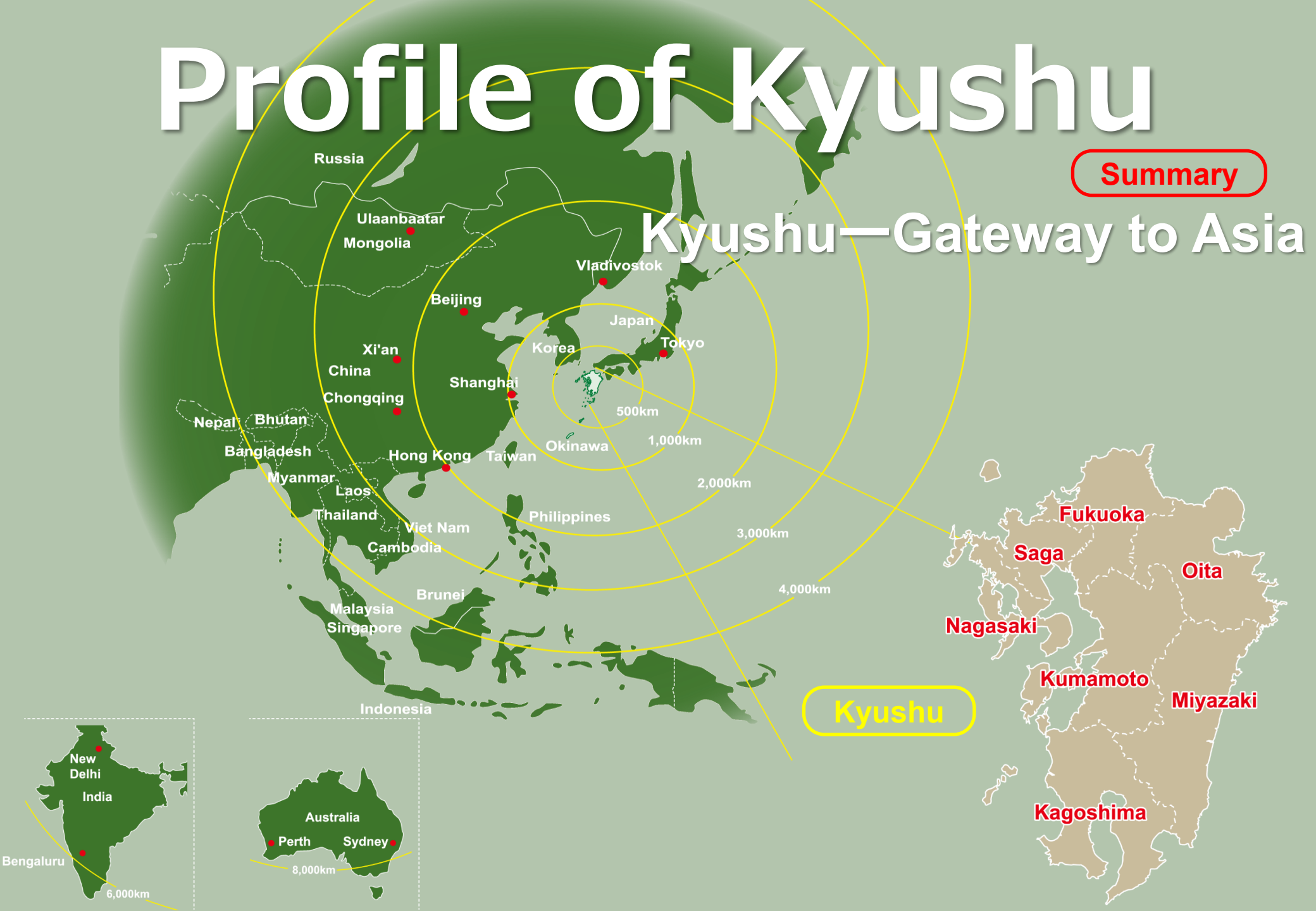


# Profile of Kyushu

Summary

## Kyushu—Gateway to Asia



Kyushu



# Location and Access

## Access and transportation convenience from Kyushu to Asian countries

- ◆ Kyushu is located in the southwestern part of Japan, at the center of East Asia, being almost equidistant from Seoul, Shanghai, and Tokyo.
- ◆ Kyushu's network to Asia is also well developed. Flight times from Fukuoka to various Asian countries are about one hour shorter than from Tokyo.
- ◆ In 2023, Fukuoka Airport ranked **third in Japan for passenger traffic** (domestic and international) after Tokyo's Haneda and Narita airports. The access time from Fukuoka International Airport to the city center (Hakata Station) is just **6 minutes**, providing **world-class transportation convenience**.
- ◆ Various transportation infrastructures such as airports, ports, expressways, and railways are established in each prefecture of Kyushu. The Kyushu Shinkansen allows for a north-south traverse of Kyushu from Hakata Station in Fukuoka to Kagoshima Chuo Station in about **1 hour and 20 minutes**.

Access Times from Each Airport to the City Center and Asian Countries

	Fukuoka Airport	Kumamoto Airport	Narita Airport
Airport to City Center	6 minutes (Hakata Station)	45 minutes (Kumamoto Station)	55 minutes (Tokyo Station)
Busan	55 minutes	1 hour 20 minutes	2 hours 10 minutes
Seoul	1 hour 20 minutes	1 hour 35 minutes	2 hours 25 minutes
Shanghai	2 hours	2 hours 5 minutes	3 hours 5 minutes
Taipei	2 hours 25 minutes	2 hours 15 minutes	3 hours 35 minutes
Hong Kong	3 hours 40 minutes	3 hours 15 minutes	4 hours 40 minutes
Hanoi	4 hours 25 minutes	—	5 hours 30 minutes
Ho Chi Minh City	5 hours	—	5 hours 55 minutes
Bangkok	5 hours 20 minutes	—	6 hours 30 minutes
Singapore	6 hours	—	6 hours 55 minutes

