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Message from the Director-General

The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS) was founded in December 1996 through the integration of the Ministry of Health and Welfare's Institute of Population Problems, established in 1939, and the Social Development Research Institute, established in 1965. As social-demographic conditions evolve with the times, IPSS has conducted evidence-based policy-making for many years, collecting corresponding evidence and carrying out research that contributes to policy. The establishment of the Social Development Research Institute in 1965 was in response to the aging population, while the 1996 integration, albeit partly for administrative streamlining, was in response to the need to address lowering fertility. Now, in the post-coronavirus era, we are planning and performing research to tackle a major persisting challenge: adapting social security and related systems to fertility and mortality change and population decline.

IPSS has set the following six way forwards for its operations in the medium term and is undertaking research accordingly: (1) steadily implementing three core functions (population and household projections, household surveys, and financial statistics of social security); (2) attempting innovative and advanced research and further elevating research standards; (3) making contributions and recommendations and providing advice for national policy-making; (4) offering practical support, recommendations, and advice to local governments; (5) contributing to the international community; and (6) presenting research findings and raising the awareness of society. In FY2024, a fourth division was added to the Department of Population Dynamics Research to promote research on international migration. Additionally, a new database of Japanese National Transfer Accounts (NTA) has been launched and made available through IPSS's website. We also continue to update our website, which serves as a source of research information.

This pamphlet introduces IPSS's overview and main research projects. More information is available on our website, which we hope you will find useful.

We remain committed to further enhancing and developing our research and projects, as well as disseminating our research findings. We kindly ask for your broad support and cooperation.

April 2024

HAYASHI Reiko Director-General National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS)





Institute of Population Problems 1940.4 Publication of the Journal of Population Problems started 1940.5 The first estimation of future population Integrated with Research Institute of the Ministry of Health and Welfare to become Department of Population of the Ministry's Research Institute Attained independence once again to become the Institute of Population Problems
Recommendation of the establishment of a research institute by the Advisory Council on Social Security System Social Development Research Institute established Publication of the Quarterly of Social Security Research started Publication of the Overseas Social Security News started Started collecting statistics on social security benefits 1962.8 Social Development Research Institute 1965.1 1965.1 1968.1
National Institute of Population and Social Security Research 1996.12 Integration of Institute of Population Problems and Social Development Research Institute 2014.8 75th Anniversary of Institute of Population Problems Social Development Research Institute
20th Anniversary of Institute of Population and Social Security Research

Before World War II, the concern for overpopulation grew due to the food shortage and unemployment, and population problems drew wide public attention in view of securing human resources. Consequently, in August 1939, the Institute of Population Problems was established. It was the first national research institute in the world that focused on population issues. After World War II, a decline in fertility rates and the aging of the population became evident as the economy developed, and the importance of systems and policies to cope with these issues became apparent.

Moreover, social security in Japan progressed steadily and the universal coverage of public pension and health insurance was achieved by the mid-1960s. However, basic as well as comprehensive research systems to study social security had yet to be organized. In January 1965, the Social Development Research Institute was established under the recommendation of Advisory Council on Social Security System. Continuous trends of low fertility, aging, and slowdown in economic growth have brought the relationship between population and social security closer. As such, there arose a growing need to understand the interaction between the two fields. On the other hand, during this period, the reorganization of research institutions under the Ministry of Health and Welfare was requested in the context of government reform to better cope with the evolving situation of Japanese society. In December 1996, the Institute of Population and Social Security Research was created by integrating two institutes – the Institute of Population Problems and the Social Development Research Institute.

August 2014 marked the 75th anniversary of the Institute of Population Problems, January 2015 marked the 50th anniversary of the Social Development Research Institute, and December 2016 marked the 20th anniversary of the Institute of Population and Social Security Research.



Director-General				
Deputy Director-General	Coordination Officer for Policy Studies			
General Affairs Division	Personnel management; budget; support of research; publication of research			
Department of Research Planning and Coordination	Research on social security and population policy Major projects: Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan			
Department of International Research and Cooperation	Research on global social security and population issues and international perspectives Major projects: National Survey on Migration, research cooperation with international organizations			
Department of Information Collection and Analysis	Collection and analysis of statistical information; data analysis Major projects: Collecting and maintaining publications (database) related to social security and population, promoting the use of Annual Population and Social Security Surveys, Population Statistics, Japanese Mortality Database (JMD)			
Department of Theoretical Social Security Research	Theoretical research on social security Major projects: National Survey on Family in Japan, Japanese National Transfer Accounts (NTA)			
Department of Empirical Social Security Research	Empirical research on social security Major projects: National Survey on Social Security and People's Life			
Department of Population Structure Research	Research on the basic structure of population, the structure of regions, and household structure Major projects: Regional Population Projections, Household Projections for Japan (nationwide and prefecture), National Survey on Household Changes			
Department of Population Dynamics Research	Research on fertility/mortality trends, functions of the family, and international migration Major projects: Population Projections for Japan, National Fertility Survey			



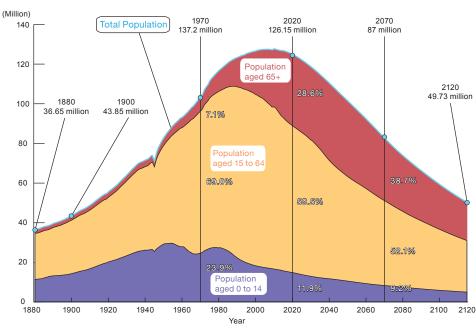
Population Projection

In order to provide basic information for planning the mid- to long-term national social security systems and for other related policies, the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research releases various population and household projections: "Population Projections for Japan," "Regional Population Projections for Japan," "Household Projections for Japan," and "Household Projections for Japan by Prefecture."

