

(Basic Survey on the Population Problems in 1995)

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Institute of Population Problems, Ministry of Health and Welfare

## **I Overview of Survey**

### **1 Overview of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Opinion Survey on Population Issue in Japan**

The recent rapid declining of fertility and development of longevity in our country accelerates the arrival of the super-aging society and will result in the decrease of the gross population in the next century as well as being the important element to bring about the significant change to the Japanese society.

The purpose of this survey is to clarify the attitude of the nation toward the population problems and to obtain the basic statistics on the reproduction of population in our country following the previous survey (1990).

### **2 Process of Survey and Status of Collecting Questionnaires**

It was a sampling survey covering all the individuals between the age of 20 and 69 in 300 stratified sample districts chosen at random from 5240 districts for “the 1995 Comprehensive Survey of Living Condition of the People on Health and Welfare (Kokumin-seikatsu Kiso-chosa)” conducted by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. The survey was held on June 15 in 1995, by self-enumeration to distributed questionnaire and sealed collection method.

The number of questionnaires distributed was 25,751 and collected 23,811, and the collection rate was 92.5 %. The effective number of responses was 22, 497, and the effective collection rate was 87.4 %.

As the referential chart shows, the percentage of population in 20s and between the age of 65 and 69 is slightly less than the other groups in the age structure of targets of survey (effective respondents), however, the differentials are not too significant to lead the impact on the result, and the result appropriately shows the reality of the country.

Referential Chart: Comparison of Population Ratio (%) by Gender  
Age Group: Targets of Survey and Projected Population and

Age Group	Attitude Survey			Projected Population			Differentials		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	100.0	48.8	51.2	100	49.8	50.2	0.0	-1.0	1.0
20 - 24	11.3	5.2	6.1	11.8	6.0	5.8	-0.5	-0.8	0.3
25 - 29	9.7	4.8	4.9	10.3	5.2	5.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.1
30 - 34	9.7	4.9	4.8	9.4	4.7	4.6	0.3	0.2	0.1
35 - 39	9.6	4.8	4.9	9.2	4.6	4.6	0.4	0.1	0.3
40 - 44	11.4	5.6	5.8	10.8	5.4	5.4	0.6	0.2	0.5
45 - 49	12.8	6.3	6.5	12.3	6.1	6.1	0.5	0.1	0.4
50 - 54	10.9	5.3	5.6	10.6	5.3	5.4	0.3	0.0	0.2
55 - 59	9.3	4.6	4.7	9.3	4.6	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
60 - 64	8.6	4.1	4.5	8.8	4.2	4.6	-0.2	-0.2	0.0
65 - 69	6.6	3.2	3.4	7.5	3.5	4.0	-0.9	-0.3	-0.6

The percentage when assuming the total number of the age groups between 20 and 69 as 100.0.

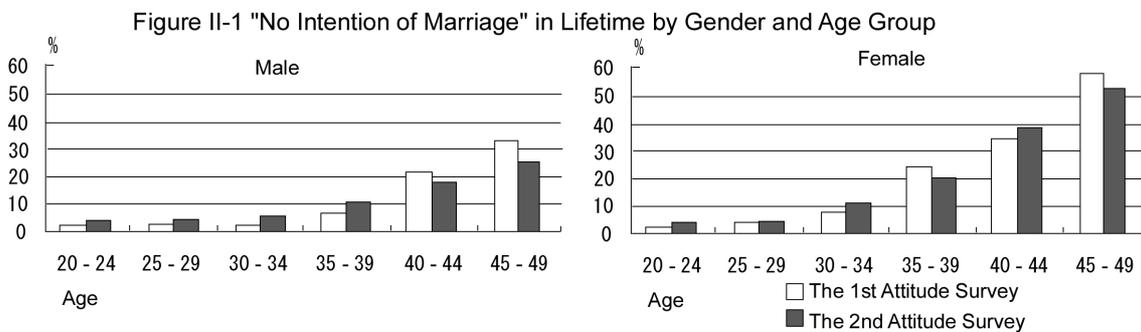
\* Projected population as of June 1 by Bureau of Statistics, Management and Coordination Agency

## II Attitude Toward Marriage

In this survey, the alternative of “I’ll get married at some future date” and “I’ll not get married in the entire life” is given to the single targets as in the previous survey. The lifetime single-oriented persons who chose the latter increased slightly among males comparing to the previous study (Chart II-1, Figure II-1). According to the age group, the single-oriented males before the first half of 30s increased. Females and the other age groups of male show no remarkable change, and remain almost same as the previous result. In the first half of 20s, when the most of the same generation is single, only 3~4 % of both males and females are the lifetime single-oriented, and this result indicates no significant gap between the result of the 10<sup>th</sup> Basic Survey on Fertility Trend held in 1992 (male 4.5 %, female 3.9 %). However, comparing to the result of the 8<sup>th</sup> Basic Survey on Fertility held in 1980s (male 1.2 %, female 1.9 %), the percentage of lifetime single-oriented is clearly increasing, and the level of its increase is unable to be ignored.

Chart II-1 Attitude Toward Marriage in Lifetime by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender /Age Group	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Attitude Survey				The 1 <sup>st</sup> Attitude Survey			
	Number of Samples	Have Intention	Have No Intention	Unknown	Number of Samples	Have Intention	Have No Intention	Unknown
<b>Male</b>								
Total	2,646	90.5	7.0	2.5	2,458	92.6	4.8	2.6
20 - 24	1,077	94.1	3.8	2.1	1,048	96.5	2.2	1.3
25 - 29	746	92.4	5.4	2.3	665	95.9	2.6	1.5
30 - 34	384	93.0	6.3	0.8	319	95.3	2.5	2.2
35 - 39	184	83.7	11.4	4.9	222	83.8	7.7	8.6
40 - 44	154	74.0	20.1	5.8	138	73.2	22.5	4.3
45 - 49	101	66.3	27.7	5.9	66	53.0	34.8	12.1
<b>Female</b>								
Total	2,088	89.7	7.4	2.9	1,667	91.6	6.5	1.9
20 - 24	1,186	95.1	3.3	1.6	937	96.7	2.5	0.9
25 - 29	498	94.8	3.4	1.8	402	94.8	3.5	1.7
30 - 34	173	86.7	10.4	2.9	152	88.2	7.2	4.6
35 - 39	95	70.5	-20.0	9.5	79	73.4	24.1	2.5
40 - 44	68	44.1	38.2	17.6	59	54.2	33.9	11.9
45 - 49	68	38.2	52.9	8.8	38	42.1	57.9	-



### III Fertility and Attitude Toward Birth

#### 1 Number of Children Born

Following the previous attitude survey and the basic survey on fertility trend, the number of children born, planned number of childbearing and ideal number of children were questioned to the married subjects who are below the age of full 50. Chart III-1 shows the percentage of married females by number of children born and average number of children born in this survey, and the average number of children born in the 10<sup>th</sup> Basic Survey on Fertility Trend and the previous attitude survey. These results indicate that the average number of children born of married females tends to decline on the whole, however, the changes after 1990s has not been consistent when examining the result by age group.

Chart III-1 The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Number of Children Born, and Average Number of Children Born

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Married Females by Number of Children Born (The 2nd Attitude Survey)						Average Number of Children Born		
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	The 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The 10 <sup>th</sup> Basic	The 1 <sup>st</sup>
								Attitude Survey	Survey on Fertility Trend	Attitude Survey
Total	4,625	8.8	19.6	48.8	19.7	2.8	0.3	1.89	1.90	1.91
20 - 24	138	29.7	52.9	16.7	0.7	-	-	0.88	0.69	0.72
25 - 29	543	23.6	42.0	28.4	5.2	0.9	-	1.18	1.09	1.18
30 - 34	797	12.4	25.8	45.0	15.1	1.6	-	1.68	1.76	1.83
35 - 39	912	4.1	15.1	52.2	24.9	3.3	0.4	2.10	2.15	2.09
40 - 44	1,100	4.5	12.2	55.1	23.5	4.2	0.5	2.12	2.16	2.16
45 - 49	1,135	4.6	11.4	56.2	24.5	3.2	0.2	2.11	2.18	2.17

Note) The 10<sup>th</sup> Basic Survey on Fertility Trend was held in 1992

Generally the marriage fertility heavily depends on the duration of marriage. Thus, the number of children born by age group of married female changes even if the number of children born by duration of marriage does not change, when the structure ratio of married female by the duration of marriage varies due to the late marriage. The number of children born by the duration of marriage in Chart III-2 shows very similar result to that of the 10<sup>th</sup> Basic Survey on Fertility Trend, which was held three years before, however, the number of children born by the duration shows the slight decline comparing to the previous Attitude Survey, which was held 5 years before.

In summary, the marriage fertility in the first half of 1990s by age group and the duration of marriage slightly decreased. However, because the percentage of childless in each age group shows no increase comparing to the result of the precious survey (9.8 % on the whole), the life style such as DINKS does not seem to become more popular.

Chart III-2 The Percentage of Married Female by the Duration of Marriage and Number of Children Born, and Average Number of Children Born (Wife under the age of 50)

Duration of Marriage	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Married Females by Number of Children Born (The 2nd Attitude Survey)						Average Number of Children Born		
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Attitude Survey	The 10 <sup>th</sup> Basic Survey on Fertility Trend	The 1 <sup>st</sup> Attitude Survey
Less than 5 years	801	32.3	49.3	16.6	1.6	0.1	-	0.88	0.80	1.01
5 - 9 years	805	7.7	23.1	51.6	15.5	2.1	-	1.81	1.84	1.97
10 - 14 years	840	4.2	12.7	53.9	25.2	3.3	0.6	2.13	2.19	2.21
15 - 19 years	905	3.4	10.3	57.1	25.3	3.8	0.1	2.16	2.21	2.25
20 - 24 years	918	1.6	8.7	58.6	26.6	4.0	0.4	2.24	2.21	2.28
25 - 29 years	241	1.2	9.1	59.8	27.0	2.9	-	2.21	2.31	2.35
More than 30	7	0.0	14.3	57.1	28.6	-	-	2.14	2.31	3.00

## 2 Planned Number of Children and Ideal Number of Children

The planned number of children of married females was calculated by adding the number of children born questioned in this survey and the additionally planned number of children (Chart III-3). The level of planned number of children of the female over 40, which is the age of fertility completed, shows little changes comparing to the result of the previous survey held 5 years before, however, the planned number of children under 40s seems to be growing a little. Especially the percentage who plans childless accounts for 1 ~ 2 % in the group under 40, and who plans the second child is increasing in the group of under 40.

Based on these results, two children per couple is the standard strongly shared by the younger age group to middle-aged group, and the younger age group seems to realize that standard.

