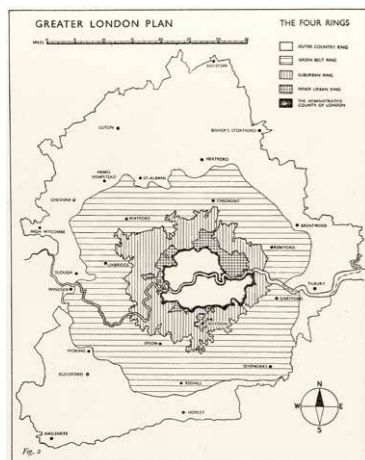


01 Expansion of the urban area and formation of the National Capital Region

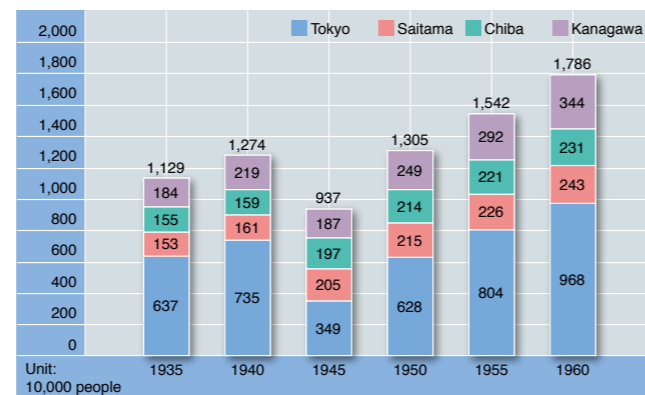
The population of Tokyo metropolis rapidly recovered after the war, and continued to increase sharply. A large number of people also moved out from Tokyo to the neighboring prefectures for a post-war surge in the population of Tokyo and the three prefectures of the south Kanto region. Many of these people commuted to workplaces in Tokyo. The living sphere of Tokyo kept expanding, going beyond the administrative district of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, and this generated strong demand for measures in administrative planning that take on an inter-prefectural perspective.

Against the background of this concentration of population and industries, and expansion of the urbanized area, the National Capital Region Development Act was enacted in 1956, and its basic concept was manifested in the First Basic Plan for the

National Capital Region, released in 1958. Of Tokyo and the seven prefectures of the National Capital Region, the plan covered the area roughly within 100 kilometers of Tokyo Station. Its basic concept was, among others, to establish a suburban zone as a green belt zone modeled after the UK's Greater London Plan. However, due to opposition by the local communities because there would be strong building restrictions in the suburban zone, designation of areas for this zone became virtually impossible. Following this, the act was amended to abolish the suburban zone, and a new suburban development zone was designated to promote orderly build-up of the areas and preservation of greenery. With this amendment, the Second Basic Plan for the National Capital Region was formulated in 1968.



Greater London Plan (1944)
Prepared by Professor Leslie Patrick Abercrombie of the University College in London. It proposed a plan for placement of industries and population in the Greater London Area, and planned a green belt to curb urban sprawl.
Source: Akira Sato. *Oubei koen ryokuchi hattatsushi* (History of development of Western parks and green places), Town & City Planners, Inc.



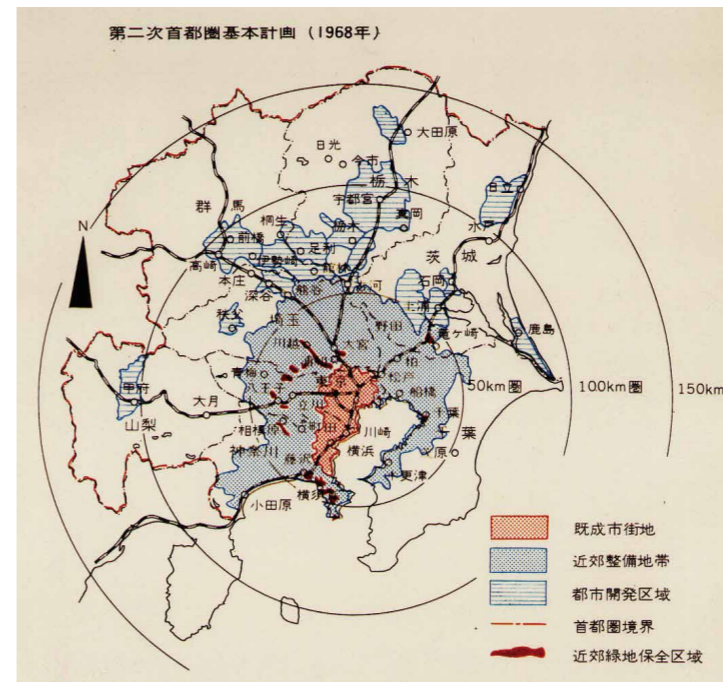
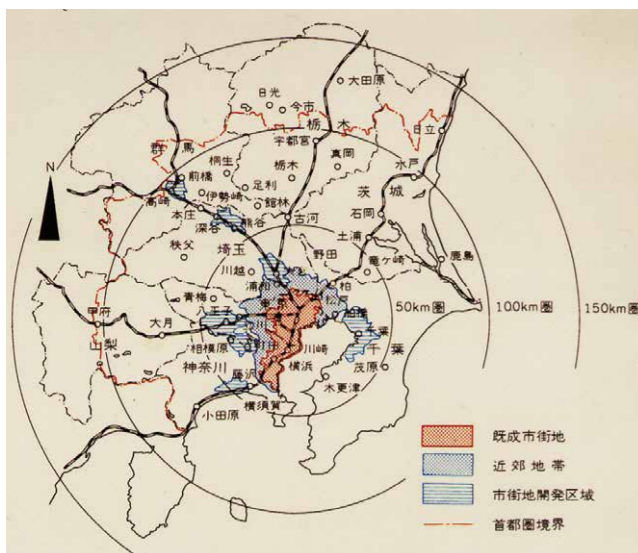
Change in population of the Greater Tokyo Area (Tokyo, Kanagawa, Saitama and Chiba)

