

Temporary employment and tooth loss: a cross-sectional study from the J-SHINE study

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URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10097/00123690

博士論文

Temporary employment and tooth loss: a cross-sectional

study from the J-SHINE study

非正規雇用と歯の喪失：横断研究

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平成 29 年度提出

東北大学

1 **Background**

2 Oral diseases remain a significant public health problem due to their very high prevalence,
3 major impact on quality of life [1], and costs on health care systems [2]. In addition, oral
4 diseases are socially patterned and closely related to social deprivation [3]. Consequently,
5 stark social inequalities in oral health are now a major public health concern [4].

6 Temporary employment has attracted the attention of health researchers in recent
7 years, because it has significant adverse effects on health [5–9]. Owing to considerable
8 changes in the labour markets, inferior working conditions such as temporary contracts
9 and an imbalanced working organization have emerged as a significant risk factor for
10 poor health [10]. Unstable employment, such as temporary contracts, has been regarded
11 as being harmful to health [5], and therefore, employment status might worsen health
12 inequalities through employment status [5]. Temporary employment also may be harmful
13 to oral health because work stress might lead to smoking tobacco [11] and decreasing
14 salivary flow, which increases the risk of periodontal disease [12]. In addition, temporary
15 employees might experience more severe tooth loss than regular ones, because their
16 incomes are in general lower than ones of regular employees and they often do not receive
17 adequate social benefits, such as health pensions [13].

18 A few studies have examined the relationship between employment status and
19 oral health, including some that examined the association between unemployment and
20 oral health [14–16]. To my knowledge, only one cross-sectional study has reported
21 significant associations between the workplace-related factors such as precarious
22 employment status and poor self-rated oral health [17]. Our main hypothesis was that
23 changes in employment status between regular and temporary employment would have a
24 negative impact on tooth loss. The aim of this study was to examine whether the
25 experience of temporary employment is associated with tooth loss among working adults
26 in Japan.

27

28 **METHODS**

29 **Data sources and participants**

30 I used data from the Japanese Study on Stratification, Health, Income, and Neighborhood
31 (J-SHINE), which has been described in detail elsewhere [18]. This survey was conducted
32 between July 2010 and February 2011. Target participants were adults aged 25–50 years
33 old from 4 municipalities in Japan (2 in the Tokyo metropolitan area and 2 in neighboring
34 prefectures). Figure 1 shows a detailed flowchart of participant selection. A total of
35 13,920 participants were probabilistically selected from the residential registry. Trained

36 survey staff successfully contacted 8,408 community dwelling adults, and 4,385
37 participants agreed to participate in the survey (response rate 31.5%). The inclusion
38 criteria were being 25–50 years of age and being regular or temporary employees at initial
39 (previous) and current employment. The exclusion criteria were having missing values
40 among the independent or dependent variables and not having answered the survey
41 questions by themselves. I excluded 68 participants who did not answer the survey
42 questions by themselves, 1,256 participants who did not answer the question about current
43 employment status (regular and temporary), 43 participants who did not answer the
44 question about initial employment status (regular and temporary), 52 participants who
45 were not aged 25–50 years old, 4 participants who did not indicate their sex, and 310
46 participants who did not answer the question about tooth loss. The analytic population
47 was 2,652 participants (the details are shown in Figure 1).

48 **Study design**

49 This study was a cross-sectional study.

50 **Independent variable: changes in employment status**

51 I obtained information about current employment status from the question, “What is your
52 employment? If you have several jobs, please answer about your main job.” Respondents
53 chose one answer from the following: “A president or an executive officer,” “Regular

54 employment,” “Temporary employment,” “Contract employment,” “Part-time
55 employment,” “Self-employed,” “Housekeeper,” “Subsidiary jobs,” and “Unknown.” I
56 categorized participants who chose the answer regular employment into the regular
57 employment group and participants who chose the answers temporary employment,
58 contract employment, or part-time employment as temporary employment. I excluded
59 those who chose president or executive officer, self-employed, housekeeper, subsidiary
60 jobs, or unknown in the categorization of initial or current employment status (see Figure
61 1).

62 I asked all participants whether they had changed jobs. Among only those who
63 had changed jobs, I obtained information about their previous (initial) employment status
64 using the same questions posed for current employment status. For the main analysis, I
65 used the replies about current and initial employment status to prepare two categories for
66 the independent variable: continuous regular employment and the experience of
67 temporary employment. For a more analysis, I created four categories: continuous regular
68 employment (regular employee at both times), regular to temporary employment (regular
69 employee at initial employment and temporary employee currently), temporary to regular
70 employment (temporary employee at initial employment and regular employee currently),
71 and continuous temporary employment (temporary employee at both times).

72 **Dependent variable: self-reported tooth loss**

73 Dependent variable was self-reported tooth loss. I obtained this information using the
74 question, “How many teeth have you had removed/extracted (excepting tooth extraction
75 for orthodontic treatment, wisdom tooth extraction, and primary teeth)?” Respondents
76 chose one of the following: “None” (scored 0), “1 tooth” (scored 1), “2 teeth” (scored 2),
77 “3 teeth” (scored 3), “4 teeth” (scored 4), and “more than 4 teeth” (scored 5). I used self-
78 reported tooth loss as a count variable.

