

Chapter 2: Ensuring Community Safety and Criminal Investigations

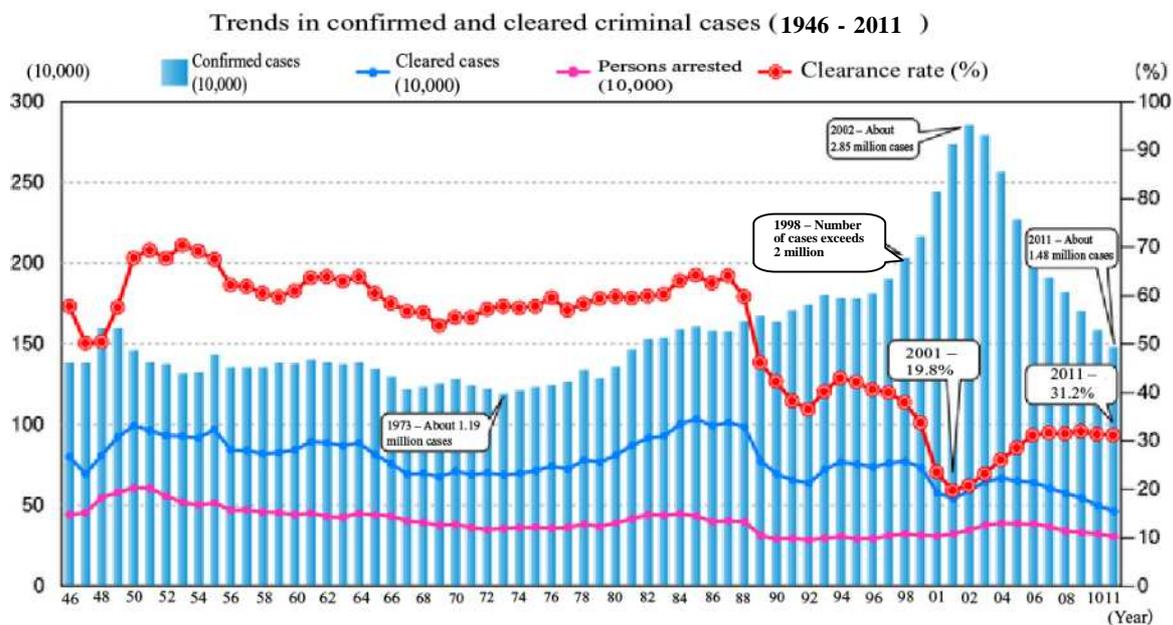
Section 1 Crime and Countermeasures

1 Confirmed and Cleared Criminal Cases

In 2011, the number of confirmed criminal cases was 1,480,765, a decrease of 105,091 cases (6.6%) from the previous year. However in comparison to levels in the mid-1960s to 1970s of around 1,200,000 per year, the level is still high. The police are implementing deterrence measures in response to individual crime types such as snatching, shop-lifting and break-ins.

(2) Cybercrime

During 2011, the number of cybercrime cases cleared was 5,741, a decrease of 1,192 cases (17.2%) from the previous year. The police are striving to apply structural developments and implementing countermeasures against illegal /harmful information on the Internet and unauthorized access. In addition, with the incidence of serious cases such as cyber-attacks against both the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors, the threat posed by cybercrime is rapidly increasing. As the linchpin of countermeasures, the enhancement of measures to prevent unauthorized access had become a pressing issue, and partial amendments to the

