

# The Macroeconomic Consequences of Family Policies

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Anson Linshuo Zhou

University of Wisconsin-Madison

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- Effective in achieving stated policy goals?



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- Previous studies and policy recommendations: family policies as transfers to existing child → quality margin
- This paper: family policies change the “price” of child → **add quantity margin**

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# Overview of Channels

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  - ① **Quality/quantity trade-off**: higher fertility raises the marginal cost of child quality (Becker and Lewis 1973)
  - ② **Composition effects**: families that increase fertility more gain representation in future economies
  - ③ **GE effects**: changes in age structure affects pension and taxes
- **Fertility elasticities**, i.e. magnitude of fertility responses to financial incentives
  - ① Disciplined by parameters that are calibrated within the model
  - ② Validated externally using policy - Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend



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## Compare policy counterfactuals: baby bonus, childcare subsidy, and education

- **Education expenditures** are more effective than family policies in improving child outcomes and social mobility with mild effects on fertility

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### Education Policies, Income transfers, and Mobility

- Benabou (2002), **de la Croix and Doepke (2003)**, Heckman and Mosso (2014), Bastian and Micheltore (2018), **Daruich (2019)**, Abbott, Gallipoli, Meghir and Violante (2019), Mullins (2019), **Guner, Kaygusuz and Ventura (2020)**...
- **Contribution: Considering fertility responses could reverse policy effects on child human capital and social mobility**

### Family Policies, Fertility and Child Outcomes

- **Empirical:** Milligan (2005), Laroque and Salanié (2008), Drago et al. (2011), Luci-Greulich and Thévenon (2013), González (2013), Raute (2019)...
- **Structural:** Fan and Stark (2008), Liao (2013), **Tertilt, Kim and Yum (2021)**
- **Contribution: Propose and calibrate a quantitative model that is suitable for analyzing large-scale policies beyond fertility effects**

- ① Model: Role of endogenous fertility
- ② Calibration (2010 USA)
- ③ Validation
- ④ Counterfactual Results
- ⑤ Conclusion

# Model

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## Model: Timeline



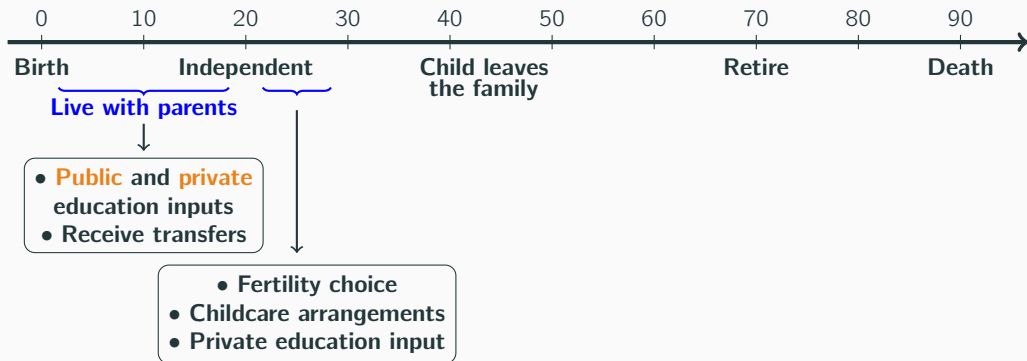
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- **Key Elements:**
  - Endogenous Fertility
  - Endogenous Child Link

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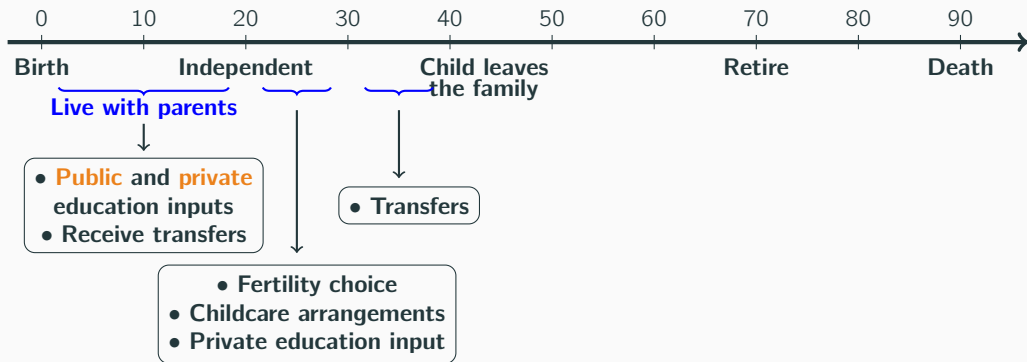
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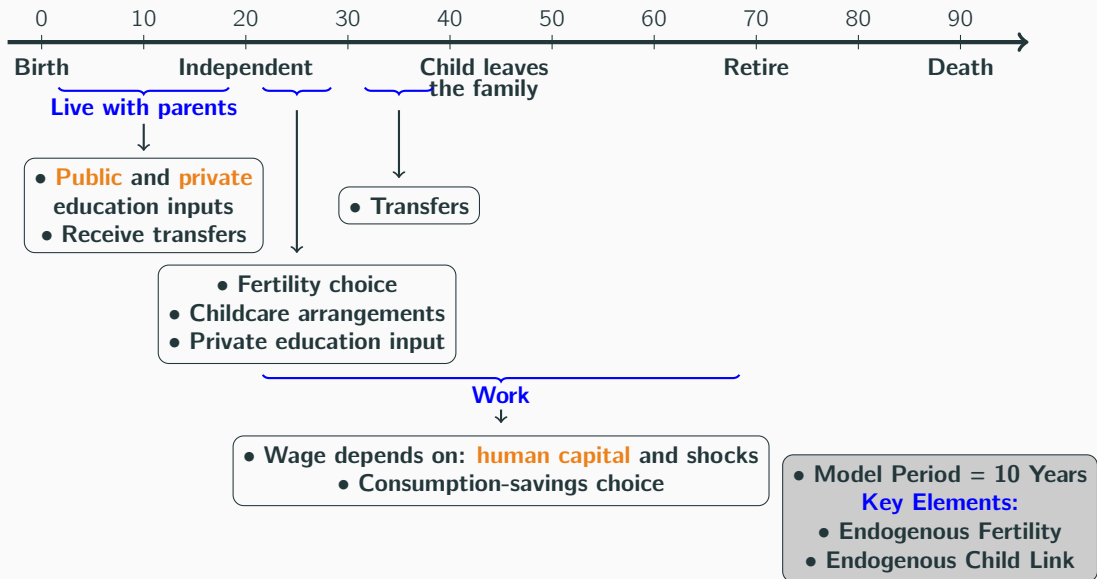
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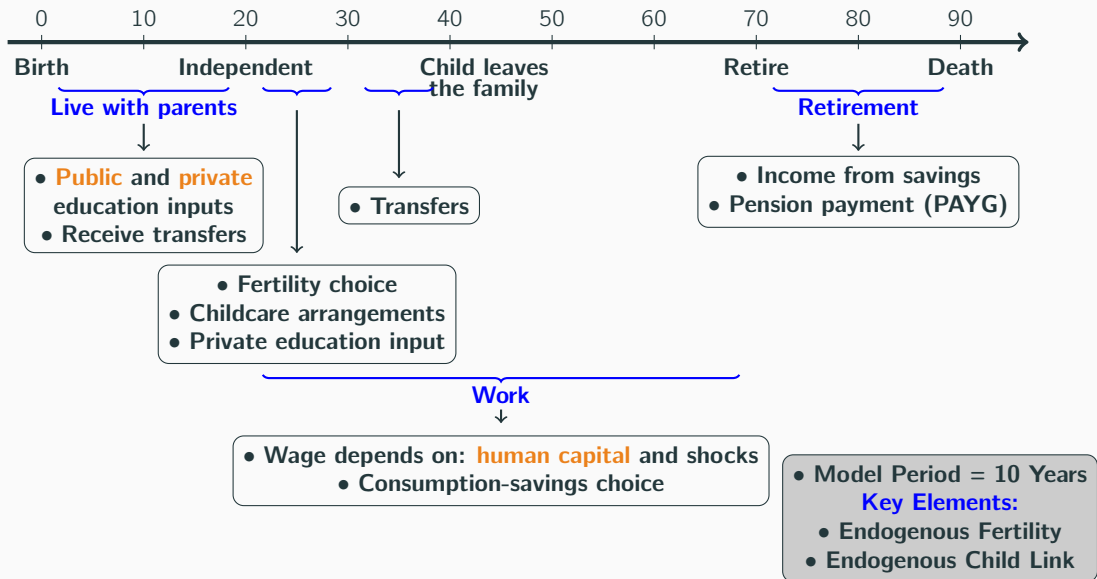


