

## Summary of the Results

### CHAPTER I: SIZE AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION

#### 1. Trends in the Population of Japan

**The population of Japan is 127.77 million. It increased by 0.7% over the five-year period, the lowest since the end of World War II.**

The 2005 Population Census shows that the total population of Japan as of October 1, 2005 is 127.77 million, which is an increase of 0.84 million or 0.7% compared with the population reported in the previous Population Census conducted in 2000 (126.93 million).

Compared with the figure in 1920, the year in which the first Population Census was conducted, the population of Japan has grown 2.3 times over the past 85 years.

(Table 1.1, Figure 1.1)

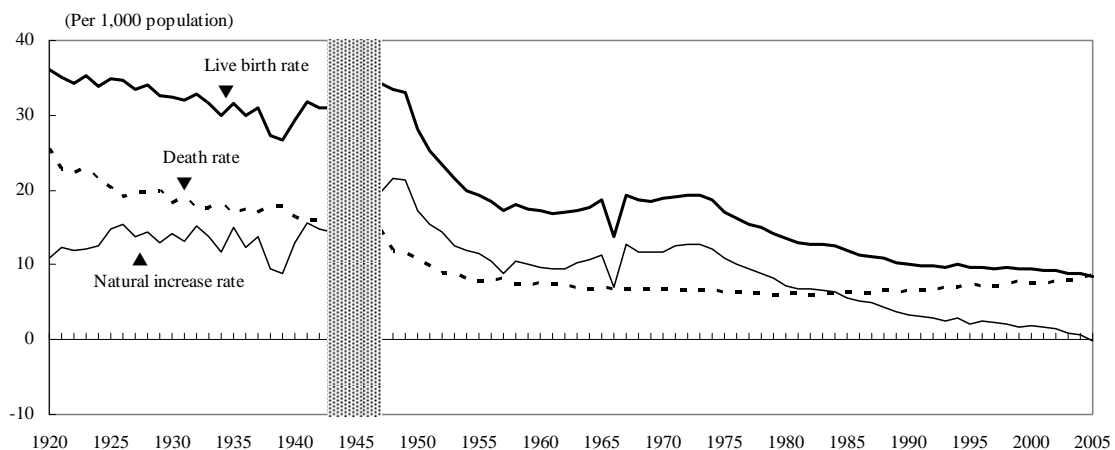
Incidentally, the trends in the population from 2000 to 2005 as of October 1 in each year show that the population reported by the Population Census in 2005 is 20 thousand less than 127.79 million, the population estimated in 2004. This is the first time since the end of World War II that the population of the current year as of October 1 has fallen below that of the previous year.

#### **The live birth rate continues to decline.**

According to the observed trends in the live birth rate and the death rate reported in the Vital Statistics of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the death rate, which was 25.4 per 1,000 population in 1920, declined significantly after 1920 and remained in the range of 6 from 1966, and then fell to 6.0 in 1979 and 1982. The death rate then went up, and continued to rise reaching 7.4 in 1995, 8.0 in 2003, and 8.6 in 2005 as society ages. Meanwhile, between 1947 and 1949, the live birth rate rose back to the level recorded in 1924 to 1928 of 33 to 34 births per 1,000 population, thanks to the first baby boom, but dropped sharply in 1950 to 1954, leveling off to around 17 and 18 between 1955 and 1970. The second baby boom from 1971 to 1974 pushed the live birth rate up to the 19 range, but the rate then showed a downtrend, dropping to 8.4 in 2005, which is the first time that the live birth rate has dropped below the death rate since the start of the statistics.

(Table 1.2, Figure 1.1)

**Figure 1.1 Trends in the Live Birth Rate, Death Rate and Natural Increase Rate: 1920 to 2005**



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

Note: The trend between 1944 and 1946 is excluded.

**Table 1.1 Trends in the Population, Population Change and Population Density : 1872 to 2005**

Year	Population <sup>1)</sup> (thousands)	Population change over five years		Population density (per km <sup>2</sup> )	Population index (1920=100)
		Number (thousands)	Rate (%)		
1872	34,806	-	-	91	62
1875	35,316	<sup>4)</sup> 510	<sup>4)</sup> 1.5	93	63
1880	36,649	1,333	3.8	96	65
1885	38,313	1,664	4.5	100	68
1890	39,902	1,589	4.1	105	71
1895	41,557	1,655	4.1	109	74
1900	43,847	2,290	5.5	115	78
1905	46,620	2,773	6.3	122	83
1910	49,184	2,564	5.5	129	88
1915	52,752	3,568	7.3	138	94
1920	55,963	3,211	6.1	147	100
1925	59,737	3,774	6.7	156	107
1930	64,450	4,713	7.9	169	115
1935	69,254	4,804	7.5	181	124
1940	<sup>2)</sup> 71,933	2,679	3.9	188	129
1945	<sup>3)</sup> 72,147	780	1.1	196	129
1950	84,115	<sup>5)</sup> 11,052	<sup>5)</sup> 15.3	226	150
1955	90,077	5,962	7.1	242	161
1960	94,302	4,225	4.7	253	169
1965	99,209	4,908	5.2	267	177
1970	104,665	5,456	5.5	281	187
1975	111,940	7,274	7.0	300	200
1980	117,060	5,121	4.6	314	209
1985	121,049	3,989	3.4	325	216
1990	123,611	2,562	2.1	332	221
1995	125,570	1,959	1.6	337	224
2000	126,926	1,356	1.1	340	227
2005	127,768	842	0.7	343	228

1) The figures for 1915 and before refer to the estimated population as of January 1 of the respective years by the Statistics Bureau of the Cabinet. Those for 1920 and thereafter refer to the population as of October 1. The figure for 1945, however, is as of November 1.

2) The population as corrected by subtracting 1,181 thousand, which is the estimated number of military and civilian personnel, etc. outside of Japan, from 73,114 thousand, which is the population reported in the Population Census.

3) The population count as corrected by adding 149 thousand, which is the estimated number of military personnel and foreign residents, to 71,998 thousand, which is the population reported in the 1945 Population Survey. Excludes Okinawa-ken.

4) Population increase over the three-year period.

5) Excludes Okinawa-ken.

Source: For the figures in and before 1915, "Population of Japan in and after 1872", Statistics Bureau of the Cabinet. For the figures between 1920 and 2005, the results of the Population Census or Population Survey.

**Table 1.2 Trends in the Live Birth Rate, Death Rate, Natural Increase Rate and Total Fertility Rate: 1920 to 2005**

Year <sup>1)</sup>	Live birth rate (per 1000 population)	Death rate (per 1000 population)	Natural increase rate (per 1000 population)	Total fertility rate
1920	36.2	25.4	10.8	-
1925	34.9	20.3	14.6	5.11
1930	32.4	18.2	14.2	4.72
1940	29.4	16.5	12.9	4.12
1950	28.1	10.9	17.2	3.65
1955	19.4	7.8	11.6	2.37
1960	17.2	7.6	9.6	2.00
1965	18.6	7.1	11.4	2.14
1970	18.8	6.9	11.8	2.13
1975	17.1	6.3	10.8	1.91
1980	13.6	6.2	7.3	1.75
1985	11.9	6.3	5.6	1.76
1990	10.0	6.7	3.3	1.54
1995	9.6	7.4	2.1	1.42
2000	9.5	7.7	1.8	1.36
2001	9.3	7.7	1.6	1.33
2002	9.2	7.8	1.4	1.32
2003	8.9	8.0	0.9	1.29
2004	8.8	8.2	0.7	1.29
2005	8.4	8.6	-0.2	1.26

1) Between 1950 and 1970, excludes Okinawa-ken.

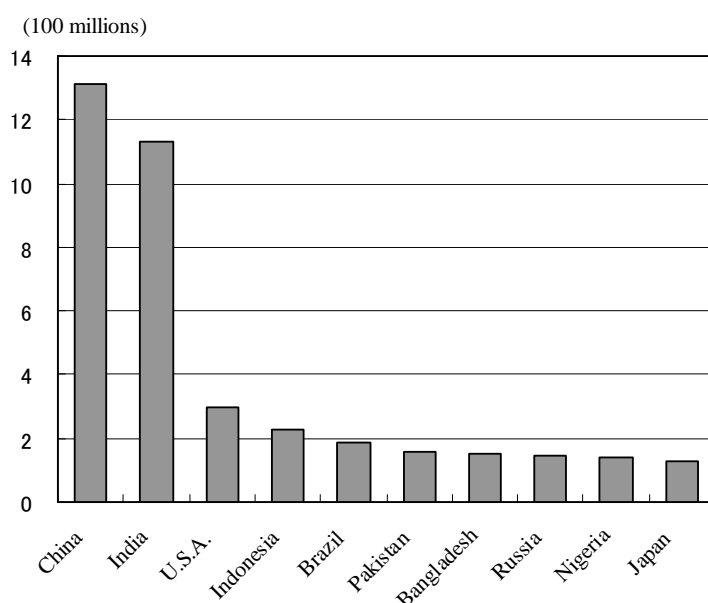
Source: "Vital Statistics", Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

## 2. Japan's Population from a Worldwide Perspective

### **The population of Japan ranks tenth in the world, dropping in rank.**

The United Nations estimates that the world population is 6.515 billion as of mid-2005, of which the total population of Japan accounts for 2.0%. According to the population of the respective countries reported in the U.N. estimates, China is the most populous country with 1.313 billion people, followed by India (1.134 billion), the United States (300 million), Indonesia (226 million), Brazil (187 million), Pakistan (158 million), Bangladesh (153 million), Russia (144 million), and Nigeria (141 million), next to which comes Japan, ranking tenth. (Table 1.3, Figure 1.2)

**Figure 1.2 International Comparison of Population: 2005**



Source: United Nations, *World Population Prospects, The 2006 Revision*. For Japan, based on the Population Census.

