

1. US GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT:

A. "State and Local Government Retiree Benefits: Current Funded Status of Pension and Health Benefits," (GAO-08-223, January 2008, .pdf format, 27p.).

<http://www.gao.gov/docsearch/abstract.php?rptno=GAO-08-223>

B. "Medicare Advantage: Increased Spending Relative to Medicare Fee-for-Service May Not Always Reduce Beneficiary Out-of-Pocket Costs," (GAO-08-359, February 2008, .pdf format, 50p.).

<http://www.gao.gov/docsearch/abstract.php?rptno=GAO-08-359>

2. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MODELLING (UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA) ONLINE PRESENTATION: "Prioritisation and Distribution of Government Funds for Australia's Ageing Population," by Laurie Brown (Presentation to Ageing Population Policy & Planning Conference, February 2008, .pdf format, 35 slides).

https://guard.canberra.edu.au/natsem/index.php?mode=download&file_id=825

3. CENTER FOR RETIREMENT RESEARCH AT BOSTON COLLEGE STATISTICAL BRIEF: "What Do We Know About the Universe of State and Local Plans," by Alicia H. Munnell, Kelly Haverstick, Mauricio Soto, and Jean-Pierre Aubry (State and Local Pension Plans No. 4, March 2008, .pdf format, 10p.).

http://crr.bc.edu/briefs/what_do_we_know_about_the_universe_of_state_and_local_plans.html

4. URBAN INSTITUTE BRIEF: "Do Assets Change the Racial Profile of Poverty among Older Adults?" by Barbara Butrica (Opportunity and Ownership Facts No. 8, March 2008, .pdf and HTML format, 1p.).

<http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=411620>

5. CENTER FOR RETIREMENT RESEARCH AT BOSTON COLLEGE:

A. "Older Women's Income and Wealth Packages in Cross-National Perspective," by Timothy M. Smeeding (WP No. 2008-1, February 2008, .pdf format, 47p.). Links to the abstract and full-text can be found at:

http://crr.bc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=523&Itemid=3

B. "Saving and Wealth Accumulation in the PSID, 1984-2005," by Barry P. Bosworth and Sarah Anders (WP No. 2008-2, February 2008, .pdf format, 29p.). Links to the abstract and full-text can be found at:

http://crr.bc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=524&Itemid=3

C. "How the Income Tax Treatment of Saving and Social Security Benefits May Affect Boomers' Retirement Incomes," by Barbara A. Butrica, Karen E. Smith, and Eric Toder (WP No. 2008-3, February 2008, .pdf format, 35p.). Links to the abstract and full-text can be found at:

http://crr.bc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=535&Itemid=3

D. "Do Out-of-Pocket Health Care Costs Delay Retirement?" by Richard W. Johnson, Rudolph G. Penner, and Desmond Toohey (WP No. 2008-4, February 2008, .pdf format, 36p.). Links to the abstract and full-text can be found at:

http://crr.bc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=525&Itemid=3

E. "The Trajectory of Wealth in Retirement," by David A. Love, Michael G. Palumbo, and Paul A. Smith (WP No. 2008-7, February 2008, .pdf format, 49p.). Links to the abstract and full-text can be found at:

http://crr.bc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=528&Itemid=3

6. WORLD BANK: "Risk-based supervision of pension funds in Australia," by Graeme Thompson (Policy Research Working Paper No. WPS 4539, February 2008, .pdf and ASCII format, 38p.). Links to the abstract and full-text can be found at:

http://econ.worldbank.org/external/default/main?pagePK=64165259&theSitePK=469382&piPK=64165421&menuPK=64166093&entityID=000158349_20080229141422

7. HRS BIBLIOGRAPHY UPDATES: The University of Michigan Institute for Social Research Health and Retirement Study has recently updated its bibliography. The full bibliography can be found at:

http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/papers/sho_papers.php?hfyle=bib_all

HRS has also added a new page that enables users to search for online citations. The search page can be found at: http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/papers/sho_papers.php?hfyle=citesearch

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8. "Look who's 50! AARP: Senior' group has become behemoth with numbers its strength, weakness," by Bill Lohmann (_Richmond [Virginia] Times-Dispatch_, Mar. 9, 2008).

