

Tokyo Overall Score: 34.4/100 | Overall Rank: 39/50

Basic Facts

- 38.1 million population in Greater Tokyo
- \$1.6 trillion Gross Metro Product (2016)
- Top industries by employment are: electronic device manufacturing, finance and insurance, and publishing and printing

Notable Strengths

- Ranked No. 1 for the size of the local market, Greater Tokyo is one of the world's megacities, with a Gross Metro Product (GMP) larger than the size of Canada's national economy, which ranks as the No. 10 largest country
- It is a diversified manufacturing center and is Japan's financial and managerial hub: half of Japan's corporate headquarters are located in Tokyo
- Further adding to its strengths in the Markets pillar, the Tokyo metropolitan government's [One-Stop Business Establishment Center](#) helps businesses quickly set up operations in the city and is complemented by [information provided by JETRO](#), the Japan External Trade Organization
- Tokyo ranks No. 6 for Women's Capital Base, having a large population of high net worth individuals
- For financing, entrepreneurs can seek access to corporate venture capital from Daiwa, Mitsubishi, or Mitsui's investment arms (among other members of the Japan Venture Capital Association), and they have [active crowdfunding sites](#), such as Campfire, CrowdBank.jp, Tokyo Mirai Mode and Readyfor
- From April 1, 2016, law requires companies with more than 301 employees to disclose the number of female colleagues and managers, and create action plans to hire and promote more women
- This law should help improve Tokyo's ranking on the Women's Skills & Experience sub-category in the Talent pillar

- With more than 140 public and private universities, including the University of Tokyo, which ranks as one of the world's top 50 Best Global Universities; four local MBA programs; and two international business school campuses (Temple and McGill), the metro area not only possesses a large local talent pool from which successful women entrepreneurs can recruit qualified personnel, but also a number of aspiring businesswomen

“[Tokyo] is a diversified manufacturing center...”

Areas for improvement

- Ranked No. 49 for forecasted average annual 5-year GMP growth rate of cities in the 2017 WE Cities Index, Tokyo's growth is expected to be slower than most other major cities in the years ahead
- Although the government provides information on how to start a business, the ease of starting a business is low due to time, costs of registration and access to credit
- The government doesn't have specific goals for procurement from women-owned businesses; there are no accelerators specifically focused on women entrepreneurs; there are few women in national elected office (despite the fact that Tokyo's governorship – one of the most powerful elected positions – is held by a woman, Yuriko KOIKE); there are no women leading major business associations such as the [Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#) or the [Keidanren \(Japanese Business Federation\)](#); lastly, the percentage of women on company boards is below 4 percent, one of the lowest among all cities rated
- Tokyo could do more to increase female enrollment in the top schools and the percent of female faculty in its business schools