

## CHAPTER IV: EDUCATION

### 1. Education Status of the Population

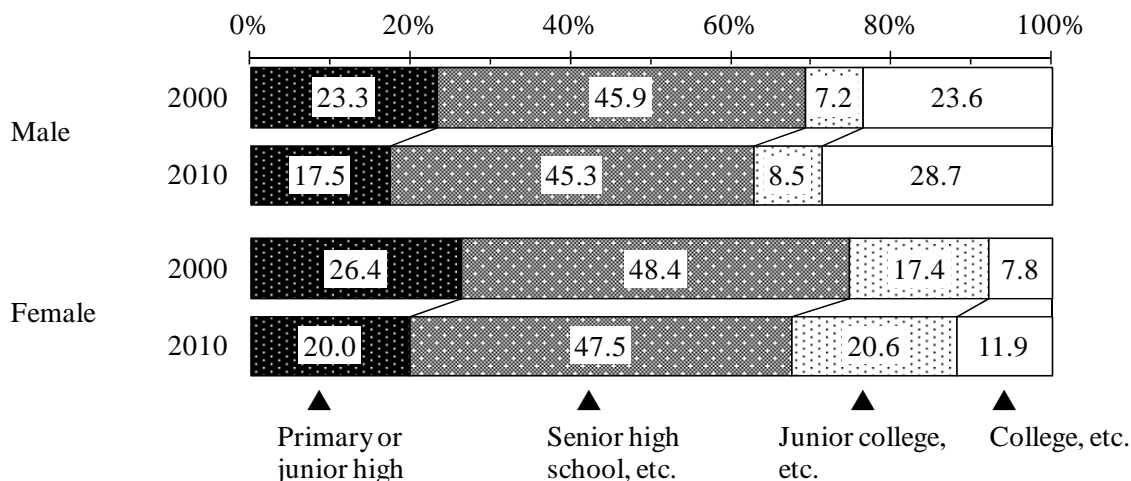
**Proportion of men graduated from “College, university or graduate school” is higher than that of women, while proportion of women graduated from “Junior college or higher professional school” is higher than that of men.**

To clarify education status of the population in Japan, ever since 1960 items concerning education are surveyed every 10 years. According to the education status of the population aged 15 and over (110.3 million) reported in the 2010 Population Census, the number of graduates is 102.4 million and that attending school is 7.7 million, accounting for 92.9% and 7.0% of the population aged 15 and over, respectively.

Comparing male and female graduates aged 15 and over by type of last school completed, the proportion of men graduated from “College, university or graduate school” is higher than that of women, while the proportion of women graduated from “Junior college or higher professional school” is higher than that of men.

Comparing the proportion in 2000 and 2010, the proportion of graduates of “College, university or graduate school” increased in both men and women, accounting for 5.2 percentage points (pp) and 4.1 pp, respectively. The increase of the proportion among men is higher than that of the proportion among women. Meanwhile, the proportion of graduates of “Junior college or higher professional school” increased in both men and women, accounting for 1.3 pp and 3.2 pp, respectively. The increase of the proportion among women is higher than that of the proportion among men. (Figure 4.1, Tables 4.1 and 4.2)

**Figure 4.1 Proportion of Graduates Aged 15 and Over by Sex and Type of Last School Completed: 2000 to 2010**



**Table 4.1 Population Aged 15 and Over by Sex and School Attendance: 1990 to 2010**

Sex and school attendance	Population aged 15 and over (thousands)			Proportion (%)			Differences (percentage point)
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010	2000-2010
Both sexes	100,799	108,225	110,277	100.0	100.0	100.0	-
Graduated from school	90,263	99,221	102,436	89.5	91.7	92.9	1.2
Attending school	10,318	8,845	7,701	10.2	8.2	7.0	-1.2
Never attended school	218	159	128	0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.0
Not reported	0	0	12	-	-	-	-
Male	48,956	52,503	53,155	100.0	100.0	100.0	-
Graduated from school	43,393	47,784	49,068	88.6	91.0	92.3	1.3
Attending school	5,492	4,664	4,031	11.2	8.9	7.6	-1.3
Never attended school	71	56	49	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.0
Not reported	0	0	7	-	-	-	-
Female	51,842	55,721	57,123	100.0	100.0	100.0	-
Graduated from school	46,870	51,437	53,368	90.4	92.3	93.4	1.1
Attending school	4,825	4,182	3,670	9.3	7.5	6.4	-1.1
Never attended school	147	103	79	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.0
Not reported	0	0	6	-	-	-	-

