[Template:Other uses](/wiki/Template:Other_uses" \o "Template:Other uses) [Template:Use dmy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_dmy_dates) [Template:Infobox criminal organization](/wiki/Template:Infobox_criminal_organization) [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo), also known as [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo), are members of [transnational organized crime](/wiki/Transnational_organized_crime) [syndicates](/wiki/Mafia) originating in [Japan](/wiki/Japan). The [Japanese police](/wiki/Japanese_police), and media by request of the police, call them [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo), while the yakuza call themselves [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo). The yakuza are notorious for their strict codes of conduct and organized [fiefdom](/wiki/Fief)-nature. They have a large presence in the Japanese media and operate internationally with an estimated 102,000 members.[[1]](#cite_note-1)

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## Divisions of origin[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

Despite uncertainty about the single origin of yakuza organizations, most modern yakuza derive from two classifications which emerged in the mid-[Edo Period](/wiki/Edo_Period) (1603–1868): [*tekiya*](/wiki/Tekiya), those who primarily peddled illicit, stolen or shoddy goods; and [bakuto](/wiki/Bakuto), those who were involved in or participated in gambling.[[2]](#cite_note-2) "Tekiya" (peddlers) were considered one of the [lowest social groups](/wiki/Four_occupations) in Edo. As they began to form organizations of their own, they took over some administrative duties relating to commerce, such as stall allocation and protection of their commercial activities. During [Shinto](/wiki/Shinto) festivals, these peddlers opened stalls and some members were hired to act as security. Each peddler paid rent in exchange for a stall assignment and protection during the fair.

[thumb|left|Throughout history, especially since the modern era,](/wiki/File:Japan_Kyushu_Region_large.png) [Kyushu](/wiki/Kyushu) island has been the largest source of yakuza members, including many renowned bosses in the [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi). Isokichi Yoshida (1867–1936) was from the [Kitakyushu](/wiki/Kitakyushu) area and considered the first renowned modern yakuza. Recently [Shinobu Tsukasa](/wiki/Shinobu_Tsukasa) and [Kunio Inoue](/wiki/Kunio_Inoue), the bosses of the two most powerful clans in the Yamaguchi-gumi, are from Kyushu. [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture), the northernmost part of the island, has the largest number of [designated syndicates](/wiki/#Designated_boryokudan) among all of the prefectures. The Edo government eventually formally recognized such tekiya organizations and granted the *oyabun* (leaders) of tekiya a surname as well as permission to carry a sword[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)—the [wakizashi](/wiki/Wakizashi), or short samurai sword (the right to carry the [katana](/wiki/Katana), or full-sized samurai swords, remained the exclusive right of the nobility and samurai castes). This was a major step forward for the traders, as formerly only samurai and noblemen were allowed to carry swords.

*Bakuto* (gamblers) had a much lower social standing even than traders, as gambling was illegal. Many small gambling houses cropped up in abandoned temples or shrines at the edge of towns and villages all over Japan. Most of these gambling houses ran loan sharking businesses for clients, and they usually maintained their own security personnel. The places themselves, as well as the bakuto, were regarded with disdain by society at large, and much of the undesirable image of the yakuza originates from bakuto; this includes the name *yakuza* itself (*ya-ku-za*, or 8-9-3, is a losing hand in [Oicho-Kabu](/wiki/Oicho-Kabu), a form of [Baccarat](/wiki/Baccarat_(card_game))).

Because of the economic situation during the mid-period and the predominance of the merchant class, developing yakuza groups were composed of misfits and delinquents that had joined or formed yakuza groups to extort customers in local markets by selling fake or shoddy goods.[[2]](#cite_note-2)[Template:Clarify](/wiki/Template:Clarify)

The roots of the yakuza can still be seen today in [initiation ceremonies](/wiki/Initiation_ceremony), which incorporate tekiya or bakuto [rituals](/wiki/Rituals). Although the modern yakuza has diversified, some gangs still identify with one group or the other; for example, a gang whose primary source of income is illegal gambling may refer to themselves as bakuto.

## Organization and activities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

### Structure[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[right|thumb|Yakuza hierarchy](/wiki/Image:Yakuza_hierarchy.png) During the formation of the yakuza, they adopted the traditional Japanese hierarchical structure of oyabun-kobun where *kobun* (子分; lit. foster child) owe their allegiance to the [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo). In a much later period, the code of [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo) was developed where loyalty and respect are a way of life.

The oyabun-kobun relationship is formalized by ceremonial sharing of [sake](/wiki/Sake) from a single cup. This ritual is not exclusive to the yakuza—it is also commonly performed in traditional Japanese [Shinto](/wiki/Shinto) weddings, and may have been a part of *sworn brotherhood* relationships.[[3]](#cite_note-3) During the [World War II](/wiki/World_War_II) period in Japan, the more traditional tekiya/bakuto form of organization declined as the entire population was mobilised to participate in the war effort and society came under strict military government. However, after the war, the yakuza adapted again.

Prospective yakuza come from all walks of life. The most romantic tales tell how yakuza accept sons who have been abandoned or exiled by their parents. Many yakuza start out in junior high school or high school as common street thugs or members of [bōsōzoku](/wiki/Bōsōzoku) gangs. Perhaps because of its lower socio-economic status, numerous yakuza members come from [Burakumin](/wiki/Burakumin) and ethnic Korean backgrounds.

Yakuza groups are headed by an *oyabun* or [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo) who gives orders to his subordinates, the *kobun*. In this respect, the organization is a variation of the traditional Japanese [senpai](/wiki/Senpai)-[kōhai](/wiki/Kohai) (senior-junior) model. Members of yakuza gangs cut their family ties and transfer their loyalty to the gang boss. They refer to each other as family members - fathers and elder and younger brothers. The yakuza is populated almost entirely by men, and there are very few women involved who are called [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo). When the 3rd [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi) boss ([Kazuo Taoka](/wiki/Kazuo_Taoka)) died in the early 1980s, his wife (Fumiko) took over as boss of Yamaguchi-gumi, albeit for a short time.

Yakuza have a complex organizational structure. There is an [overall boss](/wiki/Capo_di_tutti_capi) of the syndicate, the *kumicho*, and directly beneath him are the *saiko komon* (senior advisor) and *so-honbucho* (headquarters chief). The second in the chain of command is the *wakagashira*, who governs several gangs in a region with the help of a *fuku-honbucho* who is himself responsible for several gangs. The regional gangs themselves are governed by their local boss, the *shateigashira*.[[4]](#cite_note-4) Each member's connection is ranked by the hierarchy of sakazuki (sake sharing). Kumicho are at the top, and control various [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo). The saikō-komon control their own turfs in different areas or cities. They have their own underlings, including other underbosses, advisors, accountants and enforcers.

Those who have received sake from oyabun are part of the immediate family and ranked in terms of elder or younger brothers. However, each kobun, in turn, can offer sakazuki as oyabun to his underling to form an affiliated organisation, which might in turn form lower ranked organizations. In the Yamaguchi-gumi, which controls some 2,500 businesses and 500 yakuza groups, there are fifth rank subsidiary organizations.

#### Rituals[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[Yubitsume](/wiki/Yubitsume), or the cutting off of one's finger, is a form of penance or apology. Upon a first offense, the transgressor must cut off the tip of his left little finger and give the severed portion to his boss. Sometimes an underboss may do this in penance to the oyabun if he wants to spare a member of his own gang from further retaliation.

Its origin stems from the traditional way of holding a Japanese sword. The bottom three fingers of each hand are used to grip the sword tightly, with the thumb and index fingers slightly loose. The removal of digits starting with the little finger moving up the hand to the index finger progressively weakens a person's sword grip.

The idea is that a person with a weak sword grip then has to rely more on the group for protection—reducing individual action. In recent years, [prosthetic](/wiki/Prosthetic) fingertips have been developed to disguise this distinctive appearance.[[3]](#cite_note-3) [thumb|right|An early example of](/wiki/File:Beato,_Felice_(1834_–_1907)_-_Tattooed_japanese_men_-_ca._1870.jpg) [Irezumi](/wiki/Irezumi) tattoos, 1870s. Many yakuza have full-body tattoos (including their genitalia). These tattoos, known as [irezumi](/wiki/Irezumi) in Japan, are still often "hand-poked", that is, the ink is inserted beneath the skin using non-electrical, hand-made and handheld tools with needles of sharpened bamboo or steel. The procedure is expensive, painful, and can take years to complete.[[5]](#cite_note-5) When yakuza members play [Oicho-Kabu](/wiki/Oicho-Kabu) cards with each other, they often remove their shirts or open them up and drape them around their waists. This enables them to display their full-body tattoos to each other. This is one of the few times that yakuza members display their tattoos to others, as they normally keep them concealed in public with long-sleeved and high-necked shirts. When new members join, they are often required to remove their trousers as well and reveal any lower body tattoos.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

