

## For senior years, urban life is preferable: poll

Kyodo News

Nearly three-quarters of the people would prefer to live in urban areas offering easy access to entertainment and medical facilities when they get old instead of rural areas with a more natural environment, a recent government survey found.

The survey released Wednesday by the Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Ministry on "ideal ways" of living in old age found that 73.9 percent said they want to live in an urban area, although 43.9 percent of those who gave valid answers think "an ideal is merely an ideal."

The survey, conducted in January and February, targeted 1,199 men and women aged 20 and older. Of the total, 994 gave valid answers.

The survey results also showed 63.4 percent hoped to live with or close to their children, while 80.5 percent said they are willing to spend money on equipment for healthy and comfortable living, such as an emergency alarm system and a floor heating system.

On where they think would be the ideal place to live, 75.0 percent chose Japan, while 25.0 percent chose "overseas."

By location, Tokyo topped the list, followed by Okinawa and Kanagawa prefectures. For those looking abroad, Hawaii was tops, the U.S. mainland second and Australia third.

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