

◆ 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

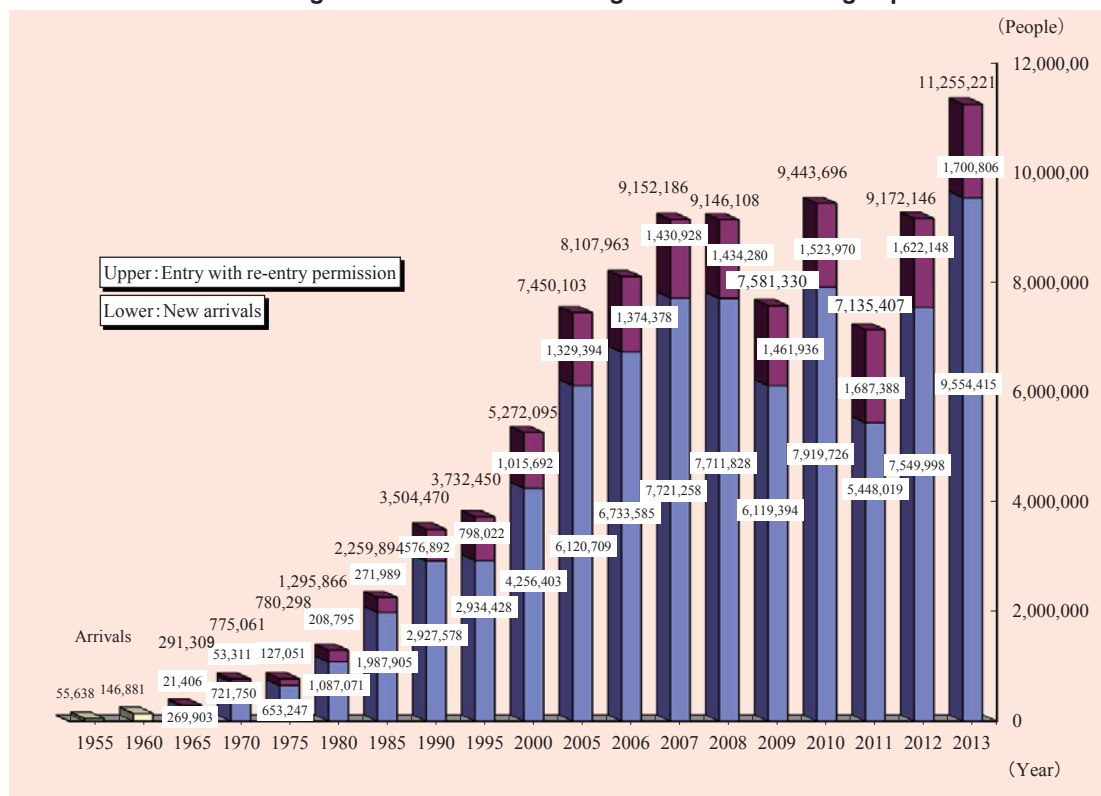
(1) The Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

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. In 2013, there was a substantial increase of 2,083,075 (22.7%) from 9,172,146 to 11,255,221 marking a record high.

Of the 11,255,221 foreign nationals entering Japan in 2013, the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan was 9,554,415, which was an increase of 2,004,417 (26.5%) compared to 7,549,998 in 2012, while the number of foreign nationals re-entering Japan was 1,700,806, which was an increase of 78,658 (4.8%) compared to 1,622,148 in 2012.

The reasons for this increase are most likely the fact that travelling to Japan is cheaper than before owing to the weaker yen, and that the measures taken by the government towards realizing a tourism-oriented country such as the measure to deregulate visas for ASEAN countries has prompted an increase in tourists (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

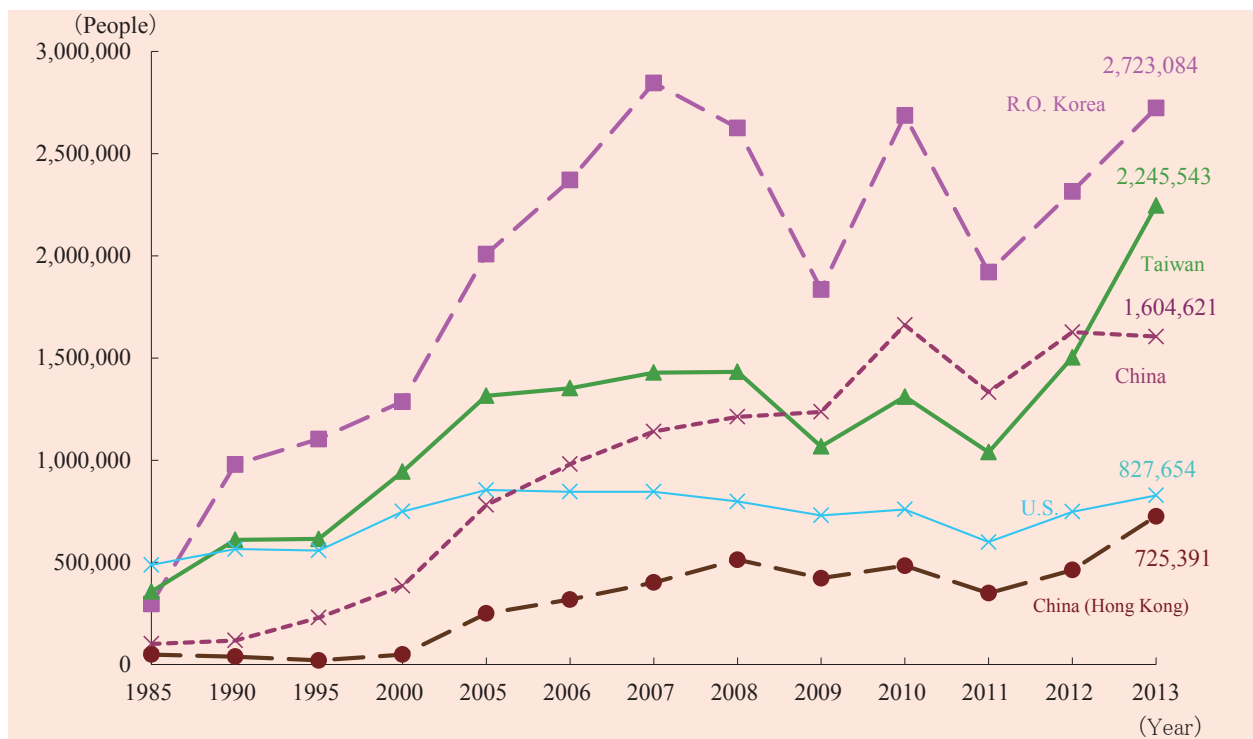
The statistics for the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2013 by nationality/region show that the largest number of foreign nationals came from the Republic of Korea (R.O. Korea). The number of R.O. Korean nationals who entered Japan was 2,723,084, accounting for 24.2% of the total number of foreign nationals coming to Japan. R.O. Korea was followed by Taiwan (2,245,543, accounting for 20.0%), China (1,604,621, accounting for 14.3%), the U.S. (827,654, accounting for 7.4%), and China (Hong Kong) (725,391, accounting for 6.4%) (*). Of these numbers, Japan's three neighboring countries/regions: R.O. Korea, Taiwan and China accounted for more than half of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan at 58.4%. In addition, the top five countries/regions accounted for 72.2% of the total number (Chart 8).

(*) 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 from 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".

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



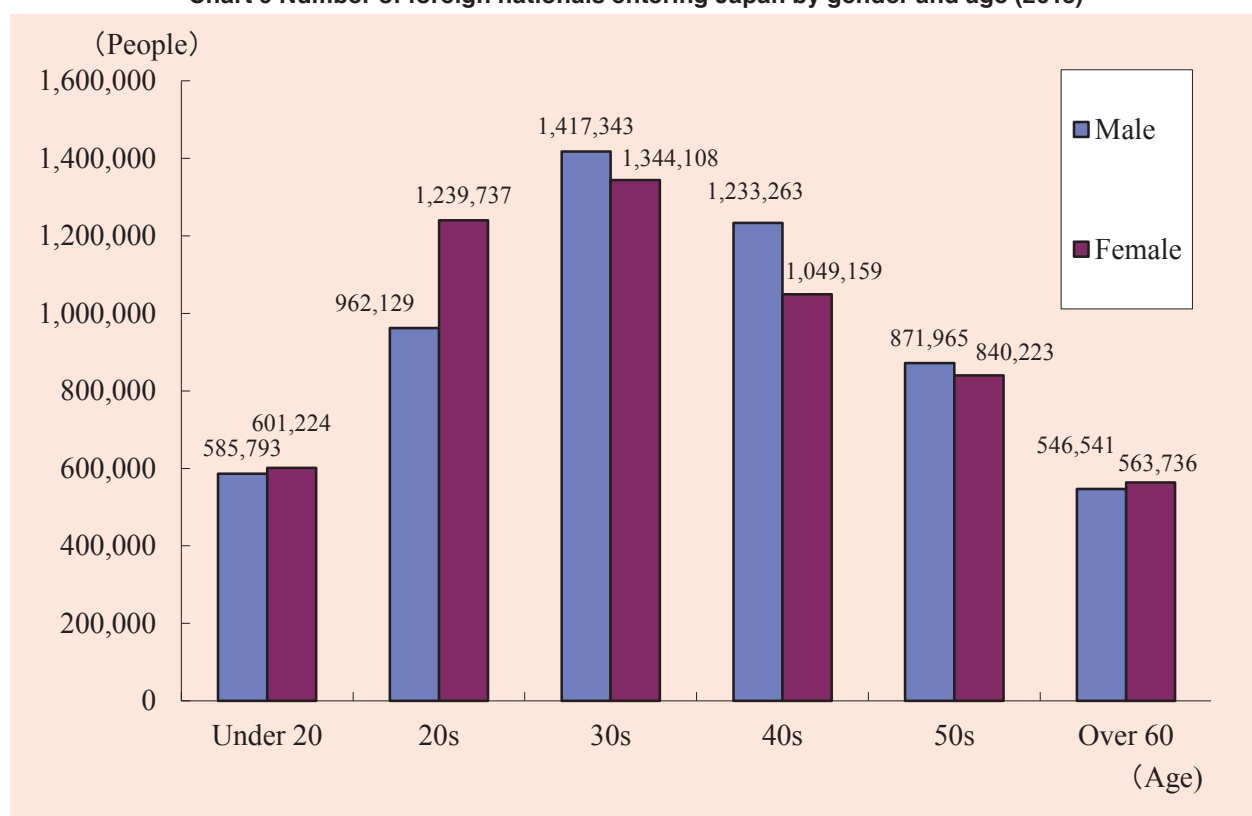
Regarding the top five countries/regions, a comparison of the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2012 and 2013 shows that while R.O. Korea at 407,846 (17.6%), Taiwan at 742,360 (49.4%), the U.S. at 79,845 (10.7%) and China (Hong Kong) at 262,471 (56.7%) are increasing, China is decreasing at 21,644 (1.3%).

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

Slightly more foreign females came to Japan than males. The numbers of foreign males and females entering Japan in 2013 were 5,617,034 and 5,638,187, respectively. The percentages of males and females were 49.9% and 50.1%, respectively.

According to statistics by age, foreign nationals in their thirties represented the largest age group, accounting for 24.5% of the total number of foreign nationals who entered Japan in 2013. The ratio of males was higher in the thirties and over age groups, while the ratio of females was higher in the twenties and under age groups (Chart 9).

Chart 9 Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2013)



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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan in 2013 was 9,554,415. Looking at this figure by purpose of entry (status of residence), the most common status of residence was “Temporary Visitor” standing at 9,247,673 and accounting for 96.8% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by “Student” at 70,007, accounting for 0.7%, “Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)” at 61,841, accounting for 0.6%, and “Entertainer” at 37,096, accounting for 0.4% (Table 2).

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

(People)

Year Status of Residence	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	6,119,394	7,919,726	5,448,019	7,549,998	9,554,415
Diplomat	10,183	11,167	9,678	10,977	10,215
Official	22,229	27,000	19,563	26,991	26,131
Professor	2,639	2,639	2,420	2,595	2,662
Artist	226	256	221	281	315
Religious Activities	771	713	737	737	1,291
Journalist	170	136	59	51	46
Investor/Business Manager	857	896	838	820	632
Legal/Accounting Services	4	3	4	4	-
Medical Services	6	2	7	9	11
Researcher	592	528	423	438	437
Instructor	2,499	2,339	2,540	2,312	2,366
Engineer	3,363	2,852	4,178	5,216	5,387
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	4,167	4,113	4,658	4,993	5,354
Intra-company Transferee	5,245	5,826	5,348	6,126	6,245
Entertainer	31,170	28,612	26,112	34,969	37,096
Skilled Labor	5,384	3,588	4,178	4,910	2,030
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)		2,282	5,178	5,876	5,585
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)		23,720	60,847	62,039	61,841
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)		-	-	4	-
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)		-	227	49	17
Cultural Activities	3,557	3,159	2,729	3,104	2,947
Temporary Visitor	5,822,719	7,632,536	5,180,961	7,246,072	9,247,673
Student	66,149	63,478	49,936	57,579	70,007
Trainee	80,480	51,725	16,079	17,957	16,486
Dependent	20,540	19,486	18,165	20,653	19,028
Designated Activities	9,863	11,972	12,954	12,659	10,711
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	14,951	11,452	10,766	10,855	9,244
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,684	1,068	1,392	1,877	1,870
Long-Term Resident	9,946	8,178	7,811	9,845	8,788
Temporary Refugee	-	-	10		

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

(*2) In 2009 and 2010, the figure for “Student” shows the total of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student,” because the item “Pre-college Student” was integrated into “Student” on July 1, 2012.

(*3) 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 Visitor”

Looking more closely at the number of foreign nationals who newly entered Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” in 2013, the number of foreign nationals for sightseeing purposes was 7,160,633, accounting for 74.9% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by foreign nationals visiting for business-related purposes standing at 1,364,107, accounting for 14.3%. 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).

Moreover, according to the statistics by nationality/region for foreign nationals newly entering Japan for the purpose of sightseeing, the biggest number came from Taiwan at 2,018,584 accounting for 28.2% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan for the purpose of sightseeing. Taiwan was followed by R.O. Korea at 1,827,525, accounting for 25.5%, China (Hong Kong) at 682,116, accounting for 9.5% and China at 580,568, accounting for 8.1%, with the number of tourists from these four nationalities/regions exceeding 70% of the total. In all likelihood, proactive efforts to attract tourists from these countries/regions will also be made in the future (Chart 11).

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

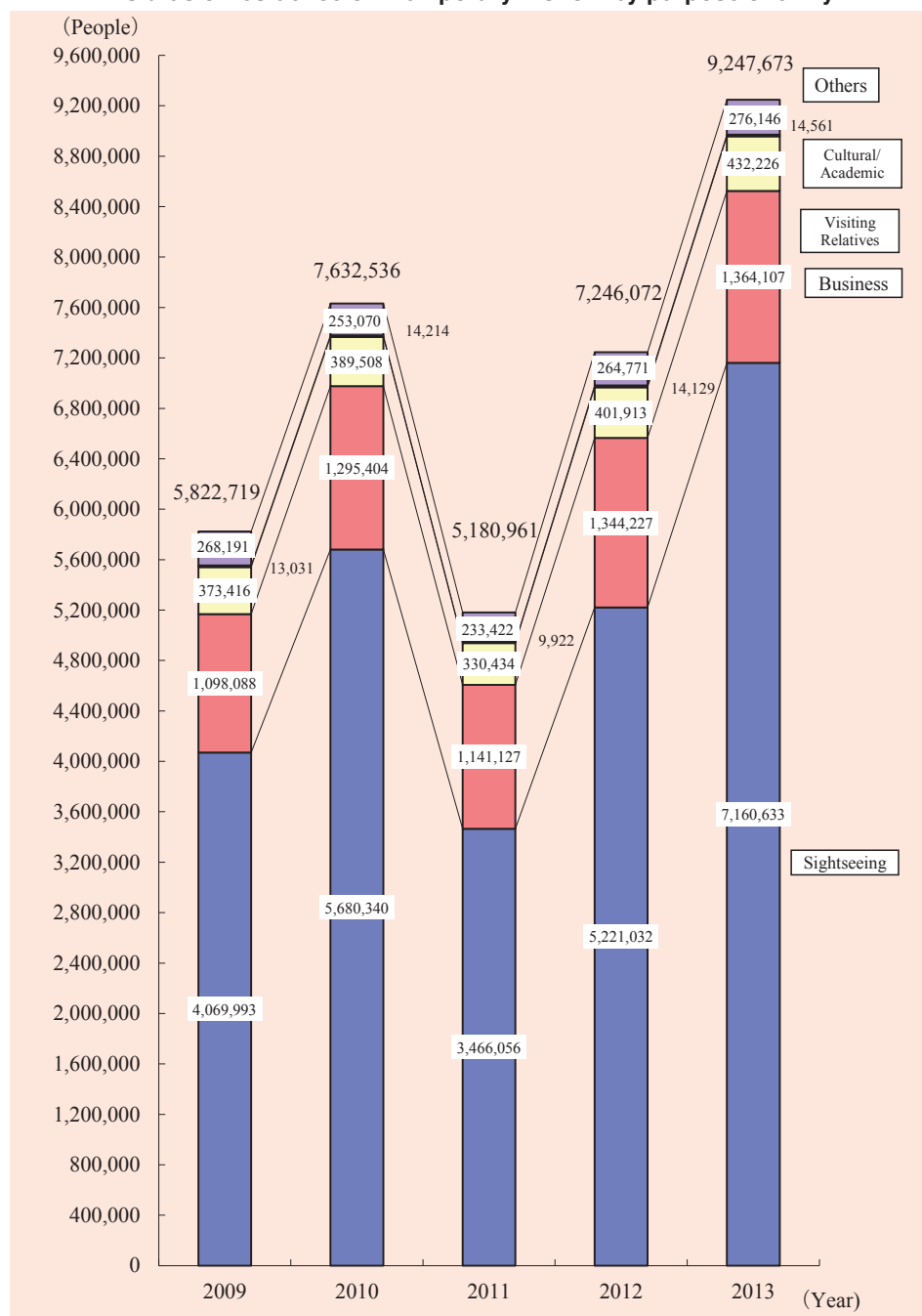
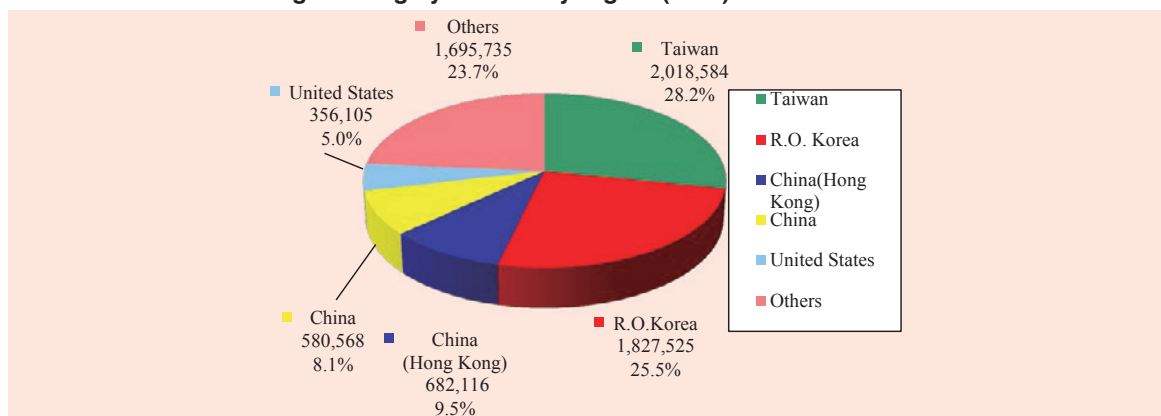


