Since the 11-th population census (1970), this symbol is adopted so as to be felt familiarity with population censuses. Its design expresses the Japanese islands in a circle which reminds of the National Flag.

This character is called “Sensasu-kun” named after the word “census”. Population censuses are intended to count all the persons who live in Japan from newborn babies to senior citizens. This baby represents the diversity of persons to be counted. Sensasu-kun has continued to soften our hearts since 1990.