

# 2008 Immigration Control

■ **Introduction** Publication of the "2008 Immigration Control"

## Part 1 Immigration Control in Recent Years

### Chapter 1 Foreign Nationals Entering and Residing in Japan

#### Section 1 ◆ Foreign Nationals Entering Japan ..... 2

##### 1 Changes in the Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan ..... 2

(1) The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan ..... 2

(2) The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Nationality  
(Place of Origin) ..... 2

(3) The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Gender and Age ..... 4

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

A. Temporary Visitors ..... 4

B. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Employment ..... 6

(a) "Engineer", "Specialist in Humanities/International Services",  
"Intra-company Transferee" ..... 8

(b) "Skilled Labor" ..... 9

(c) "Entertainer" ..... 9

C. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Study ..... 10

(a) "Trainee" ..... 10

(b) "College Student" and "Pre-college Student" ..... 11

D. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with the Status of Residence of  
Resident Activities Based on Civil Status or Position ..... 12

##### 2 Judgment for Landing ..... 14

(1) Receipt and Findings of Hearings for Landing and Filing of Objections ..... 14

(2) Foreign Nationals Who Fall under Any of the Reasons for Denial of Landing .. 15

(3) Special Permission for Landing ..... 16

##### 3 Pre-entry Examination ..... 16

(1) Advance Consultation for Issuance of Visas ..... 16

(2) Certificate of Eligibility ..... 17

## Section 2 ◆ Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan ..... 17

### 1 The Number of Registered Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan ..... 17

(1) The Total Number of Registered Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan ..... 18

(2) The Number of Registered Foreign Nationals by Nationality  
(Place of Origin) ..... 18

(3) The Number of Registered Foreign Nationals by Purpose  
(Status of Residence) ..... 20

A. "Permanent Resident" and "Special Permanent Resident" ..... 20

B. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan for the Purpose of Employment ..... 21

C. "College Student" and "Pre-college Student" ..... 21

D. "Trainee" ..... 22

E. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan with the Status of Residence  
for Resident Activities Based on Civil Status or Position ..... 23

### 2 Status of Residence Examinations ..... 23

(1) Permission for Extension of Period of Stay ..... 23

(2) Permission for Change of Status of Residence ..... 24

A. Change of Status of Residence from "College Student" or  
"Pre-college Student" for Employment Purposes ..... 24

B. Permission to Change Status of Residence in Order to Participate  
in a Technical Internship Program ..... 25

(3) Permission for Acquisition of Status of Residence ..... 27

(4) Re-entry Permission ..... 27

(5) Permission to Engage in an Activity Other Than Those Permitted  
by the Status of Residence Previously Granted ..... 27

(6) Permission for Permanent Residence ..... 28

## Chapter 2 Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

### Section 1 ◆ Foreign Nationals Violating the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act ..... 29

#### 1 The Total Number of Overstayers ..... 29

(1) The Number of Overstayers by Nationality (Place of Origin) ..... 29

(2) The Number of Overstayers by Status of Residence ..... 30

<b>Section 2 ◆ Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act for Which Deportation Procedures Were Carried Out</b>	31
<b>1 The Number of Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act by Grounds for Deportation</b>	31
(1) Illegal Entry	32
(2) Illegal Landing	34
(3) Overstay	34
(4) Activities Other Than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted	35
<b>2 Illegal Workers</b>	36
(1) Summary	36
(2) The Number of Illegal Foreign Workers Classified by Nationality (Place of Origin)	36
(3) The Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Gender	38
(4) The Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Type of Work	38
<b>3 Outline of Judgments of Violations</b>	39
(1) Receipt and the Findings of Cases of Violation	39
(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order	40
(3) Provisional Release	41
(4) Special Permission to Stay	41
<b>4 Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals</b>	42
(1) Deportation at the Expense of the Government	43
(2) Deportation at the Expense of the Foreign National (Voluntary Departure)	43
(3) Sending Back at the Expense of and on the Responsibility of the Carriers	44
<b>5 Departure Orders</b>	44
(1) Outline	44
(2) Investigation of Violations	44
A. The Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Nationality (Place of Origin)	45
B. The Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Gender	45
C. The Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Applied Articles	45
(3) Examination	45
A. Receipt and Findings of Cases	45
B. Issuance of a Written Departure Order	46

## Chapter 3 Recognition of Refugee Status

Section 1 ◆ Application for Refugee Status and Findings ..	47
1 Application for Refugee Status .....	47
2 Findings of Applications for Refugee Status .....	48
3 Implementation of the System for Permitting Provisional Stay .....	49
Section 2 ◆ Filing of Objections .....	50
1 Filings of Objections .....	50
2 Findings of Objections .....	50
3 Purpose of the Refugee Examination Counselors System and its Implementation .....	50
Section 3 ◆ Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge ..	52

## Chapter 4 Promotion of Countermeasures against Human Trafficking

1 Number of Victims of Human Trafficking and their Cases in 2007 .....	53
2 Number of Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Human Trafficking During 2007 .....	54

## Chapter 5 Alien Registration Process

Section 1 ◆ Initial Registration and Closing of Registration ..	55
Section 2 ◆ Registration of Changes in Registered Matters ..	55

# Part 2 Primary Measures Related to Immigration Control Administration since FY 2007

<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>Start of Immigration Examination Using Personal Identification Information</b>	
Section 1	◆ Provision of Personal Identification Information by Foreign Nationals during Landing Examinations	58
Section 2	◆ Automated Gates	59
Section 3	◆ Implementation of New Immigration Examinations	59
<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>Study on the New Residence Management System</b>	
Section 1	◆ Background of Study	61
1	Study by the Government	61
2	Study by the Sectional Meeting on Residence Management, Discussion Meeting on Immigration Control Policy	62
(1)	Establishment of a Sectional Meeting on Residence Control	62
(2)	Study of the Sectional Meeting on Residence Control	62
(3)	Submission of “The Proposals Concerning the New Residence Management System”	62
Section 2	◆ Outline of “The Proposals concerning the New Residence Management System” by the Discussion Meeting on Immigration Control Policy	62
1	Purpose of the Review of the Residence Management System	62
2	New Residence Management System	63
3	Development of a Register System for Foreign Residents Legally Staying in Japan	64

<b>4</b>	<b>Enhancement of the Convenience of Foreign Nationals Who Legally Reside in Japan</b> .....	65
Section 3	◆ Study on the Register System for Foreign Nationals who Legally Reside in Japan .....	65
Section 4	◆ Measures to Ensure Accurate Registration .....	66
<b>Chapter 3</b>	<b>Efforts to Halve the Number of Illegal Foreign Residents</b>	
Section 1	◆ Action Plan for the Realization of a Society Resistant to Crime .....	68
Section 2	◆ Promoting Comprehensive Efforts to Halve the Number of Illegal Residents .....	68
<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>Strengthened Countermeasures at the Border and IT-Based Control</b>	
Section 1	◆ Promotion of Counter-Terrorist Measures .....	70
<b>1</b>	<b>Implementing Strict Immigration Control</b> .....	70
<b>2</b>	<b>Introducing New Measures</b> .....	70
Section 2	◆ Reinforcing Measures against Forged or Altered Documents	
<b>Overview of the Use of Forged or Altered Documents</b> .....	71	
<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>Efforts to Smoothly Accept Foreign Nationals</b>	
Section 1	◆ Measures to Promote Tourism in Japan .....	73
<b>1</b>	<b>Measures for Smoother but Stricter Immigration Examination</b> .....	73
<b>2</b>	<b>Revision of the Official Gazette on “Designated Activities” Regarding</b>	

Working Holidays with Denmark .....	73
<b>Section 2 ◆ Normalizing and Reviewing the Training and Technical Internship Programs .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>1 Formulation of Guidelines on Entry and Residential Control of Trainees and Technical Interns (Revised in 2007 ) .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>2 Recognizing “unfair conduct” among receiving organizations .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>3 Review of the Programs .....</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Section 3 ◆ Promoting Academic, Cultural and Youth Exchange, and Smooth and Appropriate Acceptance of Foreign Students .....</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Ensuring More Stringent Examination of Applicants for the Statuses of Residence of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student” .....</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Section 4 ◆ Publication of Guidelines for Change of Status of Residence and Permission of Extension of the Period of Stay .....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>1 Circumstances .....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>2 Publication of Guidelines for Change of Status of Residence and Permission of Extension of the Period of Stay .....</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>3 Publication of cases of denied permission for application for permission of change in status of residence and for permission of extension of the period of stay .....</b>	<b>77</b>

**Chapter 6 Addressing the Global Community**

<b>Section 1 ◆ Treaties and International Conventions .....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>1 Negotiations on Treaties .....</b>	<b>78</b>
( 1 ) Negotiations on EPAs (Economic Partnership Agreements) .....	78

A. Negotiations on the Japan-Thailand Economic Partnership Agreement	··	78
B. Negotiations on the Japan-Indonesia Economic Partnership Agreement	··	78
(2) Reports and Examinations in Accordance with Human Rights Treaties/Covenants	··········	79
<b>2 International Conventions</b>	··········	79
(1) G8 Rome/Lyon Group Immigration Intelligence Officers Conference	······	79
(2) Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) of Immigration Director-Generals	······	80
(3) The Control Authorities Working Group of the International Air Transport Association (IATA/CAWG)	········	80
<b>Section 2 ◆ Holding of Various Seminars</b>	········	80
<b>1 Seminar on Immigration Control in East Asian Countries</b>	··	81
<b>2 Seminar on Document Examination</b>	······	81
<b>Section 3 ◆ Supporting the Training Program: Immigration Control Administration Course</b>	··	82
<b>Chapter 7 Improving Public Relations and Administrative Services</b>		
<b>Section 1 ◆ Facilitating the Landing Examination Procedures</b>	··	83
<b>Section 2 ◆ Information Service to Foreign Nationals</b>	··	83
<b>Section 3 ◆ Immigration Bureau Website</b>	······	84
<b>Chapter 8 Organizational Expansion and Staff Enhancement</b>		
<b>Section 1 ◆ Organizations</b>	······	85
<b>1 Outline of the Immigration Control Organization</b>	··	85
<b>2 Major Expansions of the Immigration Control     Offices</b>	······	85
(1) Expanding the Organization for Smoother but Stricter Immigration Control	··	85
(2) Expanding the Organization to Strengthen Measures against Illegal Foreign Residents	······	86



<b>Section 2 ◆ Staff</b> .....	88
<b>1 Immigration Control Staff</b> .....	88
<b>2 Staff Increase</b> .....	89
(1) Strengthened Immigration Examination System Using the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) .....	90
(2) Strengthened Residence Management System Using Employment Information Provided by the Foreign Nationals Employment Report .....	91
(3) Strengthened prosecution system at Nagoya Immigration Bureau .....	91
(4) Strengthened refugee adjudication system of the Tokyo Immigration Bureau .....	92
<b>3 Training</b> .....	93

## **Chapter 9 Budget**

<b>Section 1 ◆ Budgets</b> .....	94
<b>Section 2 ◆ Facilities</b> .....	94

## Chart

Chart 1	Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan	3
Chart 2	Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan by major nationality (place of origin)	3
Chart 3	Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age bracket in 2007	4
Chart 4	Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" by purpose of entry	6
Chart 5	Number of new arrivals for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality (place of origin) (2007)	6
Chart 6	Changes in the number of new arrivals by the status of residence for employment	7
Chart 7	Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Trainee" by major nationality (place of origin)	10
Chart 8	Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "College Student" by major nationality (place of origin)	11
Chart 9	Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Pre-college Student" by major nationality (place of origin)	12
Chart 10	Changes in the number of new arrivals by the status of residence categories for activities based on civil status or position	13
Chart 11	Changes in the number of foreign nationals who were denied landing by major nationality (place of origin)	16
Chart 12	Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals and its percentage of the total population in Japan	18
Chart 13	Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals by major nationality (place of origin)	19
Chart 14	Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals by the status of residence for employment	22
Chart 15	Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major nationality (place of origin)	30
Chart 16	Changes in the numbers and percentages of requests for a hearing	40
Chart 17	Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by nationality (place of origin)	41
Chart 18	Flow chart of procedures for recognizing illegal foreign nationals as refugees	49
Chart 19	Changes in the percentage of overstayers who entered with "College Student" and "Pre-college Student"	76
Chart 20	Chart of ODA programs related to the Immigration Bureau	81
Chart 21	Immigration Bureau organizational chart	86
Chart 22	Responsibilities of the Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice	87
Chart 23	Changes in the number of immigration control office personnel	89
Chart 24	Changes in the budget for immigration control administration	95

## Table

Table 1	Changes in the number of new arrivals by status of residence	5
Table 2	The number of foreign nationals entering Japan with the “Working Holiday” status, and the number of working holiday visas granted to Japanese travelers	8
Table 3	Changes in the number of cases assigned to special inquiry officers for a hearing by conditions for landing	15
Table 4	Changes in the number of the findings of hearings by special inquiry officers	15
Table 5	Changes in the number of filings of objections and decisions by the Minister of Justice	16
Table 6	Changes in the number of cases of pre-entry examination	17
Table 7	Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals by status of residence	20
Table 8	Changes in the number of cases of permission in status of residence examinations	24
Table 9	Changes in the number of cases of permission for change of status of residence for employment from college student or pre-college student by nationality (place of origin)	25
Table 10	Changes in the number of cases of permission for change of status of residence for employment from college student or pre-college student by status of residence permitted	25
Table 11	Changes in the number of trainees who switch to the Technical Internship Program by nationality	26
Table 12	Changes in the number of trainees who switch to the Technical Internship Program by job type	27
Table 13	Changes in permanent residence permits by nationality (place of origin)	28
Table 14	Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major nationality (place of origin)	30
Table 15	Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major status of residence	31
Table 16	Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by grounds for deportation	32
Table 17	Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality (place of origin)	32
Table 18	Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by nationality (place of origin)	33
Table 19	Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by airplane classified by nationality (place of origin)	33
Table 20	Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by ship classified by nationality (place of origin)	34
Table 21	Changes in the number of cases of illegal landing by nationality (place of origin)	34
Table 22	Changes in the number of cases of overstay by nationality (place of origin)	35
Table 23	Changes in the number of cases of activities other than those permitted by the	

	status of residence previously granted classified by nationality (place of origin) ····	36
Table 24	Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by nationality (place of origin) ····	37
Table 25	Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by type of work ··········	38
Table 26	Changes in the number of cases of receipt and findings of violation examinations by immigration inspectors, hearings by special inquiry officers and decisions of the Minister of Justice ··········	39
Table 27	Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by grounds for deportation ··········	40
Table 28	Changes in the number of cases of provisional release permission ··········	41
Table 29	Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay by grounds for deportation ··········	42
Table 30	Changes in the number of deportees by nationality (place of origin) ··········	42
Table 31	Changes in the number of deportees by measure of deportation ··········	43
Table 32	Changes in the number of deportees by voluntary departure classified by nationality (place of origin) ··········	44
Table 33	Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality (place of origin) (2006) ··········	45
Table 34	Changes in the number of issuance of written departure orders by nationality (place of origin) ··········	46
Table 35	Changes in the number of Convention refugee applicants/findings and protected refugees ··········	48
Table 36	Changes in the number of filings of objections and decisions of the Minister of Justice ··········	50
Table 37	Changes in the number of landing permissions for temporary refuge ··········	52
Table 38	Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2007) ··········	53
Table 39	Changes in the number of registrations of changes in registered matters ········	56
Table 40	Changes in the number of cases of detection of forged or altered documents ······	72
Table 41	Changes in the number and percentage of overstayers who entered Japan with "College Student" and "Pre-college Student" ··········	76
Table 42	Changes in the number of immigration control office personnel ··········	90
Table 43	Changes in the capacity for detention ··········	95

# Data Section

<b>Statistics</b> .....	98
(1) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Alien Resigtration of	
Main Status of Residence by Nationality (Place of Origin) .....	98
1-1, 1-2 Investor / Business Manager .....	98
2-1, 2-2 Engineer .....	98-99
3-1, 3-2 Specialist in Humanities / International Services .....	99
4-1, 4-2 Intra-company Transferee .....	100
5-1, 5-2 Entertainer .....	100-101
6-1, 6-2 Skilled Labor .....	101
7-1, 7-2 College Student .....	102
8-1, 8-2 Pre-college Student .....	102-103
9-1, 9-2 Trainee .....	103
10 Permanent Resident .....	104
11-1,11-2 Spouse or Child of Japanese National .....	104
12-1,12-2 Long Term Resident .....	105
(2) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Alien Registration of	
Main Nationalities (Place of Origin) by Status of Residence .....	106
1-1,1-2 Korea .....	106-107
2-1,2-2 China .....	108-109
3-1,3-2 Philippines .....	110-111
4-1,4-2 Brazil .....	112-113