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Press Release

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Employment Positions of Wage Workers in the First Quarter of 2023

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Employment Positions of Wage Workers in the First Quarter of 2023

- ◆ In the first quarter of 2023, the number of employment positions of wage workers grew by 457 thousand compared to the first quarter of 2022. The year-on-year increase rate of employment positions in the first quarter of 2023 was lower compared to the fourth quarter of 2022.
- ◆ As for employment positions by industry, 'Construction'* and 'Human health and social work activities'** recorded a year-on-year increase.
 - * 'Specialized construction activities' and 'General construction' showed a year-on-year rise.
 - ** 'Social work activities' and 'Human health activities' marked a year-on-year increase.

Overview

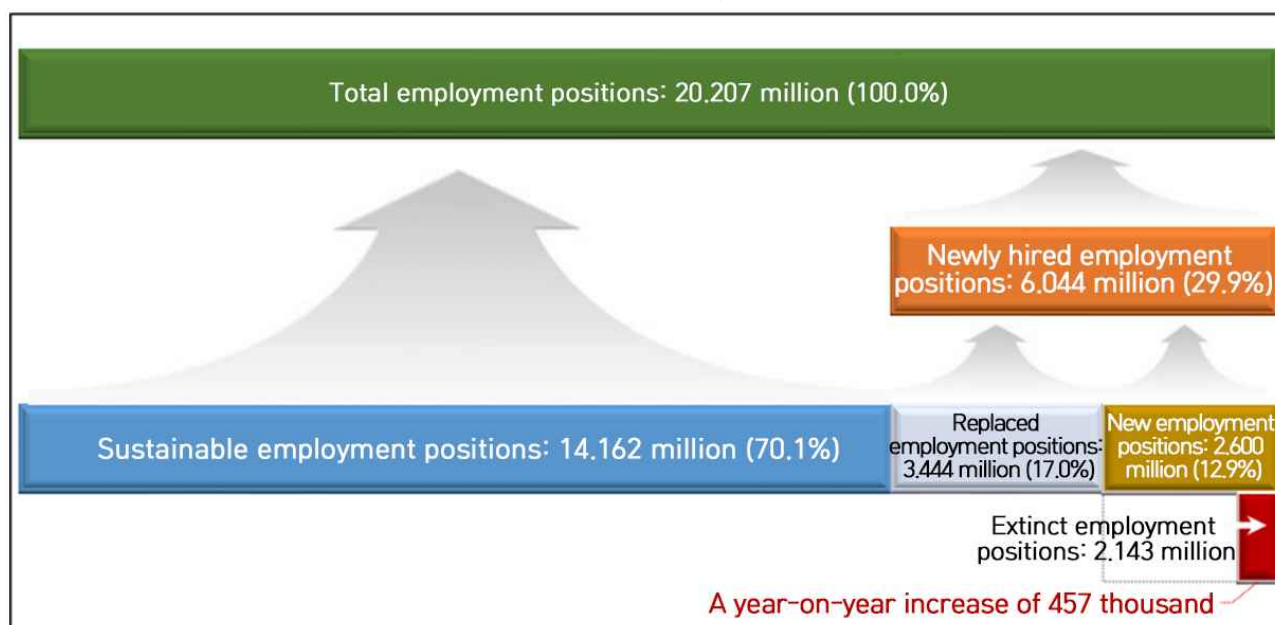
- In the first quarter of 2023, the number of employment positions of wage workers was 20.207 million, which increased by 457 thousand compared to the first quarter of 2022.
- The number of sustainable employment positions, which the same workers occupied in the same quarter of the previous year, was 14.162 million. This figure accounted for 70.1% of the total employment positions. The number of replaced employment positions, which resulted from retirement or job change, was 3.444 million. This figure accounted for 17.0% of the total employment positions.
- The number of new employment positions, which resulted from enterprise foundation or business expansion, marked 2.600 million. This figure occupied 12.9% of the total employment positions. The number of extinct employment positions, which resulted from enterprise closure or business reduction, marked 2.143 million.

< Total employment positions of wage workers >

(Unit: ten thousand, %, year-on-year)

	1Q 2022	Change	4Q 2022	Change	1Q 2023	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions	1,974.9	75.2	2,045.6	49.1	2,020.7	45.7	2.3

< Employment positions of wage workers by type >



Note: The figures in parentheses represent the share among the total employment positions.

