

Life Information News, Komaki

9 September
2008 issue
生活情報誌こまき 英語版

Komaki City population 153,859 Foreigner population 9,657 《As of August 1, 2008》



International Fair in Komaki City

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The number of registered foreign residents in Komaki City, as of August 1, 2008, was 9,657, hailing from 48 different countries. This accounts for approximately 6.3% of the City's total population (153,859). Komaki City can thus be considered an "international city."

Among the City's foreign residents, the largest population came from Brazil (5,196), followed by China (1,140), indicating a significant difference in the size of the community.

Language difficulties present the biggest obstacle for foreign residents living in Komaki City, as well as in Japan in general. Many foreign residents therefore seek opportunities to study Japanese to overcome their language problems. For such people, the Komaki International Association (KIA; 4F, Komakishi Kouminkan, TEL: 0568-76-0905) provides Japanese language classes. The classes are very popular and attended by many foreign residents.

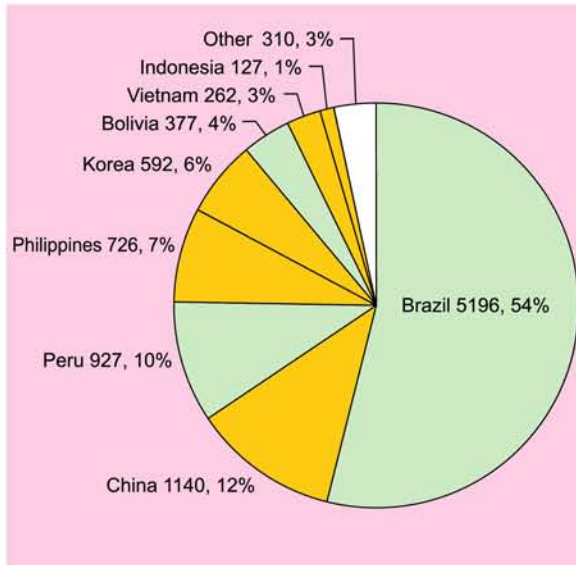
Furthermore, there are many situations where Japanese language ability is crucial for undertaking procedures in Komaki City. Such procedures include paying taxes and health insurance premiums, going to hospitals, and enrolling children in preschool, elementary school, and junior high school. Such procedures require a grasp of specific Japanese vocabulary that may cause difficulties for some foreign residents. To assist in such cases, there are staff who can interpret for foreign residents at the City Hall and at municipal hospitals. In addition, there are language advisers who can speak the mother tongues of foreign residents at elementary and junior high schools.

Foreign residents living in company housing or provided apartments may not experience any inconvenience thanks to the assistance they receive from company associates and local acquaintances from their native country. However, a foreign person who acquires a place in prefectural housing and moves into an area predominantly inhabited by Japanese may feel obliged all of a sudden to stringently follow the rules of that area. In Komaki City, there are some basic rules. These rules must be followed by all, Japanese and foreigner alike. If a person accidentally commits an inappropriate act due to ignorance of the rules, this may cause tension with the other people in the community. This is often not noticed by the person him or herself. To safeguard against such situations, it is recommended to actively join in a neighborhood association or area and to acquaint oneself with Japanese people.

A multicultural symbiotic society means that people from different backgrounds accept and live in harmony with each other, regardless of nationality or culture. In Japan, we have a saying equivalent to "when in Rome, do as the Romans do." The rules decided by a local society are a kind of collective wisdom designed to enable the local residents to cooperate and live better lives. By carefully following the rules, we can realize a pleasant civil life.

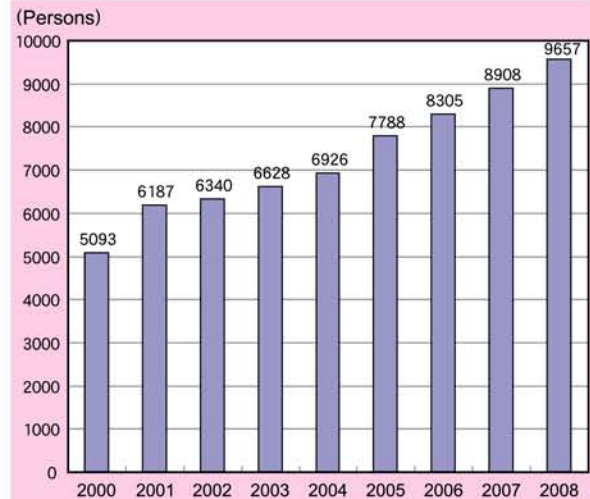


Number / ratio of foreign residents on a nationality basis



(As of August 1, 2008)

Changes in number of foreign residents



(As of April 1 for each year, but as of August 1 for 2008)

Sightseeing in Komaki City

KomakiYama (an officially designated historical site)

KomakiYama is a small mountain with a height of 85.9 m above sea level, located to the west of the city center. In 1563, Nobunaga Oda constructed a castle atop KomakiYama moving his headquarters from Kiyosu. Four years later, Nobunaga Oda moved to Gifu Prefecture and his castle on KomakiYama was abandoned. At a later date, however, the area became the site of the battle of Komaki and Nagakute between Ieyasu Tokugawa and Hideyoshi Toyotomi. KomakiYama is a recreational space for residents replete with green parks, nature trails, and cherry blossoms and azaleas, which blossom beautifully in the spring.

