

KAGOSHIMA PREFECTURE

Latest update: August 2013



Prefecture's Flag

Main City: Kagoshima

Population: 1,681,000 people, ranking 24/47 prefectures (2013) [1]

Area: 9,132 km² [2]



Geographical / Landscape description

Kagoshima Prefecture is located at the southwest tip of Kyushu and includes a chain of islands stretching further to the southwest for a few hundred kilometres. The prefecture boasts a chain of active and dormant volcanoes, including the Sakurajima, which towers out of the Kagoshima bay just in front of Kagoshima city which regularly sends clouds of ash toward the city. [2]

Climate

With an annual average temperature of 19°C the prefecture was ranked 2nd in Japan in 2012. The southern area of the prefecture is the rainiest part of Japan (up to 9000mm) with annual rainfall concentrated in the May-July period. The prefecture is also regularly hit by typhoons from summer to autumn. [2]

Time zone

GMT +7 in summer (+8 in winter)

International dialling code: 0081

Recent history, culture

Thanks to its location, the prefecture has been a doorway to foreign culture through which innovation entered Japan, such as the introduction of the first firearm which would drastically change the balance of power giving the local clan, the Satsuma, a significant advantage over other regions. With such interest for foreign cultures, it is natural that following the end of the Japanese isolation period during the second half of the 19th century, many people of the prefecture went to European countries to learn about western culture and technology. [2][3]

Economic overview

Having a rich agriculture and abundant marine products, the prefecture is one of the main food suppliers of Japan with a large number of food-related companies driving the local economy. Similarly as for other prefectures of the Kyushu region, the semiconductor and automotive industries give a significant support to the local economy and are supported by local authorities' development policies. [4]

Economic Indicators

	Kagoshima Prefecture	All Japan
Population (2013) [1]	1,681,000	127,350,000
Unemployment rate (2012) [5]	4.3%	4.3%
GPD (2010) [6]	1% of Japan's	495 trillion Yen

Infrastructure

Road/railways

The completion of the Kyushu Shinkansen (bullet train) line in 2011 puts Kagoshima City at little more than 1h from Hakata and 4h from Osaka with the fastest train. [7]

Shipping

There are regular shipping services to Korea, China, Taiwan from the prefecture main ports. [7]

Civil Aviation

The prefecture's main airport, Kagoshima Airport, has many domestic flights to main cities as well as to the many small islands that are part of the prefecture. There are international flights to China, Korea and Taiwan. [8]

Living Environment

Kagoshima Prefecture is blessed with rich, natural environments, including Yakushima Island, the first site in Japan to be registered as a World Natural Heritage. With a wide variety of food ingredients and also warm and friendly locals, Kagoshima provides a good environment for a serene lifestyle. [9] [10]

Major type of activities of the economy

Agriculture, natural resources

The most important sector for the prefecture ranking within Japan's top 4 for production output. For number of livestock (cattle, pigs...) the prefecture ranks second in Japan. Rich marine and agriculture originated resources provide high quality base ingredients for the food and beverage manufacturing sector. [11][12]

Manufacturing

In 2011 the manufacturing industry's shipment value was principally composed of food and related products (30.9%), beverages (20.7%) and electronic components (14.4%). In companies with more than 4 employees, 1 in 2 works in the food & beverage sector highlighting the importance of this sector for the local economy. [13]

R&D, Innovation, Scientific research

Located in the prefecture are various prefectural managed entities promoting general R&D and cooperation between public, academic and private organisations. Like the Kagoshima Prefectural Institute of Industrial Technology, the Kagoshima Industry Support Center, the Kagoshima Prefectural Institute for Agricultural Development and the Kagoshima Prefectural Fisheries Technology and Development Center.

The prefecture also hosts many centres of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, like the Uchinoura Space Center or the country's main launch facility the Tanegashima Space Center.

Opportunities for EU Investors / Exporters / Importers

Promising sectors for cooperation

Long-established industries: foods, beverage, electrical and electronics, ceramic, metal. [4]

Financial/logistic support

No recent and verified incentive-related information found in English-language web pages. Data is available only in Japanese.

More information: <http://www.pref.kagoshima.jp/af03/sangyo-rodo/kigyo/seido/ken.html>

Setting up a business in Kagoshima

Kagoshima International Business Center, Kagoshima Trade Association
9-1 Meizan-cho, Kagoshima 892-0821
Tel.: +81(0)99-216-2555 Fax: +81(0)99-216-2555
E-mail: info@kibc-jp.com
<http://www.kibc-jp.com/hsrc/english.html>

Other contacts:

Kagoshima Prefecture
<http://www.pref.kagoshima.jp/foreign/english/index.html>
Kagoshima Industry Support Center
<http://www.kric.or.jp/>
Kagoshima Prefectural Fisheries Technology and Development Center
<http://kagoshima.suigi.jp/>
Kagoshima Prefectural Institute for Agricultural Development
<http://www2.kiad.pref.kagoshima.jp/>
Kagoshima Prefectural Institute of Industrial Technology
<http://www.kagoshima-it.go.jp/>
Tanegashima Space Center
http://www.jaxa.jp/about/centers/tnsc/index_e.html
Uchinoura Space Center
http://www.jaxa.jp/about/centers/usc/index_e.html
Kagoshima Travel Guide
<http://www.kagoshima-kankou.com/for/>

Sources and footnotes

- [1] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/jinsui/2.htm>
- [2] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kagoshima_prefecture
- [3] <http://www.pref.kagoshima.jp/foreign/english/index.html>
- [4] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/kagoshima/>
- [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
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- [11] <http://www.pref.kagoshima.jp/kids/sangyou/shokusangyou.html>
- [12] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/kagoshima/icinfo.html>
- [13] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/e-census/2012/sokuho/gaiyo.htm>

Sakurajima



Katetsu cove, in Setouchi-cho, Oshima-gun



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