

[4] Working Conditions/Labour Relations

(1) Working Conditions

Measures for Security and Improvement of Working Conditions

Overview Security and Improvement of Working Conditions

Approximately 52.09 million people are working at some 4.27 million offices in Japan (source: 2009 "Economic Census for Business Frame", Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications). In order to provide working environment in which workers can work without worries, it is crucial to secure the working conditions stipulated in the Labour Standards Act etc. and take measures to improve working conditions.

As means to achieve this goal, Labour Bureau is established in every prefecture, and Labour Standards Inspection Offices nationwide. On-site inspections are conducted in accordance with labour standards related laws to ensure that employers abide by the statutory working hours, safety and health standards and the minimum wages as well as to secure and improve working conditions.

There are two types of inspections: regular inspection and inspection based on reports filed by workers. The former includes monthly planned inspection and so-called accident site investigation carried out when a serious industrial accident occurs or a workplace disaster such as fire and explosion takes place. Accident site investigation aims to investigate the cause of the accident and prevent recurrence of similar accidents. Inspection based on reports from workers is conducted when a report is filed by workers, etc.

When labour standards inspectors find serious or gross violation case of labour standards related laws on inspection site, they investigate the case, as special judicial police officers, in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure to probe criminal liability, and send the case to the public prosecutor's office.

Detailed Data 1 Changes in Number of Inspections

Year	Number of offices where on-site inspection was conducted			Inspection rate	Violation rate
	Regular inspection	Other inspection	Total		
	(case)	(case)	(case)	%	%
1965	191,053	46,717	237,770	10.9	54.4
1970	233,946	54,198	288,144	10.8	70.4
1975	165,483	40,576	206,059	7.1	65.7
1980	167,850	37,060	204,910	6.4	64.2
1985	173,438	32,777	206,215	5.9	58.9
1990	156,401	22,728	179,129	4.8	57.7
1991	138,286	20,376	158,662	3.6	56.9
1992	154,109	22,298	176,407	4.1	58.6
1993	164,405	25,283	189,688	4.4	56.3
1994	162,366	26,476	188,842	4.3	56.7
1995	175,875	27,036	202,911	4.7	58.8
1996	164,611	26,281	190,892	4.4	54.0
1997	145,041	27,138	172,179	3.8	55.7
1998	153,563	32,534	186,097	4.1	54.6
1999	146,160	34,097	180,257	4.0	59.7
2000	147,773	37,091	184,864	4.1	58.8
2001	134,623	39,068	173,691	3.8	63.4
2002	131,878	41,236	173,114	3.8	62.7
2003	121,031	43,474	164,505	3.6	65.6
2004	122,793	42,835	165,628	3.6	67.1
2005	122,734	41,407	164,141	3.7	66.3
2006	118,872	42,186	161,058	3.6	67.4
2007	126,499	42,234	168,733	4.1	67.9
2008	115,993	43,097	159,090	3.9	68.5
2009	100,535	46,325	146,860	3.6	65.0
2010	128,959	45,574	174,533	4.3	66.7
2011	132,829	42,703	175,532	4.1	67.4
2012	134,295	39,225	173,520	4.1	68.4
2013	140,499	37,634	178,133	4.2	68.0
2014	129,881	36,568	166,449	3.9	69.4

Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

(Note) 1. "Violate rate" indicates the percentage of offices which committed violations among offices where regular inspections were conducted.

2. Years indicate calendar years except for 1965, for which the year indicates a fiscal year.

Detailed Data 2 Changes in Number of Inspection Based on Reports

Year	Cases to be inspected		Cases carried over from the previous year		Cases accepted in the current year	
	Number of cases	Year-on-year change	Number of cases	Year-on-year change	Number of cases	Year-on-year change
1986	27,634	94.6	4,968	95.9	22,666	94.3
1987	24,380	88.2	4,263	85.8	20,117	88.8
1988	20,581	84.4	3,609	84.7	16,972	84.4
1989	16,502	80.2	2,913	80.7	13,790	81.3
1990	15,088	91.4	2,451	84.1	12,637	91.6
1991	15,260	101.1	2,247	91.7	13,013	103.0
1992	18,706	122.6	2,439	108.5	16,267	125.0
1993	23,462	125.4	3,300	135.3	20,162	123.9
1994	24,964	106.4	4,574	138.6	20,390	101.1
1995	25,386	101.7	4,538	99.2	20,848	102.2
1996	25,537	100.6	4,043	89.1	21,494	103.1
1997	27,850	109.1	4,433	109.6	23,417	108.9
1998	33,554	120.5	4,758	107.3	28,796	123.0
1999	35,352	105.4	6,123	128.7	29,229	101.5
2000	38,743	109.6	5,764	94.1	32,979	112.8
2001	41,444	107.0	6,488	112.6	34,956	106.0
2002	43,898	105.9	6,422	99.0	37,476	107.2
2003	46,009	104.8	6,954	108.3	39,055	104.2
2004	43,423	94.4	6,795	97.7	36,628	93.8
2005	41,003	94.4	6,072	89.4	34,931	95.4
2006	40,234	98.1	5,442	89.6	34,792	99.6
2007	40,254	100.0	4,724	86.8	35,530	102.1
2008	44,432	110.4	5,145	108.9	39,287	110.6
2009	48,448	109.0	5,976	116.2	42,472	108.1
2010	44,736	92.3	6,588	110.2	38,148	89.8
2011	41,047	91.8	5,784	87.8	35,263	92.4
2012	37,253	90.8	5,901	102.0	31,352	88.9
2013	34,322	92.1	5,004	84.8	29,318	93.5
2014	31,709	92.4	4,620	92.3	27,089	92.4

Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

Detailed Data 3 Changes in Number of Judicial Cases by Major Type of Business

Year	All industries	Manufacturing	Construction	Commerce
1965	1,126 (100.0)	485 (43.1)	406 (36.1)	23 (2.0)
1970	1,726 (100.0)	524 (30.4)	815 (47.2)	49 (2.8)
1975	1,363 (100.0)	410 (30.0)	639 (46.9)	49 (3.6)
1980	1,531 (100.0)	407 (26.6)	780 (51.0)	78 (5.1)
1985	1,328 (100.0)	424 (31.9)	626 (47.1)	75 (5.6)
1990	1,270 (100.0)	325 (25.6)	710 (55.9)	56 (4.4)
1994	1,240 (100.0)	324 (26.1)	654 (52.7)	57 (4.6)
1995	1,310 (100.0)	324 (24.7)	681 (52.0)	76 (5.8)
1996	1,411 (100.0)	349 (24.7)	735 (52.1)	87 (6.2)
1997	1,264 (100.0)	247 (19.5)	676 (53.5)	83 (6.6)
1998	1,209 (100.0)	298 (24.6)	589 (48.7)	83 (6.9)
1999	1,262 (100.0)	316 (25.0)	597 (47.3)	87 (6.9)
2000	1,385 (100.0)	342 (24.7)	637 (46.0)	102 (7.4)
2001	1,346 (100.0)	315 (23.4)	624 (46.4)	106 (7.9)
2002	1,328 (100.0)	322 (24.2)	568 (42.8)	121 (9.1)
2003	1,399 (100.0)	346 (24.7)	593 (42.4)	122 (8.7)
2004	1,339 (100.0)	312 (23.3)	571 (42.6)	113 (8.4)
2005	1,290 (100.0)	303 (23.5)	525 (40.7)	106 (8.2)
2006	1,219 (100.0)	286 (23.5)	470 (38.6)	97 (8.0)
2007	1,277 (100.0)	308 (24.1)	458 (35.9)	122 (9.6)
2008	1,227 (100.0)	295 (24.0)	484 (39.4)	92 (7.5)
2009	1,110 (100.0)	285 (25.7)	375 (33.8)	114 (10.3)
2010	1,157 (100.0)	268 (23.2)	400 (34.6)	102 (8.8)
2011	1,064 (100.0)	253 (23.8)	352 (33.1)	98 (9.2)
2012	1,133 (100.0)	260 (22.9)	406 (35.8)	97 (8.6)
2013	1,043 (100.0)	231 (22.1)	369 (35.4)	79 (7.6)
2014	1,036 (100.0)	215 (20.8)	392 (37.8)	96 (9.3)

Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

(Note) The figures in parentheses indicate the percentage among all industries.

Measures for Working Hours

Overview

Major Measures for Working Hours (FY 2015)

Full complication with the statutory working hours

Implementation of inspection and group guidance, etc.

(Statutory working hours: 8-hours a day, 40-hours per week (44-hours per week for workplaces subjected to special measures))

Reduction of non-scheduled working hours

Guidance for employers on compliance with the overtime limit

(limit standards)

Period	Limit	Period	Limit	Period	Limit
1 week	15 hours	1 month	45 hours	1 year	360 hours
2 weeks	27 hours	2 months	81 hours		
4 weeks	43 hours	3 months	120 hours		

* Different criteria are applied to one-year variable working hour system.

Enlightenment guidance in accordance with the Outlines for Reduced Non-Scheduled Working Hours

Realization of work-life balance

Dissemination and enlightenment of "Guidelines for Improvement of Working Time Arrangements"

Dissemination and enlightenment of "Guidelines for Improvement of Working Time Arrangements" based on "Charter for Work-Life Balance" and "Action Policy for Promoting Work-Life Balance".

Provision of subsidy for promoting the improvement of working time arrangements

Subsidy provided to associations of small and medium-sized enterprises that are actively working on the improvement of working time arrangements.

Provision of subsidy for the improvement of working time arrangements

Subsidy provided to small and medium-sized enterprises that are actively working on the improvement of working time arrangements.

Support by consultants on improvement of working time arrangements

Consultation on the improvement of working time arrangements at Prefectural Labour Bureaus.

Improvement of working time arrangements

- Improvement of working time arrangements related matters, including working hours, opening/closing time, the number of day off, the number of annual paid leave, and seasonal working time, for covering diverse work styles with consideration given to Worker's health and life
- Employers are obliged to make efforts in taking necessary measures for improving working time arrangements
- The Government must make efforts to support employers, etc. and promote necessary measures in an comprehensive and effective manner

Guidelines for Improvement of Working Time Arrangements

To list reference matters that are helpful for business operators to respond to their obligation to make efforts to improve working time arrangements

Committee for the Improvement of Working Time Arrangements

- Committee for the Improvement of Working Time Arrangements is established to provide labour and management with opportunities for discussion
- Exceptions of the Labour Standards Act, such as substitution effects of labour and management agreement and notification exemption, are applied to committees that meet specific conditions

Implementation plan for improvement of working time arrangements

In case two or more employers jointly formulate the plan and receive ministerial approval, relevant ministers and the Fair Trade Commission shall check whether there's any violation of the Antimonopoly Act

Points of Guidelines for Improvement of Working Time Arrangements

1. Basic ideas

- (1) Efforts toward the realization of work-life balance, including the review of work time arrangements,
 - are necessary for making Japanese society sustainable and stable, reversing the trend in falling birthrate, and enabling various people to get employed under the situations of declining population; and
 - increase chances of securing, developing, and adapting talented human resources that are sources of energy and competitiveness of enterprises.
- (2) It is important that executive officers take the lead in carrying out, and strive for raising awareness for the reform of working environments
- (3) Taking measures in a systematic manner toward the realization of work-life balance according to the actual conditions of individual enterprises in light of the goals of the entire society provided in the "Action Guidelines for Work-Life Balance Promotion" is important (Goals of the entire society)
 - "To halve the ratio of workers who work for 60 hours or more per week by 2020"
 - "To raise the acquisition rate of annual paid leave to 70% by 2020"

2. Measures that are important for the realization of work-life balance

- (1) Development of opportunities for discussion between labour and management
 - Development of opportunities for discussion between labour and management such as Committee for the Improvement of Working Time Arrangements
- (2) Development of environment where annual paid leave is easily taken
 - Creation of an atmosphere where annual paid leave is easily taken by encouraging its acquisition
 - Scheduled acquisition of annual paid leave
 - Introduction of a system to confirm the annual paid leave acquisition status
 - Discussion on setting the targets for the acquisition rate, etc.
- (3) Reduction of non-scheduled working hours
 - Introduction and improvement of "no overtime day" and "no overtime week"
 - Suppression of long working hours (to avoid constantly working long hours), etc.
- (4) Consideration for health and life of individual workers
 - Workers considered to be in particular need of maintaining their health
 - Workers that are raising their children or nursing their family members
 - Business bachelors
 - Workers making voluntary efforts in vocational ability development

Detailed Data 1

Transition of Average Annual Hours Actually Worked per Person in 6 Major Countries

Year	(Hour)					
	Japan	U.S.A.	U.K.	Canada	Germany	France
2008	1792	1797	1641	1733	1339	1416
2009	1733	1775	1637	1702	1295	1399
2010	1754	1786	1632	1706	1321	1404
2011	1747	1796	1611	1705	1325	1407
2012	1765	1797	1637	1718	1316	1402
2013	1746	1795	1659	1713	1313	1401

Source: OECD Employment Outlook (2014)

- (Note)
1. Including part-time workers, but excluding self-employed persons.
 2. The figures for Japan indicate hours worked by workers in offices with 5 or more workers. No limitation is imposed on the figures for other countries.
 3. Note that statistical methods used for obtaining the data, including selection of the general population, are different in each country.

Detailed Data 1 Acquisition Status of Annual Paid Leave ¹⁾

Size of enterprise, industry, year	Days granted ²⁾	Days acquired ³⁾	Acquisition rate ⁴⁾
2014	18.5	9.0	48.8
2013	18.3	8.6	47.1
2012	18.3	9.0	49.3
2011	17.9	8.6	48.1
2010	17.9	8.5	47.1
2014			
1,000 employees and over	19.4	10.8	55.6
300-999 employees	18.5	8.7	47.0
100-299 employees	18.1	8.1	44.9
30-99 employees	17.4	7.4	42.2
2014			
Mining and quarrying of stone and gravel	18.6	11.2	60.1
Construction	18.3	7.4	40.3
Manufacturing	19.1	10.3	54.0
Electricity, gas, heat supply and water	19.8	14.0	70.6
Information and communications	19.0	11.0	57.7
Transport and postal activities	18.1	9.2	50.5
Wholesale and retail trade	18.0	6.5	36.4
Finance and insurance	19.9	10.5	52.8
Real estate and goods rental and leasing	18.2	7.6	41.6
Scientific research, professional and technical services	18.5	9.4	50.9
Accommodations, eating and drinking services	16.7	6.7	40.1
Living-related and personal services and amusement services	16.9	6.3	37.1
Education, learning support	18.0	6.9	38.2
Medical, health care and welfare	14.5	6.6	45.4
Services (not elsewhere classified)	17.8	8.2	46.5

Source: "General Survey on Working Conditions", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW

(Note) 1) Year in this table indicates publication year and with the survey period being the previous year (or the fiscal year of the year prior to the previous year)

2) "Days granted" exclude those carried over from the previous year.

3) "Days acquired" indicates the number of days actually acquired within a year.

4) "Acquisition rate" is calculated by (Total days acquired / Total days granted) × 100 (%).

5) Survey subjects were private enterprises with more than 30 regular employees.

Wage Measures

Overview Outline of Minimum Wage System

1. Minimum wage system

The minimum wage system is a system that employers are obliged to pay employees the amount no less than the minimum wages formulated by the government in accordance with the Minimum Wages Act.