79 **Covariates**

80 I regarded the following factors as potential confounders, and included them in the
81 multivariable adjusted models: age (categorized as 25–30, 30–35, 35–40, 40–45, or 45–
82 50 years) and sex (men or women). Health status variables that may be related to
83 employment status and tooth loss were included: history of diabetes (none or present) and
84 body mass index (kg/m^2) (≥ 25.0 , 18.5–25.0, or < 18.5). In addition, social determinants
85 variables that could affect oral health were also included: years of education (< 9 , 10–12,
86 or > 12 years), self-rated household economic status in early life at 5 years old (rich, fair,
87 or poor), marital status (married or single), and number of family members in the
88 household (living alone, 2, 3, or ≥ 4).

89 I supposed potential pathways: income, psychological stress and disorders,
90 access to health care, and health behavior. Annual household income (0–300, 300–750,
91 or >750 million Japanese yen) was also included. I used feeling fear of job loss (yes or
92 no) and psychological distress (K6 score [19]; none (0–4) or present (≥ 5)) as a
93 psychological stress and disorders variable. To assess the access to health care, I included
94 visiting a dental clinic for preventative care (yes or no) and hesitation to use medical and
95 dental care (yes, no, or never felt a need to use). I included smoking status (current smoker,
96 former smoker, or never smoker) as a health behavior variable. I created dummy variables
97 for the missing values for each covariate.

98 **Statistical analysis**

99 I conducted negative binomial regression analysis stratified by sex to estimate prevalence
100 rate ratios (PRRs) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CIs) for tooth loss, because there
101 are clear different trends of employment status between men and women in Japan [20,21].
102 I also examined an interaction term between changes in employment status and sex
103 adjusting for age. I created 2 models for adjusting potential confounders. In model 1, I
104 controlled for age. In model 2, years of education, self-rated household economic status
105 in early life at 5 years old, marital status, and number of family members in the household,
106 history of diabetes, and body mass index were added to model 1. Subsequently, I

107 constructed a model to evaluate how potential pathway variables explain the association.
108 In model 3, I added annual household income to model 2. In model 4, I added visiting a
109 dental clinic for preventive care and hesitation to use medical and dental care to model 3.
110 In model 5, I added feel fear of job loss and psychological distress to model 4. Finally, in
111 model 6, I added smoking status to model 5. I further conducted an analysis using 4
112 categories of independent variables to validate the findings of the main analysis. In
113 addition, I conducted a linear regression analysis to confirm the validity of the results
114 from a negative binomial regression analysis. I applied a chi-squared test for cross-
115 tabulation. In addition, I constructed a directed acyclic graph (DAG) of proposed
116 associations between employment status and tooth loss to guide my analyses (Figure 2).
117 P values of <0.05 (two tailed) were considered significant. Analyses were conducted by
118 using STATA ver. 14.2 (Stata Corp., College Station, TX).

119

120 **RESULTS**

121 The median age was 37 years (first quartile to third quartile = 31 to 43). More than half
122 of the participants were men (n = 1,394, 52.6%). The percentage of the experience of
123 temporary employment was 14.5% (n = 202) in men and 61.3% (n = 771) in women.
124 Tables 1 and 2 show the characteristics and dependent variables among men and women.

125 There was no significant association between men who experienced temporary
126 employment and tooth loss. On the contrary, compared with women who were continuous
127 regular employees, there was a significant association between women who experienced
128 temporary employment and tooth loss.

129 Table 3 shows the associations between change in employment status and tooth
130 loss found with the multivariable ordered logistic regression models stratified by sex. I
131 found no significant interaction between employment status and sex after adjusting for
132 age ($p = 0.71$). In model 1, I confirmed a significant association between the experience
133 of temporary employment and tooth loss in both sexes. Model 2 also showed that the
134 experience of temporary employment was significantly associated with tooth loss after
135 adjusting for potential confounders (men: PRR = 1.50 [95%CI = 1.13, 2.00]; women:
136 PRR = 1.42 [95%CI = 1.14, 1.76]). In the additional analysis, compared with continuous
137 regular employment, changes from regular to temporary employment and temporary to
138 regular employment as well as continuous temporary employment were associated with
139 tooth loss in models 1 and 2.

140 In models 3 to 6, I observed associations between changes in employment status
141 and tooth loss after adjusting for potential pathway variables. Compared with continuous
142 regular employment, the PRR of having the experience of temporary employment

143 decreased in models 3 to 6 (men, PRR = 1.44 [95%CI = 1.07, 1.93] to 1.31 [95%CI =
144 0.98, 1.76]; women, PRR = 1.37 [95%CI = 1.10, 1.71] to 1.33 [95%CI = 1.06, 1.66]).
145 Similar trends were observed in the additional analysis of the regular to temporary
146 employment, temporary to regular employment, and continuous temporary employment
147 groups. The results from the linear regression analysis also showed similar trends with
148 the main analysis.

149

150 **DISCUSSIONS**

151 The results of my study showed that the experience of temporary employment was
152 associated with tooth loss in both men and women in Japan. In addition, changes from
153 regular to temporary employment and temporary to regular employment as well as
154 continuous temporary employment were associated with tooth loss.

