

Chapter 1

Situation on Aging

Section 1 Situation on Aging

Current State and Future Outlook on Aging

The percentage of the elderly rises to 26.0%

- The total population of Japan is 127.08 million people as of October 1, 2014 (Chart 1-1-1).
- The number of people aged 65 and over is the highest ever, at 33.00 million (31.90 million in the previous year).
- Of people aged 65 and over, the number of males was 14.23 million and the number of females was 18.77 million, and the sex ratio (the number of males to 100 females) was 75.8.
- Percentage of the population aged 65 and over (percentage of the elderly): 26.0% (previous year: 25.1%).
- 65-74 years old population (the young elderly): 17.08 million people, 13.4% of the total population.
- 75 years old and over population (the old elderly): 15.92 million people, 12.5% of the total population.

Chart 1-1-1

Current State of Aging

Units: 10,000 people (Population), % (Composition ratio)

		October 1, 2014			October 1, 2013		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Population (Units of 10,000 people)	Total population	12,708	6,180	6,528	12,730	6,191	6,539
		(Sex ratio) 94.7			(Sex ratio) 94.7		
	Aged population (65 or over)	3,300	1,423	1,877	3,190	1,370	1,820
		(Sex ratio) 75.8			(Sex ratio) 75.3		
	65-74 years old population	1,708	810	898	1,630	772	858
		(Sex ratio) 90.2			(Sex ratio) 90.0		
	75 years old and over population	1,592	612	979	1,560	598	962
		(Sex ratio) 62.5			(Sex ratio) 62.2		
	Productive population (15-64)	7,785	3,926	3,859	7,901	3,981	3,920
		(Sex ratio) 101.7			(Sex ratio) 101.6		
	Child population (0-14)	1,623	832	792	1,639	840	800
		(Sex ratio) 105.1			(Sex ratio) 105.0		
Composition ratio (%)	Total population	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	Aged population (Population aging rate)	26.0	23.0	28.8	25.1	22.1	27.8
	65-74 years old population	13.4	13.1	13.8	12.8	12.5	13.1
	75 years old and over population	12.5	9.9	15.0	12.3	9.7	14.7
	Productive population	61.3	63.5	59.1	62.1	64.3	59.9
	Child population	12.8	13.5	12.1	12.9	13.6	12.2

