

Educational Statistics of Japan

In Japan, various surveys on education have been conducted by the government (including the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, “MEXT”), local governments (through their Boards of Education) and universities. The statistics and the research results based on these surveys are published on the internet and through paper media. In particular, the School Basic Survey conducted by MEXT is one of a group of surveys which forms the “Fundamental Statistics”, (the most important statistics for the nation) as designated by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, which is an essential basic dataset for school educational administration in Japan. In this report, the educational surveys conducted by MEXT (School Basic Survey, School Health Survey, School Teacher Survey and Social Education Survey) which are among the fundamental statistics required by the Statistics Act of Japan will be explained, especially focusing on the contents of each survey and the ways of publishing the statistics based on the survey results.

The following is a list of the surveys conducted by MEXT and the Agency for Cultural Affairs in Japan. The links to the websites for each survey will be found in the source link below the table.

Statistical Surveys Conducted by MEXT and the Agency for Cultural Affairs in Japan

Statistical Surveys on School Education
School Basic Survey (including the statistic research on education expenditure)* explained in this report
School Teachers Survey * explained in this report
Survey and Guidance on Undesirable Behavior in Students
Survey on Acceptance of Students who require Japanese Language Education
Survey on IT Education in Schools
Survey on the Number of Upper Secondary School Graduates Entering Employment
Survey on the Number of University, Junior College, College of Technology or Specialized Training College Graduates Entering Employment
Survey of the Implementation Status of Internships at Universities and Other Educational Institutes
Survey on the Actual Conditions of Public School facilities
Survey on the Actual Condition of Information and Communication Infrastructures (related to ICT in university libraries and universities)
Survey on the Dependency Condition of Teachers for Law Cases Under Dispute
Survey on the Conditions of Criminal Penalties against Teachers
Survey on the Actual Condition of Employee Associations Organized by Teachers
Survey on the Actual Condition of Specialized Training Colleges
Statistical Surveys on Social Education
Social Education Survey * explained in this report
Statistical Surveys on Education Expenditure
School Basic Survey (including statistical surveys on school education) * explained in this report
Survey on Local Educational Expenditures
Survey of Household Expenditure on Education per Student
Survey on Student Life
Statistical Surveys on Physical Education and Sports

National Survey on Physical and Motor Abilities Survey on the Actual Conditions of Physical Education and Sport Facilities Public Opinion Survey on Physical Fitness and Sports School Health Survey *explained in this report Survey on School Lunch Programs Report on the Nutritional Value of School Lunches
Statistical Survey on Science and Technology
Survey on Data Converted to Full-time at Universities Survey on Research Activities Conducted by Private Companies Japanese Innovation Survey
Statistical Survey on Culture
Statistical Survey on Religion

Source : MEXT “Statistics” (last accessed: 01/29/2015, http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/toukei/main_b8.htm)

Among the surveys related to education which are not included in the table, the “Surveys of Academic Performance” will be explained in another report.

1. School Basic Survey

Outline of School Basic Survey

Objectives	To identify basic information for school educational administration
Method	Complete survey
Survey Period	Every year
Survey Subjects	All types of schools (Kindergarten, Elementary School, Lower Secondary School, Upper Secondary School, Secondary School, School for Special Needs Education, College of Technology, Specialized Training College, Miscellaneous School) and Municipal Board of Education

Contents of School Basic Survey

Survey Division	Survey item
Common	Name, type and location of school (or name and location of Board of Education) Items related to the characteristics of the school
School Survey	Items related to the faculty, discipline, course or class The number of teachers and other school personnel Record of school enrollment and attendance for infants, young children, pupils and students Record of admissions, graduations, and movement in/out for infants, young children, pupils and students
Survey on Correspondence Courses	Number of teachers and other personnel Enrolment status of students Status of admissions, graduations, withdrawals and credits earned by students
Survey on Out-of-School Children at School Age	Status of exemption and extension of enrollment of children at school age Number of missing children at school age Number of deceased children at school age
Survey on School Facilities	Space of land and buildings classified by use and structure Status of increase and decrease of land and buildings
Survey on School expenditure	Status of expenses Status of revenue
Survey on Status after	Affiliation status of graduates at graduation

Graduation	Advancement and employment after graduation
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(1) Survey Conductor and Features

The School Basic Survey is one part of the group of Fundamental Statistics, which are conducted by MEXT every year in order to research basic information about schools in Japan. The Fundamental Statistics, designated by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, is one of the most important statistical datasets among statistics made by national administrative bodies. Therefore, the Fundamental Statistical survey group has a high standard of accuracy and reliability with statistics obtained through surveys, and, in contrast to other general surveys, some requirements mandated by the Statistics Act of Japan, such as the reporting obligation which prohibits the omission of reports or the making of false reports (Article 13 of the Statistics Act), the prohibition of fraudulent surveys for gathering information misrepresented as being part of the Fundamental Statistical surveys (Article 17 of the Statistics Act) and the authorization of local governments to conduct a part of the survey administration as a duty entrusted to them by statute (Article 16 of the Statistics Act).

