

The Fourteenth Japanese National Fertility Survey in 2010
Marriage Process and Fertility of Japanese Married Couples
Highlights of the Survey Results on Married Couples
(October 2011)

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Overview of the Survey

(1) The purpose and history of the survey

The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research conducted the 14th Japanese National Fertility Survey (*Shussho doko kihon chosa*) in June 2010. The survey is conducted to determine the current situations and background to marriage and/or fertility of married couples, which are not available in other public statistics, and also to obtain the basic data necessary for developing relevant policies and projecting the future population. The first National Fertility Survey was carried out in 1940 (prewar) and the second one in 1952 (postwar). Since then, it has been conducted every five years, investigating process of marriage and fertility of married couples. Since the 8th Survey (1982), a survey of unmarried persons has been conducted simultaneously with that of married couples. This report covers the 14th Survey of married couples.

(2) Survey procedures and data collection

This study is based on a national sample of married couples with wives in Japan under 50 years old as of June 1, 2010 (i.e. the respondents are wives). The survey was conducted in 840 districts selected by systematic sampling from the 5,510 districts where the Comprehensive Survey of Living Condition of the People on Health and Welfare, 2010, was conducted by the Statistics and Information Department of the Minister's Secretariat in the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The 5,510 districts were originally selected by a stratified random sampling procedure from the 2005 Population Census tracts. All married women under 50 years old residing in these 840 districts were the targeted subjects of this survey.

This study was conducted by self-enumeration method. The questionnaires were distributed by survey staff, and the respondents placed the completed questionnaire in the envelopes provided before they were collected by the staff. Of the 9,050 distributed questionnaires (the number of subjects surveyed), 8,252 questionnaires were collected, yielding a response rate of 91.2% (the figure was 91.5% for the previous survey). Four hundred and five (405) of the collected questionnaires that were not properly filled-out were considered invalid and were excluded from the analysis. Thus, the number of valid questionnaires was 7,847 and the valid collection rate was 86.7% (85.7% for the previous survey). This report presents the results based on 6,705 first-marriage couples (*).

[*: In this report, the term “first-marriage couples” will be used to refer to couples for whom the current marriage is the first one for both husband and wife.]

Table 0-1 Sample size and response rates

Status of data collection	
Number of subjects surveyed	9,050
Number of questionnaires returned	8,252 (response rate 91.2%)
Number of valid cases	7,847 (valid response rate 86.7%)

Table 0-2 Basic characteristics of respondents: Ages of wife and duration of marriage (first-marriage couples)

Age of wife	Number of cases (proportion)	Duration of marriage	Number of cases (proportion)
Under 20	2 (0.0 %)	Less than 5 years	1,136 (16.9 %)
20-24	132 (2.0)	5-9	1,340 (20.0)
25-29	520 (7.8)	10-14	1,517 (22.6)
30-34	1,122 (16.7)	15-19	1,392 (20.8)
35-39	1,744 (26.0)	20-24	991 (14.8)
40-44	1,602 (23.9)	25 year or more	267 (4.0)
45-49	1,583 (23.6)	Not known	62 (0.9)
Total	6,705 (100.0 %)	Total	6,705 (100.0 %)

1. Marriage Process

(1) Ages at first-marriage/first encounter and the length of courtship

Couples are meeting one another at older ages, the length of courtship has lengthened, and the trend of later marriage has further strengthened

With regards to marriages during the past five years, the average age at which couples met for the first time has increased for both husbands and wives to 25.6 years old for husbands and 24.3 years old for wives (**Table 1-1**). There is an increase in the average length of courtship (from the first encounter to marriage). The average courtship period was 4.3 years, which is 1.72 years (68%) longer than that in the 9th Survey (1987), when the question on courtship period was first included in the survey. The proportion of couples who met before turning 25 (**Table 1-2**) was approximately half (49.6%) for husbands and nearly 60% (57.4%) for wives; there is a general tendency for couples to meet at later stages in their lives. As a result of these changes, the average age at first marriage has continued to increase, indicating a continuing trend of delaying marriage.

Table 1-1 Mean ages at first encounter and first marriage and duration of courtship, by survey

Survey (Year of survey)	Husband		Wife		Duration of courtship (Years)
	Mean age at first encounter	Mean age at first marriage	Mean age at first encounter	Mean age at first marriage	
Total					
9th Survey (1987)	25.7	28.2	22.7	25.3	2.54
10th Survey(1992)	25.4	28.3	22.8	25.7	2.95
11th Survey(1997)	25.1	28.4	22.7	26.1	3.37
12th Survey(2002)	24.9	28.5	23.2	26.8	3.57
13th Survey(2005)	25.3	29.1	23.7	27.4	3.76
14th Survey(2010)	25.6	29.8	24.3	28.5	4.26
Love marriage					
9th Survey (1987)	24.1	27.3	21.6	24.7	3.15
10th Survey(1992)	24.2	27.6	21.9	25.3	3.38
11th Survey(1997)	24.2	27.9	22.1	25.7	3.67
12th Survey(2002)	24.2	28.0	22.7	26.5	3.84
13th Survey(2005)	24.6	28.6	23.0	27.1	4.07
14th Survey(2010)	24.9	29.3	23.6	28.1	4.48

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples who got married within five years prior to each survey (excluding couples without data on process of marriage). “Love marriages” were determined by the ways/places couples meet (see “Glossary” at the end of the report). Number of cases (total/love marriage): 9th Survey (1,289/974), 10th Survey (1,342/1,102), 11th Survey (1,145/997), 12th Survey (1,221/1,090), 13th Survey (885/774), 14th survey (954/848).

Table 1-2 Age at which the couples met (% distribution), by survey

Age of couples when they first met	9th Survey (1987)	10th Survey (1992)	11th Survey (1997)	12th Survey (2002)	13th Survey (2005)	14th Survey (2010)
Husband						
By age 20	14.3 %	14.7	17.8	16.9	16.4	17.7
By age 25	43.9	49.4	53.3	55.2	49.9	49.6
By age 30	79.9	81.1	81.6	82.7	82.5	77.3
By age 35	96.5	95.4	94.8	95.7	93.8	91.3
Median age at first encounter	25.8	25.1	24.5	24.1	25.0	25.1
Wife						
By age 20	27.8 %	26.4	27.9	25.3	23.2	24.4
By age 25	71.5	72.4	71.8	68.0	63.7	57.4
By age 30	94.5	94.3	93.6	90.8	89.7	82.6
By age 35	98.8	99.1	98.9	98.7	97.9	95.4
Median age at first encounter	22.3	22.4	22.3	22.8	23.3	23.7

Note: Same as **Table 1-1**. The median age at first encounter refers to the age at which half of the respondents who ultimately got married had already encountered their future spouses.

(2) How did couples meet and get married?

70% of the couples met at workplace, at school, or through friends and siblings

Looking at the ways in which the wives met their spouses, “through friends or siblings” and “at the workplace or through work” are the two most common answers at the same level of 29%, followed by “at school,” which accounts for 11.9%. These top three answers together consist approximately 70% of places and/or ways in which couples met, indicating the continuous trend that the majority of couples meet in everyday settings.

Motives of marriage decision: Half of the respondents 25 years old or younger chose “became pregnant” while half of those over 25 years old chose “the appropriate age”

Looking at the motives of couples who eventually decided to get married, pregnancy (“became pregnant”) was the most frequently chosen response among couples with wives younger than 25 years old, which accounted for 50.0%. For couples with wives 25 years or older, the proportion of respondents who chose “became pregnant” was lower, and more than half chose “felt it was the appropriate age to get married.”

Table 1-3 The ways and/or places couples met, by survey

Survey (Survey year)	Total	Love marriage							Arranged marriage	Other/Not known
		At the workplace or through work	Through friends or siblings	At school	Around town or during a trip	Love marriage through various activities (hobbies, etc.) or an adult education class	Through a part-time job	Childhood friend/neighbor		
8th Survey (1982)	100.0 %	25.3 %	20.5	6.1	8.2	5.8	-	2.2	29.4 %	2.5 %
9th Survey (1987)	100.0	31.5	22.4	7.0	6.3	5.3	-	1.5	23.3	2.7
9th Survey (1987)	100.0	35.0	22.3	7.7	6.2	5.5	4.2	1.8	15.2	2.0
11th Survey (1997)	100.0	33.5	27.0	10.4	5.2	4.8	4.7	1.5	9.7	3.1
12th Survey (2002)	100.0	32.9	29.2	9.3	5.4	5.1	4.8	1.1	6.9	5.2
13th Survey (2005)	100.0	29.9	30.9	11.1	4.5	5.2	4.3	1.0	6.4	6.8
14th Survey (2010)	100.0	29.3	29.7	11.9	5.1	5.5	4.2	2.4	5.2	6.8

Note: Figures shown are for first-marriage couples who got married within five years prior to each survey. “Arranged marriage” means “through an arranged introduction” or “through a marriage match-making agency.” In the 8th and 9th surveys, “through a part-time job” was not included in the options. Number of cases: 8th Survey (1,298), 9th Survey (1,421), 10th Survey (1,525), 11th Survey (1,304), 12th Survey (1,488), 13th Survey (1,076), 14th survey (1,136). See **Appendix 1** (at the end of the report) for changes in the proportions of arranged marriages and love marriages.

Table 1-4 Motives for decision to get married: 14th Survey (2010)

(Multiple answers)

Age of wife at marriage	(Number of cases)	Motives for decision to get married									
		(1) Saved enough money to get married	(2) Established economic base for married life	(3) Work circumstances of either spouse	(4) Wanted to live together as soon as possible	(5) Felt it was the appropriate age to get married	(6) Wanted to have children as soon as possible	(7) Became pregnant	(8) Friends or people the same age got married	(9) Recommended by parents or others	(10) Other
Under 25	(260)	5.0 %	8.5	4.6	28.1	24.6	5.8	50.0	1.9	5.8	3.5
25-29	(484)	5.2	12.6	12.8	22.7	53.9	7.2	12.4	3.1	6.0	5.4
30-34	(275)	2.5	12.0	11.6	19.3	57.8	8.7	11.6	2.2	9.5	6.2
35 or older	(117)	2.6	12.0	8.5	30.8	55.6	8.5	6.0	1.7	9.4	9.4
Total	(1,136)	4.2 %	11.4	10.2	23.9	48.3	7.4	20.2	2.5	7.1	5.5

Note: Figures shown are for first-marriage couples who got married within five years prior to the 14th survey. Question: “What are the direct reasons that ultimately led to your decision to get married? Please choose up to 2 responses from the options below and circle the numbers.” The options are shown as (1) to (10) in the table.

2. Fertility of Married Couples

(1) Completed number of children (The final number of children born to married couples)

Completed number of children of married couples dropped below 2 for the first time

In this survey, the completed number of children of married couples is defined as the average number of children born to couples who have been married for a duration of 15 to 19 years (i.e., number of years since marriage), and the figure is regarded as the average of the final number of children born to married couples.

The completed number of children of married couples decreased significantly during the post-World War II period and reached the lowest at 2.20 in the 6th Survey (1972). It stabilized and remained fairly constant for the next 30 years until the 12th Survey (2002) when the figure reached 2.23. Since then, it began to decline again, dropping first to 2.09 in the previous survey (2005) and then to 1.96 in the current survey. Note that the couples married for 15 to 19 years in this survey belong to the cohort who got married in the first half of the 1990s.

Table 2-1 Completed number of children of couples, by survey (Duration of marriage: 15 to 19 years)

Survey (Survey year)	Completed number of children
1st Survey (1940)	4.27
2nd Survey (1952)	3.50
3rd Survey (1957)	3.60
4th Survey (1962)	2.83
5th Survey (1967)	2.65
6th Survey (1972)	2.20
7th Survey (1977)	2.19
8th Survey (1982)	2.23
9th Survey (1987)	2.19
10th Survey (1992)	2.21
11th Survey (1997)	2.21
12th Survey (2002)	2.23
13th Survey (2005)	2.09
14th Survey (2010)	1.96

Note: Figures shown are for first-marriage couples who have been married for 15-19 years (excluding couples who did not state the number of children).

Number of couples with fewer than 2 children increases

Since the 7th Survey (1977), more than half of the married couples had two children and this has remained unchanged in the current survey as well. However, the number of couples without any children, as well as that of couples with only one child (“the only child”), have continued to increase since the previous survey. When these couples are considered together, it can be seen that the percentage of couples with fewer than two children exceeds 20% for the first time since the beginning of this survey. Conversely, the percentage of married couples with three or more child-

ren is declining, and the percentage of couples with exactly three children dropped below 20%.

**Table 2-2 Changes in number of children, by survey (% distribution)
(Duration of marriage: 15 to 19 years)**

Survey (Survey year)	Total	(Number of cases)	None	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children or more	Completed number of children (±Standard Error)
7th Survey (1977)	100.0 %	(1,427)	3.0 %	11.0	57.0	23.8	5.1	2.19 (±0.023)
8th Survey (1982)	100.0	(1,429)	3.1	9.1	55.4	27.4	5.0	2.23 (±0.022)
9th Survey (1987)	100.0	(1,755)	2.7	9.6	57.8	25.9	3.9	2.19 (±0.019)
10th Survey (1992)	100.0	(1,849)	3.1	9.3	56.4	26.5	4.8	2.21 (±0.019)
11th Survey (1997)	100.0	(1,334)	3.7	9.8	53.6	27.9	5.0	2.21 (±0.023)
12th Survey (2002)	100.0	(1,257)	3.4	8.9	53.2	30.2	4.2	2.23 (±0.023)
13th Survey (2005)	100.0	(1,078)	5.6	11.7	56.0	22.4	4.3	2.09 (±0.027)
14th Survey (2010)	100.0	(1,385)	6.4	15.9	56.2	19.4	2.2	1.96 (±0.023)

Note: Same as the previous table.

