

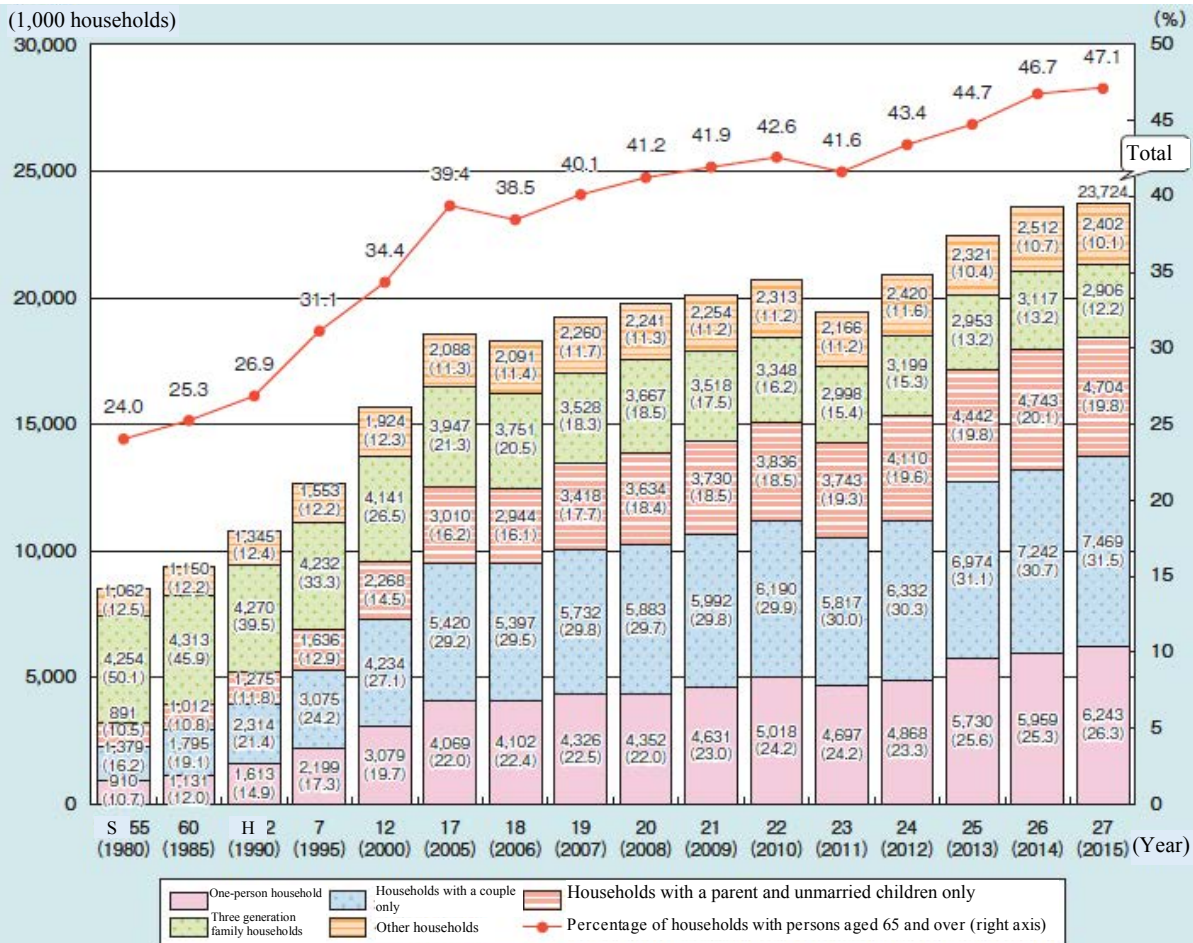
Section 2 Current State and Trends on the Elderly and their Environment

1 Elderly People's Families and Households

Households with elderly people comprise about 50% of the total, and among those, individuals living alone or households with a married couple only hold a majority

- As of 2015, the number of households with elderly people aged 65 and over was 23,724 thousand, making up 47.1% of all households (50,361 thousand) (Chart 1-2-1). The number of households “with a couple only” is the largest accounting for about 30% and if combined with the number of “one-person households,” the number of their households accounts for the majority.

Chart 1-2-1 Number and Percentage Distribution of Households with Persons Aged 65 and over (by Household Type) and Share among All Households



Source: “Basic Survey on Welfare Administration” by the Ministry of Health and Welfare before 1985 and “Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions” by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare after 1986

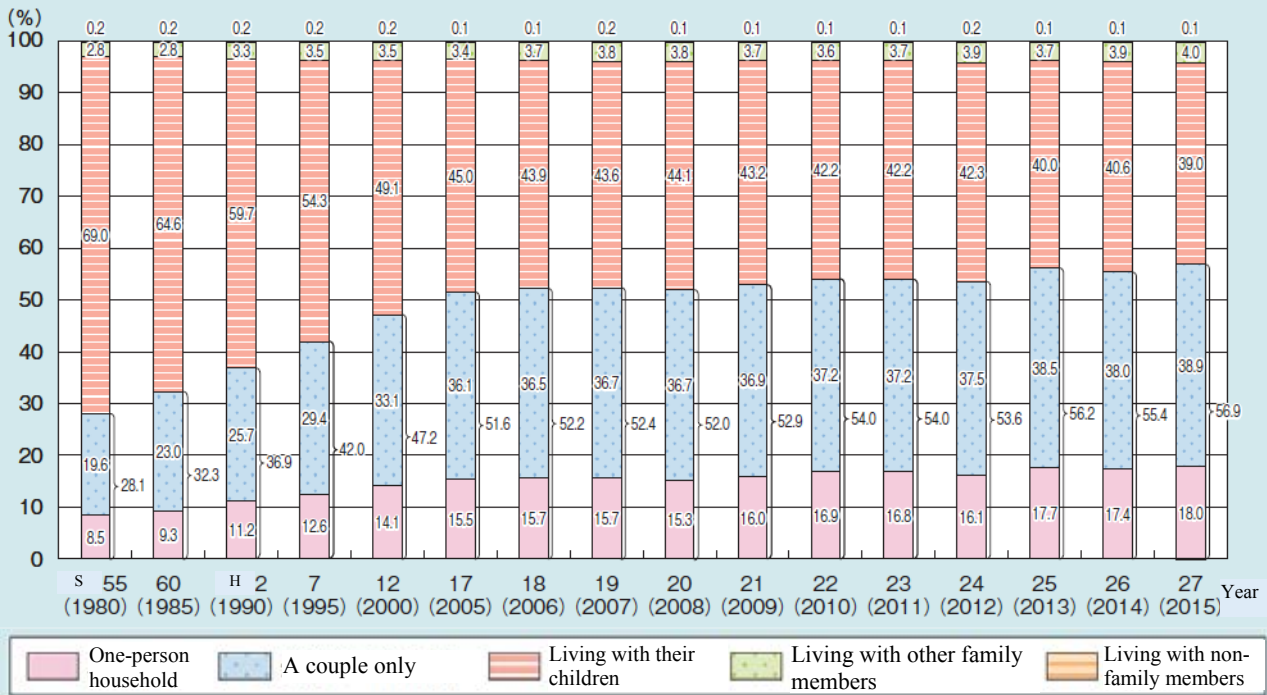
(Note 1) The figure of 1995 exclude Hyogo Prefecture, the 2011 Charts exclude Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures, and the figure of 2012 exclude Fukushima Prefecture.

