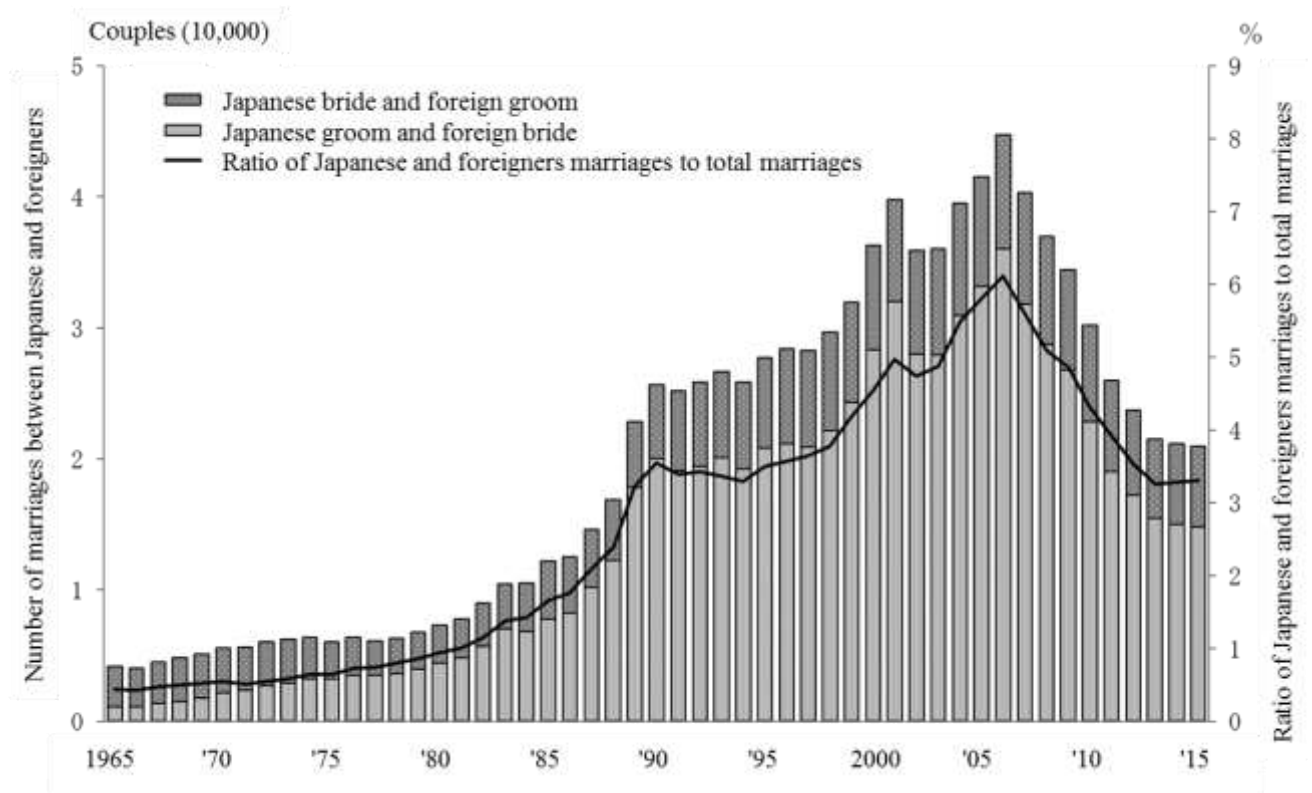


### 3 Marriages by nationalities of partners

#### (1) Marriages by the combination of nationalities (Japanese and foreigners) of partners

Looking at the annual trend of marriages between Japanese and foreign citizens, the number of these international marriages was in an increasing trend until 2006 and then turned to a declining trend. The ratio of marriages between Japanese and foreign citizens to the total number of marriages has stayed steady at 3.3% since 2013. (Figure 6)

Figure 6 Annual trend of marriages between Japanese and foreign citizens between 1965 and 2015



(2) Marriages by nationalities

When one examines the percentages of marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides in 1995 and 2015, the ratio of Filipino brides decreased from 34.6% in 1995 to 20.7% in 2015, by 13.8 percentage points, whereas the ratio of Chinese brides increased from 24.9% in 1995 to 38.7% in 2015, by 13.8 percentage points. (Figure 7, Table 7)

