

April 4, 2024

Regional Economic Report (Summary) April 2024

Bank of Japan

This report summarizes the reports from all regional research divisions, mainly at the Bank's branches in Japan, and is based on data and other information gathered for the meeting of general managers of the Bank's branches held today. The English translation is based on the Japanese original.

I. Regional Economic Assessments (Overview)

Eight regions, excluding the Hokuriku Region, reported that their respective economies had been recovering moderately, picking up, or picking up moderately, although some weakness had been seen in part. The Hokuriku region reported that its economy had shown signs of a pick-up, although downward pressure had been seen in part due to the effects of the Noto Peninsula Earthquake in 2024 (hereafter the earthquake).

Comparison of Previous and Current Assessments by Region

| Region | Assessment in January 2024 | Changes from the previous assessment ¹ | Assessment in April 2024 |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| Hokkaido | The economy has been picking up. | \Rightarrow | The economy has been picking up. |
| Tohoku | The economy has been picking up. | $\langle \rangle$ | The economy has been picking up moderately. |
| Hokuriku | The economy has been recovering moderately, although the impact of the Noto Peninsula Earthquake in 2024 warrants attention. | $\langle \rangle$ | The economy has shown signs of a pick-up, as restoration demand and normalization of production have progressed, although downward pressure on private consumption and production has been seen in part, due to the effects of the earthquake, as the economy is still on its way to recovery. |
| Kanto- Koshinetsu | The economy has been recovering moderately. | \Diamond | The economy has been recovering moderately, although some weakness has been seen in part. |
| Tokai | The economy has been recovering moderately. | \bigcirc | The economy has been recovering moderately, although some weakness has been seen in part. |
| Kinki | The economy has seen a slowdown in the pace of its pick-up. | \bigcirc | The economy has been picking up moderately as a trend, although some weakness has been seen in part. |

¹ With regard to the changes from the previous assessment, arrows pointing to the upper right or lower right indicate changes in the pace of improvement or deterioration compared with the previous assessments, respectively. For example, an acceleration in the pace of improvement or deceleration in the pace of deterioration is indicated with an arrow pointing to the upper right. A horizontal arrow pointing to the right indicates that the pace of improvement or deterioration in economic conditions is unchanged compared with the previous assessment.

| Chugoku | The economy has been recovering moderately. | $\langle \lambda \rangle$ | The economy has been on a moderate recovery trend. |
|--------------------|---|---|---|
| Shikoku | The economy has been picking up. | $\qquad \qquad $ | The economy has been picking up. |
| Kyushu- Okinawa | The economy has been recovering steadily. | $\langle \rangle$ | The economy has been recovering moderately, although some weakness has been seen in part. |

II. Assessments of Components by Region

| Region | Public investment | Business fixed investment | Private consumption |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| Hokkaido | Has been at a high level | Picking up | Increasing steadily, despite being affected by price rises |
| Tohoku | Has been more or less flat | Increasing | Recovering moderately |
| Hokuriku | Expected to increase, reflecting a rise in construction orders related to the restoration and reconstruction following the earthquake, although the value of public works contracted has declined recently | Increasing on the whole | Declined significantly following the earthquake, but has started to pick up due to demand related to the restoration and reconstruction, and also in part to the government's travel subsidy programs, although businesses in some areas remain forced to suspend operations |
| Kanto- Koshinetsu | Increasing moderately | Increasing moderately | Some weakness has been seen in part, while the pace of increase has slowed somewhat |
| Tokai | Has been at a relatively high level | Increasing | Picking up |

| Kinki | Has been at a high level | Increasing | Has been resilient, although some weakness has been seen in part |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Chugoku | Has been at a high level | Increasing | Recovering moderately |
| Shikoku | Picking up | Increasing | Picking up steadily, despite being affected by price rises |
| Kyushu- Okinawa | Has been at a high level | Has been at a high level | Has been firm, despite being affected by factors such as price rises |

| Region | Housing investment | Production | Employment and income |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Hokkaido | Declining | Has been more or less flat, but some weakness has been seen in part | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately |
| Tohoku | Has been weak | The pick-up has been sluggish | The employment and income situation has been improving |
| Hokuriku | Declining recently, although restoration demand is expected to increase | Has shown signs of a pick- up recently, although production levels have declined due to the effects of the earthquake, as it is still on its way to recovery | While there have been temporary adjustments in employment due to the earthquake, the income situation has started to pick up recently, as suggested by firms' stance of raising wages |
| Kanto- Koshinetsu | Has been relatively weak | Has been relatively weak recently | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately |

| Tokai | Has been weak | Has been on an increasing trend, although it has been under temporary downward pressure | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Kinki | Has been more or less flat | Has been more or less flat as a trend, although it has declined recently, due in part to a suspension of production at some automakers | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately |
| Chugoku | Has been relatively weak | Has been more or less flat | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately on the whole |
| Shikoku | Has been relatively weak | Has been more or less flat | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately |
| Kyushu- Okinawa | Weakening | Has been relatively weak recently | The employment and income situation has been improving moderately |

Appendix: Prefectures Included in Each Region

| Region | Prefectures | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Hokkaido | Hokkaido | |
| Tohoku | Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Akita, Yamagata, and Fukushima | |
| Hokuriku | Toyama, Ishikawa, and Fukui | |
| Kanto-Koshinetsu | Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, | |
| | Niigata, Yamanashi, and Nagano | |
| Tokai | Gifu, Shizuoka, Aichi, and Mie | |
| Kinki | Shiga, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Nara, and Wakayama | |
| Chugoku | Tottori, Shimane, Okayama, Hiroshima, and Yamaguchi | |
| Shikoku | Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime, and Kochi | |
| Kyushu-Okinawa | Fukuoka, Saga, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Oita, Miyazaki, Kagoshima, | |
| | and Okinawa | |

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