## Syndicates[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

### Three largest syndicates[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

Although yakuza membership has declined following an anti-gang law aimed specifically at yakuza and passed by the Japanese government in 1992, there are thought to be more than 58,000 active yakuza members in Japan today.[[6]](#cite_note-6)Although there are many different yakuza groups, together they form the largest organized crime group in the world.[[7]](#cite_note-7)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Principal families** | **Description** | [**Mon (crest)**](/wiki/Mon_(crest)) |
| [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo) | The Yamaguchi-gumi is the biggest yakuza family, accounting for 50% of all yakuza in Japan, with more than 55,000 members divided into 850 clans. Despite more than one decade of police repression, the Yamaguchi-gumi has continued to grow. From its headquarters in [Kobe](/wiki/Kobe), it directs criminal activities throughout Japan. It is also involved in operations in Asia and the United States. [Shinobu Tsukasa](/wiki/Kenichi_Shinoda), also known as Kenichi Shinoda, is the Yamaguchi-gumi's current oyabun. He follows an expansionist policy, and has increased operations in [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) (which has not traditionally been the territory of the Yamaguchi-gumi.)  The Yamaguchi family is successful to the point where its name has become synonymous with Japanese organized crime in many parts of Asia outside Japan. Many Chinese or Korean persons who do not know the name "Yakuza" would know the name "Yamaguchi-gumi", which is frequently portrayed in gangster films. | [120px](/wiki/Image:Yamabishi.svg) "Yamabishi" (山菱) |
| [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo) | The Sumiyoshi-kai is the second largest yakuza family, with 20,000 members divided into 277 clans. Sumiyoshi-kai is a confederation of smaller yakuza groups. Its current oyabun is [Isao Seki](/wiki/Isao_Seki). Structurally, Sumiyoshi-kai differs from its principal rival, the Yamaguchi-gumi, in that it functions like a federation. The chain of command is more lax, and although Shigeo Nishiguchi is always the supreme oyabun, its leadership is distributed among several other people. | [120px](/wiki/Image:Sumiyoshi-kai.svg) |
| [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo) | The Inagawa-kai is the third largest yakuza family in Japan, with roughly 15,000 members divided into 313 clans. It is based in the Tokyo-Yokohama area and was one of the first yakuza families to expand its operations to outside Japan. Its current oyabun is [Kiyota Jiro](/wiki/Kiyota_Jiro). | [120px](/wiki/Image:稲川会代紋.png) |

### Designated boryokudan[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

A [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo)[[8]](#cite_note-8) is a "particularly harmful" yakuza group[[9]](#cite_note-9) registered by the [Prefectural](/wiki/Japanese_prefectures) [Public Safety Commissions](/wiki/National_Public_Safety_Commission_(Japan)) under the [Template:Nihongo](/wiki/Template:Nihongo) enacted in 1991.[[10]](#cite_note-10) Under the Organized Crime Countermeasures Law, the Prefectural Public Safety Commissions have registered 21 syndicates as the designated boryokudan groups.[[11]](#cite_note-11) [Fukuoka Prefecture](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture) has the largest number of designated boryokudan groups among all of the prefectures, at 5; the [Kudo-kai](/wiki/Kudo-kai), the [Taishu-kai](/wiki/Taishu-kai), the [Fukuhaku-kai](/wiki/Fukuhaku-kai), the [Dojin-kai](/wiki/Dojin-kai) and the [Namikawa-kai](/wiki/Kyushu_Seido-kai).[[12]](#cite_note-12) Designated boryokudan groups are usually large, old-established organizations (mostly formed before [World War II](/wiki/World_War_II), some even formed before the [Meiji Revolution](/wiki/Meiji_Revolution) of the 19th century), however there are some exceptions such as the [Namikawa-kai](/wiki/Kyushu_Seido-kai) which, with its blatant armed conflicts with the [Dojin-kai](/wiki/Dojin-kai), was registered only two years after its formation.

The numbers which follow the names of boryokudan groups refer to the group's leadership. For example, [Yoshinori Watanabe](/wiki/Yoshinori_Watanabe) headed the [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi) *fifth*; on his retirement, [Shinobu Tsukasa](/wiki/Shinobu_Tsukasa) became head of the Yamaguchi-gumi *sixth*, and "Yamaguchi-gumi VI" is the group's formal name.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Japanese Name** | **Headquarters** | **Reg. in** | **Notes** |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Yamabishi.svg) [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi) VI | 六代目山口組 | [Kobe](/wiki/Kobe), [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo_Prefecture) | 1992 | *Yamaguchi* means the surname of the boss and *kumi* or *gumi* means group. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:稲川会代紋.png) [Inagawa-kai](/wiki/Inagawa-kai) | 稲川会 | [Minato](/wiki/Minato,_Tokyo), [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | 1992 | *Inagawa* means the surname of the boss and *kai* means organization or society. It is a member of the [Kantō-Shinboku-kai](/wiki/Kanto-Shinboku-kai) (Kanto social gathering). |
| [18px](/wiki/File:住吉会.png) [Sumiyoshi-kai](/wiki/Sumiyoshi-kai) | 住吉会 | [Minato](/wiki/Minato,_Tokyo), [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | 1992 | [*Sumiyoshi*](/wiki/Nihonbashi) means the name of place. It is a member of the Kantō-Shinboku-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Kudo-kai.png) [Kudō-kai](/wiki/Kudo-kai) V | 五代目工藤會 | [Kitakyushu](/wiki/Kitakyushu), [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture) | 1992 | It was renamed from Kudō-rengō-Kusano-ikka in 1999. *Kudō* means the surname of the boss. It is a member of the [Yonsha-kai](/wiki/Yonsha-kai) (Four social gathering). |
| [18px](/wiki/File:沖縄旭琉会.png) [Kyokuryū-kai](/wiki/Okinawa-Kyokuryu-kai) | 旭琉會 | [Okinawa](/wiki/Okinawa,_Okinawa), [Okinawa](/wiki/Okinawa_Prefecture) | 1992 | It was renamed from Okinawa-Kyokuryū-kai in 2011. |
| [11px](/wiki/File:Aizukotetsu-kai.png) [Aizu-Kotetsu-kai](/wiki/Aizukotetsu-kai) VI | 六代目会津小鉄会 | [Kyoto](/wiki/Kyoto), [Kyoto](/wiki/Kyoto_Prefecture) | 1992 | It was renamed from Aizu-Kotetsu in 1998. [*Aizu Kotetsu*](/wiki/Aizu_Kotetsu) means the nickname of the first boss and [*Aizu*](/wiki/Aizu) means the name of place. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:共政会.png) [Kyōsei-kai](/wiki/Kyosei-kai) V | 五代目共政会 | [Hiroshima](/wiki/Hiroshima), [Hiroshima](/wiki/Hiroshima_Prefecture) | 1992 | It is a member of the [Gosha-kai](/wiki/Gosha-kai) (Five social gathering). |
| [18px](/wiki/File:合田一家.png) [Gōda-ikka](/wiki/Goda-ikka) VII | 七代目合田一家 | [Shimonoseki](/wiki/Shimonoseki), [Yamaguchi](/wiki/Yamaguchi_Prefecture) | 1992 | *Gōda* means the surname of the boss and *ikka* means family. It is a member of the Gosha-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Kozakura-ikka.png) [Kozakura-ikka](/wiki/Kozakura-ikka) IV | 四代目小桜一家 | [Kagoshima](/wiki/Kagoshima,_Kagoshima), [Kagoshima](/wiki/Kagoshima_Prefecture) | 1992 |  |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Asano-gumi.png) [Asano-gumi](/wiki/Asano-gumi) V | 五代目浅野組 | [Kasaoka](/wiki/Kasaoka), [Okayama](/wiki/Okayama_Prefecture) | 1992 | *Asano* means the surname of the boss. It is a member of the Gosha-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:道仁会.png) [Dōjin-kai](/wiki/Dojin-kai) | 道仁会 | [Kurume](/wiki/Kurume), [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture) | 1992 | It is a member of the Yonsha-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Shinwa-kai.png) [Shinwa-kai](/wiki/Shinwa-kai) II | 二代目親和会 | [Takamatsu](/wiki/Takamatsu,_Kagawa), [Kagawa](/wiki/Kagawa_Prefecture) | 1992 | It is a member of the Gosha-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:双愛会.png) [Sōai-kai](/wiki/Soai-kai) | 双愛会 | [Ichihara](/wiki/Ichihara,_Chiba), [Chiba](/wiki/Chiba_Prefecture) | 1992 | It is a member of the Kantō-Shinboku-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Kyodo-kai.png) [Kyōdō-kai](/wiki/Kyodo-kai) III | 三代目俠道会 | [Onomichi](/wiki/Onomichi), [Hiroshima](/wiki/Hiroshima_Prefecture) | 1993 | It is a member of the Gosha-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:太州会.png) [Taishū-kai](/wiki/Taishu-kai) | 太州会 | [Tagawa](/wiki/Tagawa,_Fukuoka), [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture) | 1993 | *Taishū* means the nickname of the first boss. It is a member of the Yonsha-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:酒梅組.png) [Sakaume-gumi](/wiki/Sakaume-gumi) IX | 九代目酒梅組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka,_Osaka), [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka_Prefecture) | 1993 |  |
| [18px](/wiki/File:極東会.png) [Kyokutō-kai](/wiki/Kyokuto-kai) | 極東会 | [Toshima](/wiki/Toshima), [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | 1993 | *Kyokutō* means [Far East](/wiki/Far_East). It is a member of the [Kantō-Shinnō-Doushi-kai](/wiki/Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai) ([Kanto](/wiki/Kantō-kai) [Shennong](/wiki/Shennong) Association). It is a [tekiya](/wiki/Tekiya) group. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:東組.png) [Azuma-gumi](/wiki/Azuma-gumi) II | 二代目東組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka,_Osaka), [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka_Prefecture) | 1993 | *Azuma* means the surname of the boss. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:松葉会.png) [Matsuba-kai](/wiki/Matsuba-kai) | 松葉会 | [Taito](/wiki/Taito,_Tokyo), [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | 1994 | *Matsuba* means pine needle, is [kamon](/wiki/Mon_(emblem)) of the boss of predecessor syndicate [Sekine-gumi](/wiki/Sekine-gumi). It is a member of the Kantō-Shinboku-kai. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:福博会.png) [Fukuhaku-kai](/wiki/Fukuhaku-kai) III | 三代目福博会 | [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka,_Fukuoka), [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture) | 2000 | *Fukuhaku* means the name of place, [Hakata](/wiki/Hakata-ku,_Fukuoka) [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka). |
| [Namikawa-kai](/wiki/Kyushu_Seido-kai) | 浪川会 | [Omuta](/wiki/Ōmuta,_Fukuoka), [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture) | 2008 | It was formed from split from Dojin-kai in 2006 and remained active until on June 11, 2013, when the senior members of the Kyushu Seido-kai said that the gang was disbanding to rejoin the Dojin-kai after resolving the problems the dispute had caused. On October 7, 2013 was formed the [Namikawa-mutsumi-kai](/wiki/Namikawa-mutsumi-kai) by upper members of the former Kyushu-Seido-kai when they visited a shrine in Kumamoto Prefecture when one member read aloud an oath announcing the formation of the new yakuza group, based in Omuta City, Fukuoka. *Namikawa* means the surname of the boss. |
| [18px](/wiki/File:Yamabishi.svg) [Kōbe-Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Kobe_Yamaguchi-gumi) | 神戸山口組 | [Awaji](/wiki/Awaji,_Hyōgo), [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo_prefecture) | 2016 | It was split of Yamaguchi-gumi VI in 2015. |
|  |  |  |  |  |

