

# Chance for Children

## **About Chance for Children**

Founded in 2011, Chance for Children (CFC) is committed to eliminating disparities in child education caused by family income inequalities and to breaking the cycle of poverty for generations to come.

## **What we do**

CFC provides the children (1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) in poverty with Study Coupons redeemable at out-of school educational facilities, such tutoring schools, arts & crafts, music, sports, and nature program providers. With over 1700 educational facilities participating in this program throughout Japan, the children can have a variety of choices to fulfill their own interests and needs. To support children to help meet their full potential, college student volunteers consult with the children on a regular bases. CFC relies on private philanthropy to fundraise for its Coupon program.

## **Areas we serve** (as of September 2021)

1. Tohoku
2. Kansai
3. Tokyo
4. Wherever natural disasters occur in Japan, whenever possible.

# **1 . Organization History**

2009

## Lehman Brothers Crisis

- As a small project, Chance for Children started in 2009. College students volunteered to collect street donations to help children in need.
- Educational support for children receiving public assistance started in Kansai area (Central part of Japan).



2011

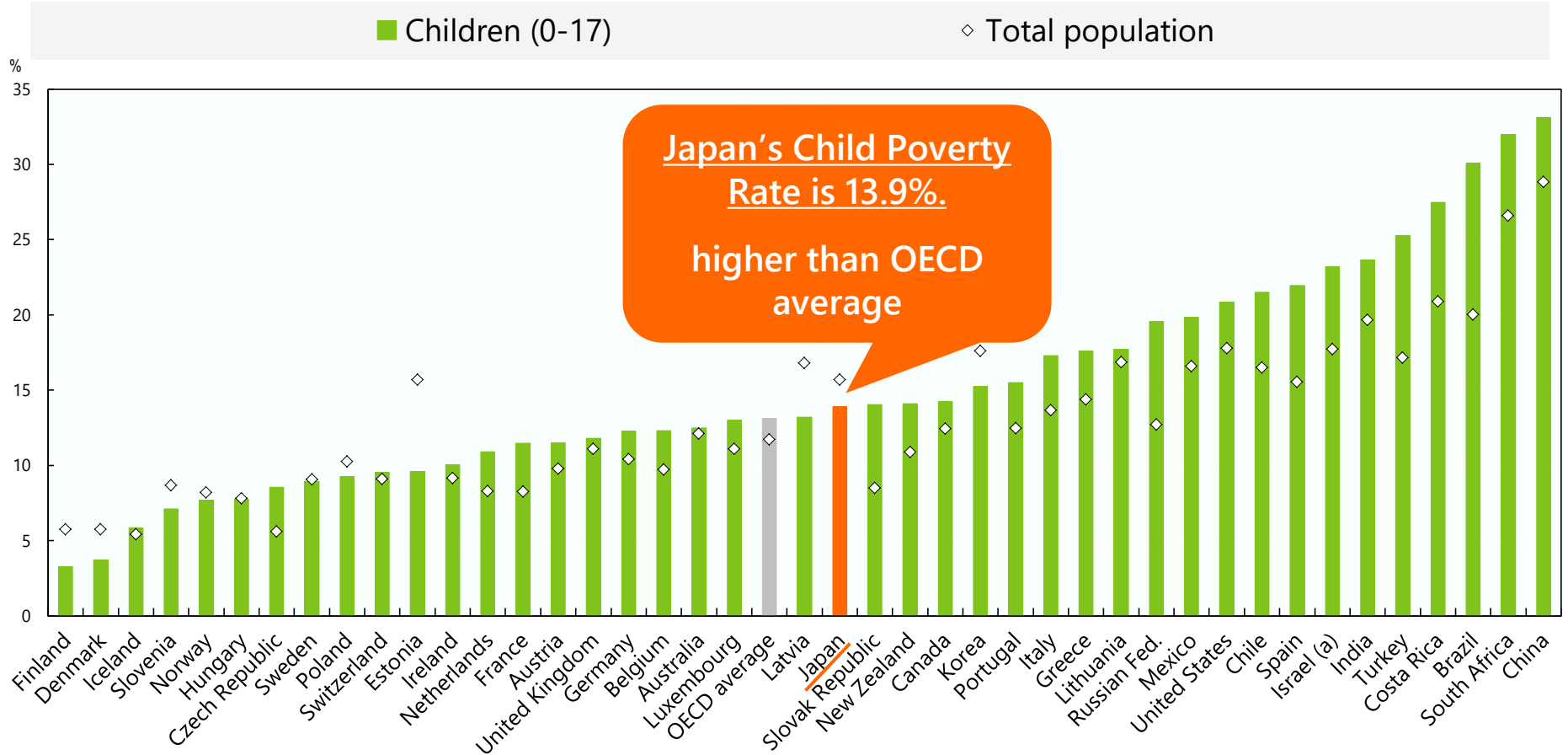
## Great East Japan Earthquake

- Chance for Children became an independent, non-profit organization in 2011, and later became a charitable corporation in 2014.
- Support for children in poverty started mainly in Tohoku area (Northern part of Japan).



