

3 Reference Material

(1) City Profiles

Higashiosaka City Initiatives on Interculturalism

Katsushige Takahashi, Deputy Mayor of Higashiosaka City

1. Outline of Higashiosaka City

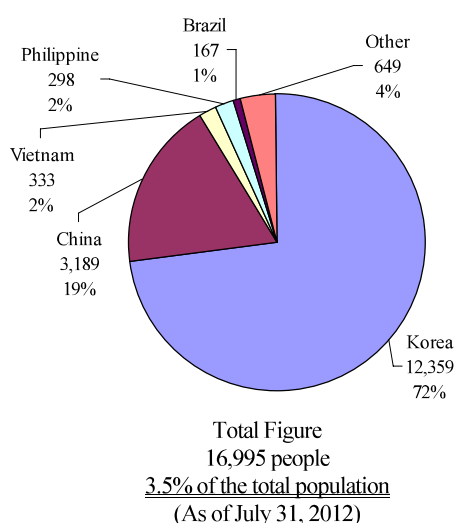
(1) Outline of the City

Higashiosaka City is located on the east of Osaka Prefecture against the backdrop of the lush green Mountain Ikoma. It is the third largest city by population size in Osaka Prefecture. The City has a population of approximately 510,000 people and an area of 61.81 km², and was designated as a Core City.

The City has a national reputation of being a “Manufacturing City”, where small and medium-sized enterprises with world-class technologies assemble. In 2009, “Maido No. 1”, a satellite developed by the collective effort of small, family run factories was launched into space. Moreover, the City is famous in Japan for being a “Rugby Football City”, as it is home to the “Kintetsu Hanazono Rugby Stadium”, the sacred ground for high school rugby football in Japan. The City aims at creating an “An energetic city brimming with dreams and vitality”.

(2) Characteristics of the Foreign Residents

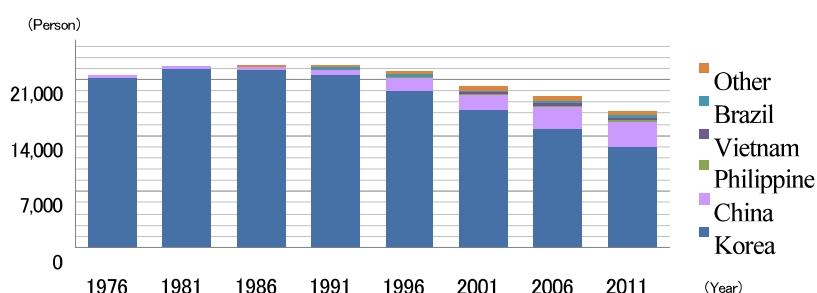
① Foreign Resident Population and Nationality Breakdown



At one point, people from Korea made up almost 98% of the total foreign resident population. However, due to a decreasing number of senior citizens, international marriages with Japanese people and the acquisition of Japanese nationality etc., the number of Korean residents has decreased. Korean residents now make up around 70% of the foreign resident population, and this is a notable characteristic of the city.

Next to Korea, countries with largest ratio of foreign residents are China, Vietnam, the Philippines and Brazil, and there is an increasing trend with numbers from each of these countries. It is thought that foreign resident settlement will continue as returnees and their families return from China, the number of international marriages increases and foreign residents enter companies to work as trainees.

② Transition of Foreign Residents



2. Initiatives of Higashiosaka City

(1) Basic Principles

With the aim of becoming “an international city in Asia, and in the world”, Higashiosaka City established the “Higashiosaka City Internationalization Promotion Policy”, and will exert its best efforts to promote internationalization, in accordance with the following three basic principles.

- 1 Strive to maintain peace and respect human rights, in close cooperation with the people in Asia and other parts of the world.
- 2 Promote international cooperation and collaboration, taking advantage of the strength and characteristics of Higashiosaka – a Manufacturing City.
- 3 Strive to create a multicultural society, where various cultures coexist.

(2) Distinctive Initiatives

① Establishment of International Information Plaza

With the goal of making continued stable livelihood possible and contributing to the development of local society together with accepting one another’s culture, the International Information Plaza began its service on July 1st, 2004 for the purpose of conducting a wide variety of consultation and implementing services which collect and provide information relating to internationalization for all citizens. The plaza is located in city hall and, in cooperation with the Cultural & International Affairs Division, offers consultation services in English, Korean and Chinese, Monday to Friday from 10am to 5:30pm.

A support system that ensures a trouble free life for foreign residents is being maintained at the plaza, which includes the holding of a comprehensive consultation meeting called the “1 Day Consultation Service in Higashiosaka for Foreign Residents”, workshop for volunteer interpreters, and the dispatching of those volunteers to parent-teacher meetings in elementary schools and health examinations at health centers etc. In addition, the City is promoting to raise awareness through multicultural understanding seminars etc. to help all citizens become global people with broad insights who are accepting of diverse cultures.

