National Accounts

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Real Gross Domestic Product: First Quarter of 2025

(Advance Estimate)

1 Quarter-on-quarter

Real gross domestic product (chained volume measure of GDP) decreased by 0.2 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the previous quarter.

Real gross domestic income (GDI) decreased by 0.4 percent compared to the previous quarter.

On the expenditure side, private consumption fell by 0.1 percent mainly due to a decrease in expenditures on service consumption (e.g., entertainment culture & healthcare services).

Government consumption fell by 0.1 percent as expenditures on health care benefits decreased.

Construction investment shrank by 3.2 percent as building construction decreased.

Facilities investment shrank by 2.1 percent, led by a decrease in machinery (e.g., semiconductor manufacturing equipment).

Exports shrank by 1.1 percent as exports of chemicals and machinery & equipment decreased. Imports shrank by 2.0 percent, as imports of energy items like crude oil and natural gas decreased.

Growth Rates by Component of Expenditure

(at chained 2020 year prices, S.A. series)

(percentage change over previous quarter)

	2023p				2024p				2025p
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Gross Domestic Product	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.3	-0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.2
Final consumption expenditure	0.5	-0.8	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.4	-0.1
(Private)	0.5	-0.3	0.1	0.4	0.7	-0.2	0.5	0.2	-0.1
(Government)	0.4	-2.1	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	-0.1
Gross fixed capital formation	-0.2	0.5	0.5	-1.0	1.1	-1.4	0.2	-1.6	-2.0
(Construction)	0.6	0.2	1.9	-3.8	3.3	-1.7	-3.6	-4.5	-3.2
(Facilities)	-1.4	0.4	-2.0	2.8	-2.0	-1.2	6.5	1.2	-2.1
(Intellectual property products)	-0.2	1.0	0.8	-0.2	0.8	-0.9	0.0	0.3	0.3
Exports of goods & services	4.2	1.1	1.9	3.9	1.8	1.2	-0.2	0.8	-1.1
(Goods)	4.9	0.3	2.0	3.9	1.6	1.1	-0.3	0.2	-1.9
(Services)	0.5	5.5	1.6	4.0	3.0	1.8	0.2	3.5	2.8
Imports of goods & services	3.9	-1.8	0.3	1.6	-0.4	1.6	1.6	0.1	-2.0
(Goods)	3.5	-3.9	-1.0	1.3	-0.3	1.6	1.9	-0.3	-3.1
(Services)	6.1	7.7	5.5	2.8	-0.7	1.5	0.5	1.7	2.1
Gross Domestic Income	0.9	0.0	2.4	1.1	2.4	-1.2	0.5	0.7	-0.4

On the production side, agriculture, forestry & fishing grew by 3.2 percent, mainly due to an increase in fishing yield.

Manufacturing shrank by 0.8 percent, centered on decreases in chemicals & chemical products and machinery & equipment.

Electricity, gas & water supply grew by 7.9 percent, largely as a result of an increase in gas, steam & air conditioning supply.

Construction shrank by 1.5 percent, owing to a decrease in building construction.

Services remained unchanged, led by increases in finance & insurance and information & communication, and offset by decreases in transportation & storage, wholesale & retail trade and accommodation & food services.

Growth Rates by Type of Economic Activities

(at chained 2020 year prices, S.A. series)

(percentage change over previous quarter)

	2023p				2024p				2025p
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Gross Domestic Product	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.3	-0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.2
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	-3.4	2.6	-0.1	-7.4	1.8	4.4	2.4	-3.4	3.2
Manufacturing	1.6	3.0	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.2	-0.8
Electricity, gas & water supply	-6.8	3.1	3.1	1.8	-0.1	-1.0	5.9	-5.8	7.9
Construction	1.2	-2.7	3.7	-3.5	5.5	-6.0	-1.4	-4.1	-1.5
Services[1)]	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0

Note: 1) Includes wholesale & retail trade; accommodation & food services; transportation & storage; finance & insurance; real estate; information & communication; business activities; public administration, defense & social security; education; human health & social work; and cultural & other services.

2 Year-on-year

Real GDP (chained volume measure of GDP) decreased by 0.1 percent year-on-year in the first quarter of 2025.

