

**A Comparative Analysis of
Attitudes toward Immigration among Europeans and Japanese, drawing on
the ESS-2002/2003 and the JGSS-2003**

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This study applies logit models to the ESS-2002/2003 microdata (31,886 cases from 21 European countries) and the JGSS-2003 microdata (1,562 Japanese cases) to explore the similarities and differences in the determinants of attitudes toward immigration. While the immigration questions in the JGSS are not exactly the same as those in the ESS due to different design, independent variables have been constructed for the closest comparability.

The similarities between Europeans and Japanese are as follows: residents in neighborhood with high concentration of foreigners are more likely to fear negative effects on indigenous culture, while those with higher education are less likely; those with ages 60+ and conservatives are more likely to fear negative effects on security, while women are less likely; those with ages 40-49, higher education and religion, both conservatives and progressives and residents in neighborhood with moderate concentration are more likely to evaluate the moderation of labor shortage, while women are less likely; conservatives and those with low level of trust and residents in neighborhood with high concentration are more likely to fear job loss, while those with higher education are less likely; and conservatives are more likely to fear tax burden.

Table 1 Proportion of Respondents with Contact with or Perception of Foreigners by Age (%)

Age	Colleague	Friend	Many Res	Som e Res	Pref Many	Cult Dam	Insecurity	Labor Sup	Em pl Loss	Tax Burden
Japan										
N	1582	1582	1582	1582	1582	1582	1582	1582	1582	1582
Total	6.6	9.1	14.0	65.0	41.7	5.5	39.1	12.6	8.8	9.7
20-29	9.7	13.6	13.6	65.4	56.5	3.7	31.3	12.1	5.1	6.5
30-39	10.6	12.4	16.7	66.0	54.6	5.0	41.5	9.9	7.4	7.8
40-49	6.6	8.9	16.2	70.0	48.2	4.3	35.6	17.2	7.6	8.6
50-59	5.1	7.8	13.9	60.6	35.7	5.9	38.1	11.5	9.9	10.7
60-69	3.7	5.9	11.0	64.4	25.6	7.3	45.1	12.2	11.7	12.7
Europe										
N	31886	31886	31886	31886	31886	31886	31886	31886	31886	31886
Total	35.4	49.1	9.8	78.4	70.4	22.7	69.5	61.1	36.4	45.7
20-29	40.6	58.1	11.9	83.7	76.0	21.2	65.7	58.6	36.5	44.3
30-39	43.9	55.9	10.5	81.9	74.2	20.6	68.2	60.8	34.6	44.2
40-49	39.8	50.2	9.6	78.5	72.3	20.9	67.5	60.4	34.9	43.7
50-59	33.9	44.5	8.3	75.1	67.3	23.9	72.2	63.4	36.2	47.3
60-69	13.8	34.4	8.6	71.8	60.4	28.1	74.7	62.5	40.9	50.0

(Sources) Microdata from JGSS-2003 and EASS-2002/2003 (except Israel).

Table 2 Determinants of Contact with Foreigners and Perceived Density of Foreign Residents in Japan and Europe: Logit Analysis