(Note 2) The number in brackets () is the share of the total number of households with persons aged 65 and over.

(Note 3) As a result of rounding, the numbers do not necessarily add up to the total shown here.

- When we look at the percentage of elderly people aged 65 and over living with their children, it was nearly 70% in 1980. However, the percentage of living with their children has considerably decreased to 39.0% in 2015. The combined number of households with a couple only and of single households which was a little less than 30% in 1980 has increased to 56.9% in 2015 (Chart 1-2-2).

Chart 1-2-2 Percentage of the Elderly Aged 65 and over by Family Type



Source: “Basic Survey on Welfare Administration” by the Ministry of Health and Welfare before 1985 and “Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions” by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare after 1986

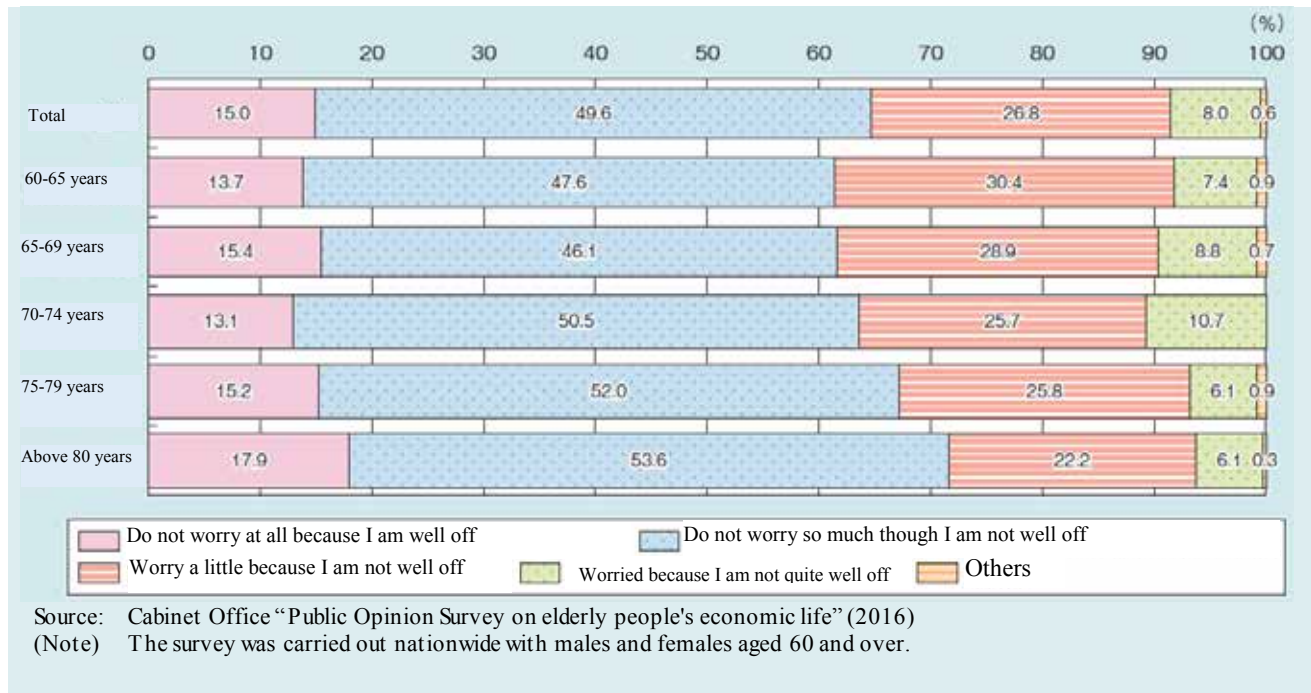
(Note) The figures of 1995 excludes Hyogo Prefecture, the figures of 2011 excludes Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefectures, and the figures of 2012 excludes Fukushima Prefecture.

2 Economic Situation of Elderly People

Percentage of the elderly who need not worry about their livelihood is 64.6%

When we look at the life circumstances of elderly people aged 60 and over, the percentage who feel they “do not worry” (the total of “Do not worry at all because I am well off” and “Do not worry so much, though I am not well off”) is 64.6%. Within the age group, this Chart is the highest, at 71.5% of the group total, for those 80 years old and over (Chart 1-2-3).

Chart 1-2-3 Livelihood of Elderly Persons



Income within aged households is lower than other households

- The average income of aged households is 2.973 million yen, which is little less than 50% of other households excluding aged households and single mother households from all households (6.447 million yen).
- Looking at the average income amount, the difference between other households and aged households is large. However, adjusting the influence of the living cost that becomes relatively expensive, if the number of households is small, and looking at the average equivalent disposable income amount by dividing the disposable income with the square root of the number of household headcounts, the amount of aged households is 2.116 million yen, which is 0.961 million yen lower than other households (3.077 million yen) (Chart 1-2-4).
- Among the 68.0% of aged households receiving public pensions, the percentage of such public pensions against the total income is over 80% or more (Chart 1-2-5).

