

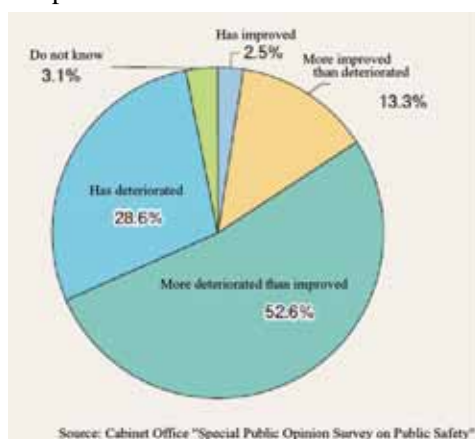
## Special Feature II: Police Activities and Children, Women and the Elderly

### Section 1: Public Safety and Children, Women and the Elderly

Based on the results of surveys implemented by the Cabinet Office\*<sup>1</sup> and the NPA\*<sup>2</sup>, we analyzed the levels of citizens' anxiety regarding public safety and the contributory factors.

#### (1) Anxiety concerning Public Safety

The number of confirmed criminal cases has continuously decreased over the past ten years, indicating a statistical trend of improvement in the state of public safety. Meanwhile, with regard to changes in public safety over the past ten years, over 80% of overall respondents selected either “Has deteriorated” or “More deteriorated than improved”, indicating that citizens' anxiety concerning public safety has yet to be dispelled.



Changes in public safety over the past 10 years

#### (2) Factors contributing to Anxiety

##### 1) Social Conditions

Many of the answers given with regard to the social conditions that may be a contributory

factor in the perception that public safety has deteriorated included a reduced feeling of local community, the economic downturn, the glut of information, inadequate youth education and the decline in citizens' social morality.

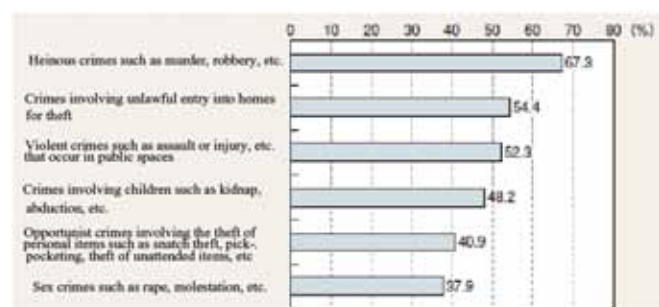
Factors contributing to the perception that public safety has deteriorated



##### 2) Types of Crime

As well as “Heinous crimes such as murder robbery, etc.”, “Violent crimes such as assault, injury, etc.” and “Crimes involving unlawful entry into homes for theft”, the types of crimes given as those that cause strong anxiety concerning public safety were crimes that mainly target children, women and the elderly, such as “Crimes involving children such as kidnapping, abduction, etc”, “Sex crimes such as rape, molestation, etc.” and “Crimes involving the theft of personal items (snatch theft, etc.)”.

Types of crimes that cause strong anxiety concerning public safety



Source: NPA Awareness Survey

Note 1: Multiple answers accepted

2: The top six most frequently given answers are shown

\*1: Nationwide survey implemented by the Cabinet Office in July 2012, in relation to 3,000 Japanese nationals over the age of 20 years (“Special Public Opinion Survey on Public Safety”).

\*2: The survey was implemented by the NPA (hereinafter the “NPA Awareness Survey”) targeting 3,745 members of the general public, who attended Driver's License Centers in all prefectures for the purpose of renewing their driver's licenses between January and February 2013 (Gender distribution was 43.0% male, 56.7% female, 0.3% did not answer. The age groups were: 24yrs or younger: 7.7%, 25 – 29yrs: 5.8%, 30 – 34yrs: 8.7%, 35 – 39yrs: 10.0%, 40 – 44yrs: 9.7%, 45 – 49yrs: 8.2%, 50 – 54yrs: 6.5%, 55 – 59yrs: 6.4%, 60 – 64yrs: 7.6%, 65 – 69yrs: 13.6%, 70yrs or over: 15.3%, 0.3% did not answer.)

## 2 Social Conditions surrounding Children, Women and the Elderly, and Public Safety Awareness

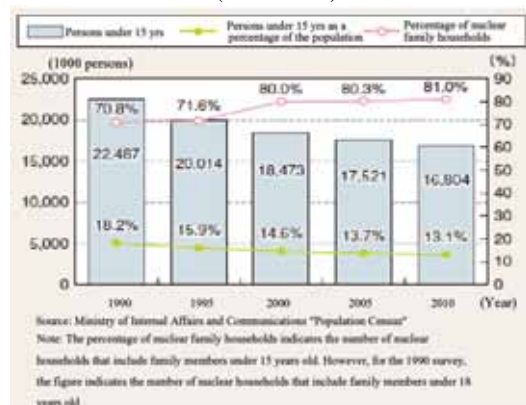
### (1) Social Conditions surrounding Children, and Public Safety Awareness

#### 1) Social Conditions

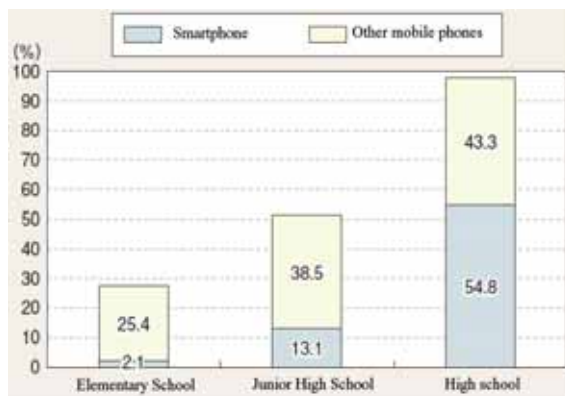
In addition to the falling birth-rate and the trend toward nuclear families, the popularization of the Internet and mobile phones, including smartphones, has introduced a trend for friendships unrestricted by geographic conditions to be easily established through Social Networking Services (SNS), etc.

