

The summary of the survey

Survey Outline

1. Survey Topics

(1) How did you collect information to attend preschool? What kind of information was necessary?

(2) What was helpful to get used to preschool? What was the good result of attending preschool? What are the parental concerns about preschool? How is your communication with preschool teachers?

(3) How is your children's Japanese language fluency and communication with friends? How social are you dealing with people related to child-rearing?

(4) Who takes care of your child when s/he is sick?

(5) Concerns about child-rearing. Child-rearing environment and view about child-rearing. Information source on child-rearing and education.

(6) Basic attributes. (age, nationality, the duration of residence, working condition, and family members)

(7) Free description about child-rearing in Japan.

2. Survey Period

February to September 2000

3. Survey Subjects

Multi-cultural parents (See p.3 for details)

4. Regions

Mainly Tokyo and Osaka area. Also, Saitama prefecture, Chiba pref, Kanagawa pref, Tochigi pref, Yamanashi pref, Kyoto pref, Hyogo pref, Nara pref, and Wakayama prefecture.

5. The method of research and the number of samples.

With the cooperation of preschool teachers, municipalities, various institutions, and volunteer groups, we distributed the questionnaire to multi-cultural parents, and we received responses by mail.

The number of samples: 2002

6. The languages used in the questionnaire

Eleven languages (Japanese language has two versions): Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Portuguese, English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Thai, Cambodian, Laotian, Japanese, and Japanese with furigana, reading support.

7. The description of respondents: nationalities (cultural backgrounds)

In this research, we used the names of nationalities (cultural backgrounds) of the respondents according to their descriptions in the questionnaire. The top eleven cultural backgrounds included: Japan, China, Taiwan, South Korea, North Korea, Thai, Philippine, Vietnam, Brazil, Peru, and America.

Regarding "Multi-cultural child-rearing"

What is "Multi-cultural child-rearing?"

In this research report, multi-cultural child-rearing" means "child-rearing by parents who have different cultural and linguistic backgrounds from native Japanese parents. Multi-cultural parents include foreigners who reside in Japan with their families, foreigners who married Japanese, Japanese who married foreigners, and foreigners who have resided in Japan and earned Japanese nationality.

It is not unusual to find more than two nationalities in a family, and it is difficult to divide people into Japanese and foreigners, as there are more people who have registered as foreigners and more intercultural marriages than before, and also permanent residents who have made the transition into new generations. Under these circumstances, "multi-cultural parents" include parent(s) of a preschooler, a parent whose native language is not Japanese, and a parent who has earned Japanese nationality in this survey.

The number of people who have registered as foreigners and the distribution of their nationalities:

Foreign residents in Japan are divided into permanent residents and non-permanent residents. The latter includes settlers, spouses of Japanese, family stay, and students.

The number of foreigners who registered as foreigners has increased rapidly since the 1980's, as the Immigration law was revised. At present, there are over 1,500,000 foreigners residing in Japan. The majority of foreigners in Japan used to be North Korean and South Korean, (about 90%); however, the ratio changed after the 1980's. In the 1999 statistics shows the following ratio: North Korean and South Korean (40.9%), Chinese (18.9%), Brazilian (14.4%), Philippine (7.4%) American (2.8%), Peru (2.7%) and others (12.9%).

Children who are not registered as foreigners:

According to the basic concept of family-line in Japanese nationality law, a baby who was born in Japan whose parents are both foreigners, assumes its parents' foreign nationalities. Yet if one of its parents was Japanese, the child could obtain Japanese nationality, according to the new nationality law (revised in 1985,) which deals with both maternal and paternal relationships equally. The number of intercultural marriages has rapidly increased, and most children who have a Japanese parent and a foreign parent have Japanese nationality. Children who have dual nationalities are not counted as registered foreigners. Therefore, it is anticipated that the number of children who are not yet counted as foreigners statistically, nevertheless, still have "multi-cultural" backgrounds.

The transition from "Child-rearing by foreigners in Japan" to "multi-cultural child-rearing":

