

CHAPTER IX: HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING STATUS

1. Type and Size of Household

The increase in the number of private households has slowed down.

As of October 1, 2005, the number of private households is 49.06 million and the number of private household members is 124.97 million in Japan. The number of institutional household members (students in school dormitories, inpatients of hospitals, etc.) is 2.31 million, accounting for 1.8% of the total population.

Regarding the growth trend, the number of private households increased by 10.9% between 1970 and 1975 and by 6 to 7% between 1980 and 2000. The growth trend, however, slowed down from 2000 to 2005, in which period the number of private households increased moderately by 2.28 million or 4.9%. Nevertheless, private households have been steadily increasing in number at a faster rate than the population. (Table 9.1)

The proportion of one-person households is 29.5%.

The size of household in Japan has been shrinking because of the increase in family nuclei and one-person households, a decline in the live birth rate, and the like. The average number of household members in private households was 4.14 in 1960, but it dropped below 3 to 2.99 in 1990, and further reduced to 2.55 in 2005.

According to the distribution of private households as of 2005 by size of household, the number of one-person households is largest, standing at 14.46 million and accounting for 29.5% of private households. For the rest, the larger the number of household members, the fewer the number of households.

According to the change in the number of private households by household members between 2000 and 2005, the change rate gets higher as the number of household members decreases. The change rate thus went up in the category of households with three or less household members, but went down in the category of households with four or more household members. In particular, it dropped by 19.7% in the category of households with seven or more household members, recording a major decrease of almost 20%. The proportion of private households by household members, in comparison with the figure in 2000, went up in the category of small-sized households with two or less household

members, but went down in the category of households with three or more household members. (Table 9.2, Figure 9.1)

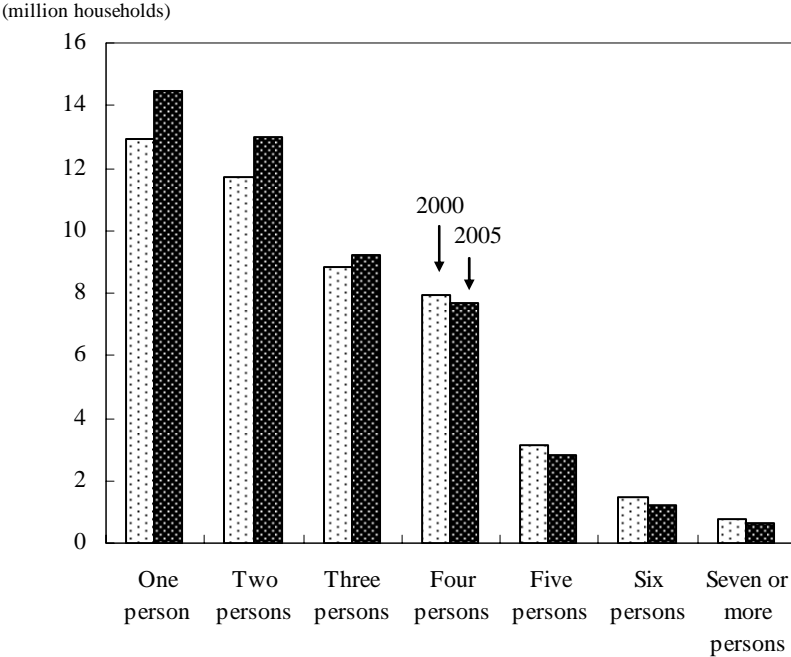
Table 9.1 Trends in the Number of Households and Household Members by Type of Household : 1990 to 2005

Classification	Number (thousands)				Number of Change (thousands)	Change rate(%)		
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2000-2005	1990-1995	1995-2000	2000-2005
Number of private households	40,670	43,900	46,782	49,063	2,280	7.9	6.6	4.9
Private household members	121,545	123,646	124,725	124,973	249	1.7	0.9	0.2
Institutional household members	1,742	1,794	1,973	2,312	340	3.0	10.0	17.2
Household members of social institutions	434	525	701	1,070	369	20.9	33.7	52.6
(Reference) Total population	123,611	125,570	126,926	127,768	842	1.6	1.1	0.7

