



KANSAI

Gateway to Your Business Success in Japan and Asia

~ Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe ~

INVEST JAPAN, INVEST KANSAI
-2025・English-

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The Attractiveness of Kansai as a Business City

- Kansai refers to an area centered around Kyoto, Osaka, and Kobe, which comprises seven prefectures (Fukui, Shiga, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Nara, and Wakayama).
- As indicated in the “Six reasons of Kansai as a Business City,” Kansai has an excellent business environment.
- Driven by Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, the development of international urban functions is advancing, attracting global attention.



- 1 Located in the center of Japan - Ideal as an Asian base**
Abundant routes and public transportation services are available centered on KIX as the hub. Trade partners are mainly from Asia.
- 2 Japan's second-largest economy after the Tokyo metropolitan area**
Kansai's GDP is comparable to that of the Netherlands or Switzerland.
- 3 “We can make anything” High technological capabilities and diverse industrial clusters**
A diverse range of companies with technological capabilities, primarily in the field of manufacturing, are concentrated here.
- 4 A cluster of universities, research institutes, highly skilled human resources, and global companies**
Procurement and collaboration with companies and startups with a high global market share are available.
- 5 Strengths in the green and life science fields**
Development/production bases, universities and research institutes are concentrated and collaborating with each other.
- 6 Comfortable living environment and comprehensive support**
An affordable office environment, comfortable living areas, and comprehensive support are provided.

Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan

- In Kansai, Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan will be held with the participation of various countries and international organizations from all over the world.



Official mascot character of Expo 2025
Osaka, Kansai, Japan
MYAKU-MYAKU ©Expo 2025

Theme: Designing Future Society for Our Lives

Period: April 13–October 13, 2025
Venue: Yumeshima Island, Osaka

Expected number of visitors: Approximately 28.2 million people

Sub-themes: Saving Lives
Empowering Lives
Connecting Lives
Concept: People's Living Lab
Goals: Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Achievement of Japan's national strategy "Society 5.0"



Diverse pavilions

• Signature Pavilions

Eight producers have developed attractive pavilions to give shape to the theme of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan.

• Pavilions for Private Sectors

Exhibitions by 13 companies and organizations

• Japan Pavilion

Realizing the theme of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan and communicating Japan's initiatives

• Official Participants' Pavilions (As of mid-March 2025)

Foreign exhibitions by over 158 countries and regions, over 7 international organizations, etc.

Theme Weeks



About every two weeks, a different global issue will be chosen as the theme, and a "dialogue program" and a "business exchange" will be conducted to discuss solutions and to take concrete action, respectively.

<https://theme-weeks.expo2025.or.jp/en/>

Events

A variety of events will be held at the venue.

E.g., exhibitions and conferences to spread the appeal of Japanese startups and small and medium-sized enterprises, etc.

TEAM EXPO program



Co-creation activities that will realize the theme of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan and contribute to achieving the SDGs have been registered. Some of them will be announced at the venue.

<https://team.expo2025.or.jp/en/index>

Future Society Showcase Projects

You will be able to experience demonstrations of next-generation technologies and social systems (film-type perovskite solar cells, advanced air mobility, etc.) that give a sense of the future, befitting Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan.

Expo2025 Official Experiential Travel Guides



Nationwide travel information related to the theme of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan is provided.

<https://www.expo2025travel.jp/page/3/en>



Provided by: Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition

Future Society Showcase Project: Film-type perovskite solar cells



Tickets are now on sale.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/tickets-index/>

Kansai, an Attractive Region

- Kansai is Japan's second-largest economic area, following the Kanto region. It includes the economic center of Osaka, the ancient capital of Kyoto, and the port town of Kobe.
- Historic sites, rich food, and traditional culture abound here, and it has a high concentration of attractive tourist spots.
- It combines the convenience of cities with beautiful nature and has a good living environment.

Kansai has a good reputation worldwide

Sight-seeing

World's favorite cities in Asia of 2024
Ranked 2nd: Kyoto

(Source) *Travel + Leisure*
Travel + Leisure Readers' 15 Favorite Cities in Asia of 2024

Sightseeing

Tourist destinations in Japan people want to visit 2024

Ranked 3rd: Osaka
Ranked 4th: Kyoto
Ranked 9th: Kobe
Ranked 10th: Nara

(Source) DBJ and JTB: Survey of Tourist Travel to Japan from Asia, Europe, the United States, and Australia Development Bank of Japan Inc.

Residence

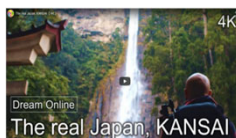
Number of foreign residents by prefecture in Japan

Ranked 1st: Osaka
Ranked 4th: Kyoto
Ranked 5th: Kobe

(Source) Population, demographics, and number of households based on the Basic Resident Register (as of January 1, 2024)
from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications



Video: Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry



Source: KANSAI Tourism Bureau

Attractive tourist spots and cultural assets

Among the National Treasures of Japan, 71% of the traditional buildings and 51% of the art and crafts are in the Kansai region.



Himeji Castle (Hyogo)



Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine (Kyoto)
Photo by Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine

Food culture in Kansai

Food in Kansai is characterized by dishes that value dashi (soup stock) and bring out umami.



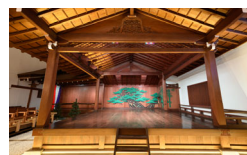
Botan nabe (Japanese wild boar hotpot) (Hyogo)



Okonomiyaki (Japanese style pancake) (Osaka)
Photo courtesy of the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau

Traditional culture in Kansai

Traditional culture has flourished around the ancient capital of Kyoto and various cultures have developed.



The Noh
Photo courtesy of the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau



Awaji traditional puppet show
Image courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments

Festivals in Kansai

Many festivals are held every year in Kansai, including two of the three major festivals in Japan, the Gion Festival and the Tenjin Festival.



Lake Biwa Fireworks Festival (Shiga)
Photo by Biwa Lake Visitors Bureau



Tenjin Festival (Osaka)
Photo courtesy of the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau



Nada Fighting Festival (Hyogo)
Photo courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments

Seasonal beauty of nature

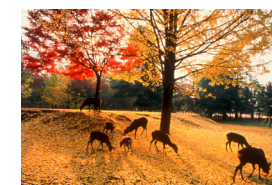
Being warm in the south and snowy in the north, you can enjoy diverse sceneries of nature each season.



Cherry blossoms on Mt. Yoshino (Nara)
Photo courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments



Kitayama River Log Rafting (Wakayama)
Photo courtesy of KANSAI Tourism Bureau



Deer in Nara Park (Nara)
Photo courtesy of Nara Visitors Bureau

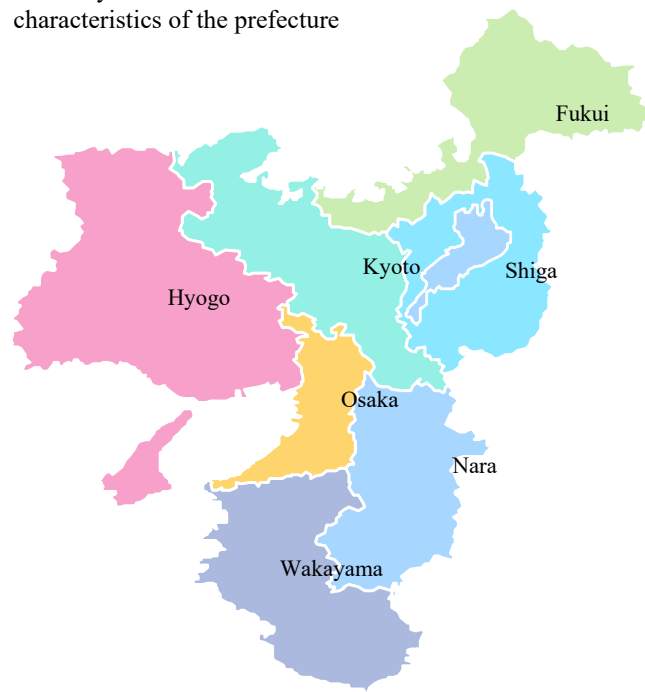


Snowy Koyasan (Wakayama)
Photo courtesy of KANSAI Tourism Bureau

Kansai, an Attractive Region <Characteristics of the Seven Prefectures in Kansai>

- The prefectures in Kansai have their own unique cultures, and you can enjoy colorful and fascinating places and specialties, including historic sites, delicious cuisines, and the beauty of nature.

1. Places of interest
2. Food and local specialties
3. Other keywords that show the characteristics of the prefecture



Hyogo

1. Himeji Castle, Kinosaki Onsen, Takeda Castle Ruins, Mt. Rokko, whirlpools
2. Kobe beef, sake, onions, Tanba chestnuts, Akashi sea bream, Tanba ware, Banshu-ori textiles
3. Akashi Kaikyo Bridge, Mt. Hyonosen



Photo by KOBE TOURISM BUREAU

Fukui

1. Eihei-ji Temple, Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum, Tojinbo
2. Echizen crab, seafood, eyeglasses, Wakasa chopsticks, Echizen traditional Japanese paper
3. Dinosaurs, nature



Kyoto

1. Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine, Kiyomizu-dera Temple, Kinkaku-ji Temple, Amanohashidate
2. Matcha, Yatsushashi, Kiyomizu ware
3. Animation, Nintendo, Kyocera, Omron, Nidec



Photo courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments

Nara

1. Great Buddha of Todaiji Temple, Horyuji Temple, Heijo-kyo
2. Persimmons, strawberries, kudzu, ink, socks
3. Having the most buildings designated as national treasures; deer



Photo courtesy of Nara Visitors Bureau

Photo courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments

Photo courtesy of Nara Visitors Bureau

Shiga

1. Lake Biwa, Mt. Hiei Enryakuji Temple, Hikone Castle
2. Shigaraki ware, Omi beef
3. Lake activities, cycling, the birthplace of ninjas



Photo courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments

Photo courtesy of the Union of Kansai Governments

Photo by Biwa Lake Visitors Bureau

Osaka

1. Osaka Castle, USJ, Dotonbori
2. Kushikatsu, takoyaki, okonomiyaki, kitchen knives made in Sakai
3. Administrative and economic hub of western Japan, comedy, rugby, merchant culture, Panasonic

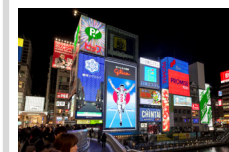


Photo courtesy of the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau

Photo courtesy of the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau

Photo courtesy of the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau

Wakayama

1. Nachi Falls, Kumano Kodo, Koyasan
2. Mikan (mandarin oranges), ume-plums, marine products, tuna
3. Shima Seiki, mild climate, sea bathing



Photo courtesy of the Wakayama Tourism Federation

Photo courtesy of the Wakayama Tourism Federation

Photo courtesy of the Wakayama Tourism Federation

Kansai, an Attractive Region <What's Kansai Like? - Interviews with Foreigners Living in Kansai>

- Here are some descriptions of Kansai from foreigners' perspectives.

Favorite Points about Where We Live



The ocean is beautiful! At the nearby beach, you can enjoy **marine sports**, such as snorkeling and SUP. And **delicious fresh seafood** as well. The good old towns and cultures remain, and I like that **I can feel the real Japan.**

Low cost of living, high quality of life and food, safety and late-night offerings.



Food in Kansai



I love **okonomiyaki**!

I look forward to having **ayu fish from Lake Biwa** as a taste of summer every year!



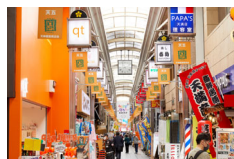
Authentic restaurants from various countries are abundant, allowing me to easily enjoy the tastes of my home country.



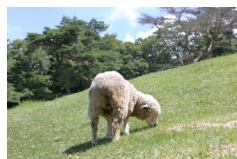
Favorite Spots in Kansai



Shopping street in Osaka



Mt.Rokko



Episodes with *Kansai-jin* (Natives of Kansai)



The local people welcomed me warmly in the neighborhood of the shopping street in Osaka where I used to live. Every time I passed there, the owner of a certain shop **greeted me cheerfully**, saying "Hello" in Vietnamese, and I looked forward to seeing the owner on the way to and from my job every day. They even held a surprise birthday party at my favorite *izakaya*, and I felt **the warmth as if I were in my hometown.**

My warm reception at a *senjo*, in which people bought me soap holders and hand towels as I was lacking them at the time, was exceptionally **friendly** and memorable.



There is such a thing as a *Kansai-jin* there are distinct linguistic and cultural traits that separate them from people in other regions. **People are much more friendly and feel very rooted in their local areas.** People have a lot of pride in the area they are from and live in.

Many friendly and talkative people.

Since my time attending Japanese language school until now, I have gotten a lot of help from many people, including teachers, classmates, and colleagues at my part-time job. Everyone is very kind, and I was impressed by how enjoyable the interactions were.

