

Folketinget – Uddannelsesudvalget

Christiansborg, den 2. august 2006

Til

udvalgets medlemmer og stedfortrædere.

**Revideret programudkast m.v. for udvalgets studietur til Sydkorea og Japan
den 2.-9. september 2006**

Vedlagt omdeles til orientering til brug for udvalgets studietur til Sydkorea og Japan:

- Revideret udkast til program
- Landefakta (Sydkorea)
- Klimadata (Seoul)
- Landefakta (Japan)
- Klimadata (Tokyo)

Med venlig hilsen
Jesper Schaumburg-Müller,
udvalgssekretær.

Program for Uddannelsesudvalgets Studietur til

Korea og Japan 2.– 9. september 2006

Program i Korea:

Tid	Lørdag den 2. September
15.15	Afgang fra Kastrup Lufthavn
Tid	Søndag den 3. September
11.25	Ankomst i Seoul, Incheon lufthavn
Eftermiddag	Check-in i Grand Hyatt Seoul, justere til Korea tid.
18.30	Afgang fra Grand Hyatt Seoul
18.55	Ankomst til den danske ambassadørs residens.
19.00	Uformel middag og briefing ved ambassadør Poul Hoiness
-	Transport til Grand Hyatt Seoul
Tid	Mandag den 4. September
8.50	Afgang fra Grand Hyatt Seoul
9.20	Ankomst til 'Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development'
9.30 – 12.00	Møde i 'Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development' www.moe.go.kr
Address: 77-6 Sejong-ro Chongno-gu , Seoul	Agenda:
Contact: Jong-Gyu Lee jkleeh@moe.go.kr 02 2100 6572	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hvilke er de største udfordringer i Koreansk uddannelsespolitik?- Hvordan vil man tag disse op?- Hvordan er korrespondancen mellem uddannelsessystemets out-put og arbejdsmarkedets behov?- Hvilken status har 'vocational education and training' fx i sammenligning med. teoretiske/akademiske studier i Korea, og hvad er regeringens syn på dette?- Hvad er regeringens program på området?- Har regeringen en eksplicit strategi for livslang læring?- Har regeringen et program for karriererådgivning og uddannelsesvejledning?- Hvilke metoder anvendes men i implementeringen af nye uddannelsespolitiske initiativer?- Hvordan er samspillet regeringen og interessenterne som fx arbejdsgivere og fagforeninger?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hvordan bliver en reform process planlagt og implementeret i Korea? - I hvilken grad bliver ekspertviden og forskningsresultater involveret?
12.00 – 13.20	Lunch, With the Ministry? (To be fixed)
13.30	Afgang fra restaurant
13.55	Ankomst til Korea National Open University
14.00 – 16.30	<p>Besøg på Korea National Open University (KNOU) www.knou.ac.kr</p> <p>Address: 169 Dongsoong-dong Chongno-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Contact: Chang-Ryul Yang chayang@knou.ac.kr 02 3668 4397</p> <p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - En generel introduktion til universitetet - Besigtigelse af universitetets faciliteter til e-learning og distance learning - Møde med studenter og lærere - Diskussion om fordele og ulemper ved systematisk brug af e-learning og distance learning - Diskussion om de studerendes fremtidsudsigter – beskæftigelsesmuligheder, videre- og efteruddannelse etc.
16.40	Afgang fra Korea National Open University
17.10	Ankomst til Grand Hyatt Seoul
Aften	Disponibel
Tid	Tirsdag den 5. September
8.45	Afgang fra Grand Hyatt Seoul
9.20	Aankomst til Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education & Training
9.30 – 12.00	<p>Besøg på Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education & Training (KRIVET) www.krivet.re.kr</p> <p>Address: 15-1 Chungdam 2 dong Kangnam-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Contact: Eun-Ha Cho ehcho@krivet.re.kr 02 3485 5006</p> <p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hvad er efter KRIVET's opfattelse Korea's største uddannelsespolitiske udfordringer og hvilken rolle har 'vocational education and training' i nationens generelle udvikling? - Hvilken status har 'vocational education and training' efter KRIVET's opfattelse fx i sammenligning med teoretiske/akademiske studier i Korea? - Hvad er sammenhængen mellem forskning og

	<p>politikudvikling i KRIVET?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hvilke muligheder har Koreanske arbejdsgivere for at opgradere de ansattes kompetencer – lifelong learning, HRD – hvordan finansieres disse aktiviteter? - Hvilke muligheder har unge Koreanere for at modtage uddannelsesvejledning og rådgivning med hensyn til karrierevalg og hvilken adgang har ansatte til rådgivning og kompetenceudvikling?
12.00	Afgang fra KRIVET
12.10	Ankomst til Restaurant i 'The SOHO'
12.10 – 13.30	<p>Lunch – Fusion Style – Restaurant 'Tani'</p> <p>Address: 116-3 Chungdam-dong Kangnam-gu, Seoul 02 514 1999</p>
13.35	Afgang fra Restaurant 'Tani'
13.50	Ankomst til Samsung Education Center
14.00 – 16.30	<p>Besøg på Samsung Education Center (E-learning) www.multicampus.co.kr</p> <p>Address: 718-5 Yeocksam-dong Kangnam-gu Seoul</p> <p>Contact: Hyun-Jung Kim Kattie.kim@samsung.com 02 3429 5012</p> <p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hvilken rolle spiller uddannelsescentret i Samsung's udviklingsstrategi? - Hvordan optages ansatte i uddannelsescentret? – Frivilligt, efter ansøgning eller efter indstilling fra ledelsen? - Er centret åbent for andre end ansatte i Samsung? - Hvordan planlægger og organiserer centret undervisningens indhold? Og hvordan er relationen til arbejdspladsen? - Hvordan kan det være, at offentlige udbydere af efter- og videreuddannelse ikke kan dække Samsung's uddannelsesbehov? - Hvad er fordele og ulemper ved konsekvent brug af e-learning?
16.40	Afgang fra Samsung Education Center
17.10	Ankomst til Grand Hyatt Seoul
18.30	Afgang fra Grand Hyatt Seoul
18.55	Ankomst til Restaurant 'Yongsusan'

