

The backward-bending commute time of married women under household responsibility

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Abstract

The paper examines the relationship between married women's commute time and their wage rates under household responsibility. In the theoretical part of the paper, we show that there is a case where the effect of wives' wage rates on their commute time follows a back-ward bending pattern. We also show that the trade-off between commute time and housework time with respect to the wage rate. Using the 1993 Japanese Panel Survey of Consumers, we obtain empirical results that are consistent with theoretical predictions.

JEL classification: J21, J31, R23

Key words: Backward-bending commute time, household responsibility