Table 9.2 Trends in the Number of Private Households by Size of Household : 1990 to 2005

Size of household	Number of private households (thousands of households)				Proportion by size of household (%)		Change rate (%)	
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2000	2005	1995-2000	2000-2005
Total	40,670	43,900	46,782	49,063	100.0	100.0	6.6	4.9
One person	9,390	11,239	12,911	14,457	27.6	29.5	14.9	12.0
Two persons	8,370	10,080	11,743	13,024	25.1	26.5	16.5	10.9
Three persons	7,351	8,131	8,810	9,196	18.8	18.7	8.4	4.4
Four persons	8,788	8,277	7,925	7,707	16.9	15.7	-4.3	-2.7
Five persons	3,805	3,512	3,167	2,848	6.8	5.8	-9.8	-10.1
Six persons	1,903	1,713	1,449	1,208	3.1	2.5	-15.4	-16.6
Seven or more persons	1,064	948	776	623	1.7	1.3	-18.1	-19.7
Persons per household (persons)	2.99	2.82	2.67	2.55	-	-	-	-

Figure 9.1 Number of Private Households by Size of Household: 2000 and 2005



2. Family Type of Household

The proportion of ‘family nuclei’ within the entire private households is 57.9%.

In the entire private households as reported in 2005, ‘relatives households’ number 34.34 million (70.0% of private households), ‘non-relatives households’ number 270 thousand (0.5% *id.*), and ‘one-person households’ number 14.46 million (29.5% *id.*).

Examining ‘relatives households’ by family type reveals that ‘family nuclei’ households number 28.39 million, accounting for 57.9% of private households. Among the ‘family nuclei’ households, households of ‘a married couple with their child(ren)’ number 14.65 million (29.9% *id.*) as the largest group, followed by households of ‘a married couple only’ numbering 9.64 million (19.6% *id.*), households of ‘mother with her child(ren)’ numbering 3.49 million (7.1% *id.*), and households of ‘father with his child(ren)’ numbering 620 thousand (1.3% *id.*). (Table 9.3)

Households of ‘mother with her child(ren)’ increased by 15.1%.

Among the ‘family nuclei’ households, in the period between 2000 and 2005, the households of ‘mother with her child(ren)’ increased by 15.1%, the households of ‘father with his child(ren)’ increased by 13.8%, and the households of ‘a married couple only’ increased by 9.1%. These three family types of households each recorded a change rate far greater than that of the ‘family nuclei’ households (3.9%). (Table 9.3)

One-person households consisting of a person 55 years of age and over are growing in number.

According to the trend in the change rate since 1970, the ‘family nuclei’ households increased from 1970 to 1975 at a large change rate of 16.3%, and kept increasing at change rates ranging from 5 to 6% since 1985, but the change rate reduced to 3.9% between 2000 and 2005. Meanwhile, one-person households increased from 1970 to 1975 at a change rate of 6.9%, then increased at a change rate of 10% or higher from 1985. The change rate peaked at 19.7% between 1990 and 1995, yet continued from 2000 to 2005 at a change rate of 12.0%.

