Health Heterogeneity, Portfolio Choice and Wealth Inequality

Juergen Jung
Towson University

Chung Tran
Australian National University

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Disclaimer

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Introduction

- Question: To what extent health shocks affect wealth inequality?

- Macro-health literature
  - Capatina and Keane (2025); Hosseini, Kopecky and Zhao (2025); DeNardi, Pashchenko and Porapakkarm (2025); Mahler and Yum (2024*a*); Jung and Tran (2023)
  - Structural life-cycle models with a **single risk-free asset** and incomplete markets

- Main transmission channels of health so far incl.
  1. **Time preferences**
     Health ⇒ survival prob. (life expectancy) ⇒ savings and wealth accumulation (*health-longevity channel*)
  2. **Budget constraint**
     Health ⇒ labor earnings and medical expenditures ⇒ consumption and savings (*health-expenditure/income channel*)

- Missing channel (*health-wealth portfolio choice channel*)
  - Health ⇒ portfolio choice (share of **risky assets** differs) ⇒ investment returns differ ⇒ wealth accumulation ⇒ inequality later in life

This paper

- Macro-health lit. focuses on **how much** HH safe, we add **how** **(**or **where)** HHs save
  - This combines HH finance lit. (dealing with wealth portfolio choice) with Macro-Health lit.
  - HH finance lit. surveys: Gomes (2020) and Gomes, Haliassos and Ramadorai (2021)
- **Health-wealth portfolio channel**
  - If portfolio **composition** (ratio of risky assets) differs by health $\Rightarrow$ **returns** to investment differ by health
  - If health effect is persistent $\Rightarrow$ compounding of investment returns $\uparrow$ wealth gap over lifecycle (between health types)
  - Health heterogeneity affects dynamics of **how** (and how much) households save
  - Health-wealth channel has important implications for wealth inequality
  - **Health insurance** plays more important role in wealth redistribution

This paper

Quantify the health–wealth portfolio channel

1. **Empirical investigation**
   - PSID (1984–2019) and HRS (1992–2018)
   - Document lifecycle patterns of asset holdings and stock market participation by health status
2. **Structural analysis**
   - Lifecycle model w/ portfolio choice + counterfactual experiments
   - Quantify contribution of health and portfolio choice to wealth inequality

Main findings

1. Empirical investigation
   - Individuals w/ poor health 27–48 percentage points less likely to hold stocks
   - Gap persists within education groups and widens over the lifecycle

2. Structural analysis:
   - Health-wealth portfolio channel is quantitatively important
     Removing portfolio choice: P90/P50 $\downarrow$**55%**

   - Health insurance expansion reduces wealth inequality through the portfolio channel
     P90/P50 $\downarrow$**18–25%**

   - Mechanisms
     - Health shocks $\Rightarrow$ background risks and precautionary saving $\Rightarrow$ $\downarrow$ stock market participation
       Kimball (1993), Viceira (2001), Cocco, Gomes and Maenhout (2005), Heaton and Lucas (2000) and Yogo (2016)
     - Compounding turns modest early differences in portfolio composition into large wealth gaps at retirement

Related literature

- Macro-health economics
  - Hosseini, Kopecky and Zhao (2025); Capatina and Keane (2025); DeNardi, Pashchenko and Porapakkarm (2025); Mahler and Yum (2024*a*)
  - Chen, Feng and Gu (2025); Jung and Tran (2023); Jung and Tran (2016); Capatina (2015); De Nardi, French and Jones (2010); Jeske and Kitao (2009)

- Household finance $\Rightarrow$ lifecycle portfolio choice models
  - Seminal works: Samuelson (1969); Merton (1971)
  - Surveys: Gomes (2020) and Gomes, Haliassos and Ramadorai (2021)
  - Recent related: Campanale, Fugazza and Gomes (2015); Fagereng, Gottlieb and Guiso (2017); Gomes and Smirnova (2021); Tischbirek (2019)

- Health+investment portfolio
  - Yogo (2016) focus on retirees and housing, model starts at 65
  - Lusardi, Michaud and Mitchell (2017) knowledge accum. for "sophisticated" assets, health only affects old
  - Hugonnier and Pelgrin (2013) endog. health, closed form but no lifecycle consideration

This paper: Health at "45–55" $\Rightarrow$ generate wealth gap at 65 via 2 assets + role of health insurance

Detailed references

Health-wealth portfolio channel: Empirical evidence

Data

- **PSID** 1984–2019 and **HRS** 1992–2018
- Financial wealth
  - Focus on **financial wealth** (no housing, cars, real estate)
  - Collapse 20 asset categories into 2
    1. **Safe assets:** checking/savings accts, money market funds, CDs, bonds (gov't savings bonds, T-bills, corporate, municipal and foreign bonds, bond funds)
    2. **Risky assets:** stocks and mutual funds
    - IRAs & 401(k) limited info ⇒ assign 45.8% & 41% of holdings to risky assets (Tischbirek, 2019; Agnew, Balduzzi and Sundén, 2003)
    - PSID does not have info about 401(k)
- Health status
  - $\overbrace{\text{1 excellent, 2 verygood, 3 good,}}^{\text{Healthy}}\ \overbrace{\text{4 fair, 5 poor}}^{\text{Sick}}$
  - Two groups (healthy/sick) by health status at **age 45–55**

More details

Econometric models

- Reduced form, two part and selection models

- Poor health (Sick 45–55) $\Rightarrow$ risky asset share

$$y_{it} = \beta + \gamma \times 1_{\{\text{Sick } 45-55,\, i\}} + \delta \times Z_{it} + \varepsilon_{it}$$

  - y_{it} risky asset share (in financial portfolio) at age 60–70
  - $1_{\{\text{Sick } 45-55,\, i\}}$ indicator "bad health in at least one wave between 45–55"
  - Z_{it} controls
  - ε_{it} error term

PSID: Stock share at 60–70

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Sick at 45_55	-0.028***	-0.040***	-0.035***	0.008	0.004
	(0.008)	(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.017)	(0.015)
Observations	5625	5625	5625	2335	2335
R^2	0.323	0.302			0.107
Conditional P(Y>0)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Random Effects	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Weighted	No	Yes	No	No	Yes

PSID: Selection model

	Stock Share	P(Stocks)	Safe A. Share	P(Safe A.)
Sick at 45_55	0.003	-0.271***	0.036***	-0.198***
	(0.015)	(0.051)	(0.009)	(0.058)
Observations	5625		5625	

HRS regression results

Stochastic lifecycle model

Lifecycle model: portfolio choice, health & HI

- A stochastic lifecycle model of portfolio choice
  - Lifespan: Age 40–94
  - Three skill levels: No high school, high school and college
  - Two assets: Risky (stock) and safe (bond) assets
- Idiosyncratic shocks
  1. Health
     - Longevity
     - Health expenditure
     - Labor productivity
  2. Health insurance/employer type
  3. Labor
- Health insurance (HI)
  - Public HI: Medicaid & Medicare (w/ eligibility criteria)
  - Private HI: Employer sponsored HI (w/ community rating and tax deduct. premium)
- Government
  - Progressive inc. tax, payroll taxes, capital taxes (dividend, cap. gains & interest)
  - Soc. Security, Medicaid, Medicare, min. consumption program

Model details

Worker problem

State vector: $x_j = \left\{\vartheta, a_j, \epsilon_j^{incP}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right\} \in \{1,2,3\} \times R \times \{1,2,3,4\} \times \{1,2,3,4,5\} \times \{0,1\}$

$$V(x_j) = \max_{\{c_j, \ell_j, \alpha_j\}} \left\{ u(c_j, \ell_j) + \beta \mathbb{E}_{\left[\epsilon_{j+1}^{incP}, \epsilon_{j+1}^h, \epsilon_{j+1}^{\text{ehi}}, \epsilon_{j+1}^s \mid \epsilon_j^{incP}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right]} \left[\overbrace{\pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)}^{\text{Heal-long chan}} V(x_{j+1}) + \overbrace{\left(1 - \pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-longevity chan}} u^{\text{beq}}(a_{j+1}) \right] \right\}$$

s.t.

$$a_{j+1} = \tilde{R}_{j+1} \left(a_j + \overbrace{y_j\left(\ell_j, \vartheta, \epsilon_j^{incP}, \epsilon_j^h\right)}^{\text{Health-inc. channel}} + \text{tr}_j^{\text{si}} - \overbrace{o_j\left(m_j, \epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\text{ehi}}, y_j^{\text{agi}}, a_j\right)}^{\text{Health-exp. channel}} \underbrace{- 1_{\left[\epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}=1\right]} \text{prem}_j^{\text{ehi}}}_{\text{Health-exp. channel}} \underbrace{- \text{tax}_j}_{\text{H-exp. chan}} - (1 + \tau^c) c_j - 1_{[\alpha_j > 0]} q \right)$$

$$\tilde{R}_{j+1} = \overbrace{\alpha_j \left(1 + \tilde{r}_{net,j+1}^s\left(\epsilon_{j+1}^s\right)\right) + (1 - \alpha_j)\left(1 + \bar{r}_{net}^b\right)}^{\text{Health-wealth porfolio channel}}$$

$$\text{tax}_j = \text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right) + \text{tax}^{\text{ss}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}; \bar{y}^{\text{ss}}\right) + \text{tax}^{\text{mcare}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}\right)$$

More Details

Retiree problem

State vector: $x_j = \left\{\vartheta, a_j, \epsilon_j^h\right\} \in \{1,2,3\} \times R \times \{1,2,3,4,5\}$

$$V(x_j) = \max_{\{c_j, \alpha_j\}} \left\{ u(c_j) + \beta \mathbb{E}_{\left[\epsilon_{j+1}^h, \epsilon_{j+1}^s | \epsilon_j^h\right]} \left[\overbrace{\pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-longevity channel}} V(x_{j+1}) + \overbrace{\left(1 - \pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-longevity channel}} u^{\text{beq}}(a_{j+1}) \right] \right\}$$

s.t.

$$a_{j+1} = \tilde{R}_{j+1} \left(a_j + \text{tr}_j^{\text{ss}}\left(\bar{y}^{\vartheta}\right) + \text{tr}_j^{\text{si}} - \overbrace{o_j\left(m_j, \epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\text{ehi}}, y_j^{\text{agi}}, a_j\right)}^{\text{Health-exp. channel}} - \text{prem}^{\text{mcare}} \underbrace{-\text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right)}_{\text{Health-exp. channel}} - (1+\tau^c)\, c_j - 1_{[\alpha_j > 0]}\, q \right)$$

$$\tilde{R}_{j+1} = \overbrace{\alpha_j\left(1 + \tilde{r}_{net,j+1}^s\left(\epsilon_{j+1}^s\right)\right) + (1 - \alpha_j)\left(1 + \bar{r}_{net}^b\right)}^{\text{Health-wealth porfolio channel}}$$