19.00	Middag - Traditional Korean Style - Restaurant 'Yongsusan'
Address: Seoul Finance Center B1 105-A Taepyungno 1-ga, Joong-gu Seoul Tel: 7771-5553, 5503	
	Transport til Grand Hyatt Seoul
Tid	Onsdag den 6. September
8.20	Check-out fra hotel afsluttet, Afgang fra Grand Hyatt Seoul
	Ankomst til Myongji High School
9.00-11.30	Site Visit – Myongji High School www.myongjigo.net
Address: 89-9 Chungwoon-dong Chongno-gu, Seoul	Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Et generelt indtryk af skolen • Møde med ledelsen , lærere og elever • Career-guidance and counseling
11:30	Afgang fra Myongji High School
12:30	Ankomst til Kimpo Airport
12.30 -14.00	Muligheder for frokost i Kimpo Airport Sky City Convention Center Sky lounge (Western – 02 2661 0400) or Meichai (Chinese – 02 2661 0500)
14.00	Check-in
15.50	Afgang til Tokyo, Haneda Airport

Program i Japan:

Tid	Onsdag den 6. september
17:50	Ankomst til Tokyo Haneda Airport. Transfer til Imperial Hotel by bus
18.30	Check in Imperial Hotel., 1-1-1 Uchisaiwai-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8558. Tel +81-3-3504-1111. Fax +81-3-3581-9146
19:30	Afgang Hotel med bus
20:00	Uformel middag i den danske ambassade
Tid	Torsdag den 7. september
09:45	Afgang Imperial Hotel med bus

10:00	<p>Møde med formand for Underhusets uddannelses- og videnskabsudvalg, Otohiko Endo og andre medlemmer af udvalget efterfulgt af omvisning i parlamentet:</p> <p>Mulige temaer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hvor er brudfladerne i udviklingen af japansk uddannelsespolitik? - Hvordan tilrettelægges reformprocesser i Japan? - Hvilken status har 'vocational education and training' i forhold til fx teoretiske/ akademiske studier i Japan og hvorledes vurderes dette i parlamentets forskellige grupperinger? - Hvordan fungerer samspillet mellem det politiske/ parlamentariske liv og interessenter som fx arbejdsgiverorganisationer, fagforeninger? <p>Hvorledes ses der i parlamentets forskellige grupperinger på familietraditionernes rolle i forbindelse med unges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - valg af uddannelse og erhverv? - I hvor høj grad inddrages ekspertviden og forskning i reformprocessen?
12:00	Frokost i sushi-restaurant 'Tsukiji Tama-zushi 3541-1917
14.00	<p>Møde med embedsmænd i Undervisningsministeriet efterfulgt af møde med den japanske undervisningsminister Kenji Kosaka:</p> <p>Mulige temaer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hvad er Japans største uddannelsespolitiske udfordringer? - Hvordan vil disse blive adresseret? - Hvordan er sammenhængen mellem uddannelsessystemets out-put og arbejdsmarkedets behov? - Hvilken status har 'vocational education and training' i forhold til fx teoretiske/ akademiske studier i Japan og hvorledes vurderes dette i regeringen? - Hvilken rolle spiller familietraditioner i valg af uddannelse og erhverv? - Hvorledes arbejder regeringen i dette spændingsfelt? - Har regeringen en strategi for livslang læring? - Har regeringen et program for 'career guidance' og 'counselling'? - Hvilke instrumenter bruges til implementering af nye uddannelsespolitiske initiativer? - Hvordan fungerer samspillet mellem regeringen og interessenter som fx arbejdsgiverorganisationer,

	fagforeninger?
16:00	Retur til Imperial Hotel
18:00	Afgang Imperial Hotel
18:30	Buffet reception i den danske ambassadørbolig med japanske samtalepartnere etc. jf. gæsteliste
Tid	Fredag den 8. september
08:30	Afgang Imperial Hotel
09:00-12:00	Site visit på gymnasium og faggymnasium Mulige temaer: - Samle indtryk fra institutionen Mulighed for at mødes med ledelse, lærere og studerende.
12:30	Frokost i yakitori-restaurant (grill stegt kylling på spid) Kurumaya 5420-9608
14:00	Besøg i National Institute for Educational Policy Research. Mulige temaer: - Hvad er efter National Institute for Educational Policy Research's vurdering Japans største uddannelsespolitiske udfordringer, og hvilken rolle spiller 'vocational education and training' i det samlede udviklingsbillede? - Hvilken status vurderer National Institute for Educational Policy Research, at 'vocational education and training' har i forhold til fx teoretiske/ akademiske studier i Japan? - Hvilken rolle spiller familietraditioner for unges valg af uddannelse og arbejde, og hvordan vurderes dette i National Institute for Educational Policy Research? - Hvordan fungerer sammenhængen mellem forskning og programudvikling i National Institute for Educational Policy Research's arbejde? - Hvilke muligheder har japanske ansatte for uddannelsesmæssig opgradering – livslang læring, HRD – hvordan er finansieringsmønstrene? - Hvilke muligheder har japanske unge for at få vejledning i forbindelse med studievalg og hvilken adgang har fx ansatte til vejledning i forbindelse med kompetenceudvikling?
16:00	Afgang NIER

16:30	Besøg i Meiji Shrine (Shintoistisk helligdom) efterfulgt af spadseretur i det fashionable forretningskvarter Omotesando
18:30	Japansk middag i restaurant Izakaya Hayashiya 5411-4261
Tid	Lørdag den 9. september
08:30	Afgang Imperial Hotel
11:45	Afgang mod Købehavn Narita Airport
16:45	Ankomst Kastrup Lufthavn

[Country List](#) | [World Factbook Home](#)

The World Factbook



Korea, South



Introduction Korea, South

Background: Korea was an independent kingdom for much of the past millennium. Following its victory in the Russo-Japanese War in 1905, Japan occupied Korea; five years later it formally annexed the entire peninsula. After World War II, a Republic of Korea (ROK) was set up in the southern half of the Korean Peninsula while a Communist-style government was installed in the north (the DPRK). During the Korean War (1950-53), US troops and UN forces fought alongside soldiers from the ROK to defend South Korea from DPRK attacks supported by China and the Soviet Union. An armistice was signed in 1953, splitting the peninsula along a demilitarized zone at about the 38th parallel. Thereafter, South Korea achieved rapid economic growth with per capita income rising to roughly 14 times the level of North Korea. In 1993, KIM Yo'ng-sam became South Korea's first civilian president following 32 years of military rule. South Korea today is a fully functioning modern democracy. In June 2000, a historic first North-South summit took place between the South's President KIM Dae-jung and the North's leader KIM Jong Il.

