

Awareness Survey of Women
No. 3: International Comparison of
Attitudes on Declining Birthrates
(English Version)

March 2021

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Survey Overview

- Scope of Survey: Women aged 18-69 in Japan and 7 other countries (see below)
- Survey method: Internet survey
- Survey period: January 21 – February 3, 2021
- No. of replies: As per below, 100 for each of 5 age groups in each country

	18 to 29 years old	30 to 39 years old	40 to 49 years old	50 to 59 years old	60 to 69 years old	total
Japan	100	100	100	100	100	500
USA	100	100	100	100	100	500
China	100	100	100	100	100	500
Korea	100	100	100	100	100	500
France	100	100	100	100	100	500
Italy	100	100	100	100	100	500
Sweden	100	100	100	100	100	500
Denmark	100	100	100	100	100	500
total	800	800	800	800	800	4000

Respondent Profile (1)

◎place of residence

(%)

	Hokkaido & Tohoku region	Tokyo Metropolitan Area	Chubu region	Kinki region	Chugoku & Shikoku region	Kyusyu & Okinawa region	Large metropolitan area	Other
Japan	8.6	42.6	14.0	20.4	8.8	5.6	-	-
USA	-	-	-	-	-	-	48.0	52.0
China	-	-	-	-	-	-	90.2	9.8
Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-	79.4	20.6
France	-	-	-	-	-	-	75.4	24.6
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	67.2	32.8
Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	47.8	52.2
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.6	49.4

◎highest academic qualification

(%)

	Junior high school	High school	Junior college / technical college / vocational school	4-year college or university	Master's program, PhD program, Professional	Post-doctoral course	Other
Japan	2.4	19.4	33.4	41.2	2.4	0.4	0.8
USA	1.0	25.4	24.0	26.8	16.2	5.4	1.2
China	1.2	8.2	17.8	62.8	8.8	1.0	0.2
Korea	2.6	25.8	12.4	51.8	4.8	2.4	0.2
France	6.6	27.2	23.8	23.8	14.0	1.0	3.6
Italy	7.8	45.2	8.6	27.4	9.4	1.4	0.2
Sweden	6.6	38.4	14.2	28.4	9.8	0.8	1.8
Denmark	9.8	12.0	32.2	20.4	19.8	1.0	4.8

Respondent Profile (2)

◎Occupation

(%)

	Employee (manager, regular employee, contract work etc.)	Employee (temporary staff, part- time job)	Business owner	Self- employed	Full-time housewife	Student	Unemployed	Other
Japan	34.4	22.6	1.6	4.0	27.4	2.6	6.8	0.6
USA	35.0	11.4	2.0	6.8	10.0	6.0	18.6	10.2
China	69.2	2.0	7.8	6.8	3.8	3.6	4.2	2.6
Korea	43.8	6.0	0.6	8.6	25.6	7.6	6.6	1.2
France	48.8	9.0	0.6	2.2	8.4	4.2	15.2	11.6
Italy	31.4	14.4	0.8	7.8	18.0	8.6	10.2	8.8
Sweden	34.6	18.6	1.2	2.4	3.4	9.0	10.8	20.0
Denmark	38.0	12.0	0.2	4.8	5.0	12.0	9.4	18.6

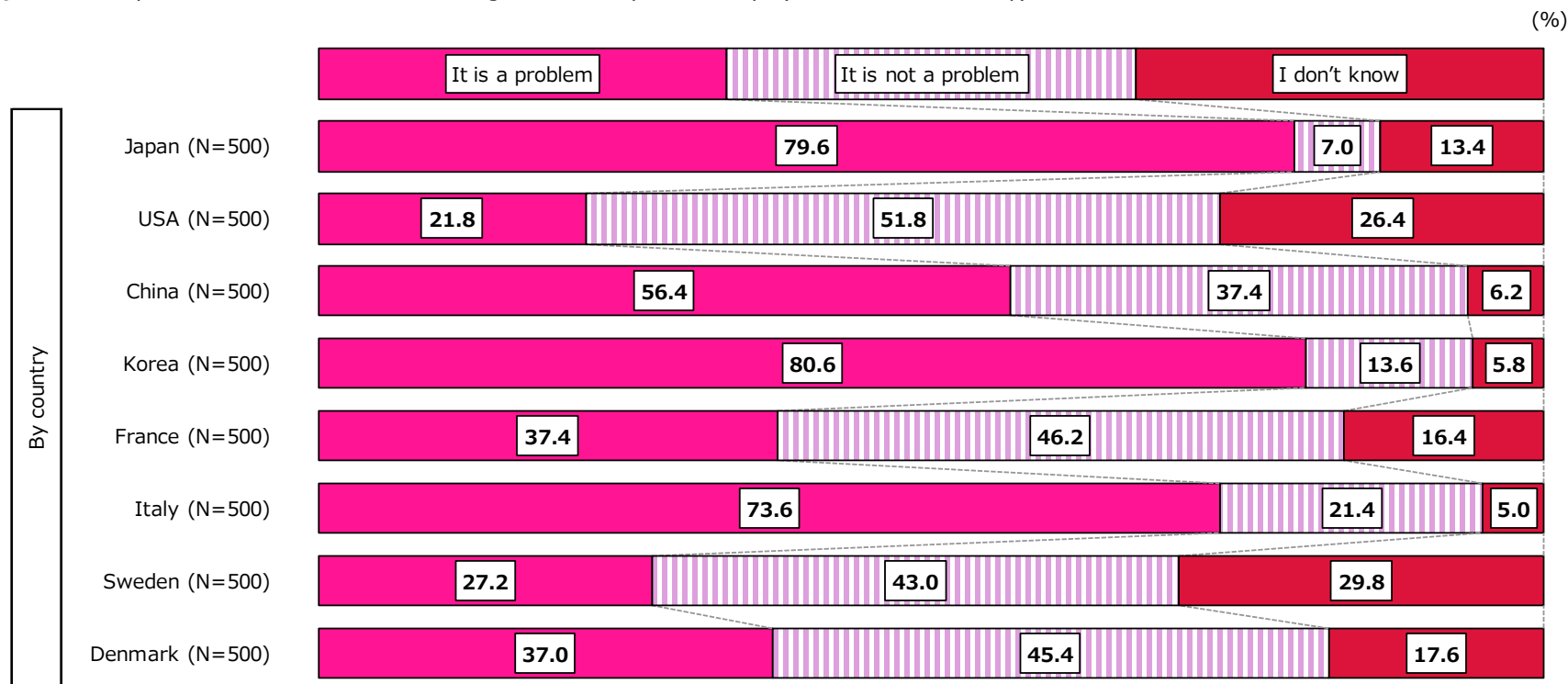
◎Life Stage

(%)

	Married , with children	Married with no children	Common-law marriage, with children	Common-law marriage with no children	Unmarried with children	Unmarried with no children
Japan	44.4	14.6	0.6	0.6	8.4	31.4
USA	41.6	11.4	4.6	3.8	13.4	25.2
China	76.4	5.8	2.6	0.2	0.8	14.2
Korea	52.8	6.2	2.4	0.6	1.2	36.8
France	36.6	13.0	7.8	9.2	9.6	23.8
Italy	44.0	8.0	7.0	10.4	7.8	22.8
Sweden	24.0	7.0	10.0	10.8	18.0	30.2
Denmark	31.6	9.4	6.2	5.2	17.6	30.0

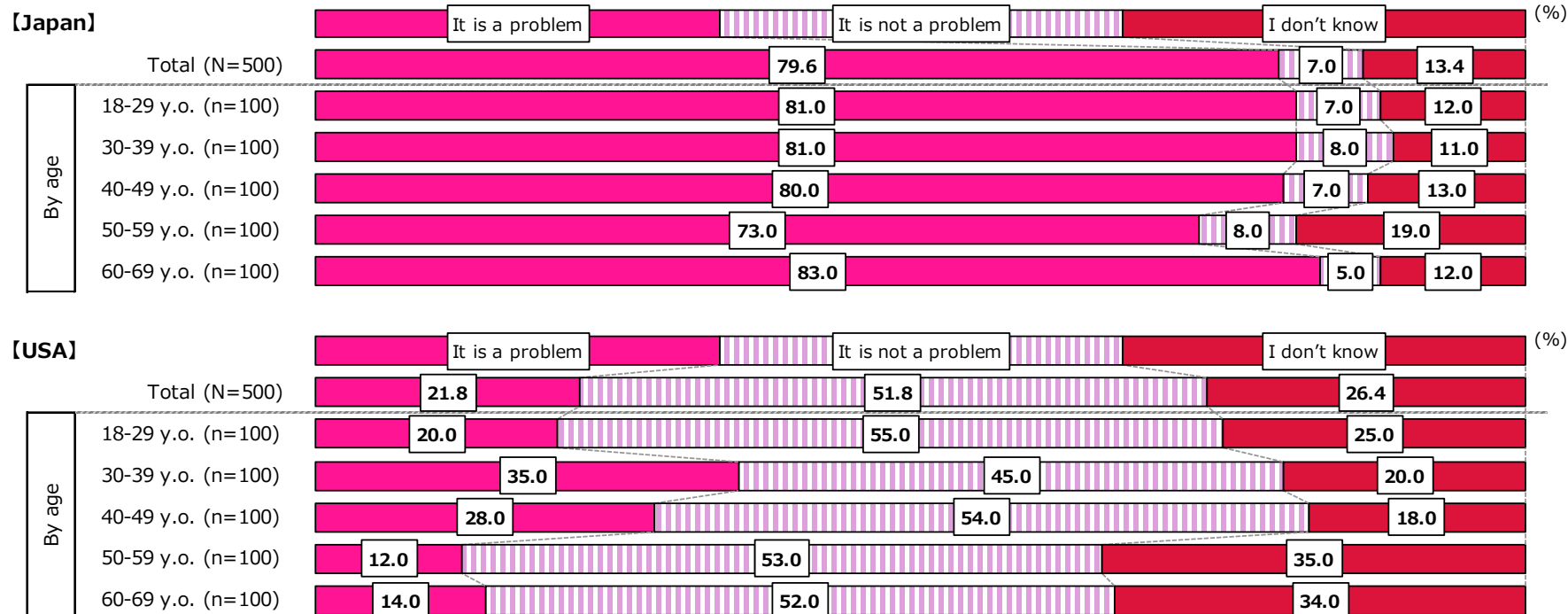
1-1. Views on Current Declining Birthrate (1)

Q1. What are your views on the current declining birthrate in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)



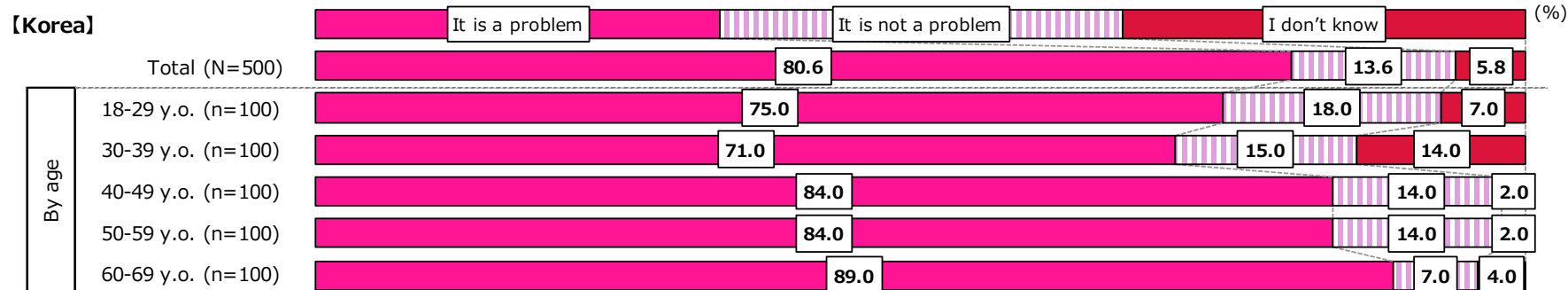
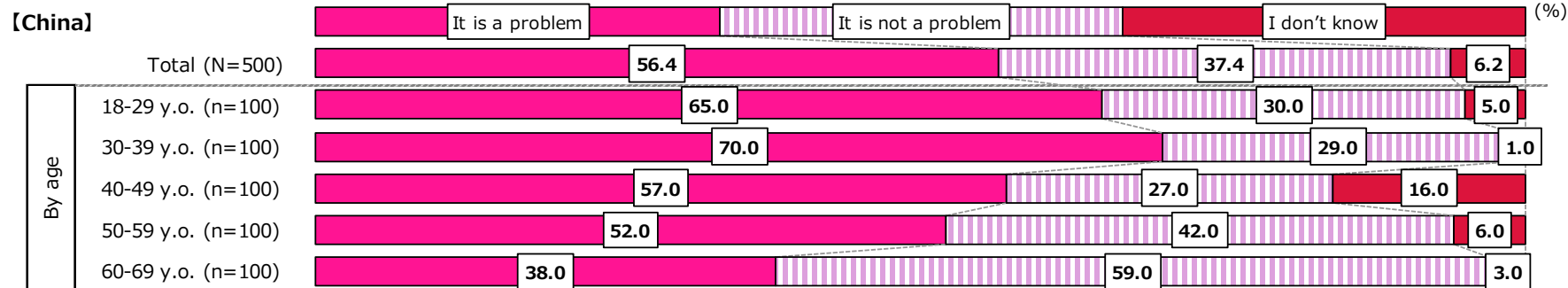
1-1. Views on Current Declining Birthrate (2)

Q1. What are your views on the current declining birthrate in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)



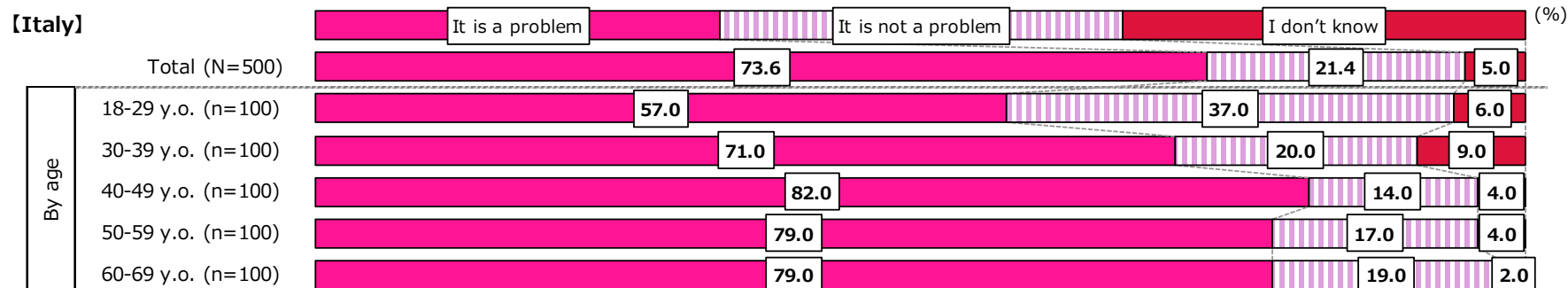
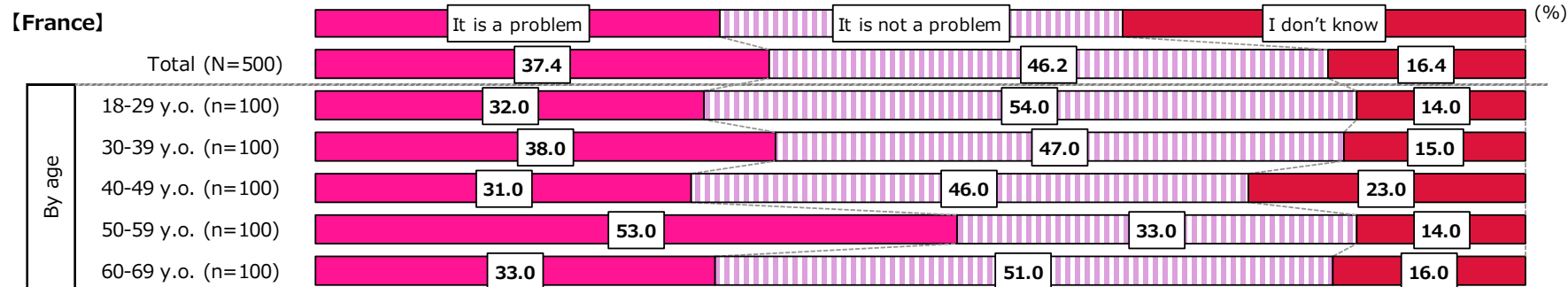
1-1. Views on Current Declining Birthrate (3)

Q1. What are your views on the current declining birthrate in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)



1-1. Views on Current Declining Birthrate (4)

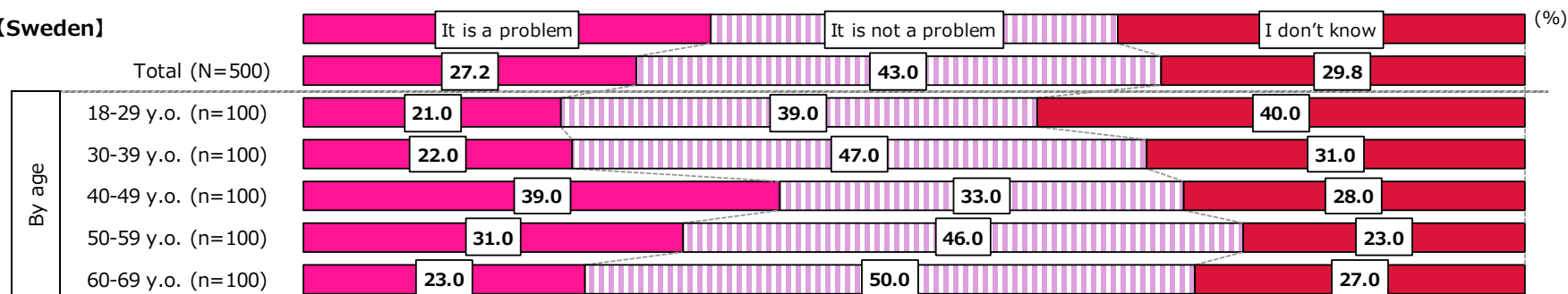
Q1.What are your views on the current declining birthrate in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)



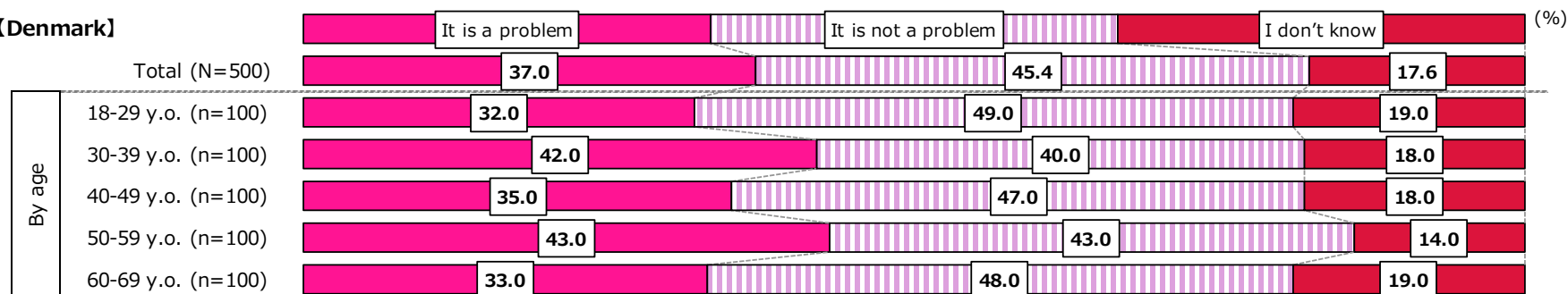
1-1. Views on Current Declining Birthrate (5)

Q1.What are your views on the current declining birthrate in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)

