
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Committee on Statistics

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Item 6 (c) of the provisional agenda

Items for information: Disability Surveys in Japan

Disability Surveys in Japan¹

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) is in charge of disability statistics and conduct relevant surveys. The following is the outline of these surveys, two for persons with disability and one for their institutions.

1. Survey on Persons/Children with Physical Disability

1.1. Purpose of the Survey

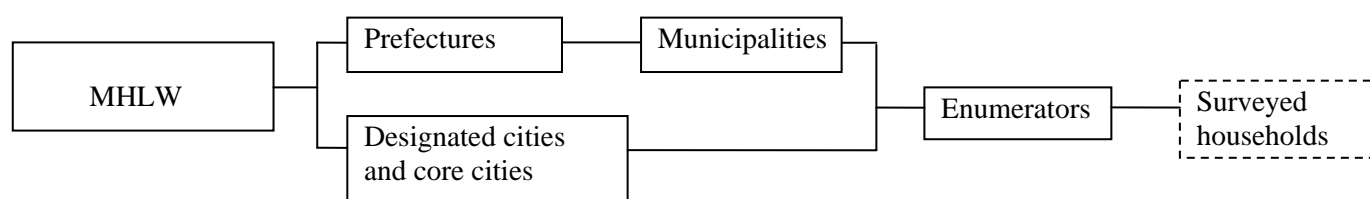
The survey is conducted once in five years for the purposes of keeping aware of the reality and needs of daily living of persons/children with physical disabilities living at home, and also in order to acquire basic reference materials for planning and promoting future welfare administration for persons/children with physical disabilities.

¹ This document was contributed by the Director-General for Policy Planning on Statistical Standards of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Government of Japan. It has been reproduced without formal editing. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations.

1.2. Object of the Survey

Survey title	Object
Survey on persons with physical disabilities	Households with persons 18 years old or older with physical disabilities (those who hold physical disability certificate or do not but have disabilities listed in the list attached to the Law for the Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons) living in 2,600 Population Census tracts
Survey on children with physical disabilities	Households with children under 18 years old with physical disabilities (those who hold physical disability certificate or do not but have disabilities listed in the list attached to the Law for the Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons) living in 9,800 Population Census tracts

1.3. Route of the Survey



1.4. Method of the Survey

(1) Enumerators visit households in the tracts, explain the purpose of the survey, and confirm the existence of survey object.

(2) In case there is an object, the enumerator distributes the questionnaire and requests to fill it out and send it back by mail (voluntary mailing system).

(3) As a general rule, the questionnaire shall be filled out by object persons themselves.

1.5. State of Questionnaire Collection and Estimation Method of Survey Results

The object of the survey is persons/children with physical disabilities recognized in the tracts randomly chosen from throughout the nation in accordance with the sampling design based on the sampling method.

The tracts used for the Population Census of 2000 were applied for the sampling design. Through stratified random sampling, 2,600 tracts were chosen for persons with physical disabilities, and 9,800 tracts for children with physical disabilities, and survey was conducted on all of the households living in those tracts.

As mentioned in “4. Method of the Survey”, the questionnaires were collected by mail in order to protect the privacy of the relevant persons/children

with physical disabilities and to respect their voluntary will to submit the questionnaire. The situation of collection is as follows:

State of survey implementation	Persons with physical disabilities	Children with physical disabilities	
Number of object persons a	9,746	979	Zi
Unavailable(long absence, refusal, etc.) b	2,833	312	
Available a – b = c	6,913	667	
Questionnaire collected d	4,715	421	
Classified in disability grades 1-6	4,263	301	Xi Yi
Not classified in disability grades 1-6	14	7	
Invalid for calculation	438	113	
Questionnaire not collected	2,198	246	

Assuming that the composition of disability grades among persons for whom questionnaires were not collected due to death, long absence, refusal and other reasons is the same as that for the collected questionnaires, estimation was attempted using the ratio estimation method. In other words, the national estimation was calculated through the ratio estimation method with the number of household members as the supplementary variable.

$$Z = P \times \frac{\sum Z_i}{\sum P_i} \times \frac{\sum X_i}{\sum Y_i}$$

$$\text{Persons with physical disabilities} = 816.94 \times \sum X_i \sim 3,483,000 \text{ (persons)}$$

$$\text{Children with physical disabilities} = 309.31 \times \sum X_i \sim 93,100 \text{ (children)}$$

Z: Estimated national total of persons with the relevant attribute

Pi: Total of household members in the sample tract i (total number of persons)

