CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

As of March 31, 1999 and 1998

		Millions of yen	U.S. dollars (Note 3)
Assets	1999	1998	1999
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2-c)	¥ 50,187	¥ 4,140	\$ 416,317
Marketable securities (Notes 2-h and 5)	10,059	13,971	83,442
Notes and accounts receivable (Notes 2-d, 2-e and 4):			
Trade	66,982	77,023	555,636
Finance receivables	21,323	25,557	176,881
Other	1,957	6,283	16,234
	90,262	108,863	748,751
Allowance for doubtful receivables (Note 2-e)	(1,213)	(1,255)	(10,062)
Net notes and accounts receivable	89,049	107,608	738,689
Inventories (Note 2-f)	53,816	66,074	446,421
Prepaid expenses and other current assets (Note 6)	16,715	21,401	138,656
Total current assets	219,826	213,194	1,823,525
Property, Plant and Equipment (Notes 2-g and 5):			
Land	11,739	11,940	97,379
Buildings and structures	88,077	89,375	730,626
Machinery and/or transporation equipment	219,325	224,617	1,819,369
Construction in progress	2,110	2,056	17,503
	321,251	327,988	2,664,877
Accumulated depreciation	(160,543)	(153,775)	(1,331,754)
Net property, plant and equipment	160,708	174,213	1,333,123
Investments and Other Assets:			
Excess of cost over net assets acquired (Note 2-k)	19,627	23,700	162,812
Investments in and advances to nonconsolidated subsidiaries			
and affiliates (Notes 2-a and 4)	183	9,880	1,518
Investments in securities (Note 2-h)	1,163	1,175	9,648
Long-term loans receivable	86	179	713
Translation adjustments (Note 2-b)	64,152	62,151	532,161
Other (Notes 2-e and 2-j)	10,158	12,813	84,264
	95,369	109,898	791,116
Allowance for doubtful receivables (Note 2-e)	(2,543)	(5,095)	(21,095)
Net investments and other assets	92,826	104,803	770,021
Total Assets	¥ 473,360	¥ 492,210	\$ 3,926,669

The accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

			Thousands of U.S. dollars
Liebilities and Chambaldon' Frank.		Millions of yen	(Note 3)
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	1999	1998	1999
Current Liabilities:			
Short-term loans payable (Note 5)	¥135,184	¥169,035	\$1,121,394
Current portion of long-term debt (Note 5)	7,644	9,193	63,409
Notes and accounts payable (Note 4):			
Trade	27,694	34,040	229,731
Other	7,945	14,580	65,906
	35,639	48,620	295,637
Income taxes payable (Note 6)	4,210	3,660	34,923
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	14,394	15,606	119,403
Total current liabilities	197,071	246,114	1,634,766
Long-term Liabilities:			
Long-term debt (Note 5)	128,223	96,882	1,063,650
Other (Note 2-i)	1,927	2,973	15,985
Total long-term liabilities	130,150	99,855	1,079,635
Minority Interests in Consolidated Subsidiaries	434	4,398	3,600
Shareholders' Equity (Note 7):			
Common stock, par value ¥50 per share—			
Authorized 1,000,000,000 shares			
Issued:			
March 31, 1999—397,787,828 shares			
March 31, 1998—396,470,473 shares	67,664	67,104	561,294
Capital surplus	94,162	93,602	781,103
Legal reserve	_	1,223	_
Accumulated deficit	16,120	20,086	133,721
	145,706	141,843	1,208,676
Treasury stock	(1)	, <u> </u>	(8)
Total shareholders' equity	145,705	141,843	1,208,668
Contingent Liabilities (Notes 9 and 10)			
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	¥473,360	¥492,210	\$3,926,669

