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# Despite Rising Economic Confidence, Japanese See Best Days Behind Them and Say Children Face a Bleak Future

*Most are dissatisfied with the nation's democracy, politicians and elections*

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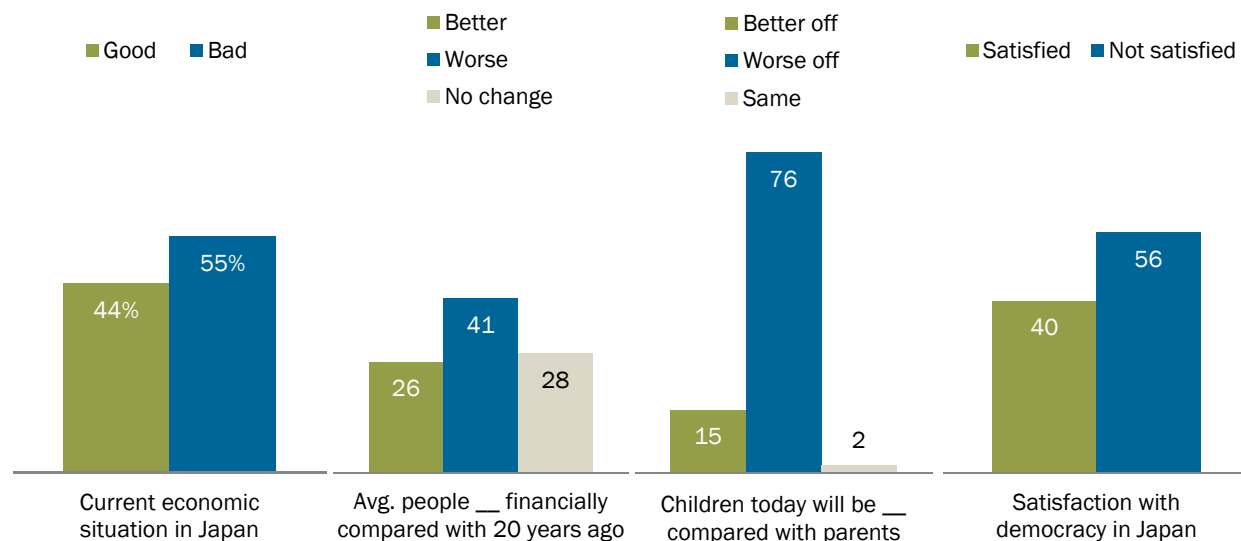
# Despite Rising Economic Confidence, Japanese See Best Days Behind Them and Say Children Face a Bleak Future

*Most are dissatisfied with the nation's democracy, politicians and elections*

Japanese feel better about their economy than at any time in nearly two decades. But the overall mood in Japan remains wary, if not pessimistic. The prevailing view is that average people are worse off than before the Great Recession, while few think the next generation will fare any better. Automation is one reason the future may not be so bright for ordinary people: Majorities of Japanese say growing reliance on robots and computers will lead to joblessness and income inequality. And less than half the public is satisfied with the way democracy is working in Japan, while more than half hold the view that politicians do not care about ordinary people, that they are corrupt and that elections ultimately do not change much.

These are among the key findings from a Pew Research Center survey conducted May 24 to June 19, 2018, among 1,016 respondents in Japan.

## Majorities still dissatisfied with Japanese economy, pessimistic about children's future and critical of their democracy



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q2-Q4, Q6.

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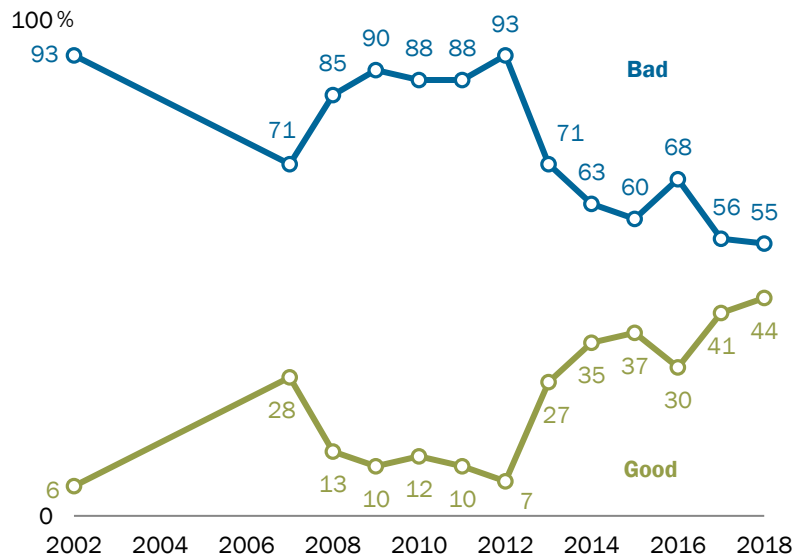
## Mixed economic sentiment

Positive views of the economy are up 34 percentage points since the early days of the global financial crisis in 2009. Nonetheless, in 2018 just 44% say the current economic situation in Japan is good, while 55% believe conditions are bad.

Four-in-ten Japanese (41%) think average people today are worse off financially than they were 20 years ago. Just 26% say they are better off. At the same time, only 15% of the public believes that children today in Japan will grow up to be better off financially than their parents, while 76% expect they will be worse off. That is among the lowest level of optimism about the next generation's prospects among the 27 nations Pew Research Center surveyed in 2018.

### Growing confidence in Japan's economy

*The current economic situation in our country is ...*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q2.

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Pessimism about the future may be tied in part to worries about automation. Nearly nine-in-ten members of the public (89%) believe that in the next half-century robots and computers will do much of the work currently done by humans.

And Japanese do not foresee that work environment as necessarily positive. More than eight-in-ten (83%) fear that such automation will lead to a worsening of inequality between the rich and poor, and more than seven-in-ten (74%) think ordinary people will have a hard time finding jobs.

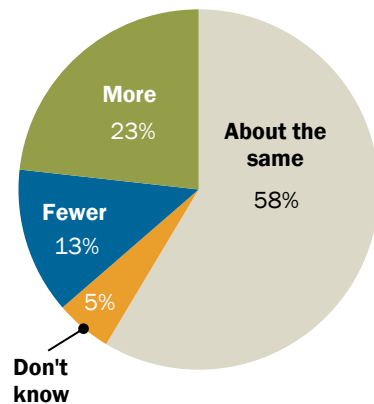
But the fact is that without significant immigration there may be a deficit of people to employ. The nation's population is aging and shrinking, the birth rate is projected to continue falling, and while immigration is on the rise, so is emigration. Japan's population of [127 million](#) is expected to shrink to 88 million by [2065](#).

Many Japanese would appear unsettled by the perceived balance between emigration and immigration. Roughly six-in-ten Japanese (58%) say that people leaving their country for jobs in other nations is a problem. At the same time, an identical share believes that the government should keep immigration at its current level. Only 23% think Japan should allow in more immigrants; 13% want fewer entrants from other nations.

Reluctance to increase immigration does not appear to reflect public animus toward immigrants. Japanese believe that immigrants want to adopt Japanese customs and way of life (75%). They think immigrants make the country stronger because of their work and talents (59%). And they do not fear that immigrants are responsible for an increased risk of terrorism (60%) or more crime (52%).

### Most Japanese do not want more immigration

*Japan should allow \_\_\_ immigrants*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey, Q52.

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## Views of Prime Minister Abe and Japanese democracy

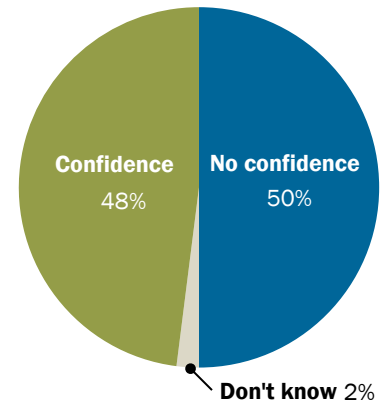
Japan's Prime Minister [Shinzo Abe](#) has now been in power since 2012 and is the third-longest-serving head of government in post-World War II Japanese history. He also served as prime minister for one year from 2006 to 2007, when he was the youngest prime minister to take office after WWII and the first to be born after it. He won [re-election](#) as head of the ruling, center-right Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in September 2018.

The Japanese public is divided in their view of the prime minister: 48% have confidence in him to do the right thing in world affairs, 50% lack such confidence. His support has fallen from a peak of 62% in 2015 and is now at its lowest since the Center first asked the question about Abe in 2007.

Not surprisingly, Abe's strongest support (79%) comes from those who hold a favorable view of his party, the LDP. He also enjoys strong backing (69%) from followers of Komeito, a party with origins in a Buddhist sect and which is part of the current ruling coalition government. Abe's weakest support (32%) comes from adherents of the center-left Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP). Men (54%) also favor Abe more than women (43%). And Japanese with more than a high school education (54%) are stronger backers of the prime minister than are those with a secondary education or less (45%).

### Japanese public split on Shinzo Abe

*Confidence in Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to do the right thing regarding world affairs*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey, Q35f.

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The decline in Prime Minister Abe's support comes at a time of public dissatisfaction with the state of Japanese democracy. Just four-in-ten of those surveyed (40%) are satisfied with the way their democracy is working today. Such positive sentiment is down from 50% in 2017. At the same time, a majority of Japanese (56%) are dissatisfied with their democracy, up 9 percentage points from 2017.

The public is particularly cynical about some aspects of their democracy. They believe that elections don't change things (62%), that elected officials don't care what ordinary people think (62%) and that most politicians are corrupt (53%).

Yet they praise their democracy for its protection of freedom of speech (62%) and the fairness of the courts (54%).

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### Decreasing Japanese satisfaction with functioning of democracy at home

*Satisfied with the way democracy is working in Japan*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q4.

