

# Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023

May 10, 2023

Oricon Inc.

(Securities Code: 4800)



**Corporate Philosophy** 

# **Turning facts into intelligence**

# Management Policy

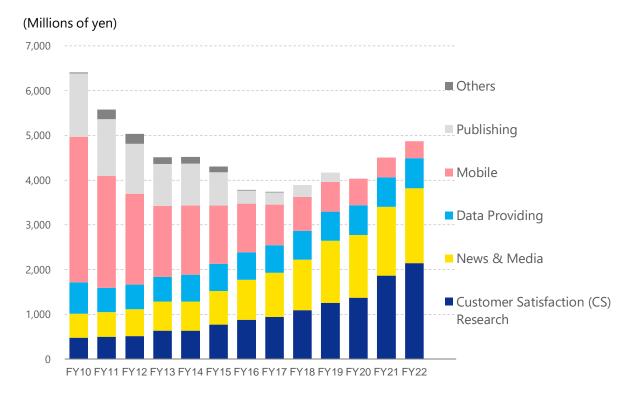
In a society where information makes things complicated because, for example, of the scourge of fake news, Oricon will earn the trust of society by turning facts into intelligence from an objective and fair standpoint and disseminating it widely.

By doing so, we aspire to be a company of high social value that contributes to the realization of affluent lifestyles and the development of various industries.



- Previously, the Mobile Business and Publishing Business had been the main contributors to net sales, but proactive business restructuring has made the Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business and News & Media Business into major revenue supporters
- As a result of business restructuring, the operating margin soared, and recently transform into a highly profitable company exceeding 35%

### **Net Sales Trends by Segment**



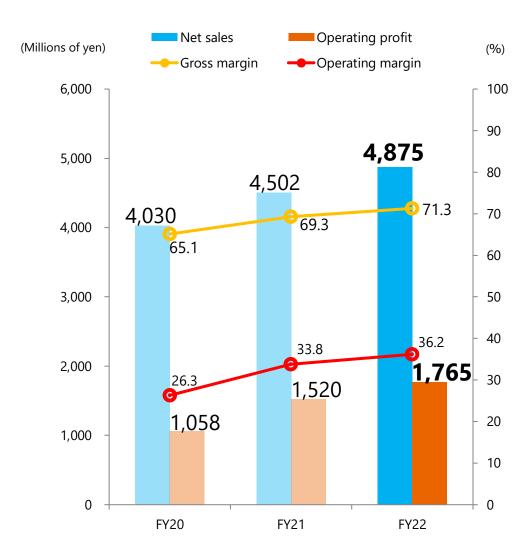
### **Operating Profit and Operating Margin Trends**



### 1-1 Overview of Financial Results for FY22



# Achieving record-high operating profit



FY22 (YoY change)

Net sales **¥4,875 mn** (+8.3%)

Gross margin 71.3% (+2.0 pts)

Operating profit  $\mathbf{¥1,765}$  mn (+16.2%)

Operating margin 36.2% (+2.4 pts)

FY22Q4 (Jan.–Mar.) (YoY change)

Net sales **¥1,260 mn** (+5.4%)

Gross margin 71.2% (flat)

Operating profit **¥431 mn** (-4.4%)

Operating margin 34.2% (-3.5 pts)

<Factors behind the Q4 YoY decrease in operating profit>

- Stock-based compensation expenses were incurred in accordance with the achievement of performance targets. (¥24 mn)
- Cost of holding the CS award ceremony for the first time in four years. (¥18 mn)

# 1-2 Consolidated Statement of Income



(Millions of yen)	FY21	FY22	Yo'	Y				
(Millions of yetr)	FYZI	F1ZZ	Amount	%				
Net sales	4,502	4,875	+372	+8.3%	<b>&gt;</b>	See next slide for the breakdown by segment		
Cost of sales	1,382	1,398	+15	+15 +1.1%				
(Cost of sales margin)	(30.7%)	(28.7%)		11.170				
Gross profit	3,119	3,476	+356	+11.4%				
(Gross margin)	(69.3%)	(71.3%)			ſ	<ul> <li>Due to the efforts to improve employees' compensation</li> <li>Due to the stock-based compensation expenses</li> </ul>		
SG&A expenses	1,599	1,710	+111	+6.9%	<b>←</b>			
(SG&A margin)	(35.5%)	(35.1%)		1 0.570				
Operating profit	1,520	1,765	+245	+16.2%	Ĺ	_		
(Operating margin)	(33.8%)	(36.2%)						
Ordinary profit	1,507	1,699	+192	+12.7%	<b></b>	Due to the posting of foreign exchange losses in non-operating		
(Ordinary margin)	(33.5%)	(34.9%)				expenses		
Net income before income taxes	1,538	1,699	+160	+10.4%	+160 +10.4%	<b></b>	Due to a YoY decrease of	
(Pretax profit margin)	(34.2%)	(34.9%)	0. 170	extraordinary income, in w	extraordinary income, in which			
Net income attributable to owners of the parent	1,011	1,106	±05	+95 +9.4%	.05 .040/	. 05		gain on sale of investment securities was posted in the
(Net margin)	(22.5%)	(22.7%)	+95			same period a year earlier		

# 1-3 Breakdown of Sales by Segment

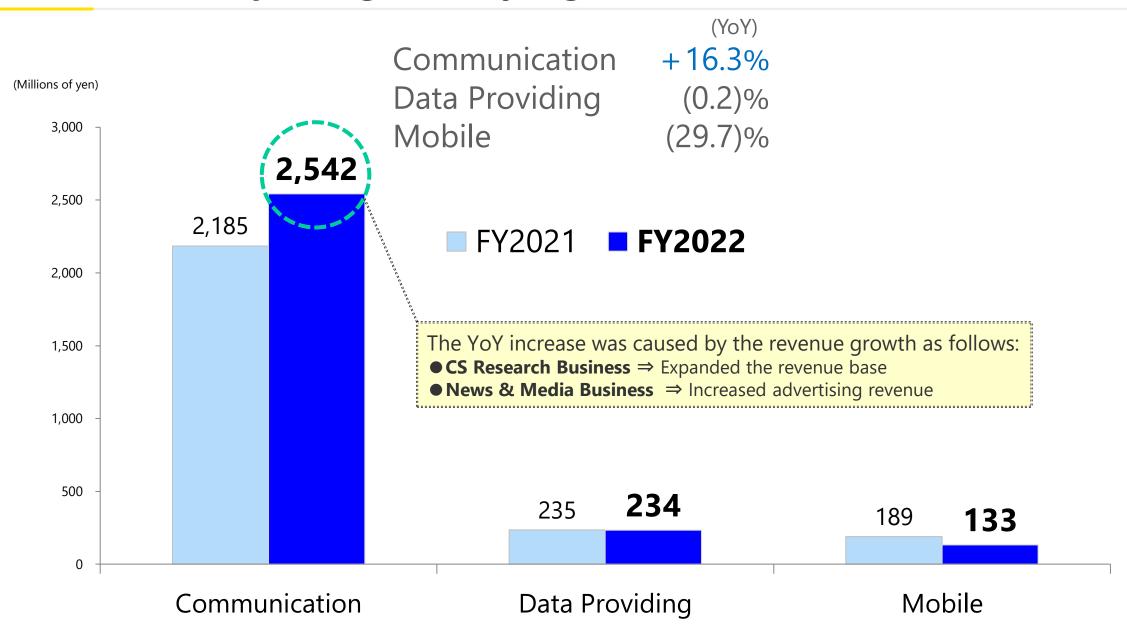


# Sales of the Communication Business increased by 12.4% YoY

(Millions of yen)			FY2021	FV2022	YoY	
			FYZUZI	FY2022	Amount	%
Сс	mmunication		3,401	3,822	+421	+12.4%
	Customer Satisfaction Research		1,866	2,144	+277	+14.9%
	News & Media		1,534	1,677	+143	+9.3%
Da	ata Providing		662	670	+7	+1.1%
M	obile		438	381	(56)	-12.8%
		Total	4,502	4,875	+372	+8.3%

