

The System and Internationalization of Japanese Higher Education

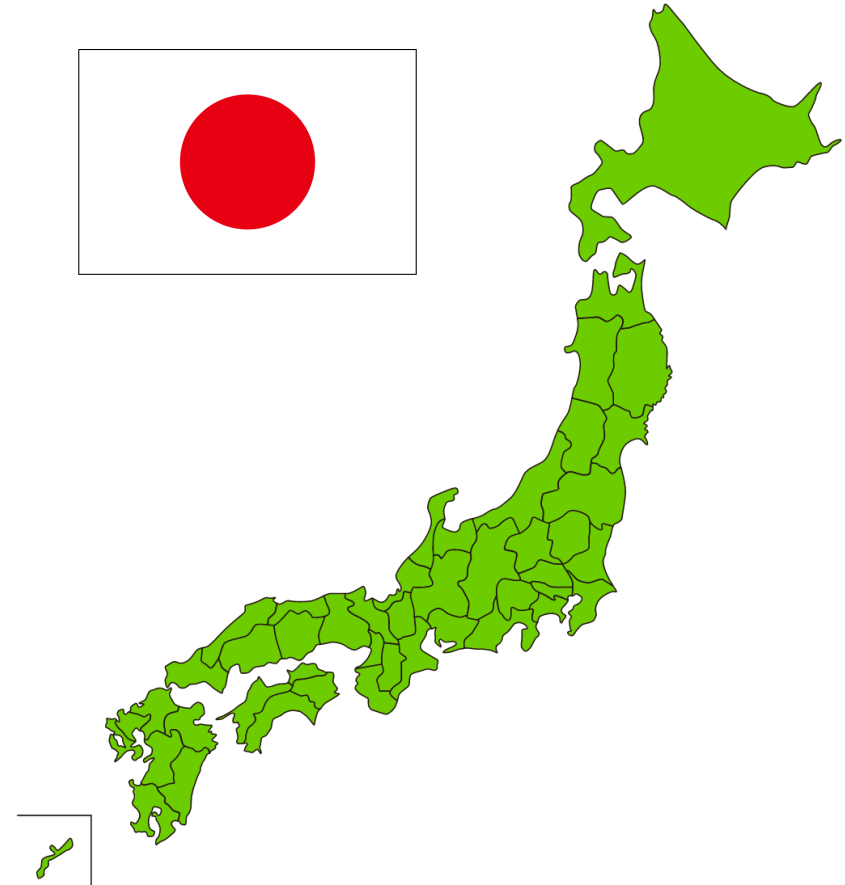
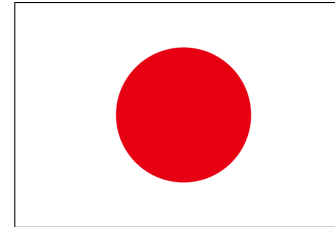
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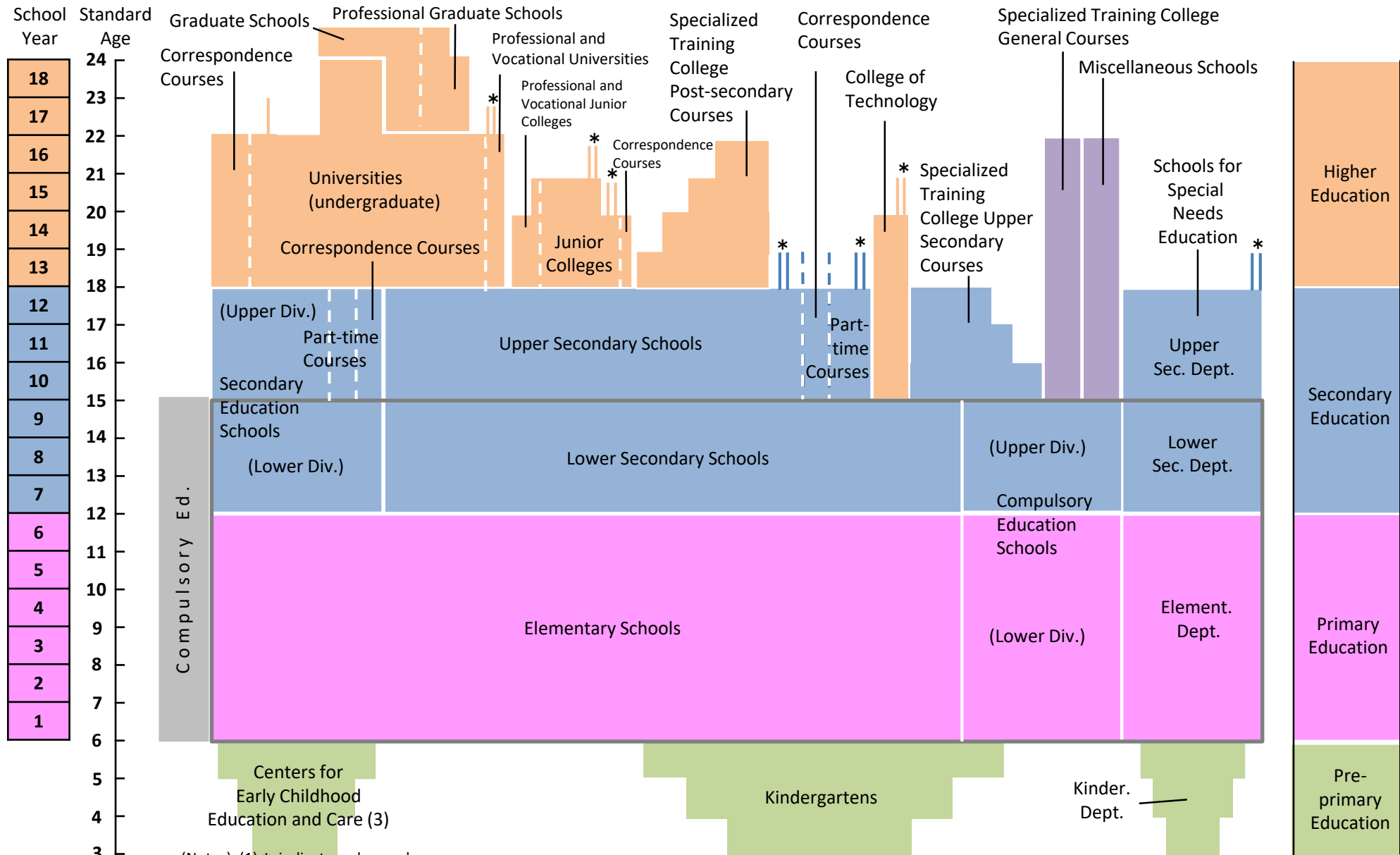
1. Overview of Higher Education System in Japan

Basic Information about Japan

Country	Japan
Capital	Tokyo
Major Language	Japanese
Total Population (2019)	126,309,690
Land area	377,900 km ²
Prefectures	47
GDP (2017)	4,872 billion USD
GDP per Capita (2017)	38,220 USD



Organization of the School System in Japan



(Notes) (1) * indicates advanced courses

(2) Upper secondary schools, upper division of Secondary Education Schools, universities, junior colleges, and upper secondary department of Schools for Special Needs Education can have separate courses with course terms of 1 year or more.

(3) A child aged from 0 to 2 years old can attend the center because it functions as school and child welfare.

(4) Age and admission requirements for Specialized Training College General Courses and Miscellaneous Schools are not defined uniformly.

Information about Higher Education

▪ Number of Higher Education Institutions (2020)

Total	Universities	Other Institutions		
		Those with Graduate Schools	Junior Colleges	Colleges of Technology
1,175	795	643	323	57

▪ Number of Students (2020)

Total	Undergraduate			Graduate			Others	
		Female	Female Ratio		Female	Female Ratio		
3,080,686	2,623,900	1,193,537	45.5%	254,585	83,008	32.6%	202,201	
	85.2%						8.3%	6.6%

▪ Number of Faculty Members (2020)

Universities : **189,498**

Source : School Basic Survey FY 2020 (Bulletin results)

*excluding "major course," "special course" and "other courses" students.

Information about Higher Education

▪ Academic year

Month	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3
Semester	Spring Semester						Fall Semester					
Quarter	1st Period		2nd Period		3rd Period		4th Period					

▪ Standard Periods of Degree Courses

Bachelor's	Master's	Doctoral
4 years	2 years	5 years*

* Some doctoral programs divide their curriculum into the first two years' Master's level and the following three years' Doctoral level.

