



## Life Insurance Association publishes 2024 annual report

✓ Survey conducted on 1,200 listed companies and 170 institutional investors

The Life Insurance Association of Japan published a report on April 18, 2025, summarizing recommendations for revitalizing the stock market and realizing a sustainable society from the perspectives of both shareholders and investors. The report includes the results of a survey of 1,200 listed companies and 170 institutional investors regarding their efforts to enhance corporate value. By comparing the survey results of companies and investors, the report identifies areas of agreement and gaps in their perceptions.

The table below is an excerpt from the report. For example, in the category “Areas where efforts will be strengthened or are expected to be strengthened in the future,” “business plans and strategies” and “information disclosure” were prioritized by both companies and investors. However, “ESG and SDGs” were prioritized more by companies than by investors, while “improving the quality of board members” was prioritized more by investors than by companies.

< Comparison of results for companies and investors (excerpts) >

Survey items (Companies/Investors)	High level of agreement	Large recognition gap [Companies > Investors]	Large recognition gap [Companies < Investors]
Items to be strengthened / expected to be strengthened in the future	* Management plans and strategies * Information disclosure	* ESG and SDGs initiatives	* Improvement of the quality of directors
Indicators to be emphasized as mid-term management plan indicators / management targets	* ROE	* Sales, sales growth rate * Profit, profit growth rate * E (environment) indicators * S (social) indicators	* ROIC * FCF * Cost of capital
Issues you feel during dialogue / Issues you feel about the company	* Insufficient disclosure of information for dialogue	* Lack of resources and personnel available for dialogue * Improvement of dialogue personnel skills and knowledge	* Top management and other members of management are not involved in dialogue * Insufficient sharing of dialogue content within management
Initiatives / expected initiatives to enhance explanations of general meeting proposals	* Enhanced explanation of agenda items in convocation notices	* Enhanced explanations on the day of the general meeting	* Explanation of agenda items using websites, etc.
Key themes in ESG activities / ESG investment	* Corporate governance * Climate change * Human capital	* Employee health and safety * Product and service safety	* Biodiversity, natural capital

By identifying gaps in understanding with investors through this questionnaire, we believe that we can expect more effective engagement. For details on each questionnaire, please refer to the URL below (in Japanese only).

- “Life Insurance Companies’ Efforts to Revitalize the Stock Market and Realize a Sustainable Society through Asset Management”  
[https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418\\_3\\_1.pdf](https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418_3_1.pdf)
- “Survey results for companies”  
[https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418\\_3\\_3.pdf](https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418_3_3.pdf)
- “Investor Survey Results”  
[https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418\\_3\\_4.pdf](https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418_3_4.pdf)
- “Comparison of results for companies and investors”  
[https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418\\_3\\_5.pdf](https://www.seiho.or.jp/activity/sdgs/esg/pdf/20250418_3_5.pdf)



## Japan Securities Dealers Association publishes report on “Study Group on the Significance of Shareholder Incentives”

- ✓ Mentioning the significance of shareholder incentives

The Japan Securities Dealers Association published a report titled “Study Group on the Significance of Shareholder Incentives” on April 15, 2025. This study group was established to reexamine the significance and effects of shareholder incentives based on research results from the perspectives of various stakeholders related to shareholder incentives and from an academic standpoint. This report summarizes the presentations and discussions that took place during the study group.

In particular, the significance of shareholder incentives was discussed at the study group, and it was concluded that they are meaningful for various stakeholders based on the following points. These points can be used as a reference when considering the establishment, expansion, reduction, or abolition of shareholder incentive programs in the future.

- For individuals, it can serve as a catalyst for becoming interested in securities investment, and may have the secondary effect of enriching their lives beyond simply receiving special incentives.
- For companies, this leads to an increase in the number of shareholders, the formation of long-term stable shareholders, and advertising and promotional effects for their products and services.
- The effects of shareholder benefits, such as reduced volatility and improved valuation, are beneficial to all shareholders.
- Based on empirical research, shareholder benefits not only have effects that exceed their monetary value, but also have the effect of improving stock price performance.

Please check the URL below for details (in Japanese only).

- “Report on the Study Group on the Significance of Shareholder Incentives (Summary)”  
[https://www.jsda.or.jp/about/kaigi/chousa/yutai ken/250416\\_matome.pdf](https://www.jsda.or.jp/about/kaigi/chousa/yutai ken/250416_matome.pdf)
- “Report of the Study Group on the Significance of Shareholder Incentives”  
[https://www.jsda.or.jp/about/kaigi/chousa/yutai ken/250416\\_houkokusho.pdf](https://www.jsda.or.jp/about/kaigi/chousa/yutai ken/250416_houkokusho.pdf)