Population Projections for Japan

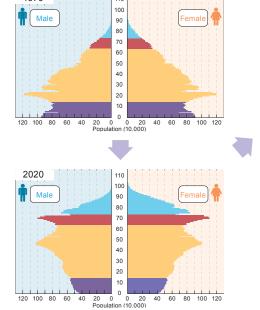
"Population Projections for Japan" is a projection of the overall size and the age-sex breakdown of Japan's future population, used widely as an important reference by the national and local governments and in other various fields. These projections are based on demographic analyses using the Census, vital statistics, and the national representative surveys conducted by the Institute.

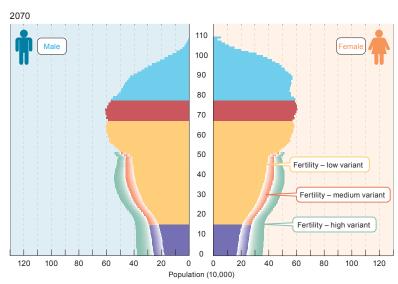
Population in Japan



Sources: Population estimates by the former Cabinet Bureau of Statistics; Statistics Bureau of Japan, "Population Census" and "Population Estimates"; National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, "Population Projections for Japan: 2021–2070" [Medium-Fertility (Medium-Mortality)]

● Changes in Population Pyramid



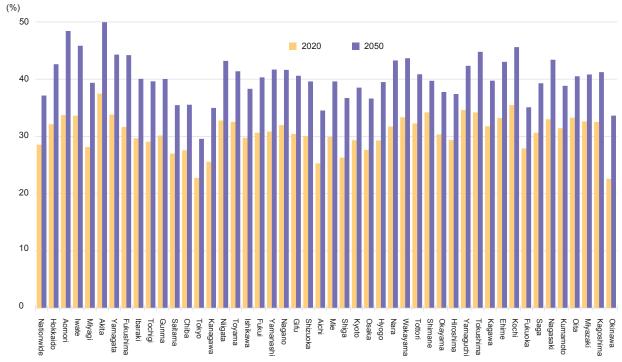


Sources: 1970 and 2020: "Population Census"; 2070: "Population Projections for Japan: 2021–2070" (Medium-Mortality)

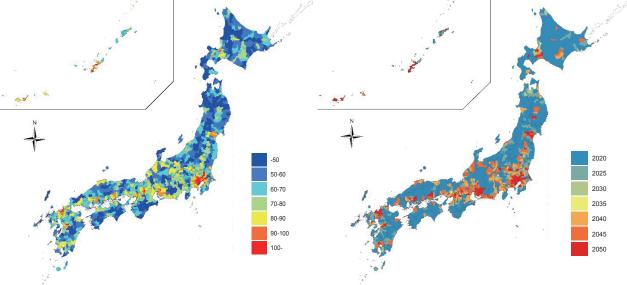
Regional Population Projections

Under the circumstances of the aging population and low fertility rates throughout the country, regional population projections are used as the basic data for formulating various socioeconomic and community welfare plans. While the population is aging nationwide, there are considerable regional variations in the trends of the elderly population and the aging rate.

Percentage of population aged 65 and over by prefecture in 2020 and 2050







 ${}^*\mathrm{Fukushima}$ Prefecture's Hamadori region is treated as a single region in the projections.

Sources: "Population Census"; "Regional Population Projections for Japan: 2020–2050"

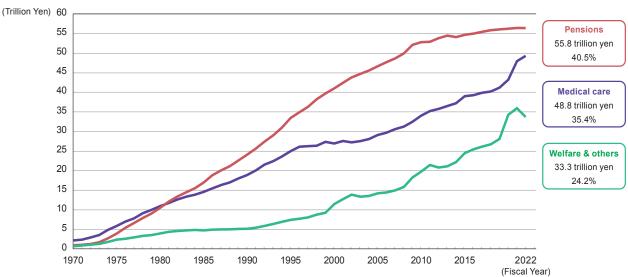


The Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan (fundamental statistics)

Every year, the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research releases "The Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan." The statistics compile annual expenditures on social security schemes in Japan, such as pensions, medical insurance, long-term care insurance, employment insurance, public assistance, and child-rearing support, on the basis of two international standards: the ILO (International Labour Organization) standards for Social Expenditure and the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) standards for Social Benefit. Compared to Social Benefit, Social Expenditure includes expenditures that do not go directly to individuals, such as facility maintenance costs.

According to the time-series trend of Social Benefit by category, all three categories — Pensions, Medical Care, and Welfare and Others (including long-term care) —have been increasing as a result of the population aging and other factors. In recent years, while the growth of expenditures on Pensions has slowed, expenditures on Medical Care and Welfare and Others have fluctuated significantly partly due to expenditures on COVID-19 measures and the expansion of child-rearing support.

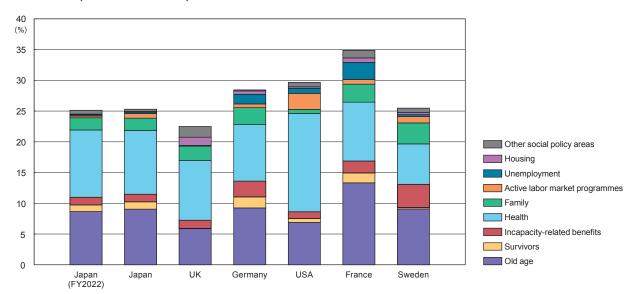
Social Benefit by category



Source: "The Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan FY 2022"

The international comparison of Social Expenditure shows that Old Age and Health are high in Japan among nine policy areas. The Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan have been broadly used as fundamental sources to monitor social security policies and their financing, and also as a significant index to conduct international comparisons of social security expenditures.

● International comparison of Social Expenditure relative to GDP in FY2020

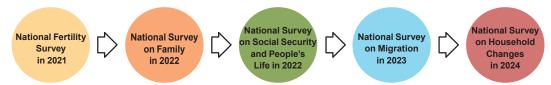


Source: "The Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan FY 2022"

Annual Population and Social Security Surveys (general statistics)

Annual Population and Social Security Surveys (general statistics)

The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research conducts nationwide surveys (referred to as Annual Population and Social Security Surveys) on five different themes. The results of each survey are used as basic data for policy making by national and local governments, and are also widely used in various fields.

