

# Data Section

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## Data Section 1

# Outline of Japan's Immigration Control and Residency Management System

## Section 1 Purpose and Legal Basis

Article 1 of the Immigration Control Act stipulates that “the purpose of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act is to provide for fair management over the entry and departure procedures of all persons in Japan, residence of foreign nationals in Japan, as well as consolidate the recognition procedures of the refugee status”.

The meaning of “fair management over the entry and departure procedures of all persons in Japan, residence of foreign nationals in Japan” is to achieve reasonable balance between smoothly accepting foreign nationals and preventing the entry and stay of foreign nationals who are unwelcome in Japan. In order to achieve this purpose, on the one hand the Immigration Control Act provides for a status of residence system to enable the smooth acceptance of foreign nationals who have, for instance, advanced skills. On the other hand, the Immigration Control Act provides for deportation procedures so as to strictly deal with foreign nationals who have committed crimes in Japan.

According to the Act to Amend the Immigration Control Act enacted in April 2019, “fair management over residence of foreign nationals in Japan” was added to the purpose of the above-mentioned law. It was added in order to clearly express that not only immigration control but also equitable control of the residence of foreign nationals residing in Japan is an important objective for us, because in addition to the growing number of foreign residents in recent years, the establishment of status of residence “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specified Skilled Worker (ii)” have increased the importance of equitable control over residence of foreign nationals. Also, “to consolidate the recognition procedures of the refugee status” was added because Japan joined the Refugee Convention in 1981 and the refugee recognition system was included in immigration control and residency management administration.

Other major laws and regulations relating to the Immigration Control Act include, for example, the Special Act on the Immigration Control stipulating the special rules under the Immigration Control Act for special permanent residents; the Enforcement Order of the Immigration Control Act and the Enforcement Order of the Special Act on the Immigration Control stipulating the statutory administrative affairs entrusted to the local governments; the Regulation for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act and the Regulation for Enforcement of the Special Act on the Immigration Control specifically defining the procedures for implementation of the Immigration Control Act and the Special Act on the Immigration Control; the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria stipulated taking possible effects on Japanese industry and people's lives and other circumstances into consideration.

## Section 2 Immigration Procedures for All Persons

### 1 Procedures for the Entry and Departure of Foreign Nationals<sup>(\*)1</sup>

When a foreign national who does not have Japanese nationality (including stateless individuals) wishes to enter Japan, he or she must, in principle, possess a valid passport with a visa<sup>(\*)2</sup> obtained at a Japanese embassy or consulate abroad, apply for landing with an immigration inspector at the port of entry and departure<sup>(\*)3</sup>, and receive a seal of verification for landing. Upon departure from Japan, the foreign national must receive confirmation of departure.

As a result of the landing examination by an immigration inspector, any foreign national who falls under any of the following cases will be denied permission to land in Japan: when the foreign national's passport or visa is found to be invalid such as being counterfeit or altered; when the activities declared in the application as the ones in which the foreign national intends to engage while in Japan are found to be false; or when the foreign national falls under any of the grounds for denial of landing enumerated in the Immigration Control Act (Article 5), such as having a past record of having been sentenced to a criminal punishment owing to a violation of any law or regulation relating to the control of narcotics, marijuana, opium, stimulants or psychotropic substances, for the purpose of prohibiting the landing of foreign nationals who are unwelcome in Japan.

Other than these general immigration procedures for foreign nationals, the Immigration Control Act also provides for a simplified system of landing permission known as "special landing permission"<sup>(\*)4</sup>.

### 2 Procedures for Entry (Landing) Examinations of Foreign Nationals<sup>(\*)5</sup>

The procedures for entry examinations of foreign nationals are structured as a three-step examination process so that the cases may be examined carefully and foreign nationals will have a sufficient chance to assert and prove that they comply with the conditions for landing (Reference 84).

(\*)1 A foreign national is deemed to have "entered" Japan when he or she has entered the territorial sea or territorial airspace of Japan, and to have "landed" in Japan when he or she has set foot on Japanese land. Therefore, the permission for entry or stay given to foreign nationals as a result of the immigration examination at the port of entry and departure is referred to as "landing permission".

For a country which borders a neighboring country, "entry" means a foreign national has crossed the border and proceeded into the land territory of another country. In this case, it is not necessary to distinguish the concept of "entry" from that of "landing". However, since Japan is surrounded by sea, a distinction is made between the two terms.

(\*)2 A "visa" refers to a document that a Japanese consular officer issues under certain conditions to certify in a foreign national's passport, using a prescribed format, that the foreign national who seeks to land in Japan has a legitimate reason and qualifications based on his or her application.

(\*)3 The "port of entry and departure" refers to certain seaports and airports where foreign nationals are allowed to enter into or depart from Japan (Article 2, item (viii) of the Immigration Control Act). Specific ports of entry and departure are stipulated in the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act. As of April 1, 2022, the number of ports of entry and departure was 127 seaports and 32 airports.

(\*)4 For special landing permission, see Subsection 4.

(\*)5 The "entry (landing) examination" by the immigration inspector and the "landing adjudication" after the hearing are jointly called the entry (landing) examination procedures in the wide sense of the term.

### (1) Entry (Landing) Examination

If a foreign national has applied for landing and such foreign national (excluding special permanent residents) has fulfilled his or her obligation to submit biometric information (fingerprints and facial photographs) (Article 6, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act), the immigration inspector will examine whether such foreign national meets with the conditions for landing in Japan or not ((i) the foreign national possesses a valid passport; (ii) a valid visa is attached to the passport, except in cases where the foreign national is eligible for a visa waiver; (iii) the activities the foreign national has applied for is not false and comes under one of the statuses of residence listed in one of the Appended Tables of the Immigration Control Act, and moreover, with regard to certain statuses of residence, meets the landing permission criteria given in the Ordinance on Criteria; (iv) the period of stay applied for conforms to the provisions of the Ordinance of the MOJ; and (v) the foreign national does not fall under any of the grounds for denial of landing) (Article 7, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). When an immigration inspector finds that a foreign national conforms to the above-mentioned conditions, the immigration inspector will determine a status of residence and the period of stay, and affix a seal of verification for landing onto the foreign national's passport (Article 9, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

The provision of biometric information (fingerprints and a facial photograph) at the time of the entry (landing) examination became mandatory through the 2006 amendment of the Immigration Control Act (enforced on November 20, 2007).

### (2) Hearing

If a foreign national, who has filed an application for landing, does not provide his or her personal identification information to the immigration officer at the port of entry or departure, or is found, as a result of the landing examination by the immigration inspector, not to conform to the conditions for landing, the case will be assigned to a special inquiry officer<sup>(\*1)</sup>, who will hold a hearing (Article 7, paragraph (4), Article 9, paragraph (6), and Article 10, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

If the special inquiry officer finds, as a result of the hearing, that the foreign national conforms to the conditions for landing (limited to cases where the foreign national is found to come under foreign nationals who are exempt from the obligation of providing personal identification information and cases where the foreign national provides his or her personal identification information to the special inquiry officer with regard to cases assigned to the special inquiry officer owing to the foreign national refusing to provide his or her personal identification information to the immigration inspector), the foreign national will immediately be granted landing permission (Article 10, paragraphs (8) of the Immigration Control Act).

### (3) Filing of an Objection

On the other hand, a foreign national who is found not to conform to the conditions for landing may either accept the finding or file an objection. In the case of the former, the foreign national will be ordered to depart from Japan. In the latter case, the foreign national may file an objection with the Minister of Justice within three days after receipt of the

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(\*1) A "special inquiry officer" refers to a senior immigration officer appointed by the Commissioner of the ISA, who is authorized to hold hearings for landing examination procedures and deportation procedures.

notice <sup>(\*1)</sup> (Article 10, paragraphs (10) and (11), and Article 11, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

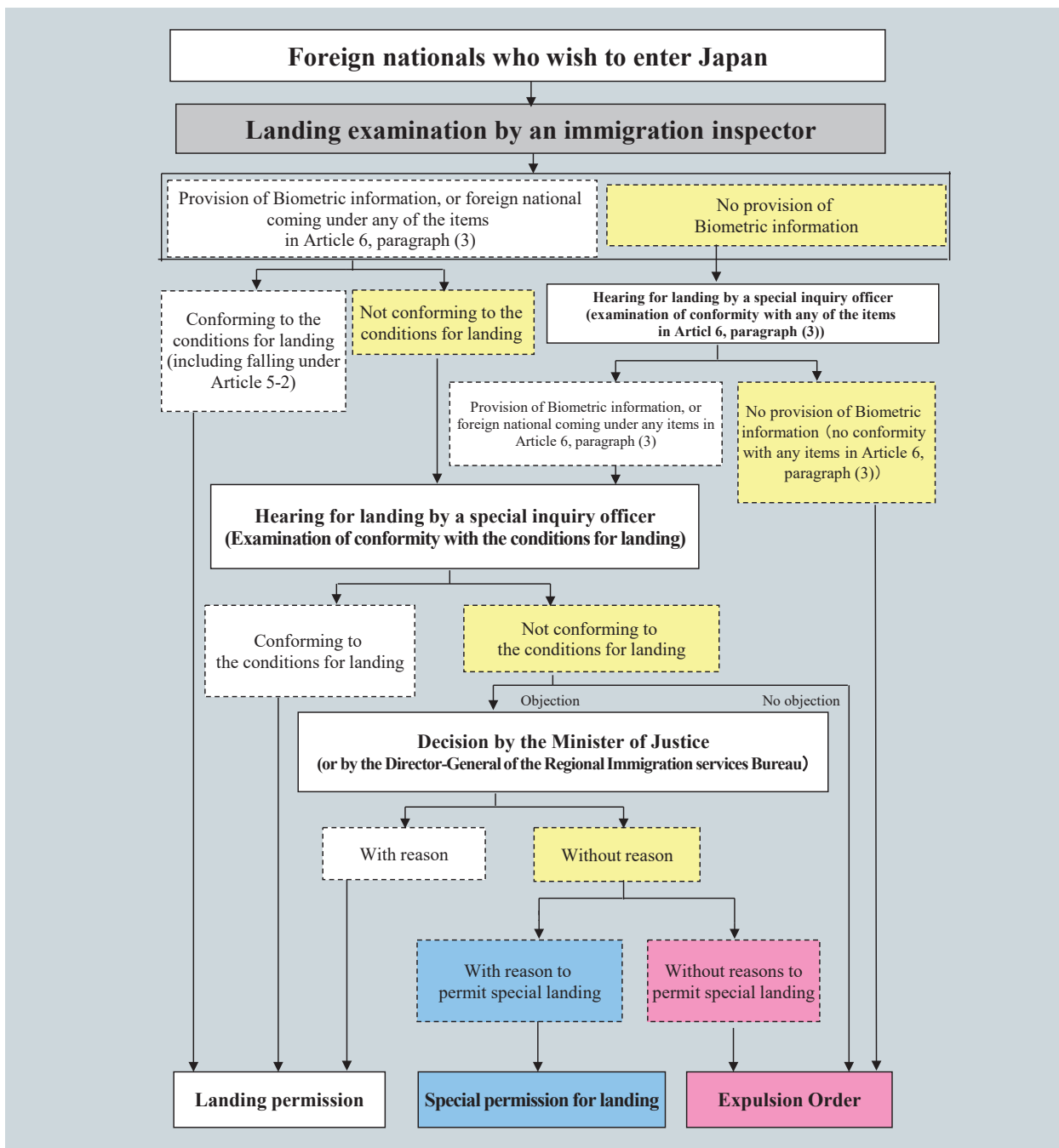
If there is an objection from a foreign national who has been found not to conform to the conditions for landing by the special inquiry officer, the Minister of Justice will decide whether or not the objection is with reason, that is, whether the foreign national conforms to the conditions for landing. If a decision is reached that the objection is with reason, such foreign national will immediately be granted permission for landing, and if a decision is reached that the objection is without reason, such foreign national will be ordered to depart from Japan (Article 11, paragraphs (3), (4) and (6) of the Immigration Control Act), but if the foreign national who has been ordered to depart from Japan does not depart from Japan without delay, the deportation procedure will be enforced (Article 24, item (v)-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

Even if the Minister of Justice finds that the objection filed is without reason, if such foreign national has been granted re-entry permission and entered Japan under the control of another due to trafficking in persons or the Minister of Justice finds that circumstances exist that warrant the granting of special permission for landing, the Minister of Justice may grant such foreign national special permission for landing (the “special permission for landing” provided for in Article 12 of the Immigration Control Act).

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(\*1) There are no procedures for a decision by the Minister of Justice with regard to foreign nationals who do not provide their personal identification information, and therefore, their deportation from Japan will be ordered at the hearing (Article 10, paragraph (7) of the Immigration Control Act).

**Reference 84** Flow of landing examination



**3 Pre-entry Examination**

**(1) Advance Consultation for Issuance of Visas**

Although the MOFA is the ministry, which has jurisdiction over the issuance of visas, since possessing a valid visa is one of the conditions for landing, the issuance of visas is strongly tied to immigration control and residency management administration.

For this reason, the MOFA, which has jurisdiction over the issuance of visas and the ISA, which has jurisdiction over immigration control and residency management, liaise and coordinate over the entry of foreign nationals, and the MOFA consults with the ISA on the individual visa applications where necessary. Accordingly, the ISA examines whether the activities which the foreign national intends to engage in while in Japan conforms to one of the statuses of residence described in the Appended Tables of the Immigration Control Act,

thorough examining the submitted documents, and hearing about the circumstances from a representative of the organization in Japan that plans to accept the foreign national. In addition, with regard to a foreign national who intends to engage in a particular activity, the ISA examines whether the foreign national complies with each of the conditions for landing stipulated in the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria and subsequently provides an answer to the MOFA as to whether or not it is appropriate to issue a visa to the foreign national ([Reference 85-1](#)).

## (2) Certificate of Eligibility

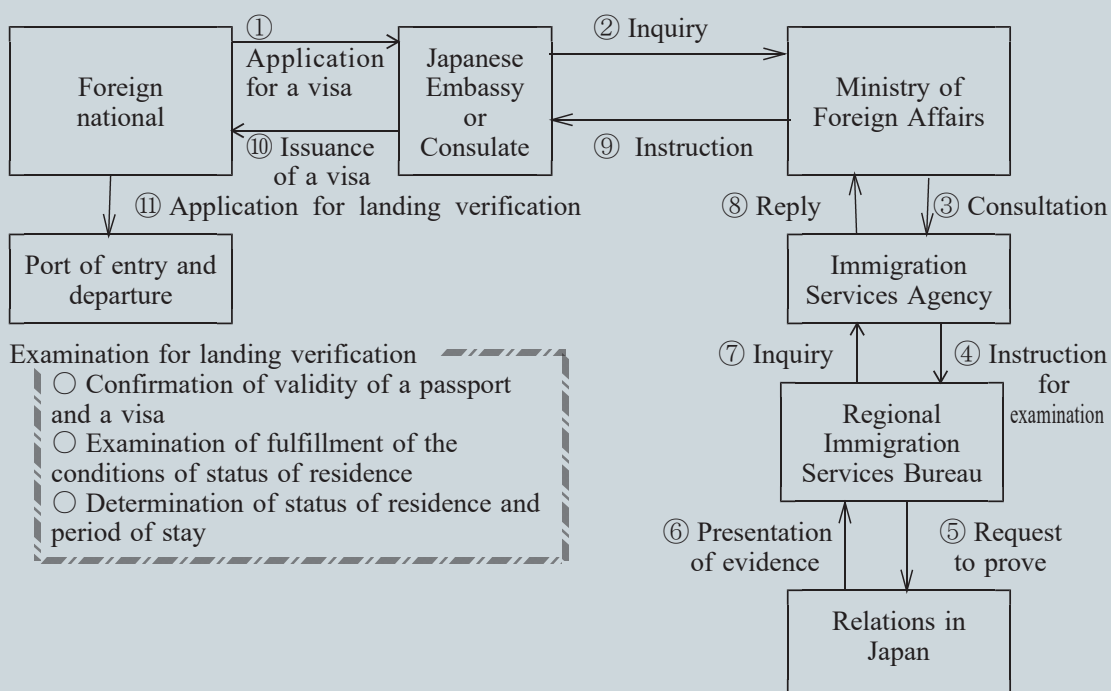
In principle, a foreign national is required to obtain a visa at a Japanese embassy or consulate abroad before coming to Japan. The visa will not be issued unless the visa application documents submitted abroad have been sent to Japan, examined in Japan, and an opinion has been given to the embassy or consulate, except in cases where a visa may be issued solely upon a decision made by the embassy or consulate abroad such as in cases relating to the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”. For this reason, a considerable amount of time is required from the time of the application being submitted to the time of a visa being issued.

Therefore, in order to simplify and facilitate the entry examination procedures, a system of certificates of eligibility was established through the amendment of the Immigration Control Act in 1990. When a foreign national him/herself or another agent, applies for a certificate of eligibility for a status of residence (except for “Temporary Visitor” and “Permanent Resident”) in Japan beforehand, the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau examines in advance whether the foreign national is eligible for the applied status of residence. When the foreign national intends to engage in specific activities, the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau examines whether or not he or she meets the conditions for landing stipulated in the Ordinance on Criteria. If he or she is judged to be eligible for the status of residence and meets the conditions for landing mentioned in Subsection 2 (1), the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau issues a certificate of eligibility, which will enable the foreign national to smoothly acquire a visa and permission for landing through presenting the certificate (Article 7-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

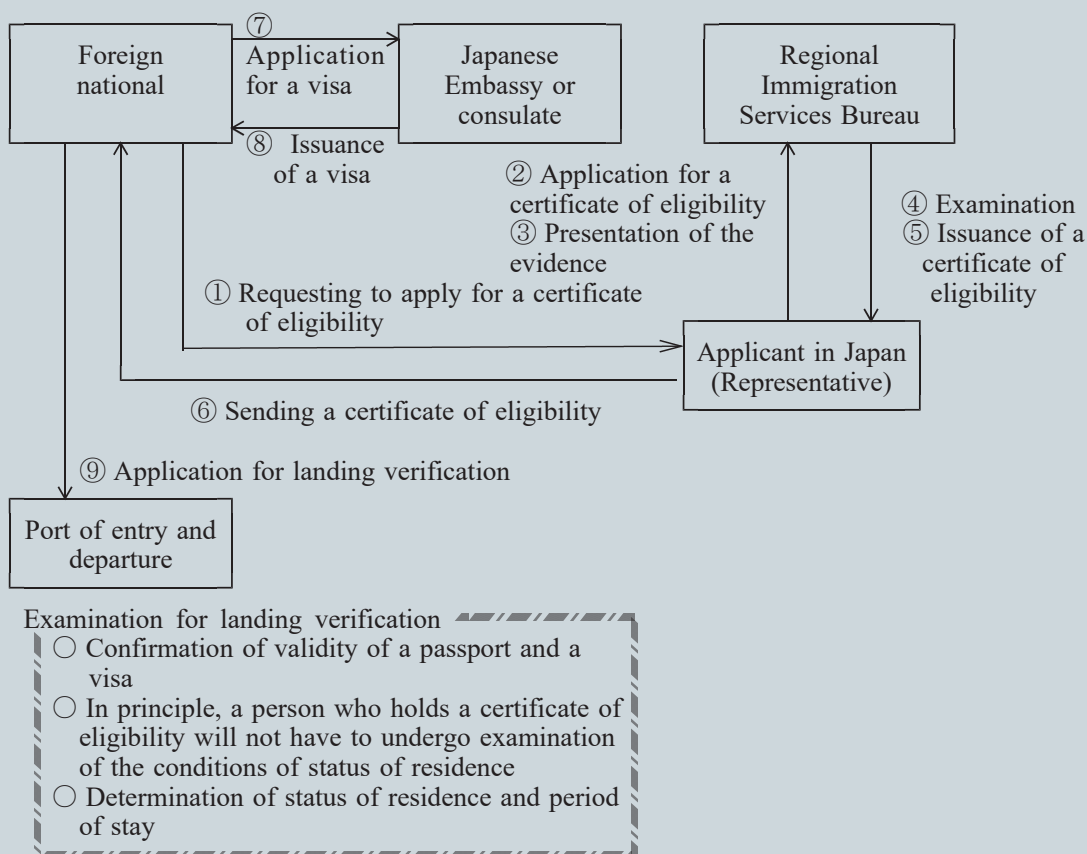
This procedure enables the saving of time needed for the sending of documents, and also enables speedy entry examination procedures, since all the procedures for pre-entry examination are carried out in Japan, unlike the system of advance consultation for issuance of visas ([Reference 85-2](#)).

**Reference 85** Procedures for advance consultation for issuance of visas and applications for certificates of eligibility

1 Advance consultation for issuance of a visa



2 Application for a certificate of eligibility





## 4 Special Landing Permission <sup>(\*)</sup>

In addition to being in possession of a passport and visa, in principle, the foreign national must meet the conditions for landing for the status of residence, and must have his or her status of residence determined by the Japanese government before being able to land in Japan. The following cases are the exceptions to this principle, and allow foreign crew members and passengers of vessels and aircraft to land temporarily through simple procedures provided that they meet particular requirements. The exceptions are intended to simplify the landing procedures for foreign nationals who intend to stay in Japan for a short term (or for a short time), but in order to secure their appropriate stay through these simple procedures, there are some restrictions, such as on the period of stay and area of movement.

### (1) Permission for Landing at a Port of Call

This permission reduces the burden imposed on foreign passengers changing vessels in Japan to get to other countries. It allows a foreign national who is to proceed via Japan to an area outside Japan to stay for a maximum of 72 hours in order to land temporarily for the purpose of making purchases or resting at a place in the vicinity of the port of call (airport or seaport). This permission will not be granted when Japan is the final destination and the vessel is not proceeding to a destination outside Japan (Article 14 of the Immigration Control Act).

### (2) Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists

This landing permission for cruise ship tourists is intended to offer increased convenience to foreign passengers onboard cruise ships designated by the Commissioner of the ISA (designated passenger ships).

