

National Institute of Population and Social Security Research

<http://www.ipss.go.jp>

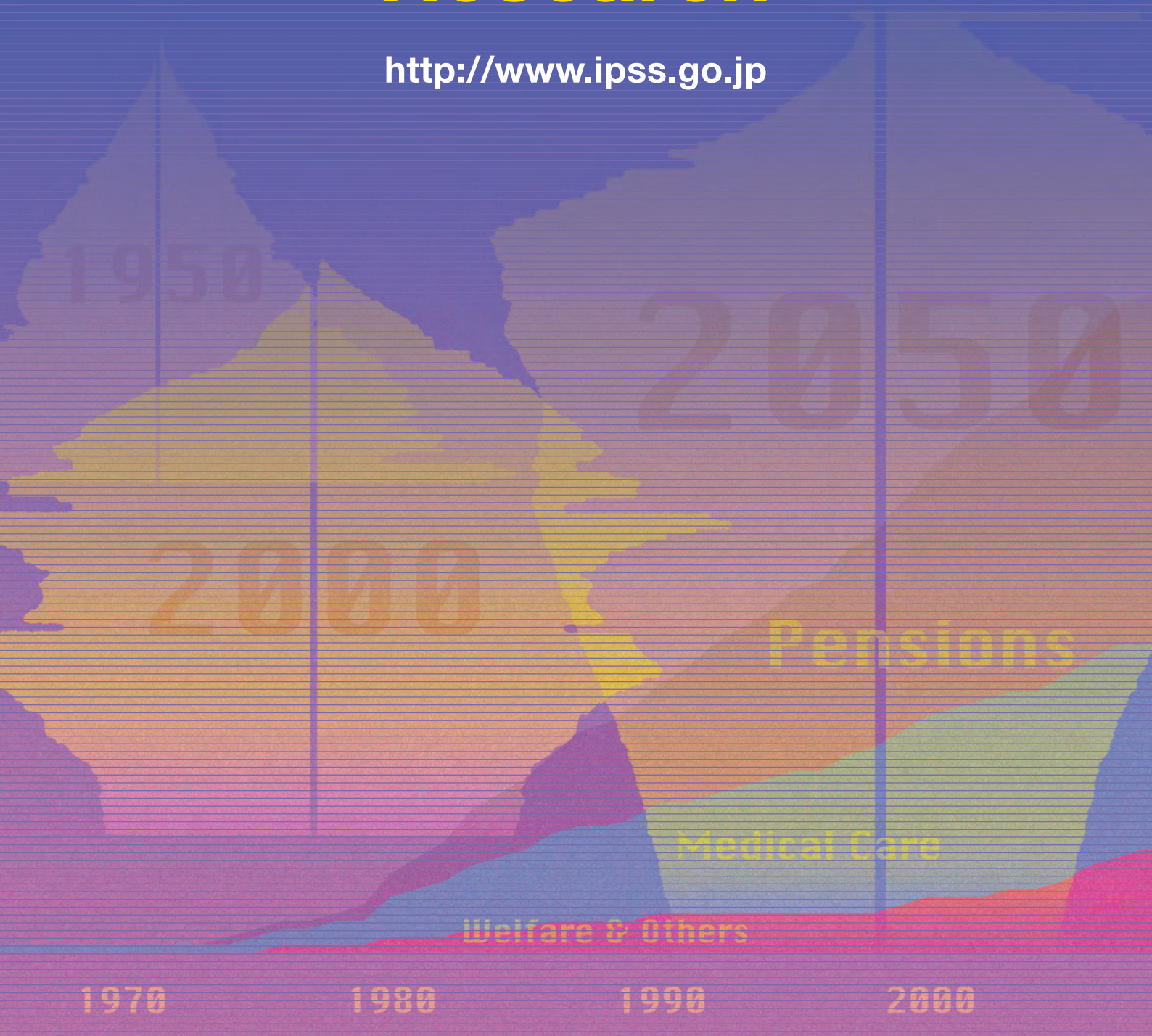












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Introduction

The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, set up by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, is a national institution that conducts policy research. The institute was established in 1996 through the integration of the Institute of Population Problems under the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and the Social Development Research Institute.

