

# COUNTRY: JAPAN

**SCORE: 84.78 | RANK: 1/24**

Japan has a comprehensive suite of modern laws that support and facilitate the digital economy and cloud computing.

Japan has comprehensive privacy legislation, which it plans to strengthen by introducing a new central regulator, complemented by stronger enforcement provisions that will come into force in 2017.

Japan ratified the Convention on Cybercrime in 2012, setting a positive example for other countries.

Japan's intellectual property laws cover the full range of protections relevant to cloud computing.

Japan is very active in the development of international standards.

Japan is characterized by having one of the most extensive broadband fiber deployments in the world, with the largest number of fiber users in the world. Japan has an actively managed competitive access regime and has had at least six significant information technology (IT) strategies and plans over the past decade. Typically, the targets are met, and there is progression to the next strategy. This puts Japan in a unique position, with one of the most complete broadband infrastructures in the world.

Overall, Japan's score increases slightly in 2015, and the country easily retains its top spot in the overall rankings — a position it has held since publication of the first scorecard in 2012.

| Q JAPAN  | RESPONSE      | EXPLANATORY TEXT  |
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| <b>DATA PRIVACY (SCORE: 8.8/10   RANK: 4/24)</b>   |               |   |
| 1. Are there laws or regulations governing the collection, use, or other processing of personal information? | ✔             | The Act for Protection of Personal Information (APPI) 2003 has applied to the private sector since 2005.<br><br>A substantial amendment to the APPI was passed on Sept. 3, 2015. However, this will not come into full effect until within two years after its formal publication, likely to be at the end of 2016 or early 2017.<br><br>In addition to the APPI, the public sector must comply with the Law on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Administrative Organs. |
| 2. What is the scope and coverage of privacy law?  | Comprehensive | The law covers both the public and private sectors. The current law, in force as of September 2015, contains a general exemption for organizations that hold less than 5,000 records. However, this exemption has been removed in the amendment to the APPI passed Sept. 3, 2015. This will not come into effect until within two years after the formal publication of the amendment. The amended legislation is likely to come into full effect at the end of 2016 or early 2017.   |
| 3. Is the privacy law compatible with the Privacy Principles in the EU Data Protection Directive?            | ●             | Although Japanese law contains some unique provisions, the core principles are based on a mix of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines and the European Union (EU) Directive.<br><br>The exemption for small data holdings in Japanese law is not compatible with the EU Directive. This exemption will be removed when the amendments to the Act for Protection of Personal Information (APPI) come into effect in 2016 or 2017.               |

