

## General Outcomes of the Fourth Migration Survey

Hachiro NISHIOKA, Satoshi NAKAGAWA, Katsuhisa KOJIMA  
Masato SHIMIZU, Moriyuki OE, Keiko WAKABAYASHI, Takashi INOUE

A Migration Survey by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS) is a nation-wide questionnaire survey periodically undertaken to clarify the current situations of migration in Japan and their changes over time. The present survey, conducted in July 1996, is the fourth investigation, following the third survey in 1991. Questionnaire was designed to gather information on various features of respondents' migration, such as time of in-migration to the present address, reasons for in-migration, location of the previous residence, life-time migration experiences, location of residence 1 and 5 years ago, and prospects of future migration. Questionnaires were distributed to the randomly selected national sample of 15,131 households, gaining valid responses from 14,083 households (93.1%) and 40,400 household members. Major findings of the survey are as follows;

- 1) Moving rates: Overall moving rates were in decline. The percentage of respondents living in different places from those of 5 years ago was 22.2%, compared to 26.7% in the Third Survey.
- 2) Lifetime migration: The average number of residence changes during one's lifetime was 3.12 (3.21 for male, 3.03 for female). The average number of prefectures in which respondents have ever lived was 2.13.
- 3) Birthplace of Tokyo metropolitan residents: Among respondents living in the Tokyo Metropolitan Region (Tokyo, Saitama, Chiba, Kanagawa), over two-third (68.4%) were born in the same region. The rest came from the other areas.
- 4) Reasons for migration: Major reasons for migration during the recent 5 years were "following parents or spouse"(30.1%), "housing-related reasons"(22.4%), "job-related reasons"(11.2%), and "marriage/divorce" (16.4%).
- 5) Elderly migration: 6.2% of the elderly (over 65) were living in places different from those of 5 years ago. The rate shows decline from 9.7% in the previous survey.
- 6) U-turn migration: The rate of return migration to one's birthplace-prefecture was 27.2% for male, and 24.9% for female.
- 7) Home-leaving: The average age of leaving parents' home indicates a major regional difference between metropolitan and non-metropolitan regions. As for female respondents born in the 1960-69 period, the age of leaving was 21.5 for non-metro areas, and 23.4 for metro areas.
- 8) Prospects for future migration: Prospects for relocation in the next 5 years suggest respondents' relative preference to non-metro areas, that is, metro-bound migration from non-metropolitan areas are to be overwhelmed by the opposite migration from metropolitan to non-metropolitan areas.