② Establishment of “Advisory Panel on Policies on Foreign Residents”

Based on the “Basic Guidelines for Support Measures for the Foreign Residents of Higashiosaka City”, in order to promote participation in city administration by foreign residents, and promote policies for developing a city where people of diverse backgrounds and cultures can coexist, a council for support measures for foreign residents was established. This body researches various cases, raises issues and appeals for opinions. The term of the members is 2 years and currently the Panel is in its 4th term.

③ Support for Intercultural Projects

International exchange is thriving in local areas through events in areas with a large foreign resident population, such as the “Higashiosaka International Friendship Festival”, which will take place for the 17th time this year and draws a crowd of approximately 7,000 people every year. There are also 6 Japanese language classes at 5 locations in the city. The City is implementing continuous support for these events.

④ Education for Children

Native language education (non-Japanese) class takes place at 29 elementary and junior high schools in the city. These classes provide students with Korean roots with a chance to learn about their native ethnic culture. For schools without native language education, there is an opportunity once a year for children to learn about ethnic cultures, especially Korean culture. Moreover, “Higashiosaka Children’s Korean Culture Gathering” is held and is an opportunity for intercultural and international understanding education. Apart from foreign children, the event also invites Japanese children and their guardians. The event will be held for the 30th time this year.

Also, the City has been cooperating with the Higashiosaka City Foreign Residents' Education Council in organizing gatherings where newly arrived students from China can think about their futures and present what they have learned about culture and ethnicity. Further, for students with foreign roots such as Brazilian and Filipino, we provide them with opportunities to consult people about their futures, learn about various cultures and ethnicities and take part in cooking classes with cuisine of various countries etc.

(3) Policies for Interculturalism Promotion

- 1982 Establishment of the “Basic Guidelines for the Protection of the Human Rights of the Korean and Other Foreign Residents of Higashiosaka City”
- 1992 Establishment of the “Higashiosaka City Internationalization Policy”
- 2003 Establishment of the “Basic Guidelines for Support Measures for the Foreign Residents of Higashiosaka City”

The guidelines were established to comprehensively promote foreign resident policies to respect the human rights of all foreign residents and to realize a fulfilling intercultural society.

- 2008 Establishment of the “Higashiosaka City Internationalization Promotion Policy”

The “Higashiosaka City Internationalization Promotion Policy” was established in order to promote policies which correspond precisely to changes in the new social affair etc.

Initiatives for Intercultural City Policies in Ota City

Tadayoshi Matsubara, Mayor of Ota City

1. An outline of Ota City

Ota City is one of the 23 special wards of the Tokyo Metropolitan area, located on the southeast border of the metropolis, facing Tokyo Bay to the east and Kanagawa Prefecture across the Tamagawa River to the south. The municipality has the largest land area of Tokyo's 23 wards and is home to its only international airport. Ota City is sometimes called a “miniature of Tokyo”, or an embodiment of the capital's diverse charms, owing to its numerous high-tech industrial companies, lively shopping areas, beautiful cityscapes as represented by the *Denenchofu* district, plentiful nature such as the Tamagawa River, traditional cultural relics, and affordable multinational cuisine. The energetic city has a daytime population almost equal to its resident population of approximately 696,000.

Its foreign population comprises about 18,000 people of 109 nationalities (as of August 1st, 2012), of which 70% are from China, Korea and the Philippines. By status of residence, many are students, dependents, and permanent residents with a tendency to stay long-term.

Holding the top position in Tokyo in number of both industrial plants and the craftsmen they employ, Ota City is known in Japan and abroad for its precision processing and other leading advanced technologies.

Ota City is also currently designated as a comprehensive special zone for international competitiveness development under the “Special Zone for Asian Headquarters” neighboring airport vacant lot international strategy; in cooperation with Tokyo Metropolis, Ota City is planning to form a base for widespread industrial exchange, to bring foreign businesses into its range of vision.

As for the concept of attracting multinational businesses to the Tokyo Metropolis, we aim to use the internationalization of Haneda Airport as a manifesto which will become a gateway to worldwide industrial partnership: “The Heisei Bridge to the World”.

In this era of globalization, the city is actively promoting intercity exchange with goals in industry and education, and intercultural community building in an aim to realize its “International City Ota” scheme.