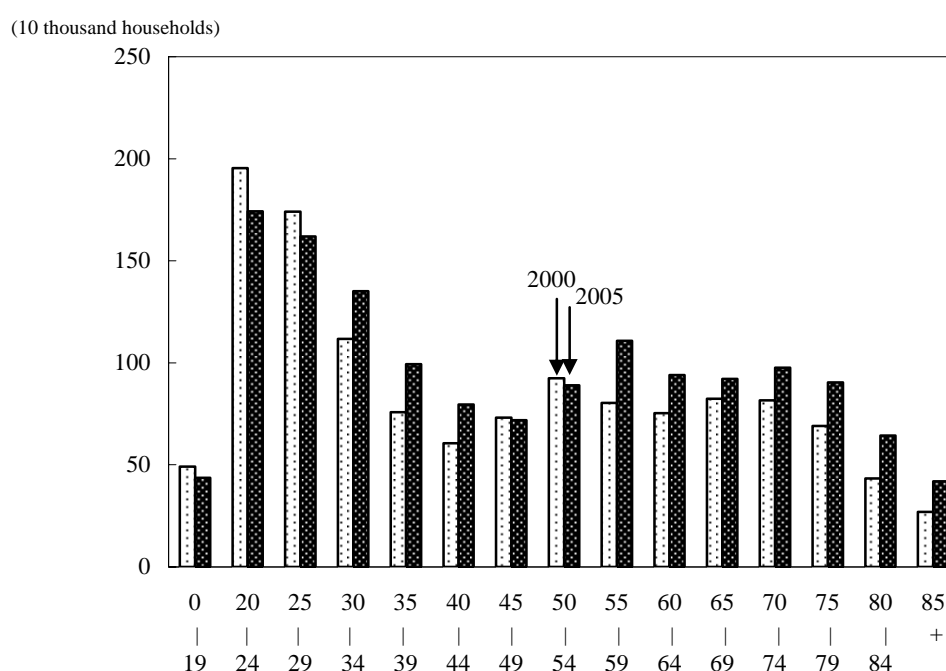
Examining the ever-increasing one-person households by age group between 2000 and 2005 reveals that one-person households increased greatly in the age groups of 55 years of age and over, which is demonstrated by high change rates

in that period, such as a 55.3% increase in the age group of 85 and over. (Table 9.3, Figure 9.2)

Table 9.3 Trends in the Number of Private Households by Family Type of Household: 1995 to 2005

Family type of household	Number of the private households (thousands of households)			Proportion by family type (%)			Change rate (%)	
	1995	2000	2005	1995	2000	2005	1995-2000	2000-2005
Total	43,900	46,782	49,063	100.0	100.0	100.0	6.6	4.9
A Relatives households	32,533	33,679	34,337	74.1	72.0	70.0	3.5	2.0
I Family nuclei	25,760	27,332	28,394	58.7	58.4	57.9	6.1	3.9
(1) A married couple only	7,619	8,835	9,637	17.4	18.9	19.6	16.0	9.1
(2) A married couple with their child(ren)	15,032	14,919	14,646	34.2	31.9	29.9	-0.8	-1.8
(3) Father with his child(ren)	485	545	621	1.1	1.2	1.3	12.5	13.8
(4) Mother with her child(ren)	2,624	3,032	3,491	6.0	6.5	7.1	15.6	15.1
II Other relatives households	6,773	6,347	5,944	15.4	13.6	12.1	-6.3	-6.4
(5) A couple with their parents	227	238	247	0.5	0.5	0.5	4.8	3.5
(6) A couple with their parent	638	699	738	1.5	1.5	1.5	9.6	5.7
(7) A couple with their child(ren) and parents	1,719	1,442	1,180	3.9	3.1	2.4	-16.1	-18.1
(8) A couple with their child(ren) and parent	2,326	2,084	1,824	5.3	4.5	3.7	-10.4	-12.5
(9) A couple with relative(s) other than child(ren) and parent(s)	119	123	125	0.3	0.3	0.3	3.4	2.1
(10) A couple with their child(ren) and relative(s) other than parent(s)	330	371	413	0.8	0.8	0.8	12.2	11.3
(11) A couple with their parent(s) and relative(s) other than child(ren)	126	120	113	0.3	0.3	0.2	-4.9	-5.2
(12) A couple with their child(ren), parent(s) and other relative(s)	549	462	416	1.2	1.0	0.8	-15.7	-10.1
(13) Brothers or sisters only	261	292	310	0.6	0.6	0.6	12.2	6.0
(14) Other relatives households not elsewhere classified	478	517	578	1.1	1.1	1.2	8.1	11.8
B Non-relatives households	128	192	268	0.3	0.4	0.5	49.9	39.8
C One-person households	11,239	12,911	14,457	25.6	27.6	29.5	14.9	12.0

Figure 9.2 Number of One-Person Households by Age (Five-Year Groups): 2000 and 2005



3. Kind of Residence and Tenure of Dwelling

Ratio of owner occupants is 62.1%.

