Amakudata codebook

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Introduction

Amakudata uses Japanese government records of civil servant reemployment to create a dataset of post-bureaucracy employment destinations of civil servants. To the best of our knowledge, this represents the first systematic dataset of all revolving door hires from government to industry in any country. The name of the dataset is a reference to *amakudari*—a Japanese term meaning "descent from heaven"—the common practice of civil servants "retiring" from the bureaucracy into the private sector at advanced stages of their careers.

A 2008 reform to Japan's National Public Service Act (NPSA) requires ministries to report post-bureaucracy employment destinations of civil servants. These records are compiled by the Cabinet Office and released annually. These releases comprise the primary source of the dataset, and are accessible from the website of the Cabinet Secretariat.[1] *Amakudata* currently covers years 2009-2019, but will later be expanded to additional years.

The final dataset is available in .csv and .RData formats.

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[1] https://www.cas.go.jp/jp/gaiyou/jimu/jinjikyoku/jinji_j.html

Scope and coverage

- Units/observations: (unique) individuals
- Geographic scope: Japan (all prefectures)
- Dates covered: April 2009 — April 2019
- Number of observations: 13,656
- Unique rehiring destinations: 7,650
- Unique private firms: 3,875
- Unique non-profit entities: 2,659

Variable descriptions

Note: (J) denotes a string variable in Japanese, (E) denotes a string variable in English, and (N) denotes a numeric variable.

1. *date_ret*: (N) Date of retirement from civil service.
2. *name*: (J) Name of civil servant being reemployed outside of civil service.
3. *age_ret*: (N) Age at which civil servant retired from civil servant.
4. *post_former*: (J) Last position held within the civil service.
5. *agency*: (E) Agency of employment upon retirement from civil service.
6. *ministry*: (E) Ministry of employment upon retirement from civil service.
7. *ministry_short*: (E) Abbreviated name of ministry of employment upon retirement from civil service.
8. *position_level*: (E) Indicator for top level positions within the bureaucracy.
9. *firm_dest*: (J) Unmodified firm destination as filed with the Cabinet Secretariat.
10. *firm_dest_clean*: (J) Firm destinations with names corrected to facilitate matching.
11. *firm_dest_parent*: (J) Parent company of firm destination, if applicable.
12. *firm_dest_kana*: (J) Cleaned firm name in katakana.
13. *firm_dest_en*: (E) Cleaned firm name in English.
14. *nikkei_code*: Nikkei NEEDS company code to facilitate merging with Nikkei NEEDS financial database
15. *tse_code*: Stock code ticker on Tokyo Stock Exchange. From Nikkei NEEDS financial database.
16. *listed*: Indicator for whether the destination is a publicly listed firm.
17. *post_dest*: (J) Position title in destination firm (unmodified text as filed with the Cabinet Secretariat).
18. *indust_dest*: (J) Industry description of destination firm (unmodified text as filed with the Cabinet Secretariat).
19. *industry*: (E) Name of industry for private firms, otherwise type of non-private firm. Uses Nikkei industry classification.

20. *industry_detail*: (E) More specific classification of industry classification for private firms, otherwise type of non-private firm.

21. *city*: (J) Firm destination headquarters city.

22. *firm_type1_en*: (E) Most specific corporate classification (e.g., education institution, foundation, law firm, local government, non-stock company, shinkin bank, stock company, etc.).

23. *firm_type2_en*: (E) Less specific corporate classification (public interest, stock, intermediary, non-stock, government).

24. *firm_type3_en*: (E) For-profit vs. non-profit corporate classification.

25. *firm_type4_en*: (E) Public, private, or government corporate classification.

Missingness indicators

The following indicators are used to denote missingness.

- *-99*: A column value is missing by definition (e.g. a stock code for a public or unlisted entity).
- *99*: A column value is missing because no match was found, but one could or should theoretically exist.