

FY 2023
Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
[Summary]

December, 2024
National Public Safety
Commission and
National Police Agency

FY 2023 Policies for Crime Victims, etc. (FY 2024 Edition White Paper on Crime Victims)



About White Paper on Crime Victims

- Statutory white paper annually submitted to the Diet based on the Basic Act on Crime Victims
- The FY 2024 edition is the 19th in series (9th in series for the National Public Safety Commission and the National Police Agency)

<Basic Act on Crime Victims>

Article 10: The Government must submit reports on the Measures for Crime Victims, etc. discussed by the Government to the Diet every year.

Composition of the White Paper on Crime Victims

Part 1 Feature: Progress of Efforts Made Based on the Decision of the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

Chapter 1 Consideration of Drastic Strengthening of the Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc.

Chapter 2 Establishment of an Attorney-Based Victim Support System

Chapter 3 Strengthening of Governmental Control Tower Function

Chapter 4 Strengthening of System to Provide Seamless and Continuous Support in the Region

Chapter 5 Broadening of Systems for Crime Victims, etc.

Part 2: Progress of Specific Policies Incorporated in the Fourth Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc.

Chapter 1 Efforts to Recover the Victims' Damages and to Provide them with Economic Support

- 1 Supporting Victims to Claim the Compensation for Damages, etc.
- 2 Improvement of Systems Concerning the Benefits and Other Payments
- 3 Stabilization of Residence
- 4 Stabilization of Employment

Chapter 2 Efforts for the Victims to Recover from or to Prevent Mental and/or Physical Damage

- 1 Provision of Healthcare Services and Welfare Services
- 2 Securing Safety
- 3 Consideration in the Process of Protection, Investigation, Trial, etc.

Chapter 3 Efforts to Broaden the Opportunity for Victims to Participate in Criminal Procedures

- 1 Development of the System to Expand Opportunities to Participate in Criminal Procedures, etc.

Chapter 4 Efforts to Improve the Systems to Support Crime Victims, etc.

- 1 Consultation and Provision of Information, etc.
- 2 Promotion of Research Studies, etc.

- 3 Aid for Private Entities

Chapter 5 Efforts to Foster the Understanding among Citizens and to Earn their Consideration and Cooperation

- 1 Promoting Public Understanding

Part 3: Basic Materials Related to Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

- 1 Basic Act on Crime Victims
- 2 Cabinet Order for the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
- 3 The Fourth Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc.
- 4 Further Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
- 5 FY 2024 Budget for Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
- 6 Department in Charge of Policies for Crime Victims, etc. in National/Local Governments and Efforts of Local Governments
- 7 List of Member Groups of National Network for Victim Support
- 8 List of One-stop Support Centers for Victims of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence Involving the Governmental Administration
- 9 List of Consultation Services for Crime Victims, etc. Involving National/Local Governments
- 10 Changes in Number of Recognized Crimes by Crime Type (2019 - 2023)
- 11 Number of Crime Victims by Types of Specified Crime and Injury/Death (2023)
- 12 Changes in Occurrence Situation of Traffic Accidents (2019 - 2023)
- 13 Changes in Number of Traffic Fatalities by Month (2019 - 2023)

Part 1 Feature: Progress of Efforts Made Based on the Decision of the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

Chapter 1 Consideration of Drastic Strengthening of the Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc.

Holding the “Expert Study Group Concerning the Drastic Strengthening of the Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc.”

- Period: Held between August 2023 and April 2024, summarized in April 2024
- Members: Six experts: (Secretariat) National Police Agency, (Observer ministries) Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Summary of “Expert Study Group Concerning the Drastic Strengthening of the Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc.”

Issues to be resolved promptly

- ① When a crime victim without income, such as a child, dies, the benefits for bereaved family members are insufficient.
- ② The calculation of benefits should be reviewed in light of the fact that the bereaved family members of crime victims may be financially damaged by not only the loss of the victim's income, but also such as the inability of the bereaved family members to work as before due to mental shock, etc.

Proposal The following three points should be promptly carried out based on the nature of the current benefit system.

- I. Uniform increase in the minimum amount of benefits for bereaved family members
- II. Increase in survivor benefits based on the impact on the bereaved family members
- III. Uniform increase in the minimum amount of the additional benefit for absence from work and the disability benefit

Based on the proposal, the Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc. should be promptly reviewed to enhance financial support for crime victims, etc.

