Current Status and Challenges of Gender Equality in Japan

May, 2022
Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan
As for Gender Gap Index of World Economic Forum, Japan ranks 120th out of 156 countries.

2. Indicators with low scores are listed in red.
3. Results by Subindex: Economic Participation and Opportunity (117th), Education Attainment (92nd), Health and Survival (65th), Political Empowerment (147th)
“How Do You Feel about Gender Equality?”

• Asked about how they feel about gender equality throughout society, **21.2% of respondents felt that women and men received equal treatment**, while **74.1% felt that men are being given privileged treatment** (exclusive privileged treatment for men 11.3% + privileged treatment for men in general 62.8%).

• By sector, 61.2% of respondents felt that there was gender equality in schools and education, 46.5% in community activities including PTA, 45.5% at home, 39.7% in law and institutions, 30.7% in the workplace, 22.6% in social conventions and customs, and 14.4% in politics.

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**Sense of gender equality throughout society**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Equal Treatment</th>
<th>Privileged Treatment for Men in General</th>
<th>Privileged Treatment for Women in General</th>
<th>Exclusive Privileged Treatment</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>62.8%</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Numerical Targets on The Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality: 50% for the present (until 2025), while the ultimate goal is nearly 100%.

# Women in Politics

## 1. Diet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage of female members</th>
<th>Number of members</th>
<th>Number of female members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House of Representatives</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Councillors</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>14.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>708</strong></td>
<td><strong>102</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2. Local assemblies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage of female members</th>
<th>Number of members</th>
<th>Number of female members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prefectural assemblies</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>2,598</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal assemblies</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>29,425</td>
<td>4,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.1%</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,023</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,826</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

2. As of December 31, 2021 for prefectural assemblies (survey by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications).
3. As of December 31, 2021 for municipalities (survey by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications).
# Women in Parliament in G7 Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% Women</th>
<th>Women/Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>228/577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>225/630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>33.9</td>
<td>220/650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>223/709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>100/338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>118/433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>166</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>46/465</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1. The source for Japan: the websites of the House of Representatives as of April 2022.
2. The source for other countries: “Women in Politics:2021”, the IPU’s website.
Gender and age structure of people and Diet members in Japan

Women comprise approximately 51.7% of our nation's electorate. Compared to the gender and age structure of the population as a whole, there are fewer women and younger generations of parliamentarians.

[Whole nation]

Note: Produced by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office based on Population Estimates, Statistics Bureau of Japan, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

[Diet members]

Male
Average 57.4 years

Female
Average 54.9 years

18: Right to vote
25: Eligibility for election (House of Representatives)
30: Eligibility for election (House of Councillors)

Note: Produced by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office based on the House of Representatives website (as of April 28, 2022) and the House of Councillors website (May 23, 2022) (the number of members and their ages are as of April 28, 2022).
Voter turnout is higher among the 18–19 age group than the 20–29 age group, both for men and women. Also, it is higher among women between the 18–19 and 60–64 age groups, and higher among men in the 65–69 and older age groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18–19</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>31.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20–24</td>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–29</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30–34</td>
<td>46.8</td>
<td>43.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–39</td>
<td>47.3</td>
<td>50.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40–44</td>
<td>50.5</td>
<td>54.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–49</td>
<td>56.1</td>
<td>58.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50–54</td>
<td>59.6</td>
<td>61.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55–59</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>65.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60–64</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65–69</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>73.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70–74</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75–79</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>74.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80+</td>
<td>59.7</td>
<td>72.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Compiled by the Cabinet Office based on preliminary results from the General Election for the Members of the House of Representatives executed Oct. 31, 2021, as published in “Number of Voters by Age” by MIC.
Women in Central Government

The percentage of women in the national civil service by position level is significantly lower in Japan than that of other countries at all position levels.

Source: *Government at a Glance 2021, OECD*
Number of Employed Women

The number of employed women has increased by approximately 3.4 million in 9 years (2012-2021)

Source: “Labor Force Survey (Basic Tabulation),” MIC.

Number of Women Executives in Listed Companies

The number of women executives in listed companies has increased by 4.8 times in 9 years (2012-2021)

Source: Toyo Keizai “YAKUIN SHIKIHO”

Note: Data: as of 31st July each year. Surveyed all listed companies including the JASDAQ listed companies. “Board” means directors, auditors, representative executive officer and executive officers of the company with nomination committee, etc.