## **2. Child Poverty in Japan**

## Child Poverty Rate in OECD Countries (2016)



Note: Data for India and China refer to 2011, for Brazil to 2013, for New Zealand to 2014, for Iceland, Japan, Switzerland, Turkey and South Africa to 2015, and for Chile to 2017

## A household of single parent with two children

Family of 3 in financial difficulties;

Monthly income: **¥180,000** (after tax)

Estimate from "Basic Survey of People's Lives (2019)", Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare



Sample of monthly spending for a family of three

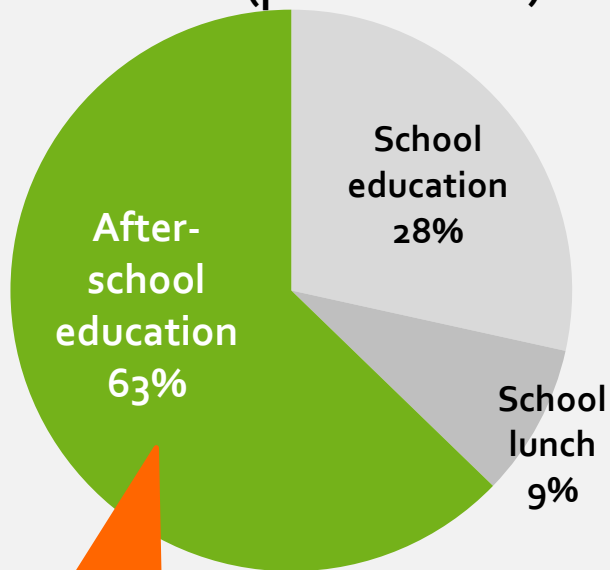
※Just a model for reference.

Item	Amount
Rent	100,000 yen
Food	40,000 yen
Utilities	10,000 yen
Communication (phone)	5,000 yen
Daily essentials	5,000 yen
<b>Total</b>	<b>160,000 yen</b>

Child education fees (school lunch, supplies, text book, after-school programs), saving, medical expenses, travel, clothing, internet, and entertainment are not included.

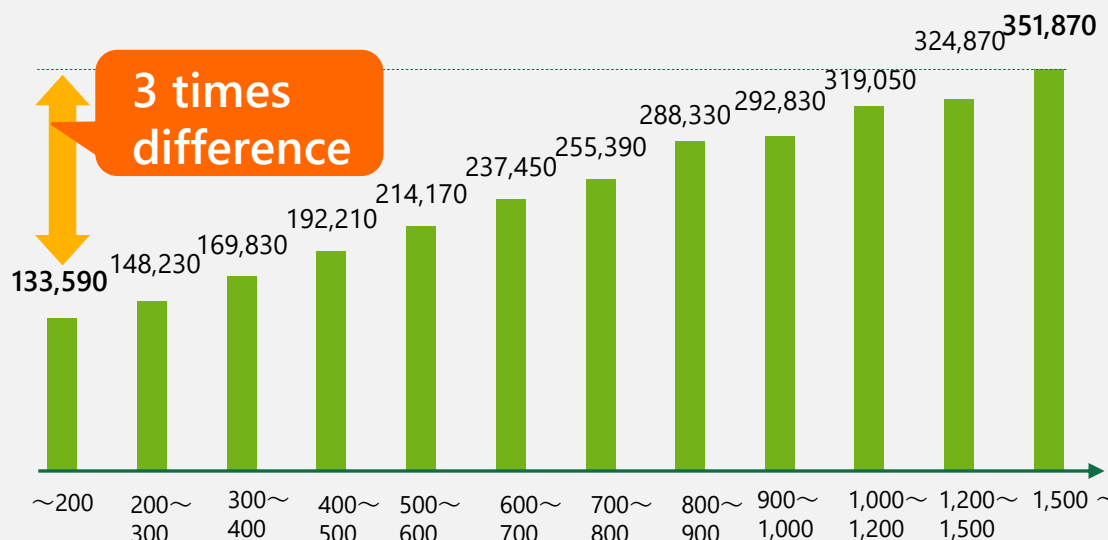
## Educational Inequalities widen during “after-school” hours

