Ministry of Data and Statistics

Press Release

Embargo	12:00P.M., May 21, 2026	Release Date	8:30A.M., May 21, 2026

Preliminary Results of Trade by Enterprise Characteristics in the First Quarter of 2026

Contact Division <General>	Enterprise Statistics Team, Economic Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Data and Statistics	Contact Person	Jung, Gyu-seung (042-481-2336)
Contact Division	ICT and Data Planning Division, ICT and Data Policy Bureau of Korea Customs Service	Contact Person	Kang, Kyung hoon (042-481-7790)

Preliminary Results of Trade by Enterprise Characteristics in the First Quarter of 2026

□ In the first quarter of 2026, the export value rose by 37.8% year-on-year, owing to the increase in 'Large enterprises', 'Middle standing enterprises' and 'Small and medium-sized enterprises'. The import value rose by 10.9% year-on-year, owing to the increase in 'Large enterprises', 'Middle standing enterprises' and 'Small and medium-sized enterprises'.

❍ **(Large enterprises)**
The export value of large enterprises grew by 52.9% owing to the increase in capital goods and 'crude materials & fuel'. The import value of large enterprises grew by 8.6% owing to the increase in capital goods, 'crude materials & fuel' and consumer goods.

❍ **(Middle standing enterprises)**
The export value of middle standing enterprises rose by 7.4% owing to the increase in capital goods, 'crude materials & fuel' and consumer goods. The import value of middle standing enterprises rose by 13.5% owing to the increase in capital goods, 'crude materials & fuel' and consumer goods.

❍ **(Small and medium-sized enterprises)**
The export value of small and medium-sized enterprises grew by 10.7% owing to the increase in 'crude materials & fuel', capital goods and consumer goods. The import value of small and medium-sized enterprises grew by 14.5% owing to the increase in capital goods, 'crude materials & fuel' and consumer goods.

□ As for the export value by industry, 'Mining and manufacturing', 'Wholesale and retail trade' and 'Other industries' all recorded a year-on-year increase. As for the import value by industry, 'Mining and manufacturing', 'Wholesale and retail trade' and 'Other industries' all recorded a year-on-year increase.

❍ **(Mining and manufacturing)**
The export value of ‘Mining and manufacturing’ rose by 42.2% owing to the increase in 'Electrical equipment and electronic components' and 'Metal products'. The import value of ‘Mining and manufacturing’ rose by 8.6% owing to the increase in 'Electrical equipment and electronic components' and 'Metal products'.

❍ **(Wholesale and retail trade)**
The export value of 'Wholesale and retail trade' grew by 9.8%. The import value of 'Wholesale and retail trade' grew by 17.4%.

❍ **(Other industries)**
The export value of other industries rose by 6.4% owing to the increase in 'Transportation and storage' and 'Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities'. The import value of other industries rose by 8.5% owing to the increase in 'Transportation and storage' and 'Public administration and defence; compulsory social security'.

□ The international trade concentration of the export value of top 10 enterprises stood at 50.1%, up 13.5%p year-on-year.

< International trade value by enterprise characteristics >

(Unit: year-on-year, %)

Enterprise characteristics		Export value					Import value				
		2025^{p}				2026^{p}	2025^{p}				2026^{p}
		1Q^{p}	2Q^{p}	3Q^{p}	4Q^{p}	1Q^{p}	1Q^{p}	2Q^{p}	3Q^{p}	4Q^{p}	1Q^{p}
Total		-2.3	2.1	6.5	8.4	37.8	-1.3	-1.7	1.6	1.4	10.9
By enterprise size	Large enterprises	-2.7	0.8	5.0	10.4	52.9	-4.1	-5.3	-1.1	-3.8	8.6
	Middle standing enterprises	-3.4	3.7	7.8	-0.1	7.4	10.1	4.5	5.0	11.7	13.5
	Small and medium-sized enterprises	0.4	4.9	10.8	9.6	10.7	-1.3	2.9	8.3	7.1	14.5
By industry	Mining and manufacturing	-0.7	3.4	8.0	9.1	42.2	-2.4	-3.8	-2.7	-0.4	8.6
	Wholesale and retail trade	-15.4	-9.1	-3.3	4.5	9.8	3.0	2.0	10.2	10.0	17.4
	Other industries	3.4	4.0	-0.5	4.3	6.4	-3.6	2.4	6.1	-8.1	8.5
International trade concentration of top 10 enterprises		36.6	38.3	40.5	43.4	50.1	31.5	29.1	28.7	28.5	30.7

Percent change in the international trade value by enterprise characteristics in the first quarter of 2026

(Unit: year-on-year, %)

