Question 1. How satisfied are you with the public services (such as collecting garbage and maintaining roads) that the municipality in which you currently reside provide? Please choose one from the following list.

1. Satisfied
2. Somewhat satisfied
3. Unchanged
4. Somewhat dissatisfied
5. Dissatisfied
6. Don't know

Question 2. If you are to send a request or complaint to your municipal government, how would you do it? Please choose as many as you like from the following list and circle your choices.

1. Make phone calls or send emails to municipal government
2. Talk to municipal employees in person
3. Ask municipal assembly members for help
4. Ask mayor for help
5. Ask neighborhood organization for help
6. Other
7. I don't contact them at all
8. Don't know.

Question 3. In the last 10 years, did the quality of public services in your municipality improve or decline? Please choose improved, Unchanged, or declined.

- Overall quality of public services, such as public utility and transportation
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- User-friendliness of the municipal office building
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- Efficiency of the works that municipal office carries out
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- Accessibility of municipal assembly members
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- Accessibility of mayor
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- User-friendliness of the public facilities
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- Construction and maintenance of roads
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]
- Community ties
  [Improved Unchanged Declined]

Question 4. Do you think the number of assembly members is too large, too small, or just about right?

1. Too large
2. Just about right
3. Too small
4. Don't know

Question 5. What kind of impression do you have on municipal assembly members today? Please choose as many as you like from the following list.

1. Friendly
2. Take good care of residents
3. Work hard for residents
4. Have expertise in policies
5. Do not do good job, do not work hard
6. I don’t really know any municipal assembly members.

Question 6. What kind of impression did you have on municipal assembly members 10 years ago? Please choose as many as you like from the following list.

1. Friendly
2. Took good care of residents
3. Worked hard for residents
4. Had expertise in policies
5. Did not do good job, did not work hard
6. I don’t really know any municipal assembly members

Question 7. How often do you interact with municipal assembly members? Please choose one.

1. Frequently
2. Occasionally
3. Rarely
4. Not at all
5. Don’t know.

Question 8. How often did you interact with municipal assembly members approximately 10 years ago? Please choose one.

1. Frequently
2. Occasionally
3. Rarely
4. Not at all
5. Don’t know.

Question 9. Were the following activities carried out by municipal assembly members in your neighborhood in the last 4 years? Please circle "Yes", "No", or "Don't know" for each activity.

(1) They held meetings in your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(2) Their campaign cars visited your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(3) They distributed small gifts in your neighborhood or at your workplace.
Yes No Don't know

(4) They used blogs and/or twitter.
Yes No Don't know

(5) They asked you to give a speech at campaign rallies.
Yes No Don't know

Question 10C. Were the following activities carried out by municipal assembly members and their activists in your neighborhood approximately 10 years ago? Please circle "Yes", "No", or "Don't know" for each activity.

(1) They held meetings in your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(2) Their campaign cars visited your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(3) They distributed small gifts in your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(4) They used blogs and/or twitter.
Yes No Don't know

(5) They asked you to give a speech at campaign rallies.
Yes No Don't know

Question 11. Were the following activities carried out by municipal assembly members in your neighborhood in the last 4 years? Please circle "Yes", "No", or "Don't know" for each activity.

(1) They attended neighborhood events.
Yes No Don't know

(2) They attended school events.
Yes No Don't know

(3) They attended funerals and/or wedding.
Yes No Don't know

(4) They made speeches in front of train stations.
Yes No Don't know

(5) They asked you to help their campaigning.
Yes No Don't know

Question 12. Were the following activities carried out by municipal assembly members and their activists in your neighborhood approximately 10 years ago? Please circle "Yes", "No", or "Don't know" for each activity.

(1) They held meetings in your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(2) Their campaign cars visited your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(3) They distributed small gifts in your neighborhood.
Yes No Don't know

(4) They used blogs and/or twitter.
Yes No Don't know

(5) They asked you to give a speech at campaign rallies.
Yes No Don't know

Question 13. "Great Merger of Heisei Era" took place recently. Did the municipality in which you currently reside merge with others in the last ten years? Please choose one from the following list and circle your choice.

1. Merged. → Please proceed to Question 14.
2. Did not merge. → Please proceed to Question 15.
3. Don't know. → Please proceed to Question 15.

