

CHAPTER XI: POPULATION OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS

1. Trends in the Population of Foreign Residents and Nationalities

The population of foreign residents is 1.6 million, a 5.9% increase.

The 2010 Population Census shows that the population of foreign residents usually living in Japan is 1.6 million (1.3% of the total population), which is an increase of 5.9% from the population of foreign residents in 2005.

Trends in the population of foreign residents since 1950 indicate that the population of foreigners residing in Japan continued to increase with the exception of 1960. (Table 11.1)

Number of Chinese nationals exceeds that of Korean nationals for the first time.

According to the population of foreign residents in 2010 by nationality, the number of Chinese is the largest (460 thousand), followed by that of Koreans (423 thousand), Brazilians (153 thousand), Filipinos (146 thousand), etc.

A comparison of proportion of foreign residents by nationality in 2010 with that in 2005 reveals that the proportion of nationality of Korea, Brazil, Peru and the United States of America (U.S.A) decreased by 4.7 percentage points (pp), 4.6 pp, 0.4 pp and 0.2 pp respectively, while the proportion of Chinese and Filipino nationals increased by 5.2 pp and 0.7 pp, respectively. (Table 11.2)

Table 11.1 Trends in the Total Population, the Number of Foreigners and the Number of Japanese: 1950 to 2010

Year	Number (thousands)						Sex ratio of foreigners	foreigners growth (%)	Proportion of foreigners (%)
	Total Population	Foreigners			Japan	Not reported			
		Both sexes	Male	Female					
1950	84,115	529	299	230	...	...	129.6	-	0.6
1955	90,077	598	328	270	...	...	121.7	13.1	0.7
1960	94,302	579	312	266	...	...	117.4	-3.3	0.6
1965	99,209	596	317	279	...	...	113.7	3.1	0.6
1970	104,665	604	319	285	104,061	-	112.1	1.3	0.6
1975	111,940	642	335	307	111,252	46	109.2	6.2	0.6
1980	117,060	669	344	325	116,320	71	105.8	4.2	0.6
1985	121,049	720	364	356	120,287	41	102.3	7.7	0.6
1990	123,611	886	445	441	122,398	326	101.0	23.1	0.7
1995	125,570	1,140	567	574	124,299	131	98.8	28.6	0.9
2000	126,926	1,311	621	689	125,387	229	90.1	14.9	1.0
2005	127,768	1,556	727	829	125,730	482	87.7	18.7	1.2
2010	128,057	1,648	742	906	125,359	1,050	82.0	5.9	1.3

Observing the trends in the foreign residents by nationality shows that Koreans made up the bulk of foreign residents between 1955 and 1985 (about 80-90%), afterward, there has been a decline since 1990, reaching 25.7% in 2010. Meanwhile, the number of Chinese residents has been increasing since 1980, reaching 27.9% in 2010.

As a result, Chinese residents outnumber Koreans for the first time since 1950. (Table 11.2)

Table 11.2 Trends in the Number of Foreigners by Nationality: 1950 to 2010

Year	Total	China	Korea	U.S.A	Others				
					Total	Brazil	Peru	Philippines	Others ¹⁾
Number (thousand)									
1950	529	40	464	5	20	-	-	-	-
1955 ²⁾	1) ¹⁾ 597	41	540	8	9	-	-	-	-
1960	579	41	2) ²⁾ 516	11	1) ¹⁾ 6) ⁶⁾ 11	-	-	-	-
1965 ³⁾	593	44	2) ²⁾ 520	14	6) ⁶⁾ 15	-	-	-	-
1970	604	45	520	18	22	-	-	-	-
1975	642	40	559	19	25	-	-	-	-
1980	1) ¹⁾ 669	44	558	19	30	-	-	-	-
1985	1) ¹⁾ 720	61	571	25	49	-	-	-	-
1990	886	109	568	33	176	42	6	36	92
1995	1,140	176	560	39	365	134	27	68	136
2000 ⁴⁾	1,311	253	529	39	489	188	34	94	174
2005 ⁴⁾	1,556	353	473	39	691	215	40	126	308
2010	1,648	460	423	38	726	153	37	146	390
Proportion (%) ⁵⁾									
1950	100.0	7.6	87.8	0.9	3.7	-	-	-	-
1955 ²⁾	1) ¹⁾ 100.0	6.8	90.3	1.3	1.6	-	-	-	-
1960	100.0	7.0	2) ²⁾ 89.2	1.8	1) ¹⁾ 6) ⁶⁾ 1.9	-	-	-	-
1965 ³⁾	100.0	7.4	2) ²⁾ 87.8	2.3	6) ⁶⁾ 2.5	-	-	-	-
1970	100.0	7.4	86.1	2.9	3.6	-	-	-	-
1975	100.0	6.2	87.1	2.9	3.9	-	-	-	-
1980	1) ¹⁾ 100.0	6.5	83.4	2.8	4.4	-	-	-	-
1985	1) ¹⁾ 100.0	8.4	79.3	3.5	6.8	-	-	-	-
1990	100.0	12.3	64.0	3.8	19.9	4.8	0.7	4.1	10.3
1995	100.0	15.4	49.1	3.4	32.0	11.7	2.4	6.0	11.9
2000 ⁴⁾	100.0	19.3	40.4	3.0	37.3	14.4	2.6	7.1	13.2
2005 ⁴⁾	100.0	22.7	30.4	2.5	44.4	13.9	2.6	8.1	19.8
2010	100.0	27.9	25.7	2.3	44.1	9.3	2.2	8.9	23.7
Differences (percentage point)									
2005-2010	-	5.2	-4.7	-0.2	-0.4	-4.6	-0.4	0.7	3.8

