

# Introduction

MIC has published the White Paper on Information and Communications in Japan each year since 1973. This year's edition is the 44th edition of the White Paper. The objective of this report is to present the current state of information and communications in Japan and the trends in the nation's information and communications policy. The English version is an abridged version of the original Japanese version.

As shown on the following pages, the White Paper consists of two main parts.

Part 1's special theme is IoT, Big Data, and AI: New Values Created by Networks and Data, which looks at the progress of IoT, big data, AI, and other new forms of ICT and provides a perspective on the transformations new forms of ICT will bring to society and the economy.

Part 2 consists of Chapter 5, which provides a statistical look at the state of information and communications in Japan in the last fiscal year, and Chapter 6, which primarily covers policy trends in the information and communications field during the last fiscal year.