【Sweden】

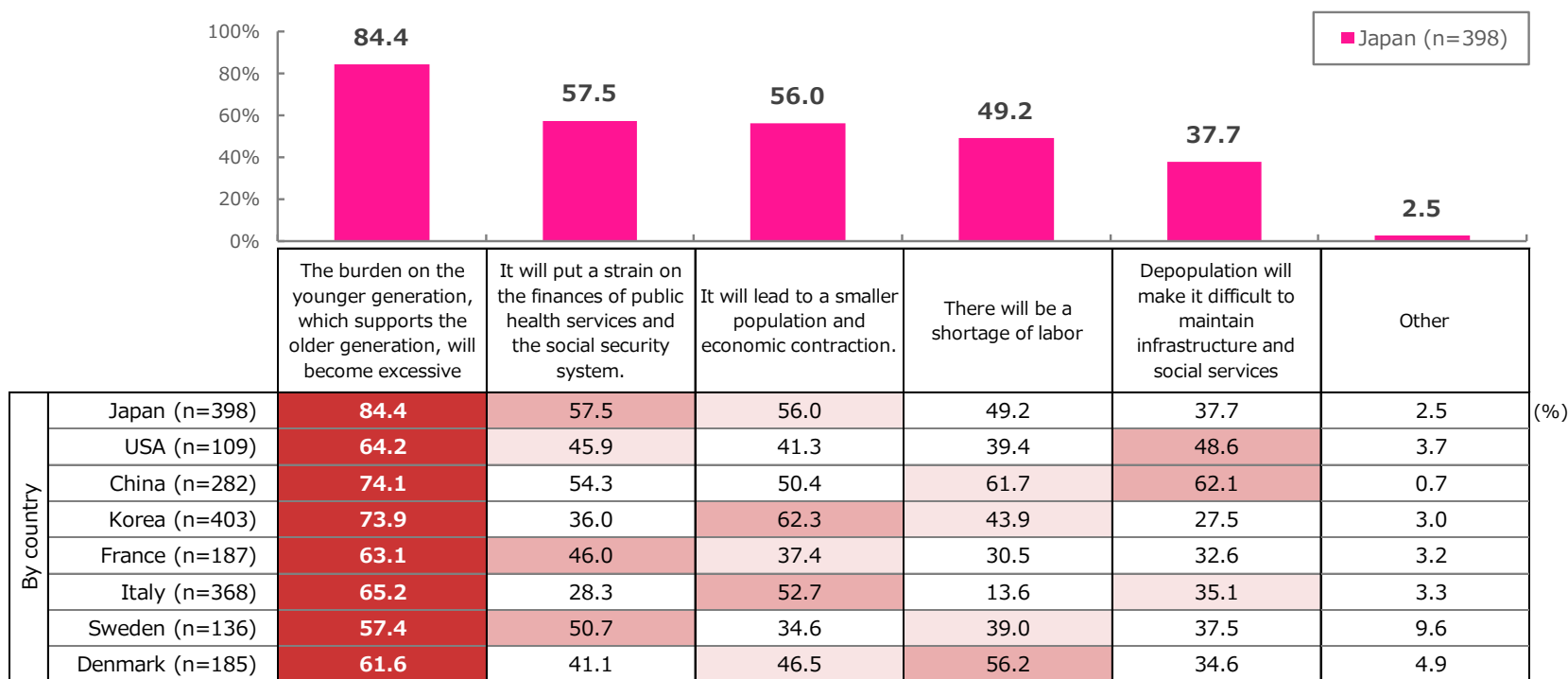


【Denmark】



1-2. Reasons Current Declining Birthrate Is a Problem

Q2.(Q1=It is a problem) Why do you think so? (Choose as many answers as you like)

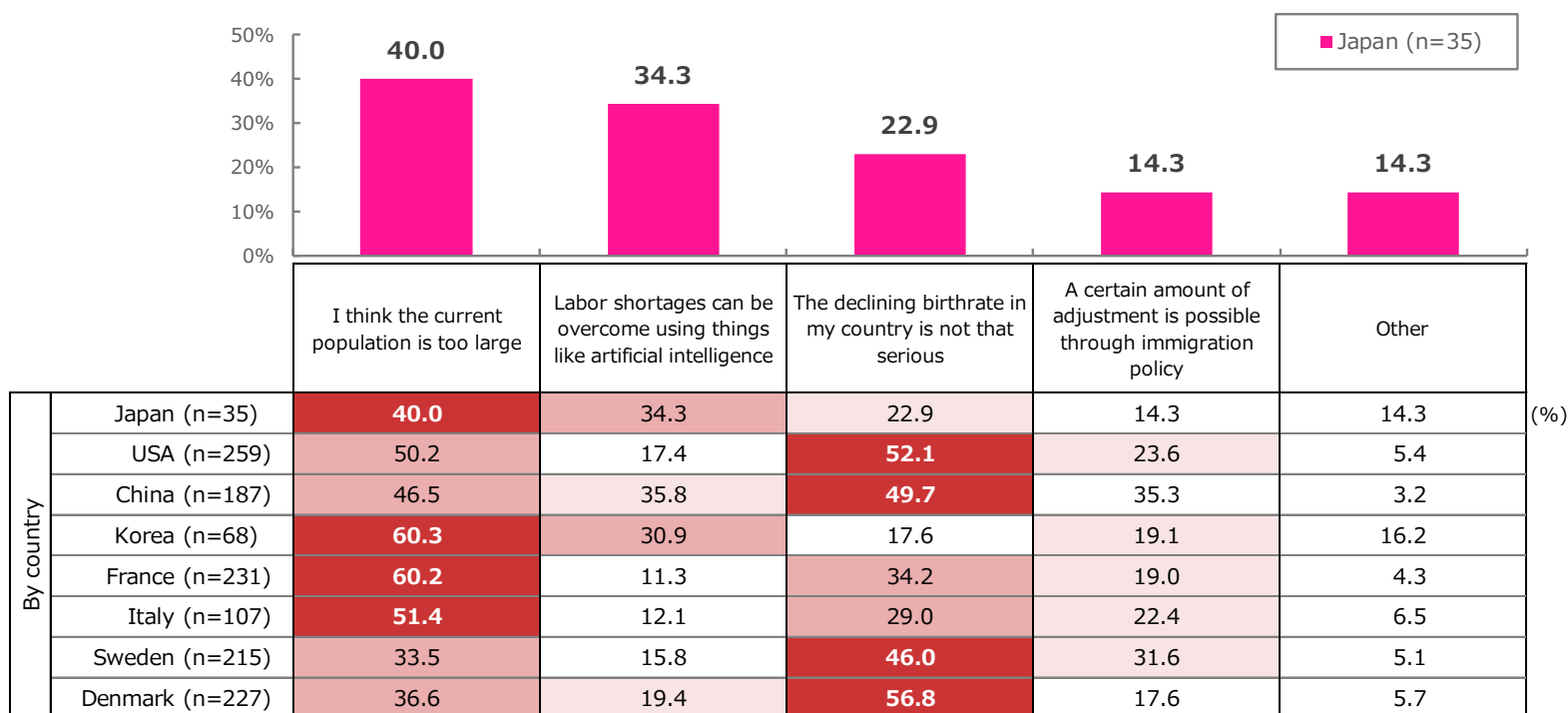


※List in descending order of Japan's score (From left to right)

Top3 (In each country) ■ : 1st ■ : 2nd ■ : 3rd

1-3. Reasons Current Declining Birthrate Is Not a Problem

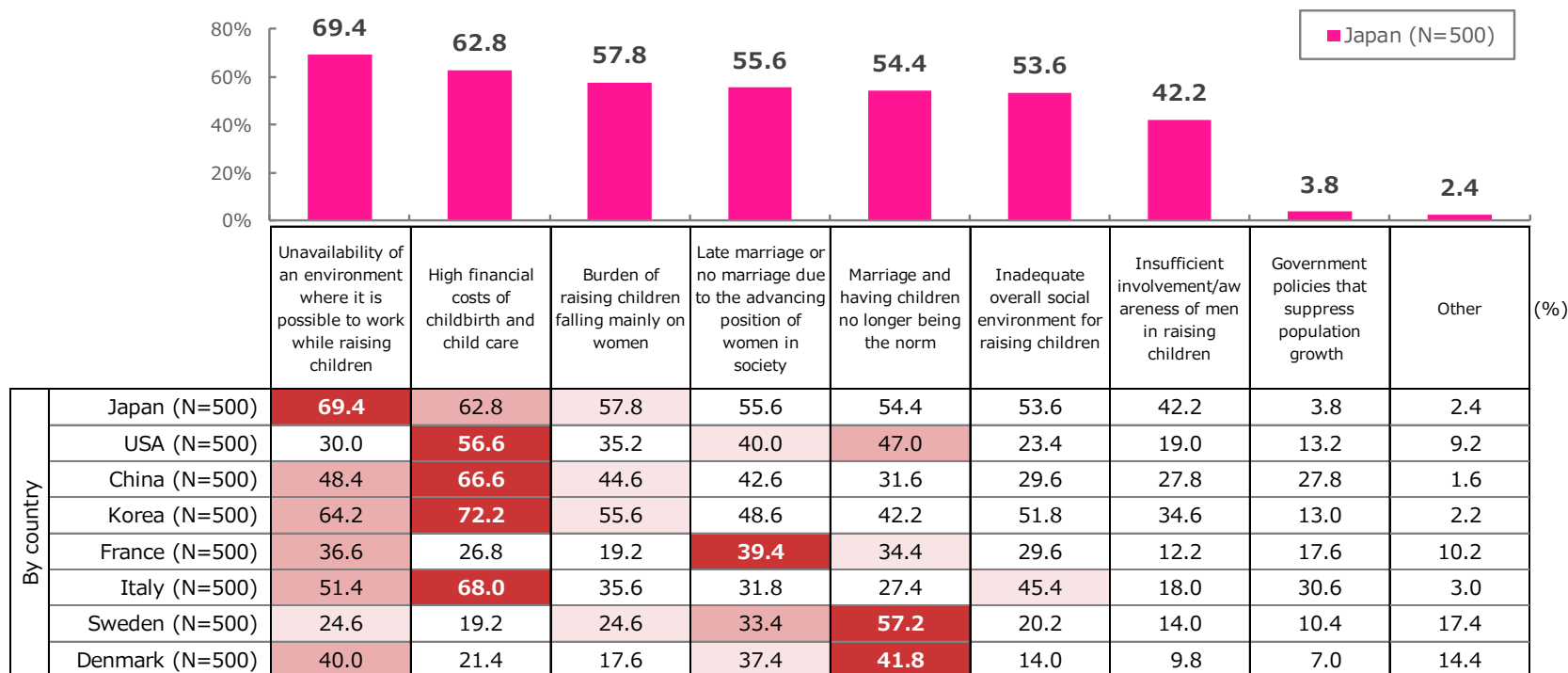
Q3.(Q1=It is not a problem) Why do you think so? (Choose as many answers as you like)



※List in descending order of Japan's score (From left to right) Top3 (In each country) ■ : 1st ■ : 2nd ■ : 3rd

1-4. Causes of Declining Birthrate

Q4.What do you think is the cause of the declining birthrate in your country? (Choose as many answers as you like)

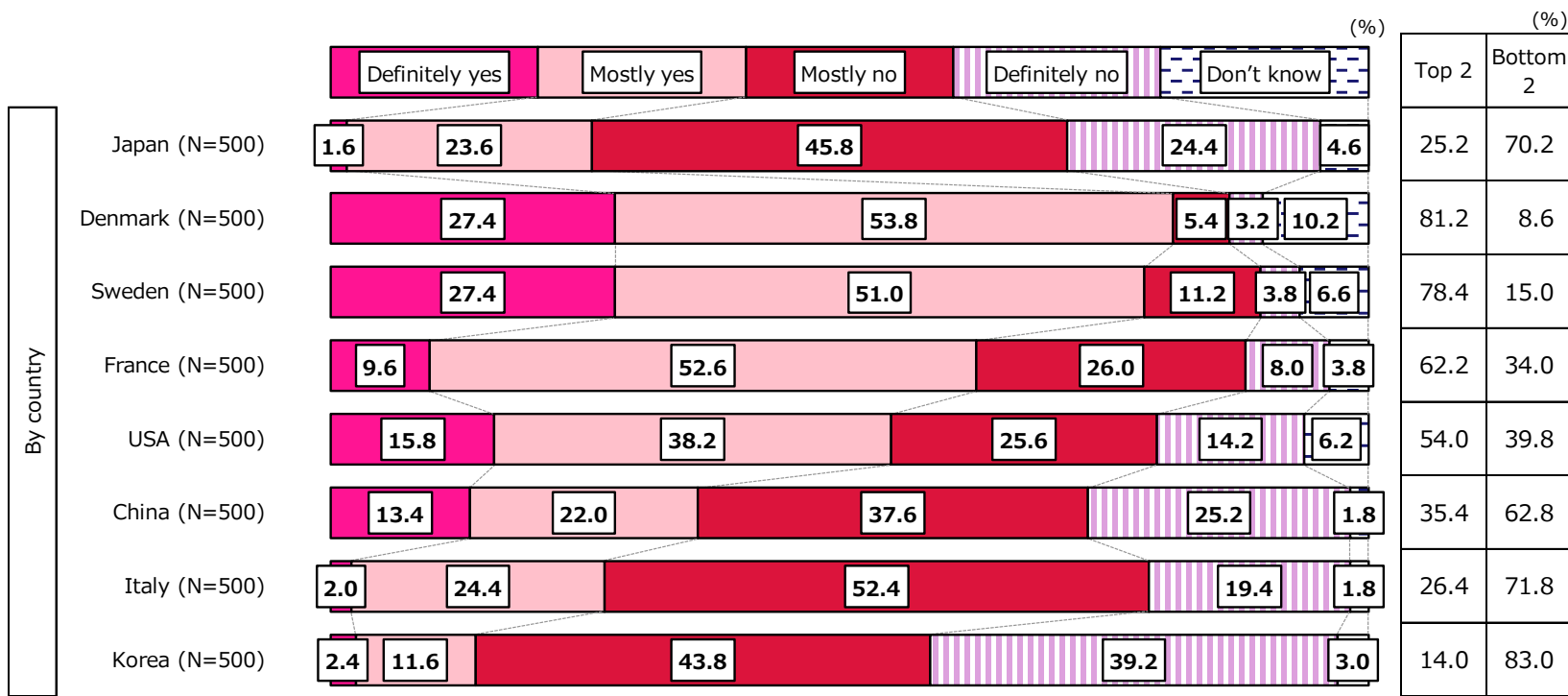


※List in descending order of Japan's score (From left to right)

Top3 (In each country) ■ : 1st ■ : 2nd ■ : 3rd

2-1. Ease of Having and Raising Children (1)

Q5.Do you think it is easy to have and raise children in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)



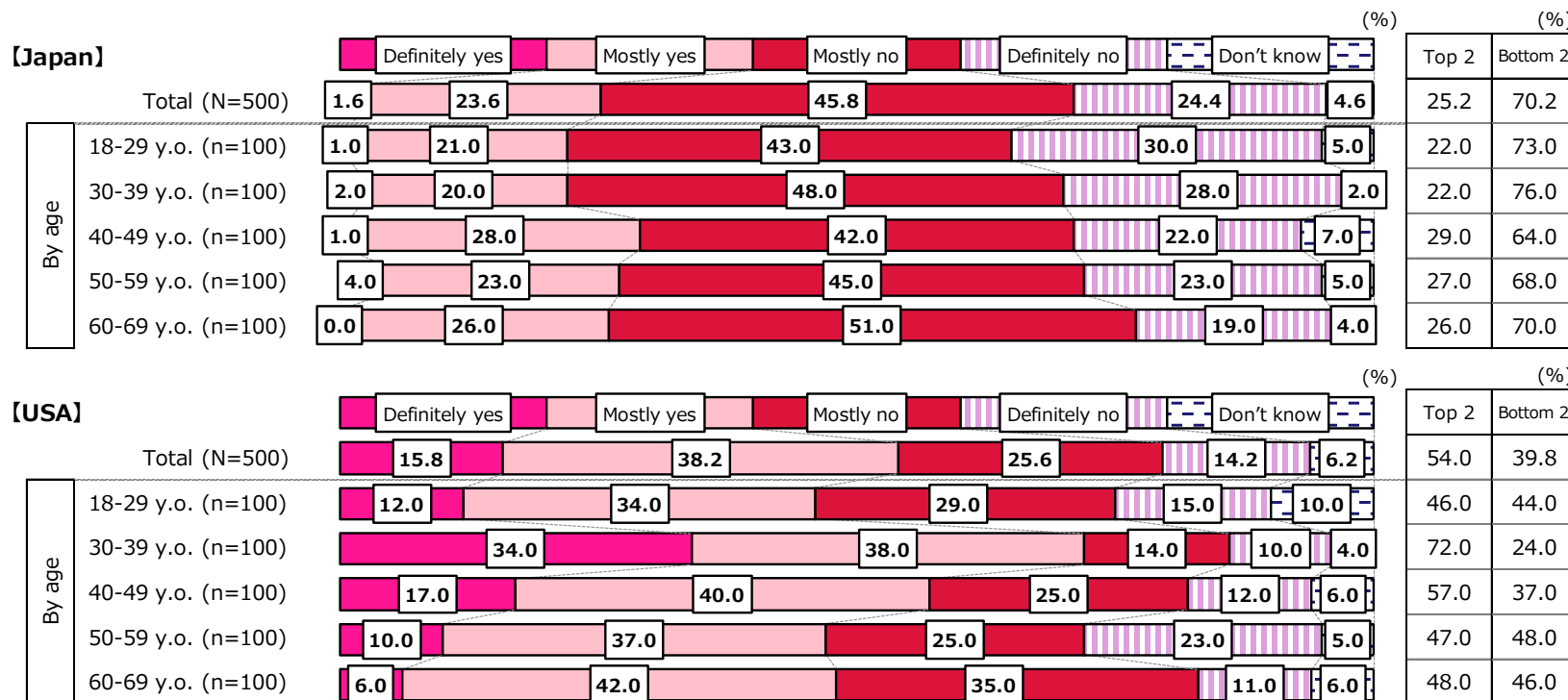
List in descending order of the Top2 score (Excluding Japan)

*Top2="Defenitely yes" + "Mostly yes"

*Bottom2="Defenitely no" + "Mostly no"

2-1. Ease of Having and Raising Children (2)

Q5. Do you think it is easy to have and raise children in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)

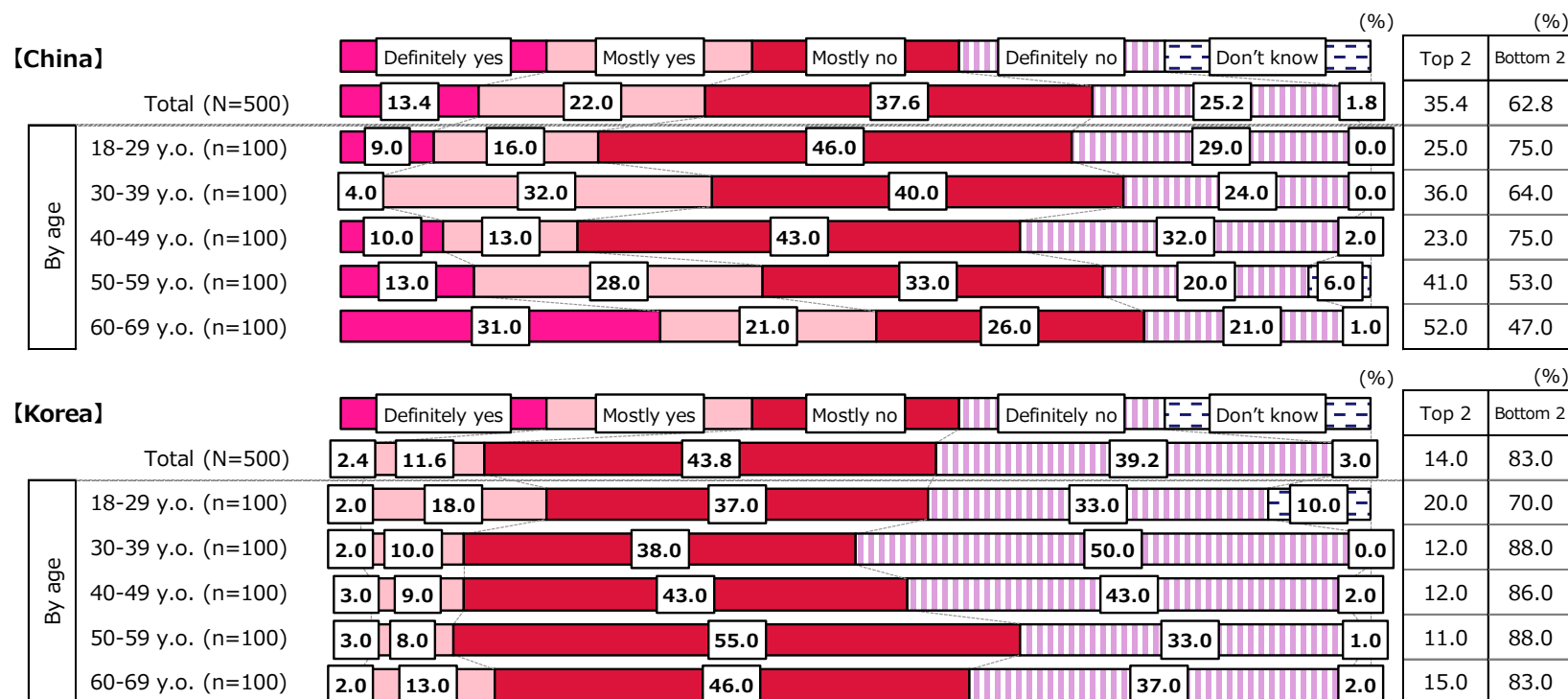


*Top2="Defenitely yes" + "Mostly yes"

