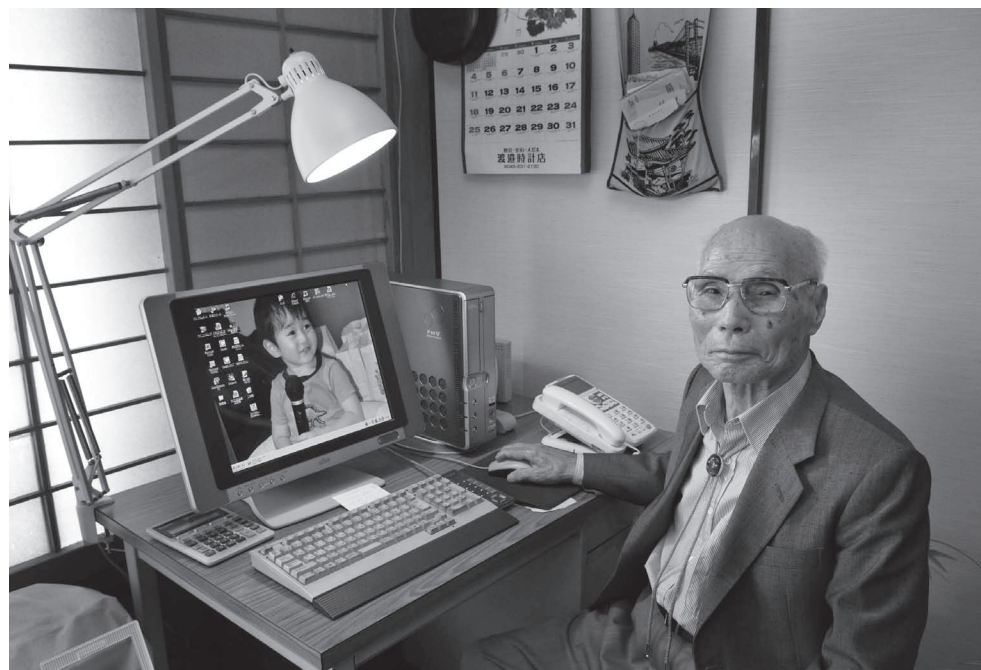


## Great Centenarians

〈Population Aged 100 and Over by Prefecture〉 (see map P13)

	per 100,000 people (people)	population aged 100 and over (people)
Highest	Okinawa 67.44 (P13 map No.47)	Tokyo 3,530 (P13 map No.13)
Lowest	Saitama 15.90 (P13 map No.11)	Tottori 284 (P13 map No.31)

Source: Ministry of Health, *Labour and Welfare*, 2009



**Kokichi Takeda**  
(Born in 1907)

Mr. Kokichi Takeda started up a taxi driver in the early Showa Era (1926-1989), when there were only several private cars in Yokohama. He found joy in his job like learning about differences of national characteristics among British, French and American people, which appeared in the thinking about a 'tip' for a driver.

For more than 30 years he has made it a habit to get up at 5:30 every morning and practice an exercise routine he worked out on his own to maintain good health.

It is his recent pleasure to exchange e-mail with his grandchildren by use of a personal computer.

From a series of "HYAKU-SAI-OH (Great Centenarians) "  
photographed by Shoichi Ono

These are photos of older people aged 100 and over who live in an exotic port city Yokohama.  
956 centenarians live in Yokohama as of January 1, 2009.

# The New-Old and Social Participation



## The New-Old and Social Participation

In 2010, a post-WWII generation (born after 1945) reached age 65, and the elderly will account for more than 25% of the Japanese population. Being recipients of post-war democratic education, the post-WWII generation will constitute a new generation of the elderly whose values are different from those of their older peers.

Japanese people have long assumed that once one grows old, he/she will retire from work, retire from the forefront of the society and become dependent on the family and society. The new generation of the elderly, however, is capable of actively contributing to the society and many desire to do so.

In a society where elderly people constitute a large portion of the population, it is not practical for them to be dependant on society without contributing back simply because they are elderly. Such thinking is tantamount to the denial of their potential and agism.

This new conception of the elderly as active contributors to society was expressed in ‘General Principles Concerning the Measures for the Aged Society’ formulated in 2002. It is summed up in the following three points:

- 1) A fair and energetic society where people can be ensured of the opportunity to participate in diverse social activities or work throughout their lives.
- 2) The formation of a community based on both independence and social connectedness.
- 3) An affluent society where people can live peacefully and with fulfillment throughout their lives.

In a new framework of an unprecedented super-aged society, it is hoped that the elderly will actively participate in the society and even be the driving force of the society.

# Appendixes

## 1. List of Policies

## 2. Resources Related to Aging Society