Our mission is to conduct policy research on social security and population issues. Such research represents issues of critical importance and urgency not only to Japan but also to the world.

Unlike the economic growth period in the past, Japan is faced with the state that promises little hope for the future under the economic difficulties that continue to prevail. Although falling birthrates and an aging population are not negative social phenomena per se, the public opinion appears to suggest that these phenomena in themselves are jeopardizing the future of Japan.

Of course, the rise in pension, medical and nursing care expenses and the increased burden that accompany the aging society are unavoidable issues that must be addressed. However, we intent to promote research that seeks to solve these problems from a broader perspective. Additionally, active labor market policy that encourages people of all types of characteristics to engage in work, regardless of age, gender, or whether they are disabled, is also a crucial topic in the current social security research.

Strong expectations toward the institute in accurately projecting population and household trends have also been expressed by various sectors. As we are to provide data that form the basis for various policies, we would like to reiterate our strong commitment to the work that has been entrusted to us.

There is no shortage of issues associated with population and social security at the global level as well. As the entire population in Asia ages, Japan has become a center of attention as the forerunner of a super-aging society. Child poverty is a serious problem in Japan but the issue is even more serious in some other countries. In Europe, where a considerable portion of its population is the elderly, the issue of how to balance economic revitalization and the aging society is a major concern. In the U.S., the majority of today's retired generation seems to have difficulties in leading economically stable life.

Another important mission of the institute is to share with other countries about the challenges we are facing and how we seek to solve these problems, with an eye on the trends of population and social security at the global level. Needless to say, such challenges must not merely end with the provision of information but be based on a deeper understanding. To this end, it is also my responsibility to encourage researchers at the institute to make a concerted effort to promote exchanges with researchers in the various fields, and to keep developing the quality of the research.

