

Japan: Country Profile

1/45 of Russia, 1/25 of China, USA
Approximately equal to California

Area	377,835km ²	60th
Population (2006)	127,767,944	10th
Population density (2006)	337 per km ²	32nd
GDP (2006)	US\$4.9911 trillion	2nd
GDP per capita (2006)	US\$37,566	15th

Global ranking of Population

- 1 China
- 2 India
- 3 USA
- 4 Indonesia
- 5 Brazil
- 6 Pakistan
- 7 Russia
- 8 Bangladesh
- 9 Nigeria
- 10 Japan

Global ranking of GDP

- 1 USA
- 2 Japan
- 3 Germany
- 4 England
- 5 France
- 6 China
- 7 Italy
- 8 Spain
- 9 Canada
- 10 Russia

Global ranking of GDP per capita

- 1 Luxembourg
- 2 Norway
- 3 Switzerland
- 4 Iceland
- 5 Ireland
- 6 Denmark
- 7 Sweden
- 8 USA
- 9 Qatar
- 10 Austria
- 11 Finland
- 12 Netherlands
- 13 UK
- 14 Belgium
- 15 Japan
- 16 France
- 17 Germany
- 18 Canada
- 19 Australia
- 20 Italy

Compiled from data obtained from Cabinet, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare

Population of Japan

Projections indicate that Japan's population will rank 16th in the world in 2050, having ranked 10th in 2006, and 5th in 1950.

Population ranking per country (x1000 persons)

1950

1.China	554,760
2.India	357,561
3.USA	157,813
4. Russia	102,702
5. Japan	83,625
6. Indonesia	79,538
7.Germany	68,376
8. Brazil	53,975
9. UK	49,816
10. Italy	47,104
11. France	41,829
12. Bangladesh	41,783
13.Ukraine	37,298
14. Pakistan	36,944
15. Nigeria	32,769
16. Spain	28,009

2000

China	1,298,848
India	1,065,071
USA	293,028
Indonesia	238,453
Brazil	184,101
Pakistan	159,196
Russia	143,782
Banglades	141,340
hNigeria	137,253
Japan	127,333
Mexico	104,960
Philippines	86,242
Vietnam	82,690
Germany	82,425
Egypt	76,117
Iran	69,019

2025 (projected)

China	1,441,426
India	1,395,496
USA	350,103
Indonesia	263,746
Pakistan	229,353
Brazil	227,930
Banglades	193,752
hNigeria	190,287
Mexico	129,381
Russia	129,230
Japan	124,819
Ethiopia	118,354
Philippines	109,084
Vietnam	104,343
Congo	103,224
Egypt	101,092

2050 (projected)

India	1,592,704
China	1,392,307
USA	394,976
Pakistan	304,700
Indonesia	284,640
Nigeria	258,108
Brazil	253,105
Banglades	242,937
hCongo	177,271
Ethiopia	170,190
Mexico	139,015
Philippines	127,068
Uganda	126,950
Egypt	125,916
Vietnam	116,654
Japan	112,198

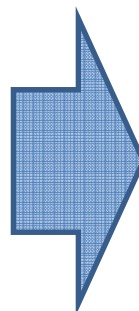
Japan's Economic Strength

Japan's GDP is currently the 2nd highest in the world after the United States. In the year 2020, this position is not expected to change but the gap between Japan and third-highest China will narrow.

Real GDP per country (x US\$1 billion)

2005

USA	11,049
Japan	4,978
Germany	1,959
China	1,893
UK	1,628
France	1,429
Italy	1,136
Canada	822
Spain	681
Brazil	671
India	655
South Korea	639
Mexico	635
Australia	453
Netherlands	391

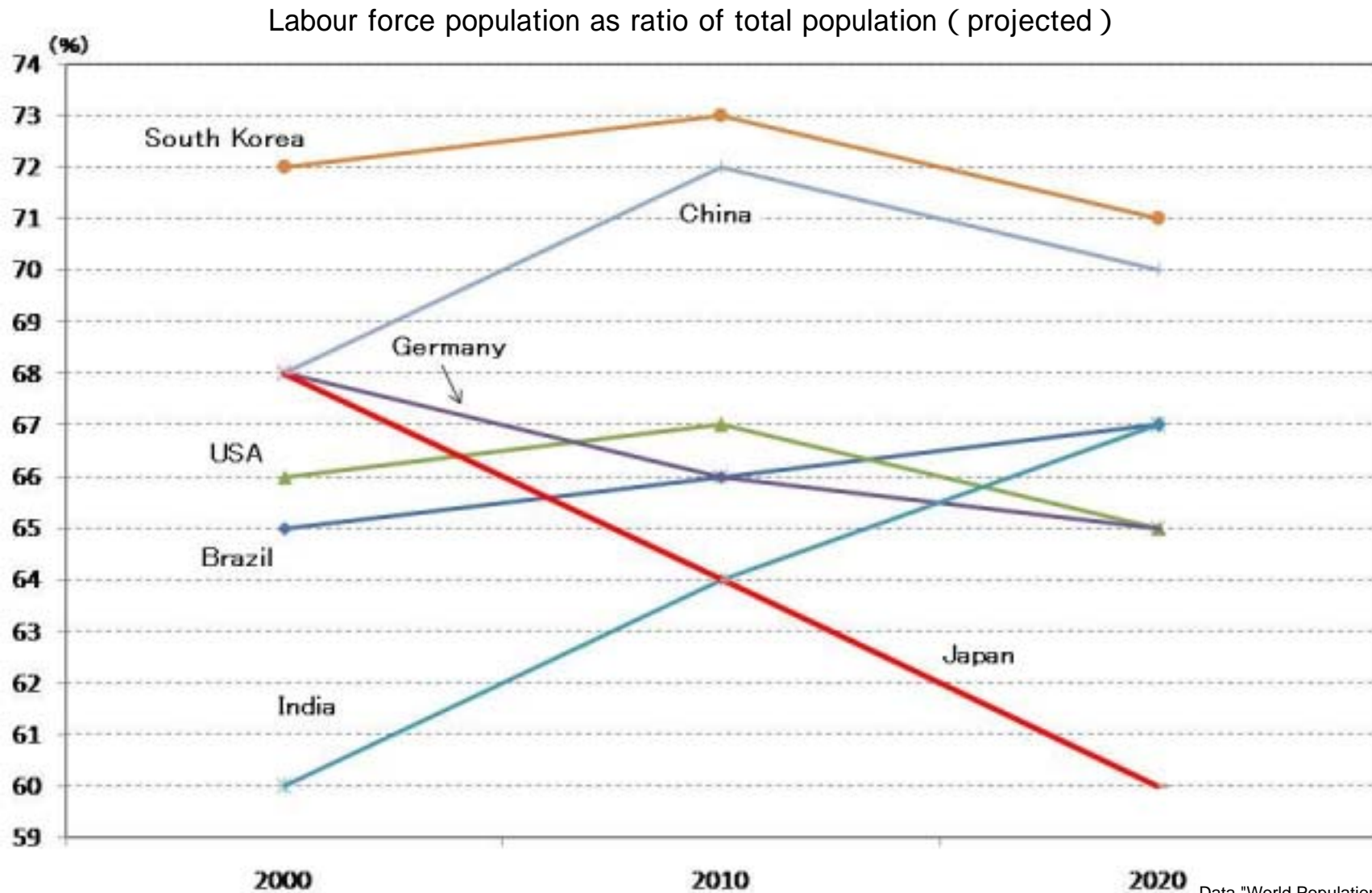


2020 (projected)

USA	16,545
Japan	6,089
China	5,779
Germany	2,551
UK	2,328
France	1,860
India	1,774
Italy	1,409
Canada	1,194
South Korea	1,167
Brazil	1,125
Mexico	1,122
Spain	972
Argentina	708
Australia	700

Projections of Labour Force Populations

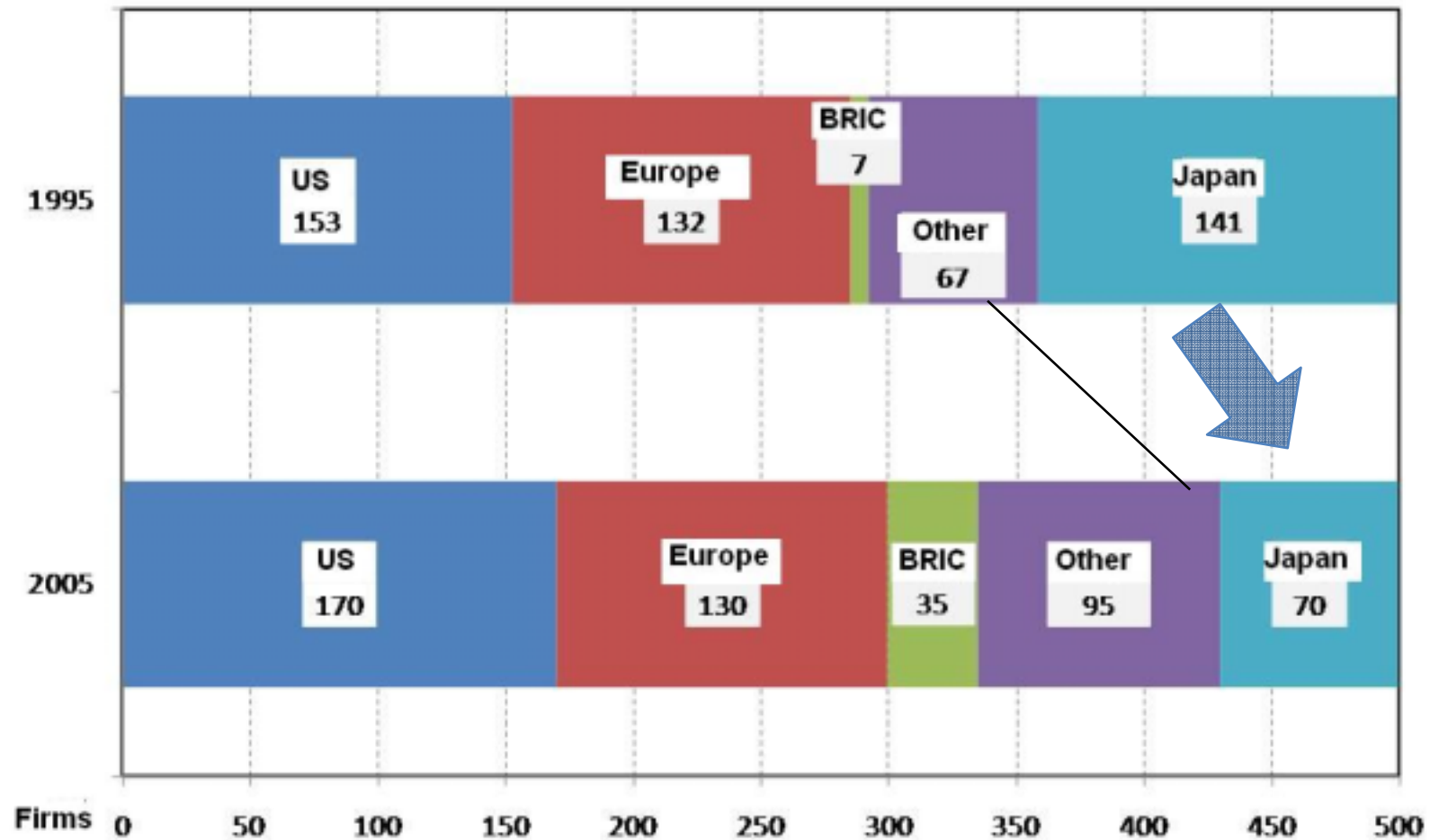
Ratios of working populations (the population 15 - 64 years) to total populations show that a rapid decline in Japan's working population is predicted. Meanwhile, the proportion of the working population relative to the total population is predicted to rise in China, India, and Brazil.



Trends of Japanese Companies

The number of Japanese companies entering the “Top 500 Global Companies” compiled by Fortune Magazine dropped by 50% from 141 companies in 1995 to 70 companies in 2005.

