

# 1. OUTLINE OF THE POPULATION CENSUS OF 1950

## Date of the Census:

The Census was conducted as of 00.01, 1 October 1950.

## Legal basis for the Census:

The Census was taken in conformity with Article 4 of the Statistics Law, Ordinance for the Census of 1950, (Ordinance No. 364, 1949) and related regulations. This Census was conducted as a part of the World-wide Census of 1950 sponsored by the United Nations, through the recommendation of the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

## Area of enumeration:

The enumeration was conducted throughout the entire area of Japan Proper. The following areas formerly considered a part of Japan Proper but not currently under the administrative jurisdiction of the Japanese Government were excluded:

Karafuto: entire area

Hokkaido: Kunashiri-gun (Tomari-mura and Ruyobetsu-mura); Shikotan-gun (Shikotan-mura); Shana-gun (Shana-mura); Etorofu-gun (Rube-tsu-mura); Shibetoro-gun (Shibetoro-mura); Uruppu-gun; Shin-shiru-gun; Shumushu-gun; Suisho-jima, Yuri-shima, Akiyuri-shima, Shibotsu-shima and Taraku-shima of Habomai-mura of Hanasaki-gun

Tokyo-to: Ogasawara-shicho

Shimane-ken: Take-shima of Goka-mura, Ochi-gun

Kagoshima-ken: Oshima-gun, except Iwo-shima, Take-shima and Kuro-shima of Jutto-son

Okinawa-ken: entire area

## Population enumerated:

This is the first regular census conducted on a *de jure* basis. Information was also obtained on a *de facto* basis but the figures shown in this volume are of the *de jure* count. The following special rules regarding residence should be noted:

- Students were enumerated in dormitories, boarding houses, etc. where they usually lived rather than at their parents' homes.
- Patients in mental institutions, tuberculosis sanatoria and leprosaria were enumerated at these places rather than at the homes of their families.
- Patients in the hospitals were enumerated at their hospitals if they had been there 6 months or more. Otherwise, they were enumerated at their usual place of residence outside the hospitals.
- Crews aboard ships were enumerated, as they usually reside aboard ships, provided they had no usual place of residence on land.
- Persons in prisons and juvenile detention houses whose penalties had been fixed were enumerated at these institutions. Persons who were detained but whose penalties had not been fixed were enumerated at their usual place of residence outside the institutions, provided they had one.
- Persons who had no usual place of residence were enumerated at the places where they stayed on 1 October 1950. Foreign tourists temporarily in Japan, for example, were enumerated where they were on 1 October. Vagrants who had no usual residence were enumerated where they were found during the special enumeration conducted in the early morning of 1 October.

All persons in Japan were enumerated except those specially excluded in accordance with Article 2 of the Alien Registration Ordinance. Persons thus excluded were:

- Military personnel of the Allied Forces and those who were attached to the Allied Forces and members of their families
- Members of missions which were appointed or approved by SCAP, their employees and members of their families
- Those who resided in Japan with official missions of foreign governments, their suites and their families

## How the Census was conducted:

The Census enumeration, which was within the jurisdiction of mayors of *shi* or heads of *ku*, *machi*, *mura*, under the supervision of the governors of *to*, *do*, *fu*, *ken*, was planned and administered by the Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister.

In preparation for the enumeration, the area of all *shi*, *ku*, *machi* and *mura* throughout the country was divided into enumeration districts. There were 369,994 enumeration districts, including 344,125 ordinary districts, 24,470 special districts and 1,399 water districts.

355,071 enumerators were especially appointed to carry out the enumeration together with 19,824 supervisors responsible for the training and supervision of the enumerators. The enumeration was conducted in two stages, the Preliminary Survey and the Actual Enumeration. The Preliminary Survey was made from 24 to 26 September 1950, and the Actual Enumeration was made during the 3-day period from 1 to 3 October 1950. In the Preliminary Survey the Census Check Sheets were used. In the Actual Enumeration enumerators used the Main Census Schedules for enumerating persons in their usual place of residence and the Temporary Resident Schedules for enumerating temporarily present persons. The enumeration depended upon the interview system. Each enumerator visited every household in his district to interview the head or representative of each household and the enumerator himself recorded the information on the schedule. A detailed statement of

enumeration procedures is given in Population Census of 1950, Volume I, Total Population, page 18.

