

Low fertility in China and other East Asian Countries and Regions

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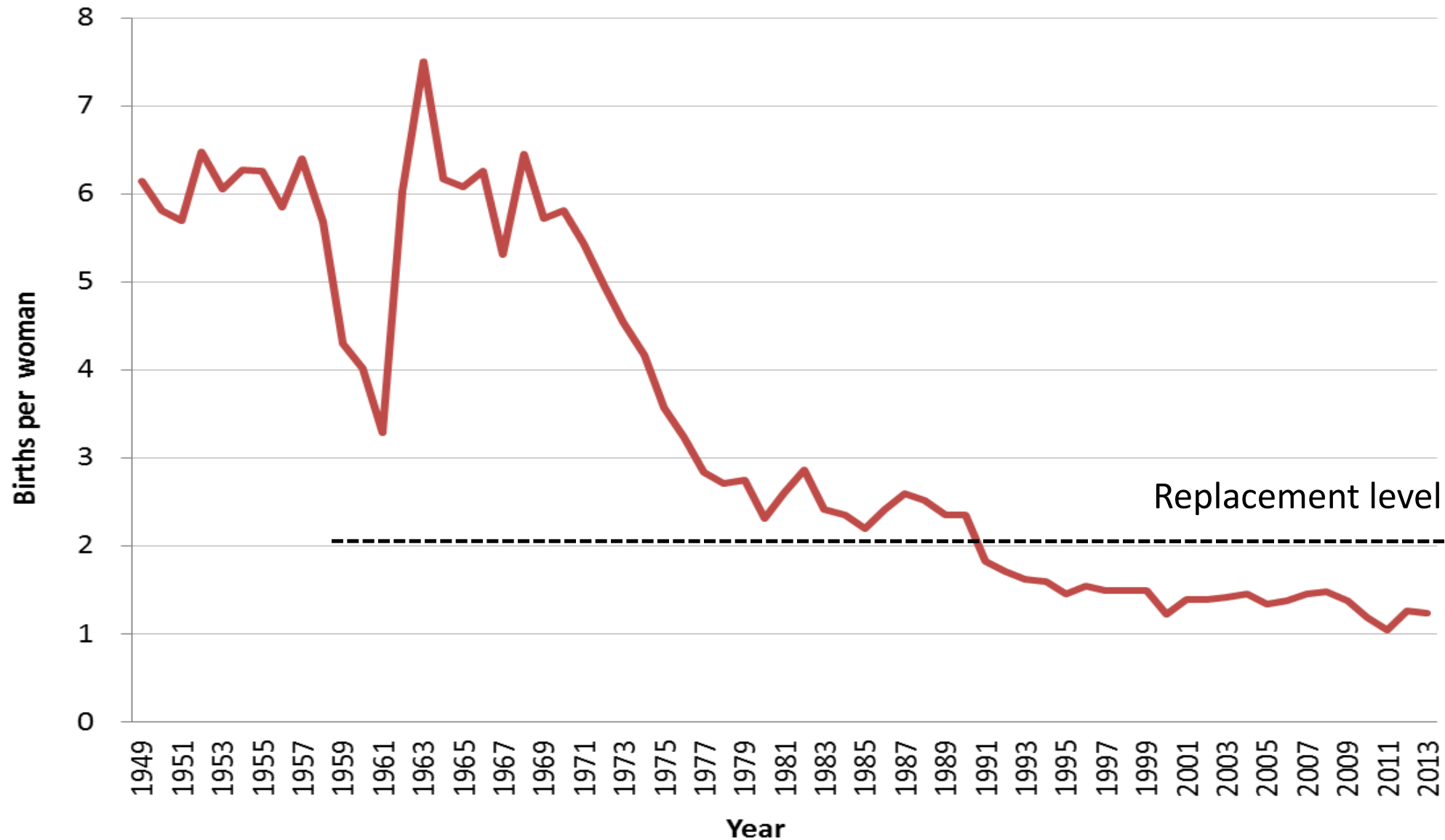
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Demographic transition in China