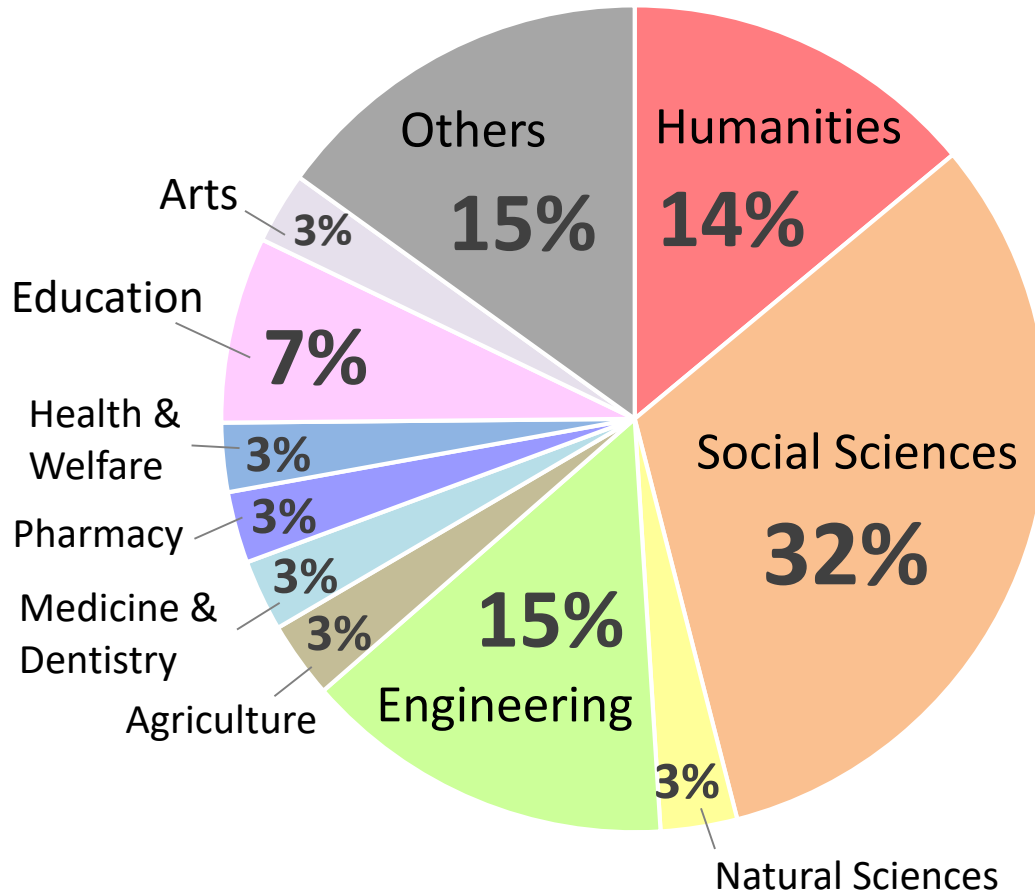
▪ First-Time Entry Rates by Tertiary Level (below the age of 25, 2018)

Overall	Junior College Level	Undergraduate Level	Master's Level	Doctoral Level
72.6%	21.1%	49.6%	7.5%	7.0%

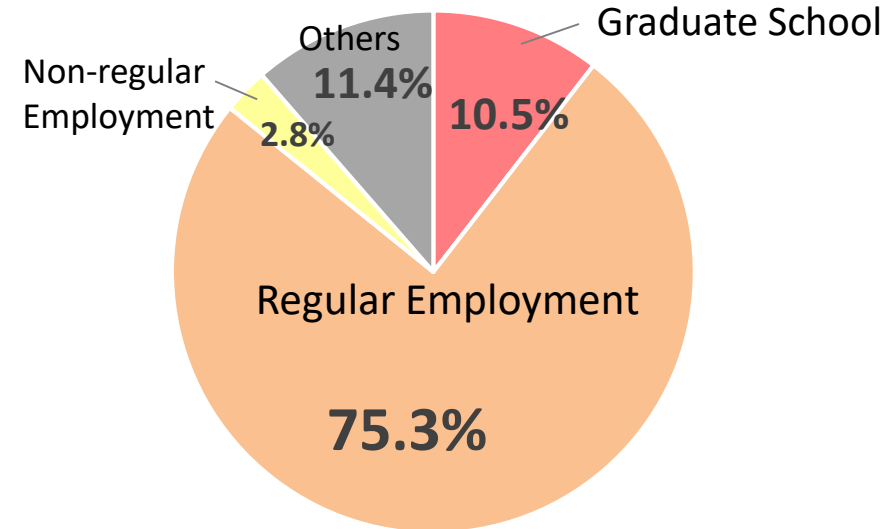
Source: OECD, Education at a Glance 2020

Information about Higher Education

- Field of Study of Undergraduate Students (2019)



- Career of Undergraduate Students after Graduation (2019)



- Total expenditure on tertiary educational institutions per student (2017)

18,839 USD

Source: School Basic Survey FY 2019

OECD, Education at a Glance 2020

2. Internationalization of universities and promotion of student mobility

Promotion of student exchanges and the internationalization of universities for the fostering of global human resources

1. Strengthening the global capacity of university education

(1) Internationalization of university system

(FY 2020 budget: 3.302 billion yen)

Top Global University Project



Support to Japanese universities leading internationalization in order to improve the international competitiveness of Japanese higher education and foster global human resources.

(2) Internationalization of education programs

(FY 2020 budget: 1.196 billion yen)

Inter-University Exchange Project

Support for initiatives to form collaborative international educational programs and networks promoting student exchanges with academic quality assurance.

Africa

Collaborative Programs
1.3 million US\$ for
5~7 NEW programs

Asia

Collaborative Programs
3.8 million US\$ for
25 programs

EU

Joint Master Degree
Programs 1.4 million
US\$ for **3 programs**

USA

Collaborative Programs
using COIL-style education
2.0 million US\$ for **10 programs**

Russia, India etc.

Collaborative Programs
2.2 million US\$ for
11 programs

2. Enhancement of university student exchange programs

(1) Support for university student exchange programs

(FY 2020 budget: 7.951 billion yen)

In order to give all young people with the desire and capability an opportunity to study abroad and double the number of Japanese students studying abroad (from 60,000 to **120,000** students), MEXT is promoting the activities of the "**Tobitate! (Leap for Tomorrow)**" program, a campaign for fostering the desire of young people to study abroad, as well as providing **financial support** to students aiming for a long-term study abroad to obtain a degree.

(2) Strategic acceptance of excellent international students

(FY 2020 budget: 26.106 billion yen)

To secure excellent international students and realize the "Plan for **300,000** International Students," MEXT is promoting the acceptance of international students by supporting **initiatives contributing to international students' employment** in Japan while thoroughly ensuring their enrollment at universities, etc., based on the "**Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence with Foreign Nationals,**" as well as by strengthening efforts for publicizing overseas the **attractiveness** of studying in Japan.

Inter-University Exchange Project

— Support for the Creation of Collaborative Programs with Universities in Africa —

Background

The needs for inter-university exchanges with Africa are high, and already collaboration and exchange agreements between universities are advancing. In order to accelerate these moves, it will be important to strategically promote these inter-university and student exchanges with quality assurance between Japan and Africa.

Overview

Aiming to develop human resources who will contribute to the creation of international inter-university networks in Africa and their sustainable growth.

- Contribute to improving university research capabilities by promoting exchanges at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Inter-University Exchange Programs

Project period up to 5 years (FY 2020–FY 2024)

Type A (exchange type)

4 programs

Start-ups

Starting inter-university exchanges with Africa or supporting efforts just started and developing and conducting education/research programs with quality assurance.

Accelerating, advancing programs

Further advancing inter-university exchanges that have already begun, and building high-quality and advanced education / research programs

Dispatch of students

Acceptance of students

Type B (exchange type, platform-building type)

1 program

Taking on secretariat functions for the exchange of information, networking and strategic dissemination of outcomes.

Relevant ministries, embassies of African countries

Inter-university networks
University-related organizations

National, public, private universities

Business organizations
Companies

NGOs
NPOs

International organizations

Outcomes

- ✓ Creation of international inter-university networks
- ✓ Development, establishment of quality-assured education programs
- ✓ Increase in numbers of students who wish to become researchers or join international organizations