**Table 1.3 International Comparison of Population: 2005, 2025 and 2050**

Rank	2005			2025			2050		
	Country	Population (thousands)	Proportion to whole world population (%)	Country	Population (thousands)	Proportion to whole world population (%)	Country	Population (thousands)	Proportion to whole world population (%)
	World	6,514,751	100.0	World	8,010,509	100.0	World	9,191,287	100.0
1	China	1,312,979	20.2	India	1,447,499	18.1	India	1,658,270	18.0
2	India	1,134,403	17.4	China	1,445,782	18.0	China	1,408,846	15.3
3	U.S.A.	299,846	4.6	U.S.A.	354,930	4.4	U.S.A.	402,415	4.4
4	Indonesia	226,063	3.5	Indonesia	271,227	3.4	Indonesia	296,885	3.2
5	Brazil	186,831	2.9	Brazil	228,833	2.9	Pakistan	292,205	3.2
6	Pakistan	158,081	2.4	Pakistan	224,956	2.8	Nigeria	288,696	3.1
7	Bangladesh	153,281	2.4	Nigeria	210,129	2.6	Brazil	254,085	2.8
8	Russia	143,953	2.2	Bangladesh	206,024	2.6	Bangladesh	254,084	2.8
9	Nigeria	141,356	2.2	Russia	128,193	1.6	Congo	186,837	2.0
10	Japan	127,768	2.0	Ethiopia	124,996	1.6	Ethiopia	183,404	2.0
11	Mexico	104,266	1.6	Mexico	124,695	1.6	Philippines	140,466	1.5
12	Viet Nam	85,029	1.3	Japan	119,270	1.5	Mexico	132,278	1.4
13	Philippines	84,566	1.3	Philippines	115,878	1.4	Egypt	121,219	1.3
14	Germany	82,652	1.3	Congo	107,481	1.3	Viet Nam	119,971	1.3
15	Ethiopia	78,986	1.2	Viet Nam	106,357	1.3	Russia	107,832	1.2
16	Turkey	72,970	1.1	Egypt	98,513	1.2	Iran	100,174	1.1
17	Egypt	72,850	1.1	Turkey	89,557	1.1	Turkey	98,946	1.1
18	Iran	69,421	1.1	Iran	88,027	1.1	Japan	95,152	1.0
19	Thailand	63,003	1.0	Germany	80,341	1.0	Uganda	92,935	1.0
20	France	60,991	0.9	Thailand	68,803	0.9	Tanzania	85,077	0.9

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects, The 2006 Revision, Medium Variant.

For Japan, the figures for 2005 are based on the Population Census, and the figures for 2025 and 2050 are based on "Population Projections for Japan (December, 2006)", National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Medium Variant.

## CHAPTER II: POPULATION BY SEX AND AGE

### 1. Sex Ratio in Population

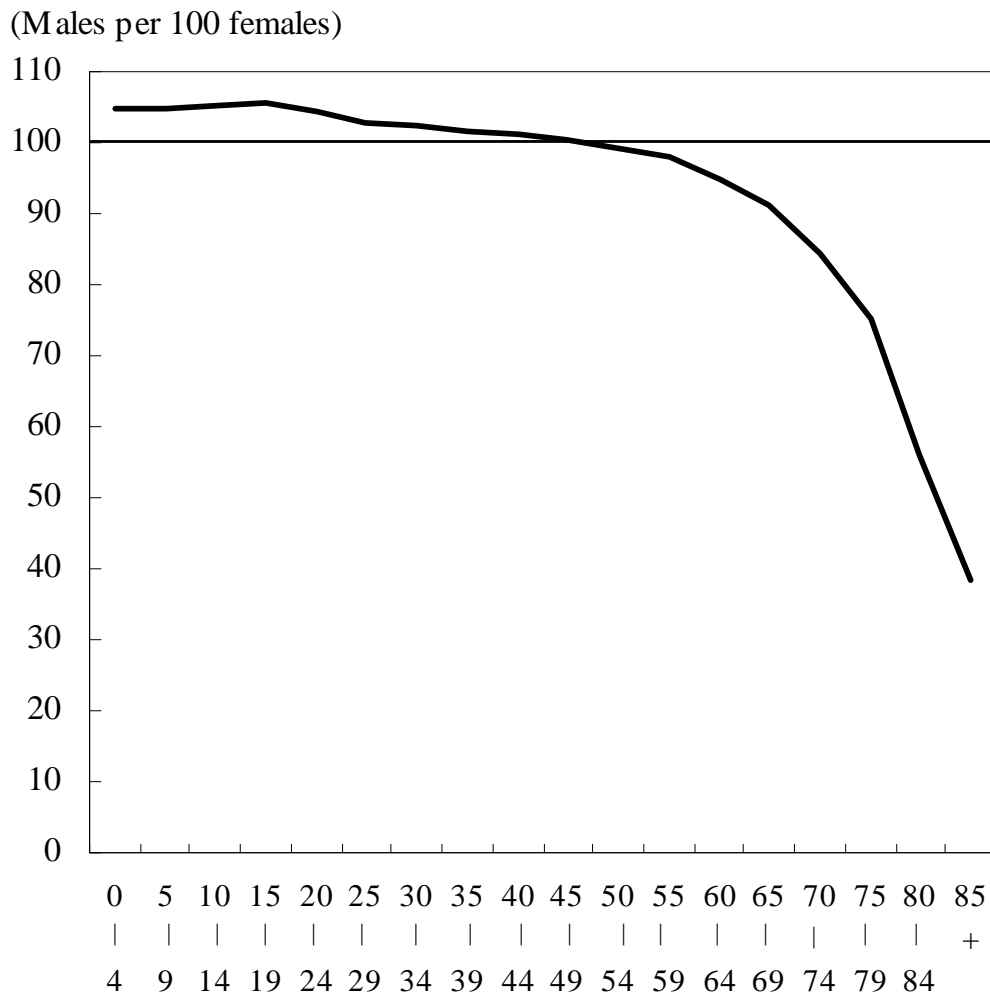
#### **Men and women match in number around the age of 50.**

Observing the population of Japan by sex as of October 1, 2005, the male population is 62.35 million and the female population is 65.42 million, revealing that women outnumber men by 3.07 million, bringing the sex ratio in population (the number of men for every 100 women) to 95.3.

According to observations on the sex ratio in population by five-year groups in 2005, the sex ratio is around 105 in every group for people under 20, but declines in groups for people aged 20 and over as age advances, and drops below 100 in every group for people aged 50 and over. This is because boys are born in greater number than girls with a live birth rate difference of 5 to 6%, and that men's death rate is higher than women's death rate in any age group, with the difference in death rate between the sexes widening as age advances.

(Table 2.1 and 2.2, Figure 2.1)

**Figure 2.1 Sex Ratio in Population by Age (Five-Year Groups): 2005**



### Sex ratios are low in Europe and are high in Asia.

Examining the sex ratios in population in other countries, the sex ratios are low in European countries and are high in Asian countries. Among European countries, Ukraine and Russia show particularly low figures of 85.8 and 86.6, respectively, and Poland (93.6), Portugal (93.6), Italy (94.4), etc. also show low sex ratios. Among Asian countries, Saudi Arabia has a particularly high figure of 123.5, and India (107.5), Afghanistan (107.5), China (106.8), Pakistan (106.0), etc. also have high sex ratios. Meanwhile, Japan's sex ratio, which is equal to that of Thailand, is at the lowest level in Asia (95.3). **(Table 2.3)**

**Table 2.1 Trends in the Population by Sex: 1920 to 2005**

Year	Population (thousands)		Sex ratio (Males per 100 females)
	Male	Female	
1920	28,044	27,919	100.4
1925	30,013	29,724	101.0
1930	32,390	32,060	101.0
1935	34,734	34,520	100.6
1940	36,566	36,548	100.0
1945 <sup>1)</sup>	33,894	38,104	89.0
1950	41,241	42,873	96.2
1955	44,243	45,834	96.5
1960	46,300	48,001	96.5
1965	48,692	50,517	96.4
1970	51,369	53,296	96.4
1975	55,091	56,849	96.9
1980	57,594	59,467	96.9
1985	59,497	61,552	96.7
1990	60,697	62,914	96.5
1995	61,574	63,996	96.2
2000	62,111	64,815	95.8
2005	62,349	65,419	95.3

1) Excludes Okinawa-ken.

**Table 2.2 Trends in the Sex Ratio in Population by Age (Five-Year Groups): 1920 to 2005**

Age	1920	1950	1975	2000	2005
All ages	100.4 <sup>1)</sup>	96.2 <sup>1)</sup>	96.9 <sup>1)</sup>	95.8 <sup>1)</sup>	95.3
0-4 years old	101.3	104.2	105.2	104.9	104.8
5-9	102.3	102.7	105.3	104.9	105.0
10-14	102.6	102.4	104.7	105.0	105.0
15-19	103.0	101.5	103.4	104.9	105.6
20-24	101.0	98.5	101.2	104.7	104.4
25-29	104.8	83.8	101.1	102.9	102.9
30-34	103.2	83.0	100.1	102.2	102.3
35-39	100.3	88.8	100.1	101.9	101.6
40-44	102.3	96.1	100.6	101.2	101.3
45-49	101.7	101.4	98.7	100.4	100.2
50-54	100.9	102.7	82.7	99.6	99.3
55-59	98.3	100.4	79.7	96.5	98.1
60-64	94.2	92.7	82.4	94.1	94.6
65-69	88.0	81.5	83.7	89.6	91.2
70-74	80.4	72.8	80.4	82.7	84.5
75-79	69.9	63.9	72.2	64.4	75.0
80-84	60.2	52.9	61.4	53.9	55.8
85 and over	48.1	43.0	45.7	41.4	38.3

1) Includes "Age not reported".

