

## Research Question

Does home ownership in young adulthood have a causal impact on longevity for men?

## Background

- Relatively little is known about the relationship between home ownership and mortality in the United States
- Many plausible causal pathways exist between home ownership and longevity

## Data

- Male birth cohorts of 1905 -1915
- IPUMS 1940 Census linked to Death Master File (CenSoc-DMF)
- Death coverage between 1975 and 2005
- Link IPUMS 1940 Census to IPUMS 1920 Census to identify siblings (Census Linking Project)

## Methods

- OLS regression on age of death with sibling fixed effects (N = 40,000)
- Additional controls for education, race, occupation, marital status, state, and urbanicity

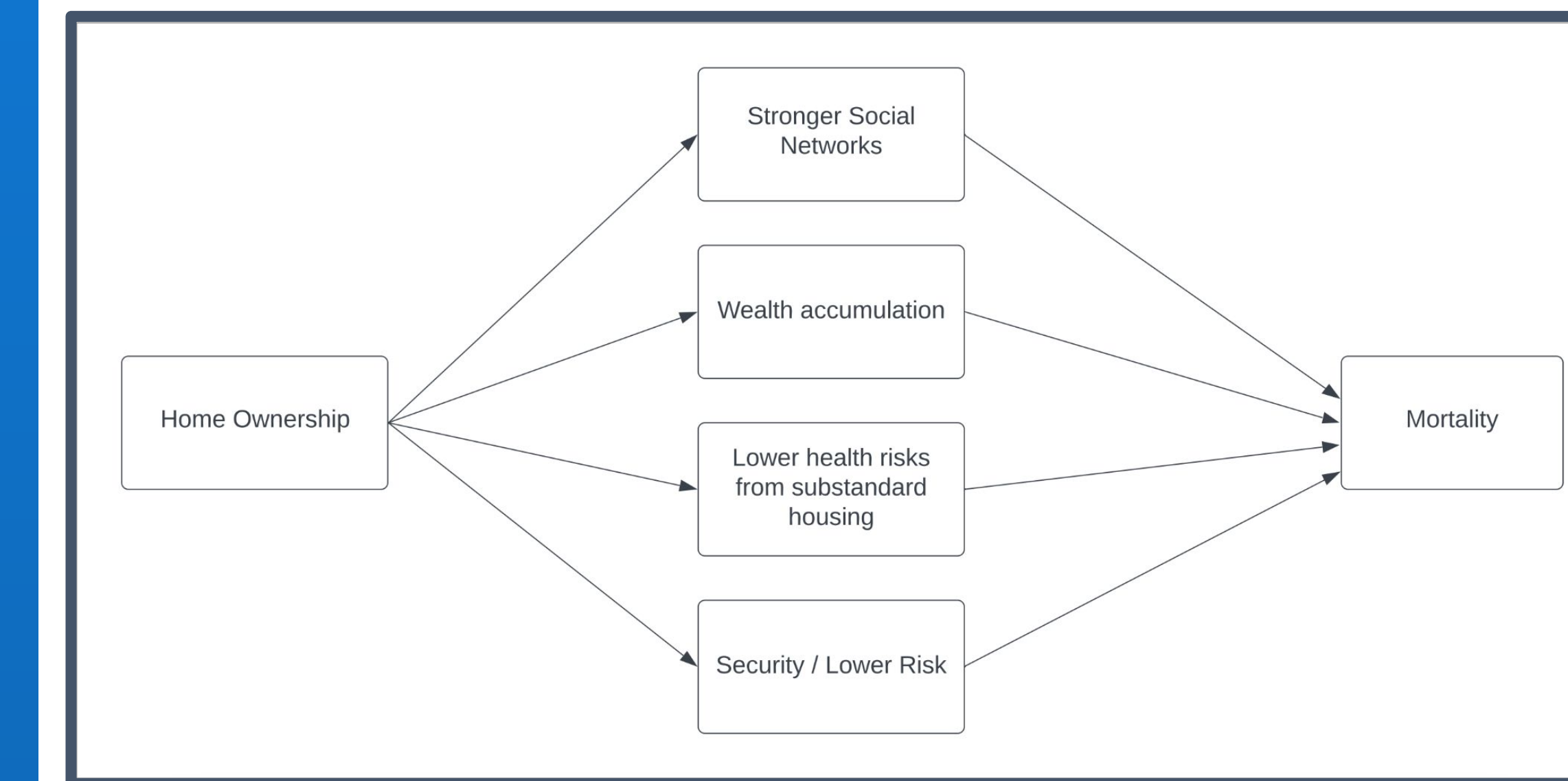
## Results

- Home ownership is associated with a 0.75 year mortality advantage in life expectancy
- Our analysis, using a sibling fixed-effects identification strategy, suggests owning a home has a causal effect on longevity
- Key limitation: within-family confounding by unmeasured, non-shared factors