Proportion of women in managerial positions of private corporation

The proportion of women in department manager level, director level, and section chief level is steadily growing. However, the higher the position, the lower the percentage.

Note: 1. Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Basic Survey on Wage Structure, as of June each year
2. Of those workers at corporation with 100 or more permanent workers, managerial staff without fixed terms of employment.
3. Management positions are defined as follows: Department manager level : In charge of two or more sections or one section of at least 20 staff (themselves included); Director level: In charge of two or more sub-sections or one sub-section of at least 10 staff (themselves included). 4. It should be noted that methods of estimation have changed from the 2020 survey.

Ratios of Women Executives Overseas

Source: Values from OECD, Social and Welfare Statistics 2021

For EU countries, data refer to the largest 50 members of the primary blue-chip index in each country; for other countries, companies covered by the MSCI ACWI index (an index of approx. 2,900 large- and mid-cap firms).

Note: The target ratio for women board members at listed companies in the Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality was calculated from Tōyō Keizai Shimpōsha, Executive Quarterly. (The ratio of women board members at all listed companies as at July 2021 was 7.5%).
Gender Pay Gap

Dual labor market

Scheduled cash earnings
(By employment type and age group)

Same occupation and length of service

Childcare workers

System consultants, designers
and software authors

(Basic Survey on Wage Structure 2021, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)
### Number of women Nobel Prize laureates (in natural science)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Physiology, medicine</th>
<th>Physics</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Total laureates through to 2021.
* “Other” comprises Israel, Australia, China and Canada.

### Proportion of women researchers in foreign countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Republic of Korea</th>
<th>Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physiology, medicine</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Survey on Research and Development, MIC (2021); Main Science and Technology Indicators, OECD; and Science and Engineering Indicators, National Science Foundation (NSF)

### Proportion of women undergraduate students in universities

- **Humanities**: 65.0% Women, 35.0% Men
- **Social sciences**: 35.8% Women, 64.2% Men
- **Science**: 27.8% Women, 72.2% Men
- **Engineering**: 15.7% Women, 84.3% Men
- **Agriculture**: 45.2% Women, 54.8% Men
- **Healthcare (medicine, dentistry, pharmacology)**: 48.9% Women, 51.1% Men
- **Healthcare (nursing, etc.)**: 91.3% Women, 8.7% Men
- **Education**: 59.0% Women, 41.0% Men
- **Other**: 47.7% Women, 52.3% Men

Source: FY2021 School Basic Survey, MEXT

### OECD survey on learning achievement (15-year-olds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>OECD average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean score in scientific literacy</strong></td>
<td>529 points 2nd</td>
<td>531 points 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>527 points 1st</td>
<td>532 points 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean score in mathematical literacy</strong></td>
<td>504 points 10th</td>
<td>493 points 9th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Compiled based on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2018, OECD. Ranked out of 37 OECD member countries. Students attending school who are aged between 15 years and 3 months and 16 years and 2 months at the time of the survey (in the case of Japan: first year senior high students).
Marriage and Divorce

※Number of remarriages: Both spouses remarried or one of them remarried

Figures for 2021 are preliminary figures including foreigners in Japan. The number of marriages in 2021 is the total of remarriages and first marriages.

Source: Demographic Surveys, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
### Life Expectancy of Men and Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Survival rate at the age of 90 years</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survival rate at the age of 95 years</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average life expectancy</td>
<td>81.56 years</td>
<td>87.71 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The mode age of death (※)</td>
<td>88 years</td>
<td>93 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population over the age of 100 years</td>
<td>9,766</td>
<td>69,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population over the age of 105 years</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>5,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(※)”The mode age of death” is the age with the highest number of deaths.

“Population over the age of 100 years” and “Population over the age 105 years” are based on the 2020 National Census by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, and the others are based on the 2020 Summary of Simplified Life Tables by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.
Changes in the Family Figure

1980
- Couple and Child(Children) 42.1%
  15,081 thousand households
- 3 generations, etc. 19.9%
  7,124 thousand households
- Single person 19.8%
  7,105 thousand households
- Couple only 12.5%
  4,460 thousand households
- Single-parent and Child(Children) 5.7%
  2,053 thousand households

2015
- Couple and Child(Children) 26.8%
  14,288 thousand households
- Single person 34.5%
  18,418 thousand households
- Couple only 20.1%
  10,718 thousand households
- 3 generations, etc. 9.4%
  5,024 thousand households
- Single-parent and Child(Children) 8.9%
  4,748 thousand households

2020
- Couple and Child(Children) 25.0%
  13,949 thousand households
- Single person 38.0%
  21,151 thousand households
- Couple only 20.0%
  11,159 thousand households
- 3 generations, etc. 7.7%
  5,003 thousand households
- Single-parent and Child(Children) 9.0%
  4,283 thousand households

※Based on the National Census by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. Percentage of general households. 3 generations, etc. is the sum of households with only relatives other than nuclear family members and households that include non-relatives.
13% of men take childcare leave. One in four 50-year-old men are unmarried (which means they never married). There are 10.94 million of male single-person households (which makes 19.6% of ordinary households). More engagement of men at home and in the community is necessary.

