

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910349525903321
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Titolo	Essentials of Pension Economics / / by Sergio Nisticò
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Palgrave Pivot, , 2019
ISBN	9783030264963 3030264963
Edizione	[1st ed. 2019.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (133 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Palgrave pivot
Disciplina	331.252
Soggetti	Finance, Public Public Economics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. The Basic Concepts -- 3. The Little Mathematics You Need -- 4. Four Archetypal Pension Systems -- 5. Pension Benefits in a More Realistic Setting -- 6. The Challenges for Public Pension Schemes -- 7. Concluding remarks.
Sommario/riassunto	This Palgrave Pivot provides a concise overview of pension systems which, whether paid by governments or by private companies, are the sole source of income for millions of people around the world. By 2050, two billion elderly people will have to be ensured some form of income while, at the same time, the prospect facing younger generations is of a gloomy future. This book breaks down the jargon, investigates different designs and analyses these designs' effects on financial sustainability, their adequacy when it comes to level and replacement rates, and their effects on intra- and inter-generational distribution. The author provides also an overview of the historical, demographic and political issues connected with the pension debate. This book will be of interest to students and academics, and professionals involved in the pensions industry.