< Size and change in employment positions of wage workers >

(Unit: ten thousand)

	Employment positions of wage workers					Change (Year-on-year)
	Total	Sustainable employment positions	Replaced employment positions	New employment positions	Extinct employment positions	
1Q 2022	1,974.9	1,370.4	326.2	278.3	203.1	75.2
2Q 2022	2,020.5	1,396.7	342.0	281.8	219.0	62.8
3Q 2022	2,019.6	1,398.9	342.5	278.1	218.4	59.7
4Q 2022	2,045.6	1,417.6	356.4	271.7	222.5	49.1
1Q 2023	2,020.7	1,416.2	344.4	260.0	214.3	45.7

Employment positions by industry

- As for employment positions by industry section, 'Construction', 'Human health and social work activities and 'Manufacturing' rose by 92 thousand, 87 thousand and 54 thousand, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2022.
- As for employment positions by industry division of 'Construction', 'Specialized construction activities' and 'General construction' rose by 79 thousand and 13 thousand, respectively.
- As for employment positions by industry division of 'Human health and social work activities', 'Social work activities' and 'Human health activities' grew by 54 thousand and 33 thousand, respectively.
- As for the employment positions by industry division of 'Manufacturing', which occupied the highest share of the total employment positions, 'Manufacture of fabricated metal products', 'Manufacture of electronic components, computer; visual, sounding and communication equipment' and 'Manufacture of electrical equipment' grew by 10 thousand, 9 thousand and 8 thousand, respectively. Whereas, 'Manufacture of textiles' and 'Manufacture of rubber and plastics products' dropped by 4 thousand and 3 thousand, respectively.

* As for employment positions by industry group of 'Manufacturing', 'Manufacture of batteries and accumulators', 'Manufacture of semiconductor' and 'Manufacture of communication and broadcasting apparatuses' grew by 7 thousand, 6 thousand and 6 thousand, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2022.

< Size and change in employment positions of wage workers by industry >

(Unit: ten thousand)

	Employment positions of wage workers					Change (Year-on-year)
	Total	Sustainable employment positions	Replaced employment positions	New employment positions	Extinct employment positions	
Construction	189.2	88.0	49.8	51.4	42.1	9.2
Human health and social work activities	241.7	161.7	51.8	28.2	19.9	8.7
Manufacturing	427.7	331.6	53.8	42.3	37.8	5.4
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	132.4	113.5	15.6	3.3	3.6	-0.2

< Employment positions of wage workers by industry section¹⁾ >

(Unit: ten thousand, %, year-on-year)

	1Q 2022		4Q 2022		1Q 2023			
		Change		Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions	1,974.9	75.2	2,045.6	49.1	2,020.7	100.0	45.7	2.3
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.5	0.1	8.2	0.3	7.7	0.4	0.3	3.4
B. Mining and quarrying	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.1	-0.1	-4.4
C. Manufacturing	422.3	6.8	427.6	7.2	427.7	21.2	5.4	1.3
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	8.0	0.2	8.0	0.0	8.0	0.4	0.0	0.5
E. Water supply; sewage, waste management, materials recovery	10.6	0.3	10.9	0.4	10.9	0.5	0.3	3.1
F. Construction	180.0	9.5	201.5	12.1	189.2	9.4	9.2	5.1
G. Wholesale and retail trade	214.6	6.3	216.5	2.2	215.5	10.7	0.9	0.4
H. Transportation and storage	70.5	0.2	70.3	0.4	70.7	3.5	0.2	0.3
I. Accommodation and food service activities	85.7	6.4	89.6	5.4	90.3	4.5	4.6	5.4
J. Information and communication	82.0	6.7	87.1	5.9	86.6	4.3	4.6	5.6
K. Financial and insurance activities	56.2	1.1	56.8	0.3	56.5	2.8	0.3	0.5
L. Real estate activities	45.0	1.8	46.1	1.1	45.5	2.3	0.4	1.0
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	100.2	7.0	105.2	5.4	105.3	5.2	5.1	5.1
N. Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities	136.3	1.2	140.0	1.3	138.5	6.9	2.2	1.6
O. Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	132.6	4.7	136.1	-3.1	132.4	6.6	-0.2	-0.2
P. Education	126.7	3.8	134.4	1.3	127.9	6.3	1.2	0.9
Q. Human health and social work activities	233.0	16.1	240.0	7.8	241.7	12.0	8.7	3.7
R. Arts, sports and recreation related services	14.6	0.5	15.6	0.5	15.5	0.8	0.9	6.3
S. Membership organizations, repair and other personal services	46.7	2.8	49.3	0.8	48.5	2.4	1.8	3.8
Others ²⁾	1.4	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.3	0.1	0.0	-0.3

