A Measurement of Vulnerability in Transition Labor Market

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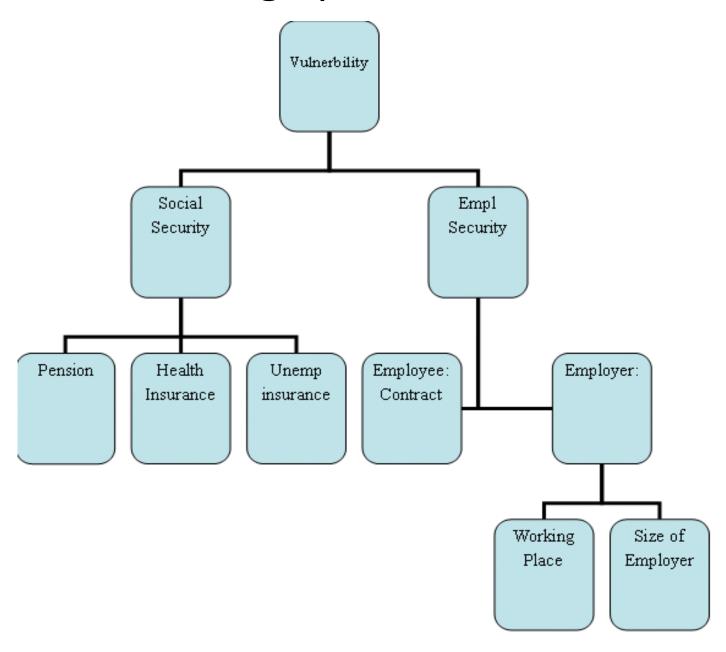
Why do we do this measurement?

- The informality is often defined as 1/0 thing, but vulnerability is not
- Among the workers defined as informal (or formal), their vulnerability could be different.
- However, the key component of informality in developing labor markets is its vulnerability
- The Chinese labor market has been characterized transition, which makes the form of informality unique
- In addition to social protection, employment security is of importance for workers' wellbeing

Two components of vulnerability

- The level of social protection, which is widely accepted by current definition on informality
- Job insecurity, which could be a source of vulnerability, but not well reflected by informality definition
- China has taken great effort to increasing the coverage of contract workers, which could increase job security even if without improving social protection

Giving up 1/0 definition



Scoring social protection

Social Security								
Pension			Health Insurance			Unemployment Insurance		
Туре	Score		Туре	Scor e		Туре	Score	
For Urban worker	2		For Urban worker	2				
For Urban resident	1	+	For Urban resident	1	+	-	1	
For Migrant worker / Rural	0.5		For Migrant worker / NCMS	0.5				
Min-Max: 0-2		Min-Max: 0-2			Min-Max: 0-1			
Min-Max: 0-5								

