

A wide-angle photograph of the Seoul skyline at sunset. The city is densely packed with skyscrapers and buildings, many of which are illuminated by the warm, golden light of the setting sun. In the background, a large, dark mountain rises above the city, topped with the N Seoul Tower. The sky is filled with soft, orange and pink clouds, and the overall atmosphere is serene and picturesque.

BUSINESS CLIMATE SURVEY FOR SWEDISH COMPANIES IN SOUTH KOREA 2025

A REPORT FROM TEAM SWEDEN IN SOUTH KOREA

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FOREWORD

Over the past couple of years, the Korean market has gained attention due to its high digitalisation, strong innovation, educated workforce, and developed economy. Consequently, more Swedish companies are looking to South Korea for international expansion and partnerships. Since 2016, South Korea has been Sweden's third-largest trading partner in Asia. Despite global uncertainties, South Korea has been a trusted business partner for Swedish firms for over 100 years.

Jointly owned by the State and the business sector, Business Sweden has around 50 offices worldwide. It provides market information, advice, and support services to Swedish companies to help them grow internationally, as well as assists foreign investors who want to enter and expand in the Swedish market. Business Sweden collaborates with embassies, consulates, and stakeholders in markets across the world. For the past 13 years, it has supported the establishment of more than 50 new Swedish subsidiaries in the South Korean market, which now total over 120.

The Embassy of Sweden in Seoul plays a pivotal role in strengthening the economic and business ties between Sweden and South Korea. Since 1959, the embassy has been a key facilitator of trade promotion and business collaboration. By fostering partnerships and supporting Swedish companies in the Korean market, the embassy contributes to the robust economic relationship between the two nations. Its efforts in promoting innovation, sustainable development, and cultural exchange further enhance the dynamic and mutually beneficial cooperation between Sweden and South Korea.

The Swedish business community in South Korea has grown with increasing Swedish exports, and its connections in the country have expanded since the establishment of the Swedish Chamber of Commerce Korea (SCCK) in 2012. SCCK provides a platform and a voice for Swedish businesses in the fast-growing South Korean market. SCCK organises various events to keep its members informed and connected, which allows them to share experiences and network with each other.

Team Sweden is a dynamic network of public organisations, agencies, and companies dedicated to promoting Swedish exports and coordinating government support. In South Korea, Team Sweden is represented by the Embassy of Sweden, Business Sweden, SCCK, and numerous Swedish companies. As the Swedish business community continues to expand, Team Sweden's role has become increasingly vital, encompassing key responsibilities such as:

- Facilitating industry promotion and knowledge exchange
- Advancing Swedish solutions and systems within the Korean market
- Encouraging Korean investments in Sweden
- Maintaining ongoing dialogue with local stakeholders to enhance market conditions for Swedish companies

This report aims to deepen the understanding of Swedish companies' performance in South Korea, offering valuable insights into both opportunities and challenges. Furthermore, it will serve as a crucial reference in bilateral trade dialogues between Sweden and South Korea. Team Sweden extends its heartfelt gratitude to the participating companies and respondents who have contributed to this report.



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+51 respondents in South Korea

Current business climate

More negative
compared to last
year

Industry turnover

57%

of Swedish companies expect
their industry turnover to
increase

Future investments

49%

of Swedish companies plan to
increase their investments
slightly or significantly in the
next 12 months

Globally valued success factors

1. Cost efficiency
2. Partnerships/relationships
3. Brand awareness

Brand Sweden

95%

of Swedish companies abroad consider Brand
Sweden beneficial for business

Local conditions with high satisfaction

1. Physical infrastructure
2. Personal safety
3. Level of digitalisation

Local conditions with least satisfaction

1. Labour market
2. Transparency
3. Corporate taxation

Environmental considerations

60%

of respondents believe
environmental considerations
are a factor in their customers'
purchasing decisions

Corruption

- Low in South Korea
- Low risk in advanced economies

Human rights violation and labour rights abuse

- Low in South Korea
- Low risk in advanced economies

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Insights into performance, opportunities, and challenges

The Business Climate Survey targeting Swedish companies in South Korea has been conducted since 2009 and annually since 2014 by Team Sweden. The objective of this report is to enhance the understanding of Swedish companies' performance in South Korea and highlight the opportunities and challenges in the South Korean market. Additionally, it can serve as a reference in bilateral trade dialogues between Sweden and South Korea.

The survey was carried out in February 2025 and targeted country managers and representatives who have an overview of their companies' performance and results for the year 2024. Out of 121 eligible companies, 51 respondents replied, equalling a 42 per cent response rate. With this response rate, the survey result can be trusted with a 95 per cent confidence level.

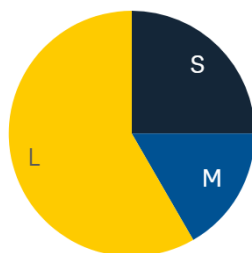
Regarding the composition of companies that responded to the survey, large companies with over 1,000 global employees constitute 58 per cent of the sample, medium-sized companies (250-1,000 global employees) account for 17 per cent, and small companies with fewer than 250 employees make up 25 per cent.

The survey respondents represent a diverse range of industries, categorised into three groups: Industrial (64 per cent), professional services (23 per cent), and consumer companies (13 per cent).

In terms of the establishment timeline, 35 per cent of Swedish companies in South Korea commenced operations before 2003, 41 per cent established their business between 2004-2019, and 24 per cent are newcomers, having set up their business after 2020.

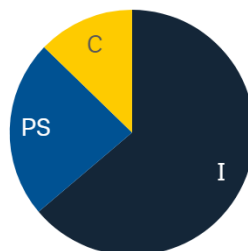
The report is structured into sections: 'Economic outlook', 'The market', 'How Swedish companies Succeed in South Korea', and 'Acting sustainably'.

