

Outline of the Survey

The 5th Longitudinal Survey of Adults in the 21st Century (2012 Cohort)

1 Objective

The Longitudinal Survey of Adults in the 21st Century (2012 Cohort) has been conducted since 2012 in order to capture information instrumental for the planning, formation and implementation of necessary MHLW measures such as measures for combating Japan's declining birth rate through the continuous observation of the actual situations and changes over years of the marriage, childbirth, work and other conditions of the males and females surveyed. The latest is the 5th survey.

2 Survey coverage and survey objects

The survey objects were selected from males and females aged 20 to 29 as of the end of October 2012 nationwide (excluding some regions of Fukushima prefecture) who participated in the 3rd or 4th survey (and their spouses (limited to those identified as such by the time when the 1st survey was conducted)).

3 Date of the survey

Survey cycle: Once a year (1st Wednesday of November)
Date of the 5th survey: Wednesday, November 2, 2016

4 Questionnaire types

(1) Male questionnaire (2) Female questionnaire

5 Survey Items

- (1) Male questionnaire:..... Labour force status, work pattern, marriage status, the number of children, the desired number of children, willingness to have a child(ren), child view, etc.
- (2) Female questionnaire:..... Labour force status, work pattern, marriage status, the number of children, the desired number of children, willingness to have a child(ren), child view, etc.

6 Survey method

Each surveyed individual filled out a questionnaire mailed by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and then submitted it to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare by mail. On-line responses using the Internet have been permitted since the 5th survey.

7 Route of the survey

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare ————— Surveved individual

8 Tabulation of Survey Results and Households Tabulated

The survey results were tabulated by the Director-General for Statistics and Information Policy, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

The number of objects surveyed, the number of responding objects, and the number of objects tabulated are as follows.

In this Summary Report, the number of objects tabulated refers to the number of objects that can be tabulated continuously after becoming survey objects.

	The number of objects surveyed	The number of responding objects	The number of t objects tabulated
Male questionnaire	8,005	5,431	4,122
(Regrouped) Spouse questionnaire ^(Note)	379	262	196
Female questionnaire	9,252	6,823	5,192
(Regrouped) Spouse questionnaire ^(Note)	147	113	81
Total	17,257	12,254	9,314

(Note) Individuals subject to the spouse questionnaire in the 1st survey have been surveyed as individuals subject to the male or female questionnaire since the 2nd survey.

(Reference) Number of objects surveyed since the 1st survey and the number of responding objects (individuals subject to the male and female questionnaires in the 1st survey)

	Age of target individual	The number of objects surveyed	The number of responding objects	Collection rate
1st survey	Aged 20 - 29	38,879	31,122	80.0%
2nd survey	Aged 21 - 30	33,835	18,979	56.1%
3rd survey	Aged 22 - 31	30,741	15,326	49.9%
4th survey	Aged 23 - 32	20,082	14,300	71.2%
5th survey	Aged 24 - 33	16,731	11,879	71.0%

* The 1st survey was conducted by enumerators.

9 Notes

(1) Symbols used in the tables

Quantity zero	-
Negative value	△

(2) As numbers in the Summary Report are rounded, the sum of breakdown may not agree with the "Total".

Definition of terms

- 1 **“Husband and wife”** or **“Married”** also includes those who are living in a real marital relationship but have yet to submit their marriage registration.
- 2 **“Single”** or **“Single person”** refers to any person who responded “Have no spouse” and there is no distinction between unmarried, separated and bereaved statuses. It also includes those who responded “Have a child(ren)”.
- 3 **“Willingness to have a child(ren)”** is related to the question “How do you feel about having a child(ren) in the future?”, which was posed to those who responded that the “Desired number of children” was 1 or more.
- 4 **“Status of child-care leave system, etc.”** is related to the question asking whether their place of work has any child-care leave system that is available in their own work pattern.
- 5 **“Child-care leave system”**, **“Short working hour system”** and **“Reduced working hours for child-rearing, etc.”** refer to the following systems.
Child-care leave system: A system that allows workers to take leave to rear their child(ren)
Short working hour system: A system that shortens prescribed normal working hours
Reduced working hours for child-rearing, etc.: Reduced working hours for child-rearing outside the “child-care leave system” and “short working hour system” (e.g. flextime system, earlier/later work start/finish times, exemption from unprescribed working hours (overtime), etc.
- 6 **“Desired number of children”** means how many children the respondent wants to have in total.
- 7 **“Child view”** is related to the question asking what the respondent thinks about having a child(ren).
- 8 **“1st survey”** and **“5th survey”** refer to the items identified in each survey.
- 9 **“In the last 4 years”** refers to the period from the 1st survey to the 5th survey.