

◆ Part II ◆

Immigration Control in Recent Years

Chapter 1. Foreign Nationals Entering and Departing from Japan

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

① Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

(1) The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

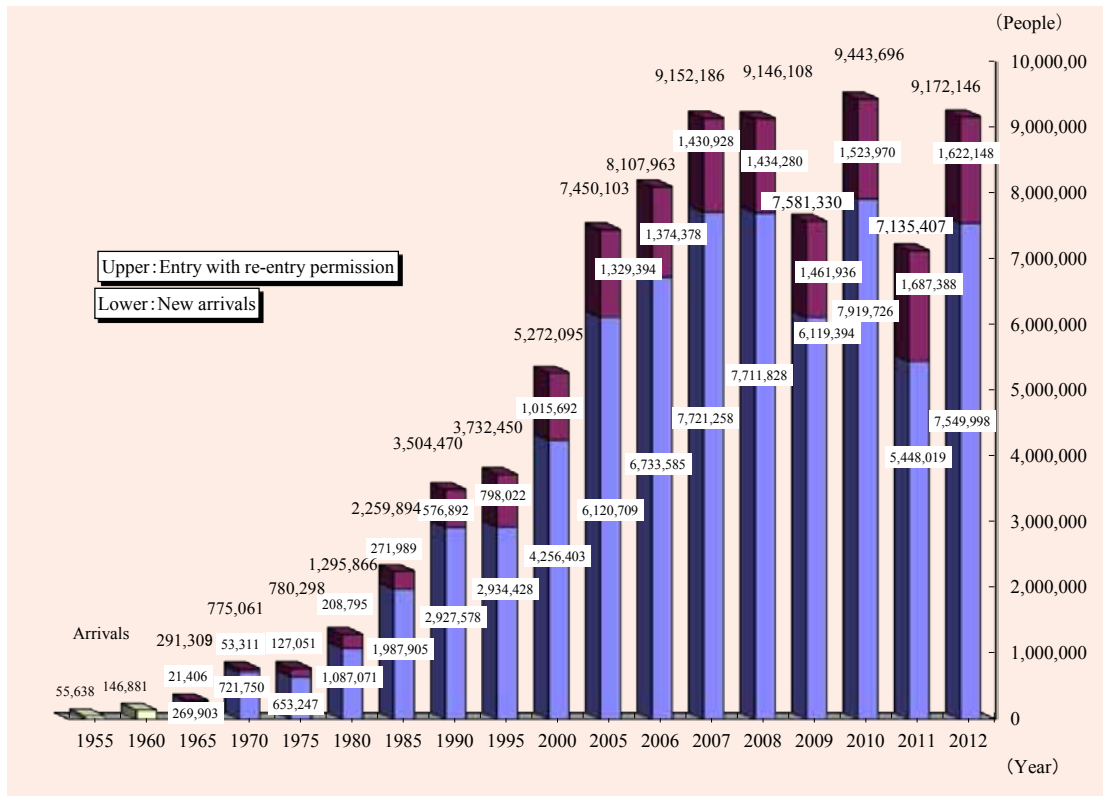
The number of foreign nationals entering Japan was only about 18,000 in 1950 when the statistics relating to immigration control first began to be recorded. As a result of the enforcement of the “Peace Treaty with Japan” (Treaty No. 5 of 1952) on April 28, 1952, Japan recovered complete sovereignty and acquired the authority to decide whether or not to grant permission for entry based on the Immigration Control Order. Following which the number of foreign nationals entering Japan began to experience an almost consistent upward trend partly as a result of cheaper and more convenient flights achieved through improvements in international transportation such as through the use of larger jumbo jets, exceeding 1 million in 1978, 2 million in 1984, 3 million in 1990, 4 million in 1996, 5 million in 2000, and 9 million in 2007.

The number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2012 was 9,172,146, an increase of 2,036,739 (28.5%) from 7,135,407 in 2011.

Of the 9,172,146 foreign nationals entering Japan in 2012, the number of foreign nationals “newly entering” was 7,549,998, an increase of 2,101,979 (38.6%) from 5,448,019 in 2011, while the number of foreign nationals “re-entering” was 1,622,148, a decrease of 65,240 (3.9%) from 1,687,388 in 2011.

Moreover, the rates of increase in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan and the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan hit a record high. These substantial increases may have been caused by an increase in the supply of airplane seats triggered by new flight services on low-cost carriers (LCCs) coupled with lower air fares, which encouraged a rebound in the number of tourists that had previously seen a decline owing to the occurrence of the Great East Japan Earthquake. (Chart 7)

Chart 7: Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan

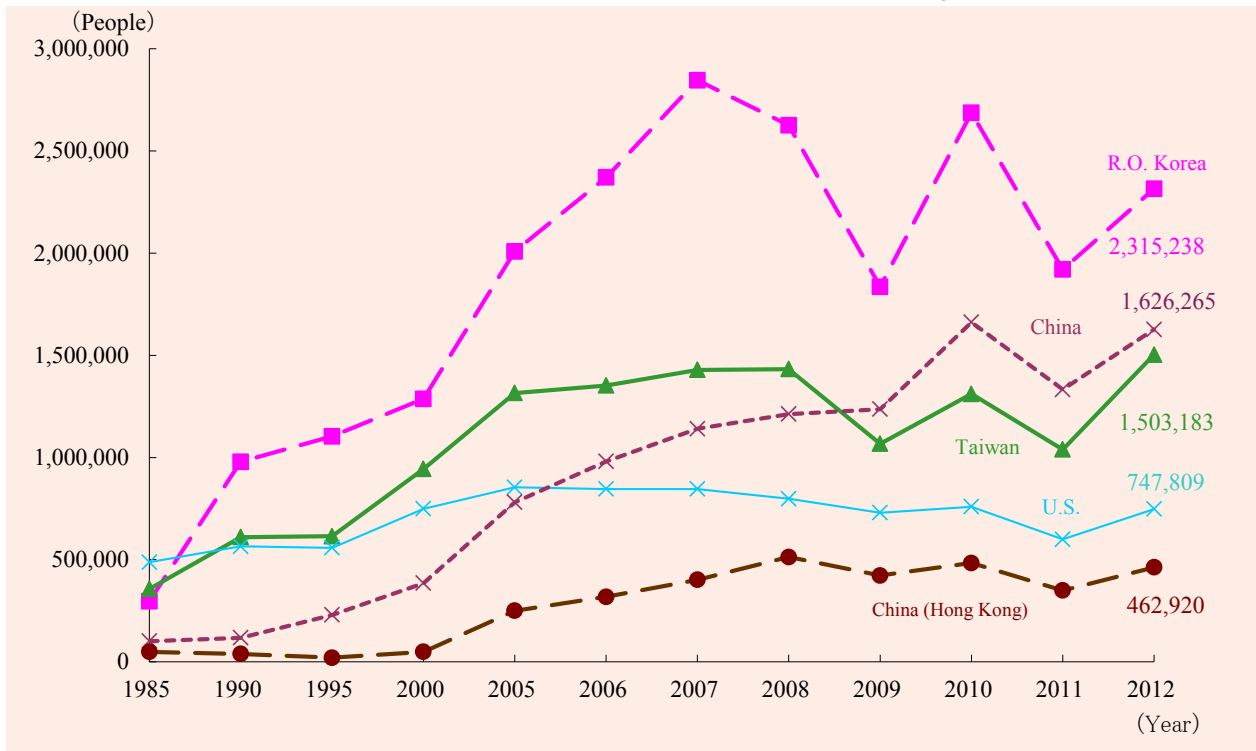


(*) There are no separate categories for arrivals for 1955 and 1960.

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

The statistics for the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2012 by nationality/region show that the largest number of foreign nationals came from the Republic of Korea (R.O. Korea). The number of R.O. Korean nationals who entered Japan was 2,315,238, accounting for 25.2% of the total number of foreign nationals coming to Japan. R.O. Korea was followed by China (1,626,265 (17.7%)), Taiwan (1,503,183 (16.4%)), the U.S. (747,809 (8.2%)), and China (Hong Kong) (462,920 (5.0%)) (*). More than half of the foreign nationals entering Japan came from Japan's three neighboring countries (regions): R.O. Korea, China and Taiwan. Their total, standing at 59.4%, accounted for more than half of the total number of foreign nationals who entered Japan in 2012. The top five countries (regions) accounted for 72.6% of the total. Among them, R.O. Korea surpassed the U.S. in 1988 to become the top country and has maintained its position since then. Moreover, overseas travel was de-regulated, and in March 2006, visa exemption with no time limit was introduced for R.O. Korea nationals whose purpose for visiting Japan was "Temporary Visitor". This is one of various measures that were taken to increase the exchange of persons between the two countries, and is considered to have contributed to the increase in R.O. Korean visitors. The number of visitors from China has been increasing year after year owing to the fact that sightseeing trips to Japan have become relatively easy due to the easing of regulations on visa issuance, and China has been in second place for four consecutive years. (Chart 8)

Chart 8: Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan by major nationality/region



According to a comparison of the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2011 and 2012 by nationality/region of the top five countries/regions, the number of visitors from R.O. Korea increased by 395,362 (20.6%), followed by China, which increased by 293,565 (22.0%), Taiwan, which increased by 464,249 (44.7%), the U.S., which increased by 148,303 (24.7%), and China (Hong Kong), which increased by 113,182 (32.4%).

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

On the other hand, in statistics relating to foreign residents, the category “China” in the number of alien registrations before 2011 included Taiwan, but in the figures for 2012, “China” in the number of foreign residents (the total number of mid to long-term residents as well as special permanent residents) includes “Taiwan” except for those foreign nationals who have been issued with a residence card or a special permanent resident certificate with “Taiwan” listed in the “nationality/region box. In addition, BNO passport holders are included in the “U.K.”.

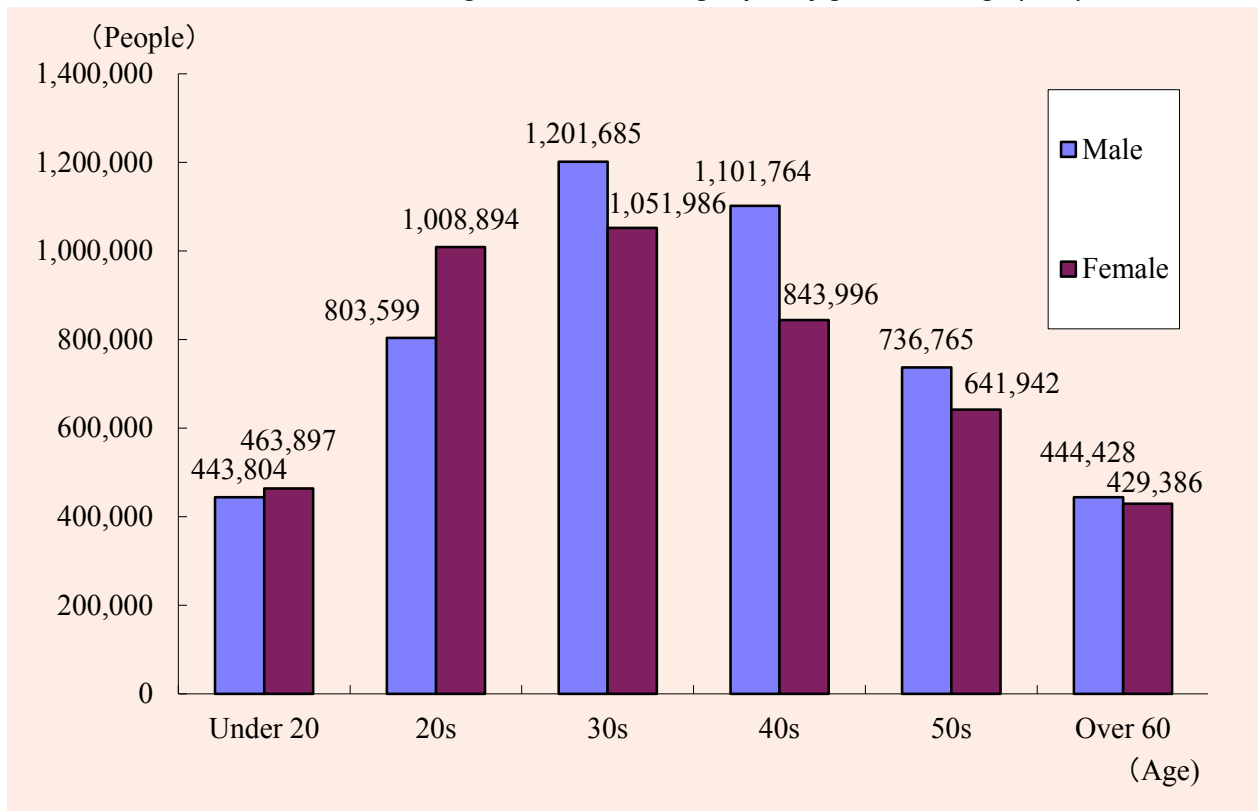
Further, for the purpose of statistics on the number of alien registrations, persons of R.O. Korea and Korea are calculated jointly as “Korea”.

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

Slightly more foreign men came to Japan than women. The numbers of foreign men and women entering Japan in 2012 were 4,732,045 and 4,440,101, respectively. The percentages of men and women were 51.6% and 48.4%, respectively.

According to statistics by age in 2012, foreign nationals in their thirties represented the largest age group, accounting for 24.6% of the total number of foreign nationals who entered Japan in 2012. The ratio of men was higher in the thirties and over age groups, while the ratio of women was higher in the twenties and under age groups. (Chart 9)

Chart 9: Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2012)



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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan in 2012 was 7,549,998. Looking at this figure by purpose of entry (status of residence), the most common status of residence was “Temporary Visitor” standing at 7,246,072 and accounting for 96.0% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by “Technical Intern Training (1)-(b)” at 62,039 (0.8%), “Student” at 57,579 (0.8%), and “Entertainer” at 34,969 (0.5%). (Table 2)

Table 2 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan by status of residence

(People)

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	7,711,828	6,119,394	7,919,726	5,448,009	7,549,998
Diplomat	12,029	10,183	11,167	9,678	10,977
Official	24,358	22,229	27,000	19,563	26,991
Professor	2,456	2,639	2,639	2,420	2,595
Artist	222	226	256	221	281
Religious Activities	828	771	713	737	737
Journalist	226	170	136	59	51
Investor/Business Manager	919	857	896	838	820
Legal/Accounting Services	2	4	3	4	4
Medical Services	1	6	2	7	9
Researcher	563	592	528	423	438
Instructor	2,930	2,499	2,339	2,540	2,312
Engineer	9,212	3,363	2,852	4,178	5,216
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	5,690	4,167	4,113	4,658	4,993
Intra-company Transferee	7,307	5,245	5,826	5,348	6,126
Entertainer	34,994	31,170	28,612	26,112	34,969
Skilled Labor	6,799	5,384	3,588	4,178	4,910
Technical Intern Training 1-(a)			2,282	5,178	5,876
Technical Intern Training 1-(b)			23,720	60,847	62,039
Technical Intern Training 2-(a)			-	-	4
Technical Intern Training 2-(b)			-	227	49
Cultural Activities	3,378	3,557	3,159	2,729	3,104
Temporary Visitor	7,367,277	5,822,719	7,632,536	5,180,961	7,246,072
College Student	58,116	66,149	63,478	49,936	57,579
Trainee	101,879	80,480	51,725	16,079	17,957
Dependent	22,167	20,540	19,486	18,165	20,653
Designated Activities	8,413	9,863	11,972	12,954	12,659
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	19,975	14,951	11,452	10,766	10,855
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,964	1,684	1,068	1,392	1,877
Long-Term Resident	20,123	9,946	8,178	7,811	9,845
Temporary Refugee	-	-	-	10	-

(*1) The statuses of residence “Technical Intern Training 1-(a),” “Technical Intern Training 1-(b),” “Technical Intern Training 2-(a)” and “Technical Intern Training 2-(b)” were newly established on July 1, 2010.

(*2) Newly-arrived foreign nationals with the status of “Technical Intern Training (2)” for their alien registration are generally not permitted to land in Japan since they do not satisfy the requirements for foreign nationals who land in Japan, provided for in Article 7(1) of the Immigration Control Act. However, those with said status who left Japan during the training period without gaining permission for re-entry due to the Great East Japan Earthquake and the accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant are allowed to re-enter Japan, as a special measure introduced in April 2011, according to the special permission for landing provided for in Article 12 of the Immigration Control Act, for the purpose of sustaining their training activities.

(*3) From 2007 to June 30, 2010, the figure for “College Student” shows the total of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student,” because the item “Pre-college Student” was integrated into “College Student” on July 1, 2012.

(*4) Temporary refugee was excluded, because a decision was made to include it in the number of cases of special landing permission from 2012 onwards.

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

A. “Temporary Visitors”

Looking more closely at the number of foreign nationals who newly entered Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” in 2012, the number of foreign nationals for sightseeing purposes was 5,221,032, accounting for 69.2% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by foreign nationals visiting for business-related purposes standing at 1,344,227 (17.8%). Since the trend of tourists who are temporary visitors is likely to be affected by miscellaneous factors occurring in Japan, such as the holding of special events, fluctuations in the exchange rate and the implementation of various measures to attract tourists, it is consequently assumed that changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, of which temporary visitors make up the majority, reflect the social situation in Japan and domestic and overseas trends at that time.

Foreign nationals staying in Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” cannot, in principle, change their status to another status of residence as they are not permitted to engage in employment activities, and moreover, were allowed to enter through relatively simple procedures (Articles 19 and 20 of the Immigration Control Act).

According to the statistics on newly entering foreign nationals for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region, R.O. Korea occupied the largest number at 1,427,902, accounting for 27.3% of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan for the purpose of sightseeing. R.O. Korea was followed by Taiwan (1,288,035, accounting for 24.7% of the total), China (644,213, accounting for 12.3%) and China (Hong Kong) (423,481, accounting for 8.1%). As R.O. Korean nationals, Taiwanese nationals, and Chinese (People’s Republic of China) nationals 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. (Chart10, 11)

Chart 10: Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” by purpose of entry

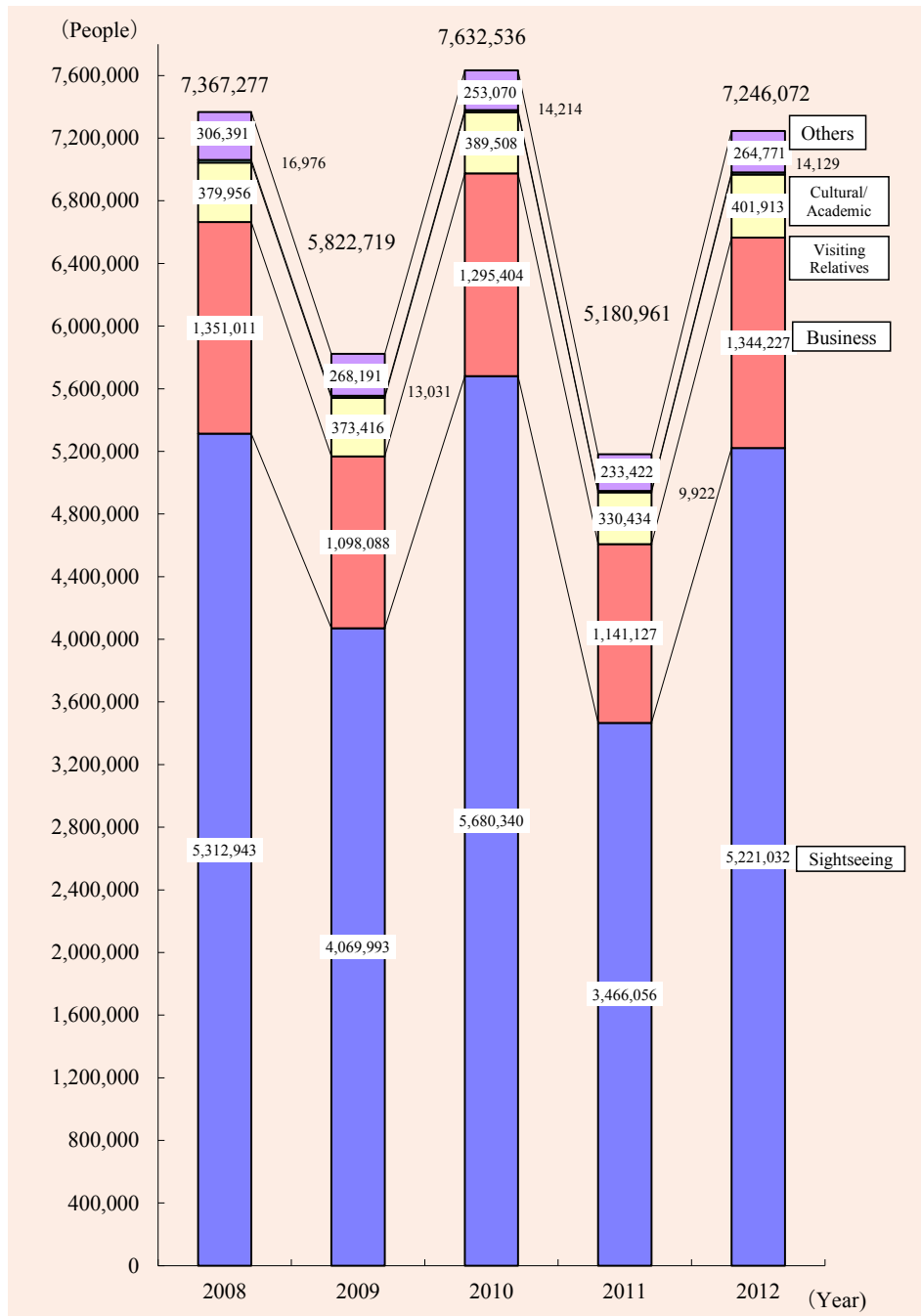
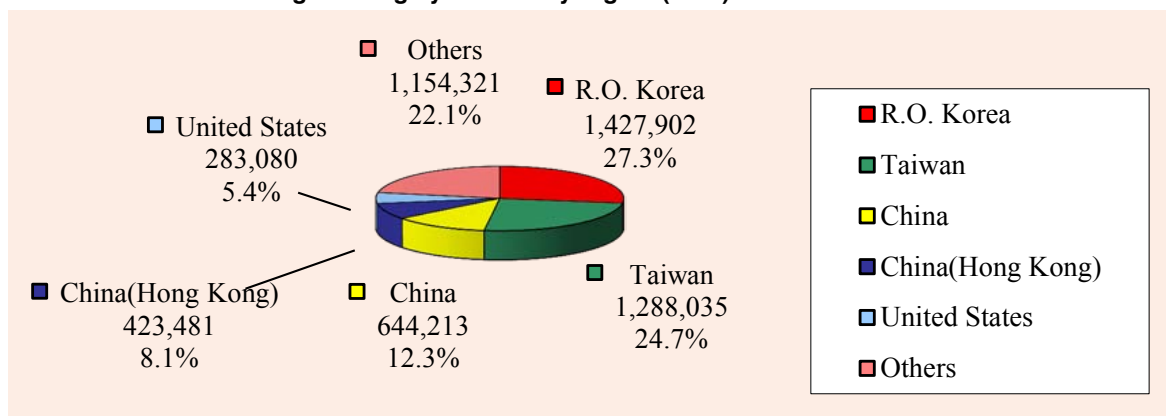


