

# Where did our NIMBY go?

## The Changing Spatial Concentration of Waste Disposal Sites in Japan

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### Abstract

This study investigates the changes of spatial concentration and location decisions of waste disposal site over two decades, 1992-2012. Using spatial econometrics and a unique dataset of 2,535 industrial waste disposal sites from Japan, we investigate the community characteristics that tend to influence location of private disposal sites for two decades. In addition, we identify the characteristics of communities, in which number of disposal sites increased and decreased over the two decades. As a results, it became clear that there have been spatial concentrations of sites and the factors, particularly economic factor, affecting the concentrations is fairly stable for 20 years in spite of the number of disposal sites decreased by half. Moreover, we found that the increase of disposal site per capita is typically found at municipalities where amount of industrial waste is lager in the two decades. On the other hand, the increase of disposal site per capita is found in municipalities with lower population and higher population rate of agricultural worker in recent 10 years.

Keywords: Disposal site, Industrial waste, Spatial econometrics, NIMBY, LULU, Japan

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