

Minato City Public Opinion Polls Vol. 23

(Report on the 30th Minato City Public Opinion Poll, Digest Edition)

MINATO OPINION

【Overview of the Survey】

■ Survey design, etc.

【Survey population】 Minato City residents, men and women aged 20 years and older (including non-Japanese residents)

【Sample size】 2,000 people

【Sampling】 Stratified random sampling from the Basic Resident Register

【Survey methodology】 Distribution by post, and collection by post or electronic submission

【Survey period】 November 16 (Mon) – November 27 (Fri), 2015

【Number of effective responses】 952 people

【Effective response rate】 47.6%

■ Survey items

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) Intention of permanent residence | (5) Minato City Smoking Rules |
| (2) City administration in general | (6) Disaster measures |
| (3) Minato City Basic Plan | (7) Community safety |
| (4) Promotion of internationalization | (8) Interest in elections |

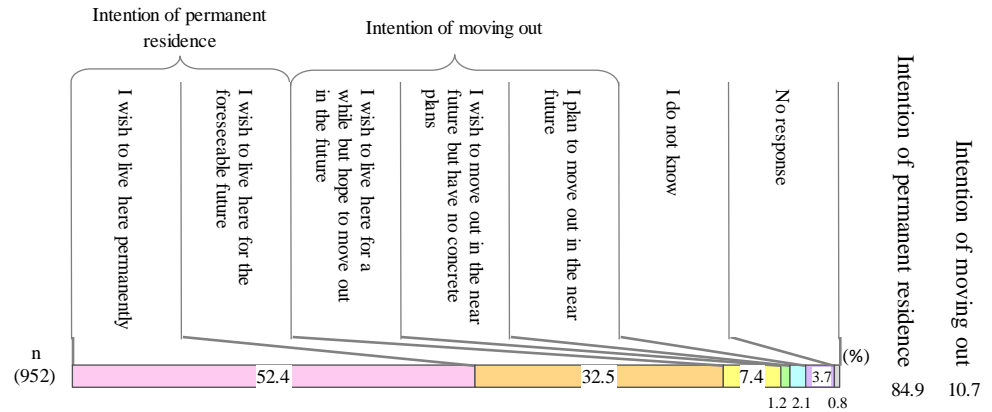
* As the percentages in this report are rounded off to the nearest two decimal places, and there are cases where there are multiple answers, the total percentage may not add up to 100.

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” (52.4%), followed by “I wish to live here for the foreseeable future” (32.5%), making up 84.9% of the respondents indicating an intention of permanent residence. On the other hand, 7.4% selected “I wish to live here for a while but hope to move out in the future,” 1.2% selected “I wish to move out in the near future but have no concrete plans,” and 2.1% selected “I plan to move out in the near future,” making up 10.7% of the respondents indicating an intention of moving out of Minato City. (Figure 1)

