

# ◆ Part 1 ◆

## **Immigration Control in Recent Years**

# Chapter 1

## Foreign Nationals Entering and Residing in Japan

### Section 1 ◆ Foreign Nationals Entering and Leaving Japan

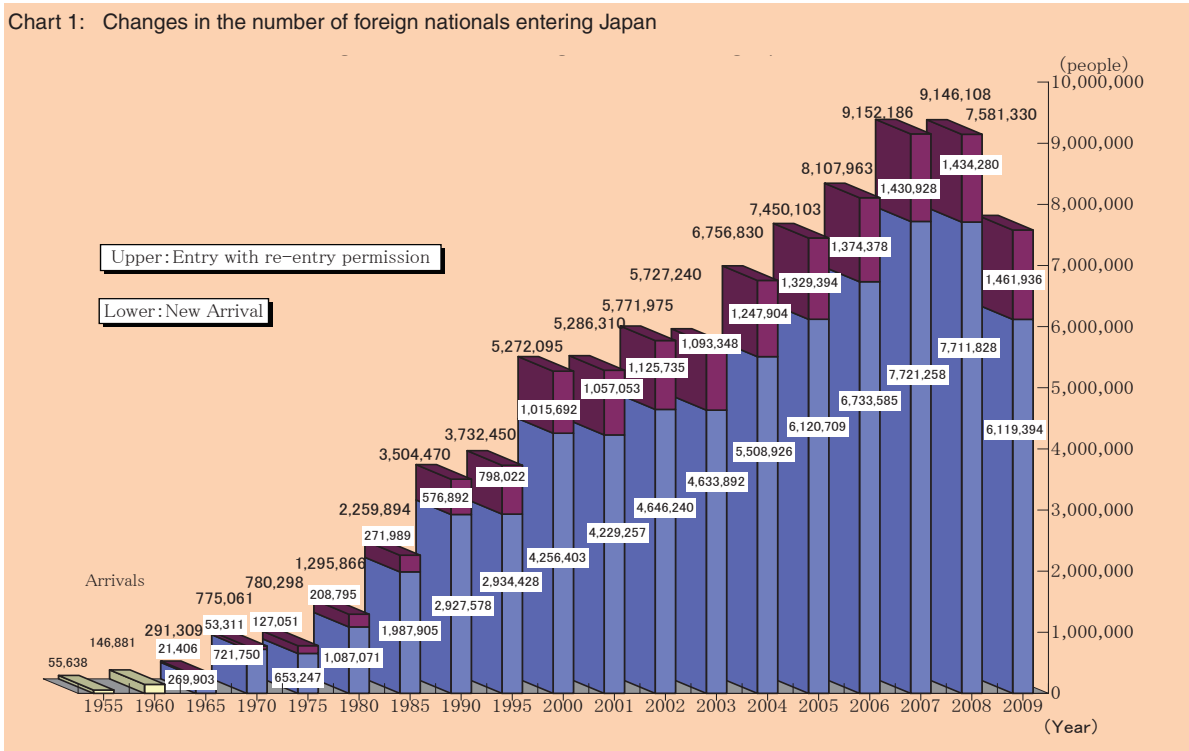
#### 1 Changes in the Number of Foreign Nationals Entering and Leaving Japan

##### (1) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

###### A. The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

The number of foreign nationals entering Japan was just 18,000 in 1950 when the statistics relating to immigration control began to be recorded. As the result of the enforcement of the “Peace Treaty with Japan” (Treaty No. 5 of 1952) on April 28, 1952, Japan recovered complete sovereignty and secured the authority to decide whether or not to grant permission of entry based on the immigration control order. Subsequently, the number of foreign nationals entering Japan was on an almost ever-increasing trend, due to a growing sense of cheap and convenient overseas travel due to improvements in international transportation such as the use of larger jet aircraft, and topped 1 million in 1978, 2 million in 1984, 3 million in 1990, 4 million in 1996, 5 million in 2000, and 9 million in 2007. However, in 2009, it was 7,581,330, a decrease of 1,564,778 (17.1%), slightly less than 9,146,108 in 2008.

Among 7,581,330 foreign nationals entering Japan in 2009, the number of “new entries” was 6,119,394, a decrease of 1,592,434 (20.6%) from 7,711,828 in 2008, and the number of “re-entries” was 1,461,936, an increase of 27,656 (1.9%) from 1,434,280 in 2008.

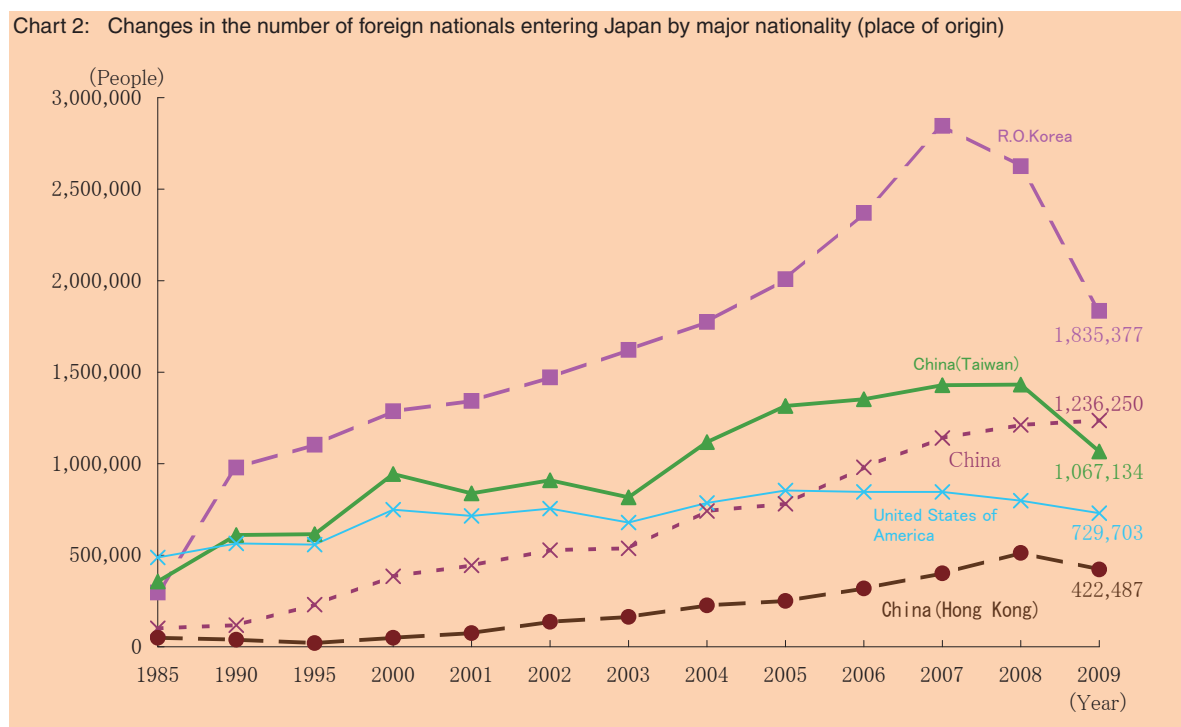


The reason why the number of foreign nationals entering Japan and new entrants is down, is considered to be a continuing trend to tentatively refrain from traveling abroad for sightseeing or business due to various factors, including the global economic recession after so-called Lehman Shock in September 2008, continuation of the yen's appreciation, and outbreak of new influenza. (Chart 1)

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

The statistics for the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2009, by nationality (place of origin), show the largest number of foreign nationals came from the Republic of Korea (R.O. Korea). 1,835,377 South Koreans entered Japan, accounting for 24.2% of the total number of foreign nationals coming to Japan. R.O. Korea was followed by China, China (Taiwan), the US, China (Hong Kong), and Australia\*. More than half of the foreign nationals entering Japan came from Japan's three neighboring countries (regions): R.O. Korea, China, and China (Taiwan). Their total accounted for 54.6% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan. The top five countries (regions) accounted for 69.8% of the total. Among them, R.O. Korea exceeded the US in 1988 to become top and has maintained its position since then. Also, overseas trips were de-regulated, and in March 2006, visa-exemption for an unspecified period of time was introduced for the people of R.O. Korea whose purpose of visit was "Temporary Visitor". These are one of various measures to increase the exchange of persons between the two countries, and are considered to have contributed to the increase in Korean visitors. The number of visitors from China has been increasing year after year because it became easier to take a sightseeing trip to Japan due to the easing of regulations on issuing visas, and China overtook China (Taiwan) to take second place for the first time in 2009. (Chart 2)

Chart 2: Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan by major nationality (place of origin)



According to a comparison between the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2008 and 2009 by nationality (place of origin) of the top five countries, visitors from R.O. Korea decreased by 790,000 persons (30.1%), followed by China, which increased by 23,921 persons (2.0%), China (Taiwan), which decreased by 365,217 persons (25.5%), the US, which decreased by 68,343 persons (8.6%), and China (Hong Kong), which decreased by 90,708 persons (17.7%).

Further, visitors from France decreased by 6,236 persons (4.1%), followed by Australia, which decreased by 29,971 persons (12.2%) and the UK, which decreased by 25,192 persons (11.7%).

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

On the other hand, in statistics relating to alien registration, persons from mainland China are described as “China” without distinguishing their place of origin, and BNO passport holders are included in “UK”.

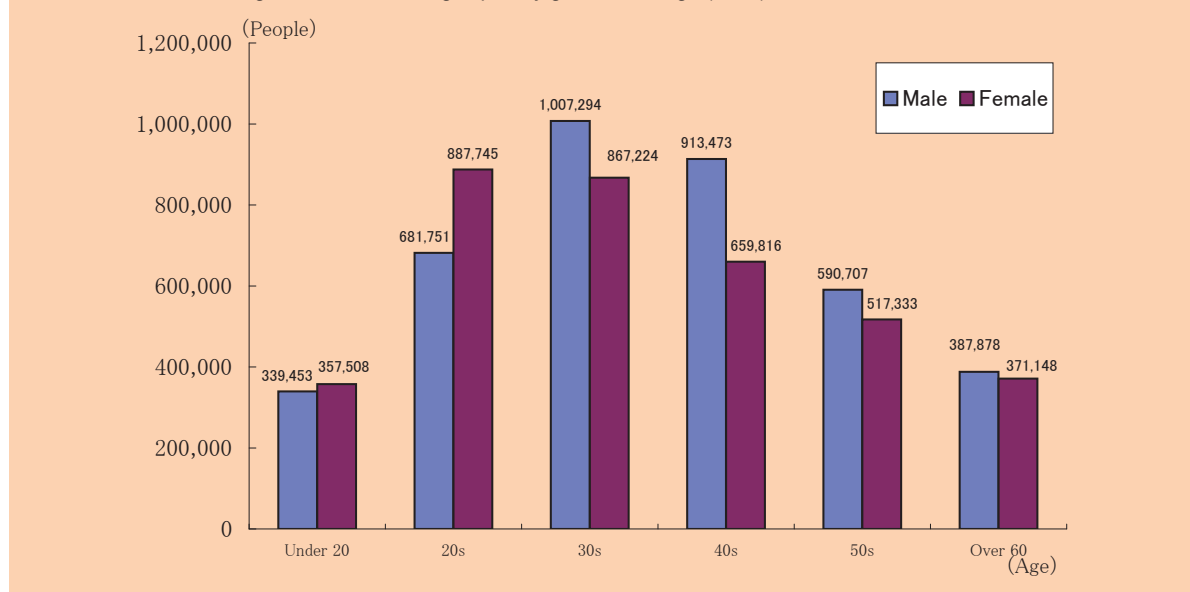
Further, for the purpose of statistics on the number of alien registrations, persons of R.O. Korea and P.R. Korea are collected jointly as “R.O. Korea and P.R. Korea”.

### C. The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan by Gender and Age

More foreign males came to Japan than females. The numbers of foreign males and females entering Japan in 2009 were 3,920,556 and 3,660,774, respectively. The percentages of males and females were 51.7% and 48.3%, respectively. This percentage of males and females was the same as 2008.

According to statistics by age in 2009, foreign nationals in their thirties represented the largest age group, accounting for 24.7% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan. The ratio of males was higher in the age group of over thirties, while the ratio of females was higher in the age group of under twenties. (Chart 3)

Chart 3: Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2009)



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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan was 6,119,394. Looking at this figure by purpose of entry (status of residence), the most common status of residence was “temporary visitor” standing at 5,822,719 persons and accounting for 95.2% of the total foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by “trainee” standing at 80,480 persons (1.3%), “college student” standing at 37,871 persons (0.6%), and “entertainer” standing at 31,170 persons (0.5%). (Table 1)

Table 1: Changes in the number of new arrivals by status of residence

Status of Residence	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	6,120,709	6,733,585	7,721,258	7,711,828	6,119,394
Diplomat	10,047	8,682	9,205	12,029	10,183
Official	17,577	13,136	14,519	24,358	22,229
Professor	2,253	2,380	2,365	2,456	2,639
Artist	245	223	239	222	226
Religious Activities	846	897	985	828	771
Journalist	248	92	119	226	170
Investor/Business Manager	604	777	918	919	857
Legal/Accounting Services	2	3	8	2	4
Medical Services	2	3	6	1	6
Researcher	607	555	559	563	592
Instructor	2,954	3,070	2,951	2,930	2,499
Engineer	4,718	7,715	10,959	9,212	3,363
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	6,366	7,614	7,426	5,690	4,167
Intra-company Transferee	4,184	5,564	7,170	7,307	5,245
Entertainer	99,342	48,249	38,855	34,994	31,170
Skilled Labor	3,059	4,239	5,315	6,799	5,384
Cultural Activities	3,725	3,670	3,454	3,378	3,557
Temporary Visitor	5,748,380	6,407,833	7,384,510	7,367,277	5,822,719
College Student	23,384	26,637	28,779	34,005	37,871
Pre-college Student	18,090	19,135	19,160	24,111	28,278
Trainee	83,319	92,846	102,018	101,879	80,480
Dependent	15,027	17,412	20,268	22,167	20,540
Designated Activities	16,958	7,446	8,009	8,413	9,863
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	24,026	26,087	24,421	19,975	14,951
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	990	1,319	1,710	1,964	1,684
Long-Term Resident	33,756	28,001	27,326	20,123	9,946
Temporary Refuge	-	-	4	-	-

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan may be considered as a “flow” showing the flow of foreign nationals to Japan, while the number of registered foreign residents in Japan as mentioned below represents a “stock” which shows the number of foreign nationals staying in Japan at a certain point in time.

### (A) Temporary Visitors

Looking more closely at the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with a status of residence of “temporary visitor” in 2009, the number of foreign visitors for sightseeing purposes was 4,069,993, accounting for 66.5% of the total foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by foreign visitors for business-related purposes standing at 1,098,088 persons (17.9%). In particular, since the trend of tourists is comparatively easily affected by factors in Japan, such as the holding of specific events, changes in exchange rates and the implementation of various measures to attract tourists, it is consequently assumed that the changes in numbers of foreign nationals newly entering

Japan, of which such temporary visitors make up the majority, reflect the social circumstances in Japan and the movement both at home and abroad at the time.

Foreigners residing in Japan having this status of residence cannot change their status to another status of residence in principle as they cannot engage in employment activities, and are allowed to enter with relatively simplified procedures (Articles 19 and 20 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred to as “Immigration Control Act”)).

According to the statistics on newly entering foreign nationals for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality (place of origin), R.O. Korea occupied the largest number at 1,000,045, accounting for 24.6% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan for the purpose of sightseeing. R.O. Korea was followed by China (Taiwan) (878,200, accounting for 21.6% of the total), China (409,396, accounting for 10.1%) and China (Hong Kong) (387,263, accounting for 9.5%). As South Koreans, Chinese (Taiwanese), and Chinese (PRC) account for over 50% of the overall number of sightseeing visitors to Japan, it is expected that measures to attract tourists from these countries and regions will be implemented actively in the future as well. (Charts 4 and 5)

Chart 4: Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" by purpose of entry

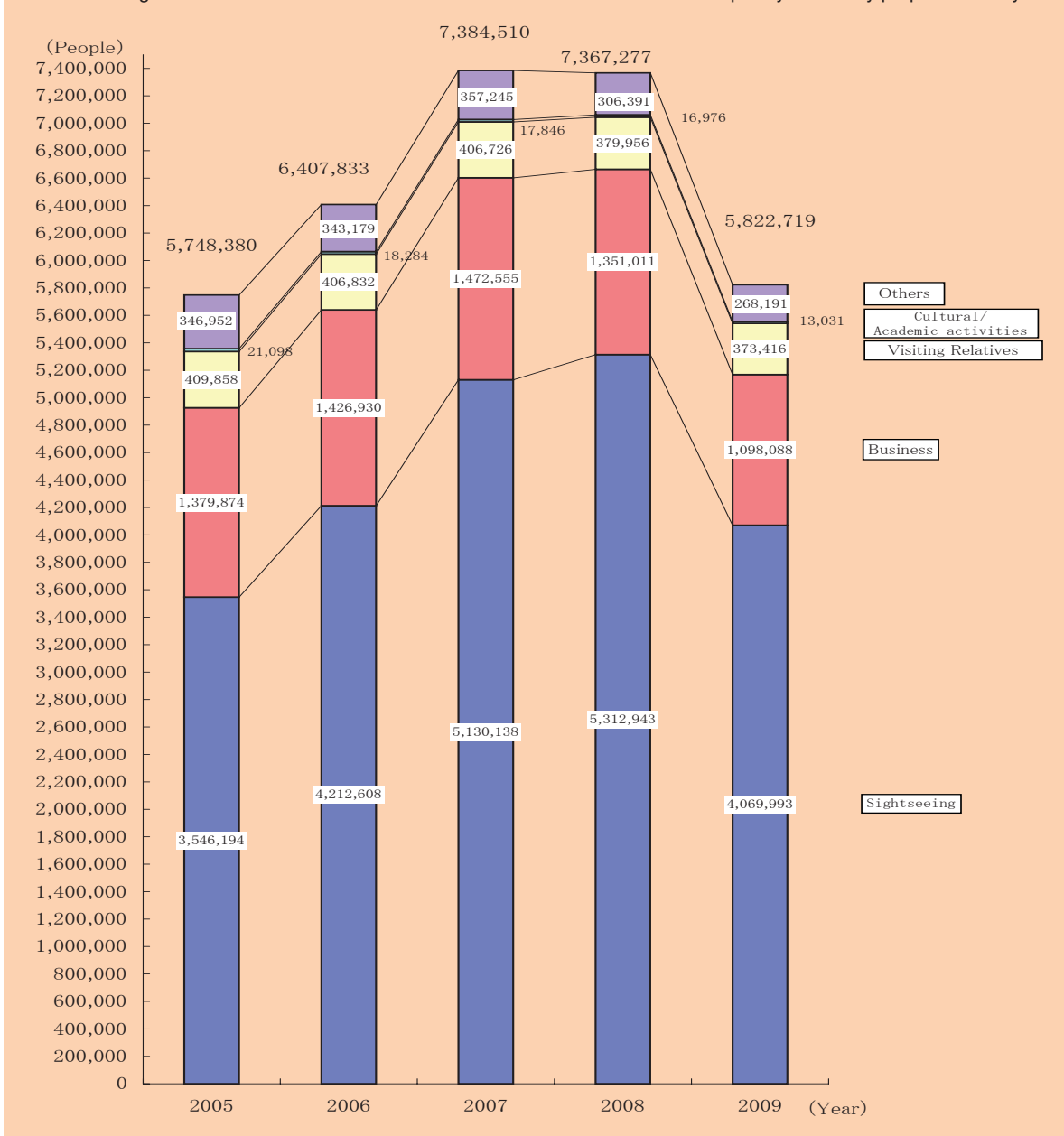
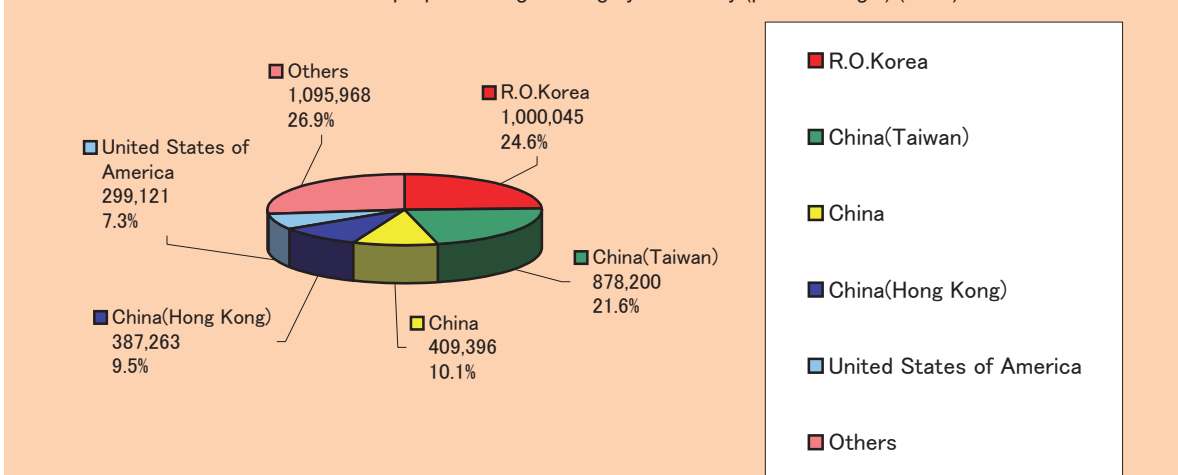
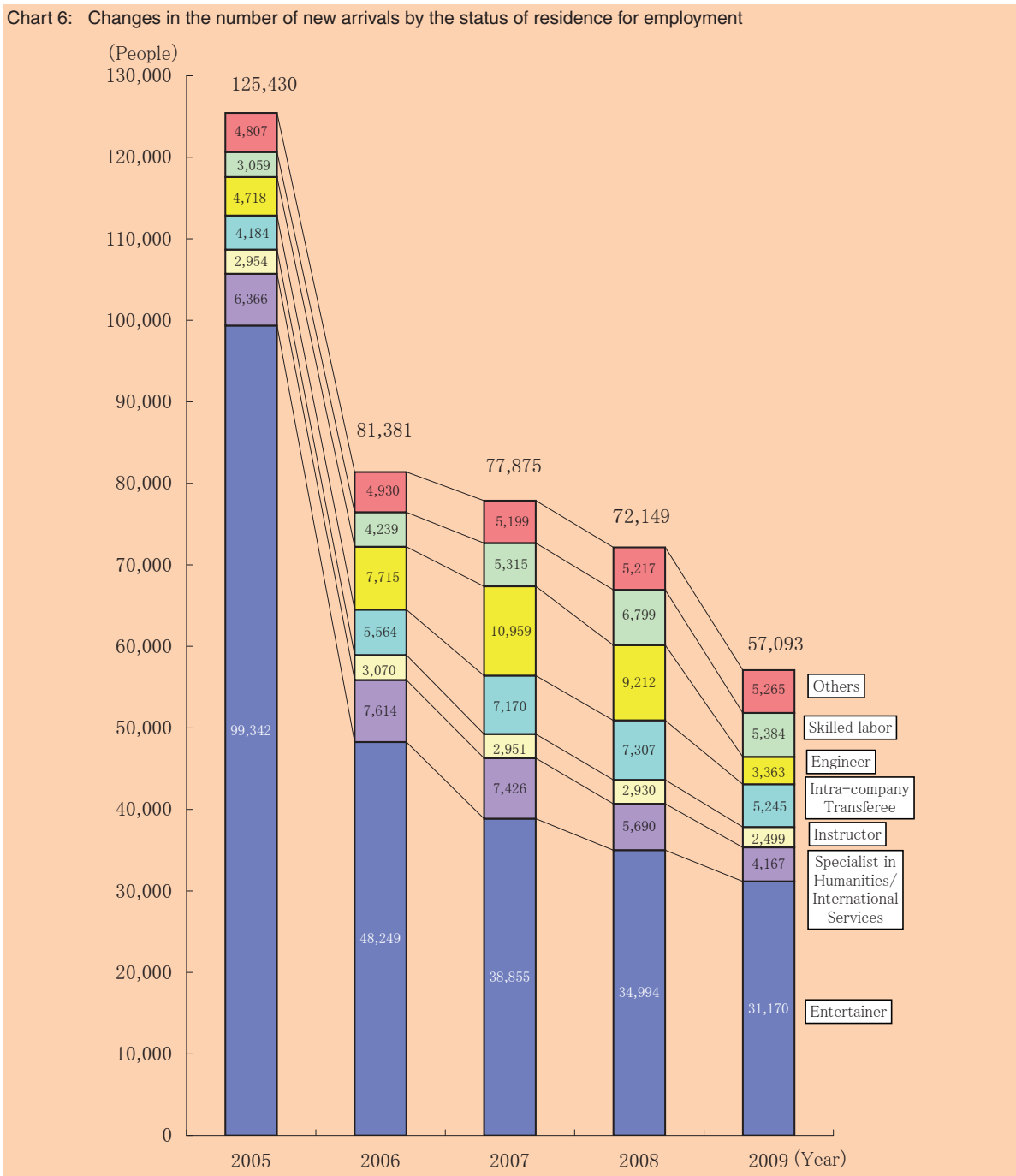


Chart 5: Number of new arrivals for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality (place of origin) (2009)



### (B) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Employment

The number of newly entering foreign nationals under the status of residence for employment (excluding the status of residence of “Diplomat” and “Official”) in 2009 was 57,093, a decrease of 15,056 (20.9%) from the year 2008. This is partly because the number of foreign nationals entering Japan with status of residence of “entertainer”, “specialist in humanities/international services”, “education”, “intra-company transferee”, “engineer”, or “skilled labor” decreased due to the global economic recession. (Chart 6)



The number of newly entering foreign nationals under the statuses of residence for employment in Japan accounted for 0.9% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals in 2009.

The statuses of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” and “Long-term Resident”,



which are not included in the status of residence for employment purposes, have no restrictions on activities during the stay in Japan. Foreign nationals who fall under any of the following are also allowed to work within the limit permitted: those whose status of residence is basically for travel but permits work to cover travel expenses under the working holiday system, foreign college students in internship programs which enable them to gain work experience in a Japanese company as part of their college education, and foreign students who are permitted to conduct an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted. Therefore, it is assumed that the proportion of foreign nationals permitted to work in Japan could be larger.

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

a. “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Intra-company Transferee” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 2-1, 3-1, 4-1)

The total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with a status of residence designed for foreign employees working for a Japanese company was 12,775 in 2009, consisting of three types of categories according to their status of residence: 3,363 with “Engineer”, 4,167 with “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 5,245 with “Intra-company Transferee”. The number of foreign employees with the status of residence “Engineer” decreased by 5,849 (63.5%), those with the status of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” decreased by 1,523 (26.8%), and those with the status of “Intra-company Transferee” increased by 2,062 (28.2%) from 2008, respectively. The total number of foreign workers with these statuses of residence decreased by 9,434 (42.5%).

As described in Section 2, 1 (3) B below, the number of registered foreign nationals in Japan had been steadily increasing for all three of these types of status of residence in recent years. However, as of the end of December 2009, the number of registered foreign nationals decreased to 136,674 in total (a decrease of 688 (0.5%) from 2008), consisting of 50,493 with the status of residence of “Engineer”, 69,395 with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 16,786 with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”. This suggests a tendency of professionals and technical experts from foreign countries who come for the purpose of employment to reside in Japan for a long time and settle here.

According to the statistics on the status of residence of “Engineer” by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer” came from China (1,404 persons, or 41.7%), followed by R.O. Korea (439 persons, or 13.1%), India (296 persons, or 8.8%), Viet Nam (273 persons, or 8.1%). The number of newly entering foreign nationals from those four countries accounts for 71.7% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the residence status of “Engineer”. In 2009, due to the global economic recession, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the residence status of “Engineer” significantly decreased.

Regarding the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, statistics by nationality (place of origin) show that the largest number came from the US (945 persons, or 22.7%), followed by R.O. Korea (570 persons, or 13.7%),

China (553 persons, or 13.3%), and the UK (347 persons, or 8.3%). These top four countries accounted for about 60% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with this status of residence.

With regard to newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”, statistics by nationality (place of origin) show that the largest number came from China (1,858 persons, or 35.4%), followed by R.O. Korea (592 persons, or 11.3%), India (433 persons, or 8.3%) and the Philippines (397 persons, or 7.7%), and these top four countries exceeded 60% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”.

**b. “Skilled Labor” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 6-1)**

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” as master craftsmen unique to each foreign country has been on the decrease since 2001, but the figure increased in 2004. In 2009, the number of such foreign nationals decreased to 5,384 by 1,415 (20.8%) from the previous year.

The number of registered foreign nationals in Japan with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” has been increasing every year since 2001, reaching 29,030 as of the end of December 2009. This suggests that foreign nationals who work in Japan using their skills are increasing.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” came from China (2,495 persons, or 46.3%), followed by Nepal (1,356 persons, or 25.2%), India (666 persons, or 12.4%) and Thailand (192 persons, or 3.6%) in 2009. This was due in part to the fact that most of the foreign nationals with this status of residence were chefs of foreign cuisine, and these top four countries accounted for 87.5% of the total number of new entry foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor”.

**c. “Entertainer” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 5-1)**

Although the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Entertainer” has been steadily increasing since 2001, it decreased after 2005. In 2009, it decreased by 3,824 (10.9%) from 2008 to 31,170. However, this group still represents the largest proportion of total foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of new arrivals with the status of residence of “Entertainer” came from the US, followed by the UK, Russia and the Philippines in 2009. Newly entering Philippine entertainers were 1,873, consisting mostly of singers and dancers, and accounted for 6.0% of the total. This number shows a decrease of 1,312 (41.2%) from the previous year. The trend toward a decrease is due to stricter implementation of landing and residence examination by reviewing the landing permission criteria relating to the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2006.

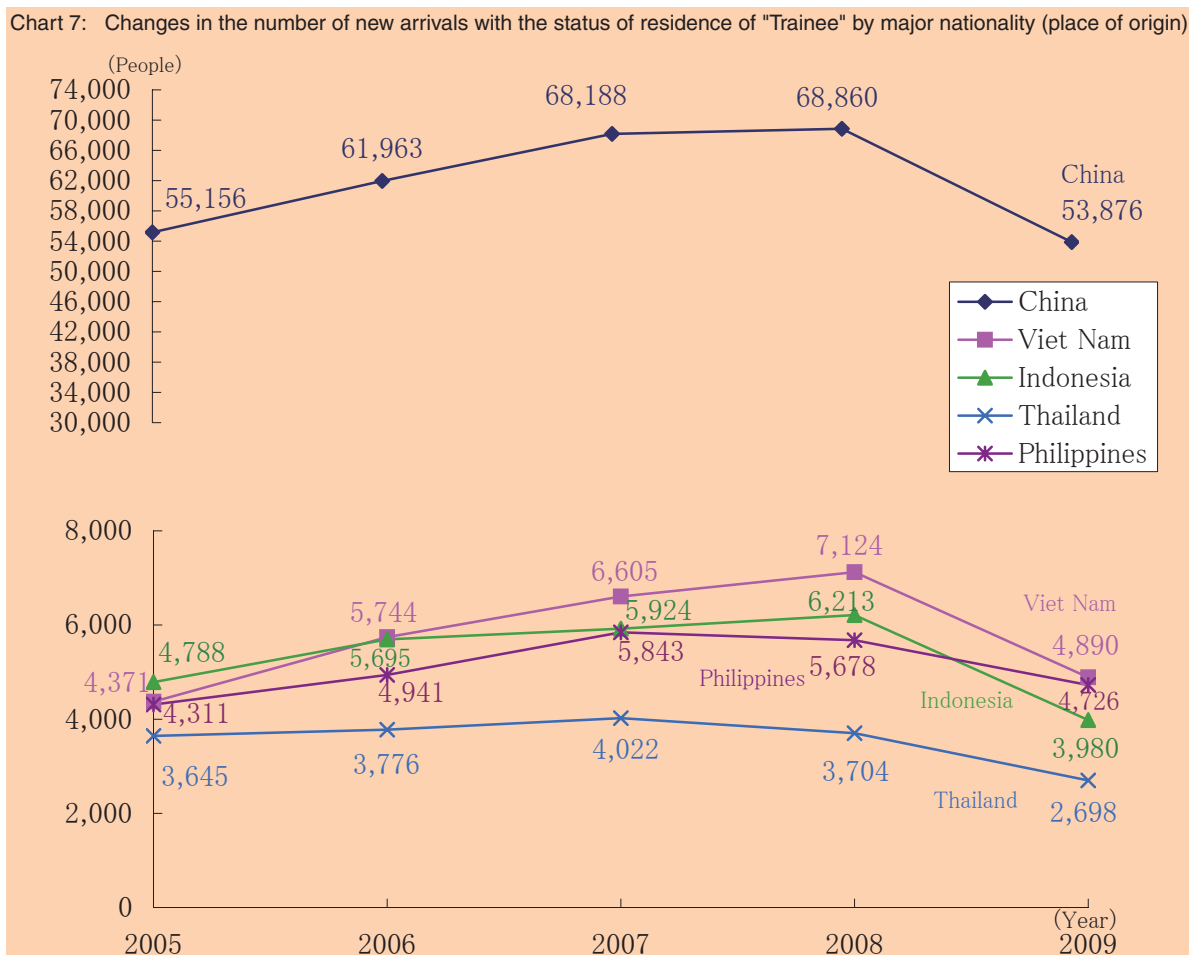
### (C) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Study

#### a. “Trainee” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 9-1)

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” decreased by 21,399 (21.0%) from a year earlier and reached 80,480 in 2009.

According to statistics by region, the number of Asian trainees reached 75,527 in 2009 and accounted for 93.8% of the total. This is because Asian nations, particularly Japan’s neighboring countries, are very eager to send their students to Japan. This upward trend is expected to continue on account of the close relations between Asian countries and Japan in various fields. In addition to Asia, Africa sent 1,826 trainees (2.3% of the total) to Japan, while Latin America also dispatched 996 trainees (1.2%) to Japan.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” came from China at 53,876 in 2009, accounting for 66.9% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam (4,890, or 6.1%), the Philippines (4,726, or 5.9%), and Indonesia (3,980, or 4.9%). (Chart 7)



#### b. “College Student” and “Pre-college Student”

(Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 7-1, 8-1)

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student” increased by 3,866 (11.4%) from a year earlier to 37,871 in 2009. The number of newly entering

foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Pre-college Student” increased by 4,167 (17.3%) from a year earlier and reached 28,278 in 2009.

According to statistics by region in 2009, most of the newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student” or “Pre-college Student” came from Asia, accounting for 79.3% of the total number of foreign students with the status of residence of “College Student” and 94.2% with the status of residence of “Pre-college Student”.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), China occupied the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student”, standing at 16,839 (44.5% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (5,487, or 14.5%). The number of Chinese college students increased by 2,497 (17.4%) from the previous year, while that of South Korean college students decreased by 29 (0.5%).

As for the number of pre-college students, China accounted for the largest number of students with 18,053 (63.8% of total) followed by R.O. Korea with 4,516 (16.0%). The number of Chinese pre-college students increased by 5,487 (43.7%), while that of South Korean pre-college students decreased by 1,655 (26.8%). (Charts 8 and 9)

Chart 8: Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of “College Student” by major nationality (place of origin)

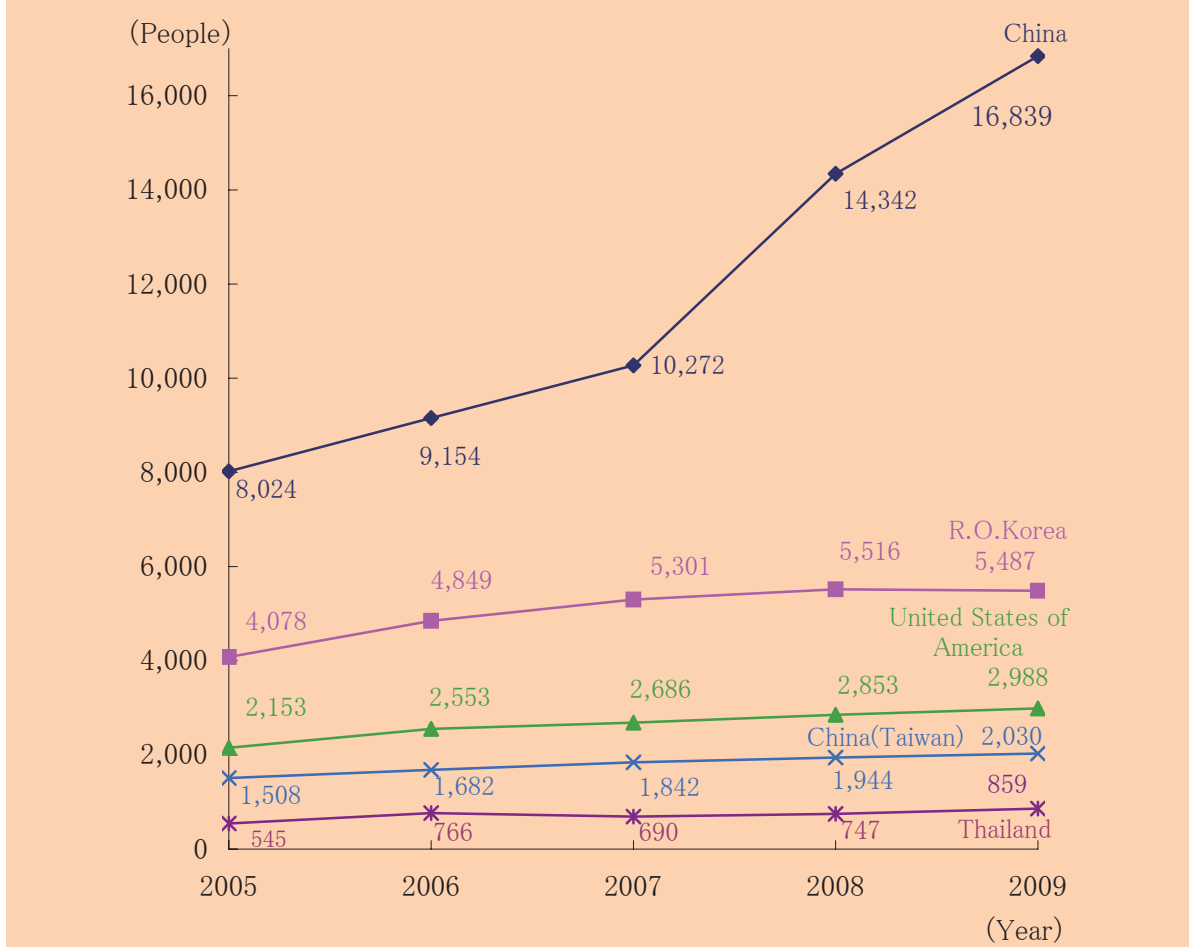
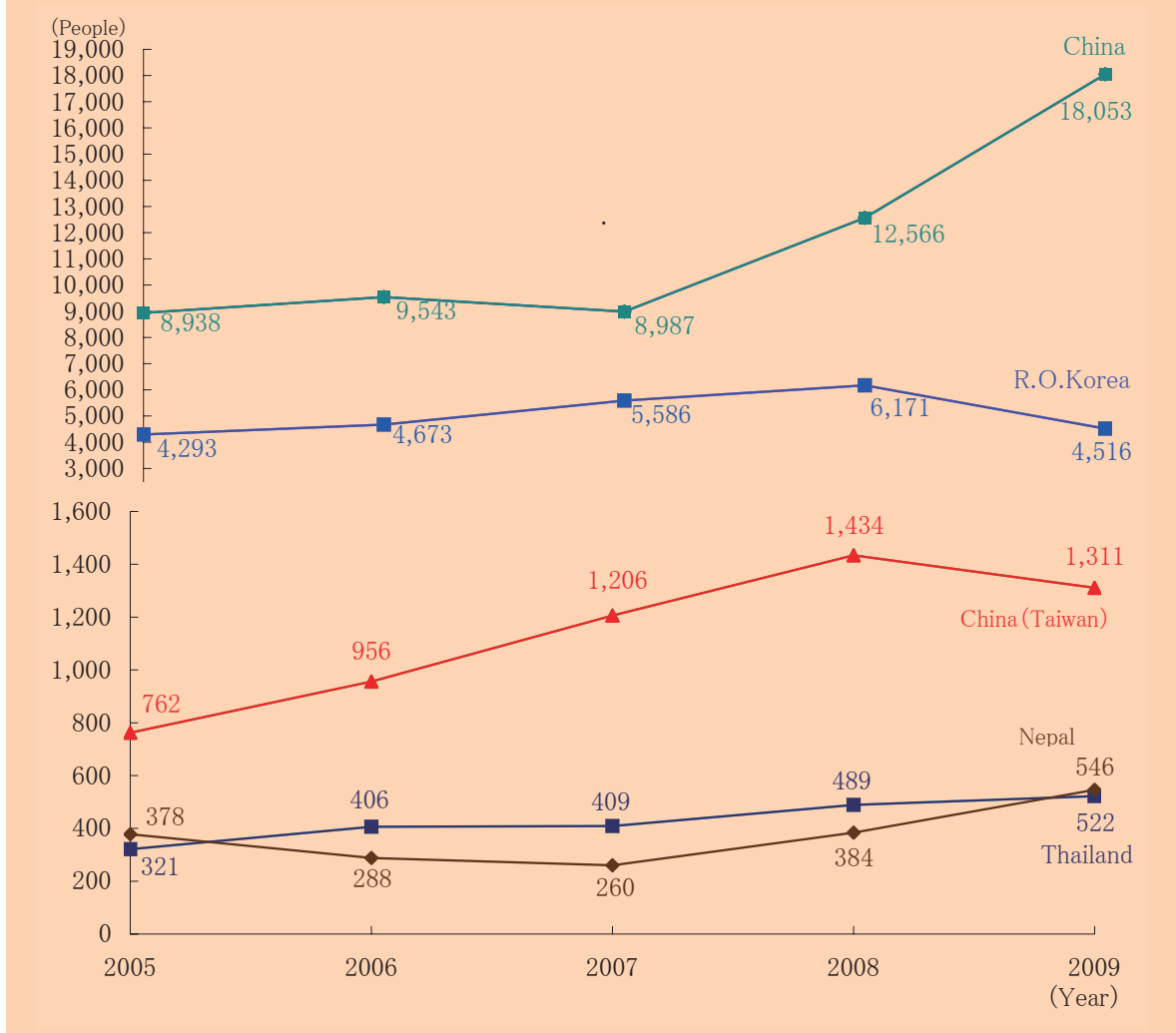


Chart 9: Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of “Pre-college Student” by major nationality (place of origin)



(D) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with the Status of Residence of Resident Activities Based on Civil Status or Position  
(Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 12-1, 13-1)

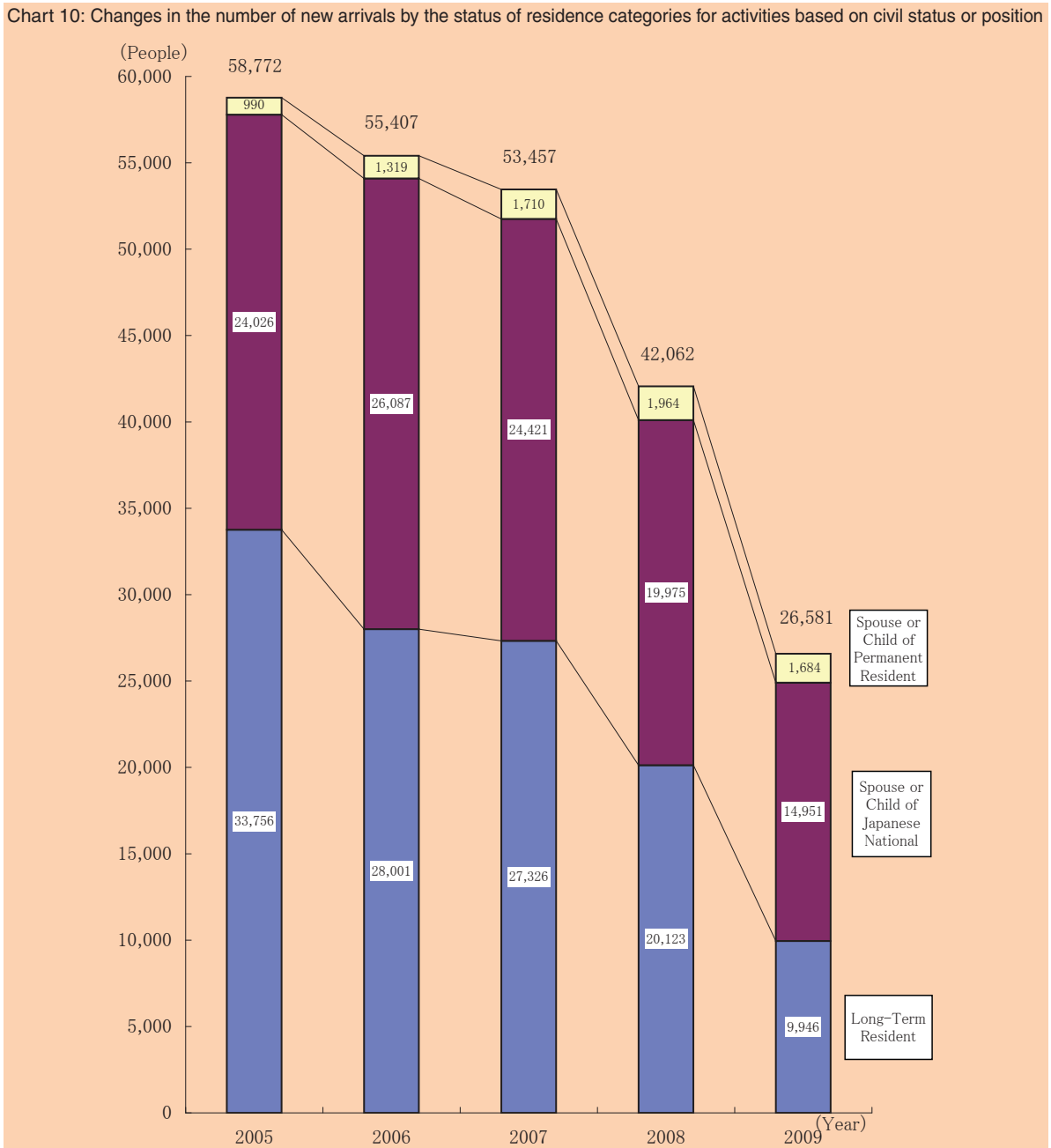
When foreign nationals enter Japan for resident activities based on civil status or position, one of three types of statuses of residence namely “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”, or “Long-Term Resident” will be given.

No foreign nationals newly entering Japan can obtain the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” because that status is granted only to foreign nationals who have lived in Japan for a certain period of time.

The number of new arrivals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” reached 14,951 in 2009, while that of new arrivals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” reached 1,684. In 2009, the number for “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” decreased by 5,024 (25.2%) from a year earlier, while that for “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” decreased by 280 (14.3%) from a year earlier.

The number of new arrivals under “Long-Term Resident” significantly decreased by 10,177

(50.6%) from a year earlier to 9,946 in 2009, and in particular, the number of those came from Brazil remarkably decreased by 8,598 (89.2%). According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), China occupied the largest number of such new arrivals, standing at 3,520 (35.4%), followed by the Philippines standing at 2,854 (28.7%), and Brazil standing at 1,037 (10.4%). (Chart 10)



## (2) Special Cases of Landing (except for Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge)

The number of persons who received permission for special cases of landing in 2009 was 1,888,704, a decrease of 191,277 (9.2%) from 2008.

Among those, the number of cases of landing permission for crew members in 2009 reached 1,853,267, which accounts for 98.1% of the total number of permission for special cases of landing and occupies the largest percentage, followed by the number of cases of permission for landing at a port of call of 34,658 (1.8%). (Table 2)

Table 2: Changes in the number of cases of permission for special cases of landing

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	2,101,462	2,092,527	2,089,456	2,079,981	1,888,704
Permission for Landing at a Port of Call	74,714	51,338	41,680	31,908	34,658
Permission for Landing in Transit	270	277	371	451	394
Landing Permission for Crew Members	2,026,106	2,040,436	2,047,033	2,047,221	1,853,267
Permission for Emergency Landing	257	274	300	314	368
Landing Permission Due to Distress	115	202	72	87	17

The following are permission for special cases of landing by category.

#### A. Permission for landing at a port of call

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for landing at a port of call in 2009 was 34,658, an increase of 2,750 (8.6%) from 2008.

#### B. Permission for landing in transit

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for landing in transit in 2009 was 394, a decrease of 57 (12.6%) from 2008.

#### C. Landing permission for crew members

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission for crew members in 2009 was 1,853,267, a decrease of 193,954 (9.5%) from 2008. It is probably because air carriers reviewed the routes and the number of flights due to global economic downturn and then the number of aircrafts flying into Japan decreased.

#### D. Permission for emergency landing

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for emergency landing in 2009 was 368, an increase of 54 (17.2%) from 2008.

#### E. Landing permission due to distress

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission due to distress in 2009 was 17, a decrease of 70 (80.5%) from 2008.



On-board search

### (3) Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan

The number of so-called “leaving Japan re-entry nonreserving” excluding those who depart with re-entry permission reached 6,046,150, a decrease of 1,546,111 (20.4%) from 2008 which stood at a record high.

Among them, the number of persons leaving from Japan with a period of stay shorter than 15 days was 5,423,103, which accounts for 89.7% of the total or almost all. Further, the number of persons leaving from Japan with a period of stay shorter than 3 months was 5,840,500, which accounts for 96.6% of the total. (Table 3)

Table 3: Changes in the number of foreign nationals leaving Japan re-entry nonreserving by period of stay (People)

Period of Stay \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	5,979,701	6,580,241	7,552,966	7,592,261	6,046,150
Within 15 days	5,290,493	5,939,544	6,922,329	6,958,485	5,423,103
More than 15 days to 1 month	219,443	228,664	240,710	252,854	237,515
More than 1 month to 3 months	240,062	235,324	223,473	207,055	179,882
More than 3 months to 6 months	60,296	45,536	36,924	34,243	30,638
More than 6 months to 1 year	104,875	60,486	49,978	49,009	48,709
More than 1 year to 3 years	46,470	50,814	59,554	68,933	85,253
More than 3 years	17,801	17,519	17,630	18,618	35,945
Unknown	261	2,354	2,368	3,064	5,105

## 2 Judgment for Landing

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

The procedure for the landing examination consists of three steps: landing examination by an immigration inspector, hearing for landing by a special inquiry officer, and decision by the Minister of Justice. The second and third step, namely the hearing for landing and the decision of the Minister of Justice, are jointly called the “judgment for landing”. Any foreign national who is found not to meet the conditions for landing in Japan in the landing examination conducted by an immigration inspector will be handed over to a special inquiry officer, who will conduct a hearing for landing (Article 7, Paragraph (4) and Article 9, Paragraph (5) of the Immigration Control Act) (Note 1).

The number of new cases for the hearing for landing (the number of cases which are assigned to a special inquiry officer on account of a foreign national not having been granted landing permission by an immigration inspector) in 2009 was 9,930, the smallest in the past five years.

The most common cases were those in which foreign nationals were required to undergo an hearing for landing on suspicion of having submitted a false landing application, such as claiming to be a tourist or a similar status while their real purpose of entry was illegal work or other illegal activities (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, Paragraph (1) (ii) of the Immigration Control Act). Such cases



Hearings for landing



numbered 7,470, a decrease of 2,252 (23.2%) from 2008 and accounted for 75.2% of the total of new cases in 2008.

This was followed by cases which were assigned on account of foreign nationals who were suspected of not having valid passports or visas, such as trying to enter Japan using a forged or altered passport (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, Paragraph (1) (i) of the Act). Such cases numbered 1,300, a decrease of 65 (4.8%) from 2008 and accounted for 13.1% of the total number of new cases. Besides, cases which were assigned to special inquiry officers on suspicion of falling under one of the reasons for denial of landing (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, Paragraph (1) (iv) of the Act) numbered 1,160, a decrease of 403 (25.8%) from 2008, accounting for 11.7% of the total of new cases in 2008.

Three persons were handed over to special inquiry officers for refusing to provide information for personal identification, which became obligatory for passengers to provide on and after November 20, 2007 (those who fall under Article 7, Paragraph (4) of the Act) in 2008, while no one was handed over in 2009.

Reasons for decrease in the number of new cases for the hearing for landing include a decrease of foreign nationals visiting Japan with illegal purposes because Japan's strict landing examination at the front gate, such as the procedure utilizing information for personal identification, became widely known to foreign countries, a decline in travel abroad due to global economic downturn, and an outbreak of new influenza. (Table 4)

Table 4: Changes in the number of new cases for the hearing for landing by conditions for landing

Conditions for landing	(Cases)					
	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		16,665	18,258	18,473	12,660	9,930
Using fake passports or visas (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-( i ))		2,102	2,267	2,041	1,365	1,300
False landing application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-( ii ))		13,242	14,313	13,798	9,722	7,470
Not meeting the period of stay (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-( iii ))		8	2	4	7	0
Falling under the reasons for denial of landing (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-( iv ))		1,313	1,676	2,628	1,563	1,160
Not providing personal identification information (Not conforming to Article 7-(4))		—	—	2	3	0

Looking at the processing of the hearing for landing in 2009 (Note 2), the number of cases where landing was permitted as it was known that conditions for landing were met as the result of the hearing for landing, decreased to 3,664 cases (16.8%) from 2008.

Also, cases in which foreign nationals were ordered to leave Japan because they were found not to meet the conditions for landing at the hearing for landing by a special inquiry officer and who later consented to the findings numbered 3,731, a decrease of 32.6% from 2008. Similarly, cases in which foreign nationals filed objections with the Minister of Justice because they were not satisfied with the finding by a special inquiry officer that they did not meet the conditions for landing numbered 2,014, a slight increase of 2.4% from 1,967 in 2008. (Table 5)

Table 5: Changes in the processing of the hearing for landing

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	16,660	18,240	18,496	12,661	9,938
Landing permission	5,843	6,155	6,003	4,405	3,664
Expulsion order	8,126	9,126	8,326	5,537	3,731
Filing of objection	1,400	1,706	3,097	1,967	2,014
Withdrawal landing application	296	308	307	368	249
Others	995	945	763	384	280

(\*) "Others" includes cases where the jurisdiction has changed or the application has been withdrawn owing to the departure, escape or death of the applicant during the hearing for landing by the special inquiry officer.

(Note 1) "Landing examination" by the immigration inspector and "landing judgment" after the hearing are jointly called the landing examination procedure in the wide sense of the term.

Further, the procedure of decision by the Minister of Justice is not applicable to those who fail to provide information for personal identification.

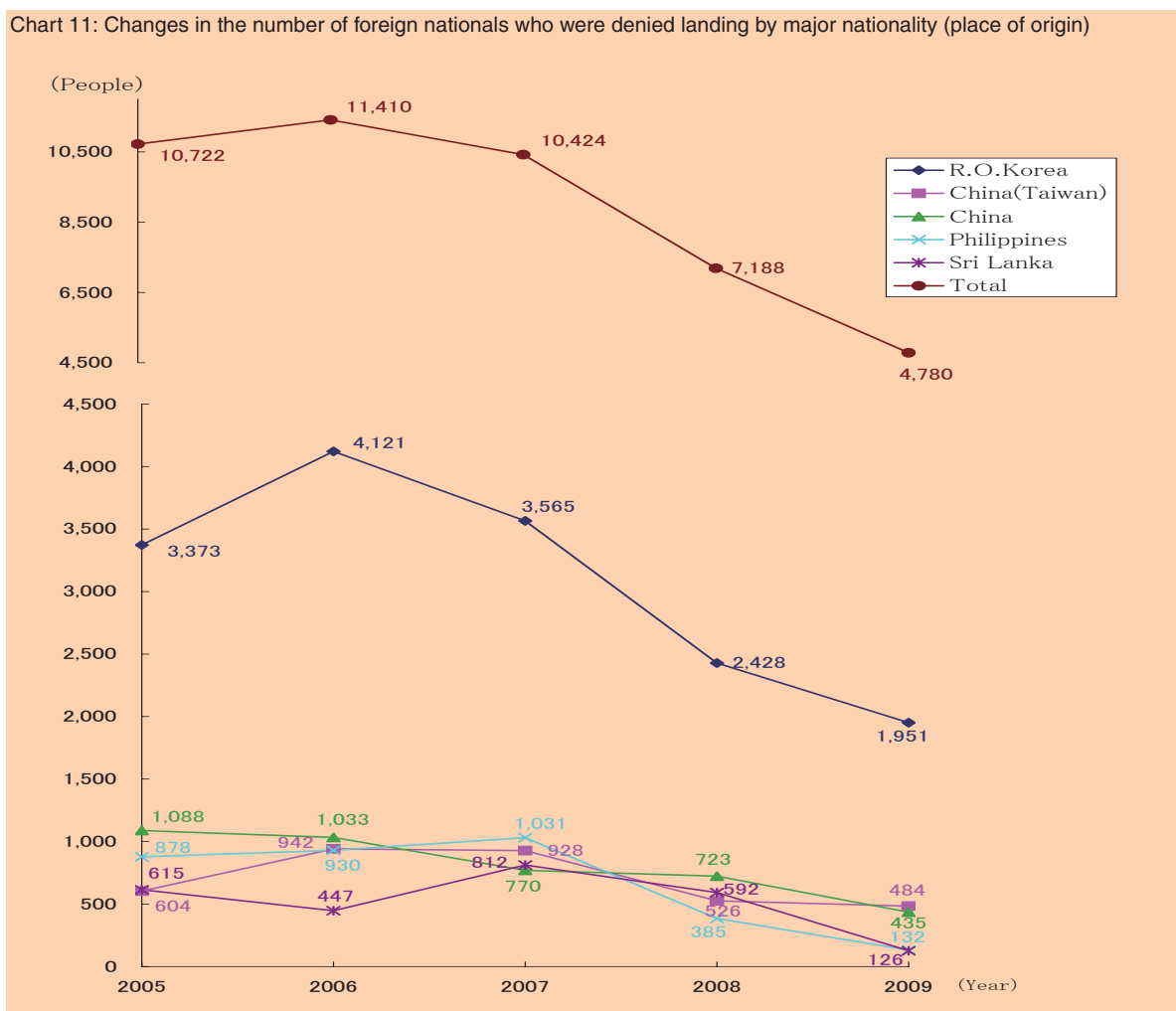
(Note 2) In some cases, the total number of new cases for the hearing for landing by conditions for landing (Table 4), is not the same as that of the changes in the processing of the hearing for landing (Table 5). This is because a case may be assigned by the immigration inspector to the special inquiry officer at the end of the year, or the hearing may be prolonged, and it may be the next year after the case is assigned by the immigration inspector to the special inquiry officer when the hearing for landing is processed.

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

In principle, foreign nationals denied permission for landing are those who (1) are ordered to leave Japan after a hearing for landing or (2) are ordered to leave Japan after the results of filing an objection with the Minister of Justice.

The number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing in 2009 was 4,780, a 33.5% decrease from 7,188 in 2008.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing came consistently from R.O. Korea standing at 1,951, (40.8% of the total), followed by China (Taiwan) standing at 484 (10.1%) and China standing at 435 (9.1%). The top three countries accounted for about 60% of the total. (Chart 11)



### (3) Special Permission for Landing

The Minister of Justice may, even if he/she finds that the objection filed is without reason, grant special permission for landing if the applicant (1) has received re-entry permission, or (2) has entered Japan under the control of another person due to human trafficking, or (3) if the Minister of Justice finds special circumstances which warrant granting special permission for landing. (Article 12, Paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act)

Cases in which the Minister of Justice granted special landing permission to foreign nationals denied permission as a result of filing an objection in 2009 numbered 1,629. This was a 14.6% increase from 1,421 in 2008. (Table 6)

Table 6: Changes in the number of filings of objections and decisions by the Minister of Justice

(Cases)

Division		Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Filing of Objection (*)			1,400	1,707	3,103	1,973	2,022
Decisions	With reason		6	23	16	10	5
	Without reason (Order to leave Japan)		209	288	513	492	361
	Special Permission for Landing		1,157	1,379	2,492	1,421	1,629
Withdrawal			27	11	76	42	20
Outstanding			1	6	6	8	7

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

### 3 Pre-entry Examination

#### (1) Advance Consultation for Issuance of Visas

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is in charge of visa administration, coordinates with the Ministry of Justice, which is in charge of immigration administration, with regard to the entry of foreign nationals. The Minister of Foreign Affairs consults with the Minister of Justice as the need arises, on whether a visa should be issued to a certain foreign national. This is called advance consultation for issuance of visas.

The number of cases of advance consultation for visa issuance was 6,505 in 2009, showing a decrease of 156 from 6,661 in 2008 (2.3%).

#### (2) Certificate of Eligibility

The system of the certificate of eligibility was introduced by the amended Immigration Control Act which entered into force in 1990, with the aim of allowing foreign nationals who intend to work, study or live with someone over the medium to long term or their agents (e.g. accepting organizations) to undergo examination in advance on some of landing requirements, including eligibility for status of residence and to receive a certificate from a regional immigration bureau if they qualify. This system enables any foreign national who presents or submits a certificate of eligibility to obtain a visa and permission for landing quickly.

In 2009, the number of cases of applications for a certificate of eligibility was 273,989, a decrease of 55,043 (16.7%) from 2008.

Further, the advance consultation for issuance of visas and the examination of certificate of eligibility are jointly called pre-entry examination. In recent years, the number of processed cases of application for issuing a certificate of eligibility has steadily occupied the total number of processed cases of pre-entry examination.

(Table 7)

Table 7: Changes in the number of cases of pre-entry examination

Division	(Cases)					
	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Advance consultation for issuance of a visa		3,690	4,716	6,721	6,661	6,505
Application for Certificate of Eligibility		368,578	359,910	353,270	329,032	273,989

## Section 2 ◆ Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan

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

While the number of registered foreign nationals residing in Japan indicates the state of the “stock”, which shows how many foreign nationals live in Japan for a certain period and what is their purpose, the statistics of foreign nationals on entry and departure from Japan show the “flow” of foreign nationals to and from Japan.

In principle, every foreign national who has entered Japan must apply for registration to the mayor or head of the city, town, or village in which his/her residence is located, in accordance with the Alien Registration Act (hereinafter referred to as the “Registration Act”), within 90 days of the date of his/her landing (Article 3 of the Registration Act). However, most foreign nationals who have entered Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, accounting for more than 90% of the total number of foreign entrants, leave Japan without registering. Therefore, the registered number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” is small, accounting for only 1.5% of the total number of registered foreign nationals as of the end of 2009. As a result, the statistics on the foreign nationals registered in Japan can be considered as the data mainly for foreign nationals who stay in Japan for a relatively long period of time for such purposes as employment, study or cohabitation, living a “settled life” in the local community.

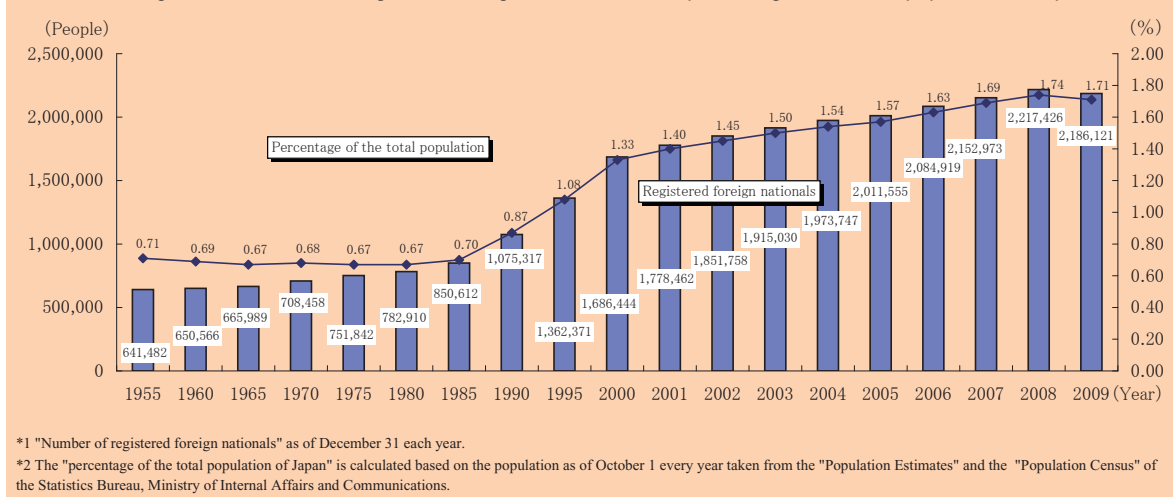
Further, the following persons are not the subject of alien registration: persons with temporary permission for landing, persons with special permission for landing (excluding those who received landing permission as a temporary refuge), diplomats, etc. having the status of residence of “Diplomat”, travelers on official purposes for a foreign government having the status of residence of “Official” and military personnel, and civilian employees and their family members who fall under the Agreement under Article VI of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between Japan and the United States of America, regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of United States Armed Forces in Japan and other agreements (hereinafter referred to as the “Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement etc.”).

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

A number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan each year remain and live in Japan for a medium or long period of time. As a result, the total number of registered foreign nationals residing in Japan has been increasing every year. As of the end of 2009, the number of registered foreign nationals was 2,186,121, decreased by 31,305 (1.4%) from the end of 2008 when it hit a record high. However, the number increased by about 1.4 times compared to the end of 1999, ten years ago, which means that it has been on the rise over the long run.

Registered foreign nationals accounted for 1.71% of the total Japanese population as of the end of 2009, when the total population of Japan was 127,510,000 people. The proportion decreased by 0.03% from 1.74% at the end of 2008. However, it increased by 0.48% from the end of 1999, which means that it has been on the rise over the long run. (Chart 12)

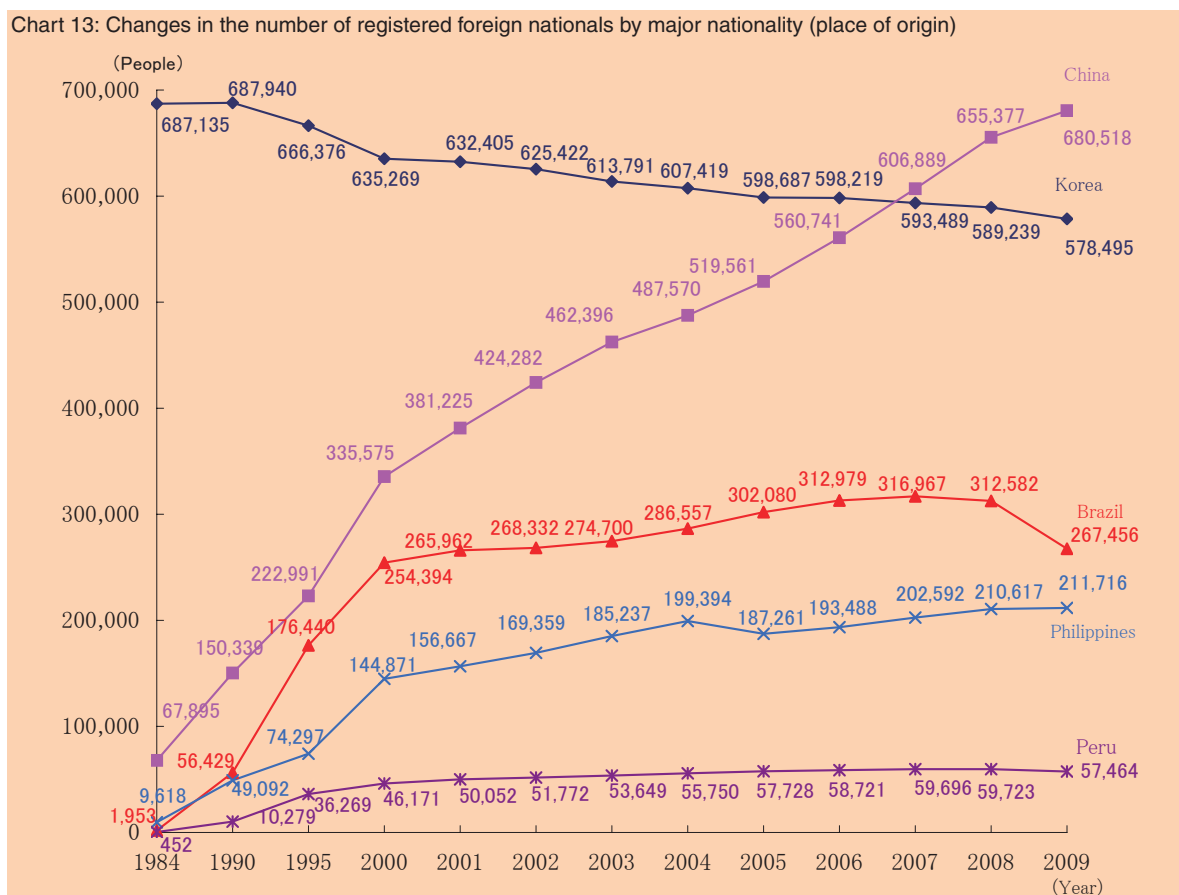
Chart 12: Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals and its percentage of the total population in Japan



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

According to the statistics of the number of registered foreign nationals by nationality (place of origin) as of the end of 2009, China marked the largest number at 680,518, accounting for 31.1% of the total. This was followed by North and South Korea (578,495 accounting for 26.5%), Brazil (267,456 accounting for 12.2%), the Philippines (211,716 accounting for 9.7%), and Peru (57,464 accounting for 2.6%).

Looking at yearly changes, we find that the number of registered foreign nationals from North and South Korea has been gradually decreasing, while the number of those from China and the Philippines has been continuously increasing. In particular, the number of registered foreign nationals from China continued to increase, after exceeding North and South Korea in 2007. On the other hand, the number of registered foreign nationals from North and South Korea decreased by 10,744 (1.8%) as of the end of 2009 compared to the end of 2008. The number of registered foreign nationals from Brazil, which has been decreasing, after peaking in the end of 2007, decreased by 49,511 (15.6%) from 2008. While the number of registered foreign nationals from the Philippines showed a decrease at the end of 2005, by the end of 2009 it had increased by 1,099 (0.5%) compared with the end of 2008. (Chart 13)



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

#### A. “Permanent Resident” and “Special Permanent Resident”

(Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 11)

According to the statistics of the number of registered foreign nationals by status of residence, those with the status of “Permanent Resident” (excluding Special Permanent Resident) were the largest group as of the end of 2009. The number of permanent residents was 533,472, an increase of 41,416 (8.4%) from the end of 2008, accounting for 24.4% of the total. (Table 8)

Table 8: Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	2,011,555	2,084,919	2,152,973	2,217,426	2,186,121
Professor	8,406	8,525	8,436	8,333	8,295
Artist	448	462	448	461	490
Religious Activities	4,588	4,654	4,732	4,601	4,448
Journalist	280	273	279	281	271
Investor/Business Manager	6,743	7,342	7,916	8,895	9,840
Legal/Accounting Services	126	141	145	154	161
Medical Services	146	138	174	199	220
Researcher	2,494	2,332	2,276	2,285	2,372
Instructor	9,449	9,511	9,832	10,070	10,129
Engineer	29,044	35,135	44,684	52,273	50,493
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	55,276	57,323	61,763	67,291	69,395
Intra-company Transferee	11,977	14,014	16,111	17,798	16,786
Entertainer	36,376	21,062	15,728	13,031	10,966
Skilled Labor	15,112	17,869	21,261	25,863	29,030
Cultural Activities	2,949	3,025	3,014	2,795	2,780
Temporary Visitor	68,747	56,449	49,787	40,407	33,378
College Student	129,568	131,789	132,460	138,514	145,909
Pre-college Student	28,147	36,721	38,130	41,313	46,759
Trainee	54,107	70,519	88,086	86,826	65,209
Dependent	86,055	91,344	98,167	107,641	115,081
Designated Activities	87,324	97,476	104,488	121,863	130,636
Permanent Resident	349,804	394,477	439,757	492,056	533,472
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	259,656	260,955	256,980	245,497	221,923
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	11,066	12,897	15,365	17,839	19,570
Long-Term Resident	265,639	268,836	268,604	258,498	221,771
Special Permanent Resident	451,909	443,044	430,229	420,305	409,565
Without Acquiring Status of Residence	15,353	17,415	13,960	13,510	12,376
Temporary Refuge	30	30	30	30	30
Others	20,736	21,161	20,131	18,797	14,766

(\*) Status of Residence (meaning the status of residence provided for by the Immigration Control Act or the status of "special permanent resident" which allows residence)

Looking at changes in the number of permanent residents which has steadily increased during the period between the end of 2005 and the end of 2009, it increased by 183,668 (52.5%) at the end of 2009 from 349,804 as of the end of 2005.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of permanent residents came from China. The number of Chinese permanent residents was 156,295 as of the end of 2009, followed by Brazil, the Philippines, North and South Korea and Peru. Further, China, Brazil, the Philippines and Peru increased by about 1.5 times, 1.8 times, 1.6 times, and 1.4 times, respectively, compared to the end of 2005.

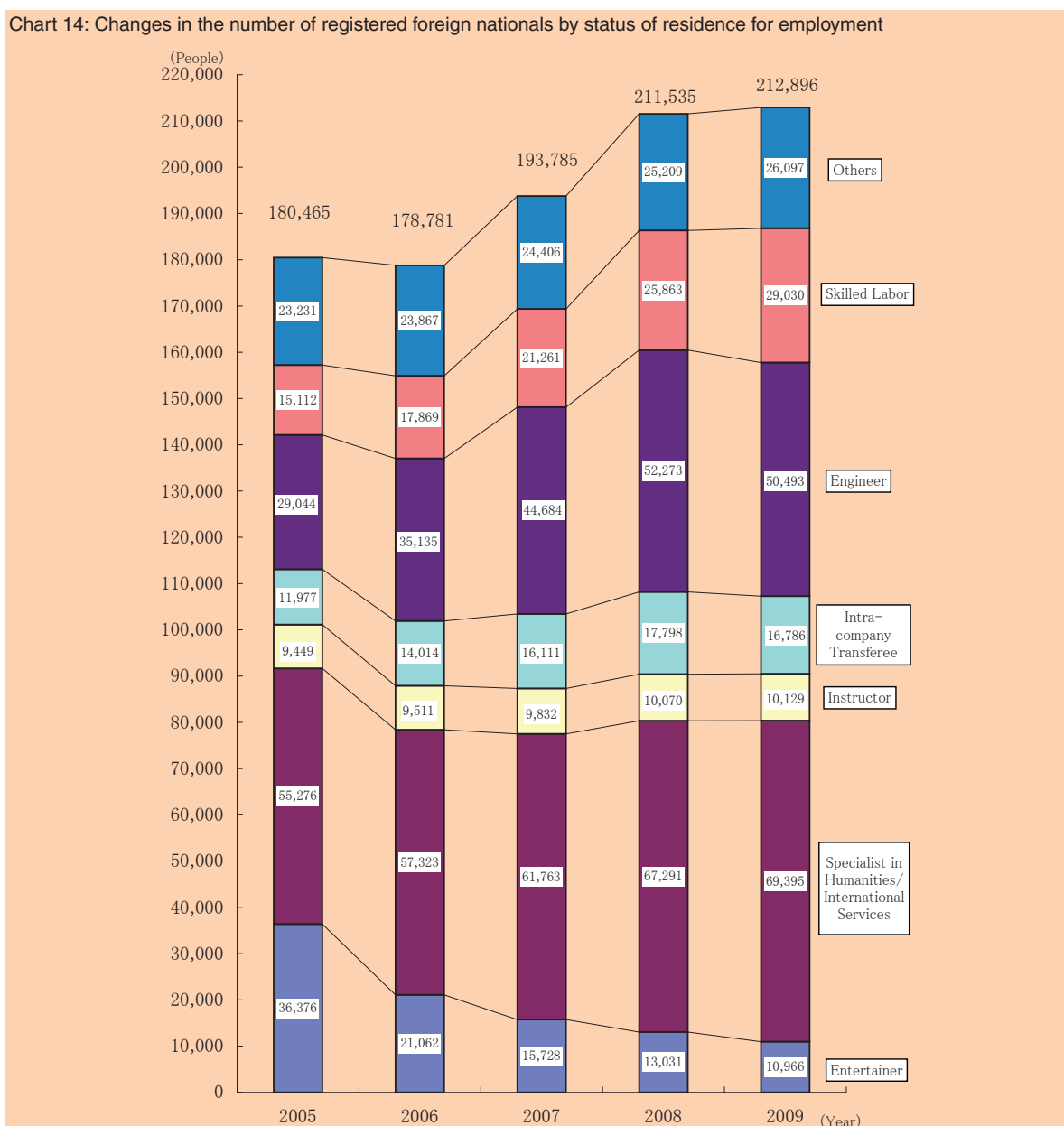
On the other hand, the number of registered foreign nationals who were "Special Permanent Residents" that occupied the largest percentage until 2006 is decreasing year by year, while the percentage occupying the total number of registered foreign nationals is decreasing accordingly. Looking at changes over a longer period, the percentage of foreign nationals equivalent to the status of "Special Permanent Residents" occupied approximately 90% from the time just after the war until 1955. However, the decrease in the number of "Special Permanent Resident" itself and the increase of foreign nationals newly visiting Japan with various purposes (so-called newcomers) are both driving the tendency of "Special Permanent Resident" to decrease, which vividly shows the change in the situation in Japan surrounding resident foreign nationals. Also in the future, the total number of Special Permanent Residents may



possibly further decrease depending on the movement of so-called third generation and fourth generation foreign nationals residing in Japan.

## B. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan for the Purpose of Employment (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 1-2 through 6-2)

The number of registered foreign nationals residing in Japan for the purpose of employment increased by 1,361 (0.6%) from the end of 2008 to 212,896 as of the end of 2009, accounting for 9.7% of the total. Looking at changes in this number from the end of 2005 to the end of 2009, we find that the number of registered persons was on a decreasing trend until the end of 2006 due to a decrease in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan with the status of residence of “Entertainer”. It has increased since the end of 2007 and reached a record high at the end of 2009, though the number of those with the status of residence of other than “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Skilled Labor”, and “Instructor” decreased from the previous year. (Chart 14)



According to statistics by category of the status of residence, the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Researcher” has recently been decreasing. It is partly because the status of residence of “Designated Activities” came to be granted to those who intended to engage in research activities if they met the requirements for preferential measures under the Act on Special Zones for Structural Reform initiated since April 2003. The number of those with the status of residence of “Entertainer” decreased by 2,065 (15.8%) at the end of 2009 from the end of the previous year, showing a continuous decrease. This is caused by the decrease of new entrants with the status of residence of “Entertainer”.

The numbers of registered foreign nationals with such statuses of residence as “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” which were basically designed for foreign employees, were 50,493, 69,395 and 16,786, respectively, as of the end of 2009. They decreased by 1,780 (3.4%), increased by 2,104 (3.1%), and decreased by 1,012 (5.7%) from the end of 2008, respectively.

At the end of 2009, the percentage of the number of registered foreign nationals with such status of residence as “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” against the total number of registered foreign nationals residing in Japan for the purpose of employment was 23.7%, 32.6%, 7.9% respectively, and so-called foreign employees working for companies accounted for about 60% of foreign nationals residing in Japan for employment purposes.

### C. “College Student” and “Pre-college Student”

#### (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 7-2, 8-2)

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student” exceeded 100,000 for the first time at the end of 2002, and the number of foreign nationals registered as “College Student” as of the end of 2009 reached 145,909, an increase of 7,395 (5.3%) as compared with the end of 2008. On a nationality (place of origin) basis, the number of Chinese college students was 94,355, accounting for 64.7% of the total, followed by North and South Koreans (19,807 accounting for 13.6%).

Looking at changes in the total number from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009, the number as of the end of 2009 was about 1.1 times that as of the end of 2005.

On the other hand, the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Pre-college Student” took a downturn as of the end of 2004, but increased from the end of 2006, reaching 46,759 as of the end of 2009, an increase of 5,446 (13.2%) from the end of 2008. According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), China stood at 32,408, accounting for 69.3% of the total, followed by North and South Koreans (7,804 accounting for 16.7%).

Looking at the changes in the total number from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009, the number as of the end of 2009 increased by about 1.7 times from the end of 2005.

#### D. “Trainee” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 9-2, 10)

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” was 65,209 as of the end of 2009 with a decrease of 21,617 (24.9%) compared with the end of 2008, marking a significant decrease from the previous year. According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of those from China was 50,487, accounting for 77.4% of the total, followed by Viet Nam (4,355 accounting for 6.7%) and the Philippines (3,970 accounting for 6.1%).

Looking at the change from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009 by nationality (place of origin), China was about 1.2 times, and Viet Nam was about 1.3 times.

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Designated Activities(Technical Intern)” was 109,793 as of the end of 2009 with an increase of 4,803 (4.6%) compared with the end of 2008. According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of those from China was 84,813, accounting for 77.2% of the total, followed by Viet Nam standing at 9,197(8.4%) and Indonesia standing at 6,725 (6.1%).

Looking at the changes from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009 by nationality (place of origin), China increased by about 1.9 times, and Viet Nam increased by about 1.8 times.

#### E. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan with the Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Civil Status or Position (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 12-2, 13-2)

As of the end of 2009, the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” was 221,923. Looking at the change from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” was on an increasing trend until the end of 2006, however, it turned into a decreasing trend after the end of 2007, and the number as of the end of 2009 decreased by 23,574 (9.6%) from the end of 2008.

According to statistics by nationality, as of the end of 2009, the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” from China was 56,510, accounting for 25.5% of the total, followed by the Philippines (46,027 accounting for 20.7%) and Brazil (43,443 accounting for 19.6%). Looking at the change from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009 by nationality (place of origin), China took first place, surpassing Brazil, while Brazil is decreasing each year and its number as of the end of 2009 decreased by almost half from the end of 2005.

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” was 221,771 as of the end of 2009 accounting for 10.1% of the total. Looking at the change from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009, the number was, similarly to the case of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, on an increasing trend until the end of 2006, however, it turned into a decreasing trend after the end of 2007 and the number as of the end of 2009 decreased by 36,727 (14.2%) as compared with the end of 2008.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of such foreign nationals from Brazil was 101,250, accounting for 45.7%, followed by the Philippines (37,131 accounting for 16.7%) and China (33,651 accounting for 15.2%) at the end of 2009. Looking at the change from the end of 2005

until the end of 2009, the Philippines, which ranked in the top 3 until the end of 2007 and reached the top 2 at the end of 2008 surpassing China, continued to increase steadily.

It is considered that one of the reasons for a significant decrease in the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” and “Long-term Resident” is that foreign nationals of Japanese ancestry returned to their home countries since the second half of 2008 because they lost their job due to economic downturn.\*

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\*(Note) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has conducted the support program for those wishing to return home countries (April 2009 to March 2010), aiming to provide a certain amount of grant to foreign nationals of Japanese descent who give up seeking re-employment under the severe employment situation and decide to return to their home countries. About 22,000 people returned to their countries using the said program.

## 2 Residence Examinations

If any foreign national in Japan desires to stay longer than the period of stay originally permitted to him/her, or desires to change his/her status of residence in order to pursue a new purpose differing from the purpose for which the original status of residence was granted, the foreign national must file an application in accordance with the Immigration Control Act and obtain required permission from the Minister of Justice or the Director-General of the Regional Immigration Bureau. There is such permission for extension of period of stay, change of status of residence, acquisition of status of residence, re-entry, permanent residence, permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence, and so forth. The decision as to whether or not to grant permission is made through the status of residence examination.

The total number of cases of status of residence examinations and so forth in which permission was granted increased by 41,406 (3.0%) from 2008 to 1,403,250 in 2009. Looking at the change from the end of 2005 until the end of 2009, the number was on an increasing trend as a whole.

(Table 9)



Residence examination

Table 9: Changes in the number of cases of permission in status of residence examinations

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	1,197,627	1,327,185	1,351,961	1,361,844	1,403,250
Permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted	100,176	107,158	119,145	133,513	147,528
Permission for change of status of residence	115,287	123,381	138,427	149,214	149,046
Permission for extension of period of stay	418,696	466,304	436,630	434,307	444,330
Permission for permanent residence	39,256	51,538	60,509	57,806	53,960
Permission for special permanent residence	116	112	131	114	139
Permission for acquisition of status of residence	7,215	8,013	8,680	8,957	8,303
Re-entry permission	516,881	570,679	588,439	577,933	599,944

(\*1) "Permission for permanent residence" is the permission provided for in Article 22 of the Immigration Control Act.

(\*2) "Permission for acquisition of status of residence" includes permission for permanent residence described in Article 22-2 in the Immigration Control Act.

(\*3) "Permission for Special Permanent Residence" is the number of permissions of special permanent residence provided for in Article 5 of the Special Law on Immigration Control of Inter Alios, Those Who Have Lost Japanese Nationality on the Basis of the Treaty of Peace with Japan.

## (1) Permission for Extension of Period of Stay (Article 21 of the Immigration Control Act)

Any foreign national in Japan who desires to stay longer than the period of stay originally permitted without changing his/her status of residence must obtain permission for an extension of the period of stay.

The number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission in 2009 was 444,330, an increase by 10,023 (2.3%) as compared with 2007. (Table 9)

## (2) Permission for Change of Status of Residence (Article 20 of the Immigration Control Act)

Any foreign national in Japan who desires to change the status of residence originally permitted to him/her must obtain permission for a change of status of residence for the new purpose.

In 2008, the number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission was 149,046, a decrease by 168 (0.1%) as compared with 2008. (Table 9)

Among these, the major cases of applying for permission for change of the status of residence were as follows:

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

The foreign nationals studying at Japanese universities or vocational schools have the status of residence of either "College Student" or "Pre-college Student." Many of them wish to stay in Japan to work for a Japanese company or some another organization in Japan after graduating from these schools.

The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for a change of status of residence for employment was 9,584 in 2009, a decrease by 1,456 (13.2%) from a year earlier. Although it had consistently demonstrated an upward trend since 2003, it took a downward turn due to global economic downturn.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission from China was 6,333, accounting for 66.1% of the total, followed by R.O. Korea (1,368, accounting for 14.3%) and China (Taiwan) (285, accounting for 3.0%). (Table 10)

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 nationality (place of origin)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	5,878	8,272	10,262	11,040	9,584
China	4,186	6,000	7,539	7,651	6,333
R.O. Korea	747	944	1,109	1,360	1,368
China (Taiwan)	168	200	282	303	285
Bangladesh	57	119	138	164	125
Viet Nam	64	92	131	189	161
Malaysia	69	118	120	134	105
Thailand	60	67	87	97	101
Sri Lanka	34	55	81	160	141
Indonesia	52	53	73	74	97
Nepal	24	45	63	161	173
Others	417	579	639	747	695

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

According to statistics by status of residence, foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their statuses to "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" represented the largest proportion, totaling 6,677 and accounting for 69.7%, a decrease by 1,186 (15.1%) from 2008. In addition, 2,154 foreign nationals (22.5%) obtained permission to change their status to "Engineer" in 2009, and these two statuses of residence account for 92.1% of the total. (Table 11)

Table 11: 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

Status of Residence	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	5,878	8,272	10,262	11,040	9,584
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	4,159	5,938	7,304	7,863	6,677
Engineer	1,200	1,720	2,314	2,414	2,154
Professor	335	401	416	430	444
Researcher	92	104	87	111	97
Investor/Business Manager	28	36	61	128	128
Instructor	18	20	23	29	31
Religious Activities	12	13	15	19	3
Medical Services	10	14	13	16	24
Skilled Labor	8	5	6	3	4
Artist	4	6	6	2	8
Entertainer	1	3	3	5	2
Others	11	12	14	20	12

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

The Technical Internship Program was a system established in 1993 to enable foreign nationals who have acquired certain levels of skills through training to further improve their skills through on-the-job training while in employment, thereby contributing to effective technology transfer and human resources development as part of international contributions. It is necessary for any foreign national who wishes

to take part in the program to obtain permission for change of status of residence from “Trainee” to “Designated Activities”.

This program covers skills that are publicly evaluated in Japan and also in demand in the home countries of the trainees. These skills were categorized into 66 types of work in total as of April 1, 2010. 54 types, including form panel setting and machining, are evaluated based on the National Skills Test under the Occupation Skills Development Promotion Law for Basic Grade 1 and Basic Grade 2. The remaining 12 types, including welding and operation of spinning machines, are publicly evaluated, although not by national examinations, according to a system established by the Japan International Training Cooperation Organization.

Shortly after the Technical Internship Program was established, few foreign trainees applied for the program. Since then, we have increased the number of types of work covered by the program. Due to this, the number of applicants have shown a steady yearly increase, though the number in 2009 decreased by 313 (0.1%) from a year earlier. However, in total, more than 380,000 trainees took part in the program after finishing their training from establishment of the Technical Internship Program in 1993 up to the end of 2009, which indicates that this program is showing steady improvement.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of trainees who obtained permission for change of status of residence to take part in the Technical Internship Program in 2009 was from China (49,032), followed by Viet Nam (4,972), Indonesia (3,467), the Philippines (3,127), and Thailand (1,082). The most popular types of work were women/children's apparel production, welding and plastic molding in descending order. (Tables 12 and 13)

On July 1, 2010, new training and technical internship programs (See Chapter 5 “Measures on the Training and Technical Internship Programs” in Part 2.) started to be operated.

Table 12: Changes in the number of trainees who switch to the Technical Internship Program by nationality

(People)

Nationality \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	32,394	41,000	53,999	62,520	62,207
China	26,606	34,817	42,871	49,566	49,032
Viet Nam	1,791	2,221	4,155	4,885	4,972
Indonesia	2,340	1,924	3,274	3,393	3,467
Philippines	1,219	1,482	2,407	3,000	3,127
Thailand	277	342	783	1,079	1,082
Others	161	214	509	597	527

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

Table 13: Changes in the number of trainees who switch to the Technical Internship Program by job type

(People)

Job Type \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	32,394	41,000	53,999	62,520	62,207
Women/Children's apparel production	9,751	10,750	11,697	12,707	11,428
Mold construction	420	526	800	1,012	877
Men's apparel production	679	741	658	637	631
Welding	1,960	2,817	3,882	5,457	5,569
Steel reinforcement construction	376	409	610	889	987
Machining	1,276	1,918	2,960	3,539	3,203
Metal press work	1,194	1,768	2,505	3,150	2,769
Plumbing	53	88	119	163	215
Painting	713	1,070	1,255	1,644	1,766
Furniture production	239	260	392	364	435
Casting	695	811	1,167	1,062	977
Steeplejack	361	610	702	1,125	993
Plastic molding	2,072	2,686	4,769	4,270	4,454
Carpenter	179	350	441	356	402
Construction machinery production	46	77	147	172	179
Others	12,380	16,119	21,895	25,973	27,322

### (3) Permission for Acquisition of Status of Residence

#### (Article 22-2 of the Immigration Control Act)

If a foreign national who was born in Japan, an individual who became a foreign national after renouncing Japanese nationality, or a United States of America military personnel member stipulated in Article 1 of the Status of Forces Agreement Japan-US who lost the status wishes to continue living in Japan, he/she must acquire a status of residence.

The number of such foreign nationals who obtained permission for acquisition of status of residence was 8,303 in 2009, a decrease by 654 (7.3%) from 2008. (Table 9)

### (4) Re-entry Permission (Article 26 of the Immigration Control Act)

If a foreign national who resides in Japan wishes to temporarily depart and re-enter Japan, he/she may re-enter and land in Japan using his/her current status of residence and period of stay without re-applying for a visa by receiving re-entry permission in advance.

In 2009, the number of such foreign nationals who obtained re-entry permission was 599,944, an increase by 22,011 (3.8%) from 2008. (Table 9)



## **(5) Permission to Engage in an Activity Other than Those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted (Article 19(2) of the Immigration Control Act)**

A foreign national who is granted a status of residence according to the activities in which he/she is engaged in Japan must receive permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted if the foreign national wishes to become engaged in activities “related to the management of business involving income or activities for which he/she receives remuneration which are not included in those activities under his/her category of status of residence”. A typical example is that of a foreign national college student or pre-college 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 activity that is the original purpose of residence.

The number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission in 2009 was 147,352, an increase by 14,015 (10.5%) from 2008. This is an increase by 47,352 (47.3%) from 2005 (Table 9).

## **(6) Permission for Permanent Residence (Article 22 of the Immigration Control Act)**

The status of permanent residence is granted when certain conditions have been satisfied by foreign nationals who reside in Japan under another status of residence and who have applied for change of status of residence to permanent residence or by those who have applied to acquire status of residence due to birth or renouncement of Japanese nationality.

With respect to permission for permanent residence, the Immigration Bureau decided in February 1998 to review the operation standard from the standpoint of ensuring deregulation, simplification and rationalization of clerical work and, at the same time, clarified the existing treatment of applicants. At the time of this review, the Immigration Bureau clarified the interpretation for the examination of statutory requirements, reviewed the history of staying in Japan corresponding to status and decided to treat persons having a special circumstance, such as being a spouse of Japanese national, more flexibly.

For the purpose of clarifying the requirements for granting permission for permanent residence to foreign nationals who are considered to contribute to Japan, the Immigration Bureau established on March 31, 2005 the “Guidelines for Contribution to Japan”, and publicly announced it on its website. Also, the Immigration Bureau posts cases where the contribution was recognized and permission for permanent residence was granted, and where permission was not granted, on its website and updates it from time to time. On March 31, 2006, the Immigration Bureau established the “Guideline for Permission for Permanent Residence” to publicly announce general requirements relating to permission for permanent residence, and the standard for the number of years of residence, and partially amended the “Guidelines for Contribution to Japan”.

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for permanent residence in 2007 was a record high of 60,509. However, the number decreased to 57,806 in 2008 and 53,960 in 2009, which has been on the decline. (Table 14)

Table 14: Changes in permanent residence permits by nationality (place of origin)

(Cases)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	39,256	51,538	60,509	57,806	53,818
China	11,404	13,744	15,875	16,140	16,957
Brazil	10,026	16,055	19,793	16,824	11,430
Philippines	6,044	7,554	8,723	8,982	9,248
Korea	2,939	3,368	3,788	3,914	4,060
Peru	2,449	2,878	3,241	2,783	2,389
Others	6,394	7,939	9,089	9,163	9,734

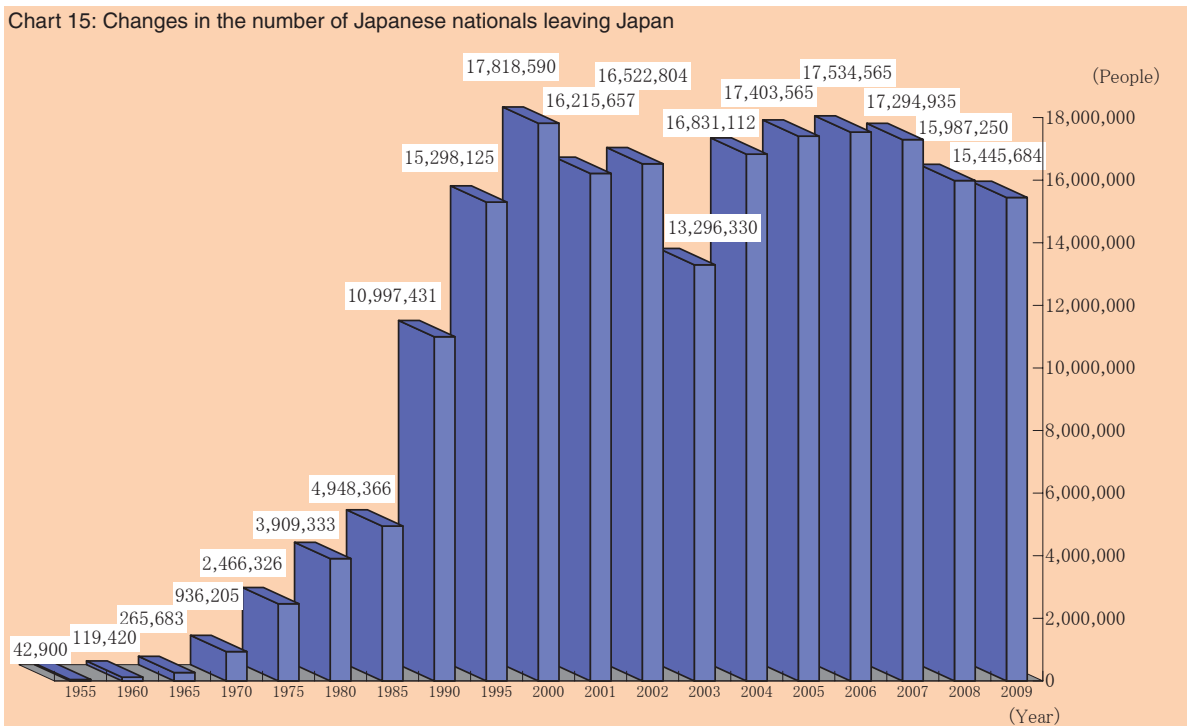
(\*) "China" includes Taiwan, Hong Kong or others.

## Section 3 ◆ Japanese Nationals Leaving and Returning to Japan

### 1 The Number of Japanese Nationals Leaving Japan

#### (1) The Total Number of Japanese Nationals Leaving Japan

The total number of Japanese nationals leaving Japan in 2009 was 15,445,684, a decrease by 541,566 (3.4%) from 2008. (Chart 15)



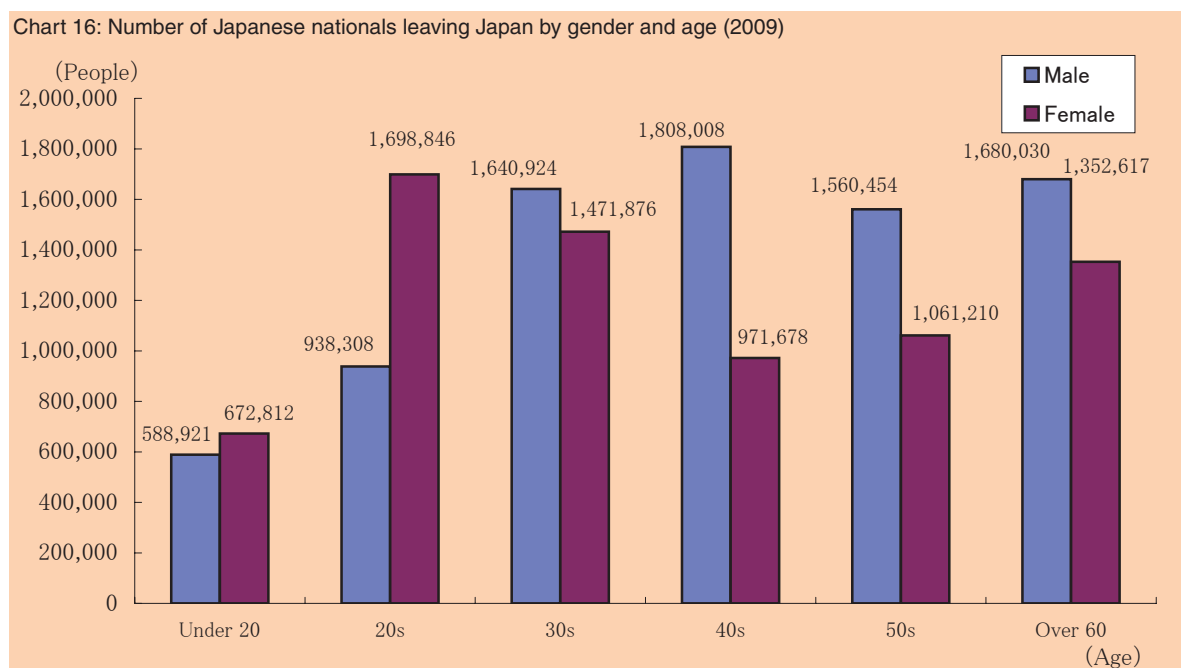
#### (2) The Number of Japanese Nationals Leaving Japan by Gender and Age

According to statistics by gender, the number of Japanese nationals leaving Japan in 2009 consists of 8,216,645 males and 7,229,039 females: males account for 53.2% of the total and females account for 46.8%. This percentage of male and female has not changed drastically from 2001, and the percentage accounted for by males exceeds that by females.

According to statistics by age, the number of Japanese nationals leaving Japan in 2009 consists of 3,112,800 persons in their 30s, which accounts for 20.2% of the total, followed by 3,032,647 in their 60s or older (19.6%),

2,779,686 in their 40s (18.0%), 2,637,154 in their 20s (17.1%), and 2,621,664 in their 50s (17.0%).

The percentage of males and females by age shows that the percentage of females younger than 20 and in their 20s exceeds that of males, and in particular, in respect of those in their 20s, females account for 64.4%, a particularly high percentage. Figures for those older than their 20s show that the percentage of males leaving Japan exceeds that of females. (Chart 16)



### (3) The Number of Japanese Nationals Leaving Japan by Airport and Seaport

According to statistics of Japanese nationals leaving Japan in 2009 by airport and seaport of departure, the number of persons using airports to leave Japan was 15,240,225 accounting for 98.7% of the total. As compared with foreign nationals entering Japan (persons using airports account for 94.3%), the percentage of airport users is much higher.

Among persons in 2009 using airports to leave Japan, the number of users of Narita Airport was 8,280,595, which accounts for 54.3% of the total number of persons using airports to leave Japan, and those using Kansai Airport was 3,184,158, which accounts for 20.9%. This means that 75.2% of the total number of persons leaving from airports uses these two airports. Other than Narita and Kansai airports, the order was Central Japan Airport, 1,575,891 (10.3%) and Haneda Airport, 780,022 (5.1%).

On the other hand, among persons using seaports to leave Japan in 2009, the number of persons using Hakata Port where scheduled passenger ships are operated to/from R.O. Korea was 158,845, which accounts for 77.3% of the total number of persons leaving from seaports, and the number using Shimonoseki Port was 16,284, which accounts for 7.9% of the total. This means that 85.2% of the total number of persons leaving from seaports used these two seaports. Other than these two seaports, the order was Osaka Port, 6,816 (3.3%) and Yokohama Port, 5,430 (2.6%).

## 2 The Number of Japanese Nationals Returning to Japan

The total number of returning Japanese nationals in 2009 was 15,432,549. By period of stay in foreign countries after departure, the number of persons returning within one month after departure was 14,152,407, which accounts for 91.7% of the total. Among those, the number returning within ten days was 12,955,679, which accounts for 84.0% of the total.

This is because most Japanese travelers going abroad depart for purposes requiring a relatively short period such as sightseeing and business return promptly. This trend has continued in recent years and no major change is observed. (Table 15)

Table 15: Changes in the number of Japanese nationals returning to Japan by period of stay

(People)

Period of Stay \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	17,326,149	17,457,286	17,199,310	15,905,433	15,432,549
Within 5 days	10,073,918	10,223,891	10,125,098	9,344,449	9,341,903
More than 5 days to 10 days	4,503,407	4,480,153	4,370,202	3,935,729	3,613,776
More than 10 days to 20 days	1,101,697	1,098,627	1,066,490	1,007,021	897,894
More than 20 days to 1 month	381,627	379,317	356,190	342,367	298,834
More than 1 month to 3 months	553,187	563,278	566,805	560,726	529,070
More than 3 months to 6 months	305,489	311,045	316,000	319,749	324,165
More than 6 months to 1 year	264,511	267,240	268,808	270,411	290,320
More than 1 year to 3 years	119,516	114,578	113,569	111,398	124,015
More than 3 years	16,357	12,965	10,323	8,354	7,479
Unknown	6,440	6,192	5,825	5,229	5,093

## Section 1 ◆ Overstayers

Based on the computer statistics of the Immigration Bureau, the estimated number of overstayers (those who illegally stay in Japan beyond the permitted period of stay without obtaining permission for extension or change of status of residence) was 91,778 as of January 1, 2010, falling below 100,000 for the first time in 21 years. This number has been steadily decreasing, down by 21,294 (18.8%) from 113,072 on January 1, 2009, in other words, down by 206,868 (69.3%) from a record high of 298,646 on May 1, 1993.

This decrease was attributable to the effects of comprehensive measures against illegal residents, including implementation of strict immigration examinations, and efforts for close cooperation with other related agencies to detect violators of the Immigration Control Act and active publicity activities to prevent illegal employment.

In addition to the above-mentioned number of overstayers, it is estimated that about 13,000 to 22,000 foreign nationals may have entered Japan illegally. If combined, the number of illegal foreign residents would be about 110,000.



Investigation of violation

### 1 The Number of Overstayers by Nationality (Place of Origin)

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of overstayers was from R.O. Korea (21,660 accounting for 23.6% of the total) as of January 1, 2010. This was followed by China (12,933 accounting for 14.1%), the Philippines (12,842 accounting for 14.0%), China (Taiwan) (4,899 accounting for 5.3%), Thailand (4,836 accounting for 5.3%), Malaysia (2,661 accounting for 2.9%), and Peru (2,402 accounting for 2.6%). (Chart 17, Table 16)

Chart 17: Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major nationality (place of origin)

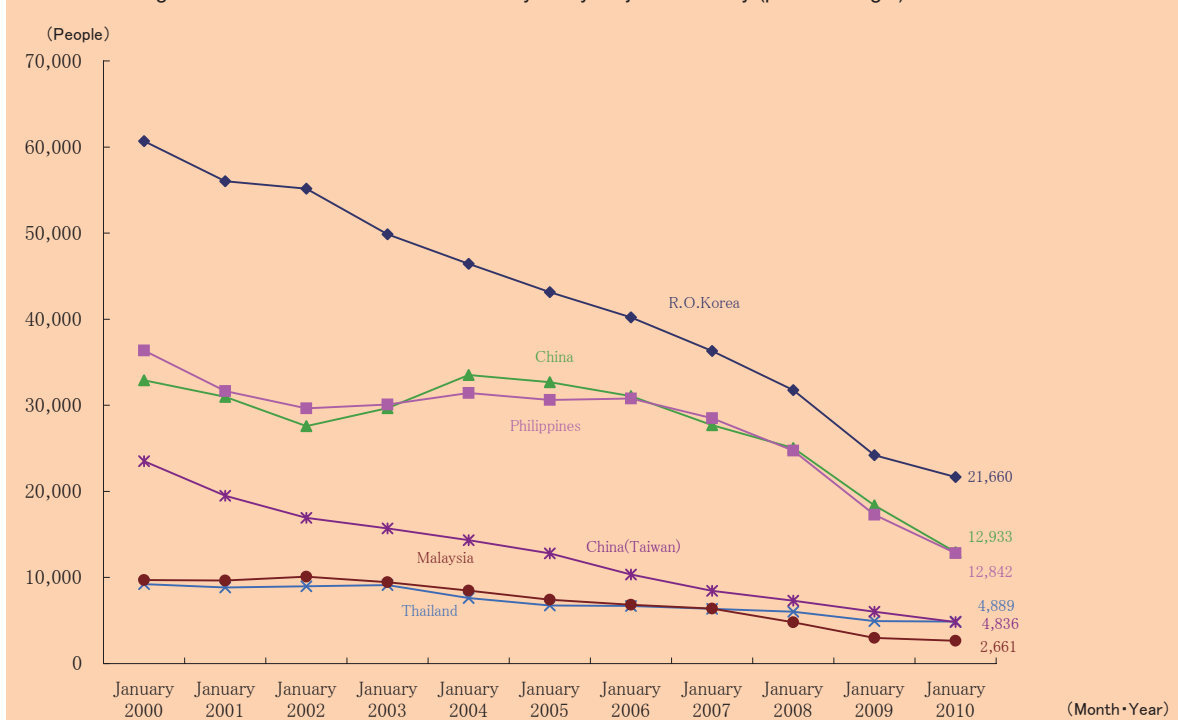


Table 16: Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major nationality (place of origin)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Date	(People)																			
		May 1 1991	May 1 1992	May 1 1993	May 1 1994	May 1 1995	May 1 1996	January 1 1997	January 1 1998	January 1 1999	January 1 2000	January 1 2001	January 1 2002	January 1 2003	January 1 2004	January 1 2005	January 1 2006	January 1 2007	January 1 2008	January 1 2009	January 1 2010
Total		159,828	278,892	298,646	293,800	286,704	284,500	282,986	276,810	271,048	251,697	232,121	224,067	220,552	219,418	207,299	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778
R.O. Korea		25,848	35,687	39,455	43,369	47,544	51,580	52,387	52,123	62,577	60,693	56,023	55,164	49,874	46,425	43,151	40,203	36,321	31,758	24,198	21,660
China		17,535	25,737	33,312	39,738	39,511	39,140	38,296	37,590	34,800	32,896	30,975	27,582	29,676	33,522	32,683	31,074	27,698	25,057	18,385	12,933
Philippines		27,228	31,974	35,392	37,544	39,763	41,997	42,547	42,608	40,420	36,379	31,666	29,649	30,100	31,428	30,619	30,777	28,491	24,741	17,287	12,842
China (Taiwan)		5,241	6,729	7,457	7,871	7,974	8,502	9,409	9,430	9,437	9,243	8,849	8,990	9,126	7,611	6,760	6,696	6,347	6,031	4,950	4,889
Thailand		19,093	44,354	55,383	49,992	44,794	41,280	39,513	37,046	30,065	23,503	19,500	16,925	15,693	14,334	12,787	10,352	8,460	7,314	6,023	4,836
Malaysia		14,413	38,529	30,840	20,313	14,511	11,525	10,390	10,141	9,989	9,701	9,651	10,097	9,442	8,476	7,431	6,822	6,397	4,804	2,986	2,661
Peru		487	2,783	9,038	12,918	15,301	13,836	12,942	11,606	10,320	9,158	8,502	7,744	7,322	7,230	6,624	5,997	5,283	4,481	3,396	2,402
Singapore		1,435	1,712	1,914	2,342	2,600	2,850	2,946	3,027	3,084	3,178	3,302	3,494	3,556	3,216	3,075	3,587	2,241	2,207	2,128	2,107
Sri Lanka		2,281	3,217	3,763	3,395	2,980	2,783	2,751	3,071	3,734	3,907	3,489	3,730	3,909	4,242	4,209	4,590	4,042	3,615	2,796	1,952
Indonesia		582	1,955	2,969	3,198	3,205	3,481	3,758	4,692	4,930	4,947	5,315	6,393	6,546	7,246	7,169	6,926	6,354	5,096	3,126	1,820
Others		45,685	86,215	79,123	73,120	68,521	67,526	68,047	65,476	61,692	58,092	54,849	54,299	55,308	55,688	52,791	46,721	39,205	34,681	27,797	23,676

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

Looking at changes after May 1, 1993, when the highest number of overstayers was recorded, the country (place of origin) of the largest number of overstayers as of May 1, 1993 was Thailand, followed by R.O. Korea, the Philippines, China, and Malaysia. In the ranking as of January 1, 2010, R.O. Korea was top followed by China, the Philippines, China (Taiwan), and Thailand.

The changes in the number of overstayers by nationality (place of origin) were as follows. Although new entries have increased drastically since visa-exemption measures have been implemented for those who intend to engage in activities that can be performed under the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor", the number of overstayers from R.O. Korea has been consistently decreasing since January 1, 1999. The number of those from Thailand has steadily decreased since May 1, 1993. The number of those from Malaysia and Peru has also seen a decrease due to a measure to promote the acquisition of visas, which was taken on June 1, 1993 and on July 15, 1995 respectively. The number of those from China continued to decrease from 1994 until 2002. Then, it started to increase in 2003 and further increased in 2004, but it has also shown a decreasing trend since 2005. The number of overstayers from the Philippines has been decreasing since 1998, but fluctuated between increasing and decreasing

from 2003 to 2006, decreasing after 2007. The number of those from Indonesia had steadily increased since May 1, 1991, but has been on the decrease since 2005.

## 2 The Number of Overstayers by Status of Residence

Statistics for the estimated number of overstayers by status of residence immediately before their status of residence had expired showed the following: the largest number of overstayers had the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” (63,169) accounting for 68.8% of the total. This was followed by “Entertainer” (4,120 accounting for 4.5%), “College Student” (3,610 accounting for 3.9%), “Pre-college Student” (2,232, accounting for 2.4%), and “Trainee” (1,621 accounting for 1.8%). Compared with the same period of the previous year, the number of those who were granted the “Temporary Visitor” or “Entertainer” status decreased by 13,482 (17.6%) and by 895 (17.8%), respectively. The number of overstayers with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” has been on the decline since May 1, 1993, and those with the status of residence of “Entertainer” since May 1, 1994. The number of foreign residents with the status of residence of “Entertainer” started to rise on January 1, 2002 and kept increasing, but has been decreasing since January 2005. On the other hand, the number of foreign residents with the status of residence of “College Student” continued to increase from January 1, 2001, but has been decreasing since January 2006. (Table 17)

Table 17: Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence	January 1 2005	January 1 2006	January 1 2007	January 1 2008	January 1 2009	January 1 2010
Total	207,299	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778
Temporary Visitor	139,417	134,374	117,289	102,069	76,651	63,169
Entertainer	11,319	10,052	8,162	6,624	5,015	4,120
College Student	8,173	7,628	7,448	6,667	5,090	3,610
Pre-college Student	8,506	7,307	5,281	4,311	3,186	2,232
Trainee	3,648	3,393	3,333	3,136	2,561	1,621
Others	36,236	30,991	29,326	26,978	20,569	17,026

## Section 2 ♦ Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act for Which Deportation Procedures Were Carried Out

### 1 The Number of Cases of Violation of the Immigration Control Act by Grounds for Deportation

In 2009, the number of foreign nationals for whom deportation procedures were carried out on account of violating the Immigration Control Act was 32,661, a decrease of 6,721 from 2008. Of these, 8,958 were handed over to immigration inspectors as those subject to the departure order system.

According to the statistics of the number of foreign nationals by grounds for deportation, the largest number of foreign nationals were deported for overstaying (25,503 accounting for 78.1%), followed by illegal entry (5,373 accounting for 16.5%), and then activities



Detection

other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted (810 accounting for 2.5%). Overstayers continued to occupy a predominant percentage.

According to the statistics of the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act according to nationality (place of origin), the largest number of such foreign nationals was from China for seven consecutive years (9,522 accounting for 29.2%), followed by the Philippines (6,370 accounting for 19.5%), and R.O. Korea (3,934 accounting for 12.0%). These top three countries made up over 60% of the total. (Tables 18 and 19)

Among the foreign nationals violating the Act against whom deportation procedures were carried out in 2009, the number of those who illegally worked in Japan was 26,545, accounting for 81.3% of the total.

Table 18: Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by grounds for deportation (People)

Grounds for Deportation \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	57,172	56,410	45,502	39,382	32,661
Illegal entry	11,586	10,441	7,454	6,136	5,373
Illegal landing	690	506	342	253	186
Activity other than those permitted	1,890	1,736	1,409	1,153	810
Overstay	42,254	42,829	35,417	31,045	25,503
Criminal offenses etc.	752	898	880	795	789
Illegal work	45,935	45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545

Table 19: Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality (place of origin) (People)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	57,172	56,410	45,502	39,382	32,661
China	17,252	16,269	11,981	10,963	9,522
Philippines	9,627	10,420	9,185	7,847	6,370
R.O. Korea	8,050	8,128	6,560	4,993	3,934
Thailand	3,388	3,294	2,467	2,020	1,832
Indonesia	2,000	2,443	2,153	2,284	1,632
Viet Nam	1,130	1,407	1,571	1,708	1,373
Peru	1,194	1,306	1,068	1,064	1,216
Sri Lanka	1,204	1,624	1,449	1,432	1,171
Brazil	912	661	663	537	536
Bangladesh	1,529	1,295	975	745	525
Others	10,886	9,563	7,430	5,789	4,550

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

Specific details for the cases are given below with respect to each of the grounds for deportation.

## (1) Illegal Entry

Among the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for violating the Act in 2009, the number of illegal entrants\* was 5,373, a decrease of 763 (12.4%) from 2008, which accounts for 16.5% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Act. Looking at the past history, the number was increasing after 2003, however, it turned into a decrease after 2006. As the percentage of illegally entering persons against the total number of foreign nationals violating the Act is decreasing, it is considered that the effects of measures to exclude them at the border have begun to materialize.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from China (1,648 accounting for 30.7% of the total), followed by the Philippines (1,237 accounting for 23.0%), and South Korea (427 accounting for 7.9%), and no movement is seen in the order of these top two countries since 2002. However, the percentage of China is high, which constitutes a significant threat together with its number of cases.



According to statistics by means of transportation, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for illegal entry by airplane in 2009 was 3,880, a decrease of 582 (13.0%) from 2008. This accounts for 72.2% of all illegally entering persons, and illegal entry using airplane occupies a high percentage as in the past. Meanwhile, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for illegal entry by ship decreased by 181 (10.8%) from 2008 to 1,493 in 2009. (Tables 20, 21 and 22)

Table 20: Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	11,586	10,441	7,454	6,136	5,373
China	4,960	3,999	2,410	2,020	1,648
Philippines	2,074	2,059	1,624	1,376	1,237
R.O. Korea	617	767	619	478	427
Thailand	1,139	988	680	503	416
Peru	255	299	243	261	377
Indonesia	172	232	281	260	269
Iran	402	432	382	248	174
Bangladesh	646	486	349	263	160
Sri Lanka	128	181	151	165	130
Myanmar	323	188	86	67	86
Others	870	810	629	495	449

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

Table 21: Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by airplane by nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	8,065	7,549	5,448	4,462	3,880
Philippines	1,927	1,956	1,519	1,301	1,153
China	2,570	2,088	1,215	942	698
Thailand	1,065	934	633	471	387
Peru	255	298	241	261	377
Indonesia	171	232	281	259	266
Others	2,077	2,041	1,559	1,228	999

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

Table 22: Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by ship by nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	3,521	2,892	2,006	1,674	1,493
China	2,390	1,911	1,195	1,078	950
R.O. Korea	229	352	301	254	262
Philippines	147	103	105	75	84
Bangladesh	348	232	194	127	78
Iran	62	63	59	46	33
Others	345	231	152	94	86

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

\* (Note): An illegal entrant means a person who enters Japan in violation of the provisions of Paragraph 1, Article 3 of the Immigration Control Act. The provisions in the said paragraph stipulate that any foreign national who falls under any of the following items shall not enter Japan: a person who does not possess a valid passport (except for a crew member possessing a valid crew member's pocket-ledger) (Item 1); and a person who intends to land in Japan without receiving a seal of verification for landing or undergoing the recording of the prescribed data pursuant to the provision of Article 9, paragraph (4), or without obtaining authorized permission for landing from an immigration inspector (Item 2). Any foreign national who violates the provisions is considered as an illegal entrant. In other words, even if a person possesses a valid passport or crew member's pocket-ledger, the person shall be considered as an illegal entrant if he/she falls under the Item 2 shown above.

## (2) Illegal Landing

Among the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for violating the Act in 2009, the number of those who illegally landed in Japan without obtaining permission for landing and so forth from an immigration inspector was 186, a decrease of 67 (26.5%) from 2008. This accounted for 0.6% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Act, and the proportion has maintained a similar level since 2002. (Table 23)

Table 23: Changes in the number of cases of illegal landing by nationality (place of origin)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	690	506	342	253	186
China	374	231	137	58	50
Thailand	32	21	11	9	18
Turkey	5	45	19	39	17
Philippines	29	10	26	14	14
Myanmar	43	31	16	25	11
R.O. Korea	23	22	15	17	10
China(Taiwan)	8	8	8	4	6
Pakistan	17	5	6	3	6
Viet Nam	0	3	0	3	5
Russia	33	10	15	7	4
Others	126	120	89	74	45

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

## (3) Overstay

Among the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for violating the Act in 2009, the number of those who had stayed beyond the authorized period of stay decreased by 5,542 (17.9%) from 2008 to 25,503. This accounts for 78.1% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Act.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of such foreign nationals was from China (7,342 accounting for 28.8%), followed by the Philippines (4,960 accounting for 19.4%), R.O. Korea (3,104 accounting for 12.2%), Indonesia (1,350 accounting for 5.3%), and Thailand (1,347 accounting for 5.3%). (Table 24)

Table 24: Changes in the number of cases of overstay by nationality (place of origin)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	42,254	42,829	35,417	31,045	25,503
China	11,301	11,295	8,811	8,326	7,342
Philippines	6,583	7,879	7,136	6,188	4,960
R.O. Korea	6,959	6,847	5,484	4,147	3,104
Indonesia	1,779	2,074	1,837	1,978	1,350
Thailand	2,166	2,232	1,728	1,444	1,347
Viet Nam	1,021	1,300	1,435	1,570	1,268
Sri Lanka	1,028	1,391	1,244	1,216	1,026
Peru	919	971	792	779	812
Nepal	549	781	577	481	416
Brazil	784	482	434	346	375
Others	9,165	7,577	5,939	4,570	3,503

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

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

If a foreign national residing in Japan exclusively engages in work or engages in activities other than those permitted for his/her status of residence previously granted without obtaining the required permission, deportation procedures will be carried out by reason of engaging in activities other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted. The number of such foreign nationals had decreased by 343 (29.7%) from 2008 to 810 in 2009. This accounts for 2.5% of the total number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for violating the Act.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from South Korea (306 accounting for 37.8% of the total), followed by China (266 accounting for 32.8%), and the Philippines (85 accounting for 10.5%), and these three top countries account for 81.1% of the total. (Table 25)

Table 25: Changes in the number of cases of activities other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted by nationality (place of origin) (People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	1,890	1,736	1,409	1,153	810
R.O. Korea	396	412	380	275	306
China	357	469	395	369	266
Philippines	862	399	297	189	85
China (Taiwan)	22	34	48	48	25
Bangladesh	13	13	13	26	18
Viet Nam	19	32	49	56	15
Thailand	15	14	14	14	14
Myanmar	0	7	7	11	14
Indonesia	45	119	23	29	11
Nepal	4	18	21	35	10
Others	157	219	162	101	46

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

## 2 Illegal Workers

### (1) Summary

Among the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for violating the Act in 2009, the number of those who were considered to have been illegally working was 26,545, accounting for 81.3% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Act. This indicates that most illegal foreign residents work illegally.

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

## (2) The Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Nationality (Place of Origin)

Illegal workers came from 86 countries (place of origin), mainly neighboring Asian countries, indicating that the trend toward increasing diversity in the nationalities of illegal foreign workers is continuing.

According to the statistics of the number by nationality (place of origin), illegal workers from China made up the largest number at 8,205, accounting for 30.9% of the total, followed by the Philippines (4,845 accounting for 18.3%), R.O. Korea (3,241 accounting for 12.2%), Indonesia (1,557 accounting for 5.9%), and Thailand (1,512 accounting for 5.7%). These top five countries represented 72.9% of the total. As a recent trend, the number of Chinese illegal workers has accounted for a large proportion. (Table 26)

Table 26: Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		45,935	45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545
	Male	26,232	24,759	20,926	19,270	16,522
	Female	19,703	21,170	16,056	13,201	10,023
	China	14,239	13,750	10,223	9,583	8,205
	Male	8,749	7,614	5,910	5,950	5,343
	Female	5,490	6,136	4,313	3,633	2,862
Philippines		7,378	7,978	7,075	6,083	4,845
	Male	2,647	2,887	2,815	2,559	2,250
	Female	4,731	5,091	4,260	3,524	2,595
	R.O. Korea	6,514	6,696	5,315	4,077	3,241
	Male	2,274	2,232	1,977	1,555	1,306
	Female	4,240	4,464	3,338	2,522	1,935
Indonesia		1,844	2,286	2,034	2,162	1,557
	Male	1,297	1,521	1,438	1,568	1,230
	Female	547	765	596	594	327
	Thailand	2,816	2,650	2,013	1,694	1,512
	Male	1,158	1,159	985	903	822
	Female	1,658	1,491	1,028	791	690
Viet Nam		900	1,189	1,318	1,473	1,152
	Male	490	630	756	887	741
	Female	410	559	562	586	411
	Sri Lanka	1,024	1,440	1,264	1,278	1,042
	Male	898	1,270	1,117	1,150	946
	Female	126	170	147	128	96
Peru		894	927	785	786	932
	Male	588	609	518	532	652
	Female	306	318	267	254	280
	Bangladesh		1,405	1,176	907	702
Male		1,328	1,114	873	670	473
	Female	77	62	34	32	17
	Nepal		590	830	610	535
Male		435	568	431	364	340
	Female	155	262	179	171	116
	Others		8,331	7,007	5,438	4,098
Male		6,368	5,155	4,106	3,132	2,419
	Female	1,963	1,852	1,332	966	694

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

## (3) The Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Gender

The numbers of male and female illegal foreign workers against whom deportation procedures were taken was 16,522 (accounting for 62.2% of the total) and 10,023 (accounting for 37.8% of the total), respectively. The percentage of males is increasing.

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

According to statistics by type of work, the largest number of illegal foreign workers were factory workers (8,220 accounting for 31.0% of the total), followed by construction workers (3,938 accounting for 14.8%),

and attendants such as bar hostesses (3,323 accounting for 12.5%).

According to statistics by gender, the largest number of males worked as factory workers, followed by construction workers and other labor workers, while the largest number of females worked as attendants such as bar hostesses, followed by factory workers, waitresses and bartenders. (Table 27)

Table 27: Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by type of work

Job Categories		Year				
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		45,935	45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545
Male		26,232	24,759	20,926	19,270	16,522
Female		19,703	21,170	16,056	13,201	10,023
Factory worker		11,786	12,986	11,572	11,366	8,220
Male		8,447	8,892	7,898	7,670	5,687
Female		3,339	4,094	3,674	3,696	2,533
Construction worker		6,378	5,425	4,458	3,831	3,938
Male		6,331	5,378	4,401	3,792	3,890
Female		47	47	57	39	48
Attendants such as bar hostess		7,319	7,701	5,809	4,452	3,323
Male		258	356	400	429	331
Female		7,061	7,345	5,409	4,023	2,992
Other labor worker		2,858	3,307	2,792	3,092	2,461
Male		2,264	2,502	2,190	2,342	1,899
Female		594	805	602	750	562
Waitress and bartender		4,091	4,008	3,073	2,149	1,487
Male		1,518	1,336	1,190	807	596
Female		2,573	2,672	1,883	1,342	891
Cook		3,199	2,692	1,924	1,445	1,388
Male		2,224	1,696	1,177	893	909
Female		975	996	747	552	479
Others		10,304	9,810	7,354	6,136	5,728
Male		5,190	4,599	3,670	3,337	3,210
Female		5,114	5,211	3,684	2,799	2,518

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

According to statistics by place of work (by prefecture), the largest number is found in Tokyo Metropolis (4,618 accounting for 17.4% of the total), followed by Aichi Prefecture (3,924 accounting for 14.8%), Kanagawa Prefecture (3,522 accounting for 13.3%), Chiba Prefecture (2,784 accounting for 10.5%) and Ibaraki Prefecture (2,448 accounting for 9.2%), which shows that illegal foreign workers are concentrated in the Tokyo Metropolitan District concentrating in the Pacific coast area from Kanto to Kinki districts. Thus, one metropolis and six prefectures (Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Ibaraki, Gunma and Tochigi) account for 66.8% of the total number of illegal foreign workers. On the other hand, the existence of illegal foreign workers is recognized in all 47 prefectures of the entire nation as shown by the fact that the central district, consisting of Aichi Prefecture, Shizuoka Prefecture and others, account for 22.9% of the total number of illegal foreign workers, and it is recognized there is a trend toward dispersion in local districts. (Table 28)

Table 28: Changes in the number of cases of illegal foreign workers by place of work

(People)

Prefecture	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		45,935	45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545
Tokyo		16,612	14,447	8,940	5,862	4,618
Aichi		3,415	4,597	4,724	4,801	3,924
Kanagawa		4,452	4,673	4,499	4,497	3,522
Chiba		3,555	3,773	3,021	2,824	2,784
Ibaraki		2,007	2,198	2,243	2,465	2,448
Saitama		4,101	3,762	3,183	2,784	2,215
Gunma		1,919	2,359	1,961	1,980	1,375
Osaka		1,632	1,677	1,548	1,439	1,060
Shizuoka		1,167	1,255	1,243	1,092	800
Tochigi		1,222	1,345	1,103	1,097	776
Others		5,853	5,843	4,517	3,630	3,023

### 3 Outline of Judgments of Violations

#### (1) Receipt and the Findings of Cases of Violation

Any foreign national who is suspect to fall under any of the reasons for deportation shall be handed over to an immigration inspector to take procedures for examination of violations after investigation by an immigration control officer. Those procedures consist of three steps: examination of violations by an immigration inspector, hearing by special inquiry officer, and decision by the Minister of Justice.

The number of cases received examination of violations in 2009 was 34,247, decreasing consecutively since 2006. (Table 29)

Table 29: Changes in the number of cases of receipt and findings of violation examinations by immigration inspectors, hearings by special inquiry officers and decisions of the Minister of Justice

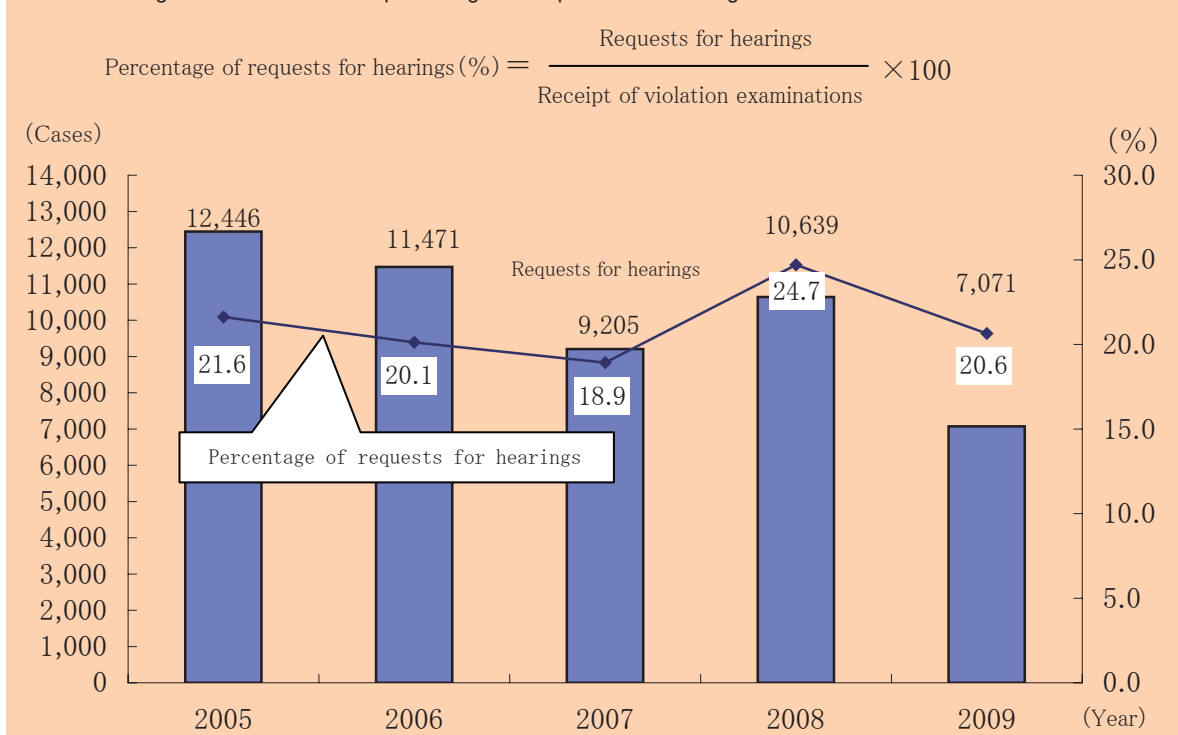
(Cases)

Division	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
Violation examination by immigration inspector	Receipt	57,569(286)	57,017(488)	48,647(2,918)	43,073(3,274)	34,247(1,234)	
	Finished	Found not to fall under one of the reasons for deportation	7	3	3	4	2
		Issuance of written deportation order	32,284	31,393	26,215	22,179	16,312
		Request for hearing	12,446	11,471	9,205	10,639	7,071
		Issuance of written departure order	12,227	11,100	9,691	8,477	9,041
	Not finished, others	605	3,050	3,533	1,774	1,821	
Hearing by special inquiry officer	Receipt	13,002(518)	12,221(711)	10,101(846)	11,247(562)	7,607(506)	
	Finished	Error in the findings	-	-	-	2	-
		Issuance of written deportation order	137	126	134	166	104
		Filing an objection	12,056	11,196	9,361	10,515	6,876
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-	-
Not finished, others	809	899	606	564	627		
Decision of the Minister of Justice	Receipt	12,533(461)	11,757(552)	10,037(639)	11,280(682)	7,456(561)	
	Finished	Objection with reason	-	3	6	3	1
		Objection without reason	11,922	11,018	9,245	10,593	6,630
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-	-
Not finished, others	611	736	786	684	825		

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

The number of requests for hearings conducted after examination of violations in 2009 was 7,071 accounting for 20.6% of the total cases received as examination of violations. (Chart 18)

Chart 18: Changes in the numbers and percentages of requests for a hearing



The number of objections, which a foreign national unsatisfied with the decision made by the special inquiry officer at the hearing may file with the Minister of Justice, decreased to 6,876 in 2009. (Table 29)

## (2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order

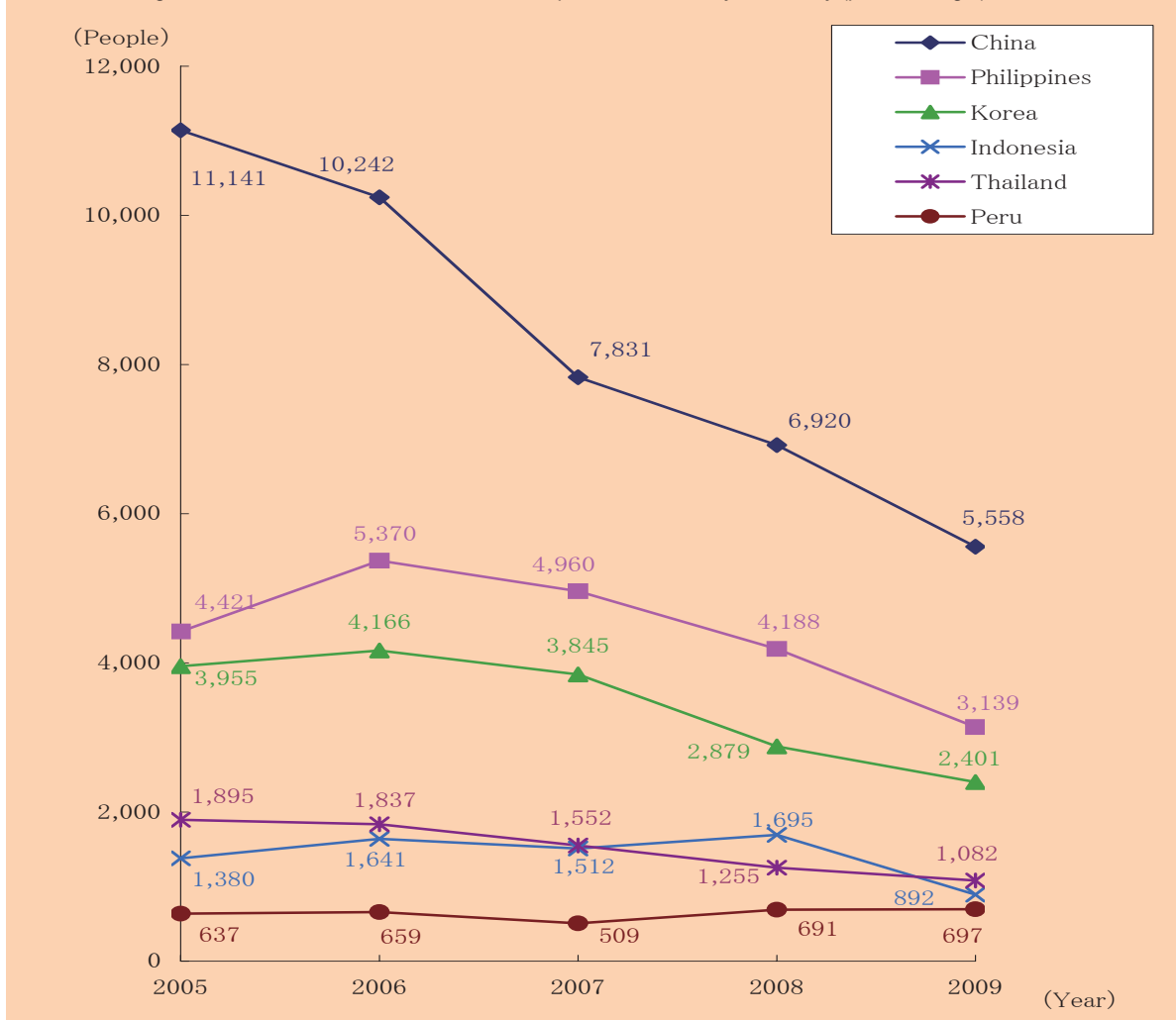
The number of written deportation orders issued in 2009 was 18,436. According to statistics by grounds for their deportation, cases of overstay numbered 12,130 and they accounted for 65.8% of the total. On the other hand, the percentage of cases of illegal entry increased to 24.3%. (Table 30)

Table 30: Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by grounds for deportation

Grounds for Deportation	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	33,520	33,202	28,225	24,442	18,436
Overstay	20,764	22,136	19,403	16,966	12,130
Illegal entry	9,427	7,880	6,188	5,125	4,473
Illegal landing	635	443	334	241	173
Activity other than those permitted	1,874	1,726	1,367	1,137	813
Criminal offenses etc.	701	831	738	805	641
Others	119	186	195	168	206

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin) in 2009, the largest number of foreign nationals who were issued written deportation orders came from China (5,558 accounting for 30.1%), followed by the Philippines (3,139 accounting for 17.0%), and North and South Korea (2,401 accounting for 13.0%). (Chart 19)

Chart 19: Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by nationality (place of origin)



### (3) Provisional Release

In 2009, the number of foreign nationals detained under written detention orders who were accorded provisional release increased by 347 compared with a year earlier, reaching 2,265. On the other hand, the number of foreign nationals detained under written deportation orders who were accorded provisional release increased by 18 compared with a year earlier, reaching 837. (Table 31)

Table 31: Changes in the number of cases of provisional release permission

(Cases)

Kind of Order \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
By written detention order	1,457	3,658	3,883	1,918	2,265
By written deportation order	769	671	938	819	837

### (4) Special Permission to Stay

The number of foreign nationals who received special permission to stay from the Minister of Justice was 4,643 in 2009, a decrease by 3,879 from 2008. One of reasons for the decrease is that those who became subject to the procedures for deportation decreased from 2008 (a decrease by 6,721 persons) as the number of overstayers has been decreasing year by year.

Most of the foreign nationals who received special permission to stay had established close relationships



such as marriage with Japanese nationals and had, in fact, settled down in Japan in many respects.

Among the number of the special permission to stay by reasons of deportation, the largest number in 2009 was overstay (3,508). The percentage of overstay was on a decreasing trend, and it decreased to 75.6% in 2009. On the other hand, the percentage of illegal entry and illegal landing was 19.3%, which remained roughly flat. (Table 32)

Table 32: Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay by grounds for deportation

Grounds for Deportation	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	10,834	9,360	7,388	8,522	4,643
Overstay	8,483	7,096	5,586	6,521	3,508
Illegal entry / Illegal landing	2,077	1,915	1,457	1,640	897
Criminal offenses etc.	274	349	345	361	238

(Cases)

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin) in 2009, the largest number of foreign nationals who were granted special permission to stay came from China (857 accounting for 18.5%), followed by North and South Korea (663 accounting for 14.3%). (Table 33)

Table 33: Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay by nationality (place of origin)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	10,834	9,360	7,388	8,522	4,643
China	2,211	1,827	1,304	1,669	857
Korea	1,807	1,523	1,106	1,416	663
Others	6,816	6,010	4,978	5,437	3,123

(Cases)

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

## 4 Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals

The number of foreign nationals deported decreased by 5,690 (23.8%) from 2008 to 18,241 in 2009.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from China (5,475 accounting for 30.0% of the total), followed by the Philippines (3,194 accounting for 17.5%), R.O. Korea (2,423 accounting for 13.3%), Thailand (1,113 accounting for 6.1%), and Indonesia (885 accounting for 4.9%). (Table 34)

Table 34: Changes in the number of deportees by nationality (place of origin)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year				
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	33,192	33,018	27,913	23,931	18,241
China	11,209	10,251	7,516	6,805	5,475
Philippines	4,961	5,453	5,128	4,385	3,194
R.O. Korea	3,962	4,193	3,798	2,873	2,423
Thailand	1,930	1,845	1,553	1,260	1,113
Indonesia	1,241	1,672	1,452	1,596	885
Viet Nam	564	864	1,018	1,023	709
Sri Lanka	821	1,139	1,090	1,046	684
Peru	542	655	518	495	674
Bangladesh	1,271	1,076	847	627	380
Brazil	219	217	307	268	307
Others	6,472	5,653	4,686	3,553	2,397

(People)

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

According to statistics by means of deportation, 96.3% of foreign nationals who had been issued a deportation order were deported at their own expense (“voluntary departure”), making up the vast majority. On the other hand, the number of foreign nationals who need to be individually deported at national expense has been increasing, and the number of foreign nationals individually deported at national expense was 438 in 2009. (Table 35)



Deportation

Table 35: Changes in the number of deportees by means of deportation

Measure of Deportation	Year	(People)				
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		33,192	33,018	27,913	23,931	18,241
Voluntary departure		31,811	31,911	26,818	23,093	17,569
Deportation in accordance with Article 59		1,177	852	690	407	200
Deportation individually at the expense of the government		192	239	361	383	438
Deportation in group at the expense of the government		-	-	-	-	-
Others		-	-	-	-	-
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons		12	16	44	48	34

(\*1) Deportation in groups at the expense of the government includes cases where both the Japanese government and the deportee's homeland government bore the expenses.

(\*2) "Others" are cases of deportation at the expense of the government of each deportees.

## (1) Deportation at the Expense of the Government

As foreign nationals violating the Act stay longer and have more diverse lifestyles, an increasing number of foreign nationals who have been issued with a deportation order suffer from illness, refuse deportation for various reasons, or remain in detention for a long period of time because they cannot afford travel expenses. Of these foreign nationals, the number of those deported at national expense in consideration of individual circumstances increased by 55 (14.4%) from 383 in 2008 to 438 in 2009.

In addition, Chinese illegal immigrants detected at the border as collective stowaways were deported as a group in the past. However, collective deportation has not been conducted since 2004 due to a significant decrease in the number of collective stowaways detected.

## (2) Deportation at the Expense of the Foreign National (Voluntary Departure)

Deportees who were deported at their own expense decreased by 5,524 (23.9%) from 2008 to 17,569 in 2009.

Although around 95% of the deported foreign nationals are deported at their own expense every year, many do not fulfill requirements for deportation. For example, they do not possess a passport, an airplane ticket, or enough money for travel costs, causing the process to take a considerable amount of time.

In order to deport such nationals as quickly as possible, the Immigration Bureau not only carries out deportation procedures but also instructs the foreign nationals to make contact with relevant people in Japan or in their home countries in order to obtain an airplane ticket or money for travel costs. In cases where a foreign national does not possess a passport, the Immigration Bureau makes an application for the early issue of a passport to the relevant foreign mission in Japan. (Table 36)

Table 36: Changes in the number of deportees by voluntary departure by nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	31,811	31,911	26,818	23,093	17,569
China	10,621	9,831	7,274	6,686	5,390
Philippines	4,810	5,340	4,988	4,242	3,096
R.O. Korea	3,912	4,155	3,763	2,836	2,402
Thailand	1,865	1,766	1,503	1,214	1,084
Indonesia	1,224	1,663	1,438	1,549	878
Viet Nam	558	861	1,011	1,008	695
Sri Lanka	766	1,089	1,021	986	667
Peru	520	629	482	460	617
Bangladesh	1,258	1,068	831	610	368
Brazil	191	186	252	225	231
Others	6,086	5,323	4,255	3,277	2,141

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

### (3) Deportation at the Expense of and under the Responsibility of Carriers

Any carrier that transported a foreign national who is issued with a deportation order must send him/her back at their own expense and under their own responsibility (the deportation specified in Article 59 of the Immigration Control Act) under certain conditions.\* The number of foreign nationals deported in this way in 2009 was 200, having decreased by 207 (50.9%) from 2008. (Table 35)

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

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

## 5 Departure Orders

### (1) Outline

The departure order system was newly established by the amendment of the Immigration Control Act of 2004 for the purpose of encouraging illegal foreign residents to appear at immigration offices voluntarily. It entered into force on December 2 of the same year. Under the system, if an overstayer who appears at an immigration office voluntarily satisfies certain requirements, he/she may depart from Japan without being detained in accordance with simple procedures. The landing denial period for overstayers who are deported in accordance with deportation procedures is five years, while the landing denial period for those who depart from Japan under a departure order is shortened to one year.

### (2) Investigation of Violations

The number of foreign nationals who were handed over from immigration control officers to immigration inspectors through the departure order procedures was 8,958 in 2009, accounting for 27.4% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Immigration Control Act.

## A. The Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Nationality (Place of Origin)

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from China (3,153 accounting for 35.2% of the total), followed by the Philippines (1,322 accounting for 14.8%), R.O. Korea (880 accounting for 9.8%), Indonesia (701 accounting for 7.8%), and Viet Nam (596 accounting for 6.7%), and these top five countries account for 74.3% of the total. (Table 37)

Table 37: Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality (place of origin) (2009) (People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Total	24-(ii)-3	24-(iv)-(b)	24-(vi)	24-(vi)-2	24-(vii)
Total	8,958	0	8,480	191	1	286
China	3,153	0	3,107	39	0	7
Philippines	1,322	0	1,169	40	1	112
R.O. Korea	880	0	854	5	0	21
Indonesia	701	0	640	50	0	11
Viet Nam	596	0	577	0	0	19
Peru	367	0	318	0	0	49
Sri Lanka	324	0	312	4	0	8
Thailand	284	0	249	24	0	11
Nepal	201	0	193	3	0	5
Malaysia	138	0	138	0	0	0
Others	992	0	923	26	0	43

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

## B. The Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Applied Articles

According to statistics by applied articles, the number of suspects violating Article 24, (4) (b) of the Immigration Control Act was the largest at 8,480, accounting for 94.7% of the total. This was followed by 286 suspects violating Article 24, (7) of said Act, and 191 suspects violating Article 24, (6) of said Act.

### (3) Examination

#### A. Receipt and Findings of Cases

The number of cases of departure orders received in 2009 increased to 8,958, accounting for 27.4% of the total number of violations received. As those subject to a departure order and wishing to depart from Japan voluntarily appear at a regional immigration bureau, they are promptly processed after being handed over by immigration control officers.

#### B. Issuance of a Written Departure Order

The number of foreign nationals who were recognized as subject to a departure order and to whom a written departure order was issued, was 9,041 in 2009.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from China (3,200 accounting for 35.4% of the total), followed by the Philippines (1,329 accounting for 14.7%), and North and South Koreas (885 accounting for 10.0%), and the top five countries account for 74.4% of the total. (Table 38)

Table 38: Changes in the number of issuance of written departure orders by nationality (place of origin)

(Cases)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		12,227	11,100	9,691	8,477	9,041
China		3,777	3,516	3,153	3,136	3,200
Philippines		1,742	1,582	1,486	1,141	1,329
Korea		2,206	1,992	1,616	1,142	885
Indonesia		670	701	623	590	707
Viet Nam		304	343	359	472	603
Peru		254	250	239	212	367
Sri Lanka		295	349	312	238	327
Thailand		507	429	313	222	288
Nepal		165	212	133	131	200
Malaysia		324	214	196	123	139
Others		1,983	1,512	1,261	1,070	996

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

#### (4) Confirmation of Departure

Foreign nationals who are recognized as subject to a departure order are required, similarly to foreign nationals departing within the period of stay, to submit one copy of an embarkation/disembarkation card (hereinafter referred to as "ED card") to the immigration inspector to receive a seal of departure, and to submit their own written departure order.

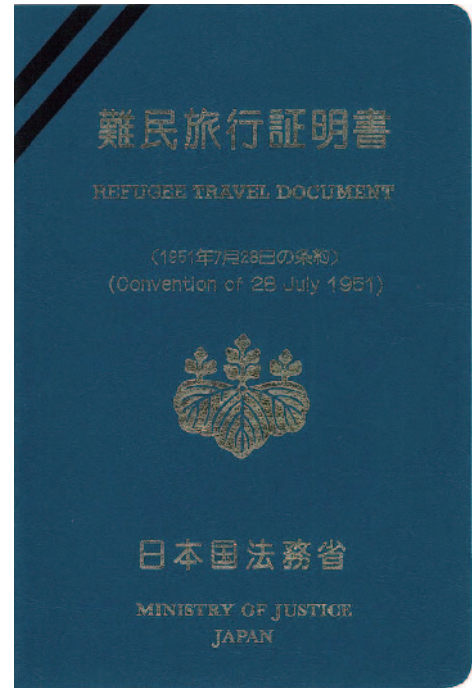
## Chapter 3

# Recognition of Refugee Status

Due to the recognition that it is important for Japan to fulfill its obligations in the international community by accepting refugees, Japan became a signatory to the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1981 (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”) and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1982 (hereinafter referred to as the “Protocol”), and as a result, also established a system for recognition of refugee status (Note). In recent years, however, the number of foreign nationals seeking refugee status from Japan has been increasing, as the world is rapidly changing due to regional conflicts occurring around the world and the instability of a number of countries. Today, Japanese people pay more attention to refugee-related issues than before.

In light of these circumstances, Japan intends to review the refugee recognition system from the perspective of proper and prompt protection of refugees through fairer procedures. The revised Immigration Control Act was enforced on May 16, 2005, which included establishment of the system for permitting provisional stay and the refugee examination counselors system. The Act has been in force since May 16, 2005.

The Immigration Bureau has further improved and strengthened its organizational structure and investigation system, as well as properly implementing the new refugee recognition system, in order to handle applications for refugee status quickly and appropriately.



Refugee Travel Document

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(Note) Japan became a signatory to the Convention on October 3, 1981 and to the Protocol on January 1, 1982. The Convention and the Protocol came into effect in Japan on January 1, 1982.

## Section 1 ◆ Application for Refugee Status and Findings

### 1 Application for Refugee Status

The total number of those who applied for recognition of refugee status in 2009 was 1,388, a decrease by 211 from 2008, though it remained at previous year’s high level. (Table 39)

Table 39: Changes in the number of refugee applicants

		(Cases)				
Year		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Division	Applied	384	954	816	1,599	1,388

The number of nationalities of applicants was 47, and the country from which the largest number of applicants came was Myanmar (568 persons), followed by Sri Lanka (234 persons), Turkey (94 persons), Pakistan (92 persons), and India (59 persons).

Applicants consisted of 521 legal residents (37.5%) and 867 illegal residents (62.5%) at the time of submitting their applications. Those illegal residents consisted of those who appeared at an immigration office voluntarily to submit their application, standing at 317 persons (36.6%) and those who applied after a detention order or deportation order was issued, standing at 550 persons (63.4%).

About 20% of the total applicants, standing at 324 persons, had applied for recognition of refugee status in the past.

## 2 Findings of Applications for Refugee Status

The total number of those whose application for recognition of refugee status was processed in 2009 was 1,848, an increase by 930 (almost 100%) from the previous year. The number of applicants who were recognized as refugees was 22, while the number of applicants who were not recognized was 1,703. The number of those who withdrew their applications and others was 123. (Table 40)

Table 40: Changes in the number of refugee findings

		(Cases)				
Year		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Division	Findings	312	459	544	918	1,848

Further, the immigration administration should be allowed to make exceptional arrangements within its authority for applicants who have special extenuating circumstances, even if they have not been recognized as refugees who fall under the definitions of refugees specified in the Convention and the Protocol. For example, if an applicant, who is denied recognition of refugee status, is unable to return to his/her home country due to situational problems in his/her country or has some other special reason requiring that he/she stay in Japan, special arrangements may be made flexibly on a case-by-case basis, taking the situation into consideration within the Japanese immigration control framework. In 2009, 501 applicants were allowed to stay in Japan, which was the largest number in the past. (Table 41)

Table 41: Changes in the number of protected refugees

		(Cases)				
Year		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Division	Recognized as a refugee	46	34	41	57	30
	Humanitarian permission to stay	97	53	88	360	501
	Total	143	87	129	417	531

(\*) The number of recognized persons includes those who were rejected to be recognized as refugees, but were recognized as the result of filing of an objection.

### 3 Implementation of the System for Permitting Provisional Stay

The number of those who were granted permission for provisional stay\* was 72, increased by 15 from the previous year.

The number of those who were examined whether to be granted permission for provisional stay was 1,028. Major reasons for decisions not to grant permission are as follows\*\*:

- Applicants applied for recognition of refugee status after six months from the date of landing in Japan (in the case of those for whom grounds for being a refugee have arisen during their stay in Japan, the date such fact became known to them): 796 persons
- Applicants had received a deportation order in the past: 476 persons

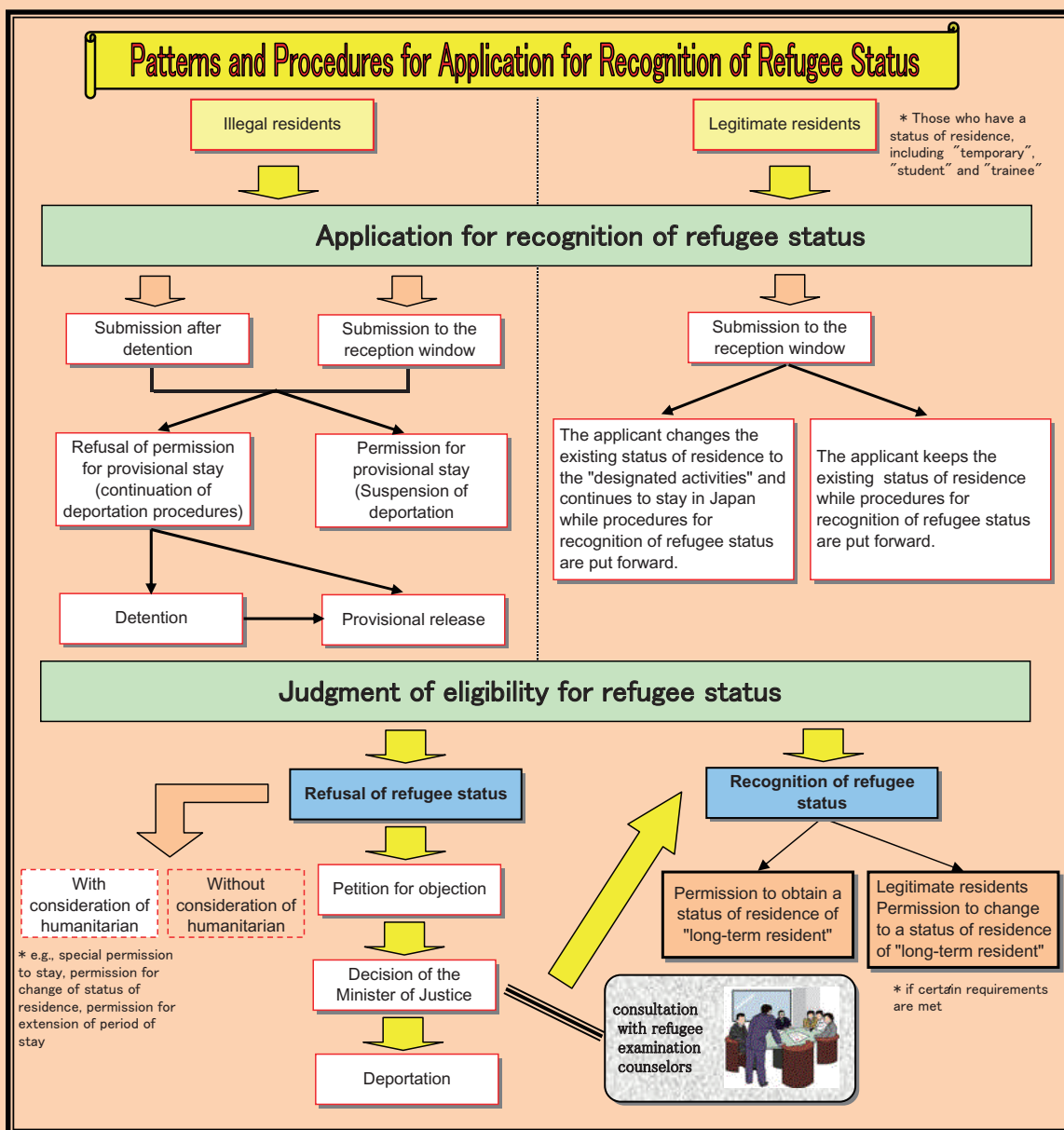
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\* (Note 1): “Permission for provisional stay” aims to ensure that the legal status of illegal residents who are taking application procedures for recognition of refugee status is stabilized promptly. This system aims to give permission for permission for provisional stay in Japan to foreign nationals who do not have any status of residence, including those illegal residents, if they apply for recognition of refugee status, except those who fall under the requirements specified in Paragraph 1, Article 61-2-4 of the Immigration Control Act.

\*\* (Note 2): If one applicant falls under several reasons for refusal of permission, all reasons are included.



Chart 20: Patterns and procedures for application for recognition of refugee status



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.

## Section 2 ◆ Filing of Objections

### 1 Filing of Objections

The total number of objections filed by applicants who were denied refugee status was 4,149 during the period from 1982, the year in which the refugee recognition system was established, through to the end of 2009.

Looking at the change from 2005 to 2009, the number of filings of objections has consistently been increasing

since 2005, and it was 1,156 in 2009, increased by 2.7 times compared to the previous year. (Table 42)

Table 42: Changes in the number of filings of objections and decisions of the Minister of Justice

Division		Year							Total
		1982~2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
Not recognized as a refugee		2,230	294	249	389	446	791	1,703	6,102
Filing of objection		1,470	209	183	340	362	429	1,156	4,149
Decision	With reason	11	6	15	12	4	17	8	73
	Without reason	1,108	155	162	127	183	300	230	2,265
	Withdrawn	254	23	18	33	34	34	70	466

(\*) As the procedure of "filing of an objection" was established by the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, as amended, that was implemented on May 16, 2005, the application of objection made prior to the implementation of said Act was deemed to be replaced by "filing of an objection" after the implementation.

## 2 Finding of Objections

Among the objections filed by applicants who failed to obtain refugee status, 2,804 of them were handled during the period from 1982 through to the end of 2009. According to the statistics, 73 objections were considered to be with reasonable grounds and the applicants were granted refugee status. However, 2,265 objections were found to be without reasonable grounds and the remaining 466 objections were terminated for reasons such as the departure of or withdrawal by the foreign national who had filed the objection.

Looking at the change from 2005 until 2009, the number of objections that were considered to be with reasonable grounds decreased in 2005 (15), in 2006 (12), and in 2007 (4). It increased in 2008 (17), but decreased again in 2009 (8).

Those that were considered to be without reasonable grounds decreased in 2004 (155), in 2005 (162) and in 2006 (127). This number was 183 in 2007 and turned into a significant increase of 300 in 2008. However, it decreased again in 2009 (230). (Table 42)

## Section 3 ◆ Purpose of the Refugee Examination Counselors System and its Implementation

The Refugee Examination Counselors System was started in May 2005 in order to ensure the equity and neutrality of objection filing procedures. This procedure made it mandatory for the Minister of Justice to hear the opinions of refugee examination counselors when making decisions on objections filed against denial of refugee status.

The Act provides that refugee examination counselors shall be appointed from among persons of reputable character who are capable of making fair judgments on the objection filed in connection with denial of refugee status and who have an academic background in law or current international affairs. They are appointed by the Minister of Justice on recommendations from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (hereinafter referred to as "UNHCR"), Japan Federation of Bar Association, Refugee Assistance Headquarters, etc.

The Act provides that the Minister of Justice must hear the opinions of refugee examination counselors on all the cases in which an objection has been filed. Prior to this process, a process of oral statement of opinions by a petitioner, etc. in which a petitioner, etc. states his/her opinions, or a process of questions in which a refugee inquirer or a refugee examination counselor questions the petitioner, is implemented.

In 2009, the number of oral statements of opinion and processes of questions was 317.

After the oral statement of opinions and the process of questions, refugee examination counselors exchange opinions with the other refugee examination counselors, then draw up a written opinion and submit it to the Minister of Justice.

Cases in which written opinions were presented by refugee examination counselors numbered 331 in 2009.

There have been no cases in which the Minister of Justice has made a disposition not in conformity with the opinions of the refugee examination counselors (should they differ in opinion, then the opinions of the majority of the counselors prevail).

## Section 4 ◆ Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

Landing permission for temporary refuge is granted by the immigration inspector under the prescribed procedures when it is considered that foreign nationals on board a ship, etc. may possibly fall under the category of refugees, and that it is reasonable to permit them to land temporarily.

Looking at applications made by persons other than boat people, 89 applications were made in the past five years (from 2005 until 2009), and 4 applications were granted such permission.

**Chapter 4****Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons and Proper Protection of Foreign DV Victims****Section 1 ◆ Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons****1 Number of Victims of Trafficking in Persons and their Cases in 2009**

Trafficking in persons is a grave abuse of human rights and a prompt and accurate response is called for from a humane perspective. This is because trafficking in persons causes serious spiritual and bodily pain to its victims, particularly to women and children, and the damage it causes is difficult to repair. The authorities concerned address this issue through the “Japan’s Action Plan of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” decided in the Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons in December 2004.

The number of foreign nationals who took procedures for protection as victims of trafficking in persons (including support for returning their home countries) was 20 (all of them were female) in 2009. According to nationality, the Philippines had 10 (6 in the previous year), followed by Thailand with 8 victims (18 in the previous year), China with 1 (none in the previous year), and China (Hong Kong) with 1 (none in the previous year).

Of the 20 victims, 9 (11 in the previous year) were legal residents and 11 were those who had violated the Immigration Control Act such as overstayers (17 in the previous year). Special permission to stay was issued to all the victims who had violated the Immigration Control Act. (Table 43)

The number of victims has consistently been decreasing since 2005, when the Immigration Bureau started the survey. It is considered that the reason for such a decrease is due to the fact that the Government as a whole is taking countermeasures against trafficking in persons based on the “Action Plan for Countermeasures against Trafficking in Persons” which was decided in December 2004, and that countermeasures for preventing trafficking in persons, including implementation of strict landing examination, has achieved a certain effect. (Table 44)

On the other hand, as a trend in recent years, there have been few typical cases in which those committing human trafficking forcibly keep the passports of victims or victims are placed under restraint. Rather, there have been an increasing number of cases in which victims are controlled under a sophisticated and malicious system to prevent them from escaping or notifying, to place them under mental pressure before they realize that they are victims, or to help them enter Japan with a status of residence that allows to engage in work by arranging a fake marriage, etc. It is considered that suffering from human trafficking has become more difficult to uncover because the ways that those committing human trafficking use have become diverse. Therefore, the Immigration Bureau plans to strengthen countermeasures against human trafficking based on the “Japan’s 2009 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons” formulated in December 2009 and make efforts to investigate the real situation in the days ahead.

Table 43: Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2009)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Recognized as a victim of trafficking in persons		Total
	Legal resident	Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special Permission to Stay in Japan)	
Philippines	6	4 (4)	10
Thailand	2	6 (6)	8
China	0	1 (1)	1
China (Hong Kong)	1	0 (0)	1
Total	9	11 (11)	20

(\*1) "China" does not include Taiwan, Hong Kong or others.

(\*2) The status of residence of 9 legitimate residents consists of 6 persons who are "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", 3 persons who are "Temporary Visitor".

The manner of violation of 11 persons with special permission to stay in Japan consists of 7 persons who made Illegal Entry, and 4 persons with Overstay (Overstay from "Temporary Visitor").

Table 44: Changes in the number of victims of trafficking in persons

(People)

Breakdown	Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total		115	47	40	28	20
Legal resident		68	20	27	11	9
Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special permission to stay in Japan)		47 (47)	27 (27)	13 (13)	17 (17)	11 (11)

## 2 Number of Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons During 2009

Persons who were deported as those committing trafficking in persons in 2009 were all female, standing at 6 (9 in the previous year), and their countries of origin were Thailand (3) and China (Taiwan) (3).

Countries of origin of those who were deported were Indonesia (3), Thailand (2), China (Taiwan) (2), China (1) and R.O.Korea (1) in 2008.

(Note) By the amendment to the Immigration Control Act in 2005, a "person who committed, suggested or assisted trafficking in persons" was made a subject of deportation (Article 24, item (4), (c)).

## Section 2 ◆ Proper Protection of Foreign DV Victims

### 1 Outline

Violence by a spouse (DV) is a serious infringement against human rights that include an act that may constitute a crime. Similarly to cases of trafficking in persons, a prompt and accurate response is required from a humanitarian point of view.

The Immigration Bureau considers that DV is a serious infringement against human rights and responds to foreign nationals who are DV victims properly by ensuring their physical protection through coordination with concerned agencies, by, if application for extension of the period of stay or for change of status of residence is made by victims, permitting such applications or by, if they are overstaying on account of DV, giving special permission of residence.

Also, based on the act of partial amendment to the "Act for Prevention of Violence from Spouse and Protection of Victims" that was enforced in January 2008 and the "Basic Policy concerning Measures for Violence from Spouse and Protection of Victims" that was prepared in line with the enforcement of said Act, a manual for

specifying treatment, etc., in case of recognizing foreign nationals suffering from DV was prepared to promote further protection of victims and distributed to regional immigration bureaus, and notification was made to the effect that bureaus should make a prompt report if they recognized a case of DV.

## 2 Number of Recognized Foreign DV Victims in 2009

The Immigration Bureau puts an emphasis on the protection of victims and treats them properly from a humanitarian point of view by ensuring coordination with concerned agencies, and, in the process of residence examination or deportation procedure, by giving due and careful consideration to the will and position of the victims and by considering individual circumstances. The number of foreign DV victims who were recognized in the process of application for extension of period of stay or deportation procedure during 2009 was 67. Among them, 51 persons were granted permission for extension of period of stay, change of status of residence, or permanent residence, 6 persons were granted special permission for stay due to violation of the Immigration Control Act, 5 persons were in the process of other applications, and 5 persons only asked for advice. (Table 45)

Table 45: Number of recognized foreign DV victims (2009)

(People)

Nationality	Division	Permission for extension of period of stay and so forth	Deportation Procedures	Consult	Total
Philippines		32	8	2	42
China		6		2	8
Indonesia		3			3
Thailand		2			2
R.O. Korea		2			2
Brazil		2			2
Peru			1	1	2
Cote d'Ivoire		1			1
Laos		1			1
Colombia			1		1
Bolivia		1			1
New Zealand		1			1
Lithuania		1			1
Total		52	10	5	67

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

## Chapter 5

## Alien Registration Process

### Section 1 ◆ Initial Registration and Closing of Registration

Alien registration starts with the registration application (initial registration) made by each foreign national who enters Japan or was born in Japan and ends with the termination of the alien registration card (hereinafter referred to as “registration card”) (Note) due to the foreign national’s departure from Japan, death or other circumstances warranting termination of residence in Japan.

Looking at the percentage of reasons for the number of cases for initial registration, the number of entries is 258,492 (accounting for 95.4% of the total), followed by birth (4.5%), renunciation or loss of Japanese nationality (0.03%). (Table 46)

Table 46: Changes in the number of initial registration and closed registration by division

(Cases)

Division		Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Initial registration	Total		331,661	364,868	376,272	377,510	336,684	337,684	324,775	271,013
	Entry		319,155	352,983	364,068	365,725	324,259	324,330	310,755	258,492
	Birth		11,809	11,177	11,464	11,122	11,844	12,902	13,524	12,127
	Renunciation or loss of Japanese nationality		76	60	111	74	98	89	75	77
	Others		621	648	629	589	483	363	421	317
Closed registration	Total		271,204	286,370	317,334	302,685	312,655	263,495	262,999	305,575
	Departure		250,055	261,259	292,474	279,919	290,352	240,680	241,936	282,083
	Acquisition of Japanese nationality		14,793	18,566	17,728	16,053	15,376	15,634	13,909	16,266
	Death		5,623	5,712	5,742	6,039	5,938	6,168	6,115	6,188
	Others		733	833	1,390	674	989	1,013	1,039	1,038

The total number of cases of termination of registration card increased to 305,575 by 42,576 in 2009 from 262,999 in 2008.

Looking at the percentage for the number of cases of termination of registration card in 2009, the number of departures is 282,083 (accounting for 92.3% of the total), followed by acquiring Japanese nationality (5.3%) and death (2.0%).

(Note) The alien registration card is an original register under the Alien Registration Act that states the residence and status of foreign nationals residing in Japan.

### Section 2 ◆ Registration of Changes in Registered Matters

Some matters registered in the registration card change as foreign residents change their address, status of

residence, period of stay or occupation after the initial registration. In order to ensure the registration card and the alien registration certificate reflect up-to-date facts, any foreign national who undergoes a change in any of the registered matters is obliged to submit an application for registration of the change within the prescribed period of time.

In addition, in cases where the description in the registration card is no longer accurate due to the abolishment, establishment, separation or unification of municipalities or prefectures, or change of boundaries or names thereof, the heads of municipalities shall register the relevant changes ex officio.

In 2009, the total number of applications for registration of changes was 2,279,971, representing an increase. The number of applications made for changes other than address changes has been increasing since 2001, but decreased to 1,748,038 in 2009.

On the other hand, the total number of registrations of address changes and registrations of changes due to the abolition, establishment, separation or unification of municipalities was about 519,887 in 2008, however, the number in 2009 increased to 531,933. (Table 47)

Table 47: Changes in the number of registration of changes in registered matters

Year	Division	Changes in place of residence	Changes other than place of residence	Total
1960		174,637	100,834	275,471
1965		154,922	198,419	353,341
1970		148,578	266,792	415,370
1975		137,195	346,942	484,137
1980		164,026	374,366	538,392
1985		141,276	445,040	586,316
1990		216,713	883,814	1,100,527
1995		317,807	980,901	1,298,708
2001		411,405	1,090,251	1,501,656



Alien registration certificate

(Cases)

Year	Division	Changes in place of residence	Changes other than place of residence	Total
2002		411,268	1,208,054	1,619,322
2003		453,489	1,347,221	1,800,710
2004		480,309	1,426,824	1,907,133
2005		569,793	1,448,000	2,017,793
2006		566,549	1,612,858	2,179,407
2007		572,062	1,734,259	2,306,321
2008		519,887	1,750,955	2,270,842
2009		531,933	1,748,038	2,279,971

(\*1) Calculations were for each fiscal year until 1995, but for each calendar year from 2000.

(\*2) The number of registrations of "Changes in place of residence" includes registrations of changes due to the abolishment, establishment, separation or unification of municipalities.

### Section 3 ◆ Issuance of Registration Certificate for Renewal (confirmation of registered matters)

For the purpose of maintaining the accuracy of registration after the initial registration, registered foreign nationals are obligated, for each prescribed period, to apply for "confirmation" on whether the statement on the registration card conforms with facts to the heads of municipalities. If they receive prescribed confirmation, by the head of the municipality in question, a new registration certificate is issued.

Further, it is specified in the amendment to the Alien Registration Act in 1980 that confirmation of registration must also be made in the procedure of exchange issuance when the registration certificate is noticeably damaged or spoiled, and in the procedure of re-issuance when the registration certificate is lost by loss, theft or destruction.



In the amendment to the said Act in 1987, it is specified that the period of application for confirmation, which was every five years, must be made on each fifth birthday, and it is specified in the amendment to said Act in 1999 that, if the foreign national in question is a permanent resident or special permanent resident, confirmation must be made on each seventh birthday.

The number of applications for confirmation of registered matters (re-issuance) in 2009 was 227,385, slightly decreased from the previous year. (Table 48)

Table 48: Changes in the number of confirmation of registered matters

Division		Confirmation of registered matters		Division		Confirmation of registered matters		(Cases)	
Year		Year		Year		Year		Year	
1965※	485,439	1985※	485,439	2002	338,522	2006	200,793		
1970	77,341	1990	77,341	2003	337,760	2007	274,369		
1975	117,087	1995	117,087	2004	260,014	2008	230,384		
1980※	422,568	2001	422,568	2005	220,069	2009	227,385		

(\*1) 「※」 is renewal fiscal year of registration certificate.

(\*2) Calculations were for each fiscal year until 1995, but for each calendar year from 2000.

## Section 4 ◆ Local Autonomous Body and Alien Registration

Registration records collected for clarifying residency and status of foreign nationals residing in Japan are widely used not only in various administrative areas of the Government including immigration control of foreign nationals, but also in local municipal bodies, that is to say, in resident administration by municipalities or their closely related administrative areas. In this sense, it can be said that it is inseparable from the function of municipalities.

Also, resident foreign nationals or their agents, and Government agencies, need the material to certify or grasp residency and status of the foreign national in question in an official or private capacity. Based on application from such foreign nationals, etc., the heads of municipalities issue, as administrative certification services, a copy of the alien registration card or a certificate of registered matters, and the number of such issuances in 2009 was 1,629,586.

Further, as alien registration services need to be implemented in a uniform manner across the nation, the Immigration Bureau holds central seminars for staff of municipalities engaging in alien registration to provide them with information on alien registration laws and regulations, and ensure proper and efficient operation of alien registration business. The Bureau also dispatches its staff to seminars implemented by each prefecture as lecturers to fully disseminate proper treatment and the new system of residence management (See the Chapter 2 “Efforts for Smooth Introduction of the New System of Residence Management” in the Part 2.).