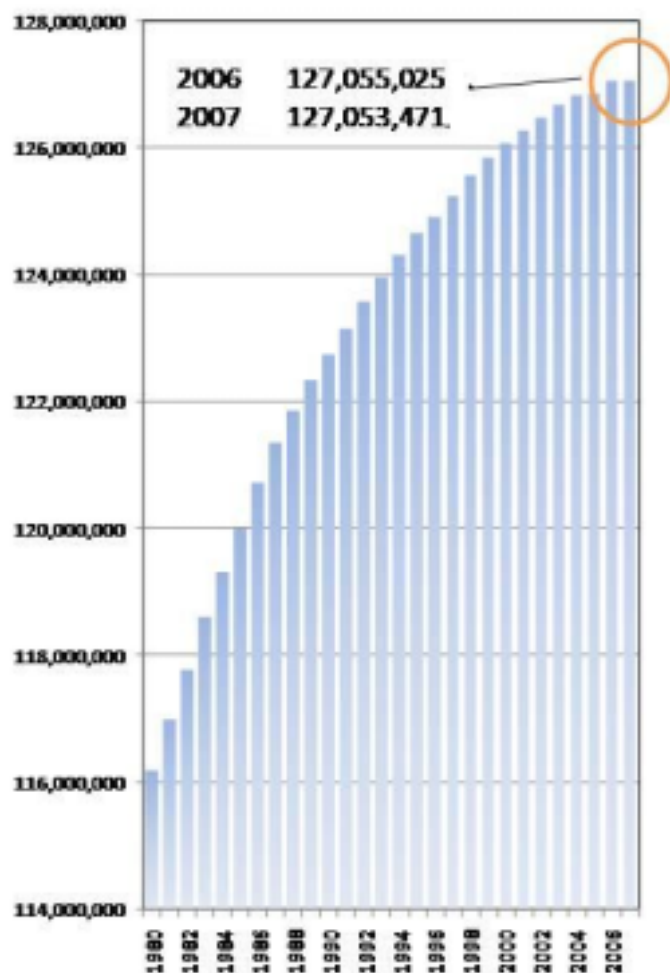
Fortune Magazine’s “Global Top 500” by country



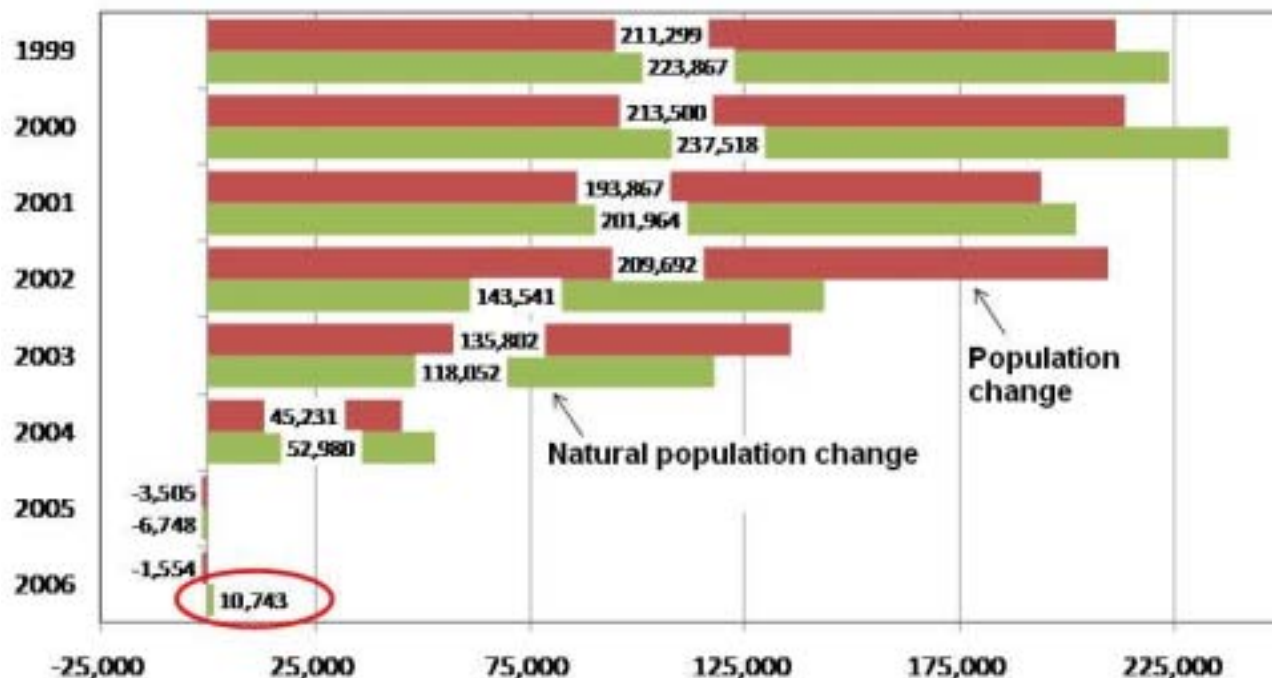
Population of Japan

Japan's population trends based on basic resident registers shows that Japan's population as of March 31, 2007 was 127,053,471, after a second consecutive year of negative growth. In 2005, the population fell for the first time from the natural cause of deaths exceeding births due to the influence of low fertility. However, due to a significant recovery of the number of births in 2006, natural causes accounted for an increase in population of 10,743. Meanwhile, social causes such as movement in and out of the country accounted for negative growth of 12,297 leading to a net decrease of 1554.

Total population



Net population change and natural population change

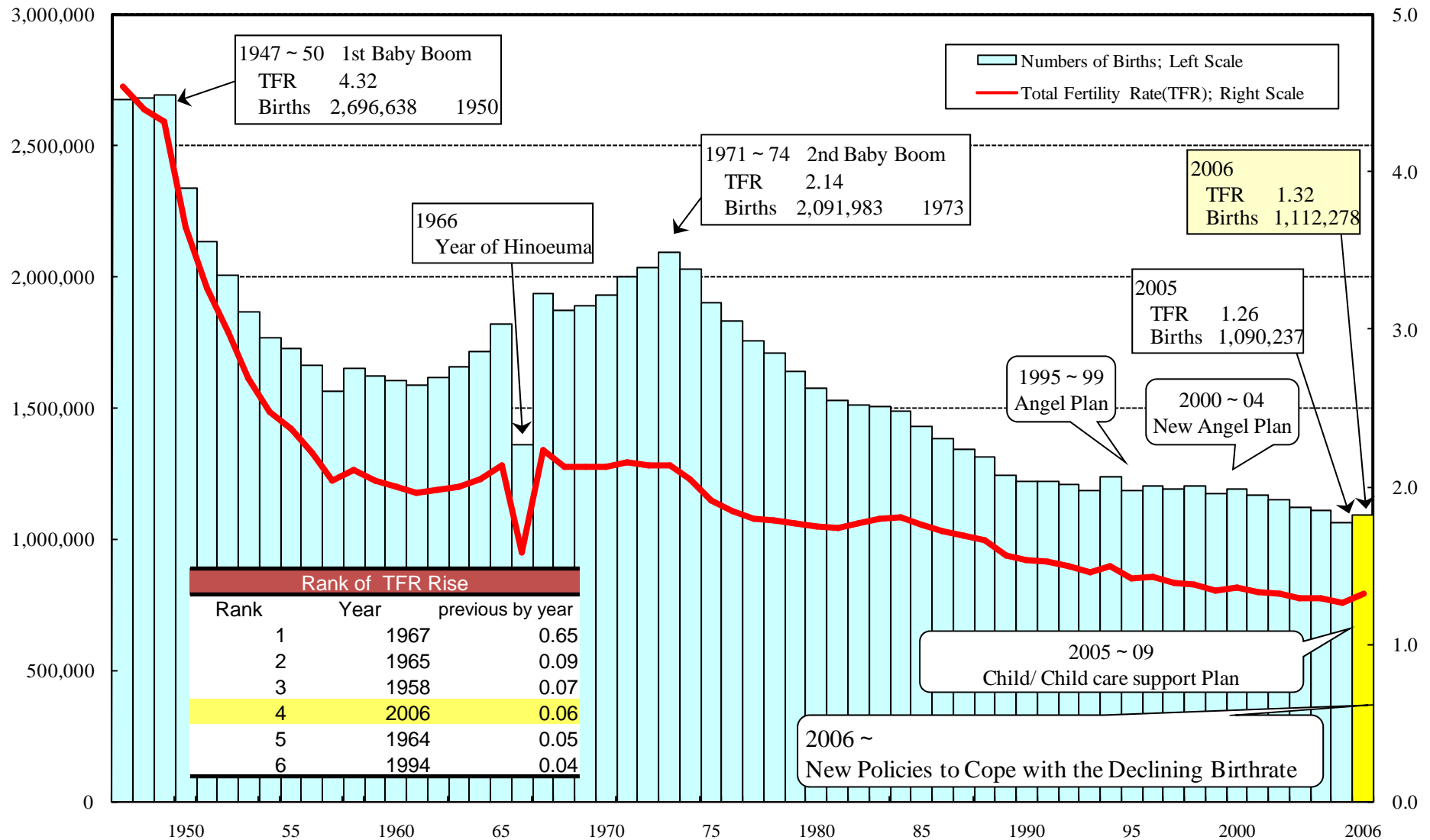


Number of births and total fertility rate



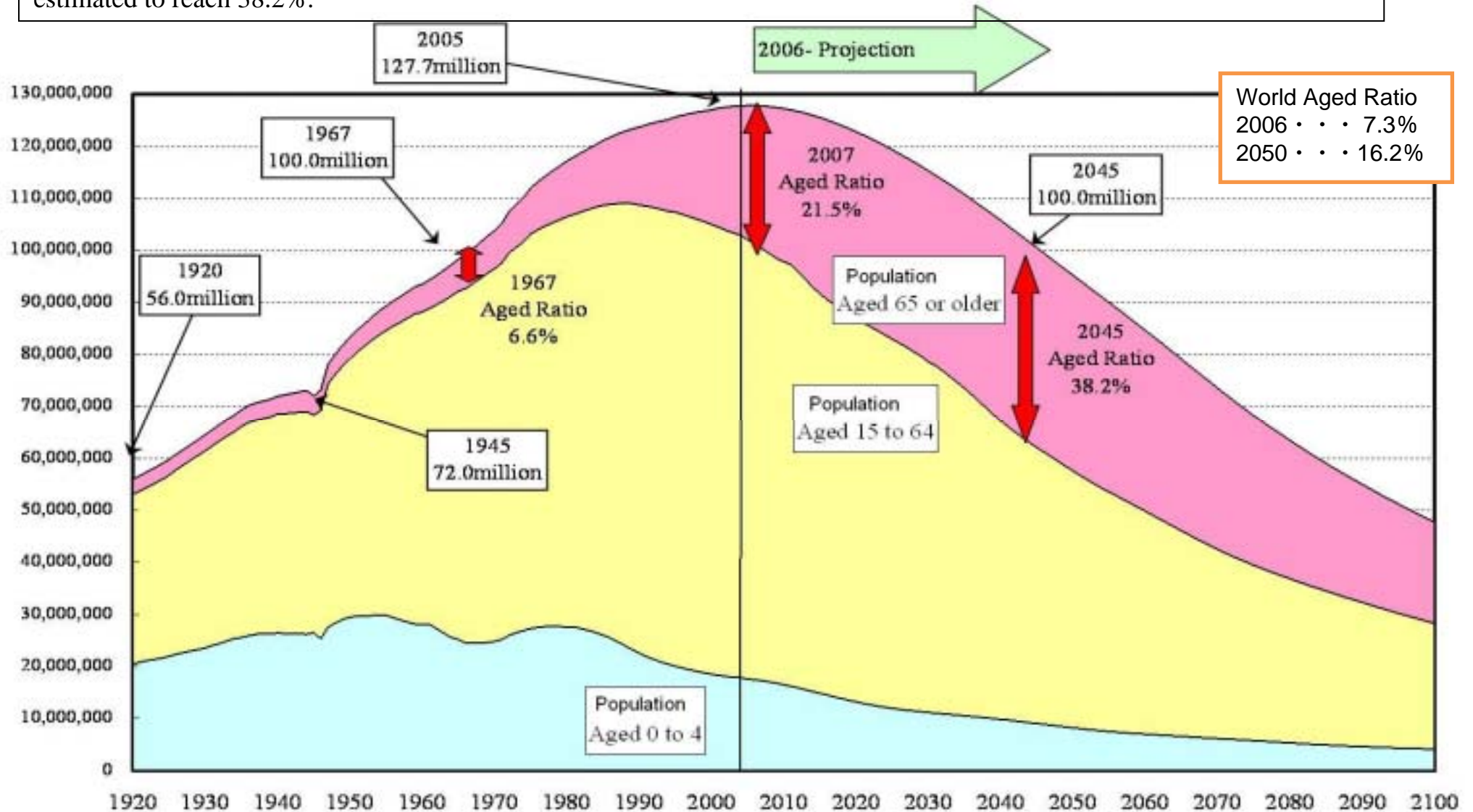
Total Fertility Rate, Number of Births

Both the total fertility rate and the number of births have seen a downward trend since the second baby boom between 1971 and 1974. The trend reversed in 2006 when the number of births reached 1,112,278, which was an increase by 32,041 from the previous year. This is the first increase in 12 years since 1994 when the number of births increased by 51,672.



