

Reserch-date.

Population Trends of Japan in Tokugawa-era (a)

A No. 2 (a)

—Total Population—

The 1st national population census of Tokugawa-era was put in practice in the age of the 8th shogun Yoshimune. This was the 1st census, which had a nation-wide scale, in the Japanese history.

The motive of this census was in purpose to re-examine the land inspection and to increase Taxes From a point of date, it is difficult to count exactly the number of times of the enforcement of the national population censuses in Tokugawa-era, but we suppose in that era more than 20 censuses were put in practice. Eighteen of them show evident datas, though there are some different opinions amont them.

The next table shows us the population trends.

Year	A.D.	Mascline	Feminine	Total	Index	Average index of increase or decrease	Ratio per 1,000
6	Kyoho 1721	-	-	26,065,425	100.00	-	-
11	" 1726	-	-	26,548,998	101.86	96.715	3.7

17	Kyoho	1732	14,407,107	12,514,709	26,921,816	103.29	62.136	2.3
3	Genbun	1738	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Enkyo	1744	-	-	26,153,450	100.34	x 64.030	x 2.4
3	Kanen	1750	13,818,654	12,099,176	25,917,830	99.43	x 39,270	x 1.5
6	Hereki	1756	13,833,311	12,228,919	26,061,830	99.99	24.000	0.9
12	"	1762	13,785,400	12,136,058	25,921,458	99.45	x 23.659	x 0.9
5	Meiwa	1768	-	-	26,252,057	100.72	55.099	2.1
3	Anei	1774	-	-	25,990,451	99.71	x 43.601	x 1.7
9	"	1780	-	-	26,010,600	99.79	3.358	0.1
6	Tenmei	1786	13,230,656	11,855,810	25,086,466	96.24	x154,024	x 5.9
4	Kansei	1792	-	-	24,891,441	95.50	x 32.504	x 1.3
10	"	1798	-	-	25,471,033	97.72	96.599	3.9
1	Bunka	1804	13,427,149	12,194,708	25,621,957	98.30	25.154	1.0
7	"	1810	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	"	1816	-	-	-	-	-	-

5	Bunsei	1822	-	-	26,602,110	102.06	54.453	2.1
11	"	1828	14,160,736	13,040,064	27,201,400	104.36	99.881	3.8
5	Tempo	1834	14,053,455	13,010,452	27,063,907	103.83	x 22.915	x 0.8
11	"	1840	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Koka	1846	13,854,043	13,053,582	26,907,625	103.23	x 13.023	x 0.5
5	Kaei	1852	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Ansei	1858	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Ganji	1864	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: x denote decreasing.

"National Population Trends"

As this table shows, for about 120 years of Tokugawa-era we cannot find an increase of the population, and even depopulation in the middle part of the era. And though only in the end of the era we can find increasing trends, the trends are generally stagnant. If the influences of special phenomenons like natural disasters and plaques, are left out of consideration, the fundamental reason of the stagnation might be owing to the feudal society itself which had already loot its progressive force. Now, by dividing Japan into several districts, we will make clear the general stagnancy.

1. Real Number

District	(1750) 3 Kanen	(1786) 6 Tenmei	(1804) 1 Bunka	(1834) 5 Tempo	(1847) 3 Koka	(1852) 5 Kaei	(1870) 5 Meiji
Kinki	4,448,801	4,420,791	4,336,934	4,470,692	4,366,456	4,531,450	4,658,247
Tokai	2,373,803	2,307,949	2,340,929	2,474,591	2,483,265	2,476,024	2,864,141
Kanto	5,047,356	4,375,736	4,295,684	4,171,388	4,438,478	4,343,872	5,173,959
Tohoku	2,682,389	2,368,641	2,473,097	2,631,438	2,520,333	2,626,021	3,485,935
Tosan	1,603,262	1,663,333	1,694,168	1,827,581	1,774,446	1,889,418	2,038,457

Hokuriku	2,160,541	2,108,387	2,307,745	2,640,834	2,534,477	2,598,219	3,299,551
Sanin	739,143	787,647	844,253	933,309	877,994	913,711	985,184
Sanyo	2,037,582	2,139,958	2,223,509	2,464,624	2,433,799	2,425,217	2,896,074
Shikoku	1,562,283	1,661,501	1,760,526	1,932,849	1,943,146	1,896,948	2,446,243
Kyushu	3,165,370	3,226,255	3,299,697	3,449,732	3,468,045	3,422,274	4,972,576

Note: Exclude Hokkaido and Loochow Islands.

