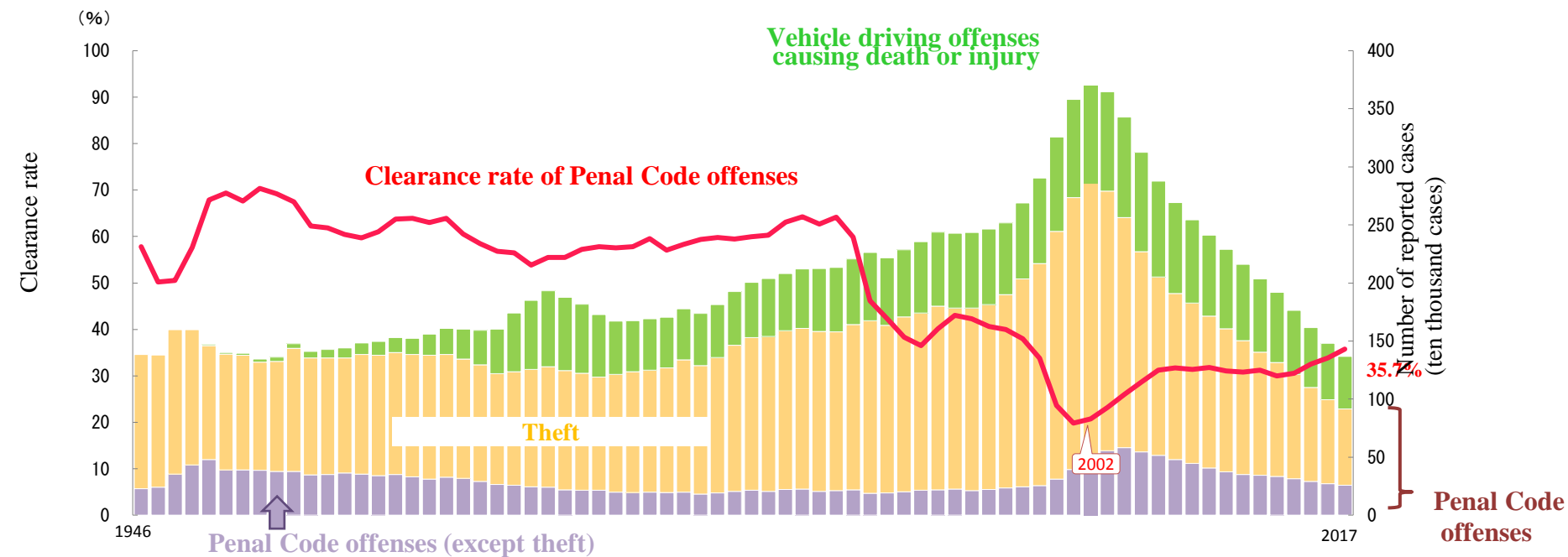


# White Paper on Crime 2018

Number of reported cases and clearance rate: Penal Code offenses (1946-2017)



## Special Features

*Aging Society and Crime  
( See P4 ~P6 )*

*Note: As for the procedure of criminal/juvenile justice in Japan, See P2-3*

Penal Code offenses

Crime	2016		2017
All offenses	996,120	↘	915,042
Theft	723,148	↘	665,498
Fraud	40,990	↗	42,571
Injury	24,365	↘	23,286
Assault	31,813	↘	31,013
Homicide	895	↗	920
Rape	989	↗	1,109

The number of reported cases (all the above)

By types of offenses

Type	2016		2017
Drug	13,841	↗	14,019*
Stimulants	10,607	↘	10,284*
Cannabis	2,722	↗	3,218*
Child Abuse	1,041	↗	1,116***
Child Prostitution and Pornography	2,713	↗	3,074**
Spousal Violence	7,450	↗	7,738***
Stalking	769	↗	926***

※ The number of persons cleared by the police or other investigative authorities  
 ※※ The number of persons received by public prosecutors.  
 ※※※ The number of cases cleared by the police or other investigative authorities

