

## INTRODUCTION

### OUTLINE OF THE POPULATION CENSUS OF 1955

Regular population censuses in Japan have been conducted almost every fifth year ever since 1920. Thus the 1955 Population Census was the eighth census. However, it is the twelfth census if the extraordinary censuses taken in 1944, 1945, 1946 and 1948 are counted together. Names and dates of these censuses are:

Name of Census	Census Date
Population Census of 1920	October 1, 1920
Population Census of 1925	October 1, 1925
Population Census of 1930	October 1, 1930
Population Census of 1935	October 1, 1935
Population Census of 1940	October 1, 1940
Population Census of 1944	February 22, 1944
Population Census of 1945	November 1, 1945
Population Census of 1946	April 26, 1946
<b>Extraordinary Population</b>	
Census of 1947	October 1, 1947
Population Census of 1948	August 1, 1948
Population Census of 1950	October 1, 1950
Population Census of 1955	October 1, 1955

In this volume, the census figures except those for 1944, 1946 and 1948 are summarized so as to show intercensal changes of the total population.

#### Date of Census

The Population Census of 1955 was conducted as of 00:00 a.m. of October 1, 1955, just as other regular censuses had been, no special reason being found to adopt another date for the Census.

#### Legal Basis of Census

As to the Statistics Law, No. 18, March 26, 1947, a provision was made with regard to the population census in Article 4. In 1947 and thereafter, population censuses were conducted in conformity with this provision.

Article 4 of the Statistics Law defines the population census as a survey concerning population to be conducted for all people by the Government. And it states the census shall be taken every "fifth year" on the original provision. But "the Law Regarding the Partial Revision of the Statistics Law" Law, No. 65, April 7, 1954, was promulgated. This new law provides that a population census shall be taken every tenth year and that a population shall be counted

according to a simplified method in the fifth year after the date when a regular population census has been taken; then it states in an additional article, No. 2, of the Law, that the first population census according to the simplified method shall be taken in 1955.

In comparison with the decennial censuses such as the 1950 Population Census and the forthcoming 1960 Population Census, the 1955 Census was the first census taken according to the simplified method.

In the prewar period, the census was taken every tenth year and the simplified census was taken in the fifth year after the date of the decennial census, in conformity with "the Law Concerning the Population Census" Law, No. 49, enacted on December 1, 1902, and partially revised by the Law, No. 51, on April 18, 1922. The simplified censuses were carried out in 1925 and 1935 as the laws provide, and the questionnaires of these censuses were limited only to the so-called basic characteristics, i.e., sex, age, marital status, etc. The 1955 Census, however, covered not only the basic characteristics but economic characteristics and housing status as well in its census questionnaires though it was taken according to the simplified method.

In order to carry out the 1955 Census, the following special orders and instructions were established and announced officially:

Enforcement Order for the Population Census of 1955,  
Cabinet Order, No. 72, May 12, 1955

Announcement Concerning the Islands Belonging to  
Honshu, Hokkaido, Shikoku and Kyushu, Notifi-  
cation, No. 1309, July 8, 1955

The Form of Schedule for the 1955 Population  
Census, Notification, No. 1310, July 8, 1955

Rule for the Census-taking of the 1955 Population  
Census, Instruction, No. 4, July 8, 1955

#### Enumeration Items

In the 1955 Population Census, the following items were reported in the census schedule:

1. Kind of household
2. Kind of living quarters, tenure and number of "tatami" only for households living in dwelling houses

3. Name
4. Relationship to household head
5. Sex
6. Date of birth<sup>1</sup>
7. Marital status
8. Nationality
9. Labor force status, place of work, industry, occupation and class of worker, as actually employed during the 7 days from 24 to 30 September, 1955, of those who were born by the end of 1941

Of the above-mentioned items, the items from No. 3 through No. 8 on the schedules were filled up by the heads or representatives of households. The remaining items (Nos. 1, 2 and 9) were filled up by the enumerators who interviewed the heads or representatives of households to obtain information. However, special rules were applied to the following persons:

The persons belonging to the National Defence Forces were reported only on items Nos. 3, 6 and 7 in the special schedules prepared for them.

The persons in prisons and juvenile detention houses whose penalties had been fixed were reported only on items Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in special schedules prepared for them.

The items not reported for these persons were treated by a special rule at the Bureau of Statistics. For instance, the labor force status of persons belonging to the National Defence Forces were regarded as "at work during the week", and all persons in prisons and juvenile detention houses as "not in labor force".

#### Census Organization

The 1955 Census was conducted within the jurisdiction of mayors or heads of *shi*, *ku*, *machi* and *mura*, supervised by governors of *to*, *do*, *fu* and *ken*, and planned and administered by the Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister.

The field work of the Census was carried out by 377,578 enumerators who were especially appointed for this purpose. Moreover, 16,147 supervisors were appointed to take the responsibilities for the training and supervision of enumerators, the checking of the entries in the census schedules and so forth.

