



## Factors driving education migration to Yogyakarta

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### Abstract

Yogyakarta is one of the main destinations for education in Indonesia. There are various reasons that encourage the migration of school and college students to Yogyakarta. This article is intended to describe the reasons of why migrants study and stay (have a domicile) in Yogyakarta. Research data were obtained through questionnaires, with samples from 3 regions, namely Yogyakarta, Sleman, and Bantul. A total of 480 respondents came from elementary, junior high, high school/vocational high school and college level; obtained through a proportional random sampling. Based on the results of the research, the reasons for migrants studying in Yogyakarta was the greatest, 49.58 percent, with the reason that the area is convenient for learning; and the reason to seek experience to 'wander' (living in a different city) was 29.37 percent. The reason why migrants stay (have domicile) in Yogyakarta because their study has not been completed was 47.5 percent, and for other reasons (following parents' employment moving) was 36.7 percent.

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### Introduction

Population growth in Indonesia is unequal in every region, province, or city in Indonesia. Population growth in a particular area is greater than in other regions. The uneven development of each region has resulted in migration from undeveloped areas to much-developed areas. Migration is the movement of people from one region to another, beyond administrative boundaries (internal migration) or political/country boundaries (international migration), relatively permanent or temporary,

to improve their quality of life (Sukmaniar, Romli, & Sari, 2018). The International Organization of Migration in 2010 (Varshney & Lata, 2014) states that migration has become an integral and essential feature of modern life and of an increasingly integrated global economy. Migration has become very common among humans in modern times. The need to benefit from things not found in the area of origin and the desire to develop oneself become factors that cause a person to decide to migrate.

This research focuses on the migration of school students and college students to Yogyakarta. It is specifically intended to describe the reasons why migrants study and stay (have domicile) in Yogyakarta. As Yogyakarta is one of the main destinations for education in Indonesia, it should be convenient for students for studying. However, there are many social problems due to the unequal population growth.

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## Literature Review

The decision of a person to migrate can be caused by various factors, and there is always a desire to improve one or more aspects of life. There are four factors to consider in the study of population migration: (1) factors of origin, (2) factors in the destination area, (3) intermediate barriers, and (4) individual factors (Lee, 1987). To be specific, there are two main reasons why migration takes place, either because people were forced by natural disaster/man-made circumstances (such as refugees fleeing persecution, displacement caused by environmental disaster, climate change, prolonged conflict, grinding poverty, and dispossession of land) or because economic prospects seem more favorable in other regions, causing people to voluntarily migrate (Dustman & Glitz, 2011; Morrice, Shan, & Sprung, 2018). The driving force and attractiveness of a region is an integral factor, both in terms of economic stability or the quality of education, as education becomes one of the driving factors and an individual's attraction factor for migration (Siswono, 2015). Individual migration decisions and decisions about education attainment are strongly intertwined (Dustman & Glitz, 2011). Educational migration is done because migrants want to continue their education to a higher level or to get a better education.

Migration can benefit migrants because they will have information about the economic conditions in their home regions and the areas they migrate to. But if they have migrated before, this migration will be greatly influenced by their previous migration (Faggian, McCann, & Sheppard, 2007). Actually, there is another aspect that can be obtained by students who study outside of the region, in addition to information about economic conditions in both regions. They will gain experience on the cultural differences of society so that once they migrate to other areas, they have more information as data or provision for socializing in the new area. This is why their personalities will be indirectly influenced by their previous decision to migrate.

Every year in Indonesia there is mobility of the population in the form of migration of school and college students who are studying. One of the reasons is because their parents are also educated people (Bourke, 1971). This encourages them to send their children to study where they think the quality of their education is better than where they come from. The migration destination areas of the students are major cities in Indonesia, including Yogyakarta. The image of Yogyakarta is as a city of education, bringing consequences to a number of students from various regions in Indonesia, who come to Yogyakarta to gain knowledge (Sunarto et al., 1993). According to data, population density over the last decade has a pattern that tends to increase. The population census showed that there were 3.47 million people living in Special Region of Yogyakarta (Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta, DIY) in 2010, increasing to 3.72 million five years later. About one third of the population were young people age 10–29 years old (Penyusun, 2016).