SIZE OF COMPANIES



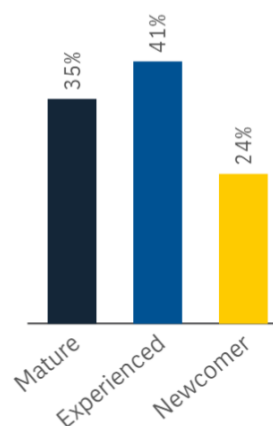
NOTE: Global employees. Large >1000. Medium 250-1000. Small 0-249

MAIN INDUSTRY



NOTE: Industrial 64%. Professional services 23%. Consumer 13%

AGE OF COMPANIES



NOTE: Mature (<2003). Experienced (2004-2019). Newcomer (2020-)

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Decline in performance as more companies face losses and experience reduced profitability

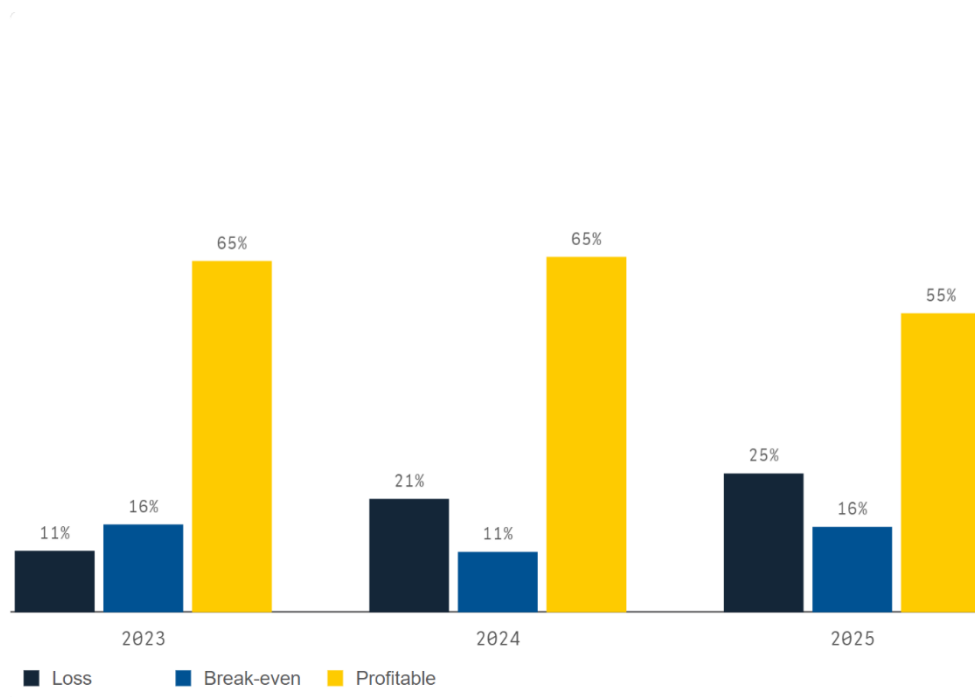
The latest survey results indicate that 55 per cent of companies were profitable, which is a 10 percentage point decrease compared to the previous two years – suggesting that fewer companies were in the green. Additionally, the percentage of companies reporting losses increased to 25 per cent, up from 21 per cent in 2024 and 11 per cent in 2023. This significant rise indicates that a growing number of companies faced financial struggles during this period.

Among the respondents, 79 per cent of large-sized companies reported being profitable, indicating that larger companies were better positioned to achieve financial success. In contrast, 67 per cent of small-sized companies reported losses, implying that smaller companies faced significant financial difficulties and were more vulnerable to market fluctuations.

Sector-wise, consumer companies and professional service firms demonstrated strong performance, with 83 per cent and 82 per cent respectively reporting profitability. On the other hand, 40 per cent of industrial companies reported losses, underscoring challenges within the industrial sector.

Regarding company maturity, 72 per cent of mature companies and 52 per cent of experienced companies reported profitability, showcasing that more established companies tend to perform better financially. Only 33 per cent of newcomer companies achieved profitability, indicating that newer companies face greater challenges in achieving financial stability.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR COMPANY'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE IN SOUTH KOREA IN THE PAST YEAR?



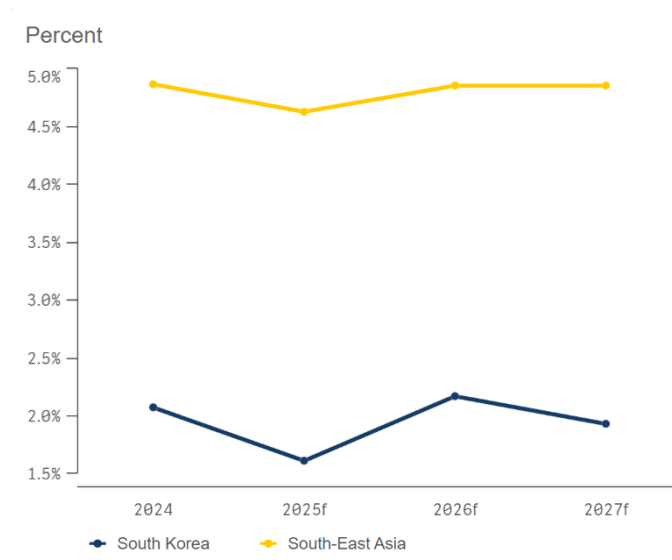
NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

According to the 2025 survey, the financial performance of Swedish companies in South Korea declined last year, and there is a higher share of companies that reported losses since 2023. Smaller companies and industrial sectors have faced the most significant challenges. Larger and more mature companies, as well as those in the consumer and professional service sectors, demonstrated better financial health. However, the data indicates that financial difficulties were widespread, affecting companies of various sizes, sectors, and stages of maturity.

South Korea faces economic slowdown due to political instability and industrial challenges

PROJECTED GDP GROWTH IN SOUTH KOREA



NOTE: Constant prices.

SOURCE: Oxford Economics 11 March 2025

In early 2025, the government projected South Korea's economic growth to drop to 1.8 per cent, falling below the two per cent mark. This slowdown is attributed to a combination of political uncertainty and industrial challenges, all of which have weakened the country's economic resilience. In April 2025, The International Monetary Fund (IMF) further downgraded its growth forecast to one per cent, citing increased global economic uncertainty triggered by newly imposed US tariff measures.

Political instability has emerged as a major factor hindering South Korea's economic growth. Donald Trump's presidency has heightened global uncertainty, particularly in trade policies and tariffs, which could adversely affect South Korea's export-driven economy. Domestically, ex-President Yoon Suk Yeol's declaration of martial law on 3 December 2024, along with the impeachment turmoil surrounding the president, has also contributed to overall uncertainty, with delayed government decisions and policy enactment discouraging both foreign and domestic investment.