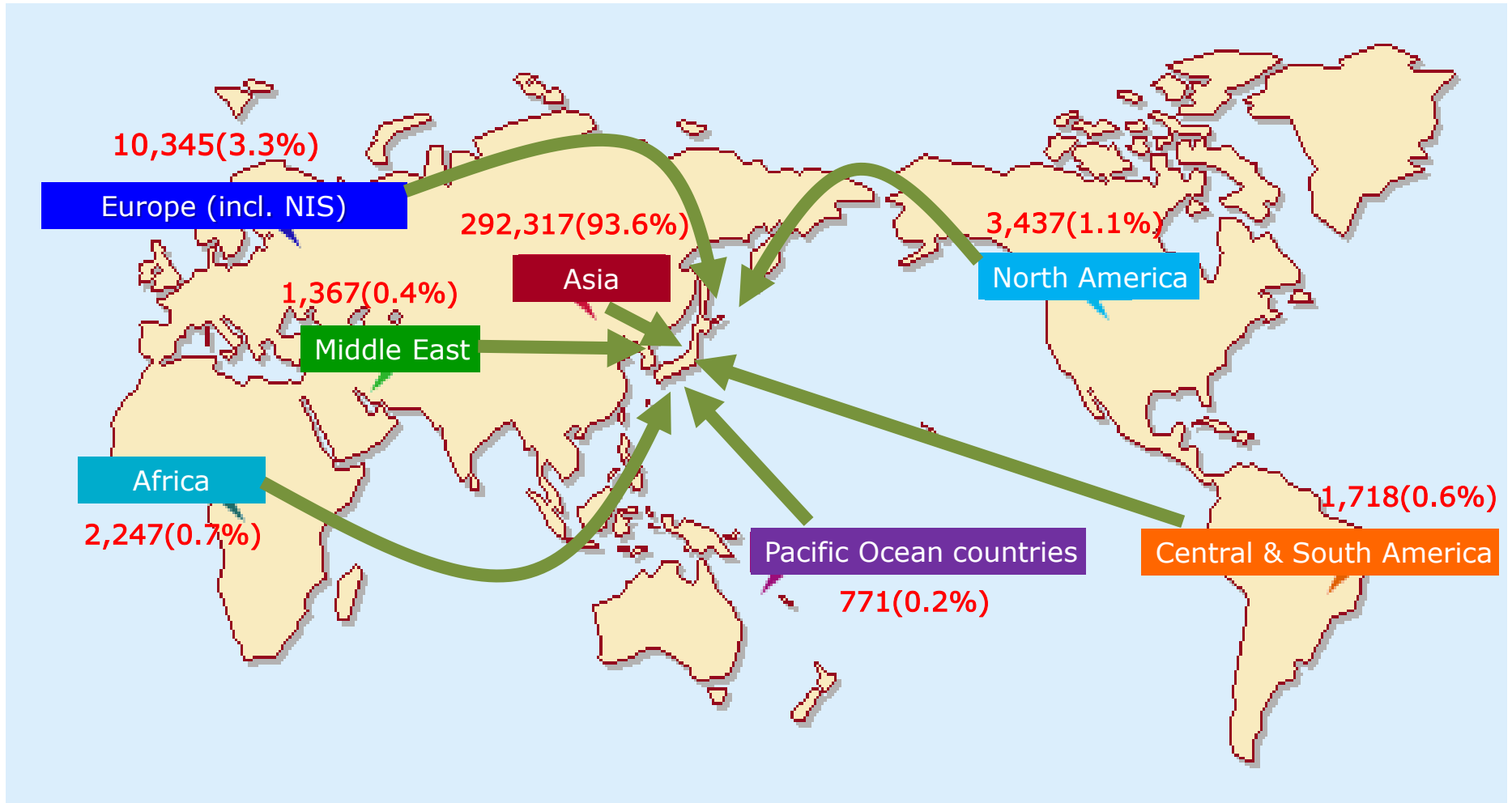
Impact on society

- **Creation of human networks**
 - Activities of global HR contributing to growth of world
- **Impact on society and economy**
 - International exchanges leading to international joint research and creation of science and technology innovation
 - Business-level exchanges, development of business bases
 - Contribute to exporting of government infrastructure, etc.
- **Strengthening of ties with important countries, regions, promotion of mutual understanding among citizens**

International Students Studying in Japan (Overview)

Total number of students : 312,214

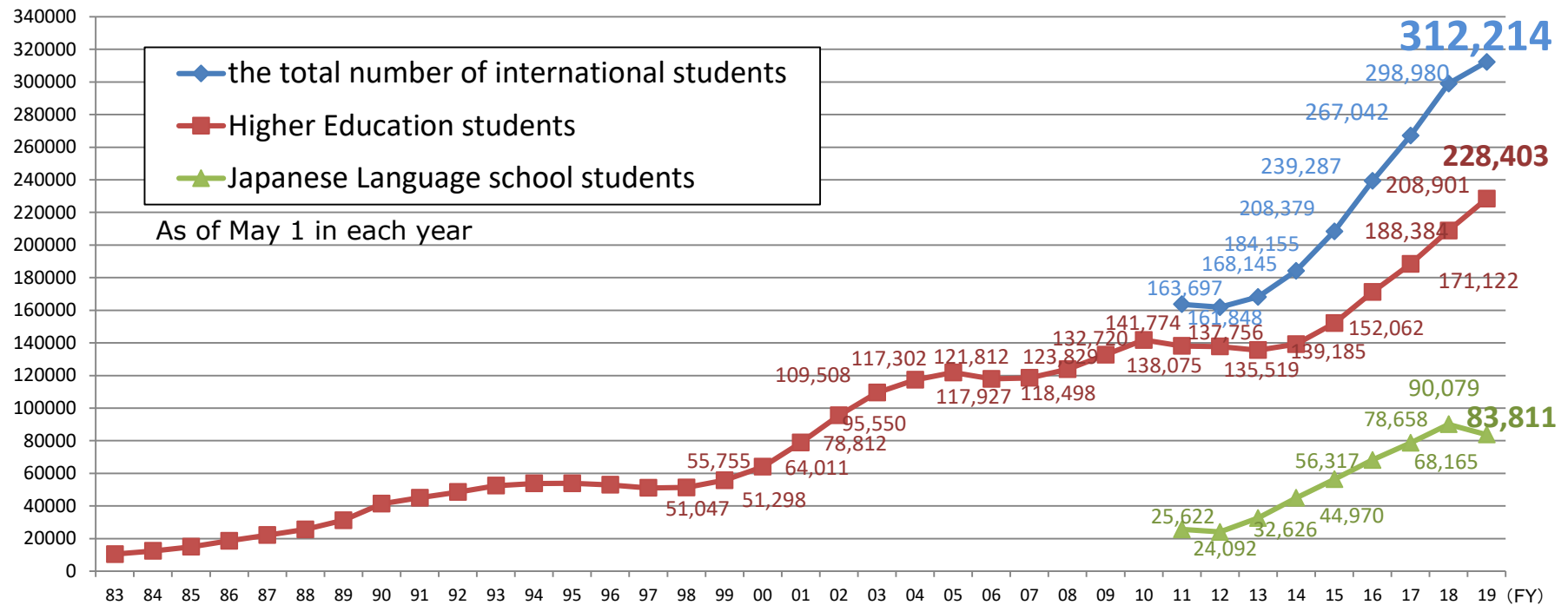
(As of May 1,2019)



Source: Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)

International Students Studying in Japan

(Number of students)



※In accordance with the unification of student visas, the total number of international students including Japanese language institutes is also drawn since 2011.

(As of May 1, 2019)

Country	The number of International Students (Last year)	Year over Year	Country	The number of International Students (Last year)	Year over Year
China	124,436 (114,950)	9,486	Indonesia	6,756 (6,277)	479
Viet Nam	73,389 (72,354)	1,035	Myanmar	5,383 (5,928)	△545
Nepal	26,308 (24,331)	1,977	Thailand	3,847 (3,962)	△115
South Korea	18,338 (17,012)	1,326	Bangladesh	3,527 (3,640)	△113
Taiwan	9,584 (9,524)	60	Others	36,933 (36,313)	620
Sri Lanka	7,240 (8,329)	△1,089	Total	312,214 (298,980)	13,234

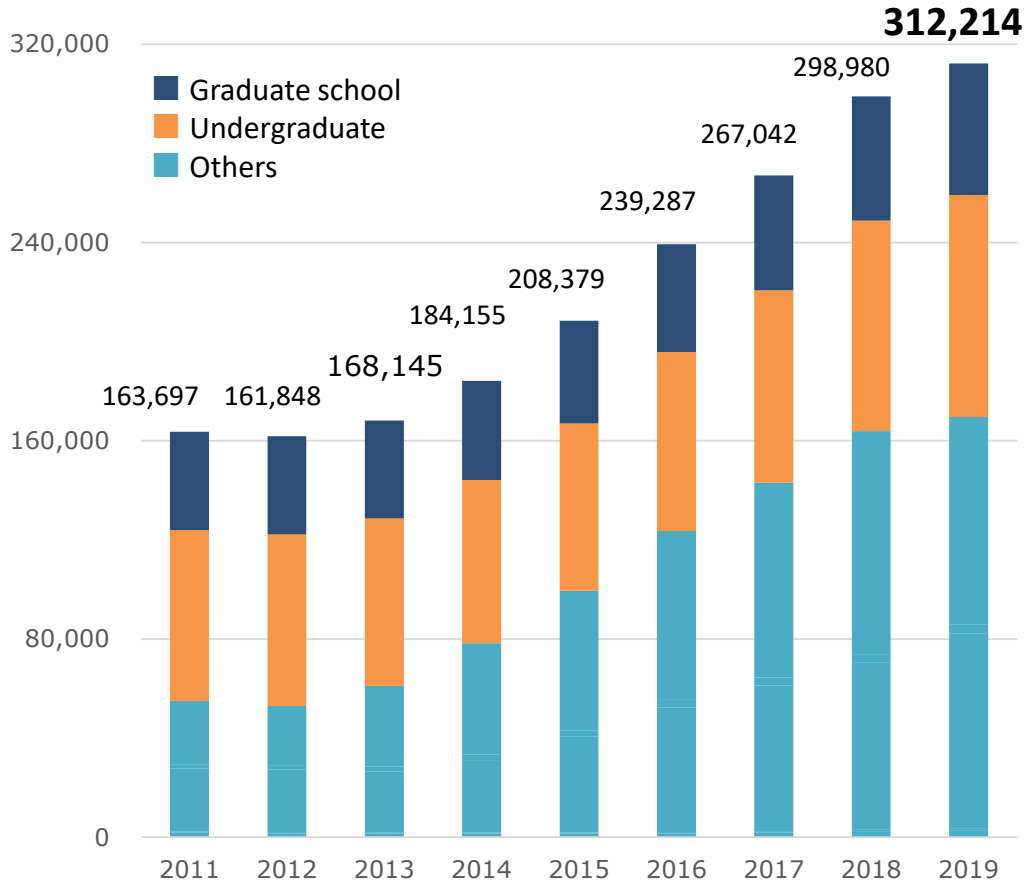
Source: Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)

Situation of international student exchange (Inbound)

- ◆ The majority of international students are undergraduates and from Asian countries, whilst national universities have more graduate students.
- ◆ Around 35% of them find a job in companies in Japan after graduation or completion.