Chart III-3a The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Planned Number of Children, and Average Planned Number of Children (The 2nd)

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Married Female By Planned Number of Children						Average Planned Number of Children
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	
Total	4,307	1.7	11.1	58.8	24.9	3.0	0.5	2.18
20 - 24	113	1.8	8.8	63.7	20.4	5.3	-	2.19
25 - 29	518	1.2	9.1	60.8	26.1	2.5	0.4	2.21
30 - 34	760	1.2	9.1	60.1	27.1	2.4	0.1	2.21
35 - 39	881	1.0	11.2	58.6	25.4	3.0	0.8	2.20
40 - 44	1,033	2.2	12.7	56.8	23.9	3.6	0.8	2.16
45 - 49	1,002	2.5	12.2	58.6	23.8	2.8	0.2	2.13

Chart III-3b The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Planned Number of Children, and Average Planned Number of Children (The 1st)

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Married Female By Planned Number of Children						Average Planned Number of Children
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	
Total	4,339	2.4	10.4	58.2	26.3	2.4	0.4	2.17
20 - 24	139	4.3	12.9	55.4	24.5	2.2	0.7	2.09
25 - 29	573	1.6	10.8	58.5	27.2	1.6	0.3	2.17
30 - 34	789	2.0	8.5	57.4	29.7	2.0	0.4	2.22
35 - 39	995	2.4	9.5	58.1	27.4	2.3	0.2	2.18
40 - 44	1,056	2.0	11.4	58.5	25.1	2.7	0.4	2.17
45 - 49	787	3.3	11.6	58.8	22.7	3.0	0.5	2.13

The ideal number of children (Chart III-4) shows a slight decrease in all age groups comparing to the result of the previous survey. People who consider having more than three children is ideal decrease and less than two increase, and as a result the divergence between the planned number of children and ideal number of children decreased.

Chart III-4a The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Ideal Number of Children, and Average Ideal Number of Children (The 2nd)

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Married Female by Ideal Number of Children						Average Ideal Number of Children
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	
Total	4,619	2.1	2.9	39.3	47.9	6.6	1.1	2.58
20 - 24	148	4.1	4.1	46.6	37.8	7.4	-	2.41
25 - 29	579	1.9	2.8	46.8	42.7	4.5	1.4	2.49
30 - 34	826	1.5	3.1	42.7	46.1	6.1	0.5	2.54
35 - 39	916	2.3	2.9	37.6	49.7	6.0	1.5	2.59
40 - 44	1,083	2.6	2.7	34.4	50.1	8.6	1.6	2.64
45 - 49	1,067	1.9	2.6	38.1	49.8	0.7	0.9	2.60

Chart III-4b The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Ideal Number of Children, and Average Ideal Number of Children (The 1st)

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Married Female by Ideal Number of Children						Average Ideal Number of Children
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	
Total	4,815	1.7	2.3	35.5	52.5	7.2	0.8	2.64
20 - 24	166	2.4	6.0	41.0	47.0	3.0	0.6	2.44
25 - 29	636	1.4	2.2	40.7	50.5	4.2	0.9	2.58
30 - 34	879	1.5	3.0	35.2	52.9	6.6	0.9	2.64
35 - 39	1,098	1.5	1.8	33.7	52.9	9.5	0.5	2.69
40 - 44	1,160	2.0	2.1	33.1	54.0	7.8	1.1	2.67
45 - 49	876	2.1	2.1	36.5	51.9	7.1	0.3	2.61

Similarly to the previous survey, the ideal number of children for generic Japanese couple was questioned separately from the ideal number of children of each subject in this survey (Chart III-5). Some divergence was found between those two ideal numbers at the previous research; however, there was little difference in the survey this time with the consistent average value on the whole. The ideal number of children for Japanese couple decreased in all age groups comparing with the result of the previous survey. Because the decline is also observed by age cohort, the result indicates that the less number of children is desired throughout the generations.

Chart III-5a The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple, and Average Ideal Number of Children (The 2nd)

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Population by Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple						Average Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	
Total	4,673	0.4	0.9	42.9	52.4	3.0	0.4	2.58
20 - 24	147	2.0	2.0	53.1	40.1	2.7	-	2.39
25 - 29	564	0.5	1.8	53.2	43.3	1.1	0.2	2.43
30 - 34	819	0.1	-	47.1	49.6	2.7	0.5	2.56
35 - 39	898	0.4	1.2	41.8	52.7	2.9	1.0	2.59
40 - 44	1,095	0.4	1.1	38.6	56.4	3.2	0.3	2.62
45 - 49	1,150	0.4	0.7	38.4	56.2	3.9	0.3	2.63

Chart III-5b The Percentage of Married Female by Age Group and Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple, and Average Ideal Number of Children (The 1st)

Age	Number Of Samples	The Percentage of Population by Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple						Average Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5	
Total	4,845	0.3	0.8	34.3	59.9	4.4	0.3	2.68
20 - 24	164	0.0	2.4	48.8	47.0	0.6	1.2	2.50
25 - 29	634	0.0	0.5	44.6	53.0	1.7	0.2	2.56
30 - 34	868	0.3	0.3	38.7	56.3	3.8	0.5	2.65
35 - 39	1,072	0.5	0.8	31.2	62.0	5.4	0.1	2.71
40 - 44	1,151	0.3	1.1	27.8	65.4	5.0	0.3	2.75
45 - 49	956	0.3	0.6	32.5	60.7	5.5	0.3	2.71

When comparing the dispersion of planned number of children and these two ideal numbers of children (Chart III-6), the ideal number of children for Japanese couple clearly shows the minimum dispersion. Although the average values of those two ideal numbers of children are consistent, those dispersions are significantly different, and the variation of ideal of individuals is equivalent to that of planned number of children.

Chart III-6a Planned Number of Children / Ideal Number of Children / Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple (The 2nd)

	Number Of Samples	Percentage by Number of Children						Average	Dispersion
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5		
Planned	4,307(100.0)	1.7	11.1	58.8	24.9	3.0	0.5	2.2	0.56
Ideal (Individual)	4,619(100.0)	2.1	2.9	39.3	47.9	6.6	1.1	2.6	0.63
Ideal (Japanese Couple)	4,673(100.0)	0.4	0.9	42.9	52.4	3.0	0.4	2.6	0.37

Chart III-6b Planned Number of Children / Ideal Number of Children / Ideal Number of Children for Japanese Couple (The 1st)

	Number Of Samples	Percentage by Number of Children						Average	Dispersion
		0	1	2	3	4	More than 5		
Planned	4,339(100.0)	2.4	10.4	58.2	26.3	2.4	0.4	2.2	0.57
Ideal (Individual)	4,815(100.0)	1.7	2.3	35.5	52.5	7.2	0.8	2.6	0.57
Ideal (Japanese Couple)	4,845(100.0)	0.3	0.8	34.3	59.9	4.4	0.3	2.7	0.36

## **IV Late Marriage**

### **1 Evaluation of Late Marriage**

In this survey, the tendency of late marriage in Japan was evaluated giving three scales of “Desirable”, “Neutral” and “Not desirable”. The result shows (Chart IV-1) that 70 % of the whole responded “Neutral”, however, the percentage of “Not desirable” account for 17.6 %, which is almost triple of 6.0 % of “Desirable”.

According to the age group, the percentage of “Not desirable” increased in both males and females by age advance, and approximately 30 % of 60s responded “Not desirable”. On the other hand, as the percentage among 20s accounted for less than 10 %, the difference between generations is remarkable.

No difference between males and females exists in the percentage of “Desirable”; however, the negative opinion “Not desirable” persists in males in all age groups rather than in females. Among females of marriageable age between 20s and the first half of 30s, more responded the late marriage is “Desirable” than “Not desirable”, showing the sharp contrast with the age group over the latter half of 30s. This age group is comparatively receptive for the late marriage phenomenon.

Chart IV-1 Evaluation of “Late Marriage” by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	Desirable	Neutral	Not Desirable	Unknown / N/A
Total	22,497	6.0	70.4	17.6	6.0
20 - 24	2,536	7.8	78.7	8.2	5.3
25 - 29	2,191	8.3	79.7	7.9	4.1
30 - 34	2,176	6.5	79.9	10.2	3.4
35 - 39	2,163	6.1	77.9	12.5	3.4
40 - 44	2,571	5.4	75.1	15.5	4.0
45 - 49	2,875	6.2	70.3	17.8	5.7
50 - 54	2,450	5.6	66.8	21.9	5.7
55 - 59	2,102	4.8	62.0	25.4	7.8
60 - 64	1,939	4.1	53.9	30.9	11.0
65 - 69	1,494	4.1	49.5	33.7	12.7
<b>Male</b>					
Total	10,971	6.0	67.7	20.4	5.9
20 - 24	1,174	6.8	75.9	10.7	6.6
25 - 29	1,079	7.0	77.5	10.6	5.0
30 - 34	1,104	5.7	76.2	13.9	4.3
35 - 39	1,071	5.9	74.2	15.4	4.5
40 - 44	1,257	5.7	70.4	19.3	4.5
45 - 49	1,409	6.0	68.5	20.1	5.5
50 - 54	1,188	6.4	63.0	25.5	5.1
55 - 59	1,040	5.6	61.7	26.4	6.3
60 - 64	919	5.3	53.3	32.4	8.9
65 - 69	730	4.5	46.2	37.9	11.4
<b>Female</b>					
Total	11,526	6.0	73.0	14.9	6.1
20 - 24	1,362	8.6	81.1	6.1	4.2
25 - 29	1,112	9.5	81.9	5.3	3.2
30 - 34	1,072	7.3	83.7	6.4	2.6
35 - 39	1,092	6.4	81.6	9.6	2.4
40 - 44	1,314	5.1	79.5	11.8	3.6
45 - 49	1,466	6.3	72.0	15.7	5.9
50 - 54	1,262	4.9	70.4	18.5	6.3
55 - 59	1,062	4.0	62.2	24.3	9.4
60 - 64	1,020	2.9	54.5	29.6	12.9
65 - 69	764	3.7	52.7	29.6	14.0

## 2 Reasons for Late Marriage

In this survey, the reason of late marriage was asked regardless of its pros and cons giving 9 choices (to choose the first and second important reason). According to the Chart IV-2, “increase of people who do not choose the marriage” was most popular as the first reason accounting for 24.3 %, and then “improvement of females’ financial strength (17.5 %)”, “too high requirements toward future spouse (11.7 %)”, “cumbersome (11.2 %)”, “economic reason (8.9 %)”, and “single life is not inconvenient (8.6 %)”. Only small number responded that “no adequate opportunity to meet somebody (5.6 %)”, “difficult to combine career and marriage life (3.5 %)”, and “lose the passion for parenting (0.9 %)”. As the second reason, the two biggest reasons were “improvement of female’s financial strength (15.2 %)” and “single life is not inconvenient (13.2 %)”. Namely, the phenomenon of late marriage is allowed actively as the result that the standard attitude of “must to get married” has disappeared and the diversified life-style has become to be accepted. The environmental changes such as “the improvement of females’ financial strength” and “single life is not inconvenient” enabled to select these choices. On the contrary, the reason why few people

chose “no adequate opportunity to meet somebody” and “difficult to combine career and marriage life” is because not so many people feel the barrier for marriage although they wish to get married as the word “difficulty to get married” describes.

According to the Chart IV-1 by gender and age group, males who chose “improvement of females’ financial strength” clearly increase by age advance, however, the variation in each age group of females is small. “Economic reasons of younger generation” was popular for males in 20s and their parents’ generation (over 50s), and the same tendency is found only slightly among females. That is, with or without the females’ financial strength, young males consider that own financial strength is the factor to affect the marriage. “ Females’ higher academic education” was also popular in the “other” reason although it was not given as the choice.

