This document is a report regarding the situation of children and young people in our country and the status of implementation of the Measures for Development and Support for Children and Young People by the government, in accordance with Article 6 of the Act on Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People (Act No. 71 of 2009).
About the White Paper on Children and Young People

The White Paper on Children and Young People is an annual report submitted to the National Diet in accordance with Article 6 of the Act on Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People (Act No. 71 of 2009). This is the tenth report as designated by the Act. (It would be the 61st report if counted together with the White Paper on Youth [not designated by law], which has been issued since 1956.)

The White Paper introduces the situations of children and young people and the status of the implementation of measures for development and support for children and young people particularly in FY 2018, in line with the chaptering of the Outline for the Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People (approved by the Headquarters for Promotion of Development and Support for Children and Young People on February 9, 2016).

Special Feature 1  Current State of the Attitudes of the Youth of Japan – What Can Be Seen from an International Comparison
Special Feature 2  The State of Prolonged Social Withdrawal (“Hikikomori”)
Chapter 1  Promotion of Comprehensive Measures for Development and Support for Children and Young People
Chapter 2  Sound Development of All Children and Young People
Chapter 3  Supporting Children, Young People, and Their Families Who Are Facing Difficulties
Chapter 4  Development of Social Environments for the Growth of Children and Young People
Chapter 5  Training for Human Resources Who Will Be Responsible for Supporting the Growth of Children and Young People
Chapter 6  Assistance for Children and Young People Who Will Carve Out a Creative Future
Chapter 7  Systems for the Promotion of Measures

Column

Make the voices of children and young people reach the government!
Case study of establishment of a consultation point using SNS
- Nagoya City’s LINE consultation center for children and young people
- Bringing out the dormant talents of young people
- Corporate initiatives focusing on the abilities of young people with difficulties
- Grassroots support to keep close to children
- Initiatives by organizations utilizing the Children's Future Support Fund
- “TONARI CAFÉ (The café next door)”: always by your side
- An initiative by Osaka Prefectural Nishinari High School in education and welfare collaboration through the provision of a place to be for young people
- Securing the safety of children commuting to school
- The Plan for Preventing Crimes on School Commuting
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- International Youth Conference held by Cabinet Office
- Awards for Supporters of Children/Family and Youth” and “Youth of the Year Who Are Creating the Future”
Special Feature 1: Current State of the Attitudes of the Youth of Japan – What Can Be Seen from an International Comparison

Key points of the survey results
- Compared to young people in other nations, the proportion of the young people of Japan who see themselves in a positive light is low, and this lack of a sense of self-affirmation is related to a low sense of self efficacy that stems from a feeling that they are of little effect to others.
- Compared to young people in other nations the young people of Japan display a tendency towards a low proportion wishing to study or live abroad.
- Those young people who have experienced participating in volunteer activities and who are satisfied with themselves display a higher tendency to be keen on studying abroad.

1 Introduction
- The Cabinet Office implemented in FY2018 its International Survey of Youth Attitude (Figure 1), in order to ascertain, by comparing the attitudes of the youth of Japan and other countries, the characteristics and issues of the attitudes of the youth of Japan and to obtain referential material for the measures relating to the development and support of children and young people.
- In this Special Feature, the attitudes of young people in Japan that became apparent through the survey results are compared with the attitudes of their overseas counterparts with regard to the four subjects of (1) view on life, (2) nation and society, (3) occupation and (4) school, through which the characteristics of attitudes of young people in Japan are introduced.

Figure 1 Outline of the FY2018 International Survey of Youth Attitude

Objective
This study seeks to compare the respective attitudes of the youth of Japan and foreign countries in order to accurately identify the characteristics and problems of Japanese youth. The objective is to apply the findings of the study to the consideration of policies related to development and support for children and young people.

Subjects
(1) View on Life, (2) Nation and Society, (3) Local Community and Volunteering, (4) Occupation, (5) School, (6) Family

Countries covered
Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States of America (USA), the United Kingdom (UK), Germany, France, Sweden

Respondents
Males and females in each country between the ages of 13 and 29

Study period
From November to December 2018.