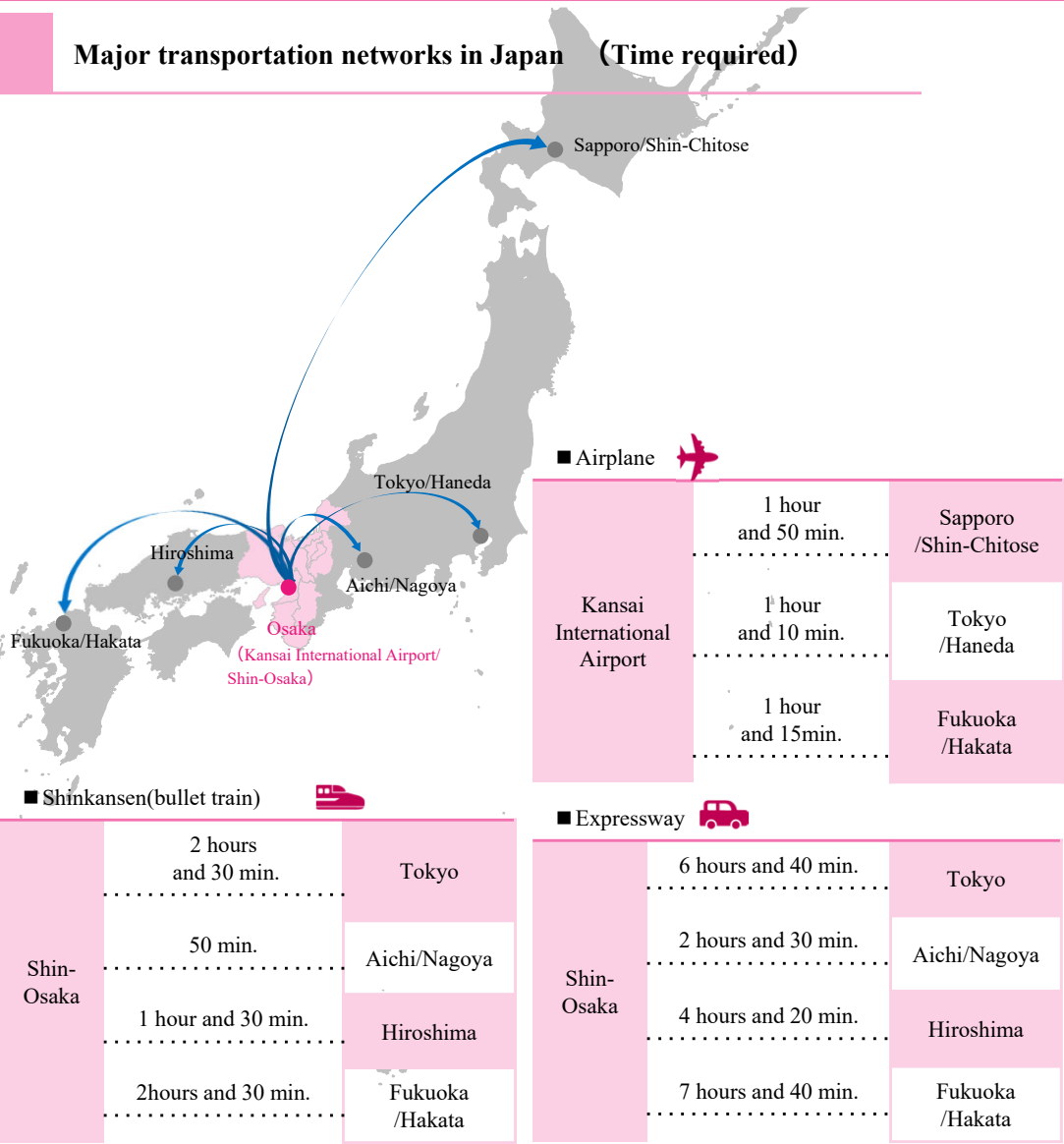


1 Location of the Kansai region and Highly Developed Infrastructure

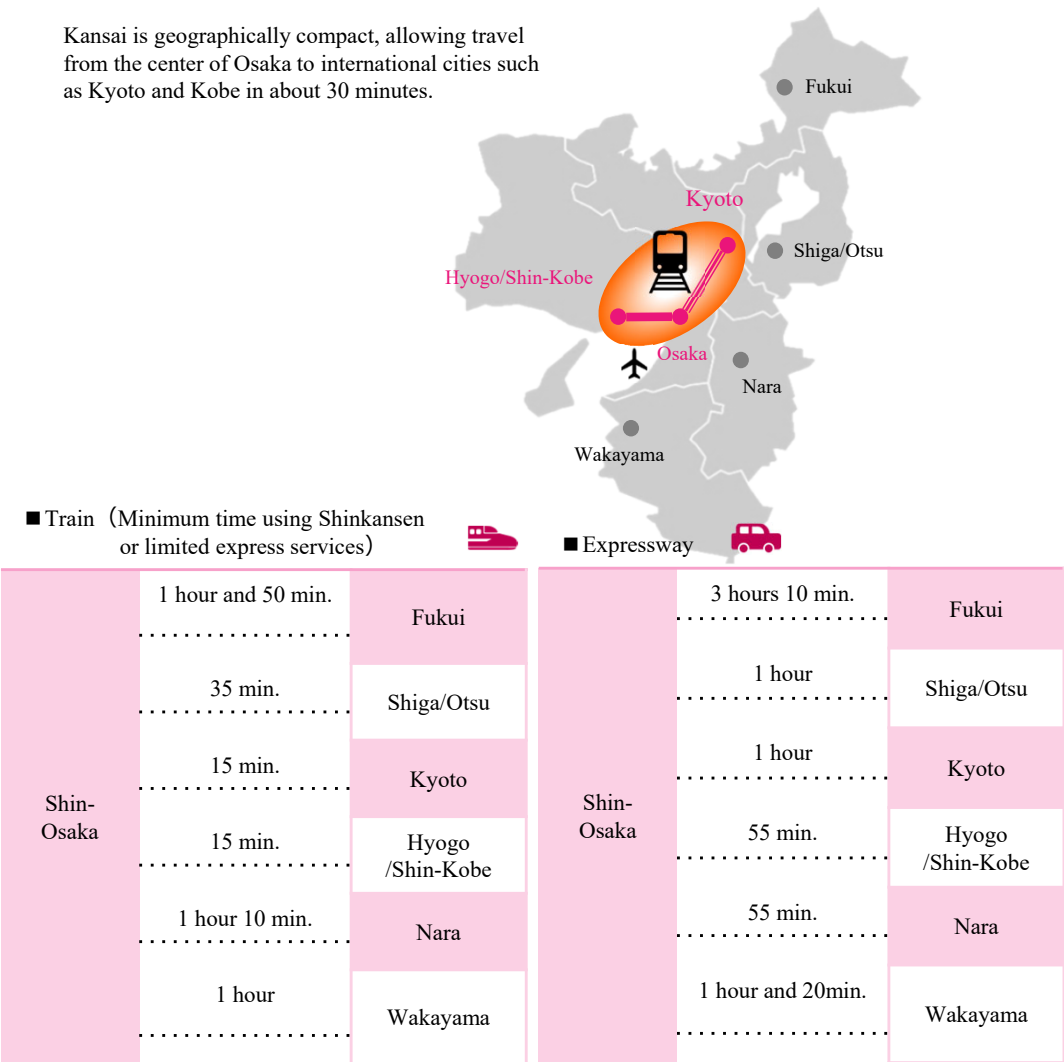
1-1 Location of the Kansai region and transportation infrastructure

- Kansai is located almost in the center of Japan and boasts a well-developed transportation network, including air, rail, and road systems.
- In particular, Kyoto, Osaka, and Kobe are adjacent to each other, with travel between them taking approximately 30 minutes.

Major transportation networks in Japan (Time required)



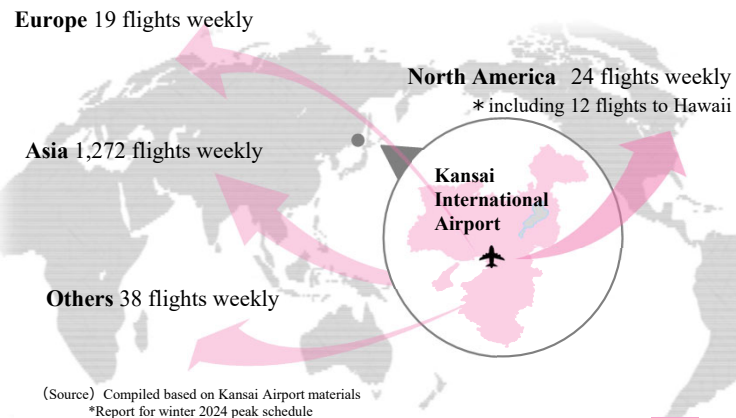
Major urban transportation networks in Kansai (Time required)



1-2 Kansai is connected to the world/Asia by many routes

- Kansai International Airport is located in the center of Kansai, Japan, and operates 24 hours a day as an international cargo hub. It is connecting Asia and the rest of the world.
- In 2024, the number of flights in service per week reached 1,547.5. KIX operates 1,353 international passenger flights per week, 588 of which are low-cost carrier (LCC) flights, accounting for 43% of the total.
- In 2024, KIX provides direct access to 43 cities in Asia, and has 21 international LCCs connecting it to 27 additional cities, the largest network access among all the other domestic airports.
- Kansai plays a core role in Asia, with airports and seaports able to handle large volumes of cargo as an international trade hub.

✈ Details of international passenger flights by destination area

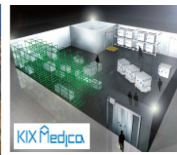


■ Access to Kansai International Airport

Kansai International Airport	75 minutes by train	Kyoto
	47 minutes by train 50 minutes by bus	Osaka/ Umeda
	83 minutes by train 65 minutes by bus	Kobe/ Sannomiya

✈ 24-hour airport, Japan's first joint fixed-temperature storage for medicines

- The only one in Japan! 24-hour Airport with multiple 4000-meter runways.
- The first in Japan to be able to pack and store pharmaceuticals at a constant temperature for export, realizing cool chain transportation of pharmaceuticals!



Shared constant temperature storage for pharmaceutical product



Cooling dollies (KIX-Medipac)
Provided by Kansai Airports

Kobe Airport Goes International

Starting in April 2025, Kobe Airport will begin operating international flights.

A new terminal building will open, serving as a gateway to global destinations, including South Korea and Taiwan.

With this expansion, Kobe is expected to become even more convenient for both business and tourism.



Provided by Kobe city

🚢 Regular foreign trade containers using Kansai ports

Asia and near areas	154.8 (flights weekly)
North America	7
Europe	2
Others	1.5

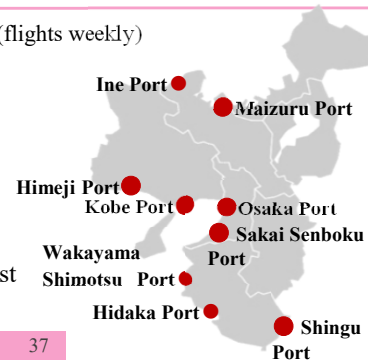
Notably, Kobe Port has the highest number of shipping routes to Southeast Asia in Japan.



(Source) "Number of foreign trade container ships visiting Japan on regular sea lanes (ships/week)"
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

* As of May 2024

* Total of ports in Kansai served by regular oceangoing containers.



✈ Large-scale renovation of Terminal 1 building

-Large-scale renovations are planned to significantly expand and enhance international flight capacity!



International security screening area



Duty-free shop (departure area)



International lounge
*image



PLAZA area (waiting area)



Duty-free shop (arrival area)

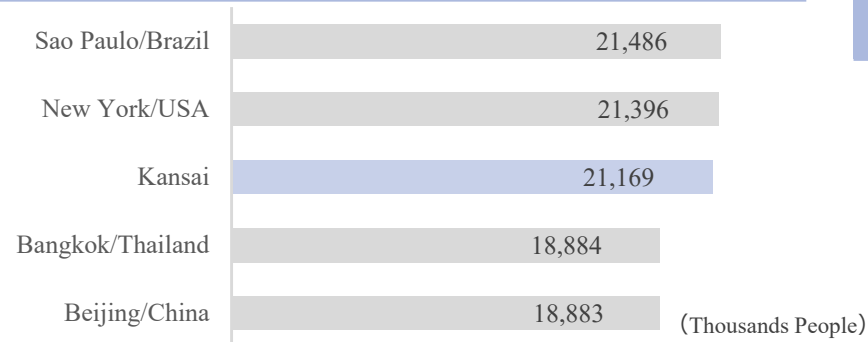
**Grand Opening:
March 27, 2025**

Provided by Kansai Airports

2-1 The Large Kansai Economy

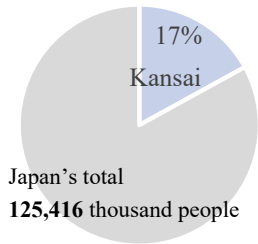
- Kansai has a huge market with a population of approximately 21.2 million and a GDP of approximately \$824 billion.

Comparison of population with major urban areas of the world

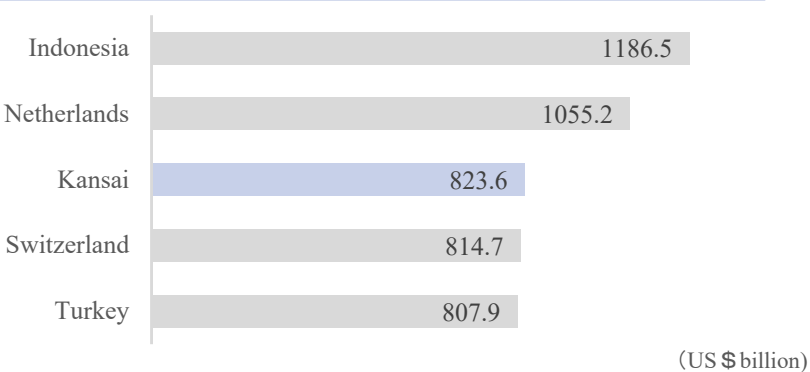


※Figures for major world cities other than Kansai include the population of surrounding cities.
(Source)
Kansai: "Population based on the Basic Resident Register (as of January 1, 2023)"; Calculated from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
World: "Demographia World Urban Areas 19th Annual Edition: 202308", Demographia

Kansai's population as a percentage of Japan's total

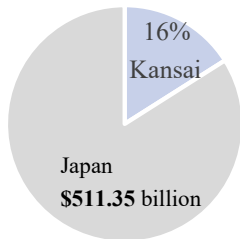


GDP comparison with countries around the world

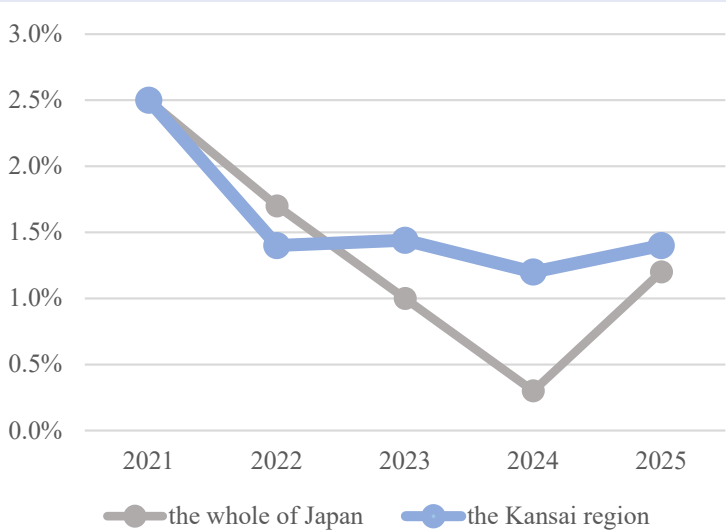


(Source)
Kansai: "Report on Prefectural Accounts (FY2021)"; Cabinet Office
Calculated from the gross prefectural domestic product (nominal) (conversion rate: ¥ 112.91 per USD)
World: "World Economic Outlook Database, April 2024" (2021), IMF

Kansai's GDP as a percentage of Japan's total



Higher real economic growth rate than that of Japan as a whole



*2021-2023 : result forecast, 2024-2025 : predicted value
*Except for Fukui prefecture
(Source) Asia Pacific Institute of Research
"Kansai and the Asia Pacific Economic Outlook"(2024)

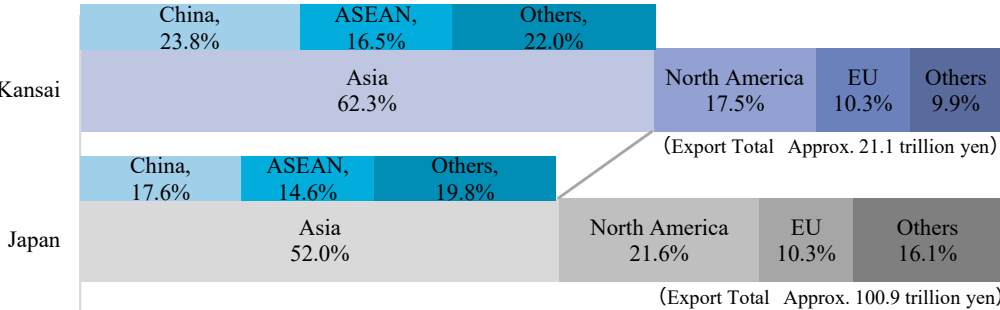
Kansai's real economic growth rate has outpaced that of Japan as a whole in recent years.

Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan is expected to further boost the economy, driving continued growth.

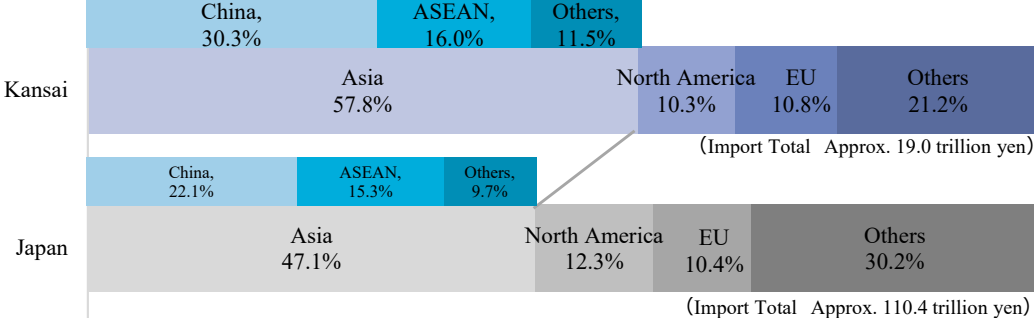
2-2 Trade Value by Region and Product

- With a higher share of trade with Asia than the rest of Japan, Kansai has become a preferred location for foreign companies establishing an Asian base.
- Electric appliances, machinery and chemical products constitute a high percentage of exports from Kansai because many global manufacturers in the fields of machinery (home appliances, motors, construction/agricultural machinery, etc.) and chemical products (medical products, plastics etc.) are located in the region.

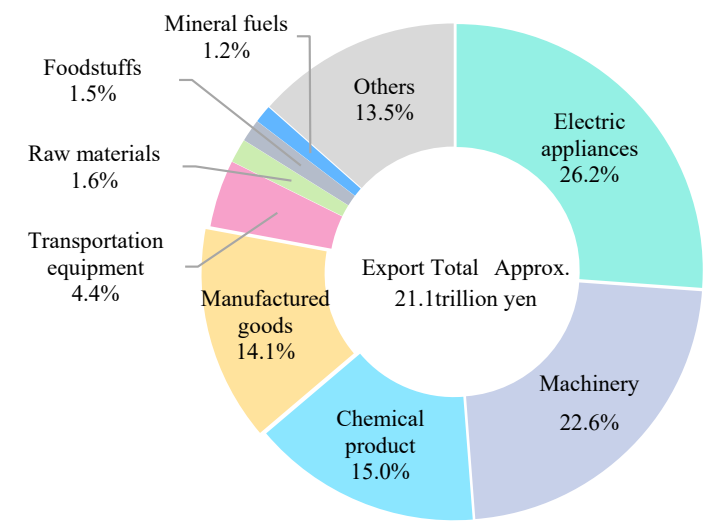
Comparison of Exports by Region (2023)



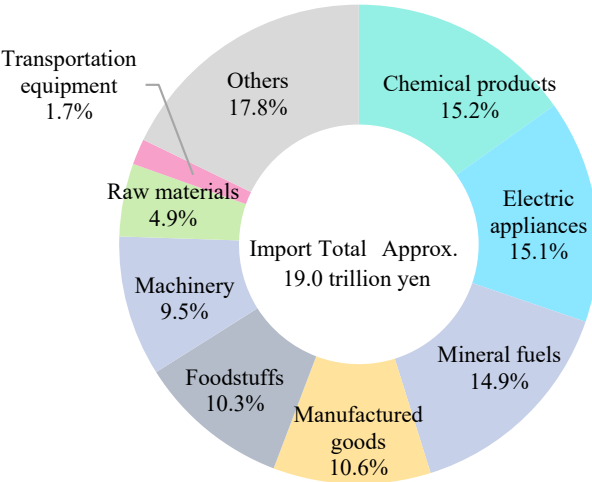
Comparison of Imports by Region (2023)



Value of Exports from Kansai by Commodity (2023)



Value of Imports to Kansai by Commodity (2023)



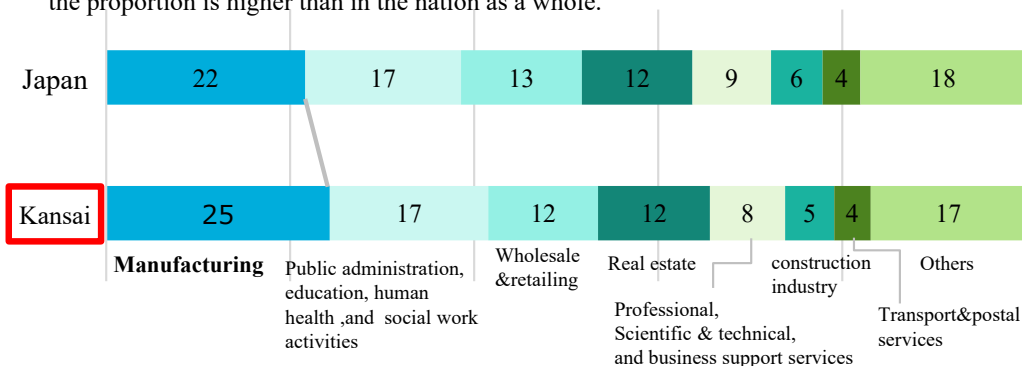
(Source)
“Trade Statistics FY2023 (reconfirmed Report) ” , Ministry of Finance Trade Statistics
“Trade Statistics Kinki Area Appendix” (2023) (reconfirmed Report) , Osaka Customs
-“Tsuruga Customs Branch Jurisdiction (Fukui Prefecture) Appendix” (2023)

3-1 Diverse Industries in a Diverse Region

- Kansai is home to a diverse range of companies with world-class manufacturing expertise, where there is nothing that can't be made.