32 Minebea Co., Ltd., 1999 **33**

Thousands of

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

Years ended March 31, 1999, 1998 and 1997

Years ended March 31, 1999, 1998 and 1997				TT 1 6
				Thousands of U.S. dollars
			Millions of yen	(Note 3)
	1999	1998	1997	1999
Net Sales (Note 4)	¥305,324	¥326,094	¥302,886	\$2,532,758
Cost of Sales (Note 4)	215,163	219,008	216,399	1,784,844
Gross profit	90,161	107,086	86,487	747,914
Selling, General and Administrative Expenses (Notes 2-k and 6)	51,615	48,275	44,586	428,163
Operating income	38,546	58,811	41,901	319,751
Other Income (Expenses):				
Interest income	691	818	722	5,732
Equity in income (losses) of nonconsolidated subsidiaries and affiliates	14	(167)	130	116
Interest expense	(12,231)	. 1		(101,460)
Gains (losses) on sales of marketable securities, investment	(12,231)	(10,333)	(13,103)	(101,460)
securities and investment securities in affiliates	(1,720)	(664)	497	(14,268)
Losses on revaluation of marketable and investment securities	(1,256)	. 1	(3,408)	(10,419)
Foreign currency exchange gains (losses) (Note 2-b)	(860)		174	(7,134)
Losses on disposals of inventories	(1,468)		(254)	(12,177)
Losses on disposals of real estate for resale	(104)	(751)	(1,474)	(863)
Losses on sales and disposals of property, plant and equipment	(316)	(2,130)	(58)	(2,621)
Losses on liquidation of subsidiaries and affiliates Other, net (Note 2-k)	— (2,861)	(5,626)	(147) (4,118)	(23,733)
	(20,111)	(35,876)	(27,045)	(166,827)
Income before Income Taxes	18,435	22,935	14,856	152,924
Income Taxes (Note 6):				
Current	4,656	4,538	5,531	38,623
Deferred	1,690	909	42	14,019
	6,346	5,447	5,573	52,642
Minority Interests in Earnings of Consolidated Subsidiaries	582	2,344	421	4,828
Net Income	¥ 11,507	¥ 15,144	¥ 8,862	\$ 95,454
			_	
			Yen	U.S. dollars (Note 3)
Per Share Data (Note 8):			_	·
Net income:	V20.04	¥38.42	¥22.76	¢0.24
Primary Fully diluted	¥28.94 26.32	34.85	21.03	\$0.24 0.22
Cash dividends applicable to the year	7.00	7.00	7.00	0.22
Cash dividends applicable to the year	7.00	7.00	7.00	

The accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Years ended March 31, 1999, 1998 and 1997

Years ended Mai	rch 31, 1999, 1998 and	1997			Mil	lions of yen
	Number of Shares of Common Stock	Common Stock	Capital Surplus	Legal Reserve (Note 7)	Retained Earnings (Deficit) (Note 7)	Treasury Stock
Balance at March 31, 1996	388,892,609	¥63,703	¥90,201	¥ 648	¥(37,797)	¥(2)
Net income	_				8,862	_
Cash dividends	_				(2,730)	_
Bonuses to directors and						
corporate auditors	_				(112)	_
Transfer to legal reserve	_	_		285	(285)	
Common stock issued on						
conversion of convertible bonds	1,183,409	504	504		_	_
Other	_		_	_	49	1
Balance at March 31, 1997	390,076,018	64,207	90,705	933	(32,013)	(1)
Net income	_	_		_	15,144	_
Cash dividends	_				(2,775)	_
Bonuses to directors and						
corporate auditors	_				(99)	_
Transfer to legal reserve	_			290	(290)	_
Common stock issued on						
conversion of convertible bonds	6,394,455	2,897	2,897			
Other	_				(53)	1
Balance at March 31, 1998	396,470,473	67,104	93,602	1,223	(20,086)	
Net income	_	_	_	_	11,507	_
Cash dividends	_	_	_	_	(2,784)	_
Bonuses to directors and						
corporate auditors	_	_	_	_	(91)	_
Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	290	(290)	_
Common stock issued on						
conversion of convertible bonds	1,317,355	560	560	_	_	_
Other	_	_	_	(1,513)	(4,376)	(1)
Balance at March 31, 1999	397,787,828	¥67,664	¥94,162	¥ —	¥(16,120)	¥ (1)

				Th	ousands of U.S. dolla	rs (Note 3)
	Number of Shares of Common Stock	Common Stock	Capital Surplus	Legal Reserve (Note 7)	Retained Earnings (Deficit) (Note 7)	Treasury Stock
Balance at March 31, 1998	396,470,473	\$556,649	\$776,458	\$10,145	\$(166,620)	\$ —
Net income	_	_	_	_	95,454	_
Cash dividends	_	_	_	_	(23,094)	_
Bonuses to directors and corporate auditors	_	_	_	_	(755)	_
Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	2,406	(2,406)	_
Common stock issued on conversion of convertible bonds Other	1,317,355	4,645	4,645	— (12,551)	— (36,300)	— (8)
	207 707 020	¢E/1 20/	¢701 102		,	
Balance at March 31, 1999	397,787,828	\$561,294	\$781,103	> —	\$(133,721)	\$ (8)

The accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years ended March 31, 1999, 1998 and 1997

				U.S. dollars
		j	Millions of yen	(Note 3)
	1999	1998	1997	1999
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:				
Net income	¥ 11,507	¥ 15,144	¥ 8,862	\$ 95,454
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided				
by operating activities:		00.010	00.077	
Depreciation and amortization	28,034	29,616	29,277	232,551
Losses on revaluation of marketable and investment securities Losses on disposals of inventories and real estate for resale	1,256 1,572	4,577 751	3,408 1,728	10,419 13,040
Losses on sales and disposals of property, plant and equipment	316	2,130	58	2,621
Losses on liquidation of subsidiaries and affiliates	_	~,100 —	147	
Equity in (income) losses of nonconsolidated subsidiaries				
and affiliates	(14)	167	(130)	(116)
Allowance for doubtful receivables	(183)			(1,518)
Decrease in notes and accounts receivable	19,170	16,571	5,384	159,021
(Increase) decrease in inventories	13,253	15,219	(4,147)	109,938
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses and other current assets	4,880	(1.104)	(197)	40,481
Decrease in notes and accounts payable	(14,208)	(1,104) (1,108)	(17,078) 1,750	(117,860)
Increase (decrease) in income taxes payable Increase (decrease) in accrued expenses and other current liabilities	549 (1,428)	1,375	(72)	4,554 (11,845)
Increase (decrease) in minority interests in consolidated	(1,420)	1,373	(12)	(11,045)
subsidiaries	(3,964)	98	556	(32,883)
Total adjustments	49,233	68,734	20,684	408,403
Net cash provided by operating activities	60,740	83,878	29,546	503,857
Their easil provided by operating activities	00,740	03,070	20,040	303,037
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:				
Marketable securities	2,389	8,202	10,179	19,818
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	211	60	1,446	1,750
Expenditure for purchase of property, plant and equipment	(20,563)	(23,688)		(170,577)
Investments in and advances to nonconsolidated subsidiaries			, , ,	
and affiliates	_	239	149	_
Investments in securities	88	703	(1,455)	730
(Increase) decrease in other assets	528	(19,174)		4,380
Net cash used in investing activities	(17,347)	(33,658)	(31,866)	(143,899)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities: Proceeds from issuance of convertible bonds			20,000	
Proceeds from issuance of bonds	25,000	10,000	30,000	207,383
Proceeds from common stock issued on conversion of	25,000	10,000	_	207,363
convertible bonds	1,120	5,794	1,008	9,291
Increase (decrease) in short-term loans payable	(33,851)	(71,701)	1,830	(280,805)
Cash dividends and bonuses to directors and corporate auditors	(2,876)	(2,874)	(2,842)	(23,857)
Increase (decrease) in long-term debt	5,912	(18,003)	(16,326)	49,042
Conversion of convertible bonds	(1,120)	(5,794)	(1,008)	(9,291)
Redemption of bonds	_	(3,000)		_
Long-term loans receivable	93	(87)	99	771
Increase (decrease) in other liabilities	(1,050)	215	(297)	(8,710)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(6,772)	(85,450)	12,464	(56,176)
F# 1 45 1 D 1 01		07 001	(00.000)	70.100
Effect of Exchange Rate Changes	9,426	27,021	(22,292)	78,192
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	46,047	(8,209)	(12,148)	381,974
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	4,140	12,349	24,497	34,343
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	¥ 50,187	¥ 4,140	¥ 12,349	\$ 416,317

The accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these statements.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Basis of Presenting Financial Statements

Thousands of

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of MINEBEA CO., LTD., a Japanese corporation (the "Company"), and its consolidated domestic and foreign subsidiaries, are stated in Japanese yen. The accounts of the Company and its consolidated domestic and foreign subsidiaries are maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the respective countries and are audited by independent auditors in those countries.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared from the consolidated financial statements filed with the Ministry of Finance in Japan as required by the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan, in accordance with accounting principles and practices generally accepted in Japan, which may differ in some material respects from accounting principles and practices generally accepted in countries and jurisdictions other than Japan. For the purpose of this annual report, certain reclassifications have been made and additional information is provided in order to present the accompanying consolidated financial statements in a format which is familiar to readers outside Japan.

