

CHAPTER VIII: HOUSEHOLD STATUS

Type and Size of Household

The number of households is 53.4 million, continuous increase.

The 2015 Population Census shows that the number of households in Japan as of October 1, 2015 is 53.4 million.

According to the number of households and household members by type of household, the number of private households is 53.3 million and that of private household members is 124.2 million. Comparing these figures between 2010 and 2015, it shows that the number of private households increased by 1.5 million (2.9%) while that of private household members slightly decreased by 1,249 thousand (1.0%).

Meanwhile, the number of institutional households is 117 thousand and that of institutional household members is 2.8 million. Comparing these figures between 2010 and 2015, the number of institutional households increased by 9 thousand (8.0%) and that of institutional household members increased by 287 thousand (11.4%). Especially, regarding the breakdown of the number of institutional household members, the number of inmates of social institutions such as aged people's homes increased by 380 thousand (26.2%) which contributed greatly to the increase in the number of institutional household members. (Table 8.1)

Table 8.1 Trends in the Number of Households and Household Members by Type of Household: 1995 to 2015

Type of household	Number (thousands)					Change (thousands)	Change rate (%)			
	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2010-2015	1995-2000	2000-2005	2005-2010	2010-2015
Households										
Total ¹⁾	44,108	47,063	49,566	51,951	53,449	1,498	6.7	5.3	4.8	2.9
Private households	43,900	46,782	49,063	51,842	53,332	1,489	6.6	4.9	5.7	2.9
Institutional households	101	102	100	108	117	9	0.8	-1.3	7.9	8.0
Household members										
Total ¹⁾	125,570	126,926	127,768	128,057	127,095	-963	1.1	0.7	0.2	-0.8
Private households	123,646	124,725	124,973	125,546	124,296	-1,249	0.9	0.2	0.5	-1.0
Institutional households	1,794	1,973	2,312	2,512	2,798	287	10.0	17.2	8.6	11.4
(Recount)										
Inmates of social institutions	525	701	1,070	1,450	1,830	380	33.7	52.6	35.5	26.2

1) Figures between 1995 and 2005 include "Not reported".

Note: "Institutional households" consists of households of "Students in school dormitories", "Inpatients of hospitals", "Inmates of social institutions", "Persons in camps of Self-Defence Forces", "Inmates of reformatory institutions", etc.

The number of one-person households is the largest (18.4 million) and exceeded 30% among private households.

Regarding the number of private households by size of household, one-person households is the largest category (18.4 million), accounting for 34.5% of the number of private households. The number of households declines as the size of household becomes larger.

Comparing the number of private households by size of household between 2010 and 2015, it shows that the change rate of the number of private households becomes higher as the size of household becomes smaller, and the number of households with 2 persons or less shows an upward trend while the number of household with 3 persons or over shows a downward trend since 2000. As a result, the number of members per household declined, from 2.42 in 2010 to 2.33 in 2015. (Figure 8.1, Table 8.2)

Figure 8.1 Trends in the Number of Private Households by Size of Household: 2000 to 2015

