

Progress Status of the “300,000 International Students Plan”

【 FY2008-2009 】

August 2009



STUDY in JAPAN

Cabinet Office

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

Ministry of Justice (MOJ)

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW)

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

Contents

1. Offering Incentives to Study in Japan	2
(1) Spread of Japanese Language Overseas	2
(2) Enhancement of the Function to Provide Information Through an Image Strategy, One-stop Service, and Other Approaches	3
2. Improving the Introduction of Entrance Examinations, Enrollment, and Entry in Japan	5
(1) Improvement and Expansion of Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)	5
(2) Prompt and Smooth Entry and Residence Examination	6
3. Internationalization of Universities	7
4. Improving the Environment for Accepting International Students	9
(1) Securing Accommodation for International Students	9
(2) Improvement of Scholarship Programs for International Students	11
5. Globalization of Society	12
(1) Readiness to Accept international Students Who Have Graduated or Completed Their Courses	12
(2) Improvement of Follow-up Programs After Returning Home	14
<References>	15
I. Framework of the “300,000 International Students Plan” (July 29, 2008)	15
II. Framework of the “300,000 International Students Plan” (Outline)	18
III. Major Items of the FY 2009 Budget for Relevant Ministries Regarding the “300,000 International Students Plan”	19
IV. Basic Reference (Data)	21

(1) Spread of Japanese Language Overseas

(Current Status)

JF promotes overseas Japanese Language Education through 40 core institutions of Japanese Language Education Sakura Network (as of FY2008).



(Specific Action)

To spread Japanese language education overseas and increase potential demand for study in Japan



Strategic expansion of Japanese language education programs (MOFA/Japan Foundation)

(Progress Status)

Expansion of the “Sakura Network(The JF Nihongo Network) (*1),” a base for Japanese language education

FY2008: 40 bases in 31 countries (e.g., Seoul, Paris) FY2010: 100 in total

More overseas bases are being established mainly at major universities with departments or subjects of Japanese language and culture in each country. As of June 2009, the number of bases has increased to 66 in 31 countries: Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), San Francisco State University (U.S.), Sofia University (Bulgaria), and others.

The frequency of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) (*2) has doubled from being held annually to being held biannually in some countries.

The test is conducted once a year at 144 cities in 51 nations and areas (no. of examinees: about 450,000). The test will be conducted twice a year (July and December) at 44 cities in China, Korea, and Taiwan (no. of examinees: about 360,000) (FY2009).

* 1: Sakura Network

The Japan Foundation established the “Sakura Network” to enhance overseas bases for Japanese language education. The network members include Japan Foundation’s overseas offices and major institutions/organizations involved in Japanese language education throughout the world. These organizations have supporting and cooperative relationships with the Japan Foundation. Institutions and organizations working on projects that have extensive ripple effects over the entire region or country, in addition to their own educational activities, form the “Core Members.” They are expected to make greater contribution to the establishment and development of Japanese language education as important bases.

*2 The Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) (overseas achievement in FY 2008)

Sponsor : Japan Foundation
Subject : Japanese (Level 1 – 4)
Frequency : annually (December)
Place : 144 cities in 51 nations and areas
No. of applicants : 538,925
No. of examinees : 449,810

(2) Enhancement of the Function to Provide Information Through an Image Strategy, One-stop Service, and Other Approaches

(Current Status) Insufficient information about study in Japan; complicated procedures

(Specific Action)

To encourage cooperation of overseas bases, including embassies and consulates, overseas offices of independent administrative corporations, and overseas bases of universities, and to formulate a system to provide one-stop service from information supply to consultation
To develop country- and region-based strategies to attract international students

Production of introductory materials: DVD about study in Japan, image logo, poster, pamphlet, pin-badge, consultation manual (supplemental budget for FY 2008: ¥50 million) (MEXT)

These materials will be used in international events in FY2009 and after: the Japan Education Fair (20 places in 13 countries, such as Korea and Vietnam) and the International Travel Fair (11 places in 10 countries, incl. Canada).



Image logo



DVD, poster, pamphlet, pin-badge, consultation manual

Improvement of the portal site for study in Japan (new budget for FY 2009: ¥30 million) (MEXT/JASSO)

A portal site will be established on the JASSO website within FY 2009.

Improvement of the consultation system at overseas offices (new budget for FY2009: ¥4.08 billion) (MEXT)

Eight overseas offices (e.g., New Delhi, Tunis (*1)) are established for shared utilization by universities under the Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization (Global 30) in FY 2009. These offices will provide comprehensive information on Japanese universities overall, including enrollment seminars, admissions tests, etc.

One-stop services in collaboration among relevant ministries (MEXT/MOFA/METI and others)

Details of the responsibilities and cooperation of existing overseas bases are to be defined by relevant ministries.

Information service about study in Japan to foreign youth who joined the "Ship for Youth" programs (Cabinet Office)

Provision of information about study in Japan to foreign youth who joined the "Ship for World Youth Program" and the "Ship for Southeast Asian Youth Program" since FY 2009.

Promotion of the Visit Japan Upgrade Project (*2)

(MLIT/MEXT/JASSO)

Participation of JASSO at the International Travel Fair where the Tourism Agency exhibits (11 fairs in Hong Kong and other cities) to promote study in Japan since FY 2009

(Progress Status)

***1 Overseas Office for Shared Utilization by Universities (Global 30)**

- Tohoku University: Liaison office of Tohoku University in Russia (Moscow/Russia)
- University of Tsukuba: Office of University of Tsukuba in Tunis for Japanese Universities (Tunis/Tunisia)
- The University of Tokyo: Information Center of the University of Tokyo, Hyderabad (Hyderabad/ India)
- Nagoya University: Uzbekistan office of Nagoya University (Tashkent/Uzbekistan)
- Kyoto University: Kyoto University Hanoi office (Hanoi/Vietnam)
- Kyushu University: Kyushu University Cairo office (Cairo/Egypt)
- Waseda University: Europe Center (Bonn/Germany)
- Ritsumeikan University: Ritsumeikan Office of India (New Delhi/India)

***2 Visit Japan Upgrade Project**

The Visit Japan Campaign was launched to achieve the goal of increasing the number of foreign tourists to visit Japan to 10 million by the 2010, by promoting the attractiveness of Japan for overseas and supporting the development of attractive Japanese travel products. Under this campaign, the “Visit Japan Upgrade Project” is designed to increase the satisfaction level among foreign tourists to Japan and encourage repeat visits from 2008. In addition to promoting even greater understanding of Japan’s many appeals, the effort will also work towards greater convenience for travelers such as IC card standardization and compatibility.

Visit Japan Upgrade Project

In order to achieve the goal of 10 million overseas visitors to Japan in 2010, it is necessary to increase the number of repeat visitors, by enhancing satisfaction among foreign tourists and making trips to Japan their main destination of choice. With the goal year of 2010 coming into sight, it is necessary to develop post-2010 measures.

Further expansion of the strength and range of information dissemination	<p>Priority markets</p>	<p>Emerging markets</p>
	<p>While paying attention to the individual characteristics of 12 priority markets, tourism promotion projects such as inviting the media and agents, participation in travel shows and fairs, advertisements, and youth exchanges will be implemented. Efforts will be concentrated on the following visions especially in FY 2009.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Enhance transmission of Japanese culture and arts in collaboration with MOFA and the Agency for Cultural Affairs (2) Tie-up with the “300,000 International Students Plan”. (3) Activities to expand the tourism exchange among Japan, China, and South Korea* <p>As for projects conducted jointly with local regions, focus should be placed on those consistent with national strategies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A portfolio is a key to attracting future foreign tourists, rather than relying on certain markets. Therefore, it is necessary to examine potential target markets for promotion although the promotion approach to such markets still in its infancy. • From the viewpoints of expected demand for trips to Japan and future growth, the following 10 markets are selected as targets: India, Russia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Italy, Spain, Vietnam, Mexico, and GCC countries. • Basic research, a monitoring survey, and study for promotion method development will be conducted regarding the above markets.

Improvement of the satisfaction level of tourists	<p>Identification of tourism dynamics</p>	<p>Improvement of the environment to help independent tourists enjoy safe and easy trips</p>
	<p>Project to study the behavior of foreign tourists to Japan To identify the behavior of foreign tourists and lodging status</p> <p>Development of guidelines for statistics on incoming tourists and their consumption during their stay To develop a “common guideline” for both statistics</p>	<p>Project to investigate the possible standardization and mutual use of IC travel tickets and cards in Asia Improvement of the environment to help foreign tourists enjoy trips in Japan without feeling any stress</p> <p>Field study to identify the environment to accept foreign tourists Transportation companies and other relevant entities to suggest specific improvements to encourage proactive efforts to improve convenience for foreign tourists</p>

[International Travel Fairs that JASSO is expected to join in FY 2009]

- Hong Kong (June), Canada (Oct.), Korea (Nov.), Germany (Jan.), Spain (Jan.), UK (Feb.), US (Feb.), Italy (Feb.), France (Mar.), Germany (Mar.), and Russia (Mar.)

(1) Improvement and Expansion of Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)

(Current Status)

Most potential university and postgraduate students from overseas, except Japanese government scholarship students, are required to visit Japan to take an examination and gain admission acceptance. Examination as prerequisite for pre-arrival admission is conducted at only 16 cities in 13 countries (as of FY 2008).



(Specific Action)

To significantly increase the countries and regions where international students can take an "Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)," thereby increasing pre-visit admission acceptance by universities



(Progress Status)

Improvement of EJU for international students (*1) (¥340 million) (MEXT/JASSO)

No. of examinees overseas: 6,277 (FY2007) 7,151 persons (FY 2008) (about 14% up)

The no. of applicable cities should be increased from 16 cities in 13 countries to 17 cities.

