

House Price Cycles, Wealth Inequality and Portfolio Reshuffling

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Motivation

- 1 Aggregate household wealth:** Similar levels and trends relative to national income across advanced countries since 1980's (Piketty and Zucman [2014])
Wealth to income ratios
- 2 Household wealth distribution:** Diverging wealth concentration trends since 1980's US (Saez and Zucman [2016]) vs. Continental Europe (Garbinti et al. [2020]; Alvaredo et al. [2018])
Top 10% wealth shares

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- ▶ Little empirical evidence on
 - ▶ the complex interactions between the **short/medium-term** dynamics of aggregate wealth and its distribution
 - ▶ their **determinants** (asset prices vs. savings)

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 - ▶ the complex interactions between the **short/medium-term** dynamics of aggregate wealth and its distribution
 - ▶ their **determinants** (asset prices vs. savings)
- ▶ These interactions become quite relevant during **asset booms and busts**
 - ▶ Households' wealth levels significantly change and wealth inequality trends could revert
 - ▶ More relevant during house price cycles, as housing forms the lion's share of total return on wealth (Jorda et al. [2019]; Piketty and Zucman [2014])

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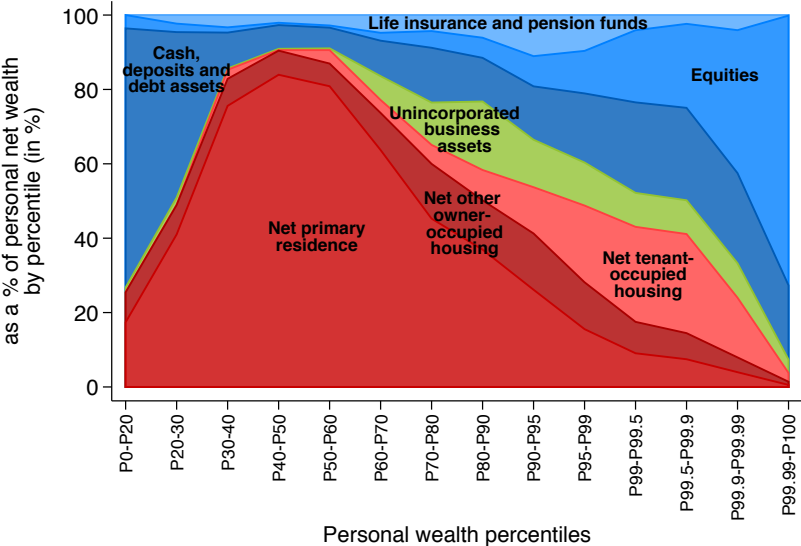
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→ Wealth inequality matters in the **determination of aggregates**, such as consumption (Carroll et al. [2014]; Krueger et al. [2016])

Motivation

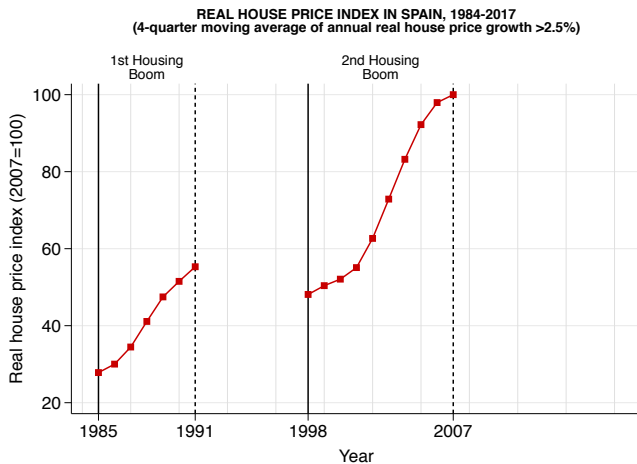
ASSET COMPOSITION BY WEALTH LEVEL IN SPAIN, 2015



This paper

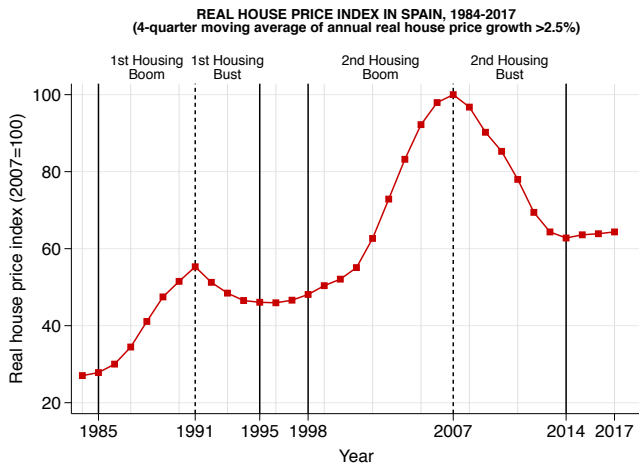
- ▶ **Research question:** How do housing booms and busts shape the wealth distribution? In particular, which are the key forces driving the observed wealth inequality dynamics?
- ▶ **Context:** Spain and its two most recent housing booms (1985-1991, 1998-2007) and busts (1992-1995, 2008-2014)
- ▶ **Data:** Large data compilation
 - ▶ Macro sources: income flows and wealth stocks from national accounts
 - ▶ Micro sources: tax records, income and wealth surveys
- ▶ **Methodology**
 - 1 Reconstruct the joint wealth and income distribution between 1984-2015
 - 2 Develop a new asset-specific decomposition of wealth accumulation to identify the key determinants (i.e., labor income, saving rates and rates of return) of wealth inequality dynamics
 - 3 Conduct counterfactual simulation exercises to quantify the relative importance of each channel

Why Spain ?



Source: International House Price Database, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

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Preview of Results

- ▶ **Top 10% wealth concentration** drops during **housing booms**, but the decreasing pattern reverts during **housing busts**
- ▶ **Main drivers** of the observed dynamics:
 - ▶ **Housing booms:** Differences in **capital gains** across wealth groups
 - ★ Capital gains on housing higher on average than on financial assets
 - ★ Winners: Middle and bottom wealth groups
 - Larger share of housing in their portfolio
 - Higher total rate of capital gain
 - ▶ **Housing busts:** Differences in **saving behavior** across wealth groups
 - ★ Rates of capital gain converge across wealth groups
 - ★ Winners: Top wealth groups
 - Higher saving rate levels
 - Portfolio reshuffling from housing towards financial assets

Mechanisms: Nature of Saving Responses

- ▶ Top wealth holders subject to fewer **portfolio adjustment frictions**
 - ▶ Higher saving rates and lower indebtedness → fewer difficulties to incur in housing transaction costs
 - ▶ Lower indebtedness through home mortgages → less constrained by the evolution of the property value relative to the mortgage value
 - ▶ Larger holdings of real estate for investment → no mobility costs
 - ▶ Sale of rented properties during housing busts

- ▶ **Tax incentives** largely benefiting top wealth holders
 - ▶ Quasi-experimental setting: Introduction flat tax on financial income in Spanish personal income tax in 2007
 - ▶ Novel personal income and wealth tax panel
 - ▶ Differences-in-differences: Comparison of reported interest income for taxpayers that experience a tax cut (treatment group) vs. tax increase (control group)
 - ▶ Counterfactual simulations: Reform explains on average 60% of the growth rate in the top 10% wealth share over 2007-2014

Contributions to the Literature

- 1 Historical evolution of wealth distributions:** Alvaredo and Saez [2009], Roine and Waldenström [2009], Saez and Zucman [2016], Garbinti et al. [2020]
 - ▶ This paper: Focus on **short/medium-term** wealth inequality dynamics during **asset booms and busts**
- 2 Determinants of wealth inequality dynamics:** Bach et al. [2019]; Fagereng et al. [2019]; Gomez et al. [2019]; Hubmer et al. [2020]; Kuhn et al. [2018]
 - ▶ This paper:
 - ★ **Novel asset-specific wealth accumulation equation** that makes it possible to decompose saving by asset class
 - ★ **Composition of saving** key to understand saving behavior and wealth inequality dynamics along the cycle
 - ★ **Portfolio adjustment frictions** and **tax incentives** important to understand differences in saving behavior along the wealth distribution

Wealth Concept and Data

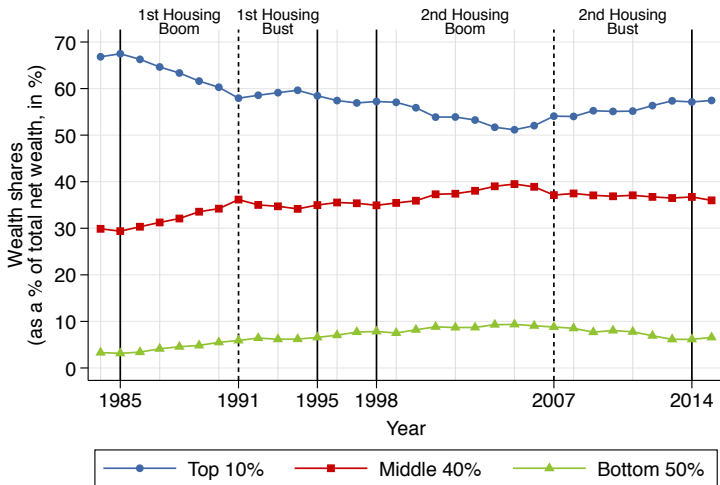
- ▶ **Wealth Concept:** Current market value of all financial and non-financial assets owned by households net of all their debts (System of National Accounts, 2009)

- ▶ **Multiple data sources**
 - ▶ Macro data:
 - ★ Income: National Accounts (INE, 1984-2015)
 - ★ Wealth: Financial Accounts (Bank of Spain, 1984-2015) and Non-financial Accounts (Artola et al. [2018], 1984-2015)
 - ▶ Micro data:
 - ★ Personal income (1984-2015) and wealth tax records (1999-2007) (IEF and AEAT)
 - ★ Wealth and income surveys (Survey of Household Finances, Bank of Spain, five waves 2002-2014 ; Household Budget Survey, INE, 1986-1998)

The Mixed Capitalization-Survey Method

- ▶ **First step:** Reconstruct the capital income distribution using personal income tax records
 - ▶ Bottom individuals: Imputation based on the census of population and household surveys Missing individuals
- ▶ **Second step:** Capitalize the capital income distribution to arrive to the wealth distribution
 - ▶ Construct capitalization factors by asset class using disaggregated income flows and wealth stocks from national accounts
 - ▶ Assumption: Constant capitalization factor within a given asset class along the distribution
- ▶ **Third step:** Accounting for wealth which does not generate taxable capital income
 - ▶ Missing wealth components: primary residence (1999-2015), life insurance, investment and pension funds Missing wealth components
 - ★ Imputation performed so as to match the distribution of these wealth components in household surveys

WEALTH DISTRIBUTION IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



Top 10% wealth concentration declines during booms, but the decreasing pattern reverts during busts

Additional Results and Robustness Checks

▶ Additional results

- ▶ Wealth levels in 2015 [2015 Wealth Table](#)
- ▶ Top wealth shares [Top wealth shares](#)
- ▶ Composition of wealth shares [Composition of wealth shares](#)
- ▶ Accounting for offshore assets [Unreported offshore assets](#)
- ▶ Decomposition by age [Age decomposition](#) [Age-wealth profiles](#)
- ▶ Income shares [Income shares](#)

▶ Robustness checks

- ▶ House price distribution [Heterogeneity of house prices](#)
- ▶ Wealth surveys [Survey wealth shares](#) [Survey capitalization](#)
- ▶ Wealth taxes [Rate of return on deposits](#) [Alvaredo and Saez \[2009\]](#)

A New Asset-Specific Wealth Accumulation Decomposition

Standard wealth accumulation decomposition:

$$W_{t+1}^g = (1 + q_t^g)[W_t^g + s_t^g(Y_{L_t}^g + r_t^g W_t^g)] \quad (1)$$

- ▶ g : wealth group (e.g., top 10%, bottom 50%)
- ▶ W_t^g : average real wealth of wealth group g at time t
- ▶ $Y_{L_t}^g$: average real labor income of wealth group g at time t
- ▶ r_t^g : average rate of return of group g at time t
- ▶ q_t^g : average rate of real capital gain of wealth group g at time t
- ▶ s_t^g : synthetic saving rate of wealth group g at time t

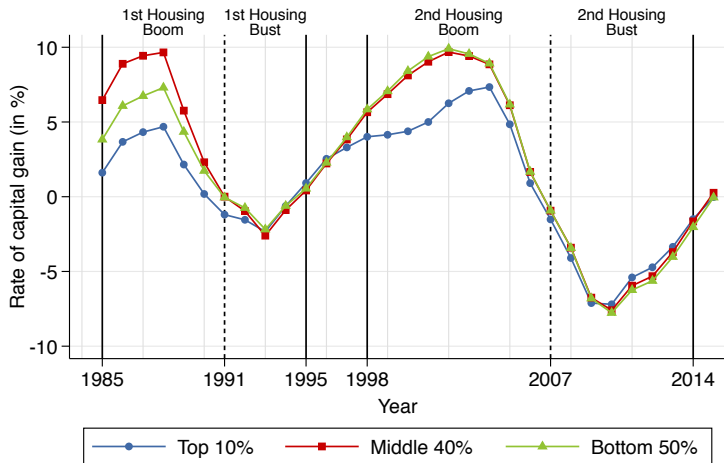
New decomposition to derive saving by asset class:

$$W_{t+1}^g = W_{H,t+1}^g + W_{B,t+1}^g + W_{F,t+1}^g \quad (2)$$

$$W_{H,t+1}^g = (1 + q_t^g)[W_{H,t}^g + s_{H,t}^g(Y_{L_t}^g + r_t^g W_t^g)] \quad (3)$$

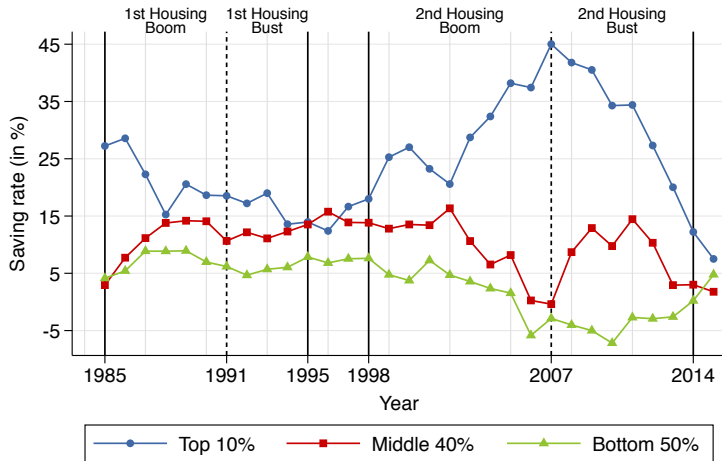
- ▶ H , B , and F : Housing, Business Assets and Financial Assets

REAL CAPITAL GAINS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average)



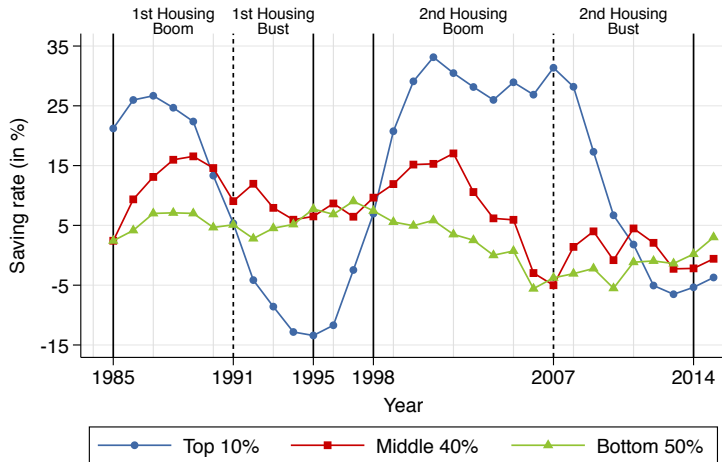
Capital gains contribute to decreasing top 10% wealth concentration during housing booms

SAVING RATES BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average)



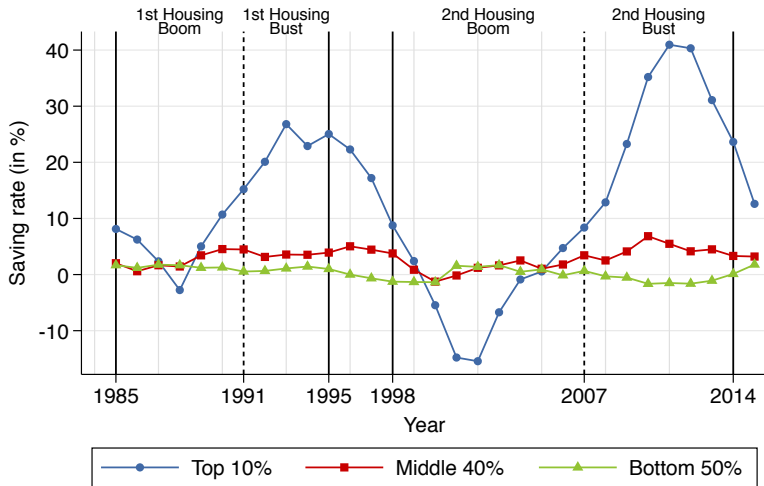
Saving rates are higher among top wealth holders during housing busts

SAVING RATES ON HOUSING BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015
(5-year moving average)



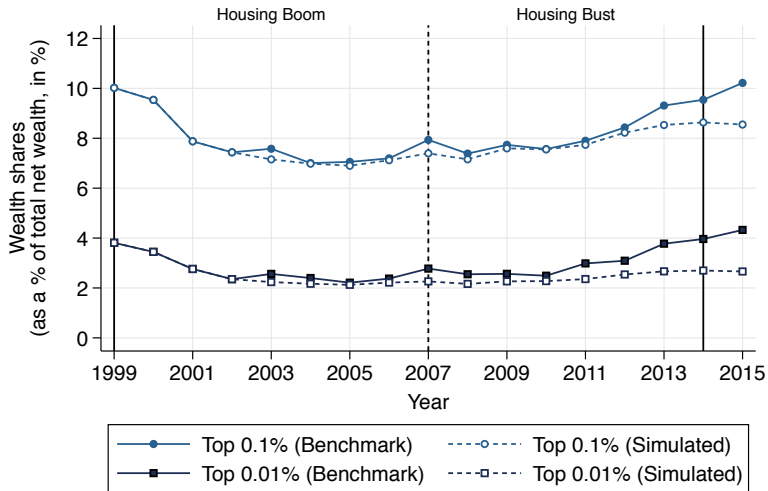
Top wealth holders accumulate housing during housing booms and reshuffle their portfolio away from housing...

