

# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 -Survey Overview-

## Survey Purpose, etc.

- The survey was conducted to determine the circumstances of foreign residents and issues they face in professional, daily, and social lives as accurately as possible, as part of efforts to plan and formulate policies to facilitate coexistence with foreign residents.
- This was the second survey of its kind, following the inaugural survey conducted in FY2020.
- The decision was made to hold the "FY2021 Expert Committee Meeting for a Basic Survey on Foreign Residents" in order to widen the scope of the survey, and experts familiar with assimilation policies were invited to participate in determining the survey items and compiling survey results. The committee aimed to leverage expertise, high-level insights and a wider picture perspective in determining the relevant survey items and compiling the survey results.

⇒ The government will use the survey results to help plan, draft, and implement coexistence measures for foreign residents to enhance the **"Roadmap for the Realization of a Society of Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals"** and **"Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals"** as part of efforts to achieve a society which build a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals.

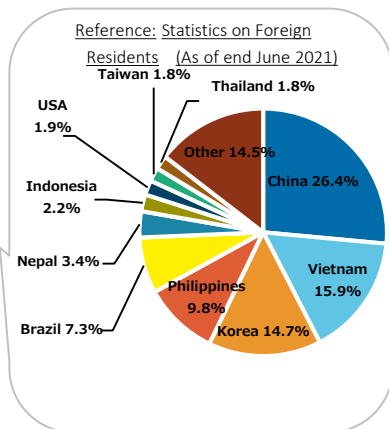
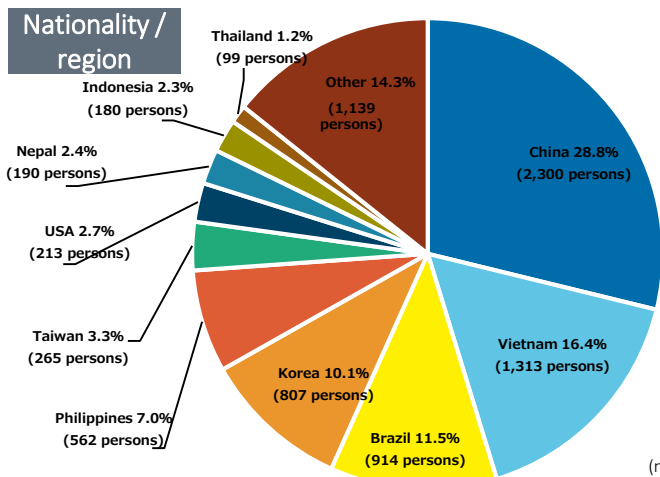
## Survey Overview

Object of survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A total of 40,000 mid to long term residents and special permanent residents aged over 18.</li> <li>* As of January 17, 2022, only those persons who have been physically present in the country for at least one year since their most recent landing permit.</li> <li>* Respondents were randomly selected with the sample size in mind, by nationality/region and status of residence, which was determined by referencing statistics of foreign nationals(as of June 30, 2021).</li> </ul>
Number of valid responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ No. of copies sent out: 40,000 (1,572 of which were undeliverable) and a total of 7,982 valid responses were received. Response rate of 20.8%.</li> </ul>
Survey method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A web-based survey (a letter requesting cooperation and including a QR code was mailed to target recipients, who were asked to scan the QR code and then respond to an online questionnaire).</li> <li>■ Responses were viewable in eight languages (simplified Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Filipino, and Nepali).</li> </ul>
Survey items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The survey targeted the issues encountered by foreign nationals in the following areas in Japan in their professional, daily, and social lives. Learning Japanese, obtaining information and consultation, medical care, disaster and emergency response (particularly in COVID-19 context), housing, childcare and education, work, social insurance, etc.</li> <li>■ Questions identical to those in the "National Survey for Ascertaining People's Loneliness and Social Isolation(2021)(Cabinet Secretariat)" (sent to 20,000 individuals aged 16 or more nationwide) were asked to gauge the current level of loneliness among foreign nationals in Japan.</li> </ul>
Survey period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ February 18, 2022 - March 3, 2022</li> </ul>
Points to note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Although the results of this survey were compiled and posted as and when they were received in response to the questionnaire, the limited number of responses for some questions means that caution is needed when interpreting them.</li> </ul>

# Basic Survey of Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results (1) (Respondent Attributes and Satisfaction with Overall Living Environment) -

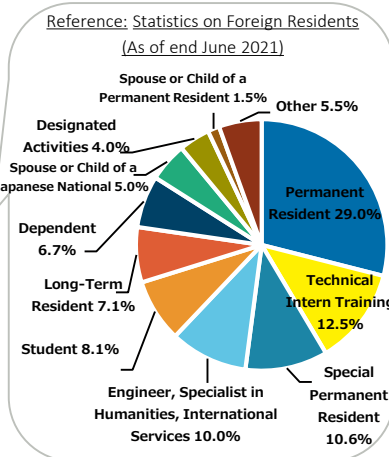
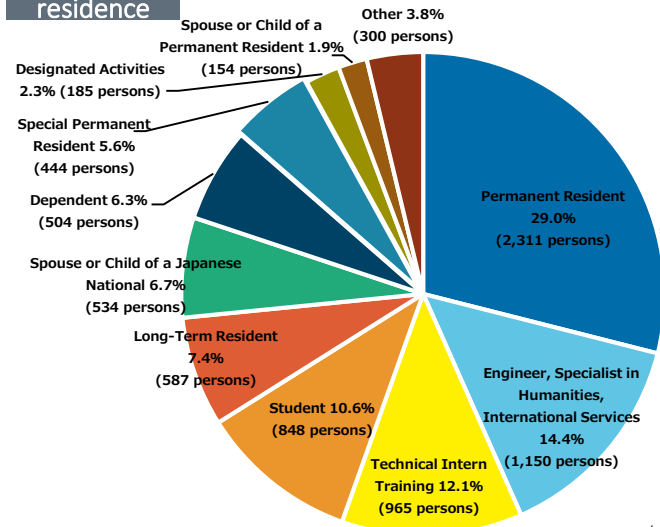
- The majority of respondents came from China (28.8%), Vietnam (16.4%), and Brazil (11.5%), in that order.
- The status of residence of respondents was "Permanent Resident" (29.0%), "Engineer, Specialist in Humanities, International Services" (14.4%), and "Technical Intern Training" (12.1%), in that order.
- The percentage of those who declared themselves satisfied with life in Japan (either "Satisfied" or "If anything, satisfied") was 87.8% (up 4.2 points from the FY2020 survey). The level of Japanese language proficiency was positively correlated with the percentage of respondents who were satisfied with their lives in Japan.

