

The Japan Foundation periodically undertakes the Survey of Overseas Organizations Involved in Japanese-Language Education to ascertain the current status of Japanese-language education overseas. Following the preceding survey performed in 2003, the 2006 survey was performed over the period from November 2006 to March 2007.

The survey was conducted by sending and collecting questionnaires and answer sheets to and from institutions of Japanese-language education located overseas, by either postal mail or e-mail. Respondents in certain countries were able to respond to the survey via a website. The response rate to this survey was 77.08%.

Number of people studying Japanese overseas: 2.98 million people in 133 countries.

1. General Overview

■ Numbers of Educational Institutions, Teachers, and Students

This survey has shown that as of 2006, Japanese-language education was underway in 133 countries (more precisely, 126 countries and 7 districts) other than Japan. Approximately 2.98 million students were studying Japanese. This number does not include those studying Japanese by means such as language lessons broadcast to the general public on television or radio or private lessons.

Number of institutions:	13,639
Number of teachers:	44,321
Number of students:	2,979,820

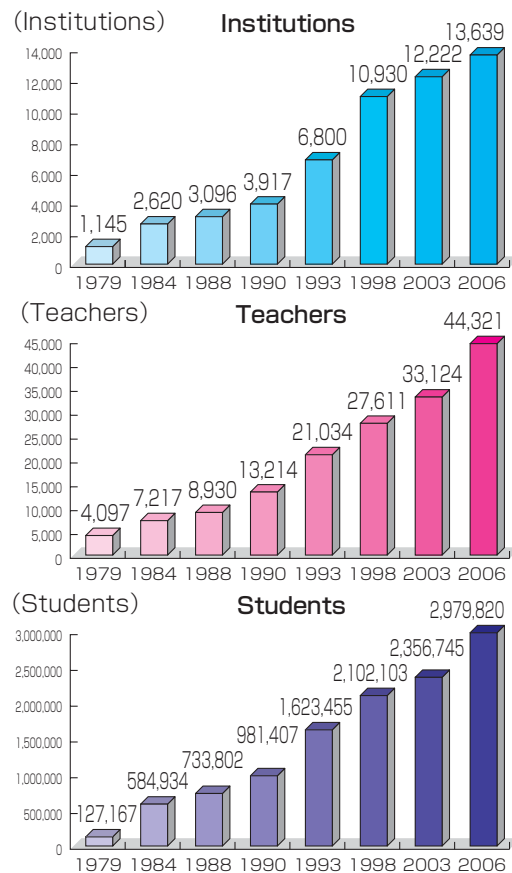
■ Trends in Numbers of Institutions, Teachers and Students

Figure 1 shows trends in numbers of institutions, teachers and students based on the past surveys. Over the period from 1979 through 2006, the number of institutions increased 11.9 times, the number of teachers increased 10.8 times, and the number of students increased 23.4 times. Comparing the 2006 survey with the previous survey, which had been conducted in 2003, shows that the number of institutions increased 11.6 percent and the number of students increased 26.4 percent during this three-year period, while the number of teachers increased most of all, by 33.8 percent.

