

Regional variations in labor force behavior of women in Japan *

Yukiko Abe **

Graduate School of Economics and Business Administration,

Hokkaido University

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Abstract

This study uses cross-sectional data to investigate the regional differences in women's participation in the labor market. Women's participation is high in the northern coastal region of Japan. Their high rate of participation is caused by the fact that married women with children participate as regular full-time employees. A possible explanation for the high participation in the northern coastal region is a combination of (1) a high degree of manufacturing in the northern coastal region and (2) supply side factors that motivate women to work.

Keywords: Regional differences, regular employment, part-time employment, Japan.

JEL Classification: J21, R23

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** Corresponding author: Graduate School of Economics and Business Administration, Hokkaido University, Kita 9 Nishi 7, Kita-ku, Sapporo, 060-0809 Japan. Email: abey@econ.hokudai.ac.jp