



Beautiful Prefecture
in Japan

9th February 2022

International Forum

Suicide prevention

~Report from front line of suicide prevention~

NPO Kumo no Ito

1. Basic Act of Suicide Prevention



ライフリンク
代表取締役 水野 貴之
団野 克己さん
西原由記子さん
佐藤まどかさん
南部 節子さん



The world : 804000

(by WHO Report, 2014)

Japan : 20,243 (suicide rate16.4)

Akita : 172 (suicide rate18.0)

(by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, 2020
Demographic statistics)



In May 2005, the NGO LIFELINK collaborated with a member of the parliament to bring about the first forum on suicide. At the forum, LIFELINK and other NGOs submitted urgent proposals for comprehensive suicide prevention. The Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, who attended the forum, vowed on behalf of the government to tackle the issue of suicide.

(Preventing suicide report WHO 2014)

Suicide problem is a social problem

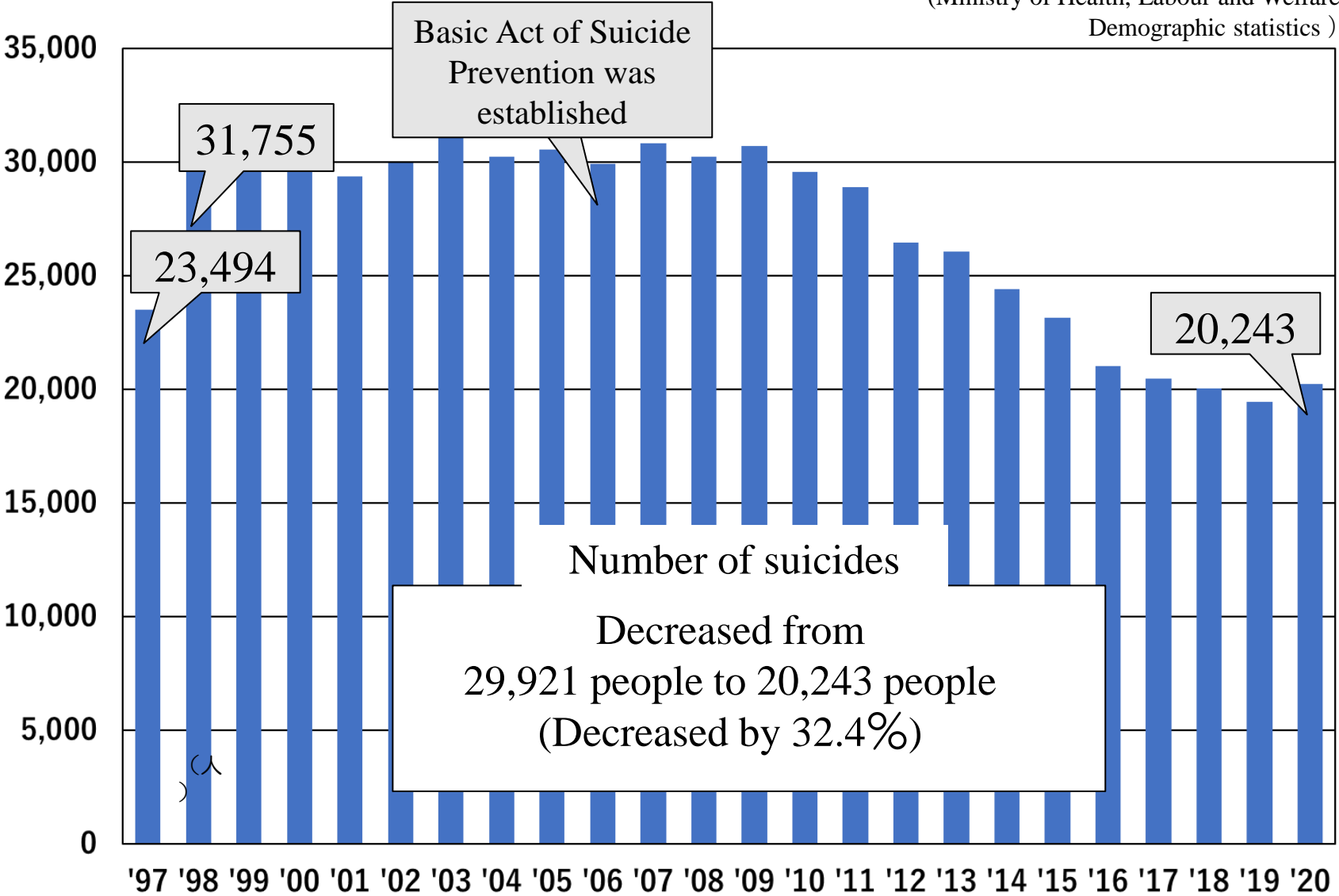
Basic Principle

Article 1-2

Suicide prevention should not be seen only as a personal problem, but should be considered as a social effort as there are various social factors behind it.

