

SUZHOU 苏州

PROVINCE: JIANGSU 江苏省

BASIC INFORMATION

Source: China City Statistical Yearbooks

	2006	2007	2008	2009
GDP (RMB bn)	482.0	570.1	670.1	774.0
GDP per capita (RMB)	78801	91911	106863	122565
FDI (US\$m)	15923.8	18363.5	8132.6	8226.5
FDI projects (number)	2281	2022	1462	1426
FAI (RMB bn)	210.7	236.6	261.1	296.7

GROUPING BY ACTIVITY	GRADE
Overall	1
Overall domestic	1
Overall export	1
R&D	1
Sales	1

GROUPING BY CATEGORY	GRADE
Air	1
Rail	3
Automotive	2
Built Environment	1
Energy	3
Education	3
Health	2
Retail	1



Insights

- Second-largest economy in the Yangtze River Delta after Shanghai, and 50 per cent larger than third-placed Wuxi
- FDI halved in 2008 compared to 2007 and remains at that level
- GDP per capita has risen by a third in two years

Key Industries

- ICT
- Chemicals
- Textiles and garments
- Electronics
- Machinery and mechanical components

As a city within a city, the China-Singapore area of Suzhou Industrial Park covers an area of 80km² and is home to over a million people. Boasting the highest GDP/capita in China, it has been extremely successful in attracting multinationals.

As a prefectural city, Suzhou also includes the county-level cities of Kunshan, Changshu and Taicang. They lie between Shanghai and Suzhou and are developing well, absorbing new investment and expansion from both.

Foreign Direct Investment

Foreign investors include:

- BP Amoco
- P&G
- Dupont
- Siemens
- Canon
- Bayer
- 3M
- Nokia
- Philips

Opportunities

The following are projects which the city government is promoting in the next five years.

- Metro lines 1 & 2 criss-crossing Suzhou, will open in 2011. Within the next four years, three more lines will be added
- Suzhou will take new energy as a strategic competitive industry and develop the application areas of solar, PV and wind power during the next five years
- Fifty electricity transformer stations will be established to complete the city's intelligent grid

Projections

Labour rates, recruitment and retention have been a problem for a few years, but this is no longer an issue unique to Suzhou.

Power-demand outstripping supply is more of an ongoing challenge and without speedy implementation of intelligent grids will cause industrial disruption, which was hoped to have come to an end at the beginning of 2011.

Useful Contacts

UK Support

UK Trade & Investment:
www.ukti.gov.uk

British Embassy Beijing:
www.ukinchina.fco.gov.uk

China-Britain Business Council:
www.cbbc.org

British Chamber of Commerce in China:
www.britcham.org

Local Government

Suzhou City Government:
www.suzhou.gov.cn

Suzhou Administration of Industry and Commerce:
www.szsgsj.gov.cn

Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office:
www.sfao.gov.cn

Development Zones

Suzhou Industrial Park:
www.sipac.gov.cn

Suzhou Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone:
www.snd.gov.cn

Kunshan Economic & Technical Development Zone:
www.ketd.gov.cn