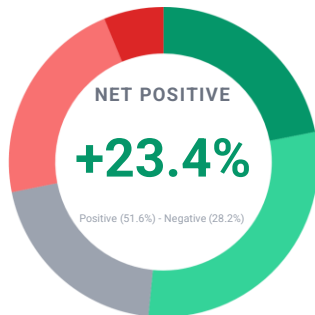




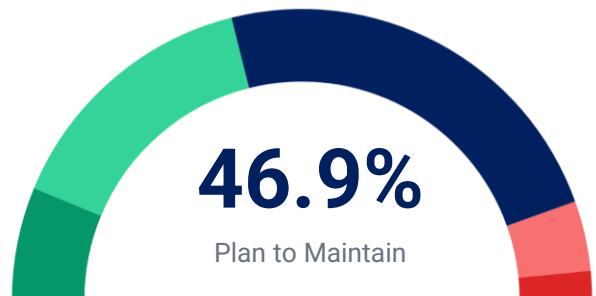
Outlook for Korea's Business and Investment Environment

2026 Business Outlook



Very Positive	21.9%	Somewhat Positive	29.7%
Neutral	20.3%	Somewhat Negative	21.9%
Very Negative	6.3%		

2026 Investment Outlook



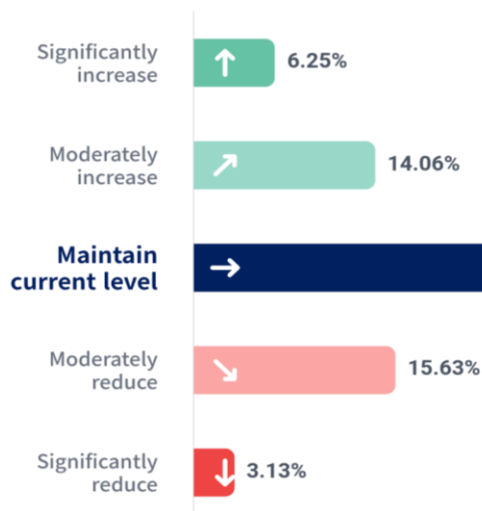
Significantly Increase	Moderately Increase	Maintain	Moderately Reduce	Significantly Reduce
12.5%	29.7%	46.9%	7.8%	3.1%



Expected Workforce Adjustments in Korea

Workforce Adjustments in 2026

↑ Increase → Maintain ↓ Reduce



60.94%

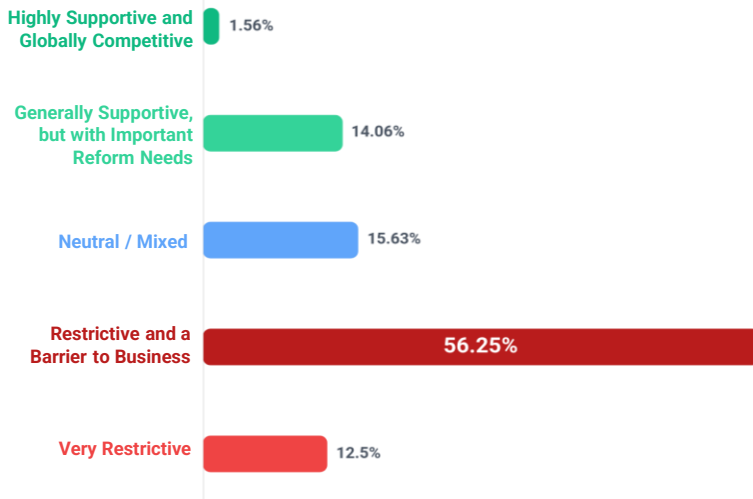
Maintain Current Workforce

A majority of companies are opting to **maintain current levels**, reflecting a **cautious stability** in the Korean labor market for 2026.

* Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding and multiple selections.

