

# Welfare for the Deafblind in Japan

Japan Federation of the Deafblind

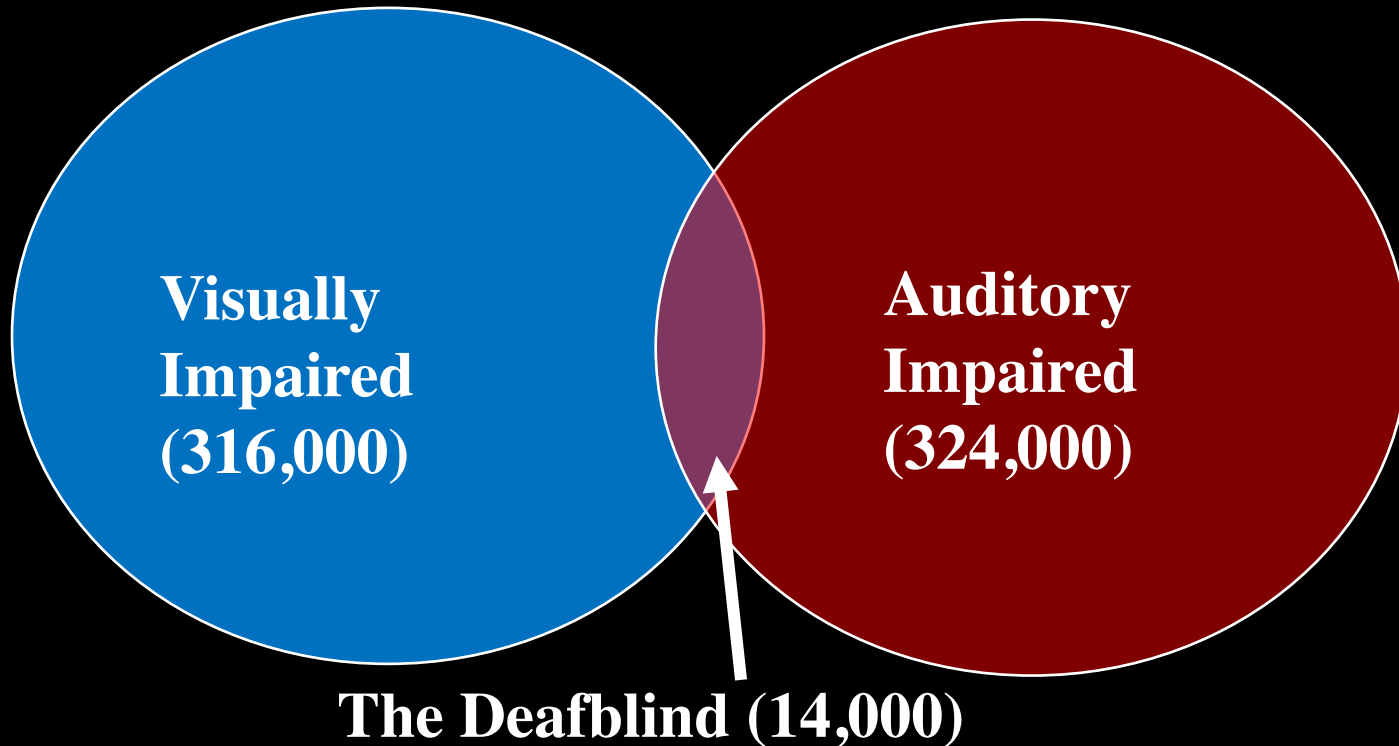
President Nobuyuki Takahashi

# My Profile

- Name : Nobuyuki Takahashi
- Age : 55
- Sex : Male
- Job : A teacher of school for the blind
  - Class : Information Technology, Massage, Acupuncture
- Impairment : Deafblind
  - Visual Impairment : Pinhole sight of 2 degrees
  - Auditory Impairment : Hard hearing
- Research Activities : Education for visually handicapped, Welfare for the Deafblind, Assistive technology
- Social Activities : The President of Japan Federation of Deafblind
- Educational Background : Doctor of Engineering

# 1. Definition of the Deafblind

A person with both visual and auditory impairments



Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare: The National Survey about the Deafblind, 2012

