The number of the elderly increased rapidly through the year 2015, and the population of later-stage elderly people (age 75 and over) is also forecast to increase subsequent to the year 2015.

In order to appropriately deal with long-term care issues peculiar to aging societies, the long-term care insurance system was initiated in April 2000 so that people who need long-term care can receive sufficient support from all aspects of society. After the launch of the system, there was a rapid increase in the use of long-term care, especially home care service. The long-term care insurance system has now come to play an important role as a system designed to assure a comfortable life for elderly people and their family members.

The long-term care insurance system gives those in need of long-term care due to old age-induced disease, or for other reasons, the services required—in a comprehensive and uniform way—so that they can lead an independent life to the greatest possible extent. This is a user-oriented system where you can use the services you choose yourself.

The system is primarily operated and managed by the local municipality where residents live. The national and Tokyo Metropolitan governments provide support to the process management to render it smoother.

![Structure of the Long-Term Care Insurance System](image)

**Population of elderly people in Tokyo**


**Trends in number of Long-term Care Insurance System ensured in Tokyo**

![Trends in number of Long-term Care Insurance System ensured in Tokyo](image)

*Note: Because less than 10,000 persons are rounded off, the sum of the breakdown may not be identical to the total.*

*Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Census (2000 to 2015)*


*Note 1: The in-home care service includes in-home care prevention service, while the community-oriented care services include services designed to prevent the need for nursing care.*

*Note 2: Includes a second insured person.*

*Source: “The Long-term Care Insurance Report” (monthly) by Tokyo Welfare Health Service Bureau*