



Ministry of Data
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Press Release

Embargo 12:00P.M., Dec. 16, 2025 Release Date 8:30A.M., Dec. 16, 2025

Preliminary Results of the Survey of Business Activities in 2024

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Preliminary Results of the Survey of Business Activities in 2024

Status of business activities

- The number of survey target enterprises was 14,922 enterprises in 2024, rising by 2.6% from 14,546 enterprises in 2023.
- The number of workers in survey target enterprises was 5.347 million persons in 2024, which grew by 3.6% from 5.163 million persons in 2023.

<Table> Number of enterprises and workers by industry

(Unit: each, thousand persons, %)

Industry sections	Number of enterprises			Number of workers			Number of regular workers			
	2023	2024	Percent change	2023	2024 (A)	Percent change	2023	2024 (B)	Percent change	Share (B/A*100)
All industries	14,546	14,922	2.6	5,163	5,347	3.6	4,487	4,616	2.9	86.3
Manufacturing	6,692	6,772	1.2	2,032	2,073	2.1	1,942	1,977	1.8	95.4
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	75	81	8.0	39	39	0.1	39	38	-0.5	98.2
Construction	623	668	7.2	358	346	-3.1	166	167	0.8	48.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,820	1,842	1.2	434	455	4.7	401	419	4.5	92.2
Transportation and Storage	749	779	4.0	334	398	19.0	262	275	4.8	69.1
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	334	341	2.1	186	195	5.0	142	147	3.8	75.2
Information and Communication	1,357	1,419	4.6	362	366	1.0	347	352	1.5	96.3
Real Estate Activities	272	286	5.1	72	78	7.8	68	69	0.8	88.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	713	747	4.8	171	181	5.9	162	172	5.8	95.0
Business Facilities Management and Business Support Services; Rental and Leasing Activities	704	750	6.5	638	673	5.5	592	624	5.5	92.7
Arts, Sports and Recreation- related Services	316	317	0.3	50	45	-10.2	31	32	1.6	69.6
Other industries	460	478	3.9	86	85	-1.2	70	73	3.9	86.0
Financial and Insurance Activities	431	442	2.6	401	412	2.8	264	271	2.5	65.8

- The annual sales of survey target enterprises (excluding 'Financial and Insurance Activities') stood at 3,371.1 trillion won in 2024, rising by 5.2% from 3,203.8 trillion won in 2023.

○ As for annual sales by industry, 'Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities', 'Transportation and Storage' and 'Accommodation and Food Service Activities' increased by 23.3%, 16.8% and 13.3%, respectively, year-on-year.

<Table> Annual sales by industry and annual sales per enterprise

(Unit: trillion won, 100 million won, %)

Industry sections	Annual sales (trillion won)				Annual sales per enterprise (100 million won)			
	2022	2023	2024	Percent change	2022	2023	2024	Percent change
All industries (excluding 'Financial and Insurance Activities')	3,238.2	3,203.8	3,371.1	5.2	2,412	2,270	2,328	2.6
Manufacturing	1,913.4	1,866.6	1,972.7	5.7	3,061	2,789	2,913	4.4
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	97.7	88.2	84.1	-4.6	14,153	11,754	10,383	-11.7
Construction	208.8	220.8	214.5	-2.9	3,588	3,545	3,211	-9.4
Wholesale and Retail Trade	518.7	525.3	541.2	3.0	3,089	2,886	2,938	1.8
Transportation and Storage	163.7	143.7	167.9	16.8	2,257	1,919	2,155	12.3
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	39.3	39.0	44.2	13.3	1,144	1,167	1,296	11.0
Information and Communication	168.3	178.7	188.2	5.3	1,256	1,317	1,327	0.7
Real Estate Activities	16.2	16.7	17.0	1.7	573	613	594	-3.2
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	42.0	46.6	57.4	23.3	597	653	769	17.7
Business Facilities Management and Business Support Services; Rental and Leasing Activities	41.9	47.6	51.3	7.7	647	676	684	1.1
Arts, Sports and Recreation-related Services	9.9	10.4	10.8	3.7	300	328	339	3.4
Other industries	18.3	20.2	21.8	7.8	388	440	457	3.8
Financial and Insurance Activities	1,217.4	1,077.2	1,169.2	8.5	30,435	24,992	26,452	5.8

<Figure> Trend in annual sales by year



- The net profit (before the corporate tax) recorded 181.9 trillion won in 2024, which grew by 31.1 trillion won from 150.8 trillion won in 2023.
- The net profit (before the corporate tax) per 1,000 won of annual sales recorded 54 won in 2024, which grew by 7 won from 47 won in 2023.