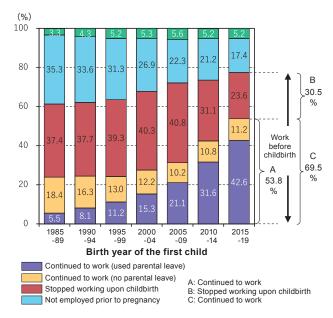


The National Fertility Survey

The National Fertility Survey is a nationwide survey conducted around every five years in order to investigate the current state of and issues related to marriage, childbirth, and childrearing in Japan. It consists of a survey targeting married couples and another one targeting unmarried individuals. Accompanied by the continuing trend of low fertility rate in Japan, population decline, population aging and changes in people's lifestyles all influence the future of Japanese society. One of the important purposes of this survey is to understand the state of low fertility rate and to explore its causes. The survey asks unmarried individuals about their willingness to marry and their lifestyles, and married couples about their willingness to have children and their fertility behavior, as well as their work and child-rearing environments. By doing so, the survey depicts changes overtime and identifies new issues through comparison with previous surveys and across different sociodemographic characteristics.

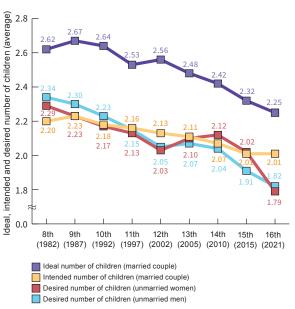
The results of this survey are used as reference material to set the future fertility rate in population projections. In addition to being used to evaluate policy targets, such as in the General Principles for Child-Related Measures and the Basic Plan for Gender Equality, the results are also used to show the state of and issues related to low fertility for many official reports, such as the Annual Health, Labour and Welfare Report, the White Paper on Children and Young People, and the White Paper on Gender Equality, as well as materials of various policy councils and by the media.

Changes in employment status of wives before and after childbirth, by birth year of the first child



Looking at the employment status of wives before and after giving birth to their first child, it can be seen that the percentage of wives who were employed both before and after birth has increased in recent years and was 53.8% in 2015–2019. It is worth noting that there was a significant growth in the percentage of wives who used parental leave after giving birth to their first child. Among wives who were employed before childbirth, 69.5% continued their employment.

Changes in the ideal, intended and desired number of children (average), by survey



Notes: Married couples include wives age are under 50, and unmarried men and women are between 18 and 34 years of age

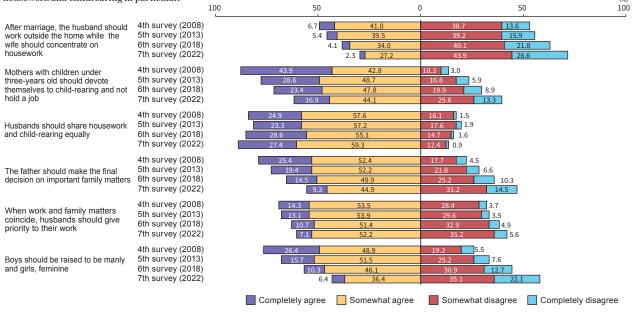
With regard to the ideal and intended number of children for married couples and the desired number of children for unmarried men and women, data shows that overall, the average number for each has been declining since the 1980s. Notably, the desired number of children for unmarried men and women is less than two on average.

The National Survey on Family in Japan

Accompanied by low fertility rates and population aging, the family in Japan is undergoing major changes in its structure and functions, including the increase in dual income families and single-person households. The National Survey on Family in Japan examines the current status and changes in functions of the family, such as childbearing, child-rearing, financial support and caring of elderly parents, as well as the factors behind these changes. As a comprehensive survey of families and households, this survey offers valuable data, which are used as basic references for drawing up various policies.

Changes in the percentage of those who agree and disagree with ideas on gender roles, by survey round

The attitude toward gender roles has changed over the past 15 years, and it has become clear that there is increasing support for the equal sharing of housework and childrearing in particular. (%)

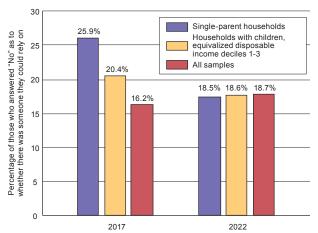


The National Survey on Social Security and People's Life

Japanese society is undergoing population ageing and changes in household structures at an unprecedented speed. In order to maintain the long-term sustainability of our social security system, it is necessary to implement a series of reforms while also keeping in mind a delicate balance of self-help, mutual-help (by family members) and public help. This national survey aims to understand the challenging living conditions people face, and how they cope with them by supporting each other – among family members and within communities. The survey results have been used as indicators in the General Principles for Child-related Measures and the White Paper on Children and Young People 2024.

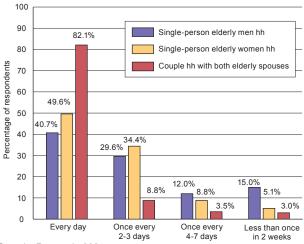
Percentage of those who answered "No" as to whether there was someone they could rely on for financial assistance in an emergency (persons aged 18 and above)

In the 2017 survey, the percentage was high in single-parent households and low-income households with children. In the 2022 survey, the percentage that answered "No" declined in single-parent households and low-income households with children but rose slightly among all samples. (Here, low-income household refers to those with the 1st to 3rd deciles of equivalent disposable income.)



Frequency of conversation: by household (hh) type (persons aged 65 and above)

Among elderly persons aged 65 and above in single-person or couple households, most individuals have daily conversations with family or others across household type. However, 15.0% of elderly men who live in single-person households have conversation less than once in two weeks, higher than elderly women who live in single-person households or couple households (2022 survey).



