

Long-term Care Service for Elderly and Human Resource Development in China

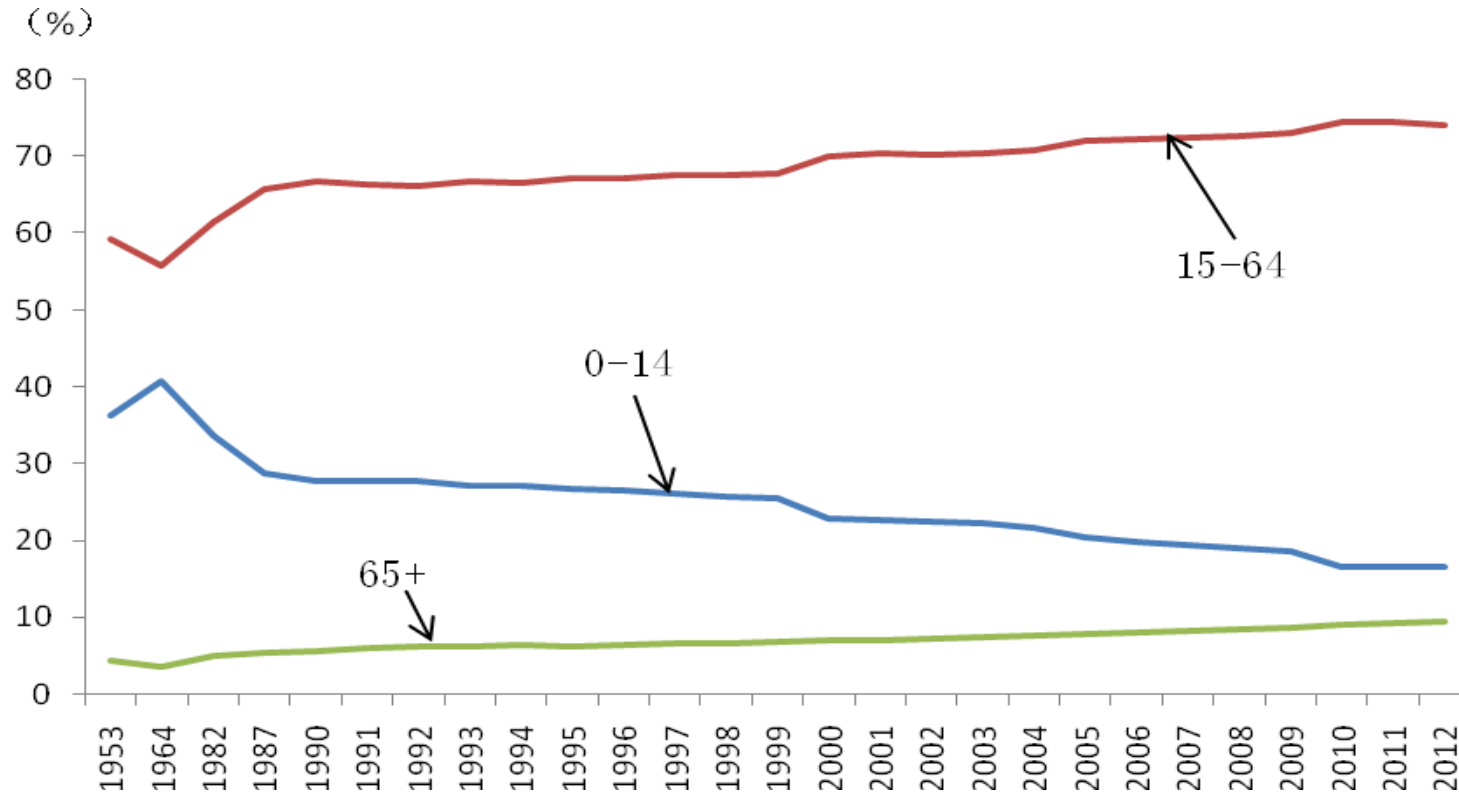
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Backgrounds

