

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. kindergartens, elementary schools, lower secondary schools, upper secondary schools, secondary schools, schools for special needs education, 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.

KINDERGARTENS

There are 804 kindergartens: 1 is national (0.1%), 362 are public (45.0%), and 441 are private (54.9%).

There are 125,693 children in kindergarten, of which 3 year-olds account for 23.5 percent, 4 year-olds 37.4 percent, and 5 year-olds 39.1 percent.

The schools have an average of 156.3 children each, while each class has an average of 24.9 children.

The total number of teachers is 7,740, of which females account for 96.1 percent.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

There are 1,042 elementary schools: 3 are national (0.3%), 1,022 are public (98.1%), and 17 are private (1.6%).

There are 498,933 elementary school children.

There are, on average, 478.8 children per school, while the class comprises 27.3 children.

The total number of teachers is 26,829, of which females account for 67.0 percent.

There is an average of 18.6 children per teacher.

LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 532 lower secondary schools: 3 are national (0.6%), 465 are public (87.4%), and 64 are private (12.0%). The total number of students is 247,972, of which males account for 51.1 percent.

There are, on average, 466.1 students per school, while the average class has 31.5 students. The total number of teachers is 15,773, of which females account for 45.4 percent.

There is an average of 15.7 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from lower secondary schools is 78,731, of which 76,506 (97.2%) advanced to upper secondary schools.

UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 272 upper secondary schools: 1 is national (0.4%), 177 are public (65.1%), and 94 are private (34.6%).

The total number of students is 219,674, of which males account for 50.9 percent.

The total number of teachers is 14,711, of which females account for 30.2 percent.

There is an average of 14.9 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from upper secondary schools is 66,940, of which 38,987 (58.2%) advanced to universities or junior colleges.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There is one private secondary school.

The total number of students is 827. 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 398.

The total number of the upper division is 429.

The total number of teachers is 55.

SCHOOLS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION

Schools for special needs education provide disabled children and students 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.

The total number of children and students is 7,269, the total number of teachers is 4,051.

There is an average of 1.8 children and students per teacher.

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 239 specialized training colleges: 1 is national(0.4%), 2 are public(0.8%), and 236 are private(98.7%). The total number of students is 69,779, of which 64,451 (92.4%) 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 59 miscellaneous schools. The total number of students is 9,856, providing courses for 8,154 students, of which 5,022(61.6%) are enrolled for the purpose of preparing for junior college or university examinations.

JUNIOR COLLEGES

There are 33 junior colleges: 33 are private (100.0%). The total number of students is 14,686, of which females account for 89.6 percent.

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

UNIVERSITIES

There are 55 universities: 2 are national (3.6%), 5 are public (9.1%), and 48 are private (87.3%).

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

42 universities have established graduate schools, of which 3 are national, 4 are public, and 35 are private.

The total number of university students (including graduate students, auditors, research students, etc.) is 226,060, of which males account for 64.6 percent.

Graduate school students total 18,008, with males accounting for 70.9 percent.

COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY

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

Colleges of technology require completion of lower secondary schooling for admission.

Colleges of technology have established six courses in department of industrial systems engineering, and offer five-year programs aimed at training technique in the fields of mechanical systems, mechatronics, system design and production, electrical engineering and computer science, materials chemistry, and environmental systems engineering.

FOREIGN STUDENTS IN JUNIOR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

A total of 7,263 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 (67.5%). And the next groups are Korean and American students who account for 10.4percent and 4.0 percent respectively.

Most of the foreign students (85.4%) come from Southeast Asia.

Educational System in Japan

