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- CONSTITUENCIES AND FIXED NUMBER OF SEATS FOR THE HOUSE OF COUNCILORS

1. Election for the House of Representatives

The National Diet of Japan is composed of the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors, both of which are comprised of elected Diet members. A general election for the House of Representatives may be conducted at any time for all the Diet members. The election takes place in either of the following two cases: at the expiration of the term of membership, or upon dissolution.

In 1945, after World War II, the voting age was lowered from 25 to 20 years of age and the age of electoral eligibility from 30 to 25 years of age. Also, women were given voting power and electoral eligibility for the first time. The turnout of male voters was higher than that of female voters from the 27th to 31st general elections for the House of Representatives; the difference exceeding 7% in the 27th General Election. However, after the 32nd General Election for the House of Representatives, the turnout of female voters increased and in the 38th General Election for the House of Representatives the turnout of female voters surpassed that of male voters by 2% for the first time.

In regard to the change in parties and factions brought about by elections, since (but excluding) the 27th General Election for the House of Representatives, the Liberal-Democratic Party has remained the dominant party, followed by the Socialist Party of Japan. The multi-party age begun when the Kōmeitō made its debut in the House of Representatives in the 31st House of Representatives General Election.

In the period following the 27th General Election for the House of Representatives, the proportion of women to the total number of elected Diet members of the House of Representatives was highest in the 28th General Election for the House of Representatives at 2.4%, followed by 2.2% in the 35th General Election for the House of Representatives; it was lowest in the 34th General Election for the House of Representatives at 1.2%.

Since the 27th General Election for the House of Representatives, all elections were conducted upon dissolution, except for the 34th General Election for the House of Representatives.

2. Election for the House of Councilors

An ordinary election for the House of Councilors is conducted for half the Diet members every three years, upon completion of their term of membership. The Diet members are elected from the proportional representation districts as well as from constituencies.

The turnouts are, in general, lower than those for the elections for the House of Representatives; the highest ever was 74.5% in the 12th Ordinary Election for the

House of Councilors, and the lowest 57.0% in the 13th Election for the House of Councilors. The turnout of male voters was higher than that of female voters between the 3rd and 7th Ordinary Elections for the House of Councilors, and the difference exceeded 9% in the 4th Ordinary Election. Nevertheless, since the 8th Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, the turnout of female voters increased and surpassed that of male voters by 2% in the 14th Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors.

In regard to the change in parties and factions brought about by elections since (but excluding) the 3rd Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, the Liberal-Democratic Party has remained the dominant party, followed by the Socialist Party of Japan. However, after the 6th Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, the multi-party age began in the House of Councilors as well as in the House of Representatives, and has continued up to the present.

After the 3rd Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, the proportion of women to the total number of elected Diet members of the House of Councilors was highest in the 13th and 14th Ordinary Elections for the House of Councilors at 7.9%, followed by 7.8% in the 3rd Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, and was lowest in the 4th Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors at 3.9%.

3. Constituencies and Fixed Number of Seats for the House of Representatives

The election for the House of Representatives is conducted by the medium-constituency single ballot system, the term of membership for the House of Representatives being four years. In 1955, the number of constituencies was set at 118 with a fixed number of seats of 467. However, the electoral districts were further divided and the fixed number of seats increased due to the reversion of Amami Syōtō and Okinawa to Japan, and also to the apparent imbalance between the number of voters and the fixed number of seats observed in such prefectures as Ōsaka, Kanagawa, Tiba and Aiti. Thus, as of July 6, 1986, the fixed number of seats was set at 512. The breakdown of electoral districts classified by the fixed number of seats is 1 district with 1 seat, 4 districts with 2 seats, 42 districts with 3 seats, 39 districts with 4 seats, 43 districts with 5 seats, and 1 district with 6 seats; totaling 130 constituencies.

As a result of the population increase in major cities and their outlying areas, as well as the decrease of the population in other areas, an imbalance between the number of voters and the number of fixed seats has occurred in each constituency. As of July 6, 1986, the number of voters per fixed seat was highest in Kanagawa 4th Constituency with 304,673 voters, and lowest in Nagano 3rd Constituency with 104,170 voters, a difference of 2.9 times.

