

PROFILE OF KYUSHU



Kyushu in Asia

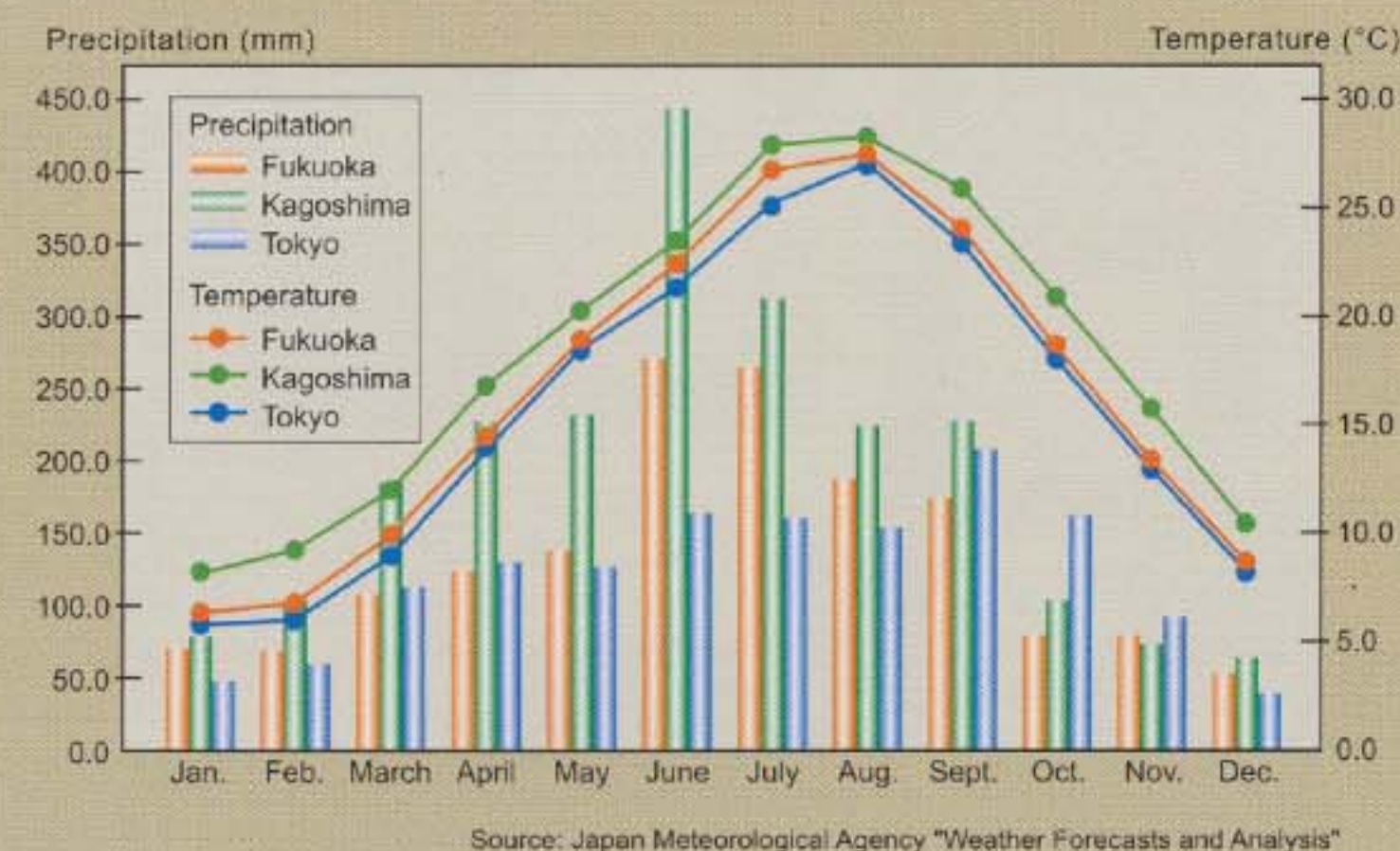
Kyushu's southerly position places it within easy reach of Korea and China and the whole East Asia region in general. Proximity, historical ties and a mild winter climate combine to create an excellent business environment.



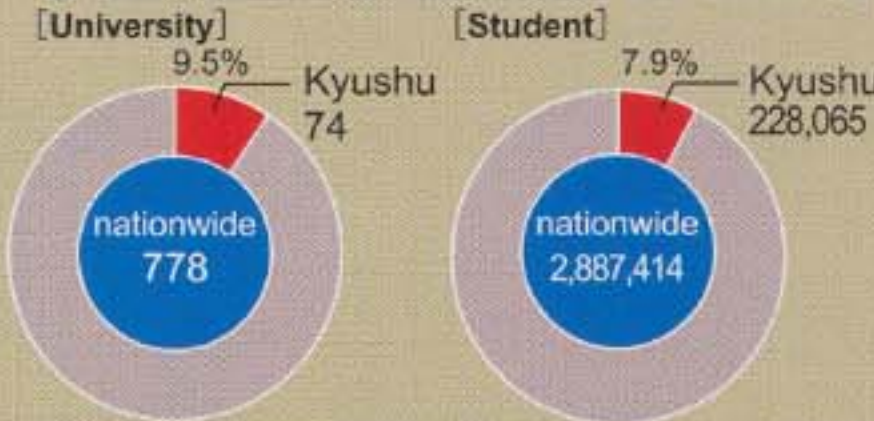
Kyushu Economy International
<http://www.kyushu-kei.org/>

Basic data for Kyushu

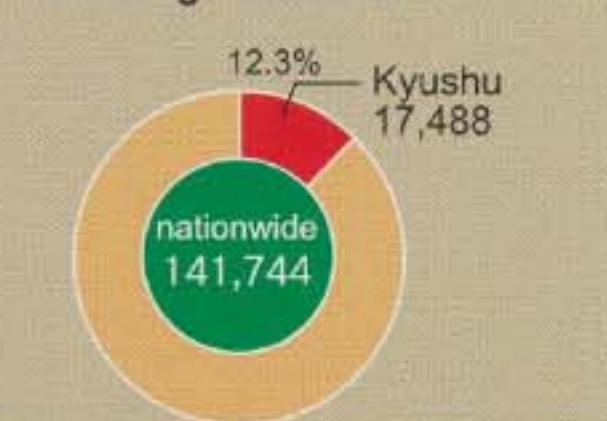
● Monthly averages of precipitation and temperature of each city (1971 – 2000)



● Total number of universities and students



● Foreign students



Source: School Education Summary Table, 2010, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology



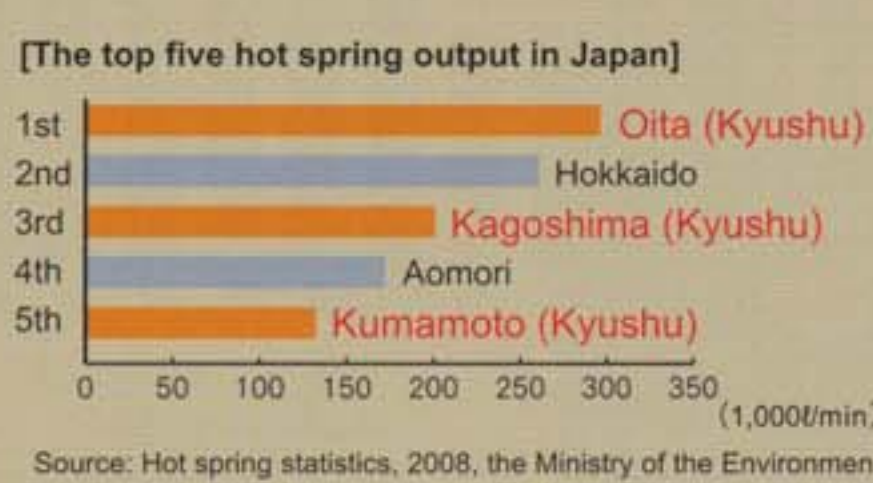
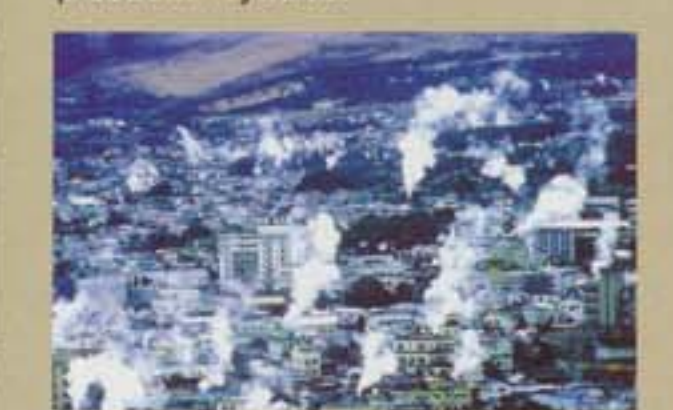
● Number of foreign students by national origin(region) ranked in the top five in Kyushu