Region	Japan		Europe		Japan		Europe	
Indep Var	Colleague	Friend	Colleague	Friend	Many Res	Some Res	Many Res	Some Res
Category	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
(Japan)								
Constant	-1.4715 ***	-0.0513 ***	-3.8049 ***	-0.0102	-1.4421 **	-0.6161 #	-2.3913 ***	-0.7227 ***
<u>Sex</u>								
Female	-0.3091 #	-0.2006 **	0.0221	-0.2190 ***	-0.1379	0.1267	0.0771 #	-0.0160
<u>Age</u>								
30-39	0.2821	-0.1185 ***	0.1303	-0.1455 ***	0.0177	-0.0335	-0.1419 *	-0.1010 *
40-49	-0.4123	-0.1895 ***	-0.1511	-0.2466 ***	0.0001	-0.0191	-0.1658 *	-0.1024 *
50-59	-0.6914 *	-0.2445 ***	-0.1220	-0.4151 ***	-0.2980	-0.2481	-0.4493 ***	-0.2140 ***
60-69	-0.8161 *	-0.7854 ***	-0.3438	-0.7381 ***	-0.4082	-0.0216	-0.6328 ***	-0.3586 ***
<u>Marital Status</u>								
Single	-0.0271	0.1166 ***	0.3495	0.1009 ***	-0.4230 #	-0.1750	0.3010 ***	0.0814 **
<u>Health Status</u>								
Not Healthy	0.1319	-0.1713 *	0.1723	-0.0177	-0.0507	-0.1612	0.3787 ***	0.0592
<u>Education</u>								
Highschool	-0.2186	0.0736 *	0.7028 *	0.2627 ***	0.3453	0.2902 #	-0.1856 **	0.0300
2-yr College	-0.2720	0.2988 ***	0.7968 *	0.5253 ***	-0.0240	0.3438	-0.3000 ***	0.0268
4-yr College	-0.0219	0.4923 ***	1.1193 **	0.8816 ***	-0.3058	0.2306	-0.3233 **	0.0926
<u>Occupation</u>								
Prof/Manag	0.5899 *	0.2015 ***	0.1868	0.2237 ***	1.1735 ***	0.3550	-0.0356	0.0239
Sales	0.1217	-0.0727	0.6351 #	0.1501 *	0.3064	0.0318	-0.0887	0.0926
Service	0.4472	0.1412 *	0.1431	0.1828 **	0.3344	0.3315	0.1069	0.0720
Manual	0.5357 *	0.2875 ***	0.2343	-0.0138	0.2382	0.0618	0.0423	0.0627
Agricultural	-1.1326	-0.8564 ***	-0.9111	-0.3177 ***	-0.6485	-0.3989	-0.1381	-0.2554 **
No Work	-0.3652	-1.3080 ***	0.2811	-0.0087	0.1935	-0.0594	0.0323	0.0032
<u>Religion</u>								
Affiliated	0.4172 *	-0.0262	0.5583 **	0.0632 *	0.1112	0.1770	-0.1031 *	-0.0139
<u>TV/day</u>								
3 hrs+	-0.0252	-0.1042 **	-0.3027	-0.1754 ***	0.0832	-0.0499	0.3388 ***	0.1353 ***
<u>Political Pos</u>								
Conservative	-0.0121	0.0205	0.0818	-0.0007	0.2537	0.1699	-0.1696 **	-0.0992 **
Liberal	0.0636	0.1846 ***	0.3384	0.2622 ***	0.2874	0.3074 *	0.0884 #	0.1064 ***
<u>Happiness</u>								
Low	-0.0515	-0.0190	0.2171	-0.0679	0.2266	0.1064	0.3104 ***	0.0147
<u>Trust</u>								
Low	0.4021 #	-0.0754 *	-0.0371	-0.1789 ***	-0.1408	0.0282	0.2074 ***	-0.0445
<u>Res Duration</u>								
<5 yrs	0.2847	0.1783 ***	0.5356 *	0.3214 ***	0.1493	-0.2379	0.1646 **	0.1460 ***
5-9 yrs	0.0101	0.2167 ***	0.2680	0.3025 ***	-0.0442	-0.0503	0.1137 #	0.0747 #
<u>Residence</u>								
Metropolis	-0.0215	0.5805 ***	0.6266 *	0.5133 ***	0.9821 ***	0.2470	2.1359 ***	1.1834 ***
Cities	-0.2446	0.2068 ***	0.0696	0.1843 ***	0.1450	0.0734	1.2872 ***	0.7925 ***
N	1582	31874	1582	31874	1577		31413	
Chisq	1076.09	30687.23 ***	874.87	34695.08 ***	2882.30		47497.15	

(Notes) # p < 0.10, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001.

Areas for Japan and countries for Europe are controlled.

(Sources) Microdata from JGSS-2003 and EASS-2002/2003 (except Israel).

Table 3 Determinants of Opinion on Foreigners in Japan and Europe: Logit Analysis