2. Index Number

District	(1750) 3 Kanen	(1786) 6 Tenmei	(1804) 1 Bunka	(1834) 5 Tempo	(1847) 3 Koka	(1852) 5 Kaei	(1870) 5 Meiji
Kinki	100.00	99.37	97.49	100.49	98.15	79.38	104.71
Tokai	100.00	97.23	98.62	104.25	104.61	104.31	120.66
Kanto	100.00	86.69	85.11	82.65	87.94	86.06	102.51
Tohoku	100.00	88.30	92.20	98.10	93.96	97.90	129.96

Tosan	100.00	103.75	106.57	113.99	110.68	117.85	127.14
Hokuriki	100.00	97.59	106.81	122.23	117.31	120.26	152.72
Sanin	100.00	106.56	114.22	126.27	118.79	123.62	133.29
Sanyo	100.00	105.02	109.12	120.96	119.45	119.02	142.13
Shikoku	100.00	106.35	112.69	123.72	124.38	121.41	156.58
Kyushu	100.00	101.92	104.24	108.98	109.56	108.12	159.09

According to this table, we must change the common opinion about the decrease and stagnancy of the population in the latter half of Tokugawa-era. It is because we can find increase in the most parts of the country, except 3 districts of Kinki, Kanto and Tohoku which showed decrease and stagnation.

This fact is perhaps thought to be due to the incompleteness of the method and, the disunion of the census plans and so on. In so far as this table is believed, the stagnation in the latter half of the era can only be seen in three districts—Kanto, Kinki and Tohoku. But there is a question left. Why was the depopulation seen in two districts of Kinki and Kanto which had large cities, Edo, Osaka and Kyoto? And why was the increase seen in seven districts, the rest of all the districts, which were pretty sterile and poor in economic conditions. We can not exactly explain about this fact.

"On excepted Population"

On the tables shown previously, we must consider that these tables do not contain the whole population without exception, not a few population were excepted. They were nobles, samurais beggars and outcasts the people of

Annexed Table: Population in whole clans.

Prefecture	1750 Kanen 3	1786 Tenmei 6	1804 Bunka 1	1834 Tempo 5	1847 Koka 3	1852 Kaei 5	1870 Meiji 5	Proportional rate of 1870 and 1852
Yamashiro	522,626	507,488	469,519	488,726	452,140	498,296	429,030	116.14
Yamato	374,041	336,254	340,706	360,071	361,157	356,627	418,326	85.25
Kowachi	231,266	205,585	214,945	224,822	224,055	223,747	237,678	94.14
Izumi	207,952	190,762	202,283	207,211	197,656	208,884	209,174	99.86
Settzu	803,595	801,220	789,857	796,439	763,729	812,090	729,443	113.33
Iga	91,392	82,352	80,196	89,243	91,774	87,949	97,164	90.52
Ise	523,037	418,906	476,500	499,958	499,814	498,171	585,988	85.01
Shima	34,068	37,184	37,875	41,888	40,693	40,919	37,439	109.30
Owari	553,340	595,264	605,686	643,977	653,678	646,555	727,437	88.88
Mikawa	419,283	419,349	420,697	440,264	431,800	439,635	489,931	91.03
Totomi	333,744	332,100	342,398	360,818	363,959	361,236	414,928	87.06
Suruga	313,819	242,165	252,072	253,848	286,290	270,763	368,505	73.48

Kai	311,193	120,629	297,903	318,474	310,273	391,499	360,068	108.73
Izu	105,120	305,934	125,505	144,595	115,197	130,796	149,749	87.34
Sagami	310,796	279,427	278,068	294,009	303,271	289,376	356,638	81.13
Musashi	1,771,214	1,626,958	1,654,368	1,714,054	1,777,371	1,717,455	1,943,211	88.38
Awa	158,440	125,052	132,993	144,581	143,500	140,830	154,683	91.04
Kazusa	453,460	388,542	364,560	364,240	340,161	362,411	419,969	86.29
Shimofusa	567,603	483,526	478,721	402,093	525,041	497,758	645,029	77.17
Hitachi	655,507	514,519	485,445	457,321	521,777	495,859	648,674	76.44
Ōmi	575,216	583,940	532,968	511,948	541,732	547,724	576,564	95.00
Mino	533,095	556,165	566,355	607,269	583,137	609,459	660,896	92.22
Hida	72,323	77,939	81,768	93,765	86,338	91,382	98,378	92.89
Shinano	686,651	723,295	748,142	808,073	794,698	797,079	919,115	86.72
Kozuke	576,075	522,869	497,034	451,830	428,092	464,226	507,235	91.52
Shimozuke	554,261	434,797	404,495	342,260	378,665	375,957	498,520	75.41

