

Forum on CPF and Retirement Adequacy

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IPS Forum on CPF and Retirement Adequacy

Improving the CPF System

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The Minimum Sum Scheme

- Unhappiness due to persistent gap between official and effective withdrawal age
- Aversion to raising official withdrawal age despite life expectancy increasing 3-4 years per decade
- Maintain trust in policies and institutions by removing perceived time-inconsistent behaviour
- Implement progressive rise in official withdrawal age for successive cohorts
- Demonstrate benefits of longer life expectancy and working life of successive generations

How to Achieve Minimum Sum at Age 55

Starting Wage	Real Wage Growth p.a.	Annuity from age 65 if retire at 55 (in 2013 \$)	Annuity from age 65 if retire at 65 (in 2013 \$)	Percentage Increase
\$700	3%	\$1390	\$1740	25%
\$830	2%	\$1380	\$1660	20%
\$980	1%	\$1380	\$1590	15%
\$1150	0%	\$1380	\$1530	11%

Achieving Retirement Adequacy With CPF

- How much will be saved through CPF?
- How adequate are CPF savings for retirement needs of various income groups?
- Can a median income earner expect to draw an adequate retirement income?
- What is the track record of CPF returns?
- What must be done to improve CPF system to achieve retirement adequacy?

Assumptions on Real Wage Growth

	Constant Growth Path	Optimistic Growth Path				
Starting Salary	Age 22+	Age 22 -28	Age 29 - 35	Age 36 -45	Age 46 - 55	Age 55+
A: \$1200 (10 th percentile)	1.8%	7.6%	1.3%	0.9%	-0.2%	0.0%
B: \$1900 (30 th percentile)	2.5%	12.1%	1.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
C: \$3000 (50 th percentile)	3.6%	8.2%	5.2%	3.3%	0.9%	0.9%

Retirement Income From Total CPF Savings

Starting Salary	Constant Growth Path Annuity (in 2013 \$) from Age 65		Optimistic G Annuity (in 2 Age	2013 \$) from
	Retire at 55	Retire at 65	Retire at 55	Retire at 65
A: \$1200	\$2060	\$2410	\$2420	\$2680
B: \$1900	\$3950	\$4610	\$4710	\$5110
C: \$3000	\$6100	\$6550	\$6450	\$6870

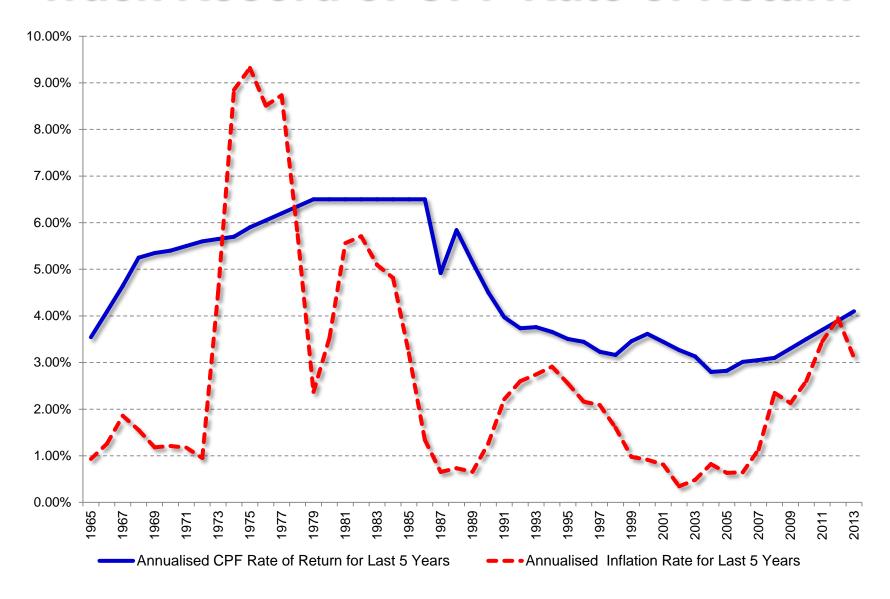
Income Replacement Rate From Total CPF Savings

