

# The Mortality Consequences of Home Ownership

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

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- ▶ Far from a complete understanding of how social characteristics and positionality in young adulthood contribute to later life health and longevity
- ▶ Does **home ownership** in young adulthood have a causal impact on later-life longevity?

# Causal pathways

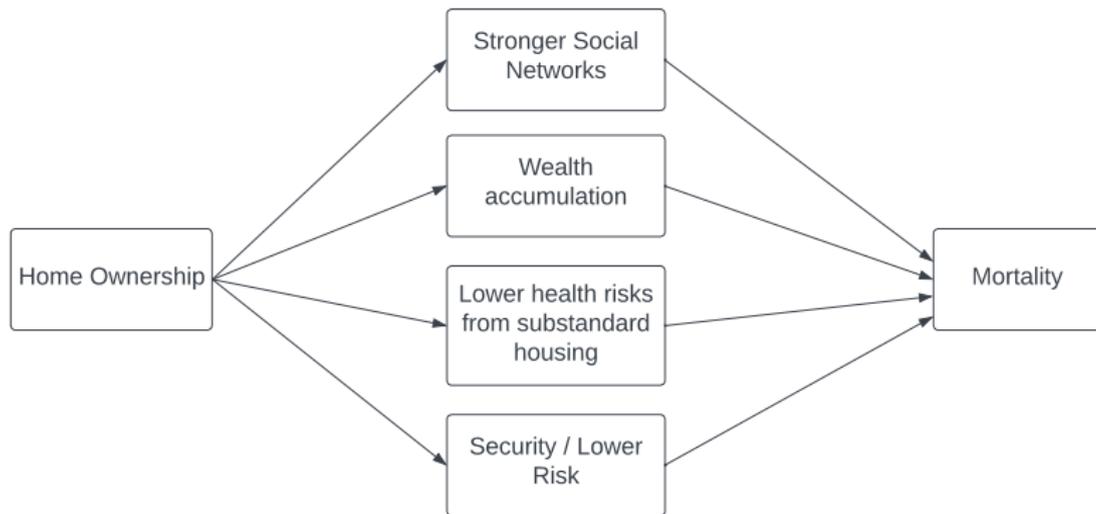


Figure: Causal pathways between home ownership and longevity

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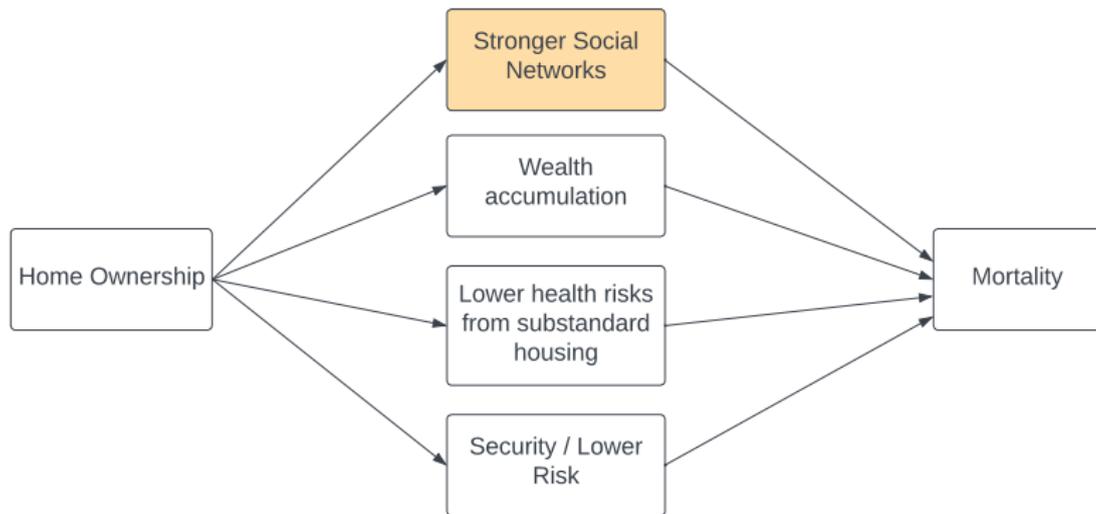


