

Opinion Poll: 2017 U.S. Image of Japan

(Unit: %)

General Population Survey

Question 1: For each of the following statements, please tell me if it describes or does not describe your image of Japan. (% Yes) (MA)

Note: This question has been asked since 2006. Choices (7) and (8) were added to the survey in 2010. Choice (4) and (12) were added to the survey in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
(1) a country that has great tradition and culture	71	95	96	92	97	97	97	97	96	92	95	94
(2) a country with a strong economy and high-technology	61	87	81	86	92	91	91	90	88	91	94	93
(3) a country that has consistently followed the path of a peace-loving nation since the end of World War II	34	82	80	81								
(4) a country with a high standard of living	39	75	66									
(5) a country with beautiful nature	58	84	79	81	90	88	85	85	85	80	78	81
(6) a country that disseminates new culture to the world such as animation,	47	79	80	78	82	90	88	82	80	73	78	
(7) a country that has shown leadership in global society	30	59	54	48	66	65	66	62	65	59	64	
(8) a country that currently shares the same values with the United States, such as democracy and liberalism	19	60	52	58	59	64	59	55				
(9) a country that is conservative and closed	15	49	46	52	55	46	47	49				
(10) a country that is difficult to understand	14	35	42	42	38	39	42	45	45	47	48	49
(11) a country that Americans should be wary of	6	21	23	25	27	21	26	26	22	31	29	30
(12) a militant country	6	28	30									

Question 2: Which aspects of Japan would you like to know more about? Please select all that apply.

Note: This question was added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Politics/Diplomacy/Security issues	19	62	52
(2) Economy	22	59	53
(3) Companies/Business	17	49	49
(4) Economic and technical cooperation (Official Development Assistance-ODA)	13	59	57
(5) History	41	69	66
(6) Culture (including traditional, pop, Japanese food, etc.)	58	72	68
(7) Science / Technology	35	70	65
(8) Tourism	46	59	65
(9) Other	3	34	24
(10) Nothing special	20	9	10

Question 3: For each of the following areas of Japanese culture, please tell me if you are interested or not interested in the topic. (MA)

Note: Choice (16) and (17) were added to the survey in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) Flower arrangement	21	46	43	48	52	51	55
(2) Tea ceremony	27	47	40	37	40	53	52
(3) Traditional Japanese theater (Kabuki, Noh, Kyogen)	17	42	38	32	31	37	50
(4) Calligraphy (Shodo)	22	48	41	41	41	57	63
(5) Traditional Japanese music (Gagaku, Koto)	16	40	36	29	33	48	47
(6) Japanese literature or Haiku	17	44	43	35	41	49	52
(7) Sumo or Japanese martial arts (such as Karate, Judo or Kendo)	19	50	48	51	53	62	61
(8) Bonsai	34	49	42	43	49	60	62
(9) Japanese Animation	20	38	34	41	41	60	58
(10) Japanese comics (also known as Manga)	17	23	24	24	21	17	15
(11) Video games	19	24	27	36	38	35	37
(12) Japanese pop music	13	17	18	16	16	25	22
(13) Japanese fashion	23	39	35	28	34	40	39
(14) Japanese movies and dramas	18	35	34	33	39	59	56
(15) Japanese food	57	70	69	68	73	86	84
(16) Architecture	32	66	61				
(17) Japanese lifestyle and thought	43	65	59				

Question 4: From what sources do you acquire information or knowledge? Please select all that apply.

Note: This question was added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Television	63	79	82
(2) Magazines and books	51	75	79
(3) Newspaper	32	52	61
(4) Website	66	71	65
(5) Blog	15	25	24
(6) Email newsletter	15	32	32
(7) Facebook, Twitter and other SNS (social networking services)	32	46	47
(8) Video-sharing websites like YouTube	33	49	52
(9) School studies	19	41	40
(10) Movies	37	56	59
(11) Seminars/symposiums and cultural events	14	46	38
(12) Friends / Neighbors	46	66	67
(13) Radio	22	50	50
(14) Experience in Japan	23	39	38

Question 5: Which of the following sources do you use or have you used to get information about Japan? (% Yes)

Note: This question has been asked since 1994. Choice (4) to (8), and (11) were added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Television	34	67	71	70	77	79	82	81	79	74	80	78	78
(2) Magazines/Books	24	62	61	59	58	58	59	69	71	64	72	67	62
(3) Newspapers	11	44	48	45	65	63	65	66	67	63	71	71	70
Internet				65	69	67	66	57	52	39	43	38	33
(4) Website	37	55	52										
(5) Blog	5	17	15										
(6) Email newsletter	2	15	18										
(7) Facebook, Twitter and other SNS (social networking services)	12	30	34										
(8) Video-sharing websites like YouTube	15	36	39										
(9) School studies	7	31	30	42	47	34	35	54	56	52	51	53	47
(10) Movies	17	47	47	51	27	24	23	40	39	37	40	39	31
(11) Seminars/symposiums and cultural events	3	31	27										
Japanese friends				36	32	26	25	35	33	29	29	32	30
(12) Friends/Neighbors	14	51	44	37	30	24	25	34	31	30	29	30	29
(13) Radio	4	34	32	22	35	42	43	30	30	26	34	33	35
(14) Experience in Japan	9	25	23	13	13	10	10	11	12	12	12	11	12
(15) I do not get any Japanese information from anywhere.	23												

Question 6: How often do you normally access international news or information? Please select one response.

Note: This question was added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Everyday	20	44	38
(2) About 2-3 times a week	19	18	20
(3) About once a week	15	12	13
(4) About once a month	10	8	8
(5) About once in 2-3 months	6	2	3
(6) About once in 6 months	3	3	1
(7) About once a year	2	1	3
(8) I hardly access international news or information.	25	11	14

Question 7: Are you interested in international news or information?

Note: This question was added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Very interested	30	44	38
(2) Somewhat interested	45	39	44
(3) Not very interested	17	9	10
(4) Not at all interested	8	8	8

Question 8-a: Are you studying Japanese or interested in studying the Japanese

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) Yes	25	20	15	15	19	26	23
(2) No	75	79	84	85	81	74	77

Question 8-b: I'm going to read you a list of languages. For each one are you interested in learning it or not? Are you interested in learning ...?