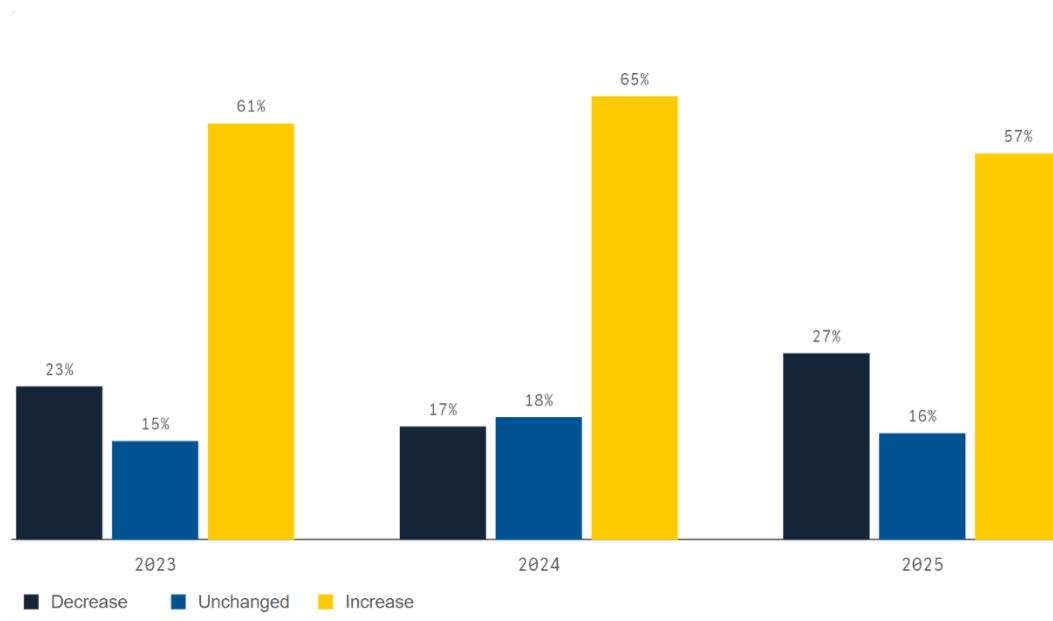
Exports have historically been the backbone of South Korea's economy, but they are now facing significant obstacles. The country is struggling with intensified competition from China, which has evolved from being South Korea's largest export destination to becoming a formidable rival in key high-tech industries. Sectors such as semiconductors, electric vehicles, and batteries, which have long been South Korea's strongholds, are facing challenges due to advancements in Chinese technologies and aggressive pricing strategies.

Moreover, the extended period of high interest rates and inflation has compounded these issues, making it increasingly difficult for the domestic market to offset the negative factors affecting the

economy. Structural challenges, such as an ageing population and heavy dependence on export-driven conglomerates, are also highlighted as key reasons for the economic slowdown.

Meanwhile, 57 per cent of Swedish companies anticipate an increase in turnover over the next 12 months. However, this marks a decline from 2023 and 2024 levels of 61 and 65 per cent. While Swedish companies remain optimistic about growth, the lower expectations compared to previous years highlight growing uncertainty in the global economic landscape and geopolitical risks.

COMPARED TO DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS, WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR INDUSTRY IN SOUTH KOREA REGARDING TURNOVER OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

Investment outlook remains steady despite economic and political uncertainty in South Korea

A recent survey showed that 49 per cent of Swedish companies in South Korea plan to increase their investments over the next 12 months. This marked a one percentage point increase from last year, suggesting steady interest in the Korean market.

However, some companies remain cautious due to ongoing concerns about the country's political and economic environment. As a result, 14 per cent of companies stated that they plan to reduce or withdraw their investments – an increase of six percentage points from the previous year.

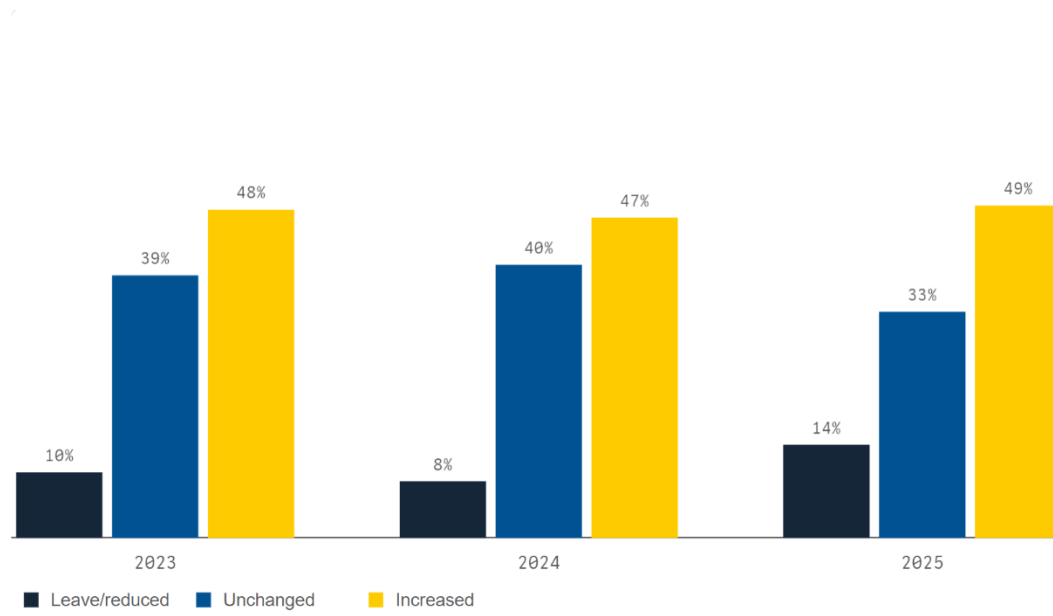
Investment plans differed by company size. Among large-sized companies, 61 per cent reported that they would increase investment, showing higher levels of confidence compared to smaller firms.

In terms of industry, the consumer sector showed the highest investment activity, with 67 per cent of companies planning to invest more. This trend is followed by the professional services sector, where 55 per cent reported similar plans. At the same time, 43 per cent of companies in the industrial sector indicated intention to increase their investments.

The survey results also revealed a notable difference between companies based on how long they have been operating in South Korea. Among newcomers, 67 per cent responded that they plan to increase their investment. In contrast, only 44 per cent of mature companies and 43 per cent of experienced companies reported the same intent. This may reflect the growth-oriented strategies of newer entrants who are in the earlier stages of building a presence in the market, focusing more on expansion.

When asked about potential investment plans in South Korea over the next three years, 73 per cent of respondents identified marketing and sales as a primary focus, followed by after-sales service at 33 per cent. These priorities closely align with the current business operations in Korea. Other key areas of planned investment include mergers and acquisitions (24 per cent), skills development and training (22 per cent), as well as manufacturing and sustainability/CSR (16 per cent, each). These investment areas suggest that Swedish companies are keen on expanding and further developing business operations while also prioritising sustainability.

