

YAMANASHI PREFECTURE



Prefecture's Flag

Main City: Kofu

Population: 847,000 people ranking 41/47 prefecture (2013) [1]

Area: 4,465 km² [2]

Latest update: August 2013



Geographical / Landscape description

The prefecture is landlocked, with mountains surrounding the central Kofu Basin. Mount Fuji is located on the southern border with Shizuoka. As of 1 April 2012, 27% of the total land area of the prefecture was designated as Natural Parks. [2]

Climate

Thanks to Mt. Fuji rain shadow effects, the prefecture receives only about 818 mm of rainfall a year. [2]

Time zone

GMT +7 in summer (+8 in winter)

International dialling code: 0081

Recent history, culture

Given the local affection for Mount Fuji, which can also be found in the prefectural flag, many festivals held in Yamanashi are strongly related to the majestic volcano. For example the Fuji-Yoshida Fire Festival is celebrated at Fuji Sengen shrine on August 26th, and announces the ending of the climbing season of Mount Fuji. During this festival torches are kindled at every house-front in in Fuji-Yoshida and the city is then said to resemble a sea of fire. [3]

Economic overview

In addition to a wealth of traditional technologies, represented best by Yamanashi jewellery making, the prefecture offers excellent access to the mechanical electronics industry concentrated in Tokyo's Tama region; for this reason many companies, such as electronic component manufacturers, semiconductor device manufacturers, semiconductor manufacturing device makers, liquid crystal manufacturing device makers, mechatronics (such as robotics) manufacturers and electronics manufacturers, have expanded into Yamanashi, making it one of the largest mechanical electronics industry concentration in Japan. [4]

Economic Indicators

	Yamanashi Prefecture	All Japan
Population (2013) [1]	847,000	127,350,000
Unemployment rate (2012) [5]	3.4%	4.3%
GPD (2010) [6]	0.6% of Japan's	495 trillion Yen

Infrastructure

Road/railways

Running through Yamanashi from east to west, Chuo Expressway is a main distribution artery of Yamanashi accessible directly to the metropolitan areas of Tokyo and Nagoya. By train it takes around 1h30 to reach Tokyo. [7]

Living Environment

Located within two hours of the Tokyo metropolitan area, getting to Yamanashi is fast and easy. During the summer, trekking and mountain climbing aficionados head for the nature trails and mountain slopes. As the weather cools, fall sweeps across the prefecture in a beautiful array of fall colours which attract people from all around Japan. The autumn leaves are only one of Yamanashi's most resplendent seasonal attractions. [8]

Major types of economic activities

Agriculture, natural resources

Home of Japanese mineral water and wine. Thanks to its mountainous area, the prefecture produces 40% of all mineral water in Japan. The more than 80 wineries located in Katsunuma turn out about 40% of Japan's domestic wine production. [9] [10]

Manufacturing

In 2011, the manufacturing industry's shipment value was principally composed of machinery equipment (19.2%), electrical machinery (19.2%), and electronic components (12.3%). [11]

The prefecture is quite prominent in the mechanical electronics industry, having the largest share nationally for numerical control devices, and the second largest share for wafer processors, LEDs, etc.

Yamanashi is home to large-scale production sites of major manufacturers of syringes, injector needles, transfusion materials, etc., and also contains a concentration of supporting industries, such as industrial plastic precision fabrication and chemical engineering. [12]

R&D, Innovation, Scientific research

The Yamanashi Techno-jewel box project introduces local people and companies with world class edge technologies in many industrial sectors. Also located in the prefecture the Fuel Cells Nanomaterials Center, focusing on fuel cells R&D using nanotechnology, and the Clean Energy Research Center promoting research on clean technologies.