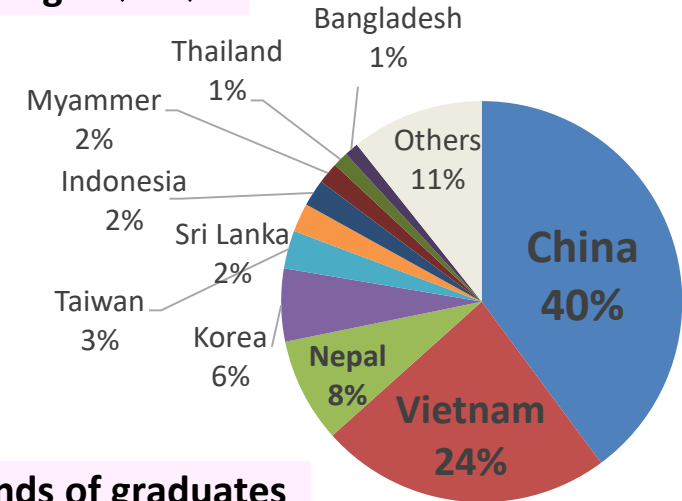
Inbound

[Source] survey on international student enrollment (JASSO)



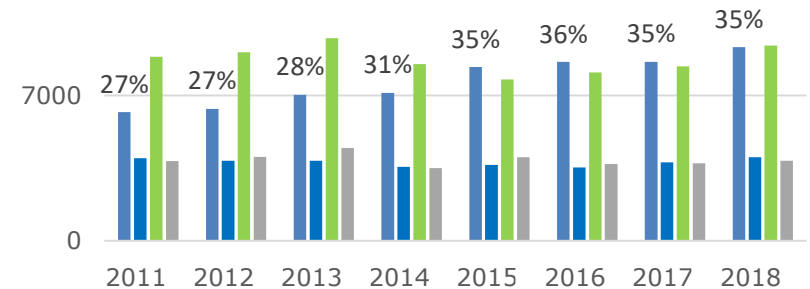
※Others includes junior college, colleges of technology, specialized training colleges, university preparatory courses and Japanese language institutes.

Country of origin (2019)



Career trends of graduates

- Number of those employed in Japan
- Number of students bound for a graduate school in Japan
- Number of those employed or enrolled in the home country
- Others (Preparation for job hunting or further education, etc.)

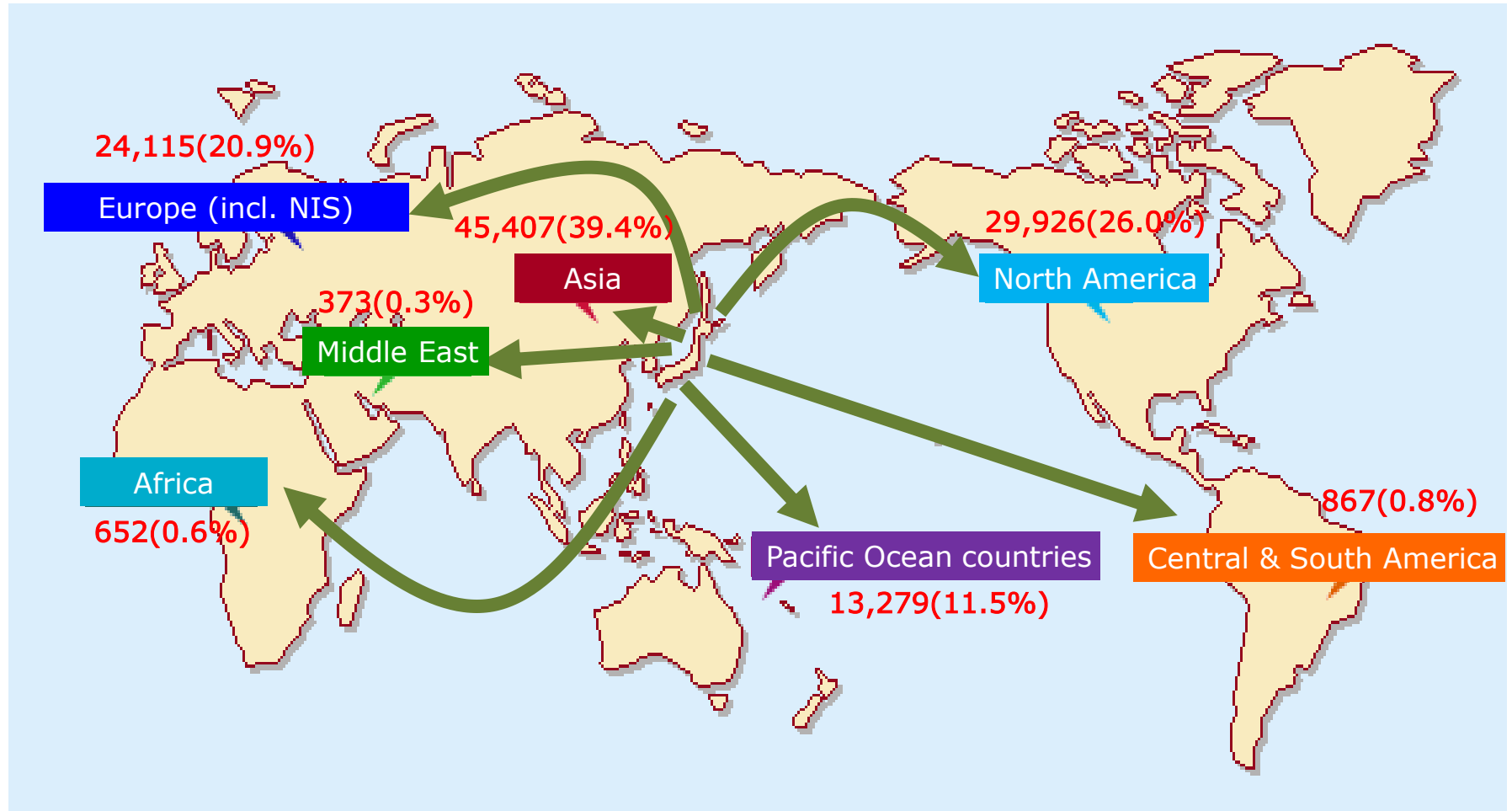


Japanese Students Studying Abroad

(Number of Exchange Agreements and Japanese Students Studying Abroad)

Total number of students : 115,146

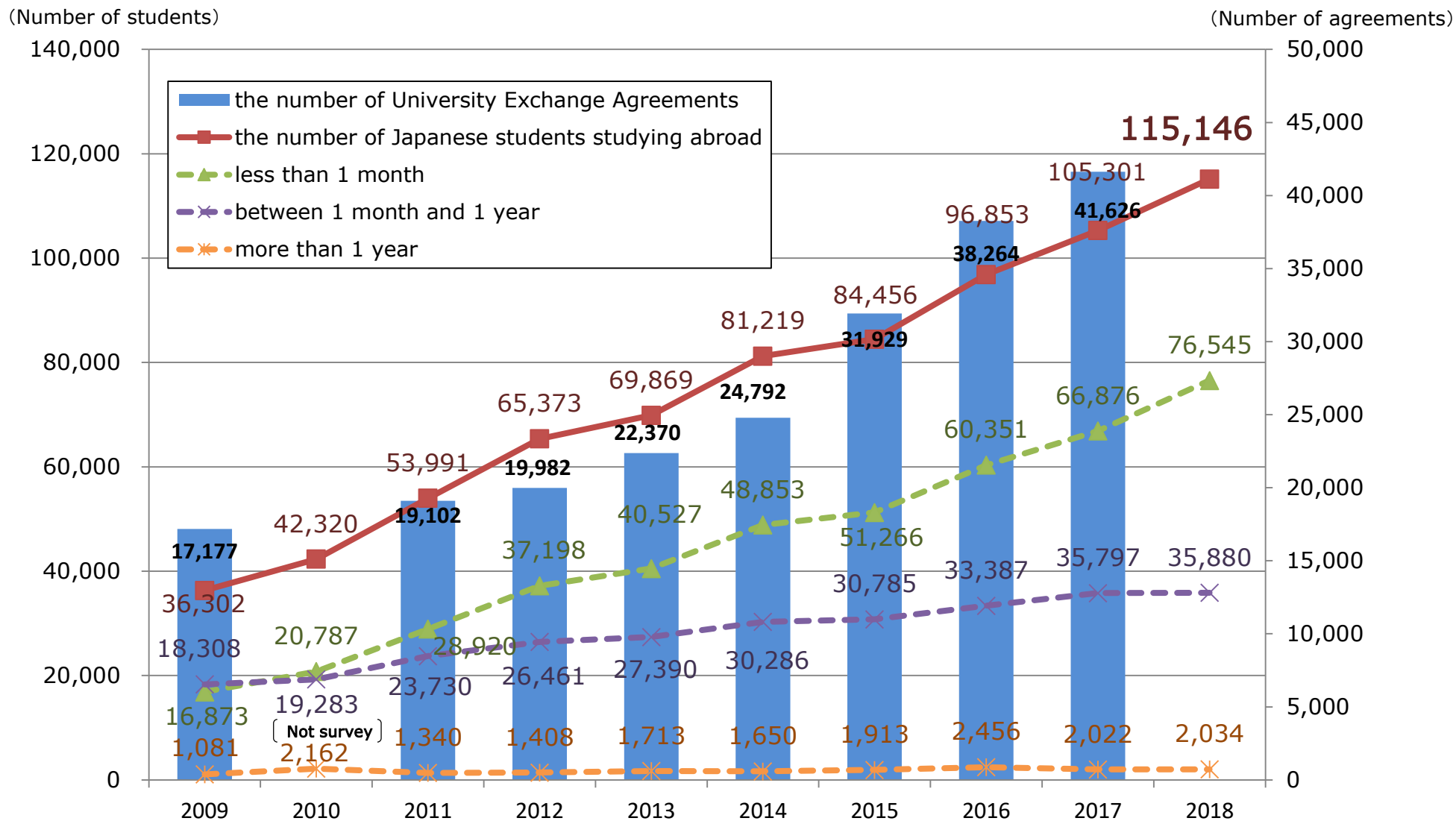
(FY2018)



