

Policies of Different Countries to Deal with Population Aging and Their Enlightenment for China

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Abstract: This article summarizes the successful measures taken by countries around the world to deal with the aging population, and focuses on the impact of immigration policies on the aging population. Immigration policy is one of the important ways to solve the thorny impact of population aging. If accurate and efficient immigration policies can be implemented, it will contribute a lot to minimizing the impact of population aging. In order to put forward suggestions for China's future immigration policies, this paper compares the immigration policies of different countries and China's policies to cope with the aging of the population by analyzing the aging trend of the world population and China's aging trend, focusing on two aspects of China's current immigration policies, as well as the results of previous studies. The results show that China's immigration policy is close to the mature strategies of developed countries, but there are still many shortcomings. In order to better adapt to the aging trend in the future, China should improve its legal system, optimize preferential policies, make up for negligence in links, and attract high-quality foreign talents to settle in China and overseas students to return home for development.

Keywords: population aging, immigration, policy, China, implication

1. Introduction

Nowadays, the aging trend of the world population is the most important trend of the world population age structure change. It is characterized by the relative decrease of the young population in the total population proportion and the gradual increase of the elderly population. Population aging is used to be unique to developed countries, but this situation has become a widespread worldwide problem since the 1970s. Therefore, the problem of population aging has attracted wide attention in both developed and developing countries. As the largest developing country, China's economy is developing rapidly and starting to get closer to the developed countries, but in this process, it is also accompanied by an increasingly serious problem of population aging. In the second half of the 20th century, both the fertility rate and the mortality rate showed a trend of plummeting, China in the 21st century is rapidly joining the aging society of the rest of the world [1]. China in the century will be an irreversible aging society. From 2001 to 2100, China's aging development trend can be divided into three stages. Phase 1: Rapid aging phase from 2001 to 2020. Zhang Chewei et al, according to the results of 2000 predictions show that if the total fertility rate maintained at around 1.8, China's labor force growth trend will maintain about 10 years, that is to say, after 2015, although the working-age population increase, but the new labor population decline

[2]. The second stage: from 2021 to 2050 accelerated aging stage. The third stage: a stable and severe aging phase from 2051 to 2100. Compared with other countries, China's aging has the following characteristics: the huge scale of the elderly population, the rapid aging development, the unbalanced regional development, the significant urban and rural inversion, a greater number of female elderly population than men, and the aging is ahead of modernization. Although the government has taken a variety of measures to deal with aging, they are far from enough to look at the future. China should learn from and follow some effective strategies to minimize the impact of aging.

2. Overview

Some countries have introduced relevant strategies to encourage population growth. For example, Canada encourages immigrants and welcomes young people with high academic qualifications and strong employability to immigrate to Canada. Britain has also adjusted its immigration policy to supplement the labor shortage and delay the aging of the population. Sweden has issued a policy that children do not need to support and care for the elderly. Due to its long life and low fertility rate, Sweden has become one of the countries with the highest population aging degree in the world as early as the 1970s. The elderly over 65 years old account for 17% of the national population, of which the elderly over 80 years old account for 5%. The government provides economic security for the elderly by issuing basic pensions. Sweden's pensions are uniformly distributed by the state. All people who live in Sweden can receive basic pensions of different amounts according to their length of residence after reaching the age of 65. Those who have worked can also receive an additional pension according to their length of service after retirement. The two funds are almost 70% of their pre retirement wages, which is more than enough to maintain their livelihood. There is also a housing subsidy, which is aimed at all low-income retirees to avoid the deterioration of the quality of their housing after retirement. Some countries have reformed the pension insurance system, such as Japan, which has improved the pension system, unified the previous national pension, health pension, contribution pension and occupational pension insurance, and vigorously developed the silver industry. Russia has made great efforts to reform the original system. At present, Russia is carrying out the reform of the old-age system throughout the country. The combination of social pooling and endowment insurance has gradually replaced the simple endowment social pooling in the past. The main purpose of the reform is to improve the treatment of retirees and make enterprises and employees more responsible for provision for the elderly. All the reforms were completed in 2016. Brazil has also carried out reforms to ensure the quality of life of the elderly. In order to protect the legitimate rights and interests of the elderly from infringement, the law stipulates that the government should provide legal advice to the elderly, and courts at all levels give priority to hearing lawsuits filed by elderly people over 65 years old. Every citizen has the obligation to complain about any phenomenon that ignores and damages the rights and interests of the elderly. Governments at all levels have set up committees for the elderly responsible for coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the national policy for the elderly, supported the education sector in establishing universities for the elderly, and provided appropriate job opportunities for the elderly. The old-age security in South Korea is composed of the public pension system and the old-age security system. Other countries are actively developing aging human resources. Germany and Spain are trying some phased or partial retirement plans, so that elderly employees can receive part of their pensions while doing non day work [3]. While in some Gulf regions such as Oman, long-term care policies are adopted [4]. Generally speaking, each country has its own unique policies to control population aging.

