

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910465018603321
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Titolo	China [[electronic resource]] : does government health and education spending boost consumption? // Steven Barnett and Ray Brooks
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C., : International Monetary Fund, c2010
ISBN	1-4623-1842-8 1-4527-5106-4 1-282-84525-X 9786612845253 1-4519-6213-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (15 p.)
Collana	IMF working paper ; ; WP/10/16
Altri autori (Persone)	BrooksRay <1949->
Soggetti	Consumption (Economics) - China Economics - China Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; I. Introduction; II. Consumption and Saving in China: Stylized Facts; A. Consumption is Falling; Figures; 1. Consumption in China: Low and Falling; 2. Urban and Rural Saving Rates; 3. Urban and Rural Income; 4. Indicators of Urban and Rural Consumption and Income; B. More Stylized Facts; 5. Household Income and GDP per Capita; 6. Urban Household Saving Rate by Income Group; III. Reducing Precautionary Saving: A Role For Public Spending?; A. Urban Households; 7. Health and Education Spending; B. Rural Households; C. Robustness Checks; IV. Conclusion; Tables 1. Urban Households: Saving and Government Spending 2. Rural Households: Saving and Government Spending; References
Sommario/riassunto	Consumption in China is unusually low and has continued to decline as a share of GDP over the past decade. A key policy question is how to reverse this trend, and rebalance growth away from reliance on exports and investment and toward consumption. This paper investigates whether the sizable increase in government social spending in recent years lowered precautionary saving and increased consumption. The

main findings are that spending on health, but not education, had an impact on household behavior. The impact, moreover, is large. A one yuan increase in government health spending is associat