	1950	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2015
Population (million)	552	830	987	1143	1267	1340	1375
Total fertility rate	6.11	5.81	2.31	2.33	1.71?	1.65?	1.70?
Life expectancy at birth	43.0	64.0	67.8	68.6	71.4	74.8	76.3
Sex ratio at birth	107.0	105.2	106.6	111.3	116.9	118.1	113.5
Proportion urban	11.8	17.4	19.4	26.4	36.2	49.7	56.1
Percent aged 65+	4.5	4.0	4.9	5.6	7.0	8.9	10.5

Mainland China's fertility trend since 1949



China's Birth Control Policy

- 1950s: Pronatalist in general
- 1960s: Birth control in some urban and more-developed coastal rural areas
- 1970s: Later-Longer-Fewer policy (晚稀少)
- 1980-84: One-child policy
- 1985-2015: 1.5 child policy
- 2014-2015: The selective two-child policy (单独两孩)
- 2016-: The universal two-child policy (全面两孩)

China's "One-Child Policy"

- One-child policy in urban areas
- 1.5 child policy in rural areas
 - One-child policy for farmers whose first child is male
 - Two-child policy for farmers whose first child is female
- Two-child policy for parents who are both only children or in other specific conditions
- Two- or more-child policy for ethnic minority households
- Birth spacing limit (4 years) but abolished in most of the provinces by 2005

How low is China's fertility?

- China's 2000 and 2010 population censuses obtained a total fertility rate (TFR) of 1.23 and 1.18 respectively
- All the annual population surveys conducted by NSB in between also reported an TFR of 1.4 or lower
- Birth under-reporting in censuses and surveys, how serious?
- Disagreement and consensus