Question 14. Please answer this question if you selected 1 in Question 13. Are you satisfied with the fact that your municipality merged? Please choose one.

1. Satisfied
2. Somewhat satisfied.
3. Unchanged.
4. Somewhat dissatisfied.
5. Dissatisfied
6. Don't know

Question 15. What do you think is most important for your municipal government to improve its public services? Please choose one.

1. Hard work by competent employees
2. Detailed reporting by mass media
3. Monitoring by citizens
4. Monitoring by a third-party commission
5. Monitoring by municipal assembly members
6. Other
7. Don't know

Question 16. In addition to public services that your municipality provides, there are things that the central government does that are likely to affect your daily livings. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The central government should narrow the rich-poor disparity.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]
The central government should narrow the rural-urban disparity.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]
The central government should reduce budget deficit.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]
The central government should raise consumption taxes.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]
The central government should cut back pensions.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]
The central government should abandon all the nuclear power plants.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]
The central government should bring about the fall in the exchange rate of the yen.
[Agree Neutral Disagree Don't know]

Question 17. Now we ask you what you think about the two major parties, the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) and the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

(1) What kind of impressions do you have on the DPJ? Are the following statements closer to your impressions on the DPJ? Please choose as many as you like.

1. The DPJ prefers "large government"
2. The DPJ prefers "small government"
3. The DPJ prefers "mid-sized government", somewhere between large and small governments.
4. The DPJ emphasizes efficiency and competition in the agricultural sector.
5. The DPJ emphasizes protection of the agricultural sector.
6. The DPJ emphasizes economic recoveries of rural areas.
7. The DPJ emphasizes urban developments.

(2) How about the LDP? What kind of impressions do you have on the LDP? Are the following statements closer to your impressions on the LDP? Please choose as many as you like and circle your choices.

1. The LDP prefers "large government"
2. The LDP prefers "small government"
3. The DPJ prefers "mid-sized government", somewhere between large and small governments.
4. The LDP emphasizes efficiency and competition in the agricultural sector.
5. The LDP emphasizes protection of the agricultural sector.

6. The LDP emphasizes economic recoveries of rural areas.
7. The LDP emphasizes urban developments.

Question 18. If there is anything that we did not ask but you would like to share with us regarding local government and public services, please write them down below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Question 19. To wrap up the survey, we would like to ask several questions about you.

(1) What is your gender? 1. Male 2. Female 3. Don't want to answer.

(2) What is your age? 20~29 30~39 40~49 50~59
60~69 70~79 Over 80

(3) Are you currently employed and receiving income?
1. Yes --> Please proceed to (5)
2. No --> Please proceed to (7)
3. Don't know/ Don't want to answer. --> Please proceed to (7)

(4) Please answer this question if you answered "1. Yes" in (3). What is your position at work?
1. Directors of a company or a corporation including managing directors
2. Regular employee (administrative/management position)
3. Regular employee
4. Part-time employee
5. Temporary employee
6. Self-employed
7. Family worker
8. Persons doing home handicraft
9. Don't know/ Don't want to answer.

(5) Please answer this question if you answered "1. Yes" in (3). Which of the following industries best characterizes the company by which you are currently employed or the nature of the work you do if you are self-employed?

Agriculture, forestry, fishery (full-time)	Government
Construction	Mass media
Manufacturing	Information and communications
Electricity, gas, heat supply and water	Medical, health care and welfare
Transport	Education, learning support
Wholesale	Legal, accounting
retail trade	Other
Eating and drinking places, accommodations	Don't know/ Don't want to answer.
Finance and insurance	

(6) What was the total income of your household last year (January 2011 - December 2011)

1. < ¥200 million
2. ¥200 - 400 million
3. ¥400 - 600 million
4. ¥600 - 800 million
5. ¥800 - 1000 million
6. ¥1000 - 1200 million
7. ¥1200 - 1400 million
8. > ¥1400 million
9. Don't know/ Don't want to answer.

(7) How many years have you lived in your current residence?

1. Less than 1 year
2. 1~5 years
3. 6~10 years
4. 11~15 years
5. More than 15 years

[END OF SURVEY]