

2 Detailed analysis of 2020

(1) Divorces by month of registration

The number of divorces by month of registration is the highest in March at 11.9%. For divorces registered in March, 12.9% of the divorces were for “Divorce with children under parental authority” and 10.5% were for “Divorce with no children under parental authority” by the presence or absence of children under parental authority. Similarly, by nationality, the proportion stood at 12.0% for Japanese couple, 10.0% for Japanese husband and foreign wife, and 10.5% for Japanese wife and foreign husband. (Table 3)

Table 3. Divorces and percent distribution of divorces by month of registration, by presence or absence of children under parental authority, and by nationality of husband and wife, 2020

Month of registration	Total	Presence or absence of children under parental authority		Nationality of husband and wife		
		Divorce with children under parental authority	Divorce with no children under parental authority	Japanese couple	Japanese husband and foreign wife	Japanese wife and foreign husband
Divorces (couples)						
Total	193 253	111 335	81 918	184 408	6 278	2 567
Jan.	16 891	9 618	7 273	16 004	652	235
Feb.	16 335	9 463	6 872	15 523	578	234
Mar.	22 945	14 349	8 596	22 050	626	269
Apr.	15 960	9 258	6 702	15 324	441	195
May	11 376	6 555	4 821	10 910	335	131
Jun.	15 165	8 723	6 442	14 464	492	209
Jul.	16 031	9 111	6 920	15 280	519	232
Aug.	14 970	8 297	6 673	14 247	511	212
Sep.	15 492	8 767	6 725	14 740	537	215
Oct.	15 931	9 066	6 865	15 133	576	222
Nov.	14 803	8 376	6 427	14 097	516	190
Dec.	17 354	9 752	7 602	16 636	495	223
Percent distribution (%)						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Jan.	8.7	8.6	8.9	8.7	10.4	9.2
Feb.	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4	9.2	9.1
Mar.	11.9	12.9	10.5	12.0	10.0	10.5
Apr.	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.3	7.0	7.6
May	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.3	5.1
Jun.	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.8	8.1
Jul.	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.3	9.0
Aug.	7.7	7.5	8.1	7.7	8.1	8.3
Sep.	8.0	7.9	8.2	8.0	8.6	8.4
Oct.	8.2	8.1	8.4	8.2	9.2	8.6
Nov.	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.6	8.2	7.4
Dec.	9.0	8.8	9.3	9.0	7.9	8.7

(2) Divorces by legal type

The percent distribution of “Divorces by mutual agreement” and “Court divorces” by nationality of husband and wife, indicates that the proportion of divorces by mutual agreement stands at 88.1% for Japanese couple, at 93.4% for Japanese husband and foreign wife, and at 90.1% for Japanese wife and foreign husband (Figure 11-1).

Regarding the percent distribution of “Divorce by mutual agreement” and “Court divorces” by age at the time of registration (5-year age group) of the husband/wife, the percentage of “Divorce by mutual agreement” was the highest for “Up to 19 years old” (95.3%) and the lowest for “45-49 years old” (86.6%) among husbands. Among wives, the “80-84 years old” age group had the highest percentage at 94.4%, while the “40-44 years old” and “55-59 years old” age groups had the lowest percentage at 86.5%. (Figure 11-2)

Figure 11-1. Percentage distribution of divorces by legal type by nationality of husband and wife, 2020

