Japan’s Ageing Society: Facts and Challenges

1. Demography
2. Households and Family
3. Work, Health, and Ability
4. Utilizing Advanced Technology
5. Policy Framework

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Government Organizations

Cabinet Office

Ministries
- MIC
- MOJ
- MOFA
- MOF
- MEXT
- MHLW
- MAFF
- METI
- MLIT
- MOE
- MOD

Guidelines, Policy Coordination

Policy Measures
1. Demography
In 2020, 75+ will surpass 65-74.
After 2045, 65+ will start to decrease.
In 2065, one in 2.6 will be 65+, one in 4 will be 75+.

Trends and Estimations of Population Ageing

Ratio of over 65: 27.7% (OCT2017)
Ageing in the World

- Japan has the most aged population.
- Speed of Ageing (Doubling time of ageing rate from 7% to 14%):
  JAPAN 24yrs, France 115yrs, US 72yrs, Germany 40yrs, China 23yrs (est.), S. Korea 18yrs (est.)

(1) the United States and European countries

Source: UN, World Population Prospect: The 2015 Revision
Except Japan that the statistic data is based on the results of the “Population Census” by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Government of Japan until 2015 and the “Estimated Population of Japan in the Future (estimate as of 2017)” by the National Institute of Population and Social Security based on the estimated figure with Medium-Fertility and Medium-Mortality Assumption as from 2020
2. Households and Family
Elderly One-person Households

- The ratio of one-person households of 65 and over is increasing.

⇒ Possible problems:
  "isolated death", "higher living cost", "access to shops and hospitals"

The number of the elderly who needs care or supports is rapidly increasing.
23.5% of over 75 is certified care-receivers.

Source: Annual Report on the Ageing Society: 2017
Quits due to Family Nursing

More employees left or changed their jobs due to family nursing care for their families.

3. Work, Health, and Capacity
The rate of labor force population (65-69 years old) is becoming higher.

Willingness to stay in the labor market

- 79.7% of the surveyed workers over 60 said they want to work until “70 years old or over” or “as long as possible”

Source: Annual Report on the Ageing Society: 2017
(Note) Men and women aged 60 years and above are the subjects of this survey. Recalculation only for those currently working
Reasons to continue working (multiple answer)

- Economic: 62.0%
- Social: 59.7%
- Health: 52.3%
- Spare time: 40.9%
- Others: 23.5%

Source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Healthy Life Expectancy and Life Expectancy

Life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy at birth are becoming longer.

Literacy and Numeracy by Age

- Japanese test takers in early 60’s showed higher marks than the OECD average.

SOURCE:
Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies) / OECD (2013)
4. Utilizing Advanced Technology
Examples of improving the QOL of older people by utilizing advanced technology

- Watch-over by IT
  Using the location notification service, the family can check where their older family members are.

- Dementia Prevention by Robot therapy
  Improvement of brain function through contact with a robot

- Usage of Robot in Care
  Promoting independence support and reducing care burden by using a robot technology

- Safe driving support car
  Development of automobiles to support driver's safety by utilizing advanced safety technology
5. Policy Framework
The Guideline of Measures for Ageing Society

Ch. 1 Purpose and Basic Principles

1. Purpose of making the New Outline
   - The general trend of determining over 65 as “Older People” by their age is no longer realistic. The era has come that people even at 70 and older can demonstrate their performance based on their motivation and talent.
   - Create an environment where people of all generations can fulfill their life, responding social issues along with the ageing population.

2. Basic Principles
   1) Review standardization by age and Aim at creating Ageless Society in which people of all ages can make use of their motivation and abilities depending on their hope.
      - Review the standardized way to look at life stages by age.
      - Take a look at “Social Security that accommodates the needs of all generations” that anyone can feel secured.
   2) Develop a community life base and Consolidate a Local Community where people can imagine their elderly life at any life stage.
      - Expand cooperation of multiple generations and prevent social isolation
      - Create a community that enable older people to live safe, secure and abundant.
   3) Aim for new measures on ageing society by using the Innovation of Technological Achievements*. 
      - Make a remark of possibilities that a new technology may solve problems (physical and mental abilities in old age) through the new perspectives towards the capability development of older people.

