

Chapter 2 Implementation of Measures for the Aging Society

1. Fundamental Framework of Measures for Aging Society

- The fundamental framework of national measures for aging society is based on the Basic Law on Measures for Aging Society (Law No. 129, 1995).

- The Aging Society Policy Council has discussed crucial issues related to measures for aging society. The Prime Minister serves as the chairman, and all cabinet members are appointed as members of the council.

- The General Principles Concerning Measures for the Aging Society is the basic, comprehensive guideline of governmental policies for aging society, and the government has an obligation to draw it up under the Basic Law on Measures for the Aging Society.

- Since five years have passed since the first General Principles Concerning Measures for the Aging Society was formulated in July 1996, the economic and social situation has changed. Consequently, the new General Principles Concerning Measures for the Aging Society was decided by the Cabinet on December 28, 2001, based on the draft prepared by the Aging Society Policy Council.

- In order to comprehensively promote the measures based the New General Principles Concerning Measures for the Aging Society, the government has been conducting detailed policy research on “transverse challenges” mentioned in the general principles.

(1) Budget Related to Measures for Aging Society

- Measures for aging society have been steadily developed over a wide range of fields such as working and income, health and welfare, learning and social participation, living environment, and promotion of survey and research. The FY2005 budget related to measures for aging society in the government general account amounts to 12.6982 trillion yen, including 6.4355 trillion yen for working and income, 6.1960 trillion yen for health and welfare, 26.6 billion yen for learning and

social participation, 12.8 billion yen for living environment, and 27.4 billion yen for promotion of survey and research. (Table 2-1-1)

Table 2-1-1. Budget Related to Measures for Aging Society (General Account)

(Unit: 100 million yen)

	Working & income	Health & welfare	Study & social participation	Living environment	Promotion of survey and research	Total
1996	43,269	39,516	766	449	340	84,340
1997	43,176	41,698	686	452	385	86,396
1998	44,078	45,476	593	404	380	90,932
1999	52,095	49,694	583	399	445	103,215
2000	53,386	52,297	516	418	851	107,467
2001	54,884	55,862	356	329	968	112,398
2002	56,387	59,264	358	292	1,187	117,488
2003	57,705	61,298	346	267	1,114	120,730
2004	59,943	63,098	277	130	453	123,901
2005	64,355	61,960	266	128	274	126,982

Source: Cabinet Office

- Note: 1. The budget related to measures for aging society includes the “special account,” etc., other than the general account shown in this table.
 2. The budget amount in this table is the total amount only shown as a budget related to measures for aging society.