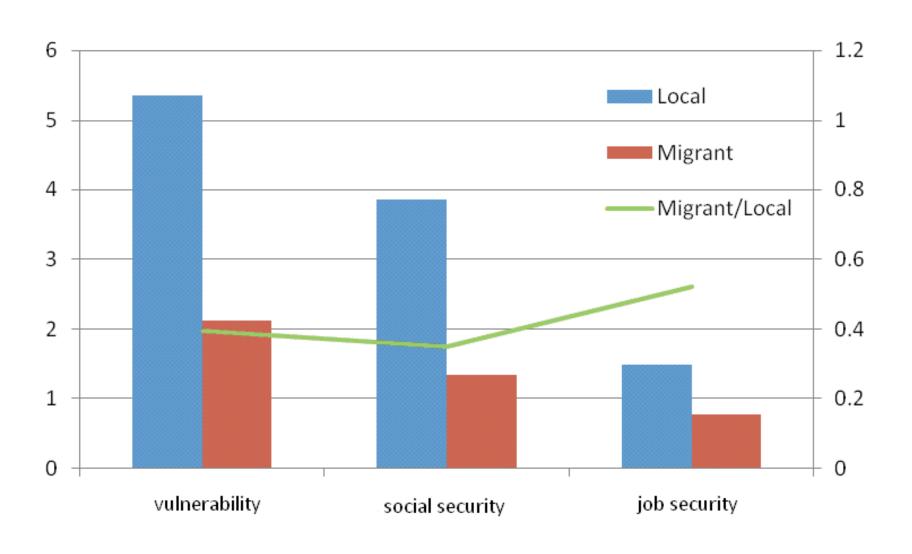
Scoring the Job Security: Contract Type

Contract Type	Contract Term			
	>=3 years	1-3 years	<1 year	
Dispatched Contract/ Contract signed for certain work	2	1	0.5	
Fixed-period contract	4	3	2	
Open ended contract / Formal employees in government or SOEs	5	5	5	
Min-Max		0-5		

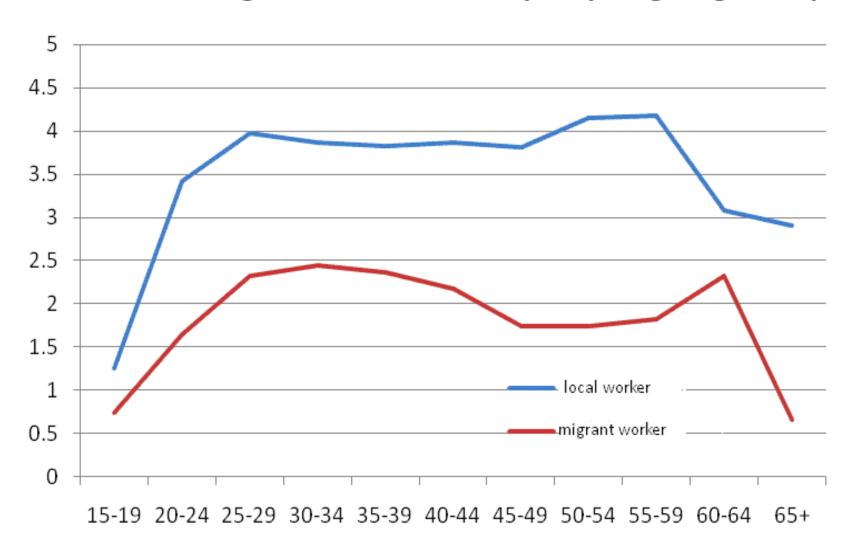
Scoring Job Security: Employer Characteristics

Working Place			Size of Employer				
Туре	Score		Type	Score			
Office or Store	2		>=20	3			
Building Site	1	+	7-19	2			
Outdoor	0.5		2-7	1			
Min-Max: 0.5-2			Min-Max: 1-3				
Min-Max: 0-5							

