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B. "Comparing Long-Term Care in Germany and the United States," by Mary Jo Gibson and Donald L. Redfoot (October 2007, .pdf format, 68p.).

http://www.aarp.org/research/longtermcare/trends/2007_19_usgerman_ltc.html

C. "AARP Bulletin Poll on Financial Literacy," by Dawn V. Nelson (October 2007, Executive Summary, .pdf format, 7p.).

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E. "Nursing Homes," by Ari N. Houser (Fact Sheet, October 2007, HTML and .pdf format, 2p.).

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5. POPULATION REFERENCE BUREAU PERIODICAL: _Today's Research on Aging: Program and Policy Implications_ (No. 8, October 2007, .pdf format, 5p.).

<http://www.prb.org/pdf07/TodaysResearchAging8.pdf>

6. HEALTH AFFAIRS ARTICLE: "How Much 'Skin In The Game' Do Medicare Beneficiaries Have? The Increasing Financial Burden Of Health Care Spending, 1997-2003, by Patricia Neuman, Juliette Cubanski, Katherine

A. Desmond and Thomas H. Rice (Vol. 26, No. 6, November/December 2007, HTML and .pdf format, p. 1692-1701). This article is available free of charge.

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7. NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH:

A. "Financial Literacy and Stock Market Participation," by Maarten van Rooij, Annamaria Lusardi, and Rob Alessie (w13565, October 2007, .pdf format, 46p.).

Abstract: Individuals are increasingly put in charge of their financial security after retirement. Moreover, the supply of complex financial products has increased considerably over the years. However, we still have little or no information about whether individuals have the financial knowledge and skills to navigate this new financial environment. To better understand financial literacy and its relation to financial decision-making, we have devised two special modules for the DNB Household Survey. We have designed questions to measure numeracy and basic knowledge related to the working of inflation and interest rates, as well as questions to measure more advanced financial knowledge related to financial market instruments (stocks, bonds, and mutual funds). We evaluate the importance of financial literacy by studying its relation to the stock market: Are more financially knowledgeable individuals more likely to hold stocks? To assess the direction of causality, we make use of questions measuring financial knowledge before investing in the stock market. We find that, while the understanding of basic economic concepts related to inflation and interest rate compounding is far from perfect, it outperforms the limited knowledge of stocks and bonds, the concept of risk diversification, and the working of financial markets. We also find that the measurement of financial literacy is very sensitive to the wording of survey questions. This provides additional evidence for limited financial knowledge. Finally, we report evidence of an independent effect of financial literacy on stock market participation: Those who have low financial literacy are significantly less likely to invest in stocks. <http://papers.nber.org/papers/W13565>

B. "Labor Market Status and Transitions during the Pre-Retirement Years: Learning from International Differences," by Arie Kapteyn, James P. Smith, Arthur van Soest, James Banks (w13536, October 2007, .pdf format, 47p.).

Abstract: Many western industrialized countries face strong budgetary pressures due to the aging of the baby boom generations and the general trends toward earlier ages of retirement. We use the American PSID and the European Community Household Panel (ECHP) to explain differences in prevalence and dynamics of self-reported work disability and labor force status. To that end we specify a two-equation dynamic panel data model describing the dynamics of labor force status and self-reported work disability. When we apply the U.S. parameters to the equations for the thirteen European countries we consider, the result is generally that work disability is lower and employment is higher. Furthermore, measures of employment protection across the different countries suggest that increased employment protection reduces reentry into the labor force and hence is a major factor explaining employment differences in the pre-retirement years. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w13536>

8. INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND: "Policy Challenges of Population Aging in Ireland," by Dennis P.J. Botman and Dora M. Iakova (Working Paper 07/247, October 2007, .pdf format, 15p.). Links to a summary and full text are available at:

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.cfm?sk=21420.0>