Geography Korea, South

Location: Eastern Asia, southern half of the Korean Peninsula bordering the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea

Geographic coordinates:	37 00 N, 127 30 E
Map references:	Asia
Area:	<i>total:</i> 98,480 sq km <i>land:</i> 98,190 sq km <i>water:</i> 290 sq km
Area - comparative:	slightly larger than Indiana
Land boundaries:	<i>total:</i> 238 km <i>border countries:</i> North Korea 238 km
Coastline:	2,413 km
Maritime claims:	<i>territorial sea:</i> 12 nm; between 3 nm and 12 nm in the Korea Strait <i>contiguous zone:</i> 24 nm <i>exclusive economic zone:</i> 200 nm <i>continental shelf:</i> not specified
Climate:	temperate, with rainfall heavier in summer than winter
Terrain:	mostly hills and mountains; wide coastal plains in west and south
Elevation extremes:	<i>lowest point:</i> Sea of Japan 0 m <i>highest point:</i> Halla-san 1,950 m
Natural resources:	coal, tungsten, graphite, molybdenum, lead, hydropower potential
Land use:	<i>arable land:</i> 16.58% <i>permanent crops:</i> 2.01% <i>other:</i> 81.41% (2005)
Irrigated land:	8,780 sq km (2003)
Natural hazards:	occasional typhoons bring high winds and floods; low-level seismic activity common in southwest
Environment - current issues:	air pollution in large cities; acid rain; water pollution from the discharge of sewage and industrial effluents; drift net fishing
Environment - international agreements:	<i>party to:</i> Antarctic-Environmental Protocol, Antarctic-Marine Living Resources, Antarctic Treaty, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Tropical Timber 83, Tropical Timber 94, Wetlands, Whaling <i>signed, but not ratified:</i> none of the selected agreements
Geography - note:	strategic location on Korea Strait
People	Korea, South
Population:	48,846,823 (July 2006 est.)
Age structure:	<i>0-14 years:</i> 18.9% (male 4,844,083/female 4,368,139)

15-64 years: 71.9% (male 17,886,148/female 17,250,862)
65 years and over: 9.2% (male 1,818,677/female 2,678,914) (2006 est.)

- Median age:** *total: 35.2 years*
male: 34.2 years
female: 36.3 years (2006 est.)
- Population growth rate:** 0.42% (2006 est.)
- Birth rate:** 10 births/1,000 population (2006 est.)
- Death rate:** 5.85 deaths/1,000 population (2006 est.)
- Net migration rate:** 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2006 est.)
- Sex ratio:** *at birth: 1.08 male(s)/female*
under 15 years: 1.11 male(s)/female
15-64 years: 1.04 male(s)/female
65 years and over: 0.68 male(s)/female
total population: 1.01 male(s)/female (2006 est.)
- Infant mortality rate:** *total: 6.16 deaths/1,000 live births*
male: 6.54 deaths/1,000 live births
female: 5.75 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)
- Life expectancy at birth:** *total population: 77.04 years*
male: 73.61 years
female: 80.75 years (2006 est.)
- Total fertility rate:** 1.27 children born/woman (2006 est.)
- HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** less than 0.1% (2003 est.)
- HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS:** 8,300 (2003 est.)
- HIV/AIDS - deaths:** less than 200 (2003 est.)
- Nationality:** *noun: Korean(s)*
adjective: Korean
- Ethnic groups:** homogeneous (except for about 20,000 Chinese)
- Religions:** no affiliation 46%, Christian 26%, Buddhist 26%, Confucianist 1%, other 1%
- Languages:** Korean, English widely taught in junior high and high school
- Literacy:** *definition: age 15 and over can read and write*
total population: 97.9%
male: 99.2%
female: 96.6% (2002)

Government Korea, South**Country name:** *conventional long form:* Republic of Korea*conventional short form:* South Korea*local long form:* Taehan-min'guk*local short form:* Han'guk*abbreviation:* ROK**Government type:** republic**Capital:** Seoul**Administrative divisions:** 9 provinces (do, singular and plural) and 7 metropolitan cities (gwangyoksi, singular and plural)
provinces: Cheju-do, Cholla-bukto (North Cholla), Cholla-namdo (South Cholla), Ch'ungch'ong-bukto (North Ch'ungch'ong), Ch'ungch'ong-namdo (South Ch'ungch'ong), Kangwon-do, Kyonggi-do, Kyongsang-bukto (North Kyongsang), Kyongsang-namdo (South Kyongsang)
metropolitan cities: Inch'on-gwangyoksi (Inch'on), Kwangju-gwangyoksi (Kwangju), Pusan-gwangyoksi (Pusan), Soul-t'ukpyolsi (Seoul), Taegu-gwangyoksi (Taegu), Taejon-gwangyoksi (Taejon), Ulsan-gwangyoksi (Ulsan)**Independence:** 15 August 1945 (from Japan)**National holiday:** Liberation Day, 15 August (1945)**Constitution:** 17 July 1948**Legal system:** combines elements of continental European civil law systems, Anglo-American law, and Chinese classical thought**Suffrage:** 19 years of age; universal**Executive branch:** *chief of state:* President ROH Moo-hyun (since 25 February 2003)
head of government: Prime Minister HAN Myeong-sook (since 19 April 2006); Deputy Prime Ministers KIM Jin-pyo (since 28 January 2005) and KIM Woo-shik (since 3 January 2006)
cabinet: State Council appointed by the president on the prime minister's recommendation
elections: president elected by popular vote for a single five-year term; election last held 19 December 2002 (next to be held in December 2007); prime minister appointed by president with consent of National Assembly; deputy prime ministers appointed by president on prime minister's recommendation
election results: results of the 19 December 2002 election - ROH Moo-hyun elected president; percent of vote - ROH Moo-hyun (MDP) 48.9%; LEE Hoi-chang (GNP) 46.6%; other 4.5%**Legislative branch:** unicameral National Assembly or Kukhoe (299 seats - members elected for four-year terms; 243 in single-seat constituencies, 56 by proportional representation)
elections: last held 15 April 2004 (next to be held in April 2008; byelections held on 30 April 2005 and on 26 October 2005)
election results: percent of vote by party - Uri 51%, GNP 41%, DLP

3%, DP 3%, others 2%; seats by party - Uri 144, GNP 127, DP 11, DLP 9, ULD 3, independents 5

note: percent of vote is for 2004 general election; seats by party reflect results of April and October 2005 byelections involving six and four seats respectively; MDP became DP in May 2005; United Liberal Democrats (ULD) merged with GNP in February 2006. (2006)