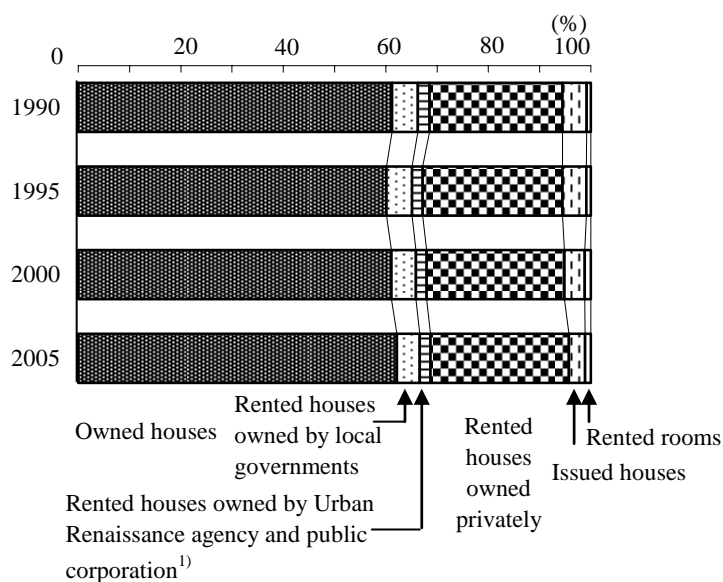
According to the residential status of 49.06 million private households in Japan, the number of private households living in dwelling houses is 48.17 million (98.2% of private households), and that of private households living in school dormitories or hospitalized in hospitals, etc. (private households living in other dwelling houses) is 890 thousand (1.8% *id.*)

Examining the tenure of dwelling of the private households living in dwelling houses, households living in owned houses account for the largest number at 29.93 million, or 62.1% (owned house ratio) of the private households living in dwelling houses. Following this, households living in rented houses owned privately number 13 million (27.0% of the private households living in dwelling houses). (Table 9.4)

Ratio of owner occupants is rising.

According to a comparison of the number of household living in owned houses and of households living in rented houses with the numbers in 2000, the number of households living in owned houses increased by 7.2% in 2005, exceeding the 5.4% increase in the total number of private households living in dwelling houses. As a result, the ratio of owner occupants rose from 61.1% in 2000 to 62.1% in 2005. Meanwhile, the number of households living in rented houses increased by 2.7%. Among the households living in rented houses, households living in rented houses owned privately increased in number by 5.7%, and households living in rented houses owned by Urban Renaissance agency and public corporation increased in number by 5.1%. (Table 9.4, Figure 9.3)

Figure 9.3 Proportion by Tenure of Dwelling of Private Households Living in Dwelling Houses: 1990 to 2005



1) Described as “Rented houses owned by public corporation” until 2000.

Table 9.4 Trends in the Number of Households by Tenure of Dwelling of Private Households Living in Dwelling Houses in Japan, All shi and All gun: 1990 to 2005

