

February, 2013

# Result of an annual survey of international students in Japan 2012



Japan Student Services Organization(JASSO) has conducted an annual survey of international students in Japan at the graduate school, university, junior college, college of technology, professional training college and university preparatory course, with the aim of understanding the student's enrollment and gathering basic information for international student exchange policies.

Note1. Ministry of education, culture, sports, science and technology (MEXT) has conducted this survey until 2003. JASSO was established in April 2004 and succeeded conducting this survey.

Note2. "International student" on this survey is defined as a student from a foreign country who is receiving education at any Japanese university, graduate school, junior college, college of technology, professional training college or university preparatory course and who resides in Japan with "College student" visa status.

Note3. Although status of residence "College student" and "Pre-college student" were unified on July 1, 2010, the results of survey of the Japanese language institutes (former "Pre-college student" status of residence) are released as "reference data" for convenience.

Note4. "Japanese government scholarship student" on this survey is defined as a student who studies in Japan under the Japanese government (MEXT) scholarship program established in 1954 and another Japanese government scholarship program.

Note5. "Foreign government sponsored student" on this survey is defined as a student getting scholarship sponsored by his/her own country/region, Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) and joint scholarship sponsored by Korean government.

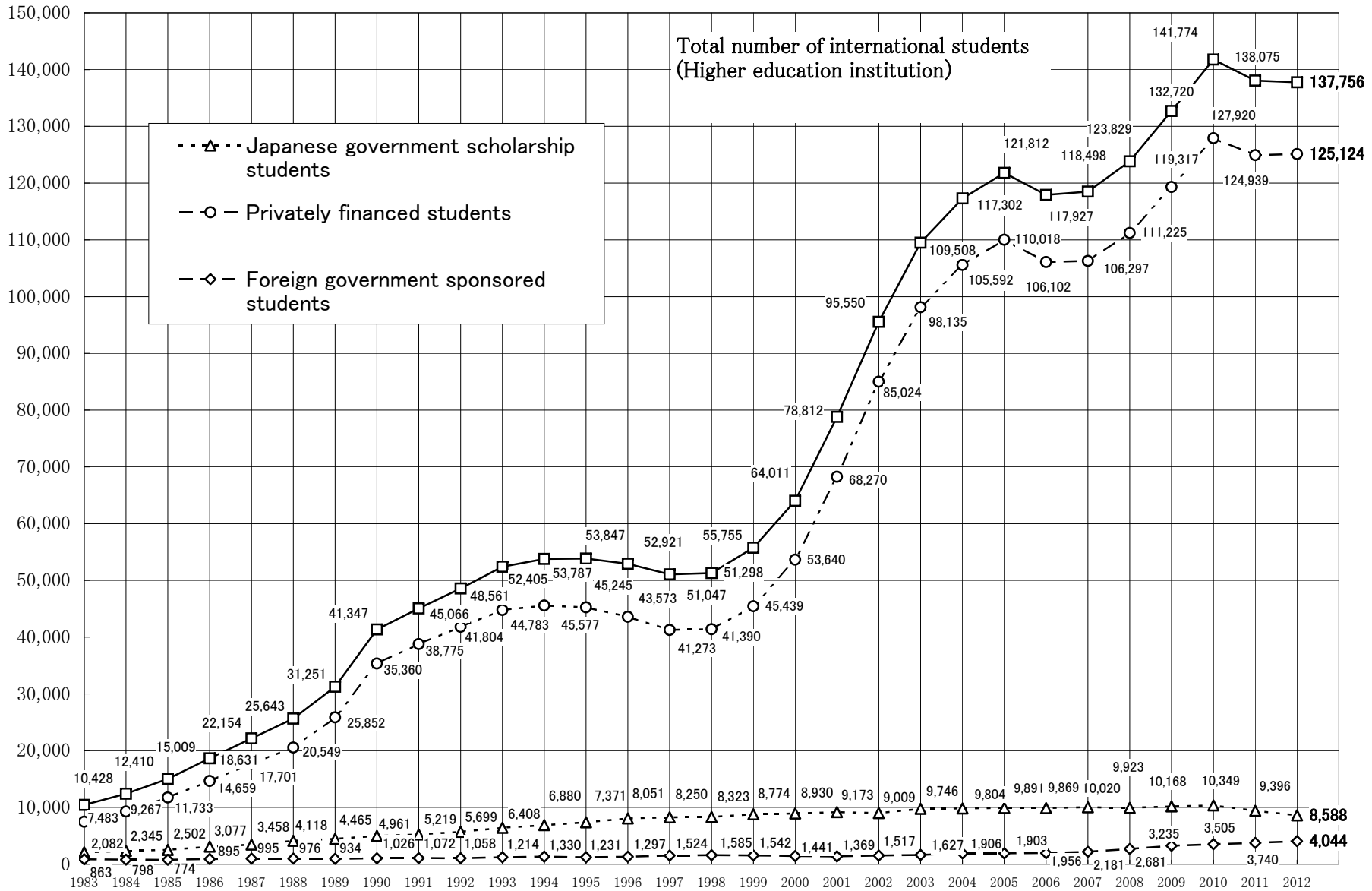
Note6. "Short-term international student" on this survey is defined as a student from a foreign country who is receiving education in Japan for a period of one year or less. The purpose of a student is not necessarily to obtain a degree but rather to study at Japanese university, to experience a Japanese culture, or to master Japanese language.