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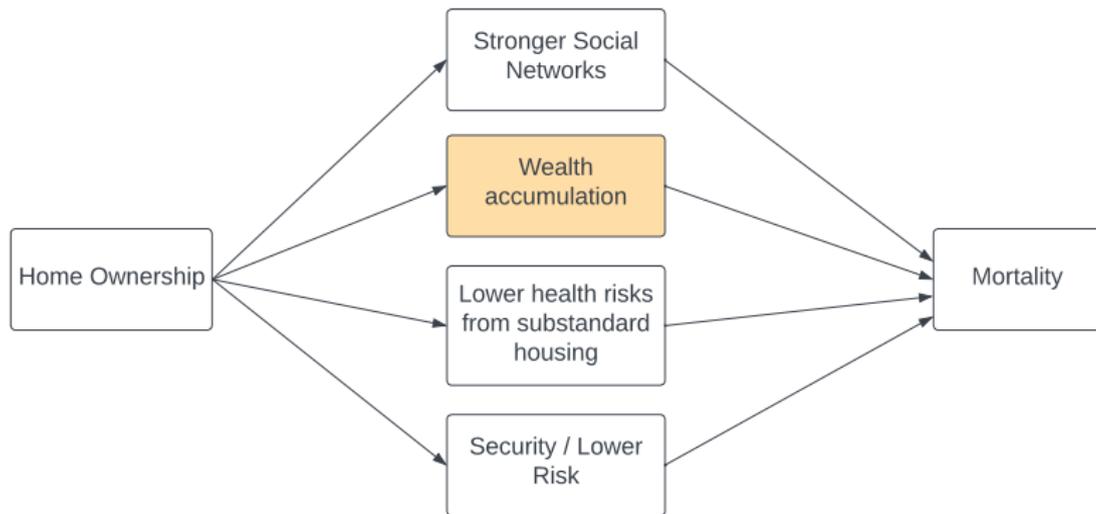


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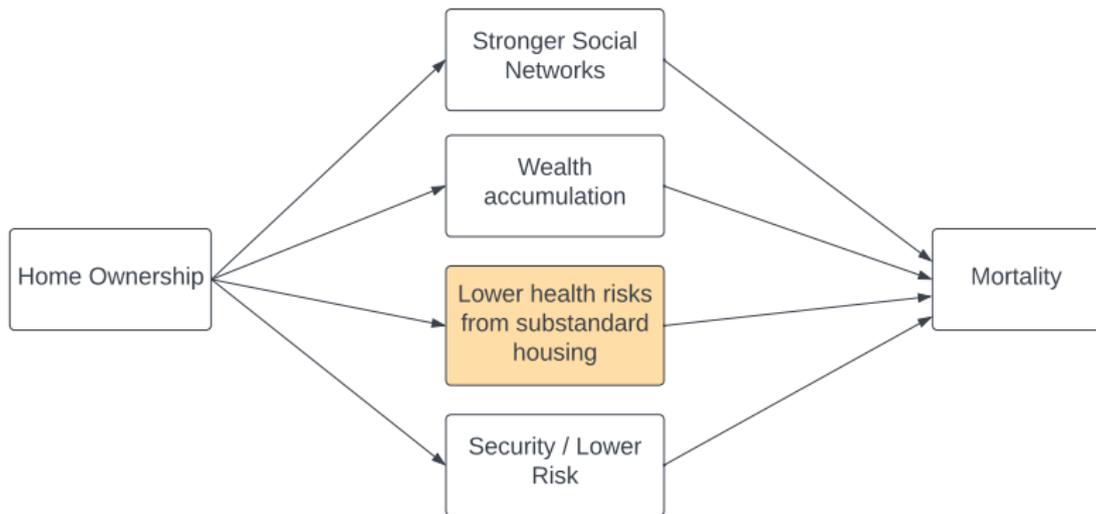