### Designated boryokudan in the past[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Japanese Name** | **Headquarters** | **Designated in** | **Notes** |
| [Ishikawa-ikka](/wiki/Ishikawa-ikka) | 石川一家 | [Saga](/wiki/Saga_prefecture) | 1993 - 1995 | *Ishikawa* means the surname of the boss. It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi V in 1995. |
| [Dainippon-Heiwa-kai](/wiki/Dainippon-Heiwa-kai) II | 二代目大日本平和会 | [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo) | 1994 – 1997 | It was successor of [Honda-kai](/wiki/Honda-kai). *Dainippon* means [Great Japan](/wiki/Japan) and *heiwa* means peace. It was not designated update. |
| [Kumamoto-rengō](/wiki/Kumamoto-rengo) [Yamano-kai](/wiki/Yamano-kai) III | 熊本連合 三代目山野会 | [Kumamoto](/wiki/Kumamoto_Prefecture) | 1998 – 2001 | [*Kumamoto*](/wiki/Kumamoto) means the name of place and *rengo* means coalition. *Yamano* means the surname of the boss. It was destroyed. |
| [Kyokutō-Sakurai-sōke-rengō-kai](/wiki/Kyokuto_Sakurai-soke-rengokai) | 極東桜井總家連合会 | [Shizuoka](/wiki/Shizuoka_Prefecture) | 1993 – 2005 | *Sakurai* means the surname of the boss, *sōke* means all family or head family and *rengō-kai* means federation. It disappeared. |
| [Kokusui-kai](/wiki/Kokusui-kai) | 國粹会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | 1994 – 2005 | *Kokusui* means [Japanese nationalism](/wiki/Japanese_nationalism). It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi VI. |
| [Nakano-kai](/wiki/Nakano-kai) | 中野会 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka_Prefecture) | 1999 – 2005 | It was split from Yamaguchi-gumi in 1997. *Nakano* means the surname of the boss. It was disbanded in 2005. |
| [Kyokuryū-kai](/wiki/Kyokuryu-kai) IV | 四代目旭琉會 | [Okinawa](/wiki/Okinawa_Prefecture) | 1992 – 2012 | It has been merged into Okinawa-Kyokuryū-kai in 2011. |

