

# Management of the Foreigners' Evacuation Facility

Based on the fact that Kumamoto City International Center is designated as an evacuation site for foreigners in the Kumamoto City Disaster Prevention Plan the evacuation center for foreigners was opened in Kumamoto City International Center at 1:00 am, Friday, April 15, after the foreshock and at 4:00 am, Saturday, April 16 after the main shock. The decision was made by the International Affairs Division of Kumamoto City and it was operated by KIF.

Upon opening the evacuation center after the foreshock, three Koreans and one Japanese evacuated and they left before the evening. The center was closed at 10:00 pm on that day.



After the main shock, it was operated continuously 24 hours a day until April 30 from its opening as mentioned above. In the morning of April 16 not only foreign residents but also a number of individuals and groups of tourists from Korea, China, Thailand, USA, France and others were added to the Center. The number of foreign evacuees at one time exceeded 100. Most of the tourists were to leave Kumamoto with some transportation arranged by tourist agencies. On the other hand, foreign residents with damaged houses in many ways were forced to stay overnight. The number of foreign evacuees who stayed at the Evacuation Center is shown in the table as follows.

Transition of evacuees at Kumamoto International Center at Kumamoto earthquakes in 2016

※the counted number of lodgers at 6:00 am every morning

	Nationality	Visa status	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20	4/21	4/22	4/23	4/24	4/25	4/26	4/27	4/28	4/29	4/30	5/1	5/2	5/3	5/4	5/5	5/6
1	Japan		109	63	42	38	29	24	26	23	19	19	11	9	10	1	5	0	0	0	0	0
2	Canada	tourist	1	1																		
3	Bangladesh	studying/family	12	10	10	2	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		3					
4	China	training	13	14	10	9	11	15	10	2	2	2	2		1							
5	Tanzania	studying/family	3	3	3	3	3	3	3													
6	Korea	specific activity	6	3	2	1	2		1										1			
7	Taiwan	unknown	2																			
8	Russia	show business	1	3																		
9	UK	unknown																				
10	France	tourist		2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
11	Egypt			1		1		1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		1				
12	Philippines	permanent resident		3	4	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	8	4					
13	Sri Lanka	studying/family			5	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	3					
14	USA	ALT			1							1	1	1	1	1		1				
15	New Zealand	ALT			1																	
16	Ireland	ALT			1																	
17	Malaysia						1	1														
Total number of foreigners			38	40	39	26	28	34	29	16	15	17	18	15	16	12	10	2	1	0	0	0
Total			147	103	81	64	57	58	55	39	34	36	29	24	26	13	15	2	1	0	0	0

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## [Behavioral pattern of foreigners at times of earthquakes]

- Many of them evacuated outside such as to parks or playgrounds of universities. Then they went to the evacuation sites of elementary schools. In many cases, they could not follow the Japanese behavior and left the sites, due to all the information in Japanese.
- In the case of foreign residents who live with family as spouses of Japanese, many of them slept in their cars.
- After the main shock, consulates of the countries whose people live in Kumamoto such as Korea and China provided buses to Fukuoka and helped their people leave Kumamoto. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) accepted their trainees in the Kyushu International Center in Kitakyushu.