If a foreign national onboard a designated passenger ship wishes to land for the purpose of sightseeing, he or she will be granted landing permission within a period not exceeding seven days or 30 days until the time of departure on the condition that such foreign national returns to the ship before the designated passenger ship leaves the port (Article 14-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

### (3) Permission for Landing in Transit

This permission improves convenience for foreign passengers aboard a vessel and aircraft. It allows a foreign national aboard a vessel calling at two or more ports of entry and departure to land temporarily for sightseeing purposes while the vessel is in Japan and to return to the vessel at another port of entry and departure at which the vessel is scheduled to call within 15 days, or allows a foreign national on board a vessel or aircraft who plans to proceed to an area outside Japan via Japan to make a transit stop and leave Japan from another port of entry and departure in the vicinity of the port at which he or she entered, within three days of his or her entry into Japan (Article 15 of the Immigration Control Act).

### (4) Landing Permission for Crew Members

This permission improves convenience for foreign crew members. It allows a foreign crew member aboard a vessel and aircraft to land temporarily at a port of call for the purpose of

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(\*) For landing permission for temporary refuge, see Section 6, Subsection 4 below.

transferring to another vessel, making purchases or taking a rest within a limit of seven or 15 days.

For foreign crew members who frequently land at a Japanese port of entry and departure, there is also a system of multiple landing permission for crew members (Article 16 of the Immigration Control Act).

#### (5) Permission for Emergency Landing

The purpose of this provision is to respond quickly to emergency situations of foreign passengers and crew members aboard a vessel or an aircraft. If such foreign nationals need to land in Japan urgently for medical treatment of a disease, injury or some other physical ailment, permission will be granted until the cause thereof ceases to exist (Article 17 of the Immigration Control Act).

#### (6) Landing Permission Due to Distress

This permission was established for the purpose of promptly dealing with vessels that are in distress. It is granted when it is necessary to carry out relief and protection of foreign victims aboard a vessel or aircraft in distress or in the event of a forced landing within a limit of 30 days (Article 18 of the Immigration Control Act).

### 5 Procedures for the Departure and Return of Japanese Nationals

Immigration control and residency management administration is responsible for ensuring equitable control of immigration for all people, so the Immigration Control Act also stipulates the procedures departure and return of Japanese nationals.

If a Japanese national departs from Japan, his or her departure must be confirmed by an immigration inspector at the port of entry and departure. In addition, if a Japanese national returns to Japan, his or her return must be confirmed by an immigration inspector (Article 60, 61 of the Immigration Control Act).

## Section 3 Examination of the Status of Residence of Foreign Nationals

### 1 Status of Residence System

In principle, foreign nationals who enter and reside as residents in Japan are required to be granted a status of residence designated by the Immigration Control Act. The status of residence categorizes a wide range of activities of foreign nationals, and clarifies whether they are permitted to enter and reside in Japan if they intend to engage in certain activities. This scheme is called the status of residence system and it forms the foundation of the immigration control and residency management administration of Japan ([Reference 86](#)).

The statuses can be broadly divided into two categories:

- (i) Statuses of residence which focus on the authorized activities of the foreign national in Japan (one of the statuses of residence in the left-hand column of the Appended Table I of the Immigration Control Act (activity status))
- (ii) Statuses of residence which focus on the personal status or position of the foreign national

(one of the statuses of residence in the left-hand column of the Appended Table II of the Immigration Control Act (residency status))

The basis of the former is “what the foreign national does”, while that of the latter is “what kind of status the foreign national has”.

In addition, as Japan adopts a policy of permitting foreign nationals who are to engage in occupational activities utilizing their professional techniques, skills or knowledge to enter and stay in Japan, but does not to permit other foreign workers to enter and stay in Japan, the statuses of residence which belong to the abovementioned category (i) are divided into the two subcategories of statuses of residence for which work activities are permitted (activities to operate income-earning businesses or activities to receive remuneration), and statuses of residence for which work activities are not permitted.

Although the original purpose of the statuses of residence which belong to the abovementioned category (ii) is not work, it is possible to engage in a work activity because there are no restrictions imposed what activities the foreign national does.

Furthermore, if an activity among the statuses of residence is likely to impact Japanese industry and people's lives, the foreign national will not be permitted to enter Japan unless such a foreign national meets the criteria for the landing permission stipulated by the Ministerial Ordinance on Criteria.

## Reference 86 List of Statuses of Residence (As of April 1, 2022)

Appended Table I

(1)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Diplomat	Activities on the part of constituent members of diplomatic missions or consular offices of foreign governments hosted by the Japanese Government; activities on the part of those who are provided with similar privileges and/or immunities as are granted to diplomatic missions pursuant to treaties or international customary practices; and activities on the part of their family members belonging to the same household.	Ambassador, minister, consulate general, or delegation member of a foreign government and their families	Period during which diplomatic activities are performed
Official	Activities on the part of those who engage in the official business of foreign governments or international organizations recognized by the Japanese Government; and activities on the part of their family members belonging to the same household (except for the activities listed in the "Diplomat" column of this Table).	Employee of an embassy or consulate of a foreign government, individual assigned by an international institution for an official assignment, and their families	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 3 months, 30 days or 15 days
Professor	Activities for research, guidance of research or education at a university, an equivalent educational institutions or colleges of technology ("Kotosenmongakko").	College professor	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Artist	Artistic activities that produce income, including music, the fine arts, literature, etc. (except for the activities listed in the "Entertainer" column in Table I (2)).	Composer, artist, or writer	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Religious Activities	Missionary and other religious activities conducted by foreign religious workers dispatched by a foreign religious organization.	Missionary assigned by a foreign religious organization	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Journalist	News coverage and other journalistic activities conducted based on a contract with a foreign journalistic organization.	Reporter or photographer of foreign press	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months

(2)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Highly-Skilled Professional	<p>(i)</p> <p>Activities coming under any of the following items of "a" to "c" conducted by a person who meets the criteria specified by an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice as a human resource with advanced highly-skilled capabilities, and who is expected to contribute to the development of academic research or the economy of Japan.</p> <p>(a) Activities of engaging in research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice, or in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business managed personally by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities or activities of research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into a public or private organization in Japan other than said organization.</p> <p>(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the field of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice, or in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business managed personally by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities.</p> <p>(c) Activities of engaging in the operation of international trade or other business at a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice or to manage said business or, in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business personally managed by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities.</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>The following activities which meet the criteria specified by an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice where the residence of</p>	<p>A foreign national within the scope eligible for the decision on a status for work who has earned points for each of the items of "academic background," "professional career" and "annual salary", etc. and whose total number of points reaches a certain score (70 points).</p> <p>(Example) A case where a 30 year-old (10 points), who has acquired a master's degree (professional degree on business administration (MBA)) from a foreign university (25 points) with seven years' IT-related work experience (15 points), engages in the work of the development of</p>	<p>5 years for Highly-Skilled Professional (i) and unlimited for Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)</p>

	<p>the person engaging in the activities given in the previous item contributes to the interests of Japan.</p> <p>(a) Activities of engaging in research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan.</p> <p>(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the field of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan.</p> <p>(c) Activities of engaging in the operation of international trade or other business at a public or private organization in Japan or to manage said business.</p> <p>(d) Activities (except for the activities corresponding to any of (a) through to (c)) listed in the column from "Professor" to "Journalist" as specified in Table I (1), or the activities listed in the column corresponding to the sections of "Legal/Accounting Services", "Medical Services", "Instructor", "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services", "Entertainer", the section of "Skilled Labor" or the section of "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)" in this table in conjunction with any of the activities from (a) through to (c).</p>	management support software with an annual salary of 6 million yen (20 points).	
Business Manager	Activities to engage in the operation of international trade or other business in Japan or to manage said business (except for activities to engage in the operation or management of business which may not be legally conducted without the qualification given in the column of "Legal/Accounting Services").	Manager or operator of a company, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 4 months or 3 months
Legal/Accounting Services	Activities to engage in legal or accounting business which may lawfully only be carried out by registered foreign lawyers (gaikokuhou-jimubengoshi), or certified public accountants (gaikokukoninkaikeishi) or those with other legal qualifications.	Attorney or certified public accountant	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Medical Services	Activities to engage in medical treatment services which may lawfully only be undertaken by physicians, dentists or those with other legal qualifications.	Physician, dentist or registered nurse	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Researcher	Activities to engage in research based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan (except for the activities listed in the "Professor" column of Table I (1)).	Researcher at a government-related institution or company	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Instructor	Activities to engage in language instruction or other education at an elementary school, junior high school, compulsory education school, senior high school, school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko), school for special needs education, vocational school (senshugakko), miscellaneous category school (kakushugakko) or other educational institution equivalent to a miscellaneous educational institution in facilities and curriculum.	Language instructor at a high school or junior high school	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services	Activities to engage in services which require specialized skills or knowledge pertinent to the field of physical science, engineering or other natural science fields or to the field of jurisprudence, economics, sociology or other humanities fields or to engage in services which require specific ways of thinking or sensitivity acquired through experience with a foreign culture (except for the activities listed in the right-hand column of the "Professor", "Artist" and "Journalist" sections in Table (1), and the activities listed in the right-hand column of the "Business Manager" to "Instructor" sections, and the "Intra-company Transferee" section in this Table) based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan.	Engineers such as of mechanical engineering, interpreters, designers, language teachers of private companies, and employees engaged in the marketing field, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Intra-company Transferee	Activities on the part of personnel who is transferred to a business office in Japan for a limited period of time from a business office established in a foreign country by a public or private organization which has head office, branch office or other business office in Japan, and who engages in the activities listed in the "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" column of this Table at the business office.	Transferee from an office abroad	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Nursing Care	Activities of a person qualified as a certified care worker to engage in nursing care or the instructions of nursing care based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan	Certified Care Worker	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Entertainer	Activities to engage in theatrical performances, musical performances, sports or any other show form of business (except for the activities listed in the "Business Manager" column of this Table).	Actor, singer, dancer, or professional athlete	3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months or 15days

Skilled Labor	Activities to engage in services which require industrial techniques or skills belonging to special fields based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan.	Chef of foreign cuisine, sports instructor, aircraft pilot, or craftsman of precious metals	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Specified Skilled Worker	<p>(i) Activities to engage in work requiring skills that need a considerable degree of knowledge or experience provided for in the applicable Order for the Ministry of Justice belonging to a specified industrial field (meaning the specified industrial field designated in the applicable Order of the Ministry of Justice where the securing of human resources to supplement the shortage of labor by employing foreign nationals is required due to difficulty in securing human resources; hereinafter the same shall apply in the same item) designated by the Minister of Justice based on a contract (limited to those conforming to the provisions of Article 2-5, paragraph (1) through to paragraph (4); hereinafter the same shall apply in the following item) concerning employment entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice.</p> <p>(ii) Activities to engage in work requiring the proficient skills provided for in the applicable Order for the Ministry of Justice belonging to a specified industrial field designated by the Minister of Justice based on a contract concerning employment entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice.</p>	<p>(i) Foreign nationals engaging in work requiring skills which need considerable knowledge or experience belonging to specified industrial fields.</p> <p>(ii) Foreign nationals engaging in work requiring proficient skills belonging to specified industrial fields.</p>	<p>(i) 1 year, 6 months or 4 months</p> <p>(ii) 3 years, 1 year or 6 months</p>
Technical Intern Training	<p>(i) Activities that fall under either of the following items (a) or (b)</p> <p>(a) Activities to attend lectures and engage in work pertaining to skills, technologies or knowledge (hereinafter referred to as "skills, etc.") based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to individual-enterprise-type technical intern training (i) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (2), item (i) of the Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees (Act No. 89 of 2016; hereinafter referred to as "Technical Intern Training Act" ) ) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph (if approval of the change has been given in accordance with the provisions of Article 11, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, even after such change; the same shall apply hereinafter).</p> <p>(b) Activities to attend lectures and engage in work pertaining to skills, etc. based on the Technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to supervising-organization-type technical intern training (i) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (4), item (i) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.</p> <p>(ii) Activities that fall under either of the following items (a) or (b)</p> <p>(a) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to individual-enterprise-type technical intern training (ii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (2), item (ii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.</p> <p>(b) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to supervising-organization-type technical intern training (ii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (4), item (ii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.</p> <p>(iii) Activities that fall under either of the following items (a) or (b)</p> <p>(a) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to individual-enterprise-type technical intern training (iii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (2), item (iii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation</p>	Technical intern trainees	<p>(i) Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (1 year or less)</p> <p>(ii) and (iii) Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (2 years or less)</p>

	set forth under the same paragraph. (b) Activities to engage in work requiring the skills, etc. based on the technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to supervising-organization-type technical intern training (iii) provided for in Article 2, paragraph (4), item (iii) of the Technical Intern Training Act) prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Technical Intern Training Act, having received the accreditation set forth under the same paragraph.		
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(3)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Cultural Activities	Academic or artistic activities that provide no income, or activities engaged in for the purpose of pursuing specific Japanese cultural or artistic studies, or for the purpose of learning and acquiring Japanese culture or arts under the guidance of experts (except for activities listed in the columns from "Student" to "Trainee" in this Table I (4)).	Researcher of Japanese culture	3 years, 1 year, 6 months or 3 months
Temporary Visitor	Sightseeing, recreation, sports, visiting relatives, inspection tours, participating in lectures or meetings, business contact or other similar activities during a short period of stay in Japan.	Tourist or conference participant	90 days, 30 days, 15 days or period of less than 15 days

(4)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Student	Activities to receive education at a university, technical school (kotosenmongakko), senior high school (including the second half of a course of study at a school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko)), senior high school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushiengakko), junior high school (including the second half of a course of a compulsory education school (gimukyoikugakko) and the first half of a course of study at a school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko)) or a junior high school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushiengakko), elementary school (including the first half of a course of study in a compulsory education school (gimukyoikugakko)) or an elementary school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushiengakko), vocational school (senshugakko), miscellaneous category school (kakushugakko) or an equivalent educational institution in terms of facilities and organization in Japan.	A university student, a junior college student, a student at a college of technology (kotosenmongakko), a senior high school student, a junior high school student or an elementary school student	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (4 years and 3 months or less)
Trainee	Activities to acquire skills at a public or a private organization in Japan (except for the activities listed in the "Technical Intern Training (i)" column of Table I (2) and "Student" column of this Table).	Trainee	1 year, 6 months or 3 months
Dependent	Daily activities on the part of the spouse or unmarried minor supported by the foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence referred to in the columns in Table I (1), (2) and (3) (except for "Diplomat", "Official", "Specified Skilled Worker (limited to those pertaining to "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" of Table I (2))", "Technical Intern Training" and "Temporary Visitor") or staying with the status of residence of "Student" in this Table.	Spouse or child who is a dependant of a residing foreign national	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

(5)

Status of Residence	Authorized activities	Examples	Period of Stay
Designated Activities	Activities which are specifically designated by the Minister of Justice for foreign individuals.	Domestic help for a diplomat, individual on a working holiday, or nurse and certified caretaker candidates under the Economic Partnership Agreement	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months or a term designated by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

Appended Table II

Status of Residence	Personal Status or Position for Which Residence is Authorized	Examples	Period of Stay
Permanent Resident	Those who are permitted permanent residence by the Minister of Justice.	Individual who is permitted permanent residence by the Minister of Justice (except for special permanent residents of the Special Act on the Immigration Control)	Unlimited
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	The spouses of Japanese nationals, those born as the children of Japanese nationals or children adopted by Japanese nationals pursuant to the provisions of Article 817-2 of the Civil Code (Law No.89 of 1896).	Spouse or child of a Japanese national, or child adopted by a Japanese national in accordance with the provisions of Article 817-2 of the Civil Code	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	The spouses of permanent residents, etc. or those born as the children of permanent residents, etc. in Japan and who have continued to reside in Japan.	Spouse of a permanent resident or Special Permanent Resident, or biological child of a permanent resident or Special Permanent Resident who was born and continues to reside in Japan	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Long-Term Resident	Those who are authorized to reside in Japan with a period of stay designated by the Minister of Justice in consideration of special circumstances.	Refugees accepted for third-country resettlement, Japanese descent, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months or a term designated by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

## 2 Examination of the Status of Residence

If a foreign national residing in Japan wishes to stay for a new purpose that differs from the initial purpose of residence or wishes to continue to stay in Japan even after the expiration of the initial period of stay granted for his or her status of residence, he or she is required to file an application in accordance with the Immigration Control Act, and to obtain permission. In detail, (1) permission for change of the status of residence; (2) permission for extension of the period of stay; (3) permission for permanent residence; (4) permission for acquisition of a status of residence; (5) re-entry permission; and (6) permission to engage in an activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted; and the task of making these decisions is called examination of the status of residence.

The permission of (1) to (4) is decided by the Minister of Justice (the Commissioner of the ISA as commissioned by the Minister of Justice or the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau as commissioned by the Commissioner of the ISA), and the permission of (5) and (6) is decided by the Commissioner of the ISA (the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau as commissioned by the Commissioner of the ISA) (Article 69-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

### (1) Permission for Change of Status of Residence

If a foreign national staying in Japan wishes to change the activities in which he or she is to engage in Japan, he or she will need to apply for permission for change of the status of residence before engaging in any new activities and obtain permission for a change to



the status of residence corresponding to the new activities (Article 20 of the Immigration Control Act).

## (2) Permission for Extension of the Period of Stay

If a foreign national residing in Japan wishes to continue to stay in Japan even after the expiration of his or her period of stay without changing the status of residence currently possessed by him or her, he or she will need to apply for permission to extend the period of stay before the expiration of his or her period of stay and obtain permission for extension of the period of stay (Article 21 of the Immigration Control Act).

## (3) Permission for Permanent Residence

The status of permanent residence is granted when certain conditions are met by a foreign national staying in Japan under some other status of residence, who applies for permanent residence permission, or by a foreign national who applies to acquire permanent residence due to birth or renunciation of Japanese nationality (Article 22 of the Immigration Control Act)<sup>(\*1,\*2)</sup>.

## (4) Permission for Acquisition of a Status of Residence

If a foreign national who was born in Japan or renounced Japanese nationality to obtain a foreign nationality, or lost his or her status as a member of the United States armed forces as defined in Article 1 of the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement who is not required to possess any status of residence, seeks to continue to stay in Japan beyond 60 days, he or she will need to apply for permission for acquisition of a status of residence within 30 days of the day on which such grounds occurred and to obtain permission for acquisition of a status of residence (Article 22-2 of the Immigration Control Act).

## (5) Re-entry Permission

If a foreign national residing in Japan seeks to temporarily depart from Japan and re-enter Japan, he or she may depart from Japan and re-enter Japan with the status of residence and the period of stay currently possessed by him or her, without taking other steps to apply for a new visa as long as he or she receives permission for re-entry in advance (Article 26 of the Immigration Control Act).

In addition, from July 9, 2012, if a mid to long-term resident (see Section 4 Subsection 1 below) re-enters Japan within one year of departure in possession of a valid passport and residence card, or if a special permanent resident re-enters Japan within two years of departure in possession of a valid passport and special permanent resident certificate, in principle,

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(\*1) In order to receive permission for permanent residence, the following requirements must be met: (i) the applicant's behavior and conduct must be good; and (ii) the applicant must have sufficient assets or skills to make an independent living, and (iii) the permanent residence of the foreign national must be deemed to be in accordance with the interests of Japan. However, a spouse or child of a Japanese national, a permanent resident or a special permanent resident does not need to satisfy requirements (i) and (ii).

(\*2) The ISA (formerly the Immigration Bureau) established its Guidelines for Contributions to Japan on March 31, 2005, and published them on the website of the ISA. In addition, the ISA has posted examples of the cases where contributions were recognized and permission for permanent residence was granted, as well as the cases where permission was not granted on its website. In addition, on March 31, 2006, the ISA laid down the "Guidelines on Permission for Permanent Residence" and published general requirements relating to permission for permanent residence as well as the standard relating to the length of residence. ([https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/publications/materials/nyukan\\_nyukan62-1.html](https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/publications/materials/nyukan_nyukan62-1.html)).

he or she is not required to obtain permission for re-entry in advance (Article 26-2 of the Immigration Control Act, Article 23 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control).

Moreover, from January 1, 2015, if a foreign national who entered Japan on being granted the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor" re-enters Japan on a cruise ship (designated passenger ship) within 15 days of the departure of the designated passenger ship whose route takes it from Japan to another country and then back to Japan, he or she is not required, in principle, to receive permission for re-entry (Article 26-3 of the Immigration Control Act).

In addition, with regard to the Embarkation Cards for Foreign Nationals which previously had to be submitted at the time of departure, since it is possible to confirm the identity of the foreign national using the passport, etc. presented by the foreign national, a revision was made so that from April 1, 2016, the submission of the card is no longer required except for foreign nationals intending to re-enter the country, etc. (Article 27, etc. of the Regulation for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act).

## (6) Permission to Engage in an Activity other than those Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted

A foreign national who is granted a status of residence according to the activities in which he or she is engaged must receive permission to engage in an activity other than those permitted by the status of residence previously granted in advance if he or she wishes to engage in activities "related to the management of business involving income or activities for which he or she receives remuneration, which are not included in those activities under his or her category of status of residence". A typical example is that of an international student who wishes to have a part-time job. The Minister of Justice will give permission to the extent that the extra activity does not interfere with the original activity that is the main purpose of his or her residence (Article 19, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

Since July 9, 2012, it has become possible for any person who has been granted the status of residence of "Student" (except for foreign nationals who have been granted a period of stay of three months and foreign nationals who entered Japan with re-entry permission) at landing examination to apply for permission to engage in an activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted immediately after the status is granted to him or her on the spot.

