

# Operational Base of Saitama Prefecture

## Well-developed Expressway and Railway Networks

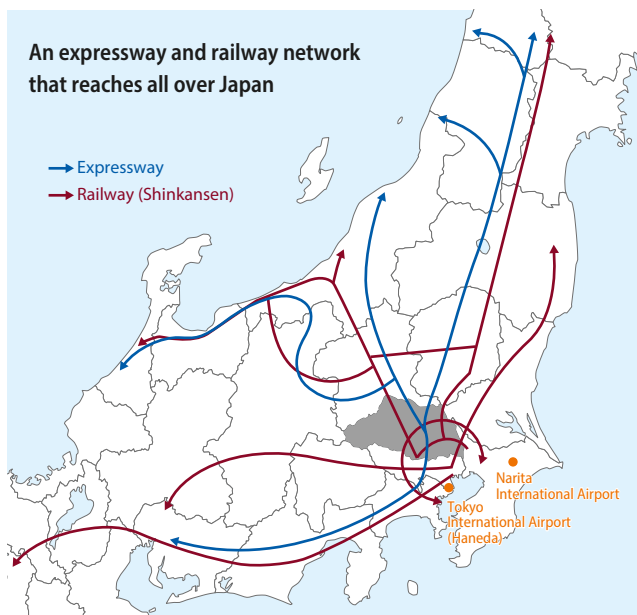
Saitama Prefecture is located in the heart of the huge market comprising the Tokyo metropolitan area, in which one-third of the population of Japan lives (approximately 40 million people). The prefecture also contains well-developed and advanced expressway and railway networks.



Hokuriku Shinkansen

Saitama is well-positioned as a transportation hub, with the Kan'etsu, Tohoku, and Joban expressways traversing north to south, and the Tokyo Gaikan Expressway and the Metropolitan Inter-City Expressway (Ken-O-do) traversing east to west. Moreover, there is now improved access to the Tomei Expressway and the Chuo Expressway with the fully opened Ken-O-do enhancing the convenient transport links to the rest of Japan.

As for railways, with our head office based in Omiya, the Bank is directly connected to major cities via the Hokkaido, Tohoku, Akita, Yamagata, Joetsu and Hokuriku Shinkansen (bullet train) network.



## A Favorable Climate and Topography

Located on the borders of Tokyo and six prefectures, Saitama Prefecture is an inland prefecture on the Kanto Plain, and all parts are less than 100 km from central Tokyo.

Saitama Prefecture covers 3,798 square kilometers and accounts for around 1% of Japan's land area. The area of prefectural land covered by mountains is less than the national average, while the area of lowlands and tableland is greater. Rivers account for 3.90% of the prefecture's area, the highest figure for a prefecture in the country.

It is very comfortable to live in because it has more clear days annually than anywhere else in Japan, and has few natural disasters.

## Fifth Largest Prefecture by Population

The population of Saitama Prefecture continues to increase every year. In 2016 the population had reached 7.26 million, making Saitama the fifth largest prefecture in Japan.

Moreover, the percentage of working-age people (aged 15 to 64) was 64.1% in 2013, and this figure was the third highest prefectural percentage in Japan. Conversely, the percentage of people aged 65 or older was 23.0%, and of these 9.7% are aged 75 or older, on a par with Okinawa Prefecture, the lowest figures in Japan. In other words, Saitama Prefecture is one of the youngest and most vigorous prefectures in the country.

## Collection of Diverse Manufacturing Industries

### Fifth Largest Economy in Japan

Saitama Prefecture is home to about 250,000 companies. Total prefectural production is about ¥20 trillion, making it the fifth largest prefectural economy in Japan.

Saitama Prefecture has a diversity of local industries with the automotive-related industry at its core. (For example, molds and castings are produced in Kawaguchi City, and optical equipment in Saitama City.)

Private companies	<b>249,078</b> (Japan's fifth largest prefecture in terms of number of companies) Economic Census for Business Frame (July 2014)
Total prefectural production (nominal)	<b>¥20.7 trillion</b> (Japan's fifth largest prefecture in terms of production) Prefectural Accounts (fiscal 2013)