The number of immigrants aimed at continuing education is growing. The year 2013 recorded about 310,860 students from all over Indonesia who studied in Yogyakarta. Of these, 244,739 people or 78.7 percent were students from outside the region (Pertahankan “Indonesia Mini”, 2013). In 2014 there were 298,000 students from various universities in Yogyakarta Special Region. Only 10 percent to 15 percent of the students were from Yogyakarta. The rest, 85 percent or about 200,000 students, came from various regions (Nugraheni, 2014). Some school students and university students living in Yogyakarta to study started at elementary school. Then, they continue to junior high school, high school level, both high school and vocational high school, up to university. Immigrants from outside DIY are mostly school and college students who have an effect on increasing population density, while the number of students who graduate and leave DIY are not comparable with those who enter. The areas of origin of students also vary, ranging from the far west to the eastern part of Indonesia.

Previous research about students' migration also found that the out-migration of students is positively related to public university tuition, and negatively related to the quality of both public and private university, the number of enrollment opportunities, and the availability of a broad-based public university merit scholarship program (Cooke & Boyle, 2011). The image of the intended area is one factor that determines a person's decision to migrate for educational reasons. Aside from the university, parents of elementary and middle school students will consider the image of the targeted area both in terms of economic and social point of view.

## Methodology

### *Participants*

Participants in this research were from 3 regions, namely Yogyakarta City, Sleman Regency, and Bantul Regency; obtained through a proportional random sampling. 40 people from each regency/city were taken for each level of education (elementary, junior high, high school/vocational school, university), so the total respondents were as many as 480 respondents.

### *Data Collection*

The data were collected through questionnaires. The questionnaires were given to 480 respondents who were asked two questions about why they choose to study and stay in Yogyakarta. The validity technique of the questionnaires used product moment, while the reliability of the questionnaire used alpha cronbach technique.

Data Analysis

After the data had been collected, data management was carried out. The steps of data management in this research included the following activities: editing, coding, and tabulation. After tabulation, the data were analyzed using quantitative descriptive analysis. The analysis was carried out based on the description of the situation or data obtained in the field. Quantitative descriptive analysis is the process of interpreting the data descriptively, i.e. with the frequency table. This method of analysis can be used to find out why migrants study and stay (have a domicile) in Yogyakarta.

Results and Discussion

The results of this study showed that there are several reasons for people to study and stay in Yogyakarta.

Reasons of Choosing to Study in Yogyakarta

Migration is often interpreted as a relatively permanent movement from one region to another (Munir, 2010). The movement/mobility of people in an area within a certain period of time is what ultimately forms a certain pattern, as has happened in Yogyakarta. Based on the type of mobility of the population (Munir, 2010), the pattern of migration by immigrant students in Yogyakarta Special Region (DIY) in this study relates to the work and education of a person, including the type of circular migration or seasonal migration, i.e. migration in which a person moves but does not settle, and still has a family or a connection with the area of origin.

In migration decisions there is always a desire to improve one aspect of life, so the decision of a person to migrate can be caused by various factors. There are 4 (four) factors to consider in the study of population migration: (1) factors of origin, (2) factors in the destination area, (3) intermediate barriers, and (4) individual factors [9]. Referring to what was mentioned by Lee, this research attempted to understand the pattern of migration done by school and college students. There are 2 (two) questions asked, that is, the reason to choose study in Yogyakarta and the reason to stay/have a domicile in Yogyakarta. Based on the results of the research, the data obtained are as follow.

Table 1 shows that there are four reasons why people choose Yogyakarta as place for them to study.

From 480 respondents, it was found that there are 4 reasons for students to choose to study in Yogyakarta (Figure 1), i.e. 238 people or 49.6 percent of respondents chose Yogyakarta as a place of study because the area is convenient for learning; 141 or 29.4 percent of respondents chose such because they wanted to have the experience of wandering; 98 people or 20.4 percent said they were invited by family or close relatives; and the remaining 3 people or 0.6 percent answered because they were invited by friends.