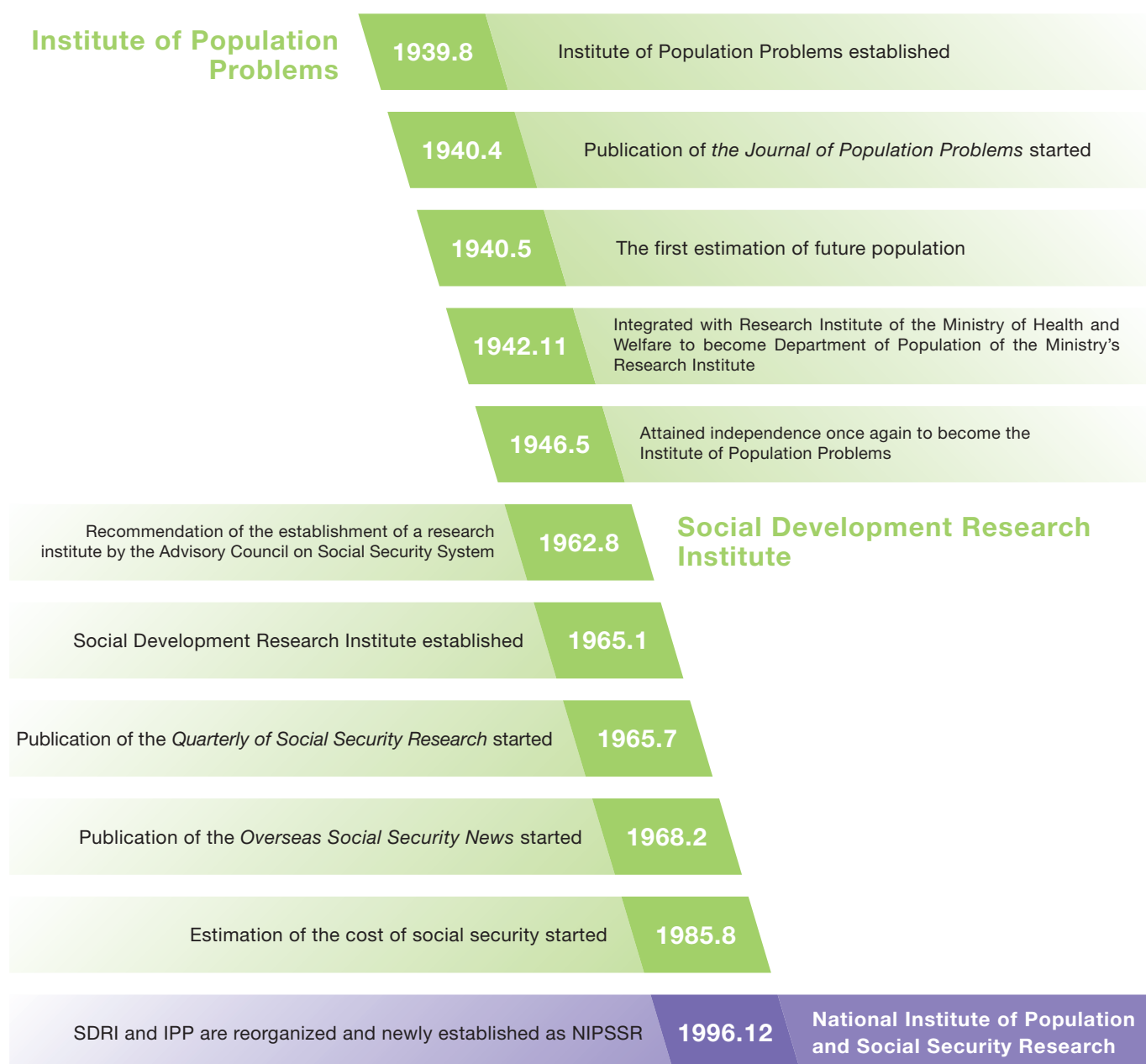
January, 2011



Director-General
Shuzo NISHIMURA, Ph.D.

History

Declining fertility, aging population and stagnant economic growth have made the relationship between population and social security much closer than before, and have led to an increasing need for research on the relationship between these two in a comprehensive manner. The then Ministry of Health and Welfare, having examined the reorganization of its research institutions to meet the research needs of the current period, decided to integrate the Institute of Population Problems and the Social Development Research Institute to establish the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research in 1996. In 2001, the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Ministry of Labour were integrated to form the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The Institute aims at improving the well-being of the nation by communicating the results of research on the welfare state to administrators, drawing on research on the interrelationship among population, economy and social security, as well as separate research on population and social security with a new perspective from the field of labor.



Organization



Population and Household Projections

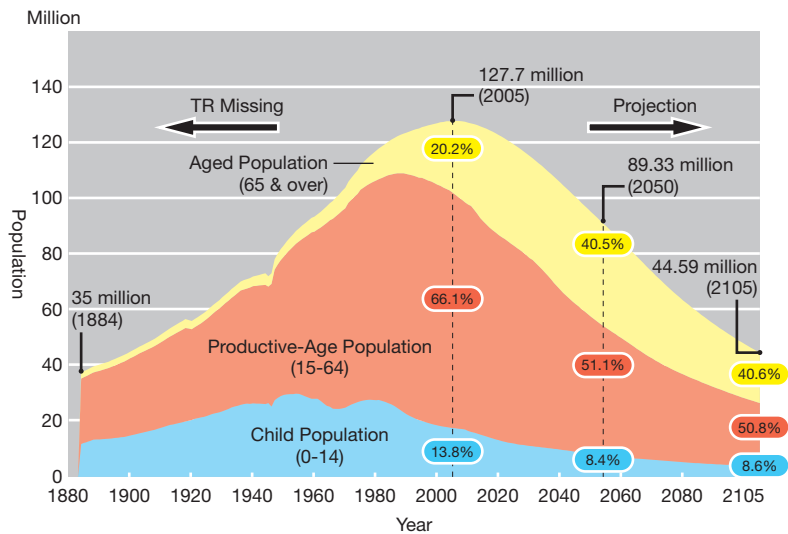
—Providing basic information for various measures and plans—

In order to provide basic information for planning mid- to long-term national social security system and for other related policies, the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research releases various projections regarding population and social security. They include “Population Projections for Japan,” “Population Projections by Prefecture,” “Population Projections by Municipality,” “Household Projections for Japan,” and “Household Projections by Prefecture.”