In 10 years after the end of WWII, the population of Tokyo surpassed pre-war levels, becoming higher than the highest point before the war in 1953. With an annual population increase of 300,000 people—a rapid increase of over 3 percent—the population reached as high as 8.04 million in 1955. The population of the Greater Tokyo Area (Tokyo, Kanagawa, Saitama and Chiba) surpassed 15.42 million, and continued growing.
Prepared from the Population Census.

Area classification map after formulation of the First Basic Plan for the National Capital Region (1958)

The plan classified areas into a “built-up area,” “suburban zone” and “surrounding district” with a target year of 1975. In order to prevent excessive concentration in the built-up area, along with striving for practical use of land, the new construction or extension of factories, universities and other such facilities was limited. Around the built-up area, an approximately 10-kilometer wide suburban zone (green belt) was established to curb urban sprawl. Many cities with home-workplace proximity were planned by developing the urban development areas (satellite cities) in the surrounding district into industrial cities, and having the population and industries settle down in these areas.

Source: *Tokyo no toshizukuri tsushi dai 1 kan* (An overview of the history of Tokyo's urban development Vol. 1). Tokyo Urban Planning and Development Corporation.



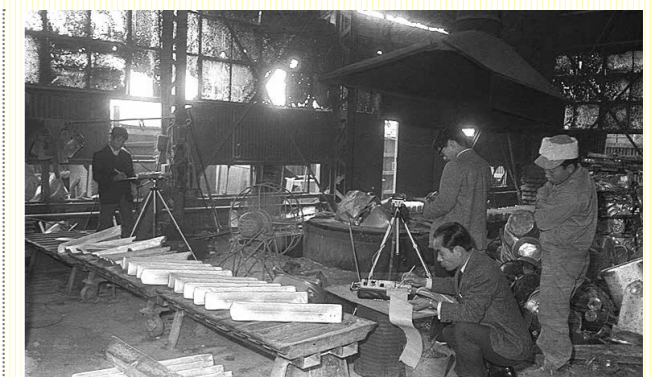
Area classification map after formulation of the Second Basic Plan for the National Capital Region (1968)

The basic direction of the plan was to advance the development of the entire National Capital Region so that it would be a massive composite of local areas, each with features that are best suited to them and can efficiently complement each other while being a unified whole. It was decided to divide the entire National Capital Region into three areas—the built-up area, suburban development zone, and urban development area—and distribute their features.

Source: *Tokyo no toshizukuri tsushi dai 1 kan* (An overview of the history of Tokyo's urban development Vol. 1). Tokyo Urban Planning and Development Corporation.

Restoration of industrial strength and urban pollution

Up to around 1950, Japan's industries were devastated and building activities were also in a slump, but with the start of the Korean War, Japan's industrial production expanded rapidly. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government quickly moved to enact the Ordinance on Factory Pollution in 1949 and the Ordinance on Noise Pollution in 1954. But as the concentration of people and production activities in Tokyo continued to increase, air pollution (especially sulfuric acid gas and dust), river pollution, and land subsidence in east Tokyo's lowlands known as the zero meter zone, also grew worse.



Aluminum recycling plant (latter half of the 1960s)
Study conducted to formulate measures against noise from the plant.
Source: Bureau of Environment, Tokyo Metropolitan Government.



A home positioned lower than the surface of the river due to ground subsidence (1973)

In the lowlands in eastern Tokyo, serious land subsidence was brought about by large amounts of groundwater withdrawal accompanying natural gas extraction, and the pumping of groundwater for industrial use.
Source: Tokyo Metropolitan Government official photo archives.



Soot and smoke over Marunouchi (1954)
Air pollution from soot and smoke became a serious problem, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government requested the cooperation of 547 buildings in the city center to curb their emissions. In the bottom of the photo is Mitsubishi Ichigokan at that time.
Source: Tokyo Metropolitan Government official photo archives.