

外国語要約

学位論文題目 : Factor Analysis of Provincial Migration Including Return Migration:
Focusing on the Migration of Women in Their 20s to 40s

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The purpose of this study is to identify who migrate to provincial areas, the reasons underlying their migration, and the differences between the factors influencing provincial migration for men and women. I focus on women's migration to provincial areas, which has received little attention as a subject of interregional migration. Herein, I consider regions other than the Tokyo metropolitan area as the provincial areas (prefectures other than Tokyo, Saitama, Chiba, and Kanagawa prefectures), and investigate return migration to the place of birth (U-turn) and migration to regions other than the place of birth (I-turn), both of which are analyzed as inter-prefectural migration. The place of birth is defined as the prefecture of residence at the time of graduation from junior high school.

This study relies on the economic theory of Sjaastad (1962), which views migration as an investment in the productivity of human resources. Based on this theory, I perform an analysis using the methodology outlined by Bartel (1979), which presents a theoretical framework for interregional migration considering employment mobility. For the concept of lifestyle migration, I referred to the definition provided by Benson and O'Reilly (2009), who were the first to organize this concept from a sociological perspective. I focus on individual preferences for lifestyle as a factor affecting non-monetary benefits of migration and integrate the concept of lifestyle migration into the existing economic theory of interregional migration.

After reviewing previous studies, I perform empirical analyses of three factors: (1) differences between the U-turn factor for men and women following the first job after completing higher education, (2) whether the ability to work remotely after the COVID-19 pandemic has made people more inclined toward provincial migration, and, (3) lifestyle preferences that affect provincial migration among women. The individual data from *the 8th National Survey on Migration (2016)* conducted by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, and *the Survey on the Impact of the Use of AI, ICT, and Other Technologies on Work and Family Life* (principal investigator: Nobuko Nagase) by Ochanomizu University were used for the analyses of factors (1) and (2). For the analysis of factor (3), data from an interview survey independently administered by the author to 11 women who made a U-turn and 12 women who made an I-turn to Nagano Prefecture in Japan were used.

For factor (1), a probit model analysis of the factors affecting the probability of U-turn upon getting the first job yielded two female-specific results. First, possible strong “stereotypes about mothers and wives” in regions with a high percentage of three-generation households may discourage young

women from U-turn migration. Second, women who make a U-turn for their first job tend to have an unstable employment status. According to the analysis, which was limited to college graduates, the economic affluence of the region of origin in terms of income and job opportunities encourages U-turn migration among men upon getting their first job. Conversely, no such effect was observed for women.

For factor (2), a logistic regression analysis was conducted to examine the relationship between working remotely and provincial migration as one of the measures geared toward resolving the limitation that women may face a significant work barrier in provincial areas. The results indicate that married women's preference to move to provincial areas may have been triggered by the ability to work remotely owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the freedom to work remotely, small living spaces in urban areas may have caused women to consider migrating in search of relatively large living spaces and a change in lifestyle.

The results of the analysis of factor (3) indicate that many I-turners want to migrate to provincial areas but do not want to live in the countryside. Many of those who migrated without a change in their or their husbands' jobs in Tokyo wanted to live in a place with convenient access to Tokyo and in an environment that was rich in nature, while maintaining their standard of living in Tokyo to a certain extent. However, only a few people made a U-turn in search of the rich natural environment of their hometown; most U-turners migrate for work-related reasons. Only a few female migrants from Tokyo metropolitan area regarded the negative aspects of life in urban areas as non-financial costs in their decision to migrate. These women share the common view that they became aware of the negative aspects of urban areas because of sudden disasters such as the Great East Japan Earthquake and the COVID-19 pandemic.

As discussed above, the quantitative analysis did not show that the economic affluence of the place of birth encourages women to make a U-turn at their first job, but the qualitative analysis showed that the economic factor of "securing a full-time job" is important for women to make a U-turn. In the case of I-turners, numerous women migrated because they were influenced by personal preferences and values regarding specific lifestyles; however, the economic factor of being able to work remotely while working in Tokyo was an equally important factor. In addition, features such as local traditional customs and social connections, which are characteristics of the countryside, were likely to hinder provincial migration for women. Unless young people can secure full-time jobs in provincial areas and traditional values are changed to become more liberal, women will continue to leave provincial areas, for which the population will continue to decline without attracting new migrants.