WHAT ARE YOUR COMPANY'S INVESTMENT PLANS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS IN SOUTH KOREA COMPARED TO THE PAST 12 MONTHS?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025

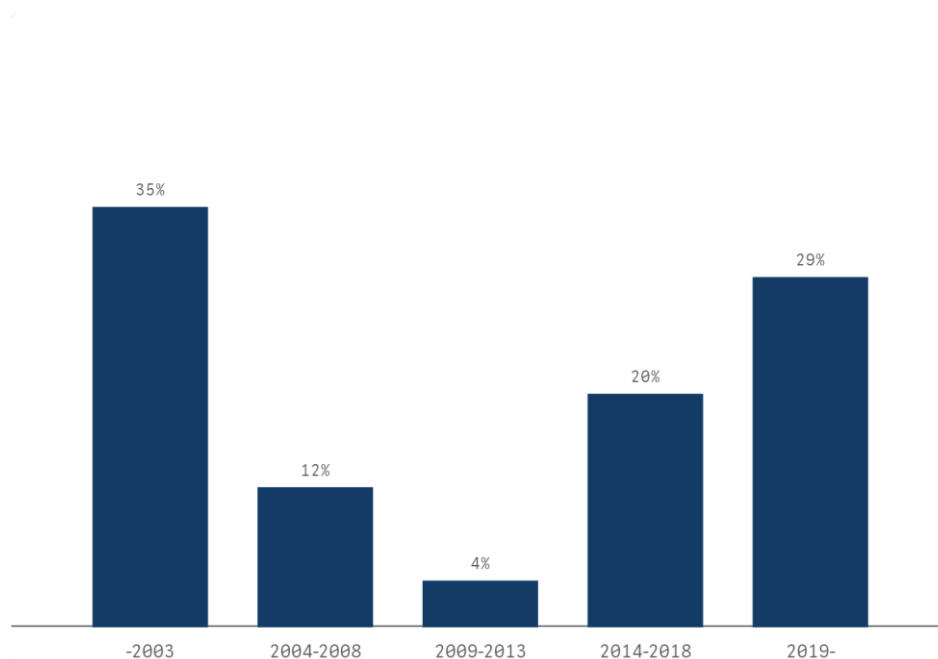
THE MARKET

Swedish companies have steadily expanded into South Korea, combining traditional industry strengths with diverse sectors

In terms of market presence, 35 per cent of companies reported that they established operations in South Korea before 2003, while 36 per cent entered between 2004 and 2018. The remaining 29 per cent established their operations within the past six years. This indicates that there is a balanced mix of old and new Swedish companies in Korea and highlights Swedish companies' continued commitment and growing interest in the Korean market.

As for company size, 55 per cent of respondents stated that they employ more than 1,000 full-time staff globally. However, their local footprint tends to be smaller, with 90 per cent of companies reported having fewer than 250 employees in South Korea and only eight per cent employing more than 1,000 people locally. This reflects a common structure among multinational firms, where local operations are relatively lean but part of much larger global organisations.

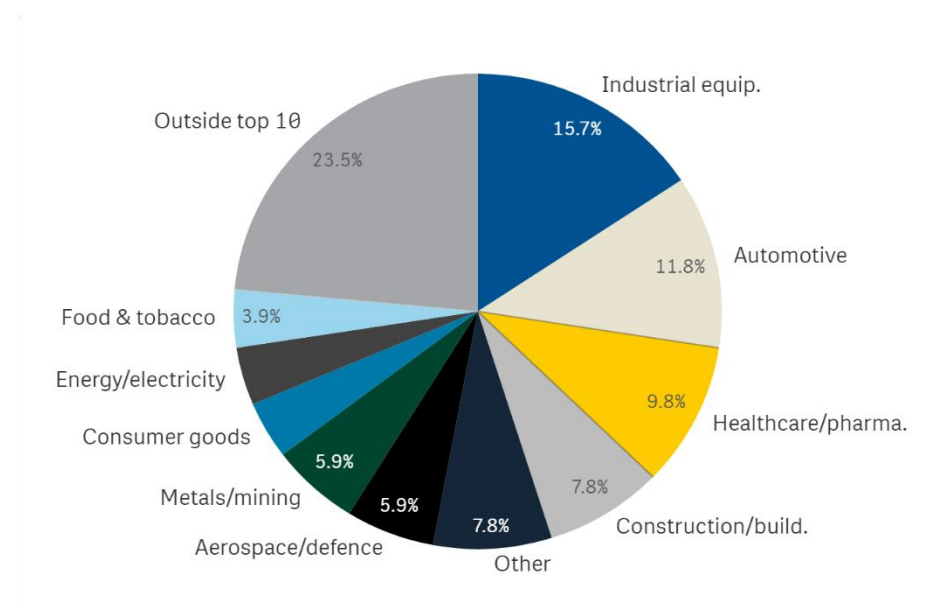
IN WHAT YEAR DID YOUR COMPANY ESTABLISH OPERATIONS IN SOUTH KOREA?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

WHAT IS YOUR COMPANY'S MAIN INDUSTRY IN SOUTH KOREA?



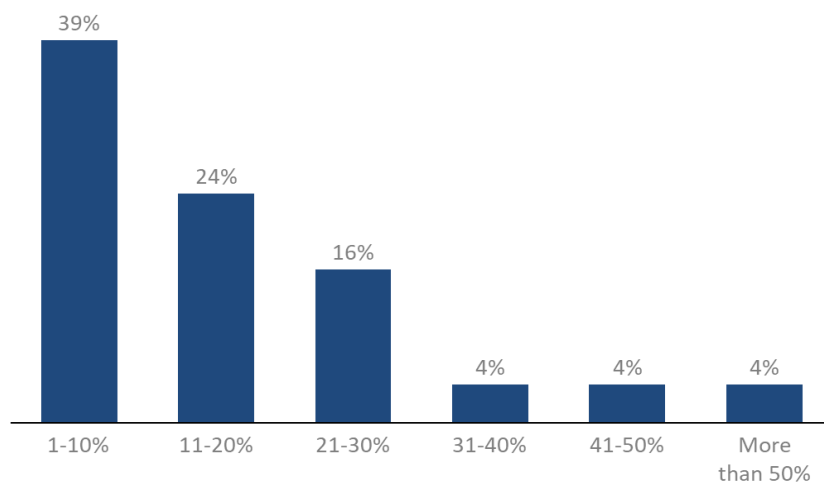
NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

The leading industries represented by Swedish companies in South Korea include industrial equipment, automotive, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, and construction and building materials. This result highlights Sweden's strengths in advanced and innovation-heavy industry areas. Still, the Swedish business presence is diverse, with companies from a variety of industries such as aerospace and defence, metals and mining, consumer goods, energy and electricity, and IT and electronics.

However, despite South Korea being Sweden's third largest trading partner in Asia since 2016, 39 per cent of respondents indicated that only one to 10 per cent of their APAC revenue comes from South Korea. Only 12 per cent reported that South Korea accounts for more than 31 per cent of their revenue in the region. This suggests that South Korea's large and advanced economy may hold untapped potential for Swedish firms.

APPROXIMATELY WHAT SHARE OF YOUR REVENUE IN THE APAC REGION COMES FROM SOUTH KOREA?