## Attributes of respondents



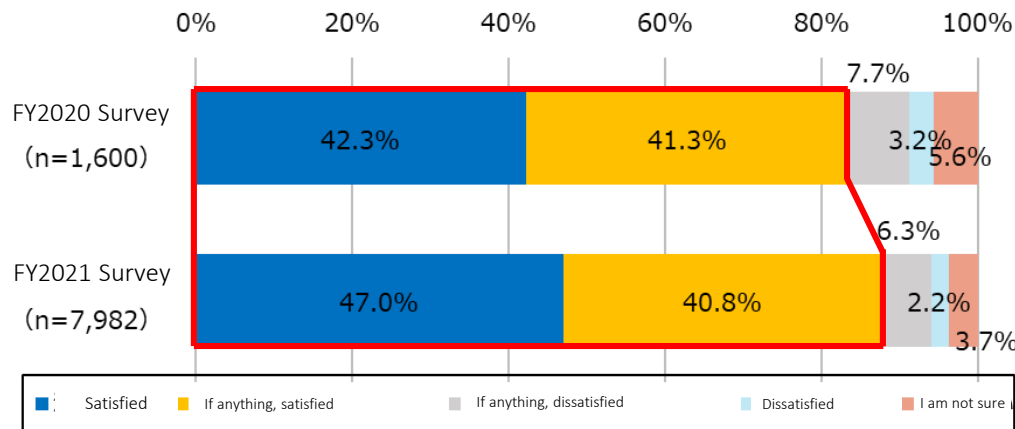
(n=7,982)

## Status of residence

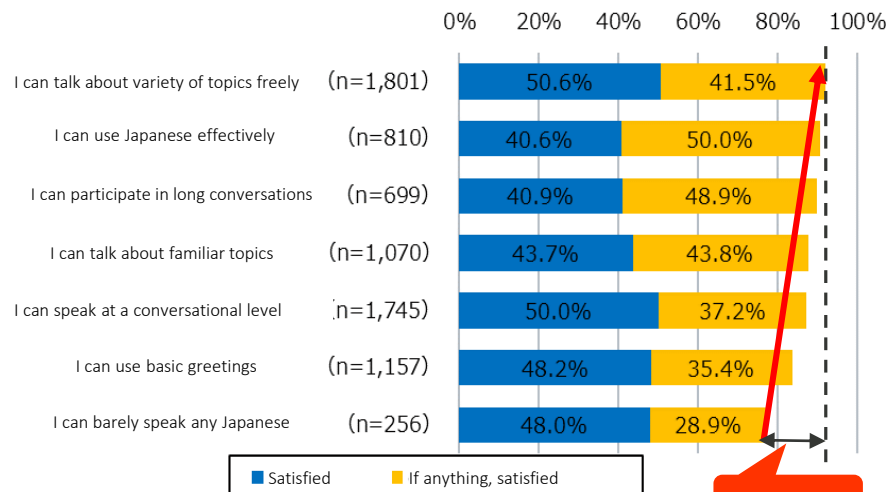


(n=7,982)