<Table> Net profit before the corporate tax by industry

(Unit: trillion won, won)

Industry sections	Net profit before the corporate tax (trillion won)				Net profit before the corporate tax per 1,000 won of annual sales (won)			
	2022	2023	2024	Change	2022	2023	2024	Change
All industries (excluding 'Financial and Insurance Activities')	197.3	150.8	181.9	31.1	61	47	54	7
Manufacturing	121.6	93.8	123.5	29.7	64	50	63	13
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	3.0	4.5	5.4	0.9	31	51	64	13
Construction	11.1	5.0	5.3	0.3	53	23	25	2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	15.3	16.8	14.5	-2.3	30	32	27	-5
Transportation and Storage	24.7	9.0	12.4	3.4	151	62	74	12
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	1.0	1.4	0.5	-0.9	25	36	12	-24
Information and Communication	12.6	13.0	13.9	0.9	75	73	74	1
Real Estate Activities	2.0	1.5	1.0	-0.5	125	89	57	-32
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	1.7	2.3	0.8	-1.5	41	49	14	-35
Business Facilities Management and Business Support Services; Rental and Leasing Activities	1.1	0.9	1.5	0.6	27	19	29	10
Arts, Sports and Recreation-related Services	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.1	182	169	172	3
Other industries	1.1	1.0	1.3	0.3	62	50	59	9
Financial and Insurance Activities	70.0	74.2	77.8	3.6	58	69	67	-2

<Figure> Trend in net profit before the corporate tax per 1,000 won of annual sales



□ **The research and development expenditures of enterprises (excluding 'Financial and Insurance Activities') amounted to 97.1 trillion won in 2024, which increased by 21.4% from 80.0 trillion won in 2023. The research and development expenditures per enterprise grew by 20.0% from 2023.**

○ The research and development expenditures of enterprises in 'Manufacturing' amounted to 88.9 trillion won in 2024, which increased by 21.2% from 73.4 trillion won in 2023. The research and development expenditures per enterprise grew by 21.2% from 2023.

<Table> Research and development expenditures

(Unit: each, 100 million won, %)

Industry sections	Year	Number of survey target enterprises		Number of enterprises with research and development expenditures (A)		Research and development expenditures (B)	
		Annual sales per enterprise	Annual sales per enterprise	Annual sales per enterprise	Expenditures per enterprise (B/A)		
All industries (excluding 'Financial and Insurance Activities')	2023	14,115	2,270	7,630	2,970	799,977	105
	2024	14,480	2,328	7,690	3,099	971,185	126
	Percent change	2.6	2.6	0.8	4.3	21.4	20.0
Manufacturing	2023	6,692	2,789	5,345	3,057	733,894	137
	2024	6,772	2,913	5,366	3,254	889,377	166
	Percent change	1.2	4.4	0.4	6.4	21.2	21.2

□ **Among survey target enterprises, enterprises with subsidiaries amounted to 6,009 enterprises in 2024, dropping by 1.7% from 6,115 enterprises in 2023.**

○ Enterprises with domestic subsidiaries amounted to 4,681 enterprises in 2024, which fell by 1.0% from 4,728 enterprises in 2023.

○ Enterprises with overseas subsidiaries amounted to 3,351 enterprises in 2024, which dropped by 1.7% from 3,409 enterprises in 2023.

<Table> Enterprises with subsidiaries

(Unit: each, %)

Industry sections	Year	Number of enterprises	Number of enterprises with subsidiaries		Number of enterprises with domestic subsidiaries		Number of enterprises with overseas subsidiaries	
			Share	Share	Share	Share		
All industries	2023	14,546	6,115	42.0	4,728	77.3	3,409	55.7
	2024	14,922	6,009	40.3	4,681	77.9	3,351	55.8
	Percent change	2.6	-1.7		-1.0		-1.7	
Manufacturing	2023	6,692	3,075	46.0	2,082	67.7	2,155	70.1
	2024	6,772	3,028	44.7	2,081	68.7	2,121	70.0
	Percent change	1.2	-1.5		0.0		-1.6	
Wholesale and Retail Trade	2023	1,820	656	36.0	541	82.5	322	49.1
	2024	1,842	646	35.1	533	82.5	311	48.1
	Percent change	1.2	-1.5		-1.5		-3.4	
Information and Communication	2023	1,357	700	51.6	599	85.6	324	46.3
	2024	1,419	693	48.8	598	86.3	311	44.9
	Percent change	4.6	-1.0		-0.2		-4.0	

- Overseas subsidiaries were mainly located in China (21.9%), the United States (16.4%) and Vietnam (11.8%).

