

February 27, 2024
Materials for
International Forum

Current situation and initiatives regarding foreign students in Yokohama City



Yokohama Yoshida Junior High School
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About Yokohama City

Total population

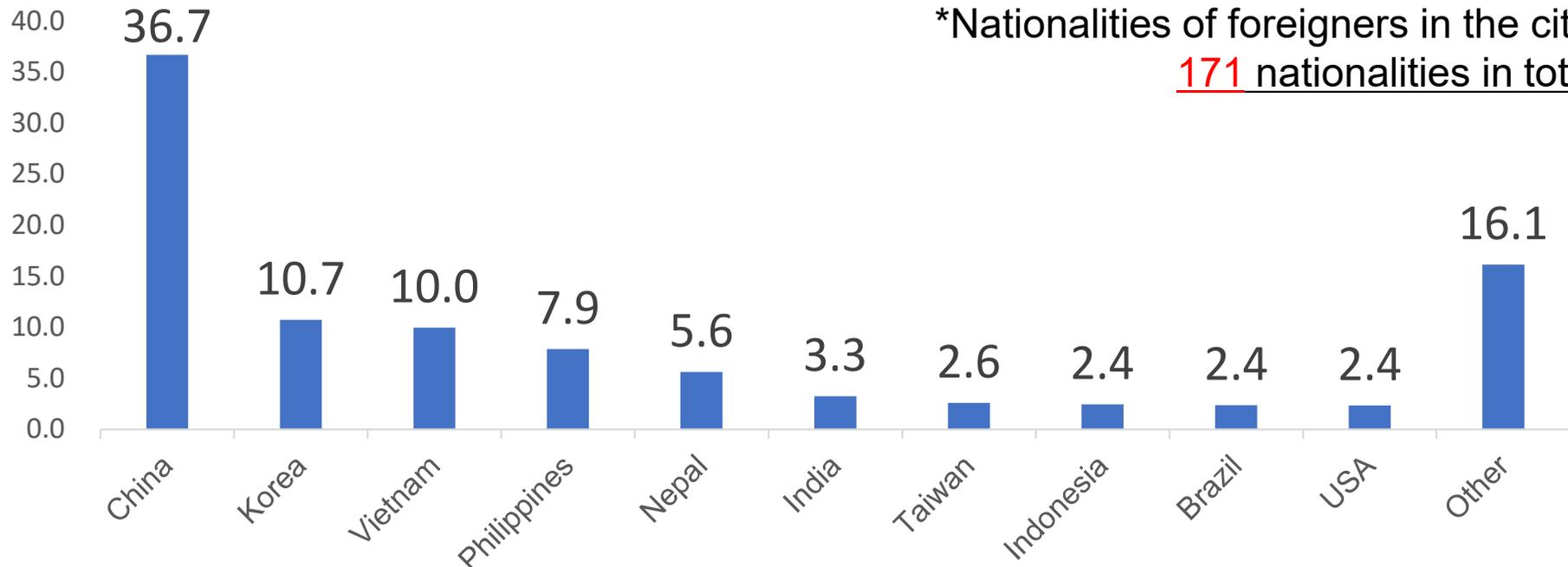
3,769,220 (as of January 1, 2024)

Population of foreigners (as of December 31, 2023)

115,973 (3% of total population)

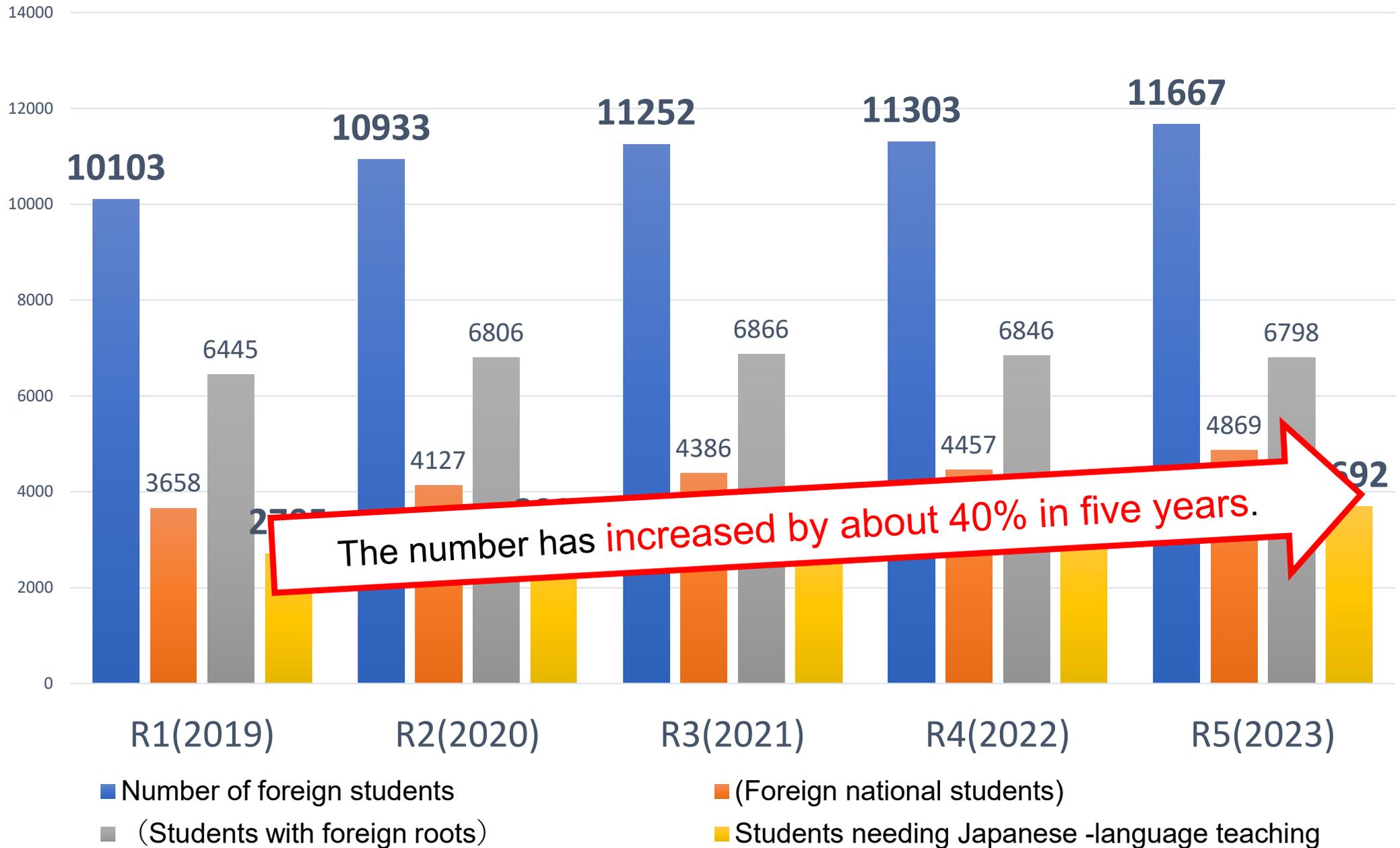
*Foreigners in Naka Ward
11.3% of the ward's population