Chart 1-2-4 Income of elderly households

Category	Average Income Amount (Average number of family members)	Average Equivalent Disposable Income Amount
Aged Households	2,973,000 Yen (1.53 people)	2,116,000 Yen
Other Households	6,447,000 Yen (2.98 people)	3,077,000 Yen
All Households	5,419,000 Yen (2.57 people)	2,860,000 Yen

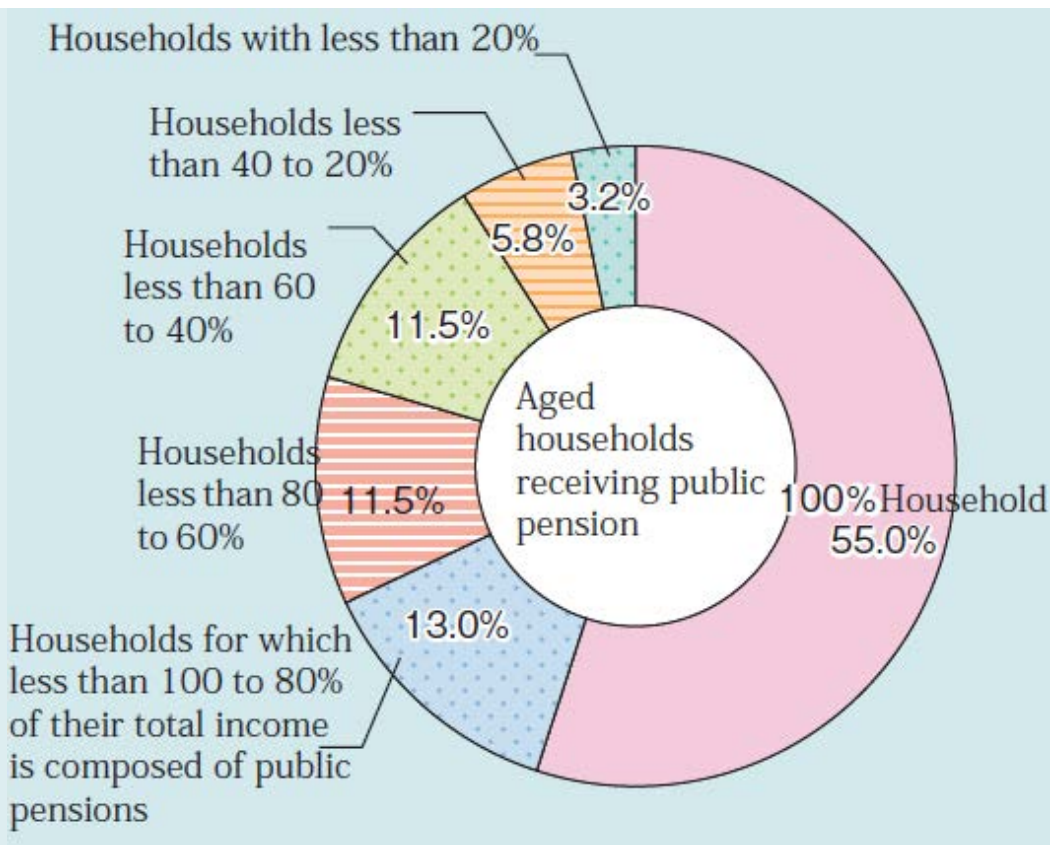
Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 'Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions' (2015) (Income for one year in 2014 in the said survey)

(Note 1): Aged households refers to a household with persons aged 65 and over only, or a household with persons aged 65 and over and unmarried person aged under 18.

(Note 2) Average equivalent disposable income refers to the adjusted disposable income of a household divided by the square root of the number of household members.

(Note 3) Other households mean households excluding aged households and single parent households from all households.

Chart 1-2-5 Percentage distribution of number of households for aged households receiving public pension, by the share of public pensions against their total income



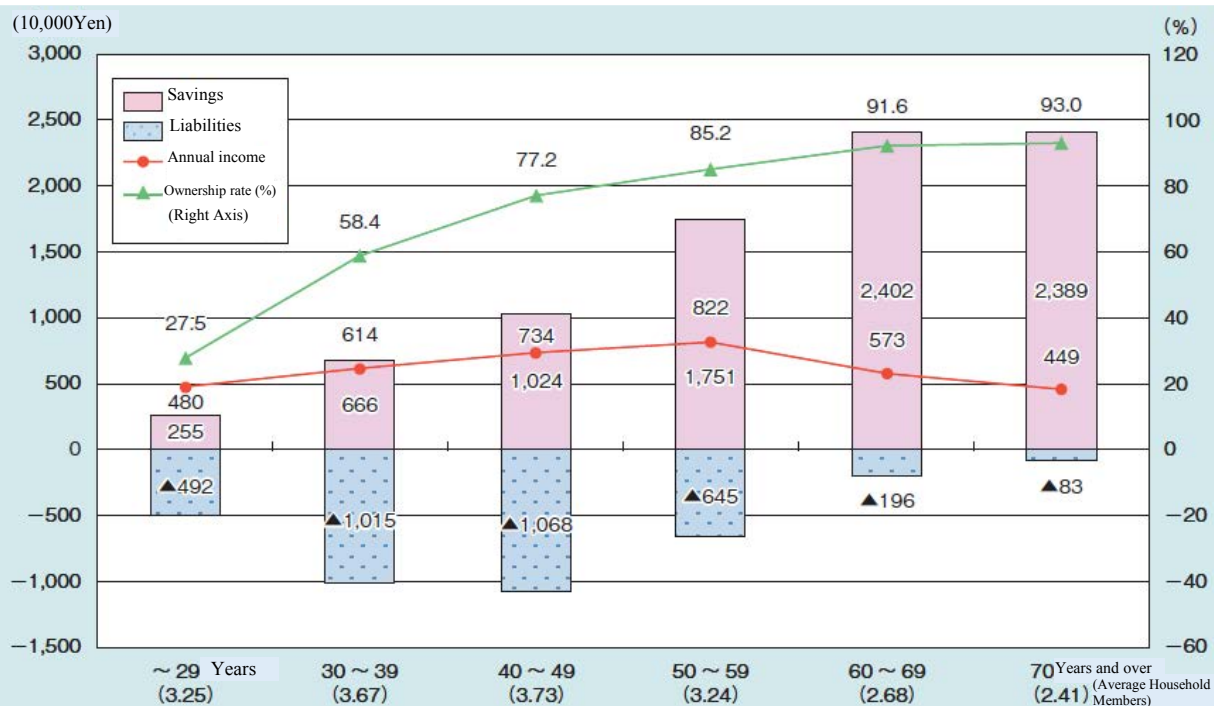
Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare "Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions" (2015) (Income for one year in 2014 in the said survey)

The median value of the savings of households headed by 60 years old and over is as high as about 1.5 times of the total household savings and the main objective of saving purpose group is “preparedness for emergency”.