The consolidated statements of cash flows have been prepared for the purpose of this annual report, although such statements are not customarily prepared in Japan and are not required to be filed with the Ministry of Finance in Japan.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

a) Principles of consolidation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and all significant subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances, intercompany transactions and unrealized profits have been eliminated in consolidation. Investments in certain nonconsolidated subsidiaries and 20% to 50% owned significant affiliates are accounted for by the equity method.

In fiscal 1999, the Company implemented revisions to the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan relating to the classification of consolidated subsidiaries and the application of the equity method scheduled to go into effect in fiscal 2000. As a result, beginning in fiscal 1999, all of the Company's subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements, while all affiliates are accounted for by the equity method.

b) Translation of foreign currencies

Current monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into yen at the exchange rates prevailing at the balance sheet date, except for certain accounts which were hedged by forward exchange contracts. Long-term monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at historical rates. All revenues and expenses associated with foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the time of transactions. The resulting exchange losses and gains are charged or credited to income.

Financial statement items of consolidated foreign subsidiaries and nonconsolidated foreign subsidiaries and affiliates accounted for by the equity method are translated into yen as follows:

balance sheet date

Statement of income items Translated at the average rate of exchange during the

fiscal period

c) Cash equivalents

All highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased are considered to be "cash equivalents."

d) Finance receivables

Installment finance receivables and installment sales contracts receivables due after one year are included in current assets in accordance with recognized trade practices. Based on its collection and return experience on installment finance receivables and installment sales contracts receivables, the Company has provided an allowance for possible losses by charges against income as incurred.

e) Allowance for doubtful receivables

Allowance for doubtful receivables of the Company and its domestic subsidiaries is computed on the basis of the maximum amount deductible under Japanese tax laws. Such allowance of consolidated foreign subsidiaries is generally provided for in the amount required for known uncollectible receivables.

Allowance for doubtful receivables applicable to intercompany receivables is eliminated on consolidation. The balances of the allowance as of March 31, 1999 and March 31, 1998, were sufficient to cover the estimated uncollectible receivables.

f) Inventories

Inventories of the Company and its consolidated domestic subsidiaries are stated primarily at the moving average cost or weighted average cost and those of its consolidated foreign subsidiaries are stated at the lower of first-in, first-out cost or market, or at the lower of average cost or market.

Inventories as of March 31, 1999 and 1998, comprised the following:

	. 1	Millions of yen		
	1999	1998	1999	
Merchandise and finished goods	¥25,094	¥28,621	\$208,163	
Work in process	14,614	18,698	121,228	
Raw materials	9,981	12,867	82,795	
Supplies	4,127	5,888	34,235	
	¥53,816	¥66,074	\$446,421	

g) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation of plant and equipment of the Company and its consolidated domestic subsidiaries is computed on the declining balance method based upon the estimated useful lives of the assets in accordance with Japanese tax laws, whereas depreciation of plant and equipment of consolidated foreign subsidiaries is computed primarily on the straight-line method based upon the estimated lives of the assets. Maintenance and normal repair expenses are charged against income as incurred, while major renewals and improvements are capitalized.

h) Marketable securities and investments in securities

Marketable securities and investments in securities consist of equity securities of listed and unlisted companies and interest-bearing bonds. Marketable securities and listed investment securities held by the Company and its consolidated domestic subsidiaries are stated at the lower of cost or market, cost being determined by the moving average method. Other securities are stated at cost, as determined by the moving average method and those held by its consolidated foreign subsidiaries are stated at the lower of cost or market, cost being determined by the moving average method.