### Proportion of employees who take childcare leave in the private sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2018</th>
<th>FY2019</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Compiled by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, based on the Basic Survey of Gender Equality in Employment Management, MHLW

- Percentage of male national public employees (general) who took childcare leave (survey by National Personnel Authority)
  - 51.4% (FY2020)
- Percentage male local public employees who took childcare leave (survey by MIC)
  - 13.2% (FY2020)

### Proportion of the unmarried at age 50

- Men
  - 3.33 in 1970, 14.06 in 2010, 23.37 in 2020
- Women
  - 1.70 in 1970, 10.7 in 2005, 16.37 in 2020


### Number of male single-person households (by age group):

- 10.94 million

Source: Compiled by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, based on the 2020 Population Census, MIC.

### Primary caregiver for a family member who live together with

- Men: Daughter-in-law (31.0%), Wife (28.2%), Daughter (17.3%), Son (10.7%)
- Women: Son (20.4%), Son-in-law (17.8%), Husband (15.6%), Daughter (13.2%)

Sources: Compiled by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, based on the Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions, MHLW.
Changes in Number of Dual-Income Households, etc.
(households where the wife is 64 years old or younger)

Dual-income households

Households consisting of an employed husband and a wife without paid work

※ Produced by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office based on the Labour Force Survey (Detailed tabulation) by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

※ “Dual-income households” refers to households in which both spouses are employed in the non-agricultural and forestry sectors (including non-regular staff and employees) and are 64 years of age or younger. “Households consisting of a husband who work as employee and a non working wife” refers to households in which the husband is a non-agricultural or forestry employee and the wife is a non-working person (non-working population or unemployed) and 64 years old or younger. Values for 2010 and 2011 are for the entire country except for Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima prefectures.
Employment Rates of Married Women by Their Husbands’ Income (aged 30-39)

Percentages of Employed Persons by Income (by sex, marital status, and age)

Notes: 1. Produced by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, based on the Employment Status Survey (2017), Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.
2. Unemployed does not include those people who resigned from their previous job in 1987 or earlier and are still unemployed. Therefore, the number of unemployed persons aged 50 or over as of 2017 may in fact be more.
Single-Parent Households

Over the last 30 years, single-mother households have increased by 1.5 times, single-father households by 1.1 times.

Single-mother households* 0.849 million households 1.232 million households (approx. 86.8% of single-parent households)
Single-father households* 0.173 million households 0.187 million households (approx. 13.2% of single-parent households) (FY1988) (FY2016)

* Total single-mother and single-father households, including households with a co-habitant other than the parent
Reference: In 2019, there were 11.22 million households with children (Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Single-mother households</th>
<th>Single-father households</th>
<th>General households (ref.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment rate</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
<td>85.4%</td>
<td>Women 71.3% Men 83.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of employees: Regular</td>
<td>47.7% (※)</td>
<td>89.7% (※)</td>
<td>Women 49.2% Men 83.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of employees: Non-regular</td>
<td>52.3% (※)</td>
<td>10.3% (※)</td>
<td>Women 50.8% Men 16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average annual work income</td>
<td>2 million yen</td>
<td>3.98 million yen</td>
<td>Average earnings Women 2.93 million yen Men 5.32 million yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regular: 3.05 million yen</td>
<td>Regular: 4.28 million yen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part-time, etc.: 1.33 million yen</td>
<td>Part-time, etc.: 1.90 million yen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of single-parents who receive child support</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


* The composition ratios of regular and non-regular workers in single-mother and single-father households were calculated from the totals of “regular staff” and “non-regular staff” (total of “Part-time, etc. workers” and “dispatch workers”).
Ages of Mother and Youngest Child in Single-mother Households at Time of Divorce, etc.

