

## Overview

Shaanxi, located in the heart of China, is a key province bridging the country's eastern and western regions. Famous for its **rich cultural heritage** as home to the **Terracotta Warriors** and the ancient capital Xi'an, Shaanxi also serves as a major **industrial hub** in Northwest China. The province has a strong presence in sectors such as **aerospace, energy, and advanced manufacturing**, with major Chinese SOEs and foreign investors active in its **hi-tech zones and free trade areas**. As part of China's long-term planning, Shaanxi is set to play a central role in China's newly redefined "**strategic hinterland**," with an emphasis on **food and energy security** and more robust supply chains. The government's focus on strengthening the province's agricultural capacity and transport infrastructure presents opportunities for investment in agri-tech, clean energy, and green supply chains across the central and western regions.

Energy and Heavy Industry	Aerospace and Defence	Food Security	Electronic Manufacturing	Culture and Tourism Epicentre
---------------------------	-----------------------	---------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------

## Fact Box

<b>Population:</b> 39.5 million (2020)	<b>Provincial GDP:</b> £399 billion (CNY 3.7 trillion) (2025)
<b>Major Cities:</b> Xi'an, Yulin, Xianyang, Baoji	<b>GDP Per Capita:</b> £9,854 (CNY 89,915) (2024)
<b>Notable Chinese Companies:</b> Shaanxi Coal and Chemical Industry Group, Yanchang Petroleum, LONGi, Shaanxi Youser	<b>Notable Universities:</b> Xi'an Jiaotong University, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xidian University
<b>British Companies:</b> Shell, Rolls-Royce, bp	<b>U.K. Sister City:</b> Edinburgh (with Xi'an)
<b>Shaanxi Exports:</b> £38.8 billion (2025)	<b>Shaanxi Imports:</b> £17.1 billion (2025)



## Key Cities

### Xianyang (咸阳)

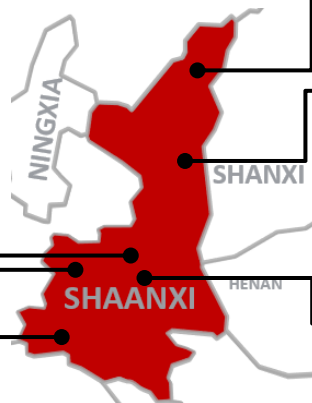
Xianyang is a growing high-tech and advanced manufacturing base, with the **Xianyang High-Tech Industrial Development Zone** focusing on high-end electronic equipment.

### Baoji (宝鸡)

Baoji is an important equipment and **materials manufacturing centre**, known for aerospace pumps, industrial machinery, and titanium products that feed into national aviation, energy, and high-end manufacturing value chains.

### Hanzhong (汉中)

Hanzhong is an **aviation and high-end equipment manufacturing hub**, home to major aircraft producers and projects in civil aircraft and helicopters, alongside agriculture and eco-industries linked to its mountainous, biodiversity-rich setting.



### Yulin (榆林)

Yulin is a national **energy and coal-chemical base**, with large coal, oil, and gas reserves, as well as emerging **CCUS and low-carbon technology projects** aimed at upgrading the energy value chain.

### Yan'an (延安)

Yan'an combines a modern high-end energy and chemical industry with "**red tourism**" based on its role as a historic revolutionary base, leveraging cultural tourism, eco-restoration, and specialty industries.

### Xi'an (西安)

Xi'an is Shaanxi's provincial capital and the **core tech, manufacturing, and logistics hub** for Northwest China, with strong aerospace, electronics, and equipment industries, **major high-tech zones**, and a key role on the cross-continental freight train routes.

## Major Industries

### Tourism

Shaanxi leverages its heritage as the cradle of multiple Chinese imperial dynasties and its distinctive political history. A highly popular tourist area with attractions such as the **Terracotta Army**, the city of **Xi'an**, as well as Yan'an's connection to the 'Long March', Shaanxi province sees considerable influx of revenue through domestic and foreign tourist spending. In 2024, Shaanxi saw a 12.3% increase in tourism revenue on the previous year, totalling **£40.2 billion**.

### High-Tech Manufacturing

Xi'an is home to numerous **High-Tech Zones**, focusing on advanced equipment manufacturing and hosting foreign and domestic companies such as Huawei and Samsung. These areas have helped contribute to Shaanxi's manufacturing stature, with added value in high-end equipment manufacturing rising **14.1%** in 2024. In addition, Shaanxi's Electric Vehicle production experienced a **13.9% YoY** increase.

### Heavy Machinery

Shaanxi plays a critical role in China's broader manufacturing landscape, functioning as a national hub for heavy machinery, rail transit parts, construction equipment, and commercial vehicles. The world's largest rolling stock manufacturer by revenue, CRRC Corporation, has a significant presence in Shaanxi through its subsidiary **CRRC Xi'an LTD**. Meanwhile, **Shaanxi Automobile Group LTD**, focusing on the production of heavy trucks, continues to expand as it exports to over 130 countries.