Korea's Business Climate and Regulatory Environment

Overall Regulatory Environment Landscape for Foreign and Global Companies



Key Finding

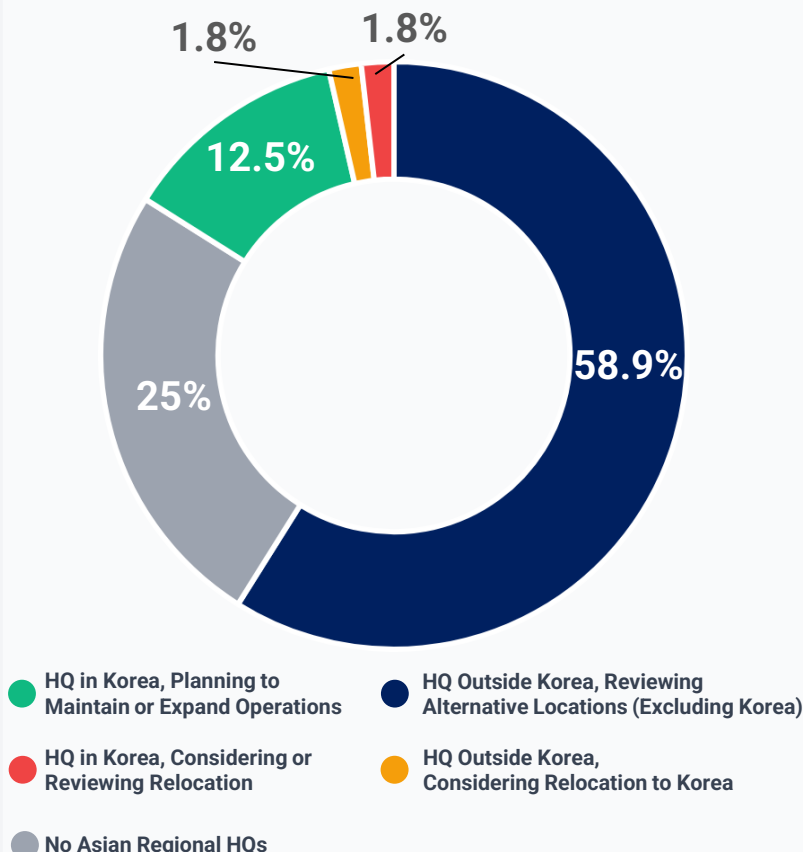
68.8%

of respondents assess the environment as **Restrictive** or **Very Restrictive**, highlighting significant regulatory challenges.

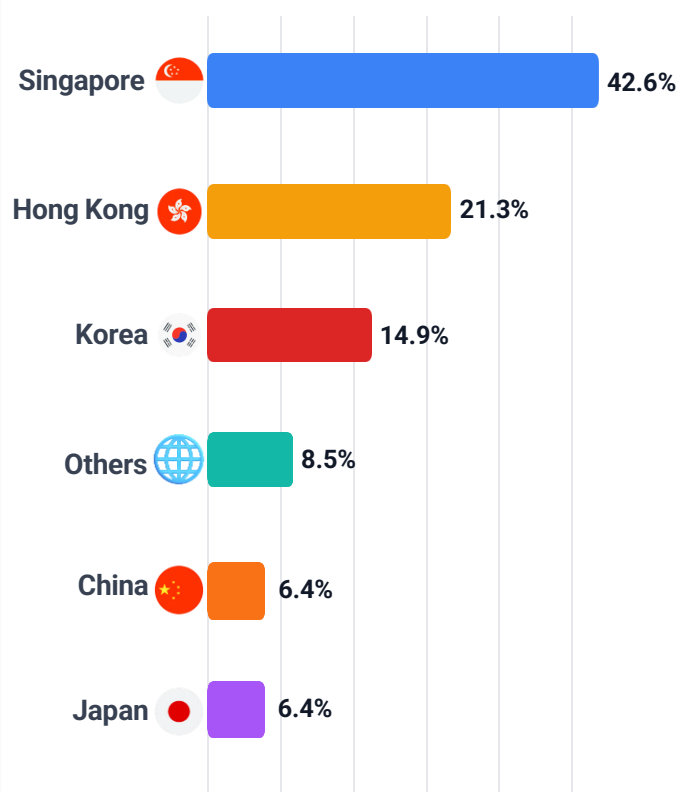
! Major reform needed to improve global competitiveness

Korea as a Regional Business Hub

Current Regional HQ Strategy in Asia



Location of Current Regional HQ

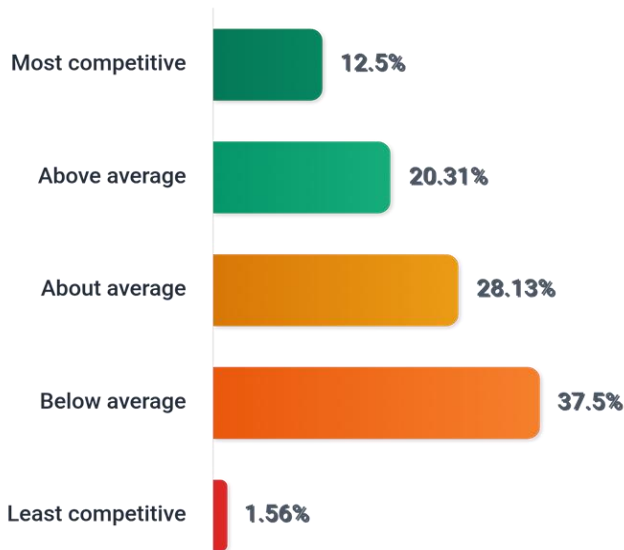


* Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding and multiple selections.

