

## Short-Term Fertility Projections on Population Projections for Japan

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There are two things to aim at in this paper: one is to explain how we make the projection of births and total fertility rate (TFR) in 2011 on "Population Projections for Japan" conducted by Japan National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (2012), and the other is to compare both projected births and TFR with both actual births and TFR in 2011.

Ishikawa and Beppu (2011) proposed the monthly TFR so that we can estimate the level and trend of fertility when the birth data for a whole year are not available. This paper shows that the monthly TFR can lead the trend of official TFR. Therefore, we used this indicator from monthly data of births for short-term fertility projection. Comparing the projection with the actual in 2011, the projection is very close to the actual. Projected births are only 3,000 fewer than actual births, and both of projected TFR and actual TFR are the same level at 1.39.

In order to make a highly-accurate short-term projection on fertility, we hope that more detailed data of births will be tabulated and published as monthly report, such as the number of births given by foreign women and the number of pregnancy.