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## Views of the U.S. and China

Japanese views of the United States took a tumble in 2017 and their opinion of the American president fell precipitously. Both viewpoints recovered somewhat in 2017.

Two-thirds (67%) of the Japanese public holds a positive opinion about America, up 10 percentage points from 2017. This assessment of their longtime ally is roughly comparable to the median Japanese public opinion of the U.S. during the Obama administration.

But only three-in-ten Japanese

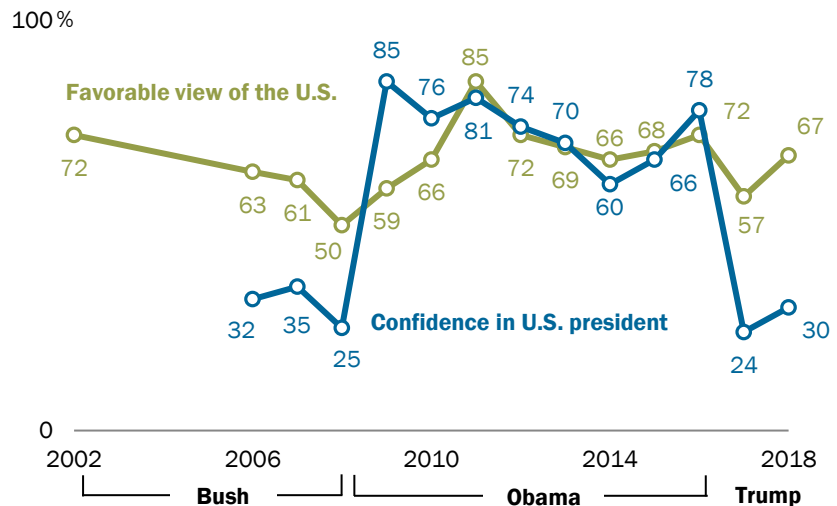
express confidence in U.S. President Donald Trump's handling of world affairs. This judgment is up 6 percentage points from that in 2017. But it is 45 points below the median level of Japanese confidence in his predecessor, Barack Obama, over his two terms in office.

Japanese also express a growing belief that the U.S. acts unilaterally (71%) when conducting American foreign policy, not taking into consideration Japan's concerns. And 43% say America is doing less than it did a few years ago to address global problems.

Nevertheless, 64% believe that relations between Japan and the U.S. have stayed about the same over the past year. And, when asked whether they would prefer the U.S. or China to be the world's leading power, eight-in-ten Japanese (81%) choose America. The Japanese public's preference for U.S. leadership is stronger than it was in any of the other 25 nations [surveyed by Pew Research Center in 2018](#).

### Fewer than a third of Japan's adults have confidence in President Trump, but U.S. favorability remains high

Among Japanese ...



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17a & Q35a.

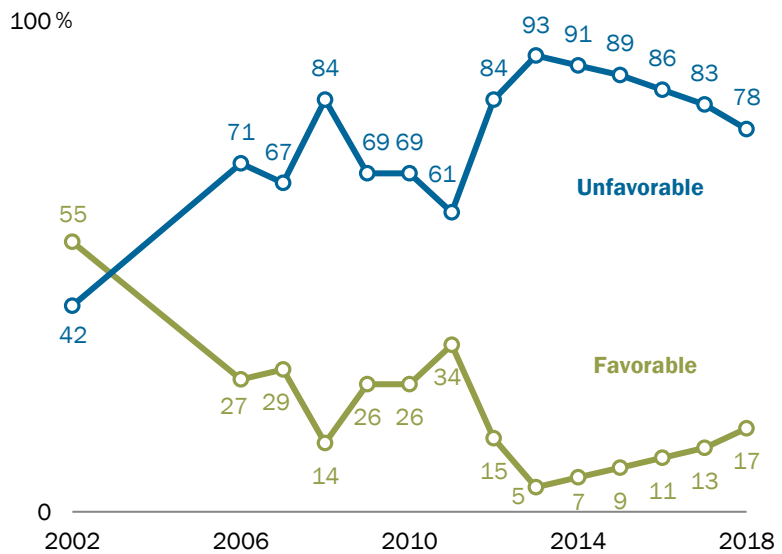
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Japanese views of their neighbor China have also improved somewhat over time, but from a very low base. Just 17% of the public holds a favorable impression of China, up 12 points from a low of 5% in 2013. Unfavorable opinion of Beijing has fallen 15 points since then, to 78%.

Such public animosity toward China is also seen in the finding that about three-quarters of Japanese (76%) lack confidence in China's President Xi Jinping. And according to [a 2017 Pew Research Center report](#), roughly two-thirds (64%) believed China's power and influence was a major threat to Japan.

## Japanese views of China overwhelmingly negative, but they have improved slightly

Views of China



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17b.

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## 1. Sentiment about the state of the economy, trade and prospects for the future

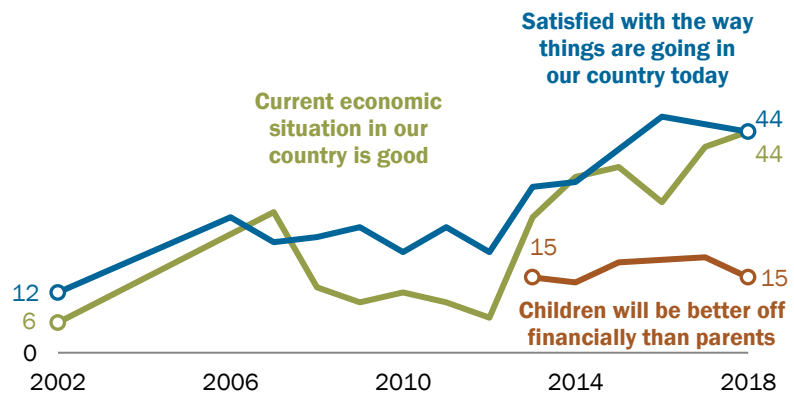
The Japanese economy has been anemic for years, with a 1.7% annual real growth rate in 2017 and 1.1% projected real gross domestic product growth in 2018, according to the [International Monetary Fund](#). And less than half the public is pleased with the direction of the country and the economy.

Nonetheless, Japanese are more satisfied with the way things are going in their country today (44%) and they feel better about the nation's current economic situation (44%) than in 2002, when just 6% thought the economy was doing well and only 12% were content with the direction of the country.

### Satisfaction with the direction of the country and the current economic situation has improved since 2002

% of Japanese adults who say ...

100%



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q1-Q3.

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However, this uptick in public satisfaction masks some nostalgia for the past and does not translate into hope for the future. About a quarter (26%) of Japanese believe that the financial situation of average people is better today than it was two decades ago. And only 15% of the public thinks today's children will be better off financially than their parents, a pessimism that has not changed significantly in the last five years, despite improvement in the public mood about the economy.

There is disagreement between men and women on conditions in Japan today. Roughly half of Japanese men (49%) are satisfied with the direction of the nation, while 40% of Japanese women agree. More than half of men (52%) say the economy is good, but just 35% of women concur. While 30% of Japanese men assert that the financial situation of average people is better today

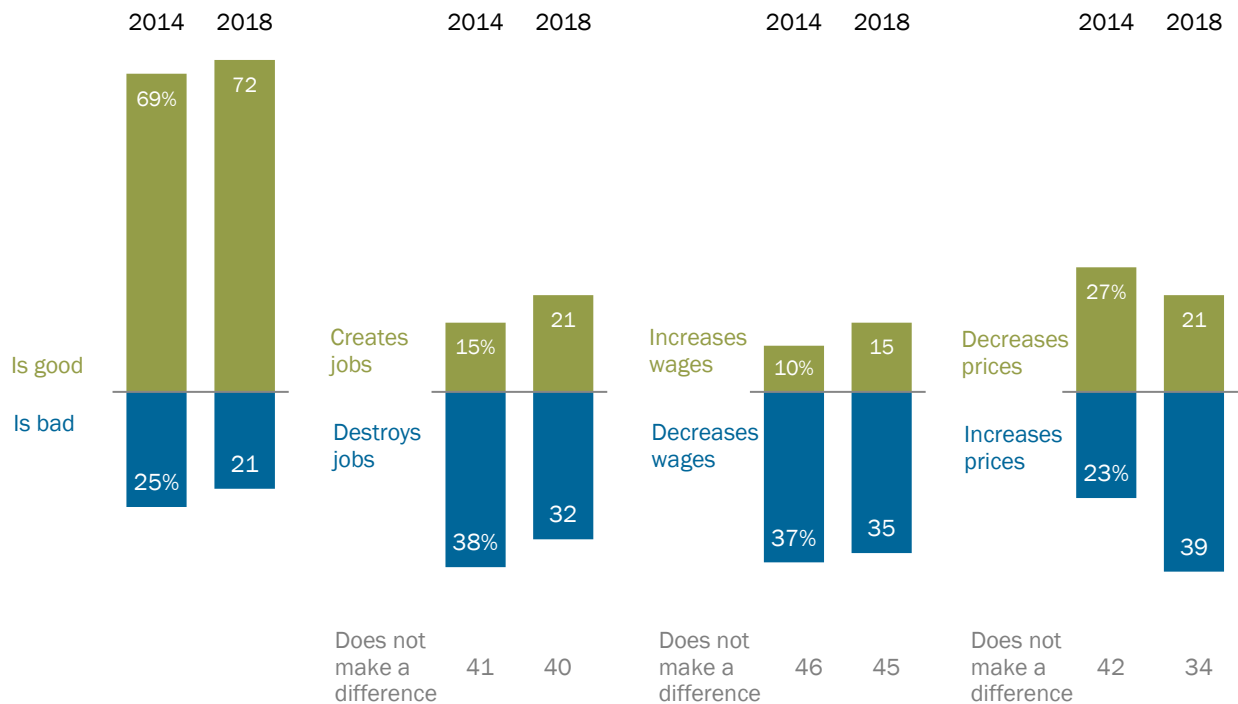
than it was 20 years ago, only 22% of women agree. Notably, both men and women overwhelmingly believe that children today will be worse off financially than their parents.