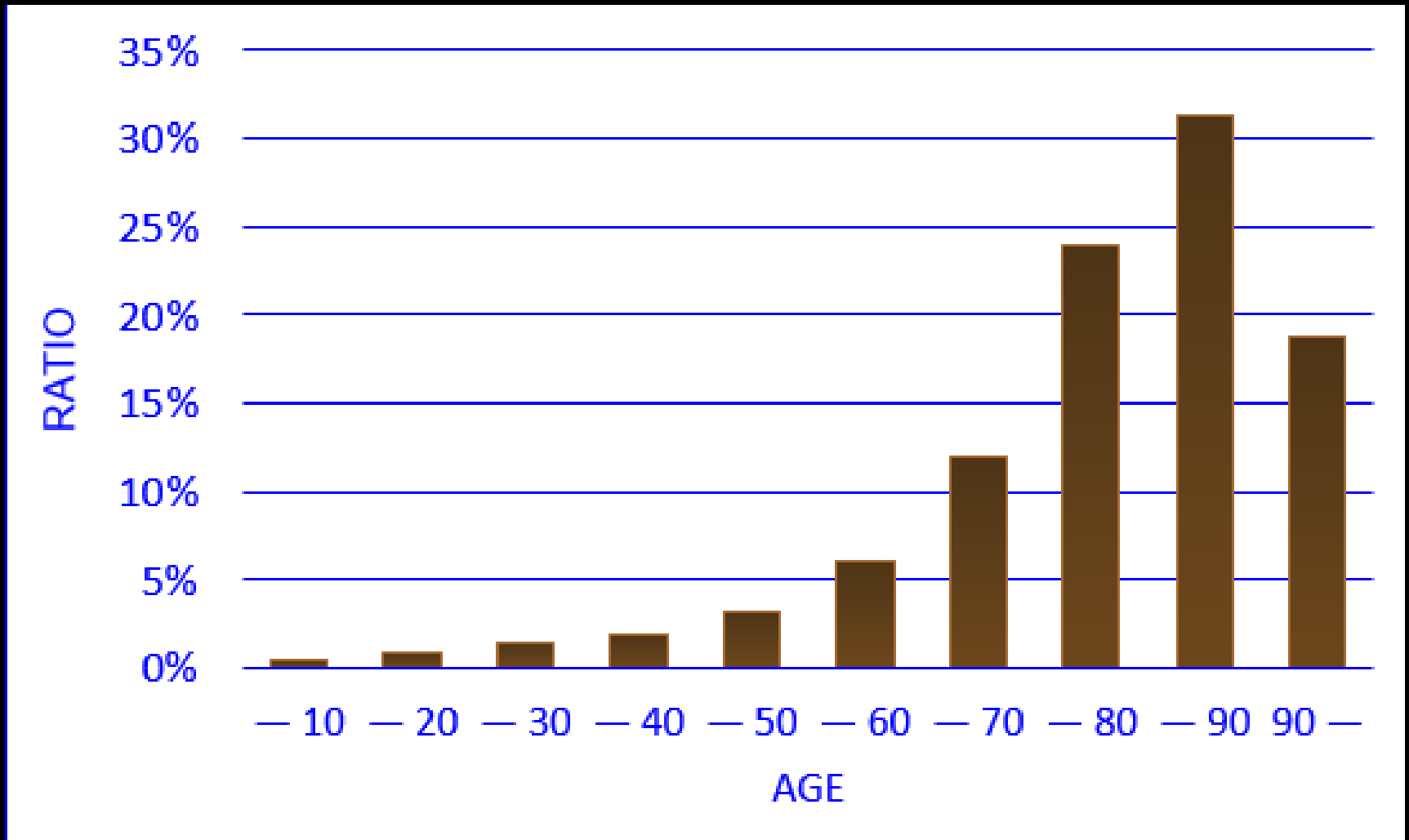
Deafblind Population Ratio in Japan

0.011%

Japan's Population

127,000,000

## 2. The Ratio of the Deafblind by Age



### **3. Classification of the Deafblind**

- a. Classification Based on Degree of Impairment
- b. Classification Based on Career of Impairment

## a. Classification Based on Degree of Impairment

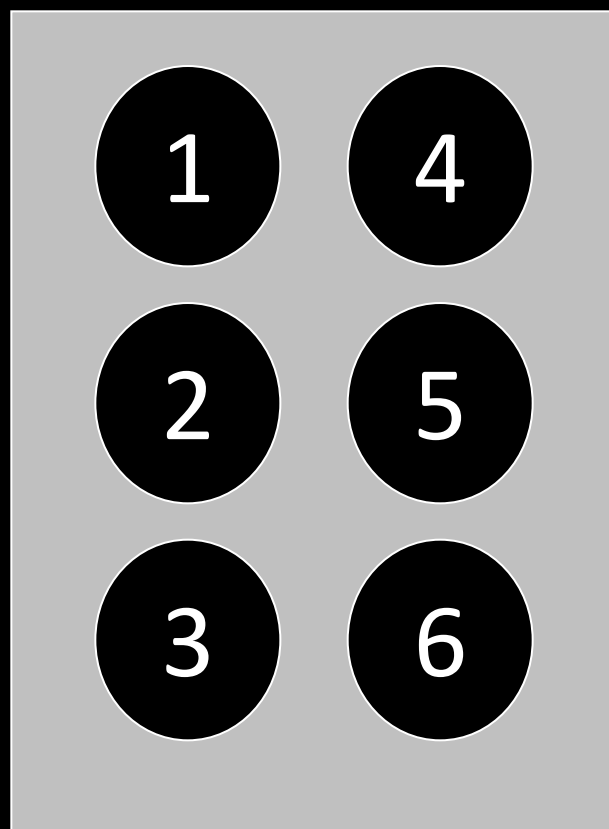
		Auditory Impairment	
		Deafness	Hard of Hearing
Vision Impairment	Blindness	Deafness Blindness	Hard of Hearing Blindness
	Low-Vision	Deafness Low-Vision	Hard of Hearing Low-Vision

## b. Classification based on Career of Impairment

No.	Group	Feature
i	The Group Based on Blindness	They are blind at first and have hearing trouble later.
ii	The Group Based on Deafness	They are deaf at first and have visual trouble later.
iii	The Group of the Congenital	They are born deaf-blind.
iv	The Group of the Acquired	They are not even blind even deaf, had visual and hearing trouble later.