## Enumeration items:

The following items were reported on the Main Census Schedule on which each person was enumerated at his usual place of residence:

- Number and classification of household
- Kind of living quarters, tenure and number of *tatami*
- Name
- Relationship to head of household
- Presence or absence in household on the Census date and, if absent, reason for absence
- Sex
- Date of birth
- Place of birth
- Labor force status
- School attendance and number of years of school completed
- Nationality or native place (citizenship)
- Repatriation and pre-war residence of repatriates
- Marital Status
- Number of times married, duration of marriage and number of children ever born to women who have ever been married
- Number of persons temporarily present in household

The following items were reported on the Temporary Resident Schedule on which temporary residents were enumerated:

- Name
- Sex
- Date of birth
- Nationality or native place (citizenship)
- Marital Status
- Place of temporary presence
- Reason for presence at this place
- Length of absence from usual place of residence
- Usual place of residence and name of head of household

## Tabulation and publication of Census results:

A preliminary count of persons and households was released on 28 December 1950. This count

was made from the enumerator's Check Sheets. Tabulations were first made by each *shi*, *machi* and *mura* office, then summed up at each prefectural office and finally by the Bureau of Statistics.

The final count of the total number of persons was completed centrally by the Bureau of Statistics on the basis of the schedules submitted. Results were published in the Office Gazette commencing 10 February and continuing until 28 February, and gathered into the first census report, Vol. I published in November 1951.

Preliminary national figures for age, sex, labor force status and housing were obtained from the tabulation of the one percent sample, and released in May and June 1951. These results were compiled in Vol. II published in June 1952. The tabulation of the ten percent sample, for prefectures and 6 largest cities, and additional details for the country as a whole on nationality or native place (citizenship), education, fertility, etc. became available during the period between August 1951 and February 1952. The results for labor force, occupation, industry, class of worker and hours worked were published in Vol. III, Part 2, and the rest in Vol. III, Part 1, at the end of 1952.

As for the results from the final and complete

tabulation, the tabulation for each prefecture has been completed and the data for each prefecture have been compiled separately in 46 Parts which together form Vol. VII, entitled Report by Prefecture. They were published successively by the end of May 1954.

As for the similar results for the whole area of Japan, those concerned with sex, age, marital status, citizenship, birthplace, education, household and housing have been published in Vol. IV, All Japan 1. The rest, related to labor force status, occupation, industry and class of worker, are compiled in Vol. V, All Japan 2. Finally, Vol. VIII is expected to be published, which will become the last report containing the overall explanation and analysis of the Census results and methods, etc.

The Census of 1950 was conducted on a *de jure* basis, but, incidentally, each person was reported whether he was present or not at his usual residence on the Census date and persons away from their places of usual residence were enumerated; in this manner the *de facto* population was obtained, which is shown in Vol. VI, entitled *De Jure* Population and *De Facto* Population, published in June 1954, together with the number of households and population by sex, for *shi*, *machi* and *mura*.

## 2. EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THIS CENSUS

### Labor force status:

In this Census, labor force status was reported for all persons 10 years old and over. But detailed information regarding employment, unemployment, occupation, industry and class of worker is limited to persons 14 years old and over.

Labor force status was reported according to the actual activity of each person during the week preceding the Census (24 to 30 September). This concept was also used in the 1947 Census but "usual employment, usual occupation and usual industry" were recorded in all previous censuses. Definitions of terms used in this Census are as follows.

### 1 Labor force status:

(1) Persons in the labor force include all persons who were employed or seeking work.