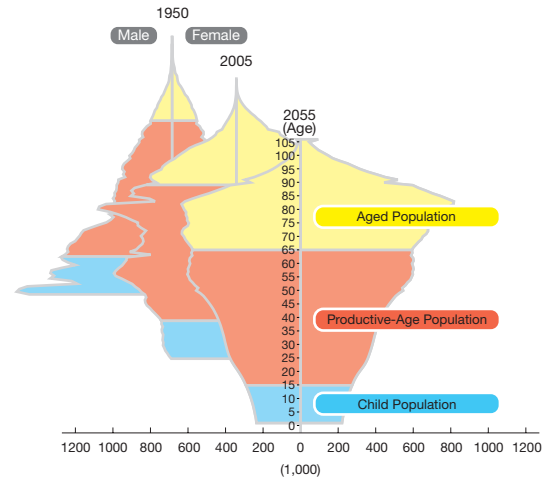
Population Projection for Japan

“Population Projection for Japan” is a projection of the overall size and the age-sex breakdown of the future population in Japan, used widely as an important reference by the national and local governments and in other various fields. This projection is based on information from the Census, vital statistics, as well as research developed from various national representative surveys on population and social security problems conducted at the Institute.

Population Trends in Japan



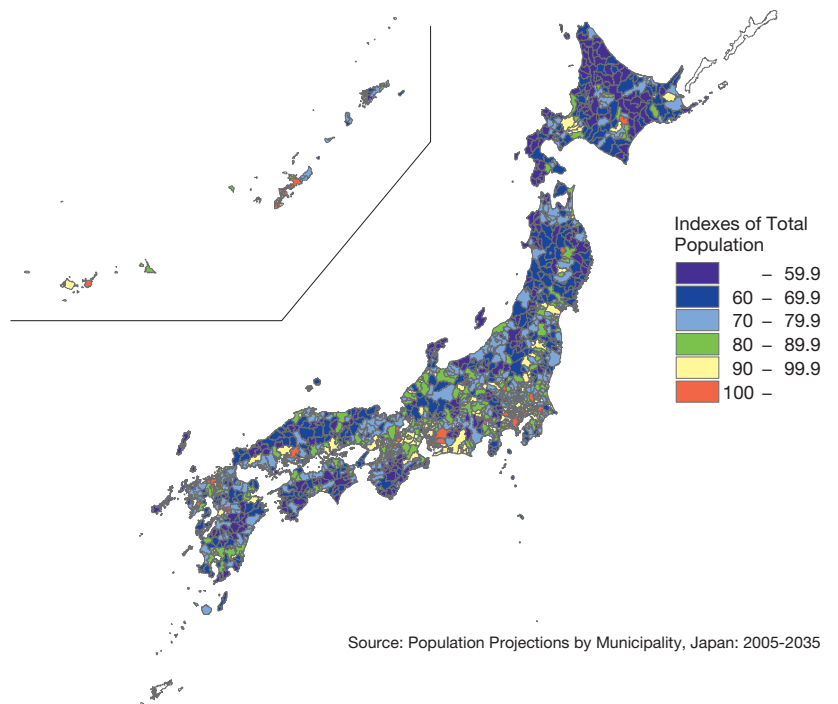
Changes in Population Structure



Projections by Municipality

“Population Projections by Municipality, Japan” was released in response to the growing demand for population projections by small region, due to low birth rate and aging population, as the fundamental data for administrative social, economic and regional welfare planning. According to the projection, population declining municipalities will be rapidly increasing, although the pattern of population change varies by regions.

