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## ABSTRACTS

**Tax Expenditure Estimates and Evaluation on Pension System in China**

Zheng Bingwen · Wu Xiaoqin · 2 ·

Accurate estimates of pension tax expenditure is fundamental to situation and evaluation, reform design, and expanding research frontier of pension system. This paper calculates tax expenditures of the three pension pillars and the National Social Security Fund, with the “Revenue Foregone” method, by anchoring *The Enterprise Income Tax Law* and *The Individual Income Tax Law* as the “two-law caliber” benchmark tax system and supplementing with “finance-used caliber” and “fully-covered caliber”. It calculates the tax expenditures of every phase and every pillar, and obtains total pension tax expenditure. The results show that the government takes significant financial responsibilities and enterprises bear heavy contribution burden, which confirms the necessity of the reduction of pension contributions in the past five years. Although there is a large gap in the results given by the three calibers, three common insights can be proposed: (1) Transfer the reduced tax expenditure of the first pillar to the second and third pillars to improve tax incentive ability; (2) Speed up investment of pension funds to improve pension sustainability; (3) Establish pension tax expenditure budget system to promote the development of multi-pillar pension system.

**A Comparison on Early Retirement Effects of the Social Pension Systems in China and the United States: Empirical Findings Based on the Harmonized Pension and Health Tracking Data**

Li Rui · Guan Xiaorong · 16 ·

How to improve the sustainability of social pension insurance fund and the labor participation rate of elderly workers is an important issue to actively respond to the population aging. The paper uses the Harmonized Pension and Health Tracking Data to analyze the social pension wealth and retirement incentive effects of the social pension systems in China and the United States. It uses the duration model to estimate the early retirement incentive effect of the social pension insurance system in two countries. The results show that the accrual and peak values of pension in China have significant impacts on retirement, while no significant impact is observed for the United States. The option value of pension has a significant impact on retirement in both those two countries. However, the option value has the greater impact on retirement in China than that in the United States. The incentive effect for Chinese men is twice that for American men, and the effect for Chinese women is 2.5 times that for American women. The paper suggests that we should optimize the incentive mechanism of China's social pension insurance system by reforming the structure of retirement age and pension payment.

**Analysis on the Impact of Life Expectancy Extension on the Saving Rate**

Li Meng · 29 ·

As the life expectancy extends, the saving rates rise in some countries but fall in others, and they rise in some periods and fall other time. Using WHO data, the paper divides life expectancy into “unhealthy” life expectancy and healthy life expectancy, and examines the saving rates in different components of population health structure. The research finds that: (1) the length of “unhealthy” life expectancy has a negative impact on national saving rate, with longer “unhealthy” life expectancy predicting a decline of national saving rate. (2) The length of healthy life expectancy has no significant effect on the national saving rate, but the composition of its increase is significantly related to the national saving rate. Specifically, the health improvement of the young and middle-aged population is an important driving force of the saving rate growth, while the health improvement of the elderly population will weaken the saving motivation. It means that the continued improvements in population health will drive the national saving rate up and down in an inverted U-shape.

Combined with the WHO data, it can be inferred that China's national saving rate has entered the downward channel induced by life extension.

### Measurement of Human Development Level in China and Its Influencing Factors

*Ren Dong and Others* ·41·

Based on the relevant data of 31 provinces in China from 1990 to 2018, this paper measures the level of human development in 31 provinces of China. The level of human development in China has steadily improved. The human development index rose from 0.482 in 1990 to 0.773 in 2018, and China ranks among the countries with high levels of human development. However, from a regional perspective, the problem of uneven and insufficient development between regions is still relatively prominent, and it is difficult to further improve the level of human development. Therefore, the paper constructs a panel regression model to analyze the factors relevant to the improvement of human development in China. The main conclusion is that the level of education and social security has been relatively less developed in China. To improve the level of human development in China, it is important to increase the disposable income of urban and rural residents, to increase the proportion of financial expenditure on medical expenses, and to vigorously improve the de jure urbanization rate.

### The Strategic Choice and Duration of Poverty Alleviation in Rural China

*Chen Yongwei and Others* ·53·

The paper introduces time dimension into poverty analysis and explores the dynamics of falling into and getting rid of poverty. Using the data from China Family Panel Studies (CFPS), it employs accelerated failure time model and binary choice model to find that: (1) there is duration dependence in rural households' poverty alleviation. 37.2% of the poor households can escape poverty in one year. However, as time goes on, the proportion of poor households that can escape poverty in 5 years decreases by 8.6%. (2) The per capita income increases to twice the poverty standard for most poverty-escaped households. However, nearly 15% of these escaped are found to return to poverty in three to five years. (3) Having migrant workers in a household or transferring the usage of land resources can increase the possibility of escaping poverty, and also have a higher growth of income afterwards. However, families with chronic diseases are slower in escaping poverty and their income growth rate is slower even after out of poverty. (4) The government income subsidies are insignificant for poverty reduction, and tend to reduce the possibility of earning higher income after escaping poverty.

