The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a vast, rugged mountain range. The mountains are covered in dense, dark green forests, with some peaks and ridges appearing lighter due to snow or bare rock. The terrain is highly textured with numerous ridges, valleys, and gullies. A semi-transparent dark grey bar is overlaid across the top third of the image, containing the title text in white.

Depopulation and its Socio-Environmental Outcomes:

Evidence from Japan, Spain and New Zealand

Dr Peter Matanle, University of Sheffield

28 NOV 2021

Professor Luis Antonio Saez Perez, Universidad de Zaragoza

Wittgenstein Centre Conference 2021
Vienna Institute of Demography



Or ... Realising the Depopulation Dividend!

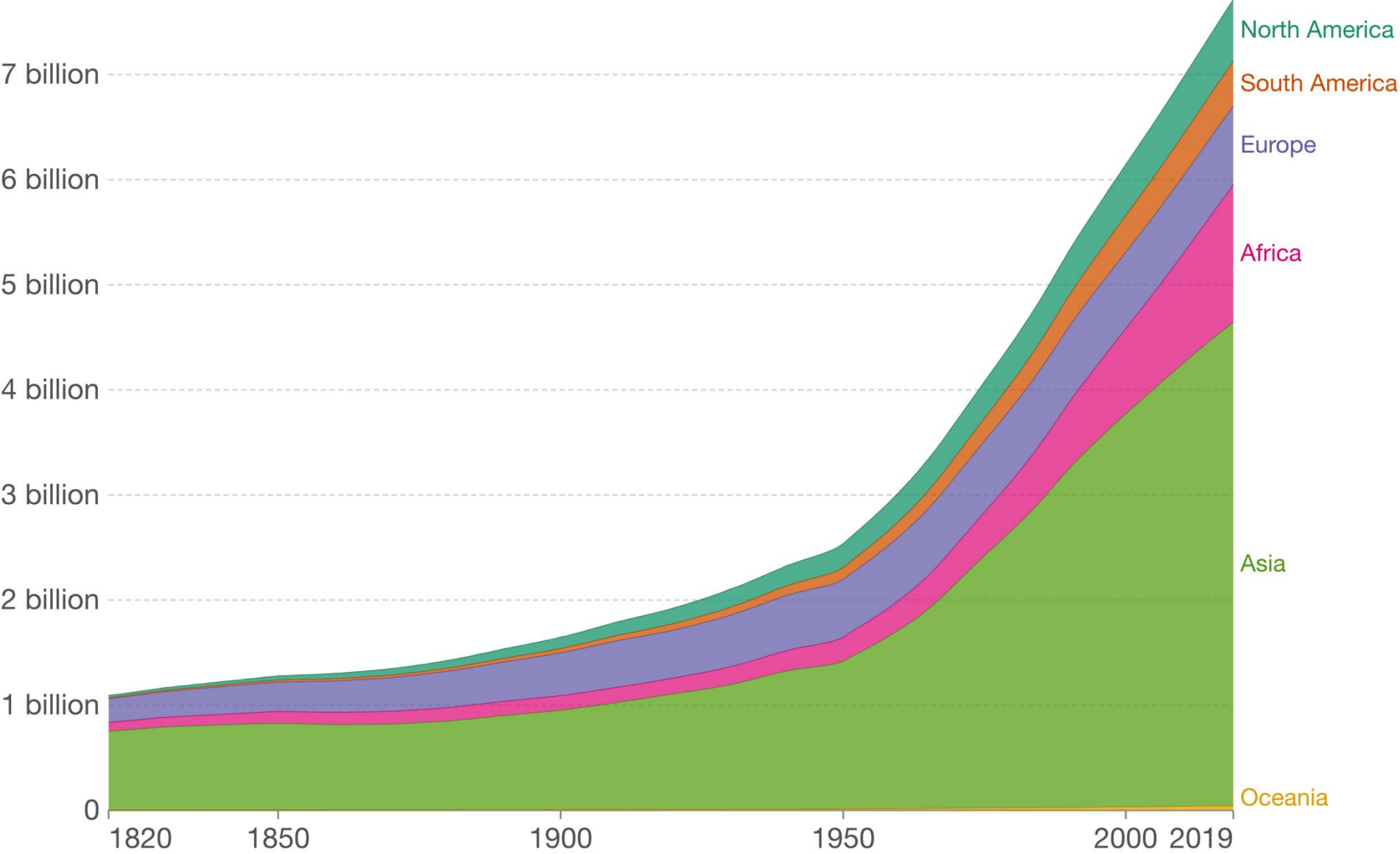
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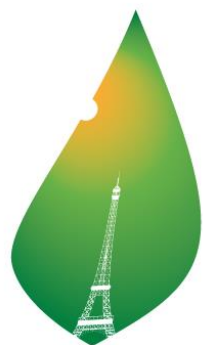
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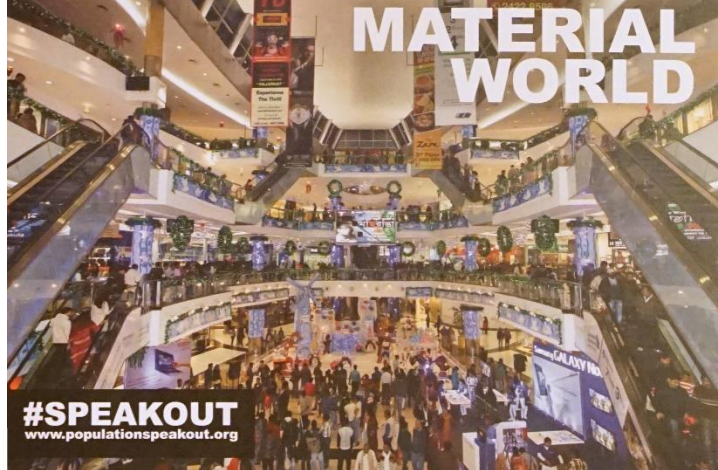
World population by region