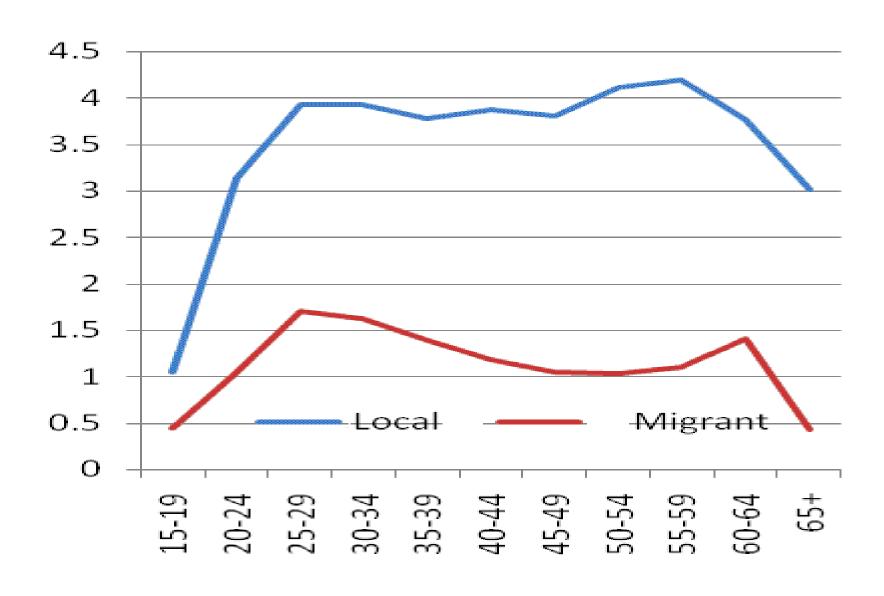
Measuring vulnerability by residence



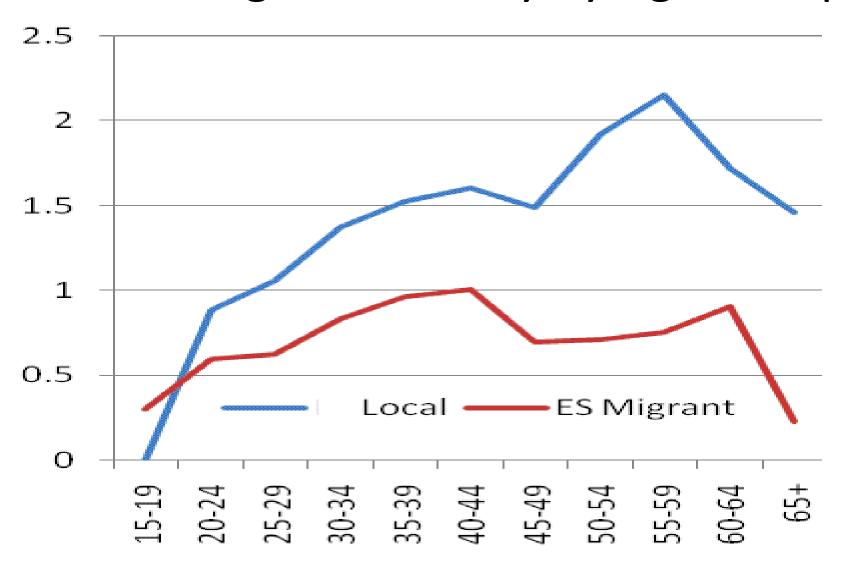
Measuring vulnerability by age group



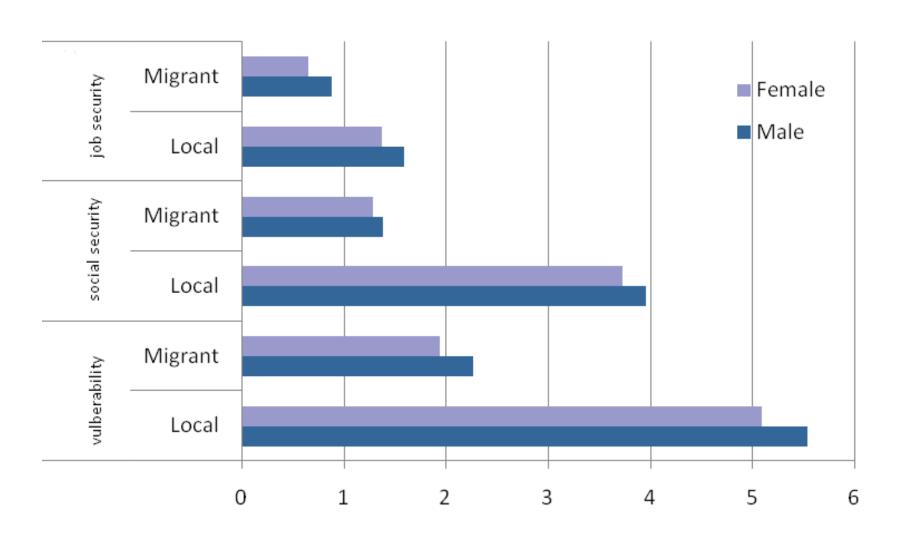
Measuring SP by age group



Measuring Job Security by Age Group



Measuring vulnerability by Gender



Conclusions

- The new measurement makes it possible to know how much an individual (or a group of people) is more vulnerable than the others
- This new measurement better reflects the transitioning feature in the Chinese labor market
- It also makes it clear to see the relative role of each component play in determining vulnerability in the labor market

What's next?

- Scoring social protection by using more detailed city information
- The determinants of vulnerability
- Grouping and decomposing the sources of vulnerability
- Policy relevance