Note: This question had been asked to those who chose "(2) No" for 8-a from 2012 to 2014 and changed to be asked regardless of choices for 8-a in 2015. Choice (1) and (8) were added also in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
(1) Japanese	28	23	19			
(2) Chinese	21	19	17	11	13	12
(3) Korean	14	10	8	3	7	3
(4) Arabic	11	17	16	8	13	8
(5) French	32	31	26	29	30	27
(6) German	22	26	23	22	23	24
(7) Spanish	45	50	43	45	53	57
(8) Russian	13	14	12			
(9) Not interested in learning any language		32	38			

Question 8-c: (Note: Ask only for those who chose <1, Japanese>)

What is the reason to choose Japanese? Please select all that apply.

Note: This question was added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) I would like to visit Japan	75	92	97
(2) I would like to travel Japan for sightseeing	59	88	96
(3) I would like to work in Japan	12	34	30
(4) I would like to study in Japan	15	38	36
(5) I would like to understand Japanese culture and lifestyle	67	93	94
(6) I would like to enjoy Japanese cultural contents (fashion, music, movies, TV dramas, comics and animation)	54	84	82
(7) I would like to communicate with my Japanese friends more	18	64	56
(8) Japanese is necessary for my work/business	6	9	11
(9) Japanese can be useful in the future	38	88	86
(10) There is a language school close to my home	5	21	19
(11) Japanese is a required course in my school	3	5	8

Question 9: In general, how do you view the current level of cooperation between Japan and the United States? Do you think that the current level of cooperation is excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Excellent	17	14	16	16	16	29	26	14	16	14	13	12	9
(2) Good	52	48	46	51	42	51	51	58	57	49	54	51	52
(3) Fair	26	22	29	24	34	17	20	24	23	27	27	29	33
(4) Poor	5	8	3	5	5	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	3
(5) Don't know/Refused		7	6	3	3	1	1	2	2	6	2	4	3

Question 10-a: Do you think Japan is a reliable partner for the US?

Please select one response.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes	87	82	73	73	76	84	84	79	80	67	74	69	72
(2) No	13	11	15	18	10	12	13	16	15	18	21	22	21
(3) Don't know		7	12	9	14	4	3	5	5	15	5	9	7

Question 10-b: Why do you think Japan is a reliable partner? Please select all that apply.

Note: Choices were added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Good relationship / the countries share the same values	43	76	73
(2) Economic ties (investments from Japan, good trade relationship)	72	90	85
(3) Contribution to security (peace building, anti-terrorism efforts, PKO (peacekeeping operations), anti-piracy efforts)	43	76	68
(4) Contribution to stabilization of international order (Rule of law, liberal democracy, free-trade system, etc.)	37	80	71
(5) Contribution to stabilization and growth of world economy	55	83	74
(6) Attractive culture	35	74	65
(7) Development cooperation in the international community	38	85	58
(8) Contribution to solutions for global issues (Environment, climate change, infectious diseases, population, poverty, etc.)	41	75	71

Question 11: Are you aware that Japan contributes to the US economy through its investment?

Note: This question is added in 2017.

	2017
(1) Yes	67
(2) No	33

Question 12: Thinking about international relations, how significant of a role do you think Japan plays in each of the following areas? Do you think Japan play a role that is very significant, somewhat significant, not very significant, or not at all significant?

Note: This question has been asked since 1994. Section (IV) was added in 1995. "Anti-terrorism efforts" in section (I), "climate change" in section (VII), and section (VIII) were added in 2010. Choices were changed from "Yes/No" to "Very significant/Somewhat significant/Not very significant/Not at all significant." Section (IX) and (X) were added in 2015.

(I) Security (including peace building, anti-terrorism efforts, PKO (peacekeeping operations))

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								32	29	29	33	35	31
(2) Very significant	22	35	30	22	24	16	19						
(3) Somewhat significant	52	42	44	42	38	41	39						
(4) Not very significant	22	12	15	19	21	31	30						
(5) Not at all significant	3	4	3	7	5	7	6	61	64	60	61	56	64
(6) Don't know/Refused		7	8	10	11	5	6	7	7	11	6	9	5

(II) The United Nations

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) Very significant	24	32	31	26	29	21	22
(2) Somewhat significant	56	44	43	46	42	56	55
(3) Not very significant	17	9	10	13	13	14	13
(4) Not at all significant	3	5	3	5	7	3	5
(5) Don't know/Refused		10	13	10	10	6	5

(III) Global economy

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								65	62	53	62	58	53
(2) Very significant	42	52	48	51	53	50	52						
(3) Somewhat significant	49	37	40	36	37	42	40						
(4) Not very significant	7	4	4	7	4	6	4						
(5) Not at all significant	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	33	36	42	35	38	45
(6) Don't know/Refused		4	5	4	3	1	2	2	2	5	3	4	2

(IV) Official development aid, including assistance to countries such as Afghanistan

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								36	34	29	34	36	34
(2) Very significant	20	34	23	8	6	7	8						
(3) Somewhat significant	55	49	47	26	26	32	34						
(4) Not very significant	21	6	12	29	32	39	36						
(5) Not at all significant	4	3	4	15	14	11	11	55	55	56	54	52	59
(6) Don't know/Refused		9	14	23	21	11	11	9	11	15	12	12	7

(V) Science and technology

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								70	66	60	67	65	57
(2) Very significant	54	72	69	72	74	75	78						
(3) Somewhat significant	38	21	25	21	19	22	20						
(4) Not very significant	6	1	2	2	2	1	1						
(5) Not at all significant	2	2	1	2	3	1	0	30	33	39	32	34	42
(6) Don't know/Refused		3	4	4	3	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1

(VI) Cultural exchange

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								60	57	48	58	54	49
(2) Very significant	30	36	36	38	40	36	39						
(3) Somewhat significant	54	46	45	43	41	54	49						
(4) Not very significant	14	9	9	9	9	7	8						
(5) Not at all significant	2	3	2	4	4	1	2	38	41	47	40	43	49
(6) Don't know/Refused		5	7	5	6	2	2	2	2	5	2	3	2

(VII) Environment and climate change

* including "global issues such as population and AIDS" till 2010

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								45	41	37	40	41	37
(2) Very significant	23	34	30	30	32	30	25						
(3) Somewhat significant	50	39	39	37	36	39	44						
(4) Not very significant	22	12	13	14	13	18	20						
(5) Not at all significant	5	6	6	9	9	6	6	50	54	53	53	51	57
(6) Don't know/Refused		9	11	9	10	7	5	5	5	10	7	8	6

(VIII) Nuclear disarmament or non-proliferation

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
(1) Yes								35
(2) Very significant	23	39	30	27	28	23	25	
(3) Somewhat significant	48	35	35	33	31	41	40	
(4) Not very significant	24	11	14	17	16	22	23	
(5) Not at all significant	5	4	7	8	10	6	6	27
(6) Don't know/Refused		11	15	15	15	8	6	38

(IX) Providing solutions for global issues (including environment, climate change, infectious diseases, population, poverty)

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Yes			
(2) Very significant	24	35	30
(3) Somewhat significant	52	44	42
(4) Not very significant	19	9	14
(5) Not at all significant	4	5	5
(6) Don't know/Refused		7	8

(X) Stabilization of international order (including rule of law, liberal democracy, free-trade system, etc.)

