total economically inactive population. 'Rested' amounted to 112 thousand persons, which occupied 29.0 percent of the total economically inactive population. 'Attending a regular school' amounted to 86 thousand persons, which occupied 22.1 percent of the total economically inactive population.

■ **Major survey results compared to 2014**

□ **(Economically active population for foreigners)**

Compared to 2014, the number of foreigners aged 15 and more who resided in Korea grew by 118 thousand persons (9.4%). The employed foreigners rose by 86 thousand persons (10.1%). The unemployed foreigners grew by 4 thousand persons (9.4%). The economically inactive population rose by 28 thousand persons (7.7%).

- The employment-population ratio went up by 0.4%p from 67.9 percent in 2014 to 68.3 percent in 2015. The unemployment rate recorded 4.9 percent, which remained the same as the previous year.

(Employed foreigners)

Compared to 2014, the number of employed male foreigners grew by 58 thousand persons (10.3%). The number of employed female foreigners grew by 27 thousand persons (9.6%).

- (Employed foreigners by status of sojourn)

Compared to 2014, 'Overseas Koreans' and 'Working visit' rose by 31 thousand persons and 23 thousand persons, respectively. 'Non-professional employment' and 'Permanent residence' rose by 17 thousand persons and 11 thousand persons, respectively. In the meantime, 'Professionals' declined by 1 thousand persons.

- (Employed foreigners by nationality)

Compared to 2014, Korean Chinese, North Americans, Indonesian people and Vietnamese rose by 51 thousand persons, 6 thousand persons, 4 thousand persons and 3 thousand persons, respectively.

- (Employed foreigners by age group)

Compared to 2014, the employed foreigners aged 50 to 59 grew by 30 thousand persons. The employed foreigners aged 60 and more grew by 22 thousand persons. The employed foreigners aged 40 to 49 grew by 16 thousand persons.

- (Employed foreigners by industry)

Compared to 2014, the employed foreigners in 'Business, Personal and Public Services', 'Wholesale & Retail Trade and Hotels and Restaurants' and 'Mining and Manufacturing' grew by 38 thousand persons, 25 thousand persons and 18 thousand persons, respectively. The employed foreigners in 'Construction' remained the same as the previous year.

- (Employed foreigners by occupation)

Compared to 2014, 'Elementary workers' and 'Craft workers and machine operating & assembling workers' rose by 49 thousand persons and 18 thousand persons, respectively.

(Unemployed foreigners)

Compared to 2014, the unemployed male and female foreigners grew by 2 thousand persons, respectively.

- (Unemployment rate)

Compared to 2014, the unemployment rate of male foreigners went down by 0.1%p. In the meantime, the unemployment rate of female foreigners remained the same as the previous year.

(Economically inactive population)

Compared to 2014, the economically inactive male foreigners rose by 5 thousand persons (4.7%). The economically inactive female foreigners rose by 23 thousand persons (9.1%).

- (Economically inactive population by reason of inactivity)

Compared to 2014, 'Rested' and 'Child care and home duties' rose by 20 thousand persons (21.3%) and 10 thousand persons (7.0%), respectively.