1) Includes "Statelessness and name of country not reported".

2) Excludes Okinawa-ken.

3) Based on the results of 20% sample tabulation.

4) Based on the results of special tabulation on foreigners.

5) Calculated with "Name of country not reported"

6) Includes Korean living in Okinawa-ken.

2. Foreign Residents by Sex and Age

The sex ratio in population of foreign residents is 82.0, and varies greatly by nationality.

Regarding the population of foreign residents by sex, the male population is 742 thousand while the female population is 906 thousand, showing that female foreigners outnumber male foreigners by 164 thousand leading to a sex ratio of 82.0. This ratio is 12.9 points lower than that of the Japanese population of 94.9, and varies greatly by nationality.

Regarding the sex ratio by nationality, the ratio of United Kingdom (U.K) (296.8), Indonesia (191.4), U.S.A (186.3) etc., are higher than that of Japan. Meanwhile, the ratios of the Philippines (26.5), Thailand (29.9), China (64.9) and Korea (81.2) are lower than that of Japan. (Tables 11.1 and 11.3)

The proportion of the productive-age population is high among foreigners of Southeast Asian nationalities.

Regarding the proportions within the population of foreign residents among three age groups, the proportion of population aged under 15 (child population) is 9.6%, the proportion of population aged 15 to 64 (productive-age population) is 83.5% and the proportion of population aged 65 and over (aged population) is 7.0%. The proportion of productive-age population is higher than Japanese one. Meanwhile, the proportion of child population and aged population are lower than Japanese ones.

According to the proportions within the population of foreign residents among three age groups by nationality, the proportion of the productive-age population is above 90% among Thai, Indonesian, Filipino and U.K nationals, The proportion of the child population is high among Peruvian (20.7%) and Brazilian (19.1%) nationals, while the proportion of aged population is high among Korean nationals (19.6%).

In this way, because composition by age and sex vary considerably between nationalities, shapes of population pyramid are also different in each nationality. (Figure 11.1, Table 11.3)