Education Spending for average middle-school students (public school)



¥ 306,491/year  
(¥25,000/month)

Annual household income and after-school education spending (9<sup>th</sup> grade students)

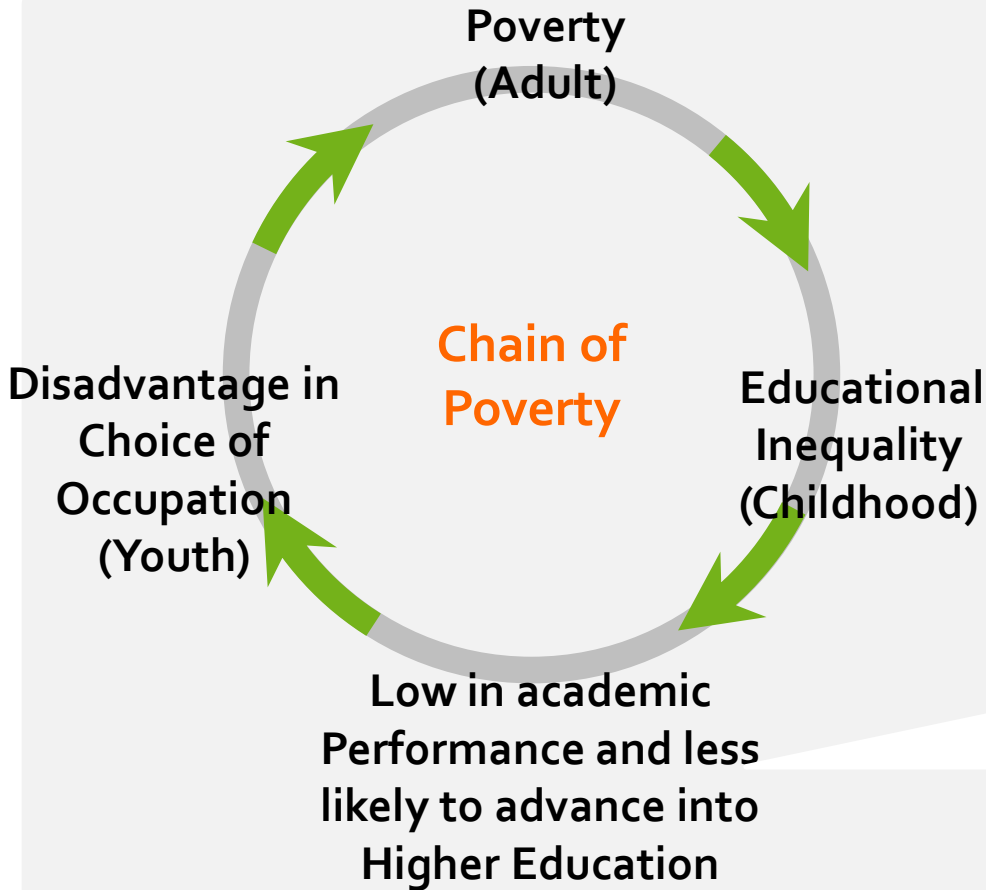


Family Income, including tax (million yen)

Source: “Investment/Study on the analysis of factors impacting children’s academic performance based on 2007 National Survey on academic performance/education activity (detailed survey)” from Ochanomizu University.