Region	Japan	Europe	Japan	Europe	Japan	Europe
Indep Var Category	Pref Many Pref Few	Pref Many Pref Few	Culture Damage None	Culture Damage None	Insecurity None	Insecurity None
(Japan)						
Constant	-1.1874 ***	-0.1512	-3.6416 ***	-0.5998 ***	-1.0198 **	0.7864 ***
<u>Sex</u>						
Female	0.1214	0.0844 **	-0.1680	-0.1392 ***	-0.4530 ***	-0.1656 ***
<u>Age</u>						
30-39	0.0355	-0.0579	0.2429	-0.0700	0.4634 *	-0.0033
40-49	-0.1178	-0.0567	0.2236	-0.0913 #	0.2466	-0.1054 *
50-59	-0.4958 *	-0.1898 ***	0.6519	-0.0392	0.3857 #	0.0706
60-69	-0.9260 ***	-0.3544 ***	1.0697 *	-0.0100	0.8023 ***	0.1004 *
<u>Marital Status</u>						
Single	0.0244	0.0710 *	0.2909	-0.0029	0.0444	-0.0944 **
<u>Health Status</u>						
Not Healthy	-0.1306	-0.0485	0.1999	0.2083 ***	-0.0236	0.1711 **
<u>Education</u>						
Highschool	0.3488 *	0.1867 ***	-0.2641	-0.1122 **	0.1646	0.0475
2-yr College	0.7573 ***	0.4921 ***	-0.3872	-0.5112 ***	0.3738 #	-0.1854 ***
4-yr College	0.8970 ***	0.8050 ***	-0.8931 *	-0.9958 ***	0.1979	-0.2988 ***
<u>Occupation</u>						
Prof/Manag	0.0174	0.0904	0.6647 #	-0.1316 *	0.0015	-0.0193
Sales	-0.0434	-0.0223	0.2485	0.0935	-0.1253	0.1664 *
Service	-0.1094	-0.0795	-0.1671	0.0919	-0.0131	-0.0177
Manual	0.0232	-0.1073 #	-0.4502	0.1795 **	0.0841	0.0753
Agricultural	-0.8974 *	-0.1740 #	-0.6872	0.0792	0.1504	0.1074
No Work	0.1057	0.0528	-0.4557	0.0147	0.0728	-0.0944 #
<u>Religion</u>						
Affiliated	0.2854 *	-0.0764 *	0.1782	0.0135	0.0117	0.0766 **
<u>TV/day</u>						
3 hrs+	0.0769	-0.0341	-0.3345	0.1032 **	-0.1748	0.0778 *
<u>Political Pos</u>						
Conservative	0.0084	-0.2662 ***	-0.1819	0.2581 ***	0.2585 #	0.3056 ***
Liberal	0.2376 #	0.3107 ***	-0.0166	-0.2443 ***	0.3550 **	-0.1271 ***
<u>Happiness</u>						
Low	-0.1269	-0.3045 ***	0.0071	0.2633 ***	0.3884 #	0.1198 *
<u>Trust</u>						
Low	-0.4451 *	-0.3374 ***	0.4061	0.4592 ***	0.1940	0.4537 ***
<u>Res Duration</u>						
<5 yrs	0.1713	0.0676 #	0.4898	-0.1520 ***	0.1024	-0.2004 ***
5-9 yrs	-0.1004	0.1288 **	0.5933	-0.1491 **	0.0417	-0.0967 *
<u>Residence</u>						
Metropolis	0.2097	0.0414	0.1030	-0.0829 *	-0.0143	-0.1302 ***
Cities	-0.0700	0.0706 *	-0.1506	-0.0423	0.1474	-0.0079
<u>Colleague</u>						
Yes	0.2686	0.1843 ***	0.1639	-0.1325 ***	-0.0585	-0.1908 ***
<u>Friend</u>						
Yes	0.7186 ***	0.6051 ***	0.0868	-0.4924 ***	-0.1587	-0.3298 ***
<u>Resident</u>						
Many	0.6900 ***	0.7589 ***	0.7958 #	0.1875 ***	0.4010 #	0.0691
Some	0.4069 ***	1.0873 ***	0.8014 *	-0.1034 **	0.4467 **	-0.1032 ***
N	1479	31874	1582	31874	1582	31874
Chisq	1807.46 ***	32386.48 ***	630.43	28982.91	2001.67 ***	35096.55 ***

(Notes) # p < 0.10, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001.

Areas for Japan and countries for Europe are controlled.

(Sources) Microdata from JGSS-2003 and EASS-2002/2003 (except Israel).

Table 4 Determinants of Opinion on Foreigners in Japan and Europe: Logit Analysis

