

Korean-Russian Immigrants in South Korea

SEPTEMBER 2026

Summary

At the end of 2024, 35,984 Korean-Russians (ethnic Koreans of Russian nationality) lived in South Korea as resident foreigners. They were the 34th-largest nationality among registered foreigners (2,383 people, 0.2 percent of the total) and the 15th-largest among all resident foreigners (1.4 percent of the total), up from 39th and 26th in 2014. The two ranks differ because most Korean-Russians hold the F-4 overseas Korean visa and report their residence instead of registering. The population numbered 799 in 2006, 5,452 in 2014, and 27,827 in 2019, and 2024 was its highest recorded year.

Highlights

- ▶ At the end of 2024, Korean-Russians were the 34th-largest nationality among registered foreigners (2,383 people, 0.2 percent) and the 15th-largest among all resident foreigners (35,984 people, 1.4 percent), up from 39th and 26th in 2014.
- ▶ The group grew from 799 in 2006 to 27,827 in 2019 and 35,984 in 2024, an index of 129.3 (2019 = 100) that ranked eighth among the 20 largest nationalities.
- ▶ In 2024, 93.2 percent of Korean-Russian residents (33,555 people) held the F-4 overseas Korean visa, and only 6.6 percent (2,383) were registered foreigners.

Korean-Russians are part of the Koryo-saram, the ethnic Korean population of the former Soviet Union. Russia is not a sending country under Korea's Employment Permit System (E-9), so Korean-Russians do not enter through the general low-skilled labor route (HRD Korea, 2026). They arrive through overseas Korean visas instead: residence in Korea by CIS-origin Koryo-saram increased considerably after the 2007 launch of the H-2 Visit-Employment program (Overseas Koreans Foundation, 2015). In 2019 the Ministry of Justice proposed extending overseas Korean status to the fourth generation of descendants so that young Koryo-saram would not be separated from parents living in Korea (Ministry of

Justice, 2019), and on February 12, 2026 it merged the H-2 and F-4 statuses into a single F-4 status (Ministry of Justice, 2026).

The group differs from resident foreigners overall in legal status and age. In 2024, 93.3 percent held overseas Korean statuses (F-4 or H-2), compared with 24.5 percent of all resident foreigners, and almost none held employment or study visas. Because F-4 holders report residence instead of registering, only 6.6 percent were registered foreigners. Children aged 0 to 14 made up 10.2 percent of Korean-Russian residents in 2024, against 5.7 percent of all resident foreigners.

This Spotlight reports on the size and geographic distribution of the Korean-Russian population in South Korea, its age, sex, and visa status, and the migration channels, naturalization, health, migration from the origin countries, and community organizations of its members.

BOX 1 Definitions

Resident foreigners (체류외국인). All foreign nationals residing in South Korea on a valid status on December 31 of a given year, including short-term visitors and overseas Koreans who report their residence. This is the Ministry of Justice's broadest count and the main figure used in this Spotlight.

Registered foreigners (등록외국인). Foreign nationals residing in Korea for more than 90 days who register with immigration authorities, a subset of resident foreigners. Holders of the F-4 overseas Korean visa report their residence instead of registering and are not counted as registered foreigners. District-level figures in this Spotlight count registered foreigners only, which for Korean-Russians covers 2,383 of 35,984 residents in 2024.

Korean-Russians (한국계 러시아인). Ethnic Koreans who hold Russian nationality. The Ministry of Justice counts them separately from other Russian nationals, in the same way it counts Korean-Chinese separately from other Chinese nationals. Korean-language sources call ethnic Koreans of the former Soviet Union Koryo-saram (고려인); Koryo-saram in Korea also include nationals of other CIS countries, who are not counted in this profile.

Overseas Korean visas (F-4, H-2). F-4 (Overseas Korean) is a residence status for foreign nationals of Korean descent. H-2 (Visit-Employment) was a separate status for overseas Koreans introduced in 2007; the two were merged into F-4 on February 12, 2026.

1 Size of the Population over Time

The number of Korean-Russian resident foreigners rose from 799 in 2006 to 2,973 in 2010 and 5,452 in 2014. Between 2014 and 2019 it grew about fivefold, to 27,827 (27,827 / 5,452 = 5.1).

After a dip to 26,708 in 2020, the population grew each year, to 27,354 in 2021, 31,621 in 2022, 35,709 in 2023, and 35,984 in 2024. The 2024 figure was 8,157 people above the 2019

level, an index of 129.3 (2019 = 100), which placed Korean-Russians eighth of the 20 largest nationalities by change over 2019-24.