# Mortality Consequences of Home Ownership

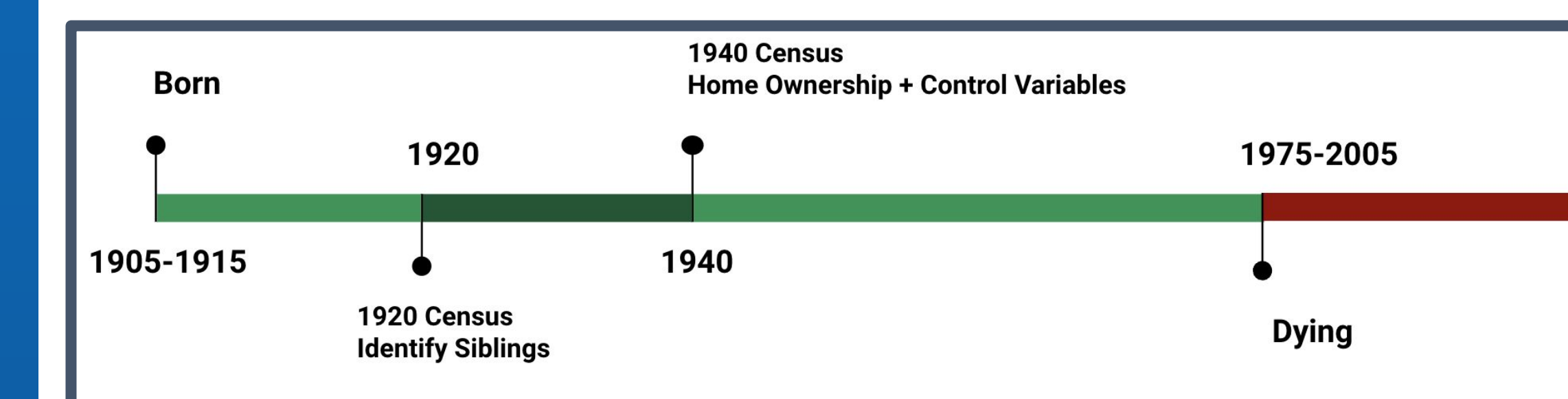
Casey F. Breen

Department of