- Approximately half (48.4%) of mothers were in their 30s when they became a single-mother household, followed by 20s (28.8%) and 40s (19.4%).
- In nearly 70% of cases, the youngest child was aged five years or younger when the family became a single-mother household.

**Single-mother households, by mother’s age**

- Divorce, etc.
  - 1.9%: Over 60
  - 28.8%: 20–29
  - 48.4%: 30–39
  - 19.4%: 40–49
  - 1.3%: 60+

Total number: 1,709
Average age: 33.4 years

**Single-mother households, by age of youngest child**

- Divorce, etc.
  - 45.7%: 0–2
  - 22.7%: 3–5
  - 14.6%: 6–8
  - 8.9%: 9–11
  - 5.7%: 12–14
  - 2.3%: 15–17
  - 0.2%: 18–19

Total number: 1,627
Average age: 4.3 years

Notes:
1. Compiled by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, based on the FY2016 Nationwide Survey on Single Parent Household, MHLW.
2. A single-mother household is a household in which a fatherless child (aged under 20 years, unmarried) is raised by their mother. A single-father household is a household in which a motherless child is raised by their father.
3. “Divorce, etc.” is defined as living separately in the FY2016 Nationwide Survey on Single Parent Household, and is the sum of divorced, unmarried mothers, deserted, missing and other.
4. The percentage of single-mother households, by mother’s age group, is calculated as a fraction of all households excluding those in which the mother’s age at the time the family became a single-mother household was unknown.
5. The percentage of single-mother households, by age of youngest child, is calculated as a fraction of all households excluding those in which the youngest child’s age at the time the family became a single-mother household was unknown.
Approximately half of single-parent households* had an equivalent disposable income at or below the poverty line.

* Active households with child(ren) and one adult

Compiled by the Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, based on the Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions, MHLW. Figures for 2015 exclude Kumamoto Prefecture. “Adult” refers to a person aged 18 years or older, and “child” refers to a person aged 17 years or younger. “Active household” refers to a household in which the head of the household is aged 18 or older but younger than 65. Excludes household members whose equivalent disposable income is unknown.
Impacts of COVID-19 on Women’s Employment

Changes in the Number of Employed Persons

(Prepared from “Labour Force Survey” by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. Seasonally adjusted series.)

Year-on-Year Changes in the Numbers of Employed Persons by Industry

(Prepared from “Labour Force Survey” by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. Original series)
Changes in the Number of DV Consultations, Ages of those who received DV Consultations, and Content of Consultations

**Changes in the number of DV consultations**

The number of DV consultations in FY2020 was about 1.5 times that of the previous year.

![Graph showing changes in the number of DV consultations](Image)

(Cases)

FY2019 (before the spread of COVID19) 119,276
FY2020 182,188

(Source) Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office

**Changes in the Number of DV Consultations (every month)**

- The number of consultations in FY2020 is 182,188, approximately 1.5 times the number in FY 2019.

![Graph showing changes in the number of consultations every month](Image)

According to a survey by Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office. Provisional number of consultations at Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers nationwide as of February 28, 2022.

**Ages of those who received DV consultations**

People in their 30s and 40s account for about 50% of the total.

![Pie chart showing ages](Image)

About 60% of the consultations involved mental domestic violence.

**Contents of consultation (multiple answers)**

Physical 28.0% (5,419)
Mental 62.6% (12,117)
Sexual 6.4% (1,230)
Economical 16.8% (3,250)
Social 5.9% (1,149)

**Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence**

Experiences of forced sexual intercourse, etc.

About 1 in 14 women have experienced forced sexual intercourse, etc.

- by one person, 5.3%
- by more than one person, 1.6%
- N/A, 3.9%

Women

Never, 89.2%

**Experienced forced sexual intercourse**

6.9%

Note: The number of consultations is the total number of consultations by phone, interview, email, SNS, etc.

Changes in the number of consultations at 52 One-Stop Support Centers for Victims of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence nationwide (first half of FY2021)

Cabinet Office, "Survey on Violence between Men and Women. (Released in March 2021)"
The Number of Suicides

Changes in the Number of Suicides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2019 total</th>
<th>2020 total</th>
<th>2021 total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,169 people</td>
<td>21,081 people (+912)</td>
<td>21,007 people (+142)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>14,078</td>
<td>14,055 (▲23)</td>
<td>13,939 (▲116)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>6,091</td>
<td>Women 7,026 (+935)</td>
<td>Women 7,068 (+42)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2019 total</th>
<th>2020 total</th>
<th>2021 total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,415 people</td>
<td>7,321 people (+906)</td>
<td>6,849 people (+472)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>4,553</td>
<td>Men 4,904 (▲371)</td>
<td>Men 4,628 (▲276)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>1,882</td>
<td>Women 2,417 (+535)</td>
<td>Women 2,221 (▲196)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numbers of suicides among unemployed women

Note: Prepared from “Number of Suicides” on the National Police Agency’s website. Original series. Figures by 2022 are definite. Figures for 2022 are provisional as of May 20, 2022.