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# Fertility, Childcare and Skill Formation



$$V_2(h, a) = \max_{c, a', n, e, t_h, m \geq 0} u(c/q(n)) + \beta \mathbb{E} V_3(h', a', n, \mathbb{E} h_k)$$

$h$  : parents' skills

$a$  : assets

$n$  : fertility

$t_h$  : home care

$m$  : market care

$e$  : private educ. input

$\chi$  : childcare needs

$p_m$  : market care price

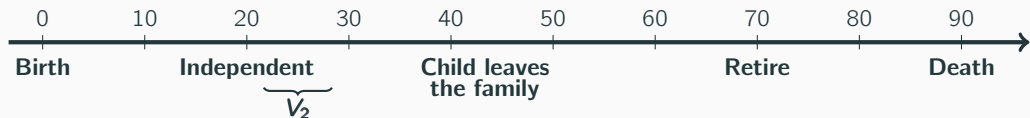
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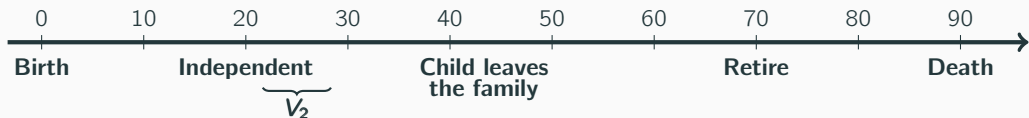
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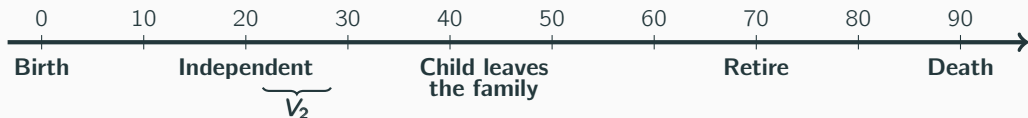
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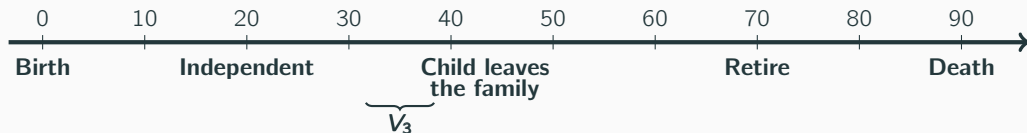
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Two simplifying modeling assumptions:

- ①  $G(h, \mathcal{E}, e, \epsilon)$  captures the overall skill formation of children from age 0 to 20
- ② Time cost  $\chi$  is non-educational. High-quality public childcare can be implemented by raising  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  jointly in the model

# Parent-to-Child Transfer



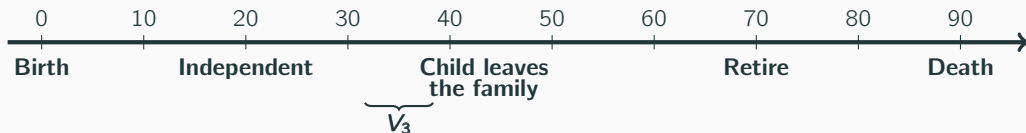
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$$y = wh \cdot 1$$

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- First-order conditions for child "quality" choices  $e$  and  $a_k$ :

$$\frac{\partial v(n, \mathbb{E}h_k, a_k)}{\partial \mathbb{E}h_k} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}h_k}{\partial e} = \lambda_2 \cdot (1 + \tau_c) \cdot n \quad \text{FOC [e]}$$

$$\frac{\partial v(n, \mathbb{E}h_k, a_k)}{\partial a_k} = \lambda_3 \cdot n \quad \text{FOC [a}_k\text{]}$$

where marginal costs are proportional to  $n$

► later periods

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- Increase in  $\mathcal{B}$  is an income transfer,  **$a_k$  rises unambiguously**:

$$\underbrace{\lambda_3 \downarrow}_{\text{income effect on } MU_c} \cdot n \Rightarrow \frac{v(n, \mathbb{E}h_k, a_k \uparrow)}{\partial a_k} \quad \text{FOC } [a_k]$$



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**When fertility elasticity  $\frac{dn^*}{d\mathcal{B}} \neq 0$ , i.e. endogenous fertility**

- Increase in  $\mathcal{B}$  is a price change,  $n$  rises  $\implies$  effects on  $a_k$  is ambiguous:

$$\underbrace{\lambda_3 ?}_{\text{change in } MU_c \text{ as } n \uparrow} \cdot \underbrace{n \uparrow}_{\text{fertility response}} = \frac{\partial v(n \uparrow, \mathbb{E}h_k, a_k ?)}{\underbrace{\partial a_k}_{\text{interaction in preferences}}} \quad \text{FOC } [a_k]$$

- $a_k$  could fall when child benefits are more generous - **quality/quantity trade-off**

## Heterogeneous Fertility Elasticities - Composition Effects

- Heterogeneous fertility elasticities: size of transfer relative to income differs
- Families that increase fertility more gain representation
- Intergenerational persistence of  $h \implies$  **composition effects** on aggregate h.c.

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- Heterogeneous fertility elasticities: size of transfer relative to income differs
- Families that increase fertility more gain representation
- Intergenerational persistence of  $h \implies$  **composition effects** on aggregate h.c.
- **Insight:** Even when policy effects on each child's human capital is positive, overall impact on aggregate human capital could still be negative

- Representative firm with Cobb-Douglas production function:

$$Y = AK^{\alpha}H^{1-\alpha}$$

# Firms and the Government

- Representative firm with Cobb-Douglas production function:

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- Denote age structure as  $\{\omega_j\}_{j=0}^8$  (with  $\sum_{j=0}^8 \omega_j = 1$ ) and distribution of households across state space as  $\{\mu_j\}_{j=0}^8$ . **Government fiscal budget:**

$$\underbrace{\left( \sum_{j=2}^6 \omega_j \int \mathcal{T}(y_j^*, a_j^*, n_j^*) d\mu_j \right)}_{\text{labor and capital income taxes}} + \underbrace{\left( \sum_{j=2}^8 \omega_j \int \tau_c c_j^* d\mu_j \right)}_{\text{consumption tax}} = \underbrace{\left( \sum_{j=7}^8 \omega_j \int w\pi h d\mu_j \right)}_{\text{pension payments}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{(\omega_0 + \omega_1) \cdot \mathcal{E}}_{\text{public education}} + \omega_2 \left( \underbrace{\int n^* \cdot \mathcal{B} d\mu_2}_{\text{baby bonus}} + \underbrace{\int (1 + \tau_c) m^* n^* p_m \cdot \mathcal{S} d\mu_2}_{\text{subsidized childcare}} \right) + \underbrace{\mathcal{X}}_{\text{other spendings}}$$

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- GE Effects: Fertility responses change  $\{\omega_j\}_{j=0}^8$**  and tax burden via  $\tau_c$ . Key motivation for family policies, absent in models with exogenous fertility

# Why may family policies improve welfare?

Long-run welfare<sup>2</sup>: **average value** of newborn under the veil of ignorance:

$$\mathcal{W} := \int V_2 d\mu_2$$

Welfare of current households  $\longrightarrow$  transition path results (in progress)

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<sup>2</sup>See Parfit (1984) - "repugnant conclusion", Golosov, Jones and Tertilt (2007) - " $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{P}$ -efficiency", and de la Croix and Doepke (2021) - "soul incarnation" for more discussions of welfare with endogenous fertility

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**Externalities/incompleteness that government could address:**

① **Fiscal externalities of childbearing and childrearing**

- Private returns  $\neq$  social returns (i.e.  $\{\omega_j\}_{j=0}^8$  and  $\{\mu_j\}_{j=0}^8$ )

② **Borrowing constraints** (Daruich 2019, Abbott et al. 2019 ...)

