General Statistical Survey under the Statistics Act

政府統計 秘

You can fill out and submit the questionnaire online. For details, please refer to the enclosed "Request for Cooperation and Online Response Guide."



Portal Site of Official Statistics Online Survey https://www.e-survey.go.jp/

Annual Population and Social Security Surveys 2025

# National Survey on Marriage and Childbearing

17th Japanese National Fertility Survey

(Questionnaire for Married Persons)

(Facts as of June 30, 2025)

# To all selected participants

Thank you very much for your cooperation in this survey.

This survey is a nationwide sample survey conducted by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research to investigate the current situation and challenges regarding marriage, childbirth, and child-rearing in Japan. It serves as important source of information for considering the future prospects and policies of Japanese society. The answers to this questionnaire will be used solely for the purpose of producing statistics, and any other use is strictly prohibited by law. Your answers will never be disclosed to third parties. Therefore, please feel free to answer sincerely.

(Detailed explanations of the survey can be found on page 13.)

The questionnaires will be distributed and collected (in sealed envelopes) by a survey staff appointed by the prefectural governors (municipal mayors) at your residence. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the staff.

# **Instructions for Filling Out**

- 1. This questionnaire is intended for <u>women under 55 years of age who are married</u> as of June 30th to answer questions about you and your spouse. ('Married' here means having a spouse, regardless of whether the marriage is officially registered.)
- 2. Please fill in the facts as of June 30, 2025, using a black ballpoint pen or pencil.
- 3. To answer, please circle the applicable number or fill in the necessary information.
- 4. After completing the questionnaire, please place it in the return envelope, seal it, and hand it to the staff. The envelope will be delivered directly to the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research and will absolutely not be opened en route.

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
National Institute of Population and Social
Security Research

6F Hibiya Kokusai Building, 2-2-3
Uchisaiwai-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

https://www.ipss.go.jp

Space for staff to fill in													
Prefecture													
Public Health Center													
District No.													

Q1 Please circle the number that applies and fill in the number in the underlined space for (1) your date of birth and that of your husband, (2) the year and month you started your married life, (3) the year and month you registered your marriage, and (4) whether this is your first or second (or more) marriages, and the number of times you have remarried.

	(1) The year and month you started your married life	(2) The year and month you registered your marriage	(3) The year and month you registered your marriage					
You	1. Showa         2. Heisei       Year:         3. Western         calendar	<ol> <li>Showa</li> <li>Heisei</li> <li>Reiwa</li> <li>Western</li> </ol>	year/month	<ol> <li>first marriage</li> <li>remarriage after divorce</li> <li>remarriage after husband passed away</li> </ol>				
Your husband	1. Showa         2. Heisei       Year:         3. Western         calendar	calendar Year: Month:	3.Reiwa Year: 4.Western Month: calendar	<ol> <li>first marriage</li> <li>remarriage after divorce</li> <li>remarriage after husband passed away</li> </ol>				

Q2 (1) When did you and your husband first meet? (2) When did you become engaged or agree to get married? (3) Did you live together for any period of time before getting married?

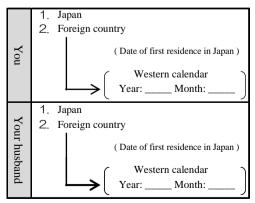
(1) Year and n	nonth you first met each	(2) Year and month you became	(3) Whether or not you had a period of
	other	engaged or agreed to get married	cohabitation
<ol> <li>Showa</li> <li>Heisei</li> <li>Reiwa</li> <li>Western</li> <li>calendar</li> </ol>	Year: Month:	1. Showa         2. Heisei         3. Reiwa       Year:         4. Western calendar       Month:	1. No    2. Yes    Approx. :year(s)   month(s)
			* "Period of cohabitation" is the period of time during which you lived together before you started
			your married life.

Q3 How did you and your husband meet each other? Please circle the number that applies.

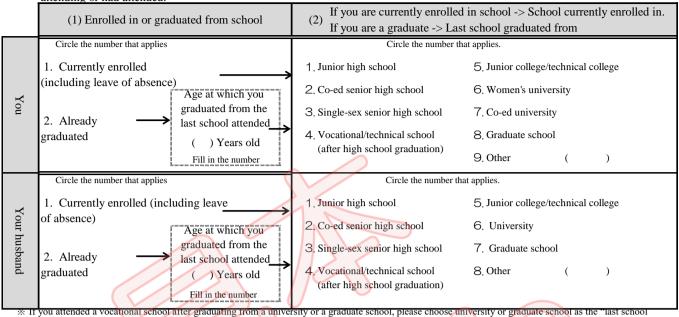
Circle the number that applies.	
1. At school	7. Through a marriage matchmaking service (including
	online)
2. At work or in a work-related context	8. In town or on a trip
	*
3. Childhood friend/a neighbor	9. At a part-time job
Outside of school through circle activities, club activities, lessons,	* *
4.	10. Through Internet (other than the channels listed above) $*$
etc.	
5. Through friends or siblings	→ ( Please specify )
6. Through an arranged marriage matchmaking meeting	11. Other $\rightarrow$ (Please specify )
(including introduction by relatives, superiors, and so on)	

""Through internet" refers to cases where you became acquainted through interactions on social media (SNS), websites, apps, or similar platforms.