Classification			Export value					Import value				
			2025^{p}	2026^{p}				2025^{p}	2026^{p}			
			1Q^{p}	2Q^{p}	3Q^{p}	4Q^{p}	1Q^{p}	1Q^{p}	2Q^{p}	3Q^{p}	4Q^{p}	1Q^{p}
Total			-2.3	2.1	6.5	8.4	37.8	-1.3	-1.7	1.6	1.4	10.9
By enterprise size	Large enterprise		-2.7	0.8	5.0	10.4	52.9	-4.1	-5.3	-1.1	-3.8	8.6
	By nature of goods	Consumer goods	-12.7	-13.9	-5.4	-17.2	-10.3	-6.2	-4.4	5.3	-3.3	2.8
		Crude materials & fuel	-13.6	-9.8	-5.0	-5.9	12.3	-9.4	-13.1	-7.4	-5.4	0.6

		Capital goods	6.5	10.3	12.0	23.3	86.5	6.3	9.1	9.1	-1.4	22.6
	By industry	Mining and manufacturing	0.5	3.8	8.6	13.0	57.3	-4.7	-6.8	-4.7	-1.2	8.3
		Wholesale and retail trade	-48.9	-46.4	-40.2	-29.3	-1.3	6.9	-0.7	10.6	1.4	19.2
		Other industries	0.8	1.9	-14.6	-17.1	-14.8	-11.4	-1.6	8.4	-22.6	-1.8
	Middle standing enterprise		-3.4	3.7	7.8	-0.1	7.4	10.1	4.5	5.0	11.7	13.5
	By nature of goods	Consumer goods	0.2	5.7	6.3	-8.7	2.5	1.8	5.8	4.9	-0.5	5.1
		Crude materials & fuel	-6.2	-2.1	3.6	0.0	10.4	-1.6	-5.2	1.0	25.3	17.1
		Capital goods	-2.5	6.4	9.9	1.3	6.8	22.1	11.5	7.5	6.8	13.6
	By industry	Mining and manufacturing	-2.6	4.6	7.6	0.3	6.8	6.3	4.4	1.6	2.5	9.2
		Wholesale and retail trade	-5.3	-1.3	6.2	-2.0	14.4	7.8	-0.4	8.2	38.6	20.0
		Other industries	-19.4	-4.5	20.6	-6.1	-0.4	75.2	19.8	32.5	43.5	36.9
	Small and medium-sized enterprises		0.4	4.9	10.8	9.6	10.7	-1.3	2.9	8.3	7.1	14.5
	By nature of goods	Consumer goods	12.1	14.5	23.7	25.6	7.8	-1.1	2.8	9.1	3.1	13.0
		Crude materials & fuel	0.1	3.8	5.8	8.6	14.5	-4.4	-0.4	5.0	11.5	15.0
		Capital goods	-5.4	0.5	6.9	1.5	9.8	1.4	5.9	10.4	6.9	15.4
	By industry	Mining and manufacturing	-4.5	-1.1	4.8	-2.8	3.9	-3.1	-0.1	2.3	-0.6	9.2
		Wholesale and retail trade	5.1	12.8	18.3	21.1	12.4	-0.4	4.1	10.4	9.6	15.6
		Other industries	21.5	14.4	20.6	56.2	62.5	-0.9	6.0	16.5	17.5	27.1
By industry	Mining and manufacturing		-0.7	3.4	8.0	9.1	42.2	-2.4	-3.8	-2.7	-0.4	8.6
	Manufacturing		-0.7	3.4	8.0	9.1	42.2	-1.7	-4.1	-2.1	-0.6	8.4
		Food and beverages	9.7	5.1	0.4	-2.8	4.1	-3.9	3.6	5.7	-1.5	0.0
		Textiles and clothing	-8.5	-10.4	-5.0	-10.7	-1.1	3.8	-3.4	-3.2	-7.5	-2.8
		Wood and paper products	-10.8	-8.8	-7.3	-10.1	0.9	-0.8	-9.3	-13.3	-13.2	-9.2
		Petroleum and chemical products	-12.1	-9.2	-7.6	-6.3	4.1	-5.5	-16.5	-12.0	-7.9	-9.4
		Metal products	-3.8	-0.1	1.0	-0.5	20.0	-9.4	-4.4	1.6	12.9	28.3
		Electrical equipment and electronic components	5.1	10.3	15.4	19.0	80.6	3.6	5.9	2.5	1.3	20.6
		Transport equipment	-0.3	2.2	9.4	3.6	4.4	5.6	8.7	12.7	1.6	8.5
	Wholesale and retail trade		-15.4	-9.1	-3.3	4.5	9.8	3.0	2.0	10.2	10.0	17.4
	Other industries		3.4	4.0	-0.5	4.3	6.4	-3.6	2.4	6.1	-8.1	8.5
By employment size	1-9 employees		5.5	10.1	19.6	29.4	11.8	1.4	4.6	3.4	14.0	15.9
	10-249 employees		-14.2	-11.2	-5.5	-3.5	12.0	3.0	4.2	6.1	9.5	14.1
	250 employees or more		-0.3	4.2	8.0	9.3	43.8	-2.8	-4.4	-0.2	-2.6	9.2