

# Chapter 4 Social Independence

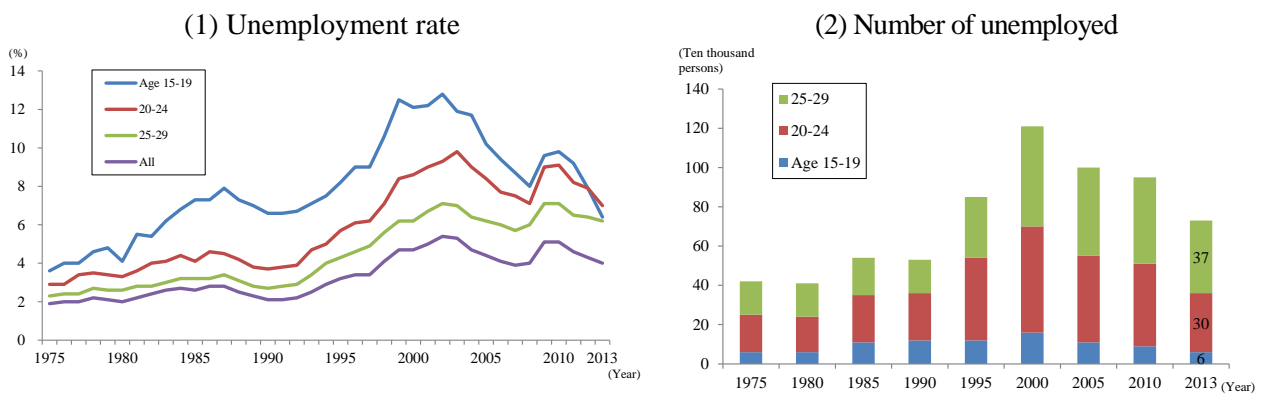
## Section 1 Labor

### 1 Overview

#### (Unemployment)

○ The unemployment rate of young people has been improving; however, it has been consistently higher than that of all workers as a whole. (Figure 30)

**Figure 30 Overall unemployment rate**

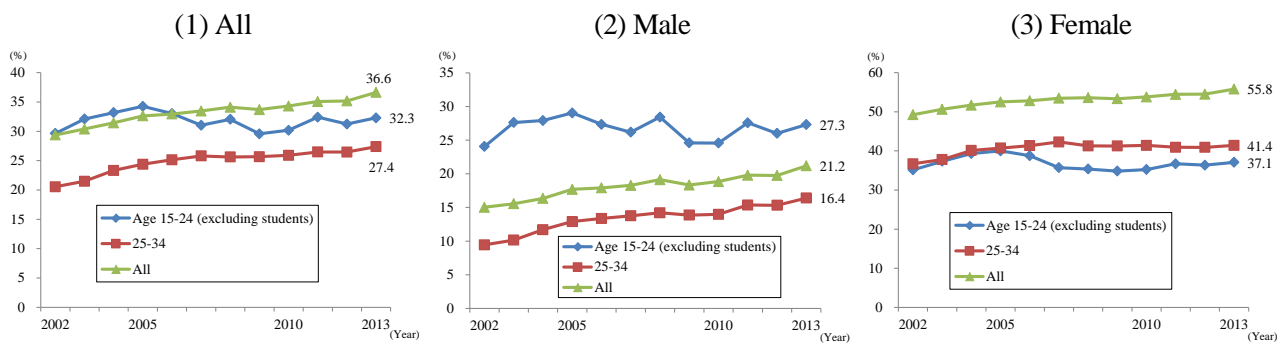


Source: "Labour Force Survey," MIC

#### (Non-regular employment)

○ The non-regular employment rate of young people is lower than that of all workers; however, it is gradually increasing (Figure 31).

**Figure 31 Non-regular employment rate**



Source: "Labour Force Survey," MIC

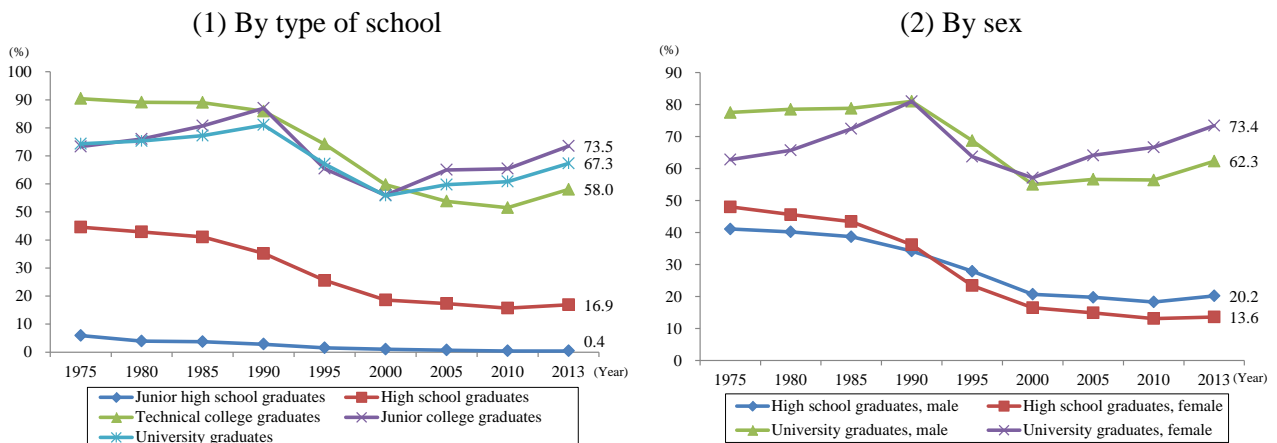
Note: The non-regular employment rate here means the proportion of non-regular employees of all employees excluding executives.

### 2 Employment and separation

#### (Employment)

○ The employment rate of junior high school graduates is 0.4%, that of high school graduates is 16.9%, and that of university graduates is 67.3% (Figure 32).

**Figure 32** Employment rate



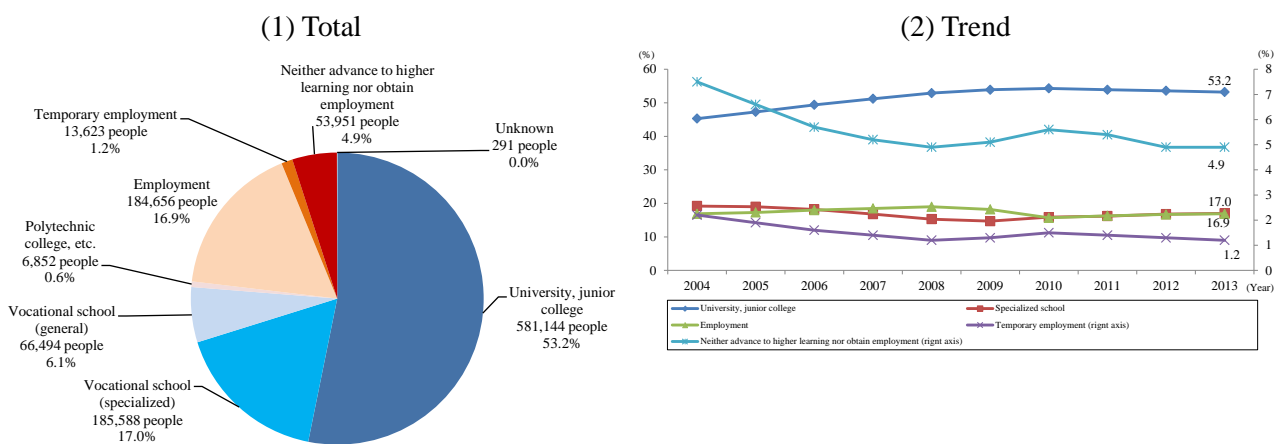
Source: "Basic School Survey," MEXT

Note 1: This is the percentage of students who have obtained employment of students who graduate in March each year.

Note 2: Persons who have completed lower and upper secondary school are included among junior high school graduates and high school graduates.

○ 4.9% of high school graduates and 13.6% of university graduates neither advance to higher learning nor obtain employment (Figure 33, Figure 34).

