

Background:

In this proposed research, mobility and immobility, or (im)mobility refer to human movement and non-movement in the form of international migration. Responding to the recent emigration wave in Hong Kong, especially among the younger generation, studies mainly focus on migration decisions of those intending to leave. This aligns with the “mobility bias” criticism in migration literature, where mobility or migration is overemphasized while immobility or staying is neglected. Limited conceptual understanding of immobility decisions and dearth of evidence concerning the perspectives of younger stayers underscore the need to understand how they make decisions to remain in the city and how they perceive their wellbeing. This knowledge is crucial for reflecting what is needed or lacking for living a good life in Hong Kong and informing appropriate policy measures aimed at retaining the younger people and improving their lives. Against this backdrop, it is timely to bring stayers or immobility to the fore by refining an analytical framework to better understand immobility decisions and gathering systematic evidence on how well they fare. This will support policy measures on retention and enhancement of wellbeing.

Research questions:

- (1) What is the analytical framework for immobility decisions of younger stayers in Hong Kong?
- (2) What is the typology of younger stayers in Hong Kong based on the immobility decisions they made?
- (3) What is the wellbeing of younger stayers in terms of economic security, education, social relationships, health, civic and social engagement, psychological wellbeing, and life satisfaction?
- (4) What are the preliminary suggestions for retaining younger people and enhancing their wellbeing?

Methods: A mixed-method approach will be employed, with individual interviews and a survey being conducted sequentially. This will provide a mix of qualitative data about the views of younger stayers for an understanding of immobility decisions and quantitative data that will provide generalization. To answer research questions 1 to 4, 15 younger adults, aged 18-39, who do not intend to emigrate in the foreseeable future will participate in semi-structured individual interviews to express their views on immobility decisions and their perceptions of their wellbeing. To also answer research questions 2 and 3, a total of 1,066 younger stayers will be recruited using random sampling for an online survey to gather data on their immobility decisions and wellbeing. Thematic analyses will be employed to analyze the interview data. Cluster analysis and other multivariate analyses will be used to examine the quantitative data.

背景：本研究探討香港年輕定居者在移民潮中的不遷移決策和福祉狀況。過去研究偏向強調移民的遷移決策，忽視了對於不遷移決策和定居者觀點的理解。我們希望了解年輕一代的不遷移選擇及其不同生活領域的福祉，系統地收集有關證據，以制定相應政策，保留年輕人才並提高他們的生活質素。

研究問題：

1. 香港年輕定居者不遷移決策的分析框架為何？
2. 根據年輕定居者的不遷移決策，如何將他們進行分析分類？
3. 年輕定居者在經濟、教育、社交關係、健康、公民及社會參與、心理和生活滿意方面的福祉為何？
4. 留住年輕人並提升其福祉的初步建議是什麼？

方法：採用混合研究法，依序進行個人訪談和問卷調查。研究對象為 18 至 39 歲在可見未來不打算移民的年輕人。十五名年輕人將參與半結構性訪談，表達他們的不遷移決策和福祉狀況。另外，隨機抽樣 1,066 名年輕人參與網上問卷調查，收集不遷移決策和福祉數據。訪談資料以主題分析法分析，定量數據以聚類分析和其他多元分析法來分析。