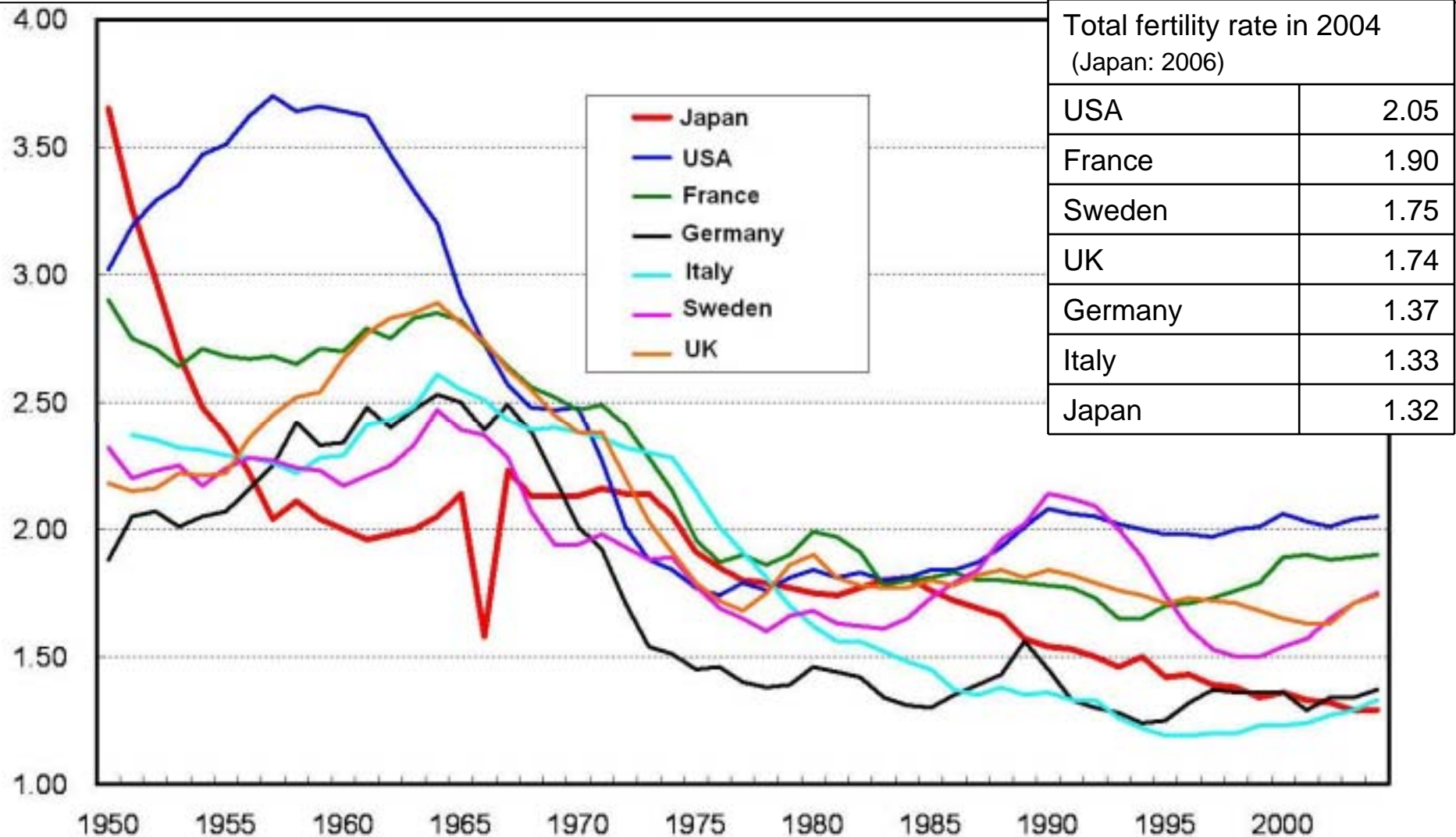
Trends of Population by Age Structure

If the declining birth rate continues, the total population of Japan will be 100 million by 2045. In 1967, when the population reached 100 million, the aged ratio (% of population aged over 65) was only 6.6 % whereas in 2045, it is estimated to reach 38.2%.



Total Fertility Rate Trends in Major Countries

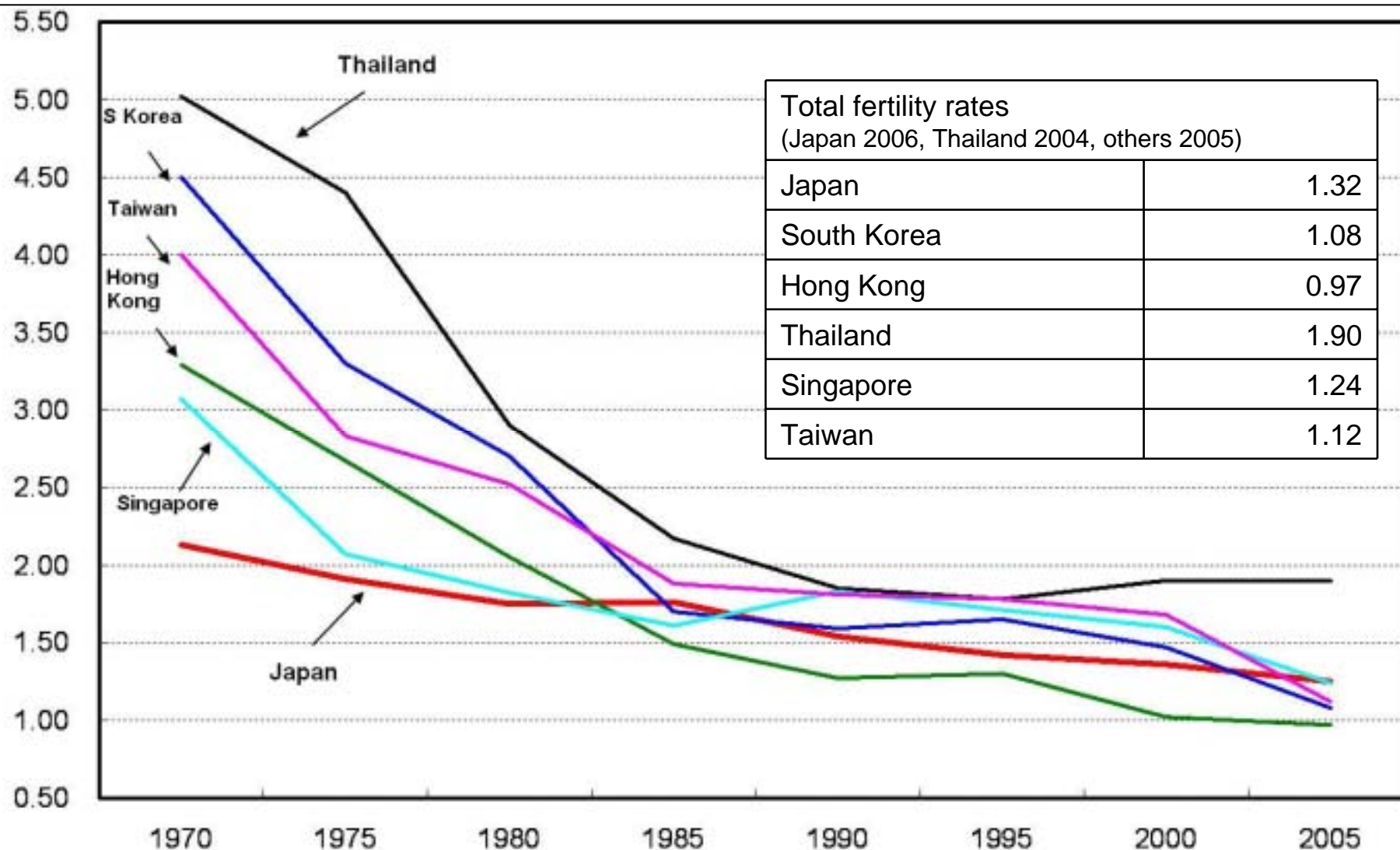
The total fertility rates of countries in developed regions such as the West (including Japan) have fallen below the level required for population replacement (approx. 2.1).



Data: Japan: "Population Trend Statistics", Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, U.S.: Department of Health and Human Services "National Vital Statistics Report", other: U.N. "Demographic Yearbook", Council of Europe "Recent demographic Developments in Europe", E.U., "Eurostat".
(C) Kuniko INOBUCHI

Trends in Total Fertility Rates in Major Asian Countries

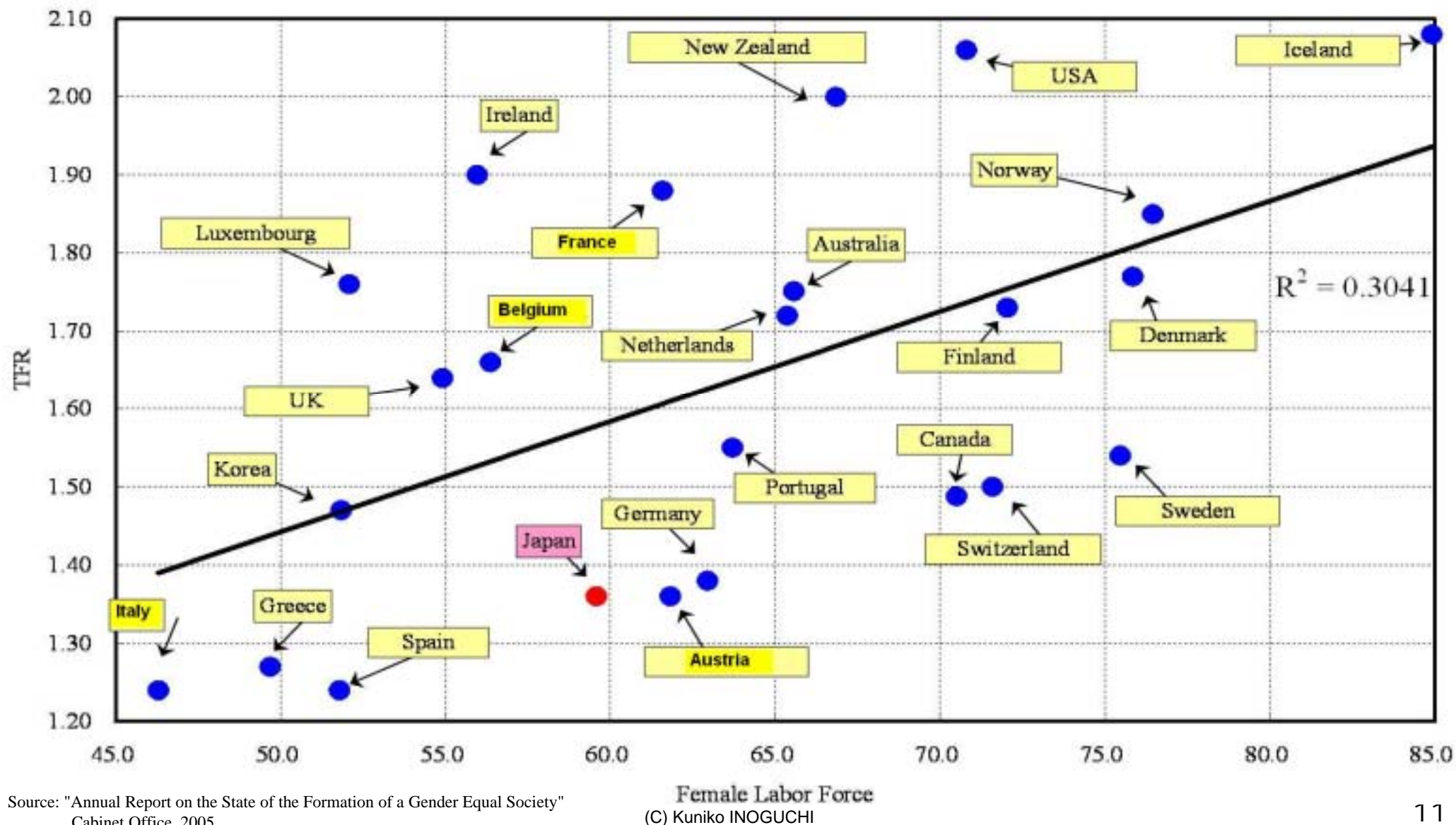
In Asia, although there are countries with high fertility rates (Laos: 4.7, Pakistan: 4.1, Cambodia: 4.0), declines in total fertility rates are occurring in the major countries.