Study method
Internet survey
(The research slips were sent to monitors registered with a research company over the Internet, and they were requested to reply)
* In the case of respondents aged 13-14 years old, the survey was conducted with those available for cooperation after there was confirmation about availability with their guardians.
* In some cases respondents aged 15-17 years old being questioned after their guardians were approached with a request for participation in the survey.

Sample sizes, etc.

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Note: As a study that carries on from the World Youth Survey initiated in 1972 and conducted at five-year intervals, the study methods, subjects and items were reviewed and altered for the International Survey of Youth Attitudes launched in 2013
2 View on life

(1) Self-perception

- The highest percentage of Japanese youth gave “I agree” or “I kind of agree” in response to “I think that both my parents love (care about) me” (79.0%). This was followed by “I want to start working and earning money soon,” (72.0%) and “I think I have my own unique strengths,” (62.2%). (Figure 2)

**Figure 2** Self-image
In addition, while the proportion of young Japanese who responded “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statements “I am satisfied with myself” “I think that I have my own unique strengths,” (45.1% and 62.3%, respectively) with regard to their self-image, were both lower compared to the responses elicited from their overseas counterparts. Among the young Japanese the proportion of responses of “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statement “I think that I have my own unique strengths,” were 6.6 percentage points lower than in the FY2013 Survey. (Figure 3, Figure 4)

As can be seen, the proportion of the young people of Japan who are satisfied with themselves or believe that they have their own unique strengths are lower than those of their overseas counterparts. In addition, the proportion of young people in Japan who believe they have their own unique strengths is lower than in the FY2013 Survey.

**Figure 3** I am satisfied with myself

![Comparison between countries and FY 2013 Survey](image_url)
Figure 4  I have my own unique strengths

(a) Comparison between countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>I kind of agree</th>
<th>I don't agree</th>
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<td>France (n=1060)</td>
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(b) Comparison with the FY 2013 Survey

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<td>FY 2013 Survey (n=1175)</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
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On the other hand, the proportion of the young people of Japan who responded either “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statement “I strongly feel that I am of little effect to others” was 51.8%, higher than their counterparts in Germany, France and Sweden, but lower than their counterparts in the USA and the UK, and roughly the same as respondents in Republic of Korea. (Figure 5)

**Figure 5** I strongly feel that I am of little effect to others

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>22.2</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>30.6</td>
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</table>
Looking at the relationship between satisfaction with themselves and other aspects of self-image, the more that the young people of Japan responded “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statement “I strongly feel that I am of little effect to others” the lower were the responses of “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statement “I am satisfied with myself.” However, a similar relationship was not discernible among the young people of foreign countries. (Figure 6)

As can be seen, the more that the young people of Japan feel they are of little effect to others the lower is their sense of satisfaction with themselves. This relationship was not discernible in the attitudes of young people in other nations.

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1 Based on an analysis by Associate Professor Hiromichi Kato, Graduate School of Education, Hokkaido University
3 Nation and society

(1) Attitude toward own nation

○ Looking at involvement in the public policy decision-making process, the statement to which the highest proportion of the young people of Japan responded either “I agree” or “I kind of agree” was “Children’s and young people’s opinions should be listened to in regard to public policy and programs for children and young people.” (69.5%), (Figure 7)

○ The proportion of respondents in Japan answering either “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statements “Children’s and young people’s opinions should be listened to in regard to public policy and programs for children and young people.” and “I want to be involved in resolving social issues for the betterment of society” was the lowest among all of the other countries. (Figure 8).

![Figure 7: Involvement in the public policy decision-making process](image-url)
Figure 8 Involvement in the public policy decision-making process (comparison between countries)

(a) Children's and young people's opinions should be listened to in regard to public policy and programs for children and young people

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>Don't know</th>
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<td>Sweden (n=1051)</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>5.2</td>
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</table>

(b) I want to be involved in resolving social issues for the betterment of society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>I kind of agree</th>
<th>I don't agree</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden (n=1051)</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>39.9</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>8.8</td>
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</table>
Looking at interest in volunteer activities, the proportion of the young people of Japan who responded “Yes” to the question “Are you interested in volunteer activities?” was 33.3%, the lowest among all the young people in the countries in the survey, while those responding “No” was 48.1%, the highest among all the young people in the countries in the survey.

