Life of elderly people – Awareness about economy and living environment

Households with elderly people aged 65 years and above accounted for 2,372,400 households in 2015, which was 47.1% of all households (5,036,100 households). As a result of this, in recent years, social issues such as isolation of the elderly and the elderly dying due to car accidents are becoming a problem. On the other hand, improvement of living conditions, such as extension of healthy life, along with a rise in expectations for the revitalization of the market for the elderly such as the so-called "silver economy" can also be seen. In 2016, a survey on the economy and living environment for the elderly was conducted. In this White Paper, we focused on items concerning the participation of the elderly in the economy, living environment, social activity and introduction to results along with certain characteristic matters. *Source: Cabinet Office (unless otherwise stated) "Survey on the economic and living environment of elderly people" (2016))

Cabinet Office "Survey on the Economy and Living Environment of Elderly People" (2016)

- · Survey area: Nationwide (however, in consideration of the influence of the "earthquake with the epicentre being in Kumamoto prefecture, Kumamoto district in 2016 occurred in April", the survey in Oita prefecture and Kumamoto prefecture was cancelled.)
- · Surveyed persons: Males and females (excluding facility residents) over the age of 60 (as of January 1, 2016)
- · Survey time: June 4th June 26th, 2016
- · Effective collection number: 1,976 (sample number and gender combined 2,920 people)

City size wise classification

Big city Tokyo 23 wards · Decree designated city

Middle sized city City with population over 100,000

A small city City with population less than 100,000

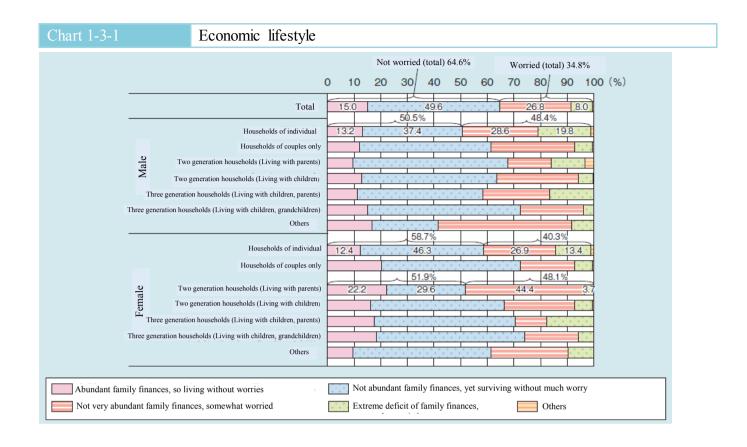
A municipality County town or village

1 Economy

(1) About 60% of the people think of "not worried (plan) 1" for future economic problems

About the future economic problems that may arise, 64.6% of the people are "not worried (plan) 1" while 34.8% are "worried (plan) 2". According to gender or those living together, about 50% (48.4%) of single male households answered "worried (total)". A group with a particularly high percentage of "worried (total)" is the single male households (48.4%) and women's two generation households (living with parents) (48.1%). In addition, 40.3% of female single households answered "worried (total)". (Fig. 1 -3 -1)

(Note 1) "Not worried (total)", is a total of "There is enough room for households, I live without worrying at all", "Total of households do not have much room, but living without much worry". (Note 2) "Worried (Total)" is a sum of "Total households have no clearance and are somewhat concerned" and "Households are struggling and extremely worried".



(2) The average income per month (including pension) is the largest among households with "100,000 yen to less than 200,000 yen" which is 32.9% of the total

Looking at the average income per month (including pension) as a whole, 32.9% of "100,000 yen \sim less than 200,000 yen (1.2 million yen \sim 2.4 million yen per year)" consist of the most, followed by 26.4% of "less than 200,000 yen \sim 300,000 yen (2.4 million \sim less than 3.6 million yen per year), and then 15.2% of "50,000 yen to less than 100,000 yen (600,000 yen to less than 1,200,000 yen per year). (Chart 1-3-2).

Especially in case of single-person households, percentage of monthly income of less than 100,000 yen, for both men and women, is as high as 40%. (Table 1 -3 -3)

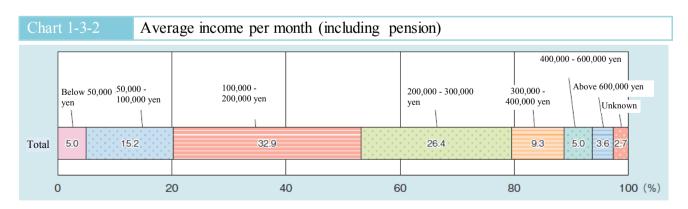


Chart 1-3-3 Comparison of average income per month (including pension) for the group of those living together

	Less than 10,000	10,000-less than 20,000	Above 20,000 yen	Unknown
Total	20.2%	32.9%	44.3%	2.7%
Single Male households	37.4%	36.3%	25.3%	1.1%
Single Female households	36.8%	47.3%	13.4%	2.5%

(3) Regarding the purpose of saving, 50% do not intend to use savings immediately

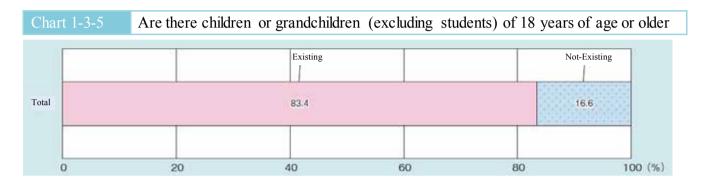
Regarding the purpose of saving, about 50% answered, with 47.5% for "for preparedness in emergency" and 2.6% as savings for the future of their children and family, which means, 50.1% of the respondents do not plan to use savings immediately. Besides, there are over 70% of people who are saving for various reasons, such as maintaining their living standards or providing for their living costs, while 22.7% have "no savings". The younger the age group, the more number of people are saving up "to cater to their daily needs".