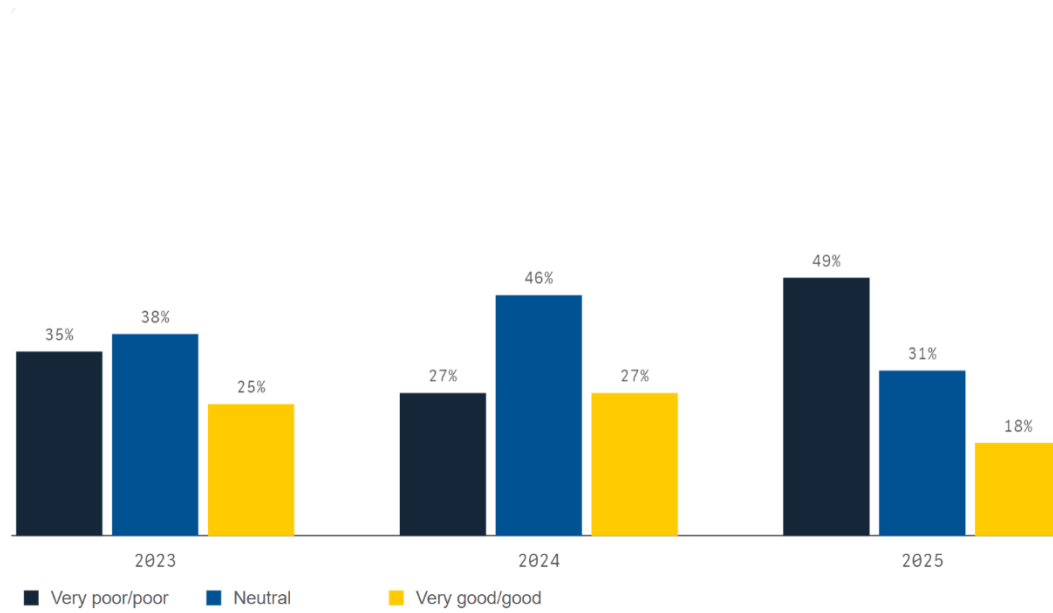


NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

The business climate in South Korea has weakened and become less favourable

HOW DO YOU PERCEIVE THE CURRENT BUSINESS CLIMATE IN SOUTH KOREA?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

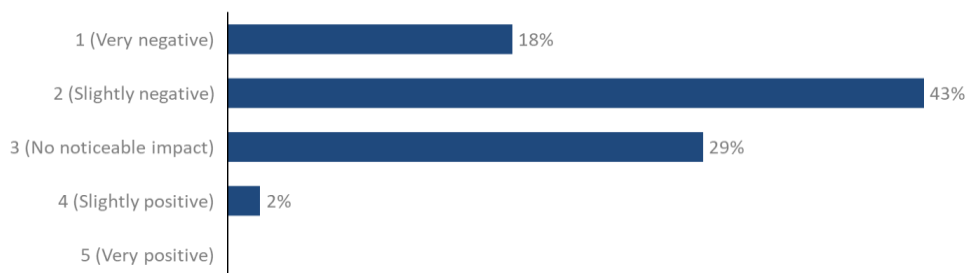
Swedish companies' perception of the current business climate in South Korea has become noticeably less positive. The proportion of respondents with a positive or neutral view has declined significantly, by a total of 24 percentage points. As much as 49 per cent of respondents responded that the current business climate doesn't look positive, up from 27 per cent in the previous year. Respondents pointed to political and economic instability as key concerns. Many expect that political uncertainty and economic challenges will lead to a decline in sales from Korean partners and clients. Additionally, the current political environment and strained international relations are creating uncertainty around long-term business planning.

Recent political events in South Korea were seen as having a direct impact on business operations. Sixty-one per cent of respondents reported experiencing a negative impact, while only 29 per cent said these events had no significant effect on their activities. Very few reported a positive impact, highlighting the negative sentiment among businesses caused by national politics.

Korea's construction industry is one sector that has been struggling lately. This is due to elevated housing prices and reduced government investment in social overhead capital (SOC). As a result, the construction industry is expected to see limited growth this year. There have also been reports of manpower shortages in the construction and mining industries, with Swedish companies emphasising the need for more active support for labour permits to help global affiliates stabilise the workforce.

Strict regulations related to product registration and after-sales service also caused increased costs for businesses, placing additional pressure on operational efficiency and profitability.

HOW DO NATIONAL POLITICAL EVENTS IN SOUTH KOREA IMPACT YOUR COMPANY'S OPERATIONS?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

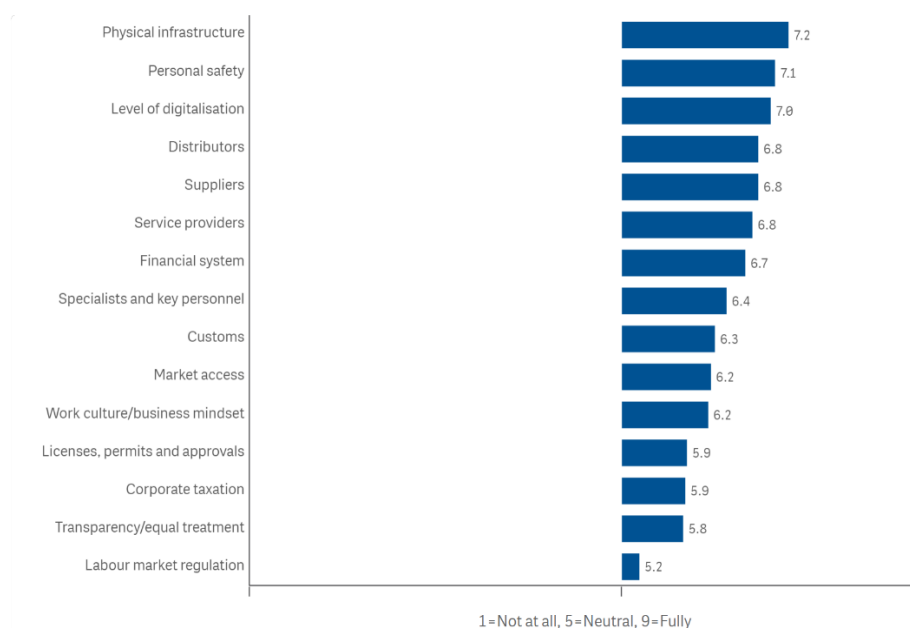
SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

Sweden values South Korea's infrastructure and digitalisation but remains concerned about labour regulations, taxation, and transparency

Swedish companies continue to express overall satisfaction with business conditions in South Korea, rating the majority of the 15 factors well above the neutral midpoint of five on a scale of one to 10. Areas that received the highest marks included physical infrastructure, personal safety, and digitalisation, reflecting South Korea's advanced urban development, reliable public services, and strong tech ecosystem.

