

# Rainbow Times

## Child abuse and Neglect statistics

### Child abuse and neglect statistics in Japan

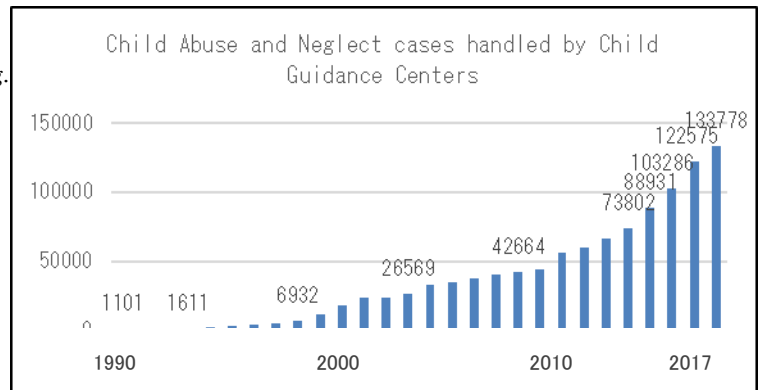
In Japan, abuse (or suspicion thereof) is notified to child guidance centers, and the number of cases of child abuse is measured by the number of cases handled by these centers. During the fiscal year 2017, there were 133,778 cases of child abuse reported among 210 child guidance centers nationwide. This figure has been increasing since 1990 when we first started measuring it.

This number can be controversial because of under-reporting.

It is also said that the figure changes according to current measures and society's standards.

In fact, the percentage of emotional abuse among all abuse cases have been increasing in the past few years, and most cases are reported by the police. This could be explained by how the police have started reporting cases of domestic

violence to the child guidance centers when the children witness violent acts. This shows how the number of cases of child abuse is a useful metric, but it is important to consider its implications and to not take it at face value.



### Child abuse deaths

The "Act on Prevention of Child Abuse" established in 2000 led to the examination and analysis of cases of death caused by child abuse. In 2004, the "Expert committee for the examination of cases of abuse and other aid-enquiring children" was established. The results of their report (14<sup>th</sup> report) are as follows.

#### Characteristics of abuse deaths excluding murder- suicide

- 32 deaths (65.3%) age 0-1 year old, of which 16 were in first month
- 40 deaths (81.6%) age 3 and under
- Birth mothers were most common assailants - 30 deaths (61.2%), of which 23 (46.9%) had "not received a prenatal health exam," and 24 (49.0%) were "unplanned pregnancies"

#### Characteristics of murder- suicide abuse deaths

- Children's ages distribute across all age years 0~17
- Birth mothers were assailants in 22 deaths (78.6%); birth fathers in deaths (17.9%)
- Most frequent motive was "parental mental illness, mental instability" (15 deaths/53.6%)

**November is the Child Abuse Prevention Month !**  
**Orange Ribbon TASUKI Relay**  
 at various places nationwide

By wearing the Orange Ribbon TASUKI that is the symbol of prevention of child abuse and relaying that message, we call for awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention. The TASUKI relay started in Tokyo and Kanagawa in 2007, has expanded every year, and this year will be held in 14 regions

→ <http://orange-tasuki.net/>



	The 13th Report (1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016)			The 14th Report (1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017)		
	Child abuse death	Killed in murder-suicide	total	Child abuse death	Killed in murder-suicide	total
Case	48 (8)	24	72 (8)	49 (18)	18 (2)	67 (20)
Children	52 (8)	32	84 (8)	49 (18)	28 (3)	77 (21)