Judicial branch:	Supreme Court (justices appointed by president with consent of National Assembly); Constitutional Court (justices appointed by president based partly on nominations by National Assembly and Chief Justice of the court)
Political parties and leaders:	Democratic Labor Party or DLP [MOON Seong-hyun]; Democratic Party or DP [HAHN Hwa-kap]; Grand National Party or GNP [KANG Jae-sup]; People-Centered Party or PCP [SHIN Kook-hwan]; Uri Party [KIM Geun-tae]
Political pressure groups and leaders:	Federation of Korean Industries; Federation of Korean Trade Unions; Korean Confederation of Trade Unions; Korean National Council of Churches; Korean Traders Association; Korean Veterans' Association; National Council of Labor Unions; National Democratic Alliance of Korea; National Federation of Farmers' Associations; National Federation of Student Associations
International organization participation:	AfDB, APEC, APT, ARF, AsDB, ASEAN (dialogue partner), Australia Group, BIS, CP, EAS, EBRD, FAO, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICCT, ICFTU, ICRM, IDA, IEA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITU, LAIA, MIGA, MINURSO, NAM (guest), NEA, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, ONUB, OPCW, OSCE (partner), PCA, PIF (partner), UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNMIL, UNMOGIP, UNOMIG, UPU, WCL, WCO, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WToO, WTO, ZC
Diplomatic representation in the US:	<i>chief of mission:</i> Ambassador LEE Tae-sik <i>chancery:</i> 2450 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008 <i>telephone:</i> [1] (202) 939-5600 <i>FAX:</i> [1] (202) 387-0205 <i>consulate(s) general:</i> Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Seattle <i>consulate(s):</i> Agana (Guam), New York
Diplomatic representation from the US:	<i>chief of mission:</i> Ambassador Alexander VERSHBOW <i>embassy:</i> 32 Sejong-no, Jongno-gu, Seoul 110-710 <i>mailing address:</i> American Embassy Seoul, Unit 15550, APO AP 96205-5550 <i>telephone:</i> [82] (2) 397-4114 <i>FAX:</i> [82] (2) 738-8845
Flag description:	white with a red (top) and blue yin-yang symbol in the center; there is a different black trigram from the ancient I Ching (Book of Changes) in each corner of the white field
Economy	Korea, South
Economy - overview:	Since the early 1960s, South Korea has achieved an incredible record of growth and integration into the high-tech modern world economy. Four decades ago, GDP per capita was comparable with levels in the

poorer countries of Africa and Asia. In 2004, South Korea joined the trillion dollar club of world economies. Today its GDP per capita is equal to the lesser economies of the EU. This success through the late 1980s was achieved by a system of close government/business ties, including directed credit, import restrictions, sponsorship of specific industries, and a strong labor effort. The government promoted the import of raw materials and technology at the expense of consumer goods and encouraged savings and investment over consumption. The Asian financial crisis of 1997-99 exposed longstanding weaknesses in South Korea's development model, including high debt/equity ratios, massive foreign borrowing, and an undisciplined financial sector. GDP plunged by 6.9% in 1998, then recovered 9.5% in 1999 and 8.5% in 2000. Growth fell back to 3.3% in 2001 because of the slowing global economy, falling exports, and the perception that much-needed corporate and financial reforms had stalled. Led by consumer spending and exports, growth in 2002 was an impressive 7%, despite anemic global growth. Between 2003 and 2005, growth moderated to about 4%. A downturn in consumer spending was offset by rapid export growth. In 2005, the government proposed labor reform legislation and a corporate pension scheme to help make the labor market more flexible, and new real estate policies to cool property speculation. Moderate inflation, low unemployment, an export surplus, and fairly equal distribution of income characterize this solid economy.

GDP (purchasing power parity):	\$965.3 billion (2005 est.)
GDP (official exchange rate):	\$801.2 billion (2005 est.)
GDP - real growth rate:	3.9% (2005 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP):	\$20,400 (2005 est.)
GDP - composition by sector:	<i>agriculture:</i> 3.3% <i>industry:</i> 40.3% <i>services:</i> 56.3% (2005 est.)
Labor force:	23.53 million (2005 est.)
Labor force - by occupation:	<i>agriculture:</i> 6.4% <i>industry:</i> 26.4% <i>services:</i> 67.2% (2005 est.)
Unemployment rate:	3.7% (2005 est.)
Population below poverty line:	15% (2003 est.)
Household income or consumption by percentage share:	<i>lowest 10%:</i> 2.9% <i>highest 10%:</i> 25% (2005 est.)

Distribution of family income - Gini index:	35.8 (2000)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	2.8% (2005 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	29.3% of GDP (2005 est.)
Budget:	<i>revenues:</i> \$195 billion <i>expenditures:</i> \$189 billion; including capital expenditures of \$NA (2005 est.)
Public debt:	20% of GDP (2005 est.)
Agriculture - products:	rice, root crops, barley, vegetables, fruit; cattle, pigs, chickens, milk, eggs; fish
Industries:	electronics, telecommunications, automobile production, chemicals, shipbuilding, steel
Industrial production growth rate:	5.9% (2005 est.)
Electricity - production:	342.1 billion kWh (2004)
Electricity - production by source:	<i>fossil fuel:</i> 62.4% <i>hydro:</i> 0.8% <i>nuclear:</i> 36.6% <i>other:</i> 0.2% (2001)
Electricity - consumption:	321.1 billion kWh (2004)
Electricity - exports:	0 kWh (2004)
Electricity - imports:	0 kWh (2004)
Oil - production:	0 bbl/day (2004)
Oil - consumption:	2.061 million bbl/day (2004)
Oil - exports:	645,200 bbl/day (2004)
Oil - imports:	2.263 million bbl/day (2004)
Natural gas - production:	0 cu m (2003 est.)
Natural gas - consumption:	24.09 billion cu m (2003 est.)
Natural gas - exports:	0 cu m (2003 est.)
Natural gas - imports:	21.11 billion cu m (2003 est.)

imports:

Current account balance: \$16.56 billion (2005 est.)

Exports: \$288.2 billion f.o.b. (2005 est.)

Exports - commodities: semiconductors, wireless telecommunications equipment, motor vehicles, computers, steel, ships, petrochemicals

Exports - partners: China 24.6%, US 14.6%, Japan 7.8%, Hong Kong 4.2%, Taiwan 4.1% (2005)

Imports: \$256 billion f.o.b. (2005 est.)

Imports - commodities: machinery, electronics and electronic equipment, oil, steel, transport equipment, organic chemicals, plastics

Imports - partners: Japan 19.1%, China 14.4%, US 11.3%, Saudi Arabia 5.5% (2005)

Reserves of foreign exchange and gold: \$210.4 billion (2005 est.)

Debt - external: \$153.9 billion (2005 est.)