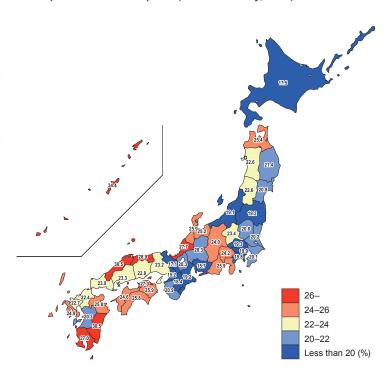
National Institute of Population and Social Security Research 2024

The National Survey on Migration

The National Survey on Migration is conducted to obtain fundamental data on the trends and prospects of the geographic mobility of the people living in Japan. The survey provides detailed data on individual migration experiences that are not obtained from other governmental statistics. The survey consists of retrospective questions on place of residence at major life events (e.g., birth, completion of school, first job, marriage, and so on), the reason for moving to the current place of residence, and prospects of residence 5 years ahead. The results are used in refining regional future population projections in Japan and examining regional revitalization measures.

The results of the 9th National Survey on Migration, conducted in July 2023, show that the people's mobility, which had been on a downward trend, increased slightly partly due to the effects of COVID-19. The percentage who responded that COVID-19 affected their decision to move was 0.9% overall, with a relatively high percentage of them answering, "I moved although I hadn't planned to." It was also found that 5.1% of all respondents "live in multiple locations."

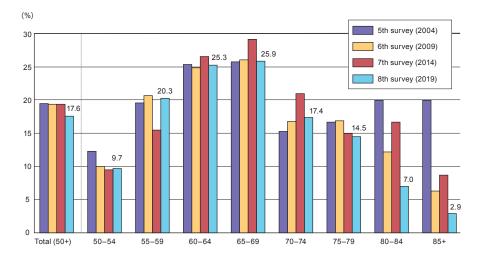
Percentage of those who moved from and then returned to the prefecture of birthplace (The 9th Survey, 2023)



The National Survey on Household Changes

The structure of households in Japan is undergoing significant changes. These changes include not only the expected decline in the number of total households, but also the increase in one-person households, couple-only households, and single parent households. The National Survey on Household Changes attempts to capture the detailed process of formation, expansion, compression and dissolution of households. Such data on household dynamics are difficult to find in other surveys, and the results are utilized to project the number of households in the future and for policy purposes.

Percentage of empty nest^(*) households by age of the head of the household



The figure on the left shows the percentage of empty nest^(*) households that formed in the five-year interval between each survey by age of the head. While it varies by survey, the figure shows that empty nests emerge mainly among households in their late 50s to 60s.

 $(*) \ Empty \ nest \ refers \ to \ a \ household \ which \ consisted \ only \ of \ parents \ after \ their \ child (ren) \ left \ home \ to \ work \ or \ to \ get \ married, \ etc.$



Major Research Projects

1. Research for a society in which everyone is able to participate

A Comprehensive Study on the Realization Strategy of Japan's Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens (FY2017–) [In-house project]

A key concept toward realizing the Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens is to create a "virtuous cycle of sustainable growth and distribution driven by inclusion and diversity." Thus, it is important to enhance support for those who have difficulties in social participation, which includes those who are raising children or are caring for the elderly.

This research project studies the circumstances in which support is needed for persons who do not have the means to support themselves, including cases where there are barriers to social participation and also those facing financial hardship, those with a heavy burden of daily household chores, and those with inconsistent home care. The project researches ideal ways of implementing various measures from an empirical perspective on 1) the inclusion of young people, 2) support for children and child-rearing, and 3) the inclusion of persons with disabilities, by examining the current state of lifestyle support needs and their factors.

Empirical Research on Inclusion of Younger Generations

A comparative analysis on the support needs of the "employment Ice Age" generation has been implemented, based on group interviews targeting those aged from 36–45 years old, 20–35 years old, and 46–60 years old, respectively as of 2017. The research also identifies the actual situation of consultation from counselors of the same generation from the consultation desk for services and support for needy persons and studies the issue of support to stabilize their lives. The table below illustrates the difference in the important livelihood support needs by regions in which people of the "Ice Age" generation are living.

Priorities of livelihood support needs in the non-regular employment "employment Ice Age" generation (unmarried) group

Reg	ion	23 wards of Tokyo	Outside the 23 wards of Kyoto		Sendai
Z.	1	Livelihood	Income stability		Preparation of laws for companies
ank of	2	Health	Wages	and "work style"	Requests regarding working environment and work style
importa	3	Healthcare	Health first	New work style	Requests for temporary staffing/non-regular employment
tance	4	Work	Workplace environment	Worker training	Child-rearing support
e of	5	Education	Education A helping society "Workplace where it is easy to take maternity le and childcare leave system" and "nursery scho		Support for birth and child-rearing

Source: National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, "Comprehensive Research aimed at Realizing the 'Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens: Report on Group Interviews Relating to the Support Needs of the Employment Ice Age Generation," 2019, p. 59.

Empirical Research on Support for Children and Child-rearing

This research quantitatively and qualitatively analyzes the records of abuse consultations, which detail the circumstances of children, guardians, households, etc. before and after the occurrence of abuse, and examines the circumstances leading to difficulties in rearing children and issues of the provision of support. The table below shows the variation in the items of the consultation records of the surveyed child counseling centers A-F, H, I.

Comparison of basic information in child abuse consultation records across the surveyed child counseling centers (or indicates that there is a description in the document)

	Α	В	С	D	E	F	Н	- 1
Name of child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gender of child	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
Date of birth / age of child	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Registered domicile of child	0				0	0	0	
Head of registered domicile of child	0							
Current address of child		0	0		0	0	0	0
Telephone No. of child		0	0		0			
Child's possession of Special Education Record Book or Handbook for the Physically Disabled and severity level		0	0			0	0	0
History of child				0				
Family composition (name, date of birth, age, education, employment, cohabitating or separated, etc.)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

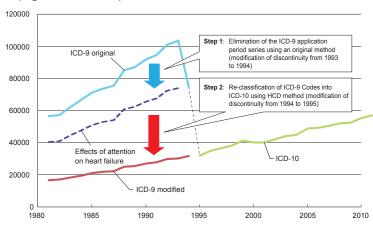
Source: ENDO Hisao, NODA Masato, TOMA Kota, supervisor, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, ed., "Roles and Issues of Child Guidance Centers in Japan: Analysis of Support, Cooperation and Collaboration Based on Abuse Counseling Record Documents," University of Tokyo Press, 2020, p. 188.