Chart IV-2 “The (First) Reason of Late Marriage” by Age Group (%)

Age	Number Of	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Total	22,497	24.3	11.2	8.9	17.5	5.6	11.7	3.5	0.9	8.6	1.3	6.5
20 - 24	2,536	23.3	13.8	14.2	14.3	5.6	7.8	5.4	0.7	7.5	2.0	5.4
25 - 29	2,191	24.2	13.1	10.1	13.2	8.1	11.0	4.6	0.6	8.9	1.9	4.3
30 - 34	2,176	25.5	12.4	6.8	15.0	6.5	12.6	3.8	0.9	11.0	2.0	3.4
35 - 39	2,163	28.3	12.7	4.6	15.7	5.4	13.5	3.7	0.9	10.3	1.5	3.5
40 - 44	2,571	28.9	12.9	4.9	17.5	4.4	12.8	3.3	1.6	8.8	1.2	4.2
45 - 49	2,875	27.2	10.6	6.9	19.1	4.1	11.8	2.8	0.8	9.8	1.2	5.7
50 - 54	2,450	25.0	9.6	10.7	19.3	5.6	10.9	2.7	0.9	8.2	0.8	6.3
55 - 59	2,102	21.3	9.5	12.3	20.4	5.0	11.1	2.9	1.3	6.9	0.9	8.4
60 - 64	1,939	18.1	7.9	10.0	20.8	6.1	13.6	2.4	1.1	6.4	0.5	13.2
65 - 69	1,494	16.9	7.5	8.8	21.7	5.7	13.3	3.1	1.4	6.6	0.5	14.5

Note) 1. “Marriage is not necessarily required for the life” become generally accepted, and people who do not choose marriage increa

2. People who think the marriage is cumbersome because the current legal marriage system and custom does not match to the feeling of young generation who look for the free individual life-style increased.

3. Economic reason of young generation.

4. Females’ financial strength improved.

5. Difficult to find the appropriate person because of no adequate opportunity to meet somebody

6. The level of requirement toward the person to get married became higher, and finding the appropriate person became difficult.

7. Difficult to combine the career and the marriage life

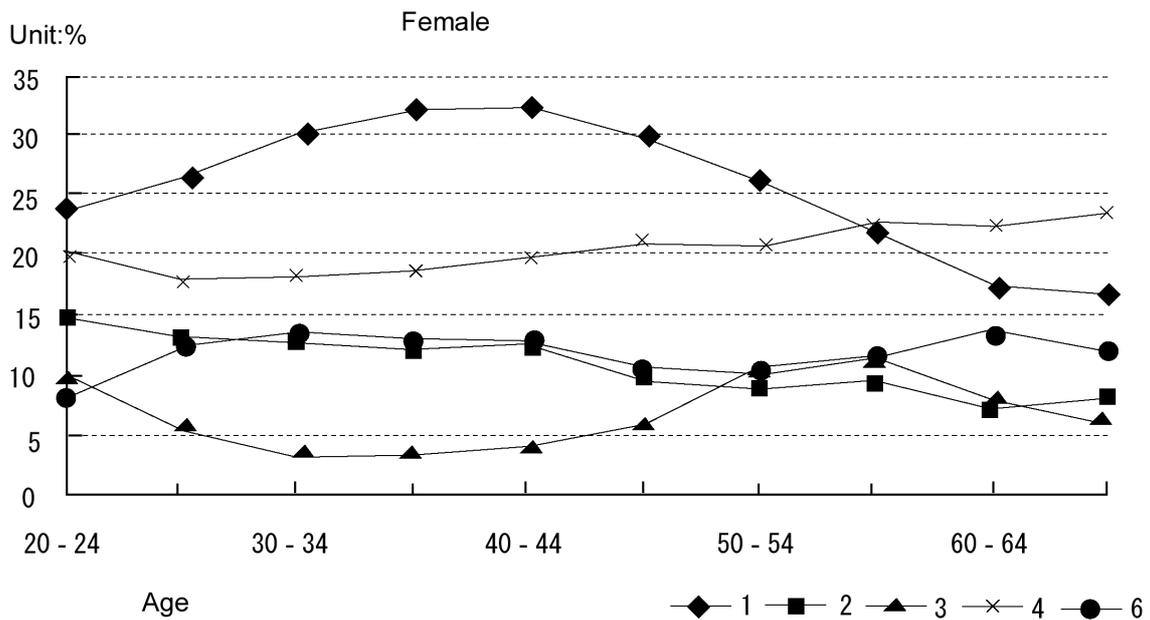
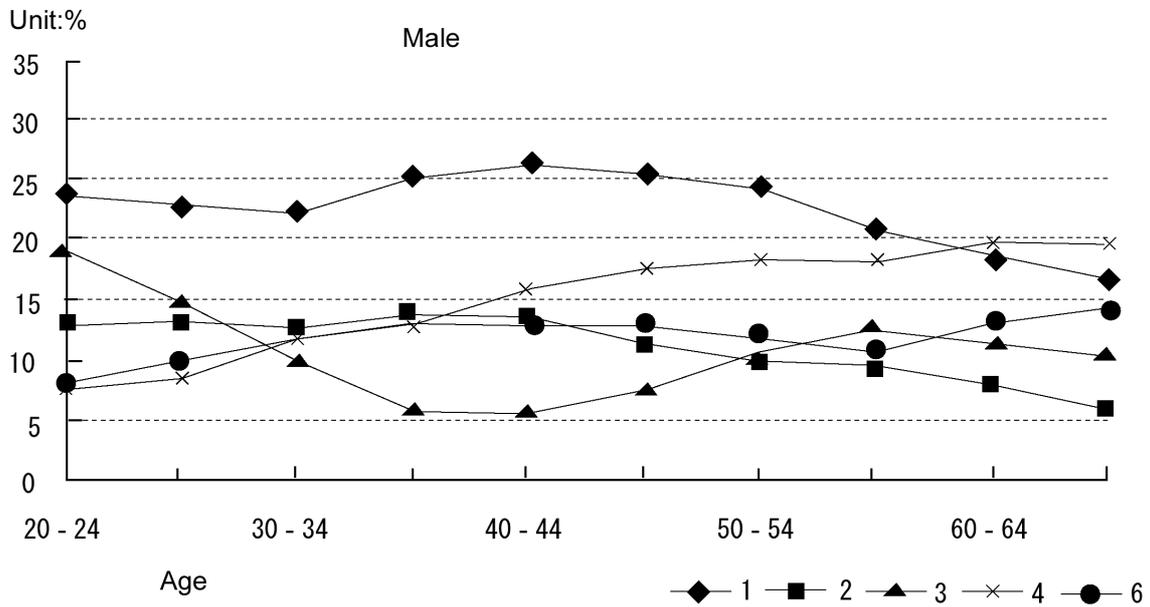
8. Many people do not feel the necessity to get married because they lose the passion for parenting

9. Single life is not inconvenient

10. Others

11. Unknown/ N/A

Figure IV-1 "The (First) Reason of Late Marriage by Gender and Age Group



- Note) 1. "Marriage is not necessarily required for the life" become generally accepted, and people who do not choose marriage increased.
2. People who think the marriage is cumbersome because the current legal marriage system and custom does not match to the feeling of young generation who look for the free individual life-style increased.
3. Economic reason of young generation.
4. Females' financial strength improved.
5. The level of requirement toward the person to get married became higher, and finding the appropriate person became difficult.

Chart IV-3 shows the attitude of single persons whose responses affect the marriage trend directly in the future. According to the chart, three biggest reasons as the first reason were “increase of people who do not choose the marriage (21.5 %), “economic reason (15.0 %)” and “the marriage is cumbersome (11.8 %)” for those single males, and “increase of people who do not choose the marriage (24.1 %), “improvement of females’ financial strength (19.6 %)” and “the marriage is cumbersome (11.9 %)” for those single females. Namely, both males and females consider that the late of marriage is the result of “increase of choices” first, and it is also noticeable that the economic factor has the significant influence. That is, the weak financial strength for males and the improvement of financial strength for females on the contrary is the reason for the choice of being single.

Chart IV-3 The (First and Second) Reason for Late Marriage” by Single Males and Females (%)

	Number Of Samples	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
The 1 <sup>st</sup> Reason	4,981	22.6	11.8	11.3	13.9	7.8	9.8	4.6	0.6	9.7	2.1	5.8
Male	2,731	21.5	11.8	15.0	9.2	9.3	10.2	3.4	0.7	10.1	2.2	6.7
Female	2,250	24.1	11.9	6.8	19.6	6.1	9.2	5.9	0.6	9.1	2.0	4.7
The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reason	4,981	10.1	7.6	7.5	12.0	6.8	9.6	6.6	2.3	13.5	0.4	23.6
Male	2,731	9.3	8.0	8.0	9.9	7.5	10.5	5.1	2.4	12.7	0.5	26.0
Female	2,250	11.1	7.2	6.9	14.5	5.9	8.4	8.3	2.1	14.5	0.4	20.6

Note) See Chart IV-2 for the headers 1~11 in the Chart

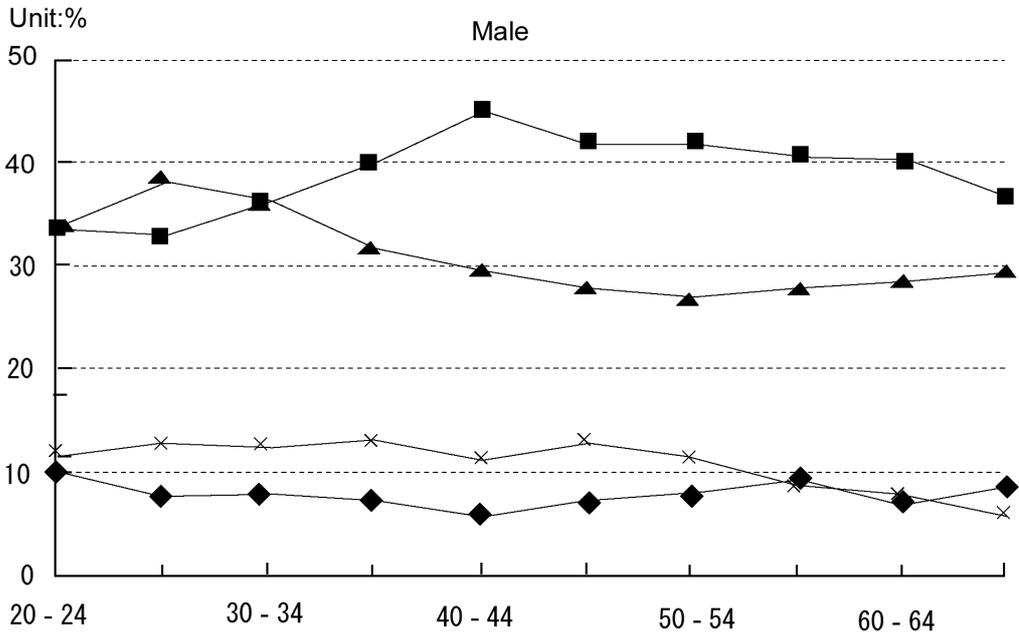
### 3 Future of Late Marriage

In this survey, the future of the tendency of late marriage in Japan was questioned giving four choices to choose one. According to the result in Chart IV-4 and Figure IV-2, the most popular choice was “the late marriage will advance further, and more people will be unmarried throughout the life” accounting for 38.2 %, and then “the late marriage will become conventional, but not advance anymore” accounting for 31.7 %. That means approximately 70 % of people project that the tendency of late marriage will become conventional or advance but this tendency will not be reversed in the future. In details by age groups, many people in the middle-aged group over the latter half of 30s project the further advancement of the late marriage. On the contrary, only 5 ~ 8 % of people in each age group answered that “ the age of marriage will become younger”. People who consider that “the late of legal marriage will not be considered as problems due to the increase of cohabitation and de facto marriage” account for 12.7 %, younger group below the age of 40 shows relatively higher rate than the senior age group. This tendency is more remarkable among females and supported by 17 ~18 % of females of the age between the latter half of 20s to the first half of 40s. That means females who have a certain level of living on their own and consider the marriage specifically tend to accept the de facto marriage and cohabitation.