Figure 11.1 Population Pyramids by Nationality: 2010

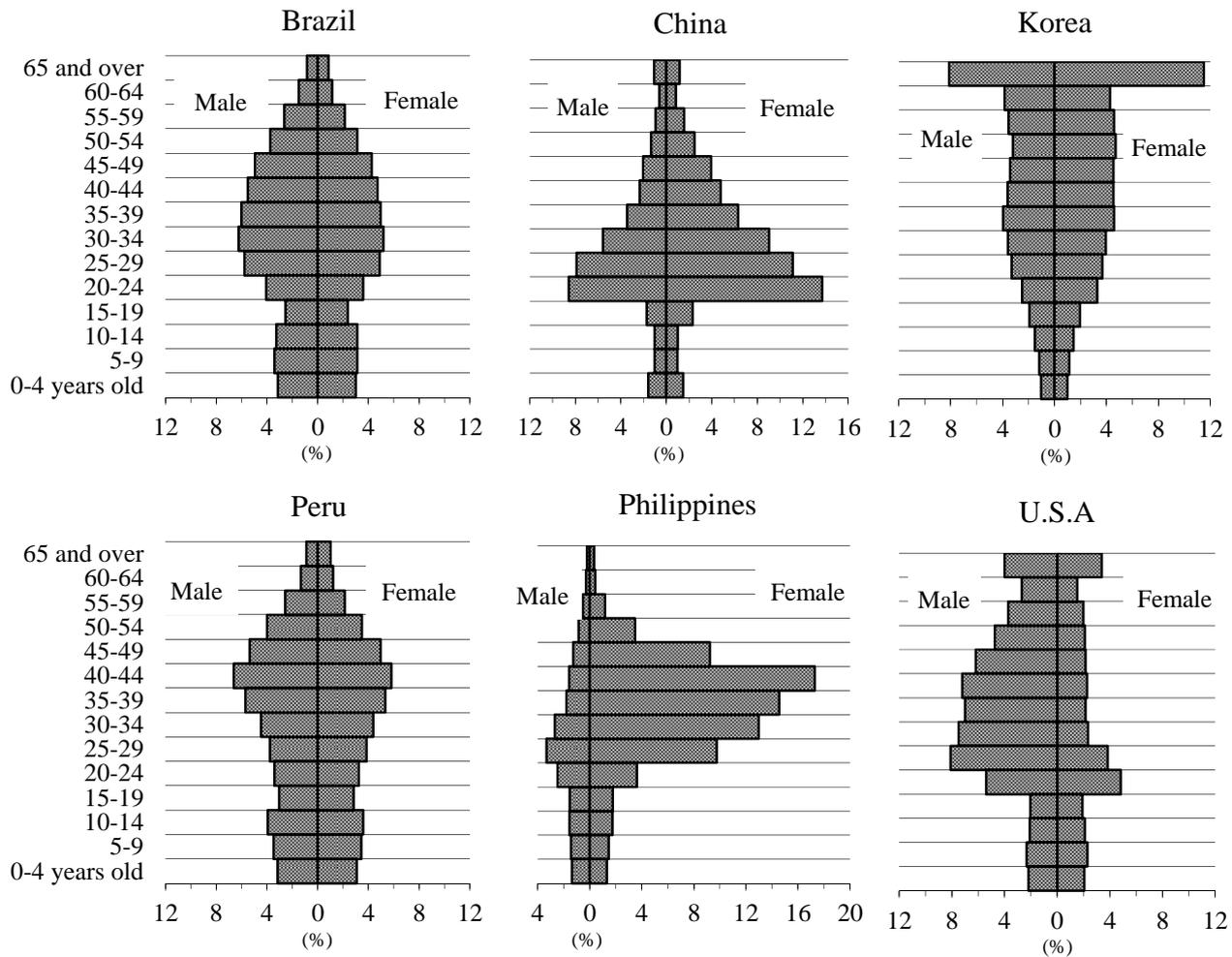


Table 11.3 Foreigners by Nationality and Age (3 Groups): 2010

Nationality	Population					Proportion (%)				Sex ratio
	Total	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over	Not reported	Total	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over	
Total	1,648,037	149,744	1,305,507	108,926	83,860	100.0	9.6	83.5	7.0	82.0
Brazil	153,166	29,134	120,977	2,558	497	100.0	19.1	79.2	1.7	116.5
China	460,459	32,564	415,265	10,282	2,348	100.0	7.1	90.6	2.2	64.9
Indonesia	18,539	1,326	17,053	81	79	100.0	7.2	92.4	0.4	191.4
Korea	423,273	31,014	308,518	82,817	924	100.0	7.3	73.0	19.6	81.2
Peru	36,776	7,590	28,429	699	58	100.0	20.7	77.4	1.9	107.9
Philippines	145,950	12,941	131,867	786	356	100.0	8.9	90.6	0.5	26.5
Thailand	29,716	1,510	27,941	192	73	100.0	5.1	94.3	0.6	29.9
U.K	9,872	627	8,876	349	20	100.0	6.4	90.1	3.5	296.8
U.S.A	38,327	4,986	30,456	2,819	66	100.0	13.0	79.6	7.4	186.3
Viet Nam	29,843	3,661	25,691	366	125	100.0	12.3	86.4	1.2	109.1
Others 1)	302,116	24,391	190,434	7,977	79,314	100.0	10.9	85.5	3.6	132.8
(reference) Japan (thousands)	125,359	16,633	79,200	29,021	506	100.0	13.3	63.4	23.2	94.9

1) Includes "Statelessness and name of country not reported".