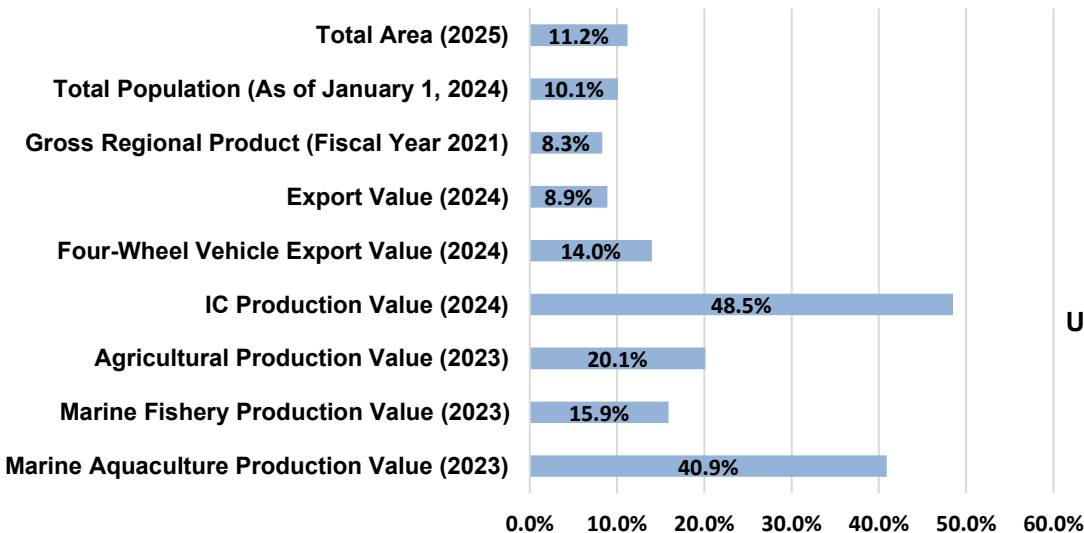


# Economic Scale of Kyushu

## Kyushu's economic scale is comparable to that of a country

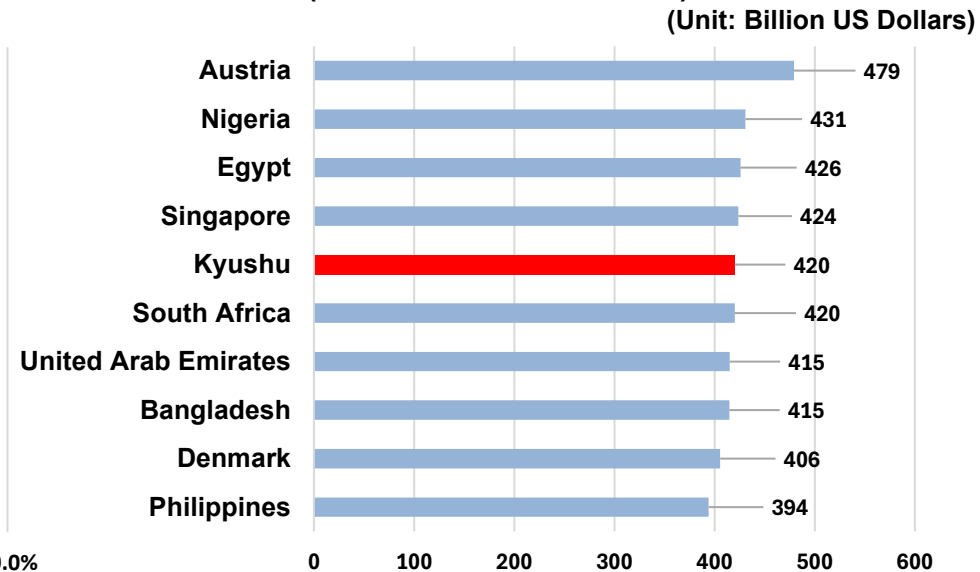
- ◆ The population of Kyushu is 12.66 million (10.1% of the national share), and it accounts for about 10% of the country's area and GDP, which is why Kyushu's economic scale is referred to as the **"one-tenth economy."**
- ◆ The regional production value of Kyushu is approximately 48 trillion yen, **comparable to the economies of Singapore (33rd in the world) and South Africa (34th in the world).**
- ◆ With a warm climate, clean water, well-developed infrastructure, advantageous location, and advanced technological capabilities, Kyushu has developed as a manufacturing hub over many years.
- ◆ In particular, **the automotive industry, semiconductor industry, and agriculture, forestry, and fisheries**, which are major industries in Kyushu, are important sectors that support the Japanese economy.

### Share of Kyushu in the National Total



Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, *Production Dynamics Statistics Survey* and other published materials from various ministries.

### International Comparison of Gross Regional Product (Fiscal Year 2021 Edition)



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, *World Statistics 2025*; Cabinet Office, *Economic Calculations for Prefectural Residents in FY 2021*.