## Satisfaction with overall living environment



## Level of Japanese proficiency (speaking • listening)

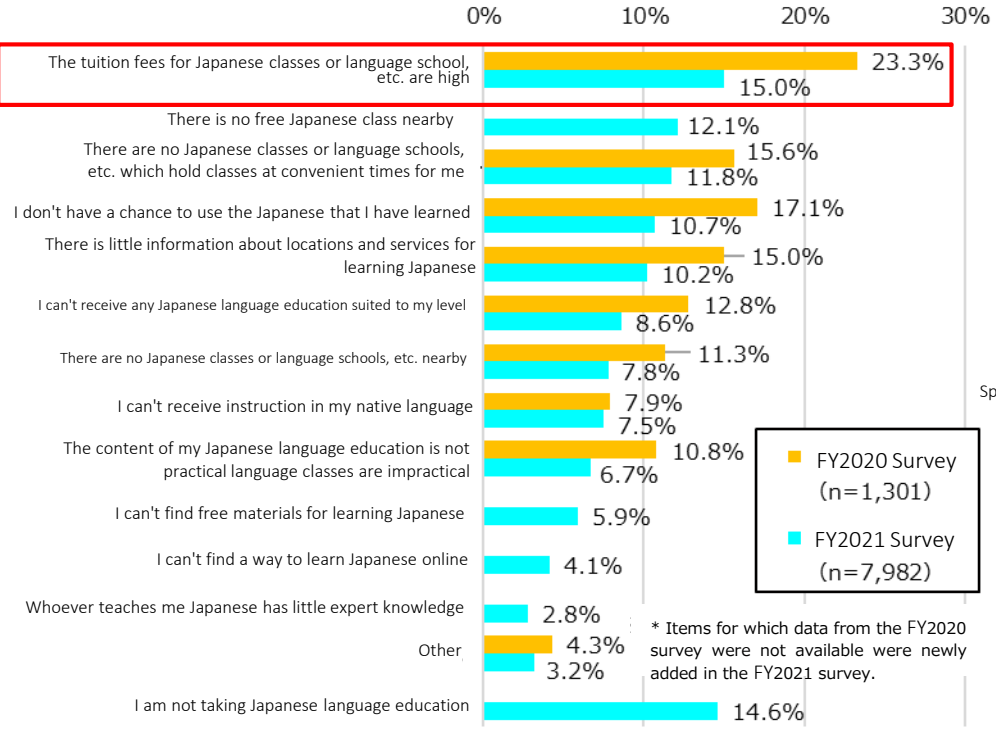


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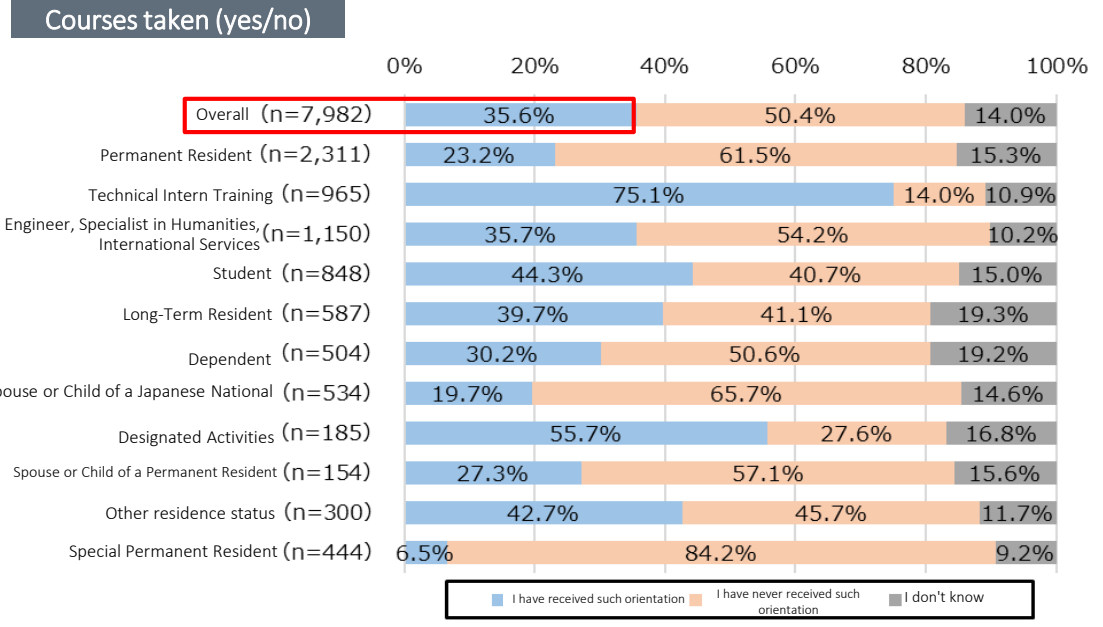
# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results ② (Learning Japanese • Daily life orientation) -

- The most common issue cited regarding Japanese language study was "The tuition fees for Japanese classes or language school, etc. are high" (15.0%) (down 8.3 points from the FY2020 survey).  
For those with low Japanese language ability ("I can barely speak any Japanese" and "I can use basic greetings"), the main issue cited by respondents was "I am not taking Japanese language education" and the percentage of those who chose "There is no free Japanese class nearby" also exceeded the total.
- A total of 35.6% of all respondents said that they had "received orientation" (for daily life).
- Respondents cited "Tax" (57.1%), "Pension and social insurance" (56.9%), and "Medical care and welfare" (54.5%) as the top areas with which they should be familiar to avoid problems living in Japan.

## Problems learning Japanese



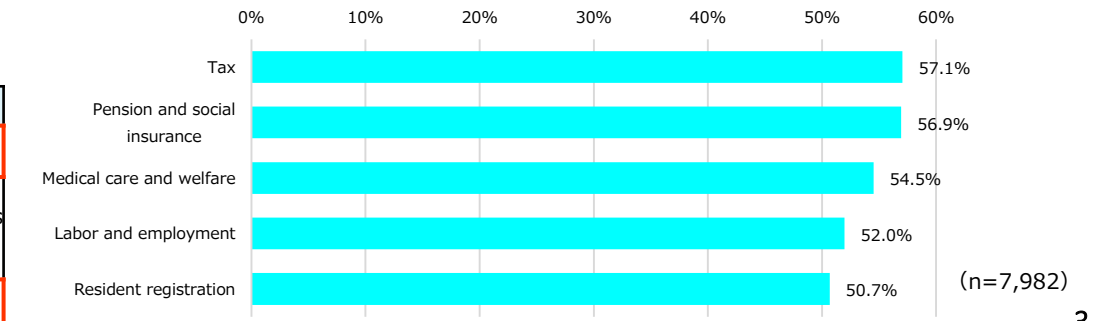
## Daily life orientation



## Level of Japanese proficiency (extract)

	I can barely speak any Japanese (n=256)	I can use basic greetings (n=1,157)
[1]	There is no free Japanese class nearby (16.0%)	There is no free Japanese class nearby (18.2%)
[2]	There are no Japanese classes or language schools, etc. which hold classes at convenient times for me (15.2%)	There are no Japanese classes or language schools, etc. which hold classes at convenient times for me (16.9%)
(Reference)	I am not taking Japanese language education (36.3%)	I am not taking Japanese language education (23.2%)

## Opinion on information needed to avoid issues in Japan \* Top 5 responses



# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results ③ (Obtaining information • consultation) -

- The top response given for (online) means of communication for obtaining information and consultation was "Paid Internet" (private contract) from 88.6% of respondents, but 5.7% had no internet access other than "Free Internet environment (Wi-Fi in a public facility, etc.)".
- The most common public information source was "Japanese TV, radio, newspapers or magazines" (47.9%).
- The most common concern cited regarding access to public information was "There is little multilingual information" (34.1%) (up 0.3 points from the FY2020 survey).
- The most common issue encountered when consulting public institutions was "I did not know who to consult" (31.5%). Over 40% of those in the "Technical Intern Training" and "Student" categories gave this response.