The proportion of the young people of Japan responding “No” to the question “Are you interested in volunteer activities?” was 6.2 percentage points higher than in the FY2013 Survey. (Figure 9)

As can be seen, the proportion of the young people of Japan interested in volunteer activities is lower than their counterparts in other countries, and the proportion of those with no interest is even higher than in the FY2013 Survey.

Figure 9  Interest in volunteer activities

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2 In the International Survey of Youth Attitude, the question is included in Chapter 3: Local Community and Volunteering.
Looking at the relationship between the attitude towards engagement in society and volunteer activity experience of young people of Japan, the more respondents said they are “I am currently engaged in volunteer activities,” or that “I have previously been engaged in volunteer activities,” the higher was the proportion of those saying “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statement “I want to be involved in resolving social issues for the betterment of society” when compared to those responding that “I have never engaged in volunteer activities. (Figure 10)

As can be seen, the more that the young people of Japan have experience of volunteer activities the more advanced is their attitude towards engagement in society.

Figure 10  Relationship between the attitude towards engagement in society and volunteer activity experience
(2) Global perspective

- With regard to the “cross-cultural understanding and readiness needed to fulfill roles as a member of the global community, the percentage of young Japanese responding “I think they (=citizens of my country) are adequately equipped” or “I think they are somewhat equipped” is 29.4%, the lowest among all the counties in the survey (Figure 11).

**Figure 11** Cross-cultural understanding and readiness (comparison between countries)

3 i.e. to have understanding of own and other countries culture/history and society, have mutual respect for lifestyle/common practice/values, and have the attitude and capability to live together with those of different cultures.
Looking at attitudes towards studying abroad, the highest percentage of young Japanese people’s responses to the question “Would you like to study abroad in the future?” was “I do not want to study abroad” (53.2%), and the proportion of the young people of Japan wishing to study abroad was the lowest among all the young people in the nations surveyed. (Figure 12)

Furthermore, the highest percentage of young Japanese people’s responses to the question “Would you like to live in another country in the future?” was “I would like to keep living in my own country in the future” (42.7%), the proportion of the young people of Japan wanting to live abroad being the lowest among all the young people in the nations in the survey (Figure 13).

Figure 12 Would you like to study abroad in the future?
Figure 13  Would you like to live in another country in the future?

○ As can be seen, the proportion of the young people of Japan wishing to study and live abroad is lower than that of their overseas counterparts, and the proportion of young people thinking that the citizens of their own country are equipped with the adequate attributes to fulfill roles as a member of global community was also low.
Furthermore, looking at the relationship between attitudes towards studying abroad and experience of volunteer activities, the more respondents said they are “I am currently engaged in volunteer activities,” or that “I have previously been engaged in volunteer activities,” the higher was the proportion wishing to study abroad in comparison to those who answered “I have never engaged in volunteer activities”\(^4\). (Figure 14)

**Figure 14** Relationship between attitudes towards studying abroad and experience of volunteer activities

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\(^4\) Based on the analysis by Professor Hiroshi Ohta of Hitotsubashi University’s Mori Arinori Center for Higher Education and Global Mobility, Research and Development Center for Higher Education.
In addition, when looking at the relationship between attitudes towards studying abroad and self-image, similarly, the more that young people responded that “I agree” or “I kind of agree” to the statement “I am satisfied with myself” the more likely they were to wish to study abroad compared with those responding “I don’t agree” or “I don’t really agree.” In particular, the proportion of those wishing to study abroad over the medium-to-long term was high among those agreeing with the statements “I would like to graduate from a high school or university (including graduate school) in another country” and “I would like to study abroad at a high school or university (including graduate school) for six months to one year”\(^5\). (Figure 15)

**Figure 15**  Relationship between attitudes towards studying abroad and self-satisfaction

![Figure 15](image_url)

As can be seen, the more that the young people of Japan have experienced volunteer activities, and the more that they are satisfied with themselves, the higher is the proportion of them wishing to study abroad; the proportion of them wanting to study abroad on a mid-to-long term basis is also high.