Q4 Please indicate the nationality of both you and your spouse by circling the number that applies. If holding a foreign nationality, please state the year and month of your initial residence in Japan.



Q5 Please circle the number that applies to you and your husband respectively on (1) whether you are currently enrolled in or have graduated from school (if you have graduated, fill in the age at graduation in the underlined space) and (2) the school you are attending or had attended.



graduated from".

\* If you withdrew from school before graduation, please answer the school from which you had graduated before withdrawal as the "last school graduated from".

Q6 We would like to ask you about your employment status and that of your husband at various times. Please circle one number for each of the following times (from a to g): (1) employment status, (2) type of work, and (3) number of employees at the company. (If you have more than one job, answer about your main job.)

	,	(1)Employment status*1	(2)Employment status	(3)Number of employees at your company (including head office and branch offices)						
Target persons of inquiry $\square$	Target time of inquiry	<ul> <li>G Student</li> <li>Unemployed/engaging in housework</li> <li>Self-employed/family employee/doing side job at home Dispatched/temporary/contracted employee</li> <li>Part-time employee</li> <li>Regular employee</li> <li>Answer column</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Factory and other on-site labor</li> <li>Sales and service work</li> <li>Clerical work</li> <li>Clerical work</li> <li>Clerical work</li> <li>Managerial position</li> <li>Professional</li> <li>Professional</li> <li>Self-employed other than in agriculture, forestry, and fishery</li> <li>Mainly engaged in agriculture, forestry, and fishery</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><sup>7</sup> Government and public agency</li> <li><sup>(0)</sup> 1000 employees or more</li> <li><sup>(1)</sup> 300 to 999 employees</li> <li><sup>(2)</sup> 100 to 299 employees</li> <li><sup>(2)</sup> 30 to 99 employees</li> <li><sup>(2)</sup> 10 to 29 employees</li> <li><sup>(2)</sup> 10 to 29 employees</li> <li><sup>(2)</sup> 1 to 9 employees</li> </ul>						
	Immediately after graduating from	Circle the appropriate number from 1 to 6 If you answered "1" to "4", go to the right column	Circle the number that applies only if you answered "1" to "4" in (1)	Circle the number that applies only if you answered "1" to "4" in (1)						
	a. the last school attended $\times 2$	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
You	When I decided to get married b. (current marriage)	1 2 3 4 5 6	▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
	Immediately after getting married c. (current marriage)	1 2 3 4 5 6	▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
	d. Currently	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
Yo	e. Immediately after graduating from the last school attended %2	1 2 3 4 5 6	▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
Your husband	f. When he decided to marry me	1 2 3 4 5 6	▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
md	g. Currently	1 2 3 4 5 6	▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7						

% 1 If you are on maternity or childcare leave, you are considered as employed. Please circle the status of your job before taking the leave.

% 2 If you are currently enrolled in a school, please describe your situation immediately following graduation from your previous school.

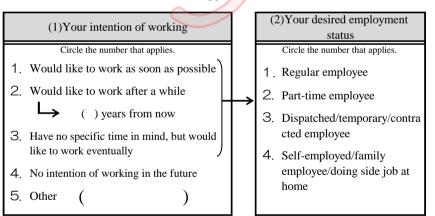
Q7 Regarding the paying jobs that you and your husband currently hold, please fill in the appropriate number for (1) to (4) below, and for (5), circle the number that applies. (If you or your husband has more than one job, answer about the main job.)

100.)	About your job (Please answer if you have a paying job)	About your husband's job (Please answer if you have a paying job)
(1) Average hours worked per working day	Average per day Hours Minutes <please average="" hours<="" indicate="" th=""><th>Average per day Hours Minutes s worked, including overtime. &gt;</th></please>	Average per day Hours Minutes s worked, including overtime. >
Average number of (2) working days per week	Average per week Days	Average per week Days
(3) Years in current job*	Approx Approx	an 1 year, rite 1 year Approx. Year
(4) Income in May this year	Including tax Approx. yen (in 10 thousand yen) < (For business income, enter the amount after deducting	Including tax Approx. yen (in 10 thousand yen) g expenses from sales . The same applies to (5) below.)>
(5) Annual income last year (2024)	Including O. 1 to 99 hundred thousand yen 1. 1-million-yen level 2. 2-million-yen level 3. 3-million-yen level 4. 4-million-yen level 5. 5-million-yen level 5. 6-million-yen level 7. 7-million-yen level 8. 8-million-yen level 9. 9-million-yen level 10. 10 million yen or more 11. none	Including O. 1 to 99 hundred thousand yen tax 1. 1-million-yen level 2. 2-million-yen level 3. 3-million-yen level 4. 4-million-yen level 5. 5-million-yen level 6. 6-million-yen level 7. 7-million-yen level 8. 8-million-yen level 9. 9-million-yen level 10. 10 million yen or more 11. none

\* Please indicate the number of years since you first started working at the company, not since you returned from leave or were transferred to a new position within the company.