SAVING RATES ON FINANCIAL ASSETS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average)

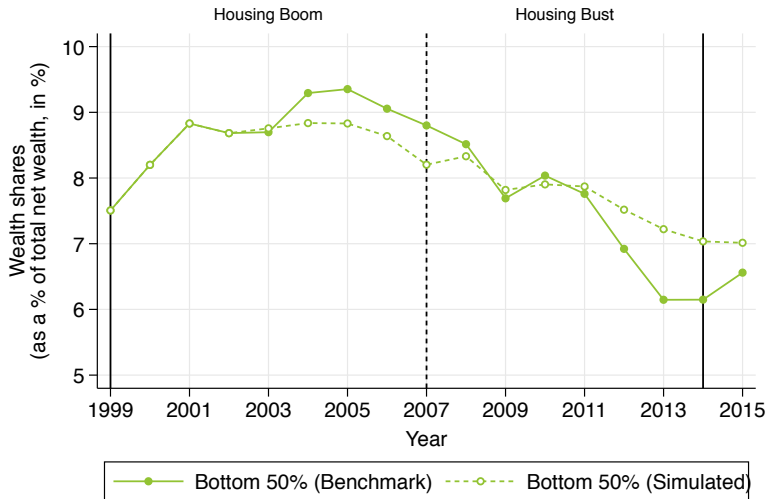


...towards financial assets during housing busts

SIMULATED TOP WEALTH DISTRIBUTION, 1999-2015
 (fixing 2002 individual asset composition)



SIMULATED BOTTOM WEALTH DISTRIBUTION, 1999-2015 (fixing 2002 individual asset composition)



External Validity and Additional Robustness Checks

▶ External validity: France and the US

- ▶ House price cycles International house prices
- ▶ Wealth shares International wealth shares
- ▶ Capital gains Capital gains France Capital gains US
- ▶ Saving rates Saving rates France Saving rates US
- ▶ Saving rates on housing Saving rates housing France Saving rates housing US
- ▶ Saving rates on financial assets Saving rates financial assets France Saving rates financial assets US

▶ Robustness checks

- ▶ Accounting for wealth mobility Saving rates with panel
- ▶ Alternative asset-specific saving rates Alternative saving rates

Mechanisms: Nature of saving responses

Main candidate explanations

- 1 Portfolio adjustment frictions
 - ✓ Less prevalent among top wealth holders
- 2 Tax incentives on financial income
 - ✓ Largely benefiting top wealth holders

Other potential explanations

- 1 Real estate market dynamics Real estate demand
 - ✗ No greater demand for properties owned by top wealth holders
- 2 Risk aversion Attitudes toward risk
 - ✗ Saving on deposits is less risky than on housing
- 3 Financial knowledge and advising Financial knowledge and advising
 - ✗ Saving on deposits does not require much financial literacy nor advising
- 4 Expectations on future house prices
 - ✗ Top wealth holders did not have more pessimistic expectations during the recent housing bust (Bover [2015])

Portfolio Adjustment Frictions

- ▶ **Transaction costs:** Bottom and middle wealth holders more difficulties to incur in these costs
 - ▶ High indebtedness Indebtedness by wealth group
 - ▶ Low saving rates Saving rates by wealth group
- ▶ **Mobility costs:** Bottom and middle wealth holders have higher mobility costs Asset composition by wealth level Dissaving in housing for investment
 - ▶ Housing is mostly a consumption good for middle and bottom wealth holders
 - ▶ Housing is also an investment good for top wealth holders

Tax Incentives

- ▶ Novel personal income and wealth tax panel
- ▶ Quasi-experimental setting: Introduction flat tax on financial income in Spanish personal income tax in 2007 Tax Schedule
- ▶ Reform largely benefiting top wealth holders Mechanical variation
- ▶ Restrict the analysis to wealth taxpayers for comparability reasons
- ▶ Differences-in-differences: Comparison of reported interest income for taxpayers that experience a tax cut (treatment group) vs. tax increase (control group) DiD Results
- ▶ Counterfactual simulations: Reform explains on average 60% of the growth rate in the top 10% wealth share over 2007-2014 Top 10% simulation

Conclusion

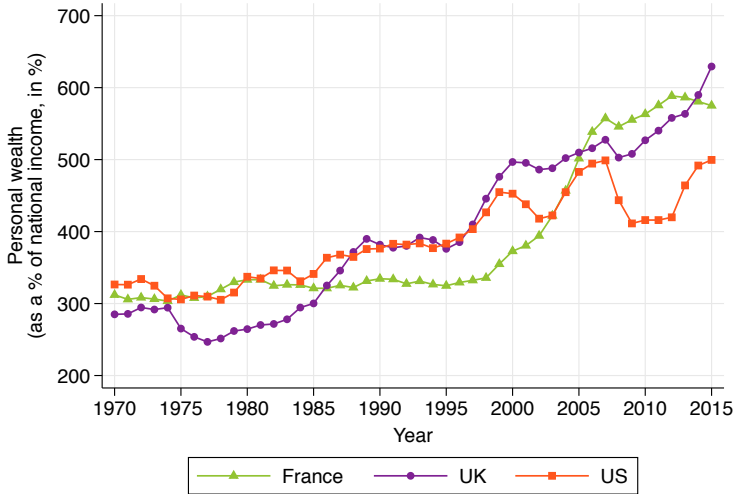
- ▶ Novel empirical facts on the **evolution and drivers of short/medium-term wealth inequality dynamics** useful to
 - ▶ enrich macro theories of wealth inequality, asset price changes and capital income taxes
 - ▶ gauge the risks of business cycles and set appropriate stabilization policies

→ The decomposition and tools used in this paper could be applied to study the distributional consequences of other business cycles (e.g., COVID 19)

Thank you for your attention !

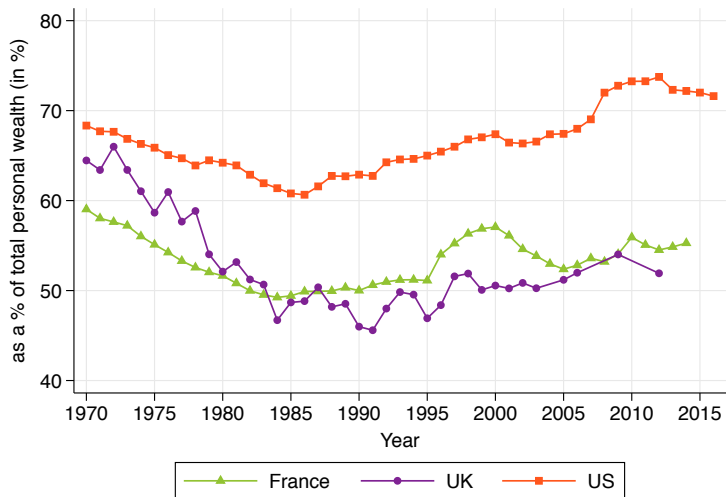
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PERSONAL WEALTH TO INCOME RATIOS IN ADVANCED ECONOMIES, 1970-2015



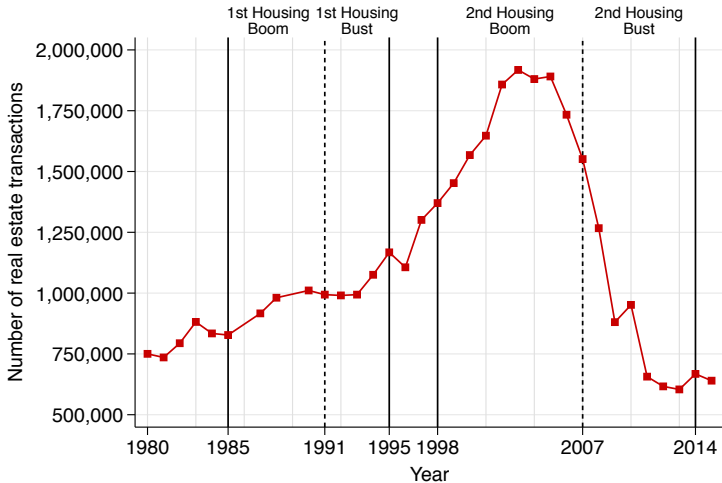
Source: Piketty and Zucman [2014]

TOP 10% WEALTH CONCENTRATION IN ADVANCED ECONOMIES, 1970-2016



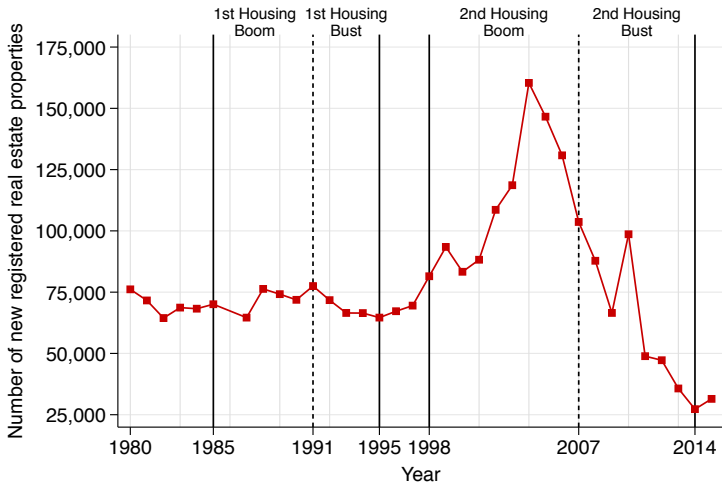
Source: Saez and Zucman [2016]; Atkinson et al. [2018] and Garbinti et al. [2018]

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS IN SPAIN, 1980-2015



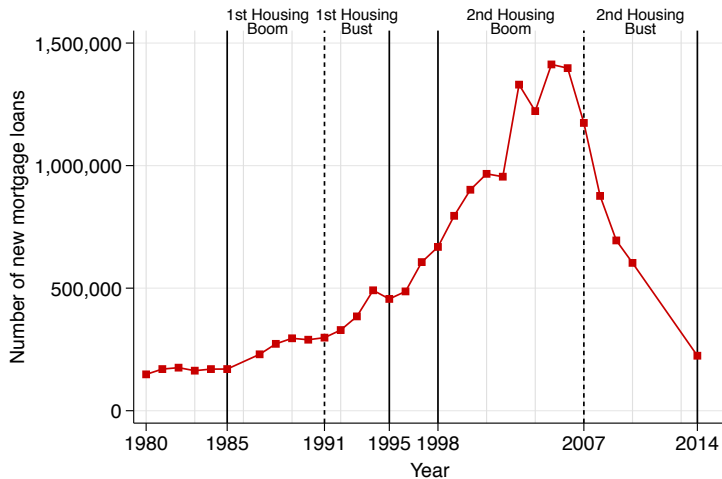
Source: Own elaboration after digitizing Registrars' Yearbooks

NEW REGISTERED REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES IN SPAIN, 1980-2015



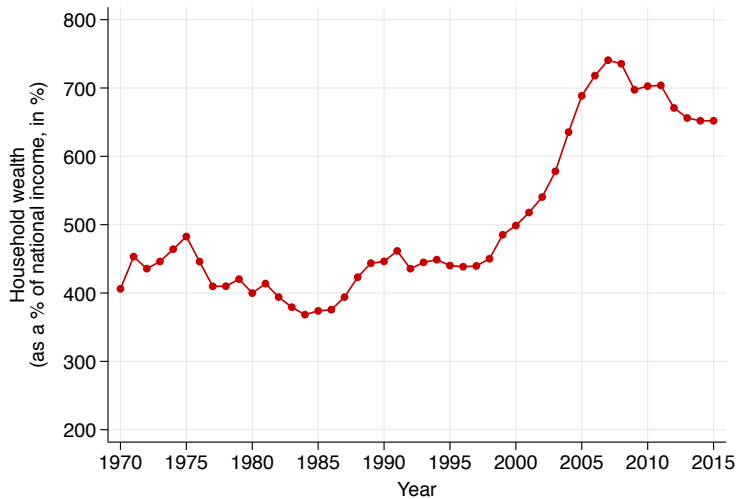
Source: Own elaboration after digitizing Registrars' Yearbooks

NEW MORTGAGE LOANS ATTACHED TO REAL ESTATE IN SPAIN, 1980-2015



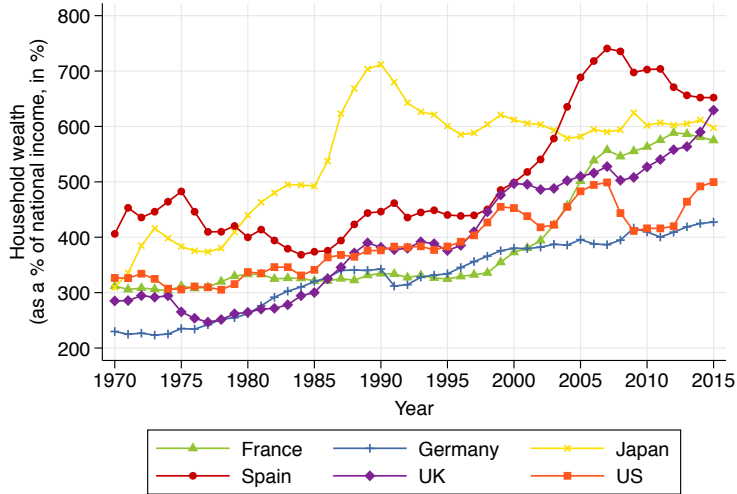
Source: Own elaboration after digitizing Registrars' Yearbooks

HOUSEHOLD WEALTH TO INCOME RATIO IN SPAIN, 1970-2015



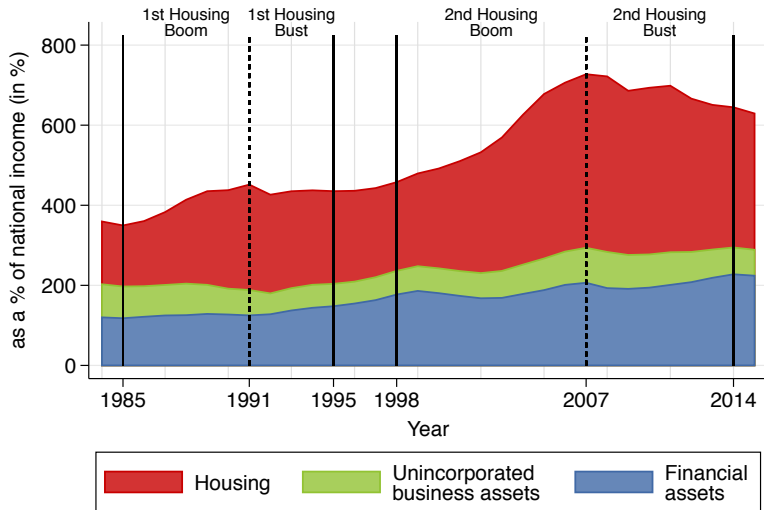
Source: Artola et al. [2019]