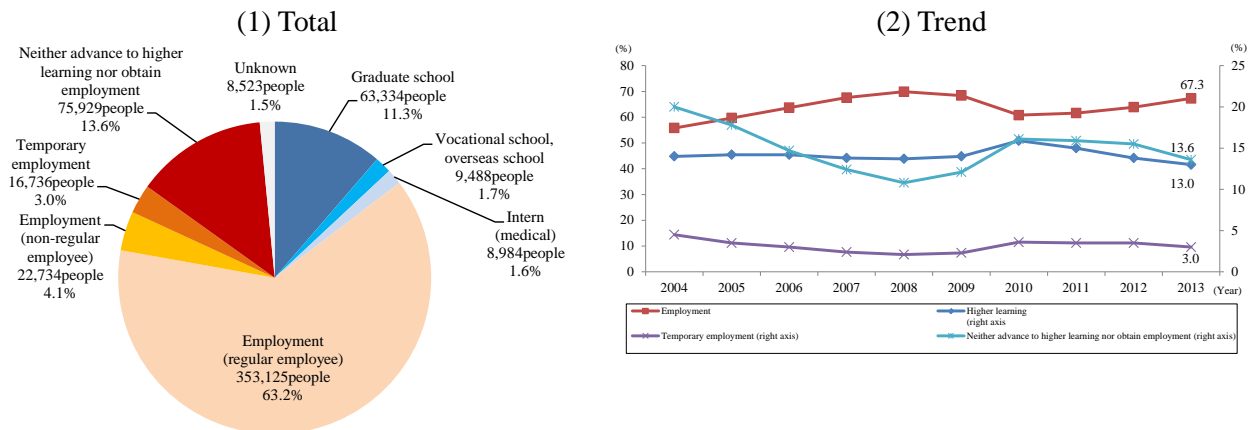
**Figure 33** Status of high school graduates (March 2013)



Source: "Basic School Survey," MEXT

Note: Persons who have completed upper secondary school are included among high school graduates.

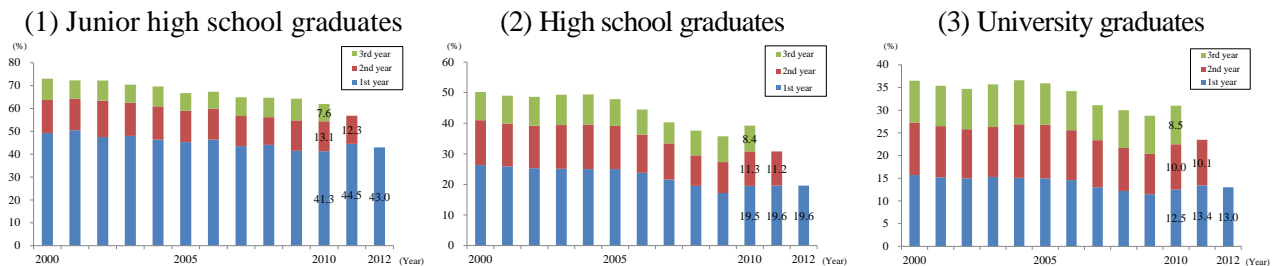
**Figure 34 Status of high school graduates (March 2013)**



**(Separation from employment)**

○ As for the rate of job separation within three years of employment of new graduates, that of junior high school graduates who graduated in March 2010 is 62.1%; that of high school graduates is 39.2%; and that of university graduates is 31.0% (Figure 35).

**Figure 35 Job separation rate for each period of employment for new graduates**



Source: "Survey on the Status of Employment and Separation of New Graduates," MHLW  
 Note 1: These figures are calculated based on records of people covered by unemployment insurance managed by MHLW.  
 Note 2: People are classified by educational background using the date of the insured person's most recently acquired qualification and their date of birth.

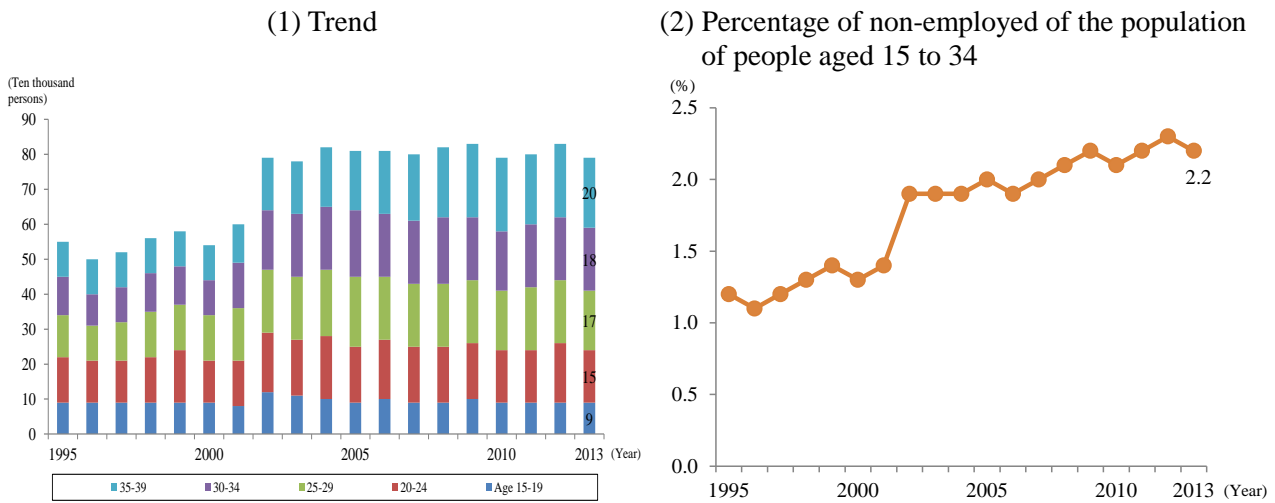
**Section 2 Non-employed Young People, "Freeters" and Socially Withdrawn People**

**1 Non-employed young people and "freeters"**

**(Non-employed young people)**

○ There are 600,000 non-employed young people aged 15 to 34, who account for 2.2% of the population of people aged 15 to 34 (Figure 36).

**Figure 36** Number of non-employed young people



Source: “Labour Force Survey,” MIC

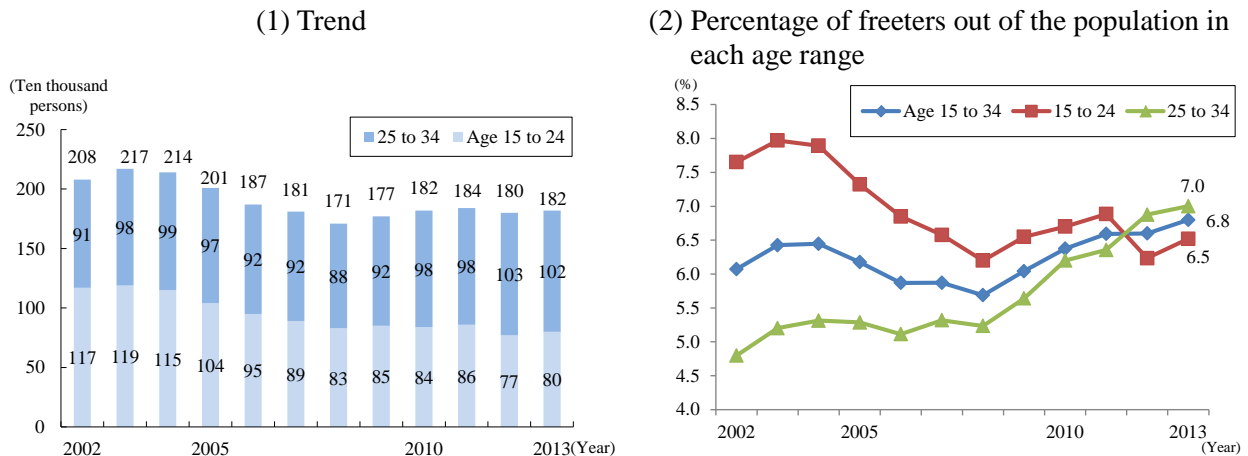
Note 1: Non-employed young people here mean those of the population of people aged 15 to 34 who are not in the labor force who are neither homemakers nor attend school. The graph includes the figures for people aged 35 to 39 for reference.

