

Overview

1 Objectives

This longitudinal, statistical survey follows the same subjects over a long period, and has been conducted since the Fiscal Year 2001. The purpose of this survey is to obtain basic data for planning and implementing various policy measures, including countermeasures against the falling birthrate, designated by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, through monitoring the status of babies born in the first year of the 21st century, and changes affecting this status over the years.

2 Scope

This survey is targeted at babies, including each sibling of twins and triplets, who were born in Japan during the periods between January 10 - 17 and July 10 - 17, 2001. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare sampled the survey subjects based on the Vital Statistics Data.

3 Dates of the Survey

The survey was conducted on January 18, 2008 for infants born in January, and on July 18, 2008 for those born in July (The age of the infants: 84 months old).

(i.e. In the 1st through 6th surveys, the survey was conducted on August 1 for infants born in January, and on February 1 for those born in July.)

4 Contents of the Survey

Family members living together, the employment status of the parents, relationship with grandparents and neighbors, wakeup time and bedtime, children's status after school, lessons etc., hours spent watching TV, hours spent playing computer games, illnesses and injuries, hours spent with children, burdens and worries about child rearing, concerns and worries in children's daily life, child-rearing expenditures etc.

5 Method of the Survey

The questionnaires were delivered and collected by post.

6 Collection of the Questionnaires

The numbers of questionnaires delivered and collected were as follows:

	Babies born in January			Babies born in July			Total		
	No. of questionnaires delivered	No. of questionnaires collected	Rate of collection	No. of questionnaires delivered	No. of questionnaires collected	Rate of collection	No. of questionnaires delivered	No. of questionnaires collected	Rate of collection
1st survey	26,620	23,423	88.0%	26,955	23,592	87.5%	53,575	47,015	87.8%
2nd survey	23,391	21,923	93.7%	23,575	22,002	93.3%	46,966	43,925	93.5%
3rd survey	23,374	21,365	91.4%	23,523	21,447	91.2%	46,897	42,812	91.3%
4th survey	22,439	20,699	92.2%	22,398	20,860	93.1%	44,837	41,559	92.7%
5th survey	21,735	19,824	91.2%	21,824	19,993	91.6%	43,559	39,817	91.4%
6th survey	21,020	19,154	91.1%	21,167	19,383	91.6%	42,187	38,537	91.3%
7th survey	20,182	18,304	90.7%	20,416	18,481	90.5%	40,598	36,785	90.6%

7 Notes

(1) Symbols used in the tables

Magnitude zero	-
Statistical item not applicable	•
Minor proportion less than 0.05	0.0

(2) The numbers indicated in this outline are rounded. The grand total may not equal the sum of the breakdown numbers.

The scope of tabulation varies by statistics. The total numbers of subjects are indicated in respective footnotes.

(3) The 7th survey (the age of infants: 84 months old) was conducted 18 months after the 6th survey (the age of infants: 66 months old).