Trend in the population of persons under 15 years old

(1990-2010)



Rate of mobile phone possession among children (FY2012)



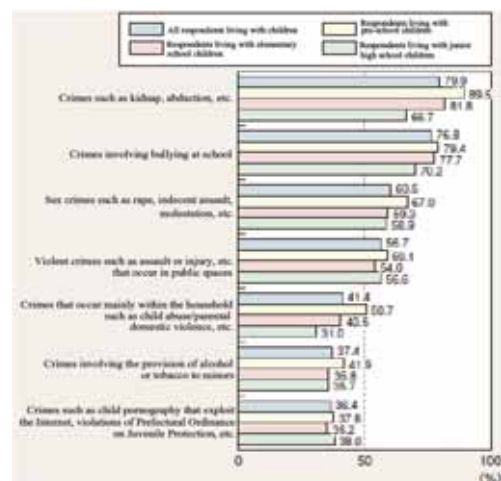
#### 2) Public Safety Awareness

##### i) Crimes that pose a threat

The percentage of persons living with preschool children (parents, etc.) giving "Crimes such as kidnap and abduction", "Sex crimes such as rape, indecent assault, molestation, etc." and "Crimes

that occur mainly within the household such as child abuse, parental domestic violence, etc." as the main crimes that pose a threat to children was higher than that of other respondents, while the percentage of persons living with junior high-school children giving "Crimes that exploit the Internet such as child pornography, violations of Juvenile Protection Ordinance, etc." as the main crimes, due to the proliferation of mobile devices such as mobile phones and SNS, etc. was higher than that of other respondents.

Crimes that pose a significant threat to children

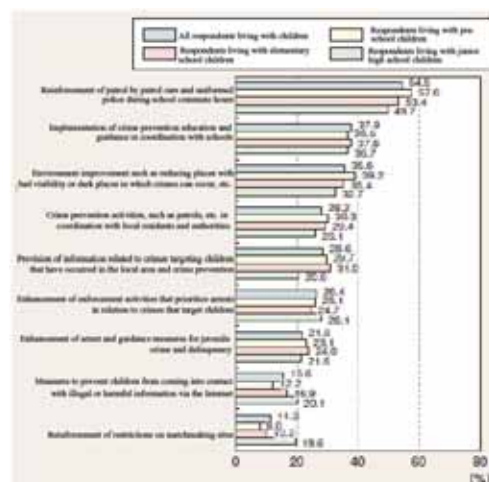


Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Census"

##### ii) Requests for the police

Regarding actions that police should take to realize a society resistant to crimes targeting children, the number of persons living with children in general giving the answer "Reinforcement of patrols by patrol cars and uniformed police during school commute hours" was significantly high, while the percentage of persons living with junior high school children giving the answers "Measures to prevent children from coming into contact with illegal or harmful information via the Internet" and "Reinforcement of restrictions on matchmaking sites" was higher than that of other respondents.

Actions that the police should take to realize a society resistant to crimes targeting children



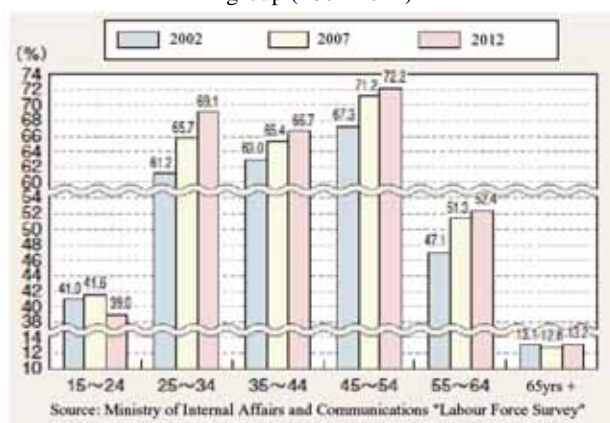
Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Census"

## (2) Social Conditions surrounding Women, and Public Safety Awareness

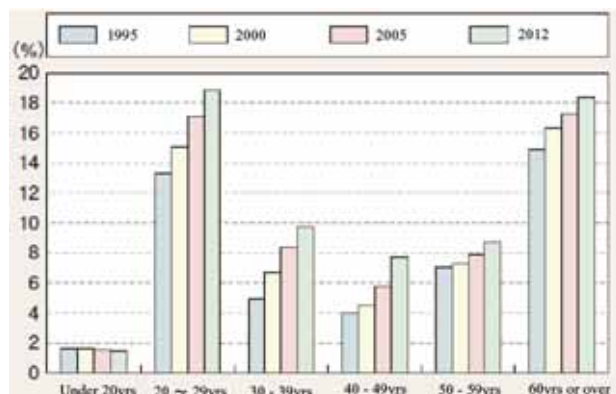
### 1) Social Conditions

The social advancement of women between their late twenties and early sixties is progressing, with a significant increase in the employment rate of women in the 25–34yrs age group. In addition, there is an increasing trend in the percentage in the total population of one-person households occupied by women and the amount of time women spend in solitary activities.

Trend in employment rate among women by age group (2002–2012)

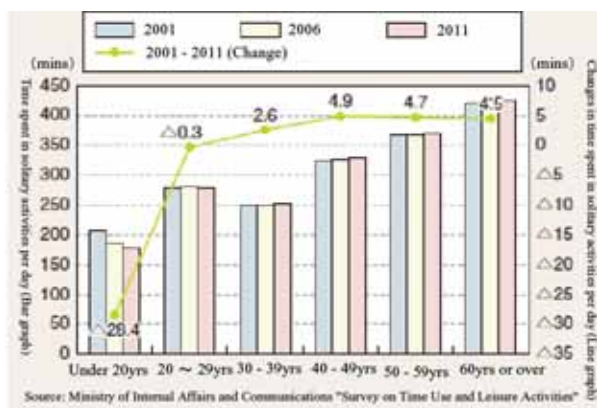


Trend in the percentage in total population of one-person households occupied by women by age group (1995 – 2010)



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Census"

Trend in time spent by women in solitary activities (2001–2011)



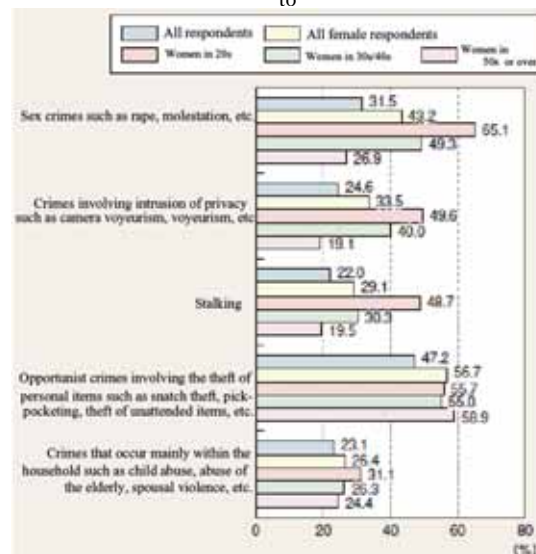
Source: NPA Awareness Survey

## 2) Public Safety Awareness

### i) Crimes that women are anxious about falling victim to

Of the main crimes that women are anxious about falling victim to, a significantly high number of women in their 20s indicated "Sex crimes such as rape, molestation, etc.", "Sexual crimes involving intrusion of privacy such as camera voyeurism, voyeurism, etc." and "Stalking" in their responses.