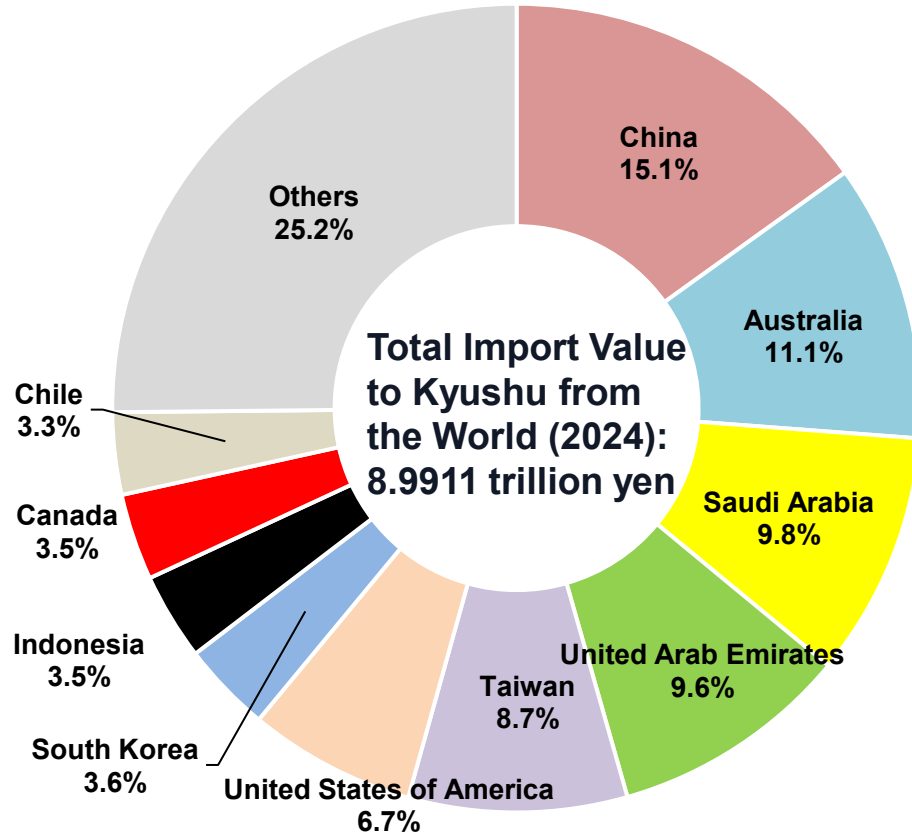
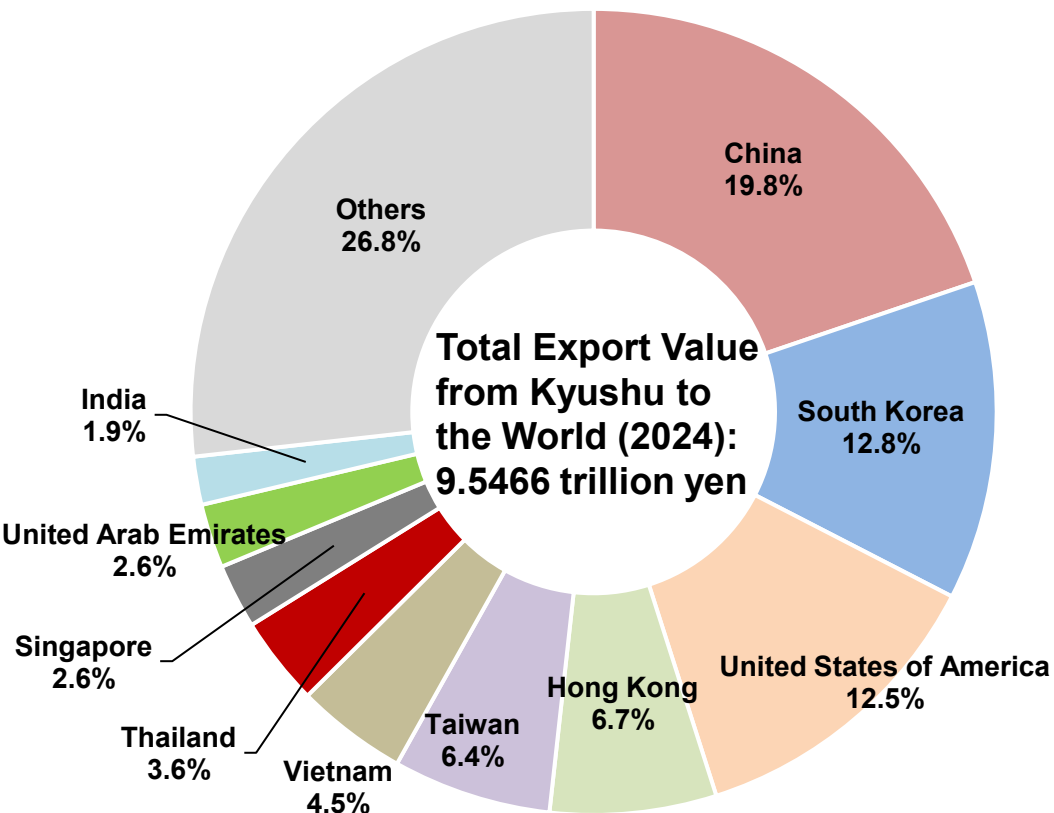
# Major Trading Partner Countries and Regions

## Kyushu's largest trading partner is China

- ◆ Kyushu's largest trading partner is **China**, accounting for 19.8% of exports and 15.1% of imports.
- ◆ In 2024, Kyushu's **export value is projected to be 9.5466 trillion yen (year-on-year +6.3%)**, while the **import value is expected to be 8.9911 trillion yen (year-on-year +0.9%)**. This marks the fourth consecutive year of export values exceeding the previous year, resulting in a trade surplus for the second consecutive year.

