

Sharing Knowledge and Experiences Towards Sustainable Ageing Societies in North-East Asia: The 1st Meeting of the North-East Asian Forum on Population Ageing

Session 2: Active ageing: Facilitating older persons' participation in cultural, economic, political, and social life

Active Aging in Japan: Policy, Practice, and Research

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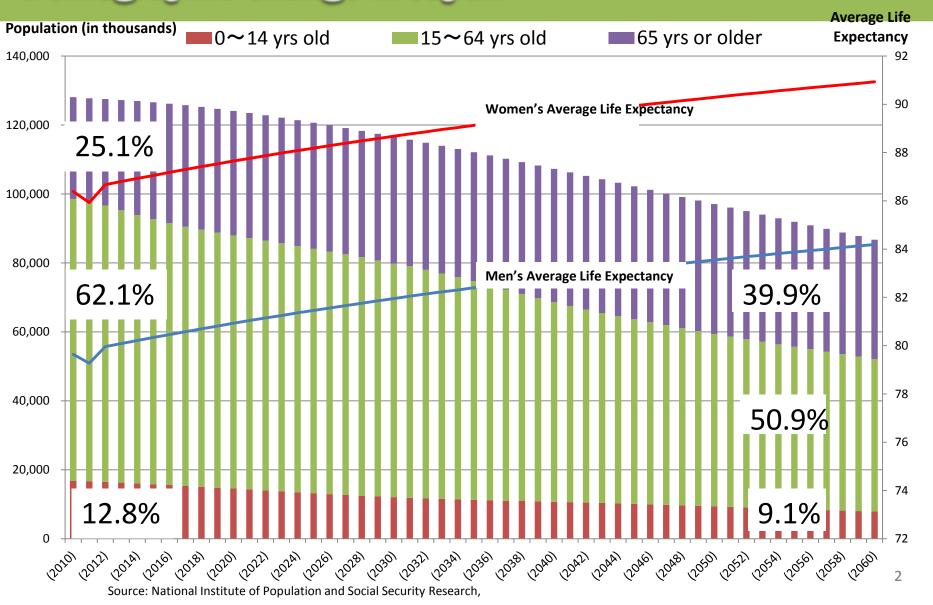


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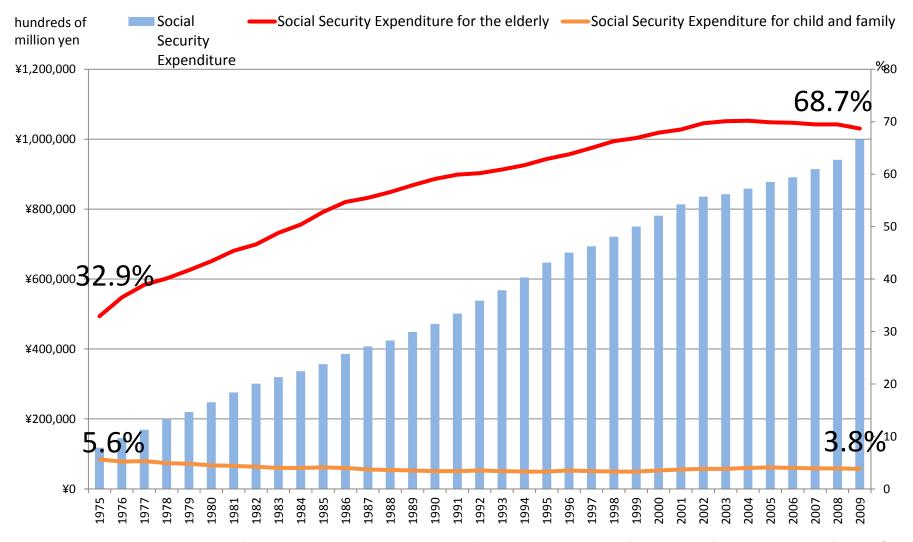
Research Team for Social Participation and Community Health



Demographic Change in Japan



Government Expenditure on Social Security



Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy in Japan

		Life expectancy at birth			Life expectancy at age 60			Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at birth		
		Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male
Japan	2013	84	87	80	26	29	23	75	78	72
	2012	84	87	80	26	29	23	75	77	72
	2000	81	85	78	25	27	22	73	76	70
	1990	79	82	76	23	25	20			

Source: Global Health Observatory (GHO) data

Policies Related to Active Aging from Health Perspectives

The Basic Law on Measures for the Aged Society (Law No.129, 1995).

Article 2. (Basic Objective)

The basic objective of measures for the aging society is to create a society as described in the following items.

- i) A fair and energetic society where people can be ensured that they have the opportunity of participating in diverse social activities or working throughout their lives.
- ii) A society where people are respected as important members throughout their lives where local communities are formed based on the spirit of independence and solidarity.
- iii) An affluent society where people can live peacefully and with fulfillment throughout their lives.

Article 3. (Duties of the National Government)

Article 4. (Duties of Local Governments)

Article 5. (Efforts of People)

Article 6. (General Principles Concerning Measures)

Article 7. (Legislative Measures, etc.)

General Principles Concerning Measures for the Aged Society

Policies Related to Active Aging from Health Perspectives

General Principles Concerning Measures for the Aged Society (revised in 2012)

Fundamental Principles

- i. Change of Awareness on "Elderly Persons"—How to conceptualize them
- ii. Establishment of social security system for securing peace of mind in people's old age
- iii. Utilization of will and capability of the aged
- iv. Strengthening of regional power and realization of stable regional society
- v. Realization of safe and peaceful living environment
- vi. Preparation for "Age of a 90-year lifespan" from the younger time and realization of generation circulation

Healthy Japan 21 (secondary): Direction in Health Promotion for the Elderly

Longer healthy life expectancy / Closing the health gap

Improving QOL

Improving social environment

Preventing long-term care or delaying it

Social participation and contribution by the elderly

- Maintaining and promoting physical, mental and social functions
- Preventing geriatric syndrome such as dementia, locomotive syndrome, depressive mode, homeboundness, and low nutrition



- Good food and nutrition
- Physical activity and strength
- Social participation and social network

- More opportunities for social participation, securing a fair society, improving access to support for health (public health, medical, and care services).
- Health promotion based on community networks





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