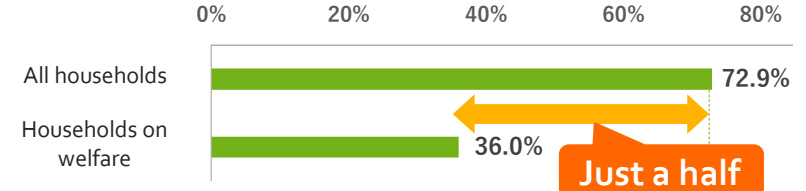


## Chain of Poverty



### Advancement into College

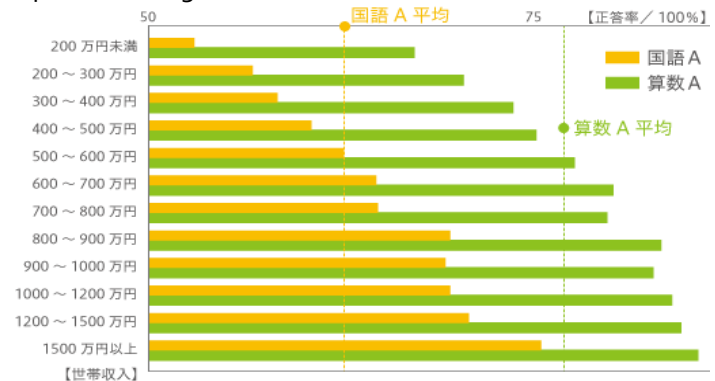
(comparison between welfare recipients and other household)



出典：内閣府「平成30年度子供の貧困の状況と子供の貧困対策の実施状況」

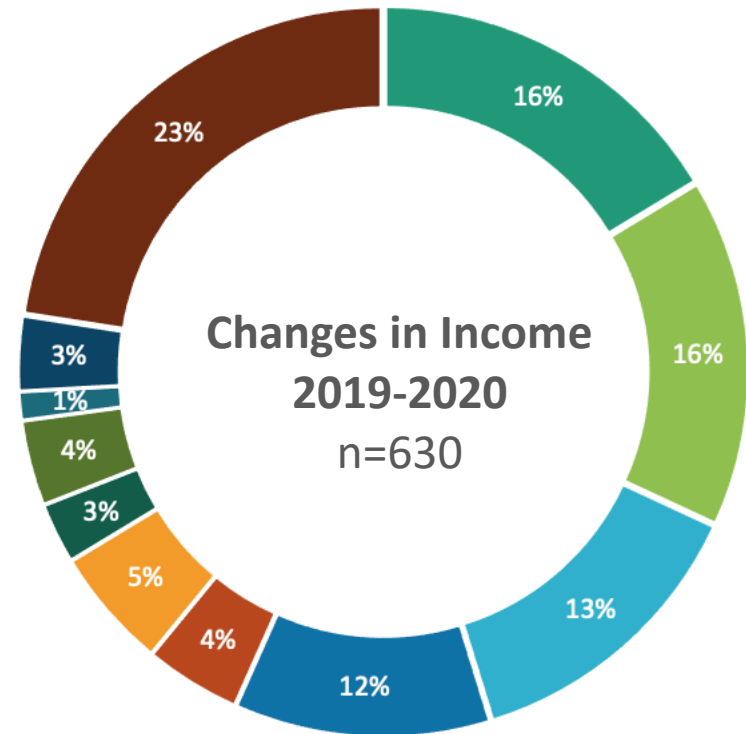
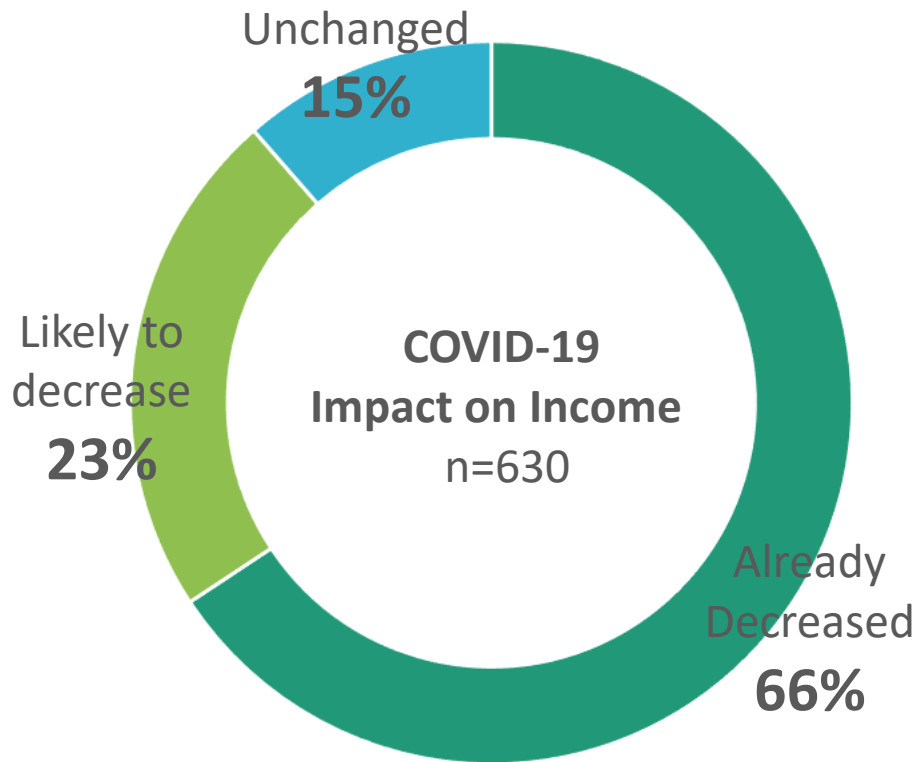
### Academic Performance & Family Income

