

Key stats – Japan's pharmaceutical market

Japan's pharmaceutical market is one of the largest and most advanced in the world. These key stats reflect Japan's leading position in the pharmaceutical market, driven by innovation, government policies, and a significant healthcare need driven by its aging population.



After the United States,

Japan's pharmaceutical market
is the largest globally



Japan's pharmaceutical market was valued at JPY 12.2trn (USD 87.0bn) in 2023



The market is **growing steadily at 2-4% annually**, with continued growth expected in the coming years



Japan's market expenditure is among the **highest in the world**



The largest market in the country is **Oncology Drugs**, projected to have a market volume of **USD 8.11bn in 2024**



In terms of **biomedical R&D spending**, Japan is the **third largest in the world**



Japan's advanced healthcare system is supported by high health expenditure and universal insurance coverage



Over the long term, the **growing use of high-value biologics**, will promote growth in Japan's patented drug market



With a growing proportion of the population over 60, demand for treatments for age related conditions is **expected to rise**



Japan has a reputation for having a **strict regulatory framework**, but the approval process has **become faster** in recent years

Source:

Fitch Solutions, Japan Pharmaceuticals Report Q4 2024 & Pharmaceuticals - Japan | Statista Market Forecast

Japan pharma market value:

2023	JPY12.2trn
2024	JPY12.7trn
2028	JPY14.7trn
2033	JPY17.2trn

International trade:

Japan is a key player in global pharmaceutical trade, both importing and exporting, with domestic companies expanding internationally. Ongoing government support and increasing global cooperation are driving export growth. Japan's pharmaceutical exports market is expected to reach JPY1.5trn by 2028, experiencing a 5-year CAGR of 8.5%.



Key foreign players:

Abbvie, AstraZeneca, Glaxo Smith Kline, Johnson & Johnson (J&J), Novartis, Pfizer, Sanofi, Roche, Takeda