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Chapter 1

121

1.1 121.guide

Texified version of data for Japan.

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Japan

1.2 121.guide/Japan

Japan

Geography (Japan)

People (Japan)

Government (Japan)

Government (Japan 2. usage)

Economy (Japan)

Economy (Japan 2. usage)

Communications (Japan)

Defense Forces (Japan)

1.3 121.guide/Geography (Japan)

Geography (Japan)

=====

Location:

Northeast Asia, off the southeast coast of Russia and east of the Korean peninsula

Map references:

Asia, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

377,835 km²

land area:

374,744 km²

comparative area:

slightly smaller than California

note:

includes Bonin Islands (Ogasawara-gunto), Daito-shoto, Minami-jima, Okinotori-shima, Ryukyu Islands (Nansei-shoto), and Volcano Islands (Kazan-retto)

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

29,751 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive fishing zone:

200 nm

territorial sea: 12 nm

3 nm in the international straits - La Perouse or Soya, Tsugaru, Osumi, and Eastern and Western channels of the Korea or Tsushima Strait

International disputes:

Etorofu, Kunashiri, and Shikotan Islands and the Habomai island group occupied by the Soviet Union in 1945, now administered by Russia, claimed ← by

Japan; Liancourt Rocks disputed with South Korea; Senkaku-shoto (Senkaku Islands) claimed by China and Taiwan

Climate:

varies from tropical in south to cool temperate in north

Terrain:

mostly rugged and mountainous

Natural resources:

negligible mineral resources, fish

Land use:

arable land:

13%

permanent crops:
 1%
 meadows and pastures:
 1%
 forest and woodland:
 67%
 other:
 18%
 Irrigated land:
 28,680 km² (1989)
 Environment:
 many dormant and some active volcanoes; about 1,500 seismic occurrences
 (mostly tremors) every year; subject to tsunamis
 Note:
 strategic location in northeast Asia

1.4 121.guide/People (Japan)

People (Japan)

=====

Population:
 124,711,551 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 0.32% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 10.31 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 7.17 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 4.3 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 79.18 years
 male:
 76.35 years
 female:
 82.15 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 1.54 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Japanese (singular and plural)
 adjective:
 Japanese
 Ethnic divisions:
 Japanese 99.4%, other 0.6% (mostly Korean)
 Religions:
 Shinto 95.8%, Buddhist 76.3%, Christian 1.4%, other 12%
 note:
 most Japanese observe both Shinto and Buddhist rites so the percentages add

to more than 100%

Languages:
Japanese

Literacy:
age 15 and over can read and write (1970)
total population:
99%

male:
NA%

female:
NA%

Labor force:
63.33 million

by occupation:
trade and services 54%, manufacturing, mining, and construction 33%,
agriculture, forestry, and fishing 7%, government 3% (1988)

1.5 121.guide/Government (Japan)

Government (Japan)

=====

Names:
conventional long form:
none
conventional short form:
Japan

Digraph:
JA

Type:
constitutional monarchy

Capital:
Tokyo

Administrative divisions:
47 prefectures; Aichi, Akita, Aomori, Chiba, Ehime, Fukui, Fukuoka,
Fukushima, Gifu, Gumma, Hiroshima, Hokkaido, Hyogo, Ibaraki, Ishikawa,
Iwate, Kagawa, Kagoshima, Kanagawa, Kochi, Kumamoto, Kyoto, Mie, Miyagi,
Miyazaki, Nagano, Nagasaki, Nara, Niigata, Oita, Okayama, Okinawa, Osaka,
Saga, Saitama, Shiga, Shimane, Shizuoka, Tochigi, Tokushima, Tokyo, Tottori ←
,
Toyama, Wakayama, Yamagata, Yamaguchi, Yamanashi

Independence:
660 BC (traditional founding by Emperor Jimmu)

Constitution:
3 May 1947

Legal system:
modled after European civil law system with English-American influence;
judicial review of legislative acts in the Supreme Court; accepts ←
compulsory
ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

