



East Europe (excluding Russia)



1. Japanese-Language Education Overseas Today

Japanese-language education was provided in 133 countries for some 3.65 million students

The survey reveals that as of 2009 Japanese-language education was carried out in 133 countries (more precisely, 125 countries and 8 districts) other than Japan. The number of institutions offering Japanese-language education and the number of teachers and students in those institutions are as follows:

2009 Survey		2006 Survey	
◆Number of Institution	14,925	◆Number of Institutions	13,639
◆Number of Teachers	49,803	◆Number of Teachers	44,321
◆Number of Students	3,651,232	◆Number of Students	2,979,820

Notes: Taiwan* was included, bringing the total to 133 countries. Calculations include figures for Taiwan* from the survey by the Interchange Association, Japan.

The present survey was conducted among overseas institutions offering Japanese-language education, so figures given for number of students indicates those for Japanese-language learners enrolled at these institutions. People also study Japanese-language through programs provided on television, radio, and the Internet, as well as by hiring private tutors. It can be assumed, therefore, that there are far more people studying Japanese than those covered by the survey.

The number of countries (133) where Japanese-language education was provided remained the same in the 2006 and 2009 surveys. A closer look shows that seven countries were newly added that were confirmed to have one or more institutions offering Japanese-language education, while seven countries, which had one or more institutions in the 2006 survey but no longer had them at the time of the 2009 survey, were dropped. These countries are as follows.

◆ Newly added countries/(district) with institution(s) offering Japanese-language education at the time of the 2009 survey

Puerto Rico* (3)
Turkmenistan (1)
Ethiopia (1)
Cameroon (1)
Côte d'Ivoire (1)
Tanzania (1)
Burkina Faso (1)

◆ Countries no longer with institution(s) offering Japanese-language education at the time of the 2009 survey

Kiribati (1)
Vanuatu (3)
Fiji (4)
Andorra (1)
Montenegro (1)
Sudan (1)
Democratic Republic of Congo (1)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate the number of institutions offering Japanese-language education.

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Up 22.5 percent since 2006, Japanese-language students in the world numbered 3,651,232; institutions numbered 14,925 and teachers 49,803

Since 1979 institutions, teachers, and students engaged with Japanese-language have been consistently increasing in number. The number of institutions, which rose 73.6 percent within the three years from 3,917 in 1990 to 6,800 in 1993, is particularly notable. The number of students, too, markedly increased from 981,407 to 1,623,455 in the corresponding period. After that as well, the numbers of institutions, teachers, and students continued to increase. The 2009 survey confirmed continued increases for all three figures over the 2006 survey; within the three years the number of institutions increased by 9.4 percent to 14,925, that of teachers by 12.4 percent to 49,803, and that of students by 22.5 percent to 3,651,232. Students in particular showed the largest increase. (See Graph 1.)

Graph 1. Trends in Numbers of Japanese-Language Institutions, Teachers, and Students

