Centre for Research on the Economics of Ageing



NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 9

MARCH 2019

CREA's objective is to engage in a long-term study on the behavioural aspects of ageing in Singapore. Your unwavering support through the monthly survey participation has been a strong pillar in enabling us to constantly achieve this goal.

One of the main goals of our research study is to find out how well households in Singapore are prepared financially for their retirement. That is why we included a special module in the January survey to get an inventory of households' assets. This module was especially detailed for two reasons. First, it is difficult for most people to estimate the total value of their assets. Going through each component helps to develop this information accurately. Second, the composition of households' assets is essential for our study. For example, we need to know if the CPF savings are inadequate, whether you have other liquid assets to finance your everyday needs, or if the household runs a small business in order to get by, and so on.

Objective and Description

In an aim to broaden our horizons and widen our scope of study, CREA organized for the Japan-Singapore Academic Forum on Ageing on the 29th and 30th of August 2018. The objectives of this Forum were to:

- Discuss on the key findings on health and labour topics published by the respective research centers from the two countries
- Draw parallels between the ageing issues and policies between Singapore and Japan
- Forge collaborations between researchers at CREA and HIAS Health¹

The forum was attended by a diverse group of academics, policy analysts, government bodies and Non-Governmental Organizations. On the first day, researchers from both CREA and Hitotsubashi University engaged in a series of 10 academic presentations, covering issues ranging from health shocks, unemployment and retirement adequacy. During the Policy Roundtable on the second day, researchers engaged in extensive discussions on the policy implications based on the data you provided us with.



Larger Implications

The forum and the policy roundtable created a platform for us to analyze the similarities and differences between Japan and Singapore and enabled us to explore potentially new policies and identify shortcomings in the existing ones.

As CREA grows into an internationally sought-after data source, we remain grateful to all of you who make it possible, whose unflagging efforts shape the policies and future of today's and tomorrow's generations.

Each of us can make a difference. Together we make a change.

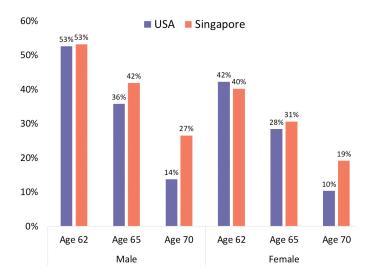
- Barbara Mikulski

¹HIAS Health: Research Center for Health Policy and Economics at the Hitotsubasshi Institute for Advanced Study

A Glance at Key Findings

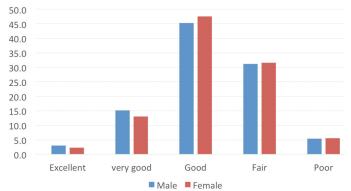
In this section, we share with you the key findings presented at the Japan-Singapore Academic Forum.

Work expectations in Singapore and America



In our surveys, we asked you about your expectations of working at ages 62, 65 and 70. In an aim to conduct a deeper analysis, we compared the data collected from all of you with the data collated from the Americans. Remarkably, a higher proportion of Singaporeans expected themselves to work at ages 65 and 70 compared to their American counterparts. Indeed, this result is a testament of the hardworking mindset present among Singaporeans!

Perceived health status



In the recent survey, we asked you to rate your health, given the options – excellent, very good, good, fair or poor. Majority of respondents of both genders perceived their health status to be good. This generally proves that Singaporeans are satisfied with their health status and do take concerted effort to ensure they align their health status with their expectations. Kudos Singaporeans!

Meeting Venues

Bishan Mind Stretcher 510 Bishan Street 13 #03-01 Singapore 570510

Bukit Merah Recovery Accountants 164 Bukit Merah Central #03-3655, Singapore 150164

Jurong East Regus Business Lounge

21 Jurong East Central 1 Jurong Regional Library Level 1, Singapore 609732

Tampines NTUC Income Building

300 Tampines Avenue 5 Level 9 Tampines Junction, Singapore 529653

Sembawang Just Edu Learning Centre

30 Sembawang Drive #04-04 Sun Plaza, Singapore 757713

Dates of Surveys

- April Survey: 1–21 April 2019
- May Survey: 1–26 May 2019
- June Survey: 1–23 June 2019

Confidentiality and Your Privacy

We treat the information you provide us in the strictest confidence and in full compliance with the Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (PDPA), under the legislation of the Personal Data Protection Commission of Singapore. The data transmission between our servers and web browsers is handled using highly secured protocols and an SSL certificate is installed in our domain. Your personal data and survey responses are kept in separate servers so that the data you provide cannot be traced back to you. Research is conducted on de-identified data and never on single observations. This de-identified data is used only by researchers approved by SMU, and the results collected will only be used for research purposes and reported as a statistic. Your details will never be passed to other organisations for commercial purposes.

Contact Us

If you have changed your address or telephone number, if you need any form of assistance in completing the survey, or if you have any questions or feedback, please contact us on our Centre Hotline at **6808 7910** (9am to 5pm, Mondays to Fridays) or by email at **<slp@smu.edu.sg**. We are always happy to hear from you.

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