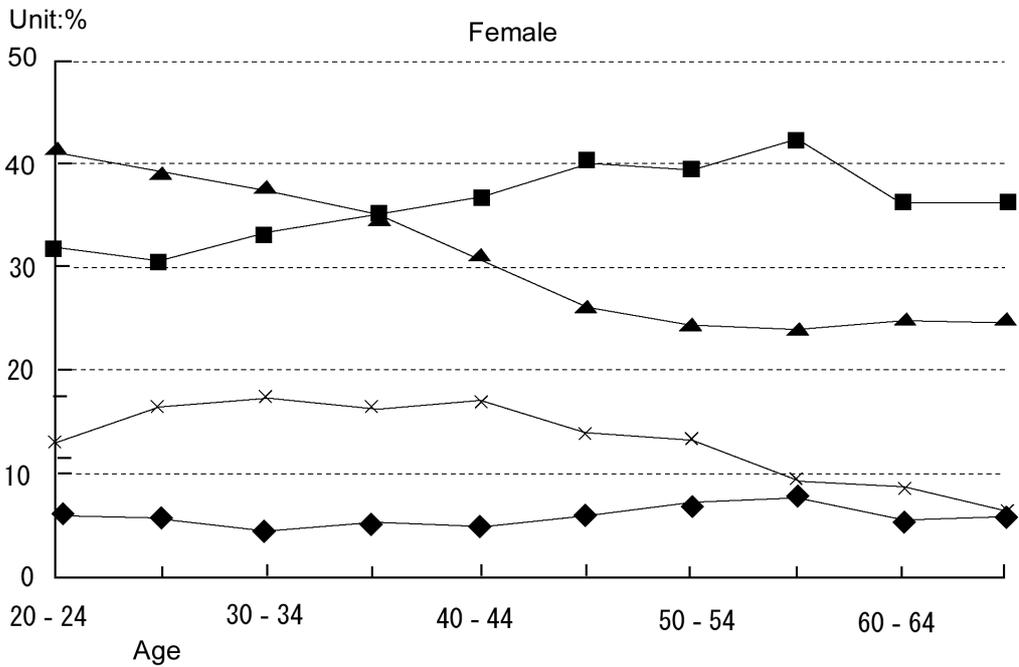
Chart IV-4 Future Outlook of Late Marriage by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	The age of marriage become younger	Late marriage advances	Late marriage stops	De facto marriage increases	Other	Unkowm/ N/A
Total	22,497	7.2	38.2	31.7	12.7	1.6	8.6
Male	10,971	8.2	39.4	31.3	11.4	1.7	8.0
Female	11,526	6.3	37.1	32.0	13.9	1.5	9.1
20 - 24	2,536	7.9	33.0	38.1	12.4	1.7	6.9
25 - 29	2,191	6.8	31.9	39.2	15.0	2.0	5.2
30 - 34	2,176	6.4	35.1	37.1	15.2	1.9	4.2
35 - 39	2,163	6.5	38.1	33.9	14.9	2.0	4.6
40 - 44	2,571	5.6	41.2	30.8	14.7	1.7	5.9
45 - 49	2,875	7.1	41.6	27.9	13.9	1.3	8.2
50 - 54	2,450	8.3	41.3	26.4	12.9	1.3	9.7
55 - 59	2,102	8.8	42.4	26.6	9.0	1.5	11.7
60 - 64	1,939	7.0	38.9	27.8	9.1	1.1	16.1
65 - 69	1,494	8.2	37.4	28.1	7.0	1.5	17.7

Figure IV-2 Future Outlook of Late Marriage by Gender and Age Group



- Age
- ◆ The age of marriage become younger
  - ▲ Late marriage stops
  - Late marriage advances
  - × De facto marriage increases



- Age
- ◆ The age of marriage become younger
  - ▲ Late marriage stops
  - Late marriage advances
  - × De facto marriage increases

## V Decline of Birth Rate

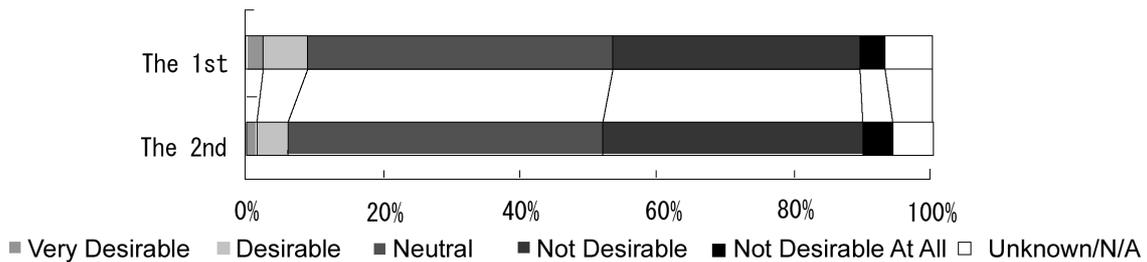
### 1 Evaluation of Decline of Birth Rate

As in the previous survey, the desirability on the decline of birth rate in the past decades was asked giving five level of evaluation. According to the result in Chart V-1 and Figure V-1, the most popular answer was “Neutral” accounting for 46.8 %. However, the negative responses such as “not desirable” and “not desirable at all” accounted for 42.3 %, remarkably exceeding 5.1 % of the total of the positive response of “desirable” and “very desirable”. This tendency is similar to the result of the previous survey, but the percentage of positive response slightly decreased (from 9.2 % to 5.1 %) from the last time, and the negative response increased a little (from 40.2 % to 42.3 %).

Chart V-1 Evaluation of “Recent Decline of Birth Rate” (%)

	Number Of Samples	Very Desirable	Desirable	Neutral	Not Desirable	Not Desirable At All	Unkown/ N/A
The 1st	22,811	1.9	7.3	43.6	36.5	3.7	7.0
The 2nd	22,497	1.1	4.0	46.8	37.6	4.7	5.8

Figure V-1 Evaluation of "Recent Decline of Birth Rate"



In the result by gender (Chart V-2), although no significant difference exists, the percentage of females who answered “(Very) Desirable” is fewer than that of males (males 6.6 % and females 3.8 %). According to the age group, the negative response of “Not Desirable (At All)” tends to increase by age advance.

Chart V-2 Evaluation of “Recent Decline of Birth Rate” by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number of Samples	Very Desirable	Desirable	Neutral	Not Desirable	Not Desirable At All	Unkown/ N/A
Male	10,971	1.6	5.0	44.9	37.3	5.5	5.8
Female	11,526	0.7	3.1	48.5	37.9	3.9	5.8
20 - 24	2,536	1.6	4.6	54.8	30.7	3.7	4.7
25 - 29	2,191	1.1	4.4	51.9	33.9	5.1	3.6
30 - 34	2,176	0.9	3.3	52.4	34.9	5.2	3.3
35 - 39	2,163	1.1	3.4	51.6	37.4	3.4	3.1
40 - 44	2,571	1.1	3.6	49.5	37.6	4.6	3.8
45 - 49	2,875	1.0	4.1	45.7	39.0	4.6	5.6
50 - 54	2,450	1.2	4.5	42.0	41.1	5.0	6.3
55 - 59	2,102	1.5	4.6	41.5	39.6	5.1	7.8
60 - 64	1,939	0.7	4.3	37.4	40.6	5.4	11.6
65 - 69	1,494	1.1	3.5	35.1	43.4	5.0	11.9

## 2 The Reason of “Not Desirable” for Decline of Birth Rate

In this survey, four other choices were given to the respondents who answered that the decline of birth rate in Japan is “ Not Desirable (At All)” to clarify “why it is not desirable” similarly to the previous studies. The result showed (Chart V-3, Figure V-2) that the most popular reason was “Aging society will become more serious (52.4 %”, and then “Young labor force will decrease (24.7 %”, “Vital power of Japanese nation will decline (15.1 %), and “Population in Japan will decrease (5.7 %”. The order of popularity of the choice was the same, however, the percentage of “Aging society will become more serious” soared up from the previous 41.4 %. This is the result of that each age group of the nation become to recognize and worry about the relation of decline of birth rate and aging population more deeply in the past five years. The reason why few people chose the decrease of population is because those people worry not the scale of population but its age structure.

However, according to the age group (Chart V-4), many of the senior group worries the decrease of population and vital power of Japanese nation, and less people chose the aging society as the reason comparing to the younger generation. The aging group, which mostly worries the aging society is 20s and 30s. More females chose the aging society than males.

Chart V-3 Reason Why Decline of Birth Rate is “Not Desirable”

	Number Of Samples	The population of Japan will decrease	The aging society will become more serious	Young labor force will decrease	Vital power of Japanese nation will decline	Other	Unkown/N/A
The 1st	9,180	6.1	41.4	25.0	20.4	1.9	5.1
The 2nd	9,504	5.7	52.4	24.7	15.1	1.5	0.6

Figure V-2 Reason Why Decline of Birth Rate is "Not Desirable"

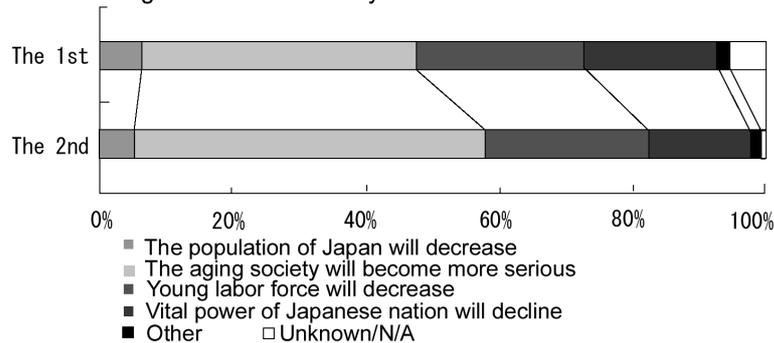


Chart V-4 Reason Why Decline of Birth Rate is “Not Desirable” by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	The population of Japan will decrease	The aging society will become more serious	Young labor force will decrease	Vital power of Japanese nation will decline	Other	Unkown/ N/A
Male	4,690	5.3	47.1	27.2	18.6	1.3	0.6
Female	4,814	6.1	57.6	22.2	11.7	1.7	0.7
20 - 24	873	5.8	59.1	22.9	9.0	2.4	0.7
25 - 29	854	4.0	63.5	19.8	9.3	3.0	0.5
30 - 34	874	5.4	60.1	22.7	9.7	1.9	0.2
35 - 39	883	2.8	57.5	25.0	10.8	2.9	0.9
40 - 44	1,083	4.0	52.7	26.0	15.1	1.8	0.5
45 - 49	1,254	4.4	50.1	28.3	15.7	1.0	0.5
50 - 54	1,129	5.8	49.1	26.4	17.1	0.9	0.8
55 - 59	939	6.5	46.6	26.0	19.9	0.6	0.3
60 - 64	893	8.2	45.0	24.1	21.4	0.4	0.9
65 - 69	722	12.3	41.3	22.4	22.9	0.1	1.0

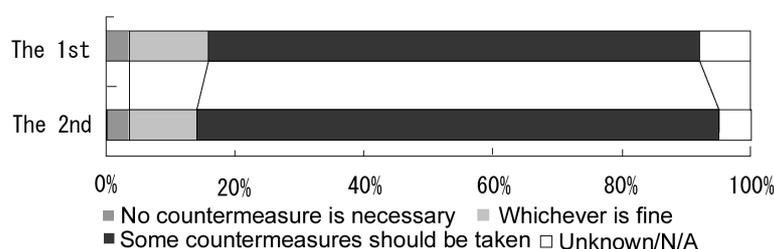
### 3 Necessity of Countermeasure for Low Birth Rate and Its Contents

In this survey, three choices whether any countermeasure should be taken to boost the birth rate were given only to the respondents who answered that the decline of birth rate in Japan is “Not Desirable (At All)”, following the previous survey. The result shows that 81.1 % of those respondents chose “Some countermeasures should be taken”, 10.4 % of “whichever is fine” and 3.7 % of “No countermeasure is necessary”. The order of popularity of choices is the same as the result of the previous study, however, it is notable that the percentage of “Some countermeasure should be taken” increased from the previous result of 76.0 %, reflecting the deepened concern and sense of crisis of the nation toward the decline of birth rate.