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# Calibration

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# Model Parameters

**Table 1: Model Parameters**

Interpretation		Value	Source	Interpretation		Value	Source
Preferences				Child human capital production			
$\beta$	discount rate	0.98 <sup>10</sup>	standard	$Z$	normalizing scalar	2.57	median income =1
$\gamma$	elasticity of substitution	0.61	CPS	$\sigma_\epsilon$	ability shock dispersion	0.45	PSID
$\psi$	fertility preference	1.92	CPS	$\rho$	intergenerational spillover	0.28	Chetty et al. (2014)
$\theta$	quality preference	2.02	PSID	$\xi$	substitution of education	0.9	ATUS
$\nu$	transfer preference	0.34	PSID	$\mathcal{E}$	public education	0.15	NCES
Childcare arrangement				$\kappa$	input productivity	0.17	García et al. (2020)
$\chi$	childcare cost	0.18	Folbre (2008)	Adult human capital evolution			
$\iota$	economies of scale at home	0.7	Folbre (2008)	$\eta$	learning curvature	0.61	PSID
$\upsilon$	substitutability of care	0.5	SIPP	$\zeta$	learning level	0.72	PSID
$p_m$	price of full-time care	0.13	NACCRRA	$\mu_Z$	skill depreciation	-0.23	PSID
Taxes and pension				$\sigma_Z$	shock dispersion	0.42	PSID
$\tau_y^n, \lambda_y^n$	tax levels and progressivity	misc.	TAXSIM	Firm production function			
$\tau_c$	consumption tax	0.07	McDaniel (2007)	$A$	total factor productivity	1	normalization
$\tau_a$	capital income tax	0.27	McDaniel (2007)	$\alpha$	capital share	0.33	standard
$\pi$	pension replacement rate	0.40	OECD Database	$\delta_k$	capital depreciation	0.04 <sup>10</sup>	standard

- 13 parameters are **calibrated** within the model using SMM
- Model matches salient features of fertility, childcare, parental investment, transfers, child skill formation, and lifecycle earnings profile

## Utility from child quantity and quality<sup>3</sup>

$$v(n, \mathbb{E}h_k, a_k) = \underbrace{\Psi(n)}_{\text{child discounting}} \cdot \underbrace{(\theta \cdot u(\mathbb{E}h_k) + \nu \cdot u(a_k))}_{\text{utility from child quality}}$$

$$\Psi(n) = 1 - \exp(-\psi n) \quad u(x) = \frac{x^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} \quad \gamma \in (0, 1) \quad x \in \{\mathbb{E}h_k, a_k, c\}$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Results robust to separable preferences and dynastic altruism

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- $\{\psi, \theta, \nu\}$  matches aggregate fertility and average spendings on quality
- $\gamma$  - elasticity of intergenerational substitution (EGS) (Córdoba and Ripoll 2019)
- Conditional on other parameters,  **$\gamma$  determines fertility elasticity**. Higher  $\gamma \implies$  smaller fertility responses

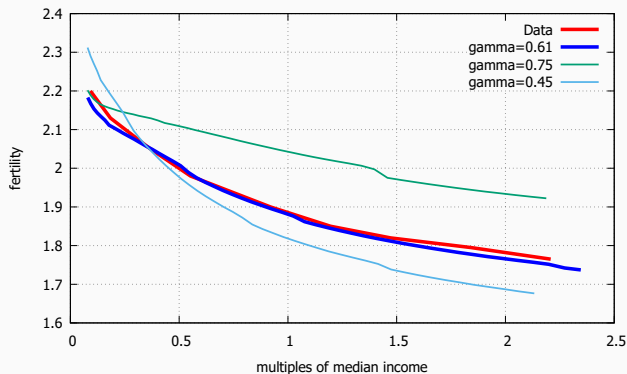
► intuition

---

<sup>3</sup>Results robust to separable preferences and dynastic altruism

# Identification of $\gamma$

- $\gamma$  identified by **fertility-income profile** (Córdoba, Ripoll and Liu 2016). Higher  $\gamma \implies$  Higher MRS of quantity for quality  $\implies$  flatter profile



# Validation

---



## Does the model generate responses that match empirical estimates?

External validation using **Alaska Permanent Fund Dividends (APFD)**

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External validation using **Alaska Permanent Fund Dividends (APFD)**

- Established in 1982 after discovery of the petroleum. Equal transfer to **all residents** regardless of income, employment or age
- **Pronatal effects**: allows parent to claim dividend on behalf of a child with no requirements on how parents use a child's dividend.

# Does the model generate responses that match empirical estimates?

External validation using **Alaska Permanent Fund Dividends (APFD)**

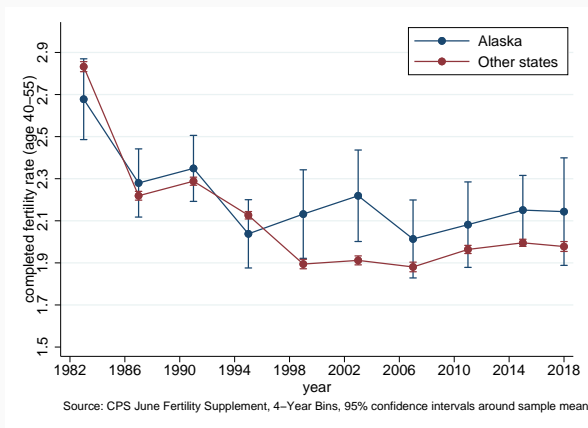
- Ideal policy variation to test fertility responses:
  - ① Similar institution and cultural background
  - ② Large in scale ( $\approx$  \$1.5k per year) relative to other family policies

# Does the model generate responses that match empirical estimates?

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- Ideal policy variation to test fertility responses:
  - ① Similar institution and cultural background
  - ② Large in scale ( $\approx$  \$1.5k per year) relative to other family policies
- Apply same policy in the model: universal basic income (UBI) to parents and children by \$1.5k. Model predictions are consistent with empirical evidence:
  - ① Completed fertility rises by **4.2%** ( $\approx$  Kelly, Timilsina and Yonzan 2020)
  - ② Larger responses from households with lower human capital (Cowan and Douds 2020)
  - ③ Positive but small effects on education investments

# Evidence from Completed Fertility Rates



- Changes in completed fertility rate alleviates worries about effects on birth timing
- Model-predicted 4.2% (0.1) increase is consistent with average differences between Alaska and the other states

## Counterfactual Results

---

## Evaluate baby bonus $\mathcal{B}$ of different scale

- **Budget balance:** consumption tax adjusts to balance budget each period
- **General equilibrium:** wage, interest rates, and population distributions adjust

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## Outcomes of Interest

- Aggregate fertility, average human capital, per capita income, consumption taxes and intergenerational income mobility ( $\frac{1}{TGE}$ )
- Social welfare in consumption equivalence (changes)



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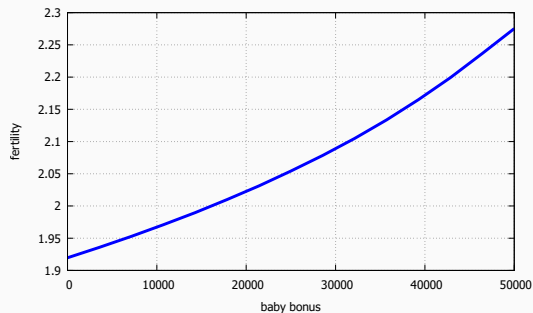
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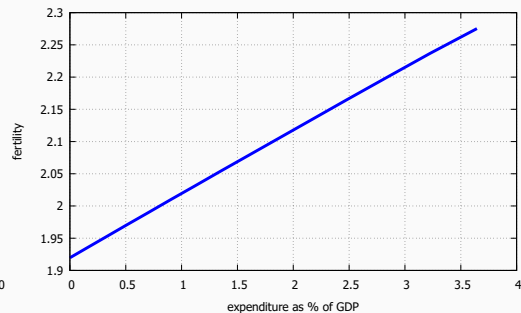
## Outline

