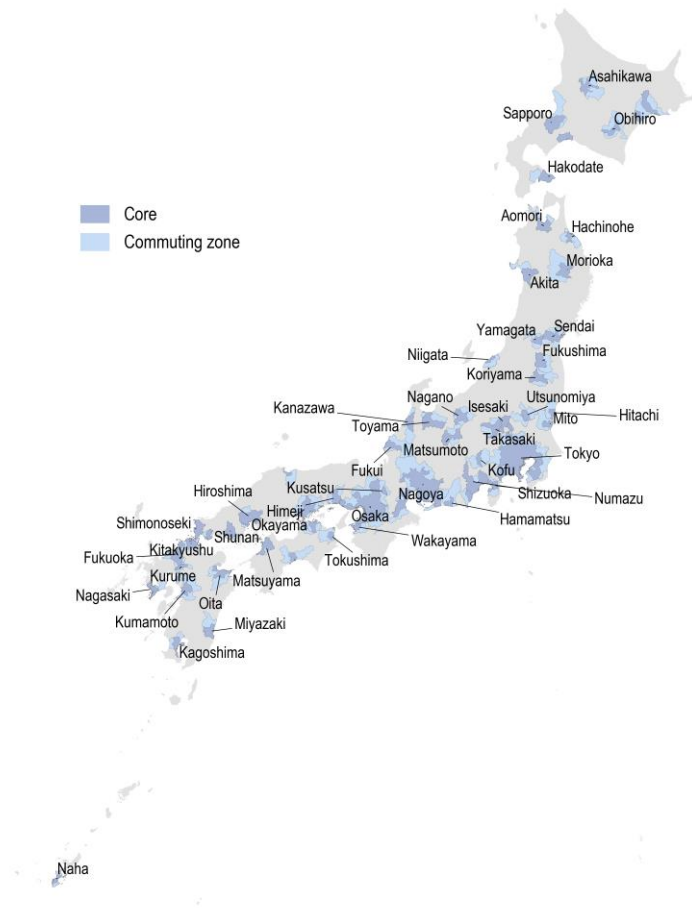


# Japan



Note: This map is for illustrative purposes and is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory covered by these maps.

The OECD, in cooperation with the EU, has developed a harmonised definition of functional urban areas (FUAs). Being composed of a city (or core) and its commuting zone, FUAs encompass the economic and functional extent of cities based on daily people's movements (OECD, 2012); (Dijkstra, Poelman, & Veneri, 2019). The definition of FUA aims at providing a functional/economic definition of cities and their area of influence, by maximising international comparability and overcoming the limitation of using purely administrative approaches. At the same time, the concept of FUA, unlike other approaches, ensures a minimum link to the government level of the city or metropolitan area.

FUAs are listed below by size, according to four classes:

- Small FUAs, with population between 50,000 and 100,000
- Medium-sized FUAs, with population between 100,000 and 250,000
- Metropolitan FUAs, with population between 250,000 and 1.5 million
- Large metropolitan FUAs, with population above 1.5 million

A city is a group of local administrative units (i.e. LAU for European countries, such as municipality, local authorities, etc.) where at least 50% of its population live in an urban centre. An urban centre is defined as a cluster of contiguous grid cells of one square kilometer with a density of at least 1,500 inhabitants per square kilometer and a population of at least 50,000 inhabitants overall.

The commuting zone is composed of the local administrative units for which at least 15% of their workforce commute to the city. Commuting zones of the functional areas are identified based on commuting data (travel from home-to-work). Commuting data are also used to define whether more than one city share the same commuting zone in a single polycentric functional urban area.

The list of functional urban areas takes into account the results of the consultation with the European National Statistical Institutes launched by Eurostat in June 2011 on the definition of cities and by the OECD with Delegates from the Working Party on Territorial Indicators. This list of functional urban areas may be reviewed on the basis of additional comments provided by countries. The OECD Metropolitan Database provides a set of economic, environmental, social and demographic modelled indicators on the 668 OECD metropolitan areas (functional urban areas with 250 000 or more inhabitants).

Additionally, interactive maps, histograms and summary profiles of each metropolitan area are available on the [OECD Regions and Cities Data Visualisation tool](#).

The population grid used to create the FUAs in Japan is the 2015 Global Human Settlement (GHS) grid. The geographic building blocks are the cities (Shi), towns (Machi) and villages (Mura). Commuting data comes from the 2015 Census.