Number of suicides in Japan

(Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Demographic statistics)

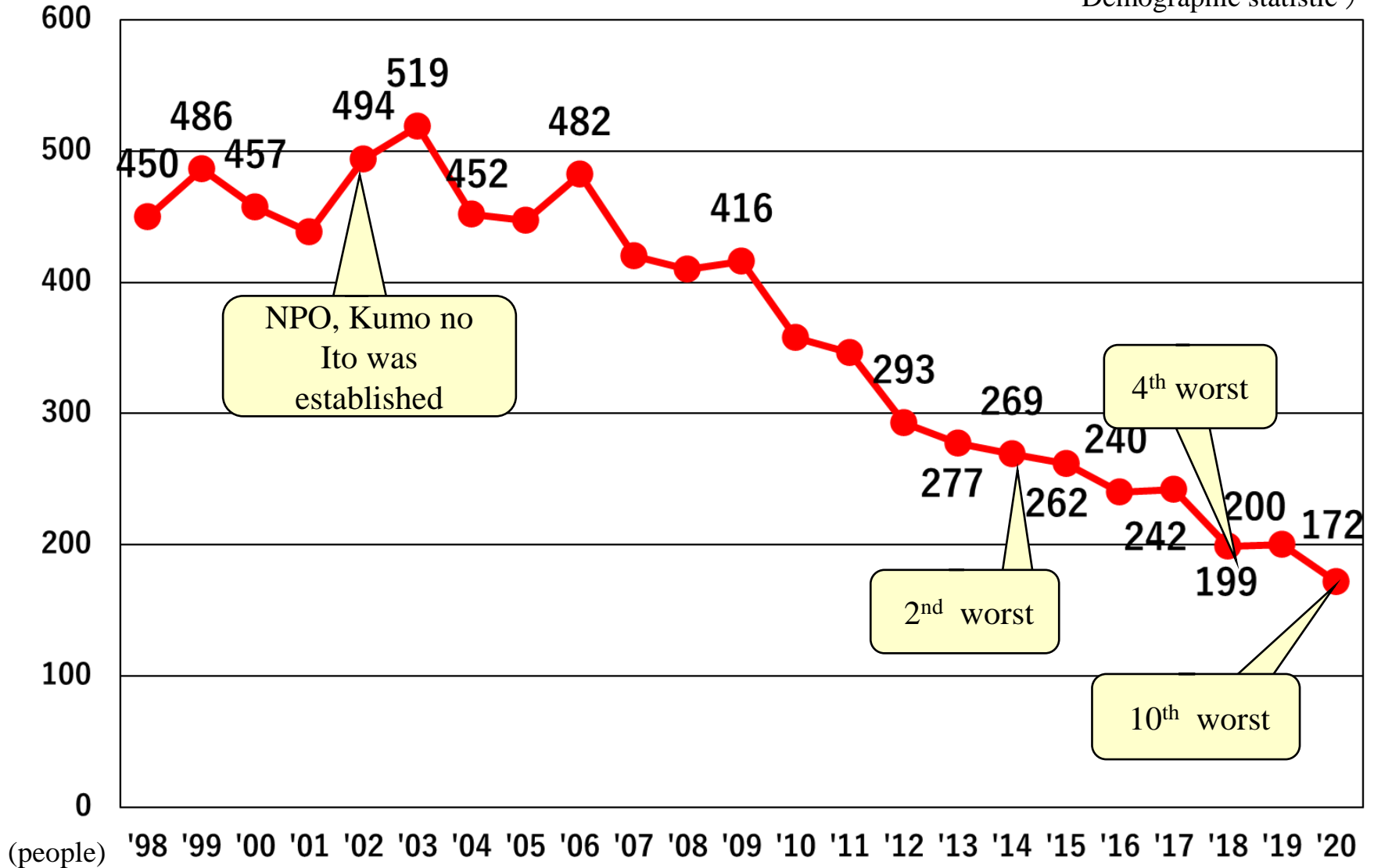


About “Akita model”

- It's a whole prefecture's scale model. There isn't a big model like this in other prefectures in Japan.
- Private organization, medical association, administration, university has a very close connection.
- Regional activity held by private organization, “Akita · Mental health network” (2006)
- Organization “Akita Fuki no Tou Prefectural People's Movement Executive Committee” was established.

