

Part I.

Immigration Control in Recent Years

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Chapter 1

Foreign Nationals Entering and Departing from Japan

Section 1 Changes in the Number of Foreign Nationals Entering and Departing from Japan

1. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

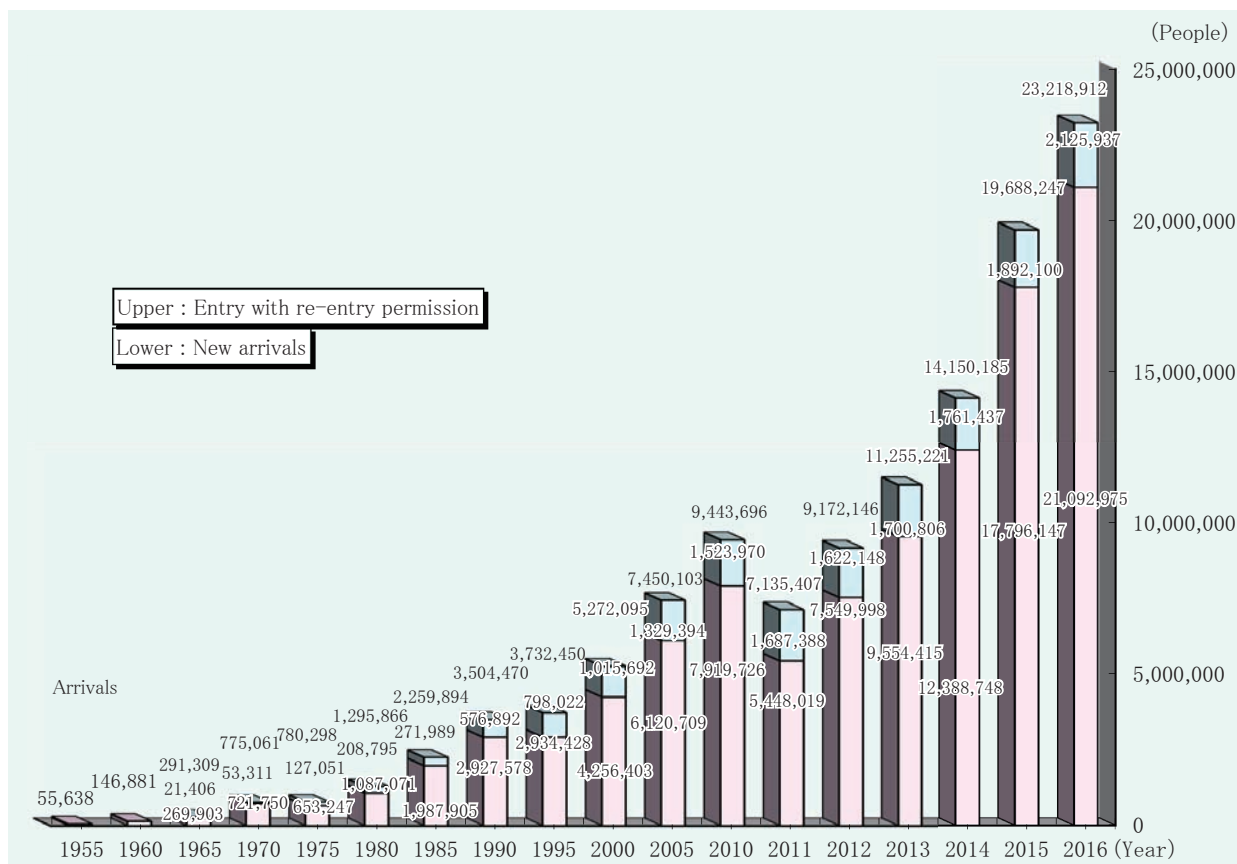
(1) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

The number of foreign nationals entering Japan was only about 18,000 in 1950 when the statistics relating to immigration control first began to be recorded. As a result of the enforcement of the “Peace Treaty with Japan” (Treaty No. 5 of 1952) on April 28, 1952, Japan recovered complete sovereignty and acquired the authority to decide whether or not to grant permission for entry based on the Immigration Control Order. The number of foreign nationals entering Japan has experienced an almost consistent upward trend partly as a result of cheaper and more convenient flights, which is achieved through improvements in international transportation such as through the use of larger jumbo jets, exceeding 1 million in 1978, 2 million in 1984, 3 million in 1990, 4 million in 1996, 5 million in 2000, and 10 million in 2013. The number in 2016 was 23,218,912 persons, an increase of 3,530,665 (17.9%) compared to the number of 19,688,247 of 2015, exceeding 20 million persons for the first time setting a new record.

Of the 23,218,912 foreign nationals entering Japan in 2016, the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan was 21,092,975, which was an increase of 3,296,828 (18.5%) compared to 17,796,147 in 2015, while the number of foreign nationals re-entering Japan was 2,125,937, which was an increase of 233,837 (12.4%) compared to 1,892,100 in 2015.

It is thought that this overall increase in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan is led by the efforts toward the realization of Japan as a tourism-oriented country by the entire government working together with private sectors encouraging an increase in tourists (**Reference 1**).

Reference 1 Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan



(*) There are no separate categories for arrivals for 1955 and 1960.

(2) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Nationality/Region

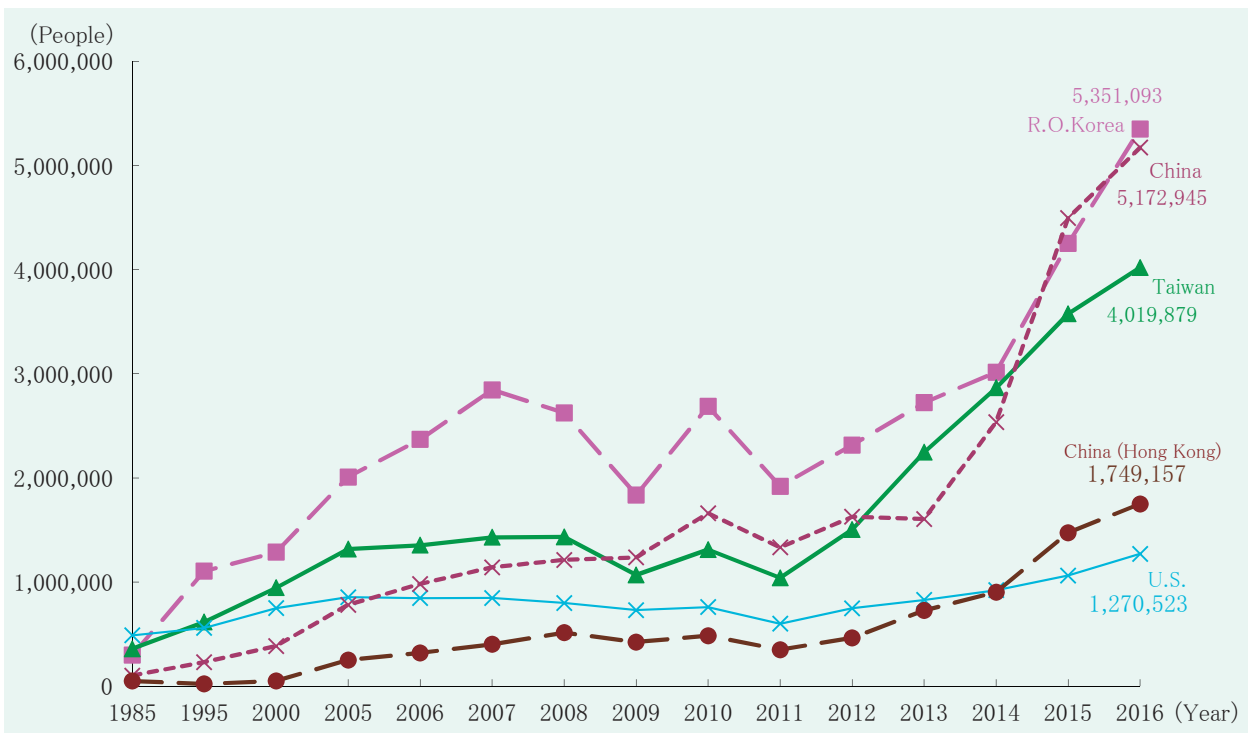
According to the statistics for the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2016 by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals came from the Republic of Korea (R. O. Korea) at 5,351,093, accounting for 23.0% of the total. R.O. Korea was followed by China at 5,172,945 (22.3%), Taiwan at 4,019,879 (17.3%), China (Hong Kong) at 1,749,157 (7.5%) and the U.S. at 1,270,523 (5.5%) (*). Of these numbers, Japan's four neighboring countries/regions: R.O.Korea, China, Taiwan and China (Hong Kong) accounted for more than half of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan at 70.2%. In addition, the top five countries/regions accounted for 75.6% of the total number (**Reference 2**).

(*) In immigration-related statistics, mainland China and Taiwan are described as "China" and "Taiwan", respectively. With respect to Hong Kong, persons of Chinese nationality having a SAR (Special Administrative Region) passport (including persons of Chinese nationality with a certificate of identity within the period of validity issued by the former Hong Kong Government) are described as "China (Hong Kong)", and persons with the right of residence in Hong Kong having a BNO (British National Overseas) passport (British passport issued only to residents in Hong Kong) (including persons who have a British (Hong Kong) passport issued by the former Hong Kong Government and entered within its period of validity (by June 30, 1997), are described as "U.K. (Hong Kong)". BNO passports are restricted in respect of renewal, and are in gradual transition to SAR passports.

On the other hand, in the statistics relating to foreign residents, the category "China" in the number of alien registrations by 2011 includes Taiwan, but in the figures from 2012, "China" in the number of foreign residents (the total number of mid to long-term residents (see Data Section 1, Section 4, Subsection 1) as well as special permanent residents) includes "Taiwan" except for those having been issued with a residence card or a special permanent resident certificate with "Taiwan" listed in the "nationality/region" box. In addition, BNO passport holders are included in the "U.K."

Moreover, China (others) includes persons of Chinese nationality with a certificate of identity issued by a government except for the government of China and China (Hong Kong) (for example, Singapore, Malaysia, etc.).

Reference 2 Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan by major nationality/region



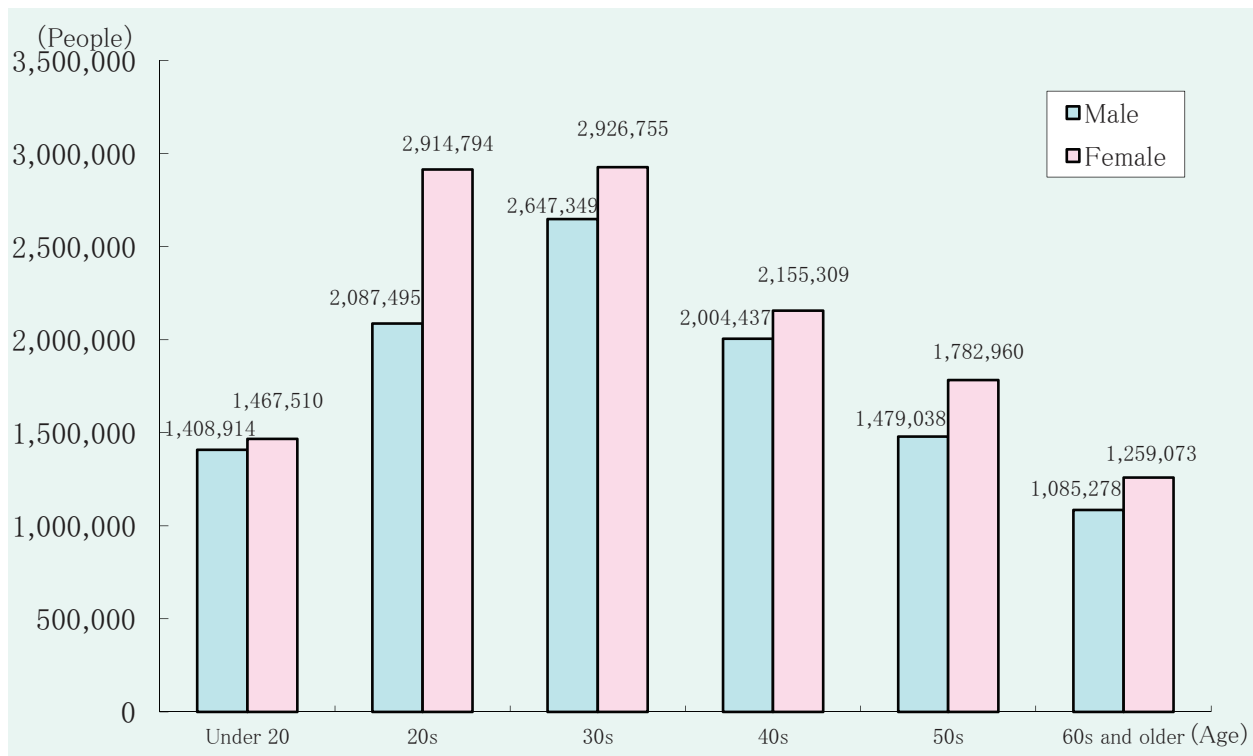
Regarding the top five countries/regions, a comparison of the numbers of foreign nationals entering Japan between 2015 and 2016 shows that all of the countries/regions: R.O.Korea at 1,098,704 (25.8%), China at 675,707 (15.0%), Taiwan at 443,669 (12.4%), China (Hong Kong) at 276,016 (18.7%), and the U.S. at 207,807 (19.6%), increased.

(3) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Gender and Age

Looking at the number of foreign nationals entering in Japan in 2016 by gender, 10,712,511 were males and 12,506,401 were females. Males accounted for 46.1% of the total while females accounted for 53.9%, and therefore, more foreign females came to Japan than males in 2016.

Next, according to the statistics by age, foreign nationals in their 30s represented the largest age group, accounting for 24.0% of the total. Moreover, looking at the numbers for males and females in each of the age groups, one particular characteristic is that the percentages of females were higher in all age groups (Reference 3).

Reference 3 Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2016)



(4) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Purpose of Entry (Status of Residence)

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan in 2016 was 21,092,975. Looking at this Reference by purpose of entry (status of residence), the most common status of residence was “Temporary Visitor” standing at 20,665,390, which accounted for 98.0% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by “Student” at 108,146, accounting for 0.5%, “Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)” at 99,453, accounting for 0.5%, and “Entertainer” at 39,057, accounting for 0.2% (**Reference 4**).

Reference 4 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	7,549,998	9,554,415	12,388,748	17,796,147	21,092,975
Diplomat	10,977	10,215	9,056	9,526	9,267
Official	26,991	26,131	23,844	25,788	28,282
Professor	2,595	2,662	2,709	3,140	3,172
Artist	281	315	327	360	387
Religious Activities	737	1,291	923	1,030	1,019
Journalist	51	46	66	81	111
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)				11	32
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)				107	166
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)				18	31
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)				0	0
Business Manager	820	632	984	1,352	2,091
Legal/Accounting Services	4	0	3	0	4
Medical Services	9	11	27	29	34
Researcher	438	437	429	356	358
Instructor	2,312	2,366	2,526	3,020	3,042
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services				17,690	20,940
Engineer	5,216	5,387	7,662		
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	4,993	5,354	6,608		
Intra-company Transferee	6,126	6,245	7,209	7,202	7,652
Entertainer	34,969	37,096	35,253	37,155	39,057
Skilled Labor	4,910	2,030	2,360	6,421	6,404
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	5,876	5,585	6,377	6,680	6,665
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	62,039	61,841	76,139	90,307	99,453
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	4	0	2	1	2
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	49	17	15	16	11
Cultural Activities	3,104	2,947	3,230	3,467	3,531
Temporary Visitor	7,246,072	9,247,673	12,052,223	17,404,987	20,665,390
Student	57,579	70,007	82,460	99,556	108,146
Trainee	17,957	16,486	16,162	15,702	15,740
Dependent	20,653	19,028	20,429	23,118	26,594
Designated Activities	12,659	10,711	10,661	14,980	18,210
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	10,855	9,244	9,114	9,591	10,188
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,877	1,870	2,039	2,007	1,959
Long-Term Resident	9,845	8,788	9,911	12,449	15,037

(*1) The statuses of residence of "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)" and "Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)" were newly established on April 1, 2015.

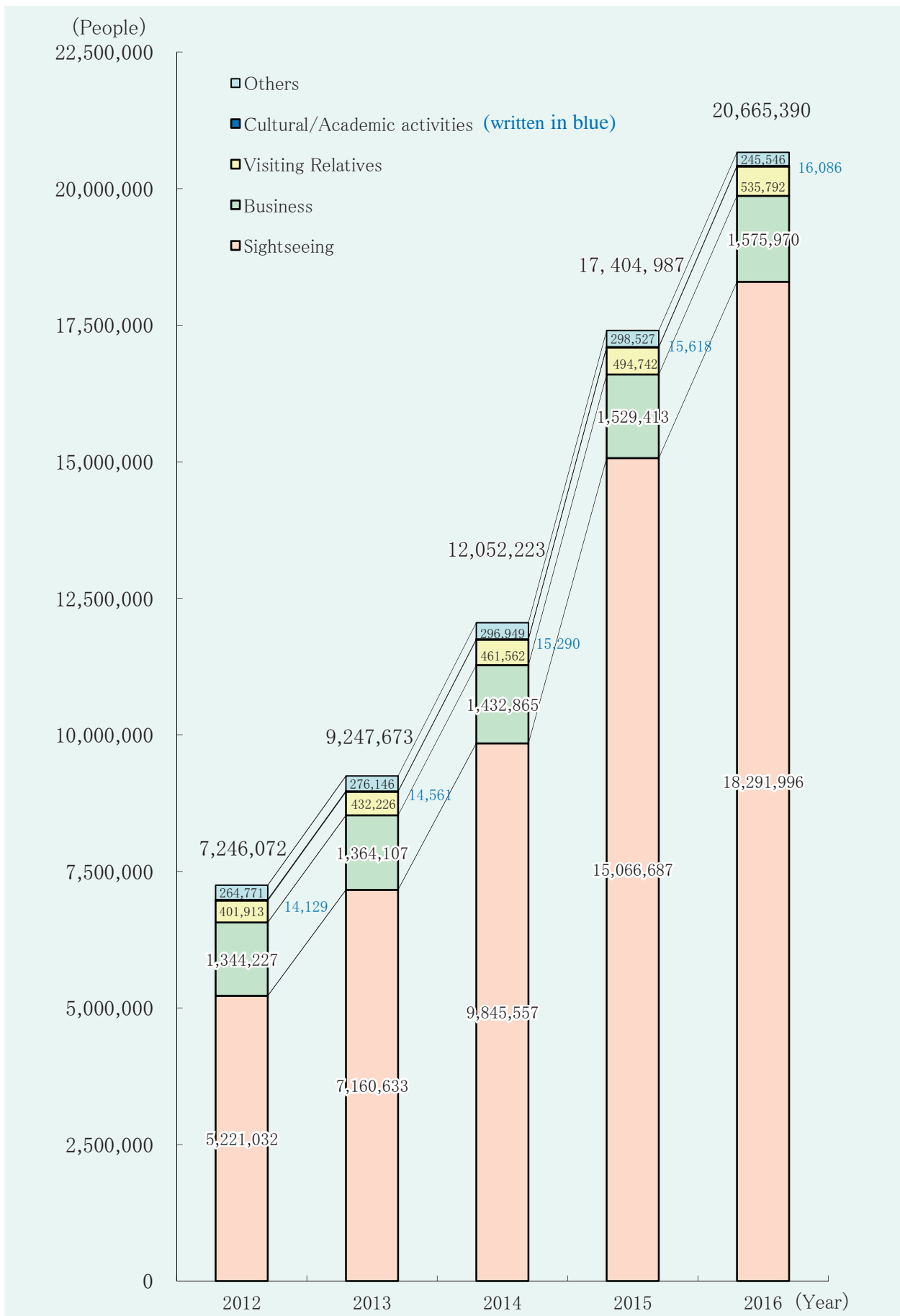
(*2) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the status of residence of "Investor/Business Manager" was changed to "Business Manager" and the statuses of residence of "Engineer" and "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" were combined into "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services".

