

# Echizen-shi Multicultural Society Promotion Plan (Outline)

Plan term: fiscal 2019 to fiscal 2024 (5 years)



## Goals

The foreign population of Echizen-shi is on an increasing trend. As of October 1, 2018 the foreign population is 4,262 people which comprises about five percent of the city's population. This percentage is much higher than the national average. With the number of foreigners living in the city long-term and permanently increasing in recent years, it has become necessary to go beyond the current level of support, and better facilitate integration of the foreign residents into the city and society. The goal of the Echizen-shi Multicultural Society Promotion Plan is to systematically and comprehensively promote cooperation between the city government and citizens, community groups and businesses in the development of a multicultural community based on mutual understanding and respect of culture and values between the Japanese and foreign citizens of the city.

## Objective

To realize a community in which all residents, regardless of nationality or race, support each other while having a mutual understanding and respect for each other's culture and customs.

## Fundamental Principle

For people of all nationalities, with mutual understanding and respect, to support each other, and with love of one's hometown, to work together to build a good place to live Echizen-shi.

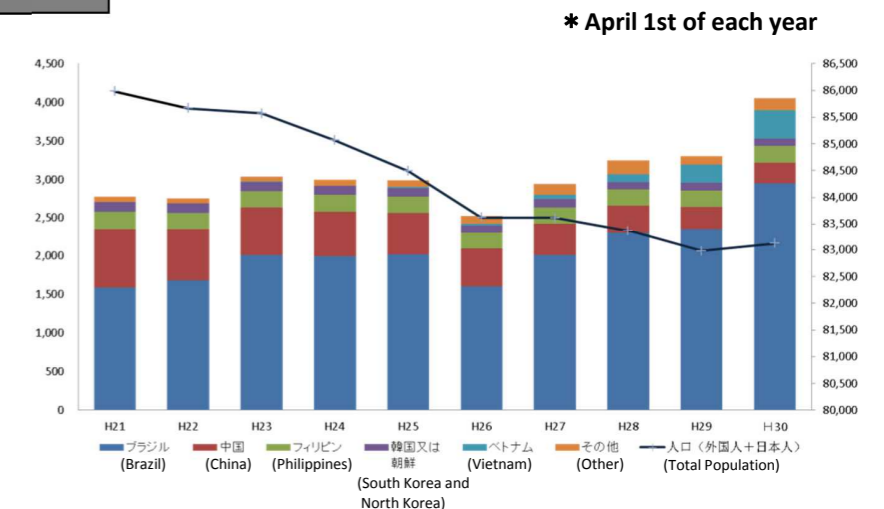
## Plan term

fiscal 2019 to fiscal 2024 (5 years)

## State of foreign residents

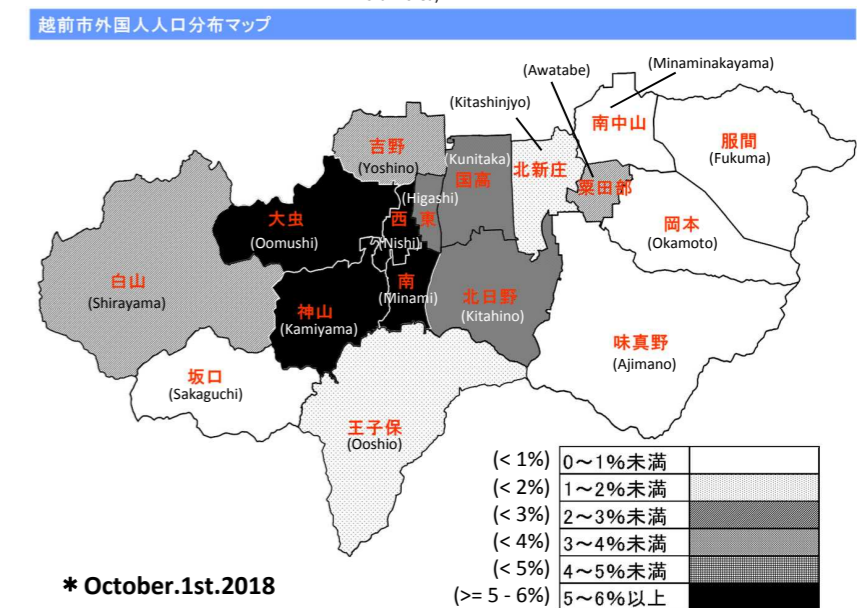
### Change in the number of foreign residents

The number of foreign residents in the city is on an ever increasing trend in recent years. As of October 1 2018, it is approximately 5% (the national average is approx. 2%).