Source: Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)

Japanese Students Studying Abroad

(Number of Exchange Agreements and Japanese Students Studying Abroad)



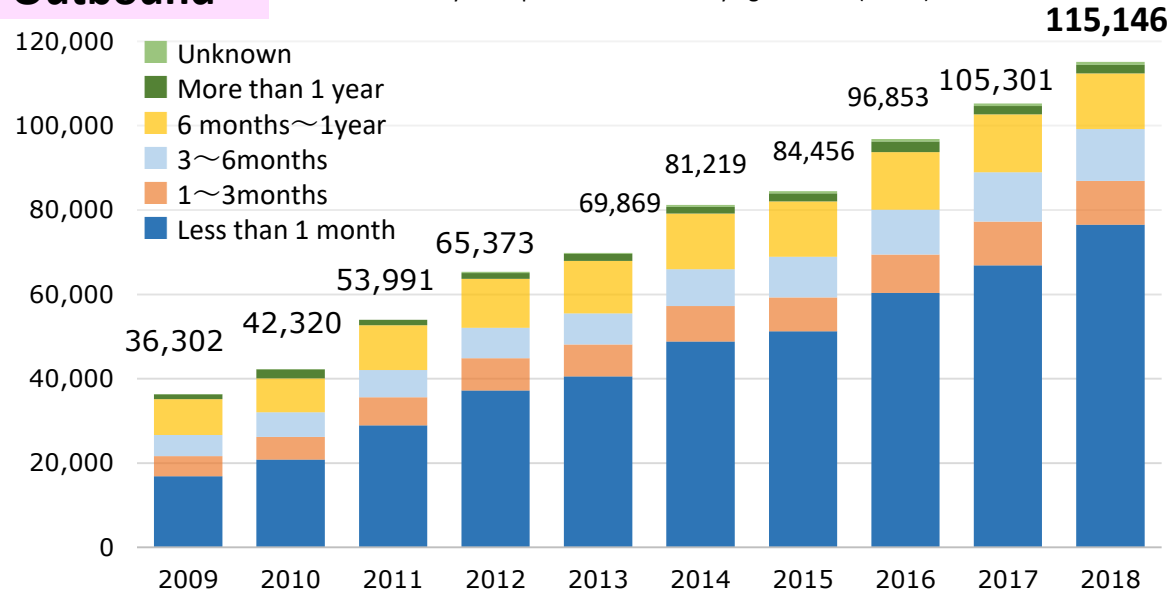
Source: Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO), MEXT

Situation of international student exchange (Outbound)

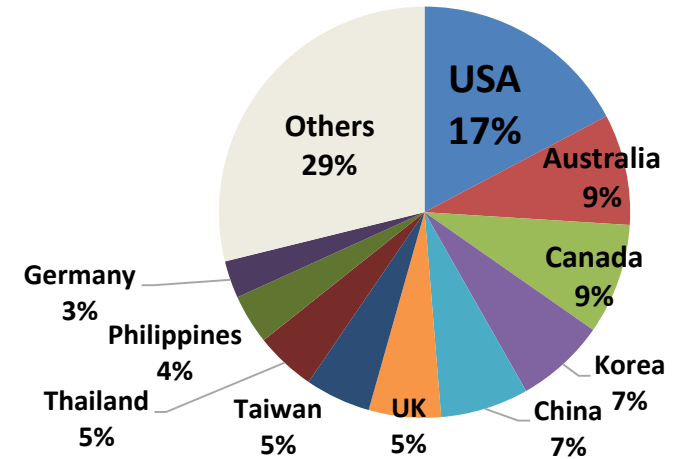
◆ The number of Japanese students studying abroad based on an exchange agreement has increased more than threefold in the last 10 years. However, the majority are short-term which is less than 6 months.

Outbound

【Source】 survey for Japanese student studying overseas (JASSO)

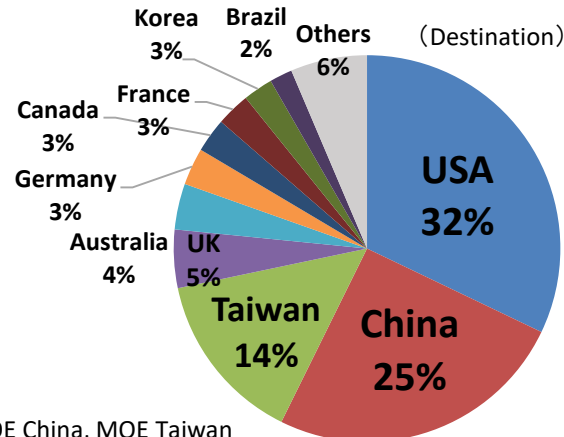


Destination (FY 2018)



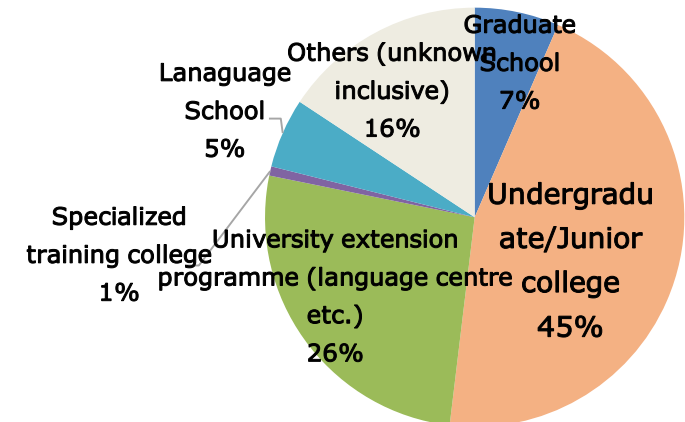
【Reference: No. of Japanese student enrolled at university etc. overseas】

There were 58,000 Japanese students enrolled at overseas universities aiming to obtain a degree in 2017 and the number remains at the same level in recent years. More than half of the students choose to stay in the USA or China as their destination.



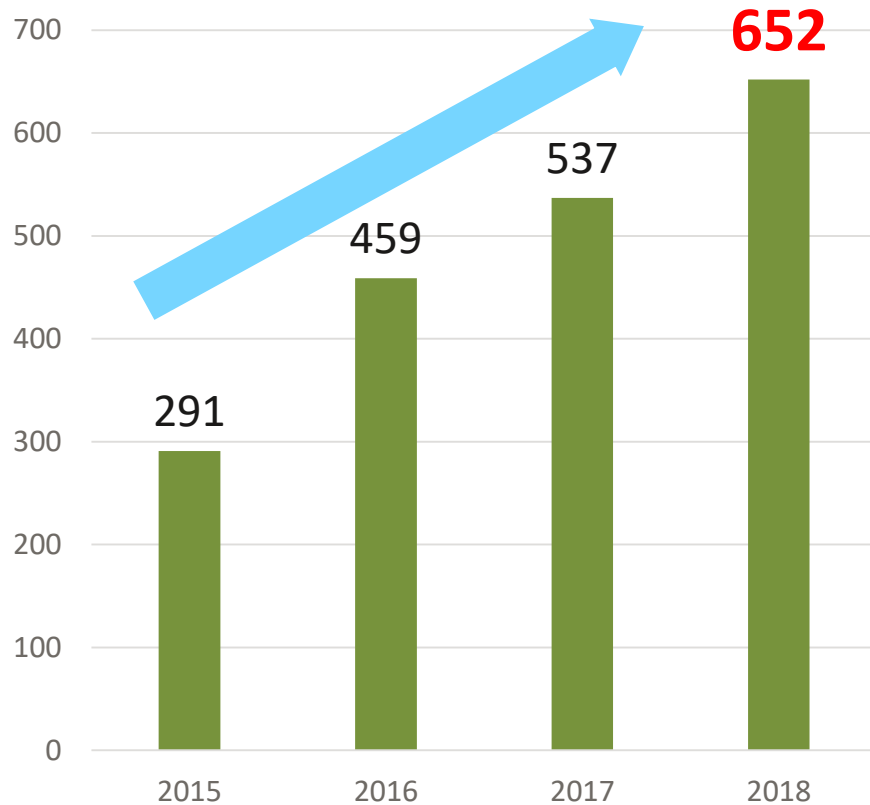
Sources : OECD, UNESCO Institute for Statistics, IIE, MOE China, MOE Taiwan

