

◆ Part I ◆

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

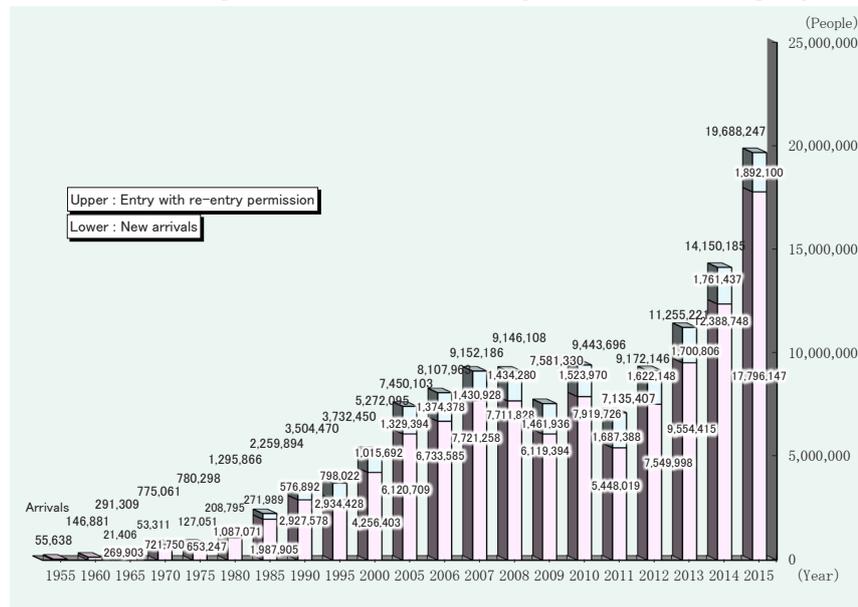
(1) Number of Foreign Nationals Entering Japan

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 2015, there was a substantial increase of 5,538,062 (39.1%) from 14,150,185 in 2014 to 19,688,247 marking a record high.

Of the 19,688,247 foreign nationals entering Japan in 2015, the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan was 17,796,147, which was an increase of 5,407,399 (43.6%) compared to 12,388,748 in 2014, while the number of foreign nationals re-entering Japan was 1,892,100, which was an increase of 130,663 (7.4%) compared to 1,761,437 in 2014.

This is thought to be due to the efforts towards the realization of Japan as a tourism-oriented country by the entire government working together with private sectors encouraging an increase in tourists, which led to an overall increase in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan (Reference 1).

Reference 1 Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan

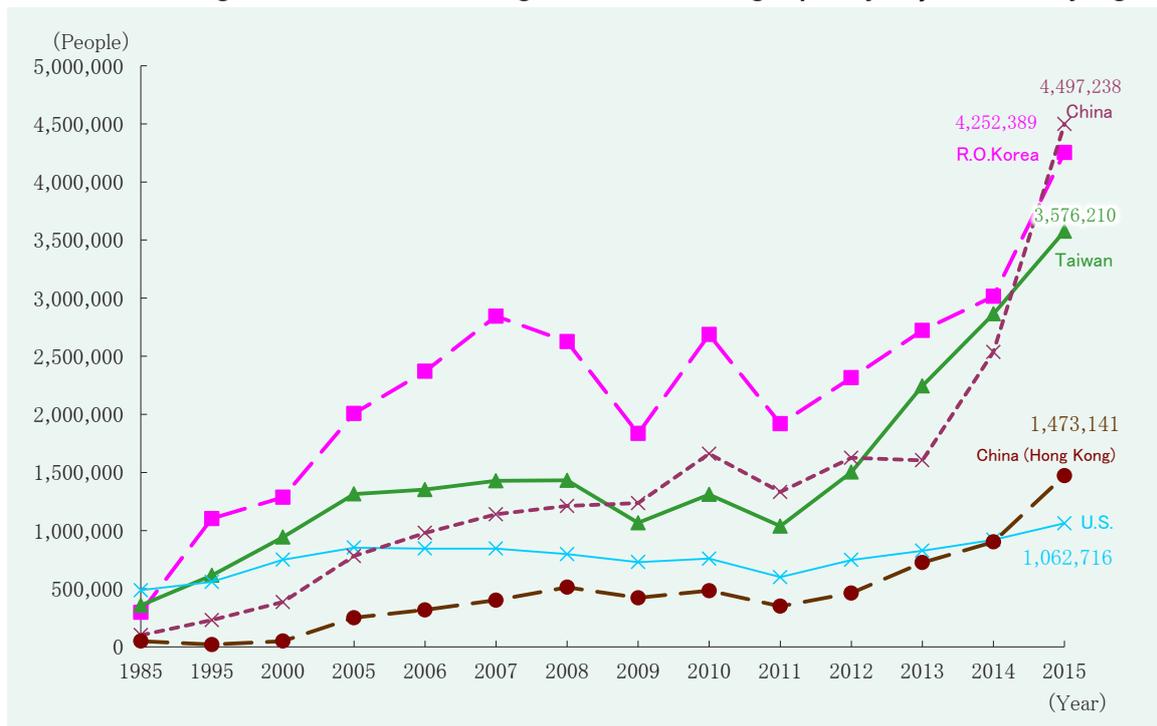


(*) There are no separate categories for arrivals for 1955 and 1960.

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

According to the statistics for the number of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2015 by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals came from China at 4,497,238, accounting for 22.8% of the total number of foreign nationals coming to Japan. China was followed by the Republic of Korea (R.O.Korea) at 4,252,389 (21.6%), Taiwan at 3,576,210 (18.2%), China (Hong Kong) at 1,473,141 (7.5%) and the U.S. at 1,062,716 (5.4%) (*). Of these numbers, Japan's four neighboring countries/regions: China, R.O.Korea, Taiwan and China (Hong Kong) accounted for more than half of the total number of foreign nationals entering Japan at 70.1%. In addition, the top five countries/regions accounted for 75.5% of the total number (Reference 2).

Reference 2 Changes in the number of foreign nationals entering Japan by major nationality/region



Regarding the top five countries/regions, a comparison of the numbers of foreign nationals entering Japan in 2014 and 2015 shows that all of the countries/regions: China at 1,960,667 (77.3%), China (Hong Kong) at 570,661 (63.2%), R.O.Korea at 1,236,277 (41.0%), Taiwan at 711,923 (24.9%), and the U.S. at 141,914 (15.4%), increased.

(*) 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 (by 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 the statistics relating to foreign residents, the category “China” in the number of alien registrations by 2011 includes Taiwan, but in the figures from 2012, “China” in the number of foreign residents (the total number of mid to long-term residents (see Data Section 1, Section 4, Subsection ①) 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.”.

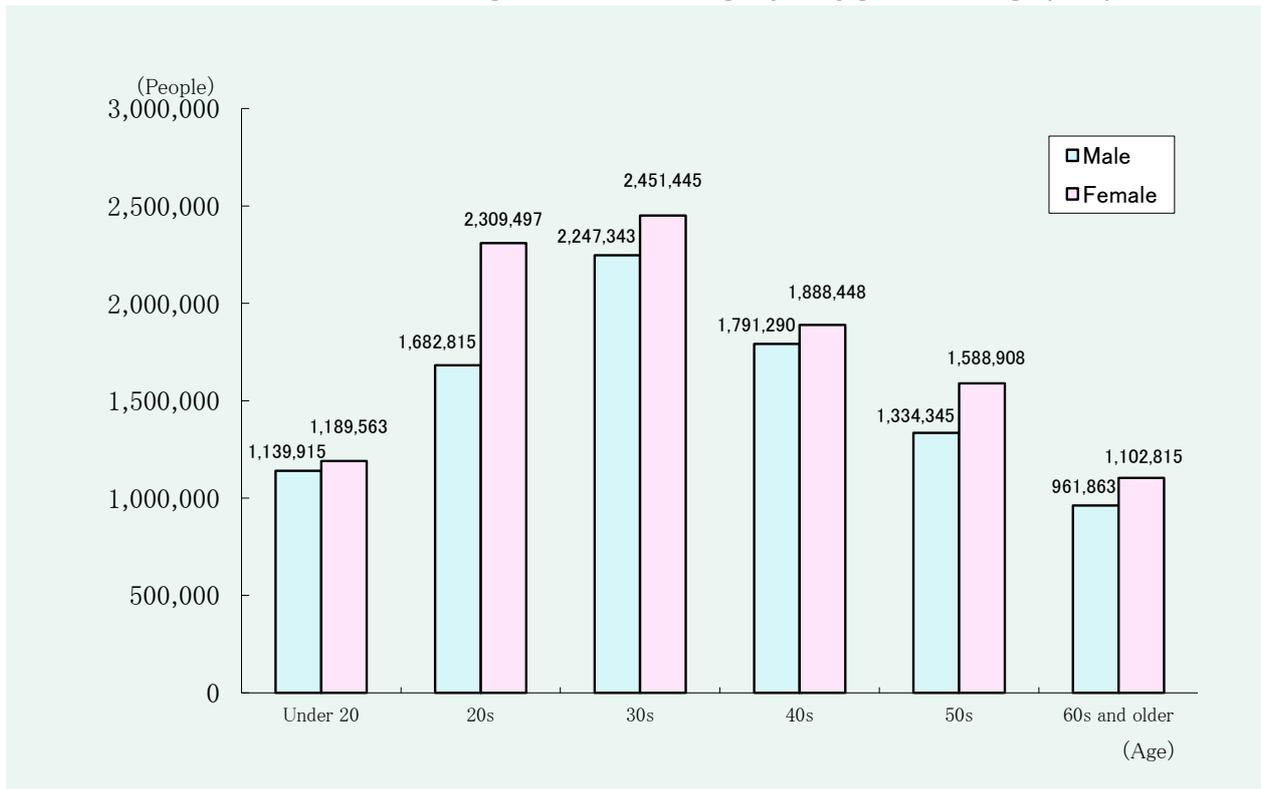
Moreover, China (others) includes persons of Chinese nationality with a certificate of identity which was issued by a government except for the government of China and China (Hong Kong) (for example, Singapore, Malaysia, etc.).

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

Looking at the number of foreign nationals entering in Japan in 2015 by gender, 9,157,571 were males and 10,530,676 were females. Males accounted for 46.5% of the total while females accounted for 53.5%, and therefore, slightly more foreign females came to Japan than males in 2015.

Next, according to the statistics by age, foreign nationals in their 30s represented the largest age group, accounting for 23.9% of the total number of foreign nationals who entered Japan. Moreover, looking at the numbers for males and females in all of the age groups, one particular characteristic is that the percentages of females were higher in all age groups (Reference 3).

Reference 3 Number of foreign nationals entering Japan by gender and age (2015)



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

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan in 2015 was 17,796,147. Looking at this Reference by purpose of entry (status of residence), the most common status of residence was “Temporary Visitor” standing at 17,404,987, which accounted for 97.8% of the total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan, followed by “Student” at 99,556, accounting for 0.6%, “Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)” at 90,307, accounting for 0.5%, and “Entertainer” at 37,155, accounting for 0.2 % (Reference 4).

Reference 4 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan by status of residence

(People)

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	5,448,019	7,549,998	9,554,415	12,388,748	17,796,147
Diplomat	9,678	10,977	10,215	9,056	9,526
Official	19,563	26,991	26,131	23,844	25,788
Professor	2,420	2,595	2,662	2,709	3,140
Artist	221	281	315	327	360
Religious Activities	737	737	1,291	923	1,030
Journalist	59	51	46	66	81
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)					11
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)					107
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)					18
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)					0
Business Manager	838	820	632	984	1,352
Legal/Accounting Services	4	4	-	3	0
Medical Services	7	9	11	27	29
Researcher	423	438	437	429	356
Instructor	2,540	2,312	2,366	2,526	3,020
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services					17,690
Engineer	4,178	5,216	5,387	7,662	
Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	4,658	4,993	5,354	6,608	
Intra-company Transferee	5,348	6,126	6,245	7,209	7,202
Entertainer	26,112	34,969	37,096	35,253	37,155
Skilled Labor	4,178	4,910	2,030	2,360	6,421
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	5,178	5,876	5,585	6,377	6,680
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	60,847	62,039	61,841	76,139	90,307
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	-	4	-	2	1
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	227	49	17	15	16
Cultural Activities	2,729	3,104	2,947	3,230	3,467
Temporary Visitor	5,180,961	7,246,072	9,247,673	12,052,223	17,404,987
Student	49,936	57,579	70,007	82,460	99,556
Trainee	16,079	17,957	16,486	16,162	15,702
Dependent	18,165	20,653	19,028	20,429	23,118
Designed Activities	12,954	12,659	10,711	10,661	14,980
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	10,766	10,855	9,244	9,114	9,591
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,392	1,877	1,870	2,039	2,007
Long-Term Resident	7,811	9,845	8,788	9,911	12,449
Temporary Refuge	10				

(*1) The statuses of residence of “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)”, “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)”, “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)” and “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)” were newly established on April 1, 2015.

(*2) “Temporary Refuge” has been included in the number of cases of special landing permission (Reference 11) from 2012 onwards.

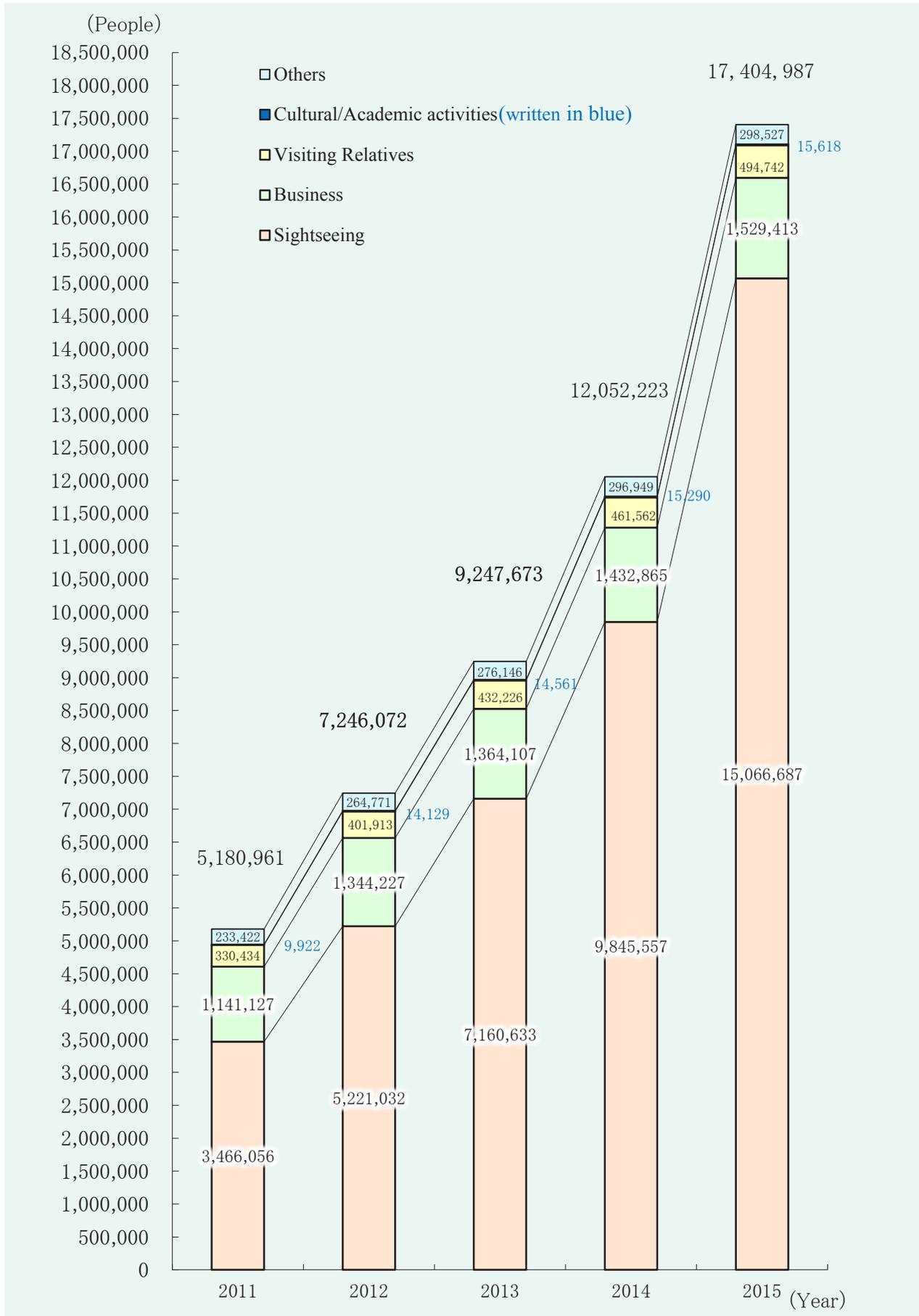
(*3) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the status of residence of “Investor/Business Manager” was changed to “Business Manager” and the statuses of residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” were combined into “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”.

A. “Temporary Visitor”

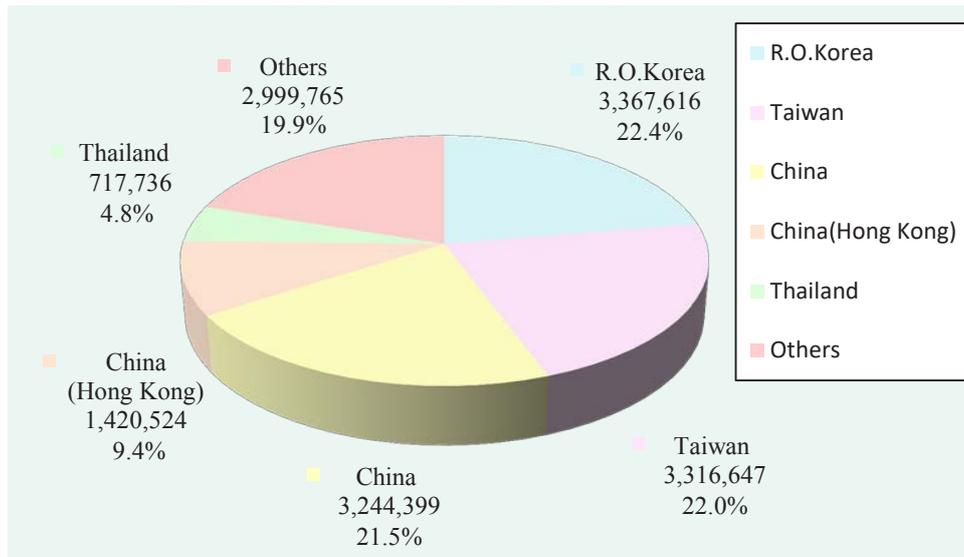
Looking more closely at the number of foreign nationals who newly entered Japan with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” in 2015, the number of foreign nationals for the purpose of sightseeing was 15,066,687, accounting for 86.6% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, which was higher in comparison to 81.7% in 2014 (Reference 5). The reason for this is seen to be that, as well as the continuing trend of a weaker yen in 2015, the measures being implemented jointly by the public and private sectors towards the realization of a tourism-oriented country, such as the measures taken for visa waiver and visa deregulation introduced vis-à-vis the ASEAN 5 countries and the increase of flight routes.