**Table 2.3 Sex Ratio in Population of Selected Countries: 2005**

Country	Sex ratio	Country	Sex ratio	Country	Sex ratio
<b>Asia</b>		<b>North America</b>		Greece	98.0
China	106.8	U.S.A.	96.8	Portugal	93.6
India	107.5	Canada	98.1	Belgium	95.9
Indonesia	99.9			Sweden	98.3
Pakistan	106.0	<b>South America</b>		Norway	98.5
Bangladesh	104.9	Brazil	97.4		
		Mexico	95.4	<b>Africa</b>	
Japan	95.3	Colombia	97.0	Nigeria	99.7
Viet Nam	100.0	Argentina	95.7	Ethiopia	98.9
Philippines	101.4	Peru	100.4	Egypt	100.3
Turkey	101.6	Venezuela	101.1	Congo	97.9
Iran	102.9			South Africa	96.6
		<b>Europe</b>			
Thailand	95.3	Russia	86.6	Tanzania	98.8
Myanmar	98.1	Germany	95.6	Sudan	101.4
Korea	100.0	France	95.0	Kenya	99.3
Iraq	102.3	U.K.	95.8	Algeria	101.9
Nepal	98.2	Italy	94.4	Morocco	96.9
Uzbekistan	98.9	Ukraine	85.8	<b>Oceania</b>	
Malaysia	103.3	Spain	97.1	Australia	98.9
Afghanistan	107.5	Poland	93.6	New Zealand	96.9
Saudi Arabia	123.5	Romania	95.0		
Yemen	102.5	Netherlands	97.8		

Source: United Nations, *World Population Prospects, The 2006 Revision*.  
For Japan, based on the 2005 Population Census.

## 2. Population Pyramid

### Gourd-shaped population pyramid

The change in age composition in the population of Japan is clearly reflected in the changing shape of its population pyramid.

Until the post-World War II year of 1950, the population pyramid of Japan was shaped like Mt. Fuji, with a broad base of younger people in the population in those days. The live birth rate then started to drop sharply after 1950, with the population pyramid becoming pot-shaped in 1960, which indicates a population decline. Afterward, due to a gradual rise in the live birth rate from 1962 to 1973, the base of the population pyramid widened, turning the pyramid into a star-shaped. Marking its peak in 1973, the live birth rate then declined again, and the population pyramid became gourd-shaped with two bulging portions.

Regarding the population pyramids of other countries, that of the United States is bell-shaped with a hollow that represents young age groups, and that of Italy is pot-shaped, reflecting a decrease in the child population due to the declining live birth rate. The population pyramid of the United Kingdom is somewhere between the above two shapes. The population pyramid of India is similar to Mt. Fuji in shape, although the live birth rate of the country has been falling in recent years. **(Figure 2.2)**





### 3. Population by Three Age Groups

#### **The aged population is approximately 1.5 times the child population.**

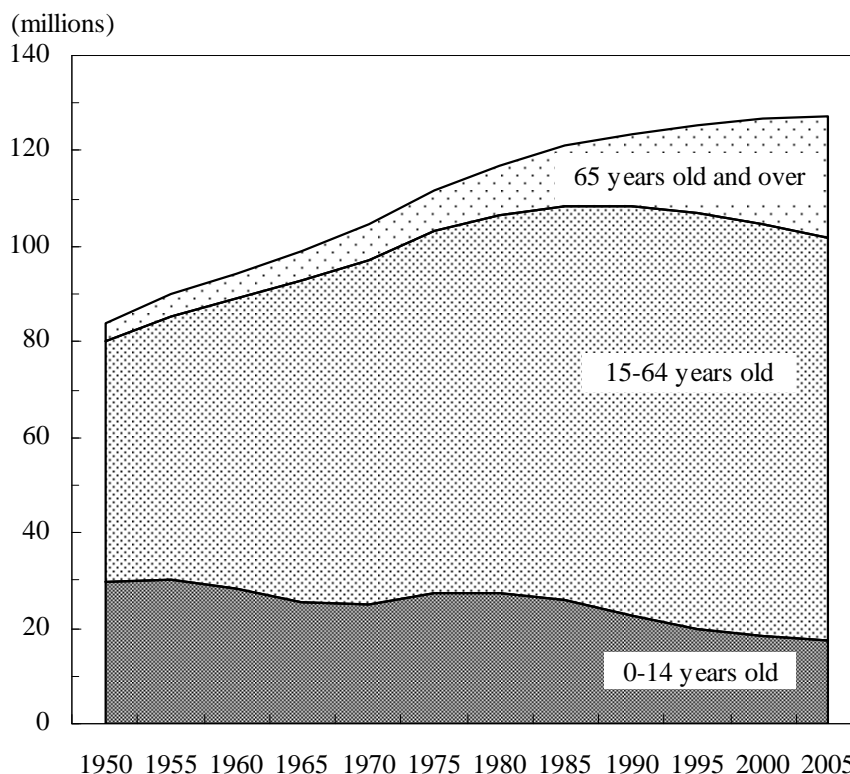
Regarding the population distribution among three age groups in Japan in 2005, the population aged 0 to 14 (child population) is 17.52 million, the population aged 15 to 64 (productive-age population) is 84.09 million, and the population aged 65 and over (aged population) is 25.67 million, accounting for 13.7%, 65.8%, and 20.1% of the total population, respectively. Comparing these figures with those from 2000 demonstrates that the child population has decreased by 0.95 million (5.1%) and so has the productive-age population by 2.13 million (2.5%) while, in contrast, the aged population has increased by 3.67 million (16.7%). As a result, the aged population now greatly exceeds the child population, by a factor of 1.5 times. Observing the proportion of population between the three age groups, both the child population and productive-age population have dropped while the aged population has climbed.

It is estimated that the proportion of the aged population to the total population will continue to increase, reaching 29.2% by 2020 and 39.6% by 2050. (Tables 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, Figure 2.3)

#### **The proportion of the child population is 13.7%.**

The child population was 29.79 million, accounting for 35.4% of the total population, in 1950, the year immediately after the first baby boom, but dropped to 24.0% in 1970. Afterward, a surge in child births during the second baby boom pushed up the proportion of the child population to 24.3% in 1975. Since 1980, however, the proportion of the child population has continued to fall due to the decreasing live birth rate, etc., shrinking to 14.6% in 2000, and to 13.7% in 2005. (Table 2.4, Figure 2.3)

**Figure 2.3 Trends in the Distribution of the Population by Age (3 Groups)**  
: 1950 to 2005



**Table 2.4 Trends in the Population by Age (3 Groups): 1920 to 2005**

Year	Population (thousands)				Proportion (%)			
	All ages <sup>1)</sup>	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over	All ages <sup>1)</sup>	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over
1920	55,963	20,416	32,605	2,941	100.0	36.5	58.3	5.3
1925	59,737	21,924	34,792	3,021	100.0	36.7	58.2	5.1
1930	64,450	23,579	37,807	3,064	100.0	36.6	58.7	4.8
1935	69,254	25,545	40,484	3,225	100.0	36.9	58.5	4.7
1940 <sup>2)</sup>	73,075	26,369	43,252	3,454	100.0	36.1	59.2	4.7
1945 <sup>3)</sup>	71,998	26,477	41,821	3,700	100.0	36.8	58.1	5.1
1950	84,115	29,786	50,168	4,155	100.0	35.4	59.6	4.9
1955	90,077	30,123	55,167	4,786	100.0	33.4	61.2	5.3
1960	94,302	28,434	60,469	5,398	100.0	30.2	64.1	5.7
1965	99,209	25,529	67,444	6,236	100.0	25.7	68.0	6.3
1970	104,665	25,153	72,119	7,393	100.0	24.0	68.9	7.1
1975	111,940	27,221	75,807	8,865	100.0	24.3	67.7	7.9
1980	117,060	27,507	78,835	10,647	100.0	23.5	67.3	9.1
1985	121,049	26,033	82,506	12,468	100.0	21.5	68.2	10.3
1990	123,611	22,486	85,904	14,895	100.0	18.2	69.5	12.0
1995	125,570	20,014	87,165	18,261	100.0	15.9	69.4	14.5
2000	126,926	18,472	86,220	22,005	100.0	14.6	67.9	17.3
2005	127,768	17,521	84,092	25,672	100.0	13.7	65.8	20.1

1) For the figures from 1940, 1950 to 1965 and 1975 to 2005 includes "Age not reported".

2) Excludes foreigners residents of nationalities other than those of Korea, Taiwan, Karafuto and Nanyo-gunto.

3) Excludes Okinawa-ken.

**Table 2.5 Trends in Population Change by Age (3 Groups): 1920 to 2005**

Year	Number of change (thousands)				Change rate (%)			
	All ages <sup>1)</sup>	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over	All ages <sup>1)</sup>	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over
1920 - 1925	3,774	1,508	2,186	80	6.7	7.4	6.7	2.7
1925 - 1930	4,713	1,655	3,015	43	7.9	7.5	8.7	1.4
1930 - 1935	4,804	1,966	2,677	161	7.5	8.3	7.1	5.3
1935 - 1940 <sup>2)</sup>	3,821	824	2,768	229	5.5	3.2	6.8	7.1
1940 - 1945 <sup>2)3)</sup>	-502	342	-1,130	286	-0.7	1.3	-2.6	8.4
1945 - 1950 <sup>3)</sup>	11,202	2,951	7,837	409	15.6	11.1	18.7	11.1
1950 - 1955	5,962	336	4,998	631	7.1	1.1	10.0	15.2
1955 - 1960	4,225	-1,689	5,303	612	4.7	-5.6	9.6	12.8
1960 - 1965	4,908	-2,905	6,975	838	5.2	-10.2	11.5	15.5
1965 - 1970	5,456	-376	4,675	1,158	5.5	-1.5	6.9	18.6
1970 - 1975	7,274	2,068	3,688	1,472	7.0	8.2	5.1	19.9
1975 - 1980	5,121	286	3,027	1,782	4.6	1.1	4.0	20.1
1980 - 1985	3,989	-1,474	3,671	1,821	3.4	-5.4	4.7	17.1
1985 - 1990	2,562	-3,547	3,398	2,426	2.1	-13.6	4.1	19.5
1990 - 1995	1,959	-2,473	1,261	3,366	1.6	-11.0	1.5	22.6
1995 - 2000	1,356	-1,541	-945	3,744	1.1	-7.7	-1.1	20.5
2000 - 2005	842	-951	-2,127	3,667	0.7	-5.1	-2.5	16.7

1) For the figures from 1940, 1950 to 1965 and 1975 to 2005, includes "Age not reported".