Source: Gapminder (v6), HYDE (v3.2), UN (2019)



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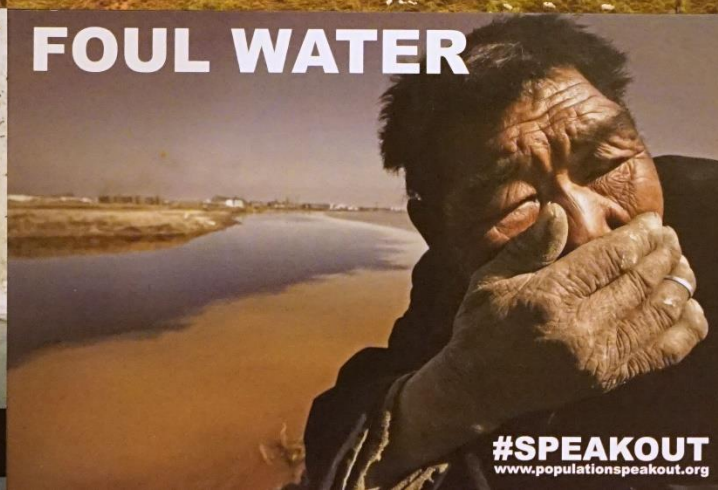
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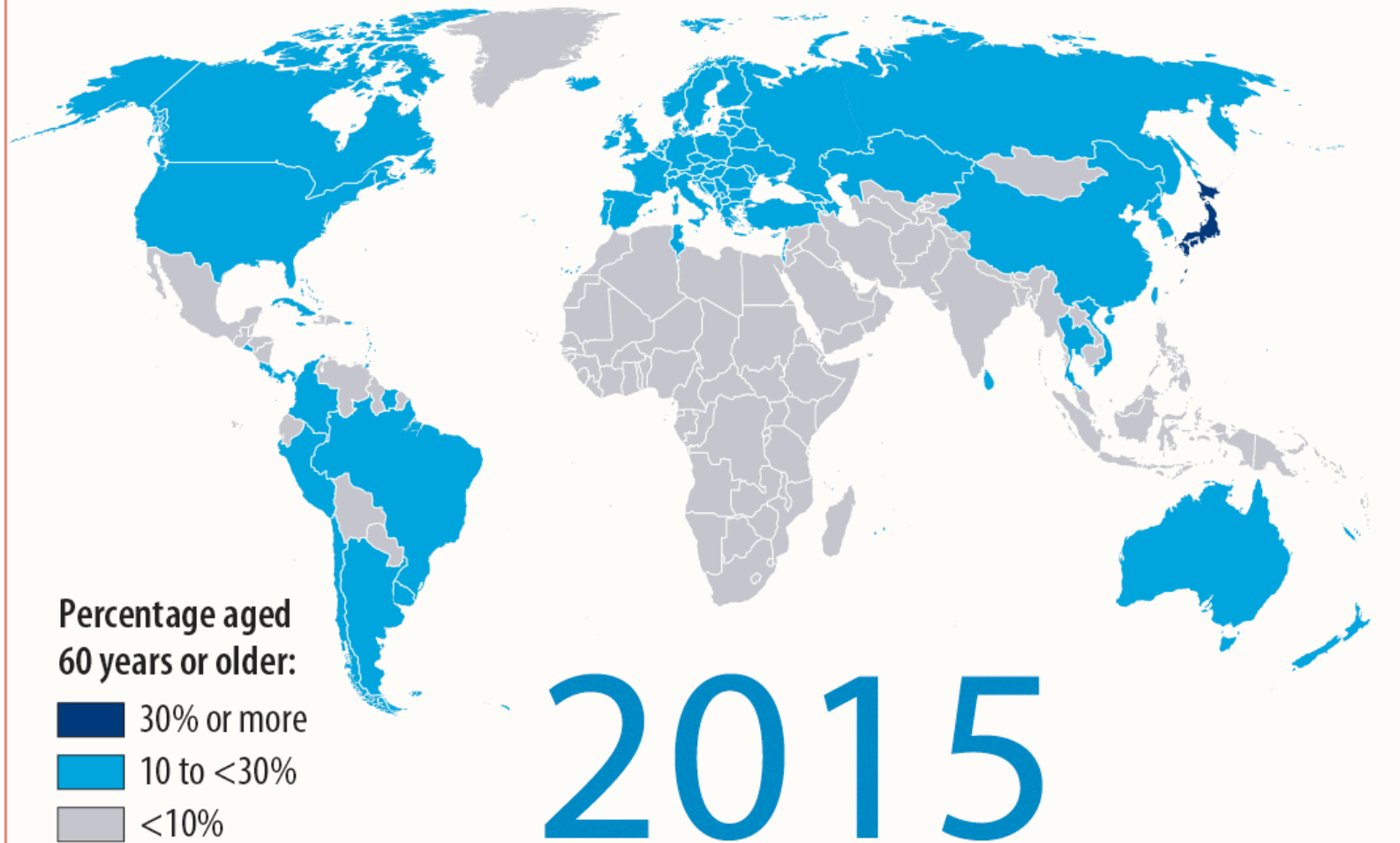