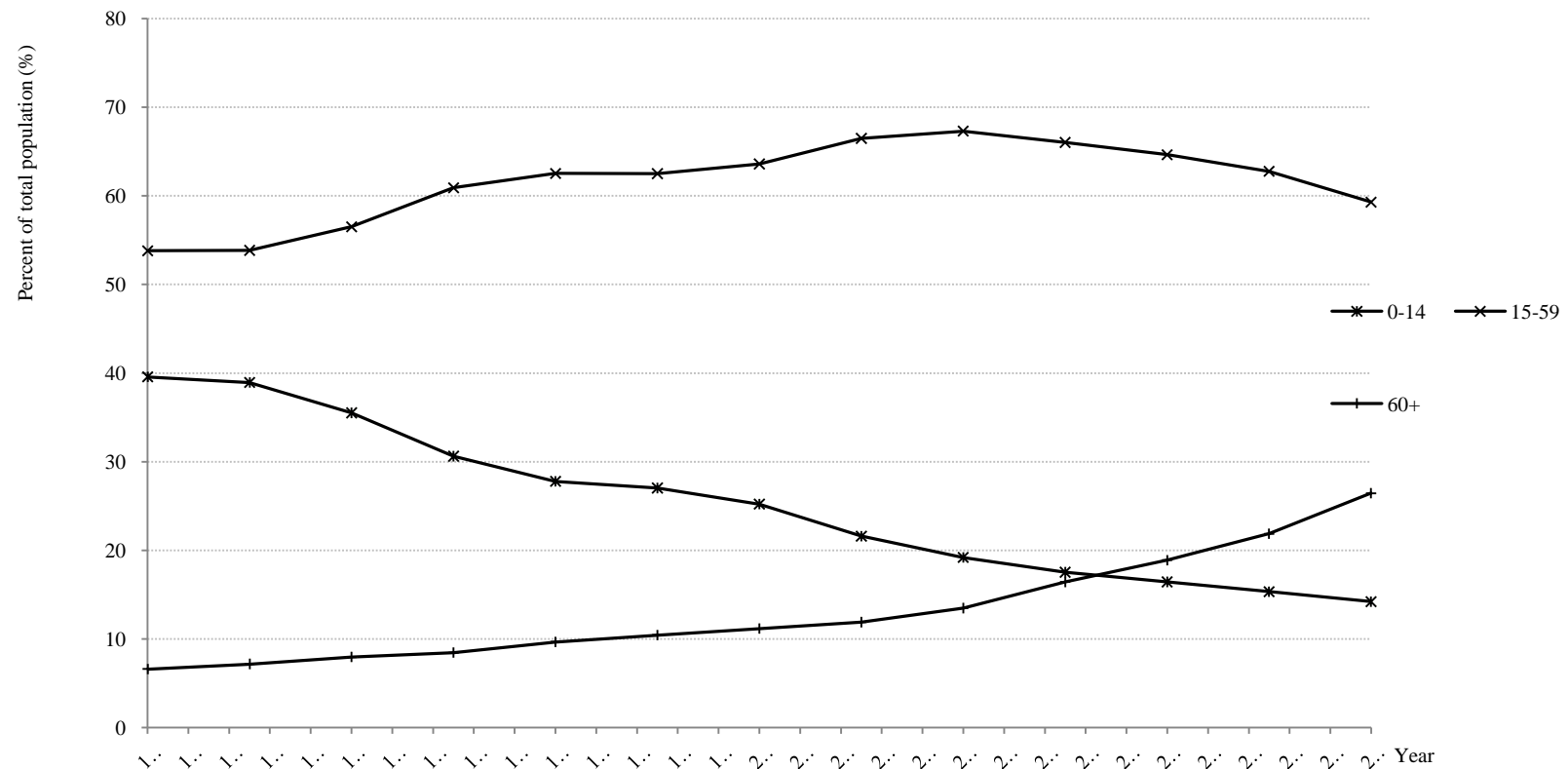
The Two-Child Policy in China

- a comprehensive or universal two-child policy
 - Two-child policy is not entirely new, it implemented among selected areas and groups before
 - The universal two-child policy applies to all couples regardless of their place of residence, region and ethnicity
 - Birth interval requirement in few provinces
- As a response to the demographic and economic challenges
 - Demographic new normal
 - The economic new normal