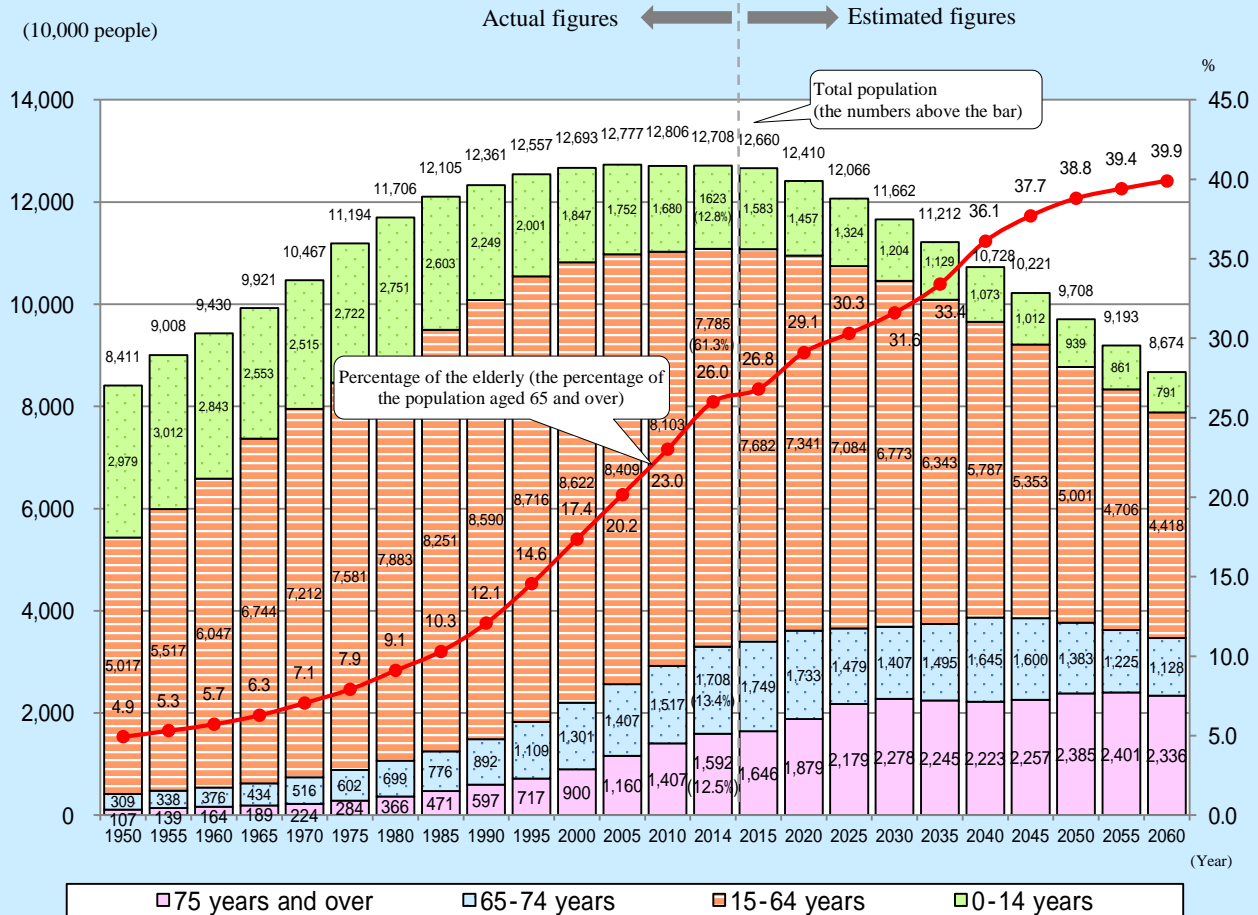
Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Estimates" as of October 1, each year

(Note) "Sex ratio" is the male population against a female population of 100 people

By 2060, 1 in 2.5 people will be 65 years old and over, and 1 in 4 will be 75 years old and over

- In the future, as the total population decreases, the percentage of the elderly will continue to increase (Chart 1-1-2).
- In 2015, when the baby boomers (born between 1947 and 1949) begin reaching 65 years old, the number of elderly persons will grow to 33.95 million and will further increase. As the elderly population will reach its peak of 38.78 million in 2042, the percentage of the elderly will increase.
- In 2060, the percentage of the elderly will reach 39.9% with 1 in 2.5 people being 65 years and over.
- In 2060, the percentage of people aged 75 and over will be 26.9%, with 1 in 4 being 75 years and over.