(comparison of 6 graders across annual income buckets)



Source: "Investment/Study on the analysis of factors impacting children's academic performance based on 2007 National Survey on academic performance/education activity (detailed survey)" from Ochanomizu University.

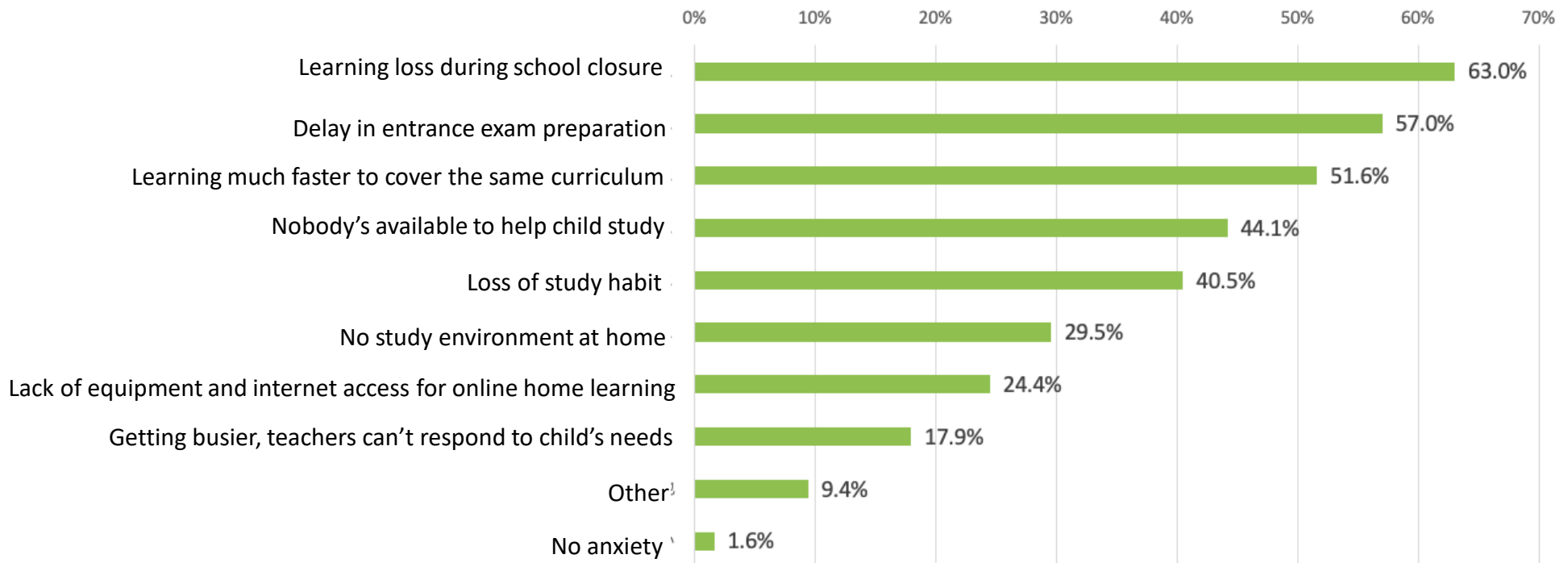
- 90% of disadvantaged families has seen or will see their income decrease due to COVID-19.
- 16% of families' income was reduced over a half in 2020, compared to 2019.



Unchanged	10% down	20% down
30% down	40% down	50% down
60% down	70% down	80% down
90%+ down	Don't know	

## Q: How do you feel anxious about impact from COVID-19 in terms of your child's learning or education (choose more than one if applicable)

n=630



Reference : Chance for Children, *Survey on the disadvantaged Families Affected by COVID-19 (2021)*

Last year, my salary was slashed in half. For my son, it was difficult to stay motivated, due to a long-lasting school closure. As a result, his grades have kept going down.