Even the cases where the wages below the minimum wage is stipulated in the conditions of agreement with employees are considered invalid and the amount equal to the minimum wage is considered applicable. Employers that failed to pay the regional minimum wage are punishable by a fine not exceeding ¥500,000.

2. Types of the minimum wage

Two types of the minimum wage exist, namely the “prefectural minimum wage” that applies to all workers within the prefecture regardless of differences in industries and the “specific minimum wage” that is more expensive than the regional minimum wage and applies to core workers in specific industries (electromechanical apparatus manufacturing, retail trade of motor vehicles, etc.).

3. Comparing with the minimum wage

Wages paid and the minimum wage were compared using the following method. Of wages paid, however, [1] special wages (marriage allowance, etc.), [2] wages paid for a period exceeding that of one month (bonuses, etc.), [3] wages paid for hours worked that exceeded their prescribed working hours (premium wage for overtime work, etc.), [4] wages paid for days worked outside of prescribed working days (premium wage for working on days off, etc.), [5] portion of wages paid for hours worked between 22:00 and 05:00 that exceeds the amount of ordinary wages calculated for that hours (premium wage for night work), and [6] allowance for specific duty, commuting allowance, and family allowance were excluded from the abovementioned minimum wage comparison.

(1) In case of hourly wage: $\text{hourly wage} \geq \text{minimum wage (per hour)}$

(2) In case of daily wage: $\text{daily wage} / \text{daily average prescribed working hours} \geq \text{minimum wage (per hour)}$

(3) In case of monthly wage: $\text{monthly wage} / \text{monthly average prescribed working hours} \geq \text{minimum wage (per hour)}$

(4) In case of combination with (1), (2) and (3) above: For example, in the case that basic salary is on a daily basis, each allowance (including job allowance) is a monthly basis, hourly rate is calculated on a basis of formula of (2) and (3). Therefore, the hourly rate combined with (2) and (3) is compared with the amount of the minimum hourly wage set by law.

Detailed Data 1 List of Prefectural Minimum Wages

	FY2010		FY2011		FY2012		FY2013		FY2014	
	Min. wage	Effective date								
Weighted national average (per hour)	730		737		749		764		780	
Hokkaido	691	Oct. 15, 2010	705	Oct. 6, 2011	719	Oct. 18, 2012	734	Oct. 18, 2013	748	Oct. 8, 2014
Aomori	645	Oct. 29, 2010	647	Oct. 16, 2011	654	Oct. 12, 2012	665	Oct. 24, 2013	679	Oct. 24, 2014
Iwate	644	Oct. 30, 2010	645	Nov. 11, 2011	653	Oct. 20, 2012	665	Oct. 27, 2013	678	Oct. 4, 2014
Miyagi	674	Oct. 24, 2010	675	Oct. 29, 2011	685	Oct. 19, 2012	696	Oct. 31, 2013	710	Oct. 16, 2014
Akita	645	Nov. 3, 2010	647	Oct. 30, 2011	654	Oct. 13, 2012	665	Oct. 26, 2013	679	Oct. 5, 2014
Yamagata	645	Oct. 29, 2010	647	Oct. 29, 2011	654	Oct. 24, 2012	665	Oct. 24, 2013	680	Oct. 17, 2014
Fukushima	657	Oct. 24, 2010	658	Nov. 2, 2011	664	Oct. 1, 2012	675	Oct. 6, 2013	689	Oct. 4, 2014
Ibaraki	690	Oct. 16, 2010	692	Oct. 8, 2011	699	Oct. 6, 2012	713	Oct. 20, 2013	729	Oct. 4, 2014
Tochigi	697	Oct. 7, 2010	700	Oct. 1, 2011	705	Oct. 1, 2012	718	Oct. 19, 2013	733	Oct. 1, 2014
Gunma	688	Oct. 9, 2010	690	Oct. 7, 2011	696	Oct. 10, 2012	707	Oct. 13, 2013	721	Oct. 5, 2014
Saitama	750	Oct. 16, 2010	759	Oct. 1, 2011	771	Oct. 1, 2012	785	Oct. 20, 2013	802	Oct. 1, 2014
Chiba	744	Oct. 24, 2010	748	Oct. 1, 2011	756	Oct. 1, 2012	777	Oct. 18, 2013	798	Oct. 1, 2014
Tokyo	821	Oct. 24, 2010	837	Oct. 1, 2011	850	Oct. 1, 2012	869	Oct. 19, 2013	888	Oct. 1, 2014
Kanagawa	818	Oct. 21, 2010	836	Oct. 1, 2011	849	Oct. 1, 2012	868	Oct. 20, 2013	887	Oct. 1, 2014
Niigata	681	Oct. 21, 2010	683	Oct. 7, 2011	689	Oct. 5, 2012	701	Oct. 26, 2013	715	Oct. 4, 2014
Toyama	691	Oct. 27, 2010	692	Oct. 1, 2011	700	Nov. 4, 2012	712	Oct. 6, 2013	728	Oct. 1, 2014
Ishikawa	686	Oct. 30, 2010	687	Oct. 20, 2011	693	Oct. 6, 2012	704	Oct. 19, 2013	718	Oct. 5, 2014
Fukui	683	Oct. 21, 2010	684	Oct. 1, 2011	690	Oct. 6, 2012	701	Oct. 13, 2013	716	Oct. 4, 2014
Yamanashi	689	Oct. 17, 2010	690	Oct. 20, 2011	695	Oct. 1, 2012	706	Oct. 18, 2013	721	Oct. 1, 2014
Nagano	693	Oct. 29, 2010	694	Oct. 1, 2011	700	Oct. 1, 2012	713	Oct. 19, 2013	728	Oct. 1, 2014
Gifu	706	Oct. 17, 2010	707	Oct. 1, 2011	713	Oct. 1, 2012	724	Oct. 19, 2013	738	Oct. 1, 2014
Shizuoka	725	Oct. 14, 2010	728	Oct. 14, 2011	735	Oct. 12, 2012	749	Oct. 12, 2013	765	Oct. 5, 2014
Aichi	745	Oct. 24, 2010	750	Oct. 7, 2011	758	Oct. 1, 2012	780	Oct. 26, 2013	800	Oct. 1, 2014
Mie	714	Oct. 22, 2010	717	Oct. 1, 2011	724	Sep 30, 2012	737	Oct. 19, 2013	753	Oct. 1, 2014
Shiga	706	Oct. 21, 2010	709	Oct. 20, 2011	716	Oct. 6, 2012	730	Oct. 25, 2013	746	Oct. 9, 2014
Kyoto	749	Oct. 17, 2010	751	Oct. 16, 2011	759	Oct. 14, 2012	773	Oct. 24, 2013	789	Oct. 22, 2014
Osaka	779	Oct. 15, 2010	786	Sep. 30, 2011	800	Sep 30, 2012	819	Oct. 18, 2013	838	Oct. 5, 2014
Hyogo	734	Oct. 17, 2010	739	Oct. 1, 2011	749	Oct. 1, 2012	761	Oct. 19, 2013	776	Oct. 1, 2014
Nara	691	Oct. 24, 2010	693	Oct. 7, 2011	699	Oct. 6, 2012	710	Oct. 20, 2013	724	Oct. 3, 2014
Wakayama	684	Oct. 29, 2010	685	Oct. 13, 2011	690	Oct. 1, 2012	701	Oct. 19, 2013	715	Oct. 17, 2014
Tottori	642	Oct. 31, 2010	646	Oct. 29, 2011	653	Oct. 20, 2012	664	Oct. 25, 2013	677	Oct. 8, 2014
Shimane	642	Oct. 24, 2010	646	Nov. 6, 2011	652	Oct. 14, 2012	664	Nov. 6, 2013	679	Oct. 5, 2014
Okayama	683	Nov. 5, 2010	685	Oct. 27, 2011	691	Oct. 24, 2012	703	Oct. 30, 2013	719	Oct. 5, 2014
Hiroshima	704	Oct. 30, 2010	710	Oct. 1, 2011	719	Oct. 1, 2012	733	Oct. 24, 2013	750	Oct. 1, 2014
Yamaguchi	681	Oct. 29, 2010	684	Oct. 6, 2011	690	Oct. 1, 2012	701	Oct. 10, 2013	715	Oct. 1, 2014
Tokushima	645	Oct. 16, 2010	647	Oct. 15, 2011	654	Oct. 19, 2012	666	Oct. 30, 2013	679	Oct. 1, 2014
Kagawa	664	Oct. 16, 2010	667	Oct. 5, 2011	674	Oct. 5, 2012	686	Oct. 24, 2013	702	Oct. 1, 2014
Ehime	644	Oct. 27, 2010	647	Oct. 20, 2011	654	Oct. 24, 2012	666	Oct. 31, 2013	680	Oct. 12, 2014
Kochi	642	Oct. 27, 2010	645	Oct. 26, 2011	652	Oct. 26, 2012	664	Oct. 26, 2013	677	Oct. 26, 2014
Fukuoka	692	Oct. 22, 2010	695	Oct. 15, 2011	701	Oct. 13, 2012	712	Oct. 18, 2013	727	Oct. 5, 2014
Saga	642	Oct. 29, 2010	646	Oct. 6, 2011	653	Oct. 21, 2012	664	Oct. 26, 2013	678	Oct. 4, 2014
Nagasaki	642	Nov. 4, 2010	646	Oct. 12, 2011	653	Oct. 24, 2012	664	Oct. 20, 2013	677	Oct. 1, 2014
Kumamoto	643	Nov. 5, 2010	647	Oct. 20, 2011	653	Oct. 1, 2012	664	Oct. 30, 2013	677	Oct. 1, 2014
Oita	643	Oct. 24, 2010	647	Oct. 20, 2011	653	Oct. 4, 2012	664	Oct. 20, 2013	677	Oct. 4, 2014
Miyazaki	642	Nov. 4, 2010	646	Nov. 2, 2011	653	Oct. 26, 2012	664	Nov. 2, 2013	677	Nov. 16, 2014
Kagoshima	642	Oct. 28, 2010	647	Oct. 29, 2011	654	Oct. 13, 2012	665	Oct. 27, 2013	678	Oct. 19, 2014
Okinawa	642	Nov. 5, 2010	645	Nov. 6, 2011	653	Oct. 25, 2012	664	Oct. 26, 2013	677	Oct. 24, 2014

Detailed Data 2 Results of Inspection Aimed at Securing the Observance of the Minimum Wages

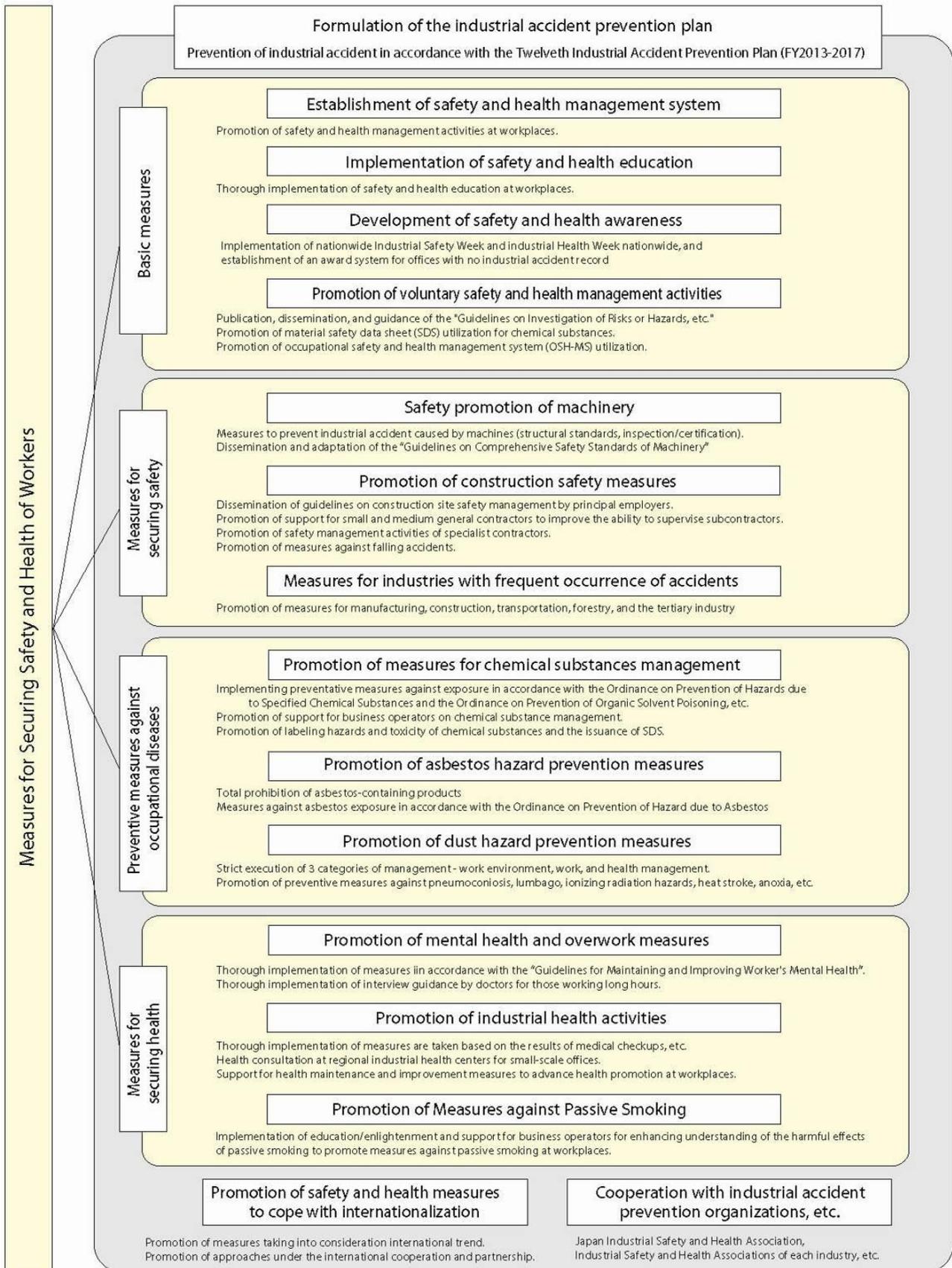
Transition of results of inspection (2002-2014, nationwide total)

Matters Year	Violations of the law			Awareness in offices violating the law			Workers receiving less than the minimum wages		
	Number of offices inspected (A)	Number of enterprises violating the obligation to pay the minimum wages (B)	Ratio (B) / (A)	Aware of the amount of the minimum wages	Aware of the minimum wages being applied but not the amount	Not aware of the minimum wages being applied	Number of workers in offices inspected (C)	Number of workers receiving less than the minimum wages (D)	Ratio (D) / (C)
	case	case	%	%	%	%	person	person	%
2002	14,016	1,283	9.2	24.6	60.8	14.6	204,208	4,363	2.1
2003	13,080	860	6.6	29.1	52.7	18.3	197,402	2,723	1.4
2004	12,337	678	5.5	30.2	53.1	16.7	178,757	2,321	1.3
2005	11,820	753	6.4	30.9	50.5	18.6	177,086	2,087	1.2
2006	10,700	731	6.8	32.6	51.8	15.6	149,523	2,376	1.6
2007	20,362	1,399	6.9	33.4	56.0	10.7	299,402	4,241	1.4
2008	19,550	1,318	6.7	34.7	56.5	8.8	310,782	4,081	1.3
2009	9,743	833	8.5	32.5	59.7	7.8	150,126	3,393	2.3
2010	13,559	1,055	7.8	34.2	57.6	8.2	192,080	3,482	1.8
2011	14,398	1,481	10.4	41.3	51.8	6.9	201,362	5,275	2.6
2012	13,644	1,139	8.3	36.9	55.4	7.7	185,260	4,056	2.2
2013	13,946	1,343	9.6	40.9	50.7	8.4	190,386	4,079	2.1
2014	13,975	1,491	10.7	39.6	51.5	8.9	182,548	5,716	3.1

(Note) The figures for the respective years indicate the results for the period between January and December.