In some previous studies, it was mentioned that there are many reasons why outsiders want to study in Yogyakarta. The religious attitudes of students in Yogyakarta Special Region are influenced by the positive effects of family education, campus environment and religious knowledge (Hajaroh, 1999). In addition to the religious aspect, local wisdom (Yogyakarta local wisdom) gives a magnet to attract outsiders to Yogyakarta (Suardiman, 2017).

Table 1 The Data Recapitulation of Why Students Choose to Study in Yogyakarta

No	Reasons of Choosing to Study in Yogyakarta	Number of People	Percentage
1	Feeling the area convenient to study	238	49.6
2	Looking for experience to 'wander' (Living in different city)	141	29.4
3	Being asked by family/relatives	98	20.4
4	Being asked by friends	3	0.6

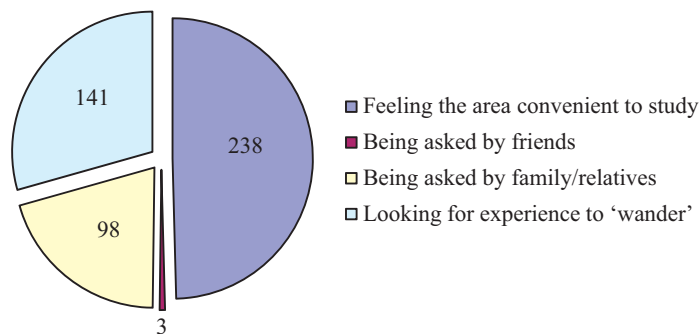


Figure 1 Reasons of Choosing Yogyakarta to Study

*Reasons of Staying (Having a Domicile) in Yogyakarta*

After completing the study on a certain level of education, many respondents remain or reside in Yogyakarta for reasons of continuing study, feeling less comfortable to live in the area of origin, no more close relatives living in the area of origin, or looking for experience/work. Table 2 shows that there are also four main reasons for people to stay in Yogyakarta.

Based on the results of the study, 228 people or 47.5 percent, the majority of respondents, answered that the reason for living in Yogyakarta is because their study was not completed; 176 respondents or 36.7 percent stay or live in Yogyakarta due to joining parents who moved there; 53 people or 11 percent responded that they feel less comfortable in the area of origin; and 23 people or 4.8 percent admitted that they have no more family or close relatives in the area of origin. Figure 2 shows that also four main reasons for people to stay in Yogyakarta.

Migration scholars distinguish between permanent and temporary migration, which includes return, circular, and onward migration (Weber & Saarela, 2018). School or college students who come from out of town and live in a place in Yogyakarta can choose from several possibilities. Usually, at the beginning, they will live in a family place/house, house of friends from school/hometown, dormitories for students coming from certain provinces of Indonesia (e.g. South Sumatra Student Dormitory), guesthouse and hotel. They live there for up to a few weeks or months while learning the situation and circumstances surrounding the school or college. Those who still decide to stay in Yogyakarta for a period of time usually choose to stay in a boarding house, rented house, or stay at a relative’s or friend’s house.

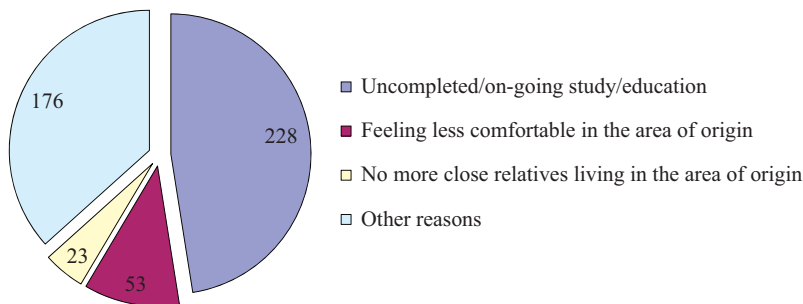
This movement or mobility can then be categorized as a pattern of circular migration or seasonal migration.