Iwaki								348,608	
Iwashiro								427,933	
Rikuzen	1,836,134	1,563,719	1,602,948	1,690,509	1,607,881	1,680,102	534,609		73.21
Rikucho								510,521	
Mutzu								473,244	
Uzen	846,255	804,922	870,149	940,929	912,452	945,919	560,984		79.42
Ugo								630,036	
Wakasa	78,072	79,323	78,715	84,366	77,183	84,678	85,487		99.05
Echizen	348,052	332,019	354,038	397,823	353,674	386,071	461,032		83.74
Kaga	202,429	196,732	196,725	230,451	283,291	220,267	403,357		54.71
Noto	157,765	137,427	167,534	197,704	186,970	198,111	262,486		75.47
Etchu	313,562	317,265	345,419	402,411	403,121	413,888	615,663		67.23
Echigo	970,185	954,524	1,072,904	1,224,947	1,172,973	1,191,935	1,368,428		87.10
Sado	90,476	91,907	92,410	103,132	102,265	103,269	103,098		100.17
Tanba	276,336	281,356	282,493	292,808	280,947	291,869	295,359		98.82

Tango	134,476	141,191	147,403	159,211	154,308	157,401	160,932	97.81
Tazima	156,613	158,455	167,549	184,323	173,573	181,052	187,036	96.77
Inba	125,085	123,622	128,643	136,204	127,797	135,969	162,842	83.50
Hoki	140,719	155,289	169,570	191,175	177,420	186,813	194,158	96.22
Izumo	234,896	258,916	279,177	315,270	309,606	308,346	340,042	90.68
Iwami	219,512	229,113	245,203	264,948	236,963	257,349	259,611	99.13
Oki	18,931	20,707	21,660	25,712	26,208	25,234	28,531	88.44
Harima	551,393	607,758	599,401	600,731	594,560	613,534	635,791	96.50
Mimasaka	175,168	157,747	153,397	164,018	165,468	159,850	215,602	74.14
Bizen	322,982	321,627	318,273	318,647	310,576	318,771	331,878	96.05
Bitchu	319,410	316,904	328,408	347,415	346,927	343,792	396,880	86.62
Bingo	306,818	303,731	318,577	360,659	360,832	351,597	456,461	77.03
Aki	396,878	454,112	499,081	575,516	553,708	564,271	667,717	84.51
Suwo	289,392	344,800	358,761	436,198	435,188	429,329	497,034	86.38
Nagato	226,934	241,037	247,012	259,171	261,100	257,607	330,502	77.94

Kii	508,174	500,621	477,361	520,902	499,826	516,478	613,925	84.12
Awaji	107,113	106,161	112,449	123,500	122,773	123,748	164,939	75.03
Awa	336,905	369,280	425,304	459,244	448,287	454,120	586,046	77.49
Sanuki	357,326	364,851	395,980	432,648	433,880	422,508	559,712	75.49
Iyo	499,860	514,773	529,829	585,651	599,948	574,847	775,974	74.08
Tosa	368,192	392,597	409,412	455,306	461,031	445,473	524,511	84.93
Chikuzen	307,439	307,778	313,420	335,803	346,942	329,868	441,175	74.77
Chikugo	260,875	270,448	277,579	307,206	299,041	292,913	391,535	74.81
Buzen	242,653	237,537	235,950	247,176	249,274	243,949	304,574	80.10
Bungo	511,880	469,687	466,106	475,985	470,875	474,540	562,318	84.39
Hizen	632,923	662,342	712,654	699,154	713,593	701,527	1,074,460	65.29
Higo	620,244	646,892	671,316	743,544	755,781	738,078	953,037	77.44
Hyuga	225,421	230,133	230,763	245,476	246,621	243,412	376,527	64.65
Ōsumi	131,623	126,022	114,166	103,096	99,212	104,218	256,816	40.58
Satzuma	194,312	237,889	238,493	248,364	241,797	251,649	549,440	45.80

Iki	23,200	23,391	25,368	27,215	27,005	27,624	33,010	83.68
Tzushima	14,800	14,136	13,862	16,713	16,904	14,478	27,684	48.77
Hokkaido	21,807	26,310	45,417	67,862	70,887	65,022	120,873	53.79
Total	25,917,983	25,086,466	25,621,957	27,063,907	26,907,625	27,201,400	33,110,825	82.15

Note: Total population in the 5th year of Meiji includes 166,789
in Loochow Islands, 437 in Kurile Islands and 2,358 in Saghalien.