A. “Temporary Visitor”

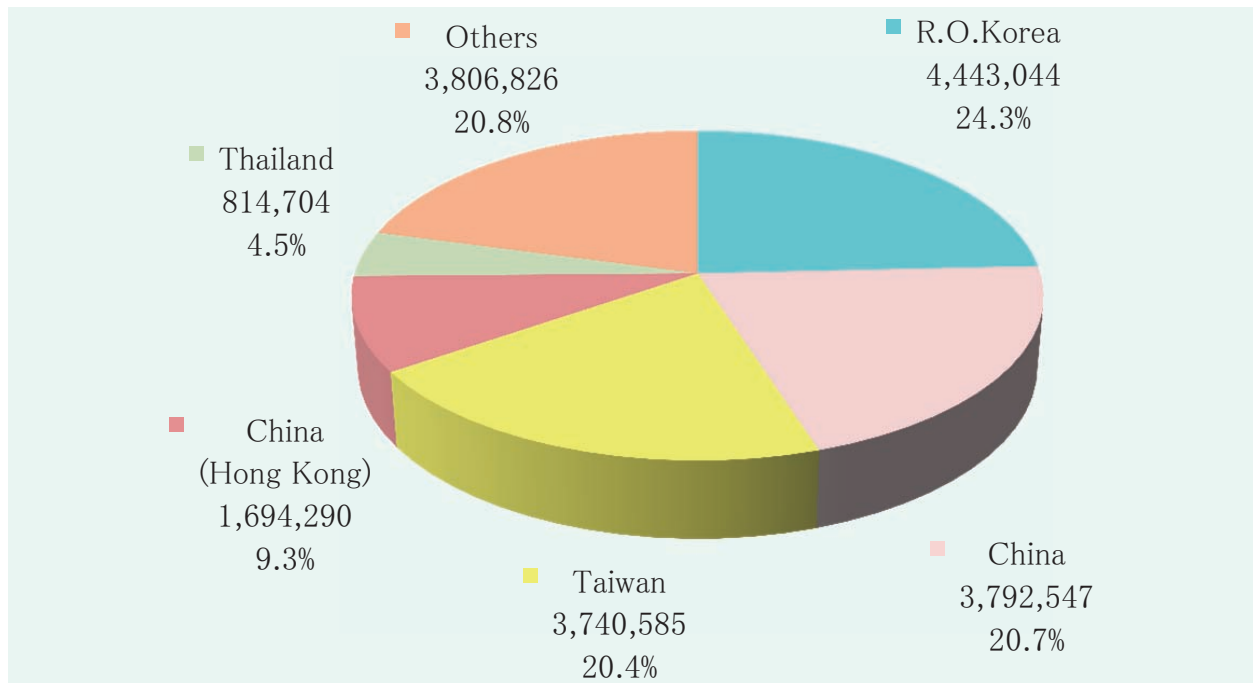
Looking more closely at the number of foreign nationals who newly entered Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” in 2016, the number of foreign nationals for the purpose of sightseeing was 18,291,996, accounting for 88.5% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, which was higher than 86.6% in 2015 (**Reference 5**). It is thought that public-private measures toward a tourism-oriented country such as the strategic relaxation of the visa requirements, expansion of the tax exemption system, improvement of the immigration control system, expansion of the airline networks and other public-private measures aimed at realizing a tourism-oriented country contributed to the increase in the number of tourists.

The statistics for foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region show that the largest number of foreign nationals came from R.O.Korea at 4,443,044 (24.3%), followed by China at 3,792,547 (20.7%), Taiwan at 3,740,585 (20.4%), China (Hong Kong) at 1,694,290 (9.3%), and Thailand at 814,704 (4.5%). The tourists of these top five countries/regions accounted for more than 70% of the total number (**Reference 6**).

Reference 5 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" by purpose of entry



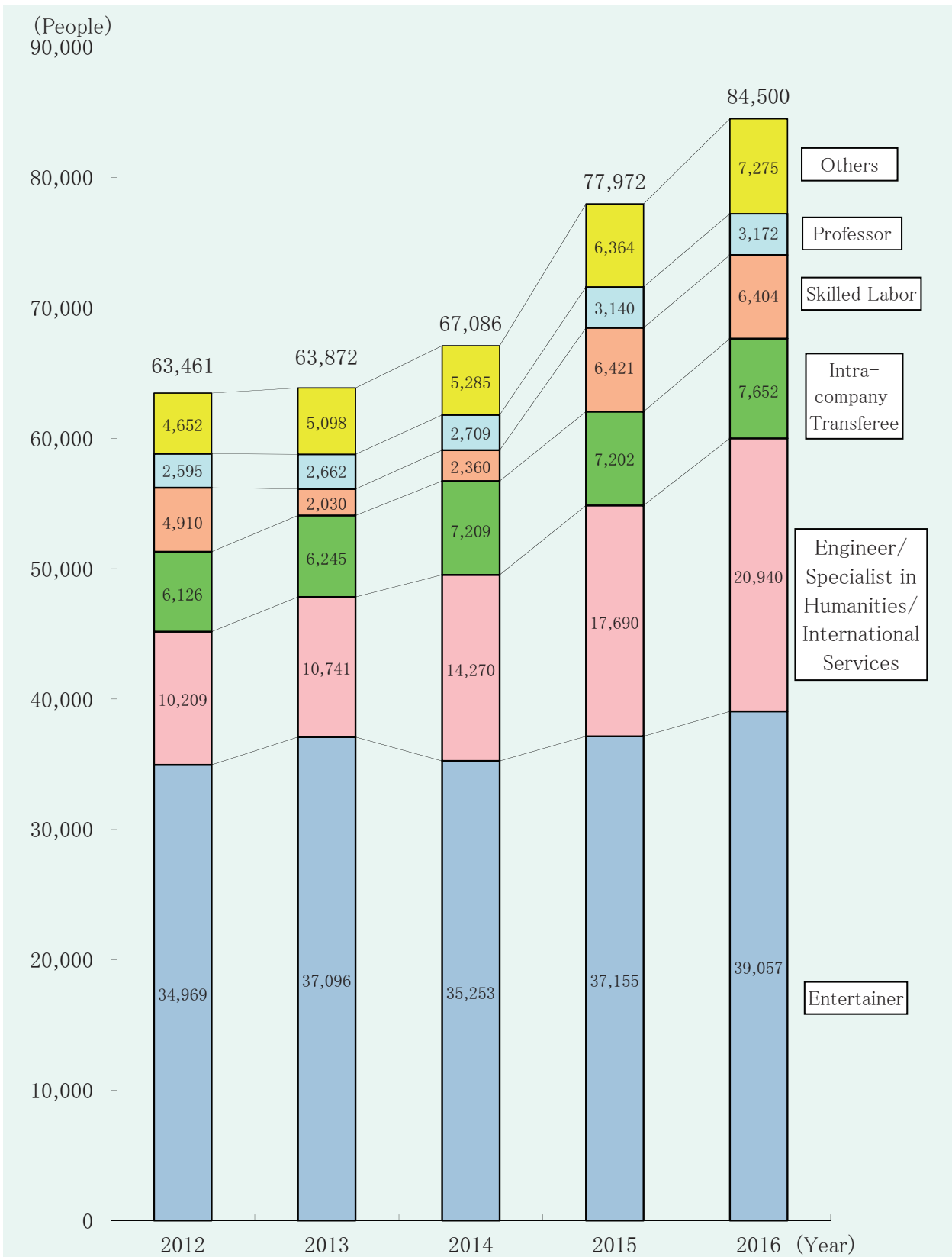
Reference 6 Number of foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region (2016)



B. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Employment in Professional or Technical Fields

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields (excluding the statuses of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” in the Appended Tables I (1) and I (2) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred to as “Immigration Control Act”)) in 2016 was 84,500, an increase of 6,528 (8.4%) from 2015 (**Reference 7**).

Reference 7 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields



(*1) Excludes the statuses of residence of "Diplomat", "Official", and "Technical Intern Training" of the Appended Table I (1) and I (2) of the "Immigration Control Act".

(*2) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the statuses of residence of "Engineer" and "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" were combined into "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services".

(*3) For the years from 2012 to 2014, the numbers for "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" are the number combining "Engineer" and "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" respectively.

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields in Japan accounted for 0.4% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals in 2016.

The characteristic categories of foreign nationals entering Japan for the purpose of employment are as follows.

(a) “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 3-1, 4-1)

The total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with a status of residence to work in a company/organization in Japan as an employee was 28,592 in 2016, consisting of two types of statuses of residence: 20,940 with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 7,652 with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”. Foreign employees with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” increased by 3,250 (18.4%), and those with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee” increased by 450 (6.2%) from 2015, respectively.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” came from China at 5,016 (24.0%), followed by Viet Nam at 2,839 (13.6%), R.O.Korea at 2,487 (11.9%), and India at 1,696 (8.1%). These top four countries accounted for 57.5% of the total.

With regard to newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”, the statistics by nationality/region show that the largest number came from China at 2,448 (32.0%), followed by the Philippines at 899 (11.7%), R.O. Korea at 631 (8.2%) and India at 579 (7.6%).

(b) “Entertainer” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 5-1)

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2016 was 39,057, an increase of 1,902 (5.1%) when compared to 2015, which accounted for the highest percentage out of the statuses of residence for the purpose of employment in professional or technical fields.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2016 came from R.O.Korea at 7,221 (18.5%), followed by the U.S. at 6,155 (15.8%), the Philippines at 3,961 (10.1%), and the U.K. at 2,998 (7.7%).

(c) “Skilled Labor” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 6-1)

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor”, who may also be referred to as skilled craftspersons in unique foreign industrial fields, in 2016 was 6,404, a decrease of 17 (0.3%) when compared to 2015.

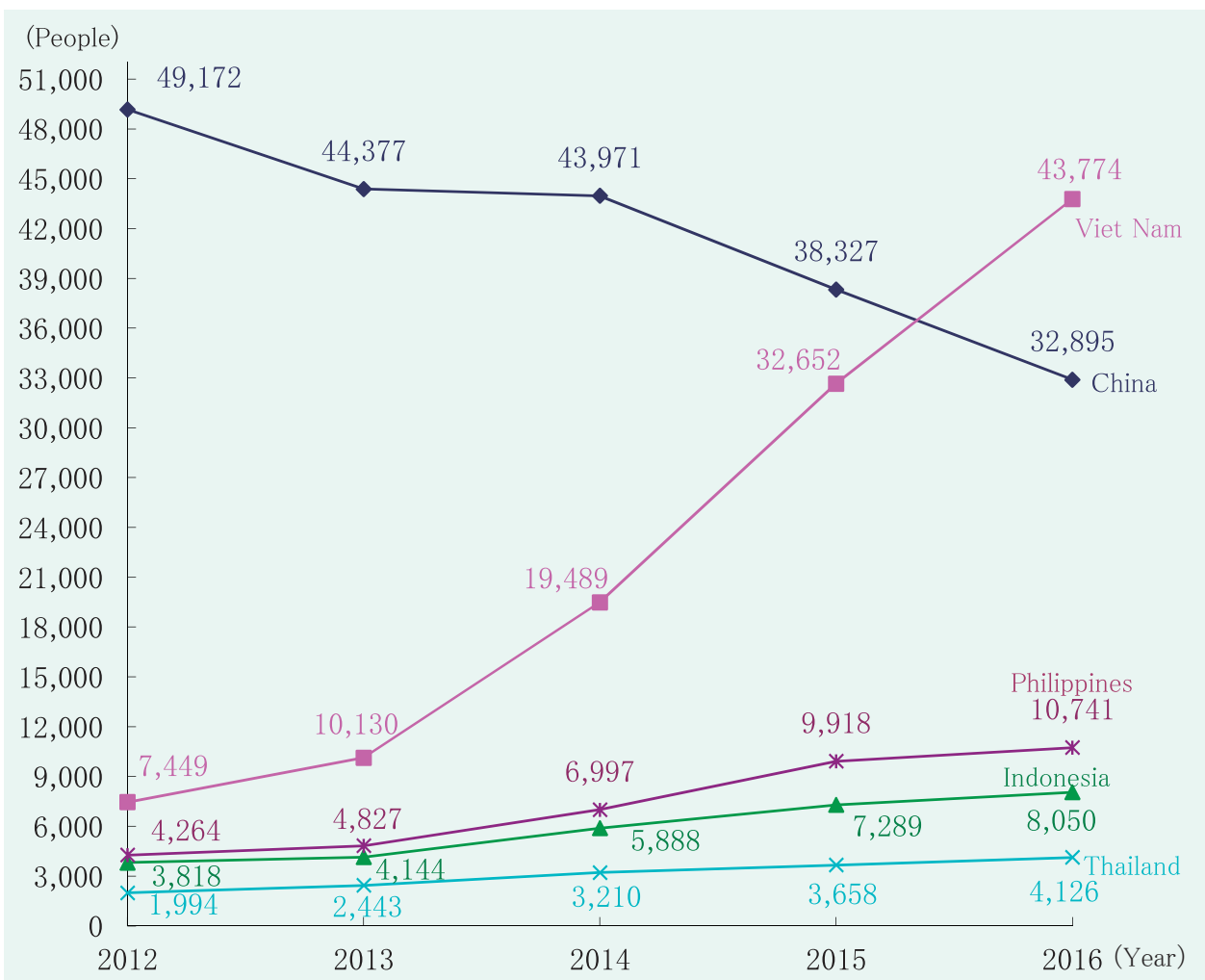
According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” in 2016 came from Nepal at 2,806 (43.8%), followed by India at 573 (8.9%), China at 491 (7.7%), and Estonia at 293 (4.6%). These top four countries accounted for 65.0% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor”.

C. “Technical Intern Training (i)” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 7-1)

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” was 106,118 in 2016, an increase of 9,131 (9.4%) from 2015.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” came from Viet Nam at 43,774 (41.3%), followed by China at 32,895 (31.0%), the Philippines at 10,741 (10.1%), Indonesia at 8,050 (7.6%) and Thailand at 4,126 (3.9%) (**Reference 8**).

Reference 8 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” by major nationality/region

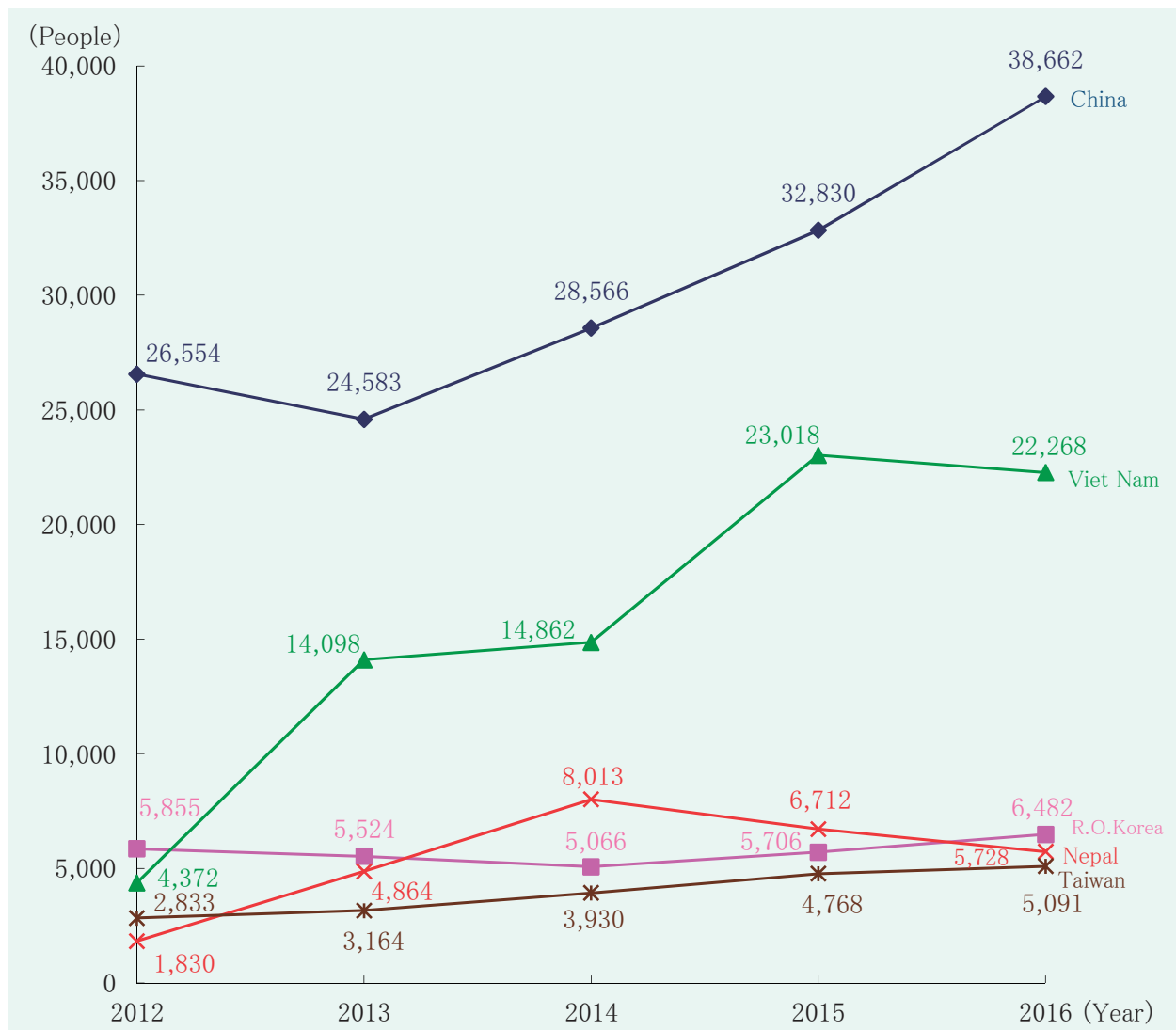


D. “Student” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 9-1)

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Student” in 2016 was 108,146, an increase of 8,590 (8.6%) when compared to 2015, with students from Asia accounting for the top five countries/regions (72.3%).

In terms of nationality/region, China stood at 38,662, accounting for 35.7% of the total, followed by Viet Nam at 22,268 (20.6%), R.O.Korea at 6,482 (6.0%), Nepal at 5,728 (5.3%) and Taiwan at 5,091 (4.7%) (**Reference 9**).

Reference 9 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of "Student" by major nationality/region



E. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 13-1, 14-1)

When foreign nationals enter Japan for activities based on their personal status or position, one of three types of statuses of residence; namely, "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident" or "Long-Term Resident" may be granted (Note that the status of residence of "Permanent Resident" shall not be granted to foreign nationals at the time of entry (Article 7, paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act.)).

