

Economies and Industries of Yamaguchi Prefecture, Hiroshima Prefecture, and Kitakyushu City (Reference)

Yamaguchi Prefecture			
<p>Excellent industrial concentration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many plants of major corporations located owing to the excellent transportation network • Concentration of primary material industries such as cement and chemicals owing to the rich mineral resources • Increasing entries of processing and assembly industries such as transportation machinery and more recently the pharmaceutical industry 	<p>Gateway to exchanges with Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent harbor conditions with 2 international harbors and 4 major harbors in the prefecture • The largest export and import center in the Chugoku region such as auto parts and chemicals • Serves as the production center in western Japan for many global enterprises 	<p>Rich industrial human resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent historical background that has traditionally nurtured the social climate encouraging study and education • Excellent support system under the industry-academic coordination such as joint research between a university and a private-sector company, R&D to develop next generation industries, etc. 	<p>Major companies and plants in Yamaguchi Prefecture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ube Industries Ltd. (cement, chemicals) • Tokuyama Corporation (cement, chemicals) • Chofu Seisakusho Co., Ltd. (metal products) • Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (shipbuilding) • Bridgestone Corporation (rubber) • Nippon Steel & Sumikin Stainless Steel Corporation (steel pipes) • Tosoh Corporation (chemicals)

Hiroshima Prefecture			
<p>The largest industrial prefecture in the Chugoku and Shikoku regions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth of heavy industries, particularly transportation machinery such as automobiles and shipbuilding, leveraging the technological strength developed through military manufacturing • Ranks No. 12 in Japan in terms of nominal gross prefectural product with a share of 2.3% in Japan. 	<p>Manufacturing industry centered around Mazda Motor Corporation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The formation of a group of broad-based automobile-related companies with Mazda Motor Corporation on top of the hierarchy • The shipbuilding industry encompassing middle-ranking and small and medium-sized shipbuilding companies and related manufacturers such as pumps and turbines, which holds the No. 1 share in Japan • Additional concentration of traditional industries such as the fiber industry and the manufacturing of furniture for newlywed couples 	<p>Home of many No. 1 enterprises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many local enterprises in a variety of industries with nationwide reputation and a large domestic market share through leveraging excellent technologies (Refer to the right section) 	<p>Major companies and plants in Hiroshima Prefecture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mazda Motor Corporation (automobile) • Tsuneishi Holdings Corporation (shipbuilding) • Ryobi Limited (non-ferrous metal) • JMS Co., Ltd. (medical equipment) • Molten Corporation (athletic balls) • Aoyama Trading Co., Ltd. (menswear)

Kitakyushu City			
<p>Concentration of a variety of industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitakyushu City was born in 1963 through a merger of 5 cities. • Mainly heavy and chemical industries (steel in the main) • New concentration of increasingly diverse industries such as auto-related industries due to the proximity to Asia and the highly developed logistics infrastructure 	<p>City of manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steel accounts for approximately 40% of the total manufacturing industry • Concentration of auto assembly plants including Nissan Motor Kyushu Co., Ltd., Toyota Motor Kyushu, Inc., and Daihatsu Motor Kyushu Co., Ltd. • Recent concentration of semiconductor design companies owing to the development of Kitakyushu Science and Research Park 	<p>Environmental and energy industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A forerunner of the eco-town business leveraging the concentration of industrial technology with broad manufacturing bases • Research and development is conducted on new energy sources such as the technology to reduce the oxygen content under the promotion system developed through the industry-academic-public coordination 	<p>Major companies and plants in Kitakyushu City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation (iron manufacturing, steel) • TOTO Ltd. (construction equipment) • Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation (petrochemical functional products) • Yasukawa Electric Corporation (industrial robots) • Mitsui High-tec, Inc. (semiconductor-related products) • Zenrin Co., Ltd. (information and communication)