Looking at the age and standard of living, in households other than single-person households, mostly "for preparedness in emergency" is the purpose for saving, whereas in single-person households, "There are no savings" was the largest recorded response at 46.2% (Fig. 1 -3 -4).

Purpose of saving (%) 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Total 60-64 years old 65-74 years old By Above 75 years old Household of individual Household of couple only Two generation household (living with parents) Two generation household (living with children) Three generation household (living with children 1 Three generation household (living with children grandchildren) Household of individual Household of couple Two generation household (living with parents) Two generation household (living with children) gender, Three generation household (living with children grandchildren) For trips and shopping of expensive things For maintaining daily life finances For a better life style To leave behind for children and family Others Preparedness for emergency No savings Unknown

(4) 30% of the people above 60 years of age provide financial support to their children or grandchildren

Those who have children and grandchildren aged 18 or above excluding students are 83.4%(Fig. 1 - 3 - 5). Among them, 20.8% are covering living expenses for children and grandchildren ("Almost all living expenses" and "A part of living expenses"). Especially in men, it is 34.6% in the 60 to 64 year olds group, which is higher than other age groups, and about one-third of men in the early 60s are covering living expenses for children and grandchildren (Chart 1-3-6). About 80% of children and grandchildren whose living expenses are being covered are working. (Fig. 1-3-7).



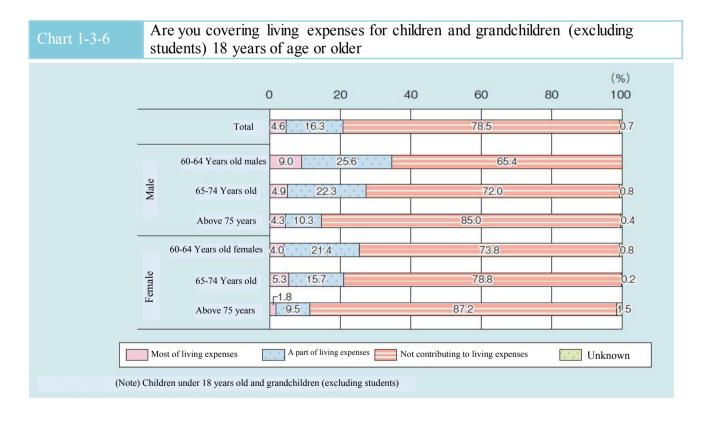
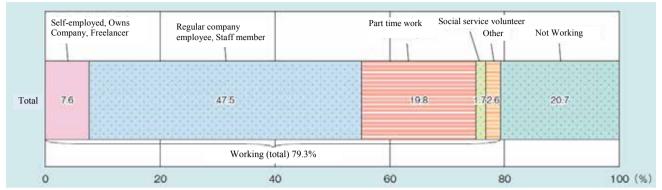


Chart 1-3-7 Employment status of children and grandchildren (excluding students) who are covering living expenses



(Note) The answers have been received from those who cover the living expenses of children and grandchildren (excluding students) who are 18 years of age or older

(5) [Discussion] Trends in single household based on gender

Regarding the economy, we want to compare single male households and single female single households here. As mentioned above, the ratio of the average income per month of less than 100,000 yen was about 40% for single-person households (20.2% for all households) however, in a male single household, looking at the economic lifestyle, the answer that "worried (total)" (48.4%) was clearly higher than that of single female households (40.3%). Therefore, looking at savings, 46.2% answered that "There are no savings" for male single households, which was nearly half (nearly 30.8% for single female households). In addition, the ratio of single-male households living in rental houses rather than owned houses is also high (41.7%) (11.7% for all households and 22.9% for single-female households) (Chart 1 - 3-8). It is thought that the situation of such stock aspects is influenced by the fact that there are many "worries" by men as a single person.

pe of housing

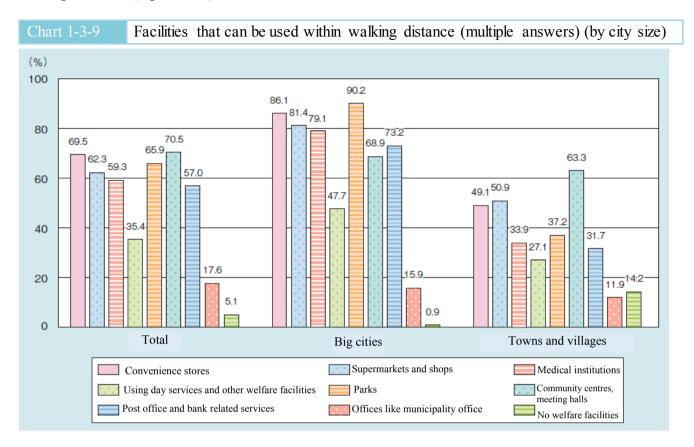
	Owned House	House on rent	Total of [Old age home facilities] or [others]
Total	87.1%	11.7%	1.2%
Single male households	58.2%	41.8%	0.0%
Single female households	75.1%	22.9%	2.0%

