



Overview

Fujian is a coastal province in southeastern China and one of the country's most **developed economic hubs**, distinguished by its coastline, the second-longest in China, and a mountainous, heavily forested interior. Nine prefecture-level divisions make up the province, eight prefectures alongside the sub-provincial port city of **Xiamen**, with **Fuzhou** serving as the **provincial capital** and an economic hub which surpassed **£153 billion/CNY 1.4 trillion in GDP** in 2024. Fujian is long regarded as China's historic gateway to the overseas Chinese diaspora. **Xiamen's** status as a **Special Economic Zone** has drawn major international firms, with UK institutions such as **HSBC**, **Arup** and **Standard Chartered** maintaining a presence there, while Xiamen's sister-city partnership with Cardiff further strengthens UK-Fujian ties. **Manufacturing** and **exports** form the backbone of the province's economy, led by homegrown firms such as **lithium battery giant CATL** and sportswear brands **Anta Sports** and **361°**, while **Fuzhou** and **Quanzhou**, Fujian's top-performing cities by GDP, remain vital hubs for shipping and cross-border trade. Fujian ranks among China's most affluent provinces by **per capita income**. Furthermore, the **Hokkien** and **Min** dialects and centuries-old **tea-growing traditions** support a well-established **tourism** and **heritage** sector. Going forward, Fujian's **manufacturing** strength, **trade** connections and deepening **cross-strait** ties look set to keep the province central to China's economic growth and international engagement.

**Manufacturing &
Export Powerhouse**

**Maritime Trade
Gateway**

**Cross-strait
Bridge**

Cultural Tourism

**Regional
Affluence**

Fact Box

Population: 41.93 million (2024)

Major Regional Hubs: Fuzhou, Xiamen, Quanzhou, Ningde, Zhangzhou, Nanping

Notable Chinese Companies: CATL, Anta Sports, 361°, Fujian Star-net Communication Co, Dali Foods Group, Xiamen C&D Inc.

British Companies: HSBC, Standard Chartered, Arup, BP, Savills

Fujian Exports: £120.5 billion (2025)

Municipality GDP: £639.92 billion (CNY 6.02 trillion) (2025)

GDP Per Capita: £15,405 (CNY 144,920) (2025)

Notable Universities: Xiamen University, Fuzhou University, Huaqiao University

Sister City Agreement: Xiamen and Cardiff

Fujian Imports: £75.85 billion (2025)



Key Regions

Sanming (三明市)

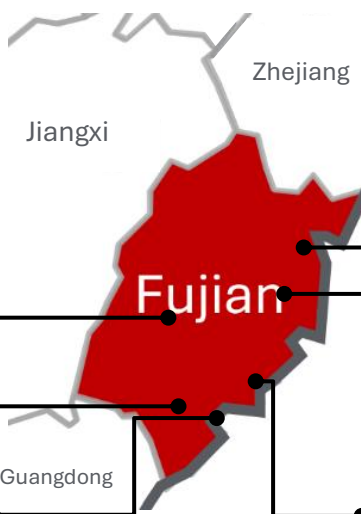
An inland industrial hub, Sanming leverages its mountainous resource base to specialise in fine chemicals, fluorochemicals, silicon chemicals and forest chemicals. The city also maintains a significant steel production hub.

Zhangzhou (漳州市)

Home to the Gulei Petrochemical Base, Zhangzhou hosts a £7.3 billion Sinopec-Saudi Aramco joint venture, central to Fujian's energy security. It also produces approximately 10% of China's canned food.

Xiamen (厦门市)

One of China's original Special Economic Zones Xiamen is Fujian's premier magnet for FDI and financial services. The city's Biomedical Port and Xiang'an Digital Economy Industrial Park drive its growing life sciences sector and LED specialism.



Ningde (宁德市)

Ningde is the birthplace and headquarters of CATL, the world's largest EV battery manufacturer, which underpins Fujian's seven consecutive years as the global leader in power battery market share at 39.2%.

Fuzhou (福州市)

Fujian's provincial capital and economic engine, Jiangyin Chemical New Materials Zone, produces electronics, petrochemicals and machinery. The city leads Fujian's biomedicine push through the Cross-Strait Biotech Health Care Demonstration Zone and has Fuzhou Changle International Airport.