HOUSEHOLD WEALTH TO INCOME RATIOS IN ADVANCED ECONOMIES, 1970-2015



Source: World Inequality Database

LEVEL AND COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLD WEALTH IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



Boom Phases					Bust Phases				
Country	Years	Persistence	Magnitude	Severity indicator*	Country	Years	Persistence	Magnitude	Severity indicator*
Sweden	1997-2007	11	67.08	368.929	Japan	1992-2006	15	-45.47	-341.055
France	1998-2006	9	51.36	231.112	Netherlands	1979-1985	7	-78.95	-276.339
United kingdom	1997-2004	8	47.58	190.333	Switzerland	1990-1999	10	-44.17	-220.842
Netherlands	1971-1978	8	47.09	188.380	Ireland	1980-1987	8	-50.93	-203.702
Spain	1986-1991	6	62.55	187.664	Norway	1987-1993	7	-57.59	-201.556
United States	1998-2005	8	41.95	167.793	United Kingdom	1990-1996	7	-56.85	-198.991
Norway	1994-2001	8	40.73	162.914	Belgium	1980-1985	6	-58.06	-174.184
United Kingdom	1983-1989	7	43.31	151.592	New Zealand	1975-1980	6	-53.48	-160.434
Spain	1999-2006	8	37.19	148.766	Denmark	1987-1993	7	-45.42	-158.977
Italy	1999-2007	9	32.67	147.010	Spain	1992-1998	7	-44.64	-156.233
New Zealand	2002-2007	6	48.76	146.279	Finland	1990-1993	4	-71.45	-142.892
Denmark	1994-2001	8	34.36	137.422	Sweden	1980-1985	6	-44.48	-133.432
Australia	1998-2004	7	36.97	129.410	Italy	1993-1998	6	-40.36	-121.084
Canada	2001-2007	7	36.93	129.264	Italy	1982-1986	5	-47.12	-117.791
Ireland	1995-2000	6	40.56	121.674	France	1991-1997	7	-30.05	-105.188
Switzerland	1983-1989	7	34.70	121.459	Spain	1979-1982	4	-52.38	-104.754
Italy	1987-1992	6	40.12	120.354	Finland	1974-1979	6	-33.00	-99.002
Netherlands	1996-2001	6	31.10	93.311	United States	1990-1997	8	-24.17	-96.672
Japan	1986-1991	6	27.42	82.267	United kingdom	1974-1977	4	-47.48	-94.955
Canada	1986-1989	4	37.64	75.280	Norway	1975-1983	9	-20.15	-90.684
Denmark	1983-1986	4	37.58	75.167	Denmark	1979-1982	4	-42.76	-85.514
Sweden	1986-1990	5	29.87	74.687	Japan	1974-1978	5	-33.97	-84.922
Finland	1996-2000	5	27.40	68.494	France	1981-1985	5	-26.02	-65.054
Finland	2002-2007	6	22.35	67.048	Germany	2000-2007	8	-14.11	-56.455
Finland	1987-1989	3	44.41	66.611	Sweden	1991-1993	3	-35.61	-53.408

Source: European Central Bank (2009)

PERSONAL INCOME TAX FILERS, 1999-2015

Year	Filers	Total adult population	Share of filers
1999	18,521,709	29,443,569	62.9%
2000	19,246,192	29,802,677	64.6%
2001	19,757,147	30,151,784	65.5%
2002	19,914,191	30,806,036	64.6%
2003	20,371,413	31,493,090	64.7%
2004	20,853,041	32,086,956	65.0%
2005	21,364,900	32,787,486	65.2%
2006	21,949,869	33,353,020	65.8%
2007	22,659,298	34,046,357	66.6%
2008	23,231,888	34,612,129	67.1%
2009	23,099,973	34,890,003	66.2%
2010	22,921,340	35,041,460	65.4%
2011	23,067,189	35,173,023	65.6%
2012	22,946,558	35,200,009	65.2%
2013	22,735,378	35,082,702	64.8%
2014	22,835,510	34,982,154	65.3%
2015	22,882,152	34,942,929	65.5%

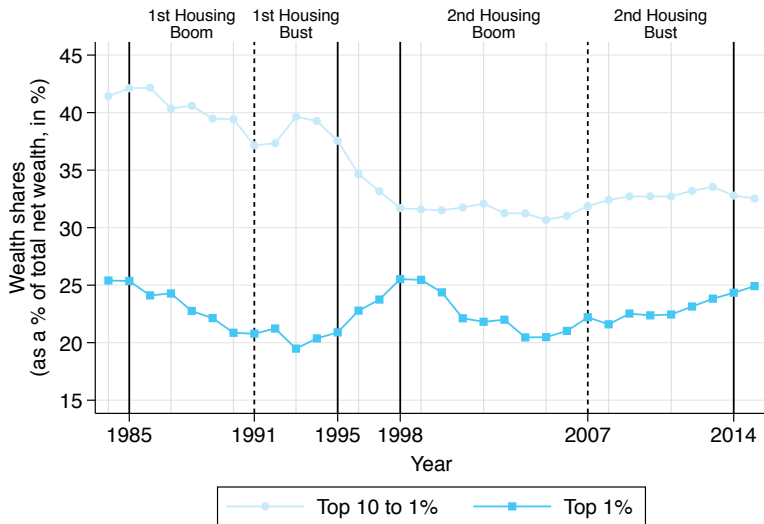
IMPUTED NET HOUSEHOLD WEALTH, 1984-2015

Year	Primary residence	Investment funds	Pension funds	Life insurance	Total imputed wealth
1984		0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%
1985		0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%
1986		0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	1.0%
1987		0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	1.3%
1988		0.3%	0.7%	0.7%	1.7%
1989		0.4%	0.9%	0.8%	2.1%
1990		0.4%	1.1%	0.9%	2.4%
1991		0.9%	1.2%	0.9%	3.1%
1992		1.8%	1.4%	1.1%	4.4%
1993		2.9%	1.5%	1.3%	5.7%
1994		3.5%	1.5%	1.6%	6.6%
1995		3.5%	1.4%	2.0%	6.9%
1996		4.4%	1.6%	2.2%	8.1%
1997		6.0%	1.7%	2.5%	10.2%
1998		7.3%	1.8%	2.6%	11.7%
1999	35.7%	7.0%	1.9%	2.8%	47.4%
2000	38.4%	5.7%	2.1%	2.8%	49.1%
2001	40.6%	4.6%	2.3%	2.7%	50.3%
2002	41.1%	4.0%	2.4%	2.5%	50.0%
2003	41.9%	3.7%	2.5%	2.2%	50.3%
2004	42.6%	3.6%	2.3%	2.1%	50.6%
2005	42.7%	3.6%	2.2%	2.0%	50.5%
2006	41.1%	3.5%	2.2%	1.9%	48.7%
2007	38.5%	3.2%	2.1%	1.8%	45.7%
2008	39.5%	2.7%	2.1%	1.9%	46.1%
2009	36.3%	2.5%	2.3%	2.1%	43.2%
2010	36.6%	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%	43.4%
2011	36.3%	2.1%	2.3%	2.2%	43.0%
2012	33.8%	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	40.9%
2013	31.9%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	40.0%
2014	30.8%	3.6%	2.9%	2.9%	40.2%
2015	30.7%	4.3%	2.9%	3.0%	40.9%

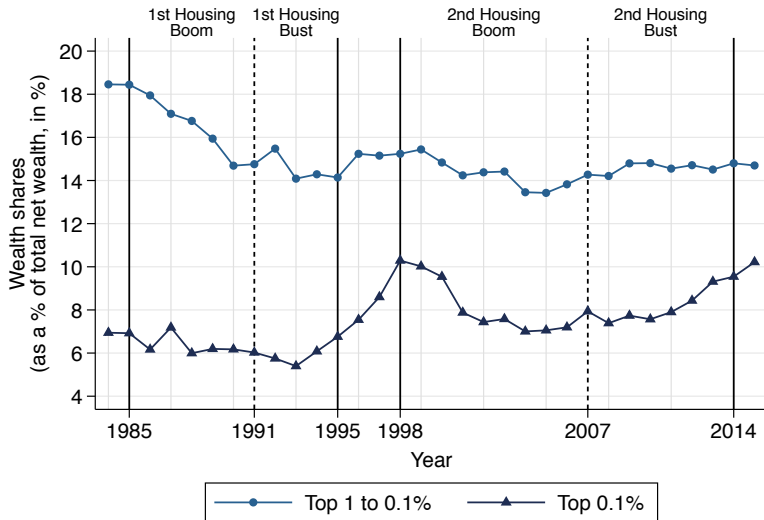
WEALTH THRESHOLDS AND SHARES IN SPAIN, 2015

Wealth group	Number of adults	Wealth threshold	Average wealth	Wealth share
Full population	35,082,703	0€	147,395€	100%
Bottom 50%	17,541,352	0€	19,413€	6.6%
Middle 40%	14,033,081	61,890€	132,643€	36.0%
Top 10%	3,721,375	284,390€	829,942€	57.4%
incl. Top 1%	372,138	1,416,646€	3,393,448€	24.9%
incl. Top 0.1%	37,214	4,894,606€	12,482,984€	10.2%
incl. Top 0.01%	3,721	19,130,185€	51,017,990€	4.3%

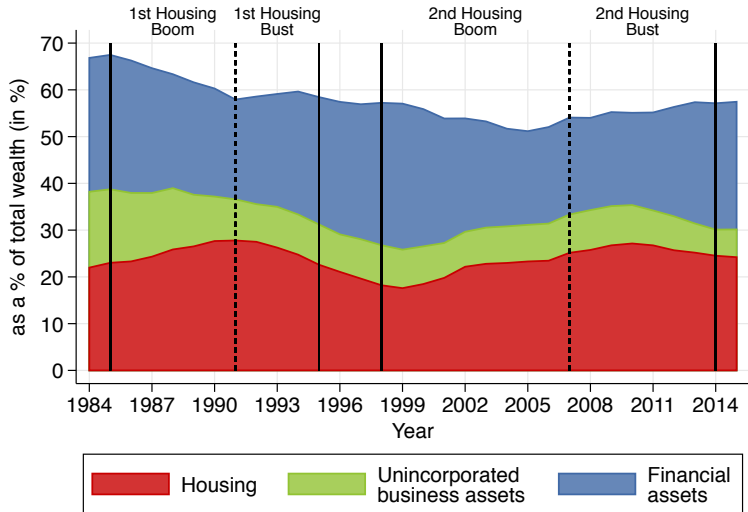
TOP WEALTH CONCENTRATION IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



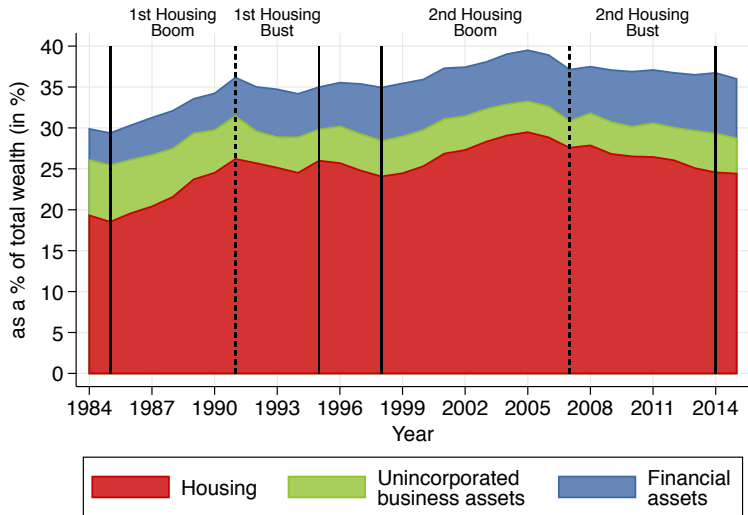
VERY TOP WEALTH CONCENTRATION IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



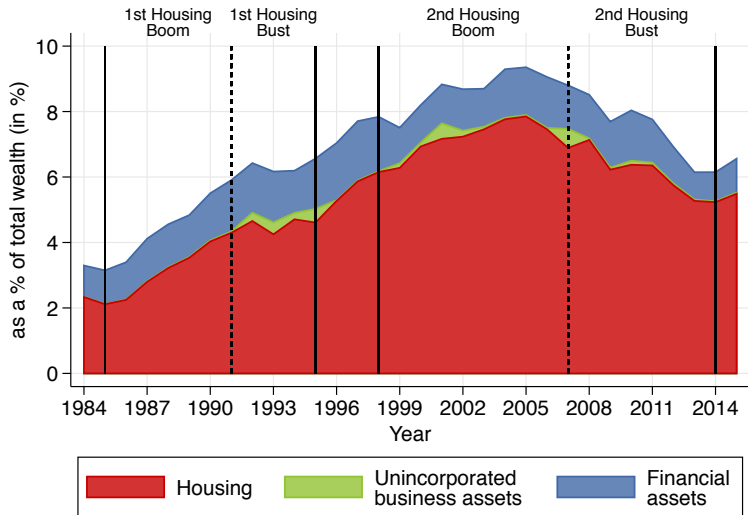
COMPOSITION OF TOP 10% WEALTH SHARE IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



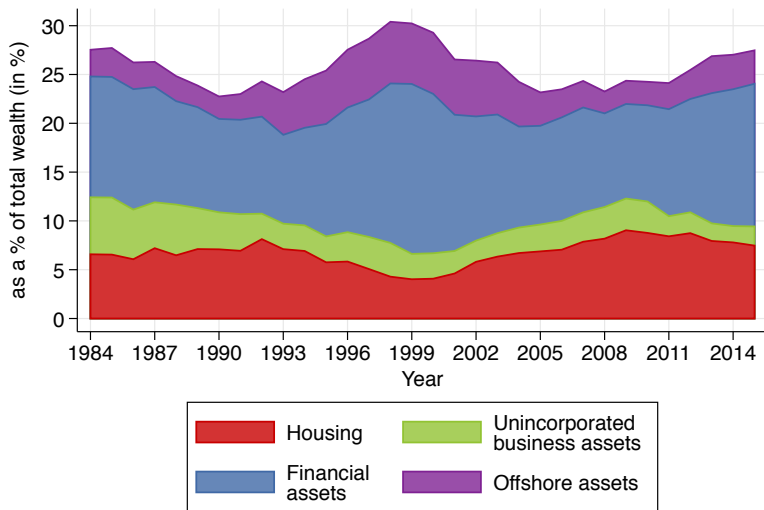
COMPOSITION OF MIDDLE 40% WEALTH SHARE IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



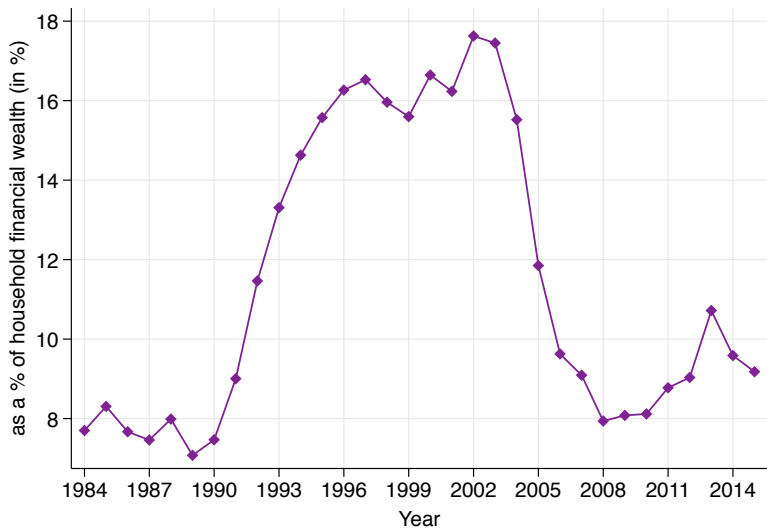
COMPOSITION OF BOTTOM 50% WEALTH SHARE IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