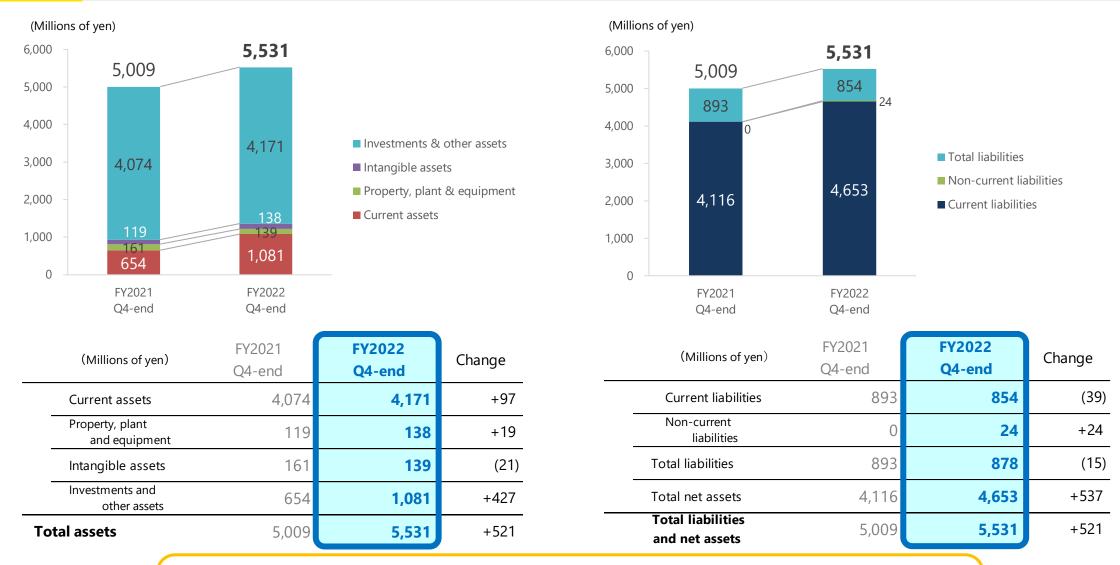
# 1-4 Breakdown of Operating Profit by Segment





### 1-5 Consolidated Balance Sheet





**The equity ratio** stood at **84.1**% (up 1.9 pts from FY2021 Q4-end) due to an increase in net assets

### 1-6 Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows



(Millions of yen)	FY21	FY22	YoY	(Millions of yen		Cash flows fro	om operating activities
Cash flows from operating activities	1,146	899	(247)	1,000 -	1,146	Cash flows fro	om financing activities 899
Cash flows from investing activities	(119)	(1,106)	(987)	500 -			
Cash flows from financing activities	(504)	(576)	(72)	0			
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	523	(783)	(1,306)	(500) -		(504)	(576)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	2,784	3,307	+523	(1,000) -			(1,106)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	3,307	2,524	(783)	(1,500)	1	FY21	FY22

Positive factor ⇒ Posting of net income before income taxes of ¥1,699 mn

Negative factors ⇒ Income taxes paid of ¥968 mn, payments into foreign currency time deposits of ¥576 mn, purchase of investment securities (incl. foreign currency securities) of ¥426 mn, purchase of treasury shares of ¥265 mn, and cash dividends paid of ¥310 mn

# 2. Overview of Communication Business (1)



**◆ Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business** 

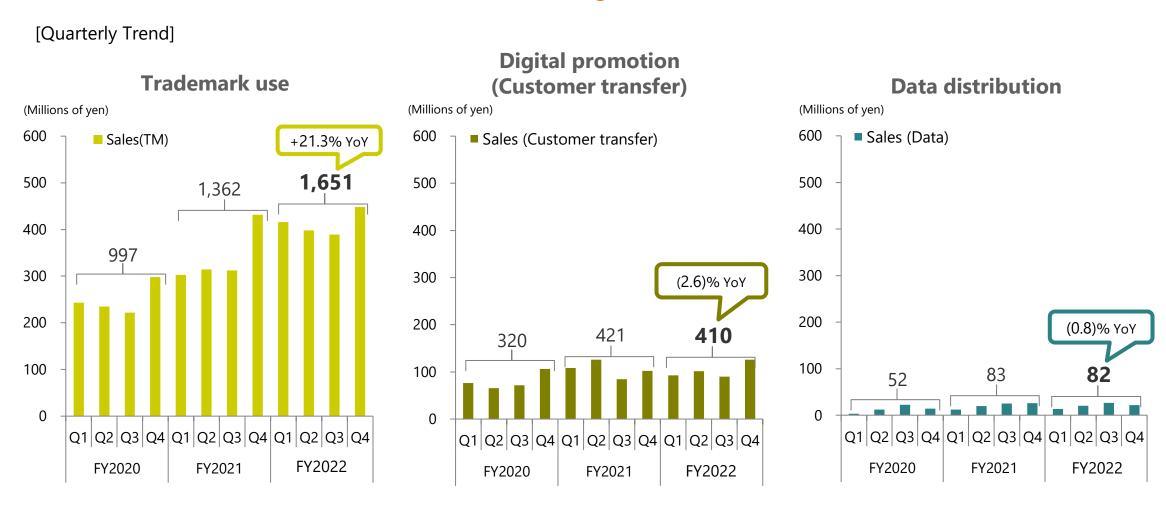


# 2. Overview of Communication Business (2)



# **◆ Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business**

## Achieved a YoY revenue growth in trademark use



# 2. Overview of Communication Business (3)



# **◆ Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business**Ranking lists by category

### **■ Insurance Industry**

Car/Bike/Bicycle/Fire/Pets/Life/Medical/Cancer/Visit type insurance shop/Educational insurance

### **■** Financial Industry

Internet securities/iDeCo Securities Company/Internet bank/Net banking/Foreign currency deposits/Housing loan/FX trading/Bank card loan/Non-bank card loan/Smartphone payment service/Virtual currency/Robo advisor/Smartphone securities/Credit card

