

# The Mortality Consequences of Home Ownership

Flash Session: Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health, Life Expectancy, and Mortality

Casey F. Breen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of California, Berkeley

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## Research Question

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- I Far from a complete understanding of how social characteristics and positionality in young adulthood contribute to later life health and longevity
- I Does **Pb\ Ch.^GpSe** in young adulthood have a causal impact on later-life longevity?

# Causal pathways

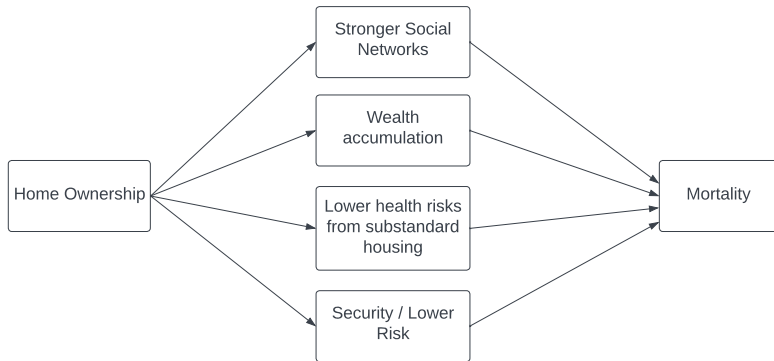


Figure: Causal pathways between home ownership and longevity

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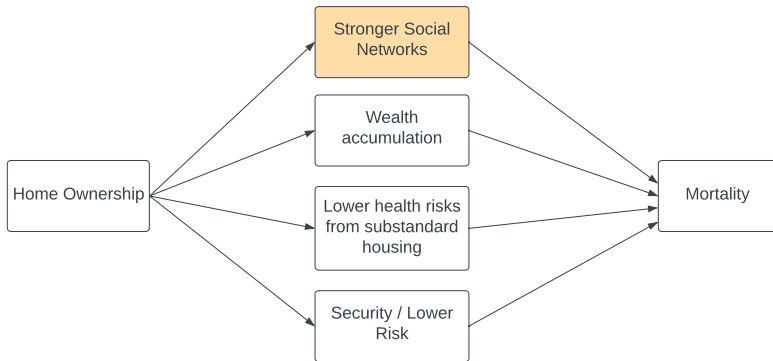


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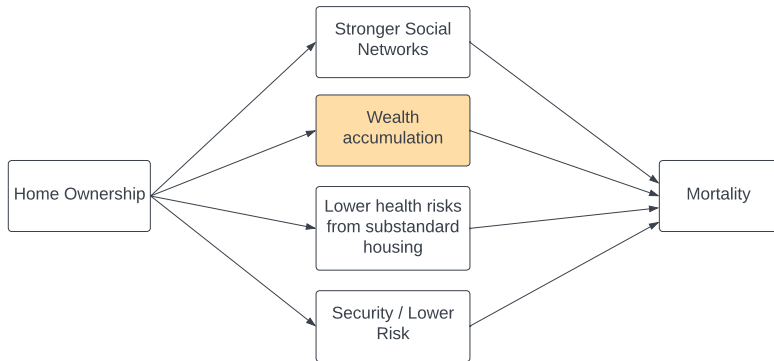


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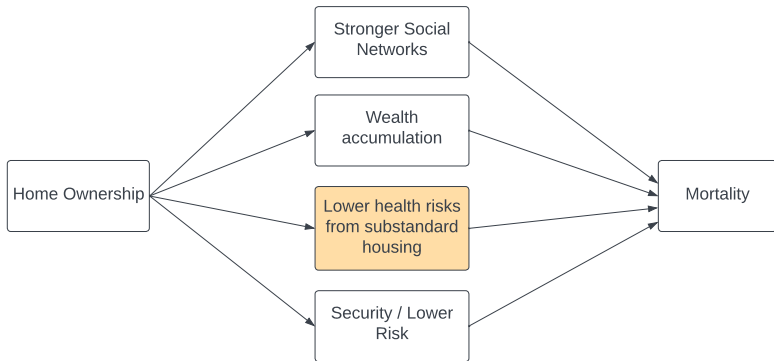