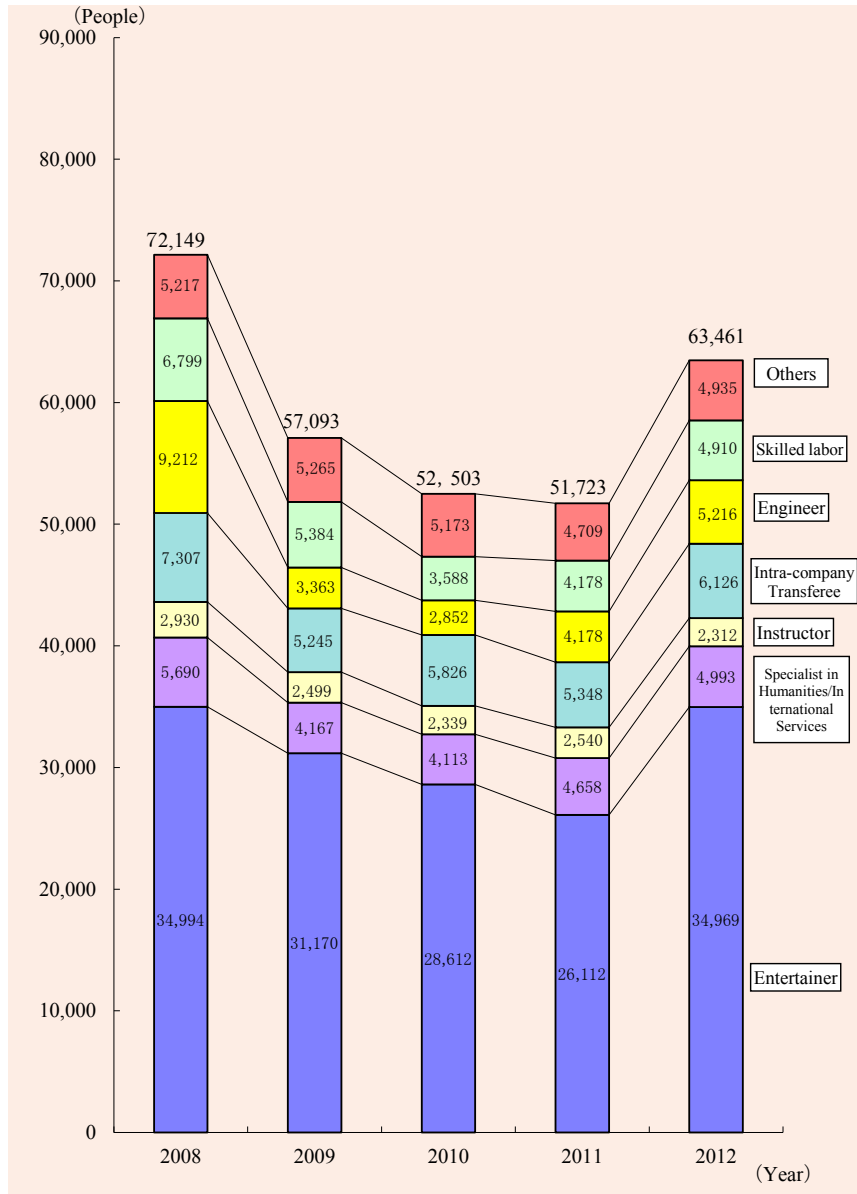
Chart 11: Number of foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region (2012)



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

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields (excluding the status of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” in Appended Tables I(1) and I(2) of the Immigration Control Act) in 2012 was 63,461, an increase of 11,738 (22.7%) from 2011. (Chart 12)

Chart 12: Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields



(*) Excluding the status of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official”, “Technical Intern Training” and “Designated Activities” from Table II-1, I-2 and I-5 in the Appended Table to the “Immigration Control Act”

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields in Japan accounted for 0.8% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals in 2012.

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 corresponding to foreign employees working for an organization in Japan was 16,335 in 2012, consisting of three types of statuses of residence: 5,216 with the status of residence of “Engineer”, 4,993 with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 6,126 with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”. The number of foreign employees with the status of residence of “Engineer” had increased by 1,038 (24.8%), those with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” had increased by 335 (7.2%), and those with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee” had increased by 778 (14.5%) from 2011, respectively. The total number of foreign workers with these statuses of residence had increased by 2,151 (15.2%).

According to the statistics on the status of residence of “Engineer” by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer” came from China (1,734, or 33.2%), followed by India (847, or 16.2%), Viet Nam (802, or 15.4%), and R.O. Korea (403, or 7.7%). The number of newly entering foreign nationals from those four countries accounted for 72.6% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer”. In addition to the decreasing trend in 2008 after the “Lehman Shock”, the aftereffects of the global economic recession in 2009 led to a significant decrease in the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer”. However, it increased again in 2011, and the number in 2012 had increased by 1,038 (24.8%) compared with 2011.

The statistics for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, by nationality/region show that the largest number came from the U.S. (1,016, or 20.3%), followed by China (902, or 18.1%), R.O. Korea (603, or 12.1%) and the U.K. (304, or 6.1%). These top four countries accounted for 56.6% 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/region show that the largest number came from China (1,967, or 32.1%), followed by the Philippines (669, or 10.9%), India (505, or 8.2%) and R.O. Korea (491, or 8.0%), and these top four countries accounted for 59.3% 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 specialists with skills unique to a particular foreign country had been on the decline since 2001, but the figure started increasing in 2004. The number of such foreign nationals started decreasing again in 2009, but increased again in 2011. The number of such foreign nationals had increased to 4,910 in 2012, an increase of 732 (17.5%) from 2011.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” came from China (2,920, or 59.5%), followed by Nepal (809, or 16.5%), India (432, or 8.8%) and Thailand (162, or 3.3%) in 2012. 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 88.0% 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” had been steadily increasing since 2001, it decreased after 2005. However, in 2012, the number increased again. In 2012, it increased to 34,969, an increase of 8,857 (33.9%) from 2011, representing the largest ratio of total foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in a professional or technical field. It was the first time that the number had increased from the previous year following the implementation of stricter landing and residence examinations through a review of the entry permission criteria (ministerial ordinance) for the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2006.

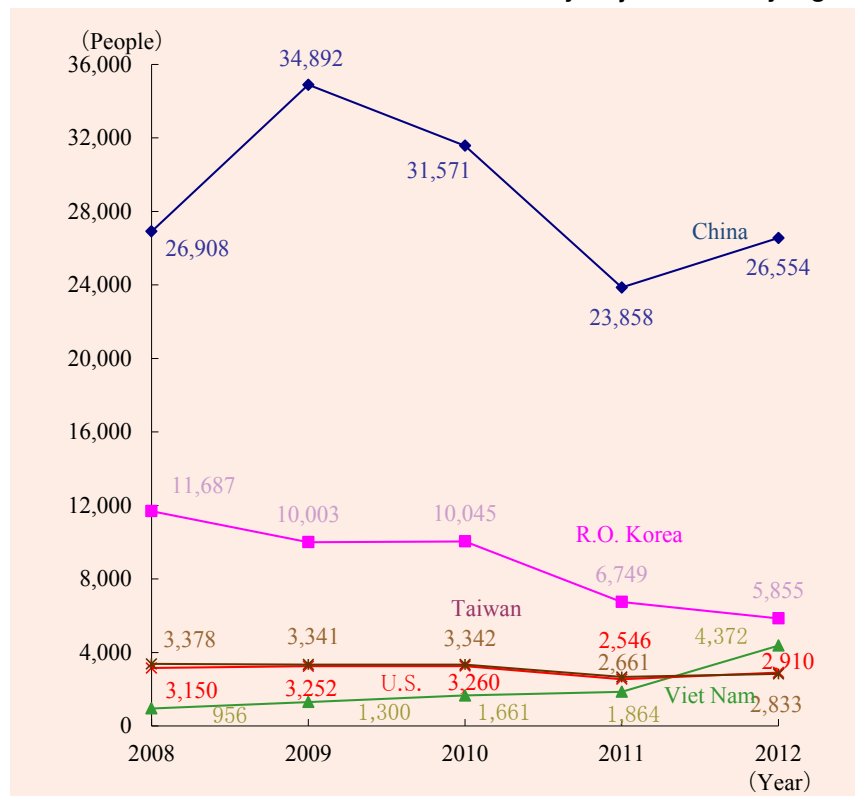
According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Entertainer” came from R.O. Korea (6,528, 18.7%), followed by the U.S. (6,514, 18.6%), the U.K. (2,916, 8.3%), the Philippines (1,984, 5.7%), and Russia (1,982, 5.7%) in 2012. For R.O. Korea, the number of foreign nationals newly entering had increased by 3,349 (105.3%) from 2011.

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

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Student” had increased by 7,643 (15.3%) from a year earlier to 57,579 in 2012, consisting mostly of those from Asia (83.4%).

According to statistics by nationality/region, those from China accounted for 46.1% of the total, standing at 26,554, followed by R.O. Korea (5,855, or 10.2%). The number of Chinese students had increased by 2,696 (11.3%), while that of R.O. Korean students had decreased by 894 (13.2%). (Chart13)

Chart 13: Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Student” by major nationality/region



(*) Because the status of residence “Pre-college Student” was consolidated into “Student” on July 1, 2010, the figures in the “Student” section from 2008 to 2010 represent the sum of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student.”

D. “Trainee” and “Technical Intern Trainee (1)” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 7-1, 10-1)

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” had increased by 1,878 (11.7%) from a year earlier to 17,957 in 2012. The number continued to decline due to the introduction of a new technical intern training program that started on July 1, 2010 based on the Act to Amend the Immigration Control Act and Other Related Acts enacted in July 2009, which resulted in the status of residence of “Trainee” only being issued to those engaged in either casework training not related to practical training, or official training; however, it increased again in 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number from Asia, particularly from neighboring countries dispatching a large number of trainees reached 11,942 in 2012 and accounted for 66.5% of the total. This upward trend is expected to continue. In addition to Asia, Africa sent 3,073 trainees (17.1% of the total) to Japan, while Latin American countries sent 954 trainees (5.3%) to Japan.

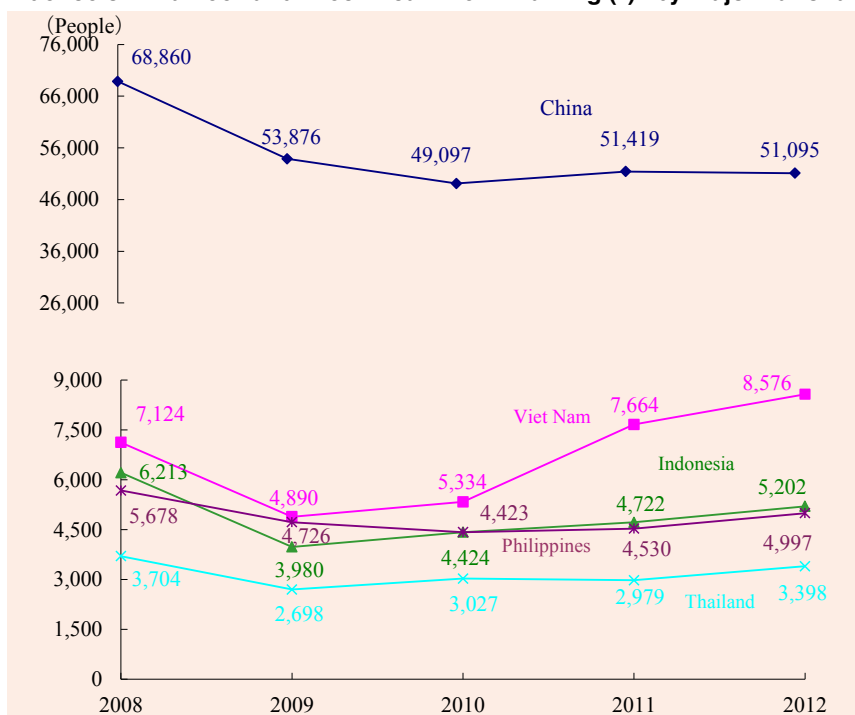
According to statistics by nationality/region, those from China accounted for 10.7%, standing at 1,923, followed by Thailand (1,404, or 7.8%), Indonesia (1,384, or 7.7%), and Viet Nam (1,127, 6.3%). (Chart 14)

Those engaged in the acquisition of skills through employment are issued the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” (activities designated in (i) in the right-hand column of the “Technical Intern Training” section in Appended Table I(2) of the Immigration Control Act).

In 2012, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” was 67,915, an increase of 1,890 (2.9%) from 2011.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” came from China at 49,172 in 2012, accounting for 72.4% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam (7,449, 11.0%), the Philippines (4,264, or 6.3%), and Indonesia (3,818, or 5.6%). Those from China had decreased by 139 (0.3%) from 2011, while those from Viet Nam, the Philippines and Indonesia had increased by 817 (12.3%), 509 (13.6%) and 282 (8.0%), respectively.

Chart 14: Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Trainee” and “Technical Intern Training (1)” by major nationality/region



(*) The numbers reflect those with the status of residence of “Trainee” until 2009, and those with the statuses of residence of “Trainee” and “Technical Intern Training (1)” in and after 2010.

E. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 13-1, 14-1)

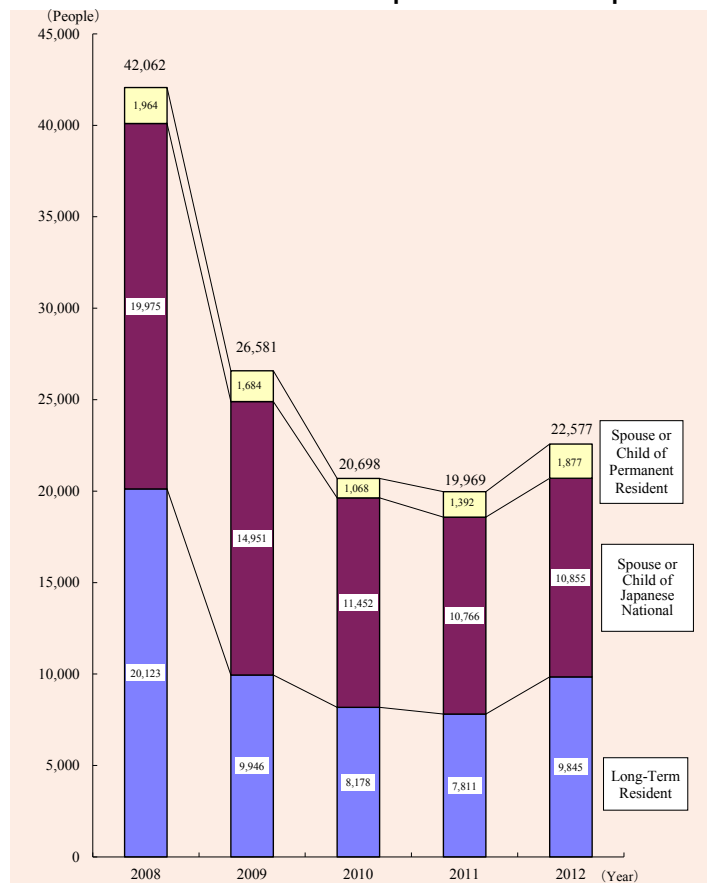
When foreign nationals enter Japan for resident activities based on their personal status or position, one of three types of statuses of residence; namely, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”, or “Long-Term Resident” will be granted. (Note that no foreign nationals newly entering Japan can obtain the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” because this 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.))

In 2012, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National” amounted to 10,855, an increase of 89 (0.8%) from 2011, and those with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident” amounted to 1,877, an increase of 485 (34.8%) from 2011.

The number of foreign nationals newly entering under “Long-Term Resident” had increased by 2,034 (26.0%) in 2011 to 9,845 in 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National” came from China at 3,854, accounting for 35.5% of the total. China was followed by the Philippines (2,508, or 23.1%) and Brazil (1,067, or 9.8%). According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” came from Brazil at 3,237, accounting for 32.9% of the total. Brazil was followed by the Philippines (2,736, or 27.8%) and China (2,268, or 23.0%). (Chart 15)

Chart 15: Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for activities based on personal status or position



② Special Landing Permission

The number of persons who received special landing permission in 2012 was 2,204,644, an increase of 288,939 (15.1%) from 2011.

Among those, the number of persons who received landing permission for crew members in 2012 reached 2,064,409 which accounted for 93.6% of the total number of cases of special landing permission and represented the largest percentage, followed by the number of persons who received permission for landing at a port of call at 136,916 (6.2%). (Table 3)

Table 3 Changes in the number of cases of special landing permission

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	2,079,981	1,888,704	1,972,090	1,915,705	2,204,644
Permission for Landing at a Port of Call	31,908	34,658	24,355	15,058	136,916
Permission for Landing in Transit	451	394	458	2,296	2,862
Landing Permission for Crew Members	2,047,221	1,853,267	1,946,807	1,897,714	2,064,409
Permission for Emergency Landing	314	368	381	351	370
Landing Permission Due to Distress	87	17	89	286	82
Landing Permission for Temporary Refugee	(-)	(-)	(-)	10	5

(*) Temporary refugee landing has been included in the number of cases of special landing permission since 2012.

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

(1) Permission for Landing at a Port of Call

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for landing at a port of call in 2012 was 136,916, a substantial increase by 121,858 (809.3%) from 2011. This increase was predominantly due to the deployment of a new examination system in June 2012 utilizing permission for landing at a port of call targeting large-size cruise ships. (See Part III, Chapter 3, Section 1, subsection 3.)

(2) Permission for Landing in Transit

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for landing in transit in 2012 was 2,862, an increase of 566 (24.7%) from 2011.

(3) Landing Permission for Crew Members

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission for crew members in 2012 was 2,064,409, an increase of 166,695 (8.8%) from 2011.

(4) Permission for Emergency Landing

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for emergency landing in 2012 was 370, an increase of 19 (5.4%) from 2011.

(5) Landing Permission Due to Distress

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission due to distress in 2012 was 82, a decrease of 204 (71.3%) from 2011.

(6) Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission for temporary refuge in 2012 was 5, a decrease of 5 (50.0%) from 2011.

③ Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan

The number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan without having acquired a re-entry permit was 7,403,884 in 2012, an increase of 1,988,890 (36.7%) from 2011.