Chart V-5 Pros and Cons of Countermeasures for Decline of Birth Rate (%)

	Number Of Samples	No countermeasure is necessary	Whichever is fine	Some countermeasures should be taken	Unkown/ N/A
The 1st	9,180	3.7	12.2	76.0	8.0
The 2nd	9,504	3.7	10.4	81.1	4.8

Figure V-3 Pros and Cons of Countermeasures for Decline of Birth Rate



Furthermore, five choices for “the type of countermeasure” were given to the respondents who answered that the decline of birth rate is “Not Desirable (At All)” and “Some countermeasures should be taken” (to chose the most important and second important choice). According to the result in Chart V-6 and Figure V-4, the most popular answer was “ to reduce the economic burden

for parenting” accounting for 49.9 %, and then “to create the environment easy to get married (26.9 %), “further improvement of child-care leave (11.8 %)” and “improvement of facility such as nursery school (8.5 %). People who support “to strengthen the regulation of artificial abortion” were very rare (1.3 %), and it is also recognizable from the result that only 1.3 % of people selected that choice as the second choice. No difference by gender was found in this order of choices (Chart V-7), however, “to reduce the economic burden for parenting” and “to create the environment easy to get married” were more popular among males than females, and “ further improvement of child-care leave” and “improvement of facility such as nursery school” were more popular among females than males. Namely, female’s show stronger needs for the supporting policy that can help to combine the parenting and career life.

Comparing to the result of previous survey, the importance of “to reduce the economic burden for parenting” and “to create the environment easy to get married” decreased slightly, and “child-care leave” and “improvement of facility such as nursery school” increased a little. The child-care leave has been introduced more generally after the previous survey, and people seem to place more expectation on the improvement of childbearing and child-care leave that has become crystallized.

Chart V-6 Contents of Countermeasures for Decline of Birth Rate (Most Important Item) (%)

	Number Of Samples	To create the environment easy to get married	To reduce the economic burden for parenting	To improve the facility such as nursery school	Further improvement of child-care leave	To strengthen the regulation for artificial abortion	Other	Unkownm/ N/A
The 1st	6,977	29.1	53.1	6.6	6.8	1.4	1.2	1.7
The 2nd	7,703	26.9	49.9	8.5	11.8	1.3	1.1	0.5

Figure V-4 Contents of Countermeasures for Decline of Birth Rate (Most Important Item)

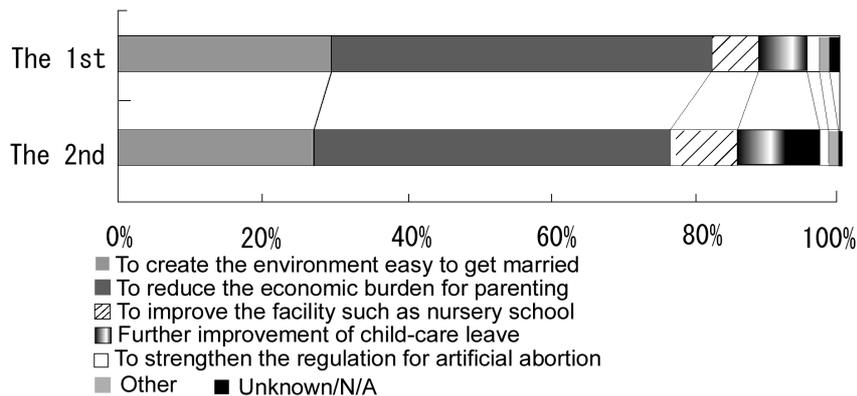


Chart V-7 Contents of Countermeasures for Decline of Birth Rate by Gender (Most Important Item) (%)

	Number Of Samples	To create the environment easy to get married	To reduce the economic burden for parenting	To improve the facility such as nursery school	Further improvement of child-care leave	To strengthen the regulation for artificial abortion	Other	Unkownm/ N/A
Male	3,823	30.9	51.5	6.1	8.8	1.1	1.5	0.5
Female	3,880	22.9	48.8	10.9	14.7	1.4	0.8	0.5

## VI Aging of Population in Japan

### 1 Evaluation of Future Aging of Population

In this survey, five levels of evaluation were given to the respondents with the information that the aging of population in Japan will advance and one person per four people will become the age over 65 after 20 years, as in the previous survey. The result shows (Chart VI-1 and Figure VI-1) that 42.6 % of people chose “it is a trouble”. By adding the respondents of “it is a serious trouble”, 57.3 %, which is more than half, of people showed the negative reaction that the aging population is not desirable. In the previous survey, the total percentage of “it is a trouble” and “it is a serious trouble” was 51.1 %, thus the negative recognition increased and the sense of crisis toward the future aging population has been penetrating more deeply.

No difference by gender and age group was found in Chart VI-2.

Chart VI-1 Evaluation of Future Aging of Population (%)

	Number Of Samples	It is very good	It is good	Neutral	It is a trouble	It is a serious trouble	Unkown/N/A
The 1st	22,811	1.2	3.0	36.0	39.5	12.0	8.3
The 2nd	22,497	0.8	2.2	33.9	42.6	14.7	5.9

Figure VI-1 Evaluation of Future Aging of Population

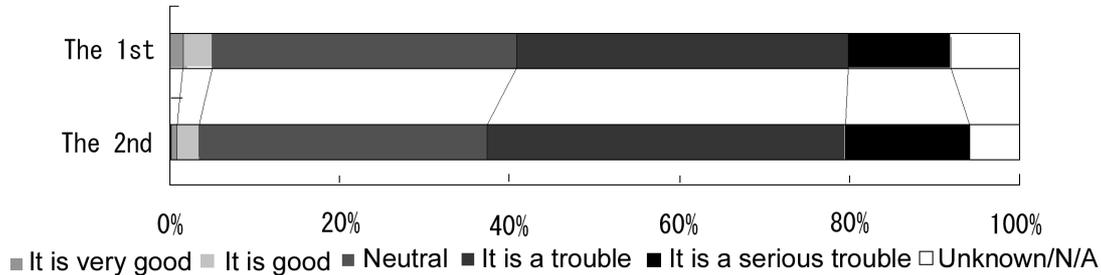


Chart VI-2 Evaluation of Future Aging Population (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	It is very good	It is good	Neutral	It is a trouble	It is a serious trouble	Unkown/N/A
Male	10,971	0.9	2.4	33.2	41.9	15.5	6.1
Female	11,526	0.6	2.0	34.5	43.1	13.9	5.8
20 - 24	2,536	0.9	2.1	35.6	39.2	17.2	5.0
25 - 29	2,191	0.5	1.8	34.3	41.4	18.0	4.1
30 - 34	2,176	0.6	1.5	36.7	41.3	16.6	3.2
35 - 39	2,163	0.5	1.9	37.7	42.1	14.4	3.3
40 - 44	2,571	0.8	1.6	36.8	42.5	14.4	4.0
45 - 49	2,875	0.6	2.5	33.4	44.0	13.1	6.3
50 - 54	2,450	1.0	2.4	31.2	44.0	15.1	6.3
55 - 59	2,102	0.8	3.3	32.1	43.3	13.2	7.3
60 - 64	1,939	0.9	2.3	29.2	44.1	12.2	11.2
65 - 69	1,494	0.9	2.9	29.9	44.4	10.9	10.9

### 2 Countermeasures to Alleviate the Future Aging Population

Necessity of countermeasures to alleviate the aging population and type of such countermeasures

was questioned to the respondents who answered that the future aging population is “a (serious) trouble” (57.3 % of total). According to the result (Chart VI-3 and Figure VI-2), the percentage of “ No countermeasures are necessary” was barely 7.9 %, and shows almost the same ratio as in the previous survey (8.7 %). More than half of respondents who answered the countermeasures to alleviate the aging population is necessary (68.1 %) chose “some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing”, exceeding the result of previous study significantly (53.8 %). On the contrary, the percentage of “the immigration of foreigners should be simplified” and “both foreigners’ entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted” decreased. The difference of the labor shortage time by business boom and the reverse situation is also the one of the factors that brought about those results.

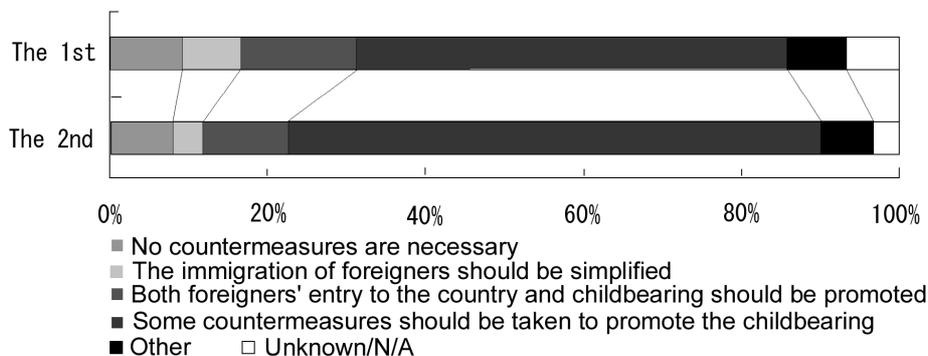
The reason of negative opinions toward the decline of birth rate was asked to those respondents as stated previously, and the most popular reason was “the aging population will become more serious” with the increase percentage from 41.4 % to 52.4 %. Those results indicate that more people have concerns connecting the decrease of child born and the aging population.

Chart VI-4 by Gender shows that more males chose “No countermeasures are necessary”, and more females chose “Some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing”. According to the age group, more younger people chose “No countermeasures are necessary”, and more senior people chose “Some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing” than younger people.

ChartVI-3 Countermeasures to Alleviate Future Aging Population

	Number Of Samples	No countermeasures are necessary	The immigration of foreigners should be simplified	Some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing	Both foreigners' entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted	Other	Unkown/N/A
The 1st	11,729	8.7	7.3	53.8	15.2	7.1	7.9
The 2nd	12,874	7.9	3.0	68.1	10.3	6.5	4.2

Figure VI-2 Countermeasures to Alleviate Future Aging Population



ChartVI-4 Countermeasures to Alleviate Future Aging Population

(%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	No countermeasures are necessary	The immigration of foreigners should be simplified	Some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing	Both foreigners' entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted	Other	Unkown/ N/A
Male	6,302	8.3	3.6	66.6	11.8	6.2	3.3
Female	6,572	7.4	2.4	69.6	8.9	6.7	4.9
20 - 24	1,430	12.9	3.4	61.6	12.9	7.0	2.2
25 - 29	1,300	9.5	2.5	66.2	11.1	7.6	3.0
30 - 34	1,261	7.5	2.4	67.9	11.3	8.2	2.7
35 - 39	1,223	9.0	3.9	65.3	12.2	6.0	3.6
40 - 44	1,463	7.5	3.5	66.3	11.3	7.2	4.2
45 - 49	1,642	6.9	3.2	68.1	10.0	6.9	4.8
50 - 54	1,447	7.4	3.2	70.7	7.9	6.0	4.8
55 - 59	1,188	6.6	2.5	71.8	8.8	4.8	5.6
60 - 64	1,093	5.3	2.4	72.0	8.8	5.5	6.0
65 - 69	827	4.5	2.7	75.5	7.7	4.2	5.4

## **VII Support and Caring of Elderly People, and Childbearing and Parenting**

The awareness toward the maintenance of the support and caring of elderly people by the nation and local body and the supporting policy of the nation and local body on the childbearing and parenting were questioned for the first time in this survey.