The following questions are for those who do not currently have a paying job. If you have a paying job (including those on childcare leave), please proceed to Q9.

Q8 Do you (1) want to have a paying job in the future? If so, (2) What kind of work do you want to do? Please circle one number that applies.



## For all respondents: We would like to ask about the number of children you and your husband have.

Q9 We would like to ask you about the children you and your husband have. Please fill in the number of children in the underlined columns below.

Number of children you have	Total	Boys	Girls			
given birth to so far	( ) Number of	( ) Number of	( ) Number of			
e e	children	boys	girls			
* Stillbirths are not included	If none, enter 0	If none, enter 0	If none, enter 0			
Your children who are still	Total	Boys	Girls			
alive among those you have	( ) Number of	( ) Number of	( ) Number of			
	children	boys	girls			
given birth to	If none, enter 0	If none, enter 0	If none, enter 0			

Below, we would like to ask you about matters connected to pregnancy and childbirth in relation to you and your husband. Some of the questions probe private matters, and your understanding of the purpose of the survey and your cooperation are much appreciated.

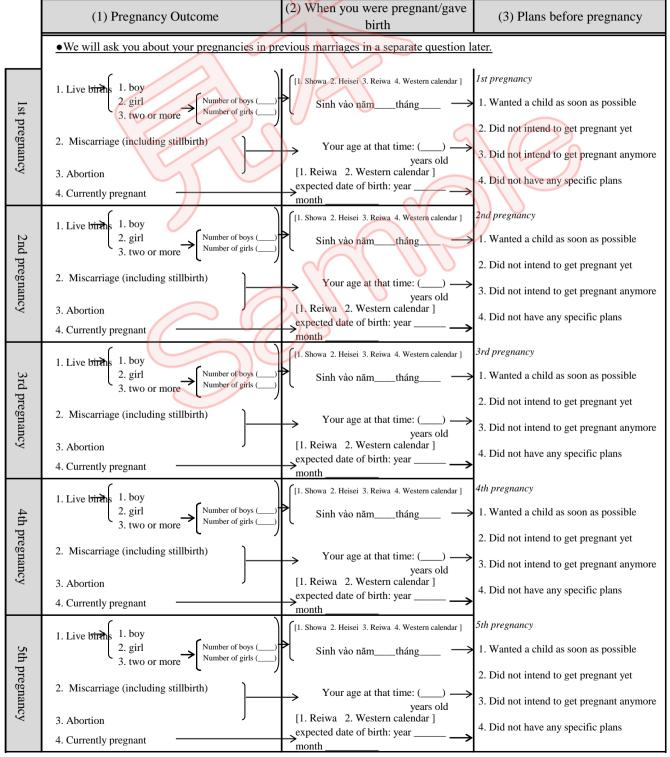
Q10 Please indicate in parentheses the number of pregnancies you had with your husband.

