

Data Section

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Data Section 1

Outline of Japan's Immigration Control and Residency Management System

Section 1 Purpose and Legal Basis

Article 1 of the Immigration Control Act stipulates that “the purpose of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act is to provide for equitable control over the entry into and departure from Japan of all persons and residence of all foreign nationals residing in Japan and to consolidate the procedures for recognition of refugee status”.

The meaning of “equitable control over the entry into and departure from Japan and residence of all foreign nationals residing in Japan” is to achieve a reasonable balance between the smooth acceptance of foreign nationals and the removal of unwelcome foreign nationals. In order to achieve this purpose, on the one hand the Immigration Control Act provides for a status of residence system to enable the smooth acceptance of foreign nationals who have, for instance, advanced skills. On the other hand, the Immigration Control Act provides for deportation procedures so as to strictly deal with foreign nationals who have committed crimes in Japan.

Among the purposes of the Act mentioned above, “equitable control over the residence of all foreign nationals residing in Japan” was newly added under the Act to Amend the Immigration Control Act and Related Laws to express clearly that the purpose of the Immigration Control Act is to provide for equitable control over not only the entry into and departure from Japan but also the residence of all foreign nationals residing in Japan because the importance of equitable control over the residence of the foreign nationals has been increasing due to the increase in the number of foreign residents and the establishment of the statuses of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specified Skilled Worker (ii)”. The refugee recognition system was added to the responsibilities of the immigration control and residency management administration when Japan signed the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1981.

Other major laws and regulations relating to the Immigration Control Act include, for example, the Special Act on Immigration Control stipulating the special rules under the Immigration Control Act for special permanent residents; the Enforcement Order of the Immigration Control Act and the Enforcement Order of the Special Act on Immigration Control stipulating the statutory administrative affairs entrusted to the local governments; the Regulation for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act and the Regulation for Enforcement of the Special Act on Immigration Control specifically defining the procedures for implementation of the Immigration Control Act and the Special Act on Immigration Control; the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria stipulated taking possible effects on Japanese industry and people's lives and other circumstances into consideration.

Section 2 Immigration Procedures for All Persons

1 Procedures for the Entry and Departure of Foreign Nationals^{(*)1}

When a foreign national who does not have Japanese nationality (including stateless individuals) wishes to enter Japan, he or she must, in principle, possess a valid passport with a visa^{(*)2} obtained at a Japanese embassy or consulate abroad, apply for landing with an immigration inspector at the port of entry and departure^{(*)3}, and receive a seal of verification for landing. Upon departure from Japan, the foreign national must receive confirmation of departure.

As a result of the landing examination by an immigration inspector, any foreign national who falls under any of the following cases will be denied permission to land in Japan: when the foreign national's passport or visa is found to be invalid such as being counterfeit or altered; when the activities declared in the application as the ones in which the foreign national intends to engage while in Japan are found to be false; or when the foreign national falls under any of the grounds for denial of landing enumerated in the Immigration Control Act (Article 5), such as having a past record of having been sentenced to a criminal punishment owing to a violation of any law or regulation relating to the control of narcotics, marijuana, opium, stimulants or psychotropic substances, for the purpose of prohibiting the landing of foreign nationals who are unwelcome in Japan.

Other than these general immigration procedures for foreign nationals, the Immigration Control Act also provides for a simplified system of landing permission known as "special landing permission"^{(*)4}.

2 Procedures for Entry (Landing) Examinations of Foreign Nationals^{(*)5}

The procedures for entry examinations of foreign nationals are structured as a three-step examination process so that the cases may be examined carefully and foreign nationals will have a sufficient chance to assert and prove that they comply with the conditions for landing ([Reference 82](#)).

(*)1 A foreign national is deemed to have "entered" Japan when he or she has entered the territorial sea or territorial airspace of Japan, and to have "landed" in Japan when he or she has set foot on Japanese land. Therefore, the permission for entry or stay given to foreign nationals as a result of the immigration examination at the port of entry and departure is referred to as "landing permission".

For a country which borders a neighboring country, "entry" means a foreign national has crossed the border and proceeded into the land territory of another country. In this case, it is not necessary to distinguish the concept of "entry" from that of "landing". However, since Japan is surrounded by sea, a distinction is made between the two terms.

(*)2 A "visa" refers to a document that a Japanese consular officer issues under certain conditions to certify in a foreign national's passport, using a prescribed format, that the foreign national who seeks to land in Japan has a legitimate reason and qualifications based on his or her application.

(*)3 The "port of entry and departure" refers to certain seaports and airports where foreign nationals are allowed to enter into or depart from Japan (Article 2, item (viii) of the Immigration Control Act). Specific ports of entry and departure are stipulated in the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act. As of April 1, 2020, the number of ports of entry and departure was 127 seaports and 32 airports.

(*)4 For special landing permission, see Subsection 4.

(*)5 The "entry (landing) examination" by the immigration inspector and the "landing adjudication" after the hearing are jointly called the entry (landing) examination procedures in the wide sense of the term.

(1) Entry (Landing) Examination

If a foreign national has applied for landing and such foreign national (excluding special permanent residents) has fulfilled his or her obligation to submit biometric information (fingerprints and facial photographs) (Article 6, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act), the immigration inspector will examine whether such foreign national meets with the conditions for landing in Japan or not ((i) the foreign national possesses a valid passport; (ii) a valid visa is attached to the passport, except in cases where the foreign national is eligible for a visa waiver; (iii) the activities the foreign national has applied for is not false and comes under one of the statuses of residence listed in one of the Appended Tables of the Immigration Control Act, and moreover, with regard to certain statuses of residence, meets the landing permission criteria given in the Ordinance on Criteria; (iv) the period of stay applied for conforms to the provisions of the Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice; and (v) the foreign national does not fall under any of the grounds for denial of landing) (Article 7, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). When an immigration inspector finds that a foreign national conforms to the above-mentioned conditions, the immigration inspector will determine a status of residence and the period of stay, and affix a seal of verification for landing onto the foreign national's passport.

The provision of biometric information (fingerprints and a facial photograph) at the time of the entry (landing) examination became mandatory through the 2006 amendment of the Immigration Control Act (enforced on November 20, 2007).

(2) Hearing

If a foreign national, who has filed an application for landing, does not provide his or her personal identification information to the immigration officer at the port of entry or departure, or is found, as a result of the landing examination by the immigration inspector, not to conform to the conditions for landing, the case will be assigned to a special inquiry officer^(*1), who will hold a hearing (Article 7, paragraph (4), Article 9, paragraph (6), and Article 10, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

If the special inquiry officer finds, as a result of the hearing, that the foreign national conforms to the conditions for landing (limited to cases where the foreign national is found to come under foreign nationals who are exempt from the obligation of providing personal identification information and cases where the foreign national provides his or her personal identification information to the special inquiry officer with regard to cases assigned to the special inquiry officer owing to the foreign national refusing to provide his or her personal identification information to the immigration inspector), the foreign national will immediately be granted landing permission (Article 10, paragraphs (8) of the Immigration Control Act).

(3) Filing of an Objection

On the other hand, a foreign national who is found not to conform to the conditions for landing may either accept the finding or file an objection. In the case of the former, the foreign national will be ordered to depart from Japan. In the latter case, the foreign national may file an objection with the Minister of Justice within three days after receipt of the

(*1) A "special inquiry officer" refers to a senior immigration officer appointed by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency, who is authorized to hold hearings for landing examination procedures and deportation procedures.

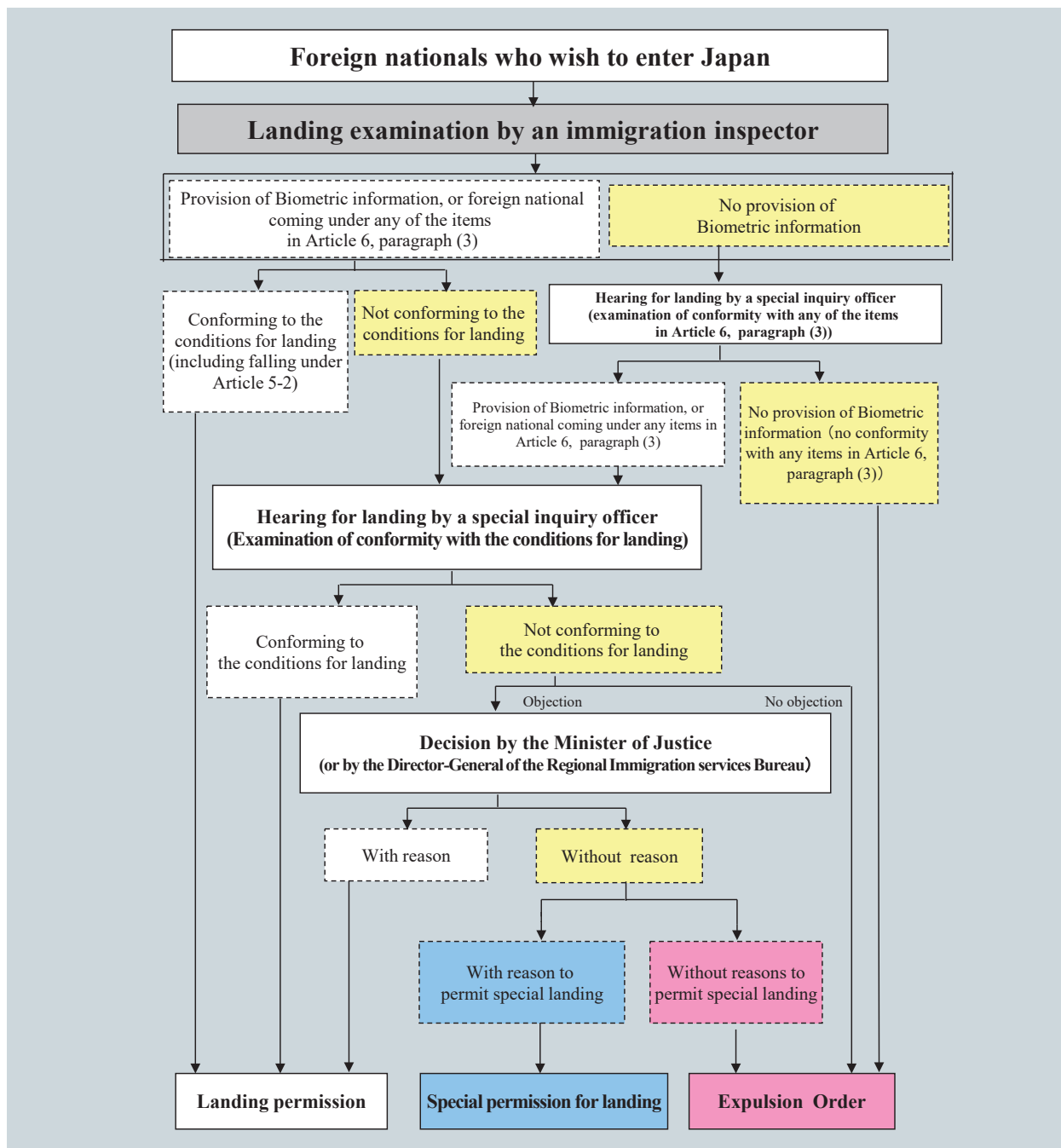
notice^(*1) (Article 10, paragraphs (10) and (11), and Article 11, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

If there is an objection from a foreign national who has been found not to conform to the conditions for landing by the special inquiry officer, the Minister of Justice will decide whether or not the objection is with reason, that is, whether the foreign national conforms to the conditions for landing. If a decision is reached that the objection is with reason, such foreign national will immediately be granted permission for landing, and if a decision is reached that the objection is without reason, such foreign national will be ordered to depart from Japan (Article 11, paragraphs (3), (4) and (6) of the Immigration Control Act), but if the foreign national who has been ordered to depart from Japan does not depart from Japan without delay, the deportation procedure will be enforced (Article 24, item (v)-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

Even if the Minister of Justice finds that the objection filed is without reason, if such foreign national has been granted re-entry permission and entered Japan under the control of another due to trafficking in persons or the Minister of Justice finds that circumstances exist that warrant the granting of special permission for landing, the Minister of Justice may grant such foreign national special permission for landing (the “special permission for landing” provided for in Article 12 of the Immigration Control Act).

(*1) There are no procedures for a decision by the Minister of Justice with regard to foreign nationals who do not provide their personal identification information, and therefore, their deportation from Japan will be ordered at the hearing (Article 10, paragraph (7) of the Immigration Control Act).

Reference 82 Flow of landing examination



3 Pre-entry Examination

(1) Advance Consultation for Issuance of Visas

Although the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the ministry, which has jurisdiction over the issuance of visas, since possessing a valid visa is one of the conditions for landing, the issuance of visas is strongly tied to immigration control and residency management administration.

For this reason, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which has jurisdiction over the issuance of visas and the Immigration Services Agency, which has jurisdiction over immigration control and residency management, liaise and coordinate over the entry of foreign nationals, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs consults with the Immigration Services Agency on the individual visa applications where necessary. Accordingly, the Immigration Services Agency examines whether the activities which the foreign national intends to engage in while in

Japan conforms to one of the statuses of residence described in the Appended Tables of the Immigration Control Act, thorough examining the submitted documents, and hearing about the circumstances from a representative of the organization in Japan that plans to accept the foreign national. In addition, with regard to a foreign national who intends to engage in a particular activity, the Immigration Services Agency examines whether the foreign national complies with each of the conditions for landing stipulated in the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria and subsequently provides an answer to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as to whether or not it is appropriate to issue a visa to the foreign national (**Reference 83-1**).

(2) Certificate of Eligibility

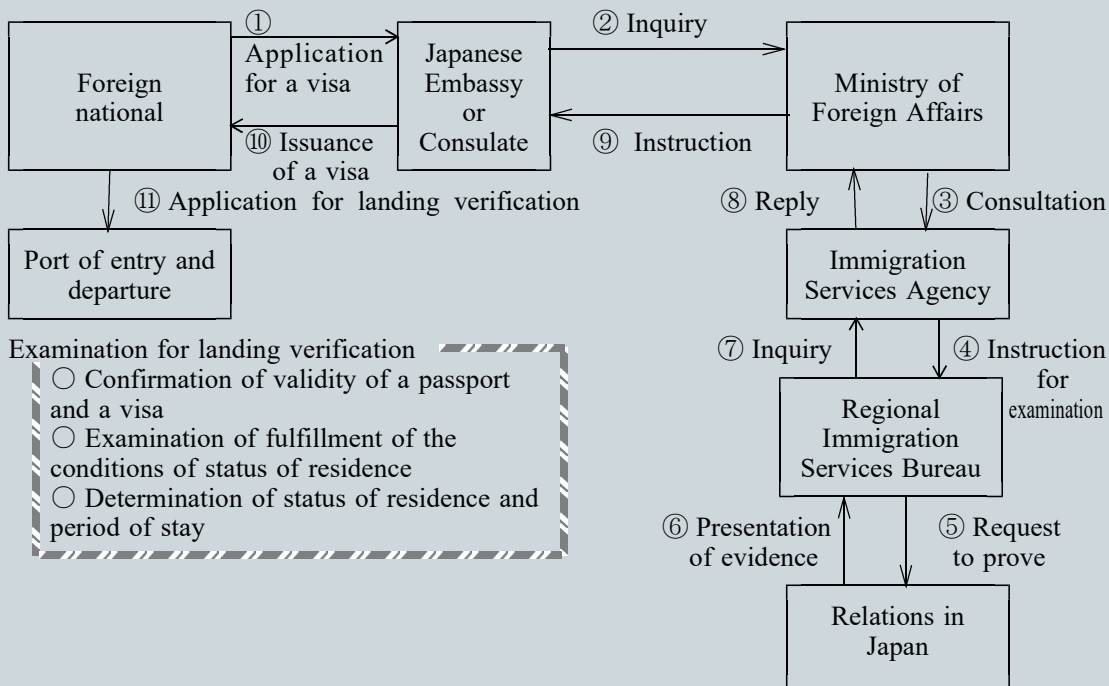
In principle, a foreign national is required to obtain a visa at a Japanese embassy or consulate abroad before coming to Japan. The visa will not be issued unless the visa application documents submitted abroad have been sent to Japan, examined in Japan, and an opinion has been given to the embassy or consulate, except in cases where a visa may be issued solely upon a decision made by the embassy or consulate abroad such as in cases relating to the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”. For this reason, a considerable amount of time is required from the time of the application being submitted to the time of a visa being issued.

Therefore, in order to simplify and facilitate the entry examination procedures, a system of certificates of eligibility was established through the amendment of the Immigration Control Act in 1990. When a foreign national him/herself or an other agent, applies for a certificate of eligibility for a status of residence (except for “Temporary Visitor” and “Permanent Resident”) in Japan beforehand, the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau examines in advance whether the foreign national is eligible for the applied status of residence. When the foreign national intends to engage in specific activities, the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau examines whether or not he or she meets the conditions for landing stipulated in the Ordinance on Criteria. If he or she is judged to be eligible for the status of residence and meets the conditions for landing mentioned in Subsection 2 (1), the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau issues a certificate of eligibility, which will enable the foreign national to smoothly acquire a visa and permission for landing through presenting the certificate (Article 7-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

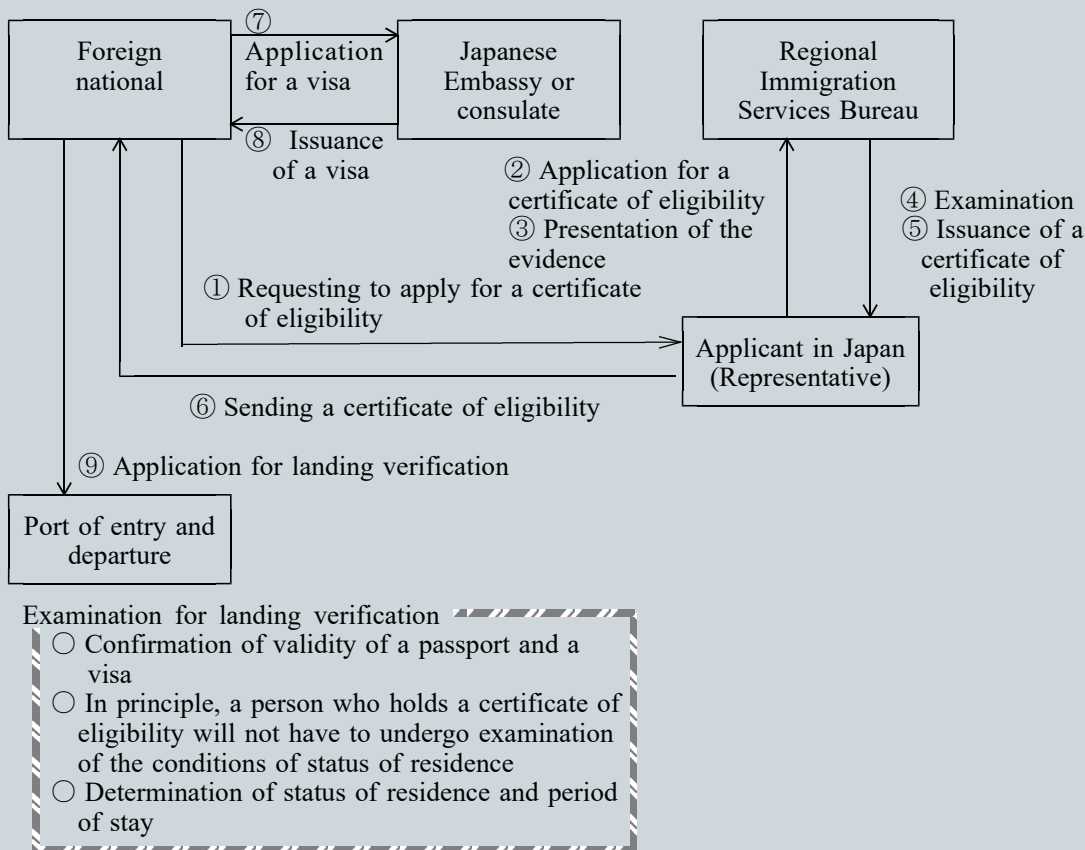
This procedure enables the saving of time needed for the sending of documents, and also enables speedy entry examination procedures, since all the procedures for pre-entry examination are carried out in Japan, unlike the system of advance consultation for issuance of visas (**Reference 83-2**).

Reference 83 Procedures for advance consultation for issuance of visas and applications for certificates of eligibility

1 Advance consultation for issuance of a visa



2 Application for a certificate of eligibility



4 Special Landing Permission ^(*)

In addition to being in possession of a passport and visa, in principle, the foreign national must meet the conditions for landing for the status of residence, and must have his or her status of residence determined by the Japanese government before being able to land in Japan. The following cases are the exceptions to this principle, and allow foreign crew members and passengers of vessels and aircraft to land temporarily through simple procedures provided that they meet particular requirements. The exceptions are intended to simplify the landing procedures for foreign nationals who intend to stay in Japan for a short term (or for a short time), but in order to secure their appropriate stay through these simple procedures, there are some restrictions, such as on the period of stay and area of movement.