3. Discussion

3.1. Immigration from OECD Countries

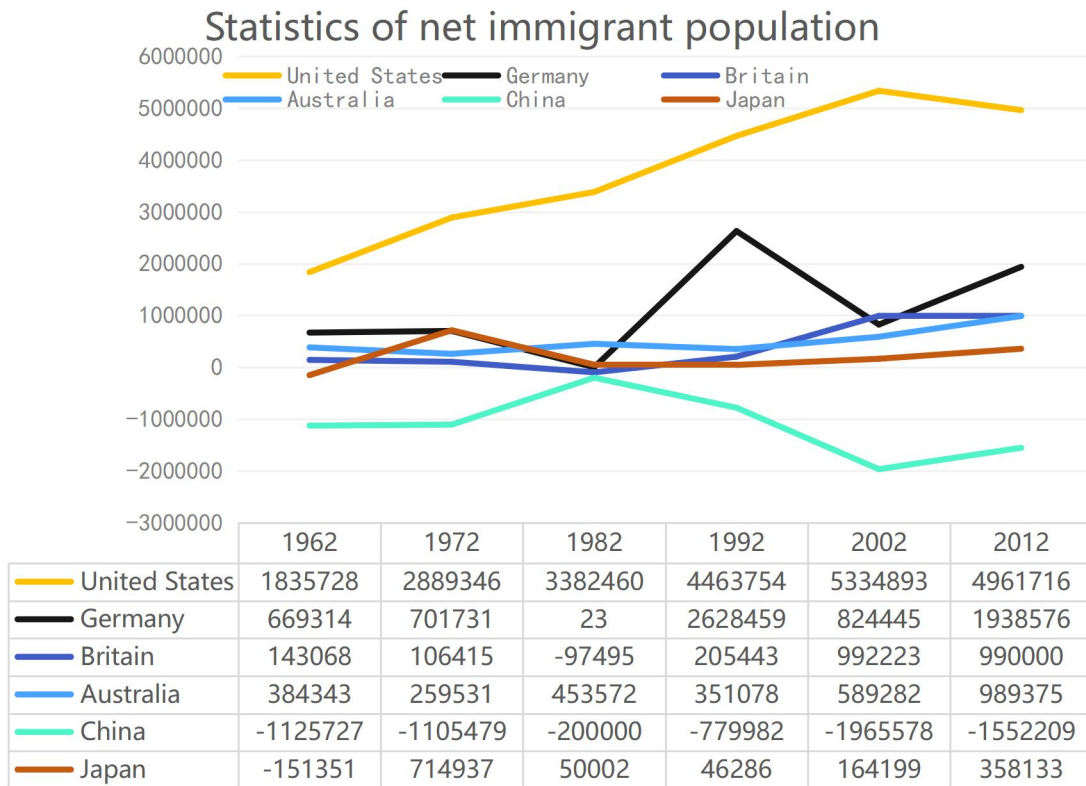


Figure 1: Statistic of net immigrant population [5].

The table selects five representative OECD countries from 1962 to 2012 to compare the net immigration of China. They are respectively the United States, one of the powerful countries in the Americas, Germany, one of the most populous countries in Europe, Britain, the first industrialized country, and Japan, one of the developed countries in Asia, which is also one of the representatives of aging. It can be seen from the table that with the arrival of the 21st century, the problem of population aging is becoming more and more serious. Except for China, the number of net immigrants in all countries has increased to varying degrees in the past 50 years. For Germany, during the period of the division of East Germany and West Germany, the number of net immigrants decreased significantly due to social unrest. However, after the merger of Germany in 1992, the number of net immigrants increased rapidly, which was due to the optimization of its immigration policies and regulations. Germany raised the minimum wage and subsidized housing. In addition, the health care profession has been reformed, and tax preferential policies have been implemented for foreign professionals and high-level immigrants. These policy changes have attracted young talents from abroad to settle in Germany, which helps alleviate the aging of society. In the past 50 years, China's economy has experienced a low point not long after the founding of the people's Republic of China, but also a series of unprecedented developments such as reform and opening up, and its international status and economic level have been continuously improved. However, due to the rigid and limited policies, it is difficult to attract foreign talents to settle in China. On the other hand, Chinese students who go to study abroad are also more inclined to stay abroad for development, because China's policies on overseas students are not attractive enough,

while foreign countries vigorously implement and relax immigration policies, giving more preferential treatment to excellent immigrants, so as to be more attractive.