On the other hand, from the percentages of marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms in 1995 and 2015, it can be found that the ratio of Korean grooms decreased from 41.0% in 1995 to 25.4% in 2015, by 15.6 percentage points. (Figure 8, Table 8)

Figure 7 Percentages of marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides in 1995 and 2015

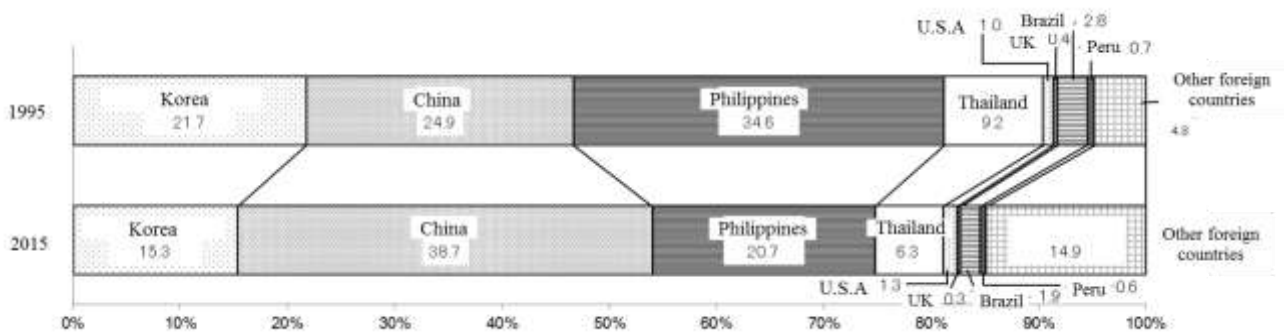


Figure 8 Percentages of marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms in 1995 and 2015

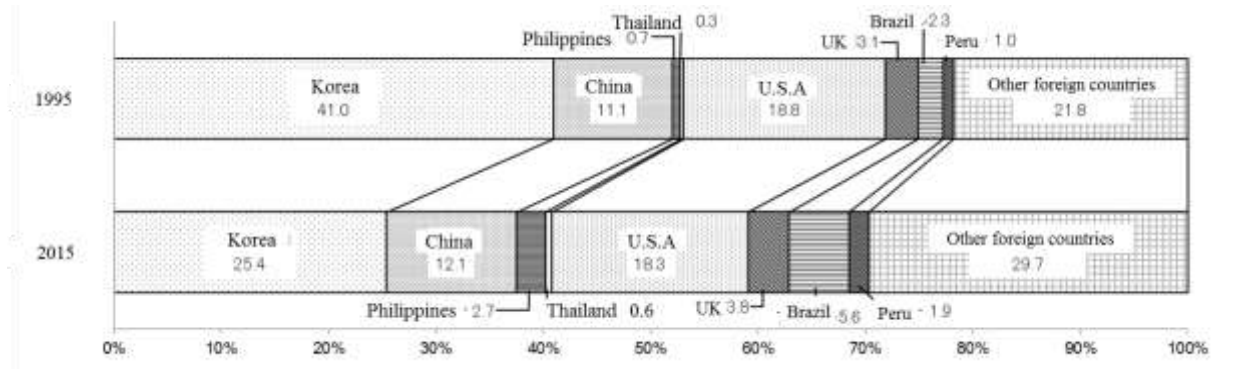


Table 7 Numbers of marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides in 1995 and 2015

(Unit: couples)

Nationalities of bride	2015	1995
Total	14 809	20 787
Korea	2 268	4 521
China	5 730	5 174
Philippines	3 070	7 188
Thailand	938	1 915
U.S.A.	199	198
U.K.	44	82
Brazil	277	579
Peru	83	140
Other foreign countries	2 200	990

Table 8 Numbers of marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms in 1995 and 2015

(Unit: couples)

Nationalities of groom	2015	1995
Total	6 167	6 940
Korea	1 566	2 842
China	748	769
Philippines	167	52
Thailand	36	19
U.S.A.	1 127	1 303
U.K.	235	213
Brazil	344	162
Peru	115	66
Other foreign countries	1 829	1 514

### (3) First marriage rate

Observing the annual trends of first-marriage rates of brides in marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides, brides from the UK showed the highest rate (88.6%) followed by brides from the US (82.4%) in 2015. The first-marriage rates of brides from China and the Philippines decreased from 67.9% and 93.8% in 1995 to 48.6% and 66.7% in 2015, respectively. (Table 9)