Economic aid - donor: ODA, \$423.3 million (2004)

Currency (code): South Korean won (KRW)

Currency code: KRW

Exchange rates: South Korean won per US dollar - 1,024.1 (2005), 1,145.3 (2004), 1,191.6 (2003), 1,251.1 (2002), 1,291 (2001)

Fiscal year: calendar year

Communications Korea, South

Telephones - main lines in use: 26,595,100 (2004)

Telephones - mobile cellular: 36,586,100 (2004)

Telephone system: *general assessment:* excellent domestic and international services
domestic: NA
international: country code - 82; 10 fiber-optic submarine cables - 1 Korea-Russia-Japan, 1 Korea-Japan-Hong Kong, 3 Korea-Japan-China, 1 Korea-Japan-China-Europe, 1 Korea-Japan-China-US-Taiwan, 1 Korea-Japan-China, 1 Korea-Japan-Hong Kong-Taiwan, 1 Korea-Japan; satellite earth stations - 3 Intelsat (1 Pacific Ocean and 2 Indian Ocean) and 3 Inmarsat (1 Pacific Ocean and 2 Indian Ocean)

Radio broadcast stations: AM 61, FM 150, shortwave 2 (2005)

Radios: 47.5 million (2000)

Television broadcast stations: terrestrial stations 43; cable operators 59; relay cable operators 190 (2005)

Televisions: 15.9 million (1997)

Internet country code: .kr

Internet hosts: 5,433,591 (2004)

Internet Service Providers (ISPs): 11 (2000)

Internet users: 33.9 million (2005)

Transportation Korea, South

Airports: 108 (2005)

Airports - with paved runways: *total:* 70
over 3,047 m: 3
2,438 to 3,047 m: 21
1,524 to 2,437 m: 14
914 to 1,523 m: 11
under 914 m: 21 (2005)

Airports - with unpaved runways: *total:* 38
914 to 1,523 m: 3
under 914 m: 35 (2005)

Heliports: 537 (2005)

Pipelines: gas 1,433 km; refined products 827 km (2004)

Railways: *total:* 3,472 km
standard gauge: 3,472 km 1.435-m gauge (1,361 km electrified) (2005)

Roadways: *total:* 97,252 km
paved: 74,641 km (including 2,778 km of expressways)
unpaved: 22,611 km (2003)

Waterways: 1,608 km (most navigable only by small craft) (2006)

Merchant marine: *total:* 650 ships (1000 GRT or over) 7,992,664 GRT/12,730,954 DWT
by type: bulk carrier 151, cargo 202, chemical tanker 87, container 79, liquefied gas 20, passenger 5, passenger/cargo 22, petroleum tanker 53, refrigerated cargo 18, roll on/roll off 7, specialized tanker 3, vehicle carrier 3
foreign-owned: 15 (France 12, Singapore 1, UK 2)
registered in other countries: 362 (Belize 5, Cambodia 18, China 3, Cyprus 1, Georgia 1, Honduras 6, Hong Kong 12, Indonesia 1, North Korea 1, Malta 5, Mongolia 1, Panama 285, Singapore 17, Thailand 1, Turkey 1, unknown 4) (2005)

Ports and terminals: Inch'on, Masan, P'ohang, Pusan, Ulsan

Military **Korea, South**

Military branches: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, National Maritime Police (Coast Guard)

Military service age and obligation: 20-30 years of age for compulsory military service; conscript service obligation - 24-28 months, depending on the military branch involved; 18 years of age for voluntary military service; some 4,000 women serve as commissioned and noncommissioned officers, approx. 2.3% of all officers; women, in service since 1950, are admitted to seven service branches, including infantry, but excluded from artillery, armor, anti-air, and chaplaincy corps (2005)

Manpower available for military service: *males age 20-49:* 12,483,677
females age 20-49: 12,014,462 (2005 est.)

Manpower fit for military service: *males age 20-49:* 10,115,817
females age 20-49: 9,721,914 (2005 est.)

Manpower reaching military service age annually: *males age 18-49:* 344,943
females age 20-49: 312,720 (2005 est.)

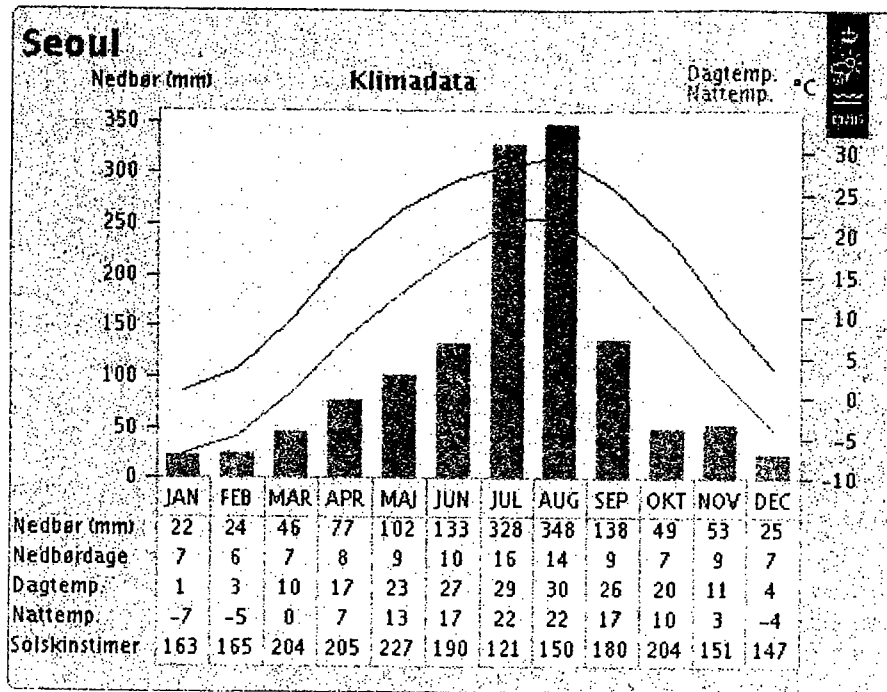
Military expenditures - dollar figure: \$21.06 billion FY05 (2005 est.)

Military expenditures - percent of GDP: 2.6% FY05 (2005 est.)