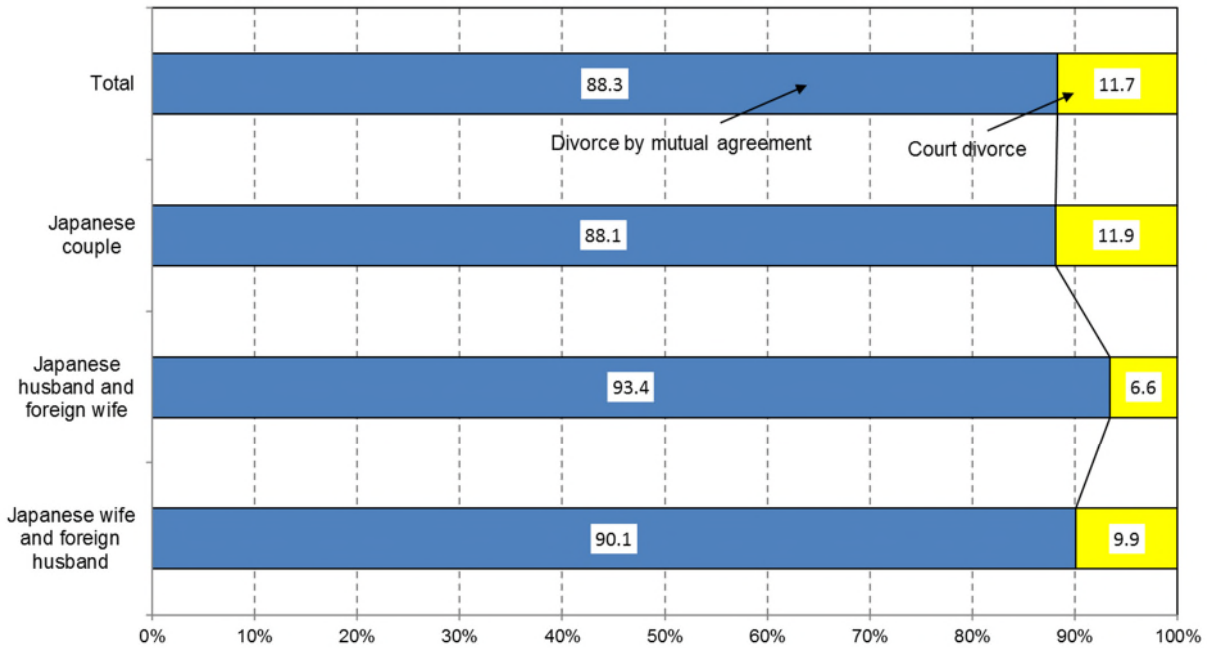
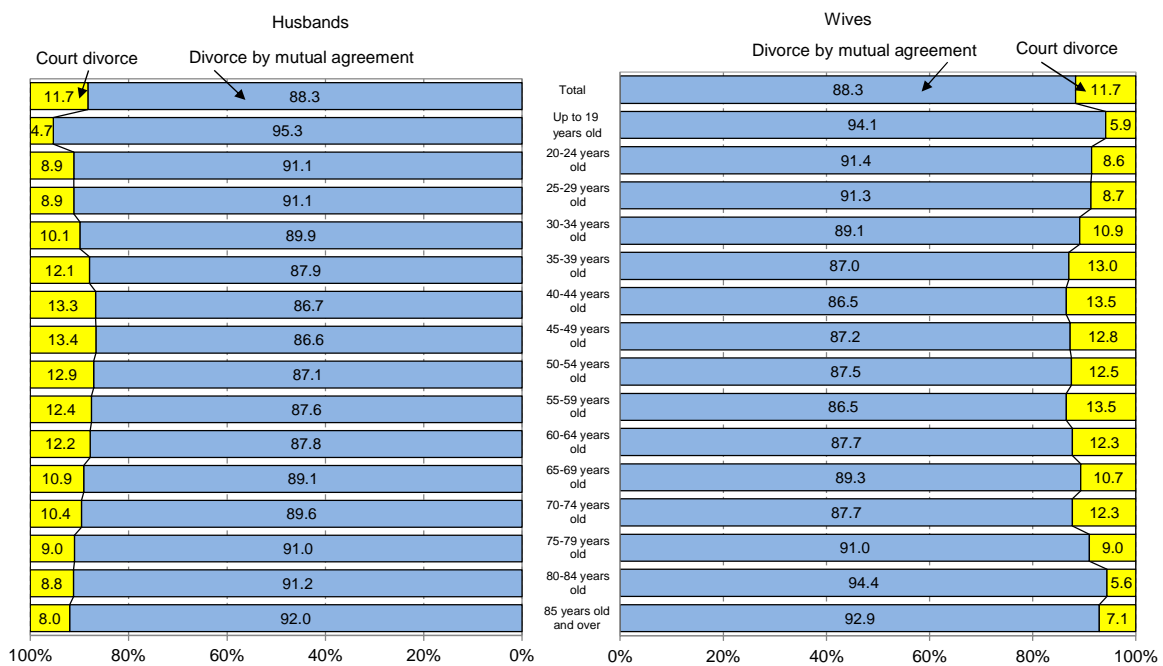


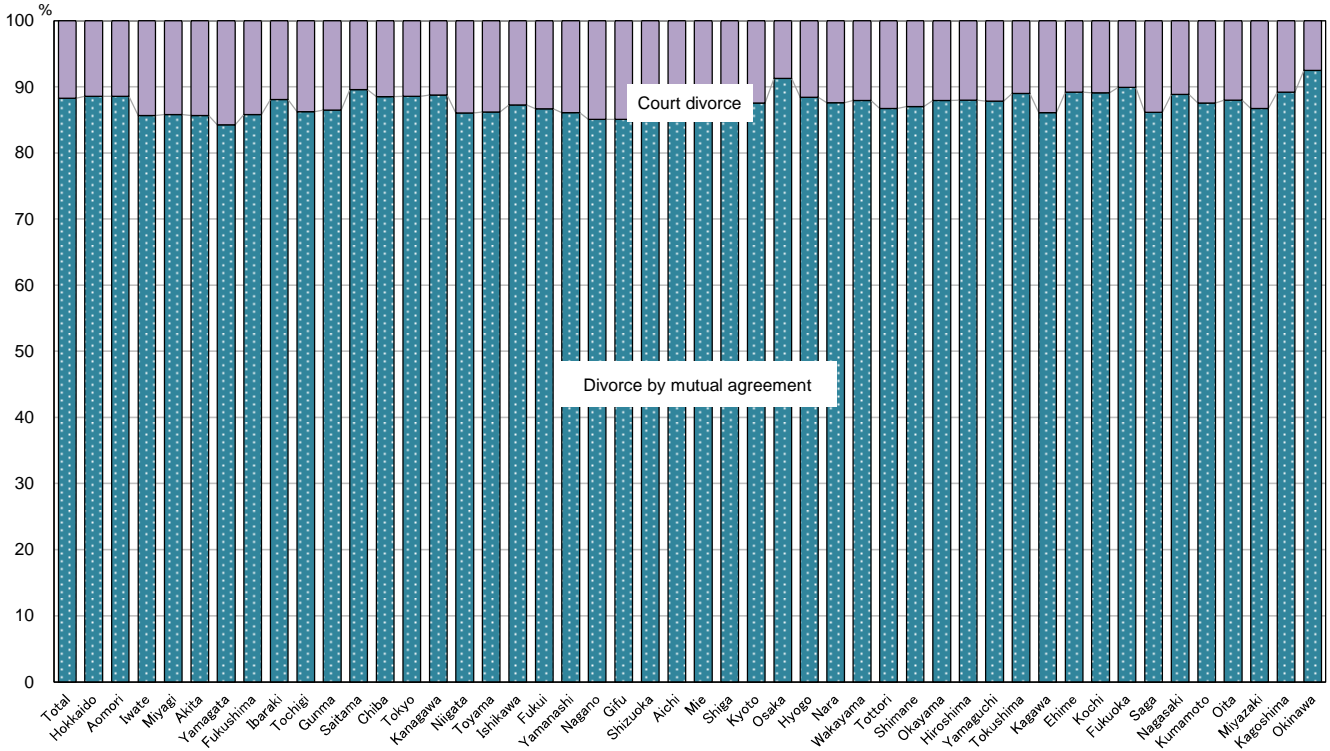
Figure 11-2. Percentage distribution of divorces by legal type by age (5-year age group) of husbands/wives at the time divorce registered, 2020



Note: The total includes figures for "Age unknown."