Crimes that women are anxious about personally falling victim to

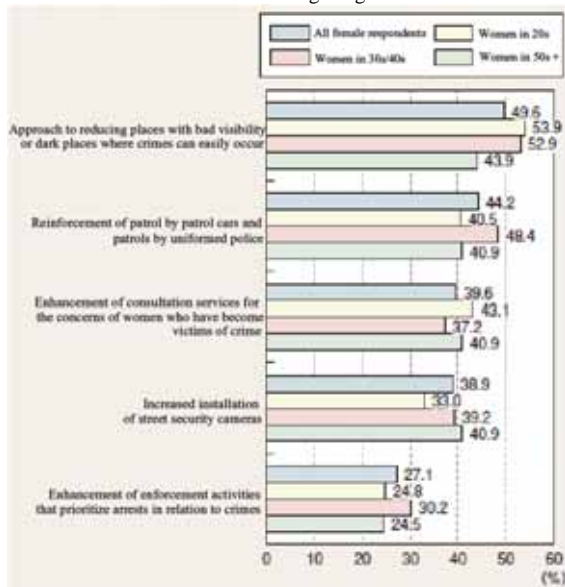


### ii) Requests for the police

In relation to actions that the police should take to realize a society resistant to crimes targeting women, the highest response given by all age groups was "Approach to reducing places with bad visibility or dark places where crimes can easily occur", while women in their twenties giving "Enhancement of consultation services for the concerns of female crime victims" in their response and women in their thirties giving "Increased installation of street security cameras" in their response was higher in comparison to other respondents, indicating a strong desire for improved anti-crime environment within the backdrop of higher employment rates and one-person households among women



Actions that the police should take to realize a society resistant to crimes targeting women



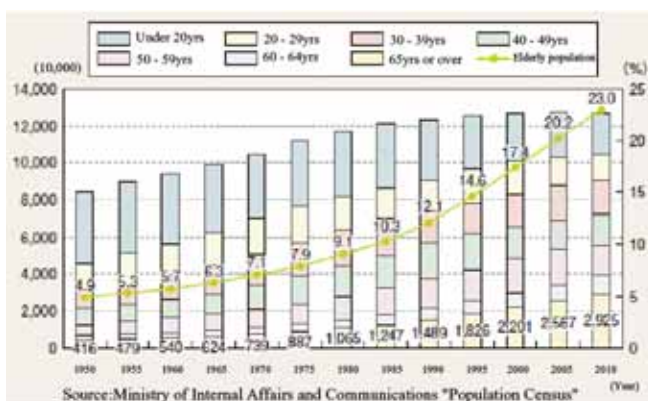
Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Census"

### (3) Social Conditions surrounding the Elderly, and Public Safety Awareness

#### 1) Social Conditions

While the elderly population is increasing, there is also an increasing trend in the number and percentage of the elderly living alone. In addition, with the increasing percentage of the elderly in the total population, there is a trend for financial savings to concentrate in elderly households.

Trend in elderly population (1950 – 2010)

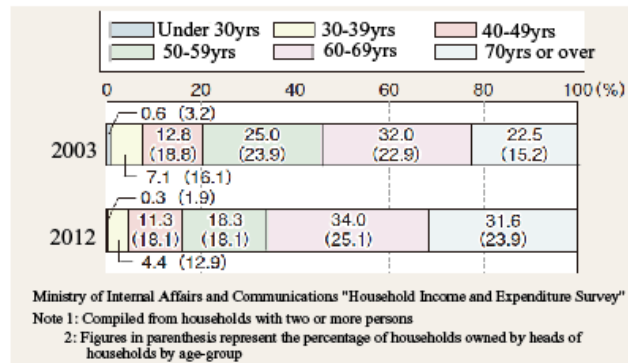


Trend in the elderly living alone (1990 – 2010)



Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Census"

Savings distribution of heads of households by age group (2003, 2012)



Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Household Income and Expenditure Survey"

Note 1: Compiled from households with two or more persons

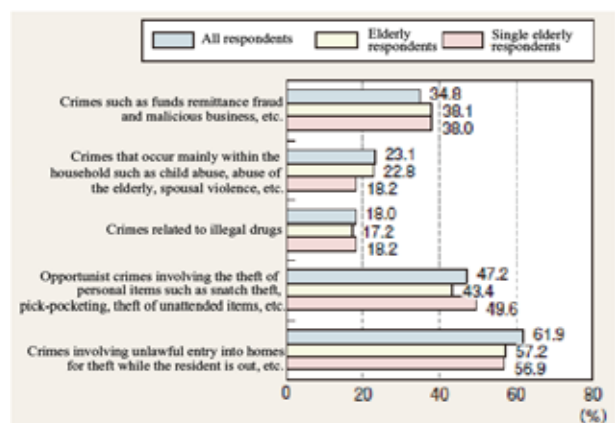
Note 2: Figures in parenthesis represent the percentage of households owned by heads of households by age-group

#### 2) Public Safety Awareness

##### i) Crimes that the elderly are anxious about falling victim to

The most answers given with regards to the main crimes that the elderly are anxious about falling victim to were "Crimes such as remittance fraud and malicious business, etc.", "Crimes that occur mainly within the household such as child abuse, abuse of the elderly, spousal violence, etc.", "Crimes related to illegal drugs" and "Crimes involving unlawful entry into homes for theft while the resident is out, etc."

Crimes that the elderly are anxious about personally falling victim to



Source: NPA Awareness Survey

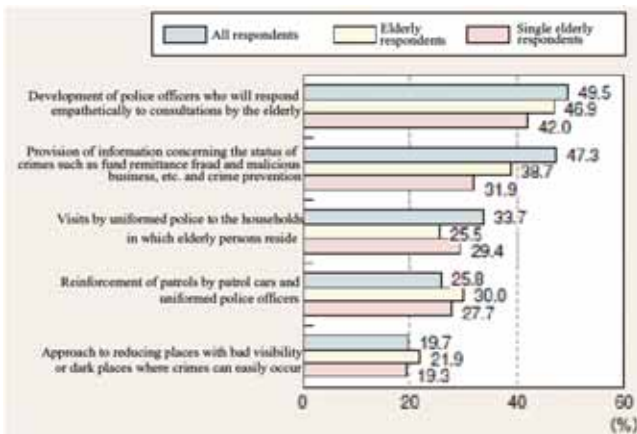
theft".

##### ii) Requests for the police

In relation to actions that the police should take to realize a society resistant to crimes targeting the elderly, the most responses were given for "Development of police officers who will respond empathetically to consultations by the elderly".

This was followed by "Provision of information concerning the status of crimes such as remittance fraud and malicious business, etc. and crime prevention", which also received many responses, reflecting the increase in remittance fraud and malicious business targeting the assets of the elderly. In addition, many elderly persons living alone gave "Visits by uniformed police to the households in which elderly persons reside" in their responses.