Population of foreigners (% by country)



*Nationalities of foreigners in the city
171 nationalities in total

Number of foreign students in Yokohama City



Education and support for students needing Japanese-language teaching in Yokohama City

In-school support (during school hours)

International classes

- The city assigns teachers to teach students needing Japanese-language teaching. They provide Japanese-language teaching, subject teaching and life adaptation guidance (from 1992).
- In SY2023, 214 elementary and junior high schools had this class.

Yokohama City Japanese classes

- For students needing the newcomers' guidance for Japanese language, guidance is provided by instructors with Japanese teaching qualifications (from 1981).
- <<Elementary school students>> Japanese-language instructors are dispatched to each elementary school.
- <<Junior high school students>> Students go to one of the five classrooms holding intensive classes in the city to take intensive courses.
- In SY2022, 612 new students entered the class.

Education and support for students needing Japanese-language teaching in Yokohama City

Other learning and career support

"Newcomers' adaptation and learning support in the student's native language," etc.

- For the target students needing Japanese-language teaching, volunteers who can speak their native language provide "newcomers' adaptation support" (from 2008), "learning support" (from 2006), and "supplementary learning support" (from 2020).

Interview practice session provided by Japanese classes

- For third-year junior high school students who receive guidance or have received guidance in Japanese classes, its teaching supervisors act as interviewers and conduct interview practice sessions as a mock high school entrance examination.
- About 200 students and 50 teaching supervisors participate in these sessions every year.

Education and support for students needing Japanese-language teaching in Yokohama City

"Himawari" Japanese-language support facilities (from 2017)

*Three locations in the city

Preparatory class

- For schoolchildren newly transferred from abroad, this class provides intensive Japanese-language guidance and school life experience sessions three days a week (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) for one month. (*They will attend their enrolled schools on Mondays and Tuesdays.)

School guidance

- For students who have newly transferred from abroad and their parents, this service introduces school life in Japan in English, Chinese, Tagalog, Spanish, Portuguese, and easy Japanese, and checks the learning status of students.

"Sakura-kyoshitsu" preschool class

- For new first-year elementary school students needing Japanese support and their parents, this class introduces elementary school and school life experience sessions. (Held on the first and second Saturdays of March.)

Situation at Yokohama Yoshida Junior High School

Overview

◆ School educational goal
Nurturing cultural coexistence, empathy, and creativity through learning

◆ Number of foreign-national students and students with foreign connections: **212** (49% of all students)

*Total number of students: 432 (as of January 9, 2023)

[By country] (1) China and Taiwan 34% (145 students)
(2) Philippines 9% (32 people)

Number of students needing Japanese-language guidance: **90**

Cultural coexistence program

This is part of a range of school education activities that aim to promote education for cultural coexistence and to deepen the understanding of different cultures and other people.

<1st year students> Classes for multicultural understanding are held four times a year under the themes of "international understanding," "unconscious bias," "food," and "play." Instructors include teaching supervisors and foreign parents.

<2nd year students> Using DST (Digital Storytelling), foreign students participating in self-expression activities receive and share their own thoughts on self-expression, and reflect on themselves.

Future challenges

- (1) Starting from "minus" instead of "zero"
- (2) Upon completing the newcomers' teaching for Japanese language, will they be able to understand the content of the classes and the textbooks?
- (3) Students will be motivated to learn only when they have a stable life