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|---|--------------------|--|
| 4. Is the privacy law compatible with the Privacy Principles in the APEC Privacy Framework? | ✓                  | <p>Japan is a member of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the Japanese privacy law complies with the APEC Privacy Framework.</p> <p>The 2015 amendments to the law (not yet in force) are expected to be supported by implementation guidelines developed by the Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC). An early draft of the implementation guidelines includes a proposed provision recognizing the APEC Cross Border Privacy Rules scheme (APEC CBPRs) &lt;<a href="http://www.cbprs.org">www.cbprs.org</a>&gt; as a binding scheme for the purposes of cross border transfers. Once in force, this provision could act as an exemption to cross border rules in the Japanese legislation, where the receiving company is a certified APEC CBPRs participant.</p> |
| 5. Is an independent private right of action available for breaches of data privacy?        | Available          | <p>Article 13 of the Constitution of Japan (1946) states:<br/>"All of the people shall be respected as individuals. The right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness shall, to the extent that it does not interfere with the public welfare, be the supreme consideration in legislation and in other governmental affairs."</p> <p>An individual can initiate an action against a breach of data privacy based upon torts theory.</p> <p>These constitutional provisions have been used in private actions against the government (but not against the private sector).</p>  |
| 6. Is there an effective agency (or regulator) tasked with the enforcement of privacy laws? | Sectoral regulator | <p>The original Act for Protection of Personal Information (APPI) 2003 did not establish a central privacy regulator in Japan. Instead, each sectoral regulator took on the role of privacy regulator for that sector (e.g., Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare for the employment sector, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications for the telecommunications sector).</p> <p>In September 2015, the government passed an amendment to the APPI establishing a new Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) &lt;<a href="http://www.ppc.go.jp">www.ppc.go.jp</a>&gt;. The PIPC will have significant powers, including audit and inspection powers, and the power to request companies to submit compliance reports.</p>   |
| 7. What is the nature of the privacy regulator?   | Collegial body     | <p>The new Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) &lt;<a href="http://www.ppc.go.jp">www.ppc.go.jp</a>&gt; has not yet been established (the amendments to the Act for Protection of Personal Information (APPI) were passed Sept. 3, 2015). The nature of PIPC is in a collegial body.</p> <p>The existing regulatory structure consists of different regulators in each sector. Sometimes it is the relevant ministry; in other cases it is the sectoral regulator (e.g., the Financial Services Agency).</p> <p>Many of these bodies publish guidelines under the Law for Protection of Personal Data 2003. Although these are not binding, they are generally adhered to by regulated businesses.</p>   |
| 8. Are data controllers free from registration requirements?                                | ✓                  | <p>There are no general requirements for registration in Japanese privacy law.</p> <p>However, some companies that specialize in information broking and selling lists of names and contact details may wish to take advantage of special opt-out provisions in the new law, once it comes into force in 2016 or 2017, by notifying the Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC). This will act as a de facto registration requirement for a small number of companies.</p>   |
| 9. Are cross-border transfers free from registration requirements?                          | ✓                  | <p>There are no requirements for registration for overseas transfer of data. However, a range of EU style rules apply to data transfers to both domestic and global third-party service providers, including a requirement to supervise subcontractors when data is transferred to a third party. The 2015 amendments to the Act for Protection of Personal Information (APPI), which are not yet in force, set out a more comprehensive set of rules for cross border transfers, but also include certain exceptions.</p>   |
| 10. Is there a breach notification law?   | 🕒                  | <p>There is no consistent data breach notification requirement across the entire industry in Japan. This is because the rules are set out in the sectoral guidelines administered by different government agencies. Some of these guidelines include breach notification requirements (e.g., the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) guidelines).</p>  |
| <b>SECURITY (SCORE: 8.4/10   RANK: 1/24)</b>  |                    |  |
| 1. Is there a law or regulation that gives electronic signatures clear legal weight?        | ✓                  | <p>The Electronic Signature Law states that an electro-magnetic record shall be presumed to be authentic if an electronic signature is executed by the signatory.</p> <p>An electronic signature is defined as a means, with respect to the information which is able to be recorded in an electro-magnetic record (which is itself defined as any record produced by electronic, magnetic, or any other means unrecognizable by natural perceptive function, and used for computer data-processing), to certify that such information is produced by the person using that means, and by which it is possible to confirm whether such information is changed or not.</p>  |