Remaining issues

- Increase in the benefits by reviewing components of the calculation formula of the current Benefit System for Crime Victims
- Advance payment
- How to recover the victims' damages and provide economic support
- Financial resources
- Support for crime victims, etc. who are still in difficult circumstances due to past criminal damage

Efforts Based on the Proposals

Revision of the Crime Victims Benefit System in June 2024

○ Increase in the minimum amount of the Basic Survivor Benefit, the Basic Additional Benefit for Absence from Work and the Basic Disability Benefit

- Basic Survivor Benefit: Minimum amount increased from 3,200 yen to 6,400 yen
- Basic Additional Benefit for Absence from Work: Minimum amount increased from 2,200 yen to 3,200 yen
- Basic Disability Benefit: Minimum amount increased from 3,600 yen to 5,900 yen

○ Establishment of an additional amount in the calculation of the Basic Survivor Benefit

- The Basic Survivor Benefit, which was formerly calculated based only on the deceased crime victim's income, was revised to newly establish an additional amount (4,200 yen) .

(Case 1)

When a deceased victim is a child, the Survivor Benefit for the family members increased from 3.2 million yen to more than 10 million yen.

(Case 2)

When the living of the bereaved family members was supported by the deceased victim, the amount of the Survivor Benefit for them increased from approx. 21.2 million yen to approx. 29.64 million yen.

Operational Improvement in the Provisional Benefit System

- In July 2023, continuous guidance was provided directly to the sections in charge of operations, etc., as well as a notice concerning further promotion of provisional benefit payment was issued to instruct on the active use of the provisional benefit system.
- Number of crime victims for whom decision on provisional benefits was made in FY 2023: 41
(an increase of 13 from FY 2022)

Chapter 2 Establishment of an Attorney–Based Victim Support System


Circumstance and Background

Background

It was pointed out that the support for crime victims and their families currently provided by Japan Legal Support Center is limited in term of target and content. In particular, from the perspective of further promoting measures concerning support for them, measures to provide necessary support for those who are unable to cope with the situation by themselves due to mental, physical and other damages and are in financial difficulties should be carried out.

- Study Group of an Attorney-Based Victim Support System
Period: Established in July 2020, and the summary results announced in April 2021
Members: Attorneys, academic experts, persons related to crime victim supporting groups
- Working-Level Meeting of an Attorney-Based Victim Support System
Period: Established in October 2021, the summary announced in April 2023
Members: Attorneys, Japan Legal Support Center, Ministry of Justice

Revision of the Comprehensive Legal Support Act

- Establishment and promulgation of **the Act Partially Amending the Comprehensive Legal Support Act** in April 2024
 **Establishment of an attorney–based victim support system**

Outline of the Revised Act

Outline of the System

The system provides crime victims and their families with **comprehensive and continuous support from an early stage**, assuming that they may not be able to take the various necessary actions by themselves immediately after the damage due to mental, physical and other damages, and may not be able to receive legal support from attorneys due to financial difficulties.

- Eligible victims and family members
 - Victims and their families of a crime constituting an intentional, **criminal act resulting in a person's death**
 - Victims and their families of **specific sex crimes** under the Penal Code
 - Victims of the criminal acts **specified by Cabinet Order**, who have suffered damage **to the extent specified by Cabinet Order**, and these victims' families
- Financial means requirements
 - It is likely that the victim's or family's payment of the necessary expenses **will make it difficult for them to maintain their standard of living.**
- Service content
 - In order to allow victims and their families to deal with criminal proceedings appropriately and to help them recover from the damage or alleviate the pain they have suffered, arranging for **the needed legal consultations** and having contract attorneys and other legal services provider handle **the needed legal services and associated services**

Future Plan to Start Operation

*Effective date : Date specified by Cabinet Order within 2 years from the date of its promulgation.

- Establishment of a Cabinet Order specifying applicable **“crimes”** and **“degree of damage”**
- Establishment of an operational method statement, etc., providing **how costs should be borne**, etc.
- Establishment of **a business management system**
- Securing of attorneys as key players **sufficient in terms of both quality and quantity**

 Aim to **start smooth and efficient operation as soon as possible**

Chapter 3 Strengthening of Governmental Control Tower Function

Authorization of Comprehensive Coordination to the National Public Safety Commission and Strengthening of the System of the National Police Agency

- In September 2023, the Cabinet decided the “Basic policy on the operation to promote Policies for Crime Victims, etc.” Since October of that year, the National Public Safety Commission (NPSC) carried out the planning and comprehensive coordination to promote the Policies for Crime Victims, etc. The National Police Agency (NPA) supports the NPSC.
- The “Crime Victim Policy Promotion Division” was newly established in the Commissioner- General’s Secretariat of the NPA in October 2023 to strengthen the system to promote Policies for Crime Victims, etc. within the NPA.

