

GR-2024-19 | 2024 LENS | CHINA • ASIA

Humanoid robotics: measure the useful task

The investable question is useful work completed safely per paid hour.



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THE EVIDENCE

IFR reports 542,000 industrial robot installations in 2024, including 295,000 in China. These figures cover industrial robots, not humanoid sales.

THE BUSINESS IMPLICATION

Use the 2024 lens to challenge demo-led assumptions. Select bounded, repetitive tasks, compare with fixed automation and record intervention rates. A humanoid premium only makes sense where a human-shaped environment creates real deployment advantages.

WATCH THE DOWNSIDE

Safety, uptime, teleoperation dependence and spare parts determine service economics.

DECISION FRAMEWORK

Task	Cycle time and successful completion
Reliability	Interventions and availability
Economics	All-in cost per productive hour

COMMISSIONED SCOPE

Task feasibility, robotics-as-a-service model, pilot acceptance criteria and vendor diligence.

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SOURCES & METHOD

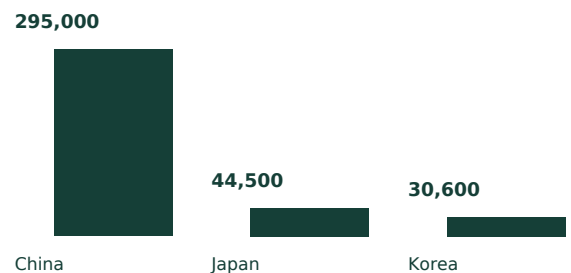
1. IFR, World Robotics 2025 release

Source links are clickable. Image credit and full source URLs appear in the online brief.

Newly published 20 Sep 2026; year denotes subject lens. Scenarios are illustrative, not investment forecasts. Full reports are commissioned under a separate scope and fee. No assurance of funding.

Industrial robot installations in 2024

Unit: units



IFR World Robotics 2025. Industrial robots only; not humanoid market size.

