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The Decline of Early Retirement Pathways in the Netherlands: An Empirical Analysis for the Health Care Sector

by Rob Euwals, Annemiek van Vuren, Daniel van Vuuren

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Abstract:

Early retirement schemes and disability insurance in the Netherlands have both been reformed during the past decades. The reforms have increased incentives to continue working and have decreased the substitution between early retirement and disability. This study investigates the impact of the reforms on labour market exit probabilities. We use administrative data on workers in the Dutch health care sector between 1999 and 2006. We estimate a multinomial Logit model for transitions out of the labour force. The empirical results suggest that the reforms have been effective, as the labour market participation rate of the elderly has increased. The concept of substitute pathways into retirement seems less relevant today as the results confirm that disability insurance is closed off as an early retirement exit route.

Text: See [Discussion Paper No. 5810](#)



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