#### Method of Survey

##### 1. Enumeration Districts

Before the census-taking, the whole area to be covered by the Census was divided into enumera-

tion districts and accurately mapped. Most of the enumeration districts were established following those set up for the 1950 Population Census and paying due consideration to the re-arrangements of boundaries of *shi*, *ku*, *machi* and *mura* and changes in the population of the districts. In some prefectures or some *shi*, *machi* and *mura*, however, all enumeration districts were newly established. These districts for the 1955 Census numbered 392,902, with an increase of 22,908 over those for the 1950 Census.

There were three types of enumeration districts in the 1955 Census: Ordinary Enumeration Districts, Special Enumeration Districts and Water Enumeration Districts. Ordinary Enumeration Districts were set up for the area where residents were comparatively concentrated; they were arranged to comprise 50 households (on the average) per enumeration district utilizing geographically apparent natural features for their boundaries. Special Enumeration Districts were established in the area which comprised few inhabitants or special groups of people. Water Enumeration Districts were located near the harbors and mouths of rivers and canals where people are living in boats or ships. The number of enumeration districts of each type being:

Ordinary Enumeration Districts .....	365,954
Special Enumeration Districts .....	25,637
Mountains, forests, prairies, etc. ...	22,329
Areas of large factories and railway yards, etc. ....	522
Public establishments and social institutions .....	1,786
Reformatory institutions .....	282
Camps of National Defence Forces...	185
Areas exclusively used by foreign military forces.....	533
Water Enumeration Districts.....	1,311
Total .....	392,902

These districts provided a basis of the census-taking. As a rule, an enumerator was assigned to one enumeration district.

The enumeration districts are serviceable likewise for other purposes. They are used in many fields of statistical surveys; especially they provide one of the fundamental data on sampling design even after the Census is worked out.

##### 2. Census Schedules

In the 1955 Census two types of schedules, general schedule and special schedule, were employed. The former was designed to be used for each household. The latter was prepared for all residents in camps or ships of the National Defence Forces and persons in prisons or juvenile detention houses whose penalties had been fixed. As mentioned already, special schedule had no space for some items.

In addition to these schedules, Check Sheets were supplied to be filled for each enumeration district in order to check the households and their member and to count their provisional number, while Special Check Sheets were used for the areas of the National Defence Forces and reformatory institutions.

##### 3. Preparatory Survey

Each enumerator visited every household within the enumeration district under his charge during the week from 24 through 30 September, 1955, explained the purpose of the Census, delivered the schedule, and asked to fill it in answer to the items the household head had to answer. Moreover, each household head was asked to fill the special columns with the names of persons belonging to his household, and to describe their places of work, industry and occupation in the special columns to accelerate the enumerator's work. At the same time the enumerator wrote down the names of household heads, the number of household members and of schedules distributed to the households on his check sheet and pasted the Household Number Label on the door-post, so as to be helpful to his next visit for actual enumeration. Finally, he drew a summary map showing the location of each household on the back of the check sheet.

##### 4. Actual enumeration

The actual enumeration was carried out during the 3-day period from 1 (the date of the Census) through 3 October, 1955. During the period the enumerator visited again every household in the enumeration district, received schedules and checked all entries in them. And he asked the questions necessary for the remaining columns and filled them up by himself. He, also, corrected the

entries in the check sheets, if necessary, so as to keep their agreement with those filled on schedules. (Enumeration in Special Areas)

(1) Enumeration of the National Defence Forces and reformatory institutions:— The Bureau of Statistics kept itself in a close association with the agencies concerned at the period of census planning, and the officials of *shi*, *ku*, *machi* and *mura* concerned consulted with the officials in these areas. The enumerators in these areas were mostly chosen from among officers or officials there and took charge of the survey under the supervision of mayors or heads of *shi*, *ku*, *machi* and *mura*. They were supplied with Special Enumerator's Manuals, Special Schedules and Special Check Sheets. Immediately after the enumeration, schedules and check sheets were sent to the Bureau of Statistics, passing through the hands of local governments, *shi*, *ku*, *machi* or *mura*, and *to*, *do*, *fu* or *ken*, as those for other areas were.

(2) Enumeration in areas exclusively set aside for the use of the United States and the United Nations' Forces:— Not only military personnel of these forces and civilians attached to them, but also their family members were excluded from the enumeration. Japanese workers and others, however, who lived in these areas were enumerated in cooperation with the authorities there.

(3) Enumeration of persons who had no usual residence:—As occasion might require, each *shi*, *machi* and *mura* appointed special enumerators to enumerate such persons as vagrants who had no usual residence. In such large cities as Tokyo and Osaka, where many persons of this sort might be found, special surveys were conducted at mid-night, October 1, 1955, in cooperation with the authorities concerned.