Transnational Issues **Korea, South**

Disputes - international: Military Demarcation Line within the 4-km wide Demilitarized Zone has separated North from South Korea since 1953; periodic maritime disputes with North Korea over the Northern Limit Line; South Korea and Japan claim Liancourt Rocks (Tok-do/Take-shima), occupied by South Korea since 1954

This page was last updated on 20 July, 2006

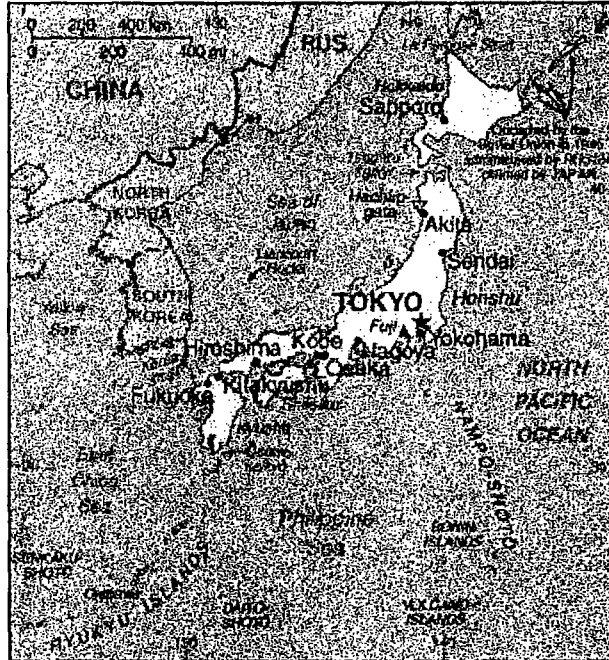


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The World Factbook



Japan



Introduction Japan

Background: In 1603, a Tokugawa shogunate (military dictatorship) ushered in a long period of isolation from foreign influence in order to secure its power. For 250 years this policy enabled Japan to enjoy stability and a flowering of its indigenous culture. Following the Treaty of Kanagawa with the US in 1854, Japan opened its ports and began to intensively modernize and industrialize. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Japan became a regional power that was able to defeat the forces of both China and Russia. It occupied Korea, Formosa (Taiwan), and southern Sakhalin Island. In 1931-32 Japan occupied Manchuria, and in 1937 it launched a full-scale invasion of China. Japan attacked US forces in 1941 - triggering America's entry into World War II - and soon occupied much of East and Southeast Asia. After its defeat in World War II, Japan recovered to become an economic power 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 starting in the 1990s following three decades of unprecedented growth, but Japan still remains a major economic power, both in Asia and globally. In 2005, Japan began a two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Geography Japan

- Location:** Eastern Asia, island chain between the North Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan, east of the Korean Peninsula
- Geographic coordinates:** 36 00 N, 138 00 E
- Map references:** Asia
- Area:** *total:* 377,835 sq km
land: 374,744 sq km
water: 3,091 sq km
note: includes Bonin Islands (Ogasawara-gunto), Daito-shoto, Minami-jima, Okino-tori-shima, Ryukyu Islands (Nansei-shoto), and Volcano Islands (Kazan-retto)
- Area - comparative:** slightly smaller than California
- Land boundaries:** 0 km
- Coastline:** 29,751 km
- Maritime claims:** *territorial sea:* 12 nm; between 3 nm and 12 nm in the international straits - La Perouse or Soya, Tsugaru, Osumi, and Eastern and Western Channels of the Korea or Tsushima Strait
contiguous zone: 24 nm
exclusive economic zone: 200 nm
- Climate:** varies from tropical in south to cool temperate in north
- Terrain:** mostly rugged and mountainous
- Elevation extremes:** *lowest point:* Hachiro-gata -4 m
highest point: Mount Fuji 3,776 m
- Natural resources:** negligible mineral resources, fish
- Land use:** *arable land:* 11.64%
permanent crops: 0.9%
other: 87.46% (2005)
- Irrigated land:** 25,920 sq km (2003)
- Natural hazards:** many dormant and some active volcanoes; about 1,500 seismic occurrences (mostly tremors) every year; tsunamis; typhoons
- Environment - current issues:** 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
- Environment - international agreements:** *party to:* Antarctic-Environmental Protocol, Antarctic-Marine Living Resources, Antarctic Seals, Antarctic Treaty, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution,

Tropical Timber 83, Tropical Timber 94, Wetlands, Whaling

Geography - note: strategic location in northeast Asia

People Japan

- Population:** 127,463,611 (July 2006 est.)
- Age structure:** *0-14 years:* 14.2% (male 9,309,524/female 8,849,476)
15-64 years: 65.7% (male 42,158,122/female 41,611,754)
65 years and over: 20% (male 10,762,585/female 14,772,150) (2006 est.)
- Median age:** *total:* 42.9 years
male: 41.1 years
female: 44.7 years (2006 est.)
- Population growth rate:** 0.02% (2006 est.)
- Birth rate:** 9.37 births/1,000 population (2006 est.)
- Death rate:** 9.16 deaths/1,000 population (2006 est.)
- Net migration rate:** 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2006 est.)
- Sex ratio:** *at birth:* 1.05 male(s)/female
under 15 years: 1.05 male(s)/female
15-64 years: 1.01 male(s)/female
65 years and over: 0.73 male(s)/female
total population: 0.95 male(s)/female (2006 est.)
- Infant mortality rate:** *total:* 3.24 deaths/1,000 live births
male: 3.5 deaths/1,000 live births
female: 2.97 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)
- Life expectancy at birth:** *total population:* 81.25 years
male: 77.96 years
female: 84.7 years (2006 est.)
- Total fertility rate:** 1.4 children born/woman (2006 est.)
- HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** less than 0.1% (2003 est.)
- HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS:** 12,000 (2003 est.)
- HIV/AIDS - deaths:** 500 (2003 est.)
- Nationality:** *noun:* Japanese (singular and plural)
adjective: Japanese
- Ethnic groups:** Japanese 99%, others 1% (Korean 511,262, Chinese 244,241, Brazilian 182,232, Filipino 89,851, other 237,914)

note: up to 230,000 Brazilians of Japanese origin migrated to Japan in the 1990s to work in industries; some have returned to Brazil (2004)

Religions: observe both Shinto and Buddhist 84%, other 16% (including Christian 0.7%)

Languages: Japanese

Literacy: *definition:* age 15 and over can read and write
total population: 99%
male: 99%
female: 99% (2002)

Government Japan

Country name: *conventional long form:* none
conventional short form: Japan

Government type: constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary government

Capital: Tokyo

Administrative divisions: 47 prefectures; Aichi, Akita, Aomori, Chiba, Ehime, Fukui, Fukuoka, Fukushima, Gifu, Gunma, 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 B.C. (traditional founding by Emperor JIMMU)

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

Constitution: 3 May 1947

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

Suffrage: 20 years of age; universal

Executive branch: *chief of state:* Emperor AKIHITO (since 7 January 1989)
head of government: Prime Minister Junichiro KOIZUMI (since 26 April 2001)
cabinet: Cabinet appointed by the prime minister
elections: Diet designates prime minister; constitution requires that prime minister commands parliamentary majority; following legislative elections, leader of majority party or leader of majority coalition in House of Representatives usually becomes prime minister; KOIZUMI's term as leader of the LDP is scheduled to end in September 2006; a new prime minister may be chosen at that time; monarch is hereditary

