

The current situation of
English-speaking residents
of the Kanto area
concerning healthcare –
A Qualitative Study

Niaya Harper Igarashi
March 6, 2024

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About Me

Born in the United States (St. Louis, Missouri)

Lived in Missouri, Texas, Louisiana, New York + London

Native English speaker + business-level Japanese

学歴

- 2003 B.A. Biology Pre-Med / History (Xavier University, US)
- 2005 M.A. International Business (Regents College, UK)
- 2009 Moved to Japan (Hamamatsu 1yr + Tokyo 14yrs)
- 2022 MHSc International Health (The University of Tokyo)

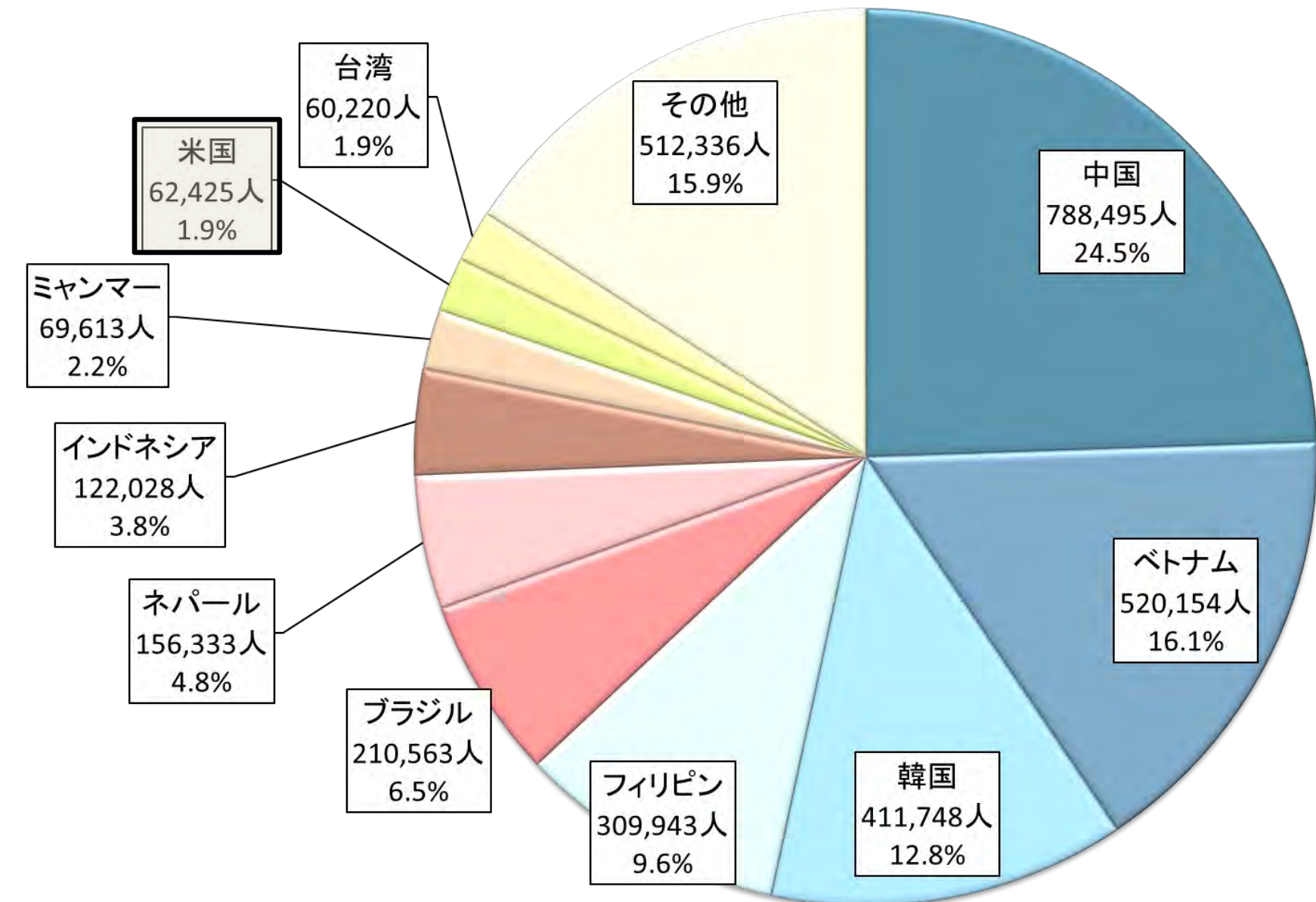
現在

- PhD Student, International Health (The University of Tokyo)
- Program Specialist, Health and Global Policy Institute (Japan)
- Mom of 2 American-Japanese kids (5yr old boy, 2yr old girl)



