Reality check-ups: Knowledge gaps in health, wealth, and quality of life in Japan

Are people aware of the health and financial risks that accompany ageing? A recent EIU study, supported by MetLife Japan, suggests that understanding is low in key areas. We asked respondents to assess their own country on a variety of factors and compared the answers against available data, rankings, and forecasts. Japan performed the best of the eight countries surveyed, but it is still far from perfect.

AVERAGE ACROSS ALL QUESTIONS 47%

In line with the benchmark

18%

Too optimistic

% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS WHO ANSWERED ...

In line with the benchmark Optimistically Pessimistically A Benchmark data

HEALTH

Where do you think Japan ranks in terms of the quality of healthcare? Top 10% of all countries.

52%	48%

More than half of Japanese respondents were unaware that their country's health care system is among the best in the world.

What do you think is the average life expectancy for: Male 80.5

41%	59%	5%	95%

Forty-one percent think Japanese men live shorter lives than they do on average.

WEALTH

Where do you believe Japan ranks in terms of adequacy of retirement income? Top 20% of all countries.

40% 20%	40%
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Forty percent of Japanese answered that their country performs better than estimated on retirement income.

How many years do you expect to be retired? 15.8 years.

48%	16%	36%		
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Almost half of Japanese respondents underestimate the length of their retirement.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Where do you believe Japan ranks in terms of quality of life for the elderly? Top 10% of all countries.

78% 22%

Nearly 80% of respondents didn't recognise the quality of Japan's elder care.

Where do you believe Japan ranks in terms of long-term care? Top 20% of all countries.

48%	38%	14%		
Almost half of respondents in Japan believe long-term				
care is poorer relative to the rest of the world.				





35%

Too pessimistic



Estimated growth in the +65 labour force in Japan since 2006

14th out of 80 countries: Japan's ranking in the EIU Quality of Death Index, which measures palliative care

Allianz Retirement Income Adequacy Indicator, Global AgeWatch Index,

World Bank, World Health Organization, WorldLifeExpectancy.com

Japan Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, OECD, The Economist Intelligence Unit,

Sources:



