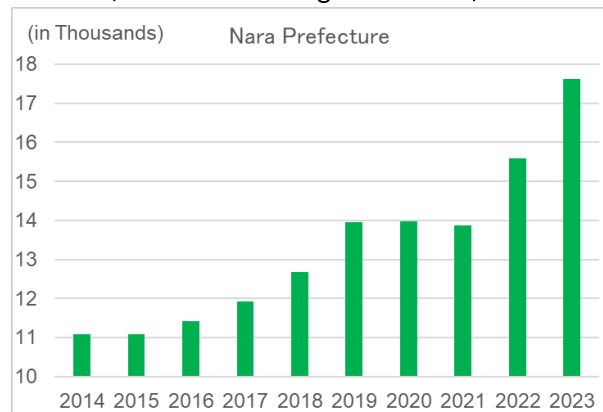


# About the Nara Prefecture Multicultural Diversity Promotion Plan

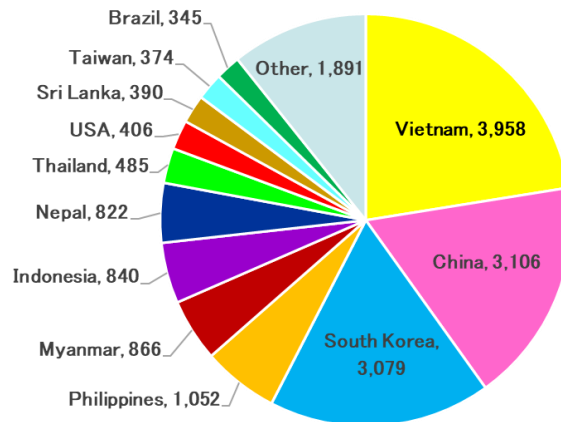
## 【Current State of Foreign Residents in Nara Prefecture】

- The number of foreign residents in Nara Prefecture was 17,614 at the end of December 2023, the largest number recorded in the prefecture’s history. (Increase of over 2,000 from 2022)  
(Source: Ministry of Justice Basic Survey on Foreign Residents)
- With Vietnamese residents as the largest group (as many as 1 in 5 foreigners), residents from Southeast and South Asian countries (including Myanmar, Indonesia, Nepal, etc.) make up a significant proportion of the foreign population, which is becoming more and more diverse.
- There has been a substantial increase in the number of foreign residents holding work visas (ex: Technical Intern Training, Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Service, Specified Skilled Worker, and Skilled Labor)

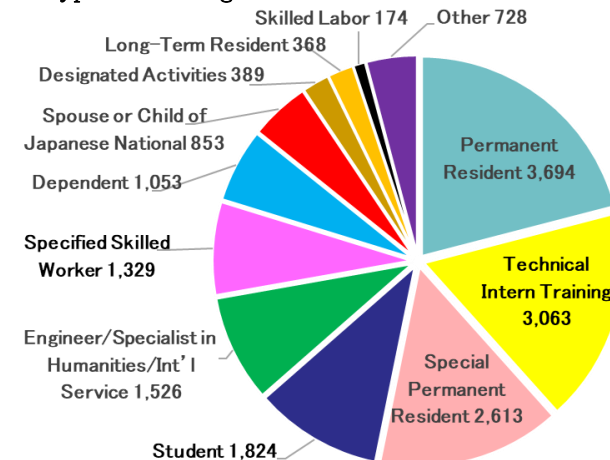
〈Number of Foreign Residents〉



〈Foreign Residents in Nara Prefecture by Region of Origin (2023)〉



〈Visa Types of Foreign Residents in Nara Prefecture (2023)〉



## 【From Survey Results for the 2024 Survey on Foreign Residents in Nara Prefecture】

- The largest concern for foreign residents living in Nara Prefecture was “Language and Communication” at 36.9%.
- The main sources for information regarding daily life in Japan reported were “Japanese friends and acquaintances” at 50.4%, followed by “SNS (social media)” at 42.5%.
- Regarding issues faced during past disasters, the top issues were “I didn’t know where to evacuate” at 12.1%, “I couldn’t get evacuation-related information such as warnings and advisories because the information was not available in multiple languages” at 11.4%, and “I did not know what kind of a place a “Hinansho” (evacuation shelter) was” at 9.7%.
- Regarding reasons for not studying Japanese language, the top answers were “Because I have work, I don’t have the time to learn” at 64.7%, “There is no information about Japanese language classes” at 33.2%, and “I don’t have the financial resources necessary to learn Japanese” at 31.5%.

## 【From the Discussion Panel regarding Nara Prefecture Multicultural Diversity Policy Promotion】

- I would like for municipalities to provide notices regarding daily life. I think an orientation for foreigners about daily life is necessary.
- I think support for not only children’s education, but also Japanese language learning for parents is critical.
- I don’t know which hospitals I can be seen at. I also don’t know how to call for an ambulance. Multilingual medical services are incredibly important.
- I think it’s important to make friends in your local area and become a part of the community. Since trainees participated in a local festival, we were able to learn more about the local community.
- Japanese and foreign residents can become friends through participation at various events, which in turn allows them to help each other during natural disasters and medical emergencies.

## 【Issues Surrounding Multicultural Diversity in Nara Prefecture】

- Communication Issues
- Information Dissemination Issues
- Issues Securing Support for Housing/Daily Life Services
- Issues with Safety and Security during Disasters, etc.
- Issues in the Local Community
- Issues Concerning Onboarding of Foreign Workers

# About the Nara Prefecture Multicultural Diversity Promotion Plan

## 【Core Ideas for Nara Prefecture Multicultural Diversity Promotion】

In Nara Prefecture, while embracing individuality, we will work towards the realization of a culturally diverse society at not just the prefectural level, but also in a series of steps in coordination with municipalities, businesses, educational institutions, and the local community with the following 3 points as our core direction. (Implementation Period: 2025~2027)

### ①Creating Communities with Open Communication

In order to forge equal relationships and with the recognition that mutual understanding is essential, we aim for the creation of communities where everyone can communicate easily regardless of nationality or ethnic background, and in which cultural differences are mutually respected.

### ②Creating Communities that are Safe for Everyone

While ensuring that foreign prefectural residents and Japanese prefectural residents both have access to appropriate civil services in accordance with each life stage, and with the understanding that each share responsibilities to take action as members of their communities, we aim for the creation of communities in which everyone can live safely and without worry.

### ③Creating Communities with Open Participation

With respect for the individual and individual human rights at the center, and while embracing the diversity of each individual as an asset, we will strive to make full use of the resources offered by businesses, universities, and local community groups in the prefecture in various contexts, with the aim of creating communities in which everyone in the prefecture, including foreign residents, can participate openly.

## 【Concrete Policies for the Realization of the Core Direction】

### ①Support for Communication

- (1) Multilingual Support for Policy and Daily Life Information (Effective multilingual and multimedia distribution of information concerning policies and daily life, multilingual support for civil services, etc.)
- (2) Maintenance and Improvement of Support Systems (Maintenance and improvement of support systems for foreigners)
- (3) Promotion of Japanese Language Education (Provision of opportunities for Japanese language learning, securing of human resources to support Japanese language instruction)

### ②Support for Daily Life

- (1) Improvement of Childcare and Education (Support for Japanese language learning in schools, support for and securing of opportunities for school enrollment for children not attending school, multicultural support for childcare and preschool education, support for foreigners over the age of compulsory education, promotion of educational curriculums based on multicultural diversity)
- (2) Disaster Support and Other Safety Measures (Maintenance of disaster systems in times of emergencies, promotion of crime prevention and traffic safety)
- (3) Provision of Medical, Insurance and Welfare Services (Promotion of multilingual support)
- (4) Maintenance of Residential Environment (Provision of subsidized housing for foreign prefectural residents, promotion of housing support for foreign prefectural residents)

### ③Support for Community Activities

- (1) Job Support (Maintenance of onboarding system for foreign personnel, promotion of jobs at businesses and offices within the prefecture for international students and others, promotion of improvement of working conditions)
- (2) Support for International Students (Expansion of international student recruitment, support for community activities conducted by international students)
- (3) Support for Activities of Local Community Groups (Development and cultivation of understanding of multicultural diversity, support for exchange activities in the local community, promotion of activities by foreign residents in the local community)