The total number (1) of working hours per worker (2) in 2000 was 1,859, at the 1,800-hour level for the 3rd consecutive year. Although this was largely due to the 40-hour work week system that was implemented in April 1997, the effects of the recession cannot be overlooked.

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(1) Total working hours = Normal working hours + Overtime working hours.
(2) Offices and factories with 30 employees or more are covered.