

◆ Part 1 ◆

Immigration Control in Recent Years

Chapter 1 Foreign Nationals Entering and Residing in Japan

Section 1 ◆ Foreign Nationals Entering and Leaving Japan

❶ Changes in the Number of Foreign Nationals Entering and Leaving Japan

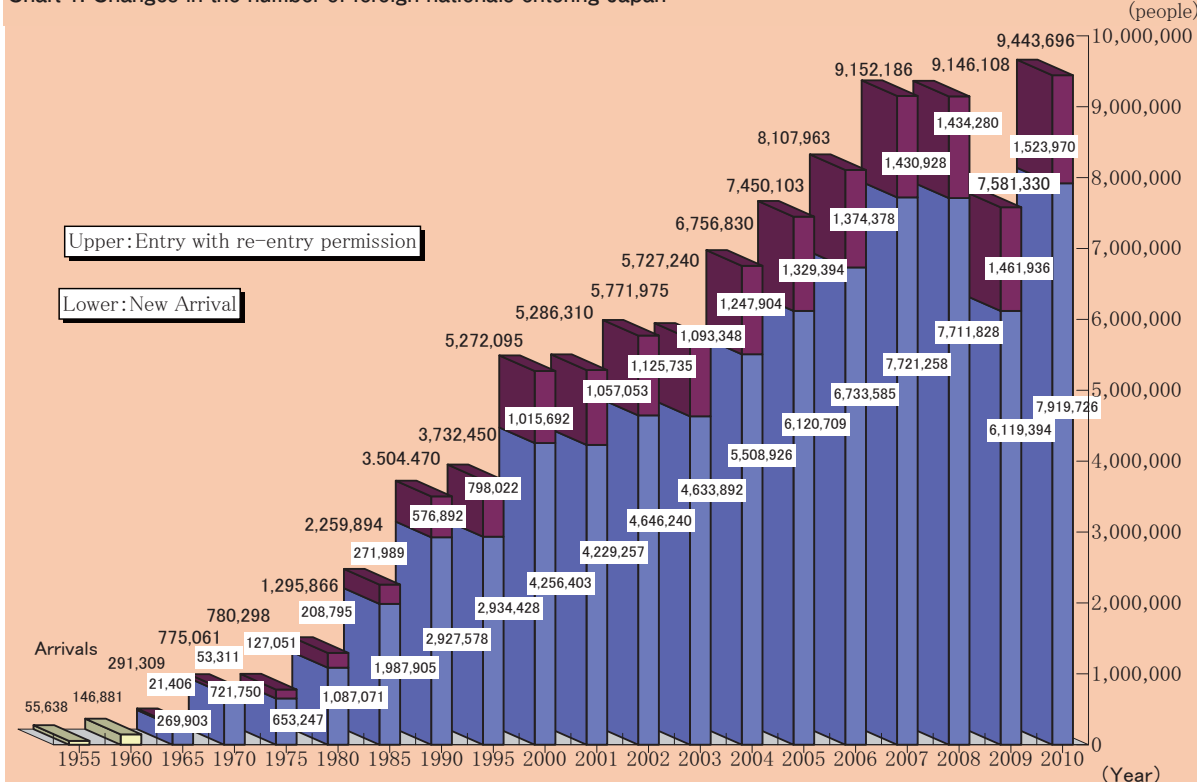
(1) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

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 a result of the enforcement of the “Peace Treaty with Japan” (Treaty No. 5 of 1952) on April 28, 1952, Japan recorded 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 inexpensive 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. In 2010, it was 9,443,696, an increase of 1,862,366 (24.6%) from 7,581,330 in 2009, to the highest number to date.

Among 9,443,696 foreign nationals entering Japan in 2010, the number of “new entries” was 7,919,726, an increase of 1,800,332 (29.4%) from 6,119,394 in 2009, and the number of “re-entries”

Chart 1: Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan



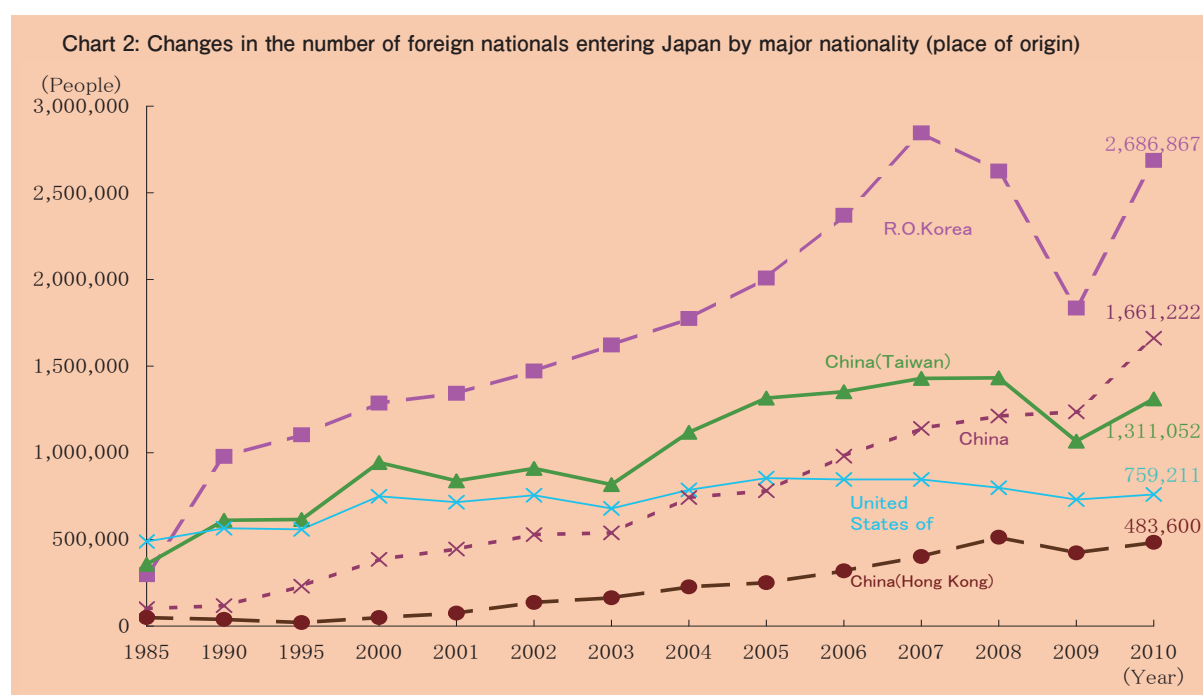
(*) There are no separate categories for arrivals in 1955 and 1960.

was 1,523,970, an increase of 62,034 (4.2%) from 1,461,936 in 2009.

The primary factor as to why the number of foreign nationals entering Japan and new entrants is significantly up is considered to be, in addition to the economic recovery in Asia, the easing of regulations for issuing visas to Chinese citizens to help increase tourists from that country. (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 2010, by nationality (place of origin) show that the largest number of foreign nationals came from the Republic of Korea (R.O. Korea). 2,686,867 South Koreans entered Japan, accounting for 28.5% 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 Thailand*. 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 59.9% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan. The top five countries (regions) accounted for 73.1% of the total. Among them, R.O. Korea surpassed the US in 1988 to become the top country 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". This is one of the various measures to increase the exchange



*(Note) In the 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".

of persons between the two countries, and is 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 sightseeing trips to Japan due to the easing of regulations for issuing visas, and China remained in second place from the preceding year. **(Chart 2)**

According to a comparison between the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2009 and 2010 by nationality (place of origin) of the top five countries, visitors from R.O. Korea increased by 851,490 (46.4%), followed by China, which increased by 424,972 (34.4%), China (Taiwan), which increased by 243,918 (22.9%), the US, which increased by 29,508 (4.0%), and China (Hong Kong), which increased by 61,113 (14.5%).

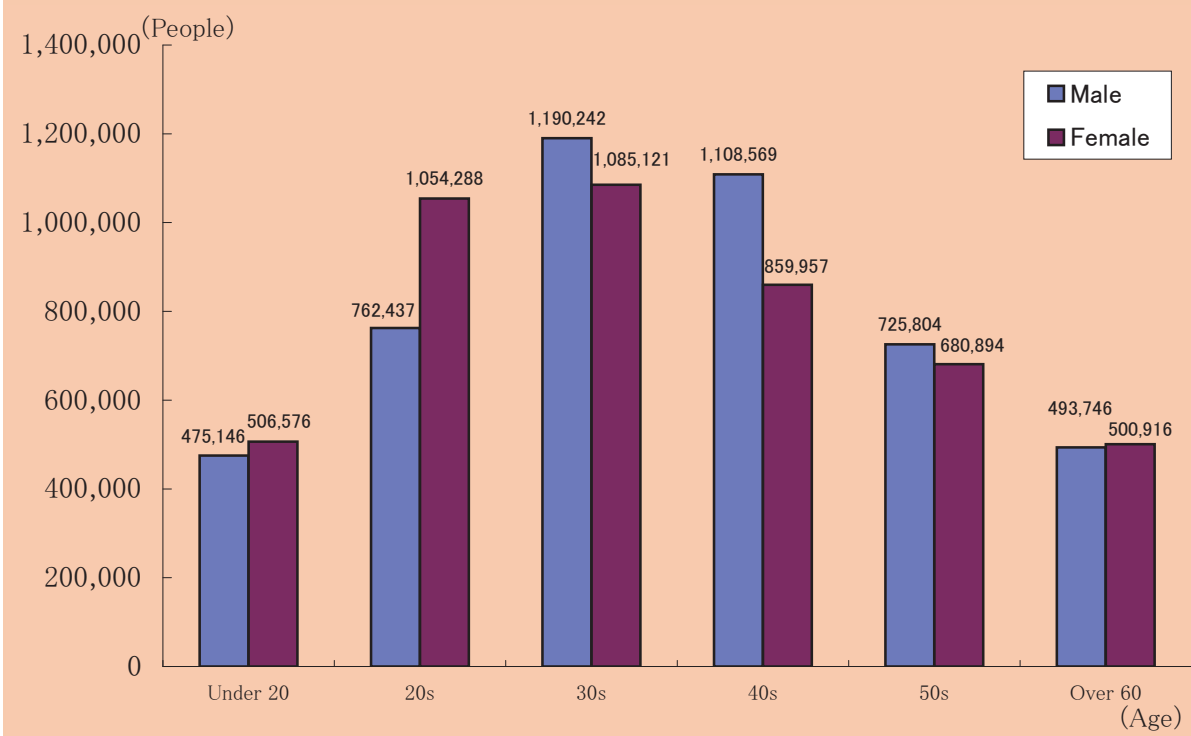
Further, visitors from Thailand increased by 37,221 (18.7%), followed by Australia, which increased by 14,734 (6.8%) and the UK, which increased by 3,444 (1.8%).

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

Slightly more foreign males came to Japan than females. The numbers of foreign males and females entering Japan in 2010 were 4,755,944 and 4,687,752 respectively. The percentages of males and females were 50.4% and 49.6%, respectively.

According to statistics by age in 2010, foreign nationals in their thirties represented the largest age group, accounting for 24.1% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan. The ratio of males was higher in the thirties and over age groups, while the ratio of females was higher in the twenties and under age groups. **(Chart 3)**

Chart 3: Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2010)



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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan in 2010 was 7,919,726. Looking at this figure by purpose of entry (status of residence), the most common status of residence was “Temporary Visitor” standing at 7,632,536 and accounting for 96.4% of the total foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by “Trainee” 51,725 (0.7%), “College Student” 48,706 (0.6%), and “Entertainer” 28,612 (0.4%). (Table 1)

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

(People)

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Status of Residence					
Total	6,733,585	7,721,258	7,711,828	6,119,394	7,919,726
Diplomat	8,682	9,205	12,029	10,183	11,167
Official	13,136	14,519	24,358	22,229	27,000
Professor	2,380	2,365	2,456	2,639	2,639
Artist	223	239	222	226	256
Religious Activities	897	985	828	771	713
Journalist	92	119	226	170	136
Investor/Business Manager	777	918	919	857	896
Legal/Accounting Services	3	8	2	4	3
Medical Services	3	6	1	6	2
Researcher	555	559	563	592	528
Instructor	3,070	2,951	2,930	2,499	2,339
Engineer	7,715	10,959	9,212	3,363	2,852
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	7,614	7,426	5,690	4,167	4,113
Intra-company Transferee	5,564	7,170	7,307	5,245	5,826
Entertainer	48,249	38,855	34,994	31,170	28,612
Skilled Labor	4,239	5,315	6,799	5,384	3,588
Technical Intern Training 1-(a)					2,282
Technical Intern Training 1-(b)					23,720
Cultural Activities	3,670	3,454	3,378	3,557	3,159
Temporary Visitor	6,407,833	7,384,510	7,367,277	5,822,719	7,632,536
College Student	26,637	28,779	34,005	37,871	48,706
Pre-college Student	19,135	19,160	24,111	28,278	14,772
Trainee	92,846	102,018	101,879	80,480	51,725
Dependent	17,412	20,268	22,167	20,540	19,486
Designated Activities	7,446	8,009	8,413	9,863	11,972
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	26,087	24,421	19,975	14,951	11,452
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,319	1,710	1,964	1,684	1,068
Long-Term Resident	28,001	27,326	20,123	9,946	8,178
Temporary Refugee	-	4	-	-	-

(*1) The number of “Pre-college Student” was counted until June 30, 2010.

(*2) The numbers corresponding to the people falling under Technical Intern Training Items 1-(a) and 1-(b) have been counted from July 1, 2010.

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 of time.

(A) Temporary Visitors

Looking more closely at the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” in 2010, the number of foreign visitors

for sightseeing purposes was 5,680,340, accounting for 71.7% of the total foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by foreign visitors for business-related purposes standing at 1,295,404 (16.4%). 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 trends 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 through relatively simplified procedures (Article 19 and 20 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred 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 1,805,876, accounting for 31.8% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan for the purpose of sightseeing. R.O. Korea was followed by China (Taiwan) (1,104,904, accounting for 19.5% of the total), China (749,716, accounting for 13.2%) and China (Hong Kong) (444,083, accounting for 7.8%). As South Koreans, Chinese (Taiwanese), and Chinese (People’s Republic of China) account for over 60% 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

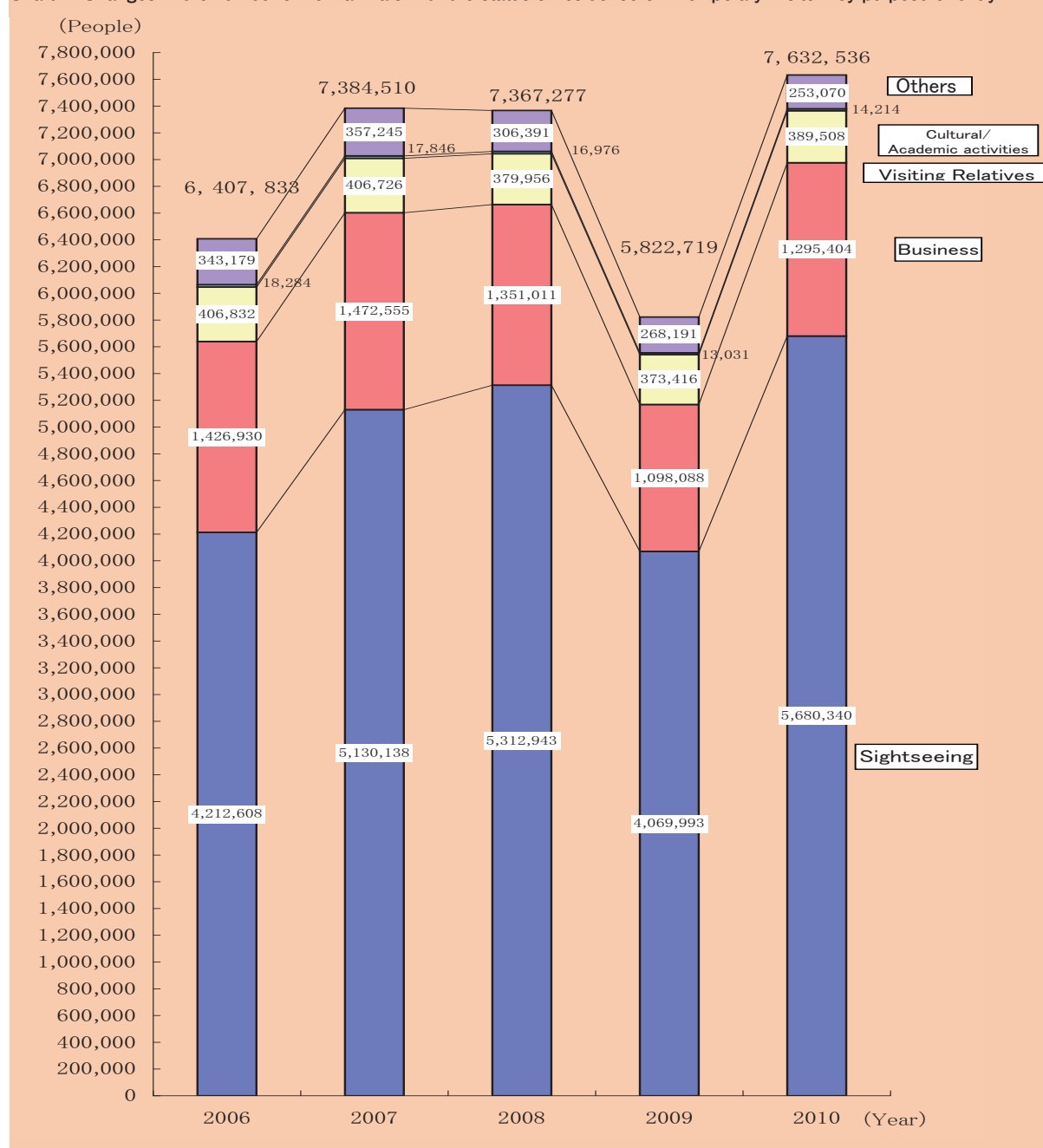
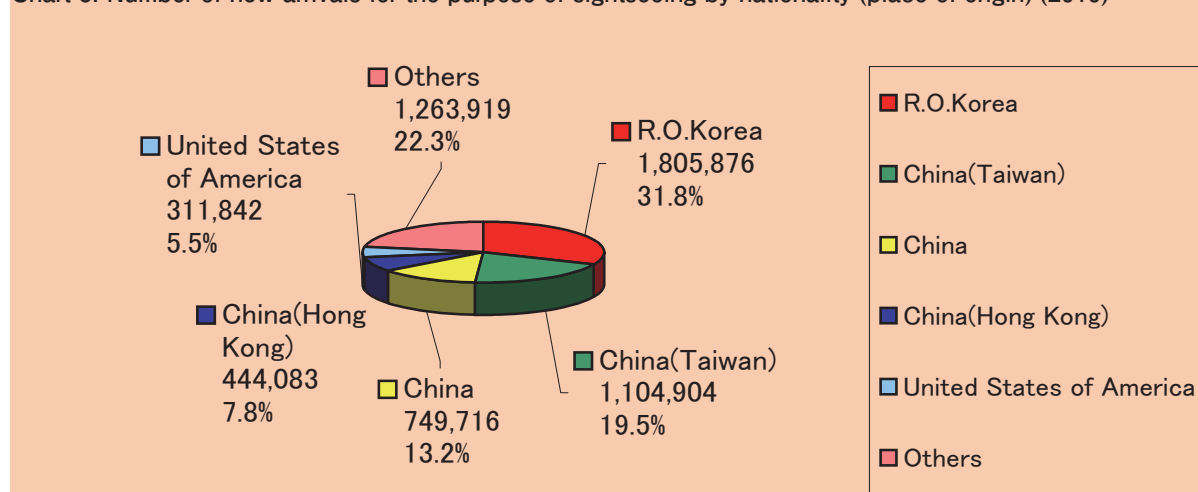