2) The figures for 1940 exclude foreigners residents of nationalities other than those of Korea, Taiwan, Karafuto and Nanyo-gunto.

3) Excludes Okinawa-ken.

**Table 2.6 Population Projections by Age (3 Groups): 2010 to 2050**

Age (3 groups)	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
Population (thousands)					
All ages	127,176	122,735	115,224	105,695	95,152
0-14 years old	16,479	13,201	11,150	9,833	8,214
15-64	81,285	73,635	67,404	57,335	49,297
65 and over	29,412	35,899	36,670	38,527	37,641
Proportion (%)					
All ages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0-14 years old	13.0	10.8	9.7	9.3	8.6
15-64	63.9	60.0	58.5	54.2	51.8
65 and over	23.1	29.2	31.8	36.5	39.6

Source: "Population Projections for Japan (December, 2006)", National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Medium Variant.

### CHAPTER III: MARITAL STATUS

#### 1. Proportion by Marital Status

##### **The never-married rate is high among men.**

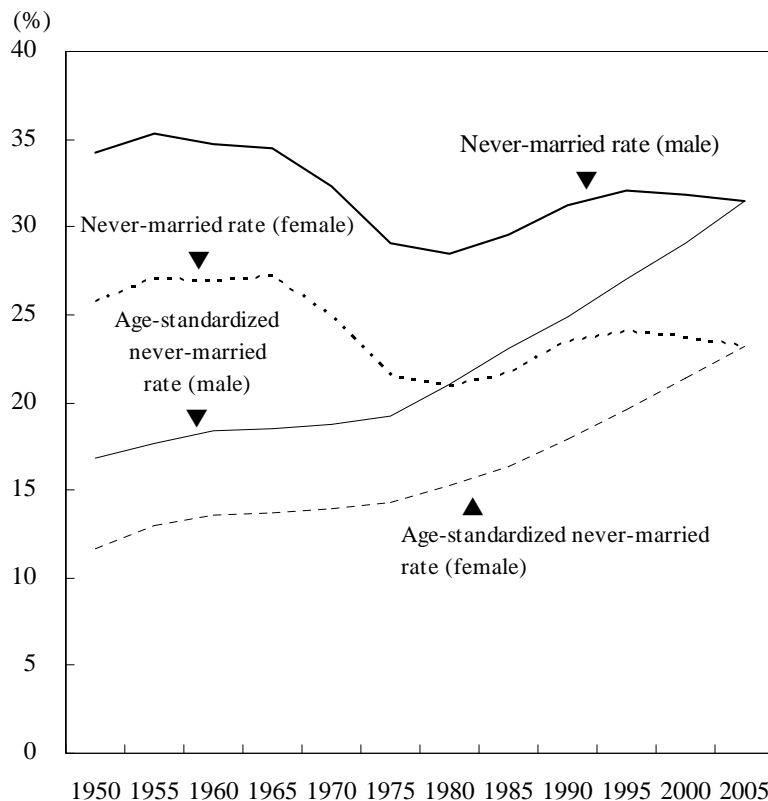
According to the population aged 15 years of age and over (53.09 million men and 56.68 million women) by marital status that is reported in the 2005 Population Census, the number of married men is 32.26 million and that of married women is 32.32 million, accounting for 60.8% and 57.0% of the population aged 15 years of age and over, respectively (married rate). The proportion of the never-married population (never-married rate) is 31.4% among men and 23.2% among women, showing a higher rate among men. This is mainly because the age at which men first marry is higher than that of women, leading to a large proportion of never-married younger men. (Table 3.1)

##### **Divorce rate is rising in both men and women while never-married rate and married rate are falling.**

The trends in the proportion of the population 15 years of age and over by marital status indicate that in both men and women, the never-married rate started declining in 2000 and so did the married rate from 1985 as the widowed rate, which had leveled off in recent years, started rising again in 1995. The divorce rate showed little fluctuation until 1975, but started rising in 1980 in both men and women as a result of an increase in divorce cases in recent years.

In the proportion by marital status that is standardized on the assumption that the age composition of the population of Japan for each year is the same as that of 2005, in both men and women, the never-married rate and divorce rate show an upward trend, while the married rate and widowed rate show a downward trend. (Tables 3.1 and 3.2, Figure 3.1)

**Figure 3.1 Trends in the Never-Married Rate by Sex: 1950 to 2005**



**Table 3.1 Trends in the Proportion of the Population 15 Years of Age and Over by Marital Status: 1920 to 2005**

(%)

Sex and year	Proportion by marital status				Proportion by marital status after age-standardization			
	Never-married	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Never-married	Married	Widowed	Divorced
<b>Male</b>								
1920	29.3	62.9	6.0	1.9	15.5	69.8	12.7	2.0
1925	30.0	62.6	5.7	1.8	15.1	70.3	12.7	2.0
1930	32.3	60.9	5.4	1.4	16.1	69.7	12.5	1.6
1935	33.2	60.1	5.4	1.4	17.0	69.1	12.3	1.6
1940	35.0	58.7	6.3 <sup>1)</sup>		18.3	68.3	13.5 <sup>1)</sup>	
1950	34.3	60.3	4.5	0.9	16.8	71.1	11.0	1.0
1955	35.3	59.7	4.1	0.9	17.7	71.0	10.2	1.1
1960	34.8	60.8	3.5	0.9	18.4	71.6	8.8	1.1
1965	34.5	61.7	3.0	0.8	18.5	72.8	7.6	1.0
1970	32.4	64.1	2.7	0.8	18.7	73.7	6.5	1.0
1975	29.1	67.4	2.6	0.9	19.2	73.9	5.7	1.1
1980	28.5	67.6	2.4	1.2	21.0	72.6	4.9	1.3
1985	29.6	66.2	2.4	1.6	23.1	70.8	4.3	1.6
1990	31.2	63.8	2.4	1.8	24.9	68.9	3.7	1.9
1995	32.1	62.6	2.5	2.2	27.0	66.7	3.4	2.2
2000	31.8	61.8	2.7	2.7	29.0	64.0	3.1	2.7
2005	31.4	60.8	2.9	3.3	31.4	60.8	2.9	3.3
<b>Female</b>								
1920	18.7	63.1	15.8	2.4	8.9	56.8	32.1	2.3
1925	19.1	63.0	15.6	2.3	8.4	56.9	32.4	2.2
1930	21.2	61.4	15.5	1.9	9.3	56.3	32.6	1.9
1935	22.6	60.2	15.4	1.8	10.1	55.6	32.4	1.8
1940	24.9	58.2	17.0 <sup>1)</sup>		11.2	54.6	34.1 <sup>1)</sup>	
1950	25.7	56.2	16.1	1.9	11.6	53.4	33.1	1.9
1955	27.1	55.7	15.2	2.0	12.9	53.3	31.8	2.0
1960	26.9	56.7	14.2	2.1	13.6	54.1	29.9	2.3
1965	27.1	57.9	13.1	1.9	13.7	55.8	28.3	2.1
1970	24.9	60.2	12.8	2.1	13.9	57.1	26.8	2.3
1975	21.5	63.7	12.7	2.1	14.3	58.7	24.8	2.2
1980	20.9	64.0	12.4	2.5	15.2	59.5	22.4	2.6
1985	21.7	62.5	12.7	3.0	16.4	59.7	20.7	3.0
1990	23.4	60.4	12.3	3.2	17.9	59.8	18.4	3.3
1995	24.0	59.1	12.7	3.7	19.6	59.3	16.9	3.7
2000	23.7	58.2	13.0	4.4	21.3	58.4	15.1	4.4
2005	23.2	57.0	13.5	5.2	23.2	57.0	13.5	5.2

1) Total of "Widowed" and "Divorced".

Note: The calculation for the standardization was conducted by considering the nationwide population 15 years of age and over by sex and age (five-year groups) as of 2005 to be standard population. In short, the purpose of calculation is to observe how the proportions by marital status would change if the age composition of the population 15 years of age and over is assumed to be identical to that of 2005.

**Table 3.2 Trends in the Number of Marriages and Divorces: 1950 to 2005**

(thousands)

Item	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
Number of marriages	715	866	1,029	942	775	736	722	792	798	714
Number of divorces	84	69	96	119	142	167	158	199	264	262

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

## CHAPTER IV: LABOUR FORCE STATUS

### 1. Trends in the Population in Labour Force

**Japan's population in labour force is 65.40 million, showing a labour force participation rate of 61.5%.**

According to the status of economic activities of the population 15 years of age and over reported in the 2005 Population Census, out of 109.76 million aged 15 years and over, 61.51 million are employed and 3.89 million are unemployed. The labour force consisting of the employed and the unemployed is, therefore, 65.40 million, which is a labour force participation rate of 61.5% (proportion of the population in labour force among the population 15 years of age and over, excluding "labour force status not reported"). Examining these figures by sex gives a male labour force of 38.29 million, or male labour participation rate of 75.3%, and female labour force of 27.11 million, or female labour participation rate of 48.8%.

