

An aerial photograph of Osaka, Japan, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous skyscrapers and modern buildings. A wide river flows through the city, crossed by several bridges. In the foreground, a large fountain is visible on a small island in the river. The sky is overcast with light clouds. A white diagonal line cuts across the image from the top right to the bottom left, separating the text area from the city view.

Advancing Towards the Realization of Global Financial City Osaka

**Osaka Prefecture
Department of policy and Planning
Growth Strategy Bureau**

February 20, 2025

**Why is Osaka
aiming to become
a Global Financial City?**

Osaka – Origin of Futures Trading

- ◆ During the Edo period, Nakanoshima in Osaka was known as 'Wall Street,' where financial institutions like the **Dojima Rice Market**, the **Gold Exchange**, and **wealthy merchants** were concentrated.
- ◆ In 1730, futures trading in rice began in Osaka's Dojima, marking the world's first organized futures market.



Historical Map of the Nakanoshima Area
Source: Naniwameisho-hitoriannai
(Osaka Municipal Central Library)



Source: Naniwameishonochi Dojimakomeakinai
(National Diet Library)

The world's first futures trading market (Dojima Rice Exchange)
No physical goods (rice bales) in the image!



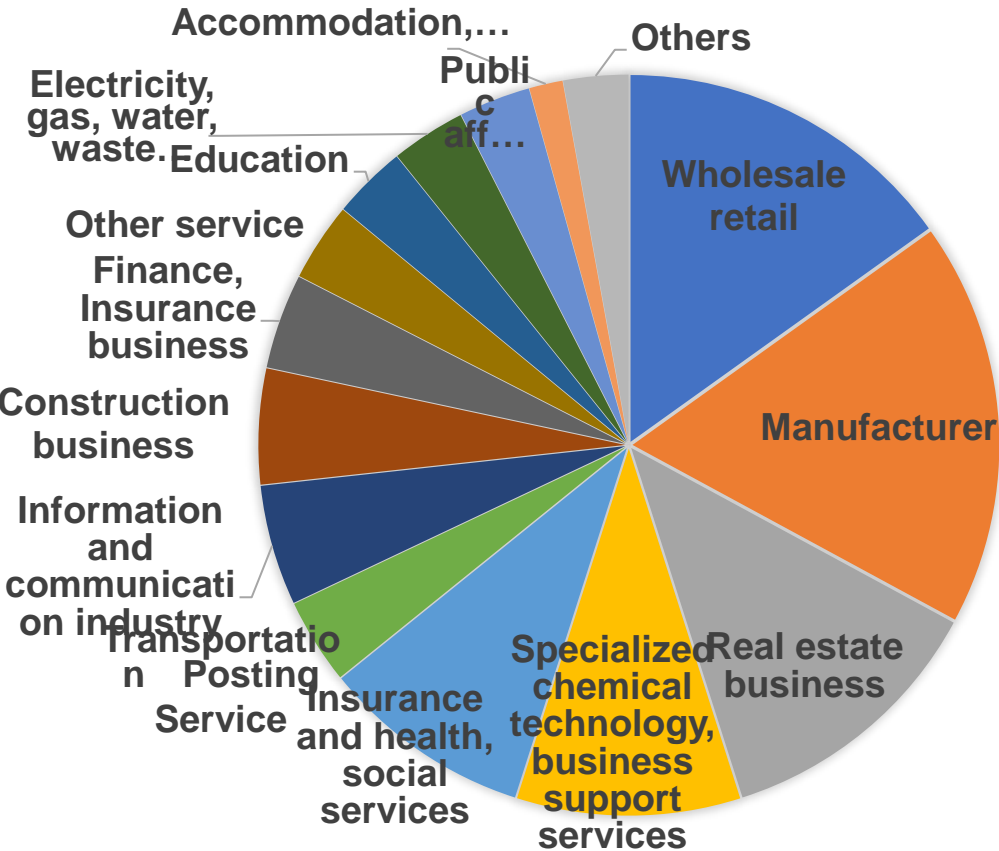
Source: Japan Exchange Group HP

Monument "Hitotsubu no Hikari
(A Grain of Light)"
(by Tadao Ando, Architect)

