

II-D Creating New Industrial Foundations

(i) Support Organizations for Business Establishments

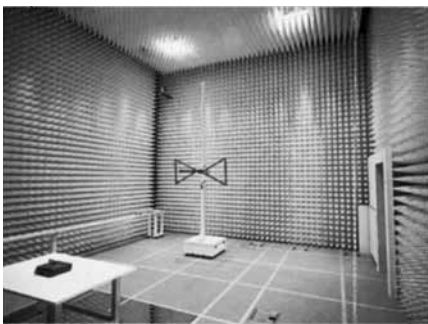
In line with Chiba Prefecture's aim to create sustainable economic development for the prefecture; the 'Strategy for the Development of New Industries' was formulated in June 2006.

Based on this strategy, a network has been established in order to create an industrial cluster and core for the development of priority industries in seven major fields; manufacturing, biotechnology, raw materials, the environment, new energies, food products and tourism.

Along with raising awareness of issues and offering opportunity for shared vision for these industries and related industries, the strategy aims to offer standardized and consistent support for such issues as research and development, inaugurating an enterprise, management innovation, commercialization of products and the exploration of new business opportunities.

Support organizations include;

- Chiba Industry Advancement Center Foundation
2-6 WBG Marive East 23Fl, Nakase, Mihama-ku, Chiba-shi 261-7123 (phone 043-299-2901) <http://www.cccj-net.or.jp>
Consultations, guidance and information provided by specialists regarding the establishment of new businesses, start-up ventures, cultivation of the market and international expansion.
- Tokatsu Techno Plaza
5-4-6 Kashiwanoha, Kashiwa-shi 277-0882 (phone 04-7133-0162) <http://www.ttp.or.jp>
Consultations, guidance and information provided regarding collaboration between industry, academia and government as well as for collaborative research, product development and developing technologies.
- Chiba Industrial Technology Research Institute(Kasori Branch, Planning and Research Office)
889 Kasoricho, Wakaba-ku, Chiba-shi 264-0017 (phone 043-231-4326) http://www.pref.chiba.jp/syozoku/f_sanken/
Consultations available regarding product development and developing technologies. Examination, analysis and inspection requests available for trial products, as well as available use of large equipment and devices for the research and development of products.
- Chiba Prefecture Intellectual Property Rights Center (Chiba Prefecture Industry Aid and Technical Research Institute, Tendai Branch)
6-13-1 Tendai, Inage-ku, Chiba-shi 263-0016
Consultations available regarding patents, trade marking and intellectual property.



Open Laboratory for All Companies

The machines, instruments, and other equipment for test measurements, which are installed in this plaza, are open to all companies for inexpensive charges. Please use them for research and development works of new technologies and products.

We also hold workshops of those machines whose manipulations are difficult.



Undertaking of Tests at the Request of Companies

We undertake tests, inspection, measurements and analysis at the request of those companies that possess no test machines or equipment, or no expert staff engaged in the field of technology study. And we issue certificates of the results of such tests, inspection, measurements and analysis.



Tokatsu Techno Plaza

II-D Creating New Industrial Foundations (ii) Information and Communication Related Enterprises

For information on services, research and IT-related industries, the following may be found in the 2004 version of “Statistics on Business Establishments”. Information services and research businesses numbered 497 establishments, an increase of 6 since the survey, which was conducted five years earlier (+1.22 %). Breaking this down, this was due to the fact that although the software business grew by 11.52%, information processing services also grew by 10.06 %. As a comparison, there was overall growth of 6.24 % nationwide. In the overall information services and research business, 20,497 people were employed, which was a reduction of 438 from the previous survey three years earlier (2.2%). It can be seen therefore that information processing services increased by 11.1%, while the software business declined by 10.2 %. Chiba boasts being one of the highest-ranking prefectures in the use of personal computers, and is also one of the leading locations in terms of use of the Internet.

IT Related Business Enterprises

	Chiba Prefecture				Japan			
	1999	2001	2004	Increase or Decrease (%) 1999→2004	1999	2001	2004	Increase or Decrease (%) 1999→2004
Information service and research business	491	557	497	+1.22	25,997	26,413	27,619	+6.24
Software business	269	334	300	+11.52	14,440	18,409	19,229	+33.17
Information processing and providing business	179	223	197	+10.06	8,019	8,004	8,390	+4.63
Others	43	0	0	△100.00	3,538	0	0	△100.0