A Employed persons include those who were actually at work and those who had a job but were not at work.

a Employed persons at work include all those who worked for pay or profit for one-half hour or more at any time during the survey week, (i.e., the week preceding the Census.) Working for pay or profit includes unpaid family work.

b Employed persons not at work are those persons who had a job but did not work during the survey week, because they were on paid vacation or were prevented from work by bad weather, labor disputes, illness, or family or personal affairs. Such persons were included in this category, however, only if they were receiving, or expected to receive income for the period absent from work or, if not, only if their absence up to the date of the Census was less than 30 days.

B Unemployed persons include those who did not work, had no job, and were actually seeking work or awaiting the results of previous applications for work during the survey week.

(2) Persons not in the labor force include all persons 14 years old and over who are not classified in any of the categories listed above. They are divided according to their main engagements during the survey week, such as: "Attending school", "Keeping house", "Unable to work due to illness, old age, etc." and "Others, such as retired and not reported".

### 2 Occupation:

The occupation of each person was reported according to the kind of work actually done during the survey week. If a person was engaged in two or more kinds of work, he was reported according to the one at which he spent most hours. If the hours were equal, he was classified according to the one from which he received the most income.

If a person had a job but did not work during the survey week, the occupation classification refers to the job which he had. The Occupation Classification used in this report was especially prepared for the Population Census of 1950.

The outline of the Occupation Classification is as follows:

- (1) Professional and technical workers: This group includes persons engaged in professional and technical works which required special knowledge or technique and, in general, completion of higher education or equal qualification as engineers, doctors, pharmacists, lawyers, teachers, artists, etc.
- (2) Managers and officials: This group includes persons who manage an establishment or offices as a whole, or a section or its equivalent, but not themselves engaged in office work, business or the sale of goods, such as officials of companies, managers, station masters, ship captains, and public officials above the rank of section chief, etc.
- (3) Clerical workers: This group includes persons who are engaged in all kinds of clerical or office work under the supervision of a manager or an official, such as clerks, typists, telephone operators and bill collectors, etc.
- (4) Sales workers: This group includes persons who are engaged in the sale of goods, insurance policies, real estates, securities, or in the work of sales or publicity agencies.
- (5) Farmers, lumbermen, fishermen and related workers: This group includes persons engaged in production, and gathering of farm, forestry, marine products, and other useful natural products and breeding of livestock except mine products.
- (6) Workers in mines and quarries: This group includes persons who dig out coal or other metal ore, cut galleries (include rail tunnels way), transport coal or other metal ore to the surface of the ground or engage in sorting coal, such as metal ore diggers, drillers or borers, underground transporters and coal sorters, etc.
- (7) Workers in operating transport occupations: This group includes persons who are engaged in transportation of

persons or goods by operating automobiles, locomotive engines and other traffic facilities, such as drivers of automobiles or buses, motormen of tram cars, locomotive engineers and assistants, and boatmen, etc.

- (8) Craftsmen, production process workers and laborers: This group includes all kinds of craftsmen, persons who are engaged in semi-skillful work in production process and laborers, such as mechanics, lathe operators, spinners, sawyers, crane drivers, roofers, earth-work laborers and shoremen, etc.
- (9) Service workers: This group includes persons engaged in private household services, protective services and other services for persons, such as maids, visiting household workers, policemen, railways policemen, bootblacks, porters, *geisha* and taxi dancers, etc.
- (10) Occupation not reported: This group includes persons who can not be classified in any one of the groups mentioned above because of uncertainty or deficiency of entries.

### 3 Industry:

The industry classification was determined by the kind of business done according to the kind of enterprise mentioned above. If a person worked in an establishment engaged in two or more kinds of enterprise, he was classified in the one in which he actually worked. If his work was not clearly identified with one particular kind of enterprise, he was then assigned to the main enterprise of the establishment. If a person followed the same occupation in two different kinds of enterprises during the survey week, he was classified according to the enterprise or kind of business in which he spent most hours. "Public service" includes government office workers, but government job-site workers are classified according to the kind of business activity performed at the job-site. The Industry Classification was especially

prepared for the Population Census of 1950 on the basis of the Standard Industrial Classification for Japan.