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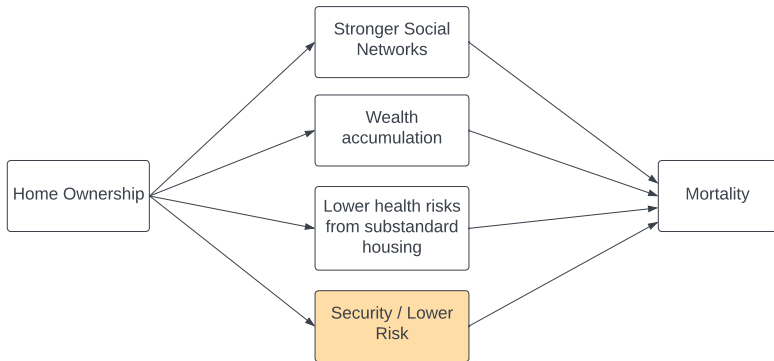
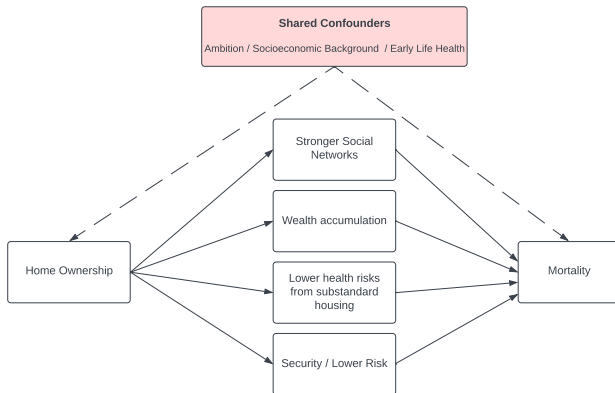


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# Causal Pathways



**Figure:** Causal pathways + confounders between home ownership and longevity

# CenSoc-DMF Brothers (N = 38,000)

- I IPUMS 1940 Full-Count Census<sup>1</sup> linked to Social Security Death Master File<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>; Social Security Administration

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Figure: Analytic Sample

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# Home ownership in 1940

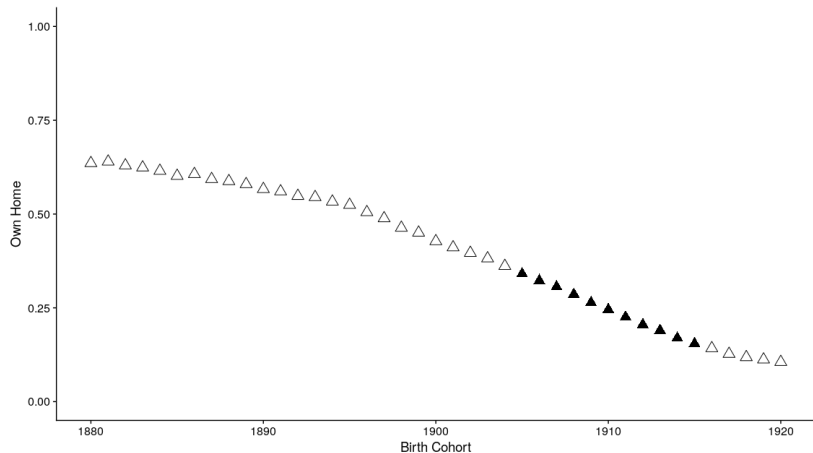


Figure: Proportion of male household heads who own their home in 1940

# Methods

- I OLS regression on age of death
- I  $r_{SIBL} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 C + \beta_2 S + \beta_3 Z$  control for hard-to-measure confounders (e.g., shared family background)