Figure 1

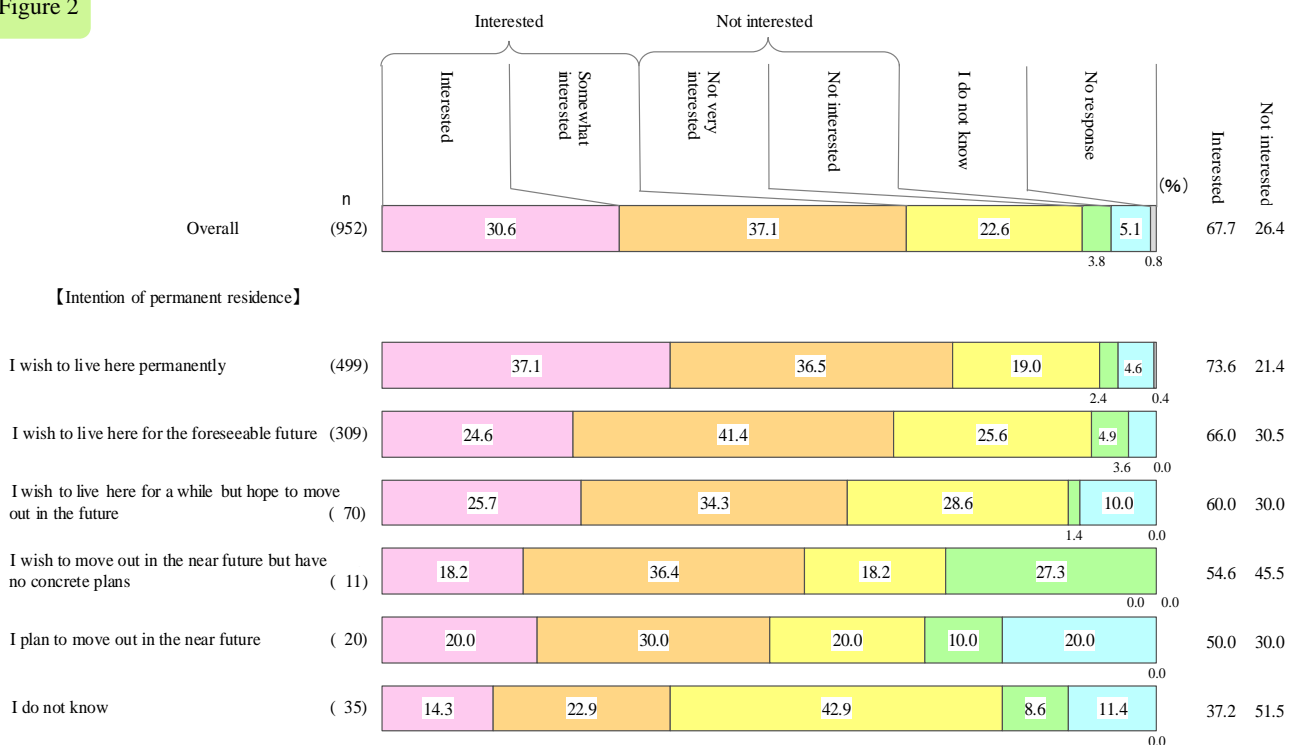


2. City administration in general

In response to the question “Are you interested in city administration?”, the largest number of respondents selected “Somewhat interested” (37.1%), followed by “Interested” (30.6%), making up close to 70% of the respondents indicating an interest in city administration (67.7%). On the other hand, 22.6% selected “Not very interested” and 3.8% selected “Not interested,” making up 26.4% of the respondents indicating that they had no interest in city administration.

Comparing these figures with intention of permanent residence, we see that in general, respondents with a stronger intention of permanent residence tended to be interested in city administration. Among those who selected “I wish to live here permanently,” more than 70% indicated an interest in city administration. (Figure 2)