Meanwhile, the annual trends of first-marriage rate of grooms in marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms indicate that rates of grooms from Korea, China, Brazil, and Peru have been in a declining trend while the rates of other foreigners have moved sideways. (Table 10)

**Table 9 Annual trend of first-marriage rates of brides in marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides between 1995 and 2015**

(Unit: %)									
Year	Korea	China	Philippines	Thailand	U.S.A.	U.K.	Brazil	Peru	Other foreign countries
1995	66.6	67.9	93.8	69.3	78.8	84.1	91.4	89.3	86.3
1996	67.3	65.8	91.5	67.4	71.4	89.8	90.6	90.0	86.1
1997	66.2	64.7	88.6	66.4	75.0	83.3	91.0	92.9	86.2
1998	64.3	61.2	86.6	65.6	70.2	86.2	86.8	87.7	85.7
1999	62.9	58.5	84.8	64.4	74.2	74.1	85.9	90.6	82.2
2000	60.9	55.3	86.4	62.6	71.8	72.4	83.5	87.6	81.7
2001	59.4	53.6	85.4	61.8	75.4	86.0	82.4	83.8	77.8
2002	59.6	51.9	85.3	60.6	79.8	82.4	80.6	82.5	78.8
2003	59.2	52.6	85.5	61.9	76.9	81.5	77.3	81.3	81.2
2004	57.8	56.3	84.8	61.6	79.9	89.1	75.4	81.8	79.6
2005	58.6	56.6	87.5	59.8	78.0	89.8	82.0	78.5	79.7
2006	60.0	54.6	88.6	61.6	77.7	82.3	79.6	76.1	79.1
2007	59.7	53.0	82.6	59.1	78.2	88.1	76.4	76.8	73.6
2008	60.4	51.2	75.5	60.5	80.0	76.3	75.2	81.0	72.6
2009	58.9	49.2	73.3	58.9	79.9	85.7	74.0	67.7	67.1
2010	60.4	49.3	64.9	62.1	82.1	86.3	76.5	74.4	69.8
2011	62.0	49.2	62.2	62.6	80.2	90.6	75.3	75.8	69.6
2012	63.3	48.3	68.8	66.1	77.7	88.5	82.3	68.8	70.9
2013	65.3	49.7	72.4	66.2	82.1	94.7	73.6	78.6	72.6
2014	66.8	48.0	70.9	64.5	78.6	90.0	81.4	78.8	71.1
2015	64.3	48.6	66.7	62.7	82.4	88.6	79.1	79.5	75.1

**Table 10 Annual trend of first-marriage rates of grooms in marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms between 1995 and 2015**

(Unit: %)									
Year	Korea	China	Philippines	Thailand	U.S.A.	U.K.	Brazil	Peru	Other foreign countries
1995	84.7	87.3	86.5	84.2	79.0	83.6	93.2	93.9	88.8
1996	85.0	84.2	76.8	88.0	78.9	78.2	92.0	98.3	88.3
1997	83.5	84.9	91.8	90.3	78.5	80.0	88.8	90.9	88.9
1998	83.6	83.6	87.7	92.1	78.1	83.8	92.6	87.7	88.3
1999	84.5	80.1	86.1	90.6	76.8	81.1	87.4	90.2	88.0
2000	82.7	79.2	87.2	73.1	78.9	83.1	87.8	90.3	87.0
2001	83.5	76.5	90.4	80.0	78.0	82.8	84.0	85.9	85.6
2002	80.6	75.9	89.4	77.8	77.0	83.0	89.2	86.1	84.5
2003	79.7	77.4	88.0	83.9	75.7	87.7	79.6	82.4	84.2
2004	81.4	81.8	90.8	72.0	74.6	84.4	85.1	77.9	84.1
2005	80.7	78.6	90.9	68.3	77.4	83.1	80.1	82.1	83.6
2006	78.6	81.3	89.7	66.7	75.6	86.8	77.7	78.3	83.8
2007	80.2	76.7	91.4	85.3	74.6	86.8	80.1	75.6	81.5
2008	79.4	78.0	89.7	80.4	78.2	82.9	85.4	69.9	83.3
2009	79.5	74.2	89.1	75.9	74.9	84.2	75.9	76.7	80.2
2010	81.2	78.6	89.9	76.3	75.3	86.4	78.5	65.0	78.9
2011	80.9	82.4	84.6	66.7	74.4	86.3	78.9	74.5	77.9
2012	80.7	79.3	92.8	81.8	74.6	81.5	76.6	67.4	77.0
2013	82.1	77.4	91.4	74.2	74.2	81.8	80.1	74.8	75.2
2014	79.9	75.8	92.4	70.4	74.5	82.2	79.9	70.1	78.3
2015	79.1	75.3	92.8	83.3	75.2	83.4	81.7	79.1	78.6

#### (4) Mean age of marriage and age difference of partners

In this section, we take a look at the mean age of marriage in international marriages categorized by the combination of nationalities (Japanese and foreign citizens). The mean first-marriage age of grooms in marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides started to decrease in 2010 and reached the age of 37.7 in 2015. Meanwhile, the mean first-marriage age of brides in marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms maintained a rising trend and reached the age of 30.0 in 2015. (Table 11)

Table 11 Annual trend of mean marriage ages of grooms and brides in marriages between Japanese and foreign persons by the combination of nationalities and the marital status of partners between 1985 and 2015

(Unit: years old)

Year	Groom			Bride		
	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage
Both parties are Japanese						
1985	29.2	28.2	39.3	26.4	25.5	35.7
1990	29.5	28.3	39.9	26.8	25.8	36.6
1995	29.6	28.4	40.0	27.3	26.3	37.0
2000	30.0	28.6	40.0	28.1	26.9	37.2
2001	30.1	28.8	39.7	28.3	27.1	37.0
2002	30.4	29.0	39.8	28.5	27.3	37.1
2003	30.8	29.2	40.0	28.9	27.6	37.4
2004	31.0	29.4	40.1	29.1	27.8	37.5
2005	31.2	29.6	40.3	29.3	28.0	37.8
2006	31.4	29.8	40.3	29.5	28.2	37.8
2007	31.6	29.9	40.5	29.7	28.3	37.9
2008	31.7	30.1	40.7	29.8	28.4	38.1
2009	31.9	30.2	40.9	30.0	28.6	38.5
2010	32.1	30.4	41.2	30.2	28.8	38.7
2011	32.3	30.6	41.4	30.4	29.0	39.0
2012	32.6	30.7	41.7	30.6	29.2	39.3
2013	32.7	30.8	41.9	30.8	29.3	39.4
2014	32.9	31.0	42.2	30.9	29.4	39.6
2015	33.0	31.0	42.4	31.0	29.4	39.8
Japanese groom and foreign bride						
1985	35.0	31.4	40.9	28.3	26.8	34.1
1990	37.0	33.2	42.7	28.6	26.9	35.3
1995	38.1	34.3	44.1	28.9	27.3	35.4
2000	41.7	37.4	47.1	31.1	28.6	36.6
2001	42.6	38.3	47.4	31.1	28.4	36.3
2002	42.1	37.7	47.3	31.0	28.1	37.0
2003	42.5	37.8	47.6	31.0	28.1	37.3
2004	42.8	38.3	47.8	31.0	28.1	37.5
2005	43.3	38.6	48.2	30.9	28.1	37.8
2006	43.7	38.6	48.6	30.8	28.0	37.8
2007	44.4	39.1	49.5	31.5	28.5	37.6
2008	44.5	38.8	49.9	31.8	28.5	37.4
2009	45.0	39.1	50.5	32.4	28.6	37.8
2010	44.6	38.5	50.6	32.3	28.5	37.7
2011	44.4	38.2	50.8	32.6	28.8	38.0
2012	44.5	38.2	51.3	32.9	29.2	38.7
2013	44.6	38.0	51.6	33.1	29.3	39.3
2014	45.0	38.1	52.3	33.4	29.4	39.5
2015	44.9	37.7	52.6	33.6	29.5	40.2
Japanese bride and foreign groom						
1985	29.3	27.8	38.8	26.7	25.7	33.7
1990	29.7	28.3	37.6	27.9	26.4	35.7
1995	30.2	29.0	37.1	28.2	27.1	35.4
2000	31.0	29.5	38.3	29.6	27.9	37.5
2001	31.3	29.8	38.4	29.9	28.2	37.7
2002	31.4	29.9	38.1	30.1	28.4	37.9
2003	31.4	29.7	38.6	30.6	28.6	38.5
2004	31.5	30.0	38.3	30.8	28.8	38.1
2005	31.8	30.1	39.3	31.1	29.1	38.5
2006	31.9	30.3	38.9	31.3	29.2	38.8
2007	32.0	30.3	39.0	31.5	29.4	38.7
2008	31.8	30.1	39.1	31.3	29.3	38.5
2009	32.2	30.4	39.1	31.6	29.7	38.7
2010	32.4	30.3	40.3	31.7	29.8	39.3
2011	32.5	30.6	40.0	31.5	29.7	38.9
2012	32.8	30.7	40.7	31.7	29.9	39.6
2013	32.6	30.5	40.3	31.5	29.7	39.2
2014	32.9	30.7	41.2	31.6	29.7	39.1
2015	32.8	30.6	40.5	31.9	30.0	39.6