2. Profile of Tadayoshi Matsubara, Mayor of Ota City

Graduated the Waseda University School of Law

Served on the Ota City Assembly (three terms)

Served on the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly (three terms)

Elected to Mayor of Ota City in April 2007

- Revised the “Ota City basic principles” for the first time in 25 years
- - Led Ota City in becoming the first municipality to set forth in its policies the basic vision of “Ota City: An International City with Community Energy”

Completed the Meiji University Graduate School of Governance Studies in 2009

Elected as Mayor of Ota City for second term in April 2011

- - Following the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, Ota City ensured the safety of its residents and was quick to support the disaster-stricken areas and victims by providing emergency relief goods and housing, even before the national government or Tokyo Metropolis, establishing and continuing an “Ota City style of support” made possible through collaboration between administration and residents, or the consolidation of “community energy”.

3. Initiatives on “International City Ota”

(1) The “International City Ota” scheme

The key phrases to community development in Ota City are “international city” and “community energy”. In its municipal international policy, the city sets forth that it will support collaboration between residents, neighborhood associations, and non-profit organizations under the belief that the “community energy” this generates will strengthen community ties and as a result energize the residents and invigorate the community, making Ota City an attractive place for foreigners who relish the experience of living in different countries amid the tradition of the country’s culture and lifestyle. It recognizes a close link between “international city” and “community energy”.

The number and percentage of foreign residents in Ota City have both increased over the past decade. And with Haneda Airport resuming service to international flights in 2010, the city has welcomed an expanding number of travelers to become a leading hub of global society in the 21st century. In the medium to long term, it expects a rising number of visitors from abroad. While this, along with a growth in number of foreign visitors, may bring the benefits of a thriving local economy and fostering an international sense in local residents, it also expects the risk of trouble emerging from differences in lifestyle and lack of mutual understanding as well as a decrease in labor market jobs for Japanese workers due to the surge in foreign manpower.

If these problems are only responded to after they emerge, then these responses will seem like they apply only to migrants. Even from the current stage where foreign resident numbers are low, Ota City will take the first offensive moves with policy making, looking to the future. This is the “International City Ota” which Ota is working towards. That pillar is “Exchange” and “Coexistence”.

(2) Situation related to intercultural policies in Ota City

- Conducted a survey of foreign residents in October 2009
 - Prior to devising a multicultural society promotion plan, examined the lifestyle-related circumstances, needs, and issues of both Japanese and foreign residents of Ota City.
- Set forth the Ota City Multicultural Society Promotion Plan in March 2010
 - Stipulated integrated, systematic measures to form an intercultural society embracing foreign residents under the “International City Ota” scheme through an exchange of views between residents and organizations and thereby deepening their understanding of interculturalism.
- Established the Interpeople Community Center in September 2010
 - Serves as a hub for promoting intercultural policy in Ota City, providing opportunities for exchange and study and equipped with functions for easy-to-access consultation.
 - Offers multilingual lifestyle consultation, dispatches translators and interpreters, and organizes Japanese language classes.
 - Executes events to promote understanding of interculturalism
- Established the Ota City Intercultural Promotion Council in November 2011.
 - This council has been established with the aim of materializing intercultural society in the city, and for the promotion of policy making through citizen participation. It is made up of experts, foreign residents and groups related to international exchange etc.

Shinjuku City Initiatives on Interculturalism

Hiroko Nakayama, Mayor of Shinjuku City

1. Mayor's Profile

Year elected as Mayor 2002 (Currently serving 3rd term)