The status of residence of new families living in DIY are also varied. There are still monthly/yearly boarding house, rented house, or privately owned house. Out of 120 respondents of elementary school students, 33.33 percent answered even though they live with their biological parents but the status of residence (house) is still renting a house. While 51.67 percent of respondents have lived in their own houses, the remaining 14.16 percent stay at a relative’s house and 0.83 percent live with foster parents. Based on these data, it can be seen that the circular migration pattern that respondents do together with their parents has an impact on the need for a new home or residence. Not surprisingly, in the last 10 years, the property business in DIY thrives and varies in kind. DIY property business not only builds residential complexes of various types/sizes, but also has started to build apartments, condotels, and flats.

The findings of Spear and Harris (1986) show that the rate of participation in circular migration increases with increasing levels of education. Higher education will influence the mindset of individuals to earn better income. Similarly, it is what happens in DIY. The circular migration pattern that occurs in DIY is one of the causes due to education factor. Wishing for a better life in the future can not be separated by considerations about economic condition. People with good income will be able to provide their family with a more comfortable and convenient life, and it will be easier if they consider education as a priority and a way to achieve what they dream of (Bak, 2018). In other words, people are willing to do anything to get a better education, even leaving their hometown and moving to a modern city. Rossel (2012) stated that modernization has a wider impact

**Table 2** The Data Recapitulation of Why Students Choose to Stay in Yogyakarta

No	Reasons of Choosing to Stay in Yogyakarta	Number of People	Percentage
1	Uncompleted/on-going study/education	228	47.5
2	Feeling less comfortable in the area of origin	53	11
3	No more close relatives living in the area of origin	23	4.8
4	Other reason (following parents’ employment moving)	176	36.7



**Figure 2** Reasons of Staying (Having a Domicile) in Yogyakarta

on society, especially in social transformation and economic growth, that indirectly increase urbanization. Similarly, it is what happens in DIY. The circular migration pattern that occurs in DIY is due to education, accessibility, and transportation factors (Telaumbanua & Pitoyo, 2017).

Circular migration or seasonal migration of students coming to Yogyakarta occurs most intensively at the end of each academic year that falls in June–July. High school and vocational high school graduates have to get ready for a place of further education. One form of advanced education for senior high school graduates is university. Yogyakarta has become a learning destination for graduates because in this city there are many universities, both public and private, with various courses. In addition to vocational high school graduates who migrated to Yogyakarta, students graduated from elementary and junior high schools also participated in circular migration. Several respondents from elementary school students stated that their reasons for staying in Yogyakarta for a certain period of time were following their parents who are studying for their master's degree or post-doctoral level at a university.

Circular migration patterns or seasonal migration by immigrant students in Yogyakarta can be seen at the end of each school year, also during religious holidays such as Idulfitri and Christmas every year. Respondents who live in dormitories such as Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Sunan Pandanaran, Madrasah Tsanawiyah (MTs) Muallimin, and Madrasah Tsanawiyah (MTs) Mu'allimaat will return to their hometowns during the holidays. At this time, there will be a very rapid movement of people from one place to another. Mass transportation centers such as airports, bus terminals and train stations are filled with passengers, who will return to their home areas. Of the many passengers, the majority is dominated by school and college students. This is also reinforced from the research data about the intensity/frequency of returning to the area of origin proposed by respondents.

## Conclusion and Recommendation

Based on the results of data analysis on the reasons for choosing to study in Yogyakarta and the reason for living in Yogyakarta, it can be concluded that education migration happens because migrants want to continue education to a higher level or to obtain a better education. The reason that Yogyakarta is a convenient place in which to learn, occupies the top position, followed by the reason to seek experience to wander (live in different city). Migrant school and college students who stay or live in Yogyakarta are more likely to join their parents or because their study has not been completed. These findings would be useful for government and other related organizations in mapping the population in Yogyakarta. The factors of comfort and friendliness, which become the most supporting factors for migration to Yogyakarta, also show that modern society still chooses to stay in the city with ease of access in the fields of education, infrastructure, and other public services. With these findings,

it can be predicted that in the future, Yogyakarta will still be a favorite place for people to migrate, especially for an educational reason.

## Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest.

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