(4) Enumeration in Water Enumeration Districts:—The port officials of *shi*, *machi* and *mura* played the most active role in the enumeration of ship crews in the Water Enumeration Districts. Taking the movability of ships into consideration, a special method was applied; that is to say, the preparatory survey was eliminated, and the actual survey was made on

Table I. SCHEDULE OF 1% SAMPLE TABULATION OF THE 1955 POPULATION CENSUS

A.....All Japan, All *shi* having 50,000 inhabitants or more, the other *shi* and all *gun*.  
 P.....*To, do, fu, ken* and 6 largest cities, i.e., *ku*-area of Tokyo, Yokohama-shi, Nagoya-shi, Kyoto-shi, Osaka-shi and Kobe-shi.

No. of Table	Tabulation Item	Area
Table 1	Single years of age of total population and Japanese by sex	A.
Table 2	Age in 5-year groups by sex	A. P.
Table 3	Marital status of the population 15 years old and over by age in 5-year groups and sex	A.
Table 4	Marital status of the population 15 years old and over by age in 10 year groups and sex	A. P.
Table 5	Nationality in 4 groups by sex	A.
Table 6	Nationality in 2 groups by sex	A. P.
Table 7	Labor force status in 2 groups of the population 15 years old and over by age and sex (same table for persons 14 years old)	A. P.
Table 8	Labor force status in 13 groups of the population 15 years old and over by sex	A.
Table 9	Labor force status in 4 groups of the population 15 years old and over by sex	A. P.
Table 10	Labor force status in 7 groups of the population 15 years old and over by major industry groups and sex	A.
Table 11	Place of usual residence and place of work of employed persons 15 years old and over	P. <i>Shi</i> having 100,000 or more
Table 12	Major industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by place of work and sex	A. P.
Table 13	Minor industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A.
Table 14	Intermediate industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A. P.
Table 15	Intermediate industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by marital status and sex	A.
Table 16	Major industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by class of worker and sex	A. P.
Table 17	Major industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by age and sex (same table for persons 14 years old)	A.
Table 18	Minor occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A.
Table 19	Intermediate occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A. P.
Table 20	Intermediate occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by marital status and sex	A.
Table 21	Major occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by class of worker and sex	A. P.
Table 22	Major occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by age and sex (same table for persons 14 years old)	A.
Table 23	Minor industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by major occupation groups and sex	A.
Table 24	Former major industry groups of unemployed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A.
Table 25	Former major occupation groups of unemployed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A.
Table 26	Former class of worker of unemployed persons 15 years old and over by age and sex	A.
Table 27	Number of households and household members by kind of household and number of household members	A. P.
Table 28	Number of ordinary households and household members living in dwelling houses by number of household members and <i>tatami</i>	A.
Table 29	Number of ordinary households, household members and <i>tatami</i> by kind of living quarters, tenure and class of worker of household head	A.
Table 30	Number of households, household members and <i>tatami</i> by kind of household, kind of living quarters and tenure	A. P.
Table 31	Major occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by marital status, age and sex	A.
Table 32	Class of worker of employed persons 15 years old and over by age and sex	A.
Table 33	Class of worker of employed persons 15 years old and over by major industry groups, age and sex	A.
Table 34	Class of worker of employed persons 15 years old and over by major industry groups, marital status and sex	A.
Table 35	Class of worker of employed persons 15 years old and over by intermediate occupation groups, age and sex	A.
Table 36	Number of ordinary households and household members by marital status, age and sex of household head	A.

Table II. SCHEDULE OF 100% TABULATION OF THE 1955 POPULATION CENSUS

A.....All Japan, all *shi* having 50,000 inhabitants or more, the other *shi* and all *gun*.  
 P.....*To, do, fu, ken*, all *shi* having 50,000 inhabitants or more, the other *shi*, all *gun* and 6 largest cities, i.e., *ku*-area of Tokyo, Yokohama-shi, Nagoya-shi, Kyoto-shi, Osaka-shi and Kobe-shi.  
 C.....*shi* and *ku*.  
 T.....*machi* and *mura*.

No. of Table	Tabulation Item	Area
Table 1	Single years of age and year of birth of Japanese and foreigners by sex	A.
Table 2-A	Single years of age by sex	A. P. <i>Shi</i> having 200,000 or more
Table 2-B	Single years of age of the population under 15 years old by sex	<i>Shi</i> having less than 200,000. T.
Table 3	Marital status of the population 15 years old and over by age and sex	A. P. C. T.
Table 4	Nationality in 8 groups of foreigners by sex	A. P.
Table 5	Nationality in 3 groups of foreigners by sex	P. C. T.
Table 6	Labor force status of the population 15 years old and over by sex	A. P. C. T.
Table 7	Major industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	P. C. T.
Table 8	Intermediate industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by age and sex	A. P.
Table 9	Minor industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by class of worker and sex	A. P.
Table 10	Major industry groups of employed foreigners 15 years old and over by nationality and sex	A. P.
Table 11	Minor industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	C.
Table 12	Major occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	P. C. T.
Table 13	Intermediate occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by age and sex	A. P.
Table 14	Minor occupation groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A. P.
Table 15	Class of worker of employed persons 15 years old and over by sex	A. P. C. T.
Table 16	Number of ordinary households and household members by labor force status and major industry groups of household head	P. C. T.
Table 17	Number of ordinary households and household members by labor force status and minor industry groups of household head	A. P.
Table 18	Number of households and household members by kind of household and number of household members	A. P. C. T.
Table 19	Number of households, household members and <i>tatami</i> by kind of household, kind of living quarters and tenure	A. P. C. T.
Table 20	Number of ordinary households living in dwelling houses by number of household members and <i>tatami</i>	A. P.
Table 21-A	Major industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by place of work and place of usual residence	P.
Table 21-B	Place of work of employed persons 15 years old and over by place of usual residence	C. T.
Table 22-A	Place of usual residence of employed persons 15 years old and over by place of work	C. T.
Table 22-B	Major industry groups of employed persons 15 years old and over by place of work and by place of usual residence	A. P. C. T.