Among them, the number of persons leaving Japan with a period of stay of less than 15 days was 6,820,277, which accounted for 92.1% of the total or almost all. Further, the number of persons leaving Japan with a period of stay of less than 3 months was 7,254,523, which accounted for 98.0% of the total. (Table 4)

Table 4 Changes in the number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan by period of stay

(People)

Period of Stay \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	7,592,261	6,046,150	7,865,081	5,414,994	7,403,884
Within 15 days	6,958,485	5,423,103	7,229,477	4,892,797	6,820,277
More than 15 days to 1 month	252,854	237,515	266,227	185,550	244,373
More than 1 month to 3 months	207,055	179,882	187,725	157,804	189,873
More than 3 months to 6 months	34,243	30,638	29,777	25,972	31,638
More than 6 months to 1 year	49,009	48,709	43,085	38,686	32,259
More than 1 year to 3 years	68,933	85,253	80,770	84,909	57,275
More than 3 years	18,618	35,945	24,976	26,308	26,879
Unknown	3,064	5,105	3,044	2,968	1,310

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of immigration examinations)(Masako Kadowaki, Third Inspection Department, Haneda Airport District Immigration Office, Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau)

During the year 2012, as many as 7.9 million passengers used Haneda Airport, and an expanded international terminal is scheduled to be temporarily in service by March 2014. As a result, the number of users is expected to increase even further.

What is required of immigration inspectors is to conduct a dual type of inspection - “smooth yet strict inspections”. The basic premise of the entry examinations is the implementation of quick inspections. On the other hand, certain border measures at the airport may require a stricter inspection. It is important to identify which kind of inspection is required within a limited time frame.

For about two years after the establishment of the new Haneda Airport District Immigration Office, I engaged in document examinations while conducting immigration examinations. The manner in which the passport was bound, methods to identify forged documents, and various measures adopted by foreign countries to prevent forgery were all bits of interesting knowledge that I gained through the scientific investigation operations that proved very useful in my work as an immigration inspector. In order to make my capacity for judgment, which is necessary for the immigration examinations, more accurate, I undertake my tasks every day utilizing the knowledge that I have gained.

Haneda Airport is in operation 24 hours a day. I sometimes have a physically hard time handling delayed, late night and early morning flights, but I manage to get through it through the encouragement and support of my colleagues who work at the same place as me.

Unlike the residence examinations of foreign nationals residing in Japan, it is necessary to conduct immigration examinations at the inspection booths of the airport in a short time. Even in such a short time, I will continue to stick to the basics and try to conduct better inspections for all persons so that I can better contribute to equitable control over the entry into and departure from Japan of foreign nationals.



Section 2 ◆ Judgment for Landing

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



Hearing for landing

The number of new cases of hearings for landing (the number of cases which were assigned to a special inquiry officer on account of a foreign national not having been granted landing permission by an immigration inspector) in 2012 was 8,087, a decrease of 2,867 (26.2%) from 2011.

The most common cases were those in which the foreign national was required to undergo a hearing for landing on suspicion of having submitted a false landing application, such as claiming to be a tourist or a similar status while their real purpose of entry was unlawful work or other illegal activities (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act). Such cases numbered 5,473, a decline of 3,160 (36.6%) from 2011 and accounted for 67.7% of the total number of new cases in 2012. This was followed by cases which were assigned on account of the foreign national being suspected of not possessing a valid passport or visa, such as those trying to enter Japan using a forged or altered passport (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (i) of the Immigration Control Act). Such cases numbered 1,583, an increase of 57 (3.7%) from 2011 and accounted for 19.6% of the total number of new cases in 2012. Furthermore, cases which were assigned to special inquiry officers on suspicion of falling under one of the grounds for denial of landing (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (iv) of the Immigration Control Act) numbered 1,028, an increase of 240 (30.5%) from 2011, accounting for 12.7% of the total number of new cases in 2012. In 2011, two persons were handed over to special inquiry officers for refusing to provide biometric information, which became mandatory for foreign passengers to provide on and after November 20, 2007 (falling under Article 7, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act), and one person was handed over in 2012. (Table 5)

Table 5 Changes in the number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing

(Cases)

Conditions for landing	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	12,660	9,930	7,365	10,954	8,087
Using counterfeit passports or visas (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(i))	1,365	1,300	1,116	1,526	1,583
False landing application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(ii))	9,722	7,470	5,105	8,633	5,473
Not eligible for the period of stay relating to the application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iii))	7	0	6	5	2
Falling under the grounds for denial of landing (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iv))	1,563	1,160	1,137	788	1,028
Not providing personal identification information (Not conforming to Article 7-(4))	3	0	1	2	1

With regard to the processing of the hearings for landing in 2012(*), the number of cases where landing was permitted as it was found during the hearing that the foreign national conformed to the conditions for landing permission was 2,179, a decline of 539 (19.8%) from 2011.

In addition, cases in which foreign nationals were ordered to leave Japan because they were found not to meet the conditions for landing at the hearing for landing by a special inquiry officer and who later submitted to the findings numbered 1,606, a decline of 549 (25.5%) from 2011. Cases in which foreign nationals filed an objection with the Minister of Justice because they were not satisfied with the finding by the special inquiry officer that they did not meet the conditions for landing numbered 3,901, a decline of 1,832 (32.0%) from 2011. (Table 6)

Table 6 Changes in the processing of the hearings for landing

(Cases)

Division	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	12,661	9,938	7,304	10,993	8,109
Landing permission	4,405	3,664	2,903	2,718	2,179
Deportation order	5,537	3,731	2,662	2,155	1,606
Filing of objection	1,967	2,014	1,319	5,733	3,901
Withdrawal of the landing application	368	249	231	209	318
Others	384	280	189	178	105

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

(*) In some cases, the total number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing (Table 5), is not the same as that of the changes in the processing of the hearings for landing (Table 6). 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 following year after the case is assigned by the immigration inspector to the special inquiry officer that the hearing for landing is actually processed.

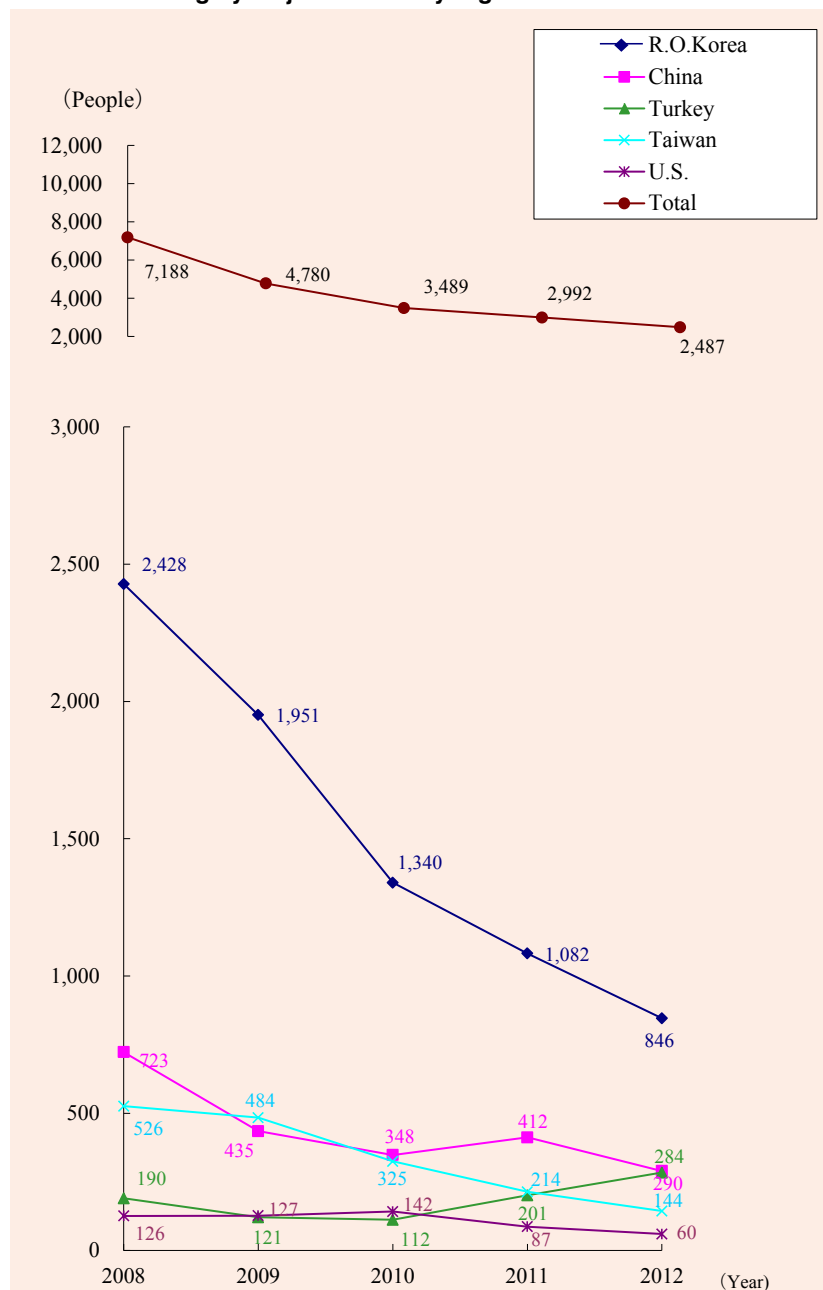
② Foreign Nationals Falling Under Any of the Grounds for Denial of Landing

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 2012 was 2,487, a decline of 505 (16.9%) from 2011.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing came consistently from R.O. Korea standing at 846 (34.0% of the total), followed by China standing at 290 (11.7%) and Turkey standing at 284 (11.4%). Those top three countries accounted for 57.1% of the total. (Chart 16)

Chart 16: Changes in the number of foreign nationals who were denied landing by major nationality/region



③ Special Permission for Landing

Cases in which the Minister of Justice granted special permission for landing to foreign nationals in 2012 numbered 3,440, a decline of 1,976 (36.5%) from 2011. (Table7)

Table 7 Changes in the number of objections filed, and decisions by the Minister of Justice

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Filing of Objection (*)		1,973	2,022	1,326	5,754	3,910
Decisions	With reason	10	5	18	18	22
	Without reason (Order to leave Japan)	492	361	291	303	333
	Special Permission for Landing	1,421	1,629	975	5,416	3,440
Withdrawal		42	20	21	8	63
Outstanding		8	7	21	9	52

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

Section 3 ◆ Pre-entry Examination

① Advance Consultation for Visa Issuance

The number of cases of advance consultation for visa issuance was 4,910 in 2012, showing an increase of 507 (11.5%) from 2011.

② Certificate of Eligibility

In 2012, the number of cases of applications for certificates of eligibility was 266,273, an increase of 28,003 (11.8%) from 2011.

The advance consultation for issuance of visas together with the examination of certificates of eligibility are jointly called pre-entry examinations. In recent years, the number of processed cases of applications for the issuance of a certificate of eligibility has steadily accounted for most of the total number of processed cases of pre-entry examinations. (Table 8)

Table 8 Changes in the number of cases of pre-entry examinations

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Advance consultation for issuance of a visa		6,661	6,505	4,882	4,403	4,910
Application for certificate of eligibility		329,032	273,989	248,523	238,270	266,273

(*) Please note that the figures (number of cases) shown in "Advance consultation for issuance of a visa" in the 2011 and 2012 versions were incorrect and should be changed to read as follows:

(Correct) 2010: 4,882, 2011: 4,403

(Incorrect) 2010: 4,615, 2011: 6,325

Chapter 2. Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan

Section 1 ◆ The Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

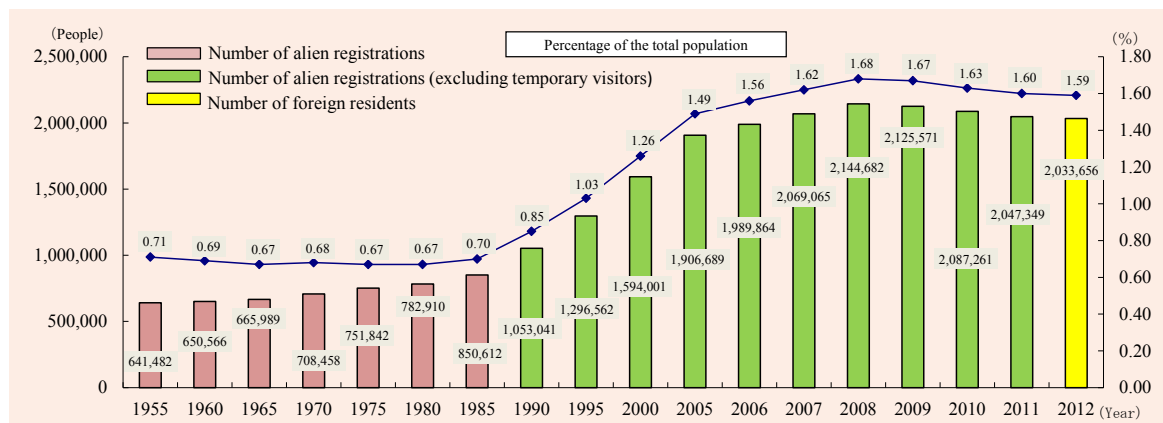
① The Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

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

At the end of 2012, the number of mid to long-term residents in Japan was 1,652,292, and the number of special permanent residents was 381,364. Adding these two numbers together, the total number of foreign residents was 2,033,656 (*1), a decrease of 13,693 (0.7%) from the number of alien registrations (excluding temporary visitors) (*2) at the end of 2011. Although the number of alien registrations (excluding temporary visitors) decreased for three consecutive years from the end of 2009, the amount of the decline in the number of foreign residents at the end of 2012 had substantially subsided from 2011 and the previous years, although it is impracticable to make a simple comparison.

At the end of 2012, the number of foreign residents as a percentage of the total population of Japan (127,515,000) was 1.59%, which was 0.01 point lower than 1.60% which was the number of alien registrations (excluding temporary visitors) as a percentage of the total population of Japan at the end of 2011. (Chart 17)

Chart 17: Changes in the total number of alien registrations and foreign residents, and changes in foreign residents as a percentage of the total population of Japan



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

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

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

(*) Although statistics were previously prepared on the number of foreign nationals who had filed an alien registration under the Alien Registration Act, the Alien Registration Act was abolished as a result of the implementation of the new residency management system after amendments were made to the Immigration Control Act and other related acts in July 2012. Given this, the statistics of 2012 focus on the actual conditions of foreign nationals residing in Japan targeting “mid to long-term residents” and “special permanent residents” (hereinafter referred to collectively as “foreign residents”) subject to the new residency management system.

It is impracticable to simply compare the number of foreign residents and the number of alien registrations because of the differences in the scope of foreign nationals to whom the different systems apply.

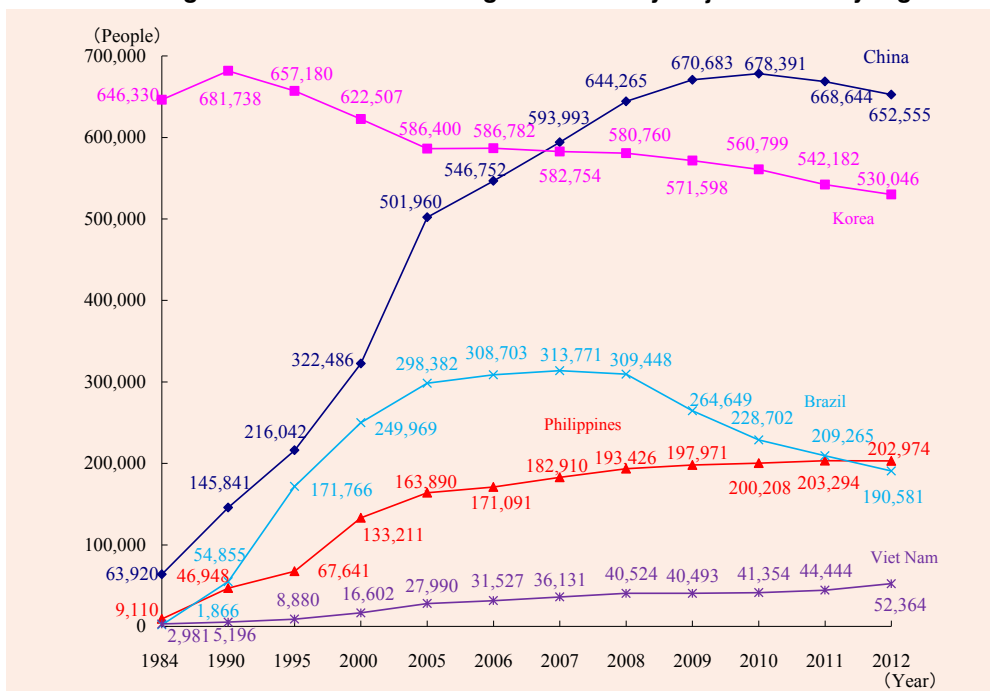
(*2) For reference purposes, Chart 17 shows the number of foreign nationals with alien registrations who reside in Japan with statuses of residence that would make them eligible for the status of mid to long-term resident as well as the number of special permanent residents (hereinafter referred to as the “number of alien registrations (excluding temporary visitors)”) from 1990 to 2011.

② The Number of Foreign Residents by Nationality/Region

According to the statistics of the number of foreign residents by nationality/region at the end of 2012, China marked the largest number at 652,555, accounting for 32.1% of the total. China was followed by Korea (530,046, or 26.1%), the Philippines (202,974, or 10.0%), Brazil (190,581, or 9.4%), and Viet Nam (52,364, or 2.6%).

Looking at yearly changes in the number of foreign residents (number of alien registrations (excluding temporary visitors) before 2011), the number of foreign residents from China continued to decrease, showing a decline of 16,089 (2.4%) compared with the end of 2011. The number of foreign residents from Korea in 2012 continued to decrease, showing a decline of 12,136 (2.2%) compared with the end of 2011. The number of foreign residents from the Philippines had previously seen an increasing trend but this changed at the end of 2012, marking a decline of 320 (0.2%) from 2011. The number of foreign residents from Brazil, which decreased year on year after the peak at the end of 2007, had decreased by 18,684 (8.9%) at the end of 2012, compared with the end of 2011. Viet Nam continued to be on the increase, except in 2009, and had increased by 7,920 (17.8%) at the end of 2012, compared with the end of 2011. (Chart 18) (*)

Chart 18: Changes in the number of foreign residents by major nationality/region



(*1) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of foreign nationals with alien registrations who stayed in Japan with a status of residence eligible for mid to long-term residents and the number of special permanent residents, and the number for 2012 represents the number of foreign nationals adding together mid to long-term residents and special permanent residents.

(*2) "China" until 2011 includes Taiwan, and "China" for 2012 excludes those who were issued with residence cards and special permanent resident certificates and had already been included in "Taiwan" in the nationality/region section. (Hereinafter the same applies to the tables relating to the number of mid to long-term residents)

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

(1) "Permanent Resident" and "Special Permanent Resident" (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 12)

According to the statistics for the number of foreign residents by status of residence, those with the status of "Permanent Resident" (excluding special permanent residents) comprised the largest group as of the end of 2012. The number of permanent residents was 624,501, an increase of 26,061 (4.4%) from the end of 2011, accounting for 30.7% of the total. (Table 9)

Table 9 Changes in the number of foreign residents by status of residence

Status of Residence		Year					(People)
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
Total (①)		2,144,682	2,125,571	2,087,261	2,047,349	2,033,656	
Status of residence eligible to become a mid to long-term resident	Professor	8,333	8,295	8,050	7,859	7,787	
	Artist	461	490	480	461	438	
	Religious Activities	4,601	4,448	4,232	4,106	4,051	
	Journalist	281	271	248	227	223	
	Investor/Business Manager	8,895	9,840	10,908	11,778	12,609	
	Legal/Accounting Services	154	161	178	169	159	
	Medical Services	199	220	265	322	412	
	Researcher	2,285	2,372	2,266	2,103	1,970	
	Instructor	10,070	10,129	10,012	10,106	10,121	
	Engineer	52,273	50,493	46,592	42,634	42,273	
	Specialist in Humanities/International Services	67,291	69,395	68,467	67,854	69,721	
	Intra-company Transferee	17,798	16,786	16,140	14,636	14,867	
	Entertainer	13,031	10,966	9,247	6,265	1,646	
	Skilled Labor	25,863	29,030	30,142	31,751	33,863	
	Technical Intern Training 1-(a)			2,707	3,991	4,121	
	Technical Intern Training 1-(b)			47,716	57,187	59,160	
	Technical Intern Training 2-(a)			1,848	2,726	2,869	
	Technical Intern Training 2-(b)			47,737	78,090	85,327	
	Cultural Activities	2,795	2,780	2,637	2,209	2,320	
	College Student	138,514	145,909	201,511	188,605	180,919	
	Pre-college Student	41,313	46,759				
	Trainee	86,826	65,209	9,343	3,388	1,804	
	Dependent	107,641	115,081	118,865	119,359	120,693	
Designated Activities	121,863	130,636	72,374	22,751	20,159		
Permanent Resident	492,056	533,472	565,089	598,440	624,501		
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	245,497	221,923	196,248	181,617	162,332		
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	17,839	19,570	20,251	21,647	22,946		
Long-Term Resident	258,498	221,771	194,602	177,983	165,001		
Special Permanent Resident	420,305	409,565	399,106	389,085	381,364		
Status of residence not eligible to become a mid to long-term resident (②)		72,744	60,550	46,890	31,159		
	Temporary Visitor	40,407	33,378	29,093	23,978		
	Without Acquiring Status of Residence	13,510	12,376	9,874	3,506		
	Temporary Refuge	30	30	30	29		
	Others	18,797	14,766	7,893	3,646		
The number of registered foreign nationals (①+②)		2,217,426	2,186,121	2,134,151	2,078,508		

(*) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the number for 2012 represents the number of foreign residents adding together the mid to and long-term residents and special permanent residents

Looking at changes in the number of permanent residents between the end of 2008 and the end of 2012, a steady increase was seen, and the number had increased by 132,445 (26.9%) at the end of 2012 from 492,056 as of the end of 2008.