## Recidivism

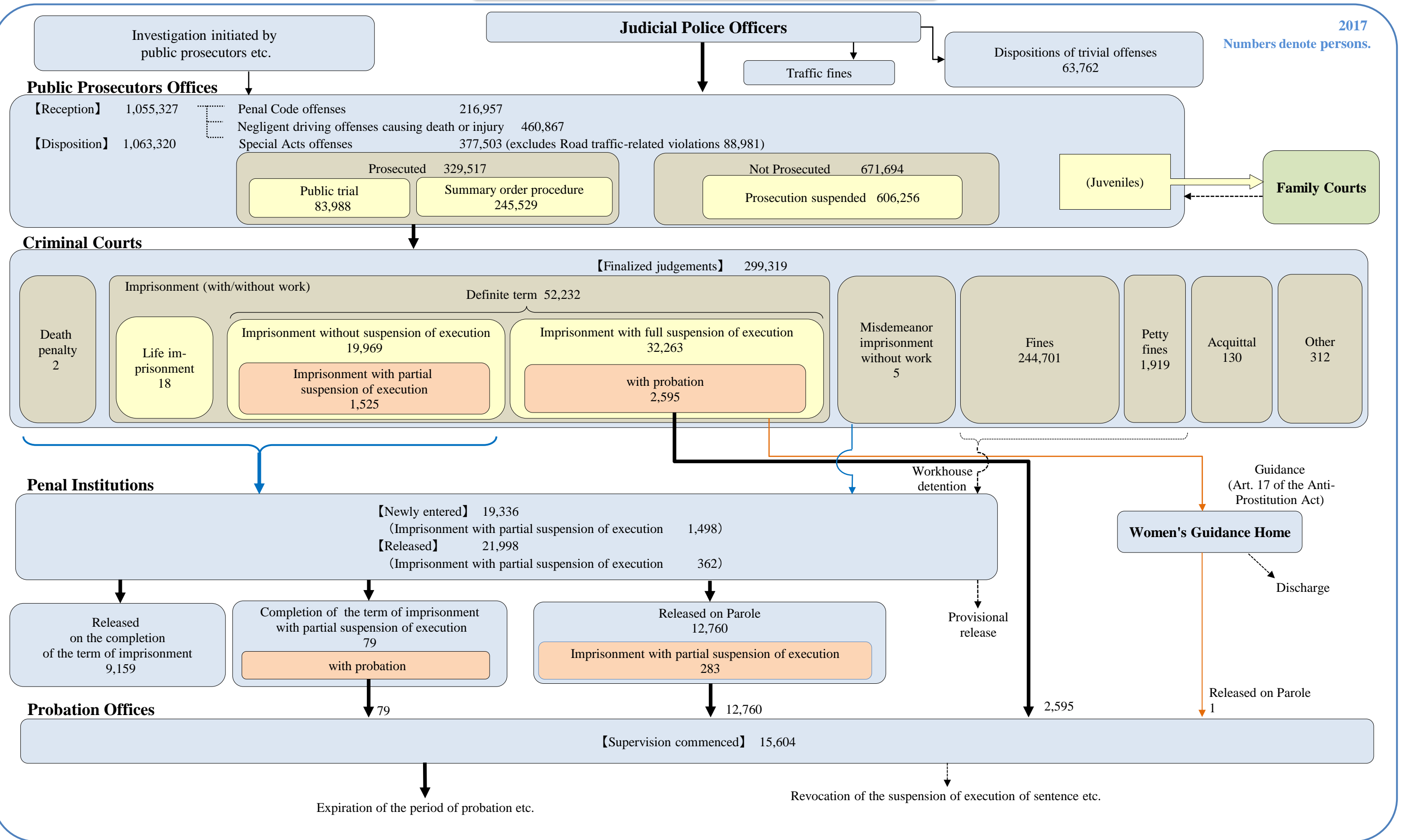
*Reimprisonment rate (within 2 years )*  
inmates reimprisoned by the end of 2017 after release from prison in 2016  
 the total of those released in 2016

2017  
**17.3%** (0.6pt down)

