

## OUTLINE OF THE POPULATION CENSUS OF 1955

### Date of Census

The Population Census of 1955 was conducted as of 00:00 a.m. of October 1, 1955.

### Legal Basis of Census

The 1955 Census was conducted in conformity with the provisions in Article 4, Paragraph 2, of the Statistics Law (Law No. 18 of 1947).

In order to carry out the census, the Enforcement Order for the Population Census of 1955 (Cabinet Order No. 72 of 1955), Rules for the Census-taking of the 1955 Population Census (Instruction No. 4 of 1955) and related notifications were appointed in accordance with the Statistics Law.

### Area Coverage of Enumeration

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

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, located at East Longitude 131° 52' 30", North Latitude 37° 15' 0"
5. Iwotori-shima, Iheya-shima and Nansei-shoto in the South of North Latitude 27° (including Daito-shoto)

In addition to the areas enumerated in the 1950 Census, the 1955 Census further covered Tokara-retto (Toshima-mura in Oshima-gun, Kagoshima-ken) and Amami-gunto (Naze-shi and major portion 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. According to the results of the population censuses taken as of May 1, 1952, for Tokara-retto and as of March 1, 1954, for Amami-gunto, the population was 2 968 and 201 132, and the land areas were 87.54 km<sup>2</sup> and 1292.38 km<sup>2</sup>, respectively.

### Population enumerated in this census

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 of 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.
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.

### Enumeration Items

In the Population Census of 1955, the following items were reported on 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
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.

### Method of Survey

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

Before the census-taking, the whole area to be enumerated in this census was divided into enumeration districts and separately mapped. Ordinary Enumeration Districts were arranged to comprise 50 households on the average, numbering 365 954, while Special Enumeration Districts counted 25 637.

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 and the checking of the entries in the census schedules. As a rule, an enumerator was assigned to one enumeration district. Preparatory survey was taken during the week from 24 through 30 September 1955 and actual enumeration was carried out during the 3-day period from 1 through 3 October.

The schedule used in this census was "household

schedule" designed to report 10 individuals in one sheet, and used separately for each household as unit. Of the above-mentioned items, the items from No. 3 through No. 8 on the schedule were filled up by the heads or representatives of households concerning their household members. The remaining items, Nos. 1, 2 and 9, were filled up by the enumerator who interviewed the heads or representatives of households to obtain information.

For the enumeration of the National Defence Forces and reformatory institutions, Special Schedules (collective schedules) were employed.

### Tabulation and Publication

As the initial census results, the preliminary count of the population by sex and households was released officially on December 6, 1955, and a report entitled "Preliminary Count of the Population and Households for All Japan, *To*, *Do*, *Fu*, *Ken*, *Gun*, *Shi*, *Ku*, *Machi* and *Mura*" was published on the 12th of the same month.

The final count was made at the Bureau of Statistics by using the schedules submitted by all local governments. The results were announced on the Official Gazettes on January 31, February 22 and February 25, 1956, and published under the title of "Population for All Japan, *To*, *Do*, *Fu*, *Ken*, *Gun*, *Shi*, *Ku*, *Machi* and *Mura*, Final Count" in March 1956. Furthermore, "1955 Population Census of Japan, Volume 1" was published as the first of the regular census reports, presenting the land areas for *shi*, *machi* and *mura* as well as the final count of population, and summarizing them for comparison with those of the previous census.

In the one percent sample tabulation, one schedule was drawn out of every one hundred schedules and schedules thus selected were tabulated. The tabulation concerned itself with all items enumerated, and the results were presented with detailed classifications for all Japan, all *shi* and all *gun*, but with less detailed classifications for prefectures and six major cities.

This tabulation was completed in November 1956, and the results were published successively in preliminary reports, "Results of One Percent Sample Tabulation for 1955 Population Census" (9 for all Japan, 52 for prefectures and six major cities) from October through December 1956. "1955 Population

Census of Japan, Volume II" was compiled as the second volume of regular reports, containing all results in the said preliminary reports.

