

# HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE

Latest update: August 2013



Prefecture's Flag

**Main City:** Hiroshima

**Population:** 2,841,000 people, ranking 12/47 prefectures (2013) [1]

**Area:** 8,476.95 km<sup>2</sup> [2]



## Geographical / Landscape description

Hiroshima prefecture lies in the middle of Chugoku region. Most of the prefecture consists of mountains leading towards Shimane Prefecture and rivers which produce rich plains near the coast. [2]

## Climate

Hiroshima is blessed by a generally warm climate. The prefecture usually records more rain in the northern area than in the south. [2]

## Time zone

GMT +7 in summer (+8 in winter)

**International dialling code:** 0081

## Recent history, culture

Hiroshima is home to two UNESCO World Heritage sites: the Atomic Dome, one of the few remnants of pre-war Hiroshima following the atomic bombing in 1945 and the Itsukushima Shrine in Miyajima, famed for filling with water and appearing to "float" during high tide. The red Torii door in the water, one of Japan's best known symbols, is located in front of Miyajima. [2][3]

## Economic overview

Hiroshima Prefecture is often called a "microcosm of Japan" because of its rich natural environment and how closely it tracks nationwide averages in socioeconomic indicators. It is utilized by many companies as a test market for the wider Japanese market and thus plays a part in the development of a variety of new products. In addition, it has diverse, well-balanced and multi-layered industrial clusters ranging from shipbuilding, iron and steel and automotive industries to cutting-edge electrical and electronic-related industries. Hiroshima is also home to a wealth of world-class manufacturing technology, with over 300 unique and leading companies in a wide range of fields from material industries such as iron and steel and chemicals to electrical and precision machinery being based there. [4]

## Economic Indicators

	Hiroshima Prefecture	All Japan
Population (2013) [1]	2,841,000	127,350,000
Unemployment rate (2012) [5]	3.6%	4.3%
GDP (2010) [6]	2.2% of Japan's	495 trillion Yen

## Infrastructure

### Road/railways

Hiroshima is connected to Tokyo via the shinkansen (bullet train) that can join both cities in about four hours when riding the fastest train.

### Shipping

The ports of Hiroshima, Kure, Fukuyama, and Onomichi Itozaki have been classified as designated or specially-designated ports and have regular routes to Asian countries. [7]

### Civil Aviation

Hiroshima Airport has regular international flights to China, Taiwan, Korea and Guam (USA) [8]

### Living Environment

With a rich natural environment and surroundings, a high level of education, various leisure activities and the quality of its local food, Hiroshima Prefecture provides a good quality of life for its residents. Compared to other major Japanese cities such as Tokyo, Osaka or Nagoya, the local consumption price index is lower and also the average price of land is less than the national average. [9]

## Major types of economic activities

### Manufacturing

In 2011, the manufacturing industry's shipment value was principally composed of transport machinery (27.9%), iron & steel (17.2%), and machinery equipment (7.9%). [10]

Hiroshima Prefecture has developed primarily through heavy industries such as automobiles, iron & steel and shipbuilding. [4]

### R&D, Innovation, Scientific research

Through the Hiroshima Prefectural Technology Research Institute, the prefecture is managing nine research centres and has initiated various supporting projects in sectors such as food, environmental, fisheries, forestry, agriculture and automotive. [11]

## Opportunities for EU Investors / Exporters / Importers

### Promising sectors for cooperation

Long-established industries: transportation machinery and equipment (automotive industry, shipbuilding), iron and steel, food products, electronic parts and devices, semiconductors. [4][12]

### Financial/logistic support

\*Subsidies for concentration and advancement of leading-edge industries (environment, energy, etc.)

\*Subsidies for location in prefecture-managed industrial park sites via preferential taxation and/or discount program

\*Financing program for business establishment at low interest rates

More information: <http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/investinhiroshima/1304988899679.html>  
<http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/kigyourittiguide/1300870090151.html>

## Setting up a business in Hiroshima

Hiroshima Prefectural Government, Foreign Business Division  
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### Other contacts:

Hiroshima Prefecture  
<http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/english/>  
Hiroshima Prefectural Technology Research Institute  
<http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/hiroshima-soken/>  
National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology - Chugoku  
<http://unit.aist.go.jp/chugoku/en/index.html>  
Tourism Promotion Office  
<http://visithiroshima.net/>

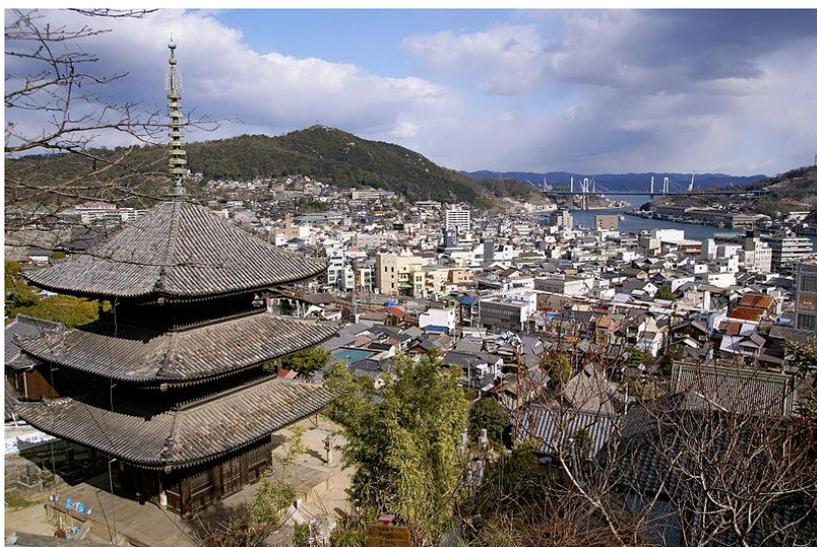
### Sources and footnotes

- [1] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/jinsui/2.htm>
- [2] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiroshima\\_prefecture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiroshima_prefecture)
- [3] <http://visithiroshima.net/>
- [4] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/hiroshima/>
- [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](http://www.esri.cao.go.jp/jp/sna/sonota/kenmin/kenmin_top.html)
- [7] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/hiroshima/infra.html>
- [8] <http://www.hij.airport.jp/english/>
- [9] <http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/investinhiroshima/1305168744293.html>
- [10] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/e-census/2012/sokuho/gaiyo.htm>
- [11] <http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/hiroshima-soken/>
- [12] <http://www.pref.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/investinhiroshima/1304988899679.html>

### Itsukushima Shrine and Torii in Miyajima



### Tenneji Shrine



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