Growth Rates by Type of Economic Activity and Component of Expenditures

(at chained 2020 year prices, original series)

(percentage change over previous year)

	2023p					2024p					2025p
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Ann	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Ann	Q1
Gross Domestic Product	1.1	1.0	1.4	2.1	1.4	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.2	2.0	-0.1
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	-3.2	1.4	1.0	-8.0	-2.6	-3.2	-1.7	1.1	5.1	0.8	6.5
Manufacturing	-3.0	0.8	1.7	7.0	1.7	6.5	4.6	3.2	2.2	4.0	0.4
Electricity, gas & water supply	-6.9	-5.0	-0.6	1.7	-2.9	7.4	3.8	6.8	-1.0	4.2	6.4
Construction	6.1	3.6	5.1	-1.1	3.1	3.0	-0.7	-5.7	-6.2	-2.8	-12.4
Services[1)]	3.7	1.7	1.9	1.0	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.7
Final consumption expenditure	4.5	1.3	0.5	0.3	1.6	0.6	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.3	0.9
(Private)	4.7	1.4	0.3	0.7	1.8	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.5
(Government)	4.0	0.9	0.9	-0.8	1.3	-0.5	2.3	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.9
Gross fixed capital formation	2.7	2.8	0.8	-0.3	1.4	0.9	-0.9	-1.2	-1.8	-0.8	-4.1
(Construction)	1.7	1.7	4.3	-1.2	1.5	1.6	-0.5	-5.7	-6.6	-3.0	-12.2
(Facilities)	4.7	3.8	-3.9	-0.2	1.1	-1.0	-2.5	5.9	4.5	1.6	4.2
(Intellectual property products)	2.3	3.5	-0.4	1.4	1.7	2.5	0.5	-0.2	0.2	0.7	-0.3
Exports of goods & services	-1.1	0.9	3.2	11.4	3.6	9.1	9.0	6.8	3.6	7.0	0.6
(Goods)	-1.7	-0.7	2.7	11.3	2.9	8.0	8.7	6.3	2.6	6.3	-0.8
(Services)	2.5	10.2	5.8	12.0	7.7	14.8	10.6	9.3	8.9	10.8	8.4
Imports of goods & services	7.1	3.4	-0.2	3.9	3.5	-0.4	3.1	4.4	2.9	2.5	1.2
(Goods)	5.0	-0.6	-5.1	-0.3	-0.3	-3.8	1.5	4.5	2.9	1.2	0.0
(Services)	17.7	23.6	23.6	23.9	22.3	16.0	9.5	4.2	3.1	7.8	5.9
Gross Domestic Income	-1.4	0.0	3.6	4.1	1.6	6.4	4.6	2.6	2.4	3.9	-0.1

Note: 1) Includes wholesale & retail trade; accommodation & food services; transportation & storage; finance & insurance; real estate; information & communication; business activities; public administration, defense & social security; education; human health & social work; and cultural & other services.

National Income Statistics

1. Scope of Measurement

The national income statistics estimate total economic activity in Korea (e.g., the production and expenditures of all economic agents, including households, enterprises, and the government).

Production boundary: Goods are counted as output even when they are not meant for sale (e.g., when they are for self-consumption), whereas in the case of services, non-paid domestic work and personal services (e.g., for self-consumption) are excluded from the production boundary.

Illegal economic activities, such as smuggling, gambling, and prostitution, are likewise currently not included in national income, even though they should be captured as production activities for a comprehensive measurement of production and expenditures.

2. Methods of Measurement

Estimation under the output approach (production-side national income) is carried out as follows:

Nominal value-added is derived by first estimating the values of output and intermediate input and then subtracting the value of intermediate input from that of output. If the value of the intermediate input cannot be determined separately, it is calculated using the value-added ratio obtained from Bank of Korea's quarterly and annual financial statement analysis reports.

Statistics under the expenditure approach (expenditure-side national income) are estimated directly using a variety of raw data on the amounts of money spent on final products.

The two sets of national income statistics, one estimated via the output approach and the other via the expenditure approach, should therefore be identical. Due to differences in the data used and the methods of estimation, however, statistical discrepancies may occur, which are identified on the expenditures side.

3. Dissemination

The Bank of Korea officially announces five types of sequential national income statistics: "advance" and "preliminary" quarterly estimates; and "Gross National Income (preliminary)," "National Accounts (preliminary)," and "National Accounts (final)" annual estimates.

The "advance" quarterly estimates are released within 28 days of the quarter's end, and give the first look at Korea's real GDP, including the rates and amounts of growth by type of economic activity and by component of expenditure. The "preliminary" quarterly estimates provide more detailed analyses (e.g., of GDP valued at current prices by type of economic activity and by component of expenditure, and of GNI and savings and investment ratios) within 70 days of the end of the quarter.

Various consolidated accounts, sectoral accounts and supporting tables are published in the "Gross National Income (preliminary)," "National Accounts (preliminary)," and "National Accounts (final)" annual estimates. "Gross National Income (preliminary)" is released around three months after the relevant year has ended. "National Accounts (preliminary)" and "National Accounts (final)" are released around six months after the relevant year has ended and six months after the following year has ended, respectively.

4. Notes on Statistical Use

Due to the non-additive characteristics of real GDP statistics estimated through the chain-weighted method, the total value (e.g., GDP) and those of its components (e.g., the values added by economic activity) do not match except in the reference year and in the following year.

National Income Statistics and National Accounts are derived statistics estimated using various raw data, such as monthly industrial statistics, corporate financial statements, balance of payments, and government finance statistics, which may differ from the raw data in some respects.