

Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Country	Japan
Population	33,1 millions
World region	Asia and The Pacific

● Context

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) governs an area composed of 23 special wards, 26 cities, 5 towns, and 8 villages. It functions as a first-tier local public entity within Japan's two-tier system of prefectures and municipalities. Operating under the 1947 Local Autonomy Act, the TMG performs both prefectural and municipal functions, ensuring integrated administration and coordinated regional governance.

● Economic profile

World Bank income group: High

Major economic activities

The world's largest metropolitan economy by GDP, Tokyo's principal activities include financial and business services, commerce and tourism, advanced manufacturing, mobility and logistics, technology innovation and startups, green energy and hydrogen-related industries, and agriculture and fisheries in outer areas.

Own source revenues

Own-source revenues derive primarily from metropolitan taxes administered by the Bureau of Taxation, covering 16 tax categories including business tax, motor vehicle tax, real estate acquisition tax, and fixed assets tax for the 23 wards.

● Governance structure

Year of constitution: 1947

Type of metropolitan government: Metropolitan government – special-status (single-tier)

Legal framework

The TMG operates under Japan's Local Autonomy Act, which establishes prefectures and municipalities as local public entities of equal legal standing. The 23 special wards maintain a unique arrangement whereby certain municipal functions – water supply, sewerage, and firefighting – are handled by the metropolitan government to ensure uniform service delivery.

Administrative structure

The TMG is led by a directly elected Governor, assisted by Vice Governors. The Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly, composed of 127 elected members, legislates ordinances and approves the budget. The administration operates through public enterprise bureaus – Transportation, Waterworks, and Sewerage – and independent commissions covering education, labour relations, and public safety.

Annual revenue, expenditure and sources

Fiscal management is centralised in the Bureau of Finance. Main revenue sources include metropolitan taxes, service fees, public enterprise revenues, and financial adjustment transfers within the special ward system. The FY2025 budget totalled approximately USD 61 billion, of which 75% derived from metropolitan taxes.

Number and type of administrative units

62 municipalities (23 special wards, 26 cities, 5 towns, and 8 villages)

KEY STRATEGIC PLAN



Resilience
Resilience project



Strategic
Strategy for 2050: Making
Tokyo Even Better



Innovation
Strategic Innovation
Promotion Project