**Table 4.2 Number of Graduates Aged 15 and Over by Sex and Type of Last School Completed: 1990 to 2010**

Sex and type of last school completed	Graduates aged 15 and over (thousands)			Proportion (%)			Differences (percentage point)
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010	2000-2010
Both sexes	90,263	99,221	102,436	100.0	100.0	100.0	-
Primary or junior high	28,615	23,808	16,756	32.2	25.0	18.8	-6.1
Senior high school, etc.	41,050	45,025	41,400	46.2	47.2	46.5	-0.7
Junior college, etc.	8,420	11,924	13,187	9.5	12.5	14.8	2.3
College, etc.	10,752	14,651	17,717	12.1	15.4	19.9	4.5
Not reported	1,426	3,813	13,376	-	-	-	-
Male	43,393	47,784	49,068	100.0	100.0	100.0	-
Primary or junior high	13,000	10,692	7,417	30.4	23.3	17.5	-5.8
Senior high school, etc.	18,903	21,032	19,197	44.3	45.9	45.3	-0.6
Junior college, etc.	2,390	3,281	3,580	5.6	7.2	8.5	1.3
College, etc.	8,423	10,789	12,169	19.7	23.6	28.7	5.2
Not reported	677	1,990	6,705	-	-	-	-
Female	46,870	51,437	53,368	100.0	100.0	100.0	-
Primary or junior high	15,615	13,116	9,339	33.9	26.4	20.0	-6.4
Senior high school, etc.	22,147	23,993	22,203	48.0	48.4	47.5	-0.8
Junior college, etc.	6,030	8,643	9,607	13.1	17.4	20.6	3.2
College, etc.	2,329	3,862	5,548	5.1	7.8	11.9	4.1
Not reported	749	1,823	6,671	-	-	-	-

Notes: "Primary or junior high" stands for "Primary school or junior high school", "Senior high school, etc." stands for "Senior high school or middle school (under the old system of education)", "Junior college, etc." stands for "Junior college or higher professional school" and "College, etc." stands for "College, university or graduate school".

## 2. Education Status by Age Group

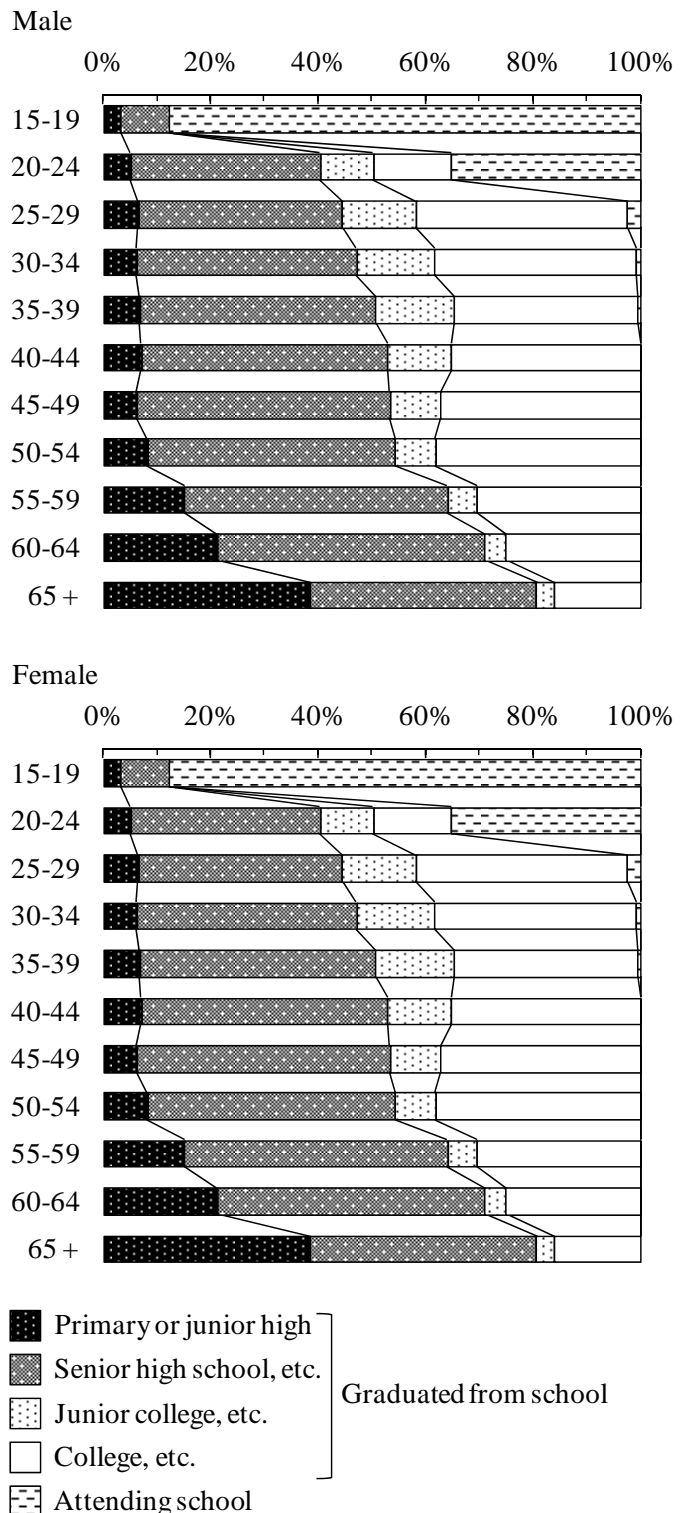
**The proportion of the population graduated from “College, university or graduate school” increases as age decreases with the exception of the 15 to 24 years old age group.**