To the questions that “ the nation and local bodies must maintain the system which enables elderly people to live without the support of family and relatives, because it is difficult for the family and relatives to support and care the elderly people”, and “ the childbearing and parenting is the social issue in terms to foster the next generation which supports the society, and the nation and local bodies should promote the supporting policy actively to reduce the burden of parents and family”, five levels of evaluation were given to the respondents.

According to the results (Chart VII-1), 33.5 % of respondents chose “Rather agree” on the maintenance of the system regarding to the support and caring of elderly people by the nation and local bodies, and then 32.2 % of “totally agree”. In total, 65.7 %, which is two third of people, desire the maintenance by the nation and local bodies. By gender, more females chose “agree”. By age group, less younger people chose agree, and many of 40s to 50s answered agree. Those generations are facing to the support and caring of elderly people, and their requirement seems to be reflected to the result of the survey.

The most popular answer for the question of supporting policy by the nation and local bodies regarding to the childbearing and parenting was “totally agree”, accounting for 38.7 %, and then 31.2 % of “rather agree”. In total, 69.9 % of people agreed to the question, and showed their desire for the supporting policy by the nation and local bodies. Little difference by gender was found. By age group, many respondents between the latter half of 20s and 30s answered agree, and this result reflects the requirement by age that is facing with the childbearing and parenting.

Chart VII-1 Maintenance of System for the Support and Caring of Elderly People  
by the Nation and Local Bodies by Gender and Age Group,  
and Support by the Nation and Local Bodies for Childbearing and Parenting

Gender / Age Group	Total	Totally agree	Rather agree	Neutral	Rather disagree	Totally disagree	Unkown/ N/A
Maintenance of System for the Support and Caring of Elderly People by the Nation and Local Bodies							
Total	22,497	32.2	33.5	22.2	5.5	0.9	5.7
Male	10,971	31.8	32.7	21.7	6.6	1.3	5.9
Female	11,526	32.6	34.2	22.6	4.5	0.6	5.5
20 - 24	2,536	24.3	34.0	27.3	8.3	1.2	4.9
25 - 29	2,191	24.6	35.3	27.4	8.3	1.0	3.5
30 - 34	2,176	26.3	37.3	26.6	6.0	1.0	2.9
35 - 39	2,163	28.6	36.8	24.6	6.0	0.8	3.1
40 - 44	2,571	34.6	35.6	19.8	5.3	1.2	3.4
45 - 49	2,875	35.4	31.8	21.4	4.8	0.9	5.7
50 - 54	2,450	38.4	32.5	17.7	4.2	0.8	6.4
55 - 59	2,102	37.7	30.9	19.6	3.4	0.9	7.4
60 - 64	1,939	35.8	30.3	18.4	3.9	0.5	11.2
65 - 69	1,494	37.8	28.2	17.6	4.1	0.6	11.6
Support by the Nation and Local Bodies for Childbearing and Parenting							
Total	22,497	38.7	31.2	19.9	2.8	0.7	6.7
Male	10,971	39.9	30.3	19.0	3.0	0.9	6.9
Female	11,526	37.6	31.9	20.8	2.6	0.5	6.5
20 - 24	2,536	37.8	32.1	22.6	1.8	0.7	5.0
25 - 29	2,191	42.4	32.2	18.4	2.4	0.5	4.1
30 - 34	2,176	45.9	30.9	17.6	1.7	0.4	3.5
35 - 39	2,163	40.8	32.3	20.1	2.5	0.6	3.7
40 - 44	2,571	41.2	30.6	20.5	2.4	0.8	4.5
45 - 49	2,875	35.8	31.6	21.4	3.8	0.9	6.6
50 - 54	2,450	36.3	30.7	20.6	3.5	1.3	7.6
55 - 59	2,102	34.9	31.1	20.6	3.9	0.7	8.7
60 - 64	1,939	34.9	30.1	18.1	3.1	0.6	13.3
65 - 69	1,494	36.9	29.0	17.1	3.0	0.4	13.6

## VIII Scale of Population in Japan

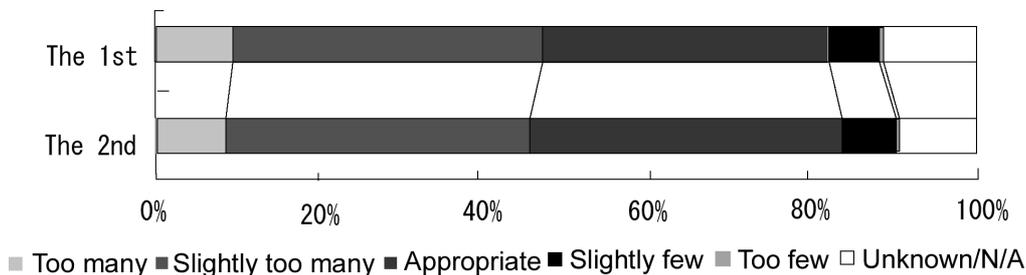
### 1 Scale of Population

The adequacy of the scale of population of Japan in 1994, 130 million, was questioned giving five levels of evaluation. The result shows (Chart VIII-1 and Figure VIII-1) that the most popular level was “appropriate” accounting for 38.3 %, and then “slightly too many (37.2 %)”. In the previous survey, “Slightly too many (37.2 %)” exceeded “appropriate (35.1 %)”, however, those two levels were reversed this time because of the increase of “appropriate”. Total of “too many” and “slightly too many” accounts for almost 50 % of the whole and many people feel the population is still excessive, however, that feeling has been eased a little due to the recent wide recognition of decline of birth rate among people comparing to the previous survey.

Chart VIII-1 Evaluation of Current Scale of Population in Japan (%)

	Number Of Samples	Too many	Slightly too many	Appropriate	Slightly few	Too few	Unkown/N/A
The 1st	22,811	9.5	37.2	35.1	5.8	0.5	11.9
The 2nd	22,497	8.6	87.2	38.3	5.5	0.5	10.0

Figure VIII-1 Evaluation of Current Scale of Population in Japan



According to gender (VIII-2), “slightly too many” still exceeds “appropriate” among males, however, “appropriate” is the first choice among females. Thus, males have stronger sense for the excessive population. The result by age group shows that “(slightly) too few” increases among elder people by age advance. The percentage of “(slightly) too many” is a little high in the age group between 45 and 54. In the survey that was held five years ago, the age group that answered “(slightly) too many” mostly was between 40 and 49, the age group of 5 years younger than this time. That means, this cohort (born between 1941 and 1950) showed the stronger awareness toward the excessive population than the other cohorts through those two surveys. Growing up in the postwar period with excessive population might be one of the reasons that this cohort, that includes the baby boom generation, still has the strong sense of excessive population.

Chart VIII-2 Evaluation of Scale of Population in Japan by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	Too many	Slightly too many	Appropriate	Slightly few	Too few	Unkown/ N/A
Male	10,971	10.8	38.5	36.0	5.3	0.5	8.8
Female	11,526	6.5	35.9	40.4	5.7	0.4	11.1
20 - 24	2,536	8.4	38.0	42.7	3.4	0.3	7.2
25 - 29	2,191	7.9	36.9	44.5	3.5	0.2	7.1
30 - 34	2,176	9.1	36.9	43.8	3.9	0.2	6.1
35 - 39	2,163	8.7	38.6	41.0	4.5	0.2	7.1
40 - 44	2,571	8.2	39.6	38.5	4.8	0.5	8.4
45 - 49	2,875	9.4	40.9	32.6	5.7	0.6	10.9
50 - 54	2,450	10.5	38.4	33.7	5.6	0.5	11.4
55 - 59	2,102	8.7	35.8	34.2	7.6	0.4	13.4
60 - 64	1,939	7.7	32.7	35.1	8.6	0.8	15.2
65 - 69	1,494	6.2	29.0	38.0	10.1	1.1	15.5

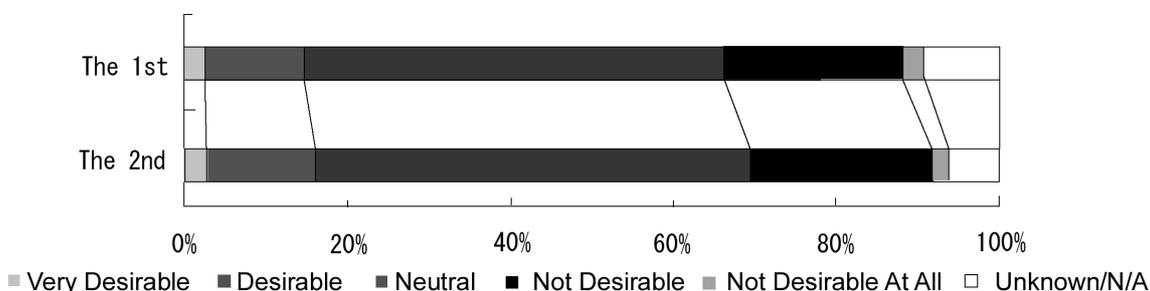
## 2 Decline of Population

Desirability on the projected decline of the population in Japan after the peak in 2011 was questioned giving five levels of evaluation. According to the result (Chart VIII-3 and Figure VIII-2), the majority (54.1 %) of people answered “Neutral”, and the negative opinions (23.9 %) of “Not Desirable” and “Not Desirable At All” exceeds the positive opinions (15.7 %) of “Desirable” and “Totally Desirable”. The positive opinions slightly increased and negative decreased a little comparing to the result of the previous study. Considering that the percentage of people who think the scale of population in Japan is “too many” decreased and “appropriate” increased in the former question together, the opinions that consider the current transition of population scale in Japan is appropriate seem to be slightly increasing.

Chart VIII-3 Evaluation of Future Decline of Population in Japan (%)

	Number Of Samples	Very Desirable	Desirable	Neutral	Not Desirable	Not Desirable At All	Unkown/ N/A
The 1st	22,811	2.5	12.2	51.1	22.1	2.4	9.6
The 2nd	22,497	2.6	13.1	54.2	21.9	2.0	6.3

Figure VIII-2 Evaluation of Future Decline of Population in Japan



According to gender (Chart VIII-4), males are more positive toward the decline of population. The result by age group shows that the positive opinions decrease by age advance.