Note7. "University preparatory course" is a course that has been designated by MEXT for students from countries where the number of years required for the completion of secondary education is less than 12 years. Upon completion of this course, students are permitted to enter a Japanese university.

Note8. The sum total of the number of each items may not match with the number of the total column in the table because of using the rounded-off number.

# 1. Trend in number of international students by source of funds (As of each May 1)

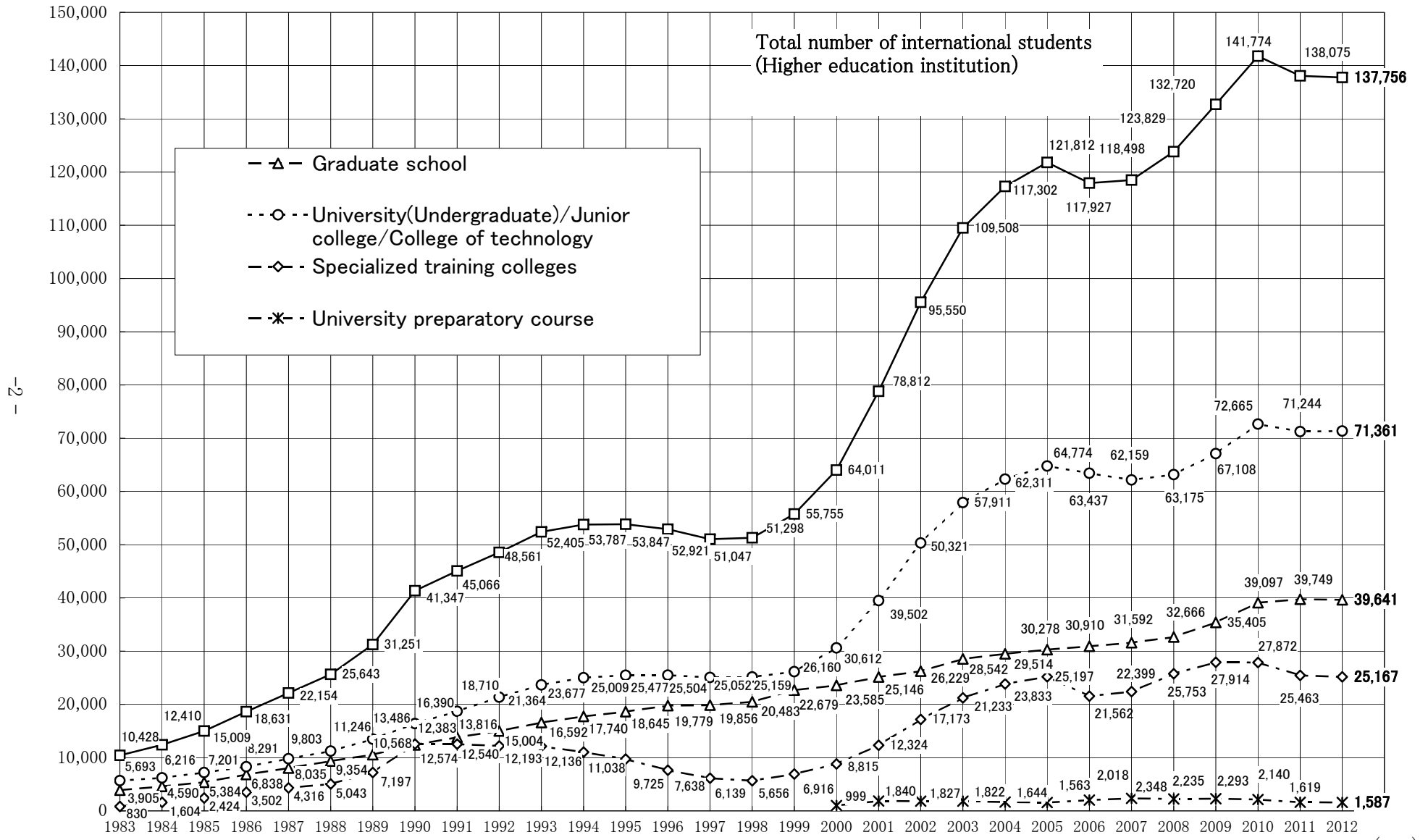
(Unit: person)