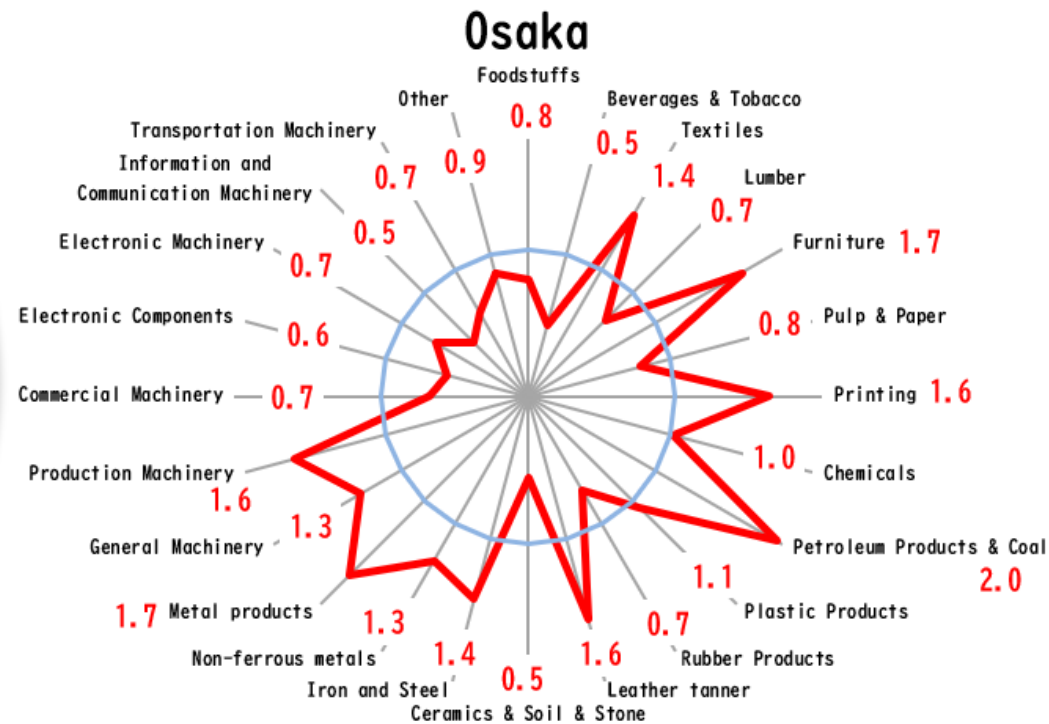
Osaka has been home to numerous financial institutions since the Edo period and has continuously embraced new challenges. Many financial institutions originated in Osaka, making it a city with deep-rooted ties to finance.

Osaka Industry

Osaka prefecture industry nominal GDP (2021)