Establishing and Holding of Liaison Conferences of Relevant Ministries and Agencies Concerning the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

- Since July 2023, “the Liaison Conferences of Relevant Ministries and Agencies on the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.” chaired by the Chairperson of the NPSC, are held as required to inspect, assess and evaluate the progress of the Policies for Crime Victims, etc., and to promote the Policies in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies.
- Since September 2023, “the Working Group on Policies for Crime Victims, etc.” chaired by the Councilor for Policies for Crime Victims, etc. is held as required to hold specific discussion.

Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

[Affairs under the jurisdiction]

- Preparation of the draft of the Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc.
- Deliberation on important matters concerning the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
- Promotion of the Policies for Crime Victims, etc. and inspection, assessment and monitoring of the implementation status

[Organization]

Chairperson: Prime Minister

Committee members:

- Chairperson of the National Public Safety Commission
- Ministers of State appointed by the Prime Minister (excluding Chairperson of the NPSC)
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Ministry of Justice;
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare;
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
- Experts appointed by the Prime Minister

Control tower
National Public Safety Commission
National Police Agency

Liaison Conference of Relevant Ministries and Agencies

(Check of the Policies and coordination among relevant ministries and agencies by the NPA)

[Affairs under the jurisdiction]

- Inspection/assessment/monitoring of the progress of the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
- Securing close collaboration and cooperation among relevant ministries and agencies to promote the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

[Organization]

Chairperson: Chairperson of the National Public Safety Commission

Members: Director-General-level officials of relevant administrative organs
National Police Agency; Cabinet Office; Children and Families Agency;
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Ministry of Justice;
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare;
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Expert Committee for the Formulation and Promotion of the Basic Plan

(Support for the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.)

[Affairs under the jurisdiction]

- Examination of matters to be incorporated to new basic plan
- Support for inspection, assessment and monitoring of the implementation status of the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

[Organization]

Chairperson: Academic experts appointed by the chairperson of the NPSC

Members: ○ Experts appointed by the Prime Minister

○ Director-General and Deputy-Director-General level officials of relevant administrative organs

National Police Agency; Cabinet Office; Children and Families Agency;
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Ministry of Justice;
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Working Group

Chairperson: the Councilor of the NPA Commissioner-General’s Secretariat
Members: Director-level officials of relevant administrative organs



Holding status of Liaison Conference of Relevant Ministries and Agencies

Chapter 4 Strengthening of System to Provide Seamless and Continuous Support in the Region

Holding “Council of Experts on Strengthening of System to Provide Seamless and Continuous Support in the Region”

- Period: Held between September 2023 and April 2024, and summarized in April 2024.
- Members: Six experts, (relevant ministries and agencies): National Police Agency, Cabinet Office, Children and Families Agency, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, (Secretariat): National Police Agency

Summary of “Council of Experts on Strengthening of System to Provide Seamless and Continuous Support in the Region”

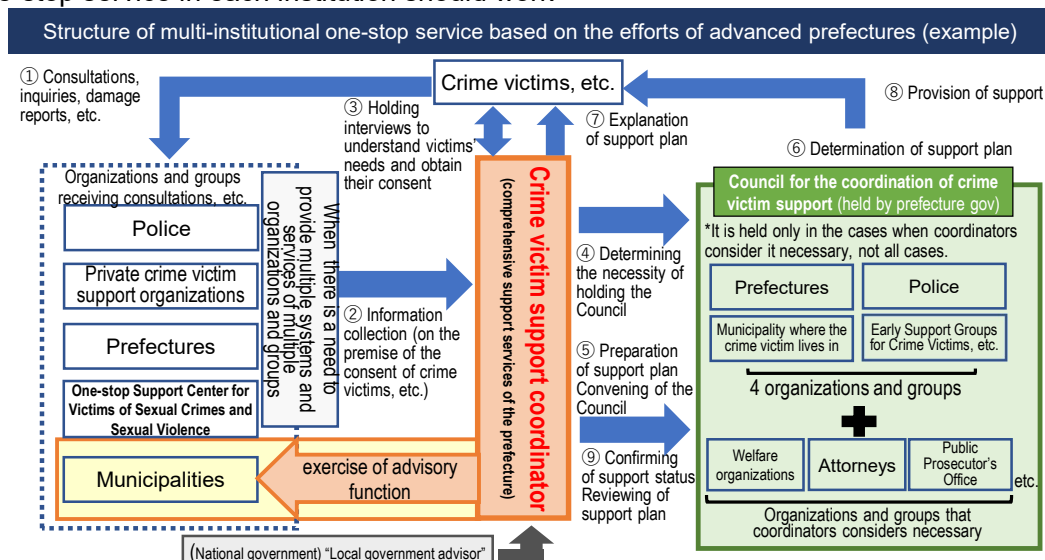
1: Roles expected for organizations and groups involved in support for crime victims, etc.