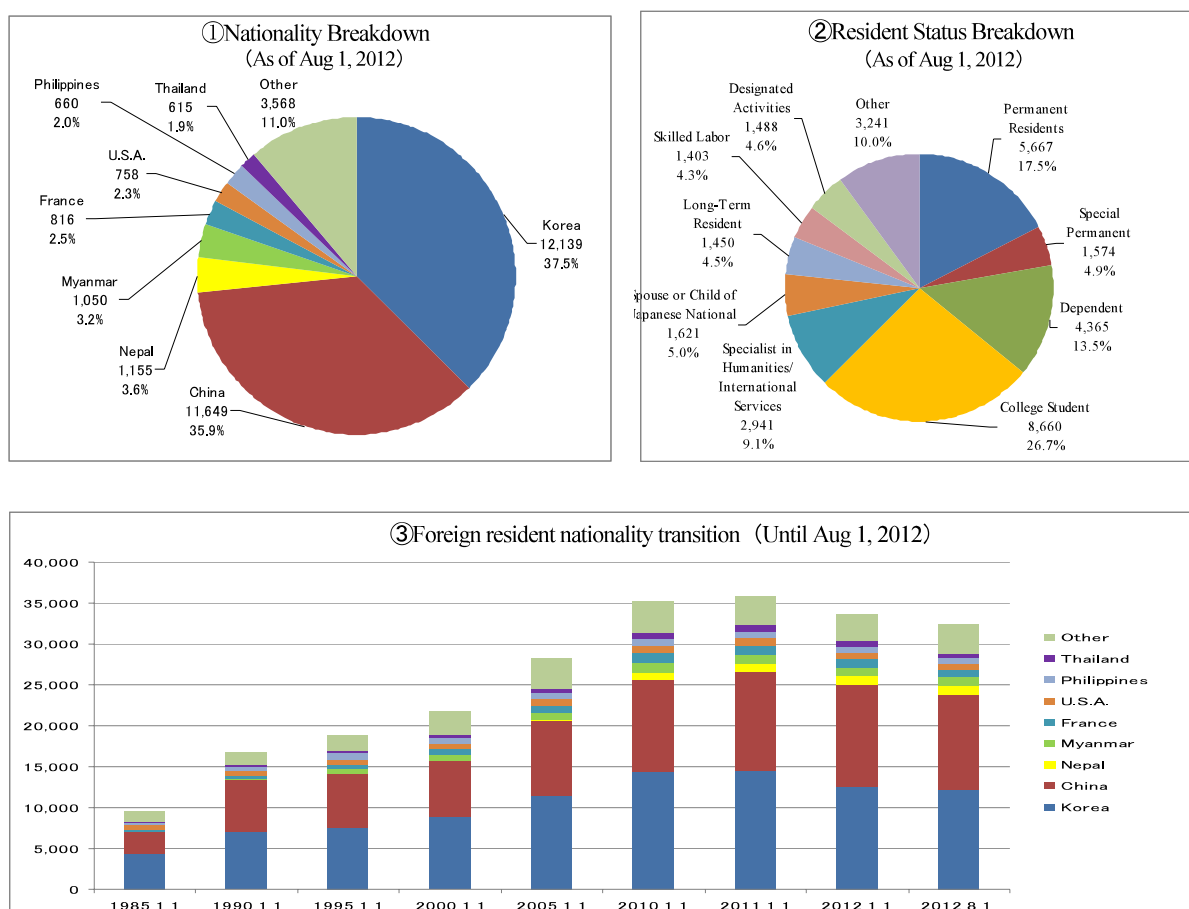
2. Outline of the City

(1) Outline

Shinjuku City is one of the 23 special wards of Tokyo Metropolis. The city is located approximately at the center of the metropolis, with a population of 319,218 and an area of 18.23 km². In the surroundings of Shinjuku Station, the busiest railway station in Japan which handles 3.5 million passengers per day, there is a bustling shopping and entertainment district outside of the station's east exit and an office district lined with skyscrapers in front of the station's west exit. *Ochiai*, a quiet residential neighborhood in the city and *Kagurazaka*, a neighborhood embedded with history and covered with stone pavements, reflect Shinjuku City's diverse features.

(2) Characteristic of the Foreign Population

Shinjuku City is formed by a variety of foreign resident communities. The foreign population of 32,410 people accounts for approximately 10.2% of the city's overall population, and there are approximately 114 nationalities registered in the city. The number of foreign residents has increased with the arrival of many "Newcomers" to the city since the 1980s. There are many foreign residents in the city aged in their 20s and 30s with a "college student" resident status. Residents from Korea and China make up 70% of the city's foreign population, however, in recent years, the number of foreign residents from Nepal and Myanmar is on an increasing trend.



3. Initiatives of Shinjuku City

(1) Interculturalism Direction

To capture Shinjuku City's special characteristic of having a large foreign population and transmit it out as a positive message.

To promote "Multicultural City Development", in which people from different ethnic groups or people who have different nationalities etc can understand and accept each other's cultural differences and live together.

(2) Special Initiatives

①Shinjuku City Multicultural Council

Established as an organization based on the city's ordinance. Intercultural issues are discussed and reflected in policies.

②Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

Established in September 2005 as a base for exchange between Japanese and foreign residents; the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza has been used by over 150,000 people to date. Activities which contribute to an intercultural society and international exchange are held, such as Japanese classes, provision of information in foreign languages, foreign language consultation, International exchange salons etc.

③Foreign Language Information Service

"Guidelines on Provision of Information to Foreign Residents", which standardized the method of providing information to foreign residents, was established in 2010, and is being implemented in Japanese (with kana), English, Chinese and Korean.

- 10 different information pamphlets covering themes such as "medical", "tax", "education", "disaster" etc.
- "Foreign Language Newsletter"/ "Foreign Language Homepage"
- Foreign residents participated in the creation of the guidebook, "Guide to Living in Shinjuku", which contains information about Japanese lifestyle rules and manners, living information etc. Copies are distributed to all foreign residents who move into the city.

