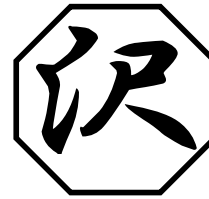




# YONEZAWAJIN



No.12 March 2008 (English Edition)

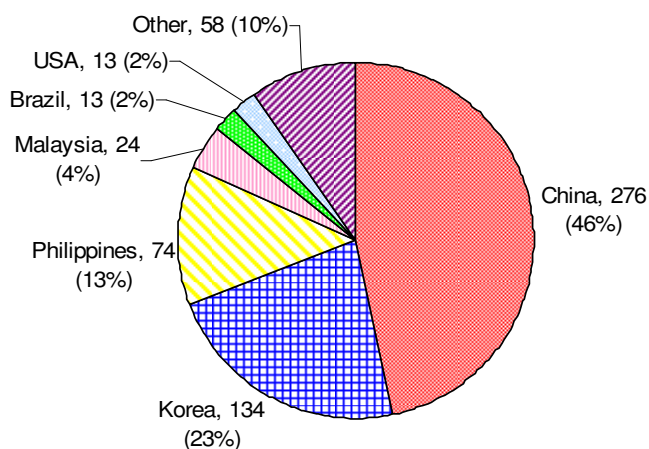


## Foreign Residents in Yonezawa



Out of Yonezawa's population of 91,704 people, 592 are registered foreign residents. The majority are from Asian countries including China, Korea, and the Philippines. Based on residency status, permanent residents are largest in number, followed by those married to Japanese and international students. Although life in Yonezawa may be difficult at times for foreign residents, the City and other local organizations provide various services to help and serve the needs of non-Japanese residents.

**Number of Registered Foreign Residents in Yonezawa by Country (As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007)**



**Others Include:** Australia (2), Austria (1), Bangladesh (1), Benin (1), Canada (4), Denmark (1), Egypt (1), Hungary (1), India (3), Indonesia (11), Iran (1), Ireland (3), Nepal (1), Netherlands (1), Russia (1), Singapore (1), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (11), Myanmar (5), United Kingdom (3), Vietnam (4)



### Need help?

### Come to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of City Hall!

The International Affairs section of City Hall and the Yonezawa International Relations Association (YIRA) Office are located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Yonezawa City Hall. Please drop by or contact the office any time when you are in need of assistance. The City also publishes the Yonezawa Living Guide, a guidebook for daily living in Yonezawa for foreign residents.

#### Living Consultation:

We provide consultation for foreign residents in Japanese and English. Please feel free to come talk about any questions or concerns you have about living in Yonezawa with us any time.

Office Hours: Monday~Friday 9:00~17:00

#### Yonezawa Living Guide:

The living guide book is free and is available in English, Chinese, Korean, and Portuguese.

### DID YOU KNOW???

**The Main Building of the Former Yonezawa Technical College**  
旧米沢高等工業学校本館



This beautiful Renaissance style two-story wooden building is located on Yamagata University's Department of Engineering campus in Yonezawa. The building was completed in July of 1910 and served as the main building for the former Yonezawa Technical College. The school became part of Yamagata University in 1949 and is now designated as a National Cultural Asset. The building is also the model for the current Yonezawa Station building. The inside of the building can be toured between 9:00~15:00 Monday through Friday (Free, Advanced registration required). Over 70 international students currently study at the Yamagata University Engineering Department.

### Yonezawa City International Relations Association

The Yonezawa City International Relations Association (YIRA) was established in 1996 to promote mutual understanding and friendship with people from different cultures and backgrounds. YIRA holds various events throughout the year to provide opportunities for exchange for both Japanese and non-Japanese citizens of Yonezawa. Members of YIRA receive information about various international events, as well as discounts for YIRA events. There are also opportunities to volunteer at events and use your language and cultural experiences.