The complete count was taken on the basis of all the schedules submitted. It provides the detailed statistics for all Japan and prefectures, and principal statistics of all items for *shi*, *machi* and *mura*. This complete count was made prefecture by prefecture, and the tabulations for each prefecture were finished by the end of March 1954. The data were compiled separately for each prefecture in 46 parts which together form Volume V, Report by Prefecture. They had been published successively by the end of June 1954.

As for the similar results for the whole area of

**EXPLANATION OF TERMS**

In this census, all persons born by the end of 1941 were reported on their labor force status, industry, occupation and class of worker regarding the individual's activities during the "census week" running from 24 through 30 September 1955. The tabulation concerning these economic characteristics of the population is limited to persons 15 years old and over, although the one percent sample alone provides the following tables for persons 14 years old in order to render comparison with data of the 1950 Census, in which the economic characteristics were tabulated for persons 14 years old and over.

Labor force status of the population 14 years old by sex (Statistical table 16, Part 2, Vol. II)

Industry (major group) of employed persons 14 years old by sex (Statistical table 17, Part 2, Vol. II)

Occupation (major group) of employed persons 14 years old by sex (Statistical table 7, Part 3, Vol. II)

Japan, those concerned with sex, age, marital status, nationality, household and housing were compiled as Volume III, Part 1. The rest, concerned with labor force status, industry, occupation and class of worker, are compiled in this report, Volume III, Part 2.

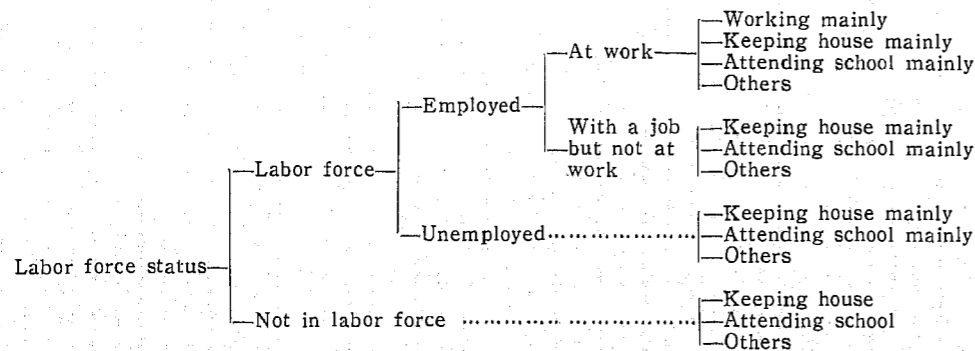
The results on the place of work will be published as Volume IV. Finally, the Volume VI, containing the synthetic explanation and analysis of the Census results and methods, will be published. And as the appendices "Population Maps of Japan" are being prepared.

For the items of one percent sample tabulation and complete count, see Table I, Page 14 and Table II, Page 15 of "1955 Population Census of Japan, Volume I."

**Labor Force Status**

In the enumeration, firstly, all persons to be reported were classified into four categories, i.e., "those working mainly ("working" hereinafter meaning to work for pay or profit, or to work in a family business without pay)", "those keeping house mainly", "those attending school mainly" and "others" according to their main activities during the census week. Secondly, the following series of questions were instructed to be asked by enumerators of persons whose main activities were other than "working", in the order mentioned: (1) "Did this person do any work during the census week?" If not, (2) "Did this person have a job or business at which he did not work?" If not, (3) "Was this person seeking work?"

On the basis of the answers given to these questions, labor force status of the individual is classified as follows:



The outlines of main categories are:

**At work**—Employed persons "at work" refer to all persons who did any work during the census week for pay or profit, whether it be in the form of wages, salary, allowance, business profit, commission, etc. Included here, therefore, are persons working as proprietors of their own farms, stores, factories, etc., and persons working as doctor, lawyer, priest, musician, etc., together with employees of a company, factory, store, government office, etc.

Also, in this category is included any person who was working in the family business on a farm, in a store, private hospital and so forth, even though he was not paid any wage.

**With a job but not at work**—Employed persons "with a job but not at work" comprise those who did not work at all during the census week though they had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, labor dispute, or for family or personal reasons. But, in case an employee or worker did not receive and did not expect to receive wages or salary for the census week because of his absence from work, or in case a proprietor or unpaid family worker was away from his work, such persons are also included in this category, if only their absence did not extend over 30 days up to the census date.