The aggregate cost and market value of marketable equity securities held by the Company and its consolidated domestic subsidiaries as of March 31, 1999, were as follows:

	Millions of yen
Aggregate cost:	
Current	¥10,059
Noncurrent	_
	¥10,059
Aggregate market value:	
Current	¥ 9,892
Noncurrent	_
	¥ 9,892

i) Pension and retirement allowance plans

The Company and certain consolidated domestic subsidiaries previously had funded noncontributory pension plans and unfunded retirement allowance plans covering substantially all employees. However, as of April 1, 1998, the Company switched to a funded noncontributory pension plan only. Under the funded pension plans, qualified employees are entitled to receive pension payments or a lump-sum payment at the time of termination of their employment. Under the unfunded plans, used by certain consolidated domestic subsidiaries only, these companies accrue liabilities equal to approximately 40% of the amount payable, if employees voluntarily terminated their employment as of the balance sheet date, less the amount which would be paid from the pension fund.

The liabilities so accrued are included in other long-term liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Certain consolidated subsidiaries in Japan and in the United States of America have funded retirement allowance plans for their employees under which these employees are entitled to receive a lump-sum payment or pension payments.

Amounts of pension payments and retirement allowance are generally determined on the basis of length of service and current basic salary at the time of termination of service.

The total provision charged by the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries to earnings under the above plans was \$989 million and \$445 million in fiscal 1999 and 1998, respectively.

i) Research and development costs

Research and development costs related to future products were previously recorded as deferred research and development costs and amortized on a straight-line basis over five years. However, beginning in fiscal 1999, research and development costs are charged to income as incurred. This change was made in light of the rapid pace of technological change in recent years and with the aim of improving the Company's financial condition.

Amortization expense of these research and development costs for fiscal 1999 and 1998 was ¥426 million and ¥1,343 million, respectively.

k) Excess of cost over net assets acquired

Excess of cost over net assets acquired for business acquisitions was amortized, amounting to \$2,772 million in fiscal 1999 and \$3,031 million in fiscal 1998, respectively, on a straight-line basis over a period ranging from five to 40 years.

In accordance with revisions in fiscal 1999 to the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan relating to the preparation of consolidated financial statements, consolidated adjustment account depreciation charges (for the period), which were previously included in other, net, in the other income (expenses) category, are included in selling, general and administrative expenses.

1) Reclassifications

Certain amounts in the prior years' financial statements have been reclassified to conform with the 1999 presentation.

3. Translation into United States Dollars

The accompanying financial statements are expressed in Japanese yen and, solely for the convenience of the reader, have also been translated into United States dollars at the rate of \\$120.55=US\\$1, the approximate exchange rate on March 31, 1999. The translations should not be construed as representations that the Japanese yen amounts have been, could have been, or could in the future be, converted into United States dollars.

4. Investments in and Advances to Nonconsolidated Subsidiaries and Affiliates

Summarized financial information for all nonconsolidated subsidiaries and affiliates as of March 31, 1999 and 1998, and for the years then ended, was as follows:

		Millions of yen	U.S. dollars (Note 3)
Financial Position	1999	1998	1999
Assets:			
Current assets	¥778	¥ 3,418	\$6,454
Other assets, including property,			
plant and equipment	200	2,123	1,659
	¥978	¥ 5,541	\$8,113
Liabilities and shareholders' equity:			
Current liabilities	¥403	¥ 4,459	\$3,343
Long-term liabilities	30	16,747	249
Shareholders' equity	545	(15,665)	4,521
	¥978	¥ 5,541	\$8,113
		Millions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 3)
Operations	1999	1998	1999
Net sales	¥1,487	¥12,224	\$12,335
Cost and expenses	1,446	12,317	11,995
Net income (loss)	¥ 41	¥ (93)	\$ 340

Summarized below are the significant transactions of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries with nonconsolidated subsidiaries and affiliates for the years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998, and the related account balances as of March 31, 1999 and 1998:

	M	Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 3)	
	1999	1998	1999
Transactions:			
Sales	¥—	¥2,129	\$ —
Purchases	31	2,148	257
Account balances:			
Notes and accounts receivable	_	283	_
Advances to nonconsolidated			
subsidiaries and affiliates	_	8,051	_
Notes and accounts payable	12	4	100

5. Short-term Loans and Long-term Debt

Short-term loans outstanding consist of notes payable to banks, principally due in 30 to 180 days, and commercial paper. The average annual interest rates for short-term loans were 5.6% and 6.5% for the years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998, respectively.

