



Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): SOUTH KOREA

What is SelectUSA?

SelectUSA is the U.S. government program to promote and facilitate business investment in the United States.

How do we help?

We work with companies and U.S. economic development organizations to provide information, facilitate direct connections, and resolve questions regarding federal regulations. We also provide a promotional platform for U.S. state and local governments.

#7

Seventh fastest-growing source of FDI in the United States in 2024

(by UBO)

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Supporting U.S. Jobs

103,600

Number of U.S. workers employed by U.S. affiliates of majority South Korean-owned firms in 2023.



Investing in Innovative R&D

\$2.9 billion

Value of research and development (R&D) spending by U.S. affiliates of majority South Korean-owned firms in 2023.



Expanding U.S. Exports

\$10.0 billion

Value of U.S. goods exports by majority South Korean-owned firms operating in the United States in 2023.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (latest available as of February 20, 2026), fDi Markets (Data from January 2016 - December 2025)

South Korean FDI in the USA (in USD millions)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Position (UBO)	\$59,617	\$65,648	\$65,407	\$80,674	\$93,217
Flow	\$4,974	\$5,062	-\$1,032	\$9,196	\$13,761

U.S. FDI in South Korea (in USD millions)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Position	\$37,550	\$38,181	\$29,726	\$34,355	\$36,387
Flow	-\$209	\$712	\$1,533	\$3,377	\$3,176

TOP 6 INDUSTRY SECTORS

By # of announced South Korean FDI projects in the USA

- #1 Auto Components
- #2 Industrial Equipment
- #3 Electronic Components
- #4 Software & IT Services
- #5 Food & Beverages
- #6 Metals

TERMINOLOGY - UBO: Ultimate Beneficial Owner; the entity at the top of an affiliate's ownership chain. Position/Stock: Snapshot of cumulative FDI taken at year end. Flow: FDI coming into a country over a period of time.

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