2: The figures for 2013 exclude those for Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima.

**(“Freeters”)**

○ There are 1,820,000 freeters aged 15 to 34, who account for 6.8% of the population of people aged 15 to 34 (Figure 37).

**Figure 37** Number of freeters (part-time workers and those who want part-time jobs)



Source: “Labour Force Survey,” MIC

Note: “Freeters” here mean graduates (men or unmarried women) who fall under one of the following three categories: 1) employees who are classified as “part-time workers” at their workplace, 2) unemployed people who are looking for a part-time job, or 3) those who have not been offered employment and want to have a part-time job (among “others” who are not in the labor force and neither are homemakers nor attend school).

## 2 Socially withdrawn people (“hikikomori”)

○ There are estimated to be 696,000 people who are socially withdrawn in a broad sense, including “those who usually stay at home and go out only when they have something to do which is related to their interests” (Figure 38).

**Figure 38** Definitions of groups of socially withdrawn people and their estimated numbers

	Each percentage of valid responses (%)	Estimated number across the country (Thousands)
Those who usually stay at home and only go to a nearby convenience store	0.40	153.0
Those who go out of their rooms but not out of their houses	0.09	35.0
Those who rarely go out of their rooms	0.12	47.0
Those who usually stay at home and go out only when they have something to do which is related to their interests	1.19	Quasi-withdrawn people 460 thousand
Total	1.79	Socially withdrawn people, in a broad sense 696 thousand

Source: “Survey on the Attitudes of Young People” (fact-finding survey on socially withdrawn people), Cabinet Office

Note 1: The survey was conducted on 5,000 people aged 15 to 39, and 3,287 people (65.7%) gave an answer.

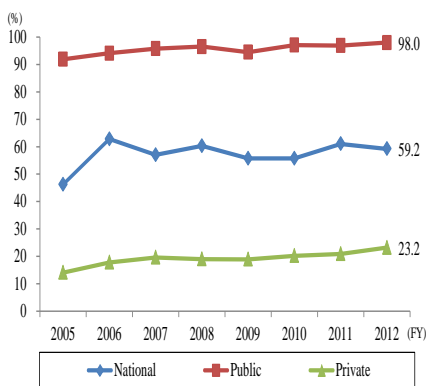
- 2: The figures are only for those who have been in the above categories for six months or more. They exclude those who gave schizophrenia or a physical illness as “the cause of their present condition,” those who answered, “I work at home,” and those who answered, “I do housework or look after my child” to the question, “What do you often do when you are at home?”
- 3: The estimated number across the country is each percentage of valid responses multiplied by 38,800,000 (the population of people aged 15 to 39 in MIC’s “Population Estimates” [2009]).
- 4: The number of socially withdrawn people in a narrow sense, 236,000, almost agrees with the estimated number of households, 255,000, provided in MHLW’s “Guidelines for Evaluation and Support for Socially Withdrawn People.”

## Section 3 Career Education

### 1 Workplace experience and internships

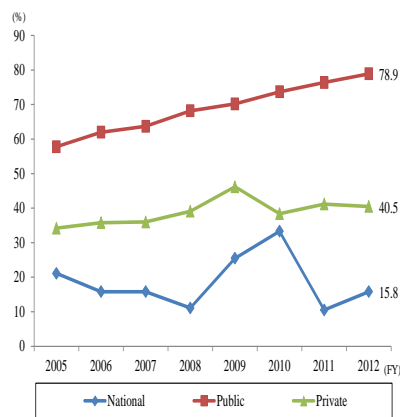
○ The percentage of junior high schools that offer students workplace experience and high schools that offer students internship opportunities is generally on the increase (Figure 39, Figure 40, Figure 41).

**Figure 39** Workplace experience provided by junior high schools



Source: “Survey on Work Experience and Internships Provided by Schools,” National Institute for Educational Policy Research

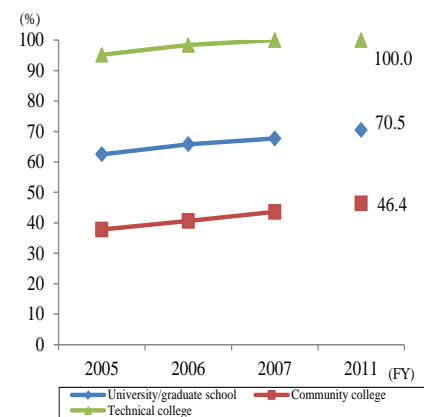
**Figure 40** Internships provided by high schools



Sources: “Survey on Work Experience and Internships Provided by Schools,” National Institute for Educational Policy Research and materials provided by MEXT

Note: “The number of students who have participated” means the number of students in the third year who have participated at least once during their three years at school.

**Figure 41** Internships provided by high schools



Sources: “Survey on Internships Provided by Universities, etc.,” MEXT

Note 1: Internships provided by universities take the form of courses that are taken for credit.  
 Note 2: Courses that are provided for the acquisition of qualifications (such as student teaching, medical training, and nursing training) are excluded.

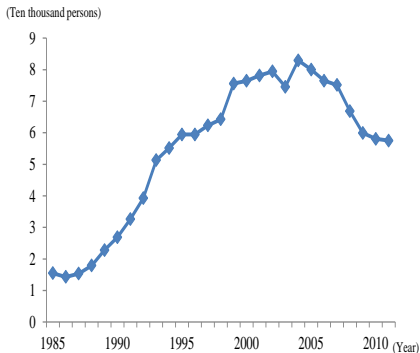
## Section 4 International Exchange

### 1 Students studying abroad and children who have returned from overseas

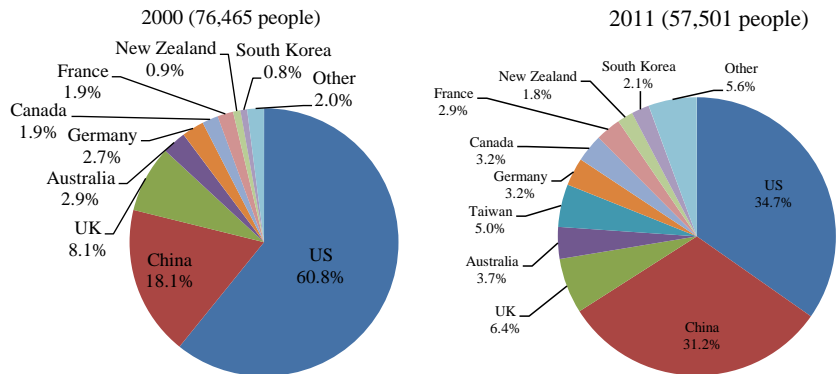
○ The number of students studying abroad has continued to decline. Destinations for studying abroad have diversified (Figure 42).

**Figure 42 Japanese students studying abroad**

**(1) Number of students studying abroad**



**(2) Major destinations**



Source: "Circumstances of Japanese Students Studying Abroad," MEXT

Note: The results were compiled by MEXT based on the following materials.

OECD "Education at a Glance"

Students who are enrolled in a regular course at an institution of higher education and "do not settle down or live permanently in the host country" or "do not have the citizenship of the host country"

UNESCO Institute for Statistics

Students who are enrolled at an institution of higher education and "do not settle down or live permanently in the host country"

Institute of International Education (IIE) "Open Doors"

Students who are enrolled at an institution of higher education in the U.S. and do not have American citizenship (including permanent residents).

Education Office of the Chinese Embassy

Students who are enrolled at a Chinese university with a student visa (X visa (stay of 180 days or more to study)) or a visitor visa (stay of less than 180 days)

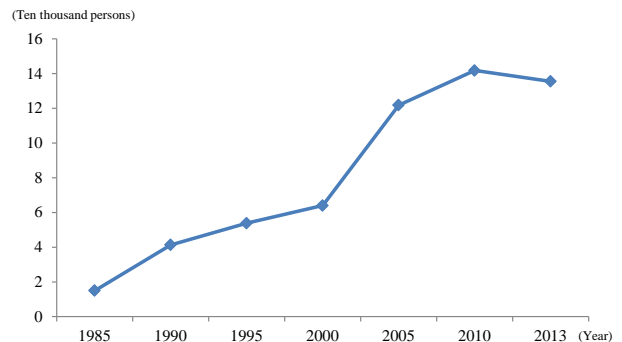
Ministry of Education of Taiwan

Students who are enrolled at an institution of higher education in Taiwan (including students studying for a short time)

**2 Number of international students and foreign children**

○ The number of international students has remained unchanged for the past few years (Figure 43).