# Procedure of Criminal Justice

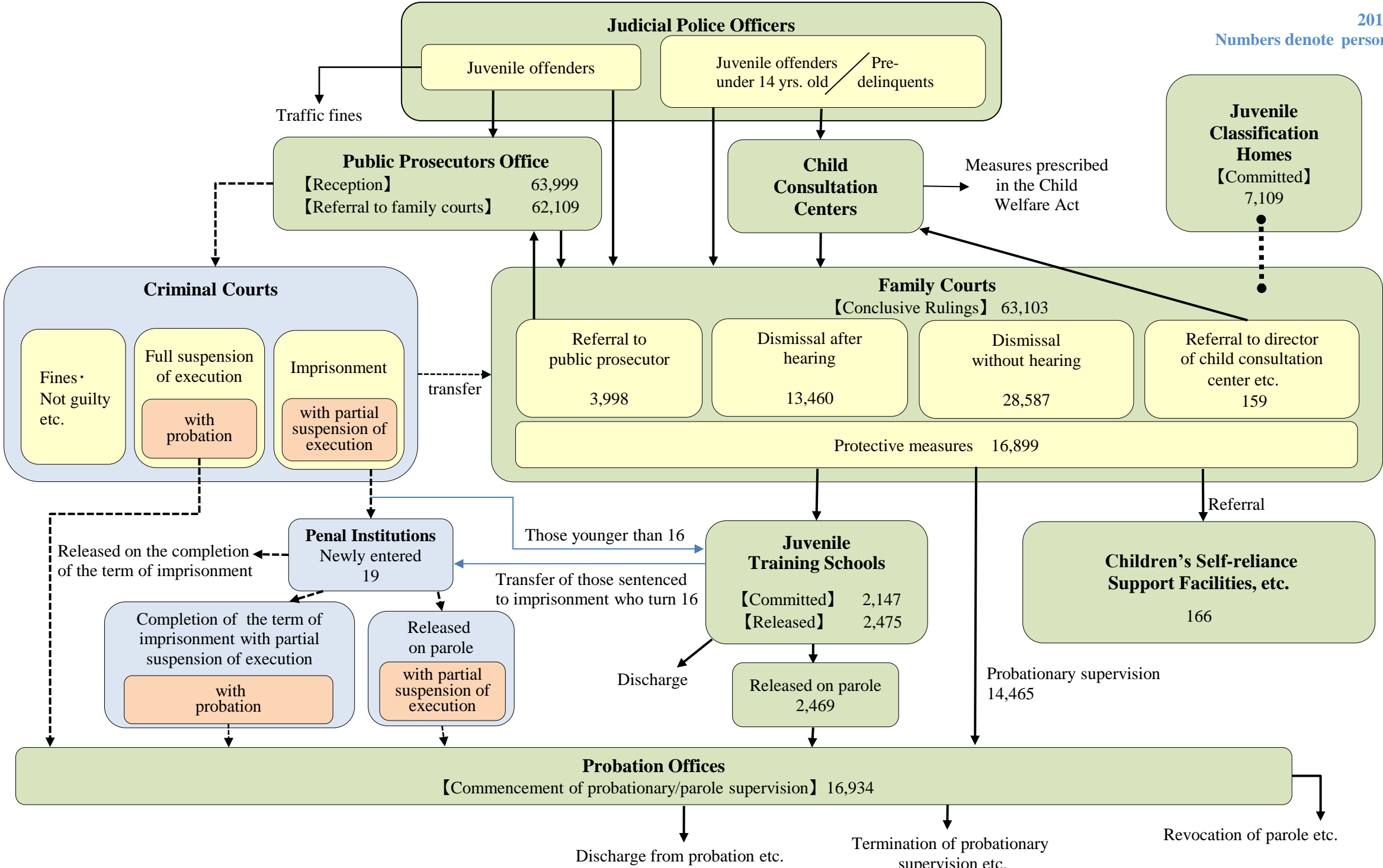
2017

Numbers denote persons.