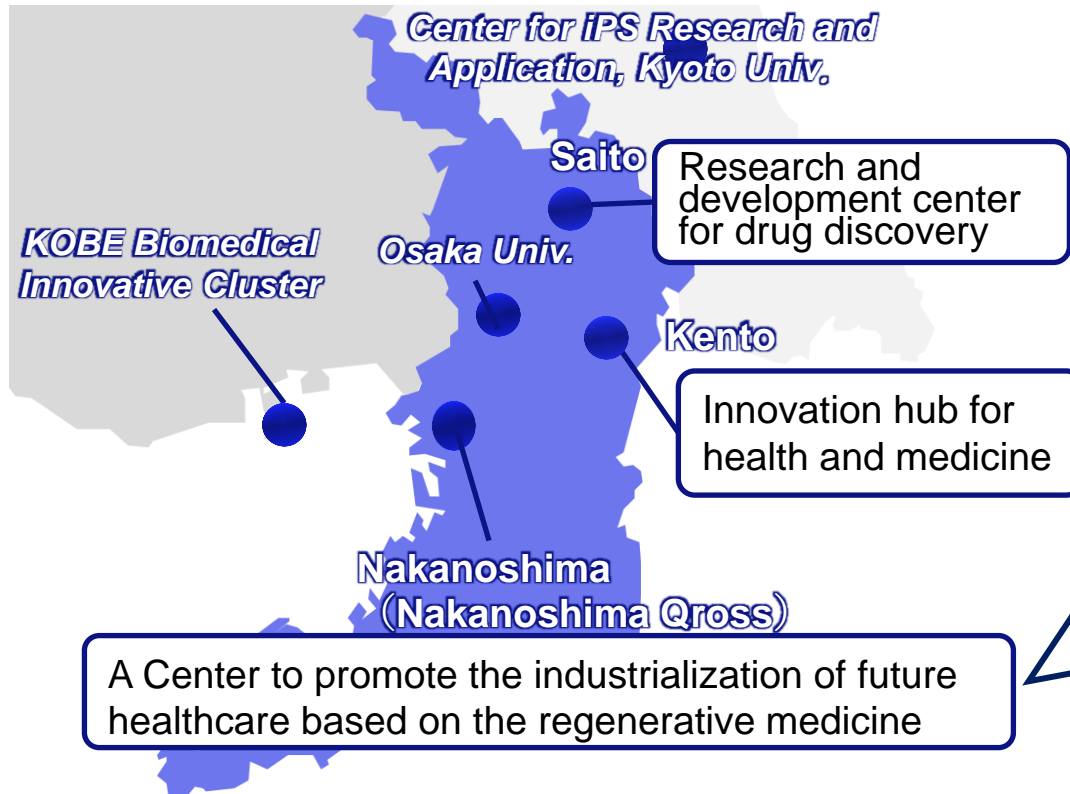
Osaka prefecture special coefficient for manufactured goods shipments, etc. (2020)



Source: Osaka Prefecture "Naniwa Economic Data 2024"

Main Bases and Companies in Life Science

- ◆ Unparalleled hub where medical institutions, companies, startups, and support organizations gather under one roof
- ◆ Nakanoshima Qross had its grand opening on June 29, 2024

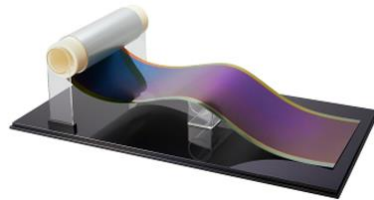


Source: Nakanoshima Qross HP

Technologies that Contribute to Carbon Neutrality

Perovskite Solar Cell (PSC)

- ◆ PSC implementation is progressing both inside and outside the Expo site, including the bus terminal roofs within the Expo grounds and the Umekita Station square.



Source : News release from SEKISUI CHEMICAL, Co. LTD



Within the venue, Bus shelter at the West Gate Transportation Terminal

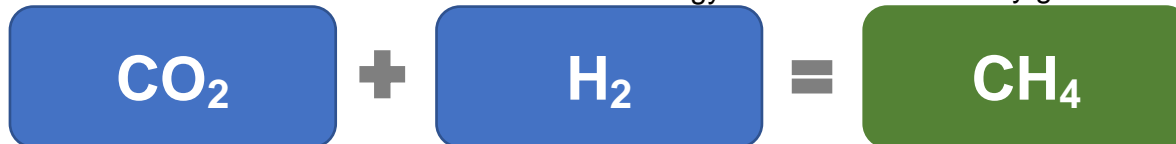
Methanation

- ◆ Companies based in Osaka are conducting plant construction, etc. for experimental research, aiming for early implementation.

CO₂ captured in the air

H₂ stemming from renewable energy

Main raw material of city gas



Created based on the website of Daigas group



Methanation Demonstration Facilities

Source : Daigas group press release

UMEKITA Project 2nd Stage (GRAND GREEN OSAKA)

- ◆ Advance opening of a portion of the area is scheduled for September 2024, full completion of the project is scheduled for FY2027
- ◆ University research institutes and various size companies will move in to create a cluster of innovations "JAM BASE" is now open