Data: United Nations "Demographic Yearbook", However, The data for Japan: Ministry of Health, Welfare, and Labour "Population Trends Statistics", Korea: Korean Statistics Agency, Hong Kong (post 1975): Hong Kong Bureau of Statistics, Thailand: 2005 is 2004 data. Data for Thailand from 1995: Thai Royal Bureau of Statistics, 2004 from WHO. Singapore: Singapore bureau of statistics, Taiwan: Domestic Affairs Department.
(C) Kuniko INOUCHI

Relationship between Female Labor Force Participation Rate and TFR

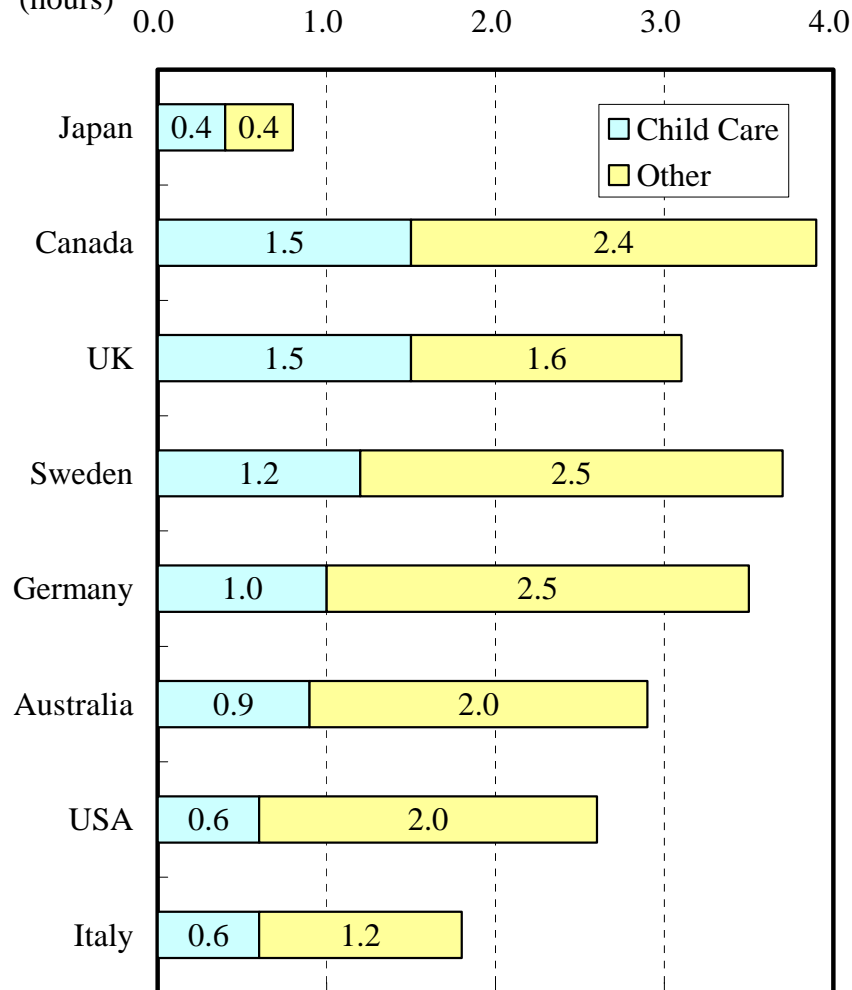
The female labor force participation rates and total fertility rates in 24 OECD countries indicate that, as of 2000, countries with more women in the labor force achieve higher total fertility rates.



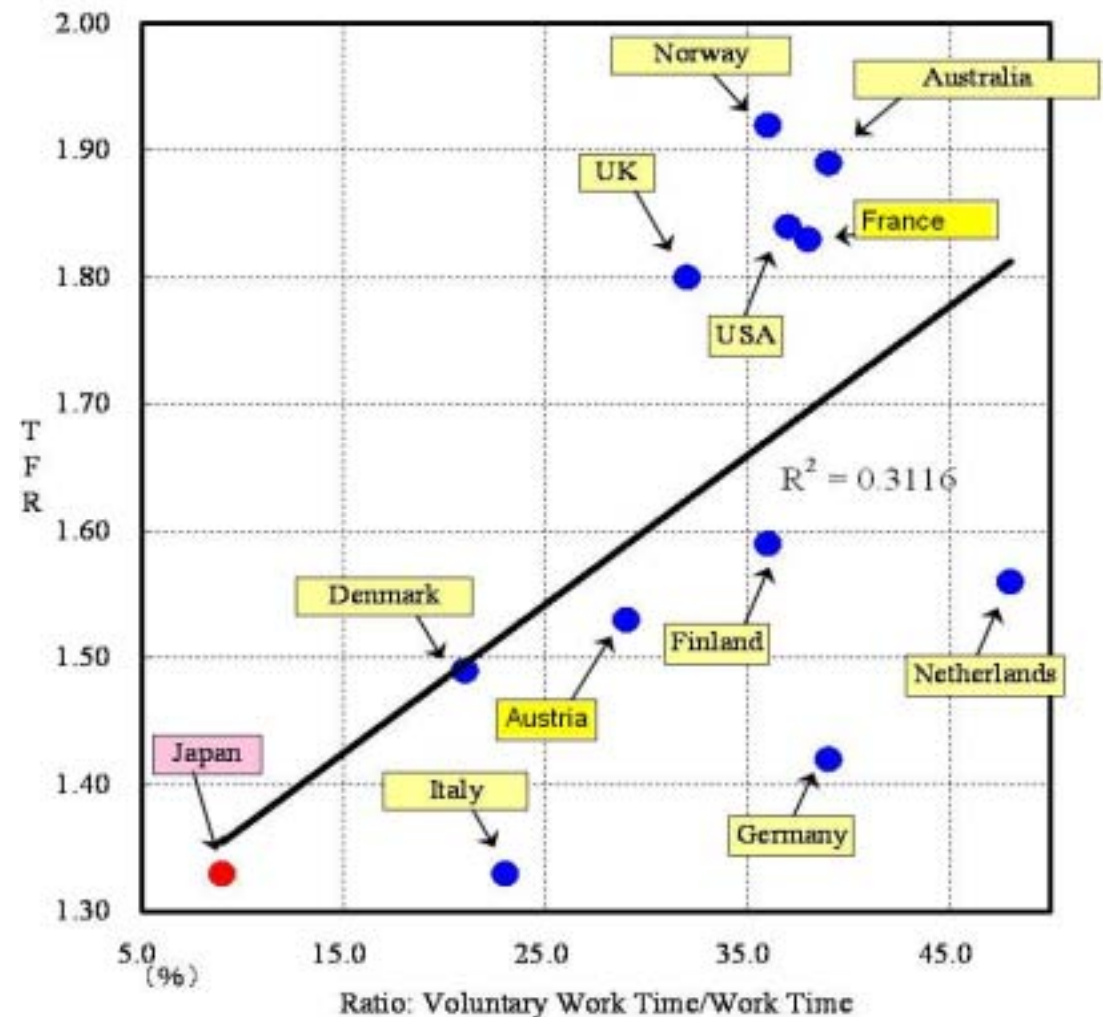
Men's Involvement in Household Chores and Child Care

Men in Japan spend less time on household chores and child care compared to men in other countries. Less time spent by men on household tasks and child care is correlated with a lower fertility rate.

Hours spent by men on household chores and child care in household with child under age 5 (hours)



Hours spent by men on household chores/child care and fertility rate



Process Leading to “On New Policies to Cope with the Declining Birthrate”

Oct 31 2005: 3rd Koizumi Cabinet reshuffle creates first minister solely dedicated to family policies.

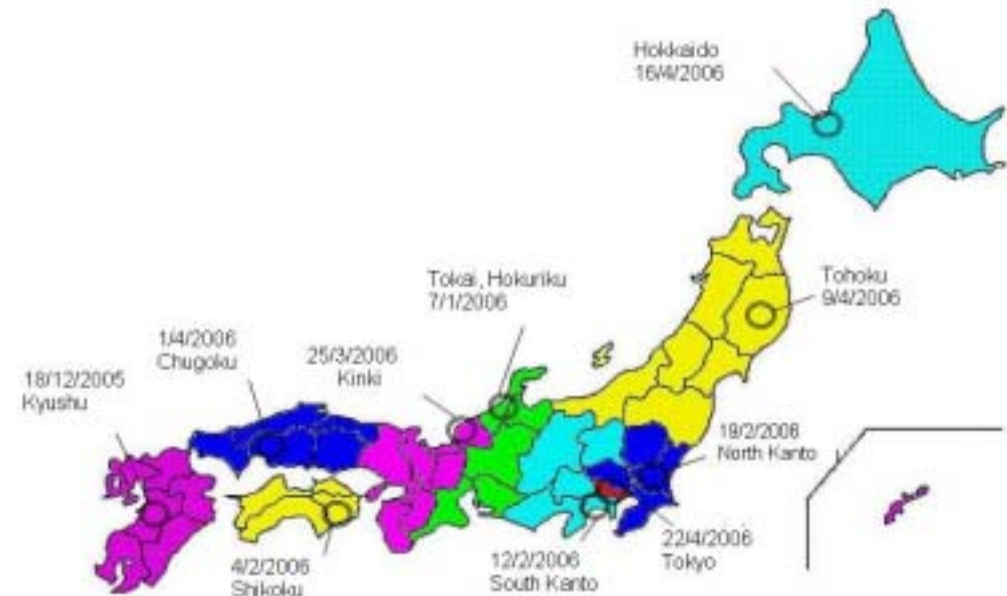


Initiating the government / ruling coalition’s consultation process

18/12/2005 - 22/4/2006

Bloc meetings between Minister Inoguchi and Prefectural governors etc.