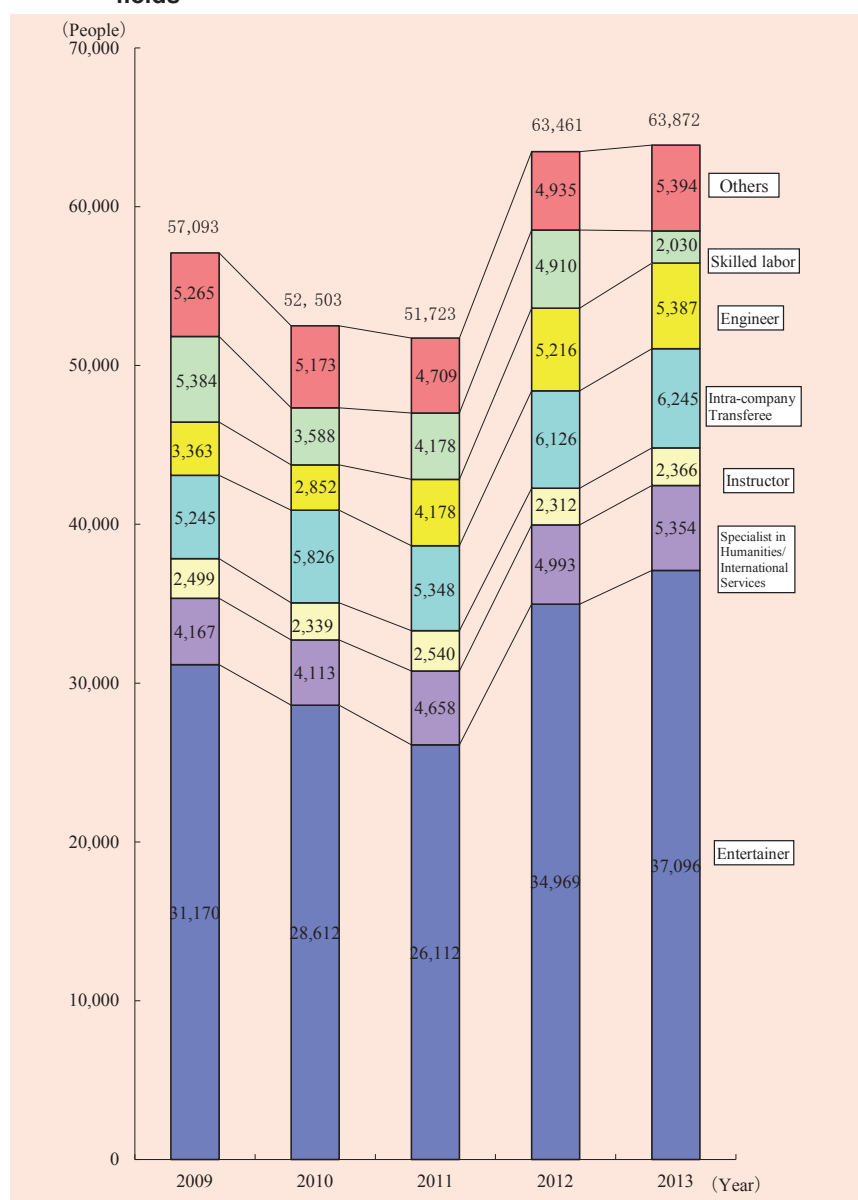
Chart 11 Number of foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region (2013)



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 2013 was 63,872, an increase of 411 (0.6%) from 2012 (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” and “Technical Intern Training” from Table I(1) and I(2) 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 0.7% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals in 2013.

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 16,986 in 2013, consisting of three types of statuses of residence: 5,387 with the status of residence of “Engineer”, 5,354 with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 6,245 with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”. The number of foreign employees with the status of residence of “Engineer” had increased by 171 (3.3%), those with the status of residence of “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” had increased by 361 (7.2%), and those with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee” had increased by 119 (1.9%) from 2012, respectively.

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 (1,819, accounting for 33.8%), followed by India (996, accounting for 18.5%), Viet Nam (701, accounting for 13.0%), and R.O. Korea (407, accounting for 7.6%). The number of newly entering foreign nationals from those four countries accounted for 72.8% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer”. In addition, owing to the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy in 2008 and the impact of the global recession in 2009, the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Engineer” temporarily decreased, but started to increase again in 2011, and in 2013 the number had increased by 171 (3.3%) compared to 2012.

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. (1,092, accounting for 20.4%), followed by China (940, accounting for 17.6%), R.O. Korea (583, accounting for 10.9%) and the U.K. (377, accounting for 7.0%). These top four countries accounted for 55.9% 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 (2,085, accounting for 33.4%), followed by the Philippines (670, accounting for 10.7%), India (565, accounting for 9.0%) and R.O. Korea (470, accounting for 7.5%), and these top four countries accounted for 60.7% 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 foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor”, who may also be referred to as skilled craftsmen in unique foreign fields, has been fluctuating since 2009, and the number in 2013 was 2,030, a decrease of 2,880 (58.7%) when compared to 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” came from Nepal (832, accounting for 41.0%), followed by China (427, accounting for 21.0%), India (188, accounting for 9.3%) and Thailand (129, accounting for 6.4%) in 2013. 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 77.6% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor”.

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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Entertainer” had seen a consistent increase since 2001, but started to decrease in 2005 until it started increasing again in 2012, and the number in 2013 was 37,096, an increase of 2,127 (6.1%) when compared to 2012, which accounted for the highest percentage out of the statuses of residence for the purpose of employment in professional or technical fields.

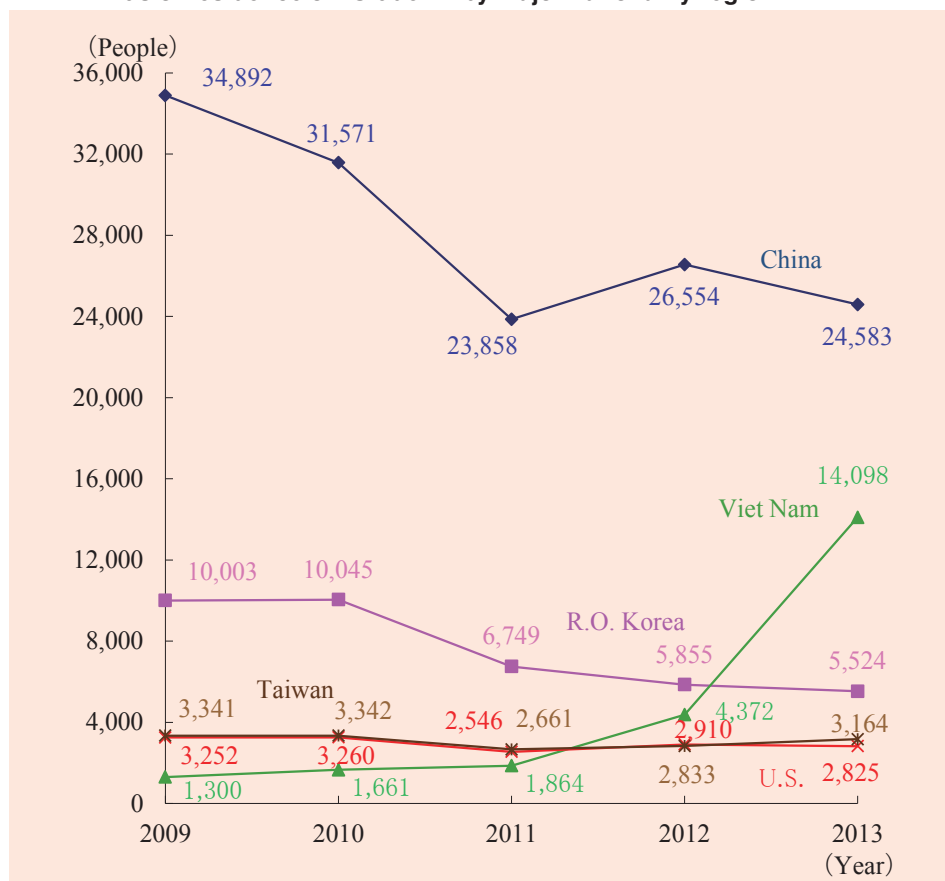
According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Entertainer” came from R.O. Korea (6,566, accounting for 17.7%), followed by the U.S. (6,341, accounting for 17.1%), the U.K. (3,534, accounting for 9.5%), and the Philippines (2,680, accounting for 7.2%), and these top four countries accounted for 51.5% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2013.

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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Student” in 2013 was 70,007, an increase of 12,428 (21.6%) when compared to 2012, with students from Asia accounting for the majority (85.6%).

According to statistics by nationality/region, those from China accounted for 35.1% of the total, standing at 24,583, followed by Viet Nam (14,098, accounting for 20.1%), and R.O. Korea (5,524, accounting for 7.9%). Viet Nam had increased substantially with an increase of 9,726 (222.5%) when compared to 2012 (Chart 13).

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 in 2009 and 2010 represent the sum of “College Student” and “Pre-college Student.”

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

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Trainee” had decreased by 1,471 (8.2%) from 2012 to 16,486 in 2013.

According to statistics by region, the number from Asia, mainly Japan’s neighboring countries, which sent a large number of trainees stood at 10,547 in 2013 accounting for 64.0% of the total, and this trend is likely to continue in the future. Other than Asia, the number of trainees was 3,054, accounting for 18.5% from Africa and 870, accounting for 5.3% from South America.

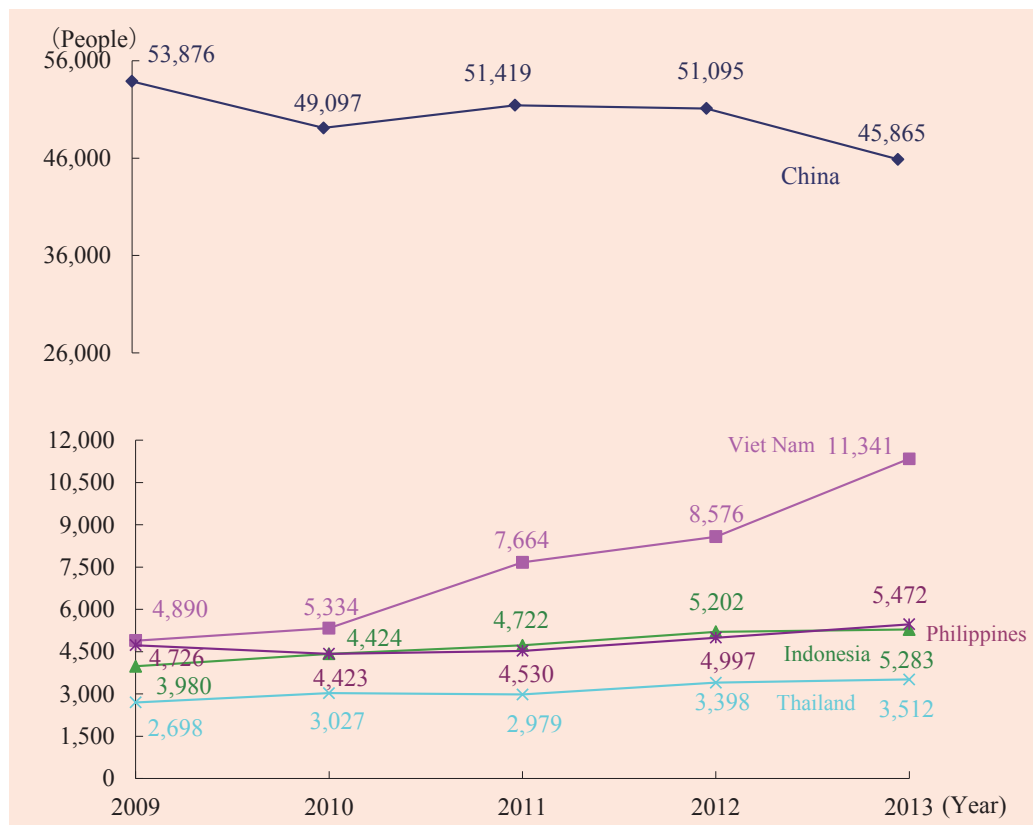
According to statistics by nationality/region, those from China accounted for 9.0%, standing at 1,488, followed by Viet Nam (1,211, accounting for 7.3%), Indonesia (1,139, accounting for 6.9%), and Thailand (1,069, accounting for 6.5%) .

Those engaged in the acquisition of skills through employment are issued the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” (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 2013, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” was 67,426, a decrease of 489 (0.7%) from 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” came from China at 44,377 in 2013, accounting for 65.8% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam (10,130, accounting for 15.0%), the Philippines (4,827, accounting for 7.2%), and Indonesia (4,144, accounting for 6.1%). Those from China had decreased by 4,795 (9.8%) from 2012, while those from Viet Nam, the Philippines and Indonesia had increased by 2,681 (36.0%), 563 (13.2%) and 326 (8.5%), respectively.

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



(*) The number of new arrivals reflect those with the status of residence of “Trainee” until 2009, and those with the statuses of residence of “Trainee” and “Technical Intern Training (i)” 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)

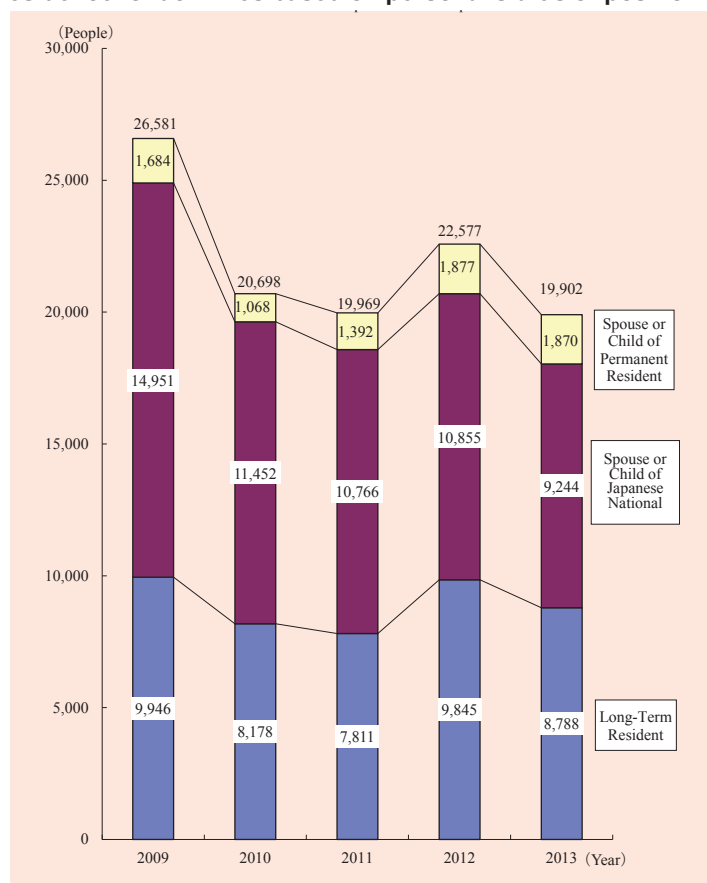
When foreign nationals enter Japan for resident activities based on their personal status or position, one of three types of statuses of residence; namely, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”, or “Long-Term Resident” will be granted (Note that no foreign nationals 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 2013, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National” amounted to 9,244, a decrease of 1,611 (14.8%) from 2012, and those with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident” amounted to 1,870, a decrease of 7 (0.4%) from 2012.

The number of foreign nationals newly entering under “Long-Term Resident” had decreased by 1,057 (10.7%) in 2012 to 8,788 in 2013.

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 2,839, accounting for 30.7% of the total. China was followed by the Philippines (2,258, accounting for 24.4%) and Brazil (771, accounting for 8.3%). 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 the Philippines at 2,756, accounting for 31.4% of the total. The Philippines was followed by Brazil (2,507, accounting for 28.5%) and China (1,864, accounting for 21.2%) (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 2013 was 2,165,112, a decrease of 39,532 (1.8%) from 2012.

Among those, the number of persons who received landing permission for crew members in 2013 reached 2,085,701 which accounted for 96.3% 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 76,378, accounting for 3.5% (Table 3).

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	1,888,704	1,972,090	1,915,705	2,204,644	2,165,112
Permission for Landing at a Port of Call	34,658	24,355	15,058	136,916	76,378
Permission for Landing in Transit	394	458	2,296	2,862	2,571
Landing Permission for Crew Members	1,853,267	1,946,807	1,897,714	2,064,409	2,085,701
Permission for Emergency Landing	368	381	351	370	318
Landing Permission Due to Distress	17	89	286	82	142
Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge	(-)	(-)	(10)	5	2

(*) Landing permission for temporary refuge 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 persons who were granted landing at a port of call in 2013 was 76,378, a decrease of 60,538 (44.2%) from 2012. This decrease is likely due to the declining number of cruise ships in 2013 landing at a port of call in Japan, especially those coming from China resulting in a declining number of passengers from cruise ships, who are subject to permission for landing at a port of call (see Part III, Chapter 2, Section 1, subsection 3).

(2) Permission for Landing in Transit

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for landing in transit in 2013 was 2,571, a decrease of 291 (10.2%) from 2012.

(3) Landing Permission for Crew Members

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission for crew members in 2013 was 2,085,701, an increase of 21,292 (1.0%) from 2012.

(4) Permission for Emergency Landing

The number of foreign nationals who received permission for emergency landing in 2013 was 318, a decrease of 52 (14.1%) from 2012.

(5) Landing Permission Due to Distress

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission due to distress in 2013 was 142, an increase of 60 (73.2%) from 2012.

(6) Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

The number of foreign nationals who received landing permission for temporary refuge in 2013 was 2, a decrease of 3 (60.0%) from 2012.

③ Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan

The number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan without having acquired a re-entry permit was 9,395,836 in 2013, an increase of 1,991,952 (26.9%) from 2012.