155 The association between temporary employment and poor oral health is
156 important in public health because the level of unstable employment is increasing in both
157 the private and public sectors in many developed countries [5]. The number of temporary
158 employees continues to increase in these countries [9]: for example, the proportion of
159 temporary employees in Japan was only 18.3% in 1988 but reached 37.4%, or more than
160 1 in 3 workers, in 2014 [22]. Furthermore, more than half of employed young people (15–

161 24 years old) in certain European countries are temporary workers: 53.6% in Germany,
162 57.1% in Italy, and 59.6% in France in 2015 [23]. Dental health professionals and public
163 policy makers should understand the enormous impact of increasing temporary
164 employment on tooth loss.

165 I found that temporary employment was associated with tooth loss among both
166 male and female workers in Japan. A previous survey of the labor force showed that the
167 reasons for being temporarily employed differ between men and women. The primary
168 reasons for temporary employment in men were “Can’t find regular employment jobs”
169 (26.9%), whereas the reason in women was “work only during convenient time” (27.6%)
170 [24]. Therefore, it is conceivable that the association between temporary employment and
171 oral health would also differ between sexes. That is, the negative effect of being
172 temporarily employed would be amplified in men. However, the evidence suggests a
173 different effect. Inoue et al. reported that temporary female employees faced precarious
174 situations such as low income, limited social safety net, and difficulty sustaining work–
175 life balance [21]. The current study also revealed that female participants who
176 experienced temporary employment were low paid and fearful about job loss. Therefore,
177 temporary employment could affect tooth loss in both sexes uniformly.

178 Several potential pathways can exist between temporary employment and oral
179 health. First, economic factors may link employment status and oral health. In general,
180 temporary employees have incomes lower than those of regular employees, and low
181 income is among the key risk factors for oral disease [25]. Low income is associated with
182 severe caries and periodontal disease, and poor people are less likely to use medical
183 services [26]. Indeed, the association between temporary employment and tooth loss was
184 explained by the analysis of income in the present study (models 2 and 3).

185 Second, psychological stress and disorders may explain the association between
186 temporary employment and tooth loss. Because they can be easily dismissed, temporary
187 employees tend to feel more job insecurity and work-related stress which lead to
188 psychological disorders [7,13,27]. Stress from fear of job loss and psychological disorders
189 could influence health behaviors such as less frequent toothbrushing and heavier smoking
190 [11]. In addition, stress may decrease salivary flow, which increases the occurrence and
191 progression of periodontal disease [12]. Temporary employees could lose their teeth for
192 any of these reasons. Indeed, the association between temporary employment and tooth
193 loss was explained by the fear of job loss and psychological disorders in the present
194 analysis (models 4 and 5).

195 Third, poor health behavior also might explain the association between
196 employment status and oral health. Work stress was associated with poor health behaviors
197 such as less frequent toothbrushing and heavy smoking [11]. In addition, low social
198 economic status could lead to poor oral health behaviors [26]. Indeed, the association
199 between temporary employment and tooth loss was explained by smoking status (models
200 5 and 6). However, I could not obtain data on oral health behavior variables such as
201 toothbrushing. It might also well explain the association between temporary employment
202 and tooth loss.

203 Finally, limited access to health care might explain the association between
204 employment status and oral health. Japan has universal healthcare coverage (UHC) and
205 patients pay only 10–30% of the total cost of treatment [28]. Also, the total cost itself is
206 relatively low because the cost is controlled by the government. In addition, the UHC
207 covers the most basic dental treatments, such as treatments for caries and periodontal
208 disease [28]. With the UHC, most people in Japan did not hesitate obtaining medical and
209 dental services. However, under long lasting economic depression, some people in
210 temporary employment, a new emerging type of unstable employment, were not able to
211 use health care service appropriately due to the following two reasons [29]; 1) even 10-
212 30% of the total cost of dental care could be a barrier for them to use dental care because

213 they were employed at a low wage, 2) they may be reluctant to take a time off from work
214 to visit dental services because they are concerned that they might be fired if they are
215 absent frequently owing to sickness. Indeed, the association between temporary
216 employment and tooth loss was explained by the frequency of visiting a dental clinic for
217 preventive care and the hesitation to use medical and dental care as analyzed in my study
218 (models 3 and 4).

219 The present study has limitations. First, both the independent and dependent
220 variables were self-reported, which may have introduced self-reporting bias. Although,
221 several studies have shown that the validity and reliability of self-reported oral health
222 status are acceptable [30], self-rated number of teeth lost is not validated. However,
223 previous studies have used self-reported number of teeth lost [31,32]. Second, the
224 response rate was relatively low, which could be another source of bias. However, the
225 respondents had characteristics that were fairly comparable to those of the target
226 population [18]. Therefore, my findings are likely to be generalizable in Japan.

227 **Conclusions**

228 In conclusion, I found a significant association between temporary employment and tooth
229 loss. A previous study indicated that there is a need to enhance the social safety net for
230 temporary employees even in high-income countries [5]. Secure employment is a social

231 determinant of health [5], and the assurance of safety/physical protections in workplaces,
232 health insurance, and more stable employment arrangements are needed. Policy makers
233 as well as dental health professionals should understand the impact of employment status
234 on population health.