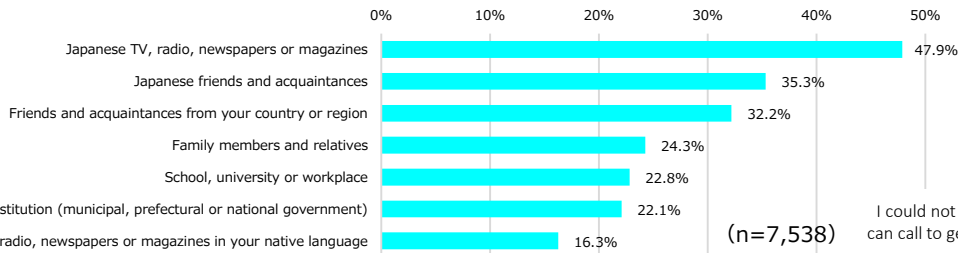
## Obtaining information

### (Online) Means of communication for obtaining information and consultation

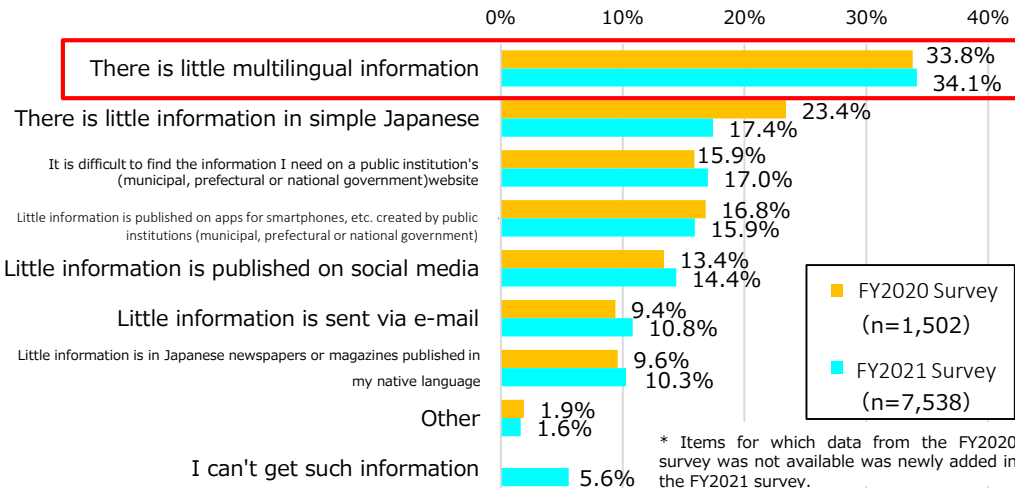
	Paid internet environment (when you make a contract with an Internet service provider by yourself)	Free Internet environment (Wi-Fi in a public facility, etc.)	Paid internet environment (Internet cafe, etc.)	Other	I don't use it
n=7,982	88.6%	12.0% (Note)	3.3%	1.0%	3.5%

(Note) 5.7% of respondents had no internet access other than "Free Internet environment."

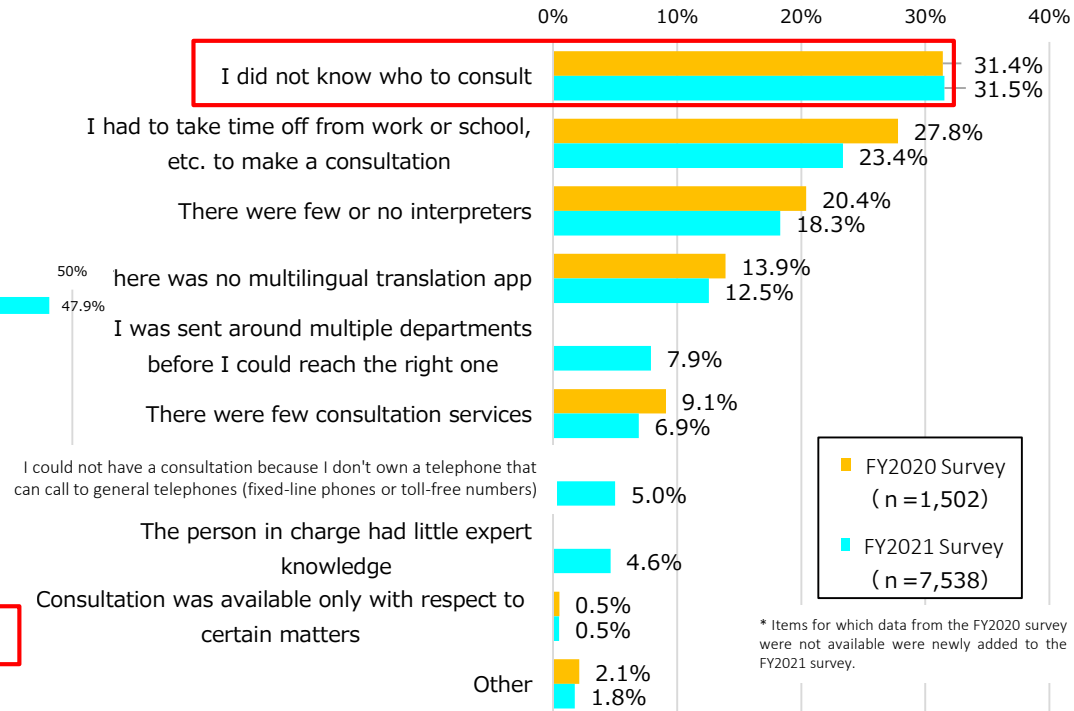
### Public information sources \* Top 7 responses