(Tables 4.1 and 4.2)

**Labour force declined by 1.1%.**

Comparing the population in labour force in 2005 with that in 2000 shows that the labour force shrank by 0.7 million or 1.1% from 2000 to 2005.

Japan's labour force increased by over 4 million in every five-year period during the high-growth period from 1955 to 1970, with a high increase rate in each five-year period of 9 to 10%. This growth had slowed by 1975 in the wake of the economic slump triggered by the oil crisis in 1973: from 1970 to 1975 the labour force increased by only 1.07 million or 2.0%. From 1980, the labour force increased by 2.84 to 3.42 million, or around 5%, in every five-year period, but decreased in 2000 for the first time since the end of World War II, and the downtrend has continued to 2005.

(Table 4.3)

**Table 4.1 Trends in the Population 15 Years of Age and Over by Sex and Labour Force Status: 1995 to 2005**

Sex and labour force status	Population 15 years of age and over (thousands)			Population change over five years			
	1995	2000	2005	Number (thousands)		Rate (%)	
				1995-2000	2000-2005	1995-2000	2000-2005
Both sexes <sup>1)</sup>	105,426	108,225	109,764	2,799	1,540	2.7	1.4
In labour force	67,018	66,098	65,400	-920	-698	-1.4	-1.1
Employed	64,142	62,978	61,506	-1,164	-1,472	-1.8	-2.3
Unemployed	2,876	3,120	3,894	243	774	8.5	24.8
Not in labour force	37,881	40,386	41,008	2,505	621	6.6	1.5
Male <sup>1)</sup>	51,239	52,503	53,086	1,264	582	2.5	1.1
In labour force	40,397	39,250	38,290	-1,146	-960	-2.8	-2.4
Employed	38,529	37,249	35,735	-1,280	-1,513	-3.3	-4.1
Unemployed	1,868	2,001	2,555	134	553	7.2	27.6
Not in labour force	10,490	12,080	12,568	1,589	488	15.2	4.0
Female <sup>1)</sup>	54,186	55,721	56,679	1,535	958	2.8	1.7
In labour force	26,621	26,848	27,110	226	262	0.8	1.0
Employed	25,613	25,729	25,771	117	41	0.5	0.2
Unemployed	1,009	1,118	1,339	109	221	10.9	19.7
Not in labour force	27,391	28,307	28,440	916	133	3.3	0.5

1) Includes "Labour force status not reported".

**Table 4.2 Trends in Labour Force, Not in Labour Force and Labour Force Participation Rate by Sex :1950 to 2005**

(thousands)

Year	Both sexes			Male			Female		
	Labour Force	Not in labour force	Labour force participation rate (%) <sup>1)</sup>	Labour Force	Not in labour force	Labour force participation rate (%) <sup>1)</sup>	Labour Force	Not in labour force	Labour force participation rate (%) <sup>1)</sup>
1950 <sup>2)</sup>	36,748	19,407	65.4	22,579	4,461	83.5	14,169	14,947	48.7
1955 <sup>3)</sup>	40,360	19,609	67.3	24,617	4,287	85.2	15,744	15,322	50.7
1960	44,384	21,472	67.4	27,018	4,756	85.0	17,367	16,716	51.0
1965	48,627	25,031	66.0	29,693	5,993	83.2	18,933	19,038	49.9
1970	53,321	26,188	67.1	32,467	6,042	84.3	20,854	20,146	50.9
1975	54,390 <sup>4)</sup>	30,283	64.2 <sup>4)</sup>	34,306	6,806	83.4 <sup>4)</sup>	20,084	23,477	46.1
1980	57,231	32,099	64.1	35,647	7,744	82.2	21,584	24,355	47.0
1985	60,391	34,407	63.7	37,072	8,964	80.5	23,319	25,443	47.8
1990	63,595	36,786	63.4	38,523	10,183	79.1	25,073	26,603	48.5
1995	67,018	37,881	63.9	40,397	10,490	79.4	26,621	27,391	49.3
2000	66,098	40,386	62.1	39,250	12,080	76.5	26,848	28,307	48.7
2005	65,400	41,008	61.5	38,290	12,568	75.3	27,110	28,440	48.8

1) Labour force participation rate = labour force / (labour force + not in labour force) × 100

2) Population 14 years of age and over excluding Japanese in Okinawa-ken who have legal residence in mainland Japan and foreigners in Okinawa-ken.

3) The figures for Okinawa-ken refer to the population 14 years of age and over based on the results of sample tabulation.

4) Includes "Labour force status not reported".

**Table 4.3 Trends in Population Increase and the Number of Change in Labour Force: 1950 to 2005**

Year	Number of Change (thousands)					Change rate (%)				
	Total population	Population 15 years of age and over	Labour force			Total population	Population 15 years of age and over	Labour force		
			Both sexes	Male	Female			Both sexes	Male	Female
1950 - 1955	5,962 <sup>1)2)</sup>	3,812 <sup>1)2)</sup>	3,613 <sup>1)2)</sup>	2,038 <sup>1)2)</sup>	1,575 <sup>1)2)</sup>	7.1 <sup>1)2)</sup>	6.8 <sup>1)2)</sup>	9.8 <sup>1)2)</sup>	9.0 <sup>1)2)</sup>	11.1 <sup>1)2)</sup>
1955 - 1960	4,225 <sup>2)</sup>	5,898 <sup>2)</sup>	4,024 <sup>2)</sup>	2,401 <sup>2)</sup>	1,623 <sup>2)</sup>	4.7 <sup>2)</sup>	9.8 <sup>2)</sup>	10.0 <sup>2)</sup>	9.8 <sup>2)</sup>	10.3 <sup>2)</sup>
1960 - 1965	4,908	7,812	4,242	2,676	1,567	5.2	11.9	9.6	9.9	9.0
1965 - 1970	5,456	5,832	4,694	2,773	1,921	5.5	7.9	9.7	9.3	10.1
1970 - 1975	7,274	5,160	1,069	1,839	-770	7.0	6.5	2.0	5.7	-3.7
1975 - 1980	5,121	4,809	2,841	1,341	1,501	4.6	5.7	5.2	3.9	7.5
1980 - 1985	3,989	5,492	3,159	1,425	1,734	3.4	6.1	5.5	4.0	8.0
1985 - 1990	2,562	5,824	3,205	1,451	1,754	2.1	6.1	5.3	3.9	7.5
1990 - 1995	1,959	4,627	3,423	1,874	1,549	1.6	4.6	5.4	4.9	6.2
1995 - 2000	1,356	2,799	-920	-1,146	226	1.1	2.7	-1.4	-2.8	0.8
2000 - 2005	842	1,540	-698	-960	262	0.7	1.4	-1.1	-2.4	1.0

1) The figures for 1950 refer to the population 14 years of age and over excluding Japanese in Okinawa-ken who have legal residence in mainland Japan and foreigners in Okinawa-ken.

2) The figures for Okinawa-ken for 1955 refer to the population 14 years of age and over based on the results of sample tabulation.

2. Labour Force Participation Rate by Sex and Age Group

**The labour force participation rate among men is in a downtrend.**

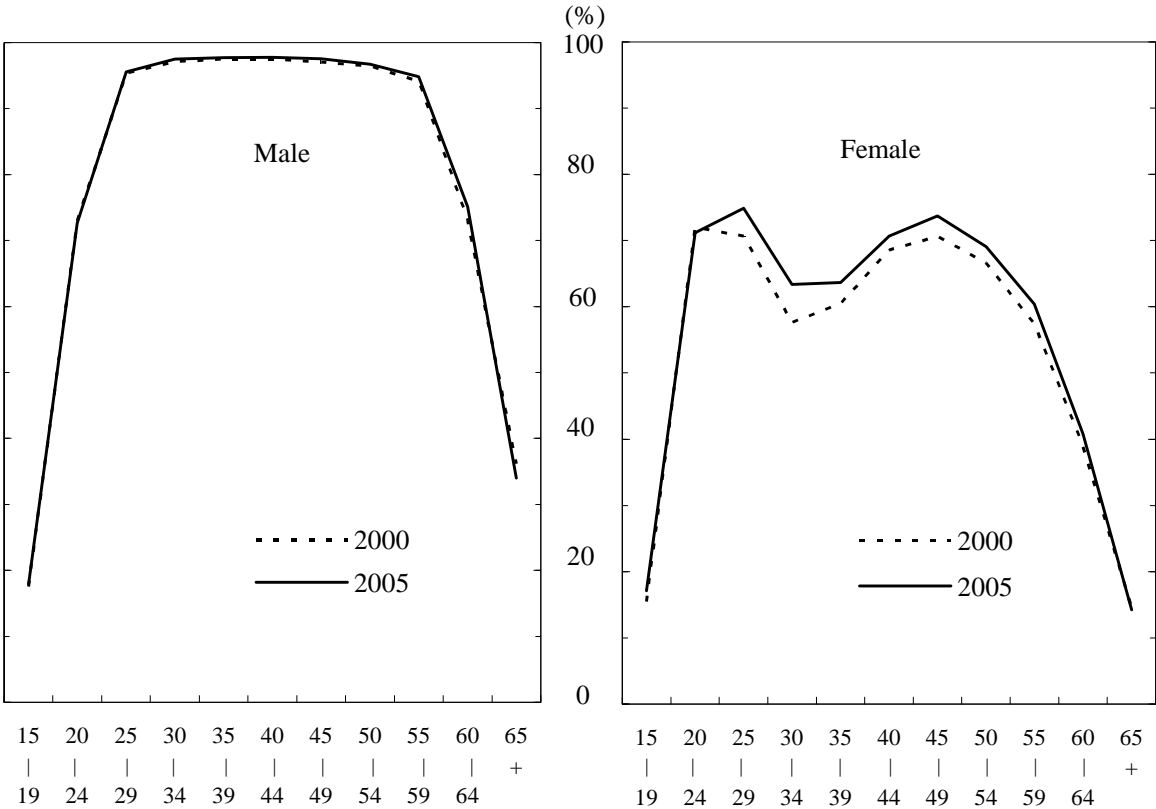
From 2000 to 2005, the population not in labour force increased while the labour force decreased, reducing the labour force participation rate from 62.1% to 61.5%, or a 0.6 point drop. Examining the labour force participation rate by sex indicates that the rate among men decreased from 76.5% in 2000 to 75.3% in 2005, or a 1.2 point drop, whereas the rate among women remained almost flat, changing from 48.7% to 48.8% in the same period. In the long view, the labour force participation rate among men has been in a downtrend steadily, from 84.3% in 1970. Among women, the rate continued to rise, from 46.1% in 1975, but then started to fall slightly after reaching 49.3% in 1995. **(Table 4.4)**