Region	Japan	Europe	Japan	Europe	Japan	Europe	Frequency Dist	
Indep Var	Labor Sup	Labor Sup	EmplLoss	EmplLoss	Tax Burden	Tax Burden	Japan	Europe
Category	None	None	None	None	None	None		
(Japan)								
Constant	-2.9499 ***	0.1132	-3.3431 ***	0.1555 #	-3.0704 ***	-0.2141 *	-	-
<u>Sex</u>								
Female	-0.3835 *	-0.0488 #	-0.5101 *	-0.0038	-0.0990	-0.0178	55.4	52.1
<u>Age</u>								
30-39	-0.1050	0.0595	0.3930	-0.0562	0.1412	-0.0721 #	17.8	23.1
40-49	0.5179 #	0.1062 **	0.6269	-0.1470 ***	0.1039	-0.1635 ***	19.2	22.2
50-59	0.0914	0.2918 ***	0.8714 *	-0.1641 ***	0.4198	-0.0946 *	23.6	20.6
60-69	0.2941	0.3368 ***	1.1152 **	-0.1511 **	0.7705 *	-0.0498	25.9	16.5
<u>Marital Status</u>								
Single	0.0735	-0.0049	0.2560	0.0074	-0.2066	-0.0843 **	24.6	31.3
<u>Health Status</u>								
Not Healthy	0.0669	-0.1223 *	0.0623	0.2289 ***	-0.0660	0.1020 *	19.4	6.3
<u>Education</u>								
Highschool	0.3703	0.0856 **	0.0167	-0.1372 ***	0.0633	-0.0310	46.3	35.3
2-yr College	0.6991 *	0.2240 ***	-0.8645 *	-0.5231 ***	0.0794	-0.2687 ***	16.1	23.4
4-yr College	0.7357 *	0.2812 ***	-0.3976	-0.7742 ***	0.2107	-0.5426 ***	17.3	6.3
<u>Occupation</u>								
Prof/Manag	0.3431	0.0848 #	-0.8287 *	-0.0129	0.2674	-0.0026	10.4	24.0
Sales	-0.0906	-0.0264	-0.5561	0.1982 **	0.1399	0.1382 *	7.4	5.4
Service	0.0897	-0.0069	-0.4449	0.0294	-0.4064	-0.0417	8.5	7.7
Manual	0.3361	-0.1217 *	-0.3937	0.2276 ***	0.0700	0.0875	20.0	13.4
Agricultural	-0.0081	0.0700	-0.3637	0.0937	-0.7744	-0.0060	3.7	2.6
No Work	0.1474	0.0194	-0.3386	0.0358	-0.0736	-0.0544	32.2	36.9
<u>Religion</u>								
Affiliated	0.3741 *	0.1012 ***	-0.2261	-0.0757 *	0.2109	-0.0852 **	28.3	61.6
<u>TV/day</u>								
3 hrs+	-0.0846	-0.0504	0.2340	0.0983 **	-0.1990	0.0712 *	37.2	18.1
<u>Political Pos</u>								
Conservative	0.4735 *	0.1136 ***	0.4124 #	0.1081 ***	0.4281 #	0.2424 ***	23.8	29.5
Liberal	0.4570 *	0.2547 ***	0.5998 **	-0.0822 **	0.8287 ***	-0.1399 ***	22.1	29.6
<u>Happiness</u>								
Low	0.4430	-0.2100 ***	0.6994 *	0.4220 ***	0.3171	0.2782 ***	7.6	7.2
<u>Trust</u>								
Low	-0.4512	-0.1671 ***	-0.0534	0.4648 ***	0.3277	0.4277 ***	10.4	36.1
<u>Res Duration</u>								
<5 yrs	-0.1366	0.0637 #	0.0327	-0.1200 **	-0.3686	-0.1786 ***	13.9	17.7
5-9 yrs	-0.5255	0.0861 *	0.0070	-0.1083 **	-0.1871	-0.1267 ***	9.9	12.5
<u>Residence</u>								
Metropolis	-0.1322	0.0727 *	-0.1378	-0.1097 **	0.3976	-0.0832 **	18.6	31.8
Cities	-0.2532	0.0271	-0.2903	-0.0370	0.3119	-0.0423	59.0	29.4
<u>Colleague</u>								
Yes	0.2605	0.0864 **	0.6593 *	-0.1475 ***	-0.0437	-0.0769 **	12.4	35.4
<u>Friend</u>								
Yes	0.1614	0.2556 ***	0.0635	-0.4399 ***	0.3381	-0.3707 ***	9.1	49.1
<u>Resident</u>								
Many	1.0626 ***	-0.1278 **	1.1514 **	0.0783 #	0.6947 *	-0.0357	14.0	9.8
Some	0.5042 #	0.0836 **	1.0328 **	-0.1328 ***	0.3748	-0.0823 **	68.1	39.2
N	1582	31874	1582	31874	1582	31874	1582	31886
Chisq	1099.00	38760.34 ***	864.66	35075.62 ***	941.67	39847.12 ***	-	-

(Notes) # p < 0.10, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001.

Areas for Japan and countries for Europe are controlled.

(Sources) Microdata from JGSS-2003 and EASS-2002/2003 (except Israel).