7. Perceptions of Gender Equality

■ Sense of Equality in terms of the Status of Men and Women
With regard to the status of men and women throughout the entire society, 74.2% of respondents considered that “men are being given preferential treatment.”

![Bar chart showing the perception of preferential treatment for men and women over time.]

Source: “Public Opinion Poll on a Gender-Equal Society,” the Cabinet Office

■ Stereotyped Perception for Gender Roles
(“Husband is expected to work outside the home, while wife is expected to take on domestic duties”)
In the 1979 survey, more than 70% of respondents supported the perception of gender roles. In the 2004 survey, respondents opposed to the perception outnumbered those who agreed to it (48.9% and 45.2%, respectively) for the first time. The number of opposing outnumbered those who agreed in the 2016 survey, but a breakdown by gender shows there are differences in perception between men and women.

![Bar chart showing the change in perception of gender roles over time.]

Source: “Public Opinion Poll on a Gender-Equal Society,” the Cabinet Office