Measures for Securing Safety and Health of Workers

Detailed Information 1 Structure of Safety and Health Measures



I System Framework

1. Measures of industrial safety and health laws and ordinances

- (1) "Stress check" to examine how much workers suffer from mental stress and interviews are to be implemented (being enacted as of December 1, 2015)
- (2) Conducting mental health checkups by doctors at the time of interview guidance for those working long hours
- (3) Conducting investigation and discussion at health committees, etc. for establishing mental health measures

2. Measures to be taken by business operators

- (1) Establishment of a stress checking system based on the Industrial Safety and Health Act (issued in June, 2014 and being enacted as of December 2015)

A stress checking system is primarily designed for primary prevention (of workers' mental health disorders) and to promote workers themselves to be aware of their stress load as well as improving the working environment leading to causing stress. To improve such, the following items are set.

- Business operators shall conduct mental health examinations (stress checking)*¹ for their workers by doctors, public health nurses and others based on the Ordinance of MHLW*².
- Stress check results are notified to test takers by doctors and others who conducted tests. Such results are not subject to be notified to business operators without the prior consent of the test takers themselves.
- Business operators shall conduct a doctor's interview based on the Ordinance of MHLW in case they receive an offer from workers pertinent to the conditions*³ set by the Ordinance of MHLW, who received a stress check test result.
- Business operators shall not treat a given test taker disadvantageously as a result of an offer from such test taker.
- Business operators shall hear the doctor's opinion based on the results of interview guidance by the Ordinance of MHLW, and take appropriate measures for working conditions*⁴ if necessary, after considering the doctor's opinion.
- The minister of MHLW shall issue guidelines about the implementation of appropriate and effective measures which business owners should take.

*1 Items examined are standardized "simple questionnaires on professions" (57 items) and should be conducted once a year.

*2 Performers of stress checks are doctors, public health nurses and other personnel and psychiatric social workers who have received a certain level of training.

*3 Stress checks should be conducted only for persons whom a performer deems necessary, even if the test-taker's stress level is high.

*4 Measures on professions include changing the working location, work and shortening working hours and decreasing number of late-night overtime considering a worker's actual situation.

- (2) Formulation of the "Guidelines for Maintaining and Improving Workers' Mental Health" (made public in March 2006)

The Guidelines provide the following matters as general implementation methods of mental health care that business operators should take.

- 1. Investigation and discussion at health committees, etc.
- 2. Formulation of mental health promotion plans
- 3. Promotion of four types of mental health care
 - (1) Self-care
 - (2) Care by management supervisors
 - (3) Care by industrial health staffs, etc. placed at offices
 - (4) Care by external resources
- 4. Concrete procedures of mental health care
 - (1) Educational training and information provision
 - (2) Identification and improvement of working environment, etc.
 - (2) Detecting and responding to mental health disorders
 - (4) Support for returning to work
- 5. Consideration to personal information protection
- 6. Matters requiring attention for efforts made in small-scale offices

* External resources: refers to institutions or experts that provide support for mental health care outside offices

- (3) Formulation of "Prevention of and Countermeasures against Suicide at Workplaces" (Suicide Prevention Manual) (revised in September 2008)
- (4) Formulation of "Support Guide for Workers Absent from Work due to Mental Health Problems to Return to Workplaces" (revised in March 2009)

3. Guidance by Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices

Business operators are provided with guidance on measures that conforms to the Guidelines for offices.

II The government support for promoting mental health measures at workplaces

1. Comprehensive support

Establishment and operation of Mental Health Measures Support Centers, etc.

Implementation of comprehensive support for efforts being made by business operators in mental health measures, and from prevention of mental health disorders, their early detection, and appropriate treatment, through to support for absent workers to return to their workplaces

- [1] Responses to consultation requests from business operators
- [2] Visit support at individual workplaces
- [3] Support for the formulation of programs on returning to workplaces
- [4] Education for managers/supervisors, etc.

2. Information provision

Establishment of a mental health portal site "Ears of the Heart" (October 2009; <http://kokoro.mhlw.go.jp/>)

Provision of comprehensive information on mental health measures at workplaces

3. Others

- (1) Mental health training for industrial health staff members, etc. at occupational health promotion centers
- (2) Provision of support for small-scale offices with insufficient industrial health care systems at regional contact points (regional industrial health centers) located nationwide
- (3) Establishment of "telephone consultations on the mental health of workers" at 19 Rosai (Workers' Accident Compensation) Hospitals nationwide

In order to prevent health problems caused by overwork, properly implementing measures for worker’s health care is important in preventing worker from cumulative fatigue and eliminating such heavy long-time overwork that does not allow workers to recover from fatigue.

For this reason, the Comprehensive Measures aim to prevent health problems caused by overwork with the formulation of the “measures that employers must take to prevent health problems caused by overwork” and compilation of necessary measures taken by the government, including thorough dissemination and guidance, etc.

Measures that employers must take to prevent health problems caused by overwork

(1) Reduction of overtime and holiday work hours

- Observance of “standards for limit” when concluding the 36 Agreement (overtime/holiday work agreement)
- Proper identification of working hours, etc.

(2) Promotion of taking annual paid leave

(3) Improvement of working time arrangements

(4) Thorough implementation of health management measures for workers

[1] Establishment of health management system and implementation of health checkups, etc.

- Appointment of industrial doctors, health supervisors, and health promoters, etc. and implementation of health management by them
- Development of health management system, including establishment of health committees
- Steady implementation of health checkups and subsequent measures, etc.

[2] Interview guidance for workers who had long overtime and holiday work hours for a long time, etc.

- Implementation of interview guidance by doctors and subsequent measures, etc.
- Development of procedures for implementing interview guidance, etc.
- Utilization of regional industrial health centers to promote implementation of interview guidance, etc. at small-scale offices

[3] Identification of cases and recurrence prevention in case of occurrence of occupational diseases due to over work

Necessary measures taken by the government

- Guidance on “standards for limit” at consultation desks, etc. (in the 36 Agreement)
- Inspection for offices that are suspected of having overtime/holiday work hours of 45 hours or more per month
- Guidance for thorough implementation of recurrence prevention measures in case of occurrence of occupational diseases due to overwork

Detailed Information 4**Creation of Comfortable Working Environment and Preventive Measures against Passive Smoking at Workplaces**

Business operators are obliged by the Industrial Safety and Health Act to make efforts to create a comfortable work environment.

Outline of Guidelines for Comfortable Workplaces

1. Details of measures to be taken

- (1) Appropriate maintenance and management of work environment not to make it uncomfortable to work in
- (2) Improved work methods for work performed in an uncomfortable posture or work requiring considerable muscular strength
- (3) Establishment and development of resting rooms, etc.
- (4) Maintenance and management of facilities required for office life, including washrooms and lavatories, etc., to keep them in a clean and easy to use condition

2. Matters to be concerned

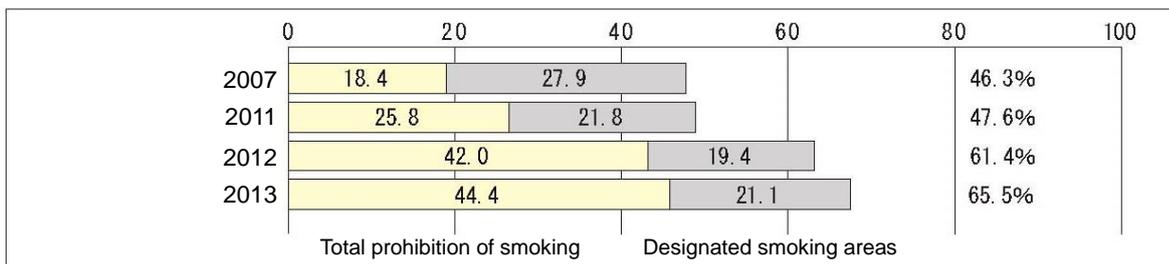
- (1) Taking necessary measures for continued and systematic efforts for the creation, maintenance, and management of comfortable work environment
- (2) Taking necessary measures for reflecting as much opinions of workers as possible
- (3) Taking into consideration individual differences, including age, etc.
- (4) Taking into consideration that workplaces have rich and relaxing atmosphere

Detailed Information 5**Preventive measures against passive smoking at workplaces**

According to "Partial amendment for 'Industrial Safety and Health Act' to be made Act" (the 82nd item of the law in 2014) enforced as of June 1, 2015, from the perspective of enhancing workers' health maintenance, business operators are required to take appropriate preventive measures against passive smoking according to actual situation for both business operators and workplaces.

With regard to the status of efforts of preventive measures against passive smoking at workplaces, according to the 2013 Survey on Industrial Safety and Health (Status survey), the percentage of workplaces that adopt total prohibition of smoking or designated smoking areas was 65.5% and is rising when compared to similar surveys in the past.

Percentage of workplaces taking measures of total prohibition of smoking or designated smoking areas



Source: "Special Survey on Industrial Safety and Health", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare provides the following support to promote efforts of preventive measures against passive smoking by business operators.

Support for preventive measures against passive smoking at workplaces provided by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

1. Subsidies for preventive measures against passive smoking
 - Business operators covered: Small- and medium-sized business operators of all business types
 - Subject to subsidies: Expenses for establishing smoking rooms
 - Subsidy rate/amount: 1/2 of the expenses of preventive measures against passive smoking (up to ¥2 million)
2. Technical consultation services/briefing sessions (free of charge)
 - Implementation of telephone consultations by experts on various inquiries (on-site instruction at request)
 - Holding briefing sessions on preventive measures against passive smoking for management executives and persons in charge of safety and health management
 - MHLW shall explain about passive smoking by sending an instructor to a meeting or training program organized by companies/organizations.
3. Lending tobacco smoke measuring devices (free of charge)
 - Lending devices for measuring the tobacco smoke concentration and the ventilation status of smoking rooms
 - Explanations on how to use the devices lent out or evaluation methods may be provided over the telephone or on-site as requested by clients

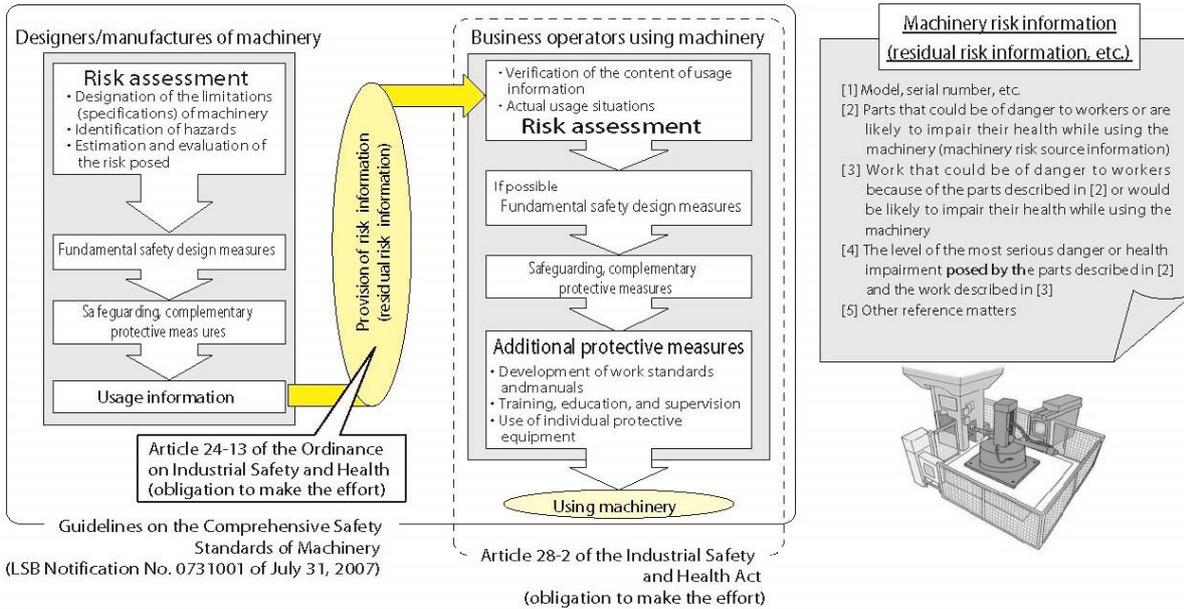
Promotion of the provision of machinery risk information when transferring machinery

Background/current situation

- [1] Machinery accidents account for approximately 1/4 of all industrial accidents, thus leading to the expectation of further reduction in the number of machinery accidents
- [2] The provision of machinery risk information by manufacturers, etc. is essential in the appropriate implementation of machinery risk assessments being made by business operators

Obligating manufacturers of machinery, etc. to make the effort to provide machinery risk information (residual risk information)

Dissemination/establishment of machinery risk assessments conducted by business operators in accordance with Article 28-2 of the Industrial Safety and Health Act



Asbestos is fibrous mineral produced from natural environment, hazardous for human health and may cause lung cancer and mesothelioma after decades of latent period when inhaling its dust particle.

Measures to prevent future damage

1. Total ban on manufacturing asbestos (Industrial Safety and Health Act)
 - Based on the "Asbestos Comprehensive Measures" (Meeting on asbestos issue by concerned ministers on December 27, 2005), manufacture, import, transfer, provision and use of asbestos-containing products has been totally prohibited with exception of several kinds of products (products of exclusion from application of prohibition) since September 1, 2006
 - Manufacturing the products of exclusion from application of prohibition is to be gradually banned after the safety of the substitutes is confirmed, and manufacturing, etc. is fully prohibited on March 1, 2012
2. Prevention measures of diffusion and exposure at demolition work, etc. (Ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Asbestos)
 - Measures have been intensified with the establishment of the "Ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Asbestos" in February, 2005.
 - ← • Asbestos was formally controlled under the Ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Specified Chemical Substances.

[Outline of Ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Asbestos]

Pre-examination of construction materials, registration to the authorities, isolation of working sites, use of respiratory protective equipment, keeping working records, health check-ups, etc.

Response to anxiety of the people

3. Health management of resignees (Personal Health Record System in accordance with the Industrial Safety and Health Act)
 - Personal Health Record is issued for those who have been engaged in handling asbestos for a certain period (Health check-ups by the government's burden (every 6 months))
4. Publication of information on asbestos related industrial diseases, such as workplaces where workers whose disease were acknowledged as industrial disease were employed

Relief of the victims without a gap

5. Relief based on Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance Act
 - Insurance benefits for victims and the bereaved families afflicted with employment injuries by asbestos
6. Relief based on Act on Asbestos Health Damage Relief
 - Payment of the special survivor benefits to those who have lost the right to receive the survivor compensation benefits pursuant to lapses due to prescription based on the industrial accidents insurance

Detailed Information 8 Measures to prevent industrial accidents due to chemical substances

Chemical substances have significantly contributed to the development of industry and modern life, making them indispensable in our daily lives. However, many of them are not only useful but also hazardous and toxic, and inappropriate handling of chemical substances can cause harmful effects to our health. Therefore, when using chemical substances, it is crucial to manage them properly.