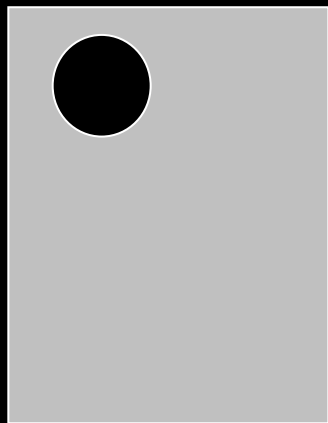
## 4. Communication Methods of the Deafblind

### a. Communication by Braille

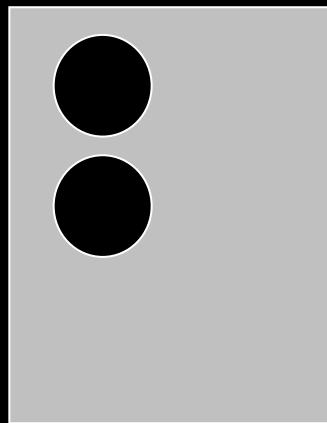




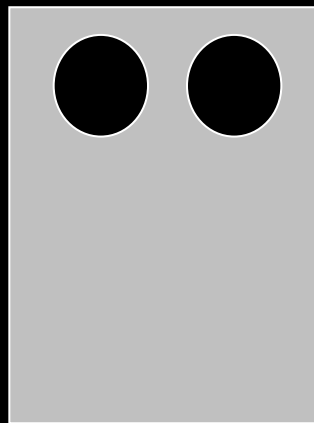
# Examples of Braille



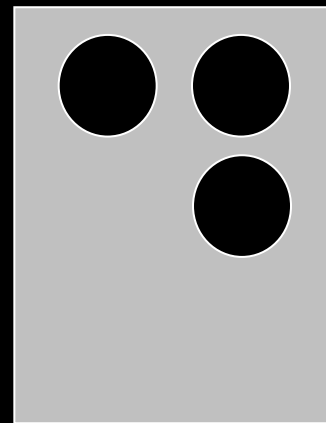