Note 1) Refer to the Korean Standard Industrial Classification

2) Including 'T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods-and services-producing activities of households for own use' and 'U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'

Employment positions by characteristics of workers and enterprises

- As for employment positions by sex, the employment positions of males and females grew by 206 thousand and 252 thousand, respectively, compared to the first quarter of 2022.
- The employment positions of males showed a year-on-year increase in 'Construction' (64 thousand), 'Manufacturing' (41 thousand) and 'Professional, scientific and technical activities' (28 thousand).
- The employment positions of females showed a year-on-year increase in 'Human health and social work activities' (73 thousand), 'Construction' (28 thousand) and 'Accommodation and food service activities' (25 thousand).

< Employment positions by sex >

(Unit: ten thousand, %, year-on-year)

		1Q 2022			4Q 2022			1Q 2023			
			Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions		1,974.9	100.0	75.2	2,045.6	100.0	49.1	2,020.7	100.0	45.7	2.3
By sex	Males	1,125.9	57.0	29.8	1,162.9	56.8	23.2	1,146.5	56.7	20.6	1.8
	Females	849.0	43.0	45.4	882.7	43.2	26.0	874.2	43.3	25.2	3.0

- As for employment positions by age group, 'Workers aged 29 or less' dropped by 61 thousand year-on-year. Whereas, 'Workers aged 60 or more', 'Workers aged 50 ~ 59', 'Workers aged 30 ~ 39' and 'Workers aged 40 ~ 49' rose by 305 thousand, 141 thousand, 38 thousand and 35 thousand, respectively, year-on-year.
- The employment positions of 'Workers aged 60 or more' marked a year-on-year increase in 'Human health and social work activities' (64 thousand), 'Construction' (49 thousand) and 'Manufacturing' (48 thousand).
- The employment positions of 'Workers aged 29 or less' marked a year-on-year decrease in 'Wholesale and retail trade' (28 thousand), 'Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities' (18 thousand) and 'Public administration and defence; compulsory social security' (13 thousand).

< Employment positions by age group >

(Unit: ten thousand, %, year-on-year)

		1Q 2022			4Q 2022			1Q 2023			
			Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions		1,974.9	100.0	75.2	2,045.6	100.0	49.1	2,020.7	100.0	45.7	2.3
By age group	Workers aged 29 or less	324.9	16.5	7.7	322.3	15.8	-3.6	318.9	15.8	-6.1	-1.9
	Workers aged 30 ~ 39	429.4	21.7	1.9	437.3	21.4	3.3	433.1	21.4	3.8	0.9
	Workers aged 40 ~ 49	473.2	24.0	6.9	482.5	23.6	6.3	476.7	23.6	3.5	0.7
	Workers aged 50 ~ 59	446.3	22.6	20.9	466.1	22.8	14.7	460.4	22.8	14.1	3.2
	Workers aged 60 or more	301.1	15.2	37.8	337.5	16.5	28.4	331.6	16.4	30.5	10.1

- As for employment positions by type of legal organization, ‘Incorporated companies’, ‘Non-business corporations’ and ‘Government and unincorporated associations’ grew by 351 thousand, 71 thousand and 35 thousand, respectively, year-on-year.

< Employment positions by type of legal organization >

(Unit: ten thousand, %, year-on-year)

		1Q 2022			4Q 2022			1Q 2023			
			Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions		1,974.9	100.0	75.2	2,045.6	100.0	49.1	2,020.7	100.0	45.7	2.3
By type of legal organization	Incorporated company	1,108.9	56.2	39.3	1,154.2	56.4	41.3	1,144.0	56.6	35.1	3.2
	Non-business corporation	259.5	13.1	13.4	270.3	13.2	4.6	266.6	13.2	7.1	2.7
	Government & unincorporated association	283.6	14.4	11.5	294.8	14.4	0.7	287.2	14.2	3.5	1.2
	Sole proprietorship	322.9	16.4	11.1	326.4	16.0	2.6	322.9	16.0	0.0	0.0