Views of the economy are also divided along party lines. Among those with a favorable view of Prime Minister Abe’s party, LDP, 62% voice a positive view of the economy. By comparison, just 34% of backers of the opposition CDP say the economy is doing well.

Japan is the fourth largest trading nation in the world, measured by imports and exports of merchandise. It runs a 4% trade surplus (as a percent of gross domestic product). And trade accounts for 17.1% of the country’s GDP, according to the [World Trade Organization](#). The Japanese public seems to recognize the importance of the global market to their economy: 72% believe that growing trade and business ties with other nations are good for Japan. But Japanese are not so sure average people are benefiting directly from international commerce. Only about one-in-five (21%) believe that trade creates jobs or lowers prices, and roughly one-in-seven (15%) say trade leads to higher wages.

### Japanese believe trade is good for their country but doubt its benefits for them

Trade with other countries ...



Source: 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q25-Q28.

Men are more likely than women to hold the view that trade is good for the country (78% vs. 66%, respectively). People ages 18 to 29 are nearly twice as likely as those 50 and older to believe trade lowers prices. And Japanese with a higher level of education<sup>1</sup> or who have an income higher than the median are more likely than less educated people or those with lower incomes to think that trade creates jobs.

Japan is not only a leader in world trade. It is also among the leaders in automation. Japan has 303 installed industrial robots per 10,000 workers in the manufacturing industry, making it the fourth largest user of such robots in the world, according to a 2018 report by the [International Federation of Robotics](#). And more automation may be coming: The average hourly cost of a manufacturing worker in Japan is about seven times the hourly cost of a robot, according to a study by [Bain & Company](#).

The Japanese public is quite aware of these technological developments in the workplace and is generally wary of them.

Nine-in-ten Japanese adults (89%) think that in the next half-century robots and computers will be doing much of the work currently done by humans. Japanese are much more likely to believe this about the future work world than Americans (65%). And 74% say the Japanese economy will be more efficient as a result, the largest share of the public to hold such views in a 2018 nine-country [Pew Research Center survey](#) on the topic.

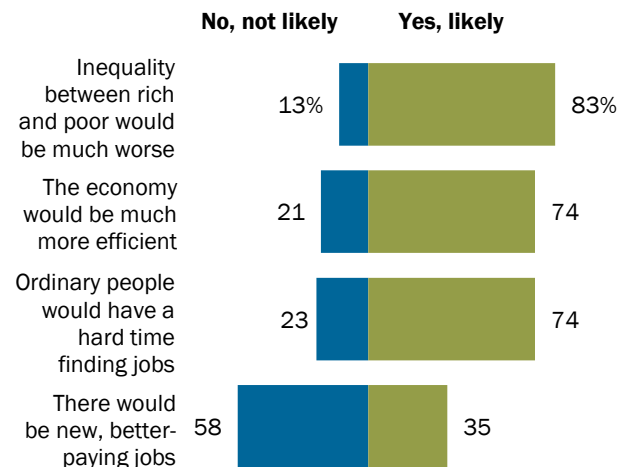
For the most part, Japanese see more problems than benefits created by automation. More than eight-in-ten (83%) say inequality will get worse as robots do more human work. Roughly three-quarters of the public (74%) believe ordinary people will have

## Japanese see robots on the horizon and think they will lead to more inequality and fewer jobs

*In the next 50 years, robots and computers doing much of the work currently done by humans will probably/definitely ...*



*If robots and computers were able to do much of the work currently being done by humans, do you think \_\_\_ is likely or not likely to happen in Japan as a result?*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q80, Q81a-d.

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<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of comparing educational groups across countries, we standardize education levels based on the UN's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). In Japan, the lower education category is secondary education or below and the higher category is postsecondary or above.

trouble finding jobs in this new economy. And a majority (58%) do not believe automation will generate new, better-paying employment.

Young Japanese ages 18 to 29 are about three times as likely as those 50 and older to believe that in a half-century robots and computers will definitely do much of the work currently done by humans (52% vs. 17%, respectively). Younger adults are also significantly more likely than older adults to hold the view that automation will lead to new, higher-paying employment (52% vs. 31%, respectively).

Whatever their education level, more than half of Japanese do not think it is likely that automation will lead to more job opportunities. But those with a secondary education or less are particularly skeptical (61%).

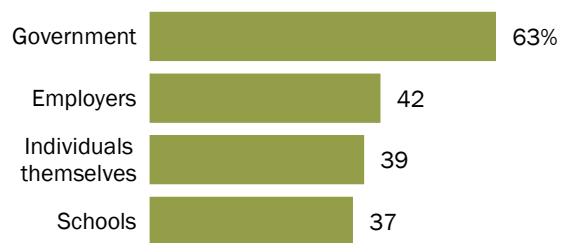
When asked who should be responsible for making sure that the Japanese workforce has the right skills and education to be successful in the future, a large majority of Japanese (63%) believe the government has a lot of that responsibility. Roughly four-in-ten (42%) say employers should bear much of the responsibility, 39% believe it should be individuals themselves and 37% say it should be schools.

Notably, those with a postsecondary education or higher are more likely than those with only a secondary education or less (45% vs. 35%, respectively) to voice the view that individuals bear a lot of responsibility in preparing themselves for employment in the new world of work.

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### Government seen as having the greatest responsibility preparing the workforce

*% of Japanese adults who think \_\_\_ should have a lot of responsibility in making sure that the Japanese workforce has the right skills and education to be successful in the future*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey, Q82a-d.

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## 2. Views of Japanese democracy

In the past decade and a half, while satisfaction with the economy has increased, public approval of Japanese democracy has declined, with many Japanese of the opinion that it is characterized by corruption and inattentiveness and that elections are ineffective.

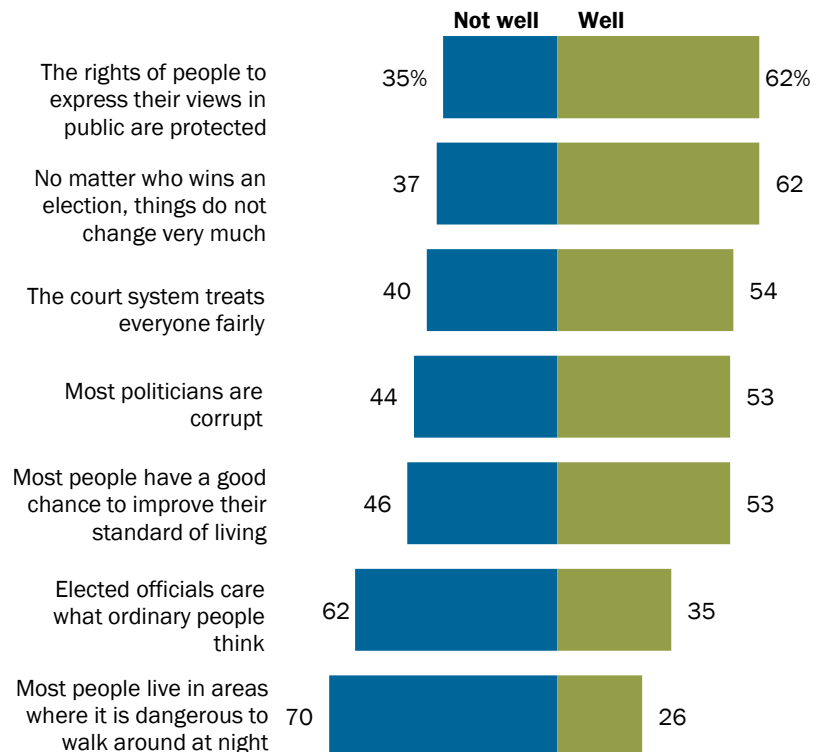
Four-in-ten Japanese are satisfied with the way democracy is working in their country. Such sentiment is down 10 percentage points since 2017. Men (47%) are significantly more satisfied than women (34%). Not surprisingly, those who have a favorable view of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (63%) are pleased with the current state of Japanese democracy. Those who view the Komeito party favorably (57%) are also quite content. But only 48% of Party of Hope backers, 42% of Democratic Party adherents and 28% of CDP supporters give Japanese democracy a positive rating.

### Japanese are dissatisfied with their democracy

*How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in our country?*



*The statement \_\_\_ describes Japan ...*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q4 & Q34a-g.

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When it comes to specific aspects of their country's governance, Japanese are disparaging of many ways in which their democracy works, yet they are fairly positive about the society they live in.

A majority (62%) expresses the view that no matter who wins an election, things do not change very much. Roughly half (53%) believe most politicians are corrupt. And only around a third (35%)

say elected officials care what ordinary people think. Young Japanese (66%) are more likely than those ages 50 and older (50%) – and women (57%) more likely than men (48%) – to say politicians are corrupt. Notably, more than half of those who favor the ruling LDP (53%) believe that elected officials care what ordinary people think. Fewer than half of LDP backers (45%) say politicians are corrupt. But 60% of them say elections do not change very much. Among those who view the CDP positively, 55% believe most politicians are corrupt, 63% think things do not change very much no matter who wins an election and 59% say elected officials do not care what ordinary people think.

But the public also credits Japanese governance with producing a free, just and safe society. Seven-in-ten believe most people live in safe neighborhoods. About six-in-ten (62%) think freedom of speech – the right of people to express their views in public – is protected. More than half (54%) believe that the Japanese court system treats everyone fairly. And roughly half (53%) say most people have a good chance to improve their standard of living in Japan.

Men (66%) are more likely than women (57%) to believe that there is freedom of speech in Japan. There is also a gender gap on the question of whether Japanese society affords people the opportunity to improve their standard of living: 58% of men hold that view, compared with 48% of women.



