

### 3 Chronological Table

Year	Prime Minister	Minister of Health and Welfare	Minister of Labour	Background to the Era	Measures, etc.
1938	Konoe			1938 Establishment of Ministry of Health and Welfare 1941 Pacific War 1945 End of War 1946 Promulgation of Japanese Constitution 1947 Establishment of Ministry of Labour 1947 First baby boom 1950 Korean War (Special procurement boom) 1952 Peace Treaty "Jinmu" economic boom "Iwato" economic boom	1937 Health Center Law 1938 National Health Insurance Law 1939 Employees Health Insurance Law, Seamen's Insurance Law 1941 Workers Pension insurance Law 1944 Employees' Pension Insurance Law 1945 Repatriation measures 1946 Former Public Assistance Law 1946 Labour Relations Adjustment Law 1947 New Health Center Law 1947 Food Sanitation Law 1947 Child Welfare Law 1947 Labour Standards Law 1947 Workmen's Accident Compensation Insurance Law 1947 Employment Security Law 1947 Unemployment Insurance Law 1948 Preventive vaccination Law 1948 Medical Care Law 1948 Medical Doctor Law, Dentist Law, Law for Public Health Nurses, Midwives and Nurses
	Kido				
	Hiranuma	Hirose			
	Abe	Obara, Akita			
	Yonai	Yoshida			
		Yasui, Kanemitsu			
	Konoe	Koizumi (S)			
	Tojo				
	Koiso	Hirose, Aikawa			
	Suzuki (K)	Okada			
1945	Higashikuni	Matsumura			
	Shidehara	Ashida			
	Yoshida	Kawai, Ichimatsu			
	Katayama	Katayama, Ichimatsu	Yonekubo		1949 Law for the Welfare of People with Physical Disabilities 1949 Trade union Law 1949 Emergency unemployment Measures Law 1950 Mental Hygiene Law 1950 New Public Assistance Law 1951 Tuberculosis Prevention Law 1951 Social Welfare Service Law 1951 Children's Charter 1952 Law for the Relief of War victims and Survivors 1954 Refuse Law 1954 Employees' Pension Insurance Law amendment (introduction of a fixed portion and an increase in the pensionable age to the 60)
	Ashida	Takeda	Katou		
	Yoshida	Yoshida	Yoshida		
		Hayashi (J)	Masuda		
			Suzuki (M)		
		Kurokawa	Hori		
		Hashimoto (Ryugo)	Yoshitake		
		Yoshitake			
		Yamagata	Totsuka		
		Kusaba	Kosaka		
		Tsurumi	Chiba		
		Kawasaki	Nishida		
1955	Hatoyama	Kobayashi	Kuraishi		
		Ishibashi			
		Kanda	Matsuura		1957 Water Supply Law
	Kishi	Horiki	Ishida		
		Hashimoto (Ryugo)	Kuraishi		
		Sakata			
		Watanabe (R)	Matsuno		
		Nakayama	Ishida		
	Ikeda	Furui			
		Nadao	Fukunaga		1961 Child Rearing Allowance Law
		Nishimura	Ohashi		
		Kobayashi (T)			1963 Welfare Law for the Elderly
		Kanda	Ishida		
1965	Sato	Suzuki (Z)	Kodaira		1964 Law for Maternal and Child Welfare
			Yamate		1964 Law concerning Special Child Rearing Allowance
		Bo	Hayakawa		1965 Employees' Pension Insurance Law amendment (¥10,000 pension, Employees' Pension Fund)
		Sonoda	Ogawa		1965 Maternal and Child Health Law
		Saito (N)	Hara		1965 Mental Hygiene Law amendment (introduction of Public-funded hospital visit medical care)
		Uchida	Nohara		1966 National Health Insurance Law amendment (70% benefit introduced)
					1966 Employment Measures Law
					1967 Pollution Control Basic Law
					1967 First-Term Basic Employment Measures Plan
		Saito (N)	Hara		1969 Employees' Pension Insurance Law amendment (¥20,000 pension)
					1970 Waste Disposal Law
					1970 Five-Year Plan for the Emergency Provision of Social Welfare Facilities
					1970 Industrial Homework Law
					1971 Child Allowance Law
					1971 Law concerning Stabilization of Employment of Older Persons

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1975	Tanaka	Shiomi	Tamura	1971 Second baby boom 1972 Sapporo Olympics 1973 First year of welfare 1973 Oil shock	1973 Welfare Law for the Elderly amendment (free medical care for the elderly) 1973 Health Insurance Law amendment (70% benefit for dependents, and high-cost medical care expenses) 1973 Pension system reform (¥50,000 pension, commodity price sliding scale system introduced) 1974 Employment Insurance Law
		Saito (K)	Katou		
			Hasegawa		
		Fukunaga	Okubo	1975 International Women's Year	
	Miki	Tanaka (S)	Hasegawa		1977 Employment Insurance Law amendment (start of employment security programs)
		Hayakawa	Urano		1978 National health improvement measures
	Fukuda	Watanabe (M)	Ishida		1979 Pharmaceutical Affairs Law amendment (Stricter new drug approval process, adverse drug reaction recording system, reevaluation, GMP, etc. are stipulated by law.)
