**GOVERNMENT**

Chief of State
Emperor Akihito

Head of Government
Prime Minister Shinzo ABE

Government Type
parliamentary constitutional monarchy

Capital
Tokyo

Legislature
bicameral Diet or Kokkai consists of the House of Councillors or Sangi-in (242 seats) and the House of Representatives or Shugi-in (475 seats)

Judiciary
Supreme Court or Saiko saibansho consists of the chief justice and 14 associate justices

Ambassador to US
Ambassador Shinsuke SUGIYAMA
US Ambassador
Ambassador William F. “Bill” HAGERTY, IV

**GEOGRAPHY**

Area
total: 377,915 sq km
land: 364,485 sq km
water: 13,430 sq km

Climate
varies from tropical in south to cool temperate in north

Natural Resources
negligible mineral resources, fish

**PEOPLE & SOCIETY**

Population
126.5 million (July 2017 est.)

Population Growth Rate
-0.21% (2017 est.)

Ethnic Groups
Japanese 98.5%, Korean 0.5%, Chinese 0.4%, other 0.6%

Language
Japanese

Religion
Shintoism 79.2%, Buddhism 66.8%, Christianity 1.5%, other 7.1% (some adherents practice both Shintoism and Buddhism) (2012 est.)

Urbanization
urban population: 91.6% of total population (2018)
rate of urbanization: -0.14% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

**ECONOMY**

Economic Overview
overcame its scarcity of natural resources through government-industry cooperation, a strong work ethic, mastery of high technology, and a comparatively small defense allocation; currently stands as 4th largest economy in the world; challenges include a low birthrate and an aging, shrinking population

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$5.405 trillion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$42,700 (2017 est.)

Exports
$683.3 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 19.4%, China 19%, South Korea 7.6%, Hong Kong 5.1%, Thailand 4.2% (2017)

Imports
$625.7 billion (2017 est.)
partners: China 24.5%, US 11%, Australia 5.8%, South Korea 4.2%, Saudi Arabia 4.1% (2017)

as of July 2018