### Coal

Shaanxi is China's third largest coal producing province, generating **4.98 billion tons** in 2024. Containing multiple natural gas deposits, the province is a key contributor to the country's **domestic energy supply**. Production and refinement are centred around the northern areas of Yulin and Yan'an, with significant R&D being invested into **Coal-to-Liquid (CTL) technologies**. Given China's continued reliance on coal as a source of energy, combined with centralised pushes for energy security and R&D, such areas will be of increasing importance.

### Integrated Circuits

Shaanxi specialises in the production and trade of integrated circuits, which account for **60%** of its top 5 exports and **69%** of its top 5 imports. With Shaanxi's trade profile being dominated by integrated circuits, the province is deeply embedded in global semiconductor supply chains. Xi'an alone is home to **120 semiconductor design companies**, underlining the region's strategic importance in China's push for increased self-reliance in this sector.

### Green Technology

Progress in developing Shaanxi's green technology industry is evident in the growth of solar cell production, which increased by **57.3% YoY**, the highest among all major industrial products. Companies such as **LONGi Green Technology** seek to move higher up the value chain, accelerating development and production of **silicon wafers, cells and modules**. Wind power in the province continues to develop, with further phases planned to increase the capacity of the **100MW Huayin Mengyuan Wind Farm** in the Weinan area.

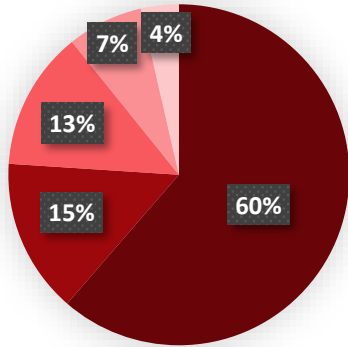
### Food and Produce

Soybeans, Shaanxi's fourth-largest import, highlight the province's role in broader initiatives to position the Northern and Northwestern provinces as "strategic hinterlands." Despite being a mid-level agricultural producer relative to other provinces, Shaanxi has seen **3 consecutive YoY increases** in agricultural output, despite meat and poultry produce slightly declining.

### Aerospace

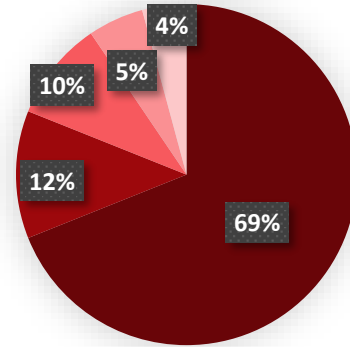
Shaanxi is home to an aviation ecosystem encompassing various aerospace producers, both military and civilian, forming a significant part of its overall industrial profile. In 2024, Shaanxi's aviation and unmanned aircraft industry generated output amounting to **£21.4 billion**. Plans to leverage strong transportation networks connecting the province are set to help boost the developing "**low-altitude economy**".

### Shaanxi Top 5 Exports by Category (2025)



- Integrated Circuits £15.36Bn
- Cars £3.67Bn
- Office Machine Parts £3.3Bn
- Semiconductor Devices £1.8Bn
- Delivery Trucks £0.9Bn

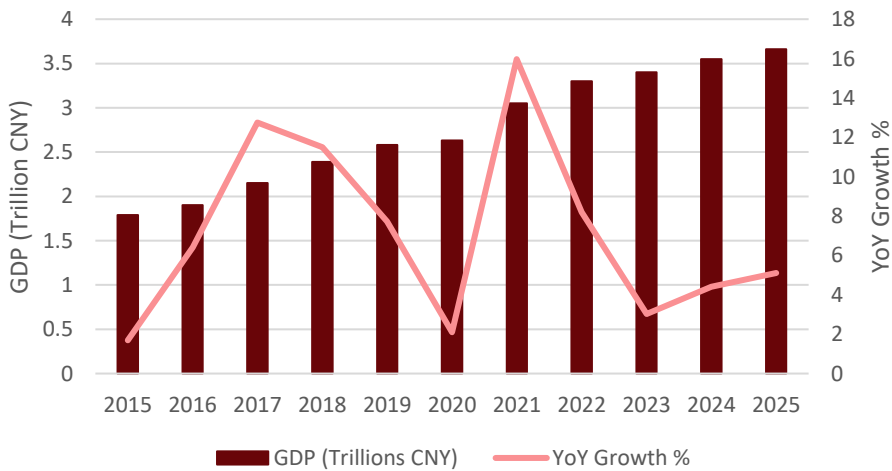
### Shaanxi Top 5 Imports by Category (2025)



- Integrated Circuits £7.57Bn
- Machines and apparatus used for semiconductors £1.33Bn
- Iron Ore £1.04Bn
- Crude Petroleum £0.58Bn
- Soybeans £0.46Bn

Shaanxi's trade profile is dominated by **integrated circuits**, highlighting the province's influence on global semiconductor supply chains. Imported chips are largely used for local electronic assembly, including smartphones and computers. Exports consist of **precision electronic parts, cars, and semiconductors**, underscoring Shaanxi's evolving manufacturing ecosystem.