Trial examinations will be conducted in Hong Kong as a new test site, for full-scale implementation in FY 2010.

Research and investigation of multi-language examination questions that will start in FY 2009

Research will be conducted to study the possible addition of Chinese and Korean to the current Japanese and English.

Increasing number of successful applicants for pre-arrival examination by using the current system

128 persons (FY 2007) 222 persons (FY 2008)

Considering possible operation of EJU at Overseas Office for Shared Utilization by Universities established under the Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization, etc.

*1: Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)(overseas, 2008)

Sponsor: Japan Student Services Organization

Subject: Japanese, Science, General subjects, Mathematics

Frequency: biannually (June, November)

Place: 16 cities in 13 countries New Delhi (India),
 Jakarta & Surabaya (Indonesia), Hanoi & Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam),
 Seoul & Pusan (Korea), Singapore (Singapore), Colombo (Sri Lanka),
 Bangkok (Thailand), Taipei (Taiwan), Manila (the Philippines),
 Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Yangon (Myanmar), Ulan Bator (Mongolia),
 Vladivostok (Russia)

No. of applicants: 8,905

No. of examinees: 7,151

(2) Prompt and Smooth Entry and Residence Examination

(Current Status)

The entry and residence examinations for international students generally take about one month. Applicants are required to submit several documents, including the application form, admission permit, and documents to prove financial ability to cover living expenses.



(Specific Action)

When an application comes from a university that is recognized to have proper student management in place, in principle, no other documents except the application form are required. The examination period should also be reduced.



Prompt and smooth entry and residence examination (MOJ)

When an application comes from a university that is recognized to properly manage international student enrollment (no record of illegal overstayers or workers), in principle, no other documents except the application form are required.

In the form “The Proposal Concerning Acceptance of International Students and Pre-college Students” (the Discussion Meeting on Immigration Control Policy, Jan. 2009), the minister of justice was given a report that residence management of international students shall be properly conducted based on the information provided by universities and other relevant institutions for proper and smooth acceptance, and that as for applications from universities that are recognized to conduct proper enrollment management, fewer submissions and a reduced examination period will be allowed for prompt and smooth entry and residence examination of international students.

(Progress Status)

In response to the proposals, the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (hereinafter referred to as the “Immigration Control Act”) was amended to include the provision that universities and other institutions shall provide information about the enrollment status of international students (July 2009).

(References)

The amended Immigration Control Act now includes provisions about the integration of the status of “College Student” and the status of “Pre-college Student” and extended length of stay so that foreign students can focus on their studies without anxiety (July 2009).

Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act were also amended to add length of stay: “2 years and 3 months” and “1 year and 3 months” for the status of “College Student” and “1 year and 3 months” for the status of “Pre-college Student” (Since July 2009).

3 Internationalization of Universities

(Current Status)

In Japan, international students can obtain degrees through English-only classes: at 6 departments of 5 universities and 124 graduate courses of 68 universities (FY2007). The percentage of foreign teachers is 5% (FY 2008).



(Specific Action)

To accelerate the internationalization of universities and promote the creation of attractive universities for international students, by launching the Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization (Global 30), etc.



Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization

(Global 30) (*1) (new budget for FY2009: ¥4.08 billion) (MEXT)

Thirteen universities (e.g., The University of Tokyo, Waseda University, and Keio University) were selected.

Implementation of development of a system in which degree courses can be offered entirely in English, improvement of the environment to accept international students and promotion of strategic international cooperation, etc.

Internationalization through improved scholarship programs (MEXT)

Establishment of the Student Exchange Support Program (new budget for FY2009: ¥2.3 billion; supplemental budget for FY2009: ¥3.1 billion)

The program supports students who come to Japan or go abroad (dispatched) for short-term study (3 months to 1 year), whose number is expected to increase worldwide, and Japanese students who are on long-term study (more than 1 year) to take a degree, in order to promote active exchanges among universities.

(Progress Status)

(Breakdown)

No. of international students on short-term study: 3,600 persons (new for FY2009: 1,800; supplemental for FY2009: 1,800)

Monthly stipend: ¥80,000; preparatory allowance: ¥80,000

No. of Japanese students on short-term study: 2,940 persons (new for FY 2009: 740; supplemental for FY 2009: 2,200)

Monthly stipend: ¥80,000

No. of Japanese students on long-term study: 250 persons (new for FY2009: 50; supplemental for FY2009: 200)

Monthly stipend: ¥102,000 - 170,000, tuition fees equivalent to actual costs

Fellowship Program "International Research Experience for Students and Young Researchers" (MEXT/JSPS)

Dispatch young researchers, graduate students and undergraduate students who are expected to be leaders in Japan.

*1 Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization (Global 30)

In order to increase international competitiveness of Japanese higher education and to offer attractive and high-quality education to international students, it is vital to develop some universities into cores for internationalization, where international students and faculty can enjoy high-quality education and research.

To this end, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is implementing the Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization, in which universities out of all universities in Japan are to be selected and achieve specific goals with intensive support.

Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization

Designation of universities as core universities for internationalization

Select universities as core universities among those with high quality education and research in accordance with their mission and functions and a welcoming environment for international students

Details of implementation

【Teaching in English】

- To develop a system in which degree courses can be offered entirely in English. (Including development of English teaching materials and training of Japanese teaching staff)
- Internationally open recruitment of staff to teach specialized subjects in English. Assignment of teaching staffs from overseas with fixed term.

【To improve the environment to accept international students】

- Support by specialized staff to international students in their daily life, employment search, and supplementary education.
- Introduction of fall (September) admission.

【To promote strategic international cooperation】

- To establish overseas one-stop service centers to admit international students.
- To expand student exchange programs based on exchange agreements between universities.

To be designated as one of the core universities for internationalization and provide international students with good levels of education and research, universities should intensively work on the following:

- To assign international teaching faculty.
- To develop English teaching materials.
- To assign support staff for international students.
- To establish oversea offices. (Assignment of support staff, establishment of local offices, etc.)

Universities selected as core universities

[National Universities]

- Tohoku University
- University of Tsukuba
- The University of Tokyo
- Nagoya University
- Kyoto University
- Osaka University
- Kyusyu University

[Private Universities]

- Keio University
- Sophia University
- Meiji University
- Waseda University
- Doshisha University
- Ritsumeikan University

(1) Securing Accommodation for International Students

(Current Status)

No. of international students living in public housing: 27,193 persons (22.9%)
 No. of international students living in private housing and apartments: 91,305 persons (77.1%) (FY2007)



(Specific Action)

To promote various measures to provide sufficient accommodation to international students who have been in Japan for under 1 year (incl. short-term stay) in cooperation between universities and relevant organizations, such as improvement of college dormitories, facilitating the renting of private dwelling houses, and effective use of public housing



(Progress Status)

*Increasing number of residents in public housing: 27,193 persons (FY2007)
 30,146 persons (FY2008)
 Increasing number of residents in private housing and apartments: 91,305 persons (FY2007)
 93,683 persons (FY2008)

Support to universities that lease private apartments for international students (¥160 million) (MEXT/JASSO)

The expenses required to lease private housing for international students who have been in Japan or attended school for under 1 year will be granted to support universities and other institutions.
 No. of supported housing units: 2,000 units 2,300 units (FY2009)

(Breakdown)

No. of supported housing units: 1,700 units for single persons, 100 units for families, 500 units for home-stay residence
 Amount of supporting grants: ¥80,000 for single persons, ¥130,000 for families, ¥20,000 for home-stay residence

Effective use of Regional Housing Grants, publicly-operated housing, UR rental housing, Trusted Rental Housing Project, and a liability guarantee for rental arrears (*2) [MLIT/MEXT]

No. of publicly-operated housing units used by international students for the purposes other than originally intended: 43 persons as of the end of FY 2008
 No of UR rental housing contracts with international students: 124 units in FY 2008 (incl. those leased by universities)

Joint usage of international students dormitories (MEXT)

The Central Council for Education is now studying the establishment of a system in which universities share educational facilities (incl. dormitories) with intensive government support.

*2 Effective use of Regional Housing Grants, publicly-operated housing, UR rental housing, the Trusted Rental Housing Project, and a liability guarantee system for rental arrears

Active use of the Regional Housing Grant system

Grants shall be awarded for the construction of rental housing, in order to provide good quality rental for the households need extra care including International students.

Support shall be given for unique activities in which autonomy and creativity of local governments are demonstrated through projects proposed for Regional Housing Grants.

Effective use of publicly-operated housing

Available housing in publicly-operated housing can be used in exceptional cases for international students.

Effective use of UR rental housing

Effective use of UR rental housing managed by the Urban Renaissance Agency

System for smooth acceptance of international students

An international student who attends a university that makes a comprehensive agreement with the Urban Renaissance Agency about residence matters signs a lease under his/her own name. Under the agreement, he/she pays only one month's deposit instead of the regular three months' deposit (provided that he/she join the "Comprehensive Renters' Insurance for International Students Studying in Japan" by Japan Educational Exchanges and Services (JEES).

In case a university is a holder of a contract title deed

Deposits might be all exempted when a university signs a contract as the holder of a title deed and the Urban Renaissance Agency approves it.

Promotion of Trusted Rental Housing Project

The project provides support to help international students smoothly move into private rental housing and establish a reliable lessor and lessee relationship.

Liability guarantee system for rental arrears through the Safety Fund for Senior Citizen Residents

This system facilitates residency of international student households in rental housing.