### Foreign resident percentage by region

The foreign population tends to be highest in areas around places of work: Nishi (15.6%), Omushi (12.3%), Minami (8.8%), Kamiyama (5.4%). (As of October 1st 2018)



### Nationality of foreign residents

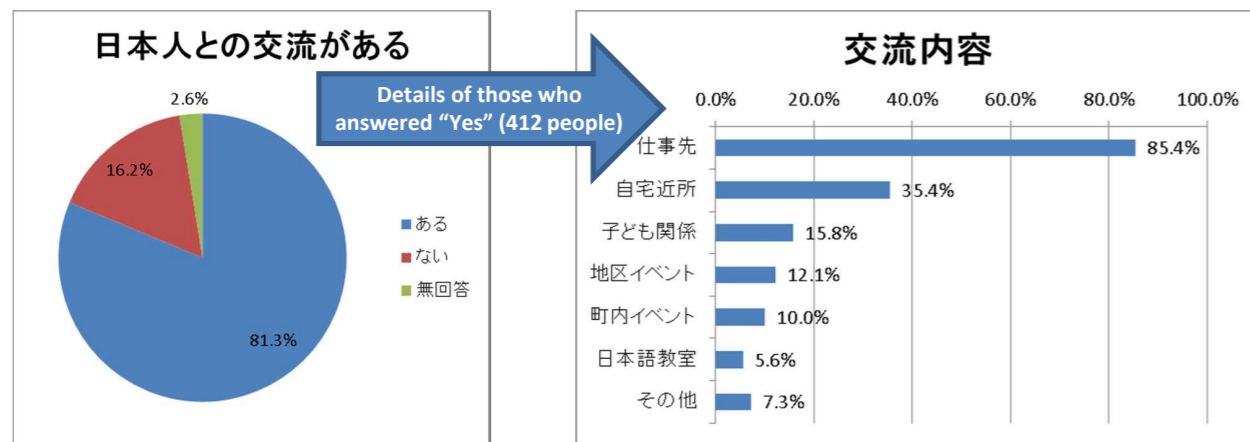
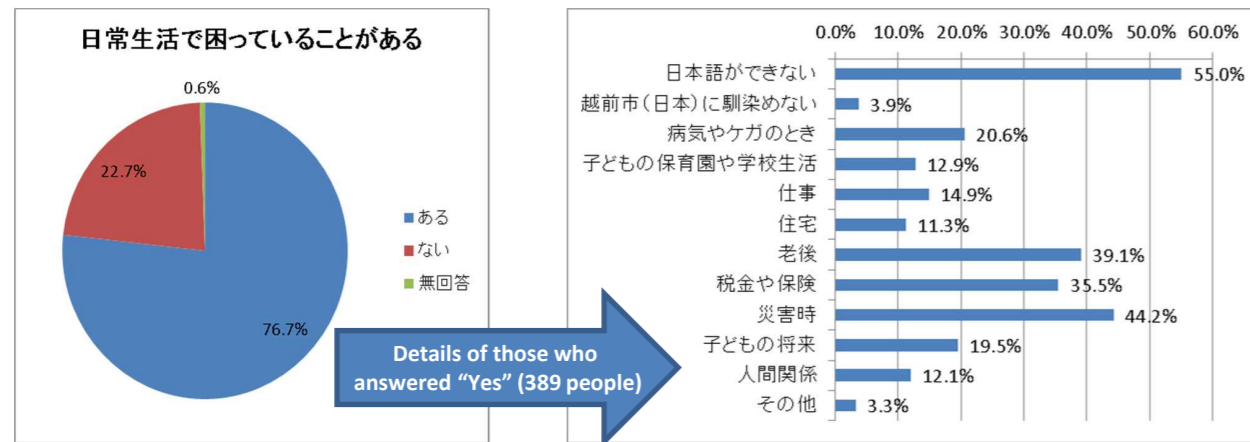
The three most common nationalities of foreign residents of Echizen-shi are: Brazilian (71%), Vietnamese (10%) and Chinese (6%). In all, there are residents of 38 foreign nationalities.