235

236 **Abbreviations**

237 PRR: Prevalence rate ratios; 95%CI: 95% confidence interval; J-SHINE: Japanese Study
238 on Stratification, Health, Income, and Neighborhood; WHO: World Health Organization;
239 UHC: universal healthcare coverage

240

241 **Declarations**

242 **Ethics approval and consent to participate**

243 The J-SHINE study's ethics approval and informed consent procedure were reviewed and
244 approved by the ethics committee of the Graduate School of Medicine and Faculty of
245 Medicine at the University of Tokyo. Informed consent was obtained in writing from all
246 participants. I obtained permission from the J-SHINE research team to access and use the
247 data for my study.

248 **Funding**

249 This research was supported by a Grand-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative
250 Areas (No. 21119002) and a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B) (No. 15H04781)
251 from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan.

252 **Acknowledgements**

253 The author would like to thank participants and the team for providing me with data from
254 the Japanese Study of Stratification, Health, Income, and Neighborhood (J-SHINE).

255

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338

Tables

Table 1. Characteristics and tooth loss in men (n = 1,394).

Men (n=1,394)		Number of tooth loss							P-value*
		none	1 tooth	2 teeth	3 teeth	4 teeth	more than 4 teeth		
Changes in employment status	Continuous regular employment	n	736	140	111	60	46	99	0.68
	(n = 1,192)	(%)	(61.7)	(11.7)	(9.3)	(5.0)	(3.9)	(8.3)	
	Having the experience of temporary employment	n	122	20	23	9	6	22	
	(n = 202)	(%)	(60.4)	(9.9)	(11.4)	(4.5)	(3.0)	(10.9)	
	Regular to temporary employment	n	32	7	10	7	0	9	
	(n = 65)	(%)	(49.2)	(10.8)	(15.4)	(10.8)	(0.0)	(13.9)	
	Temporary to regular employment	n	32	5	7	0	2	8	
	(n = 54)	(%)	(59.3)	(9.3)	(13.0)	(0.0)	(3.7)	(14.8)	
Age (years old)	Continuous temporary employment	n	58	8	6	2	4	5	<0.05
	(n = 83)	(%)	(69.9)	(9.6)	(7.2)	(2.4)	(4.8)	(6.0)	
	25–30	n	220	18	15	3	4	6	
		(%)	(82.7)	(6.8)	(5.6)	(1.1)	(1.5)	(2.3)	
	30–35	n	169	22	15	11	7	16	
		(%)	(70.4)	(9.2)	(6.3)	(4.6)	(2.9)	(6.7)	
	35–40	n	195	41	27	15	12	19	
		(%)	(63.1)	(13.3)	(8.7)	(4.9)	(3.9)	(6.2)	
History of diabetes	40–45	n	159	45	43	18	17	33	0.62
		(%)	(50.5)	(14.3)	(13.7)	(5.7)	(5.4)	(10.5)	
	45–50	n	115	34	34	22	12	47	
		(%)	(43.6)	(12.9)	(12.9)	(8.3)	(4.6)	(17.8)	
	None	n	843	157	132	67	51	116	
		(%)	(61.7)	(11.5)	(9.7)	(4.9)	(3.7)	(8.5)	
	Present	n	15	3	2	2	1	5	
		(%)	(53.6)	(10.7)	(7.1)	(7.1)	(3.6)	(17.9)	

Body mass index (kg/m ²)	≥25.0	n	214	53	31	20	14	40	0.11
		(%)	(57.5)	(14.3)	(8.3)	(5.4)	(3.8)	(10.8)	
	18.5–25.0	n	601	104	100	44	35	76	
		(%)	(62.6)	(10.8)	(10.4)	(4.6)	(3.7)	(7.9)	
	<18.5	n	38	3	2	5	3	3	
		(%)	(70.4)	(5.6)	(3.7)	(9.3)	(5.6)	(5.6)	
Marital status	Married	n	575	113	99	53	43	93	<0.05
		(%)	(58.9)	(11.6)	(10.1)	(5.4)	(4.4)	(9.5)	
	Single	n	283	47	35	16	9	28	
		(%)	(67.7)	(11.2)	(8.4)	(3.8)	(2.2)	(6.7)	
No. of family members in the household	Living alone	n	109	21	18	13	3	19	0.56
		(%)	(59.6)	(11.5)	(9.8)	(7.1)	(1.6)	(10.4)	
	2	n	163	25	25	10	9	24	
		(%)	(63.7)	(9.8)	(9.8)	(3.9)	(3.5)	(9.4)	
	3	n	228	40	32	14	9	27	
		(%)	(65.1)	(11.4)	(9.1)	(4.0)	(2.6)	(7.7)	
≥4	n	357	74	59	32	31	51		
	(%)	(59.1)	(12.3)	(9.8)	(5.3)	(5.1)	(8.4)		
Self-rated household economic status in early life at 5 years old	Rich	n	138	45	28	13	13	28	0.06
		(%)	(52.1)	(17.0)	(10.6)	(4.9)	(4.9)	(10.6)	
	Fair	n	566	90	80	45	29	69	
		(%)	(64.4)	(10.2)	(9.1)	(5.1)	(3.3)	(7.9)	
	Poor	n	145	24	25	11	10	23	
		(%)	(60.9)	(10.1)	(10.5)	(4.6)	(4.2)	(9.7)	
Years of education (year)	<9	n	31	3	6	6	1	6	<0.05
		(%)	(58.5)	(5.7)	(11.3)	(11.3)	(1.9)	(11.3)	
	9–12	n	113	32	31	12	8	35	
		(%)	(48.9)	(13.9)	(13.4)	(5.2)	(3.5)	(15.2)	
	>12	n	708	124	96	51	42	80	
		(%)	(58.5)	(13.9)	(13.4)	(5.2)	(3.5)	(15.2)	