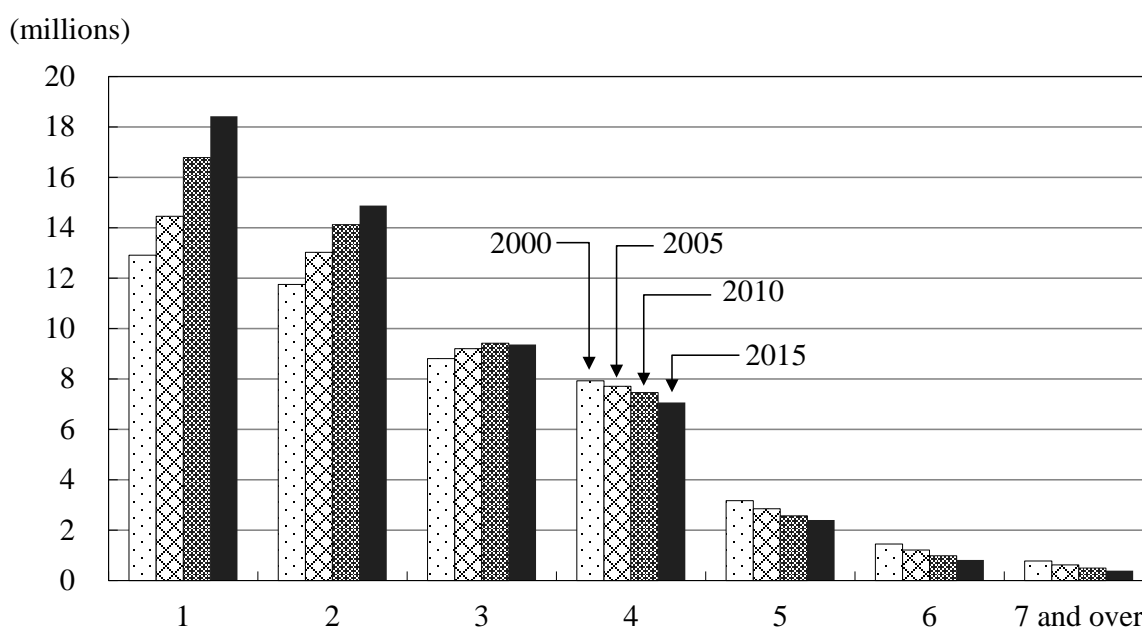


Table 8.2 Trends in the Number of Private Households by Size of Household: 2000 to 2015

Size of household	Number of private households (thousands)				Proportion (%)		Change rate (%)	
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2010	2015	2005-2010	2010-2015
Total	46,782	49,063	51,842	53,332	100.0	100.0	5.7	2.9
1	12,911	14,457	16,785	18,418	32.4	34.5	16.1	9.7
2	11,743	13,024	14,126	14,877	27.2	27.9	8.5	5.3
3	8,810	9,196	9,422	9,365	18.2	17.6	2.5	-0.6
4	7,925	7,707	7,460	7,069	14.4	13.3	-3.2	-5.2
5	3,167	2,848	2,572	2,403	5.0	4.5	-9.7	-6.6
6	1,449	1,208	985	812	1.9	1.5	-18.5	-17.6
7 and over	776	623	493	389	1.0	0.7	-20.8	-21.2
Members per household	2.67	2.55	2.42	2.33	-	-	-	-

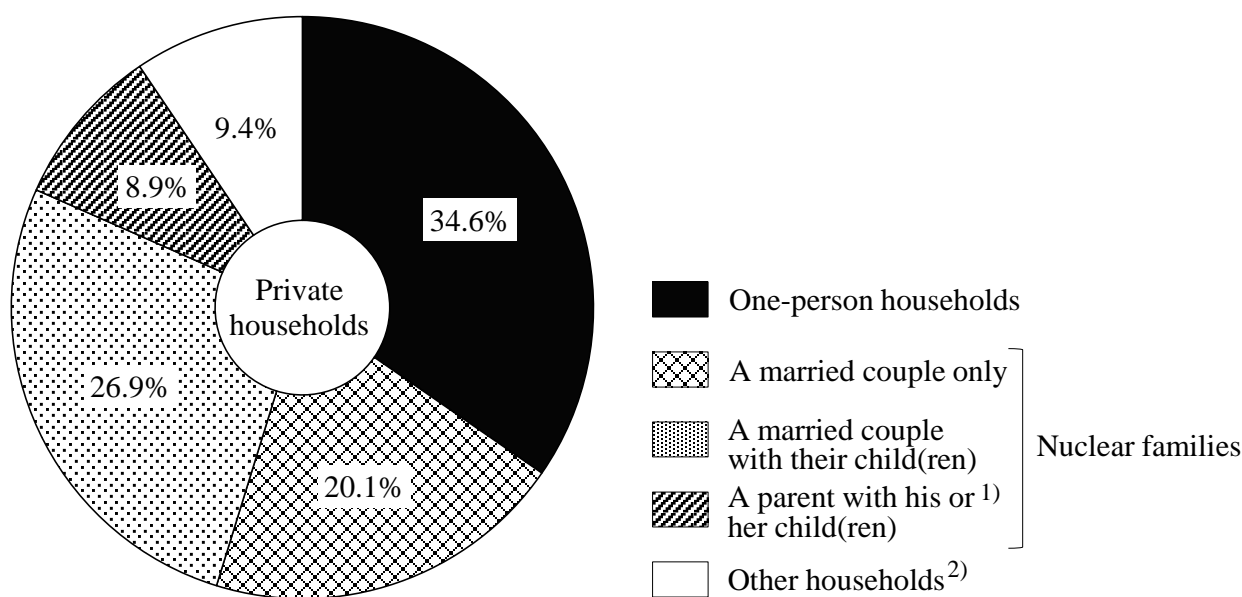
The number of “A married couple only” is increasing while that of “A married couple with child(ren)” is decreasing.