Among them, the number of persons leaving Japan with a period of stay of less than 15 days was 8,769,160, which accounted for 93.3% of the total or almost all. Further, the number of persons leaving Japan with a period of stay of less than 3 months was 9,247,563, which accounted for 98.4% 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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	6,046,150	7,865,081	5,414,994	7,403,884	9,395,836
Within 15 days	5,423,103	7,229,477	4,892,797	6,820,277	8,769,160
More than 15 days to 1 month	237,515	266,227	185,550	244,373	282,118
More than 1 month to 3 months	179,882	187,725	157,804	189,873	196,285
More than 3 months to 6 months	30,638	29,777	25,972	31,638	30,690
More than 6 months to 1 year	48,709	43,085	38,686	32,259	35,711
More than 1 year to 3 years	85,253	80,770	84,909	57,275	56,498
More than 3 years	35,945	24,976	26,308	26,879	24,374
Unknown	5,105	3,044	2,968	1,310	1,000

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of immigration examinations) (Hakata Port Branch Office, Fukuoka Regional Immigration Bureau: Sawako Hatta)

Hakata Port Branch Office of Fukuoka Immigration Bureau which is where I work is the seaport in Japan, which has the largest number of foreign nationals entering and departing, and moreover is the branch office which sees the biggest number of large cruise ships coming into port. The main duties of this office are the handling of the immigration procedures for the passengers and crew members coming to Japan aboard the liner service connecting Busan in South Korea to Hakata, cargo ships and large cruise ships.

The landing procedures for crew members differ from those for passengers in that the captain or an agency applies for landing instead of the crew member. In some cases, the crew member may remain on the ship without landing. The status of the crew member naturally depends on the crew member being onboard a ship, but if for example a crew member gets sick and needs to be hospitalized in Japan during which time the ship the crew member was on has to depart from the port, special landing procedures



known as permission for emergency landing need to be taken. At seaports we often encounter unique landing cases which differ from those seen at airports, and therefore, the study of law is essential.

In recent years, the number of large cruise ships coming to Hakata Port has been on the rise. One large cruise ship usually has approximately 2,000 to 3,600 passengers and 700 to 1,200 crew members onboard. Recently, the popularity of cruise ship tours in China has meant that the majority of passengers are Chinese nationals.

Cruise ship tours only remain in port for a short time before they depart again. For example, a cruise ship may come into port at six in the morning and depart at six in the evening during which time passengers undergo the entry examinations and head out to go sightseeing. Therefore, unlike when foreign visitors normally come to Japan by ship or plane, the passengers have a strong desire to land quickly and start sightseeing, which means that “speed” is key in conducting the entry examinations.

However, simply pursuing speed means that the standard of “strictness” at the border demanded by immigration control administration may be lowered. Therefore, the challenge is to balance the two aspects of maintaining a certain standard of examinations while simultaneously pursuing speed.

In recent years, with respect to large cruise ships, which meet certain conditions, a balance is being achieved by allowing identification of the passengers using photocopies of the passports and cross-checking of fingerprints.

It is expected that large cruise ships with even larger passenger capacities will be calling at ports in Japan in the future, and therefore further reform of the examination system is due to be carried out. In this regard, the work of examination for large cruise ships will become one of the most important items in immigration control administration.

There is also the factor that the examinations for large cruise ships take place early in the morning, which is both physically and mentally exhausting, but this work is also rewarding and affords a sense of accomplishment. While maintaining equitable immigration control, I hope to conduct examinations which convey a feeling of hospitality so that foreign nationals will feel like they'd like to visit Japan again.

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 2013 was 6,675, a decrease of 1,412 (17.5%) from 2012.

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 4,118, a decline of 1,355 (24.8%) from 2012 and accounted for 61.7% of the total number of new cases in 2013. 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 1,466, a decrease of 117 (7.4%) from 2012 and accounted for 22.0% of the total number of new cases in 2013. 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 1,091, an increase of 63 (6.1%) from 2012, accounting for 16.3% of the total number of new cases in 2013. In addition, the number of foreign nationals refusing to provide the immigration inspector with their personal identification information, which became mandatory from November 20, 2007 (persons coming under paragraph (4) of Article 7 of the Immigration Control Act) was one person in 2012, who was handed over to a special inquiry officer, and zero in 2013 (Table 5).

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

(Cases)

Conditions for landing \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	9,930	7,365	10,954	8,087	6,675
Using counterfeit passports or visas (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(i))	1,300	1,116	1,526	1,583	1,466
False landing application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(ii))	7,470	5,105	8,633	5,473	4,118
Not eligible for the period of stay relating to the application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iii))	0	6	5	2	0
Falling under the grounds for denial of landing (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iv))	1,160	1,137	788	1,028	1,091
Not providing personal identification information (Not conforming to Article 7-(4))	0	1	2	1	0

With regard to the processing of the hearings for landing in 2013(*), 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 2,423, an increase of 244 (11.2%) from 2012.

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 2,079, an increase of 473 (29.5%) from 2012. 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 1,819, a decline of 2,082 (53.4%) from 2012 (Table 6).

Table 6 Changes in the processing of the hearings for landing

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	9,938	7,304	10,993	8,109	6,677
Landing permission	3,664	2,903	2,718	2,179	2,423
Deportation order	3,731	2,662	2,155	1,606	2,079
Filing of objection	2,014	1,319	5,733	3,901	1,819
Withdrawal of the landing application	249	231	209	318	286
Others	280	189	178	105	70

(*) "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.

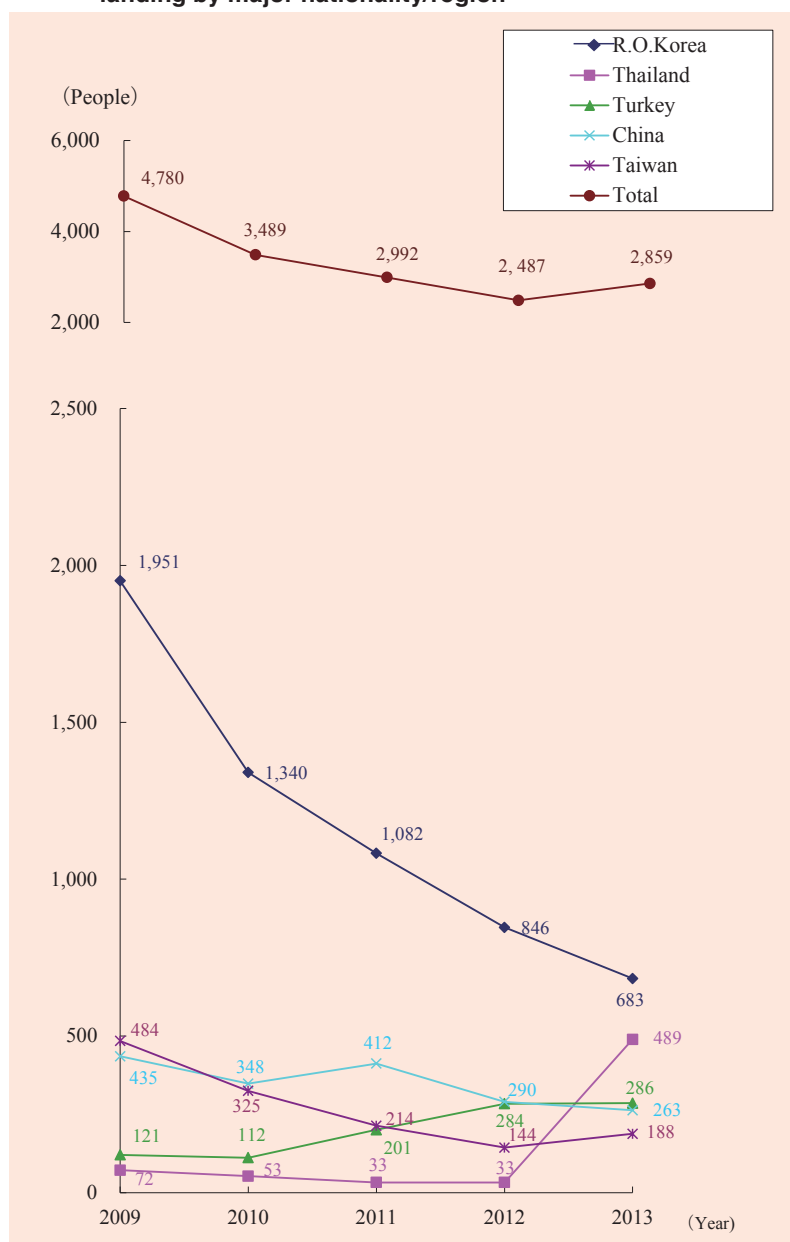
② Foreign Nationals Falling Under Any of the Grounds for Denial of Landing

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 2013 was 2,859, an increase of 372 (15.0%) from 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing came consistently from R.O. Korea standing at 683, accounting for 23.9% of the total, followed by Thailand standing at 489, accounting for 17.1% and Turkey standing at 286, accounting for 10.0%. Those top three countries accounted for 51.0% of the total (Chart 16). Of this number, the reason why Thailand saw a sudden increase was probably due to the impact of the visa waiver for temporary visitors staying for less than 15 days, which was a measure to deregulate visas taken on July 1, 2013.

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 2013 numbered 1,442, a decline of 1,998 (58.1%) from 2012 (Table7).

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Filing of Objection (*)		2,022	1,326	5,754	3,910	1,871
Decisions	With reason	5	18	18	22	21
	Without reason (Order to leave Japan)	361	291	303	333	340
	Special Permission for Landing	1,629	975	5,416	3,440	1,442
Withdrawal		20	21	8	63	50
Outstanding		7	21	9	52	18

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

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of the work of adjudication) (Ninth Inspection Department, Kansai Airport District Immigration Office, Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau: Sachiko Otsuka)

With the aim of becoming a hub, Kansai International Airport has been striving to proactively attract LCC (low-cost airlines), and as a result, the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2013 was 1.3 times higher than the number of the previous year, and therefore our workload has been increasing year by year.

It is under such circumstances that I not only conduct immigration examinations in my role as an immigration inspector, but also conduct adjudications on landing (hearings) as a special inquiry officer.

Most foreign nationals are granted permission for landing at the examination booth at the time of the entry examination, but foreign nationals who were not given permission for landing are handed over to a special inquiry officer and a hearing is held. During the hearing, the foreign national is asked in detail in a separate room about the purpose of entering Japan through an interpreter.

The conditions for landing in Japan are prescribed in the immigration laws and regulations, and based on such information as the details obtained from the foreign national, a determination is carefully made as to whether the foreign national meets those conditions.

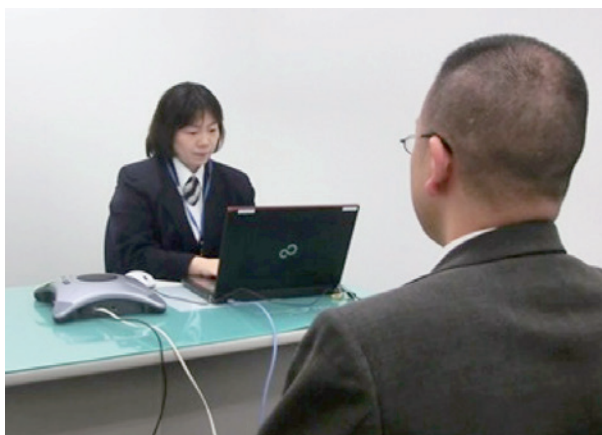
Foreign nationals who attempt to land in Japan, obviously differ with regard to their nationality, culture, thinking and the circumstances they face, and come from diverse backgrounds, and the activities they wish to engage in while in Japan also vary.

Some foreign nationals file a false application planning to land in Japan through any means for some unlawful purpose, and identifying such persons and preventing them from landing requires that we have a thorough understanding of the laws and regulations, possess the skills to conduct a hearing, acquire a wide range of knowledge and expertise to deal with the diverse situations and utilize data, and since I still have a lot to learn, I strive every day to educate myself.

On the other hand, it is also possible to say the range of things that I learn through this work is both

wide and deep, and since through talking to individual foreign nationals, I gain a view of the realities of the world by glimpsing the real-life dramas that are unlikely to happen in Japan, one of the advantages of this work is that I get to recognize the blessings of Japan's beauty and goodness anew.

There are a number of foreign nationals who tell us at the time of their departure that Japan was a wonderful country and they enthusiastically say they would like to come again. This makes me think about the efforts of the Japanese people who probably helped them to enjoy a wonderful visit, and I am determined too, in some small way, as part of the force protecting this wonderful country, to work sincerely on our day-to-day operations.



Section 3 ◆ Pre-entry Examination

① Advance Consultation for Visa Issuance

The number of cases of advance consultation for visa issuance was 4,635 in 2013, showing a decrease of 275 (5.6%) from 2012.

② Certificate of Eligibility

In 2013, the number of cases of applications for certificates of eligibility was 282,428, an increase of 16,155 (6.1%) from 2012.

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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Advance consultation for issuance of a visa	6,505	4,882	4,403	4,910	4,635
Application for certificate of eligibility	273,989	248,523	238,270	266,273	282,428

(*) 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

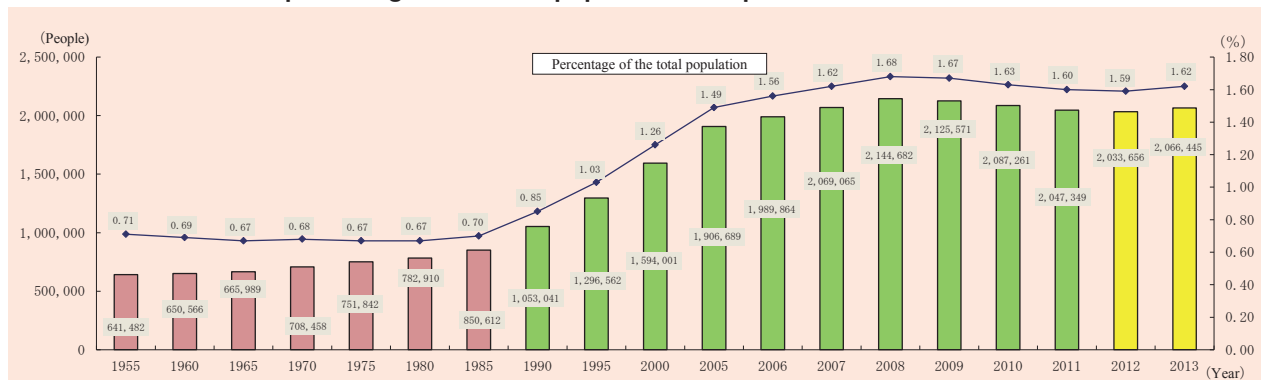
① The Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

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 2013, the number of mid to long-term residents in Japan was 1,693,224, and the number of special permanent residents was 373,221. Adding these two numbers together, the total number of foreign residents was 2,066,445, an increase of 32,789 (1.6%) compared to the end of 2012.

At the end of 2013, the number of foreign residents as a percentage of the total population of Japan (127,298,000) was 1.62%, which was 0.03 point higher than 1.59% at the end of 2012 (Chart 17).

Chart 17 Changes in the number of foreign residents, and changes in the number of 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 numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of foreign residents adding together mid to long-term residents and special permanent residents.

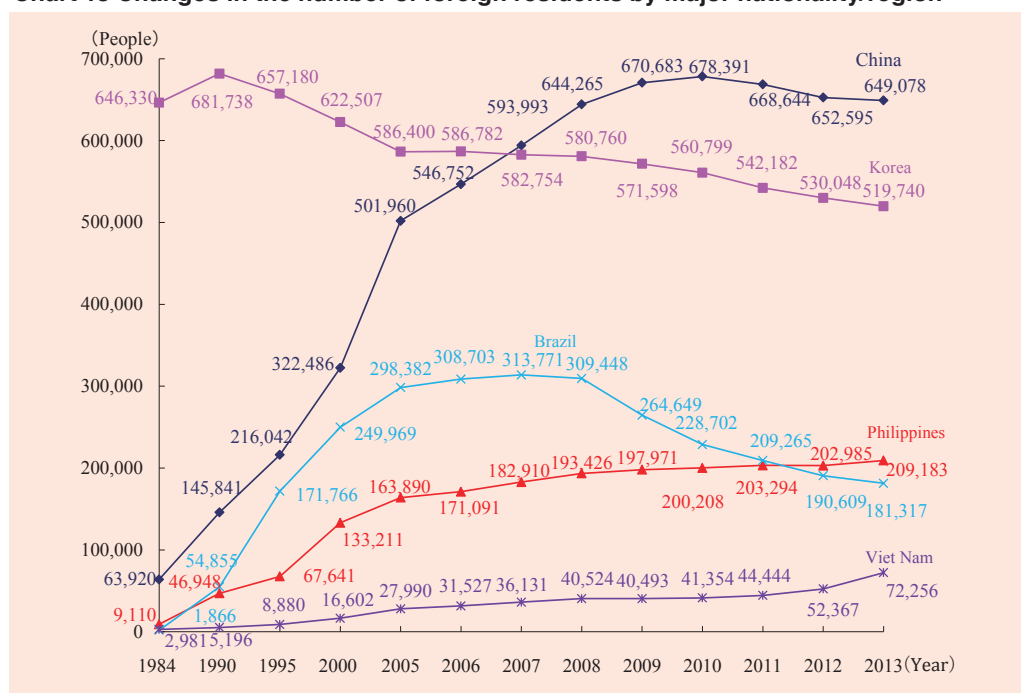
(*3) The “percentage of the total population of Japan” is calculated based on the population as of October 1 every year taken from the “Population Estimates” and the “Population Census” of the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

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 2013, China marked the largest number at 649,078, accounting for 31.4% of the total. China was followed by Korea (519,740, or 25.2%), the Philippines (209,183, or 10.1%), Brazil (181,317, or 8.8%), and Viet Nam (72,256, or 3.5%).

According to the changes in the number of foreign residents by year, the number of foreign residents from China has been decreasing since the end of 2010, a decrease of 3,517 (0.5%) at the end of 2013 compared to the end of 2012; the number of foreign residents from Korea has continued to see a decreasing trend, a decrease of 10,308 (1.9%) at the end of 2013 compared to the end of 2012, the number from the Philippines continued to be on the increase, except in 2012, and had increased by 6,198 (3.1%) at the end of 2013 compared to 2012, and the number from Brazil has been decreasing since its peak at the end of 2007, a decrease of 9,292 (4.9%) at the end of 2013 compared to the end of 2012. Viet Nam continued to be on the increase, except in 2009, and had increased by 19,889 (38.0%) at the end of 2013, compared with the end of 2012 (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 numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of foreign nationals adding together mid to long-term residents and special permanent residents.

(*2) "China" until 2011 includes Taiwan, and "China" from 2012 onwards 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.

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 2013. The number of permanent residents was 655,315, an increase of 30,814 (4.9%) from the end of 2012, accounting for 31.7% of the total (Table 9).