### Kyushu's Export Partner Countries and Regions

### Kyushu's Import Partner Countries and Regions

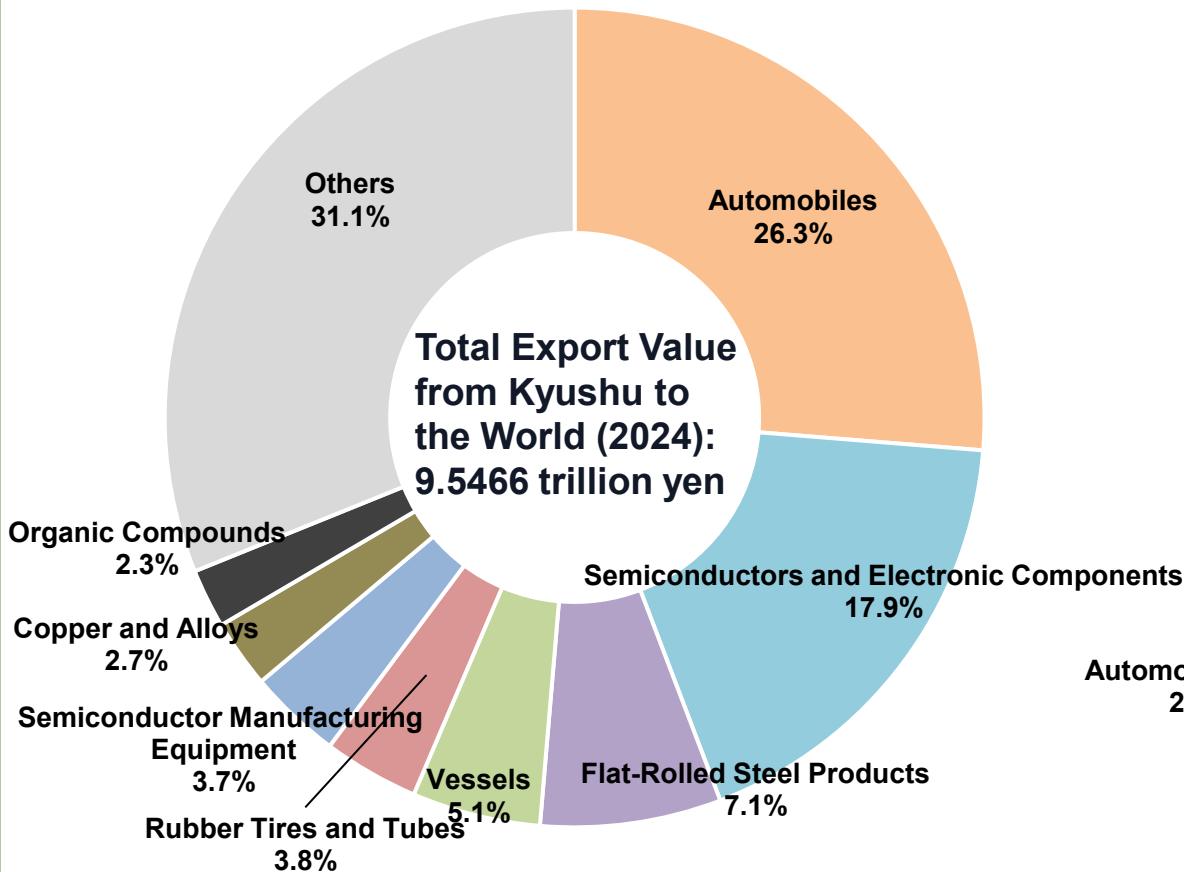


# Major Trade Items

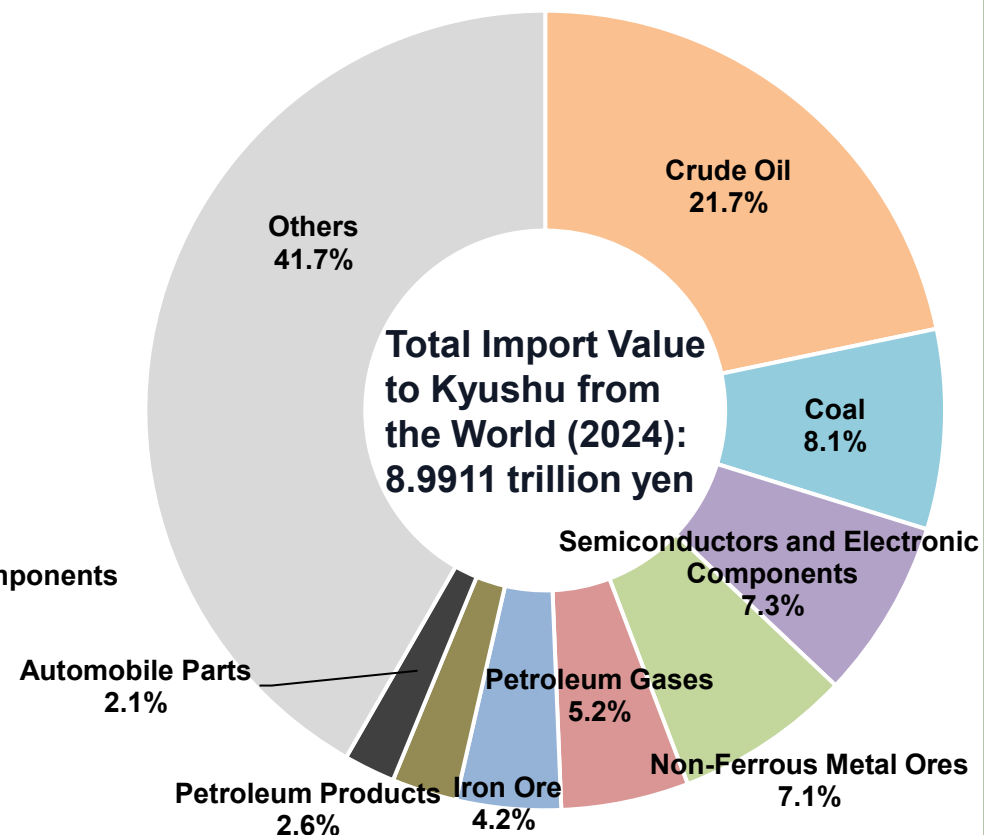
## Automobiles and semiconductor-related electronic components occupy the top positions in export value

- ◆ The main export item is **automobiles**, which make up **26.3%**, followed by **semiconductor and electronic components**, and flat-rolled steel products. These three categories together account for more than half of the total exports.
- ◆ In terms of imports, the top items by value are crude oil and raw oil, coal, semiconductor and electronic components, non-ferrous metal ores, and petroleum gases, with mineral fuels dominating the top positions.