Observing the proportion of the population by school attendance, type of last school completed and age group, the proportion of the population graduated from “College, university or graduate school” is the highest in 25 to 29 years old age group in both men and women (39.3% and 30.8%, respectively). The trends show that the proportion of the population graduated from “College, university or graduate school” increases as age decreases, with the exception of the 15 to 24 years old age group. This is because a large proportion of this age group is still attending school.

The proportion of the population graduated from “Junior college or higher professional school” is the highest in 35 to 39 years old age group in both men and women (14.7% and 35.8%, respectively).

The trends show that the proportion of the population graduated from “Senior high school or middle school (under the old system of education)” and “Primary school or junior high school” increases as age increases in both men and women. (Figure 4.2, Table 4.3)

**Figure 4.2 Proportion of the Population Aged 15 and Over by School Attendance, Type of Last School Completed, Sex and Age (Five-Year Groups): 2010**



**Table 4.3 Proportion of the Population Aged 15 and Over by School Attendance, Type of Last School Completed, Sex and Age (Five-Year Groups): 2010** (%)

Sex and age	Total	Graduated from school					Attending school	Never attended school
		Total	Primary or junior high	Senior high school, etc.	Junior college, etc.	College, etc.		
Both sexes	100.0	92.9	17.5	43.2	13.8	18.5	7.0	0.1
15-19 years old	100.0	11.2	3.1	8.2	-	-	88.7	0.1
20-24	100.0	68.2	4.9	33.4	15.7	14.2	31.7	0.1
25-29	100.0	98.0	5.6	35.8	21.6	35.0	2.0	0.1
30-34	100.0	99.3	5.1	38.1	24.9	31.3	0.6	0.1
35-39	100.0	99.6	5.5	42.5	25.3	26.3	0.3	0.1
40-44	100.0	99.7	5.7	46.8	22.3	25.0	0.2	0.1
45-49	100.0	99.8	5.1	49.2	20.1	25.3	0.2	0.1
50-54	100.0	99.8	7.1	49.3	17.6	25.8	0.1	0.1
55-59	100.0	99.8	14.3	53.5	12.1	19.8	0.1	0.1
60-64	100.0	99.8	21.4	54.4	8.7	15.4	0.1	0.1
65 and over	100.0	99.7	42.6	44.4	4.4	8.2	0.0	0.2
Male	100.0	92.3	16.2	41.8	7.8	26.5	7.6	0.1
15-19 years old	100.0	12.3	3.3	8.9	-	-	87.6	0.1
20-24	100.0	64.8	5.1	35.3	9.9	14.5	35.2	0.1
25-29	100.0	97.5	6.5	38.0	13.7	39.3	2.4	0.1
30-34	100.0	99.3	6.3	40.9	14.6	37.5	0.7	0.1
35-39	100.0	99.7	6.8	43.9	14.7	34.2	0.3	0.1
40-44	100.0	99.8	7.1	45.9	11.8	35.0	0.2	0.1
45-49	100.0	99.8	6.4	47.0	9.5	37.0	0.1	0.1
50-54	100.0	99.8	8.3	46.1	7.4	38.0	0.1	0.1
55-59	100.0	99.8	15.2	48.9	5.4	30.3	0.1	0.1
60-64	100.0	99.8	21.3	49.7	4.1	24.8	0.1	0.1
65 and over	100.0	99.8	38.5	42.2	3.3	15.9	0.0	0.1
Female	100.0	93.4	18.7	44.4	19.2	11.1	6.4	0.1
15-19 years old	100.0	10.2	2.8	7.3	-	-	89.7	0.1
20-24	100.0	71.8	4.7	31.5	21.5	14.0	28.2	0.1
25-29	100.0	98.5	4.6	33.6	29.5	30.8	1.5	0.1
30-34	100.0	99.4	3.8	35.4	35.0	25.1	0.6	0.1
35-39	100.0	99.6	4.2	41.2	35.8	18.4	0.3	0.1
40-44	100.0	99.7	4.3	47.8	32.6	15.0	0.3	0.1
45-49	100.0	99.7	3.9	51.4	30.6	13.8	0.2	0.1
50-54	100.0	99.8	6.0	52.5	27.5	13.8	0.1	0.1
55-59	100.0	99.8	13.5	58.1	18.7	9.6	0.1	0.1
60-64	100.0	99.8	21.5	58.9	13.1	6.3	0.1	0.1
65 and over	100.0	99.7	45.7	46.1	5.3	2.5	0.0	0.3