Registered foreigners are a small and shrinking share of the total. In 2006, 374 of 799 Korean-Russian residents (46.8 percent) were registered; in 2014 the figure was 745 of 5,452 (13.7 percent), and in 2019 it was 1,360 of 27,827 (4.9 percent). In 2024, 2,383 were registered, 6.6 percent of the total.

The group's rank depends on which count is used. Among all resident foreigners, Korean-Russians ranked 36th in 2006, 26th in 2014, 17th in 2019, and 15th in 2024, and their share of the total rose from 0.1 percent in 2006 to 1.4 percent in 2024. Among registered foreigners they ranked 35th in 2006, 39th in 2014, 36th in 2019, and 34th in 2024, and their share remained between 0.1 and 0.2 percent.

TABLE 1
Korean-Russian Residents in South Korea, Selected Years, 2006-24

Year	Resident foreigners	Registered foreigners	Registered as % of resident	Rank among resident foreigners	Rank among registered foreigners	Share of all resident foreigners (%)	Share of all registered foreigners (%)
2006	799	374	46.8	36	35	0.1	0.1
2014	5,452	745	13.7	26	39	0.3	0.1
2019	27,827	1,360	4.9	17	36	1.1	0.1
2024	35,984	2,383	6.6	15	34	1.4	0.2

Note: Registered as % of resident is computed as registered foreigners divided by resident foreigners. Resident foreigners include short-term visitors and F-4 holders who report residence; registered foreigners are long-term residents registered with immigration authorities. Ranks are among all nationalities on each count.

Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2006-2024.

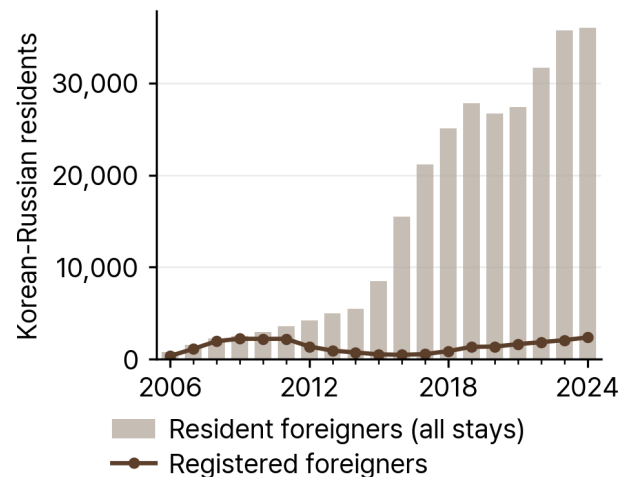
2 Distribution by Province and District

District-level data cover registered foreigners only, so the figures in this section describe 2,383 Korean-Russians in 2024, 6.6 percent of the group. The F-4 holders who make up most of the population are not included.

Of these 2,383 registered residents in 2024, 1,065 (44.7 percent) lived in Incheon and Gyeonggi, 564 (23.7 percent) in the Yeongnam region, and 559 (23.5 percent) in Chungcheong. Only 87 (3.7 percent) lived in Seoul, 87 (3.7 percent) in Honam, and 21 (0.9 percent) in Gangwon and Jeju. Seoul, Incheon, and Gyeonggi together accounted for 48.3 percent of registered Korean-Russians, compared with 55.2 percent of all registered foreigners.

Some 7.9 percent of registered Korean-Russians lived in rural counties (gun), compared with 10.6 percent of all registered foreigners. The rural share was highest in Gangwon and Jeju (23.8 percent) and Chungcheong (17.5 percent).

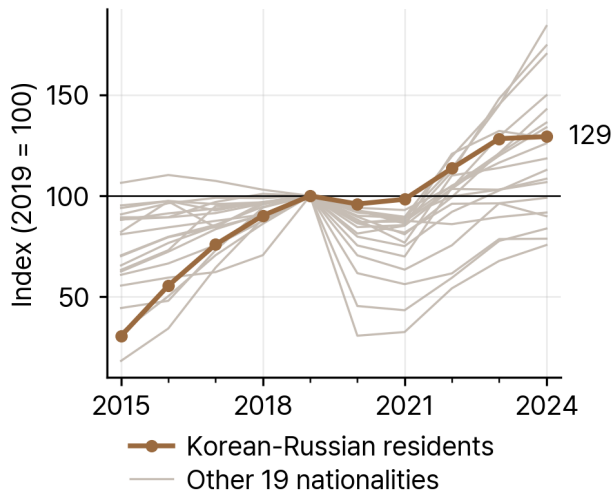
FIGURE 1
Korean-Russian Resident Foreigners and Registered Foreigners in South Korea, 2006-24



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2006-2024.