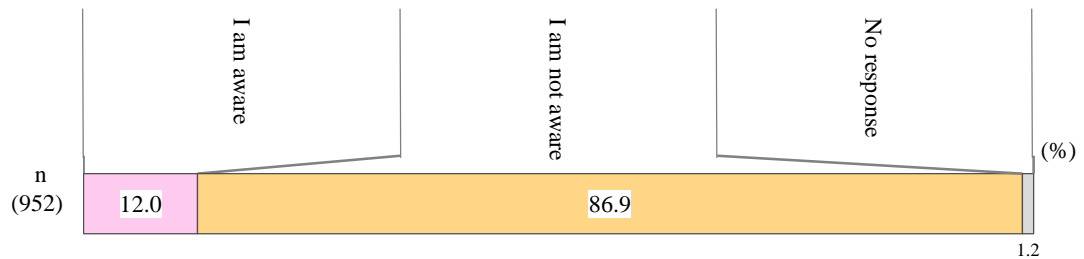
Figure 2



3. Minato City Basic Plan

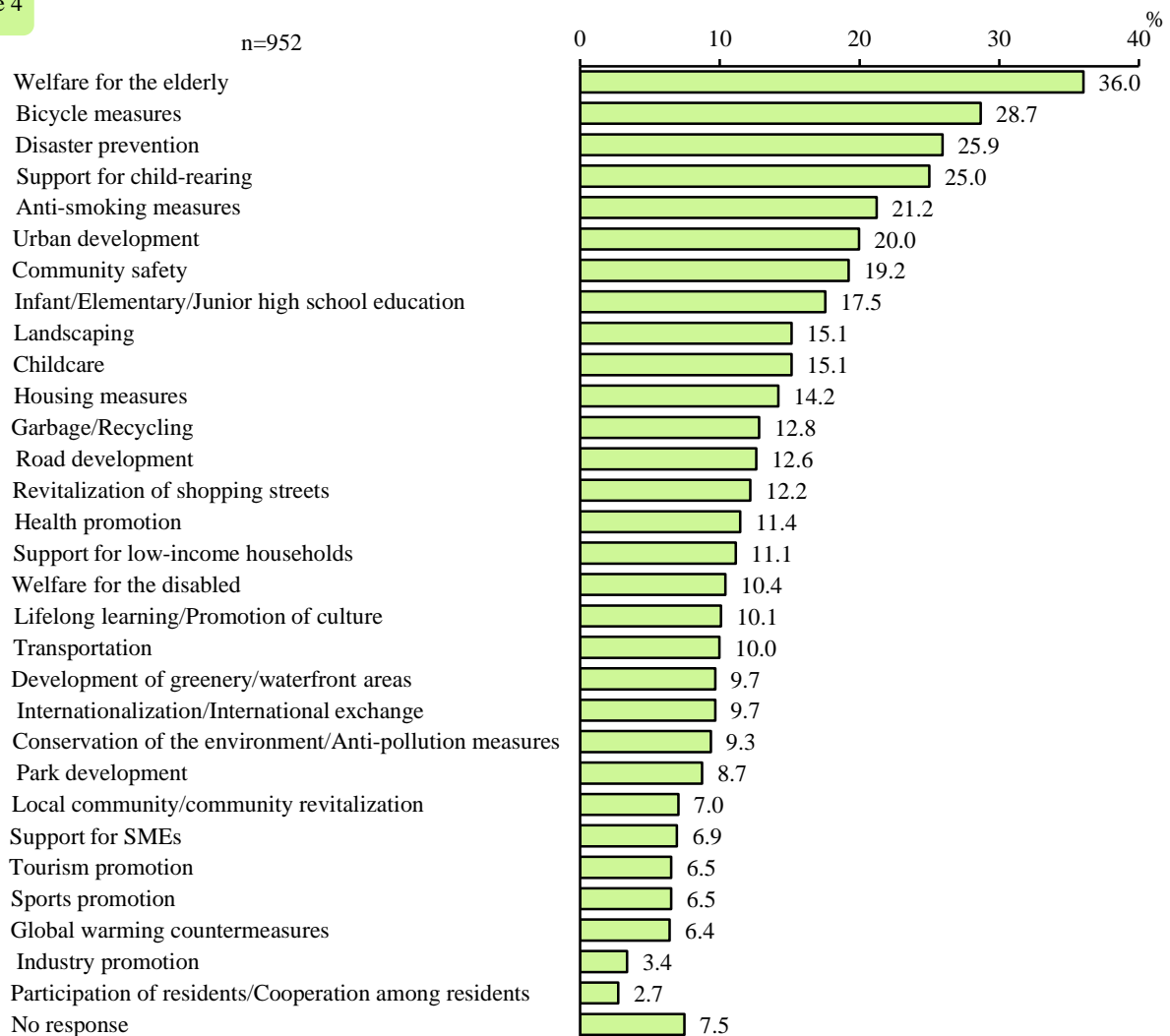
Respondents were asked if they were aware that a new Minato City Basic Plan (FY2015 – FY2020) was formulated in FY2014. More than 10% indicated that they were aware (12.0%), while close to 90% indicated that they were not aware (86.9%). (Figure 3)