Japan, All shi, All gun and year	Total	Principal households							Rented rooms
		Total	Owned houses	Rented houses					
				Total	Rented houses owned by local governments	Rented houses owned by Urban Renaissance agency and public corporation ¹⁾	Rented houses owned privately	Issued houses	
Japan									
Number (thousands of households)									
1990	39,319	38,994	24,060	14,934	1,997	878	10,216	1,843	325
1995	42,614	42,240	25,633	16,607	2,111	902	11,618	1,975	374
2000	45,693	45,144	27,905	17,239	2,190	952	12,298	1,799	549
2005	48,168	47,633	29,927	17,705	2,173	1,001	13,005	1,527	536
Proportion (%)									
1990	100.0	99.2	61.2	38.0	5.1	2.2	26.0	4.7	0.8
1995	100.0	99.1	60.2	39.0	5.0	2.1	27.3	4.6	0.9
2000	100.0	98.8	61.1	37.7	4.8	2.1	26.9	3.9	1.2
2005	100.0	98.9	62.1	36.8	4.5	2.1	27.0	3.2	1.1
Change rate (%)									
1990-1995	8.4	8.3	6.5	11.2	5.7	2.7	13.7	7.2	15.3
1995-2000	7.2	6.9	8.9	3.8	3.7	5.6	5.8	-8.9	46.7
2000-2005	5.4	5.5	7.2	2.7	-0.8	5.1	5.7	-15.1	-2.5
All shi									
Number (thousands of households)									
1990	31,517	31,235	17,687	13,548	1,655	831	9,458	1,604	282
1995	34,495	34,171	19,088	15,084	1,755	852	10,743	1,734	324
2000	37,272	36,793	21,142	15,651	1,824	906	11,344	1,576	480
2005	42,362	41,878	25,371	16,507	1,905	970	12,243	1,389	485
Proportion (%)									
1990	100.0	99.1	56.1	43.0	5.2	2.6	30.0	5.1	0.9
1995	100.0	99.1	55.3	43.7	5.1	2.5	31.1	5.0	0.9
2000	100.0	98.7	56.7	42.0	4.9	2.4	30.4	4.2	1.3
2005	100.0	98.9	59.9	39.0	4.5	2.3	28.9	3.3	1.1
Change rate (%)									
1990-1995	9.5	9.4	7.9	11.3	6.1	2.6	13.6	8.1	14.7
1995-2000	8.1	7.7	10.8	3.8	4.0	6.3	5.6	-9.1	48.2
2000-2005	13.7	13.8	20.0	5.5	4.4	7.0	7.9	-11.9	1.0
All gun									
Number (thousands of households)									
1990	7,802	7,759	6,373	1,386	342	47	758	239	42
1995	8,119	8,069	6,545	1,523	356	50	876	242	51
2000	8,421	8,351	6,763	1,588	366	46	954	223	69
2005	5,806	5,755	4,556	1,199	268	31	762	138	51
Proportion (%)									
1990	100.0	99.5	81.7	17.8	4.4	0.6	9.7	3.1	0.5
1995	100.0	99.4	80.6	18.8	4.4	0.6	10.8	3.0	0.6
2000	100.0	99.2	80.3	18.9	4.3	0.5	11.3	2.6	0.8
2005	100.0	99.1	78.5	20.6	4.6	0.5	13.1	2.4	0.9
Change rate (%)									
1990-1995	4.1	4.0	2.7	9.9	4.1	5.6	15.5	1.0	19.4
1995-2000	3.7	3.5	3.3	4.3	2.6	-7.0	8.9	-7.7	37.1
2000-2005	-31.1	-31.1	-32.6	-24.5	-26.7	-32.3	-20.1	-38.2	-26.7

1) Described as "Rented houses owned by public corporation" until 2000.

Note: "Principal households" means those households living in dwelling houses excluding those living in "Rented rooms".

