

Section 1

Fundamental Framework of Measures for the Aging Society

- The fundamental framework of national measures for the aging society is based on the Basic Law on Measures for the Aging Society (Act No. 129 of 1995).
- The prime minister is the chairperson of Aging Society Policy Council and all cabinet ministers are appointed as members of the council. They discuss important matters related to measures for the aging society.
- The basic law on measures for the aging society sets out that it is a duty of the government to formulate an outline of measures for the aging society. It serves as a basic and comprehensive guideline of the government's measures against the aging society.
- As 5 years have passed after the initial outline of measures for the aging society was drawn up in July 1996, and as economic and social conditions have also changed, a plan for a new outline of measures was prepared in the Aging Society Policy Council and then approved in a cabinet meeting on 28th December, 2001.
- For the comprehensive promotion of policies based on the outline of measures for the aging society, an agenda was set to work in a cross-sectoral manner by transcending basic sectoral policy and thus comprehensively promote the related measures.

1 Budget Related to the Measures for the Aging Society

- Measures for the aging society have been steadily progressing in a wide range of fields such as work and income, health and welfare, education and social participation, living environment, and promotion of surveys and research. In the general account budget for the FY 2007, the related budget was 13.6372 trillion yen.
Its division according to each sector is as follows: 7.2294 trillion yen for work and income, 6.3541 trillion yen for health and welfare, 19.5 billion yen for education and social participation, 12.5 billion yen for living environment, 21.7 billion yen for promotion of surveys and research etc (Table 2-1-1).

Table 2-1-1

Budget Related to Measures for the Aging Society (General Account)

(Unit:100 million)

	Work and income	Health and welfare	Education and social participation	Living environment	Promotion of surveys 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
2006	68,260	61,400	216	125	246	130,246
2007	72,294	63,541	195	125	217	136,372

Source: Cabinet office

(Note 1) The budget related to measures for Aging Society includes the General Account as described in this table and Special Account etc.

(Note 2) The budget figures are the aggregate sum of those identified as the budget of measures for the aging society