Indexes of Total Population in 2035 (Indexes equal to 100.0 in 2005)

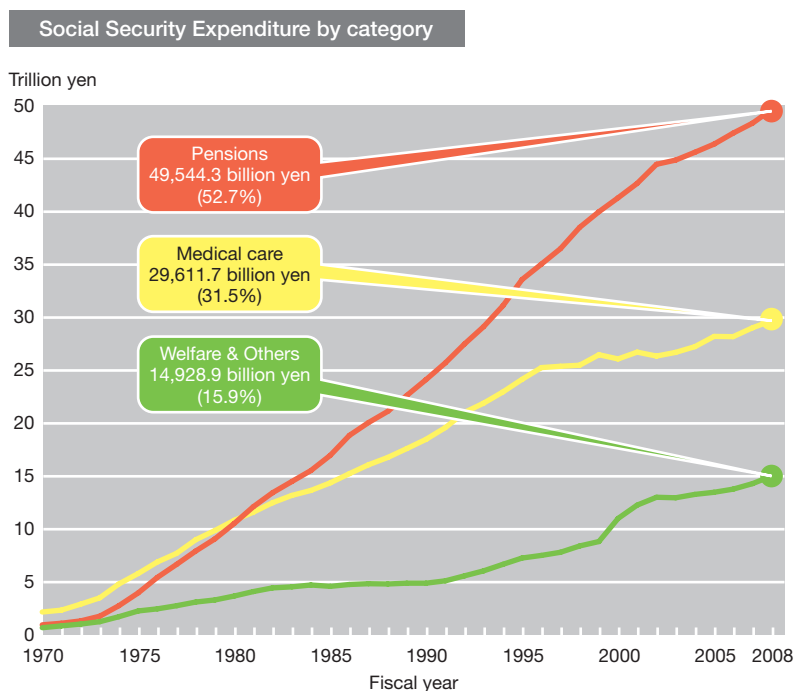


Source: Population Projections by Municipality, Japan: 2005-2035

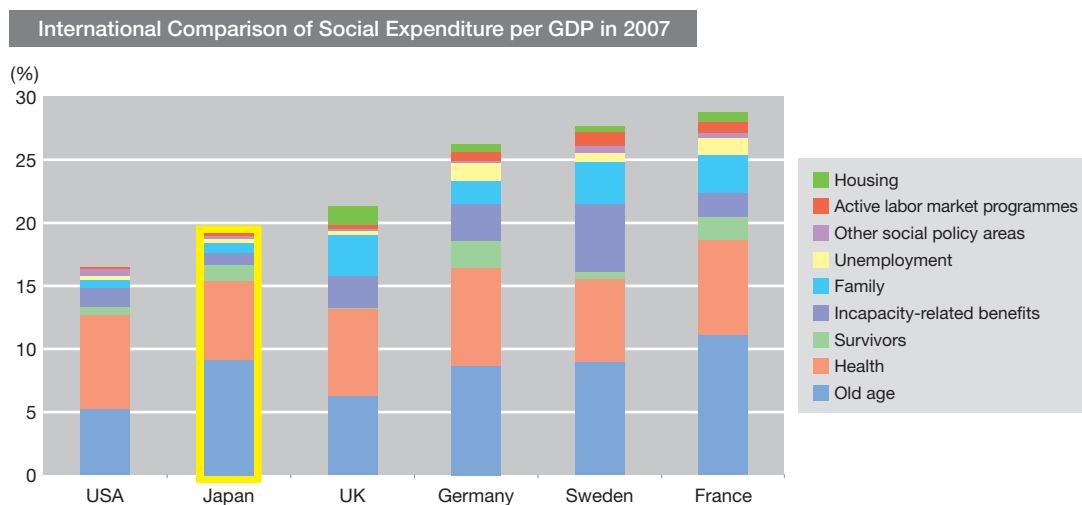
The Cost of Social Security in Japan

—Providing data for relevant government ministries and international organizations—

How much does it cost to maintain the social security per year in Japan? The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research discloses “The Cost of Social Security in Japan” to the public. Social Security Expenditure by category such as Pension, Medical care, Welfare and others are estimated through the annual settlement of accounts. The functional categories introduced by international organizations such as ILO and OECD are also shown. The benefits paid for public pension and medical insurance have been increasing year by year under the continuous phenomena of population aging. People pay much attention to the expenditure for family function under the declining population and fewer children.



The issue of declining population is a mutual social concern among industrialized nations. How well established is our social scheme in comparison with other countries? International comparative data shows Japan’s level of development. The data is often used as a reference for the policy discussion among government advisory meetings. The institute provides the Japanese data for the international community including ILO and OECD.