**Figure 43 International students**



Sources: "International Students in Japan," Japan Student Services Organization and "Overview on Foreign Students in Japan," MEXT

Note: "International students" are foreign students who receive education at a university (including graduate school), a junior college, a technical college, a vocational college (special course) or an educational facility for a preparatory course to enter a university in Japan. They must have the proper status of residence to study in Japan (study visa) provided for in the Appended Table 1 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act.

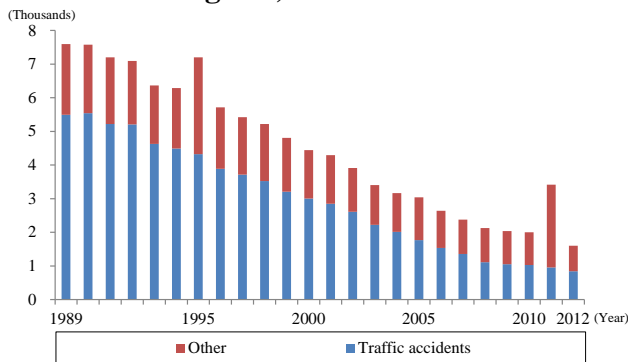
# Chapter 5 Safety and Problematic Behavior

## Section 1 Accidents and disasters

### 1 Unforeseen accidents and traffic accidents

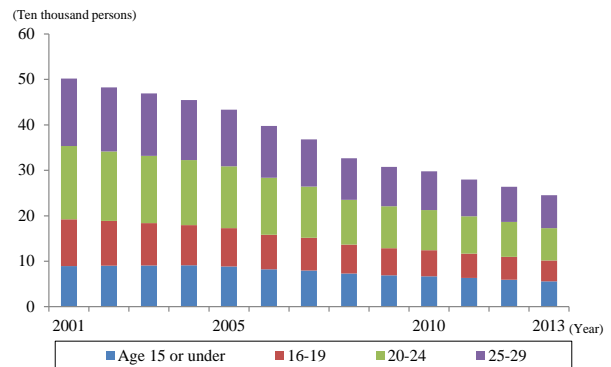
○ The number of deaths caused by unforeseen accidents peaked in 1989 and then declined. The number of casualties caused by traffic accidents has been on the decrease (Figure 44, Figure 45).

**Figure 44** Number of deaths caused by unforeseen accidents (under age 30)



Source: "Vital Statistics," MHLW

**Figure 45** Number of casualties caused by traffic accidents



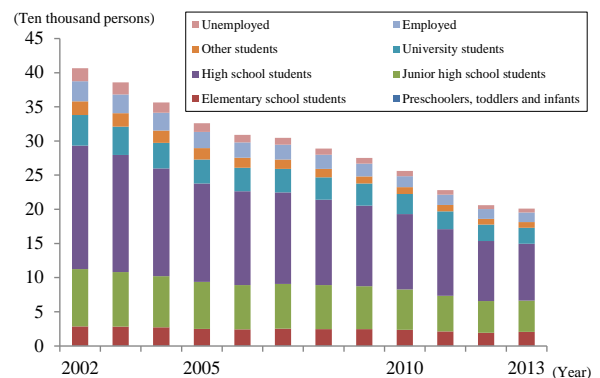
Source: "Circumstances of Traffic Accidents," the National Police Agency

## Section 2 Harm Caused by Crimes and Abuse

### 1 Criminal harm (Circumstances of criminal offenses in which the victims were under the age of 20)

○ The number of criminal offenses known to the police in which the victims were under the age of 20 has decreased in recent years (Figure 46).

**Figure 46** Number of criminal offenses known to the police in which the main victims were under the age of 20



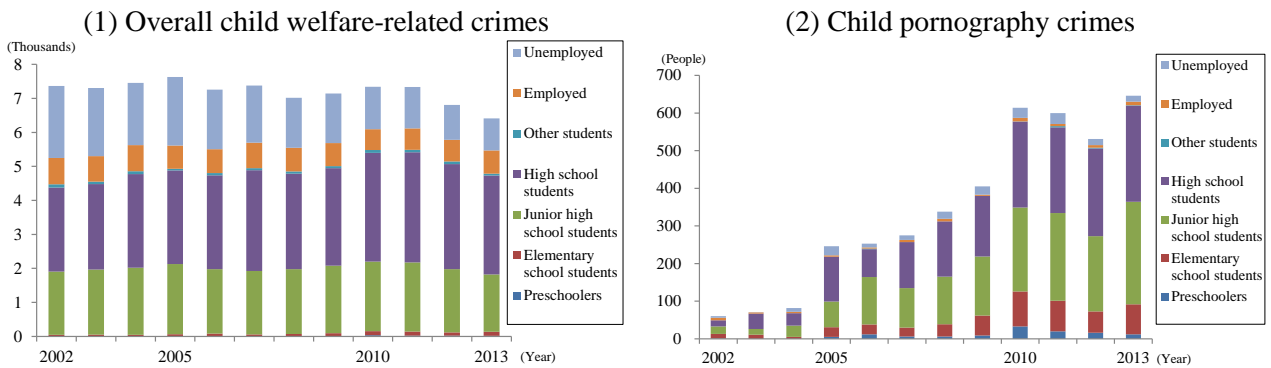
Sources: "Overview of the State of Juvenile Guidance and Protection" and "State of Juvenile Delinquency," National Police Agency



**(Criminal harm that endangers the welfare of people under the age of 20)**

○ The number of victims under the age of 20 of child welfare-related crimes has remained largely unchanged. The number of victims of child pornography crimes is 1,244 (including the victims of cases that were found to be crimes by determination of the age of the victims). Over 40 percent of them are elementary school children or younger children (Figure 47).

**Figure 47** Victims under the age of 20 of child welfare-related crimes

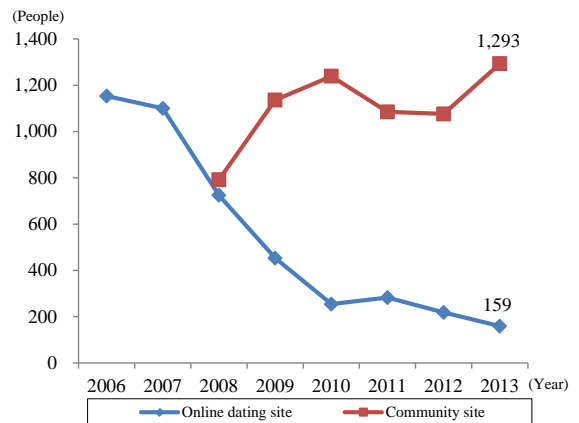


Sources: “Overview of the State of Juvenile Guidance and Protection” and “Circumstances of Arrests for Child Abuse and Welfare-related Crimes,” National Police Agency

Note: For child pornography crimes, the number of newly identified victims is calculated each year. Other than this, in some cases, the determination of age is conducted based on a picture of an unidentified child victim to build a criminal case.

○ The number of victims under the age of 18 of crime linked to online dating sites greatly decreased. On the other hand, the number of victims under the age of 18 of crime linked to community sites including SNS and services that allow users to share their profiles on mobile websites began to increase (Figure 48).