The statistics for foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region show that the largest number of foreign nationals came from R.O.Korea at 3,367,616 (22.4%), followed by Taiwan at 3,316,647 (22.0%), China at 3,244,399 (21.5%), and China (Hong Kong) at 1,420,524 (9.4%). The tourists from these top four countries/regions accounted for more than 70% of the total number (Reference 6).

Reference 5 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" by purpose of entry



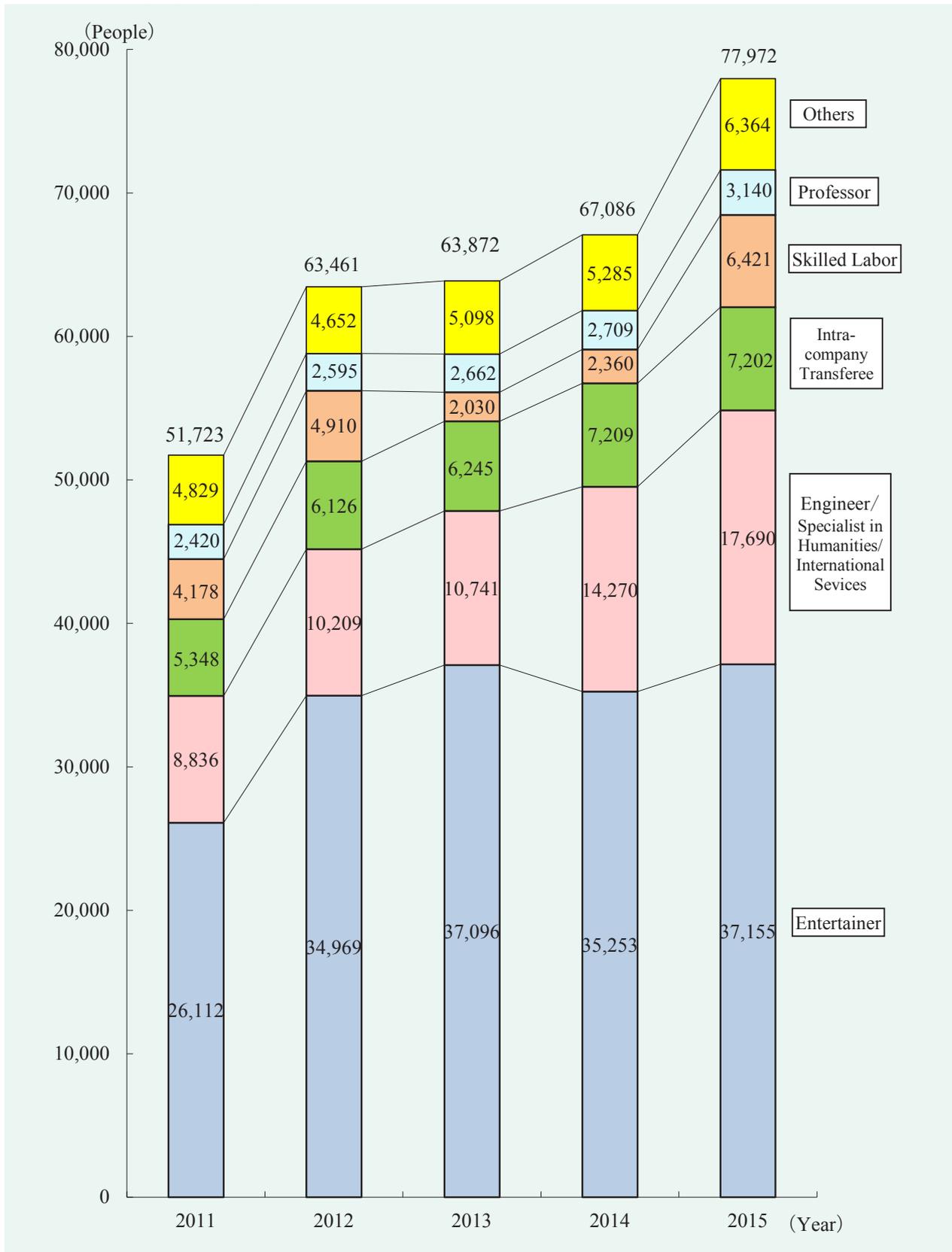
Reference 6 Number of foreign nationals newly entering for the purpose of sightseeing by nationality/region (2015)



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 statuses of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official” and “Technical Intern Training” in the Appended Tables I (1) and I (2) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred to as “Immigration Control Act”)) in 2015 was 77,972, an increase of 10,886 (16.2%) from 2014 (Reference 7).

Reference 7 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields



(*1) Excludes the statuses of residence of “Diplomat”, “Official”, and “Technical Intern Training” of the Appended Table I (1) and I (2) of the “Immigration Control Act”.

(*2) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the statuses of residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” were combined into “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”.

(*3) For the years from 2011 to 2014, the numbers for “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” are the number combining “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” respectively.

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with a status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields in Japan accounted for 0.4% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals in 2015.

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

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

The total number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with a status of residence corresponding to foreign employees working in companies/organizations in Japan was 24,892 in 2015, consisting of two types of statuses of residence: 17,690 with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, and 7,202 with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”. Foreign employees with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” had increased by 3,420 (24.0%), and those with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee” had decreased by 7 (0.1%) from 2014, respectively.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” came from China at 4,524 (25.6%), followed by Viet Nam at 2,212 (12.5%), R.O.Korea at 1,780 (10.1%), and India at 1,525 (8.6%). Those top four countries accounted for 56.8% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”.

Further, with regard to newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee”, the statistics by nationality/region show that the largest number came from China at 2,404 (33.4%), followed by the Philippines at 714 (9.9%), India at 677 (9.4%), and R.O. Korea at 536 (7.4%).

(b) “Entertainer” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 4-1)

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Entertainer” in 2015 was 37,155, an increase of 1,902 (5.4%) when compared to 2014, 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” in 2015 came from R.O.Korea at 6,251 (16.8%), followed by the U.S. at 5,791 (15.6%), the U.K. at 3,354 (9.0%), and the Philippines at 3,306 (8.9%).

(c) “Skilled Labor” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 5-1)

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 industrial fields, in 2015 was 6,421, an increase of 4,061 (272.1%) when compared to 2014.

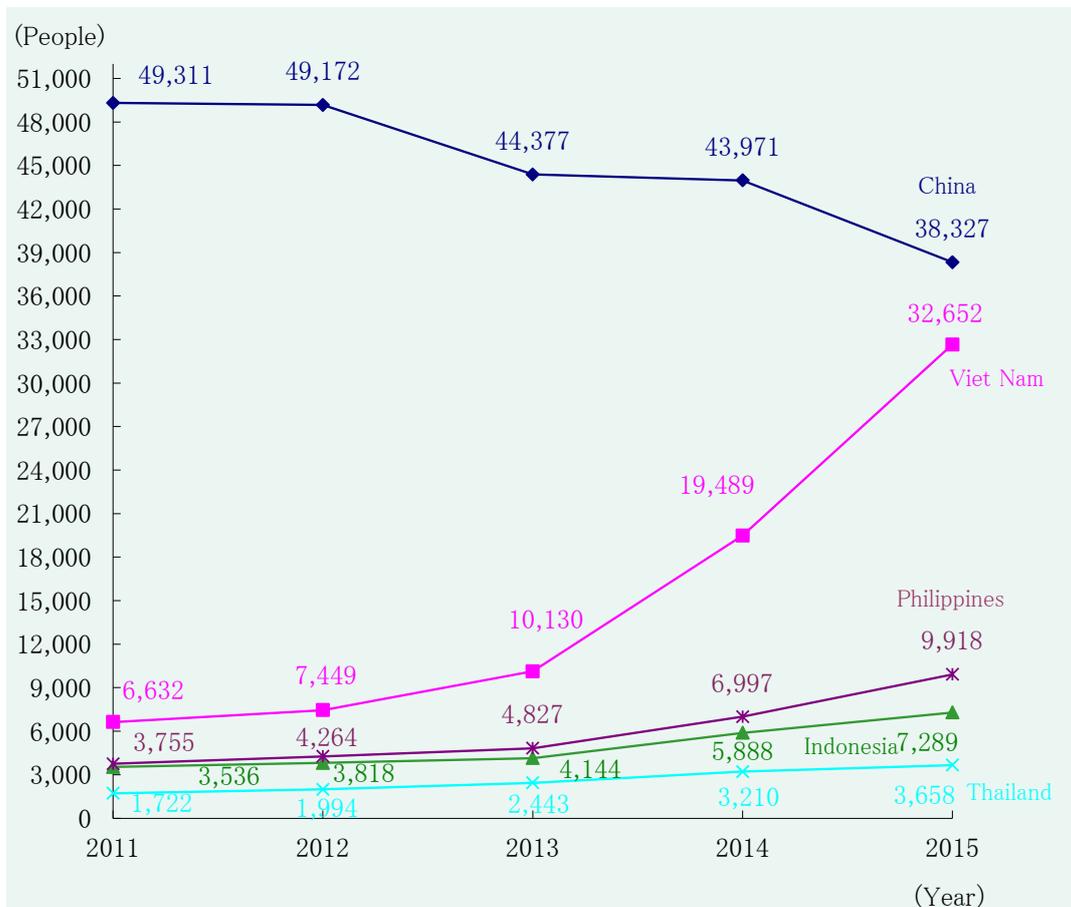
According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor” in 2015 came from Nepal at 3,065 (47.7%), followed by India at 450 (7.0%), Estonia at 399 (6.2%), and Poland at 375 (5.8%), and these top four countries accounted for 66.8% of the total number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Skilled Labor”.

C. “Technical Intern Training (i)” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 6-1)

The number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” was 96,987 in 2015, an increase of 14,471 (17.5%) from 2014.

According to the 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 38,327 (39.5%), followed by Viet Nam at 32,652 (33.7%), the Philippines at 9,918 (10.2%), and Indonesia at 7,289 (7.5%). Those from China had decreased by 5,644 (12.8%) from 2014, while those from Viet Nam, the Philippines and Indonesia had increased by 13,163 (67.5%), 2,921 (41.7%) and 1,401 (23.8%), respectively (Reference 8).

Reference 8 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” by major nationality/region



D. “Student” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 8-1)

The number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan with the status of residence of “Student” in 2015 was 99,556, an increase of 17,096 (20.7%) when compared to 2014, with students from Asia accounting for the top five countries/regions (73.3%).

According to the statistics by nationality/region, those from China accounted for 33.0% of the total, standing at 32,830, followed by Viet Nam at 23,018 (23.1%), and Nepal at 6,712 (6.7%) (Reference 9). Myanmar had increased substantially with an increase of 801 (81.4%) when compared to 2014.

Reference 9 Changes in the number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Student” by major nationality/region



E. Foreign Nationals Entering Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 12-1, 13-1)

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” may be granted (Note that the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” shall not be granted to foreign nationals at the time of entry (Article 7, paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act.)).

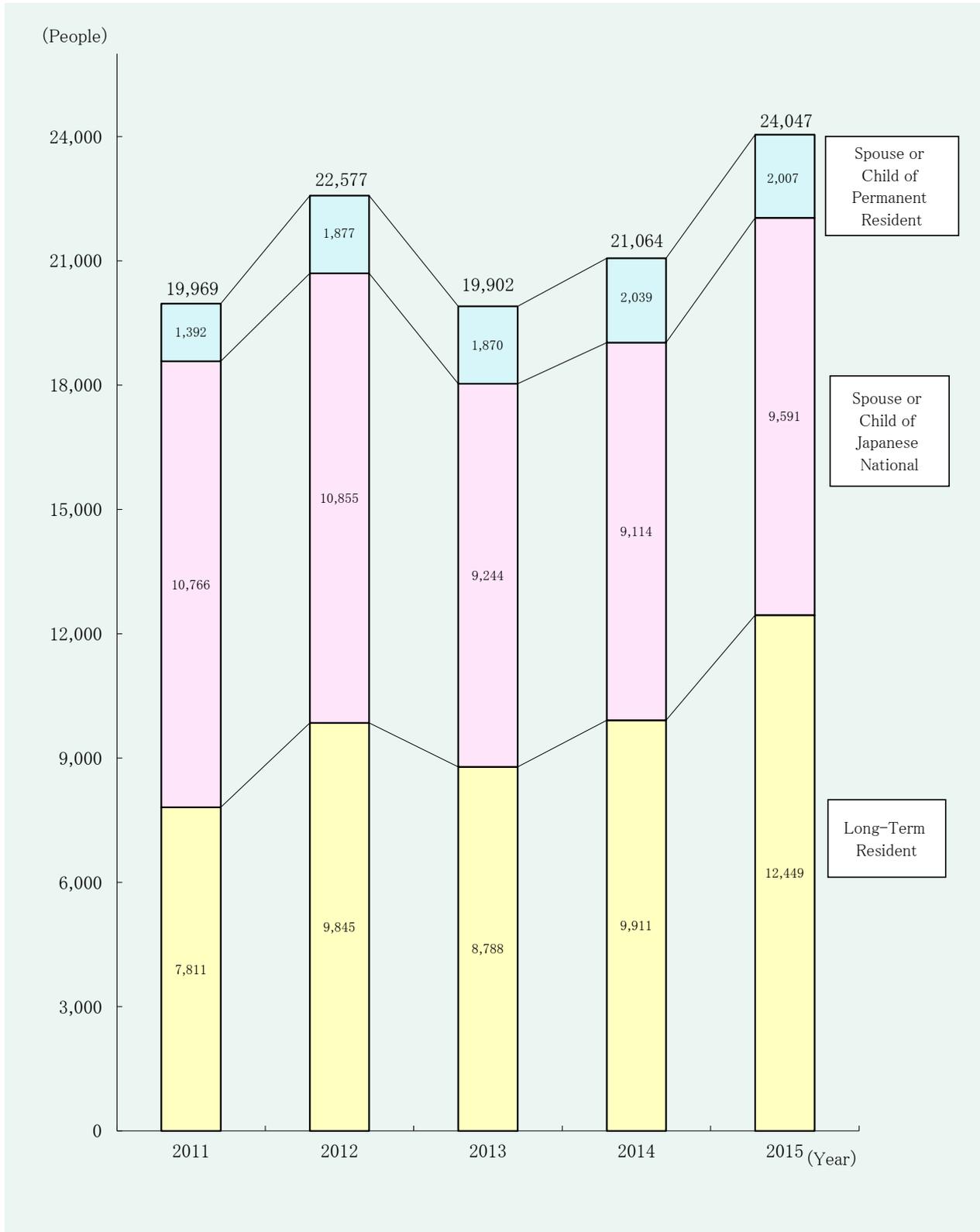
In 2015, the number of newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” stood at 9,591, and those with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” stood at 2,007, and while those with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” saw an increase of 477 (5.2%), those with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” saw a decrease of 32 (1.6%) from 2014.

The number of foreign nationals newly entering with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” in 2015 had increased by 2,538 (25.6%) to 12,449 from 2014 (Reference 10).

According to the statistics for newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” by nationality/region, the largest number came from China at 2,456 (25.6%). China was followed by the Philippines at 2,050 (21.4%) and Brazil at 1,523 (15.9%).

According to the statistics by nationality/region for newly entering foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident”, the largest number came from Brazil at 5,781 (46.4%). Brazil was followed by the Philippines at 2,812 (22.6%) and China at 2,094 (16.8%).

Reference 10 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 foreign nationals who received special landing permission in 2015 was 3,527,959, a significant increase of 1,075,840 (43.9%) from 2014.

Among those, the number of foreign nationals who received “Landing Permission for Crew Members” in 2015 was 2,434,617, and the number of foreign nationals who received “Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists” was 1,071,724, which combined accounted for 99.4% of the total number of cases of special landing permission. Moreover, the number of persons who received Permission for “Landing at a Port of Call” was 15,944, which was a substantial decrease of 241,929 (93.8%) when compared to 2014 (Reference 11).

Reference 11 Changes in the number of cases of special landing permission

Division	Year	(Cases)				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		1,915,705	2,204,644	2,165,112	2,452,119	3,527,959
Permission for Landing at a Port of Call		15,058	136,916	76,378	257,873	15,944
Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists						1,071,724
Permission for Landing in Transit		2,296	2,862	2,571	3,372	5,150
Landing Permission for Crew Members		1,897,714	2,064,409	2,085,701	2,190,439	2,434,617
Permission for Emergency Landing		351	370	318	360	434
Landing Permission Due to Distress		286	82	142	74	86
Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge		(10)	5	2	1	4

(*1) The permission of “Landing Permission for Cruise ship Tourists” was newly established on January 1, 2015.

(*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 foreign nationals who were granted “Permission for Landing at a Port of Call” in 2015 was 15,944, a substantial decrease of 241,929 (93.8%) from 2014. This decrease is likely due to the establishment of the system of landing permission for cruise ship tourists in January 2015, which means that cruise ship passengers are granted the new permission for cruise ship tourists instead (see Part II, Chapter 4, Section 1, Subsection ③).

(2) Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists

The system of “Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists” commenced operation in January 2015, and the number of foreign nationals granted “Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists” in the same year was 1,071,724.