**The labour force participation rate among women is rising in respective age groups among people 25 to 64 years old.**

Comparing the labour force participation rate by age group in 2005 with that in 2000 reveals that in men, the rate among the 60 to 64 year-old age group rose by 2.1 points, and the rate among the age group of 65 and over dropped by 2.1 points. In general, however, each age group in men shows no big change in the labour force participation rate. Among women, the labour force participation rate dropped in the age group of 20 to 24 years old and of 65 and over, while it rose in respective age groups among people 25 to 64 years old. In particular, the rate among the 30 to 34 year-old age group went up from 57.6% in 2000 to 63.4% in 2005, a 5.8 point rise, and the rate among the 25 to 29 year-old group went up from 70.7% in 2000 to 74.9% in 2005, a 4.2 point rise. This has lifted the bottom of the M-shaped curve.

**(Table 4.4, Figure 4.1)**

**Figure 4.1 Labour Force Participation Rate by Sex and Age (Five-Year Groups)**  
: 2000 and 2005





**Table 4.4 Trends in Labour Force Participation Rate by Age (Five-Year Groups) and Sex: 1975 to 2005 (%)**

Age (five-year groups)	Male							Female						
	1975 <sup>1)</sup>	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	1975 <sup>1)</sup>	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
Total	83.4	82.2	80.5	79.1	79.4	76.5	75.3	46.1	47.0	47.8	48.5	49.3	48.7	48.8
15-19 years old	23.3	20.4	19.3	20.0	18.8	17.5	17.9	22.6	18.8	17.4	17.4	15.7	15.5	17.1
20-24	79.1	74.9	75.0	76.1	76.4	72.9	72.7	66.8	71.3	73.4	75.9	74.6	72.0	71.2
25-29	97.8	97.7	97.5	97.5	96.9	95.4	95.6	43.5	49.5	54.2	61.5	66.7	70.7	74.9
30-34	98.8	98.7	98.5	98.6	98.3	97.1	97.5	43.2	46.6	49.3	50.8	53.4	57.6	63.4
35-39	98.7	98.7	98.6	98.6	98.5	97.5	97.7	52.8	55.6	58.0	59.5	59.4	60.5	63.7
40-44	98.4	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.4	97.5	97.8	59.7	61.9	65.8	66.8	67.5	68.6	70.7
45-49	98.1	98.0	98.1	98.2	98.2	97.0	97.6	61.9	62.4	65.9	68.4	69.3	70.6	73.7
50-54	97.5	97.4	97.1	97.4	97.7	96.5	96.7	58.6	58.8	59.8	63.1	65.2	66.6	69.1
55-59	94.7	94.0	93.2	94.3	95.5	94.1	94.8	50.9	50.8	49.9	51.6	56.0	57.4	60.4
60-64	85.4	81.5	78.4	76.5	79.5	73.1	75.1	39.2	38.9	37.9	37.5	38.9	38.9	40.8
65 and over	49.7	46.1	41.7	39.7	42.1	36.2	34.0	15.8	16.2	15.3	15.0	15.8	14.6	14.2

1) The calculation was made by including "Labour force status not reported" in denominators.

## CHAPTER V: INDUSTRIAL COMPOSITION OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

### 1. Trends in the Distribution of Employed Persons among Three industrial Groups

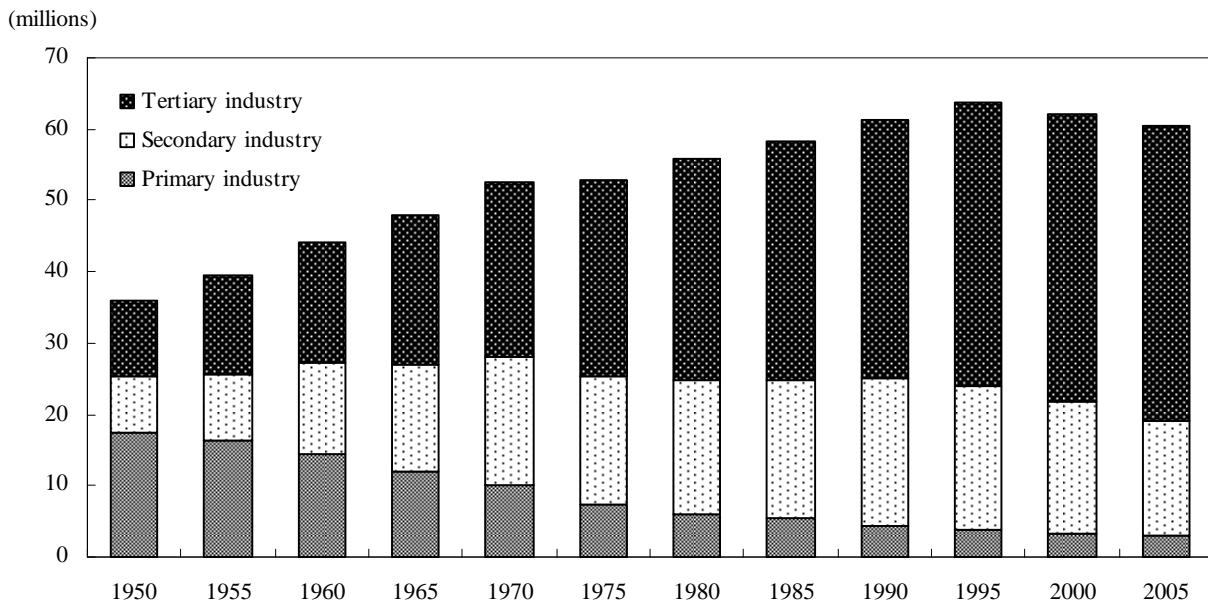
**Employed persons in the secondary industry are declining sharply.**

Regarding the distribution of the total of 61.51 million employed persons 15 years of age and over among the three industrial groups in 2005, employed persons in the primary industry consisting of agriculture, forestry and fisheries numbers 2.97 million, those in the secondary industry consisting of mining, construction and manufacturing numbers 16.07 million, and those in the tertiary industry consisting of transport, wholesale and retail trade, and finance and insurance, etc. numbers 41.33 million. The proportions of employed persons in the three industrial groups are 4.8%, 26.1%, and 67.2%, respectively. **(Table 5.1)**

**The proportion of employed persons in the tertiary industry is rising.**

According to the trends in the proportion of employed persons by industry, in 1920 when the first Population Census was conducted, the primary industry accounted for 53.8%, the secondary industry for 20.5%, and the tertiary industry for 23.7%, showing the dominance of the primary industry. In the post-World War II year of 1950, the primary industry accounted for 48.5%, the secondary industry for 21.8%, and the tertiary industry for 29.6%. The industrial composition then shifted with high economic growth, and the proportion of employed persons in the tertiary industry kept rising, surpassing 50% to 51.8% in 1975, 64.3% in 2000, and 67.2% in 2005. **(Table 5.1, Figure 5.1)**

**Figure 5.1 Trends in the Distribution of the Number of Employed Persons 15 Years of Age and Over by Industry (3 Groups): 1950 to 2005**



**Table 5.1 Trends in the Number of Employed Persons 15 Years of Age and Over by Industry (3 Groups): 1920 to 2005**

Year	Employed persons (thousands)				Proportion (%)			
	Total <sup>1)</sup>	Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry	Total <sup>1)</sup>	Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry
1920 <sup>2)</sup>	27,261	14,672	5,598	6,464	100.0	53.8	20.5	23.7
1930 <sup>2)</sup>	29,620	14,711	6,002	8,836	100.0	49.7	20.3	29.8
1940 <sup>3)</sup>	32,483	14,392	8,443	9,429	100.0	44.3	26.0	29.0
1950 <sup>4)</sup>	36,025	17,478	7,838	10,671	100.0	48.5	21.8	29.6
1955 <sup>5)</sup>	39,590	16,291	9,247	14,051	100.0	41.1	23.4	35.5
1960	44,042	14,389	12,804	16,841	100.0	32.7	29.1	38.2
1965	47,960	11,857	15,115	20,969	100.0	24.7	31.5	43.7
1970	52,593	10,146	17,897	24,511	100.0	19.3	34.0	46.6
1975	53,141	7,347	18,106	27,521	100.0	13.8	34.1	51.8
1980	55,811	6,102	18,737	30,911	100.0	10.9	33.6	55.4
1985	58,357	5,412	19,334	33,444	100.0	9.3	33.1	57.3
1990	61,682	4,391	20,548	36,421	100.0	7.1	33.3	59.0
1995	64,142	3,820	20,247	39,642	100.0	6.0	31.6	61.8
2000	62,978	3,173	18,571	40,485	100.0	5.0	29.5	64.3
2005	61,506	2,966	16,065	41,329	100.0	4.8	26.1	67.2

1) Includes "Establishments not adequately described".

2) Gainful workers of all ages.

3) Gainful workers of all ages excluding military personnel and foreigners who have other nationality than Korea, Taiwan, Karafuto and Nanyo-gunto.