Number of pregnancies (\_\_\_\_\_) times

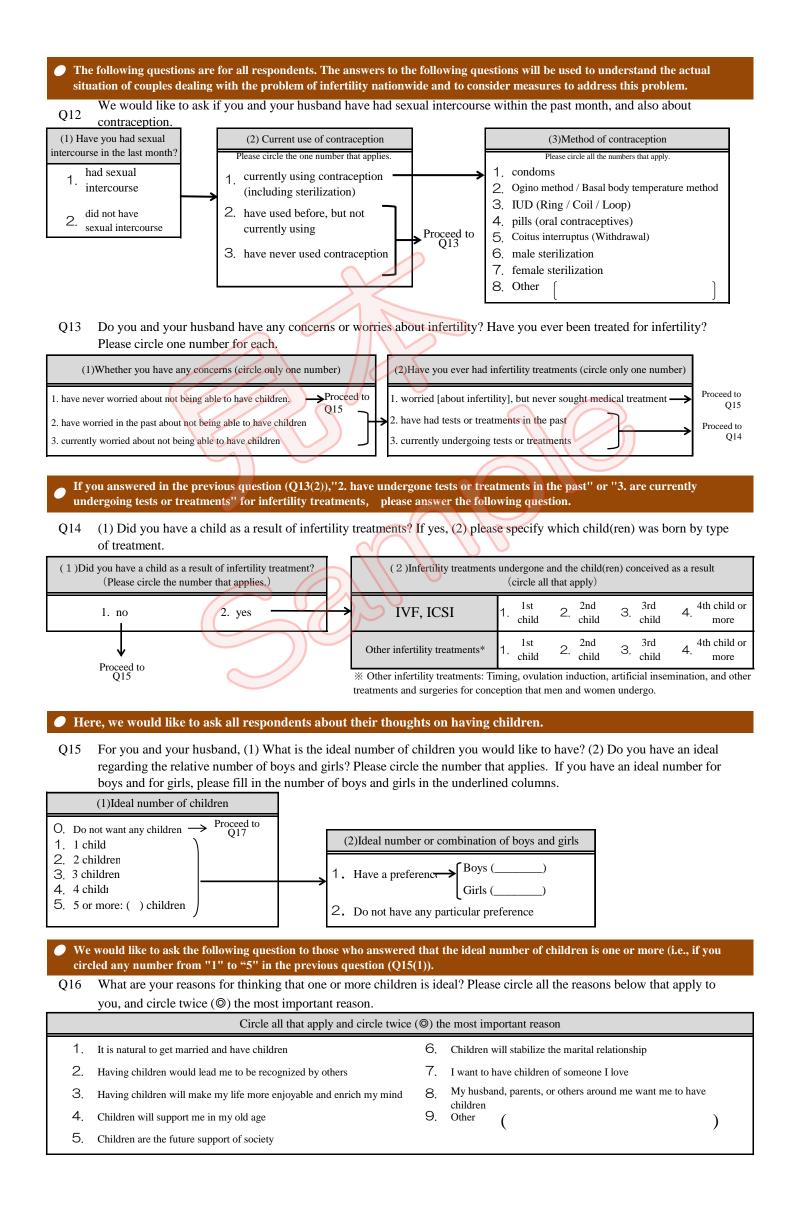
Please enter 0 if you have never been pregnant.

#### If you have ever been pregnant, please answer Q11. If you have never been pregnant, please proceed to Q12.

Q11 For all pregnancies and childbirths that you have experienced with your husband, please circle the number that applies to (1) the outcome of the pregnancy, (2) the time of pregnancy/childbirth, and (3) your plans before pregnancy. Then, <u>fill in the number of children, the date, and your age in the underlined space in the bracket.</u>

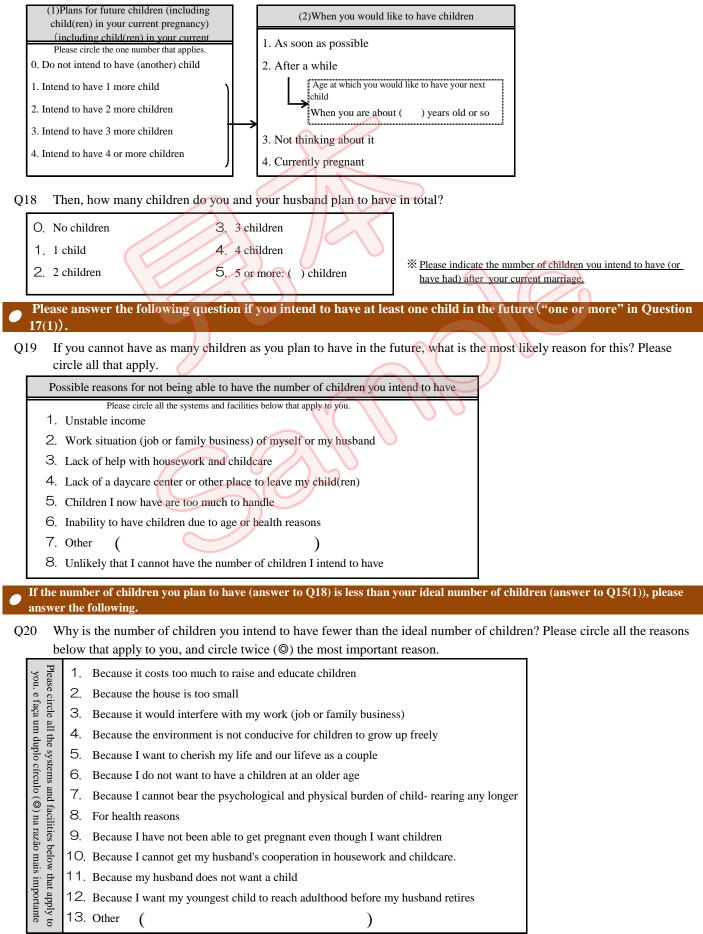


% If you have had more than 6 pregnancies, fill in up to the 5th pregnancy.