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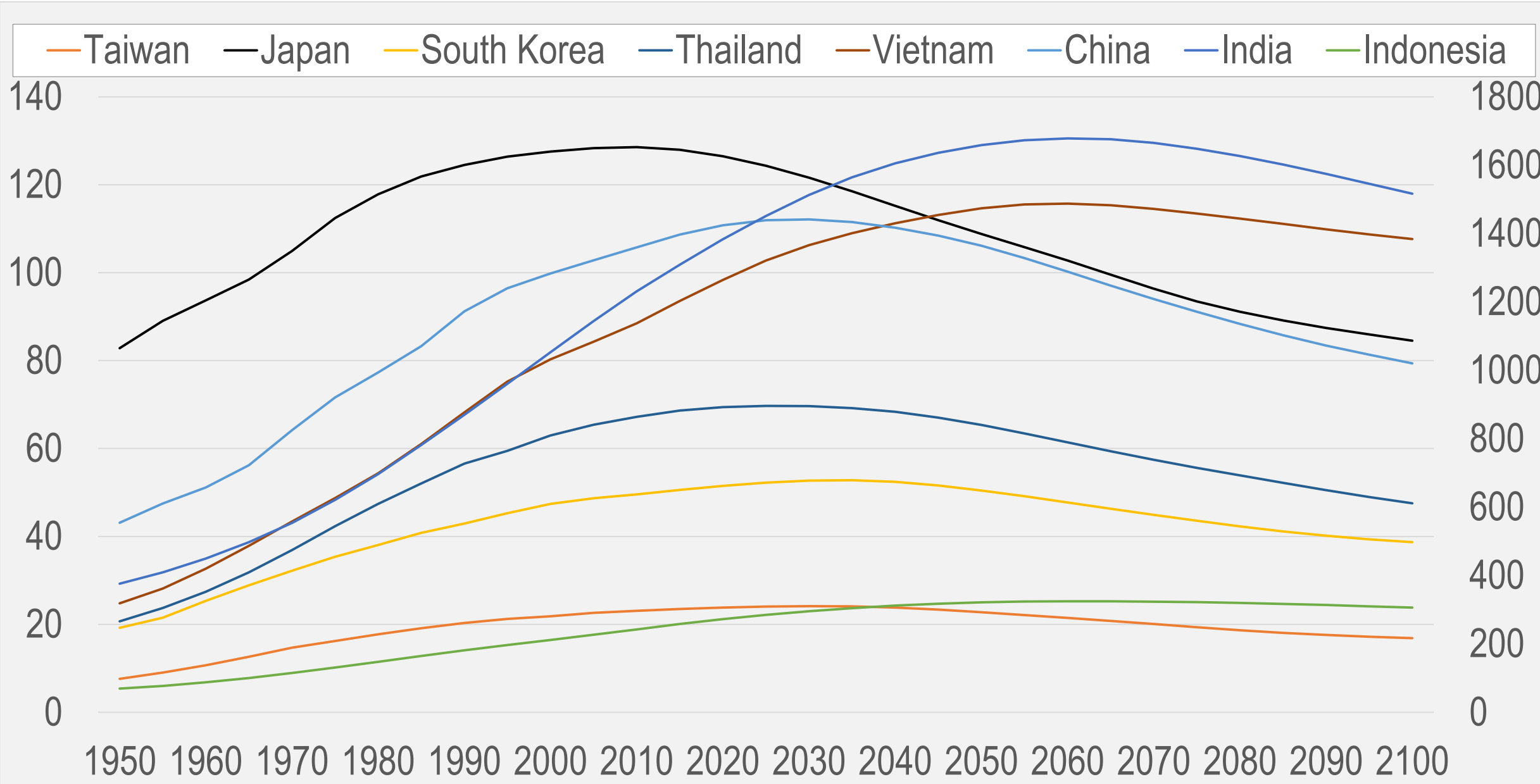
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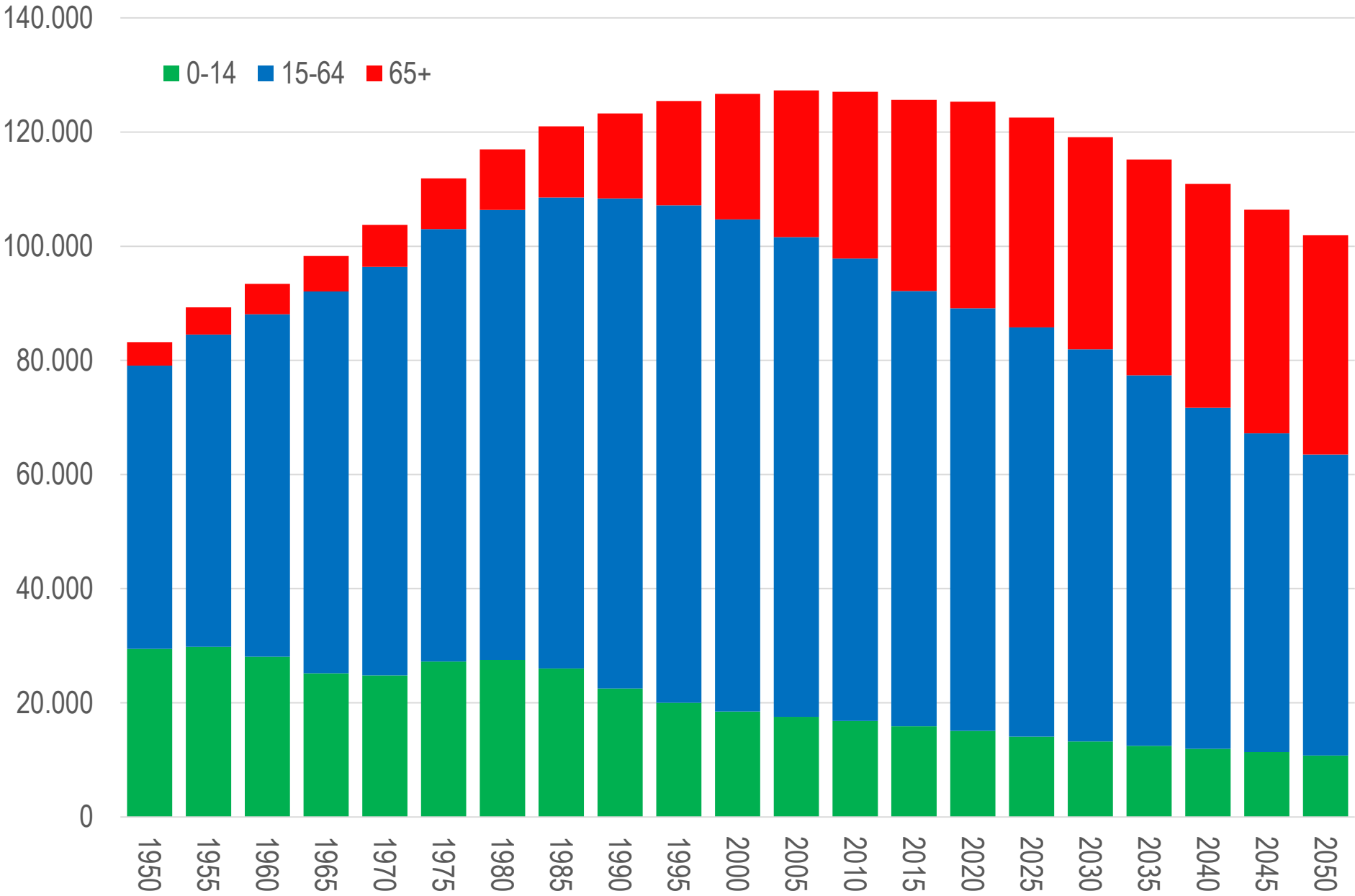
Populations are getting older