Study Programme (FY 2018)

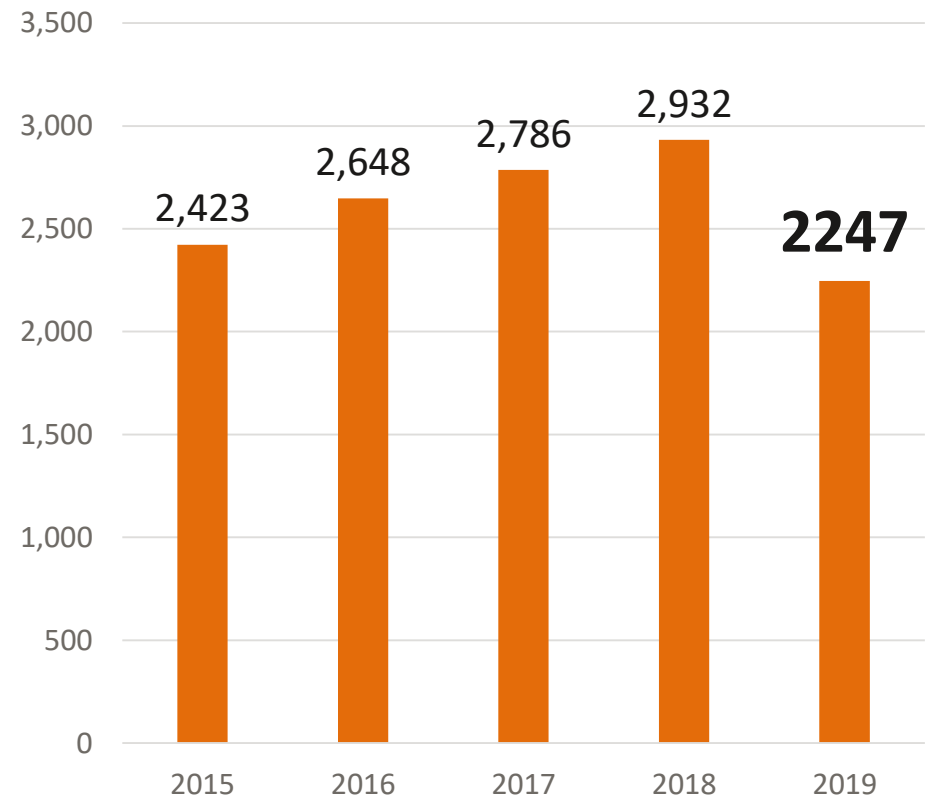


Expansion of Student Exchange within Africa

Japan to Africa



Africa to Japan



Source: Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)

Encouraging Int'l Students to Study in Japan

-Further Promotion of International Students



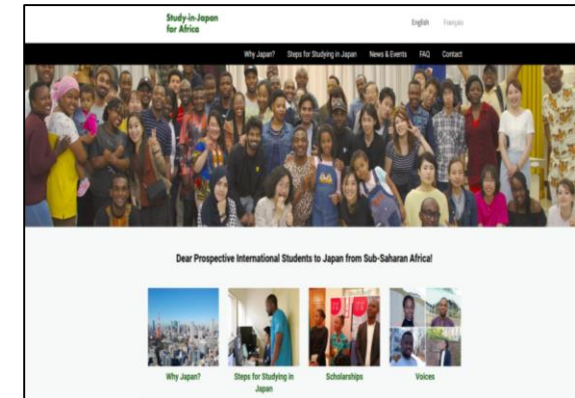
STUDY in JAPAN

Providing information to international students

● Study in Japan Global Network Project

Established Study in Japan **Regional Offices** in **6 regions** to promote

- **Information collection** and **dissemination** for study in Japan;
- International student **recruitment**; and
- **Networking** of former international students in Japan



<Sub-Saharan Africa (Hokkaido University office in Lusaka, Zambia) >

<https://www.studyin-japan-africa.com/>

● Website development

Cooperates with JASSO (Gateway to Study in Japan) and MOFA **to provide some information** about Student Exchange Programs

<https://www.studyin-japan.go.jp/en/>



Scholarships for International Students

MEXT Scholarships

- Provide a wide range of scholarship programs for mainly **degree seeking students** (covers full duration necessary for the degree)
- Mainly **graduate** school level
- FY 2020 budget : **18.5 billion yen, 11,473 students**
- 117,000 yen-145,000 yen/month ※The amounts is different depending on the level of study and the area.

MEXT Honors Scholarships for Privately Financed International Students

- Provide grants for privately financed students **with good academic records** for **1 year**
- FY 2020 budget : **3.5 billion yen, 7,400 students**
- 30,000 yen-48,000 yen/month ※The amounts is different depending on the level of study.

Student Exchange Support Program

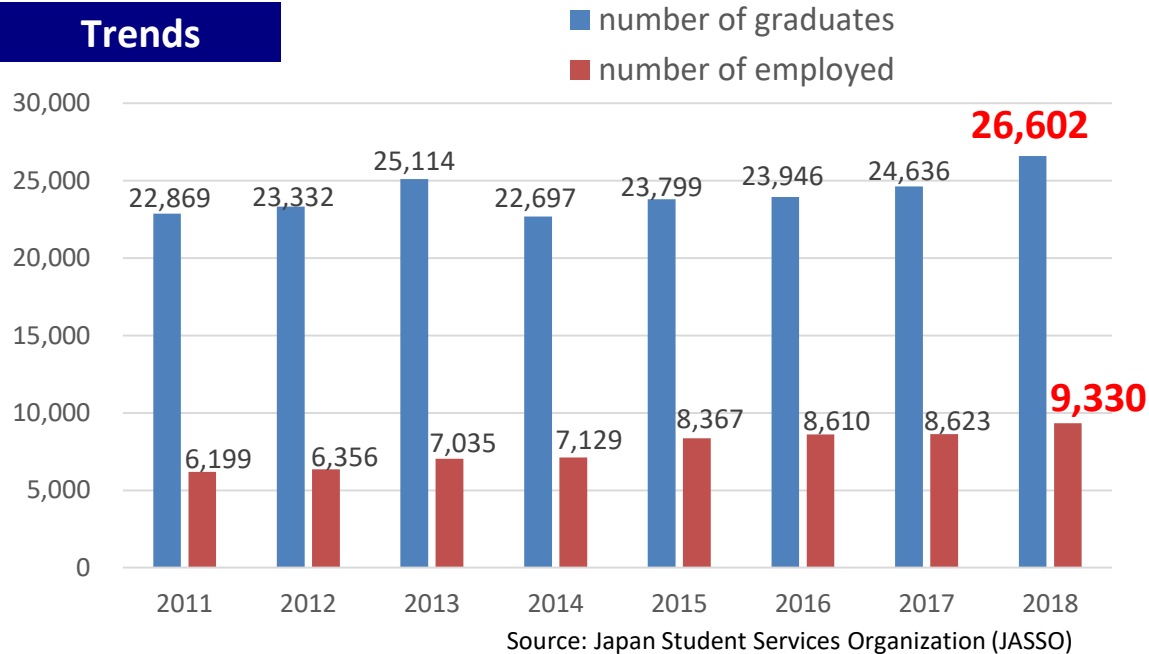
- For students on **exchange programs (up to 1 year)**
- FY 2020 budget : **1.6 billion yen, 5,000 students**
- 80,000 yen/month



STUDY in JAPAN

Encouraging International Students' Employment in Japan

Trends



Japan Revitalization Strategy 2016

“ Aiming to increase the proportion of international students who **find jobs in Japan** from **30% to 50%** ”

Program for **Enhancing Employment** of International Students

< Current **problems** and **challenges** for international students >

- **Language** barrier
- Lack of **information** on Japanese companies
- Lack of **experience of Japanese companies** employing international students



- **12 projects** have been adopted and received financial support from MEXT (from 2017FY)
- Each projects include **Japanese-language education, career education, internship opportunities, etc.**

3. Responses of Higher Education under the COVID-19 pandemic

Impact on International Student Exchange Due to COVID-19

INBOUND

International students:

312,000

(1st May 2019)

- All foreigners with **mid- to long-term residence status***, including **new immigrants**, can now enter Japan (starting from Oct. 1). *Professor : Working visa, Student: General visa
- **PCR testing** in principle*¹, and a **14-day quarantine period***² with support by universities are required.