### Shaanxi's GDP Growth (2015-2025)



Shaanxi demonstrated continued growth from 2015 through to 2025. 2021 saw a peak YoY increase of **15.97%**. Overall, growth rates were varied, possibly due to external factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent recovery; however, they maintained a pattern of development throughout that is expected to continue.

## Sources

1. China Daily (2021), “Xi’an Drives High-Quality Development with Innovation,” published 23 September 2021. Available at: China Daily. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202109/23/WS614be58ca310cdd39bc6aef0.html>
2. China Daily (2023), “Baoji strengthens the titanium industry,” published 26 September 2023. Available at: China Daily. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202309/26/WS6512e8d8a310d2dce4bb7c34.html>
3. China Daily (2023), “Baoji expands equipment manufacturing capacity,” published 13 September 2023. Available at: China Daily Global. [https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202309/13/WS650180b3a310d2dce4bb58b0\\_3.html](https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202309/13/WS650180b3a310d2dce4bb58b0_3.html)
4. China Daily (2025), “Shaanxi promotes high-end manufacturing and logistics,” published 24 February 2025. Available at: China Daily Regional. [https://regional.chinadaily.com.cn/en/2025-02/24/c\\_1072354.html](https://regional.chinadaily.com.cn/en/2025-02/24/c_1072354.html)
5. Global Times (2025), “China’s regional economic overview – Shaanxi manufacturing growth,” published January 2025. Available at: Global Times. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202501/1326245.shtml>
6. HKTDC (n.d.), “Shaanxi Province – Economic Overview.” Available at: HKTDC Research. <https://research.hktdc.com/en/data-and-profiles/mcpc/provinces/shaanxi>
7. OEC (n.d.), “Shaanxi Province – Trade Profile.” Available at: OEC Data Platform. [https://oec.world/en/profile/subnational\\_chn/shaanxi-province](https://oec.world/en/profile/subnational_chn/shaanxi-province)
8. Shaanxi Provincial Bureau of Statistics (2023), “Statistical Communiqué of Shaanxi Province on the 2022 National Economic and Social Development,” published 31 May 2023. Available at: Shaanxi Statistics. [https://tjj.shaanxi.gov.cn/tjsj/nds/tjgb/qg\\_443/202305/t20230531\\_2288312.html](https://tjj.shaanxi.gov.cn/tjsj/nds/tjgb/qg_443/202305/t20230531_2288312.html)
9. Shaanxi Provincial Bureau of Statistics (2025), “Shaanxi Quarterly Statistical Bulletin – Exports & Imports,” published 18 March 2025. Available at: Shaanxi Statistics. [https://tjj.shaanxi.gov.cn/tjsj/nds/tjgb/qs\\_444/202503/t20250318\\_3463311.html](https://tjj.shaanxi.gov.cn/tjsj/nds/tjgb/qs_444/202503/t20250318_3463311.html)
10. Shaanxi Provincial People’s Government (2023), “Shaanxi Economic Operation Data.” Available at: Shaanxi Government Portal. [https://en.shaanxi.gov.cn/business/ws/statistics/202305/t20230506\\_2285263.html](https://en.shaanxi.gov.cn/business/ws/statistics/202305/t20230506_2285263.html)
11. Shaanxi Provincial People’s Government (2025), “Xi’an’s GDP Exceeds CNY 1.33 Trillion in 2024,” published 16 April 2025. Available at: Shaanxi Government Portal. [https://en.shaanxi.gov.cn/news/sn/202504/t20250416\\_3494087\\_wap.html](https://en.shaanxi.gov.cn/news/sn/202504/t20250416_3494087_wap.html)
12. Shaanxi Provincial Bureau of Statistics (2026), “2025 年陕西省国民经济和社会发展统计公报,” published 15 April 2026. Available at: Shaanxi Governmental Portal. [https://www.shaanxi.gov.cn/xw/sxyw/202604/t20260415\\_3630026.html](https://www.shaanxi.gov.cn/xw/sxyw/202604/t20260415_3630026.html)
13. Wind Energy News Archive (2024), “China’s Wind Power Expansion in Shaanxi.” Available at: Web Archive of Wind.in-en.com. <https://web.archive.org/web/20240211163537/https://wind.in-en.com/html/wind-2419189.shtml>
14. Xinhua News Agency (2022), “Shaanxi Implements National Development Initiatives,” published 29 September 2022. Available at: Xinhua English. <https://english.news.cn/20220929/dd9557cc1ec242bcb0afe156054aebc4/c.html>
15. Xinhua News Agency (2025), “Shaanxi Economic Data – Trade & Investment,” published 23 May 2025. Available at: Xinhua English. <https://english.news.cn/20250523/7956ce2960994efd833e7444d88e51f4/c.html>