- It is understood that households in which the head is 60 to 69 years old or 70 years old and over hold higher net savings compared to other age groups.(Chart 1-2-6)
- The median value of the savings of household in which heads is 60 years and over was 15.92 million yen, about 1.5 times the median of savings of all households (Chart1-2-7).
- Looking at the purpose of saving, “preparedness for emergency” was the highest at 47.5% (Chart 1-2-8).

Chart 1-2-6

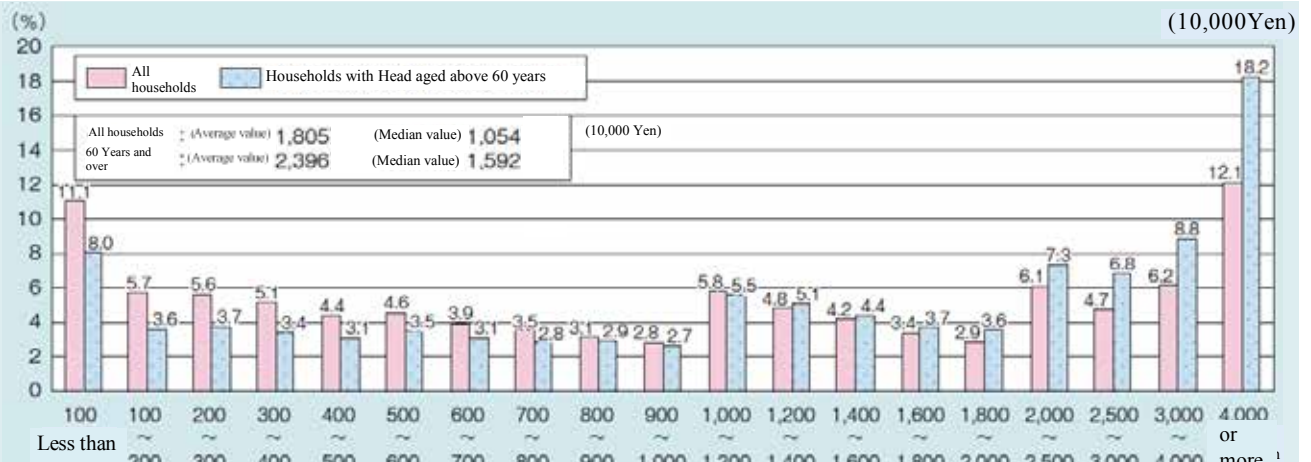
Savings, Liabilities, Yearly Income and Ratio of Ownership of Owner-Occupied Dwellings per Household by Age of Household Head



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “Family Income and Expenditure Survey (two-or-more-persons households)” (2015)

Chart 1-2-7

Distribution of Households by Amount of Savings



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “Family Income and Expenditure survey (two-or-more-persons households)” (2015)

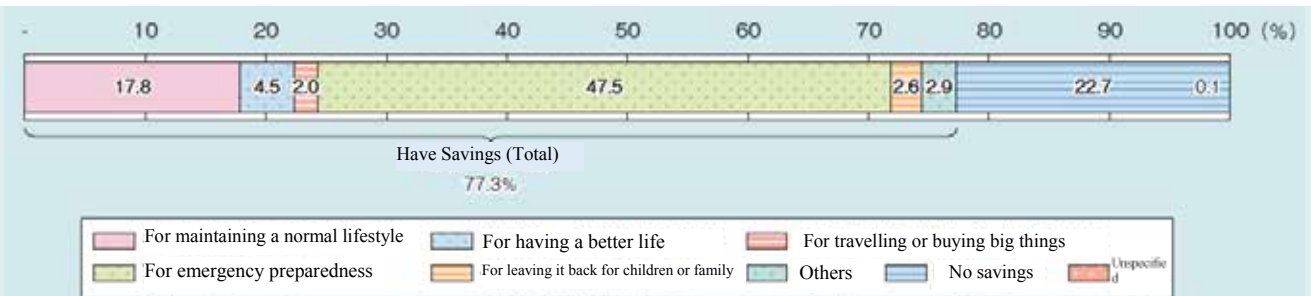
(Note 1) One-person households are not included.

(Note 2) Total amount of deposits in Japan Post Bank, Management Organization for Postal Savings and Postal Life Insurance (former Japan Post), banks and other financial institutions, cash-value life insurance premiums, securities such as stocks, bonds, investment trusts and cash or money trusts and deposits in non-financial institutions such as one’s own companies.

(Note 3) The "Median value", is the middle value when the values are arranged from lowest saving (excluding “0” savings) to current savings in an ascending order.

Chart 1-2-8

Purpose of Savings



Source: Cabinet Office “Public Opinion Survey on elderly people’s economic life” (2016)