More Details

Mapping the model to data

Parametrization, calibration and estimation

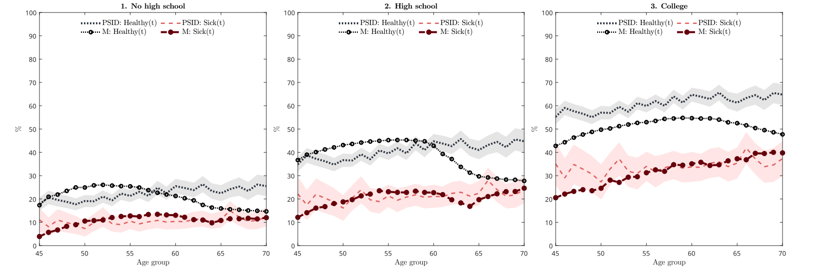
- External parameters and internally calibrated parameters from the following sources:
  - PSID for asset profiles, initial asset distribution
  - MEPS: labor supply, health shocks, health expenditures, coinsurance rates
  - Previous studies: labor productivity process, risk aversion parameter σ, the bequest parameter θ_2
- Estimation of the remaining internal parameters using the MSM:
  - Paras: time discount factor β, weight on consumption η, strength of bequest θ_1, the fixed costs of work $\bar{n}_j$ and stock market participation costs

$$\Theta = \left\{ \beta\left(\vartheta, \epsilon^h\right), \eta, \theta_1\left(\vartheta\right), \bar{n}_j\left(\vartheta, \epsilon^h\right), q(j,\vartheta) \right\}$$

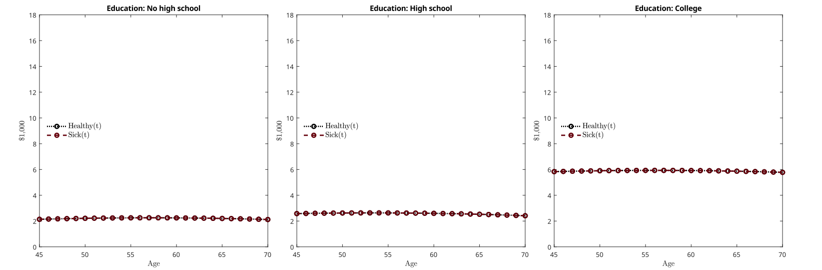
  - Method of simulated moments (MSM)

More calibration details More estimation details

Estimation target and estimated participation cost



Estimated participation cost



Asset shares regression: model vs data

	Model		PSID	
	Stock Share	P(Stocks)	Stock Share	P(Stocks)
Sick at 45_55	0.006***	-0.246***	0.003	-0.271***
	(0.001)	(0.003)	(0.015)	(0.051)
Unemployed at 45_55	0.017***	-0.480***	0.034***	-0.175***
	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.012)	(0.047)
Uninsured at 45_55	-0.001	-0.074***	-0.027	-0.382***
	(0.001)	(0.003)	(0.026)	(0.076)
Observations	945861		5625	

- Heckman-selection model
- Left: Regression w/ model generated data
- Right: Regression w/ PSID data

Model performance details

Quantitative Analysis

Experiments/Counterfactuals

Use the model to simulate data for 100,000 individuals from age 40 - 90

- Experiment 1: The benefit of good health
- Experiment 2: The contribution of health shocks and portfolio choice
- Experiment 3: Health insurance expansion

Experiment 1: Benefits of good health

- Counterfactual

  1. Everybody at age 45–55 draws good health (surprise shock)

  2. Everybody at age 40–death draws good health

- Calculate lifetime benefit/cost of good/bad health (annual averages) following DeNardi, Pashchenko and Porapakkarm (2025)

$$\overline{\text{benefit}}_i = \left(\frac{1}{\sum_{j=1}^{J} 1_{\text{alive}_j}} \right) \sum_{j=1}^{J} 1_{\text{alive}_j} \times \left(\overbrace{\left(y_{ij}^{**} - oop_{ij}^{**}\right)}^{\substack{\text{net of med expens.} \\ \text{always healthy}}} - \overbrace{\left(y_{ij}^{*} - oop_{ij}^{*}\right)}^{\substack{\text{net of med expens.} \\ \text{benchmark}}} \right)$$

Experiment 1: Results

	All	By skill level		
		Low	Medium	High
In good health between 45–55				
• % of time in bad health eliminated	8.89%	12.56%	8.10%	5.64%
• Medical cost $\downarrow$ + income $\uparrow$	\$3,278	\$3,815	\$3,070	\$3,032
• Welfare (CEV)	–	+9.72%	+8.11%	+5.55%

- In good health from 40–death $\Rightarrow$ benefit is \$7,913

Experiment 2: Health-wealth portfolio channel

- A. Two asset model

  1. Benchmark $\Rightarrow$ Health shocks + portfolio choice
  2. Remove bad health states (i.e., good health surprises)
     $\Rightarrow$ NO health shocks + portfolio choice

- B. Single asset model (removes portfolio choice)

  3. Health shocks + NO portfolio choice
  4. NO health shocks + NO portfolio choice
     (Removes **health-wealth-portfolio channel** completely)

Experiment 2: Results

	A. Two assets economy		B. Single asset economy	
	Health shocks	**No h.s.**	**Health shocks**	**No h.s.**
Wealth gap				
All age groups		Turning off health shocks matters more in 2 assets model!		
• P90/P50	13.58	7.14 ($\downarrow$**47.4%**)	6.07 ($\downarrow$55.3%)	4.11 ($\downarrow$69.73%)($\downarrow$**32.29%**)
Age 65				
• P90/P50	14.02	6.38 ($\downarrow$**54.5%**)	8.13 ($\downarrow$41.5%)	4.78 ($\downarrow$65.90%)($\downarrow$**41.21%**)
Age 65		**No h.s. (45–55)**		**No h.s. (45–55)**
• P90/P50	15.96	10.23 ($\downarrow$**35.9%**)	9.34 ($\downarrow$41.5%)	6.94 ($\downarrow$56.5%)($\downarrow$**25.7%**)

Decomposition profiles

Experiment 3: Counterfactual health insurance expansion

- **Benchmark HI**
  - Employer-sponsored health insurance (EHI) for workers
  - Medicare for retirees
  - Medicaid for the poor
- Policy 1**: Medicare for all**
  - Expansion of Medicare to all workers and retirees
- Policy 2**: EHI for all workers**
  - Expansion of EHI to all workers (keeping Medicare and Medicaid as is)

Experiment 3: Results

	Two assets economy w/ health shocks		
	Benchmark	Policy 1 **Medicare for all**	Policy 2 **EHI for all workers**
Assets	100	104.3	103.8
Stock participation			
• At 65: sick 45–55	19%	24%	23%
• At 65: healthy 45–55	37%	41%	41%
Wealth gap			
• All ages: **P90/P50**	13.58	11.09 ($\downarrow$**18.33%**)	11.10 ($\downarrow$**18.26%**)
• At 65: **P90/P50**	14.02	10.44 ($\downarrow$**25.5%**)	11.20 ($\downarrow$**20.11%**)
Welfare (CEV)	0	+1.97	+1.93

- Insurance reduces inequality $\Rightarrow$ enables some sick HHs to **enter risky asset markets**
- **Note:** HI expansion not fully funded (partial eqm.)

HI policy experiment profiles

Conclusion

Conclusion

- Study effects of health shocks on savings, portfolio choice and wealth accumulation over lifecycle

- Approach: Empirical and structural analysis
  - PSID + HRS: descriptive facts and panel regression models
  - Lifecycle model with two assets, health shocks and health insurance

- Main findings
  - **Empirical:** Poor health at ages 45–55 persistently reduces stock market participation — within education groups and across the lifecycle

  - **Structural:**
    - Health–wealth portfolio channel accounts for up to **47%** of the P90/P50 wealth gap
    - Single-asset models "only" accounts for **32%**

  - **Policy:**
    - Health insurance expansion reduces P90/P50 by **18–25%** and
    - Raises welfare by ~**2% CEV**, partly through increased risky-asset participation

Thank you!

Supplementary material

Related literature I

- Lifecycle portfolio investment literature starting with Samuelson (1969); Merton (1971) and recent surveys in Gomes (2020) and Gomes, Haliassos and Ramadorai (2021)
- Health and wealth inequality
  - Medical expenditures and access to health insurance: De Nardi, French and Jones (2010); Nakajima and Telyukova (2024); Chen, Feng and Gu (2025); De Nardi, Pashchenko and Porapakkarm (2025)
  - Health on labor supply and productivity: Prados (2018); Capatina and Keane (2025); De Nardi, Pashchenko and Porapakkarm (2025);
  - Lifestyle behaviors: Mahler and Yum (2024*b*)
- Wealth on proportion of risky assets has mixed results
  - positive effect: Wachter and Yogo (2010)
  - minor effect: Brunnermeier and Nagel (2008)
  - negative effect: Liu, Liu and Cai (2021)
- Wealth inequality/dynamics driven by heterogeneity in rates of return:Benhabib, Bisin and Zhu (2015); Gabaix et al. (2016); Benhabib, Bisin and Luo (2019)
- Additional channels
  - stock market entry/adjustment costs: Alan (2006); Bonaparte, Cooper and Zhu (2012); Fagereng, Gottlieb and Guiso (2017)

Related literature II

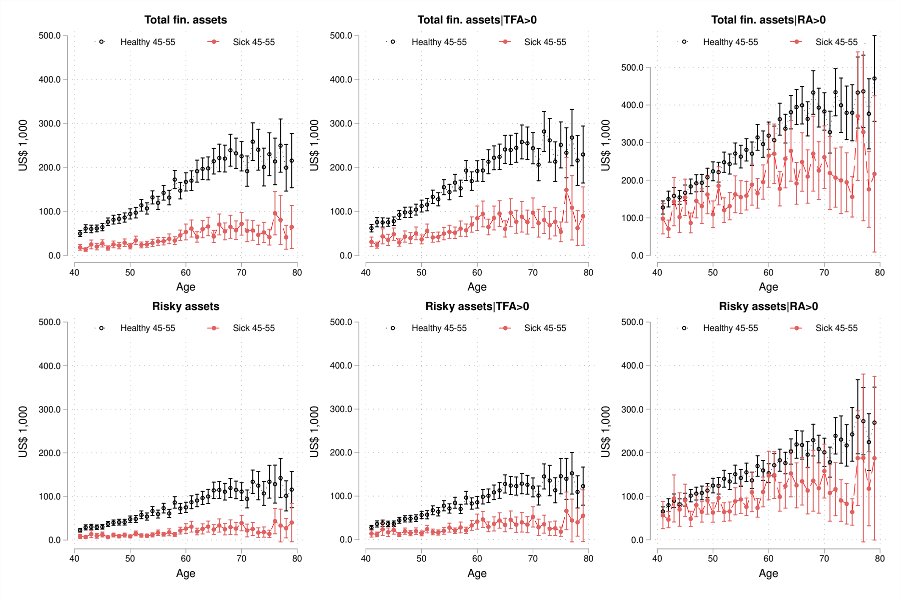
  - education: Cocco, Gomes and Maenhout (2005); Cooper and Zhu (2016)
  - unemployment: Bagliano, Fugazza and Nicodano (2014); Bagliano, Fugazza and Nicodano (2019)
  - household composition: Inkmann, Michaelides and Zhang (2022)
  - demographics and composition of 401k: Egan, MacKay and Yang (2021)
  - introduction of Pension Protection Act of 2006: Parker et al. (2022)
  - longevity annuities: Zhou, Li and Zhou (2022)
  - reverse mortgages: Nakajima and Telyukova (2017); Hambel, Kraft and Meyer-Wehmann (2022)
  - cyclicality of skewness of income shocks: Catherine (2022)
- Estimated structural lifecycle models of portfolio choice and retirement: Yogo (2016); Fagereng, Gottlieb and Guiso (2017); Gomes and Smirnova (2021)
- Calibrated lifecycle models with liquidity costs of stocks and long-term bonds: Campanale, Fugazza and Gomes (2015) and Tischbirek (2019)
- Empirical lit. of **health spending** and **health insurance** on portfolio choice of **elderly:** Goldman and Maestas (2013); Ayyagari and He (2016)
  - Early life health status: Böckerman, Conlin and Svento (2021)
  - Current health status: Rosen and Wu (2004)
  - Subjective health status: Bressan, Pace and Pelizzon (2014)