The changes in the number of suicides in Akita Prefecture

(Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Demographic statistic)



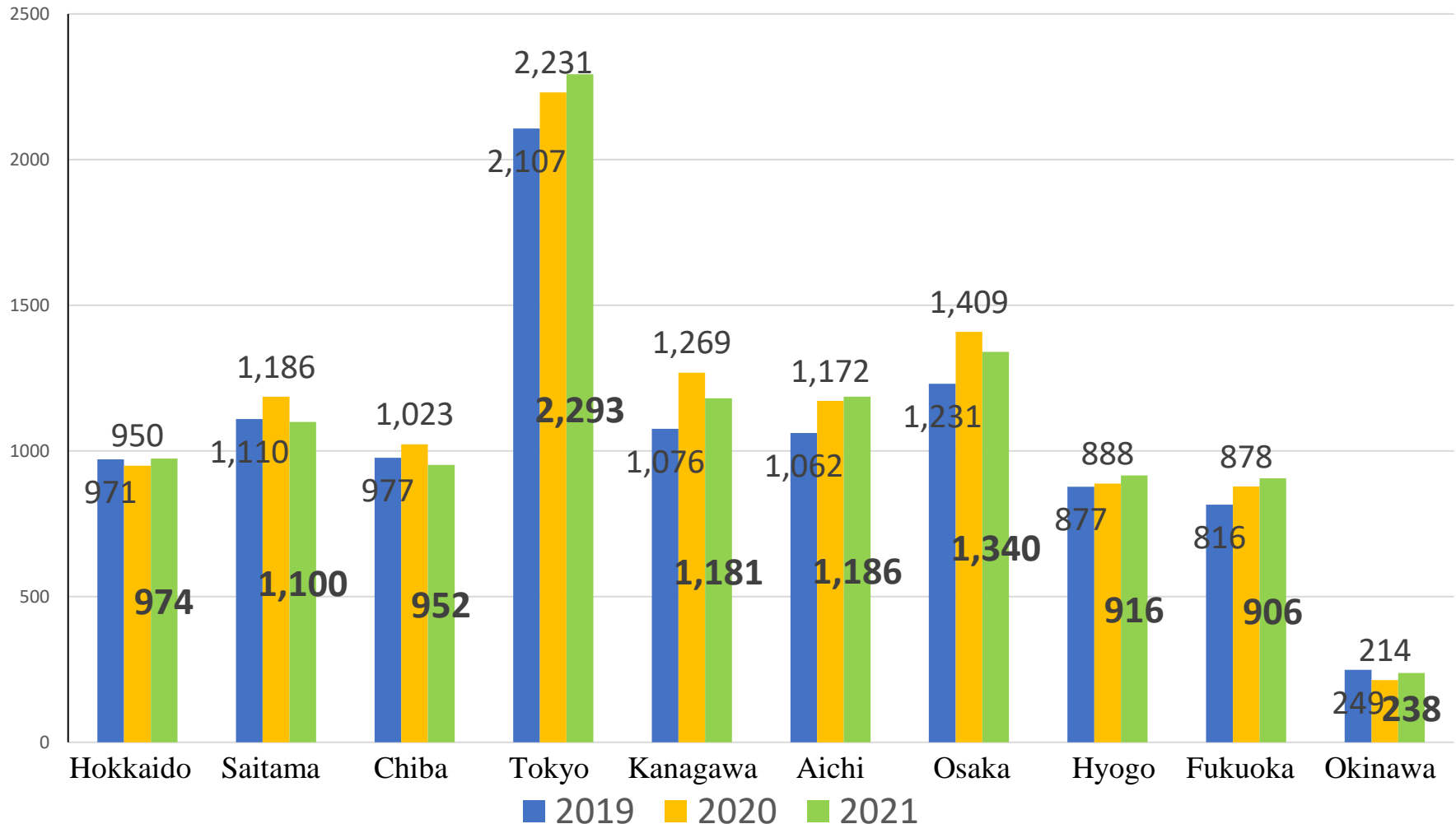
2. The current situation of COVID-19 and how it affects the number of suicides