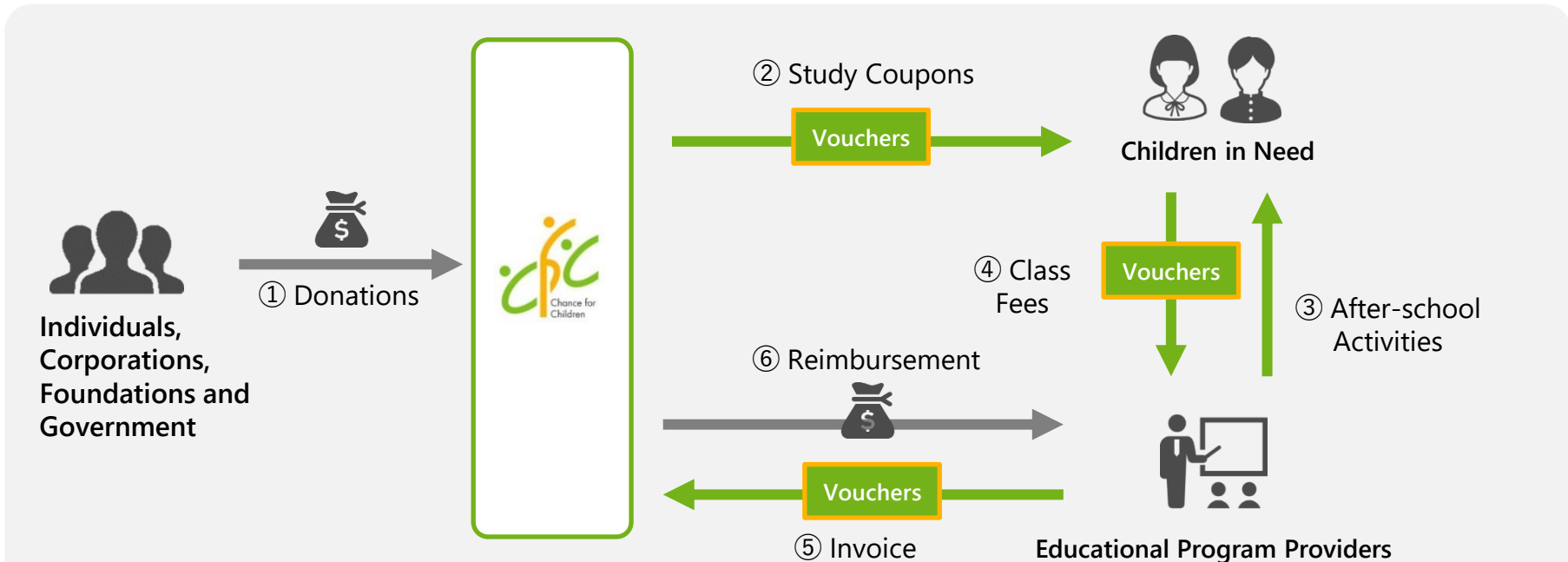
After school opened, my child could not manage to attend classes, and eventually stopped going to school at all. Therefore, most of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade learning is unfinished.

With our family income being reduced, we faced many hardships, and started more quarrels. We got divorced, forcing our children go through difficult experiences. They could not focus on study at times, and their academic performance has declined.

My child has a learning disorder, which makes it hard for her to keep up on study. In addition to that, during school closure, the school gave many writing assignments that my child is not good at. Even after the school opened, they tried to cover same curriculum in a shorter time. My child could not keep up with the fast pace, and found out that school didn't provide any supplementary classes for needed students. Only way is to go to cram schools. We are at loss.

### **3. CFC's answer to stop the chain of poverty**

**CFC provides Study Coupons to children (1-12<sup>th</sup> grade) in poverty. Vouchers can be used for any educational activities outside of school.**



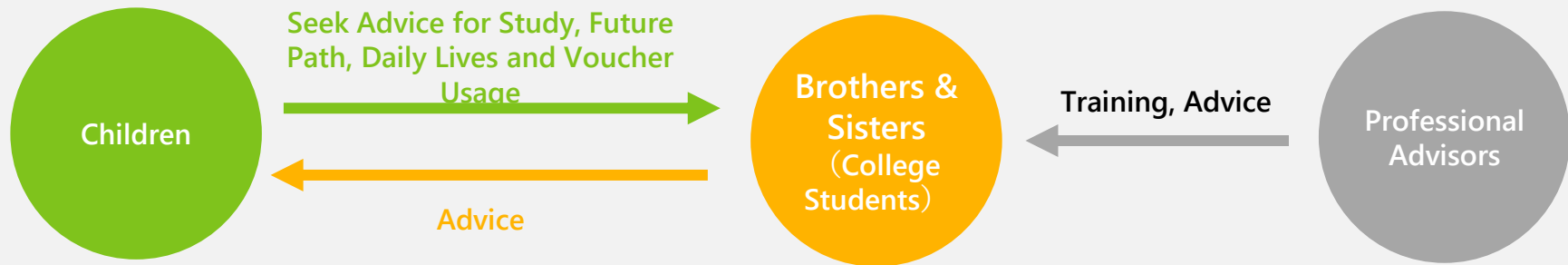
**Point 1** Unlike cash assistance, Coupons are limited the usage to educational programs.