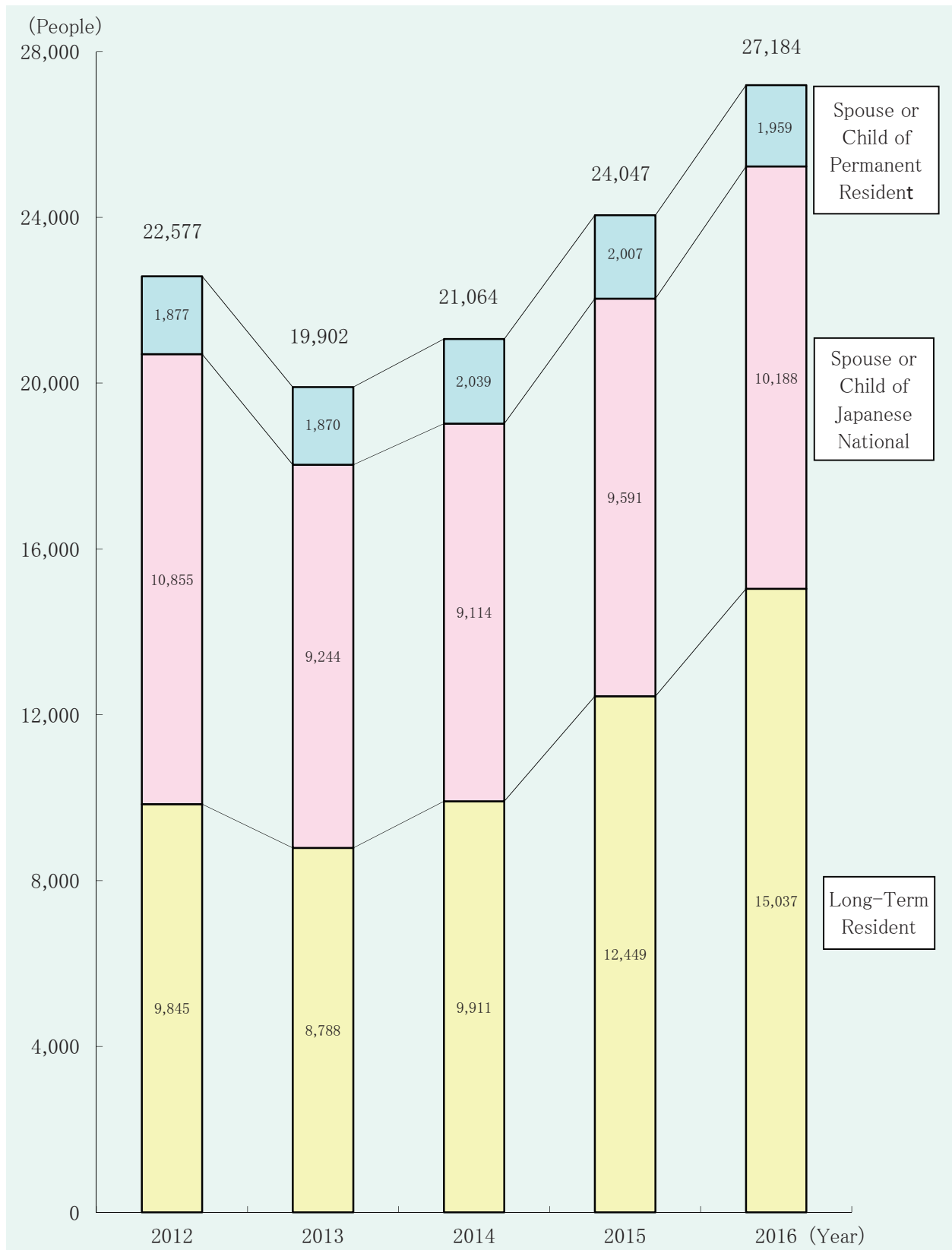
In 2016, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National" stood at 10,188, and those with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident" stood at 1,959, and while those with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National" saw an increase of 597 (6.2%), those with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident" saw a decrease of 48 (2.4%) from 2015.

The number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" in 2016 had increased by 2,588 (20.8%) to 15,037 from 2015 (**Reference 10**).

According to the statistics for newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” by nationality/region, the largest number came from China at 2,412 (23.7%). China was followed by Brazil at 2,308 (22.7%) and the Philippines at 1,926 (18.9%).

According to the statistics by nationality/region for newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident”, the largest number came from Brazil at 8,591 (57.1%). Brazil was followed by the Philippines at 2,767 (18.4%) and China at 1,925 (12.8%).

Reference 10 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for activities based on personal status or position



2. Special Landing Permission

The number of cases in which received special landing permission in 2016 was 4,749,924, a significant increase of 1,221,965 (34.6%) from 2015.

Among those, the number of cases in which received “Landing Permission for Crew Members” in 2016 was 2,790,348, and the number of cases in which received “Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists” was 1,936,469, which combined accounted for 99.5% of the total number of cases of special landing permission (**Reference 11**).

Reference 11 Changes in the number of cases of special landing permission

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	2,204,644	2,165,112	2,452,119	3,527,959	4,749,924
Permission for Landing at a Port of Call	136,916	76,378	257,873	15,944	16,694
Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists				1,071,724	1,936,469
Permission for Landing in Transit	2,862	2,571	3,372	5,150	5,871
Landing Permission for Crew Members	2,064,409	2,085,701	2,190,439	2,434,617	2,790,348
Permission for Emergency Landing	370	318	360	434	473
Landing Permission Due to Distress	82	142	74	86	68
Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge	5	2	1	4	1

(*) The permission of “Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists” was newly established on January 1, 2015.

The following is the number of cases of special landing permission by category.

(1) Permission for Landing at a Port of Call

The number of cases being granted “Permission for Landing at a Port of Call” in 2016 was 16,694, an increase of 750 (4.7%) from 2015.

(2) Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists

The number of cases in which received “Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists” was 1,936,469 in 2016, which was a substantial increase of 864,745 (80.7%) compared with 2015.

The system of landing permission for cruise ship tourists commenced in January 2015.

(3) Permission for Landing in Transit

The number of cases in which received “Permission for Landing in Transit” in 2016 was 5,871, an increase of 721 (14.0%) from 2015.

(4) Landing Permission for Crew Members

The number of cases in which received “Landing Permission for Crew Members” in 2016 was 2,790,348, an increase of 355,731 (14.6%) from 2015.

(5) Permission for Emergency Landing

The number of cases in which received “Permission for Emergency Landing” in 2016 was 473, an increase of 39 (9.0%) from 2015.

(6) Landing Permission Due to Distress

The number of cases in which received “Landing Permission Due to Distress” in 2016 was 68, a decrease of 18 (20.9%) from 2015.

(7) Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

The number of cases in which received “Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge” in 2016 was 1, a decrease of 3 (75.0%) from 2015.

3. Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan

The number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan without having acquired a re-entry permit was 20,808,527 in 2016, an increase of 3,301,795 (18.9%) from 2015.

Among them, the number of foreign nationals leaving Japan with a period of stay of within 15 days was 19,895,977, which accounted for a significant 95.6% of the total. Further, the number of foreign nationals leaving Japan with a period of stay of within 3 months was 20,632,862, which accounted for 99.2% of the total (**Reference 12**).

Reference 12 Changes in the number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan by period of stay

		(People)				
Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Period of Stay						
Total	7,403,884	9,395,836	12,148,890	17,506,732	20,808,527	
Within 15 days	6,820,277	8,769,160	11,446,502	16,677,056	19,895,977	
More than 15 days to 1 month	244,373	282,118	330,820	425,450	483,187	
More than 1 month to 3 months	189,873	196,285	214,865	238,018	253,698	
More than 3 months to 6 months	31,638	30,690	34,899	41,322	45,730	
More than 6 months to 1 year	32,259	35,711	36,569	39,855	41,692	
More than 1 year to 3 years	57,275	56,498	59,692	63,822	64,029	
More than 3 years	26,879	24,374	24,476	20,183	23,140	
Unknown	1,310	1,000	1,067	1,026	1,074	

Section 2 Judgment for Landing

1. Receipt and Processing of Hearings for Landing, and Filing of Objections



Hearing for landing

The number of new cases of hearings for landing (the number of cases which were assigned to a special inquiry officer on account of a foreign national not being granted landing permission by an immigration inspector) in 2016 was 8,880, an increase of 714 (8.7%) from 2015.

The most common cases were those in which the foreign national was required to undergo a hearing for landing on suspicion of having submitted a false landing application, such as

claiming to be a tourist or others while their real purpose of entry was illegal work or other illegal activities (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act). Such cases numbered 6,014, an increase of 980 (19.5%) from 2015, accounting for 67.7% of the total number of new cases in 2016. This was followed by cases which were assigned on account of the foreign national being suspected of not possessing a valid passport or visa, such as those attempting to illegally enter Japan using a forged or altered passport (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (i) of the Immigration Control Act). Such cases numbered 1,723, a decrease of 292 cases (14.5%) from 2015, accounting for 19.4% of the total number of new cases in 2016. Furthermore, cases suspected to fall under one of the grounds for denial of landing (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (iv) of the Immigration Control Act) numbered 1,141, an increase of 24 (2.1%) from 2015, accounting for 12.8% of the total number of new cases in 2016. In addition, the number of cases that foreign nationals refuse to provide the immigration inspector with their personal identification information, which became mandatory by law from November 20, 2007 (coming under paragraph (4) of Article 7 of the Immigration Control Act) was 2 in 2016 (**Reference 13**).

Reference 13 Changes in the number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing

(Cases)

Conditions for Landing \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	8,087	6,675	7,567	8,166	8,880
Using counterfeit passports or visas, etc. (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(i))	1,583	1,466	1,905	2,015	1,723
False landing application, etc. (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(ii))	5,473	4,118	4,582	5,034	6,014
Ineligibility for the period of stay relating to the application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iii))	2	0	7	0	0
Falling under the grounds for denial of landing (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iv))	1,028	1,091	1,073	1,117	1,141
Not providing personal identification information (Not conforming to Article 7-(4))	1	0	0	0	2

With regard to results of the hearings for landing in 2016 (*), the number of cases where landing permission was granted as it was found during the hearing that the foreign national conformed to the conditions for landing was 1,740, an increase of 113 (6.9%) from 2015.

In addition, cases in which foreign nationals were ordered to depart Japan because they were found not to meet the conditions for landing at the hearing for landing by a special inquiry officer and who later submitted to the findings numbered 4,846, an increase of 1,154 (31.3%) from 2015. Cases in which foreign nationals filed an objection with the Minister of Justice because they were not satisfied with the findings by the special inquiry officer that they did not meet the conditions for landing numbered 1,827, a decrease of 547 (23.0%) from 2015 (**Reference 14**).

Reference 14 Changes in the processing of the hearings for landing

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	8,109	6,677	7,567	8,164	8,875
Landing permission	2,179	2,423	2,255	1,627	1,740
Expulsion order	1,606	2,079	2,730	3,692	4,846
Filing of objection	3,901	1,819	2,161	2,374	1,827
Withdrawal of the landing application	318	286	348	391	363
Others	105	70	73	80	99

(*) "Others" includes cases where the jurisdiction has changed or the application was withdrawn owing to the departure, etc.

(*) The reason why the total number in the changes in the number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing (Reference 13) and the total number in the changes in the processing of the hearings for landing (Reference 14) are inconsistent is because, depending on the case, the processing of the hearing may carry over to the following year, for example, when a case was handed over at the end of the year by an immigration inspector to a special inquiry officer.

2. Foreign Nationals Falling Under Any of the Grounds for Denial of Landing

In principle, foreign nationals denied permission for landing are those who (i) are ordered to depart Japan as a result of a hearing for landing or (ii) are ordered to depart Japan as a result of filing an objection with the Minister of Justice.

The number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing in 2016 was 5,805, an increase of 1,193 (25.9%) from 2015.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing came from Indonesia standing at 1,683 (29.0%), followed by Thailand at 1,002 (17.3%) and Taiwan at 579 (10.0%). These top three countries accounted for 56.2% of the total (**Reference 15**). The reason why the number of persons from Indonesia has continued to increase significantly since 2015 is probably due to the influence of the visa waiver to relax visa requirements for temporary visitors staying within 15 days enforced on December 1, 2014.

Reference 15 Changes in the number of foreign nationals who were denied landing by major nationality/region



3. Special Permission for Landing

The number of cases in which the Minister of Justice granted special permission for landing to foreign nationals in 2016 was 1,418, a decrease of 528 (27.1%) from 2015 (**Reference 16**).

Reference 16 Changes in the number of objections filed and decisions by the Minister of Justice

(Cases)

Division		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Filing of Objection (*)			3,910	1,871	2,179	2,386	1,845
Decisions	With reason (Landing Permission)		22	21	22	15	12
	without reason	Order to depart	333	340	366	348	347
		Special Permission for Landing	3,440	1,442	1,746	1,946	1,418
Withdrawal			63	50	33	59	57
Outstanding			52	18	12	18	11

(*) "Filing of Objection" includes the number of outstanding cases of the previous year.

Section 3 Pre-entry Examination

1. Advance Consultation for Visa Issuance

The number of cases of advance consultation for visa issuance was 6,614 in 2016, showing an increase of 307 (4.9%) from 2015.

2. Certificate of Eligibility

The number of cases of applications for Certificates of Eligibility was 418,764 in 2016, an increase of 34,182 (8.9%) from 2015.

The advance consultation for visa issuance and the examination of Certificates of Eligibility are jointly called pre-entry examinations. In recent years, the number of processed cases of applications for the issuance of a Certificate of Eligibility has steadily accounted for most of the total number of processed cases of pre-entry examinations (**Reference 17**).

Reference 17 Changes in the number of cases of pre-entry examinations

(Cases)

Division		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Advance consultation for visa issuance			4,910	4,635	4,741	6,307	6,614
Application for a certificate of eligibility			266,273	282,428	290,119	384,582	418,764

Chapter 2 Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan

Section 1 Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

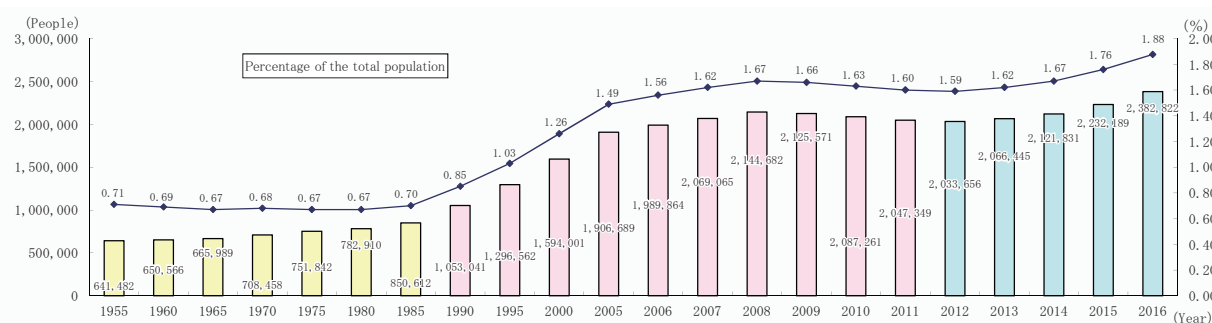
1. Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

While the number of foreign nationals entering Japan shows the “flow” of foreign nationals, the number of foreign nationals residing in Japan comprises the statistics on “stock” to show how many foreign nationals reside in Japan at a certain point in time.

At the end of 2016, the number of mid to long-term residents (see Data Section 1, Section 4, Subsection 1) in Japan was 2,043,872 and the number of special permanent residents was 338,950. Adding these two numbers together, the total number of foreign residents was 2,382,822, an increase of 150,633 (6.7%) compared to the end of 2015.

In addition, the percentage of foreign nationals residing in Japan was 1.88% out of the total population of Japan which was 126,930,000 as of the end of 2016 (population estimate as of October 1, 2016 (Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)), which was 0.12 points higher than the 1.76% at the end of 2015 (**Reference 18**).

Reference 18 Changes in the number of foreign residents, and changes in the number of foreign residents as a percentage of the total population of Japan



(*1) These numbers are based on the statistics as at the end of December each year.

(*2) The numbers until 1985 represent the number of alien registrations, the numbers between 1990 and 2011 represent the sum of the number of alien registrations who stayed in Japan with the status of residence eligible for mid to long-term residents and the number of special permanent residents, and the numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of foreign residents adding together mid to long-term residents and special permanent residents.

(*3) The “percentage of the total population of Japan” is calculated based on the population as of October 1 each year taken from the “Population Estimates” and the “Population Census” of the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

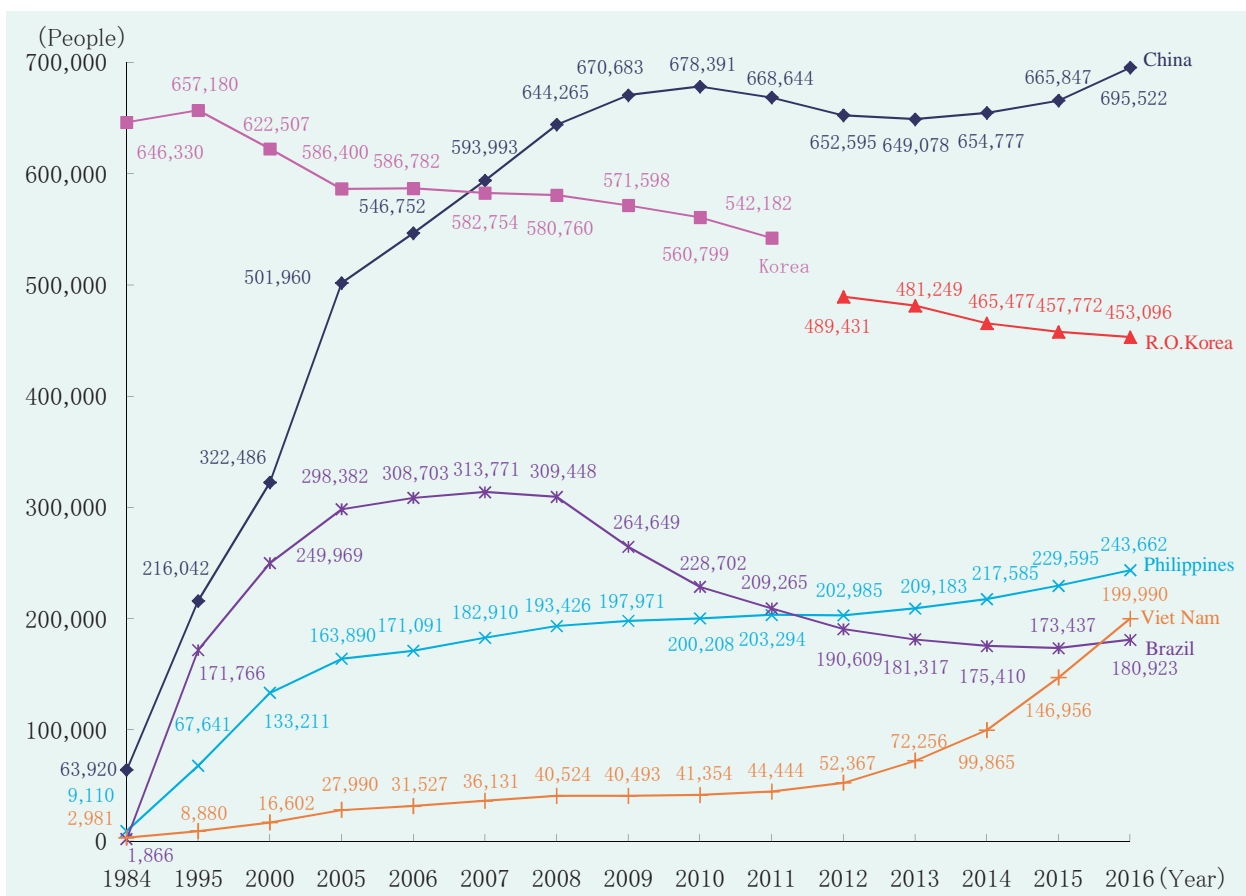
2. Number of Foreign Residents by Nationality/Region

According to the statistics of the number of foreign residents by nationality/region at the end of 2016, China marked the largest number at 695,522, accounting for 29.2% of the total. China was followed by R.O.Korea at 453,096 (19.0%), the Philippines at 243,662 (10.2%), Viet Nam

at 199,990 (8.4%), and Brazil at 180,923 (7.6%).

According to the changes in the number of foreign residents by year, the number of foreign residents from China has been on an upward trend, with an increase of 29,675 (4.5%) at the end of 2016 when compared to the end of 2015. The number of foreign residents from R.O.Korea has been declining with a decrease of 4,676 (1.0%) at the end of 2016 compared to the end of 2015. In addition, the number of persons from the Philippines increased by 14,067 (6.1%) at the end of 2016 compared to the end of 2015, Vietnam has been on an upward trend since the end of 2010, and increased significantly by 53,034 (36.1%) at the end of 2016 compared to the end of 2015. In addition, Brazil had continued its decreasing trend since it peaked at the end of 2007, but it increased by 7,486 (4.3%) at the end of 2016 compared to the end of 2015 (**Reference 19**).

Reference 19 Changes in the number of foreign residents by major nationality/region



- (*1) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of foreign nationals with alien registrations who stayed in Japan with a status of residence eligible for mid to long-term residents and the number of special permanent residents, and the numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of foreign nationals adding together mid to long-term residents and special permanent residents.
- (*2) "China" until 2011 includes Taiwan, and "China" from 2012 onwards excludes those who were issued with residence cards and special permanent resident certificates with "Taiwan" listed in the "nationality/region" box.
- (*3) Up until the end of 2011, R.O.Korea and Korea used to be calculated jointly as "Korea", but from the end of 2012, they are calculated separately as "R.O.Korea" and "Korea", for the purpose of the statistics.