- **Long-run effects** - comparing new steady-state economy to baseline economy
- **Transition, alternative funding methods** (in progress)

**Figure 1:** Effects on aggregate fertility

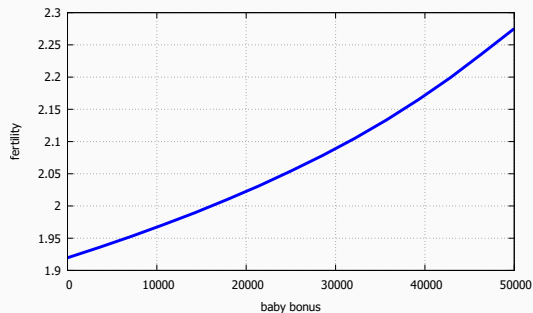


**Figure 2:** Expenditure share

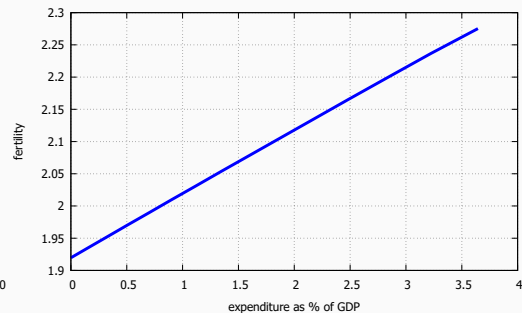


- Baby bonus needs to be at least **\$31k** to raise aggregate fertility rate to **replacement level** (2.1, commonly stated long-run policy goal). The policy costs around **1.6%** of GDP in the new equilibrium

**Figure 1:** Effects on aggregate fertility

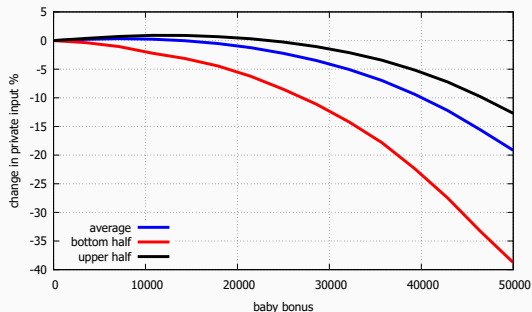


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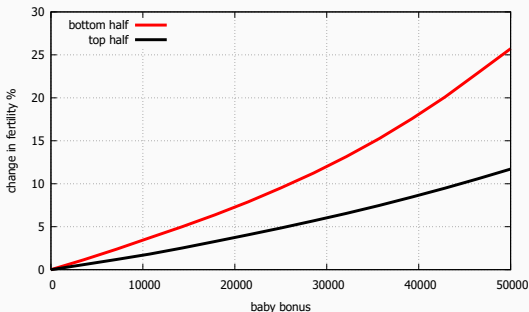


- Baby bonus needs to be at least **\$31k** to raise aggregate fertility rate to **replacement level** (2.1, commonly stated long-run policy goal). The policy costs around **1.6%** of GDP in the new equilibrium
- From now on, consider  $\mathcal{B} = \$31\text{k}$  as the benchmark policy ( $\approx 1.1\times$  expansion of CTC from 2010-2021 in NPV)

**Figure 3:** Average private investment

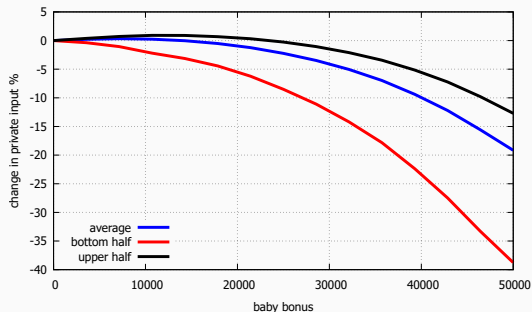


**Figure 4:** Heterogeneous fertility response

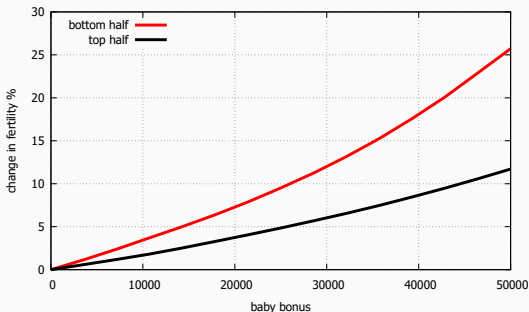


- **Quality/quantity trade-off:** Parents **reduce** private investments by 5%

**Figure 3:** Average private investment



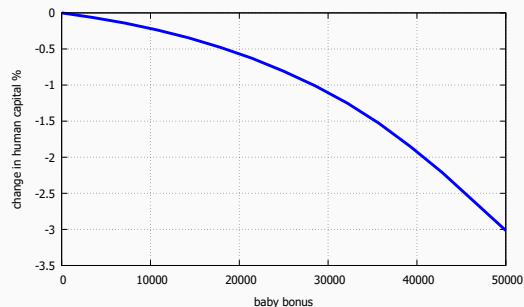
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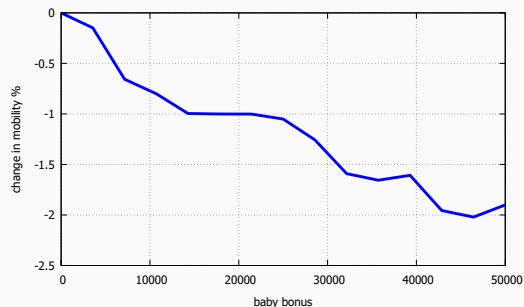
- **Quality/quantity trade-off:** Parents **reduce** private investments by 5%
- **Composition effects:** Parents with lower human capital respond more in fertility

# Average Human Capital and Social Mobility

**Figure 5:** Average human capital



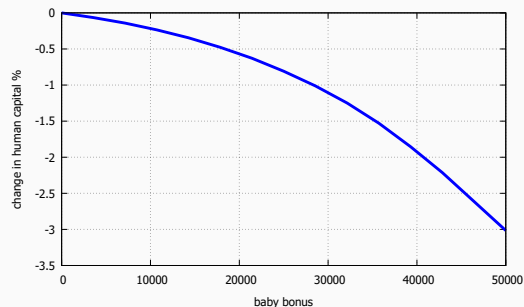
**Figure 6:** Intergenerational mobility



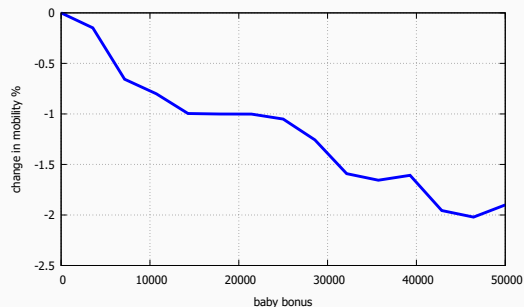
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# Average Human Capital and Social Mobility

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**Figure 6:** Intergenerational mobility



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- Intergenerational mobility **decreases by 1.6%** due to heterogeneous responses

# Average Human Capital and Social Mobility

Figure 5: Average human capital

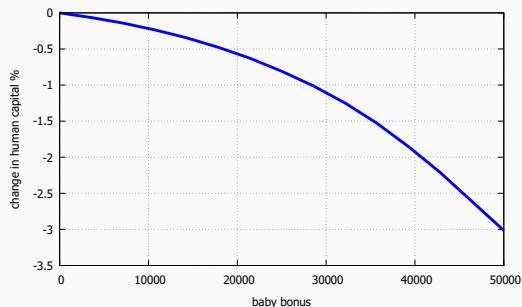
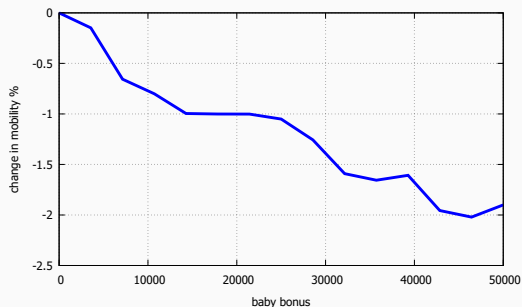