a



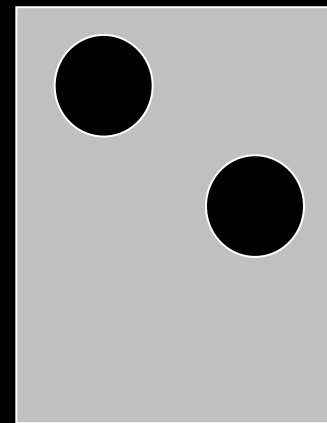
b



c



d



e

# a-1 Blista Braille Typewriter

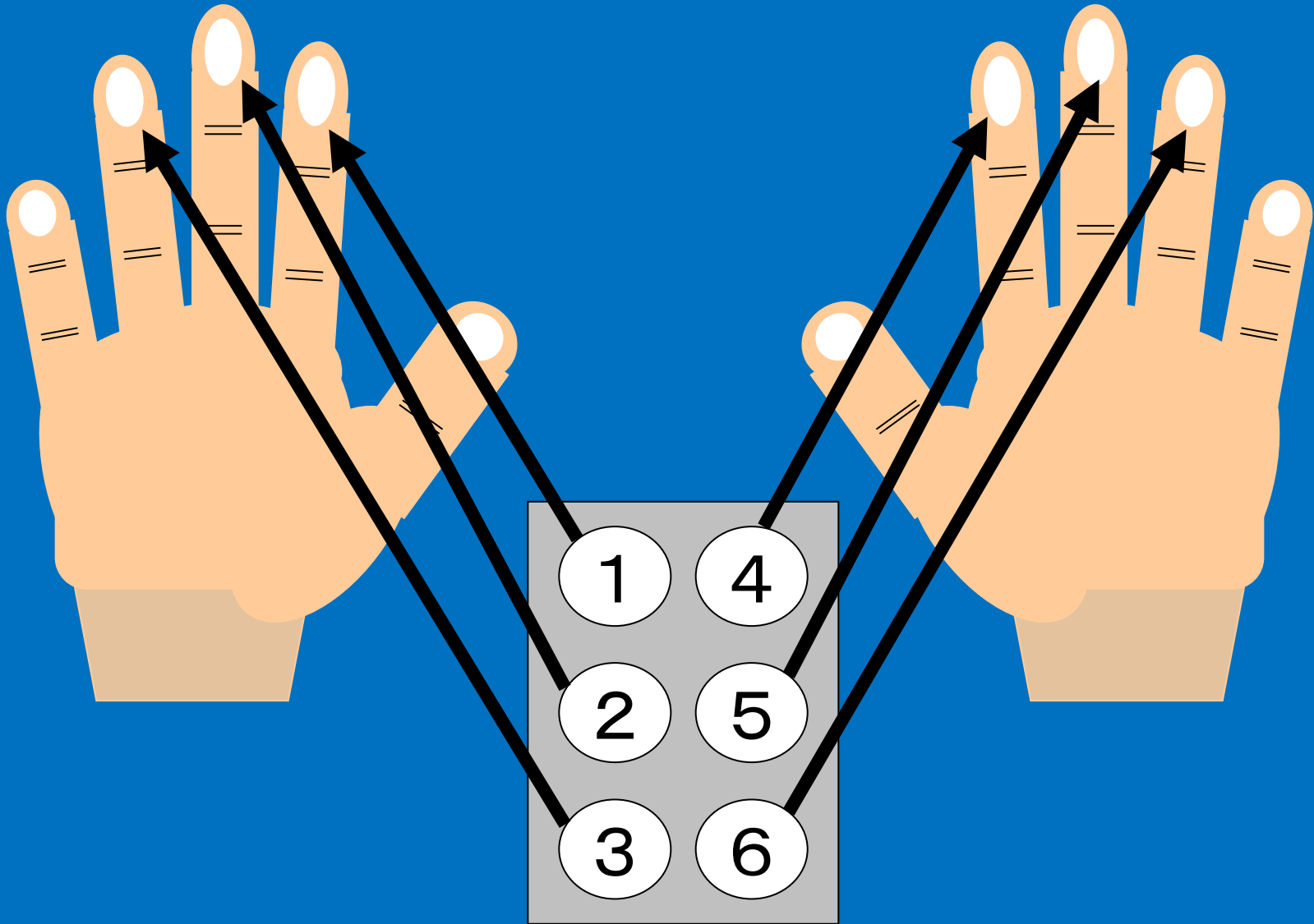


Supporter

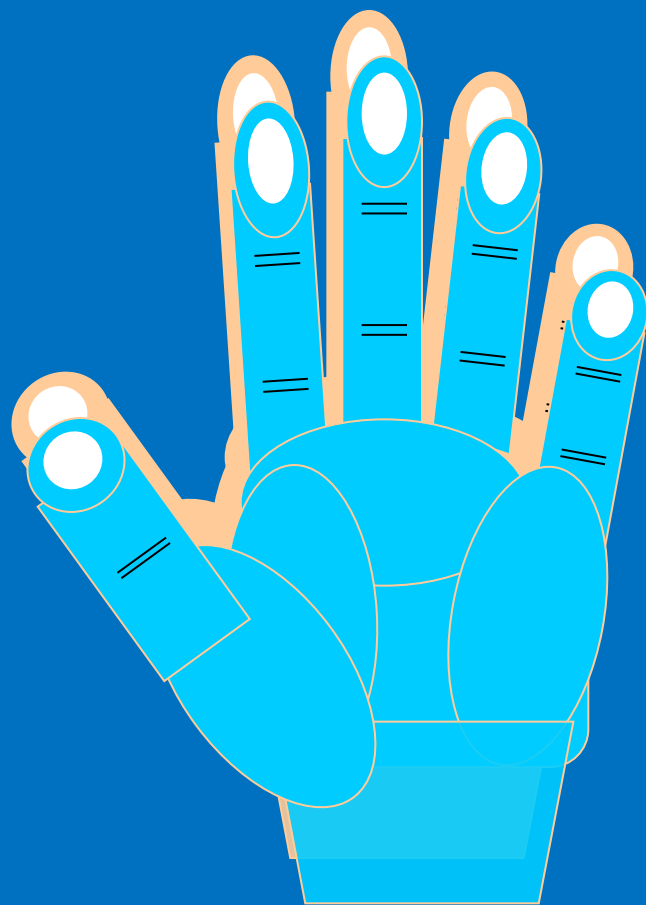
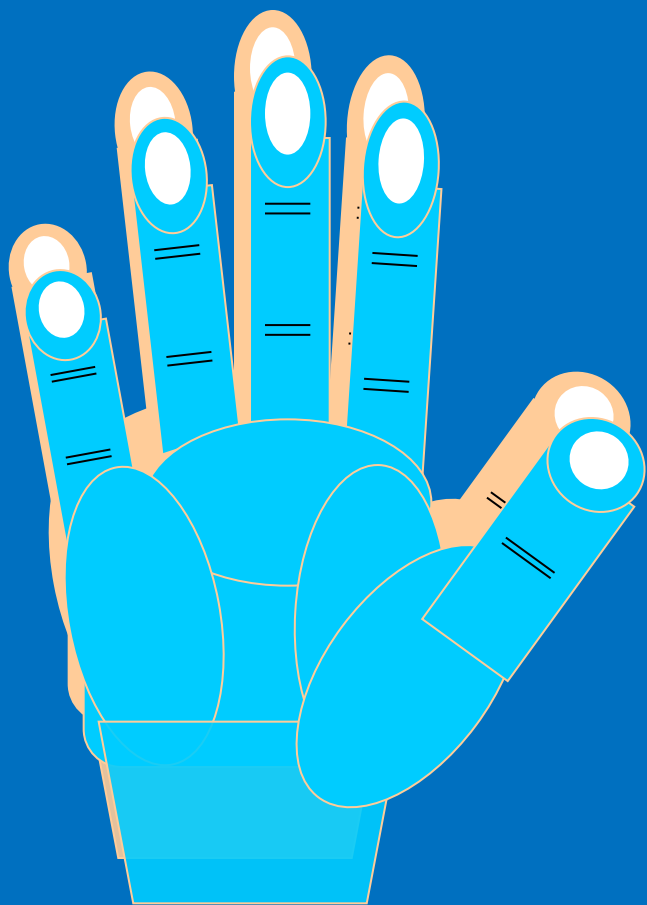
Deafblind