3.2. Population Aging and Immigration

Britain is the first country to industrialize and one of the countries with the impact of population aging. In the UK, immigration is considered an important means to address the problem of an aging population. In addition to intensifying the crackdown on illegal immigration, the previous policies of immigration have been relaxed. According to the British Independent newspaper on August 25, 2006, and according to the National Bureau of Statistics, as of July, 2005, the UK already has a population of 60.2 million, An increase of 375,000 people over the previous year. The increase was about 0.6%, for the fastest population growth year since 1962. During the same decade, from 1989 to 1999, the average growth rate in the UK population is just 0.3%. Oxford university Professor Coleman noted in a seminar in 2007, that the number of net growth of UK new immigrants was 204,000 over the past two years, rising the UK population by 0.6 percent [6]. The increase of the number of immigrants can play a greater role in the aging of population. First, it can promote the growth of population and alleviate the population aging. Second, the labor supply has improved to a certain extent, and solved the problem of labor shortage caused by aging. Third, it has promoted economic prosperity and increased the national growth rate. While immigration policy can have a positive impact in the UK, not all regions are so open to immigration, and there are still restrictions on immigration in some countries. While Russia is also experiencing an aging population, it eliminates black blacks in immigration policy. Israel has been strictly restricting blacks since the 1980s, and now it rarely introduces blacks. The same was true of Australia and Japan, severely restricting black immigration. Although immigration policy can bring benefits in all aspects, the determination of a country's immigration policy depends on the strength balance of social classes and groups with interests and their balance of interests. There are many differences in immigration policies in different countries due to culture, politics, economy and other factors. But it is also an important question for a country to really attract migrants. The superiority and treatment of policies will often affect the choice of immigrants. The positive role of immigration cannot be denied, but immigration itself is not considered as a long-term solution. In Germany, for example; declining birth rates could not be fundamentally addressed by one or two generations. Moreover, the concept of immigrants will soon be assimilated by Germany, and German society has an unchangeable idea of rejecting the big family migrants from Turkey and other countries who are also more receptive to the German average of 1.3 children per couple [7]. The Australian government is also uncertain about its immigration policy, with Australia targeting 150,000 people a year, compared with 110,000 people per year. Some people think that young immigrants can contribute to Australia's aging population, but others think that young immigrants will eventually become elderly people, so immigration alone cannot fundamentally solve the problem of aging. In addition, immigration brings about not only a fresh workforce, but also a number of immigrants who belong to professional care personnel to meet the care and health care needs of the elderly. For example, the New Zealand government vigorously promotes the elderly nursing training program. In recent years, more and more health care and care talents from developing countries have migrated to developed countries to ensure this demand in developed countries [8].

3.3. Comparison of China's Immigration Policy with Other Countries

According to a survey by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, from 1978 to 2006, 1.06 million Chinese students studied overseas, but only 275,000 students returned home, and about 70 percent of the overseas students settled abroad [9]. Such a phenomenon shows that China is facing a severe

outflow of talents. On the other hand, China is difficult to become attractive to highly qualified people who want to emigrate. In contrast, Germany, in July 2001, changed the original immigration policy, the policy shows that Germany will accommodate 50000 foreign immigrants every year, science and technology talents accounted for more than 60% of total immigration [10] at the beginning of the year, Germany issued a new law, took more effective measures, including giving graduate students more than a year of residence. Looking at the United States, in 1965, a new preferential immigration law with the spirit of open policy was promulgated, giving 29,000 welfare high-quality overseas talents. The government has also set up various fund aid agencies to reward the use of high-end talents, more for the introduction of overseas talents. In addition, we will continuously enhance the attraction of overseas students and encourage the development of headhunting enterprises, and upgrade the headhunting industry to the height of implementing and implementing the national talent strategy. In recent years, although China is constantly adjusting and improving its immigration policy, trying to alleviate the aging of the population through the immigration policy, the immigration policy is still not perfect and mature, and it is facing many challenges. The complexity of the migrant population is increasing, and it is relatively difficult to find out the basic situation. In order to adapt to globalization and the impact of the impact of the aging population, foreigners in China are no longer pure and high-quality talents as before, but immigrants from all over the world. These changes make immigrants with a wide range of sources, complex identities and diverse levels. Although it increases the base of the working population to some extent, it is more difficult for the country to grasp the basic situation of immigration. The formation of a small society of immigrants makes them and Chinese people grow. Some immigrants claim to be integrated, which has had a huge impact on China's social order and social governance. The increasing number of illegal immigration and crime has troubled local controls. Although the law enforcement authorities have made great efforts to investigate and punish illegal immigrants in recent years, some criminals have still adopted a series of strategies to deal with the government control. In addition, the awareness of the rights of foreign immigrants is increasing, and the relevant laws and regulations are being stalled.

