

South Korea Application Processor Market Size, Share, Trends and Forecast by Device Type, Core Type, and Region, 2026-2034

<https://marketpublishers.com/r/S090273DEB6DEN.html>

Date: July 2026

Pages: 122

Price: US\$ 2,999.00 (Single User License)

ID: S090273DEB6DEN

Abstracts

The South Korea application processor market size reached USD 733.0 Million in 2025. Looking forward, IMARC Group expects the market to reach USD 885.5 Million by 2034, exhibiting a growth rate (CAGR) of 2.02% during 2026-2034. The heightened demand for mobile phones is fueling the growth of the market in South Korea. Moreover, with artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) becoming an integral part of several electronic devices, such as smartphones, autonomous cars, and smart home devices, the demand for efficient processors with customized processing capabilities is growing. Apart from this, the transition to 5G connectivity is expanding the South Korea application processor market share.

SOUTH KOREA APPLICATION PROCESSOR MARKET TRENDS:

Growing Need for Mobile Devices

The heightened demand for mobile phones is fueling the South Korean application processor industry. With mobile technology progressing at a fast pace, people are always looking for smartphones with enhanced capabilities, such as increased gaming performance, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI), and better multimedia capability. South Korean players are spearheading this change, introducing fresh models featuring increased performance needs, thereby increasing the demand for more powerful and efficient application processors. These application processors are becoming optimized for carrying more data and delivering better user experiences. Also, the deployment of 5G networks is accelerating this trend, as smartphones become increasingly dependent on fast broadband to enable real-time applications. The need for smartphone processors that are capable of handling the heavier load of apps, AI-based

applications, and high definition (HD) content is increasing, thereby contributing to the South Korea application processor market growth.

Developments in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Progresses in AI and machine learning (ML) are playing a key role in bolstering the market growth in South Korea. With AI and ML becoming an integral part of several electronic devices, such as smartphones, autonomous cars, and smart home devices, the demand for application processors with customized processing capabilities is growing. Application processors are being made to handle sophisticated AI algorithms and big data in real time efficiently. South Korean firms are increasingly embedding AI processing power directly into their application processors to enhance efficiency and functionality. These processors are facilitating quicker recognition, prediction, and data analysis, making products based on AI more accessible and efficient. With AI technologies taking center stage in consumer electronics, the South Korean market is quickly evolving, spending generously on research and development (R&D) to develop processors that are ML and deep learning optimized, thereby driving the demand for sophisticated processors overall. In 2025, South Korea declared its plans to sanction 10,000 high-performance graphics processing units (GPUs) to keep pace as the global AI competition rate increases. The government intends to obtain 10,000 GPUs via public-private partnerships to assist the nation in initiating facilities at its national AI computing center promptly.

Shift Toward 5G Connectivity and Internet of Things (IoT) Expansion

The transition to 5G connectivity and growth of the Internet of Things (IoT) are driving the need for application processors in South Korea. With 5G networks being deployed and providing greater data speeds and low-latency communication, devices need increasingly powerful processors to manage increased data traffic and provide real-time, seamless performance. South Korean makers are working to create application processors that are specifically designed to handle 5G applications as well as support smooth connectivity on a variety of devices. Concurrently, expansion in the IoT ecosystem is rising the number of connected devices, which require efficient processing power to deal with and analyze the resultant data. The requirement for application processors to manage the sophistication of 5G and IoT technologies is increasing as more devices become networked. According to a report from the Korean government, the 5G transmission speeds of South Korea's top three mobile carriers increased by an average of 9.2% in 2024 compared to the previous year, greatly improving the quality of 5G services.

SOUTH KOREA APPLICATION PROCESSOR MARKET SEGMENTATION:

IMARC Group provides an analysis of the key trends in each segment of the market, along with forecasts at the country and regional levels for 2026-2034. Our report has categorized the market based on device type and core type.

Device Type Insights:

Mobile Phones

PC Tablets and E-Readers

Smart Wearables

Automotive ADAS and Infotainment Devices

The report has provided a detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the device type. This includes mobile phones, PC tablets and E-readers, smart wearables, and automotive ADAS and infotainment devices.

Core Type Insights:

Octa-Core

Hexa-Core

Quad-Core

Dual-Core

Single-Core

A detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the core type have also been provided in the report. This includes octa-core, hexa-core, quad-core, dual-core, and single-core.

Regional Insights:

Seoul Capital Area

Yeongnam (Southeastern Region)

Honam (Southwestern Region)

Hoseo (Central Region)

Others

The report has also provided a comprehensive analysis of all the major regional markets, which include Seoul Capital Area, Yeongnam (Southeastern Region), Honam (Southwestern Region), Hoseo (Central Region), and others.

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE:

The market research report has also provided a comprehensive analysis of the competitive landscape. Competitive analysis such as market structure, key player positioning, top winning strategies, competitive dashboard, and company evaluation quadrant has been covered in the report. Also, detailed profiles of all major companies have been provided.

KEY QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN THIS REPORT

How has the South Korea application processor market performed so far and how will it perform in the coming years?

What is the breakup of the South Korea application processor market on the basis of device type?

What is the breakup of the South Korea application processor market on the basis of core type?

What is the breakup of the South Korea application processor market on the basis of region?

What are the various stages in the value chain of the South Korea application processor market?

What are the key driving factors and challenges in the South Korea application processor market?

What is the structure of the South Korea application processor market and who are the

key players?

What is the degree of competition in the South Korea application processor market?

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