- **National government:**
Comprehensive planning and implementation of the Policies for Crime Victims, etc.
- **Prefectural governments:**
Comprehensive promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc. within each prefecture
Central role of multi-institutional one-stop service
- **Municipalities:**
Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc. within each city/town, etc.
Implementing body of various systems and services to support living of crime victims, etc.
- **Prefectural police:**
Firstly identifying needs of crime victims, etc.
Provision of information and intermediary to relevant organizations as needed
- **Private crime victim support organizations:**
Flexible and prompt support utilizing the advantages of private body
Initial to the medium to long term support
- **Other relevant organizations and groups**

(Common)
 ・ Participation in multi-institutional one-stop service
 ・ Provision of support based on the needs of crime victims, etc.

2: Establishment of system to provide seamless and continuous support in the region

- Strengthening of social infrastructure to improve support for crime victims, etc.
Promoting formulation of ordinances and plans, improvement of response ability of relevant organizations and groups, and strengthening of cooperation among them
- **Realization of one-stop service for supporting crime victims, etc.**
How multi-institutional one-stop service should work (See the following figure.)
How one-stop service in each institution should work



3: Strengthening of social resources to realize seamless and continuous support in the region

- Utilization and strengthening of support system and services in the region
- Promotion of digital transformation of crime victim support

Efforts based on the summary

- Raising awareness of related organizations and groups
- Providing education to local government staff, etc.
- Assignment and operation of local government advisor
- Encouragement to professional associations
- Preparation and provision of “Guideline for establishment and operation of one-stop service system for supporting crime victims, etc.”

Chapter 5 Broadening of Systems for Crime Victims, etc.

Raising Awareness on the System Available for Crime Victims, etc.

- The ministries and agencies in charge of social security and social welfare programs issued a notice requesting relevant organizations and groups to take careful consideration for crime victims, etc., and informing that victims can utilize such programs.
- Medical-related: Handling of insurance benefits for injuries and diseases due to criminal damage (Table 1)
Reduction or exemption of medical insurance premiums and co-payment (Tables 2 and 3)
- Life-related: Handling of the benefits for crime victims, etc. who are receiving livelihood protection (Table 4)
Priority move into public housings (Table 5)
Various allowances, etc. (Tables 6-10)
- Education-related: Financial support (Table 11)
- Tax-related: Reduction or exemption of national and local taxes (Tables 12 and 13)
- The National Police Agency summarizes the notices issued by each ministry and agency to raise awareness of the contact desks of Policies for Crime Victims, etc. of local governments.

Item	Issue	Ministry/agency in charge	Issuance date	Item	Issue	Ministry/agency in charge	Issuance date
1	Handling of insurance benefits for injuries and diseases due to criminal damage (re-dissemination)	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 30, 2023	7	Appropriate response related to protection and support for crime victims, etc. under the Employment Insurance System	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 30, 2023
2	Handling of reduction/exemption and postponement of premiums (tax) and co-payment for the National Health Insurance and the medical care system for elderly in the late stage of life related to the insured person who have been damaged due to crime, etc.	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 30, 2023	8	Handling of reduction/exemption and postponement of insurance premium for the Long-term Care Insurance System as well as reduction/exemption of users fee, related to the insured person, etc. who have been damaged due to crime, etc.	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 30, 2023
3	Handling of postponement and reduction/exemption of co-payment, etc. for the Health Insurance and the Seamen's Insurance related to the insured person, etc. who have been damaged due to crime, etc.	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 3, 2024	9	Raising awareness on Special Child Rearing Allowance, Disabled Child Welfare Allowance, Special Disability Allowance, and Payment for Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities, associated with the decision on the "further promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc." (Notice)	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	July 7, 2023
4	Handling of crime victim benefit based on Act on Support for Crime Victims, etc. Such as Payment of Crime Victims Benefit under the Livelihood Protection System (Notice)	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 30, 2023	10	Raising awareness on Child Rearing Allowance based on the decision of the Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.	Children and Families Agency	June 27, 2023
5	Move-in of crime victims, etc. to public housings	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	March 24, 2023	11	Raising awareness on financial support systems for students based on the decision of the 16th Council for the Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc. (Notice)	Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	June 15, 2023
6	Raising awareness on the exemption of the National Pension System application as well as the provision of the disability pension and the survivor's pension, associated with the decision on the "Further Promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc."	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	June 30, 2023	12	Appropriate response related to protection and support for crime victims, etc. (Instruction)	National Tax Agency	June 7, 2023
				13	Appropriate response related to protection and support for crime victims, etc. under the local taxation	Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	June 14, 2023