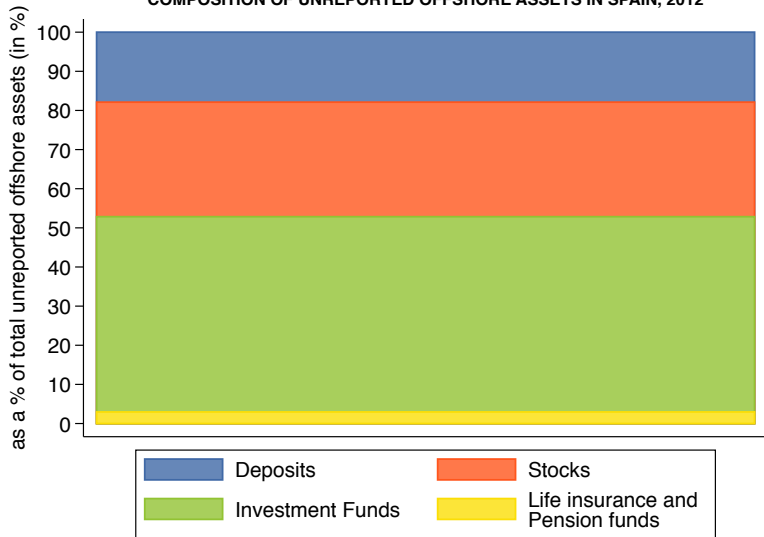
COMPOSITION OF TOP 1% WEALTH SHARE, 1984-2015 (including unreported offshore wealth)



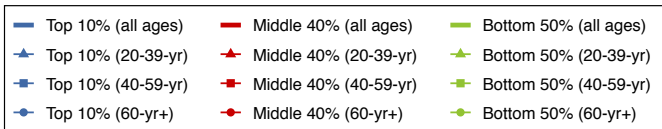
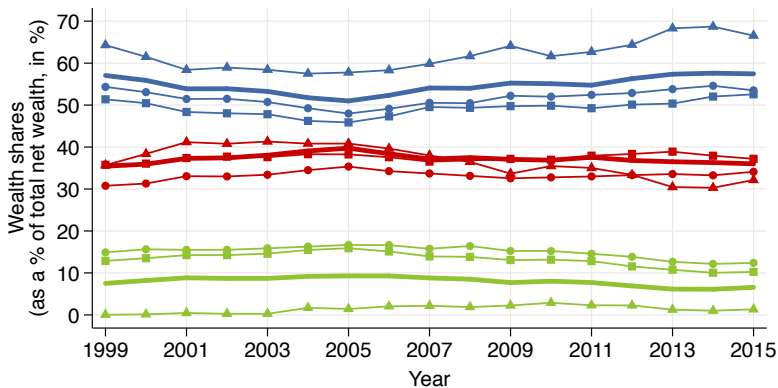
TOTAL UNREPORTED OFFSHORE WEALTH IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



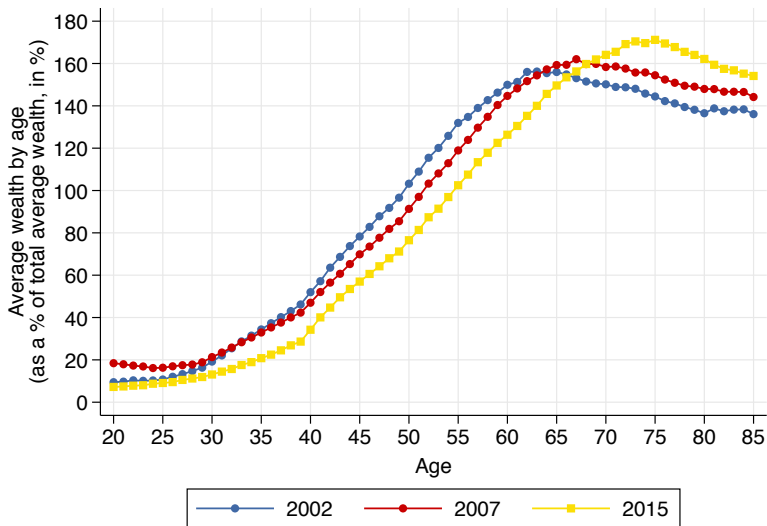
COMPOSITION OF UNREPORTED OFFSHORE ASSETS IN SPAIN, 2012



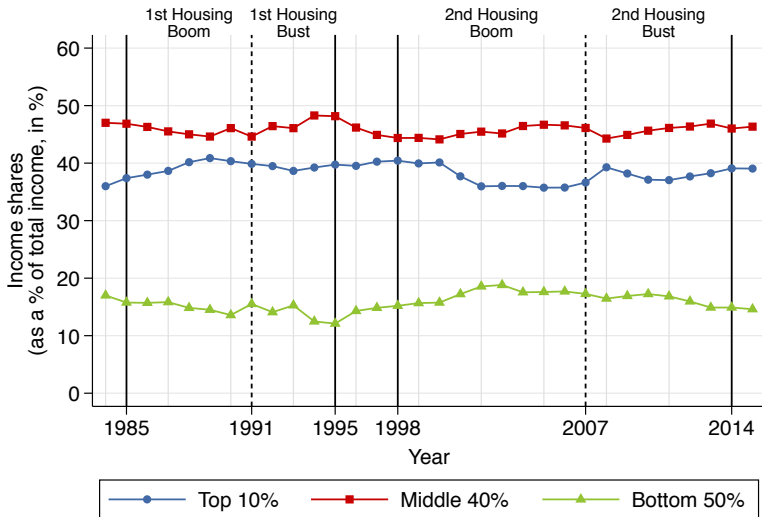
WEALTH DISTRIBUTION BY AGE GROUP IN SPAIN, 1999-2015



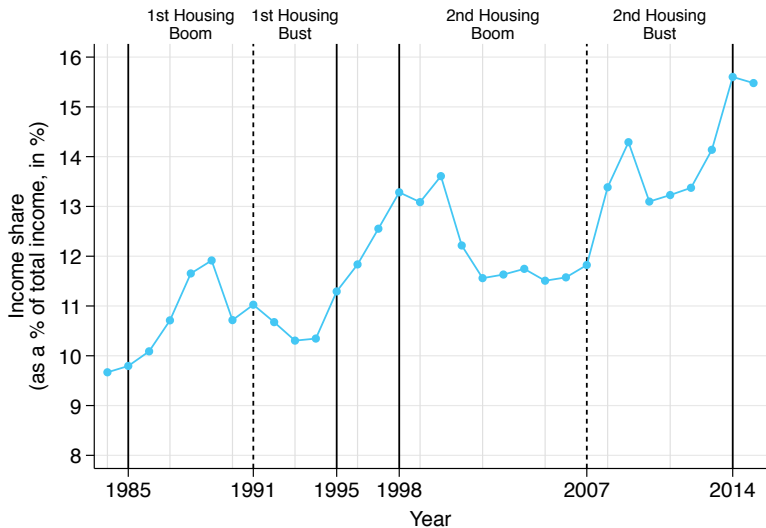
AGE-WEALTH PROFILES IN SPAIN, 2002-2015



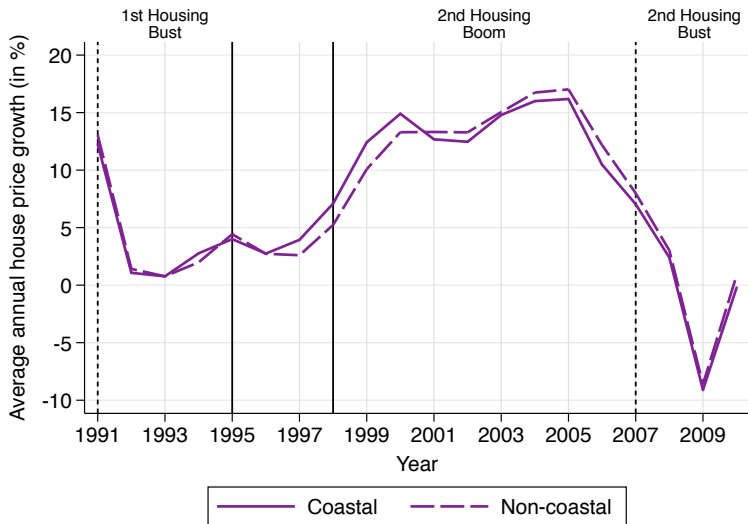
INCOME DISTRIBUTION IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



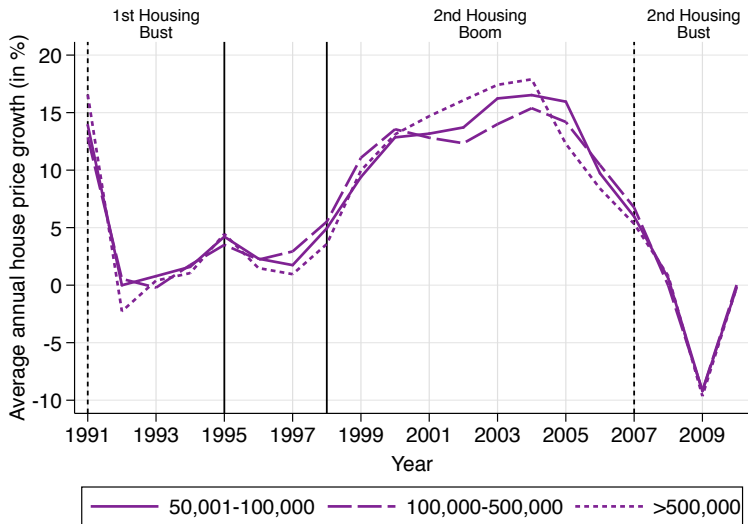
TOP 1% INCOME CONCENTRATION IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



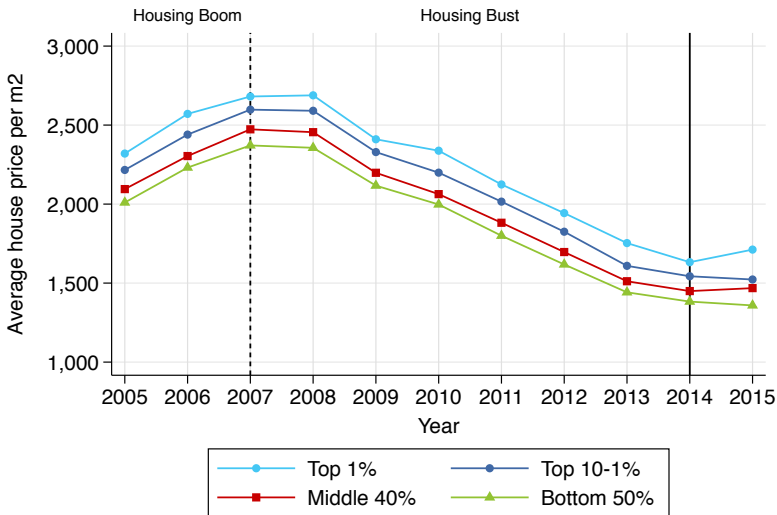
HOUSE PRICES: COASTAL VS. NON-COASTAL MUNICIPALITIES, 1991-2010



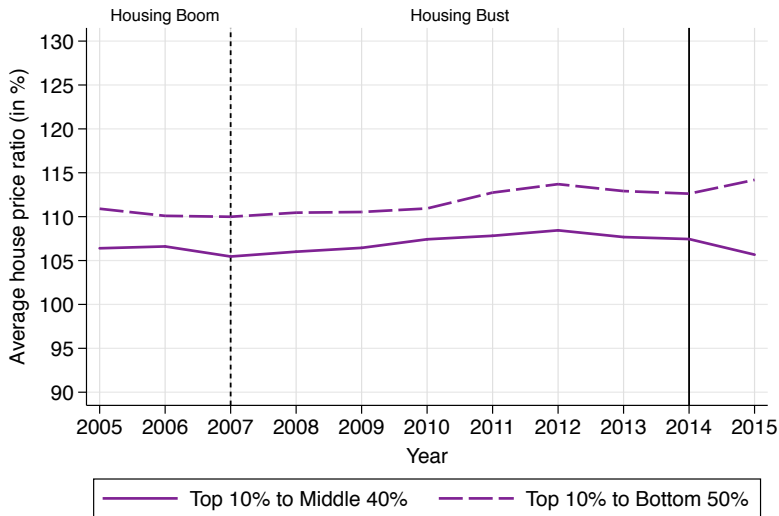
HOUSE PRICES BY MUNICIPALITY POPULATION SIZE, 1991-2010



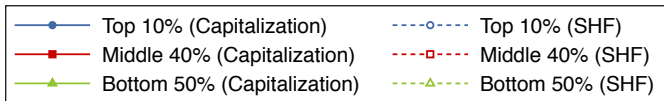
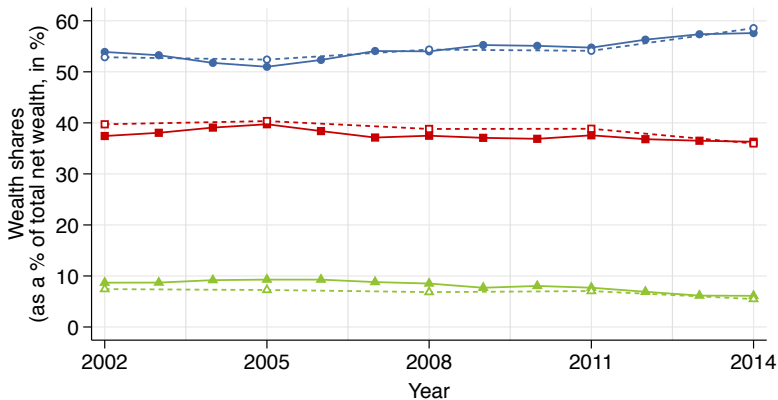
HOUSE PRICES BY WEALTH GROUP, 2005-2015



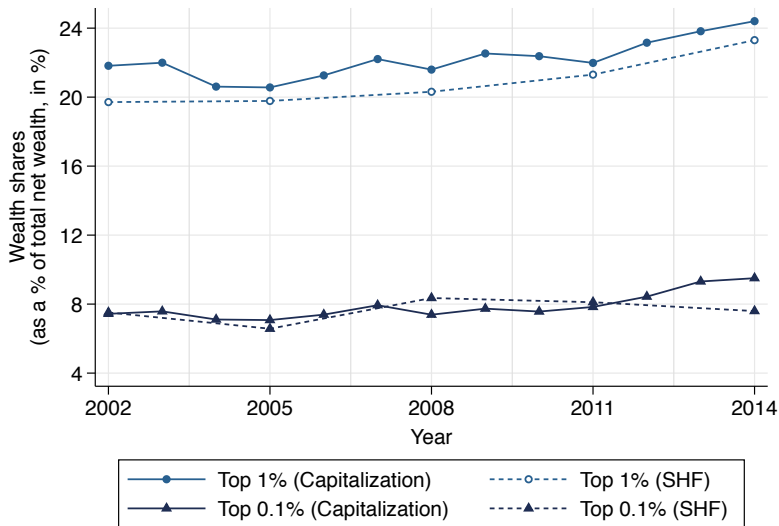
HOUSE PRICES BY WEALTH GROUP, 2005-2015



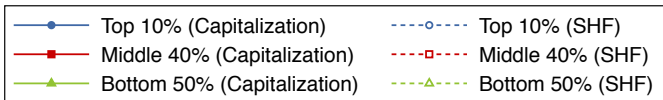
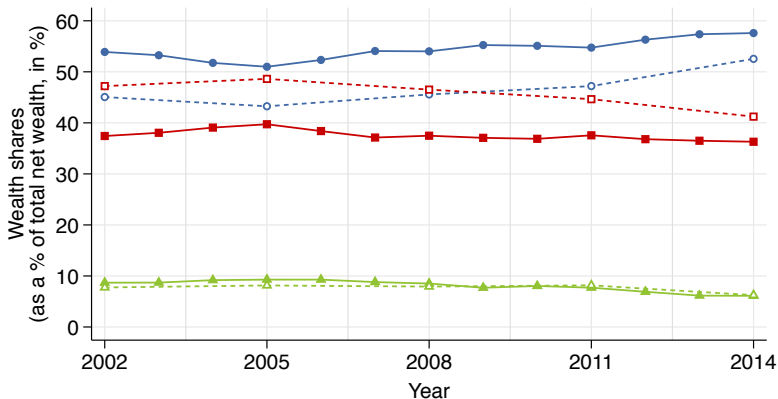
**WEALTH SHARES: MIXED CAPITALIZATION-SURVEY METHOD VS. SHF
(using NA and Population Census totals)**



