

# What determined the manufacturing location in post-war Japan?

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## Abstract

This paper investigates the determinants of the Japanese manufacturing location in the post-war period, using the data of Japan's Census of Manufactures from 1955 to 1995. Investigating the determinants derived from the Heckscher-Ohlin model and the new economic geography model, we found that the determinants from these two models were significant in different periods. Variables from the Heckscher-Ohlin model were factors that determine the Japanese industrial location from 1955 to 1985, while variables from the new economic geography model were factors that determine the industrial location from 1970 to 1995. Further statistical evidences show that changes in location patterns are partially caused by labor migration and a reduction of transportation costs within Japan.

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