

White Paper on Crime 2020 - Drug Offenses - [Summary]

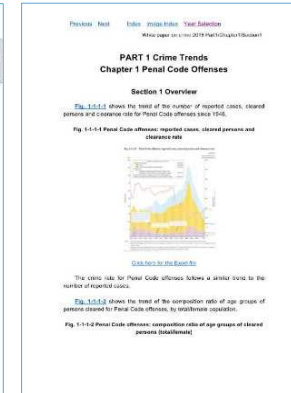
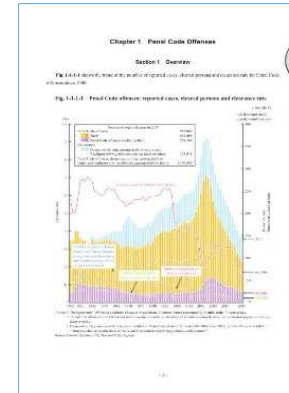
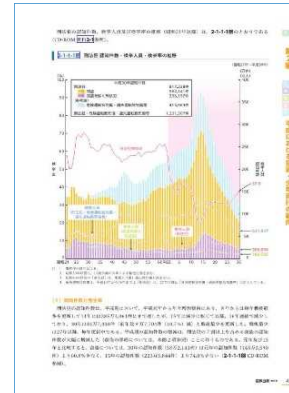
Introduction

White Paper on Crime

The annual White Papers on Crime published by the Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice provide statistical data on crimes and offender treatments as well as current issues in the criminal justice field. The first volume of the Papers was published in 1960. Since then, they have been widely used by politicians, practitioners and academics and have facilitated major policy changes.

Specifically, the White Paper on Crime 2007 revealed that approximately 60% of all crimes were committed by repeat offenders, who accounted for approximately 30% of convicted offenders. This finding led to the development of “Comprehensive Measures for the Prevention of Re-offending 2012” by the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime, which served as the basis of the criminal justice policy of Japan and set numerical targets for the next decade.

All the volumes of the Papers and English version since 2000 are available on the website of the Ministry of Justice.
(http://www.moj.go.jp/EN/housouken/houso_hakusho2.html)



White Paper on Crime (Japanese, English and Web version)

Special Features of White Paper on Crime 2020

The White Paper on Crime 2020 focuses on drug offenses. The White Paper provides various statistical data and information on the trend in drug offenses and treatment of drug offenders and also analyzes the results of a questionnaire survey of inmates in penal institutions.

Research and Training Institute

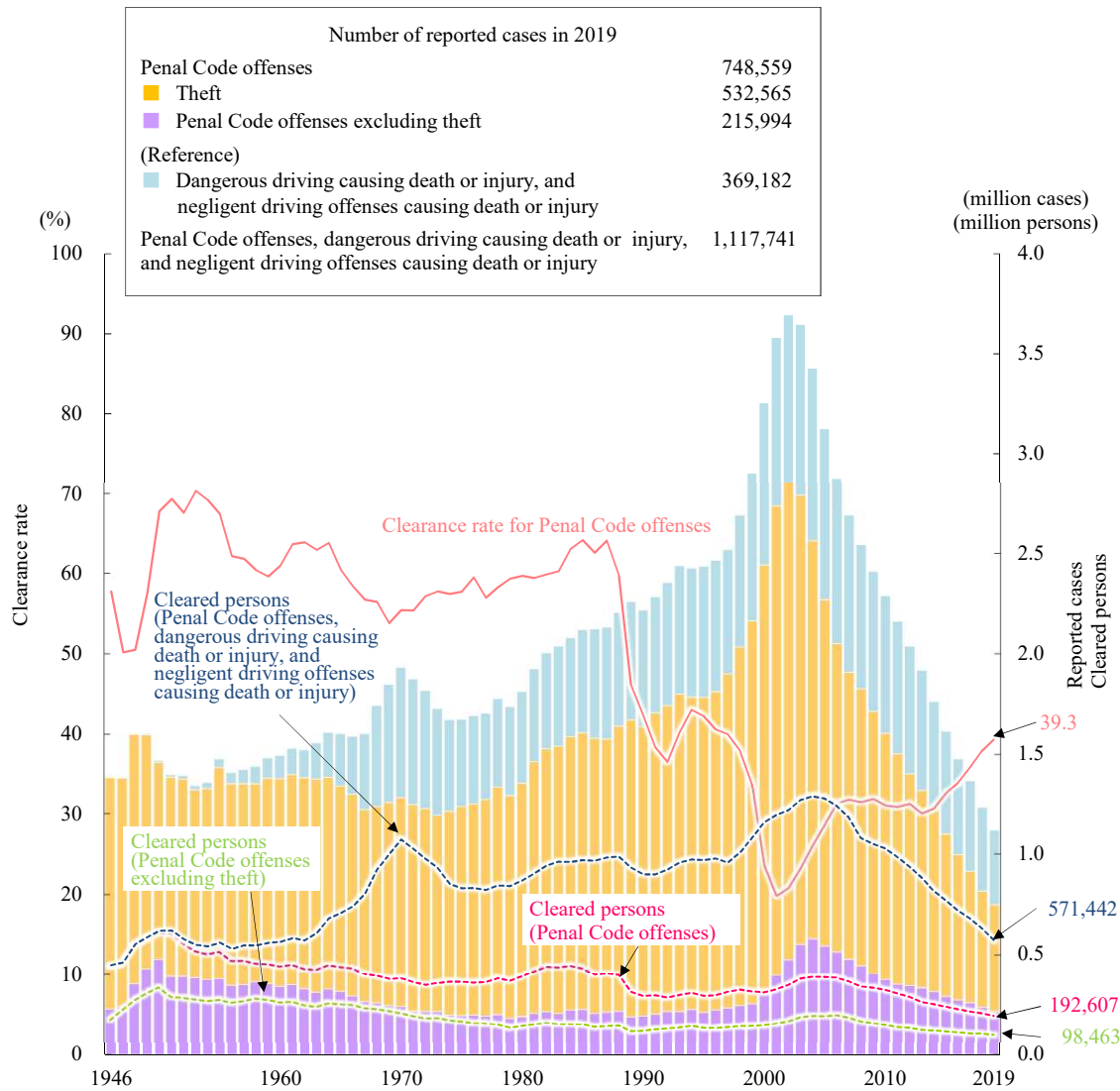
The Research and Training Institute is one of the agencies of the Ministry of Justice. The Institute conducts a wide range of work, including (i) research related to criminal justice policies and other Ministry of Justice affairs, (ii) various kinds of training for Ministry of Justice officials, and (iii) international cooperation, both in the criminal and civil sectors, for developing countries mainly in the Asian region.