To prevent industrial accidents due to chemical substances, it is necessary to know appropriate information on what kinds of chemical substances are used at a workplace. Based on this knowledge, it is necessary to take appropriate measures to display such information. Therefore, MHLW sets the following:

- Development of a system providing a label attached on the surface of containers, and SDS (safety data sheet) indicating information on dangerous and toxic chemical substances.
- Promotion of conducting surveys (risk assessments) about dangerous and harmful effects based on the SDS information etc.*
- With regard to high risk work generating harmful effects on workers' health, preventive measures against industrial accidents shall be obligated in accordance with special regulations under the ordinance on Prevention of Hazards due to Specified Chemical Substances, (and the government itself shall conduct risk assessments and review regulations based on the newest knowledge).
- Promoting measures to prevent industrial accidents due to chemical substances through a notification system of new chemical substances (notifying survey results on harmful effects by business operators to the nation).

* In accordance with the Industrial Safety and Health Act revised in June 2014, with regard to the obligation to deliver SDS for chemical substances (640 items), implementing risk assessments was obligated accordingly (being enacted as of June 1, 2016). In addition, labelling on containers at the time of transfer and provide was extended to issuance of SDS (640 chemical substances).

Prohibition of manufacturing, importing, transferring, providing, etc.
8 chemical substances including asbestos, benzidine, beta naphthylamine, etc.

Obligation to deliver SDS documents (Safety Data Sheet) at the time of transfer and provide regarding 640 chemical substances.

Designated chemical substances in accordance with specific regulations: 117

Preventive regulations for specified chemical substances causing harmful effect on health: 74
Chlorine, chromic acid and its salt, benzene, formaldehyde, hydrogen sulfide, etc.

Substances subject to manufacturing permits: 7
Beryllium, benzotrchloride

Ordinance on prevention of organic solvent poisoning:
Chloroform, dichloromethane, methyl isobutyl ketone, etc.: 12

Preventive regulation for organic welding poisoning: 39
Acetone, isopropyl alcohol, cresol, xylene, toluene, etc.

Preventive regulations for lead poisoning

Preventive regulations for 4 alkyl poisoning

Preventive guideline for harmful effects on health (carcinogenicity guidelines): 34

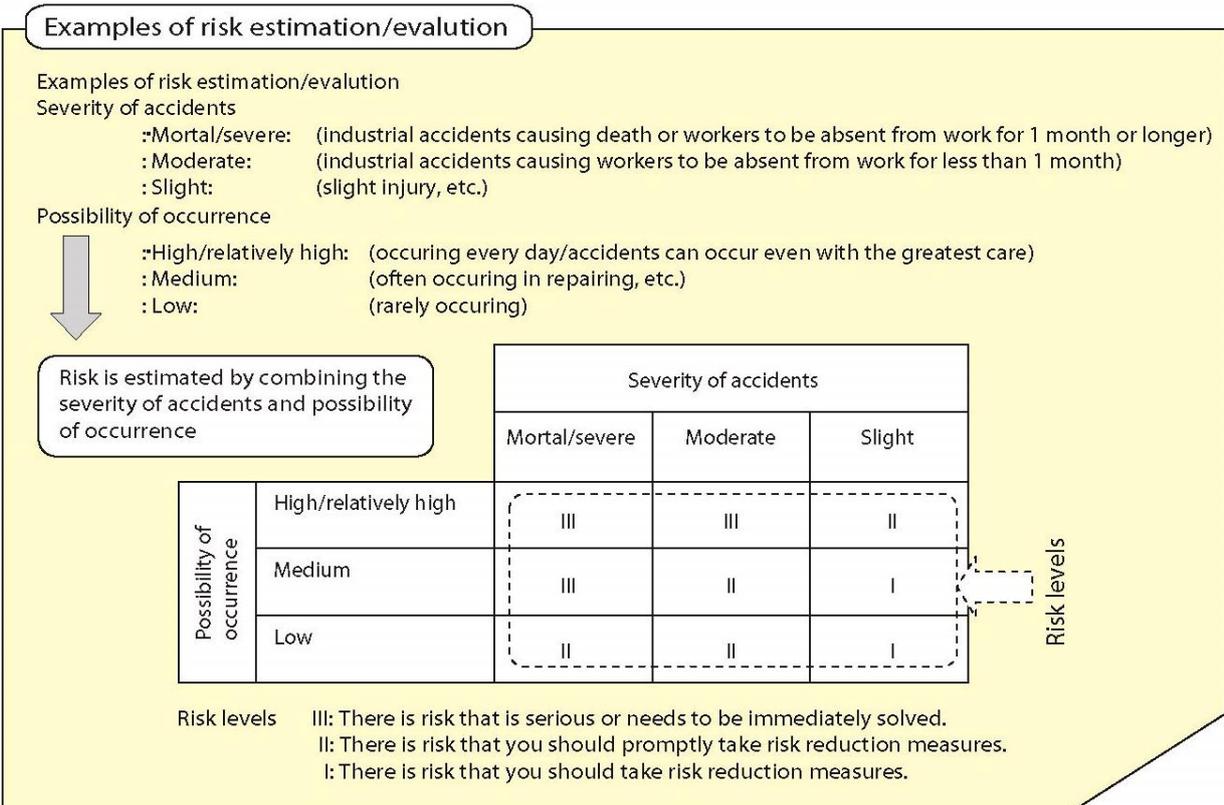
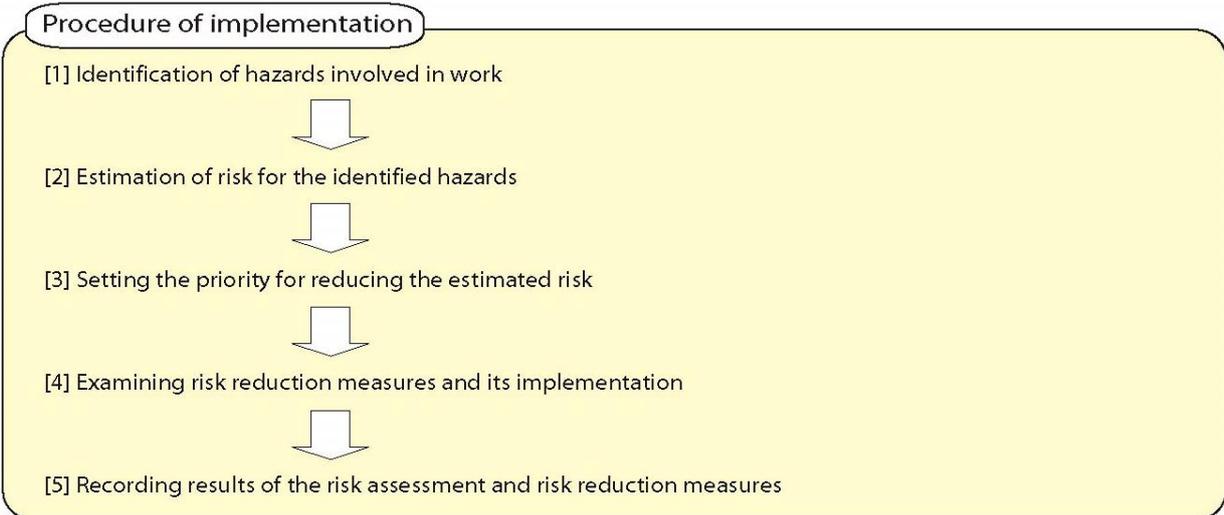
As of June 1, 2016
Obligation of examination for dangerous and/or harmful effects on health (risk assessment) due to substances subject to the obligation to deliver documents of SDS

Detailed Information 9 Investigation of Risks or Hazards, etc.

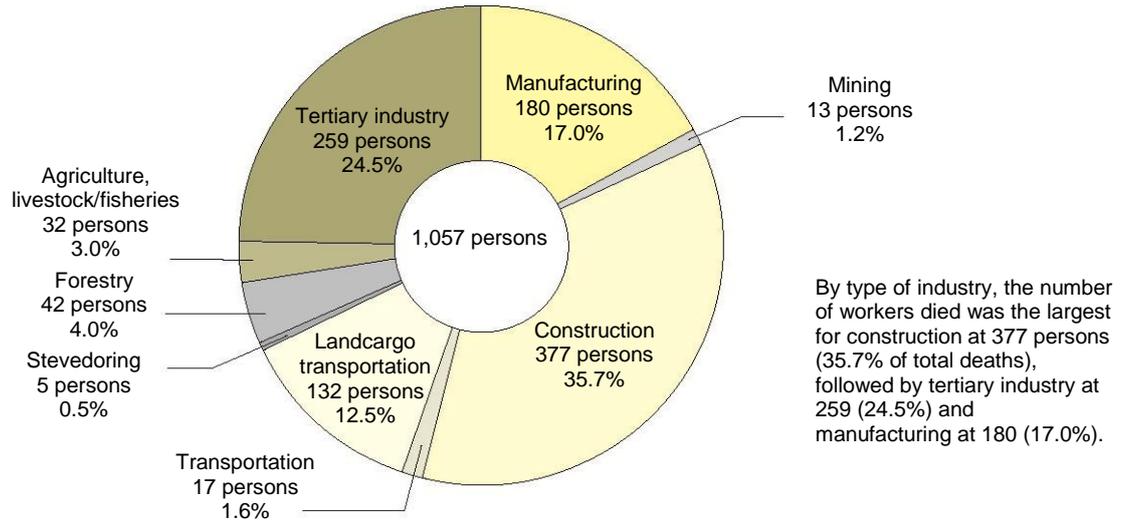
Investigation of Risks or Hazards, etc. at Workplaces and Measures Based on the Results

Investigating of Risks or Hazards, etc. (risk assessment) consists of identifying the danger or harm associated with work and evaluating the risk (combination of the severity of injury or disease and the possibility of its occurrence). Based on the results of such investigation, business operators are obliged to make efforts to take necessary measures to prevent danger or health impairment of workers.

* Business operators' obligation to make efforts under the revised Industrial Safety and Health Act (Enforced in April 2006)

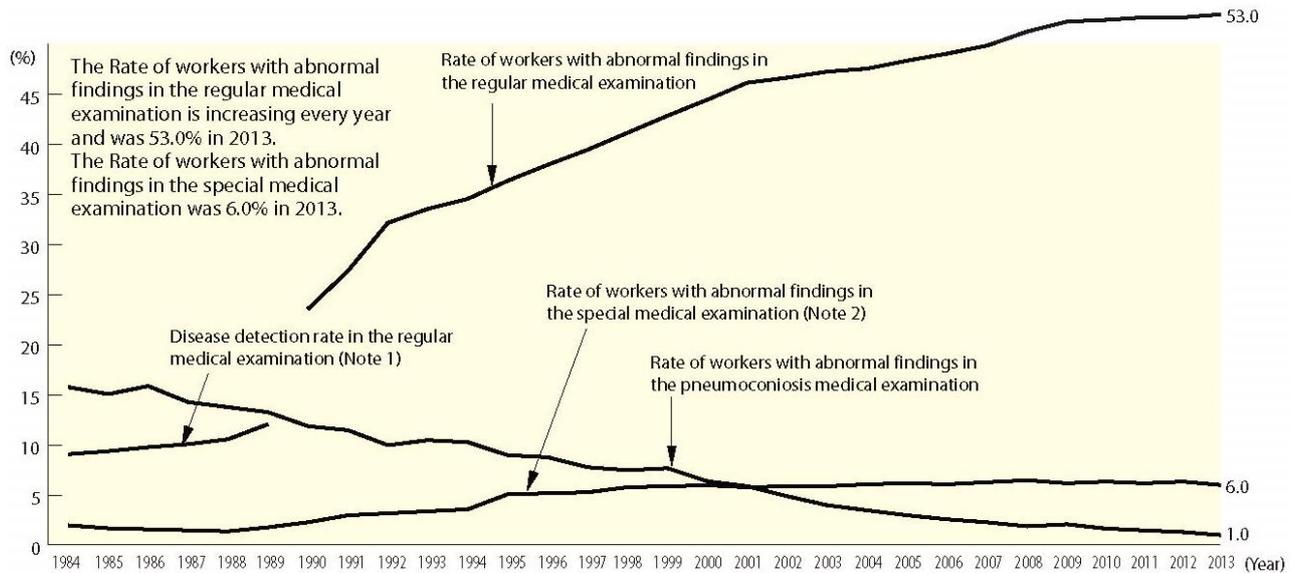


Detailed Data 1 Fatal industrial Accidents by Industry (FY 2014)



Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

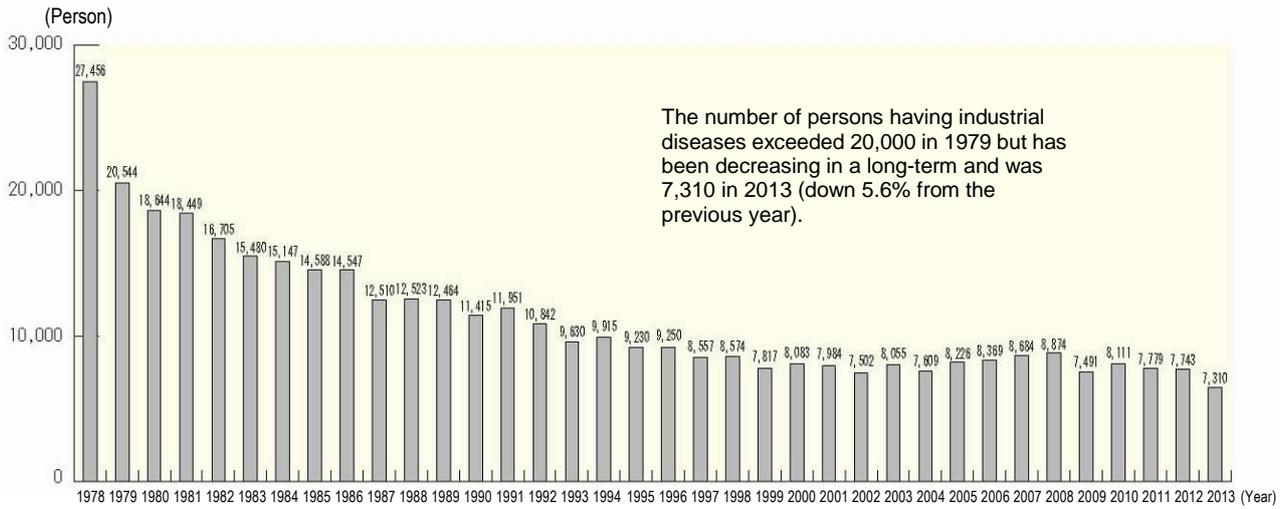
Detailed Data 2 Annual Medical Examination Results



Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

- (Note)
1. Items covered by the regular medical examination were revised in 1989.
 2. Items covered by the organic solvent and lead medical examination were revised in 1989.
 3. Tabulation methods for the special medical examination were changed in 1995.
 4. Items covered by regular medical examination were revised in January 1999.