3. Constituencies and Fixed Number of Seats for the House of Councilors

The election of the House of Councilors is conducted by both the proportional representation system and the constituency system. The term of membership for the

House of Councilors is six years, with half the members of the House of Councilors re-elected every three years. The fixed number of seats for the House of Councilors is 252, including 100 seats elected from the proportional representation districts and 152 elected from the constituencies.

The proportional representation system is a method which elects members by proportional allotment of the number of votes obtained by parties. Under the constituency system, each prefecture is regarded as one constituency for which the fixed number is set at 2, 4, 6 or 8 members in accordance with the population in that constituency. The 8-member constituencies are Tōkyō and Hokkaidō Prefectures; the 6-member constituencies are Aiti Prefecture, Ōsaka Prefecture, Hyōgo Prefecture, and Hukuoka Prefecture; there are 4-member constituencies in 15 prefectures 2-member constituencies in 26 prefectures.

As is the case with the House of Representatives, there has been an imbalance between the number of electors and the fixed number of seats in the elections for the House of Councilors, attributed to variations in the population of constituencies. As of July 6, 1986, the number of electors per fixed number of seat was highest in Kanagawa Prefecture with 2,640,982 electors, and lowest in Tottori Prefecture with 451,202 electors, a difference of 5.8 times.

The electoral system for the House of Councilors employed both the national constituency system and the local constituency system up to the 12th Ordinary Election for the House of Representatives.

[Sources]

1. Ministry of Home Affairs, *Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice, conducted from February 27, 1955 to October 7, 1979*
2. Ministry of Home Affairs, *Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice and Returns from the Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, conducted on June 22, 1980*
3. Ministry of Home Affairs, *Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice, conducted on December 18, 1983*
4. Ministry of Home Affairs, *Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice and Returns from the Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors, conducted on July 6, 1986*

OUTLINE OF THE ELECTION FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

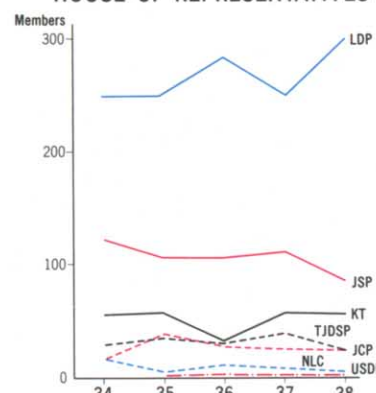
Election number	Date	Number of members	Number of candidates	Number of voters	Voting rate
27	Feb. 27, 1955	467	1,017	49,235,375	75.84
28	May 22, 1958	467	951	52,013,529	76.99
29	Nov. 20, 1960	467	940	54,312,993	73.51
30	Nov. 21, 1963	467	917	58,281,678	71.14
31	Jan. 29, 1967	486	917	62,992,796	73.99
32	Dec. 27, 1969	486	945	69,260,424	68.51
33	Dec. 10, 1972	491	895	73,769,636	71.76
34	Dec. 5, 1976	511	899	77,926,588	73.45
35	Oct. 7, 1979	511	891	80,169,924	68.01
36	June 22, 1980	511	835	80,925,034	74.57
37	Dec. 18, 1983	511	848	84,252,608	67.94
38	July 6, 1986	512	838	86,426,845	71.40