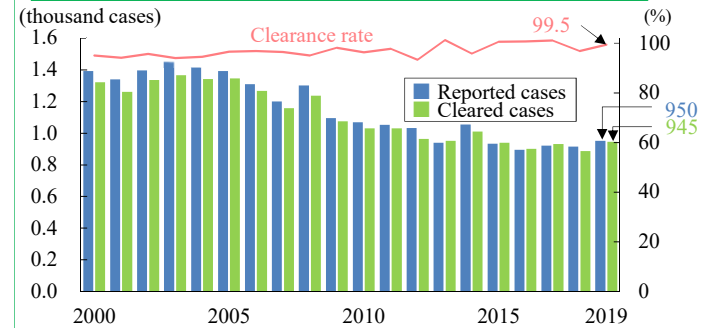
The Research and Training Institute, MOJ

Crime Trends

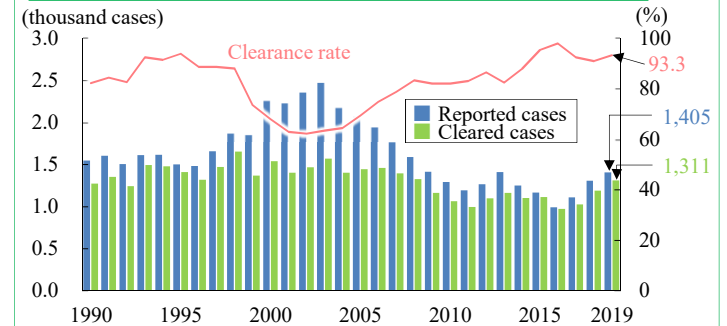
Penal Code offenses: reported cases, cleared persons and clearance rate



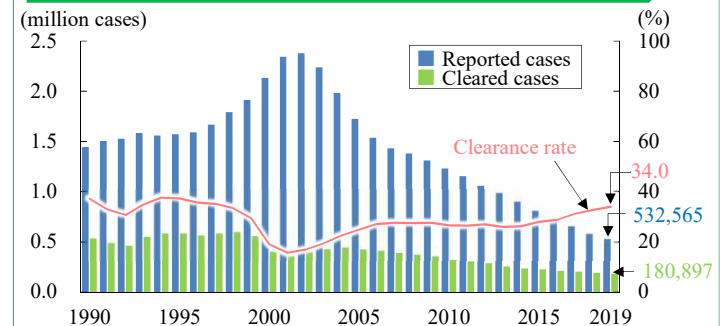
Homicide: reported/cleared cases and clearance rate



Rape: reported/cleared cases and clearance rate



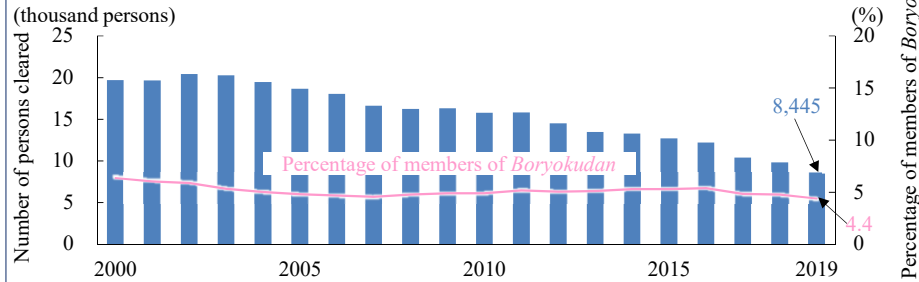
Theft: reported/cleared cases and clearance rate