Effective use of the liability guarantee system for rental arrears by Japan Educational Exchanges and Services (JEES)

The Comprehensive Renters' Insurance for Foreign Students Studying in Japan by JEES covers rent liabilities and restoration expenses for a guarantor for international students at the time of residency in rental housing.

(2) Improvement of Scholarship Programs for International Students

(Current Status)

No. of Japanese government scholarship students: about 10,000 persons
 No. of Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students: 13,078 persons (FY 2008)



(Specific Action)

To define several levels of unit amount in the supporting and scholarship programs for Japanese government scholarship student and Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students, and to review and expand such programs so that universities can take more flexible approaches in terms of number of grantee and unit amounts



(Progress Status)

Japanese government scholarship student system (expansion and improvement of existing projects) (¥22.02 billion) (MEXT)

Increased number of accepted students: 11,974 persons 12,305 persons (331 up)

Establishment of several scholarship levels (unit amount)

Monthly stipend:

Graduate: ¥152,000 for research students, ¥154,000 for master's course, ¥155,000 for doctoral course

Undergraduate: ¥125,000 (¥2,000 or ¥3,000 added depending on the area)

Establishment of the range within which individual universities can determine the unit amount of scholarship and term of scholarship (for about 130 grantee)

Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students (expansion of existing projects with a supplemental budget for FY 2009) (¥7.89 billion; supplemental for FY 2009: ¥7.89 billion) (MEXT/JASSO)

Increased number of accepted students: 12,100 persons 24,940 persons
 (Breakdown in FY2009: regular budget: 12,470 persons; supplemental: 12,470 persons)

Review of monthly stipend and introduction of stricter performance standards

Monthly stipend: ¥65,000 for postgraduate, ¥48,000 for undergraduate

Student Exchange Support Program (Scholarship for short-term study in Japan) (expansion with a supplemental budget for FY 2009) (¥1.64 billion; supplemental for FY2009: ¥1.64 billion) (MEXT/JASSO)

Increased number of accepted students: 1,800 persons 3,600 persons

(Breakdown in FY 2009: regular budget: 1,800; supplemental: 1,800 persons)

Monthly stipend: ¥80,000; preparatory allowance: ¥80,000

Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) and Japanese ODA Loans for International Students (MOFA)

(1) To accept young administrative officials who are expected to engage in formulating and implementing social and economic development plans in master's courses at postgraduate schools
 FY 2008: 266 persons from 10 countries (Grant Aid) (¥4.2 billion)

Monthly stipend: ¥170,000, with tuition fees exempted

(2) Loans to the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand for International Students who are dispatched by government to study in Japan

FY2008: 224 persons in two countries

(1) Readiness to Accept International Students Who Have Graduated or Completed Their Courses

(Current Status)

International students who wish to find employment in Japan after graduation: 61.3%
 International students who actually did so of all graduate students: 30.6% (9,684 persons) (FY 2007)
 Lack of employment information and a limited period for job hunting are disadvantages to international students.



(Specific Action)

To introduce internship and job-hunting programs through cooperation among government, industry, and academia
 To extend the period for job hunting after graduation



Improvement of employment support for international students

(Progress Status)

Career Development Program for Foreign Students in Japan (*1) (expanded since FY 2007) (¥3.4 billion) (METI/MEXT)
 The program is designed to promote the development of human resources who are expected to play leading roles in business communities, through a series of supporting programs mainly to talented Asian students who intend to find employment at Japanese companies, through Japanese language education, internship programs, and employment support. This program is implemented by the consortium which is formed by the cooperation among industry and academia. There are two types of program: the Advanced Education Program for Career Development of Foreign Students who newly visit Japan and the Regional Internship Program for Career Development of Foreign Students who belong to domestic universities or graduate schools.
 No. of accepted students: about 1,200 persons in FY 2008 (advanced: 274 (Japanese government scholarship students)) (regional: 921)
 No. of consortiums: 21 (FY2007) 30 (FY2008) 32 (FY2009) (advanced: 23; regional: 9)
 About 70% of all graduates in March 2009 were employed in Japan or at a Japanese company (advanced: about 90%; regional: about 60%)
 Career fair for international students (new for FY2009: ¥10 million) (MEXT/JASSO)
 Offering “Meeting on career Guidance for International students” (*2)
 A total of 348 universities and 45 companies joined.
 The “Seminar for International students in Preparation for Job Hunting” (as planned in October 2009) provides opportunities for international students and companies to meet and match their needs.
 Employment service support by the “Employment Service Center for Foreigners” (¥350 million) (MHLW)
 Support programs for international students seeking job are available, provided by the “Employment Service Center for Foreigners” in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya, such as job offer cultivation, coordinating of internship program, consulting/advice services for students, and others. The Fukuoka Student Employment Center has started to provide the same service as the three Centers for Foreigners mentioned, since April 2009, to strengthen the basement of employment service for international students.
 Comprehensive Support Plan for International Students in Specialized Training Colleges (new in FY 2009: ¥130 million) (MEXT)
 To secure a workforce that can support the economy in the future, opportunities to acquire knowledge and techniques required for working in Japan and hands-on learning shall be increased for international students learning in specialized training colleges who wish to find employment in Japan. Local training colleges take the initiative in establishing comprehensive cooperative relationships with local governments and industries to offer educational programs and OJT opportunities (32 places: 8 areas and 24 technical schools).

Support for residency procedures for international students seeking jobs in Japan (MOJ)

Extension of the maximum length of the job-hunting period after graduation from 180 days to one year
 The maximum period of job hunting was extended from 180 days to one year (from April 2009).

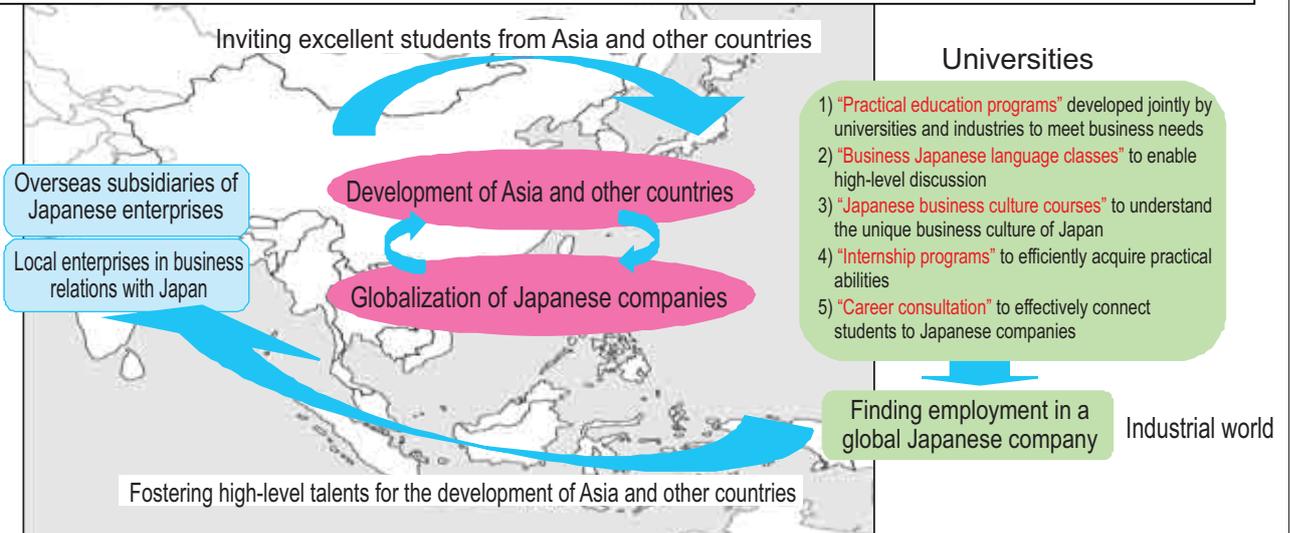
Clarification of job types that foreign nationals are allowed to do
 Relevant information is made available on the homepage of MOJ (from March 2008).

Flexible treatment in determining the status of residence
 In determining conformity with the status of residence, “engineer,” and/or “specialist in humanities/international services,” it is ensured that determination is made through flexible judgment of the relations between specialties at universities and types of activity at companies.

***1 Career Development Program for Foreign Students in Japan**

(Budget in FY 2009: ¥3.4 billion)

- ✓ In an age of globalization and aging population with low birth rate, it is important to develop talented human resources who can work as bridges between Japan and other countries in order to promote mutual understanding and economic cooperation in Asia and other regions and realize sustainable growth.
- ✓ To that end, a total supporting package, from business Japanese education, internship programs, and employment support, shall be provided to international students from Asia and other regions who have strong intention to find employment at a Japanese company and have high level of ability and motivation, and to help them grow to be excellent human resources who can play leading roles in the business world.
- ✓ Through the program, regional networks shall be established with universities that care about the future of international students and industries, eventually to increase the attractiveness of study in Japan (establishment of win-win-win relations between students, universities, and industries).



2 Meeting on Career Guidance for International Students (May 25, 2009)



(2) Improvement of Follow-up Programs After Returning Home

(Current Status) No. of alumni associations organized overseas: about 160 (FY2008)



(Specific Action) To strengthen human networks to support alumni students who understand Japan and could be advocates for Japan



Support to alumni associations (¥190 million) (MOFA)

Support is provided for the establishment and activities of alumni associations in each country (about 160 in 102 countries).