3. Number of Foreign Residents by Purpose (Status of Residence)

(1) “Permanent Resident” and “Special Permanent Resident” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 11)

According to the statistics for the number of foreign residents by status of residence at the end of 2016, those with the status of “Permanent Resident” (excluding “Special Permanent Residents”) comprised the largest group. The number of those with the status of “Permanent Resident” was 727,111, an increase of 26,611 (3.8%) from the end of 2015, accounting for 30.5% of the total (Reference 20).

Reference 20 Changes in the number of foreign residents by status

(people)

Status		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total			2,033,656	2,066,445	2,121,831	2,232,189	2,382,822
Mid to long-term resident	Professor		7,787	7,735	7,565	7,651	7,463
	Artist		438	432	409	433	438
	Religious Activities		4,051	4,570	4,528	4,397	4,428
	Journalist		223	219	225	231	246
	Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)					297	731
	Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)					1,144	2,813
	Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)					51	132
	Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)					16	63
	Business Manager		12,609	13,439	15,184	18,109	21,877
	Legal/Accounting Services		159	149	143	142	148
	Medical Services		412	534	695	1,015	1,342
	Researcher		1,970	1,910	1,841	1,644	1,609
	Instructor		10,121	10,076	10,141	10,670	11,159
	Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services					137,706	161,124
	Engineer		42,273	43,038	45,892		
	Specialist in Humanities/ International Services		69,721	72,319	76,902		
	Intra-company Transferee		14,867	15,218	15,378	15,465	15,772
	Entertainer		1,646	1,662	1,967	1,869	2,187
	Skilled Labor		33,863	33,425	33,374	37,202	39,756
	Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)		4,121	3,683	4,371	4,815	4,943
	Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)		59,160	57,997	73,145	87,070	97,642
	Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)		2,869	2,788	2,553	2,684	3,207
	Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)		85,327	90,738	87,557	98,086	122,796
	Cultural Activities		2,320	2,379	2,614	2,582	2,704
	Student		180,919	193,073	214,525	246,679	277,331
	Trainee		1,804	1,501	1,427	1,521	1,379
	Dependent		120,693	122,155	125,992	133,589	149,303
	Designated Activities		20,159	22,673	28,001	37,175	47,039
	Permanent Resident		624,501	655,315	677,019	700,500	727,111
	Spouse or Child of Japanese National		162,332	151,156	145,312	140,349	139,327
	Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident		22,946	24,649	27,066	28,939	30,972
	Long-Term Resident		165,001	160,391	159,596	161,532	168,830
Special Permanent Resident		381,364	373,221	358,409	348,626	338,950	

(*1) The status of residence of “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a), (i)-(b), (i)-(c), (ii)” were newly established from April 1, 2015.

(*2) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the status of residence of “Investor/Business Manager” was changed to “Business Manager” and the statuses of residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” were combined into “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”.

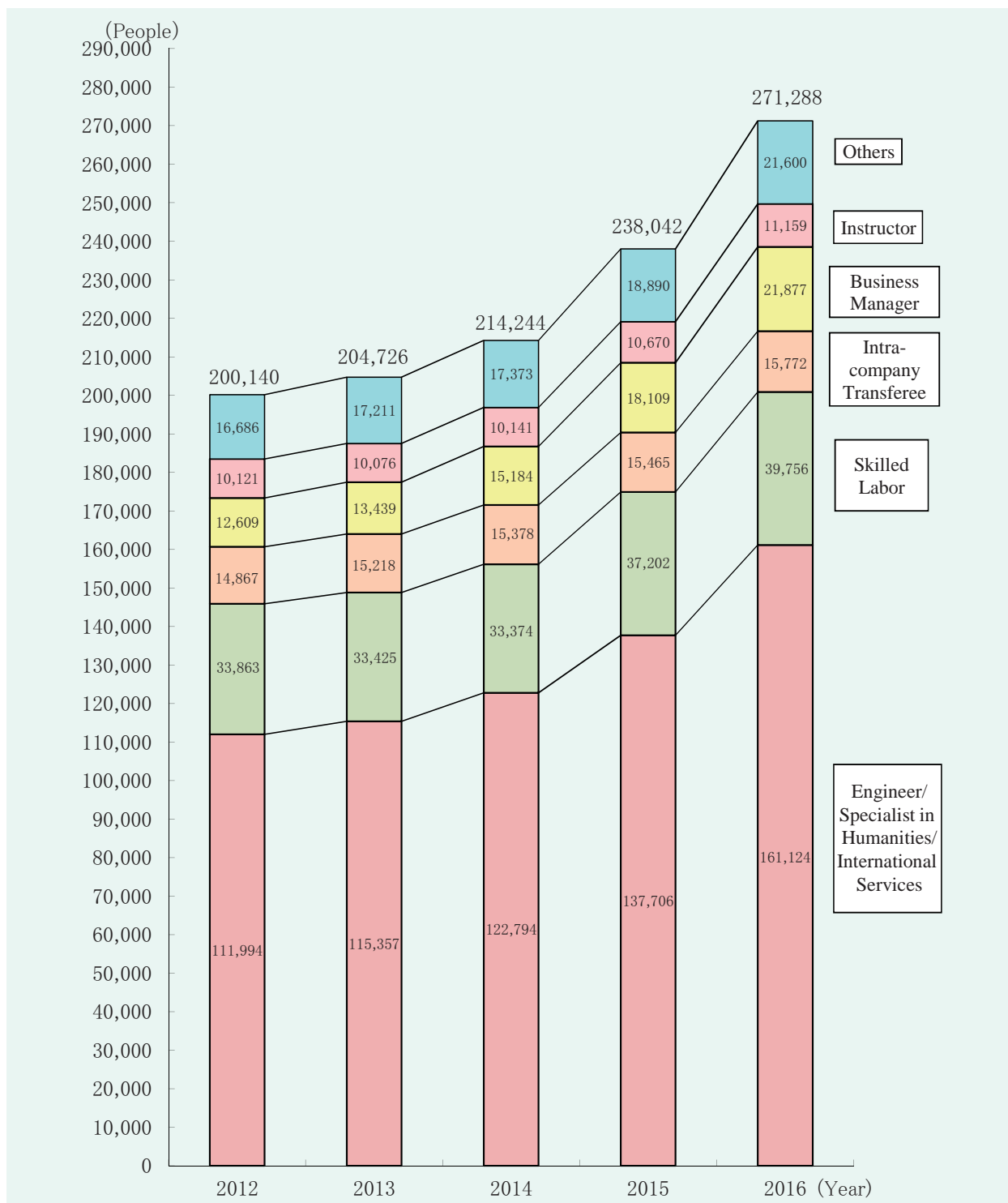
Looking at changes in the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” between the end of 2012 and the end of 2016, there was a steady increase, and the number increased by 102,610 (16.4%) at the end of 2016 from 624,501 at the end of 2012.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” came from China totaling 238,438 at the end of 2016, followed by the Philippines, Brazil, R.O.Korea, and Peru.

On the other hand, the number of foreign nationals with the status of “Special Permanent Resident” which used to account for the largest percentage until 2006 has been decreasing year by year, and therefore its percentage to the total number of foreign residents has also been decreasing accordingly. Looking at the changes over a longer period, the percentage of foreign nationals equivalent to the status of “Special Permanent Resident” accounted for approximately 90% for two decades just after World War II. However, the decline in the number of “Special Permanent Residents” itself and the increase in the number of foreign nationals newly visiting Japan for various purposes (so-called “newcomers”) are both driving the percentage of “Special Permanent Residents” down, which clearly shows the changes in the situation of foreign residents in Japan.

(2) Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan for the Purpose of Employment in Professional or Technical Fields

At the end of 2016, the number of mid to long-term residents with a status of residence for the purpose of employment in a professional or technical field (except for “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” out of the statuses of residence given in Appended Table I (1) and (2) of the Immigration Control Act) was 271,288 accounting for 11.4% of the total, an increase of 33,246 (14.0%) compared to the end of 2015, and an upward trend has been continuing since 2012 (**Reference 21**).

Reference 21 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields


(*1) Excludes “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” of the Appended Tables I (1) and I (2) of Immigration Control Act.

(*2) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the status of residence of “Investor/Business Manager” was changed to “Business Manager” and the statuses of residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” were combined into “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”.

(*3) For the years from 2012 to 2014, the numbers for “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” are the number combining “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” respectively.

(*4) Please note that incorrect figures were given as shown below for the figures of “Total number” and “Others” of FY2015 for the table of “Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents based on the status of residence for the purpose of employment in specialized and technical fields” published in the 2016 edition.

(Correct figures) 2015: Total number: 238,042, Others: 18,890

(Incorrect figures) 2015: Total number: 236,534, Others: 17,382

At the end of 2016, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” or “Intra-company Transferee” corresponding to foreign employees working in companies/organizations was 161,124 for “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and 15,772 for “Intra-company Transferee”, and when compared to the end of 2015, the respective numbers have been increasing: 23,418(17.0%) and 307 (2.0%).

At the end of 2016, the percentages of mid to long-term residents with the statuses of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” to the total number of mid to long-term residents with a status of residence for the purpose of employment in professional or technical fields were 59.4%, and 5.8%, respectively.

(3) “Technical Intern Training”(*) (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 7-2, 8)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” at the end of 2016 was 102,585, an increase of 10,700 (11.6%) when compared to the end of 2015. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from Viet Nam was 43,868, accounting for 42.8% of the total. Viet Nam was followed by China at 30,999 (30.2%), the Philippines at 10,165 (9.9%), and Indonesia at 7,890 (7.7%).

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (ii)” at the end of 2016 was 126,003, an increase of 25,233 (25.0%) when compared to the end of 2015. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 49,858 accounting for 39.6% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam at 44,343 (35.2%), the Philippines at 12,509 (9.9%) and Indonesia at 10,835 (8.6%).

(4) “Student” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 9-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Student” at the end of 2016 was 277,331, an increase of 30,652 (12.4%) compared to the end of 2015, comprising 11.6% of the total number of foreign residents. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number from China was 115,278 accounting for 41.6% of the total, followed by Viet Nam at 62,422 (22.5%).

(5) Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 13-2, 14-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at the end of 2016 was 139,327, accounting for 5.8% of the total number of foreign residents. Looking at the trend from the end of 2012 to the end of 2016, the number continued declining, and the number at the end of 2016 decreased by 1,022 (0.7%) when compared to the end of 2015.

Looking at these numbers by nationality/region, China stood at 32,479, accounting for 23.3% of the total, followed by the Philippines at 26,687 (19.2%), and Brazil at 15,917 (11.4%), and looking at the trends of these three countries from the end of 2012 to the end of 2016, China and the Philippines continued to decrease, but Brazil started to increase since the end of 2016.

(*) “Technical Intern Training (i)” represents the sum of “Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)” and “Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)”, and “Technical Intern Training (ii)” represents the sum of “Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)” and “Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)”.

At the end of 2016, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” was 168,830 accounting for 7.1% of the total number of foreign residents, and looking at the changes from the end of 2012 to the end of 2016, although there was a declining trend until the end of 2014, it began to increase from the end of 2015, and increased by 7,298 (4.5%) from the end of 2015 compared to the end of 2016.

Looking at these number by nationality/region, Brazil accounts for 49,542 (29.3%), followed by the Philippines at 47,663 (28.2%) and China at 27,140 (16.1%).

Section 2 Examination of Statuses of Residence

The total number of applications related to residence examinations was 1,042,879 in 2016, an increase of 88,973 (9.3%) when compared to 2015 (**Reference 22**).

Reference 22 Changes in the number of permission examined in status of residence examinations

		(Cases)				
Division \	Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total		999,184	834,024	867,760	953,906	1,042,879
Permission for change of status of residence		124,192	135,289	142,700	159,235	180,480
Permission for extension of period of stay		407,570	426,016	443,703	487,440	532,800
Permission for permanent residence		42,029	45,066	35,697	39,726	35,595
Permission for special permanent residence		147	113	103	94	84
Permission for acquisition of status of residence		8,235	8,724	9,866	9,862	12,010
Re-entry permission		270,091	54,182	48,225	37,835	31,553
Permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted		146,920	164,634	187,466	219,714	250,357

- (*1) “Permission for permanent residence” is the permission provided for in Article 22 of the Immigration Control Act.
- (*2) “Permission for special permanent residence” is the permission for special permanent residence provided for in Article 5 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control of Inter Alia, Those Who Have Lost Japanese Nationality on the Basis of the Treaty of Peace with Japan.
- (*3) “Permission for acquisition of status of residence” includes the permission for permanent residence provided for in Article 22-2 of the Immigration Control Act.
- (*4) Please note that incorrect figures (case numbers) were given as shown below for the figures of “Total number”, “Permanent residents” and “Special permanent residents” of 2015 for the table of “Changes in the number of cases of work permission in the work of residence examinations” published in the 2016 edition.
 (Correct figures) 2015: Total number: 953,906, Permanent Residents: 39,726, Special Permanent Residents: 94
 (Incorrect figures) 2015: Total number: 954,004, Permanent Residents: 39,820, Special Permanent Residents: 98



Residence examination counter

1. Permission for Change in the Status of Residence

In 2016, the number of cases in which obtained permission for a change in the status of residence was 180,480, an increase of 21,245 (13.3%) when compared to 2015.

(1) Change of Status of Residence from the Status of Residence of “Student” to a Status for Employment Purposes

Foreign nationals studying at Japanese universities or vocational/technical schools have the status of residence of “Student”. Not a few of them wish to stay in Japan to work for a company or some other organization in Japan even after finishing their studies at school.

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission to change their status of residence to a status of residence for the purpose of employment was 19,435 in 2016, an increase of 3,778 (24.1%) when compared to 2015.

The number of these foreign nationals had been steadily increased between 2003 and 2008. Though the number reached a peak in 2008, it started to decline owing to the impact of the global recession. However, the number subsequently started seeing signs of recovery with a record high reached in 2016.

According to the statistics by status of residence, the number of foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” made up the largest number, totaling 17,353 (89.3%), an increase of 3,562 (25.8%) when compared to 2015 (**Reference 23**).

Reference 23 Changes in the number of foreign nationals of permission for change of the status of residence from student, etc. to a status for employment by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	10,969	11,647	12,958	15,657	19,435
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services				13,791	17,353
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	7,565	7,962	8,758		
Engineer	2,227	2,428	2,748		
Business Manager	356	321	383	682	916
Professor	588	634	704	684	598
Medical Services	29	90	114	234	257
Researcher	119	107	124	102	87
Instructor	41	51	59	73	87
Highly-Skilled Professional				17	27
Religious Activities	9	16	8	20	14
Artist	3	4	6	18	3
Official	10	1	5	3	2
Others	22	33	49	33	91

(*) In accordance with an amendment of the Act, the statuses of residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” were revised and combined into “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” on April 1, 2015.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” was from China at 11,039, accounting for 56.8%, followed by Viet Nam at 2,488(12.8%) and R.O.Korea at 1,422 (7.3%) (**Reference 24**).

Reference 24 Changes in the number of foreign nationals of permission for change of the status of residence from student, etc. to a status for employment by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	10,969	11,647	12,958	15,657	19,435
China	7,032	7,637	8,347	9,847	11,039
Viet Nam	302	424	611	1,153	2,488
R.O.Korea	1,417	1,227	1,234	1,288	1,422
Nepal	224	293	278	503	1,167
Taiwan	352	360	514	649	689
Thailand	170	167	171	200	238
Indonesia	107	111	124	147	214
Myanmar	106	122	129	160	183
Sri Lanka	91	95	87	121	177
Philippines	42	41	65	126	168
Others	1,126	1,170	1,398	1,463	1,650

(*) “China” does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(2) Permission to Change Status of Residence in Order to Participate in “Technical Intern Training (ii)”

The Technical Intern Training Program was established in 1993 to enable foreign nationals to acquire skills etc. through on-the-job training while in employment, thereby contributing to effective technology transfer and human resources development as part of Japan’s international contributions.

The Technical Intern Training Program is being transferred to a new system pursuant to the “Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees” (Act No. 89 of 2016; hereinafter referred to as “Technical Intern Training Act”), which came into effect on November 1, 2017, and with regard to the old program prior to the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act, as under the current system, permission to change the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (ii)” is required when engaging in work requiring the skills, etc. already acquired through “Technical Intern Training (i)” to increase proficiency in the skills, etc.

The skills, etc. in the “Technical Intern Training (ii)” are ones that are publicly evaluated in Japan and also meet demand in the countries sending the trainees. As of September 29, 2017, there are 77 types of work in total comprising 55 types, including formwork and machining, which are publicly evaluated based on Basic Grade 1 and Basic Grade 2 of the National Trade Skills Test, and 22 types, including welding and operation of spinning machines, which are publicly evaluated, although not by national examinations, but according to a system certified by the Counselor for Overseas Human Resources Development of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

The number of foreign trainees who were permitted to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” in 2016 had increased by 13,280 (21.5%) from 2015 to 75,089. In total, more than 760,000 foreign trainees have gone on to this training as of the end of 2016 since the Technical Intern Training Program was first established in 1993.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of trainees who obtained permission to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” in 2016 came from Viet Nam at 28,457 (37.9%), followed by China at 27,180 (36.2%), the Philippines at 7,705 (10.3%), Indonesia at 6,069 (8.1%), and Thailand at 2,025 (2.7%). According to the statistics by occupation, the largest number of trainees was in the area of welding, followed by women/children’s apparel production, and crop farming (**References 25, 26**).

Reference 25 Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	48,752	48,792	49,536	61,809	75,089
Viet Nam	5,520	5,861	8,664	16,968	28,457
China	36,448	35,463	31,822	31,055	27,180
Philippines	2,550	2,937	3,380	5,216	7,705
Indonesia	2,689	2,979	3,440	4,997	6,069
Thailand	913	925	1,411	1,741	2,025
Others	632	627	819	1,832	3,653

(*) “China” does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

Reference 26 Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” by occupation

(People)

Occupation \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	48,752	48,792	49,536	61,809	75,089
Welding	4,053	3,824	3,951	6,224	7,403
Women/Children's apparel production	8,095	8,141	7,349	7,292	7,305
Crop farming	4,998	5,510	5,537	6,325	7,077
Plastic molding	3,255	3,135	3,330	4,073	4,459
Steeplejack	866	994	1,274	2,073	3,263
Machining	2,526	2,245	2,310	2,929	3,250
Unheated fishery processing products manufacturing	2,271	2,540	2,406	2,792	2,910
Electronics assembly	2,310	1,884	1,294	2,056	2,809
Painting	1,379	1,297	1,357	1,808	2,386
Metal press work	1,928	1,759	1,685	2,140	2,297
Heated fishery processing products manufacturing	1,650	1,840	1,862	2,122	2,290
Steel reinforcement construction	812	856	1,128	1,640	2,116
Mold construction	532	739	886	1,451	2,105
Livestock agriculture	1,143	1,231	1,268	1,460	1,710
Prepared food industry	0	0	0	71	1,655
Others	12,934	12,797	13,899	17,353	22,054

2. Permission for Extension of the Period of Stay

The number of cases in which obtained permission for extension of their period of stay in 2016 was 532,800, an increase of 45,360 (9.3%) from 2015.

3. Permission for Permanent Residence

The number of cases in which were granted permission for permanent residence in 2016 was 35,595. This number has been fluctuating after reaching a record high of 60,509 in 2007, with a decrease of 4,131 (10.4%) in 2016 when compared to 2015 (**Reference 27**).

Reference 27 Changes in the number of cases of permission for permanent residence by nationality/region

(Cases)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	42,029	45,066	35,697	39,726	35,595
China	17,471	19,799	15,670	16,635	15,285
Philippines	7,373	6,385	4,769	5,455	4,795
Brazil	4,867	4,572	4,030	4,822	3,866
R. O. Korea/Korea	2,902	3,378	2,697		
R. O. Korea				2,978	2,731
Viet Nam	876	1,068	926	967	994
Others	8,540	9,864	7,605	8,869	7,924

(*1) The number for "China" is the number including China (Hong Kong), China (others), and excluding those who have already received residence cards with "Taiwan" in the nationality/region section.