(1) Permission for Landing at a Port of Call

This permission reduces the burden imposed on foreign passengers changing vessels in Japan to get to other countries. It allows a foreign national who is to proceed via Japan to an area outside Japan to stay for a maximum of 72 hours in order to land temporarily for the purpose of making purchases or resting at a place in the vicinity of the port of call (airport or seaport). This permission will not be granted when Japan is the final destination and the vessel is not proceeding to a destination outside Japan (Article 14 of the Immigration Control Act).

(2) Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists

This landing permission for cruise ship tourists is intended to offer increased convenience to foreign passengers onboard cruise ships designated by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency (designated passenger ships).

If a foreign national onboard a designated passenger ship wishes to land for the purpose of sightseeing, he or she will be granted landing permission within a period not exceeding seven days or 30 days until the time of departure on the condition that such foreign national returns to the ship before the designated passenger ship leaves the port (Article 14-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

(3) Permission for Landing in Transit

This permission improves convenience for foreign passengers aboard a vessel and aircraft. It allows a foreign national aboard a vessel calling at two or more ports of entry and departure to land temporarily for sightseeing purposes while the vessel is in Japan and to return to the vessel at another port of entry and departure at which the vessel is scheduled to call within 15 days, or allows a foreign national on board a vessel or aircraft who plans to proceed to an area outside Japan via Japan to make a transit stop and leave Japan from another port of entry and departure in the vicinity of the port at which he or she entered, within three days of his or her entry into Japan (Article 15 of the Immigration Control Act).

(4) Landing Permission for Crew Members

This permission improves convenience for foreign crew members. It allows a foreign crew member aboard a vessel and aircraft to land temporarily at a port of call for the purpose of

(*) For landing permission for temporary refuge, see Section 6, Subsection 4 below.

transferring to another vessel, making purchases or taking a rest within a limit of seven or 15 days.

For foreign crew members who frequently land at a Japanese port of entry and departure, there is also a system of multiple landing permission for crew members (Article 16 of the Immigration Control Act).

(5) Permission for Emergency Landing

The purpose of this provision is to respond quickly to emergency situations of foreign passengers and crew members aboard a vessel or an aircraft. If such foreign nationals need to land in Japan urgently for medical treatment of a disease, injury or some other physical ailment, permission will be granted until the cause thereof ceases to exist (Article 17 of the Immigration Control Act).

(6) Landing Permission Due to Distress

This permission was established for the purpose of promptly dealing with vessels that are in distress. It is granted when it is necessary to carry out relief and protection of foreign victims aboard a vessel or aircraft in distress or in the event of a forced landing within a limit of 30 days (Article 18 of the Immigration Control Act).

5 Procedures for the Departure and Return of Japanese Nationals

The main role of the immigration control and residency management administration is to control the entry into and departure from Japan of foreign nationals. However, at the same time, it takes on the role of monitoring the transnational movement of all persons. For this reason, the Immigration Control Act stipulates the procedures for departure and return of Japanese nationals.

If a Japanese national departs from Japan, his or her departure must be confirmed by an immigration inspector at the port of entry and departure. In addition, if a Japanese national returns to Japan, his or her return must be confirmed by an immigration inspector (Article 60, 61 of the Immigration Control Act).

Section 3 Examination of the Status of Residence of Foreign Nationals

1 Status of Residence System

In principle, foreign nationals who enter and reside as residents in Japan are required to be granted a status of residence designated by the Immigration Control Act. These statuses of residence cover a wide variety of activities of foreign nationals and clarify what activities they are permitted to engage in so as to be able to enter and reside in Japan. This scheme is called the status of residence system and it forms the foundation of the immigration control and residency management administration of Japan ([Reference 84](#)).

The statuses can be broadly divided into two categories:

- (i) Statuses of residence which focus on the authorized activities of the foreign national in Japan (one of the statuses of residence in the left-hand column of the Appended Table I of

the Immigration Control Act (activity status))

- (ii) Statuses of residence which focus on the personal status or position of the foreign national (one of the statuses of residence in the left-hand column of the Appended Table II of the Immigration Control Act (residency status))

The basis for the former is “what the foreign national does”, while that of the latter is “what kind of status the foreign national has”.

In addition, as Japan adopts a policy of permitting foreign nationals who are to engage in occupational activities utilizing their professional techniques, skills or knowledge to enter and stay in Japan, but does not to permit other foreign workers to enter and stay in Japan, the statuses of residence which belong to the abovementioned category (i) are divided into the two subcategories of statuses of residence for which work activities are permitted (activities to operate income-earning businesses or activities to receive remuneration), and statuses of residence for which work activities are not permitted.

Although the original purpose of the statuses of residence which belong to the abovementioned category (ii) is not work, it is possible to engage in a work activity because there are no restrictions imposed what activities the foreign national does.

Furthermore, if an activity among the statuses of residence is likely to impact Japanese industry and people's lives, the foreign national will not be permitted to enter Japan unless such a foreign national meets the criteria for the landing permission stipulated by the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria.

Reference 84 List of Statuses of Residence (As of April 1, 2021)

Appended Table I

(1)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Diplomat	Activities on the part of constituent members of diplomatic missions or consular offices of foreign governments hosted by the Japanese Government; activities on the part of those who are provided with similar privileges and/or immunities as are granted to diplomatic missions pursuant to treaties or international customary practices; and activities on the part of their family members belonging to the same household.	Ambassador, minister, consulate general, or delegation member of a foreign government and their families	Period during which diplomatic activities are performed
Official	Activities on the part of those who engage in the official business of foreign governments or international organizations recognized by the Japanese Government; and activities on the part of their family members belonging to the same household (except for the activities listed in the "Diplomat" column of this Table).	Employee of an embassy or consulate of a foreign government, individual assigned by an international institution for an official assignment, and their families	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 3 months, 30 days or 15 days
Professor	Activities for research, guidance of research or education at a university, an equivalent educational institutions or colleges of technology ("Kotosenmongakko").	College professor	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Artist	Artistic activities that produce income, including music, the fine arts, literature, etc. (except for the activities listed in the "Entertainer" column in Table I (2)).	Composer, artist, or writer	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Religious Activities	Missionary and other religious activities conducted by foreign religious workers dispatched by a foreign religious organization.	Missionary assigned by a foreign religious organization	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Journalist	News coverage and other journalistic activities conducted based on a contract with a foreign journalistic organization.	Reporter or photographer of foreign press	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months

(2)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Highly-Skilled Professional	<p>(i)</p> <p>Activities coming under any of the following items of "a" to "c" conducted by a person who meets the criteria specified by an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice as a human resource with advanced highly-skilled capabilities, and who is expected to contribute to the development of academic research or the economy of Japan.</p> <p>(a) Activities of engaging in research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice, or in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business managed personally by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities or activities of research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into a public or private organization in Japan other than said organization.</p> <p>(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the field of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice, or in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business managed personally by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities.</p> <p>(c) Activities of engaging in the operation of international trade or other business at a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice or to manage said business or, in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business personally managed by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities.</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>The following activities which meet the criteria specified by an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice where the residence of</p>	<p>A foreign national within the scope eligible for the decision on a status for work who has earned points for each of the items of "academic background," "professional career" and "annual salary", etc. and whose total number of points reaches a certain score (70 points).</p> <p>(Example) A case where a 30 year-old (10 points), who has acquired a master's degree (professional degree on business administration (MBA)) from a foreign university (25 points) with seven years' IT-related work experience (15 points), engages in the work of the development of</p>	<p>5 years for Highly-Skilled Professional (i) and unlimited for Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)</p>

	<p>the person engaging in the activities given in the previous item contributes to the interests of Japan.</p> <p>(a) Activities of engaging in research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan.</p> <p>(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the field of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan.</p> <p>(c) Activities of engaging in the operation of international trade or other business at a public or private organization in Japan or to manage said business.</p> <p>(d) Activities (except for the activities corresponding to any of (a) through to (c)) listed in the column from "Professor" to "Journalist" as specified in Table I (1), or the activities listed in the column corresponding to the sections of "Legal/Accounting Services", "Medical Services", "Instructor", "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services", "Entertainer", the section of "Skilled Labor" or the section of "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)" in this table in conjunction with any of the activities from (a) through to (c).</p>	management support software with an annual salary of 6 million yen (20 points).	5 years for Highly-Skilled Professional (i) and unlimited for Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)
Business Manager	Activities to engage in the operation of international trade or other business in Japan or to manage said business (except for activities to engage in the operation or management of business which may not be legally conducted without the qualification given in the column of "Legal/Accounting Services").	Manager or operator of a company, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 4 months or 3 months
Legal/Accounting Services	Activities to engage in legal or accounting business which may lawfully only be carried out by registered foreign lawyers (gaikokuhou-jimubengoshi), or certified public accountants (gaikokukoninkaikeishi) or those with other legal qualifications.	Attorney or certified public accountant	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Medical Services	Activities to engage in medical treatment services which may lawfully only be undertaken by physicians, dentists or those with other legal qualifications.	Physician, dentist or registered nurse	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Researcher	Activities to engage in research based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan (except for the activities listed in the "Professor" column of Table I (1)).	Researcher at a government-related institution or company	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Instructor	Activities to engage in language instruction or other education at an elementary school, junior high school, compulsory education school, senior high school, school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko), school for special needs education, vocational school (senshugakko), miscellaneous category school (kakushugakko) or other educational institution equivalent to a miscellaneous educational institution in facilities and curriculum.	Language instructor at a high school or junior high school	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services	Activities to engage in services which require specialized skills or knowledge pertinent to the field of physical science, engineering or other natural science fields or to the field of jurisprudence, economics, sociology or other humanities fields or to engage in services which require specific ways of thinking or sensitivity acquired through experience with a foreign culture (except for the activities listed in the right-hand column of the "Professor", "Artist" and "Journalist" sections in Table (1), and the activities listed in the right-hand column of the "Business Manager" to "Instructor" sections, and the "Intra-company Transferee" section in this Table) based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan.	Engineers such as of mechanical engineering, interpreters, designers, language teachers of private companies, and employees engaged in the marketing field, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Intra-company Transferee	Activities on the part of personnel who is transferred to a business office in Japan for a limited period of time from a business office established in a foreign country by a public or private organization which has head office, branch office or other business office in Japan, and who engages in the activities listed in the "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" column of this Table at the business office.	Transferee from an office abroad	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Nursing Care	Activities of a person qualified as a certified care worker to engage in nursing care or the instructions of nursing care based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan.	Certified Care Worker	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Entertainer	Activities to engage in theatrical performances, musical performances, sports or any other show form of business (except for the activities listed in the "Business Manager" column of this Table).	Actor, singer, dancer, or professional athlete	3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months or 15days

Skilled Labor	Activities to engage in services which require industrial techniques or skills belonging to special fields based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan.	Chef of foreign cuisine, sports instructor, aircraft pilot, or craftsman of precious metals	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Specified Skilled Worker	<p>(i) Activities to engage in work requiring skills that need a considerable degree of knowledge or experience provided for in the applicable Order for the Ministry of Justice belonging to a specified industrial field (meaning the specified industrial field designated in the applicable Order of the Ministry of Justice where the securing of human resources to supplement the shortage of labor by employing foreign nationals is required due to difficulty in securing human resources; hereinafter the same shall apply in the same item) designated by the Minister of Justice based on a contract (limited to those conforming to the provisions of Article 2-5, paragraph (1) through to paragraph (4); hereinafter the same shall apply in the following item) concerning employment entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice.</p> <p>(ii) Activities to engage in work requiring the proficient skills provided for in the applicable Order for the Ministry of Justice belonging to a specified industrial field designated by the Minister of Justice based on a contract concerning employment entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice.</p>	<p>(i) Foreign nationals engaging in work requiring skills which need considerable knowledge or experience belonging to specified industrial fields.</p> <p>(ii) Foreign nationals engaging in work requiring proficient skills belonging to specified industrial fields.</p>	<p>(i) 1 year, 6 months or 4 months</p> <p>(ii) 3 years, 1 year or 6 months</p>
Technical Intern Training	<p>(i) Activities that fall under either of the following items (a) or (b)</p> <p>(a) Activities to attend lectures and engage in work pertaining to skills, technologies or knowledge (hereinafter referred to as "skills, etc.") based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to individual-enterprise-type technical intern training. (i) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (2), item (i) of 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")) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph (if approval of the change has been given in accordance with the provisions of Article 11, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, even after such change; the same shall apply hereinafter).</p> <p>(b) Activities to attend lectures and engage in work pertaining to skills, etc. based on the Technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to supervising-organization-type technical intern training (i) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (4), item (i) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.</p> <p>(ii) Activities that fall under either of the following items (a) or (b)</p> <p>(a) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to individual-enterprise-type technical intern training (ii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (2), item (ii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.</p> <p>(b) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to supervising-organization-type technical intern training (ii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (4), item (ii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.</p> <p>(iii) Activities that fall under either of the following items (a) or (b)</p> <p>(a) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to individual-enterprise-type technical intern training (iii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (2), item (iii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation</p>	Technical intern trainees	<p>(i) Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (1 year or less)</p> <p>(ii) and (iii) Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (2 years or less)</p>

	set forth under the same paragraph. (b) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to supervising-organization-type technical intern training (iii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (4), item (iii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.		
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(3)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Cultural Activities	Academic or artistic activities that provide no income, or activities engaged in for the purpose of pursuing specific Japanese cultural or artistic studies, or for the purpose of learning and acquiring Japanese culture or arts under the guidance of experts (except for activities listed in the columns from "Student" to "Trainee" in this Table I (4)).	Researcher of Japanese culture	3 years, 1 year, 6 months or 3 months
Temporary Visitor	Sightseeing, recreation, sports, visiting relatives, inspection tours, participating in lectures or meetings, business contact or other similar activities during a short period of stay in Japan.	Tourist or conference participant	90 days, 30 days, 15 days or period of less than 15 days

(4)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Student	Activities to receive education at a university, technical school (kotosenmongakko), senior high school (including the second half of a course of study at a school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko)), senior high school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushiengakko), junior high school (including the second half of a course of a compulsory education school (gimukyoikugakko) and the first half of a course of study at a school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko)) or a junior high school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushiengakko), elementary school (including the first half of a course of study in a compulsory education school (gimukyoikugakko)) or an elementary school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushiengakko), vocational school (senshugakko), miscellaneous category school (kakushugakko) or an equivalent educational institution in terms of facilities and organization in Japan.	A university student, a junior college student, a student at a college of technology (kotosenmongakko), a senior high school student, a junior high school student or an elementary school student	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (4 years and 3 months or less)
Trainee	Activities to acquire skills at a public or a private organization in Japan (except for the activities listed in the "Technical Intern Training (i)" column of Table I (2) and "Student" column of this Table).	Trainee	1 year, 6 months or 3 months
Dependent	Daily activities on the part of the spouse or unmarried minor supported by the foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence referred to in the columns in Table I (1), (2) and (3) (except for "Diplomat", "Official", "Specified Skilled Worker (limited to those pertaining to "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" of Table I (2))", "Technical Intern Training" and "Temporary Visitor") or staying with the status of residence of "Student" in this Table.	Spouse or child who is a dependant of a residing foreign national	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

(5)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Designated Activities	Activities which are specifically designated by the Minister of Justice for foreign individuals.	Domestic help for a diplomat, individual on a working holiday, or nurse and certified caretaker candidates under the Economic Partnership Agreement	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months or a term designated by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

Appended Table II

Status of Residence	Personal Status or Position for Which Residence is Authorized	Examples	Period of Stay
Permanent Resident	Those who are permitted permanent residence by the Minister of Justice.	Individual who is permitted permanent residence by the Minister of Justice (except for special permanent residents of the Special Act on Immigration Control)	Unlimited
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	The spouses of Japanese nationals, those born as the children of Japanese nationals or children adopted by Japanese nationals pursuant to the provisions of Article 817-2 of the Civil Code (Law No.89 of 1896).	Spouse or child of a Japanese national, or child adopted by a Japanese national in accordance with the provisions of Article 817-2 of the Civil Code	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	The spouses of permanent residents, etc. or those born as the children of permanent residents, etc. in Japan and who have continued to reside in Japan.	Spouse of a permanent resident or Special Permanent Resident, or biological child of a permanent resident or Special Permanent Resident who was born and continues to reside in Japan	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Long-Term Resident	Those who are authorized to reside in Japan with a period of stay designated by the Minister of Justice in consideration of special circumstances.	Refugees accepted for third-country re-settlement, Japanese descent, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months or a term designated by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

2 Examination of the Status of Residence

If a foreign national residing in Japan wishes to stay for a new purpose that differs from the initial purpose of residence or wishes to continue to stay in Japan even after the expiration of the initial period of stay granted for his or her status of residence, he or she is required to file an application in accordance with the Immigration Control Act, and to obtain permission. In detail, (1) permission for change of the status of residence; (2) permission for extension of the period of stay; (3) permission for permanent residence; (4) permission for acquisition of a status of residence; (5) re-entry permission; and (6) permission to engage in an activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted; and the task of making these decisions is called examination of the status of residence.

The permission of (1) to (4) is decided by the Minister of Justice (the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency as commissioned by the Minister of Justice or the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau as commissioned by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency), and the permission of (5) and (6) is decided by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency (the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau as commissioned by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency) (Article 69-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

(1) Permission for Change of Status of Residence

If a foreign national staying in Japan wishes to change the activities in which he or she is to engage in Japan, he or she will need to apply for permission for change of the status

of residence before engaging in any new activities and obtain permission for a change to the status of residence corresponding to the new activities (Article 20 of the Immigration Control Act).

(2) Permission for Extension of the Period of Stay

If a foreign national residing in Japan wishes to continue to stay in Japan even after the expiration of his or her period of stay without changing the status of residence currently possessed by him or her, he or she will need to apply for permission to extend the period of stay before the expiration of his or her period of stay and obtain permission for extension of the period of stay (Article 21 of the Immigration Control Act).

(3) Permission for Permanent Residence

The status of permanent residence is granted when certain conditions are met by a foreign national staying in Japan under some other status of residence, who applies for permanent residence permission, or by a foreign national who applies to acquire permanent residence due to birth or renouncement of Japanese nationality (Article 22 of the Immigration Control Act)^(*1,*2)

(4) Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence

If a foreign national who was born in Japan or renounced Japanese nationality to obtain a foreign nationality, or lost his or her status as a member of the United States armed forces as defined in Article 1 of the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement who is not required to possess any status of residence, seeks to continue to stay in Japan beyond sixty days, he or she will need to apply for permission for acquisition of a status of residence within 30 days of the day on which such grounds occurred and to obtain permission for acquisition of a status of residence (Article 22-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

(5) Re-entry Permission

If a foreign national residing in Japan seeks to temporarily depart from Japan and re-enter Japan, he or she may depart from Japan and re-enter Japan with the status of residence and the period of stay currently possessed by him or her, without taking other steps to apply for a new visa as long as he or she receives permission for re-entry in advance (Article 26 of the Immigration Control Act).

In addition, from July 9, 2012, if a mid to long-term resident (see Section 4 Subsection 1 below) re-enters Japan within one year of departure in possession of a valid passport and residence card, or if a special permanent resident re-enters Japan within two years of depar-

(*1) In order to receive permission for permanent residence, the following requirements must be met: (i) the applicant's behavior and conduct must be good; and (ii) the applicant must have sufficient assets or skills to make an independent living, and (iii) the permanent residence of the foreign national must be deemed to be in accordance with the interests of Japan. However, a spouse or child of a Japanese national, a permanent resident or a special permanent resident does not need to satisfy requirements (i) and (ii).

(*2) The Immigration Services Agency (formerly the Immigration Bureau) established its Guidelines for Contributions to Japan on March 31, 2005, and published them on the website of Ministry of Justice. In addition, the Immigration Services Agency has posted examples of the cases where contributions were recognized and permission for permanent residence was granted, as well as the cases where permission was not granted on the Immigration Services Agency website. In addition, on March 31, 2006, the Immigration Services Agency laid down the "Guidelines on Permission for Permanent Residence" and published general requirements relating to permission for permanent residence as well as the standard relating to the length of residence. (https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/publications/materials/nyukan_nyukan62-1.html).

ture in possession of a valid passport and special permanent resident certificate, in principle, he or she is not required to obtain permission for re-entry in advance (Article 26-2 of the Immigration Control Act, Article 23 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

Moreover, from January 1, 2015, if a foreign national who entered Japan on being granted the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" re-enters Japan on a cruise ship (designated passenger ship) within 15 days of the departure of the designated passenger ship whose route takes it from Japan to another country and then back to Japan, he or she is not required, in principle, to receive permission for re-entry (Article 26-3 of the Immigration Control Act).