		(%)	(64.3)	(11.3)	(8.7)	(4.6)	(3.8)	(7.3)	
Annual household income (million yen)	0–300	n	35	10	7	5	1	9	
		(%)	(52.2)	(14.9)	(10.5)	(7.5)	(1.5)	(13.4)	
	300–750	n	369	67	60	28	23	51	0.86
		(%)	(61.7)	(11.2)	(10.0)	(4.7)	(3.9)	(8.5)	
	≥750	n	287	59	47	26	16	46	
		(%)	(59.7)	(12.3)	(9.8)	(5.4)	(3.3)	(9.6)	
Feel fear of job loss	No	n	563	103	81	43	25	68	
		(%)	(63.8)	(11.7)	(9.2)	(4.9)	(2.8)	(7.7)	<0.05
	Yes	n	269	55	47	23	25	52	
		(%)	(57.1)	(11.7)	(10.0)	(4.9)	(5.3)	(11.0)	
Psychological distress (k6)	None (0-4)	n	565	106	89	45	32	78	
		(%)	(61.8)	(11.6)	(9.7)	(4.9)	(3.5)	(8.5)	0.99
	Present (≥5)	n	293	54	44	24	20	42	
		(%)	(61.4)	(11.3)	(9.2)	(5.0)	(4.2)	(8.8)	
Visiting a dental clinic for preventive care	Yes	n	201	38	24	25	11	27	
		(%)	(61.7)	(11.7)	(7.4)	(7.7)	(3.4)	(8.3)	0.12
	No	n	654	122	109	44	41	93	
		(%)	(61.5)	(11.5)	(10.3)	(4.1)	(3.9)	(8.8)	
Hesitation to use medical and dental care	Yes	n	374	78	58	28	28	69	
		(%)	(58.9)	(12.3)	(9.1)	(4.4)	(4.4)	(10.9)	<0.05
	No	n	353	70	55	34	18	38	
		(%)	(62.2)	(12.3)	(9.7)	(6.0)	(3.2)	(6.7)	
	Never felt a need to use	n	131	12	21	6	6	14	
		(%)	(69.0)	(6.3)	(11.1)	(3.2)	(3.2)	(7.4)	
Smoking status	Current smoker	n	258	61	62	29	26	58	<0.05
		(%)	(52.2)	(12.4)	(12.6)	(5.9)	(5.3)	(11.7)	
	Former smoker	n	226	43	41	22	15	30	

	(%)	(60.0)	(11.4)	(10.9)	(5.8)	(4.0)	(8.0)
Never smoker	n	373	56	31	18	11	32
	(%)	(71.6)	(10.8)	(6.0)	(3.5)	(2.1)	(6.1)

* P-value was calculated by chi-squared test.

Table 2. Characteristics and tooth loss in women (n = 1,258).

Women (n=1,258)		Number of tooth loss						P-value*	
		none	1 tooth	2 teeth	3 teeth	4 teeth	more than 4 teeth		
Changes in employment status	Continuous regular employment	n	349	63	29	15	12	19	<0.05
	(n = 487)	(%)	(71.7)	(12.9)	(6.0)	(3.1)	(2.5)	(3.9)	
	Having the experience of temporary employment	n	449	116	66	47	26	67	
	(n = 771)	(%)	(58.2)	(15.1)	(8.6)	(6.1)	(3.4)	(8.7)	
	Regular to temporary employment	n	286	82	52	33	17	47	
	(n = 517)	(%)	(55.3)	(15.9)	(10.1)	(6.4)	(3.3)	(9.1)	
Age (years old)	Temporary to regular employment	n	39	7	2	2	0	5	<0.05
	(n = 55)	(%)	(70.9)	(12.7)	(3.6)	(3.6)	(0.0)	(9.1)	
	Continuous temporary employment	n	124	27	12	12	9	15	
	(n = 199)	(%)	(62.3)	(13.6)	(6.0)	(6.0)	(4.5)	(7.5)	
	25–30	n	248	20	8	5	6	5	
		(%)	(84.9)	(6.9)	(2.7)	(1.7)	(2.1)	(1.7)	
History of diabetes	30–35	n	163	24	12	6	7	9	0.24
		(%)	(73.8)	(10.9)	(5.4)	(2.7)	(3.2)	(4.1)	
	35–40	n	152	47	21	8	4	16	
		(%)	(61.3)	(19.0)	(8.5)	(3.2)	(1.6)	(6.5)	
	40–45	n	133	47	25	16	11	19	
		(%)	(53.0)	(18.7)	(10.0)	(6.4)	(4.4)	(7.6)	
Body mass index (kg/m ²)	45–50	n	102	41	29	27	10	37	<0.05
		(%)	(41.5)	(16.7)	(11.8)	(11.0)	(4.1)	(15.0)	
None	None	n	793	178	94	60	38	86	<0.05
		(%)	(63.5)	(14.3)	(7.5)	(4.8)	(3.0)	(6.9)	
Present	Present	n	5	1	1	2	0	0	0.24
		(%)	(55.6)	(11.1)	(11.1)	(22.2)	(0.0)	(0.0)	