Composition ratio (%) of Kansai's (nominal) GDP by industry

In Kansai, the manufacturing industry accounts for about a quarter of the region's economy, the proportion is higher than in the nation as a whole.



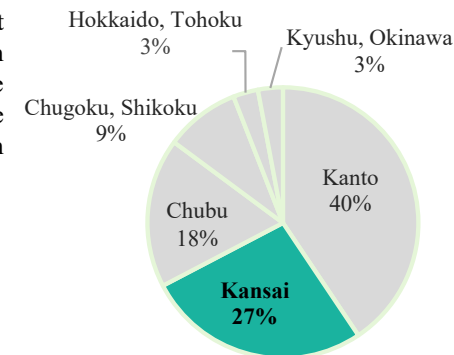
(Source) "Report on Prefectural Accounts (FY2021)", Cabinet Office

Companies with high global share are concentrated in Kansai

Kansai is home to a large number of excellent companies, including those that have thrived in niche sectors of the global market and those dealing in parts and materials, which are becoming more important in the supply chain amid changes in the international situation.

In Kansai, there are many other small and medium-sized enterprises with internationally recognized technical capabilities, making it easy to find collaborative partners.

(Source) 2020 Global Niche Top Companies Selection 100 List by METI

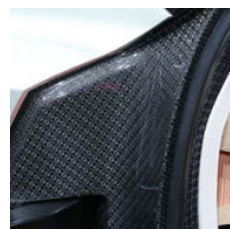


▲ Composition Ratio by Region of Global Niche Top Companies

High Technology Backed by Traditional Skills



Nishijin-ori (Kyoto)



Fukuoka Weaving Co., Ltd.

Using traditional Nishijin weaving techniques, carbon fiber textiles are being developed under the brand name "Nishijin Carbon." These are applied in products such as interior items, bags, and automobiles.

<https://fukuoka-k.co.jp/en/>



Warp-knitted fabric (Fukui)



Fukui Tateami Co., Ltd.

Leveraging advanced knitting techniques in high-quality knit fabrics, a collaborative effort has led to the development of "Symforium," a heart repair patch for children with heart disease.

<http://www.fukutate.co.jp/en/>

A network supporting manufacturing where there is nothing that can't be made

■ Kyoto Shisaku Net

<https://kyoto-shisaku.com/en/>

Professional manufacturing groups support all stages, from design to mass production prototypes, using their expertise and creativity.



■ Kyoto Makers Garage

<https://kyotomakersgarage.com/en/>

Here, anyone can easily turn their ideas into reality, with services such as production outsourcing and manufacturing consultations also available.



■ Tech Plaza HIGASHIOSAKA <https://www.techplaza.city.higashiosaka.osaka.jp/>

A business matching service that supports prototype creation, processing requests, and parts procurement.



3-2 University/Research Institute Clusters

- Kansai is home to many excellent universities and research institutions, forming unique research and development hubs.
- Numerous "Regional Open Innovation Hubs" serve as centers for industry-academia-government collaboration, where joint research is actively progressing.

Main research and development bases and overseas institutions under industry university cooperation in Kyoto , Osaka , Hyogo-Kobe

【Saito (International Culture Park) 】 ＜Life Science Park＞

- National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition/NIBIOHN
- Bio-Incubator (in cooperation with Osaka University, etc.)
- Japanese Red Cross Kinki Block Blood Center
- Various companies' R&D facilities

Osaka Metropolitan
University

Osaka
University

Kobe
University

Kyoto University of
Advanced Science

Fukui
University

- : Regional open-innovation hubs (International expansion type)
- : Regional open-innovation hubs (regional contribution type)
- : Program for Forming Japan's Peak Research Universities (J-PEAKS) Selected Universities

Shiga
University

Ritsumeikan
University

Kyoto
University

Ryukoku
University



(Source) The Keihanna Science City

【The Keihanna Science City】 ＜City of knowledge creation that is paving the way to the future＞

- Cluster of over 150 public and corporate research institutes
- Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth/ RITE
 - Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International/ ATR
 - National Institute of Information and Communications Technology/ NICT
 - The National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology/ QST

【Kobe Medical Industry Development Project】 ＜Largest Class Medical Bio Cluster in Japan＞

- Cluster of approx. 350 state-of-the-art medical research institutes, advanced specialty hospitals, companies, and universities
- RIKEN, supercomputer Fugaku

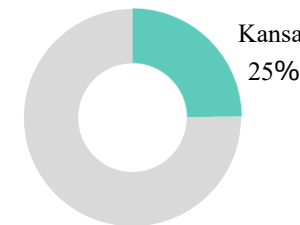


supercomputer Fugaku ©RIKEN

Industry-University joint research amount

In terms of monetary amount, 25% of industry-university joint research throughout Japan is conducted in Kansai, and the amount of money received per research project is larger than the national average.

INDUSTRY – UNIVERSITY JOINT RESEARCH
ACROSS THE NATION (VALUE-BASIS)



The amount of money received per research project

Kansai	4,113
Japan	3,226

(thousand yen)

(Source) "Implementation status of industry-university cooperation and performance of joint research (on an institution-by-institution basis)" Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (FY2022)



Nobel Prize Winners from Universities in Kansai

Akira Yoshino (Chemistry 2019)
Tasuku Honjo (Physiology or Medicine 2018)
Akasaki Isamu (Physics 2014)
Shinya Yamanaka (Physiology or Medicine 2012)
Hideki Yukawa (Physics 1949)

(Source) Excerpt from the list of Nobel Prize winners from Japan, Kyoto University

Startup Ecosystem Hub by Industry, Government, Academia, and Finance

Kansai's universities, economic organizations, financial institutions, and local governments are collaborating on various projects, combining the power of all Kansai. These efforts aim to foster university-based startup ecosystems and create "Zebra startups" that address local social issues through sustainable growth.

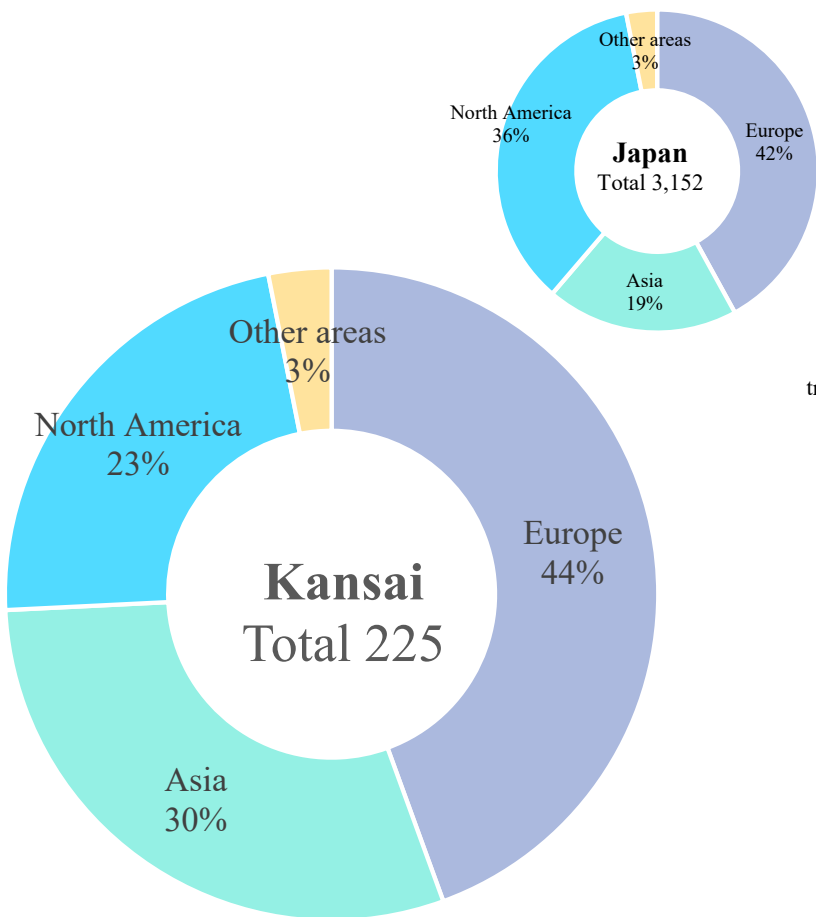
Kansai Innovation Initiative
関西イノベーションイニシアティブ



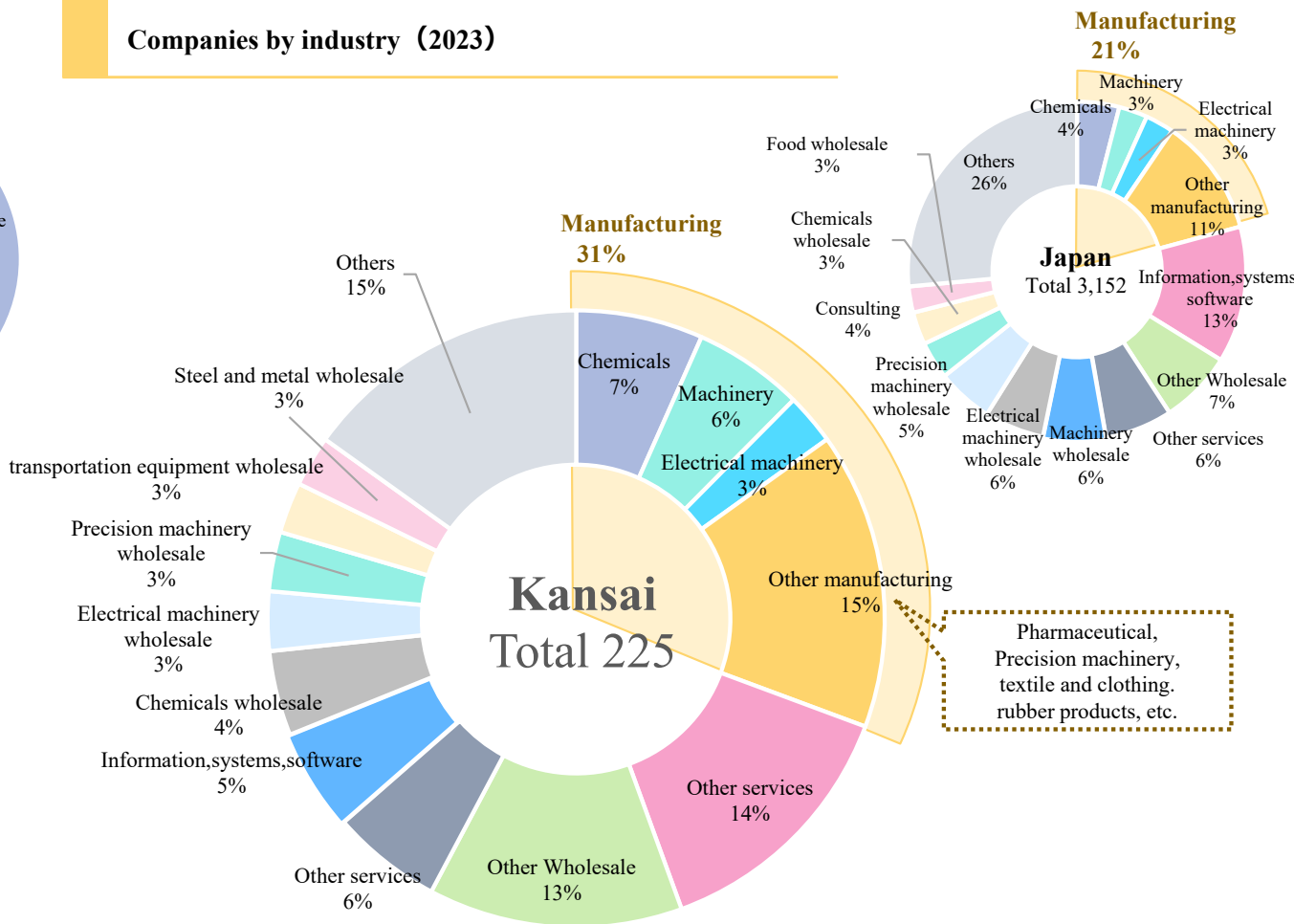
4-1 Status of Foreign Companies Expanding into the Market

- U.S. and European companies comprise the largest portion of foreign-affiliated companies in Kansai. Asian companies also comprise 30% which is larger than the national average of 20%.
- By type of industry, foreign-affiliated companies in the manufacturing sector (machinery, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, precision machinery, etc.) comprise approximately 31% of the industry, a significantly larger percentage compared to the national average of 20.8%.

Companies by region (2023)



Companies by industry (2023)



(Source) "Foreign Companies Database 2023", Toyo Keizai Inc
*Foreign-affiliated: Foreign capital of 20% or more (including branch offices, etc.)

4-2 Examples of Foreign-Affiliated Companies in Kansai

Company name	Field	Location base	Parent company nationality	Company name	Field	Location base	Parent company nationality
Bayer Yakuhin, Ltd	Pharmaceutical	Shiga, <u>Osaka</u>	Germany	Salesforce Japan Co.,Ltd.	Information/ Systems/Software	Osaka, Wakayama	USA
AstraZeneca K.K.	Pharmaceutical	Shiga, <u>Osaka</u>	UK	USJ LLC.	Leisure, entertainment	<u>Osaka</u>	USA
Abbott Japan LLC	Pharmaceutical	Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo	USA	Tata Consultancy Services Japan	Consulting	Osaka	India
ELI LILLY JAPAN K.K.	Pharmaceutical	<u>Hyogo</u>	USA	Plug and Play Japan	Other service	Kyoto, Osaka	USA
BASF Japan Ltd.	Chemical	Osaka, Hyogo	Germany	TÜV Rheinland Japan Ltd.	Other service	Osaka	Germany
P&G Japan Limited	Chemical	Shiga, Osaka, <u>Hyogo</u>	USA	AIG Japan Holdings Kabushiki Kaisha	Other service	Osaka	USA
RECARO Japan Co., Ltd.	Transport equipment/ Precision mechanical equipment	<u>Shiga</u>	Germany	ICON Clinical Research GK	Other service	<u>Osaka</u>	Ireland
Nestlé Japan Ltd.	Foodstuff	Osaka, <u>Hyogo</u>	Switzerland				
Caterpillar Japan LLC	Machinery Wholesale	Fukui, Shiga, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Nara, Wakayama	USA	(Source) "Foreign Companies Database 2023" Toyo Keizai Inc. and the company data obtained from JETRO and O-BIC * The companies listed here have their HQ, a sales base or a research institute in Kansai.			
Haier Japan Sales Co., Ltd.	Electrical equipment wholesale	<u>Osaka</u>	China				
Diesel Japan Co., Ltd.	Textile and clothing wholesale	<u>Osaka</u>	Italy	Prefecture names in the table indicate the location of bases in the Kansai area. (Underlined: the prefecture where the head office in Japan is located) Country/region names in the table indicate the location of the parent company.			
IKEA Japan K.K.	Other wholesale	Osaka, Hyogo	Netherlands	○The website of the Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry features interviews with foreign-affiliated companies operating in Kansai. Examples of foreign-affiliated companies in Kansai https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_kansai/en/e_companies.html			
Gripple Japan K.K.	Other wholesale	<u>Hyogo</u>	UK				
Svanehøj Japan LLC	Other wholesalers	Hyogo	Denmark				



4-3 Interview with Foreign-Affiliated Companies (Anjet Research Lab Co., Ltd)

Business Overview

-Founded in Kyoto in 2019 as the research and development division of Taiwan’s ANJET Corporation.
-By combining Taiwan’s advanced manufacturing technologies with Japan’s high-level design expertise, Anjet Research Lab develops high-performance power semiconductor devices that address industry needs, such as efficient power conversion and thermal management. It aims to expand its business through a horizontal specialization, collaborating with wafer material companies and module manufacturers.