Actions that the police should take to realize a society resistant to crimes targeting the elderly



Source: NPA Awareness Survey

## Section 2: Police Activities concerning Children

Regardless of continuing falls in birthrate, the percentage of confirmed criminal cases in which children were victims has shown a rising trend in recent years. Child abuse incidents and incidents attributable to bullying are increasing, and serious cases that have resulted in the deaths of children have occurred. In addition, along with the popularization of mobile phones and other mobile devices, welfare offenses caused by the use of community sites, etc. have become a serious issue.

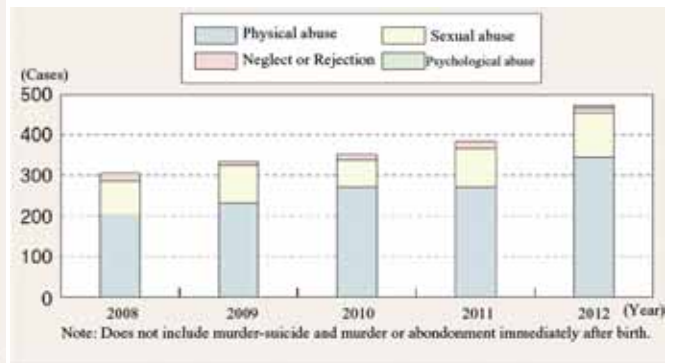
In addition to taking preventive and enforcement measures against these crimes that leave deep scars on a child's mind and body, police are committed to the creation of a society that does not produce delinquent juveniles and offering activities such as back-on-track support in order to realize sound youth development.

### 1 Child Abuse

#### (1) Status

In 2012, there were 472 cleared child abuse cases with 486 arrests, an increase of 88 cases (22.9%) and 77 arrests (18.8%) over the previous year. In addition, the number of child victims of the cleared cases was 476, an increase of 78 (19.6%) over the previous year. All these figures are the highest since these statistics started in 1999, indicating that the status of child abuse is most serious.

Trend in status of arrests/police guidance for incidents attributable to bullying (2008-2012)



### (2) Countermeasures

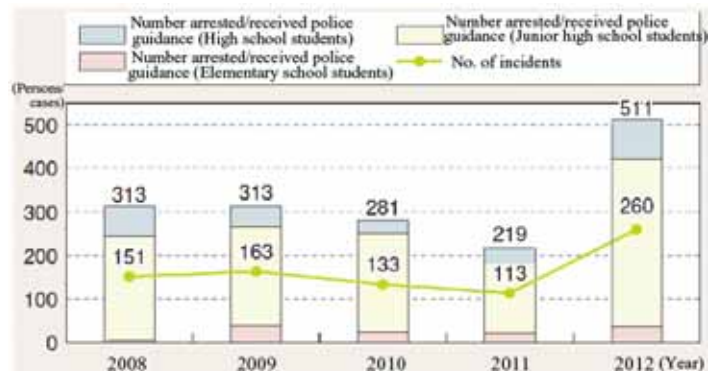
Child abuse is a serious infringement of children's rights and seriously affects the sound development of mind and body and the formation of character. The police are further reinforcing cooperation with related agencies and are taking active measures to enable the early detection of child abuse and the early protection of child victims.

### 2 Bullying

#### (1) Status

In 2012, there were 260 incidents attributable to bullying, an increase of 147 cases (130.1%) over the previous year and the highest recorded number since 1987. In addition, the number of juveniles who were arrested or received police guidance was 511, an increase of 292 (133.3%) over the previous year, with junior high school children comprising approximately three quarters of the persons arrested or received police guidance.

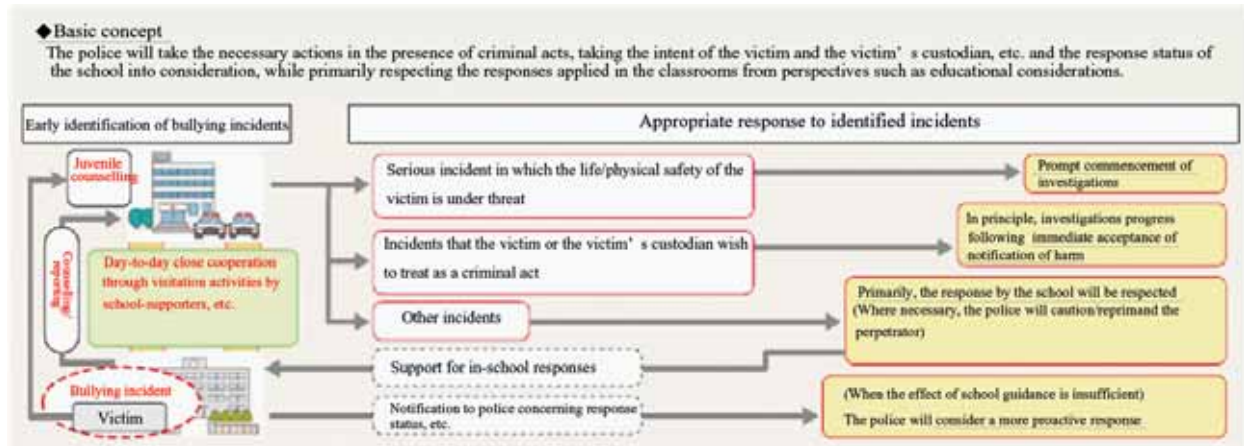
Trend in number of cleared child abuse cases by manner of crime (2008-2012)



## (2) Countermeasures

With regard to bullying at school, serious incidents such as the suicide of a young boy due to bullying have occurred, representing alarming issues in terms of both juvenile protection and the prevention of delinquency. Through activities such as visitations to schools by school-supporters, the police are committed to the early

identification of bullying and the promotion of appropriate responses through close cooperation with schools and other organizations. In addition, police are providing sensitive support for bullied youths, through the implementation of continuous counselling by juvenile guidance officers centering on juvenile support centers.



**Case:** Three male junior high school students (15yrs) had been assaulting a classmate prior to said classmate's suicide. After accepting a complaint by the bereaved family in July 2012, these three were arrested and received police guidance under charges of assault, etc. (Shiga Prefecture)

## 3 Child Pornography

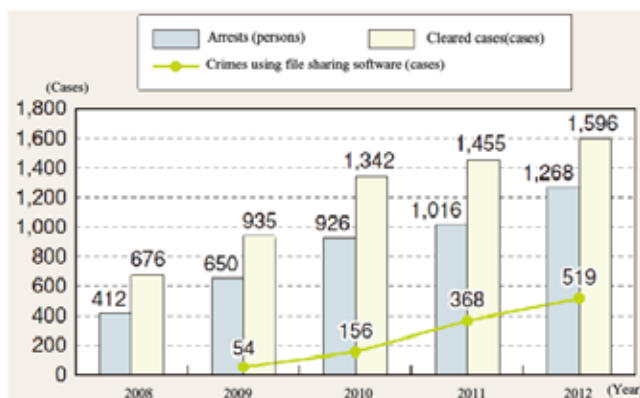
### (1) Status

In 2012, the number of cleared child pornography crime cases rose to 1,596, the highest ever recorded. About half the victims were confirmed to be lower aged children who possessed no means of resistance. In addition, due to increases in crimes that use file sharing software, 1,349 of these cleared cases (84.5%) were Internet related crimes, indicating that child pornography is still widespread on the Internet.

