

BRIEF OF THIS REPORT

This report is based on the results of the “School Basic Survey” in Osaka prefecture. The survey has been carried out annually as of May 1 as part of a national survey under the direction of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

This survey covers every school designated by the “School Education Law”(No.26, March 31, 1947), i.e. elementary schools, lower secondary schools, upper secondary schools, secondary schools, special education schools, kindergartens, special training colleges, miscellaneous schools, junior colleges, universities, graduate schools, and colleges of technology. We hope this is useful to those interested in Japanese education.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

There are 1,056 elementary schools: 3 national (0.3%), 1,037 public (98.2%), and 16 private (1.5%).

There are 493,003 elementary school children.

There are, on average, 466.9 children per school, while the class comprises 28.6 children.

The total number of teachers is 24,525, of which females account for 68.4 percent.

There is an average of 20.1 children per teacher.

LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 530 lower secondary schools: 3 national (0.6%), 464 public (87.5%), and 63 private (11.9%). The total number of students is 238,977, of which males account for 51.0 percent.

There are, on average, 450.9 students per school, while the average class has 32.2 students. The total number of teachers is 15,047, of which females account for 44.4 percent.

There is an average of 15.9 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from lower secondary schools is 82,978, of which 80,402 (96.9%) advanced to upper secondary schools.

UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 281 upper secondary schools: 1 national (0.4%), 186 public (66.2%), and 94 private (33.5%).

The total number of students is 234,868, of which males account for 51.4 percent.

The total number of teachers is 15,202, of which females account for 27.7 percent.

There is an average of 15.4 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from upper secondary schools is 79,192, of which 37,336 (49.0%) advanced to universities or junior colleges.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There is one private secondary school.

The total number of students is 734. Courses are divided into two types: lower and upper division. Each course provides three-year programs.

The total number of the lower division is 458.

The total number of the Upper Division is 276.

The total number of teachers is 42.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS

Special education schools provide disabled children with education suitable to their individual needs at the kindergarten, elementary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels.

There are 2 schools for the blind, 4 for the deaf and 34 for the otherwise disabled, of which 1 is national, 25 are prefectural, and 14 are municipal.

KINDERGARTENS

There are 820 kindergartens: 1 national (0.1%), 375 public (45.7%), and 444 private (54.1%).

There are 141,912 children in kindergarten, of which 3 year-olds account for 20.9 percent, 4 year-olds 38.5 percent and 5 year-olds 40.6 percent.

The schools have an average of 173.1 children each, while each class has an average of 26.7 children.

The total number of teachers is 7,884, of which females account for 96.2 percent.

SPECIAL TRAINING COLLEGES

Special training colleges offer courses to develop students' abilities for work or for daily life, as well as to raise their level of general education.

Courses are divided into three types: upper secondary, advanced/college, and general. Admission to the upper secondary courses requires completion of lower secondary schooling, while admission to the advanced/college course requires completion of upper secondary schooling. The general course is open to anyone regardless of educational qualification.

Each special training college course provides at least forty students with more than one year of systematic instruction. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology prescribes the minimum number of class hours.

There are 244 special training colleges: 1 national(2.5%), 5 public(2.5%), and 238 private(95.0%). The total number of students is 90,999, of which 84,940 (93.3%) are enrolled in the advanced/college course.

MISCELLANEOUS SCHOOLS

Miscellaneous schools provide students with vocational and practical training in such fields as dressmaking, cooking and driving, and so on.

The length of the courses varies from three months to one year or more.

There are 75 miscellaneous schools, providing courses for 12,629 students, of which 7,215 (57.1%) are enrolled for the purpose of preparing for junior college or university examinations.

JUNIOR COLLEGES

There are 44 junior colleges: 2 public (4.5%), 42 private (95.5%). The total number of students is 23,249, of which females account for 86.7 percent.

Junior colleges provide two or three-year programs in various fields of study such as literature, teacher training and home economics, of which the most popular course of study is literature.

UNIVERSITIES

There are 49 universities: 3 national (6.1%), 4 public (8.2%), and 42 private (85.7%).

Universities may establish graduate schools offering advanced study in a variety of fields leading to master's or doctoral or professional degrees.

Of the 49 universities, 36(74.5%) have established graduate schools, of which 4 are national, 4 are public, and 28 are private.

Furthermore, there is one independent graduate school that was established by state in 1990.

The total number of university students (including graduate students, auditors, research students, etc.) is 226,476, of which males account for 66.0 percent.

Graduate school students total 17,185, with males accounting for 71.3 percent.

COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY

Colleges of technology require completion of lower secondary schooling for admission, and offer five-year programs aimed at training technique in the fields of mechanical engineering, systems and control engineering, computer and electronics, industrial chemistry, and engineering of architecture.

There is only one college of technology in Osaka prefecture, which is managed by prefectural government.

FOREIGN STUDENTS IN JUNIOR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

A total of 6,647 foreign students are enrolled at junior colleges or universities in Osaka prefecture.

The foreign students come from every corner of the world. The number of Chinese students is the largest of all foreign students (73.7%). And the next groups are Korean and American students who account for 10.4 percent and 3.1 percent respectively.

Most of the foreign students (89.7%) come from East or Southeast Asia.

Educational System in Japan