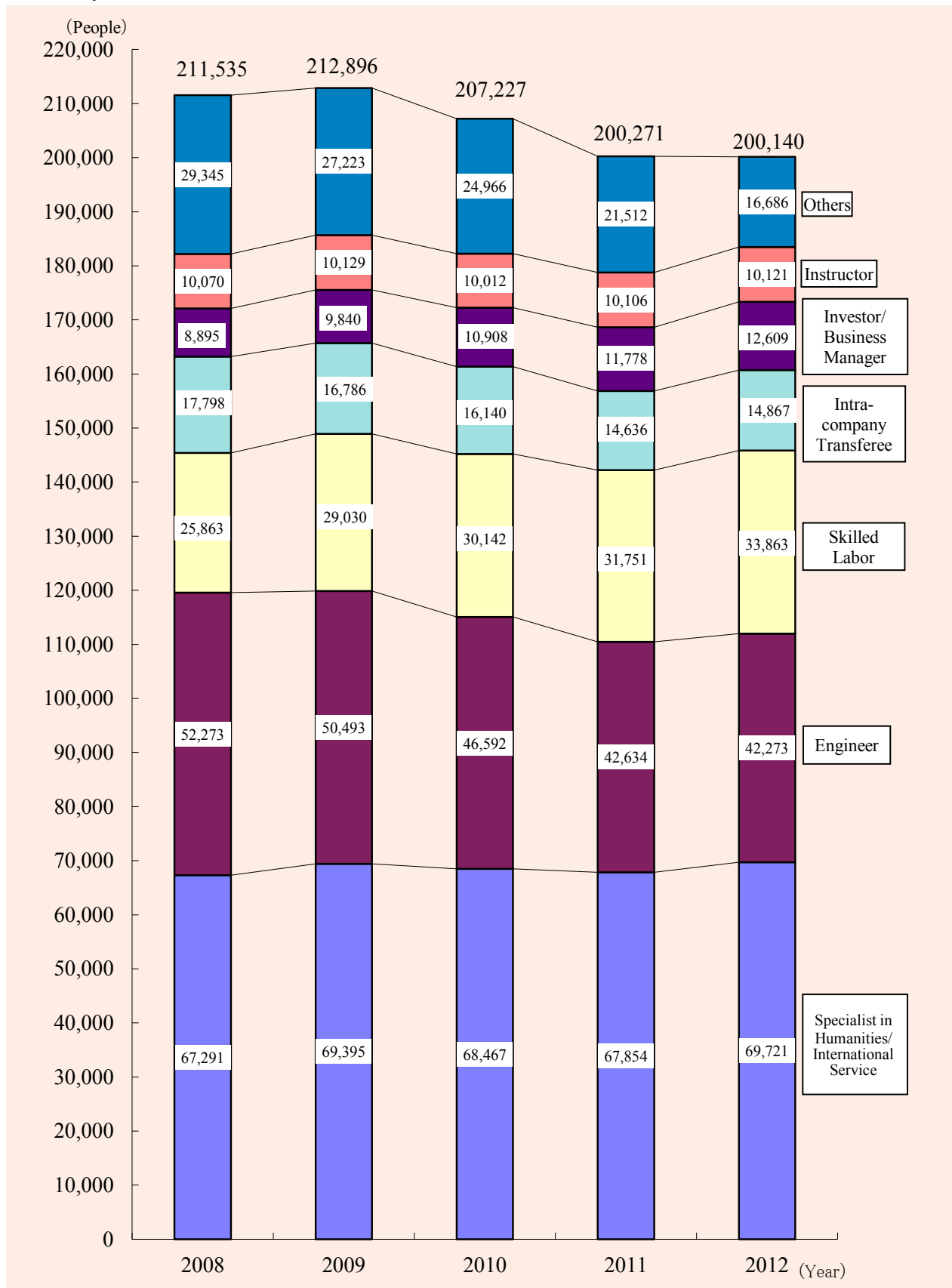
According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of permanent residents came from China totaling 191,946 at the end of 2012, followed by Brazil, the Philippines, Korea, and Peru.

On the other hand, the number of special permanent residents which used to account for the largest percentage until 2006 has been decreasing year by year, and therefore its percentage to the total number of foreign residents has also been decreasing accordingly. Looking at the changes over a longer period, the percentage of foreign nationals equivalent to the status of “Special Permanent Resident” accounted for approximately 90% just after World War II until 1955. However, the decline in the number of “Special Permanent Residents” itself and the increase in the number of foreign nationals newly visiting Japan for various purposes (so-called “newcomers”) are both driving the ratio of “Special Permanent Residents” down, which clearly shows the changes in the situation of foreign residents in Japan.

(2) Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan for the Purpose of Employment in Professional or Technical Fields (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 1-2 through 6-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with a status of residence for the purpose of employment in professional or technical fields (excluding the status of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” in Appended Tables I (1) and I (2) of the Immigration Control Act) had decreased by 131 (0.1%) from the end of 2011 to 200,140 as of the end of 2012, accounting for 9.8% of the total. Looking at the changes in this number from the end of 2008 to the end of 2012, the number of foreign residents (registered persons before 2011) had seen an increasing trend from the end of 2008, but actually decreased from the end of 2010. (Chart 19)

Chart 19: Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields



(*1) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the number for 2012 represents the number of mid to long-term residents.

(*2) Excludes "Diplomat," "Official," "Technical Intern Training" and "Designated Activities" of Appended Tables I-1, 2 and 5.

The statuses of residence of “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” which basically correspond to foreign employees working in companies, were 42,273, 69,721 and 14,867, respectively, as of the end of 2012, a decrease of 361 (0.8%), an increase of 1,867 (2.8%), and an increase of 231 (1.6%), respectively, compared with the number of alien registrations as of the end of 2011.

At the end of 2012, the number of mid to long-term residents with such statuses of residence as “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” as a percentage of the total number of mid to long-term residents for the purpose of employment in professional or technical fields was 21.1%, 34.8%, and 7.4%, respectively.

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

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Student” at the end of 2012 had decreased by 7,686 (4.1%) from the number of alien registrations at the end of 2011 to 180,919, accounting for 8.9% of the total. Due, in part, to the integration of the status of residence of “Pre-College Student” into “Student” in July 2010, the number of alien registrations increased significantly at the end of 2010 by 55,602 (38.1%) to 201,511(*), exceeding 200,000 for the first time, but turned to a decline at the end of 2011 and continued to decline as of the end of 2012. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of Chinese students was 113,980, accounting for 63.0% of the total, followed by Korea (18,643, or 10.3%).

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

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

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” at the end of 2012 was 63,281, an increase of 2,103 (3.4%) compared with the number of alien registrations at the end of 2011. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 45,713, accounting for 72.2% of the total, followed by Viet Nam (7,379, or 11.7%), the Philippines (3,846, or 6.1%), and Indonesia (3,644, or 5.8%).

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (2)” as of the end of 2012 was 88,196, an increase of 7,380 (9.1%) compared with the number of alien registrations at the end of 2011. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 65,682, accounting for 74.5% of the total, followed by Viet Nam (9,336, or 10.6%), Indonesia (5,454, or 6.2%), and the Philippines (4,996, or 5.7%).

(5) “Trainee” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 10-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Trainee” at the end of 2012 substantially decreased to 1,804, a decline of 1,584 (46.8%) compared with the number of alien registrations at the end of 2011. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was the largest, standing at 444 (24.6%), followed by Thailand (290, or 16.1%), and Viet Nam (233, or 12.9%).

(6) “Designated Activities” (Data Section 2, Statistics (1) 11-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Designated Activities” at the end of 2012 was 20,159, a decline of 2,592 (11.4%) compared with the number of alien registrations at the end of 2011.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from Korea was 5,027, accounting for 24.9% of the total, followed by China (3,143, or 15.6%), the Philippines (1,863, or 9.2%), and Taiwan (1,615, or 8.0%).

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

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at the end of 2012 was 162,332, accounting for 8.0% of the total number of foreign residents. Looking at the change from the end of 2008 to the end of 2012, the number has been on the decrease, and the number at the end of 2012 had decreased by 19,285 (10.6%) compared with the number of alien registrations at the end of 2011.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 43,771, accounting for 27.0% of the total, followed by the Philippines (33,122, or 20.4%), and Brazil (19,519, or 12.0%). Looking at the changes by nationality/region from the end of 2008 to the end of 2012, China took first place, surpassing Brazil at the end of 2009, while Brazil saw a year-on-year decline so that the number of those from Brazil at the end of 2012 had dropped to about one-third when compared the end of 2008.

At the end of 2012, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” was 165,001, accounting for 8.1% of the total number of foreign residents. Looking at

(*) “Technical Intern Training (1)” represents the sum of “Technical Intern Training (1)-(a)” and “Technical Intern Training (1)-(b)” and “Technical Intern Training (2)” represents the sum of “Technical Intern Training (2)-(a)” and “Technical Intern Training (2)-(b)”.

the changes from the end of 2008 to the end of 2012, the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” has been decreasing as is the case with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”. At the end of 2012, the number had decreased by 12,982 (7.3%) compared with the number at the end of 2011.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from Brazil was 53,044 (32.1%), followed by the Philippines (40,707, or 24.7%), and China (27,148, or 16.5%). Looking at the changes from the end of 2008 to the end of 2012, the number of those from the Philippines has consistently been increasing.

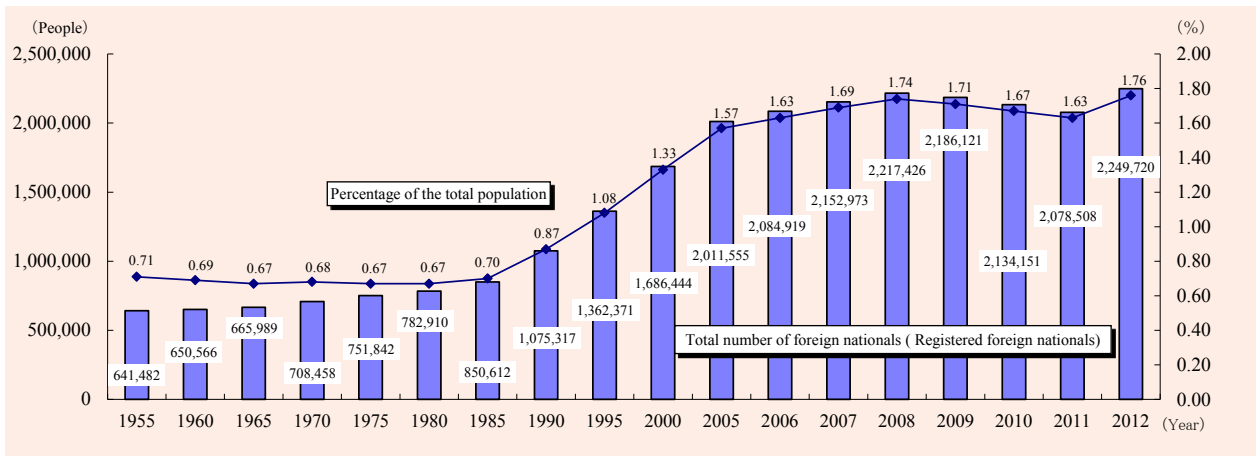
4 Total Number of Foreign Residents

The total number of foreign residents refers to the total number of foreign nationals residing in Japan with a status of residence or the position of special permanent resident under the Immigration Control Act, and is calculated by adding the number of foreign nationals residing in Japan with a status of residence under the Immigration Control Act, who fall under any of (i) through (iv) below to the number of foreign residents (sum of the number of mid to long-term residents and the number of special permanent residents).

- (i) Persons granted permission to stay for 3 months or less,
- (ii) Persons granted the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”,
- (iii) Persons granted the status of residence of “Diplomat” or “Official”,
- (iv) Persons recognized by the Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice as equivalent to the foreign nationals mentioned above (specifically, the staff of the Japanese office of the Association of East Asian Relations (Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, etc.) and the Permanent General Mission of Palestine in Japan who have the status of residence of “Designated Activities”, and their families).

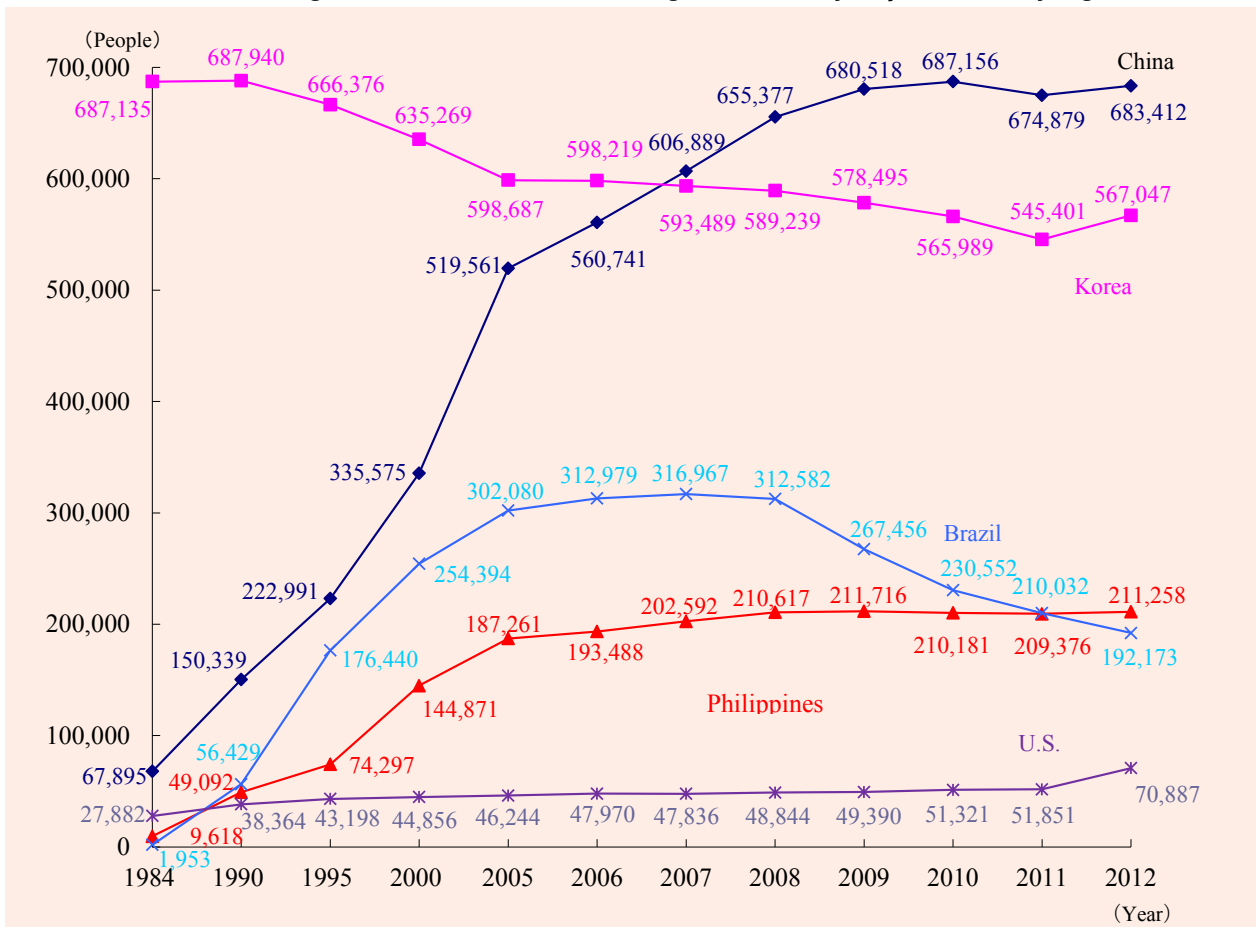
The total number of foreign residents at the end of 2012 was 2,249,720, which was 216,064 more than the number of foreign residents at the end of 2011. Looking at the numbers by status, the number of “Permanent Residents” was 624,501, accounting for 27.8% of the total, followed by “Special Permanent Residents” (381,364, or 17.0%), “Temporary Visitors” (197,128, or 8.8%), and “Student” (180,929, or 8.0%). (Chart 20, 21, Table 10)

Chart 20: Changes in the total number of foreign residents, and changes in the total number of foreign residents as a percentage of the total population of Japan



- (*1) The numbers are based on the statistics as at the end of December each year.
- (*2) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the number for 2012 represents the total number of foreign residents who stayed in Japan with a status of residence or the position of a special permanent resident.
- (*3) The “percentage of the total population of Japan” is calculated based on the population as of October 1 every year taken from the “Population Estimates” and the “Population Census” of the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

Chart 21: Changes in the total number of foreign residents by major nationality/region



- (*1) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the number for 2012 represents the total number of foreign residents who stayed in Japan with a status of residence or the position of a special permanent resident.
- (*2) “China” until 2011 includes Taiwan, and “China” for 2012 excludes those who were issued with residence cards and special permanent resident certificates and had already been included in “Taiwan” in the nationality/region section. (Hereinafter the same applies to the tables relating to the number of mid-to long-term residents)

Table 10 Changes in the total number of foreign residents by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence	Year	Number of registered foreign nationals				Number of foreign residents	Total number of foreign residents
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2012
Total		2,217,426	2,186,121	2,134,151	2,078,508	2,033,656	2,249,720
Diplomat							8,137
Official							8,468
Professor		8,333	8,295	8,050	7,859	7,787	7,849
Artist		461	490	480	461	438	440
Religious Activities		4,601	4,448	4,232	4,106	4,051	4,051
Journalist		281	271	248	227	223	223
Investor/Business Manager		8,895	9,840	10,908	11,778	12,609	12,609
Legal/Accounting Services		154	161	178	169	159	159
Medical Services		199	220	265	322	412	412
Researcher		2,285	2,372	2,266	2,103	1,970	1,980
Instructor		10,070	10,129	10,012	10,106	10,121	10,121
Engineer		52,273	50,493	46,592	42,634	42,273	42,287
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services		67,291	69,395	68,467	67,854	69,721	69,728
Intra-company Transferee		17,798	16,786	16,140	14,636	14,867	14,909
Entertainer		13,031	10,966	9,247	6,265	1,646	3,030
Skilled Labor		25,863	29,030	30,142	31,751	33,863	33,865
Technical Intern Training 1-(a)				2,707	3,991	4,121	4,121
Technical Intern Training 1-(b)				47,716	57,187	59,160	59,160
Technical Intern Training 2-(a)				1,848	2,726	2,869	2,869
Technical Intern Training 2-(b)				47,737	78,090	85,327	85,332
Cultural Activities		2,795	2,780	2,637	2,209	2,320	2,369
Temporary Visitor		40,407	33,378	29,093	23,978		197,128
College Student		138,514	145,909	201,511	188,605	180,919	180,929
Pre-college Student		41,313	46,759				
Trainee		86,826	65,209	9,343	3,388	1,804	1,909
Dependent		107,641	115,081	118,865	119,359	120,693	120,707
Designated Activities		121,863	130,636	72,374	22,751	20,159	20,784
Permanent Resident		492,056	533,472	565,089	598,440	624,501	624,501
Spouse or Child of Japanese National		245,497	221,923	196,248	181,617	162,332	162,332
Spouse or Child of Perma- nent Resident		17,839	19,570	20,251	21,647	22,946	22,946
Long-Term Resident		258,498	221,771	194,602	177,983	165,001	165,001
Special Permanent Resident		420,305	409,565	399,106	389,085	381,364	381,364
Without Acquiring Status of Residence		13,510	12,376	9,874	3,506		
Temporary Refuge		30	30	30	29		
Others		18,797	14,766	7,893	3,646		

(*) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the number for 2012 represents the number of foreign residents adding together the mid to and long-term residents and special permanent residents, and the total number of foreign residents staying in Japan with a status of residence or the position of a special permanent resident.

Section 2 ◆ Examination of Statuses of Residence

Although the total number of cases of permission for statuses of residence has had a tendency to increase in recent years, it peaked out in 2009, and 2012 saw a decline of 359,712 (26.5%) compared to 999,184 in 2011. As described in subsection 5 below, such a substantial decrease was due to a decline in permission for re-entry in 2012 by 393,919 (59.3%) from 2011 as a result of the introduction of the “system for special re-entry permission”. (Table 11)



Residence examination

Table 11 Changes in the numbers of permission examined in status of residence examinations

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	1,361,844	1,403,250	1,375,705	1,358,896	999,184
Permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted	133,513	147,528	163,654	136,450	146,920
Permission for change of status of residence	149,214	149,046	188,178	132,834	124,192
Permission for extension of period of stay	434,307	444,330	389,439	377,645	407,570
Permission for permanent residence	57,806	53,960	48,003	41,327	42,029
Permission for special permanent residence	114	139	105	102	147
Permission for acquisition of status of residence	8,957	8,303	7,531	6,528	8,235
Re-entry permission	577,933	599,944	578,795	664,010	270,091

(*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 the permission for permanent residence provided for in Article 22-2 of the Immigration Control Act.