National holiday:
Birthday of the Emperor, 23 December (1933)

Political parties and leaders:

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Kiichi MIYAZAWA, president; Seiroku KAJIYAMA, secretary general; Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ), Sadao YAMAHANA, Chairman; Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), Keizo OUCHI, chairman ←
;

Japan Communist Party (JCP), Tetsuzo FUWA, Presidium chairman; Komeito (Clean Government Party, CGP), Koshiro ISHIDA, chairman; Japan New Party (JNP), Morihiro HOSOKAWA, chairman

Suffrage:

20 years of age; universal

Elections:

House of Councillors:

last held on 26 July 1992 (next to be held NA July 1995); results - percent of vote by party NA; seats - (252 total) LDP 106, SDPJ 73, CGP 24, DSP 12, JCP 11, JNP 4, other 22

House of Representatives:

last held on 18 February 1990 (next to be held by NA February 1994); ←
results

- percent of vote by party NA; seats - (512 total) LDP 274, SDPJ 137, CGP 46, JCP 16, DSP 13, others 5, independents 6, vacant 15

Executive branch:

Emperor, prime minister, Cabinet

Legislative branch:

bicameral Diet (Kokkai) consists of an upper house or House of Councillors (Sangi-in) and a lower house or House of Representatives (Shugi-in)

Judicial branch:

Supreme Court

Leaders:

Chief of State:

Emperor AKIHITO (since 7 January 1989)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Kiichi MIYAZAWA (since 5 November 1991)

1.6 121.guide/Government (Japan 2. usage)

Government (Japan 2. usage)

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Member of:

AfDB, AG (observer), Australia Group, APEC, AsDB, BIS, CCC, COCOM, CP, CSCE (observer), EBRD, ESCAP, FAO, G-2, G-5, G-7, G-8, G-10, GATT, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, IDA, IEA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, IOM (observer), ISO, ITU, LORCS, MTCR, NEA, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNOMZ, UNRWA, UPU, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, ZC

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 ,
 and Portland (Oregon)
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 consulates general:
 Naha (Okinawa), Osaka-Kobe, Sapporo
 consulate:
 Fukuoka
 Flag:
 white with a large red disk (representing the sun without rays) in the
 center

1.7 121.guide/Economy (Japan)

Economy (Japan)

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Overview:

Government-industry cooperation, a strong work ethic, and a comparatively small defense allocation have helped Japan advance with extraordinary rapidity, notably in high-technology fields. Industry, the most important sector of the economy, is heavily dependent on imported raw materials and fuels. 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. Overall economic growth has been spectacular: a 10% average in the 1960s, a 5% average in the 1970s and 1980s. Economic growth slowed markedly in 1992 largely because of contractionary domestic policies intended to wring speculative excesses from the stock and real estate markets. At the same time, the stronger yen and slower global growth are containing export growth. Unemployment and inflation remain low at 2%. Japan continues to run a huge trade surplus - \$107 billion in 1992, up nearly 40% from the year earlier - which supports extensive investment in foreign assets. The crowding of its habitable land area and the aging of its population are two major long-run problems.

National product:

GDP - purchasing power equivalent - \$2.468 trillion (1992)

National product real growth rate:

1.5% (1992)

National product per capita:

\$19,800 (1992)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

2.1% (1992)

Unemployment rate:

2.2% (1992)

Budget:

revenues \$490 billion; expenditures \$579 billion, including capital expenditures (public works only) of about \$68 billion (FY93)

Exports:

\$339.7 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

manufactures 97% (including machinery 40%, motor vehicles 18%, consumer electronics 10%)

partners:

Southeast Asia 31%, US 29%, Western Europe 23%, Communist countries 4%, Middle East 3%

Imports:

\$232.7 billion (c.i.f., 1992)

commodities:

manufactures 44%, fossil fuels 33%, foodstuffs and raw materials 23%

partners:

Southeast Asia 25%, US 22%, Western Europe 17%, Middle East 12%, former Communist countries and China 8%