### (2) Countermeasures

Child pornography is a record of the sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, and is a serious infringement of children's rights. It is almost impossible to withdraw child pornography once it has been placed on the Internet. The pain of abused victims lasts long into the future. Consequently, in order to eradicate child pornography, the police are reinforcing enforcement against crimes that use file sharing software, undertaking enlightenment activities and promoting measures to prevent distribution and viewing in cooperation with related agencies and organizations.

Trends in cleared child pornography cases (2008-2012)





### Section 3: Police Activities concerning Women

Although the number of confirmed criminal cases in which women are the victims is showing a declining trend, the number of confirmed stalking and spousal violence cases, which threaten the lives of women, and sexual cases that violate the dignity of women, is increasing. In addition, incidents that utilize modern electronic devices such as stalking cases using e-mail, camera voyeurism cases using smartphones and prostitution cases using website bulletin boards are occurring.

In addition to enforcement that applies the various ordinances and the implementation of preventive measures against these crimes, the police are promoting various policies that take the feelings and needs of women victims into consideration, such as procedural support in decision making for the victims of violent crimes arising from the entanglement of emotions related to romantic attachment, and support for the victims of sexual crimes.

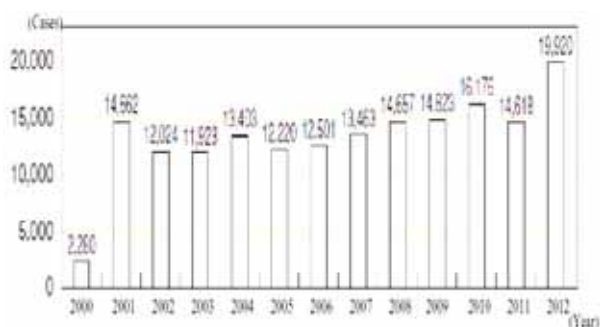
#### 1 Violent cases arising from the entanglement of emotions related to romantic attachment, etc.

##### (1) Status

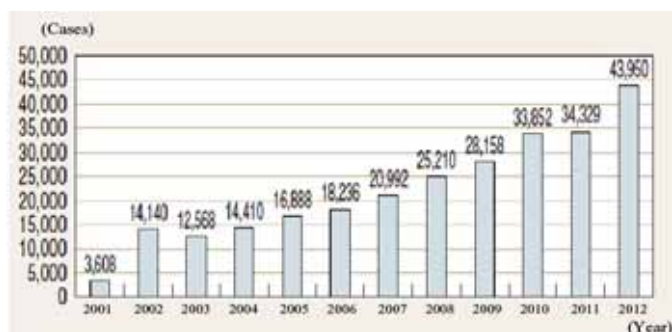
As violent cases such as those attributable to the entanglement of emotions related to romantic attachment involve volatile circumstances that may change quickly and escalate into serious incidents that may lead to the loss of life, such as murder, measures that take these characteristics into consideration are being sought.

Of the violent cases attributable to the entanglement of emotions related to romantic attachment etc, the main cases are stalking and spousal violence related, and the trends are shown in the tables below. The numbers of confirmed cases of both in 2012 were the highest recorded since the Anti-Stalking Act and the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims were enacted.

Trend in the number of confirmed stalking cases (2000-2012)



Trend in the number of confirmed spousal violence cases (2000-2012)



Trend in responses to stalker cases (2008-2012)

Category	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Percentage change from previous year (New 1)
Application of the Anti-Stalking Act	Guidance/warnings issued to offender	4,145	4,331	5,957	5,430	7,410	2,001 (37.0%)
	Warnings	1,335	1,376	1,344	1,289	2,284	995 (77.3%)
	Restraining orders, etc.	26	33	41	55	69	14 (25.9%)
	Provisional orders	0	0	0	0	0	0 (-)
	No. of requests for assistance accepted by Chiefs of Police	2,260	2,303	2,470	2,771	4,465	1,714 (61.9%)
Assault	Stalking	243	261	220	197	340	143 (72.6%)
	Violation of orders, etc.	1	2	9	6	11	3 (37.5%)
Assault due to other laws and regulations	Homicide (incl. attempted homicide)	11	11	7	7	3	-4 (-57.1%)
	Assault	50	70	73	62	140	79 (127.4%)
	Injury	158	83	163	123	243	123 (100.0%)
	Intimidation	88	87	106	90	277	187 (207.8%)
	Home invasion	111	124	147	125	270	145 (116.0%)
	Other	350	374	384	382	570	188 (49.2%)

Note: Rate of change in 2012 in comparison to figures for 2011 (Rate of change in parenthesis)

Trend in responses to spousal violence cases (2008-2012)

Classification	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Percentage change from previous year (New 1)
Police response	Guidance/warnings issued to perpetrators (cases)	5,341	5,753	8,481	9,331	14,983	5,652 (60.4%)
	No. of requests for assistance accepted by Chiefs of Police, etc. (Note 3)	7,225	8,730	9,748	10,280	13,059	2,769 (26.9%)
	No. of arrests for protection order violations	76	92	86	72	121	49 (68.1%)
	Noises from medical institutions (cases)	81	44	60	45	67	22 (48.9%)
	Noises to police	2,618	2,722	2,774	2,460	2,985	525 (21.3%)
Assault due to other laws and regulations	Document submission requests from courts (Note 3)	2,534	2,429	2,428	2,144	2,572	428 (20.0%)
	Protection order notices from courts (Note 4)	77	44	49	46	55	9 (19.6%)
	Homicide (incl. attempted homicide)	77	44	49	46	55	9 (19.6%)
	Assault	504	552	849	975	1,609	634 (65.0%)
	Injury	871	853	1,170	1,142	1,942	800 (70.1%)
Intimidation	Intimidation	22	21	35	27	121	94 (348.1%)
	Home invasion	24	22	38	32	49	17 (53.1%)
	Other	152	166	206	202	327	125 (61.9%)

Note 1: Rate of change in 2012 in comparison to figures for 2011 (Rate of change in parenthesis)

- Figures for 2008 and 2009 represent actions taken in response to requests.
- Number of cases in which police were requested by the courts to submit documents, etc. stating circumstances when the petitioner consulted the police.
- Number of cases in which the courts notified police of the issuance of protection orders.