#### **■ Cram School**

College entrance exam (Group guidance for senior high school students/Personal coaching for senior high school students/Topnotch universities for senior high school students)/Senior high school entrance exam (Group/Personal)/Junior high school entrance exam (Group/Personal)/Publicly-run integrated junior and senior high school (Group) /Elementary school students (Group/Personal)/Correspondence study(for elementary school/junior high school/senior high school)/Home teacher/Infants, elementary school students learning classroom/Intellectual education for infants

#### ■ School

English conversation school/Children's English (Infant/Elementary)/Online English Conversation/Correspondence study

#### **■** Life related

Hometown Tax Donation Program Website/Water server/House cleaning/Moving firm/
Self storage(Rental space/Container)/Delivery type storage/Food delivery service/
Subscription video distribution/Car purchase traders/Digital comics(Comprehensive/Original works only)/
Specializing in used car seller/Manufacturer type used car seller/Vehicle inspection/Children photo studio/
Bike seller/Manufacturer type bike seller/GPS tracker for kids

### **■** Telecommunications Industry

Low-cost SIM(Subscriber Identity Module)/Low-cost smartphone/Internet service provider/ Internet connection/Mobile carrier/Low-cost mobile carrier

#### ■ Housing Industry

Estate agency Selling(Condominium/Detached/Land)/Estate agency Buying(Condominium/Detached)/
Condominium management company/Rental information shop/Rental information website/
Renovation (Large-scale/Detached/Condominium)/New condominium/House builder Custom-built Readybuilt (Builder/House builder/Real estate developer)/Large-scale condominium repair

#### **■** Retailer

Auto parts and accessories shop/Tire shop

### **■** Beauty Industry

Beauty salon(Facial/Bridal/Lose weight, Body care)/ Waxing salon/Epilation clinic

### **■ Sports & Health**

Fitness club/Kid's swimming school/24-hour gyms

### **■** Wedding Industry

House wedding/Marriage agency/Wedding hall consultation counter/Wedding hall information website/Dating • Marriage matching apps/Low-cost wedding

#### **■** Human resources

Job hunting agency/Job hunting website/Employment information service/Changing job website/Changing job agency/

Reverse job application service/Nurse changing job/High-class • Middle-class changing job/Temp agency/Manufacturing temp/Temp information website/Changing job scout service

#### **■** Travel

Hotel comparison website/Airline ticket comparison website/Tour comparison website

#### **■** Business Solutions

Internet printing online order/Corporate training/Messaging app for business/Web conferencing tool

### Additional ranking lists announced in January through March

● Educational insurance ● 24-hour gyms (re-listed) ● GPS tracker for kids

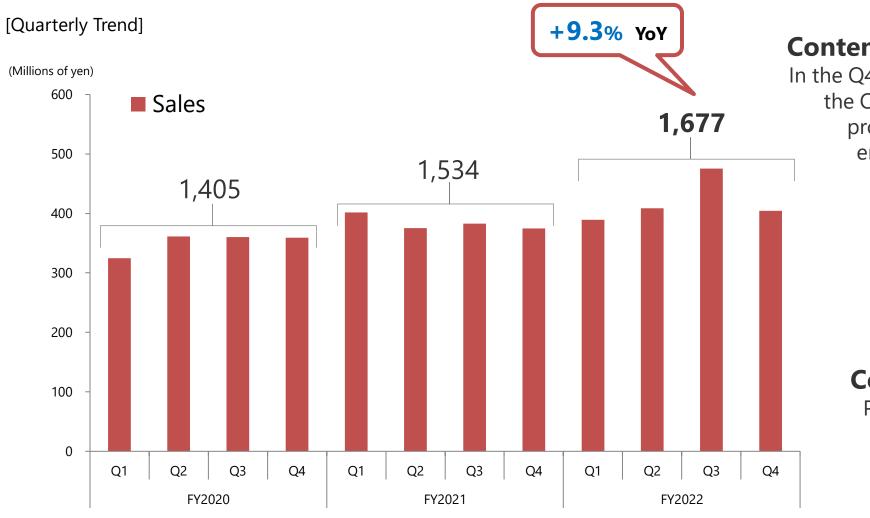


(As of Mar. 2023)

# 2. Overview of Communication Business (4)



### **♦ News & Media Business**



### **Content for third-party media**

In the Q4, sales decreased compared to the Q3 due to an increase in the proportion of news in nonentertainment categories

### Own media

The number of sessions increased

### **Consulting business**

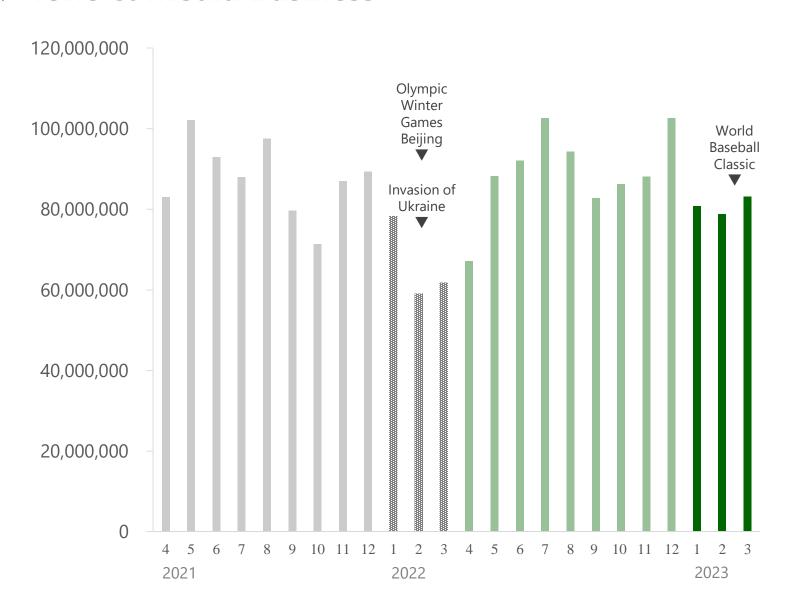
Performance has grown

# 2. Overview of Communication Business (5)



### **♦ News & Media Business**

### Own Media "ORICON NEWS" Trend of number of sessions



FY22
The number of sessions
increased by approx.
6% YoY

FY22Q4 (Jan.–Mar.)
The number of sessions
increased by approx.

22 % YoY, but
decreased by approx.