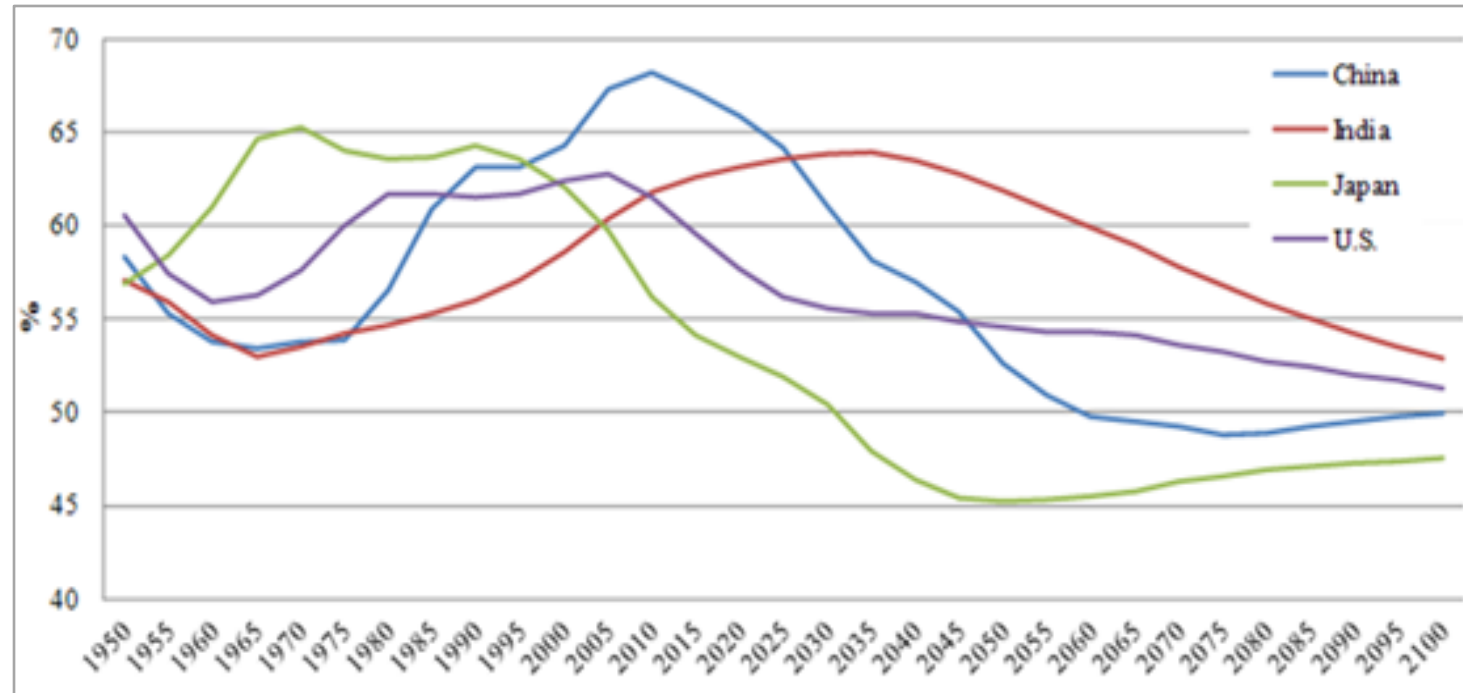
The timing of policy change

- Size of reproductive-age women starts to decline
- Size of working age population starts to decline
- Population ageing starts to accelerate
- Economy starts new normal
- Political commitment stated in the “One-Child Policy” Open Letter in 1980

