

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 cannot 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, a proportion that is higher than in the nation as a whole.

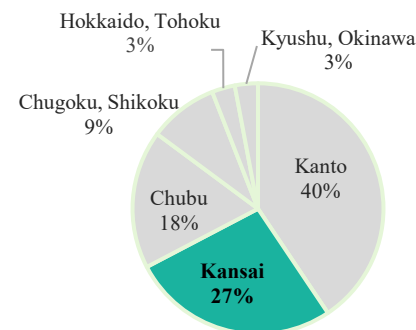


(Source) "Report on Prefectural Accounts (FY2022)", Cabinet Office

Kansai is home to many companies with high global market shares.

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.



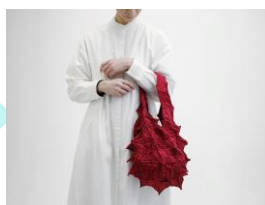
▲ Composition Ratio by Region of Global Niche Top Companies

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

High Technology Backed by Traditional Skills



Kyo-Kanoko Shibori (Kyoto)



Ando Co., Ltd.

Leveraging the traditional techniques of Kyo-Kanoko Shibori, products are developed that highlight the distinctive three-dimensional texture and elasticity of shibori dyeing, applied to bags, stoles, everyday items, and interior products.



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.



A network supporting manufacturing where there is nothing that cannot 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://www.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, in which 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/NIBN
- Bio-Incubator (in cooperation with the University of Osaka, etc.)
- Japanese Red Cross Kinki Block Blood Center
- Various companies’ R&D facilities

Osaka Metropolitan University

Osaka Institute of Technology

Kobe University

【Harima Science Garden City】 〈Large-scale research facilities〉

SPring-8/SACLA



SPring-8/SACLA ©RIKEN

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

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

Nara Institute of Science and Technology



(Source) Keihanna Science City

Keihanna Science City

A city of knowledge creation that is paving the way to the future

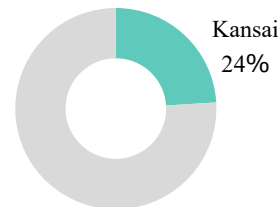
Cluster of over 150 public and corporate research institutes

- International Institute for Advanced Studies / IIAS
- Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International / ATR
- Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth / RITE
- National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology / QST
- National Institute of Information and Communications Technology / NICT

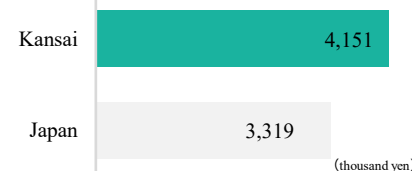
Industry-University joint research amount

In terms of the monetary amount, 24% 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



(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 (FY2024)



Nobel Prize Winners from Universities in Kansai

- Shimon Sakaguchi (Physiology or Medicine 2025)
- Susumu Kitagawa (Chemistry 2025)
- Akira Yoshino (Chemistry 2019)
- Tasuku Honjo (Physiology or Medicine 2018)
- Isamu Akasaki (Physics 2014)
- Shinya Yamanaka (Physiology or Medicine 2012)

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 startups that address social issues through sustainable growth.

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