all places simultaneously on October 1, and a big red mark was pasted on every ship which had undergone enumeration in order to show clearly that she was enumerated already.

#### Tabulation and Publication of Census Results

##### 1. Preliminary Count

As the earliest of the census results, the preliminary count of the population and households was released officially on December 6, 1955, and a report, "Preliminary Count of the Population and Households for All Japan, *To, Do, Fu, Ken, Gun, Shi, Ku, Machi* and *Mura*" was published on December 12, 1955. This count was made at the Bureau of Statistics by using the summary sheets of *shi, machi* and *mura* made from check sheets, and summary sheets of *to, do, fu* and *ken* which were prepared from summary sheets of *shi, machi* and *mura*. The preliminary count gave 89,269,278 for the total population, 43,855,764 for the males, 45,413,514 for the females, and 17,958,284 for the households in all Japan. The total population was 6,251 less than that of the final count reported later.

##### 2. Final Count

The final count was made at the Bureau of Statistics for *to, do, fu, ken, gun, shi, ku, machi* and *mura* from schedules submitted by all local governments. The results were published on the Official Gazettes dated January 31, February 22, and February 25, 1956, and on "The Population for All Japan, *To, Do, Fu, Ken, Gun, Shi, Ku, Machi* and *Mura*, Final Count" in March, 1956. It gave 89,275,529 as the total population of

Japan, but did not divide it into male and female. It picked up the total number of personnel in camps or ships of the National Defense Forces, and persons in prisons or juvenile detention houses whose penalties had been fixed. The figures presented in this volume came from the final count.

##### 3. One Percent Sample Tabulation

One schedule was drawn out of every one hundred schedules at random to obtain one percent sample. The tabulation of the one percent sample provides the statistics on population characteristics such as sex, age, nationality, marital status, labor force status, place of work, industry, occupation and class of worker, and on household and housing. It was scheduled to be finished in November, 1956, and published in parts as they would be completed and finally compiled in the volume 2 of the regular reports of the 1955 Census. The plan of one percent sample tabulation is shown in table I.

##### 4. Complete Tabulation

The complete tabulation, that is to say, the hundred percent tabulation, is now in course of tabulation by prefectures, referring to such items as sex, age, marital status, nationality, labor force status, place of work, industry, occupation, class of worker, household and housing. The results will be published in subsequent volumes as soon as they become available prefecture by prefecture, and finally consolidated in volumes for all Japan. All tabulation will be finished by the end of March of 1959. The tabulation plan of the hundred percent counting is shown in table II.

### COVERAGE OF EACH CENSUS ENUMERATION

#### Geographical Boundaries of Enumeration

The 1955 Population Census was conducted in the whole area strictly under the administrative authority of the Japanese Government as of the date of the Census. The following islands, therefore, were excluded from the Census.

- (1) Shikotan-shima, Suisho-shima, Yuri-shima, Akiyuri-shima, Shibotsu-shima and Taraku-shima in Hokkaido
- (2) Nampo-shoto (Ogasawara-gunto, Nishino-shima and Kazan-retto)

- (3) Okinotori-shima and Minamitori-shima
- (4) Take-shima, East Longitude 131° 52' 30" and North Latitude 37° 15' 0"
- (5) Iwotori-shima, Iheya-shima and Nansei-shoto in the South of the North Latitude 27° (including Daito-shoto)

In addition to the area which the 1950 Census had covered, the 1955 Census included Tokara-retto (To-shima-mura in Oshima-gun, Kagoshima-ken) and Amami-gunto, (major portions of Oshima-gun) both of which were returned to the Japanese Government

on the 5th of December, 1951, and the 25th of December, 1953, respectively. Special population censuses were taken as of May 1, 1952, for Tokara-retto, and as of March 1, 1954, for Amami-gunto, the inhabitants of Tokara-retto numbering 2,968 while those of Amami-gunto counted 201,132. (See "Report on the Population Census of Amami Islands" published by the Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister, in June, 1954.)