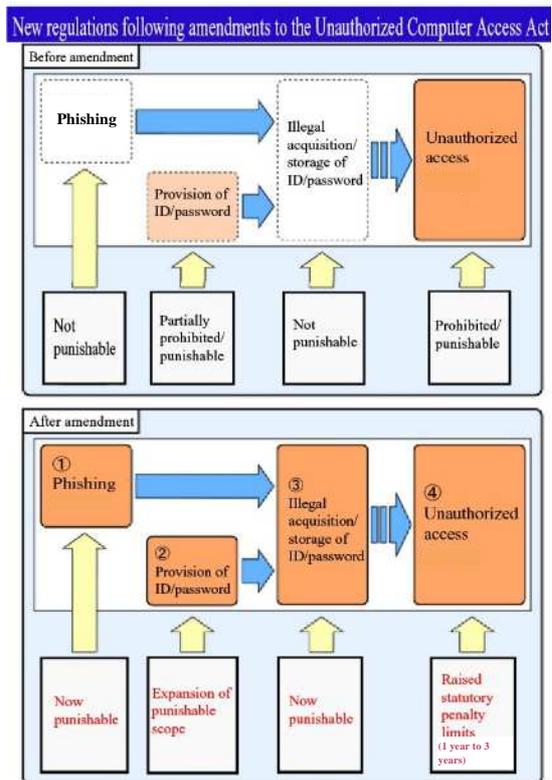


2 Measures against Individual Crimes

(1) Malicious Business and Illegal Loan Offences

During 2011, the number of persons arrested for investment fraud was 184 and the number of cleared cases was 35. Many of these cases were related to investment funds and unlisted shares. In addition, the number of persons arrested in relation to loan-sharking during 2011 was 666 and the number of cleared cases was 366 of which 22.7% were cases involving Boryokudan. In addition, regarding specified commercial transaction offenses, a conspicuous number of cleared cases were related to inspection scams operating under the guise of roof inspections and other transactions that target the elderly and carry out overpriced and unnecessary home remodelling works.

Unauthorized Computer Access Act, which stipulates the prohibition of phishing, etc. were enacted in the 180th Session of the National Diet in March 2012, and came into force in May of the same year.



Section 2: Developing Infrastructure for Criminal Arrests and Deterrence

1 Enhancing Investigation Capability

Once an incident occurs, it is necessary to conduct prompt and accurate initial investigations. Consequently, police have enhanced their activities by establishing mobile investigation units stationed at prefectural police headquarters and by organizing mobile identification units. In addition, in order to respond accurately to the rapidly increasing number of dead bodies and promote proper autopsies, police are reinforcing the autopsy system by increasing the number of coroners and other actions.

Column: Approaches to Prevent Overlooking Criminal Deaths

From an international perspective, the current system for investigating cause of death in Japan is not always sufficient, and there have been cases in recent years where criminal deaths have been overlooked. Consequently, the NPA convened a meeting of experts and conducted a review of systems that should be in place, and the results were compiled into recommendations during this meeting and announced in April 2011.

In addition, the “Act on the Promotion of the System for Investigating Cause of Death”, which has the purpose of reviewing and implementing cross-sectional and comprehensive policies

related to the promotion of the system for investigating cause of death, and the “Act on Investigations, etc. regarding Cause of Death and Identity of Dead Bodies handled by the Police, etc.”, which in relation to dead bodies handled by the police, contains clauses allowing physicians to conduct autopsies without the consent of the families following an explanation by a Police Station Chief to the family concerning the need for such an autopsy, were enacted in June 2012, in the 180th Session of the National Diet.

2 Utilizing Scientific Techniques

In order to enhance investigative capabilities, police are utilizing DNA profiling, fingerprint and palm print identification systems and other scientific techniques in their investigations.

3 Ensuring Meticulous and Appropriate Investigations and Response to the Lay Judge System

To promote meticulous and appropriate investigations without over-dependence on interrogations, the police are striving to provide accurate leadership through senior investigators by establishing appropriate investigation polices based on the full understanding of the particulars of a case, promoting systematic investigations depending on the nature of a case, and ensuring that the necessary instruction and guidance has been given in relation to methods of interrogation based on the characteristics of the suspect and evidentiary materials, etc. in order to further advance the appropriateness of interrogations. In addition, as well as promoting various policies such as the implementation of educational training for personnel of all levels and supervisory systems for suspect interrogation, etc. in response to the lay judge system, police are striving to enable lay judges, who are not legal experts, to form accurate impressions, through the thorough collection of objective evidence that underlines the suspect’s involvement in the crime, the creation of simple and clear investigation documents that lay judges can easily understand, and further ensuring the appropriateness of investigations.