Rank	Country/Region	Student No.	Percentage distributio
1	China	11,565	66.1%
2	Korea	2,243	12.8%
3	Vietnam	534	3.1%
4	Indonesia	406	2.3%
5	Taiwan	354	2.0%

Source: Prepared by METI KYUSHU, based on documents provided by the Japan Student Services Organization.

● Hot springs

Most of the Japanese islands are mountainous and many of them volcanic which gives rise to the numerous hot springs found throughout the country. Kyushu, the most southerly of the four main islands of Japan, has a large number of hot springs sources yielding abundant hot spring water. You can enjoy open-air bathing in various places in Kyushu.



● Golf courses

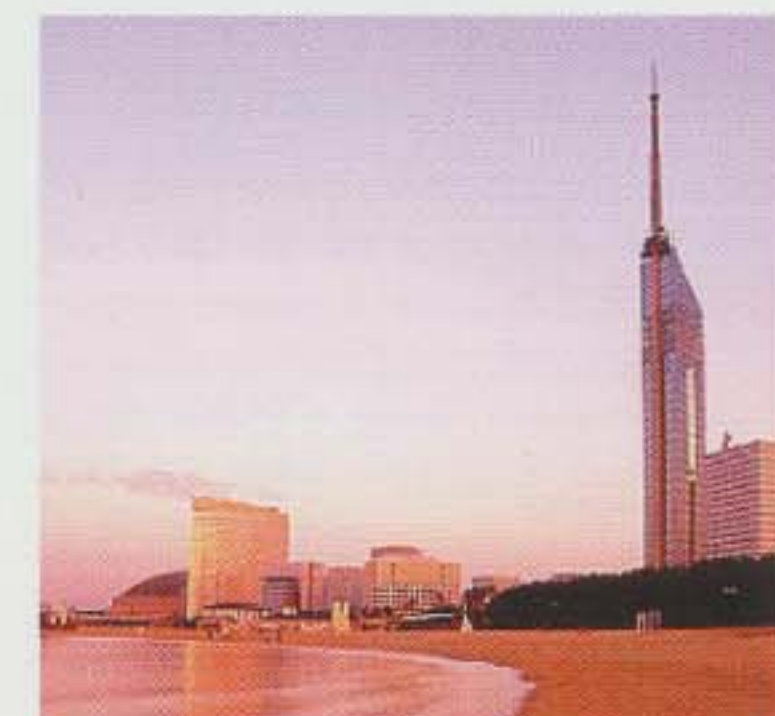
Because its mild climate, people can enjoy playing golf even in winter in Kyushu. There are more than 190 attractive golf courses along the coast or in the mountains that have been developed to take advantage of natural features and the contours of the land.



[Number of golf courses affiliated to the Golf Union Kyushu]



Nature & Scenery



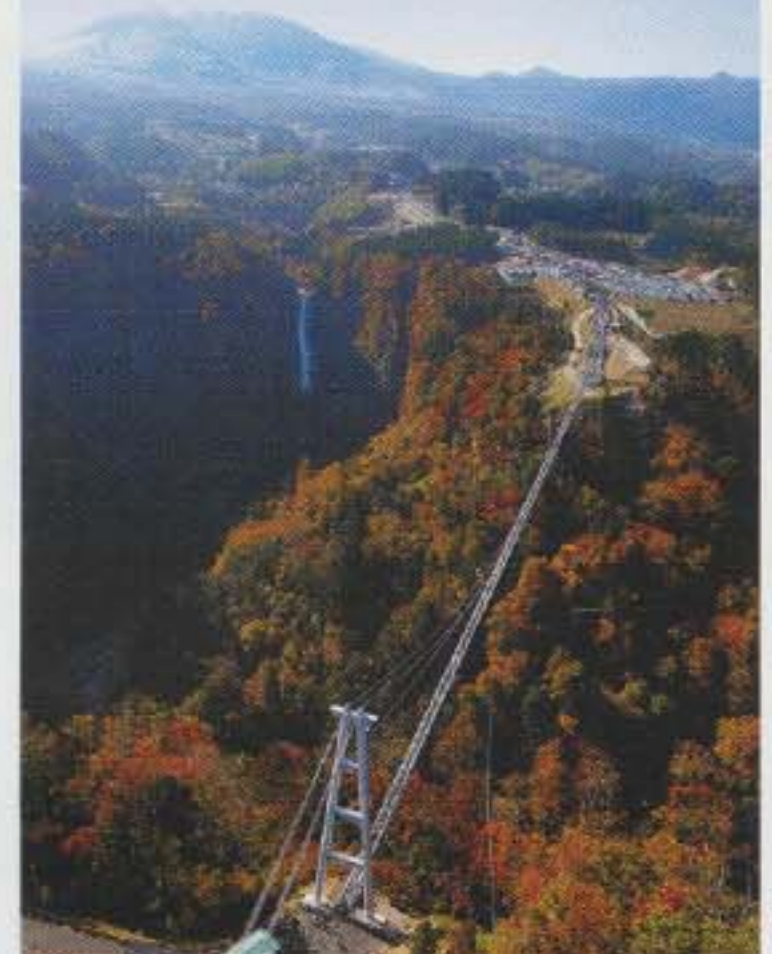
↑ **01 Fukuoka Tower (Fukuoka City)**
The Fukuoka Tower, a symbol of Fukuoka City, boasts a height of 234m, the highest seashore tower in Japan. Right next to it, stands the Fukuoka Yahoo Japan Dome where more than 70 official games are played in the professional baseball season.



↑ **03 Glover Garden (Nagasaki City)**
Glover Garden, a park area with numerous Western-style buildings including the famous Glover House, is situated on the southern slope of a mountain overlooking the bay. Flowers in all their glory are ready to welcome visitors throughout the year.



↑ **06 Usuki Stone Buddhas (Usuki City, Oita Prefecture)**
A cluster of stone Buddhas carved into the mountainside has been designated as a national treasure and a national historic monument. More than 60 Buddha figures have been carved into the face of a cliff and are set slightly apart in four main clusters known as: Hoki, Douglasako, Sannosan and Furuzono. Among them, the figure of Dainichi Nyorai Buddha is distinguished by its compassionate features.



↑ **07 Takachiho Gorge (Takachiho-cho, Miyazaki Prefecture)**
Takachiho Gorge consisting of 100m cliffs created by the erosion of Aso lava is famous for its rocky formations and foliage. The Manal waterfall cascading into the gorge is exceptionally beautiful and the waterfall has been selected as one of the One Hundred Waterfalls of Japan.

← **02 Mojiko Retro District (Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture)**
Old Western-style buildings reminiscent of the charm and prosperity of early 20th century Mojiko are present in the retrospective district. It is a wonderful place to take a leisurely stroll. Streets lined with old-style brick buildings and gentle sea breezes skimming along the main waterfront bring back the warm romance of a bygone age.

↓ **04 Mt. Aso and the crater of Mt. Naka (Aso City, Kumamoto Prefecture)**
Mt. Aso is home to the world's largest caldera, the caldera containing Mt. Naka continuously emits clouds of smoke. The somma enclosing the caldera offers a panoramic spectacle of nature.