Chart 5: Number of new arrivals for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality (place of origin) (2010)

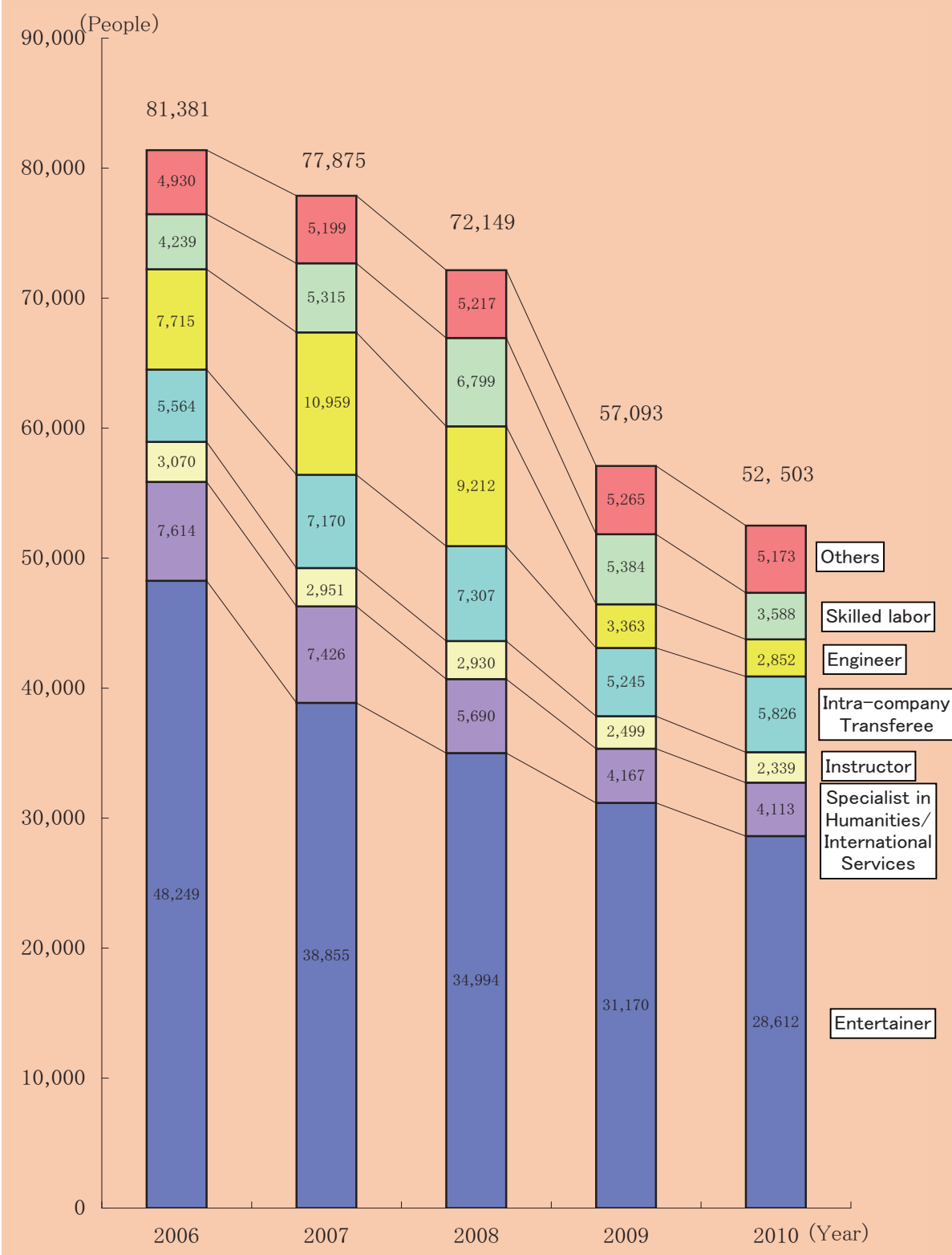


(B) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan for the Purpose of Employment in Specific and Technical Fields

The number of newly entering foreign nationals under the status of residence for employment in specific and technical fields (excluding the status of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” from Charts 1-1 and 1-2 in the appendix to the “Immigration Control Act”) in 2010 was 52,503, a decrease of 4,590 (8.0%) from the year 2009.

(Chart 6)

Chart 6: Changes in the number of new arrivals by the status of residence for employment in specific and technical fields



The number of newly entering foreign nationals under the statuses of residence for employment in specific and technical fields in Japan accounted for 0.7% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals in 2010.

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 in specific and technical fields, have no restrictions on activities during their stay in Japan. Foreign nationals who fall under any of the following categories 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, international students in post-secondary education in internship programs which enable them to gain work experience in a Japanese company as part of their college education, and international 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 ratio of foreign nationals permitted to work in Japan could even increase.

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 12,791 in 2010, consisting of three types of categories according to their status of residence: 2,852 with “Engineer” status, 4,113 with “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” status, and 5,826 with “Intra-company Transferee” status. The number of foreign employees with the status of residence “Engineer” decreased by 511 (15.2%), those with the status of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” decreased by 54 (1.3%), and those with the status of “Intra-company Transferee” increased by 581 (11.1%) from 2009, respectively. The total number of foreign workers with these statuses of residence increased by 16 (0.1%).

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 2010, the number of registered foreign nationals is on a decreasing trend and decreased to 131,199 in total (a decrease of 5,475 (4.0%) from 2009) consisting of 46,592 with the status of residence of “Engineer”, 68,467 with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 16,140 with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”.

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 (983, or 34.5%), followed by India (384, or 13.5%), R.O. Korea (302, or 10.6%), the Philippines (226, or 7.9%). The number of newly entering foreign nationals from those four countries accounts for 66.4% of the total number of newly entering foreign

nationals with the residence status of “Engineer”. In addition to the decreasing trend in 2008, the aftereffects of the global economic recession in 2009 significantly decreased the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer”, leading to a continuous decreasing trend.

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 (986, or 24.0%), followed by China (592, or 14.4%), R.O. Korea (552, or 13.4%) and the UK (286, or 7.0%). These top four countries accounted for just below 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 (1,937, or 33.2%), followed by the US (528, or 9.1%), India (520, or 8.9%) and R.O. Korea (505, or 8.7%), and these top four countries accounted for about 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 2010, the number of such foreign nationals decreased to 3,588 by 1,796 (33.4%) from the previous year, showing a decreasing trend since 2009.

The number of registered foreign nationals in Japan with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” has been increasing every year since 2001, reaching 30,142 as of the end of December, 2010. 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 (1,924, or 53.6%), followed by Nepal (563, or 15.7%), India (451, or 12.6%) and Thailand (134, or 3.7%) in 2010. 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 85.6% of the total number of newly entering 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 2010, it decreased by 2,558 (8.2%) from 2009 to 28,612. The decreasing trend is due to stricter implementation of landing and residence examination by reviewing the landing permission criteria (ministerial ordinance) relating to the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2006. However, this group still represents the largest ratio of total foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in specific and technical fields.

According to the 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, the Philippines and R.O. Korea in 2010. Entering Philippine entertainers were 1,506, consisting mostly of singers and dancers, showing a decrease of 367 (19.6%) from the previous year.

(C) College Student and Pre-college Student (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 9-1, 10)

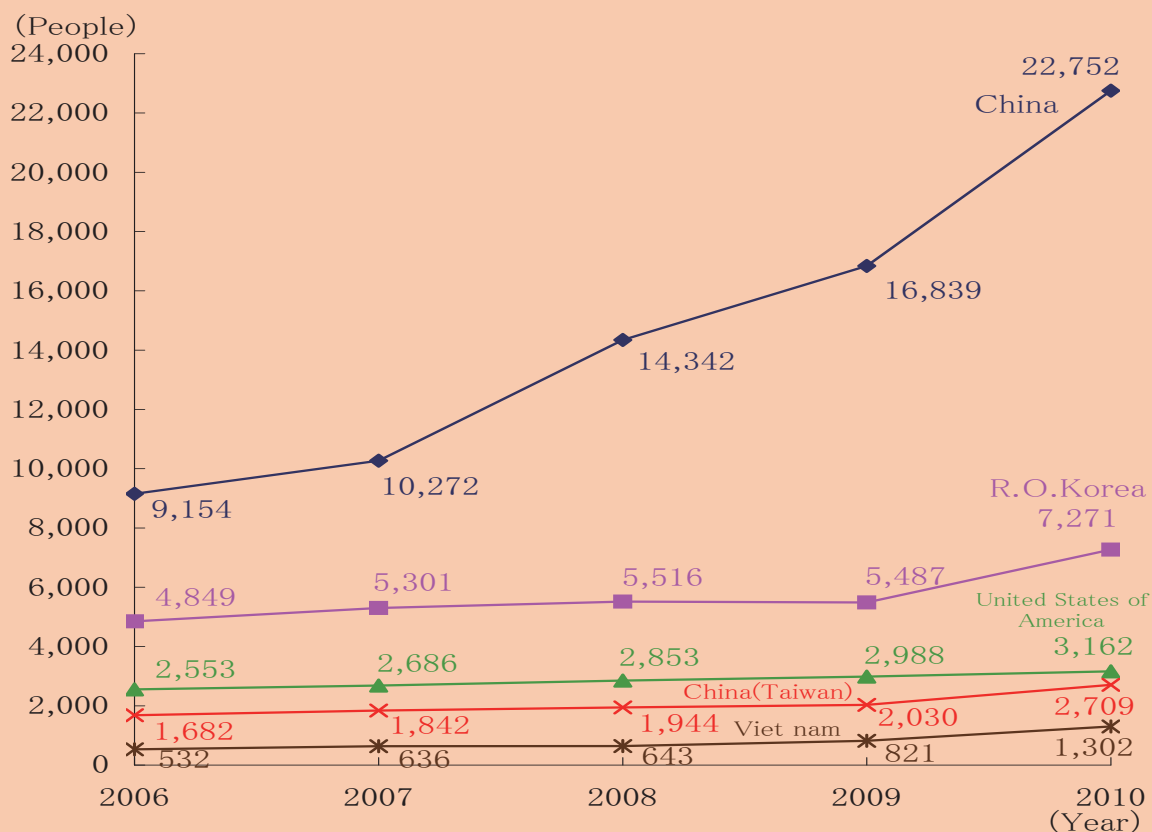
The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student” increased by 10,835 (28.6%) from a year earlier to 48,706 in 2010. Meanwhile, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Pre-college Student” decreased by 13,506 (47.8%) from a year earlier to 14,772 in 2010, following the integration of the status of residence of “Pre-college student” into “College Student” from July, 2010.

According to statistics by region in 2010, most of the newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student” or “Pre-college Student” came from Asia, accounting for 81.4% of the total number of foreign students with the status of residence of “College Student” and 94.4% 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 22,752 (46.7% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (7,271, or 14.9%). The number of Chinese college students increased by 5,913 (35.1%) from the previous year, and that of South Korean college students increased by 1,784 (32.5%).

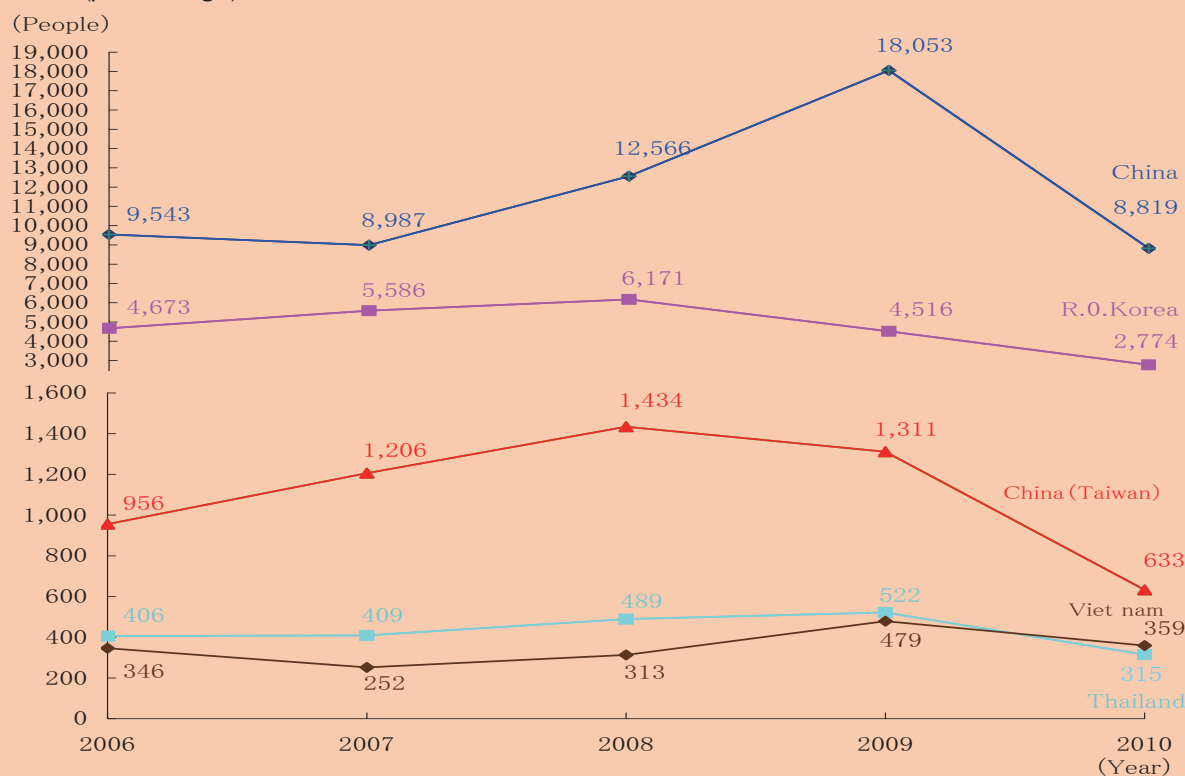
As for the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Pre-college students”, China accounted for the largest number of students with 8,819 (59.7% of the total) followed by R.O. Korea with 2,774 (18.8%). The number of Chinese pre-college students decreased by 9,234 (51.1%) from the previous year, and that of South Korean pre-college students decreased by 1,742 (38.6%). **(Charts 7 and 8)**

Chart 7: Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "College Student" by major nationality (place of origin)



※ The two categories of status of residence, "College Student and Pre-college Student" were integrated into one category, "College Student" on July 1, 2010

Chart 8: Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Pre-college Student" by major nationality (place of origin)



(*)For the year 2010, the number of new arrivals until June 30 was counted.

(D) Trainee and Technical Intern Trainee (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 7-1, 11-1)

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” decreased by 28,755 (35.7%) from a year earlier to 51,725 in 2010. The decrease is considered to be due to a new training/technical intern training program that started on July 1, 2010, following “the Law of Partial Amendment to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Special Act on the Immigration Control of, Inter Alia, Those who have Lost Japanese Nationality Pursuant to the Treaty of Peace with Japan” (hereinafter, referred to as “amended Immigration Control Act”.) enacted in July, 2009, along with which the status of residence of “Trainee” is to be issued only for those engaged in a training not related to a practical business or an official training. Those engaged in the acquisition of knowledge through lectures or the acquisition of skills through employment are issued the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” (activities designated in (1) at the bottom in the “Technical Intern Training” section in the appendix to the “Immigration Control Act”.)

According to statistics by region, the number of Asian trainees reached 46,161 in 2010 and accounted for 89.2% of the total. This is because Asian nations, particularly Japan’s neighboring countries, are very eager to send their students to Japan as trainees. 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 2,206 trainees (4.3% of the total) to Japan, while Latin America also dispatched 1,200 trainees (2.3%) to Japan.

