

JAPAN

Region: Asia and the Pacific

Income group: High income

Summary: Japan has reported 4 metadata sources, which collect information on international labour migration statistics. There are the *Population Census Japan* carried out by the Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; two administrative records, such as the *Record of Border/Admission Statistics* and the *Statistics on the Foreigners Registered* held by the Ministry of Justice; and the *Estimation* held by the Statistics Bureau, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

Geographically all the sources cover whole country, however different population groups such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country (covered by the Population Census Japan and the Estimation)*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country (covered by the Population Census Japan and the Estimation)*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Population Census Japan, the Statistics on the Foreigners Registered, and the Estimation)*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country (covered by the Population Census Japan and the Estimation)*
- *Refugees (covered by the Record of Border/Admission Statistics)*
- *Asylum seekers (covered by the Record of Border/Admission Statistics)*
- *Foreigners entering country to live (covered by the Record of Border/Admission Statistics)*
- *Foreigners entering country for temporary purposes, such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc. (covered by the Record of Border/Admission Statistics)*

Periodicity of data collection varies depending on the type of sources. The *Population Census Japan* was last processed in 2010; the *Record of Border/Admission Statistics* is carried out monthly for preliminary figure and annually for definitive figure starting from 1950; the *Statistics on the Foreigners Registered* is released every six months since 1947; and the estimation is held every five years starting from 1920.

Age coverage also varies depending on the type of sources. The administrative records are applied to persons of all ages, whereas, in the estimation persons aged 15 years and older are examined.

The two essential demographic characteristics covered by all the sources are age and sex. In addition, data on marital status, educational attainment, household size, and household composition can be found in the *Population Census* and the *Estimation*.

International migration related characteristics vary depending on the type of sources. The *Population Census Japan* covers country of citizenship; the *Record of Border/Admission Statistics* collects data on year of arrival and time period allowed to stay; the *Statistics on the Foreigners Registered* covers nationality and time period allowed to stay; and the *estimation* processes data on nationality and foreign workers in the country.

Labour related characteristic that can be found in all the sources is employment status. Data on occupation, industry/economic sector, and status in employment are also available in the *Population Census Japan* and the *Estimation*.

Definitions of “*employment*” and “*overseas visitor*” are defined in the sources. To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education nationally adapted classifications are applied in the sources.

Micro data from the *Population Census Japan* are available only for administration and research outside the agency for free.

Metadata sources:

Type of source	Name of the source	Agency Responsible	Periodicity of data collection	Year the source started	Year of the last source
Q1. Population Census	Population Census Japan	Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	-	-	2010
Q3. Border/Admission Statistics	Annual Report of Statistics on Legal Migrants	Ministry of Justice	Monthly for preliminary figure and annually for definitive figure	1950	-
Q6. Administrative Sources	Statistics on the Foreigners Registered	Ministry of Justice	Every six months	1947	-
Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country	Estimation	Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	Every five years	1920	-

Findings:

The latest *Population Census Japan* was processed in 2010 by the Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, covering the whole country. There are four population groups examined such as:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

The source obtains detailed data on demographic characteristics of these population groups, such as:

- Age,
- Sex,
- Marital status,
- Educational attainment, and
- Household size.

The question raised in the assessment on the topic of international migration related characteristics is country of citizenship. The *Population Census Japan* covers labour related characteristics of all current household members aged 15 years old and over, such as employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, and status in employment.

In *Population Census Japan*, “*international migrant workers*” is not defined, but the number of foreigners who usually live in Japan and work in Japan can be seen by using the “*persons usually living*” and “*employment*”. “*Persons usually living*” refers to those persons who had lived or were going to live for three months or more at their respective households at the census date. “*Employment*” refers to those who were in one following categories; 1) did any work during the week for pay or profit; 2) had a job or business but did not work at all during

the week because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labour dispute or personal reasons. To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- National adaptation of ISCO;
- National adaptation of ISIC;
- National Classification for status in employment; and
- National Classification for status in education.

Micro data is available for research and analysis outside the agency for free.

The ***Border/Admission Statistics*** are collected by the Ministry of Justice from 1950. It processes the following four population groups of all ages:

- *Foreigners entering country to live,*
- *Foreigners entering country for temporary purposes such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.,*
- *Refugees, and*
- *Asylum seekers.*

The Statistics cover data on demographic characteristics such as age and sex. Statistics on the international migration related characteristics presented through the source are year of arrival and time period allowed to stay. The source collects employment status for labour related characteristics. "***Overseas visitor***" refers to foreign national newly entering or re-entering with re-entry permission.