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| 2. Are ISPs and content service providers free from mandatory filtering or censoring?  | ✓  | Japan has an entirely self-regulatory system of content regulation for online services, and although there are some recent proposals for Internet filtering in cases of explicit content, a 2014 law against child pornography did not include Internet filtering requirements.<br><br>Mobile phone network operators and suppliers of devices that connect to the Internet have an obligation to provide Internet filtering to protect juveniles.   |
| 3. Are there laws or enforceable codes containing general security requirements for digital data hosting and cloud service providers?                    | Limited coverage in legislation                        | Article 20 of the Personal Information Protection Act (Security Control Measures) provides that "an entity handling personal information must take necessary and proper measures for the prevention of leakage, loss, or damage, and for other control of security of the personal data." Some other best-practice guidance is provided by regulators and industry associations, but Article 20 is the only binding legal requirement.   |
| 4. Are there laws or enforceable codes containing specific security audit requirements for digital data hosting and cloud service providers?             | Limited coverage in legislation                        | Security audits are considered in the Personal Information Protection Act as one measure that can be used to comply with the privacy and outsourcing provisions contained in the legislation. These may be relevant to cloud computing.  |
| 5. Are there security laws and regulations requiring specific certifications for technology products?  | Comprehensive requirements (including common criteria) | Japan is a Certificate Authorizing Member (the highest level) of the Common Criteria Recognition Agreement (CCRA) < <a href="http://www.commoncriteriaportal.org">www.commoncriteriaportal.org</a> >. The Japan Information Technology Security Evaluation and Certification Scheme < <a href="http://www.ipa.go.jp/security/jisec/jisec_e">www.ipa.go.jp/security/jisec/jisec_e</a> > manages the provision of certifications. Some very specific certifications are required under the 2005 Standards for Information Security Measures for Central Government Computer Systems, but these only apply to "important e-government information systems and software developments." |
| <b>CYBERCRIME (SCORE: 10/10   RANK: 1/24)</b>  |  |  |
| 1. Are cybercrime laws in place?   | ✓  | Cybercrimes are covered by a combination of provisions in the Act Concerning the Prohibition of Unauthorized (Computer) Access (Unauthorized Access Act) and the Criminal Code.  |
| 2. Are cybercrime laws consistent with the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime?  | ✓  | Japan signed the Convention on Cybercrime in 2001. In July 2011, Japan amended the Criminal Code to include provisions that comply with the Convention.<br><br>Japan ratified the Convention in July 2012.   |
| 3. What access do law enforcement authorities have to encrypted data held or transmitted by data hosting providers, carriers or other service providers? | Access with a warrant                                  | There is no specific law to address the access by law enforcement agencies to encrypted data. However, if an investigation is necessary and a search warrant is issued, encrypted data should be made accessible.  |
| 4. How does the law deal with extraterritorial offenses?   | Comprehensive coverage                                 | Japan is a signatory to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and extraterritoriality applies to any cybercrimes covered by that Convention. Japan has also signed a number of relevant mutual assistance agreements with other countries.  |
| <b>INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (SCORE: 17.2/20   RANK: 7/24)</b>  |  |  |
| 1. Is the country a member of the TRIPS Agreement?   | ✓  | Japan became a member of the TRIPS Agreement in 1995.  |
| 2. Have IP laws been enacted to implement TRIPS?   | ✓  | Japan has implemented the TRIPS Agreement in local laws.   |
| 3. Is the country party to the WIPO Copyright Treaty?  | ✓  | The WIPO Copyright Treaty entered into force in Japan in 2002.   |
| 4. Have laws implementing the WIPO Copyright Treaty been enacted?  | ✓  | Japan has implemented the key provisions of the treaty. However, protection against circumvention devices remains limited in Japan.  |
| 5. Are civil sanctions available for unauthorized making available (posting) of copyright holders' works on the Internet?                                | ✓  | Articles 23(1), 2(1)(ix-4) and 2(1)(ix-5) of the Copyright Act 1970 grants right holders the ability to control the making available of their works on the Internet. Both civil and criminal sanctions are available.  |
| 6. Are criminal sanctions available for unauthorized making available (posting) of copyright holders' works on the Internet?                             | ✓  | Article 119 of the Copyright Act 1970 states that willful copyright infringements shall be punishable by imprisonment or by a fine or by both.<br><br>In June 2012, the Copyright Act was amended to increase the maximum penalties for online copyright infringements to two years in prison and/or fines of up to 2 million yen (approx. USD \$25,000).  |
| 7. Are there laws governing ISP liability for content that infringes copyright?  | ✓  | The Provider Liability Limitation Law 2002 limits Internet service provider (ISP) liability for copyright infringing content.  |