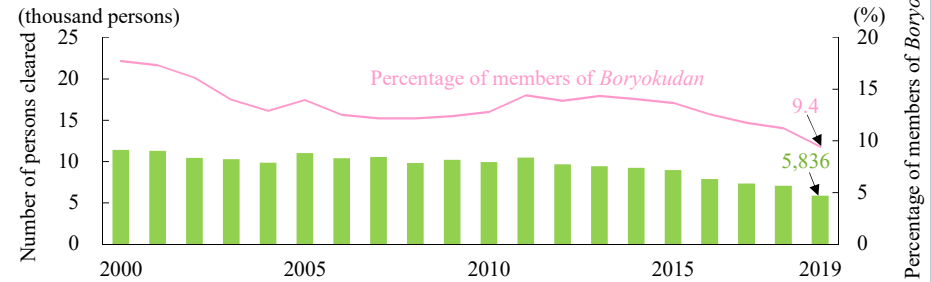
Specific Offenders/Juvenile Delinquents

Members of *Boryokudan*

[1] Persons cleared for Penal Code offenses

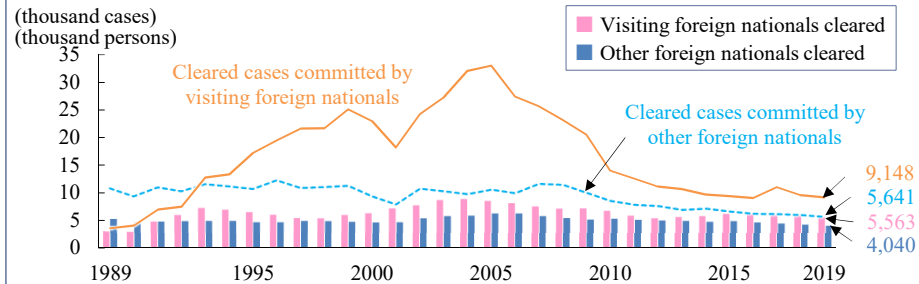


[2] Persons cleared for Special Acts offenses

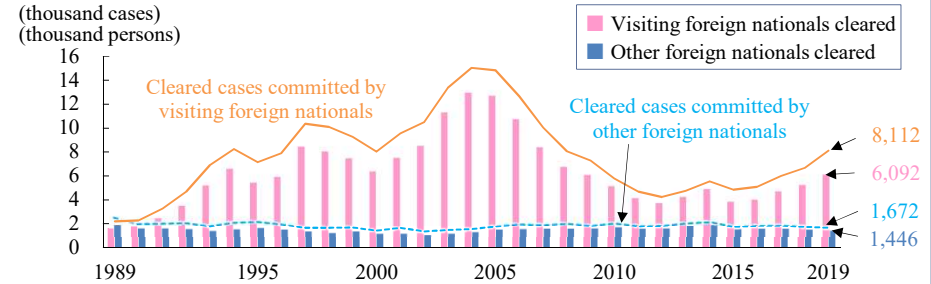


Foreign nationals

[1] Cases/persons cleared for Penal Code offenses

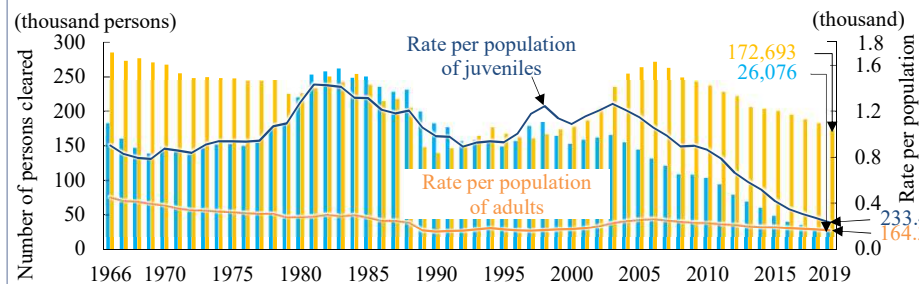


[2] Cases/persons cleared for Special Acts offenses

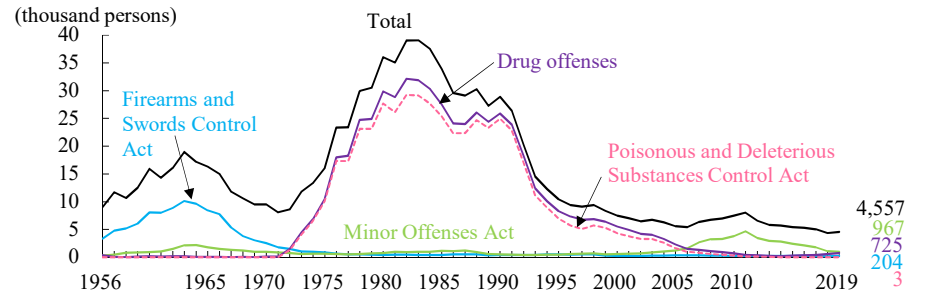


Juvenile delinquents

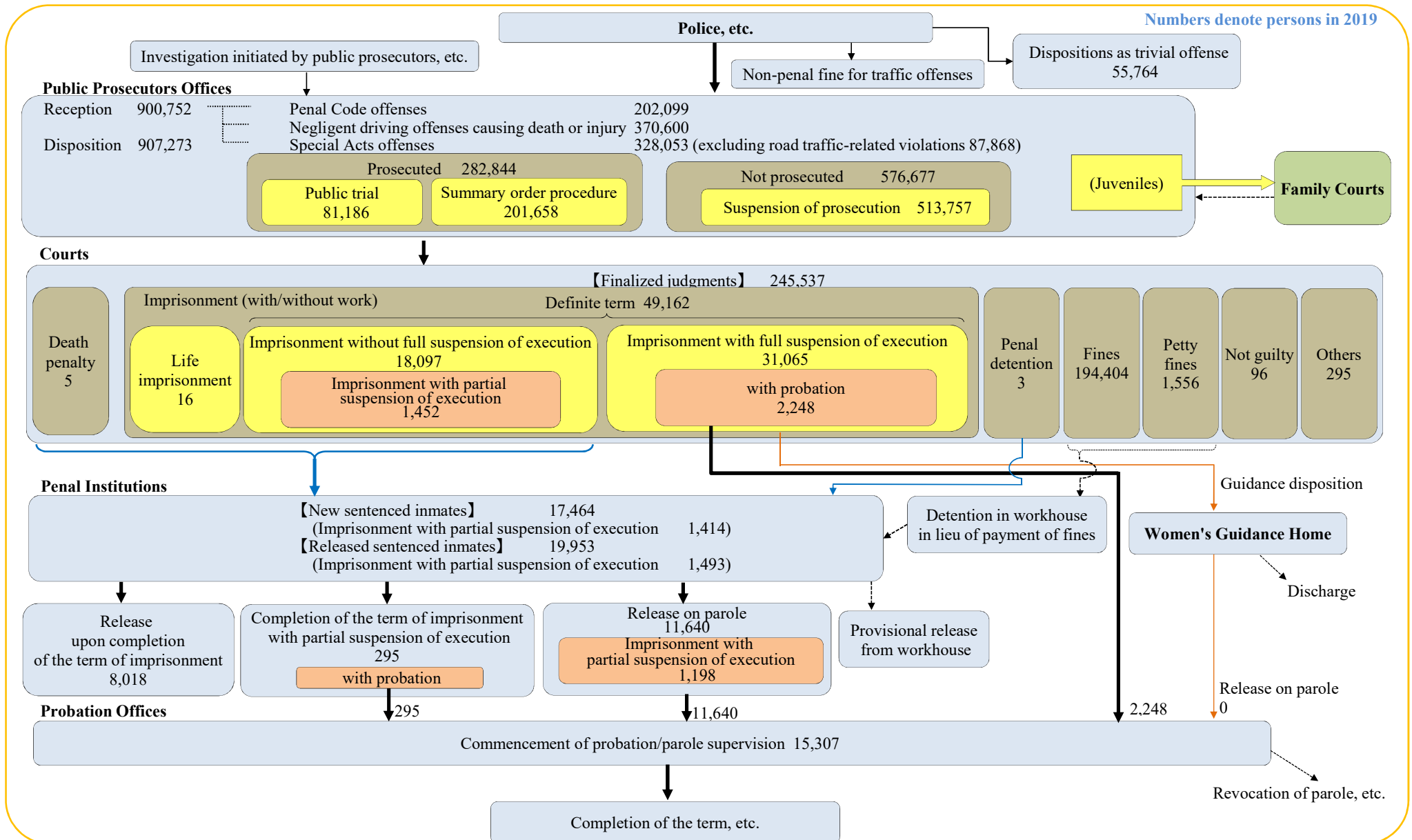
[1] Juveniles cleared for Penal Code offenses