However, respondents consistently pointed to corporate taxation, transparency and equal treatment, and labour market regulation as areas where expectations were not fully met. These findings are in line with last year's results, indicating persistent structural challenges. Interestingly, for several years, physical infrastructure and labour market regulation have remained at the top and bottom of the rankings, respectively. This suggests long-standing strengths and weaknesses in the business environment.

HOW WELL DO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUR COMPANY IN SOUTH KOREA?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51.

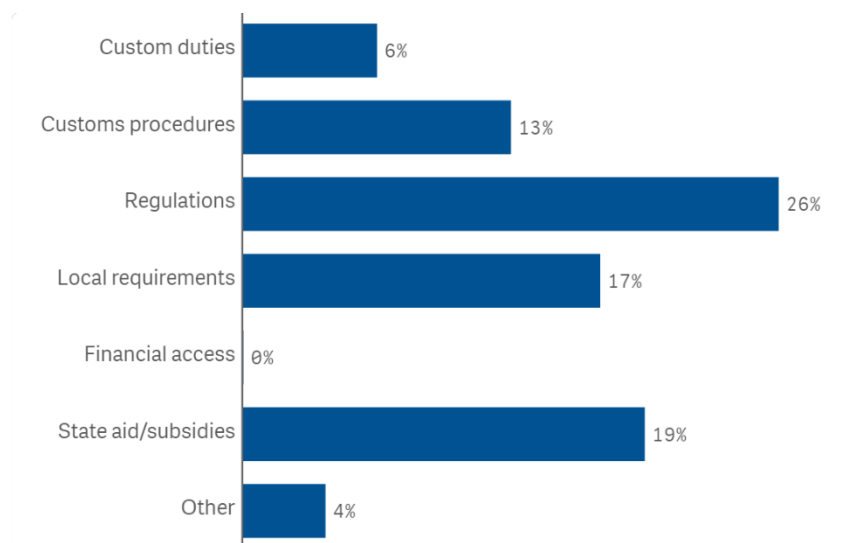
SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

Swedish firms report regulatory hurdles as the main trade barrier in South Korea

Most Swedish companies have encountered trade barriers in South Korea, consistently identifying regulations as the primary obstacle to doing business. In the survey, 26 per cent of the companies responded that they were negatively affected by regulations. Often, Korea-specific regulatory requirements, such as compliance procedures and product certification, have posed challenges, especially when they differ from international standards. For example, in cases where EU test certifications are not accepted in Korea, companies must redo the testing according to Korean procedures, creating additional costs and delays. Differing EU and Korean standards on product measurements have also, in some cases, resulted in Swedish companies being unable to offer their full range of products in the Korean market.

Following regulatory issues, state aid/subsidies and local requirements were also cited as key barriers, reflecting concerns over a business environment that may favour domestic firms or require costly adaptations. These findings suggest that while South Korea remains an attractive market, administrative and compliance-related burdens continue to be a significant concern for foreign businesses.

HAS YOUR COMPANY, IN THE PAST YEAR, ENCOUNTERED TRADE BARRIERS IN SOUTH KOREA WITH A NOTICEABLY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OPERATIONS IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

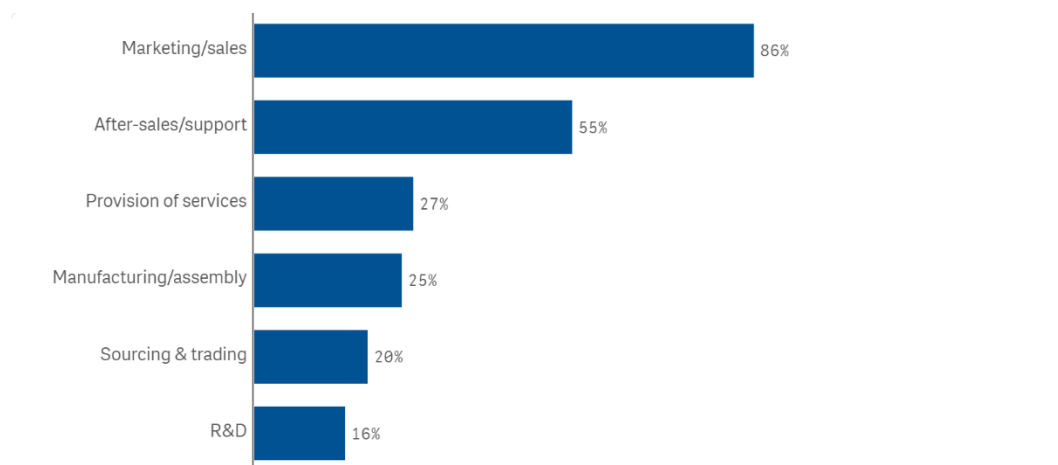
HOW SWEDISH COMPANIES SUCCEED IN SOUTH KOREA

Swedish firms in South Korea are mainly engaged in marketing/sales, while R&D presence continues to decline

A recent breakdown of Swedish firms' operations in the South Korean market shows that marketing and sales remains the most common activity, carried out by 86 per cent of companies. This is followed by after-sales and support services at 55 per cent. These two areas have consistently been the top focus for several years, highlighting the strong commercial orientation and commitment to customer relationships in South Korea. Other operational activities include provision and services, manufacturing or assembly, sourcing and trading at around 20 per cent, indicating a moderate level of local production or service integration.

Notably, only 16 per cent of Swedish firms engaged in R&D in 2024, and this share has been declining since 2023. These findings suggest that while the majority of Swedish companies maintain a commercial presence in the market, fewer are investing in deeper, innovation-driven operations locally.