#### One Year Membership

Individual: 1,000 yen Group: 5,000 yen

Email: [yira@omn.ne.jp](mailto:yira@omn.ne.jp)

Home Page: <http://www.omn.ne.jp/~yira>





# Be Prepared for Fire!



Last year, there were 36 fire incidents in Yonezawa which led to 1 death and 5 injuries. Over half of the fire incidents were caused by negligence with fire use at home. It's important to raise your awareness for fire prevention you can prevent fires from happening.

## WHAT TO DO WHEN THERE IS A FIRE:

### ① Report Quickly!

- Shout "Kaji da!" (Fire!) and alert your neighbors. If you let them know too late, they may not be able to escape.
- Even if it's a small fire, call 119 immediately. There may be a fire burning where it is not visible.
- When calling 119 calmly tell the operator the following:



- There is a fire (Kaji desu)
- Your name and address
- Nearby landmarks
- What is on fire

### ② Exterminate Quickly!

- Stay calm and act quickly.
- Use blankets in addition to fire extinguishers and water to extinguish the fire.
- If your clothes catch on fire, roll on the floor to extinguish the fire. Do not stay standing.



### ③ Evacuate Quickly!

- If the fire is burning to the ceiling, it will be difficult to exterminate it on your own. Evacuate the building immediately.
- Once you evacuate outside, do not return inside the building.



## Other Events & Information



### Spring Concert

Date: 3/9 (Sun) Time: 2pm~

Place: Denko No Mori Okitama Bunka Hall

Performers: Yonezawa Philharmonic Orchestra, Academy Strings volunteers, Yonezawa Higashi Senior High School String and Wind Group

Cost: Free (A numbered ticket is required for admission.)

Available at Yonezawa Music Store, Denko No Mori, and Ongaku Azm Kan)

Inquiries: Denko No Mori TEL 26-2666

### International Understanding Talk : Malaysia

Date: 3/13 (Thu) Time: 7pm~9pm

Place: Okitama Sogo Bunka Center Room

Contents: Introduction of the people and culture of Malaysia.

There will also be a sampling of Malaysian food.

Cost: 500 yen

\*We are also looking for volunteers to help with preparing the food

Inquiries: City Tel 22-5111

### Let's Chat! ~Come and enjoy speaking in English!~

Date: 3/17 (Mon)

Time: 2:30pm~4pm

Place: City Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room

Cost: Free

Inquiries: City Community Promotion Division TEL 22-5111

### Yonezawa City International Relations Association (YIRA) Event



## YIRA Bowling & Party

**Come join our annual bowling party! After the bowling there will be an exchange party with food, drinks, and prizes!**

**Date:** 3/15 (Sat) **Time:** 6pm~9pm

**Place:** Yonezawa Central Bowl, Hotel Sun Route Yonezawa

**Cost:** 2,000 yen YIRA Member/ 2500 yen Non-Member

**Teams:** 3 members to a team (you may apply individually or as a group)

**Sign-Ups/Inquiries:**

YIRA Office TEL 22-5111 Email yira@omn.ne.jp

### Kids Kyogen Club Spring Recital

Date: 3/20 (Thu) Time: 2pm~

Place: Noh Stage at Denko No Mori entrance

Cost: Free Inquiries: Denko No Mori TEL 26-2666

### Charity Tea Ceremony

Date: 3/30 (Sun) Time: 10am~3pm

Place: Grand Hokuyo Cost: 2,200 yen

Inquiries: Soroptimist International Yonezawa  
TEL 22-4146

## Yonezawa-Ben of the Month

たがく (tagaku)

Meaning: To carry something

Example: 「この荷物たがってもらわんに?」「やんだ!」

("Kono nimotsu tagatte morawanni bega?" "Yanda!")

("Can you carry this luggage for me?" "No way!")

*If you would like to be put on our mailing list, or if you have any feedback for the newsletter, please contact us at:*

Civic Exchange Section

Community Planning Division

Yonezawa City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

5-2-25 Kanaike, Yonezawa, Yamagata 〒992-8501

TEL: 0238-22-5111 Ext. 2904

FAX: 0238-24-4540

Email: machi-ka@city.yonezawa.yamagata.jp

Homepage: <http://www.city.yonezawa.yamagata.jp/shisei/matidukuri/kokusai/index.html>