*Bottom2="Defenitely no" + "Mostly no"

2-1. Ease of Having and Raising Children (3)

Q5.Do you think it is easy to have and raise children in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)

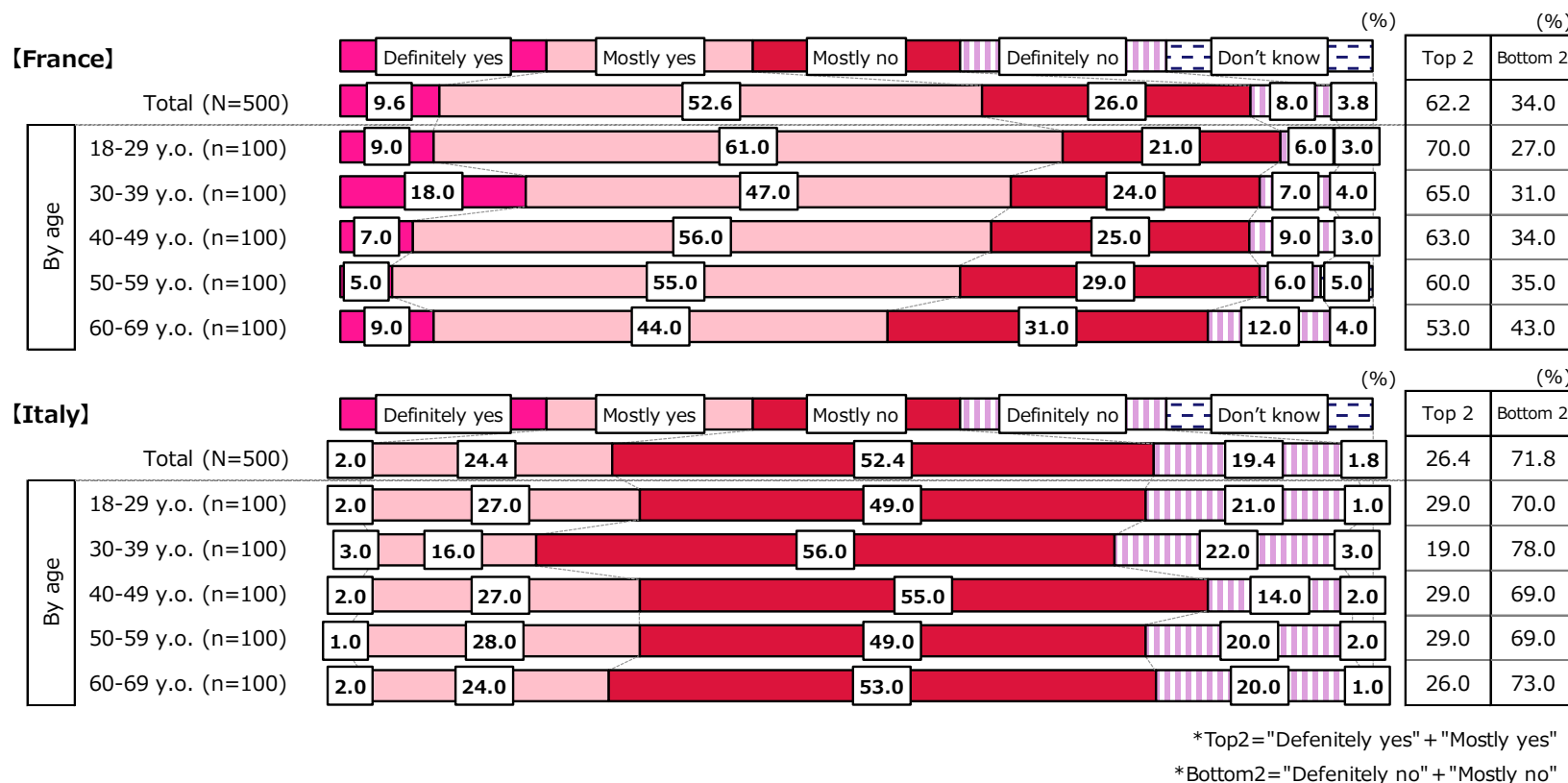


*Top2="Definitely yes" + "Mostly yes"

*Bottom2="Definitely no" + "Mostly no"

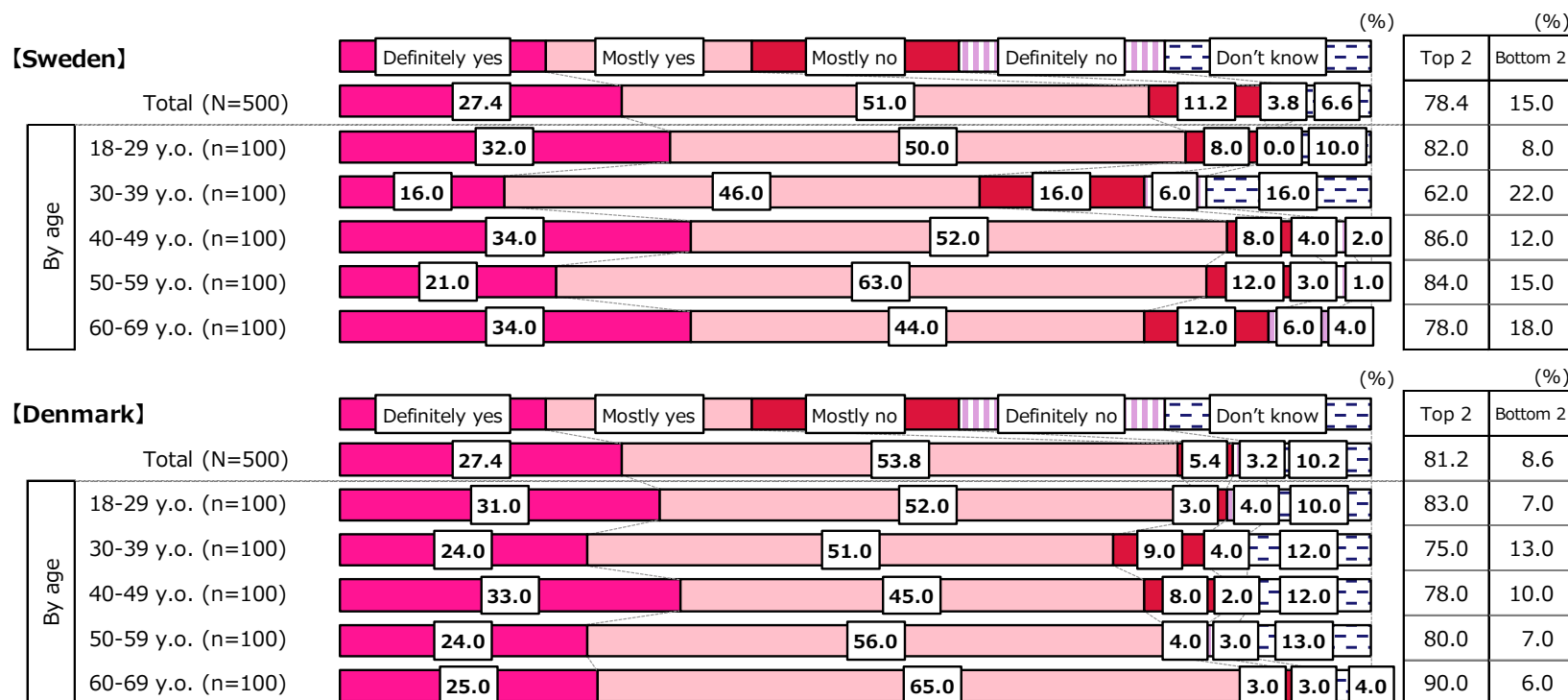
2-1. Ease of Having and Raising Children (4)

Q5. Do you think it is easy to have and raise children in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)



2-1. Ease of Having and Raising Children (5)

Q5. Do you think it is easy to have and raise children in your country? (Choose 1 answer only)

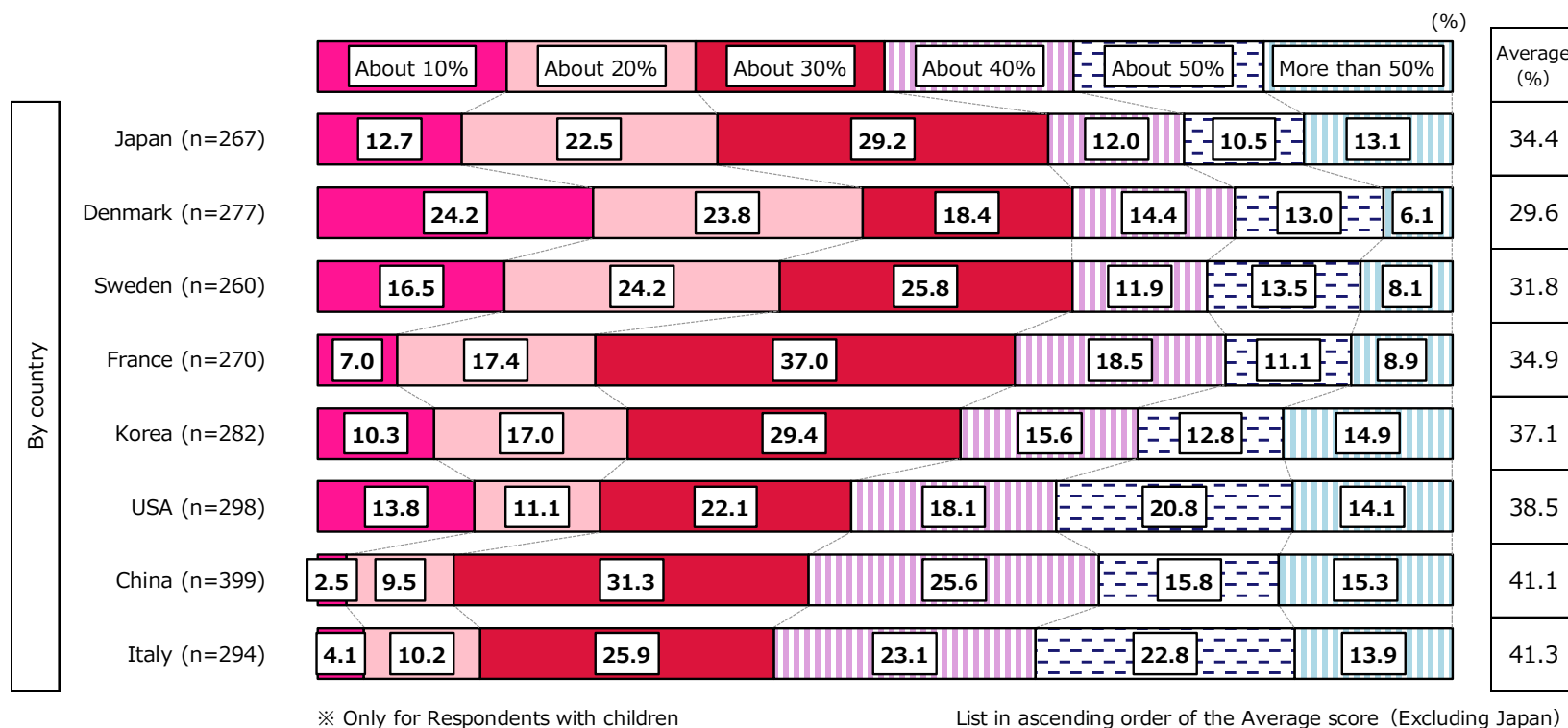


*Top2="Defenitely yes" + "Mostly yes"

*Bottom2="Defenitely no" + "Mostly no"

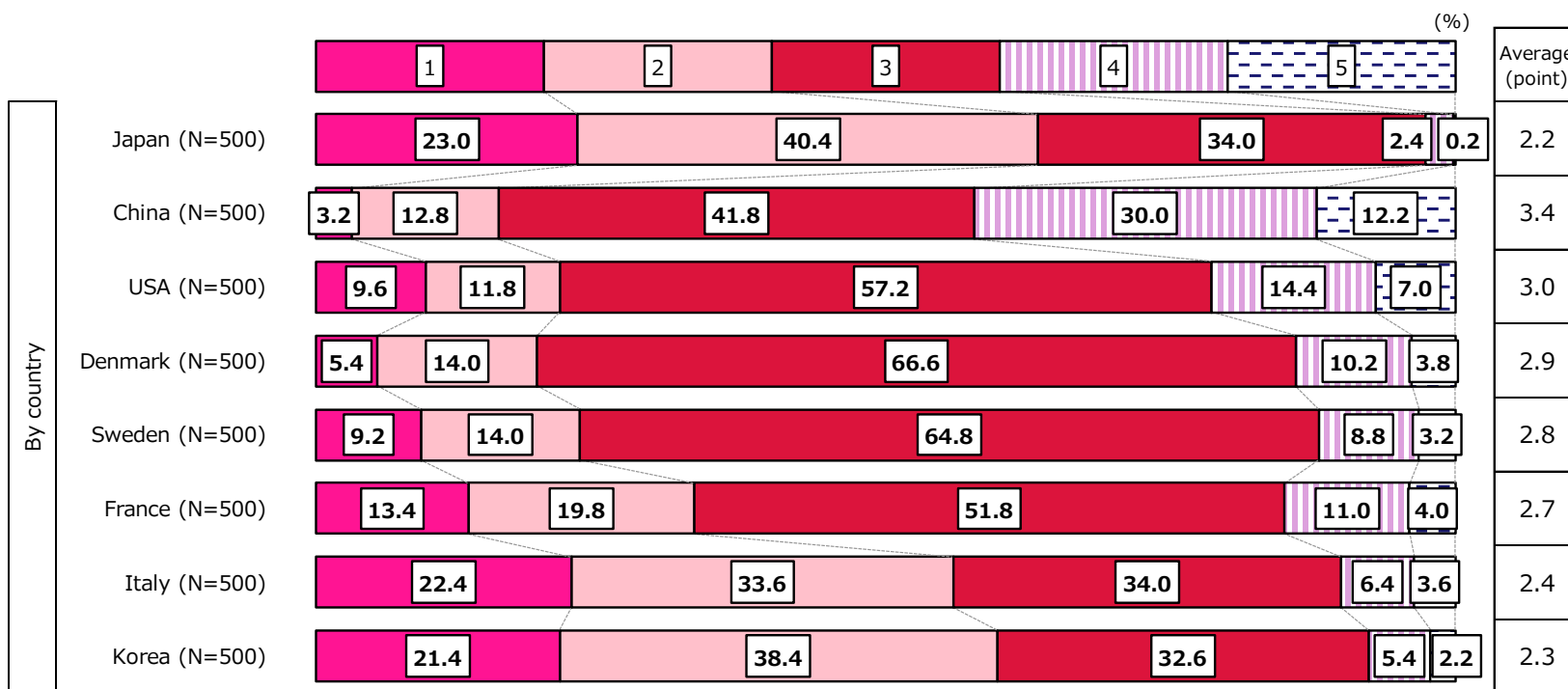
2-2. Cost of Raising Children

Q9.What percentage of your household's budget do you use on your children? (Choose 1 answer only)



2-3. Evaluation of Measures to Address Declining Birthrate (1)

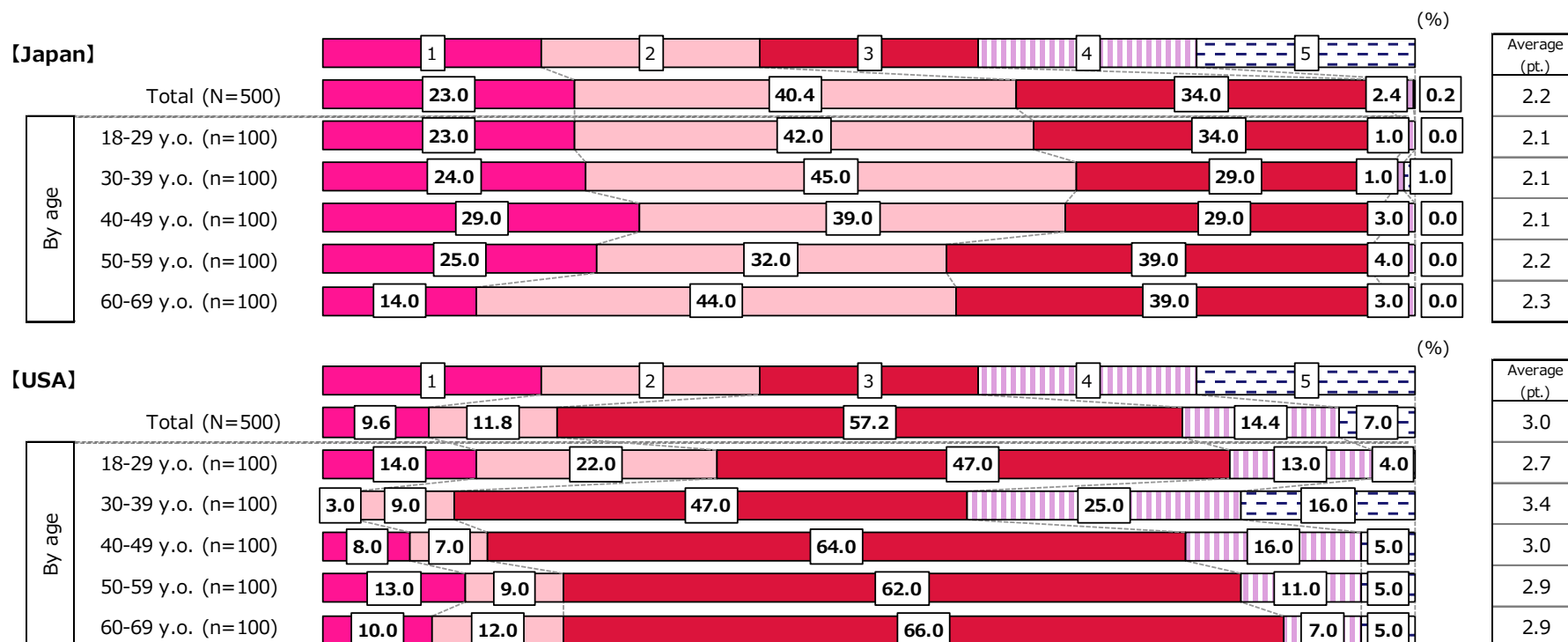
Q6. On a scale of 1-5 (the highest), how would you rate your own country's measures in response to the declining birthrate?