(2) Number of children of couples in childbearing process (Number of children by duration of marriage)

The number of children born to married couples decreased in all durations of marriage

The average number of children has decreased in all duration of marriage. The number also decreased for couples married for 0 to 4 years, which showed an increasing trend in the previous two surveys. The increase in the average number of children born to couples married for 0 to 4 years in the previous surveys did not lead to an increase in the number of children born to the couples married for 5 to 9 years in the current survey conducted five years later.

Table 2-3 Average number of children, by survey and duration of marriage

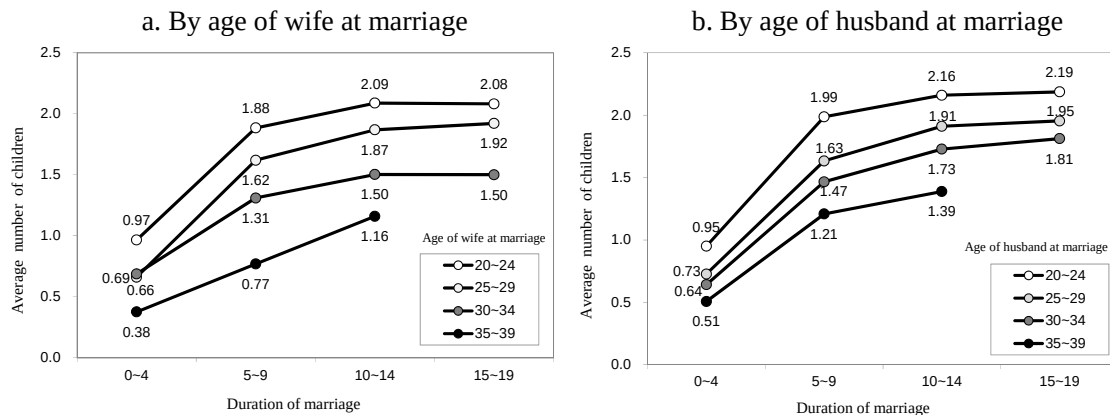
Duration of marriage	7th Survey (1977)	8th Survey (1982)	9th Survey (1987)	10th Survey (1992)	11th Survey (1997)	12th Survey (2002)	13th Survey (2005)	14th Survey (2010)
0-4 years	0.93	0.80	0.93	0.80	0.71	0.75	0.80	0.71
5-9 years	1.93	1.95	1.97	1.84	1.75	1.71	1.63	1.60
10-14 years	2.17	2.16	2.16	2.19	2.10	2.04	1.98	1.88
15-19 years	2.19	2.23	2.19	2.21	2.21	2.23	2.09	1.96
20 years or longer	2.30	2.24	2.30	2.21	2.24	2.32	2.30	2.22

Note: Figures shown are for first-marriage couples (excluding couples who did not state the number of children).

The number of children decreases among couples who married at an older age

The older the ages of a couple at marriage, the lower the average number of children born to the couple tends to be. For example, among couples who have been married for 15 to 19 years, the average number of children born to couples who married when the wives were 20 to 24 years old was 2.08 while the figure was 1.92 for wives 25 to 29 years old and 1.50 for wives 30 to 34 years old. Thus, increase in the age at marriage (i.e., trend of delaying marriage) has the effect of lowering the average number of children born to a couple.

Figure 2-1 Changes in the average number of children, by age of wife (a) and age of husband (b) at marriage, by duration of marriage: 14th Survey (2010)



Note: Figures shown here are for first-marriage couples (excluding couples who did not state the number of children). Number of cases (wife/husband) by age at marriage: 20 to 24 years old (1,505/922), 25 to 29 years old (2,687/2,533), 30 to 34 years old (842/1,289), and 35 to 39 years old (178/420).

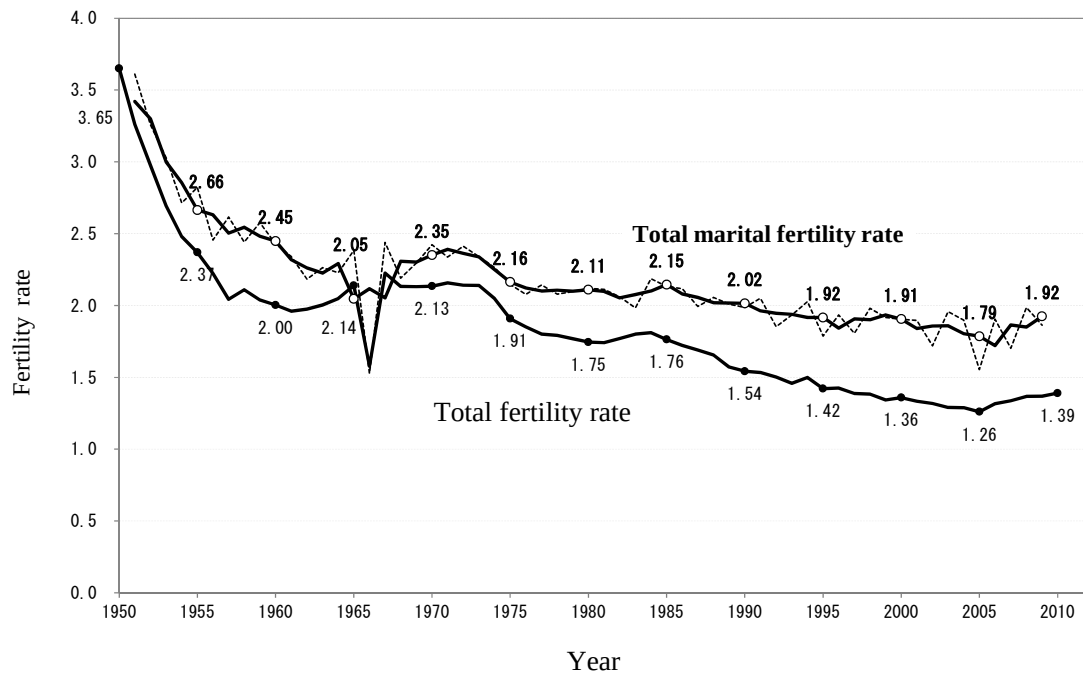
(3) Trend of fertility of married couples (Total marital fertility rate)

The fertility of married couples was on a downward trend, but showed a slight recovery in the last 5 years

The fertility rate of married couples (total marital fertility rate) dropped dramatically in the postwar period by the 1960s, leading to a trend of reduction in births per couple. Following this period, the fertility fluctuated sharply around 1966, the year of Hinoeuma in the Chinese Zodiac calendar (**), when the birthrate was low during the year. It then increased slightly in the first half of the 1970s, but soon dropped sharply in the middle of the 1970s and remained at the level of around 2.1. The fertility rate started to decrease again in the latter half of 1980s, dropped below 2.0 from the 1990s on, and reached its lowest point around 2005. Since then, it shows a very small trend of recovery.

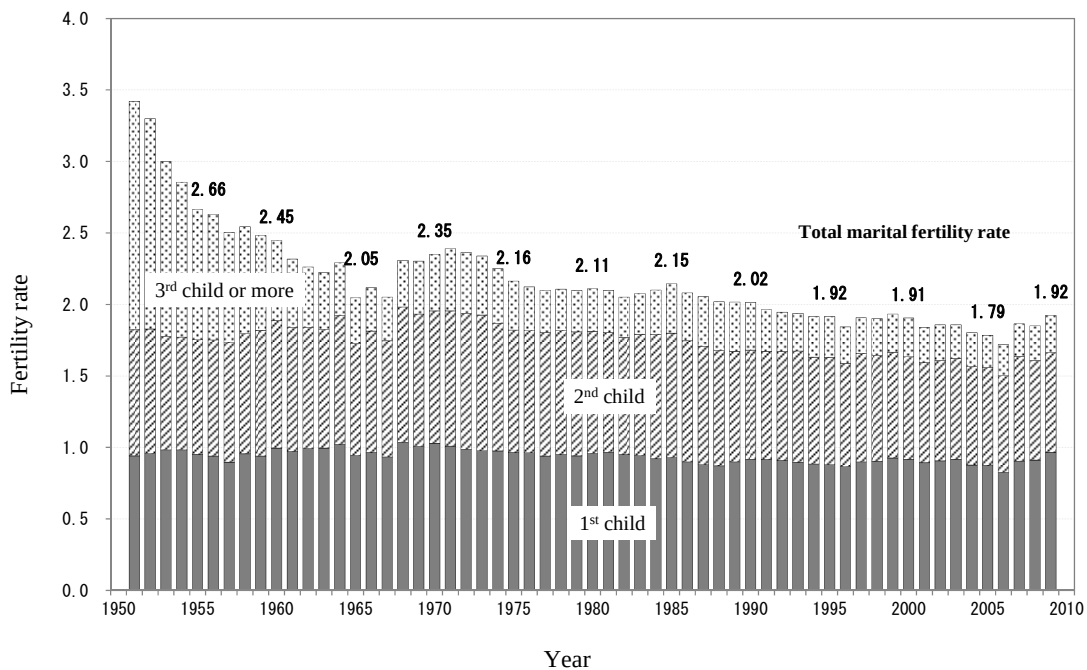
[**: The Hinoeuma year comes every 60 years in the cycle. Superstitious belief has it that girls born in the year would grow up to bite and kill their husbands to death. Even in modern days, it is said that girls born this year would become too strong and hence difficult to have them as a wife.]

Figure 2-2 Total marital fertility rate and conventional total fertility rate



Note: The dotted line for the total fertility rate of married couples indicates the figure for each year and the solid line indicates the 3-year moving average. Data obtained from the 7th survey (1977) to the 14th survey (2010) were aggregated in obtaining these figures. The total fertility rate data was obtained from the “Vital Statistics.” The figures on the graphs show both the 3-year moving average of the total marital fertility rate and the total fertility rate for every 5 years from 1955 (the latest figure for the total marital fertility rate is the figure for 2009). See “Glossary” for the explanation of total marital fertility rate and **Appendix 2** (at the end of the report) for all the figures.

Figure 2-3 Breakdown of total marital fertility rate by birth order (1950 to 2010)



Note: Same as the previous figure. See **Appendix 2** (at the end of the report) for the figures not shown here.

3. Views on the Number of Children

(1) Ideal number of children and intended number of children

Both the ideal number of children and intended number of children show a continuous declining trend

The decrease in the average ideal number of children seen in the previous survey has continued in the present survey that records 2.42 children, which is the lowest ever since the relevant questions has been included in the study. The number of children the couples actually intend to have (average intended number of children) has also dropped below 2.1 (2.07 children) for the first time. The number increased for couples who have been married for less than 10 years, albeit slightly.

**Table 3-1 Average ideal and intended number of children,
by survey and duration of marriage**

(1) Average ideal number of children

Duration of marriage	7th Survey (1977)	8th Survey (1982)	9th Survey (1987)	10th Survey (1992)	11th Survey (1997)	12th Survey (2002)	13th Survey (2005)	14th Survey (2010)
0-4 years	2.42	2.49	2.51	2.40	2.33	2.31	2.30	2.30
5-9 years	2.56	2.63	2.65	2.61	2.47	2.48	2.41	2.38
10-14 years	2.68	2.67	2.73	2.76	2.58	2.60	2.51	2.42
15-19 years	2.67	2.66	2.70	2.71	2.60	2.69	2.56	2.42
20 years or longer	2.79	2.63	2.73	2.69	2.65	2.76	2.62	2.58
Total (number of subjects)	2.61 (8,314)	2.62 (7,803)	2.67 (8,348)	2.64 (8,627)	2.53 (7,069)	2.56 (6,634)	2.48 (5,634)	2.42 (6,490)

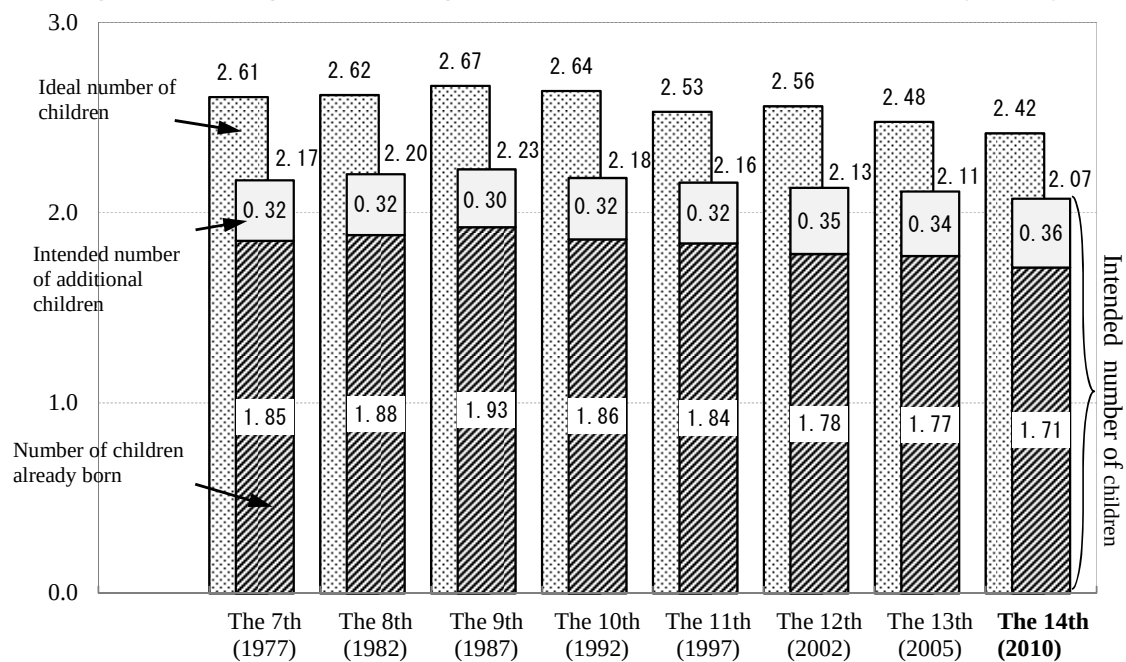
(2) Average intended number of children

Duration of marriage	7th Survey (1977)	8th Survey (1982)	9th Survey (1987)	10th Survey (1992)	11th Survey (1997)	12th Survey (2002)	13th Survey (2005)	14th Survey (2010)
0-4 years	2.08	2.22	2.28	2.14	2.11	1.99	2.05	2.08
5-9 years	2.17	2.21	2.25	2.18	2.10	2.07	2.05	2.09
10-14 years	2.18	2.18	2.20	2.25	2.17	2.10	2.06	2.01
15-19 years	2.13	2.21	2.19	2.18	2.22	2.22	2.11	1.99
20 years or longer	2.30	2.21	2.24	2.18	2.19	2.28	2.30	2.23
Total (number of subjects)	2.17 (8,129)	2.20 (7,784)	2.23 (8,024)	2.18 (8,351)	2.16 (6,472)	2.13 (6,564)	2.11 (5,603)	2.07 (6,462)

Note: Figures shown are for first-marriage couples with wives under 50 years old. The intended number of children was calculated by adding the number of children already born and the number of additional children intended. The figures under "total" include data of couples whose duration of marriage is not known.