The School Basic Survey, which has been implemented continuously since 1948 as one of the “Designated Statistics” (now the Fundamental Statistics), originated in the “Report of the Minister of Education” published by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (the predecessor of MEXT) in 1873. Before becoming the “Designated Statistics”, previous statistics were created by collecting data from certain reports such as: the “Regulatory Form for Year Books directly under the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture” for statistics on national schools; the “Regulatory Form of Year Books for Public and Private Upper Secondary Schools, Public and Private Universities and Public and Private Specialized Training Schools” for statistics on public and private universities, specialized training schools and upper secondary schools; and the “Regulatory Form of Provisions on the Investigation of School Affair Year Books” for statistics on public and private lower secondary schools, and other schools below middle schools. However, as it was difficult to aggregate the data accurately and promptly by these methods, the current method using a dedicated survey form was introduced, after a re-appraisal of the survey methods and the content of the surveys in 1948. In addition, since 2003, it has been possible to complete the survey form online.

(2) Survey Objectives

Article 2 of the Regulations for the Basic Survey on Schools (by Ordinance of the Ministry of Education No. 4 of March 11, 1952, and revised as: Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology No.34 of September 20, 2011) states that “the School Basic Survey

aims to identify the basic information needed for school educational administration”. In other words, it is intended for conducting research on certain information, and is not designed to clarify other tasks and problems.

(3) Survey Method

The School Basic Survey is a complete census conducted every year using questionnaires, and as mentioned above, the reporting obligation is imposed on all subjects as one of the Fundamental Statistics.

The subjects of the survey are all schools and municipal boards of education in Japan. Here, “schools” refers to “Kindergartens, Elementary Schools, Lower Secondary Schools, Upper Secondary Schools, Secondary Schools, Schools for Special Needs Education, Universities and Technology Colleges” as predefined in Article 1 of the School Education Act, “Specialized Training Colleges” as per Article 124 and “Miscellaneous Schools” as per Article 134 of the same Act.

The questionnaires are distributed by the Minister of MEXT, the prefectural governors and the heads of the municipalities to each of the schools under their jurisdiction. The principals or directors of each school must fill in the questionnaires and either submit them online or submit a paper version by mail.

(4) Survey Contents

The contents of the School Basic Survey are divided into the following categories: “School Survey”, “Survey on Correspondence Courses”, “Survey on Out-of-School Children at School Age”, “Survey on School Facilities”, “Survey on School Expenditures” and “Survey on the Status of Students after Graduation”.

The School Survey investigates the “name, type and location of schools”, “items related to the characteristics of the schools” (as these two items are investigated in the “Survey on Correspondence Courses”, “Survey on School Facilities”, “Survey on School Expenditures” and “Survey on the Status of Students after Graduation”, they will be omitted hereinafter), “items related to the faculty, discipline, course or class”, “the number of teachers and other non-teaching staff”, “record of school enrollment and attendance for infants, young children, pupils and students” and “record of admissions, graduations and movement in/out for infants, young children, pupils and students” in all

schools as of the 1st of May every year.

The “Survey on Correspondence Courses” investigates “the number of teachers and other non-teaching staff”, “the enrollment status of students” and “the status of admissions, graduations, withdrawals and credits earned by students” in upper secondary schools and lower secondary schools which provide correspondence courses as of the 1st of May every year.

The “Survey on Out-of-School Children at School Age” investigates the “name and location of the board of education”, “status of exemption and extension of enrollment of children at school age”, “number of missing children at school age” and “number of deceased children at school age” in municipal boards of education in Japan as of the 1st of May every year.

The “Survey on School Facilities” investigates the “space of land and buildings classified by use and structure” and “status of increase and decrease of land and building” in all schools as of the 1st of May every year.

The “Survey on School Expenditures” investigates the expenses and revenue of all schools in Japan.

The “Survey on the Status of Students after Graduation” investigates the “affiliation of graduates at graduation” and the “advancement and employment status after graduation” of students who graduated in the previous year, in all schools as of the 1st of May in the current year.