18/12/2005 Kyushu: Kumamoto
7/1/2006 Tokai, Hokuriku: Kanazawa (Ishikawa)
4/2/2006 Shikoku: Naruto (Tokushima)
12/2/2006 Kanto South: Yokohama (Kanagawa)
19/2/2006 Hokuriku: Mito (Ibaraki)
25/3/2006 Kinki: Fukui
1/4/2006 Chugoku: Hiroshima
9/4/2006 Tohoku: Yamagata
16/4/2006 Hokkaido: Sapporo
22/4/2006 Tokyo: Minato Ward



15/5/2006: Resolution of Declining Fertility Society Policy Council (chair: Chief Cabinet Minister):
"On Future Policies to Cope with the Declining Birth Rate"

20/6/2006: Government resolution of Declining Fertility Society Policy Council (chair: Prime Minister):
"On New Policies to Cope with the Declining Birthrate"

Comprised of a wide range of policies upon two axes:
***Policies to support childrearing**
***Reform of working practices**

New Policies to Cope With the Declining Birthrate

Child-raising support measures

Newborn and infant stage (from pregnancy and birth through to the nursing of infants)

- Improvement of procedures for the lump-sum allowance for childbirth and nursing
- Reduction of the cost burden for medical expenses during pregnancy
- Expansion of public financial support for fertility treatment
- Ensuring thorough usage of and improvement in conditions for paid leave during initial stages of pregnancy
- Enhancement of obstetric medical services through the employment of more obstetricians, etc.
- Establishment of an extra allowance for infants within the child-support allowance system
- Creation of childcare support network, including home visits to families engaged in the early stages of raising a family

Stage up to school entry

- Enhancement of centers for child-raising support in the community, targeting all families
- Further promotion of Zero Waiting List Campaign
- Enhancement of childcare for sick and recuperating children, and children with disabilities, etc.
- Enhancement of the pediatric healthcare system
- Look into revising the Law for Promotion of Measures to Support the Development of the Next Generation, including the announcement of an Action Plan
- Enhancement and Dissemination of system of child-care leave and reduced working hours
- Promotion of childcare service provision to employees, including childcare facilities established within offices
- Promotion of measures to prevent child accidents
- Enhancement of efforts to reduce the burden on parents or guardians for pre-school education

Primary school stage

- Promotion of the After School Children's Plan in elementary schools nationwide
- Implementation of further safety measures for children while at school or on their commute to or from school, including the introduction of school buses

Junior high, high school, and university stage

- improvement of scholarships, etc.
- Recommendation of student babysitters, etc.

Reform of working practices

- Employment assistance measures for young people
 - Strengthening career development education to prevent youth from becoming 'permanent part-timer' and 'NEET' (Not in Education, Employment or Training)
- Support to 'older' permanent part-timers to become formal employee
- Promotion of equal treatment for part-timers
 - Strengthened measures including in setting enabling legal frameworks
- Assistance measures for continuing employment or reemployment for women
 - Measures to encourage women to take maternity/child care leave and to help them balance work and child rearing, including shorter working hours
 - Vocational and skills training for women who seek reemployment
- Promotion of corporate efforts for child-raising support
 - Funding support to companies that deploy child-rearing support system
- Review of working practices, including revision of long working hours
 - Strengthened measures including in setting enabling legal frameworks
- Promotion of a joint public-private movement to jointly promote child-raising assistance, including reviews of working practices
 - Promotion of good "Work-Life balance"

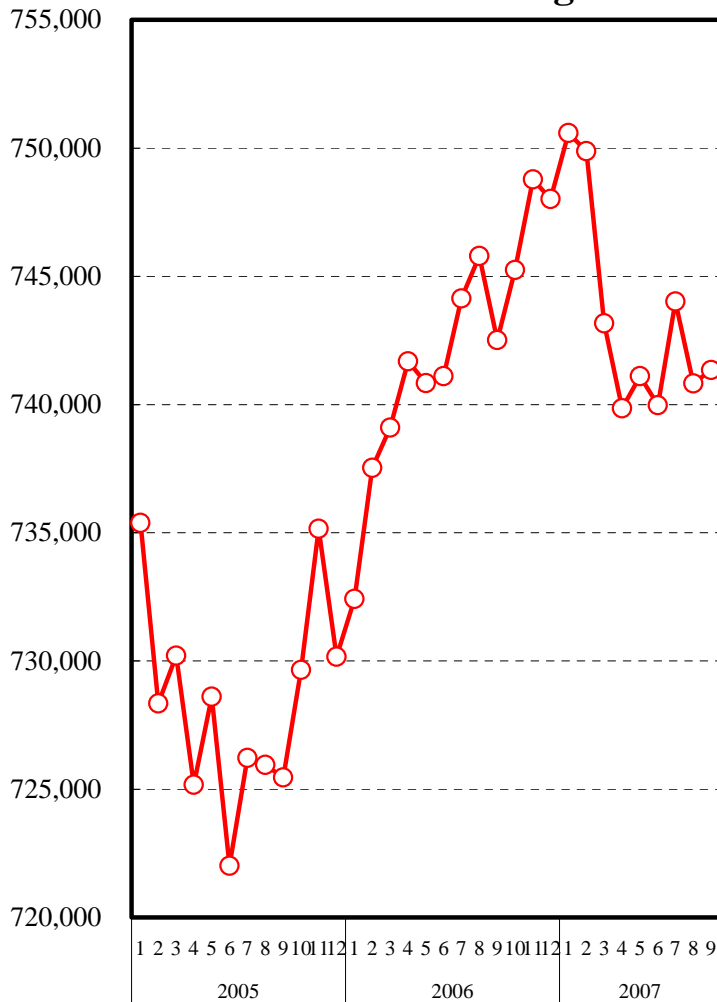
Other important areas

- Consideration of a taxation system designed to assist those engaged in child-raising, etc.
- Promotion of foster parent and adoption system, including publicity activities to raise awareness
- Strengthening of measures to prevent child abuse and measures to support children in care
- Promotion of food education
- Assistance for family homes, and for situations in which three generations of one family live together or in close proximity, etc.

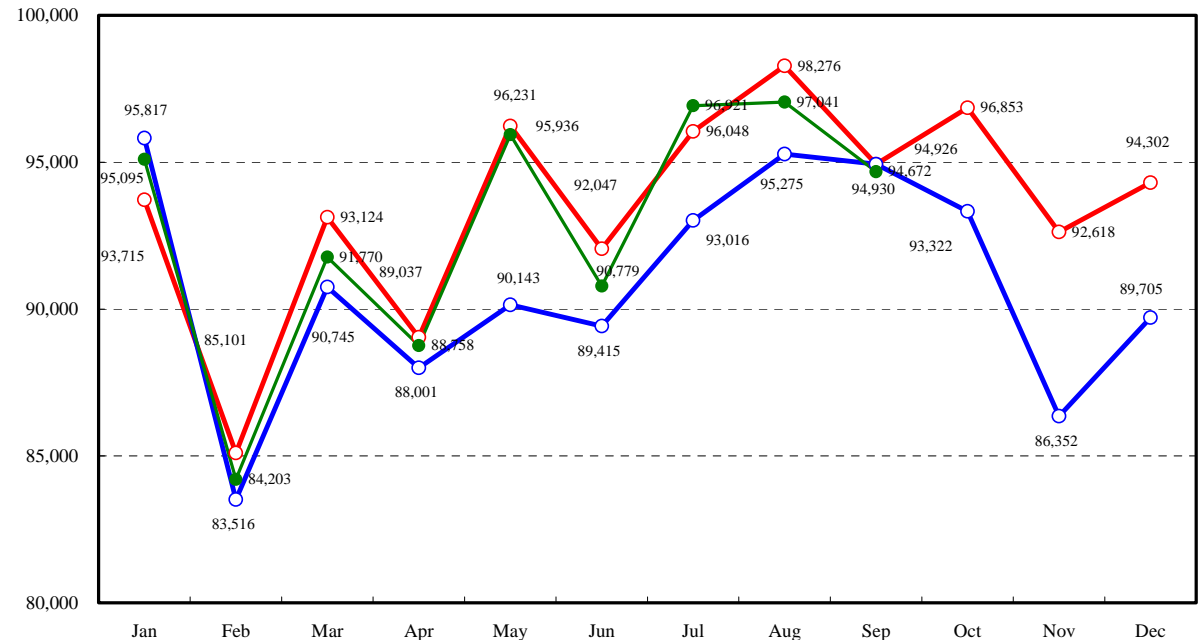
Number of Marriages and Births

Since Dr. Kuniko Inoguchi, MP, was appointed as the first full-fledged minister of state to cope with the declining birthrate in October 2005, the number of marriages has been increasing. In 2006, there were 1,122,278 births, an increase from the previous year of 32,041. The downward trend was reversed. The number increased for the first time in 12 years since 1994 when the number of births had increased by 51,672.

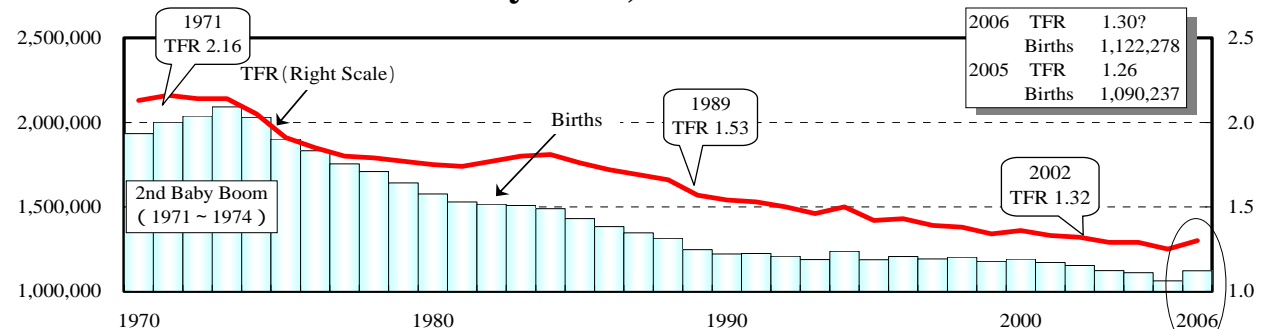
Number of Marriages



Number of Births



Total Fertility Rate, Number of Births



Source: "Population Vital Statistics" Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

(C) Kuniko INOGUCHI

The East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting (1)



HOD of 16 countries and 2 international organizations

Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, UNDP, UNESCAP

- The East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting was held on June 30 and July 1, 2006 in Tokyo, Japan.
- The Meeting was Chaired by Dr. Kuniko Inoguchi, Minister of State for Gender Equality and Social Affairs of Japan.
- This was the **first** East Asia ministerial-level meeting aimed to discuss the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in this region.
- The Meeting was attended by 16 countries of East Asia and 2 international organizations.
- The Meeting unanimously adopted the **Tokyo Joint Ministerial Communiqué** which, among others, decided to continue the Ministerial Meeting process on **an annual basis**.
- Encouraged by the success of the East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting hosted by the Government of Japan, the Meeting resolved to **continue the Ministerial Meeting process on an annual basis**.
- The meeting agreed that the next meeting will be held in **India in 2007 and in Republic of Korea in 2008**.