(3) Permission for Landing in Transit

The number of foreign nationals who received “Permission for Landing in Transit” in 2015 was 5,150, an increase of 1,778 (52.7%) from 2014.

(4) Landing Permission for Crew Members

The number of foreign nationals who received “Landing Permission for Crew Members” in 2015 was

2,434,617, an increase of 244,178 (11.1%) from 2014.

(5) Permission for Emergency Landing

The number of foreign nationals who received “Permission for Emergency Landing” in 2015 was 434, an increase of 74 (20.6%) from 2014.

(6) Landing Permission Due to Distress

The number of foreign nationals who received “Landing Permission Due to Distress” in 2015 was 86, an increase of 12 (16.2%) from 2014.

(7) Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

The number of foreign nationals who received “Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge” in 2015 was 4, an increase of 3 from 2014.

③ Foreign Nationals Leaving Japan

The number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan without having acquired a re-entry permit was 17,506,732 in 2015, an increase of 5,357,842 (44.1%) from 2014.

Among them, the number of foreign nationals leaving Japan with a period of stay of within 15 days was 16,677,056, which accounted for a significant 95.3% of the total. Further, the number of foreign nationals leaving Japan with a period of stay of within 3 months was 17,340,524 which accounted for 99.1%, of the total (Reference 12).

Reference 12 Changes in the number of foreign nationals simply leaving Japan by period of stay

(People)

Period of Stay \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	5,414,994	7,403,884	9,395,836	12,148,890	17,506,732
Within 15 days	4,892,797	6,820,277	8,769,160	11,446,502	16,677,056
More than 15 days to 1 month	185,550	244,373	282,118	330,820	425,450
More than 1 month to 3 months	157,804	189,873	196,285	214,865	238,018
More than 3 months to 6 months	25,972	31,638	30,690	34,899	41,322
More than 6 months to 1 year	38,686	32,259	35,711	36,569	39,855
More than 1 year to 3 years	84,909	57,275	56,498	59,692	63,822
More than 3 years	26,308	26,879	24,374	24,476	20,183
Unknown	2,968	1,310	1,000	1,067	1,026

Section 2 ◆ Judgment for Landing

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

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 being granted landing permission by an immigration inspector) in 2015 was 8,166, an increase of 599 (7.9%) from 2014.

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 others while their real purpose of entry was illegal work or other illegal activities (not meeting the conditions provided for in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act). Such cases numbered 5,034, an increase of 452 (9.9%) from 2014, accounting for 61.6% of the total number of new cases in 2015. 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 attempting to illegally 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 2,015, an increase of 110 cases (5.8%) from 2014, accounting for 24.7% of the total number of new cases in 2015. 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 1,117, an increase of 44 (4.1%) from 2014, accounting for 13.7% of the total number of new cases in 2015. 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 (foreign nationals coming under paragraph (4) of Article 7 of the Immigration Control Act) was zero in 2015, which was the same as for 2014 (Reference 13).



Hearing for landing

Reference 13 Changes in the number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing

(Cases)

Conditions for Landing \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	10,954	8,087	6,675	7,567	8,166
Using counterfeit passports or visas (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(i))	1,526	1,583	1,466	1,905	2,015
False landing application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(ii))	8,633	5,473	4,118	4,582	5,034
Not eligible for the period of stay relating to the application (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iii))	5	2	0	7	0
Falling under the grounds for denial of landing (Not conforming to Article 7-(1)-(iv))	788	1,028	1,091	1,073	1,117
Not providing personal identification information (Not conforming to Article 7-(4))	2	1	0	0	0

With regard to results of the hearings for landing in 2015 (*), the number of cases where landing permission was granted as it was found during the hearing that the foreign national conformed to the conditions for landing was 1,627, a decline of 628 (27.8%) from 2014.

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 3,692, an increase of 962 (35.2%) from 2014. Cases in which foreign nationals filed an objection with the Minister of Justice because they were not satisfied with the findings by the special inquiry officer that they did not meet the conditions for landing numbered 2,374, an increase of 213 (9.9%) from 2014 (Reference 14).

Reference 14 Changes in the processing of the hearings for landing

Division	Year					(Cases)
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Total	10,993	8,109	6,677	7,567	8,164	
Landing permission	2,718	2,179	2,423	2,255	1,627	
Expulsion order	2,155	1,606	2,079	2,730	3,692	
Filing of objection	5,733	3,901	1,819	2,161	2,374	
Withdrawal of the landing application	209	318	286	348	391	
Others	178	105	70	73	80	

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

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

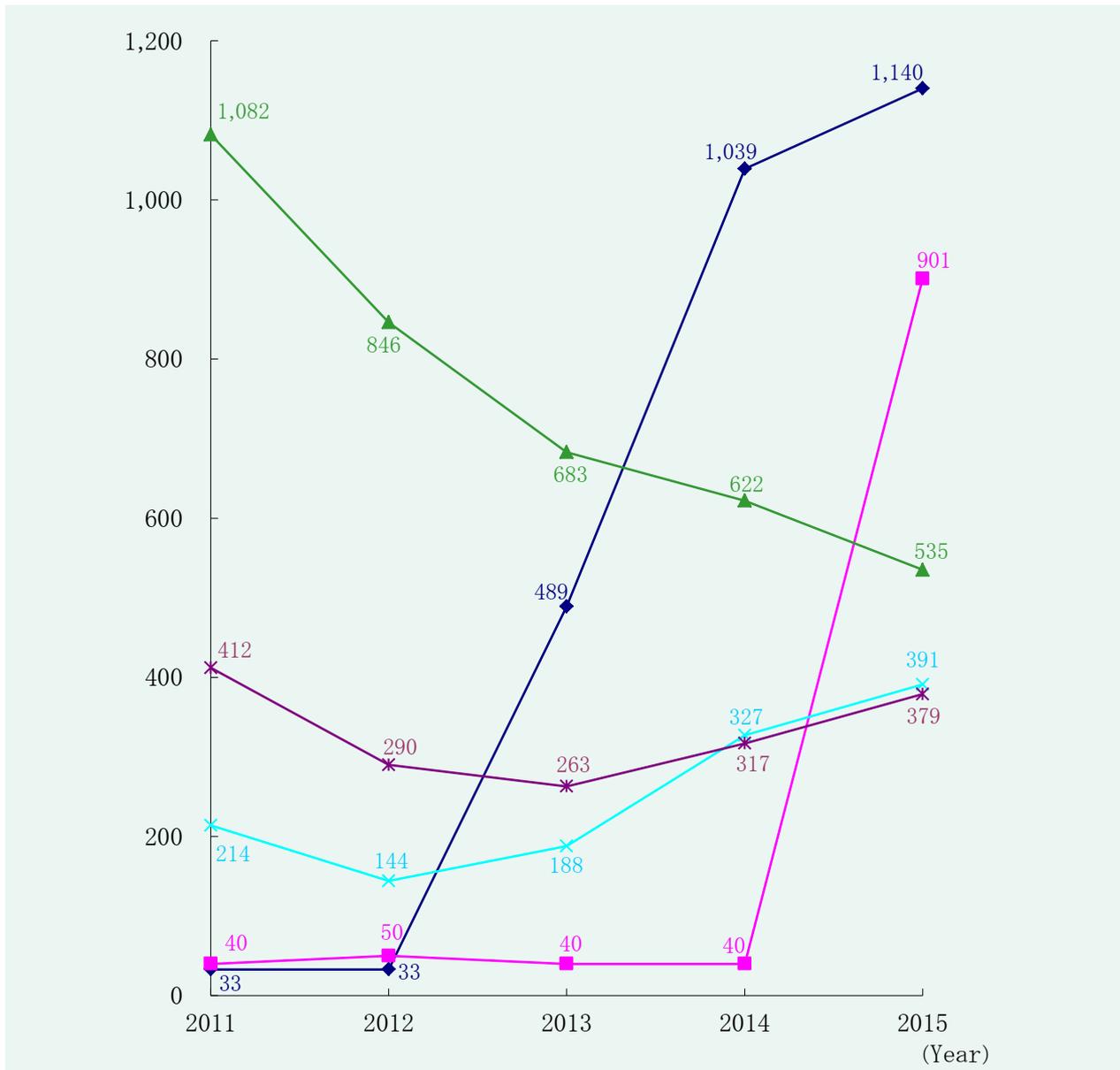
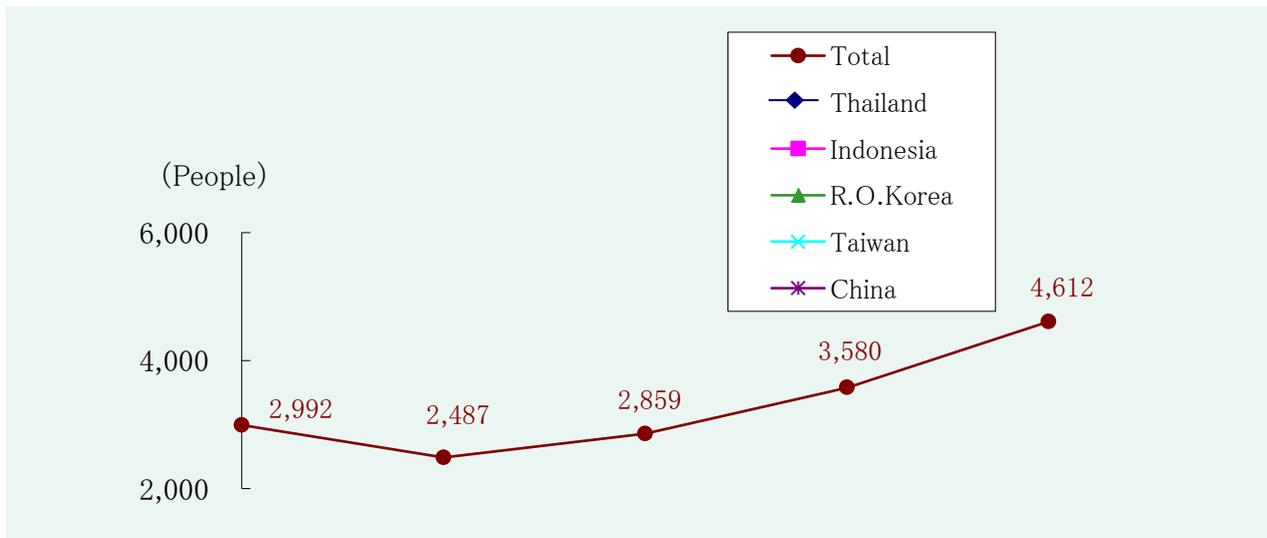
In principle, foreign nationals denied permission for landing are those who (i) are ordered to leave Japan as a result of a hearing for landing or (ii) are ordered to leave Japan as a result of filing an objection with the Minister of Justice.

The number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing in 2015 was 4,612, an increase of 1,032 (28.8%) from 2014.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals denied permission for landing came from Thailand standing at 1,140 (24.7%), followed by Indonesia at 901 (19.5%), and R.O.Korea at 535 (11.6%). These top three countries accounted for 55.9% of the total (Reference 15). Of this number, the reason why Indonesia saw a substantial increase was probably due to the impact of the visa waiver for temporary visitors staying for 15 days or less, which was a measure to deregulate visas taken on December 1, 2014.

(*) In some cases, the total number of new cases of hearings for landing by grounds for landing (Reference 13) is not the same as that of the changes in the processing of the hearings for landing (Reference 14). This is because a case may be assigned by the immigration inspector to the special inquiry officer at the end of the year, 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.

Reference 15 Changes in the number of foreign nationals who were denied landing by major nationality/region



③ Special Permission for Landing

The number of cases in which the Minister of Justice granted special permission for landing to foreign nationals in 2015 was 1,946, an increase of 200 (11.5%) from 2014 (Reference 16).

Reference 16 Changes in the number of objections filed and decisions by the Minister of Justice

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Filing of Objection (*)		5,754	3,910	1,871	2,179	2,386	
Decisions	With reason (Landing Permission)	18	22	21	22	15	
	Without reason	Order to leave Japan	303	333	340	366	348
		Special Permission for Landing	5,416	3,440	1,442	1,746	1,946
Withdrawal		8	63	50	33	59	
Outstanding		9	52	18	12	18	

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

Section 3 ◆ Pre-entry Examination

① Advance Consultation for Visa Issuance

The number of cases of advance consultation for visa issuance was 6,307 in 2015, showing an increase of 1,566 (33.0%) from 2014.

② Certificate of Eligibility

The number of cases of applications for certificates of eligibility was 384,582 in 2015, a significant increase of 94,463 (32.6%) from 2014.

The advance consultation for visa issuance and 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 (Reference 17).

Reference 17 Changes in the number of cases of pre-entry examinations

(Cases)

Division \ Year		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Advance consultation for visa issuance		4,403	4,910	4,635	4,741	6,307
Application for a certificate of eligibility		238,270	266,273	282,428	290,119	384,582

(*) Please note that the figures (number of cases) shown in "Advance consultation for issuance of a visa" in the 2011 and 2012 versions of Immigration Control Report 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 ◆ Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

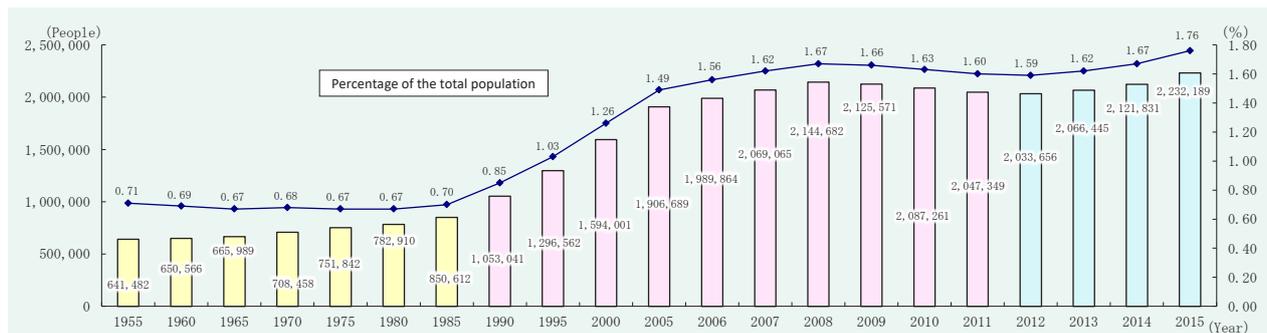
① Number of Foreign Residents in Japan

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 2015, the number of mid to long-term residents (see Data Section 1, Section 4, Subsection ①) in Japan was 1,883,563, and the number of special permanent residents was 348,626. Adding these two numbers together, the total number of foreign residents was 2,232,189, an increase of 110,358 (5.2%) compared to the end of 2014.

In addition, at the end of 2015, the percentage of foreign residents to the total population of Japan (127,110,000) was 1.76%, which was a 0.09 point higher than the 1.67% at the end of 2014 (Reference 18).

Reference 18 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, and the numbers from 2012 onwards represent the number of foreign residents adding together mid to long-term residents and special permanent residents.

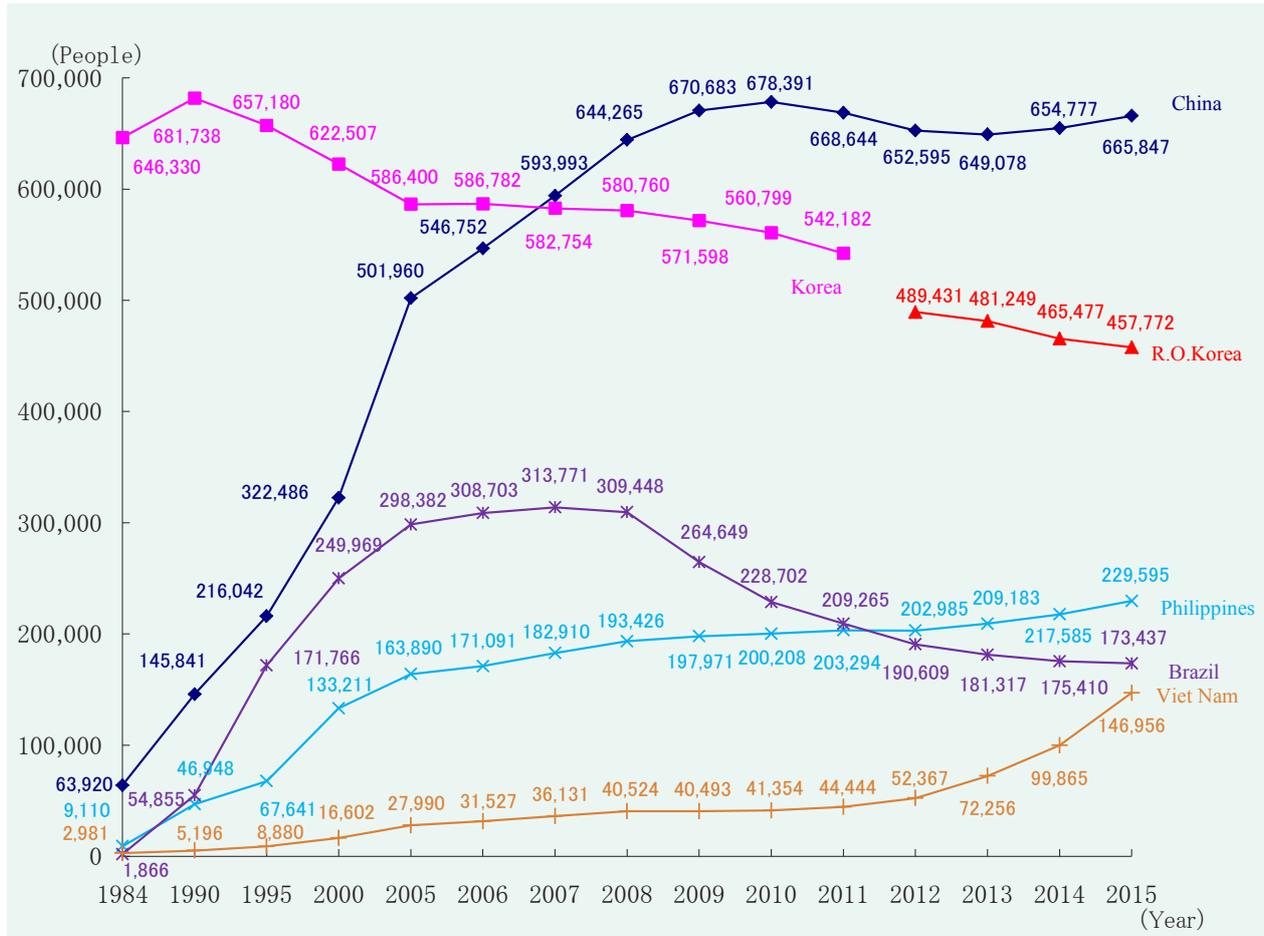
(*3) The “percentage of the total population of Japan” is calculated based on the population as of October 1 each year taken from the “Population Estimates” and the “Population Census” of the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

② Number of Foreign Residents by Nationality/Region

According to the statistics of the number of foreign residents by nationality/region at the end of 2015, China marked the largest number at 665,847, accounting for 29.8% of the total. China was followed by R.O.Korea at 457,772 (20.5%), the Philippines at 229,595 (10.3%), Brazil at 173,437 (7.8%), and Viet Nam at 146,956 (6.6%).