Reasons for expanding into Kansai?
What’s the attractiveness of Kyoto?



Taiwan has a globally prominent presence in semiconductor manufacturing, while Japan excels in power semiconductor design and simulation. By combining the strengths of both countries, we established our company with the goal of expanding our business through a horizontal specialization.

Kyoto is home to many manufacturing equipment companies with a global market and the semiconductor is highly concentrated here.

Additionally, Kyoto has a strong concentration of universities and research institutions, making it easy to access not only Kyoto University but also the Nara Institute of Science and Technology, where research on compound semiconductors (SiC, GaN, etc.) is advancing, as well as Osaka University and Ritsumeikan University. This makes the region rich in both knowledge and human resources, modules and devices to fundamental properties.

For a research and development-driven company like ours, which collaborates with universities and integrates cutting-edge academic research into product development, Kyoto provides an ideal environment. Furthermore, since our company was founded by colleagues who previously worked at semiconductor companies in Kyoto, it was a natural decision to establish our research base here.

In addition to its strengths in semiconductors, Kyoto is also active in bio-research, with numerous universities and research institutions advancing studies in this field. I believe this ”concentration of knowledge” is a unique advantage of Kyoto as a region. Japan has many excellent design engineers, but in recent years, there has been a trend of these engineers moving abroad. At our company, we bring talented engineers from across Japan to Kyoto. By creating high-quality power semiconductor devices aimed at achieving a sustainable energy society, we hope to provide next-generation energy solutions.

Public supports you utilized?

JETRO Kyoto : Support for business establishment procedures (opening bank accounts, registration, property introductions, etc.)
SMRJ : Assistance with moving into incubation facilities
Kyoto City : Rent subsidies

JETRO Kyoto provided us with comprehensive support, enabling us to smoothly navigate the business establishment process. Additionally, the SME Support Japan (SMRJ) incubation facility, the 'Kyoto University Katsura Venture Plaza,' where we are based, is adjacent to the Kyoto University Katsura Campus, offering significant advantages for industry-academia collaboration. By leveraging these various forms of support, we were able to focus on launching our business while keeping initial costs low.



Message

We believe that consulting with the JETRO Hong Kong office early on was a wise decision. Both Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City are actively supporting the semiconductor industry. With initiatives like the ‘Kyoto Semiconductor Valley Concept (tentative)’ and efforts to, strengthen industry-academia-government collaboration as well as, attracting global talent with advance knowledge and skills, we sense a growing momentum to revitalize the semiconductor industry in Kyoto.

For semiconductor companies, we believe Kyoto is the ideal location.



Company Overview	
Company Name	Anjet Research Lab Co. Ltd.
Location	1-39 Goryo Ohara, Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto City, Kyoto University Katsura Venture Plaza, South Building, Rm 2203
Expansion Type	Initial Investment
Company Website	https://anjet.com/ja-jp/

4-3 Interview with Foreign-Affiliated Companies (Control Union Japan Co., Ltd)

Business Overview

-Established in 1920 in Rotterdam, Netherlands, the company is an independent certification body offering cargo inspection, international certification, and certificate issuance services in sectors such as agriculture, food, feed, and biomass. It currently operates in around 80 locations worldwide.

-In 2009, Japanese subsidiary was established in Tokyo, and in 2023, a lab specializing in biomass fuel quality analysis was opened in Kobe. This enabled the company to create a one-stop system for cargo inspection, analysis, certification, and issuing certificates.

-With years of expertise and know-how, the company is known for its speed and accuracy, providing inspection results in as little as three days—far quicker than the usual 2–3 weeks with other companies—while ensuring reliable and precise service.



Reasons for expanding into Kansai?



Many of our clients, particularly in the textile and biomass power generation industries, are based in Western Japan. Sending examiners from our Tokyo headquarters would result in delays, but having a presence in Kansai allowed us to reduce transportation time for samples. While we did consider setting up a base in Kitakyushu, especially given our strong customer base in Kyushu, we felt Kansai would be a better choice for securing skilled engineers.

While Tokyo area has a wealth of talent, it is undeniable that it can be a challenging place to live. Our parent company is based in the Netherlands, and we place a strong emphasis on work-life balance for our employees. We are flexible in accommodating life stages, such as childcare and caregiving. To support this, we believe it’s important to offer a variety of work options. Compared to Tokyo area, Kansai offers shorter commutes and lower living costs, which makes it an attractive location for providing employees with a work-life balance which makes it an attractive location for providing employees with a work-life balance. In fact, of the five employees currently at our Kobe lab, two work as analysis technicians while raising children.

What’s the attractiveness of Kobe?

Kobe is a compact city with excellent accessibility, as both Kobe Airport and Shin-Kobe Stations are just 30 minutes from the city center and office areas. This convenience is one of the main attractions for doing business in the city.

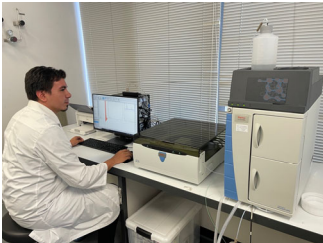
Although the number of flights from Kobe Airport is currently limited, international charter flights are scheduled to begin in 2025, which will significantly improve connectivity and further boost the city’s international appeal. While Kobe may not be as well-known globally as a business hub, this could actually be seen as an advantage, making it something of a hidden gem.

Public supports you utilized?

Public support played a crucial role in our decision to expand into Kobe.

- JETRO Kobe : Temporary office space
- Hyogo Prefecture : Rent Subsidies
- Kobe City : Rent subsidies, property introductions, employment support

While we didn’t choose Kobe solely based on the available support, these various forms of assistance were certainly a key factor in our decision to expand there.



● Message

In today’s world, where businesses are concentrated in Tokyo, it’s important to establish offices outside the capital for risk diversification. Many companies in the Kansai region are based in Osaka, but Kobe offers a unique potential that neither Tokyo nor Osaka can match. With its abundant natural environment, Kobe provides an ideal balance between work and personal life, making it an attractive choice for those looking for a fulfilling lifestyle, both professionally and privately.



Company Overview	
Company Name	Control Union Japan Co., Ltd
Location	1-17 Koyo-cho-naka, Higashinada-ku, Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture, Asia One Center, 6th Floor
Expansion Type	Secondary Investment
Company Website	https://www.controlunion.com/

4-3 Interview with Foreign-Affiliated Companies (Polestar Holdings Japan Co., Ltd)

Business Overview

-Polestar Holdings is a conglomerate established in Myanmar, focusing on travel agency services, import/export businesses, and staffing.
-Myanmar Polestar, a travel agency founded in 2000, primarily targets Japan, managing both inbound travel from Japan to Myanmar and outbound travel from Myanmar to Japan. Polestar Service, a staffing company established later, trains and dispatches Myanmar nationals who wish to work in Japan.
-In 2023, seven companies including these, were consolidated into a holding company, and the Japanese headquarters of the holding company was established in Osaka in August 2024.



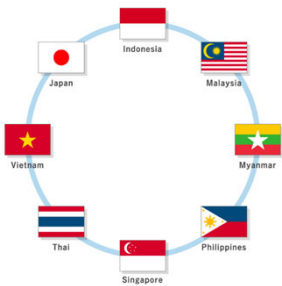
Reasons for expanding into Kansai?

Country Member

体制

Strong cooperation among economic organizations in Asia

In order to achieve further economic development together with Asian countries, in cooperation with economic organizations in seven Asian countries, promote cooperation among human resources, technologies, services, etc. among companies and organizations in each country and work on creating new businesses You.



In 2023, our company participated in "ABC CHALLENGE Support Program"(※) organized by the Kansai Economic Federation (Kankeiren). Through this program, Kankeiren helped us enter the Japanese market, and we were able to establish several business partnerships with companies in Kansai. This was the catalyst for our decision to expand into Japan. Although we also considered setting up a base in Tokyo, we found that the quick decision-making process of small and medium-sized companies in Kansai aligns well with the culture of Myanmar and our company.

Above all, the strong support we received from Kankeiren played a crucial role in our decision to expand into Kansai.

*Note: The ABC CHALLENGE Support Program is a business initiative launched by Kankeiren in collaboration with economic organizations from seven Asian countries to support companies interested in collaborating with Japanese businesses and entering the Japanese market.

What makes Kansai attractive?

One of the main attractions of Kansai is how warm, friendly, and approachable the people are, which makes it easy to communicate and connect. Additionally, the region offers abundant tourism resources, including beautiful historical sites and landmarks in Kyoto and Nara, as well as Universal Studios Japan in Osaka. The infrastructure and quality of life are stable, making it a very comfortable place to live. From a business perspective, many companies and individuals in Kansai are welcoming to new talent, and I feel that the region is a perfect fit for our business.



Public supports you utilized?

Through **Kankeiren**, we were introduced to the following support organizations that assisted us with the registration process:

IBPC Osaka : Providing a business support office, Introducing Administrative Scriveners

O-BIC : Subsidies for registration costs (¥100,000).

The registration process for foreign companies can be quite complex, so we were very grateful to be introduced to an experienced administrative scrivener. Thanks to their assistance we were able to complete the process smoothly. In addition, Kankeiren connected us with government agencies, local authorities, and relevant companies, providing us with extensive support for our expansion preparations.

Message

Before deciding to establish a base in Kansai, we recommend you that actually stay or live there. It will give you the chance to connect with support organizations and business partners, which can be invaluable when expanding your business.



Company Overview

Company Name	Polestar Holdings Japan Co., Ltd
Location	2-3-8 Kawaramachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka City, SERENITE Honmachi Echo 1001
Expansion Type	Initial Investment
Company Website	www.myanmarpolestar.com

4-3 Interview with Foreign-Affiliated Companies (SERVO-ROBOT JAPAN)

Business Overview

- SERVO-ROBOT, headquartered in Canada, is a leading manufacturer of 3D robot-vision systems and software dedicated to real-time intelligent control and monitoring of industrial welding robots and cobots.
- SERVO-ROBOT serves a wide range of industries, including automotive, shipbuilding, construction, energy, general industry, and many others.



Reasons for expanding into Kansai?



Having an office in Kansai was crucial for us as it allowed us to be close to our partners and customers with whom we already had collaboration and business long before establishing a company in Japan. The well-developed transportation infrastructure makes it easy to access from other areas including the overseas, so we chose a location near Shin-Osaka Station where the bullet train operates. At one point, we also had an office in Tokyo, but we later consolidated and moved to Suita City, where we are currently located.

What are the attractions of Kansai?

We believe that this region offers an environment where we can easily find the affordable space we need if we set up a production line in the future. We can also employ enough professional staff members, and it's convenient to access customers in other areas from Kansai. Proximity to customers directly contributes to business expansion. In fact, we have also deepened our partnerships with the major robot manufacturers' HQs in Japan and our business has been growing.



Public supports you utilized?

- JETRO(Tokyo / Osaka)**
 - : Temporary office (Tokyo)
 - Property introduction (Osaka)
- Osaka City, IBPC Osaka**
 - : Temporary office
 - Property introduction



Message

Our expansion in Kansai has been successful, so we consider that our decision to establish a company in Kansai was the right one. Kansai is a large and developed economic and industrial area of Japan, offering numerous possibilities for international business. We can surely recommend foreign companies to consider this location during their expansion planning in Japan.



Company Profile

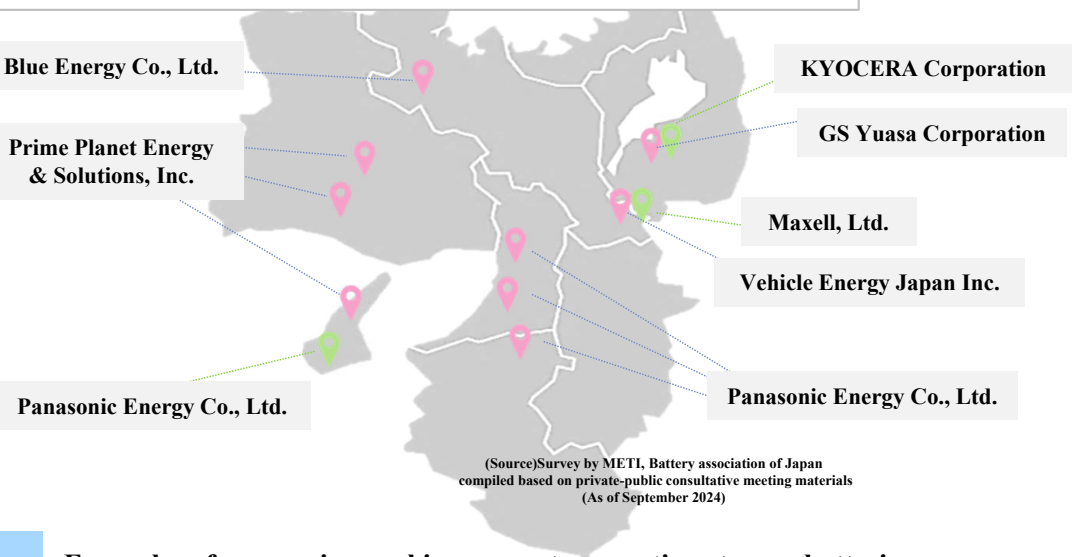
Company Name	SERVO-ROBOT JAPAN
Address	GALLE BIANCO III unit # 204, 3-20-15, Kasuga, Suita City, Osaka
Type of Presence	Primary investment
Website	https://servo-robot.com/

5-1 Green Innovation (Storage Batteries)

- Kansai is a major base for development and production in storage battery industries such as lithium-ion batteries and Redox Flow Batteries using vanadium.
- Battery manufacturers, manufacturing equipment makers, and material suppliers are concentrated in the region, accounting for over 30% of the national market share.

Many lithium-ion battery production bases are located in Kansai!

- 📍 Automotive (and consumer/industrial, etc.) Lithium-ion battery production base
- 📍 Consumer/Industrial Lithium-ion battery production base



Evaluation and Testing Facilities Supporting the Kansai Battery Industry

Evaluation and testing facilities are available to support all stages of the battery industry, from the research phase to the product phase.



Consortium for Lithium-Ion Battery Technology and Evaluation Research Center (LIBTEC)



▲ Equipped with prototype and evaluation equipment



**LIBTEC Director-General
Dr. Yoshino Akira**

- 2019 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry
- Graduated from the Graduate Schools of Engineering at Kyoto University and Osaka University
- Honorary Fellow, Asahi Kasei Corporation

To assist companies in developing new materials for lithium-ion batteries, the consortium creates standard battery models in line with battery market trends, creates material evaluation methods, and performs evaluation analysis. 41 companies, including battery manufacturers, material chemical companies, and automotive companies, are involved as members.

Examples of companies working on next-generation storage batteries



▲ Scheduled to be produced at Wakayama Plant

A new production facility for next-generation automobile lithium-ion batteries (4680) has been set up at the Wakayama plant, and preparations for mass production are now complete.



Long-life, High-safety Storage Battery “Redox Flow Battery”

The company develops and manufactures Redox Flow Battery, which stabilize the power grid, achieve load leveling through power peak shifting, and enhance power resilience, all of which are necessary to expand the introduction of renewable energy.



National Institute of Technology and Evaluation



National LABORatory for advanced energy storage technologies (NLAB)

World's Largest Thermostatic
"Large Storage Battery System Test and Evaluation Facility"
Compatible with container-sized storage battery systems

※MIDDLE : Multiple Innovation-Directive Development and Leading-edge Evaluation

The NLAB, located in Suminoe-ku, Osaka, can safely handle combustion, explosion, and toxic gases generated during the testing of lithium-ion batteries, allowing the testing and evaluation of large storage battery systems to be conducted in NLAB's indoor type testing facility, regardless of weather conditions.