External debt:

\$NA

Industrial production:

growth rate -6.0% (1992); accounts for 30% of GDP

Electricity:

196,000,000 kW capacity; 835,000 million kWh produced, 6,700 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

steel and non-ferrous metallurgy, heavy electrical equipment, construction and mining equipment, motor vehicles and parts, electronic and telecommunication equipment and components, machine tools and automated production systems, locomotives and railroad rolling stock, shipbuilding, chemicals, textiles, food processing

1.8 121.guide/Economy (Japan 2. usage)

Economy (Japan 2. usage)

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Agriculture:

accounts for only 2% of GDP; highly subsidized and protected sector, with crop yields among highest in world; principal crops - rice, sugar beets, vegetables, fruit; animal products include pork, poultry, dairy and eggs; about 50% self-sufficient in food production; shortages of wheat, corn, soybeans; world's largest fish catch of 10 million metric tons in 1991

Economic aid:

donor - ODA and OOF commitments (1970-89), \$83.2 billion; ODA outlay of \$9 ←
.1

billion in 1990 (est.)

Currency:

1 yen (Y) = 100 sen

Exchange rates:

yen (Y) per US\$1 - 125.01 (January 1993), 126.65 (1992), 134.71 (1991),
144.79 (1990), 137.96 (1989), 128.15 (1988)

Fiscal year:

1 April - 31 March

1.9 121.guide/Communications (Japan)

Communications (Japan)

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Railroads:

27,327 km total; 2,012 km 1.435-meter standard gauge and 25,315 km
predominantly 1.067-meter narrow gauge; 5,724 km doubletrack and multitrack
sections, 9,038 km 1.067-meter narrow-gauge electrified, 2,012 km
1.435-meter standard-gauge electrified (1987)

Highways:

1,111,974 km total; 754,102 km paved, 357,872 km gravel, crushed stone, or
unpaved; 4,400 km national expressways; 46,805 km national highways; ←
128,539
km prefectural roads; and 930,230 km city, town, and village roads, 6,400 ←
km
other

Inland waterways:

about 1,770 km; seagoing craft ply all coastal inland seas

Pipelines:

crude oil 84 km; petroleum products 322 km; natural gas 1,800 km

Ports:

Chiba, Muroran, Kitakyushu, Kobe, Tomakomai, Nagoya, Osaka, Tokyo,
Yokkaichi, Yokohama, Kawasaki, Niigata, Fushiki-Toyama, Shimizu, Himeji,
Wakayama-Shimozu, Shimonoseki, Tokuyama-Shimomatsu

Merchant marine:

950 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 21,080,149 GRT/32,334,270 DWT;
includes 10 passenger, 39 short-sea passenger, 1 passenger cargo, 81 cargo,
43 container, 43 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 87 refrigerated cargo, 97 vehicle
carrier, 240 oil tanker, 11 chemical tanker, 39 liquefied gas, 9 ←
combination
ore/oil, 2 specialized tanker, 247 bulk, 1 multi-function large load
carrier; note - Japan also owns a large flag of convenience fleet, ←
including
up to 44% of the total number of ships under the Panamanian flag

Airports:

total:

162

usable:

159

with permanent-surface runways:

132

with runways over 3,659 m:

2

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

32

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

50

Telecommunications:

excellent domestic and international service; 64,000,000 telephones;
broadcast stations - 318 AM, 58 FM, 12,350 TV (196 major - 1 kw or greater) ←
;
satellite earth stations - 4 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT and 1 Indian Ocean
INTELSAT; submarine cables to US (via Guam), Philippines, China, and Russia

1.10 121.guide/Defense Forces (Japan)

Defense Forces (Japan)

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Branches:

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (Army), Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force
(Navy), Japan Air Self-Defense Force (Air Force), Maritime Safety Agency
(Coast Guard)

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 32,134,496; fit for military service 27,689,029; reach
military age (18) annually 1,002,998 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$37 billion, 0.94% of GDP (FY93/94 est.)