# Association between home ownership and longevity

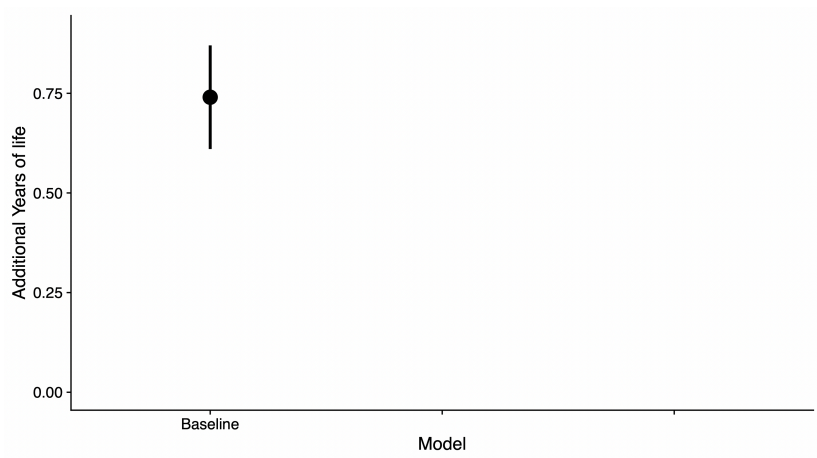
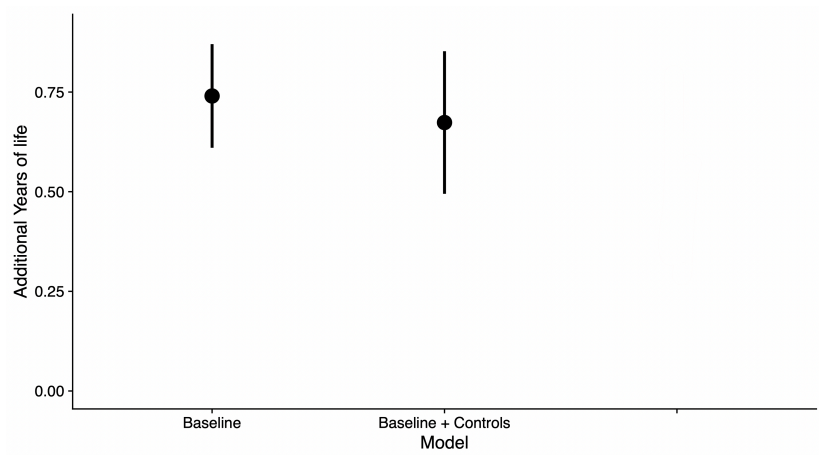


Figure: Baseline model with birth year fixed effects

## Association between home ownership and longevity



**Figure:** Add controls for education, race, occupation, marital status, state, and urbanicity



## Association between home ownership and longevity

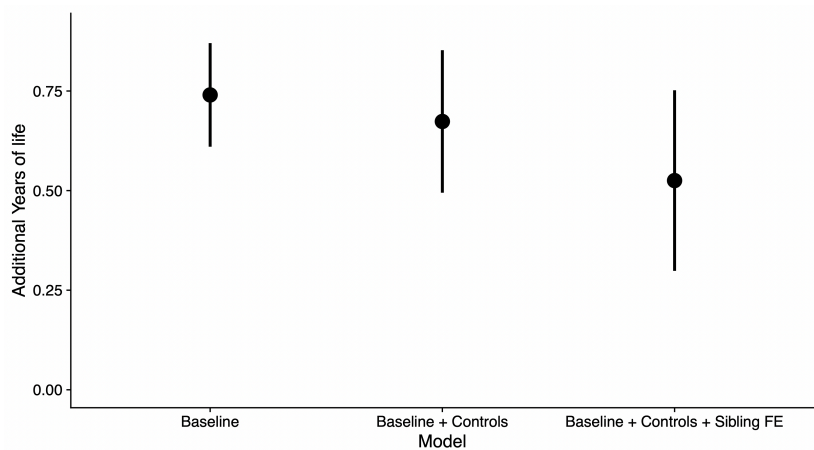


Figure: Baseline model + controls + sibling fixed effects + birth order

## Conclusions

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- I The brother who owns a home lives 6 months longer

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- I Our results suggest a **causal effect** of home ownership in early adulthood (for men) on longevity
- I The brother who owns a home lives 6 months longer
- I **public housing and mortgage interest deduction** policies that subsidize and facilitate home ownership can help mitigate mortality disparities


## References

- Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, Katherine Eriksson, Santiago Pérez and Myera Rashid. 2020. "Census Linking Project: Version 1.0."
- Goldstein, Joshua R., Monica Alexander, Casey F. Breen, Andrea Miranda-González, Felipe Menares, Maria Osborne and Ugur Yildirim. 2021. "CenSoc Mortality File: Version 2.0."
- Ruggles, Steven, Sarah Flood, Ronald Goeken, Josiah Grover, Erin Meyer, Jose Pacas and Mathew Sobek. 2020. "IPUMS USA: Version 10.0 [Dataset]." *Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS*.  
<https://doi.org/10.18128/D010.V10.0> .

# Thank You

I Questions?

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