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| 8. Is there a basis for ISPs to be held liable for content that infringes copyright found on their sites or systems?   | ✓                        | ISPs may be held liable if they were either aware of the infringement or were aware of the information and should have known of the infringement, and could technically prevent the transmission of the information. Any person whose right is allegedly infringed by transmission of the information via the Internet can request that the ISP disclose the person who transmitted the information, and the ISP may disclose such information if the right of the requesting person has been obviously infringed and the requesting person has legitimate reason to be entitled to such disclosure. |
| 9. What sanctions are available for ISP liability for copyright infringing content found on their site or system?  | Civil                    | ISP liability is civil.  |
| 10. Must ISPs take down content that infringes copyright, upon notification by the right holder?   | ✓                        | The safe harbor provisions concerning the liability against a subscriber for Japanese ISPs include a notice and takedown regime that provides a chance for a subscriber to explain and respond to the claims from copyright owners before the ISP terminates its files and activities.   |
| 11. Are ISPs required to inform subscribers upon receiving a notification that the subscriber is using the ISP's service to distribute content that infringes copyright? | ✓                        | ISPs need to contact subscribers to receive the safe harbor protections under the law.   |
| 12. Is there clear legal protection against misappropriation of cloud computing services, including effective enforcement?   | Comprehensive protection | There is no specific protection for cloud computing, but Japan offers strong protection through a combination of comprehensive Internet protocol (IP) laws and cybercrime laws.  |
| <b>SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY LED STANDARDS &amp; INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION OF RULES<br/>(SCORE: 8.8/10   RANK: 16/24)</b>   |                          |  |
| 1. Are there laws, regulations or policies that establish a standards setting framework for interoperability and portability of data?                                    | ✓                        | Standards in Japan are developed under the Procedures Concerning Establishment, etc. of JIS, Including Patent Rights, etc. (2006). The national standards body — Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) < <a href="http://www.jisc.go.jp">www.jisc.go.jp</a> > — is established and recognized by the government under the Industrial Standardization Law.   |
| 2. Is there a regulatory body responsible for standards development for the country?   | ✓                        | The Japanese Standards Association (JSA) < <a href="http://www.jsa.or.jp">www.jsa.or.jp</a> > states that its objective is "to educate the public regarding the standardization and unification of industrial standards, and thereby to contribute to the improvement of technology and the enhancement of production efficiency." JSA has a combined management and promotional role in the standards process.<br><br>However, standards themselves are developed and regulated by the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) < <a href="http://www.jisc.go.jp">www.jisc.go.jp</a> >.       |
| 3. Are e-commerce laws in place?   | ⓘ                        | There is no general law on e-commerce.<br><br>The Act on Special Provisions to the Civil Code Concerning Electronic Consumer Contracts and Electronic Acceptance Notice, the Law Concerning Electronic Signatures and Certification Services 2000, and the Act on Specified Commercial Transactions provide further guidance.  |
| 4. What international instruments are the e-commerce laws based on?  | Not applicable           | There is no general law on e-commerce.   |
| 5. Is the downloading of applications or digital data from foreign cloud service providers free from tariff or other trade barriers?                                     | ✓                        | The Japanese government does not impose tariffs or other trade barriers.   |
| 6. Are international standards favored over domestic standards?  | ✓                        | Japan prioritizes compliance with international standards. Japan is a party to the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.   |
| 7. Does the government participate in international standards setting process?   | ✓                        | Japan participates in relevant International Standards Organization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standard-setting processes and is a full member of the ISO.  |