13 % QoQ

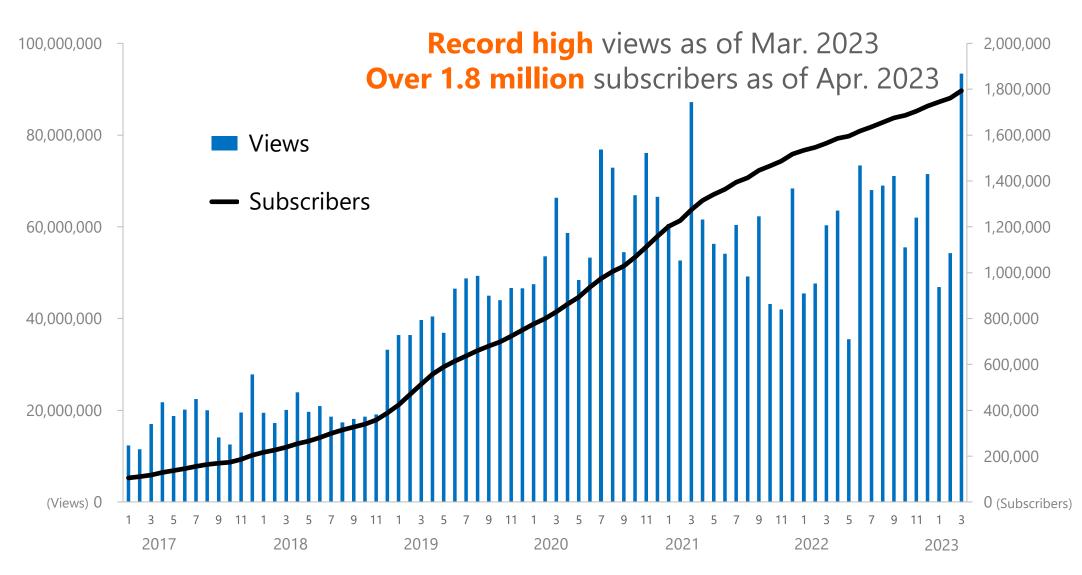
Q4 ad unit price decreased YoY by (6.4)% due to market downturn

# 2. Overview of Communication Business (6)





### "ORICON NEWS" YouTube Channel



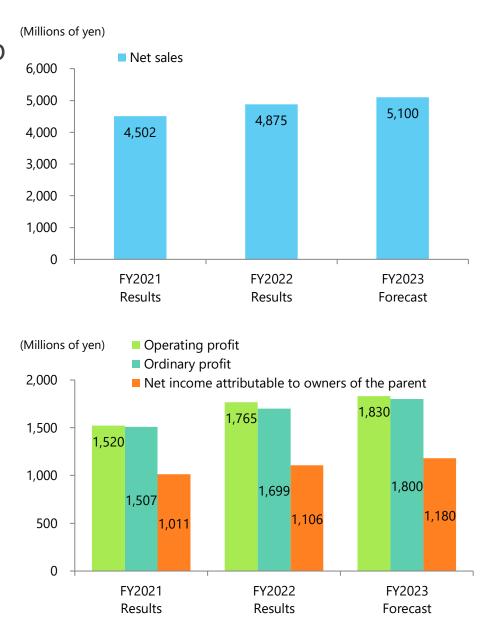
# 3. Full-Year Forecast for FY2022



Consolidated financial results are expected to

increase in sales and profits

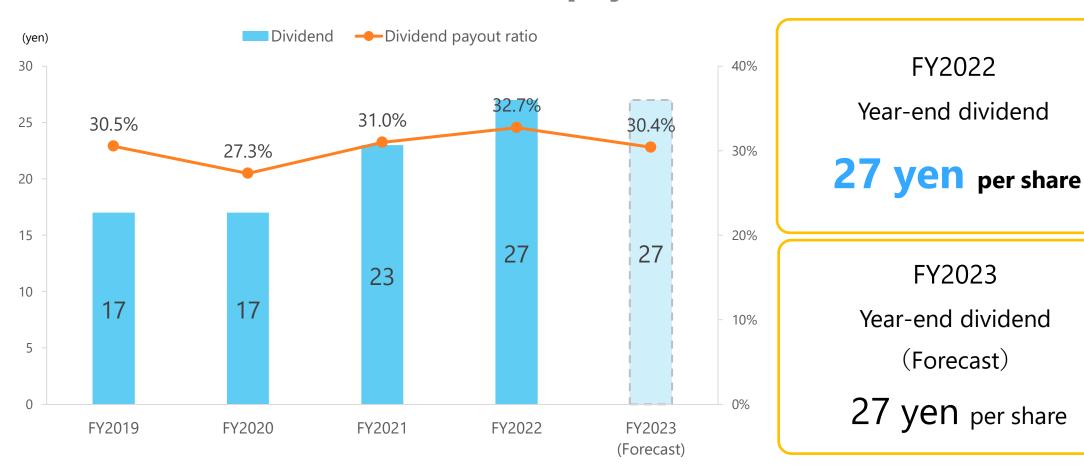
(Millions of yen)	FY2021 Results	FY2022 Results	FY2023 Forecast	YoY
Net sales	4,502	4,875	5,100	+4.6%
Operating profit	1,520	1,765	1,830	+3.6%
Ordinary profit	1,507	1,699	1,800	+5.9%
Net income attributable to owners of the parent	1,011	1,106	1,180	+6.6%



# 4. Returning Profit



# We place the highest priority on shareholder returns, and will continue to pay stable dividends.



# **Asset Allocation Approach**

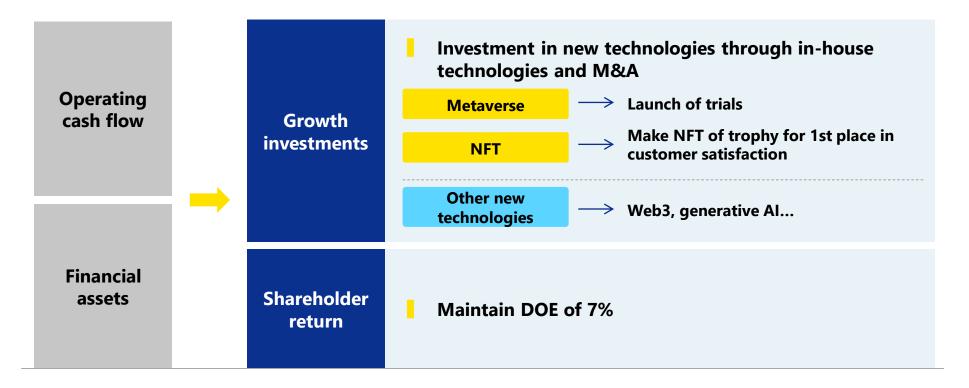


# Policy to Proactively Invest Management Resources in Technologies and Seeds of Future Business Opportunities



- In addition to shareholder return, cash and deposits and free cash flow will be used to actively invest management resources in technologies and seeds of future business opportunities
- In addition to our recent demonstration test efforts involving Metaverse, NFTs, and other technologies, we will develop approaches to promising technologies and seeds of future business opportunities through various methods, including in-house technology investment and M&A

### **Cash allocation approach**



### **Recent investments**



# **Shareholder Return Policy**



- Continue to achieve one of the highest DOE among TSE listed companies, backed by ROE levels exceeding 20%
- Dividend per share has increased 2.5 times that of 5 years ago