List in descending order of the Average score (Excluding Japan)

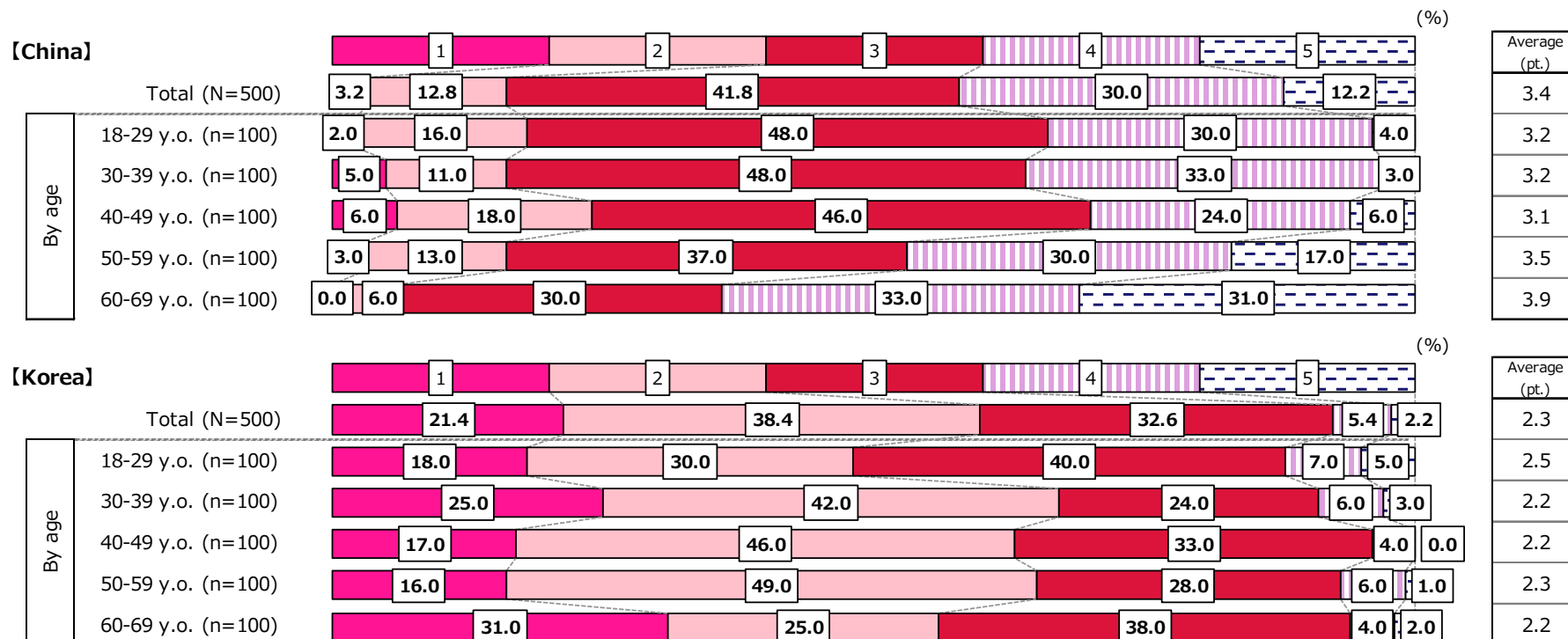
2-3. Evaluation of Measures to Address Declining Birthrate (2)

Q6. On a scale of 1-5 (the highest), how would you rate your own country's measures in response to the declining birthrate?



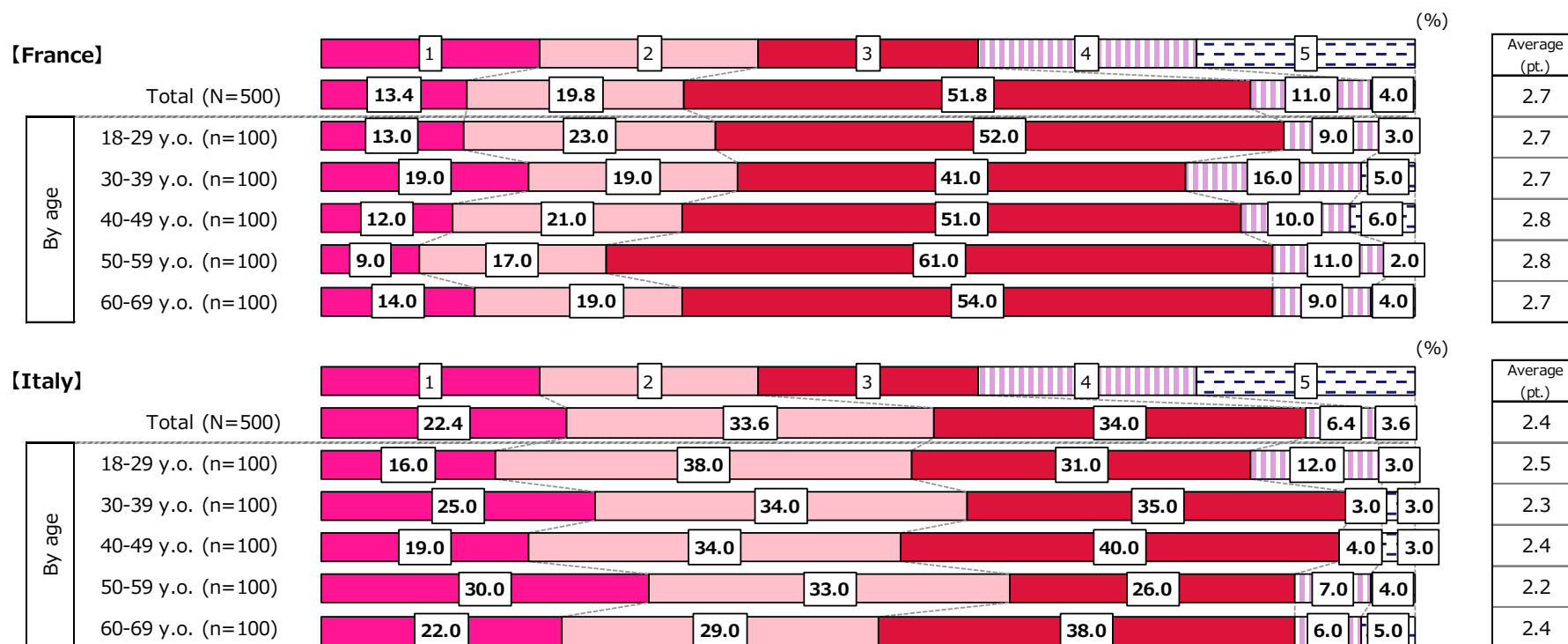
2-3. Evaluation of Measures to Address Declining Birthrate (3)

Q6. On a scale of 1-5 (the highest), how would you rate your own country's measures in response to the declining birthrate?



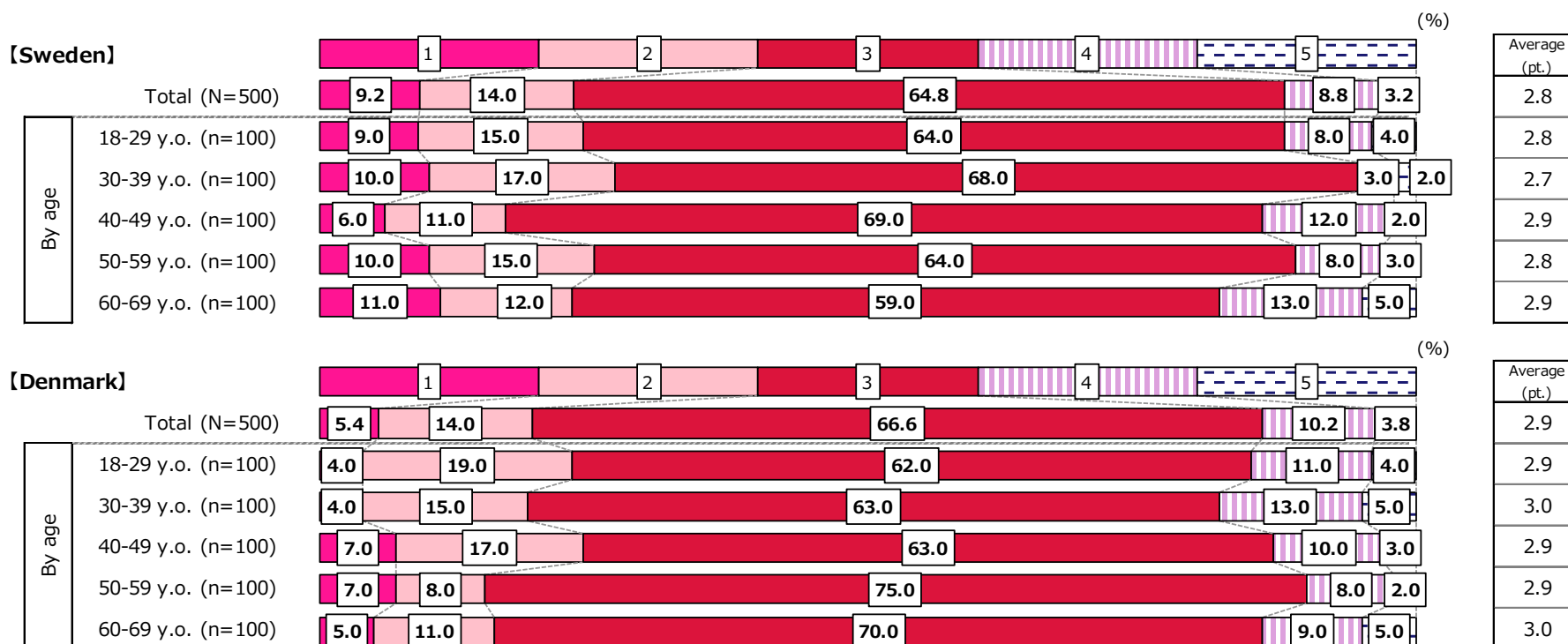
2-3. Evaluation of Measures to Address Declining Birthrate (4)

Q6. On a scale of 1-5 (the highest), how would you rate your own country's measures in response to the declining birthrate?



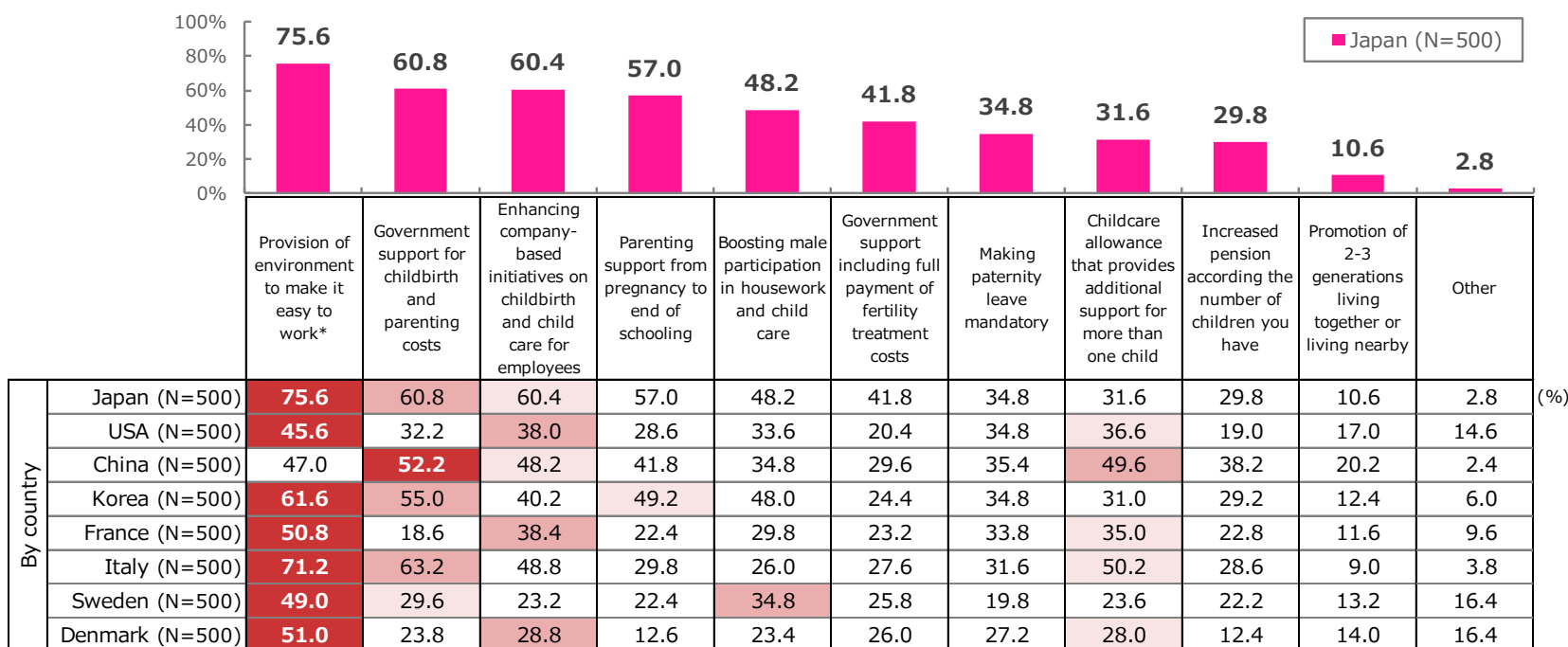
2-3. Evaluation of Measures to Address Declining Birthrate (5)

Q6. On a scale of 1-5 (the highest), how would you rate your own country's measures in response to the declining birthrate?



2-4. Desired Specific Measures to Address Declining Birthrate

Q7.What kind of measures in response to the declining birthrate would you like to see? (Choose as many answers as you like)

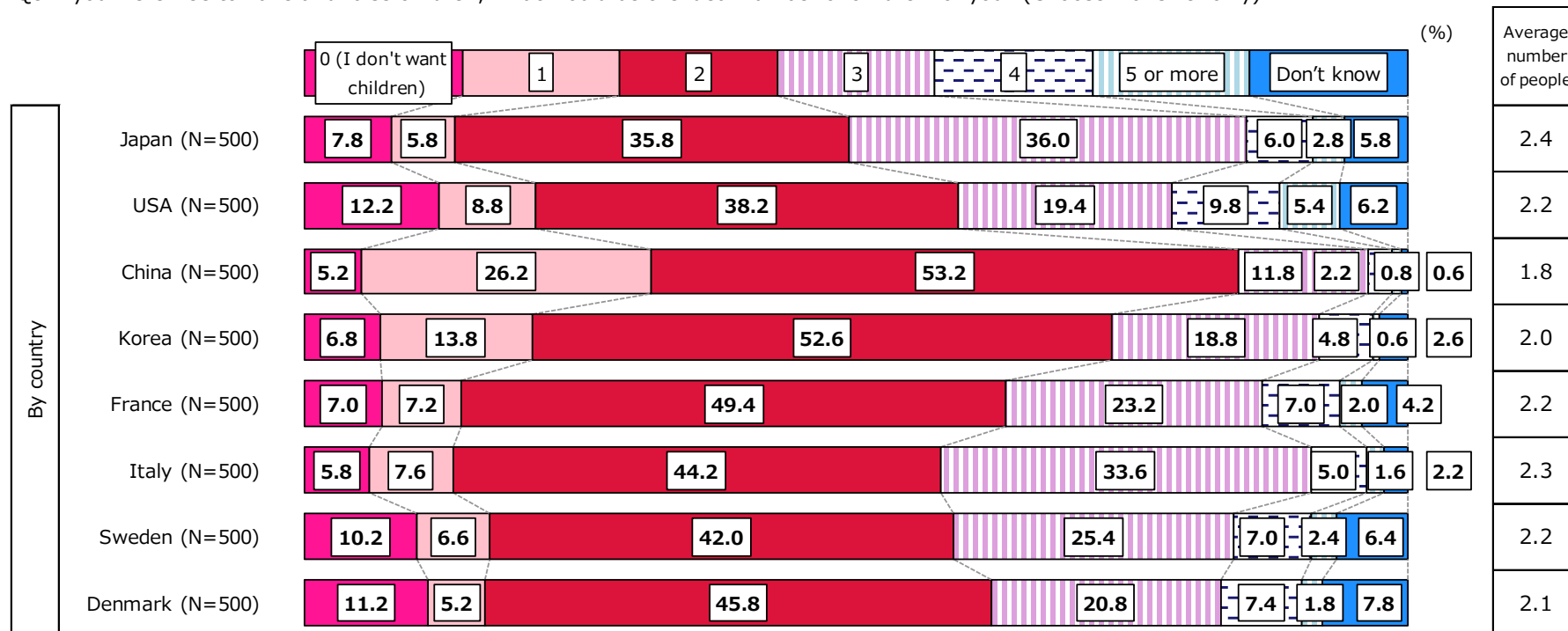


* Provision of environment to make it easy to work (flextime system, working from home via the internet etc.)

※List in descending order of Japan's score without "Other" (From left to right) Top3 (In each country) ■ : 1st ■ : 2nd ■ : 3rd

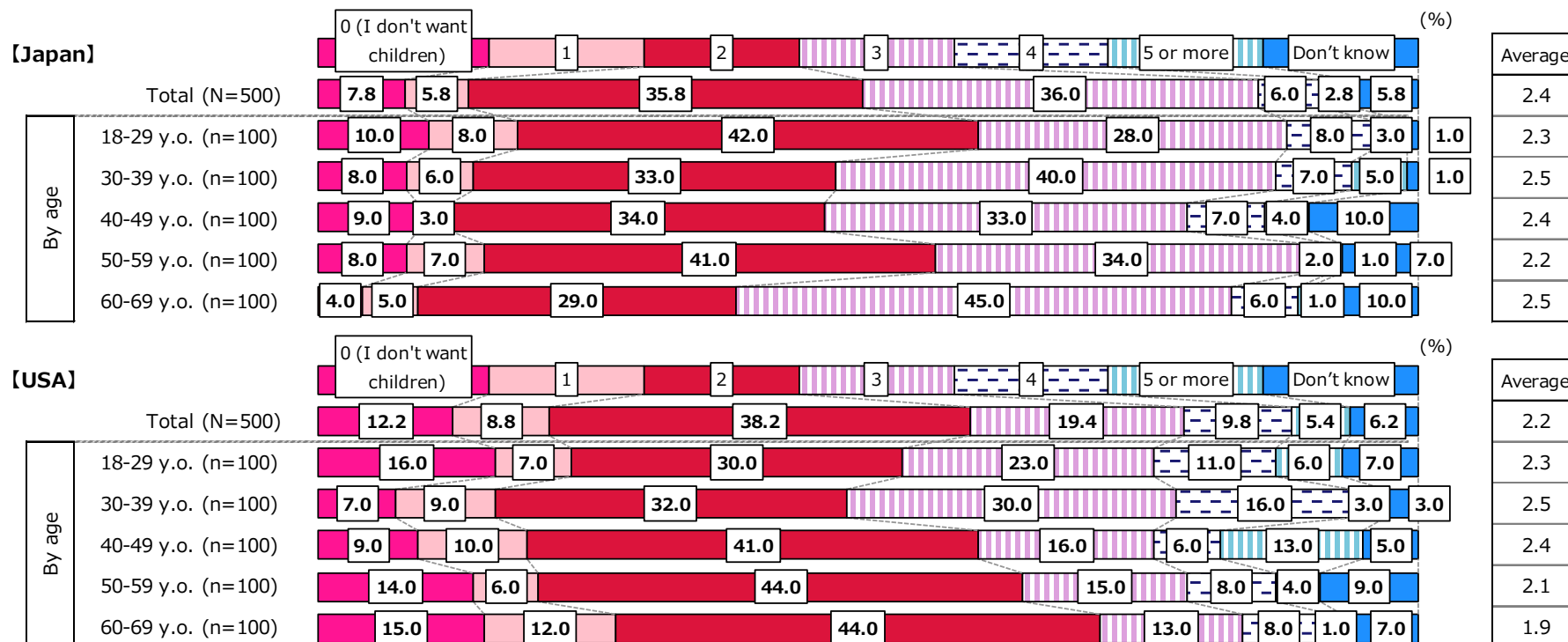
3-1. Ideal Number of Children (1) Oneself ①

Q8.If you were free to have and raise children, what would be the ideal number of children for you? (Choose 1 answer only)