The percentage of “Divorce by mutual agreement” and “Court divorces” by prefecture shows that “Divorce by mutual agreement” is the majority in all prefectures, accounting for more than 85% (Figure 12-1).

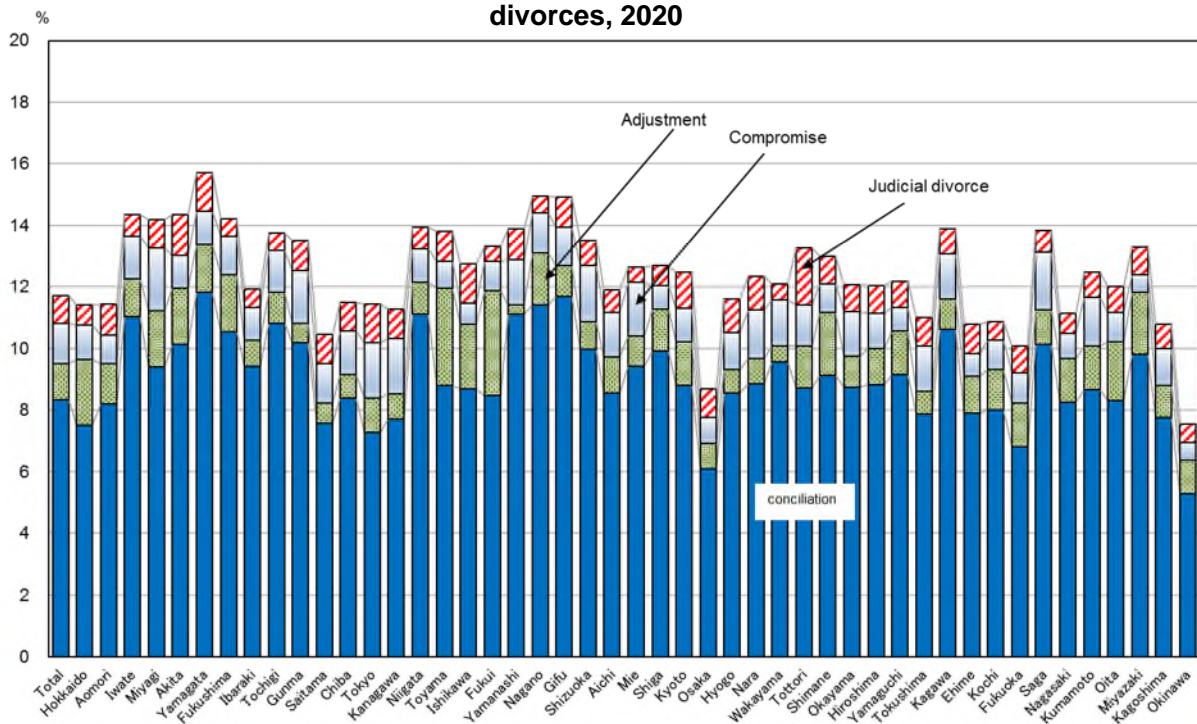
Figure 12-1. Percentage distribution of the overall number of divorces by prefecture and legal type, 2020



Note: There are five types of “Court divorces”: Divorce by conciliation, Divorce by adjustment, Divorce by compromise, Divorce by acknowledgment of claim, and Judicial divorce

Next, looking at the percentage of total divorces by legal type of court divorces, “Divorce by conciliation” accounted for the largest percentage in all prefectures (Figure 12-2).