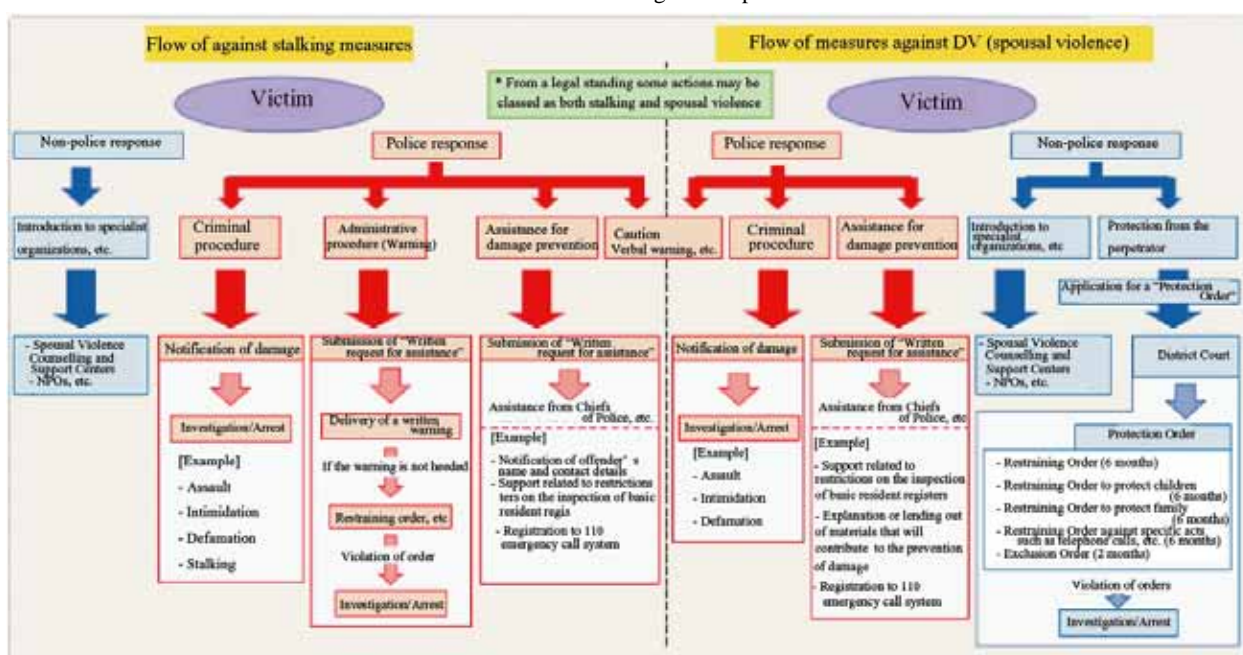
## (2) Countermeasures

In view of the problems that were revealed upon examination of the murder case that occurred in Saikai, Nagasaki prefecture, in December 2011, police have systematically promoted prompt and appropriate responses from the perspective of the importance of preventing escalation of damage such as arresting perpetrators through the active application of laws and regulations, and protective measures for the victims and their families through registration to 110 emergency call systems, etc

In addition, from February 2013, police have progressively introduced across the nation a

process of support in decision making for the victims as a new approach. By using this process, police officers show victims diagrams of the possible actions that can be taken by police, with simple explanations and clarify the actions opted for by the victim. Police also intend to introduce a “Risk determination check-list” questionnaire about the victims and perpetrators, for the victims to answer, which will allow police to determine the risk of development into more serious cases such as murder, based on the answers given.

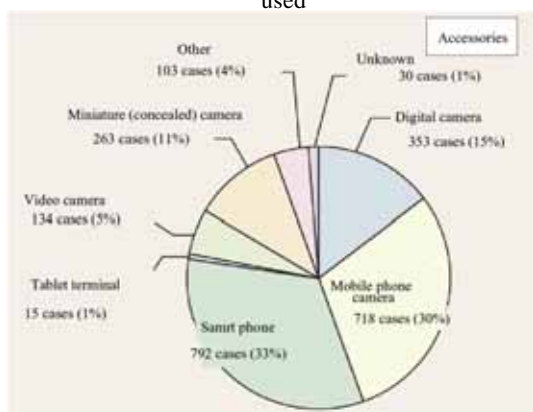
Procedural flow related to stalking and spousal violence cases



## 2 Camera Voyeurism

With regard to camera voyeurism, arrests are generally made under violation of prefectural anti-nuisance ordinances. Of the arrests made for violation of the Anti-Nuisance Ordinance in 2012, the number of cleared camera voyeurism cases was 2,408. The locations where camera voyeurism crimes are committed and the accessories used in

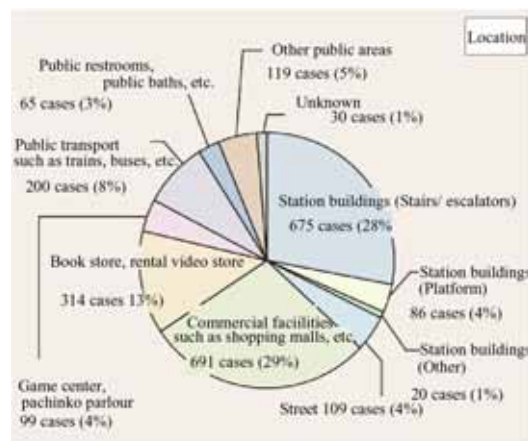
Number of cleared camera voyeurism cases by accessories used



these crimes are shown in the table below. There are now many camera voyeurism crimes that utilize smart phones and mobile phones.

In order to deter camera voyeurism crimes, police are reinforcing enlightenment and enforcement activities.

Number of cleared camera voyeurism cases by location





#### Section 4: Police Activities concerning the Elderly

The percentage of confirmed crimes in which the elderly were victims has doubled over the past twenty years. In particular, there has been a significant increase in the percentage of elderly victims of specialized fraud and malicious business activities committed using crime infrastructure such as rental mobile phones and virtual offices. In addition, there is also an increasing trend in violent cases against the elderly involving abuse, etc.

Meanwhile, along with the increasing elderly population, the percentage of the elderly among persons arrested in relation to criminal cases has also increased.

In addition to enforcement that applies the various ordinances and enlightenment activities, the police are undertaking approaches in cooperation with related agencies and other

organizations to prevent the elderly from becoming the victims of crime, as well as implementing various approaches aimed at reinforcing a sense of moral precepts among the elderly as well as local community ties.

