



Trends in Billionaire Demographics:

Inheritance, Industry, and Location

Rithvik Marri, Matthew Sun, Amy Colucho, Arya Krishniah

STA 199 Duke University





Motivation



Wealth inequality has grown to be a significant political and social concern in the US and internationally.

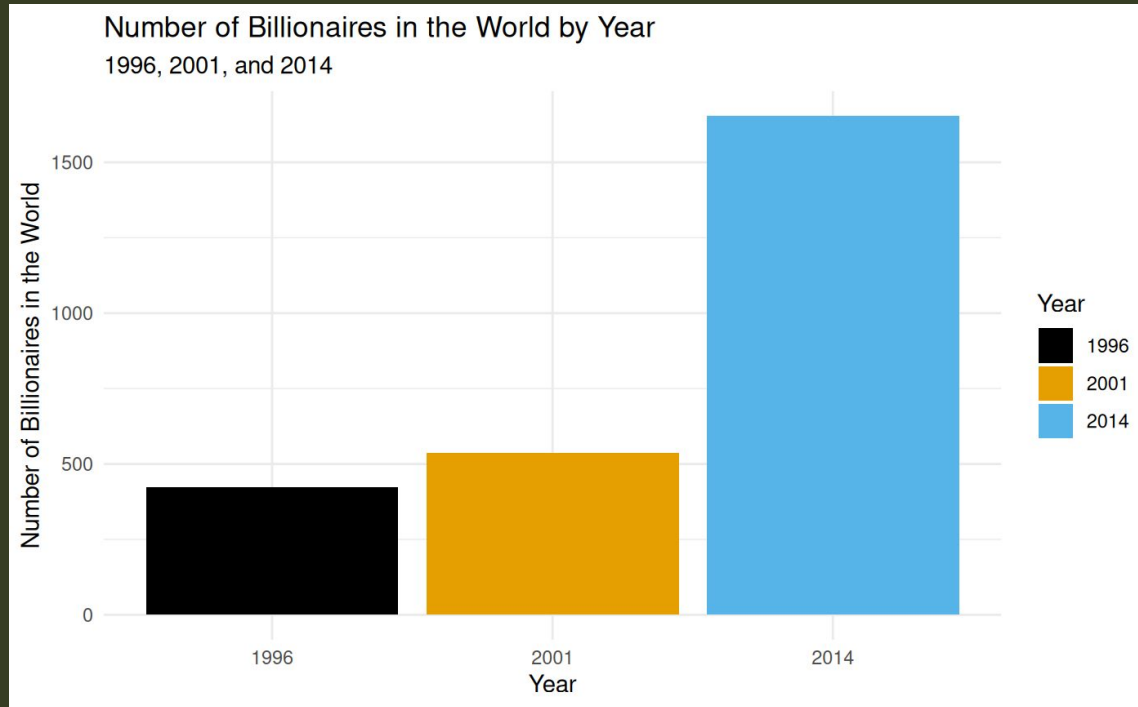
The goal is to observe trends in billionaire population size, type of wealth acquisition, industry, and location have changed internationally from 1996 - 2014.

Understanding these patterns will provide a solid understanding for economists and sociologists to create pointed studies of wealth disparity.