Source : GRAND GREEN OSAKA HP

Core Functions

<JAM BASE>



Source : JAMBASE HP

大阪大学
みらい創発hive



Root
Ritsumeikan
Osaka-umekita
Open innovation
Terrace

JAFCO



THE SEED

SAKURA internet

MONEX
Ventures

Office



For Earth, For Life
Kubota

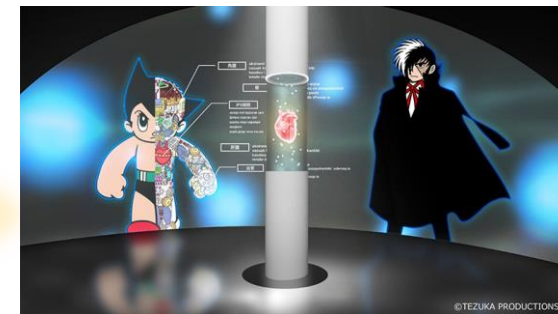
FUJITSU

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

The Osaka-Kansai Expo in 2025 - 52 days to go!



Demonstration of "Flying Cars"



Using iPS cells, etc. Practical application of regenerative medicine ("iPS Heart")

Theme

Designing Future Society for Our Lives

(いのち輝く未来社会のデザイン)

Concept

People's Living Lab

(未来社会の実験場)

Period : **April 13, 2025 – October 13, 2025 (184 days)**

Venue : **Yumeshima (Osaka Bay Area)**

Est. # of visitors : **approx. 28.2 million (3.5 million from overseas)**

Theme Weeks : **8 weeks including Health and Well-being Week**

Countries, regions, and int'l organizations that indicated participation : **158 countries/regions and 9 int'l organizations**

Current Status of Startups from Osaka

Number of startups created



(4 years until 2023)

Source: Startup Ecosystem Consortium, "Sep. 2023 Report Document."

Number of listed companies in Osaka



(4 years until 2023)

Source : JAPAN EXCHANGE GROUP HP

Amount of funds raised



(2023)

Source : Japan Startup Finace 2023

More than double that of 2020

The Beginning of the Challenge Toward a Global Financial City Osaka

- ◆ **Concentration of Financial Institutions in Tokyo** in Today's Japan. As one of the two poles driving Japan's growth and further advancement, **strengthening financial functions—the blood of the economy—is essential.**
- ◆ In 2020, Governor Yoshimura declared the challenge of realizing a **“Global Financial City unique characteristics and functions, distinct from Tokyo”.**



■ “The Global Financial City OSAKA Promotion Committee”



■ Visions of the City Osaka Aims to Be

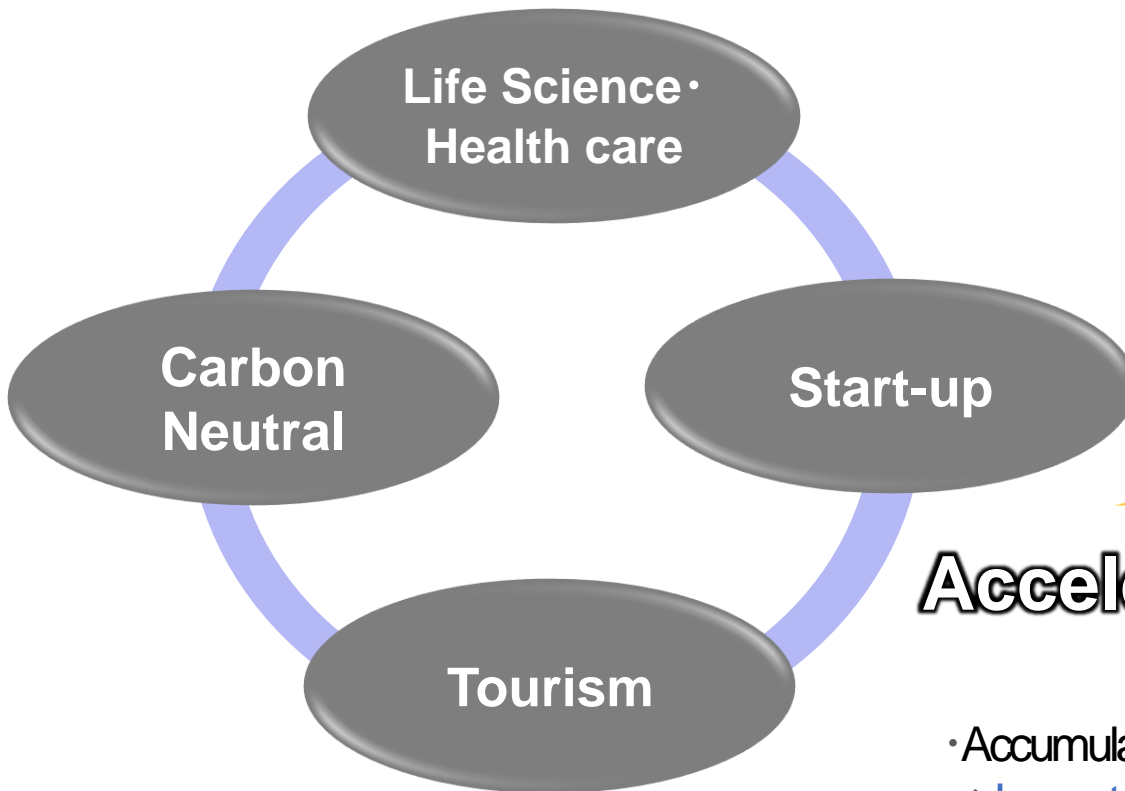
**Global city that develops
by leveraging finance**