4) Employed persons 14 years of age and over. Excludes Japanese in Okinawa-ken who have legal residence in mainland Japan and foreigners in Okinawa-ken.

5) The figures for Okinawa-ken are employed persons 14 years of age and over based on the results of sample tabulation.

## CHAPTER VI: OCCUPATIONAL COMPOSITION OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

### 1. Occupational Composition and Its Trends by Four Groups of Occupation

#### **Employed persons are decreasing in three occupational groups excluding ‘sales and service occupations’.**

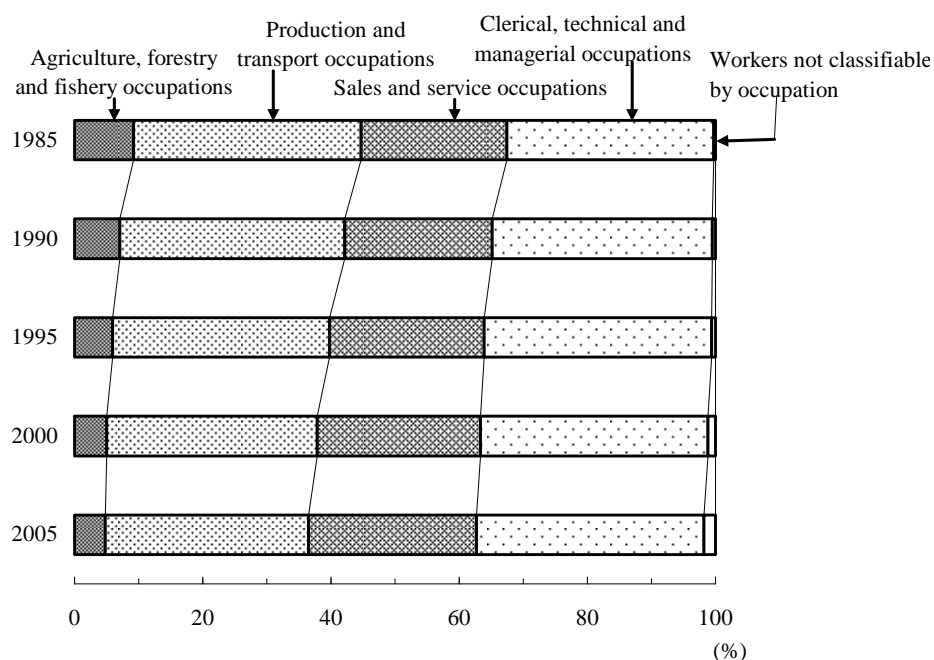
Regarding the distribution of the total of 61.51 million employed persons 15 years of age and over by four groups of occupation as of 2005, there are 2.94 million employed persons in ‘agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations’, 19.50 million in ‘production and transport occupations’, 16.13 million in ‘sales and service occupations’, and 21.83 million in ‘clerical, technical, and managerial occupations’. (Table 6.1)

#### **The proportion of ‘clerical, technical, and managerial occupations’ is highest.**

According to the proportion of employed persons 15 years of age and over by the four groups of occupation, the highest proportion is in ‘clerical, technical, and managerial occupations’ at 35.5%, followed by ‘production and transport occupations’ with 31.7%, ‘sales and service occupations’ with 26.2%, and ‘agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations’ with 4.8%.

Regarding the trends in the proportion among the four occupational groups, in 1960, ‘production and transport occupations’ accounted for 32.9% and ‘agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations’ for 32.5%, each accounting for approximately one third of all occupations, and ‘clerical, technical, and managerial occupations’ accounted for 17.4% and ‘sales and service occupations’ for 17.1%. Thereafter, the proportion of ‘agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations’ dropped substantially. The proportion of ‘production and transport occupations’ continued rising till 1970, but declined thereafter. Meanwhile, the proportion in ‘clerical, technical and managerial occupations’ surpassed that in ‘production and transport occupations’ from 1955 to become the largest occupational group. The proportion in ‘sales and service occupations’ has also been rising. (Table 6.2, Figure 6.1)

**Figure 6.1 Trends in the Proportion within Employed Persons 15 Years of Age and Over by Occupation (4 Groups): 1985 to 2005**



**Table 6.1 Trends in the Number of Employed Persons 15 Years of Age and Over by Occupation (Major Groups): 1995 to 2005**

Occupation (major groups)	Number of the employed persons (thousands)			Number of Change (thousands)		Change rate (%)	
	1995	2000	2005	1995-2000	2000-2005	1995-2000	2000-2005
Total <sup>1)</sup>	64,142	62,978	61,506	-1,164	-1,472	-1.8	-2.3
A Professional and technical workers	8,007	8,490	8,462	483	-27	6.0	-0.3
B Managers and officials	2,654	1,798	1,472	-856	-326	-32.2	-18.1
C Clerical and related workers	12,120	12,064	11,894	-56	-170	-0.5	-1.4
D Sales workers	9,504	9,492	8,936	-12	-556	-0.1	-5.9
E Service workers	5,027	5,562	6,146	534	584	10.6	10.5
F Protective service workers	937	996	1,051	58	55	6.2	5.5
G Agricultural, forestry and fisheries workers	3,807	3,149	2,940	-658	-210	-17.3	-6.7
H Workers in transport and communications occupations	2,386	2,258	2,077	-128	-181	-5.4	-8.0
I Production process workers and labourers	19,309	18,433	17,420	-876	-1,013	-4.5	-5.5
(Recount) <sup>2)</sup>							
I Agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations	3,807	3,149	2,940	-658	-210	-17.3	-6.7
II Production and transport occupations	21,694	20,691	19,498	-1,004	-1,193	-4.6	-5.8
III Sales and service occupations	15,469	16,049	16,132	581	83	3.8	0.5
IV Clerical, technical and managerial occupations	22,780	22,352	21,828	-429	-524	-1.9	-2.3

1) Includes "Workers not classifiable by occupation".

2) I Agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations = G

II Production and transport occupations = H + I

III Sales and service occupations = D + E + F

IV Clerical, technical and managerial occupations = A + B + C

**Table 6.2 Trends in the Proportion within Employed Persons 15 Years of Age and Over by Occupation (Major Groups): 1970 to 2005**

(%) )

Occupation (major groups)	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
Total <sup>1)</sup>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A Professional and technical	6.6	7.6	8.7	10.6	11.6	12.5	13.5	13.8
B Managers and officials	3.9	4.3	4.7	4.0	4.1	4.1	2.9	2.4
C Clerical and related workers	14.0	16.7	16.4	17.7	18.7	18.9	19.2	19.3
D Sales workers	12.0	13.3	14.6	14.3	14.4	14.8	15.1	14.5
E Service workers	6.1	6.5	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.8	8.8	10.0
F Protective service workers	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7
G Agricultural, forestry and fisheries workers	19.2	13.8	10.8	9.2	7.0	5.9	5.0	4.8
H Workers in transport and communications occupations	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.4
I Production process workers and labourers	32.4	31.8	32.1	31.5	31.3	30.1	29.3	28.3
(Recount)								
I Agriculture, forestry and fishery occupations	19.2	13.8	10.8	9.2	7.0	5.9	5.0	4.8
II Production and transport occupations	36.9	36.4	36.4	35.5	35.1	33.8	32.9	31.7
III Sales and service occupations	19.4	21.2	22.8	22.8	23.0	24.1	25.5	26.2
IV Clerical, technical and managerial occupations	24.5	28.6	29.8	32.3	34.4	35.5	35.5	35.5

1) Includes "Workers not classifiable by occupation".

Note: The figures for 1970 and 1975 are based on the results of detailed sample tabulation.

## CHAPTER VII: POPULATION OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS

### 1. Trends in the Population of Foreign Residents and Their Nationalities

**The population of foreign residents is 1.56 million, a 18.7% increase.**

The 2005 Population Census shows that the population of foreign residents usually living in Japan is 1.56 million (1.2% of the total population), which is an increase of 245 thousand or 18.7% from the population of foreign residents in 2000.

Trends in the population of foreign residents reported in respective Population Censuses conducted since 1920 (the census covered all foreigners in Japan before 1940, and covered the same groups of foreigners as the census in 2005 after 1950) indicate that the population of foreigners residing in Japan has been increasing rapidly. (Table 7.1)

**The nationalities of foreigners usually living in Japan are becoming more diverse.**

According to the population of foreign residents in 2005 by nationality, Korean nationals number 473 thousand to constitute the biggest group, followed by Chinese nationals (353 thousand), Brazilian nationals (215 thousand), Philippine nationals (126 thousand), etc.

A comparison of the population of foreign residents by nationality in 2005 with that in 2000 reveals that the numbers of Korean and United States nationals decreased by 10.7% and 0.6%, respectively, while the numbers of Chinese, Brazilian, Philippine and Peruvian nationals increased significantly by 39.6%, 14.4%, 35.0% and 20.3%, respectively. This indicates that nationalities are diversifying as the foreign population increases. (Table 7.2)

**Table 7.1 Trends in the Total Population and the Number of Foreigners  
: 1920 to 2005**

Year	Total population (thousands)	Number of foreigners (thousands)			Sex ratio of foreigners	Proportion of foreigners (%)
		Both sexes	Male	Female		
1920	55,963	78	63	15	425.1	0.1
1930	64,450	478	341	137	249.2	0.7
1940	73,114	1,304	788	516	152.6	1.8
1950	84,115	529	299	230	129.6	0.6
1955	90,077	598	328	270	121.7	0.7
1960	94,302	579	312	266	117.4	0.6
1965	99,209	596	317	279	113.7	0.6
1970	104,665	604	319	285	112.1	0.6
1975	111,940	642	335	307	109.2	0.6
1980	117,060	669	344	325	105.8	0.6
1985	121,049	720	364	356	102.3	0.6
1990	123,611	886	445	441	101.0	0.7
1995	125,570	1,140	567	574	98.8	0.9
2000	126,926	1,311	621	689	90.1	1.0
2005	127,768	1,556	727	829	87.7	1.2

• The figures for 2000 and 2005 are based on the results of special tabulation on foreigners.