④Consultation in Foreign Languages

Consultants who can speak English, Chinese and Korean are placed at the Shinjuku City Office to provide consultations during working hours.

Including the three languages listed above, consultations in Thai and Burmese are also available at the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza.

In addition, the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza is cooperating with Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau's "Consultation Support Center for Foreign Residents", which is located within the plaza.

⑤Japanese Language Study Support

【For Adults】

12 beginners' Japanese classes held at 10 locations including Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

【For Children】

Beginners' class / Japanese adjustment guidance / Classes conducted in native languages at schools etc.

(nurseries, kindergartens, elementary schools, junior high schools etc.) / After school study support / Night time Japanese class and study support 3 classrooms at 2 locations

⑥Multicultural Network

"Shinjuku Multicultural Society Coordinating Committee" meetings are held where information exchange and activity cooperation take place regarding intercultural issues.

Participants: Foreign resident communities, Foreign resident support organizations and NPOs, local residents from neighborhood associations etc., persons involved with merchant associations, Japanese volunteers, foreign resident consultants, persons using the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza.

Intercultural Initiatives in Hamamatsu City

Yasutomo Suzuki, Mayor of Hamamatsu

1. Mayor's Profile

Yasutomo Suzuki

Assumed office as Mayor of Hamamatsu City in 2007 (Currently serving his 2nd term)

Previous post: Member of the House of Representatives

2. Outline of Hamamatsu City

(1) Profile of the City

Hamamatsu City is located roughly in the center of Japan, has population of 820,000 people, a land area of 1,558 km² which is the second largest in Japan, and is a city blessed with an abundance of nature.

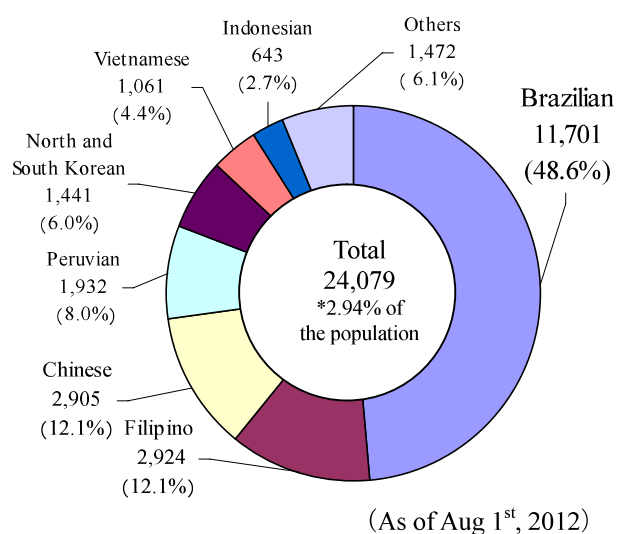
In 2007, Hamamatsu City was changed to a city designated by government ordinance, which holds a level of authority and budgeting similar to that of a prefecture. Also, Hamamatsu is one of Japan's prominent industrial hubs, being the birthplace of many internationally renowned companies such as Suzuki, Yamaha, Honda and Kawai etc. A characteristic of Hamamatsu is that with a background of such active economic activity, the city has many residents with vast overseas experience and many foreign residents sharing diverse cultures.

(2) Characteristic of Foreign Residents in the City

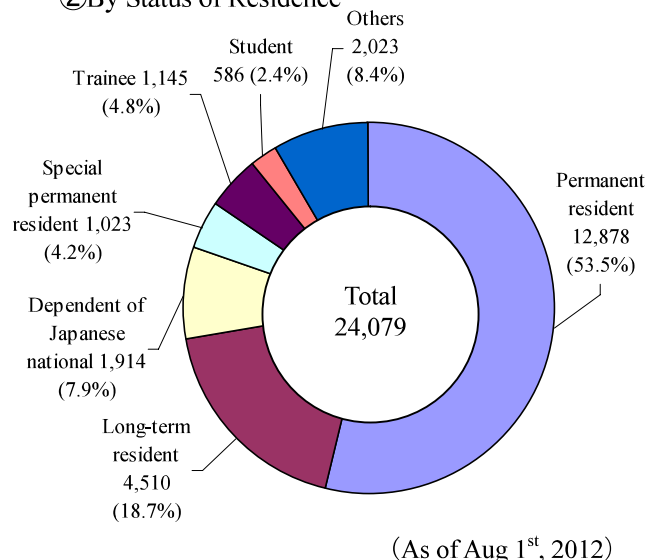
Hamamatsu has the largest number of Brazilian residents in all of Japan, and a characteristic of the city is that residents from Latin America account for approximately 60% of the city's total foreign population. An amendment to the Immigrant control act in 1990 led to a rapid increase in these Latin Americans, many of whom are of Japanese decent or come from families of Japanese descent. However, after the global financial crisis hit in 2008, the foreign resident population, which had been increasing prior to this, began to experience a decline. Meanwhile, settlement and multinationalization are progressing.