150 Years of Growth and Shrinkage in Asia: Actual and Projected Population Change in Selected Countries, 1950-2100 (China, India, and Indonesia right hand axis; in millions).



A Century of Growth and Shrinkage in Japan



(Data Source: National Census & National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Various Years)

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People exercise on Respect for the Aged Day at a temple in the Sugamo neighborhood in Toshima Ward, Tokyo, in September 2016. The proportion of Japan's aged has been rising steadily for decades. | BLOOMBERG

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We need a sense of crisis over depopulation

BY [HISAKAZU KATO](#)

Japan's population is decreasing since it hit a peak in 2008. The total population in 2017 was 126.7 million; since 2010, the nation has lost about 1.4 million people. The shrinking population is having a major impact on our economy and society that will continue over a long-term period, while people tend to feel that its short-term effects are small and negligible — and therefore

SEP 5, 2018

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Death Spiral Demographics: The Countries Shrinking The Fastest



Joel Kotkin Contributor

Reinventing America

I cover demographic, social and economic trends around the world.



A 1-year-old boy in a stroller talks to his great-grandmother in a wheelchair on May 14, 2014, in Xi'an, Shannxi Province, China. (Photo by VCG/VCG via Getty Images)

The 'Depopulation Dividend'

The achievement from peaceful and non-coercive human depopulation of positive gains that contribute to socio-cultural, political-economic, and environmentally sustainable living.

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Towards an Asia-Pacific 'Depopulation Dividend' in the 21st Century: Regional Growth and Shrinkage in Japan and New Zealand

Peter Matanle

Special Issue: Trends in the landscapes of post-growth societies: The potential of degrowth

Searching for a Depopulation Dividend in the 21st Century: Perspectives from Japan, Spain and New Zealand

21世紀における人口減少ボーナスの探求：日本、スペイン、ニュージーランドの事例

ピーター マタンレ Peter MATANLE

英国 シェフィールド大学社会科学部東アジア学科

ルイス-アントニオ サエス-ペレス Luis-Antonio SÁEZ-PÉREZ

スペイン サラゴサ大学経済史・公共経済学部

The 'Depopulation Dividend'

The achievement from peaceful and non-coercive human depopulation of positive gains that contribute to socio-cultural, political-economic, and environmentally sustainable living.

So, what does depopulation look like?