[2] Juveniles cleared for Special Acts offenses

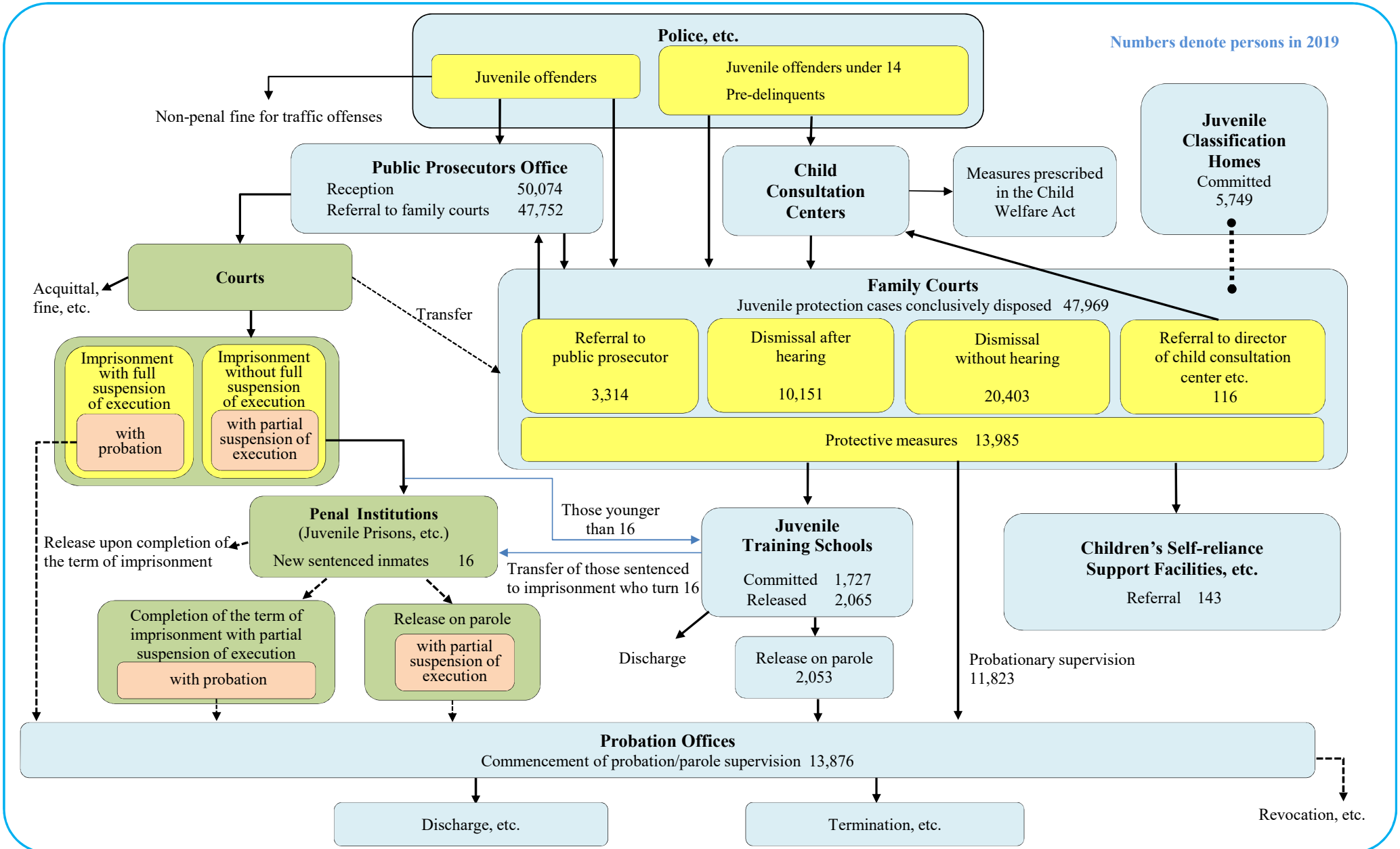


Procedure of Criminal Justice



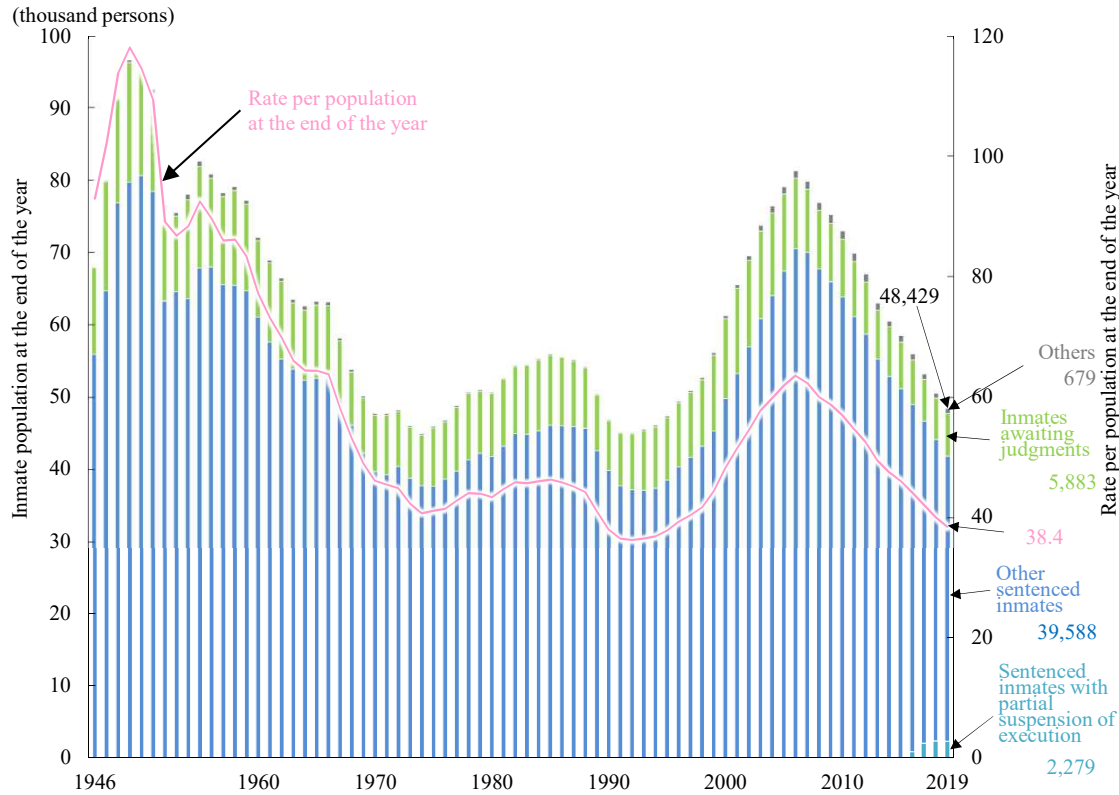
Procedure of Criminal Justice for Juvenile Delinquents

Numbers denote persons in 2019

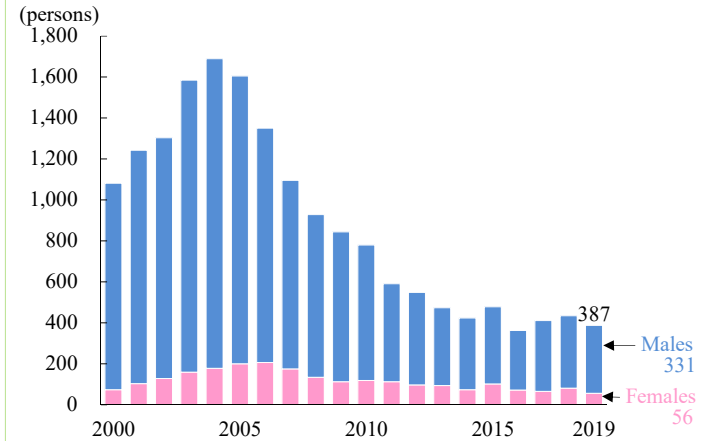


Treatment of Offenders/Re-offending

Year-end inmate population of penal institutions and rate per population

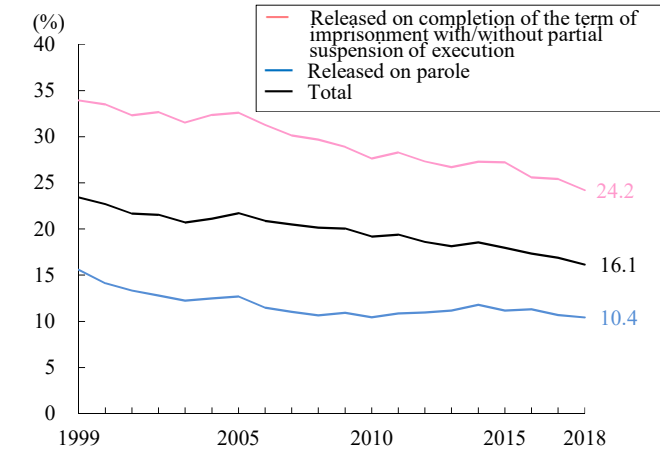


New F-class sentenced inmates (male/female)



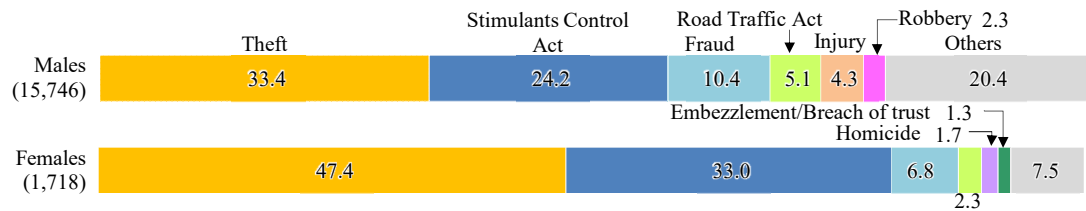
Note: Foreign national sentenced inmates who require different treatment from that of Japanese sentenced inmates are categorized as F-class and provided with treatment in accordance with their culture and life style.