Figure 6: Intergenerational mobility

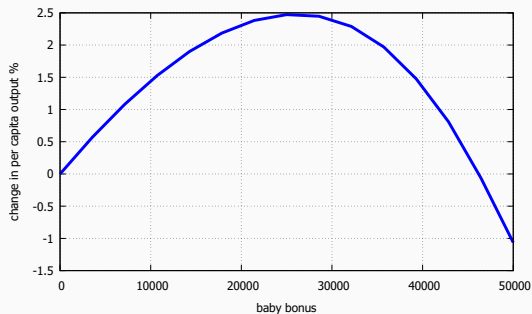


- Average human capital falls by **1.25%** with  $B = \$31,000$
- Intergenerational mobility **decreases by 1.6%** due to heterogeneous responses
- Results are **stronger** when baby bonus is targeted at low-income households

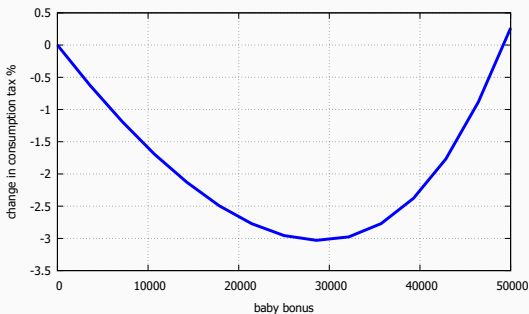


# Output and Tax: GE Effects

**Figure 7:** Per capita output



**Figure 8:** Change in consumption tax



- Per capita output rises initially due to changes in **age structure**
- **GE effects:** government can reduce consumption tax by 3%

# Output and Tax: GE Effects

Figure 7: Per capita output

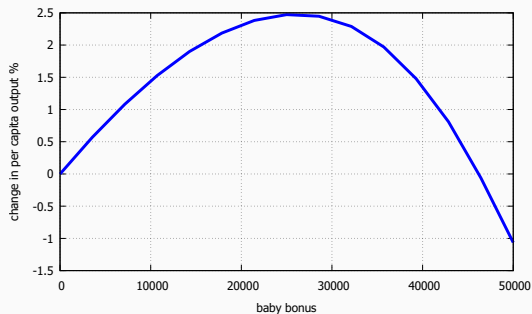
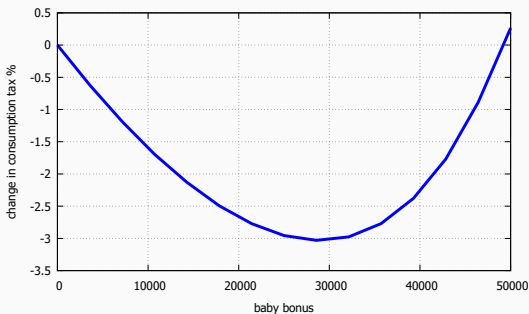


Figure 8: Change in consumption tax

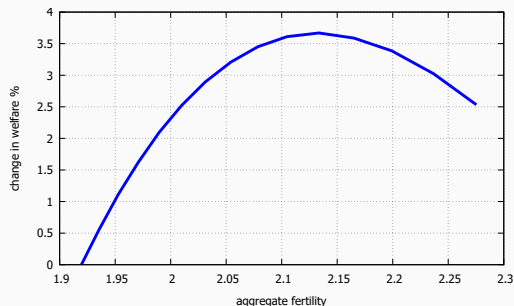


- Per capita output rises initially due to changes in **age structure**
- **GE effects**: government can reduce consumption tax by 3%
- Larger baby bonus is **not always beneficial** as (1) average human capital worsens, and (2) public education expenditure rises

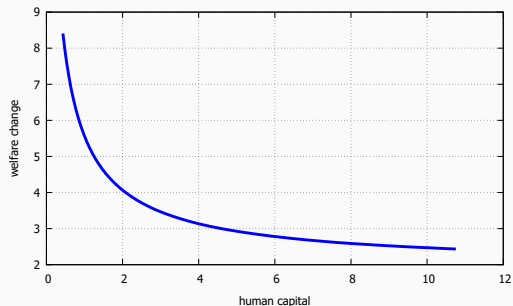
► budget

► age structure

**Figure 9:** Welfare-Fertility Expansion Path



**Figure 10:** Change in welfare

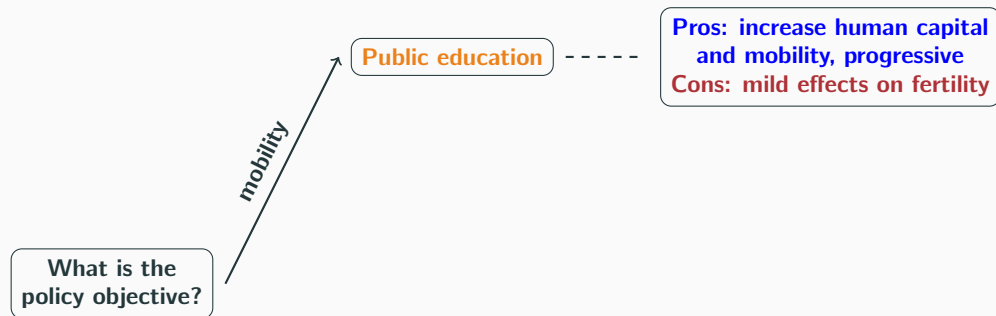


- Welfare maximized around replacement fertility, **3.6%↑** in the long-run
- **Progressive**: large welfare improvement for parents with low human capital

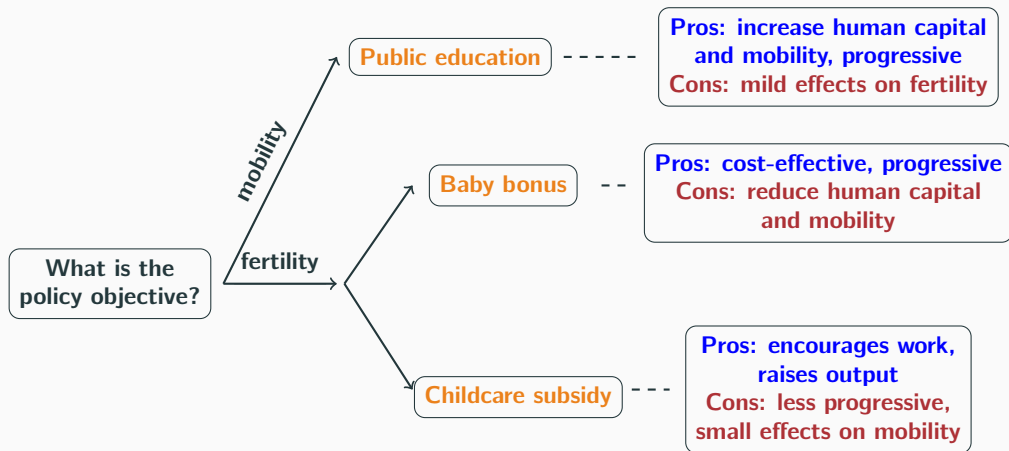
# Summary of Policy Comparisons

**What is the  
policy objective?**

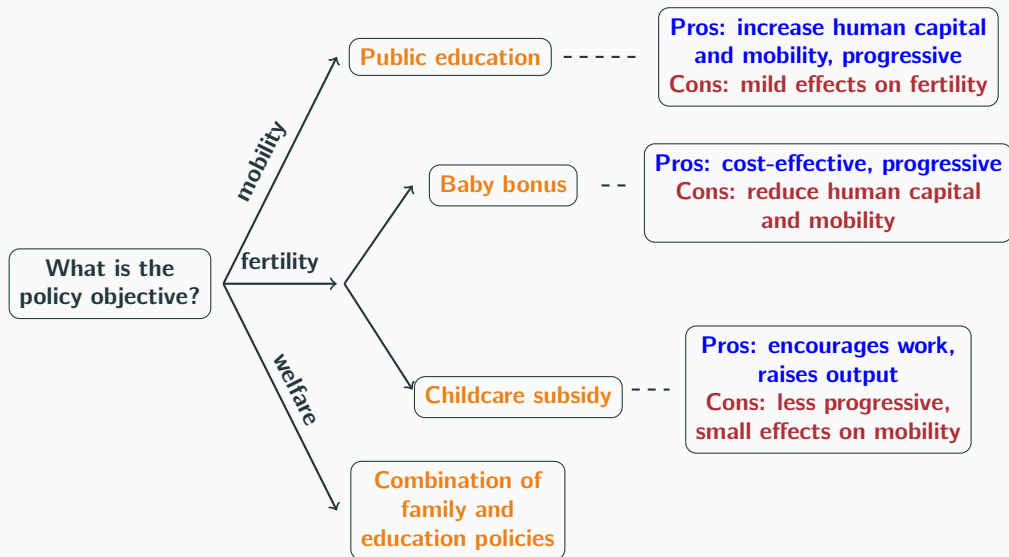
# Summary of Policy Comparisons



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# Summary of Policy Comparisons