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| <b>PROMOTING FREE TRADE (SCORE: 9.2/10   RANK: 4/24)</b>   |  |   |
| 1. Are there any laws or policies in place that implement technology neutrality in government?   | ●  | <p>Japan has replaced its earlier E-Japan Strategies and other strategies with a new Declaration on the Creation of the World's Most Advanced IT Nation (14 June 2013) &lt;japan.kantei.go.jp/policy/it/2013/0614_declaration.pdf&gt;, which was revised June 30, 2015 &lt;www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/it2/kettei/pdf/20150630/siryoun1.pdf&gt;.</p> <p>While the earlier strategies included a specific technology neutrality commitment, the 2013 declaration adopts interoperability as its key benchmark. It states: "Until now, Japan has worked to build a safe and reliable cyberspace that provides for the free flow of information by ensuring openness and interoperability without excess management or regulation. In recent years, the increased use of mobile communications, the improvement of sensor networks, the establishment of cloud services, and the rise of social services such as social networks has led to increased use of international services and other networks. To ensure the adequate use of information assets in the face of this trend, it is crucial that Japan maintain the direction of its current measures while embracing international collaboration with an eye towards expanding the sphere of free-flowing information globally."</p> <p>It is too early to observe the impact this change will have on Japanese policy in practice.</p> |
| 2. Are cloud computing services able to operate free from laws or policies that mandate the use of certain products (including, but not limited to types of software), services, standards or technologies?        | ✓  | There are no specific mandatory requirements in laws or policies.   |
| 3. Are cloud computing services able to operate free from laws or policies that establish preferences for certain products (including, but not limited to types of software), services, standards or technologies? | ✓  | There is no specific procurement barrier in place.  |
| 4. Are cloud computing services able to operate free from laws that discriminate based on the nationality of the vendor, developer or service provider?  | ✓  | <p>Japan joined the updated World Trade Organization (WTO) plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement in April 2014. The agreement includes rules guaranteeing fair and nondiscriminatory conditions of international competition. These rules cover most large contracts.</p> <p>No preferences are granted to domestic suppliers with regard to procurement covered by the Agreement on Government Procurement. However, government guidelines raise concerns about preferences for domestic data centers. Further, it is not clear about conditions the amendment to APPI may impose to foreign cloud service providers.</p>   |
| <b>IT READINESS, BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT (SCORE: 22.4/30   RANK: 4/24)</b>  |  |   |
| 1. Is there a national broadband plan?   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2015, all households to have very high-speed fiber broadband (FttH) connections</li> </ul> | <p>Japan is characterized by having one of the most extensive broadband fiber (FttH) deployments in the world, with the largest number of FttH users in the world. Japan has an actively managed competitive access regime and has had at least six significant IT strategies and plans over the past decade. Typically, the targets are met, and there is progression to the next strategy. This puts Japan in a unique position, with one of the most complete broadband infrastructures in the world. Subsequent IT strategies are focusing on increasing the uptake of FttH among the Japanese population. It is regarded as low, with 30% of households using FttH, while 90% of households have access.</p>   |
| 2. Are there laws or policies that regulate the establishment of different service levels for data transmission based on the nature of data transmitted?   | Limited regulation and extensive public debate   | <p>Japan has had a hybrid approach to promoting and regulating net neutrality, which includes a statement of acceptable practices from the relevant minister and pro-competitive regulation. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications released a net neutrality report in 2007. The report discusses the fair allocation of network development costs and fair access to the network by telecommunications operators, including content providers.</p> <p>A guideline for "packet shaping" was issued in May 2008, which allows packet shaping in exceptional circumstances. VoIP is also regulated and a specific licence is required.</p>  |
| 3. Base Indicators   |  |   |
| 3.1. Population (millions) (2014)  | 127  | <p>In 2014, the population of Japan decreased by -0.1%.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html&gt;]</p>  |