In addition, with regard to the Embarkation Cards for Foreign Nationals which previously had to be submitted at the time of departure, since it is possible to confirm the identity of the foreign national using the passport, etc. presented by the foreign national, a revision was made so that from April 1, 2016, the submission of the card is no longer required except for foreign nationals intending to re-enter the country, etc. (Article 27, etc. of the Regulation for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act).

(6) Permission to Engage in an Activity other than those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted

A foreign national who is granted a status of residence according to the activities in which he or she is engaged must receive permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted in advance if he or she wishes to engage in activities "related to the management of business involving income or activities for which he or she receives remuneration, which are not included in those activities under his or her category of status of residence". A typical example is that of an international student who wishes to have a part-time job. The Minister of Justice will give permission to the extent that the extra activity does not interfere with the original activity that is the main purpose of his or her residence (Article 19, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

Since July 9, 2012, it has become possible for any person who has been granted the status of residence of "Student" (except for foreign nationals who have been granted a period of stay of three months and foreign nationals who entered Japan with re-entry permission) at landing examination to apply for permission to engage in an activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted immediately after the status is granted to him or her on the spot.

3 System of Revocation of Status of Residence

The system of revocation of status of residence is the system under which the Minister of Justice (or the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau except for revocation of the status of permanent resident) may revoke the status of residence actually possessed by a foreign national, if he or she is suspected of falling under any of the grounds for revocation set forth under the Immigration Control Act (each item of paragraph (1) of Article 22-4 of the Immigration Control Act), provided that it is deemed apparent after that he or she falls under the statutory grounds for revocation the hearing process (Article 22-4, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

The causes of revocation of the status of residence are as follows (the number in parentheses at the end of each sentence indicates the number of the item of paragraph (1) of

Article 22-4 of the Immigration Control Act).

- (i) Where a foreign national has misled the immigration inspector, by deceit or other wrongful means, to believe that he or she does not fall under any of the items of Article 5, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act and has received a seal of permission for landing or permission (item (i)).
- (ii) In addition to (i), where a foreign national has received a seal of permission for landing or other permission, by deceit or other wrongful means (item (ii)).
- (iii) Cases where the applicant received a seal of permission for landing, etc. by submitting or presenting a document other than those falling under (i) or (ii) (where the applicant has not employed deceit or other wrongful means) where there is a false entry (including a certificate of eligibility or visa issued by submitting or presenting a document or drawing with a false entry) (item (iii)).
- (iv) Where a foreign national has obtained special permission to stay in Japan by deceit or other wrongful means (the cases which the foreign national him/herself has not conducted a deceit or other wrongful means) (item (iv)).
- (v) Cases where a person residing with a status of residence listed in the left-hand column of Appended Table 1 of the Immigration Control Act resides in Japan without engaging in the activities corresponding to the status of residence previously granted and is moreover, residing in Japan engaging in or attempting to engage in other activities (provided, however, that this shall exclude cases where there is a justifiable reason) (item (v)).
- (vi) Where a foreign national staying in Japan with a status of residence listed in the left-hand column of Appended Table I of the Immigration Control Act has failed to continue to engage in the activity corresponding to that status for three months (six months for “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)”) or more (except for cases where the foreign national has a justifiable reason for not engaging in said activity) (item (vi)).
- (vii) Where a foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” (except for a child of a Japanese national or a child adopted by a Japanese national), or a foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” (except for a child of a permanent resident) has failed to continue to engage in the activities as a spouse for six months or more (except for cases where the foreign national has a justifiable reason for not engaging in the activity) (item (vii)).
- (viii) Where a foreign national who has newly become a mid to long-term resident by obtaining permission for landing or permission for change of the status of residence, etc. has failed to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of his or her place of residence within 90 days of the day on which he or she obtained the permission (except for cases where the person has a justifiable reason for not giving notification of his or her place of residence) (item (viii)).
- (ix) Where a mid to long-term resident has failed to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of his or her new place of residence within 90 days from the day on which he or she moved out of his or her former place of residence (except for case where the person has a justifiable reason for not giving notification of his or her new place of residence) (item (ix)).
- (x) Where a mid to long-term resident has notified the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of a false address (item (x)).

Section 4 Residency Management System of Mid to Long-Term Residents, etc.

1 Residency Management System of Mid to Long-Term Residents

The residency management system for mid to long-term residents is a system enabling the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency to accurately and continuously keep track of the information necessary for the residency management of foreign nationals who are residing in Japan for a mid to long-term with a status of residence. Under this system, a residence card will be issued to mid to long-term residents accordance with the permission pertaining to the foreign national's status such as the permission for landing, permission for change of the status of residence and permission for extension of period of stay. Since important items of information kept by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency are given on the residence card, notification of a change is required to be given in the event of a change arising in the described matters, and therefore the latest information is reflected at all times on the card.

In addition, in order to accurately and continuously keep track of the information necessary for residency management, mid to long-term residents are required to give notification of the organization of affiliation, etc. to which they belong, and notifications on information are also accepted from the organization of affiliation of the mid to long-term resident.

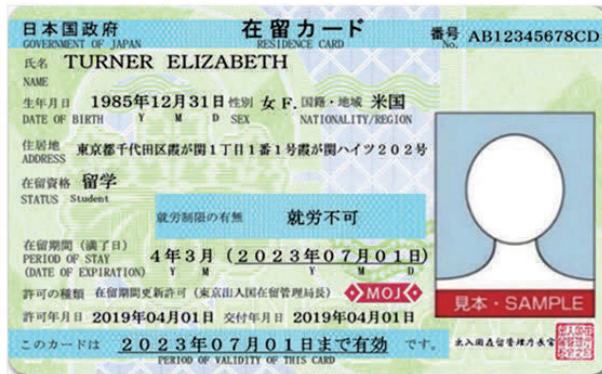
In further detail, mid to long-term residents refer to foreign nationals who do not come under any of the following items (i) through (vi) (Article 19-3 of the Immigration Control Act):

- (i) Persons granted permission to stay for three months or less,
- (ii) Persons granted the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor",
- (iii) Persons granted the status of residence of "Diplomat" or "Official",
- (iv) Persons recognized by the Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice as equivalent to the foreign nationals mentioned above (i) to (iii) (specifically, the staff of the Japanese office of the Association of Taiwan-Japan Relations (Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, etc.) and the Permanent General Mission of Palestine in Japan who have the status of residence of "Designated Activities", and their families),
- (v) Special permanent residents,
- (vi) Persons with no status of residence.

(1) Residence Card

The residence card contains important information kept by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency, such as the name, date of birth, sex, nationality/region, place of residence^(*), status of residence, period of stay, whether the holder is restrictions on employment or not (and for those aged 16 or older, a facial image). As a measure to prevent forgery, the residence card embeds an IC chip in which all or some of the matters described on the face of the card are recorded (Article 19-4 of the Immigration Control Act).

(*) The "place of residence" refers to the location of the principal residence in Japan and is recognized to be furnished as a residence from its outside appearance and is expected to be used continuously to live, and moreover, even if the foreign national has a main residence for living overseas, is a concept representing a foundation for living in Japan. On the other hand, "residential place" is the current location which means a temporary place of stay and which is used as a broad concept including such places that cannot be recognized as a foundation for living in terms of conventional wisdom such as roads or parks.



Front of Residence Card



Back of Residence Card

(2) Notifications and Applications Relating to Residence Cards (Reference 85)

A. Notification of the Place of Residence^(*1)

(a) Notification of the Place of Residence After Newly Landing in Japan

A mid to long-term resident who possesses a residence card^(*2) which was issued upon newly obtaining a landing permit at the port of entry, or who is in possession of a passport containing a statement to the effect that a residence card will be issued at a later date (hereinafter referred to as “residence card, etc.”) must notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of his or her place of residence by submitting a notification at the office of the municipality where the place of residence is located, bringing his or her residence card, etc., within 14 days of the day of deciding on the place of residence (Article 19-7 of the Immigration Control Act).

(b) Notification of the Place of Residence After a Change in the Status of Residence and Other Related Matters

A foreign national who had not been previously a mid to long-term resident but newly became a mid to long-term resident as a result of having obtained permission pertaining to their stay in Japan, such as permission for change of the status of residence, permission for extension of the period of stay or permission for acquisition of a status of residence, must notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of his or her place of residence by submitting a notification at the office of the municipality where the place of residence is located, bringing his or her residence card, within 14 days of the day of deciding on the place of residence (or for a mid to long-term resident who had already decided on his or her place of residence, from the day on which he or she was granted permission) (Article 19-8 of the Immigration Control Act).

(c) Notification of a Change of Place of Residence

A mid to long-term resident who has changed his or her place of residence must notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of his or her new place of resi-

(*1) If a mid to long-term resident has submitted his or her residence card and submitted a notification of moving in or a transfer of residence based on the Residential Basic Book Act, it is deemed that he or she submitted the “Notification of the Place of Residence” under the Immigration Control Act, and he or she is not required to give further notification of the place of residence.

(*2) As of November 1, 2020, the seven airports where it will be possible to issue a residence card at the same as a new landing permission will be New Chitose, Narita, Haneda, Chubu Centrair, Kansai, Hiroshima and Fukuoka airports.

dence by submitting a notification at the office of the municipality where the new place of residence is located, bringing his or her residence card, etc., within 14 days of the day on which he or she moved into the new place of residence (Article 19-9 of the Immigration Control Act).

B. Notification of a Change of an Item on the Residence Card

If a change occurs in the name, date of birth, sex or nationality/region, the mid to long-term resident is required to give notification of the change to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency through the Regional Immigration Services Bureau within 14 days of the occurrence of the change (Article 19-10 of the Immigration Control Act).

C. Application to Extend the Valid Period of the Residence Card

Foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” or “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)”, or mid to long-term residents whose residence card is due to expire on the mid to long-term resident’s 16th birthday are required to submit an application for extension of the period of validity of the residence card to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau within the period for extension (the period from two months before the expiration date of the residence card to the expiration date (if the expiration date of the period of validity is the 16th birthday, the period from six months before the expiration date to the expiration date) (Article 19-11 of the Immigration Control Act).

If, however, it is difficult to apply for an extension of the valid period of the residence card within the extension application period for any unavoidable causes, such as long-term medical treatment or a long-term overseas business trip, an application for extension of the valid period of the residence card may be submitted even before the extension application period.

D. Application for Reissuance of a Residence Card Due to Loss or Other Causes

If a mid to long-term resident is no longer in possession of a residence card due to loss, theft, damage or some other causes, he or she is required to submit an application for reissuance of the residence card to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency through the Regional Immigration Services Bureau within 14 days of becoming aware of such fact (if the foreign national was away from Japan when he or she became aware of such fact, the first day of entry into Japan following such discovery) (Article 19-12 of the Immigration Control Act).

E. Application for Reissuance of a Residence Card Due to Damage or Soiling, etc.

If the residence card in the possession of the foreign national has been substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip of the residence card has been damaged, an application for re-issuance of the residence card may be submitted to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau. However, in cases where a foreign national has received an order from the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency to file an application for reissuance of a residence card because his or her residence card has been substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip embedded in his or her residence card has been damaged, he or she must file an applica-

tion for reissuance of a residence card with the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau, within 14 days of the day of receiving the order.

If the holder of the residence card wishes to exchange his or her residence card, he or she is able to apply for re-issuance even if the residence card has not been damaged or otherwise soiled. The payment of a fee of 1,600 yen is required, in this case, for issuance of the residence card (Article 19-13 of the Immigration Control Act).

(3) Immigration Services Agency's Seiji Search System

The name given in the residence card and the special permanent resident certificate, in principle, should be given using the Roman letters, but in certain cases such as where a request is made by the foreign national, the name may be indicated in kanji together with or in place of the Roman letters.

With regard to the indication of names using kanji characters in the residence card and the special permanent resident certificate, in accordance with the Public Notice on the Indication of Kanji Character Names in the Residence Cards and Other Certificates (Ministry of Justice Public Notice No. 582 of 2011), the characters were specified as within the scope of seiji characters^(*), while simplified characters (referring to Chinese simplified letters and Taiwanese traditional letters which do not match the seiji characters) may be used by replacing them with characters within the range of seiji characters.

Therefore, the Immigration Services Agency introduced "the Immigration Services Agency's Seiji Search System", which enables a simple search of kanji names given in the residence card, etc. based on the character codes of simplified characters on July 1, 2013, and made it available for use on the Immigration Services Agency's website (<http://lapse-immi.moj.go.jp:50122/>).

(4) Notification Concerning the Organization of Affiliation or Concerning the Spouse (Reference 85)

A. Notification from a Mid to Long-Term Resident Concerning the Organization of Affiliation

(a) Notification Concerning the Organization Where the Foreign National is Engaging in Activities (public or private organizations in Japan at which the activities corresponding to the status of residence are carried out)

If a change occurs in the name or location of an organization where a mid to long-term resident who is residing in Japan with the status of residence of "Professor", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)" (in cases of engaging in the activities listed in item (ii)-(c) of the right-hand column corresponding to "Highly-Skilled Professional" as specified in the Appended Table I (2) of the Immigration Control Act), "Business Manager", "Legal/Accounting Services", "Medical Services", "Instructor", "Intra-company.

Transferee", "Technical Intern Training", "Student" or "Trainee" is engaging in activities or the organization where the mid to long-term resident is engaging activities is

(*) Refers to the Japanese character repertoire part of X0221 of the Industrial Standardization Act (Act No. 185 of 1949) (subset specifying the characters commonly used in Japan) and the kanji characters of the Appended Table I of the Ministry of Justice Public Notice.

extinguished or the mid to long-term resident leaves the employment of the organization or moves to another organization, he or she is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of such changes within 14 days (Article 19-16, item (i) of the Immigration Control Act).

(b) Notification Concerning the Contracting Organization (public or private organizations in Japan which are the other party to the contract)

If a change arises in the name or location of a contracting organization, the contracting organization is extinguished, or the contract with the contracting organization ends or a new contract is entered into, the mid to long-term resident residing in Japan with the status of residence of “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)”, “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)”, “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)” (in cases of engaging in the activities listed in item (ii)-(a) or (b) of the right-hand column corresponding to “Highly-Skilled Professional” as specified in the Appended Table I (2) of the Immigration Control Act), “Researcher”, “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Nursing Care”, “Entertainer” (limited to cases where the foreign national is engaging in activities based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan), “Skilled Labor” or “Specified Skilled Worker” is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of such changes within 14 days (Article 19-16, item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act).

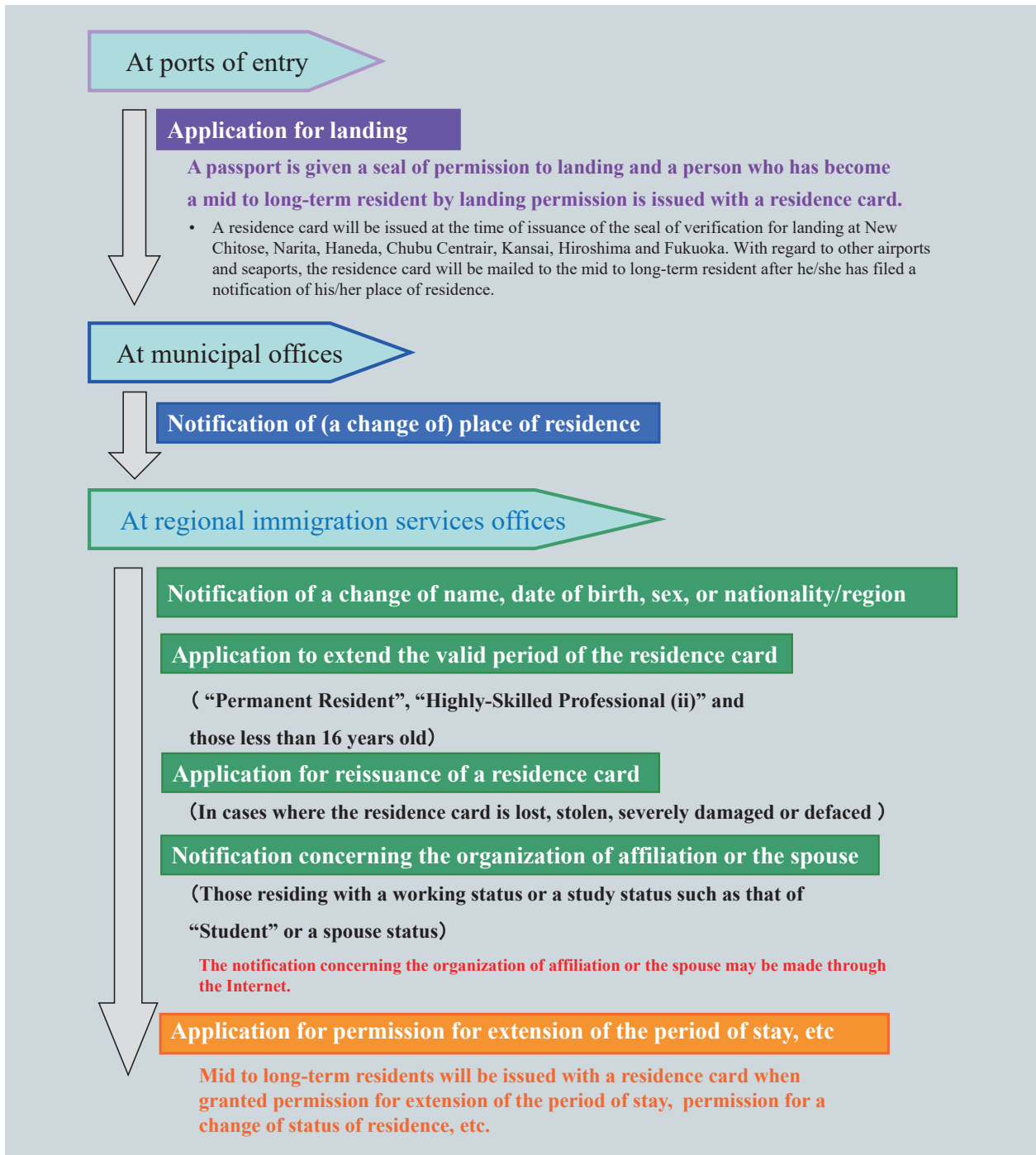
(c) Notification Concerning the Spouse of the Foreign National

If a mid to long-term resident residing in Japan with the status of residence of “Dependent”, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”, who has the status of a spouse, is separated from his or her spouse due to divorce or death, he or she is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of such changes within 14 days (Article 19-16, item (iii) of the Immigration Control Act).

B. Notification Concerning Mid to Long-Term Residents to be Given by the Organization of Affiliation

Public and private organizations in Japan (except for those employers who are required to notify the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 28 of the Revised Employment Measures Act), which accept mid to long-term residents residing with the status of residence of “Professor”, “Highly-Skilled Professional”, “Business Manager”, “Legal/Accounting Services”, “Medical Services”, “Researcher”, “Instructor”, “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Intra-company Transferee”, “Nursing Care”, “Entertainer”, “Skilled Labor”, “Student” or “Trainee” are required to endeavor to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the commencement and end of the acceptance of the mid to long-term resident and other matters relating to the status of acceptance (Article 19-17 of the Immigration Control Act).

Reference 85 Procedural flow of the residency management system of mid to long-term residents



C. Notifications to be submitted by the organization of affiliation of specified skilled workers (public or private organizations in Japan that accept foreign nationals residing with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” or “Specified Skilled Worker (ii)”)

(a) Irregular notifications

In cases where the organization of affiliation of specified skilled workers changes or terminates the contract for employment of specified skilled workers or enters into a new Procedural flow of the residency management system of mid to long-term residents contract for specified skilled workers, changes the contract for support of foreign nationals with the

status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)”, enters into a contract entrusting all of the support plans for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” to a registered support organization (described later) or changes or terminates such contract or it has become difficult to accept specified skilled workers or it has become aware of misconduct, it is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the reason thereof within 14 days (Article 19-18, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

(b) Regular notifications

The organization of affiliation of specified skilled workers is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the matters relating to the situation of acceptance of specified skilled workers, the matters relating to the situation of implementation of the support plans for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and the matter relating to the situation of activities once every quarter within 14 days of the first day of the following quarter (Article 19-18, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

D. Notifications to be submitted by the registered support organization (a person who has registered as a person to perform all of the work of implementation of the support plans for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” having been entrusted through a contract)

(a) Irregular notifications

The registered support organization is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the reason thereof within 14 days if any changes are made to its name or address, the name of the representative in the case of a juridical person, the location of the business office that performs the support services, the content of the support services, and implementation method, etc. or if the support services have been suspended or abolished. Also, it is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the reason thereof in advance if the suspended support services are to be resumed (Article 19-27, paragraph (1), Article 19-29, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act. ;Article 19-23, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act).