## Study macroeconomic consequences of large-scale family policies

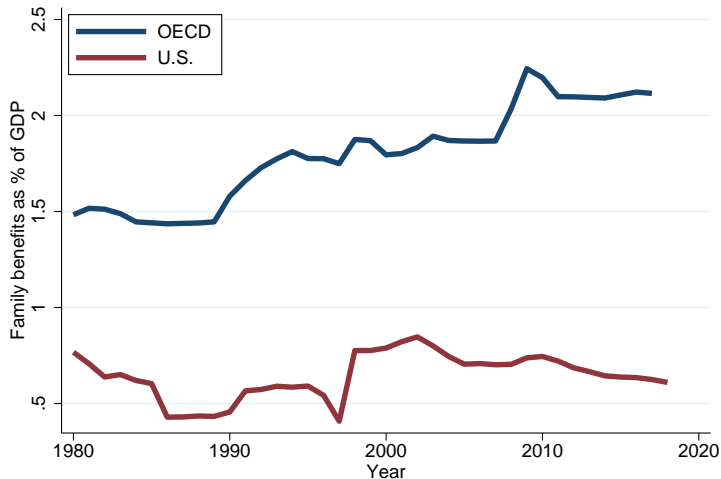
- Model **endogenous child quantity and quality** in a GE-OLG model
- Discipline **fertility elasticity** using data moments and validate using policy

## Results:

- ① Compared with previous studies where fertility is fixed, introducing endogenous fertility reverses policy implications on child outcome and social mobility
- ② A \$31k baby bonus raises fertility to replacement level and improves welfare by **3.6%** via effects on age structure and taxes in the general equilibrium
- ③ Public education is effective in improving child outcome, social mobility and welfare despite having mild effects on fertility

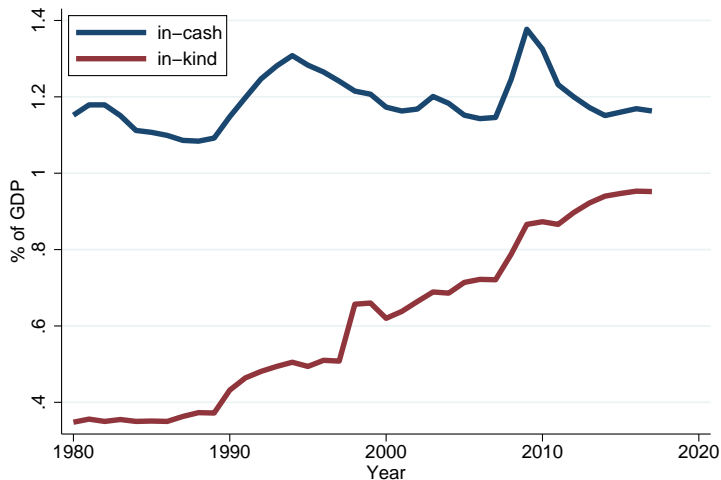


# Time Trend of Public Expenditures on Child Benefits



Source: OECD database

# Expenditure Breakdown



Source: OECD database

# Working Without Children and Retirement

- For households working without children:

$$V_j(h, a) = \max_{c, a' \geq 0} u(c) + \beta \mathbb{E} V_{j+1}(h', a')$$

$$(1 + \tau_c)c + a' = (1 + r)a + y - \mathcal{T}(y, a, 0)$$

$$h' = L(h, 1, z)$$

- For retired households:

$$V_j(h, a) = \max_{c, a' \geq 0} u(c) + \beta V_{j+1}(h, a')$$

$$(1 + \tau_c)c + a' = (1 + r - r\tau_a)a + \pi \cdot wh$$

$$V_9(\cdot) \equiv 0$$

where  $\pi$  is pension replacement rate

# Stationary Equilibrium

- **Distributions:**

- Demographic structure  $\{\omega_j\}_{j=0}^8$  and distribution of agents over states  $\{\mu_j\}_{j=0}^8$  are invariant over time periods
- Distribution of initial states is determined by older generations and shock processes

- **Households Optimize:** Households choose consumption, savings, fertility, childcare arrangements, child investments and inter-vivos transfers such that utility is maximized

- **Firms maximize profits**

- **Prices clear markets**

- **Government balances budget in period to period**

# Child's Skill Production Function

- Children's skill production function:

$$h_k = \underbrace{Z}_{\text{scalar}} \cdot \underbrace{\epsilon}_{\text{shock}} \cdot \underbrace{h^{\rho}}_{\text{spillover}} \cdot \left( \underbrace{\mathcal{E}^{\xi}}_{\text{public education}} + \underbrace{e^{\xi}}_{\text{private input}} \right)^{\kappa/\xi}$$

$$\log(\epsilon) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(-\frac{\sigma_{\epsilon}^2}{2}, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2\right)$$

- $\rho = 0.28$  - rank-rank mobility (Chetty, Hendren, Kline and Saez 2014)
- $\mathcal{E} = 0.15$  - \$12k per pupil per year (NCES)
- $\kappa = 0.17$  - **RCT evidence** from García, Heckman, Leaf and Prados (2020)

## Child's Skill Production Function Cont'd

Use **RCT evidence** to discipline the productivity of inputs  $\kappa$ :

$$h_k = Z \cdot \epsilon \cdot h^\rho (\mathcal{E}^\xi + e^\xi)^{\kappa/\xi}$$

- **García, Heckman, Leaf and Prados (2020)**
  - Two US early childhood development programs (ABC, CARE) in 1970s
  - Cost  $\approx$  \$13.5k per year for five years - total \$67.5k per child
  - Followed up into adulthood and observe education/income
  - For every dollar invested, children's lifetime labor income increases by **\$1.3**
- **Apply similar policy in the model: expand existing  $\mathcal{E}$  by \$67.5k**
  - **Small scale:** prices and taxes remain unchanged
  - **Target:** children of parents at 10th percentile of earnings
- **Comparing labor income changes with program costs gives  $\kappa = 0.17$**

# Costs of Child and Childcare

- OECD equivalence scale:

$$q(n) = 1.7 + 0.5 \cdot n$$

- **Childcare arrangements:**

$$n \cdot \chi = \left( t_h^{v/\iota} + (n \cdot m)^v \right)^{1/v}$$

Set  $\chi = 0.18$ . Returns to scale within family  $\iota = 0.7$  (Folbre 2008)

- Elasticity of substitution:  $v = 0.5$  - average share of income spent on childcare by education (SIPP) (Malik 2019)
- **Price of full-time childcare:**  $p_m = \$6,860$  per year for child aged 0-10 (The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies 2011)

# Fertility Response

- Consider simplified problem for low- $h$  parents, i.e. quality margin not operative

$$\max_{c,n} \quad u(c) + \Psi(n)u(\mathcal{E})$$

$$c + n \cdot \chi = 1$$

- First-order condition for  $n$ :

$$\underbrace{\Psi'(n) \cdot u(\mathcal{E})}_{\text{MB of } n} = \underbrace{\lambda \cdot \chi}_{\text{MC of } n}$$

