Life in Old Age

1. Worries about Life in Old Age

- The percentage of households "worried" about their life in old age⁷ is still approximately 80%.
- For households in which the heads are under the age of 60, the percentage of "worried" households has reached a record high since the question was first incorporated into the survey in 1992. This is related to the rise in the percentage of households that are "very worried" [Figure 13].
- Approximately 70% of "worried" households in which the heads are under the age of 60 indicated that they "do not have enough savings" and that "pension or insurance is not sufficient" as reasons for being worried [Figure 14].

 7 Households "worried" are the total of those "very worried" and "somewhat worried."

<u>Figure 13.</u> State of Worries about Life in Old Age <Question 30 >

[Total]	Very worried		Somewha worried	t	Not so worri		No answer ↓
2000	26.8		52.	3		20.6	0.3
2001	30.	0	48.0		2	21.5	0.4
2002	31.	5	47.4			20.4	0.6
[Under the age of 60]							
2000	30.	6	54.1			15.0	0.4
2001	34	.0				15.3	0.4
2002	37	37.5 49.1		49.1	12.6		0.7
[60 years or older]							
2000	19.7	19.7 49.0			31.1		0.2
2001	23.5		44.3		31.9		0.3
2002	22.0	22.0 44.7			32.8		0.4
	L		1		I		1
	0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	10	0%

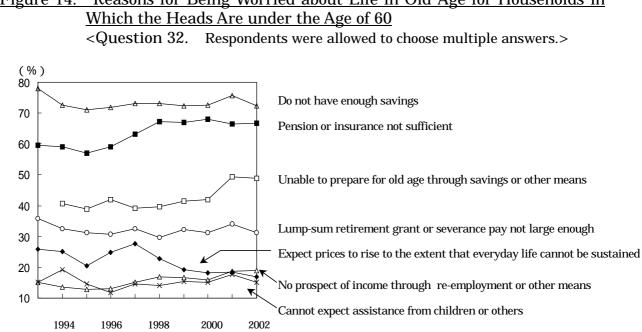
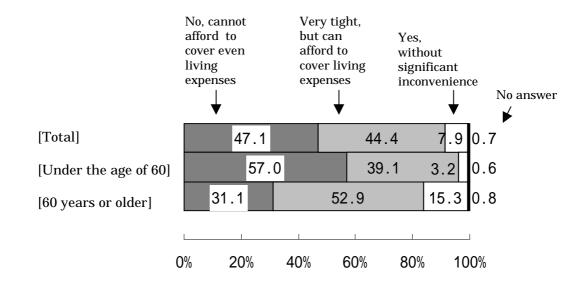


Figure 14. Reasons for Being Worried about Life in Old Age for Households in

2. Views on Pensions

- When asked if pensions (i.e., public pensions and corporate pensions but not personal annuity insurance) can cover living expenses in old age, still more than 90% of households responded "very tight"⁸ with those pensions only. Among others, less than 60% of households in which the heads are under the age of 60 responded "cannot afford to cover even living expenses" [Figure 15].
- Two thirds of those households in which the heads are under the age of 60 indicated that they "expect cuts in pension benefits" and more than half indicated that they "expect the age at which pension benefits start to be raised" as reasons for responding "very tight." In those households in which the heads are 60 years or older, two thirds referred to an "increase of individuals' share of health care and nursing care costs" as the reason for the response "very tight." In addition, the percentage of households that selected the response "expect cuts in pension benefits" has increased compared with last year [Figure 16].

⁸ Households that responded "very tight" are the total of households responding "cannot afford to cover even living expenses" and those responding "very tight, but can afford to cover living expenses."



<u>Figure 15. Views on Pensions</u> <Question 33(a)>

<u>Figure 16.</u> <u>Reasons Why Households Consider Their Finances "Very Tight" with</u> <u>Pensions Only</u> <Question 33(b). Respondents were allowed to choose multiple answers.>

Households in which the heads are under the age of 60

Households in which the heads are 60 years or older