Zi: Total of household members that are object of the survey as having the relevant attribute in the sample tract i (total number of object persons of the survey)

Yi: Out of Zi, number of household members who answered the questionnaire (number of valid responses (including those who are not included in calculation))

Xi: Out of Yi, number of household members who are incorporated in calculation (number of responses which are valid and incorporated calculation)

P: Estimated national population (as of July 1, 2006)

2. Survey on Persons/Children with Intellectual Disability

2.1. Purpose of the Survey

The survey is conducted once in five years for the purposes of keeping aware of the reality and needs of daily living of persons/children with intellectual disabilities living at home, and also in order to acquire basic reference materials for planning and promoting future welfare administration for them.

2.2. Object of the Survey

Objects of the survey are persons/children with intellectual disabilities living in Population Census tracts randomly sampled by 1/150.

2.3. Survey Items

Degree of disability, condition of living, opportunity of going out from home, consultants or advisors, employment status, allowances or pensions, etc.

2.4. Method and Route

(1) Enumerators visit households in the tracts, explain the purpose of the survey, and confirm the existence of survey object.

(2) In case there is an object, the enumerator distributes the questionnaire and requests to fill it out and send it back by mail (voluntary mailing system).

The route of the survey is the same as the above I. Survey on Persons/Children with Physical Disability.

3. Survey of Social Welfare Institutions

3.1. Objective

To obtain basic data on number, capacity, residents, and employees of social welfare institutions nationwide for promoting social and welfare administration as well as preparing a list of social welfare institutions

3.2. Subjects and Objects

Questionnaire of Social Welfare Institution: Social welfare institutions (86 types) are subjected and all of them (including those that are suspended) are objected.

Questionnaire of Social Welfare Service Establishment for the Disabled: Welfare service establishments for the disabled (15 types) under Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act are subjected and all of them (including those that are suspended) are objected.

As of Oct. 1, 2008

	Number of surveyed institutions and establishments	Number of tabulated institutions and establishments
Questionnaire of Social Welfare Institution		
Public assistance facilities under the Public Assistance Act	304	30
Welfare facilities for the elderly under the Act on Social Welfare Service for Elderly	9 854	9 236
Institutions for support of the disabled under the Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act 2)	2 909	2 898
Rehabilitation homes for the physically disabled under the former Act on Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons 3)	974	972
Institutions for protection for the mentally disabled under the former Act on Welfare of Mentally Retarded Persons 3)	3 316	3 315
Social rehabilitation facilities for mentally disabled persons under the former Act on Mental Health and Welfare for the Mentally Disabled 3)	786	782
Institutions for supporting social activities of the physically disabled under the Act on Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons	377	374
Women's guidance homes under the Anti-Prostitution Act	49	48
Children's welfare institutions under the Child Welfare Act	34 008	33 431
Child and maternal welfare institutions under the Act on Welfare of Mothers with Dependents and Widows	70	69
Other social welfare institutions etc.	10 663	10 353
Questionnaire of Social Welfare Service Establishment for the Disabled Social welfare service establishment for the disabled 4)	28 242	22 266

Note: 1) Numbers of institutions and establishments tabulated exclude those that are suspended.

2) This refers to "Support centres for the disabled", "Local activities support centres", and "Welfare homes" included in Institutions for support of the disabled under the Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act.

3) Institutions with former acts (Act on Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons, Act on Welfare of Mentally Retarded Persons, and Act on Mental Health and Welfare for the Mentally Disabled) under transitional measure in accordance with the enforcement of Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act.

4) Survey on social welfare service establishments is conducted via mailing services and abolished establishments are excluded from number of surveyed institutions and establishments.

3.3. Survey Items

Questionnaire of Social Welfare Institution: Type, name, address of facilities, establishing and management organization, capacity, number of residents, and number of employees, etc.

Questionnaire of Social Welfare Service Establishment for the Disabled: Type, name, address of establishments, management agency, type of service and its provision, number of employees, etc.

3.4. The Method and Route

(1) Questionnaires of social welfare institution were handed to all institutions via welfare offices and the managers of institutions filled in the questionnaires themselves.

(2) Questionnaires of social welfare service establishment for the disabled were directly mailed by the MHLW and the managers of establishments filled in the questionnaires themselves. However, establishments attached to institutions were handed the questionnaires via welfare offices and the managers of establishments filled in the questionnaires themselves.

(3) Institutions established by the national government were handed the social welfare institution questionnaires directly by the MHLW and the managers of institutions filled in the questionnaires themselves.

