Development of Public Copyright Awareness in Korea

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Annual Report on Copyright Protection (2025)

: Survey Methodology and Scope

Published by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MCST) in collaboration with the Korea Copyright Protection Agency (KCOPA) since 2009.

The Ministry conducts annual surveys to analyze copyright protection trends, patterns on the use of pirated contents and enforcement activities.

The main findings are published in the 'Annual Report on Copyright Protection', providing foundational statistical data for developing national copyright protection policies in Korea.

24K

Survey Participants
aged 13 to 69

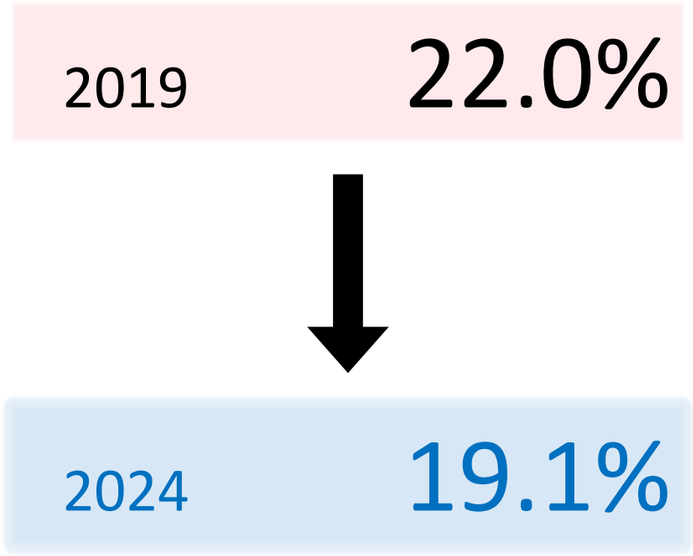
6 Categories
including

Music, Film, Broadcast

Publishing, Games, and Webtoons

Annual Report on Copyright Protection (2025)

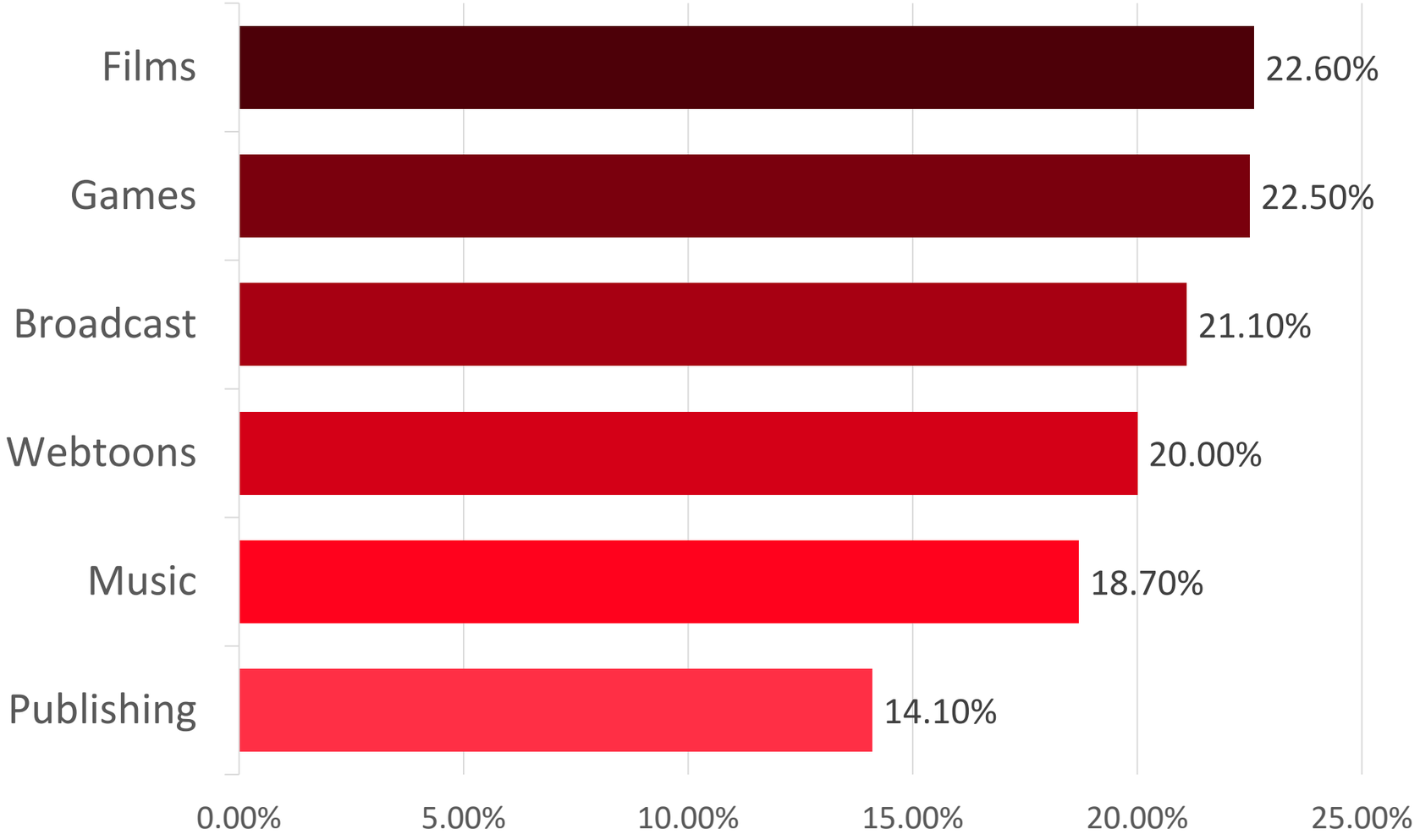
: Overall Rate of Use of Pirated Contents in Korea



29.1% of respondents answered that the reason for
their use of pirated contents was 'because it was either free or affordable'.

Annual Report on Copyright Protection (2025)

: Rate by Category



Increase in Copyright Awareness in 2024

3.24

Public Awareness

Out of 4.0

97

Copyright Ambassadors

To support
awareness raising campaigns

511

Promotional Activities

Under the Campaign,
'Copyright Protection, Right Now'

Increased copyright awareness

through **public-private discussions, engagement opportunities**

and public campaigns

Latest amendments to the Copyright Act to Strengthen Copyright Enforcement

- Passed by the National Assembly (January 29, 2026)
- Highlights of the amendments are:

Emergency Access Block against “Mirror Sites” * Entered into force on May 11, 2026

[Access Block] Corrective orders issued by the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism and corrective recommendations issued by the Korea Copyright Protection Agency(KCOPA) to online service providers shall include access-blocking measures.

[Emergency Access Block] In addition to the already-established access block scheme, access block measures against so-called mirror sites is introduced, where Minister of MCST may issue emergency access-blocking corrective orders to online service providers, and impose administrative fines for non-compliance.

Latest amendments to the Copyright Act to Strengthen Copyright Enforcement

Adoption of Punitive Damages and Increased Criminal Penalties

* To enter into force on August 11, 2026

[Quintuple Damages] For intentional copyright infringement, damages of up to five times the amount of recognized damages may be awarded.

[Increased Criminal Penalties] Criminal penalties for infringement of copyright and related rights shall be increased from imprisonment for up to five years and/or a fine of up to KRW 50 million, to imprisonment for up to seven years and/or a fine of up to KRW 100 million.

Thank you.

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