The area covered by the 1955 Census comprises 369,765.89 square kilometers, which is larger by 1,481.74 square kilometers than the area covered by the 1950 Census, 368,284.15 square kilometers. The difference is mainly due to the return of Tokara-retto and Amami-gunto, but partly to the difference between the maps used to measure the land area as mentioned later.

This volume presents not only the results of the 1955 and 1950 Censuses but those of 1947 and other previous censuses. Between the censuses, especially between those of 1920-1940 and those of 1945 and thereafter, considerable discrepancies exist in area coverage. The censuses of 1920-1940 were taken for Korea, Taiwan and other areas which were removed out of the Japanese territory according to the Treaty of Peace. These areas, of course, were excluded from the coverage of the censuses since 1945. Furthermore, the areas covered by the Censuses of 1945 and 1947 differ from that of the 1955 Census.

**Note:** The 1920 Census didn't cover Korea but a special household survey, Rinji-Koko.Chosa, was conducted for it on the census date.

In this volume, for the sake of consistency of the data, the census figures related to the difference in coverage are arranged in the following way:

1. The census figures prior to 1945 exclude those for such former Japanese territories as Korea, Taiwan, Karafuto and so forth, where the censuses were conducted as well as in Japan proper, because they could be easily separated. The figures for small areas, however, are not excluded, though they should be.

They are:

- (1) Suisho-shima, Yuri-shima, Akiyuri-shima, Shibotsu-shima and Taraku-shima in Hokkaido (These islands belong to Habomai-mura in Nemuro-shicho)
- Take-shima in Shimane-ken (This island belongs to Goko-mura in Ochi-gun)

The figures for above islands are included in those for the *machi* or *mura* to which the islands belong because their own figures are not available.

- (2) Tomari-mura, Ruyobetsu-mura, Shikotan-mura, Rubetsu-mura, Shana-mura, Shibetoro-mura, Uruppu-gun, Shinshiru-gun and Shumushu-gun in Hokkaido

Ogasawara-shicho in Tokyo-to

The figures for above areas are included in those for the prefectures to which they belong because their own figures for detailed characteristics can not be separated from the figures for the prefectures.

2. Oshima-gun in Kagoshima-ken, where the 1955 Census was taken, was not covered by the 1945 Census. Of this *gun*, Take-shima, Kuro-shima and Iwo-shima, which were removed from the administration of Jutto-son and incorporated as Mishima-mura on February 10, 1952, were covered by the 1947 Census as well as by the 1950 and 1955 Censuses. The population of these islands, 1,304 in 1947, is included in the figures for 1947, but their land area is put together with other areas of former Jutto-son (the whole area of former Jutto-son numbers 18.43 square kilometers) because their own land area was not available in 1947.

The comparability of population and land area of each census is presented in table III.

#### Land Area

The areas of *to, do, fu, ken, shi, ku, gun, machi* and *mura* shown in this volume of 1955, were newly measured by the Geographical Survey Institute, Ministry of Construction, and the Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister, on one-fifty thousandth geographical maps revised after the war, the so-called "Okyu-shusei-ban". Therefore, they may not be the same as the former figures measured on the old one-fifty thousandth maps even if there were no change in boundaries of administrative divisions.

The following remarks are required with regard to the land area of 1955:

- (1) There were *shi, machi* and *mura* where their boundaries were not defined and the areas for related lands were not measured by the Geographical Survey Institute. The approximate estimates of their areas were provided by the

Bureau of Statistics for the convenience of the users of data while the related whole areas were assigned to each *shi*, *machi* and *mura*. The figures for such areas may differ from those which will be computed and published by the Geographical Survey Institute hereafter.

- (2) Since the revision of maps of Hokkaido is under way, this volume presents provisional figures obtained from the former maps.
- (3) In measuring the land area, the border line between the land and sea is fixed at the full tide water mark.
- (4) Rivers, streams, lakes and inlets are included in the land area.

In addition to the land area for 1955, this volume presents the figures for the land areas used in the former censuses' reports. These figures cover the places for which the population figures are presented in this volume. The coverage varies between censuses as geographical boundaries of enumeration do. Table III shows how it is.

The area figures of each census, furthermore, have another kind of discrepancy. Some censuses do not show the same figures for land areas even in case they have covered the same places of enumeration. This arises not only from the reclamation work or other land improvements but also from the adjustment or revision of maps used for measuring the land area.

Sources of figures for land areas presented for each census in this volume are:

- 1920.....Report on the 1920 Population Census, All Japan, Volume 1, Cabinet Bureau of Statistics.
- 1925.....Report on the 1925 Population Census, Volume 1, Cabinet Bureau of Statistics.
- 1930.....Report on the 1930 Population Census, Volume 1, Cabinet Bureau of Statistics.
- 1935 to 1947.....Survey of the Land Area for *Shi*, *Machi* and *Mura* of All Japan, Cabinet Bureau of Statistics, 1935.
- 1950.....Survey of the Land Area for *Shi*, *Machi* and *Mura* of All Japan, Geographical Survey Institute, Ministry of Construction.