(*2) From 2015, "R.O.Korea" and "Korea" are calculated separately.

(*3) This table does not include the number of permits for special permanent residence.

4. Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence

The number of cases in which were granted permission for acquisition of a status of residence in 2016 was 12,010, an increase of 2,148 (21.8%) when compared to 2015.

5. Re-entry Permission

The number of cases in which were granted re-entry permission in 2016 was 31,553, marking a decrease of 6,282 (16.6%) when compared to 2015.

The number of foreign nationals who were granted re-entry permission has been declining since reaching a peak in 2011, but this decline is due to the fact that, owing to the implementation of the system of special re-entry permission in accordance with the amended Immigration Control Act, which entered into force in July 2012, a foreign national in possession of a valid passport and residence card who intends, at the time of departure, to re-enter Japan to continue with his or her activities in Japan within one year of his or her departure (within two years for special permanent residents) is not required, in principle, to obtain re-entry permission.

In addition, the number of foreign nationals who departed from Japan having obtained special re-entry permission in 2016, was 2,208,626 accounting for 94.5% of the total number of 2,086,717 foreign nationals who departed from Japan through re-entry permission.

6. Permission to Engage in an Activity Other Than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted

The number of cases in which obtained permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted in 2016 was 250,357, an increase of 30,643 (13.9%) from 2015.

Section 3 Number of Issuance of Residence Cards and Special Permanent Resident Certificates

1. Residence Cards

The number of residence cards issued in 2016 was 1,093,462. According to the statistics by category, the number of residence cards issued at the time of granting permission relating to landing/status of residence was 1,040,439 accounting for 95.2% of the total, followed by applications for reissuance at 37,906 (3.5%), extension of the period of validity at 10,682 (1.0%), and notification of a change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence at 4,305 (0.4%).

By category of regional immigration bureaus, the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau issued 614,894 residence cards, accounting for 56.2% of the total, followed by Nagoya at 180,089 (16.5%), Osaka at 138,140 (12.6%) and Fukuoka at 74,606 (6.8%) (**Reference 28**).

Reference 28 Number of issuance of residence cards (2016)

(Cases)

Regional Immigration Bureaus	Total	Landing/residency status of residence related permission	Notification of change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence	Extension of the period of validity	Application for reissuance	Application to switch over to the residence card	Application for new issuance
Total	1,093,462	1,040,439	4,305	10,682	37,906	121	9
Sapporo	15,646	15,249	19	80	296	0	2
Sendai	17,937	17,172	68	158	538	0	1
Tokyo	614,894	584,152	2,284	5,476	22,902	77	3
Nagoya	180,089	170,163	1,217	2,907	5,761	40	1
Osaka	138,140	131,575	410	1,176	4,978	1	0
Hiroshima	40,398	38,938	129	299	1,028	2	2
Takamatsu	11,752	11,326	15	163	248	0	0
Fukuoka	74,606	71,864	163	423	2,155	1	0

2. Special Permanent Resident Certificates

The number of special permanent resident certificates issued in 2016 was 42,969. According to the statistics by category, the number of special permanent resident certificates issued at the time of extension of the period of validity was 31,616 accounting for 73.6% of the total, followed by switching over to the special permanent resident certificate at 6,102 (14.2%), applications for reissuance at 3,280 (7.6%), and notification of a change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence at 1,010 (2.4%) (**Reference 29**).

Reference 29 Number of issuance of special permanent resident certificates (2016)

(Cases)

Permission for special permanent residence (Article 4)	Permission for special permanent residence (Article 5)	Notification of a change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence	Extension of the period of validity	Application for reissuance	Application to switch over to the special permanent resident certificate	Application for new issuance	Application for issuance in advance	Total
808	102	1,010	31,616	3,280	6,102	51	0	42,969

Chapter 3 Implementation of the Technical Intern Training Program

Section 1 Outline of the Program

The Technical Intern Training Program is a program which accepts people from the developing countries or regions for a certain period and enables them to acquire, increase and attain proficiency in (hereinafter referred to as “acquire” in this Chapter) the skills, techniques or knowledge (hereinafter referred to as “skills”) cultivated in Japan, and contributes to “human resource development” which leads to the development of the country or region etc. through such people utilizing these skills acquired in Japan after they have returned to their home country.

The Technical Intern Training Program established in 1993 was a program which enabled foreign nationals who had acquired skills above a certain level through training, to enter into a new employment contract and to further acquire the skills in a more practical way after they had completed the training at the same institution where they had received the training.

In response to criticism that some of the organizations accepting the trainees and technical intern trainees did not fully understand the original purpose of the program, and were treating them in all essence as low wage workers, a new status of residence of “Technical Intern Training” was established in the Act for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and Special Act on the Immigration Control of, Inter Alia, Those Who Have Lost Japanese Nationality Pursuant to the Treaty of Peace with Japan, and Other Related Laws enacted in July 2009, and measures have been taken to legally protect the technical intern trainees and stabilize their legal status such as ensuring that the labor laws and regulations will be applied under an employment relationship from the first year of entry into Japan.

However, while there has still been criticism that for example, there are still those who fail to understand the purpose of the program and misunderstand that this is a way of securing inexpensive labor that makes up for the shortage of labor in Japan, thereby resulting in violations of labor-related laws and regulations and human rights violations, on the other hand, requests have been received for expansion of the Technical Intern Training Program such as expansion of the applicable job categories of subject occupation, and extension of the technical intern training period.

For this reason, in order to properly implement the technical intern training for foreign nationals and to protect the technical intern trainees, the Technical Intern Training Act incorporating a system for accreditation of the technical intern training plans and licenses for the supervising organizations, as well as measures to establish the Organization for Technical Intern Training to conduct the administrative affairs thereof, was enacted on November 18, 2016, promulgated on the 28th of the same month, and entered into effect on November 1, 2017.

Section 2 Responses to Cases of Inappropriate Acceptance

The Immigration Bureau sends a notice of “misconduct” to those organizations that have engaged in improper conduct in relation to the technical intern training under the old system prior to the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act and, based on the provisions of an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice, does not allow such organizations to accept technical intern trainees for a period of one year, three years or five years depending on the type of misconduct. In 2016, there were 239 organizations which were notified of “misconduct”.

According to the statistics by type of acceptance arrangement, 2 organizations (0.8%) which had accepted trainees under the scheme managed by individual enterprise and 237 organizations (99.2%) which had accepted trainees under the scheme supervised by organization were notified of findings of misconduct, and taking a look by type of accepting organization under the scheme supervised by organization, there were 35 supervising organizations (14.8%) and 202 organizations implementing technical intern training (85.2%) (**Reference 30**).

Reference 30 Changes in the number of organizations subject to a finding of misconduct by type of accepting arrangement

Type of Accepting Arrangement		(Organizations)					
		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Company-arranged scheme			0	0	0	3	2
Association-supervised scheme	Supervising organization (Primary accepting organization)		9	20	23	32	35
	Implementing organization (Secondary accepting organization)		188	210	218	238	202
Total			197	230	241	273	239

The types of misconduct fell under “nonpayment of wages”, “using or providing forged or altered documents, etc.”, and “name lending”, and these three types accounted for 69.5% of the total (**Reference 31**).

As described above, since there are still a considerable number of organizations involved in inappropriate acts in relation to the technical intern training, in order to contribute to a more appropriate operation of the program, with regard to the new program after the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act, the Immigration Bureau will strive to further optimize the program through implementation of on-site inspections of the implementing organizations and supervising organizations by the newly established Organization for Technical Intern Training, while closely coordinating with the relevant organizations.

Reference 31 Number of cases of misconduct by category (2016)

(Cases)

Category	Company- arranged scheme (2 Organizations)	Association-supervised scheme		Total (239 Organizations)
		Supervising organization (35 Organizations)	Program implementing organization (202 Organizations)	
Violence/threats/confinement	0	0	0	0
Confiscation of passport/residence card	1	3	12	16
Nonpayment	1	6	114	121
Human rights infringement	1	1	4	6
Document forgery/preparation and use of fraudulent documents	0	26	68	94
Confiscation of deposit	1	1	2	4
Engaging in work activities during course study period	0	1	1	2
Dual contract	0	0	0	0
Discrepancy compared with Technical Intern Training Plan	0	3	35	38
Name lending	0	4	47	51
Implementing organization's failure to report misconduct/failure to report the impossibility of continuing the program	0		1	1
Supervising organization's failure to report misconduct, etc./failure to conduct audit or to establish a consultation system		11		11
Frequency of trainees going missing	0	0	0	0
Employment of illegal foreign workers	0	1	22	23
Violation of labor-related laws and regulations	0	0	13	13
Arrangement with profit purpose	0	0	0	0
Repeated misconduct	0	2	1	3
Failure to submit a daily report	0	0	0	0
Failure to submit a report regarding leaving trainees	0	0	0	0
Work outside of the trainees' prescribed work hours	0	0	0	0
Total	4	59	320	383

(*) If one accepting organization is notified of findings of misconduct in more than one category, it is counted in each category, and therefore, the total number of accepting organizations is not identical to the total number of recognized cases in each category.

The number of technical intern trainees who have absconded from the program has been on an upward trend, and this number surged to 5,508 in 2016 while it was 2,005 in 2012. Previous extensive research on the reasons for absconding shows that most of the trainees lacked motivation for the technical intern training and absconded in search of a higher wages. Therefore, stricter examinations are being conducted with regard to applications pertaining to the acceptance of technical intern trainees submitted by sending organizations or supervising organizations, which have seen a large number of trainees abscond from the program (**Reference 32**).

Reference 32 Changes in the number of technical intern trainees absconding by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	2,005	3,566	4,847	5,803	5,058
Viet Nam	496	828	1,022	1,705	2,025
China	1,177	2,313	3,065	3,116	1,987
Cambodia				58	284
Myanmar	7	7	107	336	216
Indonesia	124	114	276	252	200
Others	201	304	377	336	346

(*1) The indication of China in the table does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(*2) The number is included in "Others" from 2012 to 2014.

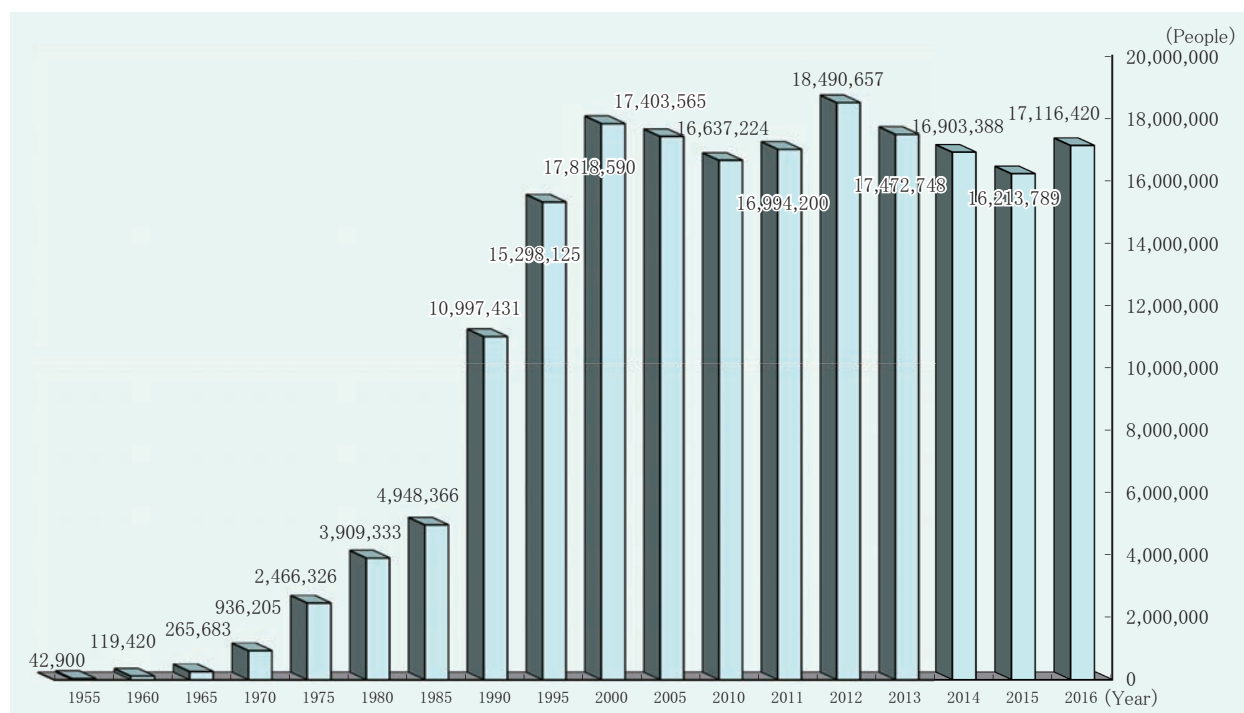
Chapter 4 Japanese Nationals Departing from and Returning to Japan

Section 1 Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan

1. Total Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan

The number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2016 was 17,116,420, an increase of 902,631 (5.6%) from 2015, which was an increase for the first time in four years (Reference 33).

Reference 33 Changes in the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan



2. Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Gender and Age

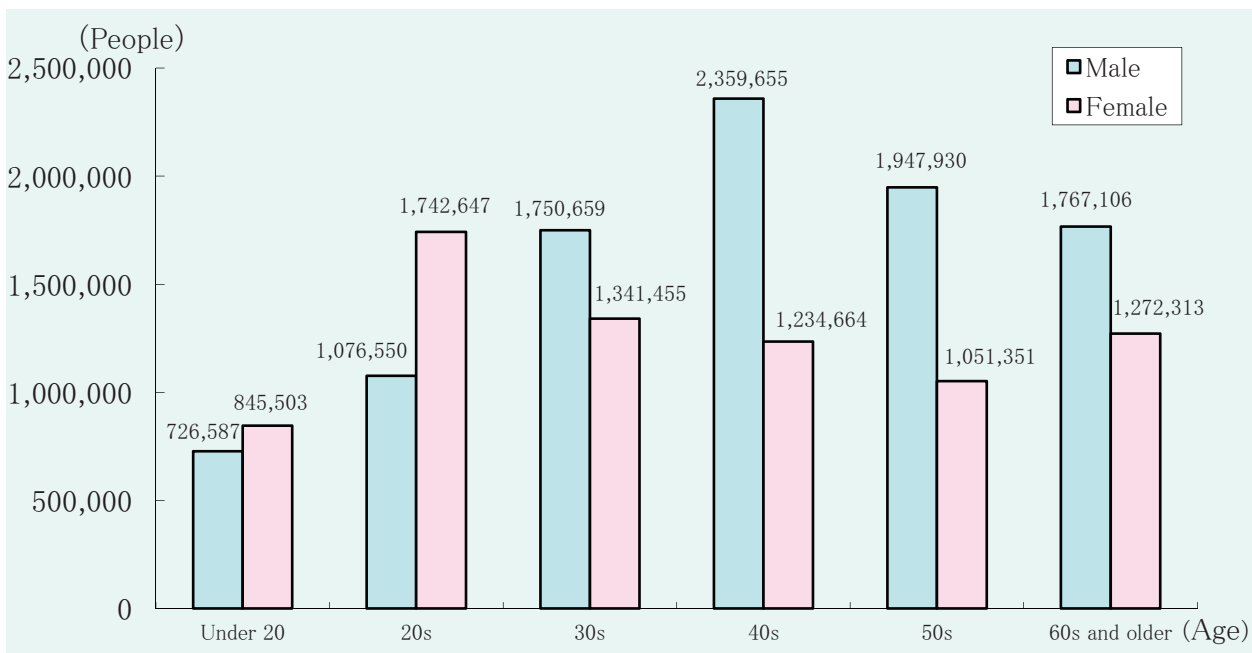
According to the statistics by gender, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2016 was composed of 9,628,487 males and 7,487,933 females; males accounted for 56.3% of the total and females accounted for 43.7%. There have been no significant changes in the percentages of either males or females since 2001, and the percentage of males continues to exceed that of females.

According to the statistics by age, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in

2016 was composed of 3,594,319 Japanese nationals in their 40s, which accounted for 21.0% of the total, followed by 3,092,114 in their 30s, accounting for 18.1%, 3,039,419 in their 60s and older, accounting for 17.8%, 2,999,281 in their 50s, accounting for 17.5% and 2,819,197 in their 20s, accounting for 16.5%.

According to the statistics on percentages of males and females by age group, the percentages of Japanese females ages under 20 and 20s exceeded those of males and, in particular, females in their 20s accounted for the extremely high percentage of 61.8%, but with the other age groups, the percentage of males departing from Japan exceeded that of females (**Reference 34**).

Reference 34 Number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan by gender and age (2016)



3. Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Airport and Seaport

Looking at the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2016 by airports and seaport of departure, the number of departing passengers using airports was 16,962,137, accounting for 99.1% of the total, and when comparing to the 22,617,552 (97.4%) foreign nationals entering Japan using the airports, the percentage of airport users is higher.

Looking at the Japanese nationals departing from Japan using airports in 2016, the number of users of Narita Airport was 6,638,118, accounting for 39.1% of the total number of departing passengers from airports, the number of users of Haneda Airport was 4,241,440, accounting for 25.0%, and the number of users of Kansai Airport was 3,186,893, accounting for 18.8%. These three airports accounted for 82.9% of the total number of departing passengers from airports.

On the other hand, looking at the Japanese nationals departing from Japan using seaports during 2016, the number of Hakata Port users was 63,422, accounting for 41.1% of the total number of departing passengers from seaports, followed by Yokohama Port at 18,646 (12.1%), and Sakai Port at 16,527 (10.7%). These three seaports accounted for 63.9% of the total number of departing passengers from seaports. Kanmon (Shimonoseki) Port at 11,471 (7.4%)

and Kobe Port at 7,624 (4.9%) followed these three seaports.

Section 2 Number of Japanese Nationals Returning to Japan



Airport landing examination

The total number of returning Japanese nationals in 2016 was 17,088,252. By period of stay in foreign countries after departure, the number of persons returning within one month of departure was 15,450,144, which accounted for 90.4% of the total. Of those, the number of persons returning within 10 days was 13,973,516, which accounted for 90.4% of those who returned within one month of departure.

This is thought to be because most Japanese going abroad for a purpose requiring only a short period such as sightseeing and business return promptly. This trend has continued in recent years and no major change has been observed (**Reference 35**).

Reference 35 Changes in the number of Japanese nationals returning to Japan by period of stay

Period of Stay	(People)					
	Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total		18,408,185	17,421,997	16,915,797	16,258,889	17,088,252
Within 5 days		10,916,364	9,898,557	9,499,435	9,126,508	10,067,736
More than 5 days to 10 days		4,448,480	4,422,482	4,299,701	4,033,466	3,905,780
More than 10 days to 20 days		1,129,239	1,130,386	1,119,965	1,086,094	1,067,194
More than 20 days to 1 month		404,327	408,455	417,716	402,491	409,434
More than 1 month to 3 months		639,672	658,643	655,267	670,011	678,113
More than 3 months to 6 months		357,644	376,109	386,518	387,233	393,187
More than 6 months to 1 year		270,945	291,269	301,338	305,442	307,247
More than 1 year to 3 years		137,043	134,050	133,068	135,515	129,203
More than 3 years		11,045	12,966	13,203	13,161	12,800
Unknown		93,426	89,080	89,586	98,968	117,558

Chapter 5 Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

Section 1 Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay



Investigation of violation

Based on the computer statistics of the Immigration Bureau, the estimated number of foreign nationals who overstayed (those who illegally stay in Japan beyond their authorized period of stay) was 65,270 as of January 1, 2017. This was an increase of 2,452 (3.9%) when compared to the 62,818 as of January 1, 2016, and was an increase for three years running.

The number of deportation procedures against those who overstayed their authorized period of stay in 2016 was larger than in 2015. Meanwhile, as a result of the entire government's efforts toward a tourism-oriented country that have been taken in recent years, the number of foreign nationals entering Japan has increased significantly, and it is thought that this has had a considerable influence on the increase in the number of foreign nationals who overstayed their authorized period of stay.