4 Rapid Responses to Incidents/Accidents

With indiscriminate murder incidents and other police events occurring in wider variety and increased speed in recent years, initial police response is becoming increasingly difficult. To keep initial police responses in line with the demands of the times, the NPA are prioritizing the enhancement of communications and

command functions and incident response capabilities.



Communications and Command Center

5 Police Box (Koban)/Residential Police Box Activities

Police boxes (Koban) and residential police boxes maintain an understanding of the area under their jurisdiction through activities such as patrols and rounds, and undertake activities appropriate to their local situations in response to local residents' views and requests, etc. As of April 1, 2012, there were 6,240 police boxes (Koban) and 6,714 residential police boxes in Japan.

Section 3: Policies to Protect Safe and Secure Living Conditions

1 Measures for Child Safety and Policies to Protect Women

(1) Policies to Protect Children from Crime

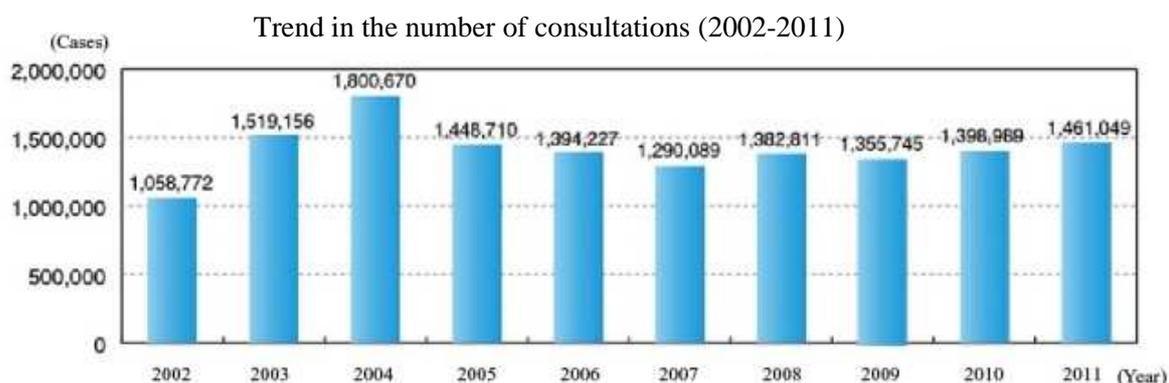
In order to prevent incidents in which children are the victims and to ensure that children feel safe when travelling to and from school, police are reinforcing patrols prioritizing routes to and from school during the school commute hours, and, in addition to conventional case clearance and crime prevention activities, police are aggressively implementing pre-emptive and preventive activities through the establishment of "Juvenile and Women Aegis Teams" (JWAT) in police headquarters nationwide. These teams focus specifically on the identification of potential perpetrators of sexual crimes during what is considered to be the preliminary stages of such crimes, such as accosting and stalking, etc. and engage in pre-emptive and preventive activities that involve measures such as arrests and the issuance of guidance warnings, etc.

(2) Measures against Stalking and Spousal Violence

In accordance with the Anti-Stalking Act, the police are providing support, etc. through administrative measures such as the issuance of warnings and restraining orders, etc. in line with the wishes of the victims, in order to prevent the escalation of harm, and are striving to place stalkers under arrest in accordance with the Anti-Stalking Act and other laws. In addition, in relation to incidents cases of spousal violence, investigations are initiated in line with the wishes of the victims, and police will take measures such as the issuance of guidance warnings, etc. even in instances where it would prove difficult to build a criminal case against the perpetrator. However, due to factors such as insufficient awareness of the dangers, there have been cases where the police response has been inadequate, and police are working to fully re-address issues regarding the promptness and accuracy of their responses.

2 Improving and Enhancing Police Safety Consultations

In order to allow police to respond smoothly to citizens seeking counsel, general police consultation offices have been set up in prefectural police headquarters and police safety consultation contact desks have been set up in police stations. As well as police personnel, these offices and contact desks are manned by highly experienced ex-police officers, etc. who have been engaged as part-time police safety counsellors, to maintain the consultation system.



