Introduction

This is the 50th edition of the White Paper on Information and Communications in Japan, which has been published by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) annually since 1973. The White Paper's objective is to introduce the current state of information and communications in Japan and related policy trends.

The White Paper consists of two parts. The first part, under the special topic of "50 years since the publication of the first Information and Communications White Paper – changes in ICT and digital economy," looks back at changes in systems, services and technologies in the ICT field over the past 50 years, and analyses the role that ICT will play in Japanese society in the future. The second part describes the current status and challenges surrounding ICT. This part consists of Chapter 3 with statistical information on domestic and overseas market trends surrounding ICT, and Chapter 4 with a summary of the status of ICT policy at MIC.

The data of this White Paper can be downloaded from the following page of the MIC website.
https://www.soumu.go.jp/johotsusintokei/whitepaper/eng/WP2022/2022-index.html

Past white papers can be downloaded from the following pages.
https://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/joho_tsusin/eng/whitepaper/index.html

Legend

◆ "Year" refers to a calendar year from January to December, while "fiscal year" refers to a "budget year" from April to March of the following year.
◆ "Inc.," "CO., Ltd." etc. are omitted from the name of enterprises in principle.
◆ The following symbols are used for supplementary units:

$$10 \text{ hundred quintillion } (10^{21}) \text{ fold} \cdots Z \text{ (Zetta)}$$
$$1000 \text{ quadrillion } (10^{18}) \text{ fold} \cdots E \text{ (exa)}$$
$$1,000 \text{ trillion } (10^{15}) \text{ fold} \cdots P \text{ (peta)}$$
$$1 \text{ trillion } (10^{12}) \text{ fold} \cdots T \text{ (tera)}$$
$$1 \text{ billion } (10^{9}) \text{ fold} \cdots G \text{ (giga)}$$
$$1 \text{ million } (10^{6}) \text{ fold} \cdots M \text{ (mega)}$$
$$1,000 \text{ } (10^{3}) \text{ fold} \cdots k \text{ (kilo)}$$
$$\text{One tenth } (10^{-1}) \text{ fold} \cdots d \text{ (deci)}$$
$$\text{One hundredth } (10^{-2}) \text{ fold} \cdots c \text{ (centi)}$$
$$\text{One thousandth } (10^{-3}) \text{ fold} \cdots m \text{ (milli)}$$
$$\text{One millionth } (10^{-6}) \text{ fold} \cdots \mu \text{ (micro)}$$

◆ Units are rounded up to the nearest whole number in principle. The total of the breakdown and the value of the total column may not agree due to rounding.
◆ Total of composition ratios (%) may not be 100 due to unit rounding.
◆ Maps in these materials do not show the entire territory of the country.
◆ Figures, etc., without attribution are MIC materials.