

# 2017 Survey on Immigrants' Living Conditions and Labour Force

## 1. Economically active population

### (Employed immigrants)

As of May 2017, the number of employed foreigners (based on de jure population) was 834 thousand persons. Their employment-population ratio stood at 68.1 percent. For the past 5 years, the number of employed naturalized Koreans was 34 thousand persons. Their employment-population ratio stood at 64.1 percent.

\* According to the Economically Active Population Survey in May 2017, the employment-population of Koreans stood at 61.3 percent.

- Compared to 2016, the number of employed foreigners dropped by 1 thousand (-1.0%). Their employment-population ratio fell by 1.5%p.
- As for employed immigrants by nationality, Korean-Chinese occupied the largest share.
  - Among employed foreigners, Korean-Chinese accounted for 43.7 percent, recording 365 thousand persons. Among employed naturalized Koreans, Korean-Chinese accounted for 37.6 percent, recording 13 thousand persons.
- As for employed immigrants by industry, 'Mining and Manufacturing' showed the highest share. (Foreigners: 45.9%, Naturalized Koreans: 38.5%)
- As for employed immigrants by status of workers, regular workers occupied the highest share. (Foreigners: 59.1%, Naturalized Koreans: 47.0%)
- As for employed immigrants by job skill level, 'Simple and repetitive work' occupied the largest share. (Foreigners: 51.0%, Naturalized Koreans: 51.9%)

### (Wage and salary of foreigners)

The share of wage and salary immigrant workers earning '2 million won or more' rose by 10.8%p from 46.5 percent in 2016 to 57.3 percent in 2017. The share of wage and salary immigrant workers earning 'less than 2 million won' fell by 10.8%p from 53.5 percent in 2016 to 42.7 percent in 2017.

### (Satisfaction level)

As for wage and salary immigrant workers, 60.9 percent of foreigners were satisfied with their work. 54.2 percent of naturalized Koreans were satisfied with their work.

- As for wage and salary immigrant workers, 58.9 percent of foreigners were satisfied with cleanliness and safety level at work. 56.7 percent of naturalized Koreans were satisfied with cleanliness and safety level at work. 64.7 percent of foreigners were satisfied with relationship with Korean colleagues at work. 65.3 percent of naturalized Koreans were satisfied with relationship with Korean colleagues at work. 63.8 percent of foreigners were satisfied with Korean supervisors at work. 60.9 percent of naturalized Koreans were satisfied with Korean supervisors at work.

## 2. Immigrants' living conditions

### (Nationality)

As of May 2017, Korean-Chinese occupied 40.0 percent of de jure foreigners. Korean-Chinese occupied 38.7 percent of de jure naturalized Koreans.

<Share of de jure immigrants by nationality >

	Population aged 15 or more	Asia					Non-Asian
		Asia	Korean-Chinese	China	Vietnam	Other countries in Asia	
Foreigners	100.0%	91.8%	40.0%	11.5%	10.9%	29.3%	8.2%
Naturalized Koreans*	100.0%	98.7%	38.7%	14.0%	31.7%	14.4%	1.3%

\* Refer to nationality prior to naturalization

### (Education)

41.4 percent of foreigners didn't receive educational or support services. The largest share of naturalized Koreans (47.4%) received Korean language education.

- 'Korean language education' recorded educational or support services that the largest share of foreigners (38.8%) and naturalized Koreans (32.4%) wished.

### (Total income)

As for monthly average income for the past 1 year, the largest share of foreigners (32.2%) recorded '2 million ~ less than 3 million won'. The largest share of naturalized Koreans (35.3%) recorded '1 million ~ less than 2 million won'.

### (Money wiring)

40.3 percent of foreigners and 21.8 percent of naturalized Koreans wired money to family members or relatives living outside of Korea.

- As for frequency of money wiring of foreigners, '12 times or more per year' occupied the largest share (22.3%). As for frequency of money wiring of naturalized Koreans, '2 times or more per year' occupied the largest share (5.7%).
- As for the amount of money wiring per year, '10 million ~ less than 15 million won' occupied the largest share of foreigners (25.1%). '1 million ~ less than 2 million won' occupied the largest share of naturalized Koreans (30.4%).

### (Education of children)

40.7 percent of foreigners were involved in schools (kindergartens or daycare centers) of children aged 18 or less. 47.8 percent of naturalized Koreans were involved in schools (kindergartens or daycare centers) of children aged 18 or less.

### (Continuation of stay)

86.1 percent of foreigners (excluding permanent residents) wished to stay in Korea after the expiration of the current status of sojourn. As for the method to extend their sojourn, 'Extension of stay' recorded the largest share at 49.8 percent, which was followed by 'Obtain permanent residency' (17.4%) and 'Acquire Korean citizenship' (10.8%).

### 3. Foreigners of non-professional employment (E-9)

#### (Nationality)

As of May 2017, as for foreigners of non-professional employment (E-9) by nationality, Vietnam occupied the highest share at 14.5 percent, which was followed by Cambodia (13.2%), Indonesia (11.4%), Nepal (10.6%) and the Philippines (9.7%).

#### (Industry)

As for foreigners of non-professional employment by industry, 'Mining and manufacturing' recorded the largest share at 82.5 percent.

#### (Reason for choosing Korea)

As reasons for choosing Korea as a destination for overseas employment, 'High wages' occupied the highest share at 73.1 percent, which was followed by 'Good work environment' (10.4%).

#### (Injury experience and medical cost)

For the past 1 year, 6.1 percent of employed foreigners were injured. As their main reason for injury, 'Mistakes' occupied the largest share at 70.1 percent, which was followed by 'Lack of Korean language skills' (11.5%).

- As for the payment of medical costs for the injury, 'Business owner shouldering the entire medical expenses' marked the highest share at 40.8 percent, which was followed by 'Industrial accident compensation insurance (29.3%) and 'Others' (29.9%).

### 4. Foreign students (D-2, D-4-1,7)

#### (Nationality)

As of May 2017, as for foreign students (D-2, D-4-1, 7) by nationality, China occupied the highest share at 48.5 percent, which was followed by Vietnam (18.2%).

#### (Reason for choosing Korea)

As reasons for choosing Korea as a destination for overseas studying, 'Major in Korea suits my interests' occupied the highest share at 23.4 percent of foreign students, which was followed by 'The education is more advanced than in other countries'(21.6%) and 'Others' (13.6%).

#### (Major)

As for major at the university in Korea, 'Social sciences' marked the highest share at 30.8 percent of foreign students, which was followed by 'Education, arts and humanities' (17.0%) and 'Language training' (16.5%).

#### (Satisfaction with schools)

46.0 percent of foreign university students were very satisfied with their education, which was followed by 'Somewhat satisfied' (39.0%) and 'Neutral' (12.8%).