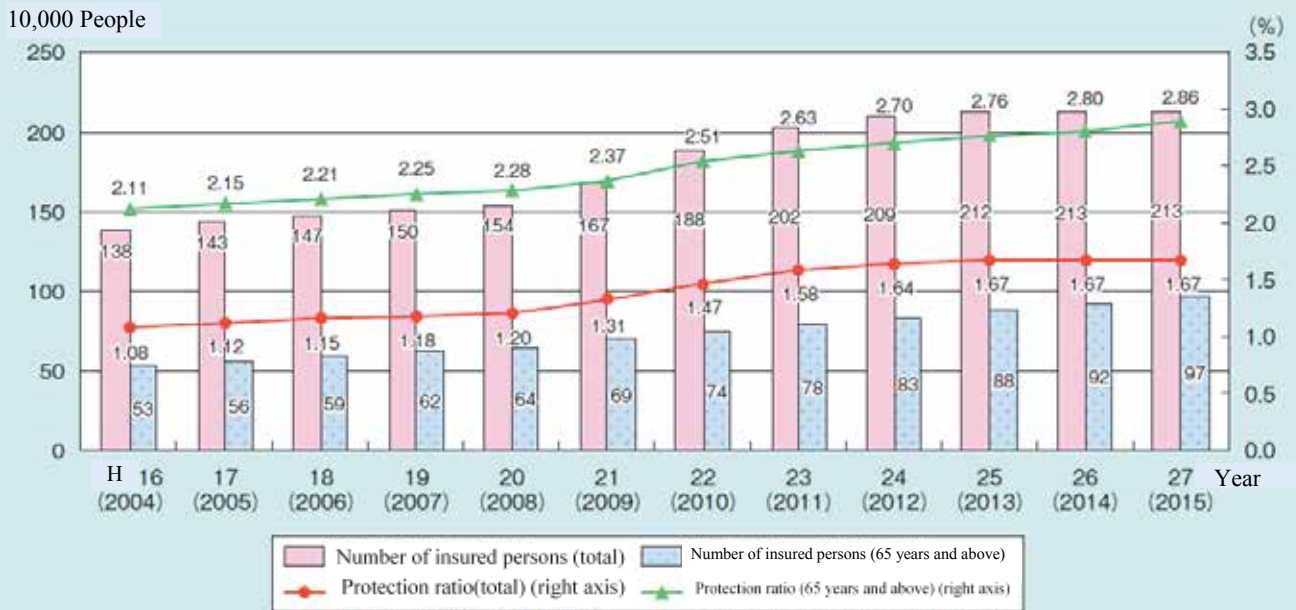
(Note) The survey was carried out nationwide with males and females aged 60 and over.

The number of persons receiving public assistance is on the rise.

- In 2015 the number of public assistance recipients aged 65 and over was 97,000 people, which was an increase from the previous year (Chart 1-2-9).
- The ratio of public assistance recipients aged 65 and over against the total population aged 65 and over was 2.86, which was higher than the ratio of public assistance recipients of the total population. (1.67%)

Chart 1-2-9

Number of Persons Receiving Public Assistance



Source: Created by Cabinet Office based on Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, “Population Estimates” and “Population Census” and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare “National Survey on Public Assistance Recipients (Basic survey).”

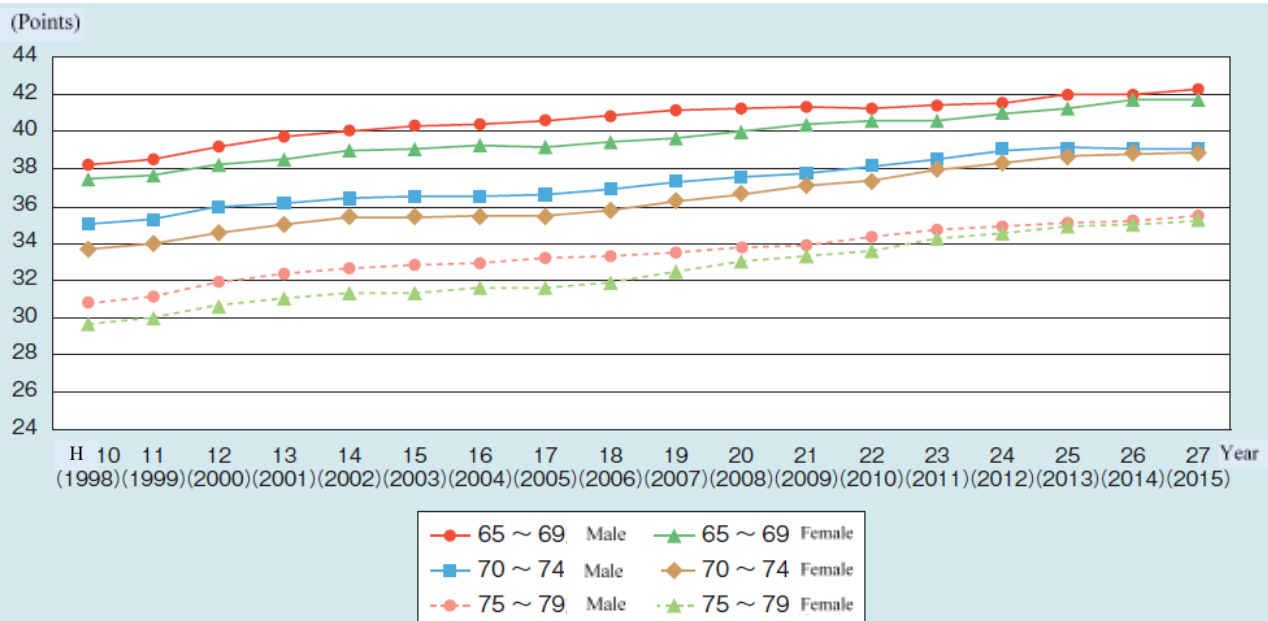
3 Health and Welfare of the Elderly

○ The new physical fitness test results of elderly people shows an improvement in trend of strength

- All the parameters of the new physical fitness test of the elderly (grip strength, upper body raising, long seat front bending, eyepiece single foot standing, 10 m obstacle walking, 6 minute walking) show a tendency to improve in all ages and genders. (Chart1-2-10)

Chart 1-2-10

Results of the elderly for the new strength test



Source: Sports Agency "Physical fitness and exercise capacity survey"

(Note 1) The Chart is smoothed using the three point moving average method.