Rate of reimprisonment within 2 years



Note: The rate of reimprisonment means the percentage of inmates reimprisoned to serve sentences for offenses after release among the released sentenced inmates of a given year.

New sentenced inmates: composition by type of offense (male/female)



Special Feature: Trend of Drug Offenses

Drug offenses

Although the prevalence of drug abuse, such as stimulants (methamphetamine, etc.), opioid and cannabis, is relatively low in Japan, prevention of drug offenses remains an important issue.

The number of violations of the Stimulants Control Act has been declining, but remains at a high level. The number of violations of the

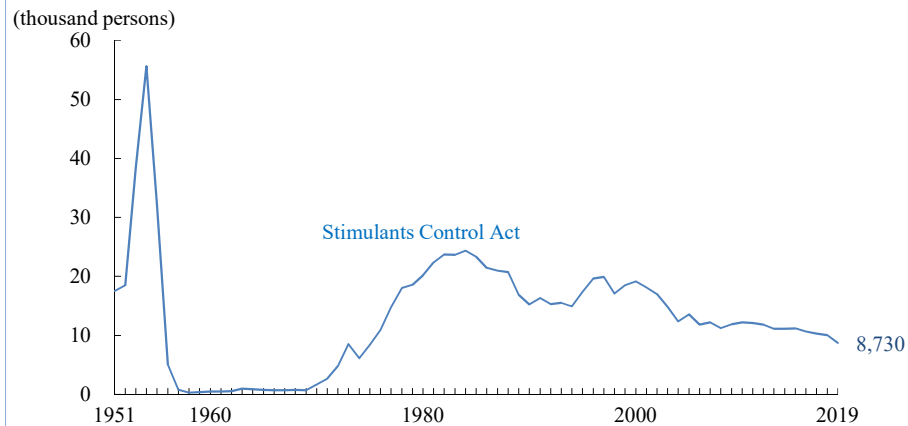
Cannabis Control Act has been sharply increasing. The rate of reimprisonment among drug offenders is higher than for other types of offenses.

In addition to border control and measures against organized crime to prevent drug offenses, support for drug offenders in withdrawal from drug abuse has been implemented in the public and private sectors including prosecution, institutional correction and rehabilitation services.

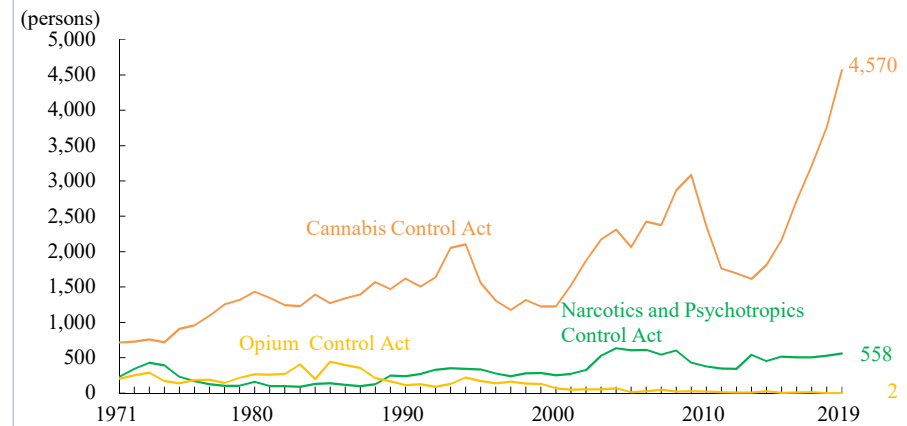
Rate of experience in drug use in the past year by Japan and other countries

Country	Year of survey	Age	Type of drugs					
			Cannabis	Stimulants	Heroin	Cocaine	MDMA	Other drugs
Japan	2019	15-64	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.24
France	2017	18-64	11.0	0.3	...	1.6	0.6	11.5
Germany	2015	18-64	6.1	1.0	...	0.6	0.6	6.6
Italy	2017	15-64	10.2	0.1	...	1.2	0.4	10.6
United Kingdom	2018	16-59	7.6	0.6	0.1	2.9	1.6	9.4
Canada	2017	15 and over	14.8	-	-	2.5	0.9	15.7
United States of America	2018	12 and over	15.9	0.7	0.3	2.0	0.9	19.4
Australia	2016	14 and over	10.4	1.4	0.2	2.5	2.2	15.6

Stimulants Control Act violations: persons cleared



Cannabis and other drug violations: persons cleared



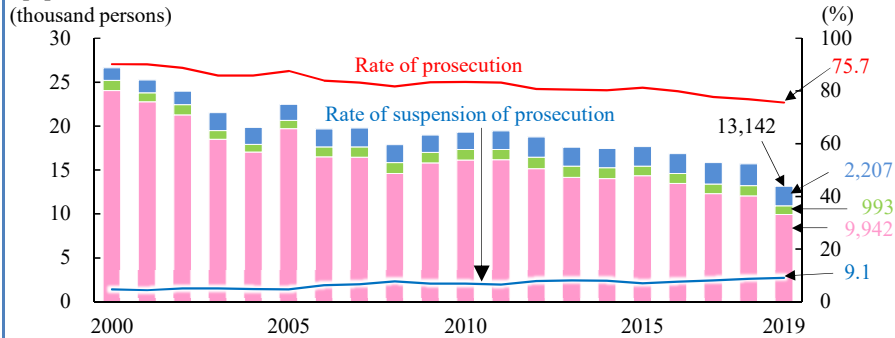
Special Feature: Trend of Drug Offenses

New psychoactive substances: persons cleared, by type of regulation

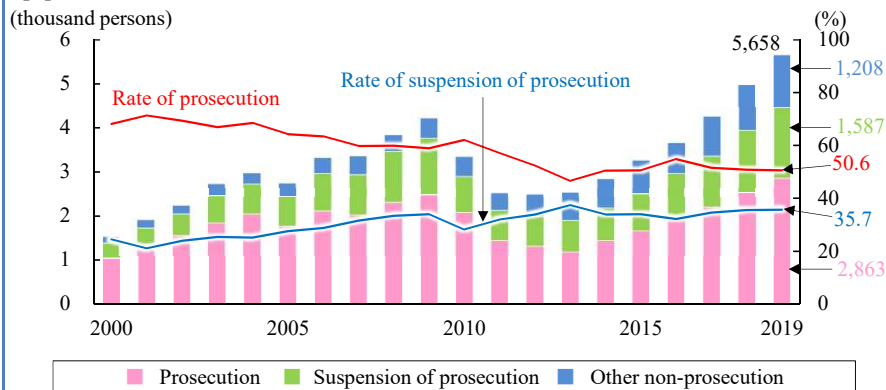
Applied regulations	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total	11	10	6	112	176	840	1,196	920	651	396	182
Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act (Pharmaceutical Affairs Act)	9	9	6	57	37	492	960	758	578	346	165
Narcotics and Psychotropics Control Act	-	1	-	26	89	98	148	126	56	48	17
Traffic offenses	-	-	-	19	40	160	36	7	1	1	-
Others	2	-	-	10	10	90	52	29	16	1	-

