

PREFACE

This is the fifty-third edition of “Statistical Notes of Japan,” a series of which has been briefing statistical activities in Japan by highlighting recent topics of common interests among statisticians of all over the world.

The present edition includes the session papers presented by Japan at the 18th Voorburg Group Meeting on Service Statistics which was held in Tokyo (the Statistics Bureau of Japan, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications) from 6 to 10 October, 2003. These papers were prepared on the topics such as progress reports, producer price indexes, information society, classification and turnover in service statistics.

We will be pleased if this publication is of any help to the readers’ future activities and the promotion of international cooperation in statistical areas.

Editor
December, 2004

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Note: The Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications (MPHPT) of the Japanese Government changed its English name to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), for its shortness and ease of understanding, as of 7 September 2004.