OUTLINE OF THE ELECTION FOR THE HOUSE FOR COUNCILORS

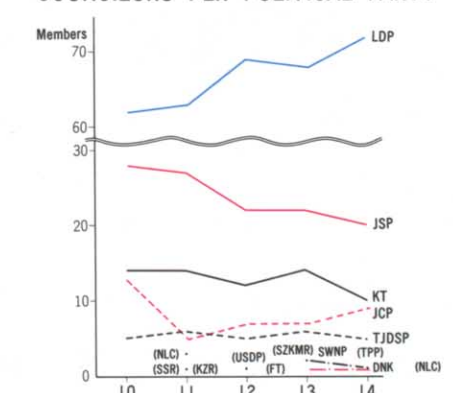
Election number	Date	Number of members	Number of candidates	Number of voters	Voting rate
3	Apr. 24, 1953	National constituency 53 Local constituency 75	234	47,036,554	63.18
4	July 8, 1956	National constituency 52 Local constituency 75	150	50,177,888	62.10
5	June 2, 1959	National constituency 52 Local constituency 75	122	53,516,473	58.74
6	July 1, 1962	National constituency 51 Local constituency 76	107	56,137,295	68.21
7	July 4, 1965	National constituency 52 Local constituency 75	99	59,544,407	67.02
8	July 7, 1968	National constituency 51 Local constituency 75	93	65,886,145	68.93
9	June 27, 1971	National constituency 50 Local constituency 75	106	71,177,667	59.23
10	July 7, 1974	National constituency 54 Local constituency 76	112	75,356,068	73.20
11	July 10, 1977	National constituency 50 Local constituency 76	102	78,321,715	68.48
12	June 22, 1980	National constituency 50 Local constituency 76	93	80,925,034	74.54
13	June 26, 1983	Proportional representation district 50 Constituency 76	191	83,682,416	57.00
14	July 6, 1986	Proportional representation district 50 Constituency 76	243	86,426,845	71.36

(Compiled from Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice and Returns from the Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors)

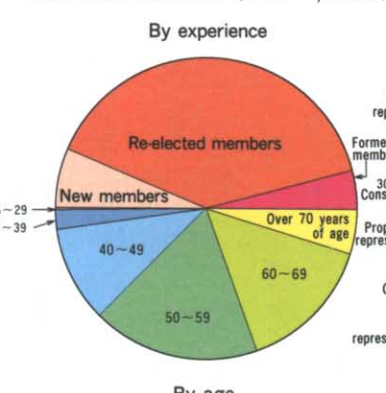
CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



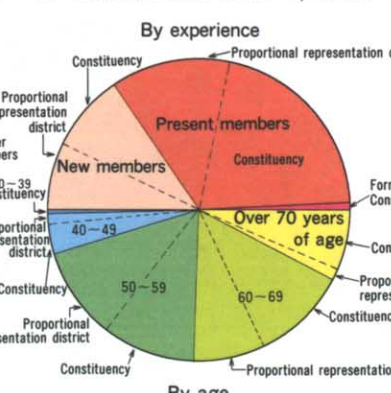
CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE HOUSE OF COUNCILORS PER POLITICAL PARTY



MEMBERS ELECTED IN THE 38TH ELECTION FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (JULY 6, 1986)