← **05 Kokonoe "Yume" Otsuribashi (Kokonoe-machi, Oita Prefecture)**
The 390m-long bridge, called "Kokonoe Yume Otsuribashi," is Japan's longest suspension bridge exclusively for pedestrians. The bridge provides an excellent spot for viewing the Kyusuikei (a deep ravine renowned for the natural brilliance of its tinted autumn leaves) and the Shindo Falls which create a strange vibrating sound.

← **08 Gyokusendo Cave (Nanjo City, Okinawa Prefecture)**
A 5 km limestone cave famous for its beauty, the best in its kind in the East. The grandeur of the cave interior is overwhelming. Only a part of the cave is currently open to the public.

History & Culture

→ **09 Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine (Dazaifu City, Fukuoka Prefecture)**
Dazaifu was known as the "distant capital" at a time when it flourished as a center for diplomatic relations with China. Dazaifu Shrine sees more than 2,000,000 New Year celebrants every year.



→ **10 Kyushu National Museum (Dazaifu City, Fukuoka Prefecture)**
This museum is the fourth and the newest national museum in Japan focusing on the rich history of cultural exchange with the rest of Asia. A striking wood and glass building has made it a highly favored spot.



→ **11 Yoshinogari Ruins (Yoshinogari, Kanzaki City, Saga Prefecture)**
This is Japan's largest moat-encircled village (settlement) from the Yayoi Period. Dwellings have been reconstructed, seasonally blooming flowers and a variety of unique events are ready to welcome visitors all through the year.



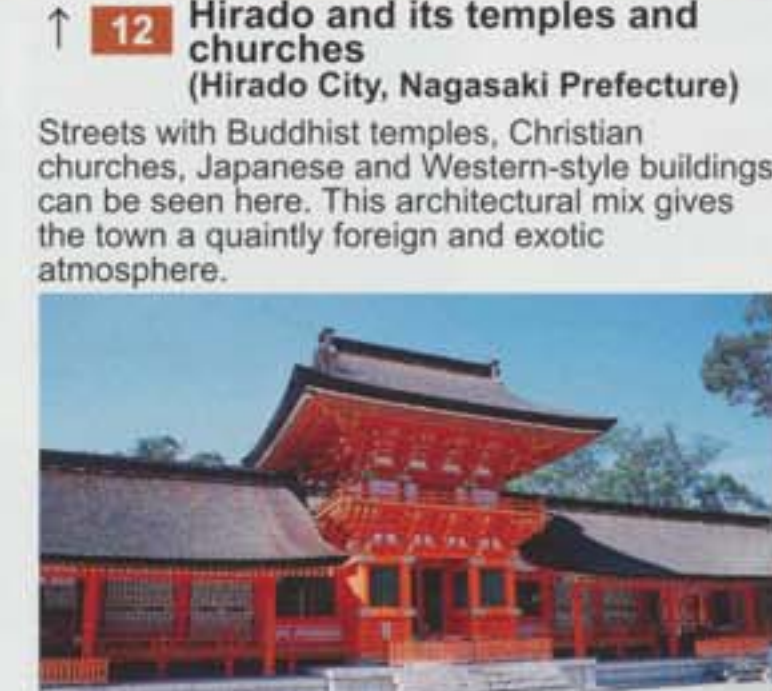
↑ **12 Hirado and its temples and churches (Hirado City, Nagasaki Prefecture)**
Streets with Buddhist temples, Christian churches, Japanese and Western-style buildings can be seen here. This architectural mix gives the town a quaintly foreign and exotic atmosphere.



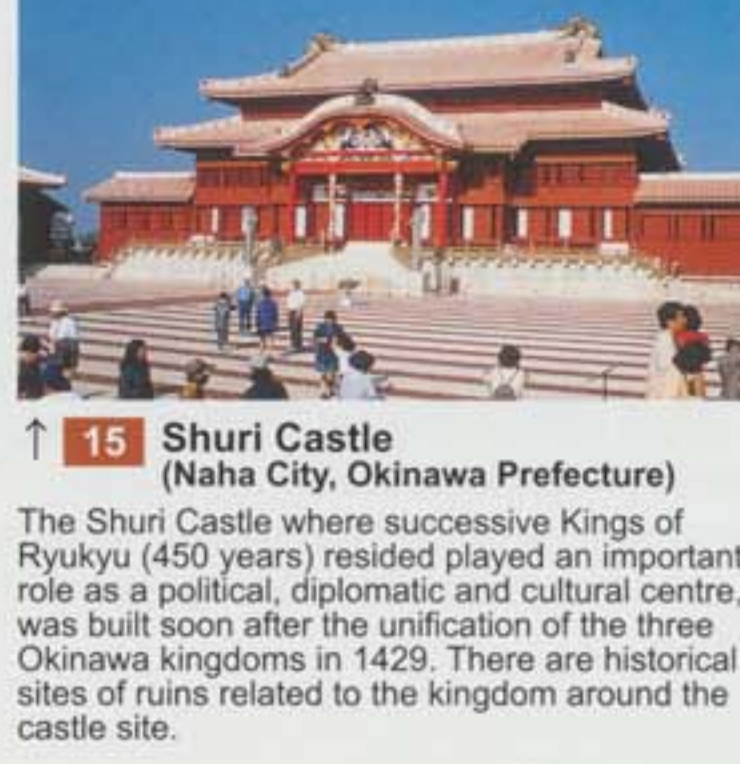
↑ **13 Kumamoto Castle (Kumamoto City)**
Kumamoto Castle is one of the three most beautiful castles in all of Japan. The walls are curved in the "musha gaeshi" style and are practically impossible for invaders to scale.



↑ **14 Usa Hachiman Shrine (Usa City, Oita Prefecture)**
The Usa Hachiman Shrine is regarded as the central shrine for some 40,000 Hachiman shrines scattered throughout Japan. The main shrine building, a National Treasure, is distinguished by its "double roof," a key feature of Hachiman-style shrine architecture.



↑ **15 Shuri Castle (Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture)**
The Shuri Castle where successive Kings of Ryukyu (450 years) resided played an important role as a political, diplomatic and cultural centre, was built soon after the unification of the three Okinawa kingdoms in 1429. There are historical sites of ruins related to the kingdom around the castle site.



Events & Festivals



16 Hakata Dontaku Festival (Fukuoka City)
Held on May 3-4 this festival boasts the biggest crowds of some 2,000,000 visitors. Throngs of people participate in the parades in unique costumes, sing or dance on special stages set up for the occasion. The whole city becomes a sea of festive color.

17 Nagasaki Lantern Festival (Nagasaki City)
Held around the middle of February for about 2 weeks to celebrate New Year's Day by the Old Calendar (the Vernal Equinox), the main venue is the city's Shinchi Park in Chinatown and the streets are adorned with some 15,000 Chinese lanterns.



19 Yamaga Lantern Festival (Yamaga City, Kumamoto Prefecture)

Kumamoto Prefecture's nationally famous summer festival is held in mid August. Decorated lanterns announce the opening of the festival on that day. Experience the fantastic atmosphere of a thousand women dancing with paper lanterns on their heads.

Takachiho Night Kagura (Takachiho-cho, Miyazaki Prefecture) 20

Held from late November through to early February every year, kagura performances (traditional sacred music and dancing dedicated to the gods) are held overnight to pray for bumper crops in the coming year.



18 Saga International Balloon Fiesta (Saga City)

This is an annual hot air balloon international festival held in Saga City in early November. Over 100 hot air balloons with beautiful colors and patterns drift up in the late autumn sky above the Saga plain.



21 Naha Haarii (Naha City, Okinawa Prefecture)

The Haarii (a dragon-boat race) is held for 3 days from May 3 - 5 every year. The race is held at Naha Port as a ritual to ensure safe fishing and a good catch.



Theme Parks



22 Space World (Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture)

A theme park specializing in space, it offers attractions featuring a simulated adventurous space trip. There are many attractive facilities including a moonstone showcase and space museum.



