

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, schools for special needs education, kindergartens, specialized 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 1,044 elementary schools: 3 are national (0.3%), 1,025 are public (98.2%), and 16 are private (1.5%).

There are 502,413 elementary school children.

There are, on average, 481.2 children per school, while the class comprises 27.7 children.

The total number of teachers is 25,985, of which females account for 67.8 percent.

There is an average of 19.3 children per teacher.

LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 527 lower secondary schools: 3 are national (0.6%), 463 are public (87.9%), and 61 are private (11.6%). The total number of students is 243,092, of which males account for 51.1 percent.

There are, on average, 461.3 students per school, while the average class has 32.0 students. The total number of teachers is 15,370, of which females account for 44.8 percent.

There is an average of 15.8 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from lower secondary schools is 79,391, of which 77,218 (97.3%) advanced to upper secondary schools.

UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 285 upper secondary schools: 1 is national (0.4%), 190 are public (66.7%), and 94 are private (33.0%).

The total number of students is 218,677, of which males account for 50.9 percent.

The total number of teachers is 14,927, of which females account for 29.1 percent.

There is an average of 14.6 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from upper secondary schools is 71,188, of which 39,572 (55.6%) advanced to universities or junior colleges.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There is one private secondary school.

The total number of students is 866 . Courses are divided into two types, lower division and upper division. Each course provides three-year programs.

The total number of the lower division is 468.

The total number of the upper division is 398.

The total number of teachers is 56 .

SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION

Schools for special needs education provide disabled children with education suitable to their individual needs in the levels of a kindergarten, an elementary school, a lower secondary school, and an upper secondary school.

There are 40 schools, 1 is national, 26 are prefectural, and 13 are municipal.

KINDERGARTENS

There are 808 kindergartens: 1 is national (0.1%), 364 are public (45.0%), and 443 are private (54.8%).

There are 133,243 children in kindergarten, of which 3 year-olds account for 22.8 percent, 4 year-olds 37.6 percent, and 5 year-olds 39.6 percent.

The schools have an average of 164.9 children each, while each class has an average of 25.7 children.

The total number of teachers is 7,845, of which females account for 95.9 percent.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING COLLEGES

Specialized 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 specialized 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 248 specialized training colleges: 1 is national(0.4%), 3 are public(1.2%), and 244 are private(98.4%). The total number of students is 80,436, of which 74,625 (92.8%) 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 64 miscellaneous schools. The total number of students is 10,379, providing courses for 8,579 students, of which 5,272(61.5%) are enrolled for the purpose of preparing for junior college or university examinations.

JUNIOR COLLEGES

There are 36 junior colleges: 1 is public (2.8%), 35 are private (97.2%). The total number of students is 17,771, of which females account for 88.3 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 56 universities: 3 are national (5.4%), 5 are public (8.9%), and 48 are private (85.7%).

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

43 universities have established graduate schools, of which 4 are national, 5 are public, and 34 are private.

The total number of university students (including graduate students, auditors, research students, etc.) is 226,965, of which males account for 65.3 percent.

Graduate school students total 18,472, with males accounting for 70.6 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 6,833 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 (70.4%). And the next groups are Korean and American students who account for 10.1 percent and 3.9 percent respectively.

Most of the foreign students (87.1%) come from East or Southeast Asia.

Educational System in Japan