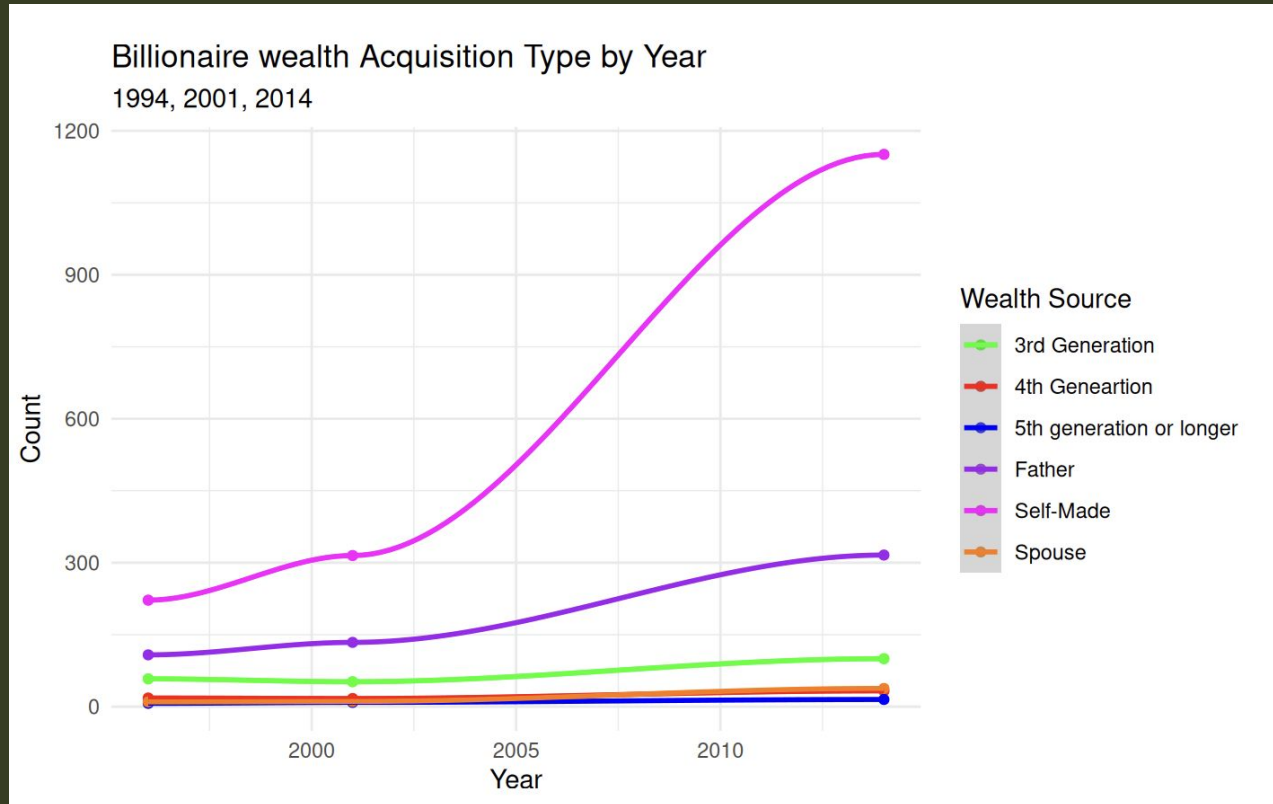
Research Question

How has the size, location, mode of wealth acquisition, and industry distribution of the international billionaire population changed, from 1996 - 2014?