### Other notable bōryokudan[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

{| class=wikitable ! Name ! Japanese name ! Headquarters ! Boss ! Notes |- |[Seishin-kai](/wiki/Seishin-kai_(yakuza)) |[清心会](/wiki/Ja:清心会) |[Iwate](/wiki/Iwate_prefecture) |[Ōta Seigo](/wiki/Ota_Seigo)? (*太田 清吾*) |Its core is the Tokyo-Seidai-Hoshi-ikka-Ota III (東京盛代星一家太田三代目). |- |[Genseida-Kōyū-kai](/wiki/Genseida-Koyu-kai) |[源清田交友会](/wiki/Ja:源清田交友会) |[Ibaraki](/wiki/Ibaraki_Prefecture) |[Shiroo Tanabe](/wiki/Shiroo_Tanabe) (*田名辺 城男*) |Its core is the Genseida-Tanabe III (源清田田名辺三代目). It had once belonged to the Zen-Nihon-Genseida-rengo-kai (全日本源清田連合会). |- |[**Matsuba-kai-Sekine-gumi**](/wiki/Matsuba-kai-Sekine-gumi) |[**松葉会関根組**](/wiki/Ja:松葉会関根組) |[Ibaraki](/wiki/Ibaraki_Prefecture) |[Nariaki Ōtsuka](/wiki/Nariaki_Otsuka) (*大塚 成晃*) |It was split from Matsuba-kai in 2014. *Sekine* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Chōrakuji-ikka](/wiki/Chorakuji-ikka) III |三代目[長楽寺一家](/wiki/Ja:長楽寺一家) |[Tochigi](/wiki/Tochigi_prefecture) |[Kazuo Hori](/wiki/Kazuo_Hori) (*堀 和雄*) | |- |[Yorii-sōke](/wiki/Yorii-soke) VII |七代目[寄居宗家](/wiki/Ja:寄居宗家) |[Gunma](/wiki/Gunma_Prefecture) |[Kiyoshi Kawada](/wiki/Kiyoshi_Kawada)? (*川田 清史*) |It withdrew from [Kōdō-kai](/wiki/Kodo-kai). *Yorii* means the name of place and *soke* means head family. |- |[Yorii-bunke](/wiki/Yorii-bunke) V |[寄居分家](/wiki/Ja:寄居分家)五代目 |[Gunma](/wiki/Gunma_Prefecture) |[Hiroshi Godai](/wiki/Hiroshi_Godai) (*五代 博*) |*Bunke* means branch family. It is a member of the Kantō-Shinnō-Doushi-kai. |- |[Kameya-ikka](/wiki/Kameya-ikka) V |五代目[亀屋一家](/wiki/Ja:亀屋一家) |[Saitama](/wiki/Saitama_Prefecture) |[Akira Shirahata](/wiki/Akira_Shirahata)? (*白畑 晟*) |It was split from Takezawa-kai. |- |[Yoshiha-kai](/wiki/Yoshiha-kai) VII |七代目[吉羽会](/wiki/Ja:吉羽会) |[Saitama](/wiki/Saitama_Prefecture) |[Kiyomasa Nakamura](/wiki/Kiyomasa_Nakamura) (*中村 清正*) |It was split from Takezawa-kai. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Takezawa-kai](/wiki/Takezawa-kai) |[竹澤会](/wiki/Ja:竹澤会) |[Chiba](/wiki/Chiba_Prefecture) |[Haruo Ōtawa](/wiki/Haruo_Otawa) (*太田和 春雄*) |It was renamed from Zen-Takezawa-rengō-kai. *Takezawa* means the surname of the boss. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Asakusa-Sanzun](/wiki/Asakusa-Sanzun) V |五代目[浅草三寸](/wiki/Ja:浅草三寸) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Yutaka Fujisaki](/wiki/Yutaka_Fujisaki) (*藤咲 豊*) |[*Asakusa*](/wiki/Asakusa) means the name of place and *sanzun* is a kind of *tekiya*. |- |[Anegasaki-kai](/wiki/Anegasaki-kai) |[姉ヶ崎会](/wiki/Ja:姉ヶ崎会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Shigetami Nakanome](/wiki/Shigetami_Nakanome) (*中野目 重民*) |It was renamed from Anegasaki-rengō-kai in 2006. *Anegasaki* means the name of place. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[**Iijima-kai**](/wiki/Iijima-kai) **VIII** |**八代目**[**飯島会**](/wiki/Ja:飯島会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Kanji Nishikawa](/wiki/Kanji_Nishikawa)? (*西川 冠士*) |It was renamed from Zen-Nihon-Iijima-rengō-kai. *Iijima* means the surname of the boss. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Okaniwa-kai](/wiki/Okaniwa-kai) |[岡庭会](/wiki/Ja:岡庭会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Seiichirō Okaniwa](/wiki/Seiichiro_Okaniwa) (*岡庭 清一郎*) |*Okaniwa* means the surname of the boss. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Kawaguchiya-kai](/wiki/Kawaguchiya-kai) |[川口家会](/wiki/Ja:川口家会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Kiyoshi Osaka](/wiki/Kiyoshi_Osaka) (*大坂 清*) | |-　 |[Kanda-Takagi](/wiki/Kanda-Takagi) VII |[神田高木](/wiki/Ja:神田高木)七代目 |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Akira Nagamura](/wiki/Akira_Nagamura) (*長村 昭*) |[*Kanda*](/wiki/Kanda,_Tokyo) means the name of place and *Takagi* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Shitaya-Hanajima-kai](/wiki/Shitaya-Hanajima-kai)? |[下谷花島会](/wiki/Ja:下谷花島会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Ōsaka Isamu](/wiki/Osaka_Isamu)? (*大坂 勇*) |[*Shitaya*](/wiki/Shitaya) means the name of place. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Jōshūya-kai](/wiki/Joshuya-kai) |[上州家会](/wiki/Ja:上州家会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Katsuhiko Itō](/wiki/Katsuhiko_Ito) (*伊藤 勝彦*) |It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Shinmon-rengō-kai](/wiki/Shinmon-rengo-kai) |[新門連合会](/wiki/Ja:新門連合会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Naoaki Kasama](/wiki/Naoaki_Kasama) (*笠間 直明*) |It has inherited the genealogy of [Shinmon Tatsugoro](/wiki/Shinmon_Tatsugoro). |- |[Sugitō-kai](/wiki/Sugito-kai) |[杉東会](/wiki/Ja:杉東会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Tomoaki Nohara](/wiki/Tomoaki_Nohara) (*野原 朝明*) |*Sugitō* means east of [Suginami](/wiki/Suginami). It was renamed from Sugitō-rengō-kai. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Daigo-kai](/wiki/Daigo-kai) |[醍醐会](/wiki/Ja:醍醐会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Hideo Aoyama](/wiki/Hideo_Aoyama) (*青山 秀夫*) |It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[**Chōjiya-kai**](/wiki/Chojiya-kai) |[**丁字家会**](/wiki/Ja:丁字家会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Gorō Yoshida](/wiki/Goro_Yoshida) (*吉田 五郎*) |It was renamed from Zen-Chōjiya-rengō-kai. *Chōjiya* means clove merchants. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Tenjin'yama](/wiki/Tenjinyama) |[天神山](/wiki/Ja:天神山) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |unknown |It was split of Kyokutō-kai. |- |[**Tōa-kai**](/wiki/Toa-kai) |[**東亜会**](/wiki/Ja:東亜会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Yoshio Kaneumi](/wiki/Yoshio_Kaneumi) (*金海 芳雄*) |It is successor of [Tōsei-kai](/wiki/Tosei-kai). *Tōa* means [East Asia](/wiki/East_Asia). It is a member of the Kanto-Shinboku-kai. |- |[Hashiya-kai](/wiki/Hashiya-kai) |[箸家会](/wiki/Ja:箸家会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Kōtarō Satō](/wiki/Kotaro_Sato) (*佐藤 幸太郎*) |It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Hanamata-kai](/wiki/Hanamata-kai) |[花又会](/wiki/Ja:花又会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Akira Kiyono](/wiki/Akira_Kiyono) (*清野 昭*) |It was renamed from Hanamata-rengō-kai. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Masuya-kai](/wiki/Masuya-kai) |[桝屋会](/wiki/Ja:桝屋会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Sotojirō Higashiura](/wiki/Sotojiro_Higashiura) (*東浦 外次郎*) |It was renamed from Zen-Masuya-rengō-kai. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Matsuzakaya-ikka](/wiki/Matsuzakaya-ikka) V |五代目[松坂屋一家](/wiki/Ja:松坂屋一家) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |[Takichi Nishimura](/wiki/Takichi_Nishimura) (*西村 太吉*) | |- |[Ryōgokuya-kai](/wiki/Ryogokuya-kai) |[両国家会](/wiki/Ja:両国家会) |[Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |unknown |It was renamed from Zen-Ryōgokuya-rengō-kai. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Ametoku-rengō-kai](/wiki/Ametoku-rengo-kai) |[飴德連合会](/wiki/Ja:飴徳連合会) |[Kanagawa](/wiki/Kanagawa_Prefecture) |[Hideya Nagamochi](/wiki/Hideya_Nagamochi)? (*永持 英哉*) |*Ametoku* means the nickname of the first boss. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Tokuriki-ikka](/wiki/Tokuriki-ikka) V |五代目[徳力一家](/wiki/Ja:徳力一家) |[Kanagawa](/wiki/Kanagawa_Prefecture) |unknown |It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Yokohama-Kaneko-kai](/wiki/Yokohama-Kaneko-kai) |[横浜金子会](/wiki/Ja:横浜金子会) |[Kanagawa](/wiki/Kanagawa_Prefecture) |[Takashi Terada](/wiki/Takashi_Terada) (*寺田 隆*) |[*Yokohama*](/wiki/Yokohama) means the name of place and *Kaneko* means the surname of the boss. It is a member of the Kanto-Shinno-Doushi-kai. |- |[Sakurai-sōke](/wiki/Sakurai-soke) |[櫻井總家](/wiki/Ja:櫻井總家) |[Shizuoka](/wiki/Shizuoka_Prefecture) |[Hiroyoshi Sano](/wiki/Hiroyoshi_Sano) (*佐野 宏好*) |It is successor of Kyutō-Sakurai-sōke-rengō-kai. |- |[Chūkyō-Shinnō-kai](/wiki/Chukyo-Shinno-kai) |[中京神農会](/wiki/Ja:中京神農会) |[Aichi](/wiki/Aichi_Prefecture) |[Eizō Yamagashira](/wiki/Eizo_Yamagashira)? (*山頭 栄三*) |It was split from Dōyū-kai. [*Chūkyō*](/wiki/Nagoya) means the name of place and *Shinno* is [Shennong](/wiki/Shennong), a mythical sage ruler of prehistoric China. |- |[Marutomi-rengō-kai](/wiki/Marutomi-rengo-kai) |[丸富連合会](/wiki/Ja:丸富連合会) |[Kyoto](/wiki/Kyoto_Prefecture) |[Satoshi Kitahashi](/wiki/Satoshi_Kitahashi)? (*北橋 斉*) | |- |[Sanshaku-gumi-honke](/wiki/Sanshaku-gumi-honke) IV |大阪四代目[三尺組本家](/wiki/Ja:三尺組本家) |[Osaka](/wiki/Osaka_prefecture) |[Aizō Tanaka](/wiki/Aizo_Tanaka) (*田中 愛造*) | |- |[Naoshima-Giyū-kai](/wiki/Naoshima-Giyu-kai) |[直嶋義友会](/wiki/Ja:直嶋義友会) |[Osaka](/wiki/Osaka_prefecture) |[Tadashi Noda](/wiki/Tadashi_Noda) (*野田 忠志*) |*Naoshima* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Kōbe-Hakurō-kai-sōhonbu](/wiki/Kobe-Hakuro-kai-sohonbu) V |五代目[神戸博労会総本部](/wiki/Ja:神戸博労会総本部) |[Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo_Prefecture) |[Shikano Noboru](/wiki/Shikano_Noboru)? (*鹿野 昇*) |[*Kōbe*](/wiki/Kobe) and *Hakurō* means the name of place. |- |[Chūsei-kai](/wiki/Chusei-kai) |[忠成会](/wiki/Ja:忠成会) |[Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo_Prefecture) |[Tadaaki Ōmori](/wiki/Tadaaki_Omori) (*大森 匡晃*) | |- |[Matsuura-gumi](/wiki/Matsuura-gumi) II |二代目[松浦組](/wiki/Ja:松浦組) |[Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo_Prefecture) |[Kazuo Kasaoka](/wiki/Kazuo_Kasaoka) (*笠岡 一雄*) |*Matsuura* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Konjin-Tsumura-sōhonke](/wiki/Konjin-Tsumura-sōhonke) II |二代目[金神津村總本家](/wiki/Ja:金神津村總本家) |[Hiroshima](/wiki/Hiroshima_Prefecture) |[Yoshisuke Tsumura](/wiki/Yoshisuke_Tsumura)? (*津村 義輔*) |*Sōhonke* means all family or head family. |- |[Chūgoku-Takagi-kai](/wiki/Chugoku-Takagi-kai) III |三代目[中国高木会](/wiki/Ja:中国高木会) |[Hiroshima](/wiki/Hiroshima_Prefecture) |[Hideyoshi Daigen](/wiki/Hideyoshi_Daigen)? (*大源 秀吉*) |It is successor of Kyōsei-kai [Murakami-gumi](/wiki/Murakami-gumi). [*Chūgoku*](/wiki/Chugoku) means the name of place and *Takagi* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Kyūshū-Kashida-kai](/wiki/Kyushu-Kashida-kai) III |三代目[九州樫田会](/wiki/Ja:九州樫田会) |[Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_prefecture) |[Takashi Koga](/wiki/Takashi_Koga)? (*古賀 孝司*) |[*Kyūshū*](/wiki/Kyushu) means the name of place and *Kashida* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Tatekawa-kai](/wiki/Tatekawa-kai)? III |九州三代目[立川会](/wiki/Ja:立川会) |[Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_prefecture) |[Toshihiko Ikeura](/wiki/Toshihiko_Ikeura) (*池浦 敏彦*) | |- |[Nakanishi-kai](/wiki/Nakanishi-kai) |[中西会](/wiki/Ja:中西会) |[Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_prefecture) |unknown | |- |[Fujiie-kai](/wiki/Fujiie-kai)? |[藤家会](/wiki/Ja:藤家会) |[Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_prefecture) |[Mitsuo Nakao](/wiki/Mitsuo_Nakao) (*中尾 光男*) |*Fujiie* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Kyūshū-Kumashiro-rengō](/wiki/Kyushu-Kumashiro-rengo)? |[九州神代連合](/wiki/Ja:九州神代連合) |[Saga](/wiki/Saga_prefecture) |[Katsuji Noguchi](/wiki/Katsuji_Noguchi) (*野口 勝次*) | |- |[Kyūshū-Ozaki-kai](/wiki/Kyushu-Ozaki-kai) II |二代目[九州尾崎会](/wiki/Ja:九州尾崎会) |[Nagasaki](/wiki/Nagasaki_Prefecture) |[Kuniyuki Koga](/wiki/Kuniyuki_Koga) (*古賀 國行*) |*Ozaki* means the surname of the boss. |- |[**Kumamoto-kai**](/wiki/Kumamoto-kai) **III** |**三代目**[**熊本會**](/wiki/Ja:熊本會) |[Kumamoto](/wiki/Kumamoto_Prefecture) |[Hidenori Morihara](/wiki/Hidenori_Morihara) (*森原 秀徳*) |It is successor of Kumamoto-rengō. It is a member of the Yonsha-kai. |- |[Sanshin-kai](/wiki/Sanshin-kai) |[山心会](/wiki/Ja:山心会) |[Kumamoto](/wiki/Kumamoto_Prefecture) |[Atsushi Inoue](/wiki/Atsushi_Inoue_(yakuza)) (*井上 厚*) |It is successor of Kumamoto-rengō Yamano-kai. It was renamed from Sanshin-kai (山心会). |- |[Murakami-gumi](/wiki/Murakami-gumi) III |九州三代目[村上組](/wiki/Ja:村上組) |[Oita](/wiki/Oita_Prefecture) |[Yoshishige Matsuoka](/wiki/Yoshishige_Matsuoka) (*松岡 良茂*) |*Murakami* means the surname of the boss. |- |[Nishida-kai](/wiki/Nishida-kai) V |五代目[西田会](/wiki/Ja:西田会) |[Miyazaki](/wiki/Miyazaki_prefecture) |[Kazuo Tanaka](/wiki/Kazuo_Tanaka) (*田中 一夫*) | |}

