

Chapter 2 Situation of Implementation Measures for the Aging Society

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 create drafts on fundamental principles for measures for the aging society, adjust the mutual relationships between related administrative agencies necessary in implementing measures for the aging society, discuss important issues on measures for an aging society, and promote implementation of those measures.
- 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 middle- and long- term 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.
- 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 2008, the related budget was 14.1295 trillion yen. Its division according to each sector is as follows: 7.6684 trillion yen for work and income, 6.4035 trillion yen for health and welfare, 24.0 billion yen for education and social participation, 12.4 billion yen for living environment, 21.2 billion yen for promotion of surveys and research etc (Table 2-1-1).

	Work and income	Health and welfare	Learning and social participation	Living environments	Promotion of surveys and research	Total
	(Unit: 100 million yen)					
FY 1996	43,269	39,516	766	449	340	84,340
FY 1997	43,176	41,698	686	452	385	86,396
FY 1998	44,078	45,476	593	404	380	90,932
FY 1999	52,095	49,694	583	399	445	103,215
FY 2000	53,386	52,297	516	418	851	107,467
FY 2001	54,884	55,862	356	329	968	112,398
FY 2002	56,387	59,264	358	292	1,187	117,488
FY 2003	57,705	61,298	346	267	1,114	120,730
FY 2004	59,943	63,098	277	130	453	123,901
FY 2005	64,355	61,960	266	128	274	126,982
FY 2006	68,260	61,400	216	125	246	130,246
FY 2007	72,294	63,541	195	125	217	136,373
FY 2008	76,684	64,035	240	124	212	141,295

Source: Cabinet Office

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

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

(Note 3) The budget in this table originates in the initial budgetary plan.