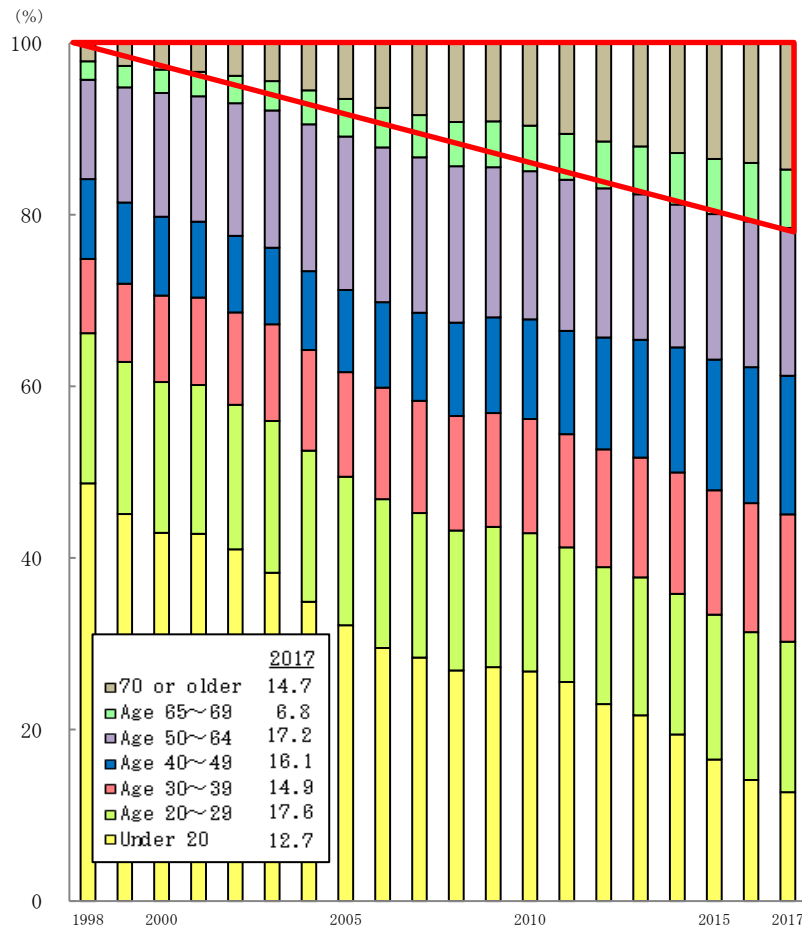
## Procedure of Juvenile Justice

2017  
Numbers denote persons.



## Special Feature: Aging Society and Crime

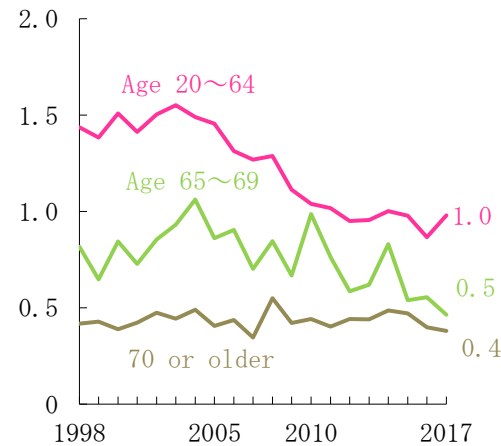
### Increase of the Rate of Elderly Offenders



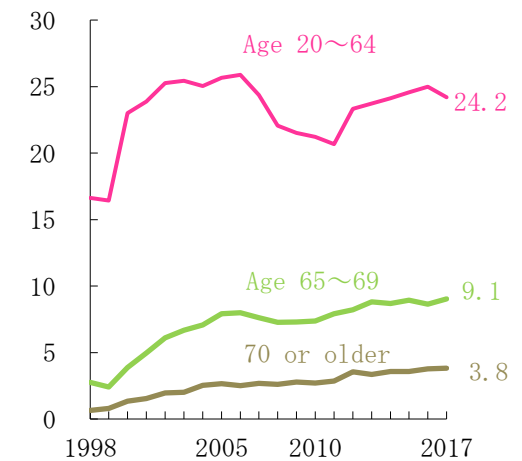
- The rate of elderly persons (65 or older) cleared accounts for 21.5% of the total number of persons cleared for Penal Code Offenses in 2017.
- The rate of those aged “70 or older” is rising significantly.

### Rate per Population of Persons Cleared (percentages by age groups)

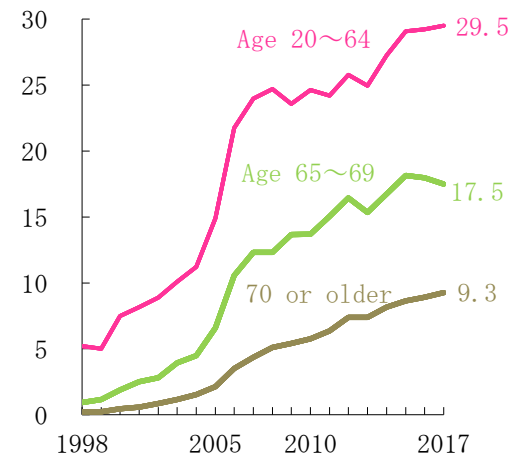
#### Homicide



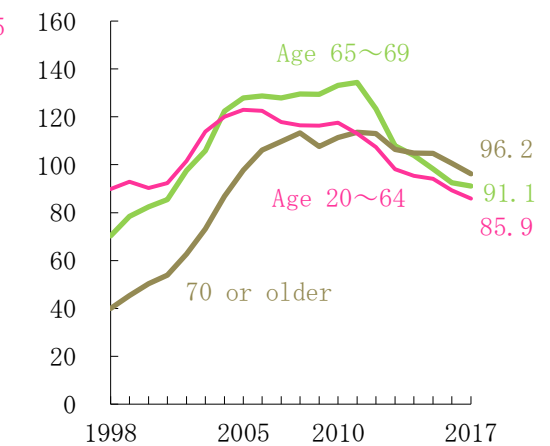
#### Injury



#### Assault



#### Theft



Note: “Rate per population” refers to the number of persons cleared per 100,000 general population.