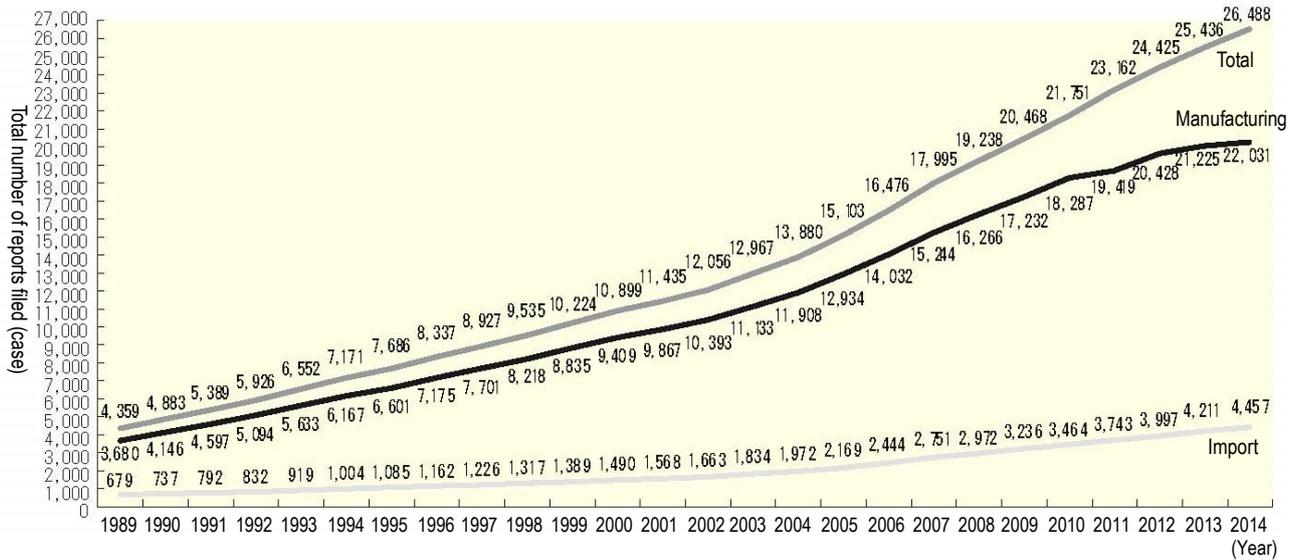
Detailed Data 3 Annual Number of Person Having Industrial Diseases



Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

Detailed Data 4 Reports Filed for Manufacturing and Importing New Chemical Substances

At present roughly 60,000 major chemical substances are being used or have been used in industries in Japan. With the diversity of demands, approximately 1,200 new chemical substances are produced every year. In particular, in recent years, types of new chemical substances whose consumption is very small are increasing.



Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

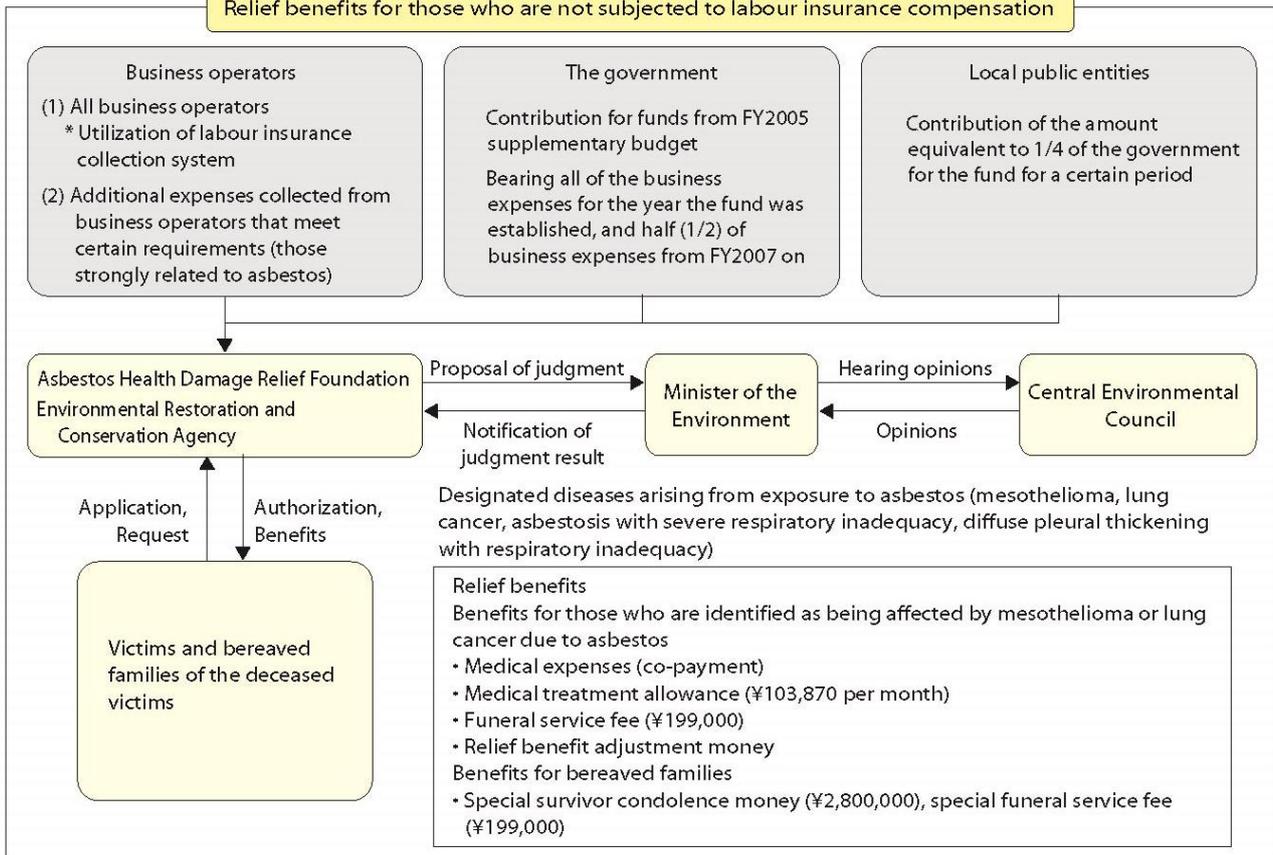
Asbestos Health Damage Relief

Overview

Outline of the Act on Asbestos Health Damage Relief

Purpose:	The purpose of this Act is to provide prompt relief to persons who sustain health damage from asbestos, etc. in view of the special characteristics of asbestos health damage.	
Effective date:	Establishment of funds	Feb. 10, 2006
	Provision of relief benefits and special survivor benefits	Mar. 27, 2006
	Collection of expenses from business operators	Apr. 1, 2007
	Extension of payment period of medical expenses, etc.	Dec. 1, 2008
	Addition of designated diseases (revision of Cabinet Order)	July 1, 2010
	Extension of the application due date for the special bereaved family condolence grants/special bereaved family benefits, etc.	Aug. 30, 2011
	Review of lung cancer criterion	Jun. 18, 2013

Relief benefits for those who are not subjected to labour insurance compensation



Relief measures for bereaved families of workers who died without receiving labour insurance compensation

[Provision of special survivor benefits]

- (1) Subjects: The bereaved families of workers (including special affiliates) who die no later than March 26, 2016 because of designated diseases, etc. and that lost their right to receive the bereaved family compensation benefits under the Worker's Accident Insurance Act due to expiration of the prescription.
- (2) Amount of benefits: Special survivor pension ¥2.4 million in principle per year
* Bereaved families that are not subjected to the provision of special survivor pension are provided with lump sum payment
- (3) Application due date: March 27, 2022
- (4) Resource: It is burdened by the Accident Account of Special Account for Labour Insurance

Outline of the Act on Partial Revision of the Act on Asbestos Health Damage Relief

(Promulgated and enforced on August 30, 2011)

1. Extension of the application due date for special bereaved family benefits

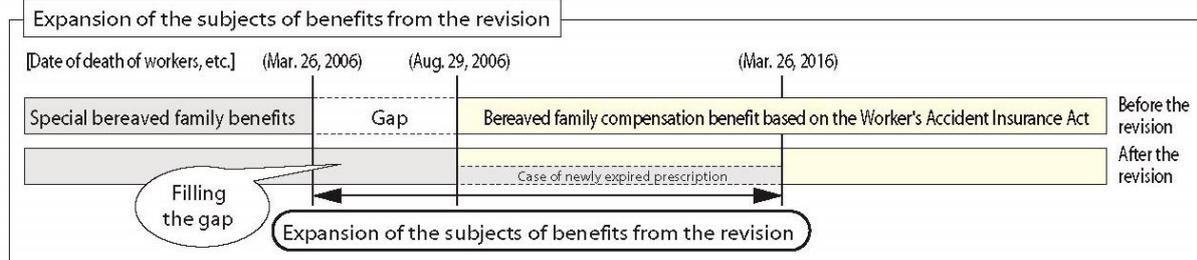
Extended from "March 27, 2012 (6 years from the enforcement date)" to
"March 27, 2022 (16 years from the enforcement date)"

10 year extension

2. Expansion of the subjects of special bereaved family benefits

10 year extension

The bereaved families of workers, etc. who were afflicted with designated diseases, etc. as a result of having been engaged in activities that exposed them to asbestos and die no later than March 26, 2016 (March 26, 2006 before the revision) because of such diseases and who lost their right to receive the bereaved family compensation benefits of Worker's Accident Insurance due to expiration of the prescription (5 years) can now be provided with the benefits.



* Payment of special survivor pensions for those who died between March 27, 2006 and August 29, 2006 is made from the month after the month in which the date of expiration of prescription for receiving the bereaved family compensation benefits of Worker's Accident Insurance belonged within.

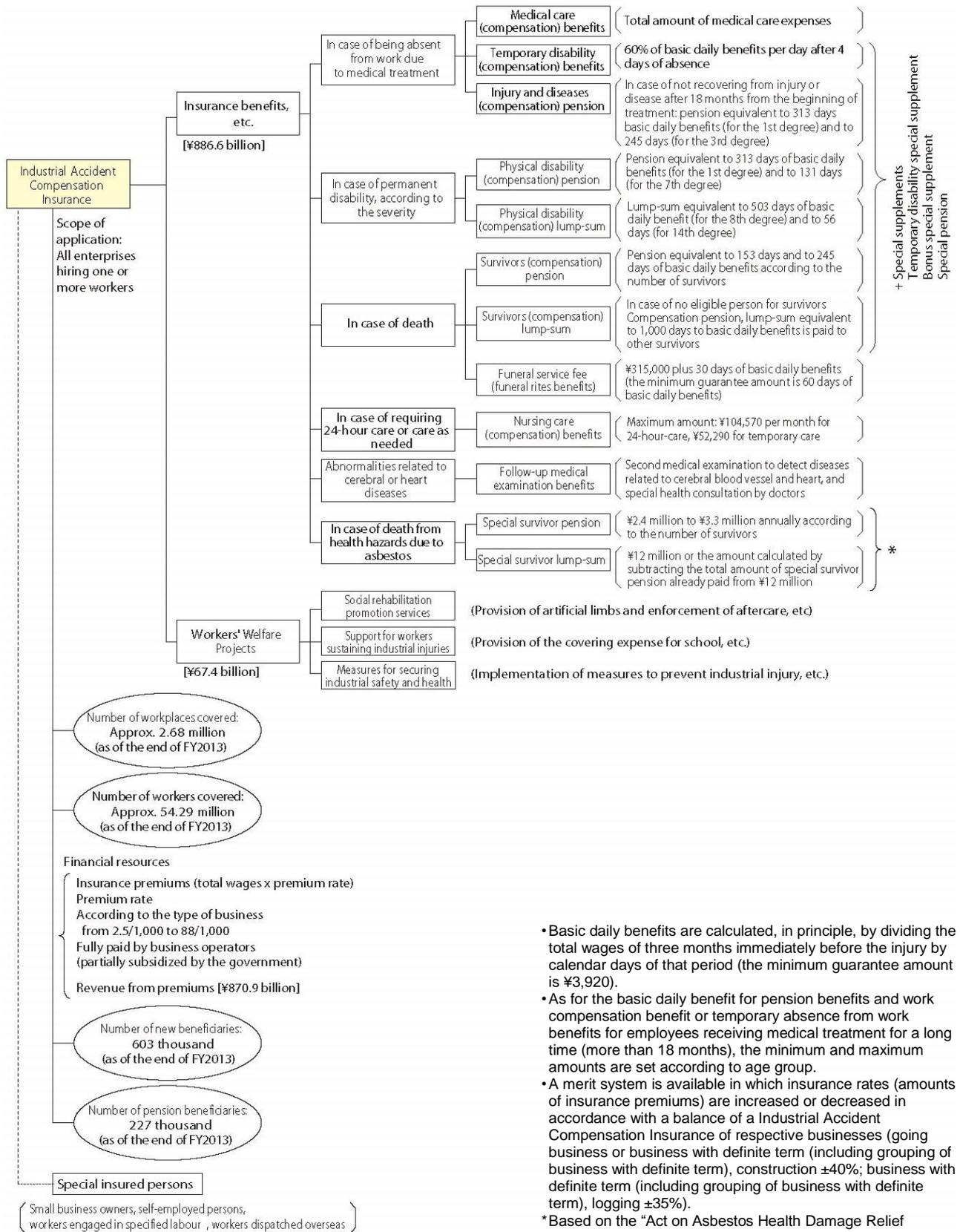
3. Others

The application due date for special bereaved family condolence grants, etc. (within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Environment) was similarly extended 10 years
 Provision for review within 5 years from enforcement of the revised Act

Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance System

Overview

Outline of Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance System (FY 2015 budget based)



Detailed Data Financial Status of Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance

(Unit: ¥100 million)

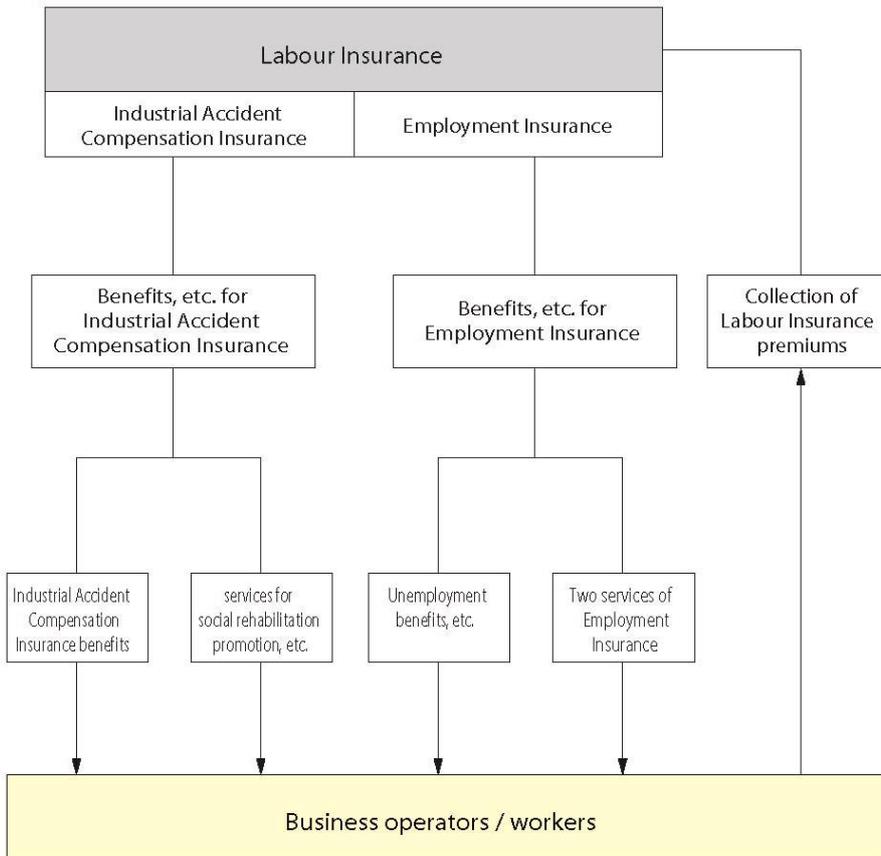
Category	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
[1] Revenue	14,474	12,014	11,386	11,610	11,166	11,492
Insurance premiums (included)	10,898	8,419	7,841	8,095	7,447	7,923
Interest revenue (included)	1,208	1,272	1,314	1,329	1,337	1,322
[2] Expenditure	12,903	12,449	12,385	12,686	12,181	11,926
Insurance benefits (included)	7,707	7,496	7,445	7,508	7,568	7,452
Payment of special supplements (included)	1,149	1,118	1,078	1,117	1,048	1,017
Expenses for social rehabilitation promotion services (Note 1) (included)	959	919	800	918	621	648
Fiscal balance ([1]-[2])	1,571	△435	△999	△1,076	△1,015	△434
Total of reserve funds	80,985	81,532	80,533	79,457	78,442	78,008

- (Note)
1. Reserve funds of the Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance are used as the resource for the payment of pension benefits of Industrial Accident Compensation Pension in the future.
 2. Accumulated reserve fund for FY 2009 includes ¥98.3 billion that was transferred from the Seamen Insurance reserve fund due to being integrated with Seamen's Insurance in January 1, 2010.
 3. The figures may not add up to the total number due to rounding.

