

## Abstract

### **Transition from School to Work: Experience of Thai and Hong Kong Youth**

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This study aims to understand significance and universality of the family functions. The main focus is on measuring effects of selected family background variables on the timing of school exit and entry to labor force that most young people experience in the process of transition to adulthood. The analysis draws upon the data from two national surveys of Thailand and Hong Kong, which provide life history information of male and female youth aged 15-24. Kaplan-Meier estimates of survivor functions are used to identify patterns of school-to-work transition, and discrete-time logistic regression models are applied to analyze the links between family variables and transitional events under investigation. Bivariate results reveal no consistent association between the family variables and the transitional events. Multivariate analysis shows only a weak support to the hypothesis that the family background measures included in the analysis --- family size, birth order, parental education, and experience of parental death --- have effects on the timing of school-to-work transition.