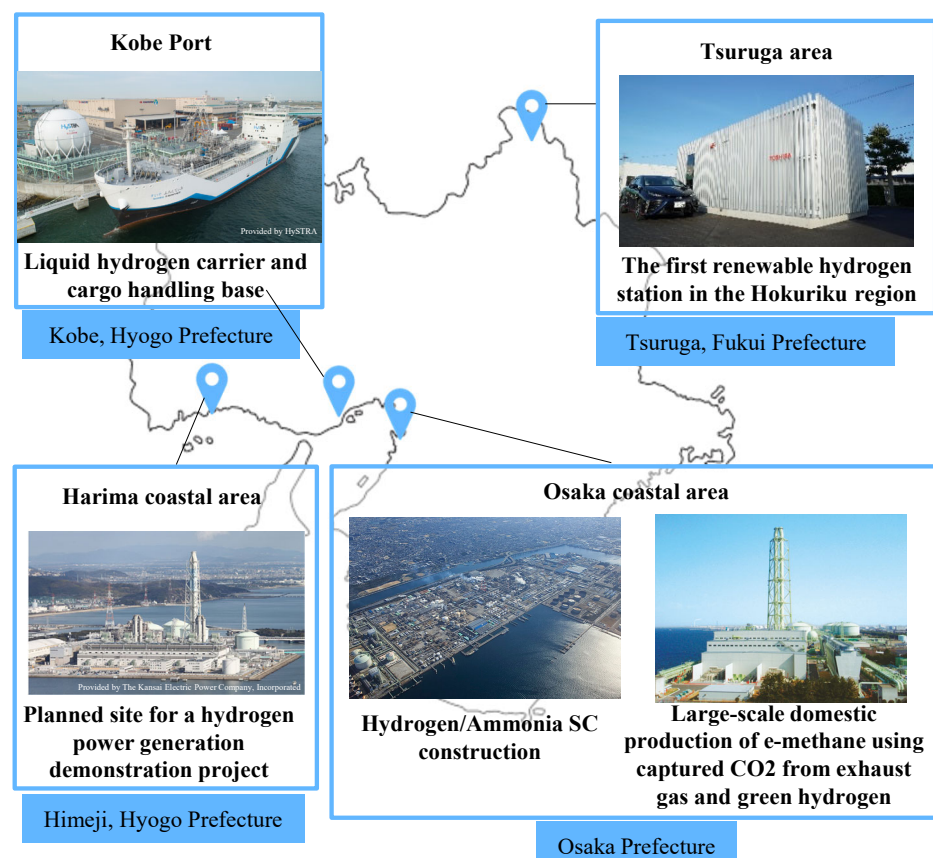
Various tests, including seismic, transportation vibration, crush, and drop tests, can also be conducted.

Additionally, a new advanced technology evaluation and experimental facility (MIDDLE Chamber) for next-generation batteries, such as solid-state batteries, has been established. Testing services commenced in October of 2024.

5-2 Green Innovation (Hydrogen)

- Kansai is home to many manufacturing companies, including heavy industries in port areas, and has high potential for the demand and supply of hydrogen.
- Various companies in Kansai are developing technologies in the hydrogen field by using their core technologies and are leading the country in many hydrogen-related demonstration projects.

Port areas in Kansai working toward carbon neutrality



Data collection of hydrogen-related companies in Kansai

We have compiled data showing examples of companies based in Kansai that have entered the hydrogen field.

https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/5-Ishiene/smart_energy_initiative/hydrogen_data/english/r6_h2data_en_overall.pdf

(PDF booklet)



Current projects for public implementation of hydrogen in various parts of Kansai

■ The world's first facility capable of consistently validating technologies from hydrogen production to power generation is now in operation

○Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Takasago City, Hyogo Prefecture

In order to achieve the early commercialization of hydrogen power generation, MHI has established the Takasago Hydrogen Park within its Takasago Machinery Works, where development, design, manufacturing, and validation facilities are located. The park is the world's first facility for consistently validating technologies from hydrogen production tests and hydrogen power generation tests at a large-scale validation facility are currently conducted.



■ Demonstration of an international liquid hydrogen supply chain model

○Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd. × Iwatani Corporation × Shell Japan Ltd. Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture

The CO₂-free Hydrogen Energy Supply-chain Technology Research Association (HySTRA) has successfully conducted a technology demonstration using the world's first liquid hydrogen carrier "Suiso Frontier" to transport liquid hydrogen, including hydrogen derived from brown coal, from Australia to Japan, and unload it at the liquid hydrogen cargo handling terminal "Hy touch Kobe" (Kobe City).



■ Japan's first commercial liquid hydrogen production plant

○Hydro Edge Co., Ltd. Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture

Hydro Edge began commercial operation in 2006 as Japan's first commercial liquid hydrogen production plant, contributing to a stable supply of liquid hydrogen in the country. Expansion work was carried out in 2020, and the plant's annual liquid hydrogen production capacity has reached 60 million m³, making it the largest plant of its kind in Japan.



■ Demonstration of RE100 solutions using hydrogen

○Panasonic Corporation Kusatsu City, Shiga Prefecture

Panasonic's H2 KIBOU FIELD is a demonstration facility for "RE100 solutions", in which aiming to use 100% of the power for site operations generated from renewable resources by using a self-sustaining power system that combines 99 5-kW pure hydrogen fuel cell generators and photovoltaic generators (approx. 570 kW) as well as lithium-ion storage batteries (approx. 1.1 MWh). It has been in operation since April 15, 2022.



■ Hydrogen fuel cell ship in action at Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan

○Iwatani Corporation Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture

A hydrogen fuel cell ship runs on hybrid power of electricity generated by fuel cells and plug-in power. It uses only hydrogen and oxygen from the air, and emits zero CO₂ during operation. At Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, the first passenger service on a hydrogen fuel cell ship in Japan is scheduled to operate (from Nakanoshima Gate to Universal City Port to the Expo 2025 venue).



5-3 Life Science Innovation

- Since Kansai has long been a center of medicine, it is home to many pharmaceutical company headquarters, foreign-affiliated companies, and medical equipment manufacturers closely working with each other.
- Life science-related institutions are accumulated in Kyoto, Osaka, and Kobe.
- Leading research, such as that on iPS cells, as well as active efforts toward practical application and industrialization, are being conducted.

Concentration of Leading Industry-Academia Collaboration and a Robust Platform for Life Sciences

○Medical Device

Numerous universities and research institutions in the medical field are concentrated in Kansai, there are also many small and medium-sized enterprises with manufacturing technical expertise in various fields.

■ Kansai Medical Device Industry Support Network (KMSN)

17 industrial support organizations in Kansai assist companies entering the medical device industry and developing new medical devices.



○Bio-manufacturing

Technologies to produce substances from microorganisms and cells using genetic engineering are expected to contribute to solving social challenges.

■ Biocommunity Kansai (BioK)

BioK aims to build the ultimate ecosystem in the bio-industry based in Kansai.



○Regenerative Medicine

At institutes such as the Kyoto University iPS Cell Research Institute (CiRA), Osaka University, and Kobe University, world-leading research and efforts toward the industrialization of regenerative medicine are underway.



Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University (CiRA)

■ Nakanoshima Qross

To expedite the practical application and industrialization of cutting-edge future medicine, medical institutions, companies, startups, and support organizations are gathered under one roof.



■ KRIC: Kansai Regenerative medicine Industrial consortium

KRIC supports corporate collaboration to accelerate the realization of regenerative medicine.



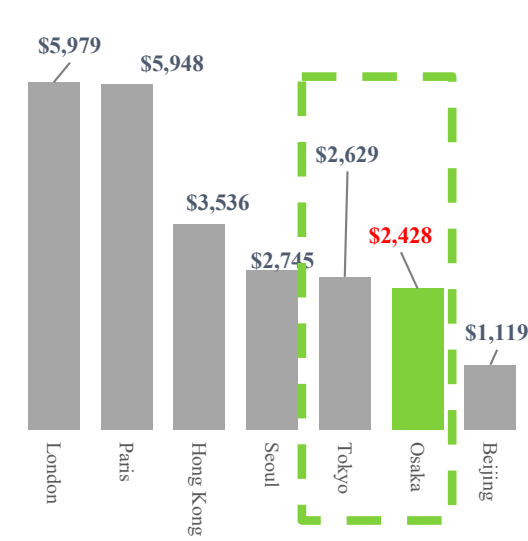
A large cluster of pharmaceutical company headquarters		Concentration of research and development bases and core institutions
Sumitomo Pharma	Sumitomo Pharma Co., Ltd.	Kansai Branch of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA)
SHIONOGI	Shionogi & Co., Ltd.	Kansai Branch of Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
KOBAYASHI	Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma	Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University
Takeda	Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited	Saito (International Culture Park) <Life Science Park>
ONO	ONO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.	KOBE Biomedical Innovation Cluster
FUSO	FUSO Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd.	RIKEN
Santen	Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	
Medical equipment manufacturers concentrated in this area		A large cluster of pharmaceutical company headquarters
NIPRO	NIPRO CORPORATION	AstraZeneca K.K.
OMRON	OMRON Corporation	Eli Lilly Japan K.K.
SHIMADZU	SHIMADZU CORPORATION	Bayer Yakuhin, Ltd.
sysmex	SYSMEX CORPORATION	ICON

6-1 Comfortable Working and Living Environment

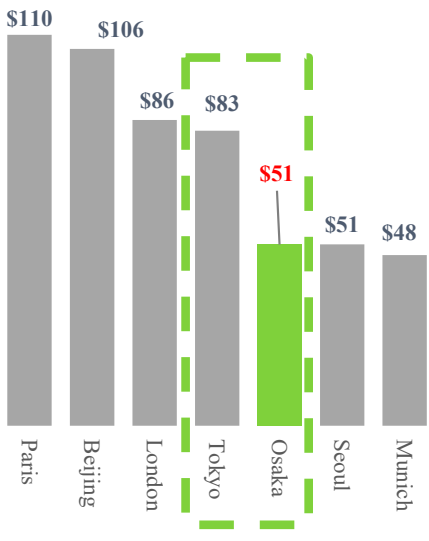
- Despite being Japan’s second-largest metropolitan area, office rent, labor costs, and living expenses in Kansai are lower compared to the Tokyo area, making it an ideal location to start a business.
- Support for foreigners is abundant, provided by national and public organizations as well as private companies, making the region a comfortable place for foreigners to live.

Low cost

【Office rent】

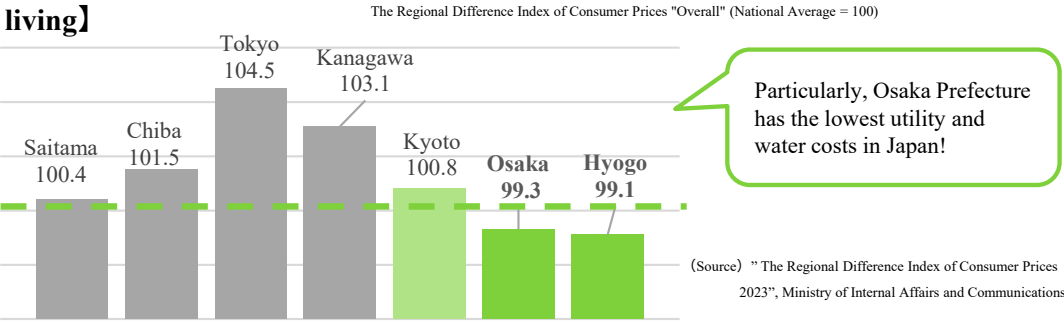


【Personnel expenses】



(Source) "The Investment Cost Survey 2023", JETRO
*Comparison of office rent and wages for the manufacturing industry and engineers.
*Expressed in US dollars.

【Cost of living】



(Source) "The Regional Difference Index of Consumer Prices 2023", Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

The Global Liveability Index 2024

Osaka was ranked the 9th most livable city worldwide in 2024 (overall rating) . It the only city in Asia ranked in the top 10.

