Regional variations in labor force behavior of women in Japan *

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April 2010

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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* This article uses microdata of the Employment Status Survey (ESS) made available through the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication of Japan. Microdata cannot be released due to the terms of usage of the data. I thank Shiori Kondo, Kunie Mori, and Emiko Usui for helpful discussions. Remaining errors are my own. This research is supported by the Japan Society for Promotion of Science Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (Grant Number C-20530188).

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