## Special Research Results

### Theft

As regards modus operandi for theft, **shoplifting** accounts for **85%** of thefts committed by elderly offenders.

The majority of elderly offenders' shoplifting cases have characteristics as follows:

- a) They steal goods from a store of which they are regular customers.
- b) The damage cost in each case is less than 3,000 yen.
- c) They shoplift foodstuffs in most cases.

The reoffending rate of elderly **female** theft offenders **within two years** after having been sentenced to fine is **34%** while that of **male** is **19%**.

The following shows some typical examples of elderly theft offenders:

- a) Elderly male theft offenders have financial difficulties in living with nobody to rely on.
- b) Elderly female theft offenders steal for saving money even though they have a steady income and someone to live with.

### Homicide

As regards homicide victims of elderly offenders, **relatives** accounts for **67%** (**spouses** for **35%** and **children** for **23%**) of the total.

The victims of spousal homicide have characteristics as follows:

- a) **52%** of them are **mentally or physically disordered**.
- b) **34%** of them require care or are bedridden.
- c) **31%** of them have dementia.

The victims of infanticide have characteristics as follows:

- a) **89%** of them are **mentally disordered**.
- b) **95%** of infanticide are caused against the background that the offenders have unsolved troubles without asking for help.

### Injury/Assault

Many elderly offenders of injury and assault commit crimes on impulse without any plans.

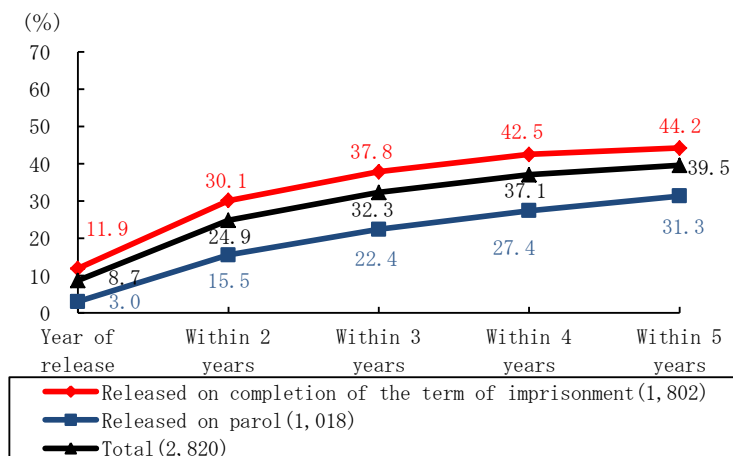
The following shows the characteristics of many elderly offenders of injury and assault who have **previous convictions for the same type of offense**:

- a) Many of them commit **crimes under the influence of alcohol**.
- b) Many of them show **attitudes of justifying violence**.
- c) **41%** of them have no interaction with family members, acquaintances, etc.
- d) The majority of them are sentenced to fines.

