

The Development of Elderly Services: Stylized Facts and Prospect in China

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Abstract: Population aging has emerged as one of China's major concerns due to the country's ongoing economic development and population increase. In order to predict the future growth of China's aged service industry and to suggest appropriate change-management techniques, this article examines the existing status of China's aging population. First, in this essay, the current situation with China's aging population is examined, including the sharp rise in the proportion of the old and the progression of aging., and the existence of urban-rural aging differences. Secondly, this paper analyzes the causes of population aging and the combined effects of various factors such as aging family knots. Then, the paper discusses how to improve China's elderly service industry and proposes corresponding policy recommendations and changes in wording. Finally, the paper points out that to meet the challenges posed by population aging, and to ensure the senior population's health, longevity, and happiness, a sound aged service system must be established. and aggressively pursue the education and training of elderly service employees to enhance their knowledge, abilities, and employment possibilities for the elderly population's involvement and fulfillment. Aside from that, the government should strengthen cooperation with enterprises and social organizations to improve the elderly service industry.

Keywords: China, aging population, elderly service industry

1. Introduction

Population aging is a significant trend in economic and social growth, a significant indicator of the advancement of human civilization, and a fundamental aspect of China's future as a nation. According to China's population data from 2016 to 2100 predicted by the International Labor Organization (ILO) (see Figure 1), Three stages of population aging can be identified in China. In the first stage, aging develops rapidly: from 2022 to 2036, the elderly population grows rapidly, the fertility rate continues to decline, and China's population size reaches its peak. In the second stage, aging is developing deeply. As the total population of China has been growing negatively, aging is becoming more and more significant and aging. The senior population in China is anticipated to reach its peak in size and rate of aging by the middle of this century. The third phase of balanced development of aging: the growth of the elderly population will end between 2053 and 2100. At this stage, the proportion of youngsters, adults in their middle years, and senior citizens decreased together, and in the same manner, The elderly service industry has brought about new prospects for

growth, With the increasing aging population, the elderly service industry is becoming more intensified. has become an increasingly important industry.

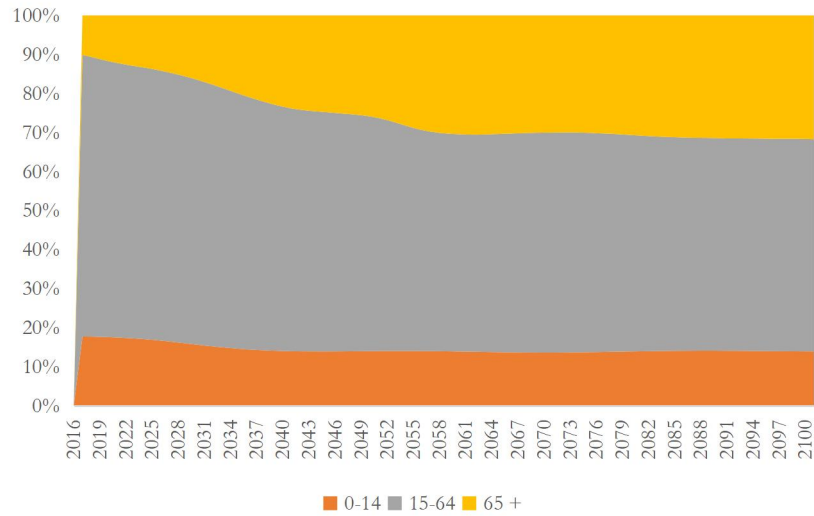


Figure 1: Population structure in China.
 Data source: ILO
 Photo credit: Original

However, the shortage of elderly service resources is the primary factor limiting the development of elderly services. At present, there are problems such as insufficient supply and single service in China's elderly service sector. This paper the objective is to conduct a comprehensive study on how to improve the problem of insufficient supply and single service for the elderly service and how to improve the quality of elderly service so that the elderly can enjoy quality elderly service with the problem of an aging population. The following segments of this paper are organized as follows: The first part is to analyze the current situation of China's pension industry service, and the second part will discuss the opportunities and difficulties encountered by China's pension industry service. The third part will analyze the prospective advancement of the pension service industry.