**Figure 48** Victims under the age of 18 of crime linked to online dating sites



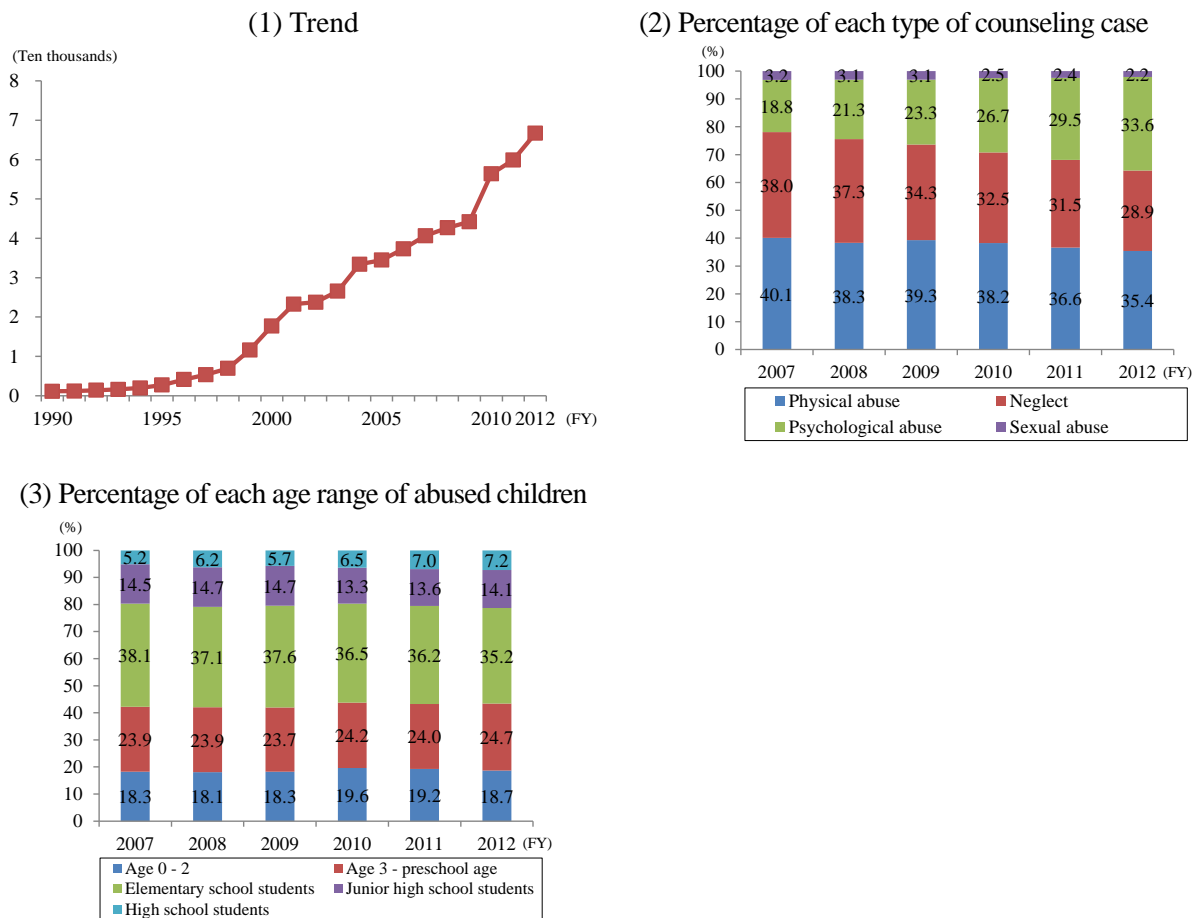
Source: “Circumstances of and Measures against Crimes Linked to Online Dating Sites,” National Police Agency

## 2 Circumstances of child abuse

### (Number of cases of counseling provided by child counseling centers)

- The number of cases of counseling on child abuse has been increasing year after year. Counseling on physical abuse accounts for the highest percentage, followed by neglect and then psychological abuse. More than 40% of abused children are preschool children (Figure 49).

**Figure 49** Number of cases of counseling on child abuse provided by child counseling centers



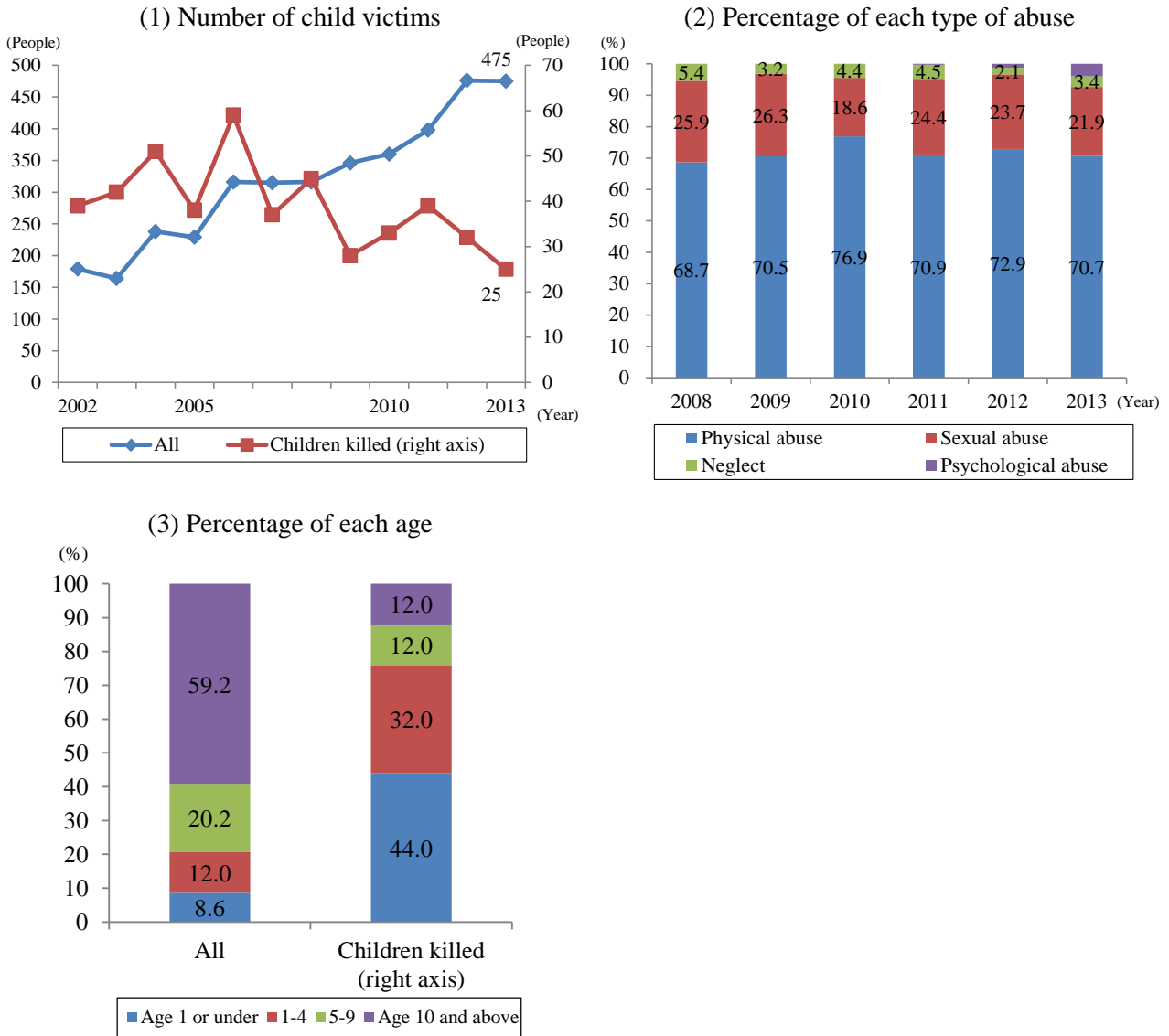
Source: "Report on Social Welfare Administration and Services," MHLW

Note: The figures for FY 2010 exclude those for Fukushima because of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

**(Number of arrests for child abuse)**

○ The number of child abuse cases in which the police make arrests has been on the increase (Figure 50).