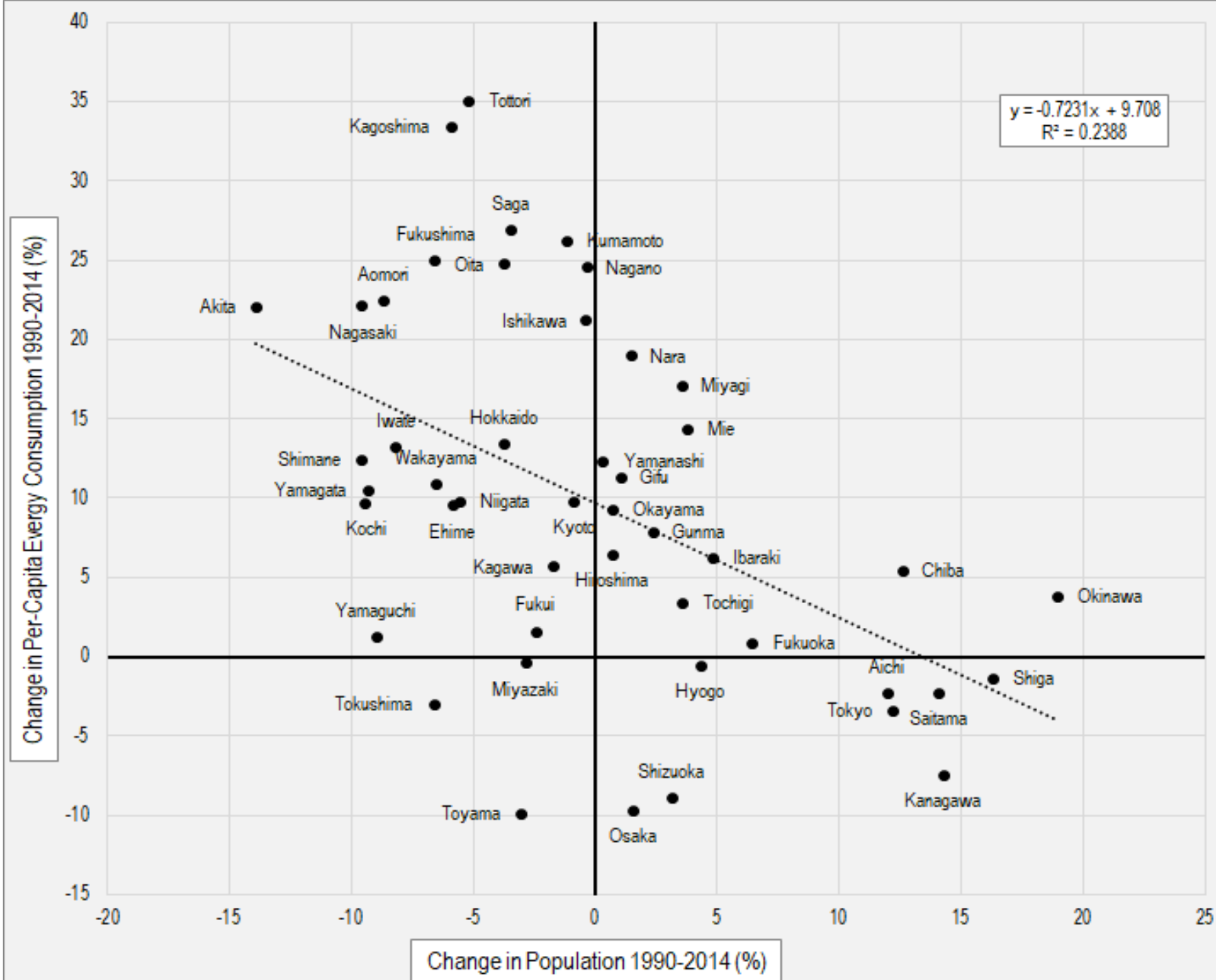
Can a depopulation dividend be realised?



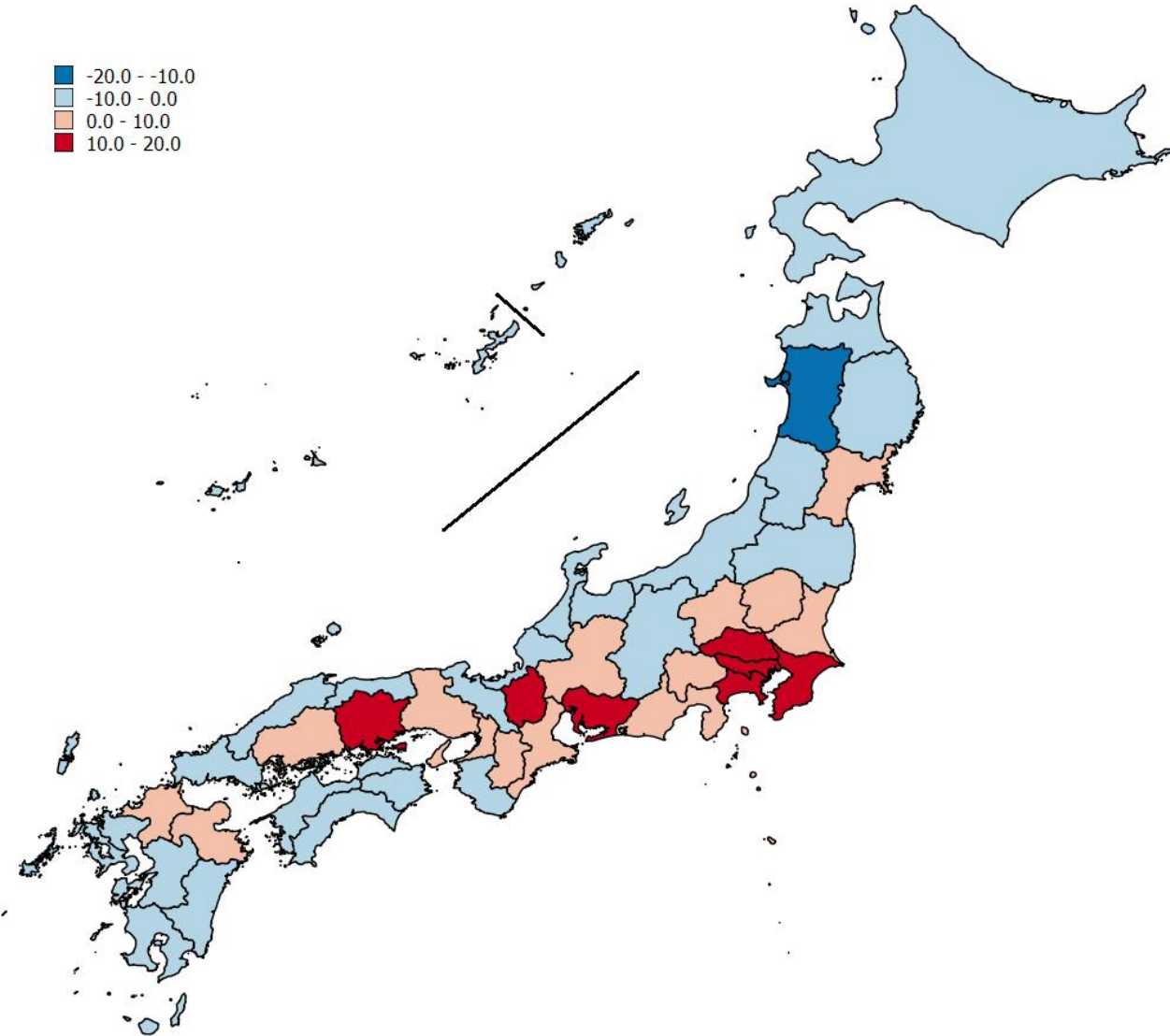
Post-Growth Japan: Super-high density living in central Tokyo

