

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 (Rubetsu-mura); Shibetoro-gun (Shibetoro-mura); Uruppu-gun; Shinshiru-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 the *de jure* count. The following

special rules regarding residence should be noted:

- a) Students were enumerated in dormitories, boarding houses, etc. where they usually lived rather than at their parents' homes.
- b) Patients in mental institution, tuberculosis sanatoria and leprosaria were enumerated at these places rather than at the homes of their families.
- c) Patients in the hospitals were enumerated at their hospitals if they had been there 6 months or more. Otherwise, they were enumerated at their place of usual residence outside the hospitals.
- d) Crews aboard ships were enumerated, as usually reside aboard ships, provided they had no place of usual residence on land.
- e) 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 place of usual residence outside the institutions, provided they had one.
- f) Persons who had no place of usual 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:

- 1 Military personnel of the Allied Forces and those who were attached to the Allied Forces and members of their families
- 2 Members of missions which were appoint-

ed or approved by SCAP, their employees and members of their families

- 3 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 place of usual 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 schedules. 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 place of usual 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 place of usual residence

Place of usual 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 made centrally by the Bureau of Statistics on the basis of the schedules actually submitted.

Results were published in the Office Gazette beginning 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 tabulation of the one percent sample, and released in May and June 1951. These results were compiled in Vol. II published in June 1952. Similar tabulation 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 from tabulation of the ten percent sample, between August 1951 and February 1952. Those 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 tabulations for each prefecture have been finished and the data have been compiled separately for each prefecture in 46 Parts which together form Vol. VII, named

Report by Prefecture. They have been 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 are compiled in this Volume, Vol. IV, All Japan 1. The rest, concerned with labor force status, occupation, industry and class of worker, will be published in Vol. V, All Japan 2. Finally Vol. VIII will be published, which will become the last report containing the synthetic 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 on whether present or not at his usual residence on the Census date and persons away from their places of usual residence were enumerated, thus the *de facto* population is gained. This *de facto* population is showed in Vol. VI, named *De Jure* Population and *De Facto* Population, published in June 1954, as well as number of households and population by sex for *shi*, *machi* and *mura*.

2. EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THIS CENSUS

Population:

Population of 1950 represented in this volume refers to *de jure* population. But each population of 1947, 1940, 1935, 1930, 1925 and 1920 in Table 1, refers to *de facto* population. The population of 1920—1940 cover the whole area of Japan Proper except Okinawa-ken. The population of 1940 includes military personnel outside Japan Proper. As for these deferences of coverage, see "Introduction" of Volume I Total Population.

Age:

Age is measured in terms of completed years as of the date of the Census 1 October 1950.

Marital status:

Marital status was reported according to the actual situation regardless of registry in the *koseki* (family registry ledger). For example, persons living together without registry in the *koseki* were reported as "Married".

Marital status was classified into the following:

- 1 Single: person who has not yet married.
- 2 Married: person who has a spouse (husband or wife) at the present time.
- 3 Widowed: person who has been separated from spouse by death and is not now married.
- 4 Divorced: person who has parted from spouse by separation (legally or not) and is not married to any one else.

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 not counted.

Households and housing:

1 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 with 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 a separate budgets are grouped together as one quasi household.

In this report, however, the term "private households" is used to include normal households and quasi households the member of which is only one, and "quasi households" refers to only quasi households of two or more members. The term "private households" is approximately same as the term "normal households" which was used in previous population Censuses.

2 Kind of living quarters:

- (1) A "Dwelling house" is a durable structure which was originally built to be used for family living quarters, a durable structure renovated in a manner suitable for family living or a part of a durable structure completely partitioned off for family living quarters. A store, shop or office may be attached to such a structure.
- (2) A "Non-dwelling house" is a place used for living quarters but not suitable for an independent family life. Such places include hotels, inns, boarding houses, dormitories, the night duty room used by the janitor in an institution or factory, temporary huts, tents, trenches, ruined shelters and under bridges, etc.

3 Tenure:

- (1) An owned house is a dwelling house owned by persons living in it.
- (2) An issued house is a dwelling house which is owned by a company, private organization or the government and issued to an employee and his household for the sake of convenience of service or as partial payment of wages.
- (3) A rented house is a dwelling house which is neither owned by nor issued to the household living in it.
- (4) A rented room is a part of a dwelling house occupied by a household. There may be one or more "rented rooms" reported in one dwelling house but part of the dwelling house must also have been

reported as owned, rented, or issued. Thus, the total number of dwelling houses is really the number of households living in dwelling houses. The total number of owned, issued and rented dwelling houses, however, is the number of units originally built or renovated as family living quarters.

4 *Tatami*:

The number of *tatami* in dwelling rooms, excluding kitchens, bath rooms, hallways, etc., of dwelling houses is used as a measure of

the size of living area, of dwelling houses in Japan. *Tatami* are mats which are used to cover the floor area of a room from wall to wall. The size of *tatami* varies slightly from one region to another, but, generally speaking, they are 3 by 6 feet. Rooms are designed so that the square feet of floor space is a multiple of *tatami*. Thus, in Japan, people do not speak of a room as so many feet square but as being a 2-*tatami* room, 4-*tatami* room, etc.

3. POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF JAPAN

Japan is divided in 46 prefectures. The names of 42 carry the suffix *ken* and the other 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*, also called *cho* (towns) and *mura*, also called *son* (villages). *Shi*, *machi* and *mura* are political units but *gun* and *shicho* are merely administrative subdivisions of the prefectures. *Shi* areas is usually designated as urban and that in *gun* and *shicho* as rural.

Although *shi*, *machi* and *mura*, in the order named, tend to diminish in size of population, there is no sharp break in size 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 clusters 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. Tokyo City 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 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*.