23 Huis Ten Bosch (Sasebo City, Nagasaki Prefecture)

Huis Ten Bosch is a theme park with a residential resort hotel. Whenever you visit, flowers will be blooming in the European-style theme park where 17th century European streetscape and culture have been recreated.



24 Phoenix Sea Gaia Resort (Miyazaki City)

A theme park specializing in space, it offers attractions featuring a simulated adventurous space trip. There are many attractive facilities including a moonstone showcase and space museum.



25 Harmonyland (Hiji-machi, Oita Prefecture)

Its fantastic parade accompanied by Hello Kitty and the whole range of other Sanrio characters is much loved by children.



26 Flower Park Kagoshima (Ibusuki City, Kagoshima Prefecture)

Japan's largest flower theme park, with some 400,000 flowers and plants of 2,400 different species, has an amazing display of flowers constantly in bloom throughout the four seasons.

Hot Springs



27 Harazuru Hot Spring (Asakura City, Fukuoka Prefecture)

The Harazuru Hot Spring is located along side the Chikugo River and is famous as a hot spring for beauties. Seasonal events are held every year including cormorant fishing and fireworks.



28 Ureshino Hot Spring (Ureshino City, Saga Prefecture)

Ureshino has long been known as a hot-spring resort in Saga. Its hot spring water is known as one of the Japan's bidadan-no-yu (good for producing a smooth complexion). The streets are lined with traditional Japanese-style hotels with a long tradition in exquisite cuisine.



29 Obama Hot Spring (Obama City, Nagasaki Prefecture)

All throughout the city you can see the steam from some 30 hot springs rising up over the town. Its location near the sea shore overlooking Tachibana Bay allows you to see the sun setting while taking a bath.



30 Hitoyoshi Hot Spring (Hitoyoshi City, Kumamoto Prefecture)

Hitoyoshi, a castle town, boasts the ruins of the Hitoyoshi Castle, once the residence of the Sagara clan who governed the area. A number of hotels, inns and public baths are in the area, you can enjoy different types of baths.



31 Kurokawa Hot Spring (Minami Oguni-machi, Kumamoto Prefecture)

It is the fashion in Kurokawa Hot Spring to take a number of therapeutic baths, visitors can stroll around the town and make bathhub tours. Most of the hotels and inns have outdoor baths made with large rocks where you can enjoy a steady stream of relaxing hot-spring water cascading onto your back.



32 Yufuin Hot Spring (Yufu City, Oita Prefecture)

Yufuin Hot Spring having a number of older inns, modern Japanese-style hotels (with various kinds of services and entertainments) and boarding houses side-by-side enjoys high popularity in Kyushu.



33 Beppu Hatto (Beppu City, Oita Prefecture)

Beppu, a hot spring resort, boasts the world's greatest number of hot springs sources yielding abundant hot spring water greatest in Japan. There are eight hot springs in the city called Beppu Hatto each with its own distinctive characteristics.



35 Ibusuki Hot Spring (Ibusuki City, Kagoshima Prefecture)

Ibusuki Hot Spring is especially famous for its steaming sand baths on the seashore which are heated by thermal springs.

Regional Delicacies



36 Ramen Noodles (Kurume City, Fukuoka Prefecture)

Tonkotsu ramen, thin Chinese noodles in milky soup is a famous traditional product of Kurume. Its rich and somewhat strongly-flavored taste comes from its broth made from pork bones.



37 Takezaki Crabs (Tara-cho, Saga Prefecture)

Takezaki crabs, a kind of blue crab, are unloaded at the Takezaki Port in fall. Blue crabs taste great after boiling in salt water, steaming or adding them to miso soup.



38 Spiny Lobster (Nichinan Coast, Miyazaki Prefecture)

The season of spiny lobsters caught off the Nichinan Coastline begins in fall. Raw meat of freshly caught spiny lobsters is exquisite.

Specialty Products



39 Hakata Amai Strawberries (Fukuoka Prefecture)

Hakata boasts the second largest production of a brand-new variety, Hakata Amai strawberries. Each strawberry is large in size. When you take a bite, a delicious sweet and sour taste will spread in your mouth.



40 Mogi Loquats (Nagasaki Prefecture)

More than 40% of the loquat crop is produced in Nagasaki Prefecture. The Mogi loquat with a less acidic taste is a common variety and very delicious.



41 Ripe Mangoes (Miyazaki Prefecture)

Only fully ripened mangoes are harvested in Miyazaki. The mango is truly the king of fruit with its tantalizing sweetness due to its high sugar content of 18 Brix or more.

Industrial Products

42 Hakata Dolls (Fukuoka City)

Hakata dolls are earthenware dolls made using clay formed into human figures, fired unglazed and then colored with clay paints. They feature exquisite facial expressions, many of them depicting beautiful women and children.



43 Hakata Traditional Cloth (Fukuoka City)

Hakata weaving has a long and respected tradition of more than 760 years and features a type of thick and firm cloth. In the past the Hakata weavers prided themselves on producing fine obis (a broad sash worn with a kimono) but these days many other kinds of products are also produced.



44 Arita / Imari Ware (Arita City / Imari City, Saga Prefecture)

Arita/Imari ware was perfected over the course of 400 years. Originally an underglaze blue and white porcelain, Arita ware was later changed to a colorfully enameled porcelain type which proved to be very popular.



45 Higo Inlay (Kumamoto City)

Inlaying is a technique of inserting pieces of metal into a metal base to form various decorative patterns. The technique is known as Higo Inlay from Kumamoto, and in this technique, gold or silver is inserted into the iron base. It is characterized by a dignified appearance and the beauty of the base iron.



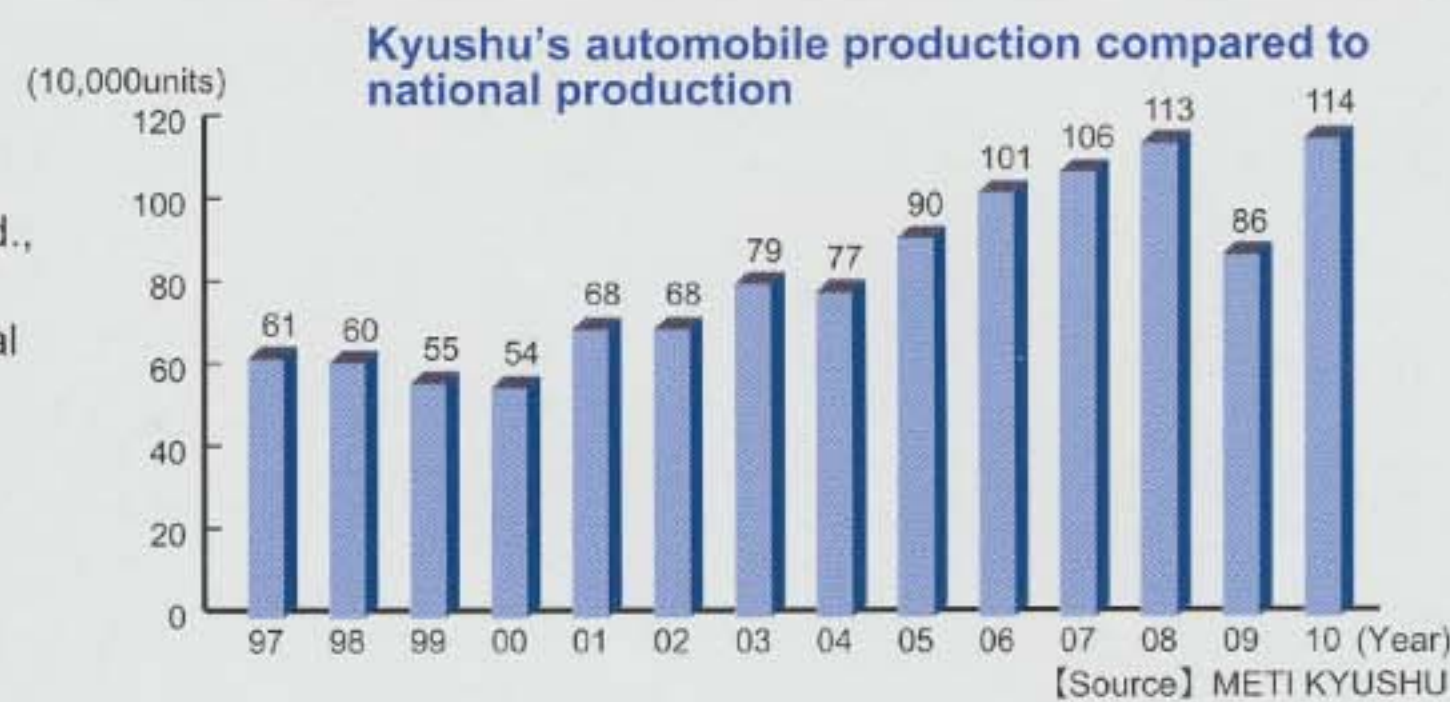
46 Satsuma Kiriko (Cut-Glass) (Kagoshima City)