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Yes			
(2) Very significant	23	34	27
(3) Somewhat significant	56	46	46
(4) Not very significant	17	8	12
(5) Not at all significant	4	5	7
(6) Don't know/Refused		7	8

Question 13: Thinking about how much the Japanese people and the American people understand each other, do you think they have a good, fair, or poor understanding of each other?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Good	27	43	36	35	37	43	42	43	42	38	36	38	36
(2) Fair	59	43	45	48	44	47	50	45	48	43	49	45	47
(3) Poor	14	13	15	15	18	9	8	11	9	13	14	15	16
(4) Don't know/Refused		2	4	2	1	1	0	1	1	6	1	2	1

Question 14: Now we would like to ask about your view of future Japan-U.S. relations. Thinking of the future, do you think that the United States should be working more closely with Japan, working less closely with Japan, or that their relationship should stay the same?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) More closely	51	66	53	53	59	44	49
(2) Less closely	4	3	2	5	3	3	3
(3) Stay the same	44	28	40	37	34	52	48
(4) Don't know/Refused		4	4	4	3		

Question 15: Thinking about ways Japan and the US may improve their relations, which one of the following do you think would be most helpful in improving Japan-U.S. relations? (MA)

Note: This question has been asked since 1995. The choice "promote cultural exchanges" was added in 1997. In 2010, words "climate change" and "infectious diseases" were added and "AIDS" was removed in (2), and "people-to-people exchanges" was added in (4). This question became a multiple answer question in 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Strengthen economic/trade relations	75	84	81	26	32	41	42	43	45	36	36	36	38
(2) Encourage cooperation on global issues such as climate change, as well as control and prevention of infectious diseases	57	84	80	30	29	25	25	25	27	27	30	28	26
(3) Strengthen political/security relations	61	84	74	18	17	21	19	19	20	20	25	21	25
(4) Promote cultural and people-to-people exchange	48	80	74	22	18	10	12	7	7	8	8	12	9
(5) Don't know/Refused		5	3	5	3	3	2	6	1	9	1	3	2

Question 16-a: Do you think that the United States and Japan should closely cooperate in order to ensure peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region?

Note: This question has been asked in 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Yes, they should cooperate	95	91	93	91
(2) No, they should not cooperate	5	6	3	5
(3) Don't know/Refused		3	4	3

Question 16-b: Do you think that Japan should play a more proactive role in order to ensure peace and security in Asia-Pacific region?

Note: This question has been asked in 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Yes, Japan should play a more proactive role	63	80	83	81
(2) No, Japan should not play a more proactive role	5	12	10	9
(3) Don't know/Refused	32	8	7	11

Question 17: How much do you think the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, which allows for the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan for the security of Japan and for maintaining international peace and security in the Far East, contributes to peace and stability in the region? Do you think it contributes a great deal, a moderate amount, only a little, or not at all?

Note: This question has been asked since 1996.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) A great deal	28	46	41	35	41	42	43	37	34	29	30	25	27
(2) A moderate amount	52	37	36	42	40	41	42	44	46	36	47	46	45
(3) Only a little	17	7	13	14	10	11	11	13	14	18	16	18	18
(4) Not at all	3	5	4	3	6	4	2	3	3	6	4	5	5
(5) Don't know/Refused		5	6	6	4	2	2	3	3	11	3	6	5

Question 18-a: Do you think that the U.S. and Japan should or should not maintain the current Japan-U.S. Security Treaty?

Note: This question has been asked since 1996.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes, should maintain	68	82	81	81	67	89	92	90	87	78	87	85	86
(2) No, should not maintain	4	7	5	7	9	7	4	5	6	7	6	7	6
(3) Don't know/Refused	28	11	4	12	24	4	4	5	7	15	7	8	8

Question 18-b: BASE: THINKS US SHOULD MAINTAIN CURRENT TREATY

Why do you think so? (OPEN END - top results)

Note: This question has been asked since 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Important to maintain long-term relationship/cooperation with ally	15	19	25	22
(2) Positive effects/Treaty should stay as is	4	14	18	17
(3) Ensure safety/security	17	9	15	23
(4) Important to maintain peace	9	9	9	15

Question 18-b: BASE: THINKS US SHOULD NOT MAINTAIN CURRENT TREATY

Why do you think so? (OPEN END - top results)

Note: This question has been asked since 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Japan doesn't need to the US/can stand on its own	4	14	17	31
(2) Treaty is not needed/Japan is no threat			15	12
(3) Japan needs to take responsibility for its own security and military	19		13	

Question 19-a: How important do you think the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty is for the security of the United States? Do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

Note: This question has been asked since 1996.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Very important	39	54	48	45	59	54	55	49	49	51	52	55	50
(2) Somewhat important	51	33	36	38	29	36	34	39	41	33	37	32	36
(3) Not too important	8	4	9	6	6	7	8	9	7	7	7	7	8
(4) Not important at all	1	4	6	4	3	3	2	2	1	4	3	3	3
(5) Don't know/Refused		5	3	6	4	0	1	1	2	5	1	3	3

Question 19-b: How important do you think it is to have U.S. Forces in Japan for the security of the United States? Do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

Note: This question was added in 2012.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
(1) Very important	40	46	44	36	42	42
(2) Somewhat important	43	35	34	40	36	39
(3) Not too important	14	9	11	11	13	14
(4) Not important at all	4	7	7	10	6	5
(5) Don't know/Refused		3	4	3	3	0

