

ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES



ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

**OECD COMMUNICATIONS OUTLOOK 2001**  
**Broadcasting Section**

**Country: JAPAN**

**Date completed: 16 June 2000**

**Part B:**  
**BROADCASTING - Section II**

**Broadcasting services available**

**1. Please provide details of the broadcasting and cable television services available in your country.**

Infrastructure provision for following service	Number of licensed operators (2000)	Number of privately owned companies <sup>1</sup>	Number of public service organisations <sup>2</sup>
Terrestrial TV (National coverage <sup>3</sup> )	6	5(*1)	1
Terrestrial TV (Local coverage <sup>4</sup> only)	130	129(*2)	1
Terrestrial radio (National coverage)	10	9(*1)	1
Terrestrial radio (Local coverage only)	190	189(*2)	1
Cable television service <sup>5</sup>	1,101(*3)		
Analogue direct broadcast satellite (DBS) service	4	3	1
Digital DBS service	144	142	2

(\*1) Number of broadcasters in Tokyo, which play central roles in program providing agreement.

(\*2) Number of broadcasters with local stations (excluding the broadcasters mentioned above.)

(\*3) Number of permitted facilities for Cable Television.

<sup>1</sup> Defined as private sector companies holding one or more licences for service provision.

<sup>2</sup> Including state-owned corporations or institutions holding one or more licences for service provision.

<sup>3</sup> A service with national coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations distributing a majority of the same programming, that are licensed on a national or regional basis but collectively provide nation-wide coverage. Affiliating companies of the nation-wide broadcast network are included in this category. If new operators have been licensed to provide national coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

<sup>4</sup> A service with local coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations that are licensed on a national or regional basis but distribute the programming in the local area only. If new operators have been licensed to provide local coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

<sup>5</sup> Please indicate if more than one organisation is permitted to own and operate cable television infrastructure in the same area.

2. Please provide details on the major terrestrial TV broadcasting companies which have national coverage in your country<sup>6</sup>.

Name of national terrestrial broadcaster	Ownership status (private or public)	Analogue or digital service or both	If digital		Relationship with transmission network owner <sup>7</sup>
			Free to Air (FTA) <sup>8</sup> or subscription	Number of channels	
NHK	Public	Analogue			a)
Tokyo broadcasting system, Inc (TBS)	Private	Analogue			a)
Nippon Television Network Corporation (NTV)	Private	Analogue			a)
Fuji Television Network, Inc (CX)	Private	Analogue			a)
Television Tokyo Channel 12 Ltd. (TX)	Private	Analogue			a)
Asahi National Broadcasting Co., Ltd. ANB.	Private	Analogue			a)

<sup>6</sup> A service with national coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations distributing a majority of the same programming, that are licensed on a national or regional basis but collectively provide nationwide coverage. Affiliating companies of the nation-wide broadcast network are included in this category. If new operators have been licensed to provide national coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

<sup>7</sup> Options include:

- (a) broadcaster owns network
- (b) broadcaster has a commercial relationship with a privately owned network
- (c) broadcaster has a commercial relationship with state owned network
- (d) broadcaster has non-commercial relationship with state owned network
- (e) other; please describe.

<sup>8</sup> A free to air (FTA) service is one which is available to viewers without paying a direct fee.

**3. Please provide details on the major cable and satellite broadcasters and transmission networks in your country.**

	Name of broadcaster	Number of channels in premium service		Does the broadcaster own the transmission network? If not, who does?	Is the transmission network used to deliver more than one broadcasting service?
		Analogu e service	Digital service		
<b>CABLE</b>					
<b>SATELLITE</b>	<b>NHK</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes.</b>
	<b>Japan Satellite Broadcasting (WOWWOW)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**4. What was the price of a subscription service in the largest city of your country on 1st January 2000? Basic service corresponds to the least expensive option to a customer and premium service the most expensive option. (Local currency, current prices)**

	Name of operator	Connectio n fee	Basic service		Premium service	
			Monthly subscription fees	Number of cable channels included in the basic option (excluding free services)	Monthly subscription fees	Number of cable channels included in the premium option (excluding free services)
<b>Cable Television services</b>						
<b>Satellite television service</b>	<b>NHK</b> <b>WOWWOW</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1,345*1) <input type="checkbox"/> 2,700	<input type="checkbox"/> 2,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 995	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Digital terrestrial television service</b>						

\*1) Connection fee for both terrestrial and satellite broadcasting

**Communication services available on broadcasting networks**

**5. Please provide details on the communication services available from broadcasting transmission networks in your country.**