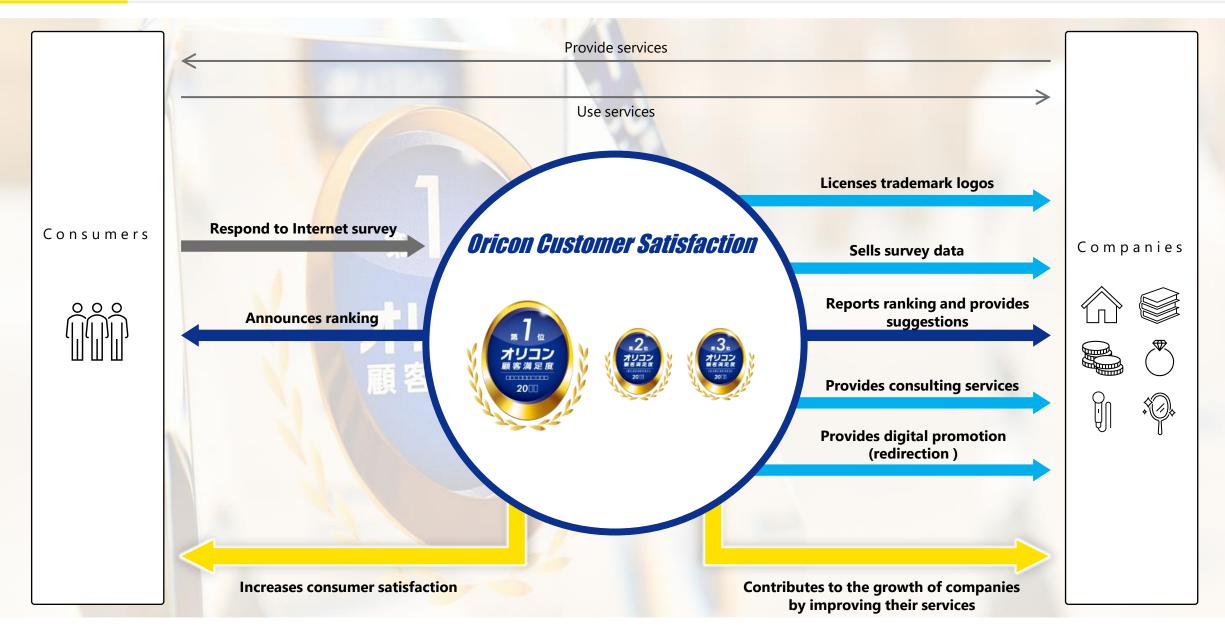
Accounting period	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
ROE	16.4%	17.6%	18.9%	24.1%	27.1%	25.9%	26.1%	25.2%
Dividend per share (yen)	8.0	10.0	10.0	12.0	17.0	17.0	23.0	27.0
DOE	6.0%	7.4%	6.8%	7.0%	8.3%	7.1%	8.0%	8.2%

# Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business Model and Strengths



## **Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business Overview**





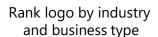
# Oricon Customer Satisfaction Research Trademark Use and Trends in the Number of Annual Rankings Announced



- The Oricon Customer Satisfaction Research trademark logo can be used in various media by signing a contract by plan
- Although the number of services covered by the rankings has increased and trademark use sales are growing, there is still great potential for further use of the Oricon trademark logo as trust in the rankings grows even further

### Main trademark logos





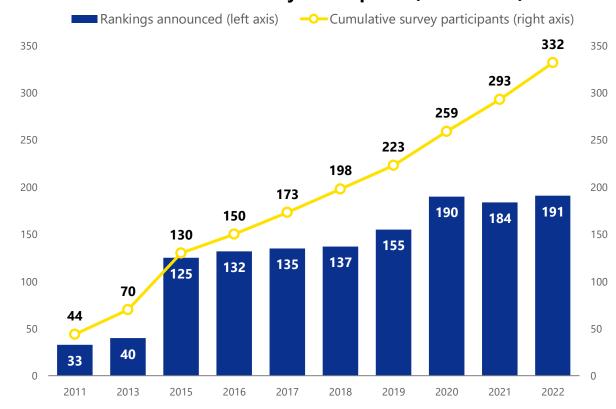


Item or sector rank logo by industry and business type

### Main media in which logo can be used (range varies by plan)

TV commercials / Externally-distributed ads (GDN, YDA, listing ads) / YouTube ads / Social media ads / Transit ads (in taxis, trains, etc.) / Outdoor ads (board posters, large screens, etc.) / Direct ads (DMs, mail magazines, newspaper inserts, free newspapers, etc.) / In-store sales promotional materials (catalogs, novelty items, etc.) / Newspaper and magazine ads / Company websites (corporate sites)

# Trends in the Number of Annual Rankings Announced and Number of Survey Participants (Cumulative)

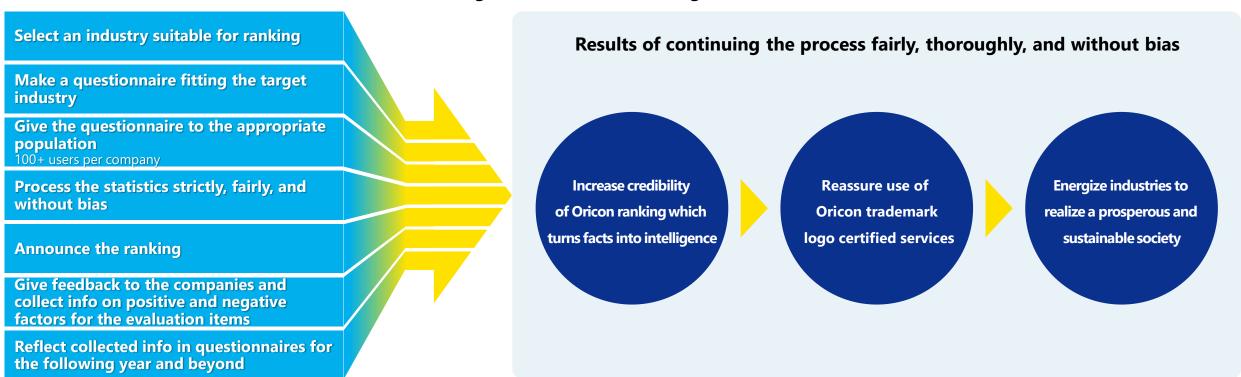


### **Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Process and Oricon's Strengths**



- Select target industries independently as a third party that takes neither consumers' nor companies' sides, conduct fair and unbiased research, and strictly process data and statistics to create rankings
- Leverage our brand power built through the music rankings which we have continuously provided to consumers from a fair and unbiased standpoint to steadily build credibility of Oricon rankings in industries besides music