1. Number of Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay by Nationality/Region

At the time of May 1, 1993, when the highest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was recorded, the nationality/region of the largest number of foreign nationals was Thailand, followed by R.O.Korea, the Philippines, China and Malaysia. As of January 1, 2017, the largest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was from R.O.Korea at 13,265 (20.3%), followed by China at 8,846 (13.6%), Thailand at 6,507 (10.0%), Viet Nam at 5,137 (7.9%), and the Philippines at 5,082 (7.8%).

Taking a look at the changes after May 1, 1993, although the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan significantly increased owing to visa waiver being implemented with regard to R.O.Korea for those foreign nationals intending to engage in activities under the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, the number of those from R.O.Korea overstaying their period of stay has been consistently decreasing since January 1, 1999. On the other hand, the number of those from Thailand overstaying their authorized period of stay had steadily been declining since May 1, 1993, but the number saw an increase of 548 (9.2%) to 6,507 when compared to January 1, 2016, which was an increase for three years running. This was because of the impact of the substantial increase in number of foreign nationals from Thailand newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, which was influenced by measures such as the relaxation of visa issuance enforced in July 2013. In addition, the number of those from Viet Nam overstaying their authorized period of stay increased by 1,328 (34.9%) to 5,137 when compared to January 1, 2016, which was an increase for five consecutive years (References 36, 37).

Reference 36 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by nationality/region

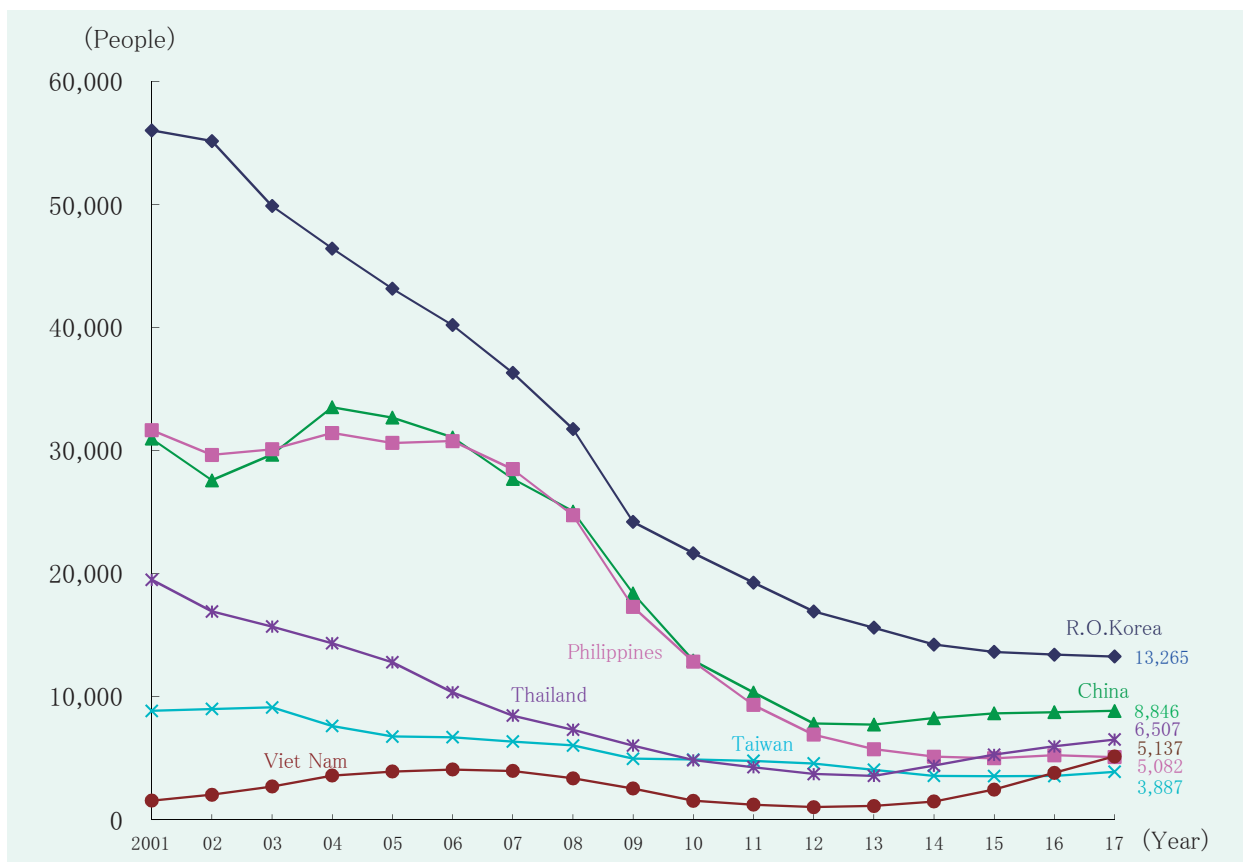
(People)

Nationality/ Region	Date													
	May 1 1993	May 1 1994	May 1 1995	May 1 1996	January 1 1997	January 1 1998	January 1 1999	January 1 2000	January 1 2001	January 1 2002	January 1 2003	January 1 2004	January 1 2005	
Total	298,646	293,800	286,704	284,500	282,986	276,810	271,048	251,697	232,121	224,067	220,552	219,418	207,299	
R.O.Korea	39,455	43,369	47,544	51,580	52,387	52,123	62,577	60,693	56,023	55,164	49,874	46,425	43,151	
China	33,312	39,738	39,511	39,140	38,296	37,590	34,800	32,896	30,975	27,582	29,676	33,522	32,683	
Thailand	55,383	49,992	44,794	41,280	39,513	37,046	30,065	23,503	19,500	16,925	15,693	14,334	12,787	
Viet Nam	852	869	453	448	231	731	880	1,092	1,550	2,021	2,697	3,582	3,916	
Philippines	35,392	37,544	39,763	41,997	42,547	42,608	40,420	36,379	31,666	29,649	30,100	31,428	30,619	
Taiwan	7,457	7,871	7,974	8,502	9,409	9,430	9,437	9,243	8,849	8,990	9,126	7,611	6,760	
Indonesia	2,969	3,198	3,205	3,481	3,758	4,692	4,930	4,947	5,315	6,393	6,546	7,246	7,169	
Malaysia	30,840	20,313	14,511	11,525	10,390	10,141	9,989	9,701	9,651	10,097	9,442	8,476	7,431	
Singapore	1,914	2,342	2,600	2,850	2,946	3,027	3,084	3,178	3,302	3,494	3,556	3,216	3,075	
Brazil	2,210	2,603	3,104	3,763	5,026	4,334	3,288	3,266	3,578	3,697	3,865	4,728	4,905	
Others	88,862	85,961	83,245	79,934	78,483	75,088	71,578	66,799	61,712	60,055	59,977	58,850	54,803	

Nationality/ Region	Date											
	January 1 2006	January 1 2007	January 1 2008	January 1 2009	January 1 2010	January 1 2011	January 1 2012	January 1 2013	January 1 2014	January 1 2015	January 1 2016	January 1 2017
Total	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488	67,065	62,009	59,061	60,007	62,818	65,270
R.O.Korea	40,203	36,321	31,758	24,198	21,660	19,271	16,927	15,607	14,233	13,634	13,412	13,265
China	31,074	27,698	25,057	18,385	12,933	10,337	7,807	7,730	8,257	8,647	8,741	8,846
Thailand	10,352	8,460	7,314	6,023	4,836	4,264	3,714	3,558	4,391	5,277	5,959	6,507
Viet Nam	4,071	3,959	3,362	2,527	1,531	1,221	1,014	1,110	1,471	2,453	3,809	5,137
Philippines	30,777	28,491	24,741	17,287	12,842	9,329	6,908	5,722	5,117	4,991	5,240	5,082
Taiwan	6,696	6,347	6,031	4,950	4,889	4,774	4,571	4,047	3,557	3,532	3,543	3,887
Indonesia	6,926	6,354	5,096	3,126	1,820	1,265	1,037	1,073	1,097	1,258	2,228	2,222
Malaysia	6,822	6,397	4,804	2,986	2,661	2,442	2,237	2,192	1,819	1,788	1,763	1,761
Singapore	3,587	2,241	2,207	2,128	2,107	1,789	1,586	1,304	1,079	1,066	1,055	1,046
Brazil	2,762	2,286	2,297	1,939	1,645	1,536	1,290	1,075	1,013	988	983	959
Others	50,475	42,285	37,118	29,523	24,854	22,260	19,974	18,591	17,027	16,373	16,085	16,558

(* “China” does not include China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

Reference 37 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by major nationality/region



(*) It shows the number of foreign nationals overstaying as of January 1 of each year.

2. Number of Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay by Status of Residence

Taking a look at the foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay as of January 1, 2017 by status of residence prior to illegally overstaying in Japan, the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” continued from 2016 to make up the largest number at 44,167 accounting for 67.7% of the total number, followed by “Student” at 3,807 (5.8%), “Technical Intern Training (ii) (b)” at 3,748 (5.7%), “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at 3,287 (5.0%) and “Technical Intern Training (i) (b)” at 2,741 (4.2%). In addition, when compared to the previous year, while there was an increase in the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” by 1,689 (4.0%), “Student” by 385 (11.3%), “Technical Intern Training (ii) (b)” by 335 (9.8%) and “Technical Intern Training (i) (b)” by 302 (12.4%), there was a decline in the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” by 146 (4.3%) (Reference 38).

Reference 38 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Date	January 1 2012	January 1 2013	January 1 2014	January 1 2015	January 1 2016	January 1 2017
Total	67,065	62,009	59,061	60,007	62,818	65,270
Temporary Visitor	46,845	43,943	41,403	41,090	42,478	44,167
Student	3,187	2,847	2,777	2,806	3,422	3,807
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	412	943	1,699	2,831	3,413	3,748
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	5,060	4,291	3,719	3,709	3,433	3,287
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	213	645	1,089	1,799	2,439	2,741
Others	11,348	9,340	8,374	7,772	7,633	7,520

(*) The number of foreign nationals overstaying with the status of residence of "Student" includes the number of foreign nationals whose status of residence was "Pre-college Student" under the previous Immigration Control Act, which was revised on July 1, 2010, at the time when they came to be considered to be overstaying.

Section 2 Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act Necessitating the Implementation of Deportation Procedures

1. Outline

In 2016, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced on account of violation of the Immigration Control Act was 13,361, an increase of 1,089 when compared to 2015. Of these, 4,094 were handed over to immigration inspectors as those subject to the departure order system. Although the number of foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act had been steadily decreasing since 2005, in recent years, there has been an increase in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan owing to the implementation of measures such as visa waiver, and this has contributed to an increase in the number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay, which is thought to have led to a shift toward an increase.

According to the statistics of the number of foreign nationals by grounds for deportation, the largest number of foreign nationals was deported for overstaying at 11,198 (83.8%), followed by illegal entry at 599 (4.5%) and activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted at 511 (3.8%). Overstaying continued to account for a predominant percentage (**Reference 39**).

Looking at the statistics for the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality/region, the largest number of such foreign nationals was from China for 14 consecutive years at 3,979 (29.8%), followed by Viet Nam at 2,273 (17.0%) and Thailand at 1,770 (13.2%). These top three countries made up 60.0% of the total (**Reference 40**).

Reference 39 Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by grounds for deportation

(People)

Grounds for Deportation \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	15,178	11,428	10,676	12,272	13,361
Illegal entry	1,875	1,128	844	752	599
Illegal landing	187	199	249	268	238
Activity other than those permitted	617	493	422	399	511
Overstay	11,439	8,713	8,274	9,982	11,198
Criminal offenses	527	430	392	397	432
Others	533	465	495	474	383
Illegal worker	8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973	9,003

Reference 40 Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	15,178	11,428	10,676	12,272	13,361
China	4,545	4,044	3,975	4,311	3,979
Viet Nam	592	688	953	1,643	2,273
Thailand	786	604	899	1,475	1,770
Philippines	2,972	1,778	1,414	1,467	1,452
Indonesia	327	271	268	507	1,059
R. O. Korea	2,028	1,336	921	704	599
Brazil	814	422	316	296	268
Nepal	155	128	113	146	185
Mongolia	112	113	117	109	169
Sri Lanka	303	199	222	182	153
Others	2,544	1,845	1,478	1,432	1,454

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

2. Number of Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act by Grounds for Deportation

(1) Illegal Entry

Of the foreign nationals against whom the deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2016, the number of illegal entrants^(*) was 599, accounting for 4.5%, a decline of 153 (20.3%) from 2015. Looking at past records, the number increased from 2003 but started to decrease since 2006. The fact that the number of illegal entrants as a percentage of the total number of foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act is decreasing is one of the reasons to consider that the countermeasures to prevent illegal entry have been quite effective.

Looking by nationality/region, China and the Philippines comprise the largest number respectively at 143 (23.9%), followed by Iran at 76 (12.7%), and there have been no changes in these top two countries since 2002 (**Reference 41**).

According to the statistics by means of transportation used for illegal entry, the number of illegal entrants using aircraft was 488. Though it showed a decline of 106 (17.8%) from 2015, the percentage of illegal entry using aircraft was still high at 81.5%. In addition, the number of illegal entrants using a vessel was 111, accounting for 18.5%, a decline of 47 (29.7%) from 2015 (**Reference 42, 43**).

(*) An illegal entrant means a person who enters Japan in violation of the provisions of Article 3, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act. The provisions in the paragraph stipulate that any foreign national who falls under any of the following items shall not enter Japan: a person who does not possess a valid passport (except for a crew member possessing a valid crew member's pocket-ledger) (item (i)); and a person who intends to land in Japan without receiving a seal of verification for landing or undergoing the recording of the prescribed data pursuant to the provision of Article 9, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act, or without obtaining authorized permission for landing from an immigration inspector (Item (ii)). Any foreign national who violates the provisions is considered an illegal entrant.

Reference 41 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	1,875	1,128	844	752	599
China	532	359	262	211	143
Philippines	520	274	214	166	143
Iran	124	63	53	64	76
R. O. Korea	178	102	69	50	45
Indonesia	55	27	21	27	29
Peru	91	37	29	26	29
Thailand	105	56	43	31	21
Viet Nam	15	13	10	34	14
Sri Lanka	36	32	28	18	13
Pakistan	16	14	8	10	11
Others	203	151	107	115	75

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

Reference 42 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry using aircraft by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	1,437	824	640	594	488
Philippines	500	262	208	158	138
Iran	113	55	48	61	74
China	263	153	112	96	67
Peru	90	37	29	26	29
Indonesia	54	27	21	26	28
Others	417	290	222	227	152

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

Reference 43 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry using vessel by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	438	304	204	158	111
China	269	206	150	115	76
R.O.Korea	100	49	36	28	22
Philippines	20	12	6	8	5
Iran	11	8	5	3	2
Bangladesh	7	10	3	0	2
Others	31	19	4	4	4

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(2) Illegal Landing

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced owing to violation of the Immigration Control Act during 2016, the number of those who illegally landed in Japan without receiving a seal of verification for landing or undergoing the recording of the prescribed data pursuant to the provisions of Article 9, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act, or without obtaining permission for landing from an immigration inspector was 238 (1.8%), which was a decrease of 30 (11.2%) from 2015 (**Reference 44**).

Reference 44 Changes in the number of cases of illegal landing by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	187	199	249	268	238
Turkey	98	84	97	90	82
Sri Lanka	6	14	54	95	39
Russia	3	19	36	20	16
Nepal	0	3	2	15	11
United States of America	5	5	3	2	11
Thailand	4	2	6	2	10
Indonesia	1	1	2	2	10
China	14	7	4	6	7
Others	56	64	45	36	52

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(3) Overstay

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act during 2016, the number of those who overstayed the authorized period of stay was 11,198 (83.8%), which was an increase of 1,216 (12.2%) from 2015 and still overwhelmingly high.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals who overstayed their authorized period of stay was from China at 3,488 (31.1%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,994 (17.8%), Thailand at 1,699 (15.2%), the Philippines at 1,157 (10.3%), and Indonesia at 935 (8.3%) (**Reference 45**).

Reference 45 Changes in the number of cases of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	11,439	8,713	8,274	9,982	11,198
China	3,415	3,194	3,170	3,623	3,488
Viet Nam	482	562	780	1,422	1,994
Thailand	615	486	797	1,389	1,699
Philippines	2,295	1,363	1,034	1,139	1,157
Indonesia	260	236	233	465	935
R. O. Korea	1,476	960	715	559	473
Brazil	671	321	227	227	181
Mongolia	111	110	112	104	162
India	77	37	41	45	109
United States of America	200	171	157	136	102
Others	1,837	1,273	1,008	873	898

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(4) Activity Other Than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted

If a foreign national residing in Japan clearly engages solely in working activities, such as the ones for which he/she receives remuneration, other than those permitted for the status of residence previously granted without obtaining the required permission, deportation procedures will be enforced on grounds of engaging in activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted. Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2016, the number of foreign nationals against whom the procedures were enforced because of the activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted was 511 (3.8%), which was an increase of 112 (28.1%) from 2015.

Accordingly to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from Viet Nam at 154 (30.1%), followed by China at 91 (17.8%) and Indonesia at 76 (14.9%), and these top three countries accounted for 62.8% of the total (**Reference 46**).

Reference 46 Changes in the number of cases of activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	617	493	422	399	511
Viet Nam	34	52	110	104	154
China	228	176	167	145	91
Indonesia	7	4	9	10	76
Nepal	48	29	34	31	67
R.O.Korea	212	138	48	35	28
Philippines	20	27	24	41	24
Myanmar	6	7	0	0	17
Sri Lanka	20	2	3	4	11
Thailand	9	14	13	8	8
Romania	3	0	3	0	6
Others	30	44	11	21	29

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).



Detection of violator

3. Illegal Foreign Workers

(1) Summary

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2016, the number of those who were considered to be illegally working was 9,003 (67.4%). This indicates that most illegal foreign residents who are hiding out somewhere in Japan are working illegally.

It has been pointed out that illegal foreign workers working for substandard wages, have a serious negative impact on a fair labor market as they, for example, take away employment opportunities from Japanese workers. Moreover, there have been human rights violations against illegal foreign workers. For example, brokers arrange for illegal workers to come to Japan and gain a huge unfair profit by exploiting the wages that should be earned by the foreign workers. Some foreign workers in these conditions are also unable to receive sufficient compensation in the event of an industrial accident.

The amended Immigration Control Act enforced on July 1, 2010 stipulates any act of a foreign national aiding another foreign national to engage in illegal work, such as through employment of the foreign national, to be one of the grounds for deportation (Article 24, item (iii)-4 of the Immigration Control Act). Thus, the Immigration Bureau promotes crackdown on foreign nationals who encourage illegal work.

(2) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Nationality/Region

The illegal foreign workers came from 68 countries/regions, mainly from neighboring Asian countries, which indicates that foreign nationals from various countries/regions are still working illegally.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, illegal workers from China made up the largest number at 3,080 (34.2%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,638 (18.2%), Thailand at 1,536 (17.1%), the Philippines at 830 (9.2%) and Indonesia at 819 (9.1%). These top five countries represented 87.8% of the total. Looking at the changes over the past few years, China still accounts for a high proportion, but the proportion of Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia is also increasing (**Reference 47**).