Question for ideal number of children: "What is the ideal number of children for you as a couple?" Intended number of (additional) children: "Please answer the following questions on your plans for additional children in the future. Circle the appropriate numbers for (1) the number of children and (2) the desired timeframe to have the next child."

Figure 3-1 Change in the average ideal and intended number of children, by survey



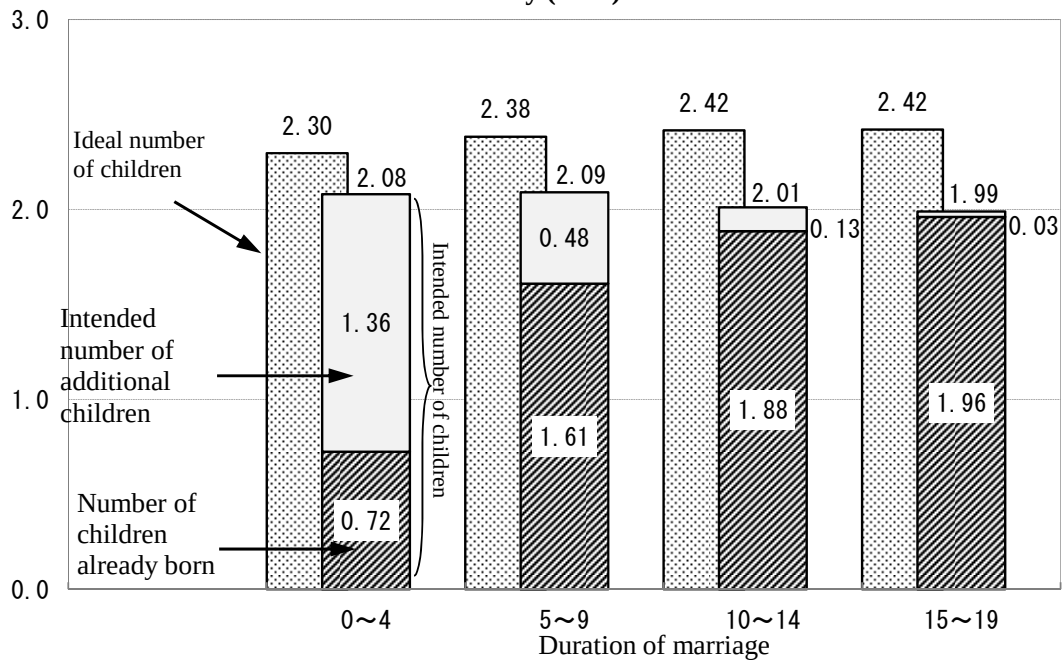
Note: Same as the previous table.

Although childbearing intentions continue to be present among young couples, those intentions are not realized

The ideal number of children and intended number of children do not vary significantly depending on the duration of marriage. The breakdown of the intended number of children, however, changes as the duration of marriage increases in length in response to whether they are realizing their intention (**Figure 3-2**).

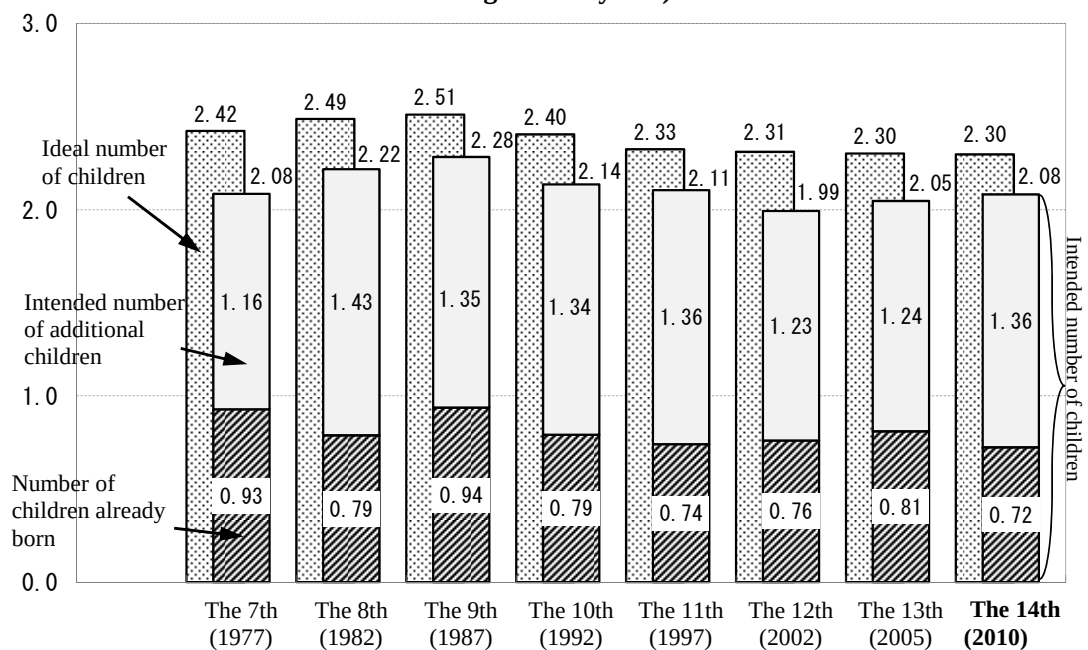
Comparing the results of this and the past surveys on couples who have been married for 0 to 4 years and have just entered the childbearing process, the ideal number of children has consistently been on a downward trend since the 9th survey (1992) but it leveled off in this survey (**Figure 3-3**). For the intended number of children of couples with the same duration of marriage, the number of children already born, which constitutes part of the intended number, is decreasing, but the intended number of additional children has decreased only marginally; the average intended number of children combining these two figures is still at a level exceeding 2 children (same figure). In this way, no significant changes are observed in the number of children young couples intend to have, but certain delay is seen in the pace of actually giving birth.

**Figure 3-2 Average ideal and intended number of children, by duration of marriage:
14th Survey (2010)**



Note: Same as Figure 3-1. Data of couples whose duration of marriage is 20 years or longer is omitted.

Figure 3-3 Change in the average ideal and intended number of children, by survey (Duration of marriage: 0 to 4 years)



Note: Same as Figure 3-1.

(2) Reasons why couples do not realize their ideal number of children and perceived possibility that the intended number of children cannot be achieved

The most frequently cited reason why the intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children is “it costs too much”

The most frequently cited reason why the intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children is “it costs too much to raise and educate children.” The proportion of wives who selected such economic reasons is especially high among the younger generation under 30 years old. Among the respondents 30 years old or older, the proportions choosing “want to have a child but can’t conceive one” and other age/physical reasons are high. Moreover, respondents in their 30s chose the option “can’t bear mentally/physically the burden of childrearing anymore” at a higher frequency than those in other age groups.

Table 3-2 Reasons why couples do not realize their ideal number of children, by age of wife:

(Multiple Answers)

Age of wife (Number of cases)	Reasons why couples do not realize their ideal number of children											
	Economic reasons			Age/physical reasons			Burden of child rearing	Reasons related to husbands			Other	
	It costs too much to raise and educate children	Interference with one's job or business	House is too small	Hate to bear children at older age	Want to have a child but can't conceive one	Health reasons	Can't bear mentally/physically the burden of childrearing anymore	Can't gain husband's cooperation with household chores and childrearing	Want the last child to grow up before the husband retires	Husband does not want it	Social environment is not suitable for children to grow up without worry	Want to cherish the life of couple or oneself
< 30 (90)	83.3%	21.1	18.9	3.3	3.3	5.6	10.0	12.2	5.6	4.4	7.8	11.1
30-34 (233)	76.0	17.2	18.9	13.3	12.9	15.5	21.0	13.3	4.3	9.9	9.9	7.3
35-39 (519)	69.0	19.5	16.0	27.2	16.4	15.0	21.0	11.6	6.9	8.9	8.1	7.5
40-49 (993)	50.3	14.9	9.9	47.3	23.8	22.5	15.4	9.9	10.2	6.2	6.1	3.7
Total (1,835)	60.4	16.8	13.2	35.1	19.3	18.6	17.4	10.9	8.3	7.4	7.2	5.6
13th Survey (Total) (1,825)	65.9%	17.5	15.0	38.0	16.3	16.9	21.6	13.8	8.5	8.3	13.6	8.1

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples whose intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children. The percentage of couples whose intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children is 32.7%.

The obstacles to have the first child are related to age/physical reasons, and those for the third child, economic reasons

Among cases in which the intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children, couples whose ideal number of children exceeds two most frequently chose “it cost too much,” “house is too small” and other economic reasons as the reason for not being able to realize their ideal number of children. On the other hand, those wishing to have 2 children or less chose age/physical reasons such as “do not want to bear children at older age,” “want to have a child but can’t conceive one” and others classified as age/physical reasons most frequently.

Table 3-3 Reasons why couples do not realize their ideal number of children, by combinations of intended and ideal numbers of children: 14th Survey (2010)

(Multiple Answers)

Combination in which the intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children	Couples whose intended number of children is less than the ideal number of children (Number of cases)	Reasons why couples do not realize their ideal number of children											
		Economic reasons			Age/physical reasons			Burden of child rearing	Reasons related to husbands			Other	
		It costs too much to raise and educate children	Interference with one's job or business	House is too small	Hate to bear children at older age	Want to have a child but can't conceive one	Health reasons	Can't bear mentally/physically the burden of childrearing anymore	Can't gain husband's cooperation with household chores and childrearing	Want the last child to grow up before the husband retires	Husband does not want it	Social environment is not suitable for children to grow up without worry	Want to cherish the life of couple or oneself
Ideal: 1 or more/Intended: none	4.5% (83)	18.1%	7.2	1.2	41.0	60.2	26.5	1.2	3.6	6.0	4.8	7.2	9.6
Ideal: 2 or more/Intended: 1	30.6 (561)	44.0	14.1	0.2	36.7	33.3	23.2	13.9	10.9	5.5	8.4	5.9	4.8
Ideal: 3 or more/Intended: 2 or more	64.9 (1,191)	71.1	18.7	17.1	34.0	9.8	16.0	20.2	11.4	9.7	7.1	7.9	5.7
Total	100.0% (1,835)	60.4%	16.8	13.2	35.1	19.3	18.6	17.4	10.9	8.3	7.4	7.2	5.6

Note: Same as **Table 3-2**.

Possibility that the intended number of children cannot be achieved: “unstable income” and “age and health reasons”

We asked couples who intend to have children in the future that in case they ended up not having the intended number of children, what reasons might impair their ability to do so. We asked couples who intend to have children in the future possible reasons for inability to have the number of children they intend, in case they ended up not having the intended number of children. More than 40% (43.6%) of young couples with wives under 30 years old chose “unstable income.” Among couples with wives 35 years old or older, 65.3% consider that they might fail to have the intended number of children due to “age and/or health reasons.”

Table 3-4 Reasons given for inability to have the intended number of children, by age of wife: 14th Survey (2010)

(multiple answers)

Age of wife	Total (Number of cases)	Low possibility of being unable to realize the intended number of children	Possible that the intended number of children cannot be realized	Reasons for being unable to realize the intended number of children						
				Unstable income	Husband's work situation	No one to help with household chores and/or childrearing	No daycare, etc. to send children to	Too much work to take care of existing children	Unable to have children due to age and other health reasons	Not stated
< 30	100.0% (507)	18.5%	74.8	43.6	19.7	10.5	14.6	12.4	18.9	6.7
30-34	100.0 (612)	13.9	77.6	27.6	22.1	12.9	14.9	10.0	39.7	8.5
35 +	100.0 (536)	9.1	82.8	21.3	17.9	10.3	8.6	6.9	65.3	8.0
Total	100.0% (1,655)	13.8%	78.4	30.5	20.0	11.3	12.7	9.7	41.6	7.8

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples whose intended number of additional children is 1 or more. The number of cases of 35 years or older: 35 to 39 years old (417), 40 to 44 years old (107), and 45 to 49 years old (12).

Question: “Assuming that it turns out that you are unable to have the number of children you intend to have in the future, what would likely to be the reason for it?”

(3) Preference for children's sex

The tendency to prefer girls has taken root

Looking at the gender breakdown of the ideal number of children, the proportion of couples who wish to have more girls than boys increased throughout the 1980s and the 1990s. Subsequently, this tendency of preferring girls has stabilized. No significant changes to this tendency are observed in this survey either, but the proportion of couples who wish to have both boys and girls in a balanced manner increased slightly.