Drug offenders: prosecuted/not prosecuted

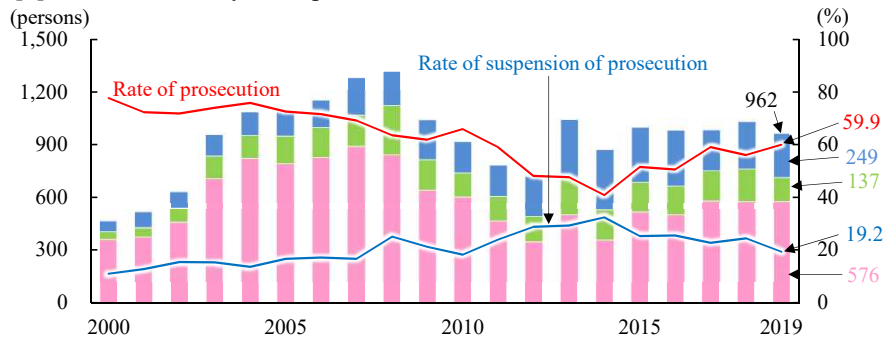
[1] Stimulants Control Act



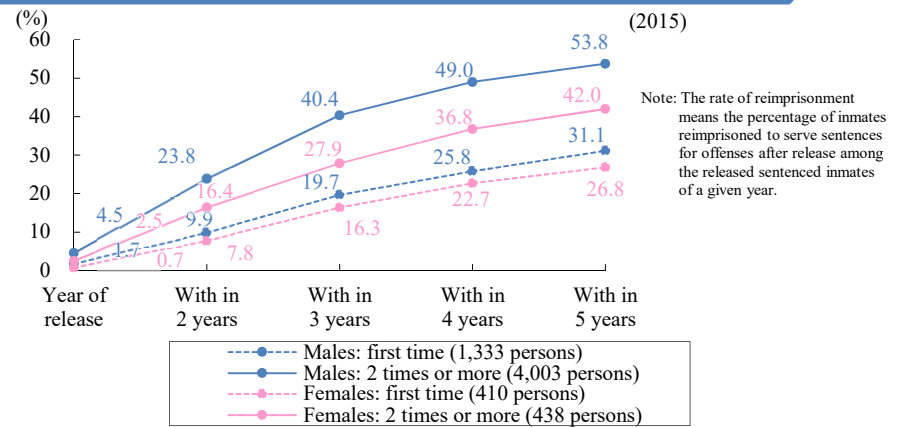
[2] Cannabis Control Act



[3] Narcotics and Psychotropics Control Act



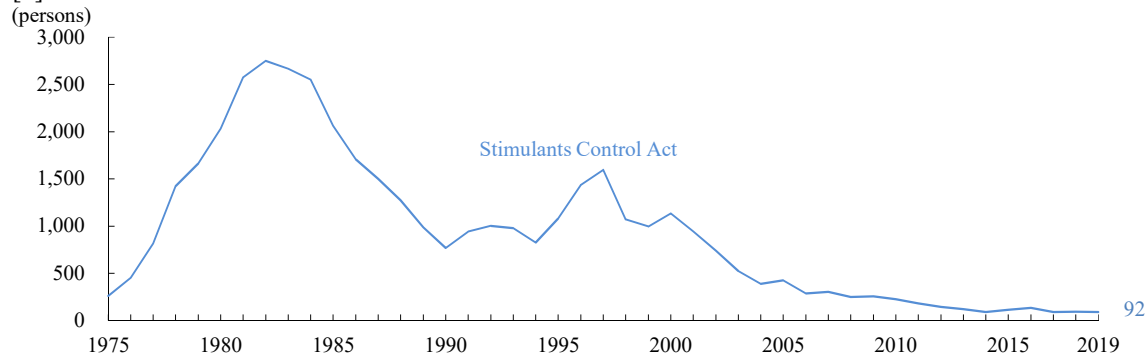
Stimulants Control Act violations: rate of reimprisonment