Improvement of Insurance Coverage for Counseling

- From the perspective of promoting appropriate intervention into the case of patients with symptoms arising from psychological trauma due to crime damage, etc., "additional fee for psychological support" is newly established for providing necessary support of certified public psychologist under the direction of a physician specializing in psychology, and implemented from June 2024.



Part 2: Progress of Specific Policies Incorporated in the Fourth Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc.

Chapter 1 Efforts to Recover the Victims' Damages and to Provide them with Economic Support

Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc. [Policy No. 13]

(Number of victims involved in ruling)

FY 2023	Number of persons	Percentage
Number of victims involved in ruling	372	100%
Number of victims involved in the benefit payment ruling	337	91%
Of which, the number of victims for whom the benefit payment was reduced	74	22%
Number of victims involved in the non-payment ruling	35	9%

(Amount of money for the ruling) FY 2023: about 1,384 million yen

Classification	FY	FY 2020 and before	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Total
Amount of money for the ruling (unit: million yen)		34,136	1,009	1,484	1,384	38,013

(Ruling period)

FY 2023: about 8.6 months (FY 2022 : about 9.8 months)
Median about 4.6 months (FY 2022 : about 5.8 months)

*See Part I, Chapter 1, "Consideration of Drastic Strengthening of the Benefit System for Crime Victims, etc."

Reduction of the Expenses Burden of Psychotherapies Including Counseling

[Policy Nos. 15 and 29]

- The National Police Agency subsidizes the prefectural police to cover the expenses while the prefectural police operates various public expenditure system.
 - Counseling costs
 - Expenses for renting emergency evacuation places
 - Expenses for cleaning homes, etc.
- Guidance shall be continuously given for proper operation and awareness-raising.

Promotion for Local Governments to Adopt Consolation Payment System for Crime Victims [Policy Nos. 17 and 30]

- Request shall be made for local governments to use conferences and trainings to introduce consolation payment system for crime victims, etc. and to appropriately implement initiatives to support crime victims' daily lives.
- Request shall be continuously made so that the equal level of consolation payment system is introduced nationwide insofar as possible.

Status of introducing consolation payment system
(as of April 1 of each year)

Year	Prefecture		Ordinance-designated city	Municipality
	Direct payment	Subsidized by municipality		
2021	8	3	9	377
2022	13	5	12	464
2023	16	4	14	631
2024	21	4	17	863

Priority Move into Public Housings [Policy Nos. 20 and 21]

- In March 2023, a notice was issued to local governments asking careful consideration to crime victims, etc., such as proactive examining of priority move into public housings and no-necessitation of a guarantor.
- Status of crime victims' move into public housings as of December 2023
 - Priority move-in: 769 units • Use for other different purpose: 187 units
(Prefecture and ordinance-designated city only)

*See Part I, Chapter 5, "Broadening of Systems for Crime Victims, etc."

Investigation on Fulfillment of Offender's Liability of Compensation for Damages [Policy Nos. 11 and 12]

- In April 2020, partial amendment to the Civil Execution Act was enacted. Based on the supplementary resolutions of this Act, a research was conducted to study civil laws and regulations in other countries related to the assurance of the performance of the right to claim for damages of crime victims by public organizations.
- In December 2023, a research was conducted to assess the actual state where crime victims, etc. are unable to receive compensation for damages.

**Record of
lecture**

Notes of a bereaved family member of crime victims: "The position of crime victims, etc."