(b) Regular notifications

The registered support organization is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the situation of implementation of the support services, etc once every quarter within 14 days of the first day of the following quarter (Article 19-30, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

(5) Immigration Services Agency's Electronic Notification System

The “Notification Concerning the Organization of Affiliation or Concerning the Spouse” (items of Article 19-16 of the Immigration Control Act) to be made by the mid to long-term resident, the “Notification by the Organization of Affiliation” (Article 19-17 of the Immigration Control Act) to be made by the organization of affiliation accepting the mid to long-term resident, “Notifications by an Organization of Affiliation of the Specified Skilled

Worker” (Article 19-18 of the Immigration Control Act), “Notifications to be submitted by the registered support organization” (Article 19-27, paragraph (1), Article 19-29, paragraph (1), Article 19-30, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act. ; Article 19-23, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act) and “Reports related to notification standards for Japanese language institutions” (Article 1, Paragraph (1), item (xxxVIII) (xxxix) (xxxiv) (xxxv) and (xxxvi) of the public notice criteria for the Japanese language education institutions) may be submitted directly to the Regional Immigration Services Bureau at the office or by mail, but in addition, it became possible to submit a notification via the Internet using the “Immigration Services Agency Electronic Notification System”

(https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/publications/materials/i-ens_index.html).

Mid to long-term residents and the staff of the organizations of affiliation are able to access the electronic notification system using their own Internet environment and to make a notification and report by entering the necessary items. Furthermore, since this administrative services system is one which connects to outside users via the Internet, for the convenience of the user, a part of the screen is displayed in a variety of languages (Japanese, English, Chinese (simplified characters and traditional characters), Korean, Spanish, Portuguese and Tagalog).

Advantages of “the Immigration Services Agency’s Electronic Notification System” are as follows.

- (i) Foreign nationals do not have to go to the counter, but are able to make a notification using the Internet from their home or office and check the status of their notification.
- (ii) The use of the system is free of charge.
- (iii) A notification may be made 24 hours a day 365 days a year.
- (iv) Omissions of details will be checked automatically.
- (v) A bundled notification and report may be made for notifications and reports by the organization of affiliation, the specified skilled worker’s affiliate organization, registered support organization and the Japanese Language Education Institutions through use of the prescribed format.

The organization of affiliation which has registered the organization’s user information^(*) for using “the Immigration Services Agency’s Electronic Notification System” will be able to make a notification of a change in the name of the organization of affiliation or a change in the location in accordance with the provisions of Article 19-16 of the Immigration Control Act through use of the electronic notification system, upon a request being made by a mid to long-term resident who has also registered his or her user information, in place of such mid to long-term resident.

(6) Inquiry into the Facts

The Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency shall organize information relating

(*) User information will have to be registered in order for a foreign national to be able to use “the Immigration Services Agency’s Electronic Notification System”. Mid to long-term residents will be able to acquire a user ID and password in order to log onto the system by entering and registering their identification details directly into the electronic notification system using their own Internet environment. In addition, by mailing or bringing an application of user information registration to the Regional Immigration Services Bureau with jurisdiction over the location of the organization of affiliation, the staff of the organization of affiliation will be able to obtain a user ID and password to log onto the system.

to mid to long-term residents acquired in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Control Act and other laws and shall keep the contents of the information accurate and up-to-date in order to continuously keep track of the family relationships, residence-related matters and status of activities of the mid to long-term residents, etc, under the residency management system of mid to long-term residents. Therefore, the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency may, when necessary to continuously keep track of information relating to mid to long-term residents, have his or her officers^(*) conduct an inquiry into the facts (Article 19-37 of the Immigration Control Act).

The inquiry into the facts provided for in Article 19-37 of the Immigration Control Act may be exercised within the extent necessary for the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency to be able to accurately keep track of the information necessary for the residency management of mid to long-term residents while bearing in mind the demands for protection of the personal information of mid to long-term residents such as restricting the scope of the investigation to the items of notification.

The inquiry of the facts uncovers imposter residents through the compilation and analysis of the information on the Notified Foreign National Employment Status provided by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, etc.in addition to information reported by both mid to long-term residents and the organizations of affiliation and has led to effective countermeasures against imposter residents.

2 The System of Special Permanent Residents

Persons who lost Japanese nationality at the time of effectuation of the Treaty of Peace with Japan but have been residing in Japan since before September 2, 1945 and persons who were born in Japan as their lineal descendants and have continued to reside in Japan are permitted to reside permanently in Japan as special permanent residents pursuant to the provisions of the Special Act on Immigration Control, and special cases are permitted in the Immigration Control Act regarding the period of validity of the re-entry permission and the grounds for deportation.

(1) Special Permanent Resident Certificate

The special permanent resident certificate is issued by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency as a certificate to prove the foreign national's legal status as a special permanent resident, and the details to be described are restricted to the required minimum of the name, date of birth, sex nationality/region, place of residence, number of the special permanent resident certificate, date of issuance and the expiration date of the period of validity (a facial photo will be given in the case of foreign nationals who are 16 years of age or above). In addition, an IC chip on which all or some of the matters described in the certificate are recorded is embedded in the special permanent resident certificate in order to prevent forgery (Article 8 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

(*) "His or her officers" includes immigration inspectors, immigration control officers and other officers of the Ministry of Justice. However, the officers who are able to request the appearance of relevant persons and question them or who may request the presentation of documents are the immigration inspectors and the immigration control officers (Article 19-19, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act), and the officers who are able to request necessary reports by making inquiries to public offices or private organizations are the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency, immigration inspectors and immigration control officers (paragraph (3) of the same Article).



Front of Special permanent resident certificate



Back of Special permanent resident certificate

(2) Notifications and Applications Relating to Special Permanent Resident Certificates

A. Notifications of the Place of Residence^(*)

If a special permanent resident who has been issued with a special permanent resident certificate which does not describe the place of residence changes his or her place of residence, he or she is required to notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of the place of residence upon submitting his or her special permanent resident certificate to the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the place of residence (if he or she has changed the place of the residence, the new one) within 14 days of the date of establishing the new place of residence (Article 10 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

B. Notification of a Change of an Item on the Special Permanent Resident Certificate Other Than the Place of Residence

If a change has arisen in the name, date of birth, sex or nationality/region, the special permanent resident is required to submit a notification of the change to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the counter of the municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within 14 days of the occurrence of the change (Article 11 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

C. Application to Extend the Valid Period of the Special Permanent Resident Certificate

The special permanent resident is required to submit an application for extension of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within the application period (from two months (six months if the valid period is until the 16th birthday) prior to the expiry date of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate until the expiry date of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate) until the expiry date of the valid period.

If, however, it is difficult to apply for an extension of the valid period of the residence

(*) If a special permanent resident has submitted a notification of moving in or a notification of transfer of residence pursuant to the Residential Basic Book Act, it is deemed that he or she submitted the "Notification of the place of residence" under the Special Act on Immigration Control, and he or she is not required to give further notification of the place of residence.

card within the extension application period for any unavoidable causes, such as long-term medical treatment or a long-term overseas business trip, an application for extension of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate may be submitted even before the extension application period (Article 12 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

D. Application for Reissuance of a Special Permanent Resident Certificate Due to Loss or Other Causes

If the special permanent resident is no longer in possession of the special permanent resident certificate due to loss, theft, destruction or some other causes, he or she is required to submit an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within 14 days of becoming aware of such fact (if the foreign national was away from Japan when he or she became aware of such fact, the first day of entry into Japan following such discovery.) (Article 13 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

E. Application for Reissuance of a Special Permanent Resident Certificate Due to Damage or Soiling, etc.

If the special permanent resident certificate has been substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip of the special permanent resident certificate have been damaged, the special permanent resident may submit an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place.

If the special permanent resident receives an order on an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate from the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency owing to the special permanent resident certificate being substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip of the special permanent resident certificate being damaged, he or she is required to submit an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within 14 days of receiving such an order.

Moreover, if the special permanent resident wishes to exchange the special permanent resident certificate, he or she may submit an application for reissuance even if the special permanent resident certificate has not been damaged or otherwise soiled. The payment of a fee of 1,600 yen is required, in this case, for issuance of the special permanent resident certificate (Article 14 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

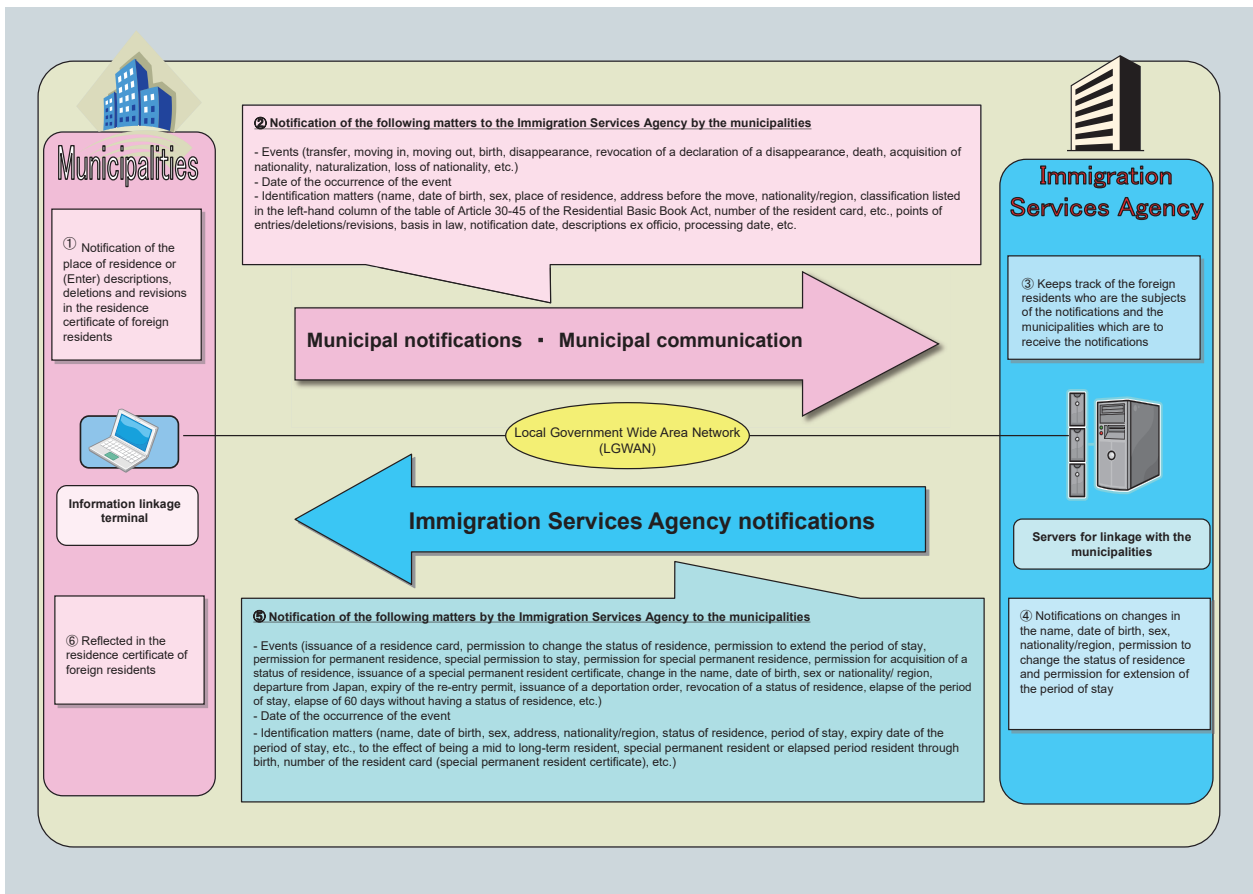
3 Information Linkage Between the Immigration Services Agency and the Municipalities

On July 9, 2012, the Alien Registration Act was abolished and, at the same time, the Act for Partial Amendment (Act No.77 of 2009) of the Residential Basic Book Act (Act No.81 of 1967; hereinafter referred to as "Residential Basic Book Act") entered into force. Correspondingly, the Residential Basic Book Act came to be applied to foreign residents, and residence certificates are to be prepared for the foreign residents in the same manner as for Japanese residents by the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residence of the foreign resident.

In order for the Immigration Services Agency to be able to continuously keep track of the information necessary for fair residence management and for the municipal governments to be able to ensure that the records of the Residential Basic Books are accurate, linkage of information to be shared between them is carried out by using special-purpose terminals.

Specifically, if a change arises or an error comes to light in the prescribed items such as the matters of identification or status of residence with regard to a foreign resident, the Immigration Services Agency notifies the mayor of the municipality which is keeping the Residential Basic Books in which the foreign resident is recorded to such effect without delay, and if an entry, deletion or revision of a described matter is made in the residential certificate pertaining to the foreign resident, the municipality immediately notifies the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency to such effect. (Reference 86).

Reference 86 Information Linkage between the Immigration Services Agency and the Municipalities



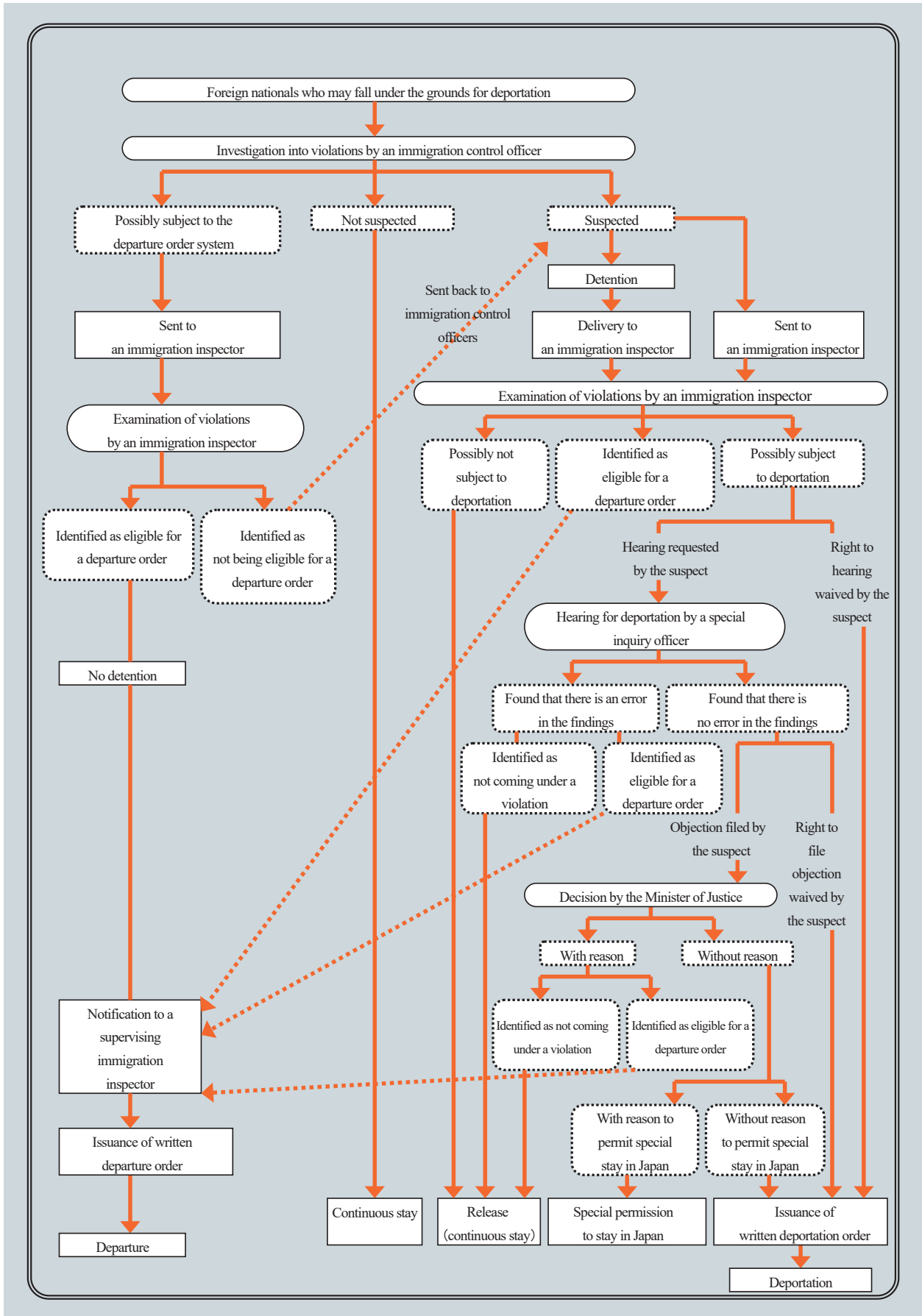
Section 5 Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

In immigration control and residency management administration, it is necessary to achieve a balance so as to promote the smooth acceptance of foreign nationals on the one hand, and to maintain security and order in Japanese society by removing unwelcome foreign nationals from Japan on the other.

The deportation procedures for foreign nationals constitute a powerful administrative action where the foreign national is deported even if deportation is against the foreign national's will. In international customary law, deportation is left to the discretion of the State. In Japan, the grounds for deportation and the deportation procedures are provided for in the Immigration Control Act and deportation is implemented on the basis of these provisions.

Deportation procedures begin with an immigration control officer conducting an investigation, and is composed of three steps: namely, an examination by an immigration inspector, a hearing by a special inquiry officer, and a decision rendered by the Minister of Justice for the objection filed by the foreign national in order to ensure that the foreign national who is undergoing the deportation procedures will be given ample opportunity to contest the facts of the case or to assert his or her side as to why he or she should be permitted to stay, and to ensure that a decision is made after a careful examination of the facts ([Reference 87](#)).

Reference 87 Flow of deportation procedures and departure order procedures



1 Investigation into Violations by an Immigration Control Officer

An investigation into the violation by an immigration control officer is the first step in the deportation procedures for foreign nationals. As stipulated in Article 27 of the Immigration Control Act, an immigration control officer will conduct an investigation into the violation of a foreign national who is thought to come under one of the ground for deportation stipulated in each item of Article 24 of the Act (hereinafter referred to as "suspect"). If the immigration control officer determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that the suspect falls under one of the grounds, he or she may detain the suspect in accordance with a written detention order issued by a supervising immigration inspector^(*) following which the suspect will be handed over to an immigration inspector (Article 39 and Article 44 of the Immigration Control Act).

2 Examination of Violations by an Immigration Inspector/Hearing by a Special Inquiry Officer

An immigration inspector, on receiving the delivery of the suspect and the case, examines whether the case falls under one of the grounds for deportation (examination of the violations provided for in Article 45, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). If the immigration inspector finds that a person is subject to deportation, the suspect who has an objection to such findings may request a hearing by a special inquiry officer (Article 48, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). In addition, if the special inquiry officer judges that the above findings are correct, the suspect who has an objection to the judgment may file an objection with the Minister of Justice (Article 49, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

3 Determinations by the Minister of Justice

The Minister of Justice makes a decision as to whether or not the objection is with reasonable grounds after receiving it (Article 49, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act).

4 Grant or Denial of Permission for Residence

(1) Denial of Permission for Residence (Deportation)

As the result of the procedures from examination of the violation to the final decision of the Minister of Justice (violation adjudication), a supervising immigration inspector will issue a written deportation order in case below:

- (i) Where the immigration inspector found that the foreign national had fallen under one of the grounds for deportation, and the foreign national has submitted to the findings (Article 45, paragraph (1) and Article 47, paragraph (5) of the Immigration Control Act).
- (ii) Where a foreign national, who was found to have fallen under one of the grounds for deportation, objected to the findings and requested a hearing by a special inquiry officer and, as a result of the hearing, the special inquiry officer found that there was no error in the findings, and the foreign national submitted to the findings (Article 48, paragraphs (1) and

(*) This refers to a senior immigration inspector designated by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency, who has the authority to issue a written detention order or written deportation order, provisional release or revocation thereof.

(9) of the Immigration Control Act).

(iii) If a foreign national who has an objection to the result of the hearing files an objection with the Minister of Justice, and as a result, it is determined that the objection is without reason (Article 49, paragraphs (1) and (6) of the Immigration Control Act).

In the violation adjudication procedures, if a foreign national is found not to fall under one of the grounds for deportation, the foreign national will be released immediately. And if a foreign national is found to fall under one of the grounds for deportation but satisfies the requirements for a departure order, the foreign national will be released immediately after the foreign national has been ordered to depart from Japan.

(2) Special Cases of Determinations by the Minister of Justice (Special Permission to Stay in Japan)

Even if the Minister of Justice finds that the objection filed is without reason in the determination on the objection, the Minister of Justice may grant special permission to stay to the foreign national if such foreign national has obtained permission for permanent residence; the person once had a registered domicile in Japan as a Japanese national in the past; the person is residing in Japan under the control of another person due to trafficking in persons; or the Minister of Justice otherwise finds circumstances warranting the granting of special permission to stay (“Special Permission to Stay” as provided for in Article 50, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

5 Departure Order System

The departure order system is a system under which a foreign national in violation of the Immigration Control Act who has illegally stayed beyond the authorized period of stay^(*) may be deported from Japan through simplified procedures without being physically detained, provided that he or she satisfies certain requirements; and moreover, the period of denial of entry of a foreign national who has been deported from Japan under the departure order is one year.