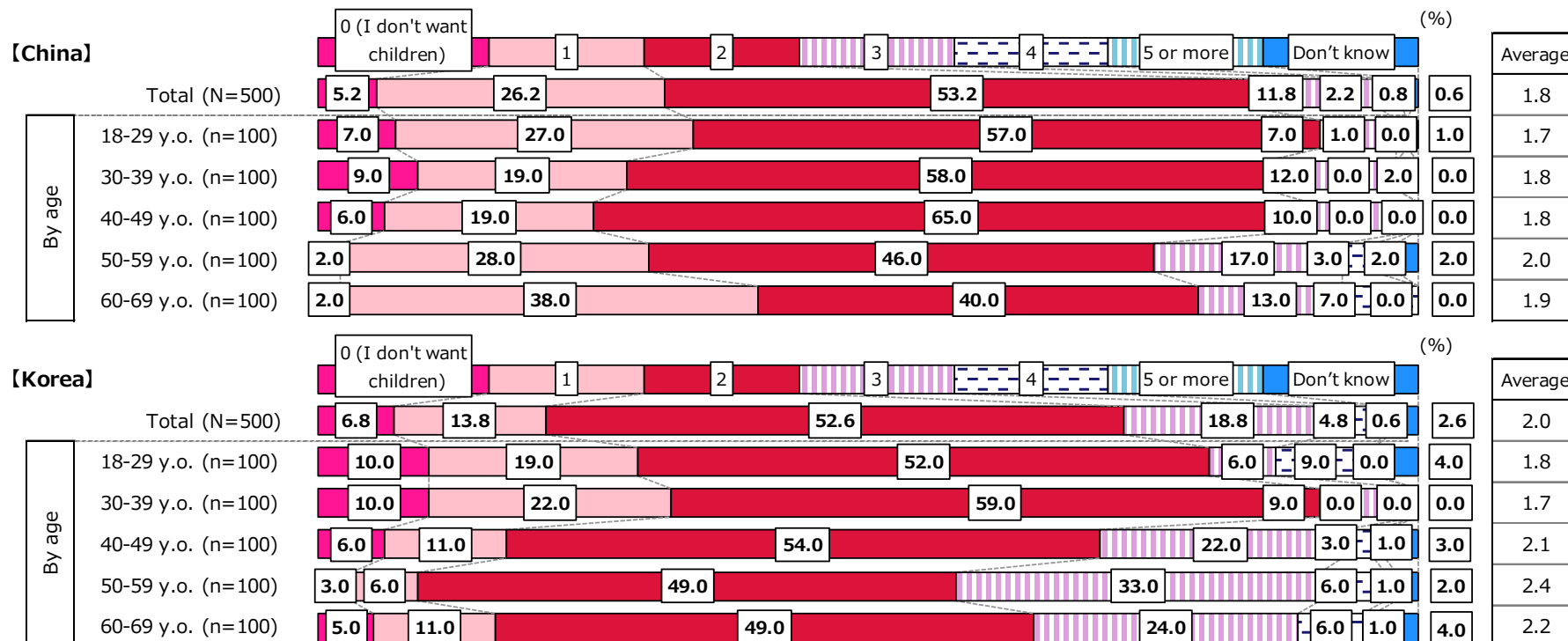
3-1. Ideal Number of Children (1) Oneself ②

Q8.If you were free to have and raise children, what would be the ideal number of children for you? (Choose 1 answer only)



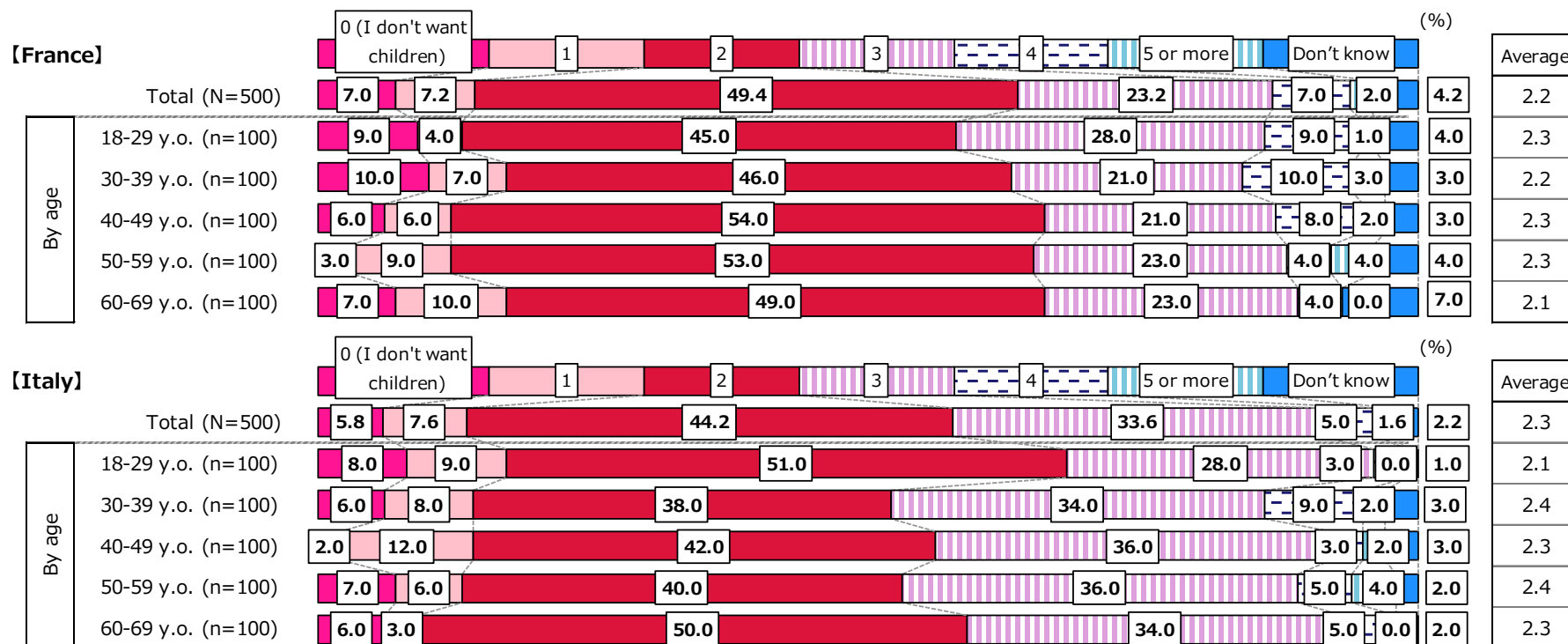
3-1. Ideal Number of Children (1) Oneself ③

Q8.If you were free to have and raise children, what would be the ideal number of children for you? (Choose 1 answer only)



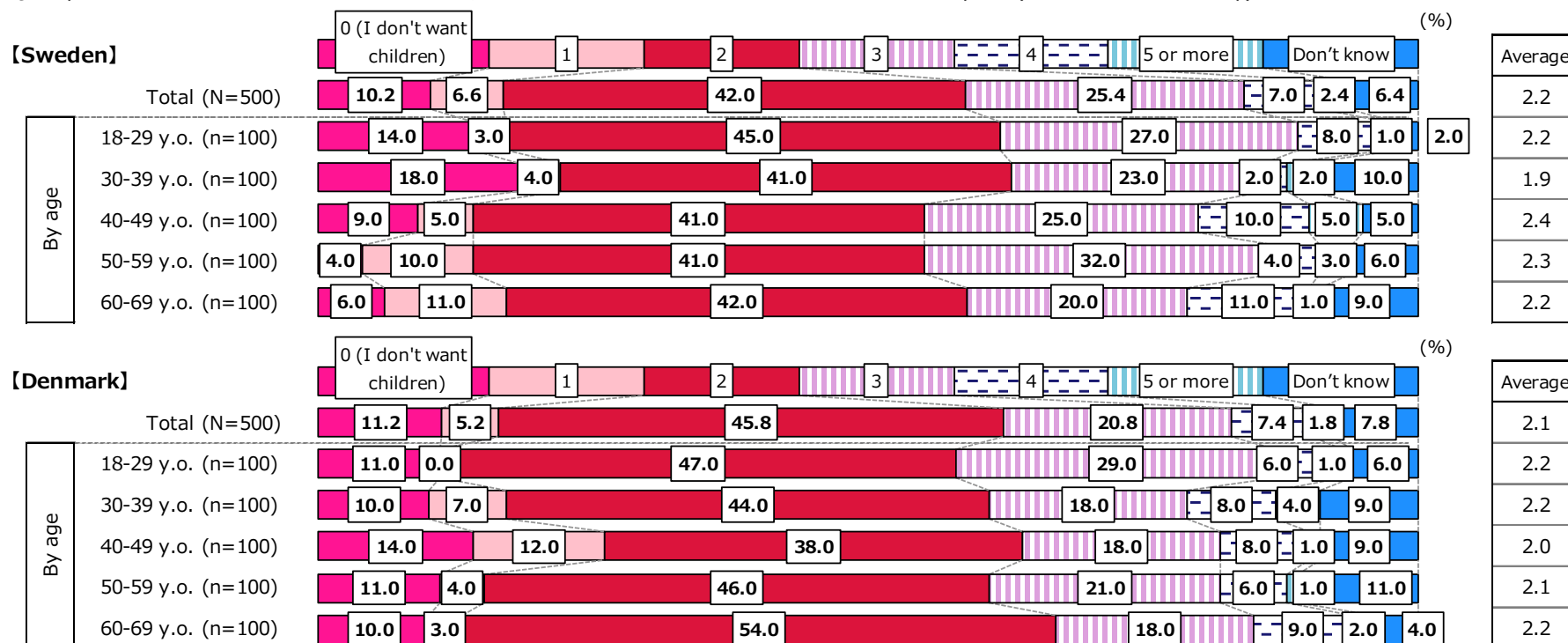
3-1. Ideal Number of Children (1) Oneself ④

Q8.If you were free to have and raise children, what would be the ideal number of children for you? (Choose 1 answer only)



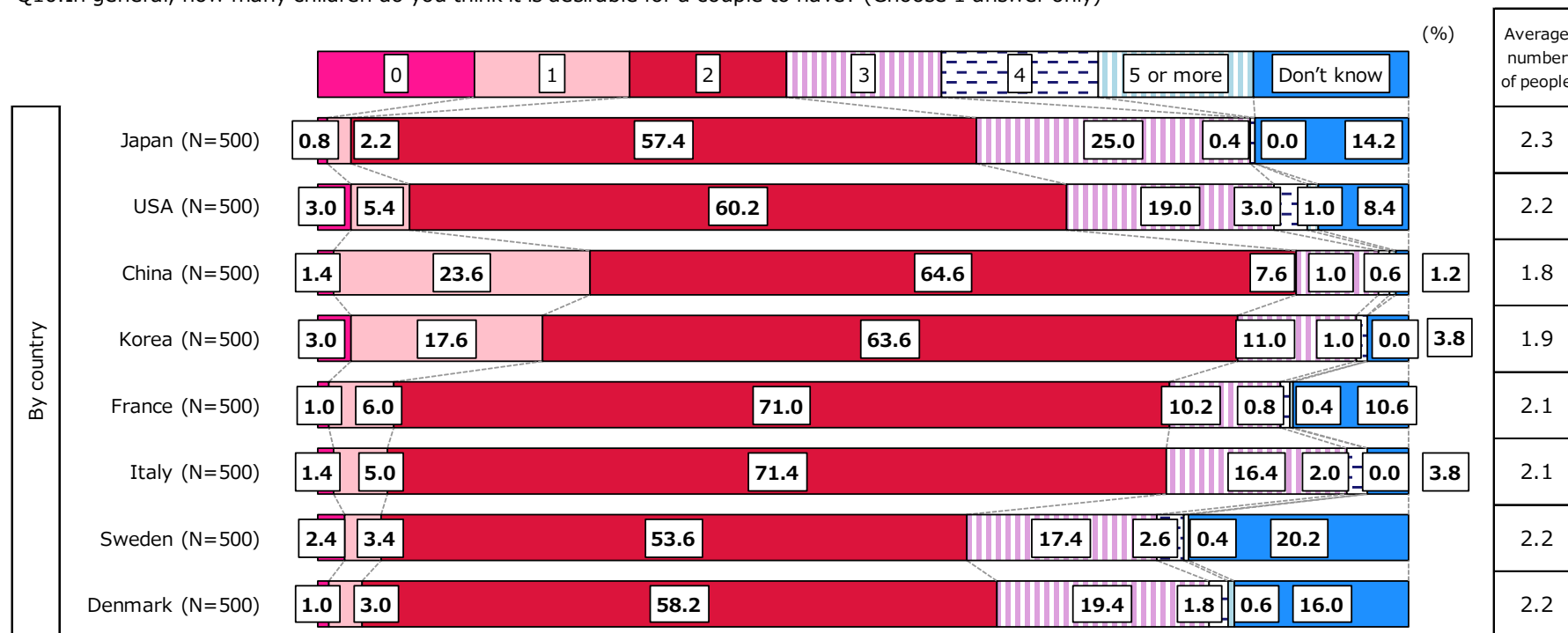
3-1. Ideal Number of Children (1) Oneself ⑤

Q8.If you were free to have and raise children, what would be the ideal number of children for you? (Choose 1 answer only)



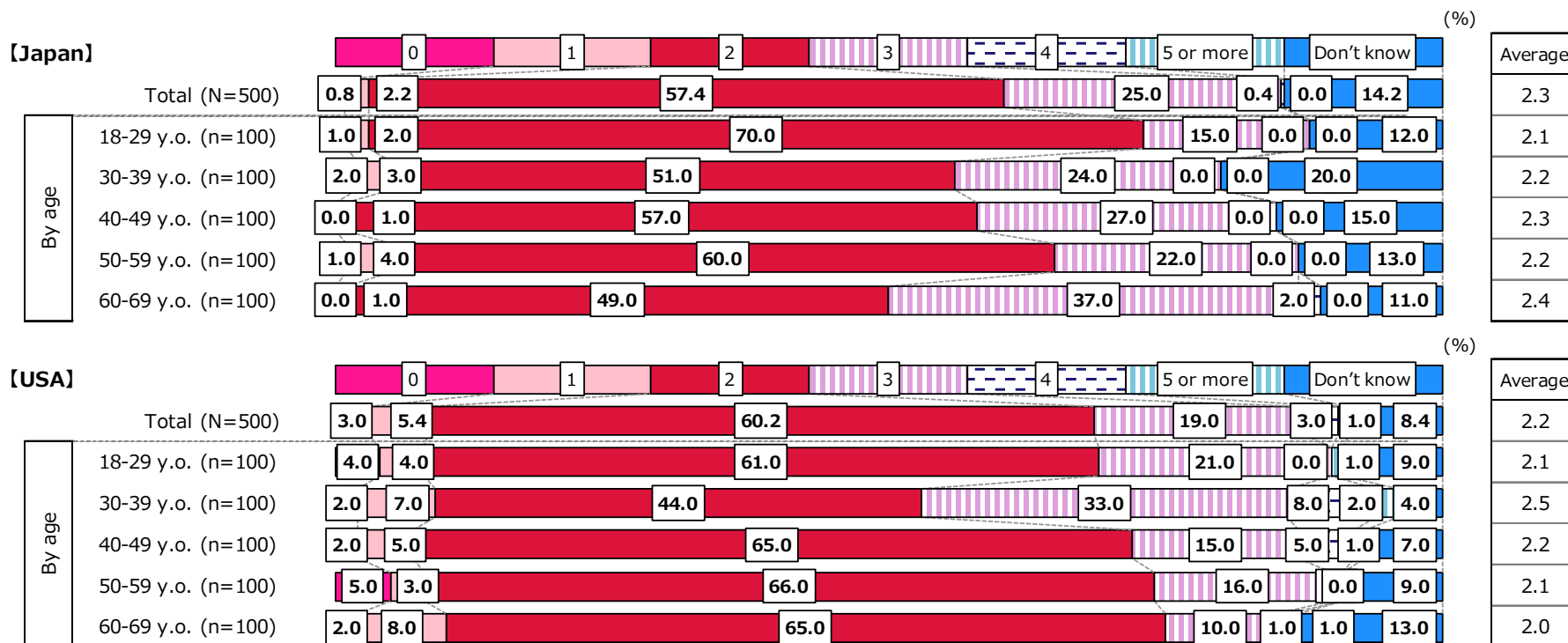
3-2. Ideal Number of Children (2) In General ①

Q10. In general, how many children do you think it is desirable for a couple to have? (Choose 1 answer only)



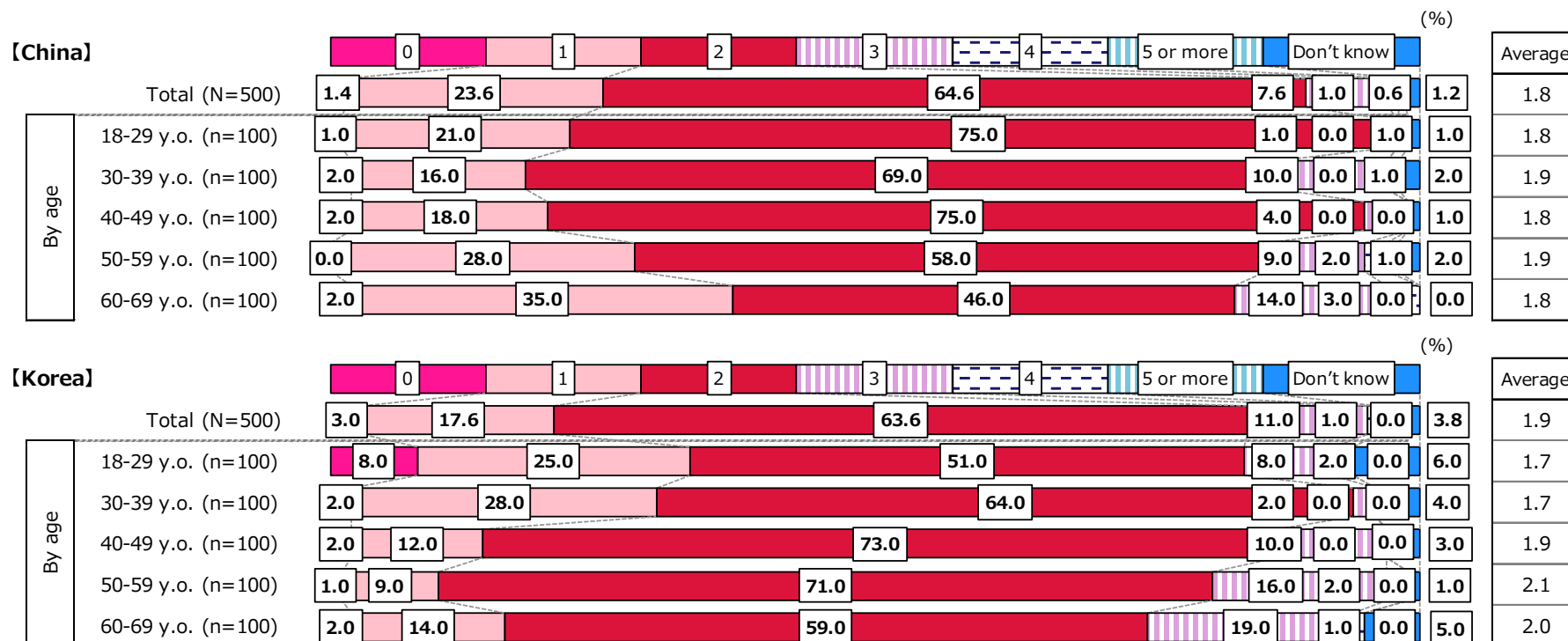
3-2. Ideal Number of Children (2) In General ②

Q10. In general, how many children do you think it is desirable for a couple to have? (Choose 1 answer only)