Chart VIII-4 Evaluation of Future Decline of Population in Japan by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	Very Desirable	Desirable	Neutral	Not Desirable	Not Desirable At All	Unkown/ N/A
Male	10,971	3.9	15.5	50.5	21.9	2.1	6.1
Female	11,526	1.3	10.7	57.7	21.9	1.9	6.5
20 - 24	2,536	3.2	12.9	59.6	17.5	1.5	5.3
25 - 29	2,191	3.0	13.1	59.5	18.6	1.8	4.1
30 - 34	2,176	2.7	12.1	61.6	18.3	1.9	3.4
35 - 39	2,163	2.6	12.8	60.4	19.0	1.5	3.6
40 - 44	2,571	2.1	13.7	56.9	21.5	1.7	4.1
45 - 49	2,875	2.8	13.8	52.7	22.3	1.9	6.4
50 - 54	2,450	2.9	13.8	50.2	22.9	2.5	7.7
55 - 59	2,102	2.5	14.0	49.0	24.2	2.4	7.9
60 - 64	1,939	2.0	13.0	44.5	27.1	2.1	11.2
65 - 69	1,494	1.3	10.4	42.1	31.7	2.9	11.7

### 3 Countermeasures for Decline of Population

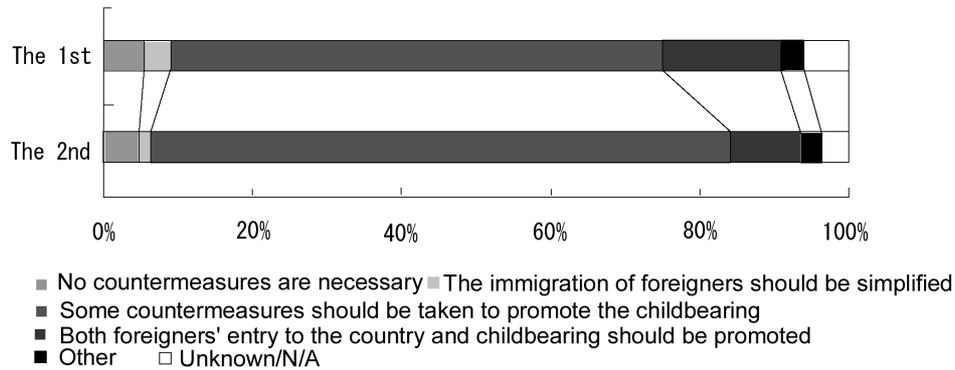
The necessity of countermeasure not to decrease the population and the type of countermeasures were questioned to the respondents who answered that the projected decline of population in Japan is “Not Desirable” or “Not Desirable At All” (23.9 % of the whole). It is required to be careful that the respondents of this question are limited to the people who have the negative opinions toward the decline the population, so that this is not the opinions of the overall nation.

The result shows (Chart VIII-5 and Figure VIII-3) that “some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing” was the overwhelming opinion (78.8 %), and the total of “the immigration of foreigners should be simplified” and “both foreigners’ entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted” just accounted for 11.4 %. Comparing to the result of the previous survey, the percentage of “some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing” increased from 67.2 % to 78.8 %, and the opinion to take countermeasure related to the foreigners’ entry to the country (“the immigration of foreigners should be simplified” and “both foreigners’ entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted”) decreased significantly from 20.0 % to 11.4 %. There are two reasons assumed for this result: the foreign labor force was highly needed due to the economic boom when the previous survey was took place and the trend changed to passive attitude because of the slacken economy, and the countermeasures to promote childbearing became realistic among people as the result that the decline of birth rate became to be widely recognized.

Chart VIII-5 Countermeasures for Future Decline of Population in Japan (%)

	Number Of Samples	No countermeasures are necessary	The immigration of foreigners should be simplified	Some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing	Both foreigners’ entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted	Other	Unkown/ N/A
The 1st	5,591	4.9	3.7	67.2	16.3	3.0	4.9
The 2nd	5,375	4.4	1.7	78.8	9.7	2.8	2.5

Figure VIII-3 Countermeasures for Future Decline of Population in Japan



According to the result by gender (Chart VIII-6), “some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing” was popular among females, and “both foreigners’ entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted” was popular among males. The result by Age group shows that more senior age people chose “some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing”, and younger age group chose “both foreigners’ entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted” and “No countermeasures are necessary”.

Chart VIII-6 Countermeasures for Future Decline of Population in Japan by Gender and Age Group

(%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	No countermeasures are necessary	The immigration of foreigners should be simplified	Some countermeasures should be taken to promote the childbearing	Both foreigners' entry to the country and childbearing should be promoted	Other	Unkown/N/A
Male	2,630	4.4	2.1	77.6	11.7	2.4	1.8
Female	2,745	4.4	1.4	80.0	7.9	3.1	3.2
20 - 24	484	8.1	1.7	74.4	11.8	1.7	2.5
25 - 29	446	6.1	1.1	77.4	11.9	2.9	0.7
30 - 34	439	4.3	1.8	77.7	11.4	3.0	1.8
35 - 39	445	4.3	0.7	79.6	10.8	3.1	1.6
40 - 44	597	4.2	2.8	76.5	10.1	4.0	2.3
45 - 49	697	4.6	1.7	77.3	10.5	3.4	2.4
50 - 54	624	4.3	1.9	80.6	6.9	2.9	3.4
55 - 59	560	3.4	1.8	79.6	10.4	2.9	2.0
60 - 64	567	1.8	1.8	84.1	7.2	1.9	3.2
65 - 69	516	3.7	1.7	80.4	7.9	1.7	4.5

## IX Excessive Concentration of Population

### 1 Evaluation of Excessive Concentration of Population

The necessity of countermeasures by the nation and local bodies toward the tendency of excessive concentration of population in Tokyo metropolitan area including Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo and Kanagawa was questioned (Chart IX-1). As a result, the opinion to seek for the correction of over-concentration as “some countermeasures should be taken to alleviate the excessive concentration of population” was the majority accounting for 58.4 %. The answer that confirms the current status as “the excessive concentration cannot be avoided and the policy to improve the living environment in the metropolitan area rather should be promoted” accounted for 25.9 %. The respondents who leave the current situation as “no countermeasures are necessary” was 3.0 % so that majority of people desire for some countermeasures to be taken.

According to the result by gender, “some countermeasures should be taken to alleviate the excessive concentration of population” was popular among males, and “the policy to improve the living environment in the metropolitan area should be promoted” was popular among females. No remarkable difference between age groups was found.

Chart IX-1 Evaluation of Excessive Concentration of Population in Tokyo Metropolitan Area by Gender and Age Group (%)

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	Some countermeasures should be taken to alleviate the excessive concentration of population	The policy to improve the living environment in the metropolitan area should be promoted	No countermeasures are required	Other	Unknowm/ N/A
Total	22,497	58.4	25.9	3.0	0.8	11.9
Male	10,971	61.2	23.7	3.2	0.7	11.2
Female	11,526	55.7	28.1	2.8	0.8	12.5
20 - 24	2,536	53.7	30.8	4.9	0.7	9.9
25 - 29	2,191	57.1	30.0	3.9	1.0	8.0
30 - 34	2,176	60.0	29.0	3.3	0.6	7.1
35 - 39	2,163	60.9	27.3	2.8	0.9	8.1
40 - 44	2,571	63.5	24.0	2.6	0.5	9.4
45 - 49	2,875	59.3	24.9	2.6	0.8	12.5
50 - 54	2,450	58.3	24.7	2.5	0.5	14.0
55 - 59	2,102	58.0	24.5	2.0	0.5	14.9
60 - 64	1,939	56.1	21.5	2.7	1.0	18.7
65 - 69	1,494	55.2	20.4	2.2	1.7	20.4

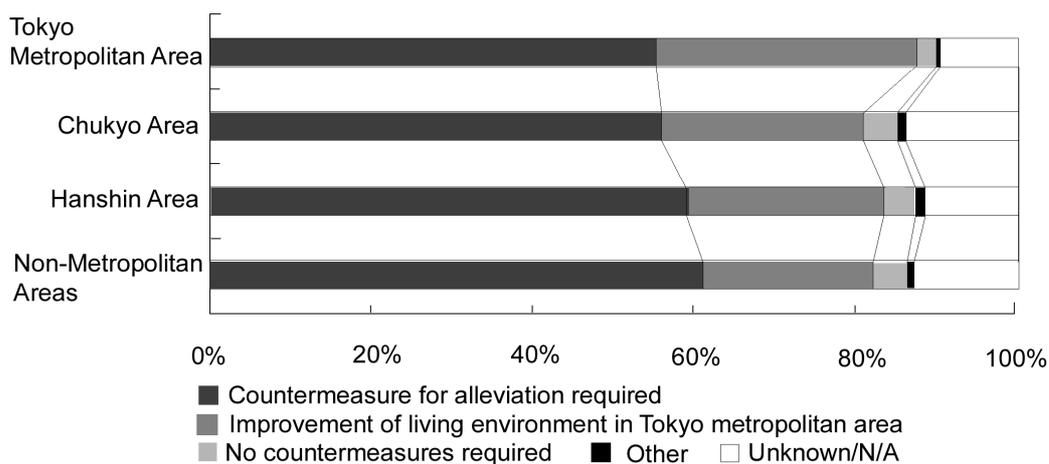
The result by regions shows (Chart IX-2 and Figure IX-1) that there are less opinion to seek for the correction of over-concentration and more opinions to confirm the current status among the inhabitants in the metropolitan area. On the other hand, the opinion to seek for the correction of over-concentration is more popular among the inhabitants in Hanshin and non-metropolitan areas.

Chart IX-2 Evaluation of Excessive Concentration of Population in Tokyo Metropolitan Area by Regions (%)

Area	Number of Samples	Some countermeasures should be taken to alleviate the excessive concentration of population	The policy to improve the living environment in the metropolitan area should be promoted	No countermeasures are required	Other	Unknowm/N/A
Tokyo Metropolitan Area	7,205	54.6	32.8	1.9	0.3	10.4
Chukyo Area	1,721	55.7	25.2	4.2	1.0	13.8
Hanshin Area	2,259	59.5	24.8	3.1	1.0	11.6
Non-Metropolitan Areas	11,312	61.0	21.9	3.5	1.0	12.6

Note) Tokyo metropolitan area: Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo and Kanagawa. Chukyo area: Gifu, Aichi and Mie. Hanshin area: Kyoto and Osaka

Figure IX-1 Evaluation of Excessive Concentration of Population in Tokyo Metropolitan Area by Regions



## 2 Countermeasures to Alleviate Excessive Concentration

The specific type of countermeasures was questioned to the respondents whose answer was “some countermeasures should be taken to alleviate the excessive concentration of population”. The result indicates (Chart IX-3) that “regional dispersion of administrative organizations and educational institutions” was the most popular accounting for 44.3 %, and “regional dispersion of job opportunity” was 26.0 %, and “further improvement of transportation / communication network between the Tokyo metropolitan area and other regions” was 21.1 %. Only 6.9 % chose “relocation of the capital from Tokyo to another city”.

According to the result by gender, the percentage for “relocation of the capital from Tokyo to another city” was 8.9 % among males and 4.8 % among females, showing that males are more strongly expecting for the relocation of the capital. This tendency indicates that males are expecting for the change of the current status by policies. On the contrary, the percentage for “regional dispersion of job opportunity” was 24.3 % among males and 27.8 % among females, showing the stronger interest of females. The result by age group shows that “regional dispersion of administrative organizations and educational institutions” was more popular among elder people, and “regional dispersion of job opportunity” and “further improvement of transportation / communication network between the Tokyo metropolitan area and other regions” were more popular among the younger generation. With regard to “further improvement of transportation /

communication network between the Tokyo metropolitan area and other regions”, one of the reasons to be popular among the younger generation is because younger people have more opportunities to use the transportations and communication.