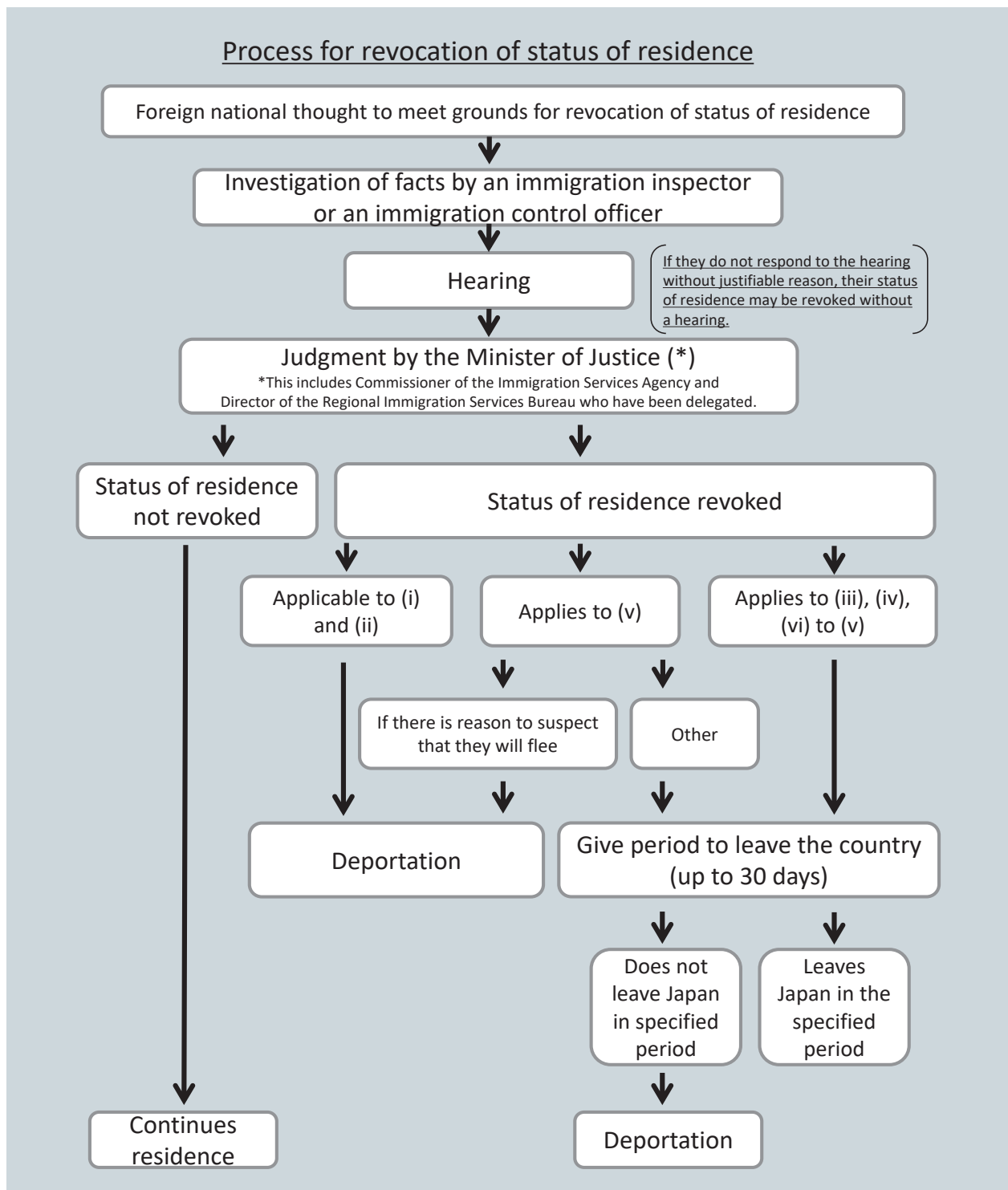
### 3 System of Revocation of Status of Residence

The system of revocation of status of residence is the system under which the Minister of Justice (or the Director of the Regional Immigration Services Bureau except for revocation of the status of permanent resident) may revoke the status of residence actually possessed by a foreign national, if he or she is suspected of falling under any of the grounds for revocation set forth under the Immigration Control Act (each item of paragraph (1) of Article 22-4 of the Immigration Control Act), provided that it is deemed apparent after that he or she falls under the statutory grounds for revocation the hearing process (Article 22-4, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act) ([Reference 87](#)).

The causes of revocation of the status of residence are as follows (the number in parentheses at the end of each sentence indicates the number of the item of paragraph (1) of Article 22-4 of the Immigration Control Act).

- (i) Where a foreign national has misled the immigration inspector, by deceit or other wrongful means, to believe that he or she does not fall under any of the items of Article 5, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act and has received a seal of permission for landing or permission (item (i)).
- (ii) In addition to (i), where a foreign national has received a seal of permission for landing or other permission, by deceit or other wrongful means (item (ii)).
- (iii) Cases where the applicant received a seal of permission for landing, etc. by submitting or presenting a document other than those falling under (i) or (ii) (where the applicant has not employed deceit or other wrongful means) where there is a false entry (including a certificate of eligibility or visa issued by submitting or presenting a document or drawing with a false entry) (item (iii)).
- (iv) Where a foreign national has obtained special permission to stay in Japan by deceit or other wrongful means (the cases which the foreign national him/herself has not conducted a deceit or other wrongful means) (item (iv)).
- (v) Cases where a person residing with a status of residence listed in the left-hand column of Appended Table 1 of the Immigration Control Act resides in Japan without engaging in the activities corresponding to the status of residence previously granted and is moreover, residing in Japan engaging in or attempting to engage in other activities (provided, however, that this shall exclude cases where there is a justifiable reason) (item (v)).
- (vi) Where a foreign national staying in Japan with a status of residence listed in the left-hand column of Appended Table I of the Immigration Control Act has failed to continue to engage in the activity corresponding to that status for three months (six months for “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)”) or more (except for cases where the foreign national has a justifiable reason for not engaging in said activity) (item (vi)).
- (vii) Where a foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” (except for a child of a Japanese national or a child adopted by a Japanese national), or a foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” (except for a child of a permanent resident) has failed to continue to engage in the activities as a spouse for six months or more (except for cases where the foreign national has a justifiable reason for not engaging in the activity) (item (vii)).
- (viii) Where a foreign national who has newly become a mid to long-term resident by obtaining permission for landing or permission for change of the status of residence, etc. has failed to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of his or her place of residence within 90 days of the day on which he or she obtained the permission (except for cases where the person has a justifiable reason for not giving notification of his or her place of residence) (item (viii)).
- (ix) Where a mid to long-term resident has failed to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of his or her new place of residence within 90 days from the day on which he or she moved out of his or her former place of residence (except for case where the person has a justifiable reason for not giving notification of his or her new place of residence) (item (ix)).
- (x) Where a mid to long-term resident has notified the Commissioner of the ISA of a false address (item (x)).

**Reference 87** Procedures for revocation of status of residence



## Section 4 Residency Management System of Mid to Long-Term Residents, etc.

### 1 Residency Management System of Mid to Long-Term Residents

The residency management system for mid to long-term residents is a system enabling the Commissioner of the ISA to accurately and continuously keep track of the information necessary for the residency management of foreign nationals who are residing in Japan for a mid to long-term with a status of residence. Under this system, a residence card will be issued to mid to long-term residents accordance with the permission pertaining to the foreign national's status such as the permission for landing, permission for change of the status of residence and permission for extension of period of stay. Since important items of information kept by the Commissioner of the ISA are given on the residence card, notification of a change is required to be given in the event of a change arising in the described matters, and therefore the latest information is reflected at all times on the card.

In addition, in order to accurately and continuously keep track of the information necessary for residency management, mid to long-term residents are required to give notification of the organization of affiliation, etc. to which they belong, and notifications on information are also accepted from the organization of affiliation of the mid to long-term resident.

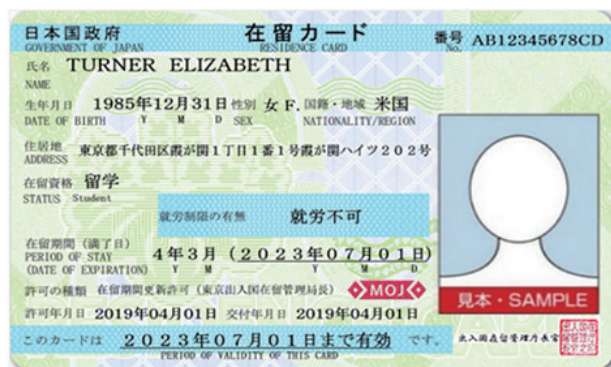
In further detail, mid to long-term residents refer to foreign nationals who do not come under any of the following items (i) through (vi) (Article 19-3 of the Immigration Control Act):

- (i) Persons granted permission to stay for three months or less,
- (ii) Persons granted the status of residence of "Temporary Visitor",
- (iii) Persons granted the status of residence of "Diplomat" or "Official",
- (iv) Persons recognized by the Ordinance of the MOJ as equivalent to the foreign nationals mentioned above (i) to (iii) (specifically, the staff of the Japanese office of the Association of Taiwan-Japan Relations (Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, etc.) and the Permanent General Mission of Palestine in Japan who have the status of residence of "Designated Activities", and their families),
- (v) Special permanent residents,
- (vi) Persons with no status of residence.

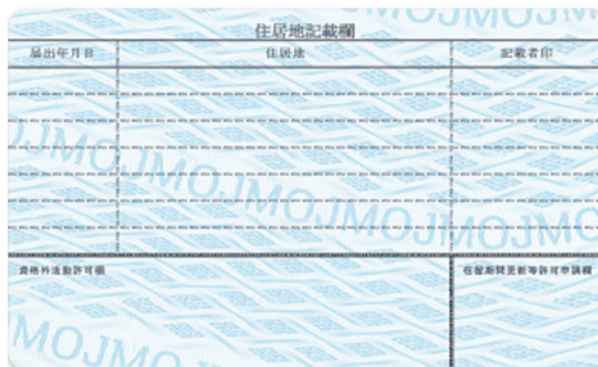
#### (1) Residence Card

The residence card contains important information kept by the Commissioner of the ISA, such as the name, date of birth, sex, nationality/region, place of residence(\*1), status of residence, period of stay, whether the holder is restrictions on employment or not (and for those aged 16 or older, a facial image). As a measure to prevent forgery, the residence card embeds an IC chip in which all or some of the matters described on the face of the card are recorded (Article 19-4 of the Immigration Control Act).

(\*1) The "place of residence" refers to the location of the principal residence in Japan and is recognized to be furnished as a residence from its outside appearance and is expected to be used continuously to live, and moreover, even if the foreign national has a main residence for living overseas, is a concept representing a foundation for living in Japan. On the other hand, "residential place" is the current location which means a temporary place of stay and which is used as a broad concept including such places that cannot be recognized as a foundation for living in terms of conventional wisdom such as roads or parks.



Front of Residence Card



Back of Residence Card

## (2) Notifications and Applications Relating to Residence Cards (Reference 88)

### A. Notification of the Place of Residence<sup>(\*)</sup>

#### (a) Notification of the Place of Residence After Newly Landing in Japan

A mid to long-term resident who possesses a residence card<sup>(\*)</sup> which was issued upon newly obtaining a landing permit at the port of entry, or who is in possession of a passport containing a statement to the effect that a residence card will be issued at a later date (hereinafter referred to as “residence card, etc.”) must notify the Commissioner of the ISA of his or her place of residence by submitting a notification at the office of the municipality where the place of residence is located, bringing his or her residence card, etc., within 14 days of the day of deciding on the place of residence (Article 19-7 of the Immigration Control Act).

#### (b) Notification of the Place of Residence After a Change in the Status of Residence and Other Related Matters

A foreign national who had not been previously a mid to long-term resident but newly became a mid to long-term resident as a result of having obtained permission pertaining to their stay in Japan, such as permission for change of the status of residence, permission for extension of the period of stay or permission for acquisition of a status of residence, must notify the Commissioner of the ISA of his or her place of residence by submitting a notification at the office of the municipality where the place of residence is located, bringing his or her residence card, within 14 days of the day of deciding on the place of residence (or for a mid to long-term resident who had already decided on his or her place of residence, from the day on which he or she was granted permission) (Article 19-8 of the Immigration Control Act).

#### (c) Notification of a Change of Place of Residence

A mid to long-term resident who has changed his or her place of residence must notify the Commissioner of the ISA of his or her new place of residence by submitting a notification

(\*)1 If a mid to long-term resident has submitted his or her residence card and submitted a notification of moving in or a transfer of residence based on the Residential Basic Book Act, it is deemed that he or she submitted the “Notification of the Place of Residence” under the Immigration Control Act, and he or she is not required to give further notification of the place of residence.

(\*)2 As of October 1, 2022, the seven airports where it will be possible to issue a residence card at the same as a new landing permission will be New Chitose, Narita, Haneda, Chubu Centrair, Kansai, Hiroshima and Fukuoka airports.

tion at the office of the municipality where the new place of residence is located, bringing his or her residence card, etc., within 14 days of the day on which he or she moved into the new place of residence (Article 19-9 of the Immigration Control Act).

## **B. Notification of a Change of an Item on the Residence Card**

If a change occurs in the name, date of birth, sex or nationality/region, the mid to long-term resident is required to give notification of the change to the Commissioner of the ISA through the Regional Immigration Services Bureau within 14 days of the occurrence of the change (Article 19-10 of the Immigration Control Act).

## **C. Application to Extend the Valid Period of the Residence Card**

Foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” or “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)”, or mid to long-term residents whose residence card is due to expire on the mid to long-term resident's 16th birthday are required to submit an application for extension of the period of validity of the residence card to the Commissioner of the ISA at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau within the period for extension (the period from two months before the expiration date of the residence card to the expiration date (if the expiration date of the period of validity is the 16th birthday, the period from six months before the expiration date to the expiration date) (Article 19-11 of the Immigration Control Act).

If, however, it is difficult to apply for an extension of the valid period of the residence card within the extension application period for any unavoidable causes, such as long-term medical treatment or a long-term overseas business trip, an application for extension of the valid period of the residence card may be submitted even before the extension application period.

## **D. Application for Reissuance of a Residence Card Due to Loss or Other Causes**

If a mid to long-term resident is no longer in possession of a residence card due to loss, theft, damage or some other causes, he or she is required to submit an application for reissuance of the residence card to the Commissioner of the ISA through the Regional Immigration Services Bureau within 14 days of becoming aware of such fact (if the foreign national was away from Japan when he or she became aware of such fact, the first day of entry into Japan following such discovery) (Article 19-12 of the Immigration Control Act).

## **E. Application for Reissuance of a Residence Card Due to Damage or Soiling, etc.**

If the residence card in the possession of the foreign national has been substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip of the residence card has been damaged, an application for reissuance of the residence card may be submitted to the Commissioner of the ISA at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau. However, in cases where a foreign national has received an order from the Commissioner of the ISA to file an application for reissuance of a residence card because his or her residence card has been substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip embedded in his or her residence card has been damaged, he or she must file an application for reissuance of a residence card with the Commissioner of the ISA at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau, within 14 days of the day of receiving the order.

If the holder of the residence card wishes to exchange his or her residence card, he or she

is able to apply for reissuance even if the residence card has not been damaged or otherwise soiled. The payment of a fee of 1,600 yen is required, in this case, for issuance of the residence card (Article 19-13 of the Immigration Control Act).

### (3) ISA's Seiji Search System

The name given in the residence card and the special permanent resident certificate, in principle, should be given using the Roman letters, but in certain cases such as where a request is made by the foreign national, the name may be indicated in kanji together with or in place of the Roman letters.

With regard to the indication of names using kanji characters in the residence card and the special permanent resident certificate, in accordance with the Public Notice on the Indication of Kanji Character Names in the Residence Cards and Other Certificates (MOJ Public Notice No. 582 of 2011), the characters were specified as within the scope of seiji characters<sup>(\*)</sup>, while simplified characters (referring to Chinese simplified letters and Taiwanese traditional letters which do not match the seiji characters) may be used by replacing them with characters within the range of seiji characters.

Therefore, the ISA introduced "the ISA's Seiji Search System", which enables a simple search of kanji names given in the residence card, etc. based on the character codes of simplified characters on July 1, 2013, and made it available for use on the ISA's website (<http://lapse-immi.moj.go.jp:50122/>).

### (4) Notification Concerning the Organization of Affiliation or Concerning the Spouse (Reference 88)

#### A. Notification from a Mid to Long-Term Resident Concerning the Organization of Affiliation

##### (a) Notification Concerning the Organization Where the Foreign National is Engaging in Activities (public or private organizations in Japan at which the activities corresponding to the status of residence are carried out)

If a change occurs in the name or location of an organization where a mid to long-term resident who is residing in Japan with the status of residence of "Professor", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)" (in cases of engaging in the activities listed in item (ii)-(c) of the right-hand column corresponding to "Highly-Skilled Professional" as specified in the Appended Table I (2) of the Immigration Control Act), "Business Manager", "Legal/Accounting Services", "Medical Services", "Instructor", "Intra-company Transferee", "Technical Intern Training", "Student" or "Trainee", is engaging in activities or the organization where the mid to long-term resident is engaging activities is extinguished or the mid to long-term resident leaves the employment of the organization or moves to another organization, he or she is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of such changes within 14 days (Article 19-16, item (i) of the Immigration Control Act).

(\*) Refers to the Japanese character repertoire part of X0221 of the Industrial Standardization Act (Act No. 185 of 1949) (subset specifying the characters commonly used in Japan) and the kanji characters of the Appended Table I of the MOJ Public Notice.



**(b) Notification Concerning the Contracting Organization (public or private organizations in Japan which are the other party to the contract)**

If a change arises in the name or location of a contracting organization, the contracting organization is extinguished, or the contract with the contracting organization ends or a new contract is entered into, the mid to long-term resident residing in Japan with the status of residence of “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)”, “Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)”, “Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)” (in cases of engaging in the activities listed in item (ii)-(a) or (b) of the right-hand column corresponding to “Highly-Skilled Professional” as specified in the Appended Table I (2) of the Immigration Control Act), “Researcher”, “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Nursing Care”, “Entertainer” (limited to cases where the foreign national is engaging in activities based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan), “Skilled Labor” or “Specified Skilled Worker” is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of such changes within 14 days (Article 19-16, item (ii) of the Immigration Control Act).

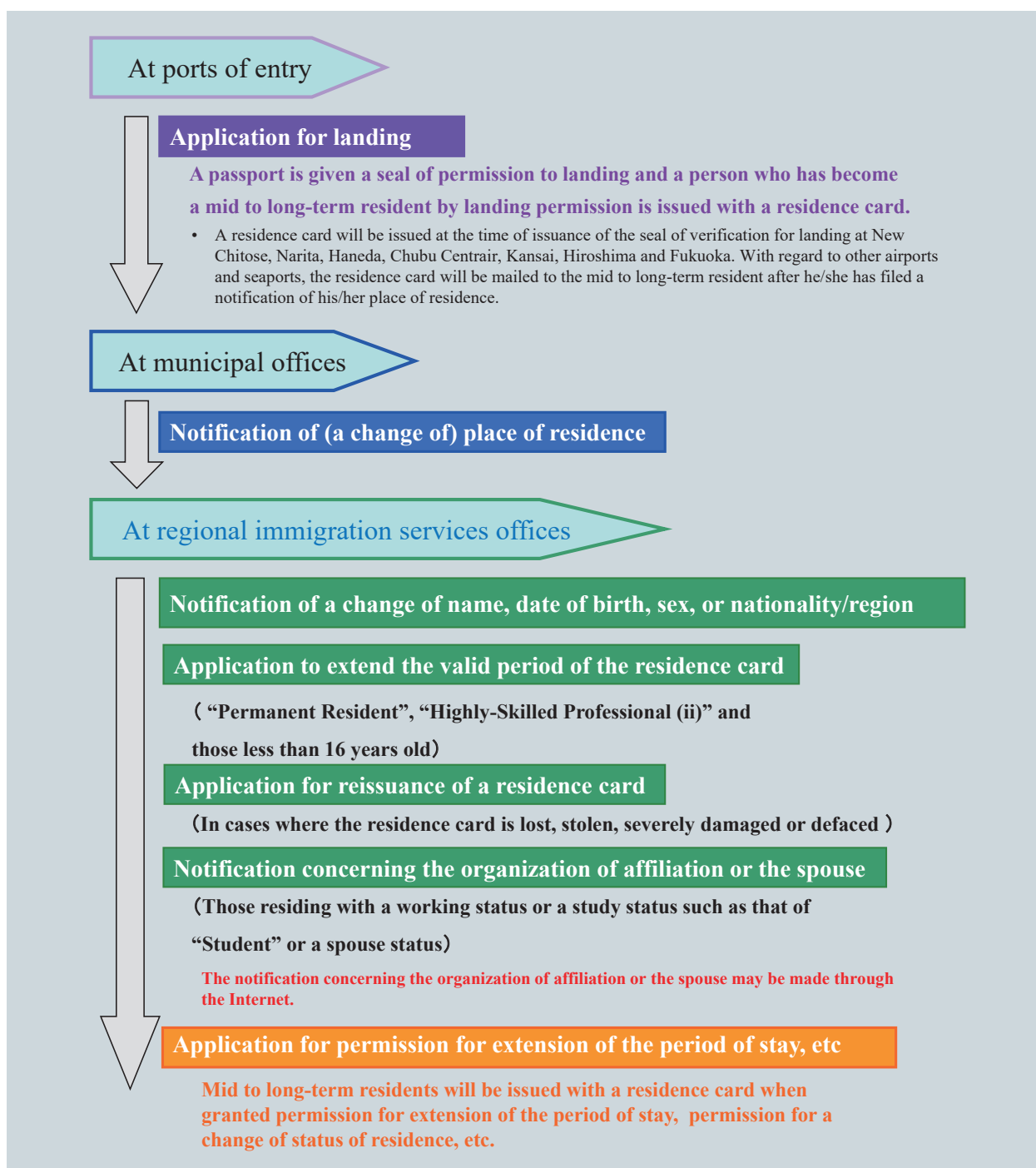
**(c) Notification Concerning the Spouse of the Foreign National**

If a mid to long-term resident residing in Japan with the status of residence of “Dependent”, “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”, who has the status of a spouse, is separated from his or her spouse due to divorce or death, he or she is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of such changes within 14 days (Article 19-16, item (iii) of the Immigration Control Act).