### Issues when obtaining information from public institutions



## Issues when consulting public institutions



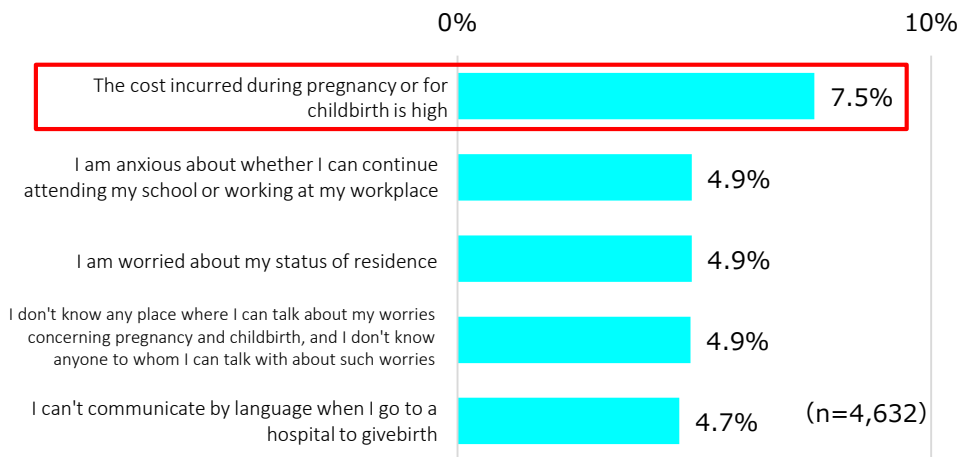
### By status of residence (extract)

	Technical Intern Training (n=965)	Student (n=848)
[1]	I did not know who to consult (40.5%) <span style="color: red;">PY survey +2.3pt</span>	I did not know who to consult (40.9%) <span style="color: red;">PY survey +4.6pt</span>
[2]	I had to take time off from work or school, etc. to make a consultation (20.0%)	I had to take time off from work or school, etc. to make a consultation (27.5%)
[3]	There were few or no interpreters (19.7%)	There were few or no interpreters (21.9%)

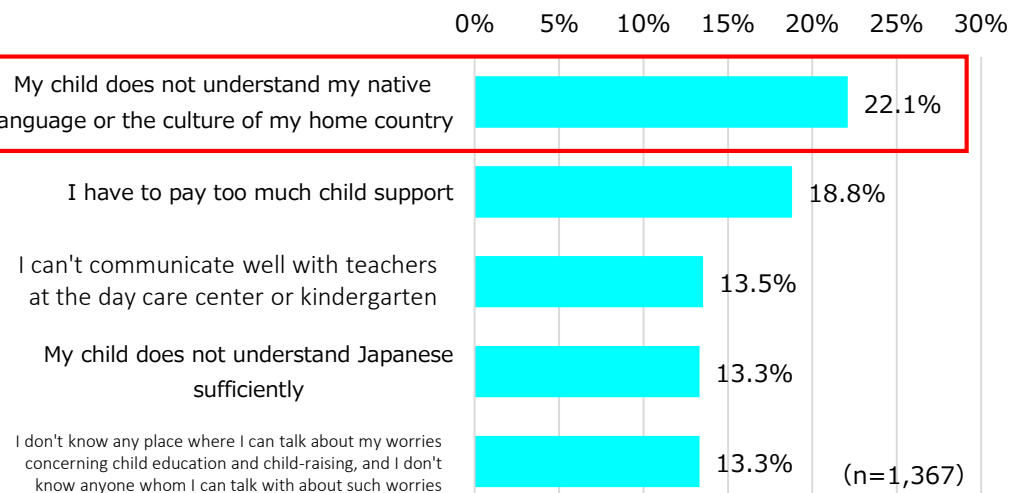
# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results ④ (Life stage and life cycle①) -

- The number one concern about pregnancy and childbirth was the "The cost incurred during pregnancy or for childbirth is high " (7.5%).
- The number one issue when child-raising was "My child does not understand my native language or the culture of my home country" (22.1%).
- As regards children's school attendance, 2.8% of children aged 6 to 15 don't attend a school with the most common reason cited by parents being "Because I don't plan to live in Japan for a long time" (43.1%). Among those aged 16 to 18, for the 6.6% who don't attend a school, the most common reason given (excluding "other") was "Because my child is already working I work" (18.5%).

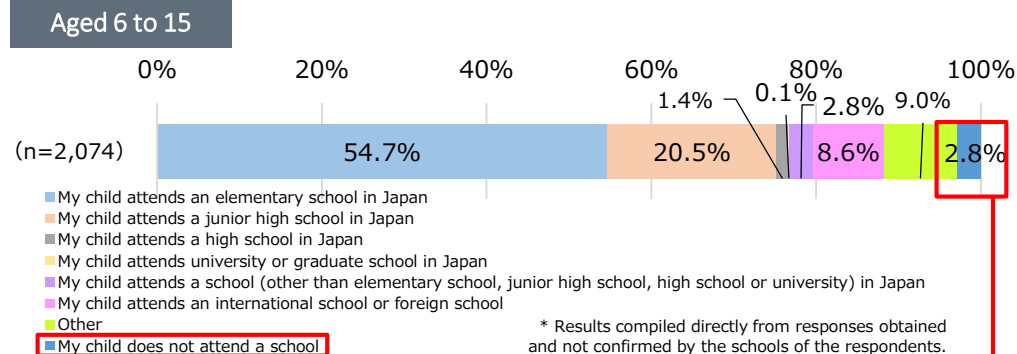
## Pregnancy and childbirth issues \* Top 5 responses



## Parenting issues \* Top 5 responses

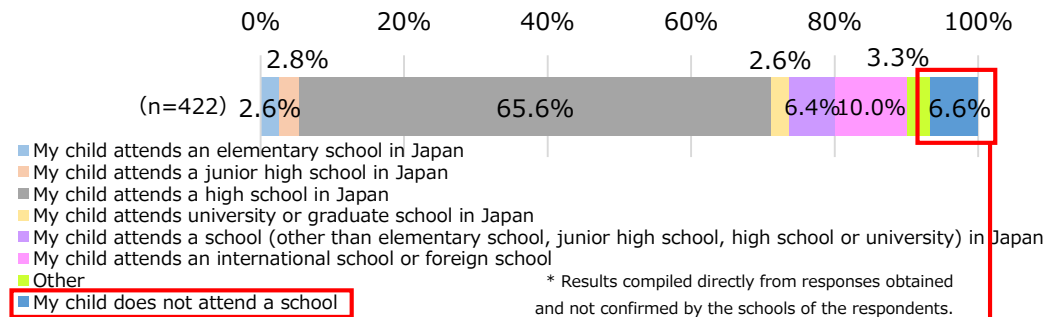


## School enrollment status of children



Reasons for not attending (n=58)	Percentage
[1] Because I don't plan to live in Japan for a long time	43.1%
[2] Because my child doesn't understand Japanese	19.0%
[3] Because my child can't keep up with his/her class	8.6%