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\(^5\) Based on an analysis by Professor Hiroshi Ota, Mori Arinori Center for Higher Education and Global Mobility, Research and Development Center for Higher Education
4 Occupation

(1) Important factors in selecting occupation

○ As for factors thought important when choosing a job, the highest response among the young people of Japan was “Income” (70.7%) followed in order by “The actual work” (63.1%), “Working hours” (60.3%) and “workplace’s atmosphere” (51.1%).

○ Furthermore, compared to the FY2013 Survey, although the top three responses remained the same: “Income,” “The actual work” and “Working hours,” the proportion selecting “Working hours” in the FY2018 survey increased by 8.6 percentage points. On the other hand, the proportion selecting “making the most of myself” and “being able to pursue things that I like/interests” declined by 9.9 percentage points and 4 percentage points respectively since the FY2013 Survey. (Figure 16)

○ As can be seen, compared to the FY2013 Survey the proportion of the young people of Japan emphasizing whether or not their occupation will lead to self-fulfillment when they are choosing a job has declined, while the proportion emphasizing working hours and working conditions that could lead to fulfillment in personal life has increased.

Figure 16  Important factors in selecting occupation
5 School

(1) Educational advancement and costs

○ With regard to the question about paying for the cost of education the proportion of the young people of Japan responding “Basically, society as a whole should pay the cost” was 46.2% while the proportion of those responding “Basically, the student or their parents should pay the costs” was 36.2%.

○ The proportion of the young people of Japan responding “Basically, society as a whole should pay the cost” was lower than in Sweden, Germany, France, Republic of Korea and the UK, but higher than in the USA.

○ Compared to the FY2013 Survey, the proportion responding: “Basically, society as a whole should pay the cost” was 5.9 percentage points higher and those responding: “Basically, the student or their parents should pay the costs” was down by 6.4%.

○ As can be seen, compared to the FY2013 Survey the amount of young people in Japan who think that society as a whole rather than the student or their parents should bear the costs for education increased. *(Figure 17)*

**Figure 17** Paying educational fees
6 Conclusion

○ The FY2018 Survey suggests that compared to their counterparts in the other countries, the proportion of young people of Japan who are satisfied with themselves or believe they have unique strengths and thereby view themselves affirmatively, tends to be low. The survey has brought many characteristics of the young people of Japan into the light, including the following. A certain unique characteristic among the young people of Japan not witnessed in other nations is that a low level of self efficacy, in which young people of Japan feel they are of little effect to others, is related to the low level of self-affirmation; while the proportion of the young people of Japan who want to study or live abroad is lower than that of their overseas counterparts and the proportion of them who think they have equipped themselves with the adequate attributes to play a role in the global community is not large, many of the young people of Japan who have volunteer experience or are satisfied with themselves would like to study abroad.

○ It is to be hoped that these survey results will be assiduously put to use in the consideration of measures regarding future development support for children and young people, and that they will be useful in enriching related measures.
Special Feature 2: The State of Prolonged Social Withdrawal ("Hikikomori")

Key points of the survey results
- The incidence rate of hikikomori among those aged 40 to 64 is 1.45%, an estimated number of 613,000 people.
- People who have been in a state of hikikomori for seven or more years account for around 50%, and a tendency for prolonged hikikomori can be observed.
- Hikikomori exists among full-time homemakers and household helpers.
- The age at which people withdrew from society is evenly spread without any major deviation throughout all age groups.