Changes of Age Structure in China, 1970-2030

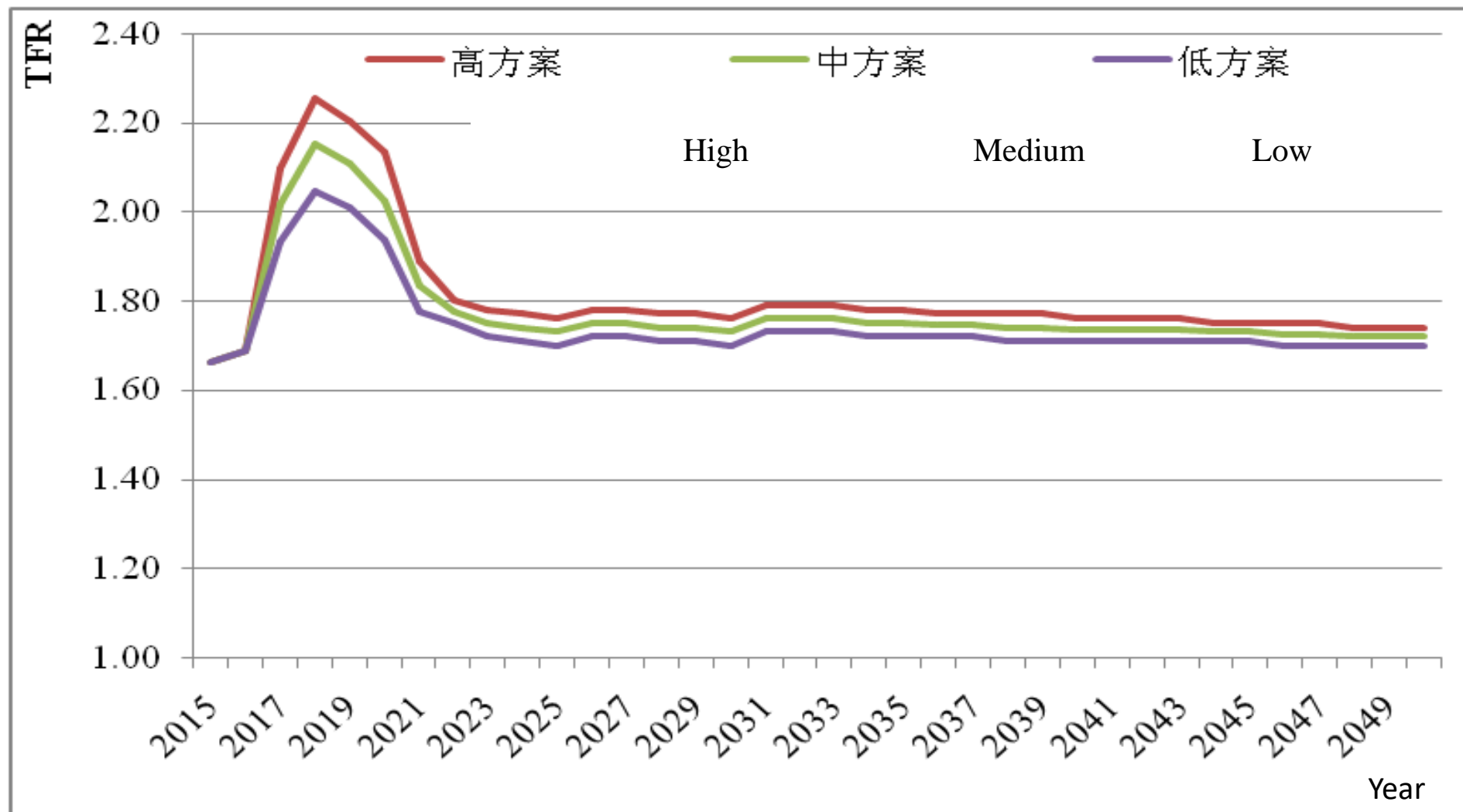


Percentage of Working-age (fifteen to fifty-nine) in Total Population



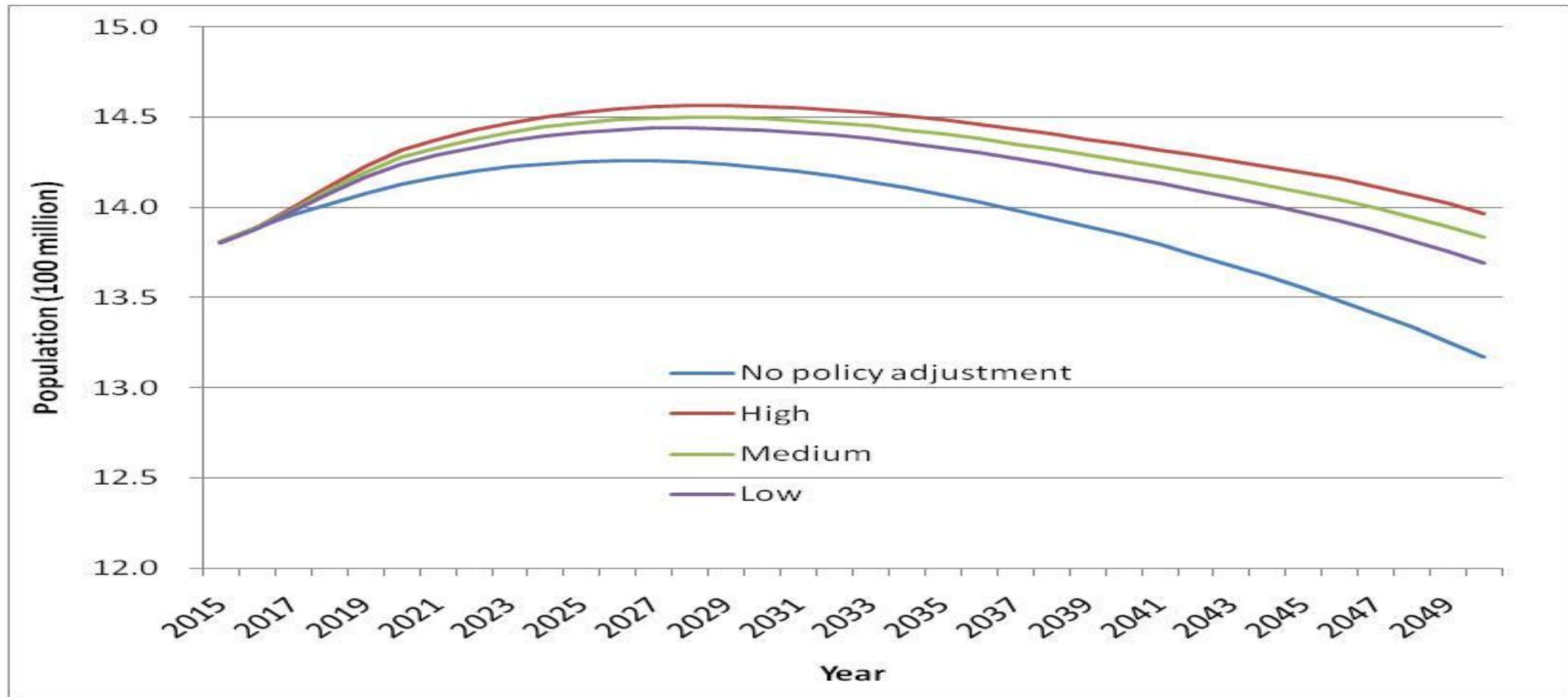
Source: World Population Prospects (2010 revision, medium variants), UNPD