**Figure 50** Number of child abuse cases in which the police made arrests



Sources: “Overview of Giving Guidance to Minors and Taking Minors into Protective Custody” and “Status of Arrests due to Child Abuse and Child Pornography related Crimes,” National Police Agency

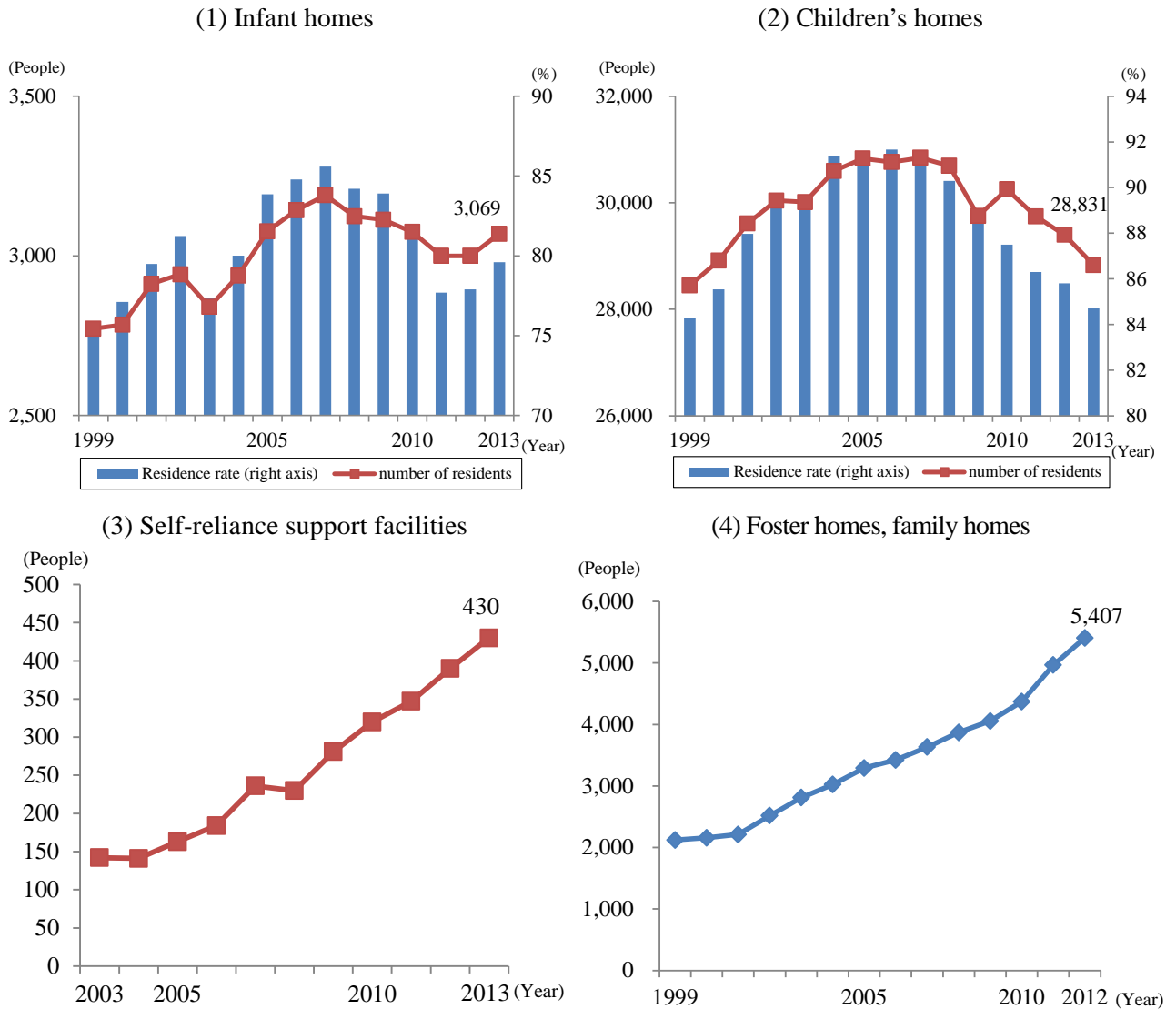
Note: The figures above do not include cases of murder-suicide or murder and abandonment immediately after childbirth.

### 3 Circumstances of children housed in children's homes, etc.

#### (Number of children housed in facilities or foster homes)

○ The numbers of children in infant homes and children's homes are on the decline whereas the numbers of children in self-reliance support facilities and foster homes are increasing (Figure 51).

**Figure 51** Number of children housed in children's homes, etc.



Sources: "Report on Survey of Social Welfare Institutions" and "Report on Social Welfare Administration and Services," MHLW

Note 1: The residence rate is the number of child residents divided by the capacity of those facilities. Since 2006, the total capacity has excluded the capacity of facilities where the number of residents is unknown.

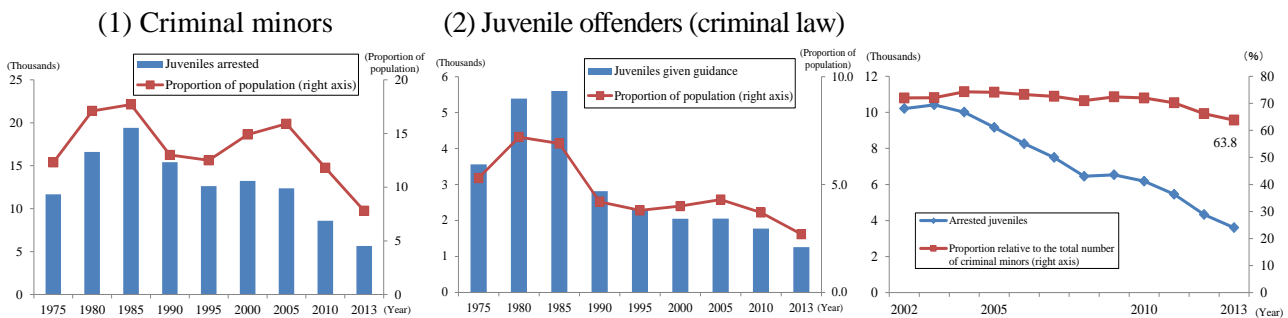
2: The source of the figures for infant homes and children's homes was the "Report on Survey of Social Welfare Institutions" until 2009; the source of the figures has been a survey conducted by MHLW since 2010. The source of the figures for foster homes and family homes is the "Report on Social Welfare Administration and Services." (Note that the figures for 2010 were surveyed by MHLW.)

## Section 3 Delinquency and Problematic Behavior

### 1 Criminal minors (aged 14 to 19), juvenile offenders (under 14) and juvenile pre-delinquents

- The numbers of criminal minors and juvenile offenders (for violation of a criminal law) who were arrested or given guidance are on the decline (Figure 52).
- The number of juveniles who were arrested for initial-type delinquency (including shoplifting, stealing a bike, stealing a motorbike and theft of lost or mislaid property) has decreased in the past 10 years (Figure 53).

**Figure 52** Criminal minors, etc. who were arrested or given guidance



**Figure 53** Number of juveniles who were arrested for initial-type delinquency

Sources: “Overview of the State of Juvenile Guidance and Protection” and “State of Juvenile Delinquency,” National Police Agency  
 Note: The proportion of population is the number of persons who were arrested or given guidance per 1,000 population within their age range (For juvenile offenders, the proportion is calculated based on the number of those aged 10 to 13.)

### 2 Problematic behavior

#### (Drug abuse)

- The number of people under the age of 30 who were arrested in stimulant drug cases or cannabis cases is on the decline (Figure 54).

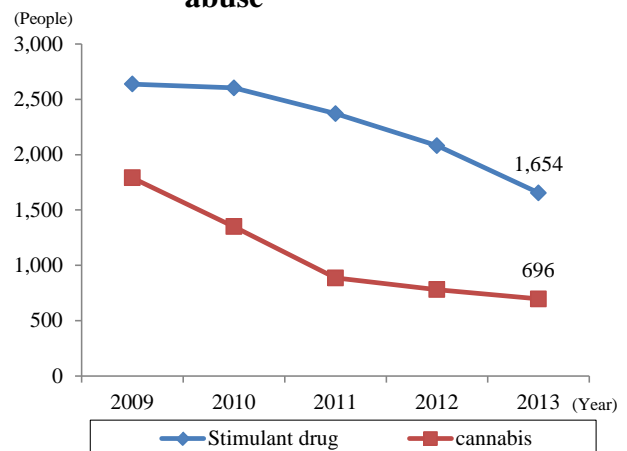
#### (Delinquency)

- Most of the juveniles given guidance by the police were given guidance for late-night loitering and smoking. The percentage of cases of late-night loitering has increased in recent years (Figure 55).