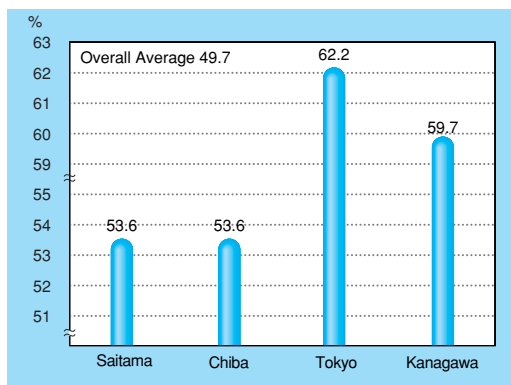
(source) Business and Corporate Statics Research

IT Related Business Enterprises (2004)

	Information Processing & Providing Business		Software Business	
	Number of Business Enterprises	Number of Employees	Number of Business Enterprises	Number of Employees
Chiba Prefecture	197	20,497	300	12,681
Japan	8,004	863,796	18,409	594,592

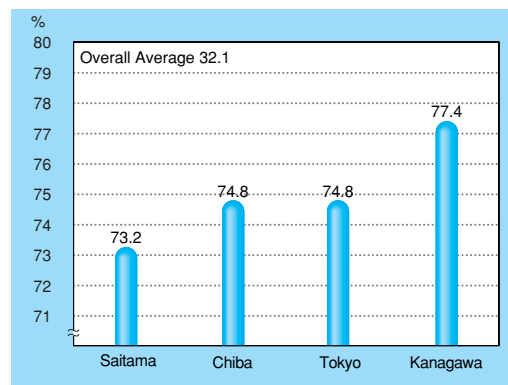
(source) Business and Corporate Statics Research

Internet Defusion Rate (as of Oct. 2005)



(source) Basic Research on Social Living, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Personal Computer Diffusion Rate (as of Oct. 2004)



(source) '2004 National Survey of Family Income and Expenditure'

II-D Creating New Industrial Foundations (iii) Venture Companies in the Prefecture

New Market Listing Companies comparison (as of Sep. 3, 2004,

	JASDAQ	Mothers	Hercules (former NASDAQ Japan)
Head Office located in Tokyo	482 Cos.	132	99
in Kanagawa Prefecture	72	9	6
in Chiba Prefecture	19	1	1
Total	950	180	148

(Source) Quarterly Corporate Report (toyo Keizai Inc.)

Chiba located companies listed on new markets

Listed on JASDAQ

- (1) Auto Wave Co., Ltd. (sale of automotive goods) Inage-ku, Chiba City
- (2) Arata (wholesale) Funabashi City
- (3) Honda Clio Tokatsu (car dealer) Matsudo City
- (4) Fuji Foods Co., Ltd. (vendor of side dishes and bread to convenience stores) Funabashi City
- (5) Ichishin Co., Ltd. (operator of preparatory schools for examinations) Ichikawa City
- (6) Aegis Co., Ltd. (inventory service for retailers) Hanamikawa-ku, Chiba City
- (7) Toyo Business Engineering Co., Ltd. (system integrator) Narashino City
- (8) Toyo Gosei Co., Ltd. (manufacturer of chemical materials) Ichikawa City
- (9) Iwabuchi Corporation (manufacturer of metal fittings for power lines) Matsudo City
- (10) Certo Corporation (business supply) Chiba City
- (11) UMC Japan Co., Ltd. (manufacture precision equipment) Tateyama City
- (12) Powdertech Co., Ltd. (manufacture reprographic powders for electro-photography) Kashiwa City
- (13) Blue Grass Co., Ltd. (development of casual wear retail shops) Mihama-ku, Chiba City
- (14) Kurekkusu Co., Ltd. (sales of propane gas) Wakaba-ku, Chiba City
- (15) Okamoto Glass (manufacturer of glass) Kashiwa City
- (16) Family Co., Ltd. (import car dealer) Chuo-ku, Chiba City
- (17) Nanso Tsuun Co., Ltd. (transportation) Togane City
- (18) Sankyo Frontier Co., Ltd. (rental and sales of modular unit houses) Kashiwa City
- (19) Seikoh Giken Co., Ltd. (precision machine) Matsudo City

Listed on the Mother's Exchange

- (1) Japan Computer Graphics Co., Ltd. (production and sales of digital maps and geographic information systems) Ichihara City

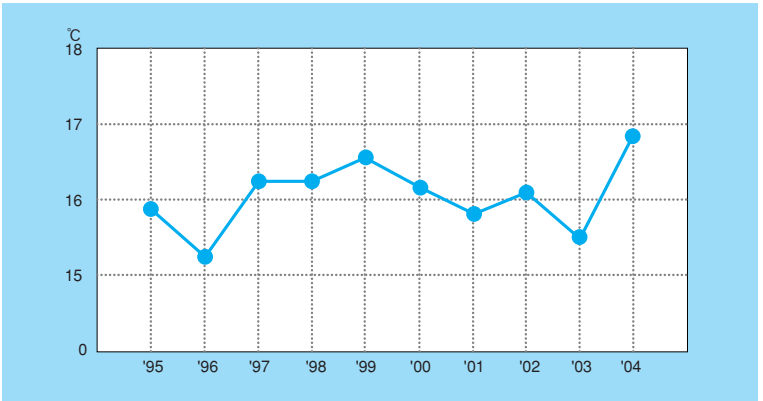
Listed on Hercules(Nippon New Market)