※Reference: International students in Japanese language institutes (As of May 1, 2012) 24,092 persons (Not included in above mentioned total number) (year)

## 2. Trend in number of international students by institutional type (As of each May 1)

(Unit: person)



※Reference: International students in Japanese language institutes (As of May 1, 2012) 24,092 persons (Not included in above mentioned total number)

(year)

### 3. Number of international students by region of origin

In the number of international students according to home region, 92.3% (previous year: 93.5%) of the students came from Asia, and 5.0% (previous year: 4.0%) from Europe and North America.

Regarding the short-term international students, 61.7% (previous year: 67.9%) of the students came from Asia, and 34.0% (previous year: 28.4%) from Europe and North America.

Region	Number of students	% of total	Short-term students	
			Number of students	% of total
Asia	127,178	92.3%	6,876	61.7%
	(129,163)	(93.5)	(6,192)	(67.9)
Europe	4,456	3.2%	2,240	20.1%
	(3,722)	(2.7)	(1,597)	(17.5)
North America	2,435	1.8%	1,551	13.9%
	(1,742)	(1.3)	(992)	(10.9)
Middle East	1,112	0.8%	45	0.4%
	(1,018)	(0.7)	(35)	(0.4)
Africa	1,106	0.8%	66	0.6%
	(1,136)	(0.8)	(58)	(0.6)
Latin America	926	0.7%	101	0.9%
	(886)	(0.6)	(94)	(1.0)
Oceania	543	0.4%	267	2.4%
	(408)	(0.3)	(152)	(1.7)
Total	137,756	100.0%	11,146	100.0%
	(138,075)	(100.0)	(9,120)	(100.0)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

#### 4. Number of international students by nationality

##### (1) Number of international students by nationality

Students from China, Republic of Korea and Taiwan account for over 78.2% (previous year: 79.5%) of the total number of international students.

Country/region	Number of students	% of total	Country/region	Number of students	% of total
China	86,324 (87,533)	62.7% (63.4)	Philippines	497 (498)	0.4% (0.4)
Republic of Korea	16,651 (17,640)	12.1% (12.8)	United Kingdom	429 (364)	0.3% (0.3)
Taiwan	4,617 (4,571)	3.4% (3.3)	Saudi Arabia	413 (336)	0.3% (0.2)
Vietnam	4,373 (4,033)	3.2% (2.9)	Australia	338 (231)	0.2% (0.2)
Nepal	2,451 (2,016)	1.8% (1.5)	Russia	333 (331)	0.2% (0.2)
Malaysia	2,319 (2,417)	1.7% (1.8)	Cambodia	311 (326)	0.2% (0.2)
Indonesia	2,276 (2,162)	1.7% (1.6)	Canada	302 (286)	0.2% (0.2)
Thailand	2,167 (2,396)	1.6% (1.7)	Brazil	272 (272)	0.2% (0.2)
U.S.A	2,133 (1,456)	1.5% (1.1)	Sweden	244 (193)	0.2% (0.1)
Myanmar	1,151 (1,118)	0.8% (0.8)	Laos	223 (248)	0.2% (0.2)
Mongolia	1,114 (1,170)	0.8% (0.8)	Iran	213 (229)	0.2% (0.2)
Bangladesh	1,052 (1,322)	0.8% (1.0)	Egypt	213 (235)	0.2% (0.2)
France	740 (530)	0.5% (0.4)	Singapore	211 (186)	0.2% (0.1)
Sri Lanka	670 (737)	0.5% (0.5)	Uzbekistan	203 (191)	0.1% (0.1)
Germany	566 (393)	0.4% (0.3)	Others	4,409 (4,082)	3.2% (3.0)
India	541 (573)	0.4% (0.4)	Total	137,756 (138,075)	100.0% (100.0)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

