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Statistics Bureau of Japan (SBJ)

News Bulletin

October 19, 2015  
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No.252

<News Highlights>

\*Almost 20 million households responded online in the 2015 Population Census of Japan

In the 2015 Population Census, the SBJ implemented the online response system and received online responses from September 10 to 20, in advance of distribution of the paper census forms.

During the period, the SBJ received 19,175,769 online responses. According to an estimate based on the number of households of the previous census, the online response rate was 36.9%.

The rate for online response using smartphones to total households was 12.8%. About one out of three online responses were sent from smartphones. By prefecture, online response rate was the highest in Shiga-ken, 48.4%, followed by Toyama-ken, Gifu-ken, Aichi-ken, Nara-ken and so on. In 17 prefectures, online response rates were higher than 40%.

After the period of online response, the SBJ distributed paper census forms from September 26 to 30 to the households which didn't respond online. The submission of the forms to enumerators or by mail started on October 1 and ended on October 7. Then, the SBJ made reminders until October 20 to households which didn't respond during the submission period.

\* Activities of Japan (the MIC) for World Statistics Day

In June 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution officially

designating October 20, 2015, as World Statistics Day (WSD). This is the second WSD, following the first one held in 2010.

In the age of globalization today, the needs for internationally comparable and reliable official statistics are increasing. Accordingly, the “World Statistics Day” has been established to deepen the understanding of official statistics throughout the world.

To increase awareness of the day, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), government of Japan, led by the Office of Director-General for Policy Planning (Statistical Standards), has worked on the following activities. First, the Office of Director-General for Policy Planning (Statistical Standards) has created a poster featuring the logo of the World Statistics Day 2015 for promotional purposes in Japan (<https://worldstatisticsday.org/blog.html>).

Also, the Director-General for Policy Planning (Statistical Standards) MIC held an exhibition related to international statistics at the “Statistical Data/Graph Fair” on October 17 and 18. This is an annual event organized on the occasion of Japan’s National Statistics Day, October 18. Also, on December 4, we are holding World Statistics Day Forum 2015, inviting people in the field of official statistics in Japan and other countries.

In addition, the Statistics Bureau of Japan (SBJ) has made a mug displaying the logo of the World Statistics Day 2015 and the SBJ, and the mascots (named “Census-kun” and “Mirai-chan” respectively) of Japan’s Population Census conducted in October 2015, and started the public relations activity for the World Statistics Day, etc.

This activity is introduced on the following website (<https://worldstatisticsday.org/2015/06/05/japan-campaign-kick-off/>), as a pioneer in the campaign for the World Statistics Day 2015.

#### \* Visitors

On October 6, 15 statistical officials of the participants in the “Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Young Leaders) for Malaysia/ Policy on Information and Communication Technology Course” of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) visited the SBJ to learn about the statistical works in Japan.

website: <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/info/meetings/receiving/jica1510.htm>

On October 7, 26 statistical officials of the participants in the “Third Group Training Program on Improving Capability in Producing Official Statistics” of the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) visited the SBJ.

After exchanging greetings with Mr. Masato Aida, Director-General of SBJ, they got a briefing on the outline of SBJ etc. to deepen their understanding about the statistical works in Japan.

website: <http://www.stat.go.jp/english/info/meetings/receiving/siap1510.htm>

<Recent Releases>

September 11 2015

\* "Survey of Household Economy" (Items Related to Expenditure) July 2015 (final)

-Summary Results of the July 2015 (final) Survey of Household Economy (Items Related to Expenditure) (Two-or-more-person households)

-Change over the year of Monthly Expenditure per household on Main Items

<Main Items decreased in real terms>

- Accessories: down 25.9% in nominal terms and 28.8% in real terms
- Package tour costs (overseas): down 27.9% in nominal terms and 26.5% in real terms
- Airplane fares: down 22.1% in nominal terms and 25.5% in real terms
- Gardens, trees and plants tending costs: down 19.4% in nominal terms and 20.0% in real terms

<Main Items increased in real terms>

- Refrigerators: up 27.3% in nominal terms and 49.4% in real terms
- TV: up 36.5% in nominal terms and 29.6% in real terms
- Air conditioners: up 10.6% in nominal terms and 8.8% in real terms
- Package tour costs (domestic): up 5.5% in nominal terms and 6.1% in real terms

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/joukyou/12.htm>

September 24 2015

\* "Population Estimates" (September 2015)

-As of September 1, 2015 (Provisional estimates)

<Total Population>

- The total population was 126.85 million, a decrease of 0.19 million (0.15%) from the previous year.