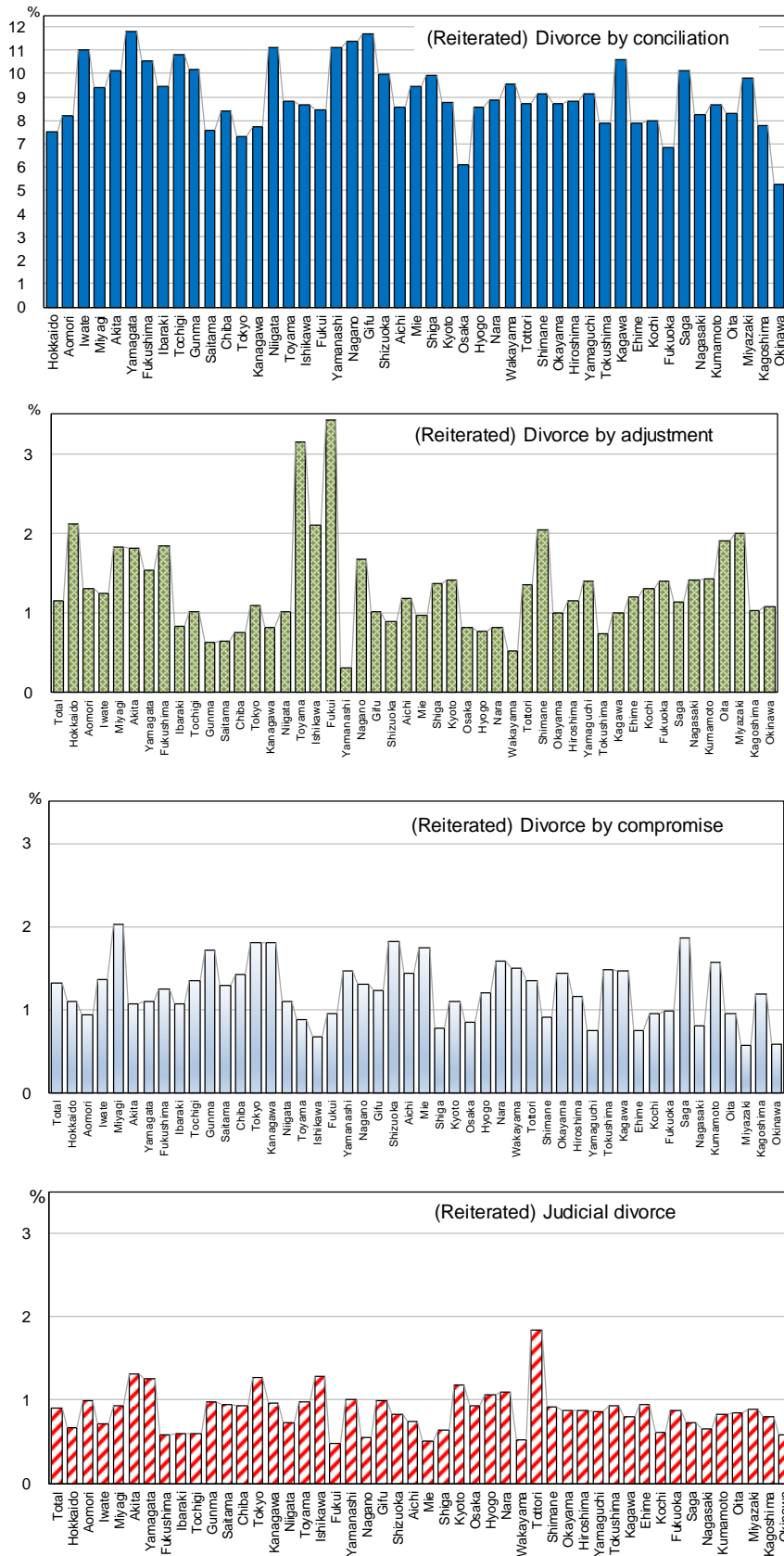
Figure 12-2. Proportion of the overall number of divorces by prefecture and legal type of court divorces, 2020



Note: Divorces by acknowledgment of claim are not shown due to their small percentage.

A comparison of the percentages of “Divorce by conciliation,” “Divorce by adjustment,” “Divorce by compromise,” and “Judicial divorce” among prefectures shows that the highest percentages are in Yamagata Prefecture for “Divorce by conciliation,” Fukui Prefecture for “Divorce by adjustment,” Miyagi Prefecture for “Divorce by compromise,” and Tottori Prefecture for “Judicial divorce” (Figure 12-3).

Figure 12-3. Proportion of the overall number of divorces by prefecture and legal type of court divorce (Reiterated separately for each legal type of court divorce), 2020.