(5) Release of Survey Results

The survey results for the School Basic Survey are reviewed and aggregated by the Minister of MEXT and are published in paper form and on the internet. They are released, first and provisionally, as the “School Basic Survey Prompt Report” in around August of the survey year, and then as the “School Basic Survey (definite data)” in around December of the same year on the internet. This results are also published as the *School Basic Survey Report* in paper form.

Below is the website address for the School Basic Survey (in Japanese) issued by MEXT:

http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/toukei/chousa01/kihon/1267995.htm (Japanese)

An overview of the educational statistics is also available in English on MEXT's website below, although the data is slightly older than that in the Japanese version:

<http://www.mext.go.jp/english/statistics/index.htm> (English)

The statistics for the School Basic Survey from 1993 to the present are available in an Excel file in Japanese on MEXT's website below:

<http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/NewList.do?tid=000001011528> (Japanese)

Statistical Abstract (Education Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) is also released in paper media and on the internet. An English translation is available, shown together on the Japanese table from 2011:

http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/toukei/002/002b/koumoku.html (Japanese)

2. School Health Survey

Outline of School Health Survey

Objectives	To identify the health condition and growth status of infants, pupils, students, teachers and non-teaching staff at schools, the implementation status of health check-ups and the condition of health facilities
Method	Survey on growth status: two-stage stratified random sampling method Survey on health condition: stratified cluster sampling method
Survey Period	Every year
Survey Subjects	Randomly selected infants, pupils and students between the ages of 5 to 17 (as of the 1 st of April) in Kindergarten, Elementary School, Lower Secondary School, Upper Secondary School and Secondary School

Contents of School Health Survey

Survey Division	Survey Item
Survey on Growth Status	Height, weight, sitting height
Survey on Health Condition	Nutritional condition, spine and chest diseases and abnormalities, sight, hearing, eye diseases, ear/nose/throat diseases, skin diseases, dental and mouth diseases and abnormalities, tuberculosis (proved or negative), the result of the examination for tuberculosis, heart diseases and abnormalities, urine, parasitic worms (proved or negative) and other diseases and abnormalities

(1) Survey Conductor and Features

The School Health Survey to investigate the growth status and health condition of infants, pupils and students in Japan's schools is one of the Fundamental Statistical surveys conducted by MEXT every

year. It originally began in 1900 as the “Statistics on Physical Examination of Students and Pupils” and although the survey was suspended during the World War II, it was resumed as the “School Health Statistics” in 1948. Following the enactment of the School Health Law in 1958, the survey name was changed to the “School Health Survey” in 1960.

(2) Survey Objectives

Article 2 of the School Health Regulations (by Ordinance of the Ministry of Education No. 5 of March 11, 1952, and revised as: Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology No.17 of March 31, 2009), states that “the School Health Survey aims to identify the health condition and growth status of infants, pupils, students, teachers and non-teaching staff at schools, the implementation status of health check-ups and the condition of health facilities”.

(3) Survey Method

The School Health Survey is a sample survey using questionnaires and conducted annually.

The subjects of the survey are randomly selected from infants, pupils and students between the ages of 5 to 17 (as of the 1st of April) in Kindergarten, Elementary School, Lower Secondary School, Upper Secondary School and Secondary School.

The methods of sampling differ according to their content. The survey on growth status uses a two-stage stratified random sampling method, in which schools are classified by prefectures and type (stratification), a certain number of schools are then targeted (first stage selection) and then the subject infants, pupils and students are selected according to their age and gender, based on a systematic sampling method (second stage selection). The survey on health condition uses a stratified cluster sampling method. The first stage selection is the same as that of the growth status survey, but the second stage is different in that all the students in the target schools are selected.

The survey is conducted between the 1st of April and the 30th of June, and is based on the results of health checkups conducted under the School Health and Safety Act. The questionnaires are distributed by the Minister of MEXT and the prefectural governors to each school under their jurisdiction. The principals or directors of each school must fill in the questionnaires and submit them to the prefectural governors so that they can be organized and aggregated before submitting the questionnaires to the Minister of MEXT.

(4) Survey Contents

The School Health Survey consists of the “Survey on Growth Status” and the “Survey on Health Condition”. Under the Survey on Growth Status, “height, weight and sitting height” of infants, pupils and students are measured. The Survey on Health Condition examines infants, pupils and students for “nutritional condition, spine and chest diseases and abnormalities, sight, hearing, eye diseases, ear/nose/throat diseases, skin diseases, dental and mouth diseases and abnormalities, tuberculosis (proved or negative), the result of the examination for tuberculosis, heart diseases and abnormalities, urine, parasitic worms (proved or negative) and other diseases and abnormalities”.

(5) Release of the Survey Results

The survey results of the School Health Survey are published as provisional data in January, and as definite data in March of the same year via the internet. A paper version is published as the *School Health Survey Report*.