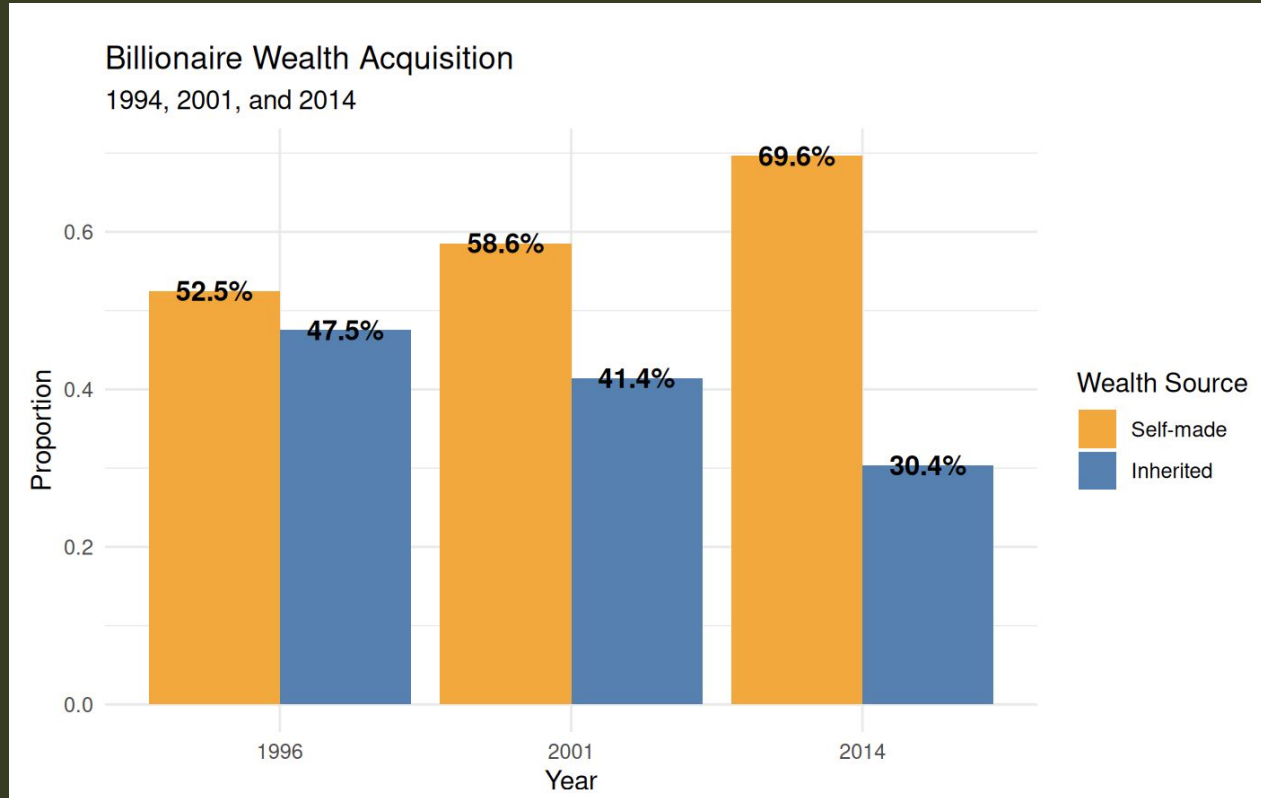
Data: Billionaires By Year



Data: Patterns of Wealth Acquisition



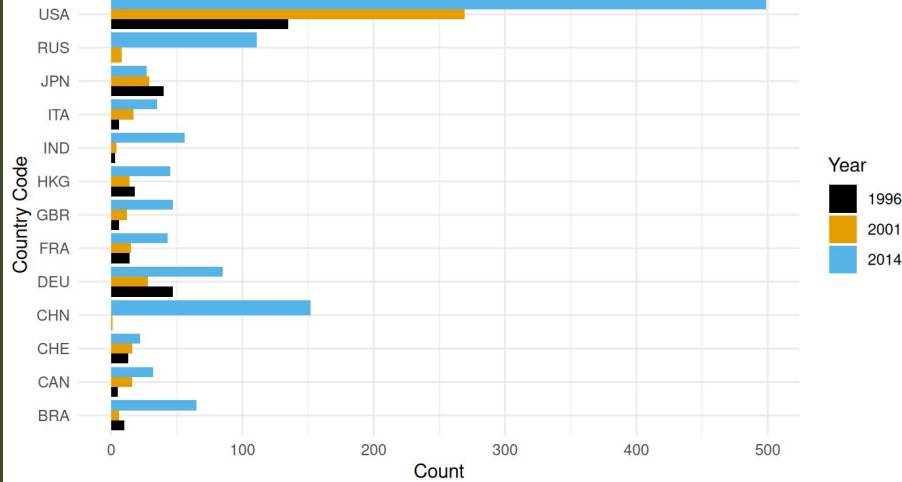
Data: Patterns of Wealth Acquisition



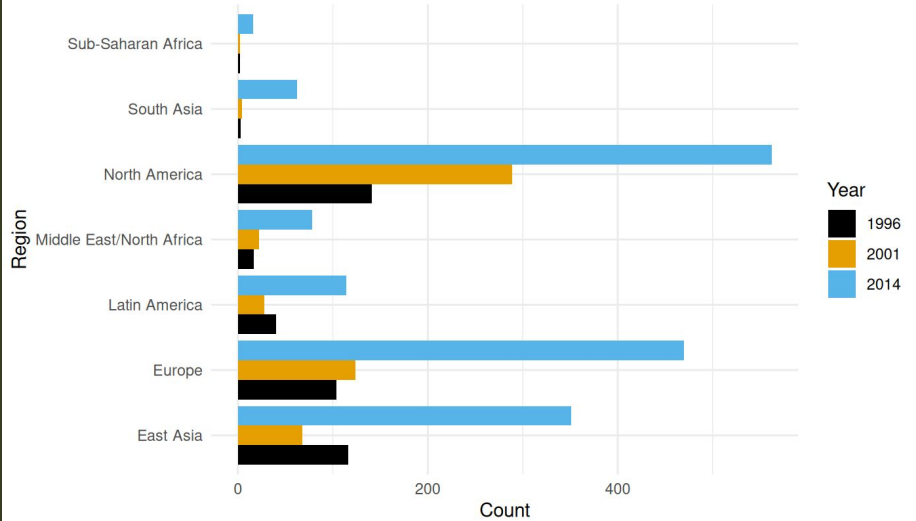
Data: Location

Billionaire Count by Country

Countries with 50+ billionaires



Billionaire Count by Region



Trends:

- Diversification of countries
- Increase in emerging countries
- Regional increases

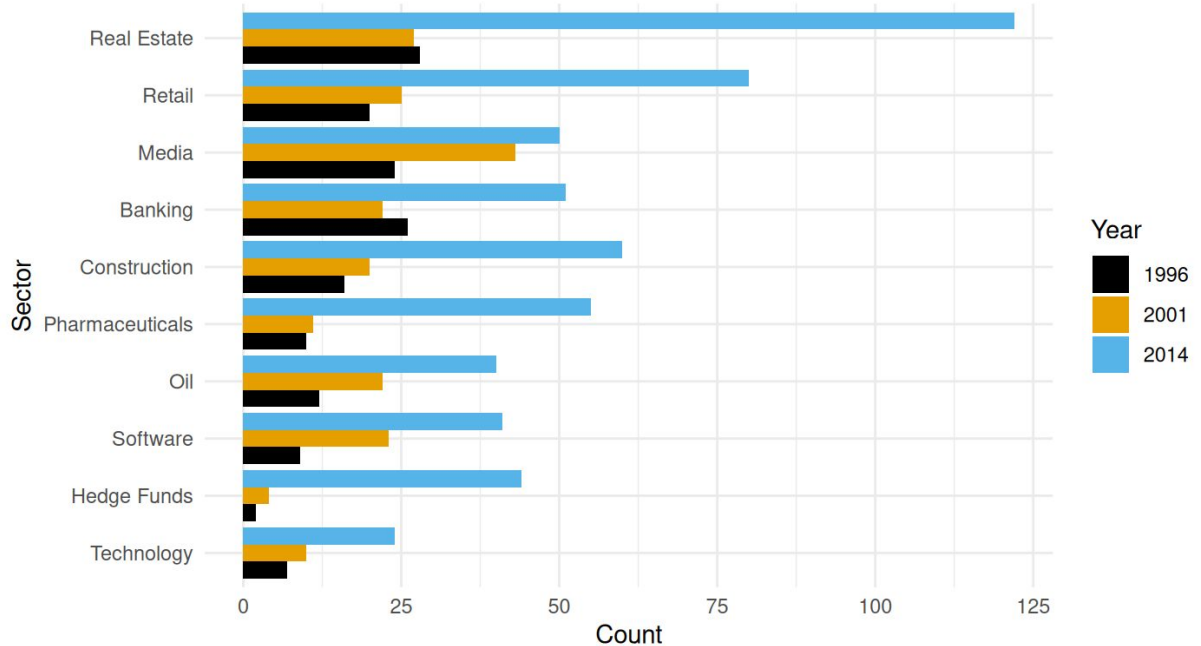
Consequences:

- Wealth inequality
- Slow/stagnating economy
- Rising costs of essentials

Data: Billionaires by Sector

Top 10 Common Sectors by Billionaire Count

1996 vs. 2001 vs. 2014



Trends:

- Rapid increase in billionaires across nearly all sectors
- Increasing private equity investment in real estate and retail

Consequences:

- Reduced availability of affordable housing
- Higher cost of living
- Greater financial strain

Conclusions

- The international population of billionaires has increased significantly
- Variation in location across the world
- Proportion of self-made billionaires has increased
- Significant increase in billionaires across all sectors
- Rising prices for housing and daily services

We have highlighted some potential effects, but our project emphasizes the need for further research to reach more substantive conclusions. For example, experts in sociology or economics may use these trends as a starting point to study wealth inequality in further detail.

THANK YOU!

