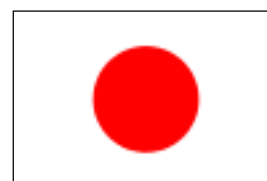


Japan



1. General Information

Population ^{*1}	126,771,662 (July 2001 est.)
Population density ^{*1} [/km ²]	338
Languages ^{*1}	Japanese
Ethnic Groups ^{*1}	Japanese 99.4%, Korean 0.6% (1999)
Climate ^{*1}	varies from tropical in south to cool temperate in north
Land Area ^{*1} [km ²]	374,744

Comments for General information ^{*1}

While retaining its time-honored culture, Japan rapidly absorbed Western technology during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. After its devastating defeat in World War II, Japan recovered to become the second most powerful economy in the world and a staunch ally of the US. While the emperor retains his throne as a symbol of national unity, actual power rests in networks of powerful politicians, bureaucrats, and business executives. The economy experienced a major slowdown in the 1990s following three decades of unprecedented growth.

2. Economy

GDP ^{*1} [US\$]	3.15 trillion (2000 est.)	
GDP-per capita ^{*1} [US\$]	24,900 (2000 est.)	
Imports ^{*1} [US\$]	355 billion (c.i.f., 2000)	
	fuels, foodstuffs, chemicals, textiles, office machinery	
Exports ^{*1} [US\$]	450 billion (f.o.b., 2000)	
	motor vehicles, semiconductors, office machinery, chemicals	
Composition of Industry ^{*1}	Agriculture & Fishery [%]	2 (1999 est.)

(Ratio to GDP)	Industry [%]	35 (1999 est.)
	Service [%]	63 (1999 est.)

Comments for Economy ^{*1}

Government-industry cooperation, a strong work ethic, mastery of high technology, and a comparatively small defense allocation (1% of GDP) have helped Japan advance with extraordinary rapidity to the rank of second most technologically powerful economy in the world after the US and third largest economy in the world after the US and China. One notable characteristic of the economy is the working together of manufacturers, suppliers, and distributors in closely-knit groups called keiretsu. A second basic feature has been the guarantee of lifetime employment for a substantial portion of the urban labor force. Both features are now eroding. Industry, the most important sector of the economy, is heavily dependent on imported raw materials and fuels. The much smaller agricultural sector is highly subsidized and protected, with crop yields among the highest in the world. Usually self-sufficient in rice, Japan must import about 50% of its requirements of other grain and fodder crops. Japan maintains one of the world's largest fishing fleets and accounts for nearly 15% of the global catch. For three decades overall real economic growth had been spectacular: a 10% average in the 1960s, a 5% average in the 1970s, and a 4% average in the 1980s. Growth slowed markedly in the 1990s largely because of the aftereffects of over investment during the late 1980s and concretionary domestic policies intended to wring speculative excesses from the stock and real estate markets. Government efforts to revive economic growth have met little success and were further hampered in late 2000 by the slowing of the US and Asian economies. The crowding of habitable land area and the aging of the population are two major long-run problems. Robotics constitutes a key long-term economic strength, with Japan possessing 410,000 of the world's 720,000 "working robots".

3. Energy

Electricity ^{*1}	Electricity production [kWh]		1.018 trillion kWh (1999)
	Electricity consumption [kWh]		947.038 billion kWh (1999)
	Electricity- production by source		Fossil fuel: 58,9%, hydro: 8.35 %; nuclear: 30.31 %; other: 2.43 % (1999)
Energy Resources ^{*2}	Production	Oil	750,000 (ton) (2000)
		Coal	NA
		Gas	1.2265 billion (ton) (2000)
	Consumption	Oil	212 million (ton) (2000)
		Coal	NA
		Gas	39.6 billion (ton) (2000)

Comments for Energy

4. Water

Precipitation ^{*3}		1667.9mm	
Internal renewable Water Resources ^{*3}		430m ³	
Population with Access to Improved Water Supply ^{*3}		100%	
Total Water Withdraw ^{*3}	NA	Industry [%]	17
		Domestic [%]	19
		Agriculture [%]	64

Comments for Water^{*1}

The comments for water are the following:

- Water pollution because of drain from factory and house

5. Environment and Population

CO ₂ Emission ^{*4}	Total metric tons	1.15 billion
	Metric tons per capita	9.07

Comments for Environment^{*1}

The comments for environment are the following:

- Air pollution from power plant emissions results in acid rain
- Acidification of lakes and reservoirs degrading water quality and threatening aquatic life
- Japan is one of the largest consumers of fish and tropical timber, contributing to the depletion of these resources in Asia and elsewhere

References

*1 <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>

*2 <http://www.eia.doe.gov>

*3 <http://www.geodata.grid.unep.ch>

*4 <http://www.iae.or.jp/energyinfo/energydata/data5009.htm>

Information

<http://www.kantei.go.jp/>

<http://www.cao.go.jp/>

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