### Aged 16 to 18

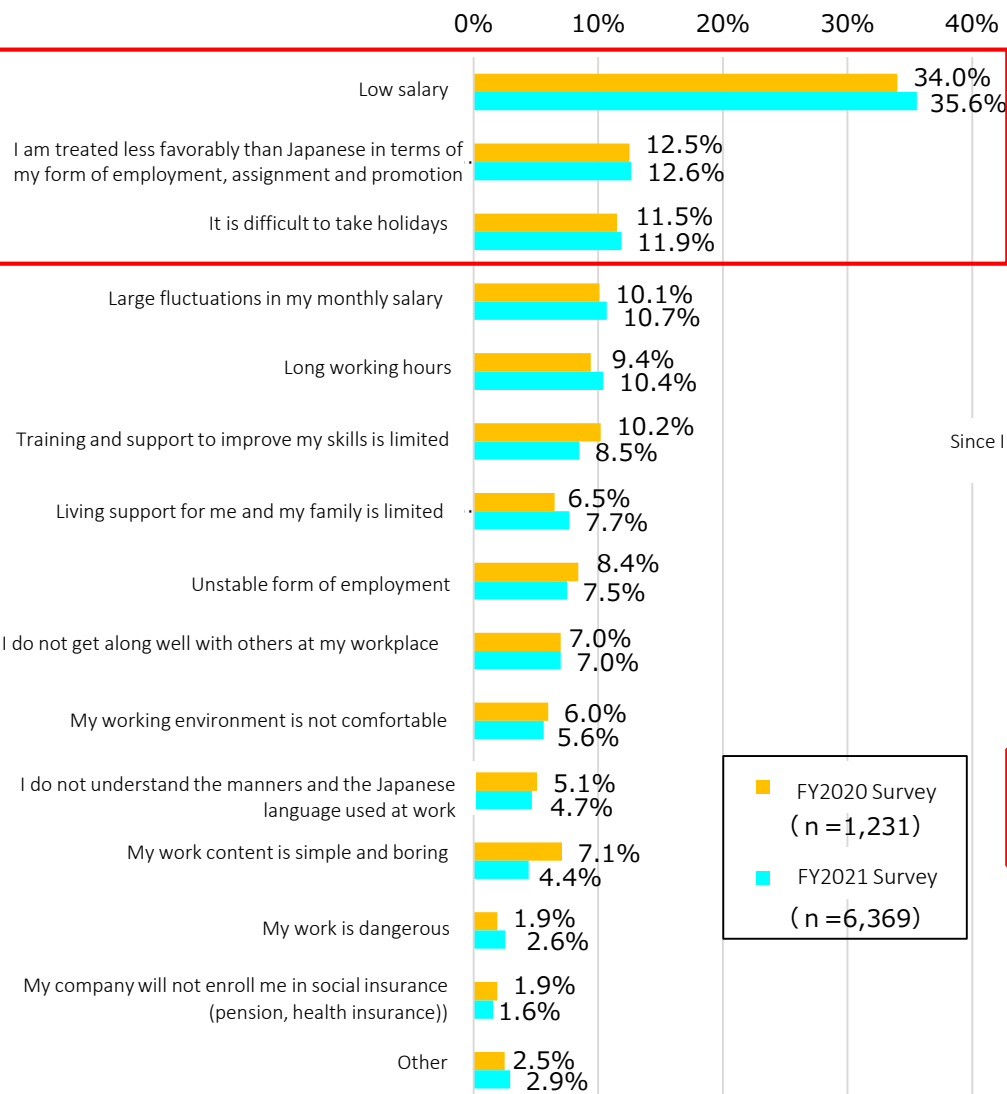


Reasons for not attending (n=27)	Percentage
[1] Because my child is already working	18.5%
[2] Because my child doesn't understand Japanese	14.8%
[3] Because life and customs in Japan are different from those in my home country	11.1%
[3] Because I don't plan to live in Japan for a long time	11.1%

# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results ⑤(Life stage and life cycle②) -

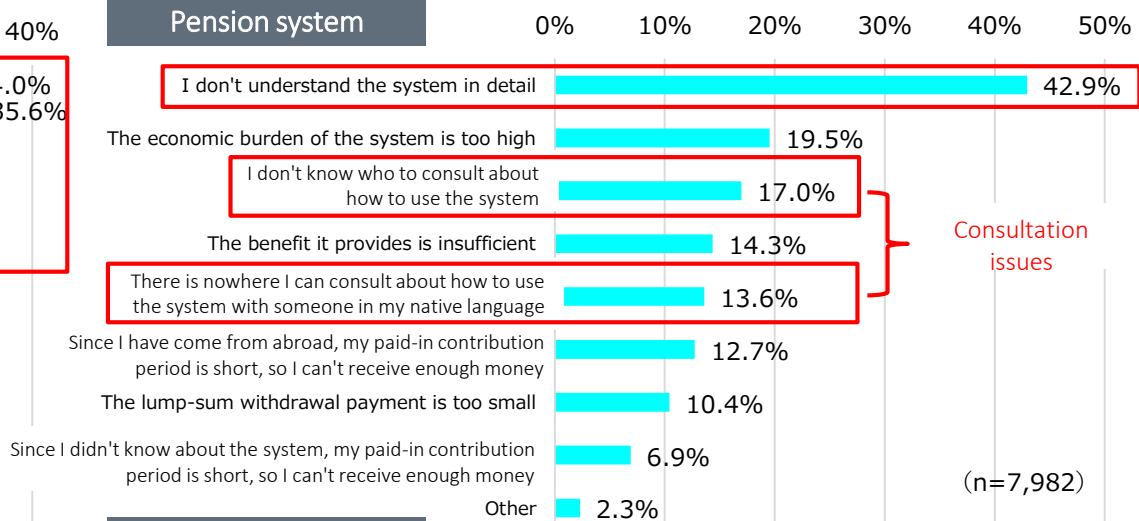
- The work-related issues cited most often were "Low salary" (35.6%), "I am treated less favorably than Japanese in terms of my form of employment, assignment and promotion" (12.6%), and "It is difficult to take holidays" (11.9%), in that order (all of which increased compared to the FY2020 survey).
- Regarding the pension system and long-term care insurance systems, the issue cited most often, by over 40% of respondents, was "I don't understand the system in detail" also found procedures and other consultations problematic.