Alumni student follow-up programs by JASSO (MEXT/JASSO)

Follow-up Research Fellowship: short-term invitation to the university from which they graduated (up to 90 days)

FY2008: 65 students

Follow-up Research Guidance: short-term dispatch of their former instructors/advisors (up to 10 days)

FY2008: 11 instructors

Compilation of an alumni list of former Japanese government scholarship students who have finished their studies and joint management with MOFA

A list of about 10,000 alumni students was compiled from FY2006 to FY 2008.

Delivery of an e-mail magazine for the network of alumni students (MEXT/JASSO)

Various information about Japan is delivered on the 10th of every month to alumni and current students who report their mail addresses to and wish to receive emails from JASSO (every other month with the news and photos).

As of March 2009: 9,132 deliveries

(Progress Status)

Framework of the “300,000 International Students Plan”

July 29, 2008

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

[Purport]

- ① As part of the “global strategy” to open up Japan to the whole world and expand flows of people, goods, money, and information between Japan and countries in Asia and other regions in the world, Japan will aim to accept up to 300,000 international students by the year 2020. Efforts will be made to strategically acquire excellent international students, as well as to accept highly capable students, while giving due consideration to the balance of countries, regions, and fields of study. Japan will also continue to make intellectual contributions globally to other countries, including Asian countries
- ② For this purpose, the following measures shall be taken systematically, from the introduction of Japanese universities’ entrance examinations, enrollment, and entry into Japan to admission to universities and acceptance in Japanese society or to career options after graduation, so as to rouse international students’ interest in studying in Japan. The plan shall be promoted through comprehensive and organic coordination among related ministries and agencies.

[Measures]

1. Inviting international students to study in Japan; offering incentives to study in Japan and providing one-stop service

By way of transmitting Japanese culture and spreading Japanese language education, it should be possible to increase the number of Japan fans and make them interested in Japan and Japanese universities and eager to study in Japan. Information on Japanese universities should be provided through websites or other means to international students wishing to come to Japan to study. In foreign countries, Japanese embassies and consulates, overseas offices of independent administrative corporations, and overseas bases of universities and other educational institutions shall coordinate with each other to provide various kinds of information on studying in Japan and carry out consultation services, aiming to formulate a system to provide one-stop service for applicants.

- ① Information on Japanese culture, society, and higher education should be transmitted proactively, with a view to establishing Japan’s national brand image.
- ② By effectively increasing language education bases, in coordination with overseas universities, Japanese language education should be promoted in foreign countries.
- ③ Universities and other educational institutions are encouraged to transmit information on their educational systems to international students, and efforts to provide related information should be promoted, through such means as holding the Japan Education Fair.
- ④ In foreign countries, Japanese embassies and consulates, overseas offices of independent administrative corporations, and overseas bases of universities and other educational institutions should coordinate with each other to provide various kinds of information on studying in Japan. They should also strengthen their function of carrying out consultation services, aiming to formulate a system to provide one-stop service for applicants.
- ⑤ Information transmission should be strengthened through coordination with the Visit Japan Campaign.

2. Improving introduction of entrance examinations, enrollment, and entry into Japan; facilitating procedures for studying in Japan

A system should be developed to enable applicants to get necessary information, obtain admission to a university, and decide on accommodation from their home country. For smooth entry into Japan, the immigration examination system should be reviewed, and attention should be paid to the quality of international students.

Universities' function of transmitting information on their educational systems to international students, including that on entrance examinations, through websites or other means, should be strengthened.

A system to grant admission before coming to Japan should be promoted through improving the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students, as well as through fully utilizing currently available tests such as the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, TOEFL, and IELTS. Furthermore, pre-arrival enrollment procedures should be facilitated by ensuring accommodation and scholarships so as to eliminate students' anxiety. In order to acquire international students proactively in foreign countries, universities and other educational institutions should establish overseas bases and promote cooperation and coordination with other universities and institutions.

Universities and other educational institutions should manage their international students thoroughly. At the same time, the immigration examination should be simplified and the length of the examination at the time of students' entry into Japan and renewal of their duration of stay should be shortened.

3. Promoting globalization of universities and other educational institutions; creating attractive universities

In order to make universities attractive to international students, intensive support should be provided for globalizing universities (e.g., a system should be developed to allow students to obtain degrees through English-only classes) and developing systems to accept international students.

30 core universities for internationalization are to be selected out of universities in Japan and shall be developed intensively.

In these core universities and at Centers of Excellence (COE), a system should be developed to allow students to obtain degrees through English-only classes, and the number of courses taught in English should be significantly increased. Globalization of education and research bases should be thus promoted.

The appealing features of universities should be enhanced globally, through international coordination and cooperation between universities, through such means as student exchange, credit transfer and double degree programs, promotion of interchange through short-term exchange and summer schools, improvement of mobility of students, and guarantee of the quality of university curricula.

The education and research level should be enhanced by increasing the number of foreign teachers in specialized courses.

Admission to universities in September should be promoted so as to increase the acceptance of international students and Japanese students' studying abroad.

Systematic acceptance of international students should be enhanced by strengthening specialized systems for their acceptance at universities.

Intensive support should be provided to universities that promote globalization proactively, through such means as preferentially allocating Japanese government scholarship students, prioritizing financial assistance, and granting assistance through competitive funds and GP.

4. Improving the environment for accepting international students; efforts to create an environment in which students can concentrate on studying without anxiety

An environment in which students can concentrate on studying without anxiety should be created through ensuring accommodation and taking other necessary measures. Support for international student exchange under cooperation between local communities and companies, etc. should also be promoted.

Universities and other educational institutions should coordinate with other related agencies to provide accommodation to international students who have been in Japan for one year or less, including short-term international students, by developing university dormitories, facilitating the renting of private dwelling houses, effectively utilizing public accommodation, and taking various other measures.

The system for Japanese government scholarship students and honors scholarships for self- or otherwise-financed international students should be utilized while making necessary improvements thereto. Committees for international student exchange should be established nationwide, in order to support exchange by consortiums between local communities and companies, etc., and provide opportunities for related parties to gather together.

Domestic Japanese language education should be enhanced, involving Japanese language schools and universities' Japanese language departments, so that international students will not have language difficulties after coming to Japan.

Counseling and other financial assistance for international students and their families should be promoted.

5. Promoting acceptance of international students in society after their graduation or completion of courses; globalization of society

To enable international graduates to take root and work actively in Japanese society, universities should make efforts, and in addition, the government, industry, and academia should collaborate with each other to promote the acceptance of international graduates in the whole of society through providing them with employment support, hiring them, and reviewing their duration of stay.

Employment support for international students should be enhanced by such means as establishing specialized organizations at universities and other educational institutions.

Government-industry-academia efforts for providing support for finding jobs and for starting business should be promoted, through such means as implementing internship, utilizing the Job Card System, and improving career conference services.

Efforts should be made to raise companies' awareness and develop systems to accept international graduates.

Types of work open to international students and other details of resident status should be clarified or their treatment should be made more flexible. Extension of the duration of stay for job hunting should be discussed.

By enhancing follow-up services for former international students to organize reunions or other activities, the human network should be strengthened and maintained so that those former international students may act as supporters of Japan.

Framework of the “300,000 International Students Plan” (Outline)

Point

Aim to welcome 300,000 international students by around 2020 as part of “Global Strategy”
 Strengicly acquire excellent international students
 Ministries and organizations concerned will work together comprehensively and organically

1. Invitation to study in Japan

- Motivation to study in Japan and the deveopment of a one-stop service -

[e.g.]

- Proactively disseminate of information
- Strengthen advisory functions
- Promote Japanese-language education overseas
- Overseas offices work together to provide information and service

2. Improving of the initial steps

- Facilitating study in Japan -

[e.g.]

- Enhance each university's capacity to send out information
- Promote overseas exam before coming to Japan
- Encourage decisions before coming to Japan
- Strengthen universities' administration of enrollment and streamline immigration and subsequent procedures

Disseminate information

Go to Japan

Disseminate information

3. Promotion of the globalization of universities

- Building attractive universities -

[e.g.]

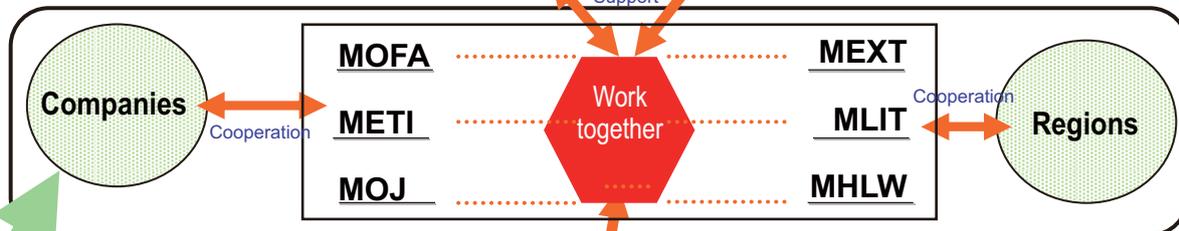
- Develop 30 universities as centers for Internationalization
- Expand courses taught in English
- Promote double degrees, short-term program, and so on
- Develop specialists for internationalizing each universities

4. Creation of a welcoming environment

- Reassure environment to devote full attention to their studies -

[e.g.]