(*3) "Permission for special permanent residence" is the permission for special permanent residence provided for in Article 5 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control of Inter Alia, Those Who Have Lost Japanese Nationality on the Basis of the Treaty of Peace with Japan.

① Permission for Change in the Status of Residence

In 2012, the number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for a change in the status of residence was 124,192, a decline of 8,642 (6.5%) from 2011.

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

Foreign nationals studying at Japanese universities or vocational/technical schools have the status of residence of “Student”. Many of them wish to stay in Japan to work for a company or some other organization in Japan even after finishing their studies at school.

The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for a change to a status of residence for employment was 10,969, an increase of 2,383 (27.8%) from 2011. While the number had consistently been on the increase since 2003, it turned downward after hitting a peak in 2008. However, the number for 2012 has substantially increased to a level close to the peak in 2008. (Table 12)

Table 12 Changes in the number of cases of permission for change of the status of residence from student, etc. to a status for employment by status of residence

(Cases)

Year Status of Residence	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	11,040	9,584	7,831	8,586	10,969
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	7,863	6,677	5,422	6,006	7,565
Engineer	2,414	2,154	1,390	1,670	2,227
Professor	430	444	512	419	588
Investor/Business Manag- er	128	128	275	291	356
Researcher	111	97	93	78	119
Instructor	29	31	46	46	41
Medical Services	16	24	54	34	29
Religious Activities	19	3	12	12	9
Skilled Labor	3	4	11	11	4
Artist	2	8	5	5	3
Entertainer	5	2	3	1	2
Others	20	12	8	13	26

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission from China was 7,032, accounting for 64.1%, followed by R.O. Korea (1,417, or 12.9%) and Taiwan (352, or 3.2%).

According to statistics by status of residence, foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” made up the largest percentage, totaling 7,565 (69.0%), an increase of 1,559 (26.0%) from 2011. The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Engineer” was 2,227 (20.3%), and these two statuses of residence accounted for 89.3% of the total. (Table 12, 13)

Table 13 Changes in the number of cases of permission for change of the status of residence from student, etc. to a status for employment by nationality/region

(Cases)

Year Nationality/region	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	11,040	9,584	7,831	8,586	10,969
China	7,651	6,333	4,874	5,344	7,032
R.O.Korea	1,360	1,368	1,205	1,209	1,417
Taiwan	303	285	279	302	352
Viet Nam	189	161	167	242	302
Nepal	161	173	141	149	224
Thailand	97	101	119	109	170
Bangladesh	164	125	107	139	162
United States of America	65	67	87	107	130
Myanmar	83	94	63	89	106
Sri Lanka	160	141	120	114	91
Others	807	736	669	782	983

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

(2) 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 Japan’s international contributions. Since July 1, 2010, new training and technical intern training programs have commenced, and it has been necessary for foreign nationals, who wish to acquire further proficiency in the skills obtained with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (1)” and to engage in work requiring the skills already obtained in the program to get permission to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)”.

“Technical Intern Training (2)” covers skills that are publicly evaluated in Japan and also meets demand in the countries sending the trainees. These skills were categorized into 68 types of work in total as of April 1, 2012. Fifty-three types, including form panel setting and machining, are evaluated based on the National Skills Test under the Occupation Skills Development Promotion Act for Basic Grade 1 and Basic Grade 2. The remaining 15 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 were permitted to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)” in 2012 had increased by 3,739 (8.3%) from 2011 to 48,752. In total, more than 520,000 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 2012(*).

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of trainees who obtained permission to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (2)” in 2012 came from China (36,448, or 74.8%), followed by Viet Nam (5,520, 11.3%), Indonesia (2,689, 5.5%), the Philippines (2,550, or 5.2%), and Thailand (913, 1.9%). The highest number of trainees by occupation was women/children’s apparel production, followed by welding, and plastic molding. (Table 14, 15)

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

Table 14 Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (2)” (including the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)”) by nationality/region

(People)

Year Nationality/region	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	62,520	62,207	49,166	45,013	48,752
China	49,566	49,032	39,616	35,209	36,448
Viet Nam	4,885	4,972	3,349	3,658	5,520
Indonesia	3,393	3,467	2,272	2,496	2,689
Philippines	3,000	3,127	2,806	2,464	2,550
Thailand	1,079	1,082	691	794	913
Others	597	527	432	392	632

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

(*2) The training and technical intern training programs refer to those reviewed in accordance with the revised Immigration Control Act amended on July 15, 2009 and enforced on July 1, 2010. The "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" under the former system corresponds to "Technical Intern Training (2)" under the current system.

(*3) The numbers corresponding to the years from 2008 to 2009 were those of foreign nationals who changed their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)". The number corresponding to 2010 was the total number of foreign nationals who changed their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" under the former system and who switched their status of residence to "Technical Intern Training (2)" under the current system.

Table 15 Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (2)” (including the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)”) by occupation

(People)

Year Occupation	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	62,520	62,207	49,166	45,013	48,752
Women/Children's apparel production	12,707	11,428	10,252	7,840	8,095
Mold construction	1,012	877	604	392	532
Men's apparel production	637	631	681	448	470
Welding	5,457	5,569	4,040	3,568	4,053
Steel reinforcement construction	889	987	709	470	812
Machining	3,539	3,203	1,490	2,136	2,526
Metal press work	3,150	2,769	1,625	1,719	1,928
Plumbing	163	215	146	106	75
Painting	1,644	1,766	1,128	1,320	1,379
Furniture production	364	435	259	281	316
Casting	1,062	977	752	863	912
Steeplejack	1,125	993	819	614	866
Plastic molding	4,270	4,454	2,987	3,661	3,255
Carpenter	356	402	376	338	399
Construction machinery production	172	179	171	134	139
Others	25,973	27,322	23,127	21,123	22,995

(*1) The training and technical intern training programs refer to those reviewed in accordance with the revised Immigration Control Act amended on July 15, 2009 and enforced on July 1, 2010. The "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" under the former system corresponds to "Technical Intern Training (2)" under the current system.

(*2) The numbers corresponding to the years from 2008 to 2009 were those of the foreign nationals who changed their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)". The number corresponding to 2010 was the total number of foreign nationals who changed their status of residence to "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)" under the former system and who changed their status of residence to "Technical Intern Training (2)" under the current system.

② Permission for Extension of the Period of Stay

The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for extension of their period of stay during 2012 was 407,570, an increase of 29,925 (7.9%) from 2011.

③ Permission for Permanent Residence

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for permanent residence marked the highest number at 60,509 in 2007. Although the number declined after that, the number for 2012 was 42,029, an increase of 702 (1.7%) from 2011. (Table 16)

Table 16 Changes in the number of cases of permission for permanent residence by nationality/region

Nationality/region	(Cases)					
	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		57,806	53,820	47,898	41,327	42,029
China		16,140	16,957	16,714	16,436	17,471
Philippines		8,982	9,248	9,157	7,210	7,373
Brazil		16,824	11,430	7,549	5,172	4,867
Korea		3,914	4,060	3,760	3,221	2,902
Peru		2,783	2,389	1,756	1,335	1,116
Others		9,163	9,736	8,962	7,953	8,300

(*1) "China" until 2011 includes Taiwan, Hong Kong and others.

(*2) "China" for 2012 includes Hong Kong and others.

④ Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence

The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for acquisition of a status of residence in 2012 was 8,235, an increase of 1,707 (26.1%) from 2011.

⑤ Re-entry Permission

The number of foreign nationals who were granted re-entry permission in 2012 was 270,091, marking a substantial decrease of 393,919 (59.3%) from 2011.

This is because foreign nationals holding a valid passport or a valid residence card are no longer required, in principle, under the "system for special re-entry permission", to obtain re-entry permission, as long as they re-enter Japan in order to continue their activities in Japan within one year of departing from Japan.

The number of foreign nationals who departed from Japan with re-entry permission in 2012 was 1,691,563, of which the number of foreign nationals departing from Japan under the system for special re-entry permission was 390,170.

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

The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted was 146,920, an increase of 10,470 (7.7%) from 2011.

Section 3 ◆ Number of Issuances of Residence Cards and Special Permanent Resident Certificates

① Number of Issuances of Residence Cards

The number of issuances of residence cards was 642,454 in 2012. Taking a look by category, 362,256 residence cards were issued for permission in connection with landing or the status of residence, accounting for 56.4% of the total, followed by 222,957 (accounting for 34.7%) in connection with applications for issuance of a renewal, 29,216 (accounting for 4.5%) in connection with applications for issuances in advance, and 10,679 (accounting for 1.7%) in connection with applications for new issuance.

By category of regional immigration bureaus, the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau issued 374,184 residence cards, accounting for 58.2% of the total, followed by Nagoya (121,166, or 18.9%), Osaka (78,482, or 12.2%), and Fukuoka (23,015, or 3.6%). Table 17)

Table 17 Number of issuances of residence cards (2012)

Regional immigration bureaus	Total	Landing/residency status-related permission	Notification of change in descriptions other than address	Extension of validity period	Application for re-issuance	Application for issuance for renewal	Application for new issuance	Application for issuance in advance
Total	642,454	362,256	6,279	1,865	9,202	222,957	10,679	29,216
Sapporo	5,385	3,906	16	10	93	1,203	157	-
Sendai	12,545	6,437	117	29	99	5,479	384	-
Tokyo	374,184	212,784	4,733	1,031	5,538	115,720	5,162	29,216
Nagoya	121,166	63,230	989	487	1,636	53,209	1,615	-
Osaka	78,482	44,320	150	191	1,058	30,967	1,796	-
Hiroshima	20,204	11,675	110	67	262	7,494	596	-
Takamatsu	7,473	5,232	54	22	103	1,734	328	-
Fukuoka	23,015	14,672	110	28	413	7,151	641	-

(*) The number of residence cards for which applications for issuance in advance were submitted are included in Tokyo, as all applications received by each regional immigration bureau were processed by the Tokyo Immigration Bureau.

② Number of Issuances of Special Permanent Resident Certificates

The number of issuances of special permanent resident certificates was 12,234 in 2012. Taking a look by category, 5,668 special permanent resident certificates were issued in connection with applications for issuance of a renewal, accounting for 46.3%, followed by 2,868 (accounting for 23.4%) in connection with applications for issuances in advance, 1,439 (accounting for 11.8%) in connection with applications for re-issuance, and 684 (accounting for 5.6%) in connection with notification of changes in descriptions other than the address. (Table 18)

Table 18 Number of issuances of special permanent resident certificates (2012)

	Permission for special permanent residence (Article 4)	Permission for special permanent residence (Article 5)	Notification of change in descriptions other than address	Extension of validity period	Application for re-issuance	Application for issuance for renewal	Application for new issuance	Application for issuance in advance	Total
Number of issuance"	487	72	684	660	1,439	5,668	356	2,868	12,234

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of residence examinations)(Mina Yoriki, Business and Employment Inspection Department, Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau)

The task of an immigration inspector in charge of the examination of statuses of residence is to examine applications for permission for extension of the period of stay and applications for permission to change the status of residence. We strive to secure appropriate control over the residence of foreign nationals.

The Business and Employment Inspection Department of the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau, where I work, examines the applications for statuses of residence for the purpose of working in Japan. There are 17 statuses of residence intended for the purpose of working in Japan such as “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and “Intra-company Transferee” out of the 30 statuses of residence in total. One of the characteristics of the Work Examination Division is to handle a wide variety of statuses of residence.

As many college students studying at a Japanese university or college wish to continue to stay in Japan to work at a company or organization in Japan, the number of applications for permission to change to a status of residence for employment increases in March and April, which is the busiest season in the year. We decide whether the applicant falls under a status of residence for employment in Japan by examining the working conditions and treatment provided by the employer at the place where the applicant intends to work, the applicant’s academic grades and other factors.

Therefore, the examination of statuses of residence forms an important administrative action affecting the foundation of the lives of foreign nationals staying in Japan, and I feel responsible for conducting a careful and appropriate examination for each individual application based on relevant laws and ordinances, and public notices.

Each individual application differs from case to case. It is necessary to constantly acquire a wide range of knowledge and to make well-balanced judgments by appropriately figuring out the details of each application. I believe that it is rewarding work.

In addition, the examination of each individual application is a part of Japan’s policy of accepting foreign nationals. Keeping this in my mind, I carry out my daily tasks.



Chapter 3. Implementation of the Technical Intern Training Programs

Section 1 ◆ Outline of the System

The aim of the technical intern and training programs is to transfer technology, skills and knowledge generated in Japan to developing countries and other countries, and to contribute to the “development of human resources” who will take the lead in those countries. However, recently, an increasing number of organizations accepting trainees and interns have misunderstood the objective of the programs, treating the trainees and interns improperly and paying them unfairly low wages. In addition, there has been criticism that some accepting organizations do not provide adequate guidance and supervision to their affiliate organizations, and that there are brokers who obtain unfair profits from performing intermediary services for trainees.

In order to deal with the current situation, a new system of technical intern training programs was launched in July 2010. As a result, in principle, it is mandatory for the intern training activities for the acquisition of skills to be performed based on an employment contract, and therefore these interns are protected in accordance with the relevant Labor Standards Act and other labor-related laws and regulations, including the Minimum Wage Act. In cases of acceptance under the supervision of an organization, the accepting organizations previously supervised technical internships only in the first year. Following the revision, organizations organizing technical intern training for a second year or longer are required to continue conducting the training on their own responsibility and supervision.

The new programs require accepting organizations to attend lectures on information necessary for legal protection of the technical interns, given by an expert. In order to reinforce the instruction, supervision and support system of the supervising organizations, the requirements of the supervising organizations are also stipulated as follows: (i) staff of the supervising organizations shall visit the facility where the programs are being conducted at least once a month to check on the state of the technical intern training programs and to give directions; (ii) board members of the supervising organizations shall conduct an audit at least once every three months, and shall report the results of the audit to the competent regional immigration bureau; (iii) supervising organizations shall appoint counseling staff who will give advice to the technical interns.

Section 2 ◆ Responses to Cases of Inappropriate Acceptance

Under the provisions including the Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Bureau may render a finding of “misconduct” with regard to organizations that have acted inappropriately in implementing their training and technical intern training programs. The Immigration Bureau suspends such organizations from accepting trainees and technical interns for one, three or five years depending on the type of misconduct as stipulated in the ministerial ordinance. The number of organizations to which the Ministry of Justice sent notifications that they were found to have engaged in “misconduct” during the year 2012 was 197.

According to the type of receiving arrangement, there were 197 organizations (100.0%) accepting trainees under the association-supervised scheme (no organizations accepted trainees under the company-arranged scheme). Taking a look by type of receiving organization, there were nine supervising organizations (4.6%) and 188 program conducting organizations (95.4%). (Table 19)

Table 19 Changes in the number of organizations subject to a finding of misconduct by type of receiving arrangement

Type of receiving arrangement		(Organizations)					
		Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Company-arranged scheme			7	2	3	2	0
Association-supervised scheme	Supervising organization (Primary receiving organization)		29	34	17	14	9
	Program implementing organization (Secondary receiving organization)		416	324	143	168	188
Total			452	360	163	184	197

“Abuse of human rights”, “violation of labor-related laws/regulations”, and “name lending” were the three major forms of “misconduct”, in total accounting for 87.5% of the total. (Table 20)

With respect to the technical intern training, as described above, there are still a considerable number of organizations committing inappropriate conduct even after the introduction of the new system. Therefore, we will endeavor to continue checking the situation, closely coordinate with the relevant institutions, and actively conduct research into the facts, requesting organizations which are committing inappropriate conduct to take corrective measures as necessary.

Table 20 Number of cases of misconduct by category (2012)

(Cases)

Category		Company-arranged scheme (0 Organizations)			Association-supervised scheme						Total (197 Organizations)
					Supervising organization (9 Organizations)			Program implementing organization (188 Organizations)			
Guidelines	Ministerial Ordinance	Guidelines	Ministerial Ordinances	Sub total	Guidelines	Ministerial Ordinances	Sub total	Guidelines	Ministerial Ordinances	Sub total	
Dual contract	Dual contract	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Discrepancy compared with the Trainee and Technical Intern Training Plan	Discrepancy compared with Trainee and Technical Intern Training Plan	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	8	9	10
Name lending	Name lending	0	0	0	1	1	2	9	7	16	18
Document forgery/preparation and use of fraudulent documents	Document forgery/preparation and use of fraudulent documents	0	0	0	1	3	4	1	2	3	7
Work in excess of statutory working hours	Work in excess of statutory working hours	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	3
Malicious acts related to human rights infringement	Violence/threats/confinement		0			0			0		109
	Confiscation of passport/residence card	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	19	
	Nonpayment		0			0			90		
	Human rights infringement		0			0			0		
Failure to report serious cases, etc.	Program implementing organization's failure to report misconduct/failure to report the impossibility of continuing the program		0			0			0		3
	Supervising organization's failure to report misconduct, etc./failure to conduct audit or to establish a consultation system or other system	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	3	
	Frequency of trainees going missing		0			0			0		
Employment of illegal foreign workers	Employment of illegal foreign workers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	5
Violation of labor-related regulations	Violation of labor-related regulations	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	25	83	83
Recurrence of similar inappropriate acts	Repeated misconduct	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Confiscation of deposit		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
	Engaging in work activities during course study period		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
	Arrangement with profit purpose		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
	Failure to submit a daily report		0	0		0	0		2	2	2
	Failure to submit a report regarding leaving trainees		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	2	8	10	90	140	230	240

(Note 1) If one accepting organization is notified of findings of misconduct in more than one category, it is counted in each category, and therefore, the total number of accepting organizations is not identical to the total number of recognized cases in each category.

(Note 2) For 2011, the Immigration Bureau published statistics on cases of "misconduct" which had occurred before and after the introduction of the current system (in July 2010). Therefore, the number of cases of misconduct in and before June 2012 is counted in accordance with the categories specified in the Guidelines Concerning the Entry and Residence Management of Technical Intern Trainees (revised in 2007), while the number of cases of misconduct in and after July 2012 is counted in accordance with the Ministerial Ordinance for the Landing Criteria.

Section 3 ◆ Amendment of the Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice and Other Orders Relating to “Technical Intern Training”

On November 1, 2012, the Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice and other orders were amended to reinforce protection for the technical interns and to secure appropriate management of the technical intern training programs. More specifically, those amendments included: (i) clarification of the starting point from when a facility implementing a technical intern training program, which has committed misconduct that interfered with the appropriate implementation of the technical intern training, will no longer be allowed to accept new technical interns; (ii) withholding of permission for acceptance if the supervising organization has been involved in submitting any false applications over the past five years; and (iii) the requirement to submit a prompt report on any misconduct committed by the facility implementing the technical intern training program or the supervising organization to the competent regional immigration bureau.

