

Research-data  
B No. 3

Research on Difference in  
Fertility as Occupation of  
Wives vary. (Surveyed 1943)

by

T. Shimamura

Institute of Population Problems,  
Welfare Ministry.

Tokyo, Japan

Research on Difference in Fertility as  
Occupation of Wives vary

Outline of Research

60 were chosen out of those towns and villages of the 10 prefectures which has produced considerably a great number of women workers for textile industries.

The research was made with all the husbands and wives dwelling in the towns and villages. The effective cards obtained reached 40,000. Important results are as follows:

I. Fertility as the working periods of wives' Occupations vary

Classification of the working period:

- A. Those who work only before marriage.
- B. Those who work both before and after marriage.
- C. Those who work only after marriage.

Table I. The number of children of one couple

As the working period of wives' occupations and the duration of marriage vary.

Duration of marriage	A	B	C
Under 1 year	0.22	0.21	0.21
1 year	0.62	0.53	0.52
2 years	0.89	0.84	0.76
3 "	1.30	1.10	1.02
4 "	1.50	1.36	1.27
5 "	1.91	1.69	1.62

6 years

6 years	2.20	1.94	1.90
7 "	2.51	2.14	2.11
8 "	2.97	2.49	2.41
9 "	3.14	2.61	2.50
10 "	3.53	2.81	2.84
11-15 years	4.14	3.65	3.48
16-20 "	5.34	4.55	4.48
21-30 "	5.72	5.21	4.98
31-40 "	5.69	5.41	5.25
Over 41 "	5.68	5.72	5.46

---

As shown in Table I. A has the greatest fertility and B comes next, while C has the least.

## II. Kinds of wives' profession and fertility

### Classification of occupations

1. Women workers.
  - a. Spinning workers.
  - b. Artificial silk workers.
  - c. Reeling workers.
  - d. Others.
2. Agricultural workers.
3. Teachers.
4. Maid-servants.
5. Others.
6. The total of those who have job.
7. The jobless.

8. The total number.

Table II. The number of children of one couple as the kinds of wives' profession and duration of marriage vary

Supposing that the general difference of fertility as occupation varies is expressed by the number of children born between 31 - 40 years of the duration of marriage in which most women are considered to pass through the pregnancy period, the order of fertility is maid-servants (5.33), reeling workers (5.48), agricultural workers (5.38), spinning workers (4.87), others (4.68), teachers (4.65), other women workers (4.53), and the jobless (4.41). The fertility of the artificial worker is 6.33, which rate is remarkably high, but which is due to an accidental result of the less number of those researched. If observed comprehensively, its fertility is supposed to be extremely low, similar to that of teachers.

Duration of marriage	1	1				2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		a	b	c	d							
Under 1 year	0.21	0.14	0.14	0.26	0.17	0.22	0.10	0.17	0.24	0.21	0.16	0.21
1 year	0.58	0.49	0.53	0.60	0.63	0.53	0.48	0.67	0.59	0.57	0.57	0.57
2 years	0.83	0.80	0.81	0.87	0.81	0.83	0.91	0.98	0.77	0.84	0.84	0.84
3 "	1.26	1.33	1.18	1.29	1.12	1.12	1.24	1.23	1.00	1.17	1.29	1.19
4 "	1.51	1.58	1.43	1.59	1.27	1.36	1.33	1.47	1.13	1.40	1.32	1.39
5 "	1.81	1.90	1.52	1.88	1.42	1.72	1.89	1.80	1.74	1.77	1.80	1.77
6 "	2.18	2.09	1.93	2.33	1.92	1.92	2.33	2.01	2.02	2.04	2.01	2.03
7 "	2.44	2.43	2.27	2.52	2.28	2.21	2.18	2.35	1.91	2.27	2.16	2.26
8 "	2.82	2.72	2.59	2.98	2.38	2.50	2.63	3.16	2.22	2.66	2.40	2.63
9 "	3.07	2.82	2.73	3.21	2.65	2.64	2.45	2.96	2.31	2.77	2.55	2.74
10 "	3.39	3.72	2.79	3.52	2.75	2.96	2.32	3.23	2.81	3.10	2.98	3.09
11-15 years	4.05	4.22	3.53	4.09	3.71	3.62	3.05	4.12	3.34	3.78	3.51	3.75
16-20 "	5.03	5.43	4.09	5.11	4.20	4.62	4.12	5.49	4.20	4.79	4.22	4.74
21-30 "	5.21	5.56	4.63	5.27	4.66	5.23	4.37	6.01	4.57	5.26	4.62	5.21
31-40 "	5.28	4.87	6.38	5.48	4.52	5.38	4.55	5.88	4.68	5.40	4.41	5.34
Over 41 "	5.30	5.50	-	5.34	5.27	5.62	3.25	5.77	4.93	5.58	4.94	5.53

Table III. The number of children of the couple as the kinds of wives' occupations, marriage age (20-24), and the duration of marriage vary

Supposing fertility is generally expressed by the number of the children of one couple whose duration of marriage is 31 - 40 years.

The order of fertility is -- maid-servants (5.6), agricultural workers (5.3), reeling workers (5.2), spinning workers (5.0), others (4.9), the jobless (4.5), other women workers (4.3), teachers (4.2), and artificial silk workers (2.5), generally speaking the result being the same as that of Table II.

Duration of marriage	1	1				2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		a	b	c	d							
Under 1 year	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
1 year	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
2 years	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
3 "	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2
4 "	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.5
5 "	1.9	1.9	1.5	2.0	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
6 "	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.0
7 "	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.4
8 "	2.9	3.0	2.3	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.2	3.4	2.2	2.7	2.4	2.7
9 "	3.4	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.2	2.8	2.6	3.2	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.9
10 "	3.5	3.7	2.4	3.6	3.2	3.2	2.6	3.5	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.3
11-15 years	4.2	4.3	3.5	4.2	3.6	3.8	3.2	4.2	3.4	3.9	3.6	3.9
16-20 "	5.4	5.6	4.6	5.5	4.3	4.7	4.4	5.6	4.1	5.0	4.3	4.9
21-30 "	5.5	5.5	3.5	5.6	4.3	5.3	4.4	6.0	4.6	5.4	4.5	5.3
31-40 "	5.0	5.0	2.5	5.2	4.3	5.3	4.2	5.6	4.9	5.2	4.5	5.2
Over 41 "	5.1	5.3	0.0	5.1	5.3	5.2	3.6	5.1	4.5	5.1	4.3	5.1

III. The fertility as kinds of wives' occupation and working periods vary

Table IV. The number of children of one couple as kinds of wives' occupations, working periods, and the duration of marriage (31-40 years of age) vary

Working periods	1	1				2	3	4	5	6
		a	b	c	d					
Under 5 years	5.8	5.0	2.5	6.1	4.8	4.0	5.6	6.1	6.0	6.0
5 - 9 years	5.6	5.7	8.0	5.8	3.6	4.9	2.2	3.6	5.6	5.5
Over 10 years	4.6	3.4	5.7	4.6	4.7	5.4	4.2	4.4	4.5	5.3

Table IV. is only of those whose duration of marriage is 31 - 40 years of age, but according to the comprehensive observation, in proportion to the lengthening of the working period fertility decreases with all except for agricultural workers, with whom, however, the longer the working period, the higher the fertility.