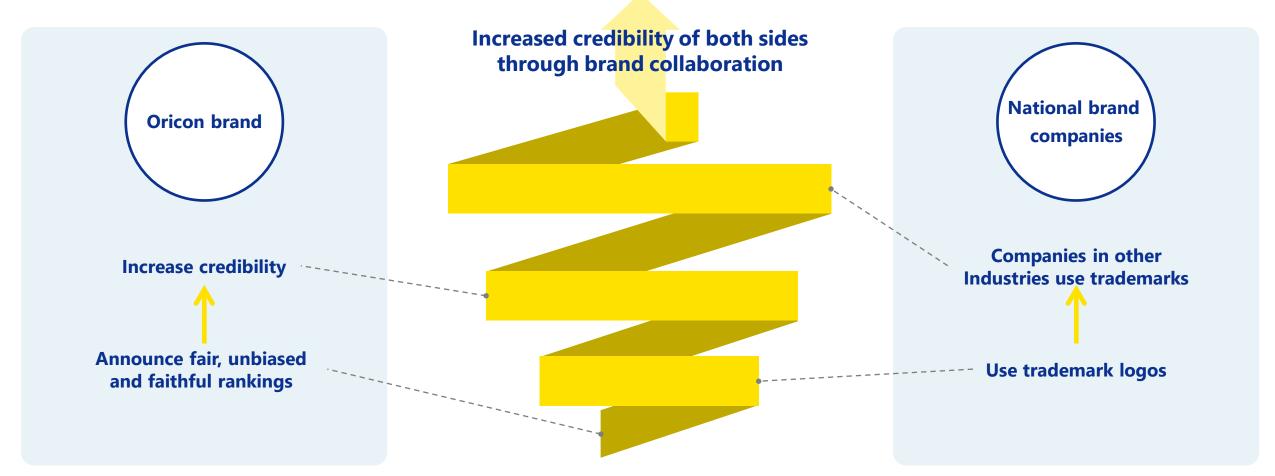
### **Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Process: "Turning Satisfaction into Intelligence"**



### **Brand Collaboration with Oricon Trademark Logo Licensed Companies**



Oricon brand credibility is further increased when renowned national brand companies use Oricon trademark logos backed by fair, unbased, and faithful Oricon rankings, which in turn encourages other national brand companies in different business industries to use our trademark logos. This brand collaboration eventually leads to increased credibility of both the Oricon brand and Oricon trademark logo certified services



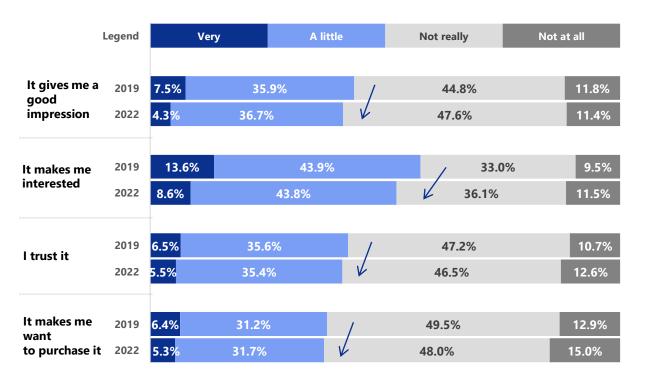
## Questioning the Credibility of No. 1 Labeling Turns Out to Be a Tailwind



- Due to the increased No.1 labeled ads without legitimate evidence, the image of such advertised products and services have been slightly tarnished from 2019 to 2022
- Many people think No.1 labeled ads should be based on facts (nearly 80%). Therefore, this situation is a tailwind for a fair and unbiased third party institution like us which prioritizes improving customer satisfaction, as it will help increase the credibility of our rankings

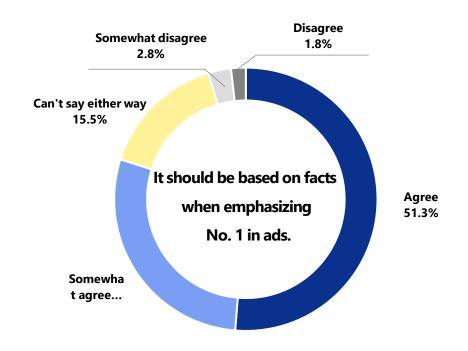
### Impression of No. 1 Labeled Products & Services

(Based on 1,000 respondents / Individual answers)



### **Opinions on No. 1 Labeled Ads**

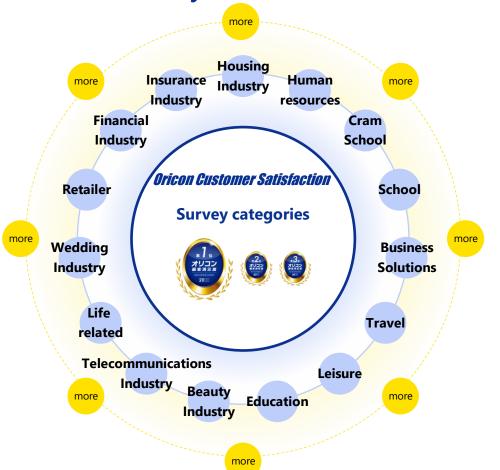
(Based on 1,000 respondents / Individual answers)



# Two Approaches to Expand Oricon Trademark Logo Usage



- Oricon Customer Satisfaction Research still has room to expand the number of categories and rankings covered, and also has potential for growth in terms of contract rates
- Continue to conduct fair and accurate surveys and announce rankings to further enhance its credibility as an index established in society that connects consumers and companies



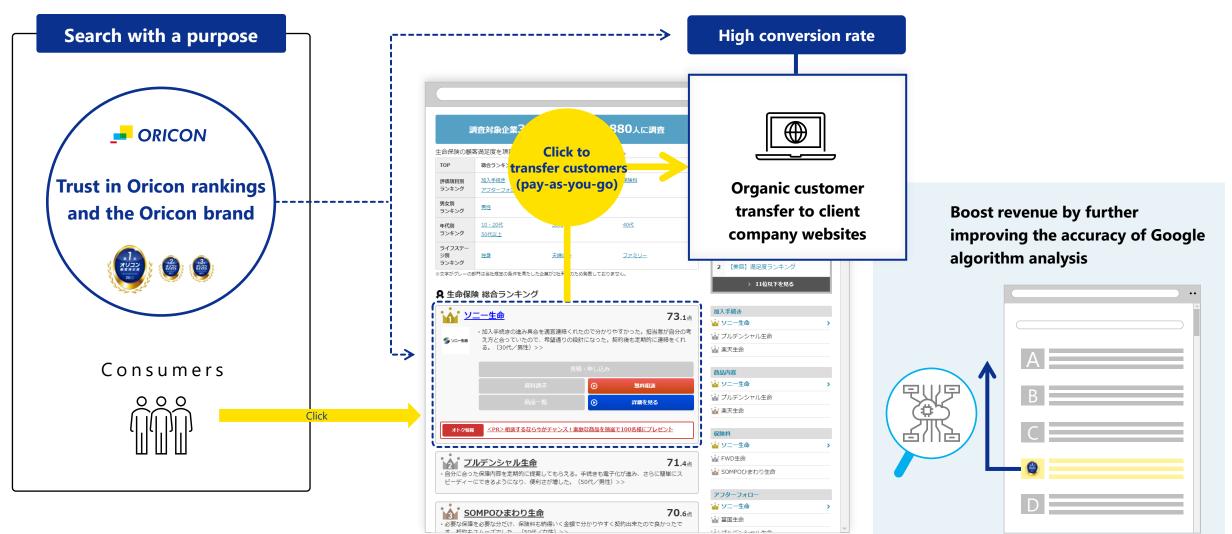
### **Trends in the Number of Annual Rankings and Contract Rates**