OPERATIONS OF SWEDISH FIRMS IN THE MARKET



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

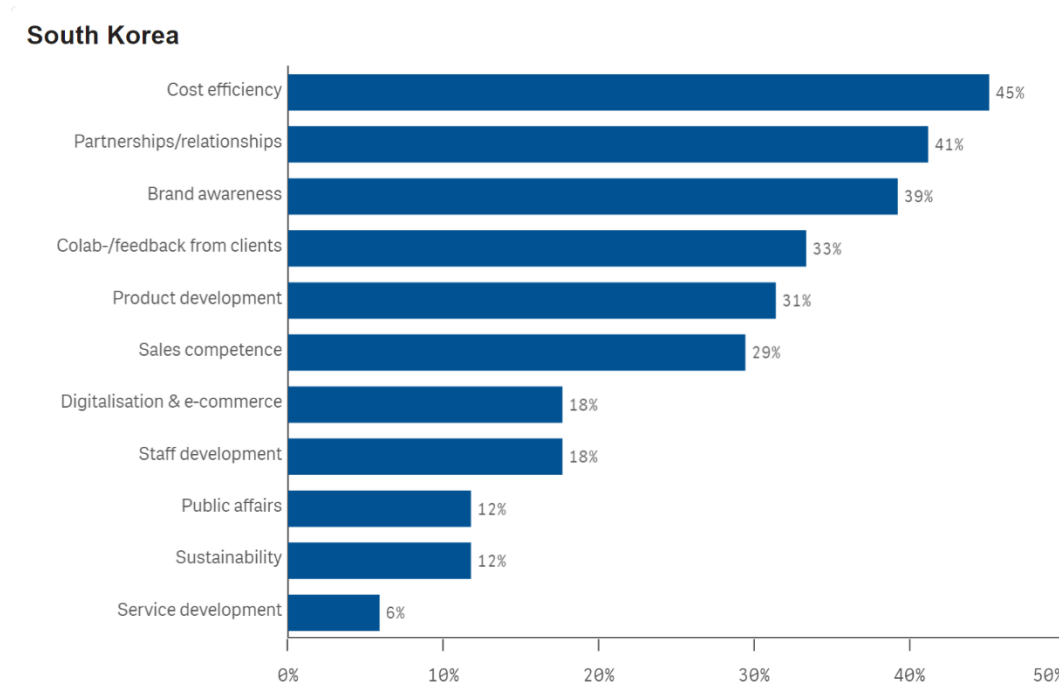
SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

Cost efficiency and partnerships emerge as top factors driving competitiveness in South Korea

Swedish companies identified cost efficiency as the most crucial factor for maintaining competitiveness in South Korea, with 45 per cent of respondents selecting it. Though it ranked second in 2023, cost efficiency emerged as the most important factor in 2024, indicating that companies are facing growing pressure to manage operational costs in a competitive and dynamic market. Partnership and relationship building came in second at 41 per cent, underscoring the ongoing importance of local networks and strong, trust-based collaborations in succeeding within

the Korean business culture. Brand awareness followed, indicating that visibility and reputation continue to play a key role in securing market position.

TO DATE, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING COMPETITIVENESS IN SOUTH KOREA?



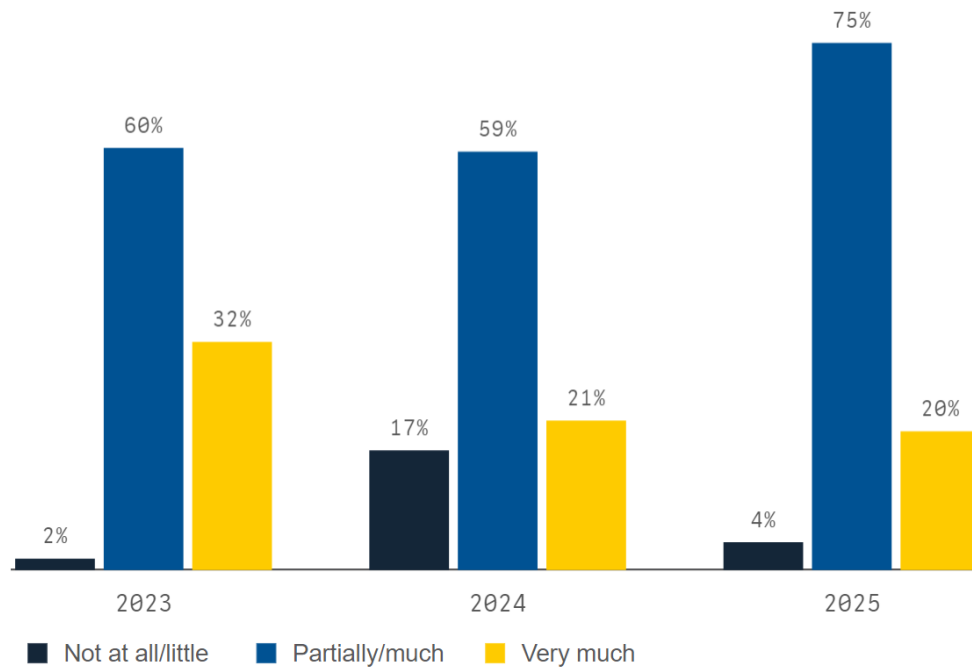
NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

The 'Swedish Brand' continues to be an asset in the South Korean market, with 95 per cent of respondents reporting a positive impact

Team Sweden in South Korea works constantly to create and maintain a positive and favourable public perception of the Swedish brand and Swedish businesses. According to this year's survey, 95 per cent of respondents stated that the 'Swedish Brand' had a positive impact on business, and only four per cent said it had little or no effect. Although there was a slight decrease in the strongest level of agreement compared to previous surveys, it remains significant that over 90 per cent of companies continue to view Brand Sweden's influence as positive.

The result underscores the strong and consistent reputation of the Swedish Brand in the Korean market. It is associated with values such as quality, innovation, and sustainability – traits that resonate well with Korean consumers and partners. For Swedish companies in South Korea, it may be beneficial to utilise or incorporate the Swedish brand in marketing efforts to find new business opportunities and strengthen positioning.

TO WHAT EXTENT WOULD YOU ESTIMATE THAT THE 'SWEDISH BRAND' CONTRIBUTES TO YOUR BUSINESS IN SOUTH KOREA?

NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

ACTING SUSTAINABLY

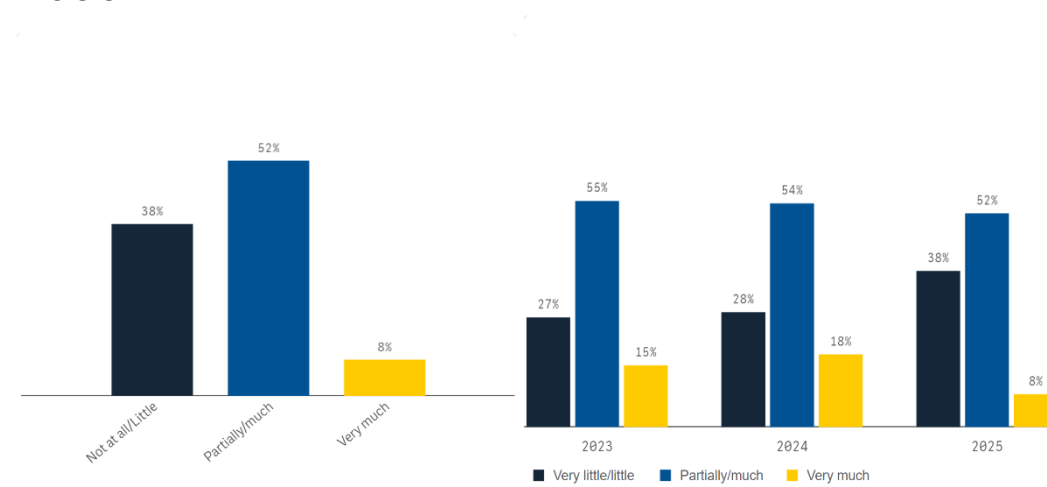
More than half of Korean consumers consider sustainability in their purchasing decisions, but a slight decline is observed

For three consecutive years, over half of South Korean consumers have been influenced by environmental aspects in their purchasing decisions. However, sustainability has not been the most important factor. The 2025 Business Climate Survey indicates a decline in South Korean consumers' consideration of environmental factors compared to previous years. Specifically, there has been a 10 percentage point decrease in Swedish firms reporting that South Korean customers consider environmental aspects "very much" during purchases. At the same time, the proportion of firms observing "very little/little" consideration of environmental aspects has increased by 10 percentage points.