The land area for 1920 was computed by the former Land Inspection Board. The areas for 1925 and 1930 were computed on the maps which were provided after the revision of the maps used in 1920. The land area for 1935 was computed as of March 31,

1935, in cooperation between the Cabinet Bureau of Statistics and the Land Inspection Board, under the supervision of the Land Inspection Board, according to the one-fifty thousandth maps newly published by the Land Inspection Board. Thereafter, in 1940, 1945, 1947 and 1950, the land area for 1935 was used after the adjustment regarding the change of census coverage and boundaries of *shi*, *machi* and *mura*. In 1950, moreover, a special calculation was made for those *shi*, *machi* and *mura* where re-check was deemed necessary because of other reasons than the boundary changes, or where the border lines between the land and sea shifted remarkably since 1935.

Since 1920 the land area was measured to include half of the space between the low and full tide lines. In 1950, however, it was adjusted to include the whole space at the inside of the full tide lines as in 1955.

#### Population enumerated in censuses

The 1955 Census was taken to enumerate the so-called "*de jure* population". The *de jure* population, in this census, refers to those persons who are usually living in an area at the date of census, and counted as the population of that area. The wording "persons usually living" was defined as those persons who had or would have lived more than three months at their respective households. The institutional population, however, was not enumerated under this general rule, but treated under the following special rules:

1. Students, who were attending schools indicated in Article 1, schools specified in Article 83, and schools mentioned as still existing in Article 98, School Education Law, (Law, No. 26, March 31, 1947) were enumerated at the places where they were living to attend school, despite the length of their living there.
2. Patients in hospitals were enumerated in the hospitals if they had been there more than 3 months. Otherwise, they were enumerated at their homes even if they expected to stay in hospitals more than 3 months.
3. Crews aboard ships except ships used by the National Defence Forces were enumerated at their residential places on land if they had them. Otherwise, they were enumerated on the ships only when their ships entered the ports of Japan within 3 days after the census date.

there was a little difference regarding enumeration of patients in hospitals.

The 1947 and preceding censuses were conducted on a *de facto* basis except the 1935 Census which covered the *de jure* population as well, as mentioned before. As to these censuses, moreover, the following discrepancies are noted:

1. The Censuses of 1920, 1925, 1930 and 1935 enumerated all persons in Japan at the census date, covering not only ordinary foreigners but diplomatic personnel and others who had been excluded in the postwar censuses.
2. The 1940 Census enumerated on a *de facto* basis all persons except military personnel who were counted as living in homes together with their families or relatives even though they were actually overseas. Of the total population of 72,539,729, military personnel was reported as numbering 1,682,518 including those overseas who were estimated approximately at 1,200 thousand. This volume presents figures for all persons including the overseas military personnel.
3. The 1945 Census was also taken on a *de facto* basis. This Census did not cover foreigners except persons formerly classified as extra-territorials, i.e., Koreans, Formosans, etc., and persons in camps or ships of the army and navy at the census date.
4. The 1947 Census was also taken on a *de facto* basis, and excluded the following persons from enumeration:

- (1) Military personnel of the Allied Forces, those who were attached to them and their families.
- (2) Members of the missions which were appointed or approved by SCAP, their employees and their families.
- (3) Those who resided in Japan on official missions of foreign governments, their suites and their families.

The figures for 1947 were adjusted for estimated underenumeration to the number of 3,109, due to flood conditions at the time of the census. This adjusted number is distributed in the following manner: Tokyo-to, 2,177; Saitama-ken, 458; Tochigi-ken, 267; Miyagi-ken, 207. These estimates were obtained from a sample enumeration in the affected areas after the flood had subsided and families had returned to their homes.

4. Residents in the camps of the National Defence Forces were enumerated in the camps. Crews aboard ships of the National Defence Forces were enumerated at the places where the local general headquarters their ships belonged to were situated.
5. Persons in prisons and juvenile detention houses whose penalties had been fixed were enumerated at their institutions.
6. Persons who had no usual living places or whose usual living places were unknown were enumerated at the places where they were present at the time of the census.

In accordance with the rules mentioned above, all persons in Japan were enumerated no matter whether they were foreigners or not. But the following persons were excluded from the survey.

1. The military personnel of the forces of the United States of America and the United Nations, civilians attached to these forces and their families.
2. Diplomatic corps who were on official missions of the foreign governments and international organizations, their suites and their families.

**Note:** According to the sources given by foreign agencies to the Government, the family members among the persons indicated in the first group above numbered 54,892, and the persons indicated in the second group above numbered 3,223, both as of October 1, 1935. The number of other persons was unknown.