FIGURE 2

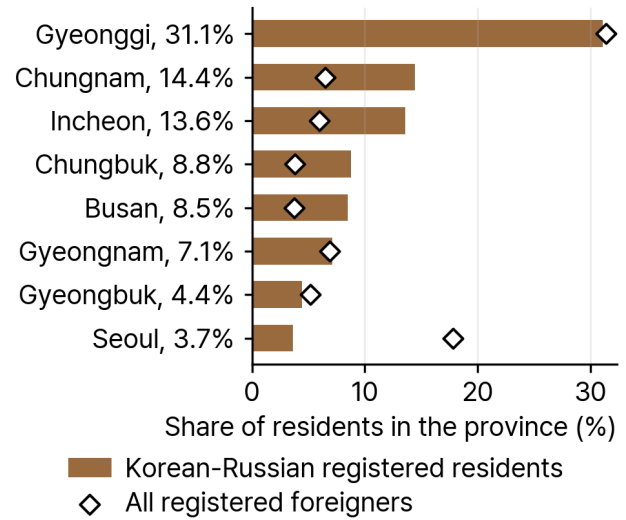
Change in Korean-Russian Residents Compared with the Other 19 Largest Nationalities in South Korea, 2019-24 (index 2019 = 100)



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2019-2024.

FIGURE 3

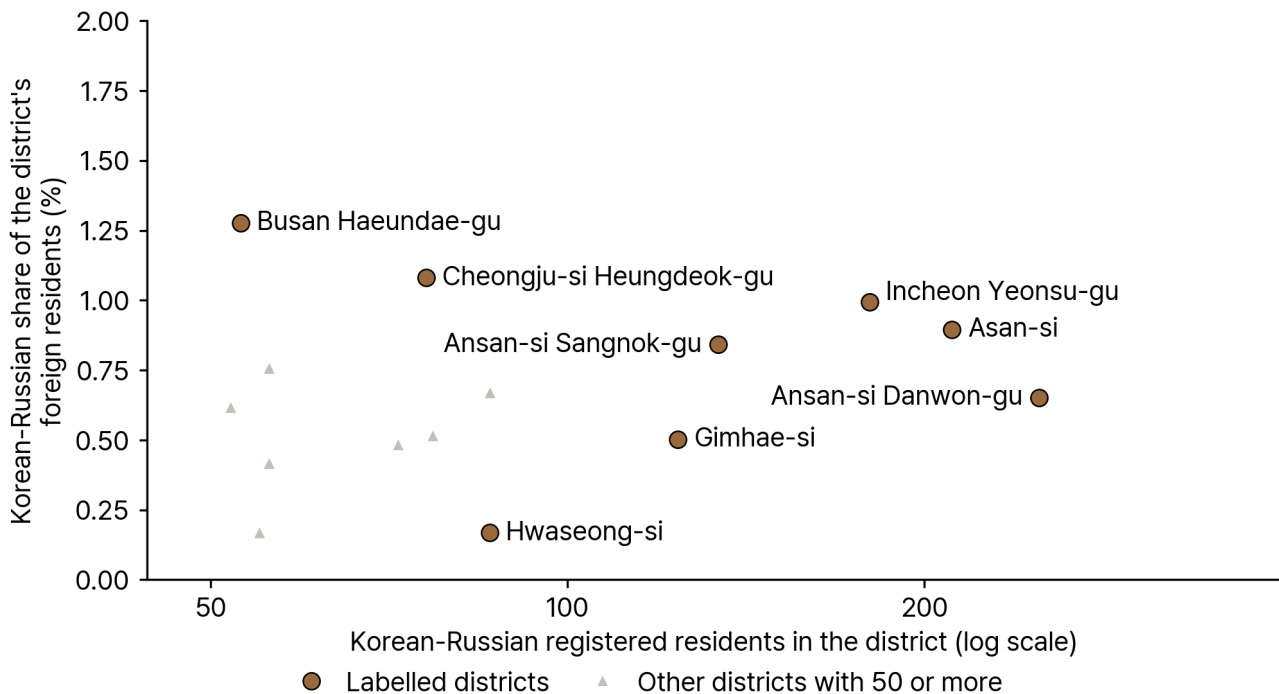
Korean-Russian Registered Residents and All Registered Foreigners by Province, 2024 (%)



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice registered foreigner statistics by district, 2024.

FIGURE 4

Korean-Russian Registered Residents and Their Share of Foreign Residents by District, 2024



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice registered foreigner statistics by district, 2024. Districts with 50 or more Korean-Russian registered residents.

In 2024, Ansan-si Danwon-gu (250), Asan-si (211), Incheon Yeonsu-gu (180), Ansan-si Sangnok-gu (134), and Gimhae-si (124) were the five districts with 100 or more registered Korean-Russians. The ten largest districts accounted for 1,296 people, 54.4 percent of the registered total. In none of them did Korean-Russians exceed 1.1 percent of the district's

registered foreigners; the highest shares were in Cheongju-si Heungdeok-gu (1.1 percent) and Incheon Yeonsu-gu (1.0 percent).