According to the changes in the number of foreign residents by year, the number of foreign residents from China has been on an upward trend, with an increase of 11,070 (1.7%) at the end of 2015 when compared to the end of 2014. The number of foreign residents from R.O.Korea has been declining with a decrease of 7,705 (1.7%) at the end of 2015 compared to the end of 2014. As for other countries, the number of foreign residents from the Philippines increased by 12,010 (5.5%) at the end of 2015 compared to 2014, Brazil has been decreasing since its peak at the end of 2007, a decline of 1,973 (1.1%) at the end of 2015 compared to the end of 2014, and Viet Nam has continued to increase since 2010, and had increased substantially by 47,091 (47.2%) at the end of 2015 compared to the end of 2014 (Reference 19).

Reference 19 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 with "Taiwan" listed in the "nationality/region" box.

(*3) Up until the end of 2011, R.O.Korea and *Korea* used to be calculated jointly as "Korea", but from the end of 2012, they are calculated separately as "R.O.Korea" and "*Korea*", for the purpose of the statistics.

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

(1) "Permanent Resident" and "Special Permanent Resident" (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 11)

According to the statistics for the number of foreign residents by status of residence at the end of 2015, those with the status of "Permanent Resident" (excluding special permanent residents) comprised the largest group. The number of permanent residents was 700,500, an increase of 23,481 (3.5%) from the end of 2014, accounting for 31.4% of the total (Reference 20).

Reference 20 Changes in the number of foreign residents by status

(People)

Status	Year					
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total (①)		2,047,349	2,033,656	2,066,445	2,121,831	2,232,189
Status of residence eligible for a mid to long-term resident	Professor	7,859	7,787	7,735	7,565	7,651
	Artist	461	438	432	409	433
	Religious Activities	4,106	4,051	4,570	4,528	4,397
	Journalist	227	223	219	225	231
	Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)					297
	Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)					1,144
	Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)					51
	Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)					16
	Business Manager	11,778	12,609	13,439	15,184	18,109
	Legal/Accounting Services	169	159	149	143	142
	Medical Services	322	412	534	695	1,015
	Researcher	2,103	1,970	1,910	1,841	1,644
	Instructor	10,106	10,121	10,076	10,141	10,670
	Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services					137,706
	Engineer	42,634	42,273	43,038	45,892	
	Specialist in Humanities/International Services	67,854	69,721	72,319	76,902	
	Intra-company Transferee	14,636	14,867	15,218	15,378	15,465
	Entertainer	6,265	1,646	1,662	1,967	1,869
	Skilled Labor	31,751	33,863	33,425	33,374	37,202
	Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	3,991	4,121	3,683	4,371	4,815
	Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	57,187	59,160	57,997	73,145	87,070
	Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	2,726	2,869	2,788	2,553	2,684
	Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	78,090	85,327	90,738	87,557	98,086
	Cultural Activities	2,209	2,320	2,379	2,614	2,582
	Student	188,605	180,919	193,073	214,525	246,679
	Trainee	3,388	1,804	1,501	1,427	1,521
	Dependent	119,359	120,693	122,155	125,992	133,589
	Designated Activities	22,751	20,159	22,673	28,001	37,175
	Permanent Resident	598,440	624,501	655,315	677,019	700,500
	Spouse or Child of Japanese National	181,617	162,332	151,156	145,312	140,349
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	21,647	22,946	24,649	27,066	28,939	
Long-Term Resident	177,983	165,001	160,391	159,596	161,532	
Special Permanent Resident	389,085	381,364	373,221	358,409	348,626	
Status of residence not eligible for a mid to long-term resident (②)						
Temporary Visitor					23,978	
Without Acquiring Status of Residence					3,506	
Temporary Refuge					29	
Others					3,646	
The number of registered foreign nationals (① + ②)					2,078,508	

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

(*2) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the status of residence of "Investor/Business Manager" was changed to "Business Manager" and the statuses of residence of "Engineer" and "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" were combined into "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services".

Looking at changes in the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” between the end of 2011 and the end of 2015, there has been a steady increase, and the number had increased by 102,060 (17.1%) at the end of 2015 from 598,440 at the end of 2011.

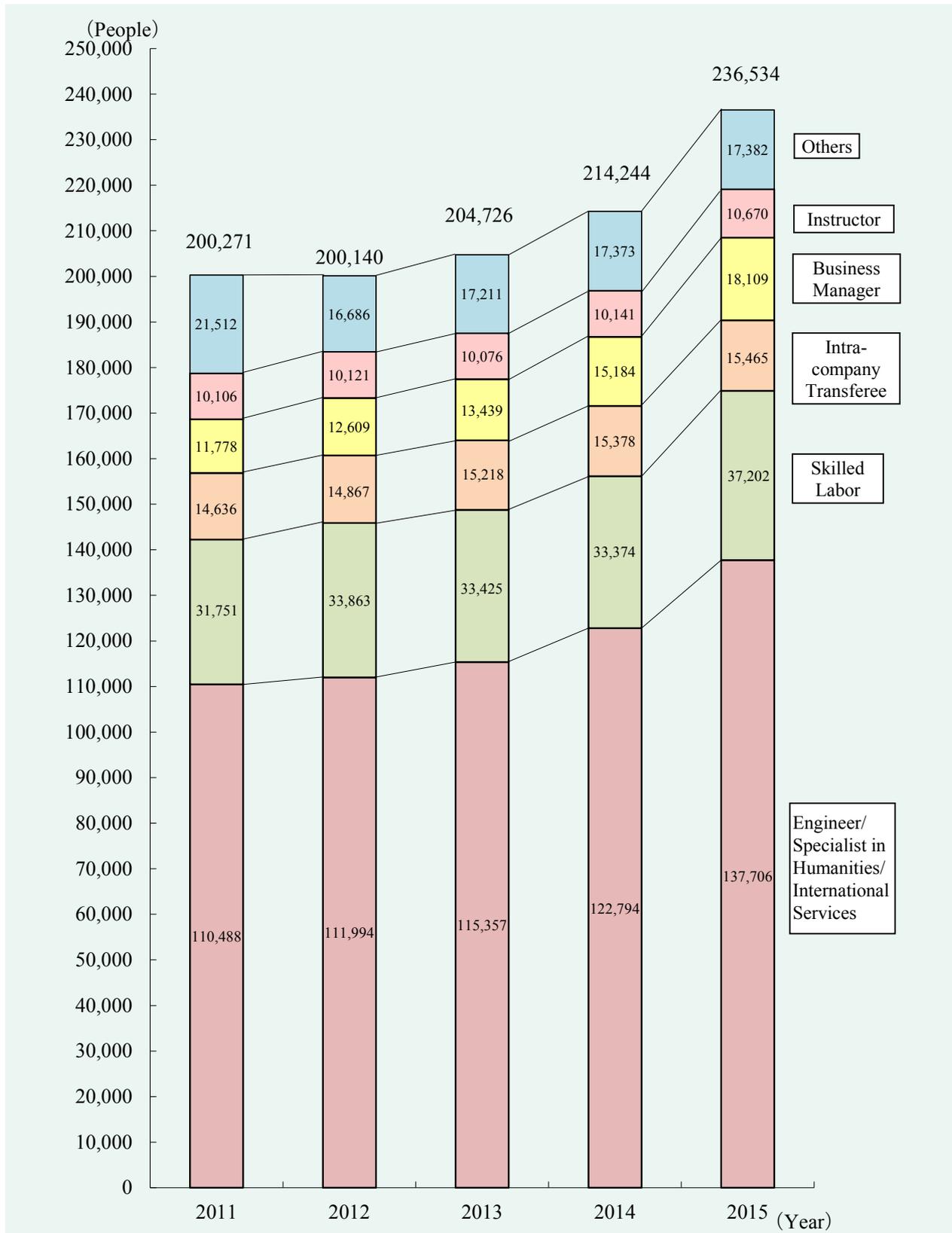
According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” came from China totaling 225,605 at the end of 2015, followed by the Philippines, Brazil, R.O.Korea, and Peru.

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% for two decades just after World War II. 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 4, Statistics (1) 1-2 through 5-2)

At the end of 2015, 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 236,534 accounting for 10.6% of the total, an increase of 22,290 (10.4%) compared to the end of 2014, and an upward trend has been continuing since 2013 (Reference 21).

Reference 21 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents by status of residence for employment in professional or technical fields



(*1) The numbers in 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 the Appended Tables I (1) and I (2) of Immigration Control Act.

(*3) In accordance with the amendment Act, from April 1, 2015, the status of residence of "Investor/Business Manager" was changed to "Business Manager" and the statuses of residence of "Engineer" and "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" were combined into "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services".

(*4) For the years from 2011 to 2014, the numbers for "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" are the number combining "Engineer" and "Specialist in Humanities/International Services" respectively.

At the end of 2015, 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 companies/organizations was 137,706 for “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and 15,465 for “Intra-company Transferee”, and when compared to the end of 2014, the respective numbers have been increasing: 14,912 (12.1%) and 87 (0.6%).

At the end of 2015, the percentages of mid to long-term residents with the statuses of residence of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” and “Intra-company Transferee” to the total number of mid to long-term residents with a status of residence for the purpose of employment in professional or technical fields were 58.2%, and 6.5%, respectively.

(3) “Technical Intern Training” (*) (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 6-2, 7)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (i)” at the end of 2015 was 91,885, an increase of 14,369 (18.5%) when compared to the end of 2014. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 35,490, accounting for 38.6% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam at 32,399 (35.3%), the Philippines at 9,375 (10.2%), and Indonesia at 6,994 (7.6%).

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training (ii)” at the end of 2015 was 100,770, an increase of 10,660 (11.8%) when compared to the end of 2014. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from China was 53,596 accounting for 53.2% of the total. China was followed by Viet Nam at 25,182 (25.0%), the Philippines at 8,365 (8.3%), and Indonesia at 8,313 (8.2%).

(4) “Student” (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 8-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Student” at the end of 2015 was 246,679, an increase of 32,154 (15.0%) when compared to the end of 2014, which was 11.1% of the total number of foreign residents. According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number from China was 108,331 accounting for 43.9% of the total, followed by Viet Nam at 49,809 (20.2%).

(5) Foreign Nationals Residing in Japan with a Status of Residence for Resident Activities Based on Personal Status or Position (Data Section 4, Statistics (1) 12-2, 13-2)

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at the end of 2015 was 140,349, accounting for 6.3% of the total number of foreign residents. Looking at the trend from the end of 2011 to the end of 2015, the number has been declining, and the number at the end of 2015 had decreased by 4,963 (3.4%) when compared to the end of 2014.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign residents with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” came from China at 34,010 accounting for 24.2% of the total, followed by the Philippines at 27,701 (19.7%), and Brazil at 14,995 (10.7%). A declining trend has been seen every year with these three countries from the end of 2011 to the end of 2015.

(*) “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)”.

The number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of “Long-Term Resident” at the end of 2015 was 161,532, accounting for 7.2% of the total number of foreign residents, and although there was a declining trend from the end of 2011 to the end of 2014, the end of 2015 saw an increase of 1,936 (1.2%) when compared to the end of 2014.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the number of those from the Philippines accounted for 45,680 (28.3%), followed by Brazil at 44,827 (27.8%), and China at 26,626 (16.5%).

Section 2 ◆ Examination of Statuses of Residence

The total number of applications related to residence examinations was 954,004 in 2015, an increase of 86,244 (9.9%) when compared to 2014 (Reference 22).

Reference 22 Changes in the number of permission examined in status of residence examinations

(Cases)

Division	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		1,358,896	999,184	834,024	867,760	954,004
Permission for change of status of residence		132,834	124,192	135,289	142,700	159,235
Permission for extension of period of stay		377,645	407,570	426,016	443,703	487,440
Permission for permanent residence		41,327	42,029	45,066	35,697	39,820
Permission for special permanent residence		102	147	113	103	98
Permission for acquisition of status of residence		6,528	8,235	8,724	9,866	9,862
Re-entry permission		664,010	270,091	54,182	48,225	37,835
Permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted		136,450	146,920	164,634	187,466	219,714

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

(*2) “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.

(*3) “Permission for acquisition of status of residence” includes the permission for permanent residence provided for in Article 22-2 of the Immigration Control Act.



Residence examination counter

① Permission for Change in the Status of Residence

In 2015, the number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for a change in the status of residence was 159,235, an increase of 16,535 (11.6%) when compared to 2014.

(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”. Not a few 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 to a status of residence for the purpose of employment was 15,657 in 2015, an increase of 2,699 (20.8%) when compared to 2014.

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 2015.

According to the statistics by status of residence, foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” made up the largest number, totaling 13,791 (88.1%), and when this number is compared to the combined numbers for “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” in 2014, there has been an increase of 2,285 (19.9%) (Reference 23) (*).

Reference 23 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)

Status of Residence	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	8,586	10,969	11,647	12,958	15,657
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services					13,791
Specialist in Humanities/International Services	6,006	7,565	7,962	8,758	
Engineer	1,670	2,227	2,428	2,748	
Professor	419	588	634	704	684
Business Manager	291	356	321	383	682
Researcher	78	119	107	124	102
Medical Services	34	29	90	114	234
Instructor	46	41	51	59	73
Religious Activities	12	9	16	8	20
Artist	5	3	4	6	18
Skilled Labor	11	4	4	5	7
Official	10	10	1	5	3
Others	4	18	29	44	43

(*) In accordance with an amendment of the Act, the statuses of residence of “Engineer” and “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” were revised and combined into “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” on April 1, 2015.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals who obtained permission to change their status to that of “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” was from China at 9,847, accounting for 62.9%, followed by R.O.Korea at 1,288(8.2%) and Viet Nam at 1,153 (7.4%) (Reference 24).

Reference 24 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	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	8,586	10,969	11,647	12,958	15,657
China	5,344	7,032	7,637	8,347	9,847
R.O.Korea	1,209	1,417	1,227	1,234	1,288
Viet Nam	242	302	424	611	1,153
Taiwan	302	352	360	514	649
Nepal	149	224	293	278	503
Thailand	109	170	167	171	200
United States of America	107	130	131	164	147
Malaysia	71	116	124	161	176
Myanmar	89	106	122	129	160
Indonesia	84	107	111	124	147
Others	880	1,013	1,051	1,225	1,387

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

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

The technical intern training system was 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, current technical intern training system has 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)”.

The skills in the “Technical Intern Training (ii)” are ones that are publicly evaluated in Japan and also meet demand in the countries sending the trainees. As of April 1, 2016, there are 74 types of work in total comprising 54 types, including formwork and machining, which are publicly evaluated based on Basic Grade 1 and Basic Grade 2 of the National Trade Skills Test, and 20 types, including welding and operation of spinning machines, which are publicly evaluated, although not by national examinations, but according to a system certified by the Human Resources Development Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

The number of foreign trainees who were permitted to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” in 2015 had increased by 12,273 (24.8%) from 2014 to 61,809. In total, more than 680,000 foreign trainees have gone on to this training as of the end of 2015 since the system of technical intern training was first established in 1993.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of trainees who obtained permission to change their status of residence to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” in 2015 came from China at 31,055 (50.2%), followed by Viet Nam at 16,968 (27.5%), the Philippines at 5,216 (8.4%),

Indonesia at 4,997 (8.1%), and Thailand at 1,741 (2.8%). The largest number of trainees by occupation was trainees in the area of women/children's apparel production, followed by crop farming, and welding (References 25, 26).

Reference 25 Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	45,013	48,752	48,792	49,536	61,809
China	35,209	36,448	35,463	31,822	31,055
Viet Nam	3,658	5,520	5,861	8,664	16,968
Philippines	2,464	2,550	2,937	3,380	5,216
Indonesia	2,496	2,689	2,979	3,440	4,997
Thailand	794	913	925	1,411	1,741
Others	392	632	627	819	1,832

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

Reference 26 Changes in the number of trainees who changed to “Technical Intern Training (ii)” by occupation

(People)

Occupation \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	45,013	48,752	48,792	49,536	61,809
Women/Children's apparel production	7,840	8,095	8,141	7,349	7,292
Crop farming	4,043	4,998	5,510	5,537	6,325
Welding	3,568	4,053	3,824	3,951	6,224
Plastic molding	3,661	3,255	3,135	3,330	4,073
Machining	2,136	2,526	2,245	2,310	2,929
Unheated fishery processing products manufacturing	2,253	2,271	2,540	2,406	2,792
Metal press work	1,719	1,928	1,759	1,685	2,140
Heated fishery processing products manufacturing	1,553	1,650	1,840	1,862	2,122
Steeplejack	614	866	994	1,274	2,073
Electronics assembly	2,272	2,310	1,884	1,294	2,056
Painting	1,320	1,379	1,297	1,357	1,808
Steel reinforcement construction	470	812	856	1,128	1,640
Livestock agriculture	979	1,143	1,231	1,268	1,460
Mold construction	392	532	739	886	1,451
Poultry processing	575	680	786	720	1,038
Others	11,618	12,254	12,011	13,179	16,386

② Permission for Extension of the Period of Stay

The number of foreign nationals who obtained permission for extension of their period of stay in 2015 was 487,440, an increase of 43,737 (9.9%) from 2014.