Komaki City History Museum

The Komaki City History Museum is located at the top of KomakiYama. Collections of local artifacts from Komaki City are displayed in the museum, while the fourth floor serves as an observation gallery. The Komaki City History Museum was donated by the late Shigeru Hiramatsu, a Nagoya businessman, and completed in 1968.

Opening hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Closed: Thursdays

(If a public holiday falls on a Thursday, the museum will be closed on the following day.)

Admission fees: Adults ¥100; Children ¥30

Admission for children is free on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

Access: Take a Meitetsu Bus or Komaki Circular Bus to Komaki Shiyakusho Mae ("in front of Komaki City Hall") stop. A 15-minute walk from the bus stop.

Address: 1-1 Horinouchi Komaki-city
TEL: 72-0712



Mama Kannon

Mama Kannon, established in 1508, is the only temple in Japan dedicated to the female breasts. The principal object of worship, Senjyu Kannon (a thousand-armed deity), is believed to perform miracles for women giving birth and breastfeeding. Signposts to Mama Kannon still survive in the City.

Access: Take a Meitetsu Bus to Mama Chichi Kannon Mae ("in front of Mama Kannon") stop. A 10-minute walk from the bus stop. Take a Komaki City Bus to Mama Honmachi stop. A 5-minute walk from the bus stop.

Address: 152 Mama Honmachi, Komaki-city
TEL: 73-6173



Call for basic lifesaving certification

Content	You will learn emergency life-saving techniques in a practical manner, including cardio-pulmonary resuscitation using an automated external defibrillator(AED), the haemostatic method, and the foreign body-removal method.
Date / Time	October 12 (Sun), October 19 (Sun), November 9 (Sun), and November 19 (Wed) 9:00 am till noon * Regularly held on the second Sunday and 19th of every month
Venue	Komaki City Fire Department Headquarters
Eligible participants	Anyone from elementary-school age upwards who resides, works or attends school in the City
Capacity	20 people (first-come basis)
Fee	Free of charge
Application	Please call the Emergency Section of the Fire Department by the preceding day of the date of the basic lifesaving certification.
Contact	Emergency Section, Fire Department (TEL: 76-0276)

What are implications of the changes to the Road Traffic Law?

Implemented on June 1st 2008

◆ Bicycles are allowed on sidewalks only under the following conditions:

- When the cyclists are children under the age of 13
- When the cyclists are elderly persons aged 70 or over
- When the cyclists are disabled persons who have difficulty riding on the road safely.
- When it is unavoidable due to traffic circumstances
- When road traffic signs permit cyclists to use sidewalks



- ◆ Under the revised Law, parents and guardians are obliged to make children under the age of 13 wear a helmet when riding a bicycle.
- ◆ It is now mandatory for passengers in rear seats to fasten seatbelts.
- ◆ It has become mandatory for drivers aged 75 or over to have a senior driver's plate affixed to their vehicle.
- ◆ All hearing-impaired persons are permitted to obtain a regular driver's license.

Contact: Komaki Police Department (TEL: 72-0110), or the City Traffic and Crime Prevention division (TEL: 76-1137)

The due date for the next tax payment is September 30th (Tue).

- National health insurance tax (fifth period)
- Premium for nursing care insurance (fifth period)
- Premium for public medical insurance for the latter-stage elderly (second period)

Early payment! Please follow the regular payment rules.

The account transfer payment method is convenient for avoiding forgetting to pay.

Those who use the account transfer method must be sure to check their account balance.

◎ The payment counter is open and assistance for taxpayers is available on Sundays at the Taxation division of the City Hall. The schedule for September is as follows:

- Date / Time: September 14 (Sun), 9:00 am to 4 pm
September 28 (Sun), 9:00 am to 4 pm

◎ The payment counter is open everyday except the year-end and New Year holidays. Please use this service at your own convenience.

- Opening hours are 8:30 am to 5:15 pm.