### 3. Perceptions of immigrants, immigration and emigration

With a population that is [both aging and shrinking](#), Japan's economic prospects depend heavily on its demographic future. The nation's population of roughly 127 million [is expected to contract](#) by about 30% by 2065, when 38% of Japanese will be ages 65 and older. With the average Japanese woman having [fewer than two babies](#), thus ensuring that the next generation of native-born Japanese will be smaller than the current generation, migration is an important demographic issue.

Notably, the Japanese public is more concerned about *emigration* – how many people choose to leave Japan – than immigration, or how many enter the country.

Roughly six-in-ten believe that people leaving Japan for jobs in other countries is a problem, with about half of them (30% of the public) saying it is a *very* big problem. Conversely, 39% do not think Japanese seeking work abroad is a problem, with about one-in-five saying it is not a problem at all. These opinions reflect a near-complete reversal from attitudes on the same question in 2002.

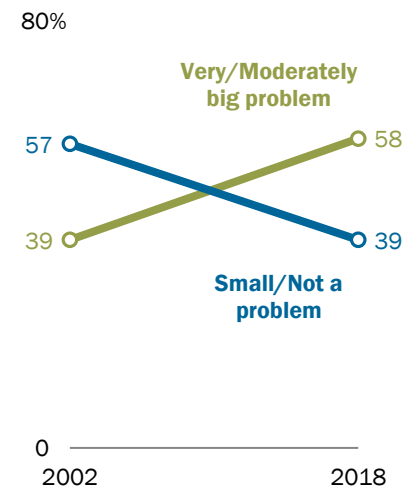
Older Japanese, those ages 50 and older, are more likely to say emigration for work is a problem (64%) though half of younger Japanese (18- to 29-year-olds) share this sentiment.

In 2015 the [number of migrants in Japan](#) totaled just over 2 million people, or less than 2% of the population. At the same time, 1.3 million Japanese nationals are currently living abroad, according to the government's [statistical bureau](#). Both immigration and emigration are on the rise, with immigration growing faster. But the net addition to the Japanese population is less than 1% in recent years.

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#### Increasing concern over Japanese emigration

*People leaving our country for jobs in other countries is a ...*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey, Q51.

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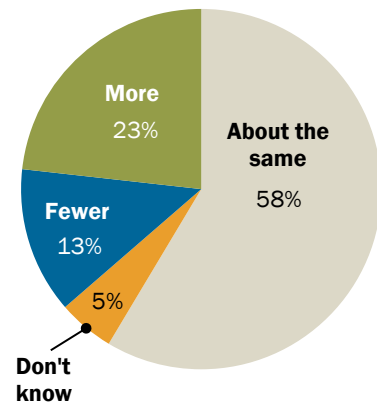
While the public tends to view emigration as a problem, most are comfortable with recent immigration trends. When asked whether Japan should accept more, fewer or about the same number of immigrants, only 23% believe the Japanese government should allow more immigrants to move to their country. A majority (58%) voices the opinion that immigration numbers should stay about the same as they are now, while 13% think fewer immigrants should be allowed to move to their country.

These opinions hold true regardless of age or gender; Japanese with higher incomes are more in favor of increasing immigration than those with lower incomes, though majorities of both groups want about the same number of immigrants to be allowed into Japan.

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### Most Japanese content with current immigration numbers

*Japan should allow \_\_\_ immigrants*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q52.

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Most Japanese believe immigrants want to assimilate, but opinions are more mixed when it comes to immigration's effects on society.

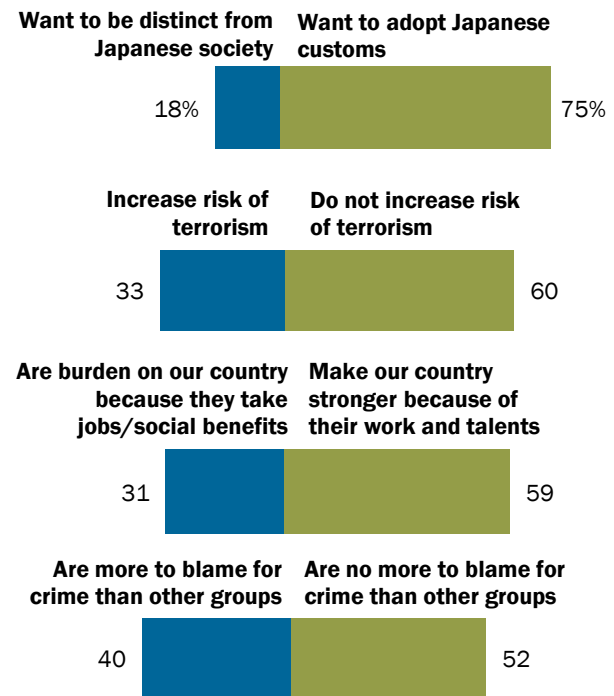
Three-quarters of the Japanese public believes immigrants currently in their country want to adopt Japanese customs rather than remain distinct from the rest of society. A majority also believes that immigrants make Japan stronger through hard work and the talents they possess. Only about a third see immigrants as a burden who take jobs or rely on social benefits.

When asked if immigrants' presence in Japan affects the risk of future terrorist attacks, six-in-ten Japanese say they believe immigrants do not increase this threat. However, a third of the public (33%) does think more immigration increases the risk of terrorism in Japan. Younger Japanese (43%) are more likely than those ages 50 and older (28%) to say immigrants increase the chances of terror incidents occurring in their country.

Regarding crime, about half (52%) say immigrants are no more to blame for crime than other groups in Japan. But four-in-ten claim that migrants are indeed more at fault for lawbreaking throughout Japan.

## Views of immigrants in Japan are generally positive, but wariness exists regarding some aspects of immigration

*Immigrants in our country today ...*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q54a-d.

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## 4. Countries' views of Japan, Abe; Japanese views of China

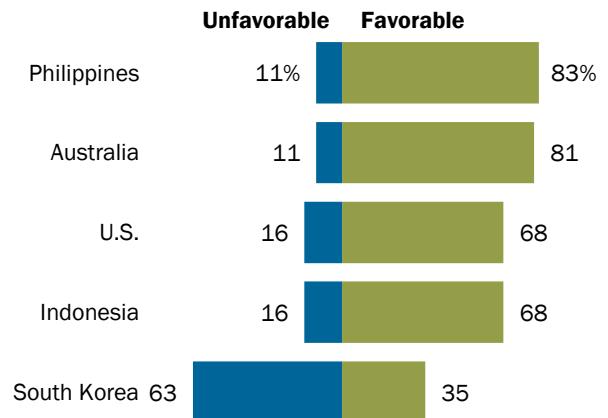
Japan's image is quite favorable in most Asian-Pacific nations surveyed and the United States. About eight-in-ten in the Philippines and Australia report having a positive view of Japan. Roughly two-thirds of Americans and Indonesians also give Japan a favorable rating, and have since 2005.

The exception to this pattern is South Korea, which was [long a colony of Japan](#). Only 35% of South Koreans have a positive view of Japan, while 63% report an unfavorable opinion. South Koreans ages 50 and older – those who may have personally experienced Japanese occupation within their families – are particularly critical of Japan, with only 28% giving a favorable opinion of their Asian neighbor. This compares with 47% of South Koreans ages 18 to 29 who hold a positive view. Still, South Korean views of Japan have actually improved by 13 percentage points in recent years, from 22% favorable in 2013 up to 35% today.

Older Australians (79%) are also slightly less positive toward Japan than younger Australians (87%), but they still overwhelmingly give a favorable assessment. In the U.S., Australia and Indonesia, those with incomes above the national median express more positive views of Japan.

### Positive reviews for Japan in many countries except South Korea

*Views of Japan*



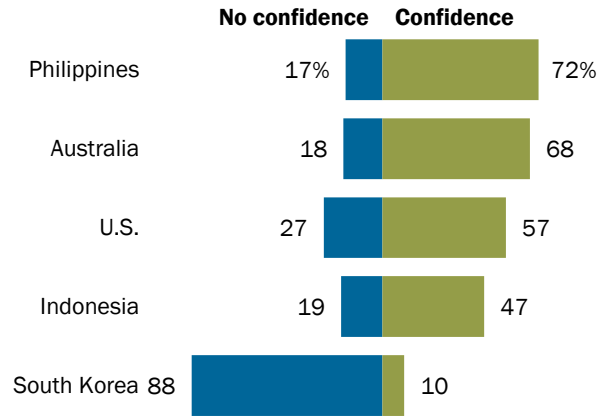
Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17g.

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Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe receives relatively positive marks in the countries surveyed. About seven-in-ten in the Philippines and Australia say they have confidence in the Japanese leader to do the right thing when it comes to world affairs. More than half of the American public shares this view. In Indonesia about half have confidence in Abe while 19% do not; however, 34% offer no opinion. South Koreans again give the most negative judgment – 88% say they do not have confidence in Abe.

### Many voice confidence in Abe

*Confidence in Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to do the right thing regarding world affairs*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey, Q35f.