③ Permission for Permanent Residence

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for permanent residence in 2015 was 39,726. This number has been fluctuating after reaching a record high of 60,509 in 2007, with an increase of 4,029 (11.3%) in 2015 when compared to 2014 (Reference 27).

Reference 27 Changes in the number of cases of permission for permanent residence by nationality/region
(Cases)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	41,327	42,029	45,066	35,697	39,726
China	16,436	17,471	19,799	15,670	16,635
Philippines	7,210	7,373	6,385	4,769	5,455
Brazil	5,172	4,867	4,572	4,030	4,822
Korea	3,221	2,902	3,378	2,697	
R.O.Korea					2,978
Peru	1,335	1,116	1,158	779	972
Others	7,953	8,300	9,774	7,752	8,864

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

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

(*3) From 2015, "R.O.Korea" and "Korea" are calculated separately.

④ Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for acquisition of a status of residence in 2015 was 9,862, a decline of 4 when compared to 2014.

⑤ Re-entry Permission

The number of foreign nationals who were granted re-entry permission in 2015 was 37,835, marking a decrease of 10,390 (21.5%) when compared to 2014.

The number of foreign nationals who were granted re-entry permission has been declining since reaching a peak in 2011, but this decline 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 having obtained special re-entry permission in 2015, was 1,832,258 accounting for 93.2% of the total number of 1,966,888 foreign nationals who departed from Japan through re-entry permission.

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 2015 was 219,714, an increase of 32,248 (17.2%) from 2014.

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

① Residence Cards

The number of residence cards issued in 2015 was 1,111,708. According to the statistics by category, the number of residence cards issued at the time of granting landing/status of residence related permission was 955,791 accounting for 86.0% of the total number, followed by applications to switch over to the residence card at 85,114 (7.7%), applications for reissuance at 35,328 (3.2%), and extension of the period of validity at 30,561 (2.7%).

By category of regional immigration bureaus, the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau issued 636,553 residence cards, accounting for 57.3% of the total, followed by Nagoya at 188,478 (17.0%), Osaka at 147,073 (13.2%), and Fukuoka at 59,261 (5.3%) (Reference 28).

Reference 28 Number of issuance of residence cards (2015)

(Cases)

Regional Immigration Bureaus	Total	Landing/residency status of residence related permission	Notification of change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence	Extension of the period of validity	Application for reissuance	Application to switch over to the residence card	Application for new issuance
Total	1,111,708	955,791	4,520	30,561	35,328	85,114	394
Sapporo	12,404	10,852	14	165	249	1,124	-
Sendai	18,079	14,704	120	242	478	2,515	20
Tokyo	636,553	554,576	2,379	14,795	21,109	43,374	320
Nagoya	188,478	157,531	1,256	3,786	5,764	20,129	12
Osaka	147,073	122,699	360	9,247	4,665	10,084	18
Hiroshima	36,019	31,602	202	406	885	2,912	12
Takamatsu	13,841	12,259	53	186	289	1,051	3
Fukuoka	59,261	51,568	136	1,734	1,889	3,925	9

② Special Permanent Resident Certificates

The number of special permanent resident certificates issued in 2015 was 98,493. 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 49,526 accounting for 50.3% of the total, followed by extension of the period of validity at 42,157 (42.8%), applications for reissuance at 4,570 (4.6%), and notification of a change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence at 1,191 (1.2%) (Reference 29).

Reference 29 Number of issuance of special permanent resident certificates (2015)

(Cases)

Permission for special permanent residence (Article 4)	Permission for special permanent residence (Article 5)	Notification of a change in the registered matters aside from the place of residence	Extension of the period of validity	Application for reissuance	Application to switch over to the special permanent resident certificate	Application for new issuance	Application for issuance in advance	Total
818	98	1,191	42,157	4,570	49,526	123	10	98,493

Chapter 3. Implementation of the Technical Intern Training System

Section 1 ◆ Outline of the System

The aim of the technical intern and training system is to transfer technology, skills and knowledge generated in Japan to developing countries and regions, and to contribute to the “development of human resources” who will take the lead in those countries and regions. However, recently, an increasing number of organizations accepting trainees and interns have misunderstood the objective of the system, 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 these situations, the current system of technical intern training 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 current system requires supervising organizations to hold 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 implementing organizations at least once a month to check on the state of the technical intern training 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 to Provide for Criteria Pursuant to Article 7, paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred to as “Ordinance on Criteria”) etc. 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: (i) clarification of the start of the period during which technical intern trainees may not be newly accepted as a measure against those implementing organizations, which have committed misconduct obstructing the appropriate implementation of technical intern training, (ii) prohibition of acceptance in cases where the supervising organization etc. has been involved in a false application in the past five years, and (iii) the requirement that if an implementing organization 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” was 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

The Immigration Bureau has the authority to send a notice of “misconduct” to any organization which has acted inappropriately in relation to the training and technical intern training system, and to suspend such organization from accepting trainees and technical interns for one, three or five years depending on the type of misconduct as stipulated in the provisions of an ordinance of the Ministry of Justice. The number of organizations to which the Ministry of Justice sent notices that they were found to have engaged in “misconduct” during 2015 was 273.

According to the statistics by the type of acceptance arrangement, 3 organizations (1.1%) which had accepted trainees under the company-arranged scheme, and 270 organizations (98.9%) which had accepted trainees under the association-supervised scheme were notified of findings of misconduct, and taking a look by type of accepting organization under association-supervised scheme, there were 32 supervising organizations (11.9%) and 238 technical intern training implementing organizations (88.1%) (Reference 30).

Reference 30 Changes in the number of organizations subject to a finding of misconduct by type of accepting arrangement

Type of Accepting Arrangement		Year				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Company-arranged scheme		2	0	0	0	3
Association-supervised scheme	Supervising organization (Primary accepting organization)	14	9	20	23	32
	Implementing organization (Secondary accepting organization)	168	188	210	218	238
Total		184	197	230	241	273

The types of misconduct fell under “nonpayment of wages”, “using or providing forged or altered documents, etc.”, and “discrepancies with the Technical Intern Training Plan”, and these three types accounted for 64.6% of the total (Reference 31).

Reference 31 Number of cases of misconduct by category (2015)

(Cases)

Category	Company-arranged scheme (3 Organizations)	Association-supervised scheme		Total (273 Organizations)
		Supervising organization (32 Organizations)	Implementing organization (238 Organizations)	
Violence/threats/confinement	0	0	2	2
Confiscation of passport/residence card	0	3	6	9
Nonpayment	2	6	130	138
Human rights infringement	0	2	7	9
Document forgery/preparation and use of fraudulent documents	0	26	36	62
Confiscation of deposit	0	2	2	4
Engaging in work activities during course study period	0	1	7	8
Dual contract	0	0	1	1
Discrepancy compared with Technical Intern Training Plan	0	6	33	39
Name lending	0	1	32	33
Implementing organization's failure to report misconduct/failure to report the impossibility of continuing the program	0		0	0
Supervising organization's failure to report misconduct, etc./failure to conduct audit or to establish a consultation system		5		5
Frequency of trainees going missing	0	0	0	0
Employment of illegal foreign workers	1	0	23	24
Violation of labor-related laws and regulations	1	1	33	35
Arrangement with profit purpose	0	0	0	0
Repeated misconduct	0	0	1	1
Failure to submit a daily report	0	0	0	0
Failure to submit a report regarding leaving trainees	0	0	0	0
Work outside of the trainees' prescribed work hours	0	0	0	0
Total	4	53	313	370

(*) 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.

With respect to the training and technical intern training, as described above, there are still a considerable number of organizations committing inappropriate conduct even after the introduction of the current system. Therefore, the Immigration Bureau 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.

The number of technical intern trainees who have absconded from the program has been increasing year by year, and while this number was 1,534 in 2011, this number surged in 2015 to 5,803. Past extensive research on the reasons for absconding has shown that most of the trainees lacked motivation for the technical intern training and absconded in search of higher wages, and therefore stricter examinations are being conducted with regard to applications pertaining to the acceptance of technical intern trainees submitted by sending organizations or supervising organizations, which have seen a large number of trainees abscond from the program (Reference 32).

Reference 32 Changes in the number of technical intern trainees absconding by nationality/region

(Cases)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	1,534	2,005	3,566	4,847	5,803
China	909	1,177	2,313	3,065	3,116
Viet Nam	338	496	828	1,022	1,705
Myanmar		7	7	107	336
Indonesia	107	124	114	276	252
Nepal	9	25	84	149	102
Others	171	176	220	228	292

(*1) The indication of China in the table does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (others).

(*2) The statistics of "Myanmar" commenced from 2012. The number in 2011 are included in "Others".

(*3) The numbers in 2011 are the total number of "Technical Intern Training" and "Designated Activities (Technical Intern Training)".

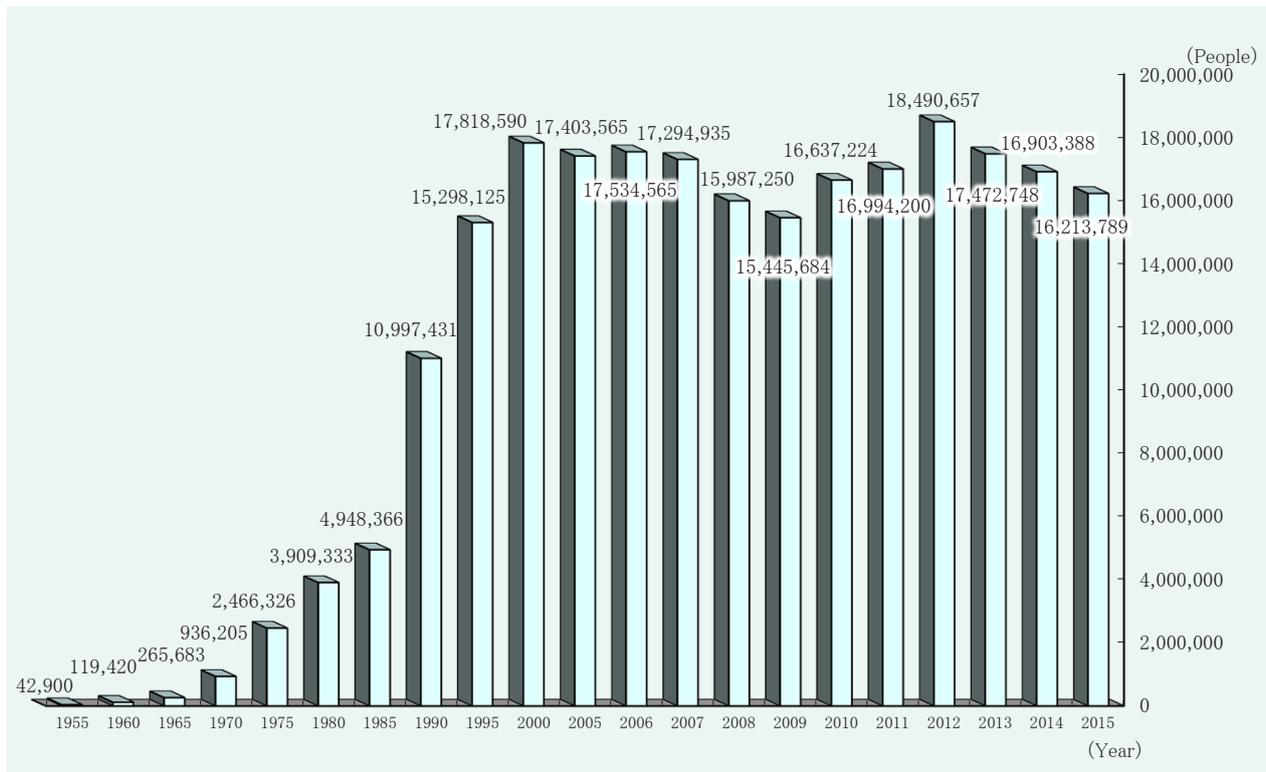
Chapter 4. Japanese Nationals Departing from and Returning to Japan

Section 1 ◆ Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan

① Total Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan

The total number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2015 was 16,213,789, a decline of 689,599 (4.1%) from 2014 (Reference 33).

Reference 33 Changes in the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan



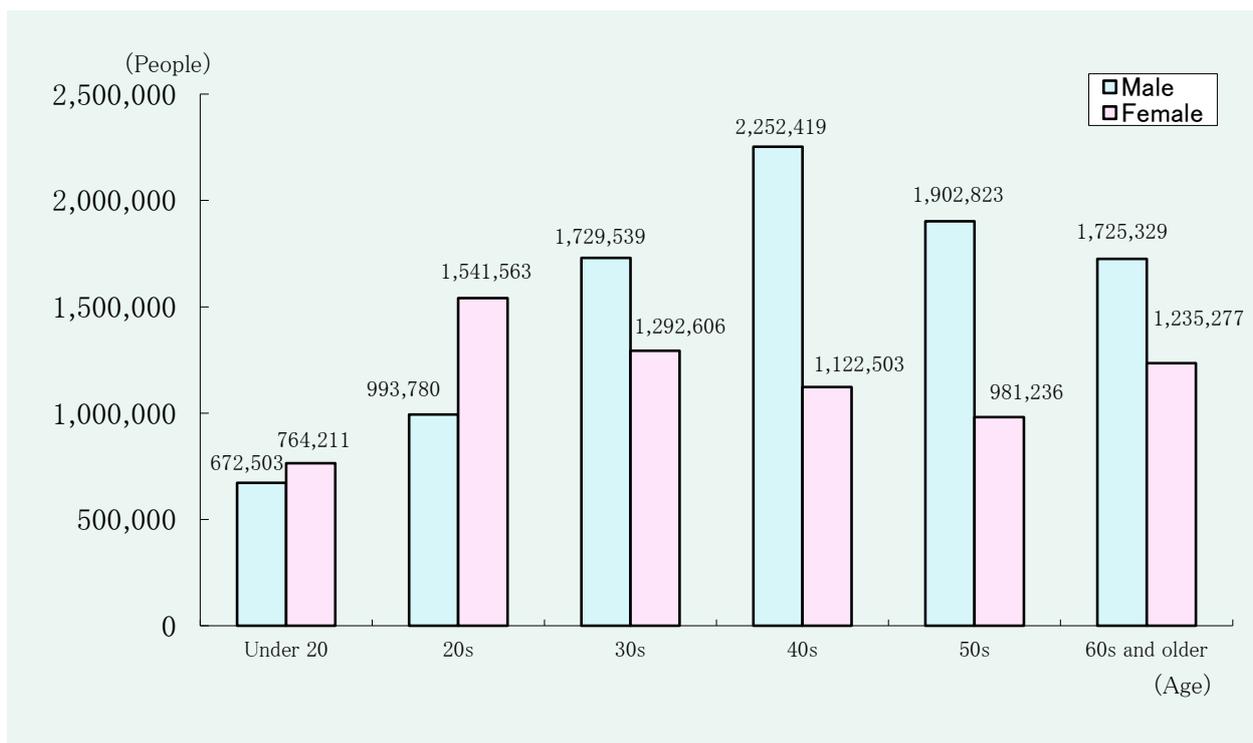
② Number of Japanese Nationals Departing from Japan by Gender and Age

According to the statistics by gender, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2015 was composed of 9,276,393 males and 6,937,396 females; males accounted for 57.2% of the total and females accounted for 42.8%. 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 the statistics by age, the number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2015 was composed of 3,374,922 Japanese nationals in their 40s, which accounted for 20.8% of the total, followed by 3,022,145 in their 30s, accounting for 18.6%, 2,960,606 in their 60s and older, accounting for 18.3%, 2,884,059 in their 50s, accounting for 17.8%, and 2,535,343 in their 20s, accounting for 15.6%.

According to the statistics on percentages of males and females by age group, the percentages of Japanese females ages under 20 and 20s exceeded those of males and, in particular, females in their 20s accounted for the extremely high percentage of 60.8%, but with other age groups, the percentage of males departing from Japan exceeded that of females (Reference 34).

Reference 34 Number of Japanese nationals departing from Japan by gender and age (2015)



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

According to the statistics of Japanese nationals departing from Japan in 2015 by airport and seaport of departure, the number of persons using airports to depart from Japan was 16,081,392, accounting for 99.2% of the total. When compared to the percentage of foreign nationals entering Japan (foreign nationals using airports accounted for 97.1%), the percentage of airport users is higher.

Of the persons using airports to depart from Japan in 2015, the number of users of Narita Airport was 6,509,232, which accounted for 40.5% of the total number of persons using airports to depart from Japan, and those using Haneda Airport was 3,828,254, which accounted for 23.8%, and those using Kansai Airport was 3,028,657, which accounted for 18.8%. This means that 83.1% of the total number of persons departing from airports used these three airports.

On the other hand, of the persons using seaports to depart from Japan in 2015, the number of users of Hakata Port, where scheduled passenger ships operate between Japan and R.O.Korea, was 61,210, which accounted for 46.2% of the total number of persons departing from seaports, followed by Yokohama Port at 14,936, accounting for 11.3%, Shimonoseki Port at 9,597, accounting for 7.2%. This means that 64.8% of the total number of persons departing from seaports used these three seaports. Kobe Port at 6,403, accounting for 4.8%, and Naha Port at 6,206, accounting for 4.7% followed these three major seaports.

Section 2 ◆ Number of Japanese Nationals Returning to Japan



Airport landing examination

The total number of returning Japanese nationals in 2015 was 16,258,889. By period of stay in foreign countries after departure, the number of persons returning within one month of departure was 14,648,559, which accounted for 90.1% of the total. Of those, the number of persons returning within 10 days was 13,159,974, which accounted for 89.8% of those who returned within one month of departure.

This is thought to be 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 (Reference 35).

