

# Study of the Effects of Late Death Registrations on the Life Tables

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The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research has developed the Japanese Mortality Database, a comprehensively-reorganized mortality database optimized for mortality research and consistent with the Human Mortality Database. To improve the database, a great deal of effort has been made in the area of the basic research. One of the aims of these improvements is to increase the available years of the database, which requires the establishment of a methodology for the construction of life tables before World War II. However, to do this, the late registrations of deaths must be adjusted. In this study, we assessed the current situation of late registrations of death in the vital statistics, examined the current methodology for adjustment, and evaluated the effects on the life tables.

From the results of this study, we observed that the effects of the adjustment on life expectancy in 1947 are significant, around 0.1 years for both males and females. We also observed that the level of the late registrations before the war were high, which implies the adjustment has even more substantial effects and reveals the necessity of the adjustment to improve the accuracy of the life tables before the war. Therefore, it is important to use an appropriate adjustment of the base data when creating life tables for years before the war and to continue comprehensive research on the data and methodology for the construction of these life tables.