

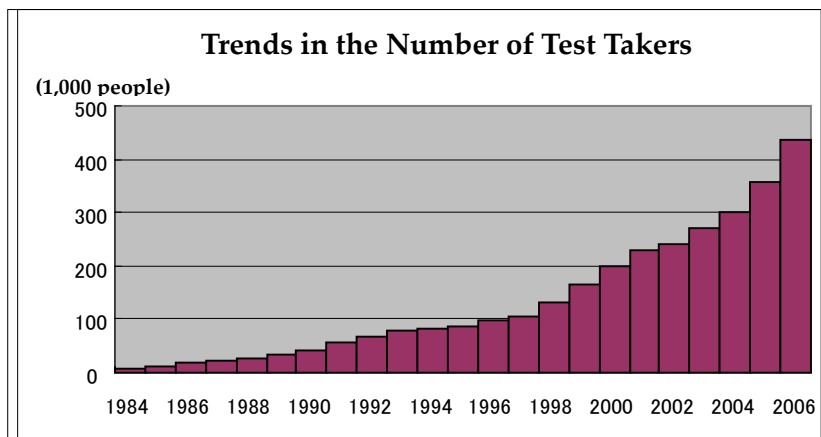
## Results of the 2006 Japanese Language Proficiency Test

The Japanese Language Proficiency Test is administered in countries around the world to evaluate and certify the Japanese-language skills of nonnative speakers. It is conducted on one day each year by the Japan Education Exchanges and Services in Japan and by the Japan Foundation outside Japan in cooperation with local organizations. (In Taiwan, it is implemented by the Interchange Association, Japan.)

The test was held for the twenty-third time on December 3, 2006, in 127 cities - in 20 prefectures in Japan and in 46 countries and territories outside Japan. The total number of test takers was in excess of 430,000, an increase of 22.7% over the preceding year. The biggest rise was seen in Vietnam, where 8,045 people sat for the exam - an increase of 53%. This was followed by China (excluding Hong Kong), where there were 31% more examinees (165,353), and India, with 29% more takers (5,366).

The number of cities hosting the exam has also been rising, and in 2006, it was held for the first time in Cambodia and Kenya.

The importance of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test is growing year by year owing to the rising number of foreign visitors to Japan and the expansion of overseas activities among Japanese companies. A summary of the test results can be viewed on the Japan Foundation website.



Number of test takers in  
2006: 437,360

Breakdown

In Japan: 72,880  
Overseas: 364,480

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