Ranking	City Name	Overall rating	Stability	Healthcare	Culture& Environment	Education	Infrastructure
1	Vienna	98.4	100.0	100.0	93.5	100.0	100.0
2	Copenhagen	98.0	100.0	95.8	95.4	100.0	100.0
~~~~~							
7	Vancouver	96.6	95.0	100.0	97.2	100.0	92.9
9	Osaka	96.0	100.0	100.0	86.8	100.0	96.4
9	Auckland	96.0	95.0	95.8	97.9	100.0	92.9

(Source) "The Global Liveability Index 2024", The Economist  
* Note: Maximum index of 100

Supporting International Students and Children with Foreign Roots

Transcend-Learning association

<https://transcend-learning.org/>



To improve the employment rate of international students and provide educational support for children with foreign roots in Kansai, they implements SDGs internships aimed at contributing to Japanese society in collaboration with universities and education boards.

International students support children who may struggle with Japanese due to their foreign nationality by providing assistance in their native language, offering academic guidance, and providing emotional support, thereby contributing to the support of foreign residents.



## 6-2 Housing Consultation Counter for Foreigners



### Consultation counter for foreigners

A full range of consultation desks for general living support is available in each local government, such as multilingual status of residence, labor / work, medical care, welfare, and education.

(Public interest incorporated foundation) Fukui International Association <a href="https://www.f-i-a.or.jp/en/">https://www.f-i-a.or.jp/en/</a>	Shiga Foreign Residents Information Center <a href="https://www.s-i-a.or.jp/en/counsel/">https://www.s-i-a.or.jp/en/counsel/</a>
(Public interest incorporated foundation) Kyoto Prefectural International Center <a href="https://www.kpic.or.jp/english.html">https://www.kpic.or.jp/english.html</a>	(Public interest incorporated foundation) Kyoto City International Foundation <a href="https://www.kcif.or.jp/en">https://www.kcif.or.jp/en</a>
(Public interest incorporated foundation) Osaka Foundation of International Exchange <a href="https://www.ofix.or.jp/english/">https://www.ofix.or.jp/english/</a>	(Public interest incorporated foundation) International House, Osaka <a href="https://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/english/">https://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/english/</a>
(Public interest incorporated foundation) Hyogo International Association <a href="https://www.hyogo-ip.or.jp/en/index.html">https://www.hyogo-ip.or.jp/en/index.html</a>	(Public interest incorporated foundation) Kobe International Community Center <a href="https://www.kicc.jp/en">https://www.kicc.jp/en</a>
Nara Prefecture International Citizens Center <a href="https://www.pref.nara.jp/65045.htm">https://www.pref.nara.jp/65045.htm</a>	(Public interest incorporated foundation) Wakayama International Exchange Center <a href="https://wak-kokusai.jp/en/top_en/">https://wak-kokusai.jp/en/top_en/</a>

### Providing living information for people from overseas

Based on the decision by the Council for the Promotion of Foreign Direct Investment in Japan, the JETRO website collects and provides living information on hospitals, banks, cell phones, electricity and gas supply, and more.

JETRO HP	「Living in Japan」 <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/setting_up/living.html">https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/setting_up/living.html</a>	
	「Investment Opportunities in Japan's Regions」 <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/">https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/</a>	

### Examples of companies providing lifestyle support to foreign visitors and residents in Japan

#### YOLO JAPAN CORPORATION

<https://www.yolo-japan.co.jp/>



YOLO JAPAN CORPORATION provides one-stop services to provide total support for foreigners living in Japan, and has more than 300,000 registered members from 239 countries and regions.

“YOLO BASE” a complex that opened in Naniwa Ward, Osaka City in September 2019, features restaurants and event spaces, and is a lively hub where people of various nationalities can interact, contributing to revitalizing the local area.

#### Dream Catcher Inc.

<https://dreamcatcher.co.jp/>



Dream Catcher Inc. is working to improve the medical interpretation environment to ensure the safety and security of foreign visitors and residents in Japan. Since multilingual services at medical institutions require specialized interpreters, their subsidiary provides services such as remote medical interpretation, hospital guidance, and medical interpreter training. They are making efforts to improve the medical interpretation environment, aiming to make it a safe and secure infrastructure for foreign visitors and residents in Japan.

Provided by Flower of Japan-Kansai (Hanayaka Kansai) Appeal-enhancing Award  
[https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/toukou_award_outline.html](https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/toukou_award_outline.html)



6-3 Stable Infrastructure and Geopolitical Advantages

- Kansai is home to numerous data centers, which require stable infrastructure. This highlights the region's reliable power supply and its low risk of natural disasters.
- With its political stability, excellent public safety, and other geopolitical advantages, Kansai provides a secure environment for business expansion.

Infrastructure Stability of Kansai as Seen in Data Centers

Several key factors make Kansai an ideal location for data centers:

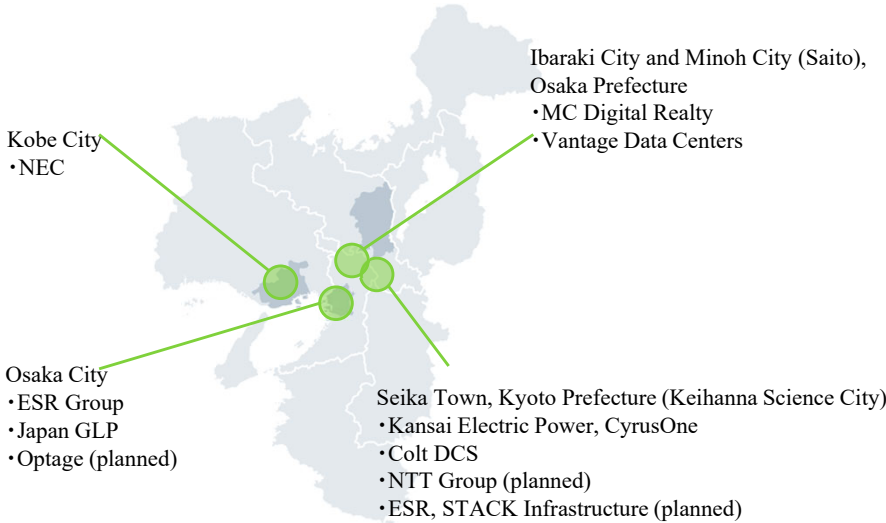
- Close proximity to both the city center and airports
- Strong, earthquake-resistant ground
- Low risks of flooding, landslides, and liquefaction
- Availability of large, flat land areas
- High energy efficiency and stable power supply
- Strict physical security

In Osaka Prefecture, Ibaraki City and Minoh City around Saito-nishi Station, more than five data centers have been established, creating a large data center cluster that spans approximately 10 hectares, leveraging the characteristics mentioned above.



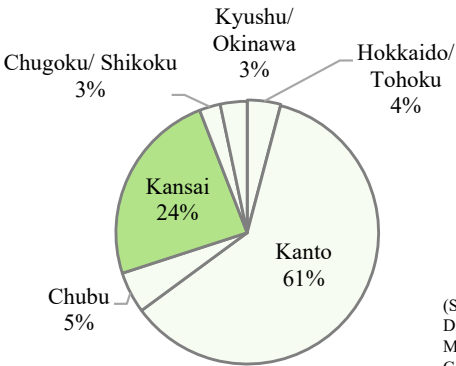
(Source): Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, "Expert Group Meeting on Digital Infrastructure (e.g. DCs) Development," 1st Meeting Secretariat Briefing Materials

Major Data Centers Located in Kansai



(Source): Survey by the Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry

Server Room Area Distribution by Region



The majority of data centers in Japan are located in the Kanto and Kansai regions. In terms of server room area, the Kansai region accounts for about 24% of the total.

(Source): Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, "Expert Group Meeting on Digital Infrastructure (e.g. DCs) Development" 1st Meeting Secretariat Briefing Materials, Japan Policy Investment Bank website (based on Fujikimera Research Center's "Business Market Research Report 2021 Edition" and compiled by Japan Policy Investment Bank).

Geopolitical Advantages

In Kansai, businesses can take advantage of geopolitical benefits such as political stability and good public safety. This creates an environment where companies can safely expand while ensuring the protection of assets and employees.

Political stability



Good public safety



Low crime rates



## 7-1 Support Systems for Foreign Investment in Kansai

- The JETRO Invest Japan Business Support Center offers a variety of support services, including providing information and individual consultations, to foreign companies planning to expand their business in Kansai.
- The Council for INVEST KANSAI, made up of the Kansai Economic Federation, JETRO Osaka, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the Kansai Area (Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry), and Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry, is working in tandem to support foreign investment in Kansai.

### First points of contact for Kansai

JETRO, the organization responsible for attracting foreign direct investment to Japan, offers comprehensive support to foreign companies looking to enter the Japanese market and expand their business. This support includes everything from information dissemination and company scouting to assisting with establishing a presence in Japan and expanding business operations within the country.

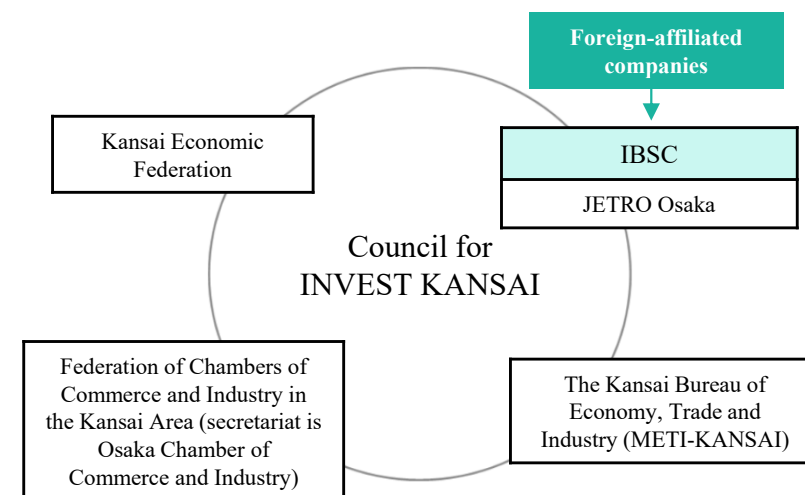


Contact points to support investment in Japan are available in each prefecture around Kansai.

Osaka	JETRO Invest Japan Business Support Center, Osaka (JETRO IBSC Osaka) TEL: +81-6-4705-8660 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/osaka">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/osaka</a>
Hyogo	JETRO Invest Japan Business Support Center, Kobe (JETRO IBSC Kobe) TEL : +81-78-231-3081 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/kobe">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/kobe</a>
Fukui	JETRO Fukui TEL : +81-776-33-1661 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/fukui">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/fukui</a>
Shiga	JETRO Shiga TEL : +81-749-21-2450 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/shiga">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/shiga</a>
Kyoto	JETRO Kyoto TEL : +81-75-341-1021 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/kyoto">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/kyoto</a>
Nara	JETRO Nara TEL : +81-742-88-0070 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/nara/">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/nara/</a>
Wakayama	JETRO Wakayama TEL : +81-73-425-7300 URL : <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/wakayama">https://www.jetro.go.jp/jetro/japan/wakayama</a>

### The Council for INVEST KANSAI

The Council for INVEST KANSAI provides support such as providing information on investment incentives, factory locations etc., as well as finding business partners with local governments, regional business communities and specialists.



METI-KANSAI "INVEST KANSAI WEB"  
[https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_kansai/en/e_index.html](https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_kansai/en/e_index.html)





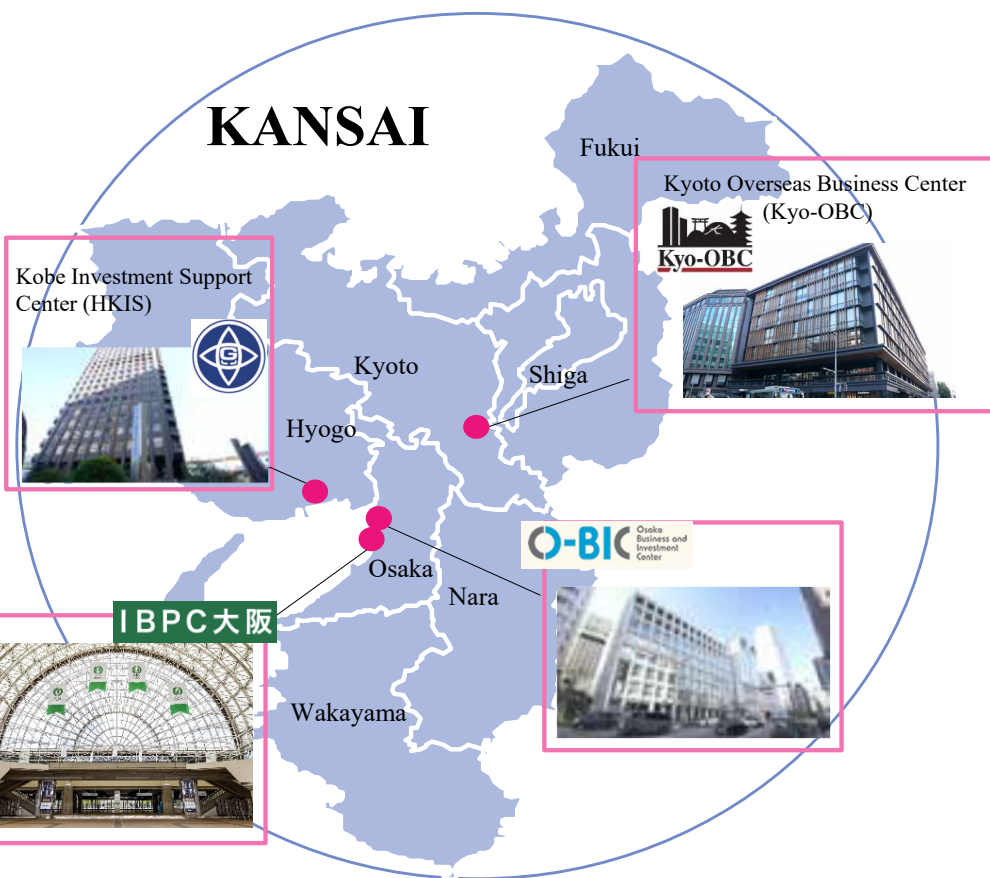
## 7-2 Support for Foreign Investment in Japan by Kyoto, Osaka, and Kobe

- In Kansai, foreign investment support organizations belonging to local governments offer various kinds of one-stop services.

### Major support organizations for investment in Japan in Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe

We are working as a one-stop service center with a meticulous support system that provides necessary information and accurate advice to foreign companies, foreign embassies, and economic organizations wishing to set up operations in Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, as well as to foreign companies in Japan wishing to set up secondary operations in these cities.

### KANSAI



Kyoto	<b>Kyoto Overseas Business Center</b> TEL : +81-75-366-4364 URL : <a href="https://www.kyoto-obc.jp/en/">https://www.kyoto-obc.jp/en/</a>
Osaka	<b>Osaka Business and Investment (O-BIC)</b> TEL: +81-6-6944-6298 URL : <a href="https://o-bic.net/">https://o-bic.net/</a>
Osaka	<b>Osaka International Business Promotion Center International Affairs Department (IBPC Osaka)</b> TEL : +81-6-6615-7130 URL : <a href="https://www.ibpcosaka.or.jp/en/">https://www.ibpcosaka.or.jp/en/</a>
Kobe	<b>Hyogo-Kobe Investment Support Center (HKIS)</b> TEL: +81-78-271-8400 URL : <a href="https://hyogo-kobe.jp/his/en/top-english/">https://hyogo-kobe.jp/his/en/top-english/</a>

	Kyoto Overseas Business Center	O-BIC	IBPC Osaka	Hyogo-Kobe Investment Support Center
Visa acquisition support	○	○	×	○ *Collaboration with JETRO
Expert support	○	○	○	○ *Collaboration with JETRO and Kobe City
Arranging business meetings	○ *Exhibition participation support	×	○	○ ※Support for exhibition participation (Collaboration with Kobe City)
Introduction of business properties	○	○	○ ★In addition to the usual property introductions, we also offer rental offices for up to six months free of charge as a base for preparing for business expansion.	○ ★In addition to the usual property introductions, we also offer temporary offices for up to 100 business days free of charge as a base for preparing for business expansion. (Collaboration with JETRO)
Support for securing human resources	×	○	○	○ *Employment subsidy

## 7-3 Support Programs for Foreign Investment by the Government

### ● Incentives and Support for Foreign and Foreign-Affiliated Companies in Japan

**This program offers support for feasibility studies on business opportunities in Japan for foreign and foreign-affiliated companies (Subsidy for Projects to stimulate direct investment in Japan).**

Purpose	The program aims to support the introduction and expansion of innovative technologies and business models by foreign and foreign-affiliated companies in Japan. It provides subsidies for feasibility studies related to investment, business expansion, and collaboration with Japanese companies.		
Details	Target Companies	①Foreign-affiliated companies in Japan : Either independently or in collaboration with Japanese companies or research institutions. ②Japanese companies : In collaboration with foreign companies or foreign-affiliated companies in Japan.	
	Target Fields	Projects that contribute to the introduction of technologies or business models in areas such as manufacturing, healthcare, green technologies, and other digital-related fields (mobility, fintech, wholesale/retail, etc.) in Japan, particularly emphasizing on semiconductors and microelectronics, life sciences, and decarbonization sectors.	
	Subsidy Amount and Maximum Limit	Up to ¥20 million per project (Small and medium-sized enterprises : Subsidy of up to 1/2 of eligible expenses, Large enterprises : Subsidy of up to 1/3 of eligible expenses).	
	Project Requirements	The foreign-affiliated company in Japan or the foreign collaboration partner of Japanese companies must have a project for investment, business expansion, or collaboration in Japan, and implementation of the project must promote the investment or creation of collaborative partnership projects in Japan.	
Details and latest information	<div>(JETRO) Notice of Subsidy for Projects to Stimulate Direct Investment in Japan <a href="https://www.jetro.go.jp/invest/newsroom/2025/8afd0b792bf97c2d.html">https://www.jetro.go.jp/invest/newsroom/2025/8afd0b792bf97c2d.html</a></div>		
For Inquiries	Invest and Alliance Division, Innovation Department, JETRO TEL : +81-3-3582-5644		

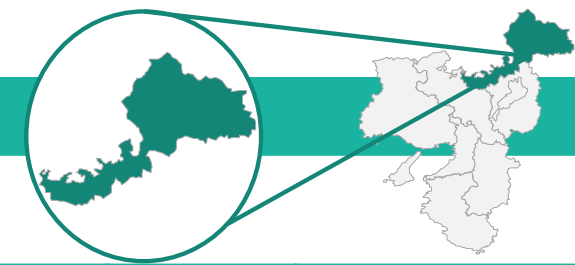


### ● Priority Program for Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in Japan

Outline	<p>The government is committed to strengthening Japan's economic growth and revitalizing local regions by promoting foreign direct investment (FDI). In 2023, under the "Action Plan For Attracting Talent and Capital from Overseas," the government outlined 100 measures with the goal of achieving a foreign direct investment balance of ¥100 trillion by 2030. In 2024, the government organized four key pillars and ten specific measures as the "Priority Program for Attracting Foreign Direct Investment," focusing on areas that need particular attention and policy responses moving forward.</p> <p>&lt;Specific Measures in the "Priority Program for Attracting Foreign Direct Investment"&gt;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Expanding investment opportunities in Japan</li> <li>2. Securing highly skilled human resources in Asia and other regions</li> <li>3. Promoting collaborations between domestic and foreign companies</li> <li>4. Improving business and living environments that are in high demand by foreign companies</li> </ol>		
Details and latest information	Cabinet Office Invest Japan Council for Promotion of Foreign Direct Investment in Japan, <a href="https://www.cao.go.jp/invest-japan/en_index.html">https://www.cao.go.jp/invest-japan/en_index.html</a>		



## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments



## Fukui

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount
Financing program	Financing to promote establishment of corporate sites	Low interest loan for the companies located in the prefecture and hiring citizens of the prefecture (interest rate: 1.7% or less per year)	Within 15 years	JPY ¥500 million (JPY ¥1 billion if specially approved)
Subsidy program	Subsidy for Promoting Growth Industry Locations	①Subsidy for equipment acquisition in manufacturing, information services, and logistics industries (subsidy rate: 20%)	-	JPY ¥600 million
		②Subsidy for acquiring equipment related to research and development or headquarters functions (independent) (subsidy rate: 25%)	-	JPY ¥600 million
		③Subsidy for equipment acquisition for companies collaborating with prefecture projects (subsidy rate: 25%)	-	JPY ¥1 billion
		④Subsidy for equipment acquisition in industries designated as nationally important for specific materials (subsidy rate: 2–20%)	-	JPY ¥3 billion (JPY ¥12 billion if specially approved)
	Office invitation subsidy * Support with the municipalities that have the system	Expenses related to office opening and operation are subsidized. (50% for land and building rent, etc., communication line fee 100%)	3 years	JPY ¥15 million
	"F Subsidy" for supporting business location in areas surrounding nuclear power plants	Support for electricity charges related to electric power contracts due to new installations or expansions (Target Area: Areas around nuclear power plant locations and adjacent cities/towns (for more details, refer to the Fukui Prefecture Business Location Guide).)	8 years	Subsidy covering approximately 40% of electricity costs *for a contract power of 2.5MW
Tax cuts	Subsidy for Areas Surrounding Nuclear Power Plants and Related Facilities	Grants are provided for companies in the vicinity of nuclear power plants.	Until nuclear power plant operations end	Subsidy of approximately 1–3% [contract kw × 12 months × unit price]
