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10 most popular abstracts – three months to 31 January 2007

1. How does the New Zealand retirement savings environment rank? or, Is KiwiSaver a world leader?

New Zealand's *KiwiSaver* is the world's first national, auto-enrolment, retirement savings scheme (starting 2007). The UK also proposes such a scheme – similar but different. Which is likely to be more successful? Does either country need one at all? more

2. Macroeconomic Effects of Pension Reform in Chile

This 20 year review of Chile's pension arrangements identifies its achievements and quantifies its contribution to key economic indicators. However, looking at the past doesn't mean it should be the future. more

3. A Future for Work-based Savings in New Zealand

New Zealand's Saving Product Working Group thinks the government should force NZrs to decide whether to save for retirement. The trouble is with the lack of evidence. more

4. The Notional Defined Contribution Model: an Assessment of the Strengths and Limitations of a New Approach to the Provision of Old Age Security

"Notional Defined Contribution" arrangements are replacing and supplementing existing state schemes – here are some of NDC's strengths and weaknesses. However, NDC schemes do not clearly identify why the state is in the pensions business. more

5. Old-Age Income Support in the 21st Century – the World Bank's Perspective The World Bank's pension specialists have re-visited the Bank's 1994 "three pillar" model and come up with **five** pillars. There are some obvious and curious gaps. more

6. Pensions and Saving: New International Panel Data Evidence

Any positive impact on gross national saving that might be attributable specifically to increased pension saving is low. Reforming countries do not seem to have attained higher saving rates than others. Perhaps we should stop worrying. more

7. Pension Markets In Focus - October 2006, Issue 3

The OECD has produced its annual snapshot of the pension asset position of its members (and selected others). Nearly all have more than in 2004. More pension assets seem, without explanation, to be better than fewer. more

8. Sir Humphrey's Legacy - Facing Up to the Cost of Public Sector Pensions
The UK government's own employees would cost a lot more than their salaries if pension
promises were properly accounted for. A look at the cost of those promises produces some
alarming numbers. more

9. What Drives Private Saving Across The World?

An analysis in 2000 of 30 years' data from 150 countries shows what seems to really matter if improving savings is a national objective. Growth seems important but private reactions are slow to appear. Faith in the good sense of citizens also probably matters. more

10. Optimal Private Responses to Demographic Trends: Savings, Bequests and International Mobility

Many think that ageing populations will see reducing future returns from capital markets. But that ignores the implications of open world markets for labour and capital. Perhaps the life cycle model isn't the best explanation for what might happen. more

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