

TOTTORI PREFECTURE



Prefecture flag

Main City: Tottori

Population: 578,000 people ranking 47/47 prefecture (2013) [1]

Area: 3,507 km² [2]

Latest update: August 2013



Geographical / Landscape description

Located on the coast of the Japan Sea, Tottori is home to the Tottori Sand Dunes, Japan's only large dune system. On 1 April 2012, 14% of the total land area of the prefecture was designated as natural parks. [2]

Climate

Tottori has a humid subtropical climate with hot summers and cool winters. Precipitation is significant all year long. [2]

Time zone

GMT +7 in summer (+8 in winter)

International dialling code: 0081

Recent history, culture

The Tottori Sand Dunes are unique in Japan and therefore they are a major tourist attraction which plays an important role in the prefecture's social and economic life. Every year various festivals are organised between the dunes such as a kite contest, sandboarding (like snowboarding but on the sand), photo contests and a mascot festival. [3]

Economic overview

Tottori prefecture is the least populated prefecture of Japan and therefore records the lowest economic impact on total Japanese GDP.

As a sign of the on-going relations between the prefecture and the EU, in 2011 of all the goods exported by the prefecture through the Port of Sakaiminato, the Netherlands registered a share of 7.2% of the total, ranking fifth behind four other Asian countries. [4]

Economic Indicators

	Tottori Prefecture	All Japan
Population (2013) [1]	578,000	127,350,000
Unemployment rate (2012) [5]	3.7%	4.3%
GPD (2010) [6]	0.36% of Japan's	495 trillion Yen

Infrastructure

Road/railways

3 hours by car or 2h30 by train from Osaka. [7]

Shipping

The Port of Sakaiminato (established as a Foreign Access Zone) and the Port of Tottori are the main connections for trade of goods toward Korea, China and Russia. [7]

Civil Aviation

Yonago Airport operates regular international flights to and from South Korea and China. Tottori airport offers only inland flights to Tokyo. [7]

Living Environment

The clear blue waters of the Sea of Japan and rich, green mountains are part of Tottori's inspiring natural surroundings. Twentieth Century pears and other agricultural products are grown and fresh seafood is caught. The abundance of natural resources enables residents to lead relaxed and slow-paced lives. Both the prefectural government and municipalities offer a variety of programs to promote permanent residence in Tottori Prefecture. [8]

Major types of economic activities

Agriculture, natural resources

Tottori Prefecture has an important part of agriculture and records high production rates in Japan for some products like the nashi Japanese pear, shallots and watermelon. The prefecture is also a major centre of rice production. [2]

Manufacturing, construction

In 2011, the manufacturing industry's shipment value was principally composed of electronic components (29.5%), food and related products (18.5%), and pulp and paper products (12.5%). [9]

Since the mid-1980s, the manufacturing industry has seen an increasing number of electronic component/device companies locate their mass production divisions in Tottori and therefore the prefecture ranks first in the total manufacturing industry's shipment. Over the last century, pulp and paper manufacturers were the core industry of the prefecture and they still hold an important role in the local economy today. [10]

R&D, Innovation, Scientific research

Tottori has a cluster of health food-related industries (Tottori Bio-Frontier). Research institutions with the world's cutting-edge chromosome engineering technologies and bio-incubation facilities with a number of the latest experimental equipment are also located in the prefecture. Toward the agglomeration of biotech industries, combined efforts are made through industry-academia-government collaborations. [11]

Opportunities for EU Investors / Exporters / Importers

Promising sectors for cooperation

Long-established industries: agriculture, food processing, electronic components, liquid crystal industry, machinery, paper related. Growing industries: biotechnology. [10] [11]

Financial/logistic support

- *Employment-related subsidy system for hiring local employees and for staff training and new skills development
- *Coverage of part of the expenses related to a business establishment in a prefectural industrial park
- *Agrarian system funds

More information: <http://www.pref.tottori.lg.jp/1494.htm>

Setting up a business in Tottori

Tottori Prefectural Government Commerce Distribution Staff
Office for Commercial & Economic Affairs
1-220 Higashimachi, Tottori 680-8570
TEL: +81(0)857-26-7220 FAX: +81(0)857-21-0609

Other contacts:

Tottori Prefecture
<http://www.pref.tottori.lg.jp/>
Tottori Bio-Frontier
<http://www.bio-frontier.jp/3049.html>
Tottori Institute of Industrial Technology
<http://www.tiit.or.jp/index.php?view=4422>
Tottori Prefecture Tourism Association
<http://www.tottori-guide.jp/>

Sources and footnotes

- [1] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/jinsui/2.htm>
- [2] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tottori_prefecture
- [3] <http://www.tottorisakyu.jp/>
- [4] http://www.pref.tottori.lg.jp/secure/755339/youran_h24_14.pdf
- [5] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/roudou/pref/index.htm>
- [6] http://www.esri.cao.go.jp/jp/sna/sonota/kenmin/kenmin_top.html
- [7] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/tottori/infra.html>
- [8] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/tottori/living.html>
- [9] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/e-census/2012/sokuho/gaiyo.htm>
- [10] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/tottori/>
- [11] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/tottori/icinfo.html>

Tottori Sand Dunes



Nageiredo in the temple of the Mitoku-san



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