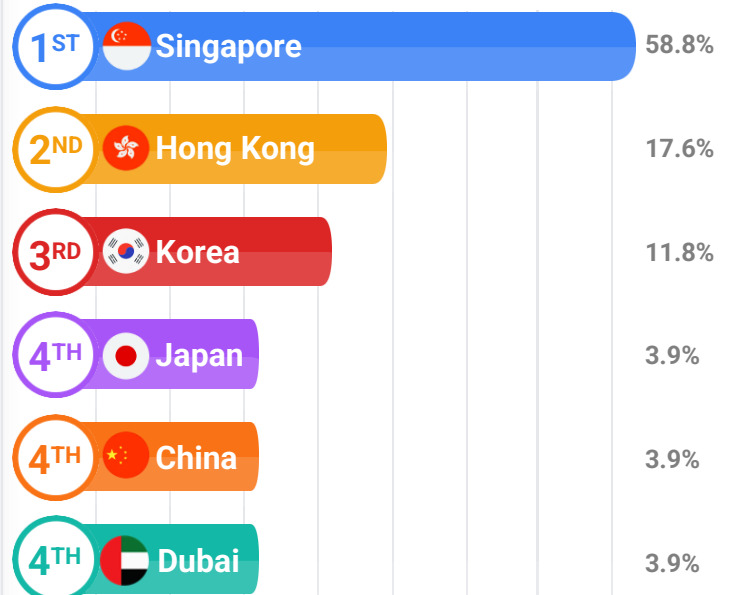


Korea as a Regional Business Hub

Korea's Competitiveness as Business and Investment Destination Compared to Other Major Asian Economies



Most Preferred Regional HQ Location



Key Regulatory Challenges and Reform Priorities

Key Policy Factors Undermining RHQ Potential



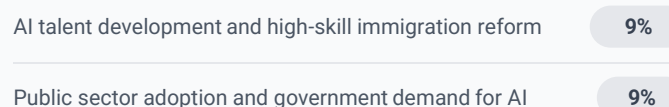
Other Factors



Urgent AI-related Policy Reforms



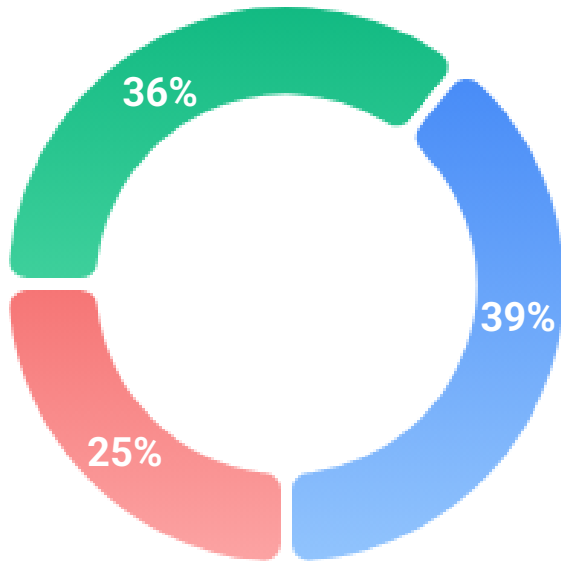
Other Reforms



* Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding and multiple selections.

Korea's Financial Market Competitiveness and MSCI Inclusion Readiness

MSCI Inclusion Readiness Assessment



✓ Ready / On Track	36%
Fully ready, globally competitive	6%
Generally on track, reforms needed	30%
! Partially Ready	39%
Partially ready, significant barriers remain	39%
✗ Not Ready / N/A	25%
Not ready, uncompetitive	11%
Not applicable	14%

Key Reforms for MSCI Developed Market Status and Financial Hub Competitiveness

1	Regulatory transparency, consistency, and predictability	39%
2	Alignment with global business and market standards	22%
3	Fair and open market access for international firms and investors	20%
4	Efficient legal systems and institutional systems protecting investors and companies	7%
5	Ease of cross-border transactions and movement of capital	6%

OTHER CRITICAL FACTORS

Stable tax and compliance environment	2%	Public-private sector communication	2%
Reduction of foreign ownership restrictions	2%		