(2) Number of short-term international students by nationality

52.9% (previous year: 57.5%) from China, Republic of Korea and Taiwan, and 20.4% (previous year: 15.4%) from U.S.A, France and Germany.

Country/region	Number of students	% of total	Country/region	Number of students	% of total
China	3,478 (3,434)	31.2% (37.7)	Italy	92 (55)	0.8% (0.6)
Republic of Korea	1,595 (1,205)	14.3% (13.2)	Spain	72 (47)	0.6% (0.5)
U.S.A	1,409 (877)	12.6% (9.6)	Mongolia	55 (67)	0.5% (0.7)
Taiwan	823 (605)	7.4% (6.6)	Norway	54 (35)	0.5% (0.4)
France	454 (274)	4.1% (3.0)	Singapore	45 (35)	0.4% (0.4)
Germany	415 (256)	3.7% (2.8)	Poland	45 (52)	0.4% (0.6)
Thailand	301 (299)	2.7% (3.3)	Malaysia	44 (33)	0.4% (0.4)
United Kingdom	297 (233)	2.7% (2.6)	Philippines	43 (42)	0.4% (0.5)
Australia	223 (125)	2.0% (1.4)	New Zealand	43 (26)	0.4% (0.3)
Indonesia	196 (185)	1.8% (2.0)	Switzerland	41 (43)	0.4% (0.5)
Vietnam	158 (149)	1.4% (1.6)	Belgium	38 (22)	0.3% (0.2)
Canada	142 (115)	1.3% (1.3)	Brazil	37 (29)	0.3% (0.3)
Sweden	122 (88)	1.1% (1.0)	Mexico	34 (39)	0.3% (0.4)
Russia	102 (83)	0.9% (0.9)	Denmark	34 (31)	0.3% (0.3)
Netherlands	99 (66)	0.9% (0.7)	Others	563 (494)	5.1% (5.4)
Finland	92 (76)	0.8% (0.8)	Total	11,146 (9,120)	100.0% (100.0)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

5. Number of international students by gender

Gender	Number of students		% of total	
Male	70,518	(70,540)	51.2%	(51.1)
Female	67,238	(67,535)	48.8%	(48.9)
Total	137,756	(138,075)	100.0%	(100.0)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

6. Number of international students by institutional type

	National		Local public		Private		Total	
	Number of students	% of total	Number of students	% of total	Number of students	% of total	Number of students	% of total
Graduate school	24,680 (24,937)	62.3% (62.7)	1,680 (1,713)	4.2% (4.3)	13,281 (13,099)	33.5% (33.0)	39,641 (39,749)	100.0% (100.0)
University (undergraduate)	10,293 (9,931)	14.9% (14.4)	1,636 (1,495)	2.4% (2.2)	57,345 (57,475)	82.8% (83.4)	69,274 (68,901)	100.0% (100.0)
Junior college	0 (0)	0.0% (0.0)	6 (7)	0.4% (0.4)	1,597 (1,820)	99.6% (99.6)	1,603 (1,827)	100.0% (100.0)
College of technology	432 (470)	89.3% (91.1)	1 (2)	0.2% (0.4)	51 (44)	10.5% (8.5)	484 (516)	100.0% (100.0)
Professional training college	0 (0)	0.0% (0.0)	12 (13)	0.05% (0.05%)	25,155 (25,450)	99.95% (99.95)	25,167 (25,463)	100.0% (100.0)
University preparatory course	0 (0)	0.0% (0.0)	0 (0)	0.0% (0.0)	1,587 (1,619)	100.0% (100.0)	1,587 (1,619)	100.0% (100.0)
Total	35,405 (35,338)	25.7% (25.6)	3,335 (3,230)	2.4% (2.3)	99,016 (99,507)	71.9% (72.1)	137,756 (138,075)	100.0% (100.0)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011