Figure 3



With regard to the policies that respondents felt Minato City should place a particular focus on, the policy ranking in first place was “Welfare for the elderly” (36.0%), followed by “Bicycle measures” (28.7%), “Disaster prevention” (25.9%), “Support for child-rearing” (25.0%), and “Anti-smoking measures” (21.2%). (Figure 4)

Figure 4

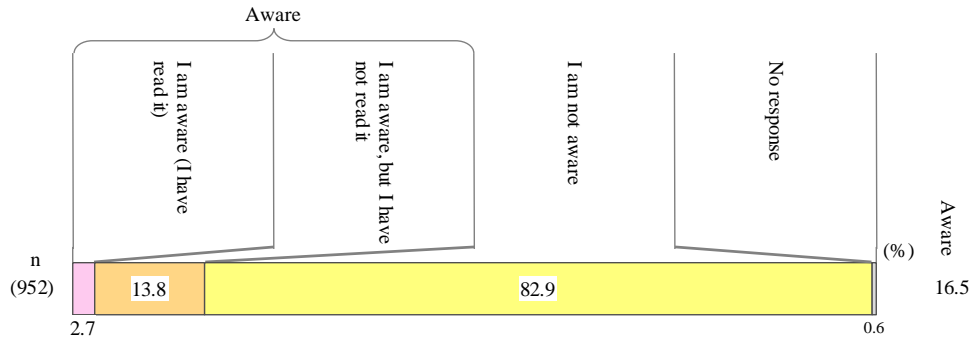


4. Promotion of internationalization

In March 2015, the Minato Internationalization Master Plan was formulated as a systematic representation of the initiatives aimed at further enhancing administrative services for non-Japanese residents, and for further promoting internationalization. Respondents were asked if they were aware of the formulation of this plan. 2.7% answered that they were aware and had read it, while 13.8% answered that they were aware, but had never read it, making a total of 16.5% who were aware of the Plan. On the other hand, more than 80% were not aware of it (82.9%).

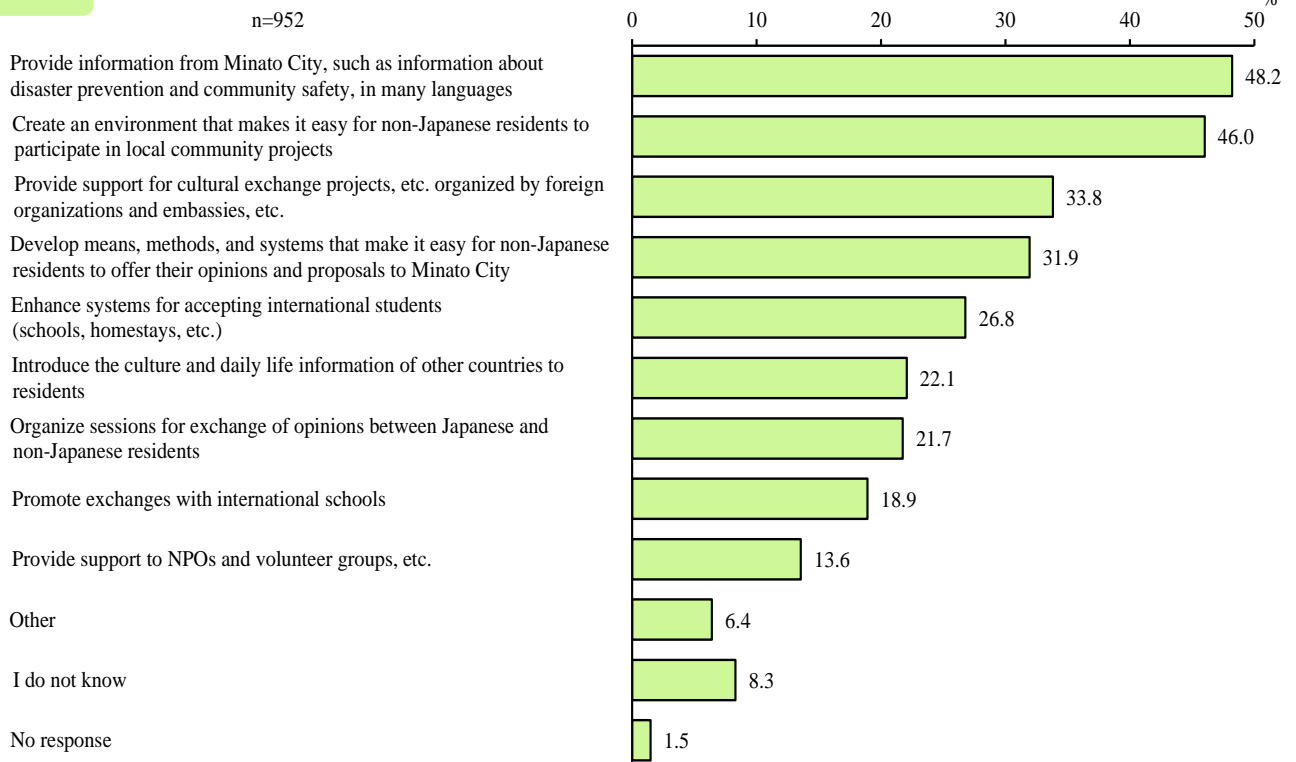
(Figure 5)