Micro data is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The ***Statistics on the Foreigners Registered*** is carried out by the Ministry of Justice. It is released every six months starting from 1947. The source appraises whole country and collects data on *foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country* of all ages.

In the register, data can be found on demographic characteristics such as age and sex. International migration related characteristics accessible through the source are nationality and time period allowed to stay. For the population groups assessed in the ***Statistics on the Foreigners Registered***, the data on labour related characteristics is available, particularly for employment status.

Micro data of the source is unavailable for research and analysis outside the agency.

The Statistics Bureau, and Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications have released the ***Estimation of International Migrant Workers*** by using the ***Population Census Japan***, every five years starting from 1920. It geographically measures the whole country and amasses information on the following four population groups aged 15 years old and over:

- *Nationals (citizens) in the country,*
- *Nationals (citizens) employed in the country,*
- *Foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, and*
- *Foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country.*

It accumulates data on demographic characteristics of people, such as:

- Age,
- Sex,
- Marital status,
- Educational attainment,
- Household size, and
- Household composition.

Statistics on international migration related characteristics are also obtained, precisely on nationality and foreign workers in the country. Labour related characteristics covered in the estimation are employment status, industry/economic sector, occupation, and status in employment.

In the source, “*international migrant workers*” is not defined, but the number of foreigners who usually live in Japan and work in Japan can be seen by using the “*persons usually living*” and “*employment*”. “*Persons usually living*” refers to those persons who had lived or were going to live for three months or more at their respective households at the census date. “*Employment*” refers to those who were in one following categories; 1) did any work during the week for pay or profit; 2) had a job or business but did not work at all during the week because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labour dispute or personal reasons. To classify occupation, industry, status in employment, and education, nationally adapted classifications are applied. For example:

- National adaptation of ISCO;
- National adaptation of ISIC;
- National Classification for status in employment; and
- National Classification for status in education.

Q1. Population Census

SOURCE

Title of source: Population Census Japan

Year of last census: 2010

Agency responsible: Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

COVERAGE

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population groups covered: Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (citizens) in the country, nationals (citizens) employed in the country, foreigners (non-citizens) living in the country, foreign workers (non-citizens) living in the country

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size

International migration related characteristics: Country of citizenship

- **Coverage for international migration related characteristics:**
 - **Country of citizenship:** All persons
- **Exceptions for international migration related characteristics:** N.A.

Information about household members left to live abroad: No

Labour related characteristics of all current household members: Employment status, occupation, industry/economic sector, status in employment

- **Age coverage:** 15 years old and over

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

Information on immigrants and return migrants: No

- **Information on the situation of the person prior to leaving the household last time is obtained:** N.A.

Data collected and not published/disseminated: No

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: “International migrant workers” is not defined, but the number of foreigners who usually live in Japan and work in Japan can be seen by using the “persons usually living” and “employment”. “Persons usually living” refers to those persons who had lived or were going to live for three months or more at their respective households at the census date.

Definition of national (citizen) living abroad: No

Definition of employment: It refers to those who were in one following categories; 1) did any work during the week for pay or profit; 2) had a job or business but did not work at all during the week because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labour dispute or personal reasons.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National adaptation of ISCO (Based on “Japan Standard Occupational Classification”, established in December 2009, with some arrangements)

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: National adaptation of ISIC (Based on the Standard Industrial Classification for Japan, revised in November 2007, with some arrangements)

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: "Employed", "Board member of company, etc.", "Self-employed", "Family employees", "Piece rate work"

Classification used for status in education: "In school", "Graduated", "Primary/junior high school", "High school", "Junior/technical college", "University/Graduate school", "Preschool", "Kindergarten", "Nursery Day-care center", "Infant Others"

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Face-to-face interview by census enumerator using paper questionnaire (PAPI), self-administered online (web) census questionnaire /Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI)

Compulsory participation of households: Yes

Official estimate of under-coverage rate: No

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS OF JAPAN), electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.), Web site (<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/kokusei/index.htm>)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: Yes

- **Limitations:** That is limited only using for administration and research.
- **Cost of obtaining micro-data:** For free.