Demography, University of California, Berkeley

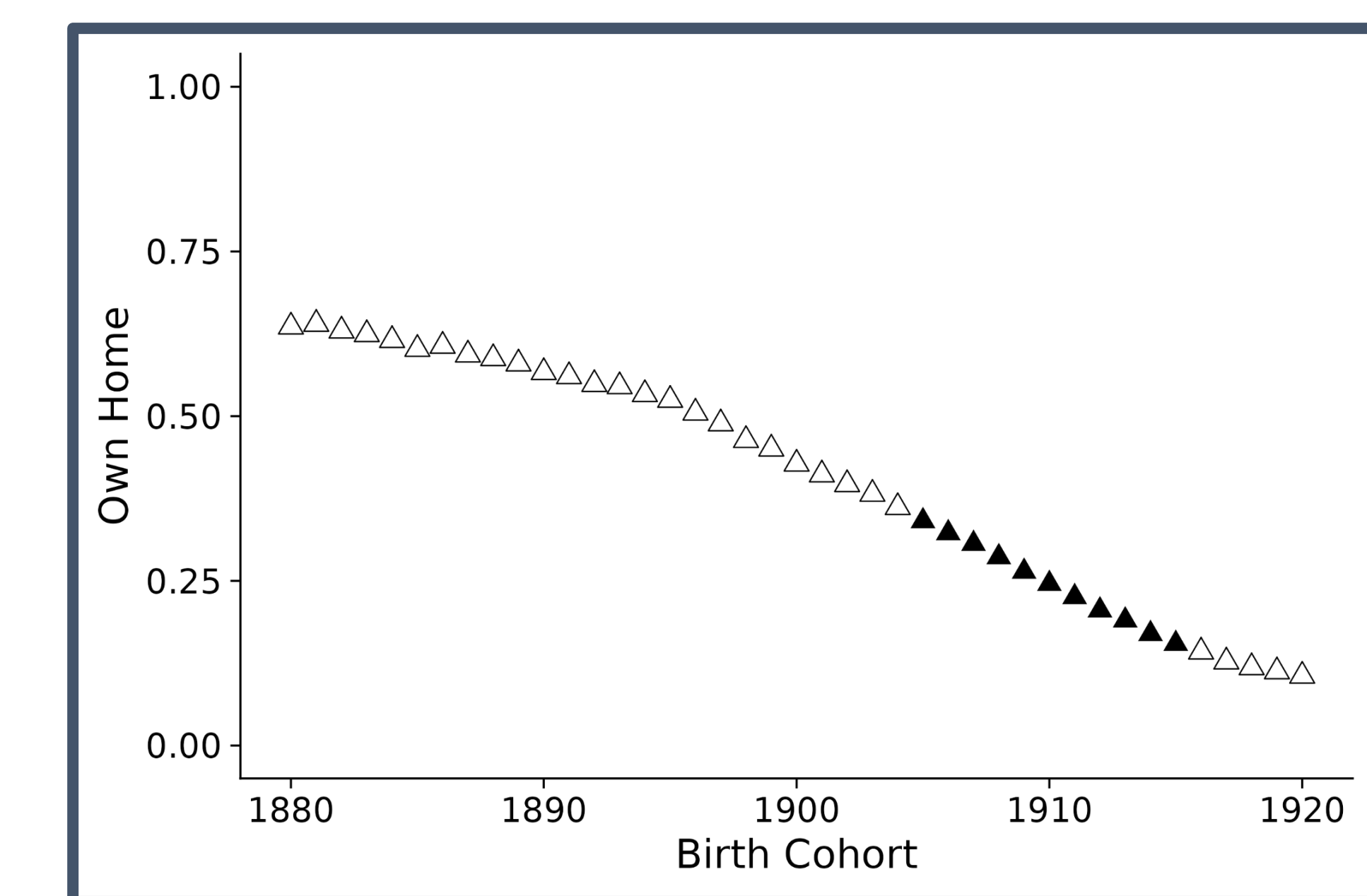
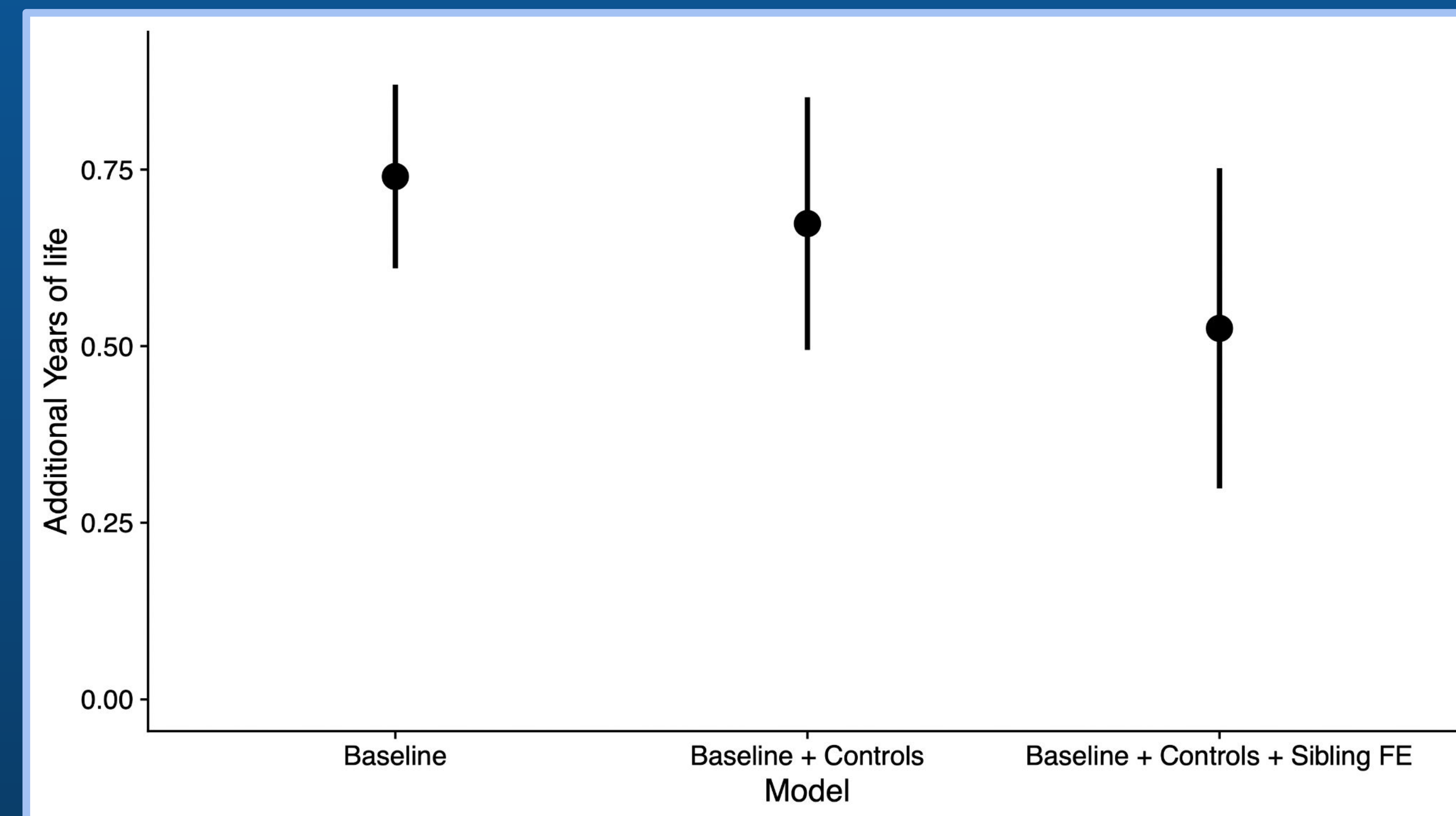