- Accommodation
- Scholarship
- Exchange between I.S. and Japanese
- Japanese-language education
- Counselling



Get employed

5. Promotion of international graduates' live together

- Globalization of Japanese society -

- Provide career services and support for entrepreneurs
- Clarify residence status, extend the length of permitted stay
- Provide more comprehensive follow-up after graduation

Return home country

Major Items of the FY 2009 Budget for Relevant Ministries Regarding the “300,000 International Students Plan”

FY2009 budget: ¥51.78 billion

(FY 2008 budget: ¥47.83 billion)

*Figures for the following items are not included in the total, since the budget for the “300,000 International Students Plan” is included separately in each item: spread of Japanese language education overseas; promotion of the Visit Japan Upgrade Project; improvement/enhancement of examination procedures along with increased acceptance of international students; and effective use of Regional Housing Grants.

1 Invitation to study in Japan: ¥2 billion (¥1.9 billion)

Enhancement the function to disseminate information, such as development of one-stop service

- Improvement of the portal site about study in Japan (new): ¥30 million (MEXT)
- Improvement of consultation services at overseas bases: ¥310 million (¥210 million) (MEXT)
- Promotion of Visit Japan Upgrade Project: ¥3.33 billion (of which) (¥3.45 billion, of which)) (MLIT)
- Various consultation services about study in Japan through assignment of advisors: ¥80 million (¥80 million) (MOFA)
- International youth exchange projects (Ship for Youth and others): ¥1.58 billion (¥1.61 billion) (Cabinet Office)

Spread of Japanese language overseas

- Strategic expansion of Japanese language programs projects (government subsidies of the Japan Foundation): ¥12.57 billion (of which) (¥12.89 billion, of which) (MOFA)

2. Improvement of the initial steps –entrance examinations, enrollment, and immigration: ¥340 million (¥260 million)

Improvement/enhancement of examination procedures along with increased acceptance of international students: ¥2.63 billion (of which) (¥2.55 billion, of which) (MOJ)

Expansion of the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU): ¥340 million (¥260 million) (MEXT)

- Exam cities 16 17, additional languages for special subject examination, and others

3. Promotion of globalization of universities: ¥4.71 billion (¥530 million)

(supplemental for FY 2009: ¥1.45 billion)

Development of 30 Core Universities for Internationalization (new): ¥4.08 billion (MEXT)

- Development of a system in which degree courses can be offered entirely in English
- Improvement of the environment to accept international students
- Promotion of strategic international cooperation, and others

Promotion of Japanese students' studying overseas: ¥630 million (¥530 million) (MEXT)

¥1.45 billion (supplemental for FY 2009)

4. Creation of a welcoming environment:

¥40.41 billion (¥41.47 billion)

Secure the accommodation for international students

- Support for universities that lease accommodation for international students: ¥1.27 billion (¥1.51 billion) (MEXT)
- Use of Regional Housing Grants: ¥194 billion (of which) (¥193 billion, of which) (MLIT)
- Promotion of Trusted Rental Housing Project (¥170 million) (¥240 million) (MLIT)

Improvement of scholarship programs for international students

- Japanese government scholarship system (MEXT)
11,974 12,305 persons (331 up): ¥22.02 billion (¥22.28 billion)
- Honor Scholarship for Privately financed International Students (MEXT)
12,100 12,470 persons (370 up): ¥7.89 billion (¥8.08 billion)
12,470 persons: ¥7.89 billion (supplemental for FY 2009)
- Student Exchange Support Program (for students accepted for short-term study) (MEXT)
1,800 persons (same as in the previous year): ¥1.64 billion (¥1.77 billion)
1,800 persons: ¥1.64 billion (supplemental for FY2009)
- Support to educational corporations for tuition fee reduction or exemption (MEXT)
15,509 14,734 persons (775 down): ¥3.14 billion (¥3.3 billion)
- Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship(support for the human development plan of developing countries) (MOFA): ¥4.2 billion (¥4.2 billion)
- United Nations University Financial Assistance Programme for Students from Developing Countries Studying in Japan: ¥80 million (¥90 million) (MOFA)

5. Promotion of social acceptance of international students who have graduated or completed their courses: ¥4.32 billion (¥3.67 billion)

Improvement of employment support for international students

- Career Development Program for Foreign Students in Japan:
¥22.02 billion (of which) (¥22.28 billion, of which) (reappeared) (MEXT)
¥3.4 billion (¥3.26 billion) (METI)
(Support for employment support programs for international students promoted by universities, such as business Japanese language education and Japanese business education for excellent students (priority given to Japanese government scholarship students))
- Support for the expansion of the human resource base for local industries (new): ¥160 million (METI)
- Increase in companies' awareness and promotion of acceptance procedures (new): ¥50 million (MLHW)
- Enhancement of employment support mainly through the Employment Service Center for Foreigners
(implementation of a wide range of international student internship programs, establishment of a comprehensive website about employment and job hunting of international students, and others)
¥350 million (¥220 million) (MHLW)
- Improvement of employment information services and universities' employment support for international students (new): ¥40 million (MEXT)
- Comprehensive support plan for international students in specialized training colleges (new): ¥130 million (MEXT)

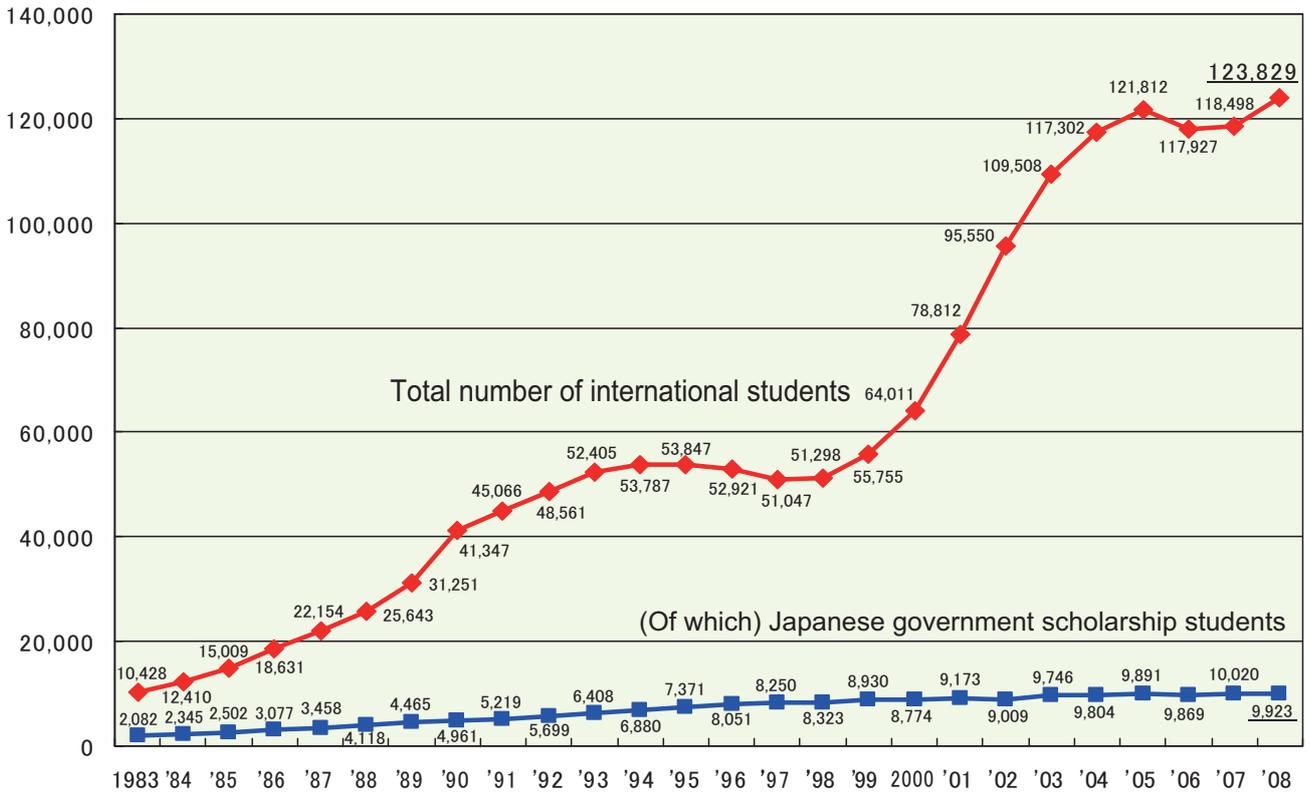
Improvement of support for alumni students

- Improvement of support to alumni associations (about 160 in the world) (MOFA):
¥190 million (¥190 million)

(Note) The parentheses () show the budget for FY 2008.