### Other prominent boryokudan[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Japanese name** | **Headquarters** | **Notes** |
| [Marumo-ikka](/wiki/Marumo-ikka) | 丸茂一家 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) |  |
| [Seiyū-kai](/wiki/Seiyu-kai) | 誠友会 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi IV in 1985. |
| [Zen-Chojiya-Hachiya-rengo-kai](/wiki/Zen-Chojiya-Hachiya-rengo-kai) | 全丁字家蜂谷連合会 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) | It was disbanded in 1988, the remaining organizations have subscribed to Kenryu-kai and Kodo-kai. |
| [Yorii-Sekiho-rengo](/wiki/Yorii-Sekiho-rengo) | 寄居関保連合 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Umeya-Abe-rengo-kai](/wiki/Umeya-Abe-rengo-kai) | 梅家阿部連合会 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) | It was joined to the Kodo-kai. |
| [Kigure-ikka](/wiki/Kigure-ikka) | 木暮一家 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) | It was joined to the Inagawa-kai. |
| [Aizuya-ikka-Kodaka](/wiki/Aizuya-ikka-Kodaka) | 会津家一家小高 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) |  |
| [Koshijiya-rengo](/wiki/Koshijiya-rengo) | 越路家連合 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) | It was joined to the Inagawa-kai. |
| Kanto-Komatsuya-ikka | 関東小松家一家 | [Hokkaido](/wiki/Hokkaido) |  |
| [Oshu-Umeya-rengo-kai](/wiki/Oshu-Umeya-rengo-kai) | 奥州梅家連合会 | [Aomori](/wiki/Aomori_prefecture) | It was joined to the Inagawa-kai. |
| [Oshu-Saikaiya-so-rengo-kai](/wiki/Oshu-Saikaiya-so-rengo-kai) | 奥州西海家総連合会 | [Miyagi](/wiki/Miyagi_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Tokyo-Seidai-Nishikido-kai](/wiki/Tokyo-Seidai-Nishikido-kai) | 東京盛代錦戸会 | [Miyagi](/wiki/Miyagi_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Tokyo-Seidai-Kawasaki-kai](/wiki/Tokyo-Seidai-Kawasaki-kai) | 東京盛代川崎会 | [Miyagi](/wiki/Miyagi_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Nishikata-ikka](/wiki/Nishikata-ikka) | 西方一家 | [Miyagi](/wiki/Miyagi_Prefecture) |  |
| [Anegasaki-Yagami-kai](/wiki/Anegasaki-Yagami-kai) | 姉ケ崎八神会 | [Akita](/wiki/Akita_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Inagawa-kai. |
| [Aizuya-ikka-Nomoto](/wiki/Aizuya-ikka-Nomoto) | 会津家一家野本 | [Akita](/wiki/Akita,_Akita) | It was joined to the Kyokuto-kai. |
| [Oshu-Yamaguchi-rengo](/wiki/Oshu-Yamaguchi-rengo) | 奥州山口連合 | [Yamagata](/wiki/Yamagata_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Oshu-Aizu-Kakusada-ikka](/wiki/Oshu-Aizu-Kakusada-ikka) | 奥州会津角定一家 | [Fukushima](/wiki/Fukushima_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Maruto-kai](/wiki/Maruto-kai) | 丸唐会 | [Fukushima](/wiki/Fukushima_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Matsuba-kai-Doushi-kai](/wiki/Matsuba-kai-Doushi-kai) | 松葉会同志会 | [Ibaraki](/wiki/Ibaraki_Prefecture) | It was disbanded, then joined to the Matsuba-kai. |
| [Shinwa-kai](/wiki/Shinwa-kai_(Sumiyoshi-kai)) | 親和会 | [Tochigi](/wiki/Tochigi_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Kochiya-kai](/wiki/Kochiya-kai) | 河内家会 | [Tochigi](/wiki/Tochigi_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Kyokuto-kai. |
| [Zennihon-Yorii-rengo-kai](/wiki/Zennihon-Yorii-rengo-kai) | 全日本寄居連合会 | [Gunma](/wiki/Gunma) | It disappeared. |
| [Kanto-Kumaya-rengo](/wiki/Kanto-Kumaya-rengo) | 関東熊屋連合 | [Saitama](/wiki/Saitama,_Saitama) | It was joined to Kyokuto-kai. |
| [Zennihon-Genseida-rengo-kai](/wiki/Zennihon-Genseida-rengo-kai) | 全日本源清田連合会 | [Chiba](/wiki/Chiba,_Chiba) | It disappeared. |
| [Kanto-Chojamachi-kai](/wiki/Kanto-Chojamachi-kai) | 関東長者町会 | [Chiba](/wiki/Chiba,_Chiba) | It was joined to Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Minato-kai](/wiki/Minato-kai) | 港会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was disbanded, then taken over by Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Kohei-ikka](/wiki/Kohei-ikka) | 幸平一家 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the Minato-kai. |
| [Doshida-ikka](/wiki/Doshida-ikka) | 圡支田一家 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |  |
| [Sekine-gumi](/wiki/Sekine-gumi) | 関根組 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was disbanded, then taken over by Matsuba-kai. |
| [Ando-gumi](/wiki/Ando-gumi) (Azuma-kogyo) | 安東組 (東興業) | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was disbanded. |
| [Tosei-kai](/wiki/Tosei-kai) | 東声会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi, then it was disbanded and taken over by Toa-kai. |
| [Koganei-ikka](/wiki/Koganei-ikka) | 小金井一家 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the Nibiki-kai. |
| [Nibiki-kai](/wiki/Nibiki-kai) | 二率会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was disbanded. |
| [Hokusei-kai](/wiki/Hokusei-kai) | 北星会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was disbanded. |
| [Kowa-kai](/wiki/Kowa-kai) | 交和会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was successor of Hokusei-kai. It joined to the Inagawa-kai. |
| [Namai-ikka](/wiki/Namai-ikka) | 生井一家 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the Kokusui-kai. |
| [Ochiai-ikka](/wiki/Ochiai-ikka) | 落合一家 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the Kokusui-kai. |
| [Aizuya-rengo-kai](/wiki/Aizuya-rengo-kai) | 會津家連合会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the [Goto-gumi](/wiki/Goto-gumi). |
| [Tokyo-Yasuda-kai](/wiki/Tokyo-Yasuda-kai) | 東京安田会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was joined to the Rachi-gumi. |
| [Kanto-Hayashi-gumi-rengo-kai](/wiki/Kanto-Hayashi-gumi-rengo-kai) | 関東林組連合会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |  |
| [Kyokuto-Aio-rengo-kai](/wiki/Kyokuto-Aio-rengo-kai) | 極東愛桜連合会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) | It was disbanded in 1967. |
| [Ishimoto-kai](/wiki/Ishimoto-kai) | 石元会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |  |
| [Ryogoku-kai](/wiki/Ryogoku-kai) | 両国会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |  |
| [Kinsei-kai](/wiki/Kinsei-kai) | 錦政会 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |  |
| [Joman-ikka](/wiki/Joman-ikka) | 上萬一家 | [Tokyo](/wiki/Tokyo) |  |
| [Gijin-to](/wiki/Gijin-to) | 義人党 | [Kawasaki, Kanagawa](/wiki/Kawasaki,_Kanagawa) | It was disbanded. The successor organization has joined the Sumiyoshi-kai. |
| [Kanto-Hayashi-gumi-rengo-kai](/wiki/Kanto-Hayashi-gumi-rengo-kai) | 関東林組連合会 |  |  |
| [Yokohama-Saikaiya](/wiki/Yokohama-Saikaiya) | 横浜西海家 | [Kanagawa](/wiki/Kanagawa) | It was joined to the Kyokuto-kai. |
| [Kawauchi-gumi](/wiki/Kawauchi-gumi) | 川内組 | [Fukui](/wiki/Fukui_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Sugatani-gumi. |
| [Yamanashi-Kyōyū-kai](/wiki/Yamanashi-Kyoyu-kai) | [山梨侠友會](/wiki/Ja:山梨侠友會) | [Yamanashi](/wiki/Yamanashi_Prefecture) | It was split from Inagawa-kai in 2011. [*Yamanashi*](/wiki/Yamanashi_Prefecture) means the name of place. It disbanded in 2016, joined [Inagawa-kai](/wiki/Inagawa-kai) and renamed [Sano-gumi](/wiki/Sano-gumi). |
| [Shinshu-Saito-ikka](/wiki/Shinshu-Saito-ikka) | 信州斎藤一家 | [Nagano](/wiki/Nagano) |  |
| [Yoshihama-kai](/wiki/Yoshihama-kai) | 芳浜会 | [Gifu](/wiki/Gifu_prefecture) |  |
| [Ikeda-ikka](/wiki/Ikeda-ikka) | 池田一家 | [Gifu](/wiki/Gifu) |  |
| [Shimizu-ikka](/wiki/Shimizu-ikka) | 清水一家 | [Shizuoka](/wiki/Shizuoka_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
|  | 中泉一家 | [Shizuoka](/wiki/Shizuoka,_Shizuoka) |  |
| [Reiganjima-Masuya-Hattori-kai](/wiki/Reiganjima-Masuya-Hattori-kai) | 霊岸島桝屋服部会 | [Shizuoka](/wiki/Shizuoka,_Shizuoka) |  |
| [Honganji-ikka](/wiki/Honganji-ikka) | 本願寺一家 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) |  |
| [Inabaji-ikka](/wiki/Inabaji-ikka) | 稲葉地一家 | [Nagoya](/wiki/Nagoya), [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was joined to the Kodo-kai. |
| [Unmeikyodo-kai](/wiki/Unmeikyodo-kai) | 運命共同会 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was disbanded. |
| [Hirai-ikka](/wiki/Hirai-ikka) | 平井一家 | [Toyohashi](/wiki/Toyohashi), [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was joined to the Unmeikyodo-kai. |
| [Tesshin-kai](/wiki/Tesshin-kai) | 鉄心会 | [Nagoya](/wiki/Nagoya), [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was joined to the Unmeikyodo-kai. |
| [Chukyo-Asano-kai](/wiki/Chukyo-Asano-kai) | 中京浅野会 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was joined to the Unmeikyodo-kai. |
| [Seto-ikka](/wiki/Seto-ikka) | 瀬戸一家 | [Seto, Aichi](/wiki/Seto,_Aichi) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Doyu-kai](/wiki/Doyu-kai) | 導友会 | [Nagoya](/wiki/Nagoya), [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was joined to the Kodo-kai. |
| [Sankichi-ikka](/wiki/Sankichi-ikka) | 三吉一家 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) |  |
| [Kira-ikka](/wiki/Kira-ikka) | 吉良一家 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) |  |
| [Kusuriya-rengo-kai](/wiki/Kusuriya-rengo-kai) | 薬屋連合会 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) |  |
| [Kumaya-ikka](/wiki/Kumaya-ikka) | 熊屋一家 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) |  |
| [Nagoya-Chojamachi-ikka](/wiki/Nagoya-Chojamachi-ikka) | 名古屋長者町一家 | [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) |  |
| [Hiranoya-ikka](/wiki/Hiranoya-ikka) | 平野家一家 | [Nagoya](/wiki/Nagoya), [Aichi](/wiki/Aichi) | It was joined to the Kodo-kai. |
| [Aio-kai](/wiki/Aio-kai) | 愛桜会 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Kanbeya-ikka](/wiki/Kanbeya-ikka) | 神戸屋一家 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) |  |
| [Shujiro-ikka](/wiki/Shujiro-ikka) | 周次郎一家 |  |  |
| [Kamijo-gumi](/wiki/Kamijo-gumi) | 上條組 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) |  |
| [Ise-Kanbe-ikka](/wiki/Ise-Kanbe-ikka) | 伊勢神戸一家 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) |  |
| [Ise-Kawashima-ikka](/wiki/Ise-Kawashima-ikka) | 伊勢川島一家 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) |  |
| [Tsunan-ikka](/wiki/Tsunan-ikka) | 津南一家 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) |  |
| [Mizutani-ikka](/wiki/Mizutani-ikka) | 水谷一家 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Ise-Kamiya-ikka](/wiki/Ise-Kamiya-ikka) | 伊勢紙谷一家 | [Mie](/wiki/Mie_Prefecture) |  |
| [Nakajima-rengo-kai](/wiki/Nakajima-rengo-kai) | 中島連合会 | [Kyoto](/wiki/Kyoto) | It was joined to the Aizu-Kotetsu-kai. |
| [Sunakogawa-gumi](/wiki/Sunakogawa-gumi) | 砂子川組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) | It was a descendant of Aizu Kotetsu. |
| [Nakamasa-gumi](/wiki/Nakamasa-gumi_(Aizu-Kotetsu-kai)) | 中政組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) | It was a descendant of Aizu Kotetsu. |
|  | 小久一家 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
|  | 長政 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Dankuma-kai](/wiki/Dankuma-kai) | 淡熊会 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka,_Osaka), [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Yamato-Nara-gumi](/wiki/Yamato-Nara-gumi) | 倭奈良組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Dajokan](/wiki/Dajokan) | 大政官 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [I-rengo](/wiki/I-rengo) | い聯合 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| Yamaguchi-gumi [Yanagawa-gumi](/wiki/Yanagawa-gumi) | 山口組 柳川組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Hayano-kai](/wiki/Hayano-kai) | 早野会 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Oguruma-Makoto-kai](/wiki/Oguruma-Makoto-kai) | 小車誠会 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Imanishi-gumi](/wiki/Imanishi-gumi) | 今西組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) | It was joined to the Sakaume-gumi. |
| [Ono-ikka](/wiki/Ono-ikka) | 大野一家 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Minami-ikka](/wiki/Minami-ikka) | 南一家 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Sumida-kai](/wiki/Sumida-kai) | 澄田会 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Matsuda-gumi](/wiki/Matsuda-gumi) (Matsuda-rengo) | 松田組 (松田連合) | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| Hadani-gumi | 波谷組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) | It was disbanded in 1994. |
| [Komasa-gumi](/wiki/Komasa-gumi) | 小政組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Doi-gumi](/wiki/Doi-gumi) | 土井組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
|  | 九紋龍組 | [Osaka](/wiki/Osaka) |  |
| [Oshima-gumi](/wiki/Oshima-gumi) | 大嶋組 | [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo) |  |
| [Honda-kai](/wiki/Honda-kai) | 本多会 | [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo) |  |
| [Ichiwa-kai](/wiki/Ichiwa-kai) | 一和会 | [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo) | It was disbanded. |
| [Suwa-ikka](/wiki/Suwa-ikka) | 諏訪一家 | [Hyogo](/wiki/Hyogo) |  |
| [Sasaki-gumi](/wiki/Sasaki-gumi) | 佐々木組 | [Wakayama](/wiki/Wakayama) |  |
| [Takenaka-gumi](/wiki/Takenaka-gumi_(Okayama)) | 竹中組 | [Okayama](/wiki/Okayama) | It withdrew from the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Kinoshita-kai](/wiki/Kinoshita-kai) | 木下会 | [Okayama](/wiki/Okayama) |  |
| [Takahashi-gumi](/wiki/Takahashi-gumi) | 高橋組 | [Onomichi](/wiki/Onomichi), [Hiroshima](/wiki/Hiroshima) |  |
| [Katsuura-kai](/wiki/Katsuura-kai) | 勝浦会 | [Tokushima](/wiki/Tokushima) | It was disbanded in 1998. |
| [Mori-kai](/wiki/Mori-kai) | 森会 | [Tokushima](/wiki/Tokushima) |  |
| [Matsuyama-rengo-kai](/wiki/Matsuyama-rengo-kai) | 松山連合会 | [Ehime](/wiki/Ehime) | It was joined to the Yamaguchi-gumi. |
| [Kyushu-Kyoyu-rengo-kai](/wiki/Kyushu-Kyoyu-rengo-kai) | 九州侠友連合会 | [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka) |  |
| [Seibu-rengo](/wiki/Seibu-rengo) | 西武連合 | [Karatsu](/wiki/Karatsu), [Saga](/wiki/Saga) |  |
| [Kumamoto-rengo](/wiki/Kumamoto-rengo) | 熊本連合 | [Kumamoto](/wiki/Kumamoto) |  |
| [Kitaoka-kai](/wiki/Kitaoka-kai) | 北岡会 | [Kumamoto](/wiki/Kumamoto) |  |
| [Daimon-kai](/wiki/Daimon-kai) | 大門会 | [Kumamoto](/wiki/Kumamoto) |  |