<http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/entertainment.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-03-09-0047.html>

9. "Some Seniors Victimized in Reverse Mortgage Boom," by Liane Hansen (US National Public Radio _Weekend Edition: Sunday_, Mar. 9, 2008, audio software needed to listen to this story, running time 12 minutes, 34 seconds).

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=87994065>

10. US SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION INVESTIGATION REPORT: "Report of Investigation Pursuant to Section 21(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934: The Retirement Systems of Alabama," (Release No. 57446, March 2008.).

<http://www.sec.gov/litigation/investreport/34-57446.htm>

11. CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE REPORT: "Impact of Rising Energy Costs on Older Americans," by Janemarie Mulvey (RS22826, March 2008, .pdf format, 6p.).

<http://opencrs.cdt.org/document/RS22826/2008-03-04>

12. STATISTICS CANADA/STATISTIQUE CANADA REPORT: "Income security and stability during retirement in Canada," by Sebastien LaRoche-Cote, John Myles and Garnett Picot (Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series No. 306, March 2008, .pdf format, 59p.).

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/11F0019MIE/11F0019MIE2008306.htm>

13. CANADIAN SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING REPORT: "Issues and Options for an Aging Population," by Sharon Carstairs and Wilbert Joseph Keon (March 2008, .pdf format, 76p.).

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/39/2/parlbus/commbus/senate/com-e/agei-e/rep-e/repfinmar08-e.pdf>

14. UK NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE REPORT: "Pension Trends" (March 2008, .pdf format, .pdf and Microsoft Excel format).

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=14173&More=n>

13. AARP, VARIOUS:

A. "Ohio Health Care: A Study of Current Challenges and the Support for State Reform," by Joanne Binette and Erica L. Dinger (Research Report, February 2008, .pdf format, 27p.).

http://www.aarp.org/research/health/carefinancing/oh_health_08.html

B. "South Dakota Health Care: Accessible and Affordable for All," by Rachele Cummins and Erica L. Dinger (Research Report, February 2008, .pdf format, 18p.).

http://www.aarp.org/research/health/carefinancing/sd_health_08.html

14. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-LOS ANGELES [UCLA] CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICY RESEARCH REPORTS:

A. "Federal Poverty Guideline Underestimates Costs of Living for Older Persons in California," by Steven P. Wallace and L. Crisel Molina (February 2008, .pdf format, 4p.).

<http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/publication.asp?pubID=247>

B. "Elders Living on the Edge: The Impact of California Support Programs When Income Falls Short in Retirement," (February 2008, .pdf format, 6p.).

http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/eess0208_pdf/wow_supp.pdf

15. AMERICA'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS PRESS RELEASE: "New Harris Survey Finds that Most Baby Boomers Underestimate Disability Risk" (Mar. 7, 2008). The press release links to a memo of survey findings and survey questionnaire (.pdf format).

<http://www.ahip.org/content/pressrelease.aspx?docid=22627>

More information about AHIP: <http://www.ahip.org/content/default.aspx?bc=31>

16. EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH POLICY BRIEF:

"Features and Challenges of Population Ageing: The European Perspective," by Asghar Zaidi (March 2008, .pdf format, 15p.). http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=1143

17. INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF LABOR (IZA) [UNIVERSITY OF BONN, GERMANY]:

"Private Wealth and Job Exit at Older Age: A Random Effects Model," by Hans Bloemen (Discussion Paper No. 3386, March 2008, .pdf format, 37p.). Abstract:

Private wealth holdings are likely to become an increasingly important determinant in the job exit decision of elderly workers. Net wealth may correlate with worker's characteristics that also determine the exit out of a job. It is therefore important to include a rich set of observed characteristics in an empirical model for retirement in order to measure the (marginal) effect of wealth on the job exit rate. But even with a rich set of regressors the question remains whether there are unobservable worker's characteristics that affect both net wealth and the job exit rate. We specify a simultaneous equations model for job exit transitions with multiple destinations, net wealth, and the initial labour market state. The job exit rates and the net wealth equation contain random effects. We allow for correlation between the random effects of job exit and net wealth, and the initial labour market state. <http://ftp.iza.org/dp3386.pdf>

18. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF AN AGING POPULATION (SEDAP) [MCMASTER UNIVERSITY, HAMILTON ONTARIO]:

A. "Using Statistics Canada LifePaths Microsimulation Model to Project the Health Status of Canadian Elderly," by Jacques Legare and Yann Decarie (Research Paper 227, 2008, .pdf format, 19p.).

Abstract: Complex population projections usually use microsimulation models; in Canada, Statistics Canada has developed a global dynamic microsimulation model named LifePaths in the Modgen programming language to be used in policy research. LifePaths provides a platform to build on for our research program, conjointly with Dr Janice Keefe from Mount Saint Vincent University, on projections of the Canadian chronic homecare needs for the elderly up to 2031 and of the human resources required. Beside marital status, family networks and living arrangements, future health status of the elderly is a key variable, but an intricate one. Since health status transitions were previously conditioned only on age and sex, we will use here the current disability module of LifePaths with longitudinal data from Canada's National Population Health Survey (NPHS). These new health status transitions are considering other significant explicative variables like marital status, education etc. We will then present projections of future Canadian elderly by health status and a comparison with nine European countries for the Future Elderly Living Conditions in Europe (FELICIE) Research Program which has used the same approach. Our previous researches have shown the importance of future disability level for the management of an elderly society. The main output of the present paper would first produce, with new health scenarios, new estimates for Canada of elderly in poor health, for those aged 75 and over. Secondly, it would

produce an interesting comparative analysis, useful especially for implementing new policies for the well-being of the Canadian elderly. <http://socserv.socsci.mcmaster.ca/sedap/p/sedap227.pdf>

B. "Age-specific Income Inequality and Life Expectancy: New Evidence," by Steven G. Prus and Robert L. Brown (Research Paper 229, February 2008, .pdf format, 24p.).

Abstract:

Objectives: The study has two primary goals. First, to test the hypothesis that higher levels of income inequality are related to lower levels of population health with updated data from around year 2000. Second, to examine the inequality-health relationship across the life course with particular focus on old age when income distributions often shift dramatically.

Design: Correlation techniques were used to assess the relationship between income inequality (Gini ratio) at ages 0+, 25+, 65+, 75+, and 85+ and life expectancy at corresponding ages (0, 25, 65, 75, 85) by sex, before and after adjusting for average population income. Analyses were conducted on two sets of data: 18 wealthy countries and 28 wealthy and non-wealthy countries.

Data sources: International cross-sectional data on income and life expectancy from about year 2000 were derived from the Luxembourg Income Study and the United Nations Demographic Yearbook respectively.

Results: Among wealthy countries the negative effect of income inequality on life expectancy at birth becomes insignificant after controlling for average absolute income: the correlation coefficient changes from -0.603 to -0.207 for men and -0.605 to 0.024 for women. A similar pattern is observed at age 25. By contrast, the effect becomes increasingly positive and significant across old age, notably for males, regardless of adjustments for average population income or countries of observation.

Conclusions: These updated results do not support the inequality-health hypothesis. The relationship between income inequality and life expectancy at earlier ages in wealthy countries can be explained by the confounding effect of average absolute income. In old age the data are entirely contrary to the hypothesis. More research is needed to understand the mechanisms that facilitate the increasing positive effect of income inequality on life expectancy in late life.

<http://socserv.socsci.mcmaster.ca/sedap/p/sedap229.pdf>