

China's Social Welfare: A Demography & Social Policy Analysis

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A decorative background for the lower half of the slide, featuring a light blue grid pattern. A thin blue horizontal line spans across the width of the grid, and a thin blue vertical line runs down the right side, intersecting the horizontal line. At the intersection point, there is a small blue circular graphic element.

I. The socioeconomic & demographical changes in China since the reform

- Marketization
- Globalization
- Urbanization



◆ Population ageing

◆ Inequality and the change of social structure

◆ Rural-urban migration

◆ More Social Problems

Government's social welfare policy under the pressure of globalization

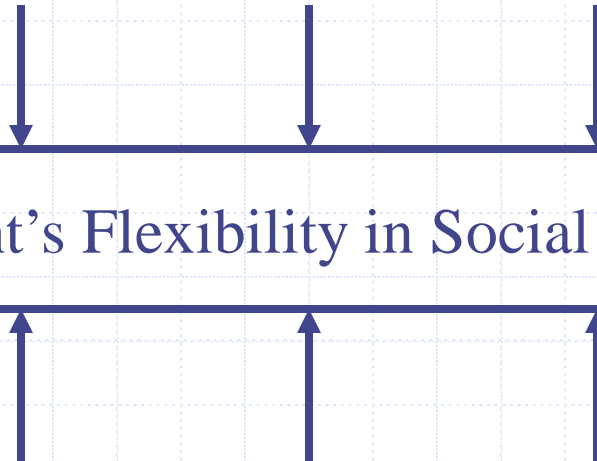
International Economic Competition Caused by the Globalization

Economic Growth

Government's Flexibility in Social weofare Policy

Social Stability

Social Problems Caused by Globalization



II. The New development in social welfare (since 2000)

1. Background

1) The stronger responses to the negative consequences of the social policy reform in 1990s,

- Inequality
- Poverty

2) The changing politic-ideological environment:

- More emphasis on social equity
- More “human-centered” policy orientation
- “Harmonious society”

◆ 3) New economic situation:

- Rapid economic growth and the governments' growing financial capacity

◆ 4) Rapid industrialization & urbanization after entering into WTO

- ----- Causing more rural-urban migration

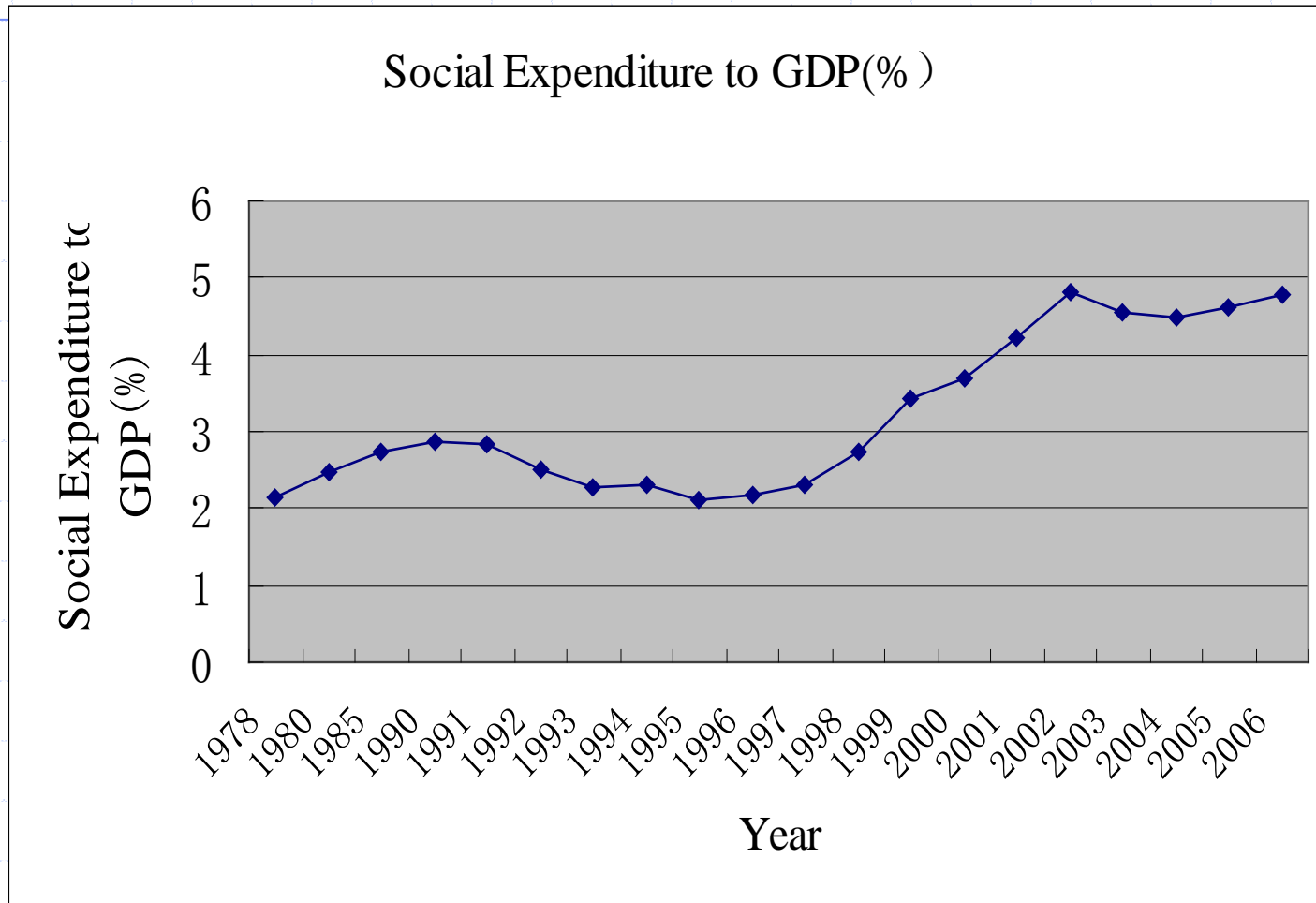
◆ The changing pattern of economic development:

- ----- From the current labour-intensive to the technology-intensive

The new ideology and principles of social welfare policy

- ◆ From the economic-centered to the “harmonious society” guided
- ◆ More emphasis on social equity and the human centered principle
- ◆ To pay more attention to the social protection to the vulnerable groups

The increase of social expenditure in the last decade



Source: China Statistic Yearbook (2007)

III. The specific areas of social welfare

1. Social Assistance

(1) Minimal Living Security

The Urban Minimal Living Security

Year	People covered (Millions)	Increase rate to previous year(%)	Total expenditure (billion Yuan)	Increase rate to previous year(%)	From Central Gov. (Billion Yuan)	Increase rate to previous year (%)
2000年	4.026	51.4	2.72	76.6	--	--
2001年	11.707	190.8	6.25	129.8	2.3	
2002年	20.536	75.4	11.26	80.2	4.6	100.0
2003年	22.350	8.8	15.3	35.9	9.2	100.0
2004年	22.008	-1.2	17.29	13.0	10.2	10.9
2005年	22.328	1.5	19.07	10.3	11.2	9.8
2006年	22.409	0.3	22.21	16.5		
2007年	22.709	1.3	27.48	23.7	16.0	

The Rural Minimal Living Security

Year	People covered (millions)	Increase rate to previous year(%)	Total expenditure (billion Yuan)	Increase rate to previous year(%)	From Central Gov. (Bilion Yuan)
2000	3.002	13.0	—	—	
2001	3.503	16.7	—	—	
2002	4.047	15.5	—	—	
2003	396.8	-1.2	—	—	
2004	496.4	25.1	—	—	
2005	776.5	56.4	—	—	
2006	1509.1	94.3	6.01	—	
2007	3451.9	128.7	10.41	73.2	3.0

(2) Other social Assistance programs in China

Programmes	Urban	Rural
MLS	Local 1992, National 1997, reformed in 2002	Local 1994, National 2007
Medical Assistance	National 2005	National 2003
Housing	National 2004, 2007	--
“Five Guarantee”	--	Firstly in 1950s, reformed in 2006
Disaster relieves	--	The new regulations from 2004-2006
Temporary assistance for the burgers	National 2003, to replace the old “taking-in & sending-back” practice	
Juridical Assistance	National 2003	
Other governmental		
Non-governmental		

2. Social Insurances

- ◆ **Pension:** the current system was established in 1997, and reformed and improved since 2001;
 - To valid the personal account by central government's expenditure.
- ◆ The development of the social insurance programs of medical insurance, unemployment, occupational injury and maternity.
- ◆ But the rural social insurance is still in no progress.

3. Health care

- ◆ The problems caused by the “reform” in 1990s
 - ◆ ■ The partial commercialized medical care service caused the rapid increase of the prices of medical care, and the difficulties for many people to access to the medical care
 - ◆ ■ The public health reform caused the decline of public health services
 - ◆ ■ The improper distribution of medical resources
 - ◆ ■ The slow development of community health services
 - ◆ ■ The stop of rural public health services

The new development since 2000

- ◆ ■ The development of public health services and the disease control system since the SAAS in 2003
- ◆ ■ The discussion and design of the new medical care system since 2005
- ◆ ■ The medical assistance system in cities
- ◆ ■ The new health services in rural areas
 - ■ The new rural cooperative medical care system
 - ■ Rural medical assistance

(4) Other Programs

Employment protection:

The new Labor Contract Law

Welfare services

Community services

Welfare institutes reform

Housing benefits:

The New regulation of the cheaper rental housing system in cities

5. Social security and other social services for the rural migrants

- ◆ 1、 The pension insurance
- ◆ 2、 Medical insurance
- ◆ 3、 Children's education in cities
- ◆ 4 Social assistance and other social welfare

The key issues in social welfare policy since 2000

- ◆ 1. If or not back to the universal model?
- ◆ 2. The general direction of social policy: how to coordinates with the economic development (Neo-liberal? Developmental? or welfarism)
- ◆ 3. The rational institutions and technical design
- ◆ 4. The relations between equity and efficiency
- ◆ 5. Governmental vs. NGO
- ◆ 6. Central Government vs. Local Governments

2. The new trends for the next decade

- ◆ Back to the middle way
- ◆ Towards a urban-rural integrated social policy system
- ◆ Preparing for the future aging society



Thanks