Below is the website address for the School Health Survey (in Japanese) issued by MEXT:

http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/toukei/chousa05/hoken/1268826.htm (Japanese)

The statistics for the School Health Survey from 1990 to the present are available in an Excel file in Japanese:

<http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/NewList.do?tid=000001011648> (Japanese)

3. School Teacher Survey

Outline of School Teacher Survey

Objective	To identify the composition of teachers, individual attributes of teachers, working conditions and the status of transfers for teachers
Method	Complete survey
Survey Period	Every three years
Survey Subjects	All school teachers (president, vice-president, dean, professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, lecturer, principal, senior vice-principal, vice-principal, senior teacher, advanced skill teacher, teacher, assistant teacher, school nurse, assistant school nurse, nutritional educator, training assistant, teacher at a Specialized Training College, teacher at a Miscellaneous School)

Contents of School Teacher Survey

Survey Division	Survey Item
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School Survey	The number of teachers in regular employment according to gender, age and occupation at the target schools
Survey on Individual Teachers	Gender, age, occupation Academic background and service year Types of teaching certificate Numbers of hours in charge of classes in a week Monthly income
Survey on Teacher Transfers	State of employment, transfer and separation from the service Gender, age, occupation Academic background (only for those employed or transferred) Previous occupation and reasons for leaving it

(1) Survey Conductor and Features

The School Teacher Survey on teachers at schools in Japan is conducted by MEXT every three years. The previous “School Teacher Research” launched in 1947 and “School Teacher Demand and Supply Survey” started in 1953 were integrated in 1968, and the survey name was changed to “School Teacher Survey” in 1971.

(2) Survey Objectives

Article 2 of the School Teacher Regulation (by Ordinance of the Ministry of Education No. 12 of May 5, 1953, and revised as: Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology No.17 of March 31, 2009) states that “the School Teacher Survey aims to identify the composition of teachers, individual attributes of teachers, working conditions and the status of transfers for teachers”.

(3) Survey Method

The School Teacher Survey is a complete census (with sampling survey for some survey items and in private specialized training colleges and miscellaneous schools) using questionnaires, that is conducted every three years. The survey subject is the teachers in Japanese schools. Here, schools refer to “Kindergartens, Elementary Schools, Lower Secondary Schools, Upper Secondary Schools, Secondary Schools, Schools for Special Needs Education, Universities and Technology Colleges” as defined in Article 1 of the School Education Act, “Specialized Training Colleges” as per Article 124 and “Miscellaneous Schools” as per Article 134 of the same Act. Teachers here refer to: presidents, vice-presidents, deans, professors, associate professors, assistant professors, assistants, lecturers, principal, senior vice-principals, vice-principals, senior teachers, advanced skill teachers, teachers, assistant teachers, school nurses, assistant school nurses, nutritional educators, training assistants, teachers at Specialized Training Colleges and teachers at Miscellaneous Schools.

The questionnaires are distributed by the Minister of MEXT, the prefectural and municipal boards of education to target schools and the president or principal of each school must fill in the questionnaires and either submit them online or submit a paper version by mail.

(4) Survey Contents

The School Teacher Survey consists of the “School Survey”, the “Survey on Individual Teachers” and the “Survey on Teacher Transfers”.

The School Survey investigates “the number of teachers in regular employment by gender, age and occupation”, as of the 1st of October at the target schools. Target schools are those which are not selected as a target for the Survey on Individual Teachers (except for private specialized training colleges and miscellaneous schools), and in this sense, this is a complementary survey to the Survey on Individual Teachers.

The Survey on Individual Teachers is conducted using sampling survey method for public and private kindergartens, public elementary schools and lower secondary schools, public full-time and part-time secondary schools, private full-time upper secondary schools, private specialized training colleges and miscellaneous schools. A complete survey method is introduced in other schools. The survey aims to investigate “gender, age, occupation”, “academic background and service year”, “types of teaching certificate”, “the numbers of hours in charge of classes in a week” and the “monthly income” of teachers in regular employment at the target schools (teachers with additional posts are included in universities, technology colleges and specialized training colleges), as of the 1st of October of the year in which the survey is conducted.

The Survey on Teacher Transfer investigate “the state of employment, transfer and separation from the service”, “gender, age and occupation” “academic background (only for those employed or transferred)” and “previous occupation and reasons for leaving it” among the previous fiscal year of the survey.