■ Changes Newly Confirmed in This Survey

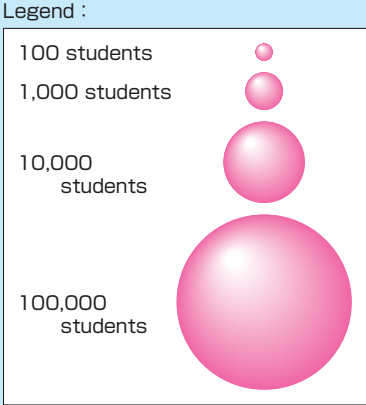
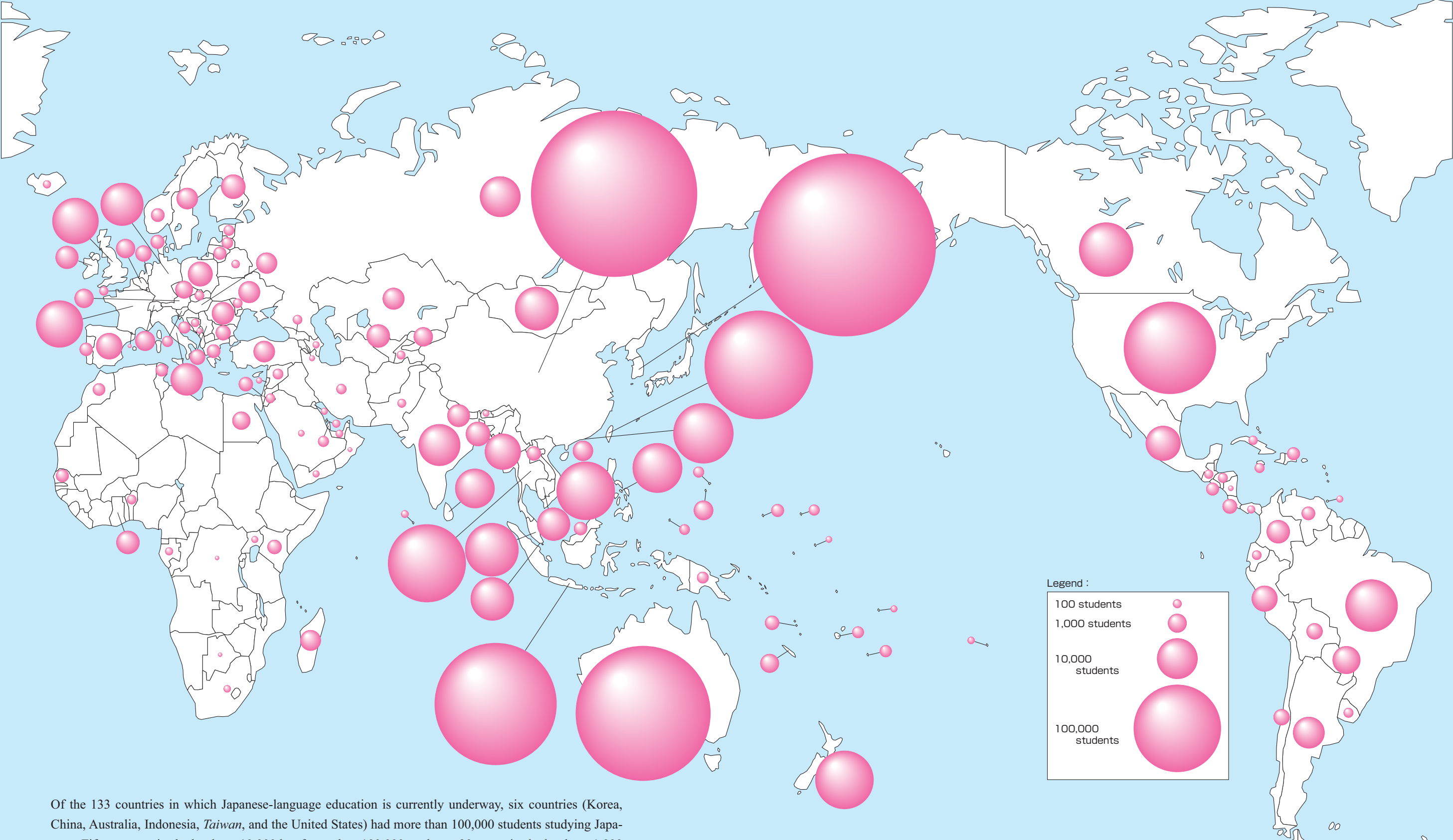
In this survey, an additional six countries (Montenegro, Oman, Qatar, Uganda, Gabon, and Central African Republic) were confirmed to have some form of Japanese-language education.

Figure 1 : Trends in Numbers of Institutions, Teachers and Students



* In 1970, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs undertook a survey of the current state of Japanese-language education overseas. This was followed by the surveys in 1974 and later by the Japan Foundation. The 1988 survey was conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Figure 2: Numbers of Japanese-Language Students, by country



Of the 133 countries in which Japanese-language education is currently underway, six countries (Korea, China, Australia, Indonesia, *Taiwan*, and the United States) had more than 100,000 students studying Japanese. Fifteen countries had at least 10,000 but fewer than 100,000 students; 30 countries had at least 1,000 but fewer than 10,000 students; 51 countries had at least 100 but fewer than 1,000 students; and 31 countries had fewer than 100 students studying Japanese.