

Raising Household Leverage: Evidence from Co-Financed Mortgages

Stefano Colonnello^{†‡} Mariela Dal Borgo[§]

[†]Ca' Foscari University of Venice

[‡]Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH)

[§]Banco de México

August 2024

Workshop on Banking and Finance in Emerging Markets (Helsinki, Finland)

The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the position of Banco de México.

The importance of mortgage design

- Wide array of mortgage contracts across different markets
- Products that **raise leverage** → Used by public interventions to alleviate borrowing constraints
 - **Borrowing constraints:** Major barrier to home ownership (Gete and Reher, 2018; Blickle and Brown, 2019; Fuster and Zafar, 2016, 2021)

The importance of mortgage design

- Wide array of mortgage contracts across different markets
- Products that **raise leverage** → Used by public interventions to alleviate borrowing constraints
 - **Borrowing constraints:** Major barrier to home ownership (Gete and Reher, 2018; Blickle and Brown, 2019; Fuster and Zafar, 2016, 2021)



The importance of mortgage design

- Wide array of mortgage contracts across different markets
- Products that **raise leverage** → Used by public interventions to alleviate borrowing constraints
 - **Borrowing constraints:** Major barrier to home ownership (Gete and Reher, 2018; Blickle and Brown, 2019; Fuster and Zafar, 2016, 2021)
- However, higher leverage may have unintended consequences
 - for **wealth accumulation:** Constrained borrowers may only afford less costly houses (Gupta et al., 2021)
 - for **loan performance:** ↑ risk of default (Mayer et al., 2009; Campbell and Cocco, 2015)

The importance of mortgage design

- Wide array of mