

Report on the 32nd Minato City Public Opinion Poll, Digest Edition

MINATO OPINION

This booklet provides an overview of the results of the 32nd Minato City Public Opinion Poll, which was conducted in October 2019. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of the residents who participated.

[Overview of the Survey]

■Survey design, etc.

[Survey subjects]: Minato City residents, men and women aged 18 years and older (including foreign residents)

[No. of samples]: 2,000 people

[Sampling]: Stratified random sampling from the Basic Resident Register

[Survey method]: Distribution and collection by post, electronic submission

[Survey period]: October 29 (Tue) – November 14 (Thu), 2019

[Number of effective responses]: 658 people

[Effective response rate]: 32.9%

■Survey items

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (1) Intention of permanent residence | (6) Plastic waste |
| (2) City administration in general | (7) Disaster measures |
| (3) Minato City Basic Plan | (8) Community safety |
| (4) Easy Japanese | (9) Pacifism |
| (5) Minato City Smoking Rules | (10) Impression of Minato City staff |

*The “n” in graphs is used to refer to the number of respondents for a particular question.

*As the percentages in this report are rounded off to the nearest two decimal places, the total percentage may not add up to 100.

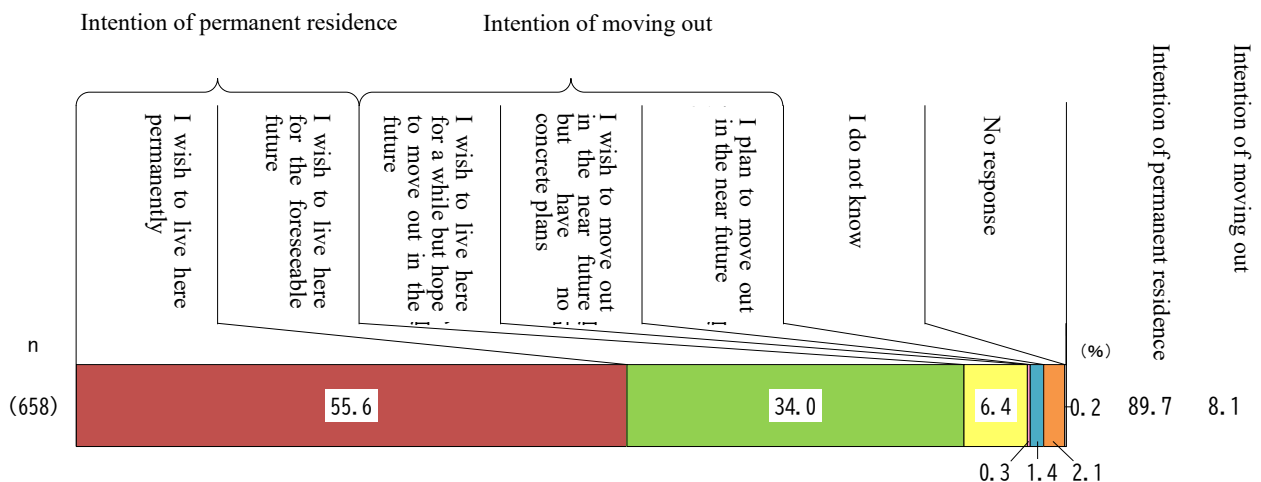
*When multiple answers are possible, response rates may exceed 100%.

Minato City

1 Intention of permanent residence

In response to the question “Do you wish to continue living in Minato City?” more than 50% and the largest number of respondents selected “I wish to live here permanently” (55.6%) followed by “I wish to live here for the foreseeable future” (34.0%), making up about 90% of the respondents indicating an intention of permanent residence (89.7%). On the other hand, 6.4% selected “I wish to live here for a while but hope to move out in the future,” 0.3% selected “I wish to move out in the near future but have no concrete plans”, and 1.4% selected “I plan to move out in the near future,” making up 8.1% of the respondents indicating an intention to move out of Minato City. (Figure 1)

Figure 1

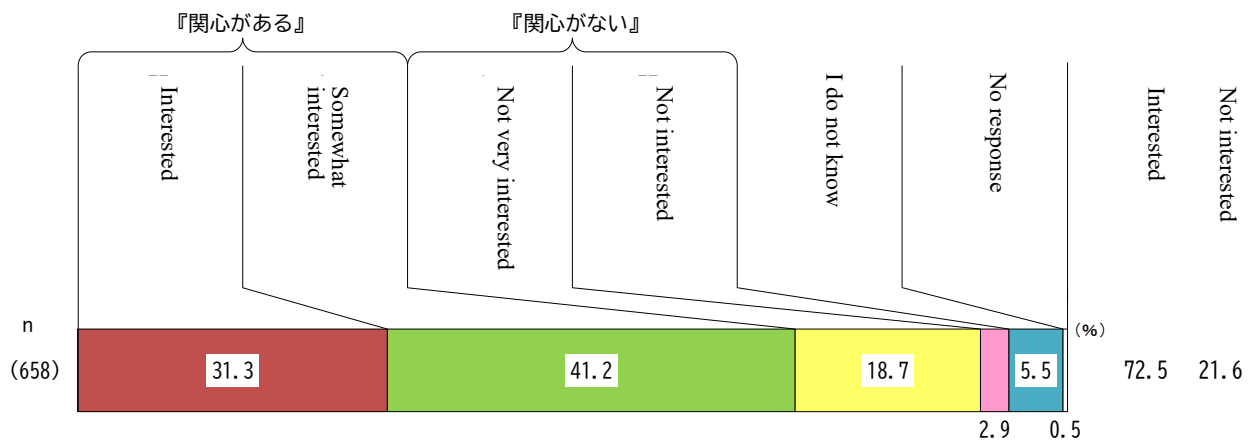


2 City administration in general

In response to the question “Are you interested in city administration?”, more than 40% and the largest number of respondents selected “Somewhat interested” (41.2%), followed by “Interested” (31.3%), making up more than 70% of the respondents indicating an interest in city administration (72.5%). On the other hand, 18.7% selected “Not very interested” and 2.9% selected “Not interested,” making up more than 20% of the respondents indicating that they had no interest in city administration (21.6%). (Figure 2)

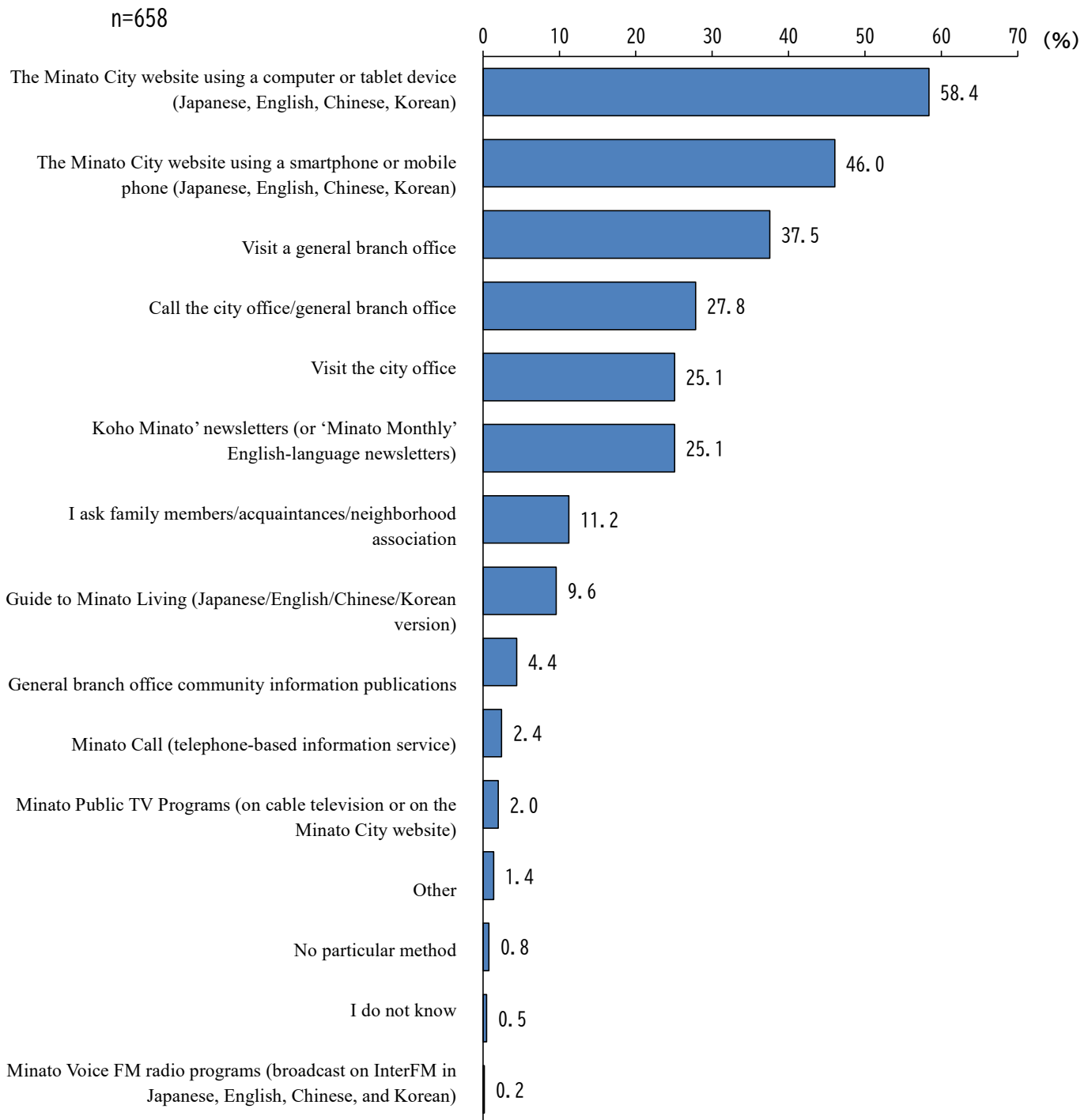
Figure 2

Interested Not interested



When respondents were asked what methods they use to obtain information about Minato City government services and procedures, the most common answer selected by close to 60% of the respondents was “The Minato City website using a computer or tablet device (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean)” at 58.4%, followed by “The Minato City website using a smartphone or mobile phone (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean)” at 46.0%, “Visit a general city branch office” at 37.5%, then “Call the city office/general city branch office” at 27.8%, “Visit the city office” at 25.1%, and “‘Koho Minato’ newsletters (or ‘Minato Monthly’ English-language newsletters)” at 25.1% (Figure 3).

Figure 3



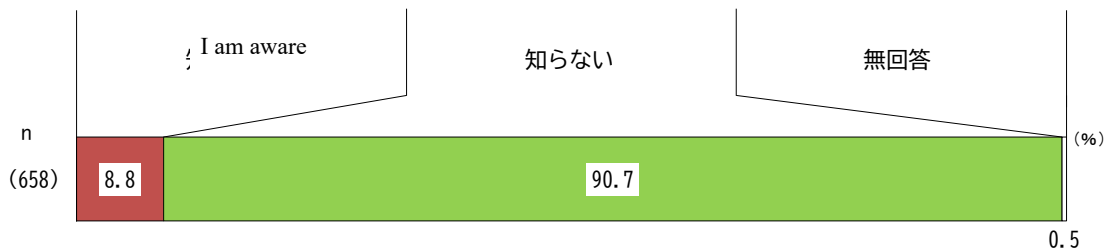
3 Minato City Basic Plan

When respondents were asked if they know that the last three years for the Minato City Basic Plan (FY2015 to FY2020), formulated in FY2015, has undergone revision as a new plan drawn up to cover the years FY2018 to FY2020, close than 10% indicated that they were aware (8.8%), while 90.7% indicated that they were not aware. (Figure 4).

Figure 4

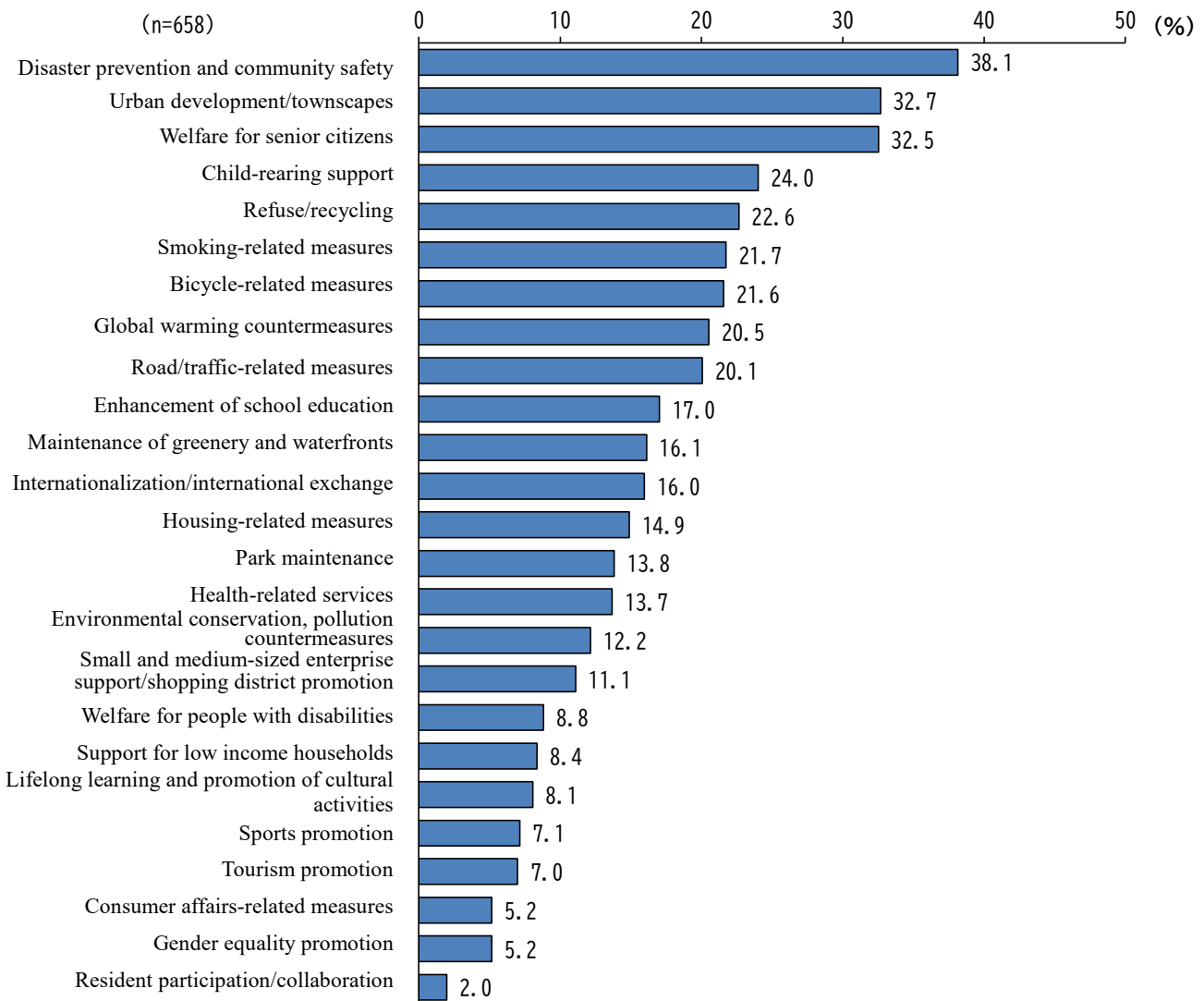
I am not aware

No response



When respondents were asked which policies Minato City ought to be giving top priority to, the most common response was “Disaster prevention and community safety” at 38.1%, followed by “Urban development/townscapes” at 32.7% and “Welfare for senior citizens” at 32.5%, both of which have continued to receive more than 30% of the responses (Figure 5).

Figure 5

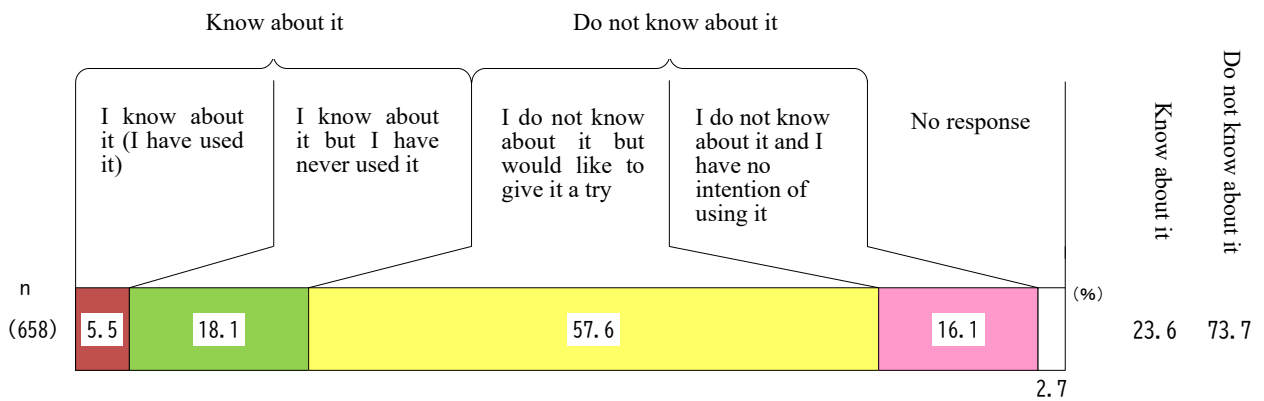


4 Easy Japanese

Minato City is implementing the “Easy Japanese” initiative, which involves the use of Japanese expressions that are easier to understand for foreign nationals. When asked if they know about “Easy Japanese,” 5.5% answered “I know about it (I have used it)” and 18.1% answered “I know about it but I have never used it,” making more than 20% of the respondents who knew about the “Easy Japanese” initiative (23.6%). On the other hand, the largest percentage of close to 60% of the respondents answered “I do not know about it but would like to give it a try” (57.6%). Combined with those who selected “I do not know about it and I have no intention of using it” (16.1%), this makes up more than 70% of the respondents who did not know about the “Easy Japanese” initiative (73.7%) (Figure 6).

*Easy Japanese” refers to a form of Japanese that is written in Japanese expressions that can easily be understood even by foreign nationals.
 Example: 至急避難してください
 ⇒ すぐに にげて ください