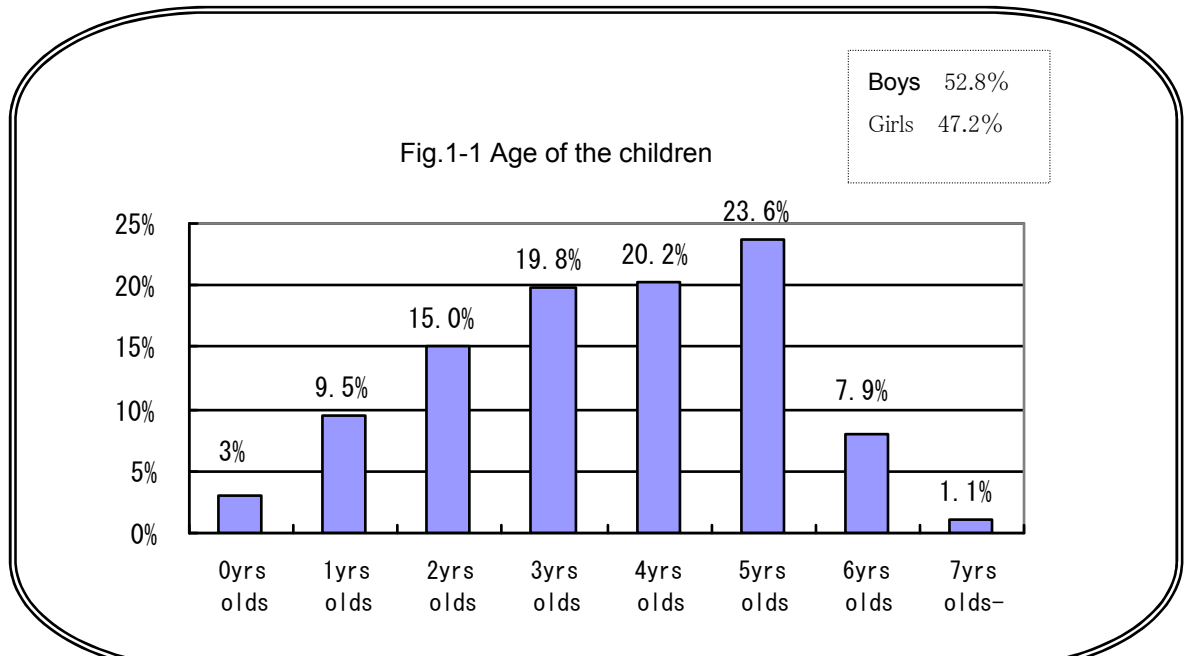
The concept of "multi-cultural" is difficult to define. However, it is based on the attitude of "mutual acceptance," namely, to accept each other (including the language and cultural differences, gender differences, and ideological differences), and to overcome discrimination and bias in order to comprehend the cultural diversity.

"Foreign residents in Japan" have changed; the fourth or fifth generations of permanent foreign residents have the same life-style as that of Japanese, and there are more intercultural marriages. Now we need to have the concept of "multi-culture" to include "Japanese with diverse backgrounds," and "Foreigners with diverse backgrounds": the new "foreign residents in Japan" and foreigners who live in Japan, together with their families, have to raise their children with more than one culture and language.

The families that cooperated this survey, and the preschool their children attended, have already carried out "multi-cultural" concept in raising their children, as was clearly demonstrated by our survey.

Considering the aforementioned circumstances, we named the title of this report "Multi-cultural child-rearing,," which goes beyond "child-rearing and education by foreigners in Japan," to express the complicated reality more clearly.

Attributes of the subjects of the investigation (Summary)



The number of the nationalities of the respondents is 65 in all. The nationalities of the parents ranking higher are as follows.

The family relationships are that 83.2% of them is mother, 16% of them is father and 0.8% of them is other relationship.

Table 1-1

Nationality of the mother	%
China	34.6
South Korea, North Korea	19.1
Japan	16.7
Philippines	12.4
Brazil	3.8
Thailand	3.0
Peru	2.1
Vietnam	2.0
others	6.3

(high-ranking 8 countries)

Table 1-2

Nationality of the father	%
China	26.1
South Korea, North Korea	17.3
Japan	8.8
U.S.A	7.8
Nigeria	3.6
Philippines	2.6
Vietnam	2.6
Bangladesh	2.3
Pakistan	2.3
others	26.6

(high-ranking 9 countries)

Table 1-3 Nationalities and areas of the parents
(high-ranking 11 countries and the others)