Question 20: Do you think Japan should or should not increase its self-defense

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes, should increase	46	61	59	57	64	59	61	56	54	46	54	51	52
(2) No, should not increase	14	28	25	28	24	37	35	37	38	39	40	39	41
(3) Don't know/Refused	40	10	14	15	12	4	4	7	8	15	6	10	7

Question 21-a: From the following list, which country in Asia do you think is the most important partner of the United States?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Japan	33	33	27	46	35	50	31	44	46	43	48	45	48
(2) China	18	20	25	26	39	39	39	44	39	34	34	33	26
(3) Australia	6	16	17				11						
(4) South Korea	11	9	10	13	7	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1
(5) India	1	2	4				5						
(6) Russia	4	7	5	5	5	3	2	3	8	10	8	13	13
(7) Other	1	-	1	0	5	3	3	2	3	2	1	2	4
(8) None	2	2	1	1	5	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	1
(9) Don't know/Refused	25	11	9	8	4	3	2	4	2	8	6	4	6

Note: Choices for each year
2016: Japan, China, Australia, South Korea, India, Russia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2015: Japan, China, Australia, South Korea, India, Russia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2014: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2013: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2012: Japan, China, Russia, Some other country, Don't know/Refused
2011: Japan, China, Australia, South Korea, India, Russia, Some other country, None, Don't know/Refused
2010 and before: Japan, China, Russia, Some other country, Don't know/Refused

Question 21-b: Why do you regard this country as the most important partner of the United States? (OPEN END – top trended results)

Note: This question has been asked since 1995.

- Reasons for Japan

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Political/General ties with U.S.	35	35	52	63	48	44	29	33	34	37	34	26	28
(2) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	17	26	29	19	39	21	29	28	26	20	22	18	26
(3) Nation's technology	10	13	9	6	8	17	15	19	17	24	21	26	24
(4) National qualities (ex. Population)	4	18	18	8	7	8	16	9	11	9	10	18	8
(5) Personal qualities/Culture of people	7	16	3	11	12	4	3	4	7	5	6	7	4

- Reasons for China

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	45	52	65	71	80	41	43	48	38	26	27	21	22
(2) Nation's technology	4	1	3	2	5	22	20	22	21	28	19	29	15
(3) Nation's qualities (ex. Population)	17	39	23	22	14	17	19	19	25	17	31	23	34
(4) Political/General ties with U.S.	8	15	28	28	11	11	11	5	7	19	10	15	20
(5) Personal qualities/Culture of people	2	2	0	0	2	2	1	2	4	4	5	7	3

Question 22-a: Which of the following countries in Asia is the most reliable for the U.S.? Please select one response.

	2017	2016
(1) Japan	36	38
(2) China	5	8
(3) Australia	14	27
(4) South Korea	8	11
(5) India	1	2
(6) Russia	1	3
(7) Other	1	
(8) None	2	1
(9) Don't know/Refused	31	10

Question 22-b: Why do you think the country is the most reliable friend? (OPEN END, top five answers)

- Reasons for Japan

	2017	2016
(1) Political/General ties with U.S.	36	42
(2) Trustworthy/Reliable	12	
(3) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	11	26
(4) Personal qualities/Culture of people	5	13
(5) History/Past performance	5	

- Reasons for China

	2017	2016
(1) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	41	30
(2) Nation's economy/strong economy	16	
(3) Political/General ties with U.S.	13	17
(4) National qualities (ex. Population)	7	
(5) Nation's technology	6	

- Reasons for Australia

	2017	2016
(1) Personal qualities/Culture of people	31	30
(2) Political/General ties with U.S.	29	56
(3) Trustworthy/Reliable	13	
(4) Friendly nation/No history of conflict/war	8	
(5) Military capabilities/relations	7	

- Reasons for South Korea

	2017	2016
(1) Political/General ties with U.S.	24	83
(2) Need each other/Dependency on each other	14	
(3) Current conflict in North Korea/Allies against North Korea	14	
(4) National/International security/Keeping the peace	11	
(5) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	9	7

- Reasons for India

	2017	2016
(1) Personal qualities/Culture of people	18	9
(2) Other national/cultural qualities mentions	18	
(3) Friendly nation/No history of conflict/war	18	
(4) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	14	42
(5) Trustworthy/Reliable	9	

- Reasons for Russia

	2017	2016
(1) Political/General ties with U.S.	13	26
(2) Other security/stability mentions	12	
(3) Military capabilities/relations	9	
(4) Other national/cultural qualities mentions	9	
(5) Relations other than above	7	

Question 23-a: Which of the following countries is the most reliable? Please select one response.

Note: This question has been asked since 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Japan	10	5	3
(2) UK	24	33	36
(3) France	2	2	2
(4) Germany	3	3	7
(5) Italy	1	0	0
(6) Canada	16	31	29
(7) Russia	1	0	0
(8) China	3	2	3
(9) India		0	0
(10) Brazil		0	0
(11) Mexico	2	2	1
(12) South Africa		0	0
(13) Australia	3	2	4
(14) South Korea	1	1	1
(15) Indonesia		0	0
(16) Saudi Arabia	1	1	2
(17) Turkey		0	0
(18) Argentine		0	0
(19) Israel	1		
(20) Other	4	1	0
(21) Don't know	28		7

Question 23-b: Why do you think the country is the most reliable? (MA)

Note: This question has been asked since 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Good relationship / the countries share the same values			86
(2) Economic ties (investments, good trade relationship)			78
(3) Contribution to security (peace building, anti-terrorism efforts, PKO (peacekeeping operations), anti-piracy efforts)			74
(4) Contribution to the stabilization of international order (rule of law, liberal democracy, free-trade system, etc.)			75
(5) Contribution to stabilization and growth of world economy			70
(6) Attractive culture			64
(7) Development cooperation in the international community			70
(8) Contribution to solutions for global issues (environment, climate change, infection, population, poverty, etc.)			66
(9) No specific reason			1

Question 24: Which of the following countries is currently considered to be an important partner for the US? Please select all that apply.