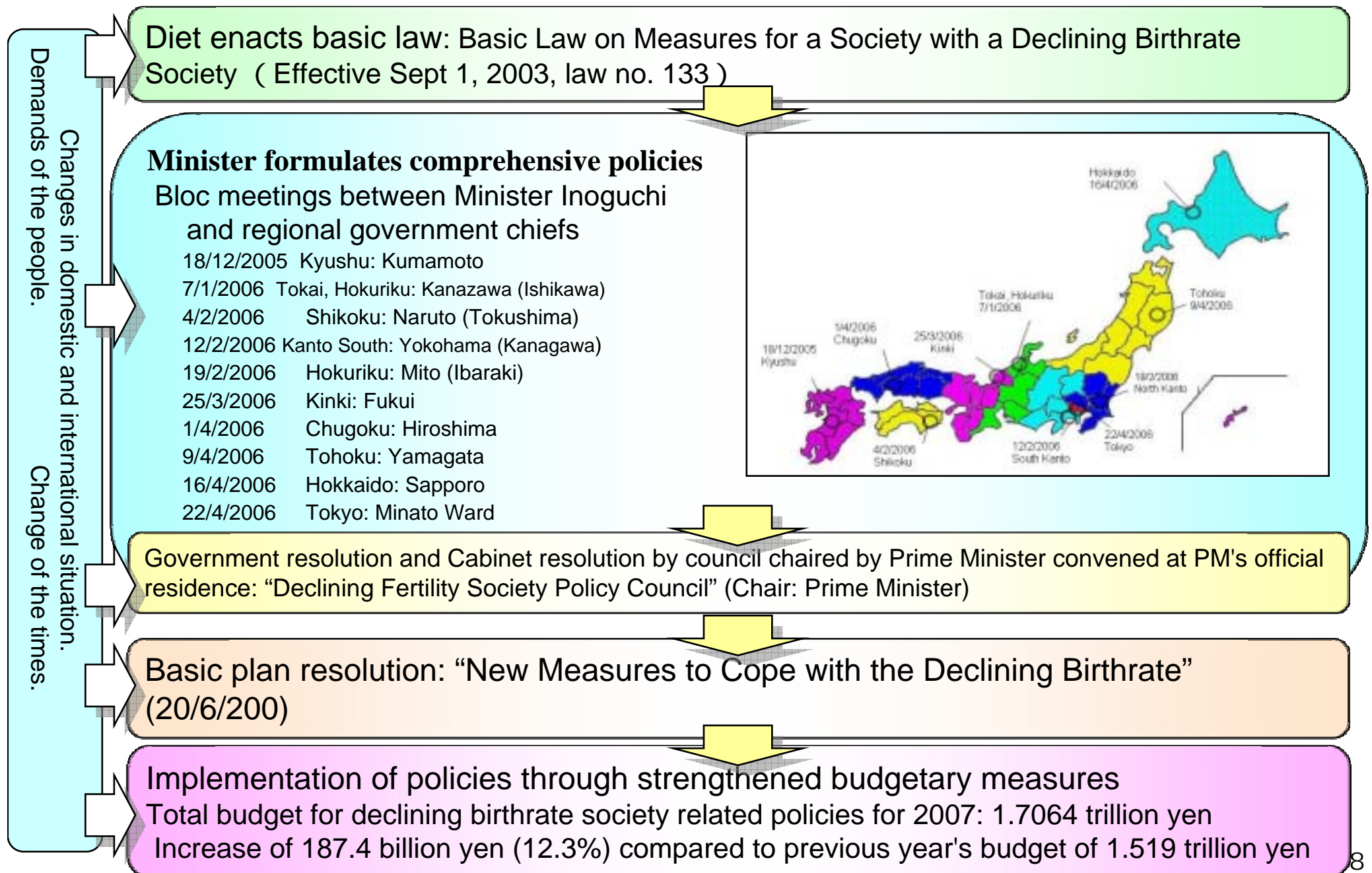
The East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting (2)

Tokyo Joint Ministerial Communiqué (Main Points)

- Despite differences in economic development levels and cultural/religious and political contexts, an amazing level of consensus was achievable on points including the need to invigorate **national machineries and local focal points** for overcoming **feminization of poverty** and stereo-typical gender roles and socialization patterns, to build capacities for **gender statistics** and sex-disaggregated data, to promote **gender sensitive budgeting** to allow the consideration of gender perspectives into macro-economic and micro-economic frameworks.
- The Meeting agreed to **share best practices** for making progress towards women's empowerment and bringing about social transformation.
- The Meeting agreed that recognition of women's human rights, the promotion of their participation and **leadership in decision-making at all levels** and equal partnership between women and men are prerequisite to achieve gender equality and the advancement of women. The Meeting noted the necessity of concerted efforts, not only to benefit women but also to build a society that is equitable and sustainable.



Decision-making Process: "New Policies to Cope with the Declining Birthrate"



Framework for Gender Equality in Japan

1946 The Constitution of Japan

Article 14: All of the people are equal under the law and there shall be no discrimination in political, economic or social relations because of race, creed, sex, ...

1986 Law for Equal Employment Opportunity of Men and Women

1999 Basic Law for a Gender-Equal Society enacted with unanimous approval of Diet.

2000 Basic Plan for Gender Equality

First comprehensive and cross-cutting policy planning to enhance gender equality.

2005 Second Basic Plan for Gender Equality

Promotion of comprehensive and systematic measures.

/Expand women's participation in policy decision-making process.

(For women, fill 30% of the leadership positions in all spheres of society by the year 2020.)

/Secure equal work opportunities and treatment for men and women.

· Revision of the Equal Employment Opportunity Law.

/Eliminate all forms of violence against women.

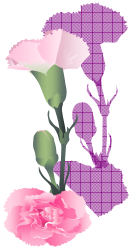


Council for Gender Equality

2006 Revision of the Equal Employment Opportunity Law

/Introduction of the concept of and measures to eliminate indirect discrimination.

The Basic Law for a Gender-Equal Society



Five Basic principles

(Article 3) Respect for the 1946 The Constitution of Japan

Formation of a gender-equal society shall be promoted based on respect for the human rights of women and men.

(Article 4) Consideration of social systems or practices

Care should be taken so that social systems and practices have as neutral an impact as possible on selecting social activities.

(Article 5) Joint participation in planning and deciding policies, etc.

Formation of a gender-equal society shall be promoted based on securing opportunities for women and men to participate jointly as equal partners in the society in planning and deciding policies of the State or local governments, or policies of private bodies.

(Article 6) Compatibility of activities in family life and other activities

Formation of a gender-equal society shall be promoted so that women and men can perform their roles smoothly as household members in home-related activities.

(Article 7) International cooperation

In consideration of the close relationship between the internal promotion of the formation of a gender-equal society and efforts by the international community, formation of a gender-equal society shall be promoted based on international cooperation.

Basic Plan for Gender Equality (Dec 27, 2005)

Expand women's participation in decision-making processes

- Promote efforts to expand women's participation in every field, so that women will take at least 30% of the leadership positions in all fields of society by 2020.
- Encourage voluntary positive action to expand women's participation in every field of society.

Challenge support for female workers

- Promote challenge support measures and create a one-stop information service.
- Enhance support measures to assist unemployed women to return to work (e.g., to be re-employed or start a business).
- Encourage companies to openly offer full-time and other positions to female workers who had left their prior jobs for child rearing or other reasons.

Secure equal opportunities and treatment between men and women in the field of employment

- Examine measures to ensure substantial equal opportunities in the field of employment, and promote equal employment opportunities and treatment on the job.

Support the efforts of men and women to harmonize work with their family and community life, and review the types of employment

- Conduct a significant and specific review of the types of employment for women and men to assist them in balancing work and family and/or community life.

Promote gender equality through the enrichment of education and learning

Efforts to promote gender equality in new fields

- Promote gender equality in new fields (e.g., science and technology, disaster prevention, disaster recovery, regional development, community revitalization, tourism, and environment) that require new approaches to achieve gender equality.
- Expand employment opportunities for female researchers, and provide support measures to balance work and family.
- Formulate disaster prevention measures to address the different needs of women and men.
- Highlight successful examples of regional development in which women have participated.
- Expand women's participation in the field of environmental conservation.

Promote appropriate medicines that address the specific needs of women and men

- Disseminate knowledge about appropriate medicines that addresses the specific needs of women and men among medical professionals, as well as citizens.

Gender-equal society for men

Eliminate all forms of violence against women

- Promote measures to protect and support victims of violence.
- Promote measures to prevent violence against women.

Related measures will be formulated and implemented from a gender-equal perspective to promote gender equality in all fields

Gender Empowerment Measure and Human Development Index

Japan ranks 54th out of 93 countries, the lowest among developed countries, in the GEM (Gender Empowerment Measure) that measures women's participation in political and economic life as well as in decision-making processes. On the other hand, Japan ranks 8th out of 177 countries in the HDI (Human Development Index) that looks at important dimensions of people's well-being and human development.

GEM (Gender Empowerment Measure)

GEM measures to what degree women take part in political and economic life and participate in decision-making. It tracks the share of seats in parliament held by women; of female legislators, senior officials and managers; and of female professional and technical workers; and the gender disparity in earned income.

13 Austria
22 Portugal
23 Trinidad and Tobago
24 Costa Rica
25 Lithuania
26Cuba
27Switzerland
28Israel
71 Russia ...

1	Norway	0.910
2	Sweden	0.906
3	Finland	0.887
4	Denmark	0.875
5	Iceland	0.862
6	Netherlands	0.859
7	Belgium	0.850
8	Australia	0.847
9	Germany	0.831
10	Canada	0.820
14	UK	0.783
15	USA	0.762
18	France	0.718
21	Italy	0.693
54	Japan	0.557

HDI (Human Development Index)

Measures well-being of people and the level of human development in a country by looking at life expectancy, education (adult literacy and gross enrolment rate) and standard of living (measured by purchasing power parity).

1	Iceland	0.968
2	Norway	0.968
3	Australia	0.962
4	Canada	0.961
5	Ireland	0.959
6	Sweden	0.956
7	Switzerland	0.955
8	Japan	0.953
9	Netherlands	0.953
10	France	0.952
12	USA	0.951
16	UK	0.946
20	Italy	0.941
22	Germany	0.935

The State of Women's Participation by Field

Although women's participation in each field is steadily expanding, the percentage of women remains low. It is necessary to promote initiatives further still.

House of Representatives: 45 of 480 (9.4%) (9/2007)

- 131st of 188 nations (data: Inter-Parliamentary Union H P 2007)
- 1.9% (10/1952) 45 members=9.4% (9/2007)

House of Councillors: 43 of 242 (17.8%) (9/2007)

- 6.0% (4/1953) 17.8% (9/2007)

State deliberative councils: 32.3% (2007)

- 2.6% (1975)
- 4/2006 New target by Headquarters for Promotion of Gender Equality
Members : at least 40% (men and women) of total members by 2020
33.3% female members by end of 2010
- [Prefectures : 27.1%、City, wards, towns, villages: 21.9%(2007)]

Regional legislative assemblies: 9.4% (2006)

Management positions in business: 10.7% (2006)

- 1.2% (1975)
- Prefectural : 7.3%、local : 11.0%、town/village : 6.9% (2006)

State officials (management): 1.8% (2007)

- USA : 42.5%、Germany : 37.3%、Sweden : 29.9% (2005)

Legal profession Judiciary: 14.6%, Lawyers: 13.6%,
Prosecutors: 10.9% (2007)

- 142 of 8,456 persons
- USA: 26.3% (2005)、France : 14.0% (2003)
Germany : 15.9% (2002)

Researchers: 11.9% (2006)

- Judges: 2.1%、Lawyers: 3.3%、Prosecutors : 1.0% (1977)

Successful candidates of national exam for
medical practitioners: 33.4% (2007)

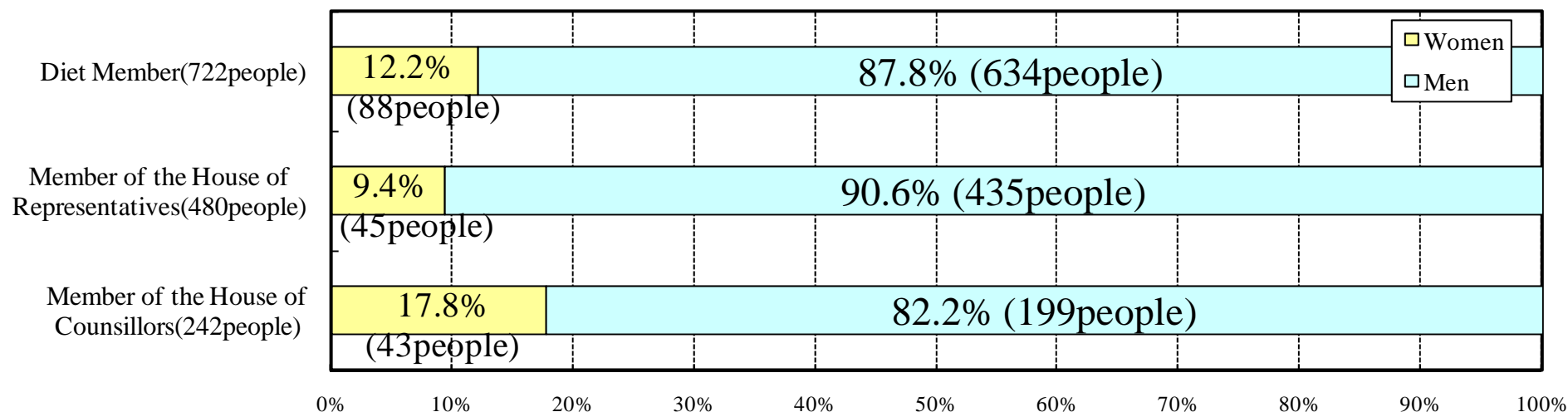
- 7.9% (1992)
- France : 27.5%、UK : 26.0%、Germany : 15.5% (2000)

- 19.2% (1991)

Women leaving employment upon 1st birth: 67.4% (2001)

Women's Participation in Politics

Women hold 12.2% of seats in the National Diet (88 out of 722 seats). In the House of Representatives, the share is 9.4% (45 out of 480) and in the House of Councilors the share is 17.8% (43 out of 242). Among political parties, the Liberal Democratic Party holds the largest number of women MPs in both Houses.