#### 1 Specialized Fraud targeting the Elderly

##### (1) Status

Regarding the age composition of the overall victims of specialized fraud, over 50% are over 70 years of age. The figure is over 80% when looking at victims over 60 years of age and over 70% of those victims are women. Of the different types of fraud, in comparison to other age groups, specialized fraud such as the “Hey, it’s me” type remittance call fraud, fraud related to refunds, and fraud aimed at securities transactions specifically target the elderly.

	Victim age/gender composition (%)					
	Under 59yrs		60s		70yrs or higher	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
All specialized fraud	7.7	11.2	6.7	20.2	13.9	40.2
Remittance fraud	7.2	11.9	5.9	21.0	12.1	41.9
"Hey, it's me" fraud	0.6	6.9	4.6	25.7	12.0	50.2
Billing fraud	20.4	34.1	6.3	7.5	8.3	23.4
Loan guarantee fraud	52.4	12.9	17.6	4.8	10.9	1.4
Refund fraud	0.5	4.7	6.2	25.0	16.6	46.9
Other specialized fraud types	9.1	9.4	8.8	18.0	18.8	35.9
Securities transactions	3.7	6.5	8.2	19.9	20.8	40.9
Liaison for acquaintance with someone of the opposite sex	55.8	25.6	11.6	0.0	7.0	0.0
Provision of guaranteed winner info for gambling	41.0	28.4	12.6	7.7	6.5	3.8
Other	14.5	10.9	12.7	10.9	12.7	38.2

Victim age and gender ratios for specialized fraud by tactics used (2012)

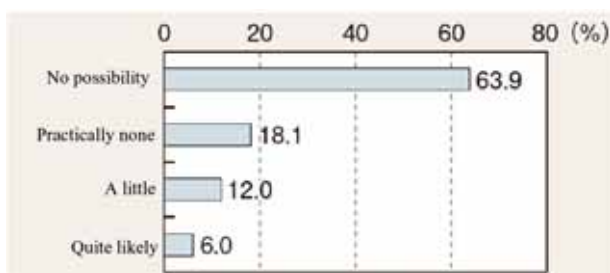
## (2) Countermeasures

In order to prevent the elderly from falling victim to specialized fraud, police are promoting direct anti-crime guidance activities and attention notices for the elderly and other vulnerable persons, through routine patrol contact and anti-crime talks by police officers and direct calls from outsourced private sector call centers, etc.

**Column:** Anti-crime awareness of remittance fraud victims

The results of a question in the NPA Awareness Survey asking elderly victims of remittance fraud how they had formerly viewed the possibility of falling victim to this type of fraud themselves, showed that over 80% responded with either “No possibility” or “Practically none”.

Anti-crime awareness of remittance fraud victims  
How victims had formerly viewed the possibility of falling victim to remittance fraud themselves.

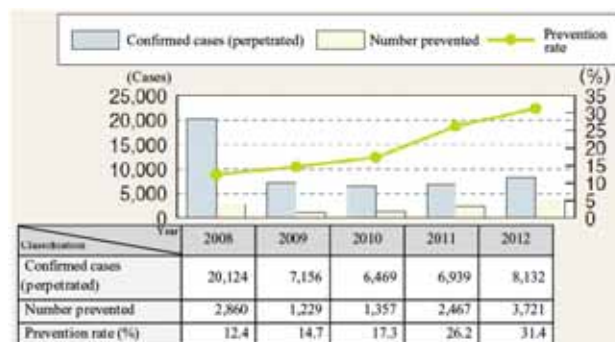


Source: NPA Awareness Survey

Note: Responses given by 133 elderly victims of remittance fraud

In addition, as much of the lost funds were drawn out or transferred using ATMs or the counters of financial institutions, it is extremely important for financial institution personnel, etc. to speak with the elderly. Police are promoting the implementation of methods involving speaking with the elderly and have provided financial institutions with checklists for this approach and are holding training sessions. In 2012, the amount in funds saved from specialized fraud as a result of actions such as financial institution personnel speaking with potential victims was approximately ¥9.5 billion.

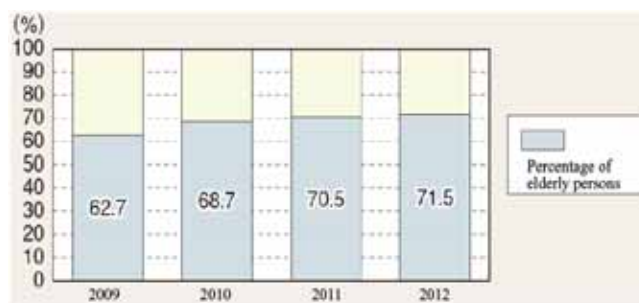
Trends in confirmed cases of specialized fraud and number of cases prevented (2008-2012)



## 2 Malicious Business targeting the Elderly

Malicious business refers to organized and repetitive business transactions that include illegal or unfair means/methods in their business practice and target general consumers. Malicious business operators target the elderly or other vulnerable persons who are not versed in business transactions, with fraudulent business activities, and there have been numerous victims.

Trend in the ratio of consultations received by consumer affairs centers nationwide from elderly persons who had entered contracts and incurred damages following possibly fraudulent investment solicitation (2009-2012)



Trend in the ratio of consultation received by consumer affairs centers nationwide from elderly persons who had entered contracts and incurred damages following possibly fraudulent specified commercial transactions (2009-2012)



**Column:** Preventive measures against the criminal use of services exploited by malicious business, etc.

As well as exploiting bank accounts as the remittance destinations of misappropriated funds, it has been confirmed that persons who commit acts of malicious business, etc. exploit virtual offices (so-called hosting services, etc.) to gain the trust of their victims and other vulnerable persons.

As well as undertaking prompt and proactive provision of information to financial institutions in order to freeze bank accounts and providing information on the frozen account holding juridical entity to financial institutions, police are promoting preventive measures against criminal use by appealing to businesses to cancel contracts, arresting malicious business operators, and maintaining a continuous understanding and analytical stance against the exploitation status of services that encourage crime, etc.

**Column:** Restrictions against Door-to-Door Purchasing

Along with the recent surge in precious metals prices, there has been a sudden increase in victims of unexpected home visits from businesses that use aggressive tactics to purchase precious metals, etc. In light of this, the “Act on Specified Commercial Transactions” was amended and new restrictions against “Door-to-Door Purchasing” such as restrictions against unfair solicitation, obligation to provide documentation and cooling-off periods, were introduced (in force as of February 2013).



## Section 5: General Approaches for the Protection of Children, Women and the Elderly

### 1 Creating a Society that Protects Children, Women and the Elderly

#### (1) Promotion of crime prevention through environment design (CPTED)

NPA Awareness Survey, indicates that in an effort to reduce crimes related to children, women and elderly people, police are needed to take measures for crime prevention through environment design (CPTED) such as “creating crime-preventive environment by improving the visibility of dark places”, installation of street security cameras”.