2 Living environment

(1) Regarding the facilities that can be used within walking distance, the smaller the city size, the less the percentage of respondents that said that there are "convenience stores" and "commercial facilities such as supermarkets and shops"

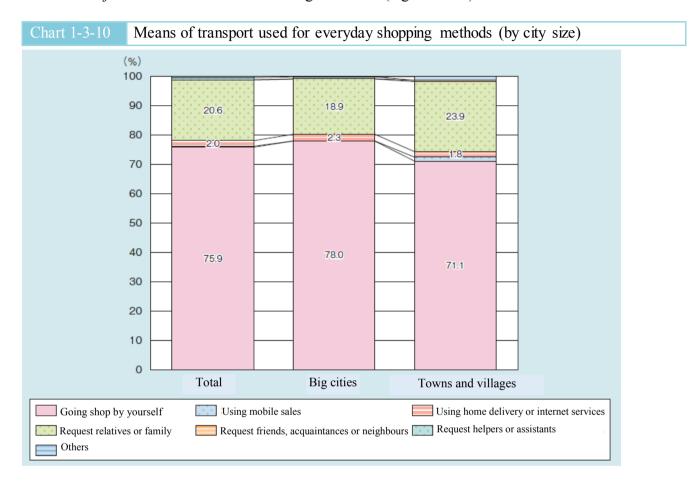
When asked about the available facilities within walking distance (within 500 meters from home), overall, the respondents answered the number of "public halls, meeting places" to be 70.5%, "convenience stores" 69.5% is about 70%, followed by "Park" 65.9%, "Commercial facilities such as supermarkets and shops" 62.3%, "Medical institutions" 59.3%, "Financial institutions such as post offices and banks" 57.0% in that order. According to city size, in large cities, 80% or more people are within walking distance of "convenience stores" and "commercial facilities such as supermarkets and shops", however in towns and villages, about 50% of these commercial facilities are in radius of

walking distance (Fig. 1-3 - 9).



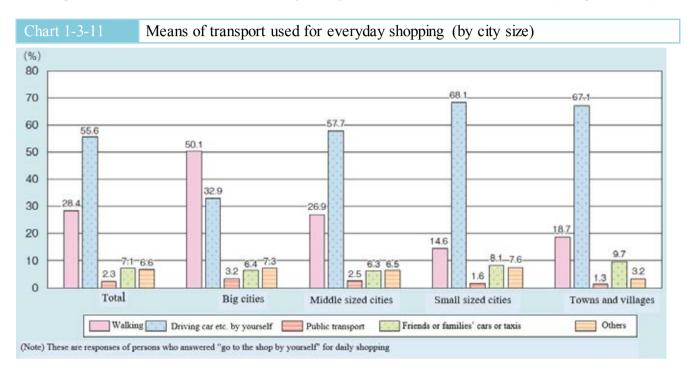
(2) Regarding everyday shopping, more than 70% "go to shop for yourself"

Looking at the main everyday shopping way, overall, "go to shop yourself" (75.9%) is the highest, followed by "being asking family / relatives" (20.6%). "Go to shop yourself" shows a higher ratio of 78.0% in major cities than in towns and villages 71.1%. (Fig. 1-3 - 10).



(3) The main means when going shopping is walking in big cities, while in towns and villages, most frequently it is driving cars etc. on their own

Many responded that they would go to shop by themselves for everyday shopping, overall, "Driving cars etc. by themselves" was as high as 55.6%, and "walk" (28.4%) accounted for about 30%. About half of respondents in large cities responded, "walking" (50.1%), followed by "driving automobiles by themselves" (32.9%), followed by "cars and taxis driven by family members" (6.4%). In towns and villages, nearly 70% answered "Driving cars etc. by yourself" (67.1%), followed by "walking" (18.7%), "cars and taxis driven by family members" accounted for (9.7%). (Fig 1 - 3 - 11).



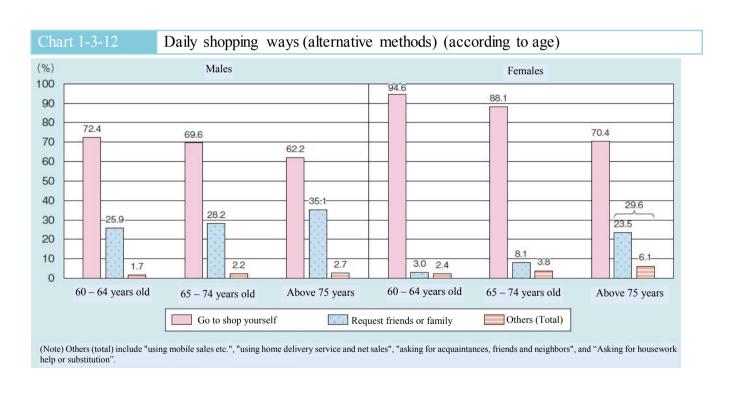
(4) [Discussion] Daily shopping and Transport