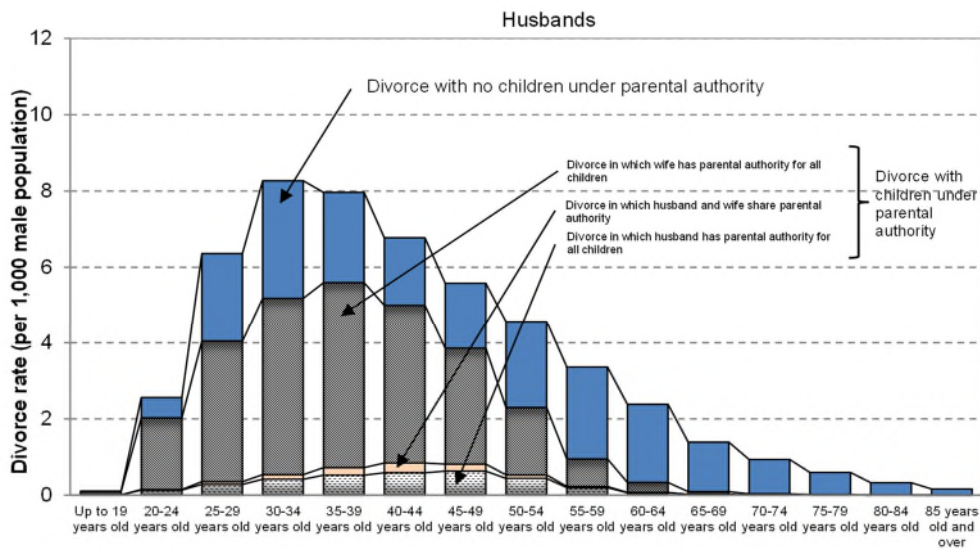


(3) Divorces by person with parental authority

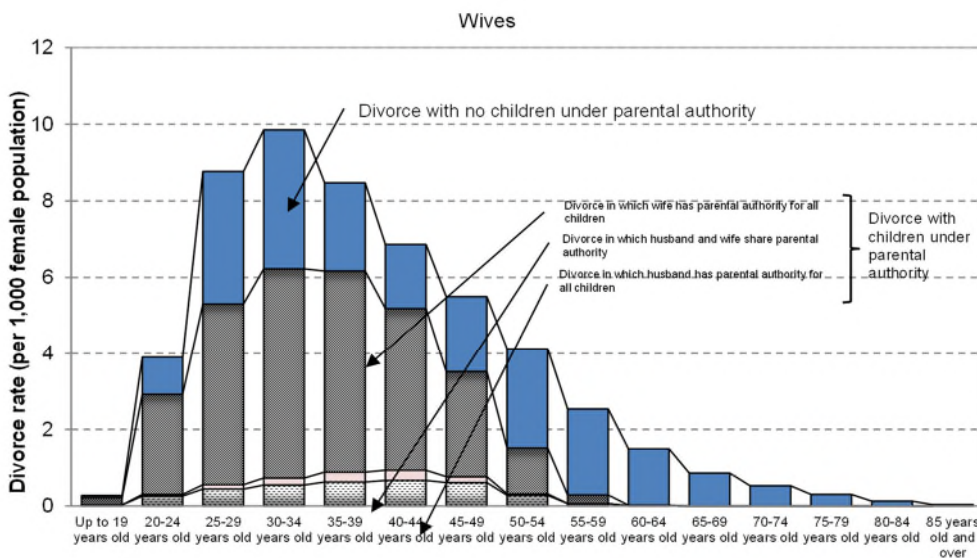
Looking at the divorce rate (per 1,000 population) of “Divorce with children under parental authority” by the age at which the couple registered for divorce (5-year age group), the highest divorce rate in 2008 was for both the husbands and wives in the “30-34 years old” age group, but in 2020, the highest divorce rate was for the husbands in the “35-39 years old” age group and for the wives in the “30-34 years old” age group (Figure 13, Reference).

In 2020, the divorce rates for “Divorces in which the husband has parental authority for all children” were highest for husbands aged “45-49 years old” and wives aged “40-44 years old”. On the other hand, the divorce rates for “Divorces in which the wife has parental authority for all children” are highest for husbands and wives in the “35-39 years old” and “30-34 years old” age groups, respectively. (Figure 13)

Figure 13. Divorce rates by person with parental authority by age (5-year age group) of husbands/wives at the time divorce registered (per 1,000 population), 2020

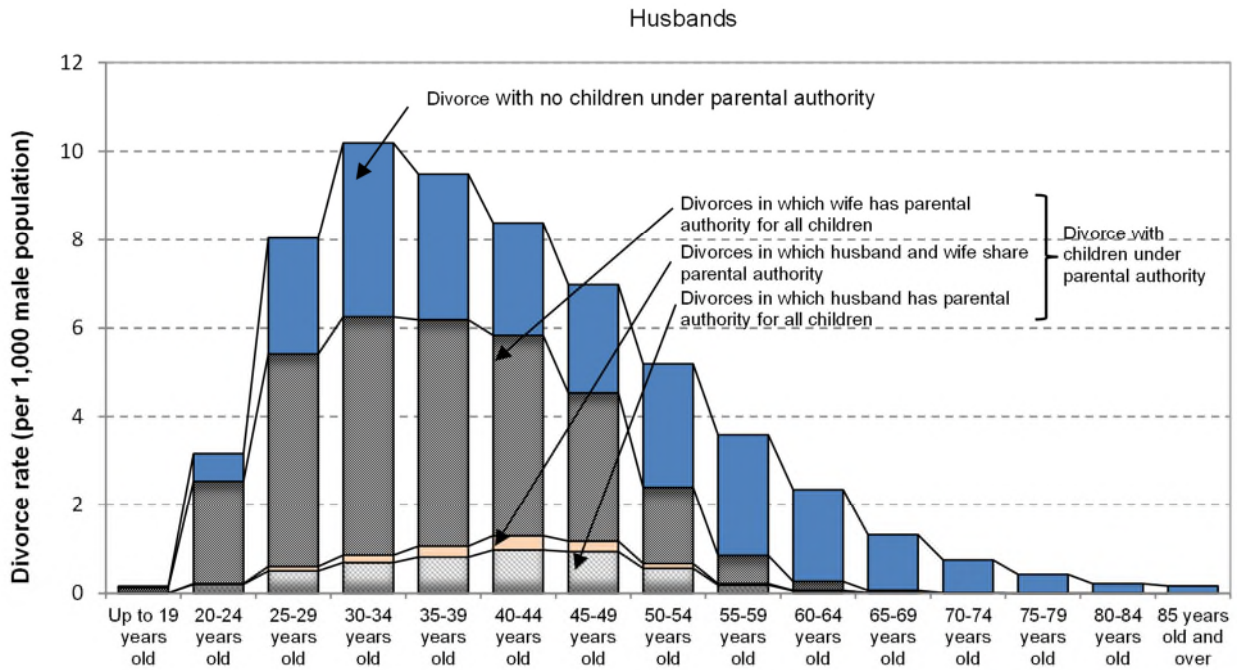


Note: The population used for the calculation of divorce rates for “Up to 19 years old” was that for 15 to 19 years old.

