Municipal Birth Projections Consistent with IPSS (2018) Regional Population Projections for Japan 2015-2045

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As population decline proceeds in each region, there is increasing interest in birth and death rate trends as well as migration. In this study, we utilized the IPSS (2018) regional population projections ("RPJ (2018)" hereafter) and projected the future number of births by region, consistent with the RPJ (2018). The projected number of births was derived by future population of the age group 0-4 from the RPJ (2018), and calculated by using future survival rate and net migration rate from the number of births to the population aged 0-4. Future net migration was set by applying the same idea as the RPJ (2018) migration assumptions among the age groups 0-4 and 5-9. As a result, the number of municipalities where the number of births from 2040 to 2045 are estimated to be less than half of those from 2010 to 2015 reached nearly half, and the number of births will decline particularly in small-scale towns and villages. The RPJ (2018) are widely used by local governments, private think tanks, and researchers as basic data for various regional plans and regional analysis. Future birth rates by region, consistent with the RPJ (2018), are expected to be used as basic data for predicting future childcare demand in each region, and for planning related to provision of childcare support services and perinatal medical system at the regional level.

[Key Words] Regional population projections, Future number of births by region, Local governments