<Number of Foreign Residents>

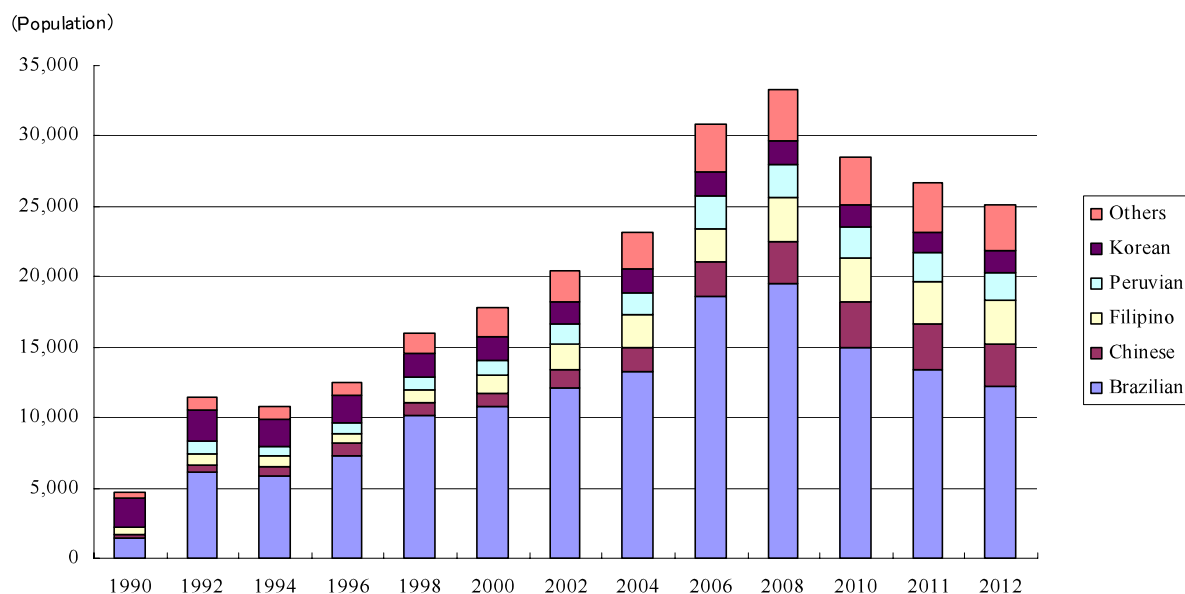
① By Nationality



② By Status of Residence



③Transition



3. Initiatives of Hamamatsu City

(1) Intercultural Direction

Hamamatsu City recognizes foreign residents as important partners in community development and actively promotes interculturalism with the aim of creating a true cohesive society based on respect of rights and fulfillment of obligations, while Japanese residents and foreign residents deepen understanding of one another's culture and values.

(2) Distinctive Initiatives

①Establishment of the Council of Municipalities with a Large Migrant Population

Hamamatsu has been actively involved with intercultural policy, leading the way for local authorities nationwide. However, issues stemming from legal and regulatory problems are difficult to resolve by the city alone.

Thus, Hamamatsu approached other cities with large populations of Latin Americans of Japanese descent, and established the "Committee for Localities with a Concentrated Foreign Population" in 2001. This committee exchanges information on policies and issues related to interculturalism, and continually makes policy proposals to the national government.

②Hamamatsu Multicultural Center / Hamamatsu Foreign Resident Study Support Center

Hamamatsu City develops multicultural policies through two base institutions, the "Hamamatsu Multicultural Center" which is engaged in initiatives supporting the lives of foreign residents, such as multilingual living consultation, and the "Hamamatsu Foreign Resident Study Support Center", which is engaged in learning and support initiatives for both adults and children.

Further, both centers have a characteristic of being operated through collaborative efforts of non-profit organizations, volunteers, and local institutions.

③Hamamatsu Foreign Residents Council

In Hamamatsu, in order to bring the opinions of foreign residents to municipal administration, and to

stimulate foreign residents in becoming more involved with initiatives in tackling problems relating to foreign residents, the “Hamamatsu Foreign Residents Council” was established under ordinance. The council includes 8 foreign resident members and investigates and discusses consultations by the mayor every two years, and reports on its findings.