Chart IX-3 Countermeasures to Alleviate Excessive Concentration of Population in Tokyo Metropolitan Area by Gender and Age Group

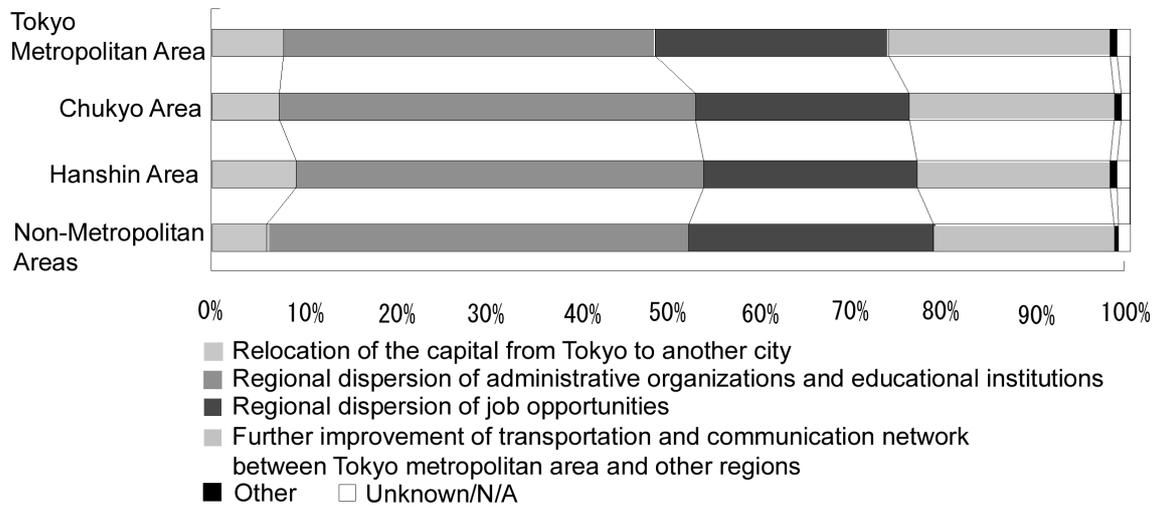
Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	Relocation of the capital from Tokyo to another city	Regional dispersion of administrative organizations and educational institutions	Regional dispersion of job opportunities	Further improvement of transportation and communication network between Tokyo metropolitan area and other regions	Other	Unkownm/ N/A
Total	13,134	6.9	44.3	26.0	21.1	0.6	1.0
Male	6,716	8.9	44.9	24.3	20.4	0.8	0.7
Female	6,418	4.8	43.7	27.8	21.9	0.5	1.4
20 - 24	1,363	6.7	36.0	27.4	28.5	0.7	0.5
25 - 29	1,251	6.4	40.4	23.0	28.5	0.7	1.0
30 - 34	1,305	6.7	37.8	29.6	24.1	0.9	0.8
35 - 39	1,317	7.4	41.1	29.2	20.8	0.8	0.8
40 - 44	1,632	5.9	46.0	28.6	18.3	0.4	0.9
45 - 49	1,704	6.3	45.8	26.8	19.6	0.7	0.8
50 - 54	1,429	5.7	49.1	26.9	16.7	0.2	1.4
55 - 59	1,220	8.3	49.6	22.6	17.8	0.7	1.1
60 - 64	1,088	8.6	49.1	21.0	19.1	0.6	1.6
65 - 69	825	8.1	51.0	20.7	17.8	0.4	1.9

According to the result by region (Chart IX-4 and Figure IX-2), the respondents who mostly chose “relocation of the capital from Tokyo to another city” is the inhabitants in Hanshin area. Inhabitants in non-metropolitan areas mostly support “regional dispersion of job opportunities”. The inhabitants in Tokyo metropolitan area showed less interest in “regional dispersion of administrative organizations and educational institutions”, and more people supported “further improvement of transportation and communication network between the metropolitan area and other areas”.

Chart IX-4 Countermeasures to Alleviate Excessive Concentration of Population in Tokyo Metropolitan Area by Gender and Age Group

Area	Number Of Samples	Relocation of the capital from Tokyo to another city	Regional dispersion of administrative organizations and educational institutions	Regional dispersion of job opportunities	Further improvement of transportation and communication network between Tokyo metropolitan area and other regions	Other	Unkownm/ N/A
Tokyo Metropolitan Area	3,932	7.7	41.0	25.1	24.3	1.0	1.0
Chukyo Area	959	7.1	46.2	22.9	22.5	0.2	1.0
Hanshin Area	1,345	8.7	45.0	23.2	21.2	0.8	1.1
Non-Metropolitan Areas	6,898	6.1	45.8	27.5	19.1	0.4	1.0

Figure IX-2 Countermeasures to Alleviate Excessive Concentration of Population in Tokyo Metropolitan Area by Regions



## X World Population

### 1 Evaluation of World Population Trend

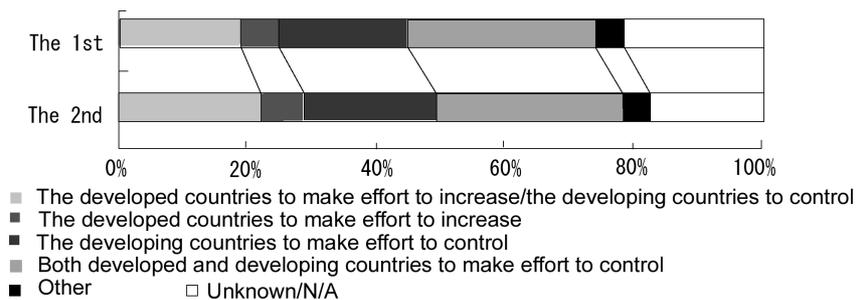
Toward the current status of world population that “20 % of 5.7 billion of world population live in the developed countries and 80 % in the developing countries. The world population will reach 8.3 billion after 30 years, and more than 90 % of those population increases will occur in the developing regions”, the required response by the developed and developing countries was questioned giving four choices (Chart X-1 and Figure X-1).

As a result, “both developed and developing countries should make effort to control the population” was the most popular accounting for 28.2 %, then “the developed countries make effort to increase and the developing countries to control” was 22.1 %, and “only developing countries should make effort to control” was 20.7 %. The respondents who chose any of “the developed countries should make effort to increase and the developing countries to control”, “only the developing countries should make effort to control” or “both should make effort to control”, that is, “at least the developing countries should make efforts to control the population” accounted for 71.0 % of the whole. Comparing to the result of the previous study, the first choice does not change, however, the second and the third are reversed because “the developed countries should make effort to increase and the developing countries to control” increased from 18.7 % to 22.1 %. As the increase of “only the developed countries should make effort to increase” from 5.9 % to 7.2 % indicates, the attitude of “the developed country should make effort to increase” has become stronger in these five years. That is, the declining birth rate in the developed countries including Japan can be one of the factors of those results.

Chart X-1 Evaluation of World Population Trend

	Number Of Samples	The developed countries to make effort to increase/the developing countries to control	The developed countries to make effort to increase	The developing countries to make effort to control	Both developed and developing countries to make effort to control	Other	Unkown/ N/A
The 1st	22,811	18.7	5.9	20.1	29.4	4.3	21.7
The 2nd	22,497	22.1	7.2	20.7	28.2	4.5	17.3

Figure X-1 Evaluation of World Population Trend



According to the result by gender (Chart X-2), more females answered “the developed countries to make effort to increase” than males, and slightly more males chose “both to make effort to control” and “only developing countries to make effort to control” than females. The result by age group shows no clear features other than increasing “N/A / unknown” by age advance.

Chart X-2 Evaluation of World Population Trend by Gender and Age Group

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	The developed countries to make effort to increase/the developing countries to control	The developed countries to make effort to increase	The developing countries to make effort to control	Both developed and developing countries to make effort to control	Other	Unknowm/ N/A
Male	10,971	21.1	6.5	21.2	31.9	4.2	15.1
Female	11,526	23.0	7.8	20.3	24.6	4.9	19.4
20 - 24	2,536	24.0	9.1	23.1	24.9	5.4	13.5
25 - 29	2,191	22.2	8.8	23.5	27.1	6.3	12.3
30 - 34	2,176	21.7	8.3	23.7	27.1	7.2	12.1
35 - 39	2,163	24.0	7.4	23.0	26.6	6.2	12.8
40 - 44	2,571	23.3	6.3	21.7	28.0	5.6	15.2
45 - 49	2,875	22.5	6.1	19.8	28.5	4.0	19.1
50 - 54	2,450	20.9	6.2	18.3	31.6	3.3	19.7
55 - 59	2,102	18.8	6.6	18.8	30.9	2.6	22.3
60 - 64	1,939	20.3	6.2	16.8	29.7	1.8	25.2
65 - 69	1,494	22.3	6.8	17.3	27.5	1.9	24.2

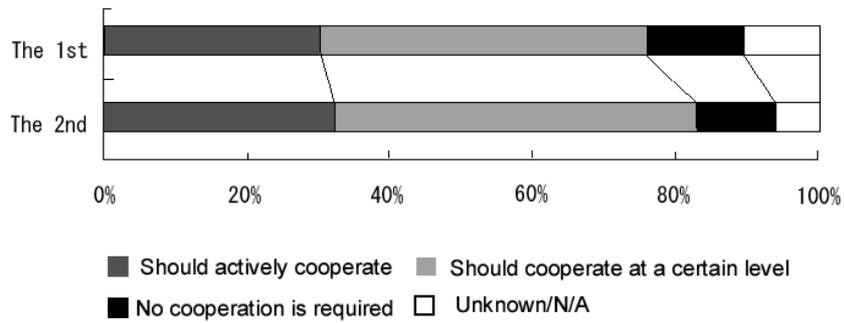
## 2 Cooperation of Japan Toward the Solution of Population Problems in Developing Countries

The appropriate level of cooperation that Japan should provide for the effort of developing countries to control the population was asked to the respondents (71.0 %) who responded “at least developing countries should make effort to control” (Chart X-3 and Figure X-2). As a result, the most popular choice was “Should cooperate at a certain level” accounting for 50.6 %, then “should actively cooperate” was 32.5 % and “no cooperation is required” was 10.8 %. Comparing to the result of the previous survey, the order of choice does not change, however, people who consider the cooperation is required increased, the concern in the cooperation for the effort of controlling population in the developing countries is growing, and the opinions to support the active commitment of Japan to this issue are increasing.

Chart X-3 Cooperation of Japan Toward the Solution of Population Problems in Developing Countries

	Number Of Samples	Should actively cooperate	Should cooperate at a certain level	No cooperation is required	Unknowm/ N/A
The 1st	15,552	30.1	46.0	13.3	10.6
The 2nd	15,972	32.5	50.6	10.8	6.2

Figure X-2 Cooperation of Japan Toward the Solution of Population Problems in Developing Countries



The result by gender (Chart x-4) shows that males are more active toward the cooperation for the effort of controlling the population in developing countries. By age group, the group of 20 to 24 and around 60 shows active attitude, however, no difference by age is clearly found.

Chart X-4 Cooperation of Japan Toward the Solution of Population Problems in Developing Countries by Gender and Age Group

Gender / Age Group	Number Of Samples	Should actively cooperate	Should cooperate at a certain level	No cooperation is required	Unknowm/ N/A
Male	8,138	36.3	47.3	10.9	5.5
Female	7,834	28.5	53.9	10.6	7.0
20 - 24	1,826	35.0	49.5	11.0	4.5
25 - 29	1,593	30.4	53.8	12.1	3.7
30 - 34	1,577	31.4	54.7	10.8	3.2
35 - 39	1,593	29.8	55.8	11.0	3.4
40 - 44	1,876	31.9	50.6	11.8	5.7
45 - 49	2,034	32.8	50.0	10.5	6.6
50 - 54	1,733	32.5	48.4	9.8	9.3
55 - 59	1,441	35.7	45.7	10.1	8.5
60 - 64	1,296	34.3	46.7	9.8	9.3
65 - 69	1,003	30.6	49.3	10.3	9.9