- (1) Agriculture: This group includes fore-going farms, livestock breeding, sericulture and agriculture, and professional services relating to agriculture directly in trust or by contract, such as farms on which silkworm eggs incubations, breeding, horticultures, etc. are conducted.
- (2) Forestry and logging: This group includes enterprises such as logging, transportation of timber, forest nursery, bark gathering and other forestry products, and relating services. Hunting such as trapping and hunting by *kasumi-ami* is also included in this group.
- (3) Fisheries and aquaculture: This group includes enterprises engaged in catching fish, marine animals or crustacea, or gathering mollusca and marine plantlives which thrive naturally, and planting, cultivating or harvesting the marine lives.
- (4) Mining: This group includes enterprises which extract minerals occurring in nature as either solids, liquids, or gases, and which may be organic or inorganic.
- (5) Construction: This group includes building or erection of structures or other fixed improvements at the building site, using raw or prefabricated construction materials.
- (6) Manufacturing: This group includes enterprises engaged in the mechanical or chemical transformation of organic or inorganic substances into new products and wholesale these products. In this case, the form of enterprise is no matter whether it is factory or home work. And there are many cases where the power-driven machines are used as a feature of the enterprise, but mutual work is also included.

- (7) Wholesale and retail trade: This group includes enterprises engaged in selling merchandise to retailers and other commercial or industrial users, and also in selling merchandise for personal or household consumption. Sales office of manufacturing and mining companies, exporters and importers, agents, brokers and manufacturers of articles for retail sale on the same premises are also included.
- (8) Finance, insurance and real estate: This group includes enterprises such as banks, trust companies, security brokers and dealers, mutual loan companies, pawn brokers, insurance companies and insurance agents and brokers, etc., and owner-operators, lessee-operators, speculative builders, subdividers of land, agents and brokers of real estate, and their relating services. Postal savings and post-office insurance carried out by central government or finances and insurances carried out by cooperative associations are also included in this category.
- (9) Transportation, communication and other public utilities: This group includes enterprises engaged in; passenger and freight transportation by railway, highway, water and air, or furnishing services related to transportation; warehousing; furnishing mail, telephone, telegraph, broadcasting; other communication services; supplying electricity, gas, water or sanitary services (disposal of sewage; garbage, ashes and rubbish, etc.).
- (10) Services: This group includes enterprises primarily engaged in rendering services to individuals and business establishments which are not classified in other major groups, such as hotels and other lodging places, laundries, photographic studios, barbers, bath houses, advertising agencies, private employment agencies, news services.

automobile repair services, storage garages, amusement and recreation services, medical and other health services, educational services, religion and non-profit membership organizations, etc.

- (11) Government: This group includes the regular administrative departments and offices of national, prefectural and local governments. This group does not include governmental activities, except administrative, in such fields as transportation, communication, education, health, production, marketing, or the operation of financial institutions, each of which, together with other similar activities, is classified in their appropriate groups.
- (12) Industry not reported: This group includes enterprises which can not be to classified in any one of groups mentioned above because of uncertainty or deficiency of entries.

### 4 Class of worker:

All employed persons were classified in one of the following five classes of worker. The category was determined according to their status on the job described in the occupation and industry report.

- (1) "Self-employed workers with paid employees" include persons who own and operate a private enterprise and employ one or more paid employees. They may also employ one or more unpaid family workers. This category includes persons who own and operate farms as well as stores, factories, etc. It also includes professional persons, such as doctors and lawyers provided they employ any paid assistants.
- (2) "Self-employed workers without paid employees" includes persons who own and operate a private enterprise but do not employ any paid employees although they may employ one or more unpaid family workers. This category, or course, includes owners of farms,

stores and factories as well as professional persons who have no paid employees.

(3) "Unpaid family workers" refer primarily to persons in one household who work in the business of the head or some other member of the household without pay. However, any person who works in the family business of a relative without pay is an unpaid family worker, whether or not he lives in the household of the person who runs the business.

(4) "Private wage and salary workers" are persons who are employed for wages or salaries in stores, companies, cooperative enterprises, or other juridical persons. This category includes not only shop assistants, clerks, sales-persons, etc., but also presidents, managers, directors and other paid officials of banks, corporations, etc.