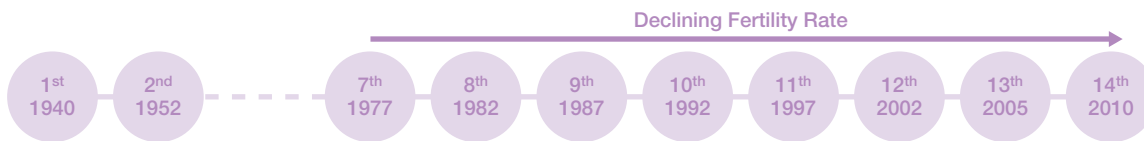


Sources:
 Social Expenditure: OECD Social Expenditure Database 2010ed.
 GDP: Japan is from the Economic and Social Research Institute, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, “Annual Report on National Accounts 2010”. Other nations are from OECD National Accounts 2010.

Annual Population and Social Security Surveys

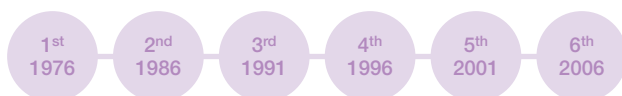
Most surveys by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research are conducted every five years.

The National Fertility Survey



The National Fertility Survey is conducted every 5 years to investigate the situation and issues regarding marriage, childbirth and child-rearing in Japan. The survey is carried out separately for both married couples and unmarried people. The survey explores policy-related issues from social scientific perspectives. Japan continues to experience a declining fertility, which leads to population decline and population aging as well as changes in people's lives. Those changes are to influence Japanese society greatly in the future. One of the important themes of the survey is to understand the mechanisms of fertility change and its underlying causes.

The National Survey on Migration



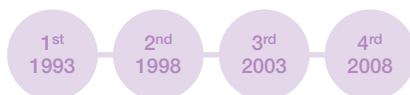
Japan has already turned itself into a decreasing population society. However, at the local level such as prefecture, city, and municipality, many regions are already experiencing population decline. Currently, the migration level is relatively stable compared to the rapid economic growth period during the 1970s, but the effect of migration on regional population cannot be ignored. Recently, new migration patterns such as migration towards large metropolitan areas and return migration of retirees to their place of origin are becoming evident. The purpose of the survey is to understand the trends and causes of internal migration in Japan, and the survey results are utilized as basic information on regional population by many local governments.

The National Survey on Social Security and People's Life



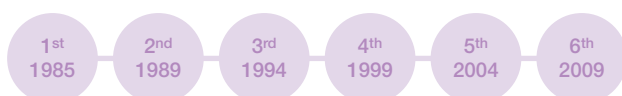
Families and communities serve an important function to supplement the safety net of publicly provided social security. However, the changing family structure and declining economic vitality of individuals and families have transformed this traditional safety net. The purpose of the survey is to discover the status of individuals and households who face economic hardship and to gain knowledge on the capacity of individuals and families to support one another.

The National Survey on Family



The purpose of the National Survey on Family is to grasp the nature of changes in the structure and functions of the family, the current situation and the trend of childbirth and child-rearing, as well as the factors affecting these changes in order to understand the functions of the family, relationships among family members, and attitudes toward the family.

The National Survey on Household Changes



The purpose of the National Survey on Household Changes is to grasp the distribution of household size and composition as well as the dynamic process of household formation and dissolution, and to obtain basic data necessary for household projections.

Contemporary Themes of Study

The research is conducted on a project basis. The individual research staffs also applied for various national study grants.