Export Items from Kyushu to the World



Import Items to Kyushu from the World

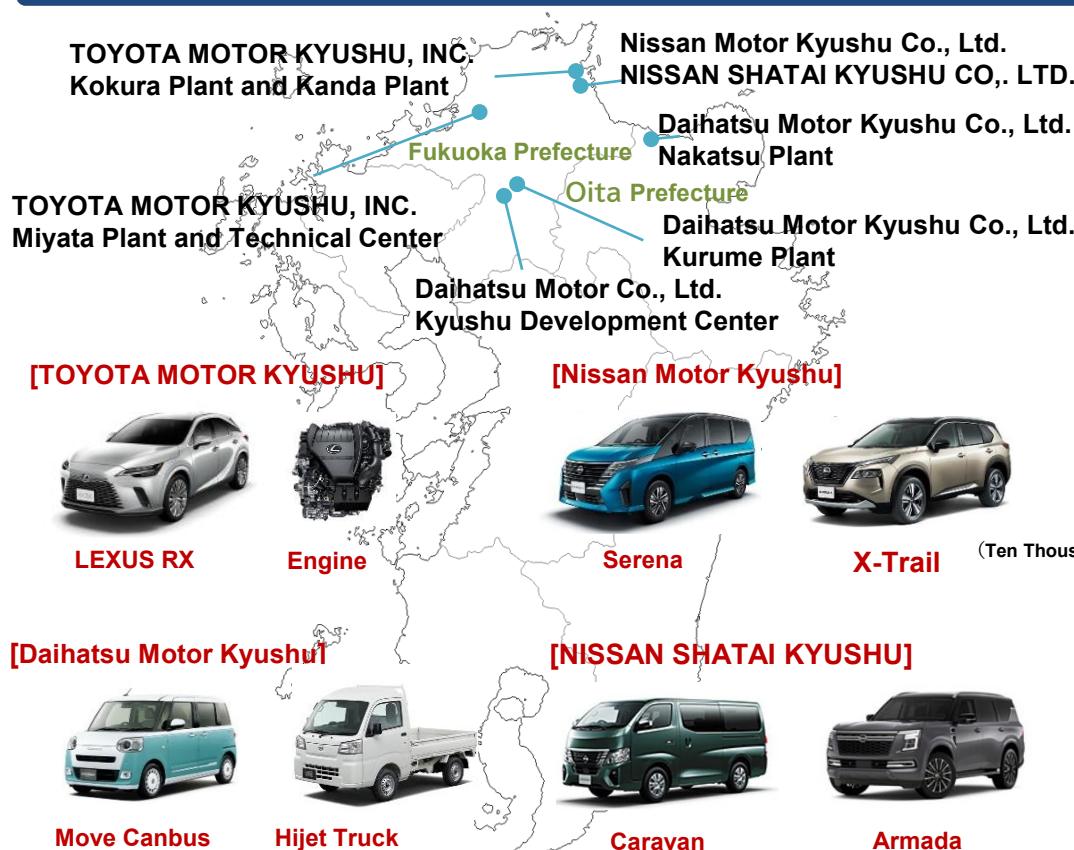


# Major Industries in Kyushu: The Automotive Industry

## One of the world's leading automotive production bases

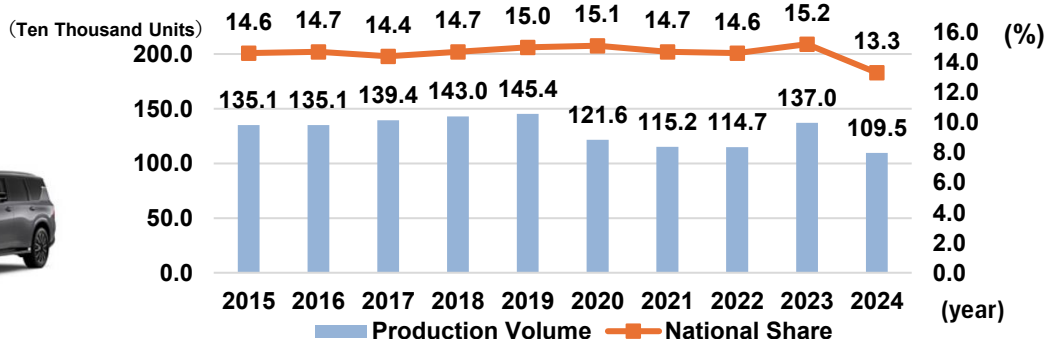
- ◆ Kyushu is home to four completed vehicle manufacturers, **with an annual production capacity of approximately 1.54 million vehicles**, thus growing into one of the world's leading production bases.
- ◆ The concentration of related companies engaged in the manufacturing and processing of automotive parts has progressed, **with over 1,000 companies** forming a supply chain throughout Kyushu.
- ◆ The Kyushu area possesses the technological capabilities to meet the quality standards of luxury brands such as Lexus and Infiniti, and, along with its production scale, has become a core component of global strategies.

### Location Status and List of Factories of Completed Vehicle Manufacturers



Company Name		Start of Production	Production Capacity	Types of Vehicles Produced
Nissan Motor Kyushu		12/1976	530,000 units	Serena, X-Trail, Rogue
NISSAN SHATAI KYUSHU		12/2009	120,000 units	Patrol, Infiniti, QX80, Elgrand, Caravan, Armada
TOYOTA MOTOR KYUSHU	Miyata Plant	12/1992	430,000 units	Lexus ES, UX, RX, NX
	Kanda Plant	12/2005	440,000 units	Engine
	Kokura Plant	8/2008	470,000 units	Hybrid Components
Daihatsu Motor Kyushu	Nakatsu Plant	11/2004	460,000 units	Taft, Mira e:S, Atrai, Hijet Truck, Move Canbus
	Kurume Plant	8/2008	324,000 units	Engine and Transmission Components

### Trends in Four-Wheeled Vehicle Production in Kyushu



Source: Northern Kyushu Automotive Industry Green Advanced Base Project pamphlet, etc. (Photos: Company websites)

Source: Created by the Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry based on the *Production Dynamics Statistics Survey* by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

# Major Industries in Kyushu: The Semiconductor Industry

## Location status of major semiconductor-related businesses

- ◆ The Kyushu region is home to major companies with a world-leading share in CMOS image sensors, automotive microcontrollers, power semiconductors, semiconductor manufacturing equipment, and approximately **1,000** small and medium-sized enterprises supporting these companies, which have driven the growth of the Kyushu economy for many years.

### Saga Prefecture

◇SUMCO Corporation Kyushu Office [Silicon Wafers]

### Fukuoka Prefecture

◎ Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Power Device Manufacturing Division Fukuoka Plant [Power Semiconductors]

○ Rohm Apollo Co., Ltd. Chikugo Plant [Various ICs]

○ Nisshinbo Micro Devices Fukuoka Co., Ltd. [Various ICs]

### Nagasaki Prefecture

○ Sony Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation Nagasaki Technology Center [CMOS Image Sensors]  
◇SUMCO TECHXIV Co., Ltd. Nagasaki Plant [Silicon Wafers]

### Kumamoto Prefecture

● Amkor Technology Japan, Inc. Kumamoto Area [Backend Contracting]  
○ Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Power Device Manufacturing Division Kumamoto Plant [Power Semiconductors]  
○ Japan Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. [Front-End Contracting]  
◎ Sony Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation Kumamoto Technology Center [CMOS Image Sensors]  
○ Renesas Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. Kumamoto Kawashiri Plant [LSI, Automotive Microcontrollers]  
● Renesas Electronics Corporation Nishiki Plant [Automotive Microcontrollers] ■ Tokyo Electron Kyushu, Inc. [Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment]  
■ Ebara Corporation Kumamoto Office [Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment]