Reference 47 Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total			8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973	9,003
	Male		5,346	4,356	4,160	5,167	6,093
	Female		3,633	2,682	2,542	2,806	2,910
China			3,082	2,909	2,819	3,266	3,080
	Male		1,981	1,943	1,869	2,166	2,130
	Female		1,101	966	950	1,100	950
Viet Nam			380	461	701	1,160	1,638
	Male		271	312	454	873	1,246
	Female		109	149	247	287	392
Thailand			567	442	681	1,215	1,536
	Male		318	272	384	699	850
	Female		249	170	297	516	686
Philippines			1,589	968	763	756	830
	Male		629	394	308	341	426
	Female		960	574	455	415	404
Indonesia			267	233	231	396	819
	Male		218	193	193	338	699
	Female		49	40	38	58	120
R.O.Korea			1,356	866	606	435	359
	Male		525	311	237	167	167
	Female		831	555	369	268	192
Mongolia			90	81	101	81	133
	Male		51	47	72	51	90
	Female		39	34	29	30	43
Nepal			117	97	75	68	95
	Male		85	78	47	51	76
	Female		32	19	28	17	19
Sri Lanka			246	136	119	57	68
	Male		230	127	112	54	67
	Female		16	9	7	3	1
Peru			198	107	59	73	62
	Male		145	73	48	58	46
	Female		53	34	11	15	16
Others			1,087	738	547	466	383
	Male		893	606	436	369	296
	Female		194	132	111	97	87

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(3) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Gender

The composition of illegal foreign workers by gender was 6,093 males (67.7%) and 2,910 females (32.3%), and when looking at the changes over the past few years, the ratio of males has been increasing.

(4) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Type of Work

According to the statistics by type of work, the largest number of illegal foreign workers were agricultural workers at 2,215 (24.6%), followed by construction workers at 1,713 (19.0%) and factory workers at 1,410 (15.7%).

In addition, according to the statistics by gender, the largest number of males worked as construction workers, followed by agricultural workers then factory workers, while the largest number of females worked as agricultural workers, followed by jobs in the hospitality industry, for example, as hostesses, then factory workers (**Reference 48**).

Reference 48 Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by type of work

(People)

Job Categories		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total			8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973	9,003
	Male		5,346	4,356	4,160	5,167	6,093
	Female		3,633	2,682	2,542	2,806	2,910
Agricultural worker			592	695	946	1,744	2,215
	Male		432	507	632	1,113	1,438
	Female		160	188	314	631	777
Construction worker			1,154	1,151	1,336	1,638	1,713
	Male		1,146	1,144	1,323	1,622	1,697
	Female		8	7	13	16	16
Factory worker			1,623	1,301	1,230	1,342	1,410
	Male		1,124	895	769	857	1,008
	Female		499	406	461	485	402
Other labor worker			907	580	525	686	1,076
	Male		700	440	424	543	837
	Female		207	140	101	143	239
Attendants such as bar hostess			1,365	837	629	523	482
	Male		114	80	41	33	27
	Female		1,251	757	588	490	455
Worker in other service industry			575	452	413	425	453
	Male		258	161	127	118	127
	Female		317	291	286	307	326
Others			2,763	2,022	1,623	1,615	1,654
	Male		1,572	1,129	844	881	959
	Female		1,191	893	779	734	695

(5) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Place of Work

Illegal foreign workers are known to be working in 45 prefectures throughout Japan. According to the statistics on the place of work of the illegal foreign workers by prefecture, Ibaraki prefecture had the largest number at 2,038 (22.6%) as in 2015, followed by Chiba prefecture at 1,559 (17.3%), Tokyo at 1,187 (13.2%), Aichi prefecture at 891 (9.9%) and Saitama prefecture at 716 (8.0%) (**Reference 49**).

According to the statistics by region, the number of illegal foreign workers in Tokyo and the six prefectures (Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Ibaraki, Gunma, and Tochigi) in the Kanto district was 6,779 (75.3%), making up most of the total, and the number of illegal workers in the nine prefectures in the Chubu district (Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui, Shizuoka, Gifu and Aichi) was also at a high level of 1,325 (14.7%). Illegal foreign workers in the Kanto and Chubu districts making up 90.0% (8,104) of the total accounted for a substantial percentage of the total number of illegal foreign workers.

Reference 49 Changes in the number of cases of illegal foreign workers by area

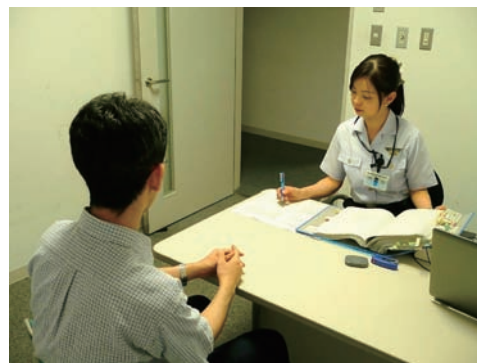
(People)

Prefecture \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973	9,003
Ibaraki	891	752	1,047	1,714	2,038
Chiba	1,088	945	955	1,238	1,559
Tokyo	1,740	1,389	1,175	1,086	1,187
Aichi	1,188	954	794	757	891
Saitama	616	539	460	595	716
Kanagawa	967	680	656	638	602
Gunma	249	243	155	451	453
Osaka	517	366	273	252	226
Tochigi	191	137	109	193	224
Nagano	169	89	64	119	170
Others	1,363	944	1,014	930	937

4. Outline of Decisions on Violations

(1) Receipt and Processing of Cases of Violation

Any foreign national who is suspected of coming under any of the grounds for deportation shall be handed over to an immigration inspector to undergo the procedures for decisions on violations after an investigation by an immigration control officer. These procedures consist of three steps: examination of the violation by an immigration inspector, a hearing by a special inquiry officer, and a decision of the Minister of Justice.



Decision on violation

The number of cases which underwent an examination of violations in 2016 was 14,198, which has continued to increase since 2015 (**Reference 50**).

Reference 50 Changes in the number of cases of receipt and findings of violation examinations by immigration inspectors, hearings by special inquiry officers and decisions of the Minister of Justice

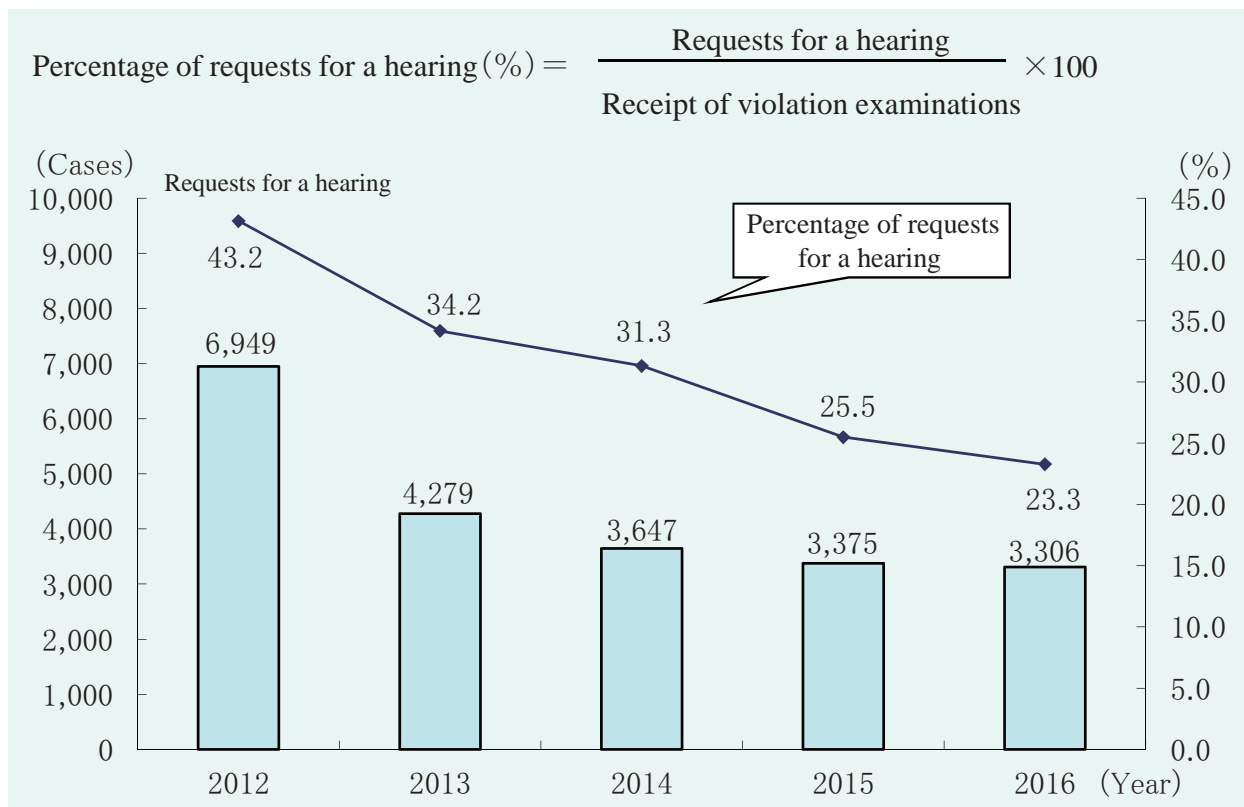
(Cases)

Division		Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Violation examination by immigration inspector	Receipt		16,103 (748)	12,523 (793)	11,645 (670)	13,233 (594)	14,198 (484)	
	Completed	Found not to fall under one of the reasons for deportation		4	5	0	5	3
		Issuance of written deportation order		5,640	4,729	4,482	5,409	6,008
		Request for hearing		6,949	4,279	3,647	3,375	3,306
		Issuance of written departure order		2,594	2,478	2,592	3,573	4,101
	Not completed, others		916	1,032	924	871	780	
Hearing by special inquiry officer	Receipt		7,755 (711)	4,942 (582)	4,282 (527)	3,871 (476)	3,945 (568)	
	Completed	Error in the findings		0	0	0	1	0
		Issuance of written deportation order		101	96	74	77	145
		Filing of an objection		6,952	4,226	3,596	3,163	3,078
		Issuance of written departure order		0	0	0	0	0
Not completed, others		702	620	612	630	722		
Decision of the Minister of Justice	Receipt		7,485 (459)	4,776 (505)	3,936 (297)	3,526 (357)	3,478 (376)	
	Completed	Objection with reason		2	1	1	0	1
		Objection without reason		6,887	4,428	3,544	3,110	2,588
		Issuance of written departure order		0	0	0	0	0
Not completed, others		596	347	391	416	889		

(*) The numbers indicated in parentheses are carry-over cases from the previous year and are included in each of the upper numbers

The number of requests for a hearing after an examination of the violation in 2016 was 3,306 accounting for 23.3% of the total number of cases which underwent an examination of the violation, a decline of 69 (2.0%) from 2015 (**Reference 50, 51**).

Reference 51 Changes in the number and percentage of requests for a hearing



The number of objections filed by foreign nationals who were not satisfied with the decision made by the special inquiry officer at the hearing was 3,078 in 2016, a decline of 85 (2.7%) from 2015 (**Reference 50**).

(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order

The number of written deportation orders issued in 2016 was 7,241. According to the statistics by ground for deportation, the cases of overstay amounted to 4,981, accounting for 68.8% of the total, while the percentage of cases of illegal entry was 6.8% (**Reference 52**).

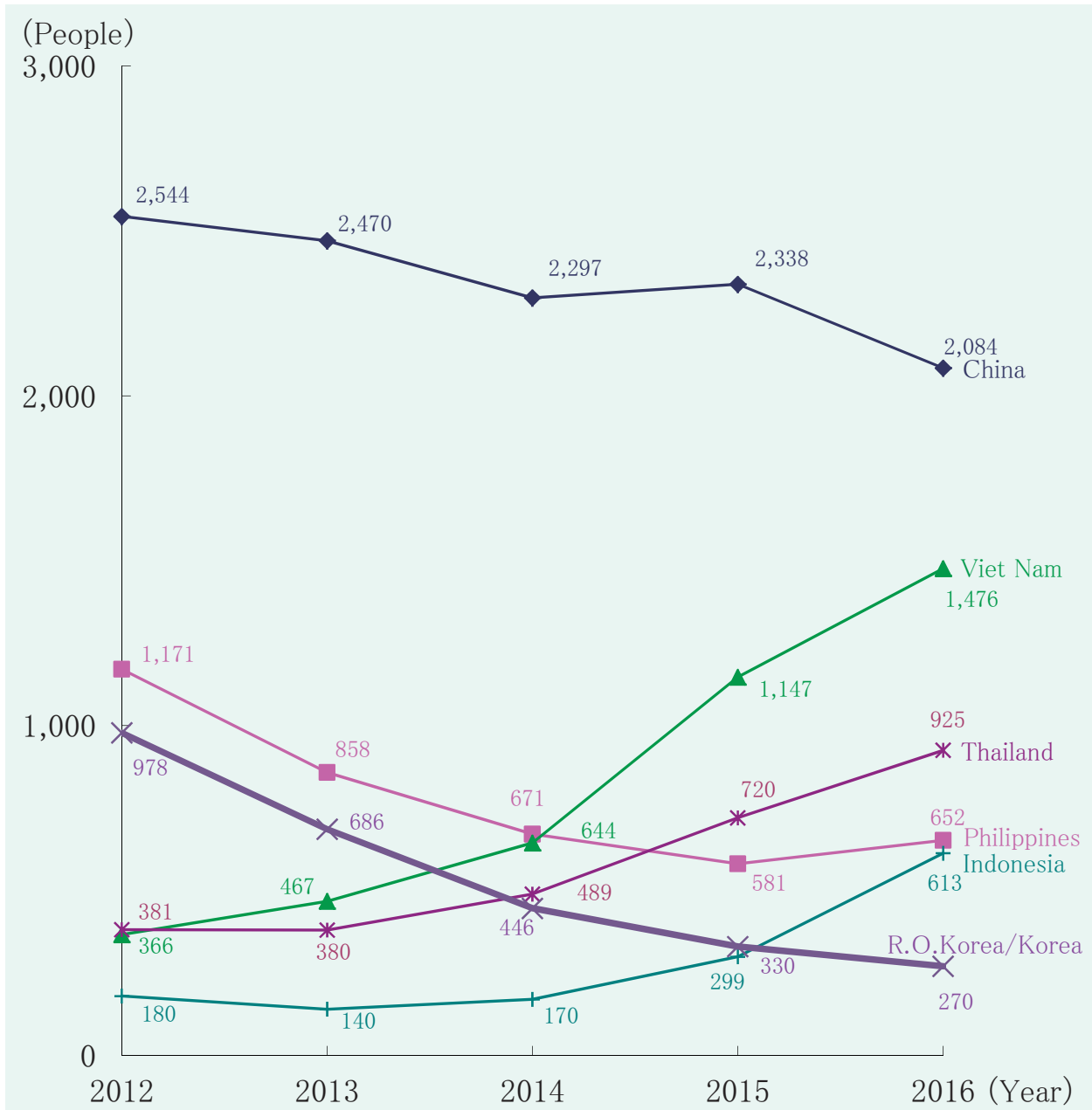
Reference 52 Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by grounds for deportation

(Cases)

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	7,329	6,425	5,821	6,589	7,241
Overstay	4,270	3,907	3,574	4,218	4,981
Illegal entry	1,430	1,001	733	638	495
Illegal landing	134	164	160	223	233
Activity other than those permitted	622	491	405	374	497
Criminal offenses	576	501	404	472	428
Others	297	361	545	664	607

According to the statistics by nationality/region in 2016, the largest number of cases in which were issued with a written deportation order came from China at 2,084 (28.8%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,476 (20.4%) and Thailand at 925 (12.8%) (**Reference 53**).

Reference 53 Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by nationality/region



(3) Provisional Release

The number of cases where foreign nationals who had been detained due to a written detention order were provisionally released in 2016 was 1,491, an increase of 198 (15.3%) compared to 2015. The number of foreign nationals detained under a written deportation order who were granted provisional release was 1,160, an increase of 97 (9.1%) from 2015 (**Reference 54**).

Reference 54 Changes in the number of cases of permission for provisional release

(Cases)

Type of Order \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
By written detention order	2,128	1,510	1,293	1,293	1,491
By written deportation order	1,137	1,271	926	1,063	1,160

(4) Special Permission to Stay in Japan

The number of cases in which received special permission to stay in Japan from the Minister of Justice in 2016 was 1,552, a decline of 471 (23.3%) when compared to 2015.

Most of the foreign nationals who received special permission to stay in Japan had established close relationships with Japanese nationals such as through marriage. Also in many cases they had settled down in Japan in many respects.

Looking at the foreign nationals who came under the grounds of deportation but were granted special permission to stay in Japan, the grounds for the largest number in 2016 was staying illegally beyond the authorized period of stay at 1,106 (71.3%), followed by illegal entry and illegal landing, jointly accounting for 8.4%. Overstay, illegal entry and illegal landing accounted for 79.6% of the total (**Reference 55**).

Reference 55 Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by grounds for deportation

(Cases)

Grounds for Deportation \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	5,336	2,840	2,291	2,023	1,552
Overstay	4,304	2,161	1,643	1,504	1,106
Illegal entry/Illegal landing	491	270	223	155	130
Criminal offenses etc.	541	409	425	364	316

According to statistics by nationality/region in 2016, the largest number of foreign nationals who were granted special permission to stay in Japan came from China at 284 (18.3%), followed by R.O. Korea/Korea combined at 166 (10.7%) (**Reference 56**).

Reference 56 Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by nationality/region

(Cases)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	5,336	2,840	2,291	2,023	1,552
China	809	422	421	393	284
R.O. Korea/Korea	693	400	286	222	166
Others	3,834	2,018	1,584	1,408	1,102

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

5. Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals

The number of deportees in 2016 was 7,014, which was an increase of 840 (13.6%) when compared to 2015.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of deportees was from China at 2,058 (29.3%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,412 (20.1%), Thailand at 914 (13.0%), the Philippines at 618 (8.8%), and Indonesia at 561 (8.0%) (**Reference 57**).

Reference 57 Changes in the number of deportees by nationality/region

		(People)				
Nationality/Region \ Year	Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total		6,459	5,790	5,542	6,174	7,014
China		2,389	2,284	2,282	2,296	2,058
Viet Nam		340	432	627	1,064	1,412
Thailand		317	400	483	707	914
Philippines		972	796	616	593	618
Indonesia		164	134	159	287	561
R.O.Korea		964	665	456	328	288
Sri Lanka		141	93	123	69	115
Nepal		101	64	48	82	113
Mongolia		47	49	51	49	84
Myanmar		50	51	44	28	80
Others		974	822	653	671	771

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

The means of deportation are roughly divided into the three categories of "voluntary departure" where the deportee himself or herself pays for the deportation costs, "deportation at the expense of the Government of Japan" where the Japanese government pays for the

deportation costs by reason of the deportee not having the necessary funds for deportation or other reasons, and "deportation in accordance with Article 59" where the deportee is deported on the responsibility and at the expense of the carrier operating the aircraft or vessel on which the deportee was brought to Japan.



Deportation

Reference 58 Changes in the number of deportees by means of deportation

(People)

Measure of Deportation \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	6,459	5,790	5,542	6,174	7,014
Voluntary departure	6,170	5,382	5,228	5,853	6,575
Deportation in accordance with Article 59	78	54	47	49	63
Individual deportation at the expense of the government	191	208	203	206	308
Group deportation at the expense of the government	0	121	32	22	30
Others	0	0	0	1	0
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons	20	25	32	43	38

(*1) "Group deportation at the expense of the government" refers to group deportation through the use of private chartered aircraft paid for by the Japanese government.

(*2) "Others" are cases of deportation at the expense of the government of the deportees' home country.

(1) Deportation at the Expense of Foreign National (Voluntary Departure)

Of the deportees, the number of those deported at their own expense stood at 6,575 (93.7%), which was an increase of 722 (12.3%) when compared to 2015 (**References 58, 59**).

The Immigration Bureau deports foreign nationals issued with a written deportation order as soon as the requirements necessary for deportation, such as the passport, air ticket or travel expenses, have been fulfilled. However, with regard to those who do not fulfill the requirements for deportation, the Immigration Bureau not only enforces the deportation procedures but also instructs deportees to make contact with relevant people in Japan or their home country in order to ask for assistance such as financial assistance for deportation. In cases where deportees do not possess a passport, the Immigration Bureau asks foreign diplomatic establishments in Japan for the early issuance of a passport for the deportee.