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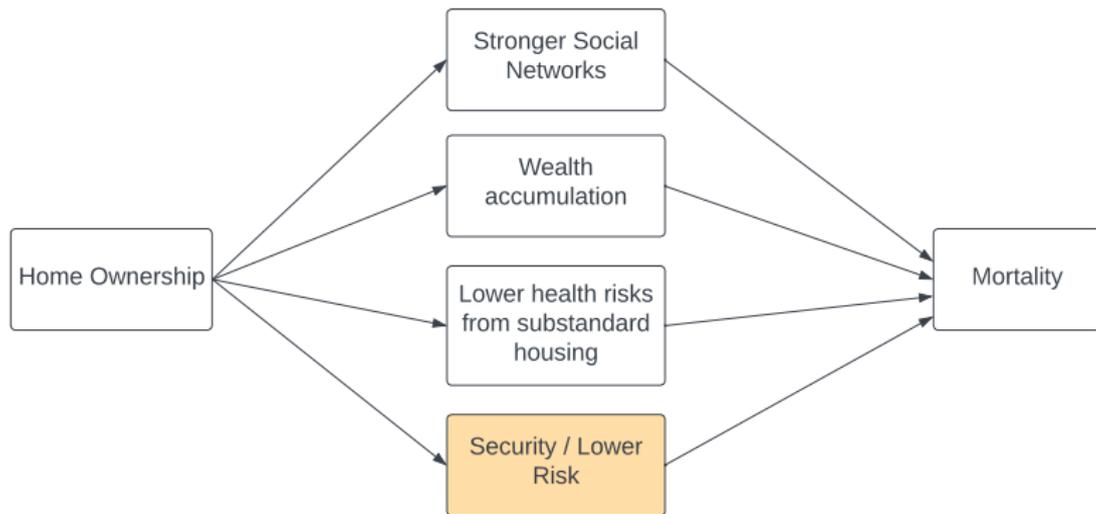
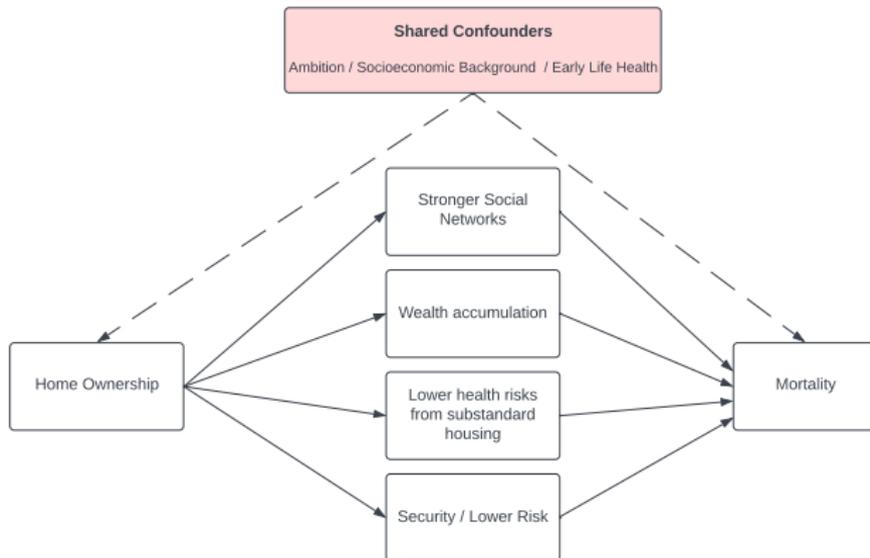


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# Causal Pathways



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

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

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

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<sup>2</sup>Censoc (Goldstein et al., 2021)