Figure 5



In response to the question “What are the initiatives that are necessary in order to promote internationalization?”, the largest number at close to 50% selected “Provide information from Minato City, such as information about disaster prevention and community safety, in many languages” (48.2%). This was followed by “Create an environment that makes it easy for non-Japanese residents to participate in local community projects” (46.0%), “Provide support for cultural exchange projects, etc. organized by foreign organizations and embassies, etc.” (33.8%), and “Develop means, methods, and systems that make it easy for non-Japanese residents to offer their opinions and proposals to Minato City” (31.9%).

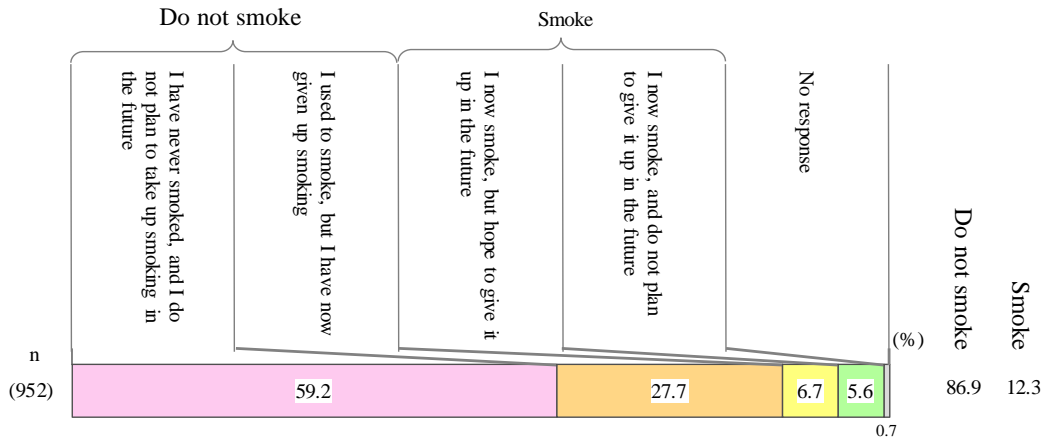
Figure 6



5. Minato City Smoking Rules

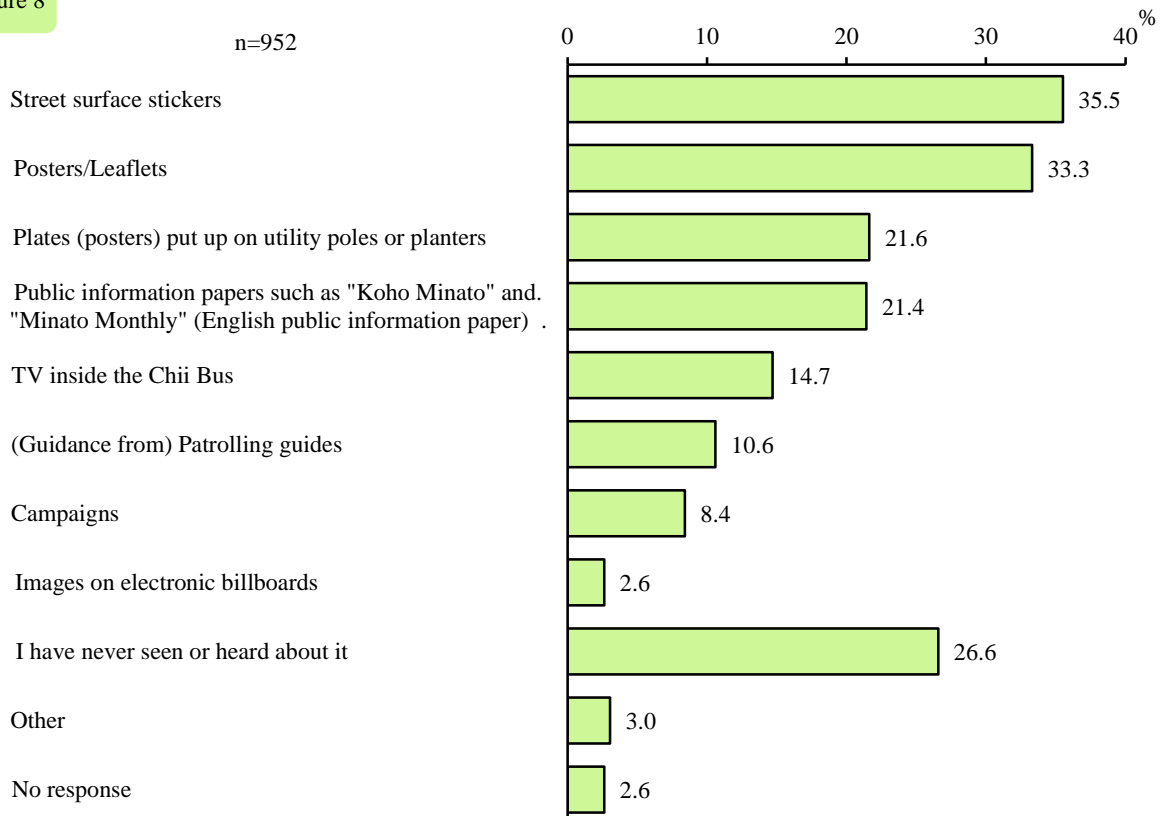
When asked about their smoking habits, the highest proportion of respondents answered “I have never smoked, and I do not plan to take up smoking in the future” (59.2%). Together with the respondents who selected “I used to smoke, but I have now given up smoking” (27.7%), close to 90% of the respondents do not smoke (86.9%). On the other hand, 6.7% selected “I now smoke, but hope to give it up in the future,” and 5.6% selected “I now smoke, and do not plan to give it up in the future,” making more than 10% of respondents who smoke (12.3%). (Figure 7)

Figure 7



Respondents were asked if they had seen or heard about the Minato City Smoking Rules, which prevents people from smoking or littering cigarette butts in outdoor public places. The largest number of respondents selected “Street surface stickers” (35.5%), followed by “Posters/Leaflets” (33.3%) and “Plates (posters) put up on utility poles or planters” (21.6%). On the other hand, close to 30% indicated that they had never seen or heard about the Rule (26.6%). (Figure 8)

Figure 8



In response to the question about the smoking initiatives that are necessary in the future, the largest number of respondents answered “Establish penal regulations and strengthen crackdowns” (44.3%). This was followed by “Strengthen publicity efforts to educate people on the objectives of the Minato City Smoking Rules” (39.5%), and “Increase the number of designated smoking areas outdoors” (35.4%). (Figure 9)