#### (Domestic violence)

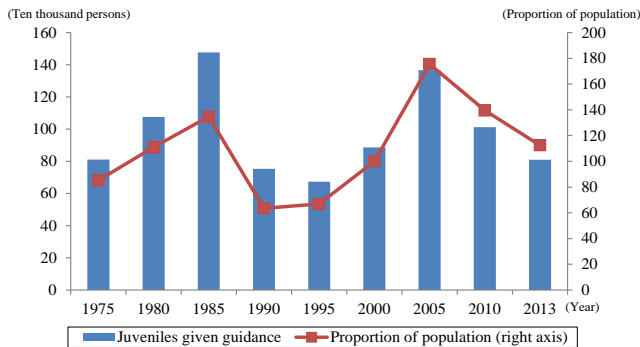
- The number of domestic violence cases recognized by the police has sharply increased in the past few years. The percentage of cases involving culprits who are junior high school children students has risen (Figure 56).

**Figure 54** People under the age of 30 who were arrested for drug abuse

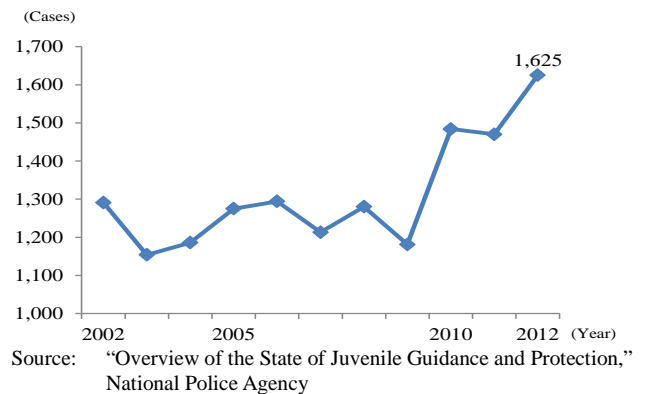


Source: “Drugs and Firearms,” National Police Agency

**Figure 55** Juvenile delinquents given guidance by the police



**Figure 56** Number of domestic violence cases recognized by the police



## Chapter 6 Life Activities and Attitudes

### Section 1 Accidents and disasters

#### 1 Life Activities

##### (Wake-up time and bedtime)

○ Children get up and go to bed earlier than five years ago (Figure 57).

**Figure 57** Wake-up time and bedtime

##### (1) Average wake-up time (weekdays)

	2006	2011
Age 10-14	6:44	6:38
15-19	7:01	6:54
20-24	7:53	7:56
25-29	7:20	7:17
Elementary school students (age 10 and above)	6:44	6:38
Junior high school students	6:45	6:41
High school students	6:43	6:36
Other students	7:59	7:55

##### (2) Average bedtime (weekdays)

	2006	2011
Age 10-14	22:30	22:24
15-19	23:58	23:48
20-24	0:31	0:31
25-29	0:05	0:07
Elementary school students (age 10 and above)	22:02	21:57
Junior high school students	23:04	22:55
High school students	23:50	23:42
Other students	0:47	0:37

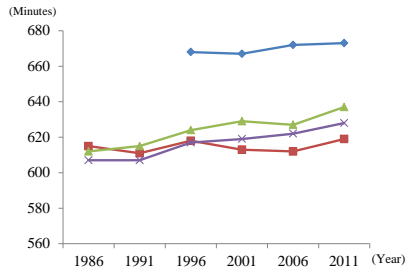
Source: "Basic Survey on Social Life," MIC

##### (Time for sleep and meals, time for work and housework, and free time)

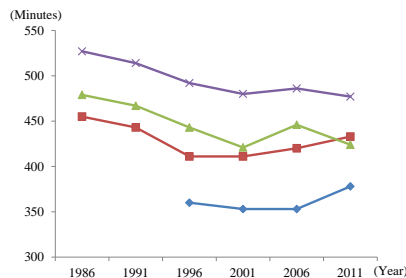
○ The time for sleep and meals has increased. Teenagers have less free time (Figure 58).

## Figures 58 Primary activities, secondary activities, tertiary activities

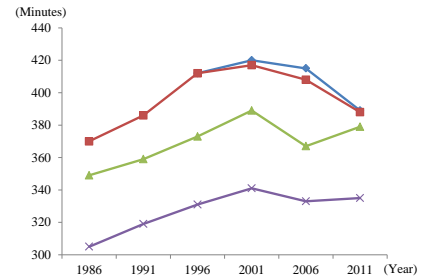
(1) Sleep and meals (primary activities)



(2) Work, housework and schoolwork (secondary activities)



(3) Each person's free time (tertiary activities)



◆ Age 10-14    ■ 15-19    ▲ 20-24    ✕ 25-29

Source: "Basic Survey on Social Life," MIC

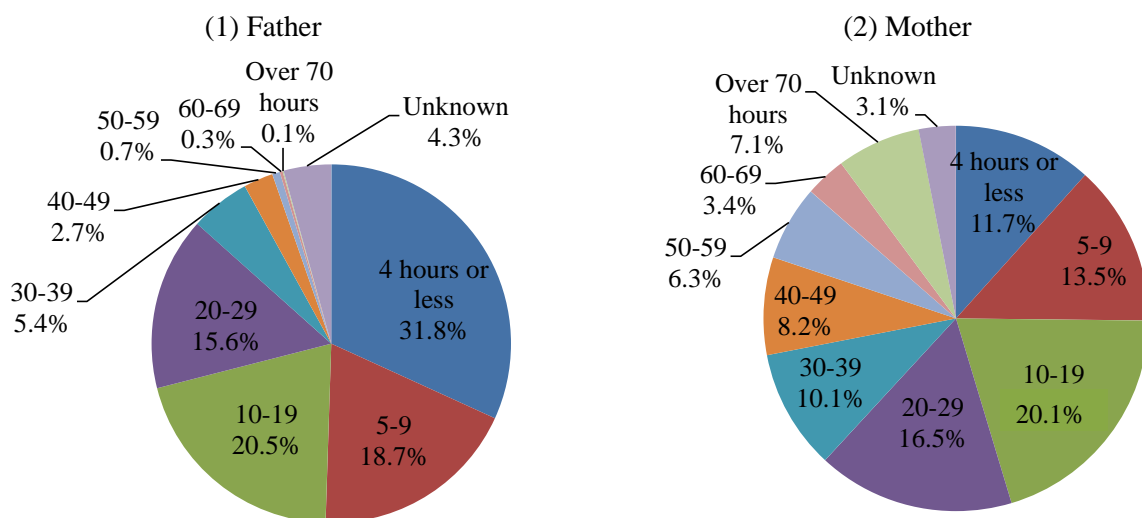
Note: Primary activities mean physiologically necessary activities such as sleep and meals. Secondary activities mean obligatory activities in one's social life such as work, housework and schoolwork. Tertiary activities mean activities done during one's free time.

## 2 Behavior

### (Relations with parents)

- The highest percentages of children have conversations with their fathers for "4 hours or less" and with their mothers for "10 to 19 hours" a week (Figure 59).