Opportunities for EU Investors / Exporters / Importers

Promising sectors for cooperation

Long-established industries: agriculture, food and beverages, traditional industries, semiconductor manufacturing, liquid crystals, robotics, mechanical and electronic-related industries, jewellery industries. [4] [9]

Financial/logistic support

- Subsidies depending on the invested fixed asset amount for plant establishment and on the number of newly hired employees
- Subsidies provided for a location in the Yamanashi Business Park (see website for eligible industries)
- Conditional exemption from real estate acquisition tax and from property tax
- Attractive loans available for companies intending to locate in industrial and business parks
- Yamanashi SMB Human Resources Development Center, offering occupational skill development and providing education and training for people who work in companies in Yamanashi.

More information: <http://www.pref.yamanashi.jp/sangyo/en/seido/index.php>

Setting up a business in Yamanashi

Business Siting Promotion Division, Industrial and Labor Department
1-6-1 Marunouchi, Kofu-city, Yamanashi Prefecture 400-8501
TEL: +81 (0)55-223-1472 FAX: +81 (0)55-223-1546
<http://www.pref.yamanashi.jp/sangyo/en/miryoku/index.php>

Other contacts:

Yamanashi Prefecture

<http://www.pref.yamanashi.jp/english/index.html>

Clean Energy Research Center

<http://www.clean.yamanashi.ac.jp/en/>

Fuel Cells Nanomaterials Center

<http://fc-nano.yamanashi.ac.jp/english/>

Yamanashi Industry Support Organization

<http://www.yiso.or.jp/index.html>

Yamanashi Techno-jewel box

<http://www.pref.yamanashi.jp/sangyo-shien/techno-jewel-box-en/index.html>

Yamanashi Tourism Organization

<http://www.yamanashi-kankou.jp/english/index.html>

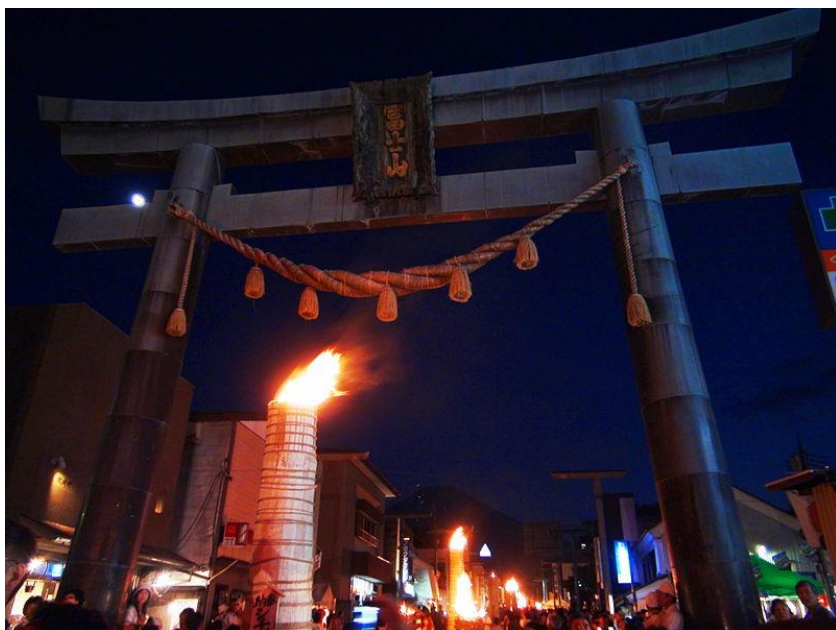
Sources and footnotes

- [1] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/jinsui/2.htm>
- [2] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yamanashi_Prefecture
- [3] <http://www.pref.yamanashi.jp/english/tourism/festival/festival.html>
- [4] <http://www.JETRO.go.jp/en/invest/region/yamanashi/>
- [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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- [10] <http://www.pref.yamanashi.jp/sangyo/en/miryoku/life.php>
- [11] <http://www.stat.go.jp/data/e-census/2012/sokuho/gaiyo.htm>
- [12] <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/invest/region/yamanashi/icinfo.html>

Mount Fuji seen from Lake Kawaguchiko



Fuji-Yoshida Fire Festival



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