

**pittsburgh**  
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**JAPAN IN THE  
 PITTSBURGH REGION**

**Business**

- Japan is the fourth largest foreign investor in the Pittsburgh region; 35 Japanese-owned companies operate 70 operations that employ nearly 8,100 people.
- Japanese companies recognize the region's innovation assets; Alps Electric Co., Oki Electric, Fujitsu and Westinghouse all operate major R&D centers here.
- Many of Japan's largest companies have a presence in the Pittsburgh region, including Vossloh-Schwabe, Westinghouse, Nippon, SinterMet, Mitsui, Fujitsu and Mitsubishi.
- Toshiba (Westinghouse) is the largest foreign-owned firm in the region, employing almost 5,000 people.
- Japan is also an important market for Pittsburgh regional businesses. Nearly 25 regional companies operate more than 40 facilities in Japan. These include advanced manufacturers (Aerotech, Alcoa, Allegheny Technologies, H.J. Heinz and PPG), information technology companies (ANSYS, Black Box and iGate) and life sciences companies (MEDRAD and Philips Respironics).

**Culture**

- From leading robotics scientists to students learning English as a second language (ESL), the Japanese are involved in all aspects of Pittsburgh life. Several community organizations foster relationships between the citizens of Japan and Pittsburgh, including the:
  - **Japan Association of Greater Pittsburgh** – a nonprofit organization serving Japanese, Japanese-Americans and anyone interested in Japanese culture
  - **Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania** – an association of individuals, corporations and organizations in Pennsylvania that promotes understanding and enlightened relations between the United States and Japan
  - **Pittsburgh-Saitama Sister City Committee** – facilitates cultural and political exchanges between Omiya, Japan and the City of Pittsburgh
- University of Pittsburgh's Japanese language program is one of the best in the United States. Approximately 200 students study in it each term. This is a relatively significant number, which continues to grow, despite an opposing trend at some other American schools.
- The university also provides an impressive Japanese digital library where Japanese information can be accessed for research. The service was established in 1996 as a collaboration between the University of Pittsburgh and the Japan Center for Intercultural Communication in Tokyo. Japanese is one of the 26 cultures represented in the Nationality Rooms at the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning.
- Pittsburgh's Carnegie Museum of Art and Chatham University both present works by leading contemporary woodcut artist, Naoko Matsubara, considered one of the world's best Japanese woodcut artists. She studied at Carnegie Tech (now Carnegie Mellon University) in the 1960s and received an honorary degree from Chatham in 2009.
- In a regional effort to promote the study of Japanese language and culture to students in the Pittsburgh region, the University of Pittsburgh's Asian Studies Center hosts an annual high school Japanese Speech Contest, for students in a range of competencies, in collaboration with the university's Japanese Speaking Society and the Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania. Corporate sponsors include Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Mitsubishi Endowments at the University of Pittsburgh and Westinghouse.
- Pittsburgh enjoys plentiful Japanese flavor with restaurants such as Kiku, Sushi Kim, Nakama, Little Tokyo, and Chaya. Tokyo, a Japanese food store, provides the region with a wide variety of Japanese foods.