④Support for Foreign Resident Children

In Japan, there is no obligation imposed on foreign resident guardians to enroll their children into schools, and in reality, education for foreign resident children is based on the decision of the family. In Hamamatsu, public schools actively accept enrolment of foreign resident children, and as educational support for these children, the city dispatches bilingual supporters and holds Japanese and native language classes etc.

In addition, there are 4 foreign resident schools in Hamamatsu which have received approval from national governments of the respective South American countries, and together with public schools in the city, they have become important bases for the education of foreign resident children.

For this reason, together with providing subsidies for foreign resident children to purchase textbooks and dispatching Japanese language teachers in foreign resident schools, subsidies are granted to foreign resident schools which have been approved by the prefecture.

Furthermore, the “Zero School Refusal in Foreign Resident Children Project” was implemented in 2011 as a three year plan to eliminate school refusal in foreign resident children, along with generating schemes to prevent foreign resident children from not attending school.

(3) Formulation of the Hamamatsu Intercultural City Vision

Up until now, Hamamatsu’s responses to the rapid increase of migrants since 1990 have been centered on policies supporting foreign residents. As globalization leads to the progression of diversification and settlement of foreign residents, together with linking cultural diversity to activation of the city and city vitality, both Japanese residents and foreign residents need to work together in implementing city development initiatives as members of the same community.

In order to share these principles with citizens and to put them into practice, the (tentative name) “Hamamatsu Intercultural City Vision” (to be implemented from April 2013) is currently being drawn up.

Minokamo City

1. Outline of Minokamo City

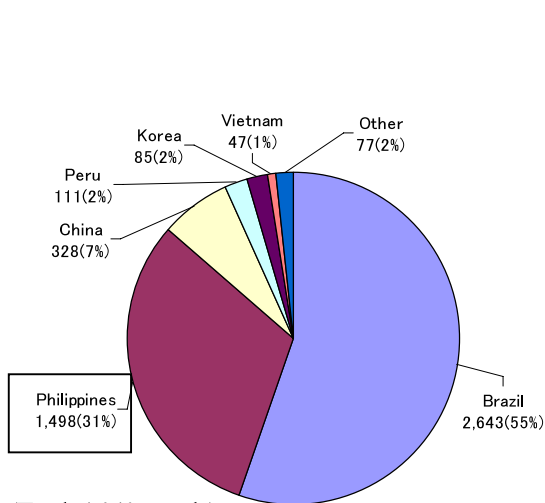
Minokamo City is located in the southern part of Gifu Prefecture, with the Hida River flowing to the east of the city, and the Kiso River flowing to the south. The city holds a population of 55,505 people (as of April 1st 2012), and a land area of 74.81 square kilometers.

The downtown area stretches from the central part to the southern part of Minokamo. Nakasendo, one of the 5 major thoroughfares of the Edo Period ran through the city, and the city flourished as Ota-juku, one of the stations along the thoroughfare. The former Ota Hayashiya Honjin House, a designated cultural property, still stands today and recalls those times. Minokamo is also the birthplace of Tsubouchi Shoyo, a pioneer in Japanese modern literature who strived for the establishment of a new national theatrical drama. Cultural activities dedicated to Shoyo also flourish in Minokamo. The city center is a hilly area, and there are sprawling orchards of pear trees and grape vines. Further, the “Dogyo Hachiya Permissions”, which were presented to the Tokugawa Shogunate, were recognized as a world heritage food in 2007. The north part of the city is abundant with nature, and in summer you can see the dancing forms of Luciola (Japanese Fireflies).

Businesses like the Sony EMCS Corporation, Hitachi Joei Tech Co., Ltd., Yamazaki Mazak Corporation etc. operate in the Minokamo, and there are factories producing food and steel products at an industrial complex in the center of the city.

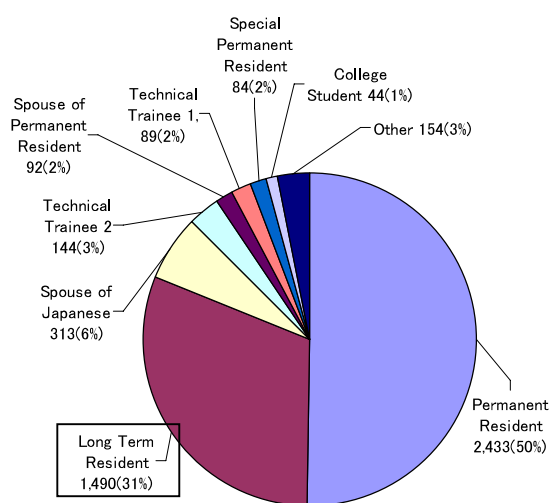
2. Current situation of foreign residents

(1) Breakdown of nationalities (As of April 1st, 2012)