	Regional Future Investment Promotion Law	Machinery / equipment: special depreciation 35%, tax reduction 4% Building, etc. ∴ special depreciation 25%, tax reduction 2% Real estate acquisition tax exemption		
	Regional base strengthening tax system	In the designated regions and industries, business tax and real estate acquisition tax are either exempt for three years or subject to preferential taxation. Additionally, real estate acquisition tax may be exempt or subject to preferential taxation.		

## Fukui Prefecture



We offer companies considering establishing a business in Fukui Prefecture information on the region's appeal, available industrial land and office properties, and details on incentive programs (including location and port usage subsidies, as well as tax benefits).

[https://kigyoritti-pref-fukui-ig-jp.translate.goog/?x_tr_sl=ja&x_tr_tl=en&x_tr_hl=ja&x_tr_pto=wapp](https://kigyoritti-pref-fukui-ig-jp.translate.goog/?x_tr_sl=ja&x_tr_tl=en&x_tr_hl=ja&x_tr_pto=wapp)

Excellent access to the metropolitan areas

Extensive support measures for securing human resources

The Charm of Fukui

Excellent manufacturing Technology

The happiest life in Japan

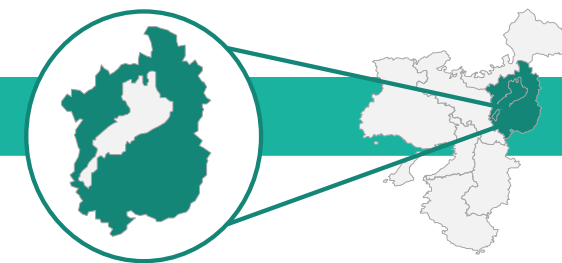


Fukui mascot "Hapilyu" (center) and his brothers





## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments



## Shiga

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount
Subsidy program	Business start-up subsidy	This incentive subsidizes companies' expenses for efforts to secure and develop human resources and improve the operating environment due to new capital investment in the prefecture.	There are regulations for each initiative (please contact us for details)	Subsidy limit of JPY ¥5 million in a fiscal year (in the case of a joint project by multiple businesses: JPY ¥7.5 million)
	Industrial Location Strategy Promotion Subsidy	Subsidize part of the costs for setting up headquarters, factories, research and development facilities, etc. in growth sectors	—	JPY ¥1 billion (Capital investment : JPY ¥900 million , public health facilities : JPY ¥100 million)
	Subsidy for promoting information and communications industry locations	Subsidize part of the rent, communication fees, etc. required for information and communications businesses from outside the prefecture to set up new offices, etc. within Shiga Prefecture	There are regulations for each initiative (please contact us for details)	Subsidy limit of JPY ¥6.5 million in a fiscal year
	Subsidies for Businesses Establishing New Facilities Near Nuclear Power Plants	Assistance with electric power bills paid under the contract for the supply of power to new and added business facilities (Only applicable to specific areas and projects)	Maximum 8 years	No rule
Tax cuts	Uneven taxation of real estate acquisition tax	Real estate acquisition tax will be unevenly taxed. [Act on Strengthening a Framework for Regional Growth and Development by Promoting Regional Economy Advancement Projects]		
	Uneven taxation of business tax, exemption from and uneven taxation of real estate acquisition tax	In the target areas and businesses, business tax will be unevenly taxed for three years, and real estate acquisition tax will be exempted and unevenly taxed.[Regional base strengthening tax system]		

## Shiga Prefecture



PR brochure

The "Shiga Business Location Guide" offers a comprehensive collection of information related to corporate establishment.

<https://www.pref.shiga.lg.jp/richi/english/index.html>



Shiga Prefecture mascot Wotan

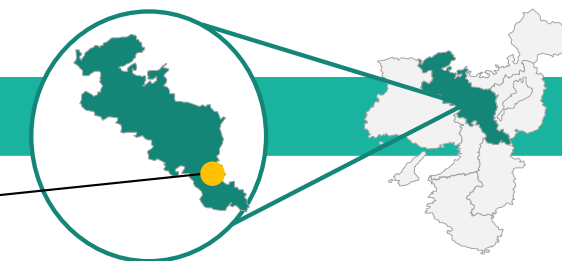
## 3 reasons to choose Shiga

Bringing together  
the east, west, south  
and north,  
right in the heart  
of Japan

A Center for  
Research in Japan

Comfortable living  
environment

## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments



## Kyoto①

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

Kyoto City

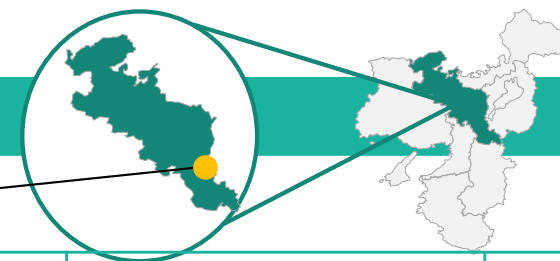
	Name of support systems		Contents	Period of application	limit amount	Local government who carried out incentives
Financing program	Low interest loan (for business location promotion loan for employment, etc.)		Low interest loan (interest rate (fixed for the first 10 years) : 1.7% per year, special interest 1.2%) for "Kyoto Industrial Location Strategy 21 Special Measures Project Cost Subsidy" or "Kyoto Prefecture Traditional and Cultural Manufacturing Industry Promotion Subsidy"	[Equipment funds] Within 15 to 20 years [Working capital] Within 7 years	JPY ¥300million-¥2billion	Kyoto Prefecture
Subsidy program	Kyoto Industrial Location Strategy 21 Special Measures Project Cost Subsidy		When a manufacturing facility, natural science research institute, information-related entity, etc. establish a base in the prefecture in response to the invitation of Kyoto Prefecture or municipalities, or when the existing factories in the prefecture are expanded, the amount of capital investment and the new, regular permanent employment are subsidized.	5 years including the fiscal year of starting operation (* Current system must be specified by March 31, 2027)	[Business establishment promotion subsidy] JPY ¥0.25 million-¥300 million  [Subsidy to promote regular employment within the prefecture] JPY ¥400 million- ¥800million  [Subsidy to promote of improvement of working environment] JPY ¥3 million yen *Increase or decrease depending on the region and the number of permanent employees in the prefecture.	Kyoto Prefecture
	Kyoto Prefecture Traditional and Cultural Manufacturing Industry Promotion Subsidy		Subsidized for the amount of capital investment and the number of new regular employees in the prefecture for the traditional and cultural manufacturing industry located in the prefectural industrial park "Kyoto Shinkoetsu Village" at the invitation of Kyoto Prefecture or municipalities	5 years including the fiscal year of starting operation	[Business establishment promotion subsidy] JPY ¥20 million-200 million [Subsidy to promote regular employment within the prefecture] JPY ¥3 million-30 million Increase or decrease depending on the site area, etc.	
	Subsidies for supporting businesses located near nuclear power plants, etc.		Subsidies based on actual electricity charges, etc. for companies that have expanded into new locations or facilities that generate increased employment.	Maximum 8 years	Electricity benefit + special benefit	
	Subsidy for promoting the location of rental business facilities	Large-scale office building location support system	Subsidies for the amount of fixed asset tax and city planning tax for new construction or expansion of a tenant office building with a rental office floor area of 3,000 m ² or more in the office lab promotion district will be provided. Subsidy amount: Equivalent to fixed property tax and city planning tax	5 years	JPY 300 million	Kyoto City
		Rental Laboratory Facility Location Support Program	Subsidies for the amount of property tax and city planning tax for new and expanded rental wet labs within the city Subsidy amount: Equivalent to property tax and city planning tax			

## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments

## Kyoto②

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

Kyoto City



	Name of support systems		Contents	Period of application	limit amount	Local government who carried out incentives
Subsidy program	Kyoto-type global niche top enterprise fostering subsidy		Rank A companies certified by the Kyoto City Venture Company Connoisseur Committee will receive subsidies equivalent to real estate tax and city planning tax as well as the cost of an excavation survey of buried cultural properties when they establish new or additional offices. Subsidy amount: Amount equivalent to real estate tax and city planning tax 1/2 of the amount equivalent to the cost of the excavation survey of buried cultural properties	Tax equivalent subsidies: 2-3 years Cost of excavation survey of buried cultural properties: Only once at the time of implementation	(Subsidies equivalent to tax) JPY ¥100 million ( buried cultural property excavation survey) JPY ¥ 25 million	Kyoto City
	Kyoto city firm location promotion institutional subsidy	Support program for first-time business expansion in the city	Subsidies will be provided to companies from outside the city setting up offices, etc. in the city for the first time, based on the number of full-time employees living in the city. Subsidy amount: Number of regular employees living in the city x JPY ¥100,000 x 2 years (up to 50 million yen) The unit price will be doubled for each of the following conditions met: 1.Companies operating in industries that make a significant contribution to the city's industrial policy(such as manufacturing, ICT, sports, environment/energy, healthcare/life sciences, content/art, and support for foreign companies entering the market) 2.Overseas companies 3.Companies that establish offices in traditional Kyoto townhouses (Kiomachiya offices)	Up to 2 years	Up to JPY ¥25 million per year 2 years total: Up to JPY ¥50 million	
		Trial location support program	Subsidies will be provided to companies from outside the city that are considering setting up operations in the city for the first time and are using shared offices and coworking spaces in Kyoto on a trial basis, covering usage and transportation costs. Subsidy amount: 1/2 of the usage and transportation costs	Maximum 6 months *Domestic companies: 3 months	Usage cost: Up to JPY ¥500,000 Transportation cost: Up to JPY ¥500,000 * There is an upper limit according to the number of days and users. *Domestic companies: JPY ¥250,000 each	
		Support program for establishing new/additional head offices and plants	Subsidies equivalent to property tax and city planning tax on newly acquired fixed assets for new expansion of office with headquarters functions, factories, research institutes, development bases, etc. in the city. (20% increase in specific areas such as Rakunan shinto, etc.) In addition, the cost of excavating buried cultural properties Subsidy amount: Amount equivalent to real estate tax and city planning tax (1/2 of the tax equivalent for large companies) 1/2 of the amount equivalent to the cost of the excavation survey of buried cultural properties Additional subsidy is available for companies from outside the city that are setting up operations in the city for the first time.	(Subsidies equivalent to tax) Middle/small sized companies: for 2-3 years Large companies: 1 year  ( buried cultural property excavation survey) Only once at the time of sale	(Subsidies equivalent to tax) JPY ¥100million Large companies: There is a limit based on increase of regular employees  ( buried cultural property excavation survey) JPY ¥25million	



## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments

Kyoto City

## Kyoto③

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount	Local government who carried out incentives
Tax cuts	Real estate acquisition tax reduction measures	When building new factories, etc. in the manufacturing industry agglomeration promotion area, reduced by up to half on condition of new employment creation, etc.	when acquiring a house or land for business use	JPY ¥200million	Kyoto Prefecture
		Company certified by Kyoto Genki-jirushi certification for SMEs, receives subsidies real estate acquisition tax on acquisition of land and houses (factories, research institutes, etc.) is reduced by 1/10, when acquiring a house or land for business use such as research and development.	when acquiring a house or land for business use	JPY ¥200million	Kyoto Prefecture

## Kyoto Prefecture

京都府の企業立地・用地情報検索サイト



We provide information on industrial land and incentive programs in Kyoto Prefecture.

<https://www.kyotofuyouchibank.com/>The charm of  
Kyoto prefecture

- Shipment value of manufactured goods **first place** (in Japan)
- The number of colleges **first place**
- Percentage of the working-age population **tenth place**

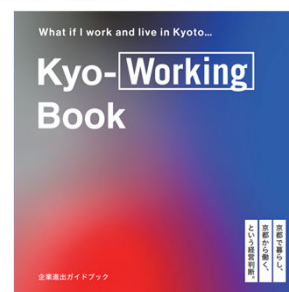
## Kyoto City

What if I work and live in Kyoto...

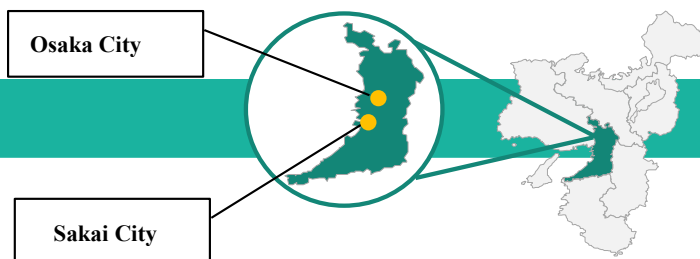
Kyo-Working

京都市企業誘致プロジェクト

We also offer a variety of resources for establishing a business presence in Kyoto City.

<https://kyo-working.city.kyoto.lg.jp/kyoto-asset-en/>

## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments

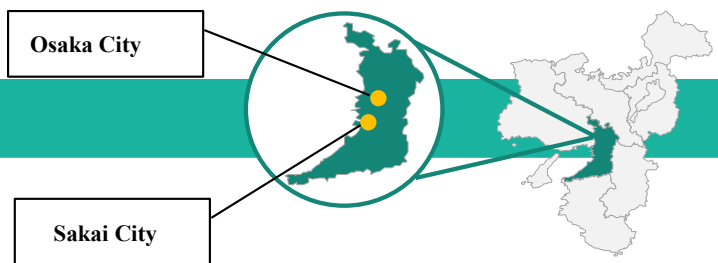


## Osaka①

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount	Local government who carried out incentives
Financing program	Financing program	Financing the funds required to locate (construct) factories, research facilities, etc. in the prefecture (handling differs depending on the financial institution)	depending on loan options		Osaka Prefecture
Subsidy program	Subsidy for Foreign-Affiliated Companies	Subsidize the cost of acquiring an office for foreign-affiliated companies that have their office with headquarters functions in Osaka Prefecture. (5% of office / equipment, etc.)	—	JPY ¥100 million	Osaka Prefecture
		Subsidize the cost of renting an office to foreign-affiliated companies whose office with headquarters functions is located in Osaka Prefecture (One-third of the rent, etc)	24 months	JPY ¥60 million	
	Subsidy for Investment Promotion	Subsidies for investment in new construction / extension / renovation of factories or R & D facilities in the designated area	—	JPY ¥30 million	
	Subsidies for Establishing a Base for Foreign Financial Companies	Subsidies are provided to foreign financial companies to cover part of the necessary expenses when they set up a new business office (hereinafter referred to as “base establishment”) in Osaka City.	After a preliminary survey or base establishment, by January 31 of the same fiscal year	Subsidy for preliminary survey : JPY ¥ 1.1 million yen Subsidy for base establishment : JPY ¥10 million yen	Osaka Prefecture/ Osaka City
	City-based investment promotion projects	Partial subsidies for businesses in growing industries for expenses required for obtaining new or additional facilities in Osaka city.	—	JPY ¥500 million	Osaka City
	Subsidy for locating head office functions	Subsidies for building rental fees (up to half the rent) will be provided to businesses (with a domestic business history of 5 years or more) that are newly establishing offices with head office functions in Osaka City.	24 months	JPY ¥ 1 million per month	
	Sakai City Corporate Growth Promotion Subsidy	Subsidize 5% to 15% of subsidized expenses for investment for renewal of head office functions / R & D facilities and challenge in the growing fields. Subsidy of JPY ¥200,000 per new resident employee in the city x 3 years	Investment assistance: Business start year Employment assistance: 3 years	Subsidy for investment: JPY ¥100 million Subsidy for employment: JPY ¥50 million	Sakai City
	Subsidies for establishing operational offices	When a foreign-affiliated company opens a new office in urban area, 30 to 40% of the rent is subsidized.	3 years	JPY ¥5 million	

## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments



## Osaka②

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount	Local government who carried out incentives
Tax cuts	Tax Incentive System for Special Zone for Growing industries	When entering a special growth zone in the prefecture, receiving approval for a business plan, and conducting business related to new energy and life science, the maximum prefectural tax is zero (coordination with Osaka City, etc.)			Osaka Prefecture
	Tax Incentive for Industrial Cluster	Real estate acquisition tax on acquisition of land and houses (factories, research institutes, etc.) in the industrial agglomeration promotion area is reduced by half (up to JPY ¥200 million)			
	Special local tax incentive for foreign financial companies	For foreign financial companies operating in the asset management or fintech businesses that set up operations in Japan or Osaka City for the first time, local taxes (corporate inhabitant tax (prefectural inhabitant tax and municipal inhabitant tax) and corporate business tax) will be reduced to up to zero (for up to 10 years).			Osaka Prefecture/ Osaka City
	City tax incentives under the Sakai City Innovation Investment Promotion Ordinance	City tax incentives under the Sakai City Innovation Investment Promotion Ordinance Reduction of one-third of the property tax on newly acquired depreciable assets, even for investments that do not involve the construction of a house, if certain requirements are met.(for up to 5 years)			Sakai City

## Osaka Prefecture



## &lt;Osaka Investment Guide&gt;

We have created a pamphlet that introduces the prefecture's support measures

<https://www-pref-osaka-ig-jp-e.athp.transer.com/o110030/ritchi/invest/index.html>

Information on various support measures for business location in Osaka ->

<https://www-pref-osaka-ig-jp-e.athp.transer.com/o110030/ritchi/treatment/index.html>



## Expanding Business Opportunities in Osaka

- The venue of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan
- Implementation of flying cars in society
- Efforts to establish Osaka as an international financial city
- Strengthening the city's attractiveness
- Development of urban infrastructure to support growth

## Osaka City

## Global Finance One-Stop Support Center Osaka

As part of efforts to make Osaka an international financial city, we provide a one-stop service for foreign financial companies and foreign investors wishing to set up operations in Osaka, providing professional advice on financial licenses and consultation on business and daily life.

## Main Areas of Support



Please see our website for further details.→



## Sakai City

Sakai City is an ideal location for doing business. We introduce business information on our web page.

<https://www.city.sakai.lg.jp/foreign-language/english/visitors/about/business/index.html>



## The charm of Sakai

1. Excellent transportation connectivity
2. One of the nation's leading industrial cities, home to numerous companies