Post-Growth Japan: Empty and abandoned housing in Hokkaido.

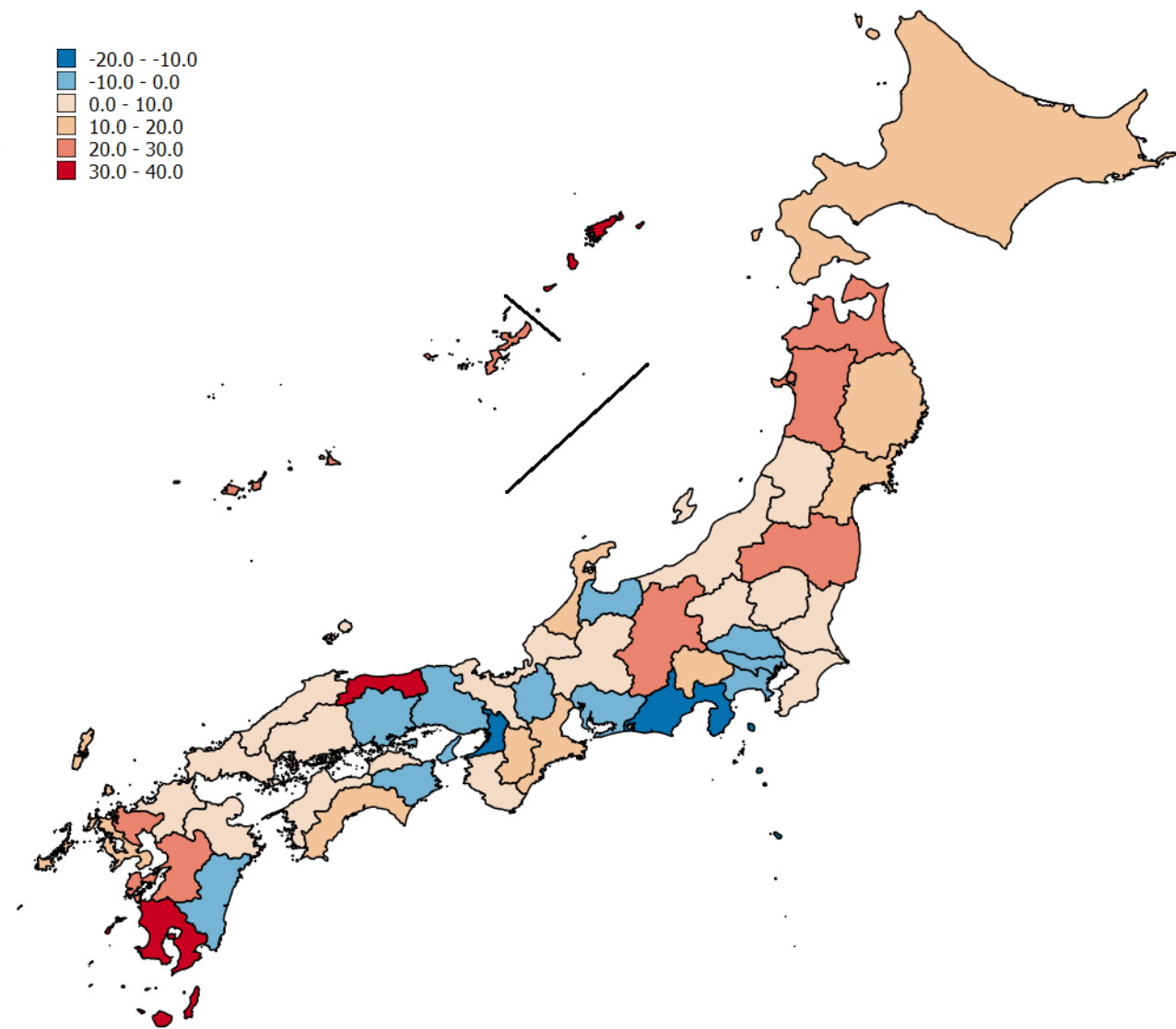




Prefectural population change in Japan,
1990-2014 (per cent)



Prefectural per capita change in energy
consumption in Japan, 1990-2014 (per cent)