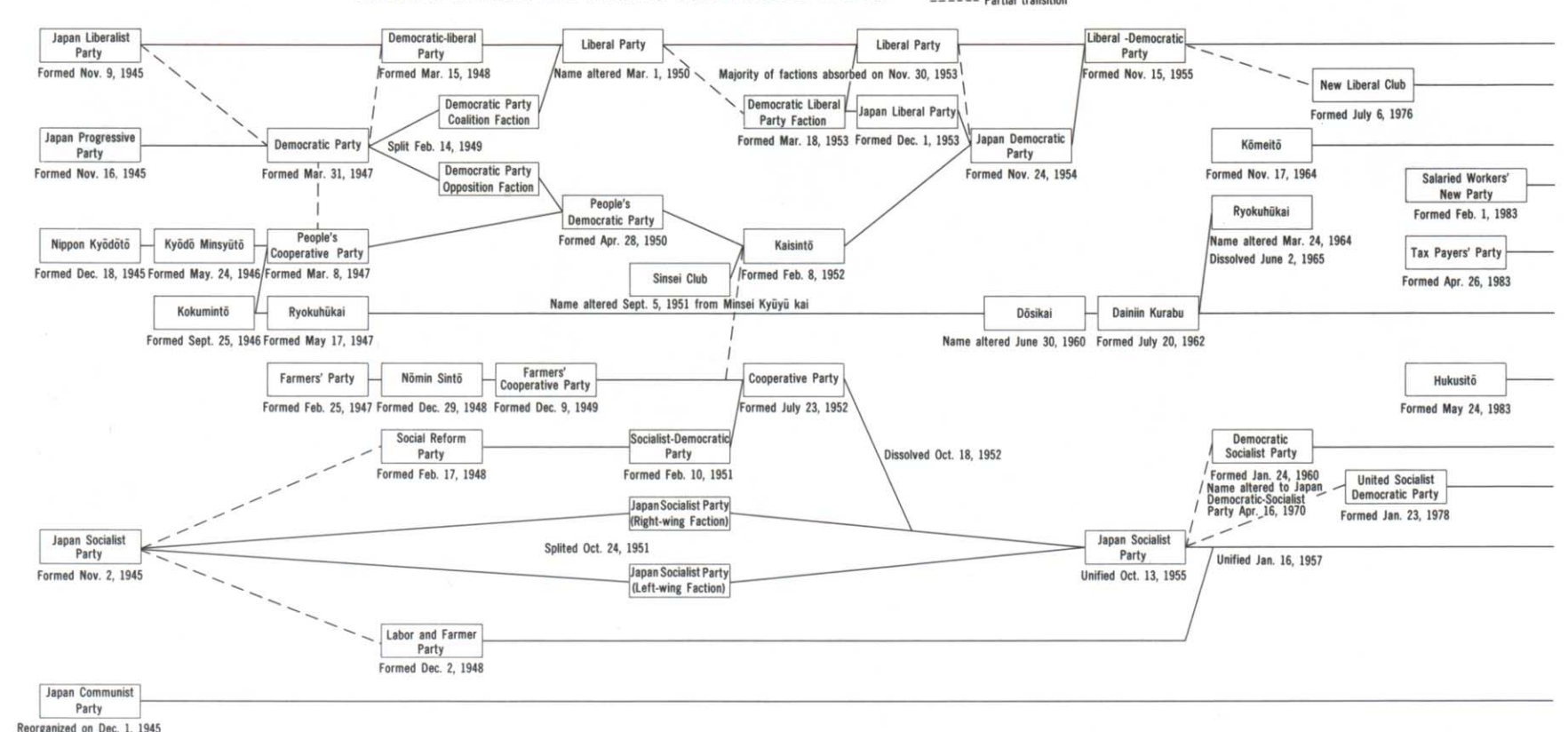
MEMBERS ELECTED IN THE 14TH ELECTION FOR THE HOUSE OF COUNCILORS (JULY 6, 1986)



(Compiled from Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice and Returns from the Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors)

(Compiled from Survey on Returns from the General Election for the House of Representatives and People's Review of Judges of the Supreme Court of Justice and Returns from the Ordinary Election for the House of Councilors)

CHANGES IN POLITICAL PARTIES SINCE WORLD WAR II

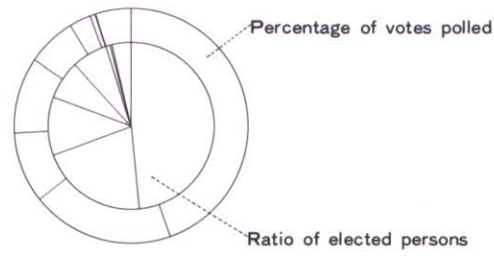


ELECTION FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TURNOUT RATE



PERCENTAGE OF VOTES POLLED AND RATIO OF PERSONS ELECTED FOR EACH POLITICAL PARTY



ABBREVIATIONS OF PARTY NAMES

- JDP : Japan Democratic Party
- LP : Liberal Party
- LDP : Liberal-Democratic Party
- JSP : Japan Socialist Party
- JSPR : Japan Socialist Party (Right Faction)
- JSPL : Japan Socialist Party (Left Faction)
- JCP : Japan Communist Party
- LFP : Labor and Farmer Party
- DSP : Democratic-Socialist Party
- TJDSP : The Japan Democratic-Socialist Party
- KT : Kōmeitō
- NLC : New Liberal Club
- USDP : United Social Democratic Party
- MP : Minor Parties
- ID : Independent

1 : 16,000,000

• • • • • One symbol shows one elected person