Demographic and interdisciplinary research on Japan's ultra-longevity Modeling and Comprehensive Analysis of Population, Economy and Society of Ultra-Longevity (FY2020-) [In-house project]

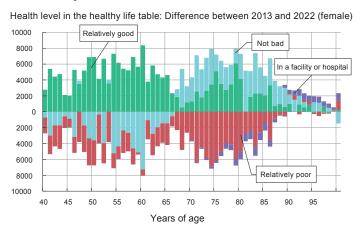
The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research has conducted demographic and interdisciplinary analysis of Japan's longevity. With the increase of the life expectancy, the Institute conducts research relating to the comprehensive data analysis and modeling of demographics, the economy, and the ultra-longevity society, such as promoting research on the relationship between the development of extended longevity in Japan, one of the world's countries with the longest-lived citizens, and healthy life period, such as the extended healthy life expectancy. Through this research, the Institute seeks remedies for the coming hyper-aged society, and disseminates our research within Japan and abroad.

Regarding the Japanese Mortality Database (JMD), which has been created and is updated as part of this project, please refer to its description found later in this pamphlet.

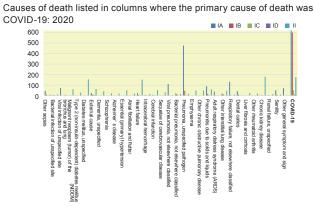
Reconstructing long-term series statistics on causes of death (E.g.: heart disease)



Changes in population by subjective health obtained from life table analysis



COVID-19 analysis by composite causes of death



For the 33 causes of death that had 20 or more recorded cases, COVID-19 was listed in column IA in 2,247 cases.

In general, when the ICD* is revised it becomes a completely separate system and the figures have no continuity. For example, there is a discontinuity in the number of deaths due to heart disease from 1993 to 1995 when looking at the number of deaths due to heart disease in Japan. This seems to be due to the influence of the WHO's recommendation to "not record only heart failure and other ailments 'heart failure' as the condition just before death" and due to the revision of the ICD (introduction of ICD-10). Therefore, an attempt to rearrange the statistics based on the old classification into a classification based on ICD-10 has been made by the Human Cause-of-Death Database (HCD). This project has cooperated with HCD.

Rearranged data for 1981 to 2011 use a simple classification of causes of death and are available on the project's website.

* ICD is the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, provided by the WHO. Statistics on the causes of death in Japan and other countries around the world are basically divided according to this classification.

In contemporary Japanese society, it has become a major concern not only to achieve longevity simply by lowering the mortality rate but also to live a healthy life. The government has made it a policy goal to extend the healthy life expectancy. In examining the subjective health of women by age, the most common health status is "not bad." Few answered "relatively poor." This is thought to be because when health levels deteriorate, women may be admitted to a facility or hospital or die. Comparing 2013 and 2022, the "relatively good" period became longer for nearly all age groups, while the "relatively poor" period shortened for nearly all age groups, indicating that the health level of the population has improved over these years.

The end of 2019 saw the sudden emergence of a new infectious disease, novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which caused significant societal disruption. In this context, connections between underlying conditions, such as diabetes, and COVID-19 were pointed out. We are analyzing how such observations appear in detailed causes of death by examining composite causes of death, including secondary causes in addition to the primary cause. For example, it has been shown that COVID-19 is often recorded in column IA (direct cause of death), while underlying conditions such as diabetes, heart failure, and chronic kidney disease are frequently recorded in column II, related causes of death.

3. Japan's first database specializing in mortality research Japanese Mortality Database (JMD)

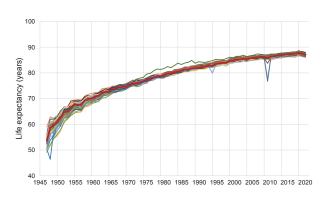
This database has been created as part of the Institute's "Modeling and Comprehensive Analysis of Population, Economy and Society of Ultra-Longevity" (FY2020–) and related preceding projects.

As a first attempt in Japan, we have developed the Japanese Mortality Database (JMD), which comprehensively reorganizes Japan's life tables and is consistent with the Human Mortality Database (HMD) widely used worldwide. It is available on our Japanese and English websites. Unlike life tables that have been published by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, JMD recalculates and revises past data whenever calculation methods are updated.

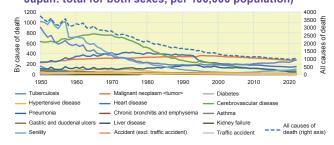
We are also working to improve the database beyond methodology. For example, age-standardized mortality rates by cause of death have been added to data released since FY2022. In addition, prefectural life tables including not only five-year time intervals and five-year age intervals but also each year and age have been prepared and released since FY2023.

Due to these features, JMD is used as fundamental data for setting mortality assumptions in the Institute's future population projections, both nationally and regionally.

National and prefectural life expectancy (female)



Standardized mortality rates by cause of death (all of Japan: total for both sexes, per 100,000 population)



Hokkaido: Life Table Data Series

	Available Dates		Age interval x Year interval						
		1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)	1x10	5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Period Data									
Births	1947–2022	1							
Deaths	1947–2022	1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)	1x10	5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Population Size (Inferential statistics: Jan. 1)	1947–2023	1				5			
Exposure-to-risk	1947–2022	1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)	1x10	5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Death rates	1947–2022	1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)	1x10	5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Life tables									
Females	1947–2022	1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)	1x10	5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Males	1947–2022	1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)	1x10	5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Total (both sexes)	1947–2022	1x1	1x5	1x5 (around census year)		5x1	5x5	5x5 (around census year)	5x10
Life expectancy at birth	1947–2022	1					5	5x5 (around census year)	10

This mortality database has been developed and is updated as part of the "Modeling and Comprehensive Analysis of Population, Economy and Society of Ultra-Longevity" research project conducted by the Institute. Please refer to the previous page for its overview.