## Current activities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

### Japan[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[Template:Original research section](/wiki/Template:Original_research_section) Yakuza are regarded as semi-legitimate organizations. For example, immediately after the [Kobe earthquake](/wiki/Kobe_earthquake), the [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi), whose headquarters are in [Kobe](/wiki/Kobe), mobilized itself to provide disaster relief services (including the use of a helicopter), and this was widely reported by the media as a contrast to the much slower response by the Japanese government.[[13]](#cite_note-13)[[14]](#cite_note-14) The yakuza repeated their aid after the [2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami](/wiki/2011_Tōhoku_earthquake_and_tsunami), with groups opening their offices to refugees and sending dozens of trucks with supplies to affected areas.<ref name= adelstein20110318>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> For this reason, many yakuza regard their income and hustle (*shinogi*) as a collection of a feudal tax. [Template:Quote box](/wiki/Template:Quote_box) Many yakuza syndicates, notably the [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi), officially forbid their members from engaging in [drug trafficking](/wiki/Drug_trafficking), while some yakuza syndicates, notably the [Dojin-kai](/wiki/Dojin-kai), are heavily involved in it.

Some yakuza groups are known to deal extensively in [human trafficking](/wiki/Human_trafficking_in_Japan).[[15]](#cite_note-15) The [Philippines](/wiki/Philippines), for instance, is a source of young women. Yakuza trick girls from impoverished villages into coming to Japan, where they are promised respectable jobs with good wages. Instead, they are forced into becoming prostitutes and strippers.[[16]](#cite_note-16) [thumb|right|The alleys and streets of](/wiki/Image:Shinjuku.jpg) [Shinjuku](/wiki/Shinjuku,_Tokyo) are a popular modern Tokyo yakuza hangout. Yakuza frequently engage in a unique form of Japanese extortion known as, [*sōkaiya*](/wiki/Sokaiya). In essence, this is a specialized form of protection racket. Instead of harassing small businesses, the yakuza harasses a stockholders' meeting of a larger corporation. They simply scare the ordinary stockholder with the presence of yakuza operatives, who obtain the right to attend the meeting by making a small purchase of stock.

Yakuza also have ties to the Japanese realty market and banking, through *jiageya*. Jiageya specialize in inducing holders of small real estate to sell their property so that estate companies can carry out much larger development plans. Japan's bubble economy of the 1980s is often blamed on real estate speculation by banking subsidiaries. After the collapse of the Japanese property bubble, a manager of a major bank in [Nagoya](/wiki/Nagoya) was assassinated, and much speculation ensued about the banking industry's indirect connection to the Japanese underworld.

[thumb|right|Yakuza often take part in local festivals such as](/wiki/File:Japan-Yakuza-Sanja_Matsuri-01.jpg) [Sanja Matsuri](/wiki/Sanja_Matsuri) where they often carry the shrine through the streets proudly showing off their elaborate tattoos. Yakuza have been known to make large investments in legitimate, mainstream companies. In 1989, Susumu Ishii, the [Oyabun](/wiki/Oyabun) of the [Inagawa-kai](/wiki/Inagawa-kai) (a well known yakuza group) bought [US$](/wiki/United_States_dollar)255 million worth of [Tokyo Kyuko Electric Railway's](/wiki/Tokyo_Kyuko_Electric_Railway) stock.[[17]](#cite_note-17) Japan's [Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission](/wiki/Securities_and_Exchange_Surveillance_Commission) has knowledge of more than 50 listed companies with ties to organized crime, and in March 2008, the [Osaka Securities Exchange](/wiki/Osaka_Securities_Exchange) decided to review all listed companies and expel those with yakuza ties.<ref name=adelstein>Jake Adelstein. [This Mob Is Big in Japan](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/09/AR2008050902544.html), [*The Washington Post*](/wiki/The_Washington_Post), 11 May 2008</ref>

As a matter of principle, theft is not recognised as a legitimate activity of yakuza. This is in line with the idea that their activities are semi-open; theft by definition would be a covert activity. More importantly, such an act would be considered a trespass by the community. Also, yakuza usually do not conduct the actual business operation by themselves. Core business activities such as merchandising, loan sharking or management of gambling houses are typically managed by non-yakuza members who pay protection fees for their activities.

There is much evidence of yakuza involvement in international crime. There are many tattooed yakuza members imprisoned in various Asian prisons for such crimes as drug trafficking and arms smuggling. In 1997, one verified yakuza member was caught smuggling 4 kilograms (8.82 pounds) of [heroin](/wiki/Heroin) into Canada.

Prior to his death in 1980, former Italian-American [mafia](/wiki/Mafia) member [Mickey Zaffarano](/wiki/Mickey_Zaffarano), who controlled pornography rackets across the United States for the [Bonanno family](/wiki/Bonanno_crime_family) was overheard talking about the enormous profits from the [pornography](/wiki/Pornography) trade that both families could make together.[[18]](#cite_note-18) Another yakuza racket is bringing women of other ethnicities/races, especially [East European](/wiki/East_European)[[18]](#cite_note-18) and [Asian](/wiki/Southeast_Asia),[[18]](#cite_note-18) to Japan under the lure of a glamorous position, then forcing the women into prostitution.[[19]](#cite_note-19) Because of their history as a legitimate feudal organization and their connection to the Japanese political system through the [*uyoku*](/wiki/Uyoku) (extreme right-wing political groups), yakuza are somewhat a part of the Japanese establishment, with six [fan magazines](/wiki/Fan_magazine) reporting on their activities. One study found that 1 in 10 adults under the age of 40 believed that the yakuza should be allowed to exist.[Template:R](/wiki/Template:R) In the 1980s in [Fukuoka](/wiki/Fukuoka_Prefecture), a yakuza war spiraled out of control and civilians were hurt. It was a large conflict between the [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi) and [Dojin-kai](/wiki/Dojin-kai), called the *Yama-Michi War*. The police stepped in and forced the yakuza bosses on both sides to declare a truce in public.

At various times, people in Japanese cities have launched anti-yakuza campaigns with mixed and varied success. In March 1995, the Japanese government passed the *Act for Prevention of Unlawful Activities by Criminal Gang Members*, which made traditional [racketeering](/wiki/Racketeering) much more difficult. Beginning in 2009, led by agency chief [Takaharu Ando](/wiki/Takaharu_Ando), Japanese police began to crack down on the gangs. [Kodo-kai](/wiki/Kodo-kai) chief [Kiyoshi Takayama](/wiki/Kiyoshi_Takayama) was arrested in late 2010. In December 2010, police arrested Yamaguchi-gumi's alleged number three leader, [Tadashi Irie](/wiki/Tadashi_Irie). According to the media, encouraged by tougher anti-yakuza laws and legislation, local governments and construction companies have begun to shun or ban yakuza activities or involvement in their communities or construction projects.[[20]](#cite_note-20) The police are handicapped, however, by Japan's lack of an equivalent to [plea bargaining](/wiki/Plea_bargaining), [witness protection](/wiki/Witness_protection), or the United States' [Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act](/wiki/Racketeer_Influenced_and_Corrupt_Organizations_Act).[Template:R](/wiki/Template:R) Laws were enacted in Osaka and Tokyo in 2010 and 2011 to try to combat Yakuza influence by making it illegal for any business to do business with the Yakuza.[[21]](#cite_note-21)[[22]](#cite_note-22)

#### Yakuza's aid in Tōhoku catastrophe[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

Following the [Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami](/wiki/2011_Tōhoku_earthquake_and_tsunami) on 11 March 2011, the yakuza sent hundreds of trucks filled with food, water, blankets, and sanitary accessories to aid the people in the affected areas of the natural disaster. [CNN México](/wiki/CNN_en_Español) said that although the yakuza operates through extortion and other violent methods, they "[moved] swiftly and quietly to provide aid to those most in need."<ref name=cnnmexico>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> Such actions by the yakuza are a result of their knowing of what it is like to "fend for yourself," without any government aid or community support, because they are also considered "outcast" and "dropouts from society".<ref name=cnnmexico/> In addition, the yakuza's code of honor (*ninkyo*) reportedly values justice and duty above anything else, and forbids allowing others to suffer.[[23]](#cite_note-23)

