



## Tomsk Region Overview

**Governor of Tomsk Region:** Sergey Zhvachkin

**Region center:** Tomsk (founded in 1604) -population is 565,000 people (2015 census)

### Geography and nature

geographical position: Tomsk Region is situated in the geographical center of Siberia - in the south-east of the West Siberian Plain. It borders Kemerovo and Novosibirsk Region in the south, Omsk Region in the southwest, Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug in the west, northwest, and north, and Krasnoyarsk Krai in the northeast and east.

**Area:** 314,400 km<sup>2</sup>

**Climate:** Tomsk Region almost entirely lies within the taiga zone. It has moderately continental cyclic climate with large diurnal and annual temperature ranges and a longer winter season. Mean annual temperature is +1.75°C, average temperature in July is +19.4°C, average temperature in January is -15.9°C. The frost-free season lasts 100-105 days. Mean annual precipitation is 435 mm.

There are significant differences in the weather conditions between the north and the south of Tomsk Region due to a significant distance between its northern and southern boundaries - 600 km. The climate in the north of Tomsk Region is more severe with longer winters.

The land is mainly swamps. The Ob River flows from southeast to northwest and divides Tomsk Region into two almost equal parts. The highlands on the right bank are less wet and more densely populated. River valleys occupy 1/5 of the territory of Tomsk Region. The three main natural zones are middle taiga, southern taiga, and forest steppe.

Forest estate land accounts for 85% of the land of Tomsk Region. The total woodland area is over 28 million hectares. Softwood species cover the area of 10,105.600 hectares. The total standing volume is 2,820.8 million m<sup>3</sup>. Forests cover 60% of the territory of Tomsk Region. Commercial forests occupy most of the forested area of the region. Valuable softwood species such as Siberian pine (*Pinus sibirica*), Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), spruce, fir, and larch account for a half of the commercial forest stand.

Tomsk Region is rich in mineral deposits and raw materials. About half of the oil and gas reserves are proven. Tomsk Region has the second largest peat reserves in Russia. There are 12 discovered deposits of metallic ore: iron, titanium, zirconium, scandium, kaolin, copper, bauxite, zinc, etc. The probable reserves of the Bakcharskoye iron ore deposit are 110 billion tons. Potential hydrocarbons in place are 5.47 billion tons, peat - 28.7 billion tons. There are deposits of high-melting clay, glass sand, ilmenite and zircon sand, fresh groundwater, thermal water, and mineral water. There are occurrences of gold, platinum, titanium, and zirconium.

**Population:** population is 1,074.453 people (0.7% of the population of Russia) - 2015 census. Urban population accounts for 72%. There are over 80 nationalities, including ethnic minorities, the population number less than 100 people.

**Transport:** freight transportation within the region is facilitated by road, air, rail, and water networks. Air transportation services in Tomsk Region are provided by national airlines. In spring 2010, the Russian Government issued an order to open the Tomsk airport for international flights and establish there an air cargo and passenger multi-way cross border check point for the period of functioning of the Tomsk SEZ. After the rebuild and modernization, the Tomsk airport will meet the highest global standards of quality, safety and flight navigation (project is expected to be completed by 2020). Today, it is possible to fly abroad.

Tomsk Region has almost 5,000 km of navigable inland waterways (the Ob River and its feeders). Water transport serves over a half of 700 settlements in Tomsk Region. Freight is mainly delivered by water to the north of the region. Water transport is used to barge timber, minerals, and construction materials.

The region has 4,204 km of paved public roads and a road density of 20 km per 1,000 km<sup>2</sup>. There is a plan to build a number of new international and interregional road routes, including the Northern Highway (Perm - Ivdel - Khanty-Mansiysk - Tomsk) before 2030.

Today, the total length of the railways in Tomsk Region is 346 km. The main trunk line is Bely Yar - Tomsk - Taiga. Trains leave Tomsk in six directions. There are direct rail links to five end stations - from Adler to Vladivostok.

From November till March ice (winter) roads are used to deliver cargos to the north of the region.

**Time zone:** Moscow +3 hrs, UTC/GMT +6 hrs

**Dialing code:** +7 382 2 (\*\* \*\* \*\*).

### **Economic Status**

Tomsk Region contribution in the national economy is higher than its contribution in terms of regional demographic growth. The regional strategic target is to create a dynamically developing, well-balanced and competitive high-income economy.

Major economy sectors in Tomsk Region are the following: extractive industries, including oil and gas industry, geological exploration and pipeline transportation; refining industries, including petroleum, petrochemical and pharmaceutical; lumber industry, including added-value wood processing; agricultural industry and food industry, machinery and metal working.

Priority economic development areas in Tomsk Region involve the development of innovation and high technologies, effective use of natural capital.

There is one of the largest nuclear centers in this region - Open Joint-Stock Company "Siberian Chemical Plant" (OJSC "SCP").

Lumber industry products are exported to more than 20 countries within the former Soviet Union and beyond. Forest area occupies about 60% of the total region territory.

Research and educational complex and high-technology business involved 15% of Gross Regional Product (GRP); R&D expenses are about 200 million USD (2.5% of GRP to average national level of 1.4%). Patent promotion in Tomsk Region exceeds twice the average in Russia (yearly more than 400 Intellectual Property patents including foreign ones). In October 2011, the Russian Government approved the project-concept in creating Center of Education and R&D ("Information-Science- Education" Project 2020).

Considering the potential of the region, in 2011 the Government of the Russian Federation approved, and in 2015 the Order of January 14, 2015 №22-p clarified the concept providing the creation in Tomsk Region the Territorial innovative center "INO Tomsk."

The concept "INO Tomsk" is unique document for regional economic development for Russia.