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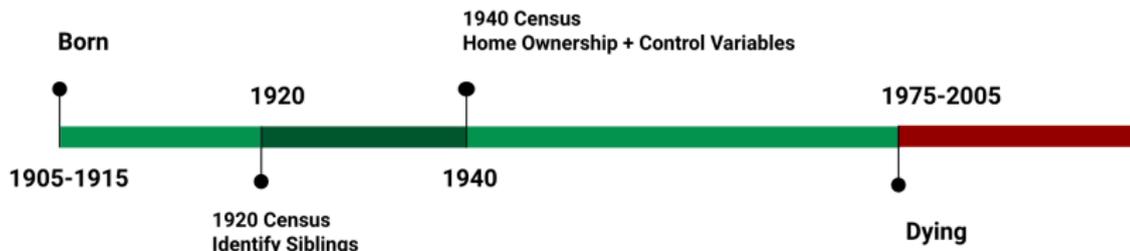


Figure: Analytic Sample

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# Home ownership in 1940

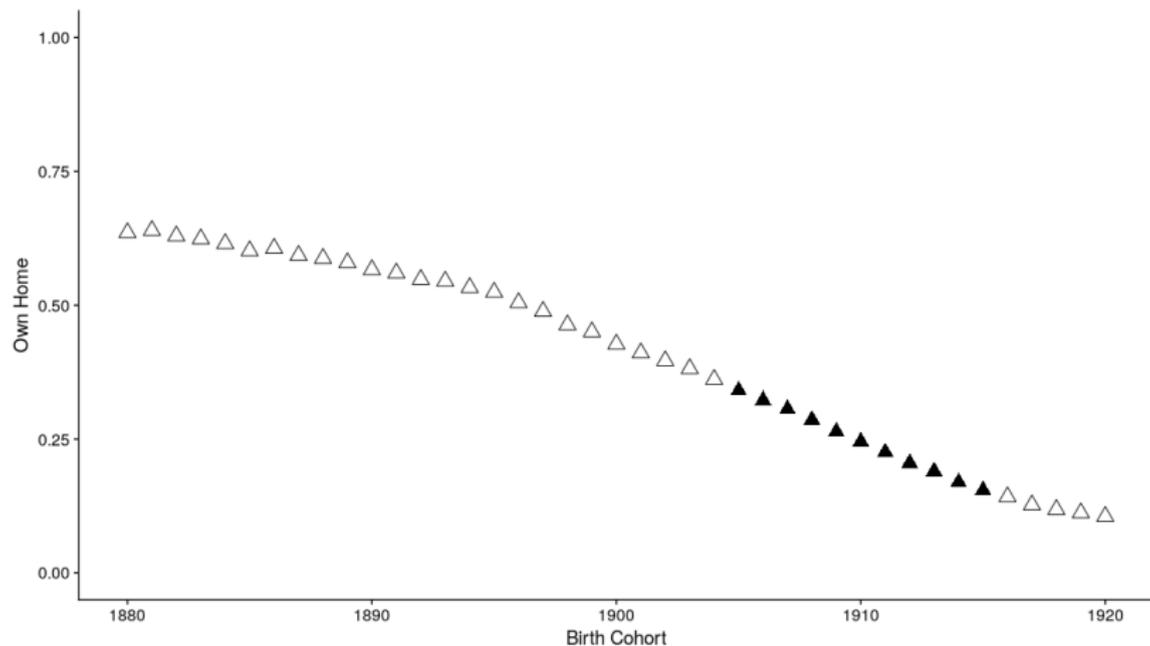


Figure: Proportion of male household heads who own their home in 1940

# Methods

- ▶ OLS regression on age of death
- ▶ **Sibling fixed effects identification strategy:** control for hard-to-measure confounders (e.g., shared family background)