Figure 9



6. Disaster measures

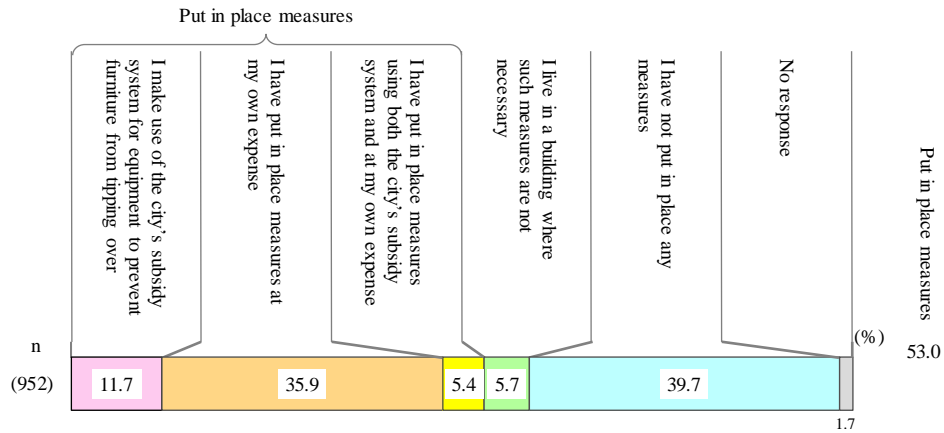
Respondents were asked “In the area of your residence, what do you feel anxious about with regard to natural disasters?” The largest proportion of respondents answered “Disruption to lifelines (electricity, gas, water)” (58.8%), followed by “Collapse of buildings in an earthquake” (41.5%), “Dangers at places in the vicinity, such as objects dropping from high-rise buildings” (27.6%), and “Disruption to the information network” (19.3%). (Figure 10)

Figure 10



Respondents were asked about the measures they had taken in their own homes to prevent furniture from tipping over/objects from falling in the event of a major earthquake. The largest number responded “I have put in place measures at my own expense” (35.9%), followed by “I make use of the city’s subsidy system for equipment to prevent furniture from tipping over” (11.7%) and “I have put in place measures using both the city’s subsidy system and at my own expense” (5.4%), making a total of 53.0% of respondents who have put measures in place. On the other hand, 39.7% of the respondents have not put in place any measures. (Figure 11)