		(%)	(51.2)	(15.0)	(11.0)	(5.5)	(3.2)	(14.2)	
	18.5–25.0	n	580	131	63	43	27	60	
		(%)	(64.2)	(14.5)	(7.0)	(4.8)	(3.0)	(6.6)	
	<18.5	n	113	25	13	11	7	7	
		(%)	(64.2)	(14.2)	(7.4)	(6.3)	(4.0)	(4.0)	
Marital status	Married	n	455	124	58	51	27	62	
		(%)	(58.6)	(16.0)	(7.5)	(6.6)	(3.5)	(8.0)	
	Single	n	340	55	37	11	11	24	<0.05
		(%)	(71.1)	(11.5)	(7.7)	(2.3)	(2.3)	(5.0)	
No. of family members in the household	Living alone	n	75	6	7	5	3	5	
		(%)	(74.3)	(5.9)	(6.9)	(5.0)	(3.0)	(5.0)	
	2	n	161	43	15	10	6	21	
		(%)	(62.9)	(16.8)	(5.9)	(3.9)	(2.3)	(8.2)	
	3	n	201	42	34	15	12	22	0.32
		(%)	(61.7)	(12.9)	(10.4)	(4.6)	(3.7)	(6.8)	
	≥4	n	356	87	39	31	17	37	
		(%)	(62.8)	(15.3)	(6.9)	(5.5)	(3.0)	(6.5)	
Self-rated household economic status in early life at 5 years old	Rich	n	139	32	26	18	12	28	
		(%)	(54.5)	(12.6)	(10.2)	(7.1)	(4.7)	(11.0)	
	Fair	n	490	111	57	33	16	42	<0.05
		(%)	(65.4)	(14.8)	(7.6)	(4.4)	(2.1)	(5.6)	
	Poor	n	162	35	12	11	10	15	
		(%)	(66.1)	(14.3)	(4.9)	(4.5)	(4.1)	(6.1)	
Years of education (year)	<9	n	17	6	1	6	2	3	
		(%)	(48.6)	(17.1)	(2.9)	(17.1)	(5.7)	(8.6)	
	9–12	n	127	37	25	15	11	25	<0.05
		(%)	(52.9)	(15.4)	(10.4)	(6.3)	(4.6)	(10.4)	
	>12	n	647	135	68	41	25	57	
		(%)	(66.5)	(13.9)	(7.0)	(4.2)	(2.6)	(5.9)	

Annual household income (million yen)	0–300	n	53	9	5	3	3	12	0.41		
		(%)	(62.4)	(10.6)	(5.9)	(3.5)	(3.5)	(14.1)			
	300–750	n	249	58	39	21	9	28			
		(%)	(61.6)	(14.4)	(9.7)	(5.2)	(2.2)	(6.9)			
	≥750	n	233	57	26	20	14	27			
		(%)	(61.8)	(15.1)	(6.9)	(5.3)	(3.7)	(7.2)			
Feel fear of job loss	No	n	495	123	56	38	23	45	0.09		
		(%)	(63.5)	(15.8)	(7.2)	(4.9)	(3.0)	(5.8)			
	Yes	n	272	46	32	21	13	39			
		(%)	(64.3)	(10.9)	(7.6)	(5.0)	(3.1)	(9.2)			
	Psychological distress (k6)	None (0-4)	n	548	120	66	30	25		50	<0.05
			(%)	(65.3)	(14.3)	(7.9)	(3.6)	(3.0)		(6.0)	
Present (≥5)		n	248	59	29	31	13	36			
		(%)	(59.6)	(14.2)	(7.0)	(7.5)	(3.1)	(8.7)			
Visiting a dental clinic for preventive care		Yes	n	247	57	40	27	18	20	<0.05	
			(%)	(60.4)	(13.9)	(9.8)	(6.6)	(4.4)	(4.9)		
	No	n	548	122	55	35	20	65			
		(%)	(64.9)	(14.4)	(6.5)	(4.1)	(2.4)	(7.7)			
	Hesitation to use medical and dental care	Yes	n	366	80	43	34	13	39		0.45
			(%)	(63.7)	(13.9)	(7.5)	(5.9)	(2.3)	(6.8)		
No		n	310	77	36	23	17	39			
		(%)	(61.8)	(15.3)	(7.2)	(4.6)	(3.4)	(7.8)			
Never felt a need to use		n	122	22	16	5	8	8			
		(%)	(67.4)	(12.2)	(8.8)	(2.8)	(4.4)	(4.4)			
Smoking status	Current smoker	n	91	26	15	17	11	21	<0.05		
		(%)	(50.3)	(14.4)	(8.3)	(9.4)	(6.1)	(11.6)			
	Former smoker	n	115	34	20	12	5	20			
		(%)	(55.8)	(16.5)	(9.7)	(5.8)	(2.4)	(9.7)			

Never smoker	n	589	119	59	33	22	45
	(%)	(67.9)	(13.7)	(6.8)	(3.8)	(2.5)	(5.2)

* P-value was calculated by chi-squared test.