Trends in the number of international students in Japan

■ Number of international students enrolled at universities, specialized training colleges, or other educational institutions (as of May 1 each year)

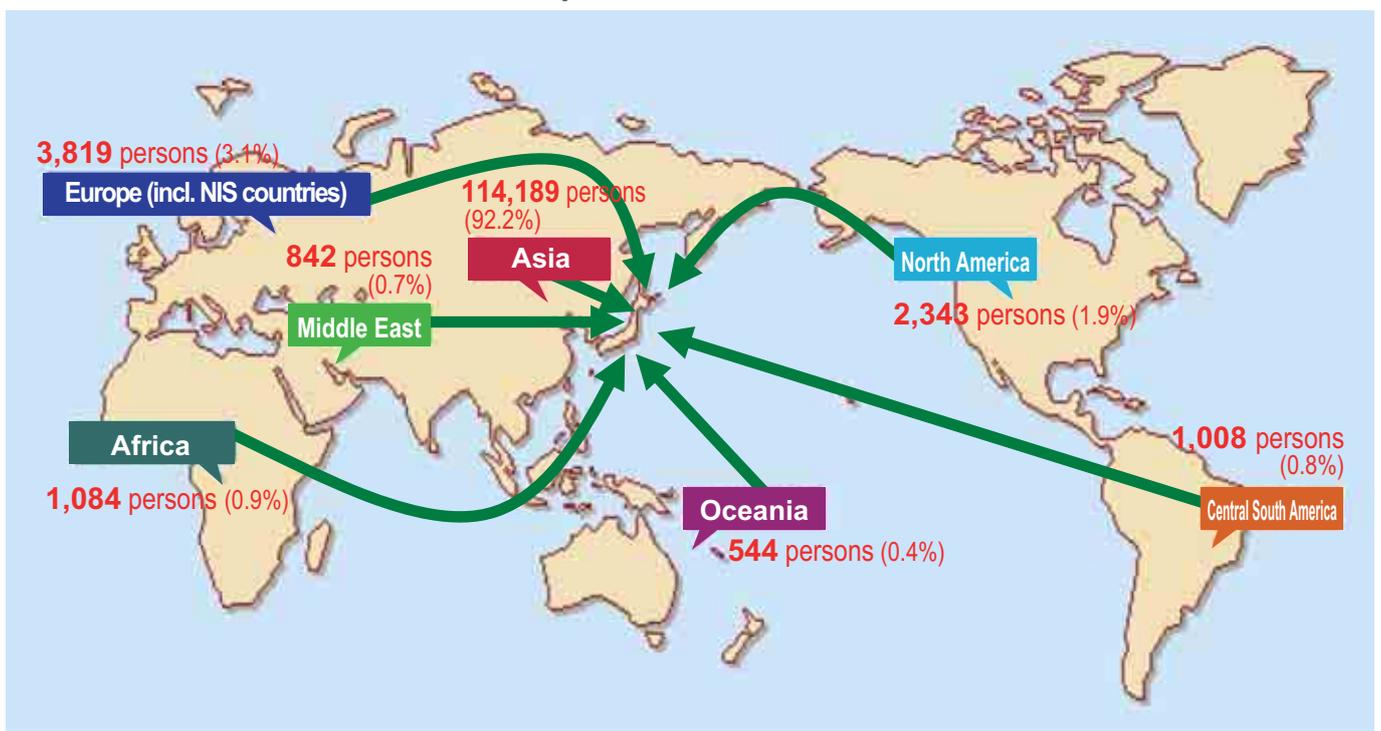


Source: MEXT, JASSO

Number of International Students by Region of Origin

Total number: **123,829** persons

(as of May 1, 2008)



Source: JASSO

Number of International Students by Country/Region of Origin

(as of May 1, 2008)

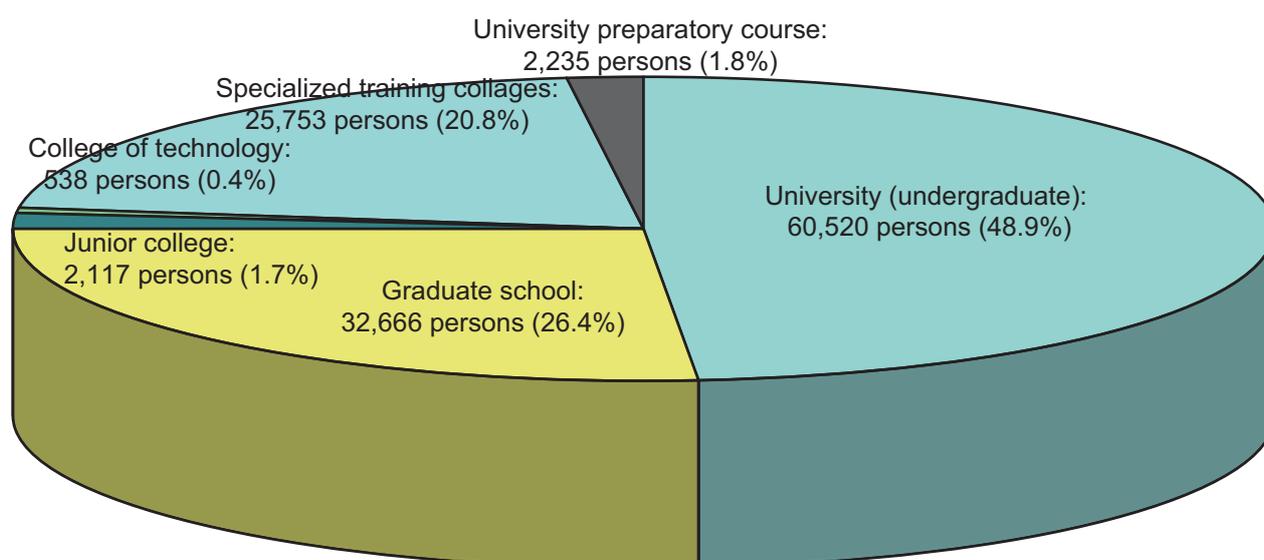
Country/Region	No. of international students	Country/Region	No. of international students
China	72,766	United States	2,024
Korea	18,862	Indonesia	1,791
Taiwan	5,082	Bangladesh	1,686
Vietnam	2,873	Nepal	1,476
Malaysia	2,271	Others	12,795
Thailand	2,203	Total	123,829

Source: JASSO

Number of International Students by Type of Educational Institution

Total: **123,829** persons

(as of May 1, 2008)

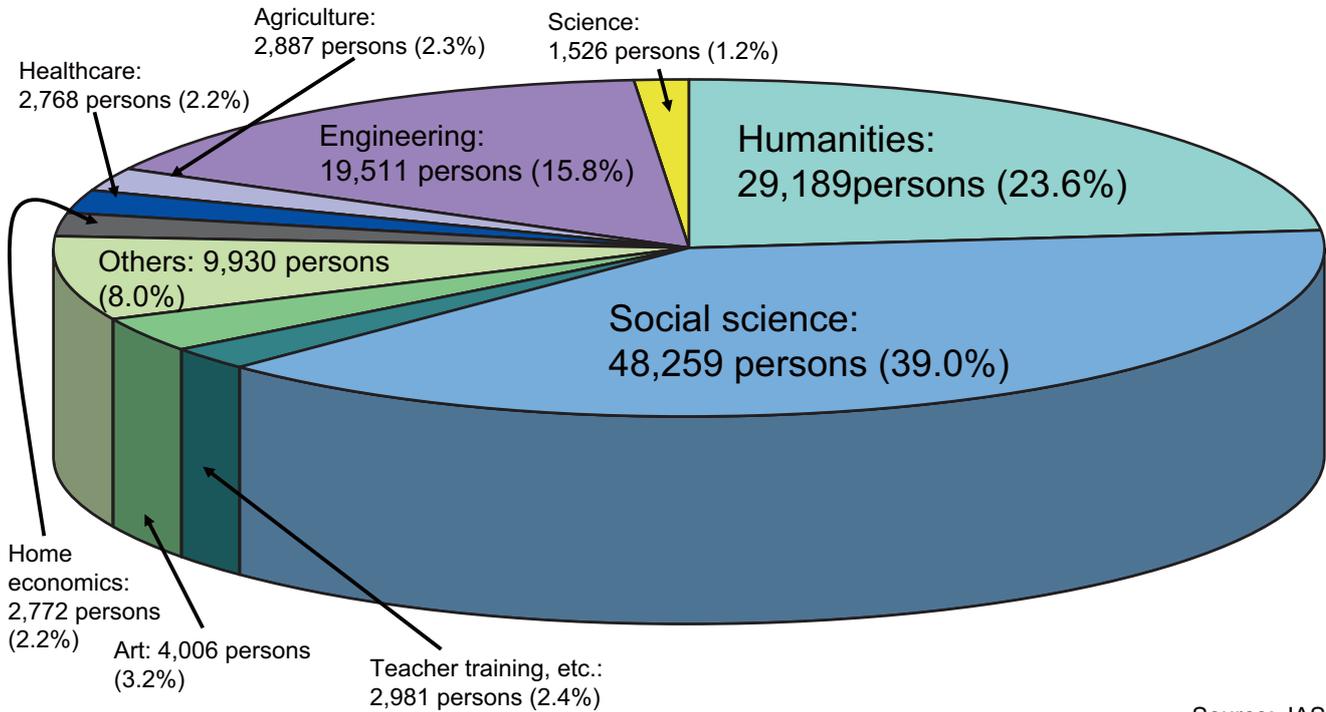


Source: JASSO

Number of International Students by Field of Study

Total: 123,829 persons

(as of May 1, 2008)



Source: JASSO

Number of International Students by Region and Prefecture

(As of May 1, 2008 The parentheses () show the figures as of May 1, 2007.)

