



Zhuhai

Situated on the western bank of the Pearl River Delta adjacent to Macao, Zhuhai became a Special Economic Zone in 1980. Since that time, the city's population has grown by a factor of ten and its industrial output by a factor of 500. Zhuhai City is one of the most affluent cities in the Greater Pearl River Delta region. Zhuhai is known for its pleasant living environment and its focus on technology-based business as well as sporting events and recreation. Zhuhai's economy is well positioned to benefit from proximity to Macao, with its fast-growing gaming and hospitality sector, and the future bridge link to Hong Kong.

Zhuhai in figures *

Total area (square kilometres)	1,688
Interim Census Population 2005 (million persons)	1.42
Registered Population 2005 (million persons)	0.90
Total GDP in 2005 (US\$ billion)	7.75
– GDP in primary sector (US\$ billion)	0.25
– GDP in secondary sector (US\$ billion)	4.02
– GDP in tertiary sector (US\$ billion)	3.48
Real GDP growth 2005 (percent)	13.1
Official per capita GDP in 2005 (US\$)	5,525
Gross industrial output in 2005 (US\$ billion)	19.07
Total trade in 2005 (US\$ billion)	25.73
Imports in 2005 (US\$ billion)	14.96
Exports in 2005 (US\$ billion)	10.77
Growth in exports 2005 (percent)	19.20
Utilised foreign direct investment in 2005 (US\$ billion)	0.67
Total retail sales of consumer goods in 2005 (US\$ billion)	2.69
Growth in consumer goods retail sales 2005 (percent)	16.3

* Note: Statistics reported for the jurisdictions in the Pearl River Delta are based on data from the jurisdictions' Statistical Yearbooks or statistics bureaux. Data for the year 2005 are preliminary. Interim Census Population 2005 is year-end figure.

Leading industries

Zhuhai's leading industries by gross industrial output are telecommunications equipment, computers, and other electronics, electric equipment and machinery, office equipment, chemicals, plastic products, medical and pharmaceutical products, garments and footwear, paper products, food, and transport equipment. Other prominent industries include special purpose equipment, textiles, and metals. In establishing itself as both a high-tech area and tourist centre, Zhuhai has discouraged the development of heavy industry.

Zhuhai also provides flowers, fruit, vegetables, and seafood for the regional markets.

Zhuhai – top manufacturing industries by gross industrial output (US\$ billion) 2004

1. Telecommunications equipment, computers, and other electronics	5.63
2. Electric equipment and machinery	2.78
3. Instruments, metres, and office equipment	1.21
4. Raw chemical materials and chemical products	1.01
5. Plastic products	0.51
6. Medical and pharmaceutical products	0.35
7. Garments, footwear, and headgear	0.35
8. Papermaking and paper products	0.25
9. Processing of agricultural products and non-staple edible products	0.24
10. Transport equipment	0.22

Wholesale and retail trade and catering services topped Zhuhai's service sector output in 2004.³³ Zhuhai's biennial international air show, the city's main trade show, has become a venue for sealing major aviation-related deals. The area is also cultivating its tourist attractions, as well as promoting specialised real estate developments, such as retirement communities and sports facilities.

³³ Based on service sector categories reported by the Guangdong Statistical Yearbook 2005.

Zhuhai – service sectors (US\$ billion) 2004

Wholesale and retail trade and catering services	0.73
Transportation, storage, post and telecommunications	0.47
Finance and insurance	0.24
Real estate trade	0.21
Others	0.96

Economic plans

In its 11th Five Year Programme, Zhuhai will focus on industrial clusters as drivers of development. Zhuhai seeks to create a petrochemicals industrial cluster, an information technology industrial cluster, and other specialised industrial parks and towns. Industries at the top of Zhuhai's development agenda include software, integrated circuits, optic electromechanical technology, bio-medicine, fine chemicals, new materials, and new energy sources and technologies. The local government is also actively developing service sectors including real estate, tourism and exhibition services, logistics, finance, and cultural and creative industries. Zhuhai has committed to a number of infrastructure projects, including the further development of Zhuhai Port, the construction of the city's mass transit system and the inter-city rail access to Guangzhou, and the expansion of its highway network. Zhuhai is planning to develop Hengqin Island, near Macao, as a location for tourism and resorts, exhibitions and conferences, high-tech manufacturing, and financial services.

Development zones and industrial parks

There are a number of technology parks in Zhuhai, all of which fall under the umbrella of the state-approved Zhuhai State High-Tech Industrial Development Zone. These include Nanping Technological and Industrial Park (focusing on electronic information, biological

pharmacy, new energy, new material, and general industries), Sanzao Technological and Industrial Park (focusing on the high technology areas of electronic information, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and environmental protection), Xinqing Technological and Industrial Park (specialising in electronic communication and, in particular, the manufacture of circuit boards), and Baijiao Technological and Industrial Park (concentrating on light industry, machinery, new material, environmental protection technology, and agricultural technology). The city offers investors all the favourable conditions set forth by Guangdong Province relating to tariffs and tax reductions and exemptions. In addition, the city provides foreign investors with special terms regarding domestic sales, land use, and administration fees.

Foreign investment

More than 7,000 direct foreign capital projects have been undertaken in Zhuhai. Major multinationals in the city include Arco, BP Amoco, Canon, Casio, Cheung Kong Holdings, Coca-cola, Daimler-Chrysler, Flextronics, Fosters, General Electric, Iwatani, Matsushita, Mitsubishi, Mitsui, Mobil, MTU Aero Engines, Philips, Siemens, and Union Carbide. Retailers Carrefour and Jusco have opened stores in Zhuhai, while fast-food chains KFC and McDonald's both have outlets in the city. In 2003, BP opened a world-scale purified terephthalic acid (PTA) facility in Zhuhai. In 2005, Las Vegas Sands signed a cooperative agreement with the Zhuhai Government to build a hotel, convention and holiday resort on Hengqin Island, near Macao, for a total planned investment over several stages in excess of US\$1 billion.

Transport linkages

Zhuhai can be reached by road from Macao (40 minutes), and Guangzhou, Foshan, and Dongguan (around 2 hours). A ferry service connects to Hong Kong taking a little over an hour. The future bridge between Zhuhai and Hong Kong will make it possible to drive between the two cities in 45 minutes to one hour. Zhuhai's Gaolan Harbour is a deepwater port on the west coast of the Pearl River Delta handling mainly bulk cargo. The city has four other first-class ports, including Jiuzhou Port, which has an annual handling capacity of 450,000 TEUs. Guangdong Province plans to complete a light railway link from Zhuhai to Guangzhou before 2010, cutting the journey time to 40 minutes. Zhuhai has its own airport, with domestic services and limited international routes.