(*)The government is trying to realize the “fifth society” that brings abundance to people by creating new values and services through active utilization of cyberspace. (“Society 5.0”) after the hunting, agricultural and industrial societies. (Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2017, June 9)
1. Employment and Income
- Develop environment to realize a society where all people can work regardless of their age
  - Promotion of side/additional business
  - Drastic expansion of recurrent education
  - Support entrepreneurship of older people,
  - Consideration of retirement age of civil officers
- Stable operation of public pension system
  - Consideration to expand the choice of when to start receiving the pension
- Support for asset formation
  - Promotion of private pension system
  - Providing financial products & service that fits older people
  - Support for elderly investors with decline of cognitive abilities

2. Health and Welfare
- Comprehensively promote of health
  - Projects to extend healthy life expectancy
  - Sports and activities responding to life stages
- Sustainably operate the long-term care (LTC) insurance system
  - Promote and deepen community-based integrated care system
- Enrich the LTC services (No one forced to leave their jobs for nursing care)
  - Improvement of working conditions of care workers
  - Improvement of the LTC services
- Sustainably operate of medical care for older people
- Promote countermeasures to support older people with dementia
  - Timely and appropriate medical and nursing care
- The way of medical treatment at the last stage of life
  - Develop human resource that can respond to consultation
  - Provide information for citizens
- Promote establishment of framework for supporting local communities by mainly residents

3. Learning and Social Participation
- Promote learning activities
  - Provide various re-learning opportunities
  - Promote social security education,
  - Develop support system of ICT Literacy improvement
- Promote social participation

4. Living Environment
- Secure rich and stable housing life
  - Promote reverse mortgage
  - Promote rental housings for those who need a place to stay
- Comprehensively promote to develop town for aging society
  - Create “Continuing Care Retirement Community”
  - Develop barrier free environment
  - Promote of “Compact Plus Network”
- Secure traffic safety and Protect from crime & natural disasters etc.,
  - Promote policy for older driver
    (including review driving license system)
  - Promote support car for older people’s safe driving
- Promote the Adult Guardian system
  - Establish Community Liaison Network
  - Review of disqualification clauses

5. Research development and Contribution to International society
- Utilize advanced technology and Activate the market for older people
  - Develop care robots
  - Genome science
  - Auto driving transportation service
- Promote research & development and Create infrastructure development
  - Detailed analysis of current situation for the purpose of statistics and policy making (ex, small segments such as age groups of 70, 75, 80 etc.)
  - Promote utilization of private and public data
- Share knowledge and challenges with foreign countries
  - Expand Asian human resource who learns Japanese nursing care
  - Introduce Japanese knowledge to international society
  - Share challenges and Strengthen collaboration

6. Promote success of all generations
### Ch. 3 Promoting Systems etc.,

- Setting of numerical targets etc.
- Collaboration and closer cooperation among related administrative organizations, etc.

#### Main numerical targets

**1. Employment and Income**
- Employment rate (Age 60 to 64): **67.0%** (2020) [63.6% (2016)]
- Percentage of teleworkers employed based on the teleworker system: Make the double ratio than **2016 (7.7%)** (2020) [7.7% (2016)]

**2. Health and Welfare**
- Healthy Life Expectancy: **1 yr older and more** (2020), **2 yrs older and more** (2025) [Male: 71.19 (2013) Female: 74.21 (2013)]
- Number of Nursing care workers: **2.31 millions** (Beginning of 2020) [1.83 millions (FY2015)]
- Number of the people from being forced to leave their jobs because of unavailability of nursing care facilities and services: **None** (Beginning of 2020) [10,1000 (2012)]
- Number of Dementia Supporters: **12 millions** (End of FY2020) [8.8 millions (End of FY2016)]

**3. Learning and Social Participation**
- Percentage of Older people involved in social participation activities: **80%** (2020) [Male 62.4% (2016), Female 55.0% (2016)]

**4. Living Environment**
- Number of rental housing registered for people who need consideration: **175,000** (FY2020)
- Number of fraud cases on telephone whose victim is over the age of 65 (over every 100,000 population): **Less than the previous year** [30.9 persons (2016)]
- Number of death of traffic accidents due to elderly drivers whose age is over: **Less than 200** (2020) [266 (2016)]

**5. Research development and Contribution to International Society**
- Transportation service of auto driving in limited area: **nationwide** (By 2025)
- Market size of robot nursing equipment: **approximately 50 billion yen** (2020) [2.47 billions yen (2015)]

#### Main Reference Indicators

- Percentage of Older people in total population (Over 65, 75, 85)
- Percentage of single households over 65 (Male, Female)
- Employment Rate (65 to 69, 70 to 74, Over 75)
- Number of subscribers of private pension (Defined-Benefit Corporate Pension, Defined- Contribution Pension [Corporate • Private type])
- Number of care need certified persons (65 to 74, over 75)
- Internet usage rate (70 to 79, over 80)

(Note) 1."Numerical targets" indicates the target in implementing policies efficiently in each field as countermeasures on ageing society.
2."Main Reference Indicators" are to grasp the situations and policies on ageing society and to improve the situation through extracting challenges and reflecting policies.
3. ■、● are newly added goals and indicators in the latest outline of countermeasures on aging society.