**B. Notification Concerning Mid to Long-Term Residents to be Given by the Organization of Affiliation**

Public and private organizations in Japan (except for those employers who are required to notify the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 28 of the Revised Employment Measures Act), which accept mid to long-term residents residing with the status of residence of “Professor”, “Highly-Skilled Professional”, “Business Manager”, “Legal/Accounting Services”, “Medical Services”, “Researcher”, “Instructor”, “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services”, “Intra-company Transferee”, “Nursing Care”, “Entertainer”, “Skilled Labor”, “Student” or “Trainee” are required to endeavor to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the commencement and end of the acceptance of the mid to long-term resident and other matters relating to the status of acceptance (Article 19-17 of the Immigration Control Act).

## Reference 88 Procedural flow of the residency management system of mid to long-term residents



### C. Notifications to be submitted by the organization of affiliation of specified skilled workers (public or private organizations in Japan that accept foreign nationals residing with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” or “Specified Skilled Worker (ii)”)

#### (a) Irregular notifications

In cases where the organization of affiliation of specified skilled workers changes or terminates the contract for employment of specified skilled workers or enters into a new procedural flow of the residency management system of mid to long-term residents contract for specified skilled workers, changes the contract for support of foreign nationals with

the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)”, enters into a contract entrusting all of the support plans for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” to a registered support organization (described later) or changes or terminates such contract or it has become difficult to accept specified skilled workers or it has become aware of misconduct, it is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the reason thereof within 14 days (Article 19-18, paragraph(1) of the Immigration Control Act).

#### **(b) Regular notifications**

The organization of affiliation of specified skilled workers is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the matters relating to the situation of acceptance of specified skilled workers, the matters relating to the situation of implementation of the support plans for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and the matter relating to the situation of activities once every quarter within 14 days of the first day of the following quarter (Article 19-18, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

### **D. Notifications to be submitted by the registered support organization (a person who has registered as a person to perform all of the work of implementation of the support plans for foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” having been entrusted through a contract)**

#### **(a) Irregular notifications**

The registered support organization is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the reason thereof within 14 days if any changes are made to its name or address, the name of the representative in the case of a juridical person, the location of the business office that performs the support services, the content of the support services, and implementation method, etc. or if the support services have been suspended or abolished. Also, it is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the reason thereof in advance if the suspended support services are to be resumed (Article 19-27, paragraph (1), Article 19-29, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act; Article 19-23, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act).

#### **(b) Regular notifications**

The registered support organization is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the situation of implementation of the support services, etc. once every quarter within 14 days of the first day of the following quarter (Article 19-30, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

### **(5) Immigration Services Agency's Electronic Notification System**

The “Notification Concerning the Organization of Affiliation or Concerning the Spouse” (items of Article 19-16 of the Immigration Control Act) to be made by the mid to long-term resident, the “Notification by the Organization of Affiliation” (Article 19-17 of the Immigration Control Act) to be made by the organization of affiliation accepting the mid to long-term resident, “Notifications by an Organization of Affiliation of the Specified Skilled Worker” (Article 19-18 of the Immigration Control Act), “Notifications to be submitted by

the registered support organization” (Article 19-27, paragraph (1), Article 19-29, paragraph (1), Article 19-30, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act ; Article 19-23, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act) and “Reports related to notification standards for Japanese language institutions” (Article 1, Paragraph (1), item (xxx VIII) (xxx ix) (xxxx iv) (xxxx v) and (xxxx vi) of the public notice criteria for the Japanese language education institutions) may be submitted directly to the Regional Immigration Services Bureau at the office or by mail, but in addition, it became possible to submit a notification via the Internet using the “Immigration Services Agency Electronic Notification System” ([https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/publications/materials/i-ens\\_index.html](https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/publications/materials/i-ens_index.html)).

Mid to long-term residents and the staff of the organizations of affiliation are able to access the electronic notification system using their own Internet environment and to make a notification and report by entering the necessary items. Furthermore, since this administrative services system is one which connects to outside users via the Internet, for the convenience of the user, a part of the screen is displayed in a variety of languages (Japanese, English, Chinese (simplified characters and traditional characters), Korean, Spanish, Portuguese and Tagalog).

Advantages of “the Immigration Services Agency’s Electronic Notification System” are as follows.

- (i) Foreign nationals do not have to go to the counter, but are able to make a notification using the Internet from their home or office and check the status of their notification.
- (ii) The use of the system is free of charge.
- (iii) A notification may be made 24 hours a day 365 days a year.
- (iv) Omissions of details will be checked automatically.
- (v) A bundled notification and report may be made for notifications and reports by the organization of affiliation, the specified skilled worker’s affiliate organization, registered support organization and the Japanese Language Education Institutions through use of the prescribed format.

The organization of affiliation which has registered the organization’s user information<sup>(\*)</sup> for using “the Immigration Services Agency’s Electronic Notification System” will be able to make a notification of a change in the name of the organization of affiliation or a change in the location in accordance with the provisions of Article 19-16 of the Immigration Control Act through use of the electronic notification system, upon a request being made by a mid to long-term resident who has also registered his or her user information, in place of such mid to long-term resident.

## (6) Inquiry into the Facts

The Commissioner of the ISA shall organize information relating to mid to long-term residents acquired in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Control Act and other laws and shall keep the contents of the information accurate and up-to date in order to

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(\*) User information will have to be registered in order for a foreign national to be able to use “the Immigration Services Agency’s Electronic Notification System”. Mid to long-term residents will be able to acquire a user ID and password in order to log onto the system by entering and registering their identification details directly into the electronic notification system using their own Internet environment. In addition, by mailing or bringing an application of user information registration to the Regional Immigration Services Bureau with jurisdiction over the location of the organization of affiliation, the staff of the organization of affiliation will be able to obtain a user ID and password to log onto the system.

continuously keep track of the family relationships, residence-related matters and status of activities of the mid to long-term residents, etc., under the residency management system of mid to long-term residents. Therefore, the Commissioner of the ISA may, when necessary to continuously keep track of information relating to mid to long term residents, have his or her officers<sup>(\*)</sup> conduct an inquiry into the facts (Article 19-37 of the Immigration Control Act).

The inquiry into the facts provided for in Article 19-37 of the Immigration Control Act may be exercised within the extent necessary for the Commissioner of the ISA to be able to accurately keep track of the information necessary for the residency management of mid to long-term residents while bearing in mind the demands for protection of the personal information of mid to long-term residents such as restricting the scope of the investigation to the items of notification.

The inquiry of the facts uncovers imposter residents through the compilation and analysis of the information on the Notified Foreign National Employment Status provided by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, etc. in addition to information reported by both mid to long-term residents and the organizations of affiliation and has led to effective countermeasures against imposter residents.

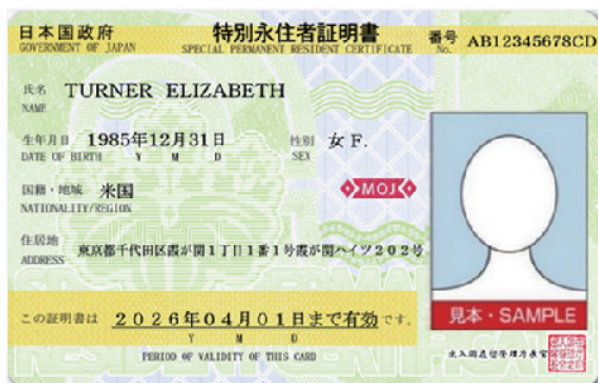
## 2 The System of Special Permanent Residents

Persons who lost Japanese nationality at the time of effectuation of the Treaty of Peace with Japan but have been residing in Japan since before September 2, 1945 and persons who were born in Japan as their lineal descendants and have continued to reside in Japan are permitted to reside permanently in Japan as special permanent residents pursuant to the provisions of the Special Act on the Immigration Control, and special cases are permitted in the Immigration Control Act regarding the period of validity of the re-entry permission and the grounds for deportation.

### (1) Special Permanent Resident Certificate

The special permanent resident certificate is issued by the Commissioner of the ISA as a certificate to prove the foreign national's legal status as a special permanent resident, and the details to be described are restricted to the required minimum of the name, date of birth, sex, nationality/region, place of residence, number of the special permanent resident certificate, date of issuance and the expiration date of the period of validity (a facial photo will be given in the case of foreign nationals who are 16 years of age or above). In addition, an IC chip on which all or some of the matters described in the certificate are recorded is embedded in the special permanent resident certificate in order to prevent forgery (Article 8 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control).

(\*) "His or her officers" includes immigration inspectors, immigration control officers and other officers of the MOJ. However, the officers who are able to request the appearance of relevant persons and question them or who may request the presentation of documents are the immigration inspectors and the immigration control officers (Article 19-37, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act), and the officers who are able to request necessary reports by making inquiries to public offices or private organizations are the Commissioner of the ISA, immigration inspectors and immigration control officers (paragraph (3) of the same Article).



Front of Special permanent resident certificate



Back of Special permanent resident certificate

## (2) Notifications and Applications Relating to Special Permanent Resident Certificates

### A. Notifications of the Place of Residence<sup>(\*)</sup>

If a special permanent resident who has been issued with a special permanent resident certificate which does not describe the place of residence changes his or her place of residence, he or she is required to notify the Commissioner of the ISA of the place of residence upon submitting his or her special permanent resident certificate to the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the place of residence (if he or she has changed the place of the residence, the new one) within 14 days of the date of establishing the new place of residence (Article 10 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control).

### B. Notification of a Change of an Item on the Special Permanent Resident Certificate Other Than the Place of Residence

If a change has arisen in the name, date of birth, sex or nationality/region, the special permanent resident is required to submit a notification of the change to the Commissioner of the ISA at the counter of the municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within 14 days of the occurrence of the change (Article 11 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control).

### C. Application to Extend the Valid Period of the Special Permanent Resident Certificate

The special permanent resident is required to submit an application for extension of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the ISA at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within the application period (from two months (six months if the valid period is until the 16th birthday) prior to the expiry date of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate until the expiry date of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate) until the expiry date of the valid period.

If, however, it is difficult to apply for an extension of the valid period of the residence

(\*) If a special permanent resident has submitted a notification of moving in or a notification of transfer of residence pursuant to the Residential Basic Book Act, it is deemed that he or she submitted the "Notification of the place of residence" under the Special Act on the Immigration Control, and he or she is not required to give further notification of the place of residence.

card within the extension application period for any unavoidable causes, such as long-term medical treatment or a long-term overseas business trip, an application for extension of the valid period of the special permanent resident certificate may be submitted even before the extension application period (Article 12 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

#### **D. Application for Reissuance of a Special Permanent Resident Certificate Due to Loss or Other Causes**

If the special permanent resident is no longer in possession of the special permanent resident certificate due to loss, theft, destruction or some other causes, he or she is required to submit an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the ISA at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within 14 days of becoming aware of such fact (if the foreign national was away from Japan when he or she became aware of such fact, the first day of entry into Japan following such discovery.) (Article 13 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

#### **E. Application for Reissuance of a Special Permanent Resident Certificate Due to Damage or Soiling, etc.**

If the special permanent resident certificate has been substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip of the special permanent resident certificate have been damaged, the special permanent resident may submit an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the ISA at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place.

If the special permanent resident receives an order on an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate from the Commissioner of the ISA owing to the special permanent resident certificate being substantially damaged or soiled, or the data in the IC chip of the special permanent resident certificate being damaged, he or she is required to submit an application for reissuance of the special permanent resident certificate to the Commissioner of the ISA at the counter of the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residential place within 14 days of receiving such an order.

Moreover, if the special permanent resident wishes to exchange the special permanent resident certificate, he or she may submit an application for reissuance even if the special permanent resident certificate has not been damaged or otherwise soiled. The payment of a fee of 1,600 yen is required, in this case, for issuance of the special permanent resident certificate (Article 14 of the Special Act on Immigration Control).

### **3 Information Linkage Between the ISA and the Municipalities**

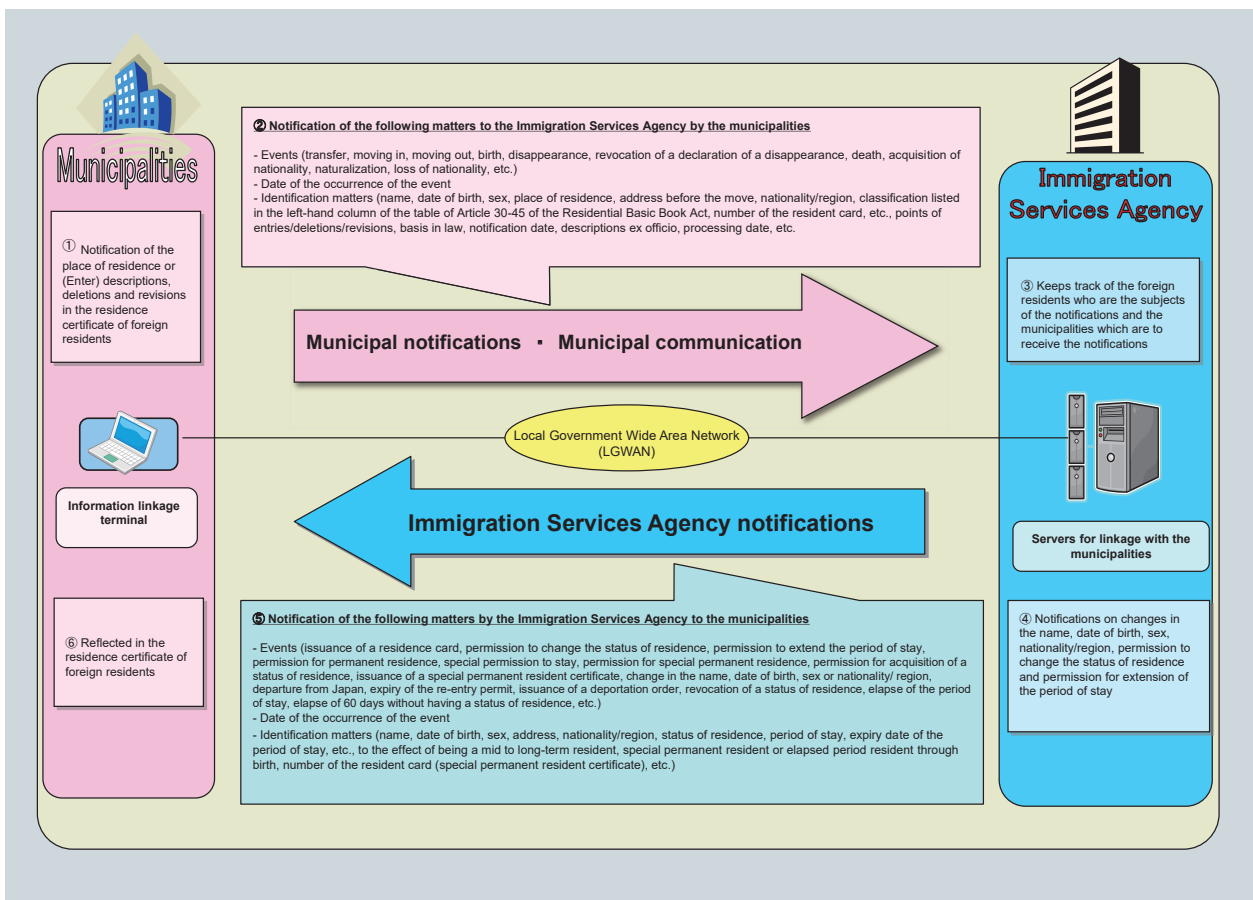
On July 9, 2012, the Alien Registration Act was abolished and, at the same time, the Act for Partial Amendment (Act No.77 of 2009) of the Residential Basic Book Act (Act No.81 of 1967; hereinafter referred to as “Residential Basic Book Act”) entered into force. Correspondingly, the Residential Basic Book Act came to be applied to foreign residents, and residence certificates are to be prepared for the foreign residents in the same manner as for Japanese residents by the office of municipality with jurisdiction over the residence of the foreign resident.

In order for the ISA to be able to continuously keep track of the information necessary for fair residence management and for the municipal governments to be able to ensure that

the records of the Residential Basic Books are accurate, linkage of information to be shared between them is carried out by using special-purpose terminals.

Specifically, if a change arises or an error comes to light in the prescribed items such as the matters of identification or status of residence with regard to a foreign resident, the ISA notifies the mayor of the municipality which is keeping the Residential Basic Books in which the foreign resident is recorded to such effect without delay, and if an entry, deletion or revision of a described matter is made in the residential certificate pertaining to the foreign resident, the municipality immediately notifies the Commissioner of the ISA to such effect (Reference 89).

**Reference 89** Information Linkage between the ISA and the Municipalities





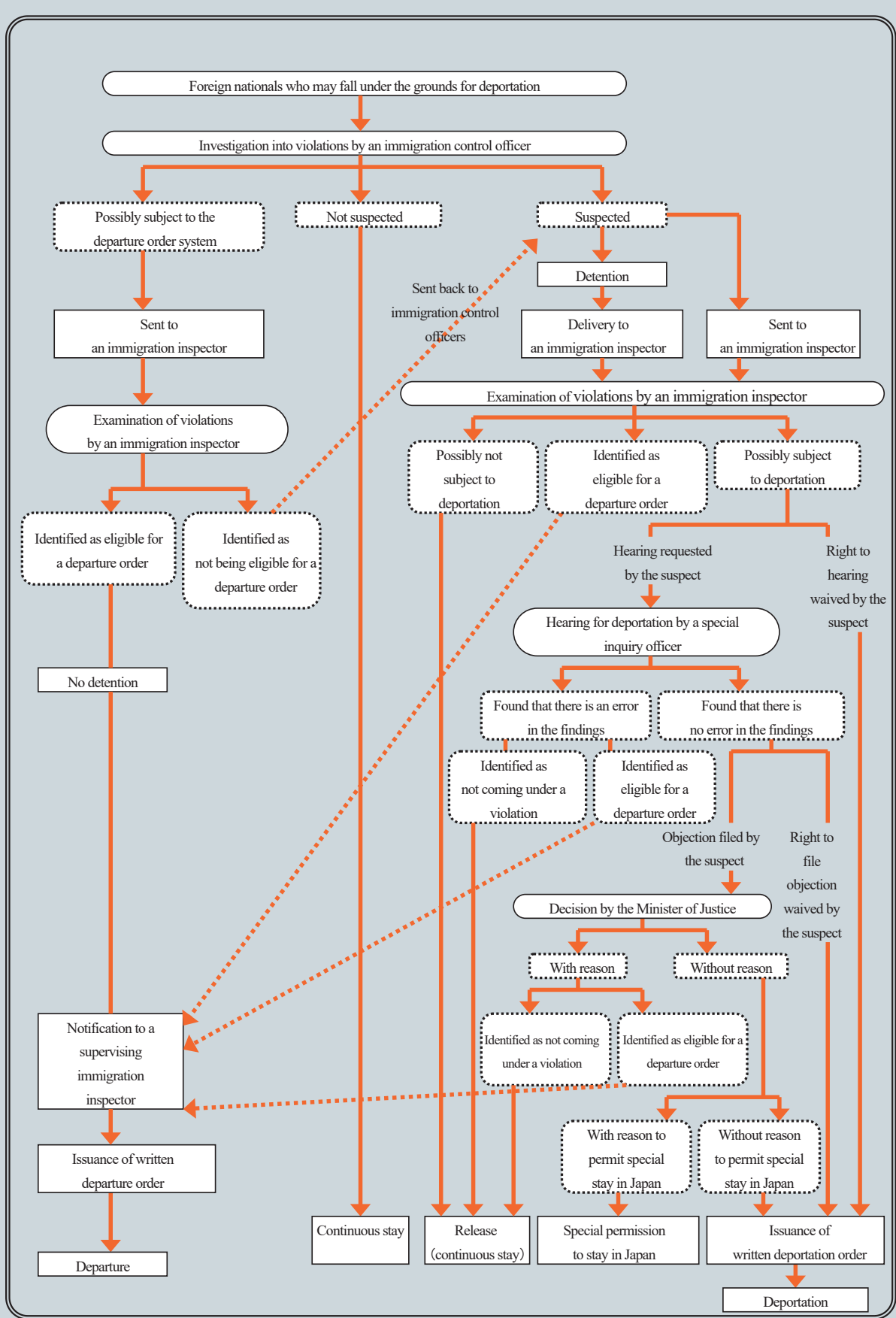
## Section 5 Deportation Procedures for Foreign Nationals

In immigration control and residency management administration, it is necessary to achieve a balance so as to promote the smooth acceptance of foreign nationals on the one hand, and to maintain security and order in Japanese society by removing unwelcome foreign nationals from Japan on the other.

The deportation procedures for foreign nationals constitute a powerful administrative action where the foreign national is deported even if deportation is against the foreign national's will. In international customary law, deportation is left to the discretion of the State. In Japan, the grounds for deportation and the deportation procedures are provided for in the Immigration Control Act and deportation is implemented on the basis of these provisions.

Deportation procedures begin with an immigration control officer conducting an investigation, and is composed of three steps: namely, an examination by an immigration inspector, a hearing by a special inquiry officer, and a decision rendered by the Minister of Justice for the objection filed by the foreign national in order to ensure that the foreign national who is undergoing the deportation procedures will be given ample opportunity to contest the facts of the case or to assert his or her side as to why he or she should be permitted to stay, and to ensure that a decision is made after a careful examination of the facts ([Reference 90](#)).

Reference 90 Flow of deportation procedures and departure order procedures



## 1 Investigation into Violations by an Immigration Control Officer

An investigation into the violation by an immigration control officer is the first step in the deportation procedures for foreign nationals. As stipulated in Article 27 of the Immigration Control Act, an immigration control officer will conduct an investigation into the violation of a foreign national who is thought to come under one of the ground for deportation stipulated in each item of Article 24 of the Act (hereinafter referred to as “suspect”). If the immigration control officer determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that the suspect falls under one of the grounds, he or she may detain the suspect in accordance with a written detention order issued by a supervising immigration inspector<sup>(\*)</sup> following which the suspect will be handed over to an immigration inspector (Article 39 and Article 44 of the Immigration Control Act).