		Ozawa	Fuji		1979 Law on the Drug Fund for Adverse Reaction Relief
	Ohira	Hashimoto (Ryutaro)	Fuji		
			Kurihara	1979 International Year of the Child	
	Suzuki (Z)	Noro	Fujinami		
		Saito (K)	Fujio	1980 Baby hotel problem 1980 Second Provisional Commission on Administrative Reform(financial reconstruction)	
		Sonoda		1981 International Year of Disabled Persons 1981 U.S.-Japan Trade Friction	1981 Child Welfare Law amendment, implementation of extended and evening-and night-hour child care
		Murayama		1983 United Nation's Decade for Disabled Persons Population concentration in Tokyo	1982 Long-term plan concerning measures for people with disabilities 1982 Home helpers (substantial increase, abolition of income restrictions) 1982 Health and Medical Service Law for the Elderly
		Morishita	Hatsumura	Population concentration in Tokyo	1983 Treatment Tank Law 1983 Comprehensive 10-Year Strategy for Cancer Control 1984 Health insurance Law amendment (90% benefit for insured persons, and medical care system for the retirees) 1984 Employment Insurance Law amendment (establishment of systems for reemployment allowance and benefits for older job applicants) 1985 Pension system reform (introduction of Basic Pension, etc.) 1985 Medical Service Law amendment (medical care plans) 1985 Human Resources Development Promotion Law 1985 Worker Dispatch Law 1985 Law for Equal Employment Opportunity of Men and Women 1986 Health and Medical Service Law for the Elderly amendment (health services facilities for the elderly) 1986 Law concerning Stabilization of Employment of Older Persons (Employers are obliged to endeavor to introduce the 60-year-old retirement age.) 1987 Certified Social Workers and Certified Care Workers Law 1987 Mental Hygiene Law amendment (human rights protection, social rehabilitation, change of the law title in the Mental Health Law) 1987 Labour Standards Law amendment (aiming at 40-hour working week) 1988 Second national health improvement measures 1988 National Health Insurance Law amendment (stabilization of the insurance system management for municipalities incurring high medical care expenses)
1985	Nakasone	Hayashi (Y)	Oono	Appreciation of yen	1988 Tax reform 1989 Change of era
		WAtabe (K)	Sakamoto	Steep rise in land price	1989 Formulation of Gold Plan 1989 Employment Insurance Law amendment (expansion of scope into part-time workers) 1990 National Health Insurance Law amendment (establishment of an insurance base stabilization system) 1990 Amendment to the eight laws on welfare services for the elderly including Law for the Welfare of the Elderly (clarification of status of in-home welfare service, enhancement of support system for such service; integrated management by municipalities of in-home and facility welfare services; formulation of plans on health and welfare service for the elderly; expansion of the scope of facilities for disabled persons, etc.) 1990 Law concerning Stabilization of Employment of older Persons (Employers are obliged to endeavor to assure reemployment up to 65 years old.) 1991 Health and Medical Service Law for the Elderly amendment (home-visit nursing care system)
		Masuoka	Yamaguchi	Bubble economy	
		Imai	Hayashi (Y)		
		Saito (J)	Hirai		
	Takeshita	Fujimoto	Nakamura		
		Koizumi (J)	Niwa (H)		
			Horiuchi		
1989	Uno	Toida	Fukushima		
		Kaifu	Tsuahima	1990 Iraqi invasion into Kuwait 1990 Birth of a united Germany	
			Tsukahara	1990 Total fertility rate marks 1.57.	
				1991 Gulf War 1991 Dissolution of the Soviet union and formulation of Russian Federation and others Land price begins to fall.	1991 Child Care Leave Law 1991 Law Concerning the Promotion of Improvement of Employment Management in Smaller Enterprises for Securing Manpower 1992 Health Insurance Law amendment (introduction of mid-term financial management) 1992 Medical Service Law amendment (introduction of the idea of providing medical care) 1992 Law to Promote the Securing of Manpower, Such as Nurses
			Shimojo	Ozato	
	Miyazawa	Yamashita	Kondo		1993 Pharmaceutical Affairs Law and the Foundation for Drug Research and Adverse Reaction Relief Law amendment (Promotion of research and development for pharmaceuticals and medical devices for rarely-occurred diseases)
			Niwa (Y)	Murakami	1993 Law to Promote the Research and Development and the Dissemination of Welfare Devices 1993 Mental Health Law amendment (provision on group homes introduced in law) 1993 New Long-term Program for Government Measures for Disabled Persons
					1993 Part-Time Workers Law 1993 Labour Standards Law amendment (introduction of 40-hour working week in principle; introduction of irregular working hour system)
1993	Hosokawa	Ouchi	Sakaguchi		1993 Employment support total programs 1994 The 21st Century Welfare vision 1994 Community Health Law (reinforcement of functions of health centers)
			Hatoyama (K)		1994 Health Insurance Law amendment (review of a benefit for inpatient dietary therapy, discontinuance of nursing offered by nursing attendants)
	Hata				

