

How Do Elderly Headed Households Spend Their Pensions?

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SUMMARY

It should be noted that one of the most important policymaking prerequisites in the economic, social, and cultural areas is having access to comprehensive and thorough data. If a policymaker does not have an image of the intended target society, he/she will not be able to identify the priorities and come up with a right planning; however, if a policymaker knows what the target society's needs, weaknesses and strengths are, he/she will be able to allocate the available sources, though limited, to efficiently address the more essential needs. In the current study, attempts have been made to achieve such a goal. In six chapters, using the data of the household budget in 2016, the researchers have come up with a general image as regards the household status in three groups of households: a) non-elderly headed households; b) elderly headed households receiving old-age pension; and c) elderly headed households without old-age pension. Therefore, in the first chapter, the general indicators related to the economic and social status of households were presented based on the aforementioned classification. In the second chapter, the status of income deciles and expenditures of the households were studied. In the third chapter, the food expenditures and others were addressed. In the fourth chapter, the components of food expenditures were studied. Finally, in the last two chapters the share of two major expenditures apart from food like housing and health care were investigated. In order to have a clearer image regarding the households, they were classified according to provinces as well as rural and urban areas. It should also be noted that based on the international definitions of aging, persons with the age of 65 or older were referred to as the elderly population.