In a nationwide survey of attitude of 4,000 men and women aged 20 and over (including those with no employment) conducted by JILPT in 2015 (valid responses 2,118, valid response rate 53.0%), respondents were asked whether they would like to continue working even after reaching pensionable age. The result was that 75.8% of respondents answered in the affirmative, far outweighing those who said they would not be motivated to work (21.8%). By gender-age group, a characteristic of the survey result is that the ratio of men in their 20s and 30s who say they wish to keep working is lower than that of other gender-age groups. The ratio is highest amongst men in their 50s, i.e. those approaching mandatory retirement age. Of these, 84.3% say they wish to keep working.

What is JILPT “Survey on Working Life”?

JILPT has been conducting fixed point surveys on attitudes to work and work-life balance every few years since 1999 (specifically, in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2011, and 2015). Each survey was conducted by visit-and-interview method. The questions consist of topics related to work awareness which are asked every survey, and a special topic which is devised for each survey. The results in above Table are from the 2015 special topic, “The Full Participation Society.”