Projects

- Research and Development Studies for Application of Macroeconomic Models to Social Security Research (2009-2011)
- Demographic Research on Changes in the Transition to Adulthood as Factors behind Low Fertility (2008-2010)
- Empirical Studies for Relations between Socio-economic and Human Resources of Households and Functions of Social Security (2009-2011)

By Study Grants

- Comparative Study on Family Demographic Changes and Family Policies in Eastern Asia (2009-2011)
- Research on Poverty, Inequality and the Effect of Poverty Reduction Policies (2010-2012)
- Studies on Human Resource Aspects of Social Services and Financing the Social Security System (2010-2012)
- Income, Health and the Social Security System: A Multidisciplinary Approach (2010-2011)
- Research on Construction of a Coordinated System of Medical and Long-term Care toward the Improvement of the Functional Status of Elderly Requiring Care (2010-2012)
- The Study on Support of Autonomy for People with Disabilities in View of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; What is Considered Reasonable Accommodation from the International Perspective? (2008-2010)
- The Transformation of Regionalism and Inter-sectional Collaboration in the British Health Care System (2008-2011)
- Very low fertility in Japan: Contextual- and individual-level determinants (2010-2012)
- Collaboration in Health and Social Care: A Comparative Study of Japan and Germany (2009-2011)

Seminar

—As an arena for discussions and understanding regarding population and social security—

Every year, the Institute is hosting the “welfare policy seminar” with an aim to deepen understanding towards population and social security issues in Japan and other countries. Distinguished experts from Japan and overseas are invited to discuss issues related to the theme of the year. The seminar announcements will be uploaded on our home page.

The 15th IPSS Annual Seminar (12 January 2011)
“Towards Constructing New Social Security”

The 14th IPSS Annual Seminar (22 December 2009)
“Longevity Revolution - Unprecedented Increase in Life Expectancy and Challenges for Japan”

The 13th IPSS Annual Seminar (22 August 2008)
“New Paradigm of Social Security System”

The 12th IPSS Annual Seminar (12 December 2007)
“The Lowest Low Fertility and the Changes in Society and Family”



The 14th



The 15th

International Cooperation

Tackling global population issues through the UN

As the only national research institute specializing in population and social security issues in Japan, we send a government representative for the United Nations Commission on Population and Development every year. Also, we frequently exchange information with the United Nations Population Division.

Research cooperation with international organizations

We cooperate with many international organizations including OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development), UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), WHO (World Health Organization), ISSA (International Social Security Association), and UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS).

Agreement on research cooperation with foreign research institutes

We made an agreement with the KIHASA (Korean Institute for Health and Social Affairs) on research cooperation on December 2009, and keep close contacts with the researchers of KIHASA.

Dispatching experts to developing countries

We dispatch our researchers to developing countries as experts through technical cooperation programs of JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).

Foreign Scholar Lecture Series

We aim to improve our research quality by establishing an opportunity for discussion with the leading foreign scholars.

Publications

—Providing the latest information related to population and social security—

Periodicals

Journals (4 issues/year)

- The Quarterly of Social Security Research (KIKAN SHAKAIHOSYO KENKYU)
- The Review of Comparative Social Security Research (KAIGAI SHAKAIHOSYO KENKYU)
- Journal of Population Problems (JINKO MONDAI KENKYU)

Statistical Reports (Annual)

- Latest Demographic Statistics
- Annual Report on Social Security Statistics

Research Series

The detailed report on the original surveys and estimates is published. The hard cover books are published annually with the outcome of research projects. These include *Institutional Analyses on Financing of Social Security* (2009), *Empirical Studies on Financing of Social Security* (2009), and *Quantitative Model Analysis of Social Security* (2010).

Survey Series

The detailed reports on the five surveys from the Annual Population and Social Security Surveys are published.

Home page

—Presenting study results and statistics—

The web site of the institute is designed not only for publicity, but also establishes a public data archive for the research community and individuals. The various original surveys and statistical data are collected and provided to the public.

The “Recent Study Topics” on the top page announces the most recent study outcomes available in English. The “Information” section on the right lists useful information on lectures open to the public, etc.

URL <http://www.ipss.go.jp/index-e.asp>

User can send comments and questions by filling in the form on the web page.

Internal search engine of the IPSS website.

The basic information on the institute can be accessed from the header of the page.

Major projects of the institute are shown by banners for easy access by users. The population pyramids are provided as animations according to the most recent population projections.

The footer provides basic information including the address of the institute with phone numbers and an access map to the institute.