Chart 1-1-2 Trends in Aging and Estimations for the Future

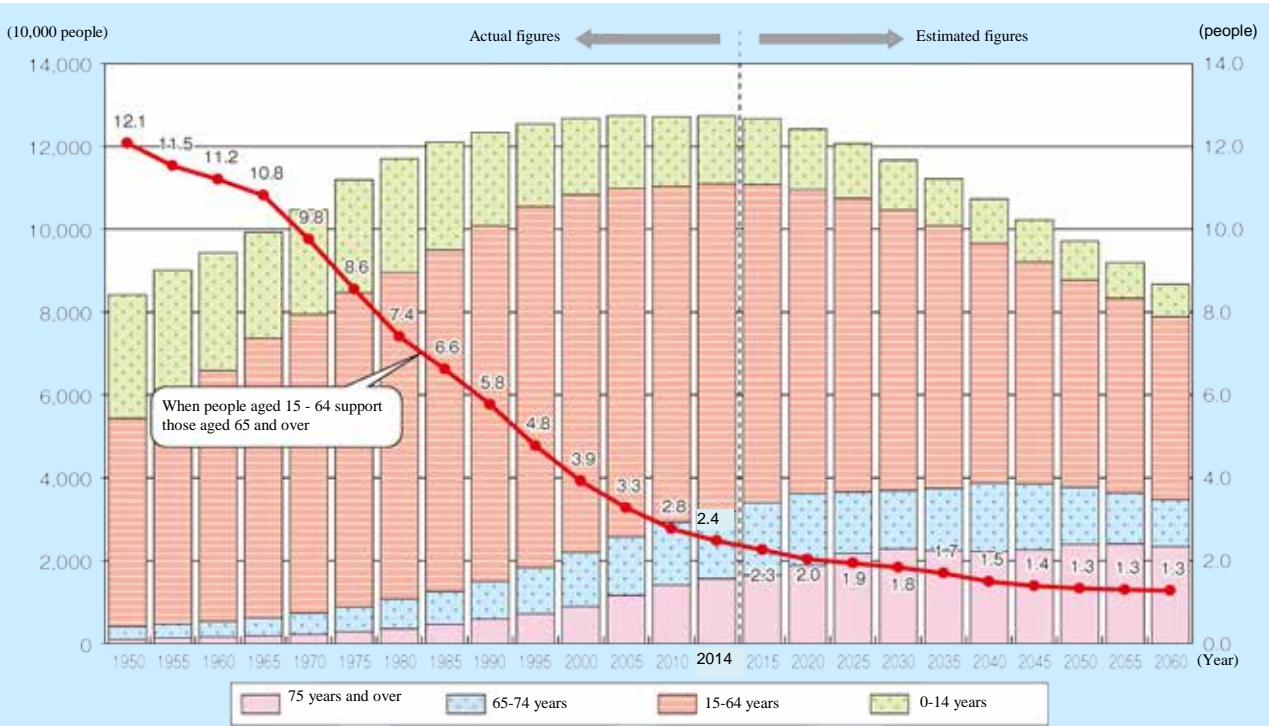


Source: Up to 2010 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “Population Census,” 2014 “Population Estimates” (as of October 1, 2014), after 2015 National Institute of Population and Social Security “Populations for Japan (January 2012) 2011 to 2060” based on the estimated figure with Medium-Fertility and Medium-Mortality Assumption
 (Note) The total numbers for 1950-2010 include people of uncertain age.

Arrival of a society where 1.3 persons of working age support an elderly person

- In 2014, there are 2.4 persons of working age (aged 15-64) per elderly person (Chart 1-1-3).
- In 2060, there will be 1.3 persons of working age (aged 15-64) per elderly person.

Chart 1-1-3 Population by Age Group



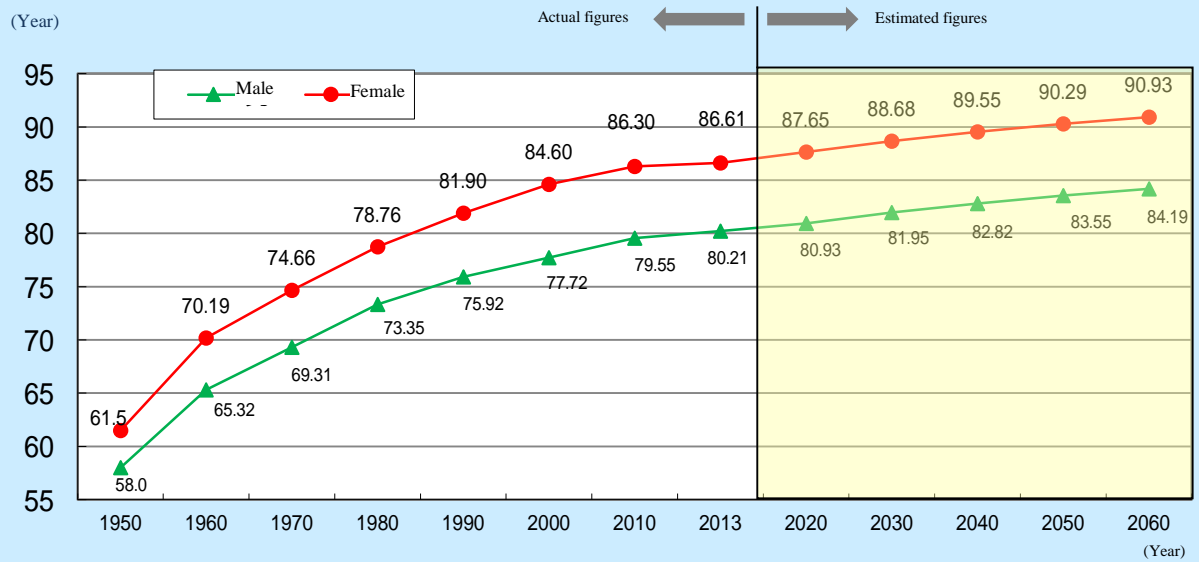
Source: Up to 2010 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “Population Census,” 2014 “Population Estimates” (as of October 1, 2014), after 2015 National Institute of Population and Social Security “Populations for Japan (January 2012) 2011 to 2060” based on the estimated figure with Medium-Fertility and Medium-Mortality Assumption