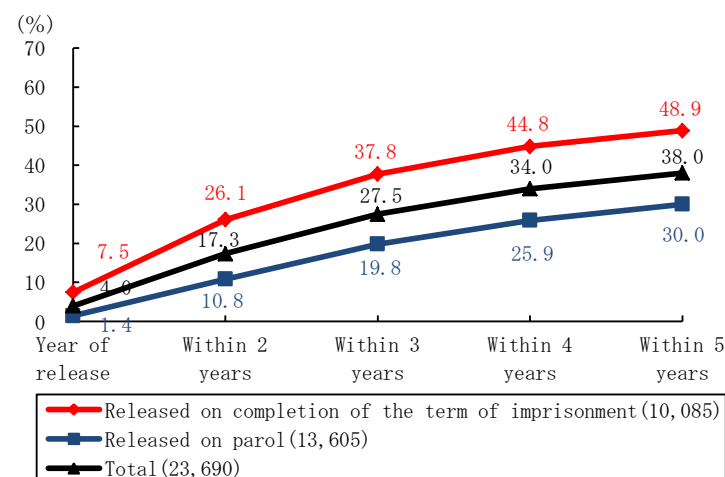
## Repeat Offenders

### Reimprisonment Rate of Released Inmates, by age groups

#### Released Elderly Inmates

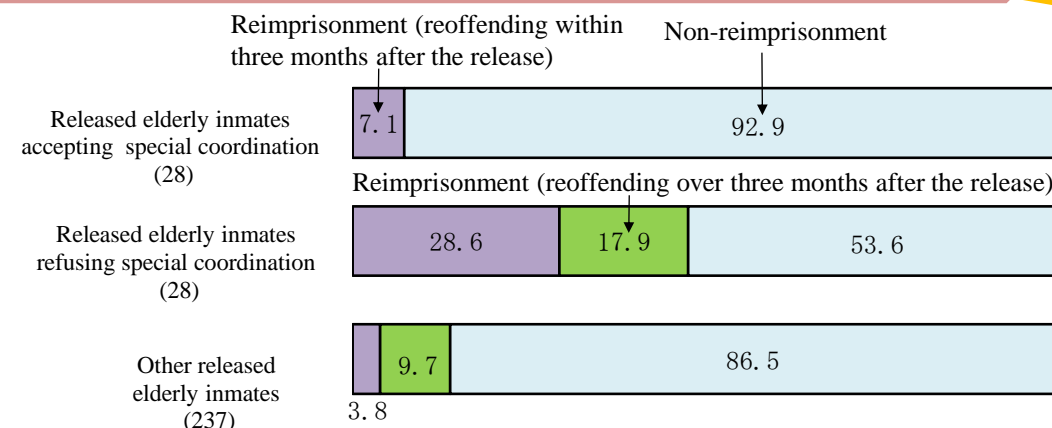


#### Released Non-Elderly Inmates



## Welfare Support

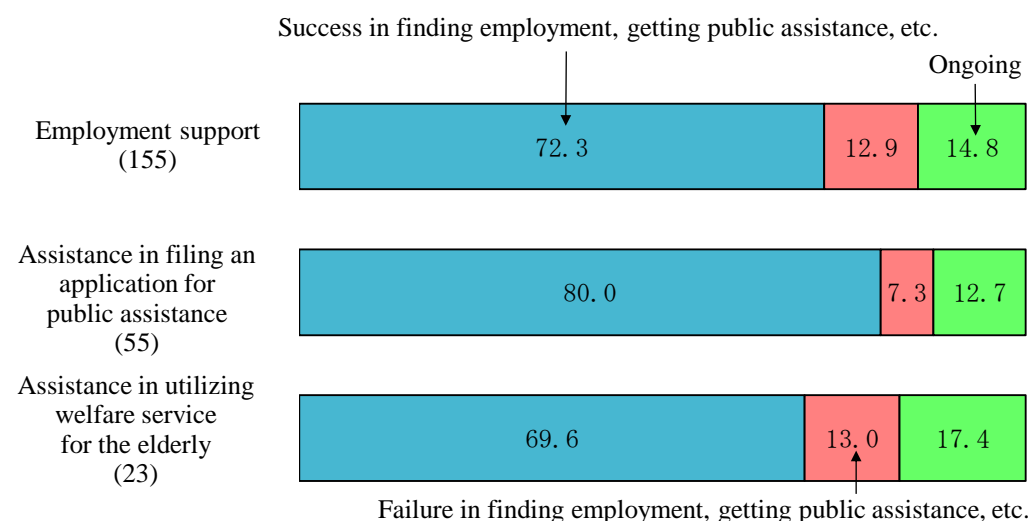
### Reimprisonment Rate of Released Elderly Inmates, by Accepting/Refusing Special Coordination



Since 2009 Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare have been assisting offenders in receiving welfare services. The subjects for the special coordination are limited to elderly or handicapped persons having no place to live after their release from prison.

Reimprisonment rate of released elderly inmates accepting special coordination is lower than that of those refusing it.

### Results of the Pilot Project Focusing on Urgent Aftercare of Discharged Offenders



Most of the offenders supported by the pilot project succeed in finding employment, getting public assistance or welfare service.

Besides the pilot project, in 2018 probation offices nationally begin to assist in facilitating the social reintegration of offenders without custodial sentences in cooperation with local governments and public prosecutor's offices.

## Future Tasks/Recommendations

- Further efforts are needed to promote welfare support for elderly offenders.
- Various supports corresponding to the characteristics of the elderly, such as welfare support and specialist's intervention, are required. To this end, staff members' capacity building in the area of the holistic assessment which covers both criminological risks and individual needs is imperative.