- (1) Precision System Science Co., Ltd. (manufacturer of DNA extraction devices) Matsudo City

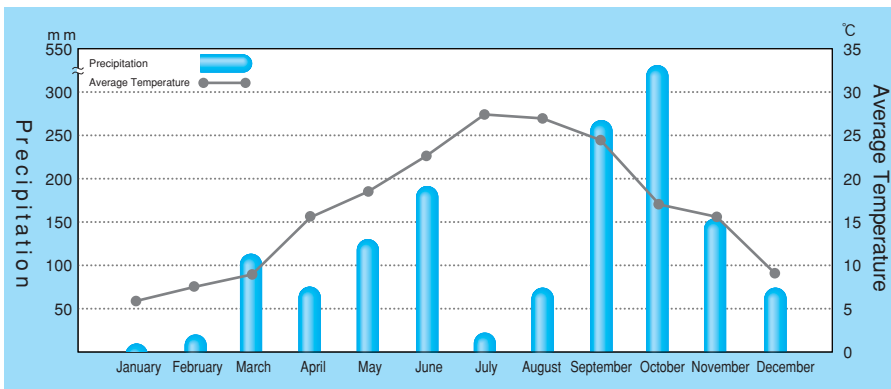
II-E Nature and Culture (i) Nature

Chiba is graced with an abundance of nature. The ocean, which surrounds the prefecture on three sides, creates a comfortable living environment, moderating the cold and the heat in winter and summer. It also provides rich fishing, a variety of views, and swimming and marine sports activities. A rich plain spreads out in the coastal area, and the interior part of the prefecture has rich green hills with forests and ravines. There are two national parks in the prefecture; Suigo Tsukuba National Park extends over to Ibaragi Prefecture and includes Mount Tsukuba, Kasumigaura, Kitaura, Inubosaki and Minami Boso National Park includes within it the coastlines that border Futtsu-misaki, Taibusa-misaki, Tateyama, and Katsuura as well as Mount Kano and Mount Kiyozumi.

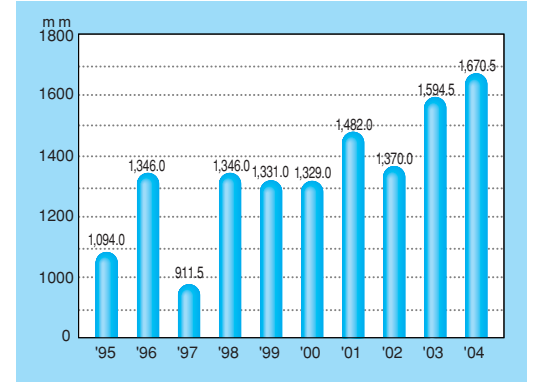
Average temperature for Chiba-Shi (1995-2004)



Monthly Average Temperature and Precipitation in 2004 in Chiba-shi



Average precipitation for Chiba-shi (1995-2004)



National Parks (2) and Prefectural Nature Parks (8)

National Parks

- Suigo Tsukuba National Park
- Minami Boso National Park

Prefectural Nature Parks

- Otone Nature Park
- Mineokasankei Nature Park
- Yoro Valley Okukiyozumi Nature park
- Takagoyama Nature Park
- Kujukuri Nature Park
- Tomiyama Nature Park
- Inbatega Nature Park
- Kasamori Tsurumai Nature Park

Major Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, and Marshes

Mountains

- Mount Atago.....408.2m
- Mount Kano.....379.0m
- Mount Kiyozumi.....377.0m

Rivers

- Tonegawa.....100.6km
- Kohitsugawa77.0km
- Yorogawa73.4km

Lakes and Marshes

- Inbanuma.....8.87km²
- Teganuma4.12km²

II-E Nature and Culture (ii) Culture

Along with deepening the understanding of traditional and regional cultures, a diverse range of contemporary culture is absorbed and many opportunities are provided to the prefectural residents. This is the ideal for the culture that Chiba strives to achieve, and the prefecture is actively taking steps to this end. Music and drama performances are staged in such cultural facilities as the Chiba Prefectural Culture Hall, the Aobanomori Arts and Culture Hall, and the Sawayaka Chiba People's Plaza, providing a base where people may participate in regional cultural activities. In addition, Chiba Prefecture has been promoting a museum network concept since the mid-1960s, and currently there are 10 prefectural museums and art. With the Chuo Museum as the focal point, cooperation is being promoted through the exchange of information and materials as well as shared usage. The same type of networking is also being attempted with libraries.