The index of dissimilarity (D) between registered Korean-Russians and all other registered foreigners across districts was 0.63 in 2014 and 0.66 in 2024, so about two-thirds of the group would have to move to match the distribution of other

foreigners. No district met the KIRD definition of an ethnic enclave in 2024 (a location quotient of at least 2 and the group making up at least 30 percent of the district's foreign residents).

TABLE 2
Ten Districts with the Most Korean-Russian Registered Residents, 2024

District	Province	Registered residents	Share of district's registered foreigners (%)
Ansan-si Danwon-gu	Gyeonggi-do	250	0.7
Asan-si	Chungcheongnam-do	211	0.9
Incheon Yeonsu-gu	Incheon	180	1.0
Ansan-si Sangnok-gu	Gyeonggi-do	134	0.8
Gimhae-si	Gyeongsangnam-do	124	0.5
Hwaseong-si	Gyeonggi-do	86	0.2
Gyeongju-si	Gyeongsangbuk-do	86	0.7
Gwangju Gwangsan-gu	Gwangju	77	0.5
Cheongju-si Heungdeok-gu	Chungcheongbuk-do	76	1.1
Anseong-si	Gyeonggi-do	72	0.5

Note: Counts are registered foreigners only (2,383 Korean-Russians in 2024). F-4 holders, 93.2 percent of the group, report residence and are not included.

Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice registered foreigner statistics by district, 2024.

3 Age and Sex

Women made up 48.8 percent of Korean-Russian residents in 2024 (17,557 of 35,984), up from 47.1 percent in 2019 (13,109 of 27,827). Among all resident foreigners, 45.1 percent were women.

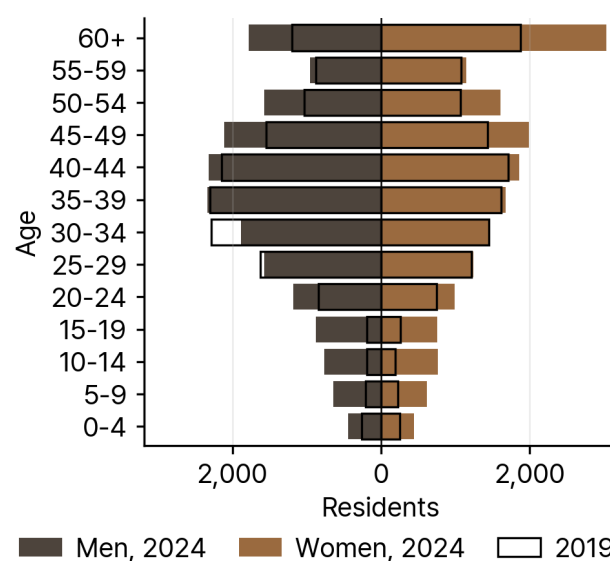
The group has more children and fewer young adults than resident foreigners as a whole. In 2024, 10.2 percent of Korean-Russians were aged 0 to 14, compared with 5.7 percent of all resident foreigners, and the number of children rose from 1,338 in 2019 to 3,674 in 2024. Adults aged 20 to 39 made up 34.2 percent of the group, against 49.7 percent of all resident foreigners (12,068 in 2019 and 12,323 in 2024).

Older residents are also a large part of the population. In 2024, people aged 60 and older formed the largest age group, and 13.4 percent of Korean-Russians were 60 or older, compared with 12.9 percent of all resident foreigners. The number aged 50 and older grew from 7,131 in 2019 to 10,087 in 2024. The median person fell in the 40-44 age group.

4 Visa Status

Nearly all Korean-Russians hold the F-4 overseas Korean visa. In 2024, 33,555 of 35,984 (93.2 percent) were F-4 holders, up from 4,650 in 2014 and 26,395 in 2019. Korean-Russians made up 6.0 percent of all F-4 holders in Korea and were the third-largest nationality on that status.

FIGURE 5
Age and Sex Distribution of Korean-Russian Residents in South Korea, 2024



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2024.

Permanent residence (F-5) is the second-largest status and the fastest growing. F-5 holders rose from 243 in 2014 and 335 in 2019 to 1,517 in 2024, about 4.5 times the 2019 figure (1,517 / 335). Visiting cohabitation (F-1) holders fell from 887 in 2019 to 594 in 2024, and dependent family (F-3) holders rose from 2 to 99.

By broad visa group, 93.3 percent of Korean-Russians held overseas Korean statuses in 2024, compared with 24.5 percent of all resident foreigners. The group had almost no holders of employment (0.0 percent against 19.2 percent), study and training (0.0 against 10.2 percent), or short-term visit statuses (0.1 against 19.7 percent).