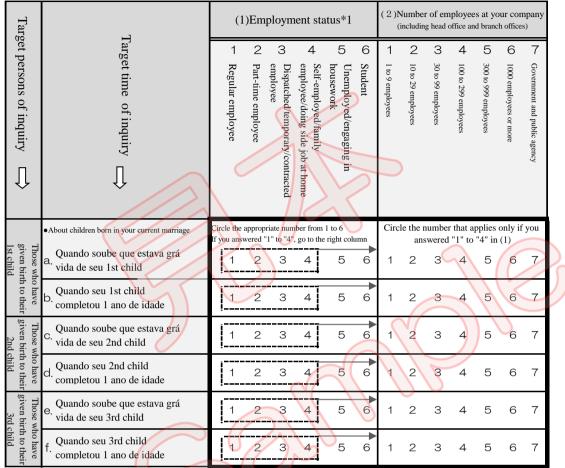
#### The following questions are for all respondents.

Q17 We would like to ask you and your husband's future plans for children. Please circle the number that applies with respect to (1) the number of children and (2) the desired timing. If you answered "after a while" in (2), please indicate in the underlined box (3) the age at which you would like to have your next child.



# We will now ask about the child-rearing period of children in the current marriage. If you have not yet had a child, please skip to Q25.

Q21 We would like to ask you about your employment status when you and your husband had children. Please circle one number for each of the following times (a-f): (1)employment status and (2) number of employees at the company.



\*1 If you are on maternity or childcare leave, you are considered as employed. Please circle the status of your job before taking the leave.

\* If you have four or more children, you may fill in up to the third child.

\* If your child is under 1 year old, you may leave "when he/she turned 1 year old" blank.

Q22 Between the birth of your youngest child and the present, (1) did you have a (paying) job? If so, please indicate (2) employment status, (3) number of employees at the company and (4) when you started working.

% If you have held different jobs after the birth of your youngest child, please answer the questions with respect to the first job you held.

(1)Employment after the birth of the youngest child (youngest child)	(4)The time you started working
1. returned to the job/workplace where I worked before giving birth         2. got a new job         (2)Employment status       (3)Number of employees at your company (including head office and branch offices)         1. Regular employee       1. 1 to 9 employees         2. Part-time employee       2. 10 to 29 employees         3. Dispatched/temporary/contracted employee       3. 30 to 99 employees         4. Self-employed/family employee/doing side job at home       6. 1000 employees or more         7. Government and public agency       3. did not work after the birth of the youngest child	When the youngest child is ( ) years old **When the youngest child is less than 1 year old ( ) months old

### We would like now to ask about the period of child-rearing of children born in your current marriage.

Q23 How much help did you and your husband receive from your mother and father and those of your husband's before the child turned 3 years old? How often did your husband do housework and childcare? Please circle one number that applies respectively for your first, second, and third child.

Ch	(1)Your mother (wife's (2)Your father (wife's									(3)	(3)Husband's mother						and'	e fat	her		(5)Your husband								
Child(ren)	mother) father)										(3)	linei	(4)Husband's father						Frequency of housework				Frequency of childcare						
en) being inquired about 🕂	← Almost never	N Sometimes	က Frequently	マ On a daily basis	ம he or she already passed	← Almost never	<b>N</b> Sometimes	η Frequently	∀ On a daily basis	ሀን he or she already passed	← Almost never		m Frequently	√ On a daily basis	ഗ he or she already passed	← Almost never	N Sometimes	m Frequently	→ On a daily basis	ഗ he or she already passed		← Almost never	N Sometimes	m Frequently	∀ On a daily basis	← Almost never	∧ Sometimes	ന Frequently	국 On a daily basis
	●C	ircle o	one nu		•	plies to marriag		en bor	n in y	our	•Circl	e one :	numbe	r that	applies marr		lren bo	orn in <u>y</u>	your c	current		●Circle	one nu		hat appl urrent m		ildren b	oorn in y	your
1st child	1	2	3	4	. 5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	З	4	1	2	3	4
2nd child	1	2	3	4	. 5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		7	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
3rd child	1	2	З	4	. 5	7	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	$\leq$	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4

\* If you have four or more children, you may fill in up to the third child.

% If your circumstances have changed before your child turned 3 years old, please answer about the primary situation.

Q24 Before your child turned 3 years old, (1) Did you live with your mother and/or your husband's mother? And (2) did you use any of the following systems or facilities? Please circle the number that applies to your first, second, and third child.