The aggregate annual maturities of long-term debt outstanding as of March 31, 1999, are as follows:

ions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 3)
₹ 7,644	\$ 63,409
7,566	62,762
5,053	41,916
47,335	392,659
68,269	566,313
	5,053 47,335

As of March 31, 1999, the following assets were pledged as collateral against short-term bank loans of \$6,221 million and long-term debt of \$3,494 million:

	Millions of yen	U.S. dollars (Note 3)
Marketable securities	¥ 2,382	\$ 19,759
Property, plant and equipment	14,989	124,339
	¥17,371	\$144,098

40 Minebea Co., Ltd., 1999

Minebea Co., Ltd., 1999

Thousands of

The following is a summary of terms of conversion and redemption of convertible bonds:

	Conversion price per share of common stock as of March 31, 1999	Exchange rate applicable upon conversion	Redemption at the option of the Company
0.8% unsecured convertible bonds payable in Japanese yen due 2003	¥852.00	_	On or after April 1, 2000, at 102% to 100% of principal amount
0.65% unsecured convertible bonds payable in Japanese yen due 2005	¥972.00	_	On or after April 1, 2001, at 103% to 100% of principal amount

Note: These conversion prices are subject to adjustments in certain events such as stock dividends, free share distributions, and combinations or reclassifications of the common stock. If all the outstanding bonds were converted as of March 31, 1999, 45,464,135 shares of common stock would have been issued.

Long-term debt as of March 31, 1999 and 1998, consisted of the following:

		Millions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 3)
	1999	1998	1999
5.5% unsecured convertible bonds payable			
in U.S. dollars due 1998	¥ —	¥ 8	\$
0.8% unsecured convertible bonds payable			
in Japanese yen due 2003	14,911	16,021	123,691
0.65% unsecured convertible bonds payable			
in Japanese yen due 2005	27,180	27,182	225,467
2.0% unsecured bonds payable			
in Japanese yen due 2003	10,000	_	82,953
2.85% unsecured bonds payable			
in Japanese yen due 2005	10,000	10,000	82,953
3.0% unsecured bonds payable			
in Japanese yen due 2008	15,000	_	124,430
1.8% to 12.5% loans from banks, other	58,776	52,864	487,565
	135,867	106,075	1,127,059
Less current portion	7,644	9,193	63,409
	¥128,223	¥ 96,882	\$1,063,650
	-		

6. Income Taxes

The Company and its consolidated domestic subsidiaries are subject to a number of different taxes based on income, which in the aggregate indicate an effective statutory rate of 47% and 51% for fiscal 1999 and 1998. In accordance with revisions in fiscal 1999 to the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan relating to the preparation of consolidated financial statements, the corporate enterprise tax, which was previously included in selling, general and administrative expenses, is now included in income taxes.

The income taxes of the consolidated foreign subsidiaries are generally levied at lower rates than those currently applied in Japan. In addition, consolidated subsidiaries in Thailand are granted a status by the Promotion of Investment Act, whereby earnings derived from the manufacture or sale of qualifying products are fully exempt from Thai income tax for a period of three to eight years.

Also, a consolidated subsidiary in China is granted a status by the Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China for Enterprises with Foreign Investment and Foreign Enterprises, whereby earnings are fully exempt from China income tax for two years starting from the first profit-making year and are subject to 12% income tax rate for the following three years and after that subject to 24% income tax rate.

Provision (credit) has been made for deferred (prepaid) income taxes attributable to timing differences between recognition of income and expenses for financial reporting purposes for the Company's foreign subsidiaries. The income tax effect of these differences is not recognized for the Company and its domestic subsidiaries. However, the income tax effect is recognized for timing differences resulting from elimination of intercompany profit and certain adjustments made in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. The income tax benefits of loss carryforwards applicable to certain consolidated subsidiaries are recognized currently.

7. Shareholders' Equity

The Japanese Commercial Code provides that an amount equivalent to at least 10% of appropriation of retained earnings paid with respect to each financial period be appropriated to the legal reserve until such reserve equals 25% of the common stock. The legal reserve may be used to reduce a deficit or transferred to the common stock account through suitable shareholders' and/or directors' action, but is not available for dividend payment.

Appropriation of retained earnings with respect to cash dividends, bonuses to directors and corporate auditors and transfer to the legal reserve are subject to the approval of the general shareholders' meeting. The accompanying consolidated financial statements reflect appropriations approved by shareholders subsequent to the fiscal years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998, respectively.