### Oita Prefecture

● Renesas Electronics Corporation Oita Plant [Automotive Microcontrollers]  
○ Sony Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation Oita Technology Center [CMOS Image Sensors]  
○ Japan Semiconductor Co., Ltd. [Various ICs]  
● Amkor Technology Japan, Inc. Usuki, Oita [Backend Contracting]

### Miyazaki Prefecture

◎ Lapis Semiconductor Co., Ltd. Miyazaki Plant [Various ICs]  
◇SUMCO TECHXIV Co., Ltd. Miyazaki Plant [Silicon Wafers]

### Kagoshima Prefecture

◎ Sony Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation Kagoshima Technology Center [CCD Image Sensors]  
◎ Phenitec Semiconductor Co., Ltd. Kagoshima Plant [Foundry]  
● Kyocera Corporation Kagoshima Sendai Plant [Semiconductor Components, etc.]  
● Kyocera Corporation Kagoshima Kokubu Plant and Hayabusa Plant [Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors, etc.]



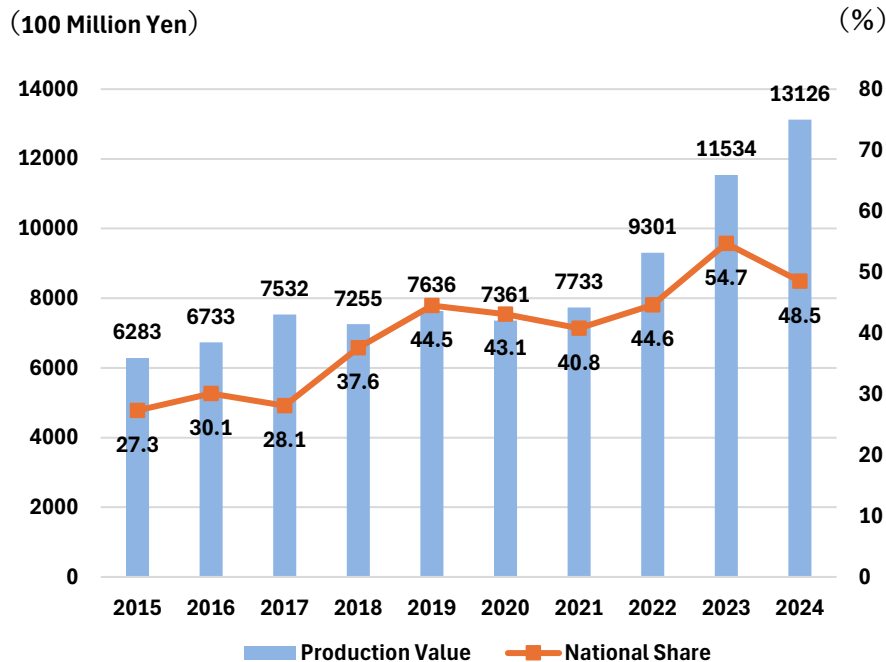
◎ Integrated Front and Back Processes ○ Front-End Process  
● Back-End Process ◇ Materials ■ Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment

# Major Industries in Kyushu: The Semiconductor Industry

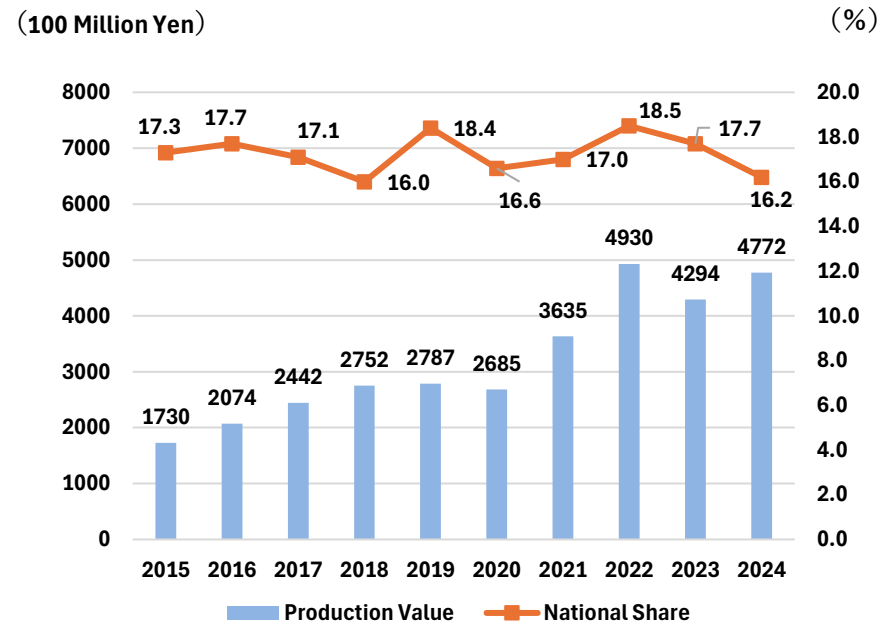
## High-value-added semiconductors

- ◆ The announcement by JASM (a subsidiary of TSMC) of its entry into the market in 2021 served as a catalyst for the acceleration of semiconductor-related companies' entry and capital investment.
- ◆ Due to the increase in production of **high-value-added semiconductors** such as image sensors and a series of capital investments, the expansion of production and exports continues, with the production value of integrated circuits (ICs) increasing for four consecutive years.
- ◆ The production value of ICs for the fiscal year 2024 is projected to be **1.3126 trillion yen, accounting for approximately 50% of Japan's share.**

### ICs Production Value and National Share in Kyushu



### Production Value and National Share of Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment in Kyushu



Source: Created by the Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry based on the *Production Dynamics Statistics Survey* by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

# Major Industries in Kyushu: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

## Kyushu: Japan's food supply base

- ◆ In 2023, Kyushu's agricultural output was **approximately 2 trillion yen**, accounting for **20% of Japan's total**. Its marine fishery output was **385.4 billion yen**, representing **25.3% of the national total**.
- ◆ Kyushu is characterized by its high share of national output: **25.2% in livestock production**, **40.9% in marine aquaculture**, and **96.7% in authentic shochu production**.
- ◆ Food exports are also thriving, with Kyushu's export value in 2023 reaching **155.9 billion yen (up 6.5% from the previous year)**. Main exports include seafood such as yellowtail and tuna, livestock products such as beef and pork, fruits and vegetables such as strawberries and citrus, as well as sweet potatoes and tea, mainly to countries like China and the United States.