Long-term Fertility Change, 2015-2050



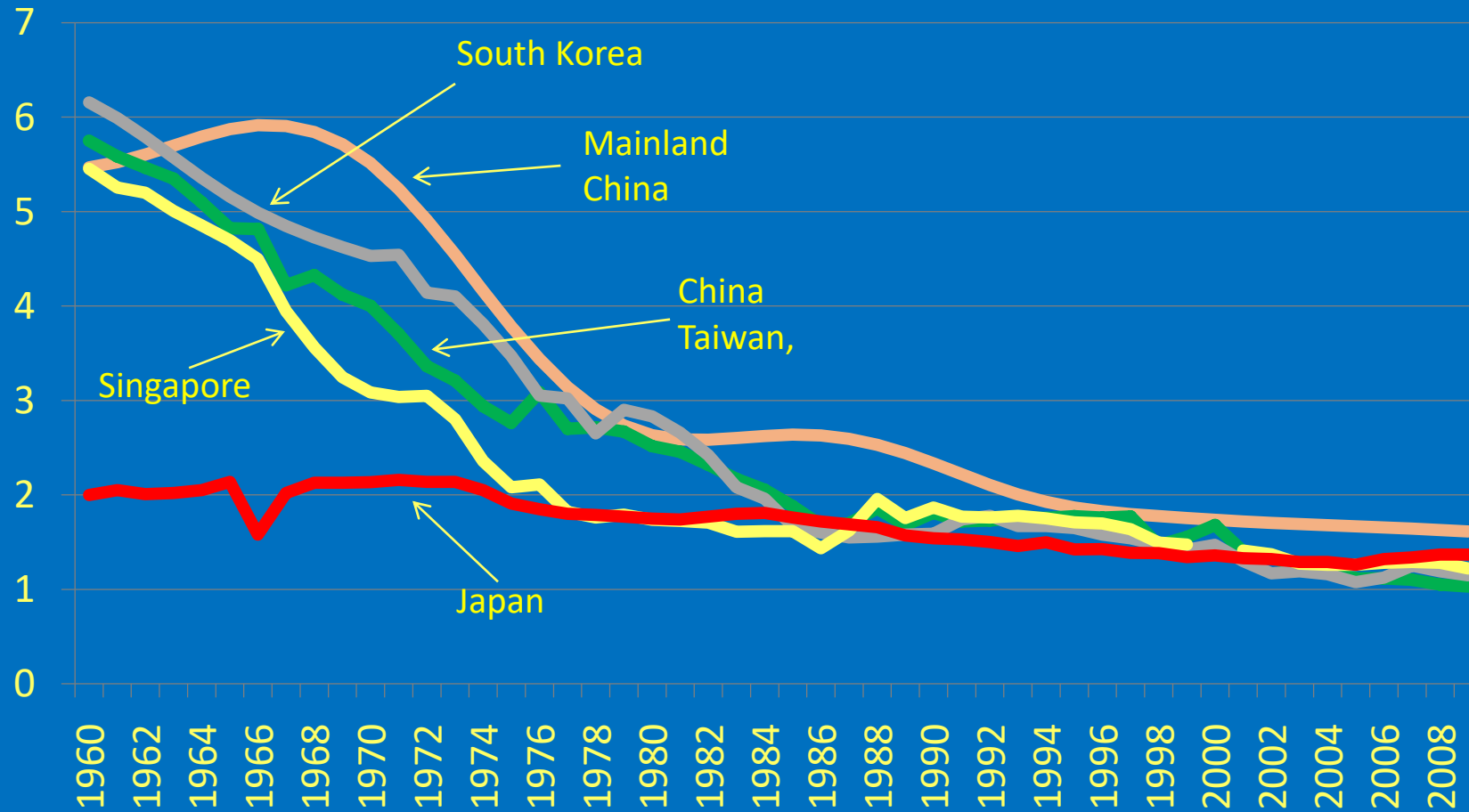
Projection made by demographers of Renmin University, Beijing