The 3 Crisis

Problem during 1998	Financial bankruptcy and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) bankruptcy
	Credit crunch and the increase of unemployment
	The Basic Act of Suicide Prevention wasn't established
Bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers (2008)	The increase of number of suicides of young people due to unemployment and dismissal
	Unemployed young people lined up at the Hibiya Park for food
	The Basic Act of Suicide Prevention wasn't functioning
COVID-19 (2020~)	Failure of life and economy contraction
	Movement restriction (Food and beverage industry, hotels, transportation industries and etc.)
	Organization, knowledge, experience and data for suicide prevention have been developed

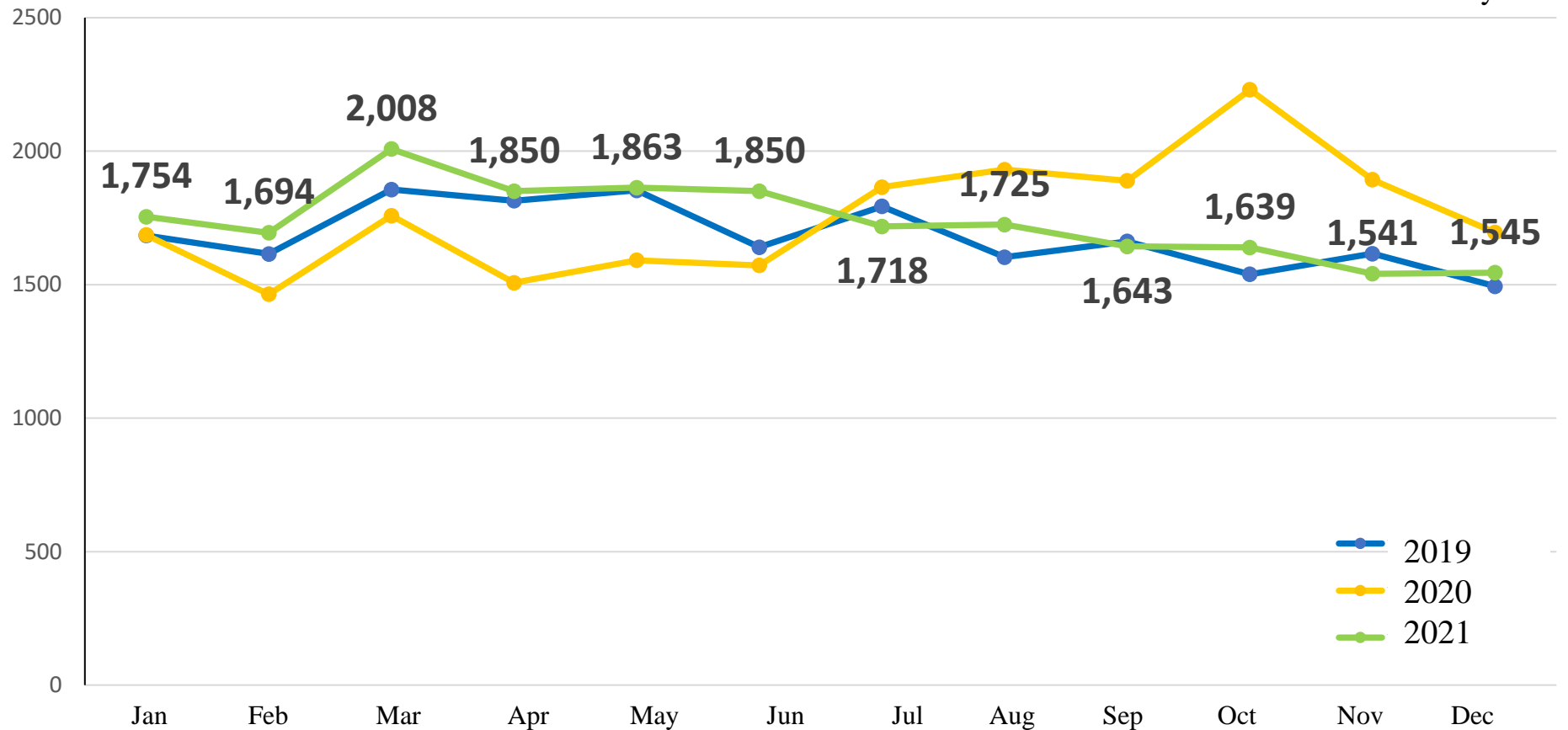
Comparison of number of suicides by prefectures that has the most people infected by COVID-19

(National Police Agency Statistics
14th January 2022)