Related literature III

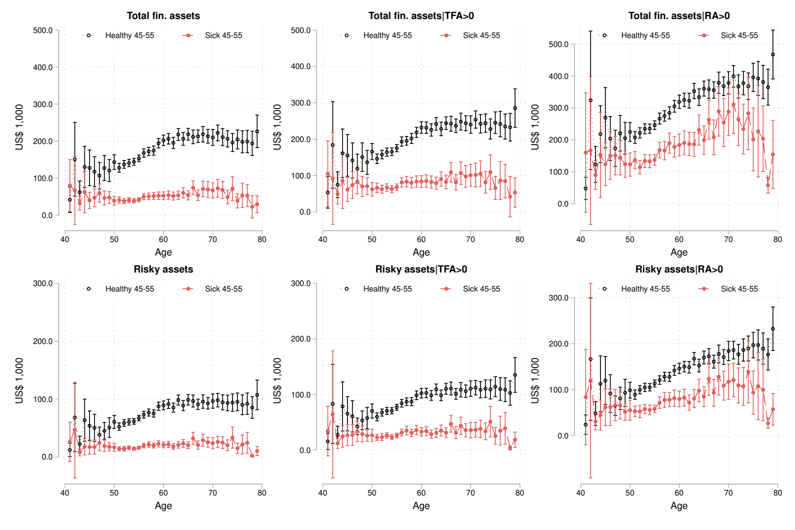
  - Expected future health shocks: Edwards (2008)
- Empirical **financial literacy**
  - Cognitive abilities and investment decisions: Christelis, Jappelli and Padula (2010); Agarwal and Mazumder (2013); Gamble et al. (2015); Lindeboom and Melnychuk (2015); Mazzonna and Peracchi (2020); Shimizutani and Yamada (2020)
  - Role of financial advising: Rossi and Utkus (2020, 2021)

Back to literature

Financial assets over lifecycle: PSID

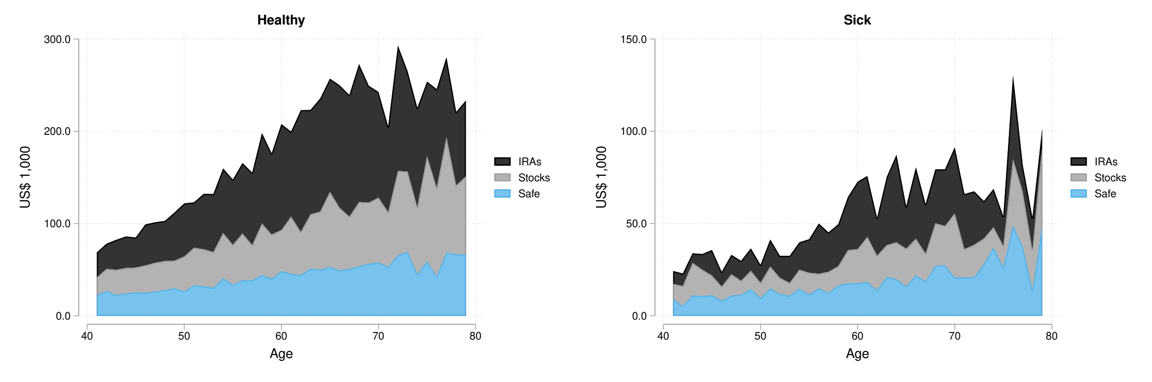


Financial assets over lifecycle: HRS

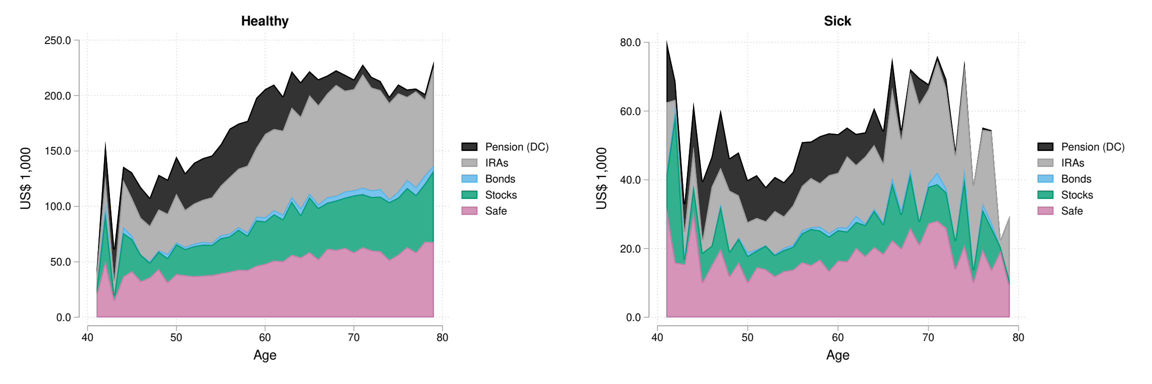


Back to HRS variable definitions

PSID - Asset share by health status 45–55



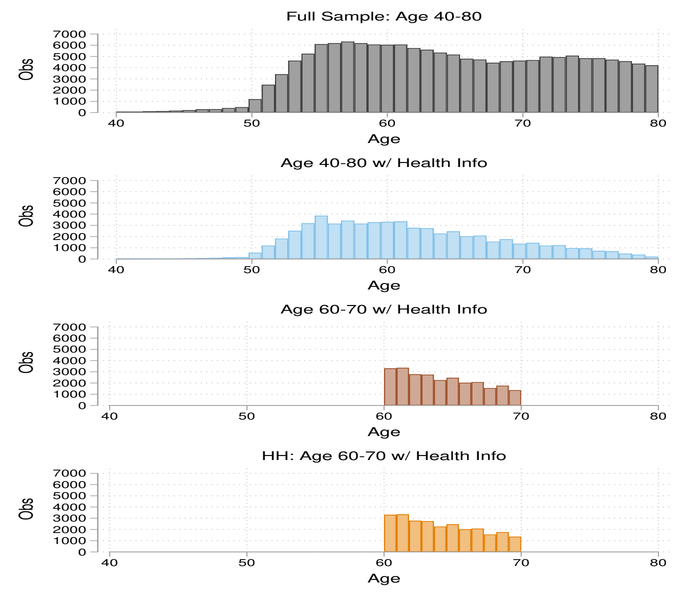
HRS - Asset share by health status 45–55



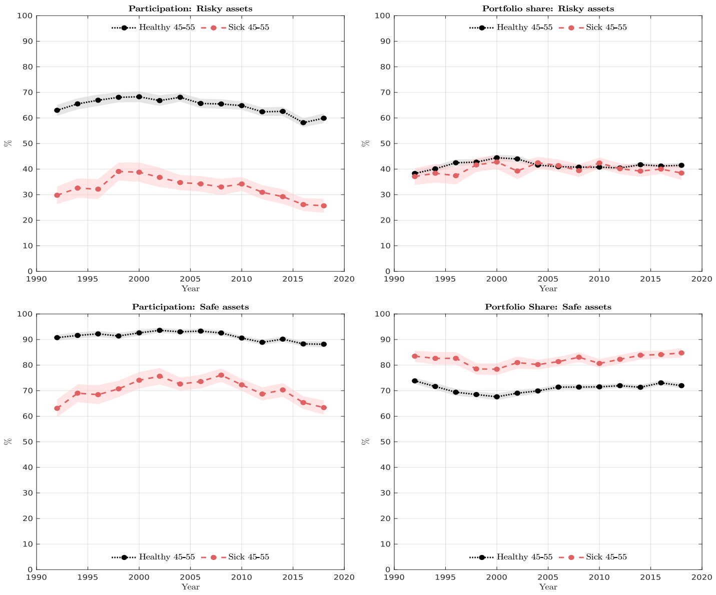
Health & Retirement Study (RAND-HRS) 1992–2018

- Health and Retirement Study (RAND-HRS) - panel data survey
- The majority of them are between 51–61 years
- Limit sample to heads of households and age group of 40–80 with wealth info
- In regressions we use reduced sample of 60–70 year olds
- Variables: labor market behavior, educational attainment, family background, government program participation, family life, health issues, assets, and income

HRS: Full and restricted sample



Asset holdings over time



HRS summary statistics I

	(1) w/H.Info Age:40-80	(2) Sick 45-55 A:40-80	(3) Alive60-70 A:40-80	(4) All A:60-70	(5) w/H.Info A:60-70	(6) Sick 45-55 A:60-70	H A
Sick at 45_55	0.30	1.00	0.28	0.27	0.27	1.00	
Health Lim.Wrk at 45_55	0.27	0.62	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.60	
Health Limits Work	0.30	0.58	0.31	0.34	0.34	0.63	
Spouse: Health Limits Work	0.24	0.32	0.25	0.27	0.27	0.36	
Unemployed at 45_55	0.30	0.57	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.53	
Uninsured at 45_55	0.29	0.35	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.34	
P(Stocks incl. 401k)	0.48	0.26	0.50	0.47	0.49	0.25	
P(Safe Assets incl.401k)	0.80	0.63	0.81	0.81	0.82	0.65	
Risky Assets incl. 401k ($1,000)	61.38	19.31	67.08	66.92	73.60	22.46	
Risky Assets excl. 410k ($1,000)	51.35	15.43	57.21	60.65	64.55	19.21	
Safe Assets incl. 401k ($1,000)	79.55	30.16	85.19	86.04	94.45	35.42	
Safe Assets excl.401k ($1,000)	65.13	24.58	70.99	77.01	81.44	30.75	
Risky Asset Share	0.20	0.10	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.10	
Safe Asset Share	0.60	0.52	0.61	0.62	0.62	0.55	
Safe Assets incl. Bonds ($1,000)	38.30	16.26	41.26	45.96	45.46	19.62	
Stocks and mutual funds ($1,000)	28.69	8.39	32.08	34.41	34.15	9.81	
Bonds ($1,000)	2.76	0.81	3.14	3.70	3.45	1.02	
IRA/Keogh net value ($1,000)	49.50	15.36	54.85	57.29	66.37	20.53	
DC pension wealth ($1,000)	24.44	9.46	24.08	15.30	22.06	7.92	

HRS summary statistics II

Debt ($1,000)	6.81	6.97	6.40	5.12	5.75	5.23
Net value of primary residence ($1,000)	115.08	63.48	121.96	124.29	134.84	74.12
Mortgage ($1,000)	46.91	27.83	45.72	34.24	43.52	25.76
Other home loans ($1,000)	3.99	1.89	4.27	3.40	4.31	2.04
Income Risk Aversion	3.20	3.26	3.20	3.29	3.25	3.33
Financial planning horizon	3.11	2.86	3.11	3.03	3.07	2.79
Prob. live to 75	61.35	48.72	62.07	62.78	61.98	49.32
Prob. live to 85	41.30	30.98	41.48	42.84	42.67	30.56
Age	59.85	58.62	61.42	64.63	64.15	63.92
Female	0.31	0.39	0.29	0.34	0.29	0.39
Married/Partnered	0.58	0.47	0.58	0.56	0.58	0.45
Nr. Children Alive	2.91	3.15	2.97	3.19	3.00	3.27
Black	0.22	0.30	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.28
Hispanic	0.13	0.21	0.12	0.11	0.12	0.20
No high school degree	0.25	0.43	0.25	0.30	0.25	0.45
High school degree	0.52	0.48	0.52	0.50	0.51	0.46
College or higher	0.23	0.10	0.23	0.20	0.23	0.09
Labor income ($1,000)	32.20	16.12	30.46	19.98	23.39	9.80
Pre-govt HH income ($1,000)	76.37	43.80	76.45	66.74	73.35	40.59
Employed	0.52	0.35	0.48	0.32	0.36	0.21
Receives Social Security	0.72	0.76	0.84	0.90	0.88	0.91
Health Excellent	0.12	0.02	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.02
Health Very Good	0.28	0.07	0.29	0.27	0.28	0.08
Health Good	0.32	0.23	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.27
Health Fair	0.20	0.46	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.41

