

Size of the Machine Tool Industry

According to Survey of Industrial Production, a study conducted by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), machine tools are classified in the general category. General machinery is a category that covers boilers and motors, earthmoving / construction equipment, office equipment, refrigerating equipment, and semiconductor fabricating equipment, etc. In the machine tool industry, METI's study covered business facilities with 50 or more employees.

Comparing the production value in 2024, machine tools amounted to ¥901.3 billion, accounting for 5.7% of the "general machinery" (¥15,847 billion), and it accounts for only 1.2% of the total machinery industry (¥72.407 trillion).

However, superior machine tools are the crucial factor in manufacturing a wide range of machinery. This is why machine tools are viewed within all sectors of the machinery industry as having a critical presence far greater than their share alone would indicate.

The total value of production of machine tools in 2024 decreased 14.3% from the previous year and fell below 1 trillion yen for the first time in three years.

Looking at the machine tool industry in terms of employment, the number of employees has been decreasing since its peak in 1992 at 37,975. After bottoming out in 2003 at 22,130 employees, it has recovered moderately and has exceeded 26,000 in the last nine years. The number of employees in 2024 reached 26,248, and each company is committed to maintaining employment by placing emphasis on the transfer of excellent technology and human resource development.

Production Breakdown of Machinery Industry