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| 3.2. Urban Population (%) (2014)   | 93%      | [World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators, Urban Population (2015) <data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS>]  |
| 3.3. Number of Households (millions) (2014)  | 47       | In 2014, the number of households in Japan decreased by -0.1%.<br>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]   |
| 3.4. Population Density (people per square km) (2014)  | 349      | [World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators, Population Density (2015) <data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.DNST>]  |
| 3.5. Per Capita GDP (US\$ 2014)  | \$36,194 | In 2014, the per capita gross domestic product (GDP) for Japan decreased by -0.1% to US \$36,194.<br>[World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators: GDP per capita, current US\$ (2015) <data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD> and GDP growth, annual % (2015) <data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG>]   |
| 3.6. IT Service Exports (2014) (billions of US\$)  | 40.62    | In 2014, the value of IT service exports for Japan increased by 30.2% to US \$40.62 billion. The five-year compound annual growth rate (CAGR) from 2009-2014 was 2.4%.<br>[World Bank, Data Catalog, Indicators: ICT Service Exports US\$ (Dec 2015) <data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.GSR.CCIS.CD>]   |
| 3.7. Personal Computers (2014) (% of households)   | 83%      | In 2014, 83.3% of households in Japan had personal computers. This is an increase of 1.2% since 2013 and ranks Japan 25 out of 183 countries surveyed. The growth from 2013 is above the five-year CAGR from 2009 to 2014 of -0.9%.<br>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx>]   |
| 4. IT and Network Readiness Indicators   |          |   |
| 4.1. ITU ICT Development Index (IDI) (2015)<br>(Score is out of 10 and covers 167 countries)                     | 8.47     | Japan's ITU ICT Development Index (IDI) for 2015 is 8.47 (out of 10), resulting in a rank of 11 (out of 167 countries). The 2015 IDI for Japan increased by 3%, and the IDI ranking has remained the same since 2013.<br>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Measuring the Information Society (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/mis2015.aspx>]  |
| 4.2. World Economic Forum Networked Readiness Index (NRI) (2015)<br>(Score is out of 7 and covers 143 countries) | 5.60     | Japan has a Networked Readiness Index (NRI) score of 5.6 (out of 7), resulting in a rank of 10 (out of 143 countries) and a rank of 7 (out of 31) in the high income: OECD grouping of countries. The 2015 NRI for Japan increased by 3.6% and improved from a rank of 16 since 2014.<br>[World Economic Forum, Global Information Technology Report (2015) <reports.weforum.org/global-information-technology-report-2015>]  |
| 4.3. International Connectivity Score (2014)<br>(Score is out of 10 and covers 52 countries)                     | 5.18     | Japan has an International Connectivity Score of 5.18 (out of 10), resulting in a rank of 9 (out of 25) in the innovation-driven grouping of countries.<br>[International Connectivity Scorecard (2013) <www.connectivityscorecard.org>]  |
| 5. Internet Users and International Bandwidth  |          |   |
| 5.1. Internet Users (millions) (2014)  | 110      | [International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]   |
| 5.2. Internet Users as Percentage of Population (2014)   | 86%      | In 2014, 86% of the population in Japan used the Internet, resulting in a ranking of 17 out of 199 countries surveyed. This represents a decrease of 0% since 2013. The change from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 2.7%.<br>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx>]<br>Note: There may be some variations as to how countries calculate this. Some countries base this upon all or part of the population, such as between 16 and 72 years of age. |
| 5.3. International Internet Bandwidth (2014) (bits per second per Internet user)                                 | 48,637   | The International Internet Bandwidth (per Internet user) of Japan has increased by 30% since 2013. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 36.9%.<br>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]   |
| 5.4. International Internet Bandwidth (2014) (total gigabits per second [Gbps] per country)                      | 5,595    | Japan has increased its International Internet Bandwidth by 32% since 2013 to 5,595 Gbps and is ranked 6 out of 215 countries surveyed. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2008-2013 of 41%.<br>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) <www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html>]  |

| Q JAPAN  | RESPONSE | EXPLANATORY TEXT   |
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| 6. Fixed Broadband   |          |  |
| 6.1. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions (millions) (2014)             | 37       | <p>Japan has increased the number of fixed broadband subscribers by 2% since 2013 to 37 million, and is ranked 3 out of 215 countries surveyed. The growth from 2013 is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 4.1%.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p>   |
| 6.2. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions as % of households (2014)     | 78%      | <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p> <p>Note: This may be skewed by business usage in some countries.</p>   |
| 6.3. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions as % of population (2014)     | 29%      | <p>Japan has increased its fixed broadband subscriptions (as a % of the population) by 1.5% since 2013, which is below the five-year CAGR from 2009-2014 of 2.6%. This ranks Japan 29 out of 215 countries surveyed.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p> <p>The OECD figures below present a breakdown on the type of fixed broadband connections in Japan.</p> <p>In 2013, the pattern of Japan's growth of fixed broadband has continued. DSL and cable have declined, while fiber/LAN has increased. 70% of Japan's broadband subscriptions are very high-speed FttX connections, making Japan the OECD country with the highest proportion of fiber broadband subscribers. Japan and Korea dominate the share of fiber connections in the OECD, with each having almost twice the level of penetration of any other country in the OECD.</p> <p>In the OECD during 2014, Japan was ranked 18 out of 34 for fixed broadband subscribers as a percentage of population [OECD Broadband Subscribers (July 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.oecd.org/sti/ict/broadband">www.oecd.org/sti/ict/broadband</a>&gt;]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSL: 3.1%</li> <li>• Cable: 4.7%</li> <li>• Fiber/LAN: 20.7%</li> <li>• Fixed wireless: 0.9%</li> <li>• Other: 0.4%</li> </ul> <p>Total: 28.5% (36.2 million subscriptions). The OECD average total for 2014 was 28.2%.</p> <p>Japan's fixed broadband growth for 2014 was 2.2% (ranked 33 out of 34 for growth), below the OECD average growth of 7.7%.</p> <p>In Japan, fiber makes up 72.7% of fixed broadband subscriptions (ranked 1 out of 34), significantly above the OECD average of 17%. The growth in fiber subscriptions for 2014 was 5.5% (ranking Japan 31 out 34 for growth) and below the OECD average of 13%.</p> <p>Note: From July 2015, OECD adjusted its definitions of fixed and mobile broadband by transferring the categories satellite and fixed wireless from mobile to fixed broadband.</p> <p>Note: Fiber subscriptions data includes FTTH, FTTP and FTTB, and excludes FTTC.</p> <p>Note: There may be minor variations in the ITU and OECD subscriber totals due to definition or timing differences.</p> |
| 6.4. Fixed Broadband Subscriptions as % of Internet users (2014) | 34%      | <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (June 2014) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p>   |
| 7. Mobile Broadband  |          |  |
| 7.1. Mobile Cellular Subscriptions (millions) (2014)             | 153      | <p>In 2014, Japan increased the number of mobile cellular subscriptions by 3.3% and is ranked 7 out of 215 countries surveyed. The number of subscriptions account for 120% of the population.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p> <p>Note: This figure may be inflated due to multiple subscriptions per head of population, but excludes dedicated mobile broadband devices (such as 3G data cards, tablets, etc.).</p>  |

| Q JAPAN  | RESPONSE | EXPLANATORY TEXT   |
|--|----------|--|
| 7.2. Active Mobile Broadband Subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (2014)  | 121      | <p>Japan has increased the number of active mobile-broadband subscriptions (as a % of the population) by 4% since 2013. This ranks Japan 6 out of 215 countries surveyed.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p> <p>Note: This refers to the sum of standard mobile-broadband and dedicated mobile-broadband subscriptions to the public Internet. It covers actual subscribers, not potential subscribers, even though the latter may have broadband-enabled handsets.</p> <p>The OECD figures below present a breakdown on the type of mobile broadband connections in Japan.</p> <p>In 2014, the growth of mobile broadband connections in Japan has been the most significant in the OECD.</p> <p>For 2014, Japan's OECD rank was 2 out of 34 for mobile wireless broadband subscribers as a percentage of population [OECD Broadband Subscribers (July 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.oecd.org/sti/ict/broadband">www.oecd.org/sti/ict/broadband</a>&gt;]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard mobile broadband subscription: 96%</li> <li>• Dedicated mobile data subscriptions: 28.1%</li> </ul> <p>Total: 124.1% (158 million subscriptions). The OECD average total for 2014 was 81.3%.</p> <p>Japan's mobile broadband growth for 2014 was 73% (ranked 1 out of 34 for growth), significantly above the OECD average growth of 21.1%.</p> <p>Note: From July 2015, OECD adjusted its definitions of fixed and mobile broadband by transferring the categories satellite and fixed wireless from mobile to fixed broadband.</p> <p>Note: The OECD figures include mobile data subscriptions, which are not as consistently reported in the ITU indicators.</p> |
| 7.3. Number of Active Mobile Broadband Subscriptions (millions) (2014) | 154      | <p>In 2014, Japan increased the number of active mobile-broadband subscriptions by 3% and is ranked 4 out of 215.</p> <p>[International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2015) &lt;<a href="http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html">www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/world/world.html</a>&gt;]</p>  |