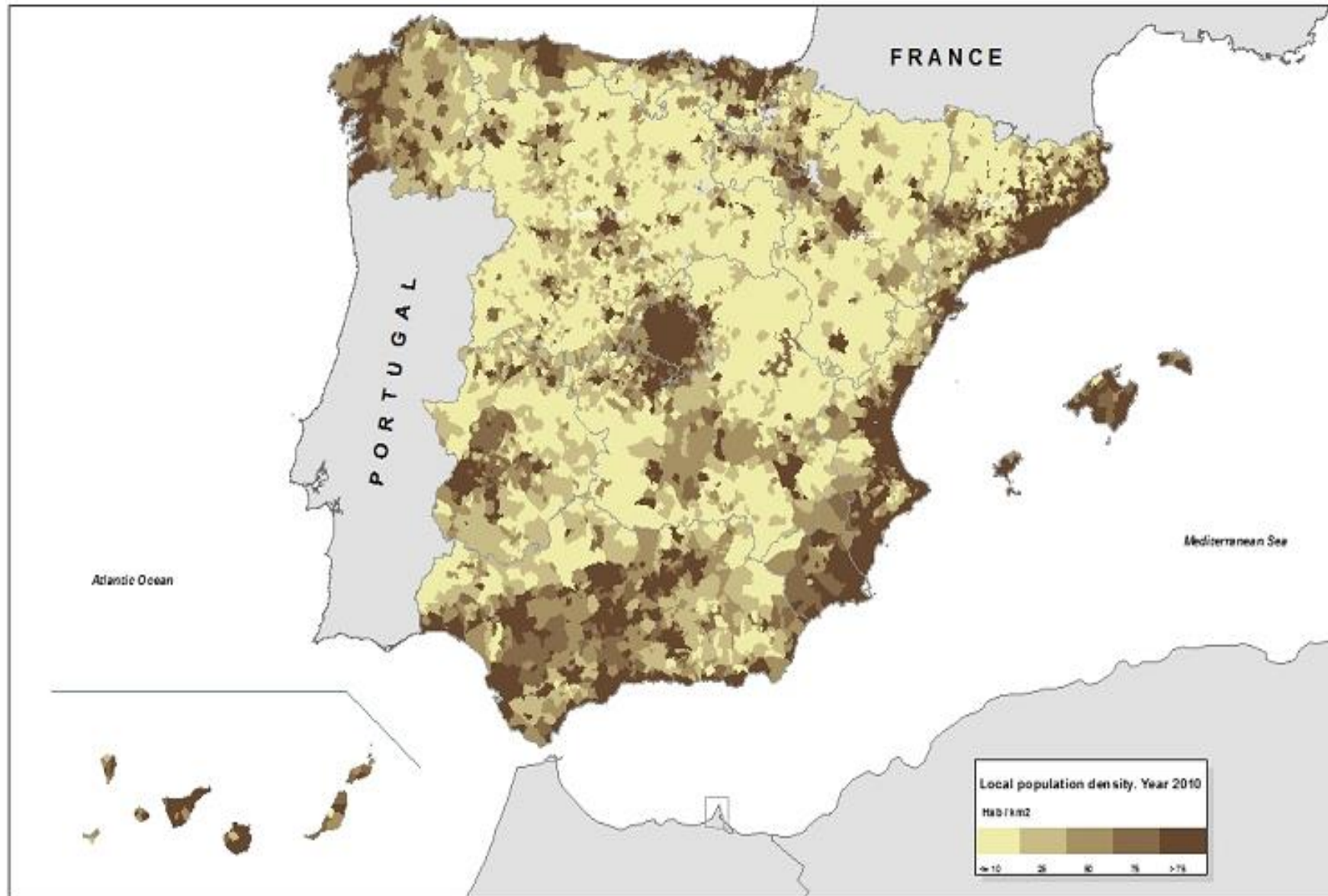








Extremes of population density in Spain





ARAGÓN 'Pueblos en arte': artistas reviven con cultura un territorio olvidado

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'Pueblos en arte': artistas reviven con cultura un territorio olvidado

Marta Salguero [Seguir a @msalguero](#) - Zaragoza

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Poesía, teatro, fotografía, música, danza, todo tiene cabida en Torralba de Ribota ALFONSO KINT / TORRALBA DE RIBOTA