### **Digital Promotion Business Initiatives**



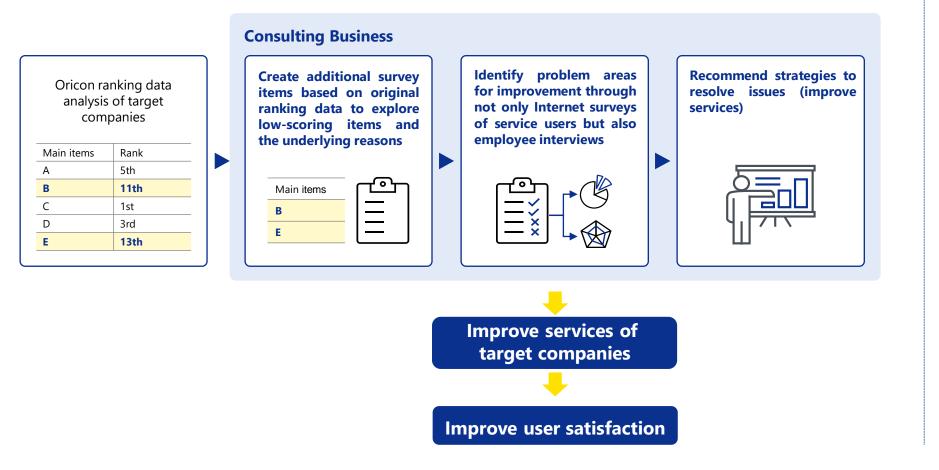
- The business focuses on organic customer transfer from search engines and Oricon's own media to client company websites. The conversion rate from Oricon rankings to client company websites is high due to trust in the Oricon brand
- Strengthen initiatives to boost revenue by further refining search engine algorithm analysis, particularly that of Google

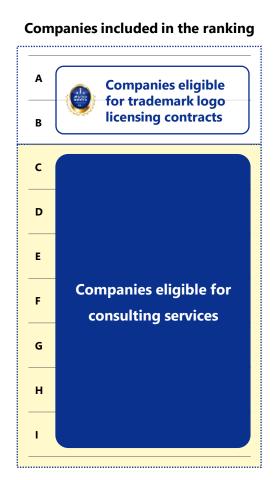


# **Consulting Business Initiatives**



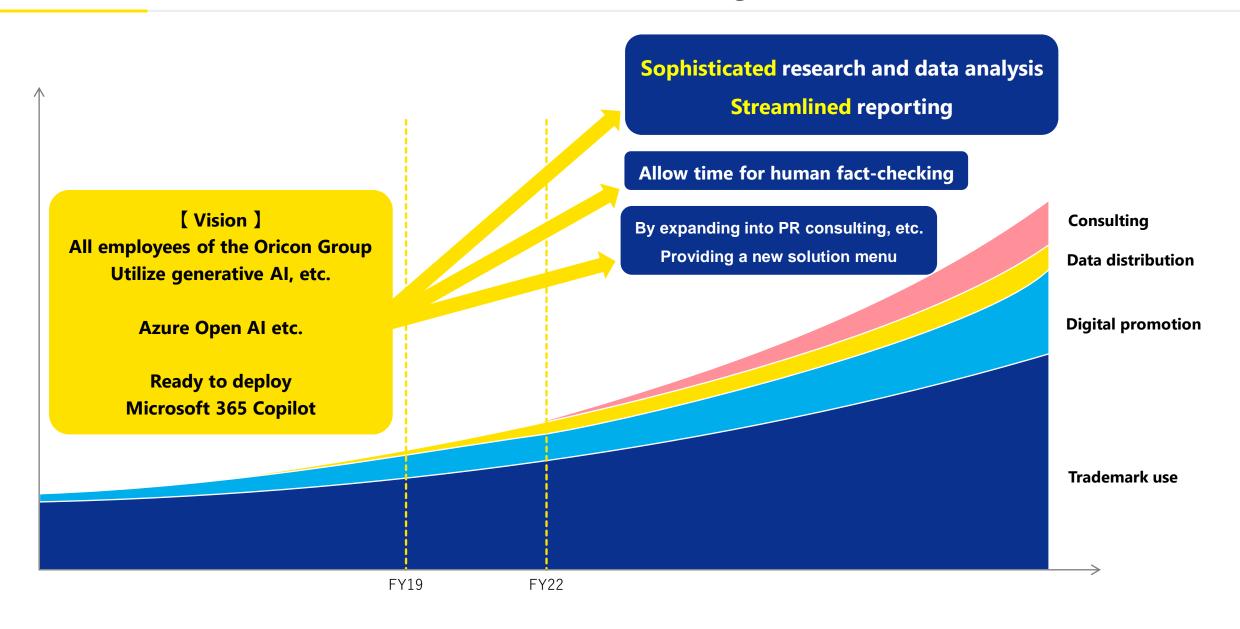
- By identifying low-scoring items in Oricon ranking data and conducting additional user surveys and employee interviews, we can locate specific areas of dissatisfaction among service users and propose measures to solve issues
- We intend to expand the Consulting Business to companies that have not yet concluded trademark logo licensing contracts because we can apply our accumulated expertise without a large increase in personnel





# **Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business Growth Image**





# News & Media Business Model and Strengths



### **News & Media Business Overview**



# **Entertainment industry companies**

- Entertainment production
- Record labels
- TV and radio stations
- Film distribution companies
- Publishers
- Event planners, etc.

### **Package distributors**

- CD stores, electronics retailers
- E-commerce sites, convenience stores
- Bookstores, etc.

### **Content distributors**

- Download stores
- Subscription streaming services
- Video streaming services



## **News & Media Business Strengths**



- Distributes reliable news backed by strong connections in the entertainment industry
- Captured the top market share in the entertainment category of major portal sites for over 10 years
- Established status as an entertainment news agency, including being used by Kyodo News to distribute articles to local newspapers

1

Solid foundation built on strong connections in the entertainment industry

2

Corporate strength capable of original news and video creation

Our strengths

3

Accumulated expertise in article writing and editing for both print and online media

4

Our highly-valued dedication to providing articles that do not harm the subject's image, news based on fact, and intention to write articles readers appreciate

# Established status as a news agency focused on entertainment

- Distribution network to major news sites and news apps backed by high credibility
- Provision of news to local newspapers and content to major media such as national newspapers and TV stations, in addition to online media
- YouTube channel with over 1.8 million subscribers, as well as many views from non-subscribers, which consistently provides content that reaches over a million views

# **Capturing New User Demographics by Implementing Short Videos**



- Be the first to focus on the potential of short videos (3 to 5 minutes long) in entertainment news distribution
- Capture new user demographics through short videos that take advantage of Oricon's strengths and appeal to the lifestyles and tastes of the younger generation

Solid foundation built on strong connections in the

entertainment industry

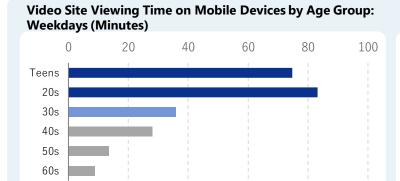
2
Corporate strength capable of original news and video creation