In contrast with the 1955 Census, the 1950 Census adopted the following different method of enumeration:

1. The 1950 Census was the first census taken on a *de jure* basis. However, it counted also the *de facto* population, enumerating the persons temporarily away from their usual places of residence by using special schedules for them. (The 1935 Census was taken on the *de facto* basis, but, in addition, asked about usual place of residence of each person and computed the *de jure* population.) The 1950 Census enumerated 83,199,637 on the *de jure* basis, and counted 83,203,557 on the *de facto* basis, showing the *de facto* population 3,920 in excess of the *de jure* population.
2. The 1950 Census took "more than 6 months" as a criterion for determining whether a person was usually living or intended to live in a household, but the 1955 Census adopted "more than 3 months" for it.
3. The institutional population, such as students, crews aboard ships, prisoners, etc., was counted almost in the same way regarding their places of enumeration in the 1950 and 1955 Censuses, but

Table III. COMPARISON OF AREA COVERAGE OF  
[× ..... excluded from census figures presented]

Area	Population				
	1955 Oct. 1	1950 Oct. 1	1947 Oct. 1	1945 Nov. 1	1940 Oct. 1
<b>Hokkaido</b>	4 773 087	4 295 567	3 852 821	3 518 389	3 272 718
Nemuro-shicho	82 444	69 733	61 869	59 741	83 712
Uruppu-gun, Shinshiru-gun and Shumushu-gun	×	×	×	×	1 933
Tomari-mura, Ruyobetsu-mura, Shana-mura, Rubetsu-mura and Shibetoro-mura	×	×	×	×	14 117
Shikotan-mura	×	×	×	×	1 499
Habomai-mura	5 205	4 139	3 675	3 423	9 389
Suisyo-shima, Yuri-shima, Akiyuri-shima, Shibotsu-shima and Taraku-shima	×	×	×	×	—
Other areas	5 205	4 139	3 675	3 423	—
Other areas	77 239	65 594	58 194	56 318	56 774
Other areas	4 690 643	4 225 834	3 790 952	3 458 648	3 189 006
<b>Tokyo-to</b>	8 037 084	6 277 500	5 000 777	3 488 284	7 354 971
Ogasawara	×	×	×	×	7 361
Other areas	8 037 084	6 277 500	5 000 777	3 488 284	7 347 610
<b>Shimane-ken</b>	929 066	912 551	894 267	860 275	740 940
Oki-to	43 814	44 842	42 400	39 663	31 794
Goka-mura	3 969	4 091	3 748	3 699	2 853
Take-shima	×	×	×	×	—
Other areas	3 969	4 091	3 748	3 699	—
Other areas	39 845	40 751	38 652	35 964	28 941
Other areas	885 252	867 709	851 867	820 612	709 146
<b>Kagoshima-ken</b>	2 044 112	1 804 118	1 746 305	1 538 466	1 589 467
Oshima-gun and Naze-shi	209 373	1 484	1 304	×	185 059
Mishima-mura (includes Iwo-shima, Take-shima and Kuro-shima) <sup>1)</sup>	1 352	1 484	1 304	×	3 564
Toshima-mura and Yokoate-shima (Tokararetto) <sup>2)</sup>	2 658	×	×	×	
Other areas (Amami-gunto) <sup>3)</sup>	205 363	×	×	×	181 495
Other areas	1 834 739	1 802 634	1 745 001	1 538 466	1 404 408
<b>Remaining 42 prefectures</b>	73 492 180	69 909 901	66 607 303	62 592 690	59 581 633
<b>Total</b>	89 275 529	83 199 637	78 101 473	71 998 104	72 539 729
<b>Okinawa-ken</b>	×	×	×	×	574 579

1) Area lying north of North Latitude 30° (excluding Kuchino-shima) in Jutto-son, Oshima-gun. This area of Jutto-son was incorporated as Mishima-mura on February 10, 1952.

2) Area lying north of North Latitude 29° and south of North Latitude 30° in Jutto-son, Oshima-gun. This area, which had not been under the administration of the Japanese Government after September 2, 1945, was returned on December 5, 1951, and the population census conducted for this area as of May 1, 1952, showed 2,968 for the total population.

EACH CENSUS ENUMERATION: 1920 TO 1955  
in this Volume. — .....not available]