Number of Female Diet members

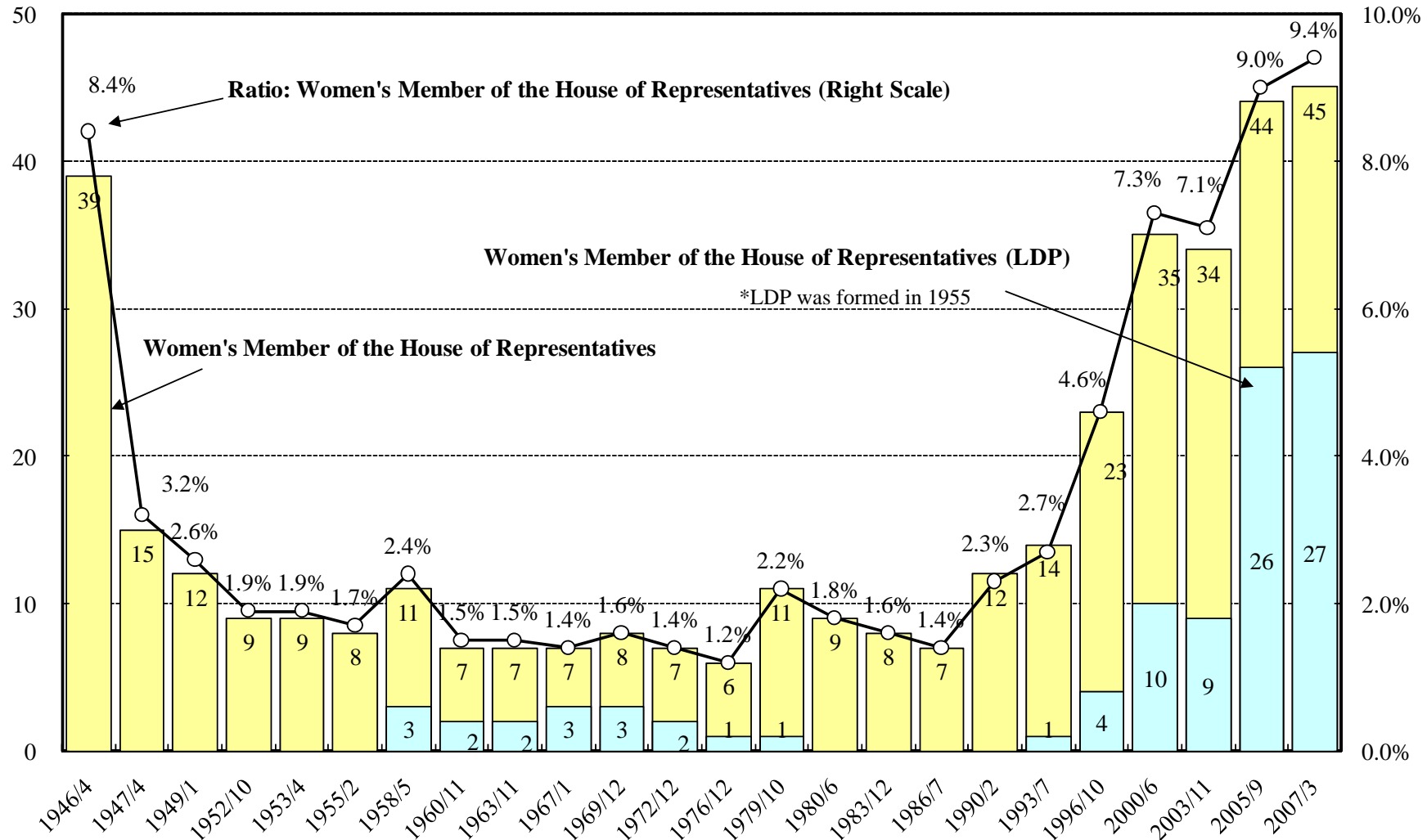
March 2007

	House of Representatives	House of Councilors	Total
Liberal Democratic Party	27	12	39
Democratic Party	9	21	30
Komeito	4	5	9
Communist Party	2	1	3
Social Democratic Party	2	1	3
Other	1	3	4

Koizumi Taking Leadership in Promoting Gender Equality

In the general election of September 2005 held under then-Prime Minister Koizumi, the share of seats in the House of Representatives held by women reached a historic high.

All of the 16 women who ran for the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) were successful and the number of female MPs in the LDP marked a historic high at 26.

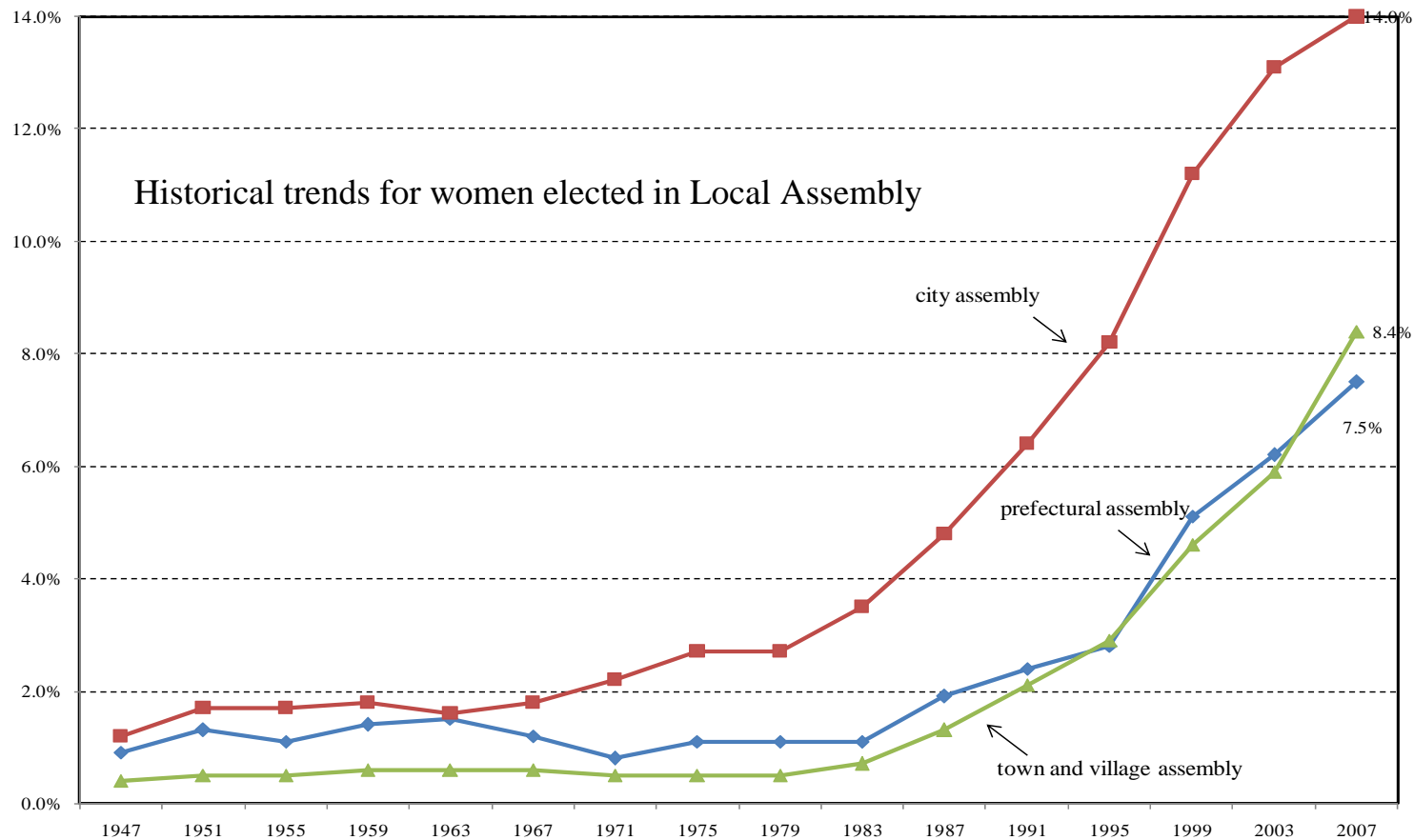


Women in Politics (2007 Local Election)

In the local elections held in April 2007, 367 women (9.7% of the total number of candidates) ran for prefectural assembly seats in 44 prefectures and 197 women (7.5 % of the total number of winners) won. It marked a record high in terms of both the actual number and the percentage. Women held 19% of assembly seats in Nagano prefecture (11 seats), which was the largest share. Fukui prefecture was the only prefecture that did not have any successful women candidates.

Women hold a historic high 223 seats (8%) in the prefectural assemblies altogether, including the prefectures where the election did not take place.

Women won 1,125 seats (14%) in city councils, 215 seats (25.6%) in city assemblies and 476 seats (8.4%) in town and village assemblies. A woman candidate was elected Governor in Hokkaido, and three women were elected mayors.



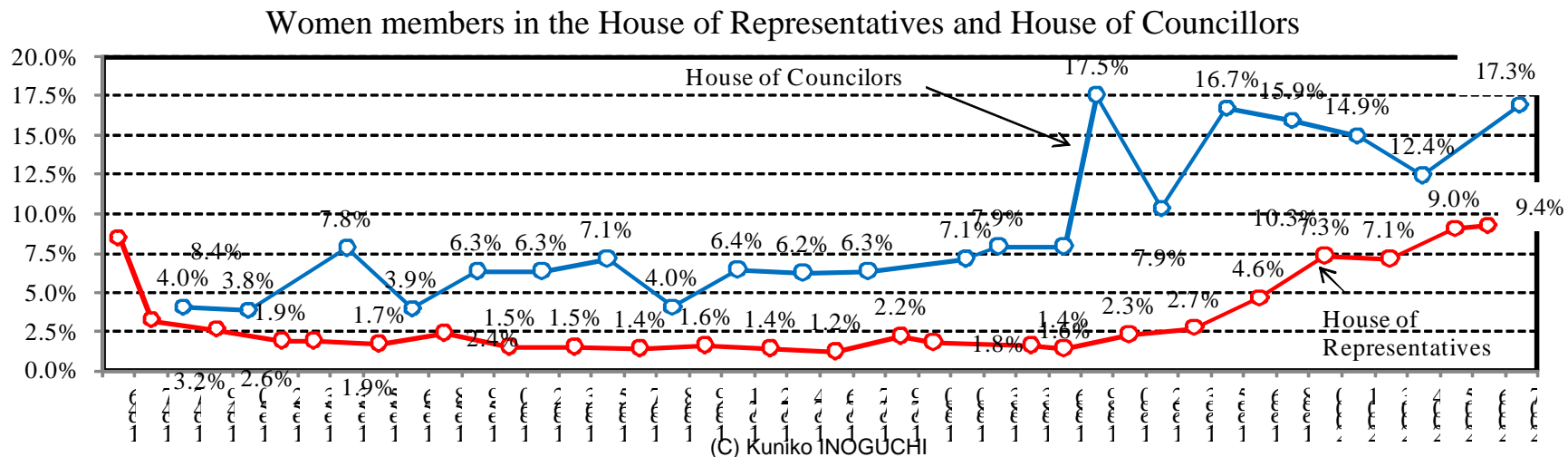
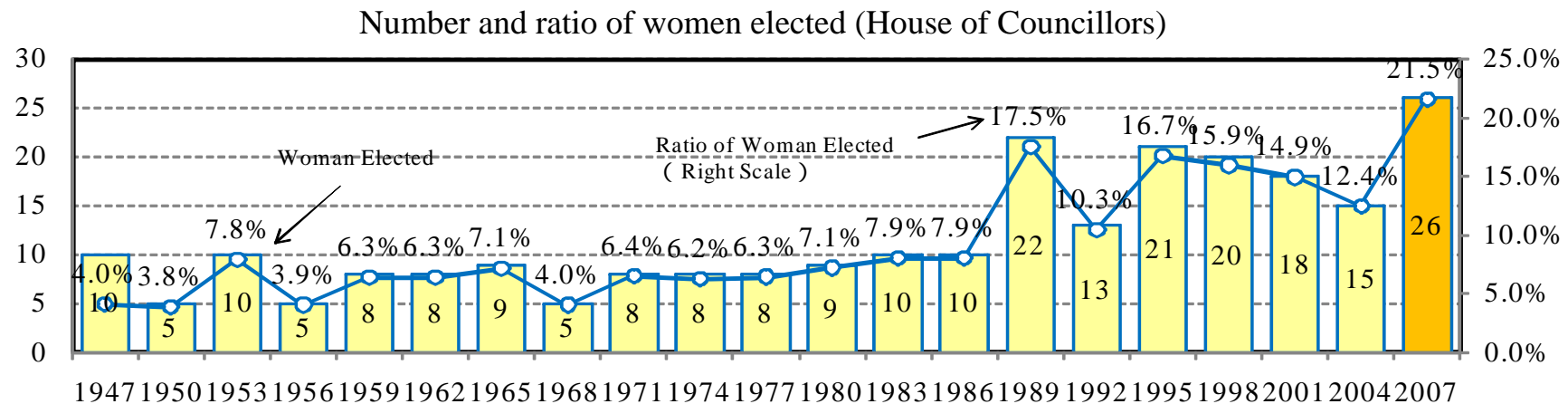
(C) Kuniko INOUCHI

Women in Politics (The 21st House of Councillors Election)

91 women (24.1% of all candidates) ran for office in the 21st House of Councillors Election on July 29 2007. 26 women (21.5%) were elected. The number of women elected in this election marked a historic high.