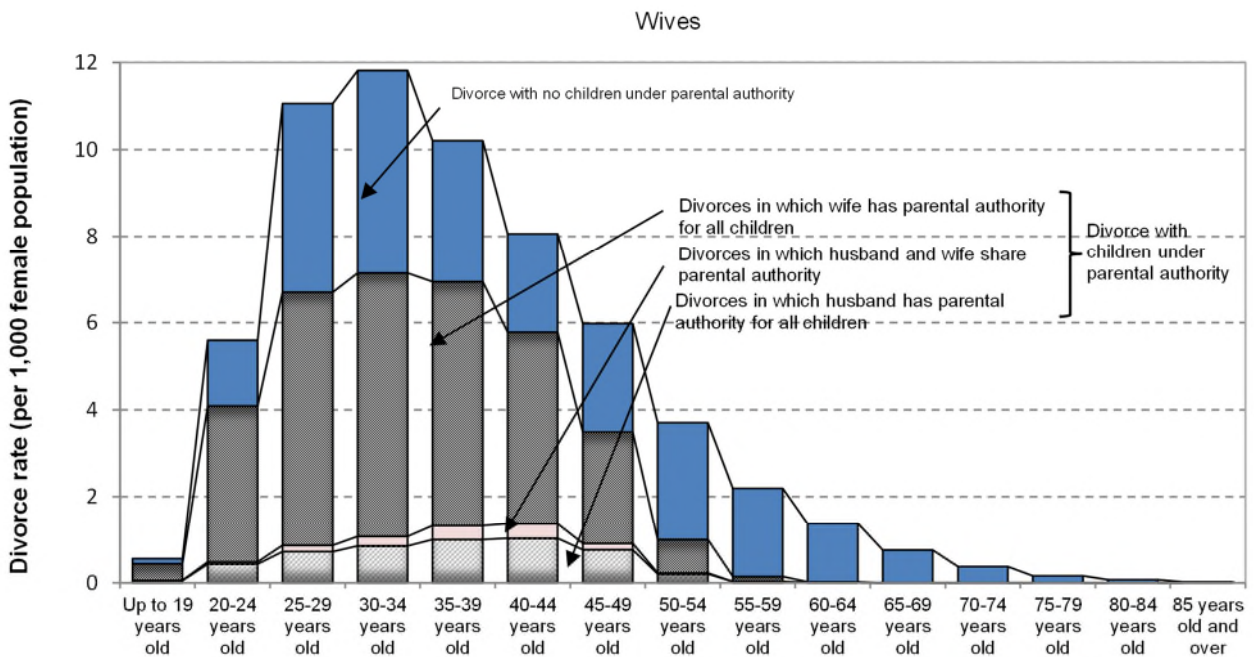


Note: The population used for the calculation of divorce rates for “Up to 19 years old” was that for 15 to 19 years old.

(Reference) Divorce rates by person with parental authority by age (5-year age group) of husbands and wives at the time divorce registered (per 1,000 population), 2008



Note: The population used for the calculation of divorce rates for "Up to 19 years old" was that for 15 to 19 years old.



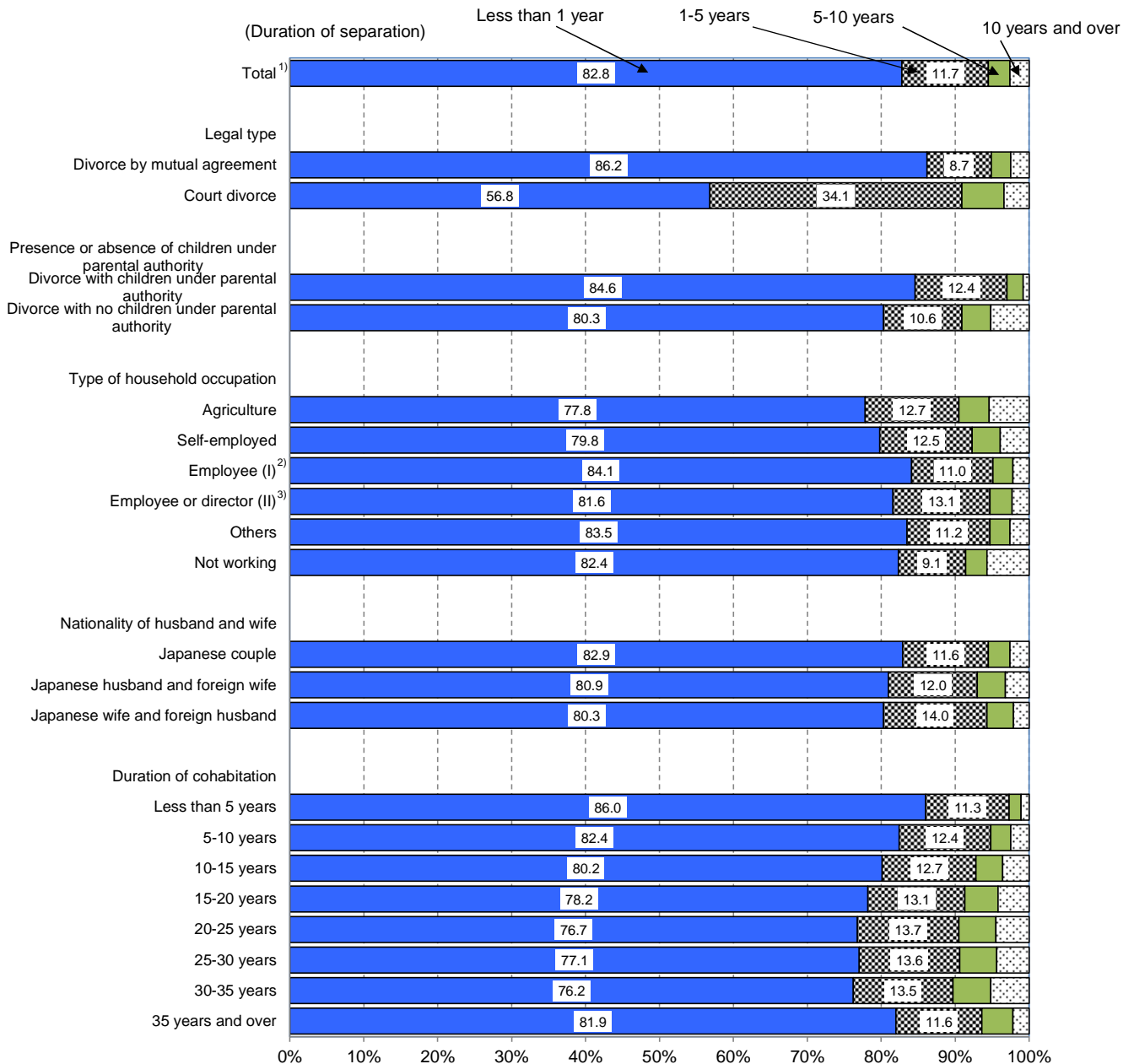
Note: The population used for the calculation of divorce rates for "Up to 19 years old" was that for 15 to 19 years old.