Table 3. Associations between change in employment status and tooth loss.

	Continuous regular employment	Changes in employment status			
		Having the experience of temporary employment	Regular to temporary employment	Temporary to regular employment	Continuous temporary employment
Negative binomial regression models	Reference	PRR (95%CI)	PRR (95%CI)	PRR (95%CI)	PRR (95%CI)
Men (n=1,394)	(n=1,192)	(n=202)	(n=65)	(n=54)	(n=83)
Model 1	1.00	1.55 (1.18, 2.04)	1.71 (1.11, 2.63)	1.69 (1.05, 2.73)	1.31 (0.86, 2.01)
Model 2	1.00	1.50 (1.13, 2.00)	1.62 (1.05, 2.52)	1.62 (0.99, 2.64)	1.30 (0.83, 2.02)
Model 3	1.00	1.44 (1.07, 1.93)	1.51 (0.96, 2.37)	1.63 (1.00, 2.65)	1.22 (0.77, 1.92)
Model 4	1.00	1.38 (1.03, 1.85)	1.44 (0.91, 2.26)	1.53 (0.94, 2.50)	1.20 (0.76, 1.88)
Model 5	1.00	1.32 (0.98, 1.78)	1.37 (0.87, 2.16)	1.46 (0.89, 2.39)	1.16 (0.74, 1.82)
Model 6	1.00	1.31 (0.98, 1.76)	1.41 (0.90, 2.21)	1.43 (0.88, 2.33)	1.13 (0.72, 1.77)
Women (n=1,258)	(n=487)	(n=771)	(n=517)	(n=55)	(n=199)
Model 1	1.00	1.44 (1.16, 1.79)	1.34 (1.06, 1.70)	1.33 (0.79, 2.24)	1.73 (1.28, 2.34)
Model 2	1.00	1.42 (1.14, 1.76)	1.35 (1.07, 1.72)	1.30 (0.77, 2.18)	1.62 (1.19, 2.19)
Model 3	1.00	1.37 (1.10, 1.71)	1.31 (1.02, 1.66)	1.31 (0.78, 2.20)	1.56 (1.14, 2.12)
Model 4	1.00	1.38 (1.11, 1.72)	1.32 (1.03, 1.68)	1.29 (0.76, 2.19)	1.58 (1.16, 2.15)
Model 5	1.00	1.37 (1.09, 1.71)	1.32 (1.03, 1.70)	1.27 (0.75, 2.17)	1.51 (1.10, 2.06)
Model 6	1.00	1.33 (1.06, 1.66)	1.31 (1.02, 1.68)	1.14 (0.67, 1.94)	1.44 (1.06, 1.97)
Linear regression models	Reference	Coefficient (95%CI)	Coefficient (95%CI)	Coefficient (95%CI)	Coefficient (95%CI)
Men (n=1,394)	(n=1,192)	(n=202)	(n=65)	(n=54)	(n=83)
Model 1	-	0.38 (0.14, 0.62)	0.51 (0.12, 0.91)	0.47 (0.04, 0.90)	0.21 (-0.15, 0.57)
Model 2	-	0.37 (0.12, 0.62)	0.46 (0.06, 0.85)	0.42 (-0.01, 0.85)	0.25 (-0.12, 0.62)
Model 3	-	0.34 (0.09, 0.59)	0.41 (0.01, 0.81)	0.42 (-0.02, 0.85)	0.22 (-0.16, 0.59)
Model 4	-	0.32 (0.07, 0.57)	0.38 (-0.02, 0.78)	0.38 (-0.05, 0.81)	0.23 (-0.15, 0.60)
Model 5	-	0.28 (0.02, 0.53)	0.33 (-0.07, 0.74)	0.31 (-0.12, 0.74)	0.20 (-0.18, 0.58)
Model 6	-	0.25 (0.00, 0.50)	0.31 (-0.09, 0.71)	0.29 (-0.15, 0.72)	0.17 (-0.20, 0.55)

Women (n=1,258)	(n=487)	(n=771)	(n=517)	(n=55)	(n=199)
Model 1	-	0.25 (0.08, 0.41)	0.19 (0.00, 0.38)	0.25 (-0.16, 0.65)	0.36 (0.13, 0.60)
Model 2	-	0.23 (0.06, 0.40)	0.20 (0.00, 0.39)	0.25 (-0.15, 0.65)	0.31 (0.07, 0.54)
Model 3	-	0.20 (0.03, 0.38)	0.17 (-0.03, 0.36)	0.24 (-0.16, 0.64)	0.27 (0.02, 0.51)
Model 4	-	0.21 (0.04, 0.39)	0.17 (-0.02, 0.37)	0.24 (-0.16, 0.65)	0.28 (0.04, 0.53)
Model 5	-	0.20 (0.02, 0.38)	0.16 (-0.04, 0.36)	0.25 (-0.15, 0.65)	0.26 (0.01, 0.51)
Model 6	-	0.16 (-0.02, 0.33)	0.13 (-0.06, 0.33)	0.11 (-0.29, 0.51)	0.22 (-0.03, 0.46)

Model 1: Age was adjusted.