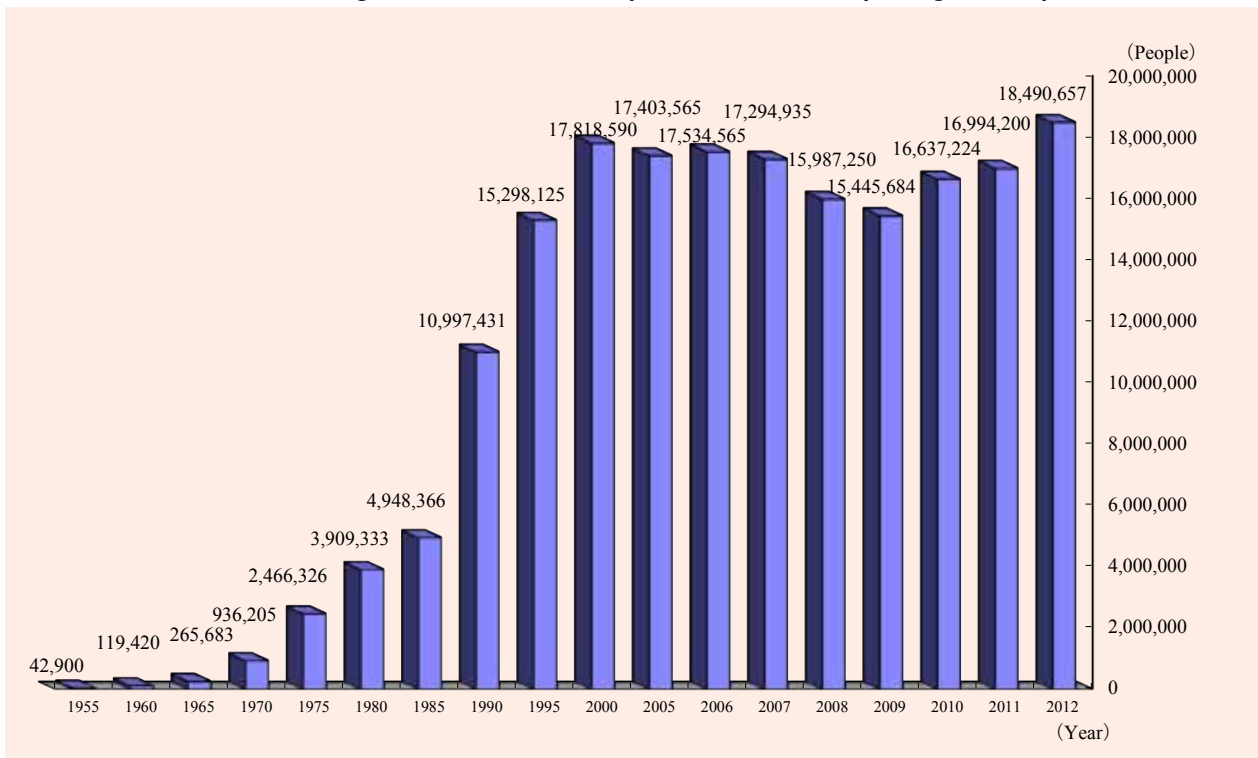
Chapter 4. Japanese Nationals Departing from and Returning to Japan

Section 1 ◆ The Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan

① The Total Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan

The total number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2012 marked a record high at 18,490,657, an increase of 1,496,457 (8.8%) from 2011. (Chart 22)

Chart 22: Changes in the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan



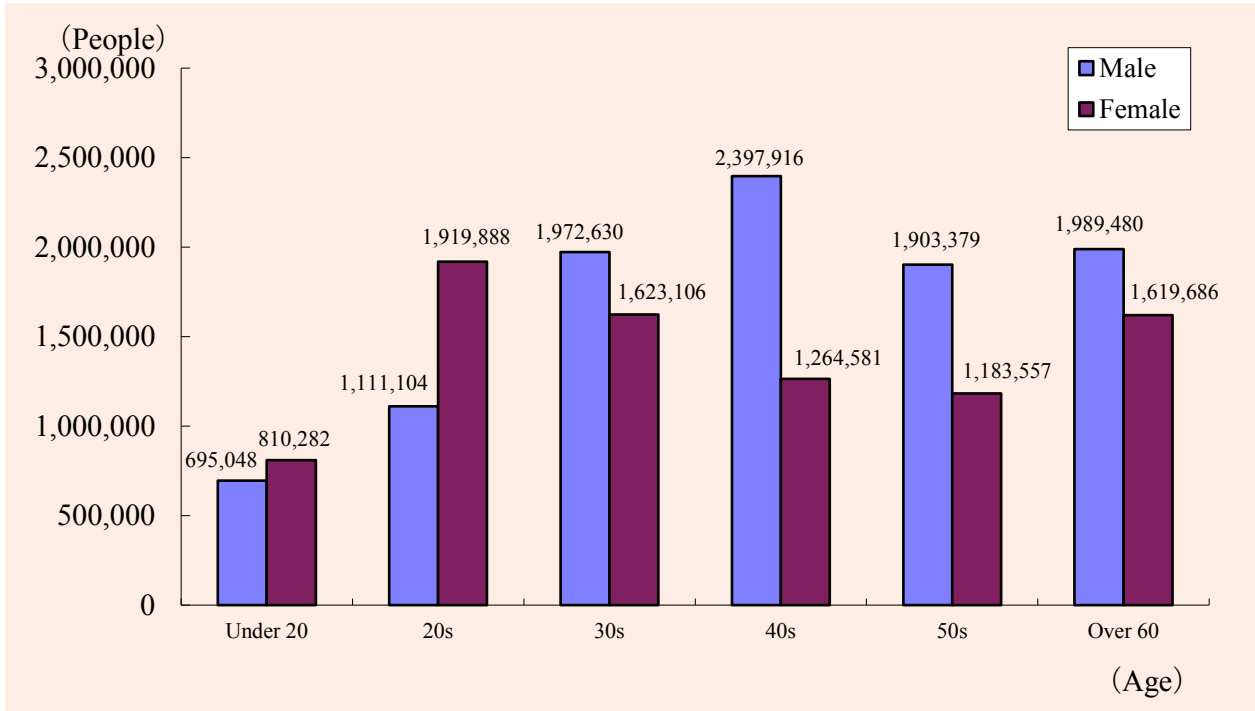
② The Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Gender and Age

According to statistics by gender, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2012 was composed of 10,069,557 males and 8,421,100 females; males accounted for 54.5% of the total and females accounted for 45.5%. There have been no significant changes in the percentages of either males or females since 2001, and the percentage of males continues to exceed that of females.

According to statistics by age, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2012 was composed of 3,662,497 Japanese nationals in their 40s, which accounted for 19.8% of the total, followed by 3,609,166 in their 60s or older (19.5%), 3,595,736 in their 30s (19.4%), 3,086,936 in their 50s (16.7%), and 3,030,992 in their 20s (16.4%).

The percentages of males and females by age shows that the percentage of females younger than 20 and in their 20s exceeded that of males, and in particular, in respect of those in their 20s, females accounted for 63.3%, a particularly high percentage. Figures for those older than their 20s show that the percentage of males departing from Japan exceeded that of females. (Chart 23)

Chart 23: Number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan by gender and age (2012)



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

According to the statistics of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2012 by airport and seaport of departure, the number of persons using airports to depart from Japan was 18,280,166, accounting for 98.9% of the total. When compared with the percentage of foreign nationals entering Japan (foreign nationals using airports accounted for 93.4%), the percentage of airport users is much higher.

Of the Japanese nationals using airports to depart from Japan in 2012, the number of users of Narita Airport was 8,319,613, which accounted for 45.5 % of the total number of persons using airports to depart from Japan, and those using Kansai Airport was 3,622,975, which accounted for 19.8%. This means that 65.3% of the total number of persons departing from airports use these two airports. Other than Narita and Kansai airports, the number of users of Haneda Airport was 2,837,845 (15.5%), while the number of users of Chubu Airport was 1,668,995 (9.1%).

On the other hand, of the Japanese nationals using seaports to depart from Japan in 2012, the number of Japanese nationals using Hakata Port, where scheduled passenger ships operate between Japan and R.O. Korea, was 141,591, which accounted for 67.3% of the total number of persons departing from seaports, and the number using Shimonoseki Port was 18,914, which accounted for 9.0 % of the total. This means that 76.3% of the total number of Japanese nationals departing from seaports used these two seaports. Yokohama Port, 15,101 (7.2%) and Osaka Port, 7,481 (3.6%) followed these two major seaports.

Section 2 ◆ The Number of Japanese Nationals Returning to Japan



Airport landing examination

The total number of returning Japanese nationals in 2012 was 18,408,185. By period of stay in foreign countries after departure, the number of persons returning within one month after departure was 16,898,410, which accounted for 91.8% of the total. Of those, the number of persons returning within ten days was 15,364,844, which accounted for 90.9% of those who returned within one month after departure.

This is because most Japanese tourists going abroad who depart for a purpose requiring only a short period such as sightseeing and business return promptly. This trend has continued in recent years and no major change has been observed. (Table 21)

Table 21 Changes in the number of Japanese nationals returning to Japan by period of stay

(People)

Year \ Period of Stay	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	15,905,433	15,432,549	16,611,884	16,921,103	18,408,185
Within 5 days	9,344,449	9,341,903	9,904,585	10,039,111	10,916,364
More than 5 days to 10 days	3,935,729	3,613,776	4,002,339	4,055,123	4,448,480
More than 10 days to 20 days	1,007,021	897,894	998,258	1,054,248	1,129,239
More than 20 days to 1 month	342,367	298,834	347,066	388,970	404,327
More than 1 month to 3 months	560,726	529,070	542,196	588,327	639,672
More than 3 months to 6 months	319,749	324,165	314,762	323,218	357,644
More than 6 months to 1 year	270,411	290,320	258,013	256,264	270,945
More than 1 year to 3 years	111,398	124,015	124,335	119,588	137,043
More than 3 years	8,354	7,479	8,567	8,281	11,045
Unknown	5,229	5,093	111,763	87,973	93,426

Chapter 5. Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

Section 1 ◆ Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay

Based on the computer statistics of the Immigration Bureau, the estimated number of foreign nationals who overstayed (those who illegally stay in Japan beyond their authorized period of stay) was 62,009 as of January 1, 2013. This number has been steadily decreasing, a decline of 5,056 (7.5%) from 67,065 on January 1, 2012, in other words, a decline of 236,637 (79.2%) from a record high of 298,646 on May 1, 1993.

This decline may be attributed to the effects of comprehensive countermeasures, including the implementation of stricter immigration examinations at the port of entry, and efforts for close cooperation with other related agencies to detect violators of the Immigration Control Act as well as proactive public relation activities to prevent illegal employment.



Investigation into a violation

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

As of May 1, 1993, when the highest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was recorded, the nationality/region of the largest number of foreign nationals was Thailand, followed by R.O. Korea, the Philippines, China and Malaysia. As of January 1, 2013, the nationality/region of the largest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was R.O. Korea (15,607, accounting for 25.2% of the total), followed by China (7,730, accounting for 12.5%), the Philippines (5,722, accounting for 9.2%), Taiwan (4,047, accounting for 6.5%), Thailand (3,558, accounting for 5.7%), Malaysia (2,192, accounting for 3.5%), and Singapore (1,304, accounting for 2.1%).

Taking a look at the changes after May 1, 1993, although new entries increased significantly owing to visa-exemption measures being implemented with regard to R.O. Korea for those foreign nationals intending to engage in activities that may be performed under the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, the number of those found overstaying from R.O. Korea has been consistently decreasing since January 1, 1999. The number of those from Thailand has been steadily decreasing since May 1, 1993. The number of those from Malaysia and Peru has also seen a decline 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. Subsequently, it started to increase in 2003 and further increased in 2004, but it has also shown a decreasing trend since 2005. The number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay from the Philippines has been decreasing since 1999, but fluctuated between increasing and decreasing from 2003 to 2006, decreasing after 2007. (Table 22, Chart 24)

Table 22 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by major nationality/region

(People)

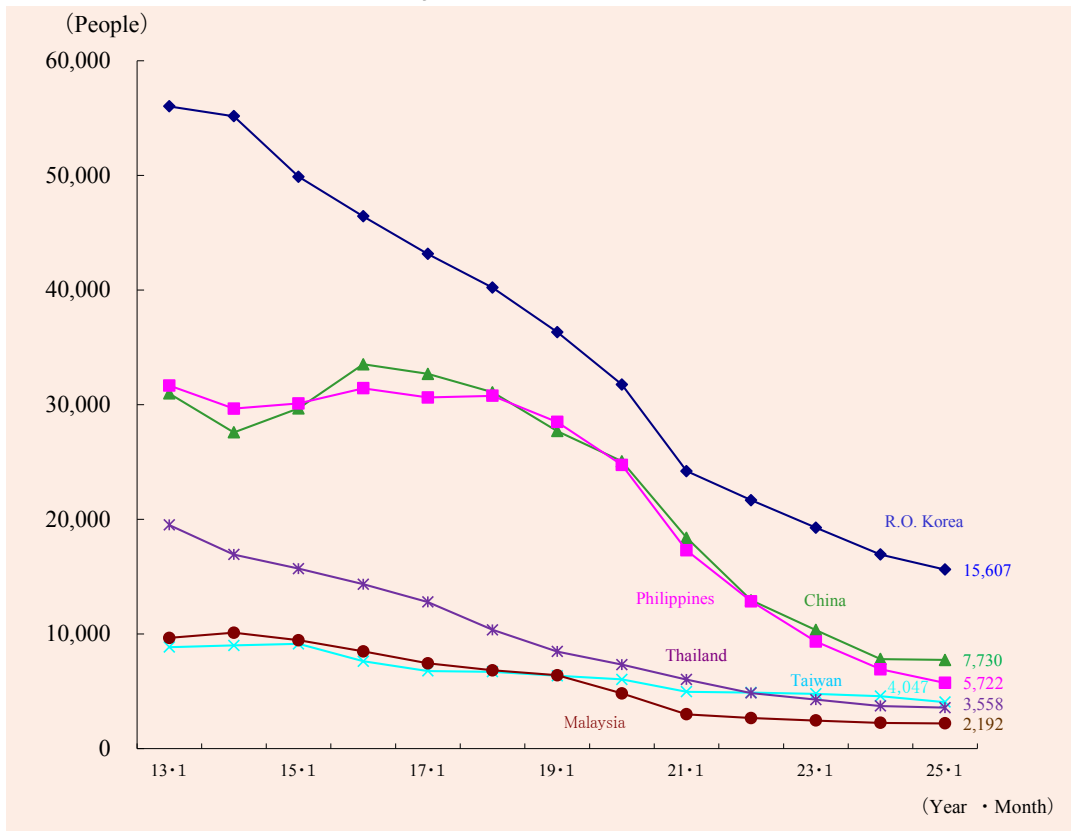
Nationality/region \ Date												
	May 1 1993	May 1 1994	May 1 1995	May 1 1996	January 1 1997	January 1 1998	January 1 1999	January 1 2000	January 1 2001	January 1 2002	January 1 2003	
Total	298,646	293,800	286,704	284,500	282,986	276,810	271,048	251,697	232,121	224,067	220,552	
R.O. Korea	39,455	43,369	47,544	51,580	52,387	52,123	62,577	60,693	56,023	55,164	49,874	
China	33,312	39,738	39,511	39,140	38,296	37,590	34,800	32,896	30,975	27,582	29,676	
Philippines	35,392	37,544	39,763	41,997	42,547	42,608	40,420	36,379	31,666	29,649	30,100	
Taiwan	7,457	7,871	7,974	8,502	9,409	9,430	9,437	9,243	8,849	8,990	9,126	
Thailand	55,383	49,992	44,794	41,280	39,513	37,046	30,065	23,503	19,500	16,925	15,693	
Malaysia	30,840	20,313	14,511	11,525	10,390	10,141	9,989	9,701	9,651	10,097	9,442	
Singapore	1,914	2,342	2,600	2,850	2,946	3,027	3,084	3,178	3,302	3,494	3,556	
Peru	9,038	12,918	15,301	13,836	12,942	11,606	10,320	9,158	8,502	7,744	7,322	
Viet Nam	852	869	453	448	231	731	880	1,092	1,550	2,021	2,697	
Sri Lanka	3,763	3,395	2,980	2,783	2,751	3,071	3,734	3,907	3,489	3,730	3,909	
Others	81,240	75,449	71,273	70,559	71,574	69,437	65,742	61,947	58,614	58,671	59,157	

(People)

Nationality/region \ Date											
	January 1 2004	January 1 2005	January 1 2006	January 1 2007	January 1 2008	January 1 2009	January 1 2010	January 1 2011	January 1 2012	January 1 2013	
Total	219,418	207,299	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488	67,065	62,009	
R.O. Korea	46,425	43,151	40,203	36,321	31,758	24,198	21,660	19,271	16,927	15,607	
China	33,522	32,683	31,074	27,698	25,057	18,385	12,933	10,337	7,807	7,730	
Philippines	31,428	30,619	30,777	28,491	24,741	17,287	12,842	9,329	6,908	5,722	
Taiwan	7,611	6,760	6,696	6,347	6,031	4,950	4,889	4,774	4,571	4,047	
Thailand	14,334	12,787	10,352	8,460	7,314	6,023	4,836	4,264	3,714	3,558	
Malaysia	8,476	7,431	6,822	6,397	4,804	2,986	2,661	2,442	2,237	2,192	
Singapore	3,216	3,075	3,587	2,241	2,207	2,128	2,107	1,789	1,586	1,304	
Peru	7,230	6,624	5,997	5,283	4,481	3,396	2,402	1,794	1,377	1,143	
Viet Nam	3,582	3,916	4,071	3,959	3,362	2,527	1,531	1,221	1,014	1,110	
Sri Lanka	4,242	4,209	4,590	4,042	3,615	2,796	1,952	1,498	1,256	1,084	
Others	59,352	56,044	49,576	41,600	36,415	28,396	23,965	21,769	19,668	18,512	

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

Chart 24: Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by major nationality/region



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

Statistics for the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay as of January 1, 2013 by status of residence immediately before their status of residence had expired showed the following: the largest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay had the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” (43,943) accounting for 70.9% of the total. This was followed by “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” (4,291 accounting for 6.9%), “Student” (2,847 accounting for 4.6%), “Entertainer” (2,432 accounting for 3.9%) and “Long-Term Resident” (2,088 accounting for 3.4%). Compared with the same period for the previous year, the number of those who were granted the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” had decreased by 2,902 (6.2%), the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” had decreased by 769 (15.2%), the status of residence of “Student” had decreased by 340 (10.7%), the status of residence of “Entertainer” had decreased by 524 (17.7%), and the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” had decreased by 539 (20.5%), respectively. The number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay 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 continued increasing, but has been decreasing ever since January 1, 2005. On the other hand, the number of foreign residents with the status of residence of “Student” increased from January 1, 2001, but has since been decreasing since January 1, 2006. (Table 23)

Table 23 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by major status of residence

Status of Residence	Date	(People)					
		January 1 2008	January 1 2009	January 1 2010	January 1 2011	January 1 2012	January 1 2013
Total		149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488	67,065	62,009
Temporary Visitor		102,069	76,651	63,169	54,220	46,845	43,943
Spouse or Child of Japanese National		10,502	7,576	6,456	5,843	5,060	4,291
Student		10,978	8,276	5,842	4,322	3,187	2,847
Entertainer		6,624	5,015	4,120	3,425	2,956	2,432
Long-Term Resident		5,499	4,044	3,505	3,199	2,627	2,088
Others		14,113	11,510	8,686	7,479	6,390	6,408

(*) The number of foreign nationals overstaying with the status of residence, “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 was revised on July 1, 2010, at the time when they came to be considered to be overstaying.

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



Detection

① Outline

In 2012, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced on account of violation of the Immigration Control Act was 15,178, a decline of 5,481 from 2011. Of these, 2,587 were handed over to immigration inspectors as those subject to the departure order system.

According to the statistics of the number of foreign nationals by grounds for deportation, the largest number of foreign nationals were deported for overstaying (11,439 accounting for 75.4%), followed by illegal entry (1,875 accounting for 12.4%), followed by activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted (617 accounting for 4.1%). Foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay continued to account for a predominant percentage. (Table 24)

Looking at the statistics for the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality/region, the largest number of such foreign nationals was from China for ten consecutive years (4,545 accounting for 29.9%), followed by the Philippines (2,972 accounting for 19.6%), and R.O. Korea (2,028 accounting for 13.4%). These top three countries made up 62.9% of the total. (Table 25)

Of the foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act against whom the deportation procedures were enforced in 2012, the number of those who illegally worked in Japan was 8,979, accounting for 59.2% of the total.

Table 24 Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by grounds for deportation

Grounds for Deportation	(People)					
	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		39,382	32,661	24,213	20,659	15,178
Illegal entry		6,136	5,373	3,867	2,862	1,875
Illegal landing		253	186	134	164	187
Activity other than those permitted		1,153	810	751	542	617
Overstay		31,045	25,503	18,578	15,925	11,439
Criminal offenses etc.		795	789	883	1,166	1,060
Illegal work		32,471	26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979

Table 25 Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality/region

Nationality/region	(People)					
	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		39,382	32,661	24,213	20,659	15,178
China		10,963	9,522	7,294	6,350	4,545
Philippines		7,847	6,370	5,058	4,346	2,972
R.O.Korea		4,993	3,934	3,215	2,625	2,028
Brazil		537	536	581	825	814
Thailand		2,020	1,832	1,475	1,108	786
Viet Nam		1,708	1,373	887	717	592
Peru		1,064	1,216	742	597	402
Indonesia		2,284	1,632	735	449	327
Sri Lanka		1,432	1,171	624	449	303
United States of America		168	124	176	258	218
Others		6,366	4,951	3,426	2,935	2,191

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

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

(1) Illegal Entry

Of the foreign nationals against whom the deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2012, the number of illegal entrants (*) was 1,875 (12.4%), a decline of 987 (34.5%) from 2011. Looking at past records, the number increased after 2003 but started to decrease after 2006. Since the number of illegal entrants as a percentage of the total number of foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act is decreasing, it is considered that the countermeasures to prevent illegal entry have been quite effective.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of illegal entrants was from China (532 accounting for 28.4% of the total), followed by the Philippines (520 accounting for 27.7%) and R.O. Korea (178 accounting for 9.5%), and there has been no change in the order of the top two countries since 2002.

According to statistics by means of transportation utilized for illegal entry, the number of illegal entrants using aircraft was 1,437 (76.6%), a decline of 668 (31.7%) from 2011, and therefore, illegal entry using aircraft as a percentage of the total is still high. Meanwhile, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for illegal entry by a vessel was 438 (23.4%), a decline of 319 (42.1%) from 2011. (Table 26, 27, 28).