Satsuma Kiriko was produced as one of the industrial products under the patronage of the Satsuma clan. It is characterized by its manufacturing methods such as semitransparency and sharp cutting. At the end of the Edo Period Satsuma Kiriko glassware was said to be very highly prized.

Industry making the best use of Kyushu's potential

The Automobile Industry

In Kyushu, Nissan Motor Co., Ltd., Toyota Motor Kyushu, Inc., Daihatsu Motor Kyushu Co., Ltd., Nissan Shatai Co., Ltd. and Honda Motor Co., Ltd., which produces two-wheel vehicles, operate their business. Their annual automobile production capacity exceeds 1.5 million units, and actual annual production is always over 10% of the total production in Japan. The region attracts not only these automobile manufacturers but also their related companies. The region also promotes the development of human resources with expertise from universities and other institutes to become more competitive in automobile-related industries.

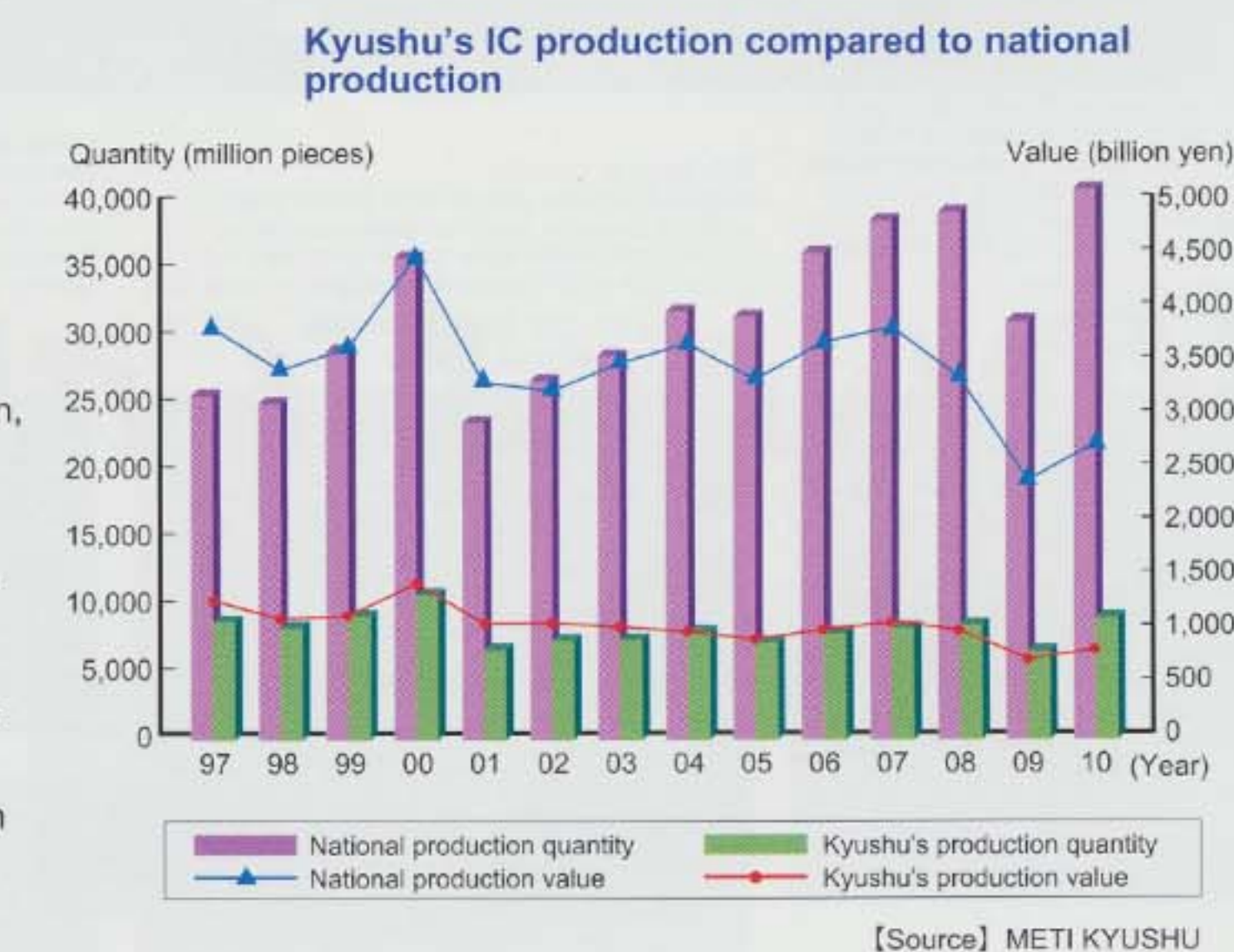


The Semiconductor Industry

Kyushu, one of Japan's largest semiconductor production bases, is known as "Silicon Island." Seen by shipments in the semiconductor integrated circuit (IC) manufacturing industry valued at 1.5 trillion yen, and a 32.5% share of the national industry total (2008 Census of Manufacturers), Kyushu is home to many major semiconductor manufacturers, as well as a truly broad range of related industries such as semiconductor manufacturing equipment, parts, materials, and services.

Among such companies are, for example, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, whose strengths are in power semiconductors for power control of smart grids; Sony Semiconductor Kyushu Corporation, whose advantage is in complementary metal oxide semiconductor (CMOS) image sensors in cameras of smart phones and other devices; and Renesas Semiconductor Kyushu Yamaguchi Co., Ltd., which manufactures ICs used for car engine control and other purposes.

The semiconductor industry is important in serving as the cornerstone of future advanced fields. To further develop its semiconductor industry, Kyushu is promoting efforts to make the industry even more competitive, in cooperation with administrative agencies as well as various companies, organizations, universities and public research institutes both in and outside the region.



The Biotechnology

Kyushu, blessed with a warm climate and natural environment, has long flourished in the fields of agriculture and fishing, and agricultural production makes up about 20% of Japan's total agricultural production. Manufacturing of fermented products made from rice, potatoes and soybeans, such as Sake, Shochu (distilled liquor) and soy sauce, has been rooted in Kyushu since the earliest times.

"Kyushu Biotechnology Cluster Project" is an industrial development approach which makes the best use of Kyushu's geographical advantage. It promotes the creation of new enterprises through research and development, financial assistance, human resource development and employment, functionality assessment and market expansion with the goal of functional and health food development and formation of mass production center.