Life expectancy at birth in the future will be 84.19 years for males and 90.93 years for females

- Life expectancy at birth is 80.21 years for males and 86.61 years for females as of 2013 (Chart 1-1-4).
- By 2060, it will be 84.19 years for males and 90.93 years for females, exceeding 90 years for females.

Chart 1-1-4

Trends and Future Projections of Life Expectancy at Birth



Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare “Abridged Life Tables” (1950 and 2013), “Complete Life Tables” (1960-2010). After 2020 National Institute of Population and Social Security Research “Population Projections for Japan: 2011 to 2060” in January 2012, based on the estimated figure with Medium-Fertility and Medium-Mortality Assumption.

(Note) Before 1970 Okinawa is excluded from the calculation.

Population aging by prefecture

- The percentage of the elderly as of 2014 is the highest in Akita Prefecture (32.6 %) and the lowest in Okinawa Prefecture (19.0 %) (Chart 1-1-5).

Chart 1-1-5

Percentage of the Elderly Projections by Prefecture

	2014			2040	Increase in aging rate (points)
	Total population (unit: thousands)	65 years and over (unit: thousands)	Aging rate (%)	Aging rate (%)	
Hokkaido	5,400	1,519	28.1	40.7	12.6
Aomori	1,321	383	29.0	41.5	12.5
Iwate	1,284	380	29.6	39.7	10.1
Miyagi	2,328	573	24.6	36.2	11.6
Akita	1,037	339	32.6	43.8	11.2
Yamagata	1,131	338	29.9	39.3	9.4
Fukushima	1,935	537	27.8	39.3	11.5
Ibaraki	2,919	754	25.8	36.4	10.6
Tochigi	1,980	498	25.1	36.3	11.2
Gunma	1,976	529	26.8	36.6	9.8
Saitama	7,239	1,737	24.0	34.9	10.9
Chiba	6,197	1,571	25.3	36.5	11.2
Tokyo	13,390	3,011	22.5	33.5	11.0
Kanagawa	9,096	2,115	23.2	35.0	11.8
Niigata	2,313	672	29.1	38.7	9.6
Toyama	1,070	318	29.7	38.4	8.7
Ishikawa	1,156	313	27.1	36.0	8.9
Fukui	790	220	27.9	37.5	9.6
Yamanashi	841	231	27.5	38.8	11.3
Nagano	2,109	615	29.2	38.4	9.2
Gifu	2,041	557	27.3	36.2	8.9
Shizuoka	3,705	998	26.9	37.0	10.1
Aichi	7,455	1,728	23.2	32.4	9.2
Mie	1,825	495	27.1	36.0	8.9
Shiga	1,416	332	23.4	32.8	9.4
Kyoto	2,610	701	26.9	36.4	9.5
Osaka	8,836	2,267	25.7	36.0	10.3
Hyogo	5,541	1,460	26.3	36.4	10.1
Nara	1,376	383	27.8	38.1	10.3
Wakayama	971	296	30.5	39.9	9.4
Tottori	574	167	29.1	38.2	9.1
Shimane	697	221	31.8	39.1	7.3
Okayama	1,924	540	28.1	34.8	6.7
Hiroshima	2,833	769	27.1	36.1	9.0
Yamaguchi	1,408	441	31.3	38.3	7.0
Tokushima	764	230	30.1	40.2	10.1
Kagawa	981	286	29.2	37.9	8.7
Ehime	1,395	415	29.8	38.7	8.9
Kochi	738	237	32.2	40.9	8.7
Fukuoka	5,091	1,279	25.1	35.3	10.2
Saga	835	225	27.0	35.5	8.5
Nagasaki	1,386	401	28.9	39.3	10.4
Kumamoto	1,794	504	28.1	36.4	8.3
Oita	1,171	347	29.6	36.7	7.1
Miyazaki	1,114	319	28.6	37.0	8.4
Kagoshima	1,668	478	28.6	37.5	8.9
Okinawa	1,421	270	19.0	30.3	11.3

