

# The fertility trends and their determinants of differentials for Japan's municipalities

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In this paper, the relationship between fertility levels and the patterns of their changes are statistically analyzed, using municipality data after the end of 1980s.

In concrete terms, municipalities are classified based on the level of Total Fertility Rate and thereafter the patterns of fertility changes by each TFR level group are examined.

Fertility change is assumed to be determined by two factors, one is the change in marriage rate and the other is the change in marital fertility. Those factors influence differently on fertility level and its pattern of change by TFR level group. In each TFR level group, a decline in marriage rate in age 20s is the most influential on the decline in TFR and the tendency is observed that the higher in TFR, the larger decline in marriage rate. Furthermore, in the higher TFR level group, a decline in marital fertility for their 20s is also affected on the fertility decline.

Population migration is another important factor on the fertility changes for municipalities. The change in marriage rate for each municipality is attributed by migration of youth marital population and this tendency is more seen particularly in lower TFR level groups.