(5) "Government workers" includes all persons working for the central government, *to*, *do*, *fu*, *ken*, *shi*, *ku*, *machi* and *mura* governments and the Allied Forces. Officials as well as clerks are included in this category. In this case, persons paid by the government at job-site enterprises, are also included.

In this report, (1) and (2) are represented as "self-employed workers", (4) and (5) are represented as "wage and salary workers".

#### Education:

1 Attending school: Those who are attending school and those who are enrolled in any school though not actually attending it at present. School refers to any government, public, private, day, or night school, institution, training school, or institute, irrespective of whether the system is new or old, having specific educational facilities and giving a course of study of at least six months.

2 Not attending school: Those who are neither attending nor enrolled in any school.

3 Number of years of school completed: Number of years of attendance for those who are still at school. Total number of the years of schooling for those who have been at school. Additional years needed because of staying away from school or failure to promote are counted.

#### Households:

In this Census all persons were enumerated at the place where they usually reside. Households are classified according to whether they were "Normal" or "Quasi". A normal household is defined as a group of 2 or more persons living together and sharing a family budget. Quasi households include: a) a person residing by himself and keeping his own budget; b) one or more persons residing under the same roof of a normal household but keeping separate budgets; and c) a group of persons residing in the same place but keeping separate budgets. "Living together" in one "place of residence" refers to one structure, two or more structures under one roof (frequently using connecting porches) or two or more structures in the same compound. "Family budget" refers to the expenditures which are essential for leading a family life. It should be noted that all persons in a normal household may not be related to the head. In Japan unrelated persons who live with a family are commonly called lodgers or boarders whether they pay rent or not. If they do not pay rental or boarding charges as such, they are included as members of the normal household. If they pay rent, however, they are classified as quasi households. Employees, servants, etc. living with a family are also classified as members of the normal household unless they keep separate budgets. Employees and lodgers who have their families with them and maintain separate family budgets are considered normal households. All single persons living in one structure but keeping separate budgets are grouped

together as one quasi household.

This report shows data only for "normal" and "one person" households, and the

term "private households" is used in the publication tables.

### 3. POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF JAPAN

Japan is divided in 46 prefectures. The names of 42 carry the suffix *ken* and the remaining 4 are known as *to*, *do* or *fu*. Each prefecture is divided into *shi* (cities), and *gun*, *shicho* (rural counties). The term *shicho* is used in Hokkaido to designate the same kind of unit that is called *gun* in all other prefectures. In this volume, tables which refer to all *gun* also include *shicho* although the term is not used.

The *gun* and *shicho* are further divided into *machi* and *mura*, also called *cho* (towns) and *son* (villages) respectively. *Shi*, *machi* and *mura* are political units but *gun* and *shicho* are merely administrative subdivisions of the prefectures. The *shi* area is usually designated as urban and that of *gun* or *shicho* as rural.

Although *shi*, *machi* and *mura*, in the order named, tend to diminish in size of population, there is no sharp break between them. *Shi* usually contains a clustered population of at least 30,000 or more but not all *shi* are that large and not all areas having a population of 30,000 or more are officially designated as *shi*. In nearly all cases, *machi* and *mura* contain

more than one population cluster as well as open unpopulated country. For this reason, it has been suggested that they should be translated to be "rural townships" rather than "towns" and "villages". There is, however, a further difference between them in that, in general, a *machi* contains one fairly large population cluster and several other smaller clusters as well as some open country, whereas a *mura* usually contains only small cluster and some open country.

The six largest cities in Japan are subdivided into *ku* or wards. These cities are Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Yokohama and Kobe. All of these cities are incorporated as *shi* except Tokyo. The City of Tokyo was also incorporated as a *shi* in Tokyo-fu until 1943 when the separate *shi* incorporation was abolished although the individual *ku* (wards) which constituted the former city were retained and Tokyo-fu was redesignated as Tokyo-to. Thus, for tabulation purposes, the total *ku* area of Tokyo-to, corresponding to the former *shi* area, has been treated as one city and grouped with other *shi*.