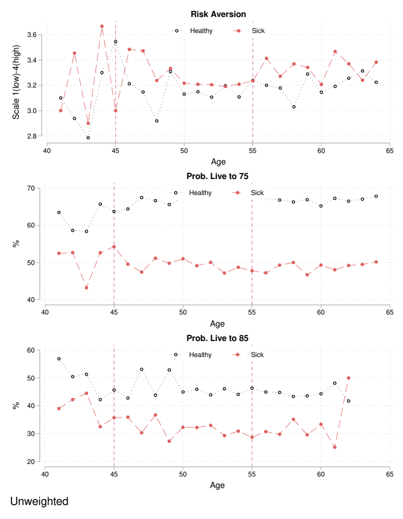
HRS summary statistics III

Health Poor	0.08	0.22	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.22
First rep. health Excellent	0.20	0.02	0.22	0.20	0.22	0.02
First rep. health Very Good	0.28	0.06	0.28	0.27	0.28	0.06
First rep. health Good	0.29	0.16	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.15
First rep. health Fair	0.16	0.52	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.52
First rep. health Poor	0.07	0.24	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.25
Healthy	0.72	0.32	0.72	0.70	0.71	0.37
Body Mass Index	28.95	30.44	28.81	28.50	29.01	30.48
Smoker	0.23	0.31	0.21	0.19	0.19	0.25
OOP health exp. ($1,000)	3.02	3.70	3.12	3.30	3.34	3.69
Total OOP exp. HH ($1,000)	4.90	5.30	5.12	5.26	5.54	5.49
Insured	0.83	0.81	0.85	0.88	0.88	0.87
Uninsured	0.17	0.19	0.15	0.12	0.12	0.13
Public health insurance	0.32	0.47	0.34	0.42	0.41	0.59
Private health insurance	0.52	0.34	0.51	0.46	0.47	0.28
Observations	73465	22243	59262	54707	24773	6755

HRS summary statistics IV

Back to HRS variable definitions

Preference/belief differences by type



Back to HRS variable definitions

HRS: Stock share at 60–70

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Sick at 45_55	-0.025***	-0.030***	-0.038***	0.003	-0.002
	(0.007)	(0.009)	(0.010)	(0.015)	(0.012)
Unemployed at 45_55	-0.026***	-0.027***	-0.029***	0.005	-0.003
	(0.007)	(0.009)	(0.010)	(0.014)	(0.012)
Uninsured at 45_55	-0.024***	-0.013	-0.029***	0.006	0.020*
	(0.007)	(0.009)	(0.009)	(0.014)	(0.012)
Observations	6144	6111	6144	3072	3065
R^2	0.290	0.284			0.080
Conditional P(Y>0)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Random Effects	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Weighted	No	Yes	No	No	Yes

Selection model: PSID (top) and HRS (bottom)

	Stock Share	P(Stocks)	Safe A. Share	P(Safe A.)
Sick at 45_55	0.003	-0.271***	0.036***	-0.198***
	(0.015)	(0.051)	(0.009)	(0.058)
Observations	5625		5625	

	Stock Share	P(Stocks)	Safe A. Share	P(Safe A.)
Sick at 45_55	-0.008	-0.289***	0.040***	-0.200***
	(0.007)	(0.026)	(0.005)	(0.027)
Unemployed at 45_55	0.006	-0.248***	0.023***	-0.179***
	(0.006)	(0.023)	(0.004)	(0.026)
Uninsured at 45_55	-0.011*	-0.317***	0.043***	-0.272***
	(0.006)	(0.023)	(0.005)	(0.025)
Observations	24007		24007	

Back to PSID regression results

PSID - Two Part Model

	Stock Share	P(Stocks)	Safe A. Share	P(Safe A.)
Sick at 45_55	0.000	-0.095***	0.040***	-0.039***
	(0.015)	(0.018)	(0.011)	(0.013)
Unemployed at 45_55	0.035***	-0.035**	-0.006	-0.039***
	(0.013)	(0.016)	(0.010)	(0.011)
Uninsured at 45_55	-0.003	-0.122***	0.052***	-0.097***
	(0.027)	(0.019)	(0.012)	(0.021)
Observations	2335	5625	4746	5625

HRS - Two Part Model

	Stock Share	P(Stocks)	Safe A. Share	P(Safe A.)
Sick at 45_55	-0.003	-0.077***	0.031***	-0.055***
	(0.012)	(0.018)	(0.010)	(0.014)
Health Lim.Wrk at 45_55				
Unemployed at 45_55	-0.003	-0.070***	0.036***	-0.011
	(0.012)	(0.016)	(0.010)	(0.012)
Uninsured at 45_55	0.018	-0.061***	0.010	-0.046***
	(0.012)	(0.015)	(0.010)	(0.012)
Observations	3065	6111	5111	6111

Back to PSID regression results

Preferences

- Preferences

$$u\left(c_j, \ell_j; \bar{n}_j\right) = \frac{\left(\left(\frac{c_j}{\omega_{j,\vartheta}}\right)^{\eta} \times \left[\ell_j - 1_{[0<n_j]} \times \bar{n}_j\right]^{1-\eta}\right)^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} + \bar{u}$$

- Warm-glow bequest

$$u^{\text{beq}}\left(a_j\right) = \theta_1 \frac{\left(a_j + \theta_2\right)^{(1-\sigma)\eta}}{1-\sigma}$$

Health

- Health:
  - 5 idiosyncratic (exogenous) health groups $\epsilon^h \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$
  - Age dependent health expenditure $m\left(j, \vartheta, \epsilon^h\right)$
  - Health state:

$$h\left(\epsilon^h\right) = \begin{cases} \text{healthy} & \text{if } \epsilon^h \in \{\text{excellent, very good, good}\}, \\ \text{sick} & \text{if } \epsilon^h \in \{\text{fair, poor}\}. \end{cases}$$

- Survival probability: $\pi\left(h\left(\epsilon^h\right)\right)$

- Health and labor income shocks:

$$\Pr\left(\epsilon^h_{j+1} | \epsilon^h_j\right) \in \Pi^h\left(j, \vartheta\right)\ ,\ \Pr\left(\epsilon^{incP}_{j+1} | \epsilon^{incP}_j\right) \in \Pi^{incP}_j$$

Health insurance

- **Workers:** exogenous employer HI

$$\epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\mathrm{ehi}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{not privately insured,} \\ 1 & \text{privately health insurance,} \end{cases} \quad \text{for } j \leq J_w$$

- $\epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\mathrm{ehi}}$ follows Markov process with $P\left(\epsilon_{j+1,\vartheta}^{\mathrm{ehi}} | \epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\mathrm{ehi}}\right) \in \Pi_{j,\vartheta}^{\mathrm{ehi}}$
- Coinsurance: γ^{ehi}
- Premium: $\mathrm{prem}_j^{\mathrm{Ins}}$

- **Poor:** qualify for Medicaid w/ coinsurance γ^{maid} if $y_j^{\mathrm{agi}} < y^{\mathrm{maid}}$ and $a_j < a^{\mathrm{maid}}$

- **Retired** $j > J_1$ have Medicare w/ coinsurance γ^{mcare} and premium $\mathrm{prem}^{\mathrm{mcare}}$

Out-of-pocket health spending

$$o_j\left(m_j, \epsilon^{\text{ehi}}_{j,\vartheta}, y^{\text{agi}}_j, a_j\right) =$$

$$= \begin{cases} \overbrace{1_{[\text{maid-yes}]}\gamma^{\text{maid}}}^{\text{primary HI}} \times m\left(j,\vartheta,\epsilon^h_j\right) & \text{if } \overbrace{\epsilon^{\text{ehi}}_{j,\vartheta} = 0 \wedge j \leq J_w}^{\text{working, no private HI}} \\ \overbrace{1_{[\text{maid-yes}]}\gamma^{\text{maid}}}^{\text{Medicaid is secondary HI}} \times \left(\overbrace{\gamma^{\text{ehi}}}^{\text{primary}} \times m\left(j,\vartheta,\epsilon^h_j\right)\right) & \text{if } \overbrace{\epsilon^{\text{ehi}}_{j,\vartheta} = 1 \wedge j \leq J_w}^{\text{working, with private HI}} \\ \overbrace{1_{[\text{maid-yes}]}\gamma^{\text{maid}}}^{\text{Medicaid is secondary HI}} \times \left(\overbrace{\gamma^{\text{mcare}}}^{\text{primary}} \times m\left(j,\vartheta,\epsilon^h_j\right)\right) & \text{if } \overbrace{j > J_w}^{\text{retired, with Medicare}} \end{cases}$$

Labor income

- Profile by health type: $\bar{e}_j = \bar{e}\left(j, \vartheta, h\left(\epsilon^h\right)\right)$
- Exogenous income shock: $e_j\left(\vartheta, \epsilon^h, \epsilon^{incP}\right) = \bar{e}_j\left(\vartheta,\ h\left(\epsilon^h\right)\right) \times \epsilon^{incP}$
- Labor income: $y_j\left(\ell_j, \vartheta, \epsilon_j^{incP}, \epsilon_j^h\right) = \widehat{w} \overbrace{\times e_j\left(\vartheta, \epsilon_j^{incP}, \epsilon^h\right)}^{\text{Health-dependent income}} \times (1 - \ell_j)$

Savings/Assets

- Two types of assets
  - risk-free bond b w/ real return r^b
  - risky stock s w/ return $\tilde{r}^s = r^b + \mu^s + \epsilon^s$
    and risk premium $\mu_s > 0$, stoch. return $\epsilon^s \sim N\left(0, \sigma^2_{\epsilon^s}\right)$
  - assume: $\tilde{r}^s = \frac{1+\tilde{g}+d}{1+\pi} - 1$
- Net returns (see Gomes, Michaelides and Polkovnichenko, 2009)

$$\bar{r}^b_{net} = \frac{1 + \left[\left(r^b + 1\right)\left(1 + \pi\right) - 1\right]\left(1 - \tau^d\right)}{1 + \pi} - 1$$

$$\tilde{r}^s_{\text{net}} = \frac{1 + \tilde{g}\left(\epsilon^s\right)\left(1 - \tau^g\right) + d\left(1 - \tau^d\right)}{1 + \pi} - 1$$

- W/ exogenous parameters
  - d, $\tilde{g}$: dividend vs. capital gains
  - τ^d, τ^g: dividend vs. capital gains tax
  - π inflation
- Borrowing limit $b_{j+1} \geq \underline{b}$, stock holdings $s_{j+1} \geq 0$
- Transaction cost q_ϑ when investing in risky asset

Taxes and transfers

- Taxes
  - Labor income (Benabou 2002; Heathcote, Storesletten and Violante 2017)

$$\text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right) = \max\left[0,\ y_j^{\text{tax}} - \lambda \times \left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right)^{(1-\tau)}\right]$$

    - $0 < \tau < 1$ progressivity
    - λ scaling
  - Payroll: $\text{tax}^{\text{ss}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}; \bar{y}^{\text{ss}}\right)$ and $\text{tax}^{\text{mcare}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}\right)$
  - Consumption: τ^c
  - Capital: τ^d on dividends and τ^g on capital gains