**Unemployed**—"Unemployed" persons refer to those who did not work, and had no job, though were able to work and actually seeking work during the census week. This category includes also persons who were engaged in a preparatory work to open a business.

**Not in labor force**—Persons "not in labor force" comprise all persons who did not do any work and had no job, and, further, did not make any positive effort to find a job during the census week or were unable to work; among such persons are included those who were unable to work because of illness or old age, those making their living on revenues from assets, old-age pensions, etc., or those mainly keeping house or attending school.

The term "labor force" is a general term covering "at work", "with a job but not at work" and "unemployed", while the term "employed" is a general term for "at work" and "with a job but not at work".

The classification of 1955 for the labor force status

is basically the same as that of 1950, although the questionnaire design and sequence of questions in 1950 are different from those in 1955, and the 1950 Census covered persons 10 to 13 years of age, and asked all employees about the hours worked during the census week.

**Industry**

"Industry" for employed persons refers to the kind of business of the establishment where persons classified as "at work" were working during the census week, or persons classified as "with a job but not at work" had been usually working. If a person worked for two or more establishments, the kind of business of the establishment where he worked mainly was reported.

The industrial classification for the 1955 Census consists of 121 minor groups, 38 intermediate groups and 12 major groups, all formed on the basis of the "Standard Industrial Classification for Japan" (Cabinet Order No. 127 of 1951). The industrial classification is arranged so that it may be comparable with the 1950 Census classification with minor adjustments. For the major industry group are needed some adjustments in regards to the following points:

1. "Civil engineering and architectural services", Minor group No. 112, numbering 12 133 workers belonging to "Services", Major group No. X, in 1955 were comprised in "Construction", Major group No. V, in the 1950 classification.
2. "Foreign forces", Minor group No. 119, numbering 193 554 workers belonging to "Services", Major group No. X, in 1955, were included in "Government", Major group No. XI, as "Occupation forces", Minor group No. 134, numbering 216 100 workers, in 1950. A caution is needed here for the difference of contents between "Foreign forces" of 1955 and "Occupation forces" of 1950; "Foreign forces" includes all employees enumerated in the camps of the United States and United Nations' Forces, while "Occupation forces" comprises only the employees of the Allied Forces not classified into any other minor group. However, 216 100 persons classified as "Occupation forces" in 1950 constituted the major part of all Allied Forces' employees at the census date, numbering 258 000 persons in all.

**Occupation**

"Occupation" for persons "at work" refers to the kind of work actually done during the census week, and that for persons "with a job but not at work" refers to the kind of work they had been usually doing.

If a person was engaged in more than one job, he was reported on the one he was mainly engaged in.

The occupational classification for the 1955 Census consists of 246 minor groups, 39 intermediate groups and 10 major groups.

For the difference between the 1950 and 1955 occupational classification systems, the 1950 major groups are made comparable with those of 1955 by adding or omitting the 1950 detailed items, as stated in the following table.

Comparison Between 1950 and 1955 Major Occupational Classification Systems

Major groups, 1955	Major groups, 1950	1950 minor items added or omitted
I Professional and technical workers	I Professional and technical workers	Items omitted 13 Draftsmen and tracers 15 Navigators, ship engineers and pilots (n. e. c.) 35 Professional athletes and related workers
II Managers and officials	II Managers and officials	Items omitted 49 Conductors, railroad 54 Ship captains, chief engineers and pursers; except on fishing vessels
III Clerical and related workers	III Clerical and related workers	Item omitted 66 Conductors, bus and street railway
IV Sales workers	IV Sales workers	Item added 213 Foremen (n. e. c.) by industries (wholesale and retail trade)
V Farmers, lumbermen, fishermen and related workers	V Farmers, lumbermen, fishermen and related workers	Item omitted 98 Captains, chief engineers and pursers on fishing vessels
VI Workers in mining and quarrying occupations	VI Workers in mine and quarry occupations	Item added 229 Blasters and powdermen
VII Workers in transport occupations	VII Workers in operating transport occupations	Items added 15 Navigators, ship engineers and pilots (n. e. c.) 49 Conductors, railroad 54 Ship captains, chief engineers and pursers; except on fishing vessels 66 Conductors, bus and street railway 98 Captains, chief engineers and pursers on fishing vessels 231 Brakemen and switchmen, railroad
VIII Craftsmen, production process workers and laborers not elsewhere classified	VIII Craftsmen, production process workers and laborers (n. e. c.)	Item added 13 Draftsmen and tracers Items omitted 213 Foremen (n. e. c.) by industries (wholesale and retail trade) 224 Laundrymen and dry cleaning workers 229 Blasters and powdermen 231 Brakemen and switchmen, railroad
IX Service workers	IX Service workers	Items added 35 Professional athletes and related workers 224 Laundrymen and dry cleaning workers
X Not classifiable	X Not classifiable and not reported	—