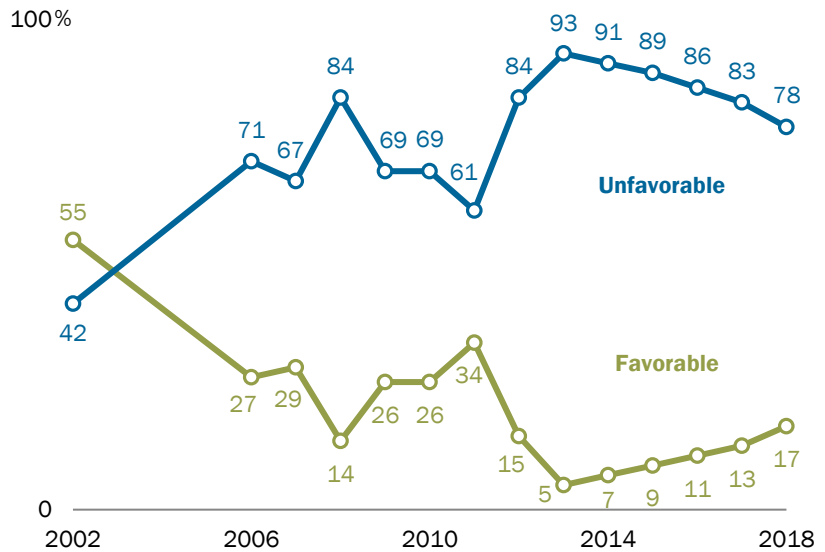
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## Japanese views of China still overwhelmingly negative

Japan and China share a complicated history that has resulted in immensely [negative perceptions across the East China Sea](#). In 2018, 78% of Japanese have an unfavorable view of China, by far [the most negative response](#) across all countries surveyed. Just 17% have a favorable opinion of China. Yet this represents a slight lessening of enmity since 2013, when 93% of the Japanese public expressed disapproval and only 5% had a positive outlook. Still, this year's marks are much different than when the question was first asked in 2002, at which point a majority of Japanese (55%) had a favorable view of China.

### In Japan, still not a lot of love for neighboring China

Views of China



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17b.

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Feelings toward China are strongly negative in Japan regardless of age, income, education level or gender. Those with a favorable view of Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party or Komeito, a political party with Buddhist roots, tend to have a more positive outlook about China.

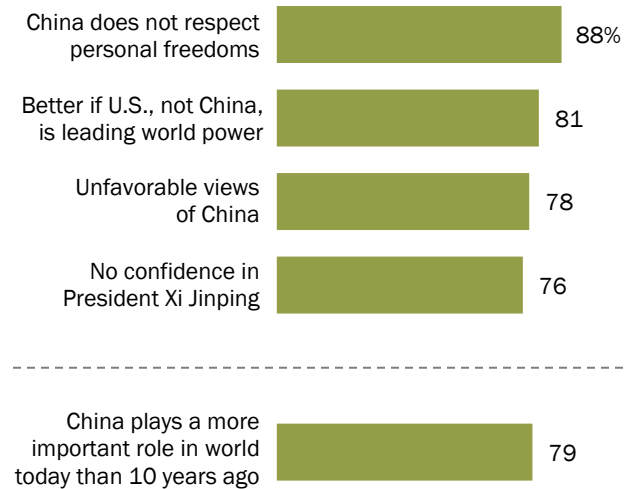
Although disapproval permeates several aspects of Japan's views of China, Japanese still acknowledge that the country is becoming more influential worldwide.

On four different measures, the Japanese public's views of China are consistently negative. Nearly nine-in-ten assert the Chinese government does not respect the personal freedoms of its people. Three-quarters or more express a lack of confidence in Chinese President Xi Jinping, unfavorable views of China and the sentiment that global U.S. leadership would be better for the world than Chinese leadership.

Nonetheless, roughly eight-in-ten Japanese concede that China plays a more important role in the world today compared with 10 years ago. Japanese with higher incomes and education levels are more likely to agree. Those with favorable views of the liberal opposition Constitutional Democratic Party are more likely to believe China's role is growing than those who have an unfavorable view of the party.

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### Negative views of China across issues, but recognition of its growing role



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17b, Q30a, Q32a, Q33 & Q35b.

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## 5. Views of the U.S. and President Trump

The United States and Japan have been security allies since 1951. America has provided Japan with a nuclear umbrella, safeguarding it against Russia, China and now North Korea. Japan has afforded U.S. military forces forward bases in Asia.

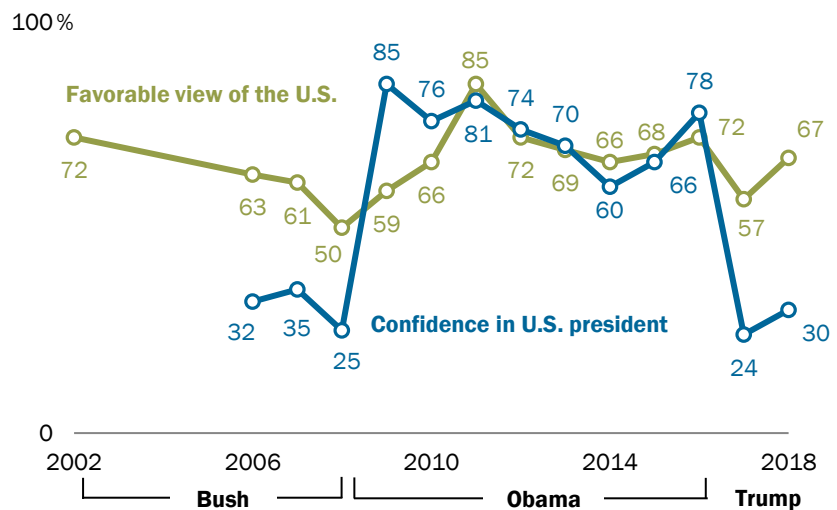
Since 2002, in all but one year (2008), a majority of Japanese have held a favorable view of the U.S. In 2018, two-thirds (67%) see the U.S. positively, up 10 percentage points from 2017. Such support for America is lower than its peak (85%) in 2011, in the wake of U.S. aid to Japan in the aftermath of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. But it is comparable to that in several years of the Obama administration. Japanese hold far more positive views of America than do many other U.S. allies, including Australians (54%), the British (50%), French (38%) and Germans (30%). But the Japanese public has less esteem for America than do Filipinos (83%) and South Koreans (80%).

Japanese men and young people express more favorable sentiment toward America than women and older Japanese, as do people with more than a high school education. Approval of the U.S. is broadly shared across adherents of the major political parties in Japan, with the strongest backing from those who have a favorable view of the LDP and Komeito.

Confidence in the U.S. president to do the right thing regarding world affairs tends to parallel views of the U.S. in many countries, including Japan. Just three-in-ten Japanese express faith in President Donald Trump, up 6 percentage points from 2017. While this is an improvement, this is still the third-lowest confidence in an American leader in 13 years in Japan. Japanese faith in Trump is lower than that in the Philippines (78%) and South Korea (44%) and comparable to that

### Japanese views of the U.S. and the American president have been on a roller coaster ride

Among the Japanese ...



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17a & Q35a.

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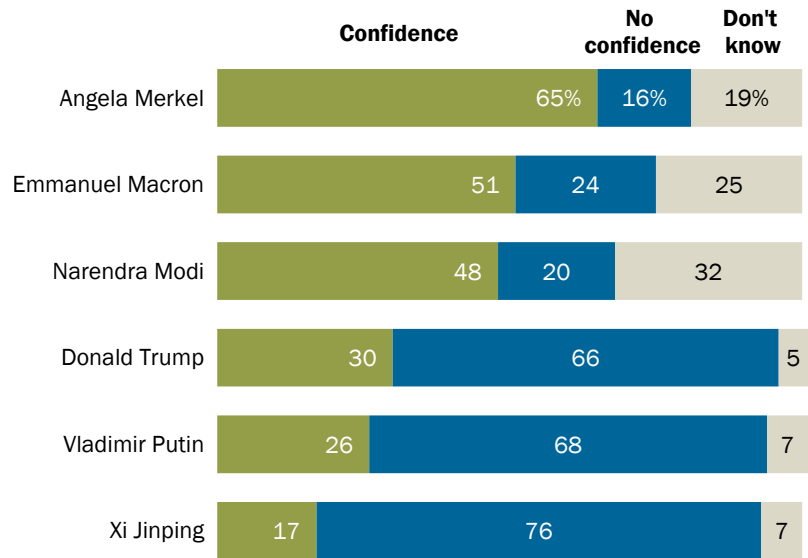
in Australia (32%) and the United Kingdom (28%). Japanese confidence in the president is higher than that in Germany (10%) or France (9%).

Japanese men (36%) have significantly more faith in Trump than do women (23%). Support for the U.S. leader is lowest among CDP backers (28%).

Relative to their view of some other prominent world leaders, Japanese adults have a decidedly more negative opinion of Trump. About two-thirds (65%) of Japanese express confidence in German Chancellor Angela Merkel's handling of world affairs. Roughly half have faith in French President Emmanuel Macron (51%) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (48%), though both leaders have notably high "don't know" responses at 25% and 32%, respectively. Japanese views of the U.S. president are roughly comparable to those of Russian President Vladimir Putin (26%) and much better than the public's judgment of Chinese President Xi Jinping (17%).

### Japanese most confident in Merkel

Confidence in \_\_\_ to do the right thing regarding world affairs



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q35a-e, g.

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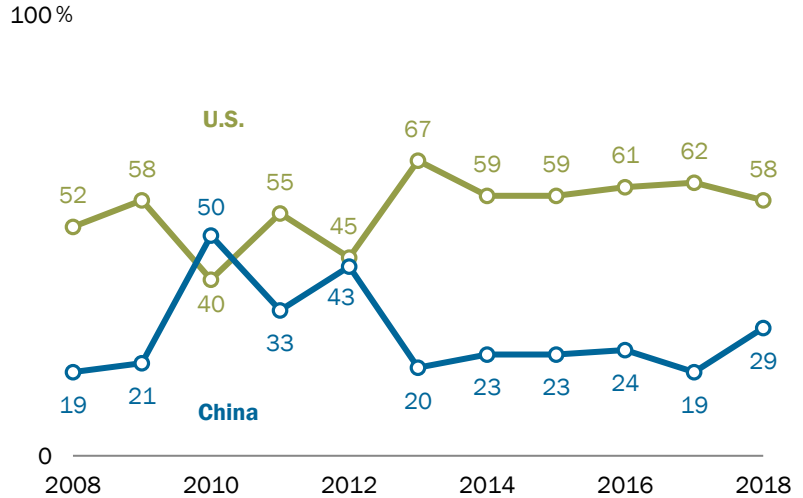
The uptick in Japanese confidence in Trump and favorability of the U.S. comes in the wake of the Trump administration's [focus on curtailing North Korea's nuclear weapons program](#), which nearly [two-thirds of Japanese were very concerned](#) about in 2017.