(4) Divorces by duration of separation

Looking at the percentage distribution by duration of separation (the period from the time of separation to the filing of the divorce papers), 82.8% of the divorcers have been separated for “Less than 1 year.”

In addition, an analysis of the duration of separation by legal type of divorces shows that 86.2% of “Divorce by mutual agreement” divorcers have been separated for “Less than 1 year,” while 56.8% of “Court divorce” divorcers have been separated for “Less than 1 year.” Similarly below, analysis by presence or absence of children under parental authority, the percentage of “Less than 1 year” is 84.6% for “Divorce with children under parental authority” and 80.3% for “Divorce with no children under parental authority.” By type of household occupation at the time of separation, all jobs were around 80%, with “Employee (I) ²⁾” having the highest percentage at 84.1% and “Agriculture” having the lowest percentage at 77.8%. By duration of cohabitation, the divorce rate was highest for “Less than 5 years” at 86.0%, and the divorce rate decreased as the duration of cohabitation increased, with the lowest rate for “30-35 years” at 76.2%, but the rate for “35 years or over” exceeded 80% at 81.9%. (Figure 14-1)

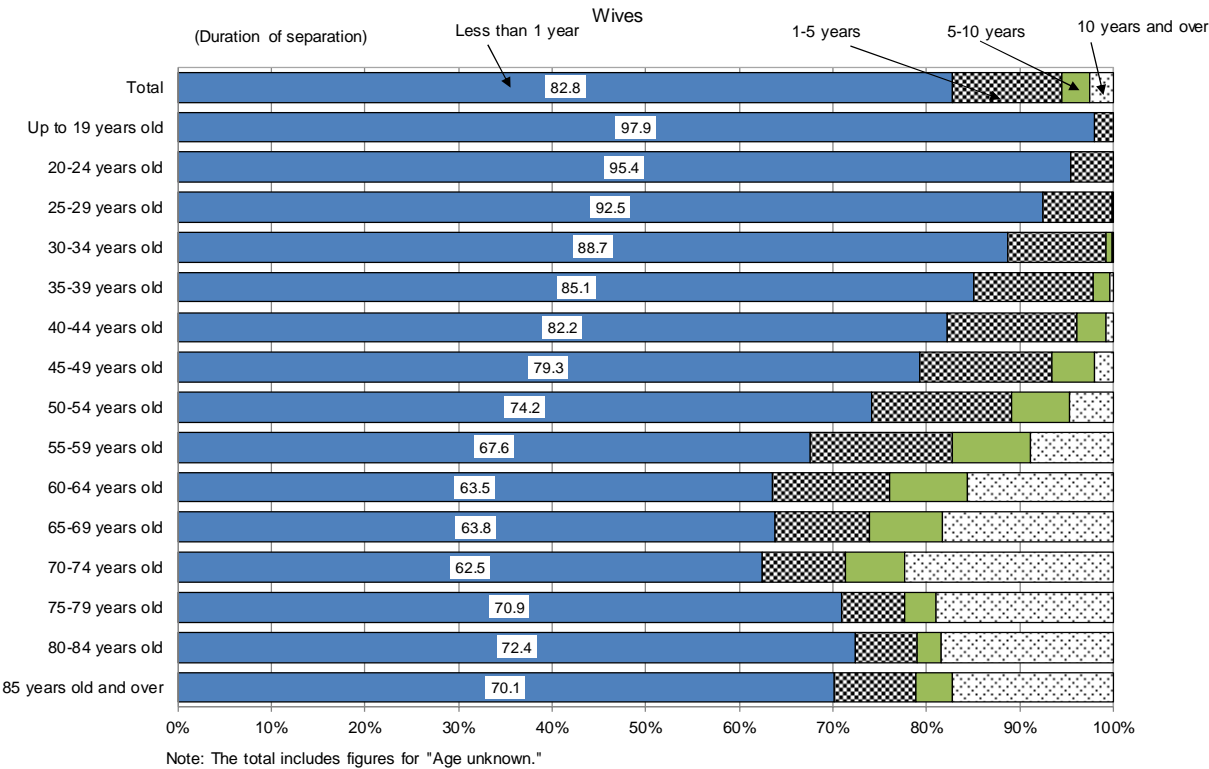
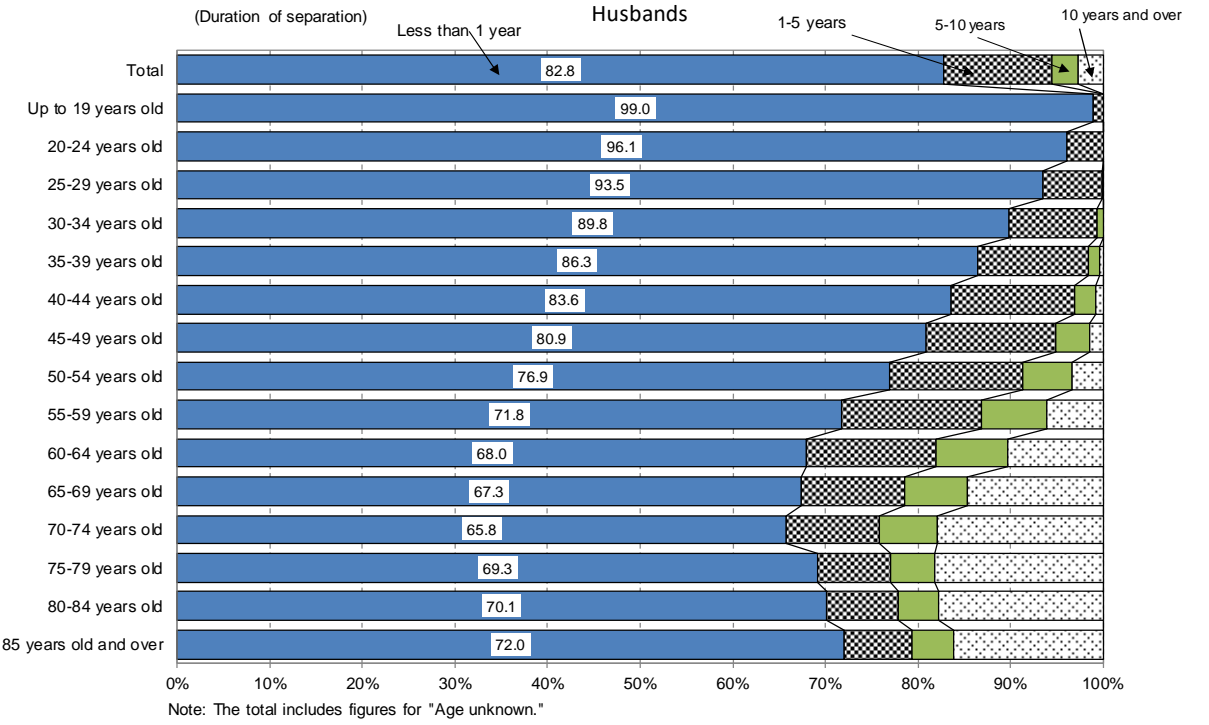
Figure 14-1. Percentage distribution by duration of separation, 2020