With regard to the mean marriage ages of grooms and brides in marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides and the marital status of partners, the mean marriage age of first marriages grooms is highest at the age of 41.1 in marriages with Filipino brides followed by the age of 40.9 in marriages with Thai brides.

As to the age difference of partners (groom's age – bride's age), the age difference between Filipino brides and Japanese grooms is more than 10 years regardless of their marital status. (Table 12)

As to the mean marriage ages of grooms and brides in marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms and the marital status of partners, the mean marriage age of brides who remarried UK and other countries' grooms is the highest at the age of 41.0 followed by the age of 40.3 in remarriages with Korean grooms. (Table 13)

**Table 12 Mean marriage ages of grooms and brides in marriages between Japanese grooms and foreign brides by nationalities of brides in 2015**

(Unit: years old)

Nationalities of bride	Groom			Bride			Age difference of parties (Groom's age - bride's age)		
	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage
Korea	41.4	34.1	52.4	36.9	31.8	46.9	4.5	2.4	5.4
China	46.0	39.1	52.9	35.2	29.9	39.9	10.7	9.2	13.0
Philippines	48.8	41.1	53.0	30.4	28.1	36.4	18.5	13.1	16.6
Thailand	47.1	40.9	53.5	34.6	31.4	40.6	12.5	9.6	12.8
U.S.A.	33.2	30.7	47.0	30.2	28.1	39.9	3.0	2.7	7.1
U.K.	32.7	32.7	31.7	30.4	28.7	41.0	2.3	4.0	△ 9.4
Brazil	33.9	30.1	46.5	29.7	27.2	41.7	4.2	2.9	4.8
Peru	33.0	28.3	48.0	28.2	26.1	36.0	4.7	2.3	12.0
Other foreign countries	41.4	35.9	50.6	30.8	28.4	38.2	10.7	7.6	12.4

Note: Ages used for the calculation of mean marriage ages are ages of who filed their marriage papers and started to live together in a given year, and the ages are based on either the date of a marriage ceremony or the first day of the marriage life, whichever comes first.

**Table 13 Mean marriage ages of grooms and brides in marriages between Japanese brides and foreign grooms by nationalities of grooms in 2015**

(Unit: year old)

Nationalities of groom	Groom			Bride			Age difference of parties (Groom's age - bride's age)		
	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage	All marriages	First marriage	Remarriage
Korea	34.7	32.5	42.9	32.1	30.2	40.3	2.7	2.3	2.6
China	31.1	28.8	37.6	30.9	28.8	38.3	0.2	0.1	△ 0.6
Philippines	28.7	27.8	39.7	28.5	25.8	37.4	0.2	2.0	2.4
Thailand	30.6	29.0	42.2	31.3	27.4	39.6	△ 0.7	1.6	2.6
U.S.A.	32.6	30.0	40.7	32.1	30.6	38.8	0.5	△ 0.5	1.9
U.K.	36.4	34.3	44.9	33.3	32.2	41.0	3.1	2.1	4.0
Brazil	29.1	27.6	36.1	28.5	27.1	35.9	0.6	0.5	0.1
Peru	29.0	27.6	37.8	27.7	26.8	33.3	1.3	0.8	4.6
Other foreign countries	32.9	30.8	40.1	33.1	30.9	41.0	△ 0.2	△ 0.1	△ 0.9

Note: Ages used for the calculation of mean marriage ages are ages of who filed their marriage papers and started to live together in a given year, and the ages are based on either the date of a marriage ceremony or the first day of the marriage life, whichever comes first.