-As of April 1, 2015 (Final estimates)

<Total Population>

- The total population was 126,939 thousand, a decrease of 196 thousand (0.15%) from the previous year.
- The population aged 0 to 14 was 16,172 thousand, a decrease of 152 thousand (0.93%) from the previous year.
- The population aged 15 to 64 was 77,277 thousand, a decrease of 1,051 thousand (1.34%) from the previous year.
- The population aged 65 and over was 33,491 thousand, an increase of 1,006 thousand (3.10%) from the previous year.

<Japanese population>

- Japanese population was 125,275 thousand, a decrease of 270 thousand (0.22%) from the previous year.

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/jinsui/tsuki/index.htm>

September 25 2015

\*Consumer Price Index (2010-base) (August 2015, Japan / September 2015, Ku-area of Tokyo (preliminary))

- The consumer price index for Japan in August 2015 was 103.9 (2010=100), up 0.2% from the previous month, and up 0.2% over the year.
- The consumer price index for Ku-area of Tokyo in September 2015 (preliminary) was 102.2 (2010=100), the same level as the previous month, and down 0.1% over the year.

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/cpi/1581.htm>

\* "Retail Price Survey" (August 2015, Main Cities (September 2015, Ku-area of Tokyo))

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/kouri/doukou/15i2.htm>

September 28 2015

\* "Monthly Report on Internal Migration in Japan" (August 2015)

- The number of internal migrants (All nationalities) was 377,467, an increase of 25,497(7.2%) from the previous year.
- The number of inter-prefectural migrants (All nationalities) was 171,647, an increase of 12,180 (7.6%) from the previous year.
- The number of intra-prefectural migrants (All nationalities) was 205,820, an increase of 13,317 (6.9%) from the previous year.
- The number of internal migrants (Japanese) was 351,896, an increase of 21,849 (6.6%) from the previous year.
- The number of inter-prefectural migrants (Japanese) was 159,441, an increase of 10,643 (7.2%) from the previous year.
- The number of intra-prefectural migrants (Japanese) was 192,455, an increase of 11,206 (6.2%) from the previous year.

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/idou/3.htm>

September 30 2015

\*"Monthly Survey on Service Industries" July 2015 (preliminary)

- Monthly sales: 28.6 trillion yen, up 1.4% over the year
- Demand Situation DI: 0.5 over the year
- Number of persons working at the Location of Establishment: 28.70 million persons, up 0.8% over the year

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/mssi/kekka.htm>

- \*2014 National Survey of Family Income and Expenditure (Tabulation of "Income and Expenditures" and "Savings and Liabilities" in One-Person Households)
- Looking at the components of living expenditures by item of one-person households, males spent the most on "food", and females spent the most on "other living expenditures" such as "social expenses".

- Looking at expenditures on “mobile phone charges” by age group, those of middle-aged and senior adults (in their 50s or older) especially increased vastly from the previous survey (2009). On the other hand, looking at expenditures on “drinking”, those of the young generation (those under 40) decreased vastly.
- Looking at the rate of expenditure paid by electronic money by item, transportation fares such as “railway fares” and “bus fares” were high among both males and females.
- Looking at the rate of purchase via mail-order selling (Internet) by item, “furniture and household utensils” were the highest.
- Looking at the amounts of savings by age group, those in their 60s were higher than those in any other age groups.

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/zensho/index.htm>

October 2 2015

\*"Labour Force Survey (Basic Tabulation)" (August 2015)

- The number of employed persons in August 2015 was 63.79 million, an increase of 160 thousand or 0.3% from the previous year.
- The number of unemployed persons in August 2015 was 2.25 million, a decrease of 60 thousand or 2.6% from the previous year.
- The unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, was 3.4%.

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/roudou/results/month/index.htm>

\*Family Income and Expenditure Survey (Two-or-more-person Households : August 2015)

- Expenditures for Two-or-more-person Households

The average of monthly consumption expenditures per household for August 2015 was 291,156 yen, up 3.2% in nominal terms and up 2.9% in real terms from the previous year.

-Income and Expenditures for Workers' Households

The average of monthly income per household stood at 475,369 yen, up 2.5% in nominal terms and up 2.2% in real terms from the previous year.

The average of consumption expenditures per household was 317,195 yen, up 3.7% in nominal terms and up 3.4% in real terms from the previous year.

<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/data/kakei/156.htm>

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