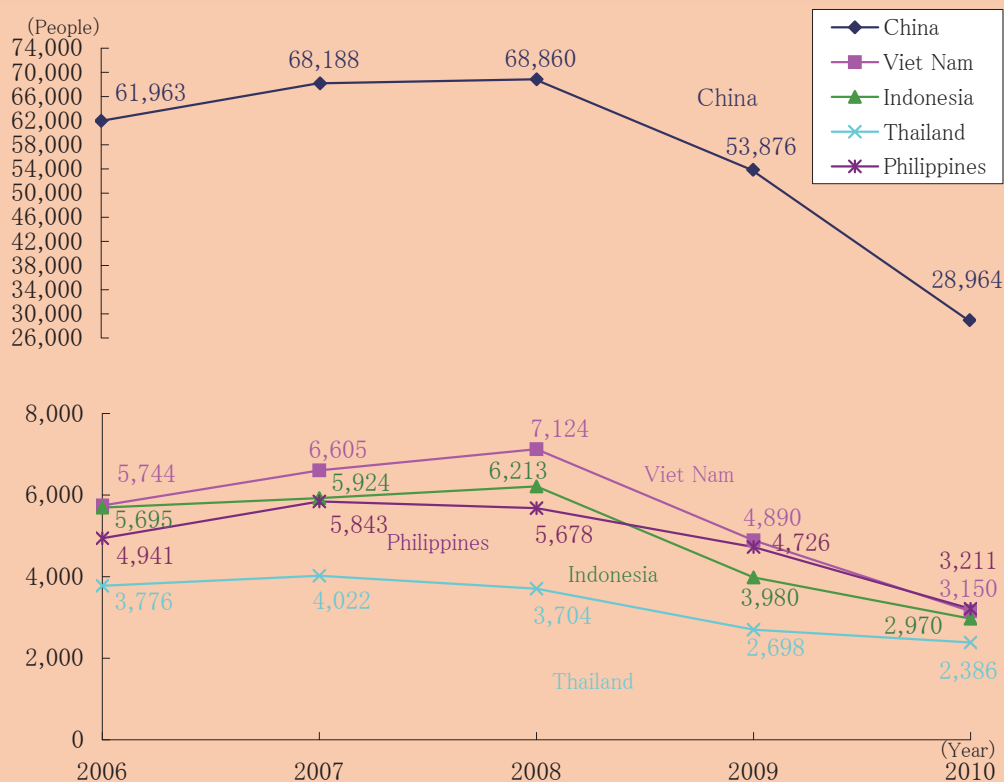
According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” came from China at 28,964 in 2010, accounting for 56.0% of the total. China was followed by the Philippines (3,211, or 6.2%), Viet Nam (3,150, or 6.1%), and Indonesia (2,970, or 5.7%). **(Chart 9)**

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the newly established status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” in 2010 reached 26,002.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” came from China at 20,133, accounting for 77.4% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam (2,184, or 8.4%), Indonesia (1,454, or 5.6%), and the Philippines (1,212, or 4.7%).

The total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” and those of “Technical Intern Training (1)” in 2010 was 77,727, which decreased by 2,753 (3.4%) from the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” in 2009.

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



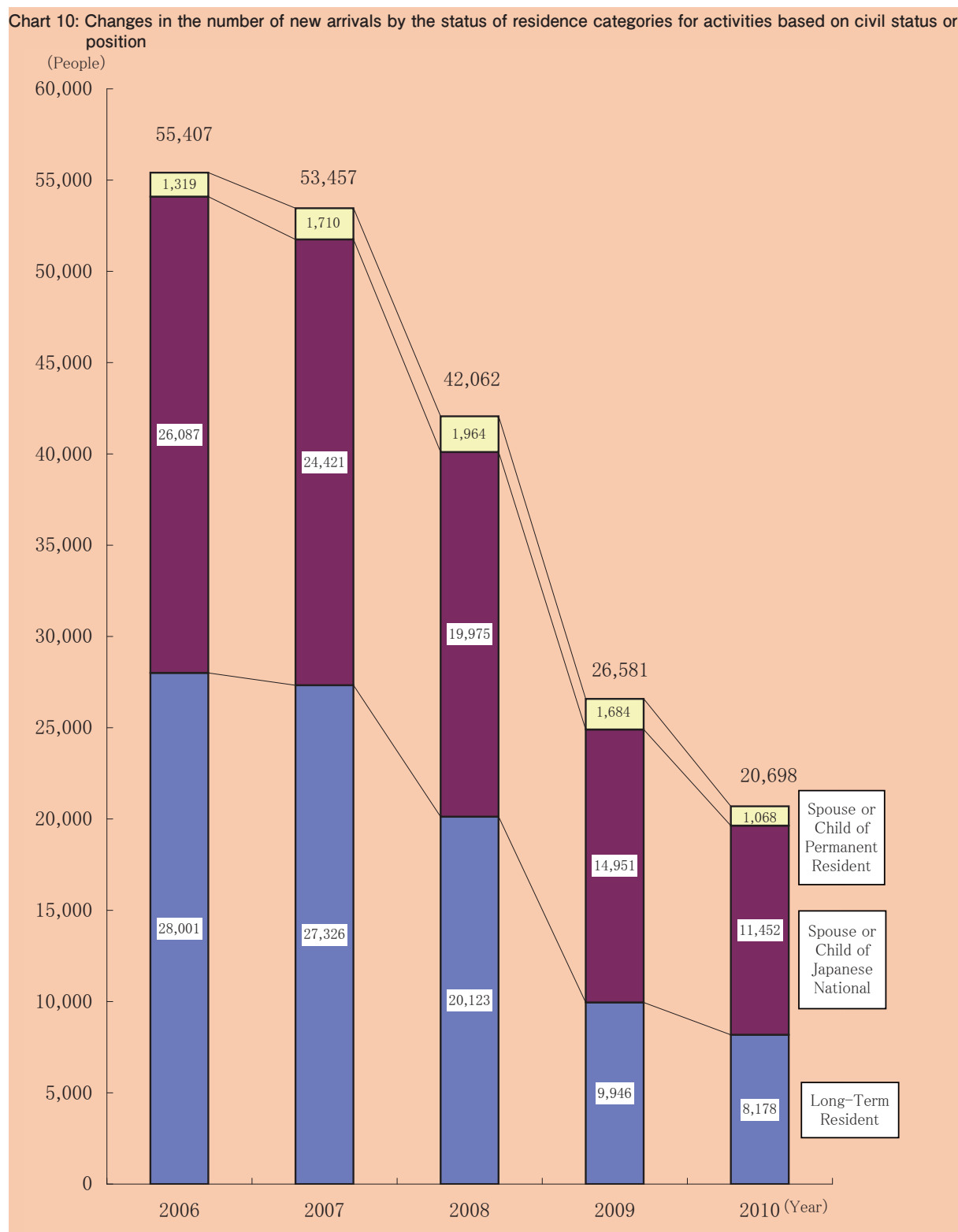
(*) Since July 1, 2010 the status of residence, “Trainee”, is referred to as foreign nationals who have entered Japan to receive public training or non-practical training not involving internship.

(E) Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with the Status of Residence of Resident Activities Based on Civil Status or Position (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 14-1, 15-1)

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 (Article 7, Paragraph (1) (ii) of the Immigration Control Act).)

The number of new arrivals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” reached 11,452 in 2010, while that of new arrivals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” reached 1,068. In 2010, the number for “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” decreased by 3,499 (23.4%) from a year earlier, while that for “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” decreased by 616 (36.6%) from a year earlier.

The number of new arrivals under “Long-Term Resident” decreased by 1,768 (17.8%) from a year earlier to 8,178 in 2010. According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), Brazil occupied the largest number of such new arrivals, standing at 2,246 (27.5%), followed by the Philippines at 2,195 (26.8%), and China at 2,097 (25.6%). (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 2010 was 1,972,090, an increase of 83,386 (4.4%) from 2009.

Among those, the number of persons who received landing permission for crew members in 2010 reached 1,946,807, which accounts for 98.7% of the total number of permission for special cases of landing and occupies the largest percentage, followed by the number of persons who

received permission for landing at a port of call of 24,355 (1.2%). (Table 2)

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	2,092,527	2,089,456	2,079,981	1,888,704	1,972,090
Permission for Landing at a Port of Call	51,338	41,680	31,908	34,658	24,355
Permission for Landing in Transit	277	371	451	394	458
Landing Permission for Crew Members	2,040,436	2,047,033	2,047,221	1,853,267	1,946,807
Permission for Emergency Landing	274	300	314	368	381
Landing Permission Due to Distress	202	72	87	17	89

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 2010 was 24,355, a decrease of 10,303 (29.7%) from 2009.

B. Permission for landing in transit

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for landing in transit in 2010 was 458, an increase of 64 (16.2%) from 2009.

C. Landing permission for crew members

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission for crew members in 2010 was 1,946,807, an increase of 93,540 (5.0%) from 2009. It is probably because air carriers reassessed the routes and the number of flights due to global economic recovery and then the number of aircraft flying into Japan increased.

D. Permission for emergency landing

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for emergency landing in 2010 was 381, an increase of 13 (3.5%) from 2009.

E. Landing permission due to distress

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission due to distress in 2010 was 89, an increase of 72 (423.5%) from 2009.



On-board search

(3) Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan

The number of so-called “leaving Japan re-entry no reserving” foreign nationals excluding those who depart with re-entry permission reached 7,865,081, a new record high exceeding the previous record of 7,592,261 in 2008.

Among them, the number of persons leaving Japan with a period of stay shorter than 15 days was 7,229,477, which accounts for 91.9% of the total or almost all. Further, the number of persons leaving Japan with a period of stay shorter than 3 months was 7,683,429, which accounts for 97.7% 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	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	6,580,241	7,552,966	7,592,261	6,046,150	7,865,081
Within 15 days	5,939,544	6,922,329	6,958,485	5,423,103	7,229,477
More than 15 days to 1 month	228,664	240,710	252,854	237,515	266,227
More than 1 month to 3 months	235,324	223,473	207,055	179,882	187,725
More than 3 months to 6 months	45,536	36,924	34,243	30,638	29,777
More than 6 months to 1 year	60,486	49,978	49,009	48,709	43,085
More than 1 year to 3 years	50,814	59,554	68,933	85,253	80,770
More than 3 years	17,519	17,630	18,618	35,945	24,976
Unknown	2,354	2,368	3,064	5,105	3,044

② Judgment for Landing

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

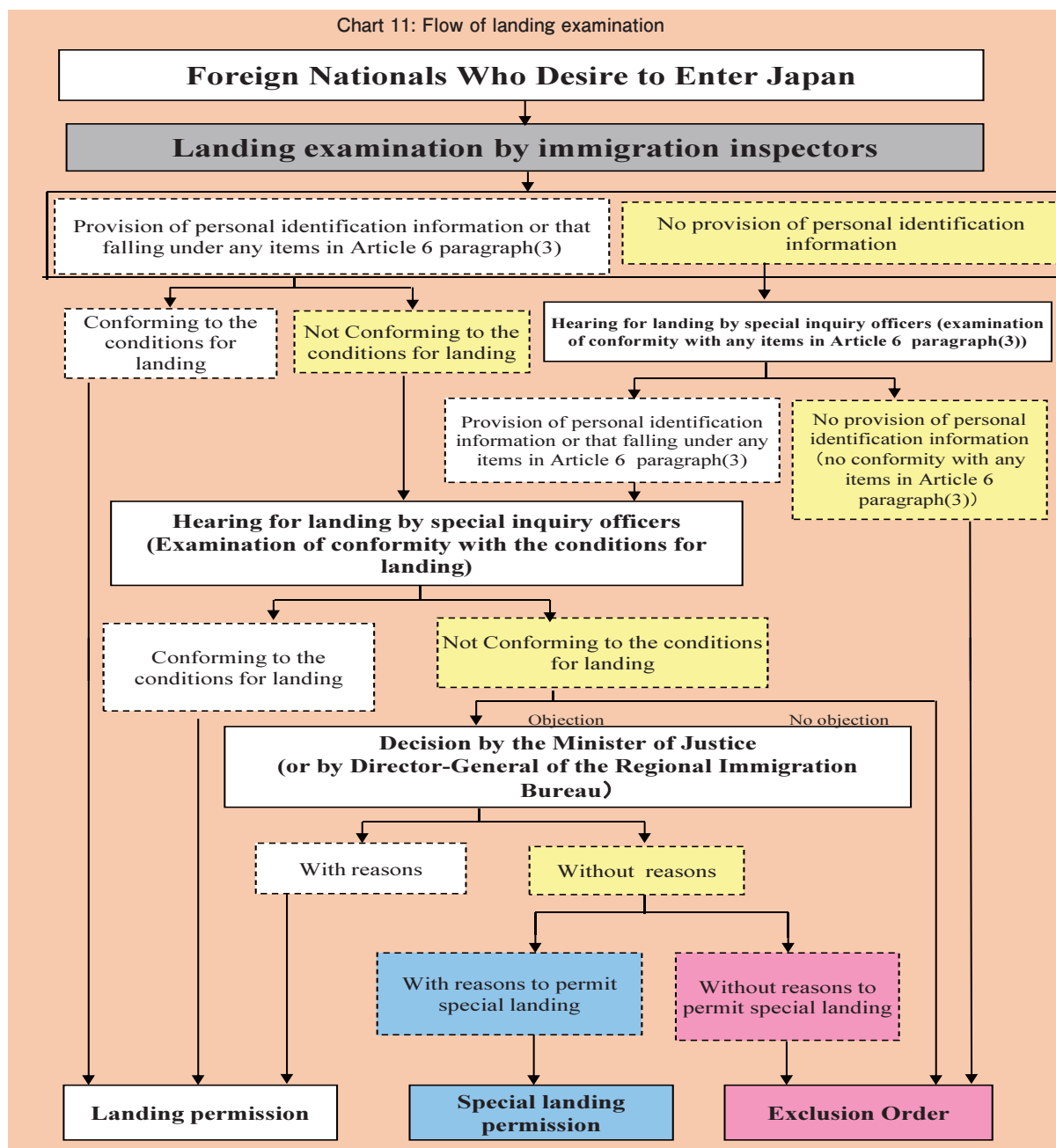
The procedure for the landing examination consists of three steps: landing examination by an immigration inspector, hearing for landing by a special inquiry officer, and decision by the Minister of Justice. The second and third step, namely the hearing for landing and the decision of the Minister of 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)*. (Chart 11)



Hearing for landing

*(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.



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 2010 was 7,365, the smallest in the past five years.

The most common cases were those in which foreign nationals were required to undergo a 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 numbered 5,105, a decrease of 2,365 (31.7%) from 2009 and accounted for 69.3% of the total of new cases in 2010. 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 1,116,

a decrease of 184 (14.2%) from 2009 and accounted for 15.2% of the total number of new cases. Furthermore, 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 1,137, a decrease of 23 (2.0%) from 2009, accounting for 15.4% of the total of new cases in 2010. No 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 2009, while one person was handed over in 2010.

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. (Table 4)

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

(Cases)

Conditions for landing \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	18,258	18,473	12,660	9,930	7,365
Using fake passports or visas (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)- (i))	2,267	2,041	1,365	1,300	1,116
False landing application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)- (ii))	14,313	13,798	9,722	7,470	5,105
Not meeting the period of stay (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)- (iii))	2	4	7	0	6
Falling under the reasons for denial of landing (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)- (iv))	1,676	2,628	1,563	1,160	1,137
Not providing personal identification information (Not conforming to Article 7-(4))	—	2	3	0	1

Looking at the processing of the hearing for landing in 2010 **, 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 2,903 cases (20.8%) from 2009.

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

**(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.

who later consented to the findings numbered 2,662, a decrease of 28.7% from 2009.

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 1,319, a decrease of 34.5% from 2,014 in 2009. (Table 5)

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	18,240	18,496	12,661	9,938	7,304
Landing permission	6,155	6,003	4,405	3,664	2,903
Expulsion order	9,126	8,326	5,537	3,731	2,662
Filing of objection	1,706	3,097	1,967	2,014	1,319
Withdrawal landing application	308	307	368	249	231
Others	945	763	384	280	189

(*) "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.

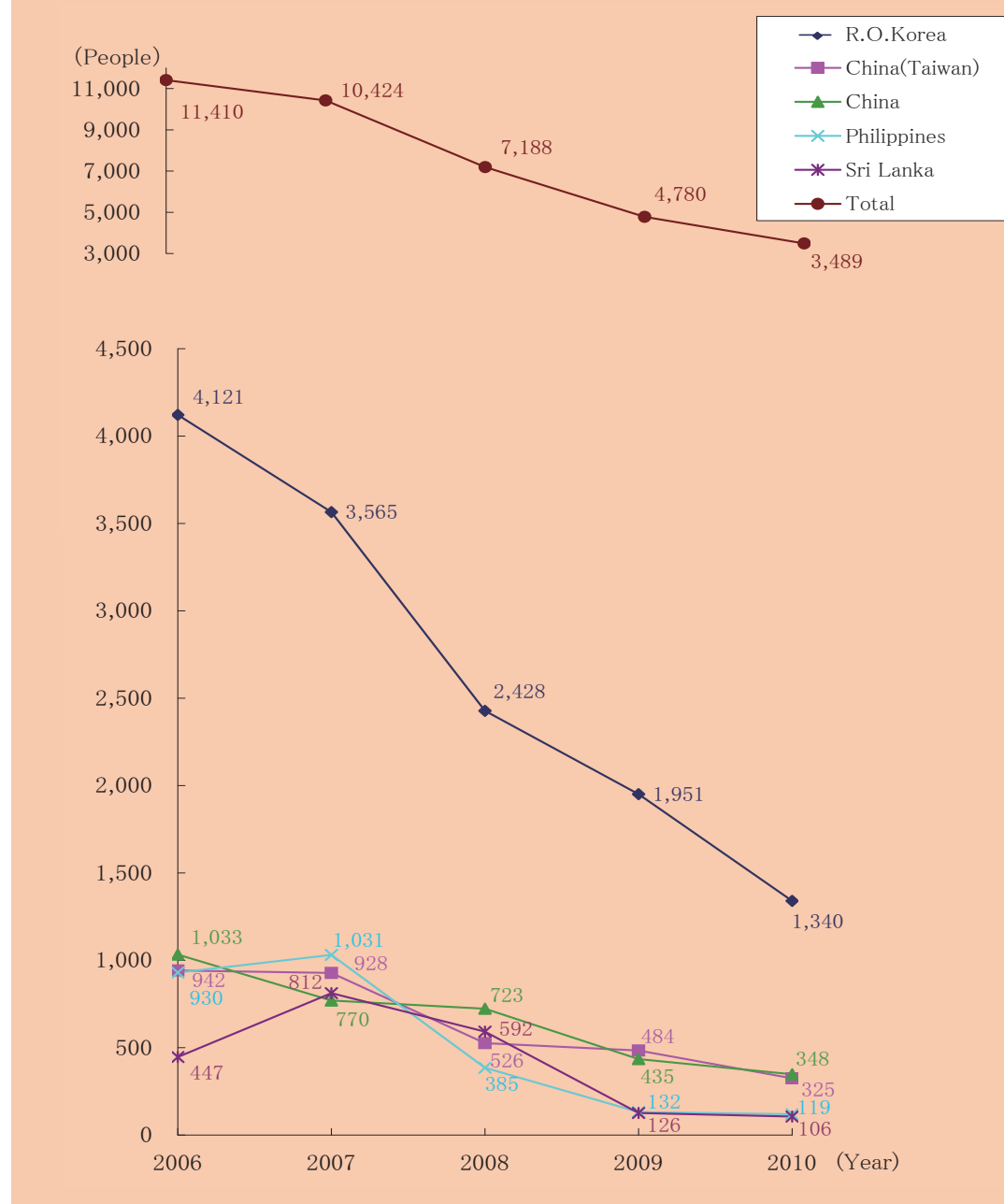
(2) Foreign Nationals Who Fall under Any of the Reasons for Denial of Landing

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 2010 was 3,489, a 27.0% decrease from 4,780 in 2009.

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 1,340, (38.4% of the total), followed by China standing at 348 (10.0%) and China (Taiwan) standing at 325 (9.3%). The top three countries accounted for about 58% of the total. (Chart 12)

Chart 12: Changes in the number of foreign nationals who were denied landing by major nationality (place of origin)



(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 2010 numbered 975. This was a 40.1% decrease from 1,629 in 2009. (Table 6)

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

(Cases)

Year		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Division						
Filing of Objection (*)		1,707	3,103	1,973	2,022	1,326
Decisions	With reason	23	16	10	5	18
	Without reason (Order to leave Japan)	288	513	492	361	291
	Special Permission for Landing	1,379	2,492	1,421	1,629	975
Withdrawal		11	76	42	20	21
Outstanding		6	6	8	7	21

(*) "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 4,615 in 2010, showing a decrease of 1,890 from 6,505 in 2009 (29.1%).

(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 2010, the number of cases of applications for a certificate of eligibility was 248,523, a decrease of 25,466 (9.3%) from 2009.

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

(Cases)

Year		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Division						
Advance consultation for issuance of a visa		4,716	6,721	6,661	6,505	4,615
Application for Certificate of Eligibility		359,910	353,270	329,032	273,989	248,523

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 1.4% of the total number of registered foreign nationals as of the end of 2010). 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.

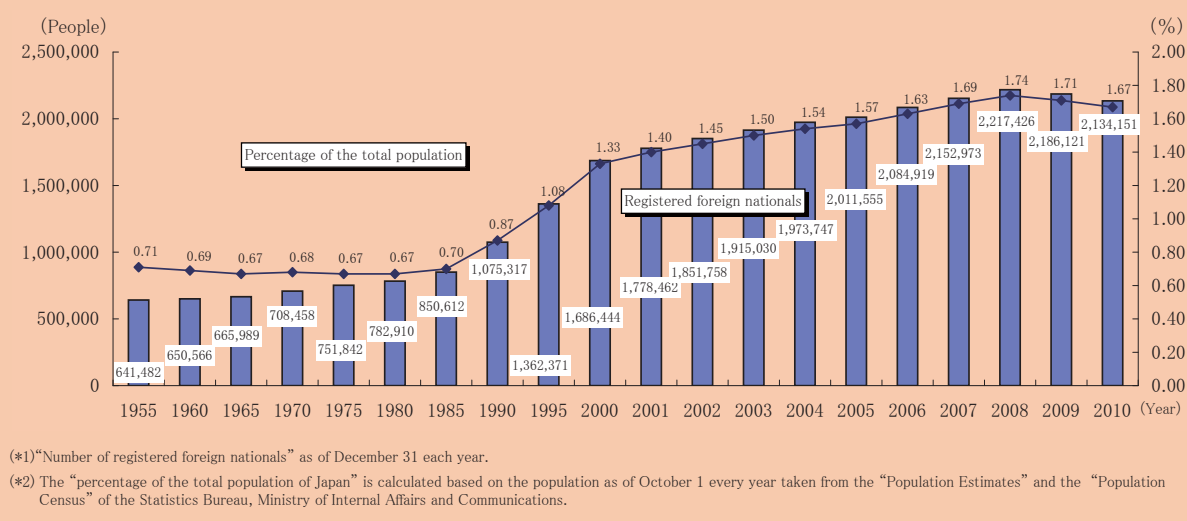
Further, the following persons are not the subject of alien registration: persons with permission for provisional landing, persons with special cases of landing (excluding those who received landing permission for temporary refuge), diplomats, etc. having the status of residence of “Diplomat”, tourists 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 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.

(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. However, the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan is on a decreasing trend since 2009. As of the end of 2010, the number of registered foreign nationals was 2,134,151, decreased by 51,970 (2.4%) from the end of 2009. However, the number increased by about 1.3 times compared to the end of 2000, ten years ago, which means that it has been on the rise over the long run.

Registered foreign nationals accounted for 1.67% of the total Japanese population as of the end of 2010, when the total population of Japan was 128,056,000 people. The ratio decreased by a basis point 0.04% from 1.71% at the end of 2009. However, it increased by a basis point 0.34% from the end of 2000, which means that it has been on the rise over the long run. (Chart 13)

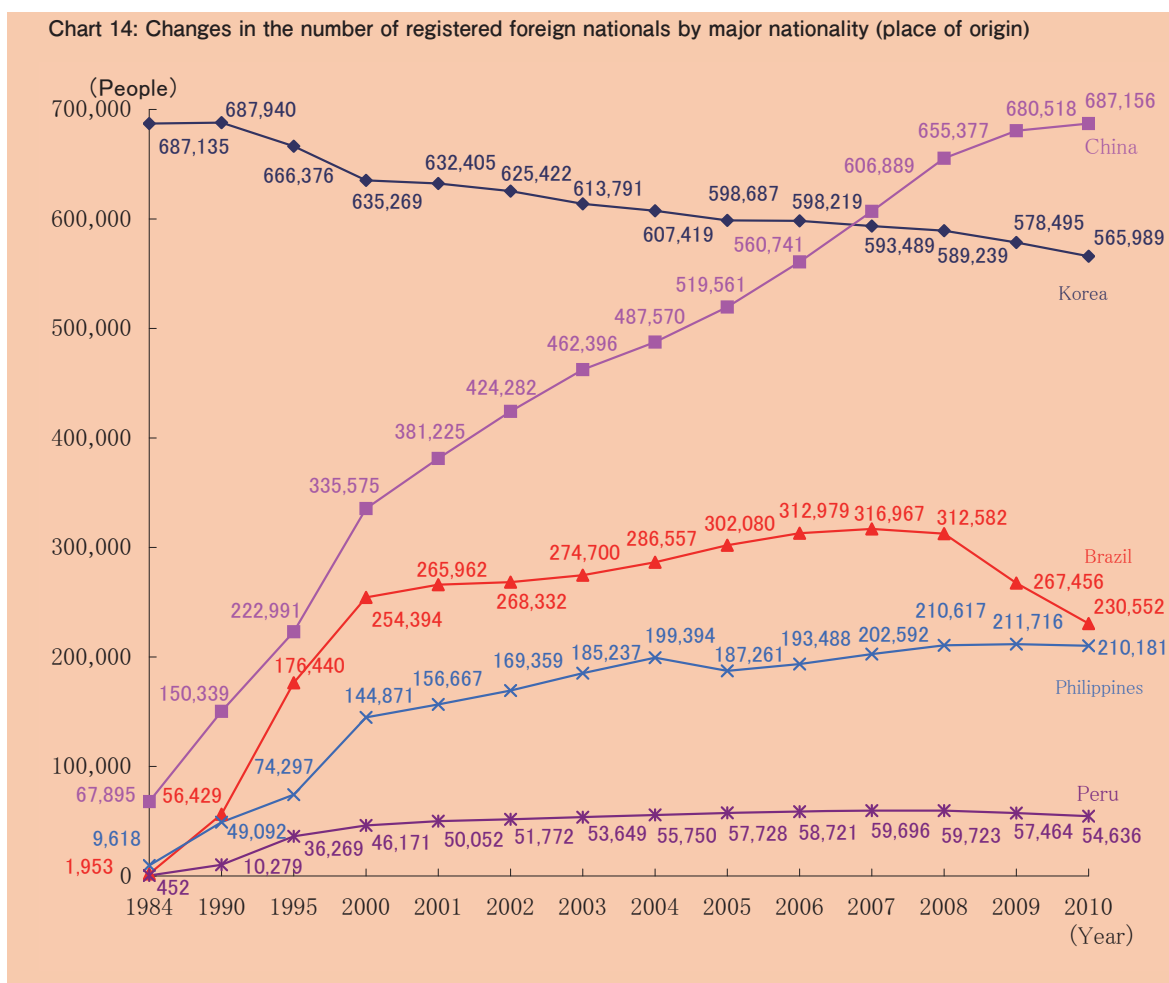
Chart 13: Changes in the number of registered foreign nationals and its percentage of the total population in Japan



(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 2010, China marked the largest number at 687,156, accounting for 32.2% of the total. This was followed by North and South Korea (565,989 accounting for 26.5%), Brazil (230,552 accounting for 10.8%), the Philippines (210,181 accounting for 9.8%), and Peru (54,636 accounting for 2.6%).

Looking at yearly changes, we find that the number of registered foreign nationals from China has been continuously increasing and still continued to increase, after exceeding North and South Korea in 2007. Meanwhile, the number of registered foreign nationals from North and South Korea has been continuously decreasing and decreased by 12,506 (2.2%) as of the end of 2010, as compared to the end of 2009. The number of registered foreign nationals from Brazil, which has been decreasing, after peaking in the end of 2007, decreased by 86,415 (27.3%) from 2007. While the number of registered foreign nationals from the Philippines showed a decrease at the end of 2005, it was on an increasing trend. However, by the end of 2010, it had decreased by 1,535 (0.7%) compared with the end of 2009. (Chart 14)



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

A. “Permanent Resident” and “Special Permanent Resident” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 13)

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 2010. The number of permanent residents was 565,089, an increase of 31,617 (5.9%) from the end of 2009, accounting for 26.5% of the total. (Table 8)

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

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	2,084,919	2,152,973	2,217,426	2,186,121	2,134,151
Professor	8,525	8,436	8,333	8,295	8,050
Artist	462	448	461	490	480
Religious Activities	4,654	4,732	4,601	4,448	4,232
Journalist	273	279	281	271	248
Investor/Business Manager	7,342	7,916	8,895	9,840	10,908
Legal/Accounting Services	141	145	154	161	178
Medical Services	138	174	199	220	265
Researcher	2,332	2,276	2,285	2,372	2,266
Instructor	9,511	9,832	10,070	10,129	10,012
Engineer	35,135	44,684	52,273	50,493	46,592
"Specialist in Humanities/International Services"	57,323	61,763	67,291	69,395	68,467
Intra-company Transferee	14,014	16,111	17,798	16,786	16,140
Entertainer	21,062	15,728	13,031	10,966	9,247
Skilled Labor	17,869	21,261	25,863	29,030	30,142
Technical Intern Training 1-(a)					2,707
Technical Intern Training 1-(b)					47,716
Technical Intern Training 2-(a)					1,848
Technical Intern Training 2-(b)					47,737
Cultural Activities	3,025	3,014	2,795	2,780	2,637
Temporary Visitor	56,449	49,787	40,407	33,378	29,093
College Student	131,789	132,460	138,514	145,909	201,511
Pre-college Student	36,721	38,130	41,313	46,759	
Trainee	70,519	88,086	86,826	65,209	9,343
Dependent	91,344	98,167	107,641	115,081	118,865
Designated Activities	97,476	104,488	121,863	130,636	72,374
Permanent Resident	394,477	439,757	492,056	533,472	565,089
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	260,955	256,980	245,497	221,923	196,248
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	12,897	15,365	17,839	19,570	20,251
Long-Term Resident	268,836	268,604	258,498	221,771	194,602
Special Permanent Resident	443,044	430,229	420,305	409,565	399,106
Without Acquiring Status of Residence	17,415	13,960	13,510	12,376	9,874
Temporary Refuge	30	30	30	30	30
Others	21,161	20,131	18,797	14,766	7,893

(*) 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 2006 and the end of 2010, it increased by 170,612 (43.3%) at the end of 2010 from 394,477 as of the end of 2006.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of permanent residents came from China. The number of Chinese permanent residents was 169,484 as of the end of 2010, followed by Brazil, the Philippines, North and South Korea and Peru. Further, the numbers of permanent residents from China, Brazil, the Philippines, North and South Korea and Peru increased by about 1.4 times, 1.5 times, 1.5 times, 1.2 times, and 1.3 times, respectively, compared to the end of 2006.

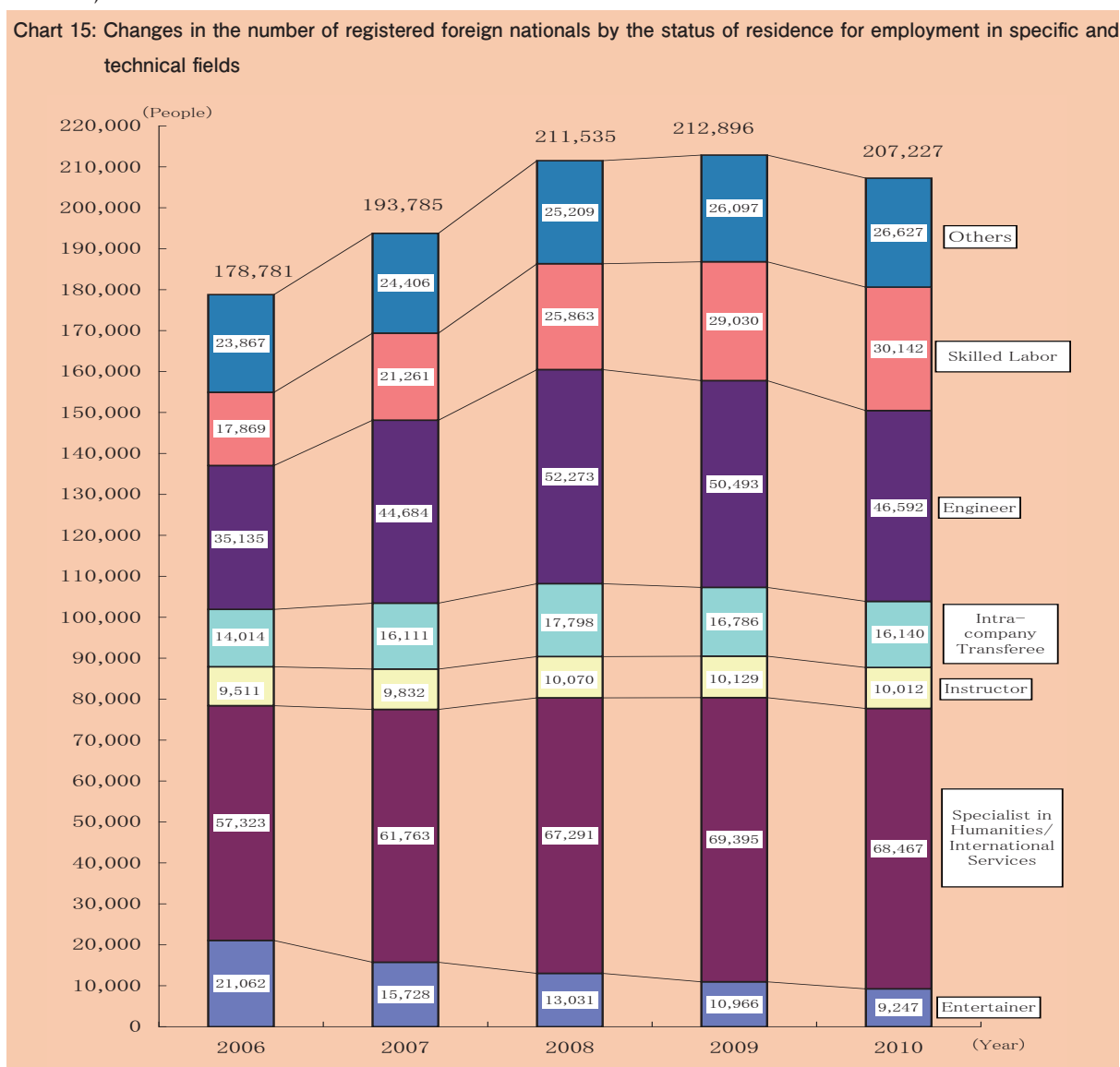
On the other hand, the number of registered foreign nationals who were "Special Permanent Resident" that occupied the largest percentage until 2006 is decreasing year by year, while the

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 Resident” 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.

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

The number of registered foreign nationals residing in Japan for the purpose of employment in specific and technical fields decreased by 5,669 (2.7%) from the end of 2009 to 207,227 as of the end of 2010, accounting for 9.7% of the total. Looking at changes in this number from the end of 2006 to the end of 2010, although we find that the number of registered persons was on an increasing trend from the end of 2007, it has decreased since the end of 2010 and the number of those with the status of residence other than “Skilled Labor” decreased from the previous year.

(Chart 15)



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. One of the factors for this trend is considered to be that 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. Further, the number of those with the status of residence of “Entertainer” decreased by 1,719 (15.7%) at the end of 2010 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 working at companies, were 46,592, 68,467, 16,140 respectively, as of the end of 2010, decreased by 3,901 (7.7%), 928 (1.3%) and 646 (3.8%) respectively, from the end of 2009.

At the end of 2010, 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 in specific and technical fields was 22.5%, 33.0%, 7.8% respectively.

C. “College Student” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 9-2)

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “College Student” significantly increased to 201,511*, increasing by 55,602 (38.1%) from the end of 2009, partially due to integration of the status of residence of “Pre-College Student” into “College Student” since July, 2010, and exceeded 200,000 for the first time at the end of 2010. On a nationality (place of origin) basis, the number of Chinese college students was 134,483, accounting for 66.7% of the total, followed by North and South Koreans (27,066 accounting for 13.4%).

Looking at changes in the total number from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010, the number as of the end of 2010 was about 1.5 times** that as of the end of 2006.

D. “Trainee”, “Technical Intern Training (1)” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 7-2, 11-2)

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” was 9,343 as of the end of 2010 with a decrease of 55,866 (85.7%) compared with the end of 2009, marking a significant decrease from the previous year. According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of those from China was 5,602, accounting for 60.0% of the total, followed by Indonesia (743 accounting for 8.0%) and the Philippines (730 accounting for 7.8%).

In addition, looking at the change from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010 by nationality (place

*(Note 1) The number increased by 8,843 (4.6%) compared to the total number 192,668 of the statuses of residence of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student” at the end of 2009.

** (Note 2) The comparison was made with the total number of the statuses of residence of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student” .

of origin), China showed a decrease of 47,299 (89.4%) and Indonesia showed a decrease of 3,664 (83.1%).

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)”, a newly established status of residence along with the revised Immigration Law enacted on July 1, 2010 was 50,423 at the end of 2010.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of those from China was 39,341, accounting for 78.0% of the total, followed by Viet Nam at 4,096 (8.1%), the Philippines at 2,773 (5.5%) and Indonesia at 2,568 (5.1%).

Further, the total number of registered foreign nationals with the statuses of “Trainee” and “Technical Intern Training (1)” was 59,766 at the end of 2010, a decrease by 5,443 (8.3%) from the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of “Trainee” at the end of 2009.

E. “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)”, “Technical Intern Training (2)” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 8, 12)

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” was 50,080 as of the end of 2010 with a decrease of 59,713 (54.4%) compared to the end of 2009. This decrease is considered to be caused by the fact that, due to the launch of the new training/technical intern training program, when a registered foreign national needs to apply for a change of the status of residence to “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” issued under the previous system or to continue the status of residence after July 1, 2010, the status of residence is changed into “Technical Intern Training (2)” (Activities designated in (2) at the bottom in the “Technical Intern Training” section in the appendix 1 to the “Immigration Control Act”).

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of those from China was 38,616, accounting for 77.1% of the total, followed by Viet Nam at 4,292 (8.6%), Indonesia at 2,891 (5.8%) and the Philippines at 2,814 (5.6%).

In addition, looking at the change from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010 by nationality (place of origin), China decreased by 20,074 (34.2%) and Indonesia by 2,646 (47.8%) respectively, showing a significant decrease.

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (2)” newly established along with the amended Immigration Control Act in July 1, 2010 was 49,585.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of those from China was 38,983, accounting for 78.6% of the total, followed by Viet Nam at 3,826 (7.7%), the Philippines at 2,827 (5.7%) and Indonesia at 2,775 (5.6%).

Furthermore, the total number of registered foreign nationals with the statuses of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” and “Technical Intern Training (2)” was 99,665 at the end of 2010, a decrease by 10,128 (9.2%) from the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” at the end of 2009.

F. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan with the Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Civil Status or Position (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 14-2, 15-2)

As of the end of 2010, the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” was 196,248. Looking at the change from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010, “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 2010 decreased by 25,675 (11.6%) from the end of 2009.

According to statistics by nationality, as of the end of 2010, the number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” from China was 53,697, accounting for 27.4% of the total, followed by the Philippines (41,255 accounting for 21.0%) and Brazil (30,003 accounting for 15.3%). Looking at the change from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010 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 2010 decreased to less than half from the end of 2006.

The number of registered foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” was 194,602 as of the end of 2010 accounting for 9.1% of the total. Looking at the change from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010, 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 2010 decreased by 27,169 (12.3%) as compared with the end of 2009.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of such foreign nationals from Brazil was 77,359, accounting for 39.8%, followed by the Philippines (37,870 accounting for 19.5%) and China (32,048 accounting for 16.5%) at the end of 2010. Looking at the change from the end of 2006 until the end of 2010, the Philippines, which ranked in third place until the end of 2007 continuously increased and reached second place at the end of 2008 surpassing China, continued to increase steadily.

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



Residence examination

of residence, acquisition of status of residence, re-entry, permanent residence, permission to engage in an activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted, and so forth. The decision as to whether or not to grant permission is made through the status of residence examination.

Although the total number of cases of status of residence examinations and so forth in which permission was granted was on an increasing trend in recent years, it decreased by 27,545 (2.0%) from 2009 to 1,375,705 in 2010. One of the reasons for the decrease in the number of registered foreign nationals is considered to be the fact that an increasing number of foreign nationals returned to their home countries due to the global economic recession triggered by the so-called Lehman's fall in September, 2008, leading to a decrease of foreign nationals staying in Japan and, along with that, the number of foreign nationals filing an application for extension of period of stay decreased in 2010. (Table 9)

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	1,327,185	1,351,961	1,361,844	1,403,250	1,375,705
Permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted	107,158	119,145	133,513	147,528	163,654
Permission for change of status of residence	123,381	138,427	149,214	149,046	188,178
Permission for extension of period of stay	466,304	436,630	434,307	444,330	389,439
Permission for permanent residence	51,538	60,509	57,806	53,960	48,003
Permission for special permanent residence	112	131	114	139	105
Permission for acquisition of status of residence	8,013	8,680	8,957	8,303	7,531
Re-entry permission	570,679	588,439	577,933	599,944	578,795

- (*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 2010 was 389,439, a decrease by 54,891 (12.4%) as compared with 2009*.

(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 change of status of residence for the new purpose.

In 2010, the number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission was 188,178, an increase by 39,132 (26.3%) as compared with 2009*.

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

A. Change of Status of Residence from the Status of Student for Employment Purposes

The foreign nationals studying at Japanese universities or vocational/technical schools have the status of residence of “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 change of status of residence for employment was 7,831 in 2010, a decrease by 1,753(18.3 %) from a year earlier. Although it had consistently demonstrated an upward trend since 2003, it took a downward turn due to global economic downturn. (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)

(Cases)

Year Nationality (Place of Origin)	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	8,272	10,262	11,040	9,584	7,831
China	6,000	7,539	7,651	6,333	4,874
R.O. Korea	944	1,109	1,360	1,368	1,205
China (Taiwan)	200	282	303	285	279
Viet Nam	92	131	189	161	167
Nepal	45	63	161	173	141
Sri Lanka	55	81	160	141	120
Thailand	67	87	97	101	119
Bangladesh	119	138	164	125	107
Indonesia	53	73	74	97	79
Malaysia	118	120	134	105	65
Others	579	639	747	695	675

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

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission from China was 4,874, accounting for 62.2% of the total, followed by R.O.Korea (1,205, accounting for 15.4%) and China (Taiwan) (279, accounting for 3.6%).

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 ratio, totaling 5,422 and accounting for 69.2%, a decrease by 1,255(18.8%) from 2009. In addition, 1,390 foreign nationals (17.7%) obtained permission to change their statuses to “Engineer” in 2010, and these two statuses of residence account for 87.0% of the total. (Table 11)

*(Note) It is considered to be that the number of foreign nationals applying for permission for change of status of residence increased while the number of foreign nationals applying for extension of period of stay decreased contributed to that, along with the starting of the new training and technical intern training programs from July, 2010, those who were to apply for extension of period of stay from the second year to the third year of the program applied not for extension of period of stay with the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” but for change of status of residence from “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” to “Technical Intern Training (2)”.

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 (Cases)

Status of Residence \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	8,272	10,262	11,040	9,584	7,831
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	5,938	7,304	7,863	6,677	5,422
Engineer	1,720	2,314	2,414	2,154	1,390
Professor	401	416	430	444	512
Investor/Business Manager	36	61	128	128	275
Researcher	104	87	111	97	93
Medical Services	14	13	16	24	54
Instructor	20	23	29	31	46
Religious Activities	13	15	19	3	12
Skilled Labor	5	6	3	4	11
Artist	6	6	2	8	5
Entertainer	3	3	5	2	3
Others	12	14	20	12	8

B. Permission to Change Status of Residence in order to Participate in “Technical Intern Training (2)”

The Technical intern training program was a system established in 1993 to enable foreign nationals to acquire skills through on-the-job training while in employment, thereby contributing to effective technology transfer and human resources development as part of international contributions. On July 1, 2010, new training and technical intern training programs started to be operated and it is necessary for any foreign national who wishes to acquire proficiency of the skills obtained with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” or to be engaged in an operation which requires the obtained skills needs to take part in the program to obtain permission for change of status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)”.

“Technical Intern Training (2)” 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, 2011. 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.

Foreign trainees who applied for the shift of the status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)” in 2010 decreased by 13,041 (21.0%) from a year earlier to 49,166. However, in total, more than 430,000 trainees took part in the program after finishing their training from establishment of the technical intern training program in 1993 up to the end of 2010*.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number of trainees who obtained permission for the shift of status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)” in 2010 was from China (39,616), followed by Viet Nam (3,349), the Philippines (2,806), Indonesia (2,272), and Thailand (691). The most popular types of work were women/children’s apparel production, welding and plastic molding in descending order. (Tables 12 and 13)

*(Note) The number in 2010 is the total number of foreign nationals who shifted the status of residence to “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)” in the old system and those who changed the status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)” in the current system.

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

(People)

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Nationality					
Total	41,000	53,999	62,520	62,207	49,166
China	34,817	42,871	49,566	49,032	39,616
Viet Nam	2,221	4,155	4,885	4,972	3,349
Indonesia	1,924	3,274	3,393	3,467	2,272
Philippines	1,482	2,407	3,000	3,127	2,806
Thailand	342	783	1,079	1,082	691
Others	214	509	597	527	432

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

(*2) The training and technical intern training programs herein is referred to as those reviewed in accordance with the revised Immigration Control Act on July 15, 2009 and enforced in July 2010. The "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" in the former system correspond to the Technical Intern Training, Items 1-(a) and 1-(b) in the current system.

(*3) The numbers corresponding to the years from 2006 to 2009 were those of the foreign nationals who switched their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)". The number corresponding to 2010 was a total number of the foreign nationals who switched their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" in the former system and who switched their status of residence to the "Technical Intern Training, Item (2)" in the current system.

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

(People)

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Job Type					
Total	41,000	53,999	62,520	62,207	49,166
Women/Children's apparel production	10,750	11,697	12,707	11,428	10,252
Mold construction	526	800	1,012	877	604
Men's apparel production	741	658	637	631	681
Welding	2,817	3,882	5,457	5,569	4,040
Steel reinforcement construction	409	610	889	987	709
Machining	1,918	2,960	3,539	3,203	1,490
Metal press work	1,768	2,505	3,150	2,769	1,625
Plumbing	88	119	163	215	146
Painting	1,070	1,255	1,644	1,766	1,128
Furniture production	260	392	364	435	259
Casting	811	1,167	1,062	977	752
Steeplejack	610	702	1,125	993	819
Plastic molding	2,686	4,769	4,270	4,454	2,987
Carpenter	350	441	356	402	376
Construction machinery production	77	147	172	179	171
Others	16,119	21,895	25,973	27,322	23,127

(*1) The training and technical intern training programs herein is referred to as those reviewed in accordance with the revised Immigration Control Act on July 15, 2009 and enforced in July 2010. The "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" in the former system correspond to the Technical Intern Training, Items 1-(a) and 1-(b) in the current system.

(*2) The numbers corresponding to the years from 2006 to 2009 were those of the foreign nationals who switched their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)". The number corresponding to 2010 was a total number of the foreign nationals who switched their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" in the former system and who switched their status of residence to the "Technical Intern Training, Item (2)" in the current system.

(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 the United States of America military personnel member stipulated in 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 7,531 in 2010, a decrease by 772 (9.3%) from 2009. (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 reenter 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 before leaving Japan.

In 2010, the number of such foreign nationals who obtained re-entry permission was 578,795, a decrease by 21,149 (3.5%) from 2009. (Table 9)

(5) Permission to Engage in an Activity Other than That Permitted under 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 that permitted under the status of residence previously granted if the foreign national wishes to become engaged in “activities related to the management of a 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 an international student who wishes to have a part-time job. The Minister of Justice will give permission to the extent that the extra activity does not interfere with the activity that is the original purpose of residence.

The number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission in 2010 was 163,654, an increase by 16,126 (10.9%) from 2009. (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 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 has been on a decrease since then to 53,818 in 2009 and 47,898 in 2010. (Table 14)

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

(Cases)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	51,538	60,509	57,806	53,818	47,898
China	13,744	15,875	16,140	16,957	16,714
Philippines	7,554	8,723	8,982	9,248	9,157
Brazil	16,055	19,793	16,824	11,430	7,549
Korea	3,368	3,788	3,914	4,060	3,760
Peru	2,878	3,241	2,783	2,389	1,756
Others	7,939	9,089	9,163	9,734	8,962

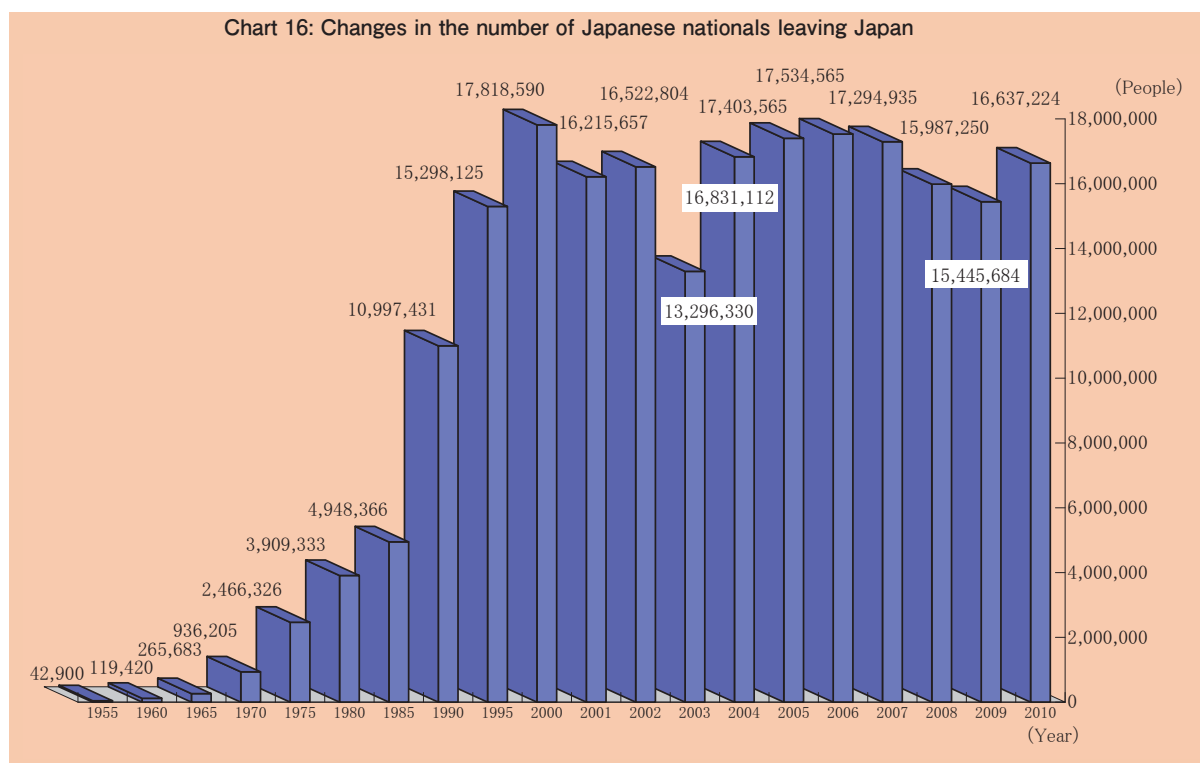
(*) "China" includes Taiwan, Hong Kong or others.

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 2010 was 16,637,224, an increase by 1,191,540 (7.7%) from 2009. (Chart 16)

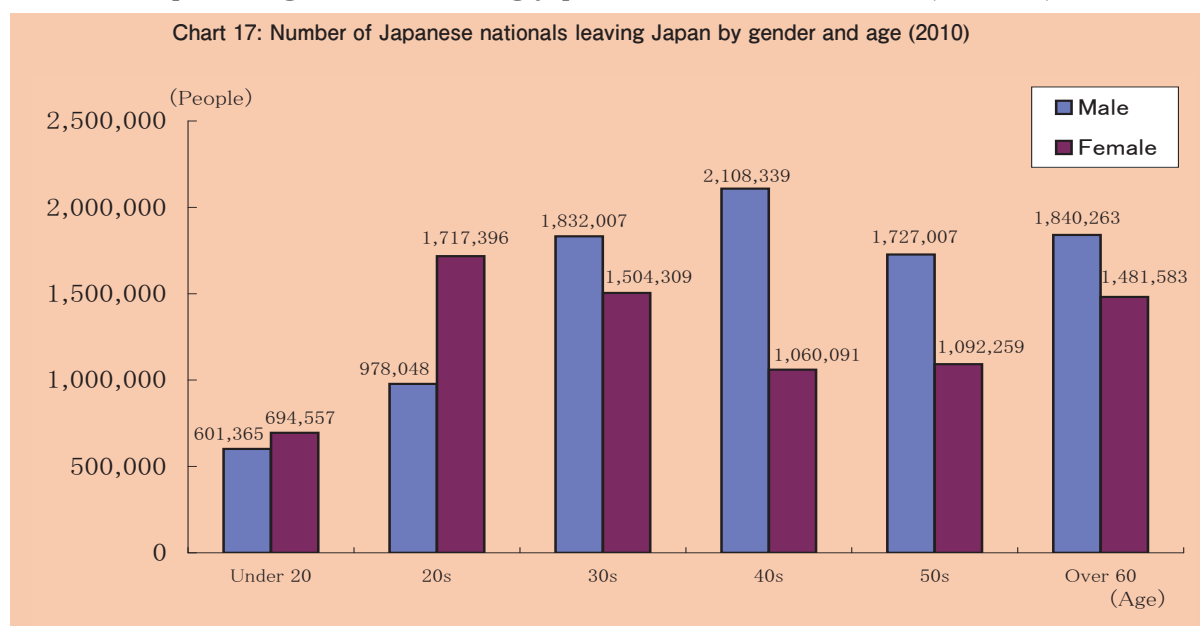


(2) The Number of Japanese Nationals Leaving Japan by Gender and Age

According to statistics by gender, the number of Japanese nationals leaving Japan in 2010 consists of 9,087,029 males and 7,550,195 females: males account for 54.6% of the total and females account for 45.4%. 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 2010 consists of 3,336,316 persons in their 30s, which accounts for 20.1% of the total, followed by 3,321,846 in their 60s or older (20.0%), 3,168,430 in their 40s (19.0%), 2,819,226 in their 50s (16.9%), and 2,695,444 in their 20s (16.2%).

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 63.7%, a particularly high percentage. Figures for those older than their 20s show that the percentage of males leaving Japan exceeds that of females. (Chart 17)



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

According to statistics of Japanese nationals leaving Japan in 2010 by airport and seaport of departure, the number of persons using airports to leave Japan was 1,645,005 accounting for 98.9% of the total. As compared with foreign nationals entering Japan (persons using airports account for 92.6%), the percentage of airport users is much higher.

Among persons in 2010 using airports to leave Japan, the number of users of Narita Airport was 8,713,493, which accounts for 53.0% of the total number of persons using airports to leave Japan, and those using Kansai Airport was 3,349,189, which accounts for 20.4%. This means that 73.3% of the total number of persons leaving from airports uses these two airports. Other than Narita and Kansai airports, the order was Chubu Airport, 1,639,549 (10.0%) and Haneda Airport, 1,193,742(7.3%).

On the other hand, among persons using seaports to leave Japan in 2010, the number of persons using Hakata Port where scheduled passenger ships are operated to/from R.O. Korea was 133,970, which accounts for 71.6% of the total number of persons leaving from seaports, and the number using Shimonoseki Port was 17,563, which accounts for 9.4% of the total. This means that 80.9% of the total number of persons leaving from seaports used these two seaports. Other than these two seaports, the order was Yokohama Port, 9,040 (4.8%) and Osaka Port, 7,567 (4.0%).

② The Number of Japanese Nationals Returning to Japan

The total number of returning Japanese nationals in 2010 was 16,611,884. By period of stay in foreign countries after departure, the number of persons returning within one month after departure was 15,252,248, which accounts for 91.8% of the total. Among those, the number returning within ten days was 13,906,924, which accounts for 83.7% of the total.

This is because most Japanese tourists 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)



Airport landing examination

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

(People)

Period of Stay \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	17,457,286	17,199,310	15,905,433	15,432,549	16,611,884
Within 5 days	10,223,891	10,125,098	9,344,449	9,341,903	9,904,585
More than 5 days to 10 days	4,480,153	4,370,202	3,935,729	3,613,776	4,002,339
More than 10 days to 20 days	1,098,627	1,066,490	1,007,021	897,894	998,258
More than 20 days to 1 month	379,317	356,190	342,367	298,834	347,066
More than 1 month to 3 months	563,278	566,805	560,726	529,070	542,196
More than 3 months to 6 months	311,045	316,000	319,749	324,165	314,762
More than 6 months to 1 year	267,240	268,808	270,411	290,320	258,013
More than 1 year to 3 years	114,578	113,569	111,398	124,015	124,335
More than 3 years	12,965	10,323	8,354	7,479	8,567
Unknown	6,192	5,825	5,229	5,093	111,763

Chapter 2 Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

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) was 78,488 as of January 1, 2011. This number has been steadily decreasing, down by 13,290 (14.5%) from 91,778 on January 1, 2010, in other words, down by 220,158 (73.7%) 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.

If the above-mentioned number of overstayers and estimated number of foreign nationals who may have illegally entered Japan are combined, the number of illegal foreign residents would still be about 90,000 to 100,000.



Investigation into 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 (19,271 accounting for 24.6% of the total) as of January 1, 2011. This was followed by China (10,337 accounting for 13.2%), the Philippines (9,329 accounting for 11.9%), China (Taiwan) (4,774 accounting for 6.1%), Thailand (4,264 accounting for 5.4%), Malaysia (2,442 accounting for 3.1%), and Peru (1,794 accounting for 2.3%). (Chart 18, Table 16)

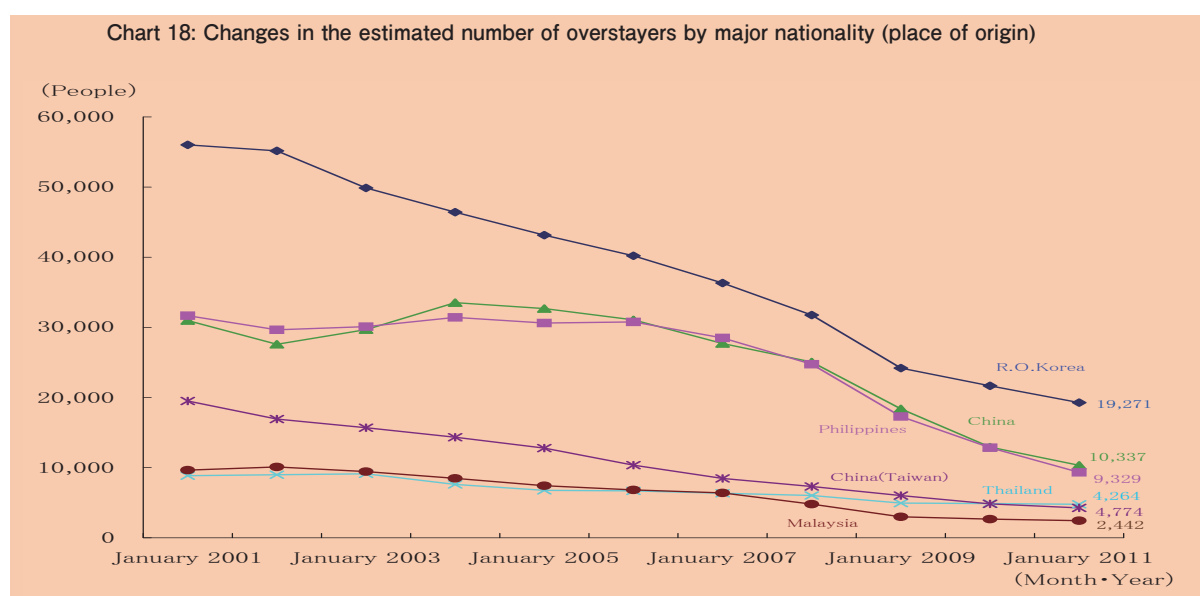


Table 16: Changes in the estimated number of overstayers by major nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	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	January 1 2011
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	220,532	219,418	207,299	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488
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	31,738	24,198	21,660	19,271
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	10,337
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	9,329
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	9,136	7,611	6,760	6,696	6,347	6,031	4,950	4,889	4,774
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	4,264
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	2,442
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	1,794
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	1,789
Brazil	944	2,703	2,210	2,603	3,104	3,763	5,006	4,334	3,288	3,266	3,578	3,697	3,865	4,728	4,905	2,762	2,286	2,297	1,939	1,645	1,536
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	1,498
Others	45,323	85,467	79,882	73,715	68,622	67,244	66,779	65,834	63,334	59,773	56,586	56,995	57,989	58,206	55,055	50,885	43,273	37,480	28,984	23,851	21,454

(*) "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, 2011, 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.

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" (54,220) accounting for 69.1% of the total. This was followed by "College Student" (4,322 accounting for 5.5%), "Entertainer" (3,425 accounting for 4.4%) and "Trainee" (1,192 accounting for 1.5%). Compared with the same period of the previous year, the number of those who were granted the "Temporary Visitor" status decreased by 8,949 (14.2%), the "College Student" status decreased by 1,520 (26.0%), the "Entertainer" status decreased by 695 (16.9%), and the "Trainee" status decreased by 429 (26.5%), respectively. The number of overstayers with the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" has been on the decline since May 1, 1993, while those 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 \ Date	January 1 2006	January 1 2007	January 1 2008	January 1 2009	January 1 2010	January 1 2011
Total	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488
Temporary Visitor	134,374	117,289	102,069	76,651	63,169	54,220
College Student	14,935	12,729	10,978	8,276	5,842	4,322
Entertainer	10,052	8,162	6,624	5,015	4,120	3,425
Trainee	3,393	3,333	3,136	2,561	1,621	1,192
Others	30,991	29,326	26,978	20,569	17,026	15,329

(*) The number of overstayers with the status of residence, "College Student" includes the number of foreign nationals whose status of residence was "Pre-college Student" under the previous Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, which had been enforced before July 1, 2010, at the time when they became considered overstayers.

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 2010, the number of foreign nationals for whom deportation procedures were carried out on account of violating the Immigration Control Act was 24,213, a decrease of 8,448 from 2009. Of these, 5,181 were handed over to immigration inspectors as those subject to the departure order system. (Chart 19)

According to the statistics of the number of foreign nationals by grounds for deportation, the largest number of foreign nationals were deported for overstaying (18,578 accounting for 76.7%), followed by illegal entry (3,867 accounting for 16.0%), and then activities detection other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted (751 accounting for 3.1%). 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 eight consecutive years (7,294 accounting for 30.1%), followed by the Philippines (5,058 accounting for 20.9%), and R.O. Korea (3,215 accounting for 13.3%). 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 2010, the number of those who illegally worked in Japan was 18,490, accounting for 76.4% of the total.



Detection

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 2010, the number of illegal entrants* was 3,867, a decrease of 1,506 (28.0%) from 2009, which accounts for 16.0% 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 (1,212 accounting for 31.3% of the total), followed by the Philippines (1,065 accounting for 27.5%), and South Korea (327 accounting for 8.5%), and no movement has been seen in the order of these top two countries since 2002.

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 2010 was 2,849, a decrease of 1,031 (26.6%) from 2009. This accounts for 73.7% 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 475 (31.8%) from 2009 to 1,018 in 2010. (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)	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	10,441	7,454	6,136	5,373	3,867
China	3,999	2,410	2,020	1,648	1,212
Philippines	2,059	1,624	1,376	1,237	1,065
R.O. Korea	767	619	478	427	327
Thailand	988	680	503	416	303
Peru	299	243	261	377	189
Iran	432	382	248	174	133
Indonesia	232	281	260	269	132
Sri Lanka	181	151	165	130	82
Bangladesh	486	349	263	160	79
Pakistan	261	141	82	69	53
Others	737	574	480	466	292

(*) "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.

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

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		7,549	5,448	4,462	3,880	2,849
Philippines		1,956	1,519	1,301	1,153	1,006
China		2,088	1,215	942	698	533
Thailand		934	633	471	387	284
Peru		298	241	261	377	188
R.O.Korea		415	318	224	165	141
Others		1,858	1,522	1,263	1,100	697

(*) "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	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		2,892	2,006	1,674	1,493	1,018
China		1,911	1,195	1,078	950	679
R.O. Korea		352	301	254	262	186
Philippines		103	105	75	84	59
Bangladesh		232	194	127	78	23
Iran		63	59	46	33	20
Others		231	152	94	86	51

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

(2) Illegal Landing

Among the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were carried out for violating the Act in 2010, the number of those who illegally landed in Japan without obtaining permission for landing and so forth from an immigration inspector was 134, a decrease of 52 (28.0%) from 2009. This accounted for 0.6% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Act, and the ratio 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)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		506	342	253	186	134
Turkey		45	19	39	17	27
China		231	137	58	50	25
R.O. Korea		22	15	17	10	11
Philippines		10	26	14	14	9
China(Taiwan)		8	8	4	6	8
Sri Lanka		33	38	27	4	8
Thailand		21	11	9	18	7
Russia		10	15	7	4	7
Myanmar		31	16	25	11	5
Indonesia		12	7	11	1	3
Others		83	50	42	51	24

(*) "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 2010, the number of those who had stayed beyond the authorized period of stay decreased by 6,925 (27.2%) from 2009 to 18,578. This accounts for 76.7% 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 (5,494 accounting for 29.6%), followed by the Philippines (3,797 accounting for 20.4%), R.O. Korea (2,582 accounting for 13.9%), Thailand (1,130 accounting for 6.1%), and Viet Nam (783 accounting for 4.2%). (Table 24)

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

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		42,829	35,417	31,045	25,503	18,578
China		11,295	8,811	8,326	7,342	5,494
Philippines		7,879	7,136	6,188	4,960	3,797
R.O. Korea		6,847	5,484	4,147	3,104	2,582
Thailand		2,232	1,728	1,444	1,347	1,130
Viet Nam		1,300	1,435	1,570	1,268	783
Indonesia		2,074	1,837	1,978	1,350	590
Peru		971	792	779	812	529
Sri Lanka		1,391	1,244	1,216	1,026	515
Brazil		482	434	346	375	434
Mongolia		600	506	449	330	239
Others		7,758	6,010	4,602	3,589	2,485

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

(4) Activity Other Than That Permitted under the Status of Residence Previously Granted

If a foreign national residing in Japan exclusively engages in work or engages in activity other than that 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 activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted. The number of such foreign nationals had decreased by 59 (7.3%) from 2009 to 751 in 2010. This accounts for 3.1% 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 China (291 accounting for 38.7% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (207 accounting for 27.6%), and the Philippines (57 accounting for 7.6%), and these three top countries account for 73.9% of the total. (Table 25)

Table 25: Changes in the number of cases of activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted by nationality (place of origin)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		1,736	1,409	1,153	810	751
China		469	395	369	266	291
R.O. Korea		412	380	275	306	207
Philippines		399	297	189	85	57
Nepal		18	21	35	10	45
Viet Nam		32	49	56	15	36
China (Taiwan)		34	48	48	25	29
Bangladesh		13	13	26	18	23
India		4	27	23	8	19
Sri Lanka		14	8	16	9	15
Thailand		14	14	14	14	6
Others		327	157	102	54	23

(*) "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 2010, the number of those who were considered to have been illegally working was 18,490, accounting for 76.4% 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 89 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 6,039, accounting for 32.7% of the total, followed by the Philippines (3,573 accounting for 19.3%), R.O. Korea (2,590 accounting for 14.0%), Thailand (1,171 accounting for 6.3%), and Viet Nam (722 accounting for 3.9). These top five countries represented 76.2% of the total. As a recent trend, the number of Chinese illegal workers has accounted for a large ratio. (Table 26)

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

(People)

Year		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Nationality (Place of Origin)						
Total		45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545	18,490
	Male	24,759	20,926	19,270	16,522	10,943
	Female	21,170	16,056	13,201	10,023	7,547
China		13,750	10,223	9,583	8,205	6,039
	Male	7,614	5,910	5,950	5,343	3,887
	Female	6,136	4,313	3,633	2,862	2,152
Philippines		7,978	7,075	6,083	4,845	3,573
	Male	2,887	2,815	2,559	2,250	1,491
	Female	5,091	4,260	3,524	2,595	2,082
R.O. Korea		6,696	5,315	4,077	3,241	2,590
	Male	2,232	1,977	1,555	1,306	985
	Female	4,464	3,338	2,522	1,935	1,605
Thailand		2,650	2,013	1,694	1,512	1,171
	Male	1,159	985	903	822	645
	Female	1,491	1,028	791	690	526
Viet Nam		1,189	1,318	1,473	1,152	722
	Male	630	756	887	741	483
	Female	559	562	586	411	239
Indonesia		2,286	2,034	2,162	1,557	675
	Male	1,521	1,438	1,568	1,230	518
	Female	765	596	594	327	157
Sri Lanka		1,440	1,264	1,278	1,042	554
	Male	1,270	1,117	1,150	946	507
	Female	170	147	128	96	47
Peru		927	785	786	932	487
	Male	609	518	532	652	311
	Female	318	267	254	280	176
Nepal		830	610	535	456	277
	Male	568	431	364	340	215
	Female	262	179	171	116	62
Bangladesh		1,176	907	702	490	264
	Male	1,114	873	670	473	254
	Female	62	34	32	17	10
Others		7,007	5,438	4,098	3,113	2,138
	Male	5,155	4,106	3,132	2,419	1,647
	Female	1,852	1,332	966	694	491

(*) "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 10,943 (accounting for 59.2% of the total) and 7,547 (accounting for 40.8% of the total), respectively. The percentage of females is increasing compared to the previous year.

(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 (4,168 accounting for 22.5% of the total), followed by attendants such as bar hostesses (2,679 accounting for 14.5%), and construction workers (2,383 accounting for 12.9%).

According to statistics by gender, the largest number of males' occupation was factory workers, followed by construction workers and other labor workers on the other hand. The largest number of females' occupation was 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

(People)

Job Categories \ Year		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545	18,490
	Male	24,759	20,926	19,270	16,522	10,943
	Female	21,170	16,056	13,201	10,023	7,547
Factory worker		12,986	11,572	11,366	8,220	4,168
	Male	8,892	7,898	7,670	5,687	2,846
	Female	4,094	3,674	3,696	2,533	1,322
Attendants such as bar hostess		7,701	5,809	4,452	3,323	2,679
	Male	356	400	429	331	240
	Female	7,345	5,409	4,023	2,992	2,439
Construction worker		5,425	4,458	3,831	3,938	2,383
	Male	5,378	4,401	3,792	3,890	2,358
	Female	47	57	39	48	25
Other labor worker		3,307	2,792	3,092	2,461	1,715
	Male	2,502	2,190	2,342	1,899	1,347
	Female	805	602	750	562	368
Waitress and bartender		4,008	3,073	2,149	1,487	1,265
	Male	1,336	1,190	807	596	464
	Female	2,672	1,883	1,342	891	801
Other service worker		2,815	1,953	1,483	1,312	1,166
	Male	1,026	739	598	533	490
	Female	1,789	1,214	885	779	676
Others		9,687	7,325	6,098	5,804	5,114
	Male	5,269	4,108	3,632	3,586	3,198
	Female	4,418	3,217	2,466	2,218	1,916

(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 (3,462 accounting for 18.7% of the total), followed by Kanagawa Prefecture (2,594 accounting for 14.0%), Chiba Prefecture (2,316 accounting for 12.5%), Aichi Prefecture (2,188 accounting for 11.8%) and Ibaraki Prefecture (1,805 accounting for 9.8%), 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,



Illegal workers detection

one metropolis and six prefectures (Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Ibaraki, Gunma and Tochigi) account for 69.4% of the total number of illegal foreign workers, nine prefectures in the central district (Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui, Shizuoka, Gifu and Aichi) account for 19.3% of the total number of illegal foreign workers, together accounting for a large ratio, while the existence of illegal foreign workers is recognized in 46 prefectures of the entire nation. (Table 28)

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

(People)

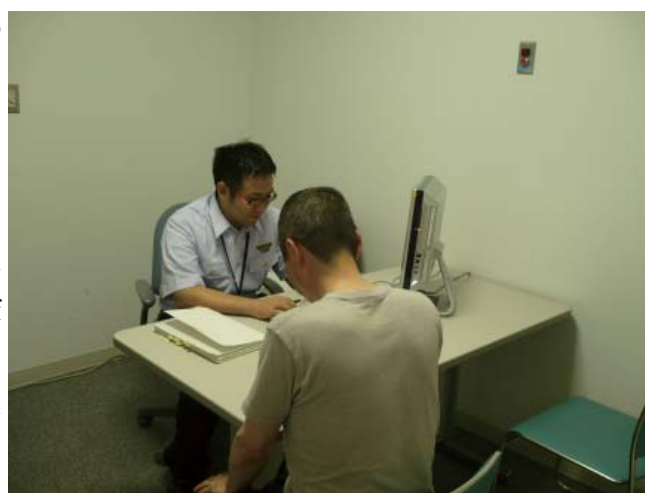
Prefecture \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	45,929	36,982	32,471	26,545	18,490
Tokyo	14,447	8,940	5,862	4,618	3,462
Kanagawa	4,673	4,499	4,497	3,522	2,594
Chiba	3,773	3,021	2,824	2,784	2,316
Aichi	4,597	4,724	4,801	3,924	2,188
Ibaraki	2,198	2,243	2,465	2,448	1,805
Saitama	3,762	3,183	2,784	2,215	1,528
Osaka	1,677	1,548	1,439	1,060	894
Gunma	2,359	1,961	1,980	1,375	717
Shizuoka	1,255	1,243	1,092	800	439
Tochigi	1,345	1,103	1,097	776	401
Others	5,843	4,517	3,630	3,023	2,146

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 a special inquiry officer, and decision by the Minister of Justice.

The number of cases received examination of violations in 2010 was 25,731, decreasing consecutively since 2006. (Table 29)



Judgment of violations

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

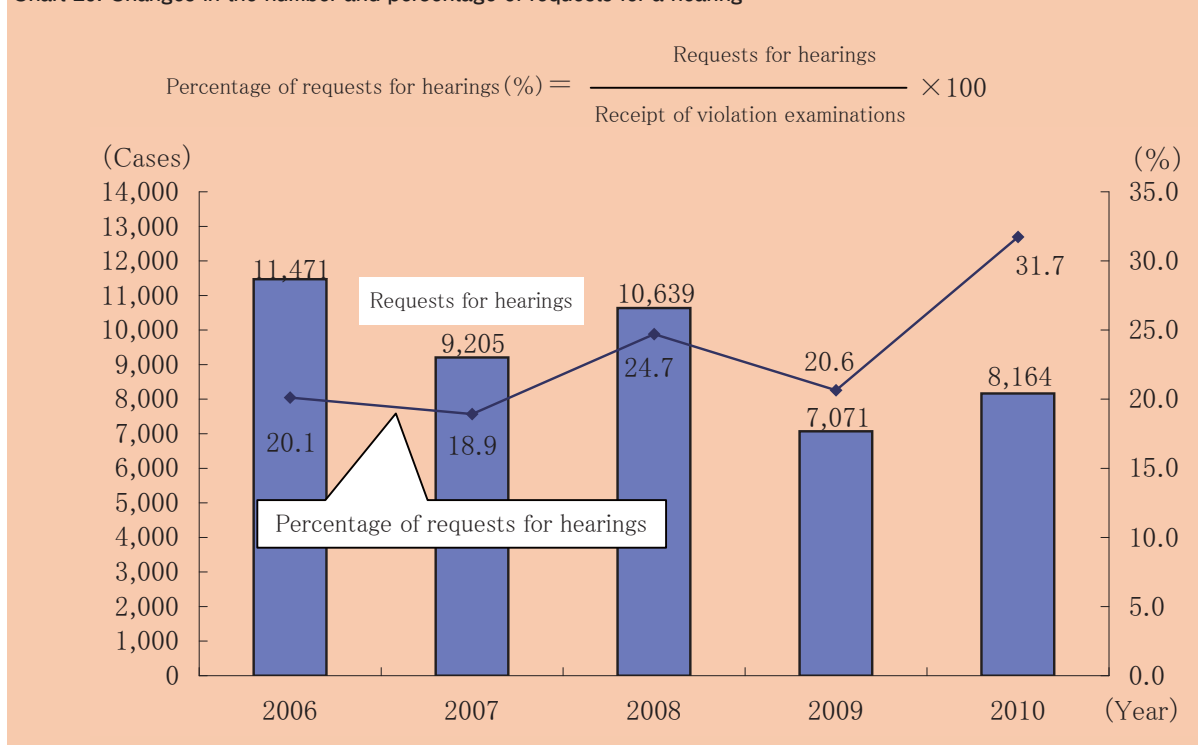
(Cases)

Year			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Division			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Violation examination by immigration inspector	Receipt		57,017 (488)	48,647 (2,918)	43,073 (3,274)	34,247 (1,234)	25,731 (1,375)
	Finished	Found not to fall under one of the reasons for deportation	3	3	4	2	10
		Issuance of written deportation order	31,393	26,215	22,179	16,312	11,386
		Request for hearing	11,471	9,205	10,639	7,071	8,164
		Issuance of written departure order	11,100	9,691	8,477	9,041	5,186
	Not finished, others		3,050	3,533	1,774	1,821	985
	Hearing by special inquiry officer	Receipt		12,221 (711)	10,101 (846)	11,247 (562)	7,607 (506)
Finished		Error in the findings	-	-	2	-	1
		Issuance of written deportation order	126	134	166	104	112
		Filing an objection	11,196	9,361	10,515	6,876	7,949
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-	-
Not finished, others		899	606	564	627	715	
Decision of the Minister of Justice		Receipt		11,757 (552)	10,037 (639)	11,280 (682)	7,456 (561)
	Finished	Objection with reason	3	6	3	1	0
		Objection without reason	11,018	9,245	10,593	6,630	8,107
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-	-
	Not finished, others		736	786	684	825	649

(*) 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 2010 was 8,164 accounting for 31.7% of the total cases received as examination of violations, increased from 2009. (Chart 20)

Chart 20: Changes in the number and percentage 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, increased to 7,949 in 2010. (Table 29)

(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order

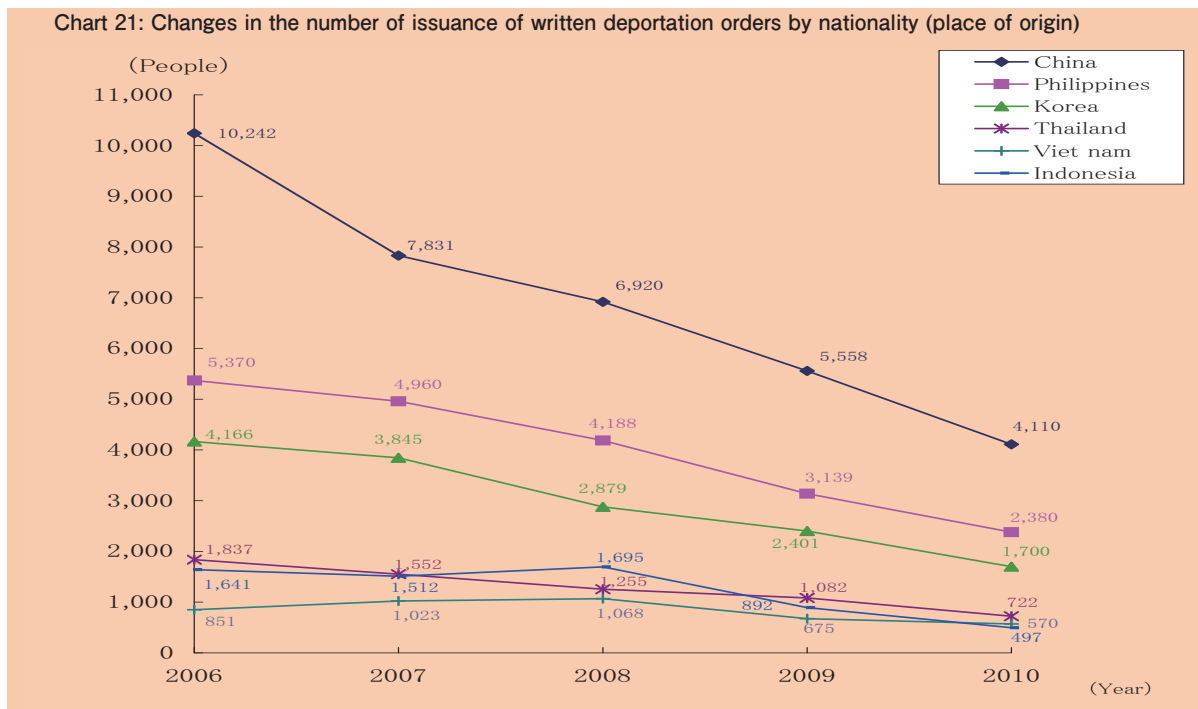
The number of written deportation orders issued in 2010 was 13,277. According to statistics by grounds for their deportation, cases of overstay numbered 8,665 and they accounted for 65.3% of the total. On the other hand, the percentage of cases of illegal entry was 22.3%, both of which show approximately the same ratio as the previous year. (Table 30)

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

		(Cases)				
Grounds for Deportation \ Year	Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		33,202	28,225	24,442	18,436	13,277
Overstay		22,136	19,403	16,966	12,130	8,665
Illegal entry		7,880	6,188	5,125	4,473	2,956
Illegal landing		443	334	241	173	113
Activity other than those permitted		1,726	1,367	1,137	813	735
Criminal offenses etc.		831	738	805	641	477
Others		186	195	168	206	331

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin) in 2010, as well, the largest number of foreign nationals who were issued written deportation orders came from China (4,110 accounting for 31.0%), followed by the Philippines (2,380 accounting for 17.9%), and North and South Koreans (1,700 accounting for 12.8%). (Chart 21)

Chart 21: Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by nationality (place of origin)



(3) Provisional Release

In 2010, the number of foreign nationals detained under written detention orders who were accorded provisional release decreased by 170 compared with a year earlier, reaching 2,095. On the other hand, the number of foreign nationals detained under written deportation orders who were accorded provisional release increased by 175 compared with a year earlier, reaching 1,012.

(Table 31)

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

(Cases)

Kind of Order \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
By written detention order	3,658	3,883	1,918	2,265	2,095
By written deportation order	671	938	819	837	1,012

(4) Special Permission to Stay in Japan

The number of foreign nationals who received special permission to stay in Japan from the Minister of Justice was 6,359 in 2010, an increase by 1,716 from 2009.

Most of the foreign nationals who received special permission to stay in Japan 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 in Japan despite reasons for deportation, the largest number in 2010 was overstay (4,939 accounting for 77.7%), followed by illegal entry and illegal landing, accounting for 16.4%. Overstay, illegal entry and illegal landing accounted for 94.1% of the total. (Table 32)

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

(Cases)

Grounds for Deportation \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	9,360	7,388	8,522	4,643	6,359
Overstay	7,096	5,586	6,521	3,508	4,939
Illegal entry / Illegal landing	1,915	1,457	1,640	897	1,044
Criminal offenses etc.	349	345	361	238	376

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin) in 2010, the largest number of foreign nationals who were granted special permission to stay in Japan came from China (1,098 accounting for 17.3%), followed by North and South Korea (815 accounting for 12.8%). (Table 33)

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

(Cases)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	9,360	7,388	8,522	4,643	6,359
China	1,827	1,304	1,669	857	1,098
Korea	1,523	1,106	1,416	663	815
Others	6,010	4,978	5,437	3,123	4,446

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

4 Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals

The number of foreign nationals deported decreased by 5,017 (27.5%) from 2009 to 13,224 in 2010.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from China (4,266 accounting for 32.3% of the total), followed by the Philippines (2,439 accounting for 18.4%), R.O. Korea (1,715 accounting for 13.0%), Thailand (726 accounting for 5.5%), and Viet Nam (569 accounting for 4.3%). (Table 34)

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

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin) \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	33,018	27,913	23,931	18,241	13,224
China	10,251	7,516	6,805	5,475	4,266
Philippines	5,453	5,128	4,385	3,194	2,439
R.O. Korea	4,193	3,798	2,873	2,423	1,715
Thailand	1,845	1,553	1,260	1,113	726
Viet Nam	864	1,018	1,023	709	569
Indonesia	1,672	1,452	1,596	885	502
Sri Lanka	1,139	1,090	1,046	684	419
Peru	655	518	495	674	384
Brazil	217	307	268	307	226
Bangladesh	1,076	847	627	380	223
Others	5,653	4,686	3,553	2,397	1,755

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

According to statistics by means of deportation, 96.9% of foreign nationals who had been issued a deportation order were deported at their own expense ("voluntary departure"), while the number of foreign nationals who needed to be individually deported at national expense because of having no money etc. was 291 in 2010. (Table 35)

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

(People)

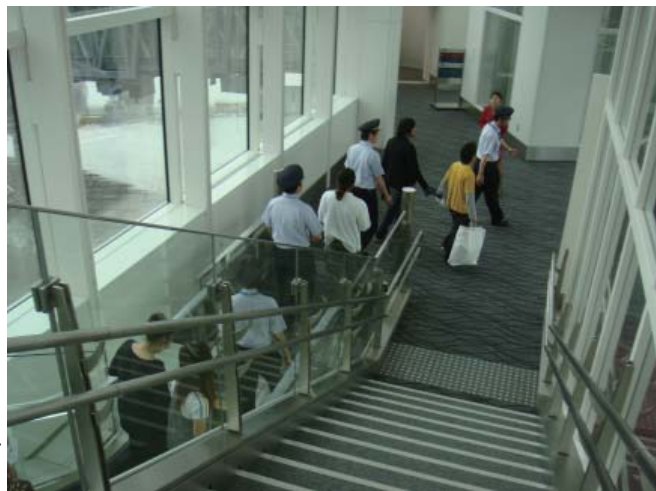
Measure of Deportation \ Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	33,018	27,913	23,931	18,241	13,224
Voluntary departure	31,911	26,818	23,093	17,569	12,812
Deportation in accordance with Article 59	852	690	407	200	106
Deportation individually at the expense of the government	239	361	383	438	291
Deportation in group at the expense of the government	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0	0
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons	16	44	48	34	15

(*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 decreased by 147 (33.6%) from 438 in 2009 to 291 in 2010.



Deportation

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 4,757 (27.1%) from 2009 to 12,812 in 2010.

Around 95% of the deported foreign nationals are deported at their own expense every year as soon as requirements for deportation such as possessing a passport, an airplane ticket, and enough money for travel costs are fulfilled. For those who do not fulfill requirements for deportation, 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)	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	31,911	26,818	23,093	17,569	12,812
China	9,831	7,274	6,686	5,390	4,232
Philippines	5,340	4,988	4,242	3,096	2,368
R.O. Korea	4,155	3,763	2,836	2,402	1,704
Thailand	1,766	1,503	1,214	1,084	717
Viet Nam	861	1,011	1,008	695	564
Indonesia	1,663	1,438	1,549	878	496
Sri Lanka	1,089	1,021	986	667	404
Peru	629	482	460	617	328
Bangladesh	1,068	831	610	368	218
Nepal	618	492	408	274	210
Others	4,891	4,015	3,094	2,098	1,571

(*) "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 2010 was 106, having decreased by 94 (47.0%) from 2009. (Table 35)

 *(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 amended 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. (Chart 19) The landing denial period for overstayers who are deported in accordance with deportation procedures is five years or ten years, while the landing denial period for those who depart from Japan under a departure order is shortened to one year to encourage quick departure.

(2) Investigation into Violations

The number of foreign nationals who were handed over from immigration control officers to immigration inspectors through the departure order procedures was 5,181 in 2010, accounting for 21.4% 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 (2,221 accounting for 42.9% of the total), followed by the Philippines (749 accounting for 14.5%), R.O. Korea (727 accounting for 14.0%), Thailand (230 accounting for 4.4%), and Viet Nam (189 accounting for 3.6%), and these top five countries account for 79.4% of the total.

(Table 37)

Table 37: Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality (place of origin) (2010)

(People)

Nationality (Place of Origin)	Total	24-(ii)-3	24-(iv)-(b)	24-(vi)	24-(vi)-2	24-(vii)
Total	5,181	5	4,938	85	0	153
China	2,221	5	2,182	20	0	14
Philippines	749	0	664	21	0	64
R.O. Korea	727	0	718	1	0	8
Thailand	230	0	196	20	0	14
Viet Nam	189	0	182	0	0	7
Indonesia	183	0	170	7	0	6
Sri Lanka	151	0	145	2	0	4
Peru	93	0	79	0	0	14
Mongolia	81	0	77	4	0	0
Malaysia	67	0	67	0	0	0
Others	490	0	458	10	0	22

(*) "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 4,938, accounting for 95.3% of the total. This was followed by 153 suspects violating Article 24, (7) of said Act, and 85 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 2010 was 5,181, accounting for 20.1% 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 5,186 in 2010.

According to statistics by nationality (place of origin), the largest number was from China (2,220 accounting for 42.8% of the total), followed by the Philippines (754 accounting for 14.5%), North and South Korea (728 accounting for 14.0%), Thailand (229 accounting for 4.4%) and Viet Nam (189 accounting for 3.6%) and the top five countries account for 79.4% 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	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total		11,100	9,691	8,477	9,041	5,186
China		3,516	3,153	3,136	3,200	2,220
Philippines		1,582	1,486	1,141	1,329	754
Korea		1,992	1,616	1,142	885	728
Thailand		429	313	222	288	229
Viet Nam		343	359	472	603	189
Indonesia		701	623	590	707	183
Sri Lanka		349	312	238	327	151
Peru		250	239	212	367	93
Mongolia		240	210	153	126	82
Malaysia		214	196	123	139	67
Others		1,484	1,184	1,048	1,070	490

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

(4) Confirmation of Departure

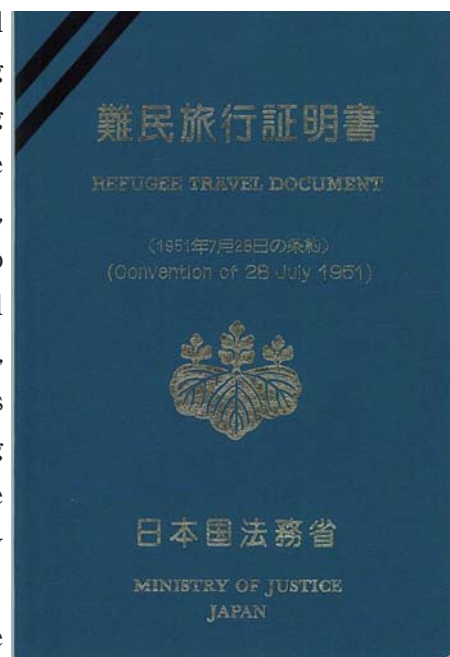
Foreign nationals who are recognized as subject to a departure order are required, similarly to foreign nationals departing within the period of stay, to submit one copy of an embarkation/disembarkation (ED) card to the immigration inspector to receive a seal of departure, and to submit their own written 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 (“Convention”) and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1982 (“Protocol”), (hereinafter, “Convention” and “Protocol” are referred to together as “Convention etc.”) and as a result, also established a system for recognition of refugee status*. 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 amended 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)

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 2010 was 1,202, a decrease by 186 from 2009, though it remained at previous year's high level. (Table 39)

Table 39: Changes in the number of refugee applicants

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Applied	954	816	1,599	1,388	1,202

(People)

*(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.

The number of nationalities of applicants was 51, and the country from which the largest number of applicants came was Myanmar (342 persons), followed by Sri Lanka (171 persons), Turkey (126 persons), Nepal (109 persons), and India (91 persons).

Applicants consisted of 668 legal residents (55.6%) and 534 illegal residents (44.4%) 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 148 persons (27.7%) and those who applied after a detention order or deportation order was issued, standing at 386 persons (72.3%).

About 20% of the total applicants, standing at 223 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 2010 was 1,455, a decrease by 393 (21.3%) from the previous year. The number of applicants who were recognized as refugees was 26, while the number of applicants who were not recognized was 1,336. The number of those who withdrew their applications and others was 93. (Table 40)

Table 40: Changes in the number of refugee findings

(People)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Findings	459	544	918	1,848	1,455

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 2010, 363 applicants were allowed to stay in Japan. (Table 41)

Table 41: Changes in the number of protected refugees

(People)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Recognized as a refugee	34	41	57	30	39
Humanitarian permission to stay	53	88	360	501	363
Total	87	129	417	531	402

(*) 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.

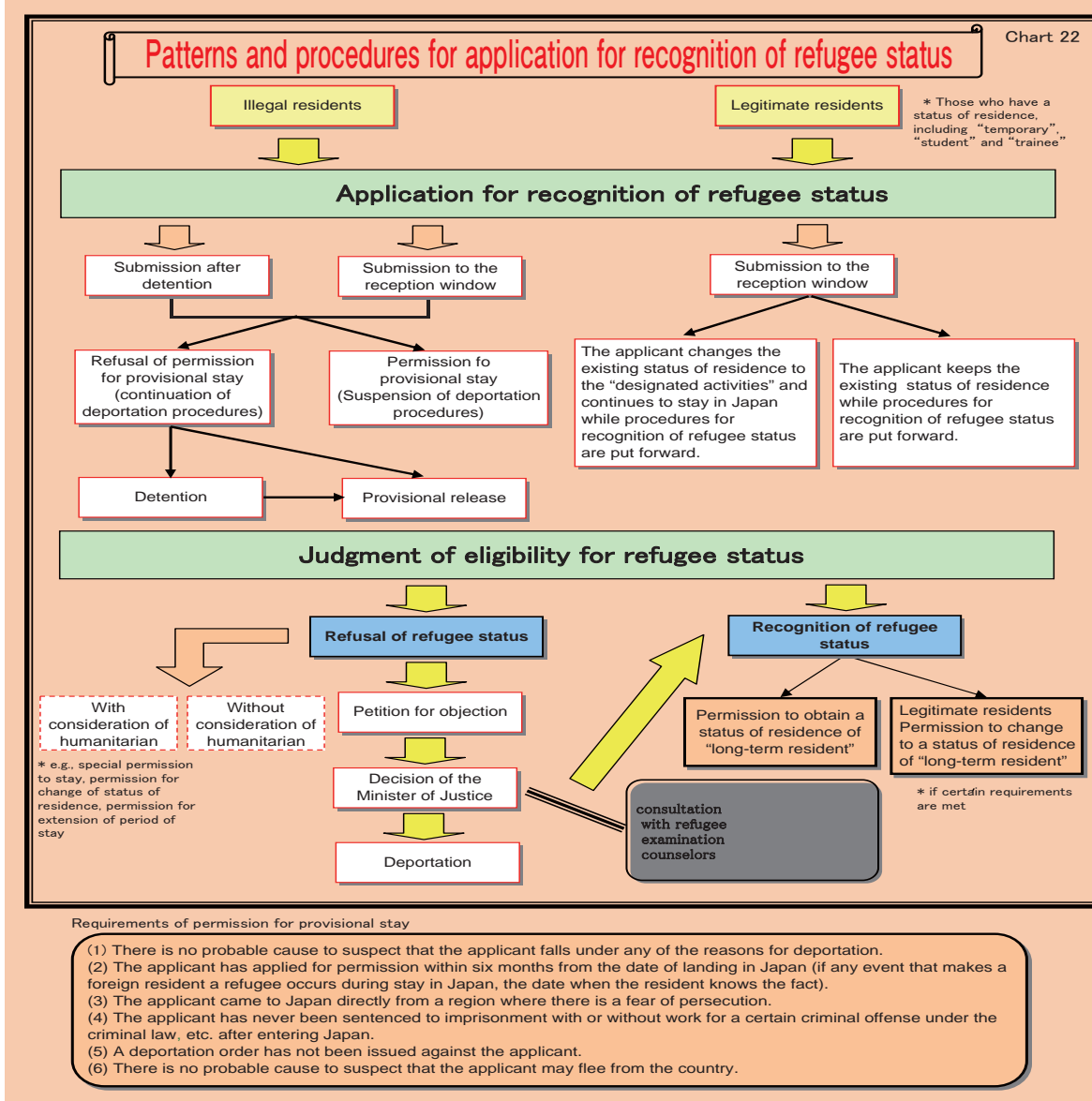
3 Implementation of the System of Permission for Provisional Stay

The number of those who were granted permission for provisional stay* was 65, decreased by 7 from the previous year.

The number of those who were examined whether to be granted permission for provisional stay was 558. 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): 374 persons
- Applicants had received a deportation order in the past: 246 persons

Chart 22: Patterns and procedures for application for recognition of refugee status



*(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 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 61-24 of the Immigration Control Act.

** (Note 2): If one applicant falls under several reasons for refusal of permission, all reasons are included. (Chart 22)

Section 2 ◆ Filing of Objections

1 Filing of Objections

The total number of objections filed by applicants who were denied refugee status (hereinafter, referred to as “Denial of Recognition of Refugee Status”) was 859, decreased by 297 from a year earlier. (Table 42)

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

(People)

Year		1982 ~ 2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Division								
Not recognized as a refugee		2,773	389	446	791	1,703	1,336	7,438
Filing of objection		1,862	340	362	429	1,156	859	5,008
Decision	With reason	32	12	4	17	8	13	86
	Without reason	1,425	127	183	300	230	325	2,590
	Withdrawn	295	33	34	34	70	113	579

(*) 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, 451 of them were handled in 2010, having increased by 143 (approximately 1.5 times more) from a year earlier. According to the statistics, 13 objections were found to be with reasonable grounds (8 cases a year earlier), 325 objections were found without reasonable grounds (230 cases a year earlier), and 113 objections were withdrawn by the foreign nationals who filed objections (70 cases a year earlier). (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 (UNHCR), Japan Federation of Bar Associations, 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 2010, the number of oral statements of opinion and processes of questions was 541.

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 533 in 2010.

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, 110 applications were made in the past five years (from 2006 until 2010), 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 Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons

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 December 2004 and “Japan’s Action Plan of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons 2009” decided in December 2009.

The number of foreign nationals who took procedures for protection as victims of trafficking in persons (including support for returning their home countries) was 29 in 2010 (20 in the previous year). According to nationality, the Philippines had 26 victims (10 in the previous year), followed by Thailand with 1 victim (8 in the previous year), China with 1 victim (1 in the previous year), and R.O. Korea with 1 victim (none in the previous year).

Of the 29 victims, 23 were legal residents (9 in the previous year) and 6 were those who had violated the Immigration Control Act such as overstayers (11 in the previous year). Special permission to stay in Japan was issued to all the victims who had violated the Immigration Control Act. (Table 43)

The number of victims has significantly decreased since 2005, when the Immigration Bureau started the survey and protected 115 victims, and the number is hovering around 20 to 30 in recent years. It is considered that the reason for such a decrease is due to the fact that the Government as a whole is taking overall and comprehensive countermeasures against trafficking in persons based on the “Action Plan for Countermeasures against Trafficking in Persons” and that countermeasures for preventing trafficking in persons, including reviewing the landing permission criteria (ministerial ordinance) relating to the status of residence of “Entertainer”, implementation of strict landing examination, have achieved a certain effect. (Table 44)

In recent years, in many cases, foreign nationals entered Japan with the status of residence with no limit of activities such as “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” etc. by a marriage with a Japanese national and are victimized afterward.

Table 43: Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2010)

(People)

Breakdown Nationality	Recognized as a victim of trafficking in persons		Total
	Legal resident	Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special Permission to Stay in Japan)	
Philippines	22	4 (4)	26
Thailand	0	1 (1)	1
China	0	1 (1)	1
R.O. Korea	1	0 (0)	1
Total	23	6 (6)	29

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

(*2) The status of residence of 23 legitimate residents consists of 11 persons who are "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", 6 persons who are "Long-Term Resident", 5 persons who are "Entertainer", 1 persons who are "Temporary Visitor".

The manner of violation of 6 persons with special permission to stay in Japan consists of 5 persons who made Illegal Entry, and 1 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	2010
Total		115	47	40	28	20	29
Legal resident		68	20	27	11	9	23
Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special permission to stay in Japan)		47 (47)	27 (27)	13 (13)	17 (17)	11 (11)	6 (6)

② Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons

Persons who were deported as those committing trafficking in persons* in 2010 were 4 (6 in the previous year), and their countries of origin were Thailand (2) and China (Taiwan) (1), and Indonesia (1).

Countries of origin of those who were deported were Thailand (3), and China (Taiwan) (3) in 2009.

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 due to an enforcement of separation or impossibility of preparation for documents to be submitted, or for change of status of residence due to domestic violence is made by victims, permitting such

*(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)).

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

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 2010 was 77.

The Immigration Bureau took individual situations of the victims into account and permitted in most of the cases to extend the period of stay or to change the status of residence. However, 5 of them, such as those with which the Immigration Bureau lost contact in the midst of the procedure and those victimized after violating the Immigration Control Act, therefore did not have any reason for special permission to stay in Japan were not permitted to apply for an extension of stay or deported. (Table 45)

Table 45: Number of recognized foreign DV victims (2010)

(People)

Nationality	Division	Permission for extension of period of stay and so forth	Deportation Procedures	Consult	Total
Philippines		36	6	5	47
China		7	1	2	10
R.O. Korea		4	0	0	4
Russia		3	0	0	3
Thailand		1	1	0	2
Brazil		1	1	0	2
Afghanistan		0	0	1	1
Cambodia		0	0	1	1
Colombia		1	0	0	1
Congo		1	0	0	1
Viet nam		1	0	0	1
Peru		1	0	0	1
Mongolia		0	1	0	1
Romania		1	0	0	1
Stateless		1	0	0	1
Total		58	10	9	77

(*) “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 (“registration card”)* due to the foreign national’s departure from Japan, death or other circumstances warranting termination of residence in Japan.

The total number of cases for initial registration in 2010 was 254,577, decreased by 16,436 from 271,013 in 2009.

Looking at the percentage of reasons for the number of cases for initial registration in 2010, the number of entries is 242,169 (accounting for 95.1% of the total), followed by birth (4.7%), renunciation or loss of Japanese nationality (0.04%). (Table 46)

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Initial registration	Total	364,868	376,272	377,510	336,684	337,684	324,775	271,013	254,577
	Entry	352,983	364,068	365,725	324,259	324,330	310,755	258,492	242,169
	Birth	11,177	11,464	11,122	11,844	12,902	13,524	12,127	11,986
	Renunciation, or loss of Japanese nationality	60	111	74	98	89	75	77	93
	Other	648	629	589	483	363	421	317	329
Closed registration	Total	286,370	317,334	302,685	312,655	263,495	262,999	305,575	296,289
	Departure	261,259	292,474	279,919	290,352	240,680	241,936	282,083	274,271
	Acquisition of Japanese nationality	18,566	17,728	16,053	15,376	15,634	13,909	16,266	13,932
	Death	5,712	5,742	6,039	5,938	6,168	6,115	6,188	6,686
	Other	833	1,390	674	989	1,013	1,039	1,038	1,400

The total number of cases of termination of registration card decreased to 296,289 by 9,286 in 2010 from 305,575 in 2009.

Looking at the percentage for the number of cases of termination of registration card by reasons in 2010, the number of departures is 274,271 (accounting for 92.6% of the total), followed by acquiring Japanese nationality (4.7%) and death (2.3%).

*(Note) The 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.



Alien registration certificate

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 2010, the total number of applications for registration of changes was 2,226,733, representing a decrease by 53,238 from 2,279,971 in 2009. All of the numbers of registrations of address changes, registrations of changes due to the abolition, establishment, separation or unification of municipalities and registrations of changes other than address decreased from a year earlier. (Table 47)

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

(Cases)

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
2000		388,279	1,175,414	1,563,693
2001		411,405	1,090,251	1,501,656

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
2010		505,150	1,721,583	2,226,733

(*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.

The number of applications for confirmation of registered matters (re-issuance) in 2010 was 229,529, slightly increased from the previous year. (Table 48)

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

(Cases)

Division Year	Confirmation of registered matters	Division Year	Confirmation of registered matters	Division Year	Confirmation of registered matters	Division Year	Confirmation of registered matters
1965 ※	485,439	1990	337,760	2003	213,549	2008	230,384
1970	77,341	1995	260,014	2004	269,735	2009	227,385
1975	117,087	2000	290,095	2005	230,220	2010	229,529
1980 ※	422,568	2001	220,069	2006	200,793		
1985 ※	338,522	2002	215,815	2007	274,369		

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

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

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.

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 particularly in their closely related administrative areas. In this sense, it can be said that it is inseparable from the official work 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 2010 was 1,553,726.

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 of residence management.