- Transfers
  - Social Security: tr^{ss}
  - Medicare, Medicaid
  - Lump-sum transfers tr^{si} to guarantee $c_{\min}$

Back to model overview

Worker Problem I

State vec: $x_j = \left\{\vartheta, a_{j,}, \epsilon_j^{incP}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right\} \in \{1,2,3\} \times R \times \{1,2,3,4\} \times \{1,2,3,4,5\} \times \{0,1\}$

$$V(x_j) = \max_{\{c_j,\ell_j,\alpha_j\}} \left\{ u(c_j,\ell_j) + \beta \mathbb{E}_{\left[\epsilon_{j+1}^{incP},\epsilon_{j+1}^h,\epsilon_{j+1}^{\text{ehi}},\epsilon_{j+1}^s | \epsilon_j^{incP},\epsilon_j^h,\epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right]} \left[\overbrace{\pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)}^{\text{Hlth-long channel}} V(x_{j+1}) + \overbrace{\left(1-\pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-longevity channel}} u^{\text{beq}}(a_{j+1}) \right] \right\} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$a_{j+1} = \tilde{R}_{j+1}\left(a_j + \overbrace{y_j\left(\ell_j,\vartheta,\epsilon_j^{incP},\epsilon_j^h\right)}^{\text{Health income channel}} + \text{tr}_j^{\text{si}} - \overbrace{o_j\left(m_j,\epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\text{ehi}},y_j^{\text{agi}},a_j\right)}^{\text{Health-expenditure channel}} - \underbrace{1_{\left[\epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}=1\right]}\text{prem}_j^{\text{ehi}}}_{\text{Heal-exp. chan}} \underbrace{-\text{tax}_j}_{\text{H-exp. chan}} - (1+\tau^c)\, c_j - 1_{[\alpha_j>0]}\, q \right)$$

$$\tilde{R}_{j+1} = \overbrace{\alpha_j\left(1+\tilde{r}_{net,j+1}^s\right) + (1-\alpha_j)\left(1+\bar{r}^b\right)}^{\text{Health-wealth portfolio channel}}, \quad \underline{b} \le b_{j+1}, \quad 0 \le s_{j+1}$$

$$\text{tax}_j = \text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right) + \text{tax}^{\text{ss}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}};\, \bar{y}^{\text{ss}}\right) + \text{tax}^{\text{mcare}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}\right)$$

Worker Problem II

- Total taxable income y_j^{tax} and payroll tax eligible income y_j^{ss}

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_j^{\text{tax}} &= y_j - 1_{[\text{in}_{j+1}=2]}\text{prem}_j^{\text{ehi}} - \max\left[0,\ o_j\left(m_j, \epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\text{ehi}}, y_j^{\text{agi}}, a_j\right) - 0.075 \times (y_j + r_b b_j + r_s s_j)\right] \\
y_j^{\text{ss}} &= y_j - 1_{[\text{in}_{j+1}=2]}\text{prem}_j^{\text{ehi}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Taxes

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text{tax}_j &= \text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right) + \text{tax}^{\text{ss}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}};\ \bar{y}^{\text{ss}}\right) + \text{tax}^{\text{mcare}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}\right) \\
\text{tax}^{ss}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}};\ \bar{y}^{\text{ss}}\right) &= \tau^{ss} \times \min\left[y_j^{\text{ss}};\ \bar{y}^{\text{ss}}\right] \\
\text{tax}^{\text{mcare}}\left(y_j^{\text{ss}}\right) &= \tau^{\text{mcare}} \times y_j^{ss}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Transfers

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text{tr}_j^{\text{si}} &= \max\left[0,\ c_{\text{min}} + o\left(m_j\right) - y_j^{\text{at}} - a_j\right] \\
y_j^{\text{at}} &= y_j - \text{tax}_j
\end{aligned}
$$

Worker Problem III

- Average past labor earnings:

$$\bar{y}^{\vartheta} = \int_{j \leq J_r} w \times e\left(x\right) \times n\left(x\right) d\Lambda\left(x_j\left(\vartheta\right)\right)$$

Back to worker problem

Retiree's Dynamic Optimization Problem I

State vector: $x_j = \left\{\vartheta, a_j, \epsilon_j^h\right\} \in \{1,2,3\} \times R \times \{1,2,3,4,5\}$

$$V(x_j) = \max_{\{c_j,\alpha_j\}} \left\{ u(c_j) + \beta \mathbb{E}_{\left[\epsilon_{j+1}^h, \epsilon_{j+1}^s | \epsilon_j^h\right]} \left[\overbrace{\pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-longevity channel}} V(x_{j+1}) + \overbrace{\left(1 - \pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon_j^h\right)\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-longevity channel}} u^{\text{beq}}(a_{j+1}) \right] \right\} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$a_{j+1} = \tilde{R}_{j+1} \left(a_j + \text{tr}_j^{\text{ss}}\left(\bar{y}^\vartheta\right) + \text{tr}_j^{\text{si}} - \overbrace{o_j\left(m_j, \epsilon_{j,\vartheta}^{\text{ehi}}, y_j^{\text{agi}}, a_j\right)}^{\text{Health-expenditure channel}} - \text{prem}_j^{\text{mcare}} \underbrace{-\text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right)}_{\text{Health-exp. channel}} - (1+\tau^c)\, c_j - 1_{[\alpha_j > 0]}\, q \right)$$

$$\tilde{R}_{j+1} = \overbrace{\left(\alpha_j\left(1 + \tilde{r}_{net,j+1}^s\right) + (1-\alpha_j)\left(1 + \bar{r}^b\right)\right)}^{\text{Health-wealth portfolio channel}}, \quad \underline{b} \le b_{j+1}, \quad 0 \le s_{j+1}$$

$$y_j^{\text{tax}} = \text{tr}_j^{\text{ss}} - \max\left[0, \left(o_j(m_j) + \text{prem}^{\text{mcare}}\right) - 0.075 \times \left(r_b \times b_j + r_s \times s_j + \text{tr}_j^{\text{ss}}\right)\right]$$

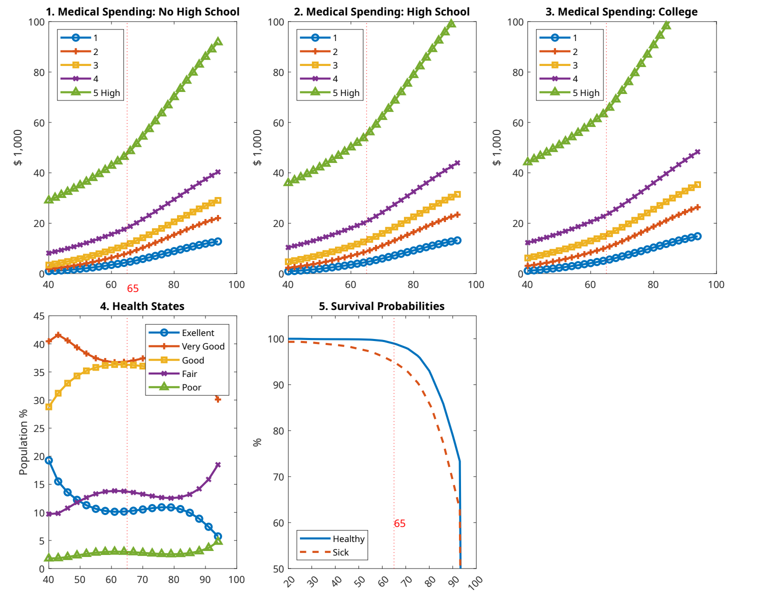
$$\text{tr}_j^{\text{si}} = \max\left[0, \; c_{\min} + o_j(m_j) + \text{prem}^{\text{mcare}} + \text{tax}^y\left(y_j^{\text{tax}}\right) - a_j - \text{tr}_j^{\text{ss}}\right]$$

Back to retired problem

Exogenous parameters

Parameter description	Parameter values	Source
Periods	$J = 55$	
Work periods	$J_w = 25$	Age 40–64
Years modeled	years $= 55$	Age 40–94
Relative risk aversion	$\sigma = 3$	Standard values between $2.5 - 3.5$
Survival probabilities	$\pi_j\left(h\left(\epsilon^h\right)\right)$ see online appendix	İmrohoroğlu and Kitao (2012)
Health Shocks	ϵ_j^h see online appendix	MEPS 1996–2018
Health transition prob.	Π_j^h see online appendix	MEPS 1996–2018
Persistent labor shock autocor.	$\rho = 0.977$	French (2005)
Risk premium	$\mu = 0.04$	Mehra and Prescott (1985)
Risk free rate	$r^b = 0.02$	McGrattan and Prescott (2000)
RA log return std. dev.	$\sigma_{\epsilon^s} = 0.157$	Mehra and Prescott (1985)
Variance of transitory labor shock	$\sigma^2_{\epsilon^{\text{incP}}} = 0.0141$	French (2005)
Bias adjusted wage profile	$\bar{e}_j\left(\vartheta, h\left(\epsilon^h\right)\right)$ see online appendix	MEPS 1996–2018
Private employer HI	$\gamma^{\text{ehi}} = 0.31$	MEPS 1996–2018
Medicaid coinsurance	$\gamma^{\text{maid}} = 0.11$	MEPS 1996–2018
Medicare coinsurance	$\gamma^{\text{mcare}} = 0.30$	MEPS 1996–2018
Consumption tax	$\tau^c = 5\%$	IRS
Bequest parameter	$\theta_2 = \$500,000$	De Nardi (2004); French (2005)
Payroll tax Social Security	$\tau^{\text{ss}} = 10.6\%$	IRS
Payroll tax Medicare	$\tau^{\text{mcare}} = 2.9\%$	SSA (2007)
Tax progressivity	$\tau_1^i = 0.053$	Guner, Lopez-Daneri and Ventura (2016)
Dividend tax	$\tau^d = 25\%$	Gomes, Michaelides and Polkovnichenko (2009)
Capital gains tax	$\tau^g = 20\%$	Gomes, Michaelides and Polkovnichenko (2009)
Dividend yield	$d = 3.2\%$	Gomes, Michaelides and Polkovnichenko (2009)
Inflation	$\pi^i = 2.8\%$	Gomes, Michaelides and Polkovnichenko (2009)