	<b>Terrestrial</b>	<b>Cable</b>	<b>Satellite</b>
<b>Services provided over the network, e.g.</b> FTA broadcasting, Subscription broadcasting, Telephony, New digital services, Internet access	.FTA broadcastng	. Subscription broadcasting . Telephony . Internet access	.FTA broadcasting .Subscription. .broadcasting .Internet access
How many cable and satellite operators are providing telephony and internet access services?		Telephony:2 Internet access 142	Telephony :0 Internet access:1
<b>Regulatory restrictions</b> Does the owner/manager of the transmission network face regulatory requirements in the following areas. If so, please give details.		Permission for Type 1 telecommunications Business is required to provide Telephony or Internet access services.	Permission for Type 1 telecommunications Business is required to provide Telephony or Internet access services.
-Access to infrastructure or transmission services	No.	Yes. When licensee of Cable Television facilities is requested for using those facilities by a person who intends to be engaged in Cable Television service, he shall consent to the request in principle.	No.
-Providing access to conditional access systems	No.	No.	No.
-Ownership restrictions	Yes. The number of stations which one party can own /control is basically limited to one.	Yes. There are some restrictions for controlling and possessing Cable Television operators by broadcasters and local public organizations.	Yes. The volume of transmission capacity which one party can own /control is basically limited to a certain amount.
-Restrictions on services which can be provided	No.	No.	No.

**Digital television**

6. (a) Please indicate on which transmission networks digital television is (or will be) available and whether it is provided as a subscription service or FTA. Also indicate the year in which the service first became available (or will become available).

	Terrestrial	Cable	Satellite
FTA	By the end of 2003	No specified schedule	1996
Subscription		1998	1996

(b) Please provide data indicating the take-up rate of digital television by consumers, such as percentage of households with a digital television receiver.	Concerning CS digital broadcasting, there were 2.25 million subscriptions (March 2000).
(c) Do regulations restrict the type of services which digital broadcasters can provide? If so, please provide details.	No.
(d) Are digital terrestrial broadcasters required to provide a simulcast service in analogue and digital? If so, please describe the requirement.	Concerning the terrestrial broadcasting, simulcast services will be provided after the launch of digital broadcasting. One measure of analogue switch-off is 2010.

**Broadcasting regulatory framework**

7. Which organisation(s) administer the following services (carriage and content) in your country and what are their main responsibilities? Please mention agencies dealing with spectrum allocation and management, and providing licences.

<b>Terrestrial broadcasting service</b>	All services are regulated by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT) under Broadcasting Law, Radio Law (for all kinds of broadcasting) and Cable Television Law (for Cable Television). Through these laws, spectrum allocation and management and providing licenses is also controlled.
<b>Cable Television service</b>	
<b>Direct broadcast satellite (DBS) service</b>	

8. How would a carriage network which delivered television, telephony and internet services be regulated in your country?

Please provide details:  
Wireless network is regulated by Radio Law, and Wired network is regulated by Cable Communication Law. Additionally, the network used for telecommunications business must comply with requirement prescribed in Telecommunications Business Law.

9. Please provide a description of significant recent policy changes affecting the provision of broadcasting services, as well as any draft laws, or regulatory proposals to be implemented in 2000-2001.

Please provide details:  
All foreign ownership regulations on Cable Television were abolished in 1999.

10. Please indicate whether public service obligations in broadcasting regulations have changed since 1998 and provide details of any changes.

Please provide details: No change.

11. Please indicate whether regulations concerning content have changed since 1998. Please provide details of any changes in relation to:

<b>Local content requirements</b>	No change.
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<b>Must-carry requirements</b>	No change
<b>Community standards</b>	No change.

12. Please indicate whether regulations concerning ownership and market entry (for terrestrial, cable and satellite) have changed since 1998. Please provide details of any changes in the following areas:

<b>Limitations on number of stations</b>	Concerning BS digital broadcasting, limitation has been set. (total 1/2 transponders (audio: 1/24 and data: 3/48). *1) For CS digital broadcasting, limitation has changed from total 4 transponders (audio: 1 and data: 1) to total 4 transponders (audio: 2 and data: 1). *1)
<b>Foreign ownership</b>	All foreign ownership regulations on Cable Television were abolished in 1999.
<b>Cross media and cross sector provisions</b>	No change.
<b>Other restrictions on ownership</b>	The definition of control about program supplying broadcasters has been changed from "possession of one tenth of rights of voting" to "possession of one third of rights of voting".

\*1) The upper limit transponders for audio and data. (There are no limits for SDTV and HDTV)

### Convergence

13. Under the communication regulation existing in your country how would services provided over the Internet, which some have likened to broadcasting services (e.g. audio and video services transmitted over the Internet) be defined and treated?

Please provide details: Under the current law the services provided over the internet are not treated as a broadcasting services.
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14. Would a video-on-demand service be treated differently in terms of regulations, according to the transmission methods (for example, PSTN, cable or satellite)?

Please provide details: Generally, a video-on-demand service is treated as a non-broadcasting service, and so there is no difference in regulation in respect of transmission methods.
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15. Under the communication regulation existing in your country how would conditional access services, such as in digital DBS services, be treated?