Hokkaido: Age-Standardized Mortality Rate

	Available Dates	
Period Data		
List of Cause of Death	1950-2022	XLSX
HI List	1950-2022	CSV
JMDC List (Cause)	1995–2022	CSV
JMDC List (Group)	1995–2022	CSV
Condensed List (Cause)	1979–2022	CSV
HCD List (Cause)	1995–2022	CSV

4. Research for understanding intergenerational flows of economic resources through data visualization

The Japanese National Transfer Accounts (NTA) Project (FY2021-) [In-house project]

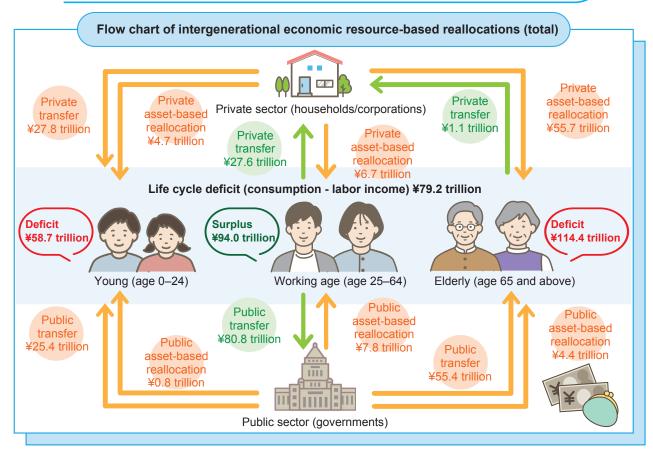
In Japan, which is facing declining birthrates, an aging population, and increasing social security burdens, the question of how to allocate the income of the working-age population between the younger and older generations is a crucial issue that pertains to the upbringing of the next generation, the well-being of the working-age population, and the livelihood security of the elderly.

The "National Transfer Accounts (NTA)" is a statistical framework developed in recent years with support from the United Nations to elucidate the impact of aging on social security and income transfers within households.

The NTA can provide information on the outflow and inflow amount of income transfers in the public domain, such as pension, medical care, and long-term care, and monetary income transfers in the private domain, such as between family members and relatives, by sex and age. Continuously publishing NTA data will enable us to accurately understand the magnitude and changes in intergenerational transfers in the public and private spheres. This data can then be used to objectively evaluate and analyze the impact of demographic changes, such as declining birthrates and aging populations, and related policy changes on the sustainability of individual social security systems and intergenerational equity. The "NTA Project" at our institute is being advanced in close collaboration with external committee members, NTA officials from the United Nations and foreign governments, and NTA researchers from various countries. In March 2024, we published NTA data for fiscal years 2014 and 2019 (URL: https://www.ipss.go.jp/projects/NTA/index.html), and we plan to continue regularly updating and releasing the data.

Overview of FY2019 NTA Results

National Transfer Accounts in 2019



Source: "National Transfer Accounts in Japan: Results from Fiscal Year 2014 and 2019," p. 15.

*In the above diagram, "life cycle deficit" is the difference between consumption and labor income for each age group, where a positive value is defined as a "deficit" and a negative value a "surplus." Through public and private intergenerational transfers and asset-based reallocations, the young and elderly populations had a net inflow of 58.7 trillion yen and 114.4 trillion yen, respectively, while the working-age population had a net outflow of 94 trillion yen.

5. Shedding light on the characteristics of Japan's foreign worker policy from an international perspective

Comprehensive Research on Japan's Labor Immigration Policy from an International Perspective [In-house project]

The number of foreign workers in Japan exceeded two million in 2023, and the rate of increase has accelerated in recent years. The pathways for foreigner nationals to work in the country have diversified since the 1990s, with an upsurge in Nikkei Brazilians, the start of the technical intern training program (TITP) in 1993, the commencement of the specified skilled worker program (SSWP) in 2019, and a rise in the employment rate of international students in Japan.

Against this backdrop, observers have described Japan as not having an immigration policy and accepting migrants in an exceptional manner. In light of this situation, we conducted a policy review in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an international organization highly specialized in immigration policy.

The review yielded the following findings and recommendations.

Main Analysis Findings (Summary)

- 1. Japan's foreign worker policy is one of the policy options that were considered for adapting to labor market changes, and opened a way for some middle-skilled migrants (specified skilled workers) to reside permanently in Japan.
- 2. High-skilled migrants who choose to come to Japan ("Engineer/Specialist in humanities/International services" visa status) tend to remain in the country.
- 3. Japan has a high retention of international students compared to other countries.

Main Recommendations from the OECD (Summary)

- 1. As TITP is under review,* its reform should retain the support provided to workers under today's TITP.

 *A law on a training and employment program that replaces TITP was passed by the Diet on June 14, 2024.
- 2. SSWP, like TITP, is more heavily managed than labor migration programs in other OECD countries. SSWP was delayed by the pandemic but has since taken off. While SSWP has the potential to meet future labor demand effectively, it needs to rely on another program to allow migrants to acquire the necessary skills.
- 3. If SSWP is to develop scale, Japan must also expand its ability to recruit adequately prepared workers directly from origin countries. Stakeholders in Japan (business associations, employers, or public agencies) can follow the emerging model of "skills mobility partnerships." This means investing in partner training institutions in origin countries to reinforce their capacity to provide candidates with the language and vocational skills to enter both SSWP and the training and employment program. Training should also be relevant for job opportunities in the origin countries so that it is attractive to more candidates and contributes to the skills base of the origin country.