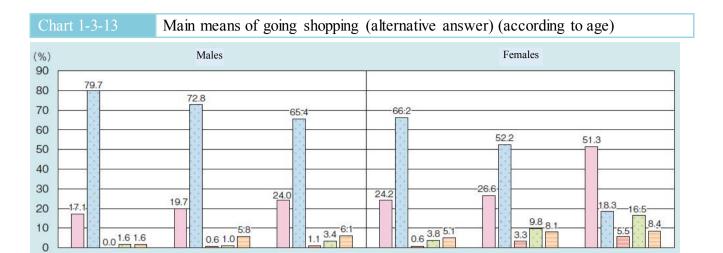
Regarding the living environment, shopping, which is one of the main activities of daily life, is being focused upon. When asked about everyday shopping method, "go to shop yourself" (75.9%) was the most frequent answer with about 70%. When seen according to age, it tends to decline as age increases, 62.2% for males over 75 and 70.4% for females. Especially among women, in the age group of 60 to 64 years old, they are 24.2 points lower (Chart 1 - 3 - 12).

The main means of "going to shop" by themselves was "driving cars etc. by themselves" (55.6%) which was the largest, particularly in small cities (68.1%) and towns and villages (67.1%) where the percentage of respondents who responded that there are commercial facilities within walking distance are less, a large number of answers were "Driving cars etc. by yourself". (Chart 1 - 3 - 11). However, when seen according to age, in the case of females, in the age group of 60 to 74 (51.3), the percentage of "driving cars etc. by themselves" is significantly higher than the women above 75 years of age which is 18.3%; on the other hand, in case of respondents going to shop themselves, the frequent answer was to "walk" (51.3%). (Fig. 1 - 3 - 13). Also, the number of people not going to shop themselves and using "services provided or help from others (total)" (Total of "asking family / relatives" and "others (total)") (29.6%) is going up. (Among them, the percentage of people who are "asking family members / relatives." is high.) (Chart 1 - 3 - 12). For women over the age of 75, 60.0% answered "It is difficult to physically go to the store" which is higher than 60 to 74 years old, which also became the reason for using the service and receiving support. (Chart 1 - 3 - 14).

Also, the type of "towns and villages" where there are relatively fewer people with commercial facilities within walking distance, 42.9% answered that "it is difficult to physically go to the store". (Fig. 1 -3 -15) From these facts, in particular, it can be seen that, in towns and villages where there are relatively few people with commercial facilities within walking distance, if the driving of automobiles becomes difficult due to aging, there are not many elderly people who could possibly have difficulty in procurement of food items by themselves. Under these circumstances, initiatives such as community buses, establishment of shops at former elementary school buildings, and mobile sales services by NGOs and others are also expanding in some areas. Attempts of improvement of the living environment of the elderly people where they can live easily, such as town planning and community support, are an important issue.

The percentage of users of "home delivery service and net sales" (2.0%) is remarkably high which can be used at home is extremely low (Fig. 1-3-10), and for both ladies in two-generation households (living together with their parents) compared to other living style. It is noted that usage of these alternative facilities is spreading limitedly, even when placed in an environment where it is necessary to stay at home due to some circumstances, such as nursing care at home (Fig. 1-3-16).





60 - 64 years old

Public transportation Cars driven by family or friends or taxis

Above 75 years

Others

65 - 74 years old

(Note) Theses are responses of persons who answered "go to the shop by yourself" as the way of daily shopping

65 - 74 years old

Walking Drive car, etc. yourself

0

60 - 64 years old

Main reasons for using services and receiving deliveries in daily shopping way (multiple answers) (according to age)

Above 75 years

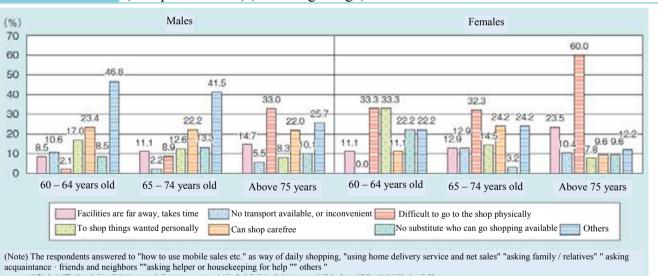
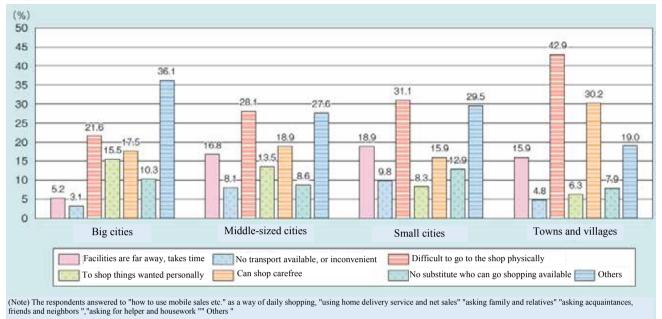
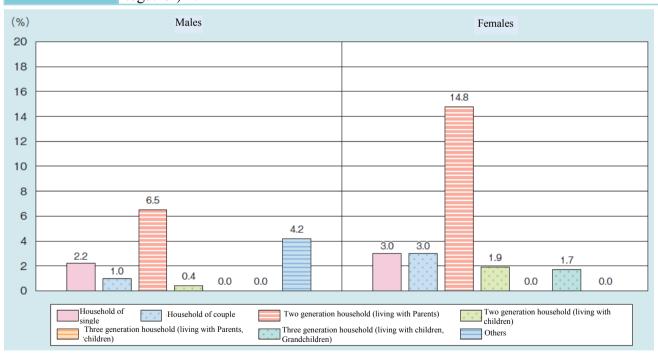