Quanzhou (泉州市)

Quanzhou is Fujian's largest city by population and its manufacturing heavyweight, and hosts the world's largest footwear firms, such as Anta, Xtep and 361°. Meizhou Bay Petrochemical Base, backed by international joint ventures hosts a world-class refining and chemicals complex.

Major Industries

EVs & Batteries

Home to **CATL**, Contemporary Amperex Technology Co. Ltd., the world's largest lithium battery manufacturer, with a 39.2% market share in 2025, **Ningde** propels Fujian's status as a global '**new energy**' powerhouse. The province has ranked first globally in power battery market share for seven consecutive years, with roughly **360 GWh** of **lithium battery production** capacity now operational. Supported by the Ningde Power Battery Cluster's **Three-Year Action Plan**, electric batteries are Fujian's single **largest export** product, worth **£13.76 billion**, underscoring this sector's critical role in the province's manufacturing base.

Footwear & Apparel

Centred on **Quanzhou** and its county-level city **Jinjiang**, Fujian hosts one of the world's largest **footwear manufacturing** clusters, producing around **40%** of China's national footwear output. The region is home to internationally recognised sportswear brands including **Anta**, **Xtep**, **361 Degrees** and **Peak**, alongside dense supply chains spanning **textiles**, **machinery** and **sports equipment**. Chendai, within Quanzhou, alone produces over **700 million pairs of shoes annually**, while Rubber Footwear ranks among Fujian's top exports at **£ 3.38 billion**.

Petrochemicals

Anchored by the **Meizhou Bay** and **Gulei** bases, Fujian's petro-chemical industry combines state ownership with major international partnerships. Most notable are **Sinopec**, **Saudi Aramco**, **Exxon Mobil**; their joint ventures are central to Fujian's two flagship complexes. This sector is a **trillion-CNY** pillar of Fujian's economy. In 2025, the **1,123** above-designated-size meaning industry enterprises with revenue surpassing CNY 20 million which generated CNY 498.68 billion **operating revenue** with industrial value-added **growing 8.6% YoY**. Fujian is extending its industrial chain toward **new chemical materials** and **high-end fine chemicals**.

Shipping & Port Logistics

Facing the Taiwan Strait, Fujian's coastal geography has made **Fuzhou**, **Xiamen** and **Quanzhou** vital **shipping hubs** for both domestic and **cross-strait trade**. Xiamen's port and airport rank among the busiest in the region, while **Jinjiang Port** stands as China's **second-largest inland port**. The province is expanding its port infrastructure, including new berths at **Kemen** and **Zhaoyin**, and **Jiangyin Port's** designation as the sole vehicle-import gateway in the West Coast Economic Region. Fujian's marine economy accounted for 22% of provincial GDP in 2025.

Electronics & ICs

As part of its "**555X**" advanced manufacturing strategy, Fujian is developing a domestically leading integrated circuits and software information hub based in **Fuzhou** and **Xiamen**. The sector forms part of a broader push into electronic information technology which generated **CNY 940.4 billion** in revenue in 2024, which ranked Fujian 7th nationally, and is very close to the province's industry scale 2025 target of **CNY 1 trillion**. Xiamen's growing specialisms in **LED lamps** and **precision electronics** complement this push to capture a larger share of China's **semiconductor supply** chain as sectoral investment accelerates.

Stainless Steel & New Materials

Fuzhou's Luoyuan-Qingshan Stainless Steel Deep Processing Ecological Park anchors Fujian's position as a **major producer** of **stainless steel** and **new materials**, with deep processing facilities serving the **nautical equipment** and **marine industries**. The park is backed by Tsingshan Holding Group, the world's largest stainless-steel producer, and Fujian **Luoyuan Minguang Iron & Steel Co Ltd.**, a subsidiary of **Sansteel Group**. Fujian has designated this sector as one of five domestically leading **advanced manufacturing clusters** under its industrial strategy, alongside high-end equipment and green petrochemicals.