	(1)V	Vhethe		t you l husba			mothe	r or		1	5	3		(2)	Syste	ems a	and faci	lities you	have	used				
		Your	mothe	er	Hu	sband	's mot	her	(1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Child(ren) being inquired about	⊥ Living together	○ Living apart in the same municipality	$^{ m co}$ Living apart in other areas	4 Deceased	→ Living together	Q Living apart in the same municipality	<sup>φ</sup> Living apart in other areas	4 Deceased	Maternity leave system	Childcare leave system (wife)	Childcare leave system (husband)	hour system (wife)	hour system (husband) Childcare time leave and/or shortened working	small-scale authorized child daycare centers) Childcare time leave and/or shortened working	and care Authorized child daycare centers (including	Certified center for early childhood education	On-site daycare facilities and company-led daycare businesses	Other unlicensed childcare facilities (nursery, baby hotel, etc.), certified childcare centers	Daycare moms (home-based childcare)	Babysitters (including in-home daycare)	Family support centers	Temporary childcare services	connucate support centers, open space praces and other places for parent-child interaction and consultation in the community	Did not use any of these services
		_						●Pl	lease fi	ll in tl	ne que	stior						our curre		0				
		For e	ach, ch	oose one	numbe	r that ap	-						Plea	se circl	e all th	e syst	ems and i	acilities be	low that	apply (	to you.			
1 st child	1	2	З	4	1	2	З	4		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
2nd child	1	2	3	4	1	2	З	4	-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3rd child	1	2	3	4	1	2	З	4		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

% If you have four or more children, you may fill in up to the third child.

% If your circumstances have changed before your child turned 3 years old, please answer about the primary situation.

### • The following questions about parents and siblings are for all respondents.

Q25 We would like to ask you the following about your parent(s) and your husband's parent(s): (1) birth year and age, and (2) the last school they graduated from. Please circle the number that applies and fill in the number in the underlined space.

	Your mother (wife's mother)	Your father (wife's father)	Husband's mother	Husband's father
(1	) [1.Taisho 2.Showa 3.Western calendar ]	[1.Taisho 2.Showa 3.Western calendar ]	[1.Taisho 2.Showa 3.Western calendar ]	[1.Taisho 2.Showa 3.Western calendar ]
birth		Year of birth( Age) ※ Please fill in their ages	Year of birth( Age) only if they are still alive	Year of birth( Age)
(2)	1. Junior high school	1. Junior high school	1. Junior high school	1. Junior high school
Last	2. Senior high school	2. Senior high school	2. Senior high school	2. Senior high school
school	3. Vocational/technical school (after high school graduation)	3. Vocational/technical school (after high school graduation)	3. Vocational/technical school (after high school graduation)	3. Vocational/technical school (after high school graduation)
graduated from	4. Junior college/technical college	4. Junior college/technical college	4. Junior college/technical college	4. Junior college/technical college
d fr	5. University	5. University	5. University	5. University
om	6. Graduate school	6. Graduate school	6. Graduate school	6. Graduate school
	7. Other ( )	7. Other ( )	7. Other ( )	7. Other ( )
	* Please regard upper elementary so girls' schools under the old system as		mentary schools as middle school g	raduation. Please regard upper

Q26 We would like to ask you if about your parent(s) and your husband's parent(s) currently live with or apart from you. Please circle the number that applies.

Please circle		(1)Your mo	other (wife's other)	(2)Your father (wife's father)	(3)Husband's mother	(4)Husband's father
Target time of inquiry		<ul><li>○ Living apart in the same municipality</li><li></li></ul>	<ul><li>ヤ Deceased</li><li>ウ Living apart in other areas</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Deceased</li> <li>Living apart in other areas</li> <li>Living apart in the same municipality</li> <li>Living together</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Deceased</li> <li>Living apart in other areas</li> <li>Living apart in the same municipality</li> <li>Living together</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Deceased</li> <li>Living apart in other areas</li> <li>Living apart in the same municipality</li> <li>Living together</li> </ul>
				Please circle the one number	that applies em cada coluna.	
a . When I decided to get married	You	12	34	1234		
(current marriage)	Your husband				1234	1 2 3 4
b . Immediately after married (current marr		12	3 4	1234	1234	1 2 3 4
c . Present		12	34	1234	1234	1234

Q27 Please indicate the number of brothers and sisters for yourself and for your husband in the underlined space (do not include those who are deceased).

You	Total, including yourself ()person(s)	Details about your	<pre>number of elder brother(s) ( ) if none, please fill in 0</pre>	number of elder sister(s) ( ) if none, please fill in 0	number younger brother(s) ( ) if none, please fill in 0	number of younger sister(s) ( ) if none, please fill in 0
Your husban	Total, including your husband ()person(s)	Details about your husband's	number of elder brother(s) ( ) if none, please fill in 0	number of elder sister(s) ( ) if none, please fill in 0	number younger brother(s)( ) if none, please fill in 0	<pre>number of younger sister(s)( ) if none, please fill in 0</pre>

### The following questions are for all respondents.

Q28 There are many ways of thinking about marriage, relationships between men and women, family, and having children. Below are some examples (from (1) to (14)) that represent these ways of thinking. What do you think about each of them? Please circle the number closest to your thinking in the right column for each.