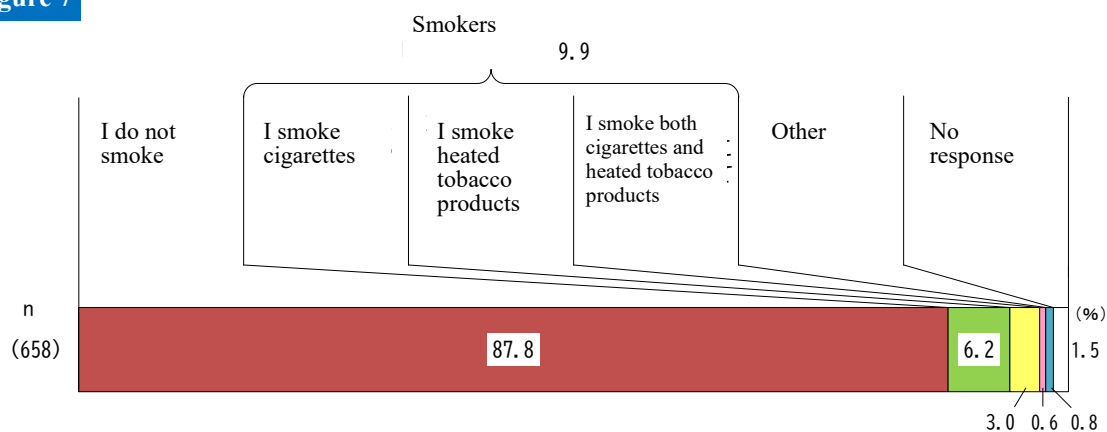
Figure 6



5 Minato City Smoking Rules

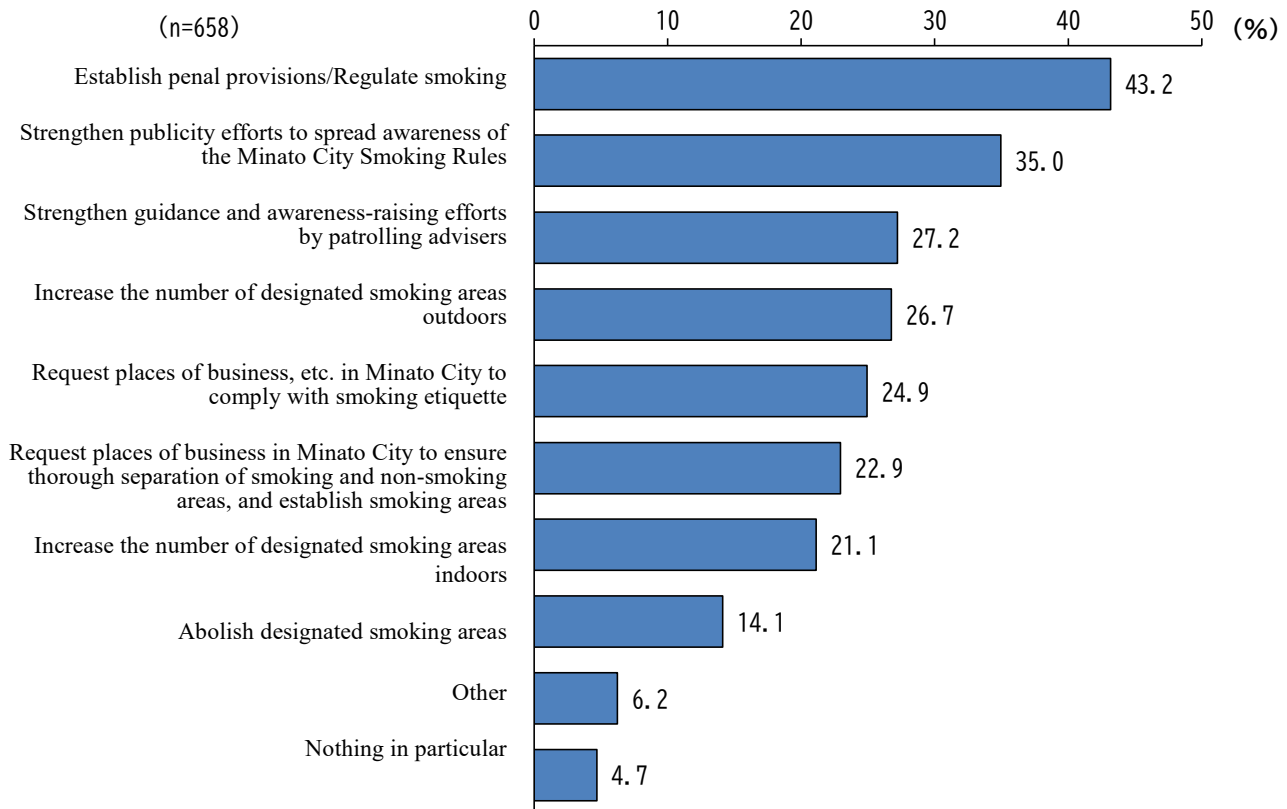
In response to a question about their smoking habits, close to 90% and the largest number of respondents selected “I do not smoke” (87.8%). This was followed by “I smoke cigarettes” (6.2%), “I smoke heated tobacco products” (3.0%), “I smoke both cigarettes and heated tobacco products” (0.6%), combining to make up about 10% of the respondents who smoke (9.9%). (Figure 7)

Figure 7



In response to the question about what initiatives are necessary as smoking measures in the future, more than 40% and the largest number of respondents selected “Establish penal provisions/Regulate smoking” (43.2%), followed by 35.0% who selected “Strengthen publicity efforts to spread awareness of the Minato City Smoking Rules.” (Figure 8)