	Nation	Population (person)
1	Brazil	3,045
2	Vietnam	449
3	China	259
4	Philippines	213
5	Korea	91
6	Cambodia	60
7	Thailand	23
8	Mongolia	19
9	USA	13
10	Peru	12

\* October.1st.2018

## Results of the survey of foreign residents

Responses: 507 foreign residents of Echizen-shi (Brazil 388, Vietnam 99, Other 20)



## Results of the meetings with foreign residents

On Oct. 12, 14 and 21 direct meetings were held with foreign residents to solicit their opinions.

### Opinions from the meetings (partial)

- Desire for a place to get advice regarding children's schoolwork.
- Frustration with lack of openings at pre-schools.
- To truly develop a multicultural community, the cooperation of businesses is essential.
- There is not enough support for translation. Desire for more translation support at places that are commonly used, such as hospitals, post-offices, police stations, elementary schools, and pre-schools etc...
- Some of us work with neighborhood heads (kuchou) to actively invite more foreign residents to participate in local events and activities. Other districts should also be involved.
- Desire for education on the customs, culture and important rules of Echizen-shi.
- While learning to speak Japanese is very important, learning about Japanese culture is also essential.
- Desire for cultural exchange events such as soccer or other sports.

## Main Policies

The city, working with industry and related organizations, will develop policies and initiatives to adequately support foreign residents.

### Main Policies 1 Work towards the realization of a multicultural society

#### (1) Promotion of multicultural understanding

Policy Name	Outline
Promotion of multicultural understanding (Public Relations)	Demonstrate the fun of learning about other cultures and ways of thinking to Japanese residents, via public relations materials that introduce foreign cultures and ways of thinking.
(temporary name) Cultural exchange with the groups in the public center (shimin senta-)	Strive for foreign resident participation in society as well as Japanese resident understanding of foreign cultures, via interaction with various citizens groups.
Promoting cultural exchange through events such as sporting events.	Promote multicultural understanding and exchange by working together with businesses, various organizations and citizens groups to hold sporting events involving residents of different nationalities such as an indoor soccer tournament (futsal).

#### (2) Promote the use of multiple languages as well as easy to understand Japanese

Policy Name	Outline
Publication of city public relations materials in foreign languages	Provide information to meet the needs of foreign residents, via Portuguese, Chinese and Vietnamese versions of public relations materials.
Hold multilingual and multicultural promotion seminars	Work with local businesses and related organizations to hold seminars regarding multilingual translation and easy to understand Japanese.
Promote the spread of easy to understand Japanese.	To enable communication with foreign residents, works towards the spread of easy to understand Japanese.
Introduction of multilingual translation devices.	Introduce multilingual translation devices into elementary and junior high schools, nursery schools, kindergartens and so on. Establish an assistance system for medical institutions, medical businesses, tourism facilities etc.

#### (3) Enhance the Japanese language learning environment

Policy Name	Outline
Promotion of international exchange projects (Japanese language learning support)	Provide Japanese classes for the purpose of allowing foreign residents to become verbally independent. Also provide education for Japanese language teachers / supporters. Hold classes on holidays / days off and night-time.

### Main Policies 2 Improve the support for raising and educating children

#### (1) Improve the pre-school (nursery school) services

Policy Name	Outline
Create a place for foreign children	Create a third place (other than home and school) for small foreign children.
Portuguese language lessons for nursery school teachers	Hold for nursery school and pre-school teachers.

#### (2) Education support

Policy Name	Outline
Provide "pre-class"	Provide a place for students who have no understanding of Japanese to get beginner level lessons.