



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 20.2%, China 17.7%, South Korea 7.2%, Hong Kong 5.2%, Thailand 4.3% (2016)

Imports

\$625.7 billion (2017 est.)

partners: China 25.8%, US 11.4%, Australia 5%, South Korea 4.1% (2016)