# Association between home ownership and longevity

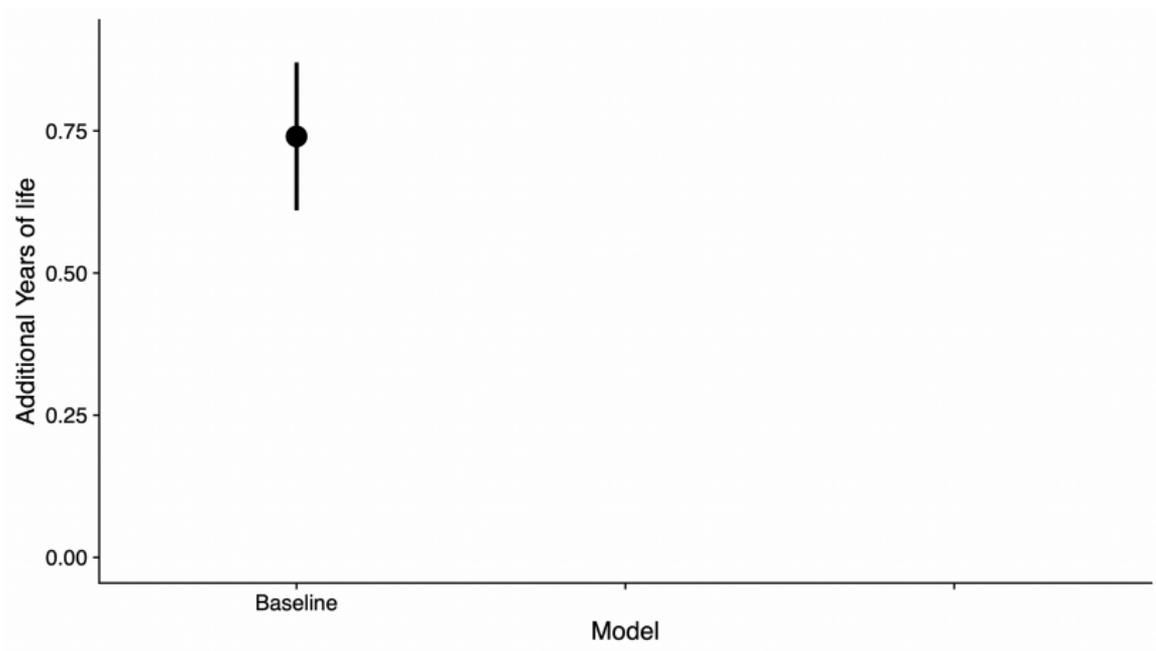
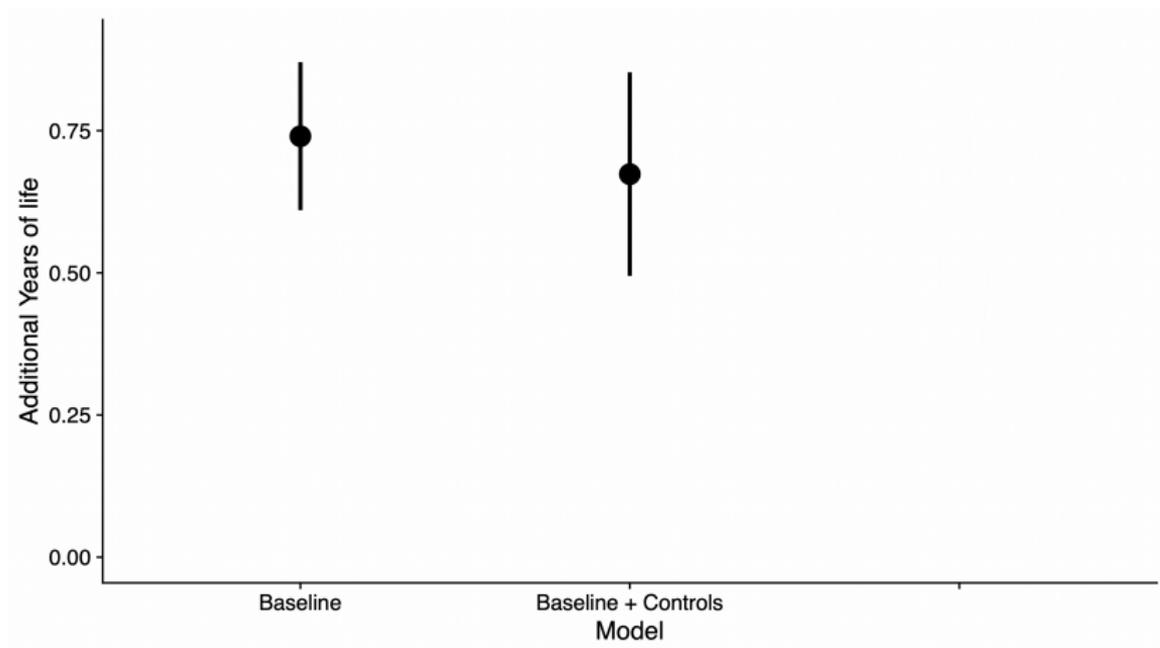