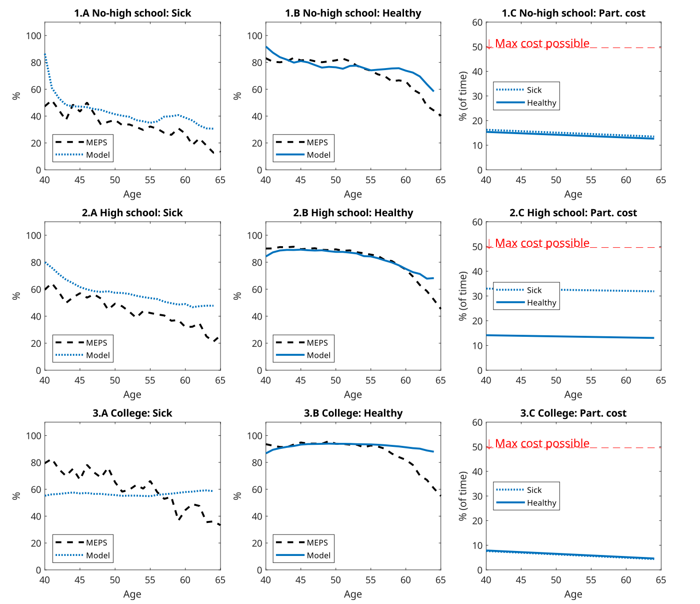
Exogenous health status



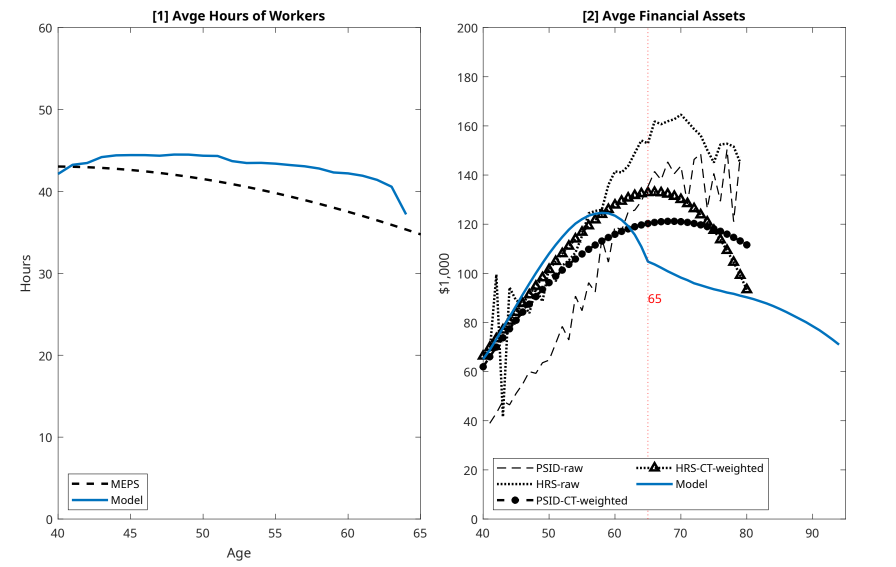
Internal (calibrated) parameters

Parameters	Values	Calibration target	Model	Data	Source
Fixed cost of work	$\bar{n}_{j,\vartheta}$	Avge. work part.	Pan.2,Fig.67	Pan.2,Fig.67	MEPS 1996–2018
Utility constant	$\bar{u} = 10$	VSL of workers	2.5 mill.$	1–16 mill.$	Viscusi (1993)
Prog. tax scaling	τ_0^i =1.016				Jung and Tran (2022)
Medicaid asset test	$\bar{a}^{\text{maid}} = \$75k$	Age 40–64 on Maid	Pan.2,Fig.68	Pan.2,Fig.68	MEPS 1996–2018
Medicaid income test	$\bar{y}^{\text{maid}} = \$5.5k$	Age 20–39 on Maid	Pan.2,Fig.68	Pan.2,Fig.68	MEPS 1996–2018
Consumption floor	$c_{\text{min}} = \$3.2k$	Frac. net-ass.<$5k	20% (of popul.)	20%	Jeske and Kitao (2009)

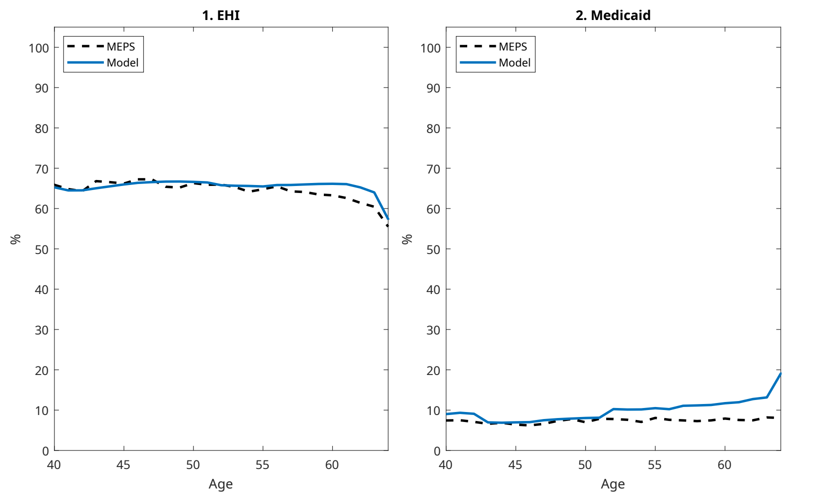
Calibration target: labor force participation



Calibration targets



Calibration targets (only Medicaid is a target)



Note: only Medicaid take-up is a target

Back to calibration

Estimation targets and estimated parameters

Estimation targets include

- Wealth-to-income ratio at 65
- Avge. work participation 40–64
- Asset holdings of 85 year olds
- Risky asset market participation rates by education, health and age
  - We target 3 education levels (low, medium and high),
  - 2 health status (sick and healthy), and
  - 3 age groups (40-59, 60-64, 65-80)

Estimated structural parameters (I)

Parameters	Value	S.E.
Consumption weight: η	0.2778	0.0016
Time discount factor		
No high school		
$\beta(\vartheta = 1, \text{healthy})$	0.9788	0.0009
$\beta(\vartheta = 1, \text{sick})$	0.9563	0.0072
High school		
$\beta(\vartheta = 2, \text{healthy})$	0.9783	0.0011
$\beta(\vartheta = 2, \text{sick})$	0.8822	0.0061
College		
$\beta(\vartheta = 3, \text{healthy})$	0.9859	0.0014
$\beta(\vartheta = 3, \text{sick})$	0.7541	0.0091
Bequest motive		
$\theta_1(\vartheta = 1)$	334.0142	69.5270
$\theta_1(\vartheta = 2)$	241.8307	0.5716
$\theta_1(\vartheta = 3)$	111.6670	6.1756

Estimated structural parameters (II)

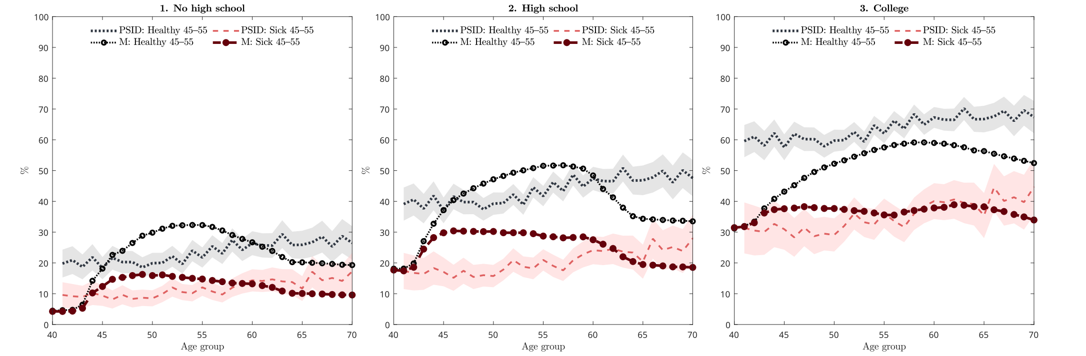
Parameters	Value	S.E.
Stock market participation cost:		
$q(j,\vartheta) = \delta_{s,\vartheta,1} + \delta_{s,\vartheta,2} j + \delta_{s,\vartheta,3} j^2$		
No high school		
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=1,1}$	0.0076	0.0058
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=1,2}$	0.0001	0.0343
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=1,3}$	-0.0000	0.0344
High school		
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=2,1}$	0.0094	0.0038
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=2,2}$	0.0001	0.0120
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=2,3}$	-0.0000	0.0130
College		
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=3,1}$	0.0216	0.0029
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=3,2}$	0.0001	0.0042
$\delta_{s,\vartheta=3,3}$	-0.0000	0.0041

Estimated structural parameters (III)

Parameters	Value	S.E.
Labor force participation cost:		
$\bar{n}_j(\vartheta,\, h(\epsilon^h)) = \delta_{\ell,\vartheta,h,1} + \delta_{\ell,\vartheta,2} j$		
No high school		
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=1,\text{healthy},1}$	0.1540	0.0024
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=1,\text{sick},1}$	0.1627	0.0000
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=1,2}$	-0.0011	0.0001
High school		
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=2,\text{healthy},1}$	0.1414	0.0039
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=2,\text{sick},1}$	0.3298	0.0000
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=2,2}$	-0.0005	0.0003
College		
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=3,\text{healthy},1}$	0.0788	0.0046
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=3,\text{sick},1}$	0.0764	0.0000
$\delta_{\ell,\vartheta=3,2}$	-0.0014	0.0003

Back to estimation

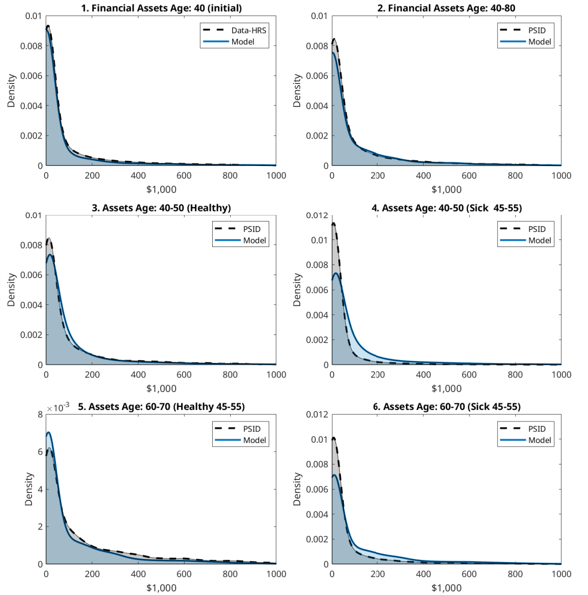
Performance (not targets)
Risky assets participation by health-at-45-55



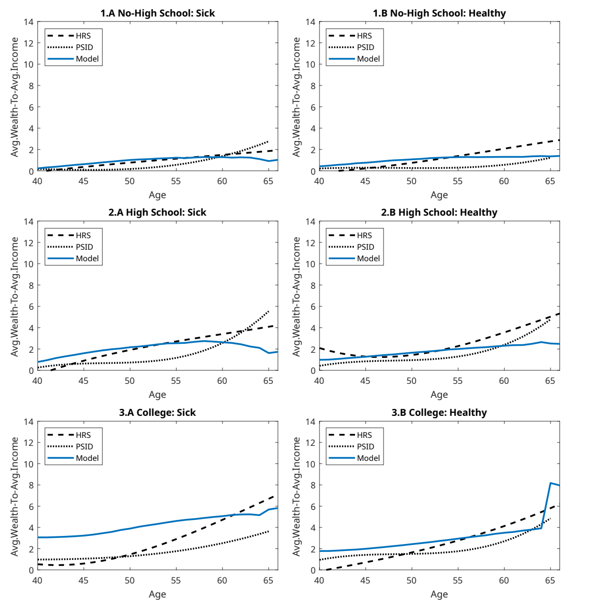
- Model replicates RA participation pattern by health-at-45–55 ⇒ this was not a target