Since 2003, the system of regional support measures for investment activity and small and medium entrepreneurship development has been in place. Today it has developed into a fine-tuned, efficient and fast response system. Its transparency is secured by a dedicated regulatory framework.

Traditionally, Tomsk Region ranks among the leaders in Russian and the Siberian Federal District for key small business development indicators.

## **Tomsk Regional Small and Medium Business**

Among Russian regions, Tomsk Region is one of the leaders not only in the number of small enterprises, but also in the number of employees in small business. The investment promotion of small enterprises per 1,000 population is rather high.

There are about 50,000 small and medium enterprises and individual entrepreneurs. Approximately one half of the total number employees are involved in small and medium entrepreneurship (including individual entrepreneurs).

Besides small and medium enterprises and individual entrepreneurs, there exists a wide network of different organizations and centers: business incubators, commercialization agencies of innovative solutions, Tomsk Chamber of Commerce and Industry, including regional subcontracting center, regional integrated center of Enterprise Europe Network, Tomsk regions' Fund of small and medium enterprises development, municipal centers of entrepreneurship support within all municipal organizations, business-training and consultation centers, agencies of investment generation, leasing companies and public entrepreneur associations.

Tomsk Regional Guarantee Fund was organized for small and medium business credit assistance.

Regional Center of Export support is acting with the support of Tomsk region's Fund of small and medium enterprises development.

Tomsk Regional Cluster Development Center and regional engineering centers were organized under the program of the Ministry of economic development and trade of the Russian Federation.

According to the key indicators of entrepreneurship development, Tomsk Region is one of the leading regions in Siberia. It was awarded nine times (2004, 2005, 2007-2013) "Best Region of RF in the Development of Small Entrepreneurship", promoted by Federation Council of RF in collaboration with Tomsk CCI RF and Russian Union of Industrial & Entrepreneurs (RUIE). In 2007 Tomsk Region was honored prestigious Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry award "Gold Mercurius", nomination "Best RF Region in Favorable Entrepreneurship Development Environment".

### **Investment area**

Support measures for investment projects:

Subsidies for major project implementation.

Tax benefits:

assets tax (50% of assets tax on the fixed project assets for 5 years);

organization profits tax (5.26% of fixed project assets).

Development of the investment infrastructure:

1) Construction of industrial park in Tomsk, total area of which will be 138 ha and includes two 2 sites ("Severnaya" (North) – metal industry, chemical industry, production of construction materials; "Berezovaya" – food industry). The total project involvement sum will be about 29.0 million USD in 2013-2015, including 22.0 million USD from the federal budget, of which 5.0 million USD in 2013.

2) Development of Tomsk Special Technology Development Economic Zone infrastructure including the construction of the Expocentre, Administration-Business Center and Engineering Center.

System of preferences for the residents of Tomsk Special Technology Development Economic Zone:

1) resident-estate developers:

- hire-purchase of land parcel after commissioning at 13,736.0 USD/ha;

- during construction rent rate 2,747.0 USD a year/ha;

- transport and engineering infrastructures for each land parcel, the cost of technical specification for utility network connection will be about 467.0 USD.

2) incentive rate of rent payments for office-laboratories (in 2012):

- 12 USD/m<sup>2</sup> for office rooms, including utility payments;

- 10 USD/m<sup>2</sup> for laboratory rooms, including utility payments.

3) tax benefits:

- land tax (within first 5 years) - 0 %,
- transport tax (within first 10 years) - 0%,
- property tax (within first 10 years) - 0%,
- profit tax pay to the federal budget (from 01 January 2012 till 01 January 2018) - 0%,
- profit tax pay to the region budget – 13.5%,
- tax pay by simplified taxation system from tax object “income reduced by expenses” - 5 %,
- insurance payments to non-budgetary funds:

in 2012 - 2017 - 14%,

in 2018 - 21%,

in 2019 — 28%.

4) customs preferences: free custom zone within Tomsk Special Technology Development Economic Zone according to which:

- imported foreign goods by a resident for R&D activities implementation are stored and used within this Zone without import customs duties and value-added tax on importation;
- Customs Union goods are stored and used within this Zone free of charge or on the terms of stowing according to the free customs zone procedure.

## **Profitable Investment Opportunities in Tomsk Region<**

### **1. Unique human assets**

Tomsk is the leading Russian educational and scientific center, where 29.7% of the population has higher education.

### **2. Abundant natural resources**

The region is rich in mineral deposits (crude oil, gas, iron ore and other ore deposits), timber and water resources. It is the 2nd in Russia in peat resources.

### **3. Modern support infrastructure in innovation activities of small and medium businesses**

Industrial park is being constructed now. Current infrastructure includes technological cluster (technopark), business incubators, innovation and technological centers, commercialization offices, research assistance centers, guarantee and venture funds, export support center and regional integrated center, as well as, business support centers, credit cooperatives, guarantee fund, engineering centers and other structures.

### **4. Tomsk Technology Development Special Economic Zone**

Tomsk SEZ was established in 2006. Specializations: nanotechnology, information and communication technology and electronics, biotechnology and medicine.

#### **TOMSK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

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#### **Regional Integrated Center – Tomsk region Tomsk Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

- Search for business partners in the regions of RF and foreign countries (access to the international base consists of 23000 companies);
- Information and consultation on foreign economic activity;
- Trainings and workshops;
- Business missions, cooperation events, exhibitions.

Tomsk Regional Integrated Center is a regional partner of Enterprise Europe Network Russia, also is part of international business system, which unites about 600 centers in more than 50 countries of the world.

#### **Regional Integrated Center – Tomsk region Tomsk Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

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