6. Health

Life Expectancy at Birth

Life expectancies at birth for males and females had increased year after year and reached over 70 in 1960 for females and in 1971 for males, respectively. In 2008 life expectancies at birth were 86.05 years for women and 79.29 for men.

Proportion of Elderly Population by Sex (2007)

As life expectancy for females is generally longer than for men, women account for a larger share in the elderly population than men; the older women and men become, the bigger the female share of the population becomes.
The transition of main indices for items related to maternal and child health from 1975 to 2008 reveals that, as a whole, every index has been on the decline.

The transition in number of abortions and abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women of age between 15 and 49 years) from 1975 to 2008 indicates that both the number and overall rate have decreased. However, the proportion of teenage abortions to the total of all age groups has increased from 1.8% in 1975 to 9.4% in 2008. The percentage of young people of the total is thus increasing, but the actual number has in fact decreased.
The total number of male patients
The total number of female patients
male patients in their 20’s
female patients in their 20’s
male patients in their 30’s
female patients in their 30’s

Number of HIV-positive Patients

HIV positive patients refer to those who are infected with HIV (human immunodeficiency virus). Excluding those who have been infected through using blood-clotting products, the sum total of the HIV-positive patients reported in Japan by the end of 2008 was 10,552 (8,590 men and 1,962 women).

The number of HIV-positive patients whose infection was reported for the first time in 2008 was 1,126 (1,059 men and 67 women), the highest-ever number reported.

The sum total of the HIV-positive patients reveals that those in their 20’s at the time of their infection being reported account for 35.4% of the total, making infection among young people dominant. Alternatively, the breakdown of new patients reported in 2008 by age indicates that those in their 20’s accounts for 29.6% while those in their 30’s accounts for 37.7%.

Source: Data from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Note: The number of new HIV-positive patients reported for year