A foreign national who has stayed in Japan beyond the authorized period of stay and who also satisfies all of the following requirements may be ordered to depart from Japan (Article 24-3 of the Immigration Control Act):

- (i) The foreign national has surrendered at the immigration services office voluntarily
- (ii) The foreign national does not fall under any of the grounds for deportation other than overstaying the authorized period of stay.
- (iii) The foreign national has not been sentenced to imprisonment with or without work on the charge of theft or other prescribed crimes after entering Japan.
- (iv) The foreign national has neither past record of deportation, nor that of departure by a departure order.
- (v) The foreign national is expected with certainty to depart from Japan immediately.

(*) Including “foreign nationals in violation of the condition of return to the ship in the landing permission for cruise ship tourists”

Section 6 Refugee Recognition Procedures

1 Accession of the Refugee Convention

Japan accessed the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (“Refugee Convention”) on October 3, 1981 and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees (“Protocol”) on January 1, 1982, and accordingly established the system required for the refugee recognition procedures.

The Refugee Convention and the Protocol provide for the definition of refugees, and stipulate the rights and protection to be granted to refugees by the contracting countries.

2 Refugee Recognition Procedures (Reference 88)

(1) Definitions

Under the Japanese refugee recognition procedures, a “refugee” refers to a refugee as defined in Article 1 of the Refugee Convention or in Article 1 of the Protocol (Article 2, item (iii)-2 of the Immigration Control Act). Generally, a refugee is defined as a person who is outside the country of his or her nationality owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country.

(2) Permission for Provisional Stay

When a person without a status of residence such as a foreign national who has illegally stayed beyond the authorized period of stay applies for refugee recognition for the purpose of stabilizing his or her legal status, he or she is permitted to provisionally stay in Japan if he or she meets certain requirements (Article 61-2-4, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act), and the deportation procedures are suspended during the period of the permission for provisional stay (Article 61-2-6, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

The period of provisional stay is, in principle, six months (Article 56-2, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act) and, if an application for extension is filed prior to the expiration of the period of the provisional stay, that period will be extended (Article 61-2-4, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act). However, various conditions will be imposed on the permission for provisional stay, such as restrictions on the domicile and scope of activity and a ban on working (Article 61-2-4, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act and Article 56-2, paragraph (3) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act).

If a foreign national without a status of residence is not permitted to provisionally stay in Japan, the procedures for recognition of refugee status and the procedures for deportation will be taken in tandem. However, deportation will be suspended while the application for recognition of refugee status is being processed (Article 61-2-6, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act).

(3) Inquiry into the Facts

It is the responsibility of the applicant to prove that he or she is a refugee (Article 61-2,

paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). However, the fact that it is usually difficult for an applicant for refugee status to prove his or her case must be taken into account. Therefore, when an accurate recognition of refugee status is not possible with only the data furnished by the applicant, a refugee inquirer will investigate the case (Article 61-2-14 of the Immigration Control Act).

(4) Recognition of Refugee Status by the Minister of Justice and Effects of Refugee Status

When a foreign national has been recognized as a refugee, the Minister of Justice will issue a certificate of refugee status to the foreign national concerned. If the foreign national is denied recognition of refugee status, the foreign national will be notified in writing with the reason attached (Article 61-2, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

In cases where a foreign national, who has been recognized as a refugee, is a foreign national who does not have a status of residence, if he or she meets certain requirements such as having filed an application for refugee recognition within six months of landing in Japan, such foreign national shall uniformly be granted the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" (Article 61-2-2, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). Even if the foreign national does not satisfy the requirements, the Minister of Justice may grant special permission to stay if there are any grounds to grant special permission to stay (Article 61-2-2, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

A foreign national who has been recognized as a refugee may receive a refugee travel document as one of the effects under the Immigration Control Act (Article 61-2-12 of the Immigration Control Act), and some of the requirements to obtain permission for permanent residence will be eased (Article 61-2-11 of the Immigration Control Act).

3 Request for an Administrative Review

(1) Request for an Administrative Review

If a foreign national has an objection to a disposition denying recognition of refugee status or revoking recognition of refugee status, or if there is failure to act pertaining to the application for refugee recognition, such foreign national may submit a request to the Minister of Justice for an administrative review (Article 61-2-9, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

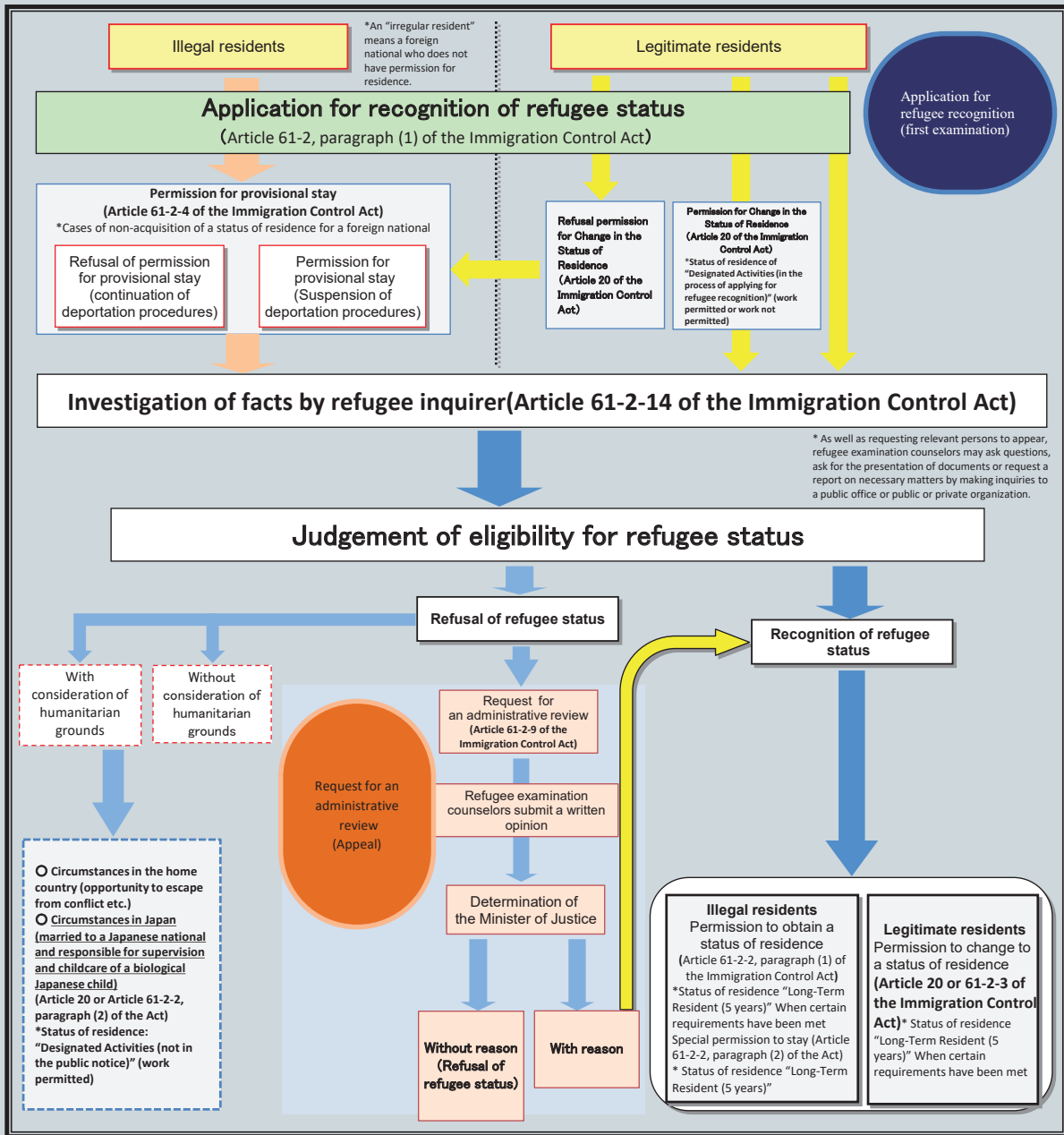
The Minister of Justice must hear the opinions of refugee examination counselors when making a determination on the request for an administrative review (paragraph (3) of the same Article). In addition, if the Minister of Justice makes the determination to deny or dismiss the request for an administrative review, the Minister of Justice must clearly state a summary of the opinions of the refugee examination counselors in the reasons to be attached to the determination (paragraph (4) of the same Article).

(2) Refugee Examination Counselors System

The refugee examination counselors' system was introduced in May 2005 in order to improve the fairness and neutrality of the procedures. After that, in April 2016, with the enforcement of the amended Administrative Complaint Review Act, the provisions of the same Act came to be applied deeming the refugee examination counselors to be the review officers prescribed in the same Act (Article 61-2-9, paragraph (5) of the Immigration Control

Act), and moreover, the refugee examination counselors' system also came to be applied to the procedures for requesting an administrative review in cases of failure to act pertaining to an application for recognition of refugee status (paragraphs (1) and (3) of the same Article). The refugee examination counselors are appointed by the Minister of Justice from the persons of reputable character who are capable of making a fair judgment on the administrative review of a disposition denying recognition of refugee status or revoking recognition of refugee status, or failure to act pertaining to the application for refugee recognition and who have an academic background in law or international affairs (Article 61-2-10, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act), and have been recommended by the UNHCR, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, NGOs and others. Three refugee examination counselors form one team, and three refugee examination counselors appointed by the Minister of Justice for each case carry out the prescribed administrative review procedures and submit a written opinion to the Minister of Justice.

Reference 88 Outline of Refugee Recognition Procedures



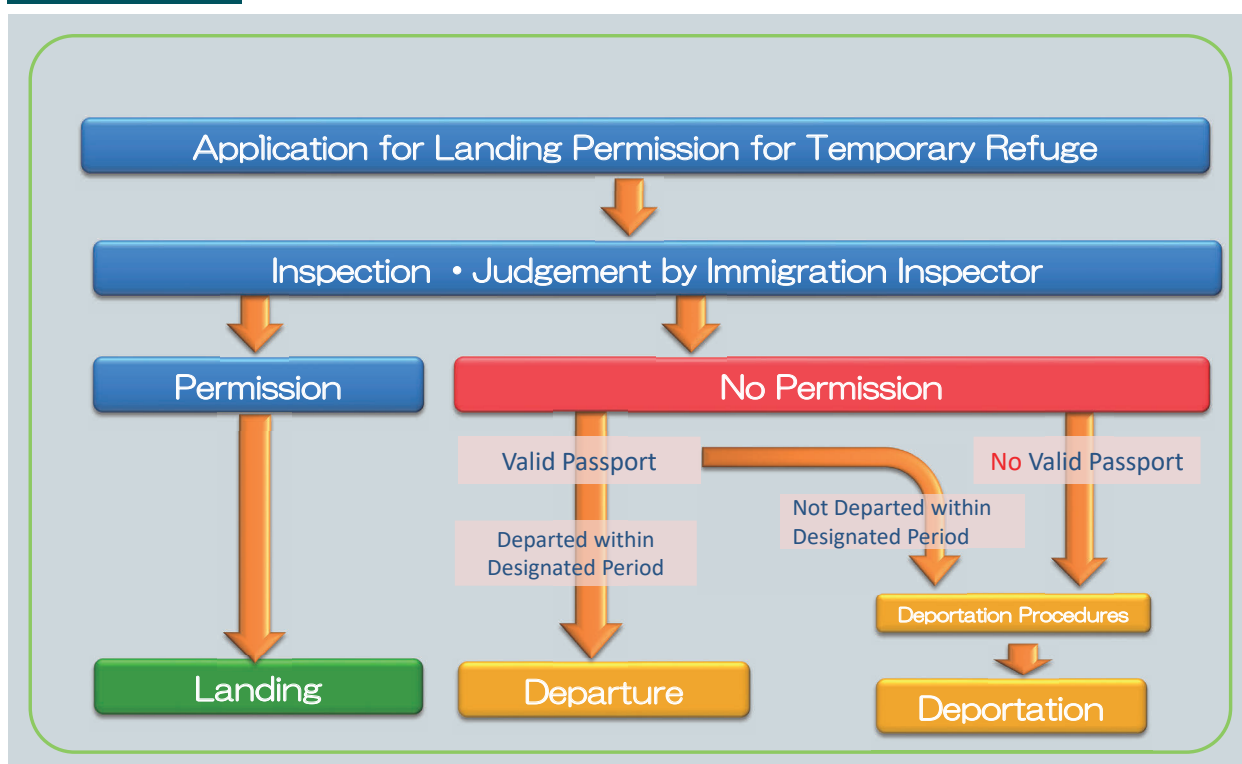
Requirements of permission for provisional stay

- (1) There is no probable cause to suspect that the applicant falls under any of the reasons for deportation.
- (2) The applicant has applied for permission within six months from the date of landing in Japan (if any event that makes a foreign resident a refugee occurs during stay in Japan, the date when the resident knows the fact).
- (3) The applicant came to Japan directly from a region where there is a fear of persecution.
- (4) The applicant has never been sentenced to imprisonment with or without work for a certain criminal offense under the criminal law, etc. after entering Japan.
- (5) A deportation order has not been issued against the applicant.
- (6) There is no probable cause to suspect that the applicant may flee from the country.

4 Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

Landing permission for temporary refuge, prescribed as one of the types of special landing permission granted to foreign nationals (Article 18-2 of the Immigration Control Act), will be granted by an immigration inspector if a foreign national aboard a vessel or aircraft has fled from a territory where his or her life, body or physical freedom is likely to be endangered for the reasons prescribed in the Refugee Convention and other reasons equivalent thereto, and it is appropriate for permission for temporary landing to be granted to such foreign national. The period for landing is determined as a period not exceeding six months (Article 18-2, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act; Article 18, paragraph (5) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act) ([Reference 89](#)).

Reference 89 Flow of procedures of landing permission for temporary refuge



Data Section 2

Organizational Expansion and Staff Enhancement

Owing to significant changes in the circumstances affecting immigration control and residency management administration in recent years, in response to an increase in the quantity and in the complexity of immigration duties, measures have been taken to improve and expand the organization and staff for immigration control.

Immigration control and residency management administration work was carried out by 6,020 officials (at the end of FY 2021) at the Immigration Services Agency and other Immigration Control and Residency Management offices. Due to a wide range of challenges in immigration control and residency management administration, further improvement and expansion of the organization and staff are still necessary.

Section 1 Organizations

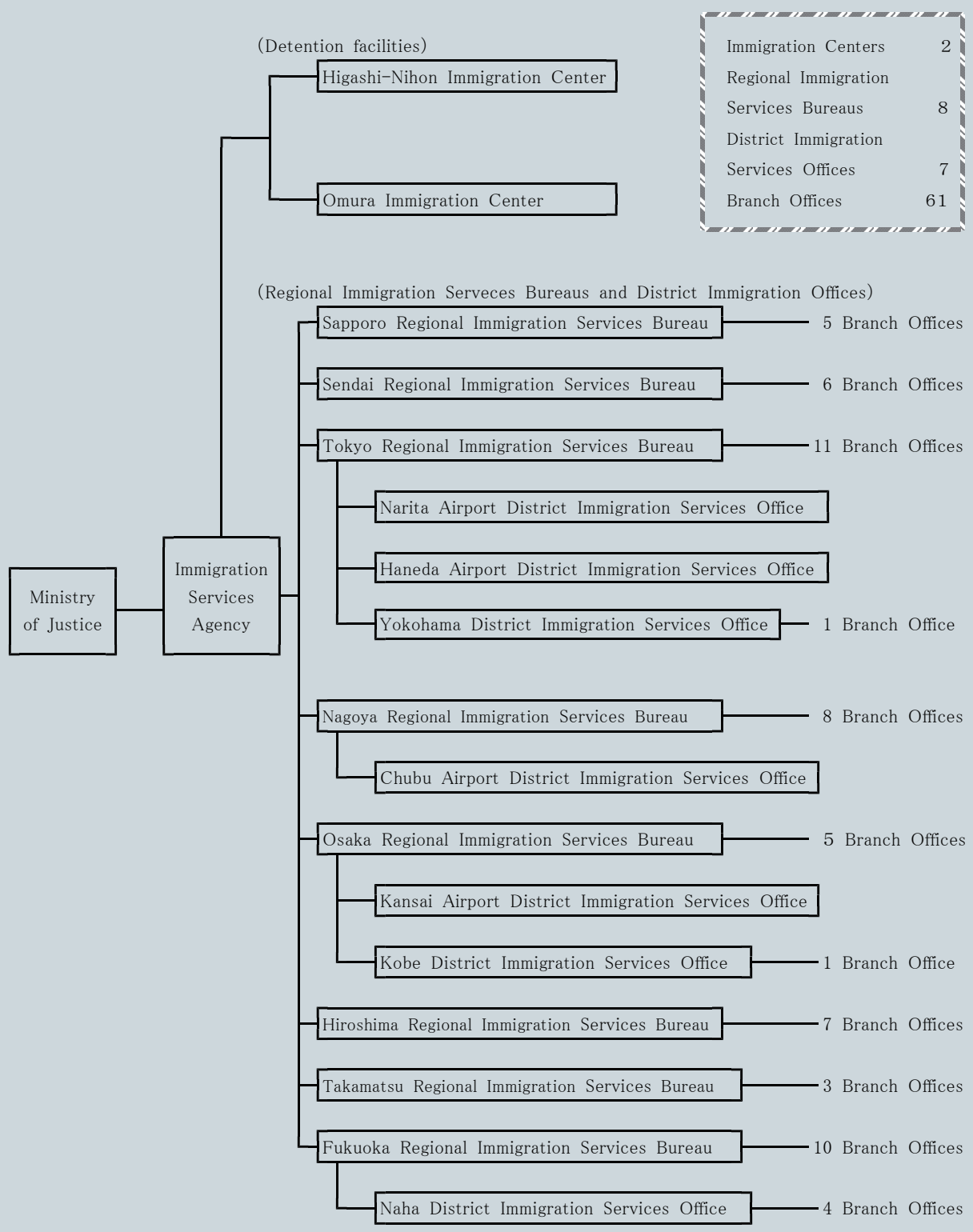
1 Outline of the Immigration Control and Residency Management Organization

As the organization with jurisdiction over immigration and residence management work, the Immigration Services Agency was established as an external agency of the Ministry of Justice, and as Regional Immigration Services Bureaus and District Immigration Offices established under the Immigration Services Agency, Regional Immigration Services Bureaus have been established for each of the eight regional blocks throughout the country, and below them, District Immigration Services Offices and Branch Offices (including Branch Offices of District Immigration and Residence Offices). In addition, Immigration Detention Facilities have been established as facilities and other organs of the Immigration Services Agency, and based on the laws and regulations, the Immigration Services Agency engages in various tasks related to immigration and residence management administration such as the immigration examinations, residence examinations, deportation procedures, refugee recognition and general coordination relating to the establishment of an environment for the acceptance of foreign nationals.