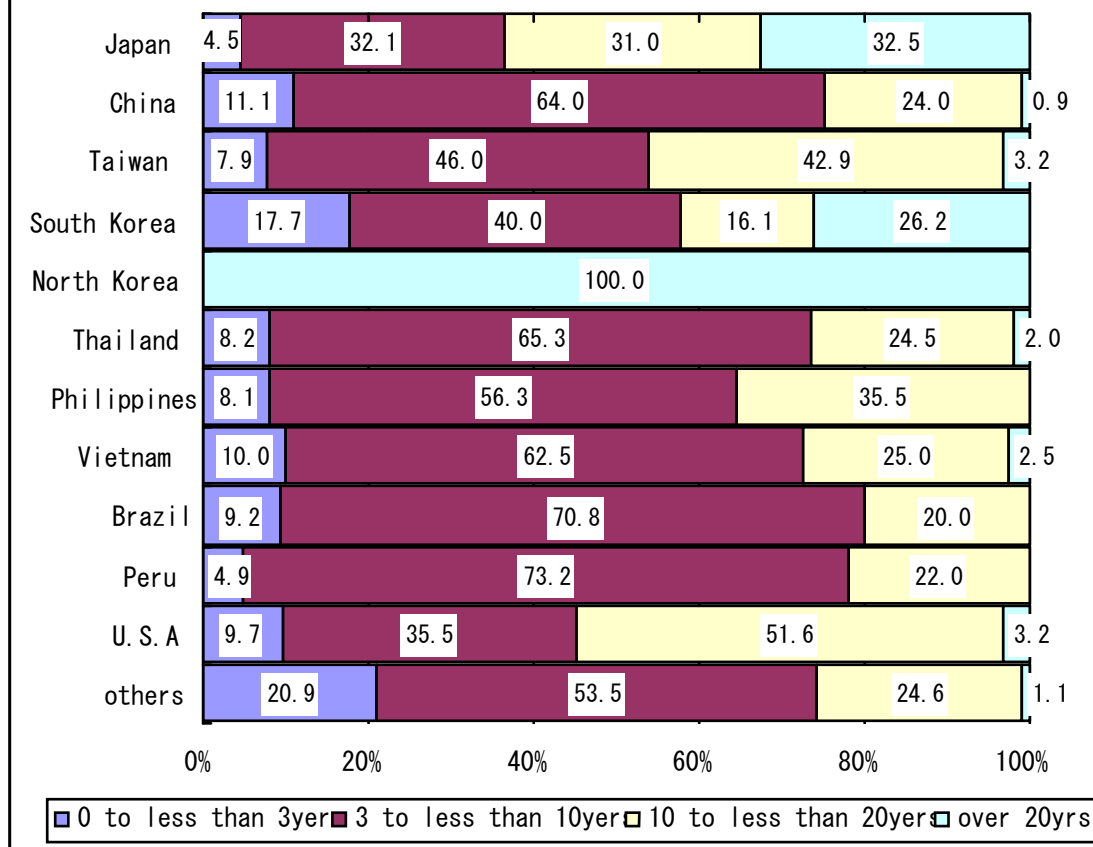
		Nationalities and areas of the fathers												sum
		Japan	China	Taiwan	South Korea	North Korea	Thailand	Philippines	Vietnam	Brazil	Peru	U. S. A	others	
Japan		113	66	2	36	1	1	8	1	6	4	39	119	396
		6.4%	3.8%	0.1%	2.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	2.2%	6.8%	22.5%
China		182	325	5	2					1			3	518
		10.4%	18.5%	0.3%	0.1%					0.1%			0.2%	29.5%
Taiwan		40	5	13	1					1				60
		2.3%	0.3%	0.7%	0.1%					0.1%				3.4%
South Korea		64	1		204	8						3		280
		3.6%	0.1%		11.6%	0.5%						0.2%		15.9%
North Korea		2			4	35								41
		0.1%			0.2%	2.0%								2.3%
Thailand		42			1								1	44
		2.4%			0.1%								0.1%	2.5%
Philippines		162			3			13		1			1	180
		9.2%			0.2%			0.7%		0.1%			0.1%	10.2%
Vietnam		1												38
		0.1%												2.2%
Brazil		14							1	44	4		1	64
		0.8%							0.1%	2.5%	0.2%		0.1%	3.6%
Peru		8								1	25		1	35
		0.5%								0.1%	1.4%		0.1%	2.0%
U. S. A		6										1		7
		0.3%										0.1%		0.4%
others		29	3	4							1	1	56	94
		1.7%	0.2%	0.2%							0.1%	0.1%	3.2%	5.4%
sum		634	397	20	251	44	1	21	39	54	33	43	126	1757
		36.1%	22.6%	1.1%	14.3%	2.5%	0.1%	1.2%	2.2%	3.1%	1.9%	2.4%	7.2%	100.0%

the upper row: the number of people
the lower row: %

☆ The combination accounting for the biggest part is that the parents are both Chinese and the percentage is 18.5%. After this, the parents are both Korean and the percentage is the 11.6%, the mother is Chinese and the father is Japanese and the percentage is 10.4%, and the mother is Philippine and the father is Japanese and the percentage is 9.2%.

★ This table just adds up the combinations entering the nationalities for the parents.