**Front-running city
in finance**

Vision for Promoting a Global Financial City

Osaka industries/projects

Economic growth
in Osaka and Kansai
to solve the world's problems



Accelerate initiatives with
the power of finance

- Accumulate **human resources/companies/funds** in Osaka
- Investment in industries and projects in Osaka
- Developing a new **Fintech business** from Osaka

Developing Osaka through the Power of Finance

Funding provided by
venture capital and
other funds

Management Support
by Financial
Institutions

Concentration of financial functions (e.g.)

New fundraising
methods
(crowdfunding, etc.)

Digitalization and new
business
development by
Fintech

Development
as a Global
Financial City

synergy

Financing Growth
Industries



Life
Science



Carbon
Neutral

Improving industrial
productivity



Manufacturing

Growth of Osaka
Economy



Strategic goals and main support items

Outcome goal

Number of foreign financial companies (including Fin Tech), investors, etc. recruited

Recruit 30 companies by FY2025

Support for establishing a base in Osaka **for foreign financial companies**

One Stop Support Center

- **One-stop support and consultation for specialized consultations** such as base establishment and financial licenses.

Exemption of Corporate local Tax

- **[First in Japan!] Prefectural corporate inhabitant tax and corporate enterprise tax are reduced for up to 10 years.**

Subsidy

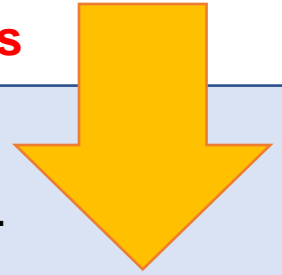
- Subsidizing expenses for conducting a preliminary survey or establishing a base.
Preliminary survey: Up to a maximum of 1.1 million yen (100%subsidy)
Base establishment: Up to a maximum of 10 million yen (50%subsidy)

Business Matching

- Leveraging the cooperation of companies with networks in Osaka, introduce **potential investment opportunities and collaboration partners**, leading to the creation of new businesses.

Prepare business & Dwelling environment

- Starting from October 2024, **providing support for English procedures for various types of insurance.**
- **Currently coordinating** support for **opening bank accounts** and setting up the Osaka Desk as a support office for **base establishment.**



Strategic Goals and Progress Status

Companies that have expanded into Osaka (21 companies as of February, 2025)

Asset Management Business · Financial Instruments Business

 **BainCapital**

 **ODX**
Osaka Digital Exchange Co., Ltd.

MorganStanley MUFG  **THE SEED**

 **AMFC**  **MONEX** Ventures  **Teneo Partners**

 **FGI**  **FinTech Global Incorporated**
The firm of innovative financing

 **MARATHON CAPITAL PARTNERS**

Fintech

 **LayerX**

 **SpaciaNet**

TRINITY
TECHNOLOGY

 **TicketMe**

 **HashPort**

 **sasuke**
financial lab inc.

alteryx

 **ALTAIR**

Other

 **FINTECH ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN**

SOURCING BROTHERS

彰化銀行

 **MEDTECH ACTUATOR**

Examples of Major Collaborations in Osaka

 **BainCapital**

- Support for business companies in Osaka and the Kansai region, not only through funding, but also through product and service development, expanding into new markets, and productivity improvement.