Contact: Taxation division

TEL: 72-2101 (main), Extension: 276, 277, 278, 279
76-1117 / 76-1118 (direct)

Tax Q&A

Q I moved to Nagoya City from Komaki City on March 20, 2008. However, I received a notice for municipal and prefectural taxes for fiscal 2008 from Komaki City in June. Even though I have moved out of Komaki City, do I still have to pay municipal and prefectural taxes to Komaki City?

A Municipal and prefectural taxes are imposed for the fiscal year (2008) for the municipality where you reside as of January 1, and depend on your income in the previous fiscal year (2007). In your case, your address was in Komaki City as of January 1, 2008. Therefore, you are obliged to pay municipal and prefectural taxes to Komaki City for fiscal 2008 even though you moved to Nagoya City on March 20, 2008.

Note that you will need to pay taxes to Nagoya City from fiscal 2009.

Q The payment due date written on the notice I received has expired. Can I still pay using this notice?

A If the payment due date has expired, you may not be able to pay at the counters of financial institutions. Please contact the Taxation division of Komaki City Hall. Furthermore, in the case that the payment date has expired, delinquent fees may be charged. Please make sure to pay taxes by the payment due date.

Notice of health checkup

Mother and child medical checkup calendar

Do not forget to bring the maternal and child health handbook with you.

Event	Date	Time	Eligible
Health checkup for 4-month-old infants In addition to child health checkup, there are BCG vaccination and dental examination for mothers.	September 16 (Tue)	Reception: From 13:05 to 13:55	Born in May, 2008
	September 30 (Tue)		
	October 7 (Tue)		
	October 14 (Tue)		Born in June, 2008
Health checkup for 18-month-old children	September 19 (Fri)	Reception: From 13:05 to 14:15	Born in March, 2007
	October 3 (Fri)		
	October 10 (Fri)		Born in April, 2007
	October 17 (Fri)		
Dental examination for 27-month-old children	September 25 (Thu)	Reception: From 9:10 to 10:10	Born in June, 2006
	October 2 (Thu)		Born in July, 2006
Health checkup for 3-year-old children	September 24 (Wed)	Reception: From 13:05 to 14:15	Born in September, 2005
	October 1 (Wed)		Born in October, 2005
	October 8 (Wed)		

* Reception time varies according to date of birth.

* Please confirm the health checkup schedule, which will be sent out.

For more details, please contact the Health Center on 0568-75-6471.

Cancer checkup (groups) / osteoporosis checkup

Examination	Eligible	2008	
		September	October
Stomach cancer checkup Stomach X-ray 930 yen	Registered residents of Komaki City who are 40 years or over	17	1
Large intestine cancer checkup Test for blood in the stool 520 yen	Registered residents of Komaki City who are 40 years or over	This is implemented with the stomach cancer checkup.	
Uterine cancer checkup Cervical region only 750 yen	Registered residents of Komaki City who are 20 years or over and were born in even-numbered years of the Taisho Era (1912-1925), the Showa Era (1925-1989) or in the first year of the Heisei Era. (Note: those who were born in odd-numbered years and did not have the uterine cancer checkup in 2007 are eligible for this checkup.)	27	
Breast cancer checkup Mammography 1,200 yen	Registered residents of Komaki City who are 40 years or over and were born in even-numbered years of the Taisho Era (1912-1925) or the Showa Era (1925-1989). (Note: those who were born in odd- numbered years and did not have the breast cancer checkup in 2007 are eligible for this checkup.)		※14
Osteoporosis checkup 830 yen	Registered residents of Komaki City who are 30 years or over	△18	□4



*Checkups for stomach cancer, large intestine cancer and osteoporosis can be taken once between May and the following March.

*The uterine cancer checkup and breast cancer checkup (mammography) should be taken once every 2 years.
(From "Guide for cancer prevention-focused health education and implementation of cancer checkups" issued
by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)

*For cancer checkup (group) and osteoporosis checkup: On dates marked * checkup is held at the Toubu civic center.
On dates marked △ checkup is held at the Ajjoka civic center.
On dates marked □ checkup is held at the Kitazato civic center. } Checkups on unmarked
dates are held at the Health Center.

How to apply for cancer checkup (group) / osteoporosis checkup

* Available checkups will be announced in each month's issue.

Please feel free to apply to the Health Center (From Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 17:15)

Reduction or exemption

Those who meet conditions 1 to 4 can receive cancer
checkups (except osteoporosis checkup) for free.
Please apply for checkups using the designated form.

- ① 70 years or over
- ② 65 years or over and are bedridden
- ③ Household on welfare
- ④ Exempt from city tax

Editing/publication

Komaki City Hall, Department of civil-industry, Life-industry, Life division

1-chome, 1-banchi, Horinouchi, Komaki-city, Aichi 485-8650 TEL 0568-76-1119 FAX 0568-72-2340

