Replication of "Country Risks and Brain Drain: The Emigration Potential of Japanese Skilled Workers"

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Description

- While most existing research attributes contemporary Japanese emigration to the pursuit of a better lifestyle, recent qualitative studies point out that concern about country risks is a significant driver. We explore Japan's brain-drain potential and factors shaping Japanese skilled workers' interest in emigrating to other countries based on our original survey with an experimental component. We first undertake descriptive analysis using respondents in the (baseline) control group and examine what types of Japanese skilled workers are interested in emigration. We then use respondents in the control and treatment groups to test our pre- registered hypotheses regarding the impact of information about Japan's country risks on their attitudes. The results of our descriptive analysis show that respondents with overseas experience and younger respondents are particularly motivated to consider emigration. Another notable finding is that respondents who distrust the government and media are also more likely to consider leaving Japan than those who do not. Furthermore, through our randomized survey experiment, we find that exposure to information about long-term economic risk encourages people to consider living abroad in the future. These results suggest that the brain drain from Japan is likely to continue, pointing to a need for policy actions to tackle it.

About data

- This project includes an online survey administered from December 2019 to February 2020.

Files included in this package:

- `README.md`
- `REAME.pdf` – generated by `README.md`
- `horiuchi-oishi.Rproj` (for RStudio)
- `master.R` – a master file that sources all other scripts.
- renv (folder)
  - Files generated by the `renv` package (version 0.14.0-3)
  - See https://rstudio.github.io/renv/index.html.
- `renv.lock`
  - A file generated by the `renv` package (version 0.14.0-3)
- data (folder)
  - Data used for replication
- documents (folder)

  - Documents relevant to this study

- figures (folder)
  - All files are generated by the scripts
- output (folder)
  - All files are generated by the scripts
- scripts (folder) - R scripts for complete replication and some additional analysis

Remarks:

- If you use RStudio, click `horiuchi-oishi.Rproj` to launch RStudio and set the working directory automatically.
- If you do not use RStudio, manually set the working directory, which is the folder that includes `horiuchi-oishi.Rproj`.

Program:

- R (version 4.0.4)

Additional programs required:

- `tidyverse` (version 1.3.1)
- `readxl` (version 1.3.1)
- `estimatr` (version 0.30.2)
- `ggthemes` (version 4.2.4)
- `cowplot` (version 1.1.1)

Process of replication:

- If you use RStudio, install `renv` (a package to create reproducible environments). Then, type `renv::restore()` to restore a project's dependencies from a lockfile.
- If you do not use RStudio, install the packages manually.
- Then, run the scripts sequentially.

Most recent date of successful replication August 6, 2021