Figure: Baseline model with birth year fixed effects

## Association between home ownership and longevity



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

## Association between home ownership and longevity

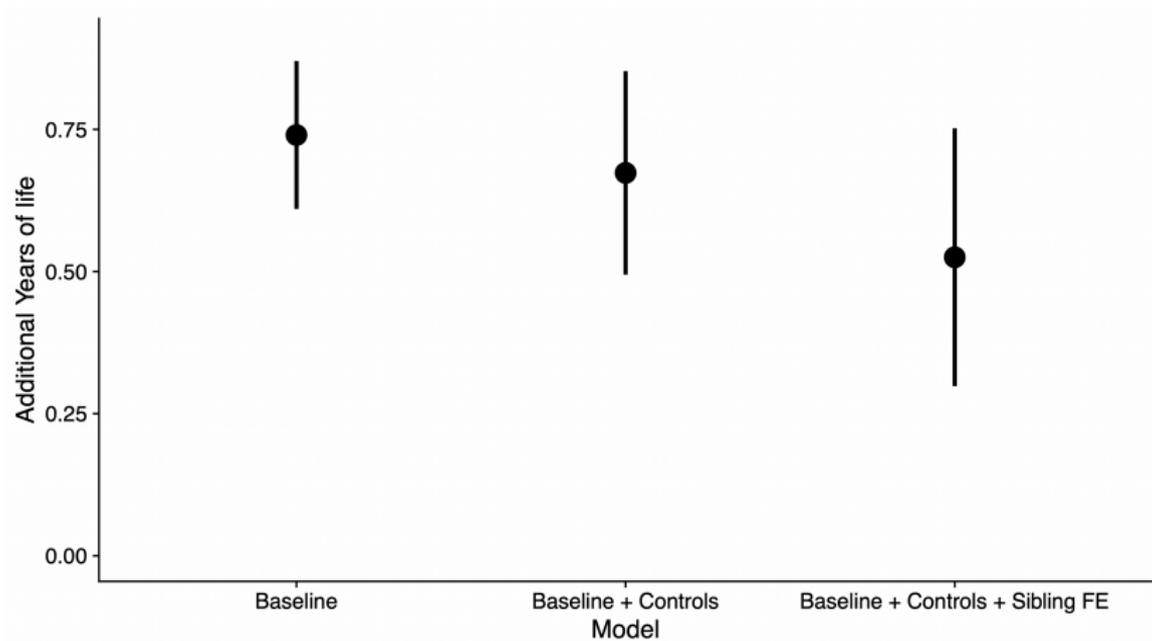


Figure: Baseline model + controls + sibling fixed effects + birth order

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- ▶ The brother who owns a home lives 6 months longer
- ▶ **Policy Implications:** 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

▶ Questions?

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