

Statistical Surveys

■ What is a statistical survey?

Statistics refers to “the aggregate number gained from a particular study on a target group with a certain set of conditions.” The survey conducted to obtain these figures is called a ‘statistical survey.’ Statistical surveys are conducted in accordance with a law called the Statistics Law. Persons subject to a particular survey have a responsibility to answer the questionnaires. The results of these surveys are very helpful and used to improve our daily lives.

■ Types of statistical surveys

There are many different types of surveys, such as one that covers everyone in the city, from babies to the elderly, one that covers only those 15 years of age or older in some areas, and one that covers all stores. The answers to the questions also vary depending on the survey, such as "personal and family matters," "income and expenses," "job descriptions and sales," and so on.

In 2025, the National Census is conducted on October 1st as the base date. All persons living in Japan are subject to this census. Anyone (including foreign nationals) living in Japan (or expected to live) for 3 months or more are subject, regardless of nationality, age (including elderlies, babies), etc. However, individuals staying in Japan less than 3 months are not subject to this.

■ Survey examiner

They are appointed by the national minister or prefectural governor to conduct statistical surveys. They visit the houses and stores of the survey targets, ask for necessary information, and distribute survey forms, instructions, and other survey documents. Statistical surveyors have a photo ID card.

■ How to answer

An examiner will come to collect the completed questionnaire, or depending on the survey, you may submit the survey form in an envelope by mail to the city hall. Some of them can be filled in through internet. There are materials (including questionnaire) available to help speakers of other languages, such as English, Portuguese, Chinese and several other languages, however, not all languages are available.

■ Concerning the contents from the completed questionnaires

The information written on the questionnaires will never be used for anything other than for statistical purposes. The survey examiners, including the city personnel in charge of each survey are forbidden to discuss any information acquired from the surveys to anyone.

For inquiries, please contact the division on the next page.

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