3 Public-Private Crime Deterrence Measures

Police are promoting the creation of a “Crime Resistant Society” incorporating the provision of timely information to assist citizens in the prevention of crime across all social sectors and the establishment of a stratified crime prevention network that enables the prompt receipt of reports when incidents or accidents occur, etc.

Column: Murder case in Saikai, Nagasaki Prefecture attributable to problems involving violence between a man and a woman, and the series of police responses to this incident

(1) Case Overview

From October 2011, Chiba, Nagasaki and Mie Prefectural Police were consulted regarding problems involving violence between a man and a woman, by the victim’s father and others. In December of the same year, the man involved in said trouble forced his way into the woman’s family home in Saikai, Nagasaki Prefecture, and murdered the family.

(2) Issues concerning Police Response and Preventive Measures against Recurrence

The results of an examination into the response to this case by Chiba, Nagasaki and Mie Prefectural Police clearly revealed issues such as insufficient awareness of the dangers, given the high possibility that the trouble between the man and the woman could escalate into a serious incident, an inadequate systematic response by the police and inadequate coordination between the related prefectural police forces.

In March 2012, police issued a notice aimed at preventing the occurrence of similar cases. The specific contents were as follows:

- Renewed recognition of the characteristics of cases of violence attributable to the entanglement of emotions related to romantic attachment, etc.

- Thorough responses such as actively instigating cases to prevent escalation of such cases to a serious incident
- Thorough and accurate responses on an organizational level through active leadership by Police Station Chiefs, etc.
- Enhancement of coordination/ information sharing structures between related prefectural police forces
To ensure the thoroughness of these measures, meetings of senior officer who handle stalker cases, etc. at prefectural police headquarters have been convened.

(3) Understanding Issues of Organizational Operation through Re-examination and Reviewing Measures to Prevent Recurrence

In March 2012, reports stated that, “The report on examination results by Chiba, Nagasaki and Mie prefectural police states that items related to a recreational excursion by Narashino Police Station had been omitted and that this recreational excursion may have delayed the police investigations”.

Under the strict supervision of the Chiba PPSC, the Chiba Prefectural Police organized a structure consisting mainly of the Inspection Department, headed by the Director of Police Administration, and conducted a re-examination to ascertain the background of the recreational excursion, any effects this excursion may have had on investigations, etc. and the reasons why this excursion was not mentioned in the examination report. The officer who handled the previous examination was also included in the scope of the re-examination. Furthermore, the NPSC also issued a request to the Chiba PPSC for a thorough inspection of the investigation.

For the re-examination, the Chiba PPSC convened a total of seven meetings, including extraordinary meetings, and conducted their inspection while demanding continual reports on investigation status, etc. The results of the re-examination revealed that the recreational excursion was considered to have affected the

police response, and in addition, as an issue from the perspective of the organizational operation of Chiba prefectural police, it became clear that organizational management by senior officers was inadequate, that they lacked the ability to consider the case from the viewpoint of the victims and citizens, and that the “spirit of police reformation” was not thorough.

In view of these issues concerning organizational operation, Chiba Prefectural Police established the “Review Committee on the Organizational Operation of Front-Line Police” in April 2012, headed by the Chief of Police Headquarters, to undertake reviews of what the roles of senior police officers in police stations should be, how they should exert their leadership, etc. enhancement of education that incorporates citizens’ perspectives, and effective measures to thoroughly re-establish the “spirit of police reformation”. Following inspection by the Chiba