## 2 Examination of Violations by an Immigration Inspector/Hearing by a Special Inquiry Officer

An immigration inspector, on receiving the delivery of the suspect and the case, examines whether the case falls under one of the grounds for deportation (examination of the violations provided for in Article 45, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). If the immigration inspector finds that a person is subject to deportation, the suspect who has an objection to such findings may request a hearing by a special inquiry officer (Article 48, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). In addition, if the special inquiry officer judges that the above findings are correct, the suspect who has an objection to the judgment may file an objection with the Minister of Justice (Article 49, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

## 3 Determinations by the Minister of Justice

The Minister of Justice makes a decision as to whether or not the objection is with reasonable grounds after receiving it (Article 49, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act).

## 4 Grant or Denial of Permission for Residence

### (1) Denial of Permission for Residence (Deportation)

As the result of the procedures from examination of the violation to the final decision of the Minister of Justice (violation adjudication), a supervising immigration inspector will issue a written deportation order in case below:

- (i) Where the immigration inspector found that the foreign national had fallen under one of the grounds for deportation, and the foreign national has submitted to the findings (Article 45, paragraph (1) and Article 47, paragraph (5) of the Immigration Control Act).
- (ii) Where a foreign national, who was found to have fallen under one of the grounds for deportation, objected to the findings and requested a hearing by a special inquiry officer and, as a result of the hearing, the special inquiry officer found that there was no error in the findings, and the foreign national submitted to the findings (Article 48, paragraphs (1) and

(\*) This refers to a senior immigration inspector designated by the Commissioner of the ISA, who has the authority to issue a written detention order or written deportation order, provisional release or revocation thereof.

(9) of the Immigration Control Act).

(iii) If a foreign national who has an objection to the result of the hearing files an objection with the Minister of Justice, and as a result, it is determined that the objection is without reason (Article 49, paragraphs (1) and (6) of the Immigration Control Act).

In the violation adjudication procedures, if a foreign national is found not to fall under one of the grounds for deportation, the foreign national will be released immediately. And if a foreign national is found to fall under one of the grounds for deportation but satisfies the requirements for a departure order, the foreign national will be released immediately after the foreign national has been ordered to depart from Japan.

## (2) Special Cases of Determinations by the Minister of Justice (Special Permission to Stay in Japan)

Even if the Minister of Justice finds that the objection filed is without reason in the determination on the objection, the Minister of Justice may grant special permission to stay to the foreign national if such foreign national has obtained permission for permanent residence; the person once had a registered domicile in Japan as a Japanese national in the past; the person is residing in Japan under the control of another person due to trafficking in persons; or the Minister of Justice otherwise finds circumstances warranting the granting of special permission to stay ("Special Permission to Stay" as provided for in Article 50, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

## 5 Departure Order System

The departure order system is a system under which a foreign national in violation of the Immigration Control Act who has illegally stayed beyond the authorized period of stay <sup>(\*)</sup> may be deported from Japan through simplified procedures without being physically detained, provided that he or she satisfies certain requirements; and moreover, the period of denial of entry of a foreign national who has been deported from Japan under the departure order is one year.

A foreign national who has stayed in Japan beyond the authorized period of stay and who also satisfies all of the following requirements may be ordered to depart from Japan (Article 24-3 of the Immigration Control Act):

- (i) The foreign national has surrendered at the immigration services office voluntarily
- (ii) The foreign national does not fall under any of the grounds for deportation other than overstaying the authorized period of stay.
- (iii) The foreign national has not been sentenced to imprisonment with or without work on the charge of theft or other prescribed crimes after entering Japan.
- (iv) The foreign national has neither past record of deportation, nor that of departure by a departure order.
- (v) The foreign national is expected with certainty to depart from Japan immediately.

(\*) Including "foreign nationals in violation of the condition of return to the ship in the landing permission for cruise ship tourists".

## Section 6 Refugee Recognition Procedures

### 1 Accession of the Refugee Convention

Japan accessed the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (“Refugee Convention”) on October 3, 1981 and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees (“Protocol”) on January 1, 1982, and accordingly established the system required for the refugee recognition procedures.

The Refugee Convention and the Protocol provide for the definition of refugees, and stipulate the rights and protection to be granted to refugees by the contracting countries.

### 2 Refugee Recognition Procedures (Reference 91)

#### (1) Definitions

Under the Japanese refugee recognition procedures, a “refugee” refers to a refugee as defined in Article 1 of the Refugee Convention or in Article 1 of the Protocol (Article 2, item (iii)-2 of the Immigration Control Act). Generally, a refugee is defined as a person who is outside the country of his or her nationality owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country.

#### (2) Permission for Provisional Stay

When a foreign national without a status of residence such as a person who has illegally stayed beyond the authorized period of stay applies for refugee recognition, for the purpose of stabilizing his or her legal status, he or she is permitted to provisionally stay in Japan if he or she meets certain requirements (Article 61-2-4, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act), and the deportation procedures are suspended during the period of the permission for provisional stay (Article 61-2-6, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

The period of provisional stay is, in principle, six months (Article 56-2, paragraph (2) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act) and, if an application for extension is filed prior to the expiration of the period of the provisional stay, that period will be extended (Article 61-2-4, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act). However, various conditions will be imposed on the permission for provisional stay, such as restrictions on the domicile and scope of activity and a ban on working (Article 61-2-4, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act and Article 56-2, paragraph (3) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act).

If a foreign national without a status of residence is not permitted to provisionally stay in Japan, the procedures for recognition of refugee status and the procedures for deportation will be taken in tandem. However, deportation will be suspended while the application for recognition of refugee status is being processed (Article 61-2-6, paragraph (3) of the Immigration Control Act).

#### (3) Inquiry into Facts

The applicants are responsible for proving that they are refugees (Immigration Control

Act, Article 61-2, Paragraph 1), but due to the nature of the application for refugee recognition, it is not uncommon for people fleeing persecution to not have objective documentation, so it is not appropriate to refuse recognition of refugee status just because the applicant does not have adequate objective evidence of eligibility for refugee status. Therefore, when an accurate recognition of refugee status is not possible with only the data furnished by the applicant, a refugee inquirer will inquire into facts (Article 61-2-14 of the Immigration Control Act).

#### **(4) Recognition of Refugee Status by the Minister of Justice and Effects of Refugee Status**

When a foreign national has been recognized as a refugee, the Minister of Justice will issue a certificate of refugee status to the foreign national concerned. If the foreign national is denied recognition of refugee status, the foreign national will be notified in writing with the reason attached (Article 61-2, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

In cases where a foreign national, who has been recognized as a refugee, is a foreign national who does not have a status of residence, if he or she meets certain requirements such as having filed an application for refugee recognition within six months of landing in Japan, such foreign national shall uniformly be granted the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" (Article 61-2-2, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act). Even if the foreign national does not satisfy the requirements, the Minister of Justice may grant special permission to stay if there are any grounds to grant special permission to stay (Article 61-2-2, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act).

A foreign national who has been recognized as a refugee may receive a refugee travel document as one of the effects under the Immigration Control Act (Article 61-2-12 of the Immigration Control Act), and some of the requirements to obtain permission for permanent residence will be eased (Article 61-2-11 of the Immigration Control Act).

### **3 Request for an Administrative Review**

#### **(1) Request for an Administrative Review**

If a foreign national has an objection to a disposition denying recognition of refugee status or revoking recognition of refugee status, or if there is failure to act pertaining to the application for refugee recognition, such foreign national may submit a request to the Minister of Justice for an administrative review (Article 61-2-9, paragraph (1) of the Immigration Control Act).

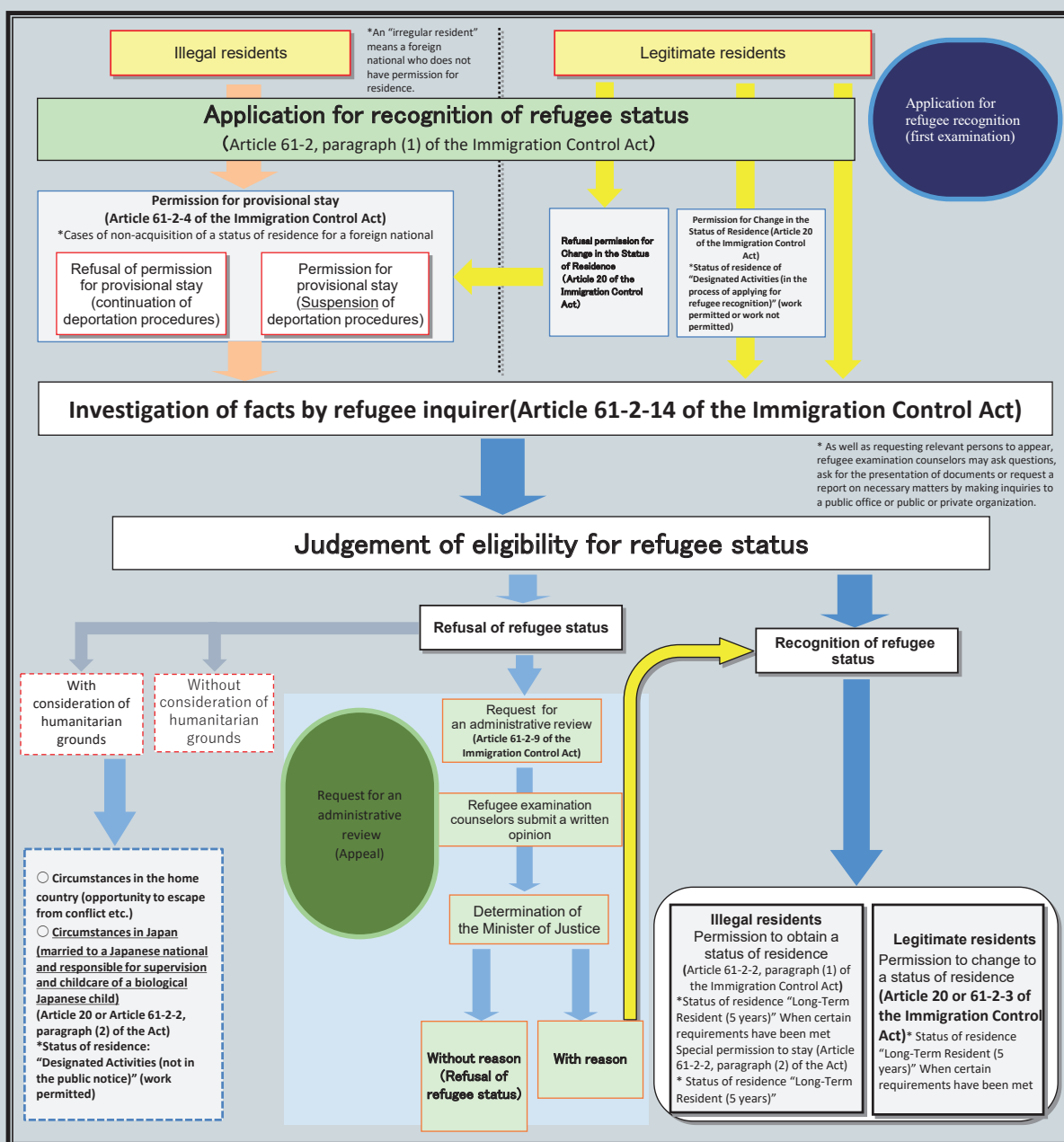
The Minister of Justice must hear the opinions of refugee examination counselors when making a determination on the request for an administrative review (paragraph (3) of the same Article). In addition, if the Minister of Justice makes the determination to deny or dismiss the request for an administrative review, the Minister of Justice must clearly state a summary of the opinions of the refugee examination counselors in the reasons to be attached to the determination (paragraph (4) of the same Article).

#### **(2) Refugee Examination Counselors System**

The refugee examination counselors' system was introduced in May 2005 in order to improve the fairness and neutrality of the procedures. After that, in April 2016, with the enforcement of the amended Administrative Complaint Review Act, the provisions of the

same Act came to be applied deeming the refugee examination counselors to be the review officers prescribed in the same Act (Article 61-2-9, paragraph (5) of the Immigration Control Act), and moreover, the refugee examination counselors' system also came to be applied to the procedures for requesting an administrative review in cases of failure to act pertaining to an application for recognition of refugee status (paragraphs (1) and (3) of the same Article). The refugee examination counselors are appointed by the Minister of Justice from the persons of reputable character who are capable of making a fair judgment on the administrative review of a disposition denying recognition of refugee status or revoking recognition of refugee status, or failure to act pertaining to the application for refugee recognition and who have an academic background in law or international affairs (Article 61-2-10, paragraph (2) of the Immigration Control Act), and have been recommended by the UNHCR, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, NGOs or others. Three refugee examination counselors form one team, and three refugee examination counselors appointed by the Minister of Justice for each case carry out the prescribed administrative review procedures and submit a written opinion to the Minister of Justice.

Reference 91 Outline of Refugee Recognition Procedures



Requirements of permission for provisional stay

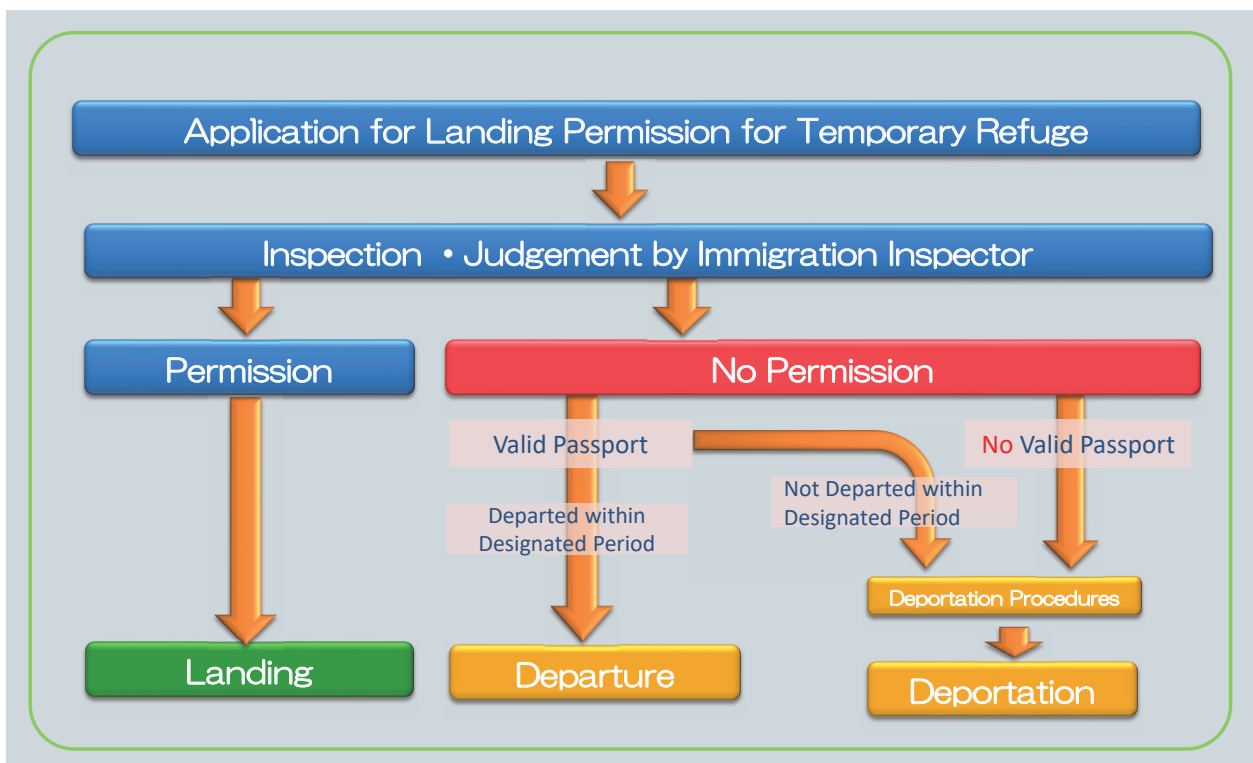
- (1) There is no probable cause to suspect that the applicant falls under any of the reasons for deportation.
- (2) The applicant has applied for permission within six months from the date of landing in Japan (the date when the resident knows the fact that he or she has become a refugee if any event that makes a foreign resident a refugee occurs during stay in Japan).
- (3) The applicant came to Japan directly from a region where there is a fear of persecution.
- (4) The applicant has never been sentenced to imprisonment with or without work for a certain criminal offense under the criminal law, etc. after entering Japan.
- (5) A deportation order has not been issued against the applicant.
- (6) There is no probable cause to suspect that the applicant may flee from the country.



#### 4 Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge

Landing permission for temporary refuge, prescribed as one of the types of special landing permission granted to foreign nationals (Article 18-2 of the Immigration Control Act), will be granted by an immigration inspector if a foreign national aboard a vessel or aircraft has fled from a territory where his or her life, body or physical freedom is likely to be endangered for the reasons prescribed in the Refugee Convention and other reasons equivalent thereto, and it is appropriate for permission for temporary landing to be granted to such foreign national. The period for landing is determined as a period not exceeding six months (Article 18-2, paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control Act; Article 18, paragraph (5) of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Immigration Control Act) ([Reference 92](#)).

##### Reference 92 Flow of procedures of landing permission for temporary refuge



## Data Section 2

# Organizational Expansion and Staff Enhancement

Owing to significant changes in the circumstances affecting immigration control and residency management administration in recent years, in response to an increase in the quantity and in the complexity of immigration duties, measures have been taken to improve and expand the organization and staff for immigration control.

Immigration control and residency management administration work was carried out by 6,181 officials as of the end of FY 2022 at the ISA and other Immigration Control and Residency Management offices. Due to a wide range of challenges in immigration control and residency management administration, further improvement and expansion of the organization and staff are still necessary.

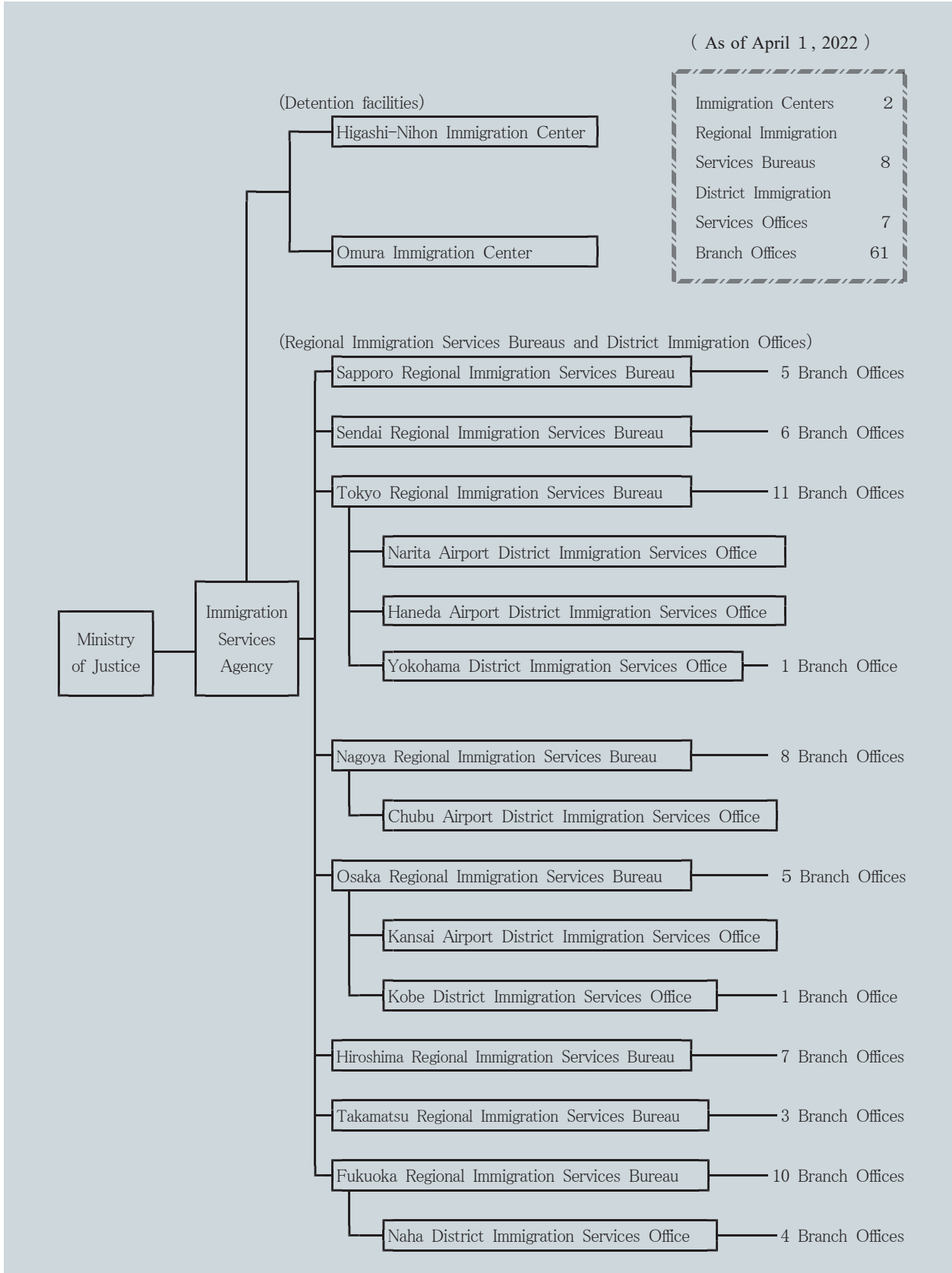
## Section 1 Organizations

### 1 Outline of the Immigration Control and Residency Management Organization

As the organization with jurisdiction over immigration and residence management work, the ISA was established as an external agency of the MOJ, and as Regional Immigration Services Bureaus and District Immigration Offices established under the ISA, Regional Immigration Services Bureaus have been established for each of the eight regional blocks throughout the country, and below them, District Immigration Services Offices and Branch Offices (including Branch Offices of District Immigration and Residence Offices). In addition, Immigration Detention Facilities have been established as facilities and other organs of the ISA, and based on the laws and regulations, the ISA engages in various tasks related to immigration and residence management administration such as the immigration examinations, residence examinations, deportation procedures, refugee recognition and general coordination relating to the establishment of an environment for the acceptance of foreign nationals.

