

## An Attempt of Household Projections by Municipality: For Shizuoka Prefecture as a Target Area

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In this study, we examined the feasibility of municipal household projections that forecasted the number of households in 2015 using the 2010 census data. We compared the projected data with the actual data from the 2015 census of Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan, which was the target area. The main findings can be concluded in the following three points:

First, the projection accuracy of the number of households estimated by the municipality five years ahead is good as a whole considering the strict conditions that govern the household headship rate of the entire prefecture and the population is categorized by sex and age group.

Second, the error rate in the projected value of the total number of households by municipality was mostly high in the east side and low in the west side. The difference in the average household number among municipalities narrowed between 2010 and 2015 in actual data. However, in this projection, since the household headship assumption of each municipality is set uniformly according to the trend of the whole prefecture, the absolute error rate was relatively high in the municipalities that had large and small average household numbers in 2010.

Third, in the projection that reduced various attributes such as region, age and family type, the projection accuracy greatly improved when the family type was set to none. Although it is necessary to confirm whether this trend is a universal phenomenon that applies to other regions and at other times as well, this result will be useful when local governments project the number of households by municipality on their own.

keywords : Household projections by municipality, Headship rate method, Average household size, Shizuoka Prefecture