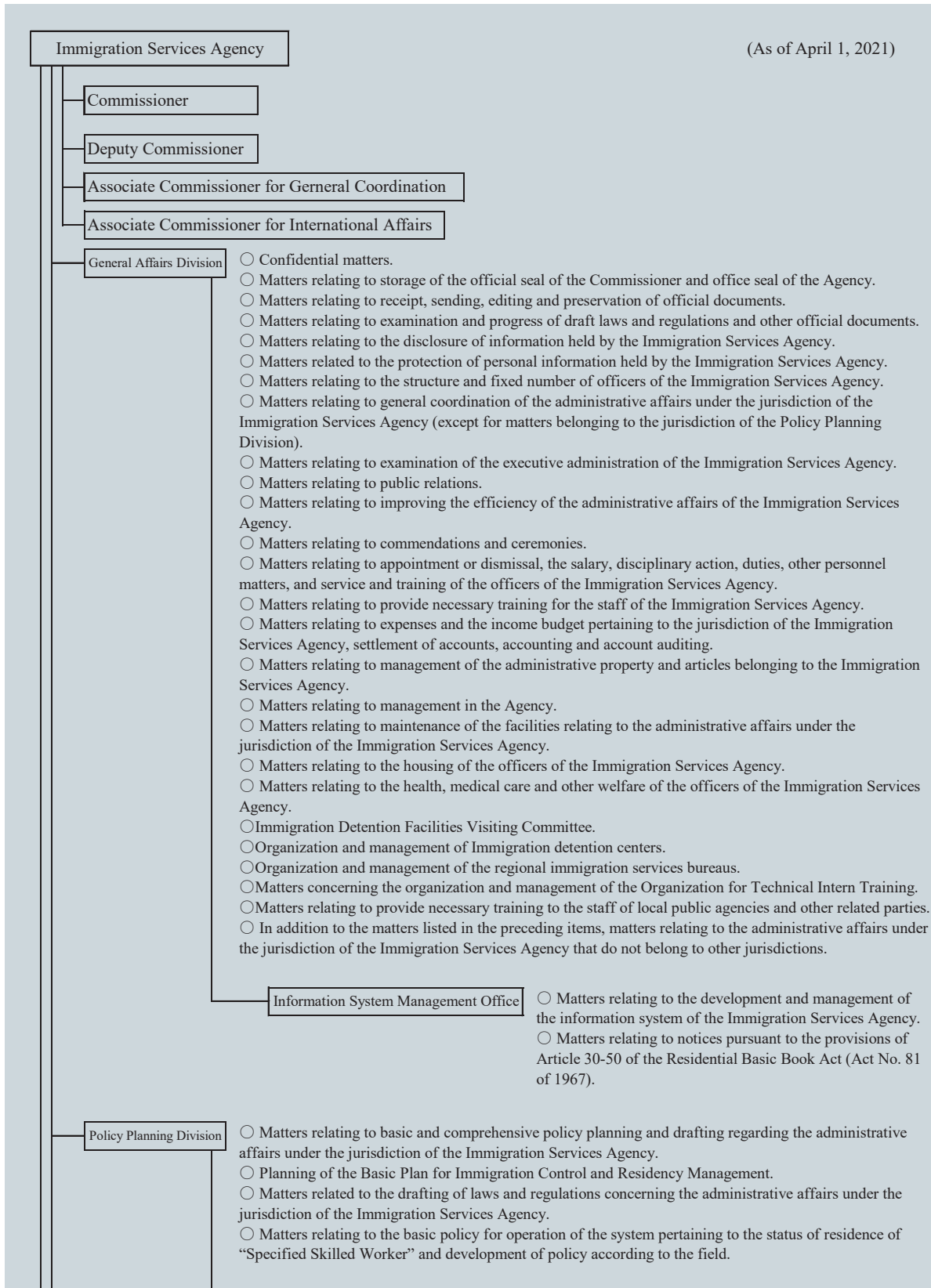
The Immigration Services Agency, Regional Immigration Services Bureaus, District Immigration Services Offices, Branch Offices, and Immigration Detention Facilities are collectively referred to as “Immigration Services Offices” ([References 90, 91](#)).

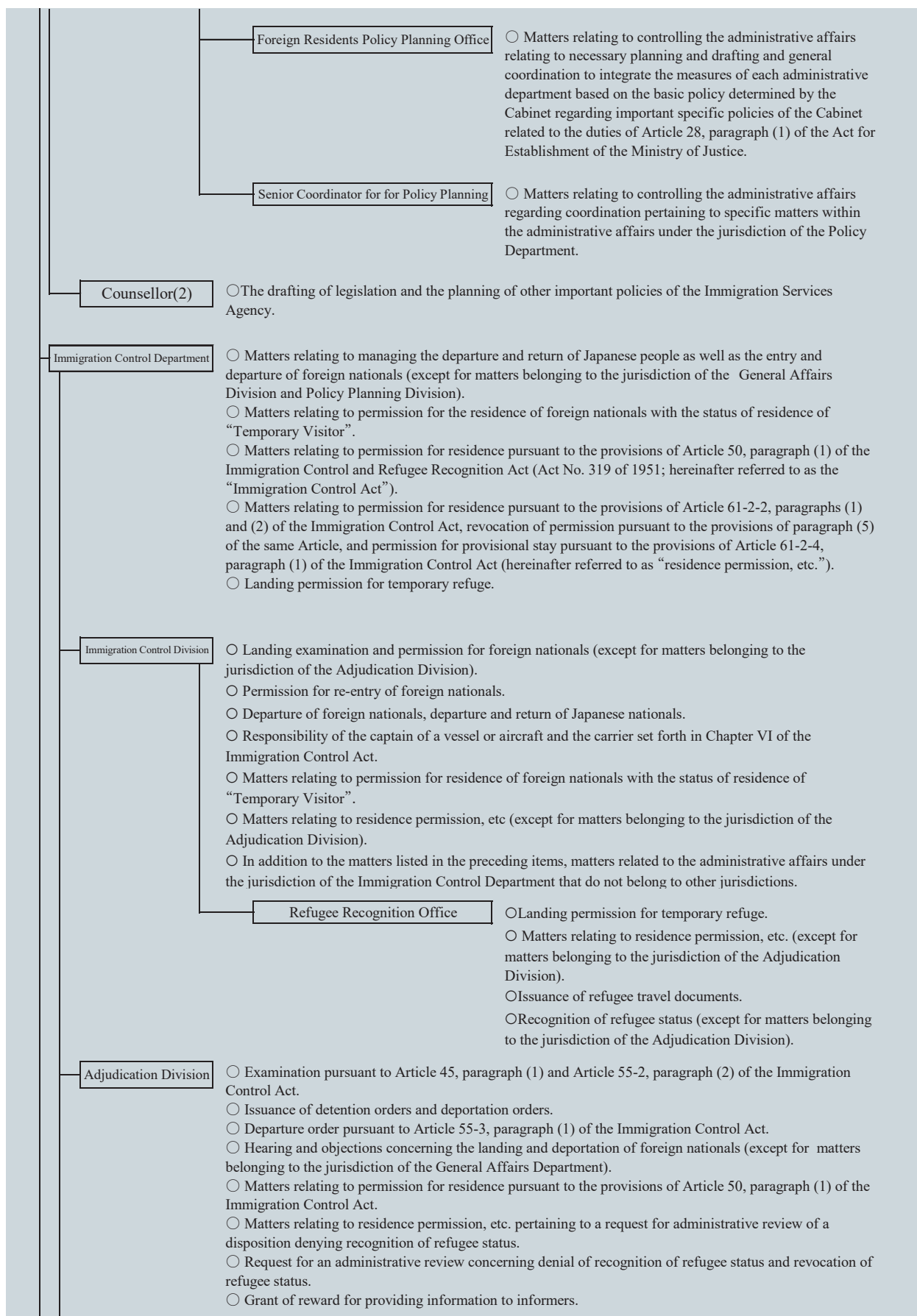
Reference 90 Immigration Services Agency organizational chart

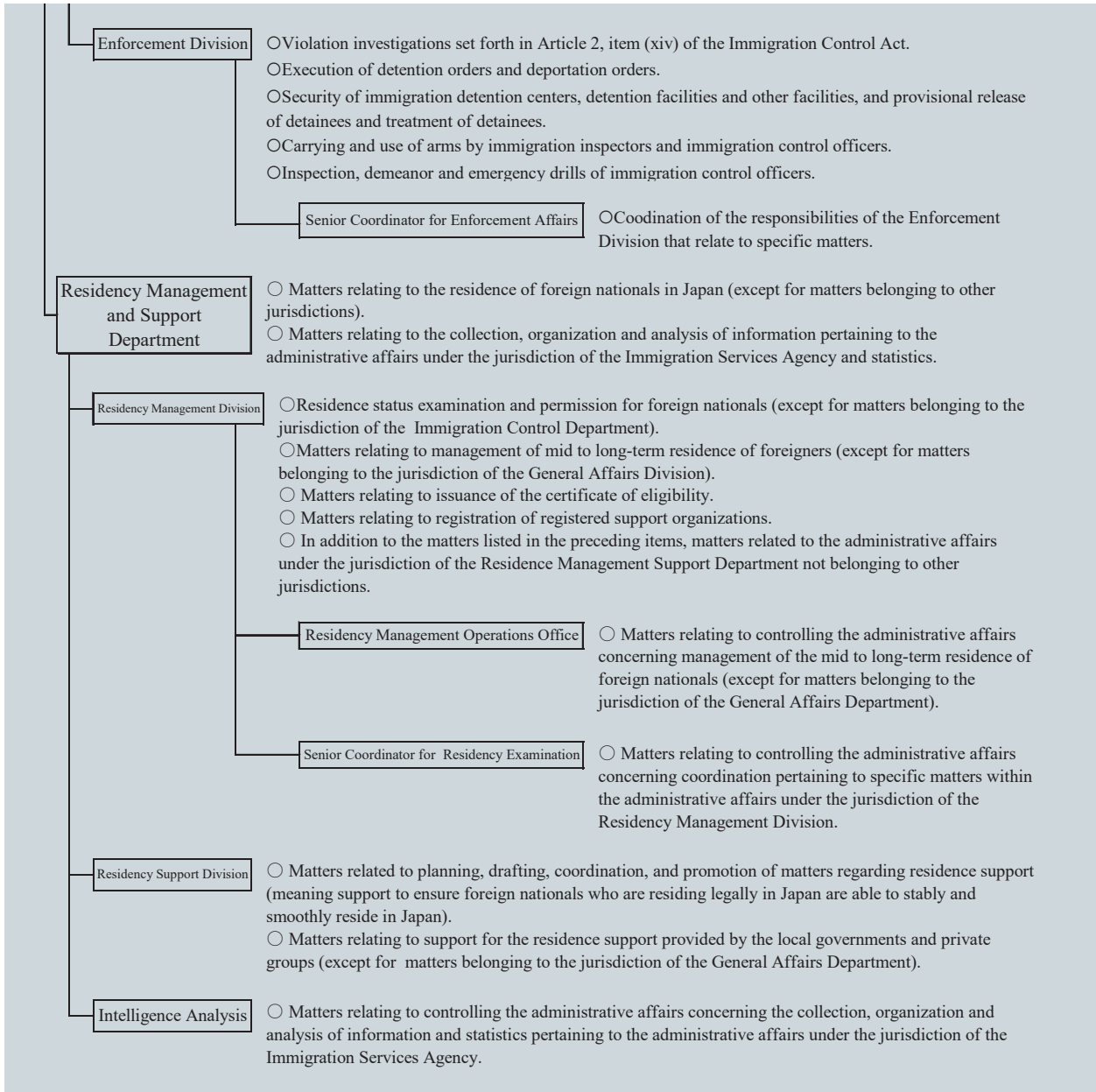
(As of April 1, 2021)



Reference 91 Responsibilities of the Immigration Services Agency







(*) Other than the positions mentioned above, one Assistant Deputy Vice-Minister of Justice and attorneys (legal specialists) are assigned to the Immigration Bureau.

2 Review of the Organizational Structure of the Immigration Control and Residency Management Offices

With regard to expansion of organizations in 2021, as part of developing systems to cultivate human resources responsible for promoting measures to accept foreign professionals and measures for coexistence with foreign nationals, the Immigration Services Agency established the positions of Councilor, Training Planning Coordinator, Assistant Section Chief, Chief Instructor, and Instructor. Aiming to establish a system for crisis management measures, the new position of Crisis Management Planning Coordinator established, and additional Assistant Section Chiefs were assigned to the Immigration Services Agency.

In order to establish a smooth but strict examination system, additional supervising examiners were assigned to the Narita Airport Branch and Haneda Airport Branch of the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Aiming to establish a structure for preparing an environment for the acceptance of foreign nationals, the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau Residence Support Division was newly established, and additional chief examiners and supervising examiners were assigned to that division. Additional supervising examiners responsible for residence support were assigned to the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau and Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Aiming to establish a structure for achieving appropriate residency examination, additional supervising examiners were assigned to the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Aiming to establish a structure for proper public relations of immigration control and residency management administration, additional public relations coordinators were assigned to the Sapporo Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Aiming to establish a structure for creating a safe and secure society, the 5th Investigation Division in charge of investigating custody transfer incidents was newly established and additional chief immigration control officers and supervising immigration control officers were assigned to that division in the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau. Also, additional supervising immigration control officers, responsible work involving entry and exit of detainees as well as visits with detainees, were assigned to the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau and Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Aiming to establish a structure for enhancing and strengthening the medical system at detention facilities, clinics were newly established in the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau and Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau, as well as the Yokohama District Immigration Office of the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Further, most Branch Offices of Regional Immigration Services Bureaus (including Branch Offices of District Immigration Services Offices) were located within the area of seaports, based on the historical background that they were originally established for immigration examination of crew members and passengers on oceangoing vessels. Now, as the primary means of international transportation has shifted from oceangoing vessels to airplanes, immigration examinations at airports became the main service, and as foreign nationals residing in Japan for a long time increased, the Ministry has proceeded to reorganize, integrate or scrap Branch Offices at seaports to respond to the foregoing change in administrative needs, and has made efforts to re-allocate Branch Offices by establishing them at local airports where many international flights arrive, prefectural capitals, and other major cities. (**Reference 92**).

As a result, the number of Branch Offices established in the country through reorganiza-

tion of Regional Immigration Offices into Regional Immigration Bureaus, which was 103 as of April 1, 1981, is 61 as of April 1, 2021. The establishment of at least one Regional Immigration Services Office in each prefecture has been achieved, while Branch Offices have decreased by about 40% from 1981.

Those Branch Offices should not only improve convenience for foreign nationals who come to submit various applications or reports but also enhance close cooperation with related local organizations, such as the police, in collecting information on illegal and imposter residents. With a view to enhancing cooperation with local authorities and related organizations which accept foreign nationals who intend to reside in Japan for a medium to long term, it is necessary to continue rationalizing and streamlining the organizational structure, with the aim of ensuring smooth and proper processing, including immigration examination, residence examination, and collection of information on offenders in violation of the Immigration Control Act, and establishing a more comprehensive framework for branch offices.

Reference 92 Reorganization, abolishment or establishment of branch offices of the regional immigration services bureaus (actual performance)

(As of April 1, 2021)

Fiscal Year	Division	Abolition		Establishment	
		Name	Location	Name	Location
2000		Amagasaki Port Branch Office Kure Port Branch Office Karatsu Port Branch Office Imari Port Branch Office	Amagasaki City Kure City Karatsu City Imari City	Saga Branch Office	Saga City
2001		Yokosuka Port Branch Office Kagoshima Airport Branch Office Shimizu Port Branch Office Tagonoura Port Branch Office	Yokosuka City Mizobe-cho Aira-gun Shimizu City Fuji City	Shizuoka Branch Office	Shizuoka City
2002		Iwakuni Port Branch Office Yatsushiro Port Branch Office Hitachi Port Branch Office Kashima Port Branch Office	Iwakuni City Yatsushiro City Hitachi City Kamisu-cho Kashima-gun	Kofu Branch Office Gifu Branch Office Otsu Branch Office Mito Branch Office	Kofu City Gifu City Otsu City Mito City
2003		Tokyo Port Branch Office Shibuya Branch Office Muroran Port Branch Office Miyako Port Branch Office Ofunato Port Branch Office Ishinomaki Port Branch Office Sasebo Port Branch Office Naha Port Branch Office	Koto-ku Tokyo Shibuya-ku Tokyo Muroran City Miyako City Ofunato City Ishinomaki City Sasebo City Naha City	Shinjuku Branch Office Morioka Branch Office	Shinjuku-ku Tokyo Morioka City
2004		Aomori Port Branch Office Hachinohe Port Branch Office Yokohama Port Branch Office Nagoya Port Branch Office Nagoya Airport Branch Office Sakai Port Branch Office Kobe Port Branch Office Mizushima Port Branch Office Shibushi Branch Office	Aomori City Hachinohe City Yokohama City Nagoya City Toyoyama-cho Nishika-sugai-gun Sakai City Kobe City Kurashiki City Shibushi-cho Soo-gun	Aomori Branch Office	Aomori City
2005		Naoetsu Port Branch Office	Joetsu City		
2007		Osaka Port Branch Office Tennoji Branch Office	Osaka City Osaka City	Tobu Branch Office	Edogawa-ku Tokyo
2010		Haneda Airport Branch Office	Ota-ku Tokyo		
2014		Otaru Port Branch Office	Otaru City	Asahikawa Branch Office	Asahikawa City

Section 2 Staff



Immigration Services Agency Staff

1 Immigration Services Agency Staff

In immigration centers and regional immigration services bureaus, immigration inspectors and immigration control officers are assigned as staffs who are engaged in immigration control duties. In addition, administrative officers of the Ministry of Justice engage in general administrative duties and technical officers of the Ministry of Justice, including doctors, are also assigned.

Immigration inspectors are responsible for (i) the examinations and hearings with regard to landing and deportation, (ii) inquiries into the facts relating to the various applications for refugee recognition and statuses of residence, (iii) onsite inspections, etc. relating to the organizations of affiliation of specified skilled workers, (iv) issuance of detention orders or deportation orders and (v) provisional release, as well as the administrative affairs relating to preparing an environment for the acceptance of foreign nationals and the status of residence examinations, etc., as an auxiliary organ of the Minister of Justice.

Immigration control officers are responsible for (i) investigations into cases of violations related to entry, landing and residence, (ii) detention, escort and deportation of applicable persons to ensure execution of the detention orders or deportation orders, (iii) treatment of detainees in the immigration detention centers or detention houses, and guarding of the facilities, (iv) surveys on the facts in order to continuously keep track of information relating to mid to long-term residents and (v) onsite inspections, etc. relating to the organizations of affiliation of specified skilled workers. The immigration control officers come under the provisions of “police officials” under the National Public Service Act, and moreover, since they often have to engage in dangerous work, they also come under the “public security service officials” of the Act on Remuneration of Officials in Regular Service.

Immigration control officers are divided into seven ranks (keibikan, keibicho, keibishicho, keibishi, keibishiho, keishucho, and keishu, in order of descending superiority) in order to

clarify the chain of command for group operations for detection.

Since individual immigration inspectors and immigration control officers perform their duties independently as specialists in immigration control and residency management, the specialist system was introduced. These officials are required to have legal knowledge necessary for their duties as well as a balanced point of view from an international perspective and the ability to interact with foreign nationals flexibly while giving consideration to their diverse cultures, custom and religions and their human rights.

2 Staff Increase

The number of Immigration Services Agency-related staff was 6,020 in FY 2021, which was an increase of about 37% (1,610) compared to five years ago in FY 2016 when the number was 4,410. However, during this period, the number of cases handled by the immigration offices has remained at a high level, and the immigration control work has been getting more complex and difficult such as the need to balance smooth yet rigorous entry examinations in order to promote Japan as a tourism-oriented country but to prevent terrorist acts and illegal entry; to implement measures to deal with the forged or altered documents that are becoming increasingly more sophisticated; to strengthen the residence management pertaining to foreign nationals after entry into Japan; to enforce strengthened detection and reliable deportation of illegal foreign residents, some of whom are potential criminals; to implement measures against foreign residents disguised as legal residents; and to implement even more appropriate yet stricter examinations of applications for refugee recognition. Further staff increase is necessary in order to deal appropriately and swiftly with such situations and to meet the public needs for administration ([Reference 93](#)).

Reference 93 Changes in the number of immigration control and Residency Management office personnel



Fiscal Year	Division	Administrative officials in the Ministry of Justice	Regional Immigration Bureaus				Sub-Total	Total
			Administrative officials	Inspectors	Control officers	Others		
1985		169	155	703	658	55	1,571	1,740
1995		163	165	1,152	869	38	2,224	2,387
2000		157	164	1,196	998	26	2,384	2,541
2003		152	144	1,272	1,101	24	2,541	2,693
2004		142	142	1,343	1,183	23	2,691	2,833
2005		131	122	1,433	1,266	20	2,841	2,972
2006		129	122	1,494	1,367	8	2,991	3,120
2007		128	121	1,580	1,431	8	3,140	3,268
2008		127	129	1,626	1,523	8	3,286	3,413
2009		126	130	1,737	1,564	8	3,439	3,565
2010		126	135	1,881	1,564	8	3,588	3,714
2011		126	139	1,979	1,571	8	3,697	3,823
2012		126	135	2,050	1,562	8	3,755	3,881
2013		126	131	2,089	1,531	8	3,759	3,885
2014		126	131	2,204	1,500	8	3,843	3,969
2015		140	124	2,471	1,459	8	4,062	4,202
2016		140	126	2,680	1,456	8	4,270	4,410
2017		140	134	2,882	1,450	8	4,474	4,614
2018		139	152	3,142	1,444	8	4,746	4,885

* The administrative officers of the Ministry before FY2018 do not include the Deputy Director-General.

Fiscal Year	Division	Immigration Services Agency					Sub-Total	Total
		Administrative officials in the Immigration Services Agency	Immigration Control and Residency Management Offices					
		Administrative officials	Inspectors	Control officers	Others			
2019		211	161	3,547	1,505	8	5,221	5,432
2020		211	164	3,872	1,611	8	5,655	5,866
2021		251	164	3,983	1,611	11	5,769	6,020

The “Japan Revitalization Strategy” (Revised in 2015) approved by the Cabinet in June 2015 set out “the goal of quickly preparing for an ‘era of 20 million’ foreign visitors coming to Japan, and its early realization”, and as a result of the promotion of various measures by the government aimed at the realization of a tourist-oriented country such as relaxation of visa requirements measures, since the number of foreign nationals entering Japan rapidly increased to approximately 19.69 million people in 2015, the “Tourism Vision to Support the Future of Japan” (decision of the Council for the Development of a Tourism Vision to Support the Future of Japan) outlined the goal of aiming for 40 million visitors by 2020, and 60 million visitors by 2030.