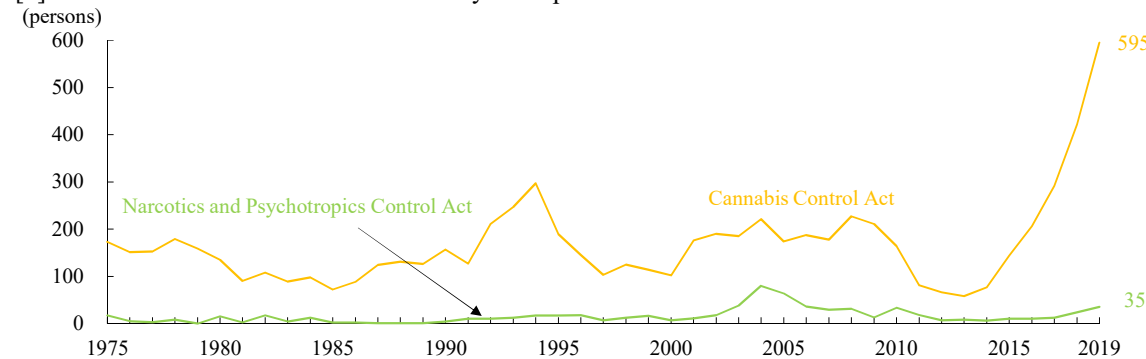
Special Feature: Trend of Drug Offenses

Juvenile delinquents cleared for drug offenses

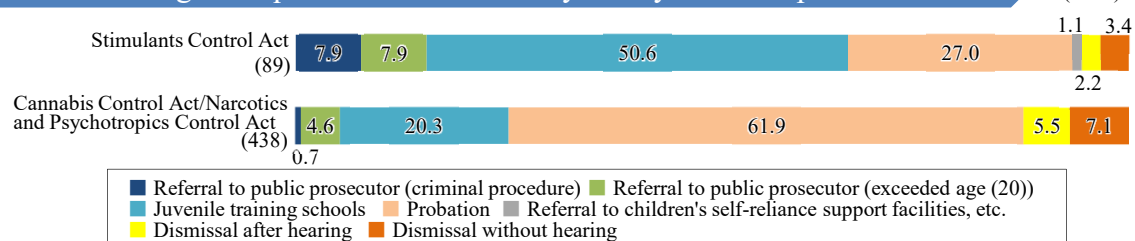
[1] Stimulants Control Act



[2] Cannabis Control Act/Narcotics and Psychotropics Control Act

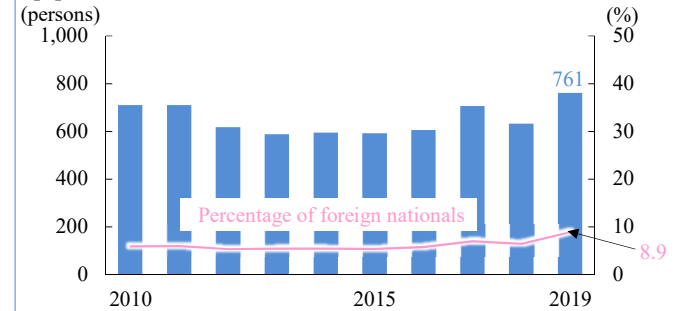


Juvenile drug delinquents: final decision by family court for protection cases

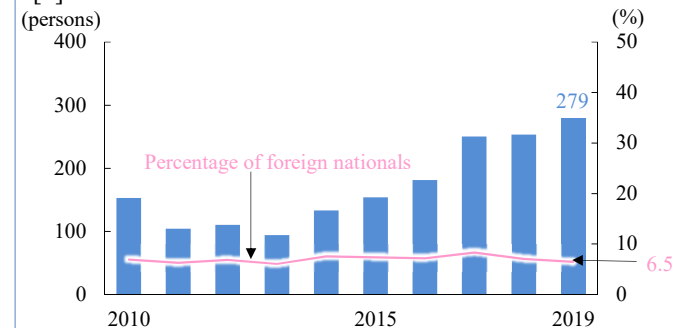


Foreign nationals cleared for drug offenses

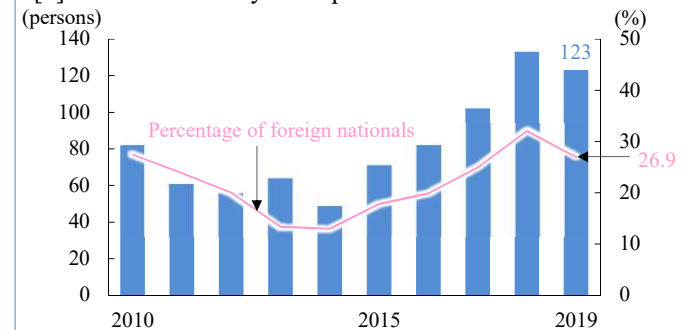
[1] Stimulants Control Act



[2] Cannabis Control Act



[3] Narcotics and Psychotropics Control Act



Special Feature: Questionnaire Survey of Drug Offenders in Penal Institutions

Questionnaire survey

The questionnaire survey was conducted during the period from July to August 2017 (extended to November for females), targeting new sentenced inmates of penal institutions across Japan who were sentenced to imprisonment with work for violations of the Stimulants Control Act.

The survey results were analyzed in combination with other information on these inmates identified by the penal institutions.

Inmates subject to analysis were limited to respondents who had experience of self-use of stimulants.

Basic information

The number of inmates subject to analysis was 699 (462 males and 237 females). Their average age was 43.5, and 74.1% were reimprisoned.

57.3% were unemployed, 73.4% were unmarried, divorced or bereaved, and 7.2% were members of organized crime groups.

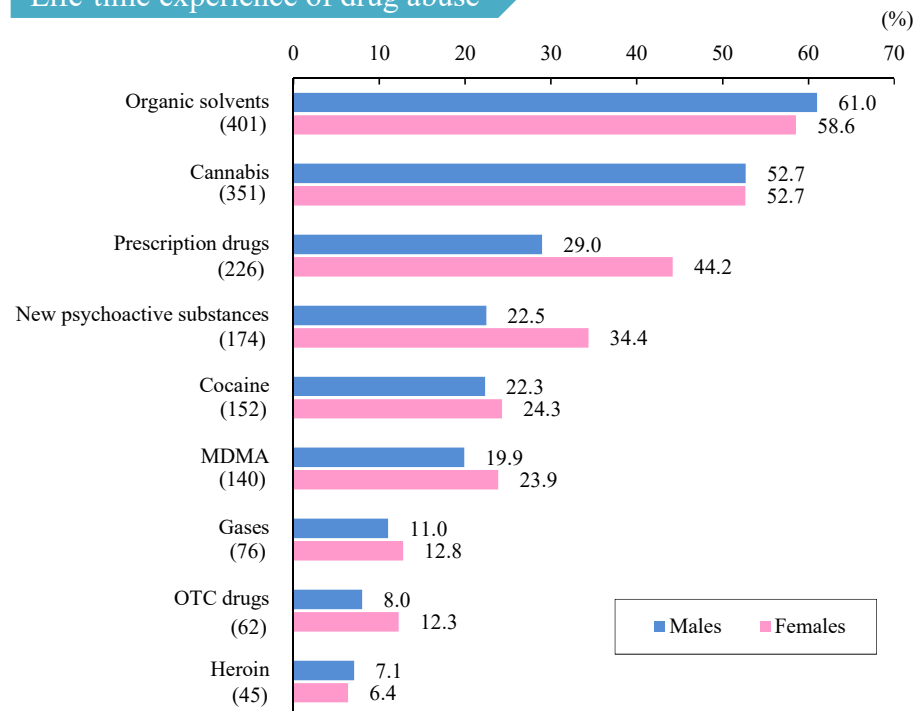
Conditions of drug abuse

The analysis revealed that many stimulants offenders had abused organic solvent (male 61.0%, female 58.6%), cannabis (male 52.7%, female 52.7%) and prescription drugs (male 29.0%, female 44.2%) in their life-time. A significant number of stimulants offenders had started drug use under the age of 20 and had repeatedly committed drug offenses.

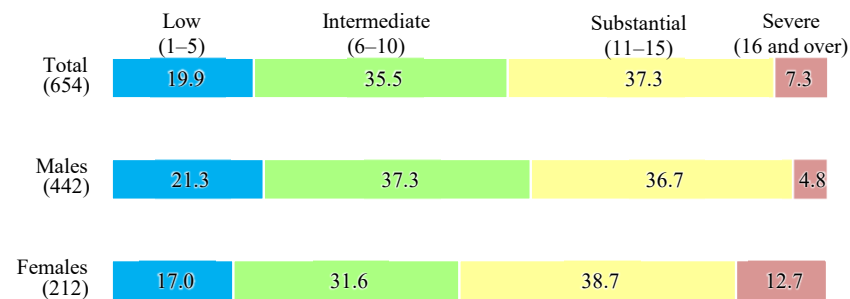
Around 50% of respondents had a score of “substantial” or “severe” on the Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20), and were thus deemed to require intensive treatment.

Among stimulants offenders, 23.5% had committed a crime to obtain drugs and 6.5% had committed a crime under the influence of drugs.

Life-time experience of drug abuse



Drug abuse screening test score



Special Feature: Questionnaire Survey of Drug Offenders in Penal Institutions

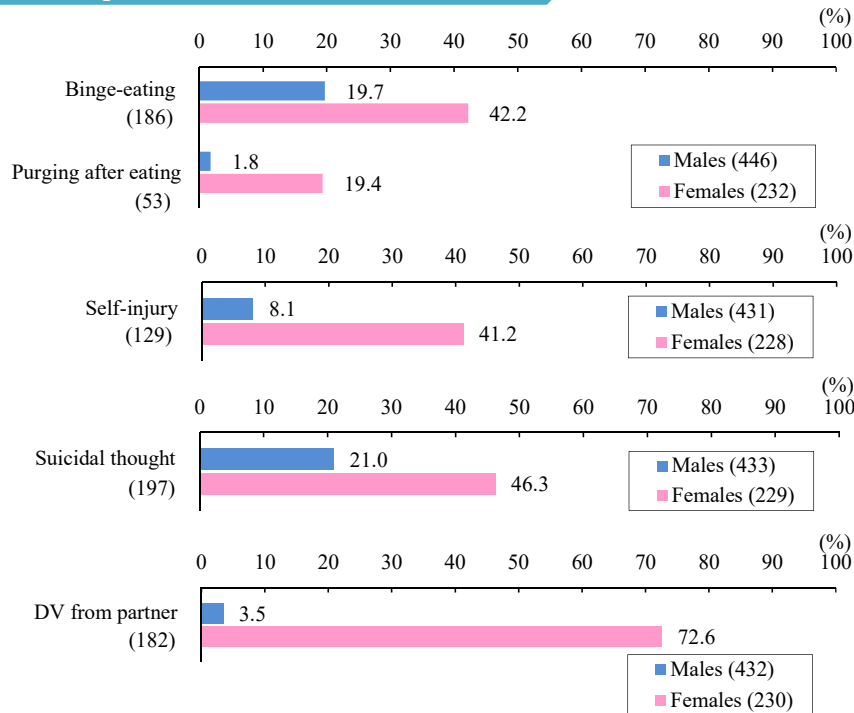
Trigger and background of drug use

The questionnaire revealed internal and external triggers and the background of drug use.