Reference 59 Changes in the number of deportees through voluntary departure by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	6,170	5,382	5,228	5,853	6,575
China	2,364	2,263	2,257	2,262	2,015
Viet Nam	331	424	608	1,046	1,358
Thailand	312	339	467	699	909
Philippines	926	680	578	555	578
Indonesia	164	130	154	277	552
R. O. Korea	947	652	448	311	267
Nepal	100	61	45	64	96
Mongolia	46	48	49	49	81
Myanmar	48	50	44	28	78
Sri Lanka	135	86	91	67	77
Others	797	649	487	495	564

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(2) Deportation at the Expense of the Government of Japan

As foreign nationals, who are in violation of the Immigration Control Act tend to stay for a longer period and have more diversified lifestyles than before. There are deportees who do not depart at the expense of the foreign national as they suffer from illness, refuse deportation for various reasons, or cannot afford the travel expenses for return to their home country. Of these foreign nationals, the number of those deported at the expense of the government in consideration of individual circumstances, etc. stood at 338 (4.8%) in 2016, which was an increase of 110 (48.2%) from 2015.

Moreover, in 2016, in order to implement safe and secure deportations, 30 foreign nationals were deported with a private chartered plane (**Reference 58**).

(3) Deportation at the Expense of and on the Responsibility of Carriers

A carrier who operates an aircraft or vessel that has transported a foreign national who does not meet the requirements for landing is responsible for deporting the deportee at its own expense and on its own responsibility under certain conditions (deportation under Article 59 of the Immigration Control Act) (*). The number of foreign nationals deported in this way in 2016 was 63 (0.9%), an increase of 14 (28.6%) from 2015 (**Reference 58**).

6. Departure Orders

(1) Investigation into Violations

The number of foreign nationals whose cases were handed over from immigration control officers to immigration inspectors through the departure order procedures was 4,094 in 2016, accounting for 30.6% of the total number of foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China at 1,695 (41.4%), followed by Thailand at 765 (18.7%), Viet Nam at 629 (15.4%), the Philippines at 322 (7.9%) and Indonesia at 257 (6.3%), and these top five countries accounted for 89.6% of the total (**Reference 60**).

(*) Carriers are in a position to govern their crew and passengers, and responsibilities and duties are imposed on them under the Immigration Control Act. Among these duties, they are obligated to send foreign nationals falling under certain conditions to an area outside Japan promptly on their own responsibility and at their own expense (Article 59 of the Immigration Control Act).

For example, persons who are denied landing and issued with a written exclusion order but fail to leave, or who have landed with special landing permission but stay longer than the authorized period of stay, fall under the abovementioned category.

Reference 60 Changes in the number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	2,587	2,479	2,587	3,571	4,094
China	1,244	1,261	1,283	1,660	1,695
Thailand	109	135	310	641	765
Viet Nam	93	120	196	387	629
Philippines	338	241	225	299	322
Indonesia	90	102	81	187	257
R. O. Korea	343	293	214	169	154
Mongolia	50	46	60	50	70
Nepal	22	23	15	13	23
Peru	39	27	11	14	20
Brazil	23	13	9	8	17
Others	236	218	183	143	142

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(2) Examination

A. Receipt and Processing of Cases

The number of cases of departure orders in 2016 was 4,094, accounting for 28.8% of the total number of cases of examination of the violation. This represented an increase of 523 (14.6%) when compared to 2015.

As those subject to a departure order voluntarily appear at a regional immigration bureau, wishing to depart from Japan they are promptly processed after their cases are sent by immigration control officers.

B. Issuance of a Written Departure Order

The number of cases in which were issued with a written departure order having been determined to be eligible for a departure order, was 4,101 in 2016.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China at 1,701, accounting for 41.5% of the total, followed by Thailand at 766 (18.7%), Viet Nam at 627 (15.3%), the Philippines at 326 (7.9%), and Indonesia at 256 (6.2%), and the top five countries accounted for 89.6% of the total (**Reference 61**).

Reference 61 Changes in the number of issuance of written departure orders by nationality/region

(Cases)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	2,594	2,478	2,592	3,573	4,101
China	1,252	1,259	1,282	1,662	1,701
Thailand	109	135	310	641	766
Viet Nam	92	118	203	387	627
Philippines	336	241	224	298	326
Indonesia	90	102	81	188	256
R. O. Korea/Korea	348	294	214	169	154
Mongolia	50	46	59	51	69
Nepal	22	23	15	13	23
Peru	37	27	11	16	20
Brazil	22	13	9	9	17
Others	236	220	184	139	142

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(3) Confirmation of Departure

Foreign nationals who are deemed to be subject to a departure order are required, as with foreign nationals departing within the period of stay, to receive a seal of verification of departure as well as the written departure order that was issued to them.

Chapter 6 Recognition of Refugee Status

Due to the recognition that it is important for Japan to fulfill its obligations in the international community by accepting refugees, Japan became a signatory to the Refugee Convention in 1981 and the Protocol in 1982 (hereinafter, “the Refugee Convention” and “the Protocol” are referred to together as “the Refugee Convention, etc.”) and as a result, also established a system for recognition of refugee status.

Thereafter, from the perspective of ensuring proper and prompt protection of refugees through fairer procedures, the refugee recognition system has undergone some revisions. The Act to Amend the Immigration Control Act was enforced on May 16, 2005, which included the establishment of a system to permit provisional stay and the refugee examination counselors system.

The Immigration Bureau has further improved and strengthened its organizational structure and investigation system, and has endeavored to ensure proper implementation of the refugee recognition system to handle applications for refugee status quickly and appropriately.

Section 1 Applications and Processing for Recognition of Refugee Status

1. Application for Refugee Status

In 2016, the total number of applicants who applied for recognition of refugee status in Japan was 10,901, which was an increase of 3,315 (43.7%) when compared to 2015, continuing on from the previous year to mark a record high (**Reference 62**).

Reference 62 Changes in the number of applications for refugee recognition

						(People)
Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Applications	2,545	3,260	5,000	7,586	10,901	

The number of nationalities/regions of the applicants was 79, and the major nationalities/regions from which applicants came were in descending order: Indonesia at 1,829 (16.8%), Nepal at 1,451 (13.3%), the Philippines at 1,412 (13.0%), Turkey at 1,143 (10.5%), Viet Nam at 1,072 (9.8%), Sri Lanka at 938 (8.6%), Myanmar at 650 (6.0%), India at 470 (4.3%), Cambodia at 318 (2.9%), Pakistan at 289 (2.7%), Bangladesh at 242 (2.2%), Ghana at 174 (1.6%), China at 156 (1.4%), Nigeria at 108 (1.0%), Iran at 107 (1.0%) and Cameroon at 66 (0.6%).

The applicants at the time of their applications were composed of 9,702 (89.0%) legal residents and 1,199 (11.0%) illegal residents. Of the illegal residents, the number of those who applied after a detention order or deportation order had been issued was 782, accounting for

65.2% of the total.

Of the total number of applicants, 1,497 applicants accounting for 13.7% had applied for recognition of refugee status in the past. These applicants comprised 1,009 legal residents (75.4% of whom held the status of residence of “Designated Activities”, which had been granted by reason that their applications were undergoing examination.) and 488 illegal residents (82.2% of whom had already been issued with a deportation order.).

2. Processing of Applications for Refugee Status

The total number of applicants whose application for recognition of refugee status was processed in 2016 was 8,193, an increase of 4,295 (110.2%) from 2015. The number of applicants who were recognized as refugees was 26^(*) while the number of applicants who were denied recognition of refugee status was 7,492. The number of applicants who withdrew their applications and others was 675.

Further, the immigration administration is allowed to make exceptional arrangements within its authority for applicants who have special extenuating circumstances, even if they have not been recognized as refugees who fall under the definition of refugees specified in the Refugee Convention, etc. For example, if an applicant, who is denied recognition of refugee status, is unable to return to his or her home country due to situational problems in his or her country or has some other special reason necessitating that he or she stay in Japan, special arrangements may be made flexibly on a case-by-case basis, taking the situation of the foreign national into consideration within the Japanese immigration control framework. In 2016, 97 applicants were allowed to stay in Japan (**Reference 63**).

Reference 63 Changes in the number of foreign nationals protected as refugees, etc.

(People)

Division		Year					
		1978~2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Refugees status	Recognized as a refugee	598	18	6	11	27	28
	Refugees for resettlement	11,364	0	18	23	19	18
Others		1,994	112	151	110	79	97
Total		13,956	130	175	144	125	143

- (*1) The number of persons recognized as refugees includes those who were denied recognition as a refugee in the primary examination, but were recognized as a result of the filing of an objection.
- (*2) The number of the “Refugees for resettlement” consists of (1) so-called “boat people” who fled from Indo-China countries during the 1970s through to the 1980s and their family/relatives (their legal protection was based on the approval of the Cabinet on April 28, 1978, and June 17, 1980), and (2) accepted Myanmar refugees who had been protected temporarily in Thailand (2010~2014) and Malaysia (2015~). Therefore, the numbers for the “refugees for resettlement” for before 2006 show the people who fall under category (1) while the numbers for “refugees for resettlement” in and after 2010 indicate the people who fall under category (2).
- (*3) The number of “Others” includes those who were denied recognition as a refugee in the primary examination but were later found to have enough grounds for being granted special permission to stay in Japan by the Minister of Justice, in accordance with Article 61-2-2 (2) of the Immigration Control Act.

(*) As for the number of applicants who were recognized as refugees as a result of the appeal, see Section 2, Subsection 2.

3. Implementation of the System for Permission for Provisional Stay

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for provisional stay was 58 in 2016, a decline of 25 (30.1%) from 2015.

The number of those who underwent an examination as to whether or not they should be granted permission for provisional stay was 930. The major reasons for decisions not granting permission were as follows^(*):

- (i) Applicants had applied for recognition of refugee status after the deadline of six months from the date of landing in Japan (in the case of those for whom the grounds for being a refugee had arisen during their stay in Japan, the date such fact became known to them): 487 persons.
- (ii) There had been Reasonable grounds to believe that the foreign national will flee: 345 persons.
- (iii) Applicants had already received a deportation order: 317 persons.

^(*) If one applicant fell under several grounds for denial of permission, all grounds were included.

Section 2 Appeal^(*)

1. Appeal

The total number of appeals filed by applicants who were denied recognition of refugee status (hereinafter referred to as “denial of recognition of refugee status”) in 2016 was 5,197, an increase of 2,077 (66.6%) from 2015 (**Reference 64**).

Reference 64 Changes in the number of appeals, and decisions of the Minister of Justice

(People)

Division		Year												
		1982 ~ 2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Not recognized as a refugee		2,773	389	446	791	1,703	1,336	2,002	2,083	2,499	2,906	3,411	7,492	27,831
Appeal		1,862	340	362	429	1,156	859	1,719	1,738	2,408	2,533	3,120	5,197	21,723
Decision/ Determination, etc.	With reason	32	12	4	17	8	13	14	13	3	5	8	2	131
	Without reason	1,425	127	183	300	230	325	635	790	921	1,171	1,763	2,112	9,982
	Withdrawn, etc.	295	33	34	34	70	113	231	193	211	344	504	822	2,884

2. Processing of the Appeal

Of the appeals filed by applicants who failed to obtain recognition of refugee status, 2,936 of them were handled in 2016, an increase of 661 (29.1%) from 2015. According to the statistics, 2 appeals were found to be with reasonable grounds (8 in the previous year), 2,112 appeals were found to be without any reasonable grounds (1,763 in the previous year) and 822 appeals were including appeals withdrawn by the foreign nationals (504 in the previous year) (**Reference 64**).

The total number of times refugee examination counselors who were present at an oral statement of opinions by the petitioner, etc. and a hearing in 2016 was 996, and the number of cases in which written opinions were submitted by refugee examination counselors was 1,752 in the same year.

(*) As the procedure for the “filing of an objection” was newly established by the amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, which entered into force on May 16, 2005, the “application for objection” made prior to the implementation of the amended Act was deemed to be replaced by “filing of an objection” after the implementation.

Pursuant to the enforcement of the Amended Immigration Control Act in line with the amended Administrative Appeal Act on April 1, 2016, the “filing of an objection” has been unified with the “request for an administrative review”. However, since the subject of the request for an administrative review is objections filed against denial of recognition of refugee status on or after April 1, 2016, which was the day of the enforcement of the Act, dispositions prior to the enforcement day will be handled through the procedures for the filing of an objection. Therefore, the procedures for the “filing of an objection” and “request for an administrative review” currently co-exist.

Section 3 **Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge**

With respect to landing permission for temporary refuge, 451 applications were submitted, and 13 applications were granted permission over the past five years (from 2012 to 2016).

Chapter 7

Measures Against Trafficking in Persons and Protection of Foreign Victims of Domestic Violence

Section 1 Measures Against Trafficking in Persons

1. Measures Against Trafficking in Persons

Trafficking in persons is a grave violation of human rights and a prompt and accurate response is called for from a humanitarian perspective. This is due to the fact that trafficking in persons inflicts serious mental and physical pain on the victims, especially on women and children, and it is difficult to recover from such damage. Moreover, human trafficking is an issue of serious concern to the international community since it is a crime which is committed across borders.

The Japanese government formulated the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons” through the relevant ministries and agencies in December 2004 and the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons 2009” through the Ministerial Conference for Measures against Crime in December 2009, and the entire government has been promoting measures up to this point. The “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons 2014” was formulated through the same Conference in December 2014 in order to work on more powerful, comprehensive and all-encompassing measures against human trafficking. In May 2017, the “Conference for the Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons” comprising the competent ministers in charge of measures against human trafficking held its third meeting, and the relevant government ministries and agencies led by the Conference are currently promoting government-wide efforts against the trafficking of persons.

In addition, based on the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons 2014”, the Immigration Bureau has also been striving to prevent human trafficking by further strengthening its system of cooperation with the related organizations, has been tracking hidden cases where there is the possibility of human trafficking and has been proactively engaged in eradicating trafficking in persons and offering appropriate protection to the victims.

2. Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons

The Immigration Bureau gives full consideration to the position of the victims of trafficking, and grants permission such as extension of the period of stay or a change of the status of residence from the perspective of victim protection, and moreover, if the victim is in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as by staying beyond the authorized period of stay, the legal status of the victim will be stabilized through such means as granting special permission to stay to the victim.

The number of foreign nationals for whom the Immigration Bureau implemented procedures for protection as victims of trafficking in persons (including support to return to their home country) was 21 in 2016 (26 persons in the previous year). According to the statistics by

nationality/region, 9 victims came from Thailand (8 in the previous year), 7 victims came from Cambodia (0 in the previous year) and 5 victim came from the Philippines (17 in the previous year).

The number of victims who had a status of residence out of the total of 21 victims was 11 persons (15 persons in the previous year), and the number of victims who were in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as illegally staying beyond the authorized period of stay was 10 persons (11 persons in the previous year). In addition, all of the victims who were in violation of the Immigration Control Act were granted special permission to stay in Japan (**Reference 65**).

The number of victims has declined significantly since 2005, when the Immigration Bureau first started collecting statistics and offered protection to 115 victims, and the number has been fluctuating at around 20 victims in recent years. This is thought to be because the entire government has been working together on measures under the Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons, and owing to the fact that measures to prevent and eradicate trafficking in persons, such as the revision of the ordinance on landing criteria pertaining to the status of residence of “Entertainer” made in the same year and following years and the implementation of strict landing examinations have had a certain level of effect (**Reference 66**).

Reference 65 Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2016)

(People)

Breakdown Nationality/region	Recognized as a victim of trafficking in persons		Total
	Foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence	Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special Permission to Stay in Japan)	
Thailand	2	7 (7)	9
Cambodia	7	0 (0)	7
Philippines	2	3 (3)	5
Total	11	10 (10)	21

(*1) The breakdown by status of residence of foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence was “Temporary Visitor”, 9 persons; “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, 1 person, and “Entertainer”, 1 person.

(*2) The type of violation of the foreign nationals granted special permission to stay was “illegal overstaying”, 9 persons, and “illegal entry” 1 person.

(*3) The breakdown by the status of residence, before overstaying the authorized period of stay were “Temporary Visitor”, 9 persons.

Reference 66 Changes in the number of victims of trafficking in persons

(People)

Breakdown	Year	2005	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total		115	9	12	9	26	21
Foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence		68	8	8	5	15	11
Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special permission to stay in Japan)		47 (47)	1 (1)	4 (4)	4 (4)	11 (11)	10 (10)

3. Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons^(*)

In 2014, the National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, Supreme Public Prosecutors Office, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the Japan Coast Guard established the “Task Force for the Enforcement of Laws and Regulations Relating to Trafficking in Persons”, and this task force has been conducting improved information sharing and cooperation in order to ensure crackdowns on human trafficking-related offenses, and consequently, two foreign nationals were deported by the Immigration Bureau as perpetrators of human trafficking in 2016 (three persons in the previous year). Their nationality was Bangladesh and Thailand.

(*) By the amendment of the Immigration Control Act in 2005, a “person who committed trafficking in persons, or has incited or aided another to commit trafficking in persons” was made subject to deportation (Article 24, item (iv), (c) of the Immigration Control Act).

Section 2 Protection of Foreign Domestic Violence Victims

1. Outline

Domestic violence, which includes an act that may constitute a crime, is a serious infringement against human rights. Similar to cases of trafficking in persons, an immediate and accurate response is required from a humanitarian point of view.

If the Immigration Bureau identifies a foreign national as a victim of domestic violence, the Bureau will offer secure protection for the physical welfare of the victim in cooperation with the related organizations, and if the victim has applied for an extension of the period of stay or has applied for a change of the status of residence where a change has become necessary owing to domestic violence and the victim finds it difficult to prepare the necessary papers, having suddenly been forced out of his or her home, the Immigration Bureau will give full consideration to the position of the victim and will respond appropriately in a humanitarian manner such as granting permission taking into account individual circumstances. In addition, with regard to victims who are in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as staying beyond their authorized period of stay due to domestic violence, the Immigration Bureau gives sufficient consideration to the case and, depending on the case, will take humanitarian measures, such as granting special permission to stay.

Further, a law to partially amend the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims was enforced in January 2008, and the “Basic Policy Relating to Measures to Prevent Spousal Violence and Protect Victims” (*) was formulated by the relevant ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Justice, based on this law. In light of this basic policy, the Immigration Bureau established its own guidelines on the measures in July of the same year, and in cases where a person is identified as a victim of domestic violence, the Immigration Bureau, taking into full consideration the fact that the victim has been placed in a harsh situation both physically and mentally, deals appropriately according to the physical and mental condition, etc., of the victim, and strives to further protect the victim by cooperating with the Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Center, the Women’s Consulting Offices, police and other related organizations.

2. Number of Recognized Foreign Domestic Violence Victims

The Immigration Bureau places emphasis the most on the protection of victims and treats the victims properly from a humanitarian perspective by ensuring coordination with the agencies concerned, and gives careful consideration to the wishes and situation of the victims in the procedures for such as examination of the status of residence or the deportation procedures while considering their individual circumstances. The number of foreign domestic violence

(*) The Act was renamed “The Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” in accordance with the partially re-amended act enforced in January 2014. Following this rename, the “Basic Policy Relating to Measures for Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” was set out along with the enforced Act.

victims who were recognized in the process of residence examination or the deportation procedures during 2016 was 64 (**Reference 67, 68**).

The Immigration Bureau took into account the individual situations of the victims and permitted in most of the cases extension of the period of stay or granted special permission to stay.

Reference 67 Number of recognized foreign domestic violence victims (2016)

(People)

Nationality/Region	Division	Residence Procedures	Deportation Procedures	Consultations	Others	Total
Philippines		33	0	11	0	44
China		5	0	5	0	10
Brazil		1	0	1	0	2
United Kingdom		1	0	0	0	1
Viet Nam		1	0	0	0	1
Taiwan		0	0	1	0	1
R.O.Korea		0	0	1	0	1
Sri Lanka		0	0	1	0	1
Czech		0	0	1	0	1
Bangladesh		0	0	1	0	1
Peru		0	0	1	0	1
Total		41	0	23	0	64

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

Reference 68 Changes in the number of victims of domestic violence cases recognized by regional immigration bureau

(People)

Year	Regional Immigration Bureaus	Sapporo	Sendai	Tokyo	Nagoya	Osaka	Hiroshima	Takamatsu	Fukuoka	Total
2014		0	3	16	31	7	10	0	8	75
2015		1	1	18	39	18	9	0	9	95
2016		0	4	12	20	10	5	2	11	64