In accordance with revisions in fiscal 1999 to the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan relating to the preparation of consolidated financial statements, the legal reserve, which was previously listed separately, is included in accumulated deficit.

8. Per Share Data

Dividends per share shown in the consolidated statements of income have been presented on an accrual basis and include, in each fiscal year, dividends approved or to be approved after the fiscal year-end but applicable to the fiscal year.

Primary net income per share is based on the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the respective years.

Fully diluted net income per share is computed using the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding increased by the number of shares that would result from the conversion of all outstanding convertible bonds, the conversion of which would have a dilutive effect on net income per share. In calculating fully diluted net income per share, net income is adjusted, net of income taxes, by interest expense on the convertible bonds when such bonds are dilutive.

The number of shares used in calculating net income per share for the years ended March 31, 1999 and 1998, was as follows:

	Tho	Thousands of shares	
	1999	1998	
Primary	397,651	394,200	
Fully diluted	443,251	443,250	

9. Litigation

As of March 31, 1999, there are no material claims outstanding or threatened against the Company or its consolidated subsidiaries.

10. Contingent Liabilities

The Company and its consolidated subsidiaries had no contingent liabilities as of March 31, 1999.

11. Year 2000 Compliance Program, Others

a) Year 2000 compliance efforts

1. Overall policy

Minebea has identified the Year 2000 Problem as a key management issue to which the Minebea Group should give top priority. Accordingly, the companies of the Minebea Group are undertaking coordinated efforts aimed at achieving compliance.

2. Compliance structure and progress of compliance efforts

In June 1997, Minebea established a Year 2000 Compliance Project Team to cope with the malfunctions caused by computer systems within the Minebea Group as a result of the Year 2000 Problem. Since then, the Company has implemented measures aimed at:

- determining the potential for Year 2000 Problem-related malfunctions in Minebea Group PCs, computer (including computer-aided design) systems, production facilities with built-in microcomputer chips and corporate aircraft and devising solutions for such, and modifying internally developed software programs;
- determining the potential for Year 2000 Problem-related malfunctions in Minebea products and devising solutions for such malfunctions;
- verifying how suppliers of raw materials are coping with the Year 2000 Problem.

With the aim of facilitating full Year 2000 compliance, including the formulation of contingency plans, on March 1, 1999, Minebea dissolved the Year 2000 Compliance Project Team and established in its place the Year 2000 Compliance Supervisory Committee. The committee is staffed by the chief executives of the Company's sales and manufacturing headquarters (both senior managing directors), general manager of the systems department (a director) and the general manager of the legal department (also a director). Under the administration of the committee, Minebea has also established Year 2000 working committees within, for example, production facilities, individual divisions and affiliated companies, to promote Year 2000 compliance measures.

The Company has conducted systematic simulation tests and taken other steps to confirm the effectiveness of the measures. These efforts were largely completed by the end of June 1999. As a result, Minebea expects to be able largely to avoid malfunctions caused by computer systems and equipment within the Minebea Group as result of the Year 2000 Problem. The Company has also enlisted the cooperation of raw materials suppliers in ensuring that they are prepared to cope with potential Year 2000 Problem-related malfunctions.

b) Estimated expenditures

Minebea estimates total expenditures for its Year 2000 compliance program at ¥893 million, of which ¥713 million was used in the fiscal years ended March 31, 1998 and 1999, and is thus reflected in the Statement of Income for these periods. Estimated expenditures in fiscal 2000 are ¥180 million.

c) Contingency plans, others

Although Minebea is implementing a wide range of measures, the Company recognizes that these efforts do not guarantee the preclusion of any interruption of its operations caused by the Year 2000 Problem because it will also affect the computer systems of other companies and organizations worldwide. Minebea recognizes the following as primary external risks:

- supplies of electric power, water and gas to the Company's production facilities may be interrupted;
- delivery of raw materials may be suspended;
- transportation of finished products may be delayed.

Such occurrences may result in interruptions to its operations that make it difficult for the Minebea Group to fulfill its obligations as a manufacturer to supply its customers. The Minebea Group recognizes internal and external risks as inherent aspects of the Year 2000 Problem and is formulating contingency plans that emphasize their avoidance to minimize inconvenience to its customers.

44 Minebea Co., Ltd., 1999 Minebea Co., Ltd., 1999