

## **Overview of the Survey**

### **1. Objective**

This longitudinal statistical survey, which follows the same subjects over many years, was launched in 2001. By continuously observing the actual state and changes over time of children born in the first year of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the survey aims to obtain basic data for use in the planning and implementation of policies in dealing with the declining birthrate and other issues.

### **2. Subjects**

The survey is representative of children born between January 10 and 17, 2001, and between July 10 and 17, 2001, nationwide. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare sampled the subjects based on the live birth forms of the Vital Statistics. In the case of twins and triplets, individual siblings were sampled for the survey.

The age of the subjects at the time of the 9<sup>th</sup> Survey was 9 years old (in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade of primary school).

### **3. Survey Date**

The survey was taken on January 18, 2010, for the cohort born in January, and on July 18, 2010, for the cohort born in July.

(Note: Each of the 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> surveys was taken on August 1 for the cohort born in January, and on February 1 for the cohort born in July.)

### **4. Survey Items**

The survey items included the employment status of the mother, time spent with the child, burdens and anxieties of parenting, benefits of parenting, child-rearing expenses, bedtime, lessons, and helping with household chores.

### **5. Survey Method**

Questionnaires were distributed and returned by mail.

## 6. Collection of Questionnaires

The numbers of the questionnaires distributed and collected were as shown below.

	Cohort Born in January			Cohort Born in July			Total		
	Number Distributed	Number Collected	Collection Rate	Number Distributed	Number Collected	Collection Rate	Number Distributed	Number Collected	Collection Rate
1 <sup>st</sup> Survey	26,620	23,423	88.0%	26,955	23,592	87.5%	53,575	47,015	87.8%
2 <sup>nd</sup> Survey	23,391	21,923	93.7%	23,575	22,002	93.3%	46,966	43,925	93.5%
3 <sup>rd</sup> Survey	23,374	21,365	91.4%	23,523	21,447	91.2%	46,897	42,812	91.3%
4 <sup>th</sup> Survey	22,439	20,699	92.2%	22,398	20,860	93.1%	44,837	41,559	92.7%
5 <sup>th</sup> Survey	21,735	19,824	91.2%	21,824	19,993	91.6%	43,559	39,817	91.4%
6 <sup>th</sup> Survey	21,020	19,154	91.1%	21,167	19,383	91.6%	42,187	38,537	91.3%
7 <sup>th</sup> Survey	20,182	18,304	90.7%	20,416	18,481	90.5%	40,598	36,785	90.6%
8 <sup>th</sup> Survey	19,530	17,978	92.1%	19,731	18,158	92.0%	39,261	36,136	92.0%
9 <sup>th</sup> Survey	<b>18,865</b>	<b>17,480</b>	<b>92.7%</b>	<b>19,067</b>	<b>17,784</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>37,932</b>	<b>35,264</b>	<b>93.0%</b>

## 7. Number of Subjects Tabulated

Conditions for Tabulation as Subjects	Number of Subjects Tabulated	
Those who responded to the 9 <sup>th</sup> Survey		
Total	(100.0)	35,264
Living with father and mother	(71.1)	25,088
Living only with the mother	(4.8)	1,685
Living only with the mother, grandparents, etc.	(3.1)	1,105
Others (three-generation families and families other than the above)	(20.9)	7,386
	Total	
Those responding to all surveys from the 2 <sup>nd</sup> through 9 <sup>th</sup> Surveys		31,320
Those responding to all surveys from the 3 <sup>rd</sup> through 9 <sup>th</sup> Surveys		31,614
Those responding to all surveys from the 7 <sup>th</sup> through 9 <sup>th</sup> Surveys		33,316
Those responding to the 6 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> Surveys		34,515

## 8. Notes

- (1) Figures in this Outline are rounded. Therefore, the aggregate of the figures in the breakdown may not necessarily equate with the figure indicated as "Total." As the number of subjects tabulated in each figure and table is different, the total number of subjects tabulated is indicated in parentheses in the footnote in each case.

(2) The age of the subjects at the time of each survey is as follows:

Survey	Subjects' Age
1 <sup>st</sup> Survey	6 months
2 <sup>nd</sup> Survey	1 year and 6 months
3 <sup>rd</sup> Survey	2 years and 6 months
4 <sup>th</sup> Survey	3 years and 6 months
5 <sup>th</sup> Survey	4 years and 6 months
6 <sup>th</sup> Survey	5 years and 6 months
7 <sup>th</sup> Survey	7 years (1 <sup>st</sup> grade of primary school)
8 <sup>th</sup> Survey	8 years (2 <sup>nd</sup> grade of primary school)
9 <sup>th</sup> Survey	9 years (3 <sup>rd</sup> grade of primary school)

*Note:* The 7<sup>th</sup> Survey (7 years) was conducted a year and six months after the 6<sup>th</sup> Survey (5 years and 6 months).