Fukuoka Bio Incubation Center (Kurume City, Fukuoka)

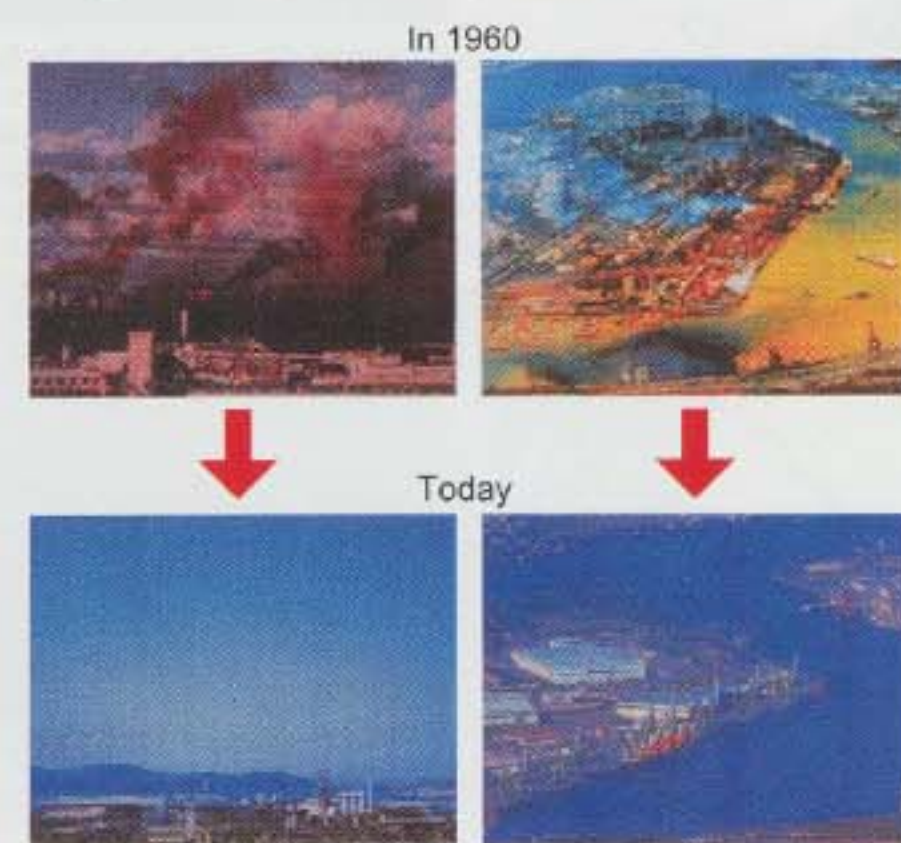
Fukuoka Bio Incubation Center has been established to serve as the core site to support bio venture businesses in transition from trial manufacturing to the manufacturing stage. (Established in April 2007) The center offers rental laboratories for bio venture businesses to put their research achievements into practical use through trial manufacturing and actual production.

The Environmental and Energy

In the 1960s, while the heavy industrial and chemical industries were developing, Kyushu suffered serious industrial pollution, especially in Kitakyushu City and Minamata City. Since then, however, as a result of joint efforts by the public and private sectors, the region has now not only successfully recovered its clean environment, it is home to a growing number of companies involved in the industrial pollution control technologies and energy saving and recycling technologies that were fostered in the process of regional recovery.

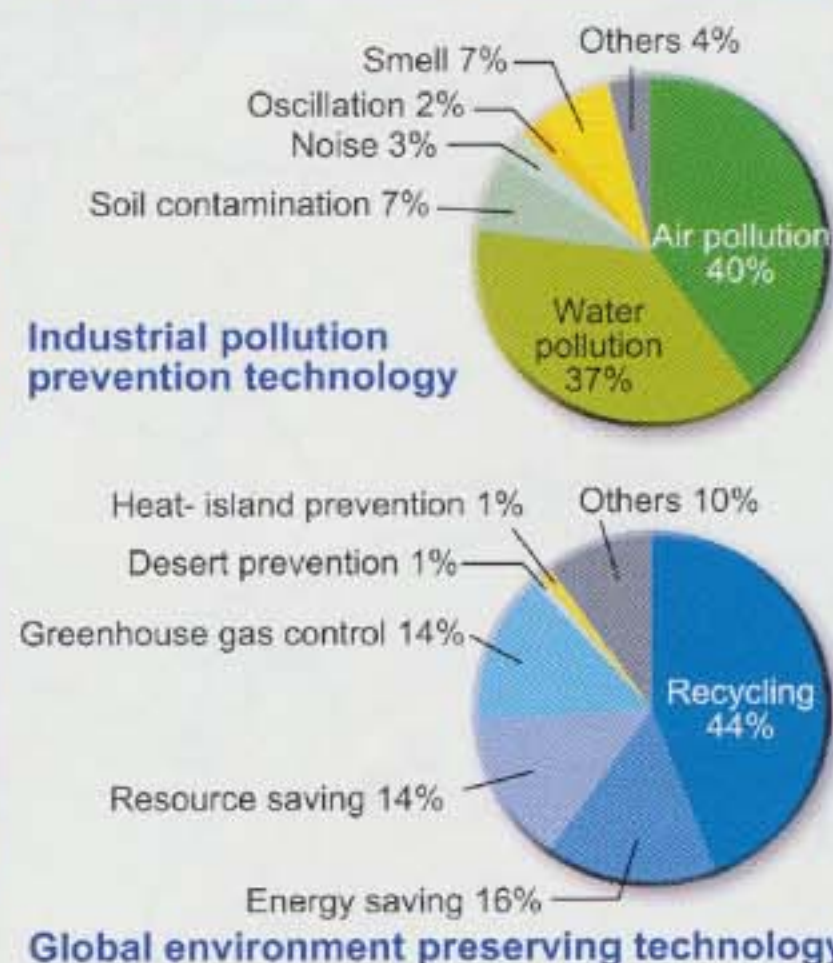
As a result, the region currently has three eco-towns that operate recycling facilities (Kitakyushu, Omuta and Minamata Cities). As well, Kyushu Recycle and Environmental Industry Plaza (K-RIP), supported by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, has launched various projects toward creating a recycling-oriented society, including diverse support for environment-related companies, by using its network with industry, academia and government.

Mastery of environmental pollution by the city of Kitakyushu



[Source] METI KYUSHU 'The report on "seeds" and utilization for Industrial Pollution Prevention Technique