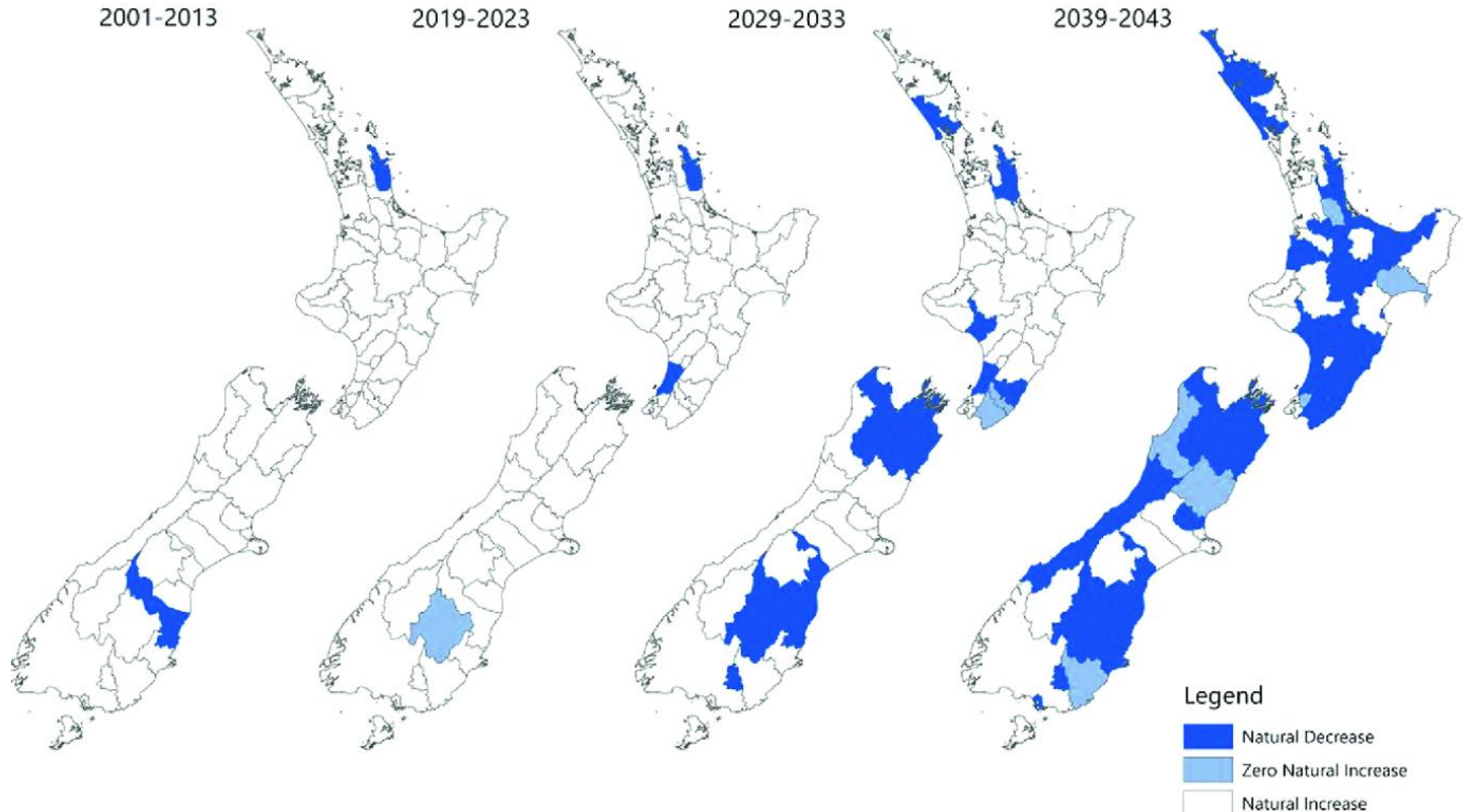
Barcelona, Catalunya, Spain. Europe's sixth largest metropolitan area.

Gandesa, Catalunya, Spain. Historically famous as a battle site in the Spanish Civil War, this 'wine town' and rural idyll has good transportation links with Taragona, Lleida, Zaragoza, and Barcelona.



Actual and Projected Population change in New Zealand by Region, 2001-2043

[\(Jackson et al., 2019: Data: Stats NZ\).](#)







Auckland, North Island, NZ, where one third of New Zealand's growing population resides.

Otago Central Rail Trail, Central Otago, South Island, NZ, the largest non-agricultural contributor to Central Otago's economy.



Japan, Spain & New Zealand show that depopulation is global.

But its impacts and responses are various.

Even as population growth is considered an environmental disaster its apparent antidote – depopulation - is judged a socio-economic crisis.

How do we deal with the ambiguities that this contradiction delivers?

The world remains locked into an accelerated growth first paradigm, even as depopulation offers us a deceleration.

The dividends are already apparent but as yet unorganised, disaggregated and unrealised.

Could small rural places overcome our addiction to cities and growth, and show us the way to being both smart and beautiful?

終了

Thank you for your kind attention!

Special Issue: Trends in the landscapes of post-growth societies: The potential of degrowth

Searching for a Depopulation Dividend in the 21st Century: Perspectives from Japan, Spain and New Zealand

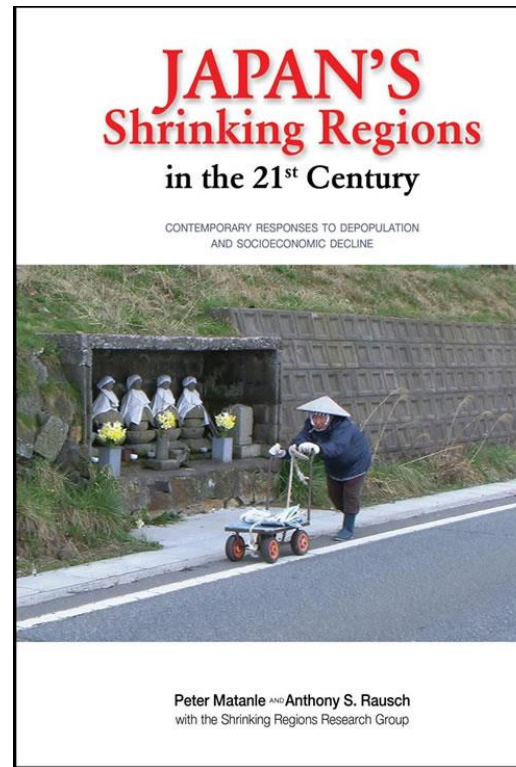
21世紀における人口減少ボーナスの探求：日本，スペイン，ニュージーランドの事例

ピーター マタンレ *Peter MATANLE*

英国 シェフィールド大学社会科学部東アジア学科

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Coming Soon to a City Near You! Learning to Live 'Beyond Growth' in Japan's Shrinking Regions

Peter MATANLE, Yasuyuki SATO

Social Science Japan Journal, Volume 13, Issue 2, Winter 2010, Pages 187–210,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/ssjj/jyq013>

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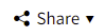
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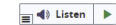
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Peter Matanle