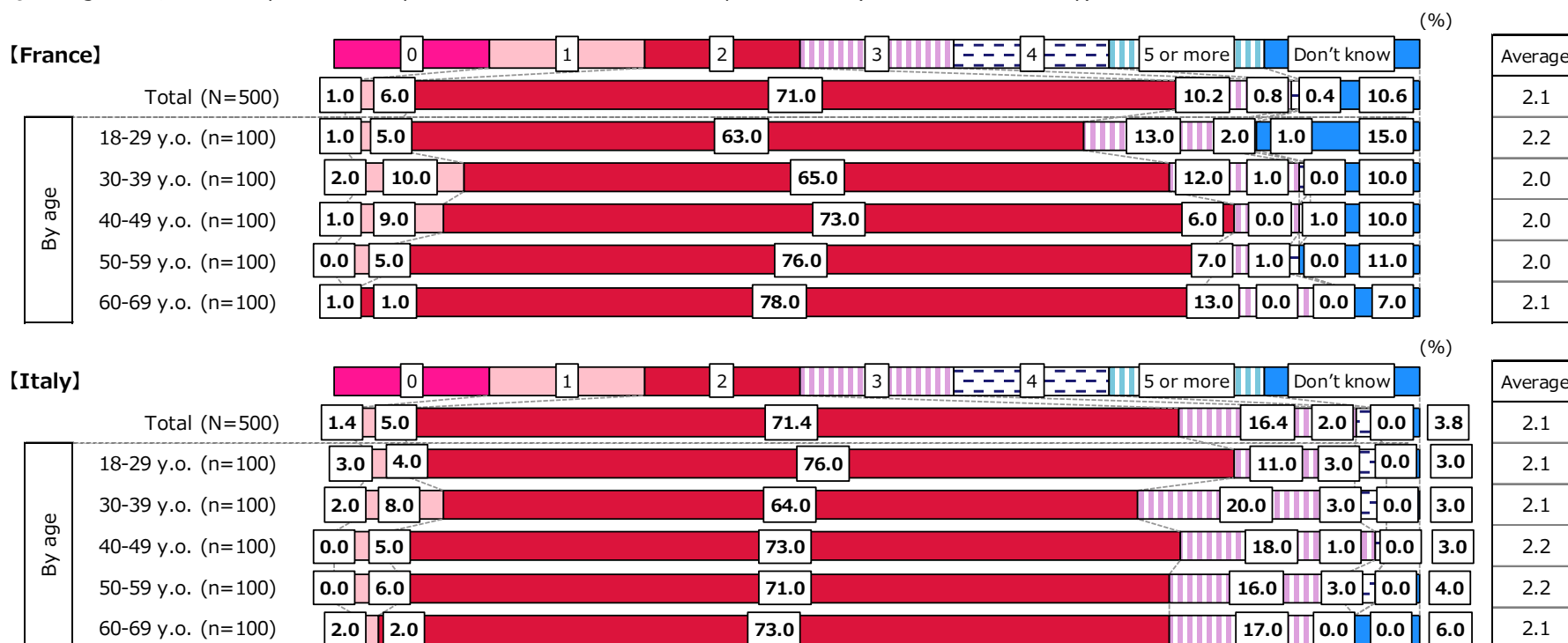
3-2. Ideal Number of Children (2) In General ③

Q10. In general, how many children do you think it is desirable for a couple to have? (Choose 1 answer only)



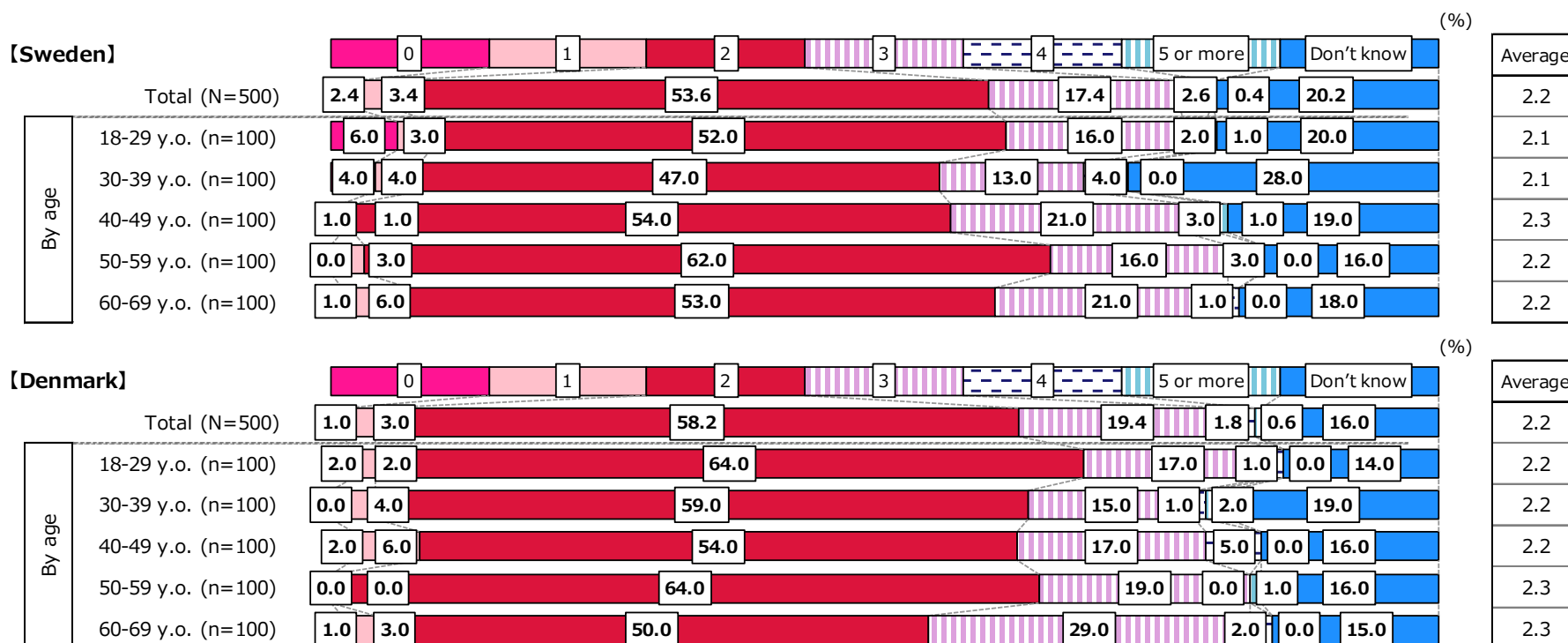
3-2. Ideal Number of Children (2) In General ④

Q10. In general, how many children do you think it is desirable for a couple to have? (Choose 1 answer only)



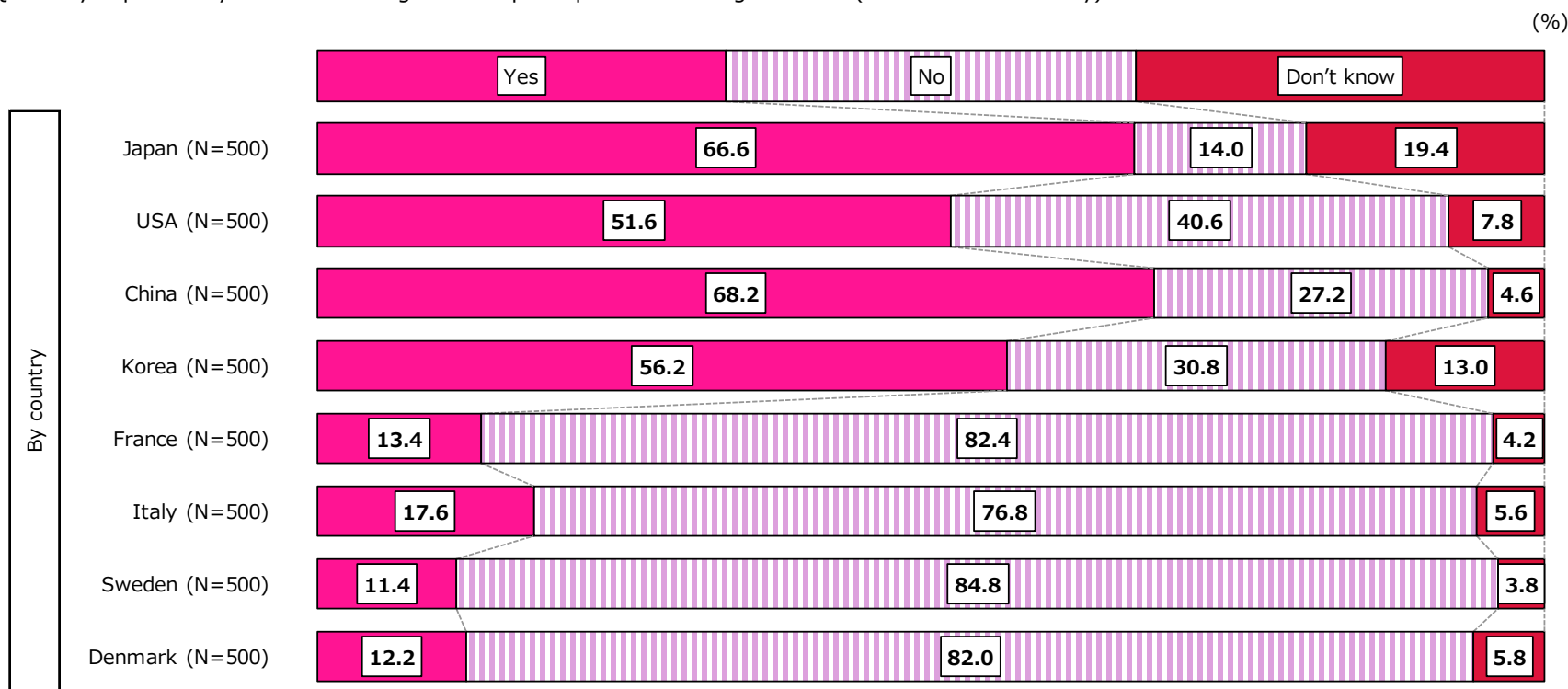
3-2. Ideal Number of Children (2) In General ⑤

Q10. In general, how many children do you think it is desirable for a couple to have? (Choose 1 answer only)



4-1. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (1) ①

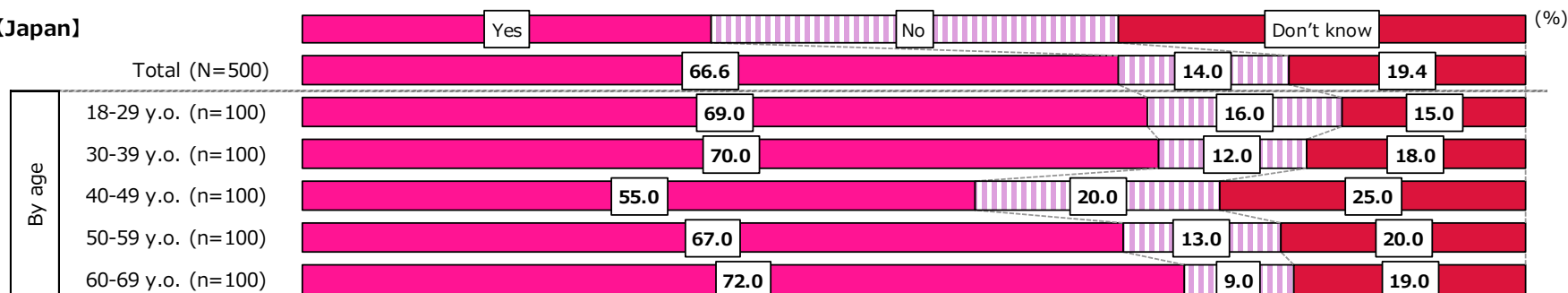
Q11. Do you personally consider marriage to be a prerequisite for having children? (Choose 1 answer only)



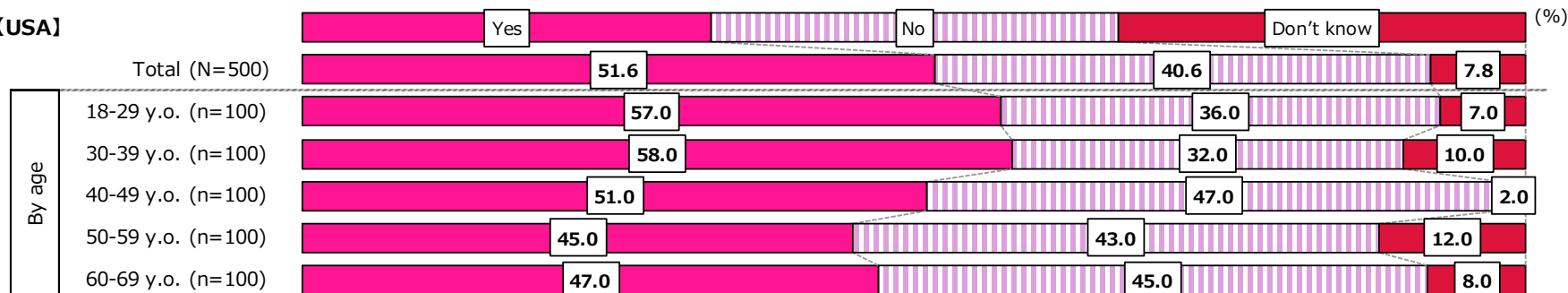
4-1. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (1) ②

Q11. Do you personally consider marriage to be a prerequisite for having children? (Choose 1 answer only)

【Japan】

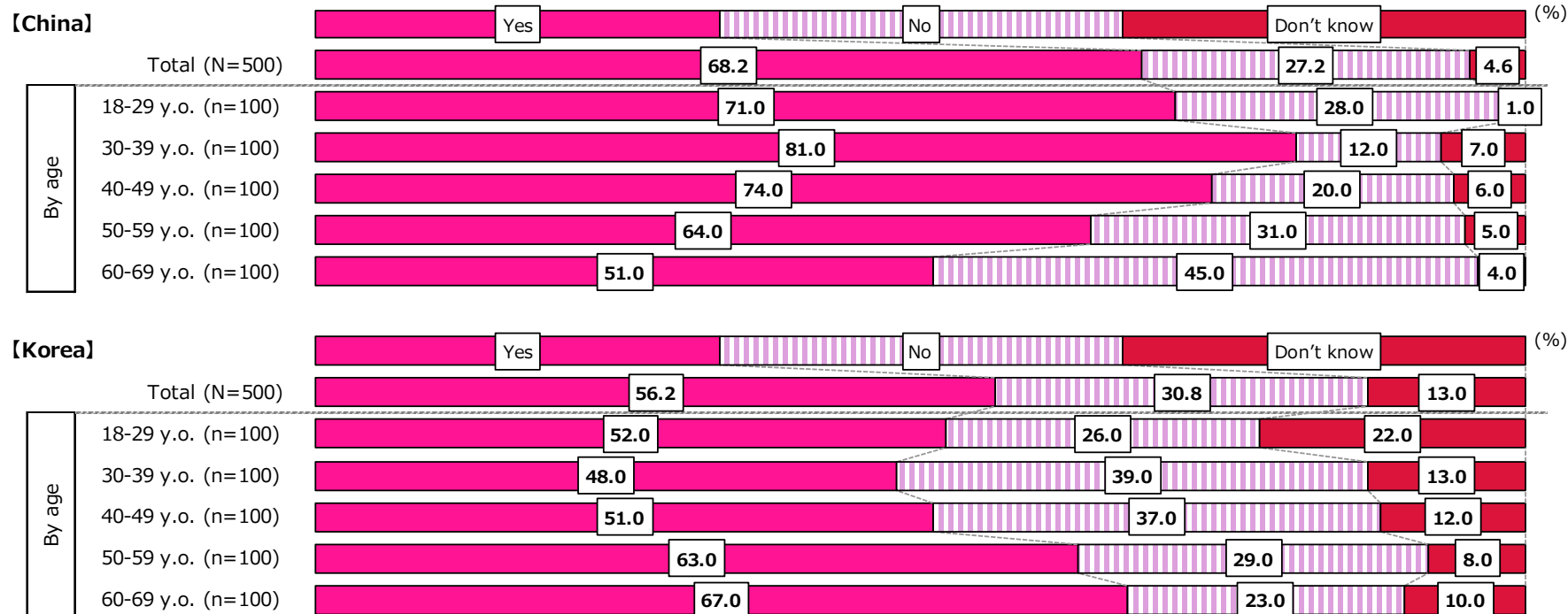


【USA】



4-1. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (1) ③

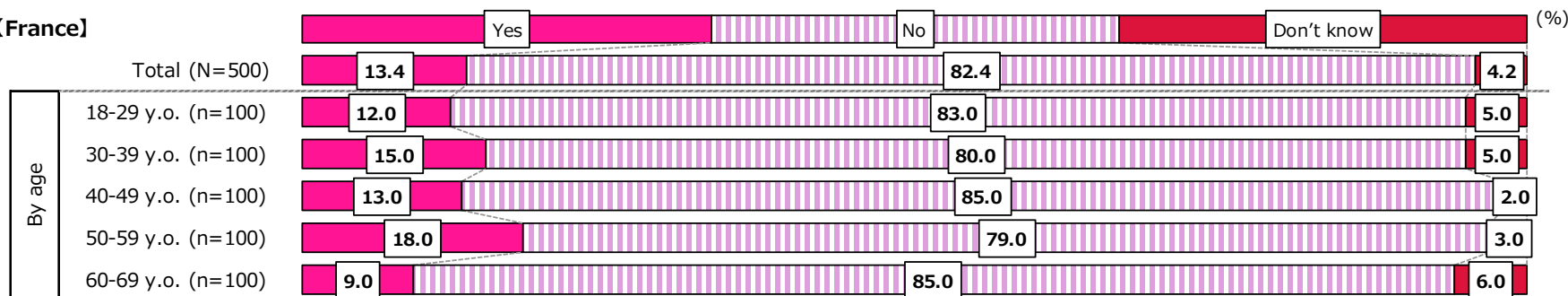
Q11. Do you personally consider marriage to be a prerequisite for having children? (Choose 1 answer only)



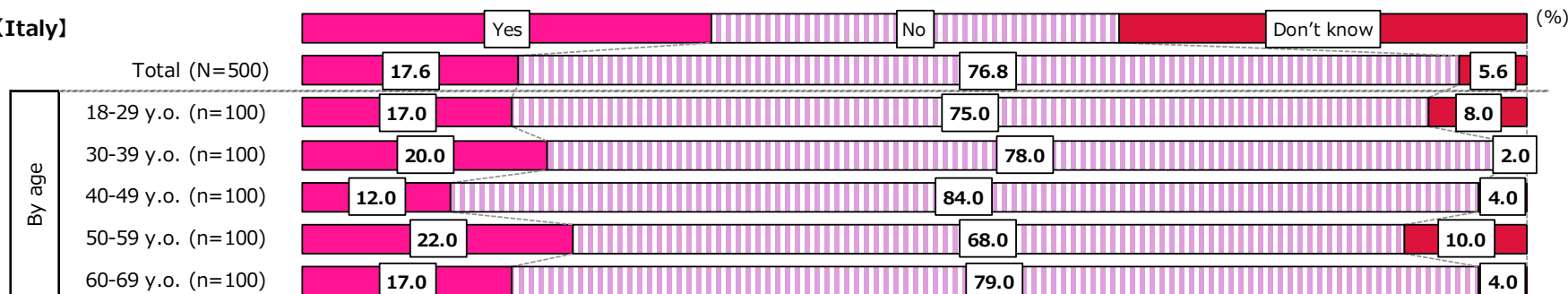
4-1. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (1) ④

Q11. Do you personally consider marriage to be a prerequisite for having children? (Choose 1 answer only)