Reference 35 Changes in the number of Japanese nationals returning to Japan by period of stay

(People)

Year \ Period of Stay	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	16,921,103	18,408,185	17,421,997	16,915,797	16,258,889
Within 5 days	10,039,111	10,916,364	9,898,557	9,499,435	9,126,508
More than 5 days to 10 days	4,055,123	4,448,480	4,422,482	4,299,701	4,033,466
More than 10 days to 20 days	1,054,248	1,129,239	1,130,386	1,119,965	1,086,094
More than 20 days to 1 month	388,970	404,327	408,455	417,716	402,491
More than 1 month to 3 months	588,327	639,672	658,643	655,267	670,011
More than 3 months to 6 months	323,218	357,644	376,109	386,518	387,233
More than 6 months to 1 year	256,264	270,945	291,269	301,338	305,442
More than 1 year to 3 years	119,588	137,043	134,050	133,068	135,515
More than 3 years	8,281	11,045	12,966	13,203	13,161
Unknown	87,973	93,426	89,080	89,586	98,968

Chapter 5. Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

Section 1 ◆ Foreign Nationals Overstaying Their Authorized Period of Stay



Investigation of violation

Based on the computer statistics of the Immigration Bureau, the estimated number of foreign nationals who overstayed (those who illegally stay in Japan beyond their authorized period of stay) was 62,818 as of January 1, 2016. This was an increase of 2,811 (4.7%) when compared to the 60,007 as of January 1, 2015, and was an increase for two years running.

This is thought to be because initially the number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was greatly reduced owing to crackdowns which were continuously being implemented to detect illegal immigrants, but recently smaller groups of illegal immigrants are spreading out throughout the country which is making large-scale crackdowns difficult and the number of foreign nationals undergoing the deportation procedures is seeing a downward trend. Meanwhile, in recent years, the entire government has been working on promoting Japan as a tourism-oriented country, and as a result of the visa waiver and visa requirement easing measures vis-à-vis the ASEAN countries implemented since July 1, 2013, the number of foreign entrants has significantly increased since 2013 and this is believed to have had some impact on the increasing number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay.

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

At the time 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, 2016, the nationality/region of the largest number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay was R.O.Korea at 13,412 (21.4%), followed by China at 8,741 (13.9%), Thailand at 5,959 (9.5%), the Philippines at 5,240 (8.3%), and Viet Nam at 3,809 (6.1%).

Taking a look at the changes after May 1, 1993, although new entries increased significantly owing

to visa-exemption measures being implemented with regard to R.O.Korea for those foreign nationals intending to engage in activities that may be performed under the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”, the number of those found overstaying from R.O.Korea has been consistently decreasing since January 1, 1999. On the other hand, the number of those from Thailand had been steadily declining 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 682 (12.9%) to 5,959 when compared to January 1, 2015, which was an increase for two years running. In addition, with regard to the number of those from Viet Nam, the number had increased by 1,356 (55.3%) to 3,809 when compared to January 1, 2015, which was an increase for four consecutive years (References 36, 37).

Reference 36 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by nationality/region

(People)

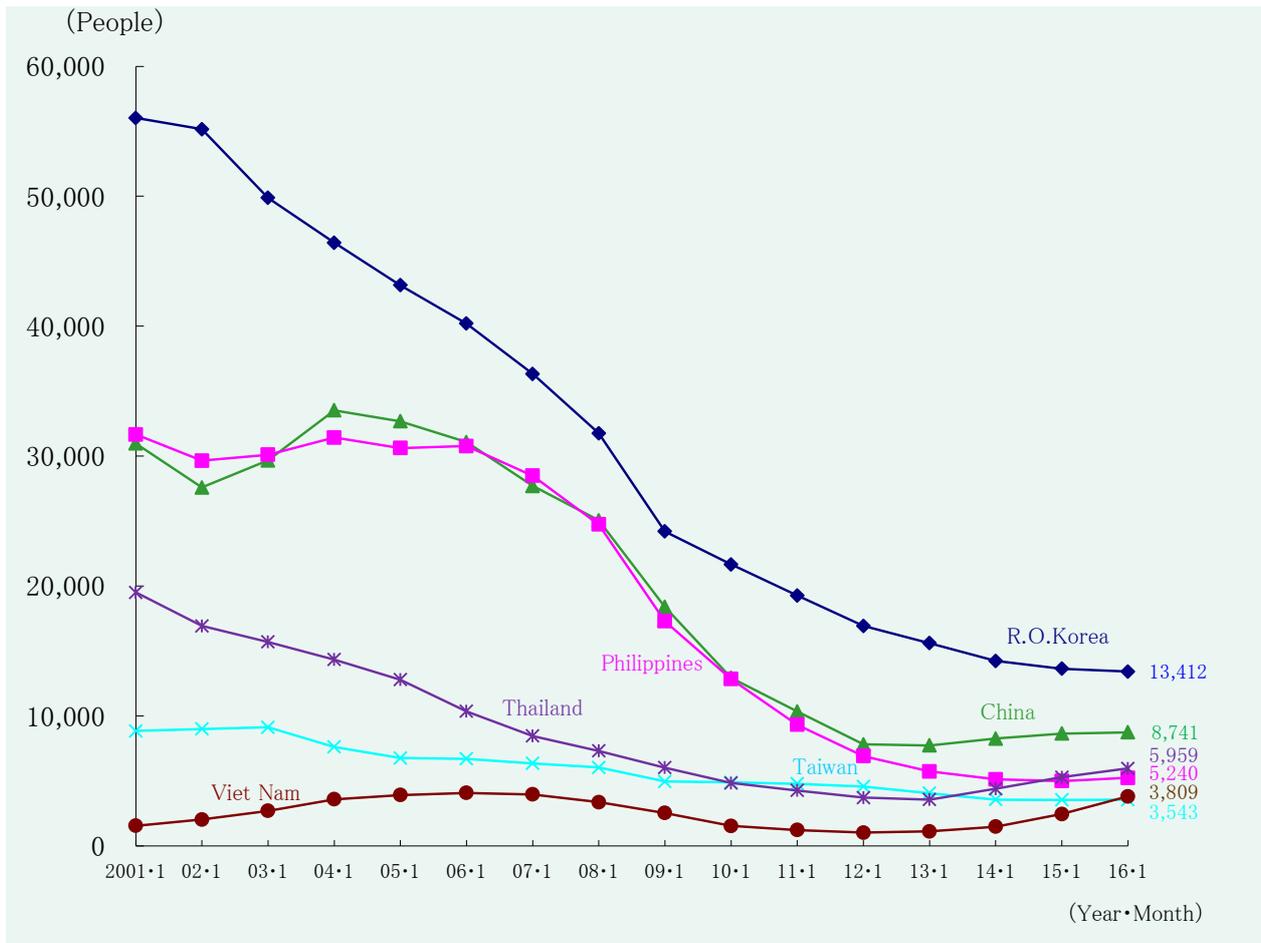
Nationality/Region	Date												
	May 1 1993	May 1 1994	May 1 1995	May 1 1996	January 1 1997	January 1 1998	January 1 1999	January 1 2000	January 1 2001	January 1 2002	January 1 2003	January 1 2004	
Total	298,646	293,800	286,704	284,500	282,986	276,810	271,048	251,697	232,121	224,067	220,552	219,418	
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	46,425	
China	33,312	39,738	39,511	39,140	38,296	37,590	34,800	32,896	30,975	27,582	29,676	33,522	
Thailand	55,383	49,992	44,794	41,280	39,513	37,046	30,065	23,503	19,500	16,925	15,693	14,334	
Philippines	35,392	37,544	39,763	41,997	42,547	42,608	40,420	36,379	31,666	29,649	30,100	31,428	
Viet Nam	852	869	453	448	231	731	880	1,092	1,550	2,021	2,697	3,582	
Taiwan	7,457	7,871	7,974	8,502	9,409	9,430	9,437	9,243	8,849	8,990	9,126	7,611	
Indonesia	2,969	3,198	3,205	3,481	3,758	4,692	4,930	4,947	5,315	6,393	6,546	7,246	
Malaysia	30,840	20,313	14,511	11,525	10,390	10,141	9,989	9,701	9,651	10,097	9,442	8,476	
Singapore	1,914	2,342	2,600	2,850	2,946	3,027	3,084	3,178	3,302	3,494	3,556	3,216	
Brazil	2,210	2,603	3,104	3,763	5,026	4,334	3,288	3,266	3,578	3,697	3,865	4,728	
Others	88,862	85,961	83,245	79,934	78,483	75,088	71,578	66,799	61,712	60,055	59,977	58,850	

(People)

Nationality/Region	Date												
	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	January 1 2015	January 1 2016	
Total	207,299	193,745	170,839	149,785	113,072	91,778	78,488	67,065	62,009	59,061	60,007	62,818	
R.O.Korea	43,151	40,203	36,321	31,758	24,198	21,660	19,271	16,927	15,607	14,233	13,634	13,412	
China	32,683	31,074	27,698	25,057	18,385	12,933	10,337	7,807	7,730	8,257	8,647	8,741	
Thailand	12,787	10,352	8,460	7,314	6,023	4,836	4,264	3,714	3,558	4,391	5,277	5,959	
Philippines	30,619	30,777	28,491	24,741	17,287	12,842	9,329	6,908	5,722	5,117	4,991	5,240	
Viet Nam	3,916	4,071	3,959	3,362	2,527	1,531	1,221	1,014	1,110	1,471	2,453	3,809	
Taiwan	6,760	6,696	6,347	6,031	4,950	4,889	4,774	4,571	4,047	3,557	3,532	3,543	
Indonesia	7,169	6,926	6,354	5,096	3,126	1,820	1,265	1,037	1,073	1,097	1,258	2,228	
Malaysia	7,431	6,822	6,397	4,804	2,986	2,661	2,442	2,237	2,192	1,819	1,788	1,763	
Singapore	3,075	3,587	2,241	2,207	2,128	2,107	1,789	1,586	1,304	1,079	1,066	1,055	
Brazil	4,905	2,762	2,286	2,297	1,939	1,645	1,536	1,290	1,075	1,013	988	983	
Others	54,803	50,475	42,285	37,118	29,523	24,854	22,260	19,974	18,591	17,027	16,373	16,085	

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

Reference 37 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by major nationality/region



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

Taking a look at the foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay as of January 1, 2016 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 2015 to make up the largest number at 42,478 accounting for 67.6% of the total number followed by “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” at 3,433 (5.5%), “Student” at 3,422 (5.4%), “Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)” at 3,413 (5.4%), “Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)” at 2,439 (3.9%), and when compared to the previous year, while there was an increase in the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” by 1,388 (3.4%), “Student” by 616 (22.0%), “Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)” by 582 (20.6%), and “Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)” by 640 (35.6%), there was a decline in the number of foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” by 276 (7.4%) (Reference 38).

Reference 38 Changes in the estimated number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Date	January 1 2011	January 1 2012	January 1 2013	January 1 2014	January 1 2015	January 1 2016
Total	78,488	67,065	62,009	59,061	60,007	62,818
Temporary Visitor	54,220	46,845	43,943	41,403	41,090	42,478
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	5,843	5,060	4,291	3,719	3,709	3,433
Student	4,322	3,187	2,847	2,777	2,806	3,422
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	3	412	943	1,699	2,831	3,413
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	-	213	645	1,089	1,799	2,439
Others	14,100	11,348	9,340	8,374	7,772	7,633

(*) The number of foreign nationals overstaying with the status of residence of “Student” includes the number of foreign nationals whose status of residence was “Pre-college Student” under the previous Immigration Control 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 2015, the number of foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced on account of violation of the Immigration Control Act was 12,272, an increase of 1,596 when compared to 2014. Of these, 3,571 were handed over to immigration inspectors as those subject to the departure order system. Although the number of foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act had been steadily decreasing since 2005, in recent years, there has been an increase in the number of foreign nationals newly entering Japan owing to the implementation of visa exemption measures, and this has contributed to an increase in the number of foreign nationals overstaying their authorized period of stay, which is thought to have led to a shift towards an increase.

According to the statistics of the number of foreign nationals by grounds for deportation, the largest number of foreign nationals was deported for overstaying at 9,982 (81.3%), followed by illegal entry at 752 (6.1%) and activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted at 399 (3.3%). Foreign nationals overstaying continued to account for a predominant percentage (Reference 39).

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 13 consecutive years at 4,311 (35.1%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,643 (13.4%), and Thailand at 1,475 (12.0%). These top three countries made up 60.5% of the total (Reference 40).

Reference 39 Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by grounds for deportation

(People)

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Grounds for Deportation					
Total	20,659	15,178	11,428	10,676	12,272
Illegal entry	2,862	1,875	1,128	844	752
Illegal landing	164	187	199	249	268
Activity other than those permitted	542	617	493	422	399
Overstay	15,925	11,439	8,713	8,274	9,982
Criminal offenses	619	527	430	392	397
Others	547	533	465	495	474
Illegal worker	13,913	8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973

Reference 40 Changes in the number of cases of violation of the Immigration Control Act by nationality/region

(People)

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Nationality/Region					
Total	20,659	15,178	11,428	10,676	12,272
China	6,350	4,545	4,044	3,975	4,311
Viet Nam	717	592	688	953	1,643
Thailand	1,108	786	604	899	1,475
Philippines	4,346	2,972	1,778	1,414	1,467
R.O.Korea	2,625	2,028	1,336	921	704
Indonesia	449	327	271	268	507
Brazil	825	814	422	316	296
Sri Lanka	449	303	199	222	182
United States of America	258	218	192	175	157
Peru	597	402	200	124	153
Others	2,935	2,191	1,694	1,409	1,377

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

② 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 2015, the number of illegal entrants (*) was 752, accounting for 6.1%, a decline of 92 (10.9%) from 2014. Looking at past records, the number increased since 2003 but started to decrease since 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 the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of illegal entrants was from China at 211 (28.1%), followed by the Philippines at 166 (22.1%), and Iran at 64 (8.5%), and there has been no change in the order of the top two countries since 2002 (Reference 41).

(*) 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.

According to the statistics by means of transportation utilized for illegal entry, the number of illegal entrants using aircraft was 594, a decline of 46 (7.2%) from 2014, and therefore, illegal entry using aircraft as a percentage of the total is still high at 79.0%. Meanwhile, the number of illegal entrants a vessel was 158, accounting for 21.0%, a decline of 46 (22.5%) from 2014 (Reference 42, 43).

Reference 41 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	2,862	1,875	1,128	844	752
China	949	532	359	262	211
Philippines	799	520	274	214	166
Iran	112	124	63	53	64
R.O.Korea	270	178	102	69	50
Viet Nam	13	15	13	10	34
Thailand	198	105	56	43	31
Indonesia	83	55	27	21	27
Peru	119	91	37	29	26
Bangladesh	35	26	24	14	21
Nepal	23	18	14	7	20
Others	261	211	159	122	102

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

Reference 42 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry using aircraft by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	2,105	1,437	824	640	594
Philippines	760	500	262	208	158
China	443	263	153	112	96
Iran	96	113	55	48	61
Viet Nam	12	15	10	10	33
Thailand	192	100	54	40	31
Others	602	446	290	222	215

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

Reference 43 Changes in the number of cases of illegal entry using vessel by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	757	438	304	204	158
China	506	269	206	150	115
R.O.Korea	166	100	49	36	28
Philippines	39	20	12	6	8
Iran	16	11	8	5	3
Others	30	38	29	7	4

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

(*2) "Others" in 2015 is composed of Indonesia, Ghana, Viet Nam and Myanmar.

(2) Illegal Landing

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced owing to violation of the Immigration Control Act during 2015, 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 permission for landing from an immigration inspector was 268 (2.2%), which was an increase of 19 (7.6%) from 2014 (Reference 44).

Reference 44 Changes in the number of cases of illegal landing by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	164	187	199	249	268
Sri Lanka	0	6	14	54	95
Turkey	72	98	84	97	90
Russia	5	3	19	36	20
Nepal	1	0	3	2	15
China	20	14	7	4	6
Pakistan	5	9	3	4	6
R.O.Korea	12	4	8	2	4
Taiwan	5	1	3	2	4
Nigeria	0	6	3	1	3
Others	44	46	55	47	25

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

(3) Overstay

Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act during 2015, the number of those who had overstayed the authorized period of stay was 9,982 (81.3%), which was an increase of 1,708 (20.6%) from 2014, which was still overwhelmingly high.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of foreign nationals who had overstayed their authorized period of stay was from China at 3,623 (36.3%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,422 (14.2%), Thailand at 1,389 (13.9%), the Philippines at 1,139 (11.4%), and R.O.Korea at 559 (5.6%) (Reference 45).

Reference 45 Changes in the number of cases of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	15,925	11,439	8,713	8,274	9,982
China	4,848	3,415	3,194	3,170	3,623
Viet Nam	635	482	562	780	1,422
Thailand	860	615	486	797	1,389
Philippines	3,280	2,295	1,363	1,034	1,139
R.O.Korea	2,082	1,476	960	715	559
Indonesia	350	260	236	233	465
Brazil	649	671	321	227	227
United States of America	224	200	171	157	136
Mongolia	219	111	110	112	104
Peru	446	284	144	83	103
Others	2,332	1,630	1,166	966	815

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (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. Of the foreign nationals against whom deportation procedures were enforced for being in violation of the Immigration Control Act in 2015, the number of foreign nationals against whom the procedures were enforced because of the activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted was 399 (3.3%), which was a decline of 23 (5.5%) from 2014.

Accordingly to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China at 145 (36.3%), followed by Viet Nam at 104 (26.1%), and the Philippines at 41 (10.3%), and these top three countries accounted for 72.7% of the total (Reference 46).

Reference 46 Changes in the number of cases of activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted by nationality/region

Nationality/Region	(People)					
	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		542	617	493	422	399
China		192	228	176	167	145
Viet Nam		12	34	52	110	104
Philippines		71	20	27	24	41
R.O.Korea		125	212	138	48	35
Nepal		60	48	29	34	31
Indonesia		14	7	4	9	10
Thailand		5	9	14	13	8
Ukraine		1	0	0	1	8
Sri Lanka		10	20	2	3	4
Russia		2	1	0	0	4
Others		50	38	51	13	9

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



Detection of violator

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 2015, the number of those who were considered to have been illegally working was 7,973 (65.0%). 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, 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 crackdown on foreign nationals who encourage illegal work.