**Table 7.2 Trends in the Number of Foreigners by Nationality: 1920 to 2005**

Number, Proportion and year	Total	Korea	China	U.S.A.	Others				
					Total	Brazil	Philippines	Peru	Others
Number (population)									
1920	78,061	40,755	24,130	3,966	9,210	—	—	—	—
1930	477,980	419,009	44,051	3,640	11,280	—	—	—	—
1940	1,304,286	1,241,315	45,825	4,755	12,391	—	—	—	—
1950	528,923	464,306	39,965	4,995	19,657	—	—	—	—
1955	1) 4) 597,438	539,635	40,500	7,858	9,443	—	—	—	—
1960	578,519	1) 516,211	40,505	10,688	4) 5) 11,115	—	—	—	—
1965	2) 593,030	1) 520,465	43,945	13,550	5) 15,075	—	—	—	—
1970	604,253	519,997	44,765	17,548	21,943	—	—	—	—
1975	641,931	558,833	39,521	18,755	24,822	—	—	—	—
1980	4) 668,675	557,672	43,748	18,590	29,521	—	—	—	—
1985	4) 720,093	571,234	60,549	25,170	49,084	—	—	—	—
1990	886,397	567,598	109,229	33,317	176,253	42,273	36,079	6,181	4) 91,720
1995	4) 1,140,326	560,414	175,640	38,954	358,373	133,609	68,496	27,112	129,156
2000	3) 1,310,545	529,408	253,096	38,804	489,237	188,355	93,662	33,608	4) 173,612
2005	3) 1,555,505	472,711	353,437	38,581	690,776	215,487	126,486	40,444	4) 308,359
Proportion (%)									
1920	100.0	52.2	30.9	5.1	11.8	—	—	—	—
1930	100.0	87.7	9.2	0.8	2.4	—	—	—	—
1940	100.0	95.2	3.5	0.4	1.0	—	—	—	—
1950	100.0	87.8	7.6	0.9	3.7	—	—	—	—
1955	1) 4) 100.0	90.3	6.8	1.3	1.6	—	—	—	—
1960	100.0	1) 89.2	7.0	1.8	4) 5) 1.9	—	—	—	—
1965	2) 100.0	1) 87.8	7.4	2.3	5) 2.5	—	—	—	—
1970	100.0	86.1	7.4	2.9	3.6	—	—	—	—
1975	100.0	87.1	6.2	2.9	3.9	—	—	—	—
1980	4) 100.0	83.4	6.5	2.8	4.4	—	—	—	—
1985	4) 100.0	79.3	8.4	3.5	6.8	—	—	—	—
1990	100.0	64.0	12.3	3.8	19.9	4.8	4.1	0.7	4) 10.3
1995	4) 100.0	49.1	15.4	3.4	31.4	11.7	6.0	2.4	11.3
2000	3) 100.0	40.4	19.3	3.0	37.3	14.4	7.1	2.6	4) 13.2
2005	3) 100.0	30.4	22.7	2.5	44.4	13.9	8.1	2.6	4) 19.8

1) Excluding Okinawa-ken.

2) Based on the results of 20% sample tabulation.

3) Based on the results of special tabulation on foreigners.

4) Including “statelessness and name of country not reported”.

5) Including Koreans living in Okinawa-ken.

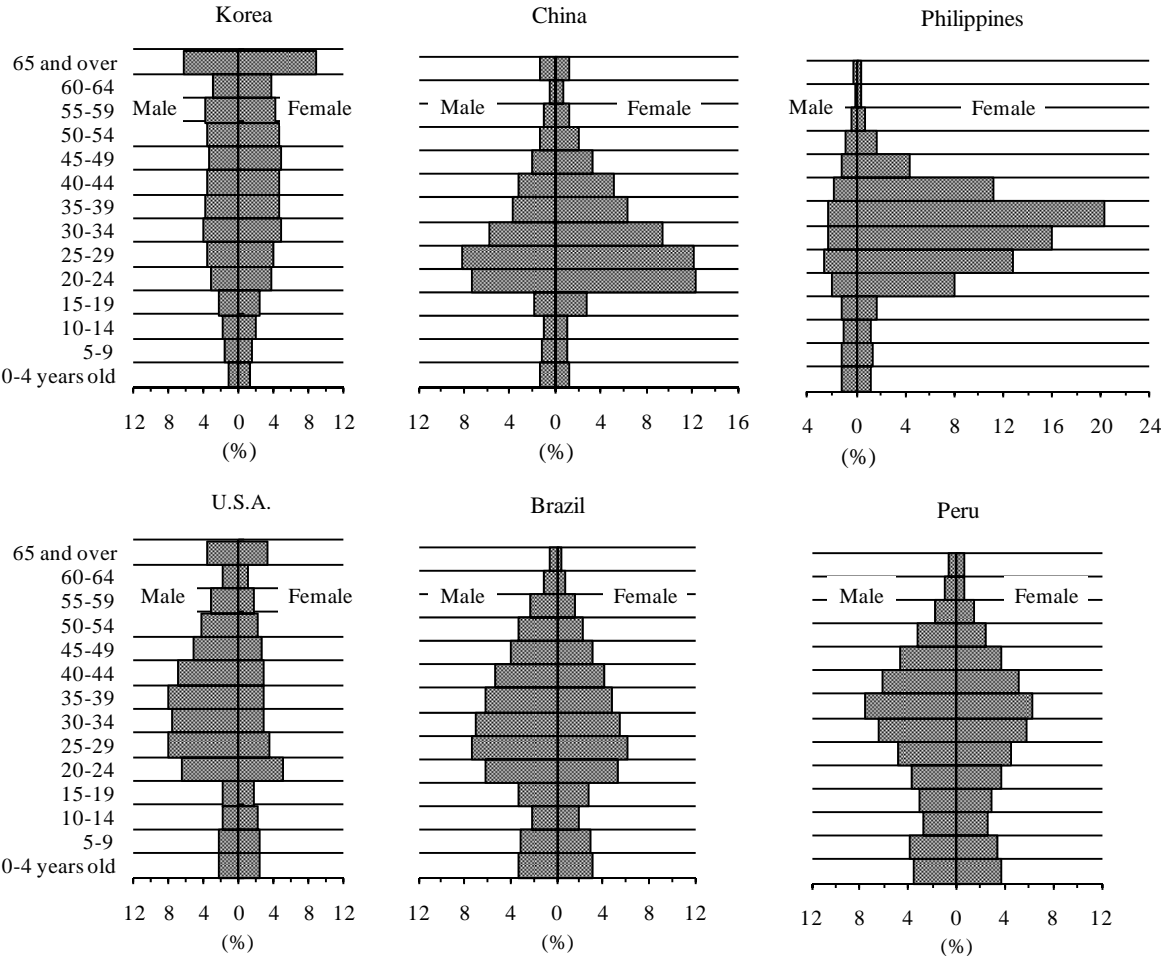
2. Foreign Residents by Sex and Age

**The sex ratio in population by foreign residents is 87.7, and varies greatly by nationality.** Regarding the population of foreign residents by sex, the male population is 727 thousand while the female population is 829 thousand, showing that female foreigners outnumber male foreigners by 102 thousand with a sex ratio of 87.7. This ratio is 7.6 points lower than that of the Japanese population of 95.2, and varies greatly by nationality. (Tables 7.1 and 7.3)

**The proportion of the productive-age population is high among foreigners of Southeast Asian nationalities.**

According to the proportions within the population of foreign residents among three age groups by nationality, the proportion of the productive-age population is above 90% among Indonesian, Thai, Philippine and Chinese nationals, and is 89.8%, a figure close to 90%, among United Kingdom nationals. The proportion of the child population is high among Peruvian (20.0%), Brazilian (16.5%), and Vietnamese (14.7%) nationals, while the aged population is high among Korean nationals (15.2%). (Table 7.3, Figure 7.1)

**Figure 7.1 Population Pyramids by Nationality: 2005**





**Table 7.3 Foreigners by Nationality and Age(3 Groups): 2005**

Nationality	Number (population)				Proportion (%)				Sex ratio
	Total	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over	Total	0-14 years old	15-64	65 and over	
Total	1,555,505	146,805	1,302,603	106,097	100.0	9.4	83.7	6.8	87.7
Korea	472,711	44,241	356,681	71,789	100.0	9.4	75.5	15.2	83.9
China	353,437	24,075	320,704	8,658	100.0	6.8	90.7	2.4	66.3
Philippines	126,486	9,156	116,503	827	100.0	7.2	92.1	0.7	23.1
Thailand	27,129	1,581	25,412	136	100.0	5.8	93.7	0.5	32.0
Indonesia	18,379	1,010	17,291	78	100.0	5.5	94.1	0.4	204.4
Viet Nam	20,901	3,066	17,521	314	100.0	14.7	83.8	1.5	102.6
U.K.	10,183	750	9,140	293	100.0	7.4	89.8	2.9	245.9
U.S.A.	38,581	5,219	30,773	2,589	100.0	13.5	79.8	6.7	177.8
Brazil	215,487	35,638	177,557	2,292	100.0	16.5	82.4	1.1	121.8
Peru	40,444	8,095	31,827	522	100.0	20.0	78.7	1.3	112.4
Others <sup>1)</sup>	231,767	13,974	199,194	18,599	100.0	6.0	85.9	8.0	167.7
(Reference)									
Japanese population (thousands)	125,730	17,374	82,790	25,566	100.0	13.8	65.8	20.3	95.2

1) Including "statelessness and name of country not reported".