

The purpose of this paper is to find out if the macroeconomic indicators such as the economic growth rate or unemployment rate affect the timing of the first marriages. We have analyzed the timing of the first marriages by Discrete Time Method using the first marriage data in “The Japanese Longitudinal Survey on Employment and Fertility (LOSEF): the 2011 Internet Version” (conducted by professors Takayama, Inagaki and Oshio), a retrospective panel data for education, job history, as well as the adolescent family environments of more than 4 thousand individuals whose birth years span three decades, starting from 1950. We have found that, for both men and women, good economic conditions shortens the time to first marriages, while higher unemployment in graduating years tend to delay them. We have confirmed that for men, regular employment is important to marriage, but it is not the case for women, which is what the standard search theory for marriage suggests. On the other hand, we have found men and women from high income families tend to marry early, contrary to what has been found in previous works.