7. Number of international students by major field

Major field	Number of students		% of total	
Humanities	28,074	(27,873)	20.4%	(20.2)
Social science	54,187	(55,732)	39.3%	(40.4)
Science	2,140	(2,123)	1.6%	(1.5)
Engineering	23,316	(23,320)	16.9%	(16.9)
Agriculture	3,105	(3,196)	2.3%	(2.3)
Health care	3,068	(3,003)	2.2%	(2.2)
Home economics	2,930	(2,684)	2.1%	(1.9)
Education	3,349	(3,277)	2.4%	(2.4)
Arts	4,594	(4,491)	3.3%	(3.3)
Others	12,993	(12,376)	9.4%	(9.0)
Total	137,756	(138,075)	100.0%	(100.0)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

8. Number of international students by region and prefecture of Japan

Region	Number of students	% of total	Prefecture	Number of students	Region	Number of students	% of total	Prefecture	Number of students			
Hokkaido	2,737 (2,734)	2.0% (2.0)	Hokkaido	2,737 (2,734)	Kinki	25,691 (24,807)	18.6% (18.0)	Mie	946 (1,025)			
								Shiga	454 (470)			
Kyoto	6,900 (6,246)											
Osaka	10,521 (10,325)											
Hyogo	5,128 (4,959)											
Nara	1,463 (1,490)											
Wakayama	279 (292)											
Tohoku	3,385 (3,746)	2.5% (2.7)	Aomori	281 (413)				Chugoku	6,821 (7,142)	5.0% (5.2)	Tottori	183 (183)
			Iwate	350 (375)							Shimane	195 (230)
			Miyagi	1,872 (2,018)							Okayama	2,273 (2,516)
			Akita	355 (292)	Hiroshima	2,499 (2,647)						
			Yamagata	225 (207)	Yamaguchi	1,671 (1,566)						
			Fukushima	302 (441)	Shikoku	1,309 (1,418)	1.0% (1.0)				Tokushima	332 (350)
Kanto	64,429 (64,088)	46.8% (46.4)	Ibaraki	2,638 (2,713)				Kagawa	351 (378)			
			Tochigi	1,075 (1,073)				Ehime	462 (507)			
			Gunma	1,366 (1,571)				Kochi	164 (183)			
			Saitama	5,877 (6,013)				Kyushu	18,219 (18,699)	13.2% (13.5)	Fukuoka	10,434 (10,635)
			Chiba	5,290 (4,850)							Saga	292 (341)
			Tokyo	43,500 (43,188)	Nagasaki	1,461 (1,518)						
Kanagawa	4,683 (4,680)	Kumamoto	724 (667)									
Chubu	15,165 (15,441)	11.0% (11.2)	Niigata	1,533 (1,592)	Oita	3,562 (3,873)						
			Toyama	567 (571)	Miyazaki	170 (167)						
			Ishikawa	1,570 (1,670)	Kagoshima	968 (881)						
			Fukui	288 (309)	Okinawa	608 (617)						
			Yamanashi	841 (880)	Total	137,756 (138,075)	100.0% (100.0)					
			Nagano	774 (681)								
			Gifu	1,406 (1,353)								
			Shizuoka	1,563 (1,679)								
Aichi	6,623 (6,706)											

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

Note: International students attending universities whose campuses lie in two or more prefectures are included in the figure for the prefecture where the main office of the university is located.

9. Number of international students by housing (As of May 1, 2012)

○Total number of international students: 137,756 students (Decrease of 319 students)

○Students in public housing: 29,940 students (Increase of 1,600 students)