## Work-related issues

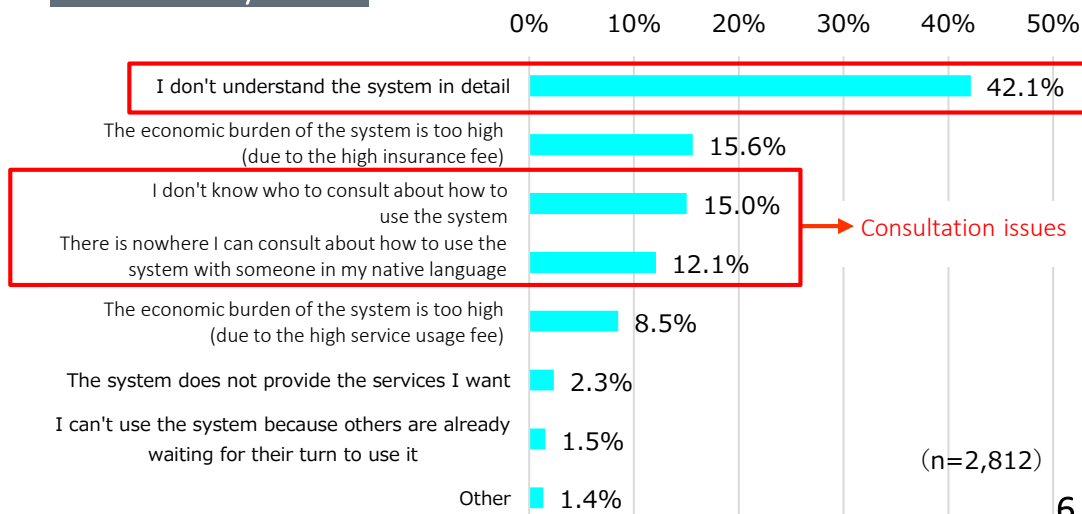


## Issues with pension and long-term care insurance

### Pension system



### Long-term care insurance system



Consultation issues

Consultation issues

# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results ⑥(Life stage and life cycle③) -

- The most common issue on receiving medical care at a hospital was "I did not know which hospital or clinic to go to" at 22.8%. Over 40% of "Student" gave this answer.
- The most common problems cited when finding housing were "Rent and contract fees The rent and contract expenses were high " (19.2%), "I was rejected as a tenant due to my nationality, etc." (16.9%), and "I could not find a guarantor " (15.1%). In particular, among "Student" and those in "Engineer, Specialist in Humanities, International Services", these answers were all more than 10 points higher than the overall score.
- As for the top responses given when asked about issues connected to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many respondents (36.5%) cited "I can't go back to my home country (can't go abroad) due to the immigration restrictions" and "My work volume (income) or number of classes at school decreased or became zero" (34.0%).

## Issues when receiving medical care at hospitals

	Overall (n=7,982)	Student (n=848)	Dependent (n=504)
[1]	I did not know which hospital or clinic to go to (22.8%)	I did not know which hospital or clinic to go to (40.3%)	I could not explain my symptoms accurately at the hospital or clinic (35.7%)
[2]	I could not explain my symptoms accurately at the hospital or clinic (21.8%)	I could not explain my symptoms accurately at the hospital or clinic (29.1%)	I did not know which hospital or clinic to go to (33.1%)
[3]	I could not speak well at the hospital or clinic reception (16.1%)	I could not speak well at the hospital or clinic reception (20.5%)	I could not speak well at the hospital or clinic reception (26.6%)

\* Results that stood out for status of residences  
 \* Items in red were at least 10 points higher than overall

## Issues finding housing

	Overall (n=7,982)	Student (n=848)	Technical/Humanities/International Services (n=1,150)
[1]	The rent and contract expenses were high (19.2%)	The rent and contract expenses were high (39.4%)	The rent and contract expenses were high (32.7%)
[2]	I was rejected as a tenant due to my nationality, etc. (16.9%)	I could not find a guarantor (32.5%)	I was rejected as a tenant due to my nationality, etc. (32.3%)
[3]	I could not find a guarantor (15.1%)	I was rejected as a tenant due to my nationality, etc.(32.1%)	I could not find a guarantor (29.8%)

\* Results that stood out for status of residences  
 \* Items in red were at least 10 points higher than overall

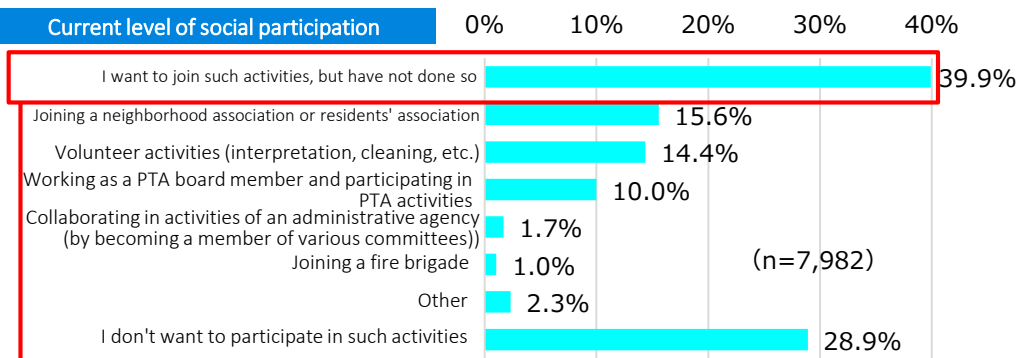
## Issues during disasters and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