The “Basic Policy for Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2019”, decided by the Cabinet in June 2019, states that steady efforts shall be made to accept foreign professionals and establish an environment for them. This is for the purpose of properly and smoothly accepting foreign professionals with the new residence statuses of “Specific Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specific Skilled Worker (ii)”, as well as realizing a society of harmonious coexistence, where Japanese nationals and foreign nationals can live together safely and with peace of mind.

In such circumstances, we increased the number of staff by a total of 559 in 2020, including 216 staff to enhance and strengthen immigration inspection operations, and 307 staff to enhance and strengthen the residence management and support system for accepting foreign professionals. Approval has been given to increase staff by a total of 282 in 2021, including 175 staff to enhance and strengthen immigration inspection operations, and 85 staff to enhance and strengthen the residence management and support system for accepting foreign professionals. Based on the “Policy on Organization and Staffing of National Government Offices” decided by the Cabinet in July 2014, as a part of the government we have promoted administrative operational reform initiatives in order to rationalize staffing.

3 Training

As the number of foreign nationals entering and departing from Japan has been increasing year by year and the types of residence have diversified, the volume of services has increased and the contents of routine duties to be performed by immigration inspectors and immigration control officers have become more complicated and difficult. In order to cope with this situation, since it is essential to improve the competencies of the officers related to the Immigration Services Agency, every year, the Research and Training Institute (hereinafter referred to as the RTI), an agency that conducts research and training for the Ministry of Justice, has implemented systematic training for new hires, mid-career staff, and managerial staff. In addition, for the purpose of improving the expertise of our staff, we have invited not only staff with expert knowledge, but outside experts to act as lecturers, and conducted various types of training, such as training for officers engaged in the work of entry and residence examinations, training for officers engaged in refugee recognition work, training for fingerprint forensics, and training related to human rights, and training related to mental health. In 2020, it was difficult to conduct such training due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so we incorporated online lectures in order to conduct training.

Also, as the work of the Immigration Services Agency is mainly concerned with foreign nationals, it has endeavored to train staff who are familiar with the practical work involved in immigration and residence management, such as outsourcing training in English and other

foreign languages for staff at professional language schools, in order to improve language skills necessary for their work.

However, since the establishment of the Immigration Services Agency, the scope of operations under its jurisdiction has expanded, making it necessary to add new training courses. Also, in addition to training for staff of the Immigration Services Agency conducted so far, it is now necessary to train human resources who can comprehensively plan and formulate policies to implement training for local government staff and other related parties, and establish an acceptance environment for the realization of a symbiotic society co-existing with foreign nationals, which are part of our new operations.

In these circumstances, Ministry of Justice shifted its training functions from RTI to the Immigration Services Agency, so that the Immigration Services Agency can conduct training adapted to ever-changing societal conditions, and the Training Planning Office was newly established in the Immigration Services Agency on April 1, 2021.

The Training Planning Office will inherit and provide training conducted by RTI, and further enhance this training by establishing new training for residence support.



Scene of Training



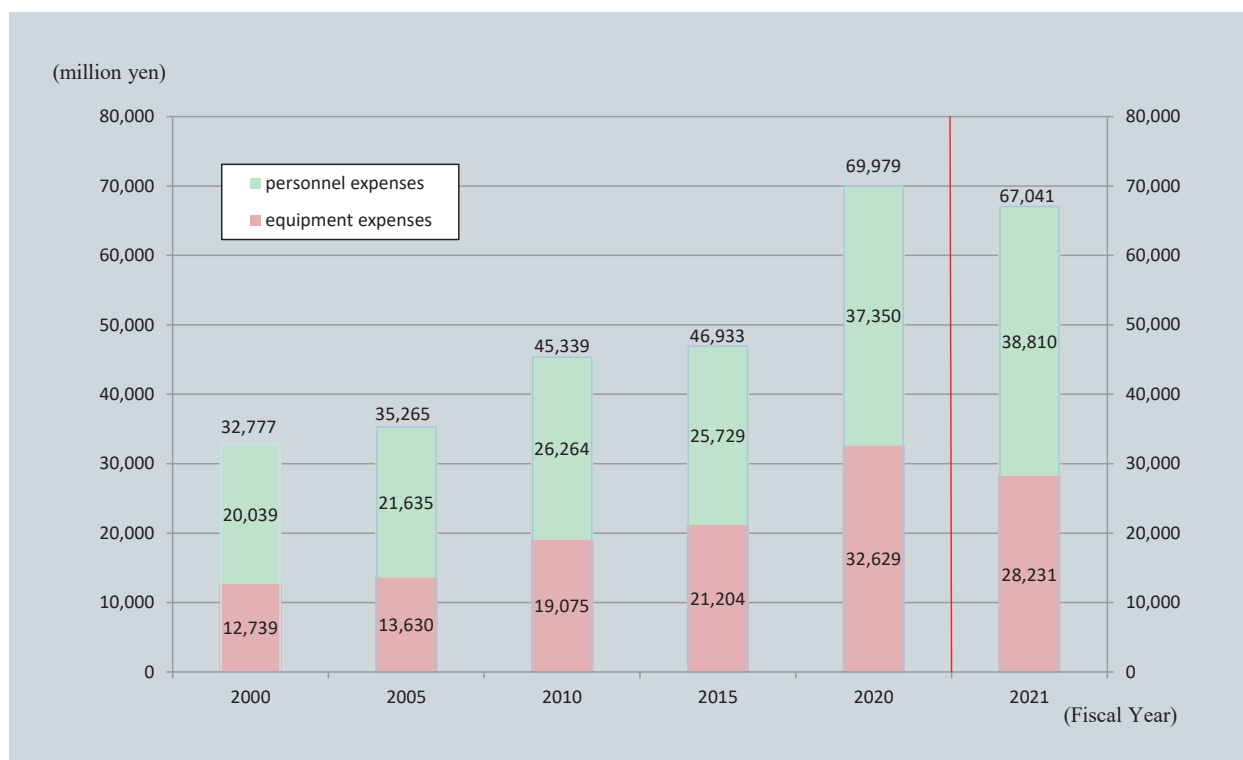
Scene of a training of immigration control officers

Data Section 3 Budget etc.

Section 1 Budgets

The changes in the budget for immigration control and residency management administration are as shown in [Reference 94](#), and amid the severe administrative and financial situation of recent years, the necessary funds to implement the various measures being promoted by the Immigration Services Agency were allocated in the FY 2021 budget. The Immigration Services Agency will continue to strive to make effective use of the budget and to reduce administrative costs.

Reference 94 Changes in the budget for immigration control and residency management administration



- (*1) The amount of budget is the initial amount of budget.
- (*2) Some figures may not be consistent owing to the fact that the numbers are rounded off to units of 1 million yen.
- (*3) Including international tourism passenger tax business (FY2020: 8,184 million yen, FY2021: 4,084 million yen).
- (*4) Including government information system costs (Cabinet Secretariat and Digital Agency (tentative name) lump sum, FY2021 10,663 million yen).

Section 2 Facilities

As of March 31, 2021, eight Regional Immigration Services Bureaus are housed in independent office buildings of the Ministry of Justice (Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka), joint office buildings of the Ministry of Justice (Sendai, Hiroshima, Takamatsu, and Fukuoka), and joint office buildings with other national government authorities (Sapporo) respectively. All of the District Immigration Services Offices and the Branch Offices of Regional Immigration Services Bureaus are housed either in independent office buildings of the Ministry of Justice (Yokohama), in general offices of the Ministry of Justice, in office buildings jointly with branch offices of port-related national government authorities, in office building jointly with other national government authorities, in airport terminal building, or in other civil or public facilities.

Two detention centers for foreign nationals in the country are maintained as independent offices of the Ministry of Justice (Omura) and general offices of the Ministry of Justice (Higashi-Nihon).

Data Section 4 Statistics

(1) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Mid to Long-Term Residents for the Principal Statuses of Residence by Nationality/Region

1-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Highly-Skilled Professional" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	229	302	531	779	456
China	25	65	124	209	113
United States of America	56	60	102	124	80
India	22	14	39	63	38
Taiwan	13	17	23	50	26
United Kingdom	18	15	30	32	25
Australia	13	8	20	12	19
R.O.Korea	10	21	38	34	15
China (Hong Kong)	4	7	8	22	14
France	16	27	29	44	13
Canada	5	8	12	15	11
United Kingdom (Hong Kong)	0	4	2	7	8
Others	47	56	104	167	94

(*) The number for "Highly-Skilled Professional" is the number combining of "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)" and "Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)".

1-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Highly-Skilled Professional" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	3,739	7,668	11,061	14,924	16,554
China	2,426	5,142	7,258	9,769	10,876
India	195	334	500	739	842
United States of America	194	331	469	612	677
R.O.Korea	140	277	442	589	653
Taiwan	113	290	422	499	516
Viet Nam	55	168	287	379	435
France	75	146	212	282	278
United Kingdom	64	112	165	225	254
Australia	40	58	89	113	129
Malaysia	18	53	74	101	118
Germany	24	41	68	98	109
Others	395	716	1,075	1,518	1,667

(*1) The numbers are based on the statistics as at the end of December each year (hereinafter the same applies to the tables relating to the number of mid to long-term residents).

(*2) "China" excludes those who were issued the residence cards and special permanent resident certificates and had already been included in "Taiwan" in nationality/region section (hereinafter the same applies to the tables relating to the number of mid to long-term residents).

2-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Business Manager" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	2,091	1,660	1,790	2,237	1,537
China	1,242	921	985	1,417	864
R.O.Korea	199	155	180	174	117
Taiwan	78	65	54	81	68
China (Hong Kong)	41	24	28	46	63
Pakistan	43	27	45	40	56
United States of America	92	97	107	84	38
Sri Lanka	45	38	36	54	35
Viet Nam	17	21	34	32	31
France	40	43	35	45	30
Nepal	16	12	16	18	29
Others	278	257	270	246	206

2-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Business Manager" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	21,877	24,033	25,670	27,249	27,235
China	11,229	12,447	13,397	14,442	14,317
R.O.Korea	3,039	3,095	3,104	3,078	2,819
Nepal	1,133	1,392	1,531	1,588	1,708
Sri Lanka	672	839	1,014	1,225	1,427
Pakistan	1,025	1,109	1,200	1,284	1,374
Taiwan	762	818	826	862	787
Viet Nam	160	265	376	491	640
United States of America	664	679	706	668	605
India	355	392	396	391	387
Bangladesh	272	296	307	331	362
Others	2,566	2,701	2,813	2,889	2,809

3-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	20,940	25,063	34,182	43,880	19,705
Viet Nam	2,839	4,529	8,623	12,245	6,484
China	5,016	5,492	6,785	9,532	2,702
R.O.Korea	2,487	3,160	3,833	4,161	1,533
India	1,696	1,918	2,489	3,073	1,018
Taiwan	1,016	1,416	1,979	2,301	976
Sri Lanka	428	424	495	726	850
United States of America	1,510	1,632	1,717	1,815	777
Myanmar	316	445	679	1,171	730
The Philippines	1,170	1,168	1,573	1,565	534
Pakistan	182	210	320	405	423
Others	4,280	4,669	5,689	6,886	3,678

3-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	161,124	189,273	225,724	271,999	283,380
China	68,274	75,010	81,736	90,766	88,662
Viet Nam	13,570	22,045	34,752	51,713	61,181
R.O.Korea	18,936	21,603	24,602	27,388	25,760
Nepal	3,278	5,426	8,541	12,203	15,581
Taiwan	7,204	9,210	11,587	14,140	13,654
India	5,940	6,556	7,753	9,455	8,924
United States of America	8,110	8,626	9,124	9,604	8,848
The Philippines	5,016	5,924	7,083	8,150	8,250
Sri Lanka	2,374	2,806	3,491	4,575	6,233
Myanmar	1,798	2,316	3,146	4,689	5,767
Others	26,624	29,751	33,909	39,316	40,520

4-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Intra-company Transferee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	7,652	8,665	9,478	9,964	3,188
China	2,448	2,665	2,662	2,890	548
The Philippines	899	1,081	1,357	1,278	412
Viet Nam	555	576	736	954	329
Sri Lanka	82	75	51	100	276
Thailand	519	675	795	939	274
R.O.Korea	631	713	587	581	198
India	579	681	728	830	171
Indonesia	204	283	393	459	139
United States of America	304	321	350	314	115
Malaysia	101	231	251	196	100
Others	1,330	1,364	1,568	1,423	626

4-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Intra-company Transferee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	15,772	16,486	17,328	18,193	13,415
China	5,741	5,807	5,797	6,129	4,078
The Philippines	1,123	1,287	1,634	1,658	1,272
R.O.Korea	1,597	1,689	1,557	1,539	1,209
Viet Nam	841	909	1,082	1,342	1,159
India	1,208	1,252	1,300	1,429	840
Thailand	669	842	913	1,008	667
Sri Lanka	291	338	351	419	653
United States of America	707	697	691	666	474
Indonesia	298	392	575	686	462
Taiwan	596	574	597	536	416
Others	2,701	2,699	2,831	2,781	2,185

5-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Entertainer" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	39,057	39,929	42,703	45,486	7,218
The Philippines	3,961	4,259	5,245	5,632	1,918
R.O.Korea	7,221	7,116	8,510	9,190	1,063
United States of America	6,155	6,306	6,069	6,510	949
United Kingdom	2,998	3,192	3,344	3,763	415
Russia	1,503	1,724	1,521	1,846	297
Australia	610	640	831	698	229
France	1,589	1,236	1,561	1,172	199
Austria	1,009	624	640	487	186
Ukraine	583	826	674	704	162
Italy	1,395	1,483	1,622	1,522	134
Others	12,033	12,523	12,686	13,962	1,666

5-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Entertainer" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	2,187	2,094	2,389	2,508	1,865
The Philippines	548	494	650	644	384
United States of America	369	375	382	389	328
R.O.Korea	199	254	219	211	163
Brazil	121	126	154	150	144
China	125	101	111	171	93
Australia	106	70	109	80	84
Spain	29	19	40	44	68
United Kingdom	47	50	72	87	55
Russia	47	38	75	44	42
Taiwan	38	39	38	45	33
Others	558	528	539	643	471

6-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Skilled Labor" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	6,404	3,692	3,551	4,355	1,729
China	491	770	1,099	1,641	555
Nepal	2,806	738	338	490	336
India	573	486	605	552	308
Viet Nam	100	134	207	200	83
Thailand	143	161	136	122	58
The Philippines	122	134	99	50	28
United States of America	48	63	57	60	23
New Zealand	50	46	66	55	20
Peru	9	7	4	10	20
United Kingdom	87	115	133	152	19
Others	1,975	1,038	807	1,023	279

6-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Skilled Labor" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	39,756	39,177	39,915	41,692	40,491
China	15,606	15,537	15,922	16,763	16,469
Nepal	12,480	12,706	12,547	12,679	12,524
India	4,621	4,867	5,237	5,603	5,592
Thailand	1,191	1,258	1,271	1,283	1,229
R.O.Korea	966	895	838	806	712
Viet Nam	307	403	537	671	692
The Philippines	516	603	661	672	668
Bangladesh	299	319	339	343	323
Pakistan	200	232	271	266	253
Sri Lanka	184	203	211	226	217
Others	3,386	2,154	2,081	2,380	1,812

7-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker(i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total				563	3,760
Viet Nam				304	1,816
Indonesia				112	717
China				2	503
Cambodia				59	235
Myanmar				37	184
Thailand				27	139
The Philippines				1	46
Nepal				7	28
Mongolia				2	23
Taiwan				1	19
Others				11	50

(*) The statuses of "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" were newly established on April 1, 2019.

7-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker(i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total				1,621	15,663
Viet Nam				901	9,412
China				100	1,575
Indonesia				189	1,514
The Philippines				111	1,059
Myanmar				100	674
Cambodia				94	488
Thailand				79	455
Nepal				18	135
Mongolia				2	75
Sri Lanka				5	63
Others				22	213

8-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	106,118	127,671	144,195	173,705	76,456
Viet Nam	43,774	58,690	72,582	91,170	41,341
China	32,895	34,072	33,640	34,685	11,049
Indonesia	8,050	9,581	12,233	15,746	8,261
The Philippines	10,741	12,923	12,060	13,839	5,119
Myanmar	2,403	3,233	3,723	6,460	3,543
Thailand	4,126	4,449	4,579	4,813	2,771
Cambodia	2,759	2,978	3,316	4,216	2,746
Mongolia	408	613	790	1,124	772
Sri Lanka	136	217	272	344	249
Nepal	97	88	135	190	118
Others	729	827	865	1,118	487

(*) The number for "Technical Intern Training (i)" is the number combining "Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)" and "Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)".

8-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	102,585	124,072	143,377	169,383	75,681
Viet Nam	43,868	58,793	74,150	90,776	41,564
China	30,999	32,095	32,178	32,489	10,891
Indonesia	7,890	9,520	12,162	15,419	8,030
The Philippines	10,165	12,320	11,793	13,271	4,818
Myanmar	2,336	3,091	3,682	6,299	3,456
Cambodia	2,610	2,827	3,270	4,162	2,736
Thailand	3,664	3,927	4,303	4,513	2,670
Mongolia	392	612	805	1,109	771
Sri Lanka	129	184	260	331	240
Nepal	90	81	133	189	118
Others	442	622	641	825	387

9 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (ii)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	126,003	150,153	177,585	215,233	262,663
Viet Nam	44,343	64,762	86,155	113,810	146,143
China	49,858	45,472	44,331	45,412	46,924
Indonesia	10,835	12,374	14,144	18,054	23,441
The Philippines	12,509	15,489	17,798	19,358	21,417
Myanmar	1,624	3,053	4,635	6,070	9,083
Thailand	3,615	4,503	5,122	5,914	6,741
Cambodia	2,255	3,353	3,969	4,595	5,944
Mongolia	382	487	661	946	1,410
Sri Lanka	136	157	212	375	535
Laos	219	254	284	302	351
Others	227	249	274	397	674

(*) The number for "Technical Intern Training (ii)" is the number combining "Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)" and "Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)".

10-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total		8	5,712	14,976	7,252
Viet Nam		8	3,240	7,777	3,717
China		0	1,062	2,706	1,109
The Philippines		0	511	1,887	854
Indonesia		0	491	1,125	703
Thailand		0	167	539	350
Cambodia		0	135	466	255
Myanmar		0	66	382	205
Mongolia		0	16	47	24
Laos		0	9	16	15
Sri Lanka		0	9	19	11
Others		0	6	12	9

(*1) The status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii)(a) and (b)" was newly established on November 1, 2017.

(*2) The number for "Technical Intern Training (iii)" is the number combining "Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)" and "Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)".