Report "Recruiting Immigrant Workers: Japan 2024" https://doi.org/10.1787/0e5a10e3-en





Other Research Projects

Other In-House Projects

- Research Project to Support Unified Analysis of Big Data on Health, Medical Care, and Caring of Employees' Insurance and Community Insurance for Local Government Assistance
- Understanding the Actual State of Public Pension Asset Formation of Future Generations and Analyzing the Relationship with Employment and Family Formation Behaviors Behind the Formation of Public Pension Assets
- Cooperation with International Organizations
- Gender Studies in International Perspective
- Comprehensive Research on the Social Inclusion of the Second Generation of Immigrants
- Development of a Future Projection Model for International Labor Migration from Asian Countries to Japan
- Comprehensive Research on New Mechanisms of Interaction between Demography and the Environment in the Anthropocene (Population and Environment)
- Comprehensive Research on the Frontiers of Mathematical Models for Demography and Epidemics
- IPSS Migration Research Unit
- Project on Population and Social Security Research Historical Archive
- Research Project to Quantitatively Understand the Family Livelihood Security Function in Consideration of Changes in Household Structure and to Reconstruct the Social Security System
- Research on the Basic Theory of Social Security Systems for a New Era and the Nature of the Systems
- Promoting EBPM Projects as a National Research Institute
- Law and Social Security
- Foundational Study on Municipal Programs that Ensure the Educational and Living Security of Children with Foreign Roots
- Study on Population Analysis for Building Sustainable Communities

Projects by MHLW Grant

- Research Aimed at Improving Japan's Cause of Death and Disease Statistics through the Application of ICD-11 (FY2023-FY2025)
- Research for the Outlook of Demographic Trends and Social Changes in the Post-COVID19 Era (FY2023-FY2025)
- New Frontiers in the Global Health: Comparative Study on the Gender and the Global Care-chain in Asia (FY2024–FY2025)
- Research to Study the Substitutability of Administrative Record Information in Surveys of Long-Term Care Service Facilities and Businesses (FY2024)
- Research on Micro-Simulation Analysis of Social Security Benefits (FY2024–FY2025)

Projects by MEXT Grant

- Study of Care Penalty Using Government Statistics and Survey Experiments (FY2018–FY2024)
- Theory and Analysis for Population Decline Society by Using Generalized Leslie Matrix (FY2020–FY2024)
- Research on the Causal Relationship between Possibility of Community Dwelling and the Satisfaction of the Social Security and Life Support Needs (FY2020–FY2024)
- Panel Survey of Immigrants in Japan (FY2021–FY2025)
- Local Contexts, Lifecourse Trajectories, and Migration of Middle-Aged and Older Adults (FY2021-FY2024)
- Empirical Research on the Experise of Elementary Education Teachers in Promoting ESD (FY2021–FY2025)
- Exploring Related Factors to Address Child Malnutrition Living in Resource-limited Settings (FY2021-FY2024)
- The Rise in Unmarried Population in Japan: Growing Socioeconomic Differentials in Family Life? (FY2022–FY2025)
- Study of the Effects of Diversity Policies on the Ratio of Female Managers in Companies (FY2022–FY2024)
- Evaluating Harassment Policy and Its Consequences (FY2023–FY2024)
- Political Theory of Emigration: What Do States Owe to Those Who Leave? (FY2023-FY2025)
- Empirical Study on the Micro-Macro Linkages between Changes in Women's Life Course and Income Inequality (FY2023-FY2024)
- The Long-term, Multidimensional Economic Consequences of the De-standardization of Marriage and Divorce for Individuals and its Implications for Future Economic Inequality (FY2024–FY2025)
- Research on East-Asian Long-Term Care System Developments with Diversity in a Declining Population (FY2024–FY2026)
- Economic Instability and Family Formation: An Empirical Study on the Diversity among Non-regular Workers in Marriage and Childbearing (FY2024–FY2026)
- The Long-Term Wage Penalty for Motherhood: Understanding the Recovery Mechanisms and Building Bridges with Well-being Research (FY2024—FY2027)
- Fundamental Research for Conducting a Retrospective Survey on Experiences of Caring for Elderly Parents and Bereavement (FY2024–FY2027)
- Research on Crisis Prevention towards Preventing Homelessness in Japan (FY2024–FY2027)
- Clarification of Organizational Factors Related to Gender Wage Gaps Using Employer-Employee Data (FY2024-FY2027)

Other

- Spatiotemporal Assessment and Future Projections of Heat Stroke Mortality Risk Associated with Climate Change and Aging (Environment Research and Technology Development Fund) (FY2024–FY2026)
- Analysis of the Impact of Aging on Non-Metropolitan Areas: Using Statistical Data from Small Areas (joint research with the Statistical Information Institute for Consulting and Analysis) (FY2023–FY2025)
- Research on "Oshu" Becoming a Name of a Municipality and Its Impact (Japan Geographic Data Center FY2024 Academic Research Grant) (FY2024)
- The Paradox behind Work-Family Policies: Empirical Study of Mommy Tracks Using Employer and Firm-level Panel Data (The Mitsubishi Foundation Research Grants in the Humanities) (FY2023–FY2024)
- Social Inequality of New Graduate Recruitment (UTokyo Grant for Academic Publications) (FY2024)



International Cooperation

Organizing the Foreign Scholar Lecture Series and International Workshops

The Foreign Scholar Lecture Series and International Workshops are organized to invite overseas researchers in the fields of population and social security. These seminars and workshops are open to the public. Recent ones include a lecture on population changes in India co-organized with the Asian Population Association, a lecture on the use of the IPUMS ecosystem that invited an expert from the IPUMS Center for Data Integration, University of Minnesota, and an international symposium on the foreign worker policy of Japan co-organized with the OECD.



Promoting International Research Cooperation

We are engaged in cooperative research based on a memorandum of understanding with the International Institute for Population Sciences, India (IIPS), the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA), the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED), the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China, and the Research Institute of Labor and Social Protection, Mongolia (RILSP), while promoting information exchanges and joint research with international organizations such as the OECD, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA), and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), along with universities and research institutes in their respective countries. We also participate in international scientific conferences on population and social security, and issue research reports.



Receiving Visitors from Overseas

We host delegations and study tour groups from around the world and outline the current situation of population and social security in Japan for them. Since FY2022, when international travel restrictions due to the spread of COVID-19 were eased, we received visitors from the Ministry of Health and Welfare of South Korea and the Institute of Japanese Studies, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, as well as visits from countries such as Vietnam, Germany, the USA, the UK, Sweden, Norway, and others.