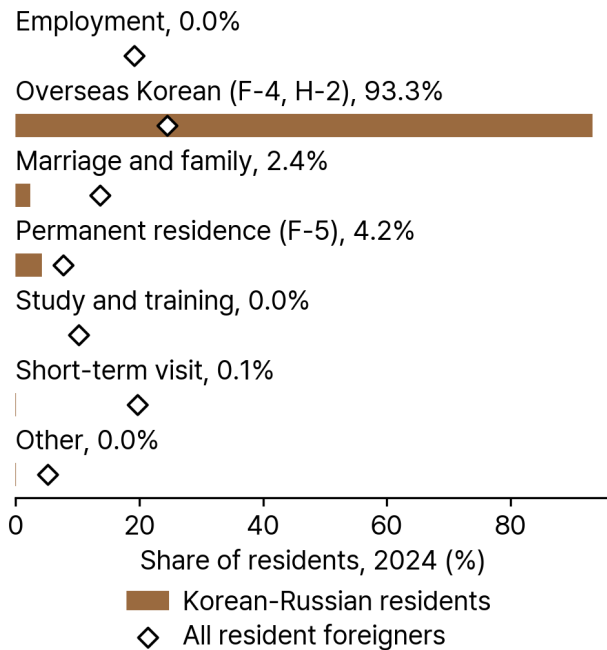
5 Migration Channels and Policy

Korean-Russians come to Korea on overseas Korean visas. Russia is not a sending country under the Employment Permit System (E-9); HRD Korea's 2026 list of sending countries names China, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Mongolia, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Kyrgyzstan, and Laos (HRD Korea, 2026).

A 2015 study commissioned by the Overseas Koreans Foundation found that residence in Korea by CIS-origin Koryo-saram increased considerably after the H-2 Visit-Employment program began in 2007, and that resident Koryo-saram were unfamiliar with Korean language and culture and faced difficult economic circumstances (Overseas Koreans Foundation, 2015).

FIGURE 6

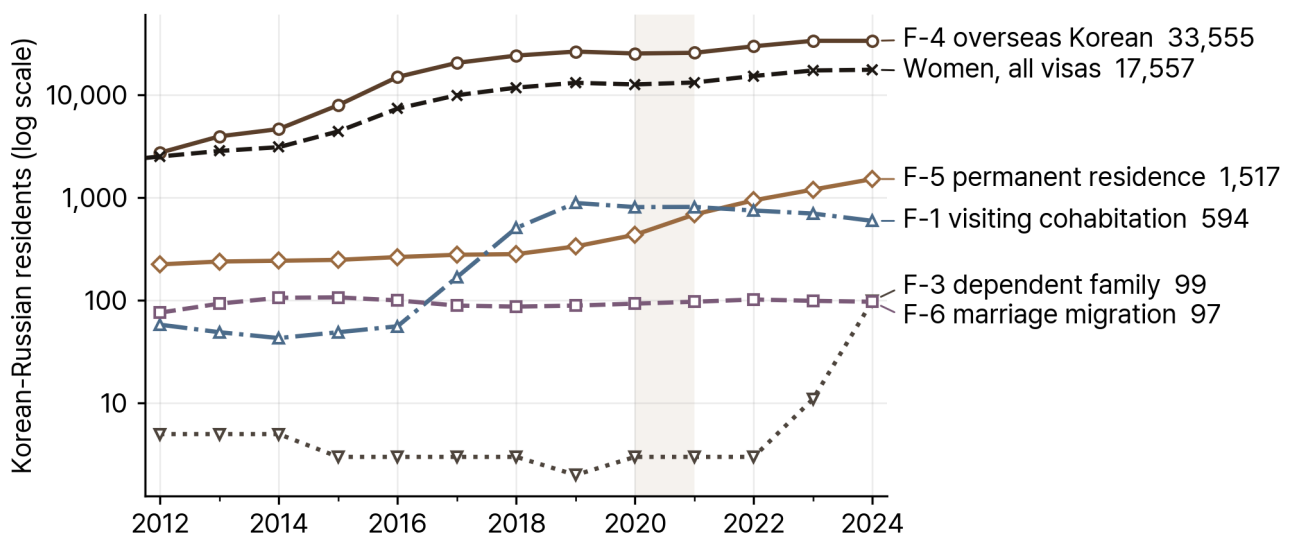
Visa Groups of Korean-Russian Residents and All Resident Foreigners in South Korea, 2024 (%)



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2024.

FIGURE 7

Korean-Russian Residents in South Korea by Visa Status, 2012-24 (log scale)



Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2012-2024.