Labour Insurance Application and Contribution Collection Systems

Overview

Labour Insurance Application and Contribution Collection Systems



[Labour Insurance]

Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance and Employment Insurance are collectively referred to as the Labour Insurance. Insurance benefits of these systems are paid individually while the insurance premiums are collected, in principal, as the unified Labour Insurance premiums. The amount of insurance premiums collected is calculated by multiplying the total amount of wages paid by business operators by the sum of the premium rate of Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance and that of Employment Insurance.

Business operators, excluding those in certain businesses in agriculture, forestry, or fisheries, that employ one or more worker must establish insurance relation and pay the premiums.

Application of Labour Insurance and Obligation of Collection

1. Labour Insurance

Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance (Industrial Accident Insurance) and Employment Insurance are collectively referred to as the "Labour Insurance".

The Labour Insurance shall be applied to all businesses where one employee or more are employed in principal.

* Number of undertakings covered by the Labour Insurance is approx. 3.02 million (as of the end of FY2013)

2. Labour Insurance premium

The insurance premiums are collected, in principal, as the unified Labour Insurance premiums which include Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance (Industrial Accident Insurance) and Employment Insurance.

The amount of the insurance premiums are calculated by multiplying the total amount of wages paid by business operators by the premium rate.

Labour insurance premium = Total amount of wages in the entire business × Premium rate (Employment Insurance premium rate + Industrial Accident Insurance premium rate)

Industrial Accident Insurance premium rate:	2.5/1,000-88/1,000 depending on the business type
Employment Insurance premium rate:	13.5/1,000 (general business), 15.5/1,000 (agriculture, forestry, fishery, and sake brewing), 16.5/1,000 (construction)

(FY2015)

Bearing of the Labour Insurance premiums is as follows.

Industrial Accident Insurance: Borne by business operators

Employment Insurance: Unemployment benefit portion is evenly shared by labour and management, two service portion is borne by business operators

Insurance premium revenue: approx. ¥2.9 trillion, collection rate: 98.0% (as of the end of FY2013)

Detailed Data 1 Coverage of Labour Insurance

(Unit: 10 thousand)

Category	End of FY	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of businesses covered by Labour Insurances		294	295	297	302
Number of businesses covered by Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance		262	263	265	268
Number of businesses covered by Employment Insurance		199	200	202	205

Source: Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

Detailed Data 1 Collection of Labour Insurance Premiums

(Unit: ¥100 million)

Category	End of FY	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total amount		30,894	32,708	29,313	29,352
Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance		7,841	8,254	7,879	8,024
Employment insurance		23,052	24,454	21,433	21,329

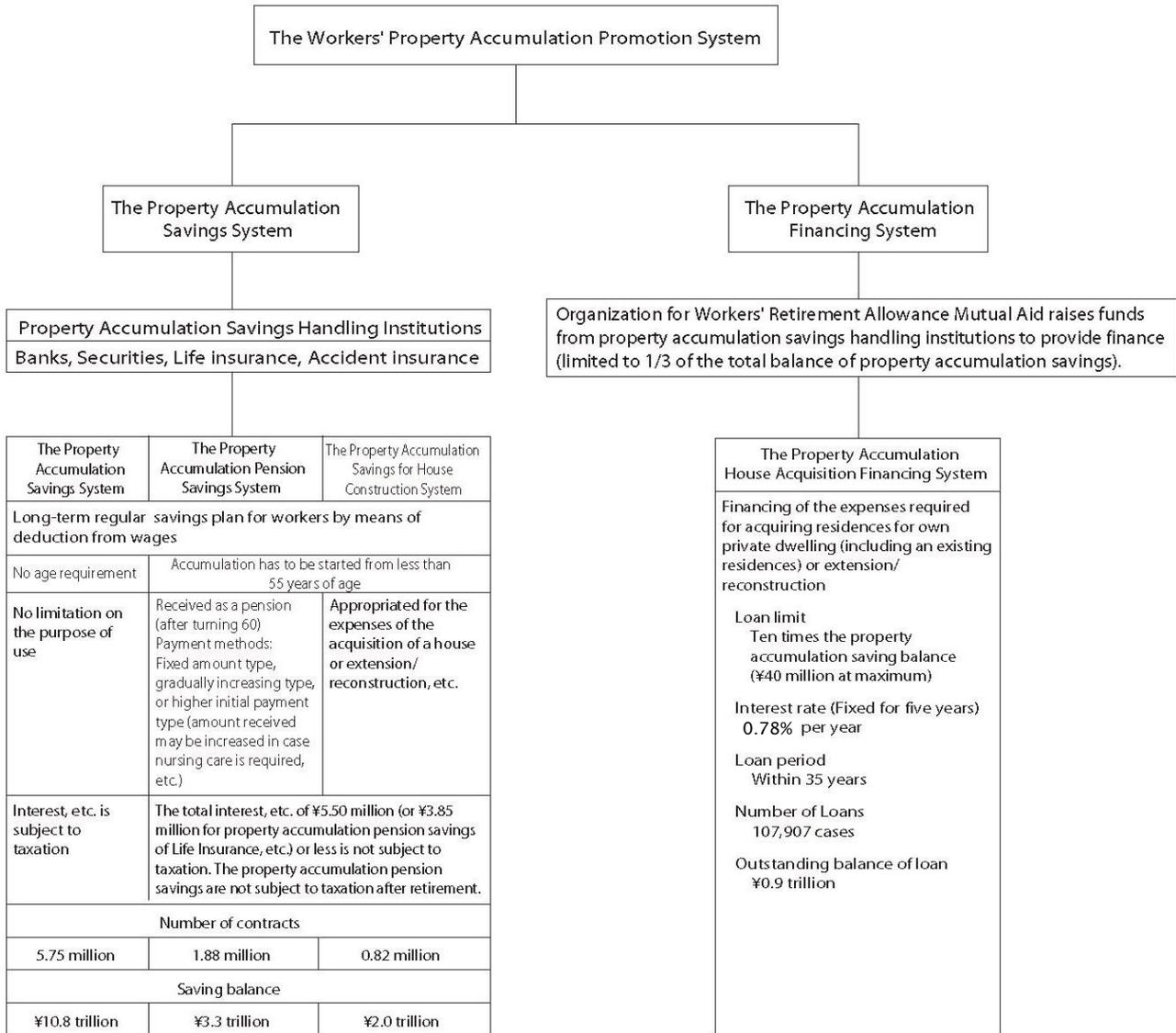
Source: Surveyed by Labour Standards Bureau, MHLW

Improved Welfare for Workers

Overview

Outline of the Workers' Property Accumulation Promotion System

The Workers' Property Accumulation Promotion System was founded in accordance with The Workers' Property Accumulation Promotion Act enacted in 1971. It is the system that the government and employers provide support for and cooperate in the efforts of workers to make properties such as savings and acquisition of their own houses.

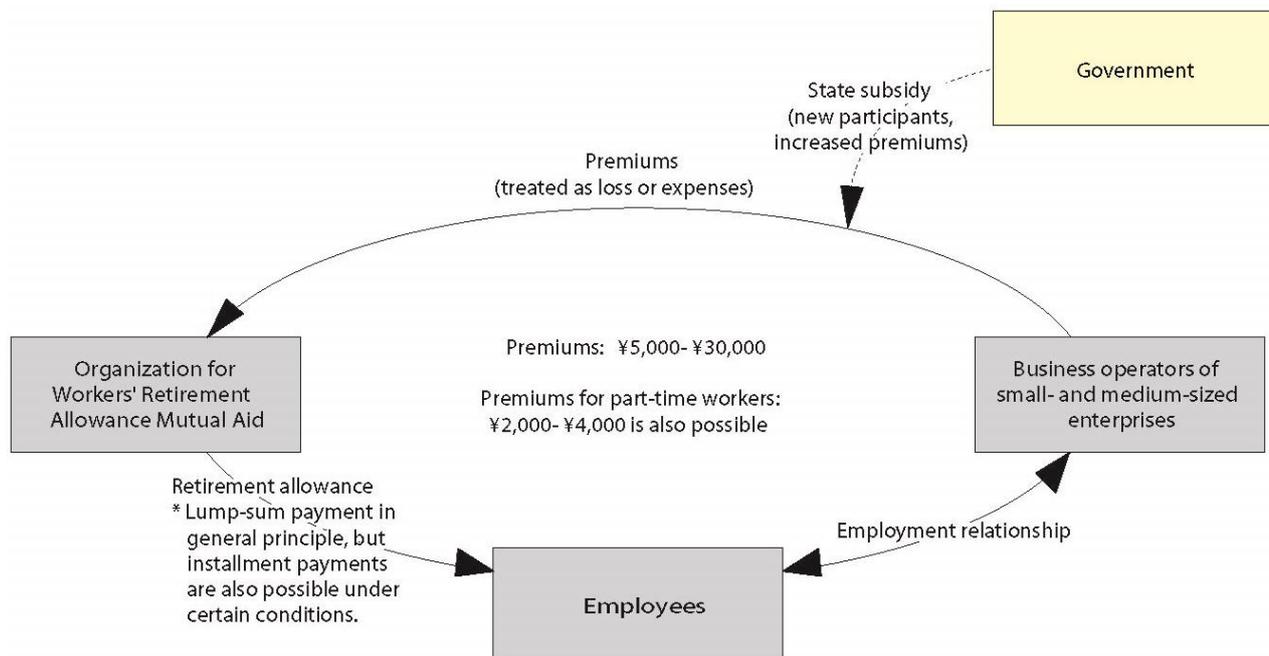


The interest rate is as of January 1, 2016.
The saving balance and outstanding balance of loan are as of March 31, 2015.

The Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises' Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid System

The Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises' Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid System provides small- and medium-sized enterprises that cannot establish their own retirement allowance systems, creating a common retirement allowance system based on mutual aid among such enterprises with the government aid. This system aims to improve welfare of workers of small- and medium sized enterprises and contribute to the growth of small- and medium-sized enterprise businesses.

Structure of The Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprise Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid System for general industries



Number of Participants and Amount of Payment (FY2014)

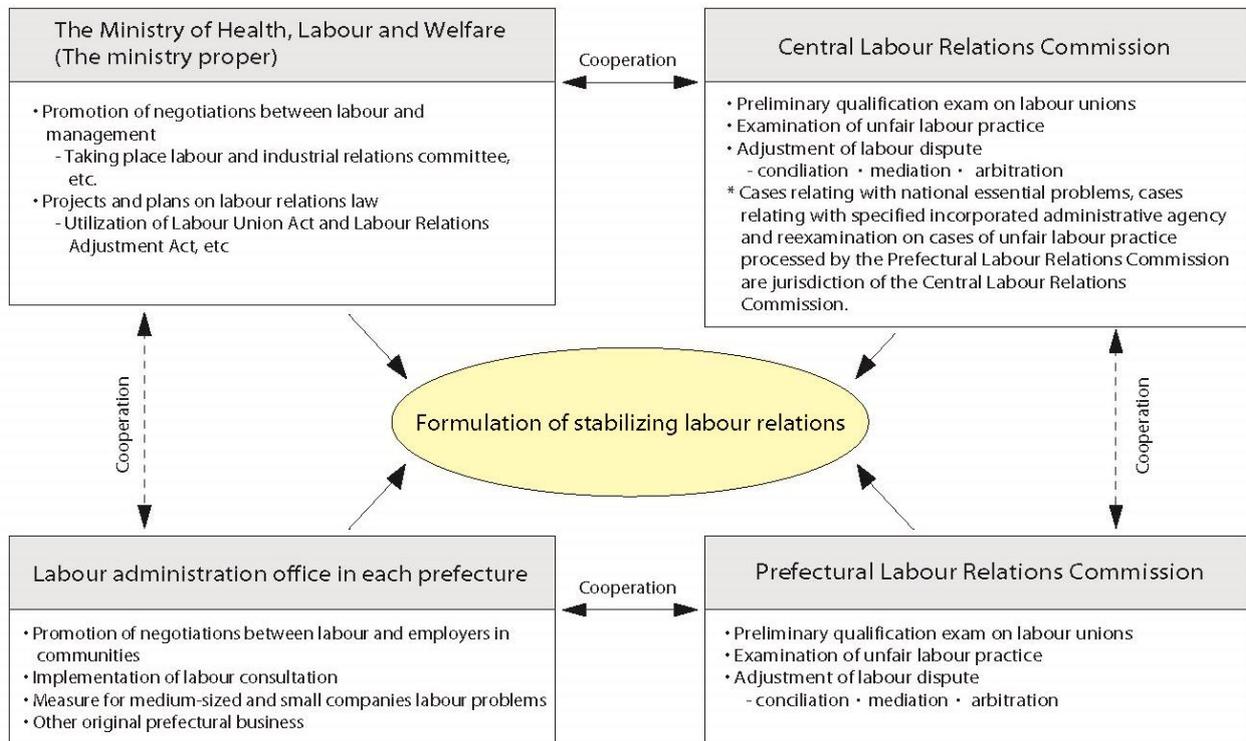
	The Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises' Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid System for general industries	Retirement Allowance Mutual Aid System for specified industries		
		Construction	Sake maker	Forestry
Target	Mainly for regular workers	For workers employed during a specific period in each industry (fixed-term worker)		
Mutual aid contractors				
Number of employers (case)	361,914	170,318	2,018	3,275
Mutual aid members				
Number of workers (person)	3,261,705	3,078,726	15,784	39,252
Retirement allowance, etc.				
Number of payments (case)	268,464	48,128	178	1,564
Retirement allowance, etc.				
Amount of payment (¥1,000)	354,104,160	46,466,671	216,753	1,481,331

(Note) The number of mutual aid contractors and the number of mutual aid members are as of the end of FY2014.

(2) Labour Relations

Stable Labour-Management Relations

Overview The System of the Labour Relations Plan



Detailed Information 1 The Adjustment of the Labour Committee System and Labour Dispute

○ What is the Central Labour Relations Commission?

The Central Labour Relations Commission is one of administrative organ's committees described in paragraph 2 of Article 3 of the National Government Organization Act, established in 1946 on the basis of the Labour Union Act, and it is the center organ to deal with labour-management dispute. The Central Labour Relations Commission is composed of total 45 members (15 members from each committee), such as those who are representative of the public interests (public members), those who are representative of labour (the labour members) and those who are representative of employers (Employer members).

