

# Capturing Migration of Older Persons in Japan using Population Census, Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions and National Survey on Migration

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Along with population ageing, the migration trend of older persons attracted the attention in Japan since around the 1980s, when the migration rate in very old age started to rebound. In this paper, Population Census, conducted by Statistics Bureau, Comprehensive Survey of Living Conditions (CSLC), a nation-wide sample survey conducted by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and National Survey on Migration, a subsidiary survey of CSLC conducted by National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, were combined, and migration trends of older persons (aged 65 years and over) were analyzed by type of migration (related to work, retirement, housing, household change and long-term care) for those living in ordinary household and facility.

Long-term care related migration is the most important type and it increased from 2000/1 to 2015/6 in terms of both number and proportion to the total elderly population. The migration related to the housing, household change and retirement decreased from 2000/1 to 2015/6, both in number and proportion. Work-related migration increased in number but decreased in proportion, and the volume remains small compared to other types.

The long-term care related migration increases in the oldest old, especially after 80 years old whereas long-term care is not the main cause of migration for the younger elderly. Retirement related migration starts from 60 years old and work-related migration is substantial for the age group of the 50s. A gradual shift of migration patterns occurs from middle-aged to old age. By gender, older women move more than older men, with a higher proportion of long-term care and household change related migration. This age and sex specific migration trend is consistent with a generally conceived life course pattern. As for the geographical direction between Tokyo area and non-Tokyo area, Tokyo area to non-Tokyo area migration is larger than the opposite direction for all but household-change related migration. Thus, the migration of older persons contributes to reducing the Tokyo monopolization.

Studying the migration by reason would reveal each older person's needs, which is expected to eventually improve the quality of life.

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