【France】



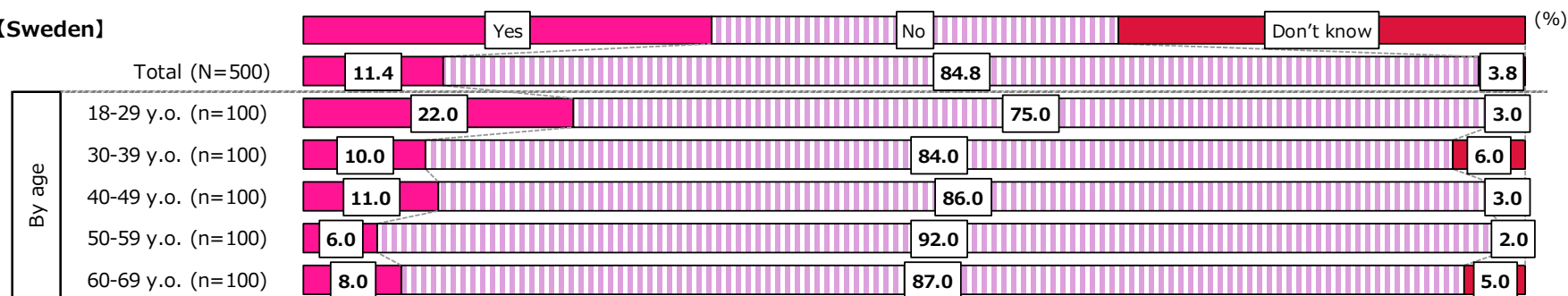
【Italy】



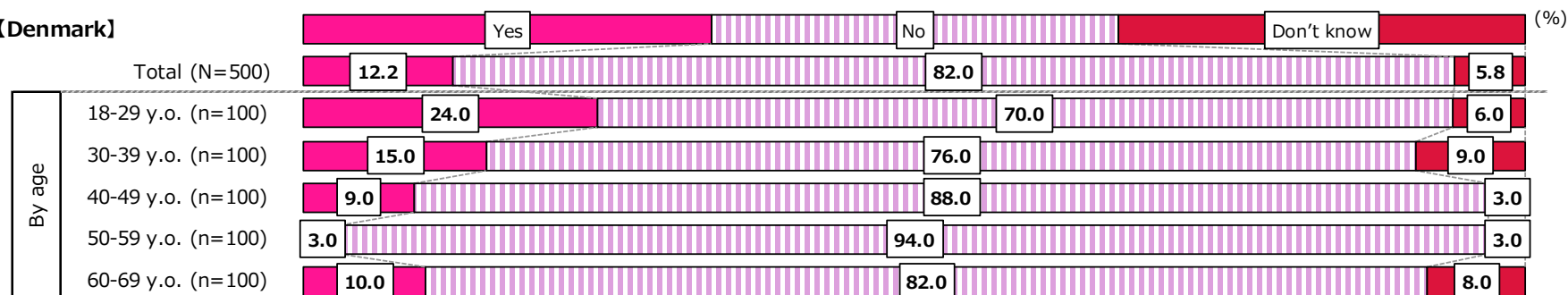
4-1. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (1) ⑤

Q11. Do you personally consider marriage to be a prerequisite for having children? (Choose 1 answer only)

【Sweden】

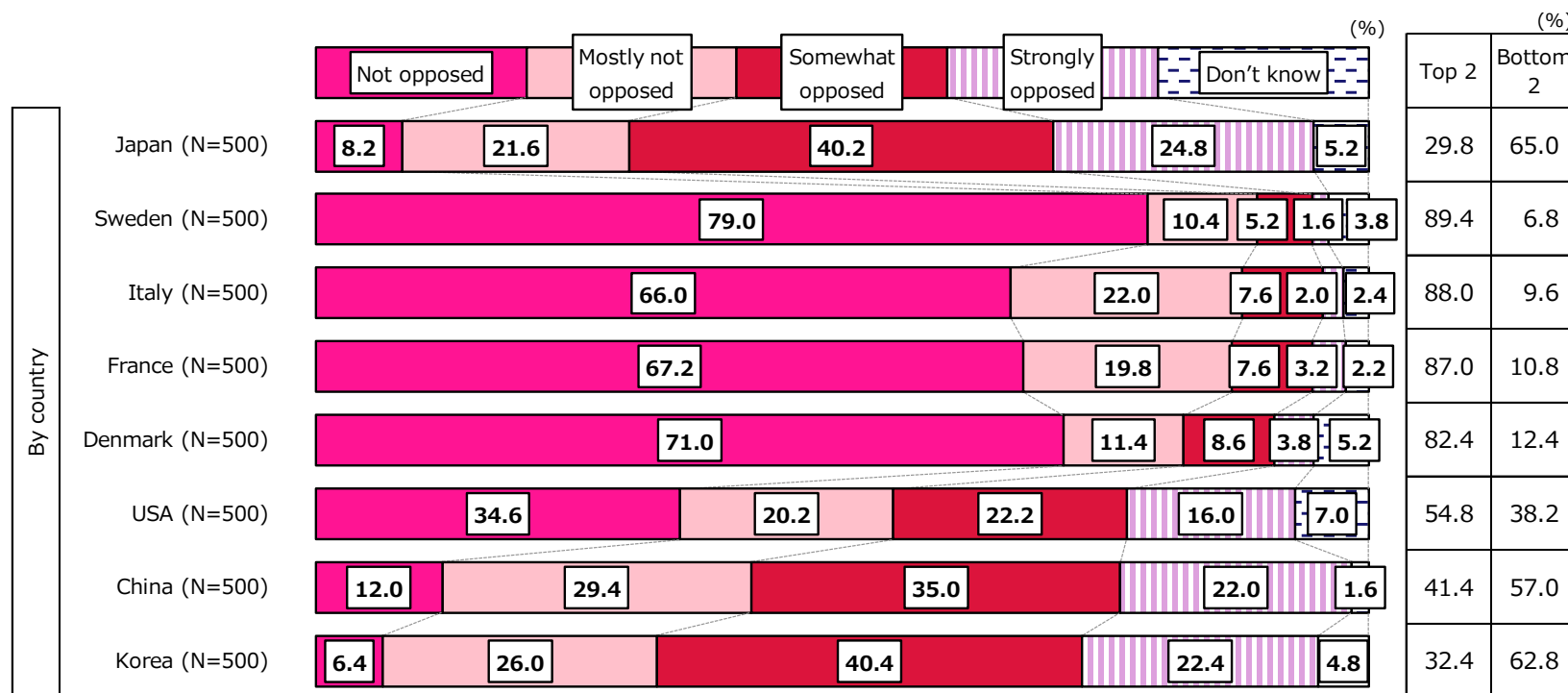


【Denmark】



4-2. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (2) ①

Q12.What are your general thoughts about having a child without getting married? (Choose 1 answer only)



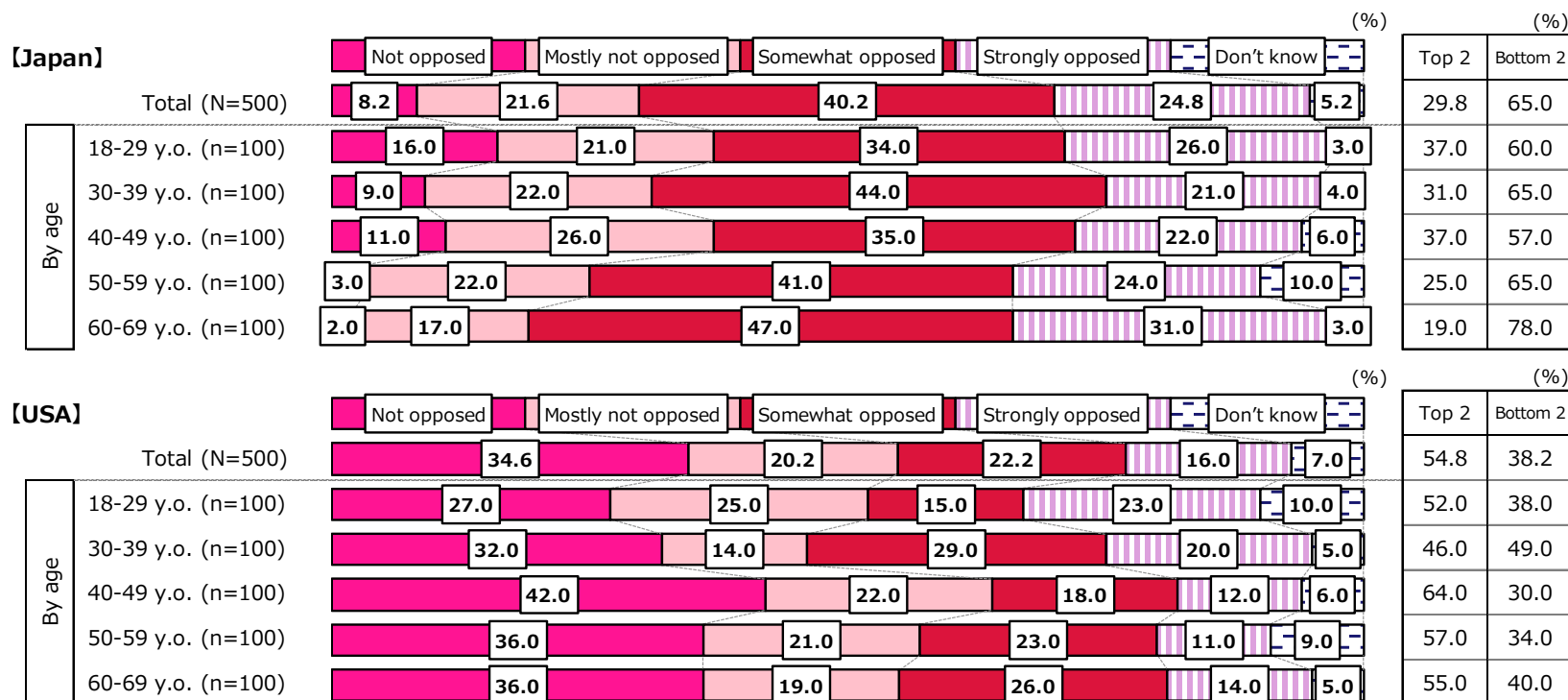
List in descending order of the Top2 score (Excluding Japan)

*Top2="Not opposed" + "Mostly not opposed"

*Bottom2="Strongly opposed" + "Somewhat opposed"

4-2. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (2) ②

Q12.What are your general thoughts about having a child without getting married? (Choose 1 answer only)

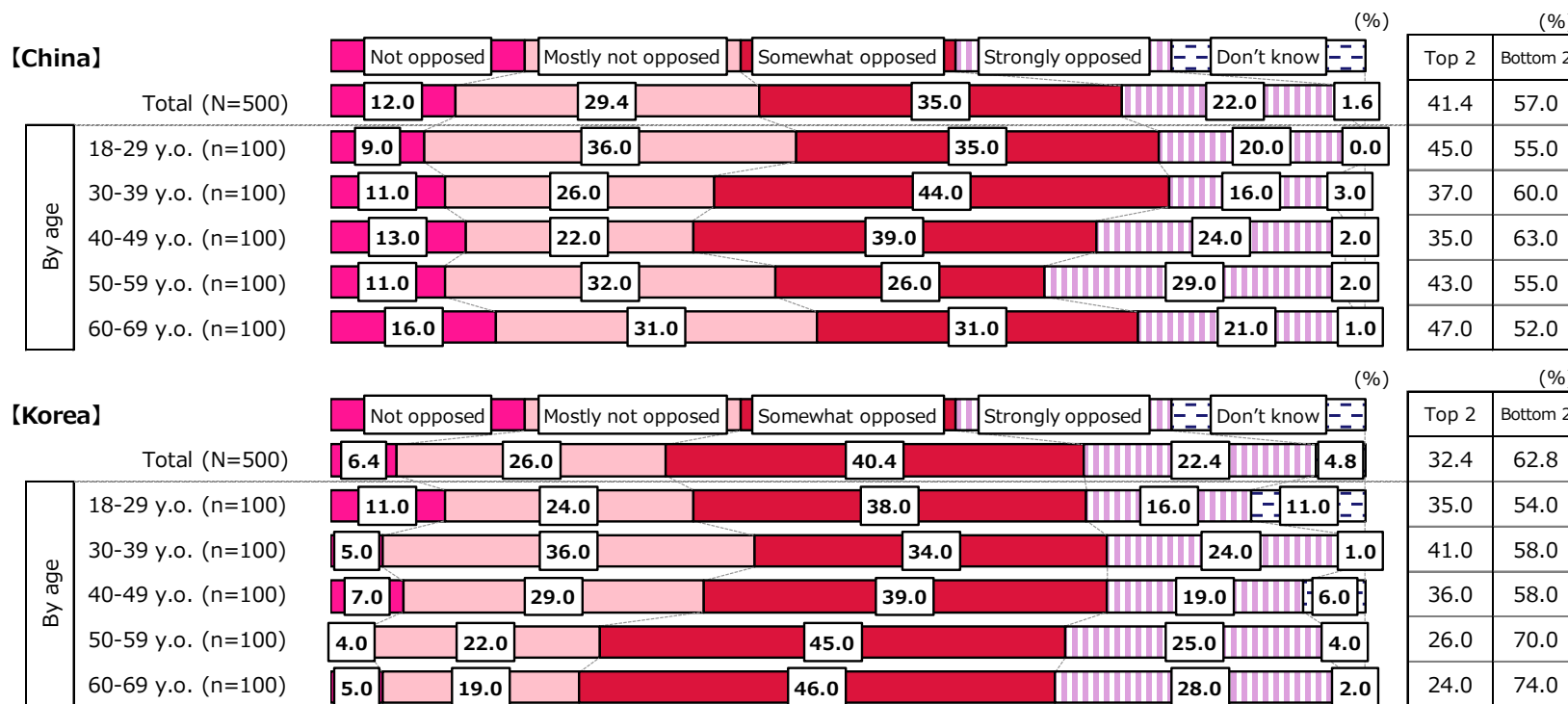


*Top2="Not opposed" + "Mostly not opposed"

*Bottom2="Strongly opposed" + "Somewhat opposed"

4-2. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (2) ③

Q12. What are your general thoughts about having a child without getting married? (Choose 1 answer only)



*Top2="Not opposed" + "Mostly not opposed"

*Bottom2="Strongly opposed" + "Somewhat opposed"

4-2. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (2) ④

Q12.What are your general thoughts about having a child without getting married? (Choose 1 answer only)

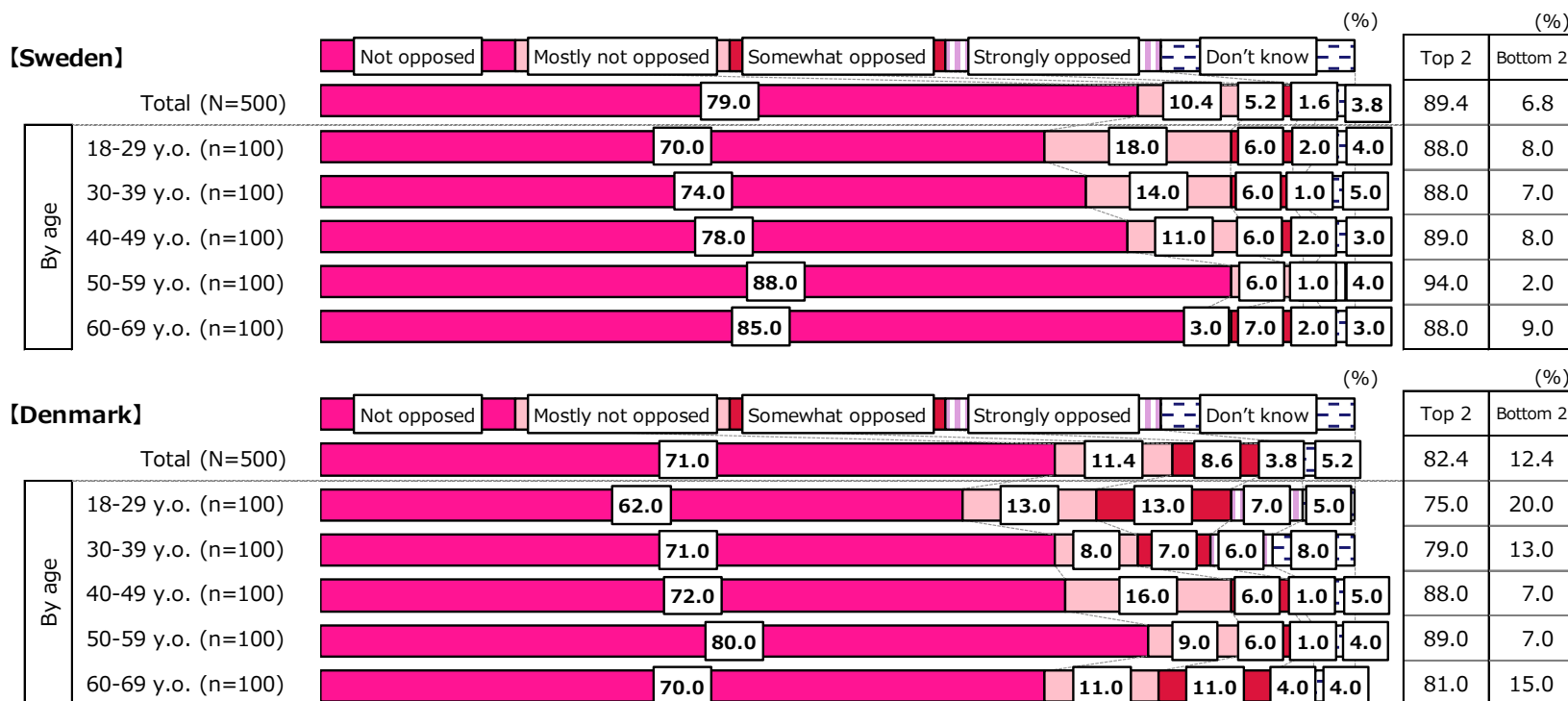


*Top2="Not opposed" + "Mostly not opposed"

*Bottom2="Strongly opposed" + "Somewhat opposed"

4-2. Receptiveness to Children Born Out of Wedlock (2) ⑤

Q12.What are your general thoughts about having a child without getting married? (Choose 1 answer only)



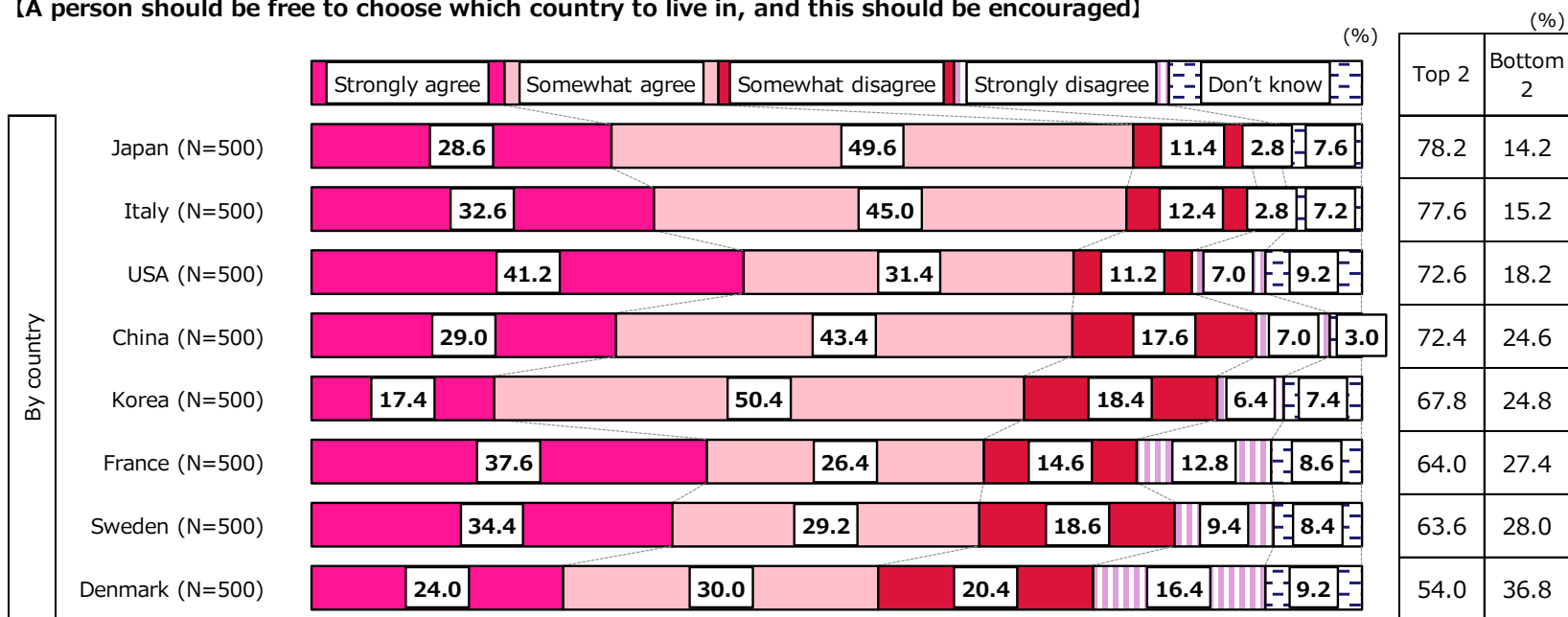
*Top2="Not opposed" + "Mostly not opposed"