Note: "Items omitted" or "Items added" indicates minor classification categories to be omitted from, or to be added to, a group of the 1950 major classifications.

**Class of Worker**

All employed persons are classified according to the occupational status into the following five categories: For persons "at work", the information refers to the job they held during the census week, and for persons "with a job but not at work", it refers to the job they had usually held.

**Employers**—Persons who own and operate their business, farm, trade or professional enterprise with one or more paid employees.

**Workers on own account**—Persons who own and operate their business, farm, trade or professional enterprise without any paid employee. Persons employing only unpaid family workers or employees for other purpose than their business, such as domestic servants, are included in this category.

**Unpaid family workers**—Persons who work without pay in the business, farm, trade or professional enterprise operated by a member of the household in which they live. Persons helping their relatives in their works without pay are included in this category, even if they do not belong to the proprietor's household.

**Employees in private business**—Persons who work for wages, salary, etc., as employees of a private employer, store, factory, hospital, law office, company, association or corporation. Also, presidents, managers, directors or other paid officials of a company, association or corporation are included in this category. Employees of the Japan Monopoly Corporation, the Japan National Railways, the Central Corporative Bank for Agriculture and Forestry and other public corporations, or Japanese working in an office, camp, etc., of the United States and United Nations' Forces are defined as "employees in private business".

**Government employees**—Persons who work for wages, salary, etc., in the central or local government, regardless of whether they are regular employees or not, or their work is clerical or non-clerical.

In 1950, the category "Government employees" included the employees of the Allied Forces, numbering 258 000 persons. On the other hand, the corresponding persons for 1955, numbering 193 554, were included in the category "Employees in private business".

**Age**

Age is measured in terms of years completed as of the census date, October 1.

**Nationality**

As for persons of two or more nationalities, those

reported both Japanese and a foreign nationality are counted as Japanese, and those reported of two or more foreign nationalities are counted according to the first entry. The stateless persons are included in the category "Others".

**Divisions of Area**

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 sub-divisions of the prefectures. *Shi*, *machi* and *mura*, in the order named, tend to diminish in population. Almost all *shi* contain a population of 30 000 or more and other necessary urban conditions. Recently a great number of communities were newly incorporated as *shi*, and area of some *shi* present too rural an appearance to be called as urban.

The six major cities are the *ku*-area of Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Yokohama and Kobe. All these cities are incorporated as *shi* except the *ku*-area of Tokyo. The city of Tokyo had also been incorporated as a *shi* within the area of Tokyo-*fu* until 1943 when the separate *shi* incorporation was abolished although its sub-divisions, *ku* (wards), which together had constituted the former city were retained and Tokyo-*fu* became Tokyo-*to*. Then the ward "*ku*-area of Tokyo-*to*" came into use corresponding to the names of other cities.

The results for all Japan, included in the "Statistical Tables" of the present volume, are presented for "all *shi*" (all cities), "all *gun*" (all rural counties) as well as for "all Japan", and those for "all *shi*", for two sub-groups, those having 50 000 or more inhabitants and those having less than 50 000 inhabitants. In relatively summarized classifications, results, also, are presented for each of 46 prefectures and six major cities.

Although the political and administrative divisions of Japan have changed particularly during the three years prior to the 1955 Census, the "Statistical Tables" represent the census results for the political and administrative division defined as of the census date, October 1, 1955.