Note: This question has been asked since 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Japan	49	76	66
(2) UK	49	79	76
(3) France	31	62	54
(4) Germany	32	69	62
(5) Italy	16	52	47
(6) Canada	43	79	74
(7) Russia	8	34	27
(8) China	26	57	42
(9) India	13	51	44
(10) Brazil	7	40	36
(11) Mexico	22	61	45
(12) South Africa	5	40	29
(13) Australia	30	67	56
(14) South Korea	35	63	51
(15) Indonesia	3	29	25
(16) Saudi Arabia	17	44	36
(17) Turkey	7	37	33
(18) Argentina	4	33	26
(19) Israel	1		
(20) Other	2		1
(21) No idea	23		4

Question 25: Which of the following countries would be considered to be an important partner for the US IN THE FUTURE? Please select all that apply.

Note: This question has been asked since 2015.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Japan	46	81	68
(2) UK	44	82	71
(3) France	34	72	58
(4) Germany	35	77	67
(5) Italy	22	63	52
(6) Canada	43	83	70
(7) Russia	17	54	48
(8) China	37	70	59
(9) India	22	68	53
(10) Brazil	17	58	48
(11) Mexico	29	72	54
(12) South Africa	14	57	45
(13) Australia	32	74	61
(14) South Korea	36	70	57
(15) Indonesia	11	47	37
(16) Saudi Arabia	22	55	45
(17) Turkey	15	50	43
(18) Argentina	10	48	40
(19) Israel	1		
(20) Other	3		11
(21) No idea	24		3

Question 26: How do you value Japan's performance as a peace-loving nation for 70 years since the end of World War II?

	2017	2016
(1) Value highly	49	63
(2) Value partially	37	26
(3) Value less	12	5
(4) Not value at all	3	3
(5) Don't know		1

Question 27: When Prime Minister Shinzo Abe describes his security policy, he says that the goal is to proactively contribute even further to the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region and the international community from the perspective of "Proactive Contribution to Peace," based on the principle of international cooperation. Do you think this policy is valuable for maintaining global peace and international order? Please select one response.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Valuable	49	68	62
(2) Rather valuable	36	19	24
(3) Rather not valuable	14	6	6
(4) Not valuable at all	1	3	4
(5) Don't know/Refused		3	4

Question 28-a: How do you think the Japan-US relationship has changed since the inauguration of President Trump?

Note: This question was added in 2017.

	2017
(1) Has improved	17
(2) Has worsened	29
(3) Has not changed	26
(4) Don't know	27

Question 28-b: Why do you think so?

- Reasons for "has improved"

	2017
(1) Good/Positive relationship	35
(2) Miscellaneous	19
(3) Trump attributes	16
(4) Communication	12
(5) Security	9
(6) Economy	9
(7) Policy/Values	3

- Reasons for "has worsened"

	2017
(1) Trump attributes	62
(2) International relations	31
(3) Communication	10
(4) Miscellaneous	9
(5) Policy/Values	8
(6) Economy	7
(7) Security	5

- Reasons for "has not changed"

	2017
(1) Nothing has changed/All still the same	30
(2) Have not heard anything/No news about it	13
(3) Relationships last longer than presidencies/Presidencies are for a limited period of	5
(4) Too early in his presidency	2
(5) Just do	1

Opinion Poll: 2017 U.S. Image of Japan

(Unit: %)

Opinion Leaders Survey

Question 1: Which of the following sources do you use or have you used to get information about Japan? (% Yes)

Note: This question has been asked since 1994. Choices (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) were added in 2015.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Newspapers	63	48	67	67	85	80	81	83	85	86	89	90	89
(2) Magazines/Books	60	40	66	56	82	77	76	83	81	86	83	89	85
(3) Television	70	53	74	67	76	75	72	76	73	75	72	80	71
Internet				81	80	83	82	81	65	58	60	56	50
(4) Website	66	52	69										
(5) Blog	16	14	13										
(6) Email newsletters	30	23	28										
(7) Facebook, Twitter and other SNS (social networking services)	33	32	34										
(8) Video-sharing websites like YouTube	35	27	27										
(9) School studies	29	24	30	20	38	35	36	60	59	61	61	62	51
(10) Radio	46	35	50	41	52	52	51	53	49	46	48	46	46
(Japanese friends)				29	33	38	43	49	45	44	46	52	53
(11) Seminars / Symposiums / Cultural events	30	21	37										
(12) Friends / Neighbors	38	30	49	25	27	24	31	41	34	39	38	41	41
(13) Movies	30	29	34	26	21	18	19	33	34	30	32	40	30
(14) Experience in Japan	21	19		15	18	23	23	27	22	28	24	31	30

Question 2: In general, how do you view the current level of cooperation between Japan and the United States? Do you think that the current level of cooperation is excellent, good, fair, or poor?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Excellent	14	14	20	12	21	31	31	16	20	17	26	23	19
(2) Good	52	44	55	58	65	58	56	70	61	68	60	62	64
(3) Fair	25	25	20	25	12	9	12	10	15	12	11	12	14
(4) Poor	3	8	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	1
(5) Don't know/Refused	6	11	6	5		1	1	1	3	1	3	3	2

Question 3: Which country or region in Asia do you think shares values most closely with the United States?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) Japan	62	50	15	52	52	76	9
(2) China	4	7	2	4	1	3	1
(3) Russia	2	5	0	1	3	2	
(4) Australia			67			2	78
(5) India			2			0	2
(6) South Korea	29	28	12	38	36	6	10
(7) Other	3	4	1	1	1	6	
(8) Don't know/Refused	3	8	3	5	6		

Note: Choices for each year
 2016: Japan, China, Russia, Australia, India, South Korea, Other, Don't know/Refused
 2015: Japan, China, Australia, India, South Korea, Other, Don't know/Refused
 2014: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Other, Don't know/Refused
 2013: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Other, Don't know/Refused
 2012: Japan, China, Russia, Other, Don't know/Refused
 2011: Japan, China, Russia, Australia, India, South Korea, Other.

Question 4-a: Please tell me whether or not you think Japan is a reliable partner of the US?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Yes	86	86	83	90	93	90	90	90	91	92	91	91	90
No	8	7	12	7	5	8	8	9	7	6	5	4	6
Don't know/Refused	7	7	6	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	4	5	4

Question 4-b: Why do you think Japan is a reliable partner of the US

Note: Choices were added in 2015. Multiple choices allowed.