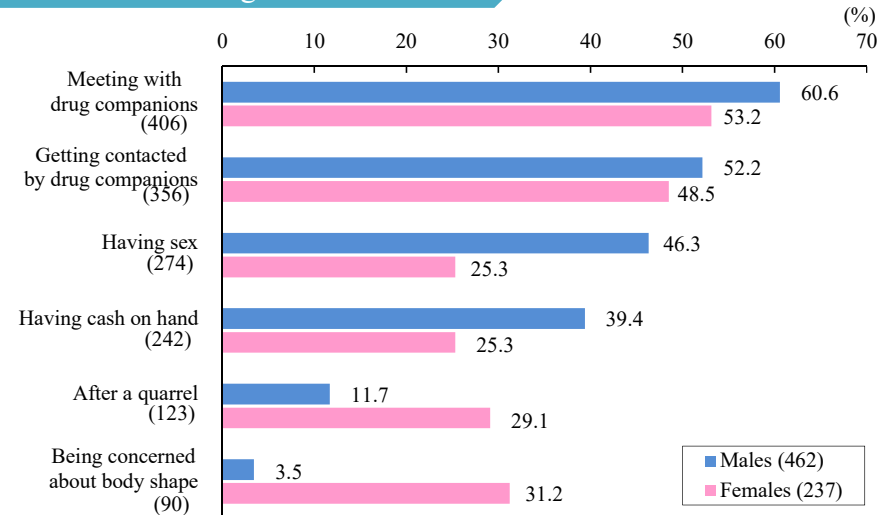
Contact with drug companions and negative feelings induce stimulants use and gender differences were observed in some inducements.

A higher percentage of females have mental problems such as eating disorders, self-injury and suicidal thoughts. The percentages of persons with an alcohol problem and those with a gambling problem were 39.3% and 45.0% respectively.

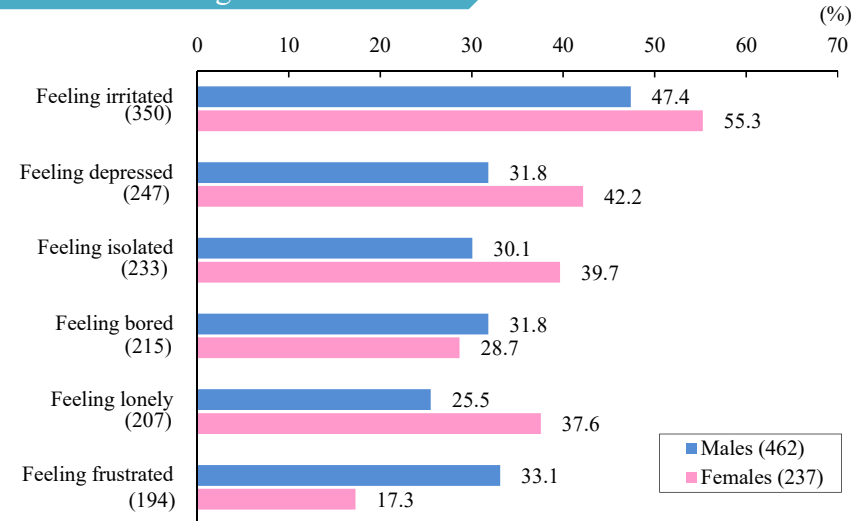
Mental problems of stimulants offenders



Situations inducing stimulants use



Emotions inducing stimulants use



Special Feature: Questionnaire Survey of Drug Offenders in Penal Institutions

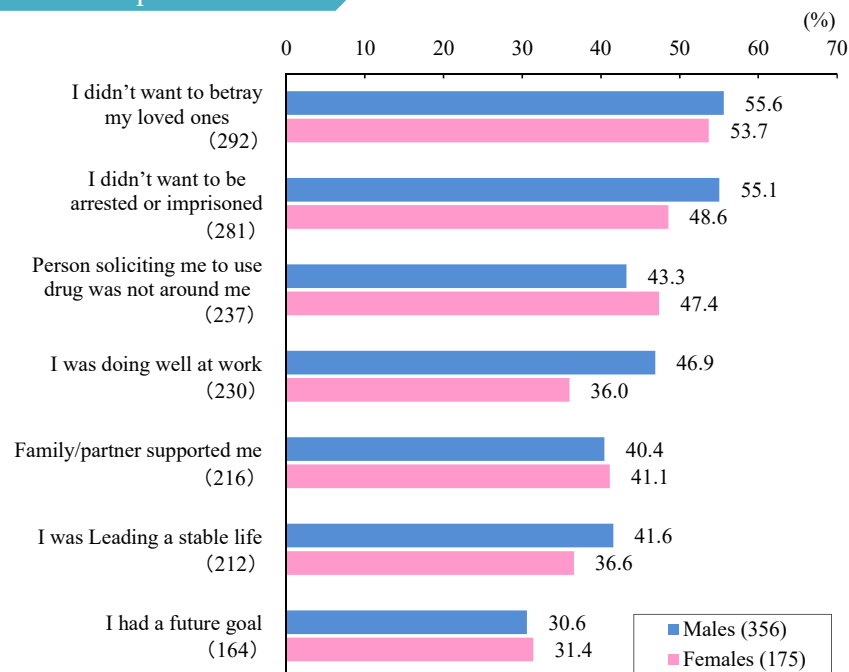
Withdrawal from stimulants

As negative aspects of the use of stimulants, the stimulants offenders felt the deterioration of relationships with people around them or the loss of trust of such people.

Most stimulants offenders had experienced quitting drugs or trying to quit, and the analysis results suggest that stability of jobs and human relationships encouraged them to quit drugs.

Only a limited number of the stimulants offenders had experienced receiving support from specialized hospitals, health institutions, recovery support facilities, or self-help groups.

Reasons to quit stimulants



Support from relevant organizations, etc.

[1] Specialized hospital



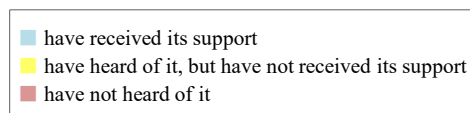
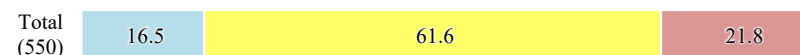
[2] Health institutions



[3] Recovery support facilities



[4] Self-help groups



Policy Implications

The data and information presented in this special feature suggest the following policy implications:

- To reduce drug supply through border control and measures against organized crime
- To publicize the harm of drugs and provide information on organizations providing support for withdrawal from drugs
- To enhance the treatment of drug offenders through improved and individualized programs during imprisonment and probation/parole and multi-agency cooperation
- To provide intervention for drug addicts at an early stage of the criminal justice process