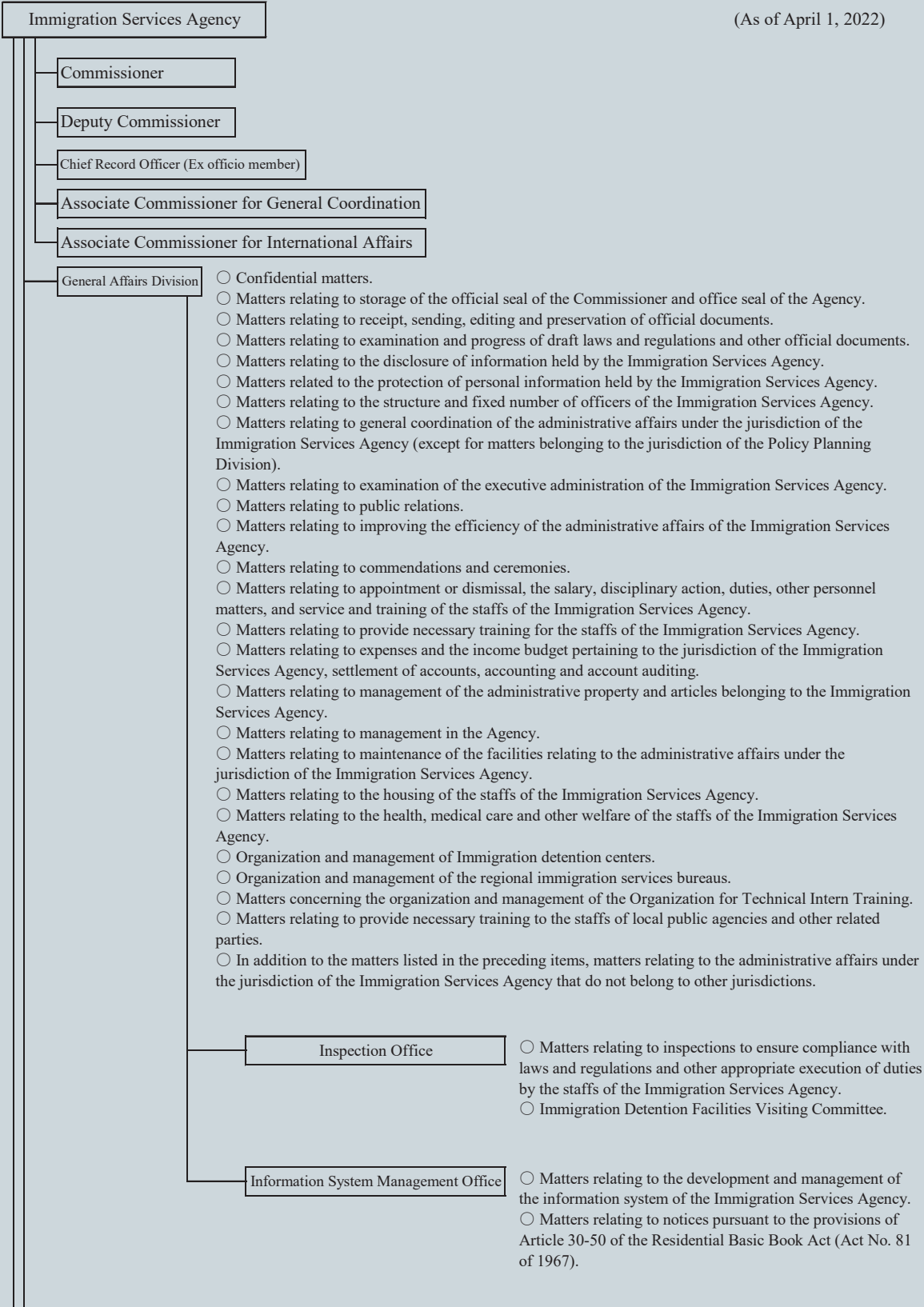
The ISA, Regional Immigration Services Bureaus, District Immigration Services Offices, Branch Offices, and Immigration Detention Facilities are collectively referred to as “Immigration Services Offices” ([References 93, 94](#)).

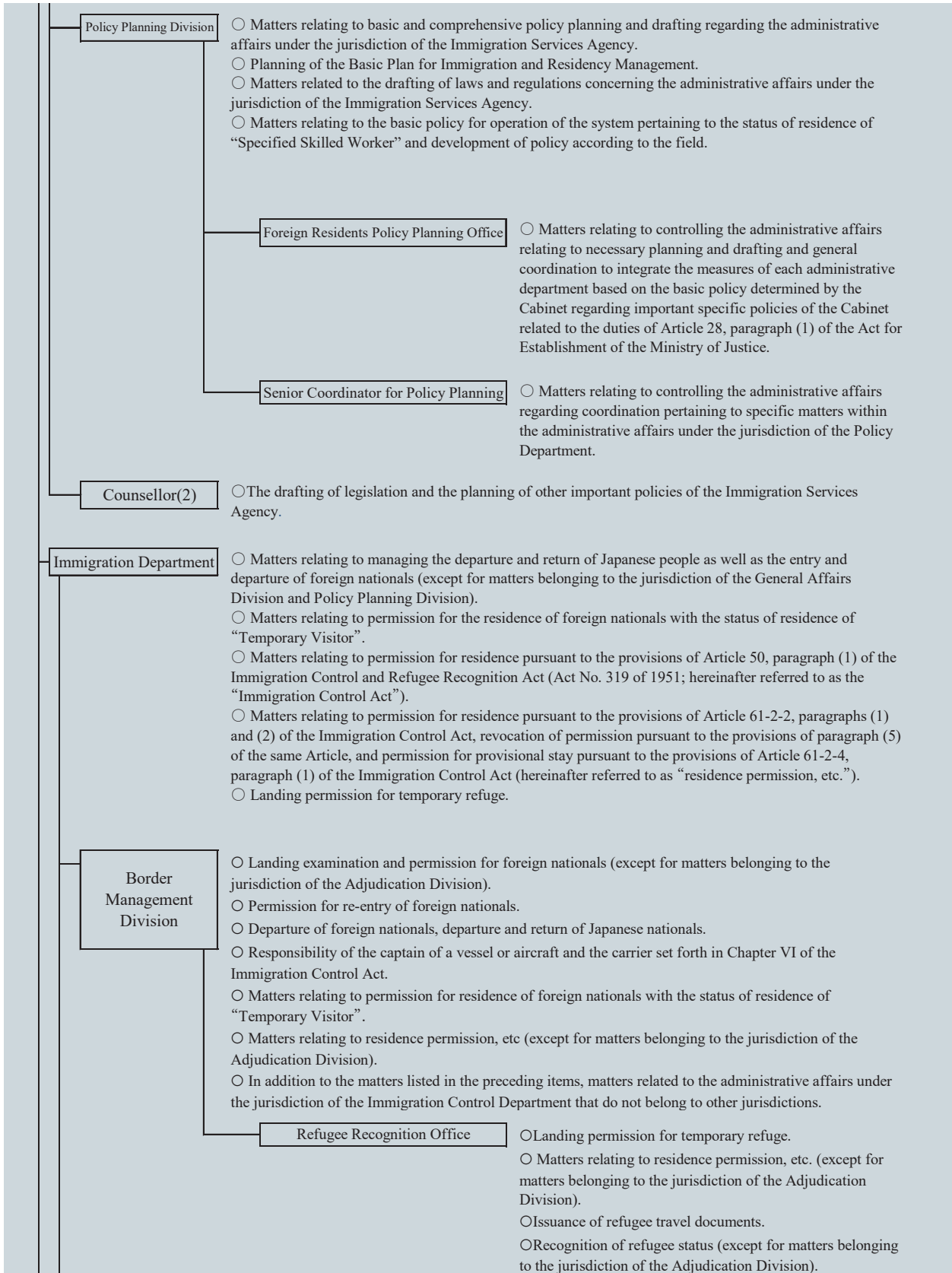
Reference 93 The ISA organizational chart

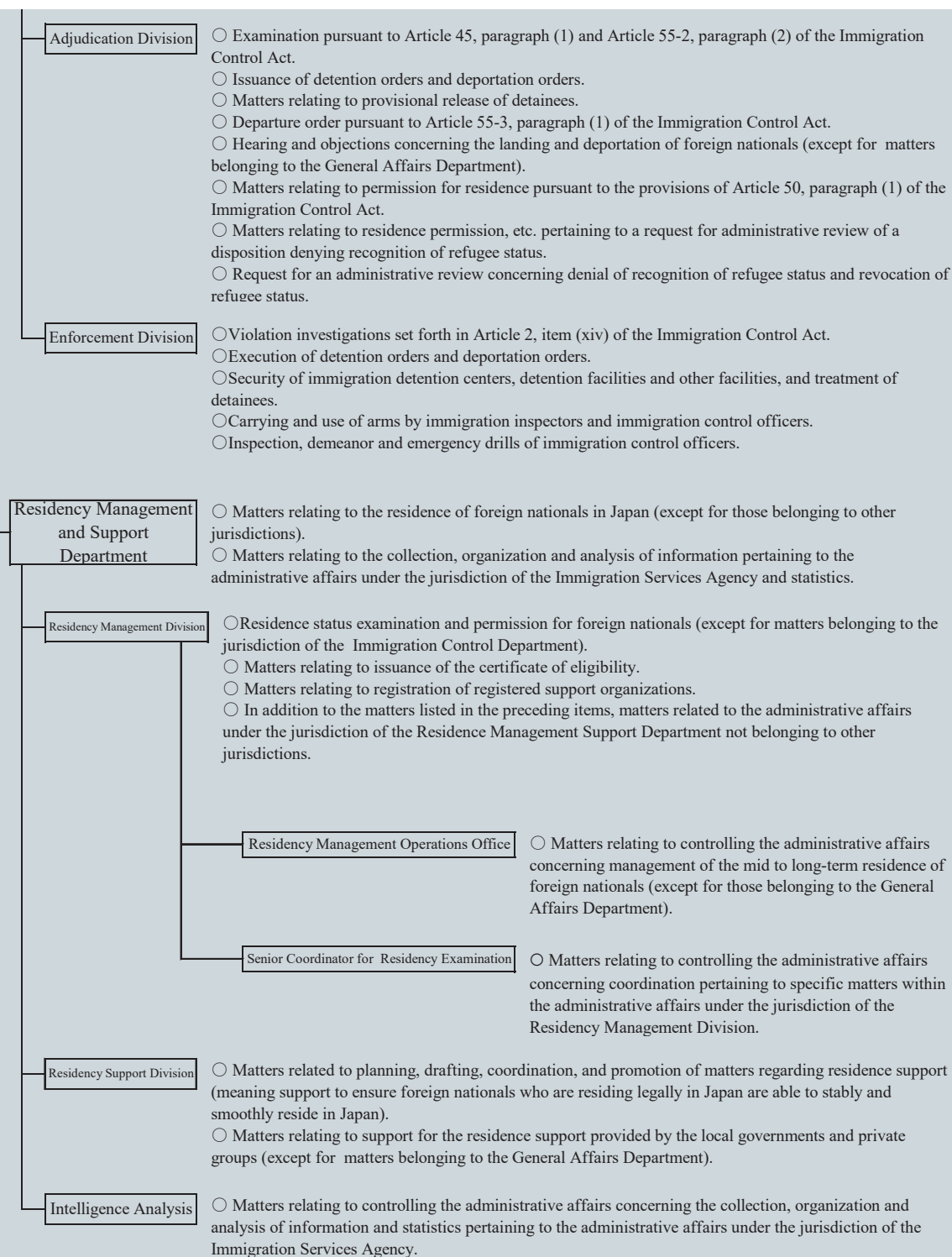


Reference 94 Responsibilities of the ISA

(As of April 1, 2022)







(\* ) Other than the positions mentioned above, one Assistant Deputy Vice-Minister of Justice and attorneys (legal specialists) are assigned to the Immigration Bureau.

## 2 Review of the Organizational Structure of the Immigration Control and Residency Management Offices

Major organizational expansions in FY 2022 are as follows.

- Establish Chief Record Officer as a system to ensure the propriety of public document management and information disclosure.
- Establish the Inspection Office to strengthen the audit guidance system for staff, and assign more Assistant to the Director to the General Affairs Division of the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau, Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau, and Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.
- In order to develop a system for appropriate treatment of detainees at immigration detention facilities, establish a new Medical Planning Coordinator in the ISA, Immigration Control Department, Enforcement Division. Also, increase the number of supervising immigration control officers in charge of treatment of sick and injured detainees in each treatment department of the Omura Immigration Center, Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau, and Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.
- In order to improve the system associated with the establishment of an accounting institution, assign more Assistant to the Director and Senior Expert to the ISA, General Affairs Division.
- In order to improve the information analysis system related to the economic security field, increase the number of Senior Expert in the ISA, Residency Management and Support Department, Intelligence Analysis.
- In order to improve the system for realizing proper immigration inspections, establish the Trainee and Temporary Visitor Inspection Department in the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau, and the Inspection Coordination Department in the Fukuoka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.
- In order to improve the environment for accepting foreign nationals, assign more supervising examiners (coordinators for consultation services) at the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau and Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.
- In order to improve the system for a safer and more secure society, assign more supervising immigration control officers in charge of deportation at the expense of the government to Omura Immigration Center and Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

Further, most Branch Offices of Regional Immigration Services Bureaus (including Branch Offices of District Immigration Services Offices) were located within the area of seaports, based on the historical background that they were originally established for immigration examination of crew members and passengers on oceangoing vessels. Now, as the primary means of international transportation has shifted from oceangoing vessels to airplanes, immigration examinations at airports became the main service, and as foreign nationals residing in Japan for a long time increased, the Ministry has proceeded to reorganize, integrate or scrap Branch Offices at seaports to respond to the foregoing change in administrative needs, and has made efforts to re-allocate Branch Offices by establishing them at local airports where many international flights arrive, prefectural capitals, and other major cities ([Reference 95](#)).

As a result, the number of Branch Offices established in the country through reorganization of Regional Immigration Offices into Regional Immigration Bureaus, which was 103 as of April 1, 1981, is 61 as of April 1, 2022. The establishment of at least one Regional Immigration Services Office in each prefecture has been achieved, while Branch Offices have

decreased by about 40% from 1981.

Those Branch Offices should not only improve convenience for foreign nationals who come to submit various applications, reports or consultation but also enhance close cooperation with related local organizations, such as the police, in collecting information on illegal and imposter residents. With a view to enhancing cooperation with local authorities and related organizations which accept foreign nationals who intend to reside in Japan for a medium to long term, it is necessary to continue rationalizing and streamlining the organizational structure, with the aim of ensuring smooth and proper processing, including immigration examination, residence examination, residence support and collection of information on offenders in violation of the Immigration Control Act, and establishing a more comprehensive framework for branch offices.



**Reference 95** Reorganization, abolishment or establishment of branch offices of the regional immigration services bureaus (actual performance)

(As of April 1, 2022)

Fiscal Year	Division	Abolition		Establishment	
		Name	Location	Name	Location
2000		Amagasaki Port Branch Office Kure Port Branch Office Karatsu Port Branch Office Imari Port Branch Office	Amagasaki City Kure City Karatsu City Imari City	Saga Branch Office	Saga City
2001		Yokosuka Port Branch Office Kagoshima Airport Branch Office Shimizu Port Branch Office Tagonoura Port Branch Office	Yokosuka City Mizobe-cho Aira-gun Shimizu City Fuji City	Shizuoka Branch Office	Shizuoka City
2002		Iwakuni Port Branch Office Yatsushiro Port Branch Office Hitachi Port Branch Office Kashima Port Branch Office	Iwakuni City Yatsushiro City Hitachi City Kamisu-cho Kashima-gun	Kofu Branch Office Gifu Branch Office Otsu Branch Office Mito Branch Office	Kofu City Gifu City Otsu City Mito City
2003		Tokyo Port Branch Office Shibuya Branch Office Muroran Port Branch Office Miyako Port Branch Office Ofunato Port Branch Office Ishinomaki Port Branch Office Sasebo Port Branch Office Naha Port Branch Office	Koto-ku Tokyo Shibuya-ku Tokyo Muroran City Miyako City Ofunato City Ishinomaki City Sasebo City Naha City	Shinjuku Branch Office Morioka Branch Office	Shinjuku-ku Tokyo Morioka City
2004		Aomori Port Branch Office Hachinohe Port Branch Office Yokohama Port Branch Office Nagoya Port Branch Office Nagoya Airport Branch Office Sakai Port Branch Office Kobe Port Branch Office Mizushima Port Branch Office Shibushi Branch Office	Aomori City Hachinohe City Yokohama City Nagoya City Toyoyama-cho Nishika-sugai-gun Sakai City Kobe City Kurashiki City Shibushi-cho Soo-gun	Aomori Branch Office	Aomori City
2005		Naoetsu Port Branch Office	Joetsu City		
2007		Osaka Port Branch Office Tennoji Branch Office	Osaka City Osaka City	Tobu Branch Office	Edogawa-ku Tokyo
2010		Haneda Airport Branch Office	Ota-ku Tokyo		
2014		Otaru Port Branch Office	Otaru City	Asahikawa Branch Office	Asahikawa City

## Section 2 Staff

### 1 ISA Staff

In immigration centers and regional immigration services bureaus, immigration inspectors and immigration control officers are assigned as staffs who are engaged in immigration control duties. In addition, administrative officers of the MOJ engage in general administrative duties and technical officers of the MOJ, including doctors, are also assigned.

Immigration inspectors are responsible for (1) examinations and hearings in entry (landing) procedures, (2) examination of various applications for residence, investigation of facts, and on-site inspections of institutions to which Specified Skilled Workers, (3) examination and hearings in deportation procedures, issuance of written detention orders and deportation orders, as well as provisional release clerical work, (4) investigations related to refugee recognition, and (5) work related to improving the environment for accepting foreign nationals.

Immigration control officers are responsible for (1) investigating violations related to the unauthorized stay of illegal entrants and illegal overstayers, (2) detaining and escorting suspects by executing written detention orders, as well as guarding detention facilities, (3) deporting people subject to deportation by execution of a deportation order, (4) fact-finding and on-site inspections of organizations to which Specified Skilled Workers belong.

The immigration control officers come under the provisions of “police officials” under the National Public Service Act, and moreover, since they often have to engage in dangerous work, they also come under the “public security service officials” of the Act on Remuneration of Officials in Regular Service.

Immigration control officers are divided into seven ranks (keibikan, keibicho, keibishicho, keibishi, keibishiho, keishucho, and keishu, in order of descending superiority) in order to clarify the chain of command for group operations for detection.

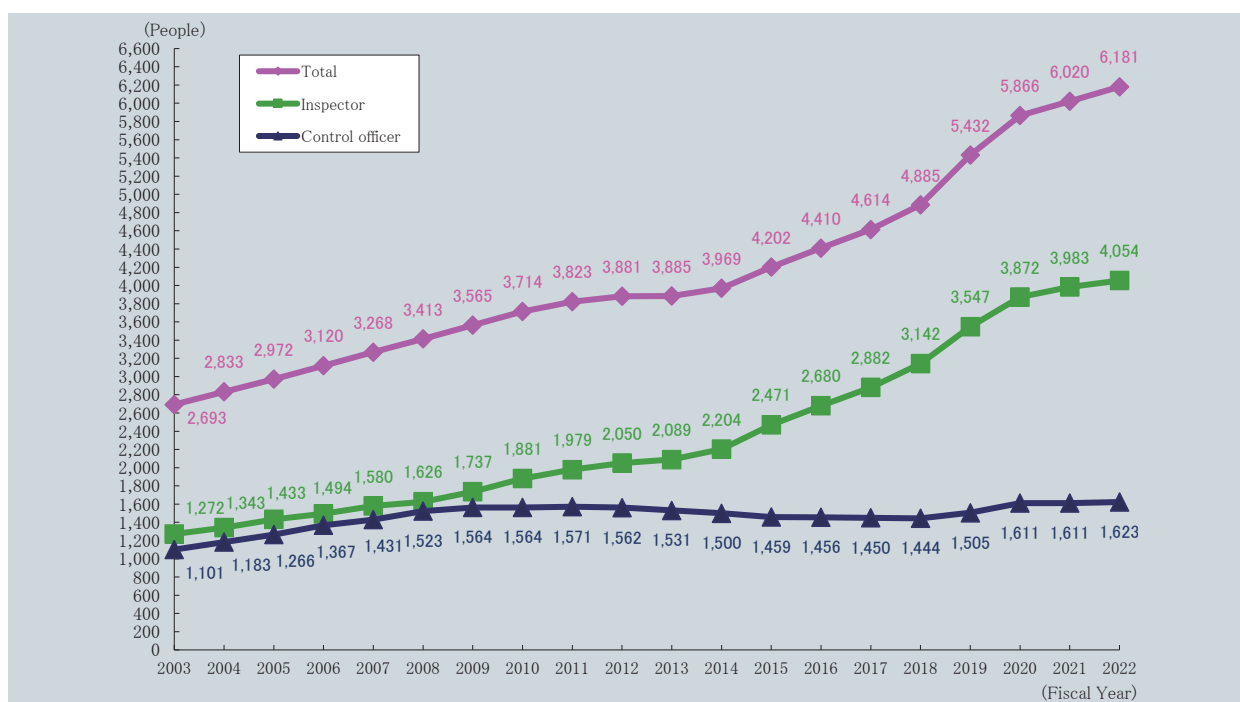
Since individual immigration inspectors and immigration control officers perform their duties independently as specialists in immigration control and residency management, the specialist system was introduced. These officials are required to have legal knowledge necessary for their duties as well as a balanced point of view from an international perspective and the ability to interact with foreign nationals flexibly while giving consideration to their diverse cultures, custom and religions and their human rights.

## 2 Staff Increase

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The number of ISA-related staff was 6,181 in FY 2022, which was an increase of about 34% (1,567) compared to five years ago in FY 2017 when the number was 4,614. However, during this period, the number of cases handled by the immigration offices has remained at a high level, and the immigration control work has been getting more complex and difficult such as the need to balance smooth yet rigorous entry examinations in order to promote Japan as a tourism-oriented country but to prevent terrorist acts and illegal entry; to implement measures to deal with the forged or altered documents that are becoming increasingly more sophisticated; to strengthen the residence management pertaining to foreign nationals after entry into Japan; to enforce strengthened detection and reliable deportation of illegal foreign residents, some of whom are potential criminals; to implement measures against foreign residents disguised as legal residents; and to implement even more appropriate yet stricter examinations of applications for refugee recognition. Further staff increase is necessary in order to deal appropriately and swiftly with such situations and to meet the public needs for administration ([Reference 96](#)).