On January 25, 2019, the Ministry of Justice issued notice of an amendment to the enforcement decree of the Overseas Koreans Act that would extend overseas Korean status from the third generation to the fourth generation of lineal descendants and beyond. The notice stated that fourth-generation Koryo-saram youth were being separated from parents already living in Korea, and it opened a comment period from January 23 to March 4, 2019 (Ministry of Justice, 2019).

Effective February 12, 2026, the Ministry of Justice merged the H-2 and F-4 statuses into a single F-4 status and ended the issuance of new H-2 visas. Existing H-2 holders may convert to F-4 before their permitted period of residence ends, and any overseas Korean can obtain F-4 without distinction by country of nationality. The same measure added ten occupations to the jobs F-4 holders may take and eased the income requirement for F-5 permanent residence applicants with strong Korean-language ability or volunteer service (Ministry of Justice, 2026).

TABLE 3

Korean-Russian Residents by Visa Status, 2019 and 2024

Visa	Meaning	2019	2024	Share of group, 2024 (%)	Share of all holders of this visa in Korea, 2024 (%)
F-4	Overseas Korean	26,395	33,555	93.2	6.0
F-5	Permanent residence	335	1,517	4.2	0.7
F-1	Visiting cohabitation	887	594	1.7	0.6
F-3	Dependent family	2	99	0.3	0.2
F-6	Marriage migration	89	97	0.3	0.1
F-2	Residential	21	63	0.2	0.1
C-3	Short-term visit	54	36	0.1	0.0

Note: Shares of the group use the 2024 total of 35,984 Korean-Russian resident foreigners.

Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2006-2024.

In a February 11, 2025 press release, the Overseas Koreans Agency announced a survey of stateless Koryo-saram, the first since 2007, to document their settlement conditions and prepare ways for them to obtain legal residence status (Overseas Koreans Agency, 2025).

6 Naturalization

From 2014 to 2024, 349 Korean-Russians acquired South Korean nationality through naturalization. Annual counts were 19 in 2014, 38 in 2015, 37 in 2016, 58 in 2017, 45 in 2019, 35 in 2020, 24 in 2021, 16 in 2022, 25 in 2023, and 52 in 2024. No Korean-Russian count is recorded for 2018 in the KIRD series.

Ethnic Koreans can also regain Korean nationality through restoration of nationality. From 2011 to 2024 (excluding 2018), 68 Korean-Russians did so, including 11 in 2024. Adding the two routes, 63 Korean-Russians acquired or regained Korean nationality in 2024 (52 + 11).

7 Unauthorized Residents

Korean-Russians are not among the ten nationalities that the Ministry of Justice yearbook (table 6-4) reports separately for unauthorized residents, so no count is published for this group. The yearbook reported 397,522 unauthorized residents of all nationalities in 2024.

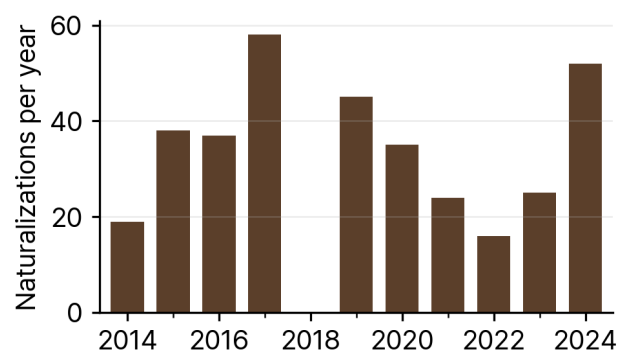
8 Health and Well-being

To our knowledge, no published study reports the health of Russian-nationality Koryo-saram separately. The two studies below cover Koryo-saram in Korea regardless of nationality.

A 2021 art-therapy study of 17 Koryo-saram adolescents aged 14 to 24 at an alternative school in Korea delivered five 90-minute sessions between October and December 2020. After the program, the share of participants scoring in the no-

depression range rose by 41.7 percent and the share with moderate depression fell by 23.5 percent ($Z = -3.145$, $p < .05$) (Lee et al., 2021).

FIGURE 8

Naturalizations of Korean-Russians in South Korea, 2014-24

Source: KIRD dataset, from Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks, 2014-2024.

A face-to-face survey of 400 Koryo-saram residents of Ansan, conducted from August 25 to September 26, 2025, found that 8.0 percent had been assigned dangerous work that Korean coworkers refused to do, and 25.1 percent had endured a rights violation or discrimination without telling anyone (Seoul Economic Daily, 2026).