Causal pathways between home ownership and mortality

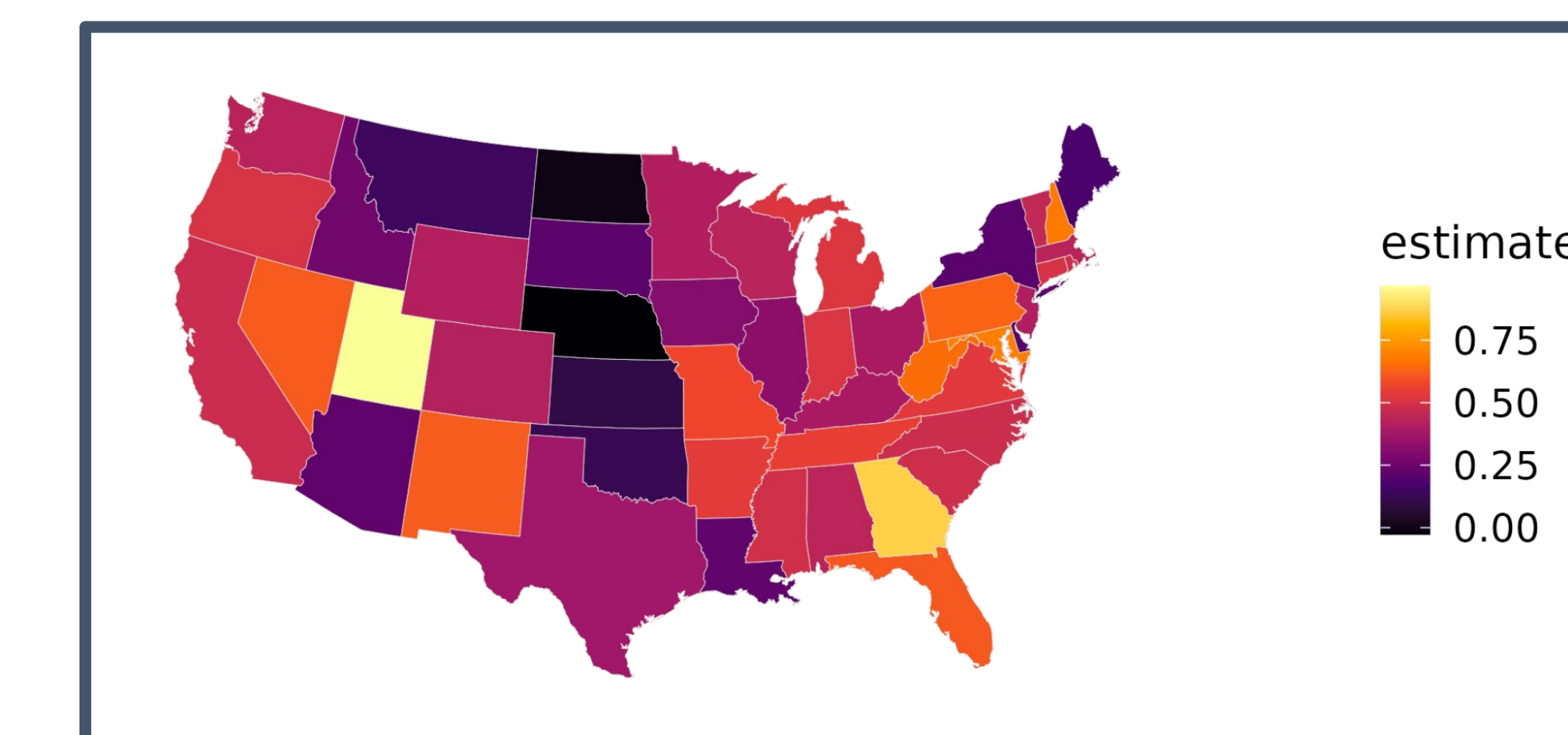
Home ownership for men in early adulthood is associated with lower mortality in late-life. Our analysis, using a sibling fixed-effects identification strategy, suggests this relationship is causal.



Sample timeline



Rates of home ownership in 1940 by birth cohort



State-level heterogeneity in the association between home ownership and longevity