## Reference 96 Changes in the number of immigration control and Residency Management office personnel



(People)

Fiscal Year	Division	Administrative officials in the Ministry of Justice	Regional Immigration Bureaus				Sub-Total	Total
			Administrative officials	Inspectors	Control officers	Others		
1985		169	155	703	658	55	1,571	1,740
1995		163	165	1,152	869	38	2,224	2,387
2000		157	164	1,196	998	26	2,384	2,541
2003		152	144	1,272	1,101	24	2,541	2,693
2004		142	142	1,343	1,183	23	2,691	2,833
2005		131	122	1,433	1,266	20	2,841	2,972
2006		129	122	1,494	1,367	8	2,991	3,120
2007		128	121	1,580	1,431	8	3,140	3,268
2008		127	129	1,626	1,523	8	3,286	3,413
2009		126	130	1,737	1,564	8	3,439	3,565
2010		126	135	1,881	1,564	8	3,588	3,714
2011		126	139	1,979	1,571	8	3,697	3,823
2012		126	135	2,050	1,562	8	3,755	3,881
2013		126	131	2,089	1,531	8	3,759	3,885
2014		126	131	2,204	1,500	8	3,843	3,969
2015		140	124	2,471	1,459	8	4,062	4,202
2016		140	126	2,680	1,456	8	4,270	4,410
2017		140	134	2,882	1,450	8	4,474	4,614
2018		139	152	3,142	1,444	8	4,746	4,885

\* The administrative officers of the Ministry before FY2018 do not include the Deputy Director-General.

Fiscal Year	Division	Immigration Services Agency					Sub-Total	Total
		Administrative officials in the Immigration Services Agency	Immigration Control and Residency Management Offices					
		Administrative officials	Inspectors	Control officers	Others			
2019		211	161	3,547	1,505	8	5,221	5,432
2020		211	164	3,872	1,611	8	5,655	5,866
2021		251	164	3,983	1,611	11	5,769	6,020
2022		291	188	4,054	1,623	25	5,890	6,181

The “Japan Revitalization Strategy” (Revised in 2015) approved by the Cabinet in June 2015 set out “the goal of quickly preparing for an ‘era of 20 million’ foreign visitors coming to Japan, and its early realization”, and as a result of the promotion of various measures by the government aimed at the realization of a tourist-oriented country such as relaxation of visa requirements measures, since the number of foreign nationals entering Japan rapidly increased to approximately 19.69 million people in 2015, the “Tourism Vision to Support the Future of Japan” (decision of the Council for the Development of a Tourism Vision to Support the Future of Japan) outlined the goal of aiming for 40 million visitors by 2020, and 60 million visitors by 2030.

The “Basic Policy for Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2019”, decided by the Cabinet in June 2019, states that steady efforts shall be made to accept foreign professionals and establish an environment for them. This is for the purpose of properly and smoothly accepting foreign professionals with the new residence statuses of “Specific Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specific Skilled Worker (ii)”, as well as realizing a society of harmonious coexistence, where Japanese nationals and foreign nationals can live together safely and with peace of mind.

In such circumstances, we increased the number of staff by a total of 282 in 2021, including 175 staff to enhance and strengthen immigration inspection operations, and 85 staff to enhance and strengthen the residence management and support system for accepting foreign professionals. Approval has been given to increase staff by a total of 285 in 2022, including 55 staff to enhance and strengthen immigration inspection operations, and 120 staff to enhance and strengthen the residence management and support system for accepting foreign professionals. Based on the “Policy on Organization and Staffing of National Government Offices” decided by the Cabinet in July 2014, as a part of the government we have promoted administrative operational reform initiatives in order to rationalize staffing.

### 3 Training

Training for the ISA staff has been done every year by the Research and Training Institute (RTI), an agency that conducts research and training for the MOJ.

However, since the establishment of the ISA, the scope of operations under its jurisdiction has expanded, making it necessary to add new training courses. Also, in addition to training for staff of the ISA conducted so far, it is now necessary to implement training for local government staff and other related parties, and to train human resources who can comprehensively plan and formulate policies to establish an acceptance environment for the realization of society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals, which are part of the ISA’s new operations.

In these circumstances, the Ministry shifted its training functions from RTI to the ISA, on April 1, 2021 so that the ISA can conduct training adapted to ever-changing societal conditions.

The ISA is working to enhance its training by adding new training on residency support to the systematic training for new staff, mid-career staff, and managers, which has been implemented under the guidance of the RTI. In order to improve the expert knowledge of staff, lectures in training have been delivered by not only its own staff, but also outside experts and the ISA has conducted various types of training, in addition to systematic training, such as training for officers engaged in the work of entry and residence examinations,

training for officers engaged in refugee recognition work, training for fingerprint forensics, training related to human rights and training related mental health. Also, because the ISA’s work mainly involves foreign nationals, the ISA is making efforts to improve staff’s language skills needed for work, such as by outsourcing English and other languages training for staff to professional language schools. In these manners, the ISA is making efforts to train staff who are well versed in practical matters related to immigration control and residency management.

In addition, the ISA conducts training on measures for coexistence with foreign nationals, not only for its own staff, but for local government staff as well.



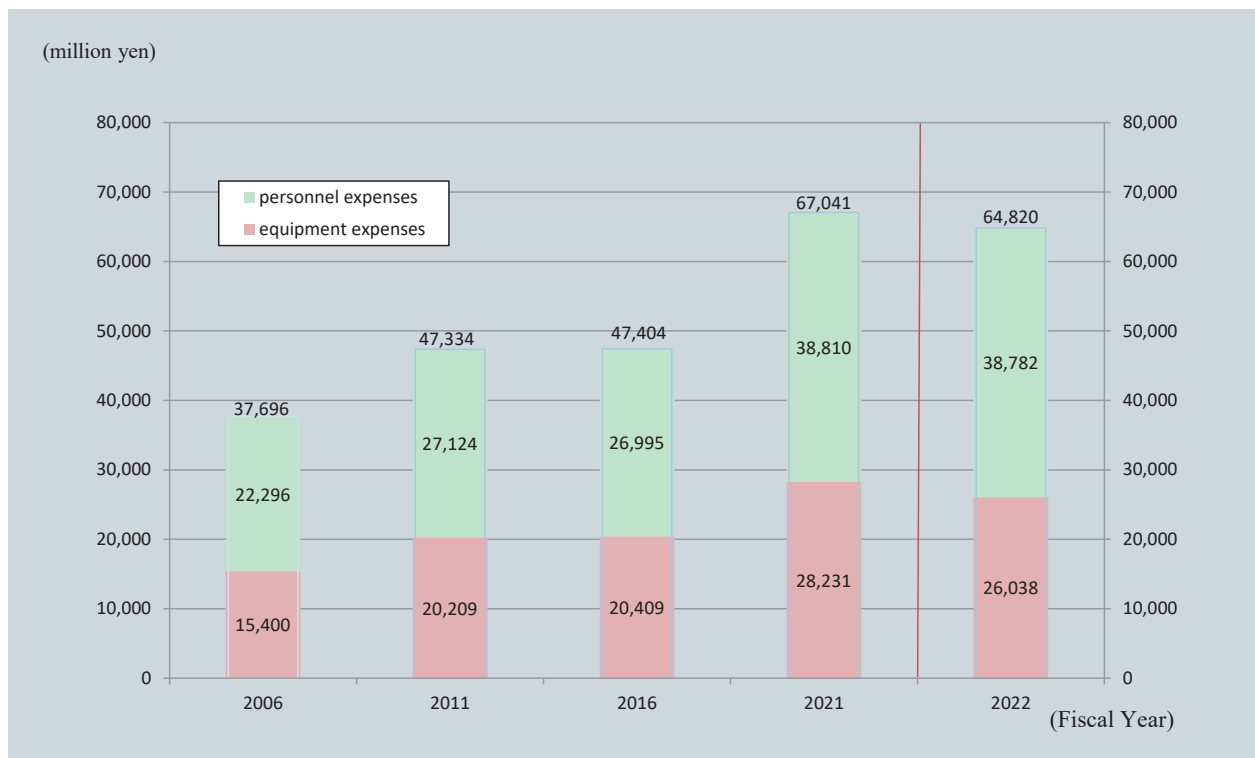
Scene of Training

## Data Section 3 Budget, etc.

### Section 1 Budgets

The changes in the budget for immigration control and residency management administration are as shown in **Reference 97**, and amid the severe administrative and financial situation of recent years, the necessary funds to implement the various measures being promoted by the ISA were allocated in the FY 2022 budget. The ISA will continue to strive to make effective use of the budget and to reduce administrative costs.

#### Reference 97 Changes in the budget for immigration control and residency management administration



- (\*1) The amount of budget is the initial amount of budget.
- (\*2) Some figures may not be consistent owing to the fact that the numbers are rounded off to units of 1 million yen.
- (\*3) Including international tourism passenger tax business (FY2021: 4,084 million yen, FY2022: 2,905 million yen).
- (\*4) Including government information system costs (Cabinet Secretariat and Digital Agency lump sum, FY 2021 10,663 million yen and Digital Agency lump sum FY2022 10,301 million yen).

## Section 2 Facilities

As of March 31, 2022, eight Regional Immigration Services Bureaus are housed in independent office buildings of the MOJ (Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka), joint office buildings of the MOJ (Sendai, Hiroshima, Takamatsu, and Fukuoka), and joint office buildings with other national government authorities (Sapporo) respectively. All of the District Immigration Services Offices and the Branch Offices of Regional Immigration Services Bureaus are housed either in independent office buildings of the MOJ (Yokohama), in general offices of the MOJ, in office buildings jointly with branch offices of port-related national government authorities, in office building jointly with other national government authorities, in airport terminal building, or in other civil or public facilities.

Two detention centers for foreign nationals in the country are maintained as independent offices of the MOJ (Omura) and general offices of the MOJ (Higashi-Nihon).



## Data Section 4 Statistics

### (1) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Mid to Long-Term Residents for the Principal Statuses of Residence by Nationality/Region

1-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Highly-Skilled Professional" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	302	531	779	456	108
China	65	124	209	113	31
United States of America	60	102	124	80	16
R.O.Korea	21	38	34	15	8
Taiwan	17	23	50	26	5
Canada	8	12	15	11	5
India	14	39	63	38	4
France	27	29	44	13	4
Singapore	4	7	5	3	4
United Kingdom	15	30	32	25	3
Australia	8	20	12	19	3
China (Hong Kong)	7	8	22	14	3
Others	56	99	169	99	22

(\*) The number for "Highly-Skilled Professional" is the number combining of "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)", "Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)" and "Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)".

1-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Highly-Skilled Professional" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	7,668	11,061	14,924	16,554	15,735
China	5,142	7,258	9,769	10,876	10,309
India	334	500	739	842	873
R.O.Korea	277	442	589	653	692
United States of America	331	469	612	677	598
Taiwan	290	422	499	516	457
Viet Nam	168	287	379	435	436
France	146	212	282	278	237
United Kingdom	112	165	225	254	226
Malaysia	53	74	101	118	111
Indonesia	32	60	88	88	111
Others	783	1,172	1,641	1,817	1,685

(\*1) The numbers are based on the statistics as at the end of December each year (hereinafter the same applies to the tables relating to the number of mid to long-term residents).

(\*2) "China" excludes those who were issued the residence cards and special permanent resident certificates and had already been included in "Taiwan" in nationality/region section (hereinafter the same applies to the tables relating to the number of mid to long-term residents).

2-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Business Manager" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	1,660	1,790	2,237	1,537	474
China	921	985	1,417	864	269
R.O.Korea	155	180	174	117	31
France	43	35	45	30	22
Taiwan	65	54	81	68	20
United States of America	97	107	84	38	15
China (Hong Kong)	24	28	46	63	13
Sri Lanka	38	36	54	35	11
Nepal	12	16	18	29	10
Viet Nam	21	34	32	31	6
India	25	24	15	14	6
Australia	33	29	34	9	6
Germany	27	29	30	16	6
Others	199	233	207	223	59

2-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Business Manager" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	24,033	25,670	27,249	27,235	27,197
China	12,447	13,397	14,442	14,317	13,748
R.O.Korea	3,095	3,104	3,078	2,819	2,620
Nepal	1,392	1,531	1,588	1,708	1,981
Sri Lanka	839	1,014	1,225	1,427	1,540
Pakistan	1,109	1,200	1,284	1,374	1,515
Viet Nam	265	376	491	640	1,031
Taiwan	818	826	862	787	720
United States of America	679	706	668	605	520
India	392	396	391	387	405
Bangladesh	296	307	331	362	398
Others	2,701	2,813	2,889	2,809	2,719

3-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	25,063	34,182	43,880	19,705	2,532
Viet Nam	4,529	8,623	12,245	6,484	628
China	5,492	6,785	9,532	2,702	532
R.O.Korea	3,160	3,833	4,161	1,533	242
United States of America	1,632	1,717	1,815	777	207
Sri Lanka	424	495	726	850	113
Myanmar	445	679	1,171	730	96
Taiwan	1,416	1,979	2,301	976	89
United Kingdom	619	605	745	287	55
France	346	373	402	254	52
Germany	178	153	215	111	41
Others	6,822	8,940	10,567	5,001	477

3-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	189,273	225,724	271,999	283,380	274,740
China	75,010	81,736	90,766	88,662	81,221
Viet Nam	22,045	34,752	51,713	61,181	64,200
R.O.Korea	21,603	24,602	27,388	25,760	22,652
Nepal	5,426	8,541	12,203	15,581	19,406
Taiwan	9,210	11,587	14,140	13,654	12,192
The Philippines	5,924	7,083	8,150	8,250	7,784
United States of America	8,626	9,124	9,604	8,848	7,685
India	6,556	7,753	9,455	8,924	7,637
Sri Lanka	2,806	3,491	4,575	6,233	7,344
Myanmar	2,316	3,146	4,689	5,767	6,087
Others	29,751	33,909	39,316	40,520	38,532

4-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Intra-company Transferee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	8,665	9,478	9,964	3,188	497
China	2,665	2,662	2,890	548	98
Thailand	675	795	939	274	70
Sri Lanka	75	51	100	276	49
Viet Nam	576	736	954	329	43
R.O.Korea	713	587	581	198	43
United States of America	321	350	314	115	28
The Philippines	1,081	1,357	1,278	412	27
Germany	150	128	145	79	26
Taiwan	260	304	234	94	16
Canada	26	24	26	20	14
Others	2,123	2,484	2,503	843	83

## 4-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Intra-company Transferee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	16,486	17,328	18,193	13,415	8,593
China	5,807	5,797	6,129	4,078	2,509
R.O.Korea	1,689	1,557	1,539	1,209	811
The Philippines	1,287	1,634	1,658	1,272	777
Viet Nam	909	1,082	1,342	1,159	751
Sri Lanka	338	351	419	653	632
India	1,252	1,300	1,429	840	460
Thailand	842	913	1,008	667	380
Indonesia	392	575	686	462	310
Taiwan	574	597	536	416	264
United States of America	697	691	666	474	244
Others	2,699	2,831	2,781	2,185	1,455

## 5-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Entertainer" by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	39,929	42,703	45,486	7,218	1,570
United States of America	6,306	6,069	6,510	949	241
Russia	1,724	1,521	1,846	297	117
R.O.Korea	7,116	8,510	9,190	1,063	115
France	1,236	1,561	1,172	199	113
United Kingdom	3,192	3,344	3,763	415	106
Austria	624	640	487	186	87
Italy	1,483	1,622	1,522	134	70
Czech	442	393	454	24	66
Germany	1,695	1,785	1,608	106	61
Brazil	489	408	504	76	54
Others	15,622	16,850	18,430	3,769	540

## 5-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Entertainer" by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	2,094	2,389	2,508	1,865	1,564
United States of America	375	382	389	328	312
The Philippines	494	650	644	384	164
Brazil	126	154	150	144	154
R.O.Korea	254	219	211	163	126
Australia	70	109	80	84	87
China	101	111	171	93	74
Spain	19	40	44	68	51
United Kingdom	50	72	87	55	47
Thailand	89	83	111	28	44
New Zealand	12	17	31	31	39
Others	504	552	590	487	466

## 6-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Skilled Labor" by nationality/region

(People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	3,692	3,551	4,355	1,729	388
China	770	1,099	1,641	555	147
Nepal	738	338	490	336	111
India	486	605	552	308	40
New Zealand	46	66	55	20	16
Bangladesh	61	52	27	11	7
The Philippines	134	99	50	28	6
United States of America	63	57	60	23	6
United Kingdom	115	133	152	19	6
Viet Nam	134	207	200	83	5
France	20	18	37	16	5
Others	1,125	877	1,091	330	39

6-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Skilled Labor" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	39,177	39,915	41,692	40,491	38,240
China	15,537	15,922	16,763	16,469	15,437
Nepal	12,706	12,547	12,679	12,524	12,112
India	4,867	5,237	5,603	5,592	5,379
Thailand	1,258	1,271	1,283	1,229	1,140
The Philippines	603	661	672	668	652
Viet Nam	403	537	671	692	647
R.O.Korea	895	838	806	712	632
Bangladesh	319	339	343	323	290
Pakistan	232	271	266	253	226
Sri Lanka	203	211	226	217	199
Others	2,154	2,081	2,380	1,812	1,526

7-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker(i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total			563	3,760	1,093
Viet Nam			304	1,816	765
China			2	503	157
Indonesia			112	717	56
Myanmar			37	184	42
Thailand			27	139	31
Cambodia			59	235	27
The Philippines			1	46	9
Nepal			7	28	3
R.O.Korea			3	8	2
Taiwan			1	19	1
Others			10	65	0

(\*) The statuses of "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" were newly established on April 1, 2019.

7-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker(i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total			1,621	15,663	49,666
Viet Nam			901	9,412	31,721
The Philippines			111	1,059	4,607
Indonesia			189	1,514	3,889
China			100	1,575	3,694
Myanmar			100	674	2,294
Thailand			79	455	1,034
Cambodia			94	488	990
Nepal			18	135	668
Mongolia			2	75	191
Sri Lanka			5	63	140
Others			22	213	438

8-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	127,671	144,195	173,705	76,456	22,117
Viet Nam	58,690	72,582	91,170	41,341	16,450
China	34,072	33,640	34,685	11,049	3,505
Myanmar	3,233	3,723	6,460	3,543	825
Indonesia	9,581	12,233	15,746	8,261	494
Cambodia	2,978	3,316	4,216	2,746	273
Thailand	4,449	4,579	4,813	2,771	272
The Philippines	12,923	12,060	13,839	5,119	245
Sri Lanka	217	272	344	249	40
Nepal	88	135	190	118	8
Laos	176	197	230	115	4
Others	1,264	1,458	2,012	1,144	1

(\*) The number for "Technical Intern Training (i)" is the number combining "Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)" and "Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)".

## 8-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (i)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	124,072	143,377	169,383	75,681	24,216
Viet Nam	58,793	74,150	90,776	41,564	17,793
China	32,095	32,178	32,489	10,891	3,644
Myanmar	3,091	3,682	6,299	3,456	937
Indonesia	9,520	12,162	15,419	8,030	735
The Philippines	12,320	11,793	13,271	4,818	381
Cambodia	2,827	3,270	4,162	2,736	340
Thailand	3,927	4,303	4,513	2,670	310
Sri Lanka	184	260	331	240	42
Mongolia	612	805	1,109	771	18
Nepal	81	133	189	118	8
Others	622	641	825	387	8

## 9 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (ii)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	150,153	177,585	215,233	262,663	204,824
Viet Nam	64,762	86,155	113,810	146,143	116,646
China	45,472	44,331	45,412	46,924	28,790
Indonesia	12,374	14,144	18,054	23,441	20,147
The Philippines	15,489	17,798	19,358	21,417	16,287
Myanmar	3,053	4,635	6,070	9,083	8,682
Thailand	4,503	5,122	5,914	6,741	5,740
Cambodia	3,353	3,969	4,595	5,944	5,619
Mongolia	487	661	946	1,410	1,353
Sri Lanka	157	212	375	535	513
Laos	254	284	302	351	288
Others	249	274	397	674	759

(\*). The number for "Technical Intern Training (ii)" is the number combining "Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)" and "Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)".

## 10-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	8	5,712	14,976	7,252	1,283
Viet Nam	8	3,240	7,777	3,717	803
China	0	1,062	2,706	1,109	288
Indonesia	0	491	1,125	703	57
The Philippines	0	511	1,887	854	46
Myanmar	0	66	382	205	41
Thailand	0	167	539	350	29
Cambodia	0	135	466	255	17
Sri Lanka	0	9	19	11	2
Mongolia	0	16	47	24	0
Laos	0	9	16	15	0
Others	0	6	12	9	0

(\*1) The status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii)(a) and (b)" was newly established on November 1, 2017.

(\*2) The number for "Technical Intern Training (iii)" is the number combining "Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)" and "Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)".