Future Population Trends in China, 2015-2050



Projection made by demographers of Renmin University, Beijing

Fertility transition in East Asian populations



Sources: World Bank

Government Policy on Population Growth by country

Asian Government Policy on population growth, 1986-2013. (1)				
	Year			
	1986	1996	2005	2013
Eastern Asia				
China	Lower	Lower	Maintain	Maintain
Japan	No intervention	No intervention	Raise	Raise
Korea (Republic of)	Lower	No intervention	Raise	Raise
Mongolia	Raise	Maintain	Raise	Raise

Data source: World Population Policies 2013 Report, UN Population Division

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/policy/world-population-policies-2013.shtml>

Government View on Fertility Level by country

Asian Government View on Fertility Level, 1986-2013

	Year			
	1986	1996	2005	2013
Eastern Asia				
China	Too high	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Japan	Satisfactory	Too low	Too low	Too low
Korea (Republic of)	Too high	Satisfactory	Too low	Too low
Mongolia	Too low	Satisfactory	Too low	Too low

Data source: World Population Policies 2013 Report, UN Population Division

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/policy/world-population-policies-2013.shtml>

‘One is not enough’

하나는 부족합니다

최소한의 변화가 열기 때문에 사회성이나 인격 발달이
느리고 기질에 따라 무엇이든지 이룰 때를 이루며 보았으므로
저기 공진력이 피아를합니다



주최 **kpc** 한국생산성본부

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보건복지부



산업통상자원부

The diagram illustrates the relationship between fertility, aspirations, and economic factors. It shows a feedback loop between 'Personal Ideal Family Size', 'Cohort Fertility', 'Period Fertility', and 'Number of Births / Crude Birth Rate'. It also includes 'Consumption Aspirations of Young', 'Increasing Gap Aspirations - Expected Income', 'Less Social Security for Young', 'Lower Economic Growth', 'Age Structure of the Population (Aging)', and 'Number of People with Young Children'. Key feedback loops are labeled LFT1, LFT2, and LFT3.

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graph TD
    PIFS[Personal Ideal Family Size] -.-> CF[Cohort Fertility]
    CF -.-> PF[Period Fertility]
    PF -.-> NBR[Number of Births / Crude Birth Rate]
    NBR -.-> AS[Age Structure of the Population Aging]
    AS -.-> LFT1((LFT1))
    LFT1 -.-> PIFS
    AS -.-> LFT2((LFT2))
    LFT2 -.-> NPYC[Number of People with Young Children]
    NPYC -.-> LFT3((LFT3))
    LFT3 -.-> IGAIE[Increasing Gap Aspirations - Expected Income]
    IGAIE -.-> CF
    IGAIE -.-> CA[Consumption Aspirations of Young]
    CA -.-> PIFS
    CA -.-> LFT2
    WE[Wealth in Parental Home, Media Industry] --> CA
    LSG[Less Social Security for Young] --> IGAIE
    LEG[Lower Economic Growth] --> IGAIE
    
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(Lutz, Skirbekk, Testa 2006)

Peter McDonald 2009

As will be discussed below, there is more evidence that the standard “European” explanations of low fertility are also highly relevant in the advanced East Asian context. These can be described under three headings: work-family balance and gender equity, a sense of economic risk among young people, and a relative absence of family support provided by governments and employers stemming from the pervasive cultural value that families support their own.

Policy effectiveness in China ?

- Fertility in China nowadays is largely determined by couples (socioeconomic status and family ties etc.) and , the role of fertility policy is diminishing
- Limited effect in the cities as rural couples have already had two children. rural-urban migrant couples?
- Need other supportive familial and social policies making couples capable to have two children (public nursing facilities, gender role in childrearing, family economic pressure, education quality and equality)
- Effect of single-child generation? New inequality?
- Shift to prenatal policy?

Thank you!

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