- Plug in  $u(c) = \frac{c^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}$ , we have

$$\Psi'(n) = (1 - \gamma) \cdot \chi \cdot \frac{\lambda}{\mathcal{E}^{1-\gamma}} \implies \Delta \Psi'(n) \propto (1 - \gamma) \cdot \Delta \chi$$

Conditional on other parameters, higher  $\gamma \implies$  smaller  $n$  response



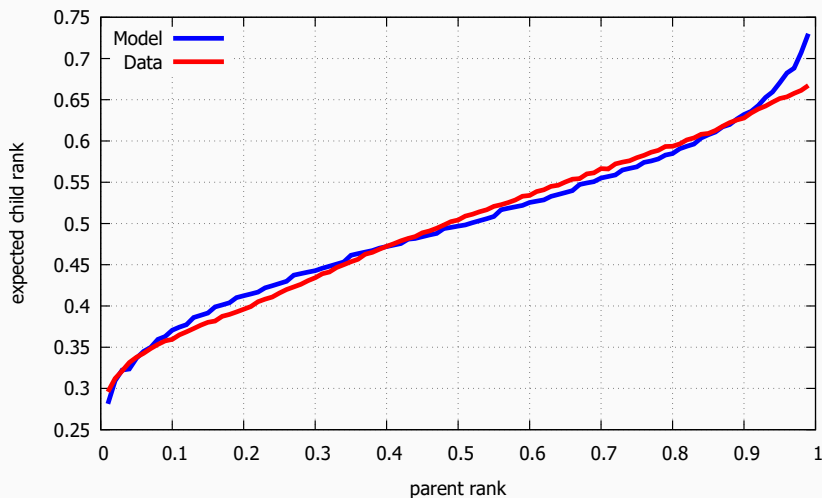
- **Human capital of working adults** evolves:

$$h_{j+1} = \exp(z) (h_j + \zeta(h_j t))^\eta$$

$$\log(z) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_z, \sigma_z)$$

- $\eta = 0.61, \zeta = 0.72$  - lifecycle earnings (PSID) (Huggett, Ventura and Yaron 2011)
- $\mu_z = -0.23, \sigma_z = 0.42$  - 2% skill depreciation and lifecycle Gini coefficient of earnings (Huggett, Ventura and Yaron 2011)

# Intergenerational Mobility: Model vs Data



- Rank-rank slope = 0.34 (Chetty, Hendren, Kline and Saez 2014)

- **Firms' production function:** capital share  $\alpha = 0.33$  and 4% capital depreciation
- **Government taxes**

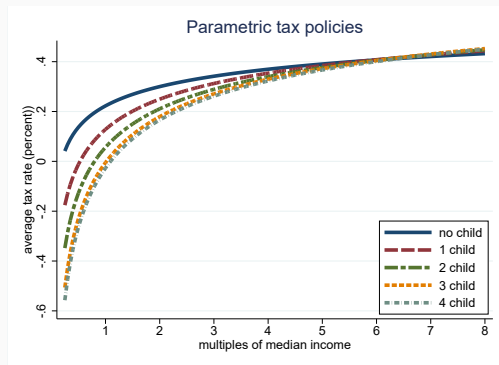
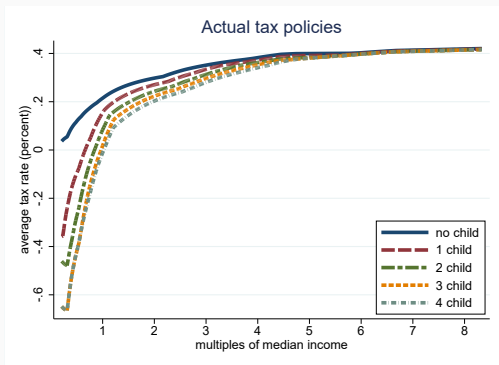
- **Income taxes:**

$$\mathcal{T}(y, a, n) = y \cdot (1 - \tau_y^n y^{-\lambda_y^n}) + \tau_a r a$$

where  $\{\tau_y^n, \lambda_y^n\}_{n=0}^6$  estimated using TAXSIM

- **Tax rates** from McDaniel (2014):  $\tau_c = 0.07$  and  $\tau_a = 0.27$
- **Pension replacement rate:**  $\pi = 40\%$

# Income Taxes: Model vs Data



- Child tax benefits (reduction in tax rates) are larger for low-income households

# Baby Bonus in Australia

- **A\$3,000 baby bonus**<sup>4</sup> to every child born on or after July 1st 2004
- Peter Costello (Treasurer of Australia): "One (baby) for the Mum, one for the Dad, and one for the country"
- $tfr_{AUS,2004} = 1.77 > 1.73 = tfr_{USA,2018}$  before the Covid Baby Bust [▶ other](#)
- Drago et al. (2011) finds:
  - Significant fertility responses and evidence for long-term/quantum effects
  - Cost for an additional birth to be at least A\$126,000<sup>5</sup>
  - Larger fertility responses from low-income households
- Gaitz and Schurer (2017) finds that the baby bonus was **ineffective** in boosting learning, socio-emotional or physical health outcomes of pre-school children

[▶ back to validation](#)[▶ back to results](#)

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<sup>5</sup>More details: (1) Announced on Mar.12th 2004, (2) universal coverage, lump-sum payment, (3) Equivalent to 4 times average weekly earnings, (4) Equivalent to \$2,800 in 2010 USD.

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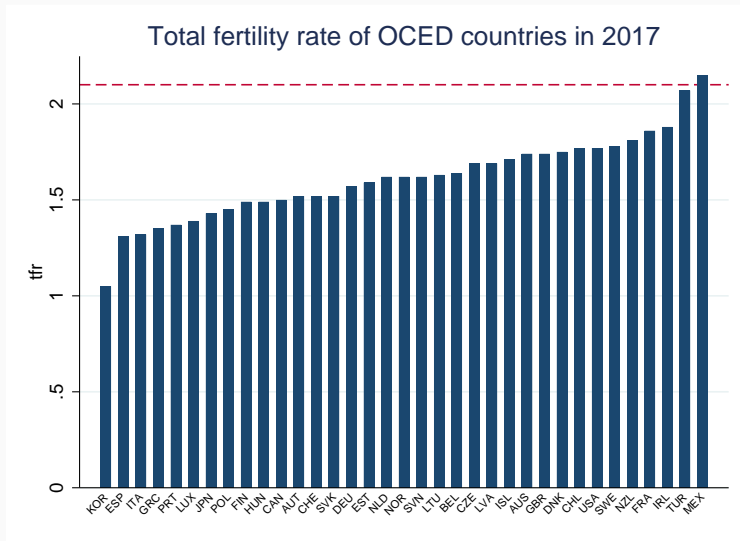
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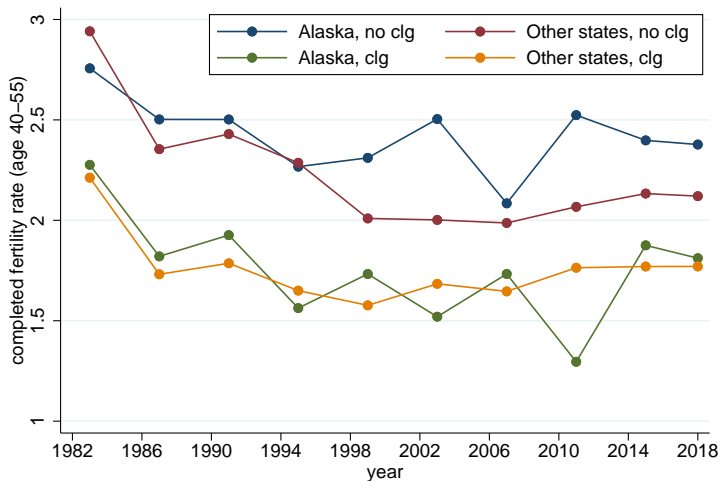
<sup>5</sup>More details: (1) Announced on Mar.12th 2004, (2) universal coverage, lump-sum payment, (3) Equivalent to 4 times average weekly earnings, (4) Equivalent to \$2,800 in 2010 USD.

<sup>5</sup>Equivalent to \$117,600 in 2010 USD. Quantitative model predicts \$130,000 is needed for an additional birth (for the U.S.).

