

INDONESIA & JAPAN: SNAPSHOT COMPARISON (2001)

	INDONESIA	JAPAN	USA
Population (million)	209	127	285
Surface area (sq. km)	1,900,000	377,800	9,600,000
Population growth (annual %)	1.3	0.1	1.1
Life expectancy (years)	66.3	81.1	77.5
Fertility rate (births per woman)	2.4	1.4	2.1
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	33	1.4	7
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 children)	45	5	8

Source: World Bank Development Indicators database, April 2003

Indonesia & Japan: GDP & Economic Growth (2001)

	INDONESIA	JAPAN	USA
GDP (current \$)	145.3 billion	4.3 trillion (4,300 billion)	10.1 trillion (10,100 billion)
GDP growth (annual %)	3.3	-0.6	0.3
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	690	35,610	34,280

Source: World Bank Development Indicators database, April 2003

JAPAN IS UNDERGOING TREMENDOUS CHANGES

- Prolonged economic recession
- Aging society (declining population)
- Increasing incidents of juvenile crime
- Influx of illegal (undocumented) foreign workers

PROLONGED ECONOMIC RECESSION

- Since the burst of the so-called “bubble economy” in the early 1990s, Japan has been bogged down in the longest economic recession since WW II.
- The bubble economy, or a process of rapid asset inflation in the securities, banking and property markets, was occasioned among others by the revaluation of yen agreed upon at the Plaza Accord (1985) and the low interest rate policy insitituted by the Bank of Japan (1991)