Fig. 1-2 The years of stay of the responden



As a whole

The average of the years of stay : 7.3years

(except the people born in Japan SD 3.83 years)

Stay plan for the future :

Lifetime → 39.8%

Several years form now on (4.6 years on average)

→ 10.8%

Undecided → 49.4%

The reasons to stay in Japan

Work→27.5%

Study abroad·Study →5.9%

Marriage→32.2%

Looking after family →13.3%

Birthplace→11.1%

Descendants of the orphans staying behind→2.9%

Others→7.1%

Table1-4 The number of languages used in family

	one language	more than two languages
0 to less than 3yrs	89.6%	10.4%
3 to less than 10yrs	81.8%	18.2%
10 to less than 20yrs	77.6%	22.4%
over 20yrs	88.9%	11.1%
sum	82.4%	17.6%

☆ When we see the number of languages used in family using the transition of the years of stay of the respondents, the ratios of one language are 89.6%, 81.8%, 77.6% and 88.9% and there is few change.

☆ In the transition of the years of stay, the ratios show remarkable increase, that is to say, 17.1%, 48.9%, 66.1%, and 91.7%. In case of the family using one language there, there is every possibility .that they use mother tanguer if they live in Japan for a sort period. If they live in Japan for a long time, the ratio of using only Japanese is over 50% when the years is over 10 years and the ratio is over 80% when the years is over 20 years.

Table1-5 Frequency to use Japanese in family

0 to less than 3yrs	not use Japanese	82.9%
	use Japanese	17.1%
3 to less than 10yrs	not use Japanese	51.1%
	use Japanese	48.9%
10 to less than 20yrs	not use Japanese	33.9%
	use Japanese	66.1%
over 20yrs	not use Japanese	8.3%
	use Japanese	91.7%
sum	not use Japanese	46.3%
	use Japanese	53.7%

Fig.1-3 Ability to use Japanese of the respondents

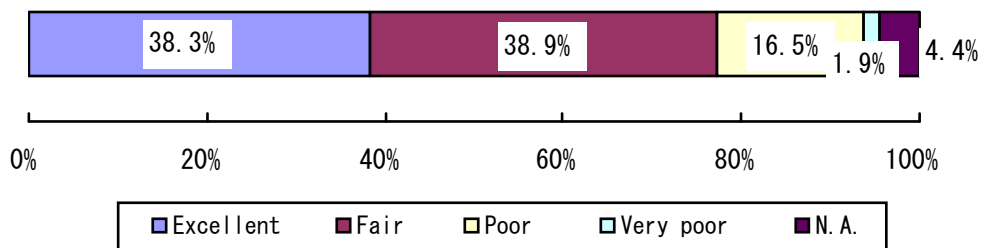


Table 1-6 Using situations of Japanese in family (by nationality)

		Nationalities and areas of the respondents											
		Japan	China	Taiwan	South Korea	North Korea	Thailand	Philippines	Vietnam	Brazil	Peru	U. S. A	others
Japan	not use	32.2%	28.7%	17.5%	14.8%	0.0%	9.1%	10.3%	0.0%	14.3%	25.0%	48.1%	18.5%
	use	67.8%	71.3%	82.5%	85.2%	100.0%	90.9%	89.7%	100.0%	85.7%	75.0%	51.9%	81.5%
China	not use	50.0%	78.2%	25.0%	100.0%								66.7%
	use	50.0%	21.8%	75.0%	0.0%								33.3%
Taiwan	not use	0.0%	16.7%	61.5%									100.0%
	use	100.0%	83.3%	38.5%									0.0%
South Korea	not use	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	61.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%				0.0%	
	use	100.0%	50.0%	100.0%	38.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%				100.0%	
North Korea	not use	0.0%			11.1%	5.7%							
	use	100.0%			88.9%	94.3%							
Thailand	not use	33.3%						84.6%					
	use	66.7%						15.4%					
Philippines	not use	0.0%							94.7%	100.0%			
	use	100.0%							5.3%	0.0%			
Vietnam	not use	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%					0.0%		77.3%	100.0%	
	use	66.7%	100.0%	100.0%					100.0%		22.7%	0.0%	
Brazil	not use	25.0%									25.0%	92.3%	100.0%
	use	75.0%									75.0%	7.7%	0.0%
Peru	not use	16.7%											100.0%
	use	83.3%			100.0%								0.0%
U. S. A	not use	18.9%	33.3%				100.0%	0.0%		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	87.7%
	use	81.1%	66.7%				0.0%	100.0%		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.3%

☆ In case of the families which consist of the same nationality, North Korea 94.3%, Japan 67.8%, Taiwan 38.5%, South Korea 38.2% and China 21.8% in order of the ratios of using Japanese.

☆ As a whole, the ratio of using Japanese of the families which consist of different nationalities (A parent is Japanese nationality or not) is higher than that of the families which consist of the same nationalities.