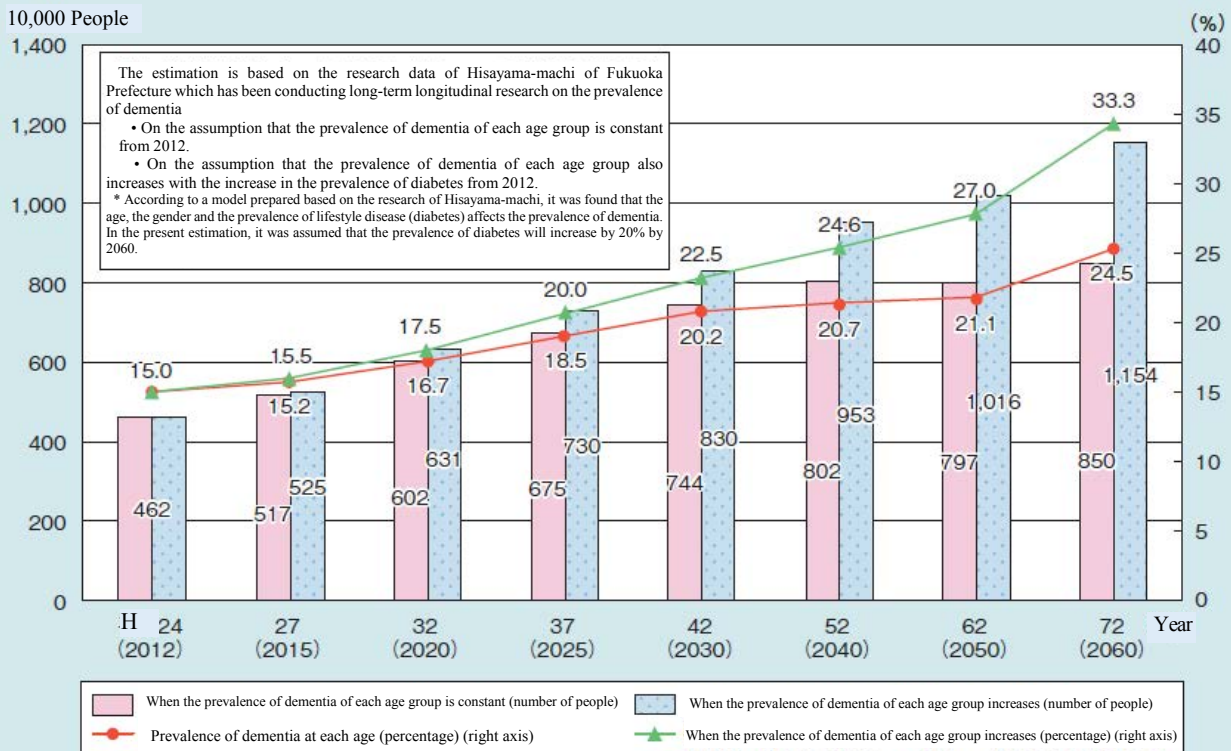
(Note 2) Total points are based on "item score table" of the New Physical Fitness Test Implementation Procedure. Scoring criteria differs according to gender

Estimation of the number of elderly people with dementia

- If we look at the relationship between the number of the elderly aged 65 and over with dementia and the prevalence rate, the number of people with dementia was 4.62 million in 2012 which accounted for 1 out of 7 elderly people aged 65 and over (prevalence rate of 15.0%) and will account for 1 out of 5 people in 2025(Chart 1-2-11).

Chart 1-2-11

Future Estimation of the Number of the Elderly Aged 65 and over with Dementia and the Prevalence Rate



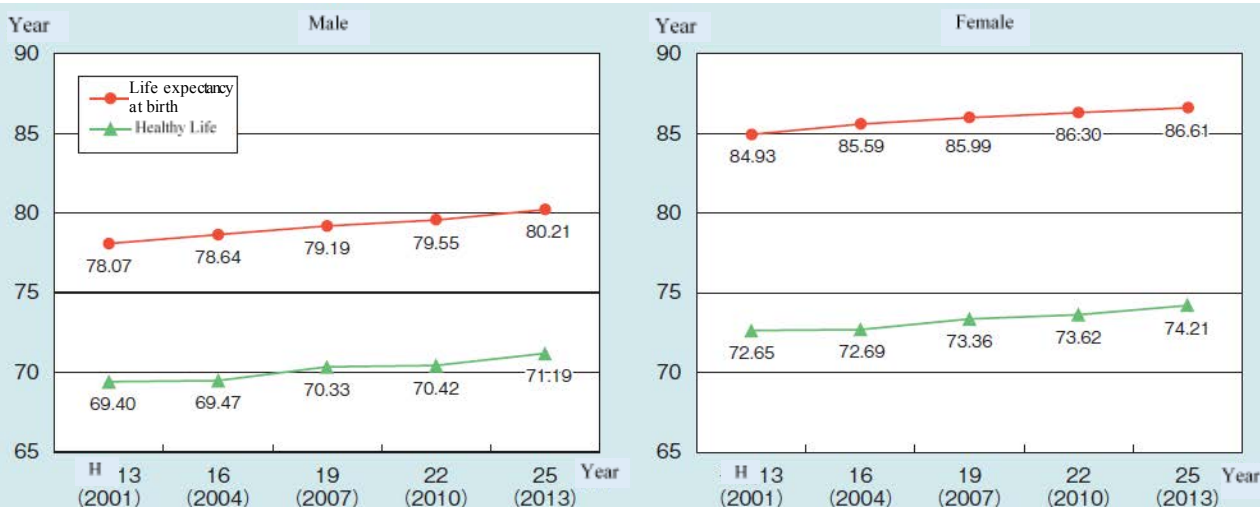
Source: Prepared by the Cabinet Office from the “Research on the future estimation of the elderly population with dementia in Japan” (Special Research Project for Health Sciences Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research for FY 2014 by the professor Ninomiya of Kyushu University)

Healthy life expectancy at birth is extended but its length of extension is shorter compared with the extension of life expectancy at birth.

- The period during which daily life is not hindered (healthy life expectancy at birth) was 71.19 years for males and 74.21 years for females as of 2013. Compared to 2001, both became longer. However, the extension of healthy life expectancy at birth from 2001 to 2013 (1.79 years for males and 1.56 year for females) is smaller compared to the extension of life expectancy at birth during the same period (2.14 years for males and 1.68 years for females) (Chart 1-2-12).

Chart 1-2-12

Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth and Life Expectancy at Birth



Sources: Life expectancy at birth – “Abridged Life Table,” MHLW, for 2001, 2004, 2007 and 2013 and “Complete Life Table,” MHLW, for 2010.

