

30% of working women sexually harassed - The Japan News

The Yomiuri Shimbun About 30 percent of women who have held jobs have experienced sexual harassment in their workplace, according to a labor ministry survey released on Tuesday.

Approximately 60 percent of the respondents who said they had been sexually harassed said they had merely endured their suffering, the survey said.

The Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry will increase efforts to educate companies about the importance of preventing sexual harassment as well as giving them necessary instructions, a ministry official said.

The survey was the first of its kind by the ministry. It was conducted in September and October last year on about 26,000 women at 6,500 companies across the nation aged 25 to 44, with valid responses received from 17.8 percent of those polled. An online survey was also conducted, and responses were received from 5,000 women in the same age group.

The percentage of those who said they had experienced sexual harassment reached 28.7 percent. By employment status, regular employees accounted for a predominant 34.7 percent of victims, followed by contract workers at 24.6 percent, temporary employees at 20.9 percent and part-time workers at 17.8 percent.

Regarding the nature of the harassment, 53.9 percent of the women complained of comments made about their appearances, ages and physical features, with 40.1 percent citing unnecessary bodily touching and 16.8 percent complaining about demands for sexual relationships.