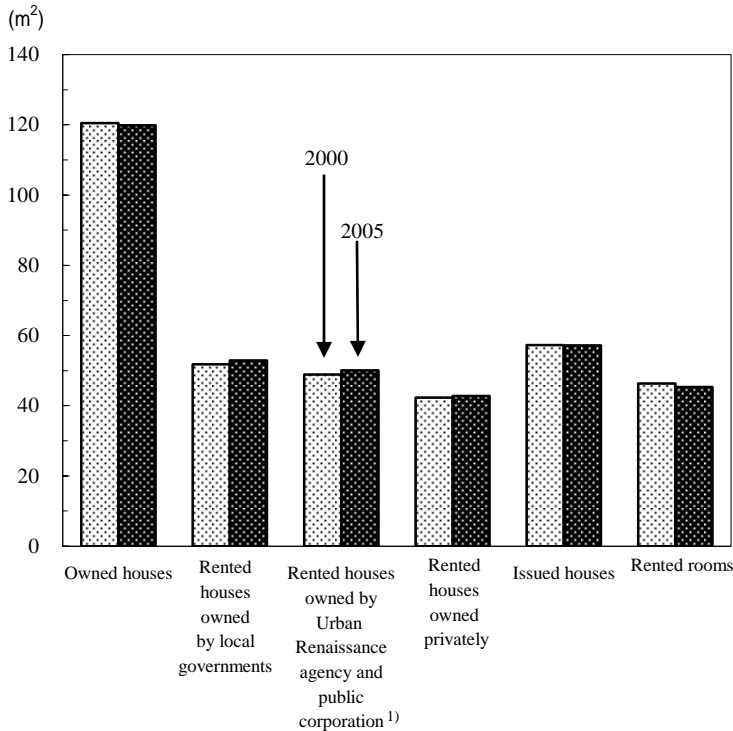
4. Housing Size

The area of floor space per household is increasing slightly.

The area of floor space per household (the total area of floor space of dwelling house) of private households living in dwelling houses is 91.8 m², which is a slight increase of 0.5 m² (0.5%) from 91.3 m² in 2005.

According to the area of floor space per household of private households living in dwelling houses by tenure of dwelling, the area of floor space per household of private households living in owned houses is the largest at 119.8 m², followed by households living in issued houses (57.2 m²), households living in rented houses owned by local governments (52.9 m²), households living in rented houses owned by Urban Renaissance agency and public corporation (50.1 m²), households living in rented rooms (45.3 m²) and households living in rented houses owned privately (42.8 m²). The households living in owned houses have more than twice the area of floor space of households living in dwellings other than owned houses. (Table 9.5, Figure 9.4)

Figure 9.4 Area of Floor Space per Household by Tenure of Dwelling Houses: 2000 and 2005



1) Described as “Rented houses owned by public corporation” until 2000.

Table 9.5 Trends in the Area of Floor Space by Tenure of Dwelling of Private Households Living in Dwelling Houses: 1990 to 2005

Area of floor space, year and change rate	Private households living in dwelling houses	Owned houses	Rented houses owned by local governments	Rented houses owned by Urban Renaissance agency and public corporation ¹⁾	Rented houses owned privately	Issued houses	Rented rooms
Area of floor space per household (m ²)							
1990	83.9	111.1	47.4	45.2	37.5	54.3	28.9
1995	85.9	115.4	48.5	46.2	37.9	53.2	33.8
2000	91.3	120.5	51.8	48.9	42.3	57.3	46.3
2005	91.8	119.8	52.9	50.1	42.8	57.2	45.3
Change rate (%)							
1990-1995	2.4	3.9	2.3	2.2	1.1	-2.0	17.0
1995-2000	6.3	4.4	6.8	5.8	11.6	7.7	37.0
2000-2005	0.5	-0.6	2.1	2.5	1.2	-0.2	-2.2
Area of floor space per person (m ²)							
1990	27.5	31.6	16.1	16.1	17.9	19.0	15.0
1995	29.9	34.7	17.8	17.7	19.1	20.6	16.6
2000	33.8	38.6	20.5	20.2	22.6	23.6	21.8
2005	35.7	40.6	22.3	22.2	23.6	24.9	21.9
Change rate (%)							
1990-1995	8.7	9.8	10.6	9.9	6.7	8.4	10.7
1995-2000	13.0	11.2	15.2	14.1	18.3	14.6	31.3
2000-2005	5.6	5.2	8.8	9.9	4.4	5.5	0.5

1) Described as "Rented houses owned by public corporation" until 2000.