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

(People)

Year		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Status of Residence						
Total (①)		2,125,571	2,087,261	2,047,349	2,033,656	2,066,445
Status of residence eligible to become a mid to long-term resident	Professor	8,295	8,050	7,859	7,787	7,735
	Artist	490	480	461	438	432
	Religious Activities	4,448	4,232	4,106	4,051	4,570
	Journalist	271	248	227	223	219
	Investor/Business Manager	9,840	10,908	11,778	12,609	13,439
	Legal/Accounting Services	161	178	169	159	149
	Medical Services	220	265	322	412	534
	Researcher	2,372	2,266	2,103	1,970	1,910
	Instructor	10,129	10,012	10,106	10,121	10,076
	Engineer	50,493	46,592	42,634	42,273	43,038
	Specialist in Humanities/International Services	69,395	68,467	67,854	69,721	72,319
	Intra-company Transferee	16,786	16,140	14,636	14,867	15,218
	Entertainer	10,966	9,247	6,265	1,646	1,662
	Skilled Labor	29,030	30,142	31,751	33,863	33,425
	Technical Intern Training 1-(a)		2,707	3,991	4,121	3,683
	Technical Intern Training 1-(b)		47,716	57,187	59,160	57,997
	Technical Intern Training 2-(a)		1,848	2,726	2,869	2,788
	Technical Intern Training 2-(b)		47,737	78,090	85,327	90,738
	Cultural Activities	2,780	2,637	2,209	2,320	2,379
	Student	145,909	201,511	188,605	180,919	193,073
	Pre-college Student	46,759				
	Trainee	65,209	9,343	3,388	1,804	1,501
	Dependent	115,081	118,865	119,359	120,693	122,155
	Designated Activities	130,636	72,374	22,751	20,159	22,673
	Permanent Resident	533,472	565,089	598,440	624,501	655,315
	Spouse or Child of Japanese National	221,923	196,248	181,617	162,332	151,156
	Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	19,570	20,251	21,647	22,946	24,649
	Long-Term Resident	221,771	194,602	177,983	165,001	160,391
	Special Permanent Resident	409,565	399,106	389,085	381,364	373,221
Status of residence not eligible to become a mid to long-term resident (②)		60,550	46,890	31,159		
	Temporary Visitor	33,378	29,093	23,978		
	Without Acquiring Status of Residence	12,376	9,874	3,506		
	Temporary Refuge	30	30	29		
	Others	14,766	7,893	3,646		
The number of registered foreign nationals (①+②)		2,186,121	2,134,151	2,078,508		

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

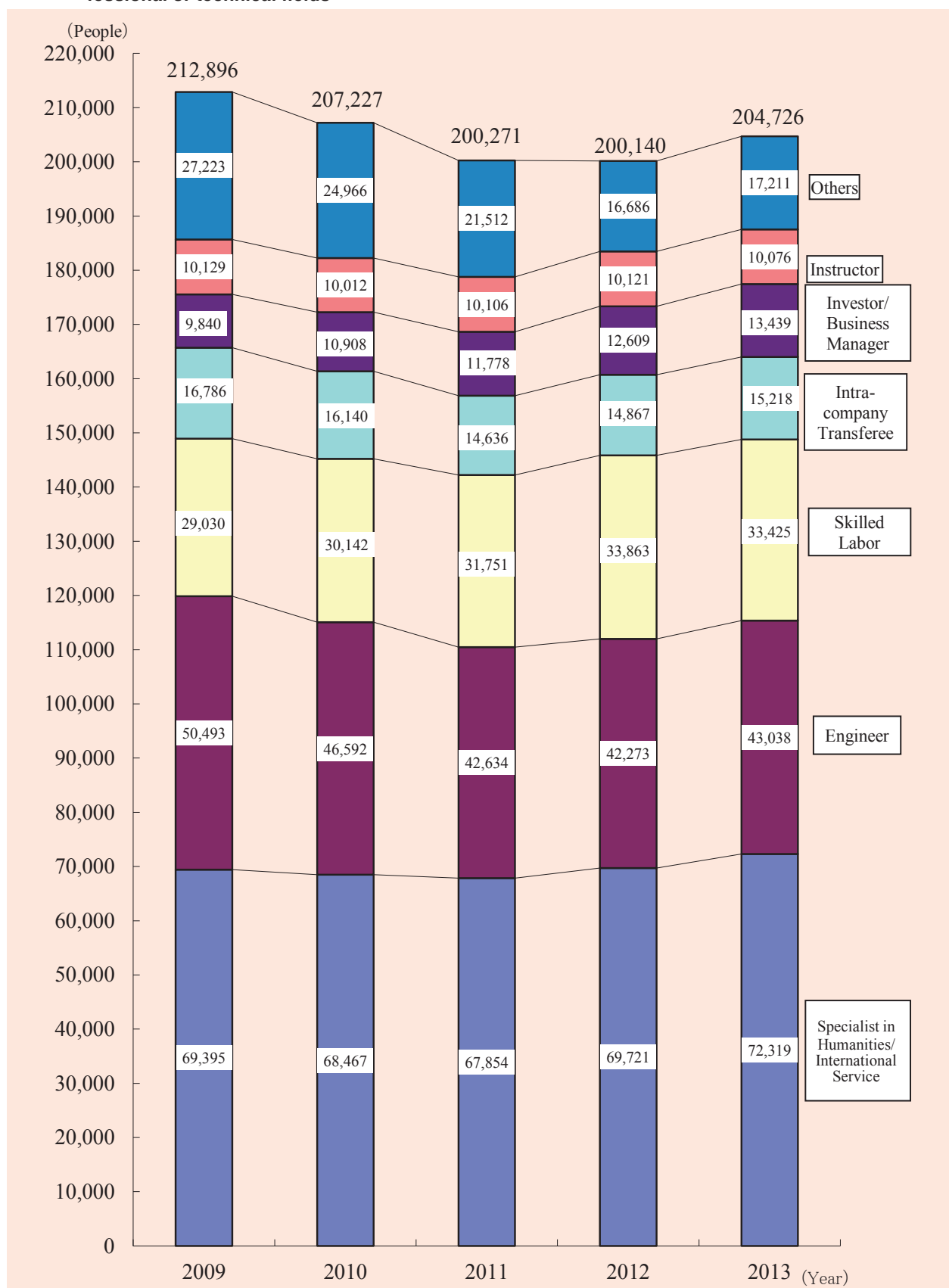
Looking at changes in the number of permanent residents between the end of 2009 and the end of 2013, a steady increase was seen, and the number had increased by 121,843 (22.8%) at the end of 2013 from 533,472 as of the end of 2009.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of permanent residents came from China totaling 204,927 at the end of 2013, 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 percentage 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)

At the end of 2013, the number of mid to long-term residents with a status of residence for the purpose of employment in a professional or technical field (except for “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” out of the statuses of residence given in Appended Table I (1) and (2) of the Immigration Control Act) was 204,726, accounting for 9.9%, an increase of 4,586 (2.3%) compared with 2012, and this trend has been fluctuating since the end of 2012 (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 numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of mid to long-term residents.

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

At the end of 2013, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Engineer”, “Specialist in Humanities/ International Services” or “Intra-company Transferee” corresponding to foreign employees working in a regular company was 43,038 for “Engineer”, 72,319 for “Specialist in Humanities/ International Services” and 15,218 for “Intra-company Transferee”, and compared to the end of 2012, the respective numbers have been increasing: 765 (1.8%), 2,598 (3.7%) and 351 (2.4%).

At the end of 2013, 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 21.0%, 35.3%, and 7.4%, respectively.

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

At the end of 2013, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Student” was 193,073, an increase of 12,154 (6.7%) compared to the end of 2012, which was 9.3% of the total number of mid to long-term residents. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number from China was 107,435, which accounted for 55.6% of the total number, followed by Viet Nam at 21,231, accounting for 11.0%.

(4) “Technical Intern Training (i) and (ii)” (*) (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 (i)” at the end of 2013 was 61,680, a decrease of 1,601 (2.5%) compared to the end of 2012. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 40,571, accounting for 65.8% of the total, followed by Viet Nam (9,857, accounting for 16.0%), the Philippines (4,193, accounting for 6.8%), and Indonesia (3,885, accounting for 6.3%).

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (ii)” as of the end of 2013 was 93,526, an increase of 5,330 (6.0%) compared to the end of 2012. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 66,603, accounting for 71.2% of the total, followed by Viet Nam (11,775, accounting for 12.6%), Indonesia (6,179, accounting for 6.6%), and the Philippines (5,884, accounting for 6.3%).

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

At the end of 2013, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Trainee” was 1,501, a decrease of 303 (16.8%) compared to the end of 2012. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number came from China at 336 (22.4%), followed by Thailand at 218 (14.5%) and Viet Nam at 196 (13.1%).

(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 2013 was 22,673, an increase of 2,514 (12.5%) compared to the end of 2012. According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from Korea was 4,670, accounting for 20.6% of the total, followed by China (4,033, accounting for 17.8%), the Philippines (1,847, accounting for 8.1%), and Taiwan (1,743, accounting for 7.7%).

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

(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 2013 was 151,156, accounting for 7.3% of the total number of foreign residents. Looking at the change from the end of 2009 to the end of 2013, the number has been on the decrease, and the number at the end of 2013 had decreased by 11,176 (6.9%) compared to the end of 2012.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 38,852 accounting for 25.7% of the total number, followed by the Philippines at 30,561, accounting for 20.2%, and Brazil at 17,266 (11.4%). Looking at the changes from the end of 2009 to the end of 2013 by nationality/region, the number of those from China overtook Brazil at the end of 2009 to take top place, and Brazil has been decreasing year by year.

As of the end of 2013, the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” was 160,391 which accounted for 7.8% of the total number of foreign residents, and looking at the changes from the end of 2009 to the end of 2013, the number of “Long-Term Residents” has been decreasing, as has the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, showing a decrease of 4,610 (2.8%) at the end of 2013 compared to the end of 2012.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from Brazil was 47,903, accounting for 29.9%, followed by the Philippines (42,156, accounting for 26.3%), and China (26,240, accounting for 16.4%). Looking at the changes from the end of 2009 to the end of 2013, the number of those from the Philippines has consistently been increasing.

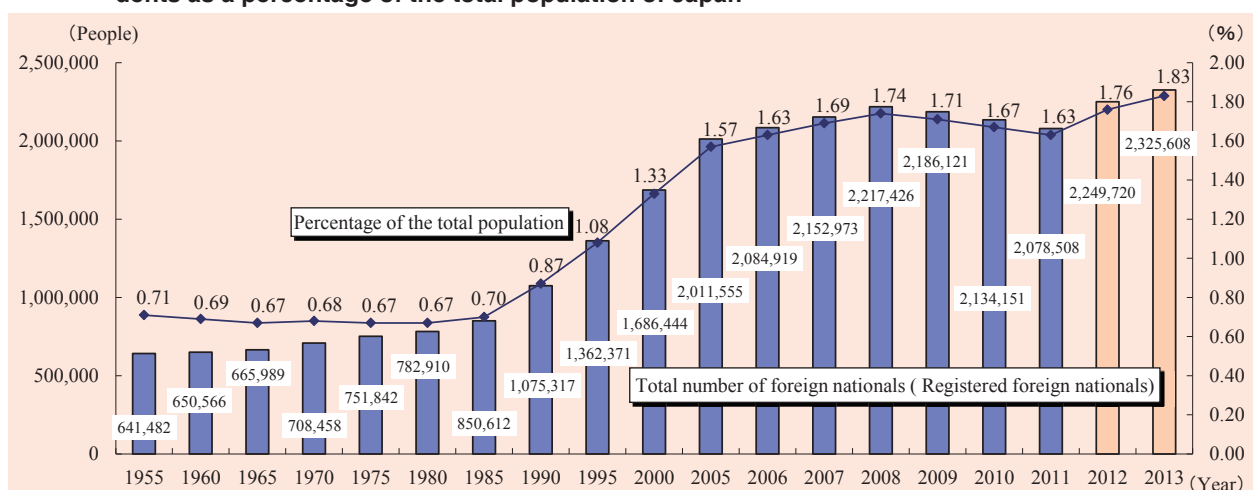
④ Total Number of Foreign Residents

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 2013 was 2,325,608, which was 259,163 more than the number of foreign residents at the end of 2012. Looking at the numbers by status, the number of “Permanent Residents” was 655,315, accounting for 28.2% of the total, followed by “Special Permanent Residents” (373,221, accounting for 16.0%), “Temporary Visitors” (239,792, accounting for 10.3%), and “Student” (193,075, accounting for 8.3%) (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

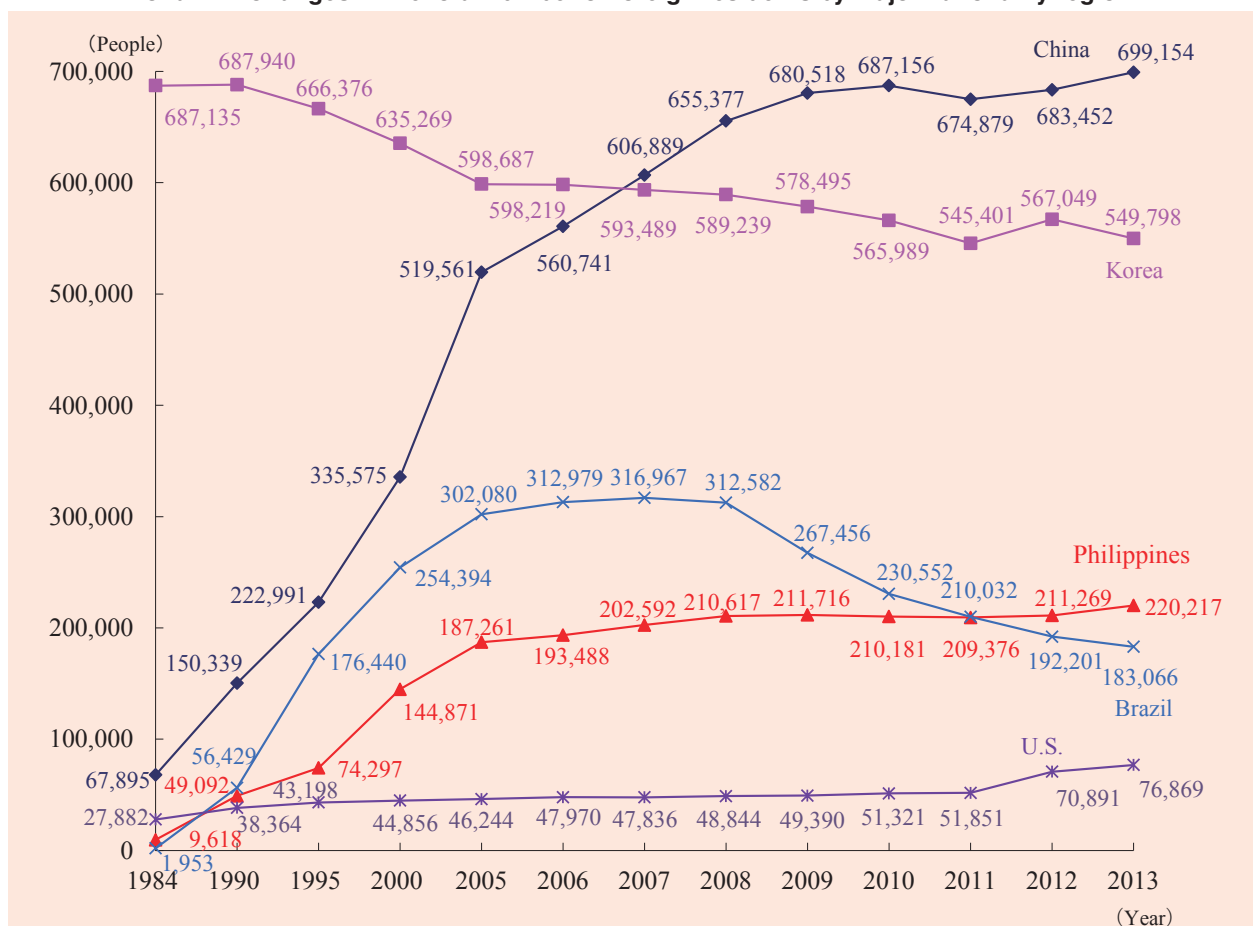


(*1) The numbers are based on the statistics as at the end of December each year.

(*2) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the number from 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 from 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" from 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.

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

(People)

Status of Residence	Number of registered foreign nationals			Number of foreign residents		Total number of foreign residents	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2012	2013
Total	2,186,121	2,134,151	2,078,508	2,033,656	2,066,445	2,249,720	2,325,608
Diplomat						8,137	8,159
Official						8,468	8,342
Professor	8,295	8,050	7,859	7,787	7,735	7,849	7,786
Artist	490	480	461	438	432	440	439
Religious Activities	4,448	4,232	4,106	4,051	4,570	4,051	4,574
Journalist	271	248	227	223	219	223	219
Investor/Business Manager	9,840	10,908	11,778	12,609	13,439	12,609	13,439
Legal/Accounting Services	161	178	169	159	149	159	149
Medical Services	220	265	322	412	534	412	534
Researcher	2,372	2,266	2,103	1,970	1,910	1,980	1,918
Instructor	10,129	10,012	10,106	10,121	10,076	10,121	10,078
Engineer	50,493	46,592	42,634	42,273	43,038	42,287	43,049
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	69,395	68,467	67,854	69,721	72,319	69,728	72,330
Intra-company Transferee	16,786	16,140	14,636	14,867	15,218	14,909	15,242
Entertainer	10,966	9,247	6,265	1,646	1,662	3,030	3,167
Skilled Labor	29,030	30,142	31,751	33,863	33,425	33,865	33,427
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)		2,707	3,991	4,121	3,683	4,121	3,683
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)		47,716	57,187	59,160	57,997	59,160	57,997
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)		1,848	2,726	2,869	2,788	2,869	2,788
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)		47,737	78,090	85,327	90,738	85,332	90,746
Cultural Activities	2,780	2,637	2,209	2,320	2,379	2,369	2,428
Temporary Visitor	33,378	29,093	23,978			197,128	239,792
Student	145,909	201,511	188,605	180,919	193,073	180,929	193,075
Pre-college Student	46,759						
Trainee	65,209	9,343	3,388	1,804	1,501	1,909	1,617
Dependent	115,081	118,865	119,359	120,693	122,155	120,707	122,171
Designated Activities	130,636	72,374	22,751	20,159	22,673	20,784	23,727
Permanent Resident	533,472	565,089	598,440	624,501	655,315	624,501	655,315
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	221,923	196,248	181,617	162,332	151,156	162,332	151,156
Spouse or Child of Perma- nent Resident	19,570	20,251	21,647	22,946	24,649	22,946	24,649
Long-Term Resident	221,771	194,602	177,983	165,001	160,391	165,001	160,391
Special Permanent Resident	409,565	399,106	389,085	381,364	373,221	381,364	373,221
Without Acquiring Status of Residence	12,376	9,874	3,506				
Temporary Refuge	30	30	29				
Others	14,766	7,893	3,646				

(*) The numbers until 2011 represent the number of alien registrations, and the numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of foreign residents adding together the mid 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

The total number of applications related to residence examinations which were granted permission had been increasing in recent years, but started to decline after reaching a peak in 2009, with the total number standing at 834,024 in 2013 compared to the total number in 2012, a decrease of 165,160 (16.5%). However, this significant decrease is due, as described in 5 below, to the introduction of the “system for special re-entry permission” which greatly reduced the number of applications for re-entry permission, and except for the number of applications for special permanent residence, the number of applications for other types of permission has been increasing (Table 11).