①International student housing set up by schools 18,759 students

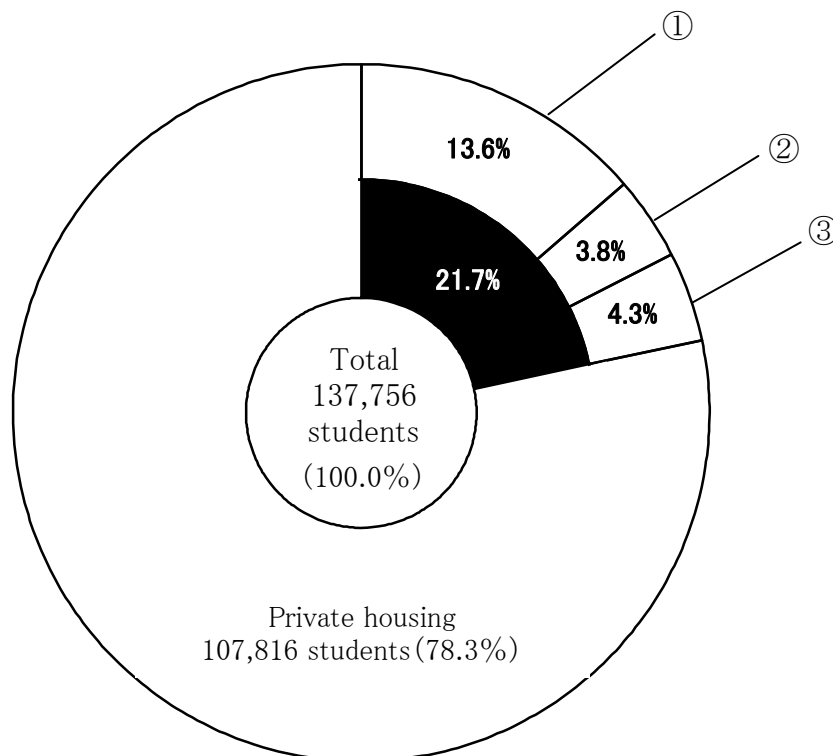
National universities	83 schools	8,384 students
Local public universities	27 schools	717 students
Private universities	304 schools	9,658 students

②International student housing set up by public corporations, etc. 5,247 students

Student housing set up by JASSO	742 students
Student housing set up by local government	850 students
Student housing set up by public corporations	1,305 students
Public housing	1,903 students
Private company housing	447 students

③General student housing set up by schools 5,934 students

Natioal universities	102 schools	3,177 students
Local public universities	11 schools	218 students
Private universities	232 schools	2,539 students



【Reference 1】

Shift in number and percentage of international students

Year	Number of students	Annual increase	Annual % change
1983	10,428	2,312	28.5%
1984	12,410	1,982	19.0%
1985	15,009	2,599	20.9%
1986	18,631	3,622	24.1%
1987	22,154	3,523	18.9%
1988	25,643	3,489	15.7%
1989	31,251	5,608	21.9%
1990	41,347	10,096	32.3%
1991	45,066	3,719	9.0%
1992	48,561	3,495	7.8%
1993	52,405	3,844	7.9%
1994	53,787	1,382	2.6%
1995	53,847	60	0.1%
1996	52,921	▲ 926	▲1.7%
1997	51,047	▲ 1,874	▲3.5%
1998	51,298	251	0.5%
1999	55,755	4,457	8.7%
2000	64,011	8,256	14.8%
2001	78,812	14,801	23.1%
2002	95,550	16,738	21.2%
2003	109,508	13,958	14.6%
2004	117,302	7,794	7.1%
2005	121,812	4,510	3.8%
2006	117,927	▲ 3,885	▲3.2%
2007	118,498	571	0.5%
2008	123,829	5,331	4.5%
2009	132,720	8,891	7.2%
2010	141,774	9,054	6.8%
2011	138,075	▲ 3,699	▲2.6%
2012	137,756	▲ 319	▲0.2%

(As of each May 1)

【Reference 2】

Major universities in terms of number of international students (As of May 1, 2012)

University name		Number of students	
Waseda University	Private	3,771	(3,393)
Japan University of Economics	Private	3,135	(3,378)
The University of Tokyo	National	2,873	(2,877)
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University	Private	2,526	(2,692)
Kyushu University	National	1,931	(1,866)
Osaka University	National	1,925	(1,780)
University of Tsukuba	National	1,681	(1,663)
Kyoto University	National	1,664	(1,631)
Nagoya University	National	1,611	(1,556)
Tohoku University	National	1,428	(1,497)
Nihon University	Private	1,378	(1,340)
Hokkaido University	National	1,347	(1,340)
Ritsumeikan University	Private	1,324	(1,253)
Tokyo Institute of Technology	National	1,241	(1,252)
Keio University	Private	1,203	(1,072)
Kobe University	National	1,132	(1,108)
Doshisha University	Private	1,131	(877)
Osaka Sangyo University	Private	1,098	(1,154)
Meiji University	Private	1,089	(1,046)
Takushoku University	Private	1,030	(970)
Hiroshima University	National	1,005	(1,090)
Kokushikan University	Private	967	(1,159)
Chiba University	National	961	(1,025)
Meikai University	Private	924	(859)
Yokohama National University	National	861	(868)
Tokyo International University	Private	835	(831)
Josai International University	Private	810	(882)
Sophia University	Private	757	(520)
Chuo University	Private	750	(684)
Kansai University	Private	726	(672)