Figure 59 Time for conversations between parents and their children per week (2009)

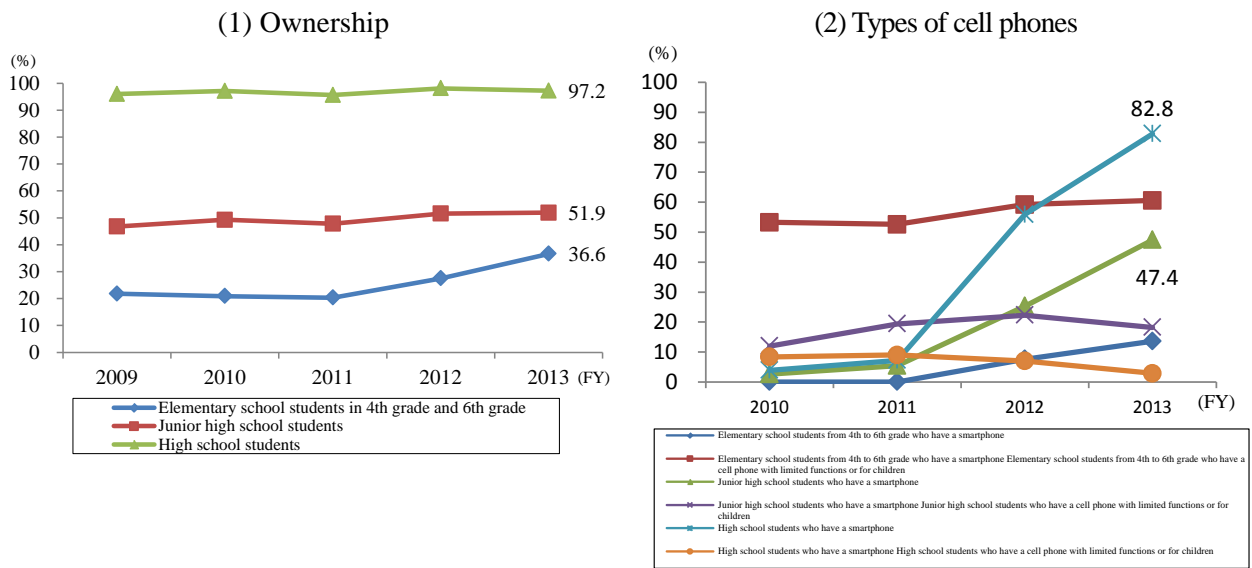


Source: "Nationwide Survey on Families and Children," MHLW

### (Use of cell phones and the Internet)

- More than 90% of high school students have a cell phone. About 80% of them have a smartphone (Figure 60).

**Figure 60 Usage patterns of cell phones (including PHS and smartphones)**



Source: “Fact-finding Survey on Internet Use Environment of Young People,” Cabinet Office

Note 1: (1) Ownership is calculated based on the total of those with personal cell phones and those with cell phones shared with family.

2: In (2), smartphones with limited functions and smartphones for children are not included, because the percentage of students who have them is quite low.

## Section 2 Attitudes

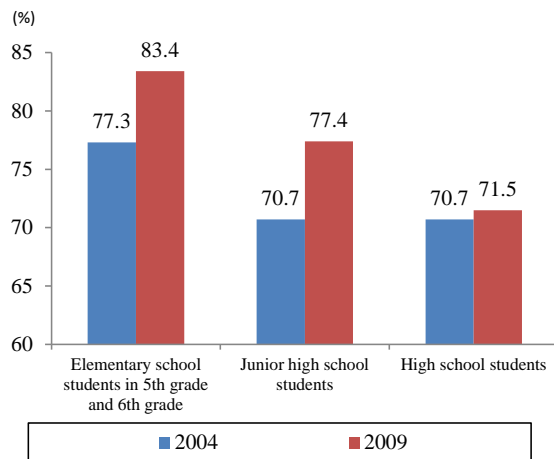
### 1 Feelings of happiness, anxiety and worries (Feelings of happiness)

○ The percentage of students in elementary school, junior high school and high school who feel they are happy has increased (Figure 61).

#### (Anxiety and worries)

○ The percentage of elementary school students, junior high school students and high school students who have anxiety and worries has increased. Their anxiety and worries are mainly about their studies and future (Figure 62).

### Figure 61 Feelings of happiness (percentage of students who feel they are happy)



Source: “Nationwide Survey on Families and Children,” MHLW

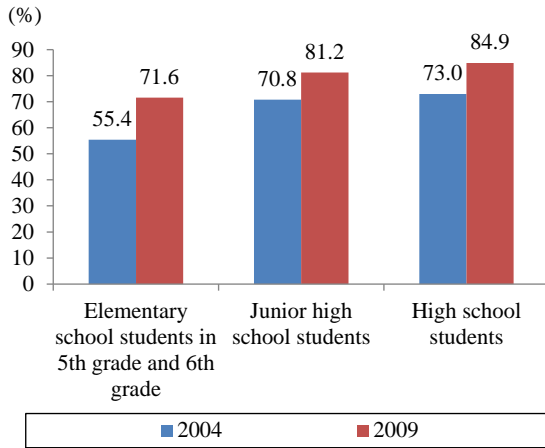
Note 1: “High school students” means the total sum of students in high schools, vocational training schools, vocational schools and miscellaneous schools.

2: The “students who feel they are happy” refers to the total sum of students who answered “I am very happy” or “I am sort of happy” to the question “Do you feel you are happy now?”

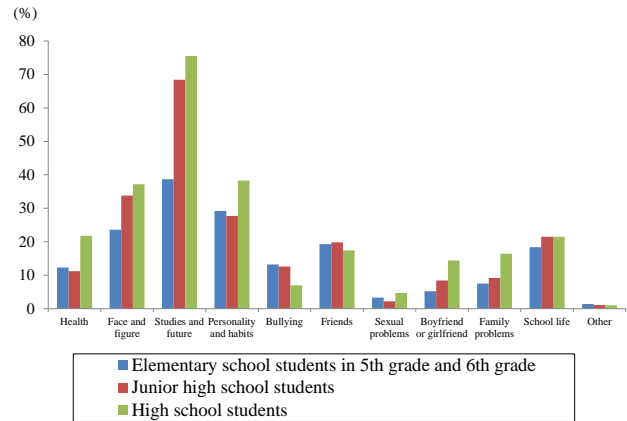


**Figure 62 Anxiety and worries**

(1) Percentage of the children who have anxiety and worries



(2) What they have anxiety and worries about (2009, multiple answers allowed)



Source: "Nationwide Survey on Families and Children," MHLW

Note: "High school students" means the total sum of students in high schools, vocational training schools, vocational schools and miscellaneous schools.

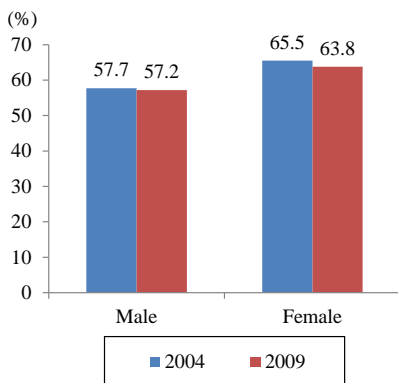
## 2 Intention to marry, life course

(Intention to marry)

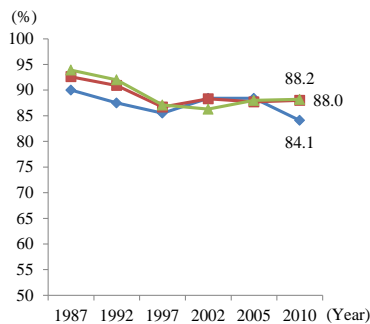
○ Around 90 percent of unmarried people have had the intention to marry throughout the period surveyed (Figure 63).

**Figure 63 Percentage of those who have the intention to marry**

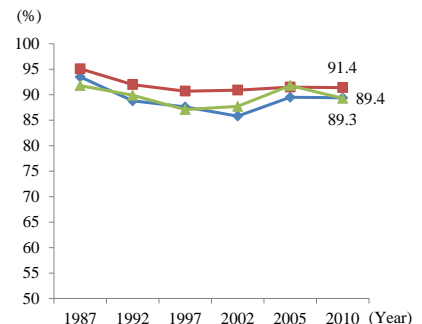
(1) Junior high school students and high school students



(2) People aged 18 or over (male)



(3) People aged 18 or over (female)



Sources: "Nationwide Survey on Families and Children," MHLW and "National Fertility Survey" (Survey of Unmarried People), National Institute of Population and Social Security Research

Note 1: The figures in the graph (1) are the percentages of students in junior high school, high school, vocational training school, vocational school and miscellaneous schools who chose: "I want to get married" from among the choices: "I want to get married," "I do not want to get married," and "I have no idea yet."

2: The figures in graphs (2) and (3) are the percentage of those who chose: "I will get married someday" from among these choices: "I will get married someday," "I will never get married," and "I have no idea."