Biopharmaceuticals

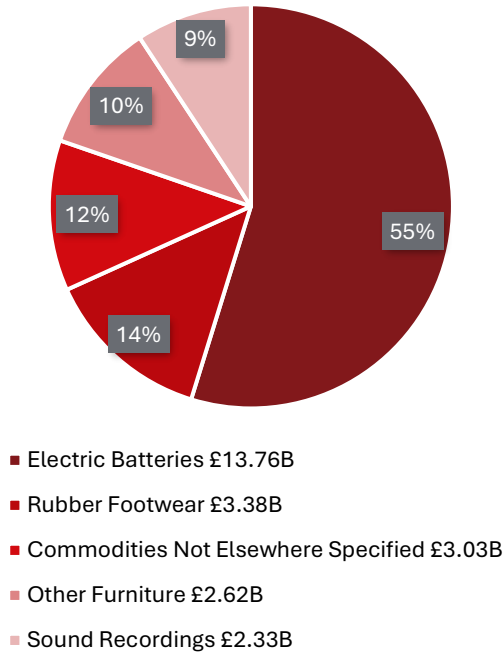
Fuzhou's Cross-Strait Biotech Health Care Demonstration Zone and Xiamen's Biomedical Port are central pillars of Fujian's growing **life sciences** sector, with **innovation medicine** and **medical devices** as priority development areas. Under its official 2022-2025 plan, the Fujian provincial government's operating revenue target for this industry is **CNY 120 billion** by 2025, and forming five specialised, biopharmaceutical industry clusters. Xiamen's **Xiang'an Digital Economy Industrial Park** supports this target, positioning the province to deepen **cross-strait cooperation** in biomedicine, given Taiwan's own strength in the sector.

Furniture & Handicrafts

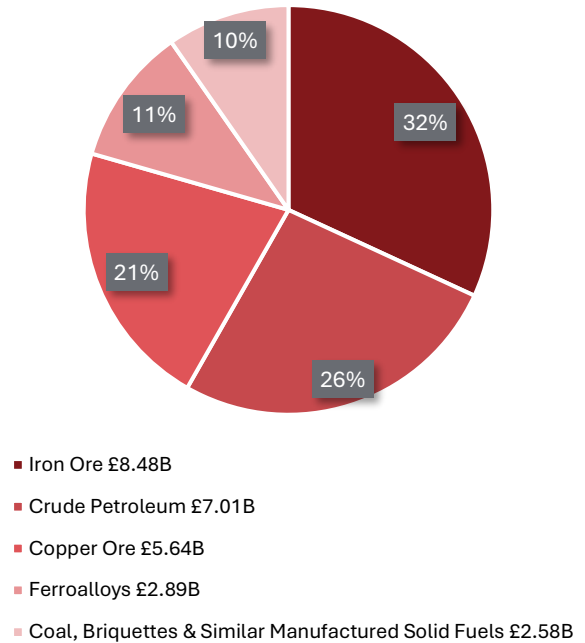
Putian is Fujian's long-serving centre for **furniture** and **fine arts**, producing an estimated **30%** of the world's oil paintings alongside traditional **Xianyou mahogany** furniture and **Xiuyu jade** products. Fujian is widely renowned for artisanal crafts, including **Fuzhou's "bodiless" lacquerware**, Shoushan stone carvings and **Xiamen bead embroidery**. This heritage translates into meaningful trade value, with Other Furniture, **£2.62 billion/ 24.87 billion CNY**, ranking among Fujian's **top five exports**, reflecting sustained demand for the province's design and craftsmanship traditions.

Metrics

Fujian Top 5 Exports by Category (2025)



Fujian Top 5 Imports by Category (2025)



Fujian's export portfolio is heavily concentrated around **electric batteries**; a reflection of CATL's dominance and the province's position as a global leader in lithium battery manufacturing. Fujian's import profile, by contrast, is far more evenly spread across **raw materials**. This asymmetry reflects Fujian's role in the supply chain: the province imports these commodities as feedstock for its battery, steel and petrochemical industries, before exporting the finished high-value products. The result is a trade profile that leans heavily on manufacturing output on the export side, while depending on a broad and diversified base of imported raw materials to sustain it.

Fujian's GDP Growth (2015-2025)



Fujian's GDP reached CNY **6.02 trillion** in 2025, a **4.22%** increase on the previous year and has maintained strong, consistent growth over the past decade, averaging **8.54%** per year between 2016 and 2025. Since 2022, growth has settled into a steadier **2–6%** range, a maturing, developed regional economy pace, and this trajectory suggests Fujian's expansion is driven by organic, sustainable growth, signalling a stable environment for long-term investment and trade planning.

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