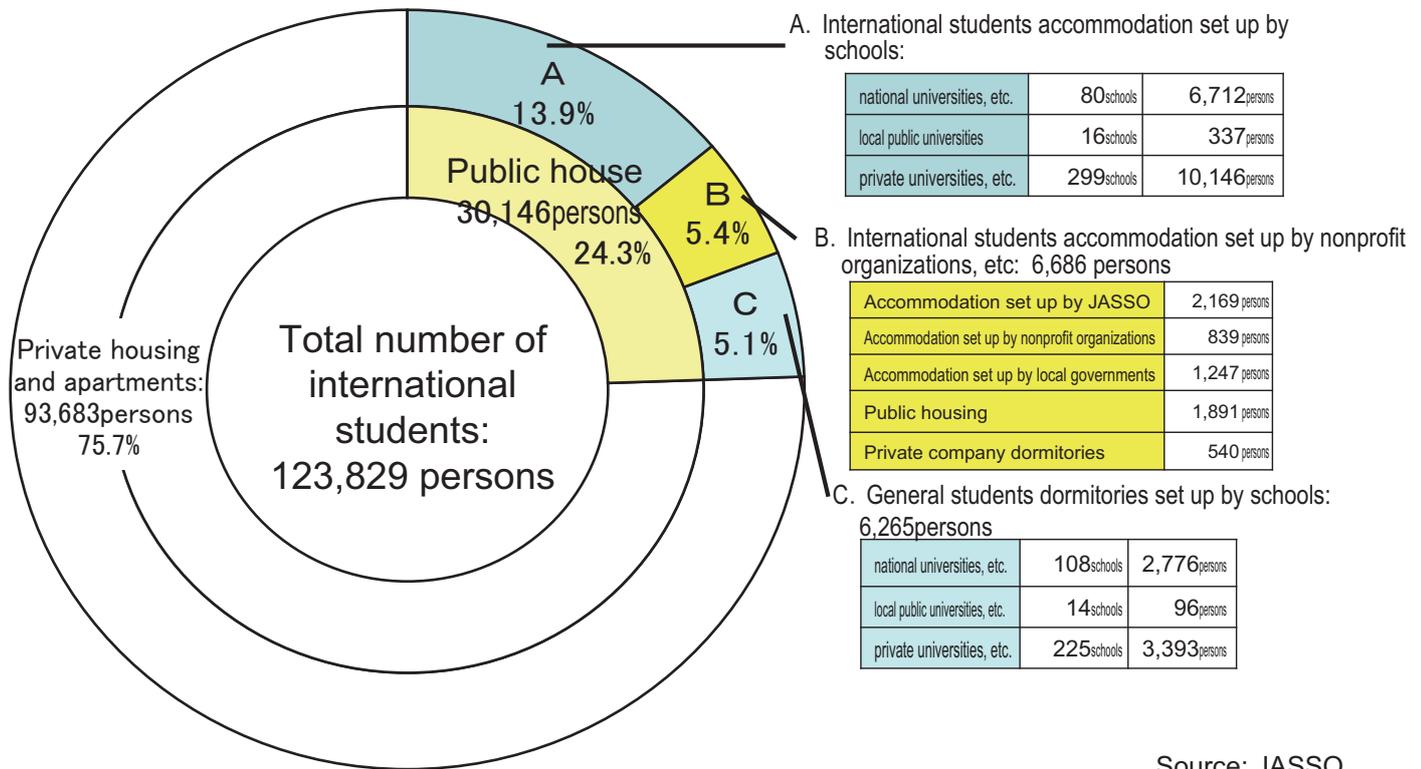
Region	Enrollment	Percentage	Prefecture	Enrollment	Region	Enrollment	Percentage	Prefecture	Enrollment						
Hokkaido	1,900 (1,776)	1.5% (1.5)	Hokkaido	1,900 (1,776)	Kinki	21,848 (21,134)	17.6% (17.8)	Mie	793 (767)						
								Shiga	371 (377)						
Tohoku	3,481 (3,157)	2.8% (2.7)	Aomori	523 (326)				Chugoku	5,302 (4,764)	4.3% (4.0)	Kyoto	4,994 (4,746)			
			Iwate	396 (401)							Osaka	10,289 (10,203)			
			Miyagi	1,814 (1,767)							Hyogo	4,017 (3,737)			
			Akita	227 (216)							Nara	1,102 (1,042)			
			Yamagata	212 (211)							Wakayama	282 (262)			
Kanto	61,949 (60,099)	50.0% (50.7)	Fukushima	309 (236)							Shikoku	1,336 (1,319)	1.1% (1.1)	Tottori	186 (200)
			Ibaraki	2,320 (2,463)										Shimane	213 (186)
			Tochigi	1,071 (1,113)										Okayama	1,982 (1,725)
			Gunma	1,172 (1,324)	Hiroshima	2,091 (1,930)									
			Saitama	5,444 (5,496)	Yamaguchi	830 (723)									
			Chiba	5,566 (5,708)	Tokushima	361 (341)									
			Tokyo	42,371 (40,316)	Kagawa	349 (333)									
Chubu	13,778 (13,210)	11.1% (11.1)	Kanagawa	4,005 (3,679)	Kyushu	14,235 (13,039)	11.5% (11.0)	Ehime	475 (465)						
			Niigata	1,197 (1,246)				Kochi	151 (180)						
			Toyama	585 (551)				Fukuoka	6,613 (6,017)						
			Ishikawa	1,421 (1,240)				Saga	398 (400)						
			Fukui	329 (320)				Nagasaki	1,418 (1,236)						
			Yamanashi	692 (710)				Kumamoto	743 (715)						
			Nagano	570 (613)				Oita	3,965 (3,587)						
			Gifu	1,373 (1,360)				Miyazaki	122 (121)						
			Shizuoka	1,480 (1,396)				Kagoshima	434 (440)						
			Aichi	6,131 (5,774)				Okinawa	542 (523)						
			Total						123,829 (118,498)	100.0% (100.0)					

Source: JASSO

International Students Accommodation

(as of May 1, 2008)

Total number of international students living in public housing: 30,146 persons (2,953 up from the previous year)



Source: JASSO

Career Options of International Students Who Graduated (Completed Their Courses) Respective Courses in FY 2007

(Upper: number of international students (persons); lower: percentage (%))

	In Japan				Home country (region)				Other than Japan or home country (region)				Subtotal	Unknown	Total number of international students who have graduated (completed their courses)
	Employed	Upper school	Others	Total	Employed	Upper school	Others	Total	Employed	Upper school	Others	Total			
Graduate school (doctoral course)	747	77	309	1,133	707	7	350	1,064	65	6	14	85	2,282	285	2,567
	32.7	3.4	13.5	49.6	31.0	0.3	15.3	46.6	2.8	0.3	0.6	3.7	100.0		
Graduate school (master's course)	2,261	1,479	716	4,456	842	34	857	1,733	16	25	21	62	6,251	604	6,855
	36.2	23.7	11.5	71.3	13.5	0.5	13.7	27.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.0	100.0		
Professional degree course	66	11	12	89	47	0	12	59	1	0	0	1	149	25	174
	44.3	7.4	8.1	59.7	31.5	0.0	8.1	39.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	100.0		
University (undergraduate)	4,503	3,023	1,258	8,784	642	17	1,674	2,333	21	48	29	98	11,215	844	12,059
	40.2	27.0	11.2	78.3	5.7	0.2	14.9	20.8	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.9	100.0		
Junior college	156	413	52	621	40	1	102	143	1	3	2	6	770	17	787
	20.3	53.6	6.8	80.6	5.2	0.1	13.2	18.6	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.8	100.0		
College of technology	2	145	2	149	0	1	2	3	0	1	0	1	153	1	154
	1.3	94.8	1.3	97.4	0.0	0.7	1.3	2.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.7	100.0		
Specialized training colleges (post secondary course)	1,925	4,757	719	7,401	423	72	1,019	1,514	7	28	14	49	8,964	173	9,137
	21.5	53.1	8.0	82.6	4.7	0.8	11.4	16.9	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.5	100.0		
University preparatory course	24	1,589	22	1,635	56	51	159	266	0	0	0	0	1,901	0	1,901
	1.3	83.6	1.2	86.0	2.9	2.7	8.4	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0		
Total	9,684	11,494	3,090	24,268	2,757	183	4,175	7,115	111	111	80	302	31,685	1,949	33,634
	30.6	36.3	9.8	76.6	8.7	0.6	13.2	22.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	1.0	100.0		

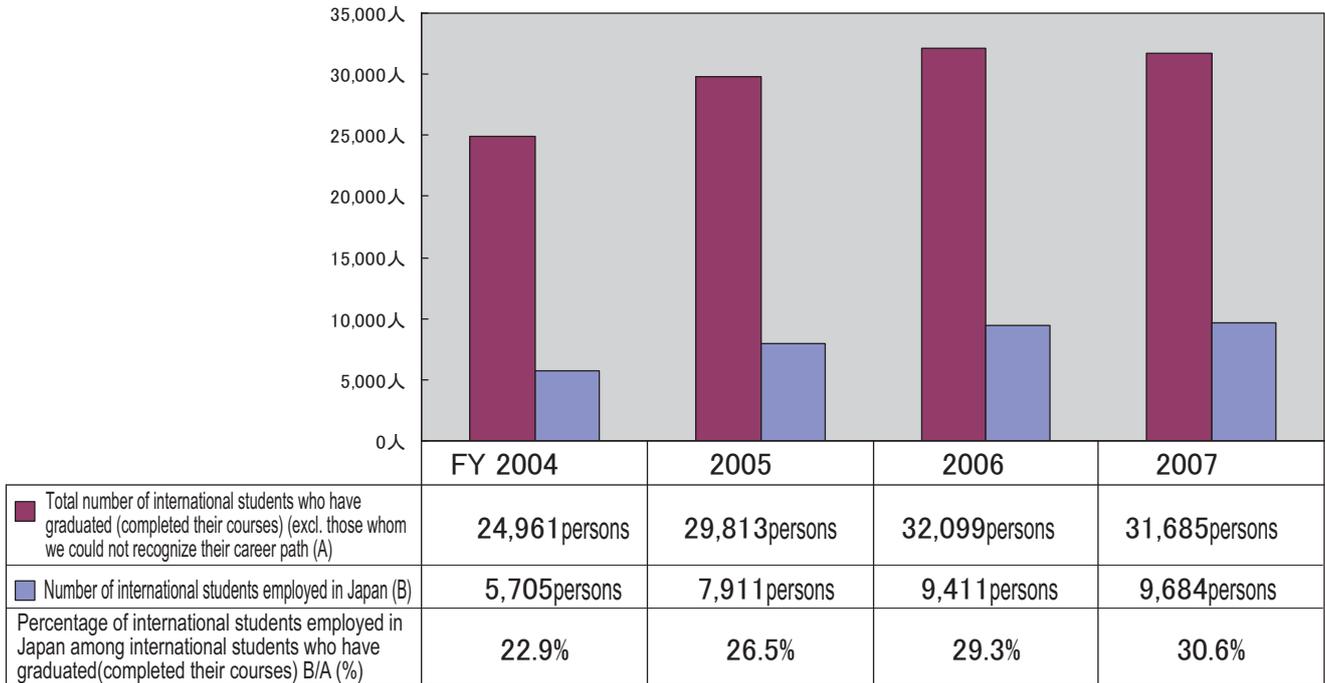
Source: JASSO "Career options of international students" (FY2007)

