

In Japan, COVID-19 began to spread in January 2020. The first infection case was identified on January 16, 2020. As of August 2021, Japan had experienced rapid outbreaks four times (April–May 2020, July–August 2020, November 2020–February 2021, April–June 2021, and July to date, 2021). In the first event, a maximum of 720 cases per day were identified throughout Japan, and the first state of emergency (SOE) was declared from April 7, 2020, until May 25, 2020. During this declaration, teleworking, online classes, and refraining from out-of-home trips, among others, were strongly requested by the government without any corresponding legal challenges, which was different from most foreign countries. For example, there was a decrease in approximately 85% of people near Tokyo station in April–May 2020, measured annually, while the volume of parcel deliveries increased by 11.6% annually in the fiscal year 2020. The second and third outbreaks were more serious, with a maximum of 1,605 and 7,882 cases per day, respectively. During these periods, the number of people near Tokyo station decreased by approximately 50%, and 40%, respectively.

The COVID-19 outbreak also caused major changes in the values and lifestyles of people, such as a decrease in outdoor trips. A significant drop in activity levels in Tokyo, especially for leisure activities and eating out, was observed. Regarding

consumers' shopping behavior in Japan, many consumers utilized e-commerce instead of physical stores. In June 2020, e-commerce usage in the country increased by 10.8%, while retail sales decreased by 13.4% annually. Suppose e-commerce becomes the “new-normal” shopping mode, the number of physical retail stores will eventually decrease. Additionally, the penetration ratio of teleworking has drastically increased than before COVID-19: 67.3% of Japan-based companies enforced teleworking in June 2020 when the first SOE was declared. During that time, most universities in Japan were closed to students, who were then forced to take online classes from home. These students are one of the main contributors to e-commerce. Suppose telework and online classes continue in the post-corona era, trips to physical retail stores will further decrease. The continuous use of e-commerce triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak would significantly affect future transport and logistics planning. The shift from physical stores to e-commerce will decrease shopping trips. In contrast, logistics-related trips such as deliveries would significantly increase, requiring changes in logistics policies such as warehouses and logistics center planning, and truck driver shortage issues, among others. Thus, it is necessary to understand the attitude toward e-commerce, which significantly affects transport and logistics-related trips for proper transport and

logistics planning. Nevertheless, such change in shopping behavior, including choosing between e-commerce and retail stores, would differ in terms of geographical characteristics such as city size, population density, and consumer attributes such as age and income. The continuation of e-commerce usage in the post-corona era could change urban planning, including transportation planning. According to the Nationwide Person Trip Survey of Japan in 2015, shopping-related trips account for approximately 15% of the total number of trips. Thus, a shift in shopping behavior towards e-commerce would be a significant factor influencing transport policies. Besides, the intentions toward the use of e-commerce differ among individuals and change over time. The COVID-19

pandemic has changed people's lifestyles (e.g., stay-at-home duration and shopping behavior) and psychological state (e.g., intention towards the use of e-commerce) immediately after the pandemic. Some lifestyle and psychological states may not revert to their pre-pandemic state. Thus, it is important to understand the reasons for using e-commerce by individuals, grouped by chronological changes in the intention to use e-commerce in multiple periods. Therefore, it is important to conduct continuous surveys related to COVID-19 outbreak.

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