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1998	Mirayama	Ide	Hamamoto	1994 Aging rate exceeds 14%.	1994 Pension system reform (review of the Old-Age Employees' Pension for people in their early 60s) 1994 Formulation of the Angel Plan 1994 Formulation of the New Gold Plan 1994 New 10-Year Strategy to overcome Cancer 1994 Amendment to the Law concerning Stabilization of Employment of Older Persons (mandatory 60-year-old retirement age; obliging employers to endeavor to continue employment up to 65 years old) 1994 Employment Insurance Law amendment (establishment of continued employment benefit for old age and child-care leave benefit) 1994 Law to promote the implementation of program for water quality conservation of raw water for water systems 1995 Law Concerning Support for the Atomic Bomb Exposed	
				1995 Great Hanshin/Awaji Earthquake	1995 Enactment of the Container and Package Recycling Law 1995 Formulation of the Government Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities 1995 Mental Health Law amendment (establishment of the system to provide a health and welfare handbook for people with Mental disorders; change of the title into the Law on Mental Health and Welfare for people with Mental Disorders) 1995 Child Care Leave Law amendment (establishment of family-care leave system; change of the title into the Law Concerning the Welfare of Workers Who Take Care of Children and other Family Members, Including Child Care Leave and Family Care Leave) 1995 New comprehensive employment measures 1996 Leprosy Prevention Law abolished 1996 Pharmaceutical Affairs Law amendment (improvement of measures to ensure drug safety)	
	Hashimoto (Ryutaro)	Kan	Nagai	Social security reform	1997 Waste Management and Public Cleanliness Law amendment (clarification of procedures for establishing facilities; Countermeasures against illegal dumping, etc.) 1997 Mental Health Welfare Professional Law 1997 Child Welfare Law amendment (child care system reform) 1997 Health Insurance Law amendment (80% benefits for the insured) 1997 Organ Transplantation Law 1997 Long-term Care Insurance Law 1997 Amendment to the Law for Equal Employment Opportunity of Men and Women (to prohibit discrimination against women) 1998 Agreement between Japan and Germany on social security signed (Effective on February 1, 2000) 1998 Infectious Disease Prevention Law 1998 Comprehensive Plans for vitalizing employment	
		Koizumi (J)	Okano		1998 Nagano Olympics	
		Ibuki	Amari	Currency crises in Asia	1999 Emergency employment measures 1999 Formulation of the new Angel Plan 1999 Mental Health Welfare Professional Law amendment (to add home help and short stay services to in-home welfare) programs; clarification of requirements for involuntary hospitalization for medical care and protection 2000 Agreement between Japan and United Kingdom on social security signed (Effective on February 1, 2001)	
					2000 Pension system reform (adjustment of total benefit amount growth, etc.) 2000 Medical Practitioners Law amendment (Clinical training became mandatory.) 2000 Social Welfare Law 2000 Labour Contract Succession Law 2000 Child Abuse Prevention Law 2000 Amendment to the Child Allowance Law (extension of benefit period up to before compulsory education)	
	Obuchi	Miyashita	Amari	Sharp rise in total unemployment rate 1999 International Year of Older Persons	2001 Defined Benefits Corporate Pension Law and Defined Contribution Pension Law 2001 Law Concerning the Payment of Compensation to Patients Institutionalized in Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums 2001 Social security system reform outline 2001 Law on Promoting the Resolution of Individual Labour Disputes 2001 Amendment to the Law Concerning the Welfare of Workers Who Take Care of Children and other Family Members, Including Child Care Leave and Family Care Leave (restriction on overtime work) 2001 Comprehensive employment measures 2002 2002 Law on Assistance Dogs for the Disabled 2002 Amendments to the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law and the Bleeding and Blood Donor Supply Service Control Law (improvement of post-marketing safety measures; drastic overhaul of the Blood Law) 2002 Health Promotion Law 2002 2002 Amendment to the Food Sanitation Law (reinforcement of penalty on imported food, etc.) 2002 Law on Special Measures for Self-Sufficiency Support for the Homeless 2002 2002 Programs to accelerate reforms 2002	
		Niwa (Y)	Makino		2003 Revision of Food Sanitation Law (Review based on the enactment of Food Safety Basic Law) 2003 Law to Promote Measures to Support the Development of the Next Generation 2003 Child Welfare Law amendment (child rearing support programs stipulated by law) 2003 Law Concerning Special Measures to Support Employment of Mothers in Fatherless Families 2003 Basic Law on Measures for Society with Decreasing Birthrate 2003 Law Concerning Medical Treatment and observation of Individuals Who Have Committed Grave Acts against others while in a State of Insanity 2003 Employment Insurance Law amendment (promotion of early reemployment) 2003 New Government Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities 2003 Labour Standards Law amendment (development of rules on dismissal, review on terminable contracts and free time systems) 2003 Infectious Disease Prevention Law and Quarantine Law amendment (improvement and reinforcement of measures against infectious diseases)	
		Tsushima	Yoshikawa			
		Sakaguchi	Sakaguchi			
		Sakaguchi		2001 Inauguration of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare		
2003	Koizumi (J)			2003 Iraq War		