Chart 1-3-15 Main reasons of using services and receiving assistance as a means of daily shopping (multiple answers) (by city size)



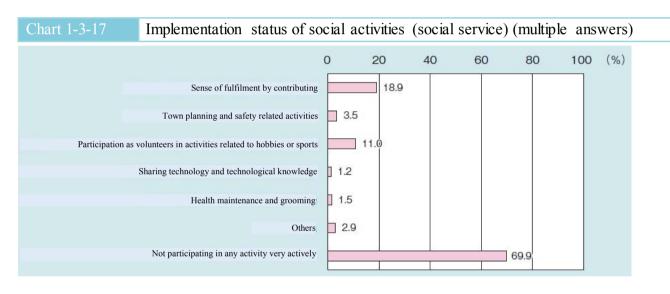
Every day shopping ways (Percentage of those who responded that they are using home delivery service and net sales with alternative answers) (by type of living together) 2.2



3 Participation in social service activities

(1) Currently, about 30% people are participating in social service activities

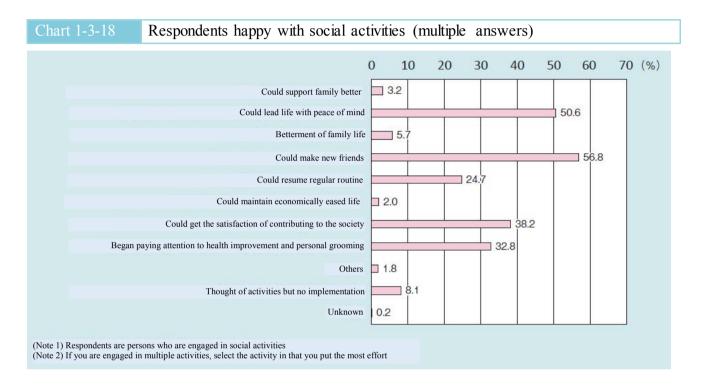
Various activities can be thought for the social service activities for the elderly people employment, hobbies, social contribution, etc. however, here we have conducted a survey on "social service activities" that support society and families which are conducted by groups, organizations or multiple persons. Apart from being activities leading to the creation of affluent communities, "Social service activities" are also expected, like other social activities, to bring about good influences on elderly persons themselves such as nursing care, prevention of dementia, creation of hope to live. Currently, the total of responses indicating participation in some kind of social service activities is about 30% (total excluding those who responded "Not particularly active" in (Fig. 1-3-17). A good participation of people can be seen in in "activities of autonomous organizations such as self-government associations and neighborhood associations" is 18.9%, followed by "Activities such as volunteer and community service through hobbies and sports" (11.0%). (Fig. 1-3-17)



(2) Many people think that social activities are good because" I was able to acquire new friends" and "I got a connection to live securely in the community"

When asked about what is good about social service activities (the activities that require energy), overall, the respondents who answered "get new friends" (56.8%) and "to live with peace of mind in the area "50.6%) were high at around 50%.

Subsequently, the responses "There is a sense of fulfillment by contributing to society" (38.2%), "Many people came to pay attention to health maintenance and grooming" (32.8%) were recorded. (Chart 1-3-18).

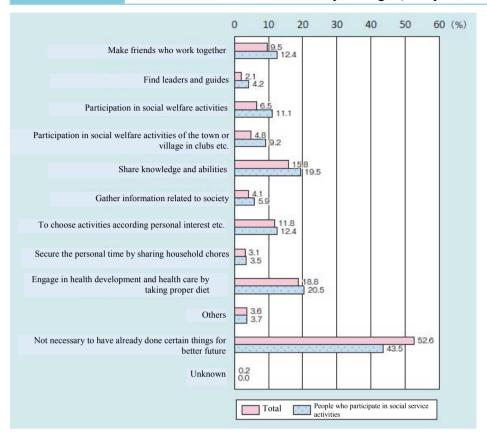


(3) Regarding matters that could be taken up for social service, many answered "to do exercise for consideration to eating habits for maintaining health and physical fitness" and "to acquire knowledge and skills"

When asked about what could have been done before 60 years of age to be more active now, in total 52.6% answered "I do not think I should have done", , 43.5% responded that they would like participating in social activities, but the number of respondents who said they were participating in social activities was low. Regarding the matters that could have been done before, many answered "Consideration for eating habits for maintaining health and exercise for physical fitness" and "To acquire knowledge and skills".