As a result of the election, 17.3% of the House of Councillors' seats are now held by women, marking a 4.5% increase from pre-election and 2nd largest in election history.

The major reason for the advancement of women in the election result can be explained by the fact that the political parties emphasized issues that have a direct impact on voter's lives, such as a response to the decreasing birth rate.

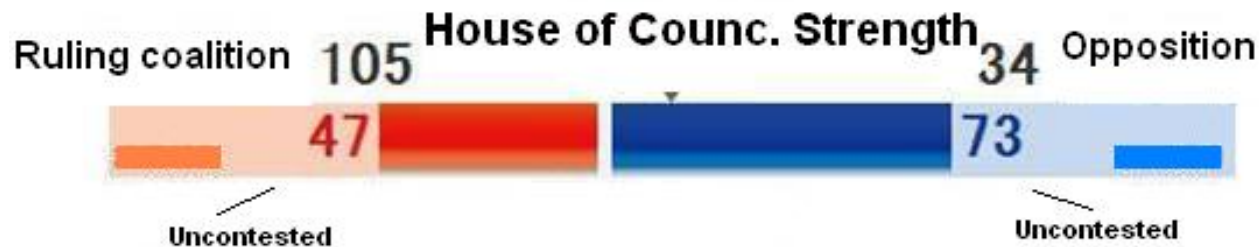


Analysis of 21st House of Councillors Election Results (1)

Voting for the 21st election of the House of Councillors took place on the 29th of July and by the morning of the 30th, all 121 seats for re-election had been decided.

The 64 seats the Liberal Democratic Party contested for re-election dropped significantly to 37 seats, a crushing defeat 2nd only to the record worst 36 seats won in the 1989 election. Even when added to the seats not contested for re-election, the party has only 83 seats, the lowest since the formation of the Liberal Democratic Party. In contrast, the Democratic Party of Japan won 60 seats, the highest since the Party's formation, becoming the strongest party in the House of Councillors.

The New Komeito Party won 2 and lost 3 seats in electoral districts and was pressed to win 7 proportional seats, equaling the 1998 record low of 9 seats. The Communist Party of Japan won 3 seats, all proportional, and the Socialist Party of Japan won 2 seats, giving the impression that the era of two large parties has arrived. People's New Party won a seat each in both electoral districts and in proportional representation. New Party Nippon won 1 seat having backed candidates for proportional representation only.



	LDP	Kom	coal affil.	Dem	Com	Soc	Koku	nippon	Misc	opp affil.	Other	Total
Success	37	9	1	60	3	2	2	1	0	5	1	121
Elec	23	2	1	40	0	0	1	-	0	5	1	73
Prop	14	7	-	20	3	2	1	1	0	-	0	48
Uncontest	64	12	0	32	5	3	2	0	0	0	1	121
New Total	83	20	2	109	7	5	4	1	0	8	3	242
Prev. total	110	23	1	81	9	6	4	0	0	3	3	240

Analysis of 21st House of Councillors Election Results (2)

As each faction of the Liberal Democratic party lost or maintained its strength in the House of Councillors election, the Machimura faction emerged as the strongest faction in both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors. The Tsushima faction, which had been the strongest faction in the House of Councillors only managed to produce 4 successful candidates, including newcomers. Meanwhile, the Machimura faction produced 14 successful candidates, shooting ahead to become the most powerful faction. Though the Koga faction, the 3rd largest, produced 3 successful candidates, the Yamasaki faction produced 0 and the Ibumi faction produced 2. The Komura, Tanigaki, and Aso factions maintained their present strength.

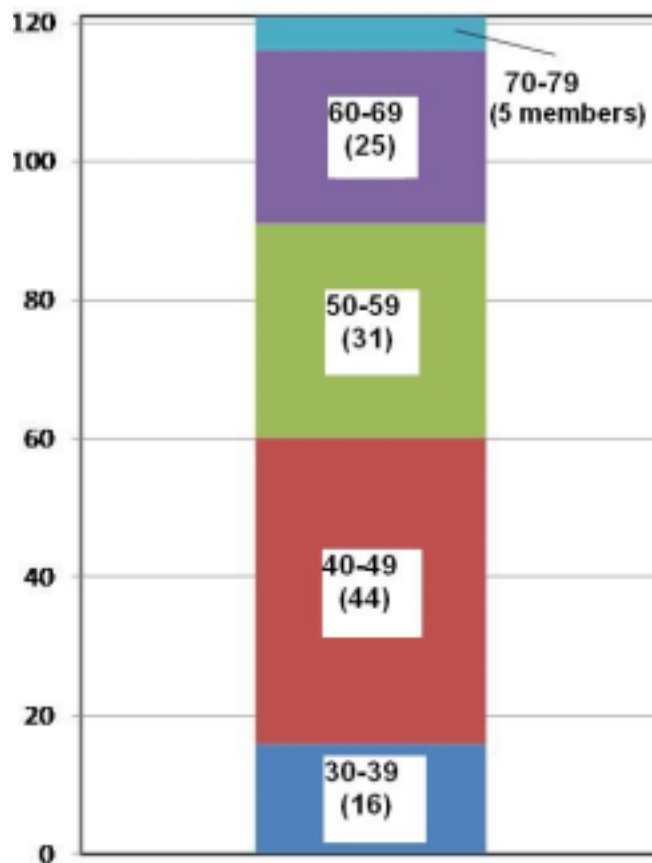
Faction	Total	House of Reps	House of Counc.		
			Total	Contested	Uncontested
Machimura	87	60	27	14	13
Tsushima	64	46	18	4	14
Koga	45	37	8	3	5
Yamasaki	35	32	3	0	3
Ibumi	25	18	7	2	5
Komura	16	14	2	2	0
Tanigaki	15	12	3	1	2
Nikai	15	13	2	0	2
Aso	16	13	3	2	1
Unaffiliated	65	61	4	3	1
Unknown	15	—	8	8	—

Analysis of 21st House of Councillors Election Results (3)

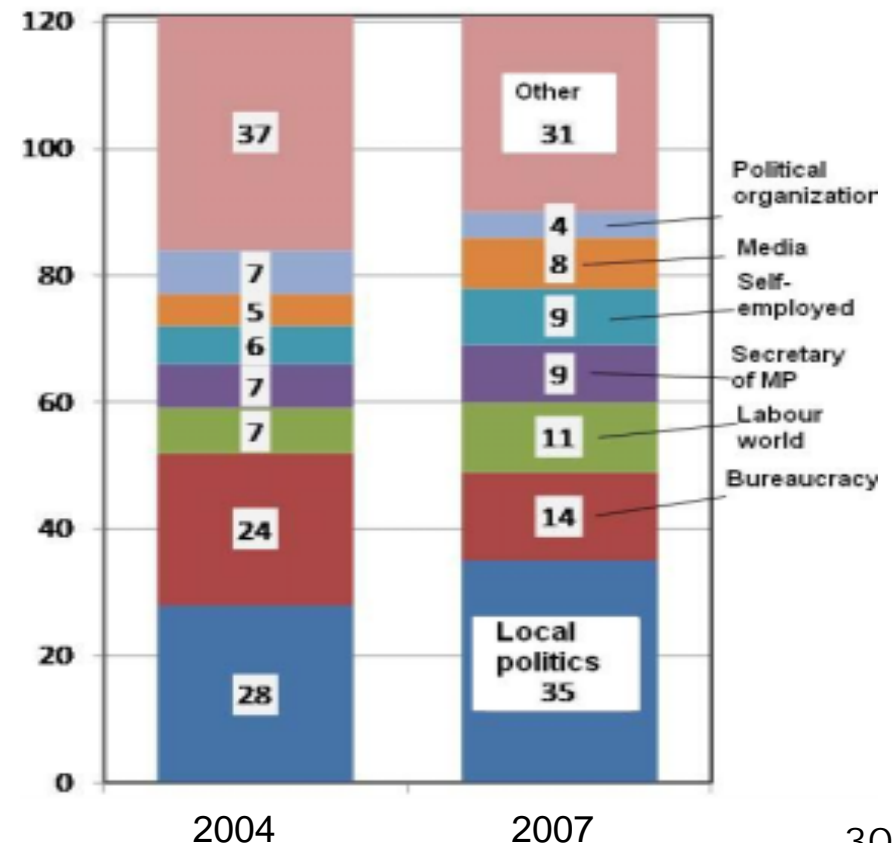
The average age of successful candidates in the House of Councillors election was 51.3, 2.4 years younger than the previous election in 2003 (53.7 years). The youngest successful candidate was 30 years old and the oldest was 73. By generation, the most prevalent age-bracket in the previous election was 50-59 (41 successful candidates), yet at this election the 40s age-bracket emerged as highest (44). By geographical and political origins, successful candidates from the world of local politics were most prominent (35). This is an increase on the previous election (28). Meanwhile, candidates originating from the central bureaucracy decreased from 24 successful candidates to 14.

This appears to reflect two things. First, at the stage of giving party backing to candidates, a fruition of the practice of unearthing talent who make the most of their experience in the world of local politics. Second, alongside the development of regional devolution, the expectation of voters that local voices will reach the world of central government politics directly.

Age structure of successful candidates



Background of successful candidates



Kuniko INOBUCHI, Ph.D.

Member, House of Representatives

Member, Science Council of Japan

Former Minister of State for Gender Equality and Social Affairs

Former Ambassador to Geneva on Disarmament Affairs

1952 May 3, Born in Chiba Prefecture

1982 Ph.D. in Political Science, Yale University

1977 M.A. in Political Science, Yale University

1975 B.A. Department of Foreign Languages, Sophia University

1981~90 Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Sophia University

1983~4 Visiting Fellow, Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

1985 Visiting Professor, Department of Political Science, Australian National University

1990~2006 Professor in the Faculty of Law, Sophia University

2002~4 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament

2003 President, Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, Chairperson, UN First Biennial Meeting of States on Small Arms and Light Weapons

2005 Executive Member, Japan Association for International Relations (Political Science)

2005~ present Member of the House of Representatives

2005~6 Minister of State for Gender Equality and Social Affairs

2006~ Acting Director-General, International Bureau (LDP)



Room541, First Member's Office, House of Representatives 2-2-1, Nagatacho,

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8981, Japan

Phone: 03-3508-7271 Fax: 03-3508-3130

E-mail inoguchi@kunikoinoguchi.jp

E-mail (Office) network@kunikoinoguchi.jp

URL <http://www.kunikoinoguchi.jp/>