*1: PCR testing after entry is not required in principle for entrants from specific countries.

*2: Entrance exam is excluded as special case.

OUTBOUND

Japanese students Overseas:

(mainly short term)

115,000

(FY 2018)

- Many Japanese students and universities changed their plans involving study abroad program such as suspending or postponing.
- ※**Student Exchange Support Program (Scholarship for Degree Seeking Students)** allows those who wish to go to a foreign country with an **infection risk level of 2 or 3 to be dispatched** after confirming the infection control measures of the receiving institute, etc. (from November).

【Reference】 Overseas Travel Safety Information

As of 30th Oct, **152** countries / regions have reached a **risk level of 3** “Avoid all travel”, and the rest are on level 2 “Avoid Non-essential travel”.

Responses of Higher Education under the COVID-19 pandemic

Emergency Student Financial Support for Continuing Studies

(Budget by MEXT : About 502 million US\$)

With students experiencing a **significant economic impact** due to heavy reductions in household income and income from part-time, the program provides a cash handout.

Eligibility: Students attending **universities (including graduate schools), junior colleges, technical colleges, vocational schools, etc. in Japan, including international students.**

Learning Support at Universities

- **Postponement** of tuition payments
- Support for the **exemption from tuition and other payments** by individual universities
(Supplementary budget by MEXT : 6.5 million US\$)
- Necessary measures such as **supplementary lectures**

Use of Distance Classes

- **Flexible** application of **the limits for Credits** granted **by online classes** as an exception
- Ensuring learning opportunities by **accelerating setting up of environment for distance classes at universities.**
✕ Including mobile communication device for online classes
(Supplementary budget by MEXT : 95 million US\$)

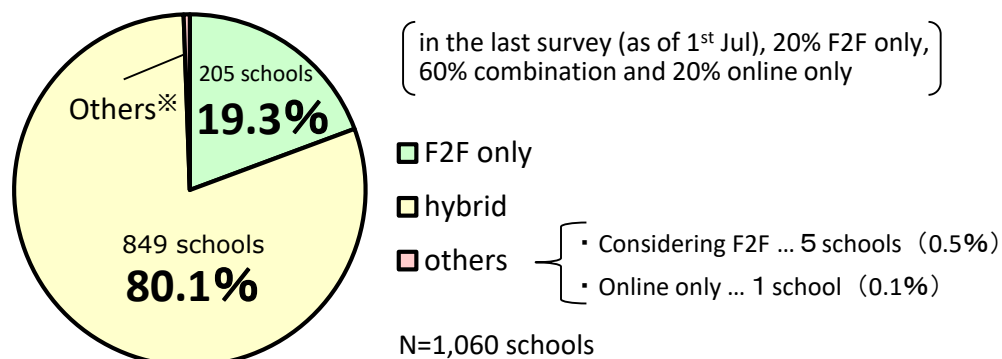
Survey for Course Implementation at Tertiary Education Institutions

outline

- Target: National, public and private universities (including junior colleges) and colleges of technology in Japan
- Period: 25th August – 11th September 2020
- Objective: To conduct a survey into class styles in the autumn semester, etc. at universities and understand Japan's current situation

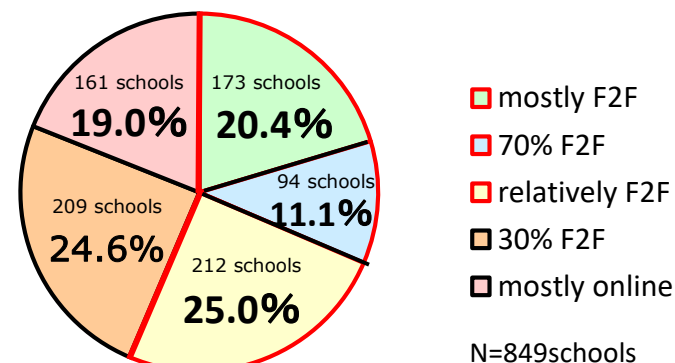
Policy on the Autumn semester classes

Almost all the universities conduct face to face (F2F) classes, 80% of them plans to conduct both F2F and online.



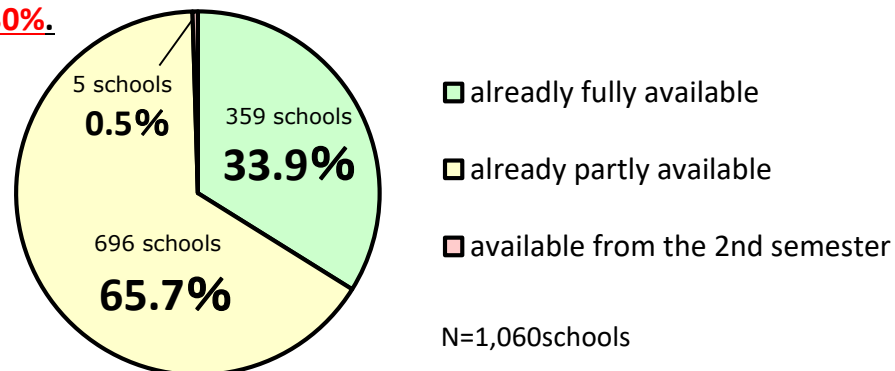
Ratio of F2F and online classes combined

60% universities applying hybrid style learning are planning to implement F2F style for more than half of the classes.



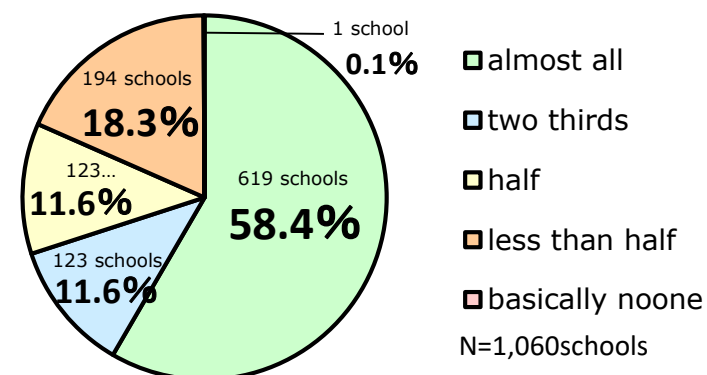
Availability of facilities

All the universities are planning to open their facilities from the Autumn semester, whilst those that are fully open will be about 30%.



Ratio of students commuting to campus more than 2 days in a week

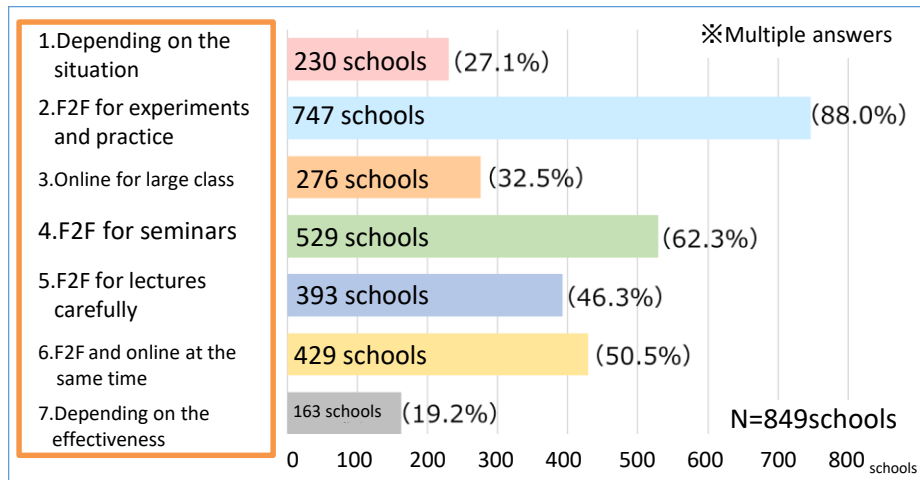
60% Universities answered almost all students are able to commute to campus more than twice a week in the Autumn Semester.



Survey for Course Implementation at Tertiary Education Institutions

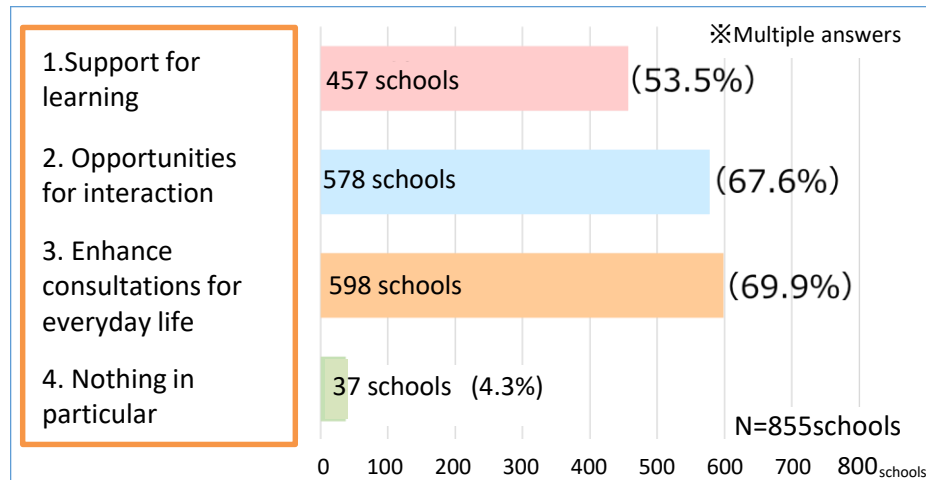
Consideration of class style (F2F / online)

Many universities implement **experiments and practical lessons (90%)** and **small-sized seminars (60%)** in **face-to-face** style, whilst **large-sized** classes are taught online (**30%**).



