

1. CANADA NEWS: "A 3-point plan for managing an aging Canada," by David Crane (\_Star\_ [Toronto, Ontario], Aug. 6, 2007). <http://www.thestar.com/Business/article/243469>

2. "Dartmouth economist forecasts 401(k) retirement saving behaviors" (Eurekalert [American Association for the Advancement of Science], Aug.6, 2007).  
[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2007-08/dc-def080607.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2007-08/dc-def080607.php)

3. "Study sees US retirement wealth up sharply by 2040" (Eurekalert[American Association for the Advancement of Science], Aug. 6, 2007).  
[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2007-08/miot-ssu080607.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2007-08/miot-ssu080607.php)

4. IOWA NEWS: "Big news: Rate hike denied for long-term-care insurer," (\_Des Moines Register\_, August 9, 2007). Note: This article is an editorial.  
<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070809/OPINION03/708090355/-1/NEWS04>

5. MAINE STATE PLANNING OFFICE REPORT: "Maine's Aging Population - A Survey of Potential Economic Implications," by Crystal Callahan (July 2007, .pdf format, 27p.).  
<http://www.maine.gov/spo/economics/pubs/Maine's%20Aging%20Population%20-%20Final.pdf>

6. "Age, Socioeconomic Status and Obesity Growth," by Charles L. Baum II and Christopher J. Ruhm (w13289, August 2007, .pdf format, 49p.).

Abstract: The rapid growth in obesity represents a major public concern. Although body weight tends to increase with age, the evolution of obesity over the lifecycle is not well understood. We use longitudinal data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth to examine how body weight changes with age for a cohort moving through early adulthood. We further investigate how the age-obesity gradient differs with socioeconomic status (SES) and begin to examine channels for these SES disparities. Our analysis uncovers three main findings. First, weight rises with age but is inversely related to SES at given ages. Second, the SES-obesity gradient widens over the lifecycle, a result consistent with research examining other health outcomes such as overall status or specific medical conditions. Third, a substantial portion of the SES "effect" is transmitted through race/ethnicity and the translation of advantaged family backgrounds during childhood into high levels of subsequent education. Conversely, little of the SES difference appears to be propagated through family income, marital status, number of children, or the set of health behaviors we control for. However, approximately half of the SES-weight correlation persists after the inclusion of controls, illustrating the need for further study of mechanisms for the gradient.

<http://papers.nber.org/papers/w13289>

7. "Returns to Local-Area Health Care Spending: Using Health Shocks to Patients Far From Home," by Joseph J. Doyle, Jr. (w13301, August 2007, .pdf format, 51p.).

Abstract: Health care spending varies widely across markets, yet there is little evidence that higher spending translates into better health outcomes, possibly due to endogeneity bias. The main innovation in this paper compares outcomes of patients who are exposed to different health care systems that were not designed for them: patients who are far from home when a health emergency strikes. The universe of emergencies in Florida from 1996-2003 is considered, and visitors who become ill in high-spending areas have significantly lower mortality rates compared to similar visitors in lower-spending areas. The results are robust across different types of patients and within groups of destinations that appear to be close demand substitutes. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w13301>

8. "Social Identity and Preferences," by Daniel J. Benjamin, James J. Choi, and A. Joshua Strickland (w13309, August 2007, .pdf format, 52p.).

Abstract, In two laboratory experiments, we examine whether norms associated with one's social identity affect time and risk preferences. When we make ethnic identity salient to Asian-American subjects, they make more patient choices. When we make race salient to black subjects, non-immigrant blacks (but not immigrant blacks) make more risk-averse choices. Making gender identity salient causes choices to conform to gender norms the subject believes are relatively more common. Our results provide evidence that identity effects play a role in shaping U.S. demographic patterns in economic behaviors and outcomes.

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w13309>

9. INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND: "Global Aging Pressures: Impact of Fiscal Adjustment, Policy Cooperation, and Structural Reforms," by Dennis P. J. Botman and Manmohan S. Kumar (Working Paper

No. 07/196, August 2007, .pdf format, 58p.). Links to an abstract and full text are available at: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.cfm?sk=21230.0>

10. INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF LABOR (IZA) [UNIVERSITY OF BONN,GERMANY]: "Pension Plan Characteristics and Framing Effects in Employee Savings Behavior," by David Card and Michael R. Ransom (Discussion Paper2939, July 2007, .pdf format, 31p.). Abstract: In this paper we document the importance of framing effects in the retirement savings decisions of college professors. Pensions in many post-secondary institutions are funded by a combination of an employer contribution and a mandatory employee contribution. Employees can also make tax-deferred contributions to a supplemental savings account. A standard lifecycle savings model predicts a "dollar-for-dollar" trade off between supplemental savings and the combined regular pension contributions made on behalf of an employee. Contrary to this prediction, we estimate that each additional dollar of employee contributions leads to a 70 cent reduction in supplemental savings, whereas each dollar of employer contributions generates only a 30 cent reduction. The asymmetry--which is consistent with different "mental accounts" for employer and employee contributions--provides further evidence of the sensitivity of individual savings decisions to the precise details of their pension plan. <http://ftp.iza.org/dp2939.pdf>

11. CENTER FOR ECONOMIC STUDIES/IFO INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH (CESIFO) [MUNICH, BAVARIA, GERMANY]: "Pension Reform and Labor Market Incentives," by Walter H. Fisher and Christian Keuschnigg (WP 2057, July 2007, .pdf format, 40p.). Links to an abstract and full text are available at: [http://www.cesifo-group.de/portal/page/portal/ifoHome/b-publ/b3publwp/wp\\_abstract?p\\_file\\_id=14418](http://www.cesifo-group.de/portal/page/portal/ifoHome/b-publ/b3publwp/wp_abstract?p_file_id=14418)

12. TIAA-CREF INSTITUTE: "TIAA-CREF Paul A. Samuelson Award." The TIAA-CREF Paul A. Samuelson Award recognizes outstanding scholarly writing on issues related to lifelong financial security. Named in honor of the Nobel Laureate and former CREF trustee, this award is given each year in recognition of an outstanding research publication containing ideas that the public and private sectors can use to maintain and improve Americans' financial well being. The author(s) of the winning publication will receive an award of \$10,000. One runner-up publication will be selected and recognized with a Certificate of Excellence and a \$1,000 prize." For more information see: <http://www.tiaa-crefinstitute.org/awards/samuelson/index.html>