

2007 MasterCard Worldwide Centers of Commerce Index™

Tokyo

Tokyo ranks third in the MasterCard Worldwide Centers of Commerce Index; among Asia/Pacific cities in the Index, it ranks first. The Index compares the world's 50 leading cities against six dimensions that measure their ability to connect markets and commerce globally and is compiled from research by a panel of eight independent economic, urban development and social-science experts from leading academic and research institutions around the world.

Legal and Political Framework* Ranking: 2 in Asia/Pacific, 8 overall

- Japan ranks second in Asia/Pacific, following Thailand, in ease in dealing with licenses.
- Japan has the highest Moody's Foreign Currency Government Bond Rating of Aaa.

Economic Stability Ranking*: 4 in Asia/Pacific, 18 overall

- In Asia/Pacific, Japan is considered one of the most economically stable countries, ranking second only after Australia.
- Japan has the most stable inflation rate of all countries in Asia/Pacific
- Japan ranks eighth in Asia/Pacific in exchange rate stability.

Ease of Doing Business Ranking: 3 in Asia/Pacific, 16 overall

- Tokyo ranks second in Asia/Pacific, following only Singapore, in terms of basic services and health and safety.
- The city ranked third in Asia/Pacific for overall quality of life, which recognizes the city for its variety of restaurants, climate, number of cinemas, and sports and leisure activities.
- Japan is among the top four countries in Asia/Pacific in investor protection*, which measures the protection given to minority shareholders from the misuse of corporate assets by directors for their personal gain.
- Japan ranks third in Asia/Pacific, after Hong Kong and Australia, in terms of the efficiency of contract enforcement.

Financial Dimension Ranking: 1 in Asia/Pacific, 5 overall

- Tokyo ranks fourth globally and second in Asia/Pacific in having a strong financial services network.
- Tokyo ranks third globally in total volume of equities traded, after New York and London.

* This dimension is comprised of country-level data only

- Tokyo ranks fourth globally in number of commodities contracts traded, after New York, London and Chicago.

Business Center Dimension Ranking: 3 in Asia/Pacific, 5 overall

- Tokyo ranks third in Asia/Pacific, only after Hong Kong and Singapore
- Tokyo airport has the second highest air cargo traffic in Asia/Pacific and globally, following Hong Kong.
- Tokyo ranks first in its region and second globally in total air passenger traffic.
- Japan ranks fourth among countries in Asia/Pacific in ease of starting a business.

Knowledge Creation and Information Flow Ranking: 1 in Asia/Pacific, 2 overall

- Japan ranks highest globally in terms of total number of patent applications per million people.
- Tokyo is third among the top 50 cities in the number of universities and higher education centers, following New York and Los Angeles.

Asia/Pacific cities included in the top 50 Worldwide Centers of Commerce are Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Melbourne, Mumbai, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney and Tokyo.

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