*Bottom2="Strongly opposed" + "Somewhat opposed"

5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (1)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

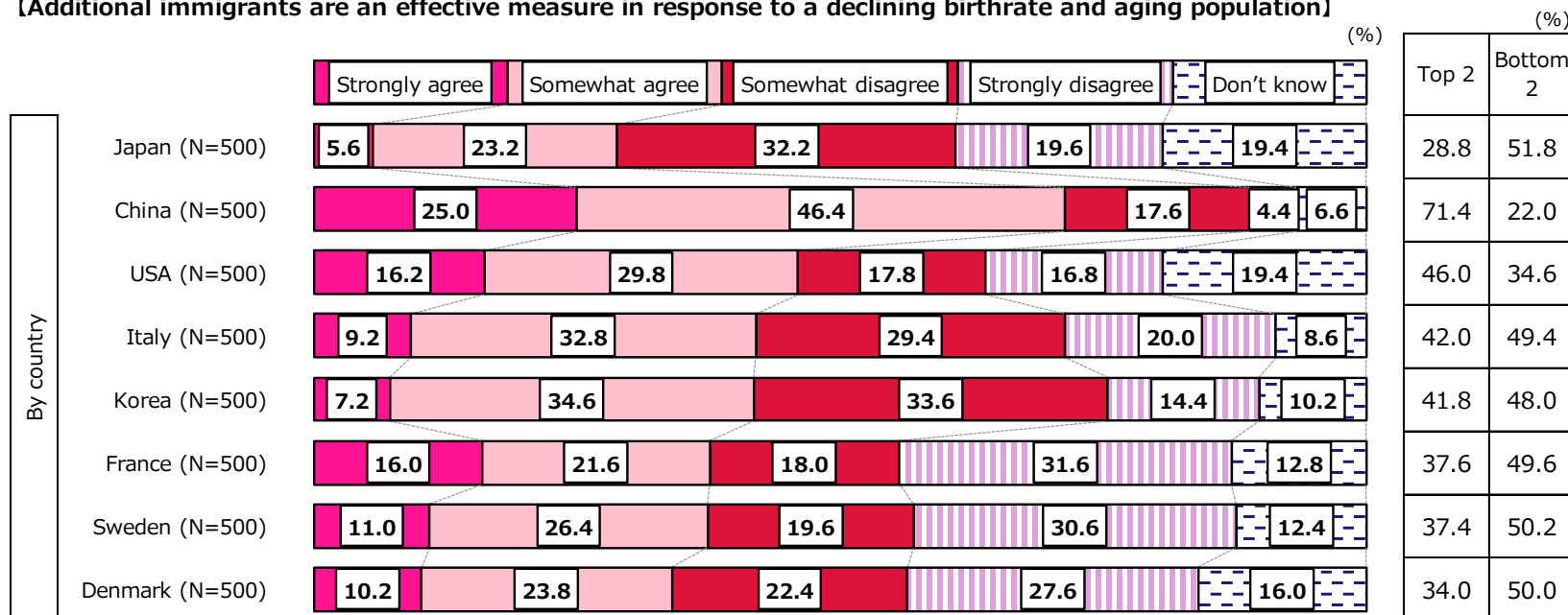
[A person should be free to choose which country to live in, and this should be encouraged]



5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (2)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

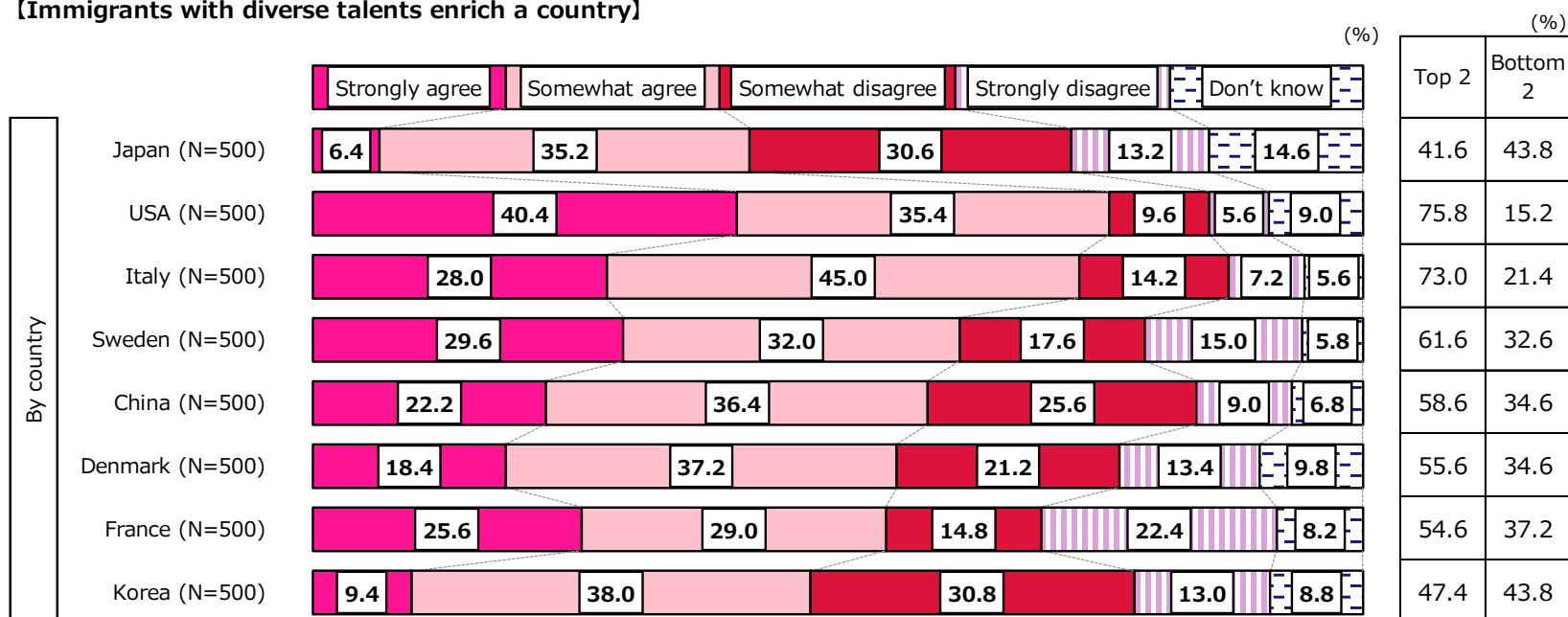
[Additional immigrants are an effective measure in response to a declining birthrate and aging population]



5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (3)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

[Immigrants with diverse talents enrich a country]



List in descending order of the Top2 score (Excluding Japan)

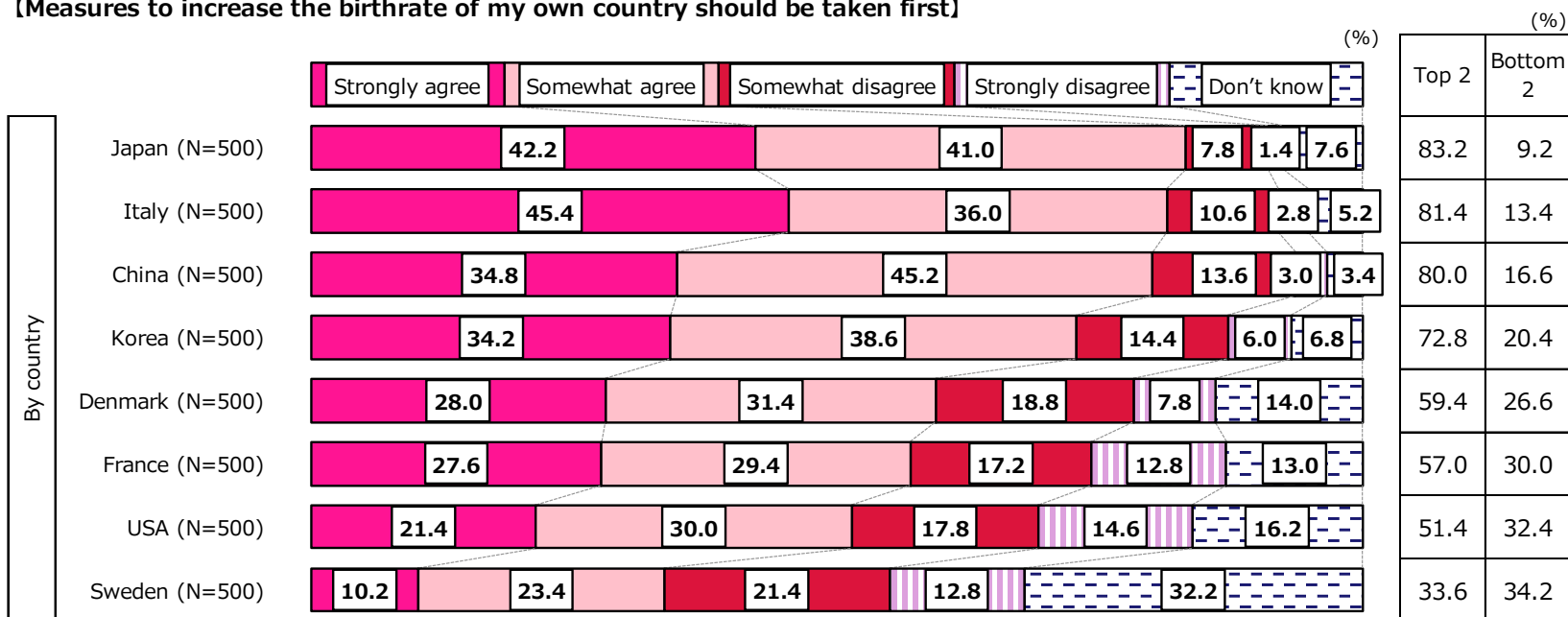
*Top2="Strongly agree" + "Somewhat agree"

*Bottom2="Strongly disagree" + "Somewhat disagree"

5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (4)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

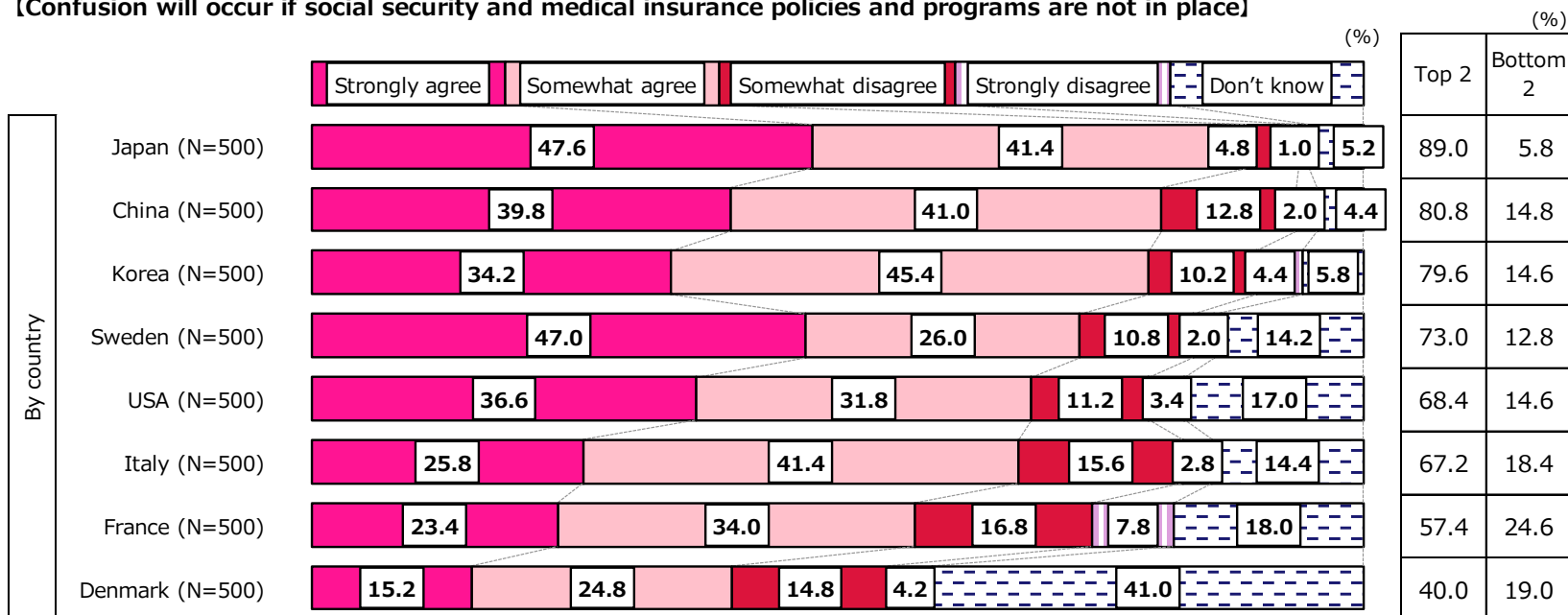
[Measures to increase the birthrate of my own country should be taken first]



5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (5)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

[Confusion will occur if social security and medical insurance policies and programs are not in place]



List in descending order of the Top2 score (Excluding Japan)

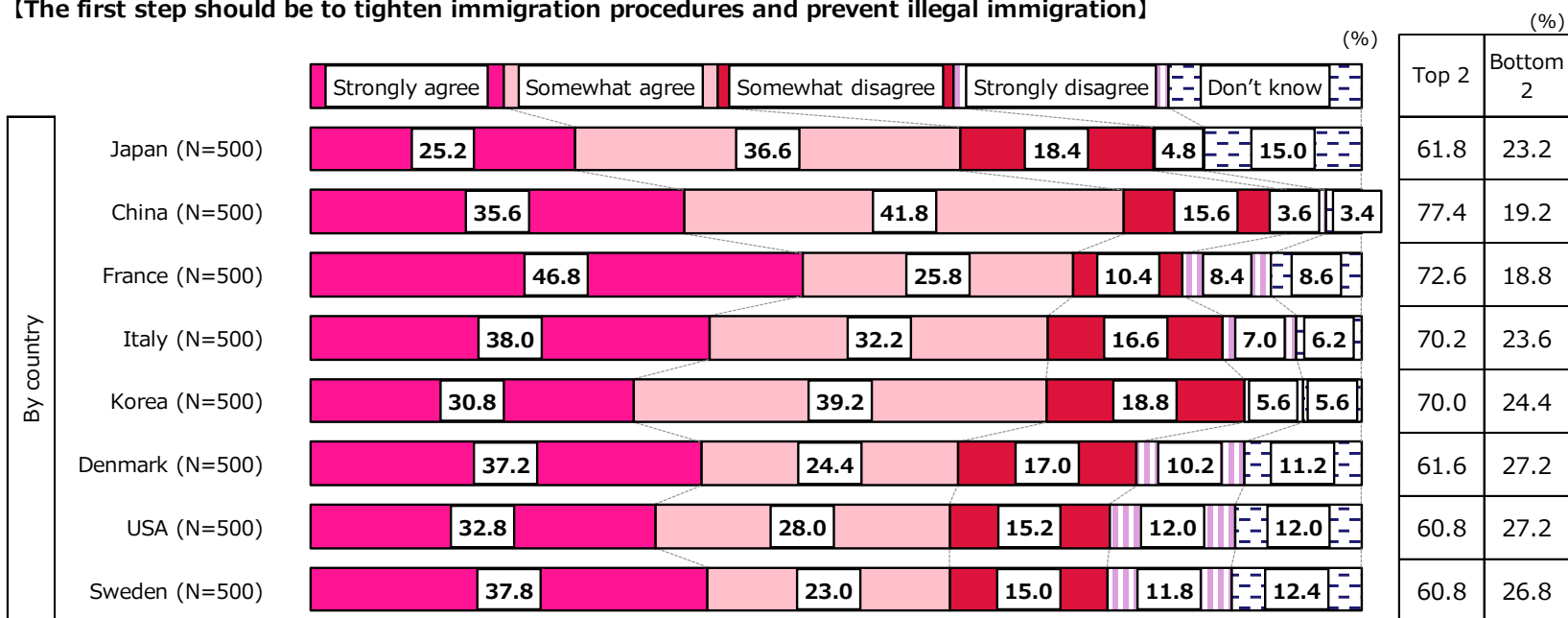
*Top2="Strongly agree" + "Somewhat agree"

*Bottom2="Strongly disagree" + "Somewhat disagree"

5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (6)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

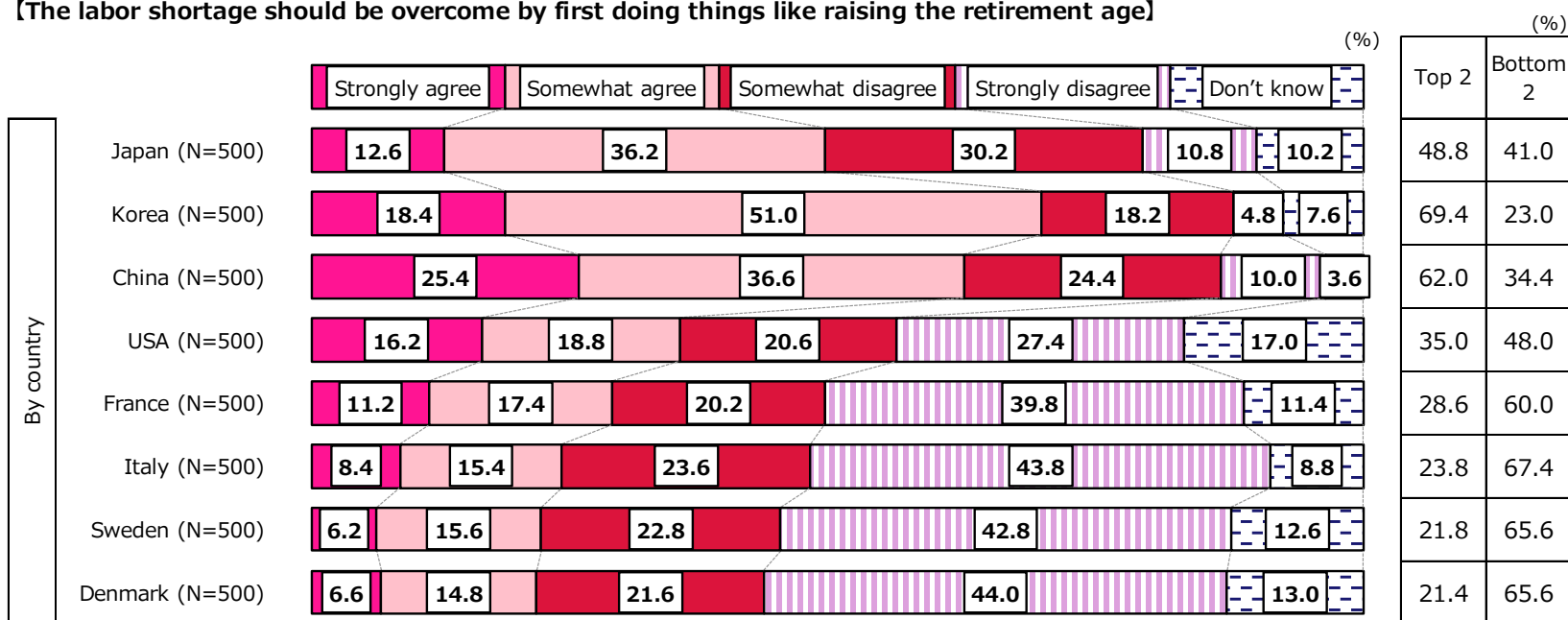
[The first step should be to tighten immigration procedures and prevent illegal immigration]



5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (7)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

[The labor shortage should be overcome by first doing things like raising the retirement age]



5. Acceptance of Immigrants to Address Declining Birthrate (8)

Q13. With the issues of immigration and refugees becoming a major topic in the international community, the United Nations Population Division has published results of research on replacement migration, which refers to the policy of accepting immigrants to make up for declines in the population and working-age population due to a low birthrate and aging population. What do you think about the following ideas? (Choose 1 answer for each)

[A wide and expansive debate is a prerequisite for coexistence with immigrants]