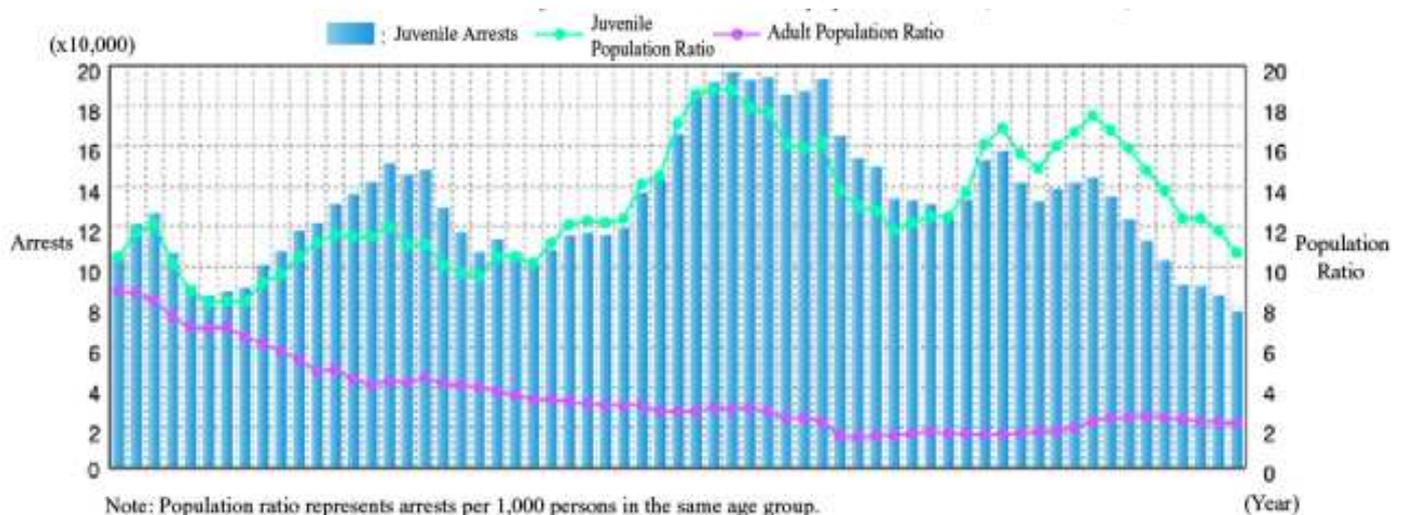
establish committees, etc. headed by the Chief of Police Headquarters to promote policy reviews.

Section 4: Preventing Juvenile Delinquency and Promoting Sound Upbringing

1 Overview of Juvenile Delinquency

The number of juvenile criminal offenders in 2011 was 77,696, a decrease of 8,150 from the previous year (9.5%), showing a decline for the eighth consecutive year. However, in terms of offenders per 1,000 persons in same-age groups, the rate continues to be high at 4.9 times that of adults. In addition, the percentage of re-offenders among juvenile criminal offenders has increased for the fourteenth consecutive year, rising to 32.7% in 2011, an increase of 1.2 points over the previous year, the highest level since 1972.

Trend in number of juvenile criminal arrests/population ratio (1949-2011)



PPSC, these were prepared as guidelines and subsequently implemented.