Table 3-5 Percentages of couples by ideal combination of boys and girls, by survey and ideal number of children

Ideal combination of boys and girls		8th Survey (1982)	9th Survey (1987)	10th Survey (1992)	11th Survey (1997)	12th Survey (2002)	13th Survey (2005)	14th Survey (2010)
1 child	1 boy/0 girls	51.5 %	37.1	24.3	25.0	27.3	22.2	31.3
	0 boys/1 girl	48.5	62.9	75.7	75.0	72.7	77.8	68.7
2 children	2 boys/0 girls	8.8 %	4.1	2.7	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.9
	1 boy/1 girl	82.4	85.5	84.0	84.9	85.9	86.0	87.9
	0 boys/2 girls	8.9	10.4	13.3	13.0	12.2	11.8	10.2
3 children	3 boys/0 girls	0.7 %	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.1	0.9
	2 boys/1 girl	62.4	52.3	45.1	38.4	41.6	38.5	40.7
	1 boy/2 girls	36.2	46.2	52.9	58.9	55.4	58.3	55.4
	0 boys/3 girls	0.7	0.7	1.6	2.3	2.4	2.1	3.1
Sex ratio in ideal number of children 100 x (ideal number of boys/ideal number of girls)		105	99	91	85	87	86	87

Note: The figures are for first-marriage couples whose ideal number of children is 1 or more and who have specific preferences for number of boys and girls. Data on couples whose ideal number of children is 4 or more is omitted. The sex ratio of the ideal number of children refers to the sex composition ratio in the total of boys and girls in the ideal combination of boys and girls (i.e., the ideal number of boys when the ideal number of girls is set to 100) and the stronger the preference for girls, the smaller this value. The number of cases by ideal number of children in the 14th survey was 83 for 1 child, 1,988 for 2 children, and 1,470 for 3 children.

4. Infertility and Miscarriages/Stillbirths

(1) Concerns about infertility and treatment experience

30% of couples have worried about infertility; one in two childless couples has concerns

The percentage of couples who have worried/are worried about infertility was 31.1%, which is 5 percentage points higher than in the previous survey (25.8%). This percentage reached 52.2% for childless couples (44.7% in the previous survey). The percentage of the couples who have undergone (or are undergoing) treatment is 16.4% overall and 28.6% for childless couples. The percentage of couples who were undergoing treatment at the time of the survey is 1.5% overall. Among these couples, childless couples account for 77.0% and couples with one child account for 22.0%; more than one in five couples are getting treatment in order to have their second child.

Table 4-1 Concerns about infertility and treatment experience, by presence/absence of child and wife's age: 14th Survey (2010)

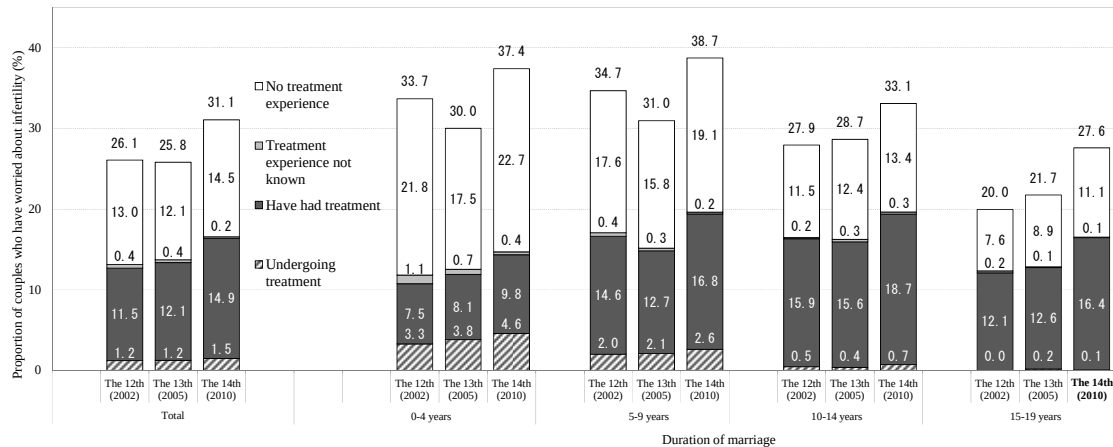
With/without child Age of wife		Total	(Number of cases)	Concerns about infertility/treatment experience							Not started
				Have never worried about infertility	Have worried about infertility	(Re-listed) Currently worried	Have not visited medical institution	Have undergone examination or treatment	(Re-listed) Are undergoing treatment	Not started	
Total	Total	100.0%	(6,705)	59.4%	31.1	5.5	14.5	16.4	1.5	0.2	9.5
	20-29	100.0	(652)	65.3	28.1	10.6	17.8	10.1	2.6	0.2	6.6
	30-39	100.0	(2,866)	56.7	36.5	8.2	18.3	17.8	2.3	0.3	6.9
	40-49	100.0	(3,185)	60.7	26.8	1.9	10.4	16.3	0.5	0.1	12.5
Childless couples	Total	100.0%	(914)	40.6%	52.2	26.8	23.3	28.6	8.4	0.3	7.2
	20-29	100.0	(194)	50.0	44.3	24.7	27.3	17.0	7.2	0.0	5.7
	30-39	100.0	(461)	41.2	52.5	34.3	25.8	26.0	10.8	0.7	6.3
	40-49	100.0	(258)	32.2	57.8	15.1	15.9	41.9	5.0	0.0	10.1

Note: The figures are for first-marriage couples. Data for couples with wives under 20 years old are omitted, but are included in the total.

The number of couples who have worried about infertility or have undergone treatment is on the increase

In recent years, the proportion of couples who have worried about infertility or have had an examination or treatment has been increasing. Among couples who have been married for 15 to 19 years, the proportion of couples who have worried about infertility was 20.0% in the 12th survey (2002), which increased to 21.7% in the 13th survey (2005) and reached 27.6% in this survey. In addition, the proportion of couples who have had an examination and/or treatment increased from 12.1% to 12.8% and then to 16.5% in the same periods.

Figure 4-1 Percentages of couples who have worried about infertility and treatment experience, by survey and duration of marriage



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples.

(2) Experience of miscarriages and stillbirths

One out of six couples has experienced a miscarriage and/or stillbirth in the past

Among all couples, 16.1% had experienced a miscarriage and/or stillbirth, and 3.4% had more than one such experiences. Among couples who had been married for less than 5 years, 7.8% had experienced a miscarriage and/or stillbirth in the 11th survey (1997), and that percentage started to rise afterwards, reaching 10.2% in the 14th survey (2010).

Table 4-2 Percentages of couples who have experienced at least one/more than one miscarriage and/or stillbirth, by survey and duration of marriage

Duration of marriage	11th Survey (1997)	12th Survey (2002)	13th Survey (2005)	14th Survey (2010)
0-4 years	7.8 (0.7)	8.2 (1.1)	9.7 (1.7)	10.2 (1.0)
5-9 years	16.6 (3.1)	16.3 (2.9)	16.8 (3.4)	16.8 (2.9)
10-14 years	17.3 (4.1)	18.0 (3.1)	19.7 (5.3)	19.1 (5.1)
15-19 years	18.6 (3.0)	16.0 (3.8)	18.8 (3.5)	17.9 (3.7)
20 years or longer	18.1 (3.4)	17.5 (3.2)	18.0 (3.5)	15.3 (4.1)
Total	15.8% (2.9)	15.0 (2.7)	16.7 (3.6)	16.1 (3.4)
(Number of cases)	(6,544)	(6,656)	(5,558)	(6,643)

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with complete information on the results of up to 5th pregnancy that are consistent with the number of live births. The figures shown are the proportions of couples that have experienced a miscarriage and/or stillbirth at least once. The proportions of couples that have experienced a miscarriage and/or stillbirth more than once are given in the parentheses. Miscarriages and stillbirths do not include artificially induced abortion. The couples whose duration of marriage is not known are included in the total.

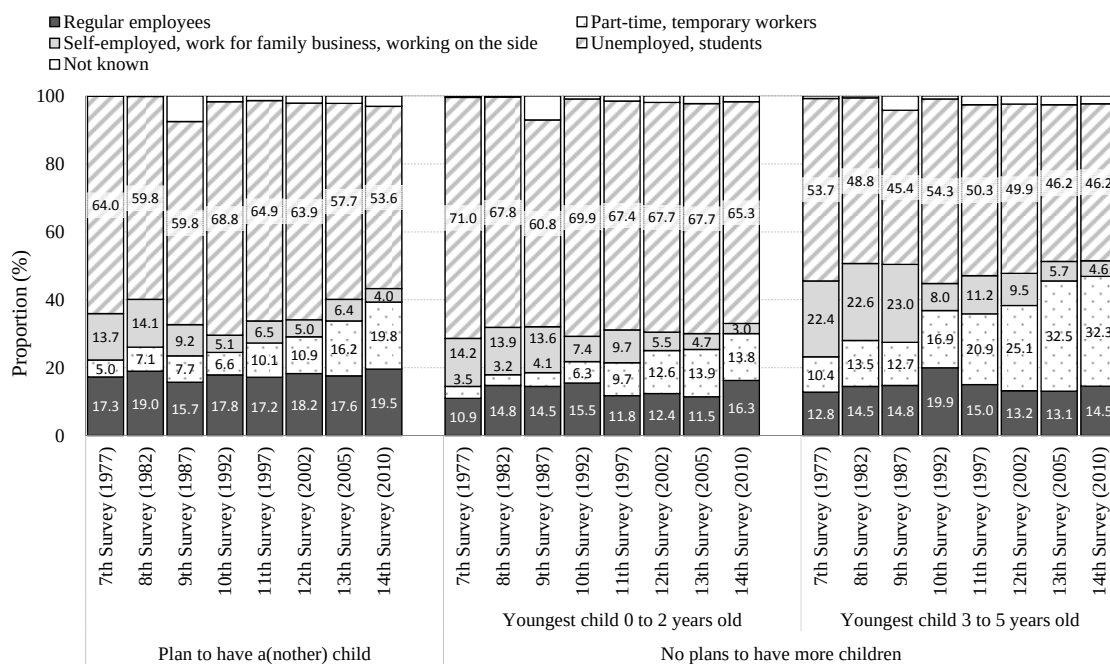
5. Child-rearing Conditions

(1) Wives' employment and fertility

The number of wives who continue working as part-time or temporary workers after giving birth has increased

Examining the employment status of wives who gave birth to at least one child by the life-stage after giving birth (i.e., by intention to have additional children and by age of the youngest child), 43.3% of wives of couples who plan to have more children are working; 19.5% among them are regular employees, 19.8% part-time or temporary workers, and the remaining, self-employed. Among couples without plans to have any more children, 33.0% of wives whose youngest child is under 3 years old were working. The figure is 51.5% for wives with youngest child 3 to 5 years old (61.0% for those with youngest child 6 to 8 years old and 65.2%, for those with 9 years old or older) (see **Appendix 3**). Looking at the changes in approximately 30 years since the 7th survey (1977), there are no significant changes in the proportion of wives working as regular employees at any of the life stages, while the proportion of wives working part-time or temporarily has increased.

Figure 5-1 Employment status of wife, by survey and life-stage after giving birth



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with at least one child (excluding cases where wives are currently pregnant). The results shown by the age of the youngest child are of couples who do not plan to have additional children. See **Appendix 3** (at the end of the report) for all the figures. Also, **Appendix 6** shows wives' employment status by age of their youngest child regardless of their fertility intention.

Use of child-care leave has increased, but not the proportion of wives who continue working after giving birth

Looking at the employment status of wives before and after getting married, the proportion of wives who were unemployed before getting married is increasing while fewer wives who were employed before getting married are leaving their jobs upon marriage. As these two changes cancel out one another, the proportion of wives who continued working after getting married remains around 60% (**Figure 5-2**). Similarly, looking at the change in employment status of wives before

and after giving birth to their first child (**Figure 5-3**), the proportion of wives who were employed before getting pregnant as well as the proportion of wives who quit their job due to pregnancy increased; however, the proportion of wives who continued working after giving birth is increasing slightly.

Considering only the wives who were working before getting married and before becoming pregnant respectively(**Table 5-1**), the proportion of wives continuing to work after getting married increased by approximately 10 percent from 60.3% in the latter half of the 1980s to 70.5% in the 2000s. However, the proportion of wives who continued working after giving birth has not changed much. The proportion remains slightly lower than 40% for the first child and 70 to 80% for the second and third children. However, the proportion of wives who utilized child-care leave in order to continue working increased significantly for the first to the third child.