Chiba Prefectural Art Galleries

Name of Art Gallery	Address	phone
1.Chiba Prefectural Art Gallery	1-10-1 Chuo-Minato, Chuo-ku, Chiba-shi 260-0024	043-242-8311

Chiba Prefectural Museums

Name of Museum	Address	phone
1.Natural History Museum and Institute, Chiba	955-2 Aoba-cho, Chuo-ku, Chiba-shi 260-8682	043-265-3111
2.Chiba Museum of Science and Industry	1-1-3 Onidaka, Ichikawa-shi 272-0015	047-379-2000
3.Chiba Prefectural Sekiyadojo Museum	143-4 Sangenya, Sekiyado, Noda-shi 270-0201	04-7196-1400
4.Chiba Prefectural Museum Boso-no-Mura	1028 Ryukakuji, Sakae-machi, Imuba-gun 270-1506	0476-95-3333
5.Chiba Prefectural Otone Museum	4500 Sawara, Sawara-shi 287-0816	0478-56-0101
6.Coastal Branch of Natural History Museum and Institute, Chiba	123 Yoshio, Katsuura-shi 299-5242	0470-76-1133
7.Chiba Prefectural Sonan Museum	481 Otaki, Otaki-machi, Isumi-gun 298-0216	0470-82-3007
8.Chiba Prefectural Awa Museum	1564-1 Tateyama, Tateyama-shi, 294-0036	0470-22-8608
9.Chiba Prefectural Kazusa Museum	2-16-2 Ota, Kisarazu-shi 292-0044	0438-23-0011

source : Chiba Prefectural Museum

Libraries Containing Foreign Language Materials

Name of Library	Address	phone
1.Institute of Developing Economies Library	3-2-2 Wakaba, Mihama-ku, Chiba-shi 261-8545	043-299-9716
2.Chiba Prefectural Central Library	11-1 Ichiba-cho, Chuo-ku, Chiba-shi 260-8660	043-222-0116
3.Chiba Prefectural Seibu Library	657-7 Sendabori, Matsudo-shi 270-2252	047-385-4133
4.Chiba Prefectural Tobu Library	349 Ha, Asahi-shi 289-2521	0479-62-7070
5.Chiba Municipal Miyako Library	3-11-3 Miyako-cho, Chuo-ku, Chiba-shi 260-0001	043-233-8333
6.Ichikawa Municipal Central Library	1-1-4 Onidaka, Ichikawa-shi 272-0015	047-320-3333
7.Funabashi Municipal Kita Library	5-26-1 Futawahigashi, Funabashi-shi 274-0805	047-448-4899
8.Urayasu Municipal Central Library	1-2-1 Nekozone, 1-2-1 Urayasu-shi 279-0004	047-352-4646
9.Narita Municipal Library	1-1-3 Akasaka, Narita-shi 286-0017	0476-27-4646
10.Yachimata Municipal Library	800-1 Ho, Yachimata-shi 289-1115	043-444-4946
11.Sodegaura Municipal Central Library	1393-2 Sakado-ichiba, Sodegaura-shi	0438-63-4646
12.Shiroi Municipal Library	1148-8 Fuku, Shiroi-shi 270-1422	047-492-1122
13.Hikari Municipal Library	11917 Miyagawa, Yokoshibahikari-machi 289-1727	0479-84-3311

II-F Living (i) Education

Chiba Prefecture has established the “Long Term Vision for Education -Dream・Future 2025”, by which educational curricula are taught. In this, an environment is being created in which people from early childhood are provided with the opportunities to develop the grounding to become familiar with foreign peoples and cultures through cultural exchanges. In practice, the prefecture is promoting the “Chiba Internal Education Plan” (CIEP) among elementary, middle, and high schools, which fosters people that can play active roles using language in an international environment, as well as holding internationalization seminars for high school students (interchanges with foreign students studying in Japan and provision of ALT's; Assistant Language Teachers, into local schools).

Number of schools in Chiba Prefecture

	Chiba	Ranking	Japan
Elementary School	867	6th	23,123
Number of Students	336,003	6th	7,129,458
Middle School	406	7th	11,035
Number of Students	161,783	6th	3,626,415
High School	200	8th	5,418
Number of Students	154,573	7th	3,605,242

Number of Universities and Junior Colleges in Chiba Prefecture(2005)

		Chiba	Japan
University	National	2	87
	Public	0	89
	Private	33	568
Junior Colleges	National	0	8
	Public	1	40
	Private	17	420

source : ① General Affairs Department:Private Schools Division/List of Private School Names
② comprehensive school census from the ministry of education, culture, sports, science and technology