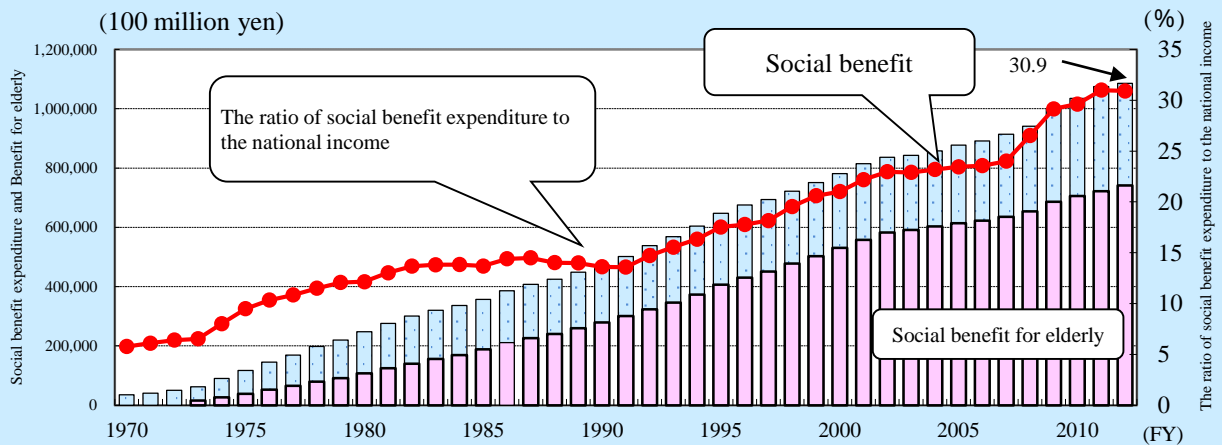
Source: For 2014 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Estimates," for 2040 National Institute of Population and Social Security Research "Projected Population by Prefecture for Japan" (projected in March 2013)

Highest recorded cost of social security

- The social benefit expenditure in FY 2012 was on the largest scale ever and amounted to 108.5568 trillion yen (Chart 1-1-6).
- The ratio of social benefit expenditure in the national income rose from 5.8% in FY 1970 to 30.9%.
- In FY 2012, 74.1004 trillion yen, or 68.3% of social security expenditure, was used on social benefit for elderly.

Chart 1-1-6

Japanese Social Benefit Trends



Source: National Institute of Population and Social Security Research "The Financial Statistics of Social Security in Japan" (FY 2012)

(Note 1) Benefit for elderly is the aggregate cost for pension benefits and medical care, welfare services and subsidies for elderly employees, having been aggregated since 1973.

(Note 2) Benefit for elderly includes expenditures from former Health Services Scheme for the Aged till FY 2007, latter-stage elderly healthcare system in FY 2008 and expenditure from former Health Services Scheme for the Aged on March 2008.

○ **Japan has the highest percentage of the elderly in the world**

ž The percentage of the elderly in Japan which used to be at a lower rank until the 1980's and at a medium rank in the 1990's among the more developed countries became the highest in the world in 2005. (Chart 1-1-7).

Chart 1-1-7 Worldwide Ratio Trends