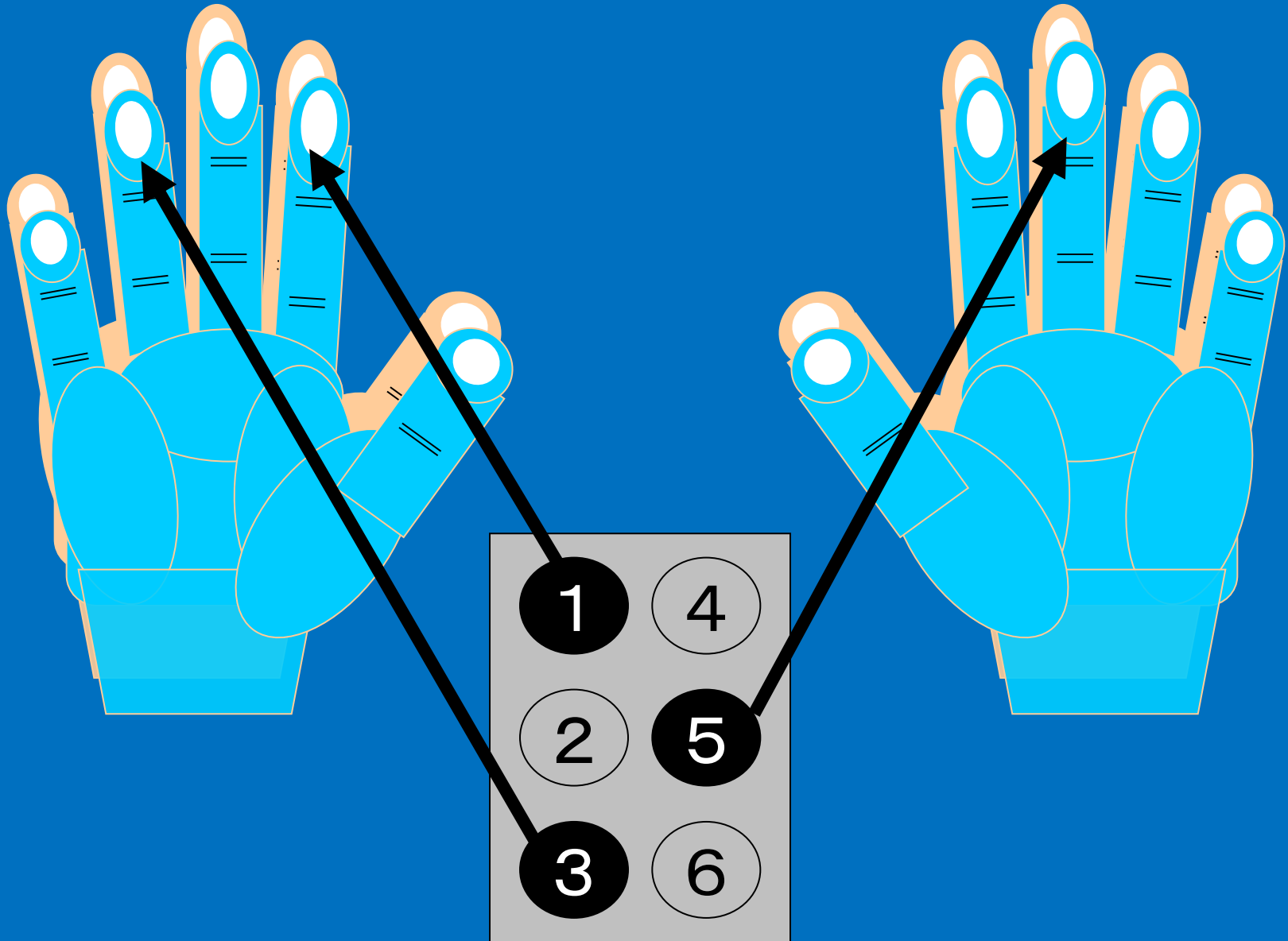
## a-2. Finger Braille



# Put fingers of an interpreter on those of the Deafblind



Mean ' 0 '



# A Deafblind Person Takes a Class with a Finger Braille Interpreter



## b. Sign Language

### i. Tactile signing

The sign language read by touching.

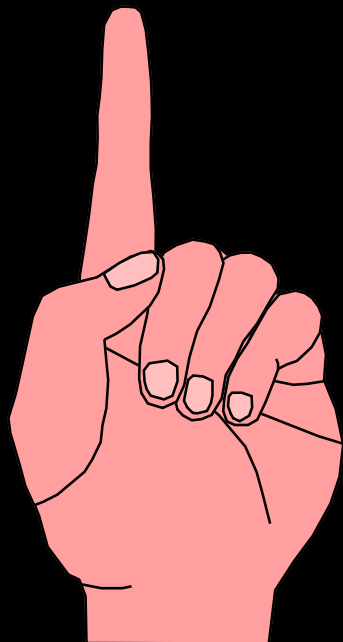
### ii. Low-Vision signing

The sign language can be seen for low-vision person.