Healthy life expectancy at birth – “Projection of the healthy life expectancy and the study on the cost-effectiveness of the measures against lifestyle diseases,” Health and labour Sciences Research Grant, for 2001, 2004, 2007 and 2010, and estimates derived from “Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions” by MHLW, for 2013

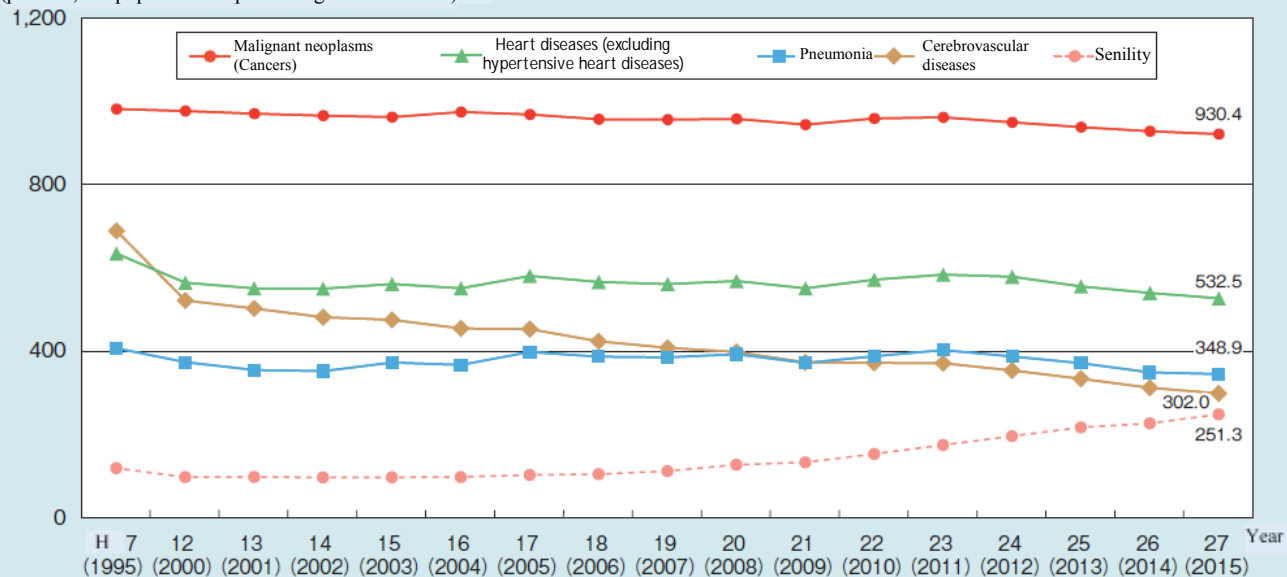
The highest rate of death of the elderly is “malignant neoplasms (cancers)”.

- In terms of cause of death of the elderly, the highest rate of death (number of deaths per 100,000 population of persons aged 65 and over) in 2015 was “malignant neoplasms (cancers)” at 930.4 followed by “heart diseases(excluding hypertensive heart diseases)” at 532.5 and “pneumonia” at 348.9 (Chart 1-2-13).

Chart 1-2-13

Trends in Death Rates by Major Cause of Death for Elderly Persons Aged 65 and over

(per 100,000 population of persons aged 65 and over)



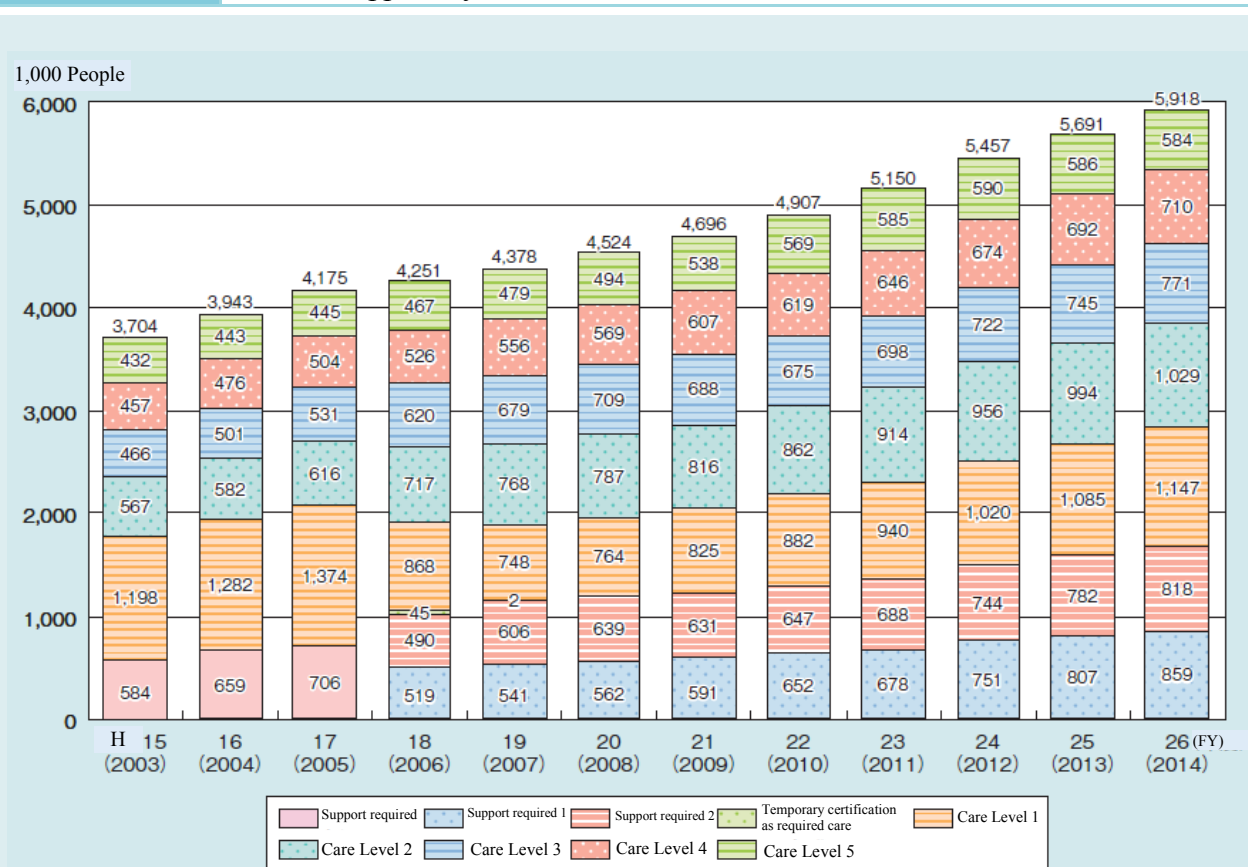
Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare "Vital Statistics"

The number of persons needing long-term care is increasing among elderly people, and the ratio is high especially for people aged 75 and over

- The number of people who were certified as requiring long-term care or requiring support under the long-term care insurance system was 5.918 million as of the end of FY2014, which is an increase of 2.216 million from the end of FY2003 (Chart 1-2-14).
- The number of people aged 75 and over who are certified as requiring long-term care account for 23.5 % of all insured persons aged 75 and over (Chart 1-2-15).

