

28th IPSS Annual Seminar

Time Use in Low Fertility

Date: December 4, 2023 (Mon), 13:30-17:00 (JST, UTC +9)

Venue: HIBIKOKU CONFERENCE SQUARE 8F, 2-2-3 Uchisaiwaicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
(Hybrid (On-site and Online))

Language: English/Japanese Simultaneous Interpretation Provided

How to pre-register: Email ipss28seminar@ipss.go.jp with the title "28th IPSS Seminar".

In the text, include your name, affiliation, occupation (e.g., researcher, administrator, student, university faculty, etc.), and preferred way of attending (on-site or online).

Register by November 24 for on-site and December 1 for online participation.

We will email you the URL for online participation by December 3.

Host: National Institute of Population and Social Security Research

Contact: ipss28seminar@ipss.go.jp

Purpose of the Seminar

Nearly 50 years have passed since Japan's birth rate began to fall below a level that would sustain population size in the long term. Various measures have been implemented during this period to support child-rearing, but the birth rate has remained stagnant. The high cost of raising children, the difficulty of balancing work and child-rearing, and the changing values of the younger generation are usually cited as reasons for the declining birth rate, but from a more demographic perspective, it is generally believed that the declining birthrate in high-income countries is a consequence of postponing marriage and childbearing. In countries with high income, there is an increase in life expectancy accompanied by a longer lifespan, and more people are postponing childbearing at times beyond the upper age limit of childbearing.




It is often pointed out that a weak economic foundation is a reason why people in their 20s and 30s are unable to make a smooth transition to family formation; however, it has been shown that they also have difficulties with the way they use their time. Today's youth are said to be more concerned with the use of time than material goods; indeed, surveys have shown that more young people in Japan than in other countries find life with a family inconvenient and that more people in the child-rearing generation find it difficult to spend their time as they wish due to the burden of child-rearing.

Time is allocated equally to all people 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, but how do people use time, and what difficulties do they face? In this seminar, we will discuss the current status of child-rearing time and work time and the challenges that exist, starting from the question of whether the change in awareness of time and the way time is used are behind the declining birthrate. By doing so, the seminar aims to explore the path to a society where people can have families and engage in work satisfactorily through the perspective of "how to use time" with experts from various fields.

Program

13:30	Opening Remarks TANABE Kuniaki (Director-General, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS))
13:35	Introduction: Low Fertility Society and Difficulties Related to Time IWASAWA Miho (Director of Department of Population Dynamics Research, IPSS)
13:50	Time Use of Women and Men at Fertility Age in East Asian and Western Societies Man-Yee KAN (Professor of Sociology at Oxford's Department of Sociology)
14:15	Time or Money? The Cost of Childrearing and Low Fertility FUKUDA Setsuya (Senior Researcher, IPSS)
14:40	Break
14:50	Work-life Balance in a 24/7 Economy in Japan OISHI Akiko Sato (Professor, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Chiba University)
15:15	Working Time and Labor Law Policy for Parenting Generation HAMAGUCHI Keiichiro (Research Director General, Japan Institute for Labor Policy and Training)
15:40	New Government Initiatives Based on Children's Future Strategy Policy NISHIOKA Takashi (Administrator's Secretariat Director, Children and Families Agency)
15:55	Break
16:05	Panel Discussion Moderator: HAYASHI Reiko (Deputy Director-General, IPSS)
16:55	Closing Remarks SAKAMOTO Daisuke (Coordination Officer for Policy Studies)

Speakers

<p>Dr. Miho Iwasawa</p> 	<p>Dr. Iwasawa is Director of the Department of Population Dynamics Research at Japan's National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS). She studied fertility decline in Japan and received her Ph.D. from the University of Tokyo. Her research interests include family changes and demographic methods. She started her academic career at IPSS in 1997 and has been involved in the Japanese Fertility Surveys as well as population projections for Japan.</p>
<p>Dr. Man-Yee Kan</p> 	<p>Dr Kan is a Professor of Sociology at the Department of Sociology, University of Oxford. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Oxford and has conducted extensive research on time use, gender inequalities, marriages, families, and welfare policies in East Asian, European, and Anglophone countries. Her current project, GenTime, funded by a European Research Council Consolidator Grant (2018-2026), aims to investigate trends in gender inequality in time use in East Asian and Western societies.</p>
<p>Dr. Setsuya Fukuda</p> 	<p>Dr. Fukuda is a Senior Researcher at the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, where he conducts demographic research on the inter-relationships among gender, family formation and family policy. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from Meiji University. After his graduate study, he worked as a researcher at Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany in 2008-2011. His current research focuses on gender role division, educational assortative mating, fertility and intergenerational transfers in international comparative settings, looking particularly at how changes in Japan's gender structure and intergenerational relations in relation to population decline, new family policies and technological development.</p>

<p>Dr. Akiko Sato Oishi</p> 	<p>Dr. Oishi is a Professor at the Graduate School of Social Sciences, Chiba University, and a member of the Science Council of Japan. She has extensive research experience in the area of female employment and child well-being as well as the effect of social security policy on labor supply of the elderly. Her works have been published in various academic journals and books, including <i>Family, Work and Wellbeing in Asia</i> (Springer 2017), and <i>Gender, Care and Migration in East Asia</i> (Palgrave 2018).</p>
<p>Dr. Keiichiro Hamaguchi</p> 	<p>Dr. Hamaguchi is a Research Director General of Japan Institute for Labor Policy and Training. He graduated from the University of Tokyo, Faculty of Law in 1983, and he has held positions including Visiting Professor at the Institute of Comparative Law & Politics at the University of Tokyo Graduate Schools of Law and Politics (2003), Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (2005), and Research Director at the Japan Institute for Labor Policy and Training (2008).</p>
<p>Mr. Takashi Nishioka</p> 	<p>Mr. Nishioka is Administrator's Secretariat Director at the Children and Families Agency. He joined the Ministry of Health and Welfare (now the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) in 1995 as an actuary. He was in charge of the financial simulation of public pensions and was involved in the pension reform in 2000. From 2002 to 2005, he participated in the United Nations Population and Development Commission as a population estimator in the Office of the Counselor for Social Security under the Policy Management Bureau. Since July 2023, he has been the only actuary of the Children and Families Agency and has been involved in the concrete implementation of the "Children's Future Strategy Policy" approved by the Cabinet in June 2023.</p>
<p>Dr. Reiko Hayashi</p> 	<p>Dr. Reiko Hayashi is Deputy Director-General of Japan's National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS). Prior to joining IPSS in 2012, she had served in Senegal as a technical advisor to the Minister of Health (2008–2011) and was engaged in projects of international cooperation concerning population, health, and development in various countries. Her research covers global population ageing, health and longevity, migration and population development. She holds a PhD in policy studies from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan. She is the President of the Asian Population Association (2022-2024), a member of ICD and ICF Commissions of Social Security Council of the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the expert panel of the Japanese government's Roadmap for the Realization of a Society of Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals, and Japan's delegation to the Commission on Population and Development, United Nations. Please refer to https://researchmap.jp/reikohayashi?lang=en for further details.</p>