

Immigration to Japan A

Chinese were not allowed to travel outside of China before 1991 or to venture to non-Asian countries before 1994. Getting a passport was very difficult at that time. Those who obtained a passport could travel abroad only as part of an organised tour. Now getting a passport is relatively routine and Chinese can travel without being part of a tour group.

On September 15, 2008 the massive financial firm Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy. This had a major impact on the economies of many large nations. In April 2009, due to the financial crisis, the Japanese government introduced a new programme to pay Brazilian and other Latin American immigrants to leave Japan with a stipend of \$3000 for airfare and \$2000 for each dependent. Those who participated had to agree not to look for employment in Japan in the future.

Between the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries, coffee was the main export product of Brazil. At first, Brazilian farmers used African slave labour in the coffee plantations, but in 1850, the slave traffic was abolished in Brazil. To solve the labour shortage, the Brazilian elite decided to attract immigrants to work on the coffee plantations.

Immigration to Japan B

In 1990, the Japanese government authorized the legal entry of Japanese and their descendants until the third generation in Japan. At that time, Japan was receiving a large number of illegal immigrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, and Thailand. The legislation of 1990 was intended to select immigrants who entered Japan, giving a clear preference for Japanese descendants from South America, especially Brazil. These people were lured to Japan to work in areas that the Japanese refused (the so-called "three K": *Kitsui*, *Kitanai* and *Kiken* – hard, dirty and dangerous). Many Japanese Brazilians began to immigrate.

In 1910, as the result of the Japan–Korea Annexation Treaty, all Korean people became the citizens of the Empire of Japan. From the 1920's onwards, many Koreans came to Japan some were looking for economic opportunities, some were brought to work on farms and some were conscripted into the Japanese army. Their descendants, the *Zainichi*, are a distinct group from South Korean nationals who have travelled to Japan more recently to work or study.

1907, the Brazilian and the Japanese governments signed a treaty permitting Japanese migration to Brazil. In the first seven years, 14,983 people arrived. The beginning of World War I in 1914 started a boom in Japanese migration to Brazil; between 1917 and 1940 over 164,000 Japanese came to Brazil, 75% of them going to São Paulo, where most of the coffee plantations were located.

Immigration to Japan C

About 9,000 to 11,000 Koreans naturalize in Japan every year. As neither Korea nor Japan allow dual nationality, opting for a Japanese passport means becoming a Japanese, rather than a Korean Japanese. The process has become simpler over time, and most formally choose a name that appears and reads ethnically Japanese.

A 1984 amendment to the Japanese Nationality Act made citizenship *jus sanguinis*, tied to blood rather than place of birth. Japanese citizenship is exclusive: those who naturalize must renounce their first nationality, and those who are born Japanese but with a second citizenship must choose between them by the time they are 20 years old.

The Technical Intern Training Program is a work training program providing employment opportunities for foreign nationals in Japan. The government-run internship program was first established in 1993. There were 192,655 technical interns in Japan as of the end of 2015, an increase of about 15% from the previous year. China was the largest source of interns, at 46.2% of the total, followed by Vietnam at 29.9% and the Philippines at 9.2%.

The number of Iranians in Japan began to expand significantly in 1988, after the end of the Iran–Iraq War. Demobilized Iranian soldiers became involved in shuttle trade, buying electronics in Tokyo and smuggling them back to Iran to sell at high prices; due to a 1974 mutual visa exemption agreement between Japan and Iran, they were able to enter and exit Japan freely. However, in 1992 Japan terminated the visa-free agreement with Iran, and began serious efforts to deport illegal overstayers.