Changes in fishing communities and Fisher women in Japan

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1. Statistics about the number of fisher worker in Japan

2. Present condition of fishery and fishing community in Japan
Statistics about the number of fisher-person in Japan
Change in numbers of fishery workers (1)

Source: Census (Ministry of public management)
Fishery Census (Ministry of agriculture and forestry, fishery)
### Change in numbers of fishery workers (2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>1993</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>324,886</td>
<td>238,371</td>
<td>180,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>267,863</td>
<td>199,163</td>
<td>157,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed</td>
<td>183,089</td>
<td>139,827</td>
<td>89,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hired</td>
<td>84,774</td>
<td>59,336</td>
<td>67,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>57,023</td>
<td>39,208</td>
<td>23,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed</td>
<td>53,503</td>
<td>35,999</td>
<td>19,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hired</td>
<td>3,520</td>
<td>3,209</td>
<td>4,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2013**

- Rate of women in fishery worker: 13%
- Rate of Self-employed in fishery women: 83%
### Number of fishery workers and number of worker only on land (2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Fishery worker (person)</th>
<th>Peak number of worker only on land (person)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>221,908</td>
<td>313,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
<td>34,088</td>
<td>122,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
<td>187,820</td>
<td>190,703</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rate of women (%)**

- **15**
- **39**
Gill net
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of operation</th>
<th>Type of fishery</th>
<th>2008年</th>
<th>2003〜2008年の</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of fishery worker [person]</td>
<td>Rate of women (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. One-person operation type</td>
<td>Shellfish Gathering</td>
<td>7,960</td>
<td>32.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seaweed Gathering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Aquaculture type</td>
<td>Laver seaweed culture</td>
<td>3,447</td>
<td>37.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scallop culture</td>
<td>2,184</td>
<td>32.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oyster culture</td>
<td>1,193</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Men and women operation type</td>
<td>Gill netting</td>
<td>3,920</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small size trawl</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal angling</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small set net</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>22.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Peak of number of women’s group members
226,664 person (1961)

Rate in regular member (2015): 5.4%
Rate in officer (2015): 0.5%
Women’s group in FCA
Changes of fishing communities

2017

• Number of fishing communities: about 6,300
• Population of fishing communities: about 1,920,000 (decrease)

• Aging rate of population in fishing communities: 38% (Japan 29%)
Estimation of the number of self-employed fisher men in 2028
by Dr. Masakazu Yamauchi (Waseda Univ.)
2015

2013  89,424 person

2028

Case of maintain current reduction rate: 41,463

Optimistic number: 55,834
Pessimistic number: 32,476
Change of generation in fishery worker

Number of fishery worker

Age

New fisher: about 2000 people/year
Case 1: Solitude type
Sai Village in Aomori pref.

Population: about 2000
Number of fishery worker: about 160

2016: Village recruited new fishers
2017~: 4 new fishers start fishery.

Wakame seaweed culture
Case 2: City type

Zushi City in Kanagawa pref.

**Zushi**: Population 127,000, 34 regular members

1 hour from Tokyo by train

Several women have joined to fishery from around 2000’s.
Reform of fishery policy in Japan

• **2018**: fishery agency proposed it.

• **Main point**

  ‘Growth industry-ization for fishery’
  
  resource management
  
  distribution
  
  aquaculture

• **Almost no policy about fishing community**
What is happiness of living in a fishing community?

- income
- worth doing of work
- family
- Life environment
- Natural environment
- Child rearing environment
- human relations of the area inside and outside etc.