### Research on Regional Difference and Spatial Convergence of Medical and Health Service Supply in China

*Xin Chongchong and Others* ·65·

By constructing the evaluation index system of medical and health service supply, and using the inter-provincial panel data of China from 2007 to 2017, the paper uses entropy weight method to measure the medical and health service supply in each province. It analyzes dynamics of the distribution, regional differences and different sources of medical/health service supply using kernel density estimation graph, Dagum Gini coefficient,  $\alpha$  convergence and  $\beta$  convergence characteristics. The research shows that: (1) The medical and health service supply in the whole country and those in the three regions (east, middle and west) show a steady upward trend. However, the national trend and that in the middle region show some gradients and are multi-modal or polarized, while the trends in eastern and western regions do not have obvious polarization. (2) The overall difference, intra-regional differences and inter-regional differences all weaken over time. The overall difference is mainly attributed to the regional difference, while the intra-regional difference and super-variable density are smaller, ranking the second and third in their contributions. (3) There is evidence not only of  $\alpha$  convergence, but also of  $\beta$  convergence, absolute and conditional, in the dynamics of the medical and health service supply. And there are significant spatial spillover effects in their convergence. The paper provides relevant policy suggestions in the conclusive remark.

### Analysis on the Contribution of Primary Public Health Service on Public Health Disparity

*Zhang Zhijian Miao Yanqing* ·78·

Using the 2016 basic comprehensive health reform survey data, this paper examines the impacts and contributions of primary public health service on health disparities. The empirical results show that: (1) there is evidence of pro-rich

inequalities in activity limitations and self-assessed health and pro-poor inequality in diagnosed chronic illnesses. (2) Income, level of education, employment status, health knowledge and physical activity, have a sizable contribution to income-related health inequalities. While medical insurance concentrated on the rich is an important factor in explaining the enlarging income-related health inequalities, primary public health service plays an active role in alleviating the inequalities in both self-assessed health and diagnosed chronic illnesses, mainly in rural areas. (3) Primary public health service has significantly narrowed the health disparity among respondents, and the difference between the impacts of medical insurance at different quantiles of health distribution is insignificant. (4) Primary public health service also makes indirect contributions to the amelioration of health disparities by improving health knowledge of the poor and promoting their healthy behaviors. The paper suggests that we should reduce public health disparity through improving income distribution system, fostering public health literacy, establishing a unified medical insurance system and an equalized health service system.

#### **A Study of Educational Impact on Cross-regional Migration Decision Making in China** Yan Yingen ·90·

To explore the reason of recent rises of intra-provincial population migration in China, this paper examines the relationship between education and cross-region migration decision making using the 2017 CMDS data. The results show that: (1) due to the different information searching abilities, psychological and institutional costs, migrants with either highest or lowest education are more likely to make a long-distance migration. Education has a U-shaped relationship with the distance of migration. (2) Compared with other counterparts, migrants with college or university education are more likely to move between cities within the same province. (3) As the migrants with college or university education increase, inter-city migration within a province increases. The government should pay attention to the changing scope of migration, and adjust the industrial structure in order to prevent regional economic fluctuations, rise of unemployment and the shadow effects from the provincial capital to the surrounding cities.

#### **The Influence of Intergenerational Caring on Residence Intention of Old Floating People**

Liu Chengbin Gong Naxin ·102·

Based on the 2017 China's Migrant Dynamic Survey, the paper focuses on the influence of intergenerational care behavior on the residence intention among old floating people by using Logistic regression model. It shows that the care behavior has a negative effect on the residence intention. In addition, elder males in poor health condition have lower residence intention due to lower social inclusion and living habit adaption. It might be attributed to the downward trend of intergenerational equilibrium, especially the unmet spiritual needs and traditional gender division. Overall, the willingness of old floating people to live with their children is high, although some of them show lower willingness to live with their children. It means the elderly care demand is diversified, but social security system and cultural model make most of the elderly rely on their families when it comes to the elderly care.

#### **Population Aging and Entrepreneurship in the Households**

Wang Wei Xian Jinkun ·113·

This paper uses the China Household Finance Survey data to study the impact of population aging on household entrepreneurial decisions, from the perspectives of household head's age and age structure of household members. It finds that there is a significant inverted U-shaped relationship between household head's age and entrepreneurship, with the turning point at around the age of 31. Households with more elderly people are less likely to participate in entrepreneurship, and an increase by one standard deviation in the proportion of the elderly will reduce the probability of entrepreneurship by about 1%. The mechanism may be that aging reduces household social communication and risk preference, and it has a negative impact on entrepreneurship. The self-insurance behavior of households, represented by commercial insurance purchases, can reduce the negative impact of aging on household entrepreneurship and increase the probability of entrepreneurship. This paper argues that it will help promote entrepreneurship through alleviating the pension pressure on households, and developing the commercial insurance market to disperse the risk of household entrepreneurship.