Legislative branch: bicameral Diet or Kokkai consists of the House of Councillors or Sangi-in (242 seats - members elected for six-year terms; half reelected every three years; 146 members in multi-seat constituencies

- and 96 by proportional representation) and the House of Representatives or Shugi-in (480 seats - members elected for four-year terms; 300 in single-seat constituencies; 180 members by proportional representation in 11 regional blocs)
elections: House of Councillors - last held 11 July 2004 (next to be held in July 2007); House of Representatives - last held 11 September 2005 (next election by September 2009)
election results: House of Councillors - percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - LDP 115, DPJ 82, Komeito 24, JCP 9, SDP 5, others 7; distribution of seats as of January 2006 - LDP 112, DPJ 83, Komeito 24, JCP 9, SDP 6, others 8
 : House of Representatives - percent of vote by party - LDP 47.8%, DPJ 36.4%, others 15.8%; seats by party - LDP 296, DPJ 113, Komeito 31, JCP 9, SDP 7, others 24; distribution of seats as of January 2006 - LDP 294, DPJ 112, Komeito 31, JCP 9, SDP 7, others 27 (2006)
- Judicial branch:** Supreme Court (chief justice is appointed by the monarch after designation by the cabinet; all other justices are appointed by the cabinet)
- Political parties and leaders:** Democratic Party of Japan or DPJ [Ichiro OZAWA]; Japan Communist Party or JCP [Kazuo SHII]; Komeito [Takenori KANZAKI]; Liberal Democratic Party or LDP [Junichiro KOIZUMI]; Social Democratic Party or SDP [Mizuho FUKUSHIMA]
- Political pressure groups and leaders:** NA
- International organization participation:** AfDB, APEC, APT, ARF, AsDB, ASEAN (dialogue partner), Australia Group, BIS, CE (observer), CERN (observer), CP, EAS, EBRD, FAO, G-5, G-7, G-8, G-10, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, ICRM, IDA, IEA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITU, LAIA, MIGA, NAM (guest), NEA, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, OPCW, OSCE (partner), Paris Club, PCA, PIF (partner), SAARC (observer), UN, UN Security Council (temporary), UNCTAD, UNDOF, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNITAR, UNMOVIC, UNRWA, UPU, WCL, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WToO, WTO, ZC
- Diplomatic representation in the US:** *chief of mission*: Ambassador Ryoza KATO
chancery: 2520 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008
telephone: [1] (202) 238-6700
FAX: [1] (202) 328-2187
consulate(s) general: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, Agana (Guam), Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Portland (Oregon), San Francisco, Seattle
consulate(s): Anchorage, Saipan (Northern Mariana Islands)
- Diplomatic representation from the US:** *chief of mission*: Ambassador J. Thomas SCHIEFFER
embassy: 1-10-5 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8420
mailing address: Unit 45004, Box 258, APO AP 96337-5004
telephone: [81] (03) 3224-5000
FAX: [81] (03) 3505-1862

consulate(s) general: Naha (Okinawa), Osaka-Kobe, Sapporo
consulate(s): Fukuoka, Nagoya

Flag description: white with a large red disk (representing the sun without rays) in the center

Economy **Japan**

Economy - overview: Government-industry cooperation, a strong work ethic, mastery of high technology, and a comparatively small defense allocation (1% of GDP) helped Japan advance with extraordinary rapidity to the rank of second most technologically powerful economy in the world after the US and the third-largest economy in the world after the US and China, measured on a purchasing power parity (PPP) basis. One notable characteristic of the economy is how manufacturers, suppliers, and distributors work together 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. Japan's industrial sector is heavily dependent on imported raw materials and fuels. The tiny 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 60% of its food on a caloric basis. 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, averaging just 1.7%, largely because of the after effects of overinvestment during the late 1980s and contractionary domestic policies intended to wring speculative excesses from the stock and real estate markets and to force a restructuring of the economy. From 2000 to 2003, government efforts to revive economic growth met with little success and were further hampered by the slowing of the US, European, and Asian economies. In 2004 and 2005, growth improved and the lingering fears of deflation in prices and economic activity lessened. Japan's huge government debt, which totals 170% of GDP, and the aging of the population are two major long-run problems. Some fear that a rise in taxes could endanger the current economic recovery. Internal conflict over the proper way to reform the financial system will continue as Japan Post's banking, insurance, and delivery services undergo privatization between 2007 and 2017.

GDP (purchasing power parity): \$4.018 trillion (2005 est.)

GDP (official exchange rate): \$4.664 trillion (2005 est.)

GDP - real growth rate: 2.7% (2005 est.)

GDP - per capita (PPP): \$31,500 (2005 est.)

GDP - composition by sector: *agriculture:* 1.7%
industry: 25.8%
services: 72.5% (2005 est.)

Labor force:	66.4 million (2005 est.)
Labor force - by occupation:	<i>agriculture:</i> 4.6% <i>industry:</i> 27.8% <i>services:</i> 67.7% (2004)
Unemployment rate:	4.4% (2005 est.)
Population below poverty line:	NA%
Household income or consumption by percentage share:	<i>lowest 10%:</i> 4.8% <i>highest 10%:</i> 21.7% (1993)
Distribution of family income - Gini index:	37.9 (2000)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	-0.3% (2005 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	23.2% of GDP (2005 est.)
Budget:	<i>revenues:</i> \$1.429 trillion <i>expenditures:</i> \$1.775 trillion; including capital expenditures (public works only) of about \$71 billion (2005 est.)
Public debt:	158% of GDP (2005 est.)
Agriculture - products:	rice, sugar beets, vegetables, fruit; pork, poultry, dairy products, eggs; fish
Industries:	among world's largest and technologically advanced producers of motor vehicles, electronic equipment, machine tools, steel and nonferrous metals, ships, chemicals, textiles, processed foods
Industrial production growth rate:	1.5% (2005 est.)
Electricity - production:	1.017 trillion kWh (2003)
Electricity - production by source:	<i>fossil fuel:</i> 60% <i>hydro:</i> 8.4% <i>nuclear:</i> 29.8% <i>other:</i> 1.8% (2001)
Electricity - consumption:	946.3 billion kWh (2003)
Electricity - exports:	0 kWh (2003)
Electricity - imports:	0 kWh (2003)

Oil - production: 120,700 bbl/day (2003 est.)

Oil - consumption: 5.578 million bbl/day (2003 est.)

Oil - exports: 93,360 bbl/day (2001)

Oil - imports: 5.449 million bbl/day (2001)

Oil - proved reserves: 29.29 million bbl (1 January 2002)

Natural gas - production: 2.814 billion cu m (2003 est.)