# Be the first to focus on the potential of entertainment short videos

芸能動画を毎日配信! ORICON NEWS

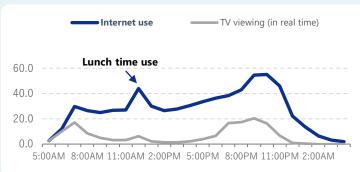


**Capture new user demographics** 



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications FY2021 Survey Report on Usage Time of Information and Communications Media and Information Behavior

### Users in their 20s by Media Type: Weekdays (%)



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications FY2021 Survey Report on Usage Time of Information and Communications Media and Information Behavior

### YouTube Ranking by the Number of Gen Z Viewers

Rank	Channel name	Viewers	Video category
1	THE FIRST TAKE	2.27 million	Music
2	oricon	1.78 million	Entertainment / variety shows
3	Hyakumantenbara Salome	1.51 million	VTuber
4	Nintendo official channel	1.41 million	Gameplay and game-related content
5	Ayase / YOASOBI	1.40 million	Music

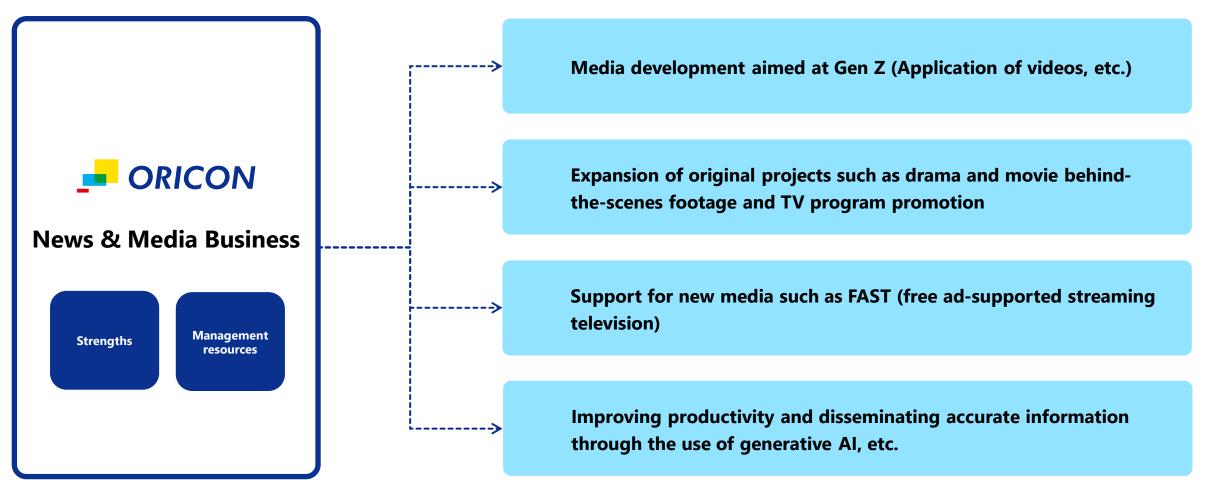
Notes: Gen Z is defined as viewers aged 16-26 as of December 2022. Data collection period: June 2022 - Dec. 2022 (target devices: PCs and smartphones) It is counted as one viewer if a video is played at least once during the data collection period. The number of views is the number of views per month.

Source: VALUES, Inc. "Ranking of YouTube Channels by the Number of Gen Z Viewers"

## **Future Direction for the Expansion of the News & Media Business**



- Policy to promote multifaceted business expansion based on the strengths and management resources cultivated to date in the News & Media Business
- Take on new and unique challenges without being reliant on a specific platform



# **Appendix**



# **Business Description and Main Revenue Sources of Each Segment**

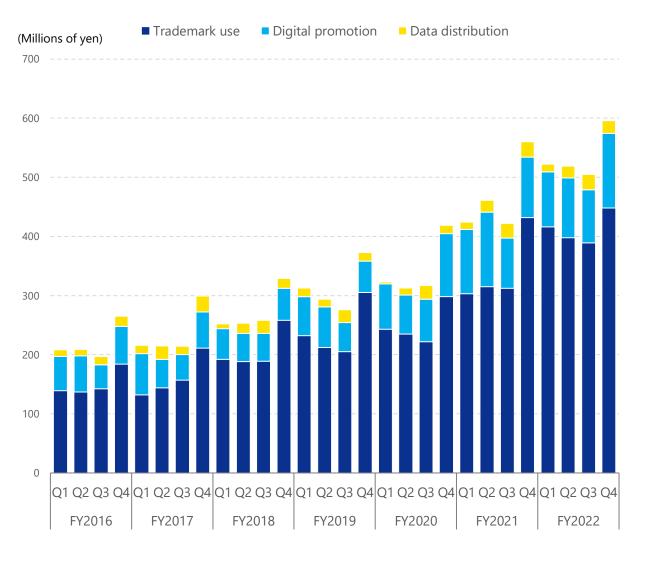


Segment	Business description	Main revenue sources
<b>Communication Business</b>		
Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research	Conducts internet surveys for users of various services and ranks and announces the results annually from an independent position that is fair and unbiased	The largest revenue source is "Trademark use," in which companies pay a fee for a license to use the ranking results marked with Oricon's trademark logo for their own advertising and promotion
	As of March 2023, has surveyed a total of 3.32 million people across 192 categories	"Digital promotion," in which customers are transferred to client company websites from search engines and Oricon's own media
		"Data distribution," which provides broad-ranging analyses of survey results
		"Consulting," which provides details and additional surveys to individual companies
News & Media	<ul> <li>Creates over 3,000 news/feature articles and video contents per month, focusing on entertainment</li> </ul>	Ad revenue from the number of page views and sessions on Oricon's own media and distribution partner platforms
	Acts as a news agency to distribute news to Yahoo!	Revenue from sponsored advertising and PR consulting for companies
	News and other major online media sites and apps	Fees received for providing content to distribution partner media outlets
	■ The YouTube channel of Oricon's own media "ORICON NEWS" has amassed 1.8 million subscribers	Creation and promotion/management of online ads for government agencies
<b>Data Providing Business</b>	Collects sales data and creates rankings for music, videos, and books	Revenue from broadcasters and e-commerce sites, etc. for providing music databases and ranking data
Mobile Business	■ Paid streaming service for mobile devices and PCs	Pay-as-you-go billing for member downloads
	■ Music streaming site "Oricon Music Store"	
	■ eBook site "Yomulun"	

### Continued Growth of the Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business by Raising Awareness



### Customer Satisfaction (CS) Research Business Quarterly Net Sales Trends



### **Customer Satisfaction (CS) Business Net Sales Trends**

(Millions of yen)	Trademark use	Digital promotion	Data distribution
FY2016	601	224	54
FY2017	644	222	78
FY2018	828	201	63
FY2019	953	237	65
FY2020	997	320	52
FY2021	1,362	421	83
FY2022	1,651	410	82

The forward-looking statements including the earnings forecasts contained in this report are based on information currently available to us and certain assumptions that we believe to be reasonable. Accordingly, please be advised that we do not guarantee the achievement of the forecasts, and the actual results may differ significantly from the forecasts due to a variety of factors.

Oricon Inc. https://www.oricon.jp/