10-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total		8	7,398	26,356	39,856
Viet Nam		8	4,194	14,141	21,172
China		0	1,297	4,469	5,926
The Philippines		0	730	3,245	5,413
Indonesia		0	608	1,931	2,988
Myanmar		0	115	749	1,424
Thailand		0	214	898	1,324
Cambodia		0	185	759	1,290
Mongolia		0	18	68	129
Sri Lanka		0	15	34	64
Laos		0	10	25	58
Others		0	12	37	68

11-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Student" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	108,146	123,232	124,269	121,637	49,748
China	38,662	41,656	42,151	47,666	20,671
Viet Nam	22,268	24,893	26,125	21,060	11,339
R.O.Korea	6,482	7,326	8,231	8,901	2,586
Indonesia	2,434	2,850	2,935	2,896	1,426
Taiwan	5,091	5,470	5,646	5,627	1,405
United States of America	3,100	3,422	3,483	3,712	964
Myanmar	1,893	2,270	2,058	1,006	930
Thailand	2,176	2,164	2,084	1,787	847
Nepal	5,728	8,474	7,614	7,406	826
Mongolia	1,068	1,280	1,538	1,440	788
Others	19,244	23,427	22,404	20,136	7,966

11-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Student" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	277,331	311,505	337,000	345,791	280,901
China	115,278	124,292	132,411	144,264	125,328
Viet Nam	62,422	72,268	81,009	79,292	65,653
Nepal	22,967	27,101	28,987	29,417	23,116
R.O.Korea	15,438	15,912	17,056	17,732	12,854
Indonesia	5,607	6,492	7,213	7,512	6,279
Taiwan	9,537	10,237	10,603	10,420	6,206
Sri Lanka	5,597	8,273	8,701	7,408	5,578
Myanmar	4,553	5,753	6,369	5,429	4,371
Bangladesh	2,548	3,467	3,948	3,624	3,341
Mongolia	2,705	3,150	3,675	3,908	3,320
Others	30,679	34,560	37,028	36,785	24,855

12-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Trainee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	15,740	16,393	13,389	12,985	2,392
Thailand	910	835	888	721	194
Indonesia	1,376	1,239	990	849	153
Myanmar	868	954	749	666	134
Viet Nam	1,034	1,069	814	806	119
Malaysia	461	419	470	432	104
India	522	797	869	853	103
China	699	699	654	575	93
The Philippines	548	494	598	419	77
Egypt	220	300	215	195	71
Laos	282	274	208	267	67
Others	8,820	9,313	6,934	7,202	1,277

12-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Trainee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	1,379	1,460	1,443	1,177	174
Viet Nam	197	247	226	194	40
Thailand	183	192	251	147	33
Indonesia	169	175	204	153	22
Myanmar	43	52	45	33	13
China	232	209	191	155	11
Malaysia	41	34	18	19	8
South Sudan	1	0	2	5	5
R.O.Korea	24	24	21	18	4
Taiwan	23	26	24	15	4
Bhutan	2	5	2	4	4
Others	464	496	459	434	30

13-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	18,210	22,444	27,752	31,712	7,381
R.O.Korea	3,134	3,867	5,150	5,467	1,138
Viet Nam	670	1,394	2,536	3,449	1,047
Taiwan	4,691	5,290	5,552	6,279	1,025
Indonesia	726	1,058	1,299	1,461	773
China	2,174	2,851	3,052	3,318	710
France	1,099	1,290	1,394	1,582	378
The Philippines	951	915	1,911	1,788	369
Germany	704	785	873	958	257
China (Hong Kong)	275	717	607	663	204
Australia	1,093	1,192	1,374	1,648	199
Others	2,693	3,085	4,004	5,099	1,281

13-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	47,039	64,776	62,956	65,187	103,422
Viet Nam	2,428	5,627	4,897	6,349	41,331
China	9,539	10,947	10,389	10,600	16,894
The Philippines	4,269	8,547	8,574	6,642	7,467
Sri Lanka	1,281	3,254	3,177	3,815	4,506
Indonesia	3,559	5,171	4,151	3,965	4,450
Myanmar	1,694	2,244	2,070	1,927	3,358
Nepal	4,171	5,005	4,078	2,839	2,932
Cambodia	338	1,001	1,173	1,832	2,695
Turkey	1,961	2,443	1,971	1,741	2,425
India	884	1,342	1,329	1,496	1,993
Others	16,915	19,195	21,147	23,981	15,371

14 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Permanent Resident" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	727,111	749,191	771,568	793,164	807,517
China	238,438	248,873	260,963	273,776	283,281
The Philippines	124,477	127,396	129,707	131,933	133,188
Brazil	110,932	112,876	112,934	112,440	112,341
R.O.Korea	68,033	69,391	71,094	72,391	72,473
Peru	33,803	33,891	33,789	33,614	33,375
Taiwan	20,659	21,044	21,601	22,235	22,265
Thailand	19,327	19,719	20,142	20,526	20,720
Viet Nam	14,271	14,913	16,043	17,186	18,472
United States of America	16,422	16,922	17,580	18,043	18,239
Indonesia	5,949	6,200	6,438	6,662	6,852
Others	74,800	77,966	81,277	84,358	86,311

15-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	10,188	9,998	10,466	10,694	6,306
The Philippines	1,926	1,938	1,825	1,850	1,057
China	2,412	2,216	2,025	2,017	998
Brazil	2,308	2,134	2,490	2,384	657
United States of America	483	434	508	561	527
Thailand	523	602	636	604	474
Viet Nam	385	454	522	643	436
R.O.Korea	359	343	398	400	317
Taiwan	180	201	215	195	162
Indonesia	136	162	155	180	136
United Kingdom	121	116	143	126	126
Others	1,355	1,398	1,549	1,734	1,416

15-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	139,327	140,839	142,381	145,254	142,735
China	32,479	31,911	30,900	30,321	28,313
The Philippines	26,687	26,401	26,322	26,699	26,022
Brazil	15,917	16,631	17,668	18,427	17,225
R.O.Korea	13,818	13,490	13,053	12,798	12,490
United States of America	9,147	9,497	9,689	10,014	10,439
Thailand	7,091	7,144	7,223	7,301	7,154
Viet Nam	2,587	3,164	3,837	4,601	4,983
Taiwan	4,155	4,296	4,439	4,541	4,475
United Kingdom	2,562	2,639	2,644	2,637	2,743
France	1,765	1,881	1,997	2,097	2,195
Others	23,119	23,785	24,609	25,818	26,696

16-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	15,037	16,309	17,146	17,515	5,385
Brazil	8,591	9,891	11,214	11,657	2,709
The Philippines	2,767	2,534	2,413	2,345	914
China	1,925	1,950	1,558	1,508	680
Peru	534	563	587	619	240
Viet Nam	223	235	276	271	192
Indonesia	95	147	115	145	87
Bolivia	144	182	142	177	80
Thailand	109	115	102	97	62
R.O.Korea	36	37	53	33	61
Nepal	76	63	83	47	39
Others	537	592	603	616	321

16-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	168,830	179,834	192,014	204,787	201,329
Brazil	49,542	56,475	65,021	73,536	71,832
The Philippines	47,663	49,773	52,008	54,359	53,941
China	27,140	28,033	28,282	28,822	27,436
Peru	10,345	10,406	10,647	10,936	10,779
R.O.Korea	7,348	7,291	7,289	7,208	7,119
Viet Nam	5,258	5,448	5,509	5,646	5,739
Thailand	3,804	3,861	3,922	3,997	3,985
Myanmar	2,392	2,433	2,479	2,479	2,413
Bolivia	1,944	2,072	2,171	2,294	2,334
Indonesia	1,903	2,002	2,107	2,238	2,260
Others	11,491	12,040	12,579	13,272	13,491

(2) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Foreign Residents of the Principal Nationalities/Regions by Status of Residence/Status

1-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of Chinese nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	4,347,643	4,839,034	5,952,742	7,424,274	836,088
Diplomat	462	527	653	938	74
Official	2,317	3,468	6,689	9,409	204
Professor	464	409	412	425	160
Artist	6	3	8	5	14
Religious Activities	1	4	3	7	3
Journalist	51	43	18	15	1
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	6	5	5	12	8
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	12	44	92	146	71
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	7	16	27	51	34
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	1,242	921	985	1,417	864
Legal/Accounting Services	2	0	2	1	0
Medical Services	5	21	10	17	11
Researcher	63	72	75	68	28
Instructor	13	14	11	8	5
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	5,016	5,492	6,785	9,532	2,702
Intra-company Transferee	2,448	2,665	2,662	2,890	548
Nursing Care		0	1	0	0
Entertainer	1,036	1,162	1,058	1,586	39
Skilled Labor	491	770	1,099	1,641	555
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				2	503
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				—	—
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,846	1,819	1,330	1,592	263
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	31,049	32,253	32,310	33,093	10,786
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	0	2	3	1
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	4	7	92	56	43
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	12	38	17
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		0	1,050	2,668	1,092
Cultural Activities	866	898	939	1,060	182
Temporary Visitor	4,244,349	4,729,271	5,837,840	7,292,654	790,845
Student	38,662	41,656	42,151	47,666	20,671
Trainee	699	699	654	575	93
Dependent	8,938	8,646	8,147	8,866	3,367
Designated Activities	2,174	2,851	3,052	3,318	710
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	2,412	2,216	2,025	2,017	998
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,077	1,132	985	990	466
Long-Term Resident	1,925	1,950	1,558	1,508	680
Permanent Resident					50

(*1) The status of residence of "Nursing Care" was newly established on September 1, 2017 (the same applies in the following table) .

(*2) The status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii) (a) and (b) " was newly established on November 1, 2017 (the same applies in the following table) .

(*3) The status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker (i) "and were "Specified Skilled Worker (ii) " newly established on April 1, 2019 (the same applies in the following table) .

1-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of Chinese nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	695,522	730,890	764,720	813,675	778,112
Professor	1,532	1,448	1,412	1,411	1,254
Artist	67	59	61	66	78
Religious Activities	68	80	88	89	88
Journalist	48	44	46	49	42
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	366	585	757	888	850
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	1,982	4,327	6,077	8,094	9,008
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	31	95	163	288	352
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	47	135	261	499	666
Business Manager	11,229	12,447	13,397	14,442	14,317
Legal/Accounting Services	10	10	15	18	16
Medical Services	1,049	1,301	1,510	1,746	1,881
Researcher	451	426	380	361	312
Instructor	71	78	81	79	78
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	68,274	75,010	81,736	90,766	88,662
Intra-company Transferee	5,741	5,807	5,797	6,129	4,078
Nursing Care		4	34	80	183
Entertainer	125	101	111	171	93
Skilled Labor	15,606	15,537	15,922	16,763	16,469
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				100	1,575
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,305	1,394	1,057	1,235	225
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	29,694	30,701	31,121	31,254	10,666
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	1,397	1,170	1,009	1,060	1,169
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	48,461	44,302	43,322	44,352	45,755
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	108	209	202
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		0	1,189	4,260	5,724
Cultural Activities	940	1,024	1,049	1,119	468
Student	115,278	124,292	132,411	144,264	125,328
Trainee	232	209	191	155	11
Dependent	69,784	74,962	78,417	82,382	74,886
Designated Activities	9,539	10,947	10,389	10,600	16,894
Permanent Resident	238,438	248,873	260,963	273,776	283,281
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	32,479	31,911	30,900	30,321	28,313
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	12,984	14,551	15,592	17,002	16,956
Long-Term Resident	27,140	28,033	28,282	28,822	27,436
Special Permanent Resident	1,154	1,027	872	825	796

(*) "China" excludes those who were issued the residence cards and special permanent resident certificates and had already been included in "Taiwan" in nationality/region section.

2-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of R.O.Korean nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	4,916,255	6,946,352	7,325,595	5,339,079	432,707
Diplomat	906	902	943	969	194
Official	2,090	2,192	2,261	1,744	181
Professor	191	194	202	185	58
Artist	4	10	18	32	1
Religious Activities	70	66	68	74	34
Journalist	9	14	9	10	6
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	0	2	1	3	3
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	10	18	29	26	12
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	0	1	8	5	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	199	155	180	174	117
Legal/Accounting Services	0	1	1	0	0
Medical Services	13	16	21	17	11
Researcher	10	20	27	17	4
Instructor	21	21	10	20	19
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	2,487	3,160	3,833	4,161	1,533
Intra-company Transferee	631	713	587	581	198
Nursing Care		0	0	1	0
Entertainer	7,221	7,116	8,510	9,190	1,063
Skilled Labor	42	40	27	39	7
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				3	8
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	34	19	7	1	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		0	0	0	0
Cultural Activities	182	194	216	223	31
Temporary Visitor	4,890,616	6,918,346	7,293,178	5,305,221	424,382
Student	6,482	7,326	8,231	8,901	2,586
Trainee	86	77	74	74	6
Dependent	1,376	1,460	1,491	1,460	675
Designated Activities	3,134	3,867	5,150	5,467	1,138
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	359	343	398	400	317
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	46	42	62	48	40
Long-Term Resident	36	37	53	33	61
Permanent Resident					22

2-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of R.O.Korean nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	453,096	450,663	449,634	446,364	426,908
Professor	901	911	859	824	768
Artist	37	41	48	54	53
Religious Activities	879	891	900	902	823
Journalist	48	46	43	41	37
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	44	70	110	135	155
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	82	183	290	404	435
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	13	22	34	37	45
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	1	2	8	13	18
Business Manager	3,039	3,095	3,104	3,078	2,819
Legal/Accounting Services	7	8	11	12	15
Medical Services	122	134	142	142	148
Researcher	153	155	144	127	117
Instructor	95	98	106	118	114
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	18,936	21,603	24,602	27,388	25,760
Intra-company Transferee	1,597	1,689	1,557	1,539	1,209
Nursing Care		1	6	21	48
Entertainer	199	254	219	211	163
Skilled Labor	966	895	838	806	712
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				6	59
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	4	13	1	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		0	0	0	0
Cultural Activities	248	254	218	213	93
Student	15,438	15,912	17,056	17,732	12,854
Trainee	24	24	21	18	4
Dependent	12,187	12,211	12,061	11,829	10,573
Designated Activities	3,333	3,961	4,892	4,889	1,565
Permanent Resident	68,033	69,391	71,094	72,391	72,473
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	13,818	13,490	13,053	12,798	12,490
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	2,207	2,192	2,191	2,162	2,132
Long-Term Resident	7,348	7,291	7,289	7,208	7,119
Special Permanent Resident	303,337	295,826	288,737	281,266	274,107

3-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of Viet Nam nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence	Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total		178,084	232,706	288,354	353,633	90,876
Diplomat		450	542	533	533	50
Official		3,038	3,106	2,955	2,852	260
Professor		44	50	40	33	18
Artist		0	0	1	0	1
Religious Activities		18	27	25	32	20
Journalist		3	1	0	1	4
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)		0	0	1	1	2
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)		0	0	2	2	4
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)		1	0	0	1	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)		0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager		17	21	34	32	31
Legal/Accounting Services		0	0	0	0	0
Medical Services		0	1	0	1	4
Researcher		11	4	7	7	2
Instructor		2	0	0	1	0
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services		2,839	4,529	8,623	12,245	6,484
Intra-company Transferee		555	576	736	954	329
Nursing Care			1	0	1	15
Entertainer		190	154	244	156	6
Skilled Labor		100	134	207	200	83
Specified Skilled Worker (i)					304	1,816
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)					0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)		852	1,265	1,214	1,020	293
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)		42,922	57,425	71,368	90,150	41,048
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)		2	0	5	1	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)		3	1	94	108	47
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)			0	23	95	9
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)			8	3,217	7,682	3,708
Cultural Activities		82	60	83	81	12
Temporary Visitor		100,544	134,091	165,080	205,466	19,739
Student		22,268	24,893	26,125	21,060	11,339
Trainee		1,034	1,069	814	806	119
Dependent		1,720	2,533	3,443	5,294	3,654
Designated Activities		670	1,394	2,536	3,449	1,047
Spouse or Child of Japanese National		385	454	522	643	436
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident		111	132	146	151	102
Long-Term Resident		223	235	276	271	192
Permanent Resident						2

3-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of Viet Nam nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	199,990	262,405	330,835	411,968	448,053
Professor	151	151	145	137	145
Artist	0	1	0	0	0
Religious Activities	210	232	239	252	254
Journalist	10	9	8	8	11
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	17	55	70	79	77
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	36	107	205	287	343
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	1	3	5	7	8
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	1	3	7	6	7
Business Manager	160	265	376	491	640
Legal/Accounting Services	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Services	9	12	31	43	69
Researcher	48	48	44	32	33
Instructor	5	7	6	5	4
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	13,570	22,045	34,752	51,713	61,181
Intra-company Transferee	841	909	1,082	1,342	1,159
Nursing Care		7	73	296	857
Entertainer	5	3	1	0	0
Skilled Labor	307	403	537	671	692
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				901	9,412
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	784	1,175	1,140	915	270
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	43,084	57,618	73,010	89,861	41,294
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	819	853	1,105	1,447	1,359
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	43,524	63,909	85,050	112,363	144,784
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	38	152	182
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		8	4,156	13,989	20,990
Cultural Activities	49	49	41	44	17
Temporary Visitor	62,422	72,268	81,009	79,292	65,653
Student	197	247	226	194	40
Trainee	7,623	11,112	15,301	21,609	25,961
Dependent	2,428	5,627	4,897	6,349	41,331
Designated Activities	14,271	14,913	16,043	17,186	18,472
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	2,587	3,164	3,837	4,601	4,983
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,571	1,752	1,889	2,047	2,083
Long-Term Resident	5,258	5,448	5,509	5,646	5,739
Special Permanent Resident	2	2	3	3	3

4-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of the Philippine nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	324,790	395,808	443,236	571,685	96,281
Diplomat	242	399	162	283	26
Official	816	1,418	763	989	108
Professor	33	34	38	34	12
Artist	0	0	0	2	0
Religious Activities	31	37	56	71	29
Journalist	0	0	0	1	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	1	1	2	2	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	0	0	0	1	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	8	9	5	7	1
Legal/Accounting Services	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Services	1	1	0	3	1
Researcher	6	2	2	0	0
Instructor	79	104	143	200	129
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	1,170	1,168	1,573	1,565	534
Intra-company Transferee	899	1,081	1,357	1,278	412
Nursing Care		0	0	1	0
Entertainer	3,961	4,259	5,245	5,632	1,918
Skilled Labor	122	134	99	50	28
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				1	46
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,243	1,382	1,254	1,199	297
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	9,498	11,541	10,806	12,640	4,822
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	0	5	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	2	0	9	5	3
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	20	81	33
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		0	491	1,806	821
Cultural Activities	42	43	73	89	12
Temporary Visitor	298,564	366,191	411,912	536,965	83,597
Student	1,124	1,381	1,682	1,486	585
Trainee	548	494	598	419	77
Dependent	535	493	534	673	254
Designated Activities	951	915	1,911	1,788	369
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	1,926	1,938	1,825	1,850	1,057
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	221	249	258	219	158
Long-Term Resident	2,767	2,534	2,413	2,345	914
Permanent Resident					38

4-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of the Philippine nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	243,662	260,553	271,289	282,798	279,660
Professor	94	94	89	94	96
Artist	0	0	0	0	0
Religious Activities	241	248	274	321	301
Journalist	0	0	0	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	11	18	21	24	21
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	9	15	30	48	57
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	1	1	1	2	1
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	1	1	1	3
Business Manager	59	71	70	71	60
Legal/Accounting Services	2	2	2	2	2
Medical Services	27	42	55	80	104
Researcher	23	19	20	16	17
Instructor	546	717	980	1,315	1,516
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	5,016	5,924	7,083	8,150	8,250
Intra-company Transferee	1,123	1,287	1,634	1,658	1,272
Nursing Care		0	20	54	153
Entertainer	548	494	650	644	384
Skilled Labor	516	603	661	672	668
Specified Skilled Worker (i)				111	1,059
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)				0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,041	1,198	1,112	1,023	245
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	9,124	11,122	10,681	12,248	4,573
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	342	573	706	777	949
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	12,167	14,916	17,092	18,581	20,468
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)		0	44	155	264
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)		0	686	3,090	5,149
Cultural Activities	18	26	38	49	22
Student	1,825	2,375	3,010	3,262	2,421
Trainee	106	99	129	107	3
Dependent	2,846	3,104	3,386	3,722	3,618
Designated Activities	4,269	8,547	8,574	6,642	7,467
Permanent Resident	124,477	127,396	129,707	131,933	133,188
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	26,687	26,401	26,322	26,699	26,022
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	4,834	5,440	6,155	6,838	7,315
Long-Term Resident	47,663	49,773	52,008	54,359	53,941
Special Permanent Resident	47	47	48	50	51

(3) Status of Implementation of Immigration Examination Using Biometric Information (2020)

- Number of the implementation of exclusion order

【Nationality/Region】	(People)	【Airport・Seaport】	(People)
China	34	Narita Airport	77
Turkey	30	Kansai Airport	32
Thailand	25	Haneda Airport	27
R.O.Korea	19	Chubu Airport	11
Indonesia	11	Others	9
The Philippines	11	Total	156
United States of America	5		
Malaysia	5		
Viet Nam	3		
Taiwan	2		
Bangladesh	2		
Others	9		
Total	156		

- Number of the implementation of deportation procedures

【Nationality】	(People)	【Airport】	(People)
Iran	1	Kansai Airport	1
Total	1	Total	1

(4) Changes in the number of cases of detection of forged or altered documents, etc. (including passports with missing or damaged pages, etc.)

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Landing	Passport	130(57)	188(63)	259(56)	226(54)	48(16)
	Others	65	192	173	188	7
	Total	195(57)	380(63)	432(56)	414(54)	55(16)
Departure	Passport	15(11)	23(20)	60(54)	64(52)	12(11)
	Others	—	10	12	21	2
	Total	15(11)	33(20)	72(54)	85(52)	14(11)
Total	Passport	145(68)	211(83)	319(110)	290(106)	60(27)
	Others	65	202	185	209	9
	Total	210(68)	413(83)	504(110)	499(106)	69(27)

(*) The "passports with missing or damaged pages, etc." means those where there was confirmed evidence of "missing or damaged pages", "booklet dismantlement" or "peeling off of the permission seal sticker", but as a result of document forensics or questioning of the bearer in the immigration procedures, they were judged valid, and these are represented by the figures in brackets in the table.



Work scene in the Counterfeit Documents Countermeasures Office

2021 Immigration Control and Residency Management

December 2021

Immigration Services Agency, Japan

〒100-8973 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo



2021

**Immigration Control and
Residency Management**