Monthly comparison of the number of suicides in Japan

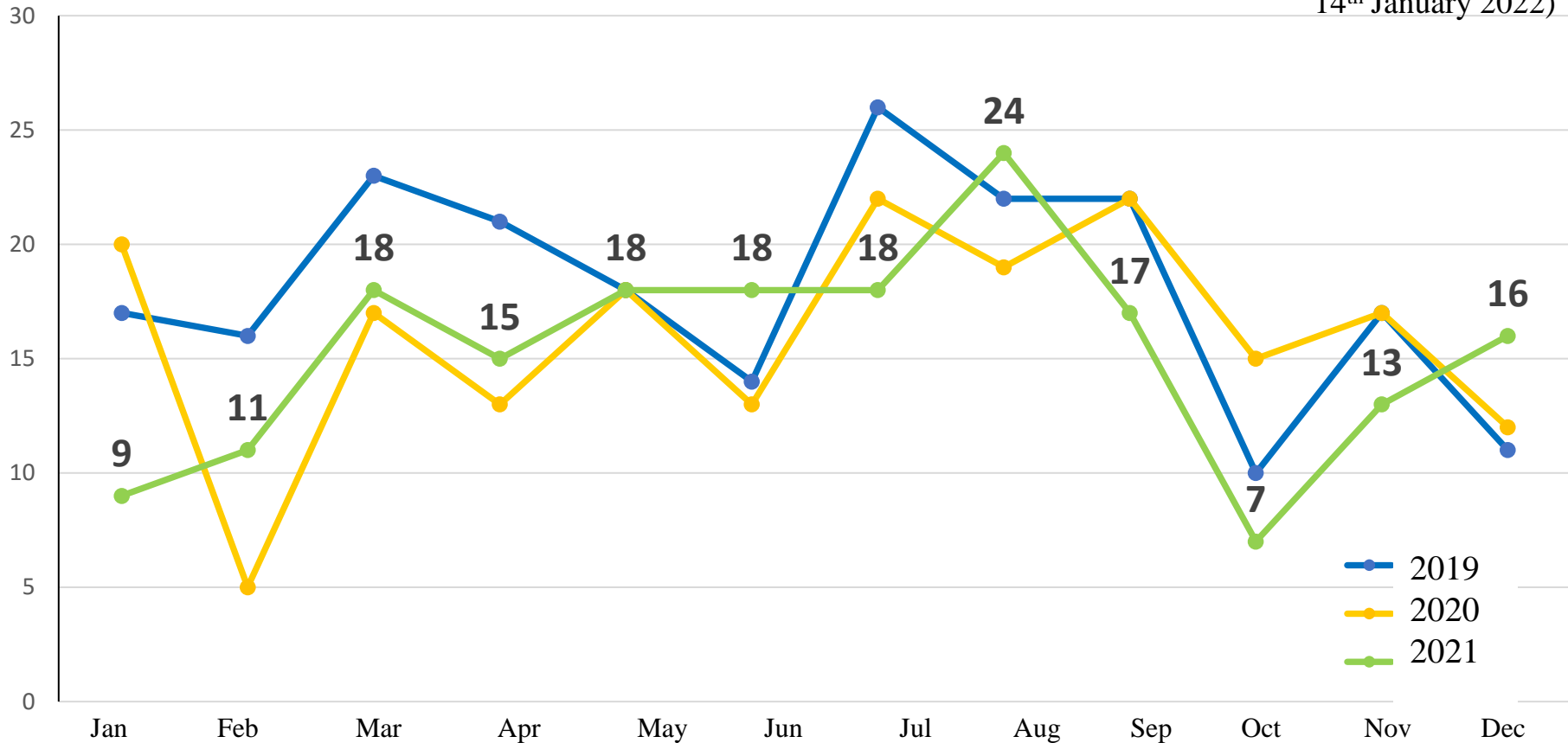
(National Police Agency Statistics
14th January 2022)



Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2019	1,684	1,615	1,856	1,814	1,853	1,640	1,793	1,603	1,662	1,539	1,616	1,494	20,169
2020	1,686	1,464	1,758	1,507	1,591	1,572	1,865	1,931	1,889	2,230	1,893	1,695	21,081
2021	1,754	1,694	2,008	1,850	1,863	1,850	1,718	1,725	1,643	1,639	1,541	1,545	20,830

Monthly comparison of the number of suicides in Akita Prefecture

(National Police Agency Statistics 14th January 2022)



Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2019	17	16	23	21	18	14	26	22	22	10	17	11	217
2020	20	5	17	13	18	13	22	19	22	15	17	12	193
2021	9	11	18	15	18	18	18	24	17	7	13	16	184



Thank you for listening