

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”(#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 785 kindergartens: 1 is national (0.1%), 349 are public (44.5%), and 435 are private (55.4%).

There are 120,602 children in kindergarten, of which 3 year-olds account for 25.9 percent, 4 year-olds 37.1 percent, and 5 year-olds 37.0 percent.

The schools have an average of 153.6 children each, while each class has an average of 24.8 children.

The total number of teachers is 7,605, of which females account for 96.0 percent.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

There are 1,041 elementary schools: 3 are national (0.3%), 1,021 are public (98.1%), and 17 are private (1.6%).

There are 482,283 elementary school children.

There are, on average, 463.3 children per school, while the class comprises 26.5 children.

The total number of teachers is 27,000, of which females account for 66.0 percent.

There is an average of 17.9 children per teacher.

LOWER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There are 533 lower secondary schools: 3 are national (0.6%), 465 are public (87.2%), and 65 are private (12.2%). The total number of students is 253,152, of which males account for 50.9 percent.

There are ,on average,475.0 students per school, while the average class has 31.0 students. The total number of teachers is 16,516, of which females account for 45.7 percent.

There is an average of 15.3 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from lower secondary schools is 80,638, of which 79,030 (98.0%) advanced to upper secondary schools.

UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS(Full-time and Part-time school)

There are 260 upper secondary schools: 1 is national (0.4%), 164 are public (63.1%), and 95 are private (36.5%).

The total number of students is 227,181, of which males account for 50.7 percent.

The total number of teachers is 14,913 , of which females account for 31.7 percent.

There is an average of 15.2 students per teacher.

The total number of graduates from upper secondary schools is 69,633, of which 40,897 (58.7%) advanced to universities or junior colleges.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

There is one private secondary school.

The total number of students is 814 . 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 429.

The total number of the upper division is 385.

The total number of teachers is 53 .

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 44 schools, 1 is national, 30 are prefectural, and 13 are municipal.

The total number of children and students is 8,071 , the total number of teachers is 4,490.

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 238 specialized training colleges: 1 is national(0.4%), 2 are public(0.8%), and 235 are private(98.7%). The total number of students is 68,350, of which 62,946 (92.1%) 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 55 miscellaneous schools. The total number of students is 9,853, providing courses for 8,468 students, of which 5,578(56.6%) are enrolled for the purpose of preparing for junior college or university examinations.

UNIVERSITIES

There are 56 universities: 2 are national (3.6%), 5 are public (8.9%), and 49 are private (87.5%).

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, 3 are public, and 36 are private.

The total number of university students (including graduate students, auditors, research students, etc.) is 227,928, of which males account for 64.1 percent.

Graduate school students total 18,263, with males accounting for 71.3 percent.

JUNIOR COLLEGES

There are 31 junior colleges: 31 are private (100.0%). The total number of students is 13,348, of which females account for 88.4 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.

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 five courses in department of industrial systems engineering, and offer five-year programs aimed at training technique in the fields of mechanical systems, mechatronics, electronics and information, environmental and materials chemistry, and civil engineering and environment.

FOREIGN STUDENTS IN JUNIOR COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

A total of 7,634 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 (70.3%). And the next groups are Korean and American students who account for 9.5 percent and 2.5 percent respectively.

Most of the foreign students (88.3%) come from Southeast Asia.

Educational System in Japan