				Area in square kilometers				
1935 Oct. 1	1930 Oct. 1	1925 Oct. 1	1920 Oct. 1	1955	1950	1947	1945	1940
3 068 282	2 812 335	2 498 679	2 359 183	78 664.48	78 486.06	78 459.68	78 459.68	88 775.04
78 241	71 325	56 891	52 134	3 439.41	3 490.45	3 496.13	3 496.13	13 811.49
2 881	459	500	3 115	×	×	×	×	5 319.61
14 656	13 749	13 436	11 479	×	×	×	×	4 639.04
1 177	911	857	542	×	×	×	×	255.12
7 558	7 442	9 046	6 086	63.40	63.41	63.41	63.41	165.00
—	—	—	—	×	×	×	×	101.59
—	—	—	—	63.40	63.41	63.41	63.41	63.41
51 969	48 764	33 052	30 912	3 376.01	3 427.04	3 432.72	3 432.72	3 432.72
2 990 041	2 741 010	2 441 788	2 307 049	75 225.07	74 995.61	74 963.55	74 963.55	74 963.55
6 369 919	5 408 678	4 485 144	3 699 428	2 020.88	2 031.12	2 041.86	2 041.86	2 144.80
6 729	5 742	5 780	5 425	×	×	×	×	102.94
6 363 190	5 402 936	4 479 364	3 694 003	2 020.88	2 031.12	2 041.86	2 041.86	2 041.86
747 119	739 507	722 402	714 712	6 625.04	6 626.06	6 623.30	6 623.30	6 624.60
32 750	34 134	34 580	36 539	347.71	347.61	346.73	346.73	348.03
3 006	3 175	3 330	3 522	51.57	51.44	50.56	50.56	51.86
—	—	—	—	×	×	×	×	1.30
—	—	—	—	51.57	51.44	50.56	50.56	50.56
29 744	30 959	31 250	33 017	296.14	296.17	296.17	296.17	296.17
714 369	705 373	687 822	678 173	6 277.33	6 278.45	6 276.57	6 276.57	6 276.57
1 591 466	1 556 690	1 472 193	1 415 582	9 190.91	7 825.68	4) 7 833.20	7 814.77	9 103.81
204 640	207 785	207 252	213 849	1 411.53	31.61	—	×	1 289.04
} 3 667	} 3 723	} 3 340	} 3 338	31.61	31.61	—	×	} 18.43
				87.54	×	×	×	
200 973	204 062	203 912	210 511	1 292.38	×	×	×	1 270.61
1 386 826	1 348 905	1 264 941	1 201 733	7 779.38	7 794.07	7 814.77	7 814.77	7 814.77
56 884 868	53 355 286	50 000 782	47 202 576	273 264.58	273 315.23	273 510.93	273 510.93	273 510.93
68 661 654	63 872 496	59 179 200	55 391 481	369 765.89	368 284.15	5) 368 469.86	5) 368 451.43	380 159.18
592 494	577 509	557 622	571 572	×	×	×	×	2 386.24

3) Naze-shi and area lying south of North Latitude 29° in Oshima-gun, Kagoshima-ken. This area, which had not been under the administration of the Japanese Government after September 2, 1945, was returned on December 25, 1953 and the population census conducted for this area as of March 1, 1954, showed 201,132 for the total population.

4) As the area of Mishima-mura was not available, the whole area of Jutto-son for 1940 (18.43 km<sup>2</sup>) was taken as it was for the area of Mishima-mura.

5) These numbers differ by 0.89 from that computed with the area shown in the column for 1940, though the sources of these numbers are same.

## POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS OF JAPAN

Japan is divided into 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* or *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* or *cho* (towns) and *mura* or *son* (villages). *Shi*, *machi* and *mura* are political units but *gun* and *shicho* are merely administrative subdivisions of the prefectures.

Although *shi*, *machi* and *mura*, in the order named, tend to diminish in the size of population, there is no sharp break in size between them, especially between *machi* and *mura*. Almost all *shi* contain a population of 30,000 or more. An incorporated area had been newly designated as a *shi* if it had a population of 30,000 or more and other necessary urban conditions. Thus, usually, the population residing in *shi* area had been considered as urban and that in *gun* and *shicho* as rural. Recently, however, the newly designated *shi* have come to contain considerable rural areas. Particularly, between 1950 and 1955 a great number of *shi* were newly incorporated as *shi*, no matter how much farm land they contain within their bounds. Areas of some *shi*, therefore, present too rural an appearance to be called as urban. With

regard to this situation, this volume presents the 1955 population of all *shi* in two groups, those having 50,000 inhabitants or more and those having less than 50,000 inhabitants.

The establishment of new *shi* was effected generally by the absorption of neighboring *machi* and *mura* and brought about many changes in the boundaries between adjacent communities. Furthermore, between 1950 and 1955 so many *machi* and *mura* were amalgamated with neighboring *machi* and *mura* that there was a sharp decrease in the number of *machi* and *mura*, and the comparison of population between 1950 and 1955 became difficult in some areas without some adjustment. This report presents the figures for the 1950 population readjusted so as to be the figures for the areas of *shi*, *machi* and *mura* in 1955, with an annexed table, in Japanese, which shows the establishments of new *shi*, *machi* and *mura*, amalgamations of *machi* and *mura*, boundary changes between *shi*, *machi* and *mura*, etc.

The six largest cities in Japan are subdivided into *ku* or wards. These cities are Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Yokohama and Kobe. All these cities are incorporated as *shi* except Tokyo. The City of Tokyo had also been incorporated as a *shi* in Tokyo-*fu* until 1943 when the separate *shi* incorporation was abolished although the individual *ku* (wards) which had constituted the former city were retained and Tokyo-*fu* became Tokyo-*to*.