1 Introduction
- The Cabinet Office has hitherto conducted the fact-finding surveys on socially withdrawn people among those aged 15 to 39 in FY2009 and FY2015. A comparison of the two surveys suggests that there has been an increase among the proportion accounted for by those who have withdrawn from society for seven or more years, and that the tendency is for hikikomori to become prolonged.
- Then, through a fact-finding survey on young adult and post-young adult hikikomori with the objective of clarifying the impact of youth lifestyle on subsequent lifestyle and being of use in the planning and proposal of measures relating to development and support for youth, in FY2018 the Cabinet Office conducted a fact-finding survey on hikikomori aged from 40 to 64, the Survey on Living of Japanese.
- This special feature introduces the results of the Survey on Living of Japanese conducted by the Cabinet Office in FY2018 (hereinafter referred to as “the FY2018 Survey”), while comparing the results with those of the Survey on the Lives of Young People targeting those aged 15 to 39 and conducted by the Cabinet Office in FY2015 (hereinafter referred to as “the FY2015 Survey”).

2 Overview of the FY2018 Survey

(1) Survey respondents, timing and methodology
- The FY2018 Survey targeted 5,000 people and their co-habitants from across Japan aged from 40 to 64, and selected using two-stage stratified random sampling. The survey was conducted from December 7 to 24, 2018 by a private sector research company commissioned by the Cabinet Office. The survey was conducted with the delivery and collection method: the researchers visited the homes of the survey respondents and gave them the survey forms, collecting them at a later date.

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(2) Definition of hikikomori

- The definition of hikikomori for the FY2018 Survey uses, as was the case in the FY2015 Survey, employs the following definition in the Guidelines Regarding Evaluation of and Support for Hikikomori, which were created during A Study of the Actual Conditions of Psychiatric Disorders Leading to Hikikomori in Adolescents and Construction of Psychiatric Treatment/Support System (H19-KOKORO-IPPAN-010), which was conducted under the Health and Labour Sciences Research Grant for Research on Psychiatric and Neurological Diseases and Mental Health.

A concept related to the phenomenon of avoiding social participation (attending school including compulsory education, employment including part-time work, companionship outside of the home, etc.) as a result of various factors, and of continuing to stay mostly at home for more than six months in principle (including going out without interacting with others).

It should be noted that while in principle hikikomori is a non-psychotic phenomenon to be distinguished from a state of social withdrawal due to positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia, there is a reasonable possibility that pre-confirmed diagnosis schizophrenia is also present.

- This definition was applied to the FY2018 Survey’s research items, and those in the following conditions were appraised as being in a state of hikikomori.

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1) I only go out in the case of matters concerning my personal interests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) I only go as far as the neighborhood convenience store, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) I leave my room, but not my house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) I hardly ever leave my room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- However, those to whom (i) to (iii) below applied were excluded as not recognized as cases of hikikomori.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Those who responded that they were currently involved in some sort of work including self/free employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Those who responded that their present state was attributable to physical illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Those who responded either that they were full-time homemakers, household helpers or in their present state as a result of pregnancy, home caring or nursing, childbirth or child rearing, and had often or sometimes talked to people outside the family within the last six months.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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7 In this survey, those to whom 1) is applied are referred to as “quasi-hikikomori” and those to whom 2) to 4) are applicable as “narrow-sense hikikomori”; they are integrally referred to as “broad-sense hikikomori”.

21
3 Estimated number of those recognized as cases of hikikomori

- The incidence rate of broad-sense hikikomori group was 1.45%, an estimated number of 613,000 people. Compared to the FY2015 Survey, the incidence rate was lower but the estimated number was higher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corresponding number of people</th>
<th>Percentage among valid respondents (%)</th>
<th>National estimate number of hikikomori (ten thousand people)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I usually stay at home, and I only go out in the case of matters concerning my personal interests</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I usually stay at home, and I only go as far as the neighborhood convenience store, etc.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I leave my room, but not my house / I hardly ever leave my room</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Results of the FY2015 Survey (subjects: 15 to 39 year olds)]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corresponding number of people</th>
<th>Percentage among valid respondents (%)</th>
<th>National estimate number of hikikomori (ten thousand people)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I usually stay at home, and I only go out in the case of matters concerning my personal interests</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I usually stay at home, and I only go as far as the neighborhood convenience store, etc.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I leave my room, but not my house / I hardly ever leave my room</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- It should be noted that although full-time homemakers and household helpers were excluded from the broad-sense hikikomori group in the FY2015 Survey, of the 47 people recognized as the broad-sense hikikomori group in the FY2018 Survey 11 of them were full-time homemakers and household helpers.