## c. Writing on Palm with a Finger

Interpreter-guide



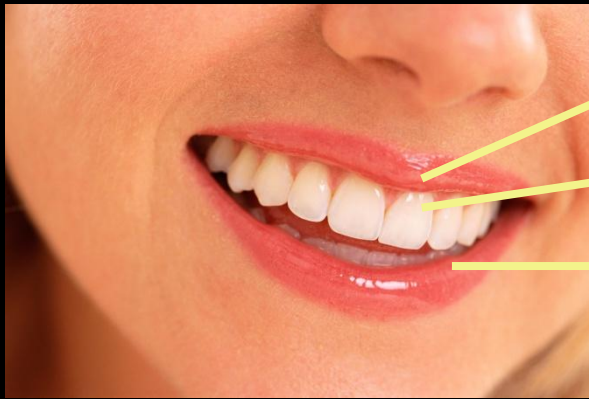
Deafblind



## d. Voice

An interpreter speaks to the ear of a deafblind person,  
speaks to a microphone of a hearing aid.  
So that the deafblind can hear and follow the conversation.

Interpreter-guide



Deafblind



## e. Computer Writing



# The Ratio of Communication Methods

- Question :

Whitch communication methods can you use? (multiple choices allowed)

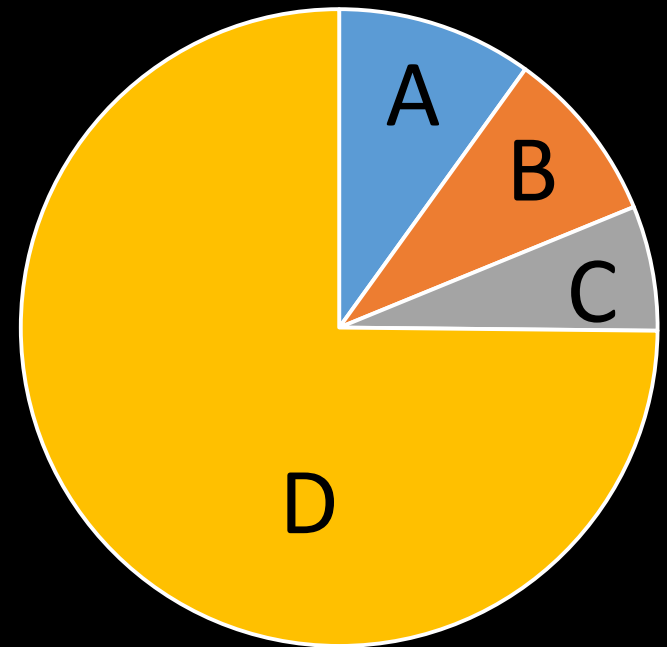
Method	Ratio
Voice	69.0%
Low-Vision Signing	8.0%
Tactile Signing	6.7%
Finger Alphabet(by seeing)	4.6%
Finger Alphabet(by tactile)	3.8%
Writing on Palm with a finger	13.2%
Writing	20.2%
Brista	4.8%
Finger Braille	1.7%
Others	7.3%
No Method	8.3%

- Result :

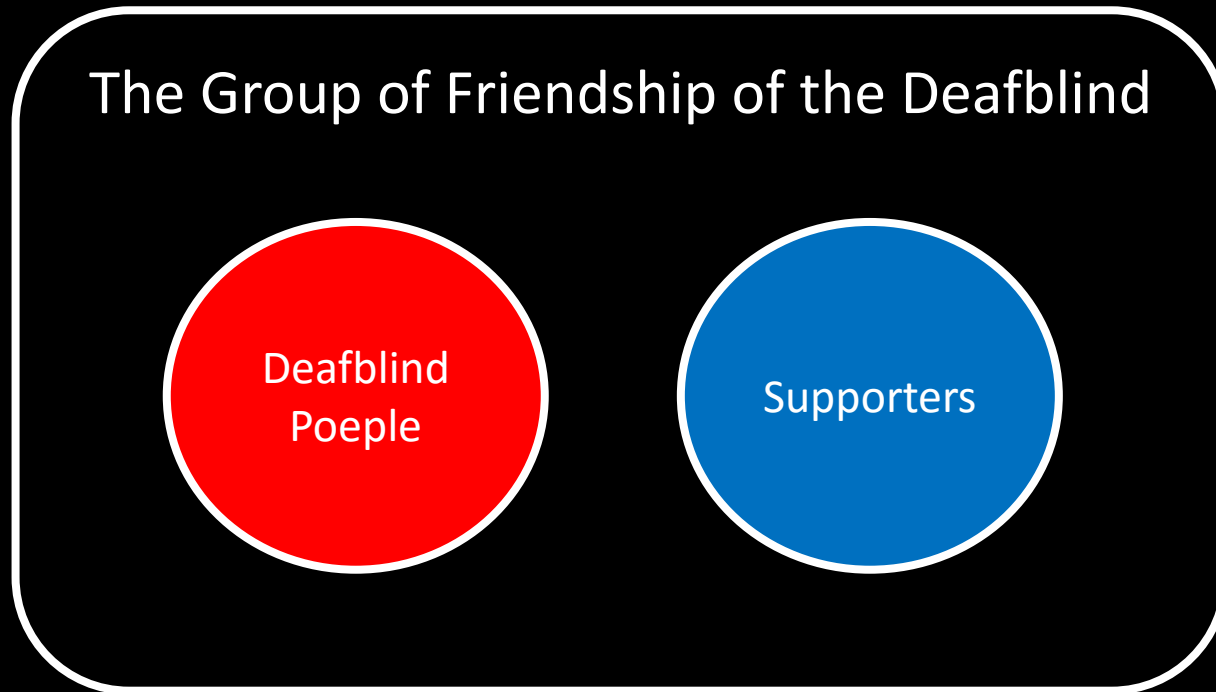
Shown in right table.