(5) Release of Survey Results

Regarding the School Teacher Survey conducted in 2013, the interim report is scheduled to be

published in August 2014, and the definite data is scheduled for release in March 2015. Below is the website address for the School Teacher Survey (in Japanese) issued by MEXT:

http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/toukei/chousa01/kyouin/1268573.htm (Japanese)

The statistics for the School Teacher Survey from 1989 to the present are available in an Excel file in Japanese:

<http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/NewList.do?tid=000001016172> (Japanese)

4. Social Education Survey

Outline of Social Education Survey

Objectives	To identify the basic information of social education needed for the administration of social education
Method	Complete survey
Survey Period	Every three years
Survey Subjects	Prefectural and municipal boards of education, community centers, libraries, museums and other similar facilities, educational facilities for youth, social sports facilities and private sports facilities, cultural centers and life-long learning centers

Contents of Social Education Survey

Survey Division	Survey Item
Survey on Social Education Administration	Items related to social education professionals in prefectural and municipal committee secretariats Items related to social education committee members Number of corporations involved State of practice for social education programs
Survey on Community Centers, Survey on Libraries, Survey on Museums, Survey on Educational Facilities for Youth, Survey on Educational Facilities for Women, Survey on Physical Education Facilities, Survey on Cultural Centers, Survey on Life-long Learning Centers	Name and address Type of facility (Some surveys use different names or some do not research on this) Items related to facility owners and managers Items related to workers Items related to facilities and equipment Items related to business operations State of use of facilities Items related to volunteer activities State of establishment of councils (Some surveys use different names or some do not research on this)

(1) Survey Conductor and Features

The Social Education Survey on social education is one of the Fundamental Statistics conducted by

MEXT every three years. The survey was launched in 1955 and it has been conducted every three years since 1970.

(2) Survey Objectives

Article 2 of the Social Education Regulation (by Ordinance of the Ministry of Education No. 11 of June 28, 1960, and revised as: Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology No.26 of September 3, 2014) states that “the Social Educational Survey aims to identify the basic information of social education needed for the administration of social education”.

(3) Survey Method

The Social Education Survey is a complete census using questionnaires and is carried out every three years. The survey is divided into titled sections according to the following subjects: the “Survey on Social Education Administration” (subject: prefectural and municipal boards of education), the “Survey on Community Centers” (subject: community centers), “Survey on Libraries” (subject: libraries), “Survey on Museums” (subject: museums and similar facilities), “Survey on Youth Education Facilities” (subject: youth education facilities), “Survey on Women’s Education Facilities” (subject: women’s education facilities), “Survey on Physical Education Facilities” (subject: social and public physical education facilities), “Survey on Civic Halls” (subject: civic halls) and the “Survey on Lifelong Learning Centers” (subject: lifelong learning centers).

The questionnaire is distributed by the Minister of MEXT and the prefectural and municipal boards of education to all facilities and is then completed and returned by the directors of those facilities.

(4) Survey Contents

The contents of the Social Education Survey consist of the “Survey on Social Education Administration” and eight others: “Survey on Community Center”, “Survey on Libraries”, “Survey on Museums”, “Survey on Youth Education Facilities”, “Survey on Women’s Education Facilities”, “Survey on Physical Education Facilities”, “Survey on Civic Halls” and “Survey on Lifelong Learning Centers”.

The Social Education Survey Administration investigates the following items: “social education professionals with prefectural and municipal committee secretariats”, “social education committee members”, “the numbers of related corporate persons” as of the 1st of October of the survey year and

“the state of implementation of social education programs” among the previous fiscal year of the survey.

In the other eight surveys, “name and address”, “owners and managers” (in Surveys on civic hall and lifelong learning center, founders and managers), “staff”, “facilities and equipment” and “volunteer activities” as of the 1st of October of the survey year, as well as “program implementations” and “status of use of facilities” among the previous fiscal year of the survey, are common survey items. Apart from these common items, “types of facility” and “status of the governing council of civic halls” as of the 1st of October of the survey year are investigated in the “Survey on Civic Halls”; “differentiation of main buildings and annexes” and “status of the governing council of libraries” as of the 1st of October of the survey year are investigated under the “Survey on Libraries”; “museum types” and “status of the governing council of museums” as of the 1st of October of the survey year are investigated in the “Survey on Museums”; “facility types” as of the 1st of October of the survey year is investigated in the “Survey on Youth Education Facilities”; and “kinds of facility” as of the 1st of October of the survey year is also investigated in the “Survey on Physical Education Facilities”.

(5) Release of Survey Results

Below is the website address for the Social Education Survey (in Japanese) issued by MEXT:

http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/toukei/chousa02/shakai/index.htm (Japanese)

The statistics of the Social Education Survey from 1999 to the present are available in an Excel file in Japanese:

<http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/NewList.do?tid=000001017254> (Japanese)