Q3. Border/Admission Statistics

SOURCE

Title of source: Annual Report of Statistics on Legal Migrants

Agency responsible: Ministry of Justice

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data collection: Preliminary figure as monthly report and definitive figure as annual report

Year the statistics first started: 1950

Population coverage: Foreigners entering country to live; foreigners entering country for temporary purposes such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; refugees; asylum seekers

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Foreigners entering country to live; foreigners entering country for temporary purposes such as tourism, shopping, visiting, business, etc.; refugees; asylum seekers

Age coverage: All ages

CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSONS COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex

Migration related characteristics: Year of arrival, time period allowed to stay

Labour related characteristics: Employment status

Data collected and not published/disseminated: Yes

- **Number and name of question not published:** C2. Time period allowed to stay
- **Reason not published:** These include various data for each foreigner. So it's impossible to specify.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of overseas visitor: It refers to foreign nationals newly entering or re-entering with re-entry permission.

Definition of country of residence: N.A.

Definition of international migrant workers: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Data collection method: Extract from database of foreigner's entry and departure

Dissemination of results: Printed publication (Published annually. The latest publication is the end of Jul. in 2015), Web site (http://www.moj.go.jp/housei/toukei/toukei_ichiran_nyukan.html)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: N.A.

Q6. Administrative Sources

SOURCE

Title of source: Statistics on the Foreigners Registered

Agency responsible: Ministry of Justice

Kind of source: Database of foreign residents

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Every six months

Year the source first started: 1947

Geographic coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Foreigners (*non-citizens*) Living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Foreigners (*non-citizens*) living in the country

Age coverage: All ages

DATA COLLECTED ON PERSONS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCE

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex

Migration related characteristics: Nationality, time period allowed to stay

Labour related characteristics: Employment status

Data collected and not published/disseminated: Yes

- **Number and name of question not published:** C2. Time period allowed to stay
- **Reason not published:** These include various data for each foreigner. So it's impossible to specify

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of short-term migrant workers: N.A.

Definition of a national living abroad: N.A.

Definition of employment: N.A.

Definition of individual earnings: N.A.

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: N.A.

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: N.A.

Classification used for status in education: N.A.

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Compulsory registration for the population groups covered: N.A.

Official estimate of coverage rate: N.A.

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (Published annually. The latest publication is the end of Dec. in 2014)

Web site (http://www.moj.go.jp/housei/toukei/toukei_ichiran_touroku.html)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes

Micro-data availability outside NSO/responsible agency: N.A.

Q7. Estimation of International Migrant Workers in the Country

SOURCE

Title of source: Population Census Japan

Reference year: 2010

Agency responsible: Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

PERIODICITY AND COVERAGE

Periodicity of data release: Every five years

Year the source first started: 1920

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Nationals (*citizens*) in the country, nationals (*citizens*) employed in the country, foreigners (*non-citizens*) living in the country, foreign workers (*non-citizens*) living in the country

- **Publication/dissemination of data on population groups covered:** Nationals (*citizens*) in the country, nationals (*citizens*) employed in the country, foreigners (*non-citizens*) living in the country, foreign workers (*non-citizens*) living in the country

Age coverage: 15 years old and over

TOPIC COVERED

Demographic characteristics: Age, sex, marital status, educational attainment, household size, household composition

International migration related characteristics: Nationality, foreign workers in the country

Labour related characteristics: Employment status, industry/economic sector, occupation, status in employment

Remittances related characteristics: N.A.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Definition of international migrant workers: “International migrant workers” is not defined, but the number of foreigners who usually live in Japan and work in Japan can be seen by using the “persons usually living” and “employment”. “Persons usually living” refers to those persons who had lived or were going to live for three months or more at their respective households at the census date

Definition of short-term migrant workers: No

Definition of a national (citizen) living abroad: No

Definition of employment: It refers to those who were in one following categories; 1) did any work during the week for pay or profit; 2) had a job or business but did not work at all during the week because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labour dispute or personal reasons.

Definition of household income: No

CLASSIFICATION

Classification used for occupation: National adaptation of ISCO (Based on “Japan Standard Occupational Classification”, established in December 2009, with some arrangements)

- **Number of digits used to release occupation data:** N.A.

Classification used for industry: National adaptation of ISIC (Based on the Standard Industrial Classification for Japan, revised in November 2007, with some arrangements)

- **Number of digits used to release industry data:** N.A.

Classification used for status in employment: "Employed", "Board member of company, etc.", "Self-employed", "Family employees", "Piece rate work"

Classification used for status in education: "In school", "Graduated", "Primary/junior high school", "High school", "Junior/technical college", "University/Graduate school", "Preschool", "Kindergarten", "Nursery Daycare center", "Infant Others"

DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

Dissemination of results: Printed publications (POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS OF JAPAN), electronic format (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, diskettes, etc.), Web site (<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/kokusei/index.htm>)

Metadata has been prepared and disseminated: Yes