Chart 1-2-14

Number of Primary Insured Persons (aged 65 and over) Requiring Long-Term Care or Support by Care Level



Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare “Report survey on situation of Long-Term Care Insurance service (annual report) (Note 1) Following the revision of Long-Term Care Insurance Act in April 2006, the classification of care levels has changed. (Note 2) Due to the Great East Japan Earthquake, 5 towns and 1 village in Fukushima Prefecture (Hironomachi, Narahamachi, Tomiokamachi, Kawauchimura, Futabamachi and Shinchimachi) were excluded due to reporting difficulties in FY 2010.

Chart 1-2-15

Nursing Care Certifications

Units: 1,000 persons; () shows percentage

65 to 74 years old		75 years old or over	
Support required	Care required	Support required	Care required
245 (1.4)	508 (3.0)	1,432 (9.0)	3,733 (23.5)

Source: Calculated from Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare "Report survey on situation of Long-Term Care Insurance service (annual report)" (FY 2014)

(Note 1) Excludes those who received temporary care-required certification

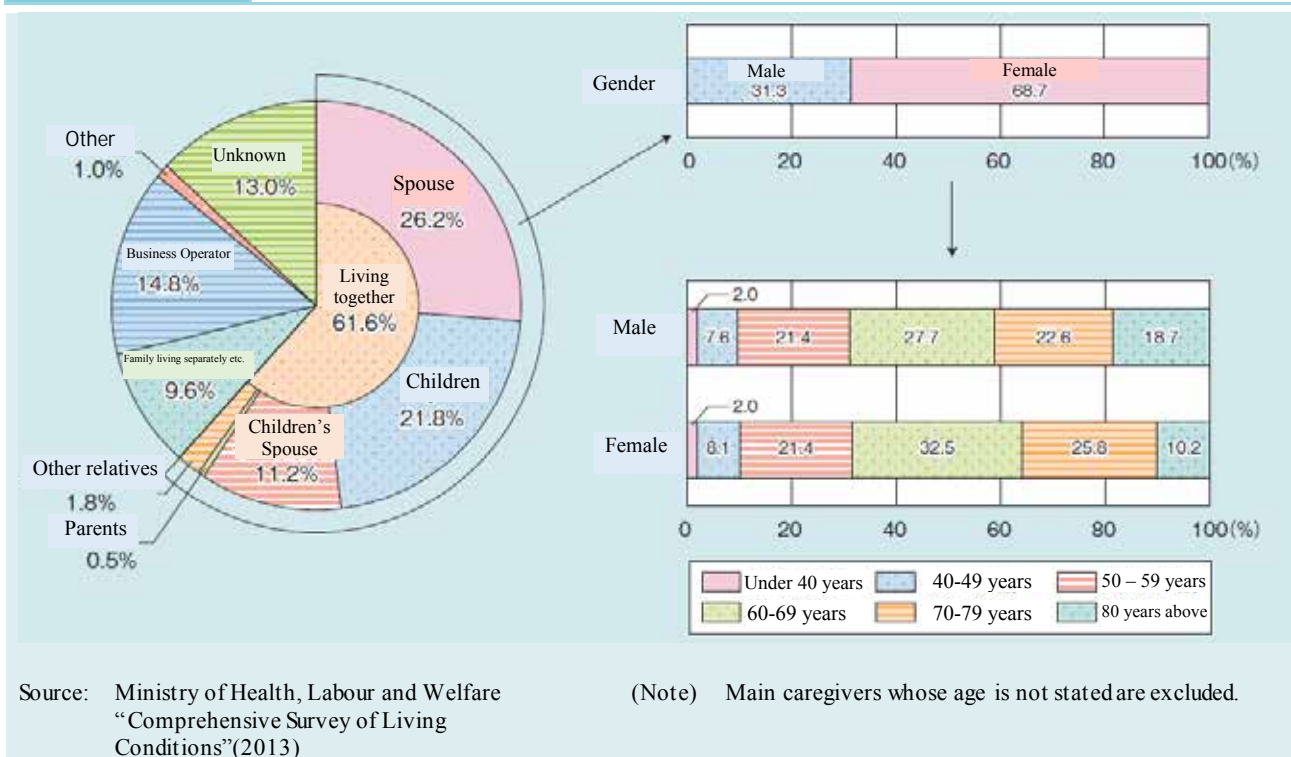
(Note 2) The Charts in the parentheses show the percentages of people requiring support and care among the insured people aged between 65 and 74 and those aged 75 and over.

Family members (especially females) are the main caregivers and there are considerable cases of "care for the elderly by the elderly."

- Looking at the relationship of the caregivers, more than 60% of them are a person living together with the person receiving care.
- The main breakdown of caregivers is spouse (26.2%), children (21.8%), children's spouse (11.2%), and in a breakdown by gender, females exceeded males with males making up 31.3% of the total and females 68.7% (Chart1-2-16).
- As for the age of main caregivers living with the recipient of care, 69.0% of male and 68.5% of female caregivers were 60 years old and over, showing that there are considerable numbers of so-called "care for the elderly by the elderly."

Chart 1-2-16

Relationship Between Main Caregivers and Persons Requiring Long-term Care



The number of women who leave their job due to long-term care or nursing care is increasing

- The number of people who left job for long-term care or nursing care of their family during the one year from October 2011 to September 2012 was 1.011 thousand. Especially, the number of women who left their job was 812 thousand, accounting for 80.3% of the total. (Chart 1-2-17)
- Also for the number of employees who left job for long-term care or nursing care in 2015, women accounted for 74.0% of the total. (Chart 1-2-18)