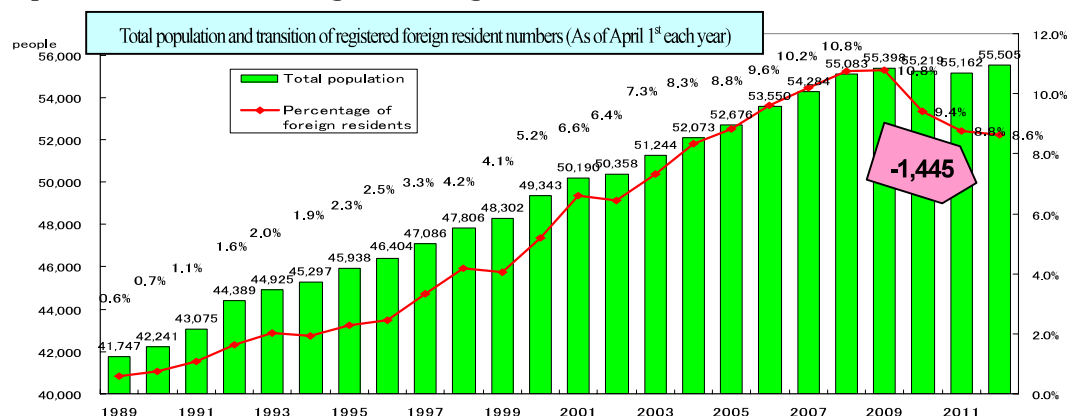
(Total: 4,843 people)

(2) Breakdown of residence statuses (As of April 1st, 2012)



(Total: 4,843 people)

(3) Population and transition of registered foreign resident numbers



4. Initiatives of Minokamo City

(1) Policies based on the Multicultural Community Promotion Plan

Promotion of Multiculturalism is placed under “Community Building for Permanent Pleasant Living”, which comes under “Circle of Friends”, of the 3rd basic goal of “Minokamo City’s 5th Comprehensive Plan”. For the purpose of “Creating a community where everyone can live together, regardless of differences in culture or nationality”, the “Multicultural Community Promotion Plan” (5 year plan: 2009-2013) was created, and the city is implementing initiatives in cooperation with government, local society, and the economic world.

(2) Concrete Initiatives

①Communication Support (Transmission of Information)

There are 8 interpreters at city hall, and they interpret for any foreign residents who come to complete procedures at city hall. Correspondence is provided in Portuguese, English and Tagalog.

Also, English and Portuguese versions of the Minokamo homepage have been established, and city information is transmitted from here. There is also a video introducing administrative procedures etc.

Other than these, there is a Portuguese City Bulletin, a Living Guidebook, an administrative procedures DVD, and there is a collection of books in foreign languages in the library.

②Communication Support (Japanese)

NPOs have been entrusted to hold Japanese language classes, and these take place twice per week. Also, employment preparation training, a department of labor and welfare project ran by JICE, has been in effect for the benefit of Nikkei foreign residents since 2010.

③Lifestyle Support (Education System)

There are early adjustment guidance classes for children with international roots (a project by the Ministry of Education Sports Science and Technology), and an after school learning support project (entrusted with NPOs) etc. taking place.

④Lifestyle Support (Other)

There are devices in place, which in cooperation with other offices and public institutions support the lives of foreign residents in areas such as the employment environment, medical treatment and health, welfare, crime prevention, road safety, and disaster prevention etc.

⑤Multicultural Community Development (Education and enlightenment for the local community)

A round table discussion promoting multiculturalism in areas with a large concentration of foreign residents has been opened (District multiculturalism promotion committee). This initiative began in 2008 and is not just for the foreign residents of the district, but representatives of both Japanese and foreign resident groups are also involved.

⑥Multicultural Community Development (Foreign resident independence and participation in city planning)

NPOs have been entrusted with the implementation of Japanese language classes, lifestyle consultation for foreign residents living in the community, and job seeking support. The “Permanent Foreign Resident Independence Support Center” is a base for these activities.

⑦Maintenance of the multicultural promotion system

As a city, we participate in the Council of Municipalities with a Large Migrant Population, and in order to have various local problems that clearly exist resolved, information exchange relating to the city’s initiatives and policies relating to foreign residents takes place. The “Multicultural Promotion City Hall Correspondence Committee” comprises of a team of 12 city hall staff, whose duties relate to supporting the lives of foreign residents. The committee promotes multicultural policy and coordinates correspondence. The “Multicultural Promotion Committee” manages the progression of the multicultural plan. This committee is made up of 11 people from the foreign resident community, the international exchange association and some publicly recruited citizens.

There is also the “One World Committee” which promotes unified activities and cooperation with various groups conducting activities relating to multiculturalism.