# Total Fertility Rate Across Countries



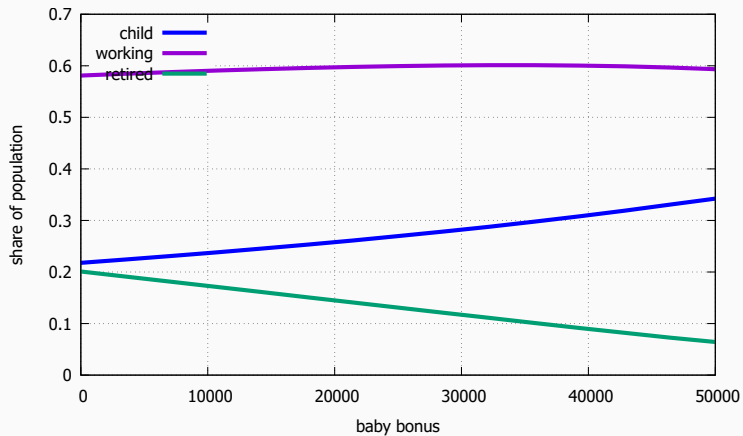
# Evidence from Completed Fertility Rates



Source: CPS June Fertility Supplement, 4-Year Bins



# Change in Demographic Structure



# Highlights for Subsidized Childcare $\mathcal{S}$

Figure 11: Fertility

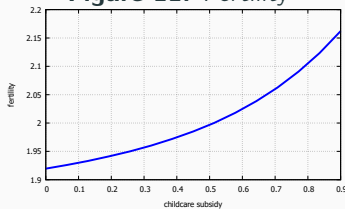


Figure 12:  $\Delta \bar{h}$

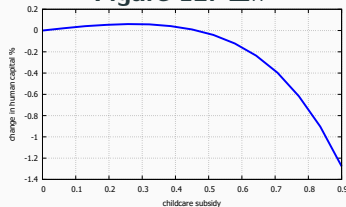


Figure 13: Per capita output

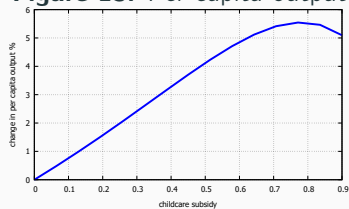


Figure 14:  $\Delta \tau_c$

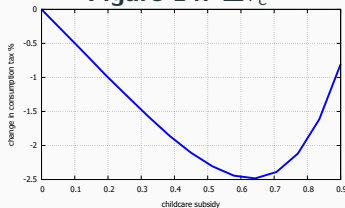


Figure 15: Mobility

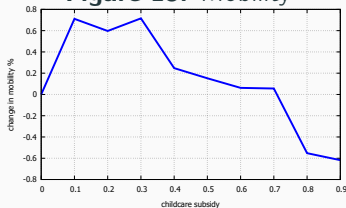
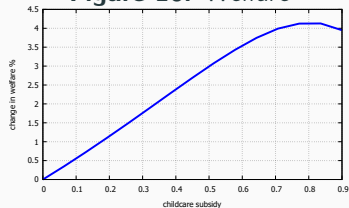


Figure 16: Welfare



- Need **80%** refund to reach 2.1 fertility, **50%** less cost-effective than baby bonus
- Impacts of subsidized childcare are qualitatively similar to baby bonus except that **it encourages work** (Guner, Kaygusuz and Ventura 2020) and **mobility effect is small**
- **Less progressive** because subsidy amount depends on childcare expenditures

# Highlights for Public Education Expansion $\mathcal{E}$

Figure 17: Fertility

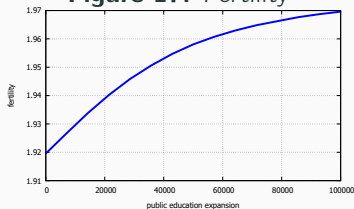


Figure 18:  $\Delta \bar{h}$

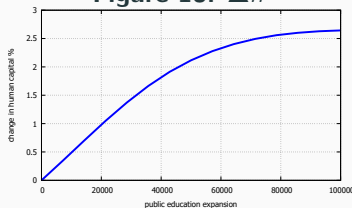


Figure 19: Per capita output

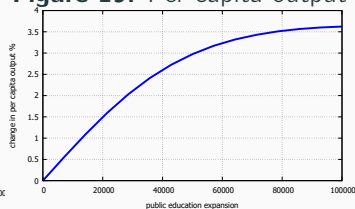


Figure 20:  $\Delta \tau_c$

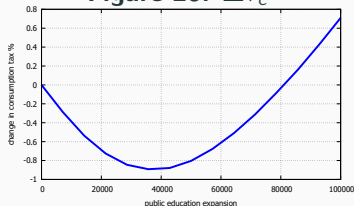


Figure 21: Mobility

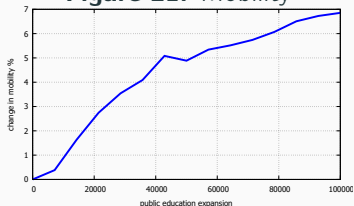
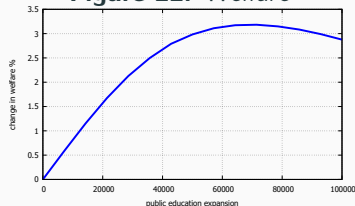
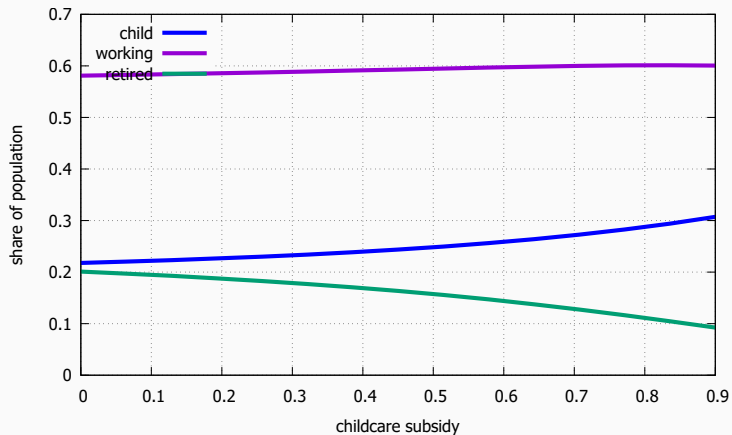


Figure 22: Welfare

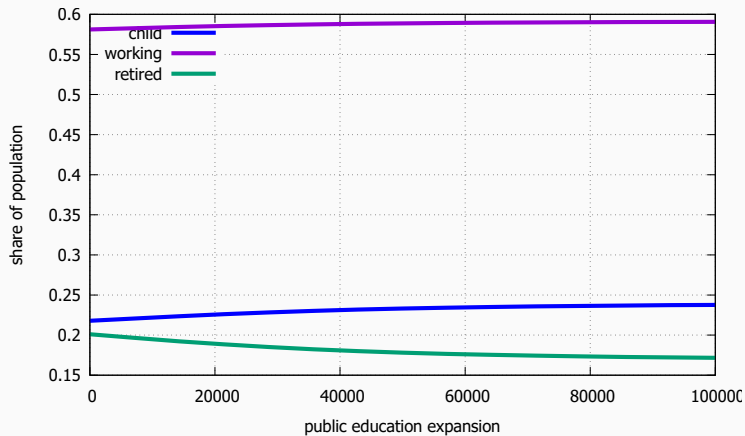


- **Mildest fertility effects** (0.035 boost vs 0.23 boost using \$40k baby bonus)
- **Most effective in improving mobility** (5.5% increase using \$65k)
- **Progressive** policy with large welfare improvement for low-income households

# Change in Demographic Structure



# Change in Demographic Structure



## Transition path

- **Question:** How long do we need to wait for aggregate effects to take place? What are the distributional consequences for households in the original steady-state? Majority support for policy reform?
- **Conjecture:** Majority support may requires transfers **within cohorts**

## Alternative ways of financing

- **Question:** How will things change if the policy could be funded via government deficits or labor/capital taxes?

## Optimal policies

- **Question:** What is the optimal policy to maximize welfare however defined?