Untapped work capacity among old persons and their potential contributions to the "longevity demographic dividend" in Japan

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Figure 4: Senior Population in Asia and the Pacific, 1950–2100

Source: ADB calculations using data from the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.





































The NTA system will provide important new information relevant to the following four issues:

Intergenerational equity and poverty
 Aging policy
 Childbearing incentives
 Analysis of the two demographic dividends

Demographic changes and implication on growth Sequential gains from demographic dividends

First demographic dividend through the expansion of the workforce

Second demographic dividend through investing in human capital, leading to higher productivity

Third demographic dividend or longevity dividend, i.e. the gains from investing in longevity and longer working life

(1) Generation of the first demographic dividend

Economic support ratio for Japan, 1950-2050



Most important graph in 17 Asian countries



Normalized by mean yl ages 30-49



(2) Generation of the second demographic dividend

The second demographic dividend arises when individuals increase demand for wealth to support their consumption in old age,

particularly when the life span is prolonged!



Higher financial literacy is likely to boost the demand for human capital

(3) Generation of the third demographic dividend

Reasons for quitting job for those aged 65 or over: 1987-2012, Japan





■LT 55 ■55 ■56-59 ■60 ■61-64 ■65 ■66 or more

"Work Capacity"

- "Work capacity": the extent to which older adults can potentially extend their work lives
 (1) Milligan-Wise method: The relationship between mortality and employment
- (2) Cutler-Meara method: The relationship between health and employment at prime age
- (3) Over/under employment (Usui, Shimizutani and Oshio, 2015) presentation in 2015 by Usui

Data

- JSTAR (Japanese Study on Aging and Retirement)
- 1st wave in 2007 in 5 cities, 2nd wave in 2009
 (5+2 cities) and 3rd wave in 2011/12 (7+3 cities)
- 4th wave (2013-2014) in 10 cities completed and now in data cleaning process
- The sample size in the baseline (5 cities in 2007, 2 cities in 2009, and 3 cities in 2011) is about 8,000 with a response rate of 60%
- Comparable with HRS/ELSA/SHARE

"Untapped Work Capacity"

- we have attempted to quantify the untapped work capacity in Japan in terms of health status
- We do not include a number of factors that affect labor-force participation (e.g., wages), but focus on health and disability to examine to what extent the labor supply of the elderly is limited
We employ a linear probability model to regress a binary variable of employment, which is equal to 1 if the individual is in the labor force (both working and looking for a job) and 0 if the individual is out of the labor force, with the following explanation...

Variables:

- 1. Dummy variables for self-reported health status (fivepoint scale)
- Prevalence of limitations on instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs)
- 3. CESD depression scale
- 4. Nagi physical ability index
- 5. Limitations in sensory organs (eyesight, hearing and chewing)
- Individual attributes, such as sex, educational attainment and marital status. In addition, dummy variables for each municipality and survey years are included

- We pool all the observations from the first to third waves of JSTAR collected in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013
- We use the sample of individuals aged 50 to 59 and combine both sexes for the baseline regression
- We implicitly assume that adults aged 50 to 59 are likely to be in the labor force unless their health is impaired. We have a sample of 4,350 person-year observations

- We do not use the longitudinal feature of the JSTAR sample
- We are interested in the prevalence of work capacity (factors that determine the level of work capacity at a particular time) by age, rather than the incidence (i.e., factors that change work capacity over time) along with age

	Model 2		
Variables	Coefficient	S.E	
Sex			
Male	0.226	0.011	**
Female (reference)			
Education			
Junior high school graduates (reference	-	-	
Senior high school graduates	0.036	0.018	**
College graduates	0.033	0.019	**
University graduates	0.069	0.020	**
Currently married	-0.081	0.013	**
Currently married x male	-	-	
Self-rate health status			
Excellent	0.041	0.014	**
Very good (reference)	-	-	
Good	-0.005	0.013	**
Fair	-0.060	0.020	**
Poor	-0.276	0.043	**
CESD>=16	0.015	0.013	**
IADL>=1	0.001	0.011	**
Nagi index			
Difficulty in any activities>=1	-	-	
Walking 100 meters	-0.166	0.064	*
Sitting continuously for two hours	-0.080	0.045	**
Standing up from a chair after sitting for a long time	0.000	0.038	**
Climbing several steps without using the handrail	-0.065	0.046	**
Climbing one step without using the handrail	-0.023	0.058	*
Squatting or kneeling	-0.040	0.035	**
Raising hands above the shoulders	-0.022	0.054	*
Pushing and pulling a large object such as a living-room chair or sofa	-0.048	0.052	*
Lifting and carrying an object weighing more than 5kg	-0.124	0.052	*