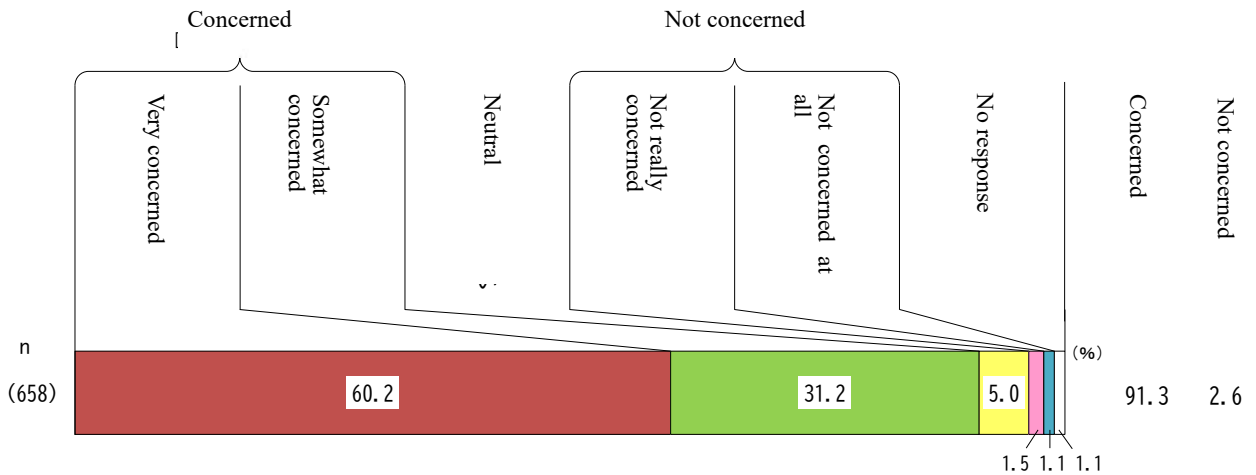
Figure 8



6 Plastic waste

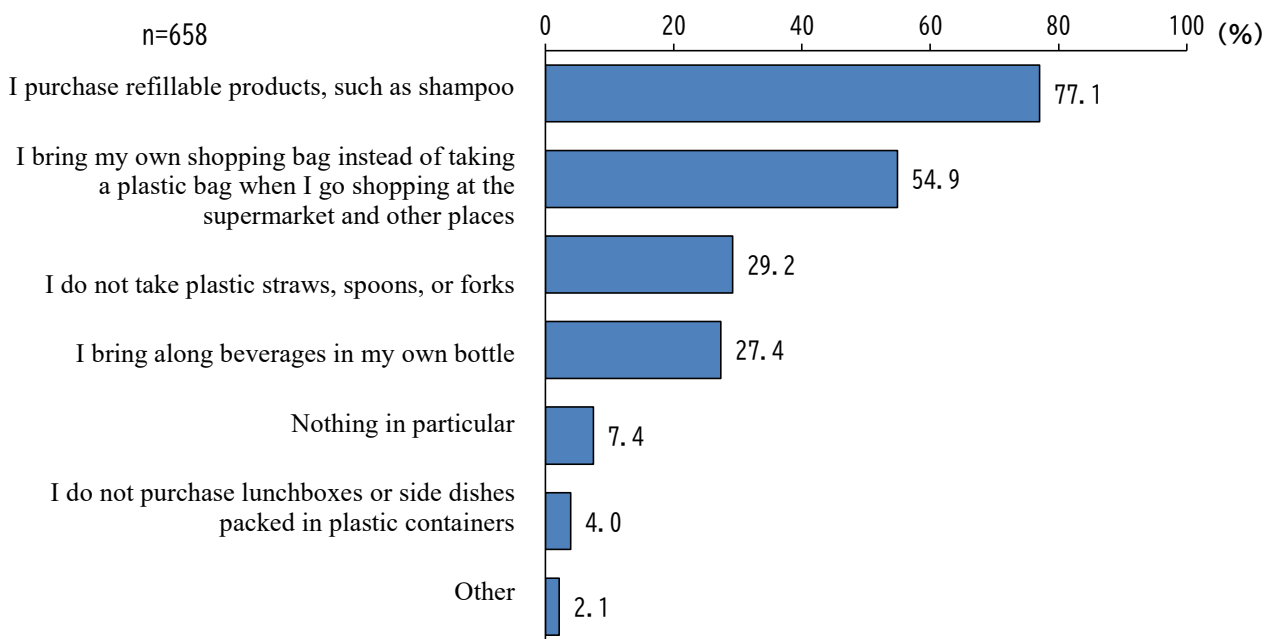
Respondents were asked if they were concerned about the issue of plastic waste in the oceans caused by the flow of plastic bags, PET bottles, and other plastic waste into the oceans, and which has become an international issue. In response, the largest number of respondents selected “Very concerned” (60.2%), followed by “Somewhat concerned” (31.2%) to make up more than 90% of the respondents who were concerned. (Figure 9)

Figure 9



In response to the question about what they do in their everyday lives to reduce the use of plastic products, close to 80% and the largest number of respondents selected “I purchase refillable products, such as shampoo” (77.1%), followed by “I bring my own shopping bag instead of taking a plastic bag when I go shopping at the supermarket and other places” (54.9%). (Figure 10)

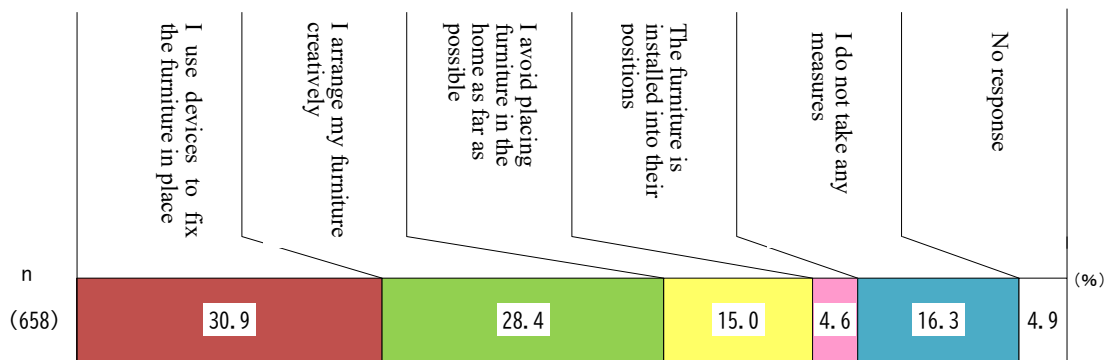
Figure 10



7 Disaster measures

When respondents were asked what prior measures they take in their homes to prevent furniture from tipping over, moving, or falling, so as to avoid becoming injured in the home during an earthquake, about 30% and the largest number answered “I use devices to fix the furniture in place” (30.9%), followed by close to 30% that responded “I arrange my furniture creatively” (28.4%). (Figure 11)