**Point 2** Children can choose from various programs, based on their interests or needs, including tutoring schools, arts & crafts, music, sports and nature programs.

**Point 3** The problem of stigma (social exclusion) can be reduced.

## Brothers & Sisters

- ✓ College Student Volunteers, aka Brothers & Sisters, periodically communicates with children via video or phone calls for support.
- ✓ As a role model close in age, Brothers & Sisters give children advice on their everyday lives, study, or future path and ensure that children use the coupons for their best interest.



In-Person Meetings



Phone Meetings



College students sharing experiences with CFC Staff Members

**For children who are in an insufficient IT environment, we support internet access fees and rent tablets & routers.**





## **4. Contributions and Impact**

## Your contributions made it possible to support the children in need

# of Children Supported

**596**

Study Coupon Value  
in JPY

**1.1mil**

# of Meetings bet. the Children  
and Brothers & Sisters

**1752**

Educational Facilities

**1733**

Rental Devices

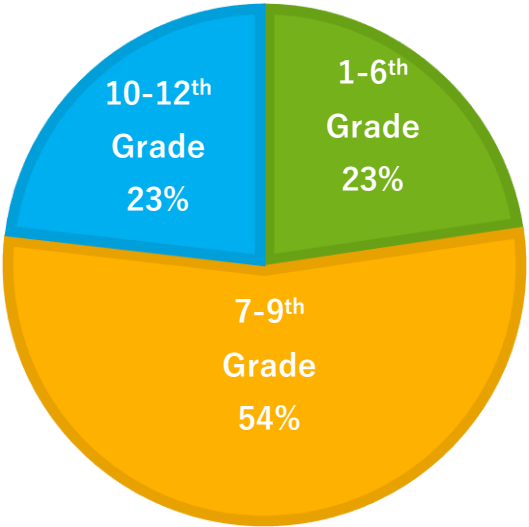
**49**

# of Donations

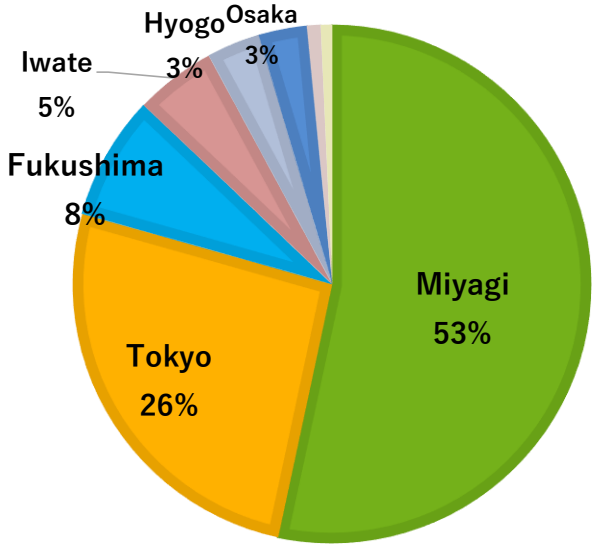
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## ■ Breakdown

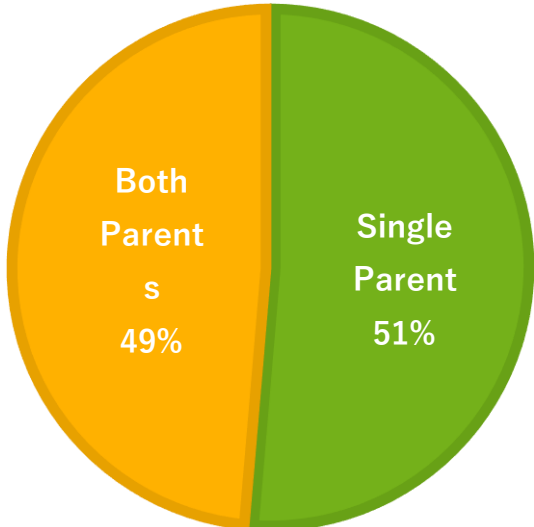
### AGE



### GEOGRAPHICAL AREA



### FAMILY TYPE



- Miyagi
- Fukushima
- Hyogo
- Kyoto
- Tokyo
- Iwate
- Osaka
- Others (Aomori, Gunma, Saitama, Okayama)

