

# Yahoo! Attracts More Than Half of All Searches Conducted in Japan in January 2009

## -- January Marks Record Month for Search Volume in

TOKYO, March 10, 2009 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- January Marks Record Month for Search Volume in Japan with 6.8 Billion Searches, Up 9 Percent Versus Year Ago

comScore, Inc. (Nasdaq: SCOR), a leader in measuring the digital world, today released its ranking of the top search properties in Japan based on data from the comScore qSearch service. In January, 6.8 billion searches were conducted in Japan, representing a 9-percent increase versus year ago and the highest monthly search volume on record.

(Logo: http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20080115/COMSCORELOGO)

"2008 was another year of very solid growth in the search market in Japan," said Maru Sato, managing director of comScore Japan. "Home to the third largest Internet population in the world, Japan represents a valuable market for search engines. It is also one of the more competitive search markets, with two large companies, Yahoo! and Google, each controlling a significant share of the market."

#### Yahoo! Sites Leads Search Market in Japan

Yahoo! Sites led the search ranking in Japan with 3.5 billion searches in January 2009, up 13 percent from the previous year, followed by Google Sites with 2.6 billion searches (up 5 percent) and Rakuten Inc. with 153 million searches (up 38 percent). Excite Japan had the strongest growth of any search property in the top ten, growing 362 percent versus year ago to 52 million searches.

Top Search Properties in Japan by Search Query Volume January 2009 vs. January 2008 Total Japan Internet Audience\*, Age 15+ - Home & Work Locations Source: comScore qSearch

	Searches (MM)***		
	Jan-08	Jan-09	% Change
Total Internet	6,219	6,795	9
Yahoo! Sites	3,096	3,489	13
Google Sites**	2,481	2,596	5
Rakuten Inc	111	153	38
Microsoft Sites	119	113	-5
NTT Group	93	103	11
Amazon Sites	80	69	-14
Excite Japan	11	52	362
NEC Corporation	58	44	-25
MIXI, Inc.	40	23	-42
Nifty Corporation	19	22	14

<sup>\*</sup>Excludes searches from public computers such as Internet cafes or access from mobile phones or PDAs.

## Yahoo! Sites Attracts More than Half of All Searches in Japan

In January, searchers in Japan conducted an average of 100 searches per searcher during the month. Yahoo! Sites captured

<sup>\*\*</sup>Google Sites includes searches from YouTube.com

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>The sum of distinct searches. Searches with the same search term by the same user at the same entity in consecutive sequence are counted as one search, regardless of the number of search result pages presented.

51 percent of all search queries, followed by Google Sites with 38 percent and Rakuten Inc. with 2 percent.

Yahoo! Sites had the highest frequency of searches per searcher at 62, followed by Google Sites at 55 searches per searcher. Other search properties in the top ten with relatively high search engagement included NEC Corporation (24 searches per searcher), Excite Japan (20 searches per searcher), and Nifty Corporation (13 searches per searcher).

Top Search Properties in Japan Based on Share of Search Queries January 2009

Total Japan Internet Audience\*, Age 15+ - Home & Work Locations

Source: comScore qSearch

	Share of	Searches Per
	Searches	Searcher
Total Internet	100.0	100.5
Yahoo! Sites	51.3	61.9
Google Sites**	38.2	55.4
Rakuten Inc	2.2	8.5
Microsoft Sites	1.7	9.3
NTT Group	1.5	12.0
Amazon Sites	1.0	6.4
Excite Japan	0.8	19.8
NEC Corporation	0.7	23.7
MIXI, Inc.	0.3	6.1
Nifty Corporation	0.3	13.3

<sup>\*</sup>Excludes searches from public computers such as Internet cafes or access from mobile phones or PDAs.

## **About comScore**

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<sup>\*\*</sup>Google Sites includes searches from YouTube.com