Residence examination

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

(Cases)

Division \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	1,403,111	1,375,600	1,358,896	999,184	834,024
Permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted	147,528	163,654	136,450	146,920	164,634
Permission for change of status of residence	149,046	188,178	132,834	124,192	135,289
Permission for extension of period of stay	444,330	389,439	377,645	407,570	426,016
Permission for permanent residence	53,820	47,898	41,327	42,029	45,066
Permission for special permanent residence	140	105	102	147	113
Permission for acquisition of status of residence	8,303	7,531	6,528	8,235	8,724
Re-entry permission	599,944	578,795	664,010	270,091	54,182

(*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.

(*4) Please take note that incorrect numbers (number of cases) were given for the division of "Permission for permanent residence and special permanent residence" in the FY 2010 to FY 2013 editions as indicated below.

(Correct) FY 2009: "total number of cases: 1,403,111", "permanent residence: 53,820", "special permanent residence: 140"; FY 2010: "total number of cases: 1,375,600", "permanent residence: 47,898".

(Incorrect) FY 2009: "total number of cases: 1,403,250", "permanent residence: 53,960", "special permanent residence: 139"; FY 2010: "total number of cases: 1,375,705", "permanent residence: 48,003".

① Permission for Change in the Status of Residence

In 2013, the number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for a change in the status of residence was 135,289, an increase of 11,097 (8.9%) from 2012.

(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 were granted permission to change their status of residence for the purpose of employment was 11,647 in 2013, an increase of 678 (6.2%) compared to 2012. The number of these foreign nationals had been steadily increasing since 2003, but owing to the impact of the global recession, reached a peak in 2008 and started to decline, but subsequently started seeing signs of recovery with a record high reached in 2013 (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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	9,584	7,831	8,586	10,969	11,647
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	6,677	5,422	6,006	7,565	7,962
Engineer	2,154	1,390	1,670	2,227	2,428
Professor	444	512	419	588	634
Investor/Business Manag- er	128	275	291	356	321
Researcher	97	93	78	119	107
Medical Services	24	54	34	29	90
Instructor	31	46	46	41	51
Religious Activities	3	12	12	9	16
Skilled Labor	4	11	11	4	4
Artist	8	5	5	3	4
Entertainer	2	3	1	2	0
Others	12	8	13	26	30

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 7,962 (68.4%), an increase of 397 (5.2%) from 2012. The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Engineer” was 2,428, accounting for 20.8%, and these two statuses of residence accounted for 89.2% of the total.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the number of foreign nationals who obtained such permission from China was 7,637, accounting for 65.6%, followed by R.O. Korea (1,227, accounting for 10.5%) and Viet Nam (424, accounting for 3.6%) (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)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	9,584	7,831	8,586	10,969	11,647
China	6,333	4,874	5,344	7,032	7,637
R.O.Korea	1,368	1,205	1,209	1,417	1,227
Viet Nam	161	167	242	302	424
Taiwan	285	279	302	352	360
Nepal	173	141	149	224	293
Thailand	101	119	109	170	167
Bangladesh	125	107	139	162	137
United States of America	67	87	107	130	131
Malaysia	105	65	71	116	124
Myanmar	94	63	89	106	122
Others	772	724	825	958	1,025

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

(2) Permission to Change Status of Residence in Order to Participate in "Technical Intern Training (ii)"

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 (i)" 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 (ii)".

"Technical Intern Training (ii)" 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, 2013. 53 types, including mold construction 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 (ii)" in 2012 had increased by 40 (0.1%) from 2012 to 48,792. In total, more than 580,000 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 2013(*).

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of trainees who obtained permission to change their status of residence to "Technical Intern Training (ii)" in 2013 came from China (35,463, accounting for 72.7%), followed by Viet Nam (5,861, accounting for 12.0%), Indonesia (2,979, accounting for 6.1%), the Philippines (2,937, accounting for 6.0%), and Thailand (925, accounting for 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 (ii)" under the current system.

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

Year Nationality/region	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	62,207	49,166	45,013	48,752	48,792
China	49,032	39,616	35,209	36,448	35,463
Viet Nam	4,972	3,349	3,658	5,520	5,861
Indonesia	3,467	2,272	2,496	2,689	2,979
Philippines	3,127	2,806	2,464	2,550	2,937
Thailand	1,082	691	794	913	925
Others	527	432	392	632	627

(*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 (ii)” under the current system.

(*3) The numbers corresponding 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 (ii)” under the current system.

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

Year Occupation	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	62,207	49,166	45,013	48,752	48,792
Women/Children's apparel production	11,428	10,252	7,840	8,095	8,141
Welding	5,569	4,040	3,568	4,053	3,824
Plastic molding	4,454	2,987	3,661	3,255	3,135
Machining	3,203	1,490	2,136	2,526	2,245
Metal press work	2,769	1,625	1,719	1,928	1,759
Painting	1,766	1,128	1,320	1,379	1,297
Steeplejack	993	819	614	866	994
Steel reinforcement construction	987	709	470	812	856
Casting	977	752	863	912	787
Mold construction	877	604	392	532	739
Carpenter	402	376	338	399	464
Men's apparel production	631	681	448	470	437
Furniture production	435	259	281	316	276
Construction machinery production	179	171	134	139	175
Plumbing	215	146	106	75	82
Others	27,322	23,127	21,123	22,995	23,581

(*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 (ii)” 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 (ii)” 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 2013 was 426,016, an increase of 18,446 (4.5%) from 2012.

③ Permission for Permanent Residence

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for permanent residence decreased after reaching a record high of 60,509 in 2007, but started to increase again in 2012, and stood at 45,066 in 2013, an increase of 3,037 (7.2%) compared to 2012 (Table 16).

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

(Cases)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	53,820	47,898	41,327	42,029	45,066
China	16,957	16,714	16,436	17,471	19,799
Philippines	9,248	9,157	7,210	7,373	6,385
Brazil	11,430	7,549	5,172	4,867	4,572
Korea	4,060	3,760	3,221	2,902	3,378
Peru	2,389	1,756	1,335	1,116	1,158
Others	9,736	8,962	7,953	8,300	9,774

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

(*2) "China" from 2012 onwards 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 2013 was 8,724, an increase of 489 (5.9%) from 2012.

⑤ Re-entry Permission

The number of foreign nationals who were granted re-entry permission in 2013 was 54,182, marking a substantial decrease of 215,909 (79.9%) from 2012.

This decrease is due to the fact that, owing to the implementation of the system of special re-entry permission in accordance with the amended Immigration Control Act, which entered into force in July 2012, a foreign national in possession of a valid passport and residence card who intends, at the time of departure, to re-enter Japan to continue with his or her activities in Japan within one year of his or her departure (within two years for special permanent residents) is not required, in principle, to obtain re-entry permission.

In addition, the number of foreign nationals, who departed from Japan using special re-entry permission in 2013, was 1,211,712 accounting for 68.8% of the total number of 1,761,710 foreign nationals who departed from Japan through re-entry permission in 2013.

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 in 2013 was 164,634, an increase of 17,714 (12.1%) from 2012.

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

① Number of Issuances of Residence Cards

The number of residence cards issued in 2013 was 1,044,341. According to the statistics by category, the number of residence cards issued at the time of granting landing/status of residence related permission was 798,190 accounting for 76.4% of the total number, followed by applications to switch over to the residence card at 207,351, accounting for 19.9%), applications for reissuance at 26,732, accounting for 2.6% and extension of the period of validity at 6,089, accounting for 0.6%.

By category of regional immigration bureaus, the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau issued 592,597 residence cards, accounting for 56.7% of the total, followed by Nagoya (201,479, accounting for 19.3%), Osaka (133,581, accounting for 12.8%), and Fukuoka (43,147, accounting for 4.1%) (Table 17).

Table 17 Number of issuances of residence cards (2013)

Regional immigration bureaus	Total	Landing/ residency status-related permission	Notification of change in descriptions other than address	Extension of validity period	Application for re-issu- ance	Application for issuance for renewal	Application for new issuance
Total	1,044,341	798,190	4,630	6,089	26,732	207,351	1,349
Sapporo	10,223	8,704	27	34	173	1,271	14
Sendai	18,315	12,874	72	54	328	4,911	76
Tokyo	592,597	459,375	2,878	2,905	15,494	111,184	761
Nagoya	201,479	143,914	975	1,919	4,584	49,923	164
Osaka	133,581	102,932	427	821	3,724	25,499	178
Hiroshima	31,524	24,722	86	132	727	5,812	45
Takamatsu	13,475	11,382	62	76	289	1,654	12
Fukuoka	43,147	34,287	103	148	1,413	7,097	99

② Number of Issuances of Special Permanent Resident Certificates

The number of special permanent resident certificates issued in 2013 was 19,439. According to the statistics by category, the number of special permanent resident certificates issued at the time of switching over to the special permanent resident certificate was 10,540 accounting for 54.2% of the total number, followed by applications for reissuance at 3,994, accounting for 20.5 %, extension of the period of validity at 2,036, accounting for 10.5% and notification of a change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence at 1,454, accounting for 7.5% (Table 18).

Table 18 Number of issuances of special permanent resident certificates (2013)

	Permission for special permanent residence (Article 4)	Permission for special permanent residence (Article 5)	Notifi- cation of change in de- scriptions other than address	Extension of validity period	Applica- tion for re-issuance	Applica- tion for issuance for renewal	Appli- cation for new issuance	Applica- tion for issuance in advance	Total
Number of issuance	984	122	1,454	2,036	3,994	10,540	256	53	19,439

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration inspector in charge of residence examinations) (Student Inspection Department, Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau: Shoko Kumata)

The Student Inspection Department where I work is as evident by its name the department which exclusively handles the statuses of residence for the purpose of study in Japan. The term “Student” is one which is broadly used not only by the immigration administration and therefore it is probably one of the statuses of residence that feels very familiar.

Although these foreign nationals are all handled under the blanket term of “Student”, the schools, which are covered by the status of residence of “Student” in terms of the Immigration Control Act include Japanese universities, colleges of technology, upper secondary schools, the upper secondary courses of schools for special needs education, specialized training schools, miscellaneous schools and Japanese language schools. Whichever school the international students choose, they come to Japan with a strong desire to study in Japan, and the number of international students has been increasing year by year. In July 2008, the Japanese government announced the “300,000 International Students Plan”, and in the future, the Japanese government aims to welcome more and more accomplished international students to Japan.



Amid these circumstances, the number of foreign residents with the status of residence of “Student” at the end of 2013 was 193,073, an increase of 12,154 (6.7%) compared to the end of the previous year. The number of applications from students residing in Japan to extend their period of stay and applications to change their status of residence as well as applications for a certificate of eligibility from foreign nationals, wishing to study in Japan handled by the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau has also been increasing. Furthermore, taking a look at a breakdown of the foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Student” by nationality, in addition to the Chinese students who in the past accounted for the largest percentage, a feature of recent years is the rapid increase of international students from other countries in Asia such as Nepal and Viet Nam.

My duties in the Students Examination Department involve carefully checking the status of enrollment and status of residence, and examining whether or not there are reasonable grounds to grant an extension of the period of stay and a change of the status of residence. In addition, with regard to the status of residence of “Student”, the school is the accepting organization which is responsible for managing the international students, and it is extremely important to check whether it is properly managing student enrollment. What I feel is very important in the examination is to judge whether the students have the intention and ability to concentrate seriously on their studies. Most international students are young and there are many temptations to life in Japan. When I see international students who have not forgotten their original intentions and apply themselves diligently to their studies, I feel like I want to cheer them on as well as feel a sobering responsibility that I myself need to apply myself to the work of examination.

In the future, I intend to continue working on our day-to-day operations, maintaining a sense of responsibility towards my part in national policy and paying heed to carry out proper examinations.

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.

In addition, the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria was amended on November 1, 2012 in order to reinforce protection for the technical intern trainees and to ensure proper operation of the system of technical intern training. Specifically, the amendment involved: (1) clarification of the start of the period during which new acceptance of technical intern trainees is banned as a measure against those implementing organizations, which have committed misconduct obstructing the appropriate implementation of technical intern training, (2) prohibition of acceptance in cases where the supervising organization, etc. has been involved in a false application in the past five years, and (3) the requirement that if an organization implementing training or a supervising organization has committed misconduct, it shall immediately report the fact of the misconduct to the regional immigration bureau.

Furthermore, based on the comments made in the Report on the Administrative Evaluation and Monitoring Results in April 2013, in order to optimize the audits by the supervising organizations, the “Guidelines for Management of the Entry and Residence of Technical Intern Trainees” were revised in December 2013 so as to give a clearer indication of the perspectives, procedures and methods to be used in the audits, and to clarify the misconduct applicable in cases of audits not being properly implemented.

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 2013 was 230.

According to the type of receiving arrangement, there were 230 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 20 supervising organizations (8.7%) and 210 program conducting organizations (91.3%) (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)				
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Company-arranged scheme		2	3	2	0	0
Association-supervised scheme	Supervising organization (Primary receiving organization)	34	17	14	9	20
	Program implementing organization (Secondary receiving organization)	324	143	168	188	210
Total		360	163	184	197	230

“Abuse of human rights”, “Discrepancy compared with the Trainee and Technical Intern Training Plan”, and “Engaging in work activities during course study period” were the three major forms of “misconduct”, in total accounting for 73.2% 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 (2013)

(Cases)

Category		Company-arranged scheme (0 Organizations)			Association-supervised scheme						Total (230 Organizations)
					Supervising organization (20 Organizations)			Program implementing organization (210 Organizations)			
Guidelines	Ministerial Ordinance	Guide-lines	Min-isterial Ord-inances	Sub total	Guide-lines	Min-isterial Ord-inances	Sub total	Guide-lines	Min-isterial Ord-inances	Sub total	
Dual contract	Dual contract	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3
Discrepancy compared with the Trainee and Technical Intern Training Plan	Discrepancy compared with Trainee and Technical Intern Training Plan	0	0	0	1	13	14	0	73	73	87
Name lending	Name lending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	16
Document forgery/preparation and use of fraudulent documents	Document forgery/preparation and use of fraudulent documents	0	0	0	1	8	9	0	5	5	14
Work in excess of statutory working hours	Work in excess of statutory working hours	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	3
Malicious acts related to human rights infringement	Violence/threats/confinement	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	101	102
	Confiscation of passport/residence card		0			1					
	Nonpayment		0			99					
	Human rights infringement		0			1					
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	0	7	0	0	0	7	
	Supervising organization's failure to report misconduct, etc./failure to conduct audit or to establish a consultation system or other system		0								
	Frequency of trainees going missing		0								
Employment of illegal foreign workers	Employment of illegal foreign workers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	8
Violation of labor-related regulations	Violation of labor-related regulations	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	23	25	25
Recurrence of similar inappropriate acts	Repeated misconduct	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Confiscation of deposit		0	0		0	0		2	2	2
	Engaging in work activities during course study period		0	0		10	10		69	69	79
	Arrangement with profit purpose		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
	Failure to submit a daily report		0	0		1	1		18	18	19
	Failure to submit a report regarding leaving trainees		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	3	40	43	3	320	323	366

(*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.

(*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 ◆ Revision of the System of Technical Intern Training

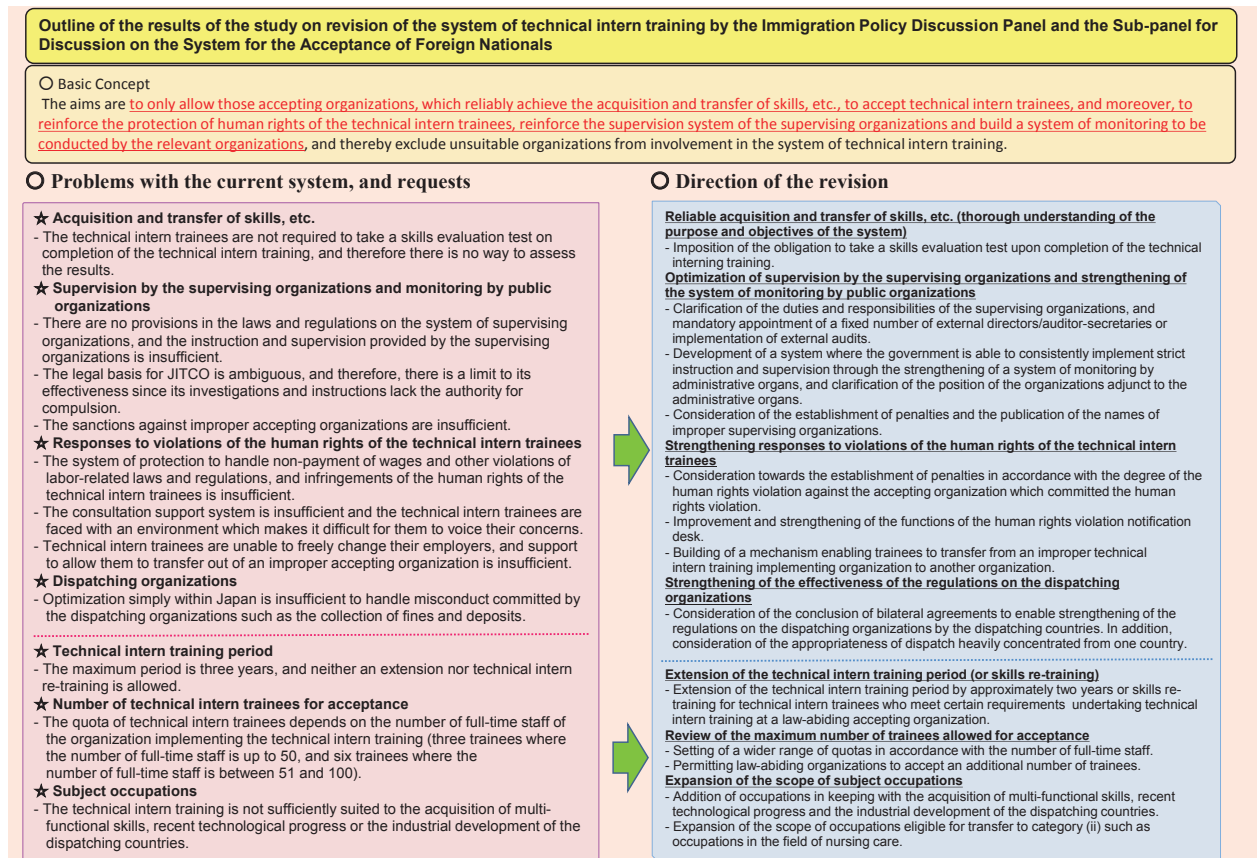
At the time of the amendment of the Immigration Control Act in 2009 when revisions were made leading to the current system of technical intern training, the Judicial Affairs Committee of both the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors each added supplementary resolutions, and it was decided that whether or not to fundamentally revise the role of the system of technical intern training would be studied in a comprehensive manner.