Kyushu's technological accumulation



Kyushu in Asia

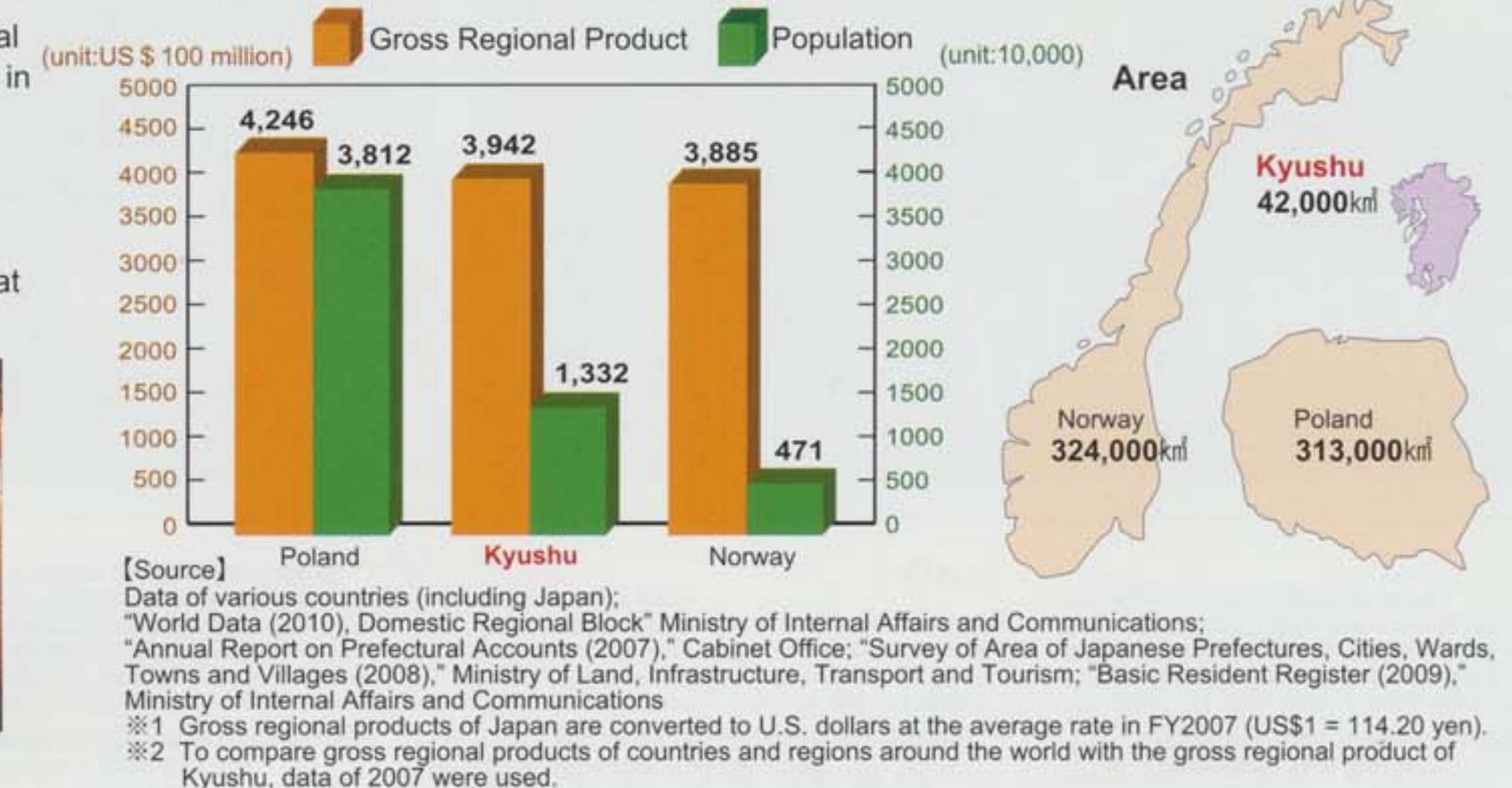
The Scale of Kyushu's Economy

Kyushu comprises 11.2% of the total area of Japan, and its population is 10.4% of Japan's total population. The gross regional product of Kyushu in FY2007 was 394.2 billion U.S. dollars, which accounted for 8.7% of Japan's gross domestic product (GDP). Comparing the gross regional product of Kyushu with the GDP of countries throughout the world, Kyushu's was more than that of Norway, which ranked 23rd in the world.



The bustle of the Tenjin underground arcade (Fukuoka city)

International Comparison of Kyushu's Population, Gross Regional Product and Area (Comparison with Poland and Norway)



Kyushu's Transportation Infrastructure

~Highway, Rail and Port~

Kyushu has a total network of around 1,000km of express highways, allowing all the major cities to be accessed on a day-return basis. After the entire line of the Kyushu Shinkansen opened on March 12, 2011, travel time between Hakata and Kagoshima-chuo was cut to a minimum of 1 hour 19 minutes.



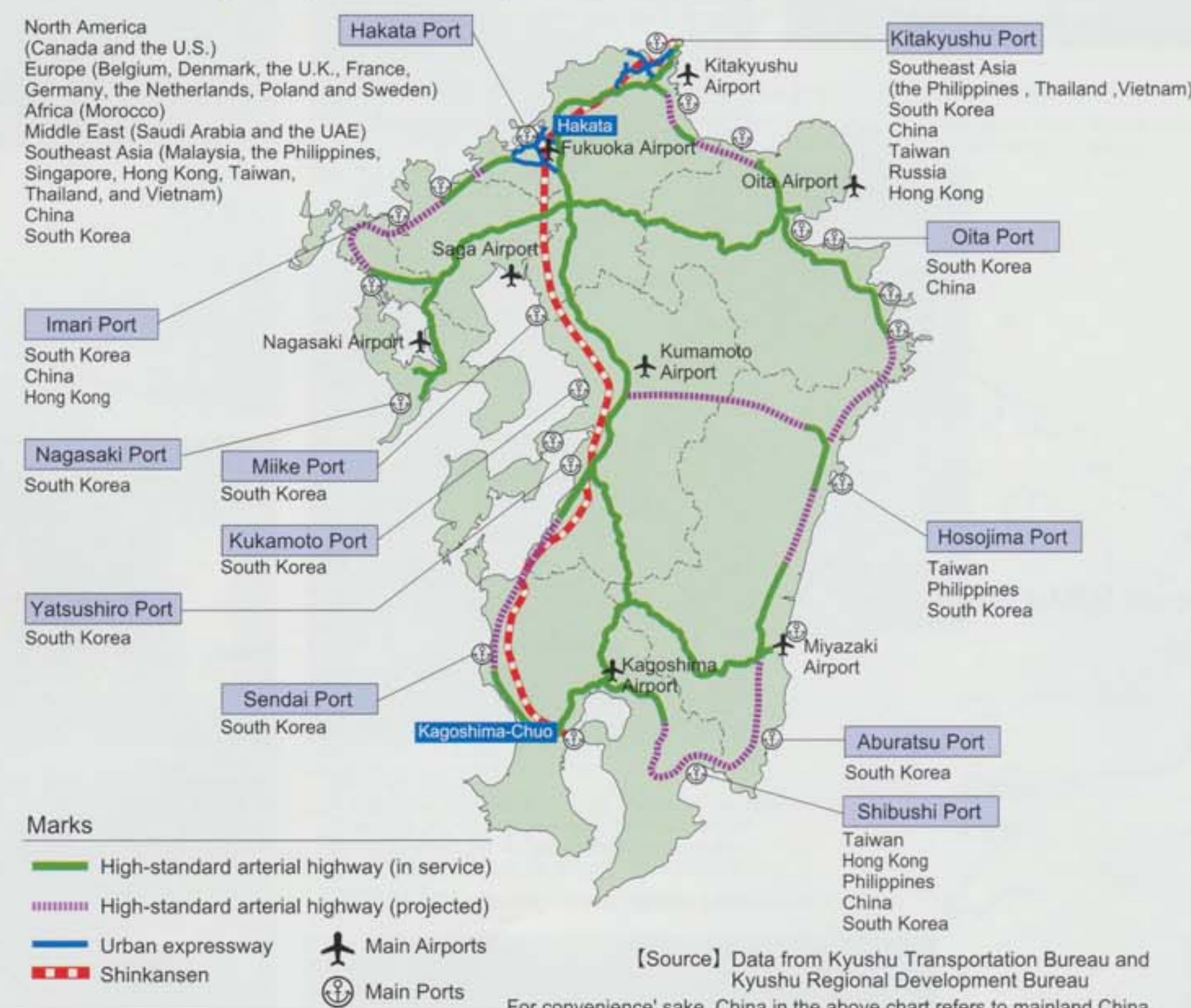
Kyushu Shinkansen Tsubame traveling at 260km per hour



Tosu Junction

Kyushu boasts two Specially Designated Major Ports, Kitakyushu Port and Hakata Port, in addition to 25 Major Ports, serving many international scheduled container lines. The region is also located within 1,000 km of the ports of Pusan and Shanghai, both of which rank high on the list of world ports that handle a large number of containers. Of particular note is the "Shanghai Super Express," a high speed roll-on/roll-off (RORO) vessel that links Shanghai and Hakata. Kyushu offers a wide variety of domestic transportation modes to choose from, such as truck, railroad, domestic vessel, and airplane, enabling international intermodal transportation services.

Highway / Shinkansen / International Scheduled Container Shipping Routes from Kyushu (as of February 2011)



Shanghai Super Express (SSE)



● RORO ship: 7,389 tons gross
● Speed: 20 knots
● Carrying capacity: 240TEU



~Airline~

Fukuoka Airport has the largest number of international airlines in Kyushu, and flights from the city link the region with 18 foreign cities mainly in Asia, as well as 24 domestic cities. In particular, flights between Fukuoka and other major cities such as Seoul, Shanghai and Taipei leave more than once per day, making Kyushu ideally suited for business activities requiring a close relationship with Asia. For example, Busan can be reached in 55 minutes by air from Fukuoka and a minimum of two hours and 55 minutes by ship (using "Beetle" rapid passenger ships), enabling business travelers to go and return in the same day.

