This newsletter is being sent to current and former The Nippon Foundation fellows, and persons who have asked to be added to the mailing list or have been introduced by The Nippon Foundation staff.



For Social Innovation

# [The Nippon Foundation News] Daily Life with the Coronavirus

Greetings from the Nippon Foundation. Both Tokyo and Japan as a whole continue to record infections of the new coronavirus on a daily basis, but with the overall trend in the number of new infections having stabilized and a relatively low number of serious cases, authorities have moved to a stage of balancing precautions against infection with restarting economic activity. A Go To Travel campaign using government-subsidized discounts to promote domestic travel was launched in late July, and although travel to and from Tokyo was originally excluded, Tokyo is being included from October 1. In addition, a Go To Eat campaign is being launched to support the restaurant industry. The limit on the number of spectators who can attend sporting events has also been relaxed, to half the venue's capacity from the previous 5,000.

This new "daily life with the coronavirus" means that precautions remain in place, however. In addition to mask wearing by the general public, almost all shops, restaurants, and offices have hand sanitizer dispensers at their entrances and ask visitors to disinfect their hands before entering, and many have infrared thermometers or thermal imaging systems set up to make sure that no one with a high body temperature enters. Elementary and secondary school sports days, which are a popular event in October, are being held but with fewer participants so that social distancing can be maintained. Many other events including seminars, conferences, and even sake tastings, continue to be held online instead of in person.



A sign in a Tokyo shopping arcade thanking medical professionals and reminding people to maintain social distancing (left); A bottle of hand sanitizer (center) and thermal imaging system (right) set up at the entrance to The Nippon Zaidan Building

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#### News

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- Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds (2020.09.29)
- Hints for Creating an "18-Year-Old Society" (2020.08.24)

#### Before I am an athlete, I am a Black woman



Tennis player Naomi Osaka posted this statement on Twitter on August 26 after reaching the semi-final stage of the Western & Southern Open, in response to the shooting three days prior of a Black man by a white police officer. Olympic history also includes well-known protests against racial discrimination. One occurred on October 16, 1968, at the awards ceremony for the Men's 200-meter track event at the Mexico City Games.

Full Article

### **Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds**

#### Regional revitalization

Where do you want to Urban area Rural area live in the future? 56.5% 43.5% (2020; n=1,000) Where do you want to Rural area Urban area live in the future? 38.8% 61.3% (2019; n=800) Rural area Urban area Where were you raised?

36.2%

63.8%

The 29th installment of the Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds was carried out in early August on the theme of "Regional Revitalization." The survey showed that roughly 56% of respondents want to live in an urban area in the future, compared with roughly 43% who want to live in a rural area. Roughly 44% said that they took the risk of infection of the new coronavirus into consideration when making their decision.

(2020; n=1,000)

Full Article

Hints for Creating an "18-Year-Old Society"
Support is needed for a society that inspires dreams



In the fall of 2019, The Nippon Foundation conducted an "Awareness Survey of Society and Country" covering 17- to 19-year-olds in nine countries. The survey showed that in a number of areas, young people in Japan ranked last compared with their peers in other countries in terms of considering themselves to be adults, having dreams for the future, and believing that they can change society or their country. We asked Masashi Fujiki, a secondary school teacher who follows these issues, for his insights on the subject.

Full Article

## Yohei Sasakawa Blog

**Chairman of The Nippon Foundation** 



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<u>Receiving Seiron (Sound Opinion) Grand Prize, I Call for "Altering"</u>
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