International Residents in Japan by Nationality

国籍・地域	令和3年末 (2021)	令和4年末 (2022)	令和5年 6月末 (2023)	構成比 (%)
総数	2,780,635	3,075,213	3,223,858	100.0
中国	716,606	761,563	788,495	24.5
ベトナム	432,934	489,312	520,154	16.1
韓国	409,855	411,312	411,748	12.8
フィリピン	276,615	298,740	309,943	9.6
ブラジル	204,879	209,430	210,563	6.5
ネパール	97,109	139,393	156,333	4.8
インドネシア	59,820	98,865	122,028	3.8
ミャンマー	37,246	56,239	69,613	2.2
米国	54,162	60,804	62,425	1.9
台湾	51,191	57,294	60,220	1.9
その他	420,218	492,261	512,336	15.9



□ End of June 2023, the population of USA residents in Japan was 62,425 (1.9%)

Diversity Among English-Speaking International Residents

International Residents in Japan **are not a monolith**; the same goes for those here who primarily communicate here using English.

There is a **significant amount of diversity among English speakers** in Japan and how they experience the healthcare system here.

Lived experiences of international residents from a **native English-speaking** background and of those who **communicate in English as a second language**.

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Healthcare Challenges Among International Residents

Received: 12 July 2021 | Revised: 17 November 2021 | Accepted: 19 November 2021
DOI: 10.1111/phn.13026

POPULATION STUDY

Healthcare needs and experiences of foreign residents in Japan by language fluency

Miyoko Okamoto PhD, RN, PHN, MPH, Associate Professor¹ | Yui Matsuda PhD, PNHA-BC, MPH, Assistant Professor² | Cynthia L. Foronda PhD, RN, CNE, CHSE, ANEF, FAAN Professor of Clinical²

PHN POPULATION HEALTH NURSING WILEY

The subjects of this study (n=209), foreign residents in the greater Tokyo area (excluding students).

The most frequently mentioned difficulties mentioned were: **“problems concerning communication”, “lack of explanation about illness and/or treatment”, and “procedural system to use the services.”**

An Exploratory Quantitative Study of Factors Associated with Dissatisfaction with Japanese Healthcare among Highly Skilled Foreign Professionals Living in Japan

by Tomoari Mori^{1,2}, Yoko Deasy¹, Katsumi Mori³, Eisuke Nakazawa³ and Akira Akabayashi^{3,4,*}

¹ Health Center, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST), Okinawa 904-0495, Japan
² Department of General Medicine, University of Occupational & Environmental Health, Japan (UOEH), Fukuoka 807-8556, Japan
³ Department of Biomedical Ethics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Tokyo, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan
⁴ Division of Medical Ethics, School of Medicine, New York University, New York, NY 10016, USA
* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

BioMed 2022, 2(4), 431-441; <https://doi.org/10.3390/biomed2040034>

Submission received: 31 August 2022 / Revised: 15 November 2022 / Accepted: 23 November 2022 / Published: 28 November 2022

The subjects of this study (n=90), Highly Skilled Foreign Professionals working at (OIST) in Okinawa, were generally satisfied with medical care in Japan.

However, any dissatisfaction with medical care was associated with a **“dissatisfaction with communication with medical personnel”** and a **“desire for healthcare providers to consider their culture and religion.”**

Characteristics of the International Residents		n=12	
		n	%
Age	20s	1	8.33
	30s	7	58.33
	40s	4	33.33
Gender	Male	4	33.33
	Female	8	66.67
Years in Japan	1-2 yrs	1	8.33
	3-5 yrs	2	16.67
	6-10 yrs	3	25.00
	more than 10 yrs	6	50.00
Japanese level	None	1	8.33
	JLPT N5	1	8.33
	JLPT N4	2	16.67
	JLPT N3	3	25.00
	JLPT N2	3	25.00
	JLPT N1	2	16.67
Living/Family situation	Single - lives alone	4	33.33
	Married - living w/ Japanese spouse	4	33.33
	Married - living w/ non-Japanese spouse	4	33.33
		4	33.33
Birthplace	USA	5	41.67
	UK	2	16.67
	Canada	2	16.67
	Bangladesh	1	8.33
	Argentina	1	8.33
	Uzbekistan	1	8.33

□ In-depth interviews were conducted among 12 international residents of native English-speaking (n=9) and those who communicate in English as a second-language (n=3).