Desired career options after graduation

Class	Upper school in Japan	Finding employment in Japan	Upper school in home country	Finding employment in home country	Upper school in other than Japan or home country	Finding employment in other than Japan or home country	Undecided	Unknown
No. of persons	2,221	3,526	176	1,552	585	390	436	122
Percentage (%)	38.6	61.3	3.1	27.0	10.2	6.8	7.6	2.1

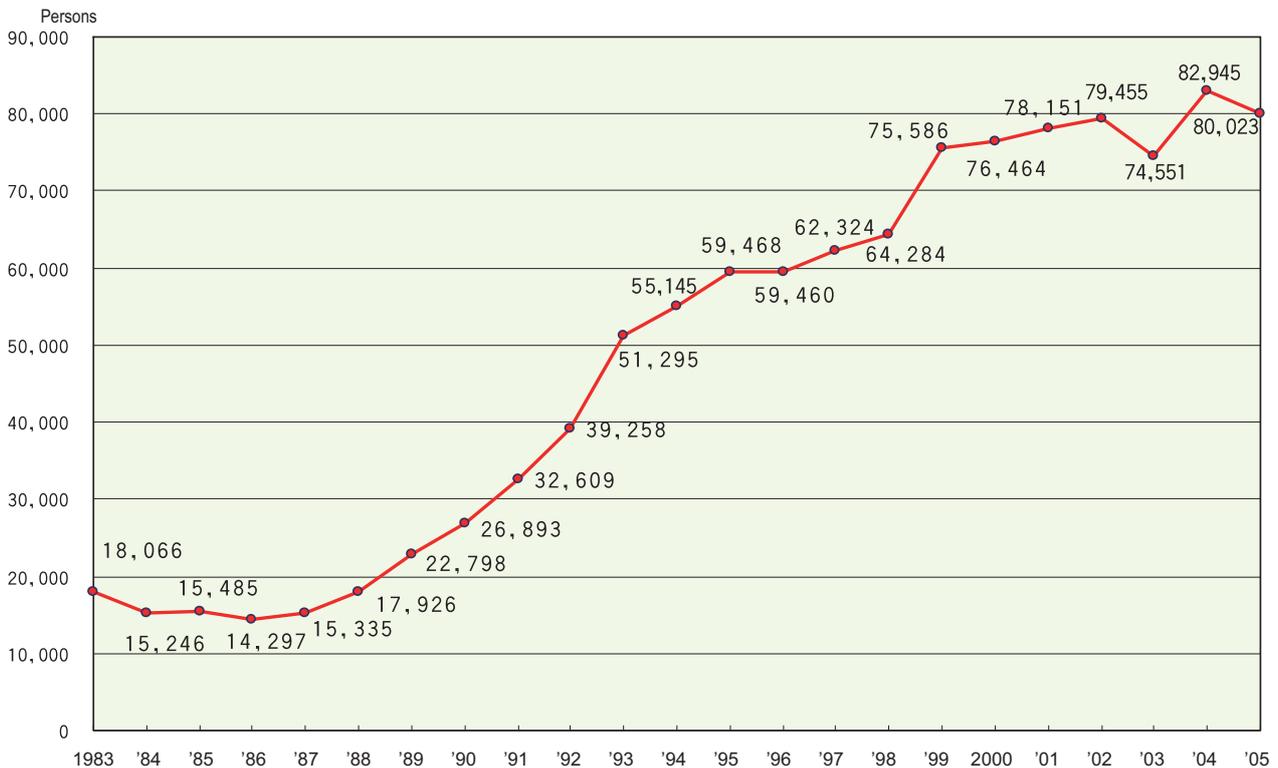
Source: JASSO "Study on the Living Conditions of Privately-financed International Students" (FY2007)

Employment Status of International Students in Japan



* "Unknown" responses are not included in the number of international students who have graduated or completed their courses
Source: JASSO

Number of Japanese students Overseas

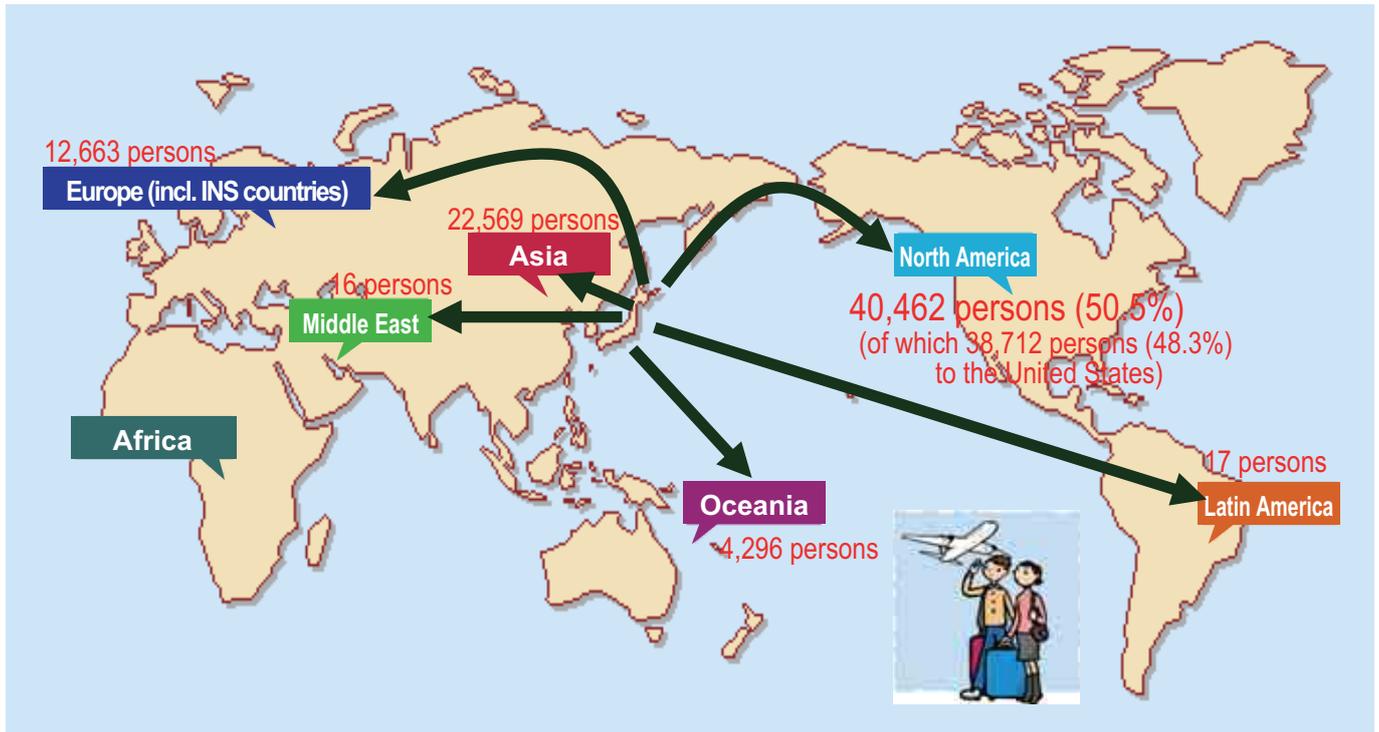


Sources: OECD "Education at a Glance," IIE (U.S.) "Open Doors," and others

Number of Japanese Students Studying Abroad by Region

Total: **80,023** persons (30 major countries)

as of FY2005



Sources: IIE "Open Doors," Chinese Ministry of Education and OECD "Education at a Glance," and Taiwan Ministry of Education (all-year 2005 edition)

Number of International Students by Major Country

	 U.S.A	 U.K	 Germany	 France	 Australia	 Japan
Students enrolled in institutions of higher education (1,000 persons)	10,797 (17,487) <small>(incl. part-time students)</small> (2005)	1,513 (2006)	1,979 (2006)	2,217 (2006)	1,029 (2006)	3,516 (2008)
Number of international students (number of acceptance) (persons)	623,805 (2007)	389,330 (2007)	246,369 (2007)	260,596 (2007)	294,060 (2007)	123,829 (2008)
International students on government scholarship (persons)	3,282 (2007)	11,025 (2007)	5,869 (2007)	11,891 (2007)	2,679 (2007)	9,923 (2008)
Percentage of International students (number of acceptance) enrolled in institutions of higher education (%)	5.8	25.7	12.4	11.7	28.6	3.5

Sources: IIE (U.S.) "Open Doors," Higher Education Statistics Agency (U.K.), Federal Statistical Office (Germany), DAAD (Germany), Ministry of Education and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (France), Australian Education International (Australia), MEXT, and JASSO