In addition, every prefecture in Kyushu has its own airport, providing regular flights between not only other cities in Japan, but also China and South Korea.

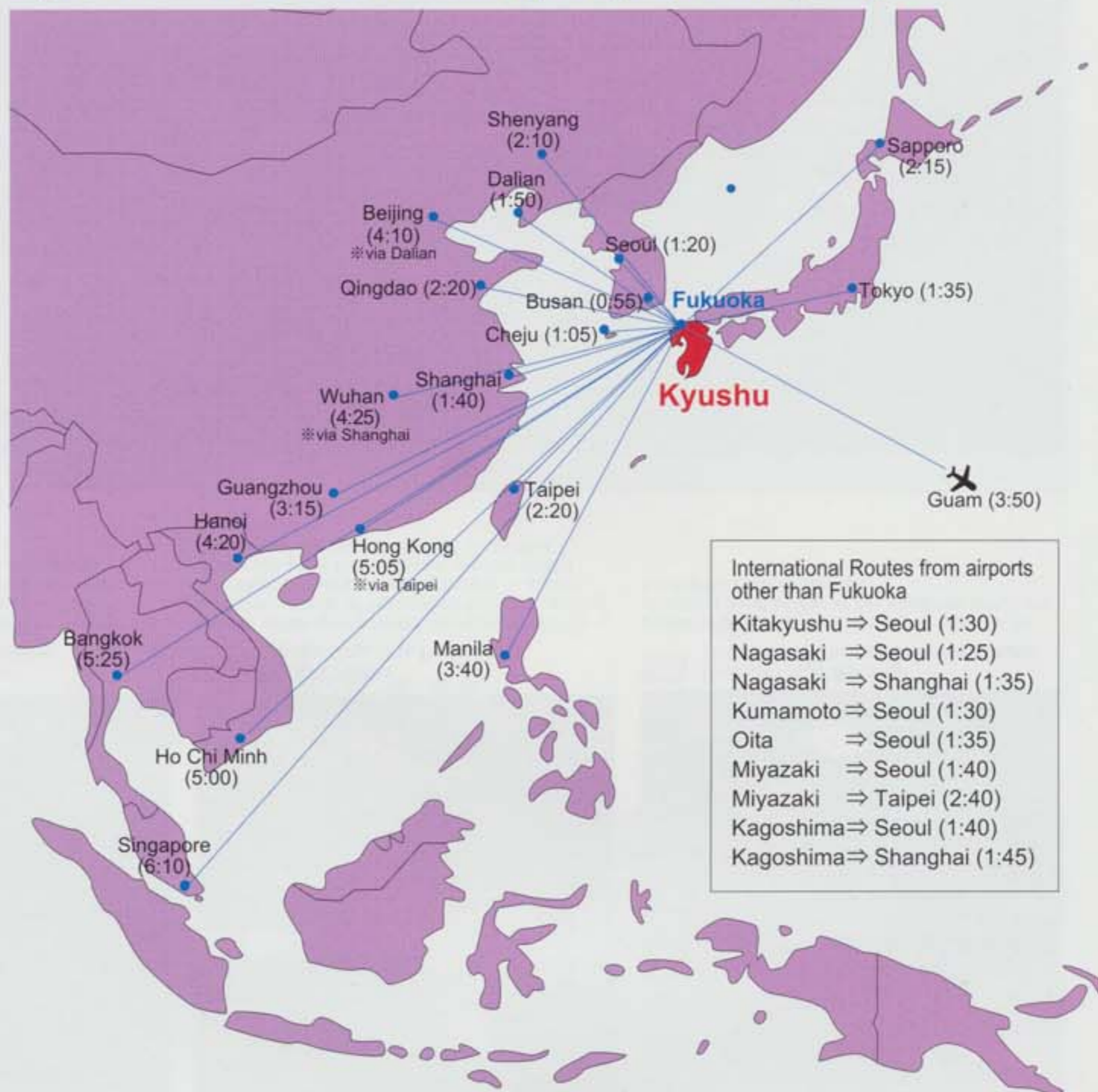


Fukuoka International Airport is next door to the city center



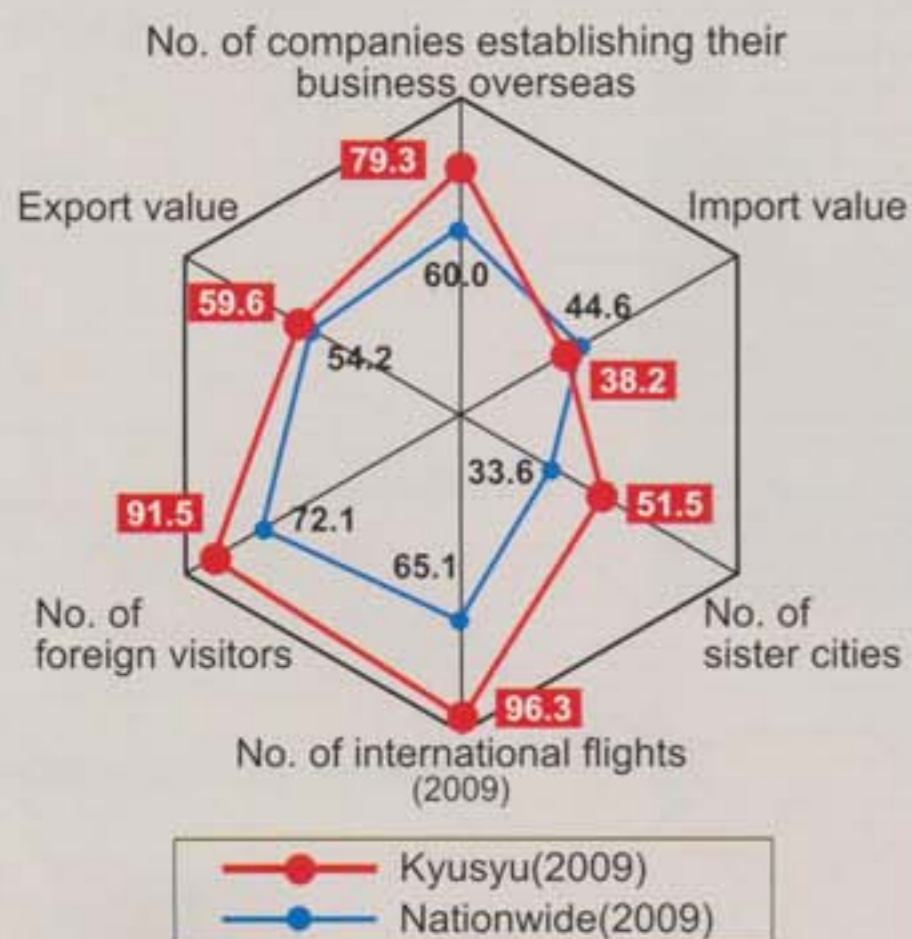
"BEETLE"

Map of International Airline Routes from Kyushu (as of February 2011)



Note: Times shown on brackets are time required from Fukuoka Airport

Closeness of Kyushu to Asia



Remarks: Import amounts, the number of visitors to Japan from abroad and export amounts are annual figures for 2009. The number of companies that expanded their business abroad is the aggregate number as of the end of 2009. The number of local governments that have established a sister city relationship with other governments, and the number of international airline routes are as of 2009.

【Source】 Prepared by METI KYUSHU based on the following:
 "Trade Statistics of Japan," Ministry of Finance;
 Data provided by Moji Customs;
 "Overseas Extension of Local Companies in Kyushu and Yamaguchi 2010," Kyushu Economic Research Center;
 "Comprehensive List of Companies Operating Businesses in Overseas Markets, 2010 (by Company)" published by Toyo Keizai, Inc.;
 "Immigration Control," Ministry of Justice;
 "JR Timetable (March 2009 Issue)," Kotsushimbunsha;
 Prepared by METI KYUSHU, based on the website of the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations.

Major automobile and semiconductor related enterprises and ecotown distribution map in Kyushu