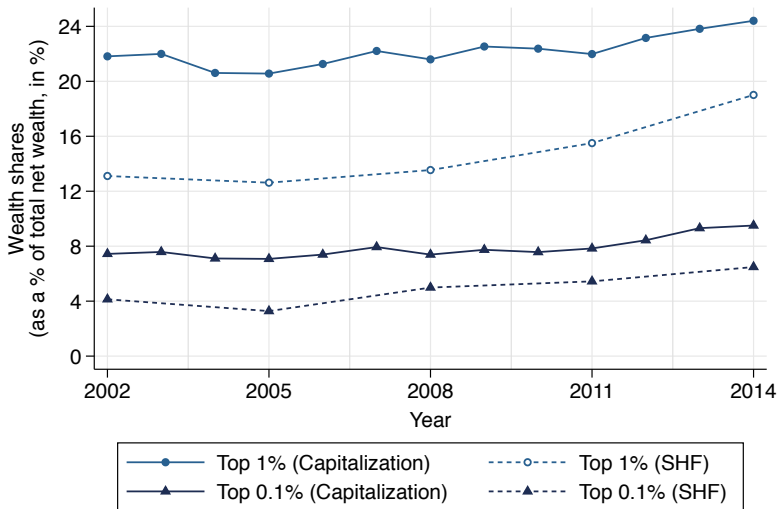
TOP WEALTH SHARES: MIXED CAPITALIZATION-SURVEY METHOD VS. SHF



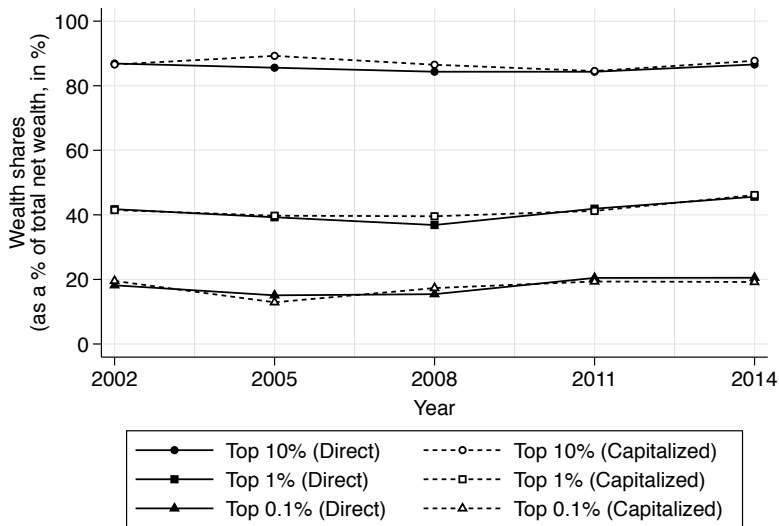
WEALTH SHARES: MIXED CAPITALIZATION-SURVEY METHOD VS. SHF
 (using direct totals from the survey)



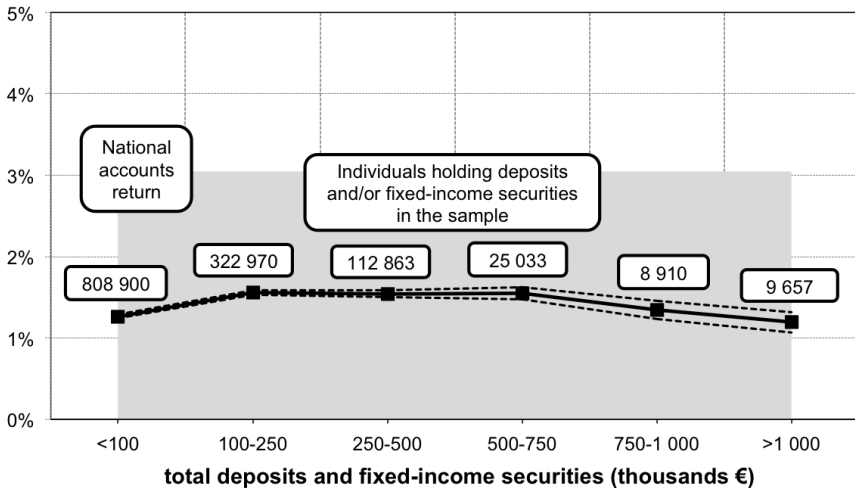
TOP WEALTH SHARES: MIXED CAPITALIZATION-SURVEY METHOD VS. SHF
 (using direct totals from the survey)



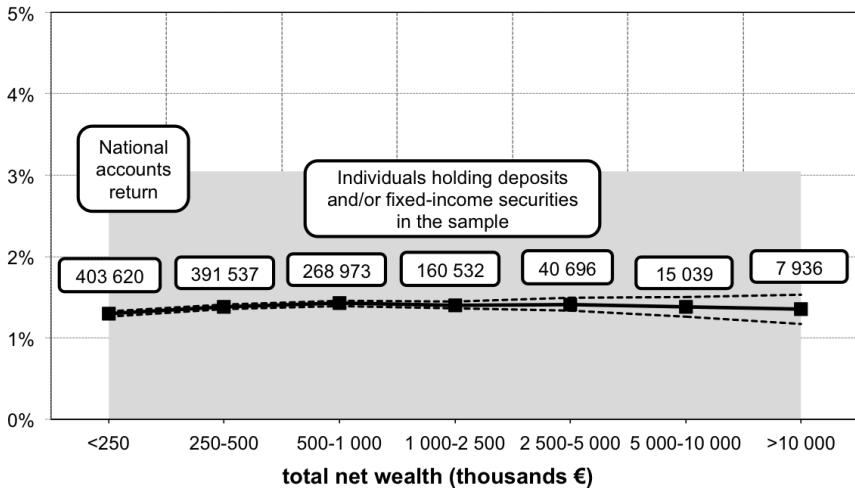
SHF WEALTH SHARES: DIRECT VS. CAPITALIZED WEALTH, 2002-2014



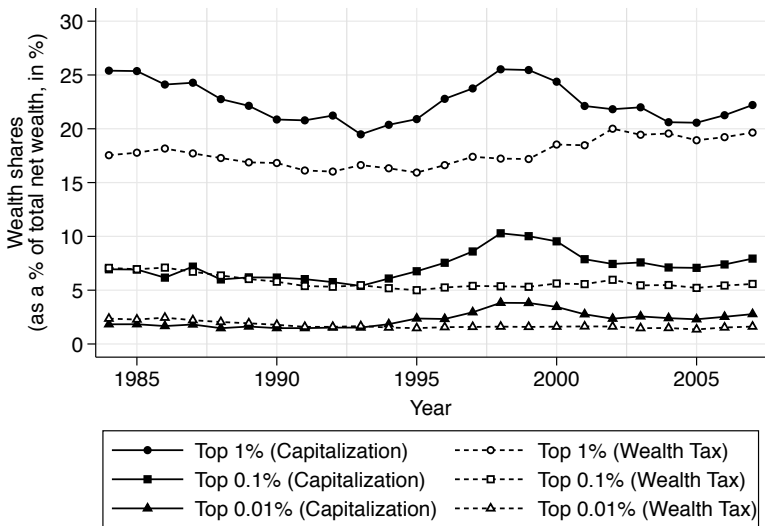
Return on deposits and fixed-income securities, 2005 (using Spanish wealth and personal income tax returns)



Return on deposits and fixed-income securities, 2005 (using Spanish wealth and personal income tax returns)



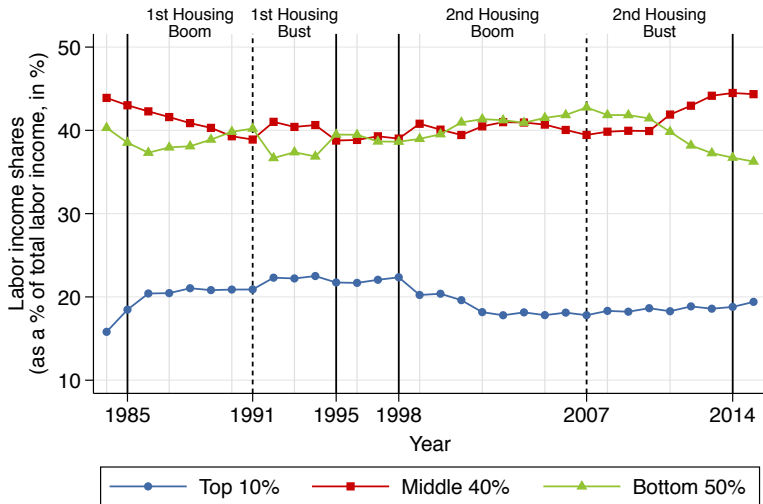
WEALTH TAX TABULATIONS VS. MIXED CAPITALIZATION-SURVEY METHOD, 1984-2007



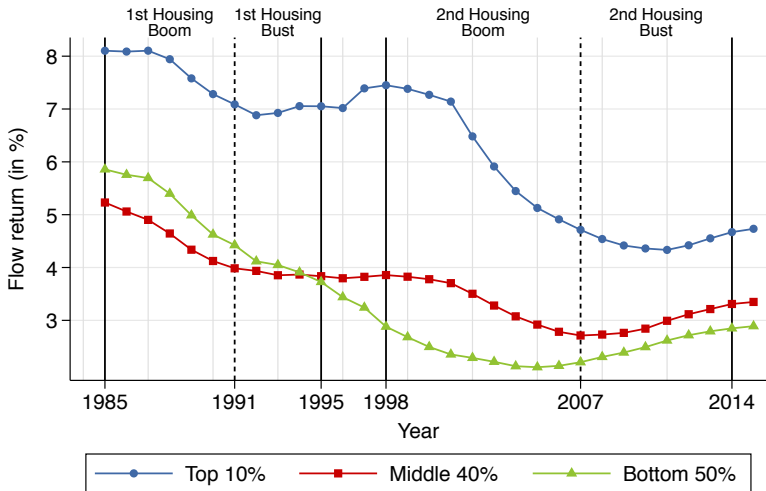
AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES OF RETURN IN SPAIN, 1984-2015

	Flow return	Real capital gains	Total return
1984-2015			
Net personal wealth	5.0%	2.7%	7.9%
Housing assets	1.3%	3.0%	4.3%
Business assets	7.2%	3.0%	10.4%
Financial assets	10.2%	-2.6%	7.3%
Liabilities	1.0%	1.0%	2.0%
1984-1991 (1st housing boom)			
Net personal wealth	6.7%	4.6%	11.6%
Housing assets	1.9%	6.3%	8.3%
Business assets	8.4%	6.3%	15.2%
Financial assets	13.4%	-7.1%	5.3%
Liabilities	1.6%	-3.2%	-1.6%
1991-1998 (1st housing bust)			
Net personal wealth	5.6%	2.8%	8.5%
Housing assets	1.1%	1.1%	2.2%
Business assets	11.0%	1.1%	12.2%
Financial assets	10.8%	1.5%	12.5%
Liabilities	0.9%	2.9%	3.8%
1999-2007 (2nd housing boom)			
Net personal wealth	4.2%	6.4%	10.9%
Housing assets	1.0%	8.3%	9.3%
Business assets	7.0%	8.3%	15.9%
Financial assets	8.8%	-0.4%	8.3%
Liabilities	0.5%	7.1%	7.7%
2008-2015 (2nd housing bust)			
Net personal wealth	3.7%	-3.3%	0.3%
Housing assets	1.4%	-4.7%	-3.4%
Business assets	3.1%	-4.7%	-1.8%
Financial assets	8.2%	-4.2%	3.6%
Liabilities	0.9%	-3.3%	-2.5%

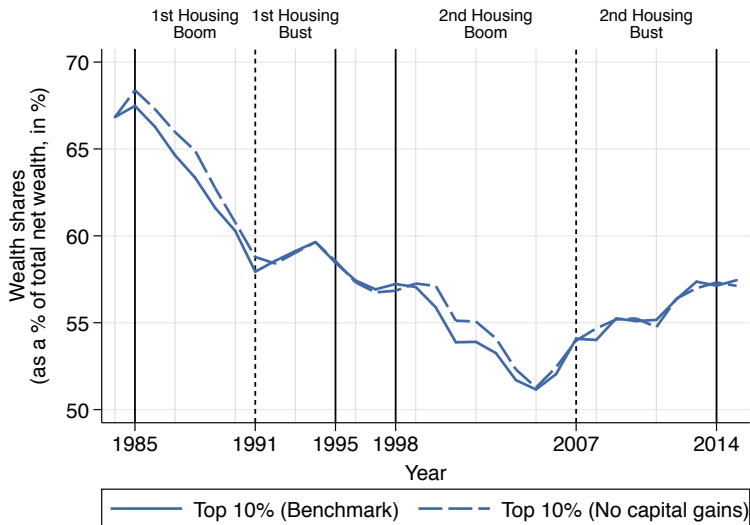
LABOR INCOME BY WEALTH GROUP, 1984-2015



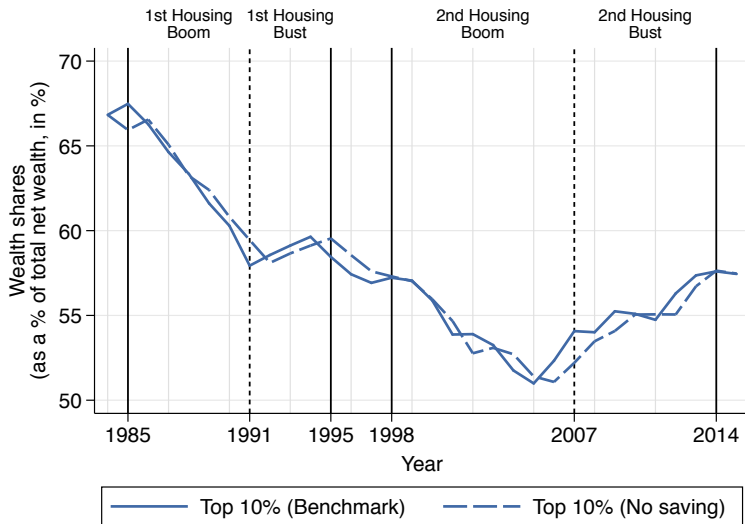
FLOW RETURNS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (gross of all taxes, 5-year moving average)



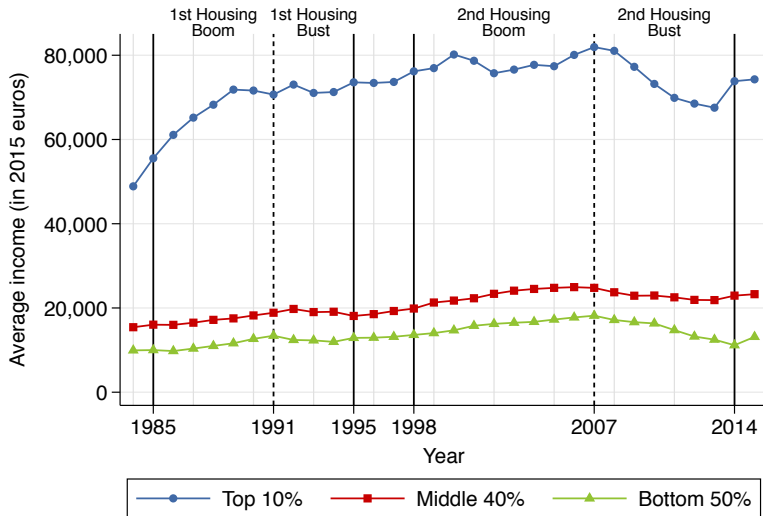
SIMULATED TOP 10% WEALTH SHARE, 1984-2015



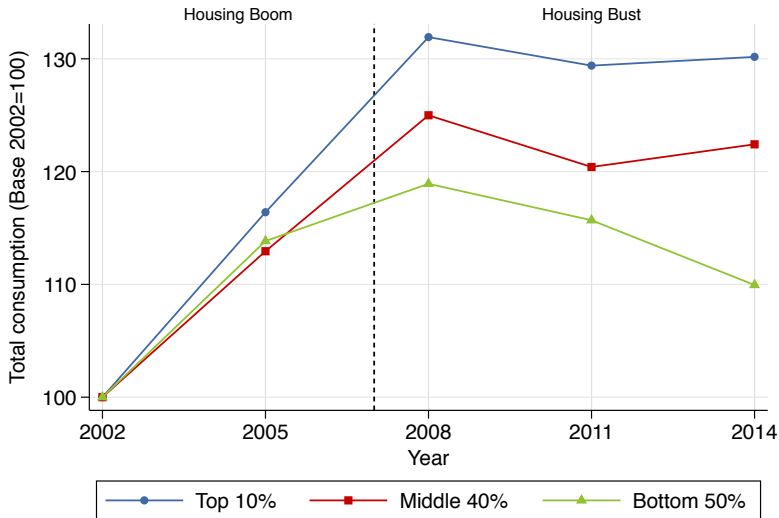
SIMULATED TOP 10% WEALTH SHARE, 1984-2015