Chapter 2 Efforts for the Victims to Recover from or to Prevent Mental and/or Physical Damage

Strengthening the System of the One-stop Support Center for Victims of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence [Policy Nos. 59 - 63]

- The Grants for the Support of Victims of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence promotes operational stabilization and quality improvement of the One-stop Support Center for Victims of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Violence.
- Operation of a nationwide toll-free number “#8891”, and operation of the Nighttime/Holiday Call Center for Victims of Sexual Violence
- SNS (social media) consultation on sexual violence “Cure time”
- Providing information on the availability of one-stop support center within medical institutions through the Medical Information Network (NAVII)
- Number of consultations in FY2023
 - Number of consultations to One-stop Support Center: 69,100
 - Number of consultations to “Cure time”: 3,736



TOPICS Efforts to prevent sexual victimization to children and youth

- “Urgent countermeasure package to prevent sexual victimization to children and youth” was compiled in July 2023.
 - (3 pillars) 1. Enhanced measures to prevent perpetration
 - 2. Enhanced measures to facilitate counseling and damage reporting
 - 3. Enhanced measures to support victims
- In October 2023, “Acceleration of the implementation of urgent countermeasure package to prevent sexual victimization to children and youth” was compiled.
- Hotline service for male and boy victims of sexual violence had been carried out from September to December 2023.

Improvement of Systems for Prevention of Child Abuse and Early Detection and Response to Child Abuse [Policy Nos. 48, 53, and 92 - 98]

- For the child guidance center system after FY 2023, “the New Comprehensive Plan Strengthening Child Abuse Prevention Measures System” was established in December 2022, aiming at increasing the number of Child Welfare Officers to approximately 6,850 by the end of FY 2024.
- Operation of the Child Guidance Center Abuse Response Dial, “189” (toll free), and the SNS consultation service “Consultation LINE for Parents and Children”
- Establishment of “Child and Family Centers” to provide comprehensive consultation and support for children and families, as well as programs to provide home-visit support for household chores, etc.
- Subsidization to prefectural boards of education, etc. to assign School Counselors and School Social Workers

Status of Establishment of Child Guidance Centers and Assignment of Staff (as of April 1 of each year)

Year	Number of Child Guidance Centers	Number of Child Welfare Officers	Number of Child Psychologists
2021	225	5,168	2,071
2022	228	5,783	2,347
2023	232	6,138	2,623

*Number of child welfare officers includes the person to be employed.

Assignment Status of School Counselors and School Social Workers

FY	Number of School Counselors	Number of School Social Workers
FY 2020	9,539	2,859
FY 2021	9,948	3,091
FY 2022	10,255	3,241

*Assignment for which expenses are subsidized only.

TOPICS Children and Families Agency's support for crime victims

- Introduction of policies transferred to the Children and Families Agency accompanying with the establishment of the Agency in FY 2023

TOPICS Enforcement of the Revised Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims

- Expansion of the scope of the stay-away orders, etc.
- Establishment of orders prohibiting phone to children, etc.
- Additional penalties on violation of protection orders

TOPICS Recent law amendments to protect crime victims, etc. in criminal procedures

- Establishment of provisions to protect the information of crime victims, etc.
- Establishment of special provisions of the evidential competency of audio/visual recording media that record the results of interviews with victims, etc.

Notes

Notes of a bereaved family member of crime victims: “Pain of family of sexual victim—As time goes by”

Chapter 3 Efforts to Broaden the Opportunity for Victims to Participate in Criminal Procedures

Enhancement of Guidance for Reform and Correctional Education that Urge Offenders to Take Specific Action, such as Apologies and Compensation for Damages [Policy No. 154]

- The Ministry of Justice requires offenders who are considered necessary to receive an “education from victims’ points of view” (such as face-to-face lectures by crime victims, etc. as guest speakers) to deepen understanding of the sentiments of crime victims, etc. and to provide guidance that encourages concrete actions such as apologies.
- In December 2023, new guidance was started based on the revised program to give continuous instruction from going into correctional institution to releasing.
- Consideration on how to verify the effect of the referenced education was begun in FY 2023.

Hearing and Communication System about the Sentiments of Victims in the Sentence Execution Stage [Policy No. 156]

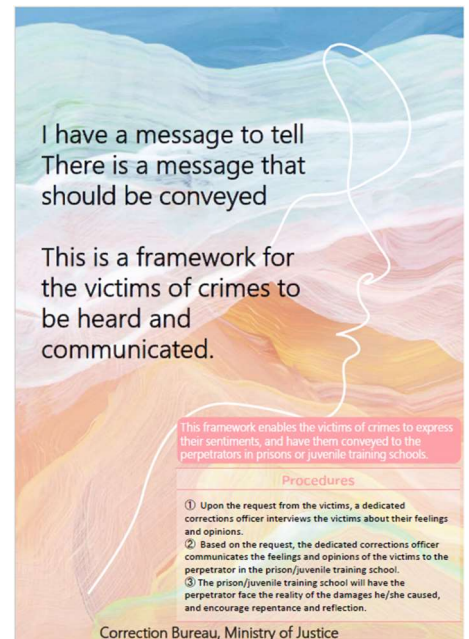
TOPICS

Hearing and communication system about the sentiments of victims in the correctional institutions