Also, for labour-management dispute handling organs in local areas, Prefectural Labour Relations Commission of 47 exists in the same constitution composed of three members of public labour-employers like the Central Labour Relations Commission as administrative committees in each prefecture.

The Central Labour Relations Commission shall have the right to handle following matters in chief like labour-employers dispute and others in accordance with the law on labour relations, such as the Labour Union Act, the Labour Relations Adjustment Act and the Act Concerning the Labour Relations of National Enterprises and Specified Incorporated Administrative Agency.

[1] Examination into cases of unfair labour practice

Procedure of the unfair labour practice examination applies two-tiered system in principle and the Central Labour Relations Commission reexamines into objections raised by parties against judgment of the first hearing of Prefectural Labour Relations Commission (relief order). Besides, it provides the first trial (in this case, it refers to the first trial system) on national important cases and the cases of unfair labour practice relating to the specified incorporated administrative agency and the National Forestry Business.

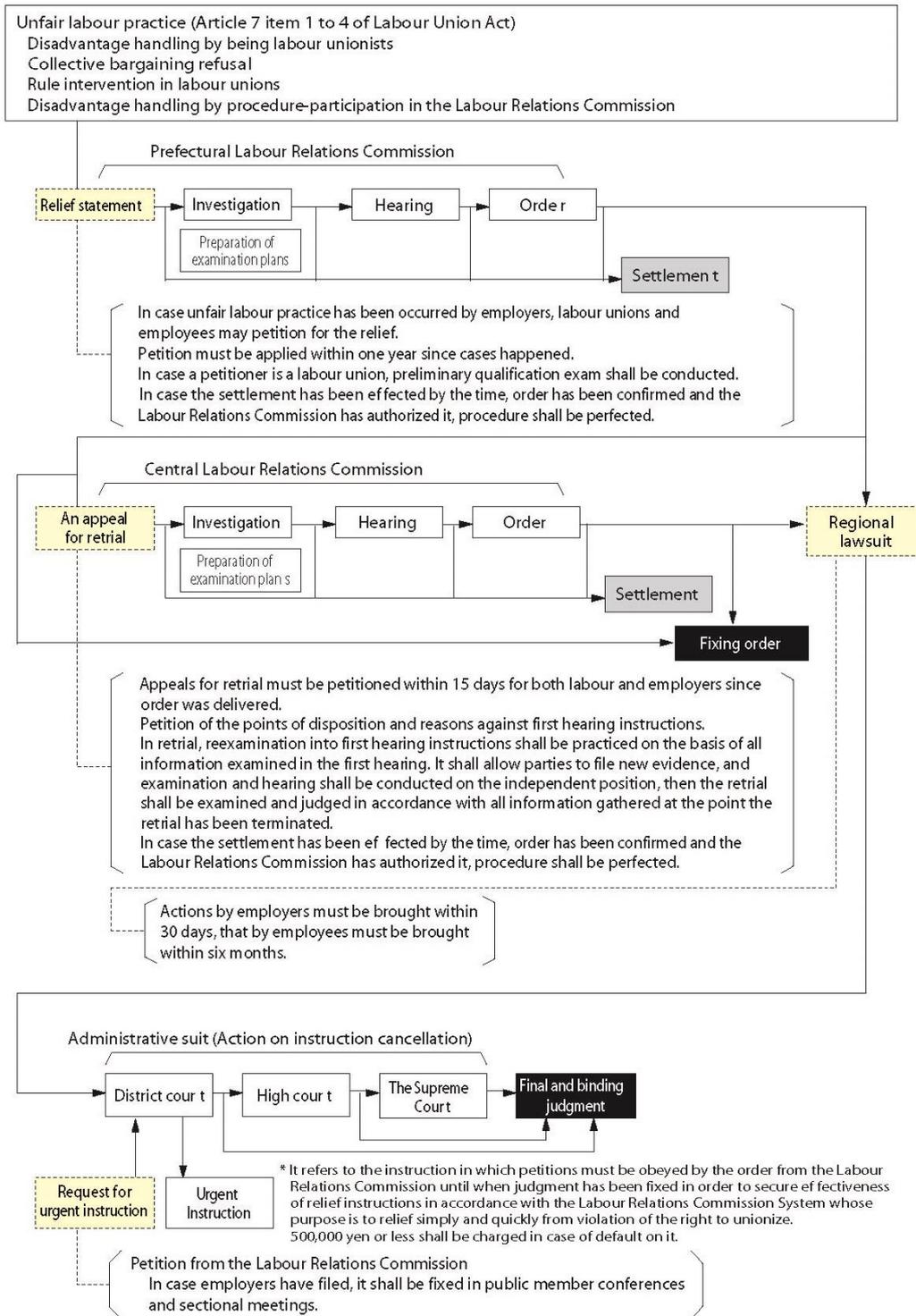
Further, parties can bring withdrawal against the order of the Labour Relations Commission.

[2] Conciliation, mediation and arbitration of labour disturbance

According to the Labour Relations Adjustment Act, in case labour dispute has happened between parties relating to labour matters, it plans to resolve that.

Prefectural Labour Relations Commission handles cases relating to only a single prefecture. However, the Central Labour Relations Commission handles cases relating to 2 prefectures or more, cases included in national important problems and cases relating to the specified incorporated administrative agency and the National Forestry Business.

○ Outline of procedures of unfair labour practice



○ **What is adjustment of labour dispute**

In adjustment of labour dispute handled by the Labour Relations Commission, there are conciliation, mediation and arbitration. Among of them, "conciliation" is the adjustment measure used most. These adjustments shall be begun by applications of parties in principle.

The basis of adjustment conducted by the Labour Relations Commission shall plan to resolve it by giving advice as a fair third party and voluntary promoting compromise between labour and employers.

Although there might be cases that solutions are presented to parties of labour and employers while the Labour Relations Commission is advancing its adjustment, they shall not compel to accept it. However, for arbitration, once rulings have been fixed, the parties are regarded to conclude collective agreement including the ruling's content. Therefore, they shall be bound by the rulings.

Features of conciliation, mediation and arbitration

	Conciliation	Mediation	Arbitration
Grounds for beginning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-way application • Mutual application • Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual application • One-way application in accordance with collective agreement • All of following items relate to public utilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-way application • Authority • Request from ministers and governors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual application • One-way application in accordance with collective agreement <p>*1</p>
Adjustment subjects of the Labour Relations Commission	Conciliation members	Mediation Committee (Composed of 3 commissions from public, labour and management)	Arbitration committee Arbitration committee (Composed of 3 or more odd public members *2)
Presentation of solution	There are cases presenting them.	Presentation in principle	Presentation in principle
Acceptance of solution	Voluntary	Voluntary	To bind parties by the same effect with collective agreement

*1 As for industrial disputes in agencies engaged in administrative execution and local public enterprises, there are provisions of the unilateral application 2 months after conciliation or mediation started, industrial cases (cases which are being conciliated or mediated), start of arbitration ordered by the competent minister.

*2 For the specified incorporated administrative agency etc, total (5 persons) or 3 persons.

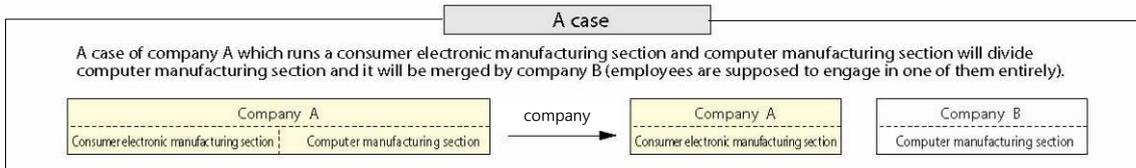
Detailed Information 2 Effort to Labour Problems Attendant on Reorganization of Cooperate Organization

○ **Outline**

Under the social affairs where international competition of companies has been getting harder, review of related law has been conducted on purpose to maintain the legal system for reorganization of cooperate organization, so that organizations can reorganize flexible. Specifically, opening of pure holding companies by the revision of Act on Prohibition of Private Monopolization and Maintenance of Fair Trade in 1997, the measure of share exchange, and that of introduction of share transfer system by revision of Commercial Code was planned in 1999. Besides, company split system was formulated in 2000 by the revision of Commercial Code.

As for the company split systems among the above, since it was different from business transfer which needed agreement of each individual labourer, from the perspective of labour protection, "the act on succession of labour contract attendant on division of corporations" (the 103rd item of the law in 2000) was promulgated on the basis of the fact that new companies succeeded rights and obligations of the companies, which would be divided in, by company splits of them, and on the assumption of the occurrence of labour who would not be able to hold the work that they had engaged in because of the companies' will. Besides, the related ministerial ordinance and the guidance was formulated to enforce the same law (with establishment of the Companies Act in 2005, the law name was revised to the Act on the Succession to Labour Contracts upon Company Split and the terms were also partially revised).

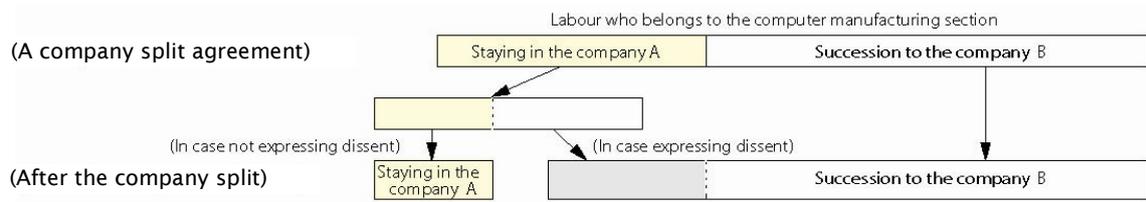
○ **Labour protection at concrete procedure for corporate division (in case of absorption-type company split)**



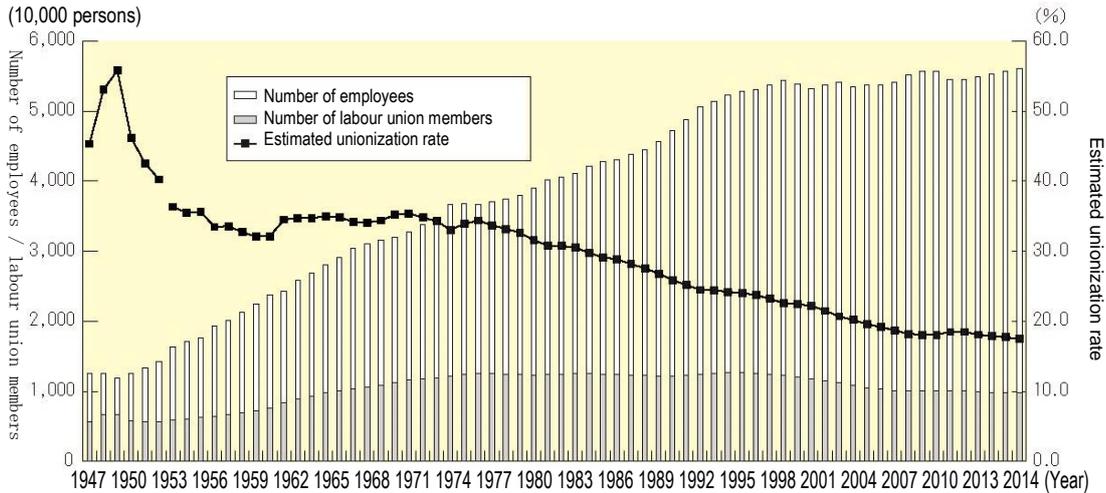
As the company A conducts company, it concludes a split agreement with the company B. The split agreement is provided so as to specify names of all labour, who are succeeded to the company B from the company A, and the labour contract which provides wage and working hours are succeeded to the company B in the same condition when they worked at the company A by that the split agreement has been approved by a general meeting of stockholders. As the company A conducts company split, it concludes a split agreement with the company B. The split agreement is provided so as to specify names of all labour, who are succeeded to the company B from the company A, and the labour contract which provides wage and working hours are succeeded to the company B in the same condition when they worked at the company A by that the split agreement has been approved by a shareholders meeting.

The labour who engaged in the computer manufacturing section before the corporate division is informed within definite period from the company A about which company they will belong to and rules of the split agreement after the company has been divided.

The labour who were informed to stay in the company A and to be cut off from the work in the computer manufacturing section which they had engaged in can be succeeded to the company B by expressing dissent against the company A within definite period, and can work in the computer manufacturing section on and on (referring to the gray-shaded part on the below chart).



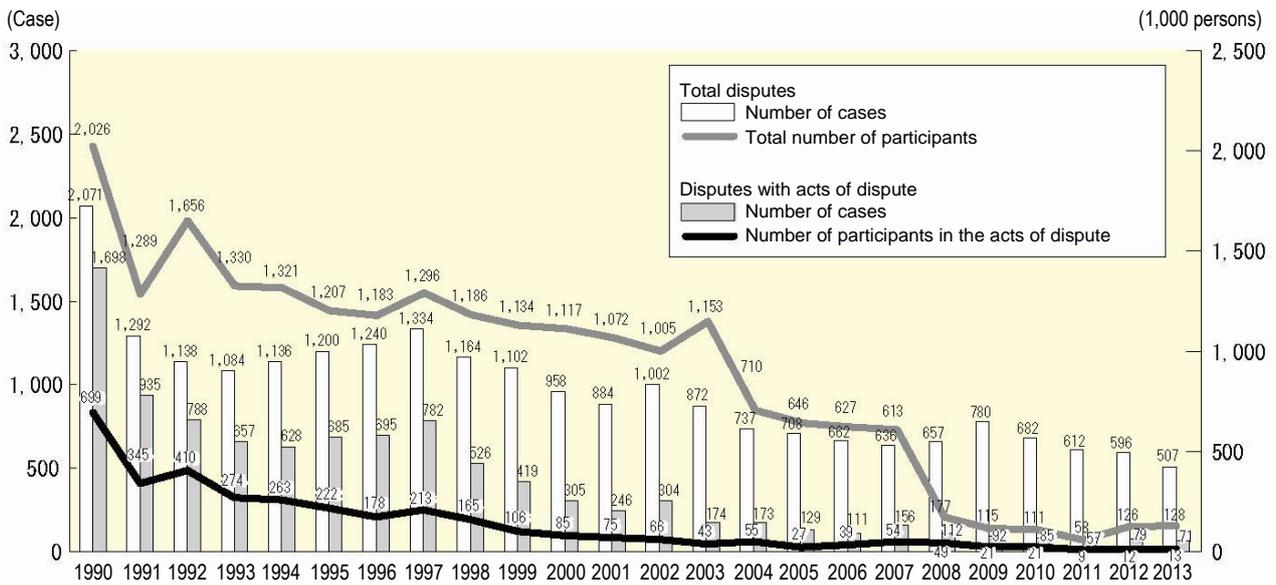
Detailed Data 1 Current State of Labour Unions



Source: "Basic Survey on Labour Unions", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW
 "Labour Force Survey", Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

- (Note)
1. The number of employees indicates the figures for June in the respective years of the Labour Force Survey.
 2. "Estimated unionization rate" was calculated by dividing the number of labour union members by number of employees.
 3. The number of labour union members indicates that of unit labour unions up to 1952 and that of unitary labour unions from 1953 onward. The same applies to the calculation of the estimated unionization rate. The survey method of the Labour Force Survey that investigates the number of employees was revised in 1953 and 1967, and the differences in the number of employees due to the 1967 revision was retroactively applied to that of 1953 and later years.
 4. The number of employees and estimated unionization rate in 2011 were calculated using estimated figures of June 2011 from the "Complementary Estimate of the Great East Japan Earthquake for the Labour Force Survey" published in April 2012 by the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. Care should therefore be taken with time-series comparison.

