

1. CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE REPORT: "Summary of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA)," by Patrick Purcell and Jennifer Staman (RL34443, April 2008, .pdf format, 72p.). <http://openocrs.cdt.org/document/RL34443>

2. INTERNATIONAL LONGEVITY CENTRE [LONDON] REPORT: "Obesity and Public Health Policy: Lessons from Tobacco Control," by Primrose Musingarimi (April 2008, .pdf format, 17p.). [http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/files/pdf\\_pdf\\_53.pdf](http://www.ilcuk.org.uk/files/pdf_pdf_53.pdf)

3. NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH: "The Retirement Consumption Puzzle: Actual Spending Change in Panel Data," by Michael D. Hurd and Susann Rohwedder (w13929, April 2008, .pdf format, 50p.).

Abstract:

The simple one-good model of life-cycle consumption requires that consumption be continuous over retirement; yet prior research based on partial measures of consumption or on synthetic panels indicates that spending drops at retirement, a result that has been called the retirement-consumption puzzle. Using Panel data on total spending, nondurable spending and food spending, we find that spending declines at small rates over retirement, at rates that could be explained by mechanisms such as the cessation of work-related expenses, unexpected retirement due to a health shock or by the substitution of time for spending. In the low-wealth population where spending did decline at higher rates, the main explanation for the decline appears to be a high rate of early retirement due to poor health. We conclude that at the population level there is no retirement consumption puzzle in our data, and that in subpopulations where there were substantial declines, conventional economic theory can provide the main explanation.

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w13929>

4. AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE: Markets Without Magic: How Competition Might Save Medicare by Mark V. Pauly (April 2008, ISBN: 978-8447-4261-8, 71p.).

[http://www.aei.org/books/bookID.929,filter.all/book\\_detail.asp](http://www.aei.org/books/bookID.929,filter.all/book_detail.asp)

5. PANEL STUDY OF INCOME DYNAMICS BIBLIOGRAPHY UPDATE: The University of Michigan Institute for Social Research PSID has recently added the following item to its bibliography. The entire bibliography can be searched or browsed in various ways at:

<http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Publications/Bibliography/default.aspx>

Hilber, Christian A. L. and Liu, Yingchun. Explaining the Black-White Homeownership Gap: The Role of Own Wealth, Parental Externalities and Locational Preferences. *Journal of Housing Economics*. 2008; ( ): .

Croix, de la, David and Docquier, Frederic. School Attendance and Skill Premiums in France and the U.S.: A General Equilibrium Approach. *Fiscal Studies*. 2007; 28(4):383-417.