Natural gas - consumption: 86.51 billion cu m (2003 est.)

Natural gas - exports: 0 cu m (2001 est.)

Natural gas - imports: 77.73 billion cu m (2001 est.)

Natural gas - proved reserves: 39.64 billion cu m (1 January 2002)

Current account balance: \$165.6 billion (2005 est.)

Exports: \$550.5 billion f.o.b. (2005 est.)

Exports - commodities: transport equipment, motor vehicles, semiconductors, electrical machinery, chemicals

Exports - partners: US 22.9%, China 13.4%, South Korea 7.8%, Taiwan 7.3%, Hong Kong 6.1% (2005)

Imports: \$451.1 billion f.o.b. (2005 est.)

Imports - commodities: machinery and equipment, fuels, foodstuffs, chemicals, textiles, raw materials (2001)

Imports - partners: China 21%, US 12.7%, Saudi Arabia 5.5%, UAE 4.9%, South Korea 4.7%, Australia 4.4%, Indonesia 4% (2005)

Reserves of foreign exchange and gold: \$835.5 billion (2005 est.)

Debt - external: \$1.545 trillion (31 December 2004)

Economic aid - donor: ODA, \$8.9 billion (2004)

Currency (code): yen (JPY)

Currency code: JPY

Exchange

rates: yen per US dollar - 110.22 (2005), 108.19 (2004), 115.93 (2003), 125.39 (2002), 121.53 (2001)

Fiscal year: 1 April - 31 March

Communications Japan

Telephones - main lines in use: 58.788 million (2004)

Telephones - mobile cellular: 91,473,900 (2004)

Telephone system: *general assessment:* excellent domestic and international service
domestic: high level of modern technology and excellent service of every kind
international: country code - 81; satellite earth stations - 5 Intelsat (4 Pacific Ocean and 1 Indian Ocean), 1 Intersputnik (Indian Ocean region), and 1 Inmarsat (Pacific and Indian Ocean regions); submarine cables to China, Philippines, Russia, and US (via Guam) (1999)

Radio broadcast stations: AM 215 plus 370 repeaters, FM 89 plus 485 repeaters, shortwave 21 (2001)

Radios: 120.5 million (1997)

Television broadcast stations: 211 plus 7,341 repeaters
note: in addition, US Forces are served by 3 TV stations and 2 TV cable services (1999)

Televisions: 86.5 million (1997)

Internet country code: .jp

Internet hosts: 21,304,292 (2005)

Internet Service Providers (ISPs): 73 (2000)

Internet users: 86.3 million (2005)

Transportation Japan

Airports: 173 (2005)

Airports - with paved runways: *total:* 142
over 3,047 m: 7
2,438 to 3,047 m: 39
1,524 to 2,437 m: 37
914 to 1,523 m: 29
under 914 m: 30 (2005)

Airports - with unpaved runways: *total:* 31
over 3,047 m: 1
914 to 1,523 m: 4
under 914 m: 26 (2005)

Heliports:	15 (2005)
Pipelines:	gas 2,719 km; oil 170 km; oil/gas/water 60 km (2004)
Railways:	<i>total:</i> 23,577 km (16,519 km electrified) <i>standard gauge:</i> 3,204 km 1.435-m gauge (3,204 km electrified) <i>narrow gauge:</i> 77 km 1.372-m gauge (77 km electrified); 20,265 km 1.067-m gauge (13,227 km electrified); 11 km 0.762-m gauge (11 km electrified) (2004)
Roadways:	<i>total:</i> 1,177,278 km <i>paved:</i> 914,745 km (including 6,946 km of expressways) <i>unpaved:</i> 262,533 km (2002)
Waterways:	1,770 km (seagoing vessels use inland seas) (2006)
Merchant marine:	<i>total:</i> 683 ships (1000 GRT or over) 10,468,077 GRT/12,050,990 DWT <i>by type:</i> barge carrier 5, bulk carrier 127, cargo 30, chemical tanker 21, container 12, liquefied gas 53, passenger 14, passenger/cargo 154, petroleum tanker 157, refrigerated cargo 4, roll on/roll off 50, vehicle carrier 56 <i>registered in other countries:</i> 2,351 (Australia 1, The Bahamas 51, Belize 5, Burma 4, Cambodia 2, China 2, Cyprus 17, French Southern and Antarctic Lands 4, Honduras 4, Hong Kong 64, Indonesia 4, Isle of Man 4, Liberia 100, Malaysia 1, Malta 1, Marshall Islands 5, Norway 1, Panama 1,921, Philippines 25, Portugal 9, Singapore 93, Sweden 2, Thailand 4, Vanuatu 26, unknown 1) (2005)
Ports and terminals:	Chiba, Kawasaki, Kiire, Kisarazu, Kobe, Mizushima, Nagoya, Osaka, Tokyo, Yohohama
Military	Japan
Military branches:	Japanese Defense Agency (JDA): Ground Self-Defense Force (Rikujou Jietai, GSDF), Maritime Self-Defense Force (Kaijou Jietai, MSDF), Air Self-Defense Force (Koukuu Jietai, ASDF) (2006)
Military service age and obligation:	18 years of age for voluntary military service (2001)
Manpower available for military service:	<i>males age 18-49:</i> 27,003,112 <i>females age 18-49:</i> 26,153,482 (2005 est.)
Manpower fit for military service:	<i>males age 18-49:</i> 22,234,663 <i>females age 18-49:</i> 21,494,947 (2005 est.)
Manpower reaching military service age annually:	<i>males age 18-49:</i> 683,147 <i>females age 18-49:</i> 650,157 (2005 est.)
Military expenditures - dollar figure:	\$44.31 billion (2005 est.)
Military	

expenditures - 1% (2005 est.)
percent of
GDP:

Transnational
Issues **Japan**

Disputes - the sovereignty dispute over the islands of Etorofu, Kunashiri, and
international: Shikotan, and the Habomai group, known in Japan as the "Northern Territories" and in Russia as the "Southern Kuril Islands," occupied by the Soviet Union in 1945, now administered by Russia and claimed by Japan, remains the primary sticking point to signing a peace treaty formally ending World War II hostilities; Japan and South Korea claim Liancourt Rocks (Take-shima/Tok-do) occupied by South Korea since 1954; China and Taiwan dispute both Japan's claims to the uninhabited islands of the Senkaku-shoto (Diaoyu Tai) and Japan's unilaterally declared exclusive economic zone in the East China Sea, the site of intensive hydrocarbon prospecting

This page was last updated on 20 July, 2006