Figure 5-2 Change in employment status of wives before and after getting married, by year of marriage

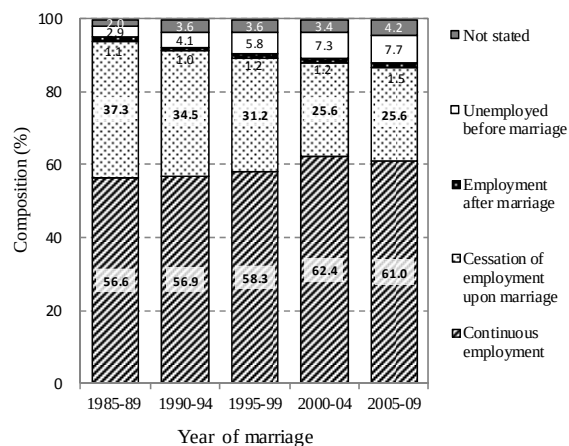
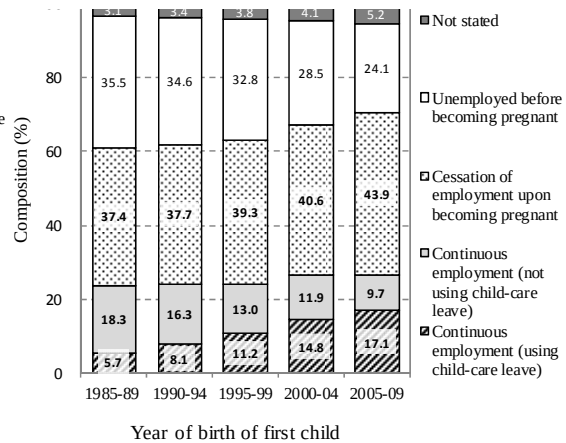


Figure 5-3 Change in employment status of wives before and after giving birth to their first child, by year of birth of first child



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples. The responses from couples whose duration of marriage is less than 15 years were aggregated for the 11th, 13th, and 14th surveys for the statistics on before and after getting married (10,764 cases). For the statistics on before and after giving birth, the data of couples whose first child is 1 to under 15 years old were combined for the 12th to 14th surveys (9,933 cases). See "Glossary" at the end of the report for how changes in employment status have been operationalized. For the data of wives before and after giving birth to their 2nd and 3rd children, see **Appendix 4**.

Table 5-1 Percentages of wives who continued working after getting married/giving birth and proportion of wives who continued working by using child-care leave systems

Year of marriage/ year of childbirth	Before and after getting married	Before and after giving birth to the 1st child (using child-care leave)	Employment status before getting pregnant with 1st child			Before and after giving birth to the 2nd child (using child-care leave)	Before and after giving birth to the 3rd child (using child-care leave)
			Regular employees	Part-time, temporary worker	Self-employed, work for family business, working on the side		
1985~89	60.3%	39.0 (9.3)	40.4 (13.0)	23.7 (2.2)	72.7 (3.0)	-	-
1990~94	62.3	39.3 (13.0)	44.6 (19.9)	18.2 (0.5)	81.7 (4.3)	81.9 (16.3)	84.3 (17.6)
1995~99	65.1	38.1 (17.6)	45.5 (27.8)	15.2 (0.8)	79.2 (0.0)	76.8 (28.8)	78.1 (19.1)
2000~04	70.9	39.8 (22.0)	51.6 (37.0)	17.6 (2.0)	69.6 (2.2)	79.4 (34.3)	78.4 (28.4)
2005~09	70.5	38.0 (24.2)	52.9 (43.1)	18.0 (4.0)	73.9 (4.3)	72.8 (40.5)	82.9 (28.5)

Note: Same as **Figure 5-2** and **Figure 5-3**. The proportion who continued working after getting married/giving birth among wives who had jobs at the time of marriage or pregnancy. Numbers in parentheses indicate the proportion of wives who continued working by using child-care leave systems.

(2) Utilization of child-care support systems and facilities

90% of wives who continue working as regular workers used some kind of support systems/facilities, although the utilization rates vary by the size of the company

The proportion of couples with a child aged one or older who have used some kind of child-care support system or facility before the first child is 3 years old is 41.9% overall. As for wives who continue to be regularly employed after childbirth, 92.3% of them have used some kind of system or facility; the prenatal/postnatal leave system (81.8%) and child-care leave system (62.4%) are most frequently used. Moreover, utilization rate is higher among wives of the younger generation. However, the utilization rate varies depending on the size of the company they are employed at—the rate is high in large companies and the public service sector. Note that husbands seldom use such systems and facilities.

Table 5-2 Systems/facilities used before the first child is 3 years old, by employment status of wife: 14th Survey (2010)

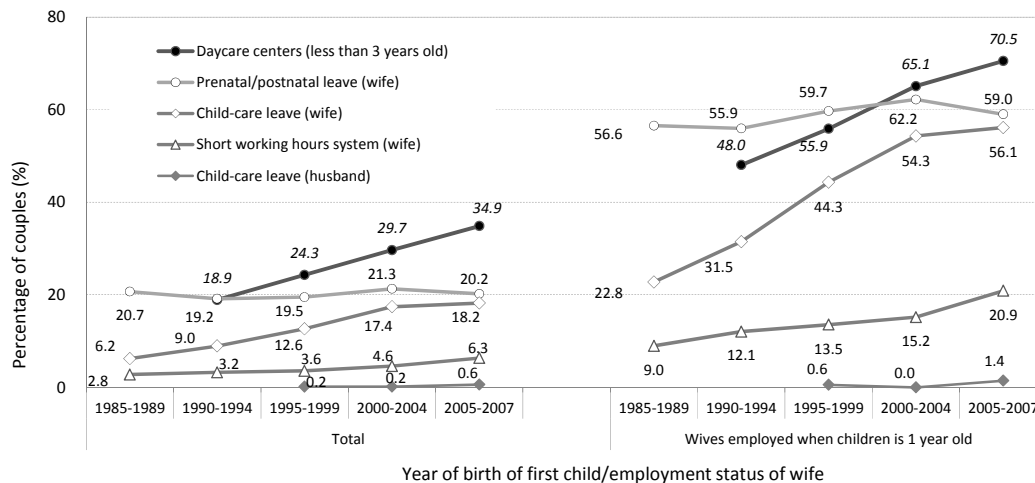
(Multiple Answers)																	
Wife's employment status (Number of cases)		Utilizing either systems or facilities															None of the above
			Prenatal/postnatal leave system	Child-care leave system (wife)	Child-care leave system (husband)	Child-care time system/short working hours system (wife)	Child-care time system/short working hours system(husband)	Licensed daycare	Certified/approved daycare facilities	Approved child institutions	In-house daycare facility	Other daycare facilities	Babysitter	Family support center	Temporary care at nursery school, kindergarten, etc.		
Total	(5,452)	41.9%	20.1	13.8	0.2	4.2	0.1	17.5	3.9	1.2	1.3	4.7	1.2	1.8	10.2	54.3	
Those who continue to be regularly employed	Total	(977)	92.3%	81.8	62.4	0.5	21.0	0.2	49.1	9.6	2.6	3.6	8.3	2.6	3.1	9.9	6.4
	Wife's year of birth																
	1960-1964	(232)	89.2%	74.1	36.2	0.0	9.9	0.4	36.6	8.6	2.2	3.9	6.9	3.9	0.4	9.9	8.6
	1965-1969	(246)	92.3	81.3	63.4	1.2	22.4	0.4	48.0	9.8	2.8	2.0	8.1	2.8	3.7	8.1	7.3
	1970-1974	(293)	93.2	85.0	71.0	0.3	23.9	0.0	49.8	9.6	2.4	2.4	10.6	2.4	4.1	10.6	5.5
	1975 or later	(206)	94.7	86.4	78.6	0.5	27.7	0.0	64.0	10.7	2.9	6.8	6.8	1.0	3.9	11.2	4.4
	Number of employees at wife's workplace (at the point when the first child became 1 year old)																
	1-29	(158)	84.2%	65.8	41.1	0.0	11.4	0.0	48.1	10.1	0.6	0.6	5.1	2.5	0.6	10.1	12.7
	30-99	(151)	90.7	78.8	57.6	0.7	15.2	0.0	48.3	8.6	3.3	2.6	11.9	2.6	2.0	6.0	7.9
	100-299	(146)	93.8	82.2	51.4	0.0	15.1	0.0	47.3	7.5	1.4	6.8	3.4	2.1	3.4	15.1	6.2
300-999	(169)	97.6	88.2	71.6	0.6	24.3	0.0	43.2	10.1	5.3	7.1	10.7	0.6	3.0	13.6	2.4	
1000 or more	(160)	92.5	86.9	68.8	0.6	32.5	0.6	53.8	10.0	2.5	2.5	8.8	2.5	2.5	6.9	5.6	
Public service sector	(175)	96.0	90.9	81.7	1.1	27.4	0.6	54.3	9.1	1.7	1.7	8.6	4.6	5.1	8.0	3.4	

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with a child aged one or older. "Those who continue to be regularly employed" is defined as those who were in regular employment at the two time-points: "when the pregnancy of the first child became known" and "when the first child became one year old." Regular employees include "dispatched employees and contract employees." Those who did not state the number of employees at their work place were omitted, but they are included in the total.

Utilization of child-care support systems and facilities has increased

Use of daycare centers for child(ren) younger than 3 years old has been increasing since the 1990s, and the proportion of users in 2005 and onward was 34.9%. More and more wives are using child-care leave systems as well; 18.2% of wives used such systems since 2005. However, the proportion of husbands who use the systems is less than 1% in the same period. Considering only wives who were employed when the first child was 1 year old, the proportion of usage since 2005 is high for all support systems: 56.1% of wives used child-care leave systems, 70.5%, daycare, and 20.9%, shortened working hours systems.

Figure 5-4 Proportion of users of child support systems/facilities before the first child is 3 years old, by year of birth of the first child



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with child(ren) 3 to under 15 years of age. Data obtained in the 12th to 14th surveys were aggregated, except that the data on husbands' use of child-care leave systems is available in the 14th survey only, and comparable data on daycare centers is available only for the 13th and 14th surveys. Daycare centers include licensed daycares, certified/licensed daycare facilities, licensed children's centers, company daycare facilities, and other facilities, but not temporary child care.

(3) Childcare assistance from grandparents

Child-care assistance from husband's and/or wife's mother(s) (grandmother(s) of children) remains at 50%

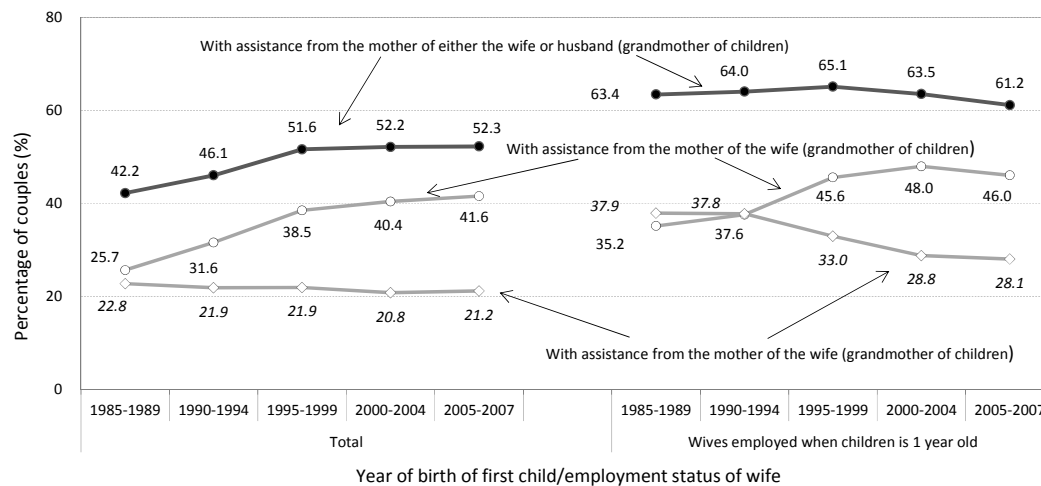
The proportion of couples who received child-care assistance from one or both of their mothers (grandmothers of children) before the first child is 3 years old (those who responded that they received child-care assistance "frequently" or "on a daily basis") had been increasing since the latter half of the 1980s, but it leveled off at around 50% since 2000. After 2005, 52.3% of couples received assistance from the mother of the husband or wife, and the proportion is 61.2% for wives who were employed when the first child was 1 year old. Whether they receive help from wife's or husband's mother has been changing; assistance from wife's mother is increasing while that from husband's mother is decreasing.

For wives who continued working, support from mothers (grandmothers of children) was used in addition to child-care systems and facilities

Looking at the circumstances of using assistance from mothers (grandmothers of children) and child-care systems/facilities among couples with child(ren) 1 year old or older by work history pattern of wives, almost all couples where wives continued working used either assistance from parents or support systems/facilities (97.4% for couples whose duration of marriage is 0 to 9 years and 95.7%, for 10 to 19 years). In cases other than the continuous employment type (i.e., return-to-work

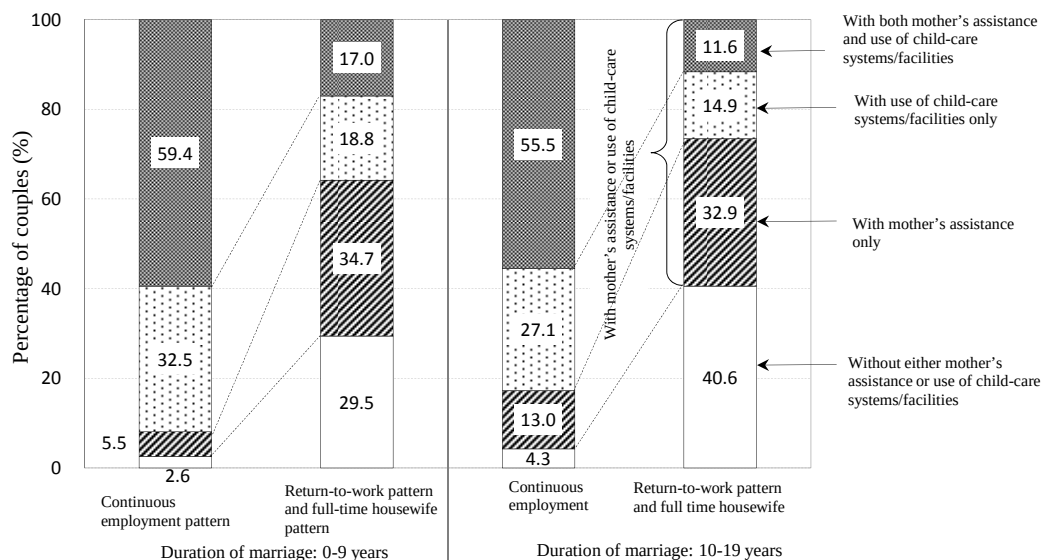
type and full-time housewife type), these rates are lower (70.5% for couples whose duration of marriage is 0 to 9 years and 59.4% for 10 to 19 years).