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

The illegal foreign workers came from 62 countries/regions, mainly from neighboring Asian countries, indicating that there is still a trend being seen toward increasing diversity in the nationalities of the illegal foreign workers.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, illegal workers from China made up the largest number at 3,266 (41.0%), followed by Thailand at 1,215 (15.2%), Viet Nam at 1,160 (14.5%), the Philippines at 756 (9.5%), and R.O.Korea at 435 (5.5%). These top five countries represented 85.7% of the total. As a trend in recent years, Chinese illegal workers account for a high percentage (Reference 47).

Reference 47 Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by nationality/region

(People)

Year		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Nationality/Region						
Total		13,913	8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973
	Male	7,954	5,346	4,356	4,160	5,167
	Female	5,959	3,633	2,682	2,542	2,806
China		4,876	3,082	2,909	2,819	3,266
	Male	2,968	1,981	1,943	1,869	2,166
	Female	1,908	1,101	966	950	1,100
Thailand		843	567	442	681	1,215
	Male	456	318	272	384	699
	Female	387	249	170	297	516
Viet Nam		521	380	461	701	1,160
	Male	323	271	312	454	873
	Female	198	109	149	247	287
Philippines		2,632	1,589	968	763	756
	Male	1,052	629	394	308	341
	Female	1,580	960	574	455	415
R.O.Korea		1,918	1,356	866	606	435
	Male	670	525	311	237	167
	Female	1,248	831	555	369	268
Indonesia		397	267	233	231	396
	Male	333	218	193	193	338
	Female	64	49	40	38	58
Mongolia		201	90	81	101	81
	Male	111	51	47	72	51
	Female	90	39	34	29	30
Brazil		183	182	96	68	77
	Male	149	141	74	55	64
	Female	34	41	22	13	13
Peru		324	198	107	59	73
	Male	218	145	73	48	58
	Female	106	53	34	11	15
Nepal		179	117	97	75	68
	Male	122	85	78	47	51
	Female	57	32	19	28	17
Others		1,839	1,151	778	598	446
	Male	1,552	982	659	493	359
	Female	287	169	119	105	87

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

(3) Number of Illegal Foreign Workers by Gender

The composition of illegal foreign workers against whom deportation procedures were enforced by gender was 5,167 males (accounting for 64.8%) and 2,806 females (accounting for 35.2%), and were roughly the same percentages as in 2014.

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

According to the statistics by type of work, the largest number of illegal foreign workers were agricultural workers at 1,744 (21.9%), followed by construction workers at 1,638 (20.5%), followed by factory workers at 1,342 (16.8%).

In addition, according to the statistics by gender, the largest number of males worked as construction workers followed by agricultural workers then factory workers, while the largest number of females worked as agricultural workers, followed by jobs in the hospitality industry, for example, as hostesses, then factory workers (Reference 48).

Reference 48 Changes in the number of cases of illegal work by type of work

(People)

Job Categories	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		13,913	8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973
	Male	7,954	5,346	4,356	4,160	5,167
	Female	5,959	3,633	2,682	2,542	2,806
Agricultural worker		783	592	695	946	1,744
	Male	554	432	507	632	1,113
	Female	229	160	188	314	631
Construction worker		1,772	1,154	1,151	1,336	1,638
	Male	1,750	1,146	1,144	1,323	1,622
	Female	22	8	7	13	16
Factory worker		2,809	1,623	1,301	1,230	1,342
	Male	1,869	1,124	895	769	857
	Female	940	499	406	461	485
Other labor worker		1,527	907	580	525	686
	Male	1,173	700	440	424	543
	Female	354	207	140	101	143
Attendants such as bar hostess		2,011	1,365	837	629	523
	Male	120	114	80	41	33
	Female	1,891	1,251	757	588	490
Worker in other service industry		961	575	452	413	425
	Male	379	258	161	127	118
	Female	582	317	291	286	307
Others		4,050	2,763	2,022	1,623	1,615
	Male	2,109	1,572	1,129	844	881
	Female	1,941	1,191	893	779	734

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

Illegal foreign workers are known to have been working in 45 prefectures throughout Japan. According to the statistics on the place of work of the illegal foreign workers by prefecture, the largest number had previously been found consistently in Tokyo ever since these statistics were first collected in 1991, but for the first time, Ibaraki prefecture had the largest number at 1,714 (21.5%) followed by Chiba prefecture at 1,238 (15.5%), Tokyo at 1,086 (13.6%), Aichi prefecture at 757 (9.5%), and Kanagawa prefecture at 638 (8.0%) (Reference 49).

According to the statistics by region, the number of illegal foreign workers in Tokyo and the six prefectures (Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Ibaraki, Gunma, and Tochigi) in the Kanto district was 5,915 (74.2%), 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 1,201 (15.1%). Illegal foreign workers in the Kanto and Chubu districts making up 89.3% (7,116) of the total, accounted for a substantial percentage of the total number of illegal

foreign workers.

Reference 49 Changes in the number of cases of illegal foreign workers by area

(People)

Prefecture \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	13,913	8,979	7,038	6,702	7,973
Ibaraki	1,286	891	752	1,047	1,714
Chiba	1,919	1,088	945	955	1,238
Tokyo	2,763	1,740	1,389	1,175	1,086
Aichi	1,637	1,188	954	794	757
Kanagawa	1,663	967	680	656	638
Saitama	1,112	616	539	460	595
Gunma	447	249	243	155	451
Osaka	623	517	366	273	252
Tochigi	278	191	137	109	193
Shizuoka	371	215	167	137	127
Others	1,814	1,317	866	941	922

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 2015 was 13,233, and this showed a shift away from the declining trend, which had been the trend from 2006 to 2014, towards an increase (Reference 50).

Reference 50 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

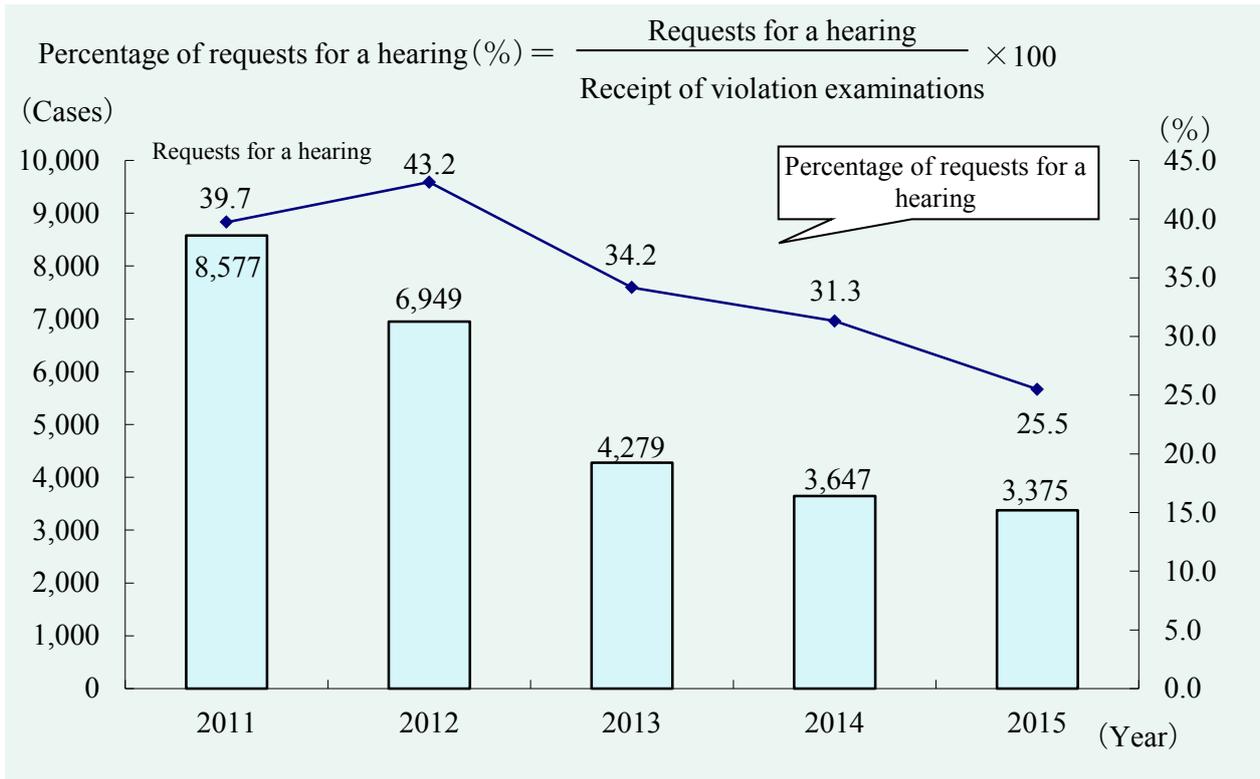
(Cases)

Division		Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Violation examination by immigration inspector	Receipt		21,584 (771)	16,103 (748)	12,523 (793)	11,645 (670)	13,233 (594)	
	Completed	Found not to fall under one of the reasons for deportation		5	4	5	-	5
		Issuance of written deportation order		7,628	5,640	4,729	4,482	5,409
		Request for hearing		8,577	6,949	4,279	3,647	3,375
		Issuance of written departure order		4,501	2,594	2,478	2,592	3,573
	Not completed, others		873	916	1,032	924	871	
Hearing by special inquiry officer	Receipt		9,286 (674)	7,755 (711)	4,942 (582)	4,282 (527)	3,871 (476)	
	Completed	Error in the findings		3	-	-	-	1
		Issuance of written deportation order		120	101	96	74	77
		Filing of an objection		8,389	6,952	4,226	3,596	3,163
		Issuance of written departure order		-	-	-	-	-
	Not completed, others		774	702	620	612	630	
Decision of the Minister of Justice	Receipt		9,017 (526)	7,485 (459)	4,776 (505)	3,936 (297)	3,526 (357)	
	Completed	Objection with reason		7	2	1	1	-
		Objection without reason		8,440	6,887	4,428	3,544	3,110
		Issuance of written departure order		-	-	-	-	-
	Not completed, others		570	596	347	391	416	

(*) The numbers indicated in parentheses 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 an examination of the violation in 2015 was 3,375 accounting for 25.5% of the total number of cases which underwent an examination of the violation, a decline of 272 (7.5%) from 2014 (Reference 51).

Reference 51 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 3,163 in 2015, a decline of 433 (12.0%) from 2014 (Reference 50).

(2) Issuance of a Written Deportation Order

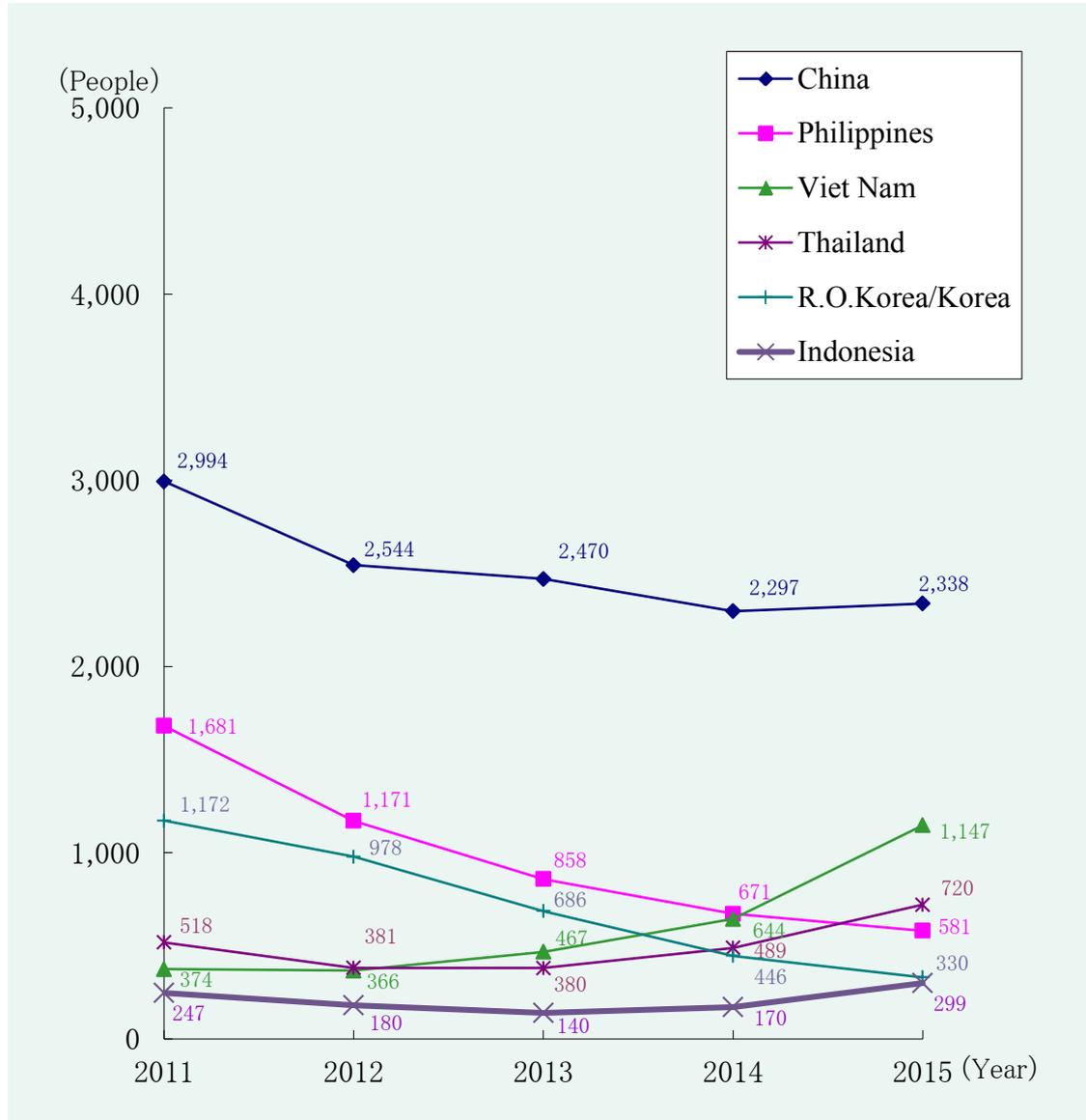
The number of written deportation orders issued in 2015 was 6,589. According to the statistics by grounds for deportation, the cases of overstay amounted to 4,218, accounting for 64.0% of the total, while the percentage of cases of illegal entry was 9.7%, both of which showed almost the same percentages as in 2014 (Reference 52).

Reference 52 Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by grounds for deportation

Grounds for Deportation	Year				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	9,348	7,329	6,425	5,821	6,589
Overstay	5,588	4,270	3,907	3,574	4,218
Illegal entry	2,014	1,430	1,001	733	638
Illegal landing	138	134	164	160	223
Activity other than those permitted	510	622	491	405	374
Criminal offenses	771	576	501	404	472
Others	327	297	361	545	664

According to the statistics by nationality/region in 2015, the largest number of foreign nationals who were issued with written deportation orders came from China at 2,338 (35.5%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,147 (17.4%), and Thailand at 720 (10.9%) (Reference 53).

Reference 53 Changes in the number of issuance of written deportation orders by nationality/region



(3) Provisional Release

In 2015, the number of foreign nationals detained under a written detention order who were granted provisional release was 1,293, which was the same number as in 2014. The number of foreign nationals detained under a written deportation order who were granted provisional release was 1,063, an increase of 137 (14.8%) from 2014 (Reference 54).

Reference 54 Changes in the number of cases of permission for provisional release

Type of Order	Year					(Cases)
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
By written detention order	2,131	2,128	1,510	1,293	1,293	
By written deportation order	1,062	1,137	1,271	926	1,063	

(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 2015 was 2,023, a decline of 268 (11.7%) when compared to 2014.

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.

Looking at the foreign nationals who came under the grounds for deportation but were granted special permission to stay in Japan, the grounds for the largest number in 2015 was overstay at 1,504 (74.3%), followed by illegal entry and illegal landing, jointly accounting for 7.7%. Overstay illegal entry and illegal landing accounted for 82.0% of the total (Reference 55).

Reference 55 Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by grounds for deportation

Grounds for Deportation	(Cases)					
	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		6,879	5,336	2,840	2,291	2,023
Overstay		5,569	4,304	2,161	1,643	1,504
Illegal entry/Illegal landing		827	491	270	223	155
Criminal offenses etc.		483	541	409	425	364

According to statistics by nationality/region in 2015, the largest number of foreign nationals who were granted special permission to stay in Japan came from China at 393 (19.4%), followed by R.O.Korea/Korea combined at 222 (11.0%) (Reference 56).

Reference 56 Changes in the number of cases of special permission to stay in Japan by nationality/region

Nationality/Region	(Cases)					
	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		6,879	5,336	2,840	2,291	2,023
China		1,146	809	422	421	393
R.O.Korea/Korea		898	693	400	286	222
Others		4,835	3,834	2,018	1,584	1,408

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

5 Outline of Deportation of Foreign Nationals

The number of deportees in 2015 was 6,174, which was an increase of 632 (11.4%) when compared to 2014.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number of deportees was from China at 2,296 (37.2%), followed by Viet Nam at 1,064 (17.2%), Thailand at 707 (11.5%), the Philippines at 593 (9.6%), and R.O.Korea at 328 (5.3%) (Reference 57).

Reference 57 Changes in the number of deportees by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		8,721	6,459	5,790	5,542	6,174
China		2,997	2,389	2,284	2,282	2,296
Viet Nam		370	340	432	627	1,064
Thailand		479	317	400	483	707
Philippines		1,552	972	796	616	593
R.O.Korea		1,171	964	665	456	328
Indonesia		248	164	134	159	287
Nepal		114	101	64	48	82
Sri Lanka		196	141	93	123	69
Brazil		204	143	102	76	65
Bangladesh		110	54	42	26	56
Others		1,280	874	778	646	627

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

The means of deportation are roughly divided into the three categories of “voluntary departure” where the deportee himself or herself pays for the deportation costs, “deportation at the expense of the Government of Japan” where the Japanese government pays for the deportation costs by reason of the deportee not having the necessary funds for deportation or other reasons, and “deportation in accordance with Article 59” where the deportee is deported on the responsibility and at the expense of the carrier operating the aircraft or vessel on which the deportee was brought to Japan.



