World Business Watch
GLOBAL BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE FOR DECISION MAKERS
Monday, 2 November 2026
worldbusinesswatch.com

NEWS | ASIA-PACIFIC

Korea’s chip exports jump 259% as October shipments hit $115.3B

South Korea’s exports nearly doubled in October on AI-driven chip demand. That lifted the Kospi 2.24% today even as tech stocks sold off on Wall Street.

By **Manasee Kurlekar** | November 2, 2026



Key details: October exports were $115.3B, up 93.7% YoY, and above $110B for a second month in a row. Chip exports were $56.4B, up 259%, a record 48.9% share of all exports. Chip shipments to the US rose 497%, the tenth straight month of triple-digit growth. January–October exports passed $900B for the first time. The Kospi recovered from an early drop to close up 2.24% at 5,859.07, with SK Hynix up 3.8% and Samsung Electronics up 1.7%.
Wall Street had an AI wobble on Friday. Seoul answered with a trade print.

South Korea shipped $115.3 billion of goods in October, almost double a year ago, and chips made up nearly half of it at $56.4 billion, up 259%.

Sales to the US alone rose almost sixfold. Chip shipments to the US rose 497%, the tenth straight month of triple-digit growth. January–October exports passed $900B for the first

time. The Kospi opened lower, then turned around to close up 2.24% as investors bought SK Hynix and Samsung.

The risk is concentration: when one product line is half your exports, Korea’s growth story is now an AI-capex story.

Read online: https://worldbusinesswatch.com/news/46/356/koreas-chip-exports-jump-259-as-october-shipments-hit-115-3b.html

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