<Table> Countries of overseas subsidiaries

(Unit: each, %)

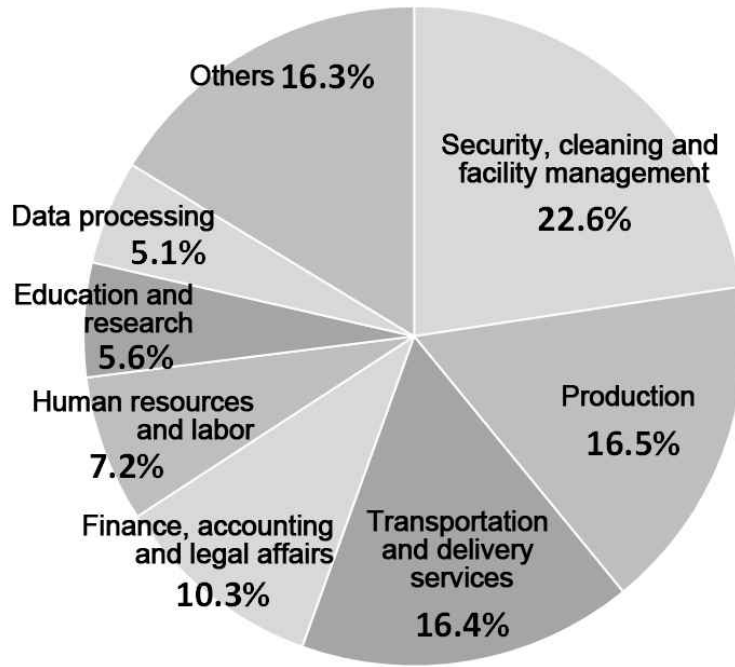
Classification	Number of subsidiaries		Compo- sition	Percent change	Classification	Number of subsidiaries		Compo- sition	Percent change		
	2023	2024				2023	2024				
Total	10,078	10,137	100.0	0.6							
Asia	Sub-total	6,521	6,479	63.9	-0.6	America	Sub-total	2,149	2,214	21.8	3.0
	China	2,330	2,217	21.9	-4.8		United States	1,622	1,663	16.4	2.5
	Vietnam	1,194	1,192	11.8	-0.2		Canada	93	102	1.0	9.7
	Japan	474	499	4.9	5.3		Mexico	205	219	2.2	6.8
	India	422	444	4.4	5.2		Brazil	105	103	1.0	-1.9
	Indonesia	407	428	4.2	5.2		Others	124	127	1.3	2.4
	Hong Kong	293	280	2.8	-4.4		Europe	Sub-total	1,183	1,209	11.9
	Singapore	296	308	3.0	4.1	Germany		201	200	2	-0.5
	Thailand	206	210	2.1	1.9	United Kingdom		151	155	1.5	2.6
	Malaysia	166	165	1.6	-0.6	Russia		118	120	1.2	1.7
	Philippines	131	126	1.2	-3.8	Poland		127	132	1.3	3.9
	Others	602	610	6.0	1.3	Others		586	602	5.9	2.7
						Others		225	235	2.3	4.4

	Number of survey target enterprises (each)	Number of workers (thousand persons)	Annual sales (trillion won)*	Net profit before the corporate tax (trillion won)*	Research and development expenditures (trillion won)*	Number of enterprises with subsidiaries (each)
2023	14,546	5,163	3,203.8	150.8	80.0	6,115
2024	14,922	5,347	3,371.1	181.9	97.1	6,009
Change	376	184	167.3	31.1	17.1	-106
Percent change (%)	2.6	3.6	5.2	20.6	21.4	-1.7

* The figures with an asterisk exclude 'Financial and Insurance Activities'.

Business management strategies of enterprises

- Enterprises outsourcing their business amounted to 9,445 enterprises in 2024, falling by 3.6% from 9,801 enterprises in 2023.
- As for outsourcing by type, 'Security, cleaning and facility management' occupied the highest share at 22.6%, which was followed by 'Production' (16.5%), 'Transportation and delivery services' (16.4%), 'Finance, accounting and legal affairs' (10.3%) and 'Human resources and labor' (7.2%).



