

子育ての経済的費用と出生力：日韓台・EU25 カ国における国際比較

Cost of Raising Children and Fertility: Cross-country Analysis of Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and EU 25 Countries

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This paper investigates the economic cost of raising children in Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan, in comparison with the cost in 25 EU countries, using the NTA framework. Economic theory of fertility suggests that the amount of resources parents spend on a child is inversely related to the number of children in the family. Therefore, the economic cost of raising children, and particularly the high cost of education, could be an important factor in marital fertility in East Asia. Using data from the **National Transfer Accounts (NTA)**, this paper compares the highly standardised measure of the direct costs of childrearing in the selected countries, and presents cross-national correlations with the quantum of period fertility. The analysis highlights the relationship between high private education costs and low fertility levels in East Asia. However, the results of time-series correlations suggest that high education costs matter for fertility only in Korea, whereas other factors, such as marriage postponement, could play a larger role in fertility trends in Japan and Taiwan.

Time-series correlations of the TFRp* and the normalised per capita private spending on education for children and youth aged 0-24 in Japan, Korea, and Taiwan