Note: 1) The total includes figures for the "type of household occupation unknown," and for "duration of cohabitation unknown."
 2) Employee (I) refers to households of regular employed workers who work for companies, personal shops, etc. (excluding government agencies), whose number of employees ranges from 1 to 99 (Households of daily contract workers or for less than one year are included in "Other households").
 3) Employee or director (II) refers to households of regular employed workers that are not included in "Employee households (I)," and households of directors or executive officers at corporate associations (Households of daily contract workers or for less than one year are included in "Other households").

Looking at the percentage distribution by duration of separation according to the age of the husband/wife at the time divorce registered (5-year age group), the percentage of “Less than 1 year” tends to decrease as the age of both spouses increases up to “70-74 years old.” On the other hand, the proportion tends to increase for those aged 75 years old and over. (Figure 14-2).

Figure 14-2. Percentage distribution by duration of separation by age (5-year age group) of husbands/wives at the time divorce registered, 2020



(5) Divorce in terms of marriage and divorce rates by age

The “Total marriage rate by age” assumes that the age of marriage is set until 80 years old, and is "total of the marriage rates by age (each age) for men aged 18 to 80 years old, or for women aged 16 to 80 years old, respectively.” This corresponds to the number of marriages that a man or a woman would have during his or her lifetime at that marriage rates by age (each age). In 2020, the “Total marriage rate by age” was 0.79 for men and 0.84 for women. This means that, on average, a man will marry 0.79 times and a woman 0.84 times during his or her lifetime, assuming that they marry at the marriage rates by age (each age) in 2020.

On the other hand, the “Total divorce rate by age” assumes that the age of divorce is set until 80 years old, and is “total of the divorce rates by age (each age) for men aged 18 to 80 years old, or for women aged 16 to 80 years old, respectively.” This corresponds to the number of divorces that a man or a woman would have during his or her lifetime at that divorce rates by age (each age). In 2020, the "Total divorce rate by age" was 0.26 for men and 0.27 for women. This means that, on average, a man will divorce 0.26 times and a woman 0.27 times during his or her lifetime, assuming that they divorce at the divorce rates by age (each age) in 2020.

On average, over the course of a lifetime, a man marry 0.79 times and divorce 0.26 times, while a woman marry 0.84 times and divorce 0.27 times, giving a ratio of divorce to marriage of 0.32 for both men and women. This means that approximately one out of every three married couples divorces. (Table 4)

Table 4 Marriage and divorce rates by age - 2020

	male	female
Total marriage rate by age (each age) (1)	0.79	0.84
Total divorce rate by age (each age) (2)	0.26	0.27
(3)=(2)/(1)	0.32	0.32

Note: Age is the age at the time of registration.

(Reference) Total marriage rate by age and total divorce rate by age are specifically calculated as follows.

	Number of marriages (A)	Population (B)	Marriage rate by age (A)/(B)
Total number of males	525 507		
18 years old	1 110	593 447	0.0018704282
19 years old	2 125	599 737	0.0035432198
20 years old	4 287	602 194	0.0071189683
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
78 years old	241	640 753	0.0003761200
79 years old	207	603 309	0.0003431078
80 years old	1 003	525 836	0.0019074388
(1) Total marriage rate by age			0.787789389

	Number of divorces (A)	Population (B)	Divorce rate by age (A)/(B)
Total number of males	193 253		
18 years old	56	593 447	0.0000943639
19 years old	240	599 737	0.0004001754
20 years old	628	602 194	0.0010428533
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
78 years old	339	640 753	0.0005290650
79 years old	294	603 309	0.0004873125
80 years old	1 029	525 836	0.0019568839
(2) Total divorce rate by age			0.255961009

$$\frac{(2) \text{ Total divorce rate by age } 0.255961009}{(1) \text{ Total marriage rate by age } 0.787789389} = (3) \underline{0.32491}$$

Note: The number of marriages and divorces at age 80 are figures for those aged 80 years old and over.