## 10-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Technical Intern Training (iii)" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	8	7,398	26,356	39,856	47,083
Viet Nam	8	4,194	14,141	21,172	26,124
The Philippines	0	730	3,245	5,413	6,518
China	0	1,297	4,469	5,926	5,055
Indonesia	0	608	1,931	2,988	4,125
Myanmar	0	115	749	1,424	1,769
Cambodia	0	185	759	1,290	1,516
Thailand	0	214	898	1,324	1,428
Mongolia	0	18	68	129	195
Sri Lanka	0	15	34	64	157
Nepal	0	7	22	42	99
Others	0	15	40	84	97

11-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Student" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	123,232	124,269	121,637	49,748	11,651
China	41,656	42,151	47,666	20,671	4,446
Viet Nam	24,893	26,125	21,060	11,339	1,443
R.O.Korea	7,326	8,231	8,901	2,586	556
Indonesia	2,850	2,935	2,896	1,426	473
Malaysia	1,195	1,112	1,047	587	394
Nepal	8,474	7,614	7,406	826	379
Thailand	2,164	2,084	1,787	847	362
Taiwan	5,470	5,646	5,627	1,405	260
Bangladesh	1,301	1,137	670	674	236
Mongolia	1,280	1,538	1,440	788	218
Others	26,623	25,696	23,137	8,599	2,884

11-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Student" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	311,505	337,000	345,791	280,901	207,830
China	124,292	132,411	144,264	125,328	96,594
Viet Nam	72,268	81,009	79,292	65,653	46,403
Nepal	27,101	28,987	29,417	23,116	16,858
R.O.Korea	15,912	17,056	17,732	12,854	8,616
Indonesia	6,492	7,213	7,512	6,279	4,686
Taiwan	10,237	10,603	10,420	6,206	3,907
Sri Lanka	8,273	8,701	7,408	5,578	3,452
Myanmar	5,753	6,369	5,429	4,371	3,207
Bangladesh	3,467	3,948	3,624	3,341	2,664
Mongolia	3,150	3,675	3,908	3,320	2,426
Others	34,560	37,028	36,785	24,855	19,017

12-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Trainee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	16,393	13,389	12,985	2,392	179
Thailand	835	888	721	194	39
Indonesia	1,239	990	849	153	36
The Philippines	494	598	419	77	23
Viet Nam	1,069	814	806	119	16
R.O.Korea	77	74	74	6	9
Myanmar	954	749	666	134	5
Cambodia	354	319	286	45	5
Sri Lanka	285	154	217	62	5
Bangladesh	439	290	372	47	5
Pakistan	295	236	207	60	5
Others	10,352	8,277	8,368	1,495	31

12-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Trainee" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	1,460	1,443	1,177	174	145
Thailand	192	251	147	33	30
Indonesia	175	204	153	22	27
The Philippines	99	129	107	3	21
Viet Nam	247	226	194	40	13
Myanmar	52	45	33	13	9
R.O.Korea	24	21	18	4	6
Sri Lanka	6	9	5	2	5
Bangladesh	9	5	11	2	5
India	92	87	50	1	4
Cambodia	26	17	18	1	4
Others	538	449	441	53	21

13-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	22,444	27,752	31,712	7,381	3,508
The Philippines	915	1,911	1,788	369	598
Viet Nam	1,394	2,536	3,449	1,047	338
Indonesia	1,058	1,299	1,461	773	333
China	2,851	3,052	3,318	710	274
United Kingdom	908	1,035	1,032	94	210
R.O.Korea	3,867	5,150	5,467	1,138	209
Afganistan	0	0	0	1	180
Spain	122	236	316	103	144
Germany	785	873	958	257	137
United States of America	90	83	89	37	108
Others	10,454	11,577	13,834	2,852	977

13-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	64,776	62,956	65,187	103,422	124,056
Viet Nam	5,627	4,897	6,349	41,331	59,847
China	10,947	10,389	10,600	16,894	15,569
The Philippines	8,547	8,574	6,642	7,467	7,777
Myanmar	2,244	2,070	1,927	3,358	6,920
Indonesia	5,171	4,151	3,965	4,450	5,508
Nepal	5,005	4,078	2,839	2,932	4,346
Sri Lanka	3,254	3,177	3,815	4,506	4,223
Cambodia	1,001	1,173	1,832	2,695	2,798
Turkey	2,443	1,971	1,741	2,425	1,945
India	1,342	1,329	1,496	1,993	1,702
Others	19,195	21,147	23,981	15,371	13,421

14 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Permanent Resident" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	749,191	771,568	793,164	807,517	831,157
China	248,873	260,963	273,776	283,281	296,660
The Philippines	127,396	129,707	131,933	133,188	135,300
Brazil	112,876	112,934	112,440	112,341	112,890
R.O.Korea	69,391	71,094	72,391	72,473	73,037
Peru	33,891	33,789	33,614	33,375	33,301
Taiwan	21,044	21,601	22,235	22,265	22,803
Thailand	19,719	20,142	20,526	20,720	20,985
Viet Nam	14,913	16,043	17,186	18,472	20,206
United States of America	16,922	17,580	18,043	18,239	18,773
India	5,718	6,090	6,466	6,791	7,520
Others	78,448	81,625	84,554	86,372	89,682

15-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	9,998	10,466	10,694	6,306	7,356
The Philippines	1,938	1,825	1,850	1,057	1,010
United States of America	434	508	561	527	942
Brazil	2,134	2,490	2,384	657	885
China	2,216	2,025	2,017	998	767
Thailand	602	636	604	474	481
R.O.Korea	343	398	400	317	393
Viet Nam	454	522	643	436	302
Taiwan	201	215	195	162	239
Canada	88	90	118	108	191
United Kingdom	116	143	126	126	178
Others	1,472	1,614	1,796	1,444	1,968

## 15-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Spouse or Child of Japanese National" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	140,839	142,381	145,254	142,735	142,044
China	31,911	30,900	30,321	28,313	26,575
The Philippines	26,401	26,322	26,699	26,022	25,538
Brazil	16,631	17,668	18,427	17,225	16,544
R.O.Korea	13,490	13,053	12,798	12,490	12,103
United States of America	9,497	9,689	10,014	10,439	11,034
Thailand	7,144	7,223	7,301	7,154	7,192
Viet Nam	3,164	3,837	4,601	4,983	5,435
Taiwan	4,296	4,439	4,541	4,475	4,378
United Kingdom	2,639	2,644	2,637	2,743	2,825
France	1,881	1,997	2,097	2,195	2,282
Others	23,785	24,609	25,818	26,696	28,138

## 16-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals with the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	16,309	17,146	17,515	5,385	4,677
The Philippines	2,534	2,413	2,345	914	1,709
Brazil	9,891	11,214	11,657	2,709	840
China	1,950	1,558	1,508	680	730
Peru	563	587	619	240	260
Viet Nam	235	276	271	192	185
Bolivia	182	142	177	80	104
R.O.Korea	37	53	33	61	89
Indonesia	147	115	145	87	88
Pakistan	93	89	76	35	81
Thailand	115	102	97	62	69
United States of America	17	36	42	32	69
Others	545	561	545	293	453

## 16-2 Changes in the number of mid to long-term residents with the status of residence of "Long-Term Resident" by nationality/region (People)

Nationality/Region \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	179,834	192,014	204,787	201,329	198,966
Brazil	56,475	65,021	73,536	71,832	68,492
The Philippines	49,773	52,008	54,359	53,941	54,946
China	28,033	28,282	28,822	27,436	26,624
Peru	10,406	10,647	10,936	10,779	10,784
R.O.Korea	7,291	7,289	7,208	7,119	7,069
Viet Nam	5,448	5,509	5,646	5,739	5,783
Thailand	3,861	3,922	3,997	3,985	4,024
Bolivia	2,072	2,171	2,294	2,334	2,409
Myanmar	2,433	2,479	2,479	2,413	2,397
Indonesia	2,002	2,107	2,238	2,260	2,347
Others	12,040	12,579	13,272	13,491	14,091



## (2) Changes in the Number of New Arrivals and Foreign Residents of the Principal Nationalities/Regions by Status of Residence/Status

1-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of Chinese nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	4,839,034	5,952,742	7,424,274	836,088	19,374
Diplomat	527	653	938	74	96
Official	3,468	6,689	9,409	204	28
Professor	409	412	425	160	152
Artist	3	8	5	14	0
Religious Activities	4	3	7	3	0
Journalist	43	18	15	1	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	5	5	12	8	2
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	44	92	146	71	24
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	16	27	51	34	5
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	921	985	1,417	864	269
Legal/Accounting Services	0	2	1	0	0
Medical Services	21	10	17	11	3
Researcher	72	75	68	28	27
Instructor	14	11	8	5	1
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	5,492	6,785	9,532	2,702	532
Intra-company Transferee	2,665	2,662	2,890	548	98
Nursing Care	0	1	0	0	0
Entertainer	1,162	1,058	1,586	39	8
Skilled Labor	770	1,099	1,641	555	147
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			2	503	157
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,819	1,330	1,592	263	85
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	32,253	32,310	33,093	10,786	3,420
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	2	3	1	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	7	92	56	43	14
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	12	38	17	3
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	0	1,050	2,668	1,092	285
Cultural Activities	898	939	1,060	182	52
Temporary Visitor	4,729,271	5,837,840	7,292,654	790,845	4,323
Student	41,656	42,151	47,666	20,671	4,446
Trainee	699	654	575	93	3
Dependent	8,646	8,147	8,866	3,367	2,271
Designated Activities	2,851	3,052	3,318	710	274
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	2,216	2,025	2,017	998	767
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,132	985	990	466	398
Long-Term Resident	1,950	1,558	1,508	680	730
Permanent Resident				50	754

(\*1) The status of residence of "Nursing Care" was newly established on September 1, 2017 (the same applies in the following table).

(\*2) The status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" and "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)" were newly established on April 1, 2019 (the same applies in the following table).

1-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of Chinese nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	730,890	764,720	813,675	778,112	716,606
Professor	1,448	1,412	1,411	1,254	1,269
Artist	59	61	66	78	64
Religious Activities	80	88	89	88	83
Journalist	44	46	49	42	36
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	585	757	888	850	783
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	4,327	6,077	8,094	9,008	8,400
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	95	163	288	352	332
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	135	261	499	666	794
Business Manager	12,447	13,397	14,442	14,317	13,748
Legal/Accounting Services	10	15	18	16	16
Medical Services	1,301	1,510	1,746	1,881	1,845
Researcher	426	380	361	312	271
Instructor	78	81	79	78	73
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	75,010	81,736	90,766	88,662	81,221
Intra-company Transferee	5,807	5,797	6,129	4,078	2,509
Nursing Care	4	34	80	183	354
Entertainer	101	111	171	93	74
Skilled Labor	15,537	15,922	16,763	16,469	15,437
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			100	1,575	3,694
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,394	1,057	1,235	225	86
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	30,701	31,121	31,254	10,666	3,558
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	1,170	1,009	1,060	1,169	645
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	44,302	43,322	44,352	45,755	28,145
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	108	209	202	108
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	0	1,189	4,260	5,724	4,947
Cultural Activities	1,024	1,049	1,119	468	260
Student	124,292	132,411	144,264	125,328	96,594
Trainee	209	191	155	11	1
Dependent	74,962	78,417	82,382	74,886	67,933
Designated Activities	10,947	10,389	10,600	16,894	15,569
Permanent Resident	248,873	260,963	273,776	283,281	296,660
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	31,911	30,900	30,321	28,313	26,575
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	14,551	15,592	17,002	16,956	17,143
Long-Term Resident	28,033	28,282	28,822	27,436	26,624
Special Permanent Resident	1,027	872	825	796	755

(\*) "China" excludes those who were issued the residence cards and special permanent resident certificates and had already been included in "Taiwan" in nationality/region section.

2-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of R.O.Korean nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	6,946,352	7,325,595	5,339,079	432,707	5,500
Diplomat	902	943	969	194	184
Official	2,192	2,261	1,744	181	136
Professor	194	202	185	58	42
Artist	10	18	32	1	0
Religious Activities	66	68	74	34	12
Journalist	14	9	10	6	9
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	2	1	3	3	1
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	18	29	26	12	5
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	1	8	5	0	2
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	155	180	174	117	31
Legal/Accounting Services	1	1	0	0	0
Medical Services	16	21	17	11	9
Researcher	20	27	17	4	2
Instructor	21	10	20	19	15
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	3,160	3,833	4,161	1,533	242
Intra-company Transferee	713	587	581	198	43
Nursing Care	0	0	1	0	0
Entertainer	7,116	8,510	9,190	1,063	115
Skilled Labor	40	27	39	7	3
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			3	8	2
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	19	7	1	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Cultural Activities	194	216	223	31	13
Temporary Visitor	6,918,346	7,293,178	5,305,221	424,382	2,615
Student	7,326	8,231	8,901	2,586	556
Trainee	77	74	74	6	9
Dependent	1,460	1,491	1,460	675	502
Designated Activities	3,867	5,150	5,467	1,138	209
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	343	398	400	317	393
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	42	62	48	40	63
Long-Term Resident	37	53	33	61	89
Permanent Resident				22	198

2-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of R.O.Korean nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	450,663	449,634	446,364	426,908	409,855
Professor	911	859	824	768	720
Artist	41	48	54	53	50
Religious Activities	891	900	902	823	757
Journalist	46	43	41	37	40
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	70	110	135	155	170
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	183	290	404	435	438
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	22	34	37	45	60
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	2	8	13	18	24
Business Manager	3,095	3,104	3,078	2,819	2,620
Legal/Accounting Services	8	11	12	15	13
Medical Services	134	142	142	148	141
Researcher	155	144	127	117	95
Instructor	98	106	118	114	115
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	21,603	24,602	27,388	25,760	22,652
Intra-company Transferee	1,689	1,557	1,539	1,209	811
Nursing Care	1	6	21	48	70
Entertainer	254	219	211	163	126
Skilled Labor	895	838	806	712	632
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			6	59	108
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	13	1	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	0	0	0	0	0
Cultural Activities	254	218	213	93	65
Student	15,912	17,056	17,732	12,854	8,616
Trainee	24	21	18	4	6
Dependent	12,211	12,061	11,829	10,573	9,227
Designated Activities	3,961	4,892	4,889	1,565	963
Permanent Resident	69,391	71,094	72,391	72,473	73,037
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	13,490	13,053	12,798	12,490	12,103
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	2,192	2,191	2,162	2,132	2,057
Long-Term Resident	7,291	7,289	7,208	7,119	7,069
Special Permanent Resident	295,826	288,737	281,266	274,107	267,070

3-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of Viet Nam nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	232,706	288,354	353,633	90,876	24,623
Diplomat	542	533	533	50	89
Official	3,106	2,955	2,852	260	118
Professor	50	40	33	18	8
Artist	0	1	0	1	0
Religious Activities	27	25	32	20	1
Journalist	1	0	1	4	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	0	1	1	2	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	0	2	2	4	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	0	0	1	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	21	34	32	31	6
Legal/Accounting Services	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Services	1	0	1	4	0
Researcher	4	7	7	2	1
Instructor	0	0	1	0	0
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	4,529	8,623	12,245	6,484	628
Intra-company Transferee	576	736	954	329	43
Nursing Care	1	0	1	15	2
Entertainer	154	244	156	6	1
Skilled Labor	134	207	200	83	5
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			304	1,816	765
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,265	1,214	1,020	293	58
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	57,425	71,368	90,150	41,048	16,392
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	5	1	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	1	94	108	47	8
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	23	95	9	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	8	3,217	7,682	3,708	803
Cultural Activities	60	83	81	12	3
Temporary Visitor	134,091	165,080	205,466	19,739	375
Student	24,893	26,125	21,060	11,339	1,443
Trainee	1,069	814	806	119	16
Dependent	2,533	3,443	5,294	3,654	2,943
Designated Activities	1,394	2,536	3,449	1,047	338
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	454	522	643	436	302
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	132	146	151	102	60
Long-Term Resident	235	276	271	192	185
Permanent Resident				2	30

3-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of Viet Nam nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	262,405	330,835	411,968	448,053	432,934
Professor	151	145	137	145	157
Artist	1	0	0	0	0
Religious Activities	232	239	252	254	230
Journalist	9	8	8	11	7
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	55	70	79	77	67
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	107	205	287	343	350
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	3	5	7	8	7
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	3	7	6	7	12
Business Manager	265	376	491	640	1,031
Legal/Accounting Services	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Services	12	31	43	69	111
Researcher	48	44	32	33	26
Instructor	7	6	5	4	8
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	22,045	34,752	51,713	61,181	64,200
Intra-company Transferee	909	1,082	1,342	1,159	751
Nursing Care	7	73	296	857	1,906
Entertainer	3	1	0	0	1
Skilled Labor	403	537	671	692	647
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			901	9,412	31,721
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,175	1,140	915	270	56
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	57,618	73,010	89,861	41,294	17,737
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	853	1,105	1,447	1,359	737
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	63,909	85,050	112,363	144,784	115,909
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	38	152	182	250
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	8	4,156	13,989	20,990	25,874
Cultural Activities	49	41	44	17	8
Student	72,268	81,009	79,292	65,653	46,403
Trainee	247	226	194	40	13
Dependent	11,112	15,301	21,609	25,961	31,351
Designated Activities	5,627	4,897	6,349	41,331	59,847
Permanent Resident	14,913	16,043	17,186	18,472	20,206
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	3,164	3,837	4,601	4,983	5,435
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	1,752	1,889	2,047	2,083	2,089
Long-Term Resident	5,448	5,509	5,646	5,739	5,783
Special Permanent Resident	2	3	3	3	4

4-1 Changes in the number of new arrivals of the Philippine nationals by status of residence

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	395,808	443,236	571,685	96,281	5,405
Diplomat	399	162	283	26	31
Official	1,418	763	989	108	81
Professor	34	38	34	12	8
Artist	0	0	2	0	0
Religious Activities	37	56	71	29	0
Journalist	0	0	1	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	0	0	0	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	1	2	2	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	0	0	1	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	0	0	0	0	0
Business Manager	9	5	7	1	1
Legal/Accounting Services	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Services	1	0	3	1	1
Researcher	2	2	0	0	0
Instructor	104	143	200	129	140
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	1,168	1,573	1,565	534	32
Intra-company Transferee	1,081	1,357	1,278	412	27
Nursing Care	0	0	1	0	0
Entertainer	4,259	5,245	5,632	1,918	28
Skilled Labor	134	99	50	28	6
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			1	46	9
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,382	1,254	1,199	297	21
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	11,541	10,806	12,640	4,822	224
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	0	5	0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	0	9	5	3	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	20	81	33	0
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	0	491	1,806	821	46
Cultural Activities	43	73	89	12	1
Temporary Visitor	366,191	411,912	536,965	83,597	541
Student	1,381	1,682	1,486	585	177
Trainee	494	598	419	77	23
Dependent	493	534	673	254	345
Designated Activities	915	1,911	1,788	369	598
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	1,938	1,825	1,850	1,057	1,010
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	249	258	219	158	144
Long-Term Resident	2,534	2,413	2,345	914	1,709
Permanent Resident				38	202

## 4-2 Changes in the number of foreign residents of the Philippine nationals by status

(People)

Status of Residence \ Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	260,553	271,289	282,798	279,660	276,615
Professor	94	89	94	96	111
Artist	0	0	0	0	0
Religious Activities	248	274	321	301	236
Journalist	0	0	0	0	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(a)	18	21	24	21	24
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(b)	15	30	48	57	54
Highly-Skilled Professional (i)-(c)	1	1	2	1	0
Highly-Skilled Professional (ii)	1	1	1	3	5
Business Manager	71	70	71	60	60
Legal/Accounting Services	2	2	2	2	2
Medical Services	42	55	80	104	96
Researcher	19	20	16	17	13
Instructor	717	980	1,315	1,516	1,700
Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	5,924	7,083	8,150	8,250	7,784
Intra-company Transferee	1,287	1,634	1,658	1,272	777
Nursing Care	0	20	54	153	365
Entertainer	494	650	644	384	164
Skilled Labor	603	661	672	668	652
Specified Skilled Worker (i)			111	1,059	4,607
Specified Skilled Worker (ii)			0	0	0
Technical Intern Training (i)-(a)	1,198	1,112	1,023	245	31
Technical Intern Training (i)-(b)	11,122	10,681	12,248	4,573	350
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(a)	573	706	777	949	674
Technical Intern Training (ii)-(b)	14,916	17,092	18,581	20,468	15,613
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(a)	0	44	155	264	335
Technical Intern Training (iii)-(b)	0	686	3,090	5,149	6,183
Cultural Activities	26	38	49	22	15
Student	2,375	3,010	3,262	2,421	1,600
Trainee	99	129	107	3	21
Dependent	3,104	3,386	3,722	3,618	3,732
Designated Activities	8,547	8,574	6,642	7,467	7,777
Permanent Resident	127,396	129,707	131,933	133,188	135,300
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	26,401	26,322	26,699	26,022	25,538
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	5,440	6,155	6,838	7,315	7,800
Long-Term Resident	49,773	52,008	54,359	53,941	54,946
Special Permanent Resident	47	48	50	51	50



### (3) Status of Implementation of Immigration Examination Using Biometric information (2021)

· Number of the implementation of exclusion order

【Nationality/Region】	(People)	【Airport・Seaport】	(People)
China	34	Narita Airport	77
Turkey	30	Kansai Airport	32
Thailand	25	Haneda Airport	27
R.O.Korea	19	Chubu Airport	11
Indonesia	11	Others	9
The Philippines	11	Total	156
United States of America	5		
Malaysia	5		
Viet Nam	3		
Taiwan	2		
Bangladesh	2		
Others	9		
Total	156		

· Number of the implementation of deportation procedures

【Nationality】	(People)	【Airport】	(People)
Iran	1	Kansai Airport	1
Total	1	Total	1

### (4) Changes in the number of cases of detection of forged or altered documents, etc. (including passports with missing or damaged pages, etc.)

(Cases)

Division		Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Landing	Passport		188(63)	259(56)	226(54)	48(16)	6
	Others		192	173	188	7	6
	Total		380(63)	432(56)	414(54)	55(16)	12
Departure	Passport		23(20)	60(54)	64(52)	12(11)	1(1)
	Others		10	12	21	2	1
	Total		33(20)	72(54)	85(52)	14(11)	2(1)
Total	Passport		211(83)	319(110)	290(106)	60(27)	7(1)
	Others		202	185	209	9	7
	Total		413(83)	504(110)	499(106)	69(27)	14(1)

(\*) The “passports with missing or damaged pages, etc.” means those where there was confirmed evidence of “missing or damaged pages”, “booklet dismantlement” or “peeling off of the permission seal sticker”, but as a result of document forensics or questioning of the bearer in the immigration procedures, they were judged void, and these are represented by the figures in brackets in the table.



Work scene in the Counterfeit Documents Countermeasures Office

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# 2022 Immigration Control and Residency Management

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November 2022

Immigration Services Agency of Japan

〒100-8973 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo



**2022**

**Immigration Control and  
Residency Management**