9 Migration of Koryo-saram to South Korea

Korean-Russians belong to the Koryo-saram, whose presence in Central Asia dates to the 1937 Soviet deportation of about 172,000 ethnic Koreans from the Russian Far East, mainly to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, where Tashkent and Kyzylorda became centers of settlement. After the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, Russia, South Korea, Europe, and North America became destinations for Koryo-saram emigrants (Novastan 2024). Russia's 2002 census recorded 148,556 ethnic Koreans (Demoscope Weekly, n.d.).

We know of no published source that reports the share of Russia's emigrants who go to Korea or Korea's rank among their destinations. Most published origin-side figures concern Central Asian countries, whose nationals include most Koryo-saram in Korea but are not counted in this profile. In 2023, 87,698 Uzbek nationals lived in South Korea, about 60 percent of the 147,093 Central Asian nationals in the country (Chu 2024). About 15,000 Kazakhstani nationals were working in South Korea as of 2025, roughly 11,000 of them without legal status (Times of Central Asia 2026).

Russia sends no workers under the Employment Permit System, so no Russian deployment figure exists (see Migration Channels and Policy). Among Central Asian countries, Uzbekistan joined the system in 2006, Kyrgyzstan in 2007, and Tajikistan in 2024 (Chu 2024), and Kazakhstan was designated the 18th sending country in August 2026, with worker arrivals expected from 2028 (Korea Times 2026). Uzbek workers deployed to Korea on E-9 visas fell from 4,878 in 2023 to 3,080 in 2024, out of 165,000 foreign workers Korea hired that year (Kun.uz 2025). Kazakhstani nationals on work-eligible visas numbered 5,309 in 2023, down from 7,867 in 2019, and 5,146 of the 2023 total held the H-2 Visit-Employment visa for ethnic Koreans (Chu 2024).

In Uzbekistan, nearly 10,000 people took the Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK) in Tashkent in July 2026 and more than 12,000 applied for the October round. The head of the Korean Education Center in Tashkent expected more than 50,000 TOPIK applicants in 2026, up from about 45,000 in 2025, and the same report put E-9 departures from Uzbekistan at about 2,500 a year on average (Yonhap News 2026). TOPIK is the general Korean-language test; EPS applicants take a separate test, EPS-TOPIK. HRD Korea reports that 33,397 people took the EPS-TOPIK in Uzbekistan in 2024 and 13,317 passed (HRD Korea 2025).

Personal remittances received by Russia were 0.66 percent of its gross domestic product (GDP) in 2020, 0.53 percent in 2021, 0.14 percent in 2022, and 0.13 percent in 2023 (World Bank 2023). The World Bank's bilateral remittance estimates, last produced for 2021, put remittances sent from South Korea to Russia at about US\$5.0 million that year (World Bank 2021). For Uzbekistan, remittances from Korea totaled \$534 million in 2024, up 56 percent from 2023, making Korea the fourth-largest source of the country's \$14.8 billion in remittances after Russia (\$11.5 billion, 77 percent of the total), Kazakhstan (\$795 million), and the United States (\$577 million) (Times of Central Asia 2025). Remittances equaled 14.42 percent of Uzbekistan's GDP in 2024 (Trading Economics 2024). Korea sent \$35.6 million to Kazakhstan in the first three quarters of 2022 (10.1 percent of Kazakhstan's remittance inflows, third after Russia and the United States) and \$27.3 million in the same period of 2023 (11.6 percent, fourth after Russia, the United States, and Germany) (Chu 2024).

As far as we know, no published source identifies the provinces or oblasts of Russia, Uzbekistan, or Kazakhstan from which Korea-bound Koryo-saram come. Inside Korea, the Seoul National University Asia Center reported about 10,000 registered Koryo-saram in Ansan's Danwon-gu and about 5,000 in Sangnok-gu in the first half of 2024, with smaller communities in Gwangju, formed between 2002 and 2013, and in Jecheon, where a government recruitment program began in 2023 (SNUAC 2024).

We are not aware of any Russian government policy on emigration to Korea. On the Central Asian side, Korean officials said in 2026 that Kazakhstan qualified as an EPS sending country because it has a government agency dealing exclusively with worker dispatch (Korea JoongAng Daily 2026). On the Korean side, the 1999 Overseas Koreans Act excluded Korean-Chinese and Koryo-saram from the entry-visa and employment benefits given to other overseas Koreans; the law was revised in 2004 after it was found to discriminate unconstitutionally, and the government continued to control this group's entry visas and employment rights (Song 2023).

Research on Koryo-saram migration to Korea centers on return and settlement. Lee (2023) studies the increase in migrants from Uzbekistan since 2007, when Koryo-saram began entering Korea as compatriots, as a case of a diaspora moving to an ancestral homeland most members had never lived in. Kim (2015), studying Uzbek Koryo-saram families in Gwangju, finds varied and changing transnational family arrangements, with some families working toward permanent settlement in Korea and reuniting relatives in stages. Song (2023) argues that despite ethnicity-based entry preferences, Koryo-saram returnees are socially alienated, culturally disregarded, and assigned to lower-wage jobs. The literature known to us includes no study of brokers, migration debt, or marriage migration among Russian-nationality Koryo-saram.