**Table 1. List of functional urban areas**

FUA name	FUA code	Size class	Population in 2015 (GHS)	Share of population living in the city (%)
Akita	JPN43	Metropolitan area	377 000	79
Aomori	JPN51	Metropolitan area	289 000	94
Asahikawa	JPN44	Metropolitan area	383 000	88
Ashikaga	JPN57	Medium-sized area	222 000	84
Fuji	JPN46	Metropolitan area	382 000	98
Fujieda	JPN38	Metropolitan area	448 000	67
Fukui	JPN32	Metropolitan area	535 000	47
Fukuoka	JPN04	Large metropolitan area	2 566 000	92
Fukushima	JPN39	Metropolitan area	437 000	64
Hachinohe	JPN49	Metropolitan area	300 000	71
Hakodate	JPN48	Metropolitan area	322 000	77
Hamamatsu	JPN14	Metropolitan area	945 000	68
Himeji	JPN20	Metropolitan area	685 000	78
Hiroshima	JPN08	Metropolitan area	1 391 000	96
Hitachi	JPN50	Metropolitan area	311 000	59
Isesaki	JPN47	Metropolitan area	374 000	100
Kagoshima	JPN19	Metropolitan area	670 000	83
Kanazawa	JPN17	Metropolitan area	723 000	78
Kitakyushu	JPN09	Metropolitan area	1 279 000	73

Kochi	JPN35	Metropolitan area	484 000	65
Kofu	JPN27	Metropolitan area	578 000	52
Koriyama	JPN34	Metropolitan area	507 000	65
Kumamoto	JPN11	Metropolitan area	1 124 000	74
Kurume	JPN42	Metropolitan area	408 000	72
Kusatsu	JPN45	Metropolitan area	384 000	72
Kushiro	JPN60	Medium-sized area	196 000	85
Marugame	JPN59	Medium-sized area	205 000	58
Matsumoto	JPN40	Metropolitan area	416 000	57
Matsuyama	JPN25	Metropolitan area	598 000	97
Mito	JPN21	Metropolitan area	699 000	60
Miyazaki	JPN36	Metropolitan area	478 000	80
Morioka	JPN37	Metropolitan area	449 000	64
Nagano	JPN29	Metropolitan area	566 000	65
Nagasaki	JPN24	Metropolitan area	575 000	77
Nagoya	JPN03	Large metropolitan area	8 532 000	88
Naha	JPN10	Metropolitan area	1 133 000	72
Niigata	JPN15	Metropolitan area	772 000	45
Numazu	JPN31	Metropolitan area	541 000	85
Obihiro	JPN53	Metropolitan area	253 000	64
Oita	JPN18	Metropolitan area	704 000	81
Okayama	JPN07	Large metropolitan area	1 487 000	78
Omuta	JPN58	Medium-sized area	220 000	54
Osaka	JPN02	Large metropolitan area	16 694 000	93
Sapporo	JPN05	Large metropolitan area	2 099 000	93
Sendai	JPN06	Metropolitan area	1 480 000	81
Shimonoseki	JPN52	Metropolitan area	251 000	100
Shizuoka	JPN22	Metropolitan area	676 000	100
Shunan	JPN54	Metropolitan area	235 000	79
Takamatsu	JPN28	Metropolitan area	547 000	72
Takasaki	JPN13	Metropolitan area	1 053 000	76
Tokushima	JPN30	Metropolitan area	554 000	54
Tokyo	JPN01	Large metropolitan area	35 714 000	94
Tomakomai	JPN61	Medium-sized area	163 000	100
Toyama	JPN26	Metropolitan area	572 000	71
Toyohashi	JPN23	Metropolitan area	669 000	83
Ube	JPN55	Medium-sized area	210 000	72

Utsunomiya	JPN16	Metropolitan area	873 000	57
Wakayama	JPN33	Metropolitan area	518 000	77
Yamagata	JPN41	Metropolitan area	406 000	59
Yokkaichi	JPN12	Metropolitan area	1 035 000	76
Yonago	JPN56	Medium-sized area	220 000	64

Note: This document includes information as of 2019.

## References

Dijkstra, L., H. Poelman and P. Veneri (2019), "The EU-OECD definition of a functional urban area", OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2019/11, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/d58cb34d-en>.

OECD (2012), Redefining "Urban": A New Way to Measure Metropolitan Areas, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264174108-en>.