Table 26 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	6,136	5,373	3,867	2,862	1,875
China	2,020	1,648	1,212	949	532
Philippines	1,376	1,237	1,065	799	520
R.O.Korea	478	427	327	270	178
Iran	248	174	133	112	124
Thailand	503	416	303	198	105
Peru	261	377	189	119	91
Indonesia	260	269	132	83	55
Sri Lanka	165	130	82	57	36
Nigeria	50	50	37	37	32
Bangladesh	263	160	79	35	26
Others	512	485	308	203	176

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

Table 27 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry using aircraft by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	4,462	3,880	2,849	2,105	1,437
Philippines	1,301	1,153	1,006	760	500
China	942	698	533	443	263
Iran	202	141	113	96	113
Thailand	471	387	284	192	100
Peru	261	377	188	119	90
Others	1,285	1,124	725	495	371

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

Table 28 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by vessel by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	1,674	1,493	1,018	757	438
China	1,078	950	679	506	269
R.O.Korea	254	262	186	166	100
Philippines	75	84	59	39	20
Iran	46	33	20	16	11
China (Hong Kong)	0	0	0	0	11
Others	221	164	74	30	27

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

(*) An illegal entrant means a person who enters Japan in violation of the provisions of Article 3, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act.

The provisions in the paragraph stipulate that any foreign national who falls under any of the following items shall not enter Japan: a person who does not possess a valid passport (except for a crew member possessing a valid crew member's pocket-ledger) (item (i)); and a person who intends to land in Japan without receiving a seal of verification for landing or undergoing the recording of the prescribed data pursuant to the provision of Article 9, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act, or without obtaining authorized permission for landing from an immigration inspector (Item 2). Any foreign national who violates the provisions is considered an illegal entrant.

(2) Illegal Landing

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced owing to violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2012, the number of those who illegally landed in Japan without receiving a seal of verification for landing or undergoing the recording of the prescribed data pursuant to the provisions of Article 9, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act, or without obtaining authorized permission for landing from an immigration inspector was 187 (1.2%), a slight increase of 23 (14.0%) from 2011. (Table 29)

Table 29 Changes in the number of cases of illegal landing by nationality/region

Nationality/region	(People)					
	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		253	186	134	164	187
Turkey		39	17	27	72	98
China		58	50	25	20	14
Viet Nam		3	5	1	2	10
Pakistan		3	6	2	5	9
Philippines		14	14	9	4	6
Sri Lanka		27	4	8	0	6
Nigeria		2	1	1	0	6
United States of America		2	1	0	6	5
R.O.Korea		17	10	11	12	4
Thailand		9	18	7	4	4
Others		79	60	43	39	25

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

(3) Overstay

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2012, the number of those who had stayed beyond the authorized period of stay was 11,439 (75.4%), a decrease by 4,486 (28.2%) from 2011, which was still overwhelmingly high.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was from China (3,415 accounting for 29.9% of the total), followed by the Philippines (2,295 accounting for 20.1%), R.O. Korea (1,476 accounting for 12.9%), Brazil (671 accounting for 5.9%) and Thailand (615 accounting for 5.4%). (Table 30)

Table 30 Changes in the number of cases of foreign nationals staying beyond the authorized period of stay by nationality/region

Nationality/region	(People)					
	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		31,045	25,503	18,578	15,925	11,439
China		8,326	7,342	5,494	4,848	3,415
Philippines		6,188	4,960	3,797	3,280	2,295
R.O.Korea		4,147	3,104	2,582	2,082	1,476
Brazil		346	375	434	649	671
Thailand		1,444	1,347	1,130	860	615
Viet Nam		1,570	1,268	783	635	482
Peru		779	812	529	446	284
Indonesia		1,978	1,350	590	350	260
Sri Lanka		1,216	1,026	515	375	235
United States of America		143	99	157	224	200
Others		4,908	3,820	2,567	2,176	1,506

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

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

If a foreign national residing in Japan exclusively engages in work or engages in an activity other than those permitted for the status of residence previously granted without obtaining the required permission, deportation procedures will be enforced on grounds of engaging in an activity other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted. The number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced in 2012 was 617 (4.1%), an increase of 75 (13.8%) from 2011.

Accordingly to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China (228 accounting for 37.0% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (212 accounting for 34.4%) and Nepal (48 accounting for 7.8%), and these top three countries accounted for 79.1% of the total. (Table 31)

Table 31 Changes in the number of cases of activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted by nationality/region

Nationality/region	(People)					
	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		1,153	810	751	542	617
China		369	266	291	192	228
R.O.Korea		275	306	207	125	212
Nepal		35	10	45	60	48
Viet Nam		56	15	36	12	34
Philippines		189	85	57	71	20
Sri Lanka		16	9	15	10	20
Bangladesh		26	18	23	11	11
Thailand		14	14	6	5	9
Indonesia		29	11	4	14	7
India		23	8	19	13	6
Others		121	68	48	29	22

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

Article: Reaction to activists claiming sovereignty over the Senkaku Islands

In recent years, the activities of protesters from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong claiming sovereignty of the Senkaku Islands (activities to claim the Diaoyu Islands) have intensified, and there are incidents in which these protesters have entered the sea area of the Senkaku Islands in their vessels and intruded into the territorial waters of Japan.

The Immigration Bureau has handled the activists claiming sovereignty in close contact with the related government bodies, mainly the Cabinet Secretariat (officers in charge of security and crisis management). For example, the Immigration Bureau took immigration control officers on the patrol vessels of the Japan Coast Guard, which were conducting activities to conduct surveillance of the sea area around the Senkaku Islands, to participate in those activities along with the Japan Coast Guard and the police.

③ Illegal Foreign Workers

(1) Summary

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2012, the number of those who were considered to have been illegally working was 8,979, accounting for 59.2%. This indicates that most illegal foreign residents who are hiding out somewhere in Japan are working illegally.

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

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

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

Illegal workers came from 78 countries/regions, mainly from neighboring Asian countries, indicating that there is still a trend being seen toward increasing diversity in the nationalities of illegal foreign workers.

According to statistics by nationality/region, illegal workers from China made up the largest number at 3,082 accounting for 34.3%, followed by the Philippines (1,589 accounting for 17.7%), R.O. Korea (1,356 accounting for 15.1%), Thailand (567 accounting for 6.3%), and Viet Nam (380 accounting for 4.2%). These top five countries represented 77.7% of the total. As a trend in recent years, Chinese illegal workers accounted for a high percentage. (Table 32)

Table 32 Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/region		Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total			32,471	26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979
	Male		19,270	16,522	10,943	7,954	5,346
	Female		13,201	10,023	7,547	5,959	3,633
China			9,583	8,205	6,039	4,876	3,082
	Male		5,950	5,343	3,887	2,968	1,981
	Female		3,633	2,862	2,152	1,908	1,101
Philippines			6,083	4,845	3,573	2,632	1,589
	Male		2,559	2,250	1,491	1,052	629
	Female		3,524	2,595	2,082	1,580	960
R.O.Korea			4,077	3,241	2,590	1,918	1,356
	Male		1,555	1,306	985	670	525
	Female		2,522	1,935	1,605	1,248	831
Thailand			1,694	1,512	1,171	843	567
	Male		903	822	645	456	318
	Female		791	690	526	387	249
Viet Nam			1,473	1,152	722	521	380
	Male		887	741	483	323	271
	Female		586	411	239	198	109
Indonesia			2,162	1,557	675	397	267
	Male		1,568	1,230	518	333	218
	Female		594	327	157	64	49
Sri Lanka			1,278	1,042	554	365	246
	Male		1,150	946	507	335	230
	Female		128	96	47	30	16
Peru			786	932	487	324	198
	Male		532	652	311	218	145
	Female		254	280	176	106	53
Brazil			198	198	165	183	182
	Male		152	158	125	149	141
	Female		46	40	40	34	41
Nepal			535	456	277	179	117
	Male		364	340	215	122	85
	Female		171	116	62	57	32
Others			4,602	3,405	2,237	1,675	995
	Male		3,650	2,734	1,776	1,328	803
	Female		952	671	461	347	192

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

(3) The Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Gender

Illegal foreign workers against whom deportation procedures were taken consisted of 5,346 male illegal workers (accounting for 59.5%) and 3,633 female illegal workers (accounting for 40.5%). The percentage of male illegal workers had slightly increased (2.3%) from 2011.

(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 (1,623 accounting for 18.1% of the total), followed by attendants such as bar hostesses (1,365 accounting for 15.2%), and construction workers (1,154 accounting for 12.9%).

According to statistics by gender, the occupation of the largest group of male illegal workers was construction workers, followed by factory workers and other labor workers. On the other hand, the occupation of the largest group of female illegal workers was attendants such as bar hostesses, followed by factory workers and waitresses. (Table 33)

Table 33 Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by type of work

(People)

Job Categories	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		32,471	26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979
	Male	19,270	16,522	10,943	7,954	5,346
	Female	13,201	10,023	7,547	5,959	3,633
Factory worker		11,366	8,220	4,168	2,809	1,623
	Male	7,670	5,687	2,846	1,869	1,124
	Female	3,696	2,533	1,322	940	499
Attendants such as bar hostess		4,452	3,323	2,679	2,011	1,365
	Male	429	331	240	120	114
	Female	4,023	2,992	2,439	1,891	1,251
Construction worker		3,831	3,938	2,383	1,772	1,154
	Male	3,792	3,890	2,358	1,750	1,146
	Female	39	48	25	22	8
Other labor worker		3,092	2,461	1,715	1,527	907
	Male	2,342	1,899	1,347	1,173	700
	Female	750	562	368	354	207
Waitress and bartender		2,149	1,487	1,265	1,109	611
	Male	807	596	464	417	256
	Female	1,342	891	801	692	355
Agricultural worker		1,081	1,227	887	783	592
	Male	826	937	670	554	432
	Female	255	290	217	229	160
Others		6,098	5,804	5,114	3,902	2,727
	Male	3,632	3,586	3,198	2,071	1,574
	Female	2,466	2,218	1,916	1,831	1,153



Detection of illegal workers

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

It has been identified that illegal workers are working in 46 prefectures throughout Japan. According to statistics by place of work by prefecture, the largest number is found in Tokyo (1,740 accounting for 19.4% of the total), followed by Aichi prefecture (1,188 accounting for 13.2%), Chiba prefecture (1,088 accounting for 12.1%), Kanagawa prefecture (967 accounting for 10.8%), and Ibaraki prefecture (891 accounting for 9.9%).

According to statistics by region, the number of illegal workers in Tokyo and the six prefectures (Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Ibaraki, Gunma, and Tochigi) in the Kanto district was 5,742 (accounting for 63.9%), making up most of the total, and the number of illegal workers in the nine prefectures in the Chubu district (Niigata, Nagano, Yamanashi, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui, Shizuoka, Gifu and Aichi) was also at a high level of 1,876 (accounting for 20.9%). Illegal workers in the Kanto and Chubu districts, standing at 84.8% (7,618), accounted for a substantial percentage of the total number of illegal workers. (Table 34)

Table 34 Changes in the number of cases of illegal foreign workers by area

Prefecture	Year					(People)
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
Total	32,471	26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979	
Tokyo	5,862	4,618	3,462	2,763	1,740	
Aichi	4,801	3,924	2,188	1,637	1,188	
Chiba	2,824	2,784	2,316	1,919	1,088	
Kanagawa	4,497	3,522	2,594	1,663	967	
Ibaraki	2,465	2,448	1,805	1,286	891	
Saitama	2,784	2,215	1,528	1,112	616	
Osaka	1,439	1,060	894	623	517	
Gunma	1,980	1,375	717	447	249	
Shizuoka	1,092	800	439	371	215	
Tochigi	1,097	776	401	278	191	
Others	3,630	3,023	2,146	1,814	1,317	

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration control officer in charge of the detection of offenders)(Yoshimune Agehari, First Investigation Department, Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau)

The main role of the First Investigation Department where I work is to track down those foreign nationals who are in violation of the Immigration Control Act. The places of violation include various establishments, such as adult entertainment businesses, factories, and restaurants. Some of you may have seen how we crack down on offenders on television or via other media. However, such scenes are just one part of our activities, and we need to conduct thorough investigations before being able to find the offenders.

Recently, we see few simple cases of illegal entry or overstaying, but on the other hand, we are seeing more violations where the form is becoming much more sophisticated such as activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted, and fake marriages. For this reason, the number of complicated cases that require us to continue our investigation into the offender even after he or she has been caught has been increasing, and it is becoming more difficult to handle each case. Although statistics appear to show that the number of offenders has decreased, this is because imposter foreign residents who pretend to be legitimate residents have increased and so it has become more difficult to find them.

In addition, in order to be able to properly handle the employment of illegal residents, a recent amendment to the Immigration Control Act added the act of assisting illegal work to the grounds for deportation. We have been reinforcing detection of these cases, but as a result, some illegal residents who cannot openly be employed are working underground, some of whom would try their hand at any criminal act.

I believe that we play a part in the security efforts of Japan by detecting such offenders. I feel my work is worthwhile, although hard.

In order to reduce the number of offenders, it is essential to build cooperation with the police and other government bodies and to obtain the understanding and cooperation of the general public.



4 Outline of Decisions on Violations

(1) Receipt and the Processing of Cases of Violation

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



Decision on violation

The number of cases which underwent an examination of the violation in 2012 was 16,103, which has been declining continuously since 2006. (Table 35)

Table 35 Changes in the number of cases of receipt and findings of violation examinations by immigration inspectors, hearings by special inquiry officers and decisions of the Minister of Justice

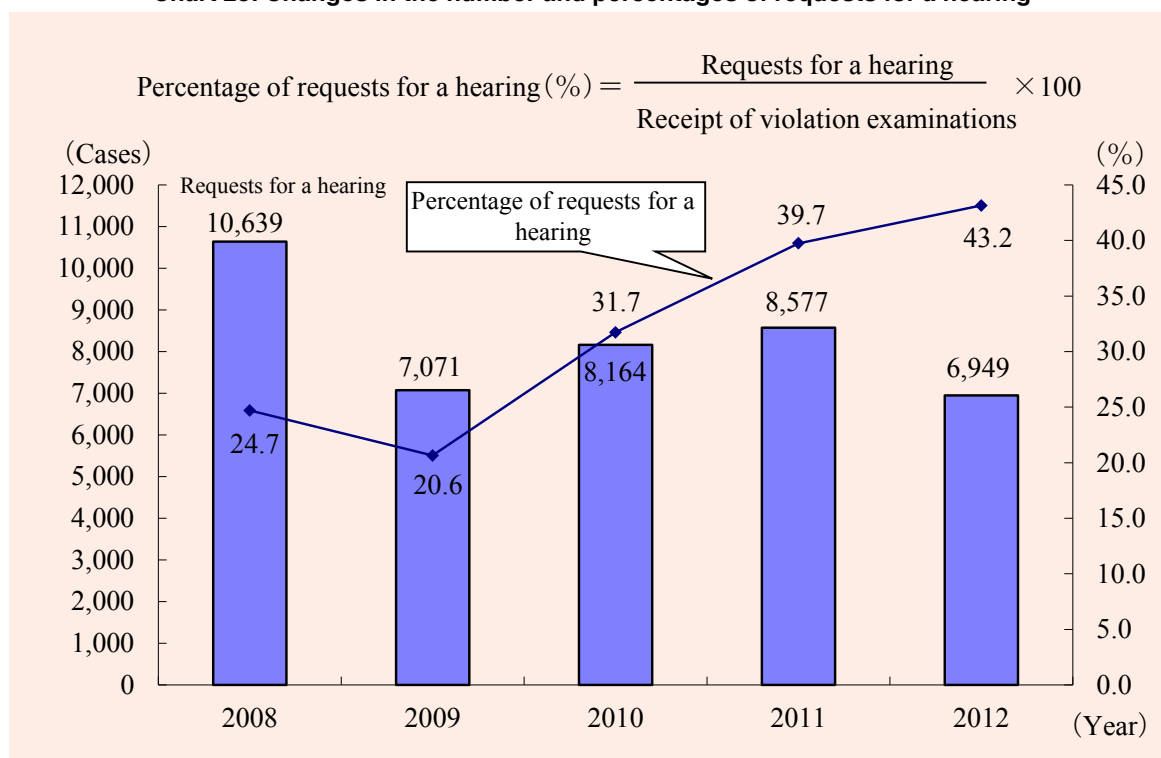
(Cases)

Division		Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Violation examination by immigration inspector	Receipt		43,073 (3,274)	34,247 (1,234)	25,731 (1,375)	21,584 (771)	16,103 (748)
	Completed	Found not to fall under one of the reasons for deportation	4	2	10	5	4
		Issuance of written deportation order	22,179	16,312	11,386	7,628	5,640
		Request for hearing	10,639	7,071	8,164	8,577	6,949
		Issuance of written departure order	8,477	9,041	5,186	4,501	2,594
	Not completed, others	1,774	1,821	985	873	916	
Hearing by special inquiry officer	Receipt		11,247 (562)	7,607 (506)	8,777 (587)	9,286 (674)	7,755 (711)
	Completed	Error in the findings	2	-	1	3	-
		Issuance of written deportation order	166	104	112	120	101
		Filing of an objection	10,515	6,876	7,949	8,389	6,952
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-	-
Not completed, others	564	627	715	774	702		
Decision of the Minister of Justice	Receipt		11,280(682)	7,456(561)	8,756(712)	9,017(526)	7,485(459)
	Completed	Objection with reason	3	1	-	7	2
		Objection without reason	10,593	6,630	8,107	8,440	6,887
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-	-
Not completed, others	684	825	649	570	596		

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

The number of requests for a hearing after examination of the violation in 2012 was 6,949 accounting for 43.2% of the total number of cases which underwent an examination of the violation, a decline of 1,628 (accounting for 19.0%) from 2011 (but the percentage had risen by 3.5% from 2011). (Chart 25)

Chart 25: Changes in the number and percentages of requests for a hearing



The number of objections filed by foreign nationals who were not satisfied with the decision made by the special inquiry officer at the hearing was 6,952 in 2012, a decline of 1,437 (accounting for 17.1%) from 2011. (Table 35)

(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order

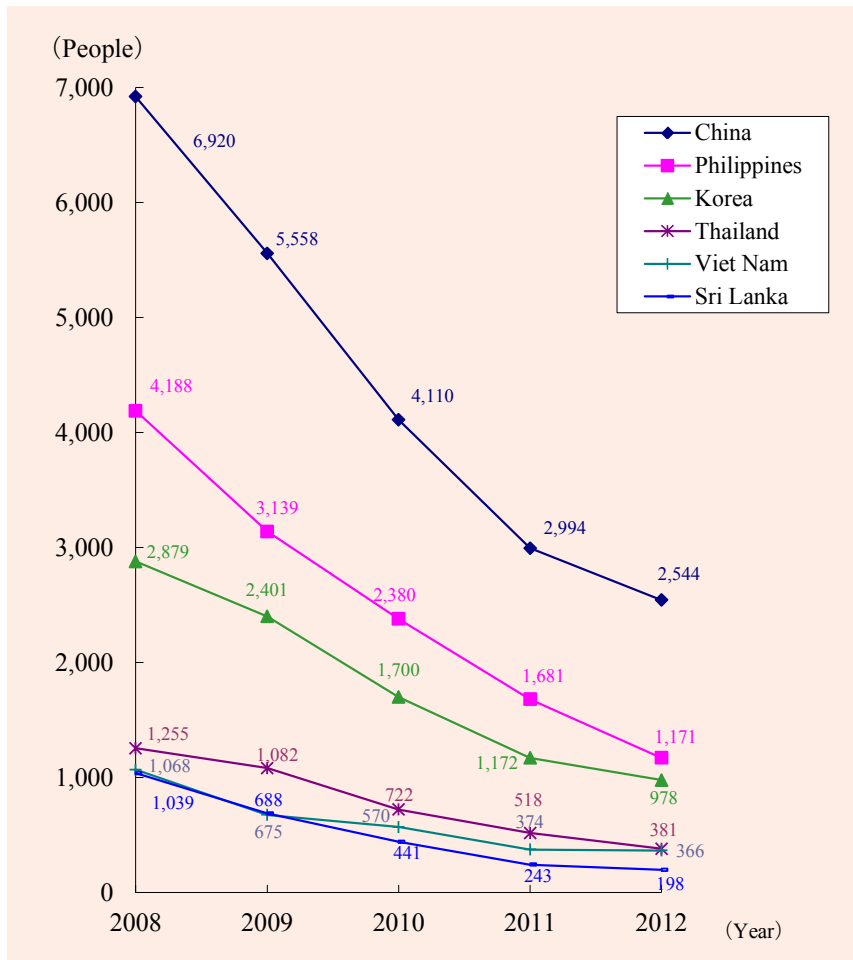
The number of written deportation orders issued in 2012 was 7,329. According to statistics by grounds for the deportation, the cases of overstaying amounted to 4,270, accounting for 58.3% of the total, while the percentage of cases of illegal entry was 19.5%, both of which showed almost the same percentage as 2011. (Table 36)

Table 36 Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by grounds for deportation

Grounds for Deportation	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	24,442	18,436	13,277	9,348	7,329
Overstay	16,966	12,130	8,665	5,588	4,270
Illegal entry	5,125	4,473	2,956	2,014	1,430
Illegal landing	241	173	113	138	134
Activity other than those permitted	1,137	813	735	510	622
Criminal offenses etc.	805	641	477	771	576
Others	168	206	331	327	297

According to statistics by nationality/region in 2012, the largest number of foreign nationals who were issued with written deportation orders came from China (2,544 accounting for 34.7% of the total), followed by the Philippines (1,171 accounting for 16.0%), and Korea (978 accounting for 13.3%). (Chart 26)

Chart 26: Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by nationality/Region



(3) Provisional Release

In 2012, the number of foreign nationals detained under a written detention order who were accorded provisional release was 2,128, a decline of 3 (0.1%) from 2011. The number of foreign nationals detained under a written deportation order who were accorded provisional release was 1,137, an increase of 75 (7.1%) from 2011. (Table 37)

Table 37 Changes in the number of cases of permission for provisional release

Type of Order	Year					(Cases)
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
By written detention order	1,918	2,265	2,095	2,131	2,128	
By written deportation order	819	837	1,012	1,062	1,137	

(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 in 2012 was 5,336, a decline of 1,543 (22.4%) from 2011.