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

【Reference 3】

International students in Japanese language institutes

1. Region of origin

Region	Number of students	% of total	Change
Asia	22,921	95.1%	▲ 1,673
Europe	774	3.2%	59
North America	187	0.8%	18
Africa	68	0.3%	23
Middle East	62	0.3%	27
Latin America	45	0.2%	4
Oceania	35	0.1%	12
Total	24,092	100.0%	▲ 1,530

2. Nationality

Country/region	Number of students	% of total	Change
China	15,079	62.6%	▲ 2,275
Republic of Korea	2,268	9.4%	▲ 594
Vietnam	1,735	7.2%	689
Nepal	1,150	4.8%	193
Taiwan	962	4.0%	61
Myanmar	418	1.7%	37
Thailand	406	1.7%	21
Indonesia	221	0.9%	63
Sweden	207	0.9%	37
Sri Lanka	175	0.7%	42
Others	1,471	6.1%	196
Total	24,092	100.0%	▲ 1,530

3. Number of international students by region and prefecture of Japan

Region	Number of students	% of total	Prefecture	Number of students	Region	Number of students	% of total	Prefecture	Number of students	
Hokkaido	116 (138)	0.5% (0.5%)	Hokkaido	116 (138)	Kinki	3,411 (3,422)	14.2% (13.4%)	Mie	46 (100)	
								Shiga	0 (0)	
Tohoku	239 (453)	1.0% (1.8%)	Aomori	0 (0)	Chugoku	340 (410)	1.6% (1.6%)	Wakayama	0 (0)	
			Iwate	0 (0)				Tottori	0 (0)	
			Miyagi	221 (442)				Shimane	0 (0)	
			Akita	0 (0)				Okayama	215 (240)	
			Yamagata	0 (1)				Hiroshima	125 (170)	
			Fukushima	18 (10)				Yamaguchi	0 (0)	
Kanto	16,194 (17,217)	67.2% (67.2%)	Ibaraki	38 (60)	Shikoku	0 (0)	0.0% (0.0%)	Tokushima	0 (0)	
			Tochigi	188 (204)				Kagawa	0 (0)	
			Gunma	274 (179)				Ehime	0 (0)	
			Saitama	597 (572)				Kochi	0 (0)	
			Chiba	821 (884)				Fukuoka	1,681 (1,843)	
			Tokyo	13,282 (14,247)				Saga	146 (115)	
			Kanagawa	994 (1,071)				Nagasaki	0 (0)	
Chubu	1,721 (1,809)	7.1% (7.1%)	Niigata	0 (0)	Kyushu	2,071 (2,173)	8.6% (8.5%)	Kumamoto	0 (0)	
			Toyama	20 (19)				Oita	33 (0)	
			Ishikawa	0 (0)				Miyazaki	0 (0)	
			Fukui	0 (0)				Kagoshima	33 (47)	
			Yamanashi	99 (107)				Okinawa	178 (168)	
			Nagano	172 (188)				Total	24,092 (25,622)	100.0% (100.0)
			Gifu	170 (164)						
			Shizuoka	436 (500)						
			Aichi	824 (831)						

( ) indicates figures as of May 1, 2011

4. Number of international students by housing(As of May 1, 2012)

○Number of international students 24, 092 students (Decrease of 1,530 students)

○Students in public housing 8, 298 students (Increase of 1,216 students)

Type	Number of students	Change
Public housing	8,298	1,216
International student housing set up by schools	7,010	119
International student housing set up by public corporations, etc.	233	42
Student housing set up by JASSO	0	▲ 2
Student housing set up by local government	10	7
Student housing set up by public corporations	19	1
Public housing	115	38
Private company housing	89	▲ 2
General student housing set up by schools	1,055	156
Private housing	15,794	▲ 2,746
Total	24,092	▲ 1,530