Police, in cooperation with local authorities, enterprises, and local residences, are promoting CPTED by incorporating the structures and facilities that enhance crime prevention in roads, parks, and commercial zones. Specifically, some examples include the placement of emergency call devices in the streets for commuters and children, the installation of street security cameras and the removal of illegal advertisements in the commercial zones, the installation of street lighting in the roads, parks and parking lot, and the pruning of plants to improve visibility.

**Case:** In October 2011, Adachi-ku, a ward of Tokyo, established “the certified crime prevention design town system”. Based on its unique guideline made through the cooperation of experts and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), Adachi-ku evaluates and certifies the quality of crime prevention of a town as a whole that includes the houses and related facilities. The criteria of the guideline includes, with a view to enhance the sustainability of the safety and security of town, the planning of roads, parks and crime-prevention facilities, and the rules for the voluntary activities of the residents such as the establishment of town councils or residents’ associations, and the rule-setting for night-time lighting and gate lighting. In addition, in the certified town, patrol activity in cooperation with MPD is considerably enhanced in an effort to support the activity of the residents.



Crime Prevent Design Town  
certification mark

#### (2) Realizing a safe and secure society through the participation of various bodies

Through policies such as “Creation of a Crime Resistant Society” and “Safe/secure town development”, police, local residents and other locals are engaged in mutual cooperation in an approach to ensure social safety and security through the implementation of participatory crime prevention activities, etc. Of these activities, many are related to the protection of children, women and the elderly, such as activities to watch over children, activities to prevent sexual crimes and home visits to the residences of elderly persons.

Approaches such as those mentioned above, which involve the participation of various bodies, embeds in society the correct awareness in relation to the importance of “safety” as a foundation of society as well as establishing the basis of security and inducing further participation in activities, and are effective means of realizing a safe and secure society. Consequently, police are implementing activities to explain the importance of crime prevention activities, developing networks and providing information, etc. to ensure that such approaches become sustainable through the participation of various bodies.

**Column:** Safe community activities in Toshima-ku, Tokyo

The safe community activities implemented in Toshima-ku, Tokyo, are famous examples of comprehensive approaches that aim to ensure social safety and security.

Under the guiding principle that “injuries and accidents aren’t the results of coincidences and can be prevented if the causes are identified”, these safe community activities are town development activities for which certification systems under the World Health Organization (WHO) have been established, that heighten the quality of safety and well-being.

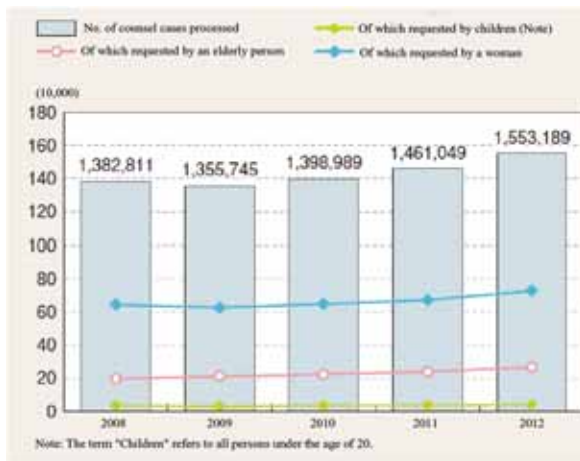
In the case of approaches undertaken in Toshima-ku, many agencies are promoting policies to eradicate crimes such as child abuse or spousal violence, in accordance with the “No Abuse or Violence Town Development Declaration”, and along with enforcement against crime, police are also providing information and implementing training programs, etc.

### 2 Enhancement and reinforcement of police counseling services

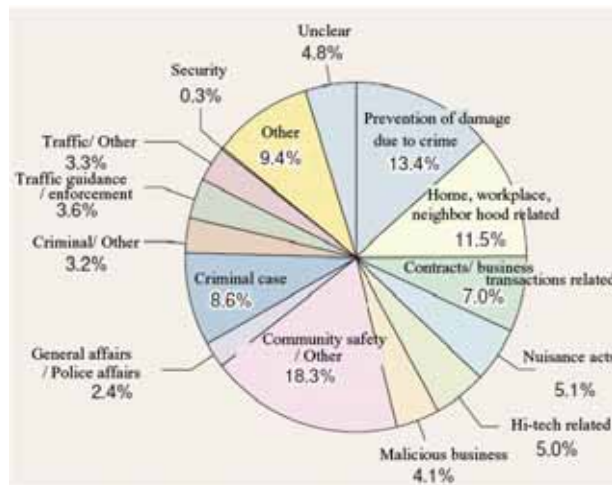
With many citizens feeling anxious about public safety, police are providing counseling to citizens in relation to various crimes and accidents. The number of counseling cases undertaken by police in 2012 was 1,553,189, an

increase of 92,140 (6.3%) over the previous year. Of the approaches for counseling received, the relevant departments worked in cooperation in accordance with the content, and in addition to actions such as arrests in cases involving acts of a criminal nature that violate laws and regulations, police are taking action in relation to cases that do not violate such laws and regulations by providing anti-crime guidance as required for the person(s) seeking counseling and delivering correctional guidance and warnings to the other party. In addition, to enable appropriate responses to the various requests for counseling, police are implementing training for officers in charge of providing counsel and promoting cooperation with the relevant agencies and organizations.

Trend in number of processed requests for counseling



Breakdown of counsel content (2012)



### 3 Finally

As changes in social conditions progress, there is an increasing trend in violent sexual crimes targeting children, child abuse, violent incidents attributable to the entanglement of emotions related to romantic attachment, etc. and violent incidents of abuse elder by persons providing their care. In addition, within the backdrop of proliferation of new communication tools, damages incurred through cases of child pornography using the Internet, camera voyeurism using smartphones and specialized fraud that exploits devices such as rental mobile phones, are conspicuous.

Although this suggests that changes in society significantly affect the safety and security of children, women and the elderly, the policies needed to ensure their safety and security are not so simple.

As well as the prompt and appropriate implementation of police activities when crimes occur, the arresting of suspects and working to prevent any escalation of damages, it is necessary to promote the heightening of crime prevention awareness through;

- crime prevention guidance/education from the standpoint of each individual to prevent persons from becoming victims,
- effective enlightenment activities and provision of information related to the latest tactics and status of the crimes.

and

- environmental improvements such as the installation of street security cameras, etc.
- accurate understanding of the levels of risk in any given situation and providing counsel regarding measures to be taken while taking the feelings and needs of victims into consideration,

with the aim of preventing crime and nurturing a sense of security.

In order to make these polices effective, cooperation with local residents and related agencies/organizations is important, and although the construction of crime prevention networks and related activities are already in progress in relation to some policies, for the future, it will be necessary to promote the comprehensive approaches to ensure safety and security in all regions through activities such as the safe community activities.