

Business

Half of Korea's Workers Lose Income to Coronavirus

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Five out of 10 salaried workers have lost income due to the coronavirus epidemic, according to a survey. Low-income, temporary workers in the service industry were harder than high-paid permanent employees in other industries.

The Public Workers Solidarity Foundation on Monday said that in a survey of 1,000 employees from April 14-20, 47.5 percent replied that their income has dropped since the epidemic erupted.

Six hundred were permanent employees and 400 on temporary contracts. Some 500 were office workers, 178 factory workers, 299 in the service industry and 23 in

Among the contract workers, 66.3 percent suffered a decline in income compared to 35 percent of permanent staff.

By earnings bracket, 70.2 percent of workers making less than W1.5 million a month lost income, compared to only 24.1 percent of workers who earn more than W5 (US\$1=W1,219).

Some 19.5 percent of contract workers had been forced to accept unpaid leave as against only eight percent of permanent staff. More temporary workers also lost to suffered pay cuts with 8.5 percent and 13.8 percent, compared to 3.5 percent and 11.3 percent among permanent staff.

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