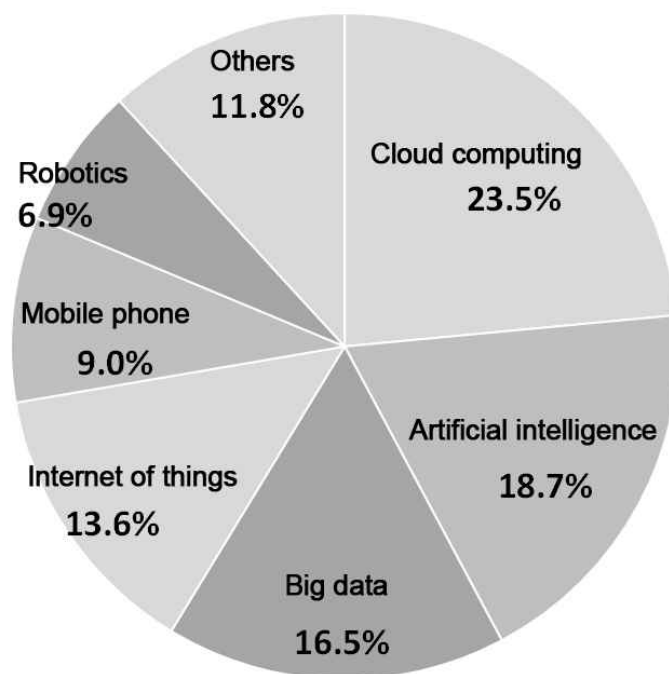
<Table> Enterprises outsourcing their business by industry

(Unit: each, %, %p)

Industry sections	Number of enterprises outsourcing their business			Share of the number of enterprises outsourcing their business		
	2023	2024	Percent change (%)	2023	2024	Change
All industries	9,801	9,445	-3.6	67.4	63.3	-4.1
Manufacturing	5,174	4,915	-5.0	77.3	72.6	-4.7
Construction	352	329	-6.5	56.5	49.3	-7.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,166	1,138	-2.4	64.1	61.8	-2.3
Transportation and Storage	361	368	1.9	48.2	47.2	-1.0
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	204	190	-6.9	61.1	55.7	-5.4
Information and Communication	857	849	-0.9	63.2	59.8	-3.4
Real Estate Activities	146	136	-6.8	53.7	47.6	-6.1
Other industries	1,244	1,225	-1.5	54.9	51.6	-3.3
Financial and Insurance Activities	297	295	-0.7	68.9	66.7	-2.2

Enterprises developing and utilizing the 4th industrial revolution-related technologies amounted to 3,398 enterprises in 2024, rising by 28.1% from 2,653 enterprises in 2023.

○ As for the 4th industrial revolution-related technologies that enterprises mainly developed and utilized, 'Cloud computing' occupied the largest share at 23.5%, which was followed by 'Artificial intelligence' (18.7%), 'Big data' (16.5%), 'Internet of things' (13.2%) and 'Mobile phones' (9.0%).



<Table> Number of enterprises 'developing and utilizing the 4th industrial revolution-related technologies' by industry

(Unit: each)

Year	Total	Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale and Retail Trade	Transportation and Storage
2023	2,653	1,057	82	287	60
2024	3,398	1,439	94	342	70
Change	745	382	12	55	10

Year	Information and Communication	Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	Other industries	Financial and Insurance Activities
2023	671	148	230	118
2024	805	177	324	147
Change	134	29	94	29

<Table> Number of enterprises 'developing and utilizing the 4th industrial revolution-related technologies' by technology sector

(Unit: each, %)

Year	Number of enterprises	Technology (multiple responses)				
		Total	Internet of things	Cloud computing	Big data	5G mobile phone
2023	2,653	5,588	708	1,386	1,009	499
2024	3,398	7,654	1,040	1,797	1,261	690
Share		100.0	13.6	23.5	16.5	9.0

Year	Technology (multiple responses)				
	Artificial intelligence	Blockchain	3D printing	Robotics	Virtual augmented reality
2023	924	194	276	370	222
2024	1,434	239	366	531	296
Share	18.7	3.1	4.8	6.9	3.9

Enterprises starting a new business amounted to 401 enterprises in 2024, rising by 14.2% from 351 enterprises in 2023.

- As for enterprises starting a new business by entry step, enterprises at the 'Sale' step marked 207 enterprises, which occupied 44.6%. Enterprises at the 'R & D' step marked 110 enterprises, which occupied 23.7%. Enterprises at the 'Facility construction' step marked 99 enterprises, which occupied 21.3%.

(Unit: each, %)

Number of enterprises	Entry step (multiple responses)				
	Total	Planning	R&D	Facility construction	Sale
401	464	48	110	99	207
Share	100.0	10.3	23.7	21.3	44.6

Enterprises establishing a strategic partnership with other enterprises amounted to 1,060 enterprises in 2024, rising by 2.4% from 1,035 enterprises in 2023.

- As for strategic partnership areas, a joint technology development occupied the largest share at 48.7%, which was followed by a technical partnership (45.1%) and a joint marketing (43.4%).

In 2024, 86.3% (12,877 enterprises) of enterprises introduced or operated a performance-based compensation system*, remaining the same as 2023.

* Annual salary, performance-based bonus, stock options, company stocks