## The Japanese perspective on the U.S. role in the world

For most of the past decade, Japanese have seen the U.S. as the world's leading economic power. Today, a majority (58%) express such a view, a much larger share of the public than sees China (29%), the countries of the European Union (5%) or even Japan itself (4%) in that role. But the public's assessment of China's economic power is up 10 percentage points since 2017 and is now at its highest level since 2012.

### More see U.S., not China, as leading economic power

Today, which do you think is the world's leading economic power?



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q29.

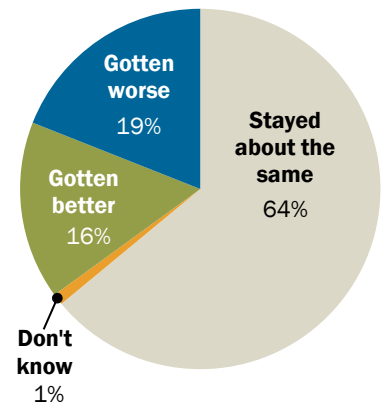
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The advent of the Trump administration does not seem to have markedly affected Japanese views on U.S.-Japan relations. In 2017, a plurality of Japanese (41%) expected relations with the U.S. to get worse in the wake of Trump becoming the American president. But in 2018, only 19% say relations have gotten worse. Nearly two-thirds (64%) believe things have stayed about the same.

What has suffered in recent years in the eyes of many Japanese are certain aspects of U.S. soft power.

### No change seen in U.S.-Japan relations

Over the past year relations between Japan and the U.S. have ...



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q37.

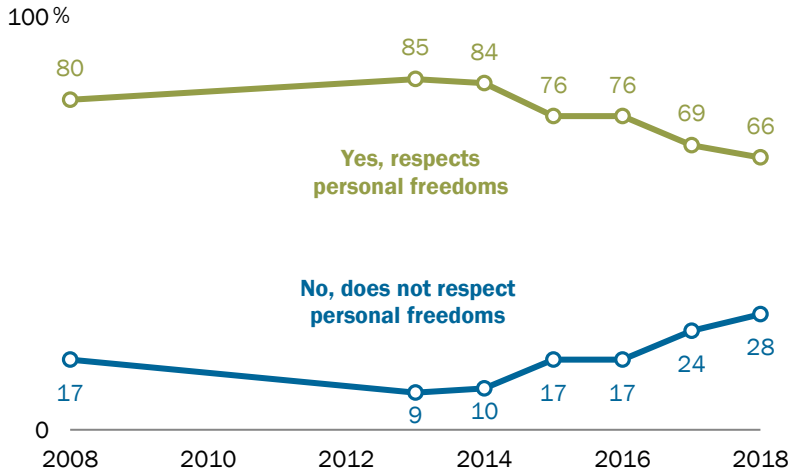
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Two-thirds of Japanese say the U.S. government respects the personal freedoms of its own people. This is a much more positive judgment than the Japanese assessment of China's record on civil liberties. But Japanese views on U.S. protection of Americans' civil rights is down 19 points from its peak in 2013. The decline began around 2014. Men (73%) more than women (60%) see the U.S. as respectful of Americans' personal freedoms.

The Japanese public has long believed that the U.S. acts unilaterally in world affairs. In 2018 such sentiment has strengthened: 71% believe Washington does not consider their interests when conducting U.S. foreign policy, up 12 percentage points since 2013. Japanese views are roughly comparable to views about U.S. unilateralism in the UK (72%) and Australia (68%). But such criticism in Japan is less than that expressed in France (81%), Germany (80%) and South Korea (75%). The Japanese are, however, much more judgmental than the Filipinos (23%).

### Fewer Japanese say the U.S. respects Americans' personal freedoms

*Do you think the government of the United States respects the personal freedoms of its people?*

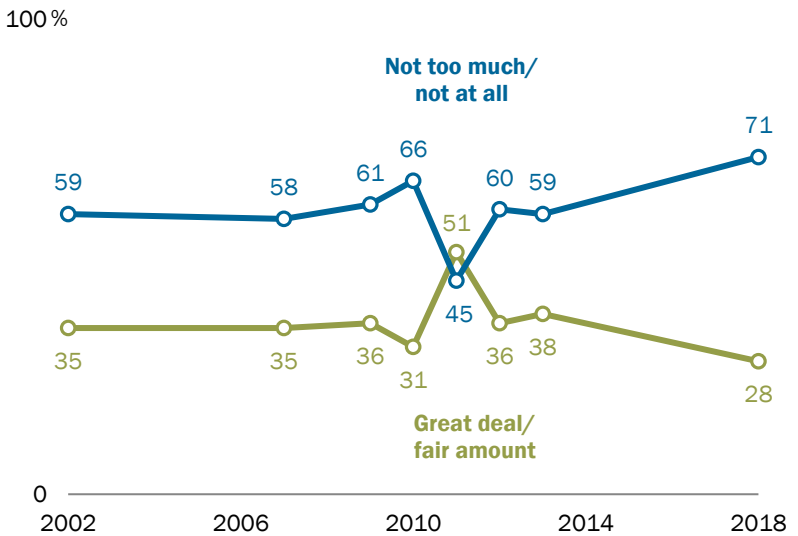


Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q30b.

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### Japanese not convinced U.S. considers their interests

*In making international policy decisions, to what extent do you think the U.S. takes the interest of your country into account?*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q39.

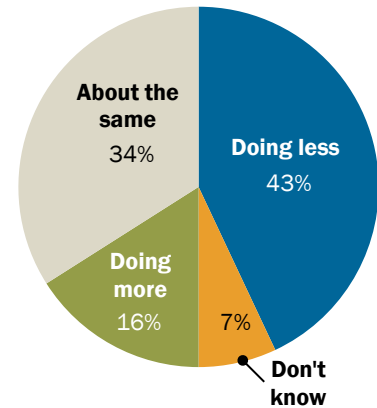
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A plurality of Japanese (43%) also voice the view that the U.S. is doing less to address global problems than it did a few years ago. Such views of American engagement in dealing with shared world challenges differ greatly depending on expressed confidence in President Trump. Among those Japanese who lack confidence in Trump, 50% say the U.S. is doing less to help address major global problems. Among those who voice confidence in the president, just 30% judge the U.S. as doing less. While 37% of supporters of the ruling LDP believe America is doing less in the global arena, 47% of those who back the opposition CDP hold that view.

Japanese views of U.S. efforts on world challenges is roughly comparable to the views of Australians, 46% of whom say Washington is doing less. Japanese are more critical than South Koreans (37%) and Filipinos (18%). They are less likely to disapprove than Germans (75%), the British (55%) and the French (53%).

## Plurality of Japanese think America is doing less around world

*Compared with a few years ago, the U.S. is doing \_\_\_ to help address major global problems*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q38.

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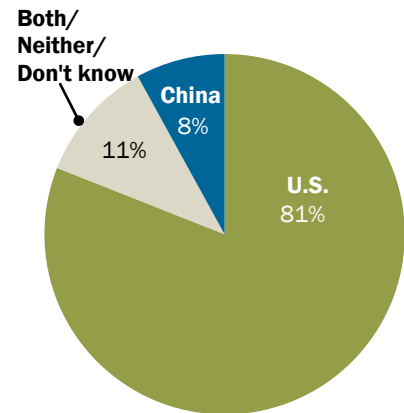
Despite souring attitudes, the Japanese public is very clear about its choice for the world's leading power: the U.S.

When offered the choice of whether they would fancy the U.S. or China to lead the world, 81% of Japanese choose America. Such Japanese support is stronger than in the Philippines (77%), South Korea (73%), Australia (72%), the UK (67%), France (65%) or Germany (58%).

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### Japanese prefer the U.S., not China, to lead the world by ten-to-one

*Having \_\_\_ as the world's leading power would be better for the world*



Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q33.

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## Methodology

### About the Pew Research Center's Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey

Results for the survey are based on telephone and face-to-face interviews conducted under the direction of Kantar Public Korea and Langer Research Associates. The results are based on national samples, unless otherwise noted. More details about our international survey methodology and country-specific sample designs are [available here](#).

[Detailed information on survey methods for this report](#)

[General information on international survey research](#)

## Appendix: Demographic tables

### Japanese views of the economy

*Japanese adults who think ...*

	Gender				Age			Youngest-oldest gap	Education*			Income**		
	TOTAL	Women	Men	Diff	18-29	30-49	50+		Less	More	Diff	Lower	Higher	Diff
	%	%	%		%	%	%		%	%		%	%	
The current economic situation is good	44	35	52	<b>+17</b>	37	44	45	-8	43	45	<b>+2</b>	44	44	0
Children will be better off financially than their parents	15	13	18	<b>+5</b>	22	15	14	<b>+8</b>	16	13	<b>-3</b>	16	15	<b>-1</b>
The financial situation of average people is better than 20 years ago	26	22	30	<b>+8</b>	25	21	28	<b>-3</b>	27	24	<b>-3</b>	25	26	<b>+1</b>

\*For the purpose of comparing educational groups across countries, we standardize education levels based on the UN's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). In Japan, the lower education category is secondary education or below and the higher category is postsecondary or above.

\*\*Respondents with a household income below the approximate country median are considered lower income. Those with an income at or above the approximate country median are considered higher income.

Note: Statistically significant differences in **bold**.

Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q2, Q3 & Q6.

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## Japanese views of trade

Japanese adults who think ...