Figure 5-5 Percentages of couples who received child-care assistance from mothers of couples (grandmothers of children) before the first child is 3 years old, by the year of birth of the first child



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with child(ren) 3 to under 15 years old. Data obtained in the 12th to 14th surveys were aggregated. “With mother’s assistance” is defined as the child-care assistance given “frequently” or “on a daily basis” by the mother of the wife and/or the husband.

Figure 5-6 Use of assistance from mothers and child-care systems/facilities before the first child is 3 years old, by work history and duration of marriage: 14th Survey (2010)



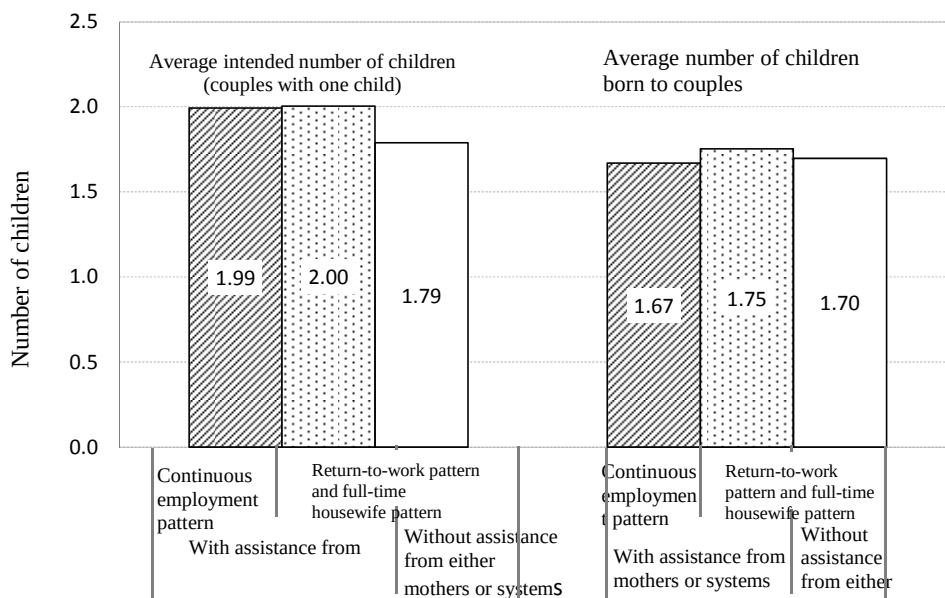
Note: The figures shown here are for first-marriage couples with child(ren) one year old or older (excluding the couples who did not state the number of children or intended number of children, or cases in which the support from the mother is not known or not applicable), where the wife’s work history falls under either the continuous employment type, return-to-work type, or full-time housewife pattern. See “Glossary” at the end of the report for work history types of wives. The same explanation in **Figure 5-5** applies to “With mother’s assistance.” “With use of child-care systems/facilities” refers to cases where couples used at least one of the systems/facilities in **Table 5-2** for the first child.

Even housewives (including those returning to work) have low level of childbearing intentions when child-care support is not available

We compared the average intended number of children among couples with a single child aged 1 year or older who have been married for less than 10 years by the use of assistance from mothers (grandmothers of children) and child-care systems/facilities before the child is 3 years old. The average intended number of children of couples in the “return-to-work” type and full-time housewife type who did not receive assistance was less than couples in the continuous employment type, return-to-work type, and full-time housewife type who received assistance (as indicated by the lower percentage of couples planning to have a second child or more). Looking at the actual average number of children born among all couples with at least one child, however, couples in the return-to-work type and full-time housewife type who received assistance had slightly more children (1.75 children) than couples in the continuous employment type who received assistance (1.67 children). Couples where wives continued working tended to delay the realization of their plans.

Figure 5-7 Intended number of children and average number of children born to couples, by work history and usage of assistance from mothers and child-care systems/facilities:
14th Survey (2010)

(Couples with children aged 1 or older and marital duration of 0 to 9 years)



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with a child aged 1 or older who have been married for less than 10 years (excluding the couples who did not state the number of children or intended number of children, or cases where the situation of support from the mother is not known or not applicable), where the wife’s work history falls under either the continuous employment type (with mother’s assistance and/or use of child-care systems), return-to-work type, or full-time housewife type. (See “Glossary” for explanation of work history types of wives.) Note that the average intended number of children was calculated based only on the data of couples with 1 child. The same explanation in **Figure 5-5** applies to “With mother’s assistance.” “With use of child-care systems/facilities” refers to cases where couples used at least one of the systems/facilities listed in **Table 5-2**.

6. Wives' Views on Marriage and Family

(1) Overall patterns

“Manliness and womanliness are necessary,” “should have personal goals after marriage”

In this survey, wives' views on marriage, family, male-female relations, etc. were examined using 11 questions. More than 80% of wives support the views that “(4) manliness and womanliness are necessary,” “(5) should have personal goals even after marriage,” and “(3) approve premarital intercourse.” The opinions “(2) marriage instead of cohabitation,” “(8) should have children if getting married,” and “(9) desirable that mothers stay home while children are young” obtained support from around 70% of wives, while “(1) staying single throughout one's life is not desirable” and “(10) should not get divorced for a small reason such as incompatible personalities” were supported by 50 to 60%. In contrast, the following items failed to obtain the support from the majority of wives: “(6) marriage entails sacrifice” (slightly over 40%), “(11) it is all right to have children without getting married” (slightly over 30%), and “(7) husbands should work and wives should stay home” (30%).

Table 6-1 Wives' views on marriage and family: 14th Survey (2010)

Views on marriage and family	Total Number of cases (6,705)	Agree	Absolutely agree		Disagree	Absolutely disagree		Disagree to some extent	Not known	13th Survey	
			Absolutely agree	Agree to some extent		Absolutely disagree	Disagree to some extent			Agree	Disagree
(1) It is not desirable to remain single for one's entire life	100.0 %	57.3 %	11.9	45.4	38.3 %	7.2	31.1	4.4 %		52.2 %	39.8 %
(2) Men and women should marry if they live together	100.0	72.3	17.7	54.6	23.6	5.7	17.9	4.0		68.9	24.0
(3) Unmarried couples may have sexual intercourse if they love each other	100.0	82.6	28.9	53.7	13.4	2.1	11.3	4.0		77.2	15.4
(4) Manliness and womanliness are necessary to some extent in any society	100.0	88.4	33.4	55.0	8.0	1.7	6.3	3.5		85.6	7.7
(5) One ought to have personal goals even after getting married, other than those of the partner or other members of the family	100.0	84.0	26.2	57.8	11.8	1.0	10.9	4.1		81.1	11.6
(6) It is natural that one should sacrifice half of one's own personality or lifestyle for the family	100.0	46.4	6.3	40.1	49.7	12.1	37.7	3.9		40.4	52.5
(7) Husbands should work and wives should take care of the home after marriage	100.0	31.9	3.0	29.0	64.0	23.1	40.9	4.0		28.7	63.9
(8) One should have children if one gets married	100.0	71.2	17.9	53.3	24.3	9.0	15.3	4.5		71.2	20.9
(9) It is desirable that mothers should not work and should stay home at least when their children are young	100.0	69.5	19.2	50.3	26.5	7.7	18.8	4.0		71.8	21.4
(10) No one should get divorced for a small reason such as incompatible personalities	100.0	54.9	12.1	42.8	40.7	10.1	30.6	4.3		51.0	41.2
(11) It is all right to have children even if one is not married	100.0	36.4	7.6	28.9	59.6	15.2	44.4	4.0		—	—

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples.

(2) Changes in views

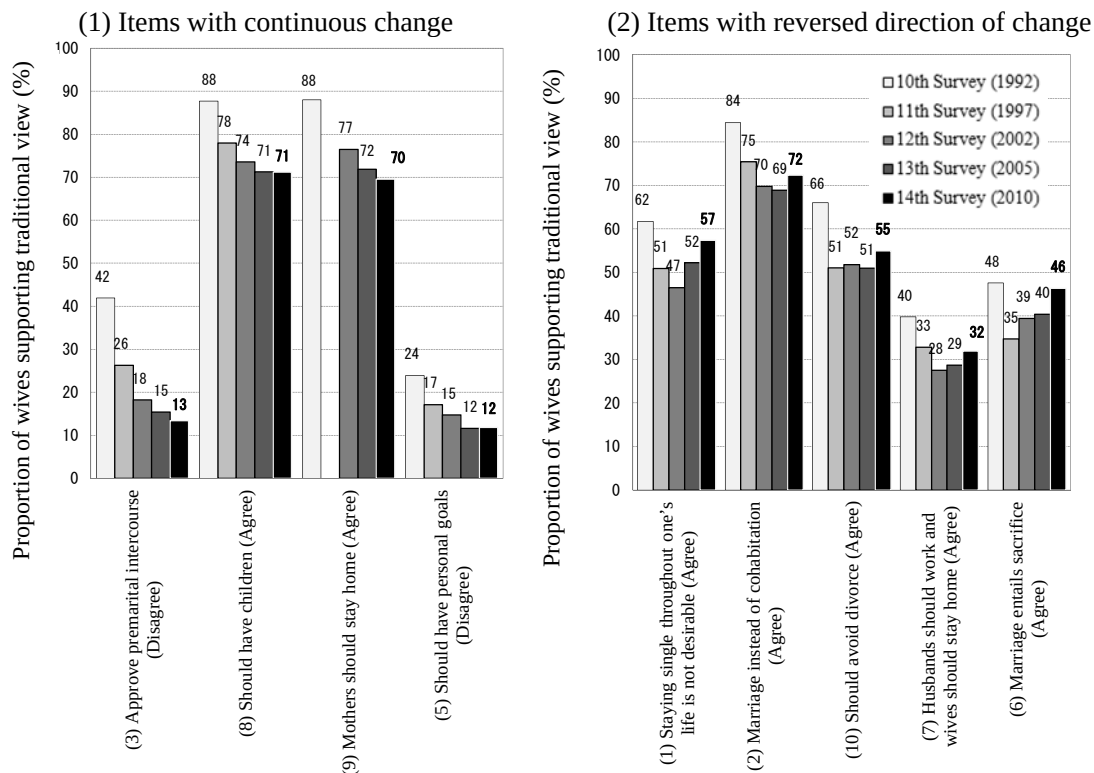
In 2000 and onward, the direction of change was reversed in many areas

Looking at the changes in wives' views since the 10th Survey in 1992 when the items on views were first included in the study, a tendency to depart from views generally considered traditional was observed in all the items in the 1990s. From the 2000s, however, the direction of change started to vary depending on the item.

<Items with continuous change> Four items continued to change in the same direction as in the 1990s, i.e., the direction that departs from the traditional way of thinking: (3) approve premarital intercourse, (8) should have children, (9) desirable that mothers stay home while children are young, and (5) should have personal goals even after marriage.

<Items with reversed direction of change> The direction of change seen in the 1990s was reversed for the following five items: (1) staying single throughout one's life is not desirable (proportion choosing "agree" increased in 2005), (2) marriage instead of cohabitation (proportion choosing "agree" increased in this survey), (10) should not get divorced for a small reason such as incompatible personalities (proportion choosing "agree" increased in this survey), (7) husbands should work and wives should stay home (proportion choosing "agree" increased in 2005), and (6) marriage entails sacrifice (proportion choosing "agree" increased in 2002). The changes seen in these items showed a departure from a so-called traditional way of thinking in the 1990s, but the idea supporting traditional views has been increasing since 2000.