n=596

## Message from the children (1)



9<sup>th</sup> Grade,  
in Tokyo

It was around the end of school year (March) and I was 8<sup>th</sup> grade when the Covid-19 started in Japan. Soon after, my school closed temporarily. During the closure, I did some school assignments and studied by myself. However, to be honest, I could not figure out exactly how much and which areas I should study for the high-school entrance exam preparation. Regrettably time went by. When school re-opened, I found out that my friends have continued to study virtually with the cram school they belong to during the school closure, and as a result, our academic levels widen apart. I was worried that I would not make it to any high school.

I am very grateful for the Study Vouchers that I received from Chance for Children. I quickly signed up for a sample class of a cram school that I wanted to join. In the class, they taught me how to solve the problems that I could not answer by myself. The school President explained about the entrance exam, and what I should do now to prepare for it. All my experiences alleviated my worries and motivated me to study harder. With my sincere thanks for the opportunities that I am able to learn, I would definitely succeed to enter a high school of my choice and become a person who is capable of supporting others someday.

## Message from the children (2)



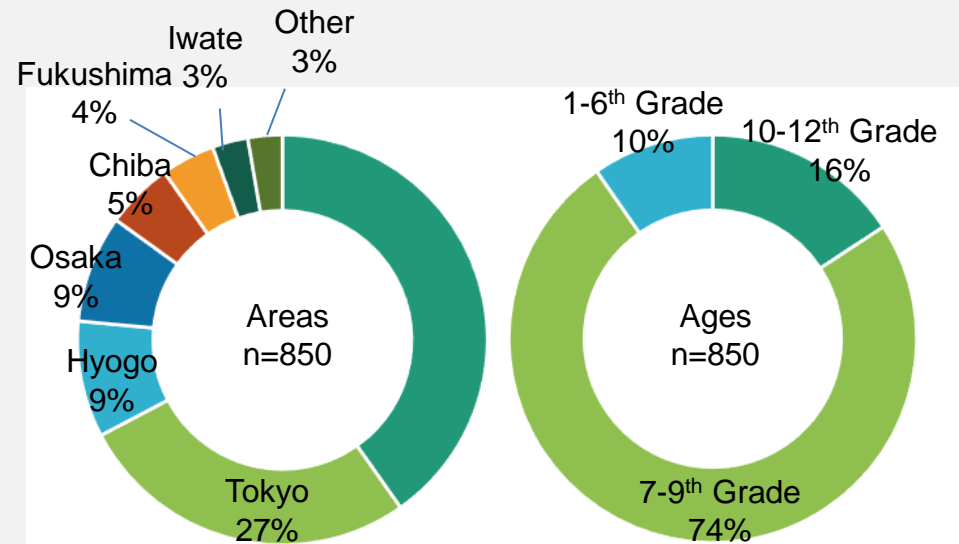
9<sup>th</sup> Grade,  
in Tokyo

I am in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and will take a high school entrance exam next year. I am planning to use Chance for Children's (CFC) Study Vouchers to go to a cram school for exam preparation.

The reason I applied to the Covid-19 Emergency Children Support Fund at CFC was because the pandemic has affected my father's company and made it financially unstable with less revenue. Unable to afford, I was thinking of quitting my cram school that would help improve my English, which is my weakest subject. Then I received the information about the Fund from my school, and I decided to apply. Now as I am able to continue studying at a cram school, I should be able to put my best efforts into studying to enter my first-choice high school next year.

# 2021 Project Update

In 2021, 850 children have received approx. ¥150 million worth of Study Coupons in total. (as of July 2021)



## Diverse learning Opportunities for all children

We aim to create an inclusive society where all children are given diverse learning opportunities despite the environment they're born to or their own characteristics to reach their full potential.

### Our value

- 1 Eliminate educational gap among children (equality)
- 2 Support children in decision-making (freedom)
- 3 Create an environment that embraces child's diversity (inclusiveness)