	2017	2016	2015
(1) Good relationship / the countries share the same value	91	84	83
(2) Economic ties (investments from Japan, good trade relationship)	99	83	95
(3) Contribution to security (peace building, anti-terrorism efforts, PKO (peacekeeping operations), anti-piracy efforts)	66	51	74
(4) Contribution to the stabilization of international order (rule of law, liberal democracy, free-trade system, etc.)	86	53	81
(5) Contribution to stabilization and growth of world economy	91	65	92
(6) Attractive culture	84	52	84
(7) Development cooperation in the international community	89	59	67
(8) Contribution to solutions for global issues (environment, climate change, infectious diseases, population, poverty, etc.)	81	55	73

Question 5: Thinking about international relations, how significant a role do you think Japan plays in each of the following areas? Do you think Japan plays a role that is very significant, somewhat significant, not very significant, or not at all significant?

Note: This question has been asked since 1994. Section (IV) was added in 1995. "Anti-terrorism efforts" in section (I), "climate change" in section (VII), and section (VIII) were added in 2010. Choices were changed from "Yes/No" to "Very significant/Somewhat significant/Not very significant/Not at all significant" in 2011. Section (IX) and (X) were added in 2015.

(I) Security (including anti-terrorism efforts, PKO (peacekeeping operations), and anti-piracy)	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Yes								56	45	41	43	45	39
(1) Very significant	23	25	26	18	19	12	14						
(2) Somewhat significant	56	48	50	51	41	49	45						
(3) Not very significant	16	15	20	25	31	31	36						
(4) Not at all significant	1	4	2	2	2	3	3						
(5) Don't know/Refused	5	9	3	5	7	5	2						

(II) The United Nations	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes													
(2) Very significant	27	27	23	18	23	25	20						
(3) Somewhat significant	61	52	56	57	54	55	56						
(4) Not very significant	8	11	15	17	12	14	18						
(5) Not at all significant	1	4	3	2	2	3	2						
(6) Don't know/Refused	5	7	5	6	8	3	4						

(III) Global economy	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes													
(2) Very significant	56	57	59	61	64	58	65	96	96	96	96	97	97
(3) Somewhat significant	40	37	40	37	32	38	33						
(4) Not very significant	3	2	2	2	1	3	2						
(5) Not at all significant	0	3	0	0	1	0	0						
(6) Don't know/Refused	2	3	1	1	2	0	0						

(IV) Official development aid, including assistance to countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								60	69	57	61	70	70
(2) Very significant	24	25	27	5	7	7	5						
(3) Somewhat significant	63	53	56	38	29	46	40						
(4) Not very significant	6	9	10	36	36	34	40						
(5) Not at all significant	0	2	2	4	9	6	7						
(6) Don't know/Refused	8	11	6	17	18	7	8						

(V) Science and technology	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								98	97	96	96	97	96
(2) Very significant	70	75	74	74	74	72	71						
(3) Somewhat significant	28	21	25	24	24	26	27						
(4) Not very significant	1	2	1	1	2	1	1						
(5) Not at all significant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
(6) Don't know/Refused	2	2	0	2	1	0	1						

(VI) Cultural exchange	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								78	79	71	68	76	85
(2) Very significant	48	37	44	35	34	34	36						
(3) Somewhat significant	44	47	50	52	52	52	48						
(4) Not very significant	5	9	6	11	9	10	13						
(5) Not at all significant	1	3	0	0	3	2	1						
(6) Don't know/Refused	4	5	1	4	2	2	2						

(VII) Environment and climate change * Global issues such as population and AIDS were included till 2010.	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								63	71	66	64	73	69
(2) Very significant	27	32	37	25	32	33	21						
(3) Somewhat significant	57	44	43	48	44	46	51						
(4) Not very significant	12	12	15	17	16	15	20						
(5) Not at all significant	1	6	2	3	3	3	4						
(6) Don't know/Refused	4	7	5	8	4	3	4						

(VIII) Nuclear disarmament or non-proliferation	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes								54					
(2) Very significant	31	28	33	34	27	29	28						
(3) Somewhat significant	49	39	38	39	43	40	39						
(4) Not very significant	14	17	21	17	20	24	26						
(5) Not at all significant	2	7	4	3	2	3	5						
(6) Don't know/Refused	5	10	6	9	7	4	2						

(IX) Providing solutions to global issues (including environment, climate change, infectious diseases, population and poverty)	2017	2016	2015
(1) Yes			
(2) Very significant	22	28	32
(3) Somewhat significant	64	51	48
(4) Not very significant	10	12	15
(5) Not at all significant	2	5	2
(6) Don't know/Refused	3	5	5

(X) Stabilization of international order (rule of law, liberal democracy, free-trade system)	2017	2016	2015
(1) Yes			
(2) Very significant	25	29	33
(3) Somewhat significant	64	52	51
(4) Not very significant	8	9	15
(5) Not at all significant	1	3	1
(6) Don't know/Refused	4	8	2

Question 6: Thinking about how much the Japanese people and the American people understand each other, do you think they have a good, fair, or poor understanding of each other?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Good	35	33	35	32	39	44	35	32	39	27	23	25	23
(2) Fair	58	51	54	56	53	48	51	56	52	57	60	58	60
(3) Poor	7	16	8	10	7	8	14	11	9	15	16	16	17
(4) Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0

Question 7: Now we would like to ask about your view of future Japan-U.S. relations. Thinking of the future, do you think that the United States should be working more closely with Japan, working less closely with Japan, or that their relationship should stay the same?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) More closely	66	62	38	63	52	43	46
(2) Less closely	1	3	54	2	1	1	3
(3) Stay the same	31	33	8	35	45	55	50
(4) Don't know/Refused	3	4	1	0	2	1	1

Question 8: Thinking about ways Japan and the US may improve their relations, which one of the following do you think would be most helpful in improving Japan-U.S. relations?

Note: This question has been asked since 1995. The word "climate change" was added in choice (2), and the word "people to people" was added in choice (4).

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Strengthen economic/trade relations	39	34	34	37	44	49	46	55	47	40	36	44	50
(2) Encourage cooperation on global issues such as climate change, as well as control and prevention of infectious diseases	28	25	30	29	27	22	22	18	29	31	29	27	28
(3) Strengthen political/security relations	19	14	19	18	16	20	16	18	19	24	26	20	16
(4) Promote cultural and people-to-people exchanges	14	21	17	14	11	8	16	8	4	4	8	8	6
(5) Don't know/Refused	2	6	2	3	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0

Question 9: Thinking about Japan and the U.S. relations in the field of high technology, do you feel that in the future, Japan and the U.S. will COOPERATE with each other more, that they will COMPETE more, or that there will be no change?