2. Elderly Care Service Industry

2.1. Current Situation

The elderly service industry in China is currently experiencing a period of rapid growth, but there are also some problems. The main manifestations are Insufficient beds: Insufficient beds are One of the most prominent pressing problems in China's elderly service industry. As of the end of June this year, there were 173,300 institutions and facilities of various types of elderly services nationwide, of which 29,900 were registered and more than 140,000 were community-based elderly service institutions and facilities, and there were 7,353,000 beds for elderly services nationwide [1]. However, the China region has a significant proportion of elderly residents. and there is still a shortage of pension beds. The following two aspects reflect the shortage of pension beds. With the advent of COVID-19, most of the elderly have suffered from the sequelae of COVID-19, so many elderly people needed medical treatment at that time. However, due to the large population base of the elderly, there was a serious shortage of beds. On the other hand, according to the data, there are approximately 40 million elderly individuals in China who experience varying degrees of disability,

and "one person is disabled and the whole family is unbalanced" is the real picture of these elderly families [2].

2.2. Poor Service Quality

As China is aging, more time has been invested in developing senior care services, but due to the short development time, problems such as inappropriate preferential policies, imperfect service facilities, and weak supervision still exist [3]. As a result, the quality of elderly services in China is not high. The National Medium- and Long-term Talent Development Plan (2010-2020) states that the number of elderly caregivers in China is expected to expand to 6 million by 2020, but currently, there are less than 1 million, which is far from meeting the market demand [4]. At the same time, the professional ability of the elderly nursing staff in our country is insufficient, which mainly displays the lack of professional knowledge, clinical nursing ability, and legal awareness. Because of the lack of professional knowledge, the elderly is not provided with healthy diets, care, and medical services, and the low quality of staff in many nursing homes and even the abuse of the elderly makes more people lack confidence in nursing institutions.

2.3. Lack of Service Coverage

Lack of service coverage is another problem in China's elderly service industry. In the urban areas of China and developed areas, there are more nursing homes where the elderly can choose the right institution for them, but after the influx of significant influx of rural laborers into urban areas, the elderly service in rural areas has failed to be established. A significant influx of rural surplus laborers migrates to urban areas, which are mostly young and strong rural laborers, and after they leave their families, it further weakens the function of rural family pensions [5].

2.4. Insufficient Service Types

On the other hand, the needs of the elderly are diversified. According to the proposal of the National Health Service and Construction Commission in 2021, China has formed a pattern of "9073", that is, 90% pertaining to the aging population care at home, 7% pertaining to the aging population care in communities, and 3% in institutions [6]. This means that there are fewer choices in China's pension service industry, and the elderly are more willing to choose home care rather than accept other ways of pension service.

3. Current Challenges and Opportunities for China's Elderly Service Industry

3.1. Challenges and Opportunities in the Policy Environment

The policy environment is an important guarantee for the advancement of the senior care industry, and the optimization and improvement of policies are crucial to the development of the elderly service industry. At present, The Chinese government has implemented a series of policies to facilitate the development of the elderly service industry, such as the National Plan for Medium and Long-term Development, the Social Security System Development Plan (2011-2015), The Twelfth Five-Year Plan for Elderly Development, etc. These policies have a significant positive impact on the promotion of the development of the elderly service industry. These policies have positive significance in promoting the advancement of the senior care industry and coincide with the government has also increased investment in the senior care industry, such as strengthening the construction of community elderly institutions and increasing the tax incentives for the elderly service industry, which provide policy guarantees for the advancement of the senior care sector. However, in practice, there are differences in the effects of policy implementation and shortcomings

in the formulation and implementation of policies. For example, the funding source of the pension service industry mainly relies on social security funds and private investment, while the scale and yield of social security funds are still problematic and private investment faces risks and uncertainties. Simultaneously, the advancement of the senior care sector. also needs to establish a complete set of perfect management systems to guarantee the quality and standardization of services.

3.2. Challenges and Opportunities of Endowment Service Talent Reserve

Based on the data released by the Office of the National Committee for the Advancement of Aging Issues, China's consumption potential elderly population is expected to grow from about 4 trillion yuan to 106 trillion yuan between 2014 and 2050, and the shortage of skilled personnel for elderly care professionals will reach 10 million, with a serious lack of high-level personnel for operation and Project management for elderly care. Among them, the demand for senior care service managers will reach about 10 million [7]. With the advancement of the senior care service sector, the requirements for senior care service personnel are getting increasingly elevated, which has put forward higher specifications for the talent pool. At present, there is a general lack of specialized skills and professionalism among senior care service personnel and a lack of specialized management personnel in elderly care service institutions, which directly affects the quality and development of the senior care service industry. To achieve the desired outcome, it is necessary to solve the problem of the talent pool, the Chinese government has implemented a series of policies, such as encouraging universities to open elderly service majors and train elderly service talents, while elderly service organizations are actively promoting staff training. In addition, due to the gradual aging of the population, there is a growing shortage of service personnel, thus creating more employment opportunities.