## 5. The Employment Status for the Deafblind Between 20 and 60 of Age

- A. Full-time Staff 9.9%
- B. Non-full-time Staff 8.9%
- C. Self Employed 6.3%
- D. Unoccupied 74.8%

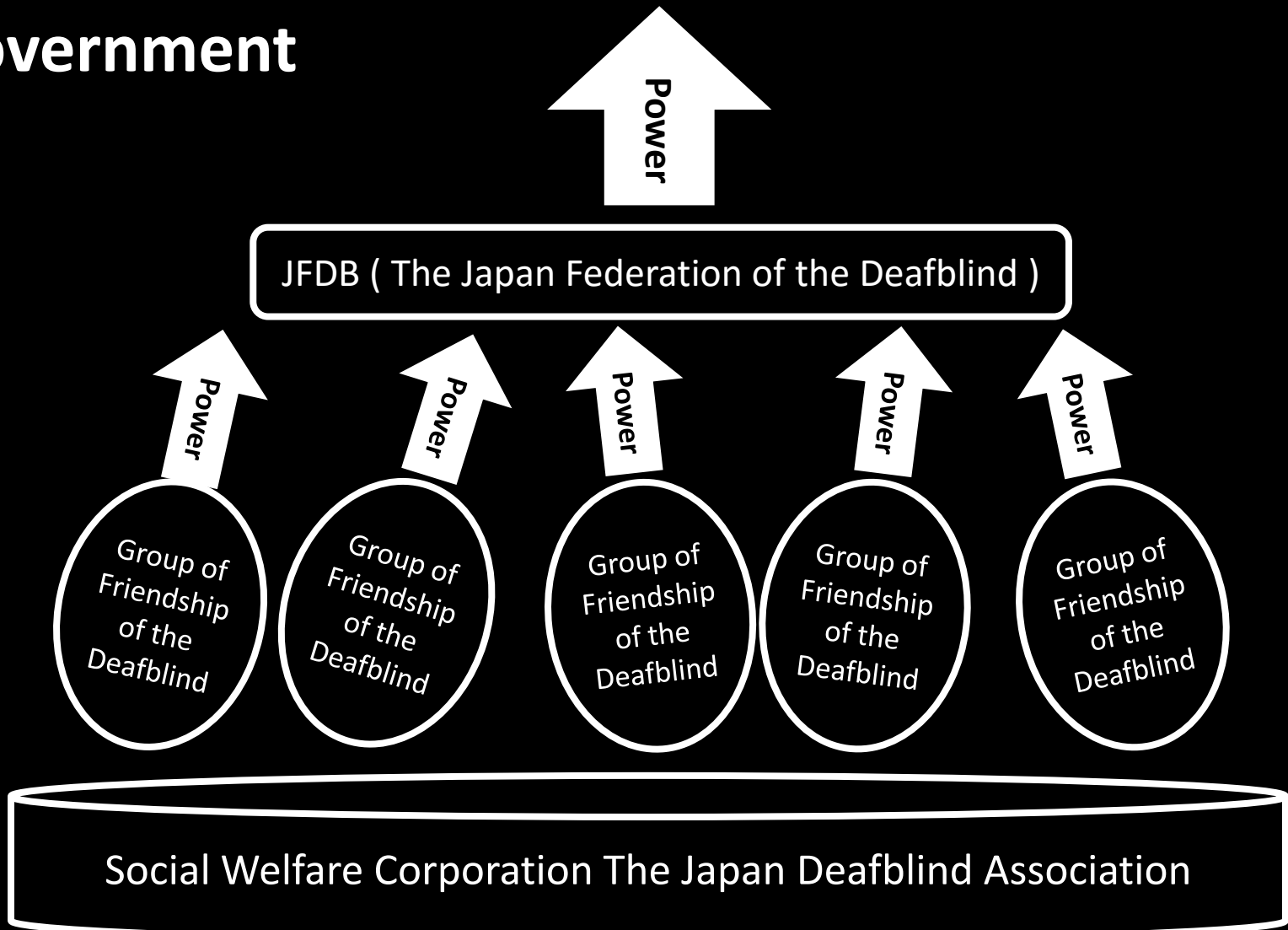


## 6. Association of the Deafblind and Supporters



We call it “The Group of Friendship of the Deafblind”. There are 48 parties in Japan. Deafblind people and supporters have social activities together.