Karashi Mentaiko (Spicy Fish Eggs) (Fukuoka)



Yobuko Squid (Saga)



Nagasaki Champon (Nagasaki)



Spicy Deep-Fried Lotus Root (Kumamoto)



Seki Saba & Seki Aji (Oita)

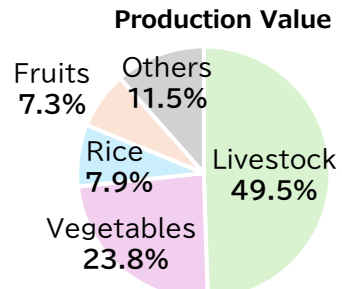


Miyazaki Beef (Miyazaki)

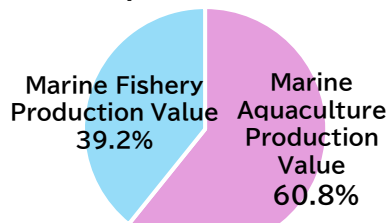


Kurobuta Shabu-shabu & Imo Shochu (Kagoshima)

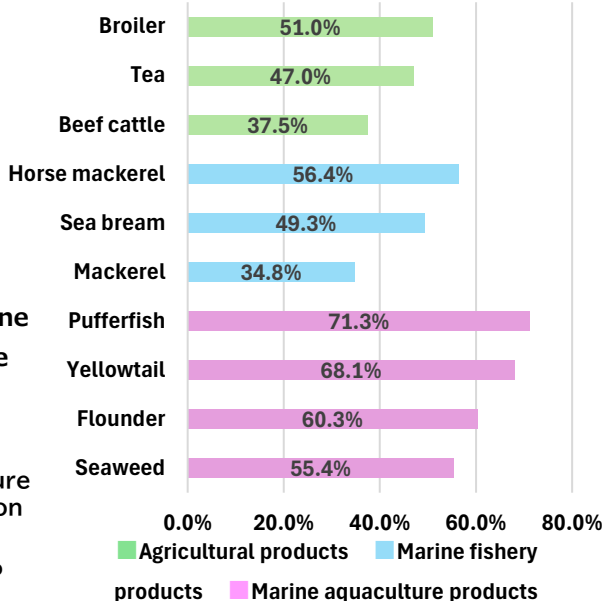
### Composition Ratio of Agricultural



### Composition Ratio of Marine Fishery Production Value



### Top Agricultural and Marine Products by National Share



### Export Value of Agricultural and Marine Products from Kyushu and National Ratio

Item	Export Value (in hundred million yen)	National Ratio
<b>Agricultural, forestry, and marine products</b>	<b>1,559</b>	<b>11.7%</b>
Agricultural products	799	9.0%
Processed foods	375	7.4%
Livestock products	230	18.1%
Grains, etc.	49	7.8%
Vegetables and fruits, etc.	67	9.9%
Other agricultural products	76	6.1%
<b>Forestry products</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>33.4%</b>
<b>Marine products</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>14.1%</b>
Marine products (excluding processed items)	512	17.0%
Processed marine products	35	4.0%

### Export Destinations of Agricultural, Forestry, and Marine Products from Kyushu

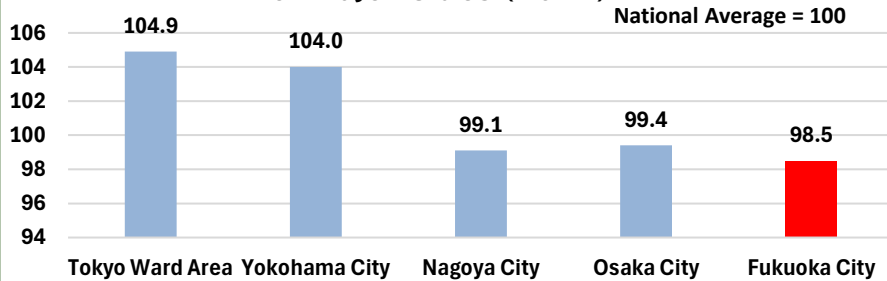
Rank	Export Destination Country	Export Value (in hundred million yen)	National Ratio
1	China	367	21.8%
2	United States of America	254	10.5%
3	Taiwan	207	12.2%
4	Republic of Korea	201	22.1%
5	Hong Kong	191	8.6%
6	Vietnam	73	8.5%
7	Thailand	55	8.8%
8	Singapore	35	6.3%
9	Australia	26	7.9%
10	Philippines	22	7.7%

# Business Costs and Human Resources

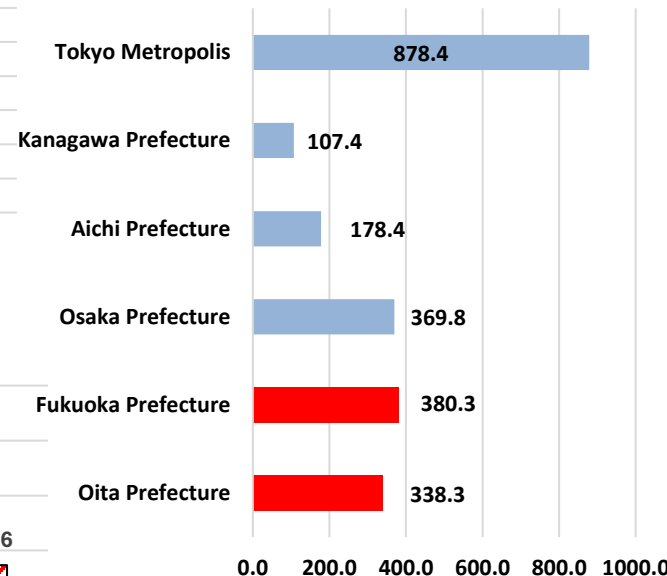
## Low price levels and highly skilled talent

- ◆ Among all of Japan's major urban areas, Kyushu has **the lowest cost of living and office rent**, allowing businesses to operate more cost effectively.
- ◆ Support systems for attracting foreign companies have been established in each prefecture of Kyushu, reducing the burden of starting a business.
- ◆ As for educational institutions, there are universities such as Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU), where half of the students are international, and Kyushu University, which is active in international research and exchange. These institutions produce excellent human resources with **an international perspective and specialized knowledge and skills**.
- ◆ In particular, Kyushu has many National Institutes of Technology (KOSEN) that train practical engineers capable of handling advanced industrial technologies. **The number of students enrolled in national KOSENs in Kyushu accounts for 16.5% of the total in Japan**, providing an environment where it is easy to secure engineers and technical professionals.