In addition, those who participate in social activities, those who said that they were actively participating in activities in the like "Participating in social activities and community events" (11.1%) and "participating in autonomous organizations such as neighborhood associations and neighborhood associations" (9.2%) tended to be higher than the total Chart. (Fig. 1 -3 -19).

Chart 1-3-19 What could have been done 60 years ago (multiple answers)



Topics 1: Denmark's "Re-Independence" and Japan's "Independence Support"

- o In Denmark, the keyword in supporting elderly is "Re-ablement<do it yourself again>". This is in order to rehabilitate, improve and maintain ability for the elderly to continue independent home living based on the principle "rehabilitation before nursing care". In this way, we are taking efforts to improve the QOL of the elderly and to save public resources.
- o In the 2012 Diet session in Denmark, unanimously adopted to establish a "home care committee" unilaterally, that gathers experts in each field related to care and seek recommendations on care in the future. Recommendations are prepared in a way that consolidates the care methods currently being practiced throughout the country, and are submitted to the Diet in 2013. The concept of "Re-Independence" lies in this. In response to this recommendation, the law in December 2014 imposed obligations on all municipalities to provide re-distribution as part of elderly care.
- The basic idea for advancing re-ablement is "thorough rehabilitation" with care which is care that is held back. (Care that pulls out the person's own power instead of doing tasks for the person).
- o With the efforts of municipalities and care-related personnel, the principle of "rehabilitation before nursing care" was established throughout the country. At present, rejections are intervened in 80% of home care applicants, and a success rate of 60% is expected.
- o In addition to home rehabilitation, various kinds of rehabilitation are done in "Rehabilitation Center" etc. in Denmark. In the rehabilitation center, intensive 24-hour training in order to rehabilitation to recover discharged patients from hospitals is conducted, along with maintenance training in the office aiming to continue home life, and provide guidance on home training. In addition, as a precautionary measure, several activity centers for the elderly are established in one municipality. Here, activities that move the body and activities to increase knowledge are conducted for the purpose of "doing good for health", "making a network" and "training".
- o Since the rehabilitation center and the activity center are basically different in nature, the former is a public medical care service, so it is necessary to qualify for the state of need of long-term care, and in principle free of charge service, while the latter being fundamental to the operation by citizens, volunteers and users which are central to the operation and hence is charged. Local governments support the provision and management of places.
- o Similarly, in Japan, independent support type services aiming at solving the living problems of elderly people who are in need of a mild care, are being promoted in various places such as Oita prefecture.
- o In Oita Prefecture as an initiative, in year 2013, regional care councils were held weekly in 14 municipalities out of 18 municipalities in the prefecture, thus spreading independence support type care. They also create an analysis manual for supporting independence and use this manual in the prefecture. As a result of such efforts, the rate of growth of nursing-care insurance premiums, which was previously 28%, has been lowered to 4.6%.
- oEfforts are being made to support independence in both Denmark and Japan. Among those efforts, based on the intention to sustain an independent living of the elderly independently, common to both countries are, long-term care that promotes self-reliance by firmly conducting assessment for solving life problems and improving QOL is underway with cooperation of many types of work.

Topics 2: Urban and mountain village, connecting young and elderly people ~ Efforts · Sanson Center Initiatives ~

- o In Aichi prefecture Toyota city, 95% of the city's population lived in urban areas, and in the mountain area rapid population reduction and aging are serious problems, and hence "Oita Sanson Center (hereafter referred to as" Center "), which aims for rich town planning through exchanges between elderly people living in the mountain village area and young people in urban areas, was established as" a platform connecting towns and villages "in 2013.
- ○Main business contents are consulted at a platform meeting consisting of companies / organizations and local residents, and other specialized committees, who together discuss strategies for solving each problem. In addition to business support that is discussed here, the center is responsible for responding to inquiries concerning migration and exchange projects from citizens, etc. and also acts as a coordinator to link companies / associations and people.
- o One of the activities that the Center is conducting, is a company that is looking for a place for human resource development and activities as part of CSR, which is a matching project in the mountain area that has problems in maintaining the environment of the Satoyama mountain due to shortage of agricultural and forestry workers. Matching projects not only provide land and places to companies and organizations, but also the elderly people in the region provide their respective technologies and knowledge in order to work together.
- The project is an important income source for the local residents. Not only farmlands and forests, but also the technology and wisdom of elderly people living in the mountain village areas, are attractive local resources, and matching them with cities that need them has also produced a positive effect on the local economy.
- Also, at the "Village Livelihood General Desk" installed at the center, in addition to introducing information on emigration, utilizing the vacant house, information bank in a unified manner, it supports living and living through cooperation with private activity organizations.
- o Due to various efforts, 278 111 households migrated to the mountain village in the 6 years from 2010 to 2016, and elderly people and migrants in each town help each other and live.