Model 2: Model 1 + years of education, self-rated household economic status in early life at 5 years old, marital status, no. of family members in the household, history of diabetes, and body mass index were adjusted.

Model 3: Model 2 + Annual household income was adjusted.

Model 4: Model 3 + Visiting a dental clinic for preventive care and hesitation to use medical and dental care were adjusted.

Model 5: Model 4 + Feel fear of job loss and psychological distress was adjusted.

Model 6: Model 5 + Smoking status was adjusted.

Abbreviation: PRR = prevalence rate ratios, 95%CI = 95% confidence interval

Figure 1. Flowchart of participants in the present study

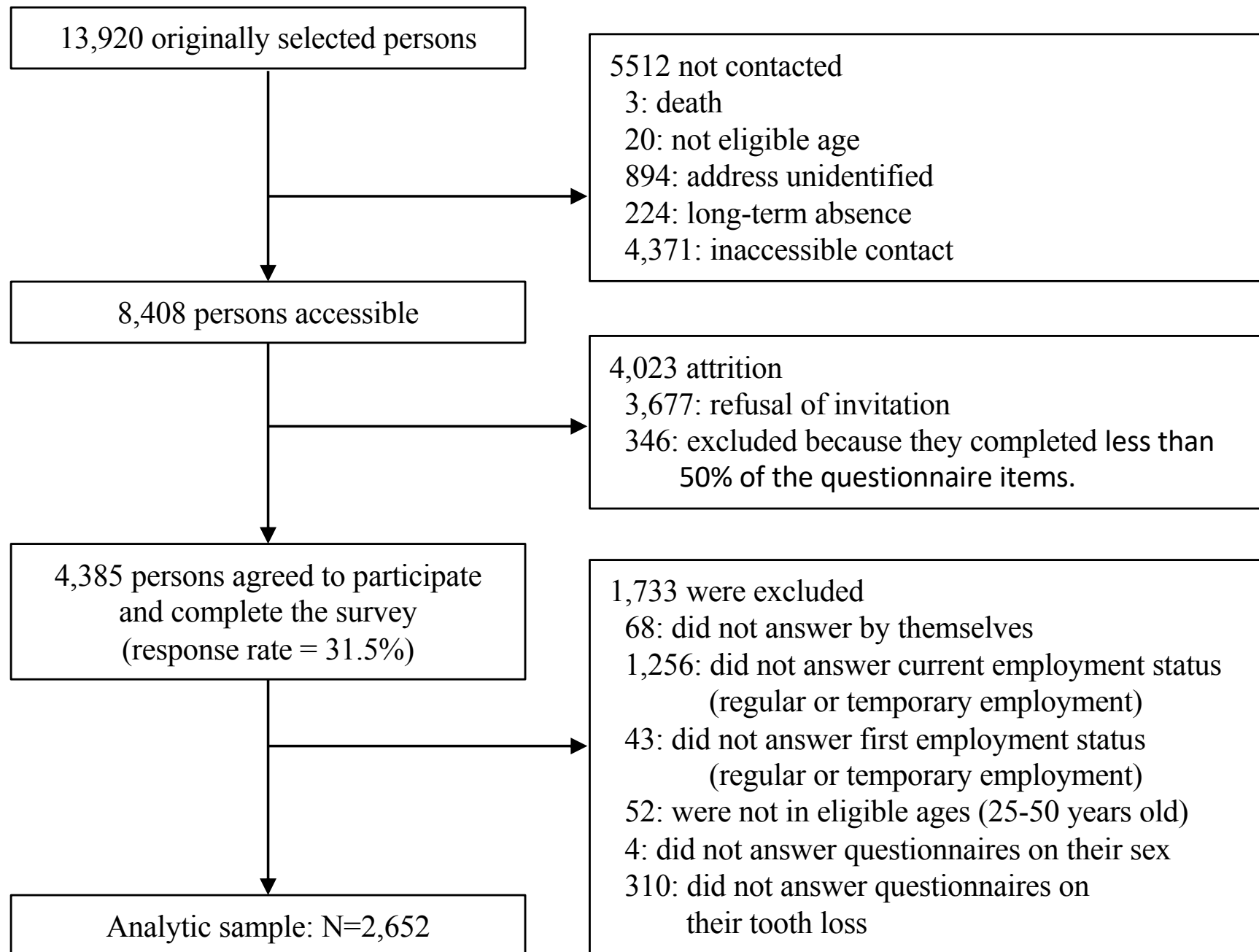


Figure 2. A directed acyclic graph (DAG) showing the association between employment status and tooth loss

