



## Davao City has the largest number of Japanese Descendants in Mindanao

Unknown to many Filipinos, there are a number of Japanese descendants living in Mindanao and most of them are in Davao City. This is according to Davao based Philippine Nikkei Jin Kai, an organization established by Japanese descended Filipinos. Its members are the offspring of Japanese parents who migrated to the Philippines, in search of greener pastures, between 1903 and early 1940s.

As of 2004, in Mindanao, 4,836 were recognized by this organization. Of the total recognized Japanese descendants, 63.8% are from Davao City. The rest are coming from the other cities and provinces of Mindanao.

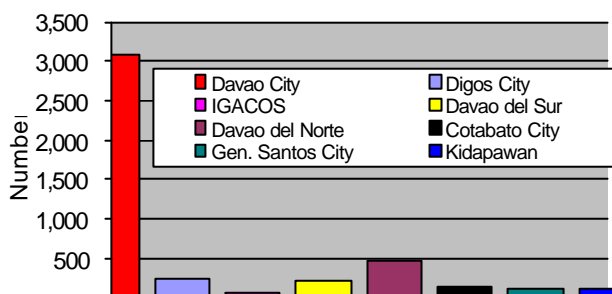
The classifications of these *nikkei-jins* (Japanese descendants) fall into two types: according to generation and according to degree of recognition. Most of them are third generation *nikkei-jins*, comprising 42.0% of the total. Second largest share are the second generation, 24.1% and last are the first generation, 19.5%.

Classifications according to degree of recognition are three. First, are the Category A – those whose family registry, (*kosekitohoun*) which traces their family tree, has been found in Japan and which entitles to them to apply for a Japanese permanent residency visa.

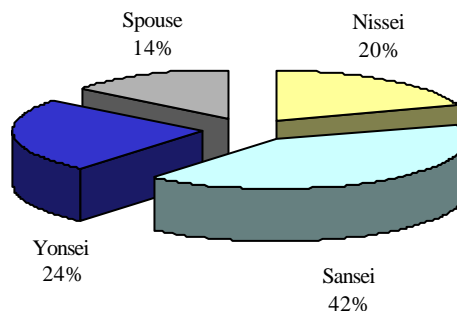
Second, those belonging to Category B, or those who were able to provide documents such as birth certificates, pictures and letters from their Japanese parents but are not mentioned in the Japanese registry are classified under Category B. The last are those under Category C, or those known to be descendants who were not mentioned in the registry and lack hard evidences to prove that they are Japanese descendants. Recognition would entitle these Filipinos to apply for a Japanese permanent resident status or even citizenship.

As of June 2004, of the 4,836 *nikkei-jins* in Mindanao, 25.5% belong to Category A; 33.8% and 26.4% are under Category B and C, respectively. The rest are spouses.

Number of Japanese Descendants in Mindanao, by Province/City



Percentage Share of Japanese Descendants in Mindanao, by Generation



Nissei- 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Japanese Descendants  
Sansei- 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Japanese Descendants  
Yonsei-3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Japanese Descendants

Number of Recognized Japanese Descendants in Mindanao, By Province/City: As of June 2004

Region/Province/City	Number of Descendants	% Share
Region XI	4,082	87.4
Davao City	3,084	63.8
Digos City	239	4.9
IGACOS <sup>1/2</sup>	70	1.4
Davao del Sur	217	4.5
Davao del Norte	472	9.8
Region XII	383	7.9
Cotabato City	146	3.0
Gen. Santos City	115	2.4
Kidapawan	122	2.5
Unorganized	371	7.7
TOTAL	4,836	100.0

Note: <sup>1/2</sup>IGACOS-Island Garden City of Samal

Source: Philippine Nikkei-Jin Kai, June 2004