Collaborating through International Organizations on Population and Social Insurance Issues

We are engaged in ongoing cooperation about issues on a global scale such as population problems and international social insurance issues through the Commission on Population and Development held at the UN headquarters, and participation in various meetings held at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). We are also offering expertise and data on population and social security in Japan through participation in expert meetings held by the OECD.



Seminars

28th Annual Seminar (December 4, 2023)

Time Use and Low Fertility

<Date> December 4, 2023

<Venue> Hibikoku Conference Square 8F Conference Room

<Explanation of Purpose>

IWASAWA Miho (Director, Department of Population Dynamics Research,

National Institute of Population and Social Security

Research)

<Panelists>

OISHI Akiko Sato

Man-Yee Kan (Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Oxford)

FUKUDA Setsuya (Senior Researcher, Department of Research

Planning and Coordination, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research)

(Professor, Graduate School of Social

(Professor, Graduate School of Sciences, Chiba University)

HAMAGUCHI Keiichiro (Research Director General, The Japan

Institute for Labour Policy and Training

(JILPT))

NISHIOKA Takashi (Councilor, Administrator's Secretariat,

Children and Families Agency)

<Moderator>

HAYASHI Reiko (Deputy Director-General, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research)



26th IPSS Annual Seminar (February 2, 2022) Transnational Labor Market and Japan



25th IPSS Annual Seminar

How to Foster Mutual Support in the

Community: Against the Backdrop of

(February 1, 2021)



27th IPSS Annual Seminar (December 15, 2022) COVID-19 and Support for People in Financial Hardship: An Examination of Housing Security





Publication, Database

Periodicals

Journal of Social Security Research (SYAKAI HOSYO KENKYU)

Publishes papers on social security including social development, welfare state themes and social security of other countries (published four times a year).

■ Journal of Population Problems (JINKO MONDAI KENKYU)

Publishes articles on population, births, deaths, migrations and households, and related statistical materials (published four times a year).

■ Population Statistics of Japan (JINKO TOKEI SHIRYOSYU)

A report of selected demographic statistics published annually to provide basic statistics to be utilized for research and analysis of demographic trends and issues.







Reports, Research Series & Survey Series

The results of research projects are published as a series and widely distributed.

- Housing Security in Japan (March 2021)
- Precarious Lives and Social Security in Japan (April 2022)
- Japan amid the International Labor Migration Network (April 2022)







■ Detailed reports on the surveys and estimates are published and available to download on our website.

Library

The library collects books and statistical publications, especially materials related to population and social security.

Hours: 10:00 - 12:00 13:00 - 17:00

Closed: Weekends, national holidays, New Year's holiday

Reference service:

TEL: +81(0)3-3595-2988 FAX: +81(0)3-3591-4818

- 1. The Institute's publications can be checked out upon verification of personal identification and registration.
- 2. The library's collection (over 140,000 books and serial titles can be searched from our website: https://www.ipss.go.jp/tosho/opac.html. Some of the Institute's publications can be accessed from the IPSS Repository (https://ipss.repo.nii.ac.jp).

Valuable historical documents have been digitalized and can be accessed in the library.





Advice and Evaluation by External Experts

Board of Councilors

The Board of Councilors provides advice on the basic policies on the Institute's survey research activities and other important matters.

(As of April 1, 2024)

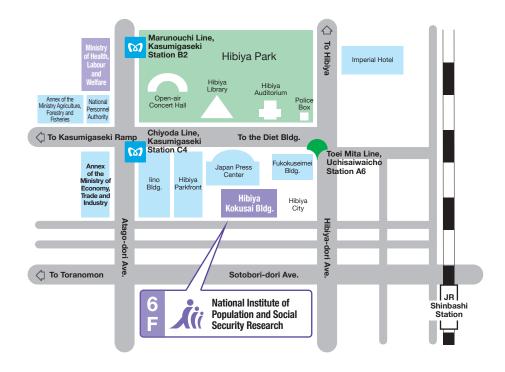
ABE Aya	Professor, Tokyo Metropolitan University
ICHIMURA Hidehiko	Professor, The University of Arizona
INABA Hisashi	Specially Appointed Professor, Tokyo Gakugei University
OISHI Akiko Sato	Professor, Chiba University Graduate School
KANEKO Ryuichi	<vice-chair> Specially Appointed Professor, Meiji University</vice-chair>
KIKUCHI Yoshimi	Vice President and Professor, Waseda University
TAKEGAWA Shogo	President, National Federation of University Co-operative Associations and Professor Emeritus, The University of Tokyo
TOMITA Keiko Osaki	<chair> President, Tokiwa University</chair>
NOGUCHI Haruko	Professor, Waseda University
MINAMI Masago	Managing Director at The Yomiuri Shimbun Tokyo Headquarters and Chief Officer at the Yomiuri Research Institute

Research Evaluation Committee

The Research Evaluation Committee provides evaluation on the Institute's research issues and the status of research conducted by researchers.

(As of April 1, 2024)

INABA Akihide	Professor, Keio University
IWANAGA Rie	Professor, Japan Women's University
USUI Emiko	Professor, Hitotsubashi University
UMEZAKI Masahiro	Professor, The University of Tokyo Graduate School
URAKAWA Kunio	Professor, Kyushu University Graduate School
KOJIMA Hiroshi	Professor Emeritus, Waseda University
DAKE Sayaka	Professor, Tohoku University Graduate School
NAKAZAWA Minato	Professor, Kobe University Graduate School
MORIKAWA Mie	Professor, Tsuda University
MORIKI Yoshie	Professor, International Christian University
YAMADA Atsuhiro	Professor, Keio University



- Toei Mita Line, Uchisaiwaicho Station (I 07) direct connection to Exit A6
- Tokyo Metro Subway, Chiyoda Line, Kasumigaseki Station (C o8) 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

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