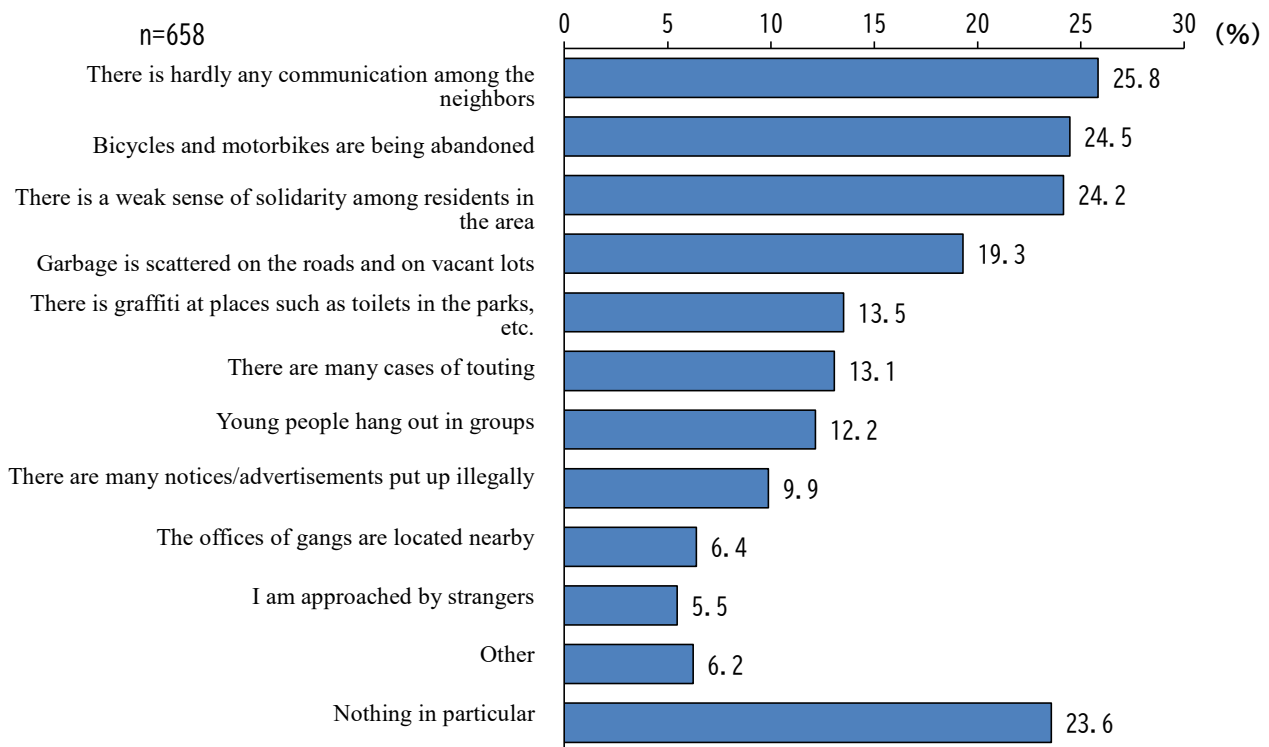
Figure 11



8 Community safety

Respondents were asked if they feel threatened about any aspects of their everyday lives. The top answer was “There is hardly any communication among the neighbors” (25.8%), followed by “Bicycles and motorbikes are being abandoned” (24.5%) and “There is a weak sense of solidarity among residents in the area” (24.2%). On the other hand, 23.6% indicated that they do not feel threatened in any particular aspects of their everyday lives. (Figure 12)

Figure 12

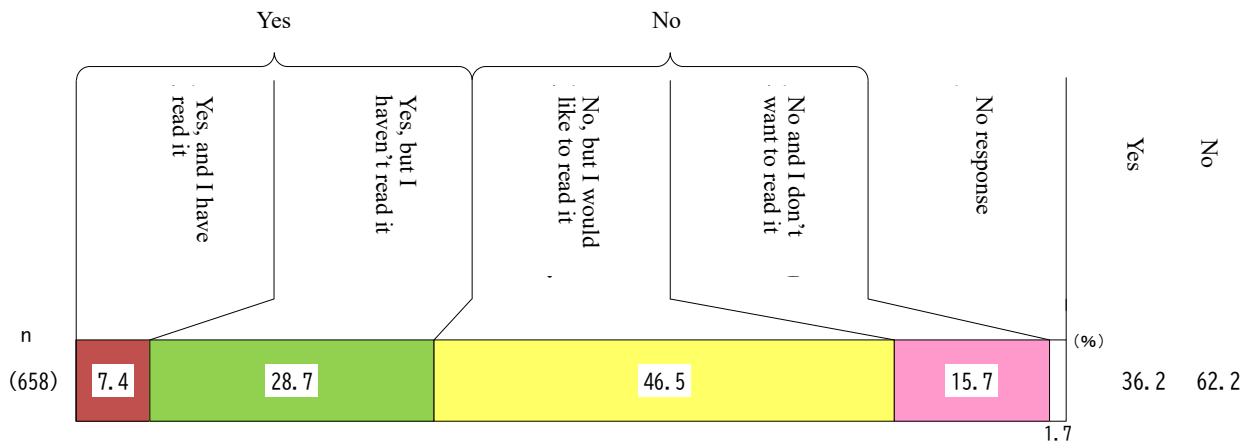


9 Pacifism

When respondents were asked if they knew about Minato City’s “Declaration as a City of Peace”, 36.2% said “Yes”. This percentage comprised 7.4% who answered “Yes, and I have read it” and 28.7% who answered “Yes, but I haven’t read it”.