 **AMFC**

- Using know-how in financial technology and overseas credit risk management, supporting partner Japanese companies with the acquisition of new investment opportunities abroad.

MorganStanley MUFG

- Osaka base established from the perspective of BCP. Part of the back-office operations from Tokyo are now in Osaka, with front and middle-office operations starting next year.

Environmental improvement through the use of special zones (deregulation)

I. Concept of the region to be realized through “Special Zone for Financial and Asset Management Businesses”

“Special Zone for Challenges to Realize a Future Society”

2025 Osaka-Kansai Expo



“People’s living Lab”
<Flying Cars>
<Hydrogen fuel cell ship>



- Life Science
- Carbon Neutrality
- Startup

Risk money supply
Creating innovation

Realization of “Future Society”

Create Global Financial City OSAKA that ranks with the world by attracting asset anagers, fintech companies, etc. through **regulatory reforms in line with global standards.**



Exchange of opinions with then-Prime Minister Kishida towards the realization of the special zone.

2. Proposals for “Special Zone for Financial and Asset Management Businesses”

I. Facilitate entry from abroad

Establishment of investor visas, enhancement of residence status, etc.

II. Facilitate business start-up and daily life

Support for foreigners to open a bank account, financial license consultation, establishment of a contact point, and English-language support for incorporation procedures, etc.

III. Facilitate business development

Relaxation of requirements for compliance personnel and registration requirements for asset management business, etc.

IV. Vitalize business activities of companies in Osaka

Improve asset formation for residents in Osaka

Expansion of the scope of investment in VC and funds of public universities, etc.

Osaka as a Hub for Innovative Initiatives

Security Token Market (START)

December, 2023

the first domestic security token*-the secondary market opened

*Securities, etc. issued using blockchain or other electronic means

⇒ By dividing a large asset into small amounts with the blockchain technology, we invite a wide range of general investors for assets. Going forward, investment targets may expand to various assets and projects.



Listing of “Dojima Rice Average” Rice Index Futures

March, 2023

“In March 2023, the precious metals market was established (futures trading for gold, silver, and platinum began)

August, 2024

Japan's first nationwide futures trading of average rice prices begins



Top leaders actively worked on promoting Global Financial City OSAKA

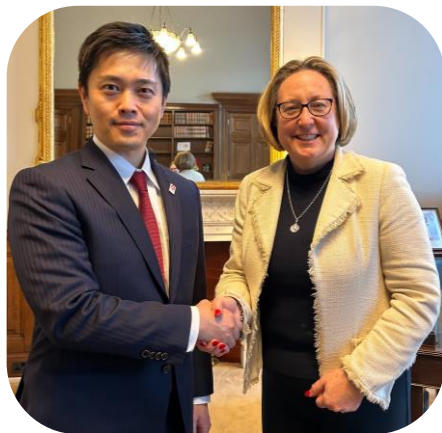
■ Overseas Top Promotion

- Top promotions overseas by the Governor and the Mayor
2022: UK 2023: USA, Australia 2024: Germany, UK, China

A significant challenge. Osaka has a spirit of valuing challenges, such as the birth of derivatives trading.



Interview with the Greater Manchester mayor



Interview with Minister for India and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development



Interview with Sherif, Deputy Mayor of the City of London



Speaking at the Global Regulatory Forum hosted by Bloomberg, etc.

■ Seminar hosted by a major foreign investment bank.

- Promoting Osaka's attractiveness to overseas investors, etc.

■ Exchange of Opinions with WAIFC

- A delegation from the World Alliance of International Financial Centers (WAIFC), consisting of international financial cities, visited Osaka and exchanged views with the Governor.



Using video messages and other means, they seized opportunities to make appeals.



<Global Financial City Osaka Official site・SNS>