Deportation

Reference 58 Changes in the number of deportees by means of deportation

(People)

Measure of Deportation	Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		8,721	6,459	5,790	5,542	6,174
Voluntary departure		8,379	6,170	5,382	5,228	5,853
Deportation in accordance with Article 59		86	78	54	47	49
Individual deportation at the expense of the government		231	191	208	203	206
Group deportation at the expense of the government		0	0	121	32	22
Others		0	0	0	0	1
Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons		25	20	25	32	43

(*1) “Group deportation at the expense of the government” refers to group 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, home country.

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

Of the deportees, the number of those deported at their own expense stood at 5,853 (94.8%), which was an increase of 625 (12.0%) when compared to 2014 (References 58, 59).

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.

Reference 59 Changes in the number of deportees through voluntary departure by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	8,379	6,170	5,382	5,228	5,853
China	2,972	2,364	2,263	2,257	2,262
Viet Nam	363	331	424	608	1,046
Thailand	473	312	339	467	699
Philippines	1,494	926	680	578	555
R.O.Korea	1,158	947	652	448	311
Indonesia	244	164	130	154	277
Sri Lanka	186	135	86	91	67
Nepal	107	100	61	45	64
Malaysia	84	44	42	21	50
Mongolia	88	46	48	49	49
Others	1,210	801	657	510	473

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

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

As foreign nationals, who are in violation of the Immigration Control Act tend to stay for a longer period and have more diversified lifestyles and backgrounds than before, an increasing number of foreign nationals who have been issued with a deportation order suffer from an illness, refuse deportation for various reasons, or cannot afford the travel expenses for return to their home country. Of these foreign nationals, the number of those deported at the expense of the government in consideration of individual circumstances stood at 228 (3.7%) in 2015, which was a decline of 7 (3.0%) from 2014.

Moreover, in 2015, in order to implement safe and secure deportations, 22 foreign nationals were deported using a private chartered plane (Reference 58).

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

A carrier who operates an aircraft or vessel that has transported a foreign national who does not meet the requirements for landing is responsible for deporting the deportee at its own expense and on its own responsibility under certain conditions (deportation under Article 59 of the Immigration Control Act) (*). The number of foreign nationals deported in this way in 2015 was 49 (0.8%), an increase of 2 (4.3%) from 2014 (Reference 58).

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 3,571 in 2015, accounting for 29.1% of the total number of foreign nationals in violation of the Immigration Control Act.

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

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China at 1,660 (46.5%), followed by Thailand at 641 (18.0%), Viet Nam at 387 (10.8%), the Philippines at 299 (8.4%), and Indonesia at 187 (5.2%), and these top five countries accounted for 88.9% of the total (Reference 60).

Reference 60 Number of foreign nationals handed over under a departure order by nationality/region (2015)
(People)

Article Nationality/Region	Total	24-(ii)-3	24-(iv)-(b)	24-(vi)	24-(vi)-2	24-(vi)-3	24-(vi)-4	24-(vii)
Total	3,571	5	3,520	26	0	0	1	19
China	1,660	3	1,641	12	0	0	0	4
Thailand	641	0	633	4	0	0	0	4
Viet Nam	387	0	385	1	0	0	0	1
Philippines	299	1	287	2	0	0	0	9
Indonesia	187	0	183	3	0	0	1	0
R.O.Korea	169	0	169	0	0	0	0	0
Mongolia	50	0	49	1	0	0	0	0
Sri Lanka	22	0	22	0	0	0	0	0
Malaysia	16	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
Peru	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Others	126	1	121	3	0	0	0	1

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

(*) Carriers are, similar to captains of ships, in a position to govern their crew and passengers, and responsibilities and duties are 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 Immigration Control Act).

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

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

According to the statistics by applied articles, the number of suspects in violation of Article 24, item (iv)-(b) of the Immigration Control Act was the largest at 3,520, accounting for 98.6% of the total. This was followed by 26 (0.7%) suspects in violation of Article 24, item (vi) of the Immigration Control Act, and 19 (0.5%) suspects in violation of Article 24, item (vii) of the Immigration Control Act (Reference 60).

(2) Examination

A. Receipt and Processing of Cases

The number of cases of departure orders in 2015 was 3,571, accounting for 27.0% of the total number of cases of examination of the violation. This represented an increase of 984 (38.0%) when compared to 2014.

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 issued with a written departure order having been determined to be eligible for a departure order, was 3,573 in 2015.

According to the statistics by nationality/region, the largest number was from China at 1,662 accounting for 46.5% of the total, followed by Thailand at 641 (17.9%), Viet Nam at 387 (10.8%), the Philippines at 298 (8.3%), and Indonesia at 188 (5.3%), and the top five countries accounted for 88.9% of the total (Reference 61).

Reference 61 Changes in the number of issuance of written departure orders by nationality/region

(Cases)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	4,501	2,594	2,478	2,592	3,573
China	2,252	1,252	1,259	1,282	1,662
Thailand	139	109	135	310	641
Viet Nam	189	92	118	203	387
Philippines	456	336	241	224	298
Indonesia	146	90	102	81	188
R.O.Korea/Korea	582	348	294	214	169
Mongolia	113	50	46	59	51
Sri Lanka	136	53	43	28	22
Peru	61	37	27	11	16
Brazil	42	22	13	9	9
Others	385	205	200	171	130

(*) "China" does not include Taiwan, China (Hong Kong) or China (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 card to the immigration inspector in order to receive a seal of verification of departure as well as 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 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 proper implementation of the 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 2015, the total number of applicants who applied for recognition of refugee status in Japan was 7,586, which was an increase of 2,586 (51.7%) when compared to 2014, continuing on from the previous year to mark a record high (Reference 62).

Reference 62 Changes in the number of applications for refugee recognition

	(People)				
Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Applications	1,867	2,545	3,260	5,000	7,586

The number of nationalities/regions of the applicants was 69, and the major nationalities/regions from which applicants came were in descending order: Nepal at 1,768 (23.3%), Indonesia at 969 (12.8%), Turkey at 926 (12.2%), Myanmar at 808 (10.7%), Viet Nam at 574 (7.6%), Sri Lanka at 469 (6.2%), the Philippines at 299 (3.9%), Pakistan at 295 (3.9%), Bangladesh at 244 (3.2%), India at 229 (3.0%), China at 167 (2.2%), Nigeria at 154 (2.0%), Thailand at 83 (1.1%), Iran at 68 (0.9%), Cameroon at 67 (0.9%) and Cambodia at 67 (0.9%).

The applicants at the time of their applications were composed of 6,394 (84.3%) legal residents and 1,192 (15.7%) illegal residents. Of the illegal residents, the number of those who applied after a detention order or deportation order had been issued was 875, accounting for 73.4% of the total.

Of the total number of applicants, 1,425 applicants accounting for 18.8% had applied for recognition of refugee status in the past. These applicants comprised 890 legal residents (92.4% of whom held the status of residence of “Designated Activities”, which had been granted by reason that their applications were undergoing examination.), and 535 illegal residents (85.8% of whom had already been issued with a deportation order.).

② Processing of Applications for Refugee Status

The total number of applicants whose application for recognition of refugee status was processed in 2015 was 3,898, an increase of 729 (23.0%) from 2014. The number of applicants who were recognized as refugees was 19 (*1), while the number of applicants who were denied recognition of refugee status was 3,411. The number of applicants who withdrew their applications and others was 468.

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 2015, 79 applicants were allowed to stay in Japan (Reference 63).

Reference 63 Changes in the number of foreign nationals protected as refugees etc.

(People)

Refugee Status	1978 ~ 2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Recognized as a refugee	577	21	18	6	11	27
Refugees for resettlement	11,346	18	0	18	23	19
Others	1,746	248	112	151	110	79
Total	13,669	287	130	175	144	125

(*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 (2010~2014) and Malaysia(2015~). 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” in and 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 Act.

③ Implementation of the System for Permission for Provisional Stay

The number of foreign nationals who were granted permission for provisional stay was 83 in 2015, a decline of 28 (25.2%) from 2014.

The number of those who underwent an examination as to whether or not they should be granted permission for provisional stay was 919. The major reasons for decisions not granting permission were as follows (*2):

- (i) 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): 468 persons.
- (ii) Applicants had already received a deportation order: 440 persons.

(*1) As for the number of applicants who were recognized as refugees as a result of the objection, see Section 2, Subsection ②.

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

Section 2 ◆ Appeal (*)

① Appeal

The total number of objections filed by applicants who were denied recognition of refugee status (hereinafter referred to as “denial of recognition of refugee status”) in 2015 was 3,120, an increase of 587 (23.2%) from 2014 (Reference 64).

Reference 64 Changes in the number of objections filed, and decisions of the Minister of Justice

Division		Year											Total
		1982~ 2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Not recognized as a refugee		2,773	389	446	791	1,703	1,336	2,002	2,083	2,499	2,906	3,411	20,339
Filing of objection		1,862	340	362	429	1,156	859	1,719	1,738	2,408	2,533	3,120	16,526
Decisions	With reason	32	12	4	17	8	13	14	13	3	5	8	129
	Without reason	1,425	127	183	300	230	325	635	790	921	1,171	1,763	7,870
	Withdrawn	295	33	34	34	70	113	231	193	211	344	504	2,062

(*) 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 Appeal

Of the objections filed by applicants who failed to obtain recognition of refugee status, 2,275 of them were handled in 2015, an increase of 755 (49.7%) from 2014. According to the statistics, 8 objections were found to be with reasonable grounds (5 in the previous year), 1,763 objections were found to be without any reasonable grounds (1,171 in the previous year), and 504 objections were withdrawn by the foreign nationals, etc. who had filed the objections (344 in the previous year) (Reference 64).

Section 3 ◆ Refugee Examination Counselors System

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 cases in which an objection has been filed. Therefore, in the objection filing procedures, prior to

(*) Pursuant to the enforcement of the Amended Immigration Control Act in line with the amended Administrative Appeal Act on April 1, 2016, the “filing of an objection” has been unified with the “request for an administrative review”, but since the subject of the request for an administrative review is objections filed against a recognition of refugee status denied on or after April 1, 2016, which was the day of the enforcement of the Act, dispositions prior to the enforcement day will be handled through the procedures for the filing of an objection, and therefore, the procedures for the “filing of an objection” and “request for an administrative review” currently co-exist.

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

The number of times refugee examination counselors were present at an oral statement of opinions by the petitioner, etc. and a hearing in 2015 was a total of 985 times, and the number of cases in which written opinions were presented by refugee examination counselors was 1,518 in the same year.

In addition, with respect to the procedures for the request for an administrative review from April 1, 2016 onwards, the Act provides that the Minister of Justice must hear the opinions of refugee examination counselors not only with regard to the dispositions of denial of recognition of refugee status, but for determinations on an administrative review pertaining to inaction on an application for recognition of refugee status. Therefore, prior to the determination, the procedures for the administrative review, such as an oral statement of opinions and a questioning, are carried out by refugee examination counselors, and after the oral statement of opinions and the questioning, refugee examination counselors exchange opinions with other refugee examination counselors, then draw up a written opinion and submit it to the Minister of Justice.

Section 4 ◆ Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

With respect to landing permission for temporary refuge, 386 applications were submitted, and 22 applications were granted permission over the past five years (from 2011 to 2015).

Chapter 7. Measures Against Trafficking in Persons and Protection of Foreign Victims of Domestic Violence

Section 1 ◆ Measures Against Trafficking in Persons

① Measures Against 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 due to the fact that trafficking in persons inflicts serious mental and physical pain on the victims, especially on women and children, and it is difficult to recover from such damage. Moreover, human trafficking is an issue of serious concern to the international community since it is a crime which is committed across borders.

The Japanese government formulated the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons” through the relevant ministries and agencies in December 2004 and the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons 2009” through the Ministerial Conference for Measures against Crime in December 2009, and although the entire government had been promoting measures up to this point, the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons 2014” was formulated through the same Conference in December 2014 in order to work on more powerful, comprehensive and all-encompassing measures against human trafficking. Then, in May 2016, the “Conference for the Promotion of Measures against Trafficking in Persons” comprising the competent ministers in charge of measures against human trafficking held its second meeting, and the relevant government ministries and agencies led by the Conference are currently promoting government-wide efforts against the trafficking of persons.

In addition, based on the “Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons 2014”, the Immigration Bureau has also been striving to prevent human trafficking by further strengthening its system of cooperation with the related organizations, has been tracking hidden cases where there is the possibility of human trafficking and has been proactively engaged in eradicating trafficking in persons and offering appropriate protection to the victims.

② Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons

The Immigration Bureau gives full consideration to the position of the victims of trafficking, and grants permission such as extension of the period of stay or a change of the status of residence from the perspective of victim protection, and moreover, if the victim is in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as by overstaying the authorized period of stay, the legal status of the victim will be stabilized through such means as granting special permission to stay to the victim.

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 country) was 26 in 2015 (9 persons in the previous year). According to the statistics by nationality/region, 17 victims came from the Philippines (7 in the previous year), 8 victims came from Thailand (1 in the previous year), and 1 victim came from Sri Lanka.

The number of victims who had a status of residence out of the total of 26 victims was 15 persons (5 persons in the previous year), and the number of victims who were in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as overstaying the authorized period of stay was 11 persons (4 persons 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 (Reference 65).

The number of victims has declined significantly since 2005, when the Immigration Bureau first started collecting statistics and offered protection to 115 victims, and the number has been fluctuating at around 20 victims in recent years. This is thought to be because the entire government has been working together on measures under the Action Plan for Measures against Trafficking in Persons, and owing to the fact that measures to prevent and eradicate trafficking in persons, such as the revision of the ordinance on landing criteria pertaining to the status of residence of “Entertainer” made in the same year and following years and the implementation of strict landing examinations have had a certain level of effect (Reference 66).

Reference 65 Number of victims of trafficking in persons (2015)

(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	14	3(3)	17
Thailand	0	8(8)	8
Sri Lanka	1	0	1
Total	15	11(11)	26

(*1) The breakdown by status of residence of foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence was “Temporary Visitor”, 9 persons; “Spouse or Child of Japanese National”, 3 persons; “Long-Term Resident”, 2 persons, and “Skilled Labor” 1 person.

(*2) The type of violation of the foreign nationals granted special permission to stay was “illegal overstaying”, 9 persons, and “illegal entry” 2 persons.

(*3) The breakdown by the status of residence, before overstaying the authorized period of stay were “Temporary Visitor”, 8 persons; and “Entertainer”, 1 person.

Reference 66 Changes in the number of victims of trafficking in persons

(People)

Breakdown	Year	2005	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total		115	21	9	12	9	26
Foreign nationals previously in possession of a status of residence		68	6	8	8	5	15
Violators of the Immigration Control Act (Special permission to stay in Japan)		47(47)	15(15)	1(1)	4(4)	4(4)	11(11)

③ Foreign Nationals Deported for Committing Trafficking in Persons (*)

In 2014, the National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, Supreme Public Prosecutors Office, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the Japan Coast Guard established the “Task Force for the Enforcement of Laws and Regulations Relating to Trafficking in Persons”, and this task force has been conducting improved information sharing and cooperation in order to ensure crackdowns on human trafficking-related offenses, and consequently, three foreign nationals were deported by the Immigration Bureau as perpetrators of human trafficking in 2015 (two persons in the previous year), and whose nationality was Thailand.

(*) 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).

Section 2 ◆ 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.

If the Immigration Bureau identifies a foreign national as a victim of domestic violence, the Bureau will offer secure protection for the physical welfare of the victim in cooperation with the related organizations, and if the victim has applied for an extension of the period of stay or has applied for a change of the status of residence where a change has become necessary owing to domestic violence and the victim finds it difficult to prepare the necessary papers having suddenly been forced out of his or her home, the Immigration Bureau will give full consideration to the position of the victim, and will respond appropriately in a humanitarian manner such as granting permission taking into account individual circumstances. In addition, with regard to victims who are in violation of the Immigration Control Act such as overstaying their authorized period of stay due to domestic violence, the Immigration Bureau gives sufficient consideration to the case and, depending on the case, will take humanitarian measures, such as granting special permission to stay.

Further, a law to partially amend the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims was enforced in January 2008, and the “Basic Policy Relating to Measures to Prevent Spousal Violence and Protect Victims” (*) was formulated by the relevant ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Justice, based on this law. In light of this basic policy, the Immigration Bureau established its own guidelines on the measures in July of the same year, and in cases where a person is identified as a victim of domestic violence, taking into full consideration the fact that the victim has been placed in a harsh situation both physically and mentally, the Immigration Bureau deals appropriately according to the physical and mental condition, etc., of the victim, and strives to further protect the victim by cooperating with the Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Center, the Women’s Consulting Offices, police and other related organizations.

② Number of Recognized Foreign Domestic Violence Victims

The Immigration Bureau places emphasis the most 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 such as 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 residence examination or the deportation procedures during 2015 was 95 (Reference 67, 68).

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 granted special permission to stay.

(*) The Act was renamed “The Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” in accordance with the partially re-amended act enforced in January 2014. Following this rename, the “Basic Policy Relating to Measures for Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” was set out along with the enforced Act.

Reference 67 Number of recognized foreign domestic violence victims (2015)

(People)

Division Nationality/Region	Residence Procedures	Deportation Procedures	Consultations	Others	Total
Philippines	37	2	9	0	48
China	15	0	4	1	20
Indonesia	5	0	0	0	5
Thailand	3	0	0	0	3
Brazil	2	0	1	0	3
Viet Nam	2	0	1	0	3
Peru	2	0	0	0	2
Romania	1	0	1	0	2
Taiwan	1	0	1	0	2
Nepal	1	0	1	0	2
Ukraine	2	0	0	0	2
Myanmar	1	0	0	0	1
Colombia	0	1	0	0	1
Malaysia	0	0	1	0	1
Total	72	3	19	1	95

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

Reference 68 Changes in the number of domestic violence cases recognized by regional immigration bureau

(People)

Regional Immigration Bureaus Year	Sapporo	Sendai	Tokyo	Nagoya	Osaka	Hiroshima	Takamatsu	Fukuoka	Total
2013	0	3	21	19	17	6	2	10	78
2014	0	3	16	31	7	10	0	8	75
2015	1	1	18	39	18	9	0	9	95