% This question uses definitive expressions (expressions that are easy to either agree or disagree with) and also includes ideas that are not necessarily common.	(Resp. 7 Totally agree	bonse to th 2 Somewhat agree	e ideas on Somewhat disagree	the left) 4 Totally disagree
	4	Circle one n		
① Remaining single throughout one's life is not a desirable way of life	1	2	3	4
② If a man and a woman were to live together, they should get married	1	2	З	4
3 It is acceptable for a man and a woman to have sexual intercourse before marriage if they love each other	1	2	3	4
④ In any society, femininity and masculinity are necessary to some extent	1	2	З	4
<sup>(5)</sup> Even after marriage, one should have one's own goals in life independent of one's spouse and family	1	2	З	4
<sup>6</sup> If one gets married, it is natural to sacrifice half of one's own individuality and way of life for the family	1	2	З	4
$\bigcirc$ After marriage, the husband should work outside the home and the wife should take care of the home	1	2	З	4
8 If one gets married, one should have children	1	2	З	4
$\bigcirc$ At least when children are young, it is desirable for mothers to stay home and not hold a job	1	2	З	4
Once married, a couple should not break up over such a reason as differences in personality	1	2	З	4
(1) It is fine to have children even if one is not married	1	2	З	4
12 For married men, spending time with family is more important than success at work	1	2	З	4
(13) If a woman were to have her first child, it is better to do so in her 20s	1	2	З	4
(1) It is fine if there are marriages between men or between women	1	2	З	4

Q29 We would like to ask you some questions about your immediate circumstances before marriage. For each of the following items (1) through (3), please circle the one number that applies to you in the right column. If you do not have (did not have) anyone around you that correspond to the question, please circle 5.

		(You	ır circum	stances in	n compar	ison to
		$\frown$ It applies to me	N It applies to me somewhat	$\mathfrak{O}$ It doesn't quite apply to me	↓ It doesn't apply to me at all	LO The question is not applicable to me
Your			Circle of	one number	for each	
r immediate before ma	1 I often had opportunities to interact with babies or small children	1	2	З	4	—
diate circun re marriage	② I felt envious of marital relationships like that of my parents	1	2	З	4	5
circumstances arriage.	③ When I looked at my friends who were married, I thought they seemed happy	1	2	З	4	5

## The following questions are for all respondents.

You	1. Good	2. Relatively good	3.	Fair	4. Not so good	5. Not good
Your husband	1. Good	2. Relatively good	3.	Fair	4. Not so good	5. Not good

Q30 How is the current health condition of yourself and your husband? Please circle the one number that applies.

Q31 Please tell us your current height, weight, and smoking habits, as well as those of your husband's.

You	Height	cm	Weight	kg	Smoking ( habits	<ol> <li>Never smoked 2. Smoked in the past</li> <li>Currently smoking )</li> </ol>
Your husband	Height	cm	Weight	kg	Smoking ( habits	<ol> <li>Never smoked 2. Smoked in the past</li> <li>Currently smoking )</li> </ol>

× If you are pregnant, please indicate your weight before pregnancy.

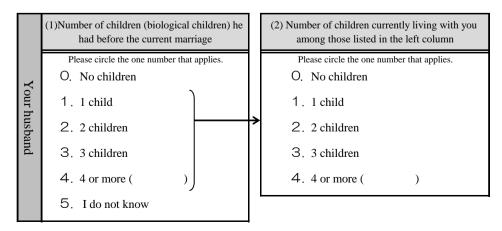
Q32 When you got married, how many children did you intend to have in total? Please circle the one number that applies to you. If the number is more than five, please indicate it in the underlined column.

0. Não pretendia ter filhos	3. 3 children	6. I did not particularly think
1. 1 child	4. 4 children	about it
2. 2 children	5. 5 or more ()children	$\sim (()) \vee$

We would like to ask each of you about your situation before your current marriage.

Q33 Do you have any children who were born before your current marriage? Please circle the one number that applies. If you do, please fill in the birth date of each child, and circle the one number that applies regarding whether you live with the child.

	(1)Number of children born before the current marriage.		(2)	Date of birth of your children	(3)Whether or not the children live with you
	Please circle the one number that applies.			[ 1.Showa 2.Heisei 3.Reiwa 4.Western calendar ]	1. Living together
	O. No children		1st child	Year: Month:	2. Living separately, or other
You	1. 1 child			[ 1.Showa 2.Heisei 3.Reiwa 4.Western calendar ]	1. Living together
ц	2. 2 children	┢	2nd child	Year: Month:	2. Living separately, or other
	3. 3 children			[ 1.Showa 2.Heisei 3.Reiwa 4.Western calendar ]	1. Living together
	4. 4 or more $($		3rd child	Year: Month:	2. Living separately, or other
	······································		※ If you h	ave four or more children, you may fill in	up to the third child.



We would like to ask questions of those who have remarried. If you have never remarried, this is the end of the questionnaire. Please proceed to the open-ended comments on the last page.