Feedback from Swedish companies reveals that while end-consumer perception and willingness towards sustainability has increased, especially among Generation Z consumers, the trend has not significantly influenced purchasing decisions. Notably, few consumers are willing to pay extra for sustainable products. Personal benefit, convenience, and price remain more critical factors than sustainability despite growing awareness.

Moreover, Swedish firms have highlighted several sustainability-related challenges in this year's survey, including high price sensitivity, the perception of sustainability as a liability or risk, as well as the lack of robust environmental policies from the government. Furthermore, several companies report that there is still insufficient support or subsidies from the South Korean government to drive sustainability. This underscores a growing need for greater visibility and stronger collaboration with the government on sustainability efforts.

TO WHAT EXTENT DO CUSTOMERS IN SOUTH KOREA CONSIDER ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF A PRODUCT OR SERVICE IN THEIR PURCHASING DECISION?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51. "Don't know/Not applicable" responses are included but not shown in this figure.

SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

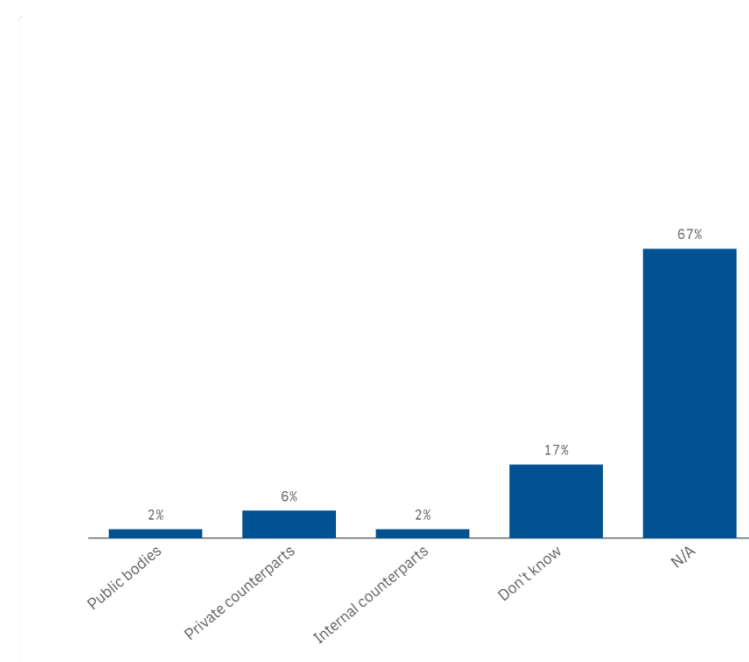
10% of Swedish companies report exposure to corruption in South Korea, with 6% coming from private counterparts

Corruption is relatively low in South Korea, with Swedish firms reporting little exposure to corruption from public, private, and internal counterparts. Nevertheless, the risk of encountering corruption in the market remains, as a total of 10 per cent of Swedish firms reported having been exposed to corruption in 2024. Among small companies, nine per cent responded that they had been exposed to corruption from both public and private counterparts, medium-size companies reported no exposure to corruption, and eight per cent of large companies reported exposure to corruption from private counterparts. While the overall risk of being exposed to corruption in South Korea is low, several Swedish companies report exposure to corruption each year.

According to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2024, South Korea achieved a score of 64 out of 100 – one point below the OECD average of 65 and much higher than the average score in the Asia Pacific region, which only reached 44 out of 100. This suggests that the perceived level of corruption in South Korea is almost the same as that of the average OECD country and much lower than that of other Asia Pacific counterparts.

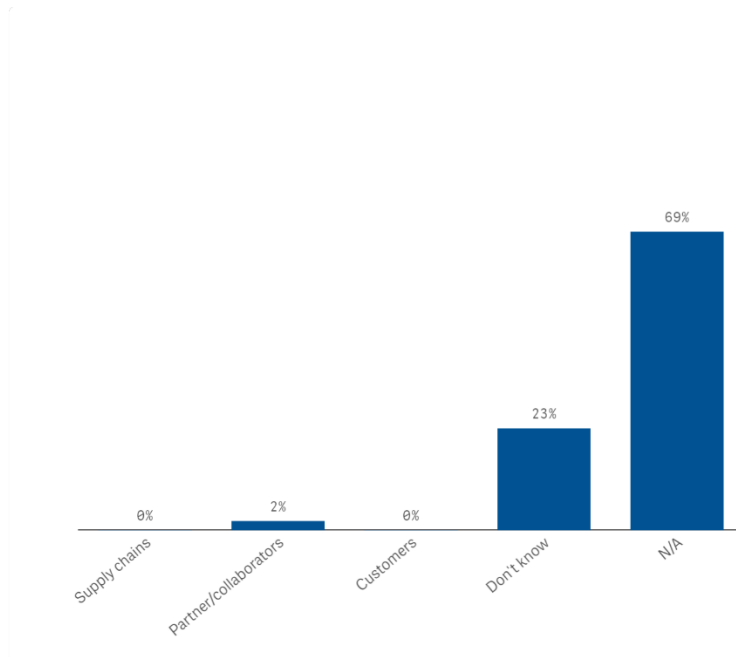
South Korea's score of 56 in 2012 has been slowly increasing since then, making it one of 32 countries to have significantly increased its score – a good sign that the country is moving in the right direction towards a less corrupt future. As a result, South Korea is now ranked 30th out of 180 countries.

HAS YOUR COMPANY IN SOUTH KOREA BEEN EXPOSED TO CORRUPTION, SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ATTEMPTS OF BRIBERY OR FRAUD IN CONTACT WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51.
SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

HAS YOUR COMPANY IN SOUTH KOREA ENCOUNTERED ANY FORM OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND/OR LABOUR RIGHTS ABUSE IN CONTACT WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS?



NOTE: The number of respondents for this question was 51.
SOURCE: Business Climate Survey for Swedish companies in South Korea 2025.

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