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Mizuki Kawabata, Yukiko Abe



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# Intra-metropolitan spatial patterns of female labor force participation and commute times in Tokyo<sup>☆</sup>

Mizuki Kawabata<sup>a\*</sup>, Yukiko Abe<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Faculty of Economics, Keio University, Tokyo 108-8345, Japan

<sup>b</sup>Graduate School of Economics and Business Administration, Hokkaido University, Hokkaido 060-0809 Japan

\*Corresponding author. mizuki@econ.keio.ac.jp

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## Abstract

We explore *intra*-metropolitan spatial patterns of female labor force participation, and examine how they relate to commute times in Tokyo. The spatial patterns differ markedly by marital status and the presence of children. For married mothers, the spatial clusters of low participation and regular employment rates are largely located in the inner suburbs, many of which overlap with the spatial clusters of long male commute times. The spatial regression results indicate that for married mothers, a longer commute time is significantly associated with lower participation and regular employment rates, while for unmarried and childless married women, these associations are mostly nonsignificant. Among married mothers, the magnitude of the negative associations is greater for college graduates than for those with a high school education

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