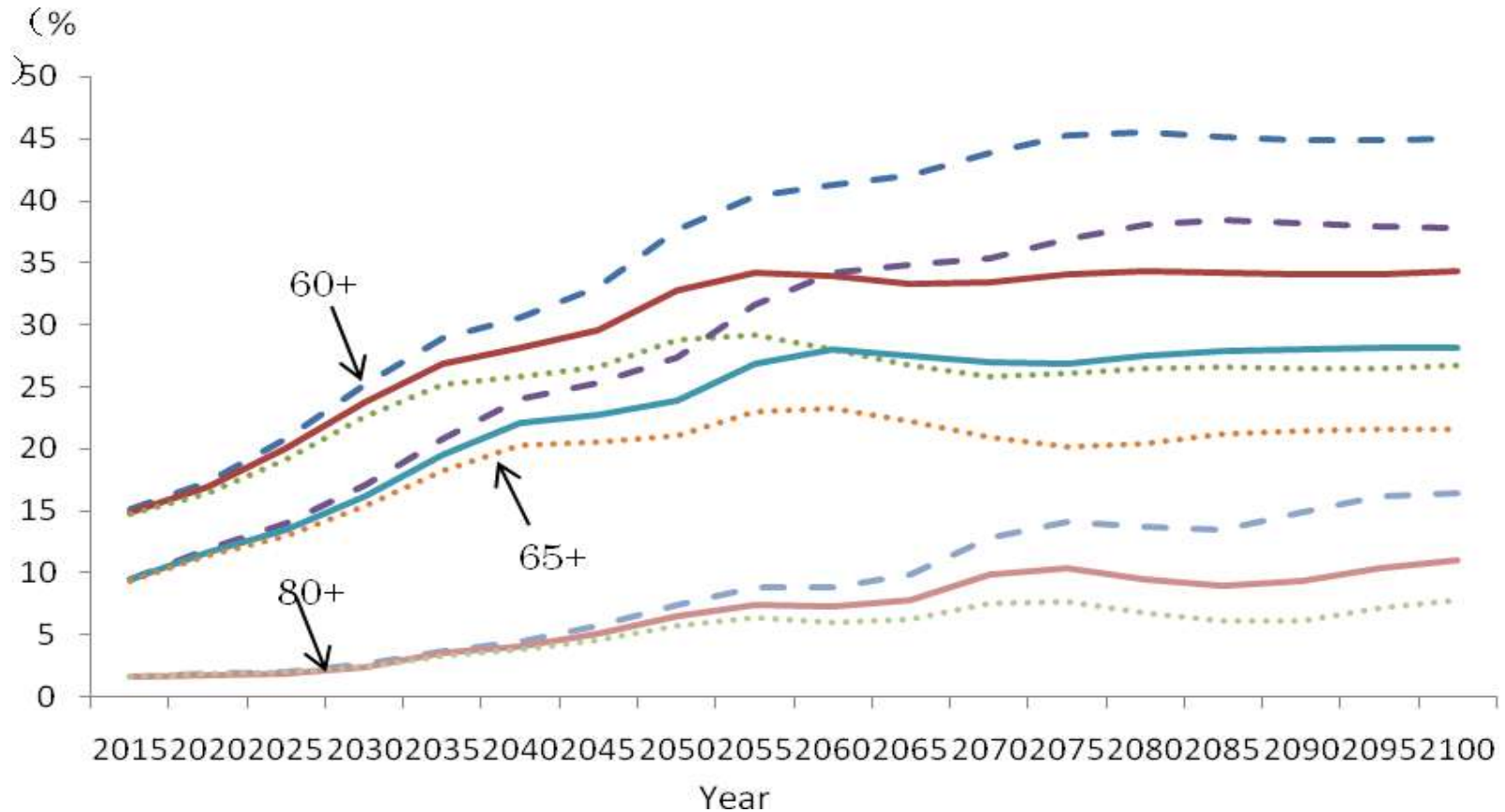
- China is one of the developing countries with the largest elderly population.
- By the end of 2013,
 - population aged 60 or above, 202 million, nearly 15 percent of its total population.
 - population aged 65 or above, More than 131.6 million, accounting for 9.7 percent of the total population.
- The growth of those aged 80 and above will be even more rapid. China had nearly 22.73 million people over the age of 80 by the end of 2012.

Figure 1 Age structure, China: 1953-2012



Source: National Bureau of Statistics of China.

Figure 2 Projected ageing trends, China: 2015-2100



Source: United Nations, Population Division.

Current Challenges

- The national reality of “growing old before getting rich” highlights the heavy burden of old-age support in China.
- “Ageing before preparation” is another major challenge of old-age support in China.
- The evolution of family system has weakened its traditional role and responsibility in old-age support.

Current Challenges

- Skilled nursing facilities, nursing staff with certification were insufficient, far from meeting the huge and potential needs of the disable elderly.
- A professional medical and health service system consistent with the requirements of an ageing society is still absent.

Good Practice

- **“Happy old age” campaign in Changning**
 - Financial support
 - Health care
 - Home-based services
 - Community facilities
- **“12349” hotline in Tianning**

Future Vision

- At present, the strategy to offer long-term care services for the disabled elderly is under way, and the establishment of long-term care insurance system would be taken into consideration in the near future.
- An old-age social support service system, based on old-age care at home, supplemented by community service and supported by social, is becoming a priority in China.

Future Vision

- The cooperation of medical services and nursing services will be a major trend in the near future.
- Training care-providers of the elderly, including nursing staff and family members, is crucial to reinforce capacity building for professional provision of old-age medical care and health services.