Some criticism was also expressed that the system of technical intern training is not being properly and strictly operated in line with the true spirit and purpose of the system, which is to make an international contribution through the transfer of skills, as is shown by the existence of supervising organizations and implementing organizations, which do not understand the purpose of the system and are conducting improper acceptance.

On the other hand, from the perspective of expanding the system of technical intern training and owing to the many requests received from those in the related industries to extend the period of the technical intern training and increase the quota of trainees, a major revision of the entire system is required.

Owing to such circumstances, since there was an urgent need to consider the direction of the revision of the system at the earliest possible date, the “Sub-panel for Discussion on the System for the Acceptance of Foreign Nationals” was established under the Immigration Policy Discussion Panel, a private advisory group of the Minister of Justice, in order to hear opinions from experts from various fields. Discussions were held by the Sub-panel since November 2013 with regard to the system of technical intern training, and a report on the results relating to the direction of the revision of the system of technical intern training was compiled and submitted to the Minister of Justice in June 2014.

Chart 22 Outline of the results of the study on revision of the system of technical intern training



(*) In addition, further consideration is required with regard to whether or not to accept foreign nationals in fields which generally are not suitable for technical intern training, and in the event of acceptance, the method of acceptance.

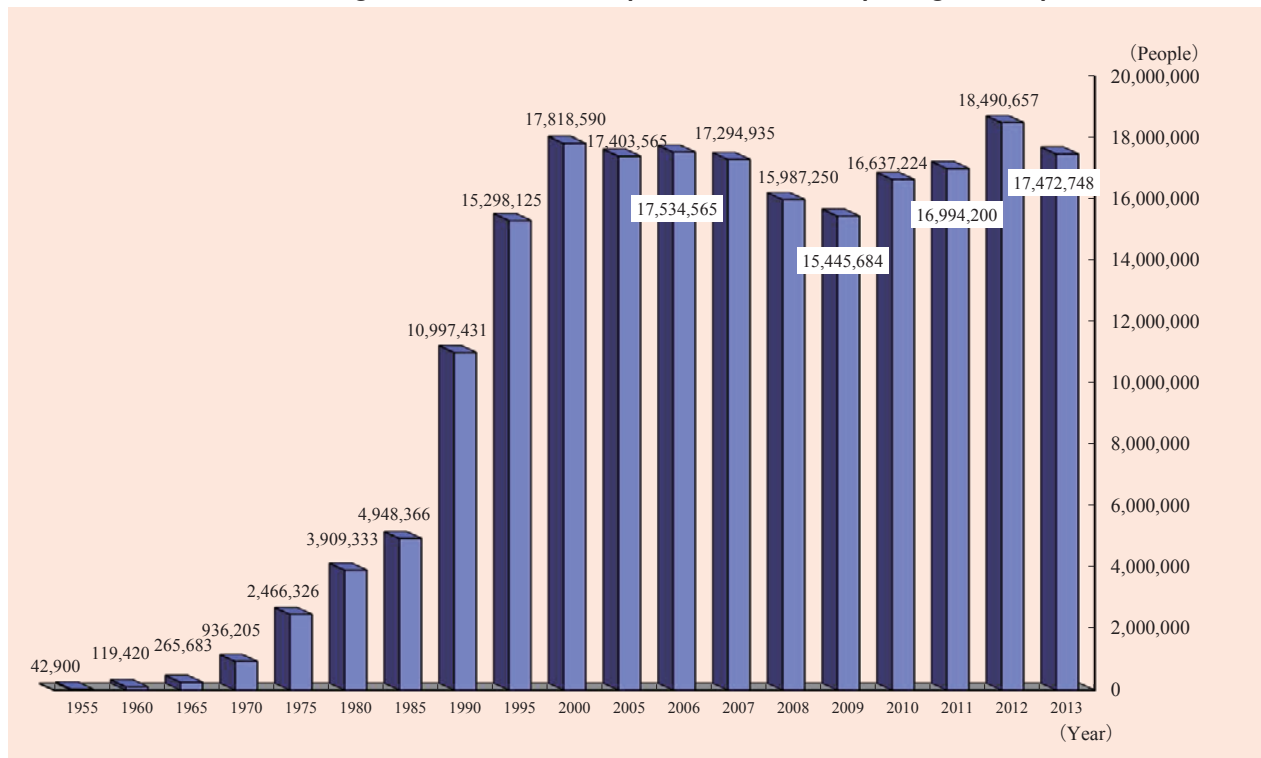
Chapter 4. Japanese Nationals Departing from and Returning to Japan

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 2013 was 17,472,748, a decrease of 1,017,909 (5.5%) from 2012 (Chart 23).

Chart 23 Changes in the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan



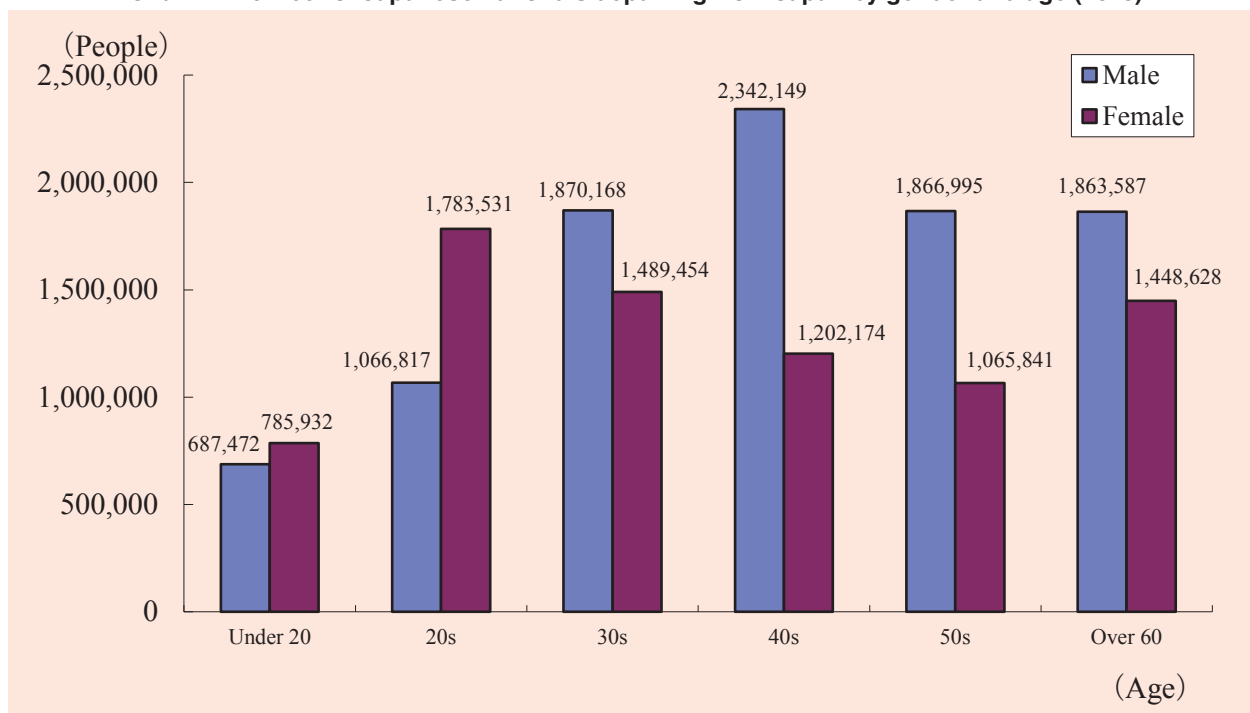
② The Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Gender and Age

According to statistics by gender, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2013 was composed of 9,697,188 males and 7,775,560 females; males accounted for 55.5% of the total and females accounted for 44.5 %. 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 2013 was composed of 3,544,323 Japanese nationals in their 40s, which accounted for 20.3% of the total, followed by 3,359,622 in their 30s, accounting for 19.2%, 3,312,215 in their 60s or older, accounting for 19.0%, 2,932,836 in their 50s, accounting for 16.8%, and 2,850,348 in their 20s, accounting for 16.3%.

According to the statistics on percentages of males and females by age, the percentages of Japanese females in their 10s and 20s exceeded those of males and, in particular, females in their 20s accounted for the extremely high percentage of 62.6%, but with other ages, the percentage of males departing from Japan exceeded that of females (Chart 24).

Chart 24 Number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan by gender and age (2013)



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

According to the statistics of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2013 by airport and seaport of departure, the number of persons using airports to depart from Japan was 17,308,131, accounting for 99.1% of the total. When compared with the percentage of foreign nationals entering Japan (foreign nationals using airports accounted for 94.5%), the percentage of airport users is much higher.

Of the Japanese nationals using airports to depart from Japan in 2013, the number of users of Narita Airport was 8,051,684, which accounted for 46.5 % of the total number of persons using airports to depart from Japan, and those using Kansai Airport was 3,439,358, which accounted for 19.9%. This means that 66.4% 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 2,663,684, accounting for 15.4%, while the number of users of Chubu Airport was 1,530,321, accounting for 8.8%.

On the other hand, of the Japanese nationals using seaports to depart from Japan in 2013, the number of Japanese nationals using Hakata Port, where scheduled passenger ships operate between Japan and R.O. Korea, was 94,150, which accounted for 57.2% of the total number of persons departing from seaports, and the number using Yokohama Port was 13,251, which accounted for 8.0% of the total. This means that 65.2% of the total number of Japanese nationals departing from seaports used these two seaports. Shimonoseki Port, 12,937, accounting for 7.9%, Kobe Port, 6,658, accounting for 4.0% and Osaka Port, 5,058, accounting for 3.1% 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 2013 was 17,421,997. By period of stay in foreign countries after departure, the number of persons returning within one month after departure was 15,859,880, which accounted for 91.0% of the total. Of those, the number of persons returning within ten days was 14,321,039, which accounted for 90.3% 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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	15,432,549	16,611,884	16,921,103	18,408,185	17,421,997
Within 5 days	9,341,903	9,904,585	10,039,111	10,916,364	9,898,557
More than 5 days to 10 days	3,613,776	4,002,339	4,055,123	4,448,480	4,422,482
More than 10 days to 20 days	897,894	998,258	1,054,248	1,129,239	1,130,386
More than 20 days to 1 month	298,834	347,066	388,970	404,327	408,455
More than 1 month to 3 months	529,070	542,196	588,327	639,672	658,643
More than 3 months to 6 months	324,165	314,762	323,218	357,644	376,109
More than 6 months to 1 year	290,320	258,013	256,264	270,945	291,269
More than 1 year to 3 years	124,015	124,335	119,588	137,043	134,050
More than 3 years	7,479	8,567	8,281	11,045	12,966
Unknown	5,093	111,763	87,973	93,426	89,080

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 59,061 as of January 1, 2014. This number has been steadily decreasing, a decline of 2,948 (4.8%) from 62,009 on January 1, 2013, in other words, a decline of 239,585 (80.2%) 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, 2014, the nationality/region of the largest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was R.O. Korea (14,233, accounting for 24.1% of the total), followed by China (8,257, accounting for 14.0%), the Philippines (5,117, accounting for 8.7%), Thailand (4,391, accounting for 7.4%), Taiwan (3,557, accounting for 6.0%), Malaysia (1,819, accounting for 3.1%), and Viet Nam (1,471, accounting for 2.5%).

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 had been steadily decreasing since May 1, 1993, but because of the impact of the substantial increase in the number of foreign nationals from Thailand newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” due to the measure taken to deregulate visas in July 2013, the number of those from Thailand saw an increase of 833 (23.4%) compared to January 1, 2013. In addition, with regard to the number of those from Viet Nam, the number had increased by 361 (32.5%) compared to January 1, 2013, which was an increase for two consecutive years (Table 22, Chart 25).

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

(People)

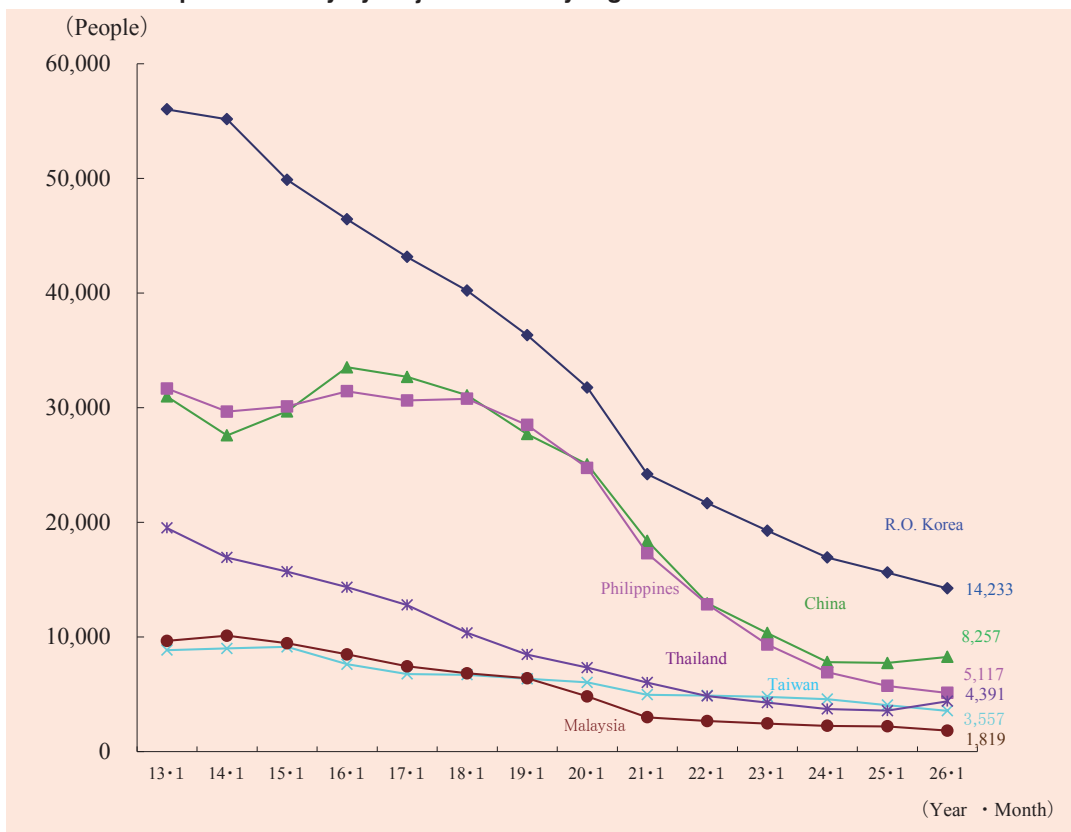
Nationality/region \ Date	May 1 1993	May 1 1994	May 1 1995	May 1 1996	January 1 1997	January 1 1998	January 1 1999	January 1 2000	January 1 2001	January 1 2002	January 1 2003
Total	298,646	293,800	286,704	284,500	282,986	276,810	271,048	251,697	232,121	224,067	220,552
R.O. Korea	39,455	43,369	47,544	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
Thailand	55,383	49,992	44,794	41,280	39,513	37,046	30,065	23,503	19,500	16,925	15,693
Taiwan	7,457	7,871	7,974	8,502	9,409	9,430	9,437	9,243	8,849	8,990	9,126
Malaysia	30,840	20,313	14,511	11,525	10,390	10,141	9,989	9,701	9,651	10,097	9,442
Viet Nam	852	869	453	448	231	731	880	1,092	1,550	2,021	2,697
Singapore	1,914	2,342	2,600	2,850	2,946	3,027	3,084	3,178	3,302	3,494	3,556
Sri Lanka	3,763	3,395	2,980	2,783	2,751	3,071	3,734	3,907	3,489	3,730	3,909
Peru	9,038	12,918	15,301	13,836	12,942	11,606	10,320	9,158	8,502	7,744	7,322
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	January 1 2014
Total	219,418	207,299	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488	67,065	62,009	59,061
R.O. Korea	46,425	43,151	40,203	36,321	31,758	24,198	21,660	19,271	16,927	15,607	14,233
China	33,522	32,683	31,074	27,698	25,057	18,385	12,933	10,337	7,807	7,730	8,257
Philippines	31,428	30,619	30,777	28,491	24,741	17,287	12,842	9,329	6,908	5,722	5,117
Thailand	14,334	12,787	10,352	8,460	7,314	6,023	4,836	4,264	3,714	3,558	4,391
Taiwan	7,611	6,760	6,696	6,347	6,031	4,950	4,889	4,774	4,571	4,047	3,557
Malaysia	8,476	7,431	6,822	6,397	4,804	2,986	2,661	2,442	2,237	2,192	1,819
Viet Nam	3,582	3,916	4,071	3,959	3,362	2,527	1,531	1,221	1,014	1,110	1,471
Singapore	3,216	3,075	3,587	2,241	2,207	2,128	2,107	1,789	1,586	1,304	1,079
Sri Lanka	4,242	4,209	4,590	4,042	3,615	2,796	1,952	1,498	1,256	1,084	1,019
Peru	7,230	6,624	5,997	5,283	4,481	3,396	2,402	1,794	1,377	1,143	1,014
Others	59,352	56,044	49,576	41,600	36,415	28,396	23,965	21,769	19,668	18,512	17,104

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

Chart 25 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

Taking a look at the foreign nationals illegally staying beyond their authorized period of stay as of January 1, 2014 by status of residence prior to illegally overstaying in Japan, the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” continued from the previous year to make up the largest number at 41,403 accounting for 70.1% of the total number followed by “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at 3,719, accounting for 6.3%, “Student” at 2,777, accounting for 4.7%, “Entertainer” at 2,224, accounting for 3.8%, “Long-Term Resident” at 1,954, accounting for 3.3%, and when compared to the same period of the previous year, the top five statuses of residence: “Temporary Visitor” at 2,540 (5.8%), “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at 572 (13.3%), “Student” at 70 (2.5%), “Entertainer” at 208 (8.6%) and “Long-Term Resident” at 134 (6.4%) are all decreasing (Table 23).

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

(People)

Status of Residence \ Date	January 1 2009	January 1 2010	January 1 2011	January 1 2012	January 1 2013	January 1 2014
Total	113,072	91,778	78,488	67,065	62,009	59,061
Temporary Visitor	76,651	63,169	54,220	46,845	43,943	41,403
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	7,576	6,456	5,843	5,060	4,291	3,719
Student	8,276	5,842	4,322	3,187	2,847	2,777
Entertainer	5,015	4,120	3,425	2,956	2,432	2,224
Long-Term Resident	4,044	3,505	3,199	2,627	2,088	1,954
Others	11,510	8,686	7,479	6,390	6,408	6,984

(*) 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

① Outline

In 2013, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced on account of violation of the Immigration Control Act was 11,428, a decline of 3,750 from 2012. Of these, 2,479 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 (8,713, accounting for 76.2%), followed by illegal entry (1,128, accounting for 9.9%) and activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted (493, accounting for 4.3%). 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 11 consecutive years (4,044, accounting for 35.4%), followed by the Philippines (1,778, accounting for 15.6%), and R.O. Korea (1,336, accounting for 11.7%). These top three countries made up 62.6% of the total (Table 25).