4. Implications for China

The fierce population aging process makes China urgently look for suitable solutions. There is no doubt that China will experience unprecedented high-speed aging and unprecedented scale in the next 80 years. Although the immigration policy has brought many benefits, as China's policy is still at an immature stage, in addition to bringing some negative effects in other aspects of society, it is also worth considering whether it will play a real positive role in the future population aging. Some developed countries have entered an aging society earlier, and their policies are more mature, which is worthy of China's reference and learning. Therefore, while maintaining a good momentum, China should further improve its laws, further optimize its preferential policies, further understand the supply and demand situation, further create an appropriate environment, further improve its attractiveness, build a mature and stable system, and contribute to the serious population aging problem in the future.

In view of the trend of China's aging in the future and the imperfection of the current immigration policy, other countries can play a good guiding role. As China will experience a rapid aging stage in the future, immigration policy is indispensable as one of the important means to alleviate aging. Due to different fertility and mortality levels, the aging trend between urban and rural areas in China is very different [11]. Therefore, China needs to pay attention to achieving a balance between urban and rural areas, give priority to urban anti-aging, and use superior policies to let migrants stay in cities as far as possible. In the face of the increasingly complex status of immigrants, we can follow the European approach and only grant permanent residence permits to

foreign high-level talents and talents with special contributions to China. For the emergence of the immigrants having a poor background, the state should formulate more perfect laws, improve the aging of the population is not just a few days, and such immigrants should be deported without hesitation. For overseas Chinese students, we should formulate more attractive welfare policies and incentive systems to fully attract them to return to China for settlement. For foreign students studying in China, the residence period should also be extended, and qualified high-quality graduates should be given good conditions and convenient settlement policies. In addition, China must also grasp the trend of skilled migration. In order to maximize the benefits of the immigration policy, we can consider it from three levels. The first level is to give greater play to the role of relevant departments and employers. Talent expansion should be based on the principle of market regulation: foreign talents should be determined by market entities and employers, because only they can reflect the current demand for talent introduction. The management and service of foreign talents shall be mainly undertaken by the employer: while ensuring the authenticity of the materials, it is prohibited to employ foreigners in violation of the procedures, and the policy of cultivating foreigners similar to the Chinese talent program and plan shall be implemented. Establish a senior talent management department: merge some relevant departments, face foreign talents through a single window, and focus on improving efficiency. The second level is to give better treatment and rights to foreign immigrants. Focus on the supply and demand of foreign talents: establish a system to meet the supply and demand of foreign talents and accurately grasp the situation. Foreign talents shall be appropriately granted permanent residency. Foreigners without working experience in China can also enjoy the policy of permanent residence in China. Create an environment to maximize the positive role of foreign residents: the overall economic environment of a country is one of the most influential factors. We should strive to create a better English environment and improve the English level of citizens. Provide better services in education, and provide certain convenience and preferential treatment in medical care and taxation. The third level is to ensure the effectiveness of policies. Ensure the introduction of foreign talents: as high-level talents tend to go to the United States, the European Union and other developed countries under the current trend, China must challenge the existing policies and regain competitiveness. Broaden the scope of talent introduction: we should not only subsidize technical talents from developed countries, but also give consideration to immigrants at all levels, and give them some help when they return home, which will help to impress them and encourage their children to come to China for education. The introduction policy for foreign talents has changed from complication to simplicity: the excessively complicated procedures have affected the tendency of foreign talents to choose to live in China to a certain extent, and the relevant laws lack preferential policies on the surface. It is suggested that the state can combine the contents of "four certificates" or "three certificates" [12].

5. Conclusion

This paper analyzes the current situation and characteristics of China's aging, and forecasts the trend of future aging. It lists the different policies of different countries in the world to deal with aging, and finds that immigration policy is one of the most important means to solve aging. After that, it analyzes the net immigration of several OECD countries in the past 50 years and compares it with the data of China in the same period, from which it draws the advantages of other countries' immigration policies and the shortcomings of China's policies. The following article specifically analyzes the advantages of other countries' immigration policies and China's shortcomings. Finally, to sum up, combined with the trend of China's aging in the future, this paper puts forward some suggestions and gives some recommendations, hoping to help alleviate the aging problem.

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