Note: This question has been asked since 1994.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Cooperate more	28	34	33	29	33	29	29	57	66	51	52	60	49
(2) Compete more	35	36	29	33	31	27	34	39	31	44	42	38	47
(3) Don't know/Refused	36	3	2	3	1	2	1	4	3	5	6	2	4
(5) No change	2	28	37	35	34	42	36						

Question 10: Which of the following policies should Japan particularly address in order to deepen the economic relationship between Japan and the United States? Do you think Japan should... (% Yes) (MA)

Note: This question has been asked since 2011. Multiple choices have been allowed since 2014. Choice "(6) Promote cooperation in trade and investment" was added in 2017.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
(1) Cooperate in negotiation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (deleted in 2017)		57	78	88	92	86	81
(2) Sign and ratify a free-trade agreement with the U.S. [NOT ASKED SINCE 2013]						86	83
(3) Promote technological cooperation, such as clean energy and high-speed railway systems	91	86	90	91	95	88	89
(4) Other	29	21	27	23	49	30	30
(5) Develop natural resources such as shale gas	52	57	52	61	57		
(6) Promote cooperation in trade and investment	94						

Question 12-a: How should Japan pursue an economic partnership with the US?

Note: This question was added in 2017.

	2017
(1) Japan and the US should conclude a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA)	39
(2) Japan should promote the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), including the US	22
(3) Japan and the US should work to revitalize the World Trade Organization (WTO)	17
(4) Other	13
(5) Don't know/Refused	12

Question 12-b: Why do you think so? (OPEN END - Top five results)

	2017
(1) More fair/equitable/balanced	10
(2) Bilateral is better/Better to work one on one	10
(3) Important to work together/Need to have partnerships in a global economy	8
(4) Beneficial/Good for the countries involved	8
(5) Best option/Better than the other options	7

Question 13: Thinking about the high-speed railway system in the United States, do you think the U.S. should adopt Japan's high-speed railway system, adopt another country's high-speed railway system, or that it should not adopt any high-speed railway system at all?

Note: This question was added in 2010 and remove in 2017.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
(1) The U.S. should adopt the Japanese high-speed railway system		48	48	47	41	41	34	49
(2) The U.S. should not adopt any high-speed railway system		22	18	17	14	28	28	23
(3) The U.S. should adopt another country's railway system		11	12	14	11	13	14	12
(4) Other/Don't know/Refused		20	24	23	33	18	24	16

Question 14-a: Do you think Japan and the United States should closely cooperate for peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region?

Note: This question has been asked since 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Yes, they should cooperate	99	96	100	97
(2) No, they should not cooperate	1	3	1	2
(3) Don't know/Refused	1	2	0	2

Question 14-b: Do you think that Japan should play a more proactive role for peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region?

Note: This question has been asked since 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Yes, Japan should play a more proactive role	87	85	88	88
(2) No, Japan should not play a more proactive role	7	10	9	7
(3) Don't know/Refused	7	6	4	6

Question 15: How much do you think the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, which allows for the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan and for maintaining international peace and security in the Far East, contributes to peace and stability in the region? Do you think it contributes a great deal, a moderate amount, only a little, or not at all?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) A great deal	53	51	52	49	54	58	58	51	44	42	47	42	40
(2) A moderate amount	36	37	34	40	33	31	32	34	39	40	41	40	40
(3) Only a little	7	6	10	10	8	6	6	8	10	13	6	14	14
(4) Not at all	1	4	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	4	4	3	4
(5) Don't know/Refused	3	4	3	2	2	2	2	5	5	1	2	1	2

Question 16-a: Do you think that the U.S. should maintain the current Japan-U.S. Security Treaty?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes, should maintain	87	86	84	85	77	93	91	86	89	87	88	90	83
(2) No, should not maintain	4	3	5	5	9	3	4	6	3	7	6	4	6
(3) Don't know/Refused	10	11	12	11	17	4	5	8	6	6	6	6	11

Question 16-b: BASE: SHOULD MAINTAIN TREATY

Why do you think so? (OPEN END - top results)

This question has been asked since 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) It is important to maintaining peace/security in the region (including threats from China)	31	43	43	
(2) Important to maintain long-term relationship	36	41	32	
(3) It is a relationship that benefits both countries	24	44	27	

Question 16-b: BASE: SHOULD NOT MAINTAIN TREATY

Why do you think so? (OPEN END - top results)

Note: This question has been asked since 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
(1) Treaty is not needed/Needed to re-think treaty		17	11	70
(2) Japan needs to take responsibility for its own security	29	33	78	30
(3) The cost is too high		17	22	

Question 17-a: How important do you think the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty is for the security of the United States? Do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Very important	53	42	51	45	53	53	56	55	53	47	57	51	48
(2) Somewhat important	39	44	34	43	35	33	34	34	36	40	31	37	34
(3) Not too important	5	6	7	6	8	11	7	7	9	12	8	8	14
(4) Not important at all	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	9	12	2	1	2
(5) Don't know/Refused	3	6	9	6	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	3	2

Question 17-b: How important do you think it is to have U.S. Forces in Japan for the security of the United States? Do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
(1) Very important	54	44	48	34	42	45
(2) Somewhat important	33	40	33	51	37	36
(3) Not too important	10	11	17	12	13	16
(4) Not important at all	3	6	3	3	7	2
(5) Don't know/Refused	2	1	1	2	1	1

Question 18-a: Do you think Japan should or should not increase its self-defense capability?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Yes, should increase	67	66	65	65	72	71	64	70	69	74	67	61	69
(2) No, should not increase	24	22	28	26	18	27	32	25	24	22	25	33	25
(3) Don't know/Refused	9	12	9	10	9	2	4	5	7	4	8	6	6

Question 18-b: You said that Japan should increase its self-defense capability. For each of the following statements that I am about to read, please tell me if you agree or disagree that it is a reason why you think Japan should increase its self-defense capability. (% Agree)

Note: This question has been asked since 1993.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Japan should make contributions to peace and stability in Asia	99	97	99	97	99	94	97	99	98	98	97	97	97
(2) Japan should share the defense burden with the U.S.	93	89	96	90	92	93	93	93	93	93	94	93	94
(3) Japan should defend itself	91	95	94	96	90	97	90	91	91	96	92	94	91

Question 19-a: Do you think Japan should or should not become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council?

