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Article :**Tokyo is the 3rd Most Attractive City in the World, Says Think Tank**

Directions: Read the following article aloud.

Tokyo has maintained its position as the third most attractive city in the world, according to the 2020 Global Power City Index (GPCI) ranking released on December 8.

Compiled by the Mori Memorial Foundation's Institute for Urban Strategies, the ranking revealed that while Tokyo is still third, first-placed London – top for nine consecutive years – and second-placed New York have opened up a lead.

London and New York were found to have the edge over Tokyo in economic areas such as the ability to attract human resources.

Moreover, roughly 20 to 40% of residents in the top-five ranking cities said that they would consider moving elsewhere, in a poll on lifestyle changes resulting from COVID-19.

The GPCI ranking looks at 48 major cities, evaluating 70 indicators across six functions such as economy and livability. "Satisfaction with urban cleanliness" was added as a new indicator this year. The survey also queried other new factors such as "workplace satisfaction" – including coworking facilities and internet connection.

Tokyo outperformed London and New York in the "satisfaction with urban cleanliness" indicator, but was not that high in terms of "availability of skilled human resources."

All of the top ten cities in this category, from Boston in first to London in tenth, are located in English-speaking countries. Tokyo faces the challenge of attracting skilled English-speakers.

In the overall ranking, Paris came fourth and Singapore fifth – which is the same as 2019. However, Singapore scored highly in terms of "variety of workplace options" and "satisfaction with urban cleanliness," thereby closing the gap on Paris.

Osaka dropped slightly from 29th in 2019 to 33rd in 2020.

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More People Consider Moving Due to COVID-19

The Mori Memorial Foundation conducted a survey on about 1,000 residents in each of the top five cities between October and November 2020, asking whether they might move due to COVID-19.

Twenty-three percent of Tokyoites said that moving is either very possible or slightly possible, compared to 33% of Londoners, 40% of New Yorkers, 24% of people in Paris, and 31% of people in Singapore.

“Looking ahead, I expect that cities that are both easy to work in and live in will be regarded highly,” said Professor Emeritus Hiroo Ichikawa of Meiji University – and executive director at the Mori Memorial Foundation – at a news conference on December 8.

Source: Tokyo is the 3rd Most Attractive City in the World, Says Think Tank

<https://japan-forward.com/tokyo-is-the-3rd-most-attractive-city-in-the-world-says-think-tank/>

2 Key phrases and vocabulary

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud by yourself.

1. according to ~ ~によると、~の言うところによれば、~に従って

According to this dictionary, there are several meanings for that word.

2. open up a lead リードを広げる、水をあける

He opened up a quite a lead at that point, so nobody could catch up with him.

3. have the(an) edge (ライバルなど)よりも優勢である

I've been preparing for this presentation for weeks so that I have an edge over my opponent.

4. face the challenge 戦いに挑む、課題に立ち向かう、挑戦を受ける、

We face the challenge of how to energize a sagging economy.

5. consider 検討する、熟考する、~と見なす

They need some time to consider our proposal.

3 Questions

Directions: Read the questions aloud and answer them.

1. Which country was ranked the most attractive city in the world?
2. What factor do the top 2 cities have the edge over Tokyo?
3. What are people in the top-five ranking cities considering due to COVID-19 despite the fact they live in attractive cities?
4. Where are all of the top 10 cities in the category of “availability of skilled human resources” located in?

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日本語関連記事：

世界都市総合力、東京は3位維持 人材確保に課題 居住見直しの可能性上位5都市で2～4割

森記念財団都市戦略研究所は8日、2020年の世界の都市総合力ランキングを発表した。東京は3位を維持したが、人材確保をはじめとする経済に関するスコアの下げ幅が大きく、9年連続で首位となったロンドンと2位のニューヨークに大きく水を明けられた。新型コロナウイルス感染拡大に伴う生活の変化に関するアンケートでは、上位5都市で2～4割の居住者が住む場所を変える可能性がある」と答えた。

世界の主要48都市を対象に経済、居住など6分野70指標で評価した。今年は「都市空間の清潔さ」のほか、インターネット通信の速度やコワーキング施設数を含めた「ワークプレイス充実度」などの指標が新たに加えられた。

東京は「清潔さ」が高く評価された一方、「優秀な人材確保の容易性」の指標で評価を下げた。この指標では、首位の米ボストンから10位のロンドンまで全10都市が英語圏で、東京は英語能力を持った人材確保に課題を残した形となった。

4位はパリ、5位はシンガポールと前年と同順位だったが、シンガポールは「ワークプレイス」や「清潔さ」で高い評価を得てスコアを伸ばし、パリとの差を縮めた。大阪は前年の29位から33位に順位を下げた。

同財団は今年10～11月、上位5都市の居住者各約1千人を対象にアンケートを実施。コロナ禍に伴う生活の変化から居住地を移る可能性について、「大いにある」「少しある」と答えた割合は、東京が23%、ロンドンが33%、ニューヨークが41%、パリが24%、シンガポールが31%だった。

同財団理事で明治大の市川宏雄名誉教授は8日、記者会見し、「働きやすく住みやすいバランスの取れた都市が今後世界から評価されるだろう」と述べた。