4. Development Trend of Senior Care Service Industry

4.1. Diversification of Services

As the consumption ability and cultural level pertaining to the aging population improve, their demand for elderly services is becoming more and more diversified and personalized. Construct a service system with multiple levels, offer diverse health and medical service items for the elderly with different physical conditions, dig deeper into the actual needs pertaining to the aging population, And fully leverage the potential of the main role of enterprises based on market mechanisms to provide more diversified elderly products. The future elderly service industry will pay greater attention to the quality. and personalization of services [8]. Thus, diversified senior care services will make more choices for the elderly, thus changing the inherent '9073' pattern.

4.2. Application of Science and Technology

China is now facing the problem of difficulty in taking care of the elderly. Most Chinese people have traditionally chosen to "Stay at home", but nowadays, the family structure is more likely to have only one child, which causes most families to encounter great difficulties in caring for the elderly. The shortage of labor force and the lack of time to spend with the elderly are the main factors of the current traditional family and the weakening of the individual's ability to take care of the elderly [9]. But the use of technology can change this phenomenon, for example, in the information management of the elderly, the platform can be completely information entry information update, and the platform to achieve the detection of the physical condition of the

elderly, according to different physical conditions to provide different services, reduce the pressure of the elderly.

4.3. Community-based Aging in Place

From 2014 to 2020, The number of elderly care services provided within the community. institutions and facilities in China increased from 18,900 to 109,000 [10], and the future elderly care service will be enhanced and optimized to meet the growing demand for high-quality care for seniors. focus more on community Elevated care for the elderly. Community-based elderly care service provides specific services such as living, medical, and spiritual Revised sentence: In-home elderly care services by playing the role of a carrier of the community, and is a model of elderly care service that radiates community functions to home services [11]. The current social situation in China is that there are many empty nesters, disabled and chronically ill elderly, and the existing situation in China can be solved by providing home services to the elderly through the community to cater to the requirements of the elderly aging at home, providing such elderly measures as cleaning hygiene, diet, companionship, chronic disease care, home injections, health checkups, etc. Community aging can provide more convenient and economical services to the elderly and promote the elderly among Recreational and cultural activities. It is also a great way to promote recreational activities among the elderly. It enables senior citizens to experience enjoying the warmth of home. Compared to institutionalized care, community-based care has the advantage of being cheaper, easier for seniors to adapt and integrate into community life, and more convenient for seniors to keep in touch with their families. At the same time, compared to institutionalized care, community-based care does not offer the same consistent quality of service, does not provide the same professional and comprehensive nursing and care services as institutionalized care, and faces higher safety risks when living at home.

5. Conclusion

As China's economy continues to develop and its population continues to grow, population aging has become one of the serious issues facing China. Population aging in China involves not only economic and social fields but also culture and family and many other fields. This paper is centered on the topic of the current situation of China's aging population and the future development of the senior care industry and proposes the future The refinement of development is currently under my study in the language learning direction of the elderly service industry. The purpose of this paper the aim is to facilitate a more comprehensive comprehension of the subject matter for individual problems of China's demographic shift towards an increasingly elderly population and to improve the service for the elderly industry. to promote the health, longevity, and happiness of China's elderly population.

After research, the main finding of this paper is that there are the following two main problems in China's pension service industry: the lack of professionalism among employees and there exists significant disparity between urban and rural areas. First of all, the absence of professional conduct in employees is reflected in the lack of professional skills training of pension service personnel and the lack of a number of employees. to address this issue, the government should enhance the training program and management The professional qualifications of the elderly service personnel shall be enhanced and professional skills, and establish elderly service-related majors to increase the number of employees. Finally, the significant disparity between urban and rural regions is reflected in the fact that the urban elderly are more likely to enjoy high-quality pension services, while the rural elderly are faced with more serious pension problems. The government can solve this problem through market regulation and policy support. For example, the government can increase the

pension service subsidy in rural areas to attract more pension service institutions to enter rural areas or build some livable pension institutions in rural areas to attract the elderly in some cities to rural areas

In short, the government needs to formulate more specific policy suggestions to solve the challenges prevalent in the elderly care service sector. In addition to the above-mentioned aspects, the government can also increase financial support for the elderly care service industry can be enhanced, improving the standardized level of the elderly care service industry, and promoting the sustainable development of the elderly care service industry.

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