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

Of the foreign nationals with special permission to stay in Japan despite coming under the grounds for deportation, the grounds for the largest number in 2012 was overstaying (4,304 accounting for 80.7%), followed by illegal entry and illegal landing, jointly accounting for 9.2%. Overstaying, illegal entry and illegal landing accounted for 89.9% of the total. (Table 38)

Table 38 Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by grounds for deportation (Cases)

Grounds for Deportation \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	8,522	4,643	6,359	6,879	5,336
Overstay	6,521	3,508	4,939	5,569	4,304
Illegal entry/Illegal landing	1,640	897	1,044	827	491
Criminal offenses etc.	361	238	376	483	541

According to statistics by nationality/region in 2012, the largest number of foreign nationals who were granted special permission to stay in Japan came from China (809 accounting for 15.2%), followed by Korea (693 accounting for 13.0%). (Table 39)

Table 39 Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by nationality/region (Cases)

Nationality/region \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	8,522	4,643	6,359	6,879	5,336
China	1,669	857	1,098	1,146	809
Korea	1,416	663	815	898	693
Others	5,437	3,123	4,446	4,835	3,834

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

⑤ Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals

The number of deported foreign nationals decreased by 2,262 (25.9%) from 2011 to 6,459 in 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of deported foreign nationals was from China (2,389 accounting for 37.0% of the total), followed by the Philippines (972 accounting for 15.0%), R.O. Korea (964 accounting for 14.9%), Viet Nam (340 accounting for 5.3%), and Thailand (317 accounting for 4.9%). (Table 40)

Table 40 Changes in the number of deportees by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/region	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	23,931	18,241	13,224	8,721	6,459
China	6,805	5,475	4,266	2,997	2,389
Philippines	4,385	3,194	2,439	1,552	972
R.O.Korea	2,873	2,423	1,715	1,171	964
Viet Nam	1,023	709	569	370	340
Thailand	1,260	1,113	726	479	317
Indonesia	1,596	885	502	248	164
Brazil	268	307	226	204	143
Sri Lanka	1,046	684	419	196	141
Peru	495	674	384	222	137
Iran	358	231	174	140	126
Others	3,822	2,546	1,804	1,142	766

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

Accordingly to statistics by means of deportation, 95.5% of foreign nationals who had been issued with a deportation order were deported at their own expense, while the number of foreign nationals who needed to be individually deported at national expense because of the deportees' financial problems or other reasons was 191 (3.0%) in 2012.

The number of foreign nationals who were deported at their own expense normally remains at around 95% of the total number of deportees. (Table 41)

**Deportation****Table 41 Changes in the number of deportees by means of deportation**

(People)

Measure of Deportation	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	23,931	18,241	13,224	8,721	6,459
Voluntary departure	23,093	17,569	12,812	8,379	6,170
Deportation in accordance with Article 59	407	200	106	86	78
Individual deportation at the expense of the government	383	438	291	231	191
Group deportation at the expense of the government	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0	0
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons	48	34	15	25	20

(*1) Group deportation at the expense of the government includes cases where both the Japanese government and the deportee's homeland government paid for the expenses.

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

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

The number of foreign nationals who were deported at their own expense had decreased by 2,209 (26.4%) from 2011 to 6,170 (95.5%) in 2012. (Table 41)

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

Table 42 Changes in the number of deportees through voluntary departure by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	23,093	17,569	12,812	8,379	6,170
China	6,686	5,390	4,232	2,972	2,364
R.O.Korea	2,836	2,402	1,704	1,158	947
Philippines	4,242	3,096	2,368	1,494	926
Viet Nam	1,008	695	564	363	331
Thailand	1,214	1,084	717	473	312
Indonesia	1,549	878	496	244	164
Sri Lanka	986	667	404	186	135
Iran	279	177	142	123	114
Peru	460	617	328	198	113
Nepal	408	274	210	107	100
Others	3,425	2,289	1,647	1,061	664

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

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

As illegal foreign residents tend to stay for a longer period than they used to and tend to have more diversified lifestyles and backgrounds, 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 the expense of the government in consideration of individual circumstances stood at 191 (3.0%) in 2012 and had decreased by 40 (17.3%) from 2011.

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

Any carrier who operates a vessel or aircraft that has transported any foreign national who is issued with a deportation order must promptly send such foreign national out of Japan at its own expense and on its own responsibility under certain conditions (deportation under Article 59 of the Immigration Control Act)(*). The number of foreign nationals deported in this way in 2012 was 78 (1.2%), a decline of 8 (9.3%) from 2011. (Table 41)

⑥ Departure Orders

(1) 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 2,587 in 2012, accounting for 17.0% of the total number of foreign nationals violating the Immigration Control Act.

A. The Number of Foreign Nationals Ordered to Depart by Nationality/Region

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China (1,244 accounting for 48.1% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (343 accounting for 13.3%), the Philippines (338 accounting for 13.1%), Thailand (109 accounting for 4.2%), and Viet Nam (93 accounting for 3.6%), and these top five countries account for 82.2% of the total. (Table 43)

Table 43 Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality/region (2012)

(People)

Article Nationality/region	Total	24-(ii)-3	24-(iv)-(b)	24-(vi)	24-(vi)-2	24-(vii)
Total	2,587	5	2,489	45	1	47
China	1,244	4	1,221	16	0	3
R.O.Korea	343	0	341	0	0	2
Philippines	338	1	306	11	0	20
Thailand	109	0	103	3	0	3
Viet Nam	93	0	90	1	0	2
Indonesia	90	0	83	6	1	0
Sri Lanka	53	0	52	0	0	1
Mongolia	50	0	48	1	0	1
Peru	39	0	34	0	0	5
Taiwan	29	0	28	0	0	1
Others	199	0	183	7	0	9

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

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

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

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

According to statistics by applied articles, the number of suspects violating Article 24, item (iv) (b) of the Immigration Control Act was the largest at 2,489, accounting for 96.2% of the total. This was followed by 47 (1.8%) suspects violating Article 24, item (vii) of the Immigration Control Act, and 45 (1.7%) suspects violating Article 24, item (vi) of the Immigration Control Act. (Table 43)

(2) Examination

A. Receipt and Processing of Cases

The number of cases of departure orders received in 2012 was 2,594, accounting for 16.1% of the total number of violations received. This represented a decline of 1,907 (42.4%) from 2011.

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 2,594 in 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China (1,252 accounting for 48.3% of the total), followed by Korea (348 accounting for 13.4%), the Philippines (336 accounting for 13.0%), Thailand (109 accounting for 4.2%), and Viet Nam (92 accounting for 3.5%), and the top five countries accounted for 82.4% of the total. (Table 44)

Table 44 Changes in the number of issuances of written departure orders by nationality/region

(Cases)

Nationality/region \ Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	8,477	9,041	5,186	4,501	2,594
China	3,136	3,200	2,220	2,252	1,252
Korea	1,142	885	728	582	348
Philippines	1,141	1,329	754	456	336
Thailand	222	288	229	139	109
Viet Nam	472	603	189	189	92
Indonesia	590	707	183	146	90
Sri Lanka	238	327	151	136	53
Mongolia	153	126	82	113	50
Peru	212	367	93	61	37
Brazil	75	103	48	42	22
Others	1,096	1,106	509	385	205

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

(3) Confirmation of Departure

Foreign nationals who are deemed to be subject to a departure order are required, as with foreign nationals departing within the period of stay, to submit an embarkation/disembarkation (ED) card to the immigration inspector in order to receive a seal of departure, and to submit the written departure order that was issued to them.

Chapter 6. Recognition of Refugee Status

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

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

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

Section 1 ◆ Applications and Processing for Recognition of Refugee Status

① Application for Refugee Status

In 2012, the total number of those who applied for recognition of refugee status had increased by 678 (36.3%) from 2011 to 2,545, continuing to mark a record high. (Table 45)

Table 45 Changes in the number of applications for refugee recognition
(People)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Applications	1,599	1,388	1,202	1,867	2,545

The number of nationalities/regions of applicants was 50, and the major nationalities/regions from which applicants came were, in descending order, Turkey (423 persons, or 16.6%), Myanmar (368 persons, or 14.5%), Nepal (320 persons, or 12.6%), Pakistan (298 persons, or 11.7%), Sri Lanka (255 persons, or 10.0%), Bangladesh (169 persons, or 6.6%), India (125 persons, or 4.9%), Nigeria (118 persons, or 4.6%), Ghana (104 persons, or 4.1%), and Cameroon (58 persons, or 2.3%).

Applicants consisted of 1,777 legal residents (69.8%) and 768 illegal foreign residents (30.2%) at the time of submitting their applications. Of those foreign nationals without a legal status, the number of those who applied after a detention order or deportation order was issued was 586, accounting for 76.3% of the total.

22.5% of the total applicants, standing at 573 persons, had applied for recognition of refugee status in the past. Those persons consisted of 279 legal residents, 90.7% of whom held the status of residence of “Designated Activities” granted by reason that their applications were undergoing examination, and 294 illegal foreign residents, 82.7% of whom had already been issued with a deportation order.

② Processing of Applications for Refugee Status

The total number of those whose application for recognition of refugee status was processed in 2012 was 2,198, an increase of 79 (3.7%) from 2011. The number of applicants who were recognized as refugees was 5, while the number of applicants who were not recognized was 2,083. The number of applicants who withdrew their applications and others was 110.

Further, the immigration administration is allowed to make exceptional arrangements within its authority for applicants who have special extenuating circumstances, even if they have not been recognized as refugees who fall under the definition of refugees specified in the Refugee Convention etc.. For example, if an applicant, who is denied recognition of refugee status, is unable to return to his or her home country due to situational problems in his or her country or has some other special reason necessitating that he or she stay in Japan, special arrangements may be made flexibly on a case-by-case basis, taking the situation of the foreign national into consideration within the Japanese immigration control framework. In 2012, 112 applicants were allowed to stay in Japan. (Table 46)

Table 46 Changes in the number of foreign nationals protected as refugees etc.

Refugee Status		1978 ~ 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Recognized as a refugee	Recognized as a refugee	451	57	30	39	21	18
	Refugees for resettlement	11,319			27	18	0
Others		522	360	501	363	248	112
Total		12,292	417	531	429	287	130

(People)

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

③ Implementation of the System for Permission for Provisional Stay

In 2012, the number of those who were granted permission for provisional stay was 74, an increase of 3 (4.2%) from 2011.

The number of those who underwent an examination as to whether or not they should be granted permission for provisional stay was 701. The major reasons for decisions not granting permission were as follows (*):

- Applicants had applied for recognition of refugee status after the deadline of six months from the date of landing in Japan (in the case of those for whom the grounds for being a refugee had arisen during their stay in Japan, the date such fact became known to them): 410 persons.
- Applicants had received a deportation order in the past: 320 persons.

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

Section 2 ◆ Filing of an Objection

① Filing of an Objection

The total number of objections filed by applicants who were denied refugee status (hereinafter referred to as “Denial of Recognition of Refugee Status”) in 2012 was 1,738, an increase of 19 (1.1%) from 2011. (Table 47)

Table 47 Changes in the number of objections filed, and decisions of the Minister of Justice

Year		(People)								
Division	Year	1982~2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Not recognized as a refugee		2,773	389	446	791	1,703	1,336	2,002	2,083	11,523
Filing of objection		1,862	340	362	429	1,156	859	1,719	1,738	8,465
Decisions	With reason	32	12	4	17	8	13	14	13	113
	Without reason	1,425	127	183	300	230	325	635	790	4,015
	Withdrawn	295	33	34	34	70	113	231	193	1,003

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

② Processing of the Objection

Of the objections filed by applicants who failed to obtain refugee status, 996 of them were handled in 2012, an increase of 116 (13.2%) from 2011. According to statistics, 13 objections were found to be with reasonable grounds (14 in the previous year), 790 objections were found to be without any reasonable grounds (635 in the previous year), and 193 objections were withdrawn by the foreign nationals who had filed the objections (231 in the previous year). (Table 47)

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 the objection filing procedures. This procedure made it mandatory for the Minister of Justice to hear the opinions of refugee examination counselors when making a decision 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 for the denial of refugee status and who have an exceptional academic background in law or current international affairs. They are appointed by the Minister of Justice based 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, an oral statement of opinions by the petitioner, etc. is given in which the petitioner or other person states his or her opinion and a hearing is held where the refugee inquirer or refugee examination counselors may ask questions to the petitioner.

In 2012, the number of oral statements of opinion and hearings was 712.

After the oral statement of opinions and the hearing, 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 718 in 2012.

There has been no case in which the Minister of Justice rendered a disposition which did not conform to the opinions of the refugee examination counselors (should there be a difference in opinion, then the opinions of the majority of the counselors will prevail) up until the end of 2012 after the start of the system.

Section 4 ◆ Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

With respect to landing permission for temporary refuge, 194 applications were submitted and 15 applications were granted such permission over the past five years (from 2008 to 2012).

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of a refugee inquirer)(Tomohiro Tatsu- mi, Refugees Examination Department, Tokyo Re- gional Immigration Bureau)

I work as a refugee inquirer at the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau. I strongly feel in my day-to-day operations that refugee inquirers need the following qualifications.

First, a refugee inquirer must be a “good legal professional”. Refugee inquirers conduct investigations into fact to judge whether the applicant falls within the definition of refugee as defined in the Refugee Convention etc., and it is not possible for us to conduct well-focused investigations unless we are familiar with Japanese laws and ordinances, the Refugee Convention and other statutes and are able to fully understand the contents of those laws and the Convention.

Next, I believe that refugee inquirers need to be a “good researcher”. In Japan, those who come from numerous, differing countries/regions have submitted applications for recognition of refugee status. We cannot accurately grasp the circumstances of the applicant unless we are acquainted with their culture, history and other factors, in addition to the security situation back in their home country. To this end, refugee inquirers gather and analyze information on the countries of origin of the applicants through books and newspapers, the Internet and other various means.

I also believe that a refugee inquirer must also be a “good listener”. In most cases, the applicants have not brought evidence and supporting materials from their home countries, and the statements of the applicants are very important. Some applicants who speak of severe experiences such as the experience of torture back in their home countries may not remember their experiences well, may be confused, or may repeatedly assert the same things. A refugee inquirer must genuinely give their full attention to such claims which is akin to searching through a muddy stream, and must diligently and exhaustively pick up each and every kernel of truth that the applicant is attempting to express.

The Immigration Bureau provides a wide variety of training sessions to train such refugee inquirers. Fortunately, I had the chance to participate in two-week UNHCR internship programs at its headquarters in Geneva and elsewhere, and a two-month program at its office in Malaysia, and was able to experience the frontline of the international refugee status recognition procedures. The duties of refugee inquirers are specialized and difficult, and we need to study every day. However, I would like to strive to do my utmost bearing in mind that I bear a grave responsibility that may directly impact the lives of others.



Chapter 7. Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons and Proper Protection of For- eign Victims of Domestic Violence

Section 1 ◆ Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons

① Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons

Trafficking in persons is a grave violation of human rights and a prompt and accurate response is called for from a humanitarian perspective. This is because human trafficking causes serious mental and physical 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 “Action Plan of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” approved in December 2004 and the “2009 Action Plan of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” approved in December 2009.

The number of foreign nationals for whom the Immigration Bureau implemented procedures for protection as victims of trafficking in persons (including support to return to their home countries) was 9 persons in 2012 (21 persons in the previous year). According to statistics by nationality/region, the Philippines had 4 victims (13 in the previous year), followed by Thailand with 4 victims (8 in the previous year) and Taiwan with 1 (none in the previous year).

Of the 9 victims, 8 were legal residents (6 in the previous year), and 1 was a person who had violated the Immigration Control Act (15 in the previous year). Special permission to stay in Japan was granted to the victim who had violated the Immigration Control Act. (Table 48)

The number of victims has declined significantly since 2005, when the Immigration Bureau started the survey and protected 115 victims, and the number has been hovering around 20 to 30 in recent years. In 2012, the number further declined. It is considered that the reason for such decline 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 of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” and that countermeasures for preventing trafficking in persons, including a review of the entry permission criteria (ministerial ordinance) relating to the status of residence of “Entertainer”, and the implementation of stricter entry examinations, have achieved a certain effect. (Table 49)

Table 48 Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2012)

Breakdown Nationality/region	Recognized as a victim of trafficking in persons		Total
	Legal resident	Violators of the Immigration Control Act(Special Permission to Stay in Japan)	
Philippines	4	0	4
Thailand	3	1(1)	4
Taiwan	1	0	1
Total	8	1(1)	9

(*) The status of residence of the eight legitimate residents consisted of five foreign nationals with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National", and three foreign nationals with the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor".

The manner of violation of the one person with special permission to stay in Japan consisted of one person who had stayed beyond the authorized period of stay.

Table 49 Changes in the number of victims of trafficking in persons

Breakdown	(People)					
	Year	2005	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total		115	20	29	21	9
Legal resident		68	9	23	6	8
Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special permission to stay in Japan)		47(47)	11(11)	6(6)	15(15)	1(1)

② Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons

The number of foreign nationals who were deported for committing trafficking in persons in 2012 was 4 (3 in the previous year), and the country of origin for all of them by nationality/region was Thailand.

In 2011, 2 foreign nationals from Taiwan and 1 foreign national from Thailand were deported.

Section 2 ◆ Proper Protection of Foreign Domestic Violence Victims

① Outline

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

The Immigration Bureau considers domestic violence to be a serious infringement of human rights and responds properly to foreign nationals who are victims of domestic violence, ensuring their physical protection through coordination with the agencies concerned and if an application for extension of the period of stay is delayed due to an enforcement of separation or it is not possible to prepare documents that need to be submitted, or a victim applies for a change to the status of residence due to domestic violence, the Immigration Bureau, in principle, grants permission, or if the foreign national has stayed beyond the authorized period of stay on account of domestic violence, grants special permission for residence.

Based on the act for partial amendment of the “Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” that was enforced in January 2008 and the “Basic Policy Concerning Measures for the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” that was formulated in line with the enforcement of the abovementioned act, if any victim of domestic violence is identified, appropriate measures will, under the measures and guidelines established in July 2008, be taken commensurate with the victim’s psychological and physical conditions, with full consideration being given to the fact that the victim was placed in psychologically and physically severe conditions, and efforts will be made for further protection of the victim through cooperation with the Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers, women’s counseling center, the police and other related organizations. Cases of domestic violence identified by the regional and district immigration bureau must promptly be reported to the Immigration Bureau of the Ministry of Justice.

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

② Number of Recognized Foreign Domestic Violence Victims

The Immigration Bureau places emphasis on the protection of victims and treats the victims properly from a humanitarian perspective by ensuring coordination with the agencies concerned, and gives careful consideration to the wishes and situation of the victims in the procedures for examination of the status of residence or the deportation procedures while considering their individual circumstances. The number of foreign domestic violence victims who were recognized in the process of an application for extension of the period of stay or the deportation procedures during 2012 was 78.

The Immigration Bureau took the individual situations of the victims into account and permitted in most of the cases extension of the period of stay or a change to the status of residence. (Table 50)

Table 50 Number of recognized foreign domestic violence victims (2012)

		(People)				
Nationality/region	Division	Residence Proce- dures	Deportation Pro- cedures	Consultations	Others	Total
Philippines		30	4	4	1	39
China		8	1	5	0	14
R.O.Korea		7	0	1	0	8
Thailand		2	0	2	0	4
Brazil		1	0	3	0	4
Nepal		2	0	0	0	2
Peru		0	0	2	0	2
United States of America		1	0	0	0	1
Colombia		1	0	0	0	1
Taiwan		0	0	1	0	1
Poland		0	0	1	0	1
Romania		1	0	0	0	1
Total		53	5	19	1	78

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