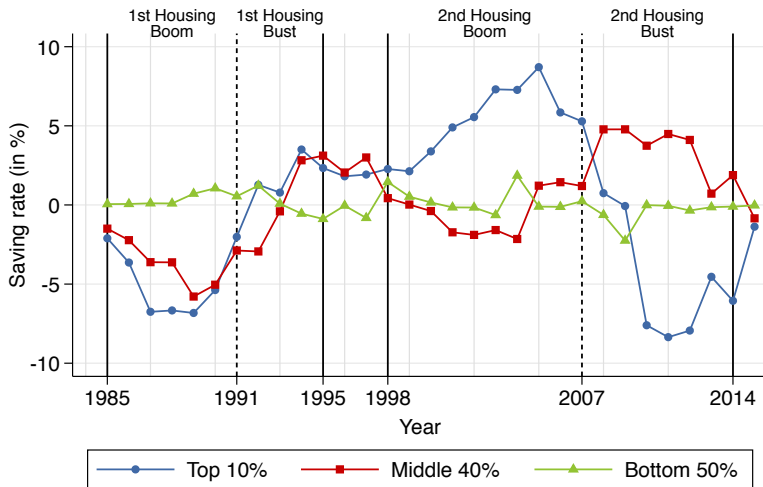
AVERAGE INCOME BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1984-2015



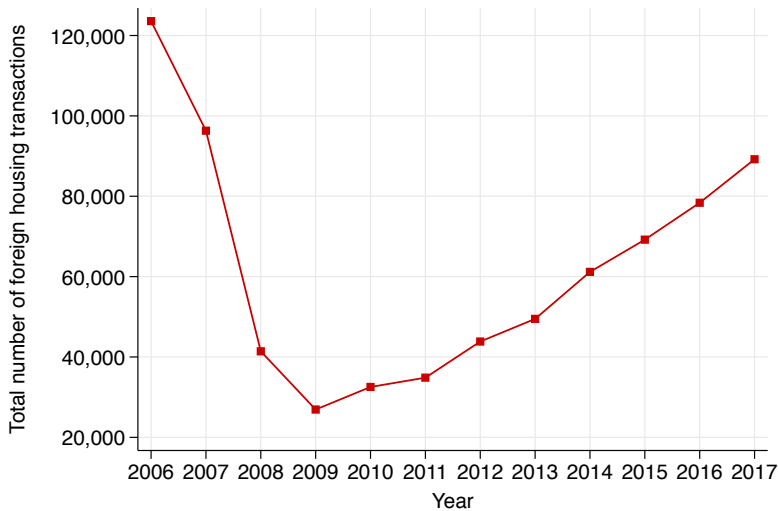
TOTAL CONSUMPTION BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 2002-2014



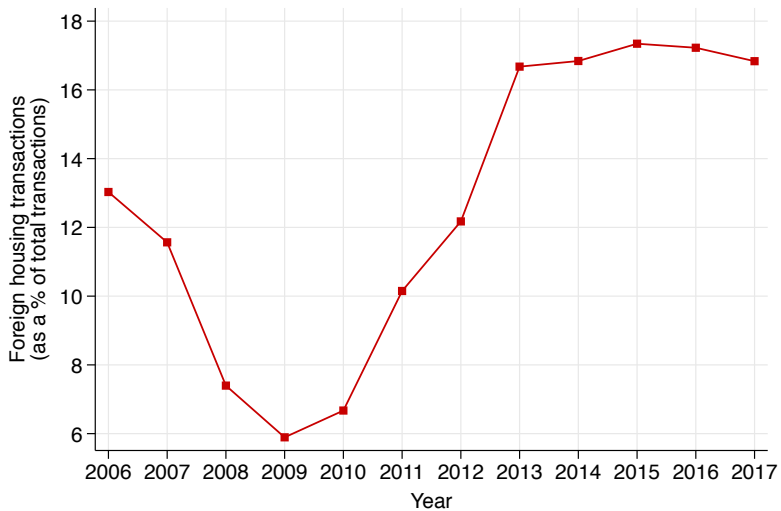
SAVING RATES ON BUSINESS ASSETS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average)



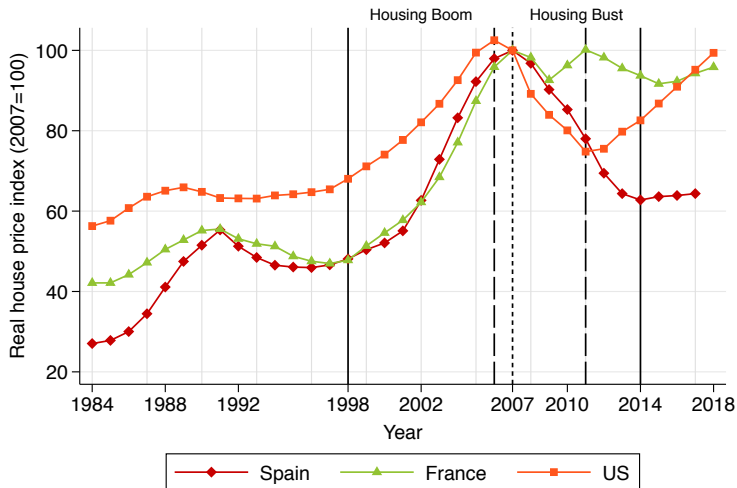
FOREIGN HOUSING TRANSACTIONS IN SPAIN, 2006-2017



FOREIGN HOUSING TRANSACTIONS IN SPAIN, 2006-2017

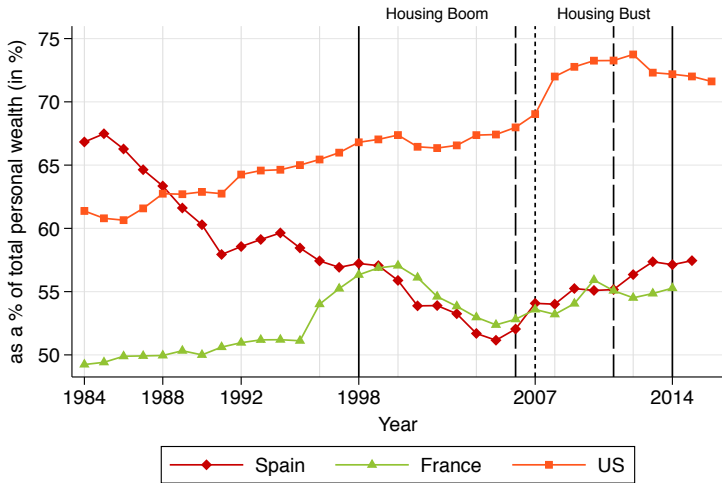


REAL HOUSE PRICE INDEX, 1984-2018



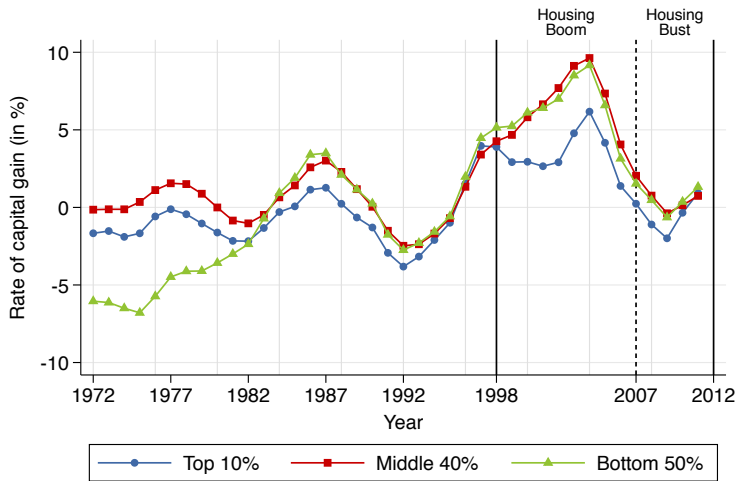
Source: International House Price Database, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and OECD Statistics

TOP 10% WEALTH CONCENTRATION IN ADVANCED ECONOMIES, 1984-2016



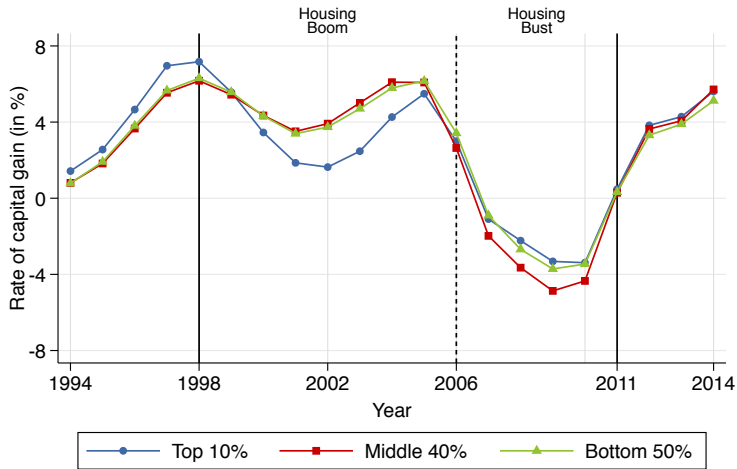
Source: Saez and Zucman [2016], Garbinti et al. [2018] and own elaboration

REAL CAPITAL GAINS BY WEALTH GROUP IN FRANCE, 1972-2011 (5-year moving average)



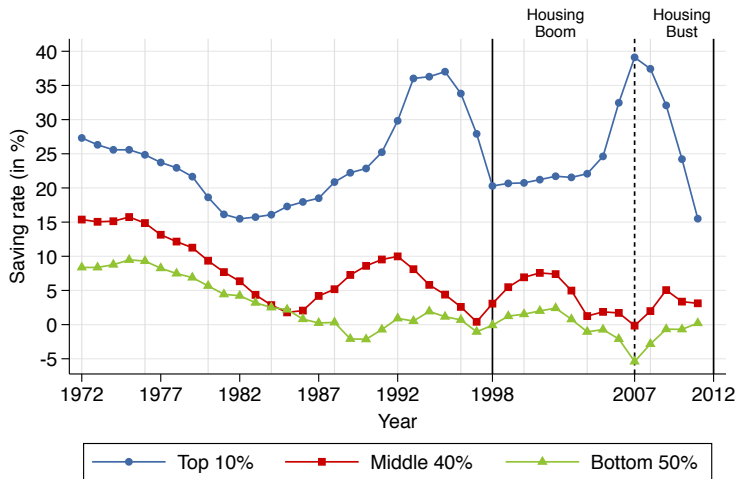
Source: Own elaboration with Garbinti et al. [2018] wealth distribution series

REAL CAPITAL GAINS BY WEALTH GROUP IN THE US, 1994-2014
(5-year moving average)



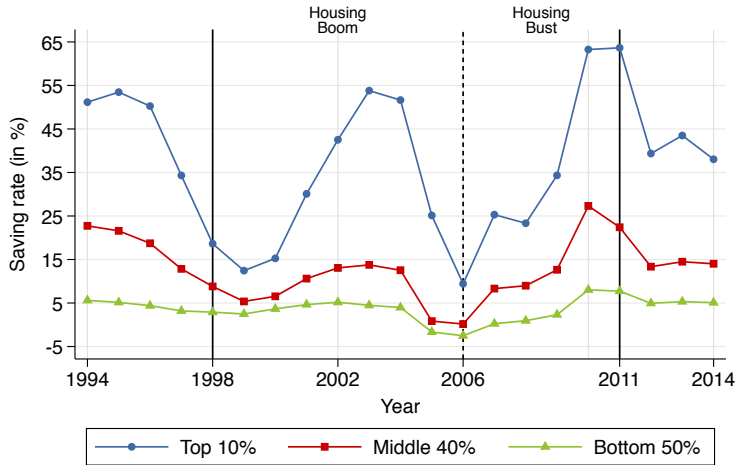
Source: Own elaboration with Saez and Zucman [2016] wealth distribution series

SAVING RATES BY WEALTH GROUP IN FRANCE, 1972-2011
(5-year moving average)



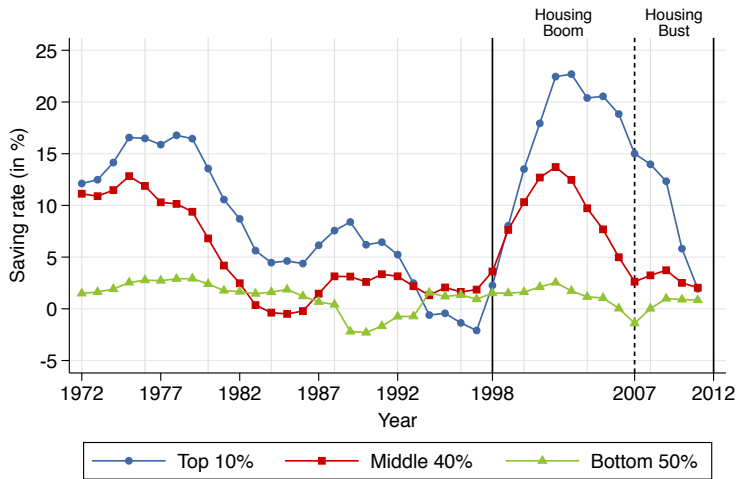
Source: Own elaboration with Garbinti et al. [2018] wealth distribution series

SAVING RATES BY WEALTH GROUP IN THE US, 1994-2014 (5-year moving average)



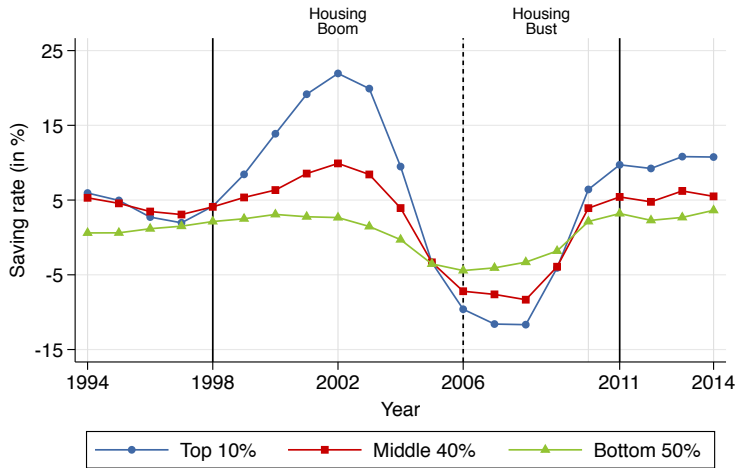
Source: Own elaboration with Saez and Zucman [2016] wealth distribution series

SAVING RATES ON HOUSING BY WEALTH GROUP IN FRANCE, 1972-2011
(5-year moving average)



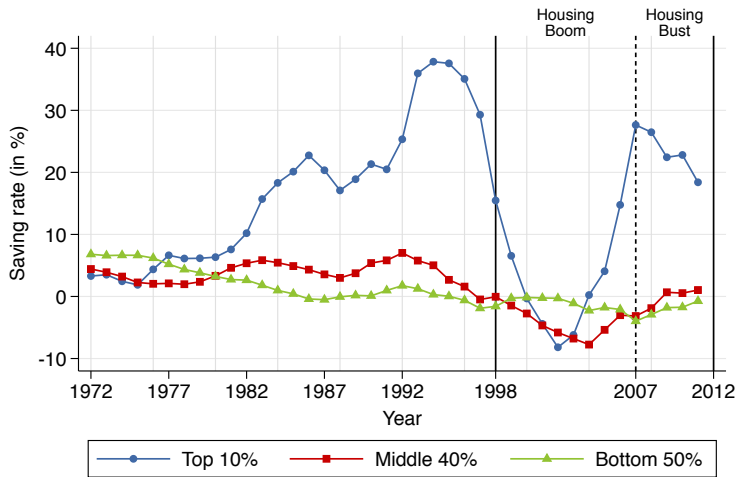
Source: Own elaboration with Garbinti et al. [2018] wealth distribution series

SAVING RATES ON HOUSING BY WEALTH GROUP IN THE US, 1994-2014 (5-year moving average)