Web Journals in English

URL <http://www.ipss.go.jp/webj-ad/WebJournal.files/WebJHome.html>

The Japanese Journal of Population

ISSN 1348-7191

Last Updated March 4th, 2010

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IPSS Web Journal is available in Portable Document Format (PDF). You must have Adobe reader software to view these files. For maximum accessibility, we recommend using the Adobe Acrobat Reader, version 5.0 or more latest version. To view Web Journal's each paper in PDF format, select following files:

The Japanese Journal of Population, Vol.8, No.1 (March 2010)

<< Part 1: Family and Household Changes in Japan >>

NISHIOKA, Hachiro, Yasuyo KOYAMA, Atsushi HOSH and Sawako SHIRAHASE "The Family Changes in Contemporary Japan: Overview of the Results of the Third National Survey on Family in Japan (2002)"

NISHIOKA, Hachiro, Tomi SUZUKI, Yasuyo KOYAMA, Masato SHIMIZU, and Masakazu YAMAUCHI "The Household Changes in Contemporary Japan: Overview of the Results of the Fifth National Survey on Household Changes (2004)"

<< Part 2: Recent Migration Trends in Japan >>

The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy

ISSN 1348-7183

Last Updated 17, April, 2010

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The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy, Vol.8, No.2 (Dec. 2009)

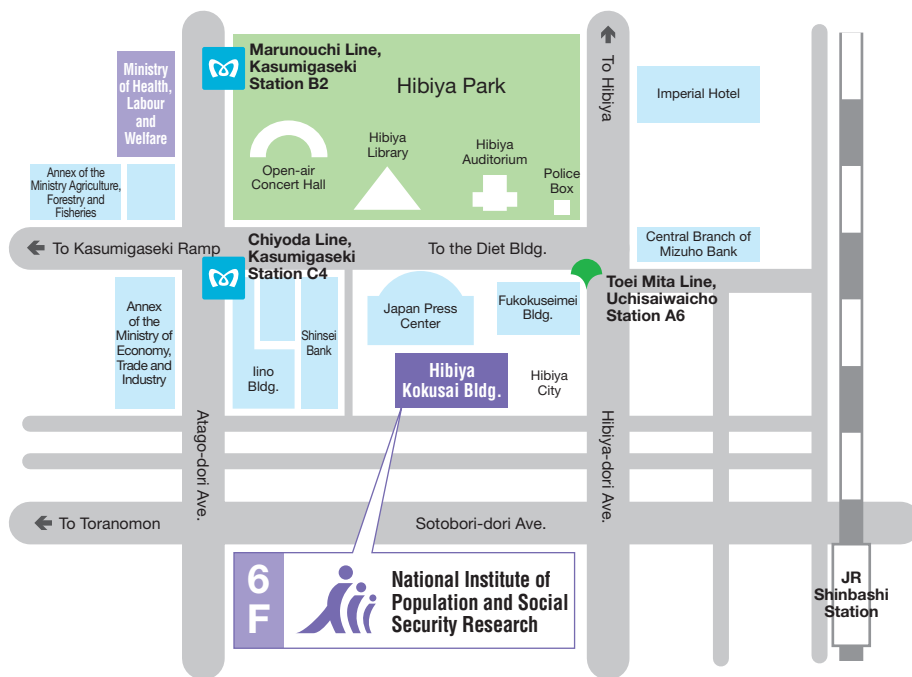
Co-Editors: Marc Duriez and Tetsuo Fukawa

Healthcare Reform in France

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Marc Duriez [The French Healthcare System](#)

The institute publishes two Web Journals in English, “The Japanese Journal of Population” and “The Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy.” Various reports are available in English in the “Publication” section.



- Toei Mita Line, Uchisaiwaicho Station (I 07) direct connection to Exit A6
- Tokyo Metro Subway, Chiyoda Line, Kasumigaseki Station (C 08) 3 minute walk to Exit C4
- Tokyo Metro Subway, Marunouchi Line, Kasumigaseki Station (M15) 5 minute walk to Exit B2
- JR Line, Shinbashi Station Hibiya Exit, 7 minute walk

National Institute of Population and Social Security Research

Hibiya Kokusai Building 6th Floor, 2-2-3 Uchisaiwaicho
 Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0011
 Tel : +81-(0)3-3595-2984 Fax: +81-(0)3-3591-4816