Back to performance

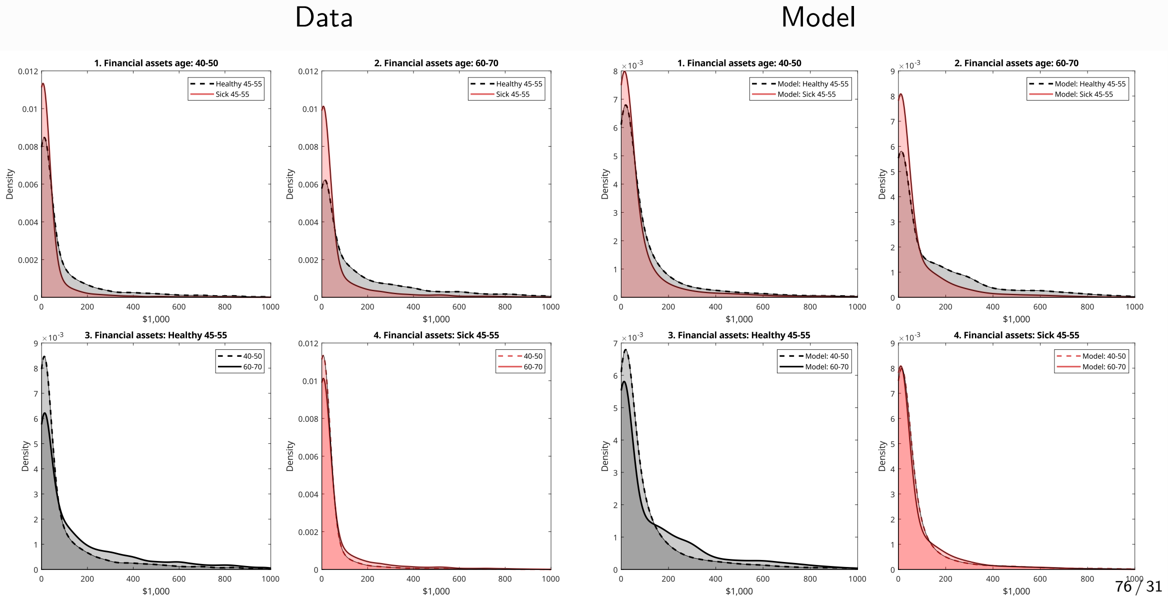
Performance: Financial asset distribution



Performance: Wealth-to-income ratio



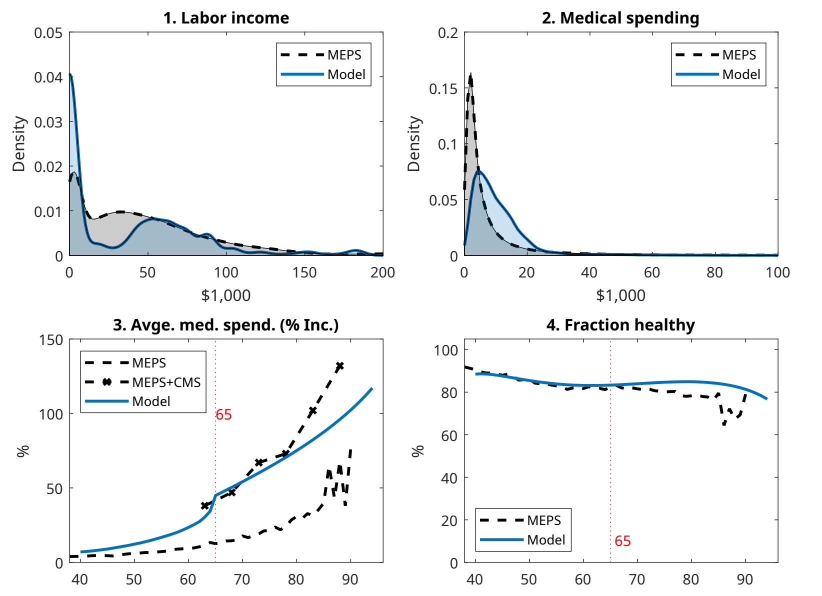
Performance (not targets)



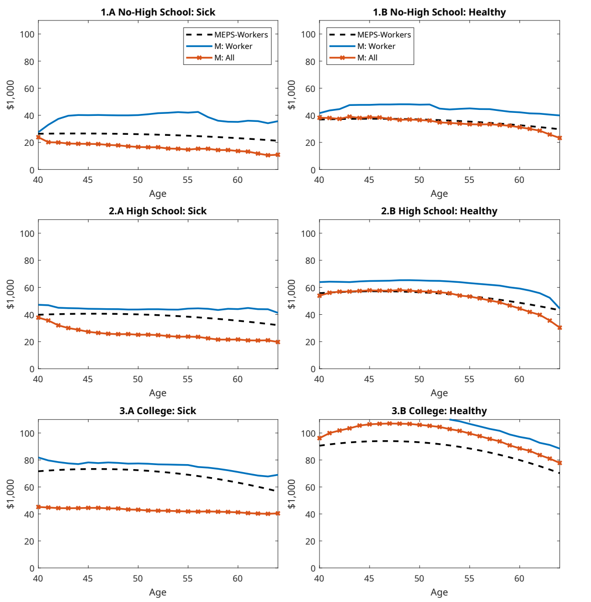
Bench. model: Risky assets by health at age 45–55

	Healthy at 45–55	**Sick at 45–55**
- Risky asset share α (at 65)	50%	31%
- Stock part. (at 40)	32%	26%
- Stock part. (at 65)	51%	32%
- Wealth-to-inc (at 65)	5.07	3.29

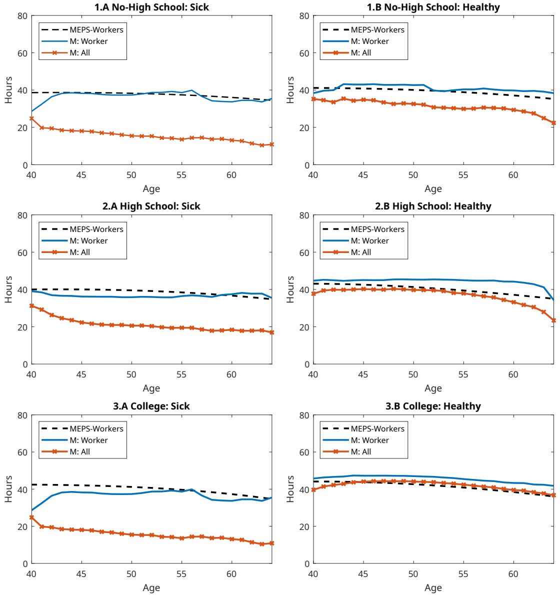
Model performance (not targets)



Model performance: labor income (not targets)



Performance: hours worked



Model performance (not targets)

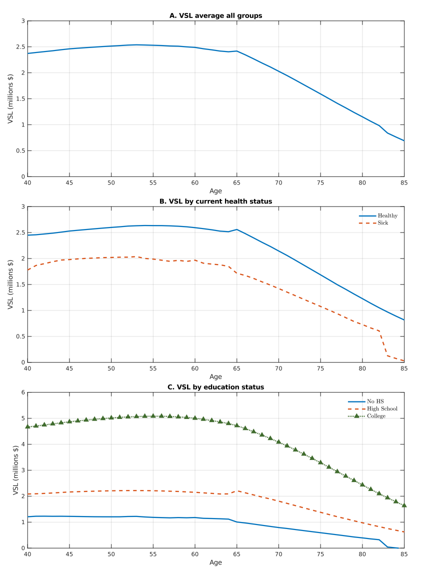
Moments	Model	Data	Sources
Medical exp/income	Figure 11	Figure 11	MEPS 1996–2018
Gini medical spending	0.56	0.60	MEPS 1996–2018
Gini gross income	0.40	0.46	MEPS 1996–2018
Gini labor income	0.55	0.54	MEPS 1996–2018
Gini financial assets	0.73	0.76	PSID 1984–2019
Frisch labor supply elasticities	1.19–1.51	1.1–1.7	Fiorito and Zanella (2012)
Avge. interest rate: r	5.9%	$5.2 - 5.9\%$	Gomme, Ravikumar and Rupert (2011)
Wealth: P90/P50 at 65	14.47	16.84	PSID 1984–2019

Risky asset shares regressions

	No-HS		HS		College	
	Stock Sh.	P(Stocks)	Stock Sh.	P(Stocks)	Stock Sh.	P(Stocks)
Sick at 45_55	-0.023***	-0.143***	-0.011***	-0.263***	-0.001	-0.162***
	(0.004)	(0.007)	(0.002)	(0.004)	(0.001)	(0.006)
Unemployed at 45_55	-0.106***	-0.912***	-0.010***	-0.381***	0.000	-0.346***
	(0.017)	(0.008)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.002)	(0.006)
Uninsured at 45_55	-0.017***	-0.078***	-0.001	-0.072***	-0.002***	-0.034***
	(0.003)	(0.008)	(0.001)	(0.004)	(0.001)	(0.007)
Observations	214841		429942		200359	

- Risky asset shares: model w/ initial health condition controls
- Sample of individuals who are healthy at age 40

Back to performance



VSL details

Back to performance

Value of statistical life I

- The VSL is the monetary value corresponding to reduction in mortality risk that prevents **one** statistical death
- Follow Aldy and Smyth (2014)
  - Consider small increase in surv. probability $\Delta\pi_j\left(\varepsilon_j^h\right)$ so that surv. prob. is $\pi_j\left(\varepsilon_j^h\right)+\Delta\pi_j\left(\varepsilon_j^h\right)$
  - Using this new surv. prob. solve HH with otherwise identical paras $\Rightarrow V^*\left(\vartheta, a_{j,}, \epsilon_j^{\text{incP}}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right)$
  - Search additional wealth Δa_j so that

$$V\left(\vartheta, a_j+\Delta a_j, \epsilon_j^{\text{incP}}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right)=V^*\left(\vartheta, a_{j,}, \epsilon_j^{\text{incP}}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right)$$

  - Calculate VSL as

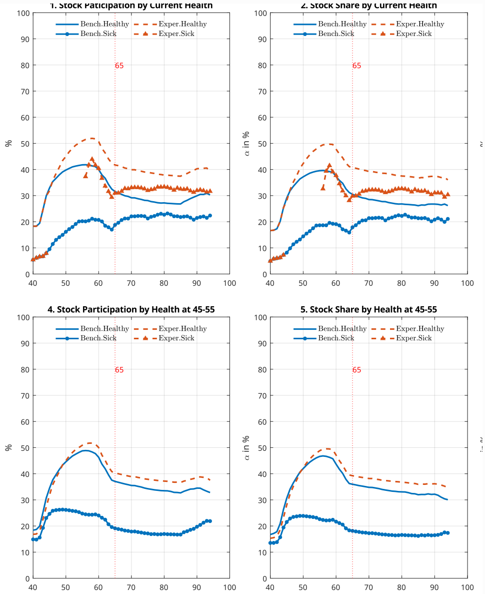
$$\text{VSL}_j\left(\vartheta, a_j, \epsilon_j^{\text{incP}}, \epsilon_j^h, \epsilon_j^{\text{ehi}}\right)=\frac{\Delta a_j}{\Delta\pi_j\left(\varepsilon_j^h\right)}.$$

Value of statistical life II

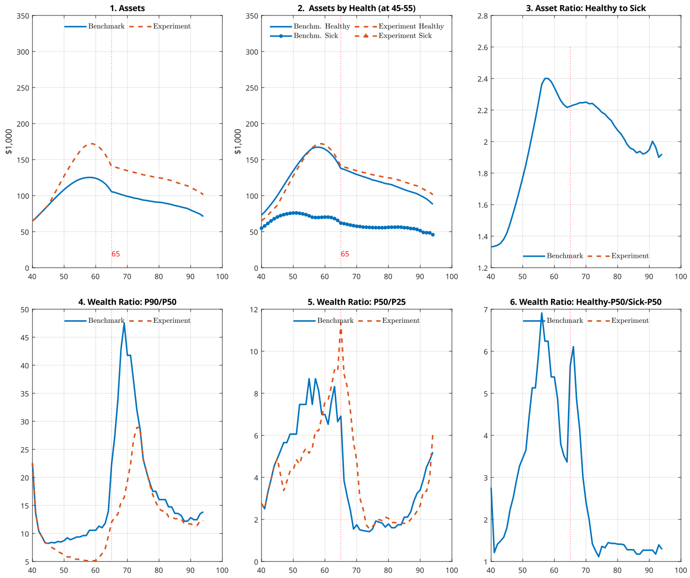
- Intuitively, the VSL is the marginal rate of substitution between wealth and survival probability
- VSL range between 1–16 million USD according to a survey by Viscusi (1993)
- We target 2.5 million USD for the working age population of 40–65 year olds