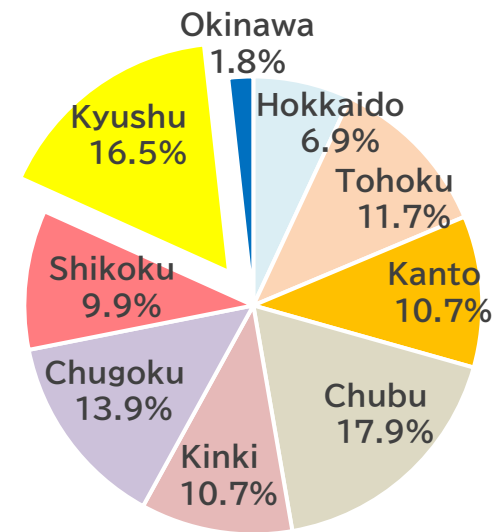
Consumer Price Regional Difference Index for Major Cities (2024)



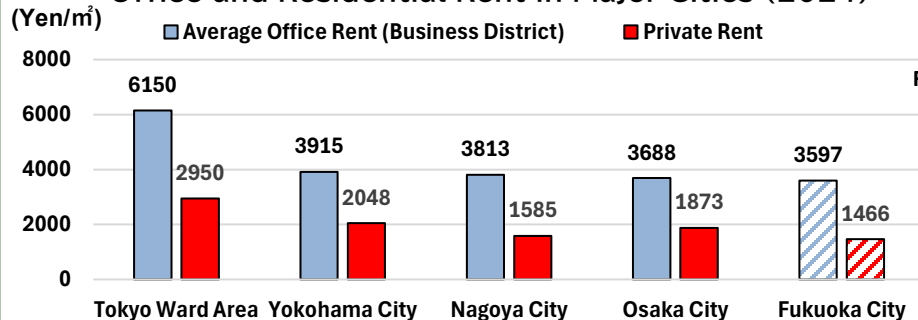
Number of International Students per 100,000 Population by Prefecture (2024)



Composition Ratio of Students in National Kosen by Block (2024)



Office and Residential Rent in Major Cities (2024)



Source: Statistics Bureau of Japan, Retail Price Survey; Miki Shoji Co., Ltd., Office Market Data; Statistics

Source: Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO), Results of the 2024 Survey on International Student Enrollment  
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Population, Population Dynamics, and Number of Households Based on the Basic Resident Register (as of January 1, 2024)

Source: School Basic Survey, FY2024 9

# Kyushu Economy International (KEI)

- **Established in July 2001 as a unified organization for international economic exchange in Kyushu, KEI comprises local governments, economic organizations, and private enterprises in the region. It consists of 35 institutions, including prefectures, designated cities, economic organizations, and private companies.**
- **The organization aims to revitalize Kyushu and promote self-sustaining development through industrial and human exchanges between Kyushu and foreign countries. It promotes Kyushu's attractions such as its ideal industrial location and and tourism resources to other countries, while also fostering innovation through its industrial location and exchanges by attracting domestic and foreign companies, thereby promoting balanced regional development.**

## Organization

**Chairman:** Chairman, Kyushu Economic Federation

**Vice Chairman:** Chairman, Kyushu Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry

**Members:** Prefectures and designated cities in Kyushu, economic organizations, industrial support organizations, financial institutions, and other private companies

**Supporting Organizations:** Kyushu Tourism Organization

Development Bank of Japan Kyushu Branch

Kyushu Head Office, Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, JAPAN

JETRO offices in Kyushu

Japan International Cooperation Agency Kyushu Center (JICA-Kyushu)

**Advisors:** Director-General, Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI-Kyushu)

Director-General, Kyushu District Transport Bureau

**Secretary-General:** Senior Managing Director, Kyushu Economic Federation

**Observers:** Director-General, International Affairs Department, METI-Kyushu  
Director, Tourism Department, Kyushu District Transport Bureau

**Secretary:** General Manager, General Administration and International Affairs Division, Kyushu Economic Federation

**Secretariat:** General Administration and International Affairs Division, Kyushu Economic Federation

International Affairs Division, International Affairs Department, METI-Kyushu

## Business Overview

### 1. Planning and Formulation of Internationalization Strategies

– Consider effective research and planning to be implemented across Kyushu.

### 2. Information Creation and Dissemination

– Disseminate information about Kyushu's investment environment and economic-related projects through websites and promotional materials.

### 3. Industrial Exchange

– ① Economic and industrial exchange projects with the Asian region (including the Yellow Sea region, China, South Korea, ASEAN); ② providing overseas business and economic information through seminars on the latest local information, market trends, and how to utilize support systems; and ③ support for expanding sales channels and entering the Asian market through participation in overseas exhibitions and business meetings with overseas buyers.

### 4. Industrial Location

– Promote effective measures to attract foreign companies to revitalize the regional economy by holding seminars and study sessions for attracting companies both domestically and internationally.

### 5. Human Resource Exchange

– Promote mutual understanding with and long-term stays of international students who serve as a bridge between Kyushu companies expanding overseas and foreign countries by creating opportunities for exchange and holding job fairs.

For inquiries about this document

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Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry  
Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI-Kyushu)  
International Economic Cooperation Division  
International Affairs Department  
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<TEL> +81-92-761-4261

For a detailed version of this document, click here:

METI-Kyushu [Business and Investment Environment in Kyushu](#)



For those considering investment in Kyushu, click here:

JETRO [Invest Japan Business Support Center \(IBSC\)](#)



JETRO is a government organization that promotes trade and investment between Japan and other countries.