- Launching of the “**Hearing and Communication System about the Sentiments of Victims in the Sentence Execution Stage**” in penal institutions and juvenile training schools in December 2023.
(Flow of system)
 - ① Application: Applications for using the system are accepted at correctional institutions nationwide.
Hearing: Hearing is conducted orally, in principle, and the staff documents the results.
(Hearing can be conducted at correctional institutions nationwide.)
 - ② Communicating: The perpetrator is read aloud Reading aloud the documented content to the offender soon after the hearing.
 - ③ Notification: The victims, etc. is notified in writing of the communicated date, time, and content.
- *The sentiments, etc. heard under this system shall be reflected in the correctional treatment, etc. of the convicts, etc.

Usage status of the system (From December 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024)

	Penal institutions	Juvenile training schools	Total
Application accepted	44	15	59
Hearing conducted	36	14	50
Sentiments conveyed	32	10	42



Enhancement of Probation/Parole Supervision from the Perspective of Crime Victims, etc. [Policy Nos. 158 - 163]

- Regional Parole Boards implement “**Opinion Hearing System in parole examination**”
⇒ The Boards obtain opinions, etc. on coordination of the social circumstances and probation during parole periods, in addition to opinions on offender's parole in the discussion on whether or not to grant parole.
- Probation Offices began the operation of “**Victims’ Sentiments Hearing System and Communicating System of Victims’ Sentiments to Probationers**” in December 2023.
⇒ Not limited to the case of communicating to probationers, hearing of the sentiments, etc. of crime victims, etc. is conducted upon the request of crime victims, etc.
- Taking the instruction of making sincere effort to restore and alleviate the damage of crime victims, etc., shall be added as an instruction/supervising method. Also, reporting the fact of indicating the circumstances of taking actions for that purpose, or presenting materials related to the fact shall be added to a category of the matters to be observed during probation.
- Specific compensation plan shall be established to set to take atonement as the life and conduct guidelines.



Record of lecture

Lecture by a bereaved family member of a crime victim: “If you suddenly become a bereaved family member of crime victim...”

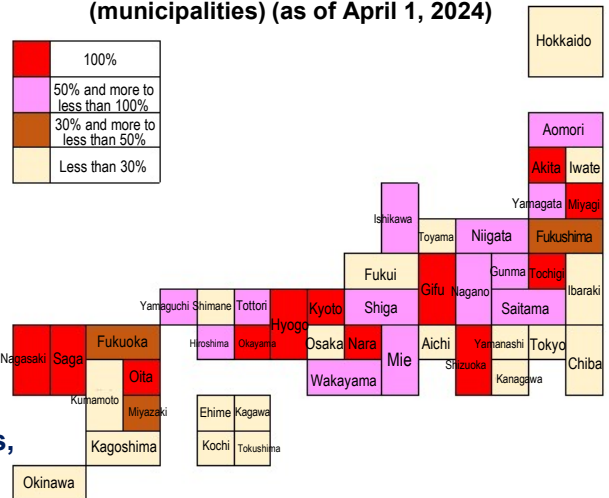
Chapter 4 Efforts to Improve the Systems to Support Crime Victims, etc.

Promoting of Comprehensive and Planned Support for Crime Victims, etc. in Local Governments [Policy No. 166]

- Provides information to local governments referring to the situation of the enactment of ordinances and policies established based on the ordinances on the National Police Agency's website or e-newsletters
- Preparation and provision of "Ordinances and plans for the promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.—Recent trends and points"
- The Agency instructed the prefectural police to cooperate with local governments to contribute to the consideration for ordinances establishment.
- Situation of the establishment of specific ordinances, etc. as of April 2024
 - All prefectures (Previous year: 46 prefectures)
 - 16 ordinance-designated cities (Previous year: 13 cities)
 - 847 municipalities (previous year: 606 municipalities)

Situation of the enactment of specific ordinances, etc. (municipalities) (as of April 1, 2024)

100%
50% and more to less than 100%
30% and more to less than 50%
Less than 30%



TOPICS

Situation of the establishment of ordinances, etc. aimed at support for crime victims, etc.