Numbers of suicides among employed or working women

Note: Prepared from “Suicide Statistics” Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare’s website. The number of suicides based on the date of discovery (the number of suicides discovered in the year).

Note: Prepared from “Suicide Statistics” Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare’s website. The number of suicides based on the date of discovery (the number of suicides discovered in the year).
Measures Against Sexual Assault

Policy for enhancement of measures against sexual crimes and sexual assault (Overview)
(June 11, 2020 decision by related ministries and agencies meetings to enhancement of measures against sexual crimes and sexual assault)

Period of intensive enhancement of measures against sexual crimes and sexual assault (Three years from FY2020 to FY2022)

Initiatives based on the characteristics of Sex Offenses and Gender Based Violence

Steady implementation of policy

First

Consider Penal Code and take appropriate steps based on the results

Further enhance measures to prevent sex offenders from reoffending

Create conditions conducive to registering complaints and seeking advice

Establish seamless, full victim support

Educate and raise awareness to change society’s mindset and prevent violence

Measures Against Spousal Violence

【DV Consultation Navi】
※closest consultation centers

♯8008

0120-279-889

SNS
Mail

Accompanying, protection, etc.

Domestic Violence Hotline Plus

Start 20.April 2020

24Hours (Japanese language only)

0120－279－889

Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women

State Guest House Akasaka Palace Purple Light Up campaign

Nov 12～25, every year

Stop Youth Sexual Violence Month

Cure Time SNS consultation on sexual violence

Nights and holidays call centers for victims of sexual violence (from Oct. 1, 2021)

The support is provided in cooperation with One-Stop support centers. The support is available on nights and holidays to respond to victims outside of the operating hours of the closest One-Stop service centers.
When we consider raising household income, the gender pay gap is also a major topic. We will review the rules covering corporate disclosure to fix the gap.

What will become the foundation supporting a new form of capitalism is a society that values diversity, in which all people can feel their purpose in life, whether old or young, male or female, or having a disability.

People’s lifestyles and family styles are becoming increasingly diverse. We will work to promote “Women's economic empowerment” and eradicate violence against women, including domestic violence, which has increased sharply since the COVID-19 pandemic started.

At the Meeting on a Social Security System Oriented to All Generations, we will advance discussions towards creating a society in which men and women can work as they wish; towards increasing the number of people supporting the social security system through, for example, restraining increases in the financial burden borne by the young generation and providing universal workers’ insurance; and towards building a sustainable social security system in which all people, in accordance with their ability, mutually assist others.
Hello, everyone. I am KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan.

Today, March 8, is International Women’s Day, as designated by the United Nations in 1975. I wish to express my sincere respect and appreciation for the passion and the efforts made by all those working earnestly for gender equality and women’s empowerment on a day-to-day basis. I also want to celebrate this day together with all of you.

Promoting gender equality is an important and firmly-rooted policy of the Japanese Government and also a norm we share with the wider international community. Moreover, it is an indispensable element of a society that values individuality and diversity, which my Cabinet aims to achieve.

Regardless, it must be said that the current situation in Japan lags significantly behind that of other countries, as indicated by Japan’s ranking of 120th place globally in the Gender Gap Index. Structural issues are considered to form the backdrop for our current circumstances, including the existence of a wage gap between men and women and fixed gender role awareness.

I believe “Economic empowerment” is the key to responding to the challenges and structural issues that Japan’s women are facing. I have placed “Economic empowerment” at the very core of a “New form of capitalism,” the showcase policy of the Kishida administration.

We will foster an environment in which women can be financially independent. We will achieve this by taking all manner of measures, including reviewing public prices, which will precede wage increases in the private sector, reviewing corporate disclosure rules with a view to rectifying wage discrepancies between men and women, and creating a society in which both men and women can work in the manner they choose.

As we mark International Women’s Day, as prime minister I once again pledge to do my utmost to enable all women in Japan, and indeed all women around the world, to walk, full of vitality, down the paths that they themselves choose.