### United States[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

Yakuza activity in the United States is mostly relegated to [Hawaii](/wiki/Hawaii), but they have made their presence known in other parts of the country, especially in [Los Angeles](/wiki/Los_Angeles) and the [San Francisco Bay Area](/wiki/San_Francisco_Bay_Area), as well as [Seattle](/wiki/Seattle), [Las Vegas](/wiki/Las_Vegas_metropolitan_area), [Arizona](/wiki/Arizona), [Virginia](/wiki/Virginia), [Chicago](/wiki/Chicago), and [New York City](/wiki/New_York_City).<ref name=crimelibrary>[Yakuza](http://www.trutv.com/library/crime/gangsters_outlaws/gang/yakuza/5.html), Crimelibrary.com</ref><ref name=yakuza03-america>Yakuza: Japan's Criminal Underworld (2003) Kaplan, D. & Dubro, A Part IV</ref> The Yakuza are said to use Hawaii as a midway station between Japan and mainland America, smuggling [methamphetamine](/wiki/Methamphetamine) into the country and smuggling firearms back to Japan. They easily fit into the local population, since many tourists from Japan and other Asian countries visit the islands on a regular basis, and there is a large population of residents who are of full or partial Japanese descent. They also work with local gangs, funneling Japanese tourists to gambling parlors and brothels.<ref name=crimelibrary/>

In California, the Yakuza have made alliances with local Vietnamese and Korean gangs as well as [Chinese triads](/wiki/Triad_(underground_society)), with Vietnamese as the most common alliance. The alliances with Vietnamese gangs dated back in the late 1980s, and most Vietnamese gangsters were used as muscle, as they had potential to become extremely violent as needed. (Yakuza saw the potential following the constant Vietnamese cafe shoot outs, and home invasion burglaries throughout the 1980s and early 1990s). In New York City, they appear to collect finders fees from Russian, Irish and Italian mafiosos and businessmen for guiding Japanese tourists to gambling establishments, both legal and illegal.<ref name=crimelibrary/>

[Handguns](/wiki/Handgun) manufactured in the US account for a large share (33%) of handguns seized in Japan, followed by [China](/wiki/China) (16%), and the [Philippines](/wiki/Philippines) (10%). In 1990, a [Smith & Wesson](/wiki/Smith_&_Wesson) [.38 caliber](/wiki/.38_caliber) [revolver](/wiki/Revolver) that cost $275 in the US could sell for up to $4,000 in Tokyo. By 1997 it would sell for only $500, due to the proliferation of guns in Japan during the 1990s.<ref name=yakuza03-america/>

The [FBI](/wiki/FBI) suspects that the Yakuza use various operations to launder money in the U.S.<ref name=adelstein/>

In 2001, the FBI's representative in Tokyo arranged for [Tadamasa Goto](/wiki/Tadamasa_Goto), the head of the group [Goto-gumi](/wiki/Goto-gumi), to receive a [liver transplant](/wiki/Liver_transplant) at the [UCLA Medical Center](/wiki/UCLA_Medical_Center) in the United States, in return for information of Yamaguchi-gumi operations in the US. This was done without prior consultation of the [NPA](/wiki/National_Police_Agency_(Japan)). The journalist who uncovered the deal received threats by Goto and was given police protection in the US and in Japan.[[24]](#cite_note-24)

### North Korea[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

In 2009, Yakuza member Yoshiaki Sawada was released in North Korea after spending 5 years in the country for attempting to bribe a North Korean official and smuggle drugs.[[25]](#cite_note-25)

## Constituent members[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

According to a 2006 speech by Mitsuhiro Suganuma, a former officer of the Public Security Intelligence Agency, around 60 percent of Yakuza members come from burakumin, the descendants of a feudal outcast class and approximately 30 percent of them are Japanese-born Koreans, and only 10 percent are from non-burakumin Japanese and Chinese ethnic groups.[[26]](#cite_note-26)[[27]](#cite_note-27)

### Burakumin[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

The [Burakumin](/wiki/Burakumin) are a group that is socially discriminated against in Japanese society, whose recorded history goes back to the [Heian Period](/wiki/Heian_Period) in the 11th century. The burakumin are [descendants](/wiki/Lineal_descendant) of outcast communities of the pre-modern, especially the [feudal era](/wiki/Feudal_Japan_hierarchy), mainly those with occupations considered tainted with death or [ritual impurity](/wiki/Ritual_impurity), such as butchers, [executioners](/wiki/Executioner), [undertakers](/wiki/Undertaker), or [leather workers](/wiki/Leather_worker). They traditionally lived in their own secluded [hamlets](/wiki/Hamlet_(place)).

According to [David E. Kaplan](/wiki/David_Kaplan_(author)) and Alec Dubro, burakumin account for about 70% of the members of [Yamaguchi-gumi](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi), the largest yakuza syndicate in Japan.[[28]](#cite_note-28)

### Ethnic Koreans[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[Template:Refimprove section](/wiki/Template:Refimprove_section) While [ethnic Koreans](/wiki/Koreans_in_Japan) make up only 0.5% of the Japanese population, they are a prominent part of yakuza, perhaps because they suffer severe discrimination in Japanese society alongside the [*burakumin*](/wiki/Burakumin).<ref name=yakuza03-133> Yakuza: Japan's Criminal Underworld (2003) Kaplan, D. & Dubro, A. p. 133. </ref>[[29]](#cite_note-29) In the early 1990s, 18 of 90 top bosses of [*Inagawa-kai*](/wiki/Inagawa-kai) were ethnic Koreans. The [Japanese National Police Agency](/wiki/National_Police_Agency_(Japan)) suggested Koreans composed 10% of the yakuza proper and 70% of *burakumin* in the [*Yamaguchi-gumi*](/wiki/Yamaguchi-gumi).[[30]](#cite_note-30) Some of the representatives of the [designated Bōryokudan](/wiki/Bōryokudan#Designated_bōryokudan) are also.[[31]](#cite_note-31) The Korean significance had been an untouchable taboo in Japan and one of the reasons that the Japanese version of Kaplan and Dubro's *Yakuza* (1986) had not been published until 1991 with the deletion of Korean-related descriptions of the *Yamaguchi-gumi*.[[32]](#cite_note-32) Japanese-born people of Korean ancestry are considered resident aliens because of their nationality and are often shunned in legitimate trades, and are therefore embraced by the yakuza precisely because they fit the group's "outsider" image.[[33]](#cite_note-33) Notable yakuza members of Korean ancestry include [Hisayuki Machii](/wiki/Hisayuki_Machii), the founder of the [Tosei-kai](/wiki/Toa-kai), [Tokutaro Takayama](/wiki/Tokutaro_Takayama), the president of the 4th-generation [Aizukotetsu-kai](/wiki/Aizukotetsu-kai), Jiro Kiyota, the president of the 5th-generation [Inagawa-kai](/wiki/Inagawa-kai), Hirofumi Hashimoto, the head of the Kyokushinrengo-kai, and the bosses of the 6th / 7th [Sakaume-gumi](/wiki/Sakaume-gumi).

## Indirect enforcement[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

Since 2011, regulations that made business with members illegal as well as enactments of [Yakuza exclusion ordinances](/wiki/Yakuza_exclusion_ordinances) led to the group's membership decline from its 21st century peak. Methods include that which brought down [Al Capone](/wiki/Al_Capone); checking the organization's finance. The [Financial Services Agency](/wiki/Financial_Services_Agency) ordered [Mizuho Financial Group](/wiki/Mizuho_Financial_Group) Inc. to improve compliance and that its top executives report by 28 October 2013 what they knew and when about a consumer-credit affiliate found making loans to crime groups. This adds pressure to the group from the U.S. as well where an executive order in 2011 required financial institutions to freeze yakuza assets. As of 2013, the U.S. Treasury Department has frozen about US$55,000 of yakuza holdings, including two Japan-issued American Express cards.[[34]](#cite_note-34)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[Template:Portal](/wiki/Template:Portal) [Template:Div col](/wiki/Template:Div_col)

* [Bōsōzoku](/wiki/Bōsōzoku)
* [Crime in Japan](/wiki/Crime_in_Japan)
* [Criminal tattoo](/wiki/Criminal_tattoo)
* [Irezumi](/wiki/Irezumi)
* [Yakuza exclusion ordinances](/wiki/Yakuza_exclusion_ordinances)
* [Punch perm](/wiki/Punch_perm)
* [Organized crime](/wiki/Organized_crime)
* [List of criminal enterprises, gangs and syndicates](/wiki/List_of_criminal_enterprises,_gangs_and_syndicates)
* [Triads](/wiki/Triad_(underground_society))
* [Kkangpae](/wiki/Kkangpae) (South Korean mafia)
* [Russian mafia](/wiki/Russian_mafia)
* [Mafia](/wiki/Mafia)
* [893239](/wiki/893239) or Yakuza-Nijusan-Ku

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## Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

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## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[Template:Commons category](/wiki/Template:Commons_category)

* [101 East – Battling the Yakuza](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWrSqQ4lvjw&feature=g-user-u)—[Al Jazeera](/wiki/Al_Jazeera) (Video)

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