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Press Release

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Employment Positions of Wage Workers in the Third Quarter of 2023

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Employment Positions of Wage Workers in the Third Quarter of 2023

◆ In the third quarter of 2023, the number of employment positions of wage workers grew by 346 thousand compared to the third quarter of 2022. The year-on-year increase rate of employment positions in the third quarter of 2023 was lower compared to the previous quarter.

◆ As for employment positions by industry, 'Human health and social work activities'* and 'Manufacturing'** recorded a year-on-year increase.

* 'Social work activities' and 'Human health activities' marked a year-on-year increase.

** 'Manufacture of other transport equipment', 'Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers' and 'Manufacture of fabricated metal products' marked a year-on-year increase.

Overview

- In the third quarter of 2023, the number of employment positions of wage workers was 20.542 million, which increased by 346 thousand compared to the third quarter of 2022.
- The number of sustainable employment positions, which the same workers occupied in the same quarter of the previous year, was 14.488 million. This figure accounted for 70.5% of the total employment positions. The number of replaced employment positions, which resulted from retirement or job change, was 3.494 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 2.560 million. This figure occupied 12.5% of the total employment positions. The number of extinct employment positions, which resulted from enterprise closure or business reduction, marked 2.214 million.

< Total employment positions of wage workers >

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

	3Q 2022	Change	2Q 2023	Change	3Q 2023	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions	2,019.6	59.7	2,058.4	37.9	2,054.2	34.6	1.7

< 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	
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
2Q 2023	2,058.4	1,443.6	356.3	258.6	220.6	37.9
3Q 2023	2,054.2	1,448.8	349.4	256.0	221.4	34.6

Employment positions by industry

- ☐ As for employment positions by industry section, 'Human health and social work activities', 'Manufacturing' and 'Accommodation and food service activities' rose by 105 thousand, 50 thousand and 45 thousand, respectively, compared to the third quarter of 2022.
- ☐ As for employment positions by industry division of 'Human health and social work activities', 'Social work activities' and 'Human health activities' grew by 70 thousand and 36 thousand, respectively.
- ☐ As for employment positions by industry division of 'Manufacturing', 'Manufacture of other transport equipment', 'Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers' and 'Manufacture of fabricated metal products' grew by 14 thousand, 8 thousand and 8 thousand, respectively.

- As for employment positions by industry division of 'Accommodation and food service activities', 'Food and beverage service activities' and 'Accommodation' grew by 42 thousand and 3 thousand, respectively.
- As for the employment positions by industry group of 'Manufacturing', which occupied the highest share of the total employment positions, 'Building of ships and boats', 'Manufacture of parts and accessories for motor vehicles (new products)' and 'Manufacture of communication and broadcasting apparatuses' grew by 9 thousand, 8 thousand and 7 thousand, respectively.

< 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	
Human health and social work activities	246.7	166.1	52.1	28.5	18.5	10.5
Manufacturing	428.8	335.1	51.5	42.2	38.1	5.0
Accommodation and food service activities	93.6	46.7	22.1	24.9	20.4	4.5
Real estate activities	45.3	32.2	8.2	4.9	5.3	-0.6

< Employment positions of wage workers by industry section¹⁾ >

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

	3Q 2022		2Q 2023		3Q 2023			
		Change		Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions	2,019.6	59.7	2,058.4	37.9	2,054.2	100.0	34.6	1.7
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.9	0.1	8.0	0.2	8.1	0.4	0.2	2.6
B. Mining and quarrying	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.1	0.0	-3.8
C. Manufacturing	423.8	7.4	428.6	4.9	428.8	20.9	5.0	1.2
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	8.1	0.2	8.0	0.0	8.0	0.4	-0.1	-0.7
E. Water supply; sewage, waste management, materials recovery	10.7	0.3	11.0	0.3	11.0	0.5	0.3	3.0
F. Construction	192.4	9.9	197.8	1.9	192.9	9.4	0.6	0.3
G. Wholesale and retail trade	215.4	3.6	216.2	0.9	216.3	10.5	0.9	0.4
H. Transportation and storage	70.4	0.3	72.3	2.2	73.6	3.6	3.2	4.5
I. Accommodation and food service activities	89.1	6.6	92.8	5.1	93.6	4.6	4.5	5.1
J. Information and communication	86.2	6.9	87.0	3.0	87.5	4.3	1.3	1.5
K. Financial and insurance activities	56.6	0.8	56.7	0.4	57.0	2.8	0.3	0.6
L. Real estate activities	45.9	1.3	45.5	-0.2	45.3	2.2	-0.6	-1.4
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	103.7	6.2	106.9	4.6	107.4	5.2	3.7	3.6

N. Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities	139.3	2.0	141.0	2.8	141.4	6.9	2.2	1.6
O. Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	135.0	-1.2	138.0	-0.1	136.3	6.6	1.2	0.9
P. Education	131.6	2.4	134.3	-0.5	131.6	6.4	0.0	0.0
Q. Human health and social work activities	236.2	10.2	246.0	10.8	246.7	12.0	10.5	4.5
R. Arts, sports and recreation related services	15.9	0.9	16.1	0.6	16.3	0.8	0.5	2.9
S. Membership organizations, repair and other personal services	48.8	1.9	49.9	1.1	49.8	2.4	1.0	2.0
Others ²⁾	1.3	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.3	0.1	0.0	0.1

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 123 thousand and 222 thousand, respectively, compared to the third quarter of 2022.
- The employment positions of males showed a year-on-year increase in 'Manufacturing' (47 thousand), 'Professional, scientific and technical activities' (19 thousand) and 'Transportation and storage' (19 thousand).
- The employment positions of females showed a year-on-year increase in 'Human health and social work activities' (90 thousand), 'Accommodation and food service activities' (28 thousand) and 'Professional, scientific and technical activities' (18 thousand).

< Employment positions by sex >

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

		3Q 2022			2Q 2023			3Q 2023			
			Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions		2,019.6	100.0	59.7	2,058.4	100.0	37.9	2,054.2	100.0	34.6	1.7
By sex	Males	1,148.6	56.9	25.8	1,164.7	56.6	14.9	1,160.9	56.5	12.3	1.1
	Females	871.1	43.1	33.9	893.7	43.4	23.0	893.3	43.5	22.2	2.6

- As for employment positions by age group, 'Workers aged 29 or less' and 'Workers aged 40 ~ 49' dropped by 80 thousand and 4 thousand, respectively, year-on-year. Whereas, 'Workers aged 60 or more', 'Workers aged 50 ~ 59' and 'Workers aged 30 ~ 39' rose by 269 thousand, 99 thousand and 62 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' (74 thousand), 'Manufacturing' (42 thousand) and 'Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities' (28 thousand).
- The employment positions of 'Workers aged 29 or less' marked a year-on-year decrease in 'Wholesale and retail trade' (22 thousand), 'Business facilities management and business support services; rental and leasing activities' (13 thousand) and 'Information and communication' (10 thousand).

< Employment positions by age group >

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

		3Q 2022			2Q 2023			3Q 2023			
			Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions		2,019.6	100.0	59.7	2,058.4	100.0	37.9	2,054.2	100.0	34.6	1.7
By age group	Workers aged 29 or less	327.9	16.2	0.6	319.2	15.5	-6.8	319.8	15.6	-8.0	-2.5
	Workers aged 30 ~ 39	432.4	21.4	2.7	438.4	21.3	5.6	438.6	21.4	6.2	1.4
	Workers aged 40 ~ 49	477.3	23.6	6.4	479.6	23.3	0.3	476.9	23.2	-0.4	-0.1
	Workers aged 50 ~ 59	458.8	22.7	18.8	469.0	22.8	9.7	468.7	22.8	9.9	2.2
	Workers aged 60 or more	323.2	16.0	31.2	352.3	17.1	29.0	350.1	17.0	26.9	8.3

- As for employment positions by type of legal organization, 'Incorporated companies', 'Non-business corporations', 'Government and unincorporated associations' and 'Sole proprietorship' grew by 232 thousand, 69 thousand, 44 thousand and 2 thousand, respectively, year-on-year.

< Employment positions by type of legal organization >

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

		3Q 2022			2Q 2023			3Q 2023			
			Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change		Compo- sition	Change	Percent change
○ Total employment positions		2,019.6	100.0	59.7	2,058.4	100.0	37.9	2,054.2	100.0	34.6	1.7
By type of legal organization	Incorporated company	1,137.5	56.3	41.3	1,159.5	56.3	26.9	1,160.7	56.5	23.2	2.0
	Non-business corporation	267.8	13.3	9.6	276.4	13.4	7.3	274.7	13.4	6.9	2.6
	Government & unincorporated association	289.6	14.3	3.5	296.0	14.4	2.7	294.0	14.3	4.4	1.5
	Sole proprietorship	324.7	16.1	5.3	326.5	15.9	0.9	324.9	15.8	0.2	0.1