Of the foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act against whom the deportation procedures were enforced in 2013, the number of those who illegally worked in Japan was 7,038, accounting for 61.6% of the total.

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

(People)

Grounds for Deportation \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	32,661	24,213	20,659	15,178	11,428
Illegal entry	5,373	3,867	2,862	1,875	1,128
Illegal landing	186	134	164	187	199
Activity other than those permitted	810	751	542	617	493
Overstay	25,503	18,578	15,925	11,439	8,713
Criminal offenses	531	529	619	527	430
Others	258	354	547	533	465
Illegal work	26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979	7,038

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

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	32,661	24,213	20,659	15,178	11,428
China	9,522	7,294	6,350	4,545	4,044
Philippines	6,370	5,058	4,346	2,972	1,778
R.O.Korea	3,934	3,215	2,625	2,028	1,336
Viet Nam	1,373	887	717	592	688
Thailand	1,832	1,475	1,108	786	604
Brazil	536	581	825	814	422
Indonesia	1,632	735	449	327	271
Peru	1,216	742	597	402	200
Sri Lanka	1,171	624	449	303	199
United States of America	124	176	258	218	192
Others	4,951	3,426	2,935	2,191	1,694

(*) "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 2013, the number of illegal entrants (*) was 1,128, accounting for 9.9%, a decline of 747 (39.8%) from 2012. 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 (359, accounting for 31.8% of the total), followed by the Philippines (274, accounting for 24.3%) and R.O. Korea (102, accounting for 9.0%), 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 824, accounting for 73.0%, a decline of 613 (42.7%) from 2012, 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 304, accounting for 27.0%, a decline of 134 (30.6%) from 2012 (Table 26, 27, 28).

(*) 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 (ii)). Any foreign national who violates the provisions is considered an illegal entrant.

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

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	5,373	3,867	2,862	1,875	1,128
China	1,648	1,212	949	532	359
Philippines	1,237	1,065	799	520	274
R.O.Korea	427	327	270	178	102
Iran	174	133	112	124	63
Thailand	416	303	198	105	56
Peru	377	189	119	91	37
Sri Lanka	130	82	57	36	32
Indonesia	269	132	83	55	27
Bangladesh	160	79	35	26	24
Nigeria	50	37	37	32	17
Others	485	308	203	176	137

(*) "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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	3,880	2,849	2,105	1,437	824
Philippines	1,153	1,006	760	500	262
China	698	533	443	263	153
Iran	141	113	96	113	55
Thailand	387	284	192	100	54
R.O.Korea	165	141	104	78	53
Others	1,336	772	510	383	247

(*) "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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	1,493	1,018	757	438	304
China	950	679	506	269	206
R.O.Korea	262	186	166	100	49
Philippines	84	59	39	20	12
Bangladesh	78	23	13	7	10
Iran	33	20	16	11	8
Others	86	51	17	31	19

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

(2) Illegal Landing

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced owing to violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2013, 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 199, accounting for 1.7%, a slight increase of 12 (6.4%) from 2012 (Table 29).

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

(People)

Nationality/region	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total		186	134	164	187	199
Turkey		17	27	72	98	84
Russia		4	7	5	3	19
Sri Lanka		4	8	0	6	14
Ghana		2	0	0	0	10
Viet Nam		5	1	2	10	9
R.O.Korea		10	11	12	4	8
China		50	25	20	14	7
United States of America		1	0	6	5	5
Cameroon		0	0	1	3	5
Philippines		14	9	4	6	3
Others		79	46	42	38	35

(*) "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 2013, the number of those who had stayed beyond the authorized period of stay was 8,713, accounting for 76.2%, a decrease by 2,726 (23.8%) from 2012, 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 (3,194, accounting for 36.7% of the total), followed by the Philippines (1,363, accounting for 15.6%), R.O. Korea (960, accounting for 11.0%), Viet Nam (562, accounting for 6.5%) and Thailand (486, accounting for 5.6%) (Table 30).

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

(People)

Nationality/region	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total		25,503	18,578	15,925	11,439	8,713
China		7,342	5,494	4,848	3,415	3,194
Philippines		4,960	3,797	3,280	2,295	1,363
R.O.Korea		3,104	2,582	2,082	1,476	960
Viet Nam		1,268	783	635	482	562
Thailand		1,347	1,130	860	615	486
Brazil		375	434	649	671	321
Indonesia		1,350	590	350	260	236
United States of America		99	157	224	200	171
Sri Lanka		1,026	515	375	235	144
Peru		812	529	446	284	144
Others		3,820	2,567	2,176	1,506	1,132

(*) "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 clearly engages solely in working activities, such as the ones for which he/she receives remuneration, 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 activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted. The number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced in 2013 was 493, accounting for 4.3%, a decrease of 124 (20.1%) from 2012.

Accordingly to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China (176, accounting for 35.7% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (138, accounting for 28.0%) and Viet Nam (52, accounting for 10.5%), and these top three countries accounted for 74.2% 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

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	810	751	542	617	493
China	266	291	192	228	176
R.O.Korea	306	207	125	212	138
Viet Nam	15	36	12	34	52
Nepal	10	45	60	48	29
Philippines	85	57	71	20	27
Thailand	14	6	5	9	14
India	8	19	13	6	12
Taiwan	25	29	9	3	10
Bangladesh	18	23	11	11	8
Myanmar	14	4	3	6	7
Others	49	34	41	40	20

(*) "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 surveil 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 2013, the number of those who were considered to have been illegally working was 7,038, accounting for 61.6%. 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 64 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 2,909 accounting for 41.3%, followed by the Philippines (968, accounting for 13.8%), R.O. Korea (866, accounting for 12.3%), Viet Nam (461, accounting for 6.6%), and Thailand (442, accounting for 6.3%). These top five countries represented 80.2% 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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total			26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979	7,038
	Male		16,522	10,943	7,954	5,346	4,356
	Female		10,023	7,547	5,959	3,633	2,682
China			8,205	6,039	4,876	3,082	2,909
	Male		5,343	3,887	2,968	1,981	1,943
	Female		2,862	2,152	1,908	1,101	966
Philippines			4,845	3,573	2,632	1,589	968
	Male		2,250	1,491	1,052	629	394
	Female		2,595	2,082	1,580	960	574
R.O.Korea			3,241	2,590	1,918	1,356	866
	Male		1,306	985	670	525	311
	Female		1,935	1,605	1,248	831	555
Viet Nam			1,152	722	521	380	461
	Male		741	483	323	271	312
	Female		411	239	198	109	149
Thailand			1,512	1,171	843	567	442
	Male		822	645	456	318	272
	Female		690	526	387	249	170
Indonesia			1,557	675	397	267	233
	Male		1,230	518	333	218	193
	Female		327	157	64	49	40
Sri Lanka			1,042	554	365	246	136
	Male		946	507	335	230	127
	Female		96	47	30	16	9
Peru			932	487	324	198	107
	Male		652	311	218	145	73
	Female		280	176	106	53	34
Nepal			456	277	179	117	97
	Male		340	215	122	85	78
	Female		116	62	57	32	19
Brazil			198	165	183	182	96
	Male		158	125	149	141	74
	Female		40	40	34	41	22
Others			3,405	2,237	1,675	995	723
	Male		2,734	1,776	1,328	803	579
	Female		671	461	347	192	144

(*) "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 4,356 male illegal workers (accounting for 61.9%) and 2,682 female illegal workers (accounting for 38.1%). The percentage of male illegal workers had slightly increased from 2012.

(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 (1,301, accounting for 18.5% of the total), followed by construction workers (1,151, accounting for 16.4%), and attendants such as bar hostesses (837, accounting for 11.9%).

In addition, according to statistics by gender, the largest number of males worked as construction workers followed by factory workers and agricultural workers, while the largest number of female worked in the hospitality industry, for example, as hostesses followed by factory workers and workers in the service industry (Table 33).

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

(People)

Job Categories	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total		26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979	7,038
Male		16,522	10,943	7,954	5,346	4,356
Female		10,023	7,547	5,959	3,633	2,682
Factory worker		8,220	4,168	2,809	1,623	1,301
Male		5,687	2,846	1,869	1,124	895
Female		2,533	1,322	940	499	406
Construction worker		3,938	2,383	1,772	1,154	1,151
Male		3,890	2,358	1,750	1,146	1,144
Female		48	25	22	8	7
Attendants such as bar hostess		3,323	2,679	2,011	1,365	837
Male		331	240	120	114	80
Female		2,992	2,439	1,891	1,251	757
Agricultural worker		1,227	887	783	592	695
Male		937	670	554	432	507
Female		290	217	229	160	188
Other labor worker		2,461	1,715	1,527	907	580
Male		1,899	1,347	1,173	700	440
Female		562	368	354	207	140
Waitress and bartender		1,487	1,265	1,109	611	465
Male		596	464	417	256	201
Female		891	801	692	355	264
Others		5,889	5,393	3,902	2,727	2,009
Male		3,182	3,018	2,071	1,574	1,089
Female		2,707	2,375	1,831	1,153	920



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 44 prefectures throughout Japan. According to statistics by place of work by prefecture, the largest number is found in Tokyo (1,389, accounting for 19.7% of the total), followed by Aichi prefecture (954, accounting for 13.6%), Chiba prefecture (945, accounting for 13.4%), Ibaraki prefecture (752, accounting for 10.7%), and Kanagawa prefecture (680, accounting for 9.7%) (Table 34).

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 4,685 (accounting for 66.6%), 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 1,410, accounting for 20.0%. Illegal workers in the Kanto and Chubu districts, standing at 86.6% (6,095), accounted for a substantial percentage of the total number of illegal workers .

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

(People)

Prefecture \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	26,545	18,490	13,913	8,979	7,038
Tokyo	4,618	3,462	2,763	1,740	1,389
Aichi	3,924	2,188	1,637	1,188	954
Chiba	2,784	2,316	1,919	1,088	945
Ibaraki	2,448	1,805	1,286	891	752
Kanagawa	3,522	2,594	1,663	967	680
Saitama	2,215	1,528	1,112	616	539
Osaka	1,060	894	623	517	366
Gunma	1,375	717	447	249	243
Shizuoka	800	439	371	215	167
Tochigi	776	401	278	191	137
Others	3,023	2,146	1,814	1,317	866

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

I am an immigration control officer and the department where I'm working for is in charge of investigating and exposing those foreign nationals who are suspected of falling under the grounds for deportation. We carry out secret investigations in the field based on information received from the general public, and conduct such necessary factfinding as requesting public and private organizations to provide information to prove our suspicions and the connections in order to expose the illegal foreign nationals. By law we are able to conduct compulsory investigations, and therefore we sometimes conduct raids on obtaining permission for inspection, search and seizure from the courts.

There is always the possibility during the raids that a foreign national may attempt to escape, fight back or that we may be injured, and therefore we strive to monitor the surroundings prior to the raid and to prevent accidents by coordinating closely with our colleagues beforehand. Since every situation is fraught with tension and danger, as an immigration control officer, I carry out my work with a sense of responsibility and pride and set my mind to respond calmly following the correct procedures.



The recent situation of crackdowns by the Immigration Bureau on foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act is that the number of cases of illegal residence such as through illegal entry or illegally staying beyond the authorized period of stay has been decreasing when compared to previous years. This is the result of various measures and crackdowns by the relevant government agencies being reinforced, but on the other hand, the cases of foreign residents disguising their status of residence such as through fake marriages and fake employment are becoming significantly more complex and sophisticated, and therefore, greater cooperation with the relevant government agencies is required in order to be able to crack down on such illegal residents. Every year, officers from the Aichi Prefectural Police, Shizuoka Prefectural Police and Mie Prefectural Police come to Nagoya Regional Immigration Bureau on personnel exchange programs, and we endeavor to build good relationships with these officers, reinforce cooperation and conduct effective raids together.

In the future, as a tourism-oriented country, since Japan is hoping to attract more foreign tourists, and moreover, the Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held in Tokyo in 2020, we are committed to cooperating with the relevant organizations to crack down on illegal residence and false residence, which serve as hotbeds of crime, and also on the organized crimes which aid such illegal residence, and we will endeavor to maintain Japan's security and ensure equitable and proper immigration control.

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 decisions on 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 2013 was 12,523, 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

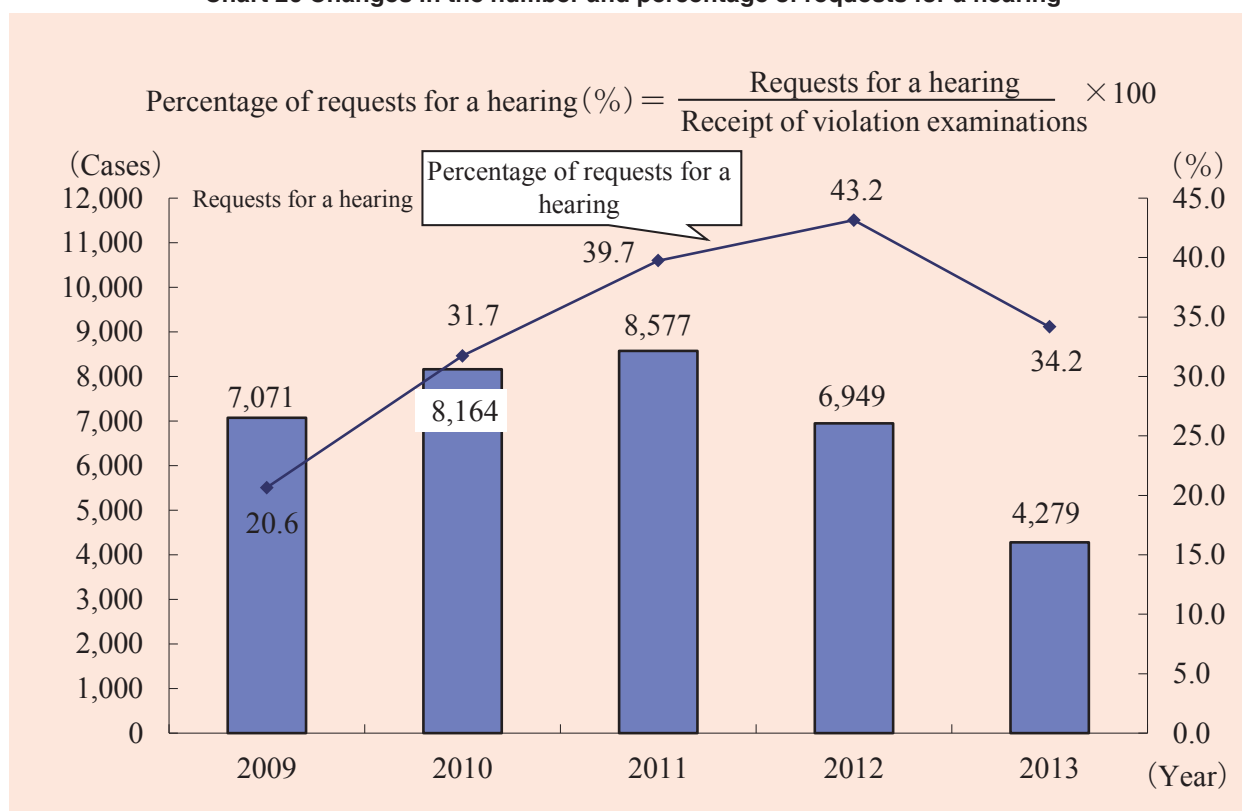
(Cases)

Division \ Year		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Violation examination by immigration inspector	Receipt	34,247 (1,234)	25,731 (1,375)	21,584 (771)	16,103 (748)	12,523 (793)
	Completed	Found not to fall under one of the reasons for deportation	2	10	5	4
		Issuance of written deportation order	16,312	11,386	7,628	5,640
		Request for hearing	7,071	8,164	8,577	6,949
		Issuance of written departure order	9,041	5,186	4,501	2,594
		Not completed, others	1,821	985	873	916
						1,032
Hearing by special inquiry officer	Receipt	7,607 (506)	8,777 (587)	9,286 (674)	7,755 (711)	4,942 (582)
	Completed	Error in the findings	-	1	3	-
		Issuance of written deportation order	104	112	120	101
		Filing of an objection	6,876	7,949	8,389	6,952
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-
		Not completed, others	627	715	774	702
Decision of the Minister of Justice	Receipt	7,456 (561)	8,756 (712)	9,017 (526)	7,485 (459)	4,776 (505)
	Completed	Objection with reason	1	-	7	2
		Objection without reason	6,630	8,107	8,440	6,887
		Issuance of written departure order	-	-	-	-
		Not completed, others	825	649	570	596
						347

(*) 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 2013 was 4,279 accounting for 34.2% of the total number of cases which underwent an examination of the violation, a decline of 2,670, accounting for 38.4% from 2012 (Chart 26).

Chart 26 Changes in the number and percentage 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 4,226 in 2013, a decline of 2,726, accounting for 39.2% from 2012 (Table 35).

(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order

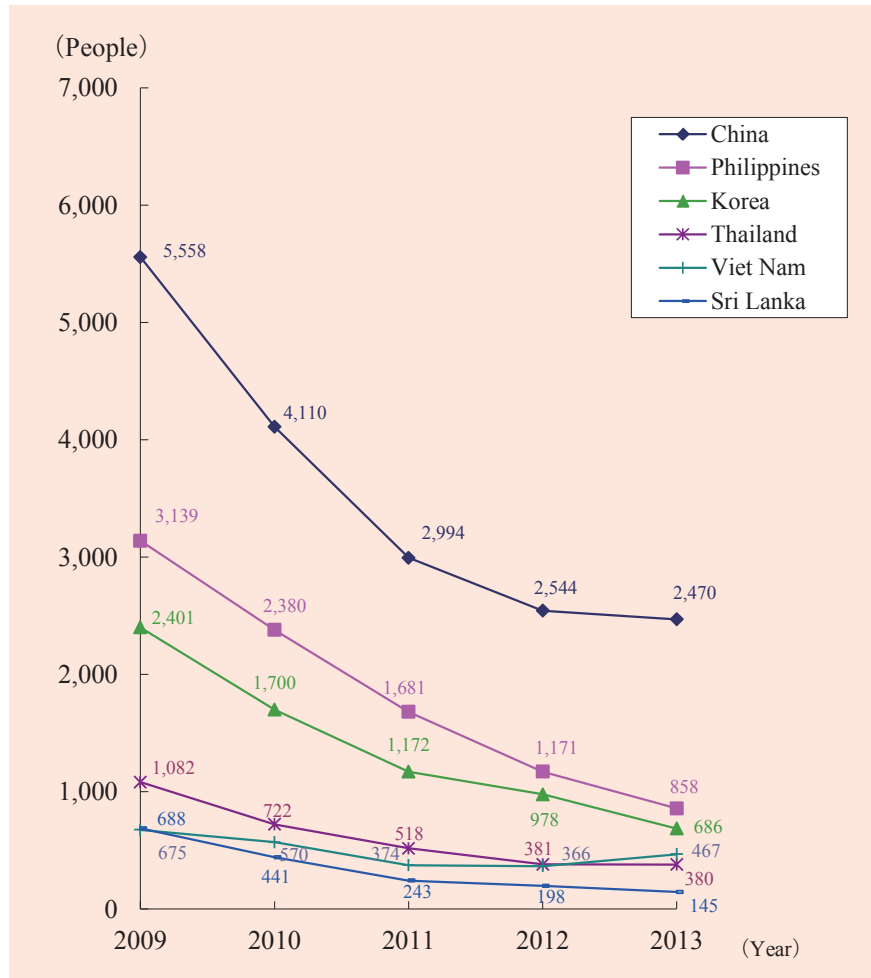
The number of written deportation orders issued in 2013 was 6,425. According to statistics by grounds for the deportation, the cases of overstaying amounted to 3,907, accounting for 60.8% of the total, while the percentage of cases of illegal entry was 15.6%, both of which showed almost the same percentage as 2012 (Table 36).