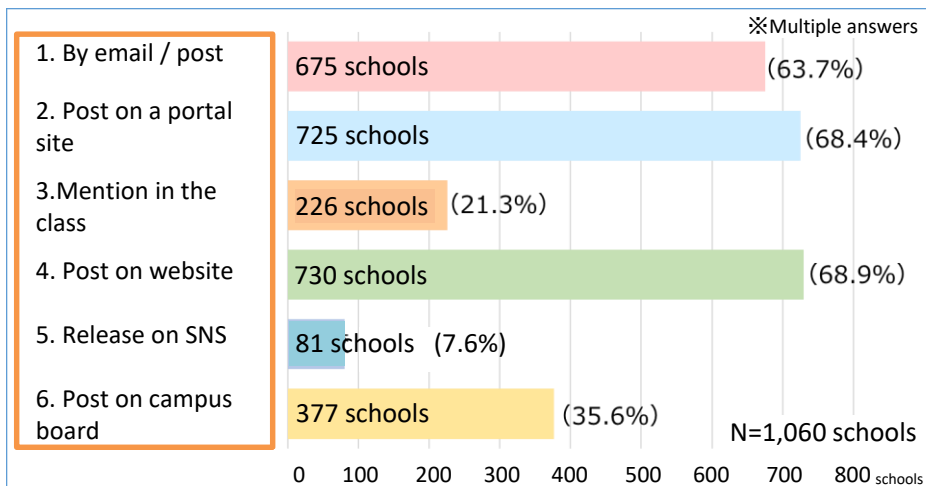
Response to first year students

70% of universities provide opportunities for first year students to **communicate with** lecturers and other students and/or **enhance consultation support** for anxiety relief.



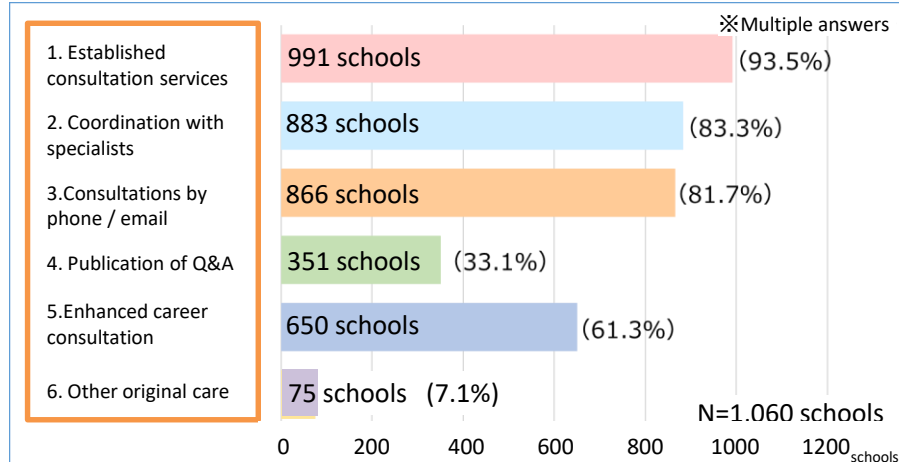
Awareness promotion for students

70% of universities **posted notices** in prominent spots, **60%** applied a **direct approach** to reach individuals such as sending emails.



Care for students' mental health

90% of universities established **student consultation services**, **80%** work with **specialists** such as counsellors and doctors and **accept consultations** through **phone and emails** in order to care for students' mental health.

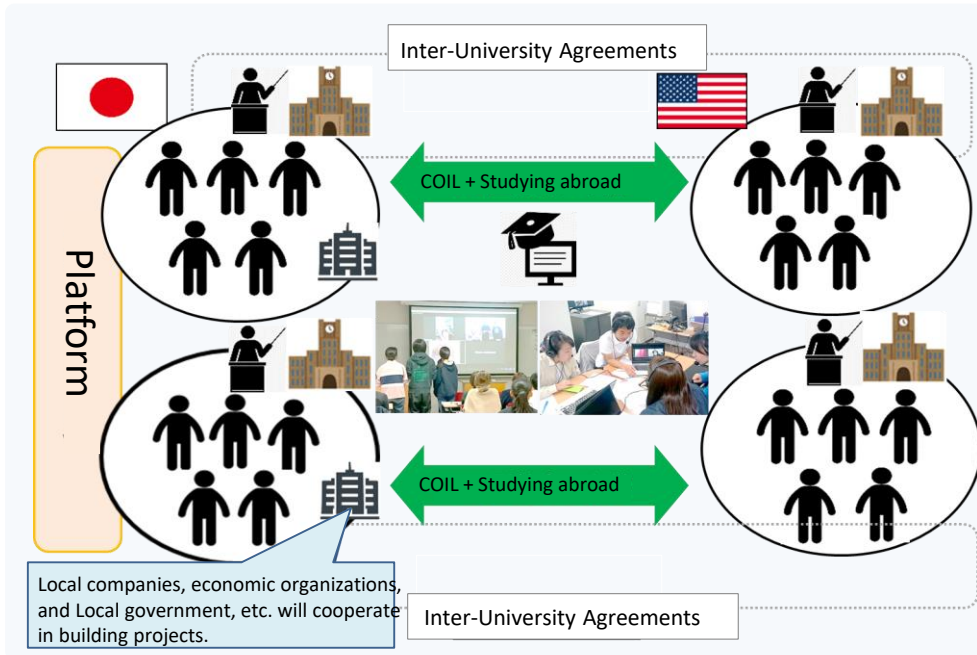


Supporting exchanges with US universities using COIL-style education

Support inter-university exchanges between Japan and US based on the **Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) method** in cooperation with the American Council on Education (ACE).

Project scheme

- Development for COIL-type leading programs
- Management/operational to share programs
- Student exchanges in collaboration with COIL



Education method

- Practice language online and continue upgrading before and after studying abroad.
- Understand cultural differences and approaches.
- Conducted according to various class aims, sizes.

Expected outcomes

- Collaboration regardless of their location.
- Cross-cultural adaptability.
- Continuous networks of the partner country.
- Synergistic effects that will multiply and continue the outcomes of overseas study.
- Capabilities and qualities in global era.
- Internationalization of entire university.
- FD through activities.

Selected projects: **10**

*Chiba U, U of Tokyo, Tokyo U of Foreign Studies (in collaboration with International Christian U), Tokyo U of Fine Arts, Kagoshima U, U of the Ryukyus, Osaka City U, Sophia U (in collaboration with Ochanomizu U, U of Shizuoka), Nanzan U, Kansai U

No. of exchange students (2018)

Dispatched: 214, Received: 217

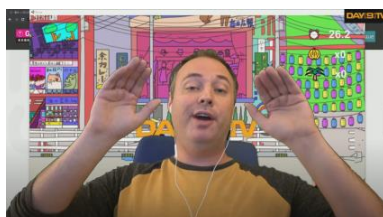
(subsidy period: 2018-2022, FY 2020 budget: 2.0 million US\$)

Example of online international exchange at Japanese universities during the COVID-19 pandemic

Tokyo University of the Arts : COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)-Based Education Programme

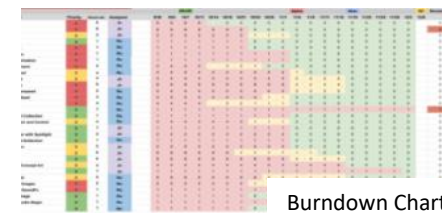
◆ Obtaining objective feedback with high expertise

Participated in the Game Expo online hosted by USC in LA and got feedback from a well known streamer, also hosted an online game course exhibition in Japan and obtained feedback from professionals.



◆ Setting efficient objectives through online joint work

Visualize the each other's role and importance of each step by utilizing the Burndown Chart which USC applies for game education in order to get sound progress.



University of Tsukuba (UT) : Course Jukebox (CJ) Initiative

This system enables University of Tsukuba (UT) and its overseas partner institutions under Campus-in-Campus initiative to interchangeably provide courses to each other's students by numbering courses like on a jukebox.

Current Situation

- Number of the courses with studying abroad
UT: **1,270** Partners: **1,605**
- Number of the online courses
UT: **175** Partners: **53**
- Start preparing new courses for virtual studying abroad

Campus-in-Campus (CiC) partner universities



Rebuilding
for new era

Focus on **Online** classes, **COIL** method contents and **Blended Learning** courses

**Thank you
for your attention!**

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