Note: This question has been asked since 2007.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
(1) Yes, it should become a member	73	69	69	66	76	58	50	56	57	49	52
(2) No, it should not become a member	13	18	24	20	16	40	46	41	39	47	42
(3) Don't know/Refused	15	13	8	15	7	2	4	3	4	4	6

Question 19-b: For each of the statements that I'm about to read, please tell me if it is or is not a reason why you think Japan should become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. (% Yes)

Note: This question has been asked since 2007. Choice (6) was added in 2014.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
(1) Japan can be expected to make a larger contribution to world peace and security after becoming a permanent member of the United Nations	90	91	97	94	91	90	95	93	93	95	96
(2) Japan shares common values with the United States, such as democracy and human rights	88	80	87	86	86	91	95	93	89	84	87
(3) Japan has a big economy, an this will strengthen the effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council	89	86	85	90	87	86	90	88	92	92	87
(4) Japan is a dependable ally	90	88	88	90	92	89	87	88	92	88	87
(5) Japan currently contributes to world peace and security	88	72	80	77	82	73	82	78	74	71	75
(6) Other	18	20	18	20							

Question 19-c: For each of the following statements that I am about to read, please tell me if it is or is not a reason why you do not think Japan should become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. (% Yes)

Note: This question was added to the survey in 2008. Choice (5) was added in 2009 and removed in 2013.

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
(1) Japan does not provide enough personnel to Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) and other multinational forces	36	56	57	48	45	57	65	69	67	64
(2) Japan will not make sufficient contributions to world peace and security through the United Nations Security Council	40	47	43	43	33	40	46	59	59	52
(3) Japan's permanent membership may involve other countries' attainment of permanent membership although they may not be fully qualified to bear major responsibility for maintaining international peace and security	60	56	74	63	58	59	61	57	62	60
(4) No increase should be made to the number of UN Security Council permanent members	72	72	64	73	76	51	49	54	52	53
(5) Some countries are better qualified than Japan to become a permanent member of the Security Council						40	47	52	67	-

Question 20-a: From the following list, which country in Asia do you think is the most important partner of the United States?

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) China	31	21	19	24	43	54	46	56	42	36	35	43	38
(2) Japan	33	34	48	38	39	40	28	36	44	54	53	47	48
(3) Australia	11	14	13	6		0	10						
(4) South Korea	13	13	6	13	14	1	8						
(5) India	5	5	3			1	7						
(6) Russia	1	5	3	1	1	1	0	1	8	5	5	4	9
(7) Other	2	3	3	0	1	1	6	3	2	3	4	5	5
(8) None	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
(9) Don't know/Refused	4	7	5	5	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	2	0

Note: Choices for each year
2016: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, India, Australia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2015: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, India, Australia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2014: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2013: Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, Other, None, Don't know/Refused
2012: Japan, China, Russia, Some other country, Don't know/Refused
2011: Japan, China, Australia, South Korea, India, Russia, Some other country, None, Don't know/Refused
2010 and before: Japan, China, Russia, Some other country, Don't know/Refused

Question 20-b: Why do you regard this country as the most important partner of the United States? (OPEN END - top 5 results)

Note: This question has been asked since 1995.

- Reasons for Japan

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Political/General ties with U.S.	37	31	54	59	61	55	34	52	37	49	43	38	39
(2) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	26	33	55	37	56	19	36	20	27	23	24	31	30
(3) Nation's technology	12	13	8	6	8	9	14	10	14	14	17	15	14
(4) National qualities (ex. Population)	2	25	19	14	6	13	13	9	15	9	11	12	14
(5) Personal qualities/Culture of people	18	10	24	22	19	1	2	2	2	3	2	4	2
(6) Other		4	8	7		2	2	6	5	2	3	0	1

- Reasons for China

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
(1) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	35	54	79	68	78	37	43	34	31	32	27	32	33
(2) Nation's technology	2	5	0	4	1	26	16	23	20	21	17	18	14
(3) National qualities (ex. Population)	23	44	34	49	35	24	26	25	33	34	42	29	39
(4) Political/General ties with U.S.	13	2	34	34	26	9	12	9	11	8	9	14	12
(5) Personal qualities/Culture of people	2		8	4	3	1	3	4	3	2	2	5	1
(6) Other		20	0	0		2		5	2	3	2	2	1

Question 21-a: From the following list, which country in Asia do you think is the most reliable partner of the United States?

	2017	2016
(1) Japan	40	31
(2) Australia	37	42
(3) South Korea	14	13
(4) China	3	3
(5) India	1	2
(6) Russia	1	2
(7) Other	1	1
(8) None	0	1
(9) Don't know/Refused	6	7

Question 21-b: Why do you regard this country as the most reliable partner of the United States? (OPEN END - top 5 results)

- Reasons for Japan

	2017	2016
(1) Political/General ties with U.S.	37	55
(2) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	19	16
(3) Personal qualities/Culture of people	14	
(4) History/Past performance	10	
(5) Trustworthy/Reliable	8	

- Reasons for China

	2017	2016
(1) Trade/Economic relations with U.S.	67	50
(2) Military capabilities/Relations	33	
(3) Nation's economy/Strong economy	17	
(4) Political/General ties with U.S.		17
(5) Nation's technology		

Question 22-a: How do you think the Japan-U.S. relationship has changed since the inauguration of President Trump?

Note: This question was added in 2017.

	2017
(1) Has improved	18
(2) Has worsened	35
(3) Has not changed	44
(4) Don't know	3

Question 22-b: Why do you think so? (top 5 results)

- Reasons for "relationship has improved"

	2017
(1) Economic relationship/Improving economies	22
(2) Better/More direct communication	14
(3) Better/Increased trade deals	11
(4) Respect/Respect each other	11
(5) Trump is strong/a strong leader	11

- Reasons for "relationship has worsened"

	2017
(1) All U.S. relationships are bad/have worsened	11
(2) U.S. withdrawal from trade deals/TPP	9
(3) Trump is arrogant/egotistical	7
(4) Trump lacks tact/diplomacy	7
(5) Declined to answer	4

- Reasons for "Relationship has not changed"

	2017
(1) Nothing has changed/All still the same	39
(2) Have not heard anything/No news about it	20
(3) Declined to answer	7