

Iran's Old AgeWatch Index in 2016

Nasibeh Zanjari and Rasoul Sadeghi

2020

ABSTRACT

One of the challenges of population ageing is the matter of elderly population's welfare and well-being. Therefore, understanding and monitoring the elderly well-being is of vital importance in academe and policymaking. Old AgeWatch is regarded as one of the indexes used for understanding, monitoring, and policymaking in the field of elderly well-being. The index includes four dimensions, which are income security, health status, capability, and enabling societies and environment. The major aim of the current study is measuring Age Watch Index at both provincial and national levels. The methodology includes secondary analysis and the data from different statistical sources related to 2016 or the surrounding years. The findings of the study showed considering AgeWatch Index, Iran's ranking is 64th in the 97 countries that were studied. Taking account of the aforementioned four dimensions, Iran got the highest score in enabling societies and environment and the lowest score in capability. At provincial level, Tehran, Semnan, and Fars got the highest score, but Sistan and Baluchestan, South Khorasan, Ilam got the lowest score. Accordingly, it can be said that the elderly well-being index in Iran is lower than global average. Accordingly, different aspects of income security should be taken into account in policymaking; for example, expanding universal coverage of old age pension, reducing poverty, providing the elderly with opportunities for own account works and offering lifelong training.

Keywords: Old AgeWatch, Income security, Health status, Capability, Enabling societies and environment, Iran