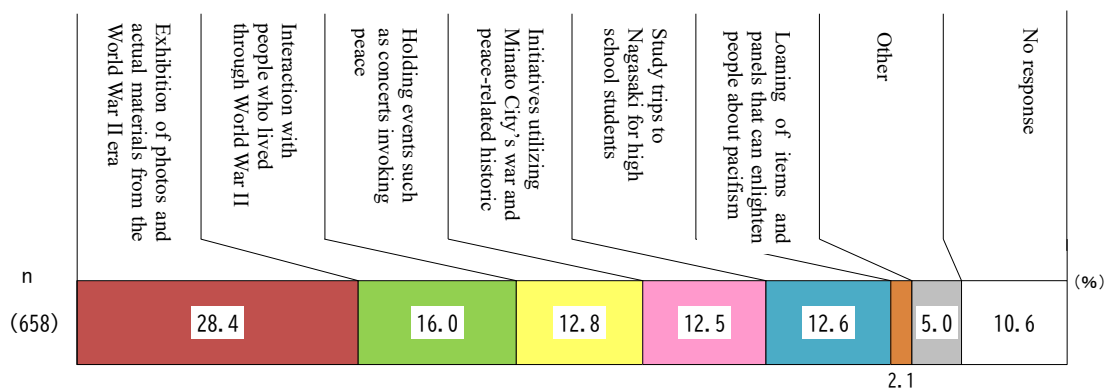
On the other hand, 62.2% said “No”, with 46.5% answering “No, but I would like to read it” and 15.7% answering “No and I don’t want to read it” (Figure 13).

Figure 13



When respondents were asked about the kinds of initiatives required to communicate about the importance of peace, the most common answer at close to 30% was “Exhibit photos and actual materials from the World War II era” at 28.4% (Figure 14).

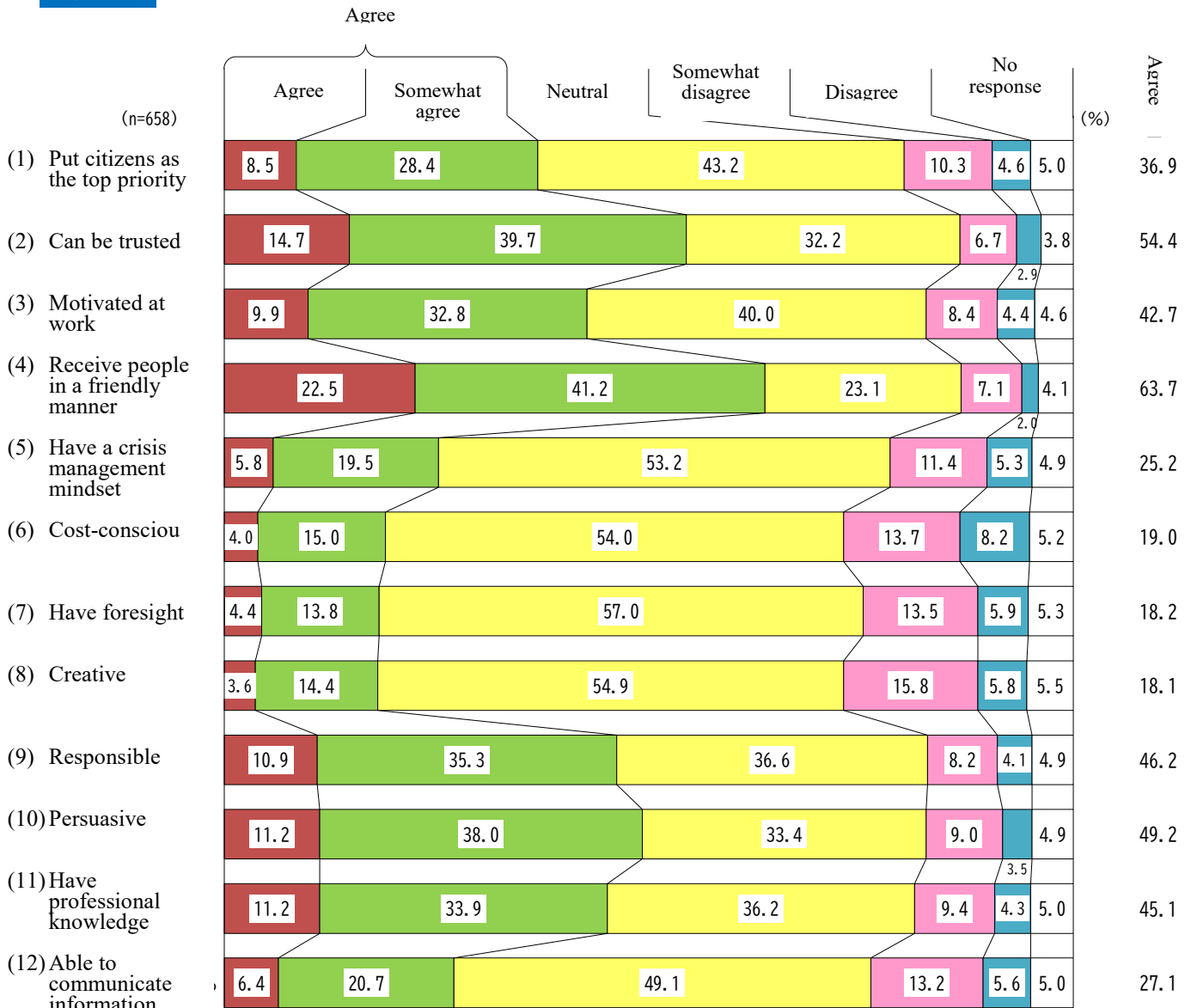
Figure 14



10 Impression of Minato City staff

When respondents were asked about their impression of Minato City staff, 63.7% of the respondents agreed (Combination of respondents who answered “Agree” and “Somewhat agree.” The same applies hereafter.) that Minato City staff “Receive people in a friendly manner,” 54.4% agreed that they “Can be trusted,” and about 50% agreed that they are “Persuasive.” On the other hand, close to 20% agreed that they “Have foresight” (18.2%) and are “Creative” (18/1%) respectively. (Figure 15)

Figure 15



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