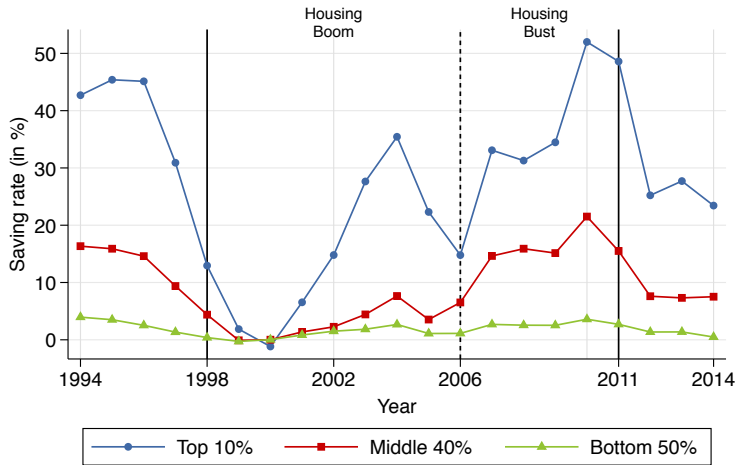
Source: Own elaboration with Saez and Zucman [2016] wealth distribution series

SAVING RATES ON FINANCIAL ASSETS BY WEALTH GROUP IN FRANCE, 1972-2011 (5-year moving average)



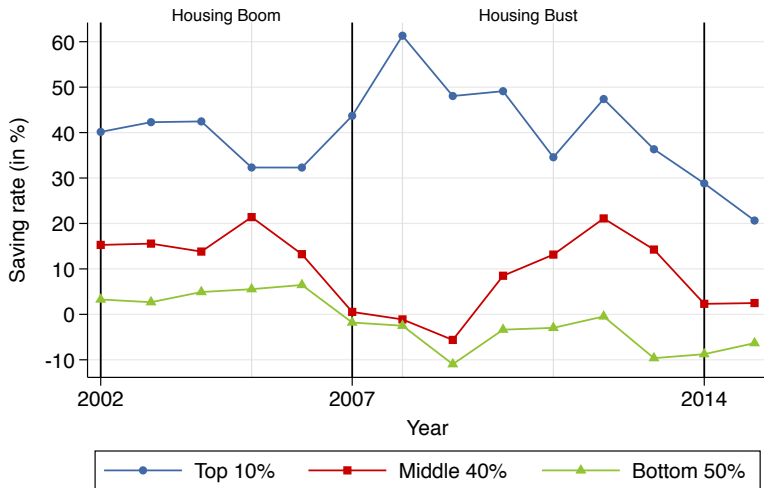
Source: Own elaboration with Garbinti et al. [2018] wealth distribution series

SAVING RATES ON FINANCIAL ASSETS BY WEALTH GROUP IN THE US, 1994-2014
(5-year moving average)

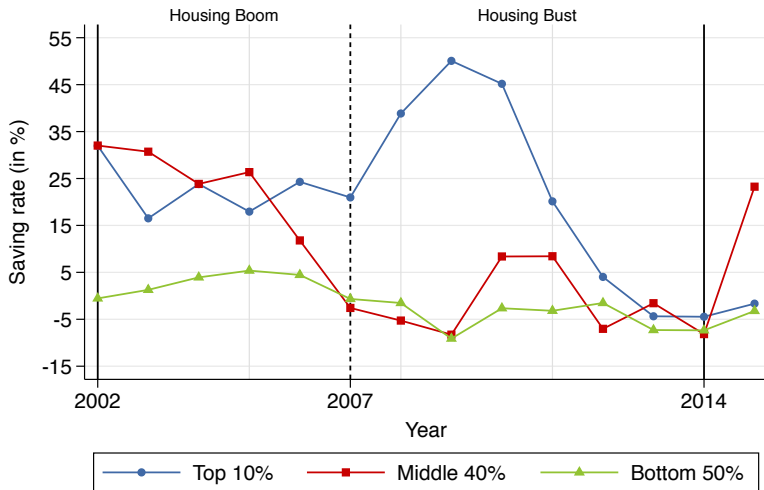


Source: Own elaboration with Saez and Zucman [2016] wealth distribution series

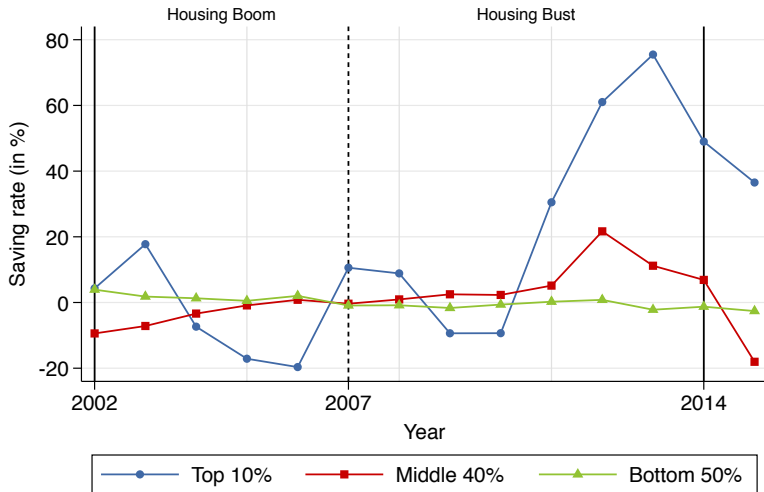
SAVING RATES BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 2002-2015 (restricted sample, 3-year moving average)



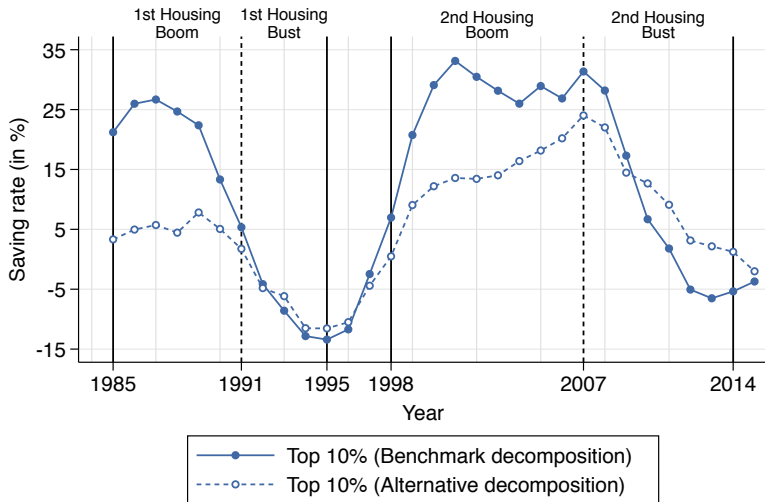
SAVING RATES ON HOUSING BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 2002-2015 (restricted sample, 3-year moving average)



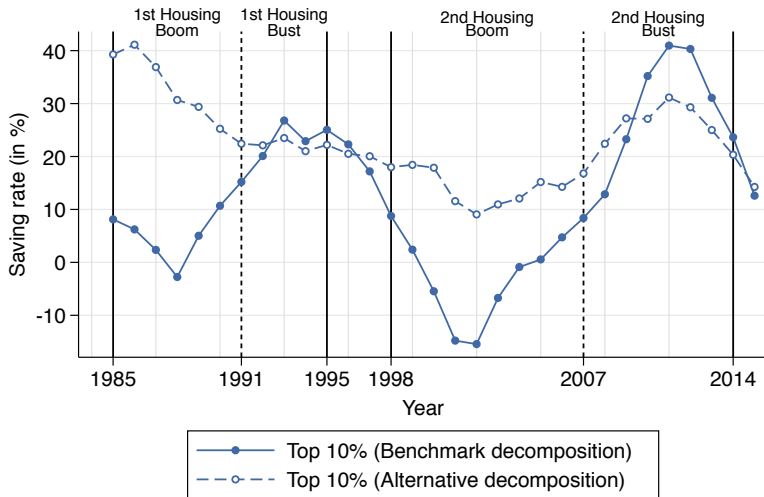
SAVING RATES ON FINANCIAL ASSETS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 2002-2015
 (restricted sample, 3-year moving average)



SAVING RATES ON HOUSING BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average, alternative decomposition)



SAVING RATES ON FINANCIAL ASSETS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average alternative decomposition)



ATTITUDES TOWARDS RISK BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 2002-2014

Year	N	Fraction of risk averse			Difference		
		T10%	M40%	B50%	T10%-M40%	T10%-B50%	M40%-B50%
2002	5,141	0.61	0.80	0.84	-0.19***	-0.24***	-0.05***
2005	5,950	0.64	0.83	0.87	-0.20***	-0.23***	-0.04***
2008	6,194	0.58	0.84	0.90	-0.26***	-0.32***	-0.06***
2011	6,103	0.70	0.87	0.92	-0.18***	-0.23***	-0.05***
2014	6,116	0.62	0.86	0.92	-0.24***	-0.30***	-0.06***

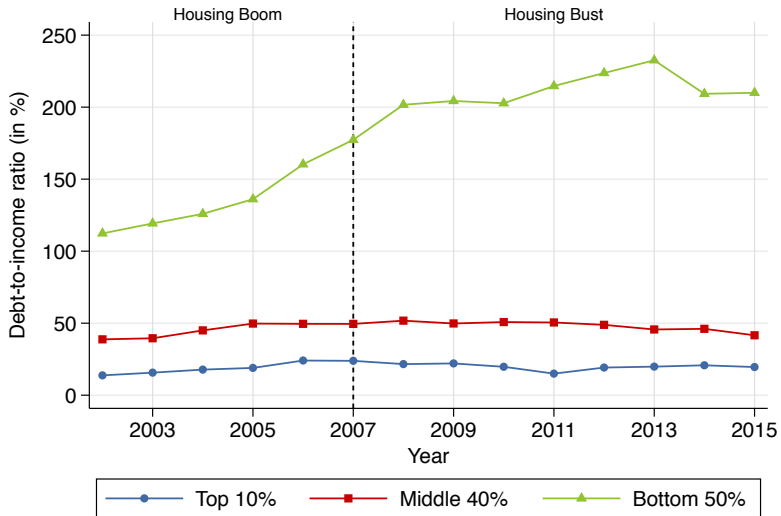
Source: Own elaboration with Spanish Survey of Household Finances

FINANCIAL INFORMATION BY INCOME GROUP IN SPAIN, 2016

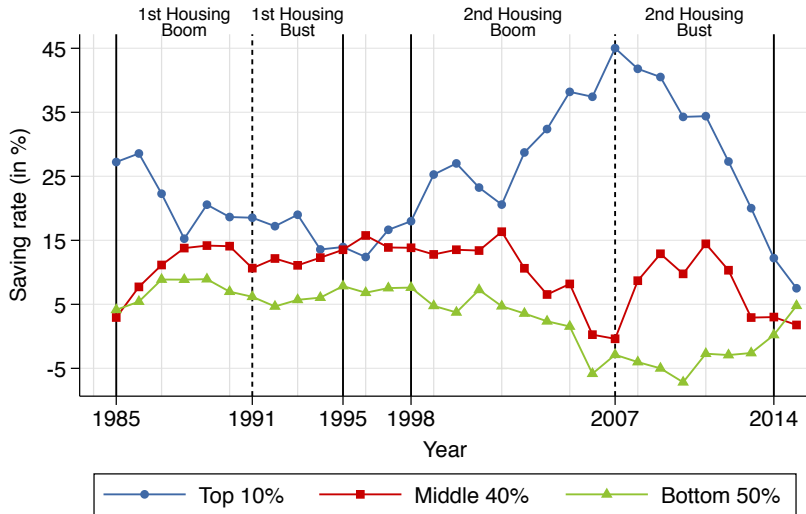
	Income group			Difference		
	T10%	M40%	B50%	T10%-M40%	T10%-B50%	M40%-B50%
Knowledge						
Diversification	0.70	0.51	0.41	0.19***	0.30***	0.11***
Interest rates	0.59	0.48	0.40	0.11***	0.20***	0.08***
Inflation	0.76	0.62	0.47	0.14***	0.29***	0.15***
Advisor	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01***	0.02***	0.01***

Source: Own elaboration with Spanish Survey of Financial Competences [2016]

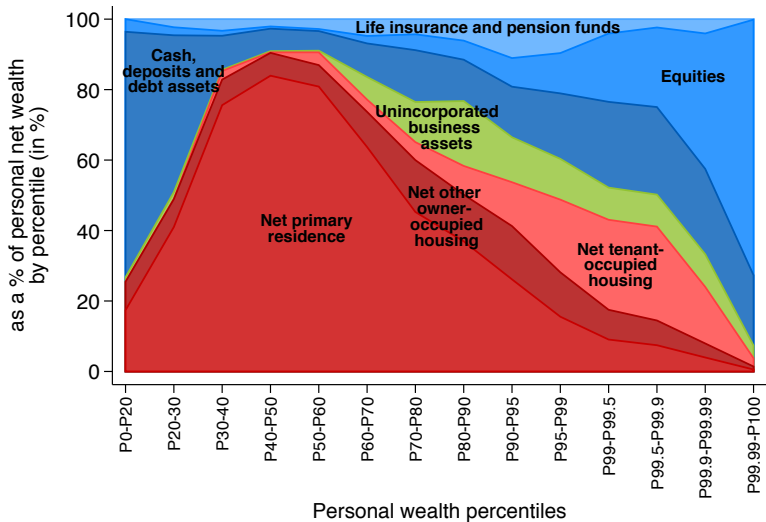
DEBT-TO-INCOME RATIOS BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 2002-2015



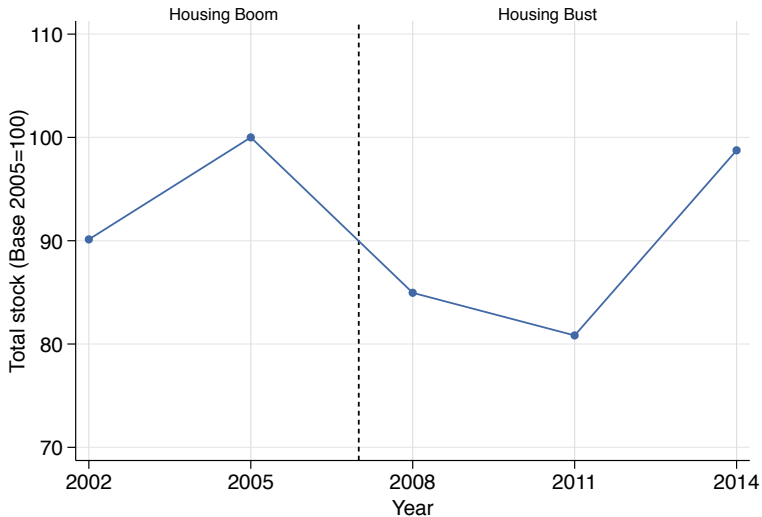
SAVING RATES BY WEALTH GROUP IN SPAIN, 1985-2015 (5-year moving average)



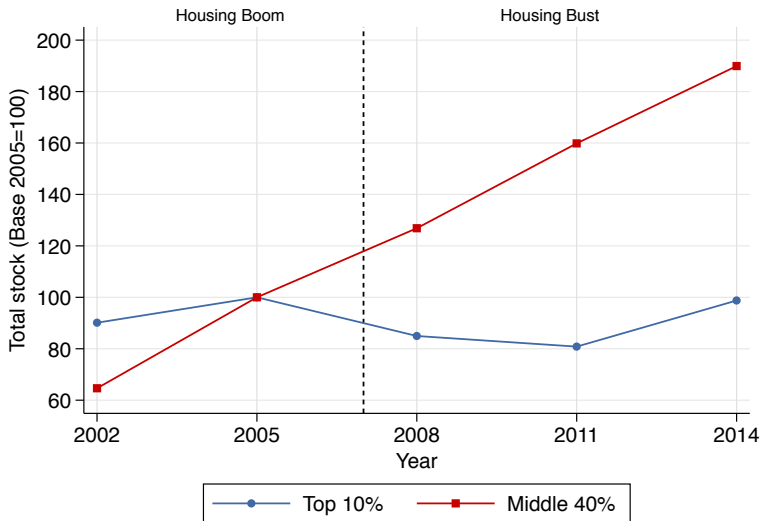
ASSET COMPOSITION BY WEALTH LEVEL IN SPAIN, 2015