3. Promote a balance between environmental conservation and economic growth
4. Abundant human resources
5. Encourage entrepreneurship and facilitating business matching
6. Comprehensive incentives and subsidy programs

## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments

Kobe City

## Hyogo

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount	Local government who carried out incentives
Subsidy program	Employment subsidy	Subsidy for new employment of full-time workers living in the prefecture (300,000 yen or 600,000 yen per person)	—	JPY ¥ 300 million	Hyogo Prefecture
	Capital investment subsidy	Subsidy for investment related to the acquisition and installation of facilities, equipment, etc. (3% ,5% or 7%) *Hydrogen:10%	—	JPY ¥ 10 billion	
	Establishment support subsidy for foreign/foreign-affiliated companies	Subsidy for market research cost, etc. (up to 1/2)	—	JPY ¥ 1 million	
		Subsidy for corporate registration cost, etc. (up to 1/2)	—	JPY ¥ 200,000	
	Office rent subsidy for foreign/foreign-affiliated companies	Subsidy for office rent for foreign/foreign-affiliated companies: Up to 1/2 (1/4 by the prefecture, 1/4 by Kobe City)	3 years	JPY ¥ 20 million per year	Hyogo Prefecture, Kobe City
	Subsidy for transfer of headquarters from outside Kobe City (excluding the 23 wards of Tokyo) to the city	Subsidy for acquiring buildings (up to 4% of the acquisition cost) , subsidy for employment (¥300,000 per person) , etc. * The 23 wards of Tokyo are subject to the national preferential treatment system.	—	20% of tax amount the relevant fiscal year	Kobe City
Tax cuts	Reduction of corporate enterprise tax and real estate acquisition tax	Reduction of corporate enterprise tax by one-third or half for 5 years and reduction of real estate acquisition tax by half (maximum JPY ¥200 million) for transfer of headquarters from foreign countries and 3 major metropolitan areas or expansion into the prefecture.			Hyogo Prefecture
	Reduction of property tax, business tax, etc.	In the case of strategic industries, property tax, business tax, etc. are reduced by two-thirds for five years (10 years for large-scale special cases) (no upper limit) (half for non-strategic industries)			Kobe City

## Hyogo Prefecture

To effectively promote the prefecture's investment environment abroad, we have created a brochure titled "Best Portal Zone," available in four languages: Japanese, English, Chinese, and French.

[Click here for details ▶](#)


— 6 Bests —

1

Access

2

Living Standards

3

Safety

4

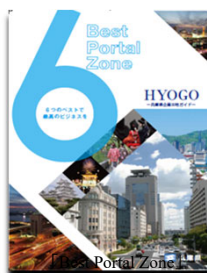
Facilities

5

Start-up Services

6

Incentives



## Kobe City

INVEST IN  
KODE

English website



Invest in Kobe provides tailor-made solutions for foreign companies and startups looking to set up or expand businesses in Japan.



**PLAY KOB**  
ビジネスに  
ちょうどいい  
まち神戸

**PEOPLE  
LOCATION  
ASSIST  
YOUR PARTNER  
KOB**

A wealth of human resources

Excellent transportation access

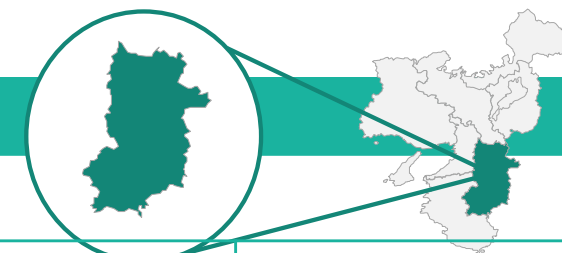
Provision of financial support

Support for companies that expand into the city

Kobe City is perfect for doing business.



## 7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments



## Nara

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount
Financing program	Challenge Fund 【Regional future investment promotion】	Under the Regional Future Investment Promotion Act, SMEs that received the governor's approval for their regional economic development business plans are eligible for system loans based on the approved plans. (Guarantee fee: 0.00% (prefecture bears the full amount) , interest rate: interest rate prescribed by financial institutions))	[Equipment funds・Equipment funds] Within 15 years (Of which, the deferment period is within 1 year) [Working capital] Within 7 years (Of which, the deferment period is within 1 year)	Maximum JPY ¥280 million (Ordinary guarantee JPY ¥200 million, unsecured guarantee JPY ¥80 million) *Separate from general guarantees
	Challenge Fund 【Accommodation facility development frame】	A loan program available to those who are planning to open a lodging facility in the prefecture or expand or renovate an existing lodging facility in the prefecture and whose business plan has been approved by the governor. (Guarantee fee: 0-0.9% , interest rate:1.75%(*The prefecture will subsidize interest up to 2% for five years from the date of loan execution))	[Equipment funds・Equipment funds] Within 20 years (Of which, the deferment period is within 1 year) [Working capital] Within 10 years (Of which, the deferment period is within 1 year)	Maximum JPY ¥280 million (Under certain conditions, the use of only operating funds or only equipment funds may not be allowed.)
	Start-up capital 【Accommodation slots】	A loan program available to those who are planning to start a lodging facility in the prefecture and have their business plan approved by the governor. (Guarantee fee: 0.00% (prefecture bears the full amount) , interest rate: 0.00% (prefecture bears the full amount) )	[Equipment funds・Equipment funds/Working capital] Within 7 years (Of which, the deferment period is within 1 year)	Maximum JPY ¥15 million
Subsidy program	Subsidy for corporate advancement business promotion	Subsidies are provided to small and Medium-sized companies that set up factories, research institutes, or specific logistics facilities within the prefecture, or relocate their head office functions.	—	JPY ¥200 million
	Data Center Location Promotion Subsidy	Subsidies provided to companies that set up data centers	—	JPY ¥200 million
	Local base strengthening promotion subsidy	Subsidies will be provided to companies that make investments due to the relocation of head office functions from outside the prefecture and the expansion of head office functions within the prefecture.	—	JPY ¥100 million
	Accommodation Facility Location Promotion Subsidy	Subsidies are provided to businesses that build or renovate inns and hotels within the prefecture.	—	JPY ¥100 million (The average guest room area is 20 m ² or more and there are 100 or more guest rooms:JPY ¥200 million)
Tax cuts	Real estate acquisition tax, corporate enterprise tax exemption measures	Real estate acquisition tax exemption, corporate enterprise tax reduction measures (three-quarters usual rate, three years) etc.		

## Nara Prefecture

[Please see here for Nara Prefecture's support measures!](#)



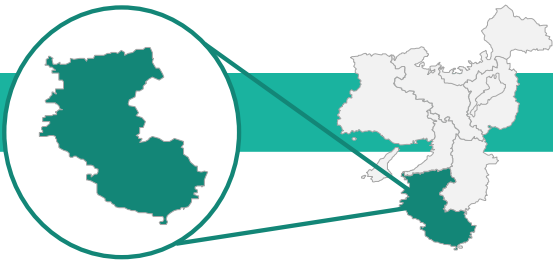
## The Charm of Nara

Generous incentive system

Comfortable and convenient transportation network

Affordable land prices

7-4 Examples of incentives offered by local governments



Wakayama

* Please contact the local government for details on various support systems.

	Name of support systems	Contents	Period of application	limit amount
Financing program	Wakayama Prefecture Corporate Advancement Promotion Fund Loan System	Low interest loan to companies advancing in the prefecture and employing citizens of the prefecture (interest rate: long-term prime rate x 3/4%)	Within 10 years	JPY ¥200 million
Subsidy program	Incentive system (advancement incentive)	Granted up to 10% of the amount of fixed assets invested to designated companies that employ citizens of the prefecture The rate applied to fixed asset investments exceeding 20 billion yen is 5%.	1 year	Up to JPY ¥10 billion for 1,000 or more employees
Tax cuts	Business tax, real estate acquisition tax, property tax, etc.	Reduction of business tax, real estate acquisition tax, property tax, etc. for up to 3 years in the designated area		

Wakayama Prefecture

Wakayama Prefecture actively promotes efforts to attract companies in order to create new industries and employment opportunities.

[Click here for Wakayama Prefecture's support measures](#)



Why Choose Wakayama?

- 1 . Ideal location that enriches quality of life
- 2 . Comprehensive support system
- 3 . Highest level of incentive programs in Japan

## 8-1 Creation of Innovation

- Efforts are underway to promote open innovation between overseas and Japanese companies including startups, such as through “Japan Innovation Bridge (J-Bridge)” and “International Innovation Conference Hack Osaka.”
- In Kansai, 1,387 innovation-driven companies are gathered, and there is an active collaboration among industry, academia, and government to build a thriving startup ecosystem. ※as of December 2022; “Kansai Venture Company List” by METI-Kansai

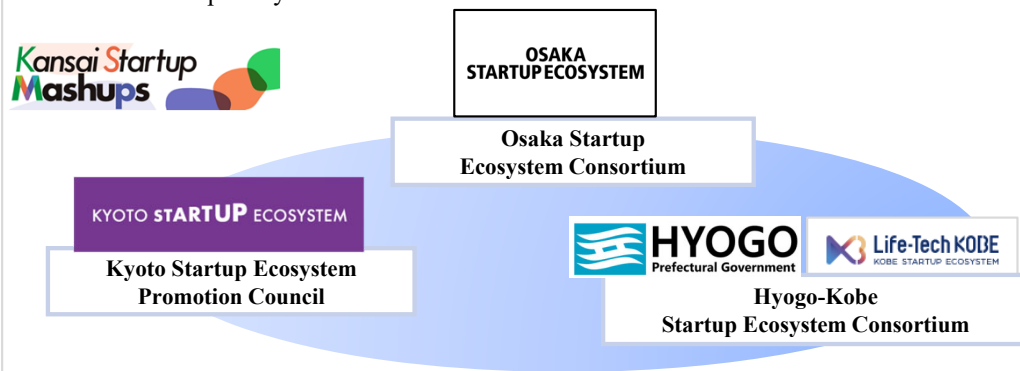
### Various startup supports

Startup Ecosystem Global City (Keihanshin)

**“Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo – Kobe Consortiums”**

<https://www.starecokansai.com/>

On July 14, 2020, Kansai was designated a "Global Hub City" under the Cabinet Office's "Strategy for Creating a Globally Competitive Startup Ecosystems." With national support, Kansai will harness its strengths, particularly in the life sciences sector, to build a world-class startup ecosystem.



### J-Startup KANSAI ~"J-Startup" Kansai Edition - Startup Support Program~

<https://next-innovation.go.jp/j-startup-kansai/>

**J-Startup KANSAI**

This program selects promising startups from Kansai as role models and creates a system to support entrepreneurs through regional collaboration. Strong partnerships between public institutions and private companies offer intensive support to help startups achieve rapid growth.

Number of selected companies **75** (as of August 2024)

**J-BR!DGE**



Organizer Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

URL <https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/j-bridge/>

Outline

A business platform that fosters international open innovation between Japanese and overseas companies. J-bridge supports Japanese companies, universities, research institutions, and others in business development and new business creation through alliances with overseas companies—such as business partnerships, technology collaborations, investments, and joint ventures—as well as mergers and acquisitions (M&A).

シェアテック  
**J-GoodTech**



Organizer Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, JAPAN (SME SUPPORT JAPAN)

URL <https://jgoodtech.smri.go.jp/pub/en/>

Outline

A business matching website that connects Japanese SMEs with large domestic companies and overseas enterprises. J-GoodTech facilitates the discovery of new business partners and customers, exploration of joint development opportunities, and expansion into new markets and overseas sales channels. Additionally, its special sections provide support for matching in areas such as export/overseas expansion, startups, SDGs/carbon neutrality, and related to the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan.

### Large companies in Kansai welcome collaboration with startups

The Kansai Economic Federation declares that companies and organizations supporting the declaration will publicly announce their contact points and offer dedicated support to venture companies. This includes providing advice and introducing technology and sales channels as needed when venture companies seek consultation.

### “The Declaration of Startup Friendly Kansai”

<https://www.kansaidovukai.or.jp/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/18079df6c390a296c83ef268578cf9f.pdf>



## 8-2 Main Business Matching & Pitch Events in Kansai

### Global Innovation Forum Osaka (GIF)



**Organizer** Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Osaka Business and Investment Center (O-BIC)

**Outline** The purpose of the event is to realize “Osaka, a meeting place to create business” through matching support for domestic and overseas startups with cutting-edge technologies and products in fields such as carbon neutrality, health tech, XR, and new materials. At GIF, we will hold the GIF Meetup to introduce overseas startups to Japanese companies and the GIF Challenge to support the overseas expansion of Japanese startups.



<https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/>

### International Innovation Conference "Hack Osaka"

**Organizer** Hack Osaka Executive Committee (Osaka City, Urban Innovation Institute, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Osaka, and Osaka Business Development Agency)

**Outline** Hack Osaka is one of the largest innovation festivals in Kansai. In order to make Osaka a city of co-creation connected to the world, Hack Osaka is working to provide a place and opportunities for entrepreneurs, investors, large companies, students, and various other players to interact across organizations, regions, nationalities and generations, through talk sessions, pitch contests, meetups with Japanese companies, and other programs. (Held once a year)



<https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/hackosaka/en/index.html>

### KGAP+ (Keihanna Global Acceleration Program Plus)



**Organizer** Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATR)  
Keihanna Research Complex Promotion Council

**Outline** A three-month support program for start-up companies in Japan and overseas. Startups nominated by domestic and overseas innovation organizations (partner organizations) participate in this program held twice a year and seek out partners to collaborate on PoC. The total number of participants was 195 companies from 23 countries and regions, with 67% successful matches and a participant satisfaction rate of 4.3/5. Partner organizations also host short-term special programs to help startups not only expand into the Japanese market but also establish a foothold for expansion outside of Japan.



<https://www.kgap.jp/>

### IVS2025 KYOTO

**Organizer** IVS KYOTO Executive Committee  
(Headline Japan / Kyoto Prefecture / Kyoto City)

**Outline** An international startup conference where entrepreneurs and investors from both Japan and overseas meet to promote the creation of new businesses. The event facilitates direct negotiations for acquiring investments, partnerships, and talent, while also providing opportunities to understand the latest trends in various fields and exchange diverse human resources.



<https://www.ivs.events/ja>

### 「NEXT KITCHEN」

**Organizer** Hyogo Prefecture/Kobe City/JETRO  
(Powered by Innovation Dojo Japan LLC)

**Outline** This is a program that facilitates business matching between overseas food tech companies focused on addressing social issues in the food sector and local companies within the prefecture. Selected food tech companies from around the world will visit Japan to engage in business matching, tour local food-related companies, and attend conferences that explore the future of food, based on the latest trends in food tech.  
* Program content may change depending on the year.



<https://www.nextkitchen-kobe.com/>

### Global Startup EXPO 2025

[https://global-startup-expo.go.jp/index_en.html](https://global-startup-expo.go.jp/index_en.html)

Global Startup EXPO 2025 is an international conference where startups, founders, investors and industry leaders gather to explore solutions to global issues with Deep Tech and cutting-edge technologies.  
In conjunction with the EXPO 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, this event aims to bridge among startup ecosystems by sharing the knowledge, technologies and business.





## Reference Information



Kansai Industrial Facility Guide

Kansai Technical Visit Guide

METI-Kansai has published a *Kansai Technical Visit Guide* on its website, listing approximately 300 industrial facilities (factories, workshops, corporate museums, research institutes, etc.) that are open to the public and enable visitors to learn about, experience, and interact with industries and companies in the Kansai region.

Please use this guide to experience industrial tourism in Kansai, including industrial tourism, general tours, social studies field trips, off-campus learning, corporate inspections and training, and school trips.



Kansai Technical Visit Guide  
(METI-Kansai Website)

[https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/english/tvlist/e_visit_list.html](https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/english/tvlist/e_visit_list.html)



Instagram

(managed by the International Investment Promotion Division, METI-Kansai)

We provide information on industrial facilities for inbound tourists.

[https://www.instagram.com/kansai_unique_experiences/](https://www.instagram.com/kansai_unique_experiences/)



## “WHY NOT DO YOUR BUSINESS IN KANSAI?” —INVEST JAPAN, INVEST KANSAI— (YouTube videos)



▲5-minute video



▲Short video

"WHY NOT DO YOUR BUSINESS IN KANSAI? - INVEST JAPAN, INVEST KANSAI -" is a video that introduces the attractions and strengths of Kansai as an investment environment.

5-minute video >> <https://youtu.be/ANHz-82Uqrs>

Short video >> <https://youtu.be/ET8MKZb4IFQ>

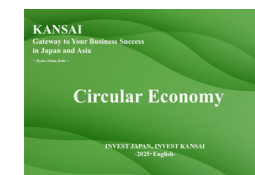
## Separate volumes of “INVEST JAPAN, INVEST KANSAI”



▲For Innovation



▲For Life Sciences



▲For the Circular Economy



▲For Hydrogen

To provide a deeper understanding of the investment environment in the Kansai region, we have made separate volumes available that gather information in four sectors.

Please take a look at these separate volumes.

[https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_kansai/en/e_index.html](https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_kansai/en/e_index.html)





One-window support for investment in Kansai

INVEST KANSAI WEB



## Contact information about this brochure

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International Investment Promotion Division,  
Kansai Bureau of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Address: 1-5-44 Otemae, Chuo-ku, Osaka, 540-8535

TEL : 06-6966-6033

E-mail : [bzl-invest-japan-kansai@meti.go.jp](mailto:bzl-invest-japan-kansai@meti.go.jp)

URL : [https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_in_kansai/e_invest_kansai_english.html](https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_in_kansai/e_invest_kansai_english.html)

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**(Published in March 2025)**