Back to VSL

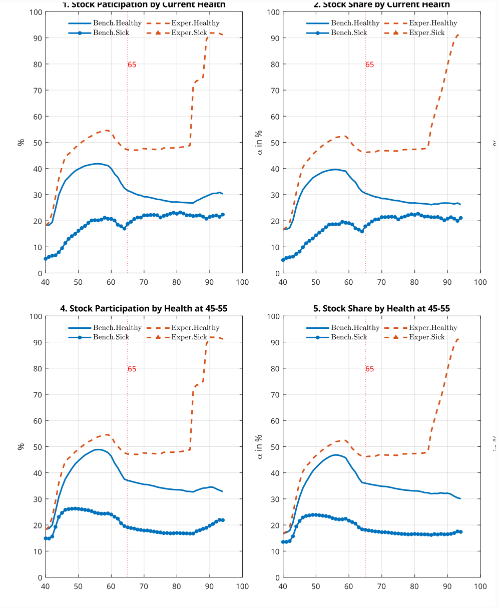
Exp. 8 (no bad health at 45–55): RA participation



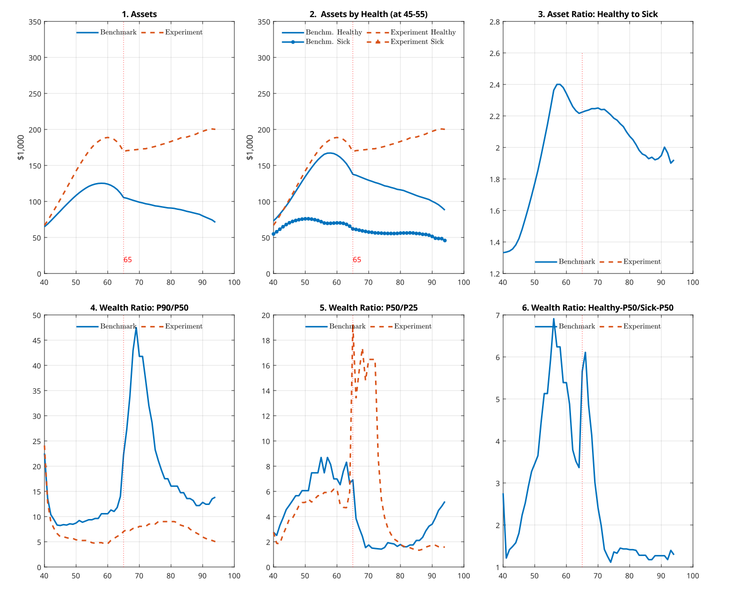
Exp. 8 (no bad health 45–55): Asset profiles



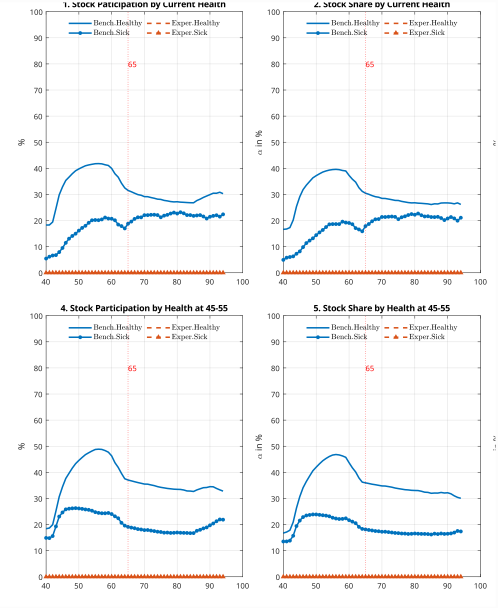
Exp. 7 (no bad health–death): RA participation



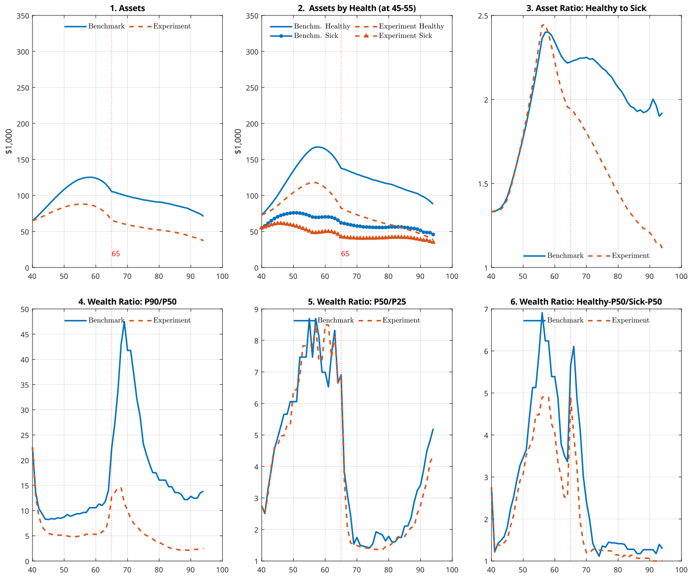
Exp. 7 (no bad health–death): Asset profiles



Exp. 1 (No RA): RA participation



Exp. 1 (No RA): Asset profiles



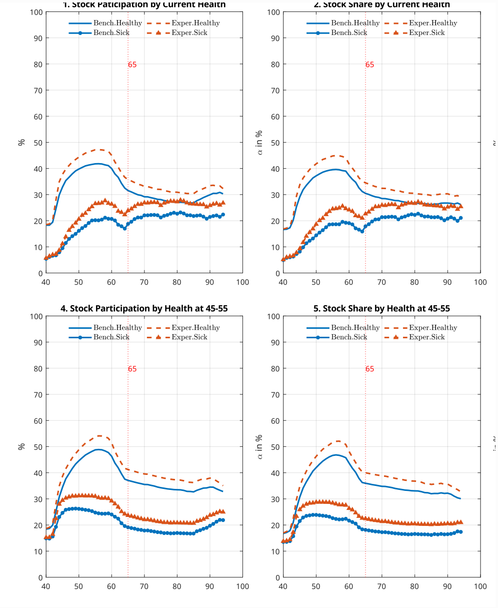
Decomposition experiments done

Back to decomposition experiments table

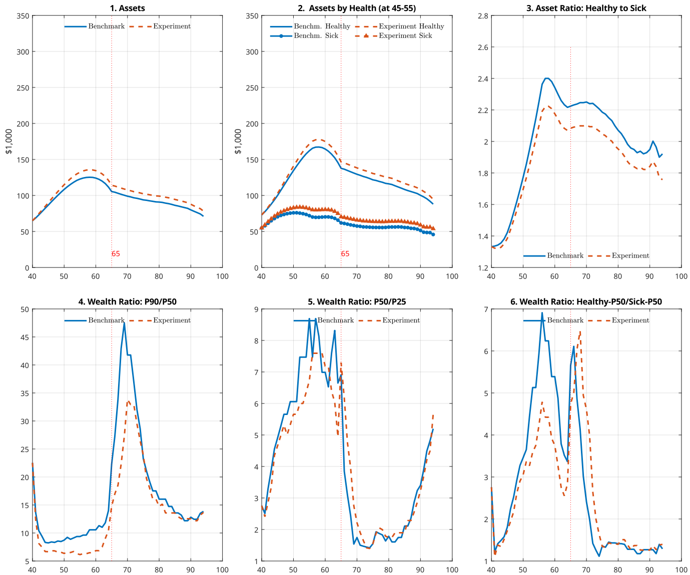
Policy experiments

- Exp 1: Expansion of **Medicare** to 20–64 year olds (UPHI)
- Exp 2: Expansion of **EHI to all workers**

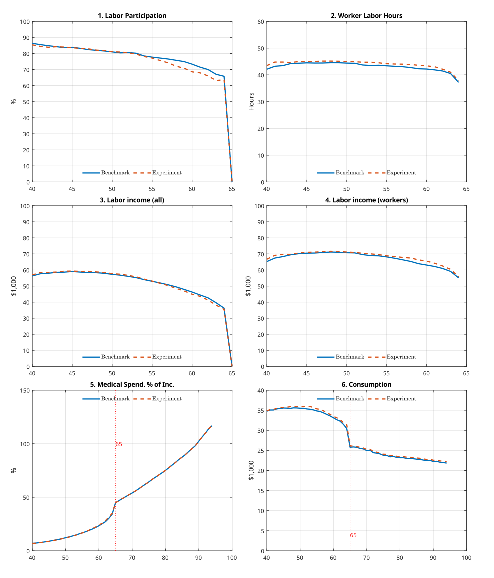
Exp. 1 (Medicare-for-all): RA participation



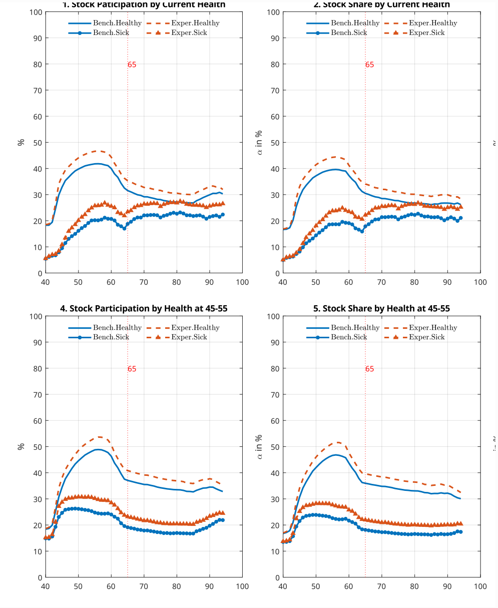
Exp. 1 (Medicare for all): Asset profiles



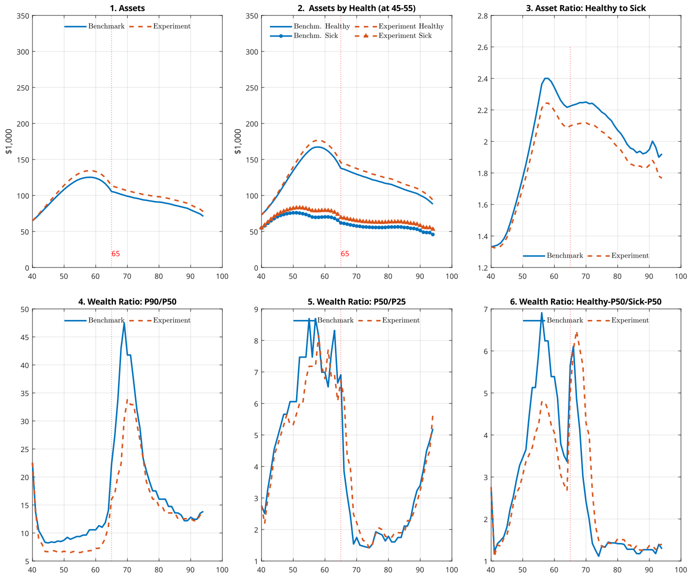
Exp. 1 (Medicare for all): Labor profiles



Exp. 2 (EHI all workers): RA participation profiles



Exp. 2 (EHI all workers): Asset profiles



HI experiments done

Back to HI policy experiments table

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