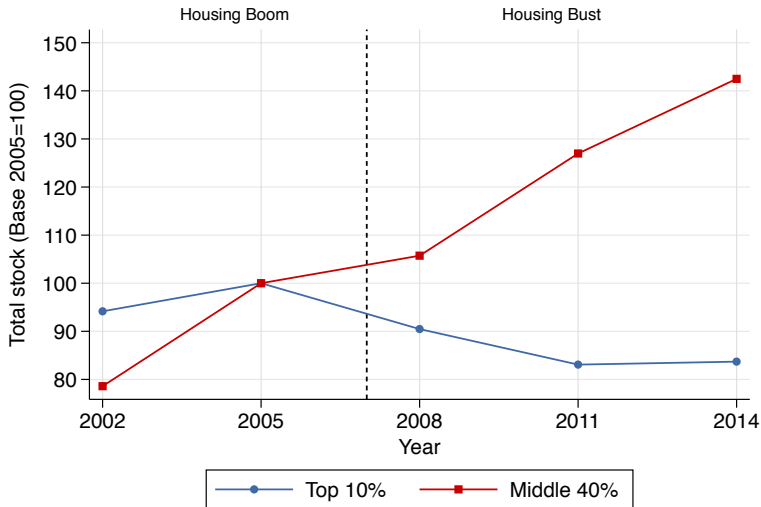
CHANGE IN STOCK OF TENANT-OCCUPIED REAL ESTATE FOR TOP 10% WEALTH GROUP, 2002-2011



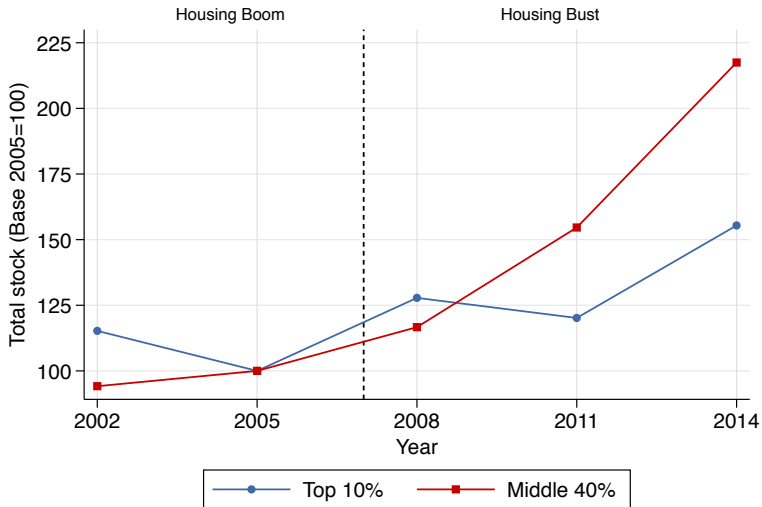
CHANGE IN STOCK OF TENANT-OCCUPIED REAL ESTATE BY WEALTH GROUP, 2002-2014



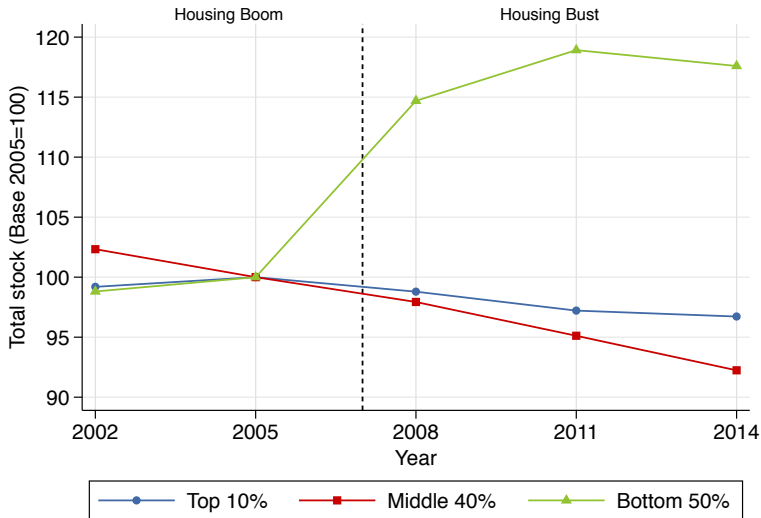
CHANGE IN TOTAL STOCK OF REAL ESTATE BY WEALTH GROUP, 2002-2014 (excluding primary residence)

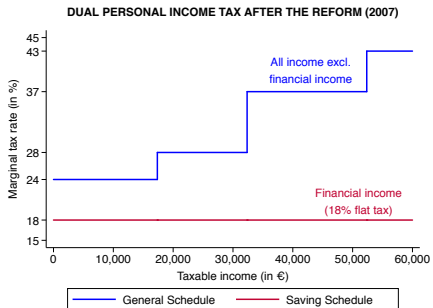
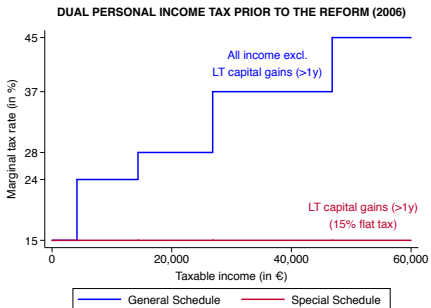


CHANGE IN STOCK OF OWNER-OCCUPIED REAL ESTATE BY WEALTH GROUP, 2002-2014 (excluding primary residence)



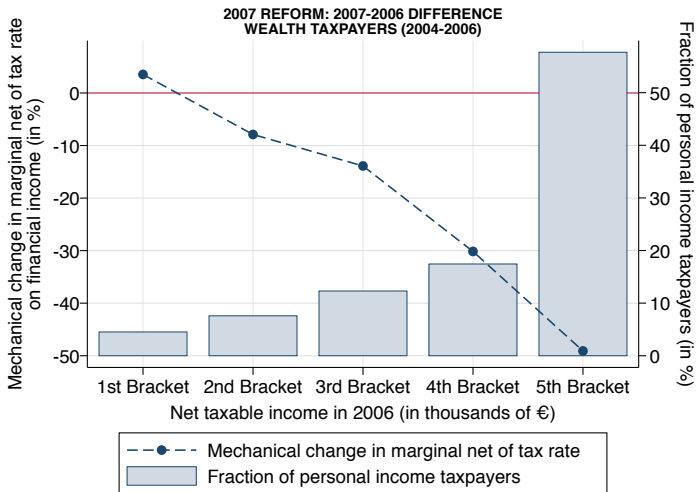
CHANGE IN STOCK OF OWNER-OCCUPIED PRIMARY RESIDENCE BY WEALTH GROUP, 2002-2014





Back

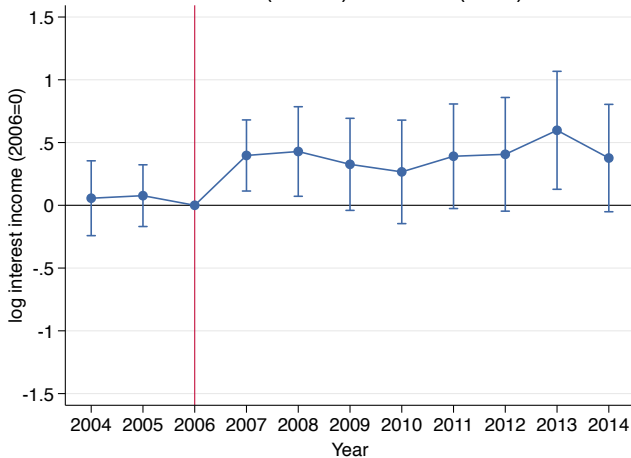
Mechanical Variation in the Marginal Net-of-Tax Rate on Financial Income for Wealth Taxpayers



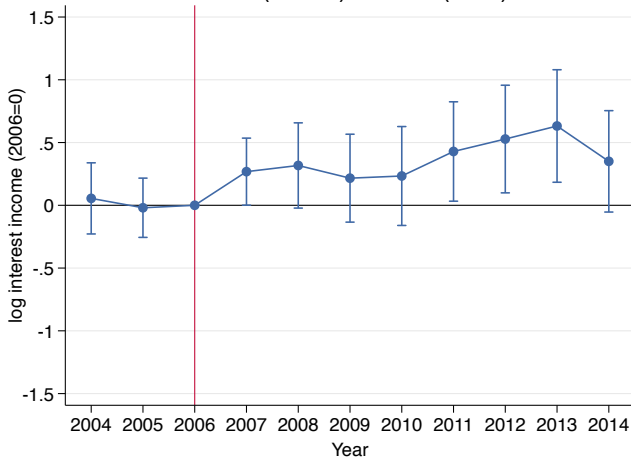
SUMMARY STATISTICS BY INCOME BRACKET, 2004-2006

	Control		Treatment		
	1st Br.	2nd Br.	3rd Br.	4th Br.	5th Br.
Taxable wealth	265,217	363,615	397,458	497,604	1,489,324
Taxable income	9,266	16,667	26,101	38,331	248,022
Taxable labor income	3,167	5,370	11,132	17,273	64,724
Taxable debt assets	12,356	15,117	16,304	17,536	43,221
Asset Share in Housing	0.33	0.37	0.38	0.38	0.31
Asset Share in Financial Assets	0.63	0.56	0.57	0.55	0.61
Age	65.46	62.67	62.04	60.54	56.68
Fraction Men	0.40	0.47	0.54	0.58	0.77
Fraction Married	0.62	0.68	0.68	0.71	0.79
Fraction Self-employed	0.14	0.23	0.22	0.24	0.42
N	693	3,192	5,661	8,208	53,457

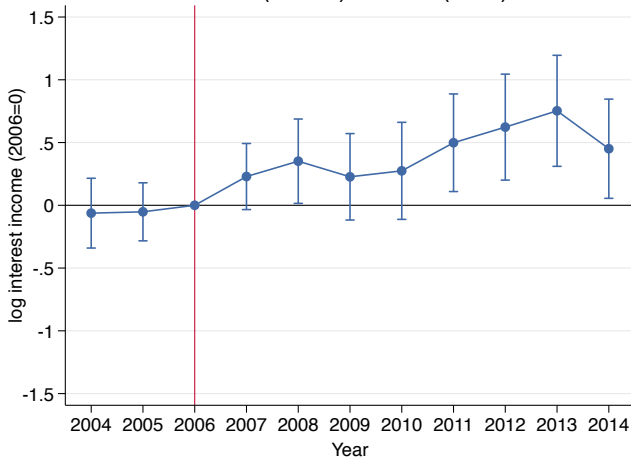
**DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TAX CUTS AND TAX INCREASES AMONG WEALTH TAXPAYERS
2nd Bracket (Treatment) vs. 1st Bracket (Control)**



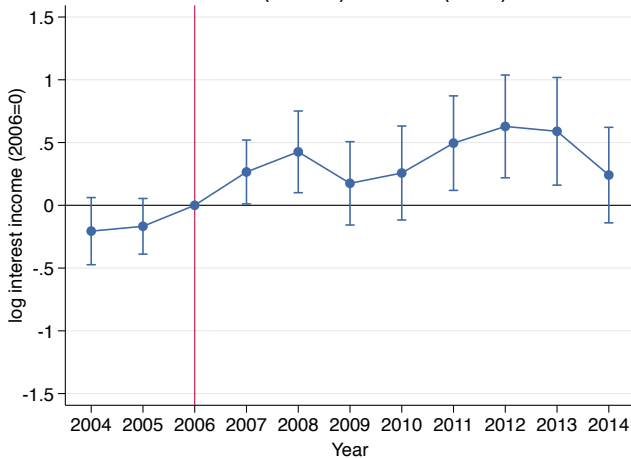
**DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TAX CUTS AND TAX INCREASES AMONG WEALTH TAXPAYERS
Bracket 3 (Treatment) vs. Bracket 1 (Control)**



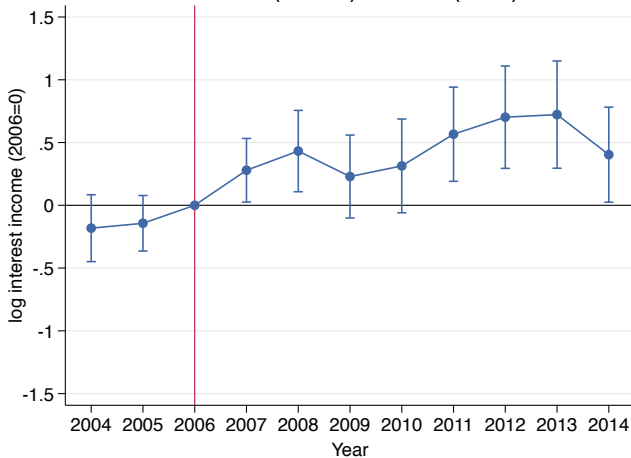
**DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TAX CUTS AND TAX INCREASES AMONG WEALTH TAXPAYERS
Bracket 4 (Treatment) vs. Bracket 1 (Control)**



**DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TAX CUTS AND TAX INCREASES AMONG WEALTH TAXPAYERS
Bracket 5 (Treatment) vs. Bracket 1 (Control)**



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TAX CUTS AND TAX INCREASES AMONG WEALTH TAXPAYERS
Brackets 2-5 (Treatment) vs. Bracket 1 (Control)



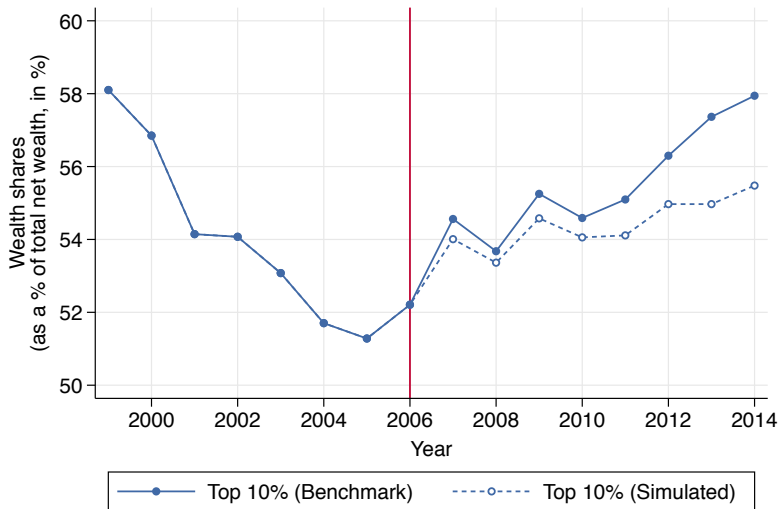
DIFFERENCES-IN-DIFFERENCES RESULTS

	(1)	(2)
Post	0.517*** (3.89)	0.516*** (3.70)
Treat	0.322** (2.05)	
Post·Treat	0.560*** (3.68)	0.564*** (4.03)
Individual fixed effects		X
N	260,089	260,089

**DIFFERENCES-IN-DIFFERENCES RESULTS
BY INCOME BRACKET**

	T2 (2nd Br.)	T3 (3rd Br.)	T4 (4th Br.)	T5 (5th Br.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Post	0.516*** (3.70)	0.516*** (3.70)	0.516*** (3.70)	0.516*** (3.70)
Post·Treat	0.354** (2.28)	0.360** (2.43)	0.463*** (3.18)	0.614*** (4.38)
Individual fixed effects	X	X	X	X
N	14,200	23,244	32,566	197,687

SIMULATED TOP 10% WEALTH SHARE, 1999-2014
(using counterfactual evolution of interest income without flat tax)



REAL ESTATE DEMAND: RICH DISTRICTS VS. REST, 2009

	Districts with highest price		Rest of districts		Diff.	P-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
Sale price per m2	2675.01	1094.68	1956.00	795.22	-719.01	0.00
Surface per m2	107.63	59.47	127.00	82.05	19.37	0.00
Demand index	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.11
Available stock	5.22	5.64	3.92	2.65	-1.30	0.00
Rental price per m2	8.43	5.81	7.01	3.98	-1.42	0.01
N	363		1,192			

Source: Own elaboration with data from *El Idealista* [2009]

Decomposition of the Total Rate of Return

Flow rate of return:

$$r_t^g = \frac{W_{H,t}^g}{W_t^g} \cdot r_{H,t} + \dots + \frac{W_{B,t}^g}{W_t^g} \cdot r_{B,t} \quad (4)$$

Rate of capital gain:

$$q_t^g = \frac{W_{H,t}^g}{W_t^g} \cdot q_{H,t} + \dots + \frac{W_{B,t}^g}{W_t^g} \cdot q_{B,t} \quad (5)$$

- ▶ g_t : wealth group (e.g., top 10%, bottom 50%)
- ▶ W_t^g : average real wealth of wealth group g at time t
- ▶ r_t^g : average rate of return of group g at time t
- ▶ q_t^g : average rate of real capital gain of wealth group g at time t
- ▶ Assets: Housing (H), unincorporated business assets (B), deposits and debt assets, equities, life insurance and pension funds