Detailed Data 2 Changes in Number of Disputes, etc.



Source: "Survey on Labour Disputes", Statistics and Information Department, Minister's Secretariat, MHLW

- (Note)
1. "Total disputes" indicates the total of the number of disputes that had acts of dispute, and disputes that had no acts of dispute but had an involvement of a third party such as Labour Relations Commissions, etc.
 2. "Total number of participants" indicates the maximum number of members of unions or dispute parties during the duration of the labour dispute regardless of whether the person participated in an act of dispute or not.
 3. "Acts of dispute" indicates the act or counteract hampering the normal business operation performed by the parties concerned with labour relations with the purpose of attaining their respective claims (strike for half a day or more, lock-out, strike for less than half a day, slowdown, or operation management, etc.).
 4. "Number of participants in the acts of dispute" indicates the number of persons that actually performed the acts of dispute.

Detailed Data 3
International Comparison of Number of Labour Disputes, Workers Involved, and Working Days Lost
Number of labour disputes

(Case)

Country/region	2000	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Japan ¹⁾	118	50	54	52	48	38	28	38	31
U.S.A. ²⁾	39	22	21	15	5	11	19	19	15
Canada ³⁾	378	260	206	188	158	175	148	282	-
U.K. ⁴⁾	212	116	142	144	98	92	149	131	114
Germany ⁵⁾	67	270	542	881	454	131	158	367	1,384
France ⁶⁾	1,427	699	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy ⁷⁾	966	654	667	621	889	-	-	-	-
Sweden ⁸⁾	2	14	14	5	6	7	2	6	-
Russia ⁹⁾	817	2,575	7	4	1	-	2	6	3
Hong Kong ¹⁰⁾	5	1	3	4	7	3	2	1	7
Korea ¹¹⁾	250	287	115	108	121	86	65	105	72
Malaysia ¹²⁾	11	3	2	2	4	2	0	0	0
Thailand	13	9	5	7	5	3	14	12	11
Indonesia	273	96	150	146	149	82	196	51	239
Philippines ¹³⁾	60	26	6	5	4	8	2	3	1
India ¹⁴⁾	771	456	389	421	345	371	370	447	194
Australia ¹⁵⁾	700	472	135	177	236	227	192	204	219
New Zealand ¹⁶⁾	21	60	31	23	31	18	12	10	6
Brazil ¹⁷⁾	525	299	316	411	518	446	554	873	-

Number of workers involved

(1,000 persons)

Country/region	2000	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Japan ¹⁾	15	4.1	21	8.3	3.6	2.5	1.7	1.2	1.7
U.S.A. ²⁾	394	100	189	72	13	45	113	148	55
Canada ³⁾	143	199	66	41	67	57	91	137	-
U.K. ⁴⁾	183	93	745	511	209	133	1,530	237	395
Germany ⁵⁾	7.4	17	106	154	28	12	11	22	67
France ⁶⁾	211	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy ⁷⁾	687	961	906	669	267	-	-	-	-
Sweden ⁸⁾	0.2	0.6	3.6	13	1.1	3.2	0.0	4.6	-
Russia ⁹⁾	31	85	2.9	1.9	0	-	0.5	0.5	0.2
Hong Kong ¹⁰⁾	0.4	0.2	0.8	1.3	1	0.3	290	150	1,306
Korea ¹¹⁾	178	118	93	114	81	40	33	134	-
Malaysia ¹²⁾	3.0	1	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	-
Thailand	6.0	2.6	0.6	2	1	2.2	7.1	4.3	7.7
Indonesia	126	57	135	212	94	2.0	55	14	32
Philippines ¹³⁾	21	8.5	0.9	1.1	2	3.0	3.8	0.2	0.4
India ¹⁴⁾	1,418	2,914	725	1,484	1,626	1,062	645	-	-
Australia ¹⁵⁾	325	241	36	173	89	55	134	143	132
New Zealand ¹⁶⁾	2.6	18	4.1	-	9	-	2.1	5.2	0.3
Brazil ¹⁷⁾	3,834	2,023	1,438	2,043	1,568	1,583	2,050	1,772	-

Number of working days lost

(1,000 days)

Country/region	2000	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Japan ¹⁾	35	6	33	11	7	23	4.4	3.8	7.0
U.S.A. ²⁾	20,419	1,736	1,265	1,954	124	302	1,020	1,131	290
Canada ³⁾	1,644	4,148	1,771	876	2,169	1,209	1,351	904	-
U.K. ⁴⁾	499	157	1,041	759	455	365	1,390	249	444
Germany ⁵⁾	11	19	286	132	64	25	70	86	150
France ⁶⁾	581	1,997	1,553	1,419	1,662	3,850	-	-	-
Italy ⁷⁾	884	907	930	723	-	-	-	-	-
Sweden ⁸⁾	0.3	0.6	14	107	1.6	29	0.3	36.7	7.1
Russia ⁹⁾	236	86	21	29	0	-	0.4	2.4	0.2
Hong Kong ¹⁰⁾	0.9	0.1	8.0	1.4	1	0.3	0.6	0.4	13.4
Korea ¹¹⁾	1,894	848	536	809	627	511	429	933	638
Malaysia ¹²⁾	6.1	5	0	0	1	0.2	0	0	-
Thailand	226	46	12	51	6	50	212	39	93
Indonesia	1,281	766	1,161	1,546	844	11	234	29	131
Philippines ¹³⁾	319	123	12	39	7	34	4	1	1
India ¹⁴⁾	28,763	29,665	27,167	16,684	13,297	17,932	4,975	-	-
Australia ¹⁵⁾	469	228	50	197	133	127	242	273	131
New Zealand ¹⁶⁾	11	30	11	-	14	-	5	79	0
Brazil ¹⁷⁾	28,558	28,911	29,641	17,927	15,879	33,116.4	42,720.2	47,707	-

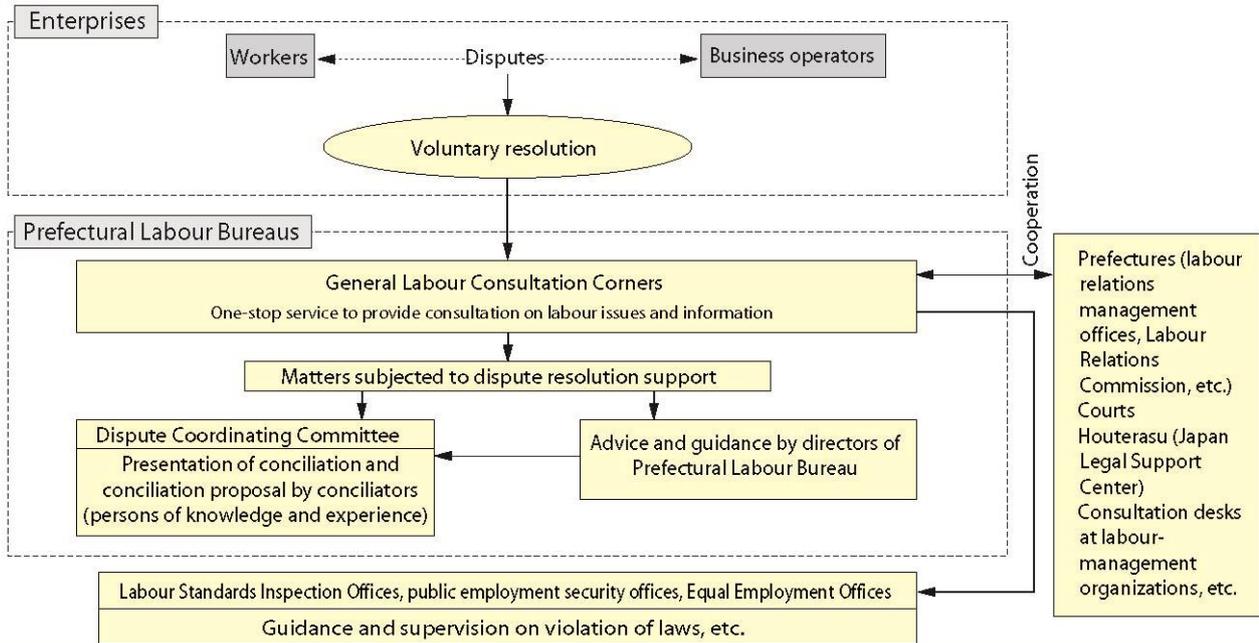
Source: Japan: "Survey on Labour Disputes (time series schedule)" (2014.12), MHLW

Others: ILOSTAT (<http://www.ilo.org/ilostat>) as of January 1, 2015; "Report on Conditions Overseas", MHLW; websites of statistics bureaus and labour bureaus of the respective countries

- (Note)
- 1) The number of labour disputes indicates the number of strikes and lockouts involving at least half a day. The number of workers involved indicates the number of those that actually participated in the disputes.
 - 2) Excluding disputes involving less than 1,000 workers or that were shorter than a day. The number of disputes and workers involved indicates that of disputes commencing in the respective years.
 - 3) Disputes that lasted more than half a day and the number of working days lost exceeded 10. The number of workers involved indicates the number of those that actually participated in the disputes.
 - 4) Excluding disputes shorter than a day or involving less than 10 workers if the number of working days lost exceeded 100 included, however. The number of labour disputes excludes political strikes.
 - 5) Participants were more than 10. And disputes are more than 1 day.
 - 6) Only lockouts were included before 2007. The number of labour disputes is counted per office. The number of labour disputes and the number of workers involved for 2005 indicates that of 2004. The figures for 2008 and later years indicate those of enterprises with 10 or more employees and including public enterprises
 - 7) Only strikes are included in 2009. The number of working days lost is calculated on the basis of 7 hours a day.
 - 8) The number of workers indicates the actual number of participating workers in disputes.
 - 9) Excluding disputes that lasted less than half a day.
 - 10) Covering the private sector. The number of workers involved indicates the number of those that actually participated in the disputes.
 - 11) Strikes less than 8 hours since 2011 are excluded. The number of workers involved reflects the actual number of participating workers in disputes.
 - 12) Including strikes only. The number of workers involved indicates the number of those that actually participated in the disputes.
 - 13) Excluding disputes that lasted less than a day. The number of workers involved indicates the number of those that actually participated in the disputes.
 - 14) Excluding political strikes and disputes that involved less than 10 workers.
 - 15) Excluding disputes that lasted less than 10 days. The figures are as of December of the respective years.
 - 16) The number of disputes excludes disputes that involved less than 5 working days lost. Partial strikes and lockouts are included. The number of working days lost was calculated on the basis of 8 hours a day.
 - 17) (DIEESE *Balanço das Greves* the figures) vary according to each year. Strikes only are included. Strikes only are included. The number of workers involved indicates the number of those that actually might have or have not participated in the disputes. The number of working days lost was calculated on the basis of 8 hours a day.

Individual Labour Dispute Resolution System

Overview Individual Labour Dispute Resolution System



Detailed Data 1
FY2014 Operation Status of Individual Labour Dispute Resolution System (Outline)

(April 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015)

* The figures in parentheses indicate the actual figures for FY2013

1. Number of cases of consultation delivered to General Labour Consultation Corner: 1,033,047 (1,050,042)					
Type of those requested for consultation					
Workers	616,613 (630,070)	Business operators	292,400 (298,031)	Others	124,034 (121,941)
2. Number of cases of consultation on civil individual labour dispute: 238,806 (245,783)					
[1] Type of those requested for consultation					
Workers	195,198 (199,123)	Business operators	24,766 (27,530)	Others	18,842 (19,130)
[2] Employment status of workers					
Regular workers	91,111 (97,573)	(Temporary) part-timers	38,583 (40,604)	Dispatched workers	10,399 (10,031)
Fixed-term contract workers	26,128 (26,696)	Others	72,585 (70,879)		
[3] Details of disputes (* some cases are included in multiple categories, thus the breakdown figures add up to 290,625 cases) (300,113)					
Ordinary dismissal	30,796 (34,533)	Layoff	3,845 (4,548)	Punitive dismissal	4,325 (4,875)
End of Employment	12,163 (12,780)	Encouragement to retire	21,928 (25,041)	Informal job offer cancellation	1,639 (1,813)
Voluntary resignation	34,626 (33,049)	Temporary transfer/reshuffling	9,458 (9,748)	Worsened working conditions	28,015 (30,067)
Other working conditions	36,026 (37,811)	Bullying/harassment	62,191 (59,197)	Employment management, etc.	5,127 (5,928)
Recruitment/adoption	2,819 (3,025)	Others	37,667 (37,698)		
3. Number of cases of advice/guidance provided by the directors of Prefectural Labour Bureaus					
(1) Number of cases of advice/guidance proposed: 9,471(10,024)					
[1] Employment status of workers					
Regular workers	4,630 (4,895)	(Temporary) part-timers	2,171 (2,392)	Dispatched workers	570 (557)
Fixed-term contract workers	1,590 (1,685)	Others	510 (495)		
[2] Details of disputes (* some cases are included in multiple categories, thus the breakdown figures add up to 10,348 cases) (10,768)					
Ordinary dismissal	1,117 (1,301)	Layoff	95 (143)	Punitive dismissal	91 (103)
End of Employment	566 (626)	Encouragement to retire	745 (858)	Informal job offer cancellation	102 (111)
Voluntary resignation	947 (911)	Temporary transfer/reshuffling	467 (465)	Worsened working conditions	941 (960)
Other working conditions	1,610 (1,561)	Bullying/harassment	1,955 (2,046)	Employment management, etc.	331 (378)
Recruitment/adoption	99 (90)	Others	1,282 (1,215)		
(2) Number of cases of advice/guidance processed within the fiscal year: 10,037 (10,290)					
Completion status					
Advice given	9,104 (9,693)	Guidance given	0 (0)	Others	26 (20)
Withdrawn	241 (262)	Discontinued	81 (62)		
4. Number of cases of conciliation by the Dispute Coordinating Committee					
(1) Number of cases of conciliation accepted: 5,010 (5,712)					
[1] Employment status of workers					
Regular workers	2,381 (2,823)	(Temporary) part-timers	1,010 (1,211)	Dispatched workers	335 (339)
Fixed-term contract workers	983 (1,059)	Others	301 (280)		
[2] Details of disputes (* some cases are included in multiple categories, thus the breakdown figures add up to 6,062 cases) (6,419)					
Ordinary dismissal	1,181 (1,353)	Layoff	160 (163)	Punitive dismissal	51 (98)
End of Employment	480 (548)	Encouragement to retire	422 (470)	Informal job offer cancellation	114 (146)
Voluntary resignation	149 (109)	Temporary transfer/reshuffling	135 (175)	Worsened working conditions	382 (546)
Other working conditions	496 (548)	Bullying/harassment	1,473 (1,474)	Employment management, etc.	83 (77)
Recruitment/adoption	387 (355)				
(2) Number of cases of conciliation processed within the fiscal year: 5,045 (5,688)					
Completion status					
Agreement reached	1,895 (2,225)	Withdrawn	277 (307)	Others	23 (15)
Discontinued	2,850 (3,141)	[Discontinued due to non-participation	1,934 (2,102)	(included)]	