Improvement of the Comprehensive Support Services in Local Governments

[Policy Nos. 168 - 171]

- Request for local governments to enhance functions of comprehensive support services as well as promote/enhance cooperation with related organizations and groups, and advises to utilize specialist in meetings, training, etc.
- Introduction of the implementation status of training programs and the case studies in e-newsletters
- Implemented the project for comprehensive promotion of Policies for Crime Victims, etc.

*See Part 1, Chapter 4 "Strengthening of System to Provide Seamless and Continuous Support in the Region."

Notes

Notes of a local government staff: "Importance of cooperated support and enhancement of support system"

Cooperation in Liaison Conference for Victim Support [Policy No. 183]

- Promotion of mutual cooperation among relevant organizations in liaison conference (regional network for victim support), such as prefectural liaison conference for victim support and liaison conference of police stations, etc.
- Improvement of response capability through simulation training assuming specific cases, such as those involving multiple casualties



Efforts to Address Online Harassment [Policy No. 194]

- Establishment of a liaison system with consultation offices at the Illegal Harmful Hotline, thereby promoting cooperation with them to mutually understand and supplement each other's functions
- Number of consultations received at Illegal Harmful Hotline in FY 2023: 6,463
- Free on-site lectures "e-Net Caravan" is held nationwide.
- "Case Study of the Internet Trouble" is created and published every year.



Notes

Notes of a police staff for supporting crime victims: "Behind the Smiles"

TOPICS

Survey of Crime Victims by Crime Type in FY 2023

(Survey items)

- Situation of crime victims, etc. by crime damage type
- Actual situation and possibility where a crime victim is re-victimized by the same offender
- Actual situation where crime victims are not able to receive compensation for damages

TOPICS

Support for Crime Victims by Private Crime Victim Support Organizations

Notes

Notes of a private crime victim-support organization staff:

"Crime victim support—Staying close and continuing to learn"

Chapter 5 Efforts to Foster the Understanding among Citizens and to Earn their Consideration and Cooperation

Public Relations and Enlightenment Activities [Policy Nos. 258, 260, and 265 - 268]

Effective Public Relations and Enlightenment Activities Toward Citizens

- Solicitation of slogans on support for crime victims, etc. (4,319 applications)
 - ・ The Grand Prize: "Continuous and warm support to enfold the heart of crime victims"

Intensive Public Relations and Enlightenment Activities

- Youth Sexual Violence Prevention Month (April)
 - Implementation of enlightenment activities by utilizing SNS or other media which can easily reach to younger generations
- Campaign for Promoting Orange Ribbon and Child Abuse Prevention (November)
 - Selection of slogans, distribution of posters, and holding forums
- Campaign for Eliminating of Violence against Women (November 12 to November 25)
 - Distribution of posters, implementation of "lighting-up in purple" activities, and promotion of wearing "purple ribbon"
- Crime Victims Week (November 25 to December 1)
- Human Rights Week (December 4 to December 10)
 - Carrying out of awareness-raising activities, such as distributing awareness-raising booklets
- National Traffic Safety Campaign (Spring and Autumn)
 - Focusing on conveying cruelty of traffic accidents



TOPICS

Crime Victims Week



- Distribution of a message video featuring a TV personality Sakura Inoue via SNS, etc.
- Central meeting (in Tokyo) [live streaming and rebroadcast of YouTube streaming]
 - ・ The awards ceremony of the Grand Prize for the slogan and Outstanding Awards for essay
 - ・ Keynote speech by a bereaved family member of crime victims, etc.
 - ・ Panel discussion
 - “To realize seamless and continuous support—Give support to crime victims together!”
- Regional meeting (in Yamanashi) [live streaming and rebroadcast of YouTube streaming]
 - ・ Keynote speech by a bereaved family member of crime victims
 - ・ Panel discussion
 - “What we can do for supporting crime victims”

TOPICS

National Crime Victim Support Forum 2023

Educational Activities [Policy Nos. 254 and 256]

- Held a lecture by crime victims, etc. for junior high school and high school students, “Classes to Learn the Importance of Life”
- The Government promotes “Life Safety Education” to prevent students from becoming perpetrators, victims or spectators of sexual crimes and sexual assault.

TOPICS

Holding "Nationwide Life Safety Education Forum"
—Sharing of the significance of “Life Safety Education” with school-related staff throughout the country

“Nationwide Life Safety Education Forum”



TOPICS

Posters and flyers to be distributed to schools
Don't keep on trying "alone"! If you are "troubled," don't hesitate to consult someone!

Notes

Notes of a bereaved family of crime victims: “What I feel now.”