10 Community Organizations

Ansan's Koryo-saram population (all nationalities) grew from 6,307 in 2013 to 22,939 in 2025, a 3.6-fold increase (Seoul Economic Daily, 2026). Gwangju's Koryoin Village in Wolgok-dong, Gwangsan-gu, was approved as a nonprofit corporation by the Minister of Justice in April 2014, after Gwangju enacted an ordinance supporting Koryoin residents in October 2013 (Koryoin Village, n.d.). By 2022 the neighborhood's population, including Koryo-saram and other Asian migrants, was about 7,000, and the nonprofit Koryoin Village ran a resident support center, a kindergarten, a school, a clinic, an elder welfare center, a museum, a publishing house, and a radio station (Epoch Times Korea, 2022).

Of the 1,717 migrant-serving organizations in the KIRD census, 28 name Koryo-saram or overseas Koreans from the former Soviet Union in their name or target group. Five are in Gwangju Gwangsan-gu, five in Incheon Yeonsu-gu, and four in Ansan, all districts among the ten with the most registered Korean-Russians. Six are program sites designated and funded by the

Ministry of Justice, including Koryoin Village (Gwangju Gwangsan-gu), the Ansan Koryoin Cultural Center (Ansan-si Danwon-gu), the Gyeongsangbuk-do Koryoin Integrated Support Center (Gyeongju-si), and the Neomeo Incheon Koryoin Cultural Center (Incheon Yeonsu-gu). Others are community groups such as the Korean Koryoin Association

(Incheon Yeonsu-gu), Koryoin Center Mir (Ansan-si Sangnok-gu), the Chungnam Koryoin Support Association (Asan-si), and Friends from the Former Soviet Union (Gimhae-si).

These organizations serve Koryo-saram of all nationalities. Most general-purpose organizations in the census also serve Korean-Russian residents.

TABLE 4
Migration Indicators, Koryo-saram and South Korea

Indicator	Value	Source
Ethnic Koreans in Russia, 2002 census	148,556	Korean Wikipedia, n.d.
Uzbek nationals in South Korea, 2023	87,698 (about 60% of 147,093 Central Asian nationals)	Chu 2024
Kazakhstanis working in South Korea, 2025	About 15,000 (about 11,000 without legal status)	Times of Central Asia 2026
Uzbek E-9 workers deployed to Korea, 2023 and 2024	4,878 and 3,080 (of 165,000 total hires in 2024)	Kun.uz 2025
Kazakhstani nationals on work-eligible visas, 2023	5,309 (5,146 on H-2)	Chu 2024
TOPIK applicants in Uzbekistan, 2025	About 45,000	Yonhap News 2026
EPS-TOPIK test takers in Uzbekistan, 2024	33,397 (13,317 passed)	HRD Korea 2025
Remittances from Korea to Uzbekistan, 2024	\$534 million (4th-largest source)	Times of Central Asia 2025
Remittances from Korea to Kazakhstan, January-September 2023	\$27.3 million (11.6% of inflows)	Chu 2024
Remittances from Korea to Russia, 2021 (World Bank estimate)	\$5.0 million	World Bank 2021
Remittances, % of GDP, Russia, 2023	0.13	World Bank 2023
Remittances, % of GDP, Uzbekistan, 2024	14.42	Trading Economics 2024

Note: Russia is not an EPS sending country, so there are no EPS deployment or applicant figures for Russia. Central Asian figures cover all nationals of those countries, including those who are not Koryo-saram.

Source: Sources as listed in each row; full references appear under Sources.

About these profiles. The KIRD data profiles describe the twenty nationalities with more than 20,000 resident foreigners in South Korea in 2024 and answer the questions asked most often about foreign residents. Figures come from the Korea Immigration Regional Dashboard (KIRD) dataset, built from the Ministry of Justice immigration yearbooks and the Ministry of the Interior and Safety foreign-resident statistics for 2006 to 2024 (<https://doi.org/10.3886/E249944V1>); context comes from the sources listed. Interactive maps and tables: <https://immigrantsinkorea.today>.

Suggested citation: Korea Immigration Regional Dashboard (KIRD). 2026. "Korean-Russian Immigrants in South Korea." Foreign Residents in South Korea series, September 2026. Data: Korea Immigration Regional Dashboard (KIRD) dataset, <https://doi.org/10.3886/E249944V1>. Interactive maps and tables: <https://immigrantsinkorea.today>.

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