

Demography of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Japan

Abstract

Nowadays, researchers in the field agree that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and other sexual and gender minorities are disadvantaged in virtually all modern societies due to long-standing prejudice and discrimination. This general observation is shown through country-level quantitative data in *Society at a Glance*, a 2019 OECD report focusing on LGBT inclusion. However, Japan was not included due to a lack of appropriate data. Even today, few reliable statistics exist that can indicate health and economic disparities in Japan. In this presentation, I will introduce an endeavour by a group of queer social demographers in Japan, including myself, to develop survey questions that ask respondents about their SOGI (sexual orientation and gender identity), and to conduct a nationally representative survey to collect data that enables comparison of various aspects of social experiences and social conditions by SOGI. Based on the analysis of this data, I will show how mental health status, work experiences, history of being targeted for harassment and violence, and difficulties in daily life vary by sexual orientation and/or gender identity.