# 7. JFDB Aggregates Opinions or Requests from the Group of Friendship of the Deafblind to the Government



## 8. An Interpreter-Guide Supports the Deafblind in 3 Ways

- 3 Supports :
  - Transportation
  - Communication
  - Understanding Situations

→ The Deafblind can participate in society by Interpreter-guides.



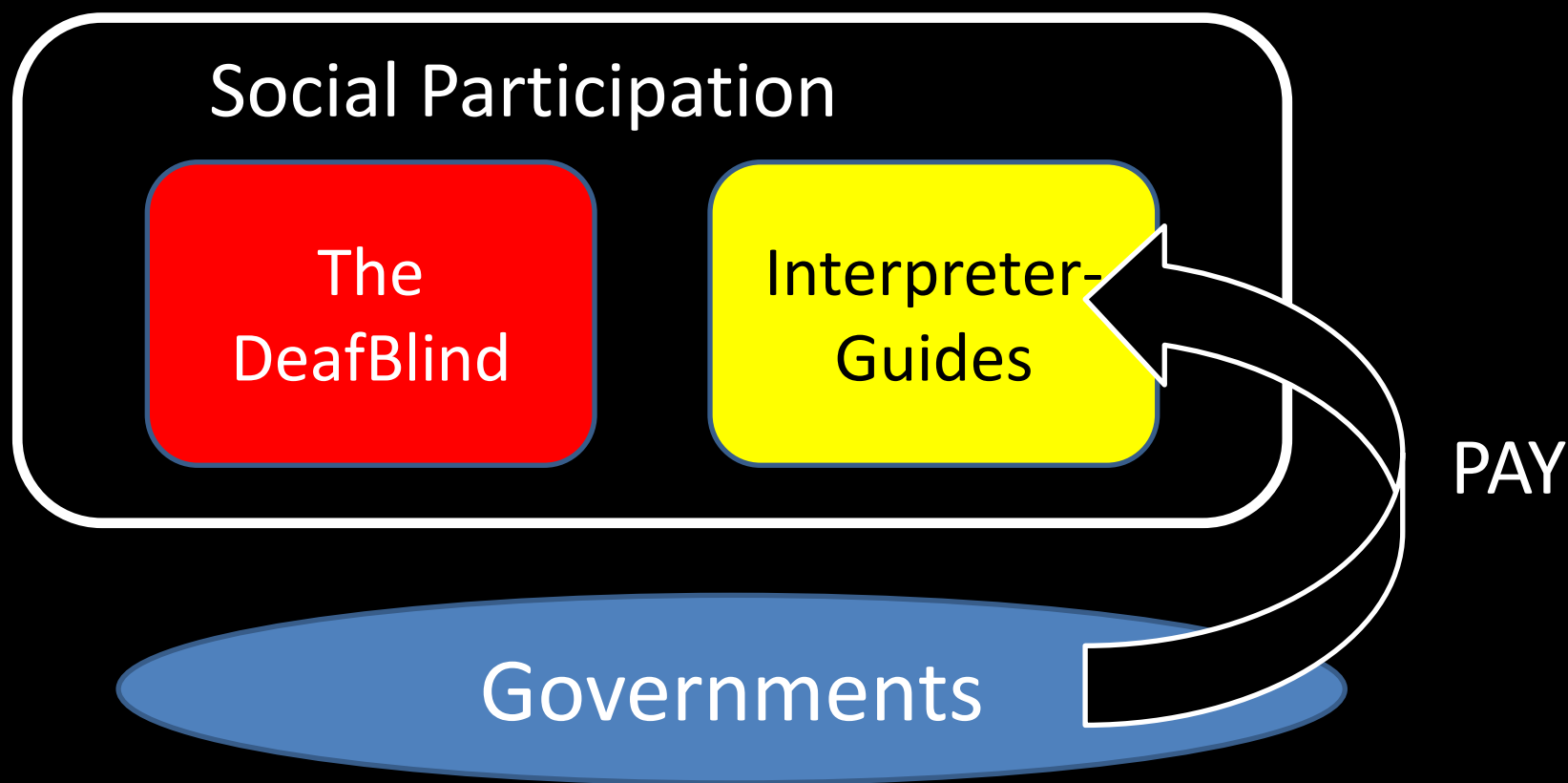
## 9. Training System of Interpreter-Guides for the Deafblind

- Local governments hold seminars for training of interpreter-guides.



# 10. Dispatch System of Interpreter-Guides for the Deafblind

- National and local governments bear the cost to dispatch Interpreter-guides to the Deafblind.



# 11. The National Convention for the Deafblind

- Since 1991
- Held once a year
- Held around the country
- Participation by the deafblind and supporters
- Participation of about 1000 people
- Lasts for 3 or 4 days

I hope that Australian and Japanese Deafblind would collaboratively develop toward the future.

Thank you very much for your kind attention to my presentation.