Figure 6-1 Changes in wives' views on marriage and family, by survey



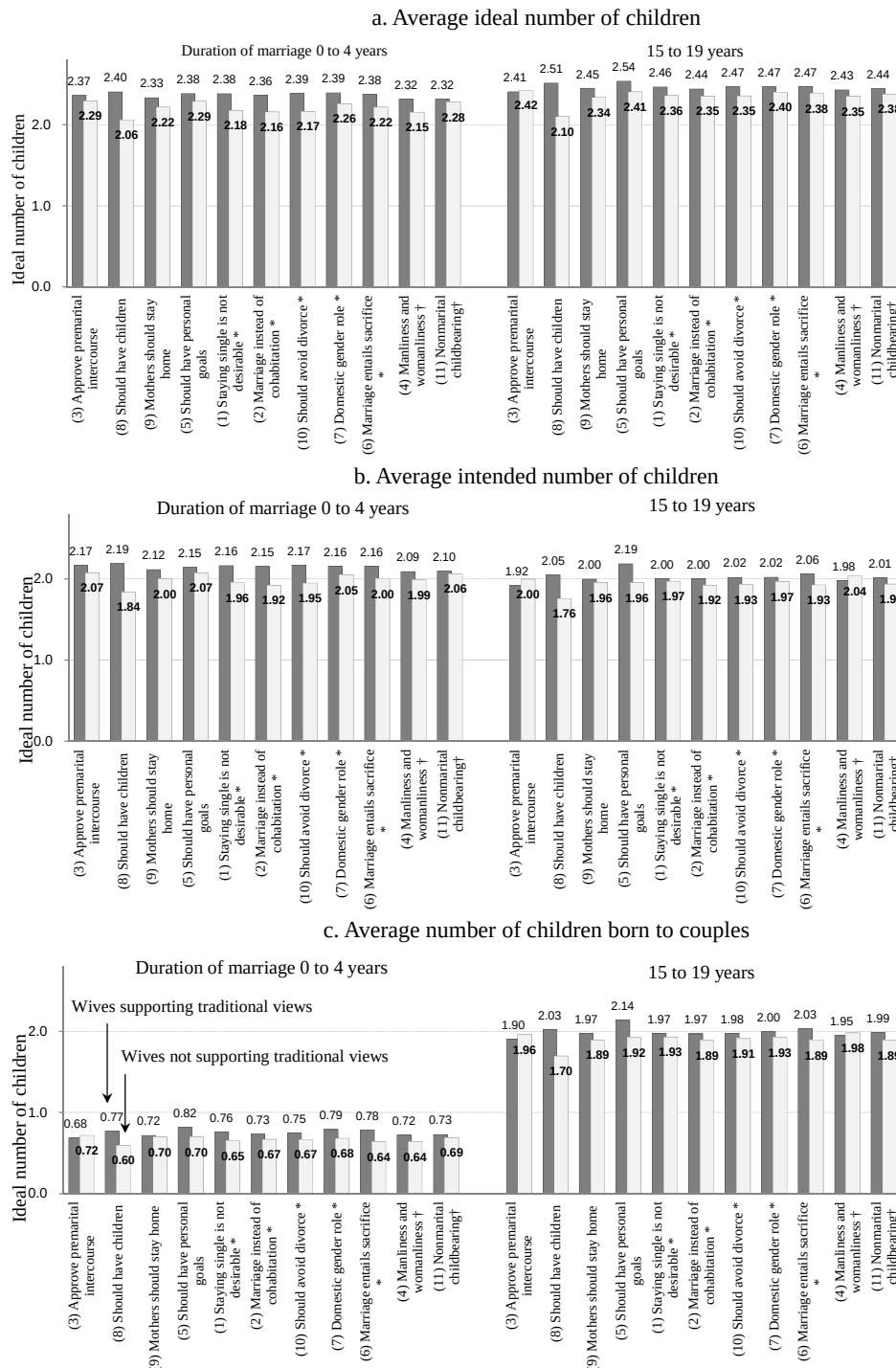
Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples. The figures denote sum of the proportions of responses "Absolutely agree (disagree)" and "Agree (disagree) to some extent." For items (8), (9), (1), (2), (10), (7) and (6), the proportion choosing "(absolutely) agree", and for the items (3) and (5), "(absolutely) disagree", are respectively used to indicate proportion supporting a traditional way of thinking. See **Appendix 5** (at the end of the report) for figures for all response categories for all the items.

(3) Views on marriage and family, childbearing intentions and the number of children a couple has

The ideal and intended number of children, as well as the number of children born, are greater among couples where wives adopt traditional views

The ideal number of children, intended number of children, and the number of children born to the couples were compared between wives who support traditional views on family and those who do not. Regardless of the duration of marriage, all the figures are generally higher among couples in which wives have traditional views (left bar graph) in comparison to those in which wives have nontraditional views. The childbearing intentions are especially strong if wives agree with the idea “(8) should have children if get married,” disagree with “(5) should have personal goals even after marriage,” agree with “(10) should not get divorced for a small reason such as incompatible personalities,” agree with “(6) marriage entails sacrifice,” and agree with “(7) husband should work and wives should stay home.”

Figure 6-2 Relationship between wives' views on marriage and family and childbearing intentions and the number of children born, by duration of marriage: 14th Survey (2010)
(Left bar graph: Traditional views, Right bar graph: Non-traditional views)



Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples whose duration of marriage is 0 to 4 years and 15 to 19 years. Those responding “Agree” or “Agree to some extent” to the items are classified as the group supporting traditional views, except for items (3), (5) and (11). Conversely, those who replied “Disagree” and “Disagree to some extent” to the same items were classified as the group not supporting traditional views. The grouping for (3), (5), and (11) are reversed. Each bar graph shows the group supporting traditional views on the left side (darker color) and the group not supporting traditional views on the right side (lighter color) in comparing the average numbers of ideal number of children, intended number of children, and number of children born to the couples. Items marked with * indicate those the change of trend has reversed since the 2000s. Items marked with † are those added since the 13th survey (2005).

[Glossary]

Love marriage/arranged marriage

Love marriage and arranged marriage in this survey report are defined by how and where couples meet. Couples who answered “at school,” “at the workplace or through work,” “childhood friend/neighbor,” “through various regular activities (sports, music, hobbies, etc. outside school) or an adult education class,” “through friends or siblings,” “around town or during a trip,” or “through a part-time job” to questions on the ways/places they meet are classified as love marriage. Those who replied “arranged marriage” or “through marriage match-making agencies” are classified as an arranged marriage.

Completed number of children

The number of children a couple has at the point when sufficient time has elapsed after getting married and they no longer continue having children is called the completed number of children, and the fertility level at this point is called the completed fertility. In the case of Japan, couples seldom have additional children after 15 years have passed after getting married. Thus, in this survey report, the average number of children born to couples who have been married for 15 to 19 years is used to indicate the completed number of children.

Total marital fertility rate

It is an index showing the manner in which couples give birth to children in the target year of observation and is obtained by adding the fertility rate of married women for each duration of marriage. The value indicates the completed number of children of married couples achieved when a couple gives birth to children according to the fertility rate of couples in a particular duration of marriage throughout the childbearing process. However, if the manner in which couples give birth (pace) varies over several years, the fertility rate by duration of marriage may differ significantly from the actual childbearing process; thus, the index requires special care in interpretation.

Change in employment status of wife before and after getting married

In this survey report, changes in the working status of the wife before and after the marriage are defined as follows:

- Continuous employment: employed when marriage decision was made and also employed immediately after marriage
- Cessation of employment upon marriage: employed when marriage decision was made and unemployed immediately after marriage
- Employment after marriage: unemployed when marriage decision was made and employed immediately after marriage
- Unemployed since before marriage: unemployed when marriage decision was made and unemployed immediately after marriage

Change in employment status of wife before and after giving birth

In this survey report, change in the working status of the wife before and after giving birth is defined as follows for couples for whom each of the first to third children is 1 year old or older:

- Continuous employment (using child-care leave): employed when finding out about pregnancy, took child-care leave, and employed when the child was one year old
- Continuous employment (not using child-care leave): employed when finding out about pregnancy, employed at the time the child was one year old, without taking child-care leave
- Cessation of employment upon becoming pregnant: employed when finding out about pregnancy and unemployed at the time the child was one year old
- Unemployed since before becoming pregnant: unemployed when finding out about pregnancy and unemployed at the time the child was one year old

Work history of wife

In this survey report, the wife's work history is defined as follows for couples whose first child is 1 year old or older:

Continuous employment type: employed when marriage decision was made, employed when the first child became 1 year old, employed at the time of the survey

Return-to-work type: employed when marriage decision was made, unemployed when the first child became 1 year old, employed at the time of the survey

Full-time housewife type: employed when marriage decision was made, unemployed when the first child became 1 year old, unemployed at the time of the survey

[Appendix]

Appendix 1 % distribution of love marriage and arranged marriage, by year of marriage

Year of marriage	Total	(Number of cases)	Love marriage	Arranged marriage	Other/not known
1930~39	100.0 %	(583)	13.4 %	69.0	17.7
1940~44	100.0	(556)	14.6	69.1	16.4
1945~49	100.0	(960)	21.4	59.8	18.9
1950~54	100.0	(992)	33.1	53.9	13.0
1955~59	100.0	(1,275)	36.2	54.0	9.9
1960~64	100.0	(1,578)	41.1	49.8	9.1
1965~69	100.0	(1,819)	48.7	44.9	6.4
1970~74	100.0	(2,078)	61.5	33.1	5.5
1975~79	100.0	(1,485)	66.7	30.4	2.9
1980~84	100.0	(1,519)	72.6	24.9	2.5
1985~89	100.0	(1,547)	80.2	17.7	2.1
1990~94	100.0	(1,312)	84.8	12.7	2.6
1995~99	100.0	(1,474)	87.2	7.7	5.1
2000~04	100.0	(1,108)	87.4	6.2	6.4
2005~09	100.0	(1,165)	88.0	5.3	6.7

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples. The results are based on the data of the 7th Survey (for 1930-1939 to 1970-1974), the 8th Survey (for 1975-1979), the 9th Survey (for 1980-1984), the 10th Survey (for 1985-1989), the 11th Survey (for 1990-1994), the 12th Survey (1995-1999), the 13th Survey (2000-2004), and the 14th Survey (for 2005 to 2009).

Appendix 2 Total marital fertility rate and conventional total fertility rate (1951-2010)

Year	Total fertility rate of married couples						Year	Total fertility rate of married couples						Year	Total fertility rate of married couples					
	Figure for each year	3-year moving average				Total fertility rate		Figure for each year	3-year moving average				Total fertility rate		Figure for each year	3-year moving average				Total fertility rate
		Total	First child	Second child	Third child or more				Total	First child	Second child	Third child or more				Total	First child	Second child	Third child or more	
1951	3.61	3.42	0.94	0.89	1.59	3.26	1971	2.34	2.39	1.01	0.95	0.44	2.16	1991	2.05	1.96	0.92	0.76	0.29	1.53
1952	3.26	3.30	0.96	0.87	1.47	2.98	1972	2.41	2.36	0.99	0.95	0.42	2.14	1992	1.85	1.95	0.91	0.76	0.28	1.50
1953	3.03	3.00	0.98	0.79	1.22	2.69	1973	2.34	2.34	0.98	0.95	0.41	2.14	1993	1.93	1.94	0.90	0.78	0.26	1.46
1954	2.71	2.86	0.98	0.79	1.08	2.48	1974	2.26	2.25	0.98	0.89	0.38	2.05	1994	2.03	1.92	0.89	0.75	0.28	1.50
1955	2.82	2.66	0.95	0.80	0.91	2.37	1975	2.15	2.16	0.97	0.86	0.34	1.91	1995	1.79	1.92	0.88	0.75	0.29	1.42
1956	2.46	2.63	0.94	0.81	0.88	2.22	1976	2.08	2.12	0.96	0.85	0.31	1.85	1996	1.94	1.84	0.87	0.72	0.25	1.43
1957	2.62	2.50	0.90	0.83	0.77	2.04	1977	2.14	2.10	0.94	0.86	0.30	1.80	1997	1.81	1.91	0.90	0.76	0.25	1.39
1958	2.44	2.54	0.96	0.84	0.75	2.11	1978	2.08	2.11	0.95	0.87	0.29	1.79	1998	1.98	1.90	0.90	0.74	0.26	1.38
1959	2.58	2.48	0.94	0.88	0.66	2.04	1979	2.10	2.10	0.94	0.87	0.29	1.77	1999	1.92	1.93	0.93	0.74	0.27	1.34
1960	2.43	2.45	1.00	0.89	0.56	2.00	1980	2.12	2.11	0.96	0.85	0.30	1.75	2000	1.90	1.91	0.92	0.72	0.27	1.36
1961	2.34	2.32	0.97	0.87	0.48	1.96	1981	2.11	2.10	0.97	0.84	0.29	1.74	2001	1.90	1.84	0.89	0.70	0.25	1.33
1962	2.18	2.26	0.99	0.85	0.42	1.98	1982	2.06	2.05	0.95	0.82	0.28	1.77	2002	1.72	1.86	0.91	0.70	0.25	1.32
1963	2.26	2.23	1.00	0.83	0.40	2.00	1983	1.98	2.08	0.94	0.85	0.29	1.80	2003	1.96	1.86	0.92	0.70	0.24	1.29
1964	2.23	2.29	1.02	0.90	0.37	2.05	1984	2.19	2.10	0.92	0.87	0.31	1.81	2004	1.90	1.80	0.88	0.69	0.24	1.29
1965	2.38	2.05	0.94	0.78	0.32	2.14	1985	2.13	2.15	0.93	0.87	0.35	1.76	2005	1.55	1.79	0.87	0.68	0.23	1.26
1966	1.53	2.12	0.96	0.85	0.30	1.58	1986	2.12	2.08	0.90	0.85	0.33	1.72	2006	1.90	1.72	0.83	0.68	0.22	1.32
1967	2.44	2.05	0.93	0.81	0.31	2.23	1987	1.99	2.06	0.88	0.83	0.35	1.69	2007	1.70	1.86	0.91	0.73	0.23	1.34
1968	2.19	2.31	1.04	0.95	0.33	2.13	1988	2.06	2.02	0.87	0.81	0.34	1.66	2008	1.99	1.85	0.91	0.69	0.24	1.37
1969	2.29	2.30	1.01	0.92	0.37	2.13	1989	2.01	2.02	0.90	0.77	0.35	1.57	2009	1.86	1.92	0.97	0.70	0.26	1.37
1970	2.42	2.35	1.03	0.92	0.40	2.13	1990	1.99	2.02	0.92	0.76	0.33	1.54	2010	—	—	—	—	—	1.39

Note: The data on the total fertility rate was obtained from “Vital Statistics.” See “Glossary” for the definition of the total marital fertility rate.