Topics 3: Efforts for multi-generational symbiosis in the region

- (1) Regeneration of housing complex and community development with local community (Yuuma-ru-Tamahei Forest)
- o In "Yuuma-ru Tama Forest" located in Hino City, Tokyo, the existing housing complex of UR Urbanism Organization was used as community house for "residential for community house with elderly with service". About 80% of those who currently live are single women, and Average age is 83 years old.
- o On the same site, there is a share house where students of a nearby university live, and a rental house with a vegetable garden where family households live. There are facilities such as a nursery school, a hospital, a sports gym, a special nursing home for nursing homes, a doctor association office, a lending field, etc. which are very convenient, and the building has a small-scale multifunctional in-home care and dining and meeting room (Cafeteria) as well. Everyone in the area can use the cafeteria, and the neighboring elderly people living alone too use it for health developing activities.
- oIn this housing complex, apart from nursing care staff, 2 people during the day and 1 night at night work for non-nursing care. Staff is stationed and watching over so that little troubles can be taken care of. (Bulb exchange, objects being looked for, etc.).
- oo Moreover, there are volunteer activities alongside the staff by residents who have formed "little works association", and connections between tenants are made through hospital visits, shopping, accompanying funeral attendance, and leisure walks. Those who had done accounting at the time of active service, such as carrying out bookkeeping, are linked to their respective fields according to their wishes.
- o In the multipurpose room, elderly people are also exchanging with young people living in housing complexes on the same premises, activities like knitting. In addition to conducting exchanges among older people, through gymnastics classes, Tai Chi and picture letters, where neighboring people can participate freely, also by calling out to neighboring stores, a cherry-blossom event was also organized, thus giving an impetus to communication in the community.
- (2) Lifelong health · Aiming for active "Gochamaze" town planning (B's Zuzenji)
- The social welfare corporation Foshikoen (Ishikawa Prefecture) in the Ishikawa prefecture, in October 2016, in the city of Hakusan where there is Zunezado, the birthplace of the corporation, the local community base "B's · Zunezenji" established for not only young people and children from the elderly people, healthy people, but also not so healthy people, people with disabilities also do not have people with disabilities, all live together in the same place "Gochamaze". The town planning for such a place is being worked out.
- There are hot springs, soba houses, residents' self-government offices, nursery schools, sports gyms, clinics, etc. within the base, providing employment support for persons with disabilities, nursing home care, short term entry service, etc. The two pillars of the town that support health care and are characteristic to the town are "GOTCHA! WELLNESS" at the sports gym and clinic "B's Clinic".
- o The population of people visiting Zenzenji (exchange population) is increasing every year, and in April 2015 the exchange population which was 8,721 people, expanded to 29,523 people in March 2017.In addition, the sports gym "GOTCHA! WELLNESS" has a usage rate of more than 50% per day, which is also a regular place of visit for many people.
- o In this background, while searching for exchange people who want to visit local people, Foshikoen is working out well. In the gymnasium, that is utilized for special support and elementary school, local residents were able to use it for free, and a morning market is held every month, and a part of the profit is a mechanism for the local residents to consider how to use it for the town.
- OAs a result of creating bases for people in these areas, the elderly has been given a chance to go out, leading to an improvement in the utilization rate of the sports gym, etc.

Topic 4: Examples of nursing care utilizing IoT etc.

- o"Fujisawa sustainable · smart town" in Fujisawa city, Kanagawa prefecture, 18 private enterprises (Note) It is a town development project promoted by the Fujisawa SST Council consisting of a citizen, and in order to foster a sustainable community, overcoming the barriers of medical care, nursing care, education, and childcare, promotion of regional comprehensive care covering from infants to elderly and multifunctional complexes that realize multigenerational exchanges through senior citizens' welfare, child rearing support and education at one base We are developing the base "Wellness Square (Wellness Square)" is being expanded.
- oWellness square is a base consisting of two buildings, South Building and North Building, and the South Building consists of housing for senior citizens with services, home nursing care facilities, visiting nursing home care facilities, day care facilities, visiting nursing facilities, licensed nursery schools, School childcare facility, and study school, pharmacy, moved in clinic. In the North Building, a special nursing home for seniors and short-term residence nursing home care facilities are established.
- oThrough ICT-based information collaboration with clinics, pharmacies, day care services (day service), visiting nursing care, and visiting nursing centered on houses for senior citizens in the South wing, through information collaboration and personnel exchanges among business establishments, a comprehensive network care is being set up at the wellness centers. In collaboration with the special nursing home and the nursing home in the North Building, needs of the community pertaining to nursing care are being taken care of.
- oAlso, in the house for senior citizen with service, "smart air conditioner sunrise service" is installed in all rooms. Air conditioners and sensors collect information necessary for nursing care without burdening the facility staff and residents by watching the amount of activity and the absence of residents. For prevention of heat stroke in the summer, staff needs to circulate in the facility and adjust the temperature of the environment, but "smart air conditioner watching service" utilizing IoT × AI technology is a personal computer or tablet, in which in addition to checking the environment and air conditioning settings in a list, it is possible to remotely control the air conditioner from a control room or the like, if necessary, to avoid risks such as heat stroke of residents and to alleviate the burden on the staff. Furthermore, because it is possible for the user to ascertain the sleep and the activity situation, it is possible to plan and implement more fulfilling better quality care.
- The Fujisawa SST Council is a forum where people involved in the city, from children to the elderly, are supporting the city's smart community through information collaboration among institutions utilizing ICT and advanced technology, watching care for tenants and new learning services, and support menus on "health", "welfare" "education", etc., which promotes a comfortable sustainable realization of life.

