

# 550,000 People Around the World to Take the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test in July

## Number of overseas applicants up 47,000

The Japan Foundation will hold the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), July 1, 2018 in 135 cities of 40 countries and regions outside Japan.

The JLPT is the largest Japanese-language test in the world to certify language proficiency of non-native speakers. This year marks the 34th anniversary of the JLPT, and more countries and cities are to hold the test. Compared to the test held in July 2017, the number of applicants has increased by about 47,000 overseas and about 32,000 in Japan. The proportions of applicants in Southeast Asia (25%) and South Asia (38%) have increased drastically. In addition, the number of applicants in East Asia (including China), which has the most applicants in the world, is up 10% from last year.

### ■Outline of July 2018 JLPT

<Date> Sunday, July 1, 2018

<Number of Applicants>

Approximately 545,760 (about 361,000 overseas and 184,000 in Japan)

\*The number of overseas applicants increased by 79,000 (17%) compared to the JLPT of July 2017.

<Sites> 135 cities in 40 countries and regions abroad and 47 prefectures in Japan

<Levels> N1-N5 (five levels, with N1 the highest)

\*Please see the website (<https://www.jlpt.jp/e/>) for a summary of linguistic competence required for each level.

### ■Number of overseas applicants:

-The number of overseas applicants is 361,365, up 15% compared to the JLPT of July 2017.

-The rate of increase is 10% in East Asia, 25% in Southeast Asia and 38% in South Asia.

-Countries and regions/areas with the most applicants (top 3 countries and regions) and with high rates of increase are as follows:

	Countries and regions		Number of applicants	Year-on-year rate
Top 3 countries/regions	1st	China※	149,676	11%
	2nd	Republic of Korea	49,942	15%
	3rd	Taiwan	42,345	2%
Top 3 areas	East Asia		241,963	10%
	Southeast Asia		91,947	25%
	South Asia		19,091	38%
Countries/regions with notable increases	Myanmar		16,136	189%
	Philippines		7,102	24%
	India		12,268	17%

(Compared to number of applicants for the JLPT in July 2017)

\*including Hong Kong and Macau.

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■Advantages of acquiring JLPT certification include:

-Points for preferential treatment for immigration to Japan.

(In addition to those who have passed N1, successful N2 examinees earn points from April 2017.)

-Meets one requirement for nurse/caregiver candidates under the EPA. (Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam).

-Meets one requirement for “college student” residence status (N5).