Appendix 3 Employment status and average age of wives, by survey and by life-stage after giving birth

Intention to have more children Age of youngest child		Survey (Survey year)	Total (Number of cases)	Employed	Regular employee	Part-time, temporary worker	Self-employed, work for family business, working on the side	Unemployed, student	Not known	Average age of wives
Intention to have more children		7th Survey (1977)	100.0% (1,107)	36.0%	17.3%	5.0	13.7	64.0	0.1	28.7
		8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (875)	40.1	19.0	7.1	14.1	59.8	0.1	29.4
		9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (968)	32.6	15.7	7.7	9.2	59.8	7.5	29.7
		10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (948)	29.5	17.8	6.6	5.1	68.8	1.7	29.8
		11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (734)	33.8	17.2	10.1	6.5	64.9	1.4	30.2
		12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (866)	34.1	18.2	10.9	5.0	63.9	2.1	30.8
		13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (740)	40.1	17.6	16.2	6.4	57.7	2.2	31.8
		14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (891)	43.3	19.5	19.8	4.0	53.6	3.0	32.7
No intention to have more children	Age of youngest child 0 - 2	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (1,052)	28.6	10.9	3.5	14.2	71.0	0.4	30.5
		8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (914)	31.8	14.8	3.2	13.9	67.8	0.3	31.4
		9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (863)	32.1	14.5	4.1	13.6	60.8	7.1	31.8
		10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (808)	29.2	15.5	6.3	7.4	69.9	0.9	32.2
		11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (611)	31.1	11.8	9.7	9.7	67.4	1.5	32.9
		12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (696)	30.5	12.4	12.6	5.5	67.7	1.9	32.9
		13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (576)	30.0	11.5	13.9	4.7	67.7	2.3	33.2
		14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (603)	33.0	16.3	13.8	3.0	65.3	1.7	34.7
	Age of youngest child 3 - 5	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (1,104)	45.6	12.8	10.4	22.4	53.7	0.7	33.9
		8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (932)	50.6	14.5	13.5	22.6	48.8	0.5	33.9
		9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (853)	50.4	14.8	12.7	23.0	45.4	4.2	34.4
		10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (913)	44.8	19.9	16.9	8.0	54.3	0.9	35.0
		11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (580)	47.1	15.0	20.9	11.2	50.3	2.6	35.6
		12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (674)	47.8	13.2	25.1	9.5	49.9	2.4	35.7
		13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (628)	51.3	13.1	32.5	5.7	46.2	2.5	36.4
		14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (606)	51.5	14.5	32.3	4.6	46.2	2.3	37.0
	Age of youngest child 6 - 8	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (939)	54.2	14.1	17.0	23.1	44.8	1.0	37.1
		8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (1,001)	61.3	19.1	19.6	22.7	38.3	0.4	36.6
		9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (941)	63.5	15.7	24.9	23.0	32.4	4.0	36.9
		10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (889)	54.6	19.8	23.3	11.5	43.6	1.8	38.0
		11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (667)	60.3	13.0	29.2	18.0	38.4	1.3	38.2
		12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (676)	57.5	14.2	30.6	12.7	39.9	2.5	38.6
		13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (659)	59.9	15.0	36.0	9.0	38.1	2.0	39.1
		14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (748)	61.0	16.7	38.6	5.6	36.4	2.7	39.6
	Age of youngest child 9 or older	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (2,890)	64.8	22.9	14.9	27.0	34.0	1.2	43.4
		8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (3,086)	69.7	23.3	19.3	27.1	29.4	0.9	43.3
		9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (3,043)	69.1	18.8	26.8	23.5	26.8	4.1	42.9
		10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (3,574)	71.5	29.2	28.7	13.7	27.0	1.5	43.6
		11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (2,524)	72.9	21.0	36.1	15.8	25.6	1.5	44.5
		12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (2,564)	73.4	19.8	40.7	12.9	23.9	2.7	44.4
		13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (2,027)	74.5	19.9	43.5	11.2	22.7	2.8	44.3
		14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (2,540)	72.8	16.6	49.1	7.2	24.4	2.8	44.5

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with at least one child (excluding cases where wives are currently pregnant).

Appendix 4 Change in employment status of wives before and after getting married/giving birth, by year of marriage and by year of childbirth

Event	Year of marriage	Total (Number of cases)	Continuous employment			Cessation of employment upon marriage	Employment after marriage	Unemployed before marriage	Not known
Marriage	1985-89	100.0% (1,294)	56.6%			37.3	1.1	2.9	2.0
	1990-94	100.0 (2,499)	56.9			34.5	1.0	4.1	3.6
	1995-99	100.0 (3,247)	58.3			31.2	1.2	5.8	3.6
	2000-04	100.0 (2,485)	62.4			25.6	1.2	7.3	3.4
	2005-09	100.0 (1,239)	61.0			25.6	1.5	7.7	4.2

Event	Year of childbirth	Total (Number of cases)	Continuous employment	(Re-listed) Continuous employment (using child-care leave)	(Re-listed) Continuous employment (not using child-care leave)	Cessation of employment upon becoming pregnant	Unemployed before becoming pregnant	Not known
Giving birth to first child	1985-89	100.0% (580)	24.0%	5.7	18.3	37.4	35.5	3.1
	1990-94	100.0 (2,167)	24.4	8.1	16.3	37.7	34.6	3.4
	1995-99	100.0 (3,611)	24.2	11.2	13.0	39.3	32.8	3.8
	2000-04	100.0 (2,629)	26.8	14.8	11.9	40.6	28.5	4.1
	2005-09	100.0 (946)	26.8	17.1	9.7	43.9	24.1	5.2
Giving birth to second child	1990-94	100.0 (739)	24.5	4.9	19.6	5.4	67.5	2.6
	1995-99	100.0 (1,873)	22.5	8.4	14.0	6.8	68.3	2.5
	2000-04	100.0 (1,866)	25.2	10.9	14.3	6.5	65.0	3.3
	2005-09	100.0 (832)	26.3	14.7	11.7	9.9	61.7	2.2
Giving birth to third child	1990-94	100.0 (280)	30.7	6.4	24.3	5.7	59.6	3.9
	1995-99	100.0 (582)	28.9	7.0	21.8	8.1	59.3	3.8
	2000-04	100.0 (527)	28.8	10.4	18.4	8.0	59.8	3.4
	2005-09	100.0 (271)	37.6	12.9	24.7	7.7	52.4	2.2

Note: The figures are for first-marriage couples. The responses from couples whose duration of marriage is under 15 years were aggregated for the 11th, 13th, and 14th surveys for obtaining the figures on before and after getting married. For the figures before and after giving birth, data of couples whose first child is 1 to under 15 years of age were aggregated for the 12th to 14th surveys. For the figures before and after giving birth to the second and third child, data of couples whose second and third child are 1 year to under 15 years of age were aggregated for the 13rd to 14th surveys. See “Glossary” for explanation of types of changes in employment status.

Appendix 5 Wives' views on marriage and family, by survey

Views on marriage and family	Survey (Survey year)	Total	Absolutely agree	Agree to some extent	Disagree to some extent	Absolutely disagree	Not known
① It is not desirable to remain single for one's entire life	10th Survey (1992)	100.0%	21.9%	39.7	30.0	5.5	2.8
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	12.7	38.2	36.7	8.1	4.2
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	8.7	37.8	39.7	9.6	4.3
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	12.1	40.1	31.2	8.6	8.1
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	11.9	45.4	31.1	7.2	4.4
② Men and women should marry if they live together	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	41.6	42.8	10.7	2.8	2.0
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	26.0	49.4	16.2	5.3	3.1
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	19.3	50.5	19.4	7.2	3.5
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	18.9	50.1	17.6	6.4	7.1
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	17.7	54.6	17.9	5.7	4.0
③ Unmarried couples may have sexual intercourse if they love each other	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	14.8	41.1	28.1	13.8	2.3
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	23.2	46.6	20.0	6.3	3.9
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	29.9	48.1	14.4	3.8	3.7
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	27.6	49.6	12.2	3.2	7.4
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	28.9	53.7	11.3	2.1	4.0
④ Manliness and womanliness are necessary to some extent in any society	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	39.8	45.8	6.0	1.7	6.8
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	33.4	55.0	6.3	1.7	3.5
⑤ One ought to have personal goals even after getting married, other than those of the partner or other members of the family	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	29.6	43.9	19.6	4.3	2.6
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	33.7	45.6	14.4	2.7	3.7
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	32.6	49.3	12.8	1.9	3.4
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	30.7	50.4	10.4	1.2	7.3
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	26.2	57.8	10.9	1.0	4.1
⑥ It is natural that one should sacrifice half of one's own personality or lifestyle for the family	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	7.2	40.4	39.2	10.9	2.3
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	4.6	30.1	43.4	18.5	3.5
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	5.6	33.8	40.4	17.0	3.3
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	5.6	34.8	38.5	14.0	7.1
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	6.3	40.1	37.7	12.1	3.9
⑦ Husbands should work and wives should take care of the home after marriage	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	7.8	32.0	40.7	17.1	2.4
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	4.5	28.3	39.3	24.5	3.4
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	3.6	23.9	40.2	29.1	3.2
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	3.3	25.4	38.0	25.9	7.3
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	3.0	29.0	40.9	23.1	4.0
⑧ One should have children if one gets married	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	46.9	40.9	7.0	2.6	2.7
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	30.4	47.6	11.6	6.4	4.1
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	24.2	49.4	13.9	8.5	4.0
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	19.4	51.8	13.3	7.6	7.9
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	17.9	53.3	15.3	9.0	4.5
⑨ It is desirable that mothers should not work and should stay home at least when their children are young	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	47.9	40.2	7.6	2.5	1.9
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	26.7	49.8	14.2	6.3	3.0
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	22.7	49.1	14.8	6.6	6.8
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	19.2	50.3	18.8	7.7	4.0
⑩ No one should get divorced for a small reason such as incompatible personalities	10th Survey (1992)	100.0	22.3	43.7	24.1	7.1	2.7
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0	14.4	36.7	32.1	12.9	3.9
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0	13.2	38.6	31.0	13.5	3.8
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0	12.7	38.2	29.1	12.1	7.9
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	12.1	42.8	30.6	10.1	4.3
⑪ It is all right to have children even if one is not married	14th Survey (2010)	100.0	7.6	28.9	44.4	15.2	4.0

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples.

Appendix 6 Employment status and average age of wives, by survey and age of youngest child

Age of youngest child	Survey (Survey year)	Total (Number of cases)	Employed				Unemployed, student	Not known	Average age of wives
				Regular employee	Part-time, temporary worker	Self-employed, work for family business, working on the side			
Total	7th Survey (1977)	100.0% (7,853)	49.2%	16.9%	10.9	21.5	50.0	0.8	36.3
	8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (7,119)	56.2	19.7	14.5	22.1	43.2	0.6	37.4
	9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (7,850)	56.3	16.8	19.4	20.1	38.3	5.4	37.9
	10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (7,849)	55.6	24.0	20.7	11.0	42.9	1.5	38.8
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (6,384)	58.0	17.6	26.7	13.7	40.1	1.9	39.6
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (5,974)	55.7	17.0	28.8	9.9	41.5	2.8	38.8
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (5,117)	58.0	16.9	32.7	8.4	39.0	2.9	39.1
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (5,744)	58.9	17.0	36.2	5.8	38.1	2.9	39.8
Age of youngest child 0 - 2	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (2,250)	29.4	12.4	3.5	13.4	70.2	0.4	28.9
	8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (1,674)	32.0	15.9	3.0	13.1	67.7	0.3	29.9
	9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (1,724)	28.8	14.3	4.3	10.2	64.1	7.1	30.3
	10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (1,653)	26.3	15.8	4.8	5.7	72.7	1.1	30.5
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (1,294)	27.6	13.1	7.2	7.3	71.0	1.4	31.0
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (1,461)	29.7	14.9	10.3	4.6	68.6	1.7	31.3
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (1,168)	31.3	14.4	12.0	4.9	66.6	2.1	31.9
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (1,283)	35.8	19.0	14.0	2.7	62.2	2.0	32.9
Age of youngest child 3 - 5	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (1,497)	44.8	13.4	9.8	21.5	54.6	0.6	33.0
	8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (1,171)	50.1	15.6	13.2	21.3	49.4	0.4	33.2
	9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (1,086)	49.5	15.2	13.1	21.3	46.1	4.3	33.7
	10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (1,134)	44.4	20.3	16.1	7.9	54.7	1.0	34.4
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (757)	46.4	15.2	20.2	11.0	51.4	2.2	34.8
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (917)	45.5	13.7	22.6	9.2	52.0	2.5	35.0
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (831)	51.1	14.3	30.3	6.5	46.2	2.6	35.7
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (884)	51.7	15.4	31.0	5.3	45.6	2.7	36.0
Age of youngest child 6 - 8	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (1,053)	54.4	14.5	17.0	22.9	44.5	1.0	36.7
	8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (1,056)	60.3	18.9	19.0	22.3	39.3	0.4	36.4
	9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (1,029)	63.1	15.7	25.0	22.4	32.8	4.1	36.7
	10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (968)	54.8	19.9	23.5	11.4	43.2	2.1	37.7
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (739)	60.9	13.4	29.9	17.6	37.6	1.5	38.0
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (755)	57.1	15.2	29.8	12.1	40.1	2.8	38.2
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (718)	59.5	15.0	35.5	8.9	38.4	2.1	38.8
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (847)	60.3	17.1	37.3	5.9	36.8	2.8	39.3
Age of youngest child 9 or older	7th Survey (1977)	100.0 (2,980)	64.5	22.8	14.7	26.9	34.4	1.1	43.3
	8th Survey (1982)	100.0 (3,141)	69.8	23.2	19.5	27.0	29.3	0.9	43.2
	9th Survey (1987)	100.0 (3,274)	69.5	18.9	26.7	23.9	26.4	4.1	43.0
	10th Survey (1992)	100.0 (3,850)	71.2	29.1	28.3	13.7	27.3	1.5	43.7
	11th Survey (1997)	100.0 (2,851)	72.5	21.3	35.4	15.7	25.8	1.8	44.6
	12th Survey (2002)	100.0 (2,677)	73.1	19.8	40.6	12.7	24.0	2.9	44.3
	13th Survey (2005)	100.0 (2,130)	74.4	20.0	43.3	11.0	22.6	3.0	44.3
	14th Survey (2010)	100.0 (2,640)	72.2	16.5	48.4	7.2	24.6	3.2	44.4

Note: The figures shown are for first-marriage couples with at least one child. Data for wives without information on age of their youngest children are omitted, but are included in the total.

For the results of *The Fourteenth Japanese National Fertility Survey in 2010*, visit <http://www.ipss.go.jp/index-e.asp> or contact Department of Population Dynamics Research, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.