Starting Salary	Constant Growth Path		Optimistic Growth Path	
	Retire at 55	Retire at 65	Retire at 55	Retire at 65
A: \$1200	72%	79%	89%	109%
B: \$1900	70%	72%	92%	107%
C: \$3000	49%	41%	49%	53%

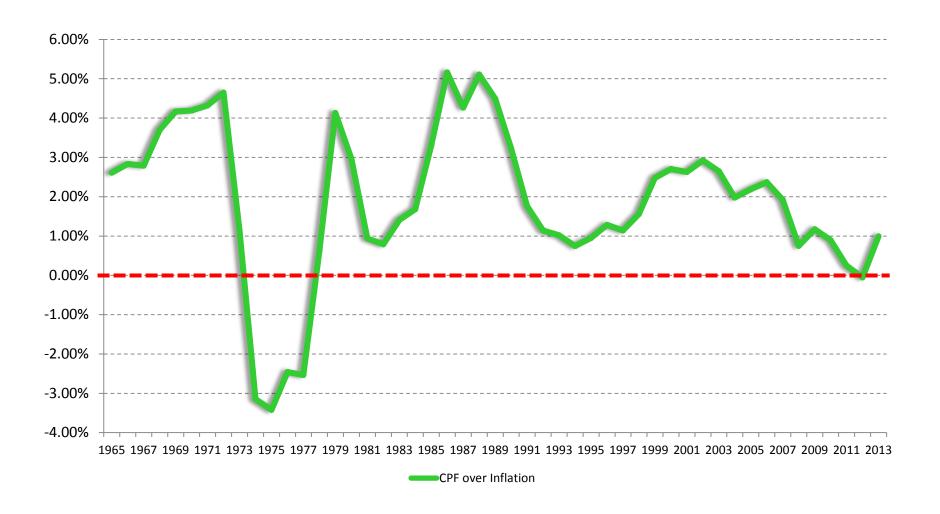
Impact of Property Purchase on Retirement Adequacy

Starting Salary	Constant Growth Path		Optimistic Growth Path		
	Joint housing loan taken at age 30 (2014\$)	IRR at 65	Joint housing loan taken at age 30 (2014\$)	IRR at 65	
A: \$1200	\$194,000	57%	\$251,000	74%	
B: \$1900	\$324,000	54 %	\$477,000	72%	
C: \$3000	\$558,000	28%	\$688,000	33%	

Track Record of CPF Rate of Return



Real Rate of Return on CPF Savings



Impact on IRR of 1% Across-the-Board Increase in CPF Return

Starting Salary	Constant Growth Path			Opt	imistic Growth	Path
	IRR at 65	IRR with 1% increase	Improve by	IRR at 65	IRR with 1% increase	Improve by
A: \$1200	57%	74%	17%	74%	93%	19%
B: \$1900	54%	65%	11%	72%	89%	17%
C: \$3000	28%	35%	7%	33%	41%	8%

Impact on IRR of Higher Income Ceiling for Employee CPF Contribution

Starting Salary: \$3000	Constant Growth Path		Optimistic	Growth Path
Increase in Income Ceiling	IRR at 65	Improve by	IRR at 65	Improve by
20%	38%	3%	47%	6%
30%	40%	5%	50%	8%
40%	42%	7%	53%	12%
50%	44%	9%	56%	15%
100%	52%	17%	69%	28%

Concluding Remarks

- CPF a good system that can be made better
- Credibility issue caused by gap between official and effective withdrawal age should be removed
- Retirement adequacy of large majority of middle income residents needs to be addressed
- MOM's IRRs underestimate income growth and housing aspirations – misleading
- Improvements needed to provide and meet not just basic but adequate retirement needs:
- Higher returns to CPF savings
- Raise income ceiling for employee CPF
- Allow option to place more than MS in CPF LIFE?