According to the number of private households by family type of household, the number of “Relatives households”, consisting of the household head and relatives of the household head, is 34.3 million (64.5%) and “One-person households” is 18.4 million (34.6%). Meanwhile, the number of “Households including non-relatives”, which has two and more members and consists of non-relatives of the household head, is 464 thousand (0.9%).

Regarding the breakdown of “Relatives households”, the number of “Nuclear families” is 29.8 million, accounting for 55.9% of the number of private households, and the breakdown of “Nuclear families” shows that the number of “A married couple with child(ren)” is the largest (14.3 million, 26.9% of the number of private households), followed by “A married couple only” (10.7 million, 20.1% of the number of private households), etc.

However, observing the trends in these figures shows that the number of “A married couple only” and “One-person households” is increasing while that of “A married couple with child(ren)” is decreasing. These trends indicate that the decreasing size of households is caused by the increase of “One-person households” and “A married couple only” and so on. (Figure 8.2, Table 8.3)

Figure 8.2 Proportion of Private Households by Family Type of Household: 2015



1) Includes "Father with his child(ren)" and "Mother with her child(ren)".

2) Includes "Relatives households excluding nuclear families" and "Households including non-relatives".

**Table 8.3 Trends in the Number of Private Households by Family Type of Household:
2005 to 2015**

Family type of household	Number (thousands)			Proportion (%)			Change rate (%)	
	2005	2010	2015	2005	2010	2015	2005-2010	2010-2015
Total ¹⁾	49,063	51,842	53,332	100.0	100.0	100.0	5.7	2.9
A Relatives households	34,246	34,516	34,315	69.8	66.7	64.5	0.8	-0.6
I. Nuclear families	28,327	29,207	29,754	57.7	56.4	55.9	3.1	1.9
(1) A married couple only	9,625	10,244	10,718	19.6	19.8	20.1	6.4	4.6
(2) A married couple with their child(ren)	14,631	14,440	14,288	29.8	27.9	26.9	-1.3	-1.0
(3) Father with his child(ren)	605	664	703	1.2	1.3	1.3	9.8	5.8
(4) Mother with her child(ren)	3,465	3,859	4,045	7.1	7.5	7.6	11.4	4.8
II. Relatives households excluding nuclear families	5,919	5,309	4,561	12.1	10.3	8.6	-10.3	-14.1
(5) A couple with their parents	246	232	191	0.5	0.4	0.4	-5.9	-17.6
(6) A couple with their parent	737	731	676	1.5	1.4	1.3	-0.8	-7.6
(7) A couple with their child(ren) and parents	1,177	920	710	2.4	1.8	1.3	-21.9	-22.8
(8) A couple with their child(ren) and parent	1,819	1,516	1,214	3.7	2.9	2.3	-16.7	-19.9
(9) A couple with relative(s) other than child(ren) and parent(s)	124	122	113	0.3	0.2	0.2	-2.1	-6.9
(10) A couple with their child(ren) and relative(s) other than parent(s)	411	431	410	0.8	0.8	0.8	4.9	-4.9
(11) A couple with their parent(s) and relative(s) other than child(ren)	113	106	86	0.2	0.2	0.2	-6.0	-18.5
(12) A couple with their child(ren), parent(s) and other relative(s)	414	350	273	0.8	0.7	0.5	-15.4	-22.0
(13) Brothers or sisters only	307	316	323	0.6	0.6	0.6	3.0	2.3
(14) Relatives households excluding nuclear families n.e.c	571	586	565	1.2	1.1	1.1	2.7	-3.6
B Households including non-relatives	360	456	464	0.7	0.9	0.9	26.9	1.6
C One-person households	14,457	16,785	18,418	29.5	32.4	34.6	16.1	9.7

1) Includes "Family type not classified".