(Note) "Fujisawa SST Council" members

Panasonic Corporation (Representative Secretary), Gakken Holdings Co., Ltd., Gakken Coco Fan Holdings Co., Ltd., Culture · Convenience Club Co., Ltd., Kusan Medical Welfare Group Social Welfare Corporation Camellia Association, Dentsu, Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd., PanaHome Corporation , Higashi Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, Mitsui Sumitomo Trust and Banking Co., Ltd., Mitsui & Co., Ltd., Mitsui Fudosan Residential Co., Ltd., Yamato Transport Corporation, Ain Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Accenture Corporation, Security guarantee Co., Ltd.

Topics 5: Preparation for Second Life

- While innovative activities of elderly people are paying attention to the realization of lifelong active society, after retirement, they start their own businesses, as an example of designing and producing various products full of imagination, we would like to introduce Mr. Hiroshi Ando (78 years old, Ageless · Life practice case recipient).
- oMr. Ando has a strong feeling that he wants to work creatively while being free from the era of typical company work, and after retirement, he immediately launched the company, which receives orders for designing and prototyping machines from companies that comprehensively conduct product planning, development, trial manufacture, and production support.
- OMachines designed and prototyped so far include strength testing equipment for dental caries for caries treatment, polishing cleaning equipment for pearl necklaces, and brain low temperature automatic control equipment used for treatment of diseases such as cerebral infarction. More than 300 items have been designed and prototyped upon request.
- There are many companies requesting design and prototyping of machines for reasons such as improving the workplace environment, Mr. Ando himself also wants to continue his work thinking about how is he really is troubled and how he will he be able to work it out.
- oEntrepreneurship is considered difficult if the elderly themselves do think so, but it can be said that it is a job that anyone can do and make use of creativity, thus a message saying that it might be considered as one of the options while thinking about the second life can be noted.

Topics 6: Traffic Safety Measures for the Elderly

While the number of overall traffic accident fatalities has decreased, that of traffic accident fatalities of the elderly has remained almost unchanged along with the increase in aging population, and its percentage in the overall traffic accident fatalities in 2016 was at record-high – 54.8% (In 2015: 54.6%). The number of traffic accident fatalities of the elderly accounts for a majority of the total, and due to the increase in aging population, the number of older elderly license holders will further increase in the future and it might lead to the increase in traffic fatal accidents caused by elderly drivers. Therefore, in order to reduce tragic fatal accidents, it is necessary to consider about and promote measures to prevent both traffic accidents of elderly pedestrians and bicycle users (hereafter referred to as "elderly pedestrians, etc.") and traffic accidents caused by elderly drivers.

In order to prevent traffic accidents related to the elderly, based on "comprehensive elderly traffic safety measures for transition to a full-fledged aged society" (as determined on March 27, 2003 by the Traffic Countermeasures Headquarters) and the recent occurrence of accidents etc., government is taking various efforts.

Participation, experience and practice-based traffic safety education and reflector supplies etc. are promoted as efforts of traffic safety education for the elderly.

On November 15, 2016, the light of the successive occurrence of fatal accidents caused by elderly drivers, "Ministerial Council on Measures for the Prevention of Traffic Accidents by Elderly Drivers" was held.

At the council, Prime Minister Abe instructed to undertake all possible measures immediately and to tackle measures as a whole government to prevent such painful accidents.

In response to this, in order to accelerate the review of the relevant administrative organs on further measures for the prevention of traffic accidents by elderly drivers and promptly take measures based on the result of such review, on November 24,2016, the "Working team for preventive measures against traffic accidents by elderly drivers "consisting of director generals and other officials from relevant ministries was established under the Traffic Safety Headquarters and a comprehensive summary is expected by June, 2017.

Also, since January 2017, "Expert Advisory Council Meeting on Measures to Prevent Traffic Accidents by Elderly Drivers" has been held in the National Police Agency to discuss extensive studies on the measures necessary for preventing traffic accidents associated with the characteristics of elderly drivers, and the recommendations on the direction from the review will be made this June.

As vehicle safety measures that contribute to prevention of traffic accidents such as elderly pedestrians, it is necessary to develop safety standards etc. for vehicle proximity notification devices provided for hybrid vehicles with quiet running noise, advanced safety vehicles (ASV). We are working the development, dissemination and practical application of automobiles that support safe driving of drivers by utilizing safety technology.

As an effort to prevent traffic accidents by elderly drivers, request to domestic automobile manufacturers has been made to promote research and development, enhance functions and expand on loading of advanced safety technology, promote popularization at dealers, etc., promotion of public awareness raising promotion aid for safe driving support car (nickname is Safety Support Car S (Sapoka S)), further promotion of countermeasures against reverse running on highway, etc. is also being promoted.

In the "10th Fundamental Traffic Safety Program" decided in March, 2016, the goal of the program is that the number of traffic accident deaths should be 2,500 or less by the year 2020, and to realize "world's safest road traffic". In order to realize this, it is necessary to deepen the traffic safety measures so far, and to tackle measures in a new era in which advanced technologies that contribute to traffic safety are positively adopted. With regard to traffic safety of the elderly, by promoting efforts that are not only relevant to ministries but also to related organizations, private

enterprises, and local communities, we must improve it and realize the safest road traffic in the world.