#### Q34 Please indicate the year and month of your first marriage and circle the number that applies to you.

(1)The year and month you got married	(2)Year and month you stopped living together or when your partner passed away
[ 1. Showa 2. Heisei 3. Reiwa 4. Western calendar ]	[ 1. Showa 2. Heisei 3. Reiwa 4. Western calendar ]
Year: Month:	Year: Month:

# This is the end of the questions. The following is for open-ended comments. If you do not have any comments, you may leave the answer spaces blank.

Are there any measures that you would like to see introduced or enhanced based on your experiences of marriage, childbirth, and child rearing? Do you have any opinions about marriage, childbirth, child-rearing, population issues, etc.? Please feel free to write them in the space below.

In addition, were there parts in the survey where the wording was difficult to understand or hard to answer?Please feel free to write your comment in the space below to help us improve the survey in the future.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Please place your completed survey form in the collection envelope, glue it together, and hand it to the survey staff.

The envelope will not be opened before it reaches the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.

Thank you very much for your time. The results of this survey will be used to improve the lives of the people living in Japan through statistical analysis at the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research. In addition, the previous results are available on the website for the survey participants (URL described in "Request for Collaboration in the Survey").

# § Explanation of the Survey

#### **What is the National Survey on Marriage and Childbearing (Japanese National Fertility Survey)?**

This survey is a nationwide sample survey conducted approximately every five years to study marriage, childbirth, and child-rearing among the population. This is the 17th iteration. There are two types of questionnaires: one for married couples and one for single individuals.

#### Purpose of the Survey

National and local governments must understand the circumstances and issues faced by residents when implementing various policies. The primary purpose of this survey is to grasp the situation regarding marriage, childbirth, and child-rearing among the population and to explore related policy challenges from a social science perspective. Particularly in Japan today, the declining birthrate is progressing, and it is pointed out that the associated population decrease, aging population, and changes in individual lifestyles will significantly impact Japanese society's future. Understanding the current state of this declining birthrate and investigating its causes is one of the crucial objectives of this survey.

#### $\diamondsuit$ Scope of the Survey

This survey is intended for individuals residing in randomly selected areas nationwide. Separate questionnaires are prepared for the following two groups:

[Questionnaire for Married Persons]

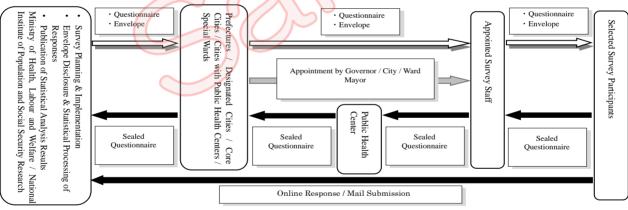
All women under the age of 55 who are married as of June 30, regardless of whether the marriage has been officially registered, are eligible.

[Questionnaire for Single Persons]

All single persons (both male and female) aged 18 or over and under 55 as of June 30 are eligible.

#### Survey Structure

This survey is conducted by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (a national research institute affiliated with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare), with approval from the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications based on the Statistics Act, in cooperation with the national government, prefectures (or designated cities, core cities, cities with public health centers, special wards), and local public health centers. The survey is carried out by survey staffs appointed by the Governor (Mayor/Ward Mayor) who will visit your residence to distribute the questionnaire and related materials, facilitating online responses or collecting the completed questionnaires (sealed in envelopes).



## $\diamondsuit$ Protection of Privacy and Personal Information

All answers on this questionnaire will be used solely for the purpose of creating statistics. Any other use is strictly prohibited by the Statistics Act. Questionnaires completed by participants and sealed in the return envelopes will be delivered to the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research without being opened after collection by the staff, and will subsequently be kept under strict control. All personally identifiable information will be removed during the process of creating statistics. Therefore, there is absolutely no possibility of personal information being leaked.

#### ♦ Other Inquiries

For inquiries, such as questions about how to answer, please contact the call center. Detailed information about this survey, results from previous surveys, frequently asked questions, etc., are available on the dedicated webpage for participants of the Japanese National Fertility Survey. Please see Request for Survey Cooperation.

The creation of official statistics, including the National Survey on Marriage and Childbearing (Japanese National Fertility Survey), is governed by the Statistics Act.

◆ The Statistics Act provides the rules for developing statistics as an essential information infrastructure for society.

◆ The Statistics Act aims to improve the lives of citizens through the development of useful statistics.

◆ The results of the National Survey on Marriage and Childbearing (Japanese National Fertility Survey) are utilized for the provision of policies and services by national and local governments.

**Personal Information is Strictly Protected** 

◆ In the National Survey on Marriage and Childbearing (Japanese National Fertility Survey), personal information is strictly protected according to the provisions of the Statistics Act.

◆ Information written on the questionnaire is kept strictly confidential and used only for creating statistics. Use for any other purpose is prohibited by the Statistics Act.