

Korea and Singapore: Trade and Investment Status

Earlier this year, Korea and Singapore signed the Korea-Singapore Smart City Cooperation MOU to expand cooperation in the areas of smart city/infrastructure, consumer goods and e-commerce. On that note, let's take a closer look at where the trade and investment relationship between the two countries currently stands.

01 Korea-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (KSFTA)

The KSFTA was signed on August 4, 2005 and entered into force on March 2, 2006 as Korea's first free trade agreement with a fellow Asian country. The agreement can be considered as a prelude announcing Korea's major pursuits of free trade with its neighboring countries in East Asia.

03 Korea-Singapore Investment

The KSFTA has boosted bilateral investment between the two countries. In 2017, Korean investment to Singapore reached USD 1.42 billion in declared amount, notably in the categories of wholesale/retail, finance/insurance, manufacturing and mining.

Singaporean investment to Korea stood at USD 1.79 billion in declared amount, mainly in the categories of manufacturing, real estate, finance/insurance and transportation/storage.

02 Korea-Singapore Trade

As of 2017, Singapore is Korea's 9th largest trading partner in terms of exports, and 14th largest partner for imports. Meanwhile, Korea is Singapore's 7th largest trading partner for exports, and 6th largest partner in terms of imports.

Imports

In 2017, Korean imports from Singapore stood at USD 8.9 billion, consisting mainly of manufacturing machinery, semiconductor devices, processors and controllers.

Exports

In 2017, Korean exports to Singapore reached USD 11.65 billion, primarily comprised of petroleum and asphalt, processors, controllers, tankers and cargo ships.