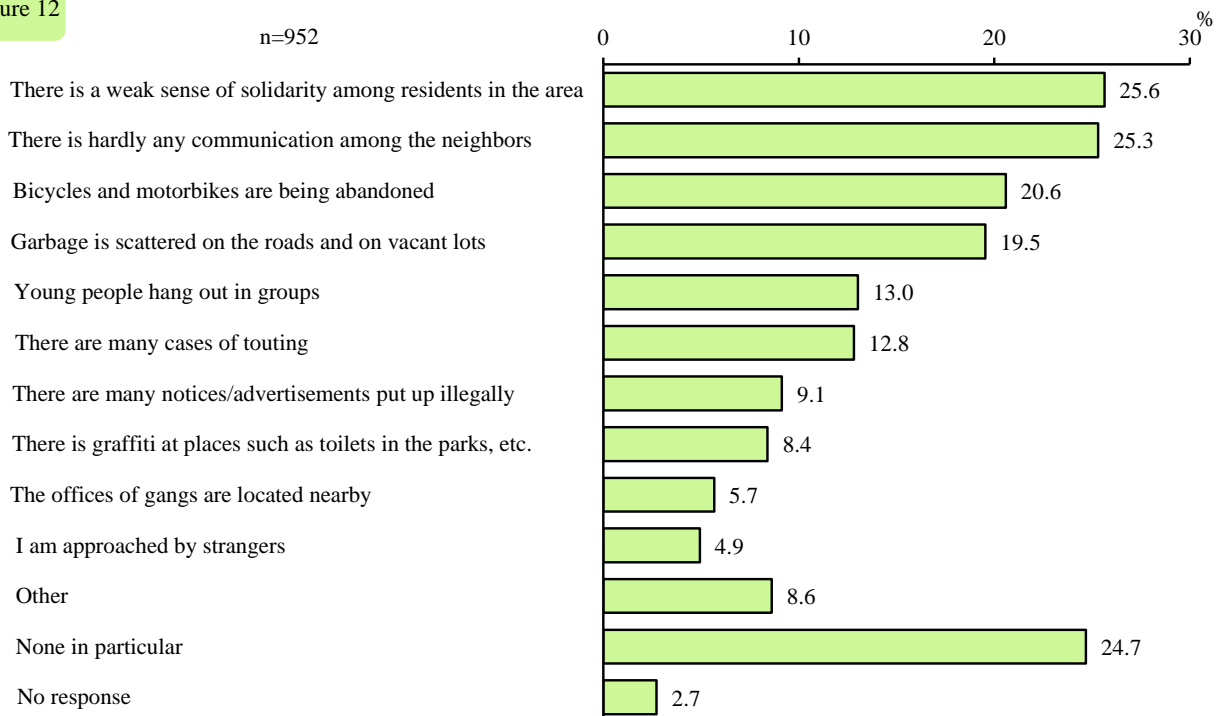
Figure 11



7. Community safety

Respondents were asked if they feel threatened about any aspects of their everyday lives. The top two answers were “There is a weak sense of solidarity among residents in the area” (25.6%) and “There is hardly any communication among the neighbors” (25.3%). These were followed by “Bicycles and motorbikes are being abandoned” (20.6%) and “Garbage is scattered on the roads and on vacant lots” (19.5%). On the other hand, 24.7% indicated that they did not feel threatened in any particular aspects of their everyday lives. (Figure 12)

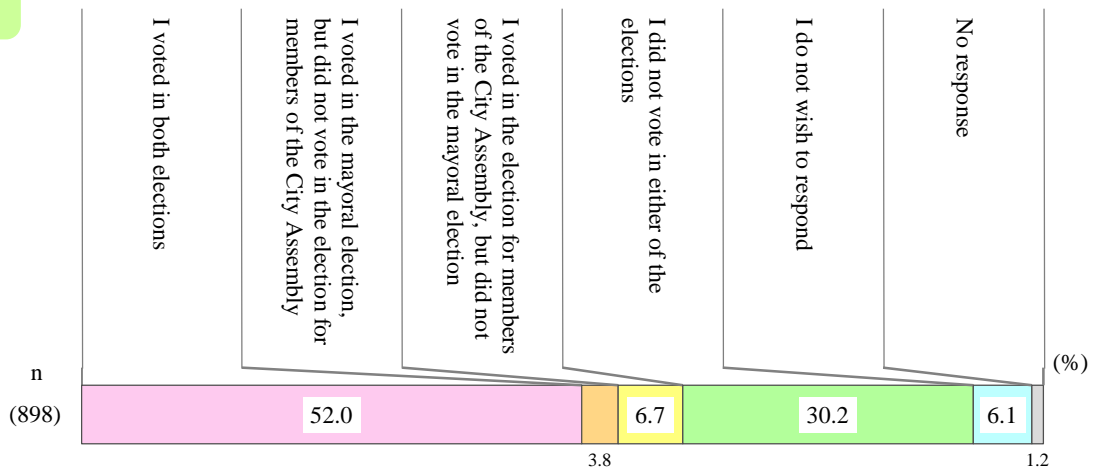
Figure 12



8. Interest in elections

Respondents were asked if they had voted in the mayoral election (held on June 10, 2012) and the election for members of the City Assembly (held on April 26, 2015). The largest number of respondents, at more than half of all respondents, answered that they had voted in both (52.0%), and 30.2% answered that they had not voted in either election. On the other hand, 3.8% answered that they had voted in the mayoral election but not in the election for members of the City Assembly, and 6.7% answered that they had voted in the election for members of the City Assembly but not in the mayoral election, making 10.5% of the respondents who had not voted in either one of the elections. (Figure 13)

Figure 13



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