

Improving Japan's Food Self-Sufficiency

Can we Japanese survive the low level of food self-sufficiency?

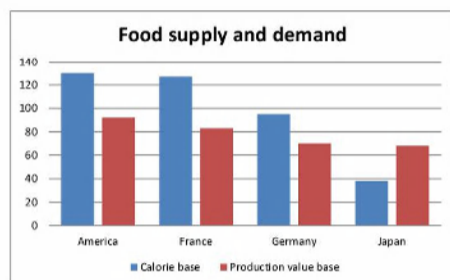
Purpose

* In New Zealand, where we studied abroad, food self-sufficiency was calculated to be over 100%.

Current situation in Japan ...

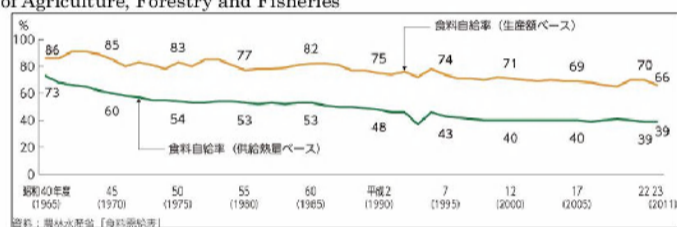
Japan's food self-sufficiency is very low, 38%! Why!

Figure 1 'Food supply and demand' Trial calculation based on FAO "Food Balance Sheets" except alcohol.

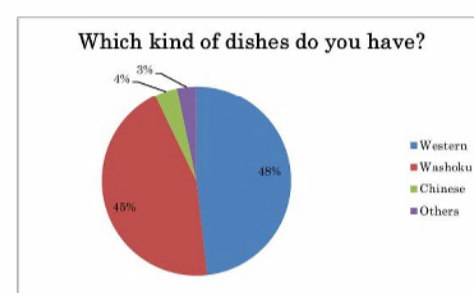
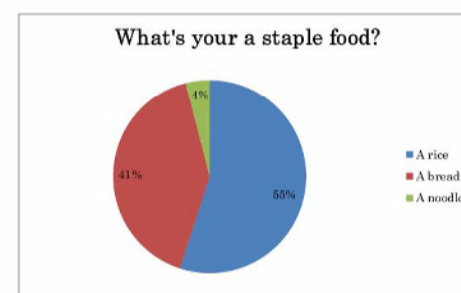
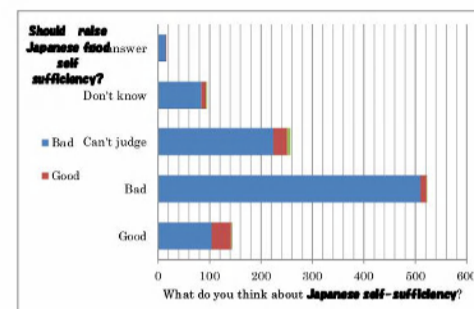
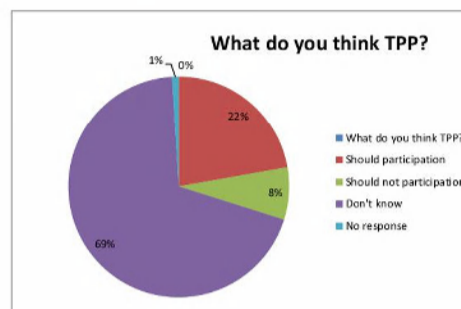
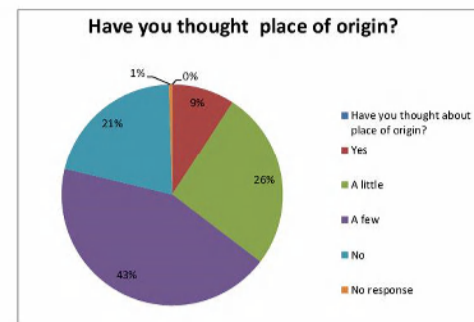
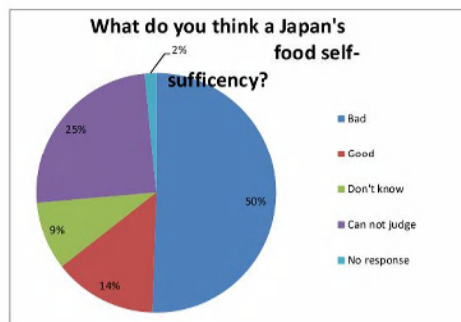


The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Food self-sufficiency calculated on the basis of calorie is 38% in Japan, 130% in the U.S.A, 127% in France.

Figure 2 'Change in Japan's food self-sufficiency' excerpt from 'Food supply and demand' The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries



1 [Survey the opinions of the students in our school]



2 (Historical background - Comparison with New Zealand)

Japan	New Zealand
• business recovery under the guidance of the GHQ	• welfare state after the World War II
• Rapid industrial growth during cold war → Policy emphasizing economic issues and conservation of nature development of industry	• Policy emphasizing environmental
• Operation by the big government like a convoy	• Operation by the small government like a power of the Labour Party →
• Formation of culture and thought peculiar to Japan → Negative against immigrants and multi-culture	Generous towards immigrants and multi-culture

3 (Status Quo viewed from an expert in economics)

- ① Japan is an island country and mountainous land
→ Unsuitable for large-scale agriculture
Natural disasters happening constantly
A climate with high temperature and high humidity
→ depression crop because of outbreak of bacteria and harmful insects
- ② Policy under the guidance of the GHQ
A large quantity of wheat import
→ Western food culture using flour remains
→ Decrease of the product of Japanese wheat
Change in Japanese traditional agriculture
- ③ Reduction of farmers
Poor management damaged by natural disasters
Lack of successors
- ④ Change in food culture
Excess consumption of improve convenience
Domestic garbage
Food service industry with luxury specification
→ Increasing food disposal
→ In order to decrease food disposal, we have to implement a difficult policy.

4 (Coverage to Ibaraki Prefectural Agriculture Conference)

< Playback plan of abandoned cultivation area >

~ Abandoned cultivation area ~

- ① Site: Ibaraki Prefecture
- ② Farmer:
Young people and new workers and retired aging farmers
The reason: the number of new workers is increasing
Healthy life plan becomes longer
- ③ Plan: Getting a job at an agricultural corporation
Learn agricultural technology while getting salary
Go out to the field
Independent by goodwill division
(available for over 65 year old age)

Finally, what should we do?

To suppress excessive consumption
Abandoned food 8,000,000 ton out of 17,000,000 ton a year is eatable.

That is what we call, " Food Loss "

Is it possible for us to prevent food loss by improving food and lifestyle?