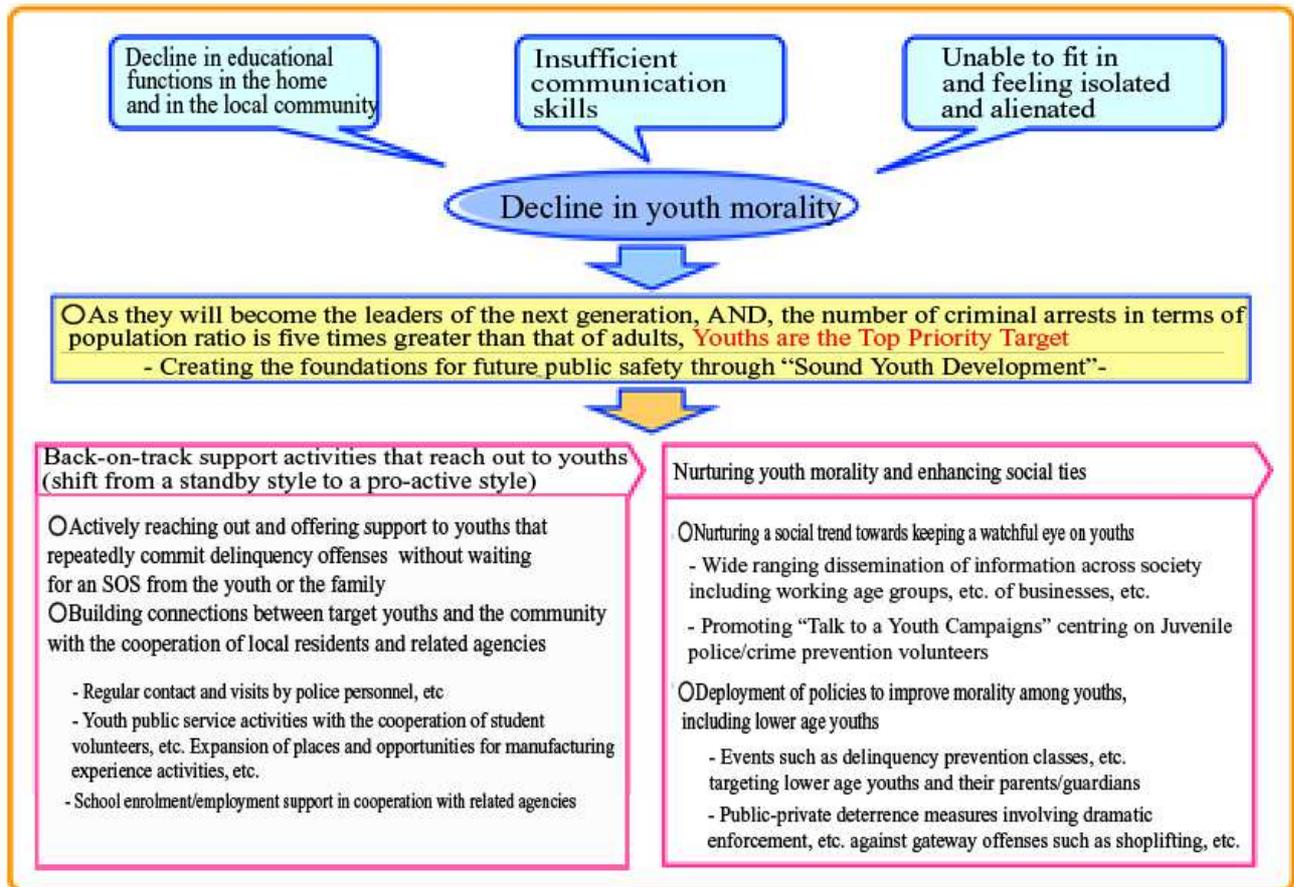
Meanwhile, the NPA established the “Review Committee on Comprehensive Policies for the thorough Establishment of the ‘Spirit of Police Reformation’” within the agency, headed by the Director General of the Secretariat, to undertake comprehensive reviews of new policies. Together, these committees issued instructions to prefectural police forces nationwide to assume that the issues from the perspective of organizational operation that came to be understood through the re-examination of Chiba prefectural police applied also to themselves, and following confirmation of actual conditions within each prefectural police force, to implement the necessary polices and further enhance approaches to entrench the “spirit of police reformation” within their organizations, and to

2 Comprehensive Measures for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency

(1) Creating a Society that does not Produce Delinquent Juveniles

The police have established juvenile support centers in all prefectural police. These centers, run mainly by juvenile guidance officials, undertake comprehensive measures against delinquency such as the provision of continuous guidance, juvenile counselling, street guidance and enlightenment activities, etc. From 2010 onwards, from the perspective of improving youth morals and enhancing social ties, police have worked to create a society that does not produce delinquent juveniles through activities such as offering back-on-track support activities that reach out to youths and nurturing a social trend towards keeping a stern but kind-hearted watchful eye on youths, etc.

Creating Society that does not Produce Delinquent Juveniles



(2) Cooperation with Related Agencies and Organizations, etc.

In order to conduct accurate responses in accordance with the problem status of individual youths, police are coordinating with schools and other related agencies and organizations by organizing youth support teams, operating school-police communication systems, dispatching school-supporters, etc. and are also pressing ahead

with a variety of activities in cooperation with juvenile police volunteers such as youth guidance officials aimed at sound youth development. In addition, in order to ensure that the appropriate protective measures are implemented for the sound development of the youth, police are striving to conduct rigorous and accurate investigations and research in relation to juvenile cases in view of the characteristics of the youth.