(n=7,982)

	Disaster issues	The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic		
		Getting information	Vaccination	Life
[1]	I did not know where to get reliable information(12.2%)	I don't not know where to get reliable information(18.3%)	I can't read the website of the administrative agency or the vaccination reservation website (4.5%)	I can't go back to my home country (can't go abroad) due to the immigration restrictions(36.5%)
[2]	I did not know the evacuation area (10.5%)	It takes time to get information (10.1%)	I can't speak with a staff member when making a reservation (3.9%)	My work volume (income) or number of classes at school decreased or became zero (34.0%)
[3]	I could not understand evacuation information such as weather warnings and advisories because it was not issued in multiple languages (10.3%)	I don't understand information about COVID-19 and initiatives for preventing infection because it is not issued in multiple languages(10.0%)	I can't read the vaccination guide delivered to my home (3.8%)	My expenses increased (29.9%)

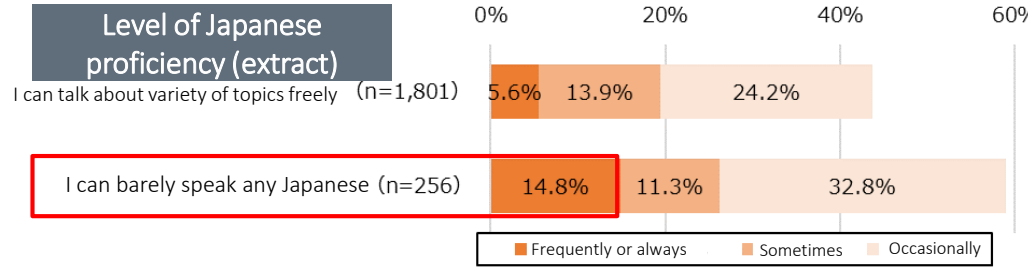
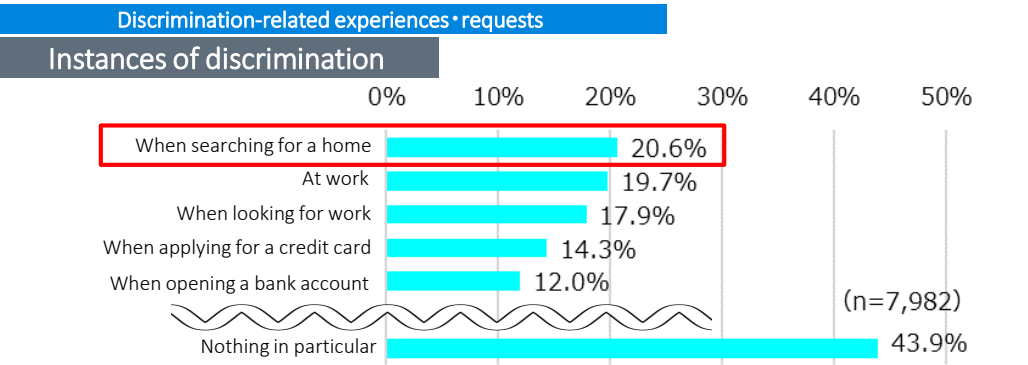
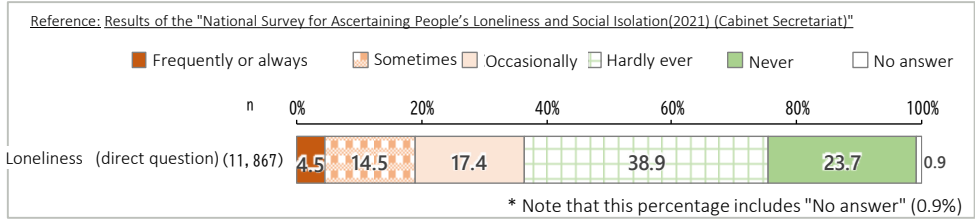
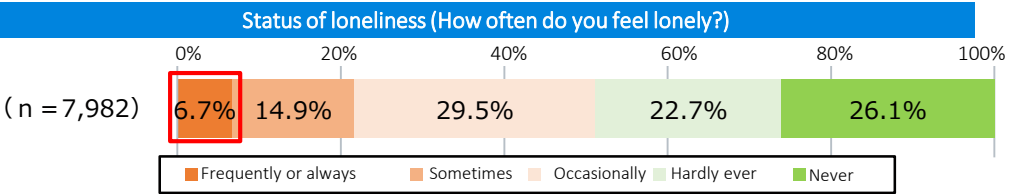
# Basic Survey on Foreign Residents in FY2021 - Main Results ⑦ (Social participation, discrimination, other)

- Regarding the current level of social participation, most respondents (39.9%) answered that they "I want to join such activities, but have not done so". The most common reason given, for over 60% of respondents, was "I don't know what kind of activities take place."
- Discrimination was most often encountered "When searching for a home" (20.6%), and the most common request in response to discrimination was "Increasing opportunities for foreign and Japanese people to interact with each other" (47.6%).
- The percentage of respondents citing loneliness "Frequently or always" was 6.7% (↔ 4.5% in the "National Survey for Ascertaining People's Loneliness and Social Isolation(2021) (Cabinet Secretariat)" (sent to 20,000 individuals aged 16 or more nationwide)). When limited to those with "I can barely speak any Japanese", the percentage was more than twice as high, at 14.8%.
- The most common wish for support was "Appropriate advice about where to consult" from 48.0% of respondents.



Reason	Percentage
[1] I don't know what kind of activities take place	65.6%
[2] I'm worried about whether I can communicate with others in words	43.8%
[3] My own schedule conflicts with those of community activities	36.2%

**(n = 3,186)**



### Requests regarding discrimination and human rights

Request	Percentage
[1] Increasing opportunities for foreign and Japanese people to interact with each other	47.6%
[2] Giving Japanese people in school accurate information about foreign people	44.6%
[3] Improving the system for providing consultation to foreign residents when they experience discrimination	35.4%

**(n = 7,982)**