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8 According to “Population Estimates 2018” by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), the number of people between 40 and 64 years old was 42.35 million. Therefore, the total national estimated number of hikikomori is calculated as follows: 42.35 million x percentage of hikikomori among valid respondents.

9 The sampling error of the incidence rate of broad-sense hikikomori group was ±0.58% (reliability: 95%).

10 According to “Population Estimates 2015” by MIC, the number of people between 15 and 39 years old was 34.45 million. Therefore, the total national estimated number of hikikomori is calculated as follows: 34.45 million x percentage of hikikomori among valid respondents.
4 Characteristics and traits in hikikomori

(1) Gender

- The male/female ratio in the broad-sense hikikomori group showed that males accounted for 76.6% and females for 23.4%, the proportion of males being higher than in the FY2015 Survey.

[Results of the FY2015 Survey (subjects: 15 to 39 year olds)]
(2) Period of time since a state of hikikomori began

- In the broad-sense hikikomori group the largest proportion of time spans since a state of hikikomori began was three to five years (21.3%), but the proportion of those in a state of hikikomori for seven or more years accounted for nearly 50%, a figure higher than in the FY2015 Survey.

[Results of the FY2015 Survey (subjects: 15 to 39 year olds)]

[Results of the FY2015 Survey (subjects: 15 to 39 year olds)]
(3) Age at which a state of hikikomori started

- Although the proportion of the broad-sense hikikomori group whose state of hikikomori started in their 30s was slightly lower, in contrast to the results of the FY2015 Survey in which the 15 to 24 year old age group accounted for more than 60%, their distribution was spread with little disparity across all age groups.
(4) Reasons for starting to be in a state of hikikomori

○ In contrast to the results of the FY2015 Survey in which the most common reasons for starting to be in a state of hikikomori were “non-attendance at school” or “inability to get used to workplace,” the most commonly cited reasons in the FY2018 Survey were, in order of frequency, “quitting of work,” “difficulties with personal relationships,” “illness” and “inability to get used to workplace”.

Note: M.T. is an abbreviation of “multiple total,” meaning the total of responses in case of multiple answer questions. Figures shown as proportions are the ratio of the number of responses divided by the number of respondents (n), a value that generally exceeds 100% (the same applies hereinafter).
[Results of the FY2015 Survey (subjects: 15 to 39 year olds)]

- Non-attendance at elementary/junior high/senior high school: 9 persons
- Inability to get used to workplace: 9 persons
- Failure to find employment: 8 persons
- Difficulties with personal relationships: 8 persons
- Illness: 7 persons
- Failure in entrance examinations (for senior high school college): 3 persons
- Inability to get used to college: 2 persons
- Pregnancy: 0 persons
- Other: 13 persons
- No response: 1 person

Broad-sense Hikikomori group (n=49, M.T.=62)
5 Conclusion

- According to the results of the FY2018 Survey, it is estimated that there are 613,000 people in a state of hikikomori in Japan, a figure that represents 1.45% of the population in the 40 to 64 year old age group. Furthermore, the survey has also clarified the following facts: there are full-time homemakers and household helpers in a state of hikikomori; nearly 50% of those in a state of hikikomori have been in that state for seven or more years; the age at which a state of hikikomori started is distributed with little disparity across all age groups; and that unlike the younger generation there are many people who entered a state of hikikomori as a result of quitting of work.

- The FY2015 Survey targeting the 15 to 39 year old age group estimated that 1.57% of the population in that age group, 541,000 people, are in a state of hikikomori. Hikikomori is a phenomenon that can be witnessed in people of all ages and all positions, and may actually start from all ages due to a diversity of reasons.

- It is hoped that the results of the FY2018 Survey are shared between bureaus including those not directly involved in support for children and young people, and throughout the whole government, and simultaneously, that the results of the FY2018 Survey are widely shared with local public organizations and private sector bodies, and put to good used in further improving measures against hikikomori.