Regression Result 1 (SES)





Regression Result 3 (Health Status 2 (NAGI Index))



Regression Result 4 (Health Status 3 (Sensory Organ))



 The estimated regression for those 50-59 was applied to those aged 60-79 to compute the additional work force to be generated



Actual working and estimated work capacity in Japan

Age

Actual working and estimated work capacity in Japan



"Longevity (Silver) Demographic Dividend"

- Applied three different wage levels:
- Case1: NTA's age-specific labor income profile
- Case2: Market wage rates
- Case3: Minimum wages

Trends in economic support ratios in Japan



Trends in economic support ratios in Japan



Trends in economic support ratios in Japan



Trends in economic support ratios in Japan

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Trends in economic support ratios in Japan

In Case II, the labour income to be generated by the additional elderly workers corresponds to 4.8% of Japan's real GDP in 2014.

Longevity (Silver) demographic dividend

Trends in LABOR and WR (60-64/25-29)

Trends in LABOR and WR (65p/25-29)

Results of regression analysis for aged 60-64 versus various age groups

	Explanatory variables			
WR(Age group)	Intercept	LABOR	CYCLE	Adj. R⁻
WR(60-64/25-29)	1.136 *	-0.229	0.600 *	0.319
	(0.067)	(0.116)	(0.170)	
WR(60-64/30-34)	0.897 *	-0.112	0.436	0.205
	(0.055)	(0.093)	(0.169)	
WR(60-64/35-39)	0.769 *	-0.057	0.251	0.089
	(0.046)	(0.081)	(0.159)	
WR(60-64/40-44)	0.749*	-0.107	0.061	
	(0.047)	(0.083)	(0.162)	0.066
WR(60-64/45-49)	0.794 *	-0.227	-0.192	0.220
	(0.048)	(0.089)	(0.151)	

Values in parentheses bellow each coefficient are standard errors.

* is 5% significant level.

Malaysia

Malaysia's silver demographic dividend

- Data source: 2011 National Health and Morbidity Survey (Institute of Public Health)
- Specification of regressions comparable to the Japanese case

Explanatory varia	bles	Coefficient	S.E
Constant		0.278	0.034 ***
Sex	Male	0.404	0.017 ***
	Female (reference)	-	-
Ethnic	Malay (reference)	-	-
	Chinese	0.046	0.020 **
	Indian	-0.013	0.029
	Other Bumiputeras	0.006	0.031
	Others	0.126	0.047 ***
Education	No formal education (reference)	-	-
	Primary education	0.040	0.030
	Secondary education	0.097	0.031 ***
	Tertiary education	0.228	0.039 ***
Marital status	Married (reference)	-	-
	Single	0.049	0.042
	Widow/Widower/Divorcee	0.034	0.027
Self-rated health status	Good	0.041	0.020 **
	Moderate (reference)	-	-
	Bad	-0.119	0.061 *
Depression scale		0.007	0.005
Difficulty in work	and daily activities	-0.023	0.021
Eyesight		0.007	0.021

Estimated regression, Malaysia, 2011

Adjusted R squared = 0.193

The work capacity increased by 2.14 times

- The increased amount of labour income ranges from 0.55% (based upon NTA labour income) to 0.95% (based on minimum wages) of Malaysia's GDP in 2011
- The proportion of those 65 and over was 5.1% in Malaysia. In contrast, Japan's 2009 population ageing level was 22.7%. The application of Japan's 2009 population aging level to the Malaysian result pertaining to the labour income growth leads the growth rates from 2.5% to 4.2%.
- This range is highly comparable to the Japanese computational results

Figure 4: Senior Population in Asia and the Pacific, 1950–2100

Source: ADB calculations using data from the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.

Caution! Increased income may affect **consumption.** This needs complex modelling work

AGE AND PRODUCTIVITY

Age and productivity

Work performance

Estimates based on approaches from supervisors' ratings, productivity records, and firm-level analyses tend to find a flat or hump-shaped relation (Skirbekk 2008, Warr 2004)

These are mainly measures of output, typically cross-sectional evidence, and some are based on subjective assessment

Academic output, innovations and entrepreneurship

Output is highest for academics and researchers in their 20s to 40s (Stephan and Levin 1988, Oster and Hamermesh 1998, Jones 2004)

Average ages for highest levels of creativity (musicians, writers, painters) are in the 30s and 40s (female authors write slightly more in their 50s) (Miller 1999). Entrepreneurship may peak in 20s and 30s (GEM 2007)

Causes of age-variation in productivity

Health impairments (mobility restrictions, back problems, reduced physical strength) decreasingly pose a hurdle for work. e.g., only 15% of 65-year-old Canadians have a health condition that justifies their exit from the workforce (Michaud et al. 1996)

Age-specific physical impairments have decreased substantially over time, e.g., Costa (2000) finds a decrease in chronic disease rates by 66% from the early 1900s to the 1970s and 1980s among men aged 50 to 74 for the US

Cognitive ability scores predict job performance better than any other observable characteristic (Schmidt and Hunter 1998, Jenkins 2001)

Causes of age-variation in productivity

Fluid cognitive abilities (memory, learning, perceptual speed, and reasoning abilities) decline by age, crystallized abilities (vocabulary size and semantic meaning) are age-stable (Schaie 1994, Park et al. 2002). The decline in fluid abilities over the life cycle occurs in a similar fashion between nations and for both genders (Maitland et al., 2000; Park et al., 1999)

Job experience is an important job performance determinant (e.g., Golini et al. 2003). Additional experience benefits productivity only up to a point: It possibly takes 10 years to attain expert performance in analytic work and research (Ericsson and Lehmann 1996, Lesgold 1984). Only 0.6% of employers prefer workers with more than 10 years of experience (Econ 1998)

Age and productivity

Age-productivity potential estimates

Age-specific skill levels (relative to 25-34 year olds) (GATB)

Focusing on determinants of productivity variation by age -> experience raises productivity in the first years in the labour market, cognitive ability decline implies lower productivity in the latter half (Skirbekk 2008).
Age and productivity

Weighting abilities by their labor market relevance produces a hump-shaped age productivity curve



Cognitive abilities by cohort





(Finkel et al. 2007)

Cross-sectional versus longitudinal data

Cross-sectional data

Plus: More datasets (particularly nationally representative), comparability across countriesMinus: Age-varation can be due to cohort effects rather than life cycle effects (e.g., Flynn 1987)

Longitudinal data

Plus: Possible to identify age-variation without cohort influences
Minus: Selective attrition bias, e.g., Seattle Longitudinal Study lost over half of initial sample by third wave (Schaie 1994). Learning effects of repetitions of similar tests, period influences can affect age-variation (Kelemen et al. 2007)

Finding comparable indicators of age productivity potential across nations

Survey responses on health and productivity often not comparable

 Self-assessed health or self-rated abilities differ by cohorts and culture (e.g., Kapteyn et al. 2008, von Gaudecker et al. 2009)

Measures with a high degree of objectivity may include

- Body Mass Index, Grip strength, Vision, Hearing
- Mental abilities that are minimally affected by culture or personal life experiences

Our Analysis:

Comparable datasets from the US, Europe, Mexico, and China from 2000s

Verbal immediate and delayed recall (10 words) as measure for cognitive abilities

- Control for "learning effects" and selective attrition

Cognitive age-variation in Europe, North America, Mexico, and China



Ageing, defined as a given cognitive functioning level, differs by more than 25 years across countries

Mean age-group-specific immediate recall scores



	Ratio (rank)	
	CADR*	OADR**
United States of America	0.10 (1)	0.19 (4)
Northern Europe (Denmark, England, Ireland, Sweden)	0.12 (2)	0.24 [(5)
India	0.14 (3)	0.07 [(1)
Mexico	0.14 (4)	0.09 [(2)
China	0.15 (5)	0.12 (3)
Continental Europe (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic,	0.18 (6)	0.25 (6)
France, Germany, Netherland, Poland, Switzerland)	_	_
Japan	0.19 (7)	0.30 [(8)
Southern Europe (Greece, Italy, Spain)	0.32 (8)	0.27 (7)
Source: Population data for year 2005 from UN (2009).		
Survey data from HRS, SAGE, SHARE, and JSTAR.		
*CADR: Cognition-adjusted dependency ratio		
**OADR: Old-age dependency ratio (age 65+ / age 15-64	4)	

Japan



Learning effects? Selective attrition? Flynn effect?

NTA and HRS

20 countries



GRACIAS