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

		(Cases)				
Grounds for Deportation	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total		18,436	13,277	9,348	7,329	6,425
Overstay		12,130	8,665	5,588	4,270	3,907
Illegal entry		4,473	2,956	2,014	1,430	1,001
Illegal landing		173	113	138	134	164
Activity other than those permitted		813	735	510	622	491
Criminal offenses		641	477	771	576	501
Others		206	331	327	297	361

According to statistics by nationality/region in 2013, the largest number of foreign nationals who were issued with written deportation orders came from China (2,470, accounting for 38.4% of the total), followed by the Philippines (858, accounting for 13.4%), and Korea (686, accounting for 10.7%) (Chart 27).

Chart 27 Changes in the number of issuances of written deportation orders by nationality/region



(3) Provisional Release

In 2013, the number of foreign nationals detained under a written detention order who were accorded provisional release was 1,510, a decline of 618 (29.0%) from 2012. The number of foreign nationals detained under a written deportation order who were accorded provisional release was 1,271, an increase of 134 (11.8%) from 2012 (Table 37).

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

		(Cases)				
Type of Order \ Year	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
By written detention order		2,265	2,095	2,131	2,128	1,510
By written deportation order		837	1,012	1,062	1,137	1,271

(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 2013 was 2,840, a decline of 2,496 (46.8%) from 2012.

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 2013 was overstaying (2,161, accounting for 76.1%), followed by illegal entry and illegal landing, jointly accounting for 9.5%. Overstaying, illegal entry and illegal landing accounted for 85.6% 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	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	4,643	6,359	6,879	5,336	2,840
Overstay	3,508	4,939	5,569	4,304	2,161
Illegal entry/Illegal landing	897	1,044	827	491	270
Criminal offenses, etc.	238	376	483	541	409

According to statistics by nationality/region in 2013, the largest number of foreign nationals who were granted special permission to stay in Japan came from China (422, accounting for 14.9%), followed by Korea (400, accounting for 14.1%) (Table 39).

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

(Cases)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	4,643	6,359	6,879	5,336	2,840
China	857	1,098	1,146	809	422
Korea	663	815	898	693	400
Others	3,123	4,446	4,835	3,834	2,018

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

⑤ Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals

The number of deported foreign nationals decreased by 669 (10.4%) from 2012 to 5,790 in 2013.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of deported foreign nationals was from China (2,284, accounting for 39.4% of the total), followed by the Philippines (796, accounting for 13.7%), R.O. Korea (665, accounting for 11.5%), Viet Nam (432, accounting for 7.5%), and Thailand (400, accounting for 6.9%) (Table 40).

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

(People)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	18,241	13,224	8,721	6,459	5,790
China	5,475	4,266	2,997	2,389	2,284
Philippines	3,194	2,439	1,552	972	796
R.O.Korea	2,423	1,715	1,171	964	665
Viet Nam	709	569	370	340	432
Thailand	1,113	726	479	317	400
Indonesia	885	502	248	164	134
Iran	231	174	140	126	105
Brazil	307	226	204	143	102
Peru	674	384	222	137	101
Sri Lanka	684	419	196	141	93
Others	2,546	1,804	1,142	766	678

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

Accordingly to statistics by means of deportation, 93.0% of foreign nationals who had been issued with deportation orders 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 329, accounting for 5.7% in 2013.

Moreover, the percentage of foreign nationals deported at their own expense dropped below 95% for the first time in ten years since 2003 (Table 41).



Deportation

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

(People)

Measure of Deportation \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	18,241	13,224	8,721	6,459	5,790
Voluntary departure	17,569	12,812	8,379	6,170	5,382
Deportation in accordance with Article 59	200	106	86	78	54
Individual deportation at the expense of the government	438	291	231	191	208
Group deportation at the expense of the government	0	0	0	0	121
Others	0	0	0	0	0
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons	34	15	25	20	25

(*1) "Group deportation at the expense of the government" refers to deportation through the use of private chartered aircraft paid for by the Japanese government.

(*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 whom deportation orders had been issued and who wished to depart Japan voluntarily at their own expense had decreased by 788 (12.8%) from 2012 to 5,382, accounting for 93.0% in 2013 (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)

Year Nationality/region	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	17,569	12,812	8,379	6,170	5,382
China	5,390	4,232	2,972	2,364	2,263
Philippines	3,096	2,368	1,494	926	680
R.O.Korea	2,402	1,704	1,158	947	652
Viet Nam	695	564	363	331	424
Thailand	1,084	717	473	312	339
Indonesia	878	496	244	164	130
Iran	177	142	123	114	101
Sri Lanka	667	404	186	135	86
Peru	617	328	198	113	71
Brazil	231	172	139	95	69
Others	2,332	1,685	1,029	669	567

(*) "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 329, accounting for 5.7% in 2013 and had increased by 138 (72.3%) from 2012.

Moreover, in 2013, in order to implement safe and secure deportations, 121 foreign nationals were deported using a private chartered plane.

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

Any carrier who operates a vessel or aircraft must promptly send deportees out of Japan at its own expense and on its own responsibility certain conditions (deportation under Article 59 of the Immigration Control Act) (*). The number of foreign nationals deported in this way in 2013 was 54, accounting for 0.9%, a decline of 24 (30.8%) from 2012 (Table 41).

(*) 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.

**Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of an immigration control officer in charge of deportation)
(Detention and Deportation Department, Yokohama District Immigration Office, Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau: Shuya Saito)**

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With the aim of having Japan become a tourism-oriented country, the Japanese government has been broadly publicizing Japan's charms in order to attract a greater number of foreign visitors to Japan, and the number of foreign nationals visiting Japan has been increasing.

On the other hand, along with this increase in the number of foreign visitors, the risk of foreign nationals, who are not welcome in Japan, attempting to enter Japan is likely to increase, and therefore, it is important for us to protect our high standard of security, which is one of the treasures of our country.

As an immigration control officer, I engage in the work of deporting those foreign nationals who are determined to be unwelcome in Japanese society and whose disposition on deportation has been finalized upon the issuance of a written deportation order.

Specifically, with regard to such foreign nationals, once the necessary requirements for their deportation have been met, we escort them to the airport, have them board a plane and confirm their departure. The necessary requirements for their deportation include a valid passport, a plane ticket (or expenses thereof) and their baggage, and in cases where they do not possess a valid passport, we sometimes go in their place to the embassy of their country of nationality and apply for the issuance of a passport.

However, not all people want to return to their home countries and some foreign nationals refuse to return. Some are worried about going back to their home countries or feel anxious about life back home following deportation, and therefore, even in situations where I have to persuade them to go back to their home country, I try to carefully listen to them and to ease their fears. Obviously we are in different positions, since the foreign national is anxious about being deported and I am an officer in charge of deportation, but when I have contact with them, I try to create a friendly atmosphere by chatting to them on occasion about other things and engaging in small talk.

As far as possible, we try to persuade the foreign nationals to comply with the deportation, but in cases where they still refuse, we escort them to the destination country of deportation and hand them directly over to the government officers of that country. In addition, we sometimes conduct group deportations of a large number of foreign nationals using a chartered flight.

Deportation is one of the final steps of the deportation procedures determined after going through a number of procedures such as an investigation into the violation and an examination of the violation, and the deportation procedures will not be complete until the deportation has been realized. Until the written deportation order has been issued, a large number of immigration control officers and immigration inspectors are involved and in some cases a number of difficulties may arise. I am committed to carrying out my work in the future without forgetting the fact that the toil of various officers is involved in the process up until the deportation.



⑥ Departure Orders

(1) Investigation into Violations

The number of foreign nationals whose cases were handed over from immigration control officers to immigration inspectors through the departure order procedures was 2,479 in 2013, accounting for 21.7% 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 (1,261, accounting for 50.9% of the total), followed by R.O. Korea (293, accounting for 11.8%), the Philippines (241, accounting for 9.7%), Thailand (135, accounting for 5.4%), and Viet Nam (120, accounting for 4.8%), and these top five countries account for 82.7% of the total (Table 43).

Table 43 Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality/region (2013)

(People)

Article Nationality/region	Total	24-(ii)-3	24-(iv)-(b)	24-(vi)	24-(vi)-2	24-(vii)
Total	2,479	3	2,426	21	0	29
China	1,261	2	1,250	5	0	4
R.O.Korea	293	0	287	1	0	5
Philippines	241	0	227	3	0	11
Thailand	135	0	133	1	0	1
Viet Nam	120	0	117	0	0	3
Indonesia	102	0	93	8	0	1
Mongolia	46	0	45	1	0	0
Sri Lanka	42	0	41	1	0	0
Peru	27	0	27	0	0	0
United States of America	26	0	24	0	0	2
Others	186	1	182	1	0	2

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

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 2,426, accounting for 97.9% of the total. This was followed by 29, accounting for 1.2% suspects violating Article 24, item (vii) of the Immigration Control Act, and 21, accounting for 0.8% 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 2013 was 2,479, accounting for 19.8% of the total number of violations received. This represented a decline of 115 (4.4%) from 2012.

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 their cases are sent 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 2,478 in 2013.

According to statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China (1,259, accounting for 50.8% of the total), followed by Korea (294, accounting for 11.9%), the Philippines (241, accounting for 9.7%), Thailand (135, accounting for 5.4%), and Viet Nam (118, accounting for 4.8%), and the top five countries accounted for 82.6% of the total (Table 44).

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

(Cases)

Nationality/region \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	9,041	5,186	4,501	2,594	2,478
China	3,200	2,220	2,252	1,252	1,259
Korea	885	728	582	348	294
Philippines	1,329	754	456	336	241
Thailand	288	229	139	109	135
Viet Nam	603	189	189	92	118
Indonesia	707	183	146	90	102
Mongolia	126	82	113	50	46
Sri Lanka	327	151	136	53	43
Peru	367	93	61	37	27
Brazil	103	48	42	22	13
Others	1,106	509	385	205	200

(*) "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 in 1981 and the Protocol in 1982 (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 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 2013, the total number of those who applied for recognition of refugee status had increased by 715 (28.1%) from 2012 to 3,260, continuing to mark a record high (Table 45).

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

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Applications	1,388	1,202	1,867	2,545	3,260

The number of nationalities/regions of applicants was 66, and the major nationalities/regions from which applicants came were, in descending order, Turkey (658 persons, accounting for 20.2%), Nepal (544 persons, accounting for 16.7%), Myanmar (380 persons, accounting for 11.7%), Sri Lanka (345 persons, accounting for 10.6%), Pakistan (241 persons, accounting for 7.4%), Bangladesh (190 persons, accounting for 5.8%), India (165 persons, accounting for 5.1%), Ghana (114 persons, accounting for 3.5%), Cameroon (99 persons, accounting for 3.0%), and Nigeria (68 persons, accounting for 2.1%).

Applicants consisted of 2,404 legal residents (73.7%) and 856 illegal foreign residents (26.3%) 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 673, accounting for 78.6% of the total.

22.1% of the total applicants, standing at 720 persons, had applied for recognition of refugee status in the past. Those persons consisted of 409 legal residents, 91.0% of whom held the status of residence of “Designated Activities” granted by reason that their applications were undergoing examination, and 311 illegal foreign residents, 88.1% 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 2013 was 2,642, an increase of 444 (20.2%) from 2012. The number of applicants who were recognized as refugees was 3, while the number of applicants who were not recognized was 2,499. The number of applicants who withdrew their applications and others was 140.

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 2013, 151 applicants were allowed to stay in Japan (Table 46).

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

(People)

Refugee Status	1978 ~ 2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Recognized as a refugee	508	30	39	21	18	6
Refugees for resettlement	11,319		27	18	0	18
Others	882	501	363	248	112	151
Total	12,709	531	429	287	130	175

- (*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 project of resettlement 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 2013, the number of those who were granted permission for provisional stay was 95, an increase of 21 (28.4%) from 2012.

The number of those who underwent an examination as to whether or not they should be granted permission for provisional stay was 736. 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): 490 persons.
- Applicants had received a deportation order in the past: 372 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 2013 was 2,408, an increase of 670 (38.6%) from 2012 (Table 47).

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

(People)											
Year		1982~2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Division											
Not recognized as a refugee		2,773	389	446	791	1,703	1,336	2,002	2,083	2,499	14,022
Filing of objection		1,862	340	362	429	1,156	859	1,719	1,738	2,408	10,873
Decisions	With reason	32	12	4	17	8	13	14	13	3	116
	Without reason	1,425	127	183	300	230	325	635	790	921	4,936
	Withdrawn	295	33	34	34	70	113	231	193	211	1,214

(*) 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, 1,135 of them were handled in 2013, an increase of 139 (14.0%) from 2012. According to statistics, 3 objections were found to be with reasonable grounds (13 in the previous year), 921 objections were found to be without any reasonable grounds (790 in the previous year), and 211 objections were withdrawn by the foreign nationals who had filed the objections (193 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 the disposition, such as denial of recognition of refugee status or revocation of recognition of refugee status.

The refugee examination counselors are persons of good character, are persons who are able to make a fair judgment regarding objections to the disposition, such as denial of recognition of refugee status, and moreover are persons with an academic background in law or international current affairs, and they are appointed by the Minister of Justice, in some cases after having been recommended by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, an NGO or some other organization.

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.

The number of times refugee examination counselors were present at an oral statement of opinions by

the petitioner, etc. and a hearing was a total of 892 times in 2013.

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 961 in 2013.

Section 4 ◆ Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

With respect to landing permission for temporary refuge, 140 applications were submitted and 17 applications were granted such permission over the past five years (from 2009 to 2013).

Article: At the front line of immigration control administration (voice of a refugee inquirer) (Investigation Department, Nagoya Regional Immigration Bureau: Yoko Tsuji)

I work as a refugee inquirer at Nagoya Regional Immigration Bureau. The number of foreign nationals filing an application for refugee recognition has been increasing year by year.

My duties primarily involve asking foreign nationals who have filed an application for refugee recognition in detail about the circumstances owing to which they claim to be a refugee. This work requires careful preparation before the interview.

First, I look through the application form and documents that were submitted, and make a note of the important parts and any queries. It is also essential to understand the situation in the country of the applicant.

During the interview, I listen carefully to the applicant's story so as not to miss anything. I listen painstakingly to the applicant and if I have a question or explain something, I clarify the issues by rephrasing what I said or recheck points so as to ensure that the interview does not proceed with either the applicant or I not understanding what is being said. In some cases the applicant talks about things which were not written down in the application form, and so it is important to respond flexibly. In addition, when recording the details of the interview, I strive to write so that the details are clear and easy for anyone to understand, and also so that an accurate determination can be made using the details as to whether the applicant is indeed a refugee.



Since becoming a refugee inquirer, I have become interested in various topics such as international affairs, history and geography. Every day I collect information with a deep interest in on what is going on in the world and why it's happening through a variety of media such as newspapers, television, the Internet and books. Even news that normally would not draw much attention and seems trivial can be related to my work.

In this modern world where we are flooded with information, the source of the information is also important, and I also need to have a discerning eye so as to be able to determine which information is credible and objective.

Refugee examination work extends over a wide range covering the situation of the individual to the situation of the country/region. As a specialist of refugee examination, I myself strive to develop and to continue to grow so as to be able to respond appropriately to the increasing number of applications.

Chapter 7. Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons and Proper Protection of Foreign 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 12 persons in 2013 (9 persons in the previous year). According to statistics by nationality/region, the Philippines had 6 victims (4 in the previous year), followed by Thailand with 6 victims (4 in the previous year).

The number of victims who had a status of residence out of the total of 12 victims was 8 persons (8 persons in the previous year) and the number of victims who were in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as illegally staying beyond the authorized period of stay was 4 persons (1 person in the previous year). In addition, all of the victims who were in violation of the Immigration Control Act were granted special permission to stay in Japan (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 10 to 20 in recent years. 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 (2013)

(People)

Breakdown Nationality/region	Recognized as a victim of trafficking in persons		Total
	Foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence	Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special Permission to Stay in Japan)	
Philippines	5	1(1)	6
Thailand	3	3(3)	6
Total	8	4(4)	12

(*) The breakdown by status of residence of foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence was “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, five persons; “Specialist in Humanities/International Services”: two persons; and “Entertainer”: one person.

In addition, the types of violation of the four foreign nationals granted special permission to stay were: “illegal entry”: one person, and “illegally overstaying” (Temporary Visitor): three persons.

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

					(People)
Year Breakdown	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	115	29	21	9	12
Foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence	68	23	6	8	8
Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special permission to stay in Japan)	47(47)	6(6)	15(15)	1(1)	4(4)

② Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons (*1)

The number of foreign nationals who were deported as perpetrators of trafficking in persons by the Immigration Bureau in 2013 was 1 person (4 persons in the previous year), and the perpetrator was of Thai nationality.

In 2012, 4 foreign nationals 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” (*2) 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.

(*1) 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) The Act was renamed “The Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” in accordance with the partially amended act enforced in January 2014. In addition, the “Basic Policy Relating to Measures for Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” was set out along with the enforced 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 2013 was 78 (Table 50, 51).

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 Number of recognized foreign domestic violence victims (2013)

(People)

Nationality/region	Division	Residence Procedures	Deportation Procedures	Consultations	Others	Total
Philippines		28	3	12	0	43
China		7	0	3	1	11
Thailand		3	0	1	0	4
Brazil		2	1	1	0	4
R.O.Korea		2	0	1	0	3
Colombia		2	0	0	0	2
Viet Nam		2	0	0	0	2
Bolivia		0	1	1	0	2
Romania		2	0	0	0	2
Russia		2	0	0	0	2
Nepal		0	0	0	1	1
Bangladesh		1	0	0	0	1
Laos		1	0	0	0	1
Total		52	5	19	2	78

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

Table51 Number of domestic violence cases recognized by regional immigration bureau (2013)

(People)

Regional immigration bureaus	Sapporo	Sendai	Tokyo	Nagoya	Osaka	Hiroshima	Takamatsu	Fukuoka	Total
Domestic violence cases	0	3	21	19	17	6	2	10	78