	TOTAL	Gender			Age				Education*			Income**		
		Women	Men	Diff	18-29	30-49	50+	Youngest-oldest gap	Less	More	Diff	Lower	Higher	Diff
	%	%	%		%	%	%		%	%		%	%	
Trade is good	72	66	78	<b>+12</b>	75	75	69	+6	70	75	+5	70	74	+4
Trade lowers prices	21	18	23	+5	30	26	16	<b>+14</b>	18	26	<b>+8</b>	18	25	<b>+7</b>
Trade creates jobs	21	20	23	+3	25	22	20	+5	18	27	<b>+9</b>	18	26	<b>+8</b>
Trade increases wages	15	13	16	+3	17	13	15	+2	14	15	+1	13	16	+3

\*For the purpose of comparing education groups across countries, we standardize education levels based on the UN's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). In Japan, the lower education category is secondary education or below and the higher category is postsecondary or above.

\*\*Respondents with a household income below the approximate country median are considered lower income. Those with an income at or above the approximate country median are considered higher income.

Note: Statistically significant differences in **bold**.

Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q25-Q28.

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## Japanese views of the U.S.

Japanese adults who ...

	TOTAL	Gender			Age			Youngest-oldest gap	Education*			Income**		
		Women	Men	Diff	18-29	30-49	50+		Less	More	Diff	Lower	Higher	Diff
	%	%	%		%	%	%		%	%		%	%	
Have a favorable view of the U.S.	67	63	70	<b>+7</b>	75	71	62	<b>+13</b>	63	74	<b>+11</b>	64	70	+6
Have confidence in President Trump	30	23	36	<b>+13</b>	30	29	29	+1	29	30	+1	31	28	-3
Think relations with U.S. have gotten worse	19	18	19	+1	22	16	19	+3	19	18	-1	21	17	-4
Think the U.S. is doing more to address major global problems	16	13	18	<b>+5</b>	24	16	14	<b>+10</b>	17	15	-2	15	17	+2

\*For the purpose of comparing educational groups across countries, we standardize education levels based on the UN's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). In Japan, the lower education category is secondary education or below and the higher category is postsecondary or above.

\*\*Respondents with a household income below the approximate country median are considered lower income. Those with an income at or above the approximate country median are considered higher income.

Note: Statistically significant differences in **bold**.

Source: Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey. Q17a, Q35a, Q37 & Q38.

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# Topline Questionnaire

**Pew Research Center  
Spring 2018 Survey  
November 12, 2018 Release**

## Methodological notes:

- Survey results are based on national samples. For further details on sample designs, see Methodology section and our [international survey methods database](#).
- Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100%. The topline “total” columns show 100%, because they are based on unrounded numbers.
- Since 2007, the Pew Research Center has used an automated process to generate toplines for its Global Attitudes surveys. As a result, numbers may differ slightly from those published prior to 2007.
- Not all questions included in the Spring 2018 survey are presented in this topline. Omitted questions have either been previously released or will be released in future reports.

		Q1. Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in our country today?			
		Satisfied	Dissatisfied	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	44	48	7	100
	Spring, 2016	47	45	9	100
	Spring, 2014	34	60	6	100
	Spring, 2013	33	61	6	100
	Spring, 2012	20	78	2	100
	Spring, 2011	25	72	3	100
	Spring, 2010	20	76	4	100
	Spring, 2009	25	73	2	100
	Spring, 2008	23	74	3	100
	Spring, 2007	22	71	7	100
	Spring, 2006	27	72	1	100
	Summer, 2002	12	86	2	100

		Q2. Now thinking about our economic situation, how would you describe the current economic situation in (survey country) – is it very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or very bad?					
		Very good	Somewhat good	Somewhat bad	Very bad	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	2	42	46	9	2	100
	Spring, 2017	2	39	47	9	3	100
	Spring, 2016	1	29	53	15	3	100
	Spring, 2015	1	36	46	14	2	100
	Spring, 2014	1	34	50	13	2	100
	Spring, 2013	1	26	55	16	1	100
	Spring, 2012	0	7	44	49	0	100
	Spring, 2011	1	9	46	42	1	100
	Spring, 2010	1	11	49	39	0	100
	Spring, 2009	1	9	47	43	1	100
	Spring, 2008	1	12	57	28	1	100
	Spring, 2007	1	27	54	17	2	100
	Summer, 2002	0	6	42	51	0	100

		Q3. When children today in (survey country) grow up, do you think they will be better off or worse off financially than their parents?				
		Better off	Worse off	Same (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	15	76	2	6	100
	Spring, 2017	19	72	3	6	100
	Spring, 2015	18	72	4	6	100
	Spring, 2014	14	79	4	3	100
	Spring, 2013	15	76	4	5	100

		Q4. How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in our country – very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, or not at all satisfied?					
		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not too satisfied	Not at all satisfied	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	2	38	44	12	3	100
	Spring, 2017	5	45	38	9	3	100

		Q6. Compared with 20 years ago, do you think the financial situation of average people in (survey country) is better, worse, or do you think there has been no change?				
		Better	Worse	No change	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	26	41	28	6	100

		Q17a. Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of _____. a. The United States					
		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	8	59	25	4	4	100
	Spring, 2017	6	51	33	6	4	100
	Spring, 2016	10	62	21	2	5	100
	Spring, 2015	8	60	25	4	3	100
	Spring, 2014	6	60	28	2	3	100
	Spring, 2013	8	61	26	3	3	100
	Spring, 2012	12	60	22	5	2	100
	Spring, 2011	26	59	13	1	1	100
	Spring, 2010	7	59	28	4	2	100
	Spring, 2009	6	53	34	3	3	100
	Spring, 2008	4	46	41	7	2	100
	Spring, 2007	8	53	33	3	3	100
	Spring, 2006	8	55	29	6	3	100
	Summer, 2002	13	59	23	3	2	100

		Q17b. Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of _____. b. China					
		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	2	15	48	30	4	100
	Spring, 2017	1	12	48	35	4	100
	Spring, 2016	1	10	44	42	2	100
	Spring, 2015	1	8	40	49	2	100
	Spring, 2014	1	6	38	53	3	100
	Spring, 2013	0	5	45	48	1	100
	Spring, 2012	1	14	49	35	1	100
	Spring, 2011	2	32	45	16	4	100
	Spring, 2010	2	24	49	20	4	100
	Spring, 2009	2	24	50	19	5	100
	Spring, 2008	1	13	50	34	2	100
	Spring, 2007	3	26	51	16	4	100
	Spring, 2006	3	24	49	22	1	100
	Summer, 2002	8	47	35	7	3	100

		Q17g. Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable opinion of _____. g. Japan					
		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2018	23	45	11	5	16	100
	Spring, 2015	22	52	12	6	7	100
	Spring, 2014	21	49	13	7	10	100
	Fall, 2009	21	46	13	7	13	100
	Spring, 2008	25	45	8	3	18	100
	Spring, 2006	22	44	9	4	21	100
	Spring, 2005	17	46	12	5	21	100
Australia	Spring, 2018	24	57	8	3	7	100
	Spring, 2017	30	58	6	1	5	100
	Spring, 2016	19	60	10	3	9	100
	Spring, 2015	22	58	8	2	10	100
	Spring, 2013	16	62	12	4	6	100
	Spring, 2008	11	66	13	4	7	100
Indonesia	Spring, 2018	24	44	12	4	16	100
	Spring, 2017	20	56	9	4	10	100
	Spring, 2015	29	42	9	4	17	100
	Spring, 2014	30	47	12	2	10	100
	Spring, 2013	28	51	9	3	9	100
	Spring, 2008	18	59	12	2	9	100
	Spring, 2007	19	65	9	1	6	100
	Spring, 2006	22	56	13	3	6	100
	Spring, 2005	32	53	9	2	4	100
Philippines	Spring, 2018	36	47	8	3	6	100
	Spring, 2017	33	49	8	4	7	100
	Spring, 2015	28	53	9	3	6	100
	Spring, 2014	26	54	12	5	4	100
	Spring, 2013	18	60	15	3	4	100
South Korea	Spring, 2018	3	32	42	21	2	100
	Spring, 2017	1	30	41	26	2	100
	Spring, 2015	1	24	38	35	1	100
	Spring, 2014	1	21	39	38	2	100
	Spring, 2013	1	21	39	38	1	100
	Spring, 2008	3	44	38	13	2	100
	Spring, 2007	2	23	39	33	3	100

		Q25. What do you think about the growing trade and business ties between (survey country) and other countries – do you think it is a very good thing, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or a very bad thing for our country?					
		Very good	Somewhat good	Somewhat bad	Very bad	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	23	49	17	4	8	100
	Spring, 2014	12	57	23	2	6	100
	Spring, 2010	16	56	18	3	7	100
	Spring, 2009	20	53	17	4	6	100
	Spring, 2008	15	56	24	2	3	100
	Spring, 2007	17	55	15	2	10	100
	Summer, 2002	12	60	19	3	6	100

		Q26. Does trade with other countries lead to an increase in the wages of (survey country nationality) workers, a decrease in wages, or does it not make a difference?				
		Increase	Decrease	Does not make a difference	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	15	35	45	6	100
	Spring, 2014	10	37	46	7	100

		Q27. Does trade with other countries lead to job creation in (survey country), job losses, or does it not make a difference?				
		Job creation	Job losses	Does not make a difference	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	21	32	40	6	100
	Spring, 2014	15	38	41	6	100

		Q28. Does trade with other countries lead to an increase in the price of products sold in (survey country), a decrease in prices, or does it not make a difference?				
		Increase	Decrease	Does not make a difference	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	39	21	34	6	100
	Spring, 2014	23	27	42	9	100

		Q29. Today, which ONE of the following do you think is the world's leading economic power?							
		The United States	China	Japan	The countries of the European Union	Other (DO NOT READ)	None/There is no leading economic power (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	58	29	4	5	0	0	3	100
	Spring, 2017	62	19	7	6	0	1	5	100
	Spring, 2016	61	24	6	6	0	1	3	100
	Spring, 2015	59	23	6	5	0	1	5	100
	Spring, 2014	59	23	4	7	0	1	5	100
	Spring, 2013	67	20	4	4	0	1	4	100
	Spring, 2012	45	43	3	5	0	2	3	100
	Spring, 2011	55	33	3	6	0	1	3	100
	Spring, 2010	40	50	2	4	0	1	2	100
	Spring, 2009	58	21	6	7	0	2	6	100
	Spring, 2008	52	19	6	19	1	1	2	100

		Q30a. Do you think the government of ____ respects the personal freedoms of its people or don't you think so? a. China			
		Yes, respects personal freedoms	No, does not respect personal freedoms	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	8	88	4	100
	Spring, 2017	9	85	6	100
	Spring, 2016	7	88	5	100
	Spring, 2015	3	93	4	100
	Spring, 2014	4	89	7	100
	Spring, 2013	5	88	7	100
	Spring, 2008	6	88	6	100

		Q30b. Do you think the government of ____ respects the personal freedoms of its people or don't you think so? b. the United States			
		Yes, respects personal freedoms	No, does not respect personal freedoms	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	66	28	6	100
	Spring, 2017	69	24	6	100
	Spring, 2016	76	17	7	100
	Spring, 2015	76	17	7	100
	Spring, 2014	84	10	6	100
	Spring, 2013	85	9	6	100
	Spring, 2008	80	17	3	100

		Q32a. Do you think ____ plays a more important role in the world today compared to 10 years ago, a less important role, or about as important a role in the world as it did 10 years ago? a. China				
		More important role	Less important role	As important as 10 years ago	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	79	4	15	2	100

		Q33. Thinking about the future, if you had to choose, which of the following scenarios would be better for the world?					
		The U.S. is the world's leading power	China is the world's leading power	Both (DO NOT READ)	Neither (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	81	8	1	6	4	100

		Q34a. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? a. Elected officials care what ordinary people think					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	3	32	47	15	2	100



		Q34b. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? b. The court system treats everyone fairly					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	10	44	35	5	6	100

		Q34c. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? c. Most politicians are corrupt					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	15	38	35	9	4	100

		Q34d. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? d. Most people live in areas where it is dangerous to walk around at night					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	2	24	45	25	4	100

		Q34e. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? e. No matter who wins an election, things do not change very much					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	23	39	27	10	1	100

		Q34f. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? f. The rights of people to express their views in public are protected					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	11	51	30	5	3	100

		Q34g. Does this statement describe (survey country) very well, somewhat well, not too well, or not well at all? g. Most people have a good chance to improve their standard of living					
		Very well	Somewhat well	Not too well	Not well at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	8	45	39	7	1	100

		Q35a. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. a. U.S. President Donald Trump					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	3	27	48	18	5	100
	Spring, 2017	2	22	52	20	4	100
	Spring, 2016	2	7	33	49	9	100

In 2016, asked 'U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump.'

		Q35b. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. b. Chinese President Xi Jinping					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	2	15	44	32	7	100
	Spring, 2017	0	11	46	35	8	100
	Spring, 2016	1	11	39	40	10	100
	Spring, 2015	1	11	41	41	6	100
	Spring, 2014	0	6	43	44	7	100

		Q35c. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. c. Russian President Vladimir Putin					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	2	24	45	23	7	100
	Spring, 2017	2	26	47	17	7	100
	Spring, 2016	4	22	43	22	9	100
	Spring, 2015	1	21	47	24	7	100
	Spring, 2014	1	19	52	20	7	100
	Spring, 2012	2	25	47	21	6	100
	Spring, 2008	3	25	41	21	10	100
	Spring, 2007	1	18	46	22	14	100
	Spring, 2006	2	38	44	11	5	100

		Q35d. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. d. German Chancellor Angela Merkel					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	13	52	14	2	19	100
	Spring, 2017	12	55	13	2	19	100
	Spring, 2012	9	46	21	3	21	100
	Spring, 2010	2	44	20	3	31	100
	Spring, 2009	5	37	20	3	34	100
	Spring, 2008	5	42	24	2	27	100
	Spring, 2007	1	26	21	4	48	100

		Q35e. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. e. French President Emmanuel Macron					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	5	46	22	2	25	100

		Q35f. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. f. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2018	12	45	15	12	16	100
	Spring, 2014	6	43	16	19	17	100
Australia	Spring, 2018	14	54	12	6	14	100
	Spring, 2015	9	51	13	6	21	100
Indonesia	Spring, 2018	9	38	15	4	34	100
	Spring, 2015	11	32	15	5	38	100
	Spring, 2014	7	39	23	5	26	100
	Spring, 2007	5	54	13	3	24	100
Japan	Spring, 2018	9	39	32	18	2	100
	Spring, 2015	14	48	27	9	2	100
	Spring, 2014	9	49	32	8	2	100
	Spring, 2007	7	51	30	6	6	100
Philippines	Spring, 2018	24	48	10	7	11	100
	Spring, 2015	21	47	16	3	13	100
	Spring, 2014	13	42	18	7	21	100
South Korea	Spring, 2018	1	9	39	49	2	100
	Spring, 2015	1	6	28	63	1	100
	Spring, 2014	1	4	29	65	2	100
	Spring, 2007	0	4	36	53	7	100

		Q35g. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. g. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	4	44	17	3	32	100
	Spring, 2015	5	42	20	3	29	100

		Q37. Over the past year do you think relations between (survey country) and the U.S. have gotten better, gotten worse or stayed about the same?				
		Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed about the same	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	16	19	64	1	100

		Q38. In your opinion, compared with a few years ago, is the U.S. doing more to help address major global problems, doing less, or about the same?					
		Doing more	Doing less	About the same	U.S. does not help (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	16	43	34	0	7	100

		Q39. In making international policy decisions, to what extent do you think the United States takes into account the interests of countries like (survey country) – a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?					
		Great deal	Fair amount	Not too much	Not at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	1	27	56	15	2	100
	Spring, 2013	2	36	49	10	3	100
	Spring, 2012	2	34	48	12	3	100
	Spring, 2011	4	47	39	6	4	100
	Spring, 2010	2	29	54	12	2	100
	Spring, 2009	2	34	51	10	4	100
	Spring, 2007	3	32	49	9	7	100
	Summer, 2002	3	32	49	10	5	100

		Q51. Do you think people leaving our country for jobs in other countries is a very big problem, a moderately big problem, a small problem, or not a problem at all for (survey country)?					
		Very big problem	Moderately big problem	Small problem	Not a problem at all	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	30	28	17	22	2	100
	Summer, 2002	12	27	20	37	4	100

		Q52. In your opinion, should we allow more immigrants to move to our country, fewer immigrants, or about the same as we do now?					
		More	Fewer	About the same	No immigrants at all (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	23	13	58	0	5	100

		Q54a. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. a. Immigrants today make our country stronger because of their work and talents [OR] Immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs and social benefits				
		First statement	Second statement	Neither/both (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	59	31	4	7	100

		Q54b. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. b. Immigrants in our country today are more to blame for crime than other groups [OR] Immigrants in our country today are no more to blame for crime than other groups				
		First statement	Second statement	Neither/both (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	40	52	1	7	100

		Q54c. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. c. Immigrants in our country today want to adopt (survey nationality) customs and way of life [OR] Immigrants today want to be distinct from (survey nationality) society				
		First statement	Second statement	Neither/both (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	75	18	1	6	100

		Q54d. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. d. Immigrants today increase the risk of terrorism in our country [OR] Immigrants today do not increase the risk of terrorism in our country				
		First statement	Second statement	Neither/both (DO NOT READ)	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	33	60	2	6	100

		Q80. Overall, how likely do you think it is that in the next 50 years, robots and computers will do much of the work currently done by humans?					
		Definitely happen	Probably happen	Probably NOT happen	Definitely NOT happen	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	28	61	8	1	1	100

		Q81a. If robots and computers were able to do much of the work currently being done by humans, do you think each of the following is likely or not likely to happen in (survey country) as a result? a. Inequality between rich and poor would be much worse than it is today			
		Yes, likely	No, not likely	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	83	13	4	100

		Q81b. If robots and computers were able to do much of the work currently being done by humans, do you think each of the following is likely or not likely to happen in (survey country) as a result? b. Ordinary people would have a hard time finding jobs			
		Yes, likely	No, not likely	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	74	23	3	100

		Q81c. If robots and computers were able to do much of the work currently being done by humans, do you think each of the following is likely or not likely to happen in (survey country) as a result? c. The economy would be much more efficient			
		Yes, likely	No, not likely	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	74	21	5	100

		Q81d. If robots and computers were able to do much of the work currently being done by humans, do you think each of the following is likely or not likely to happen in (survey country) as a result? d. There would be new, better-paying jobs			
		Yes, likely	No, not likely	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	35	58	6	100

		Q82a. How much responsibility should each of the following have in making sure that the (survey country nationality) workforce has the right skills and education to be successful in the future? a. individuals themselves					
		A lot	Some	Only a little	None	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	39	50	7	1	3	100

		Q82b. How much responsibility should each of the following have in making sure that the (survey country nationality) workforce has the right skills and education to be successful in the future? b. the government					
		A lot	Some	Only a little	None	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	63	31	3	1	2	100

		Q82c. How much responsibility should each of the following have in making sure that the (survey country nationality) workforce has the right skills and education to be successful in the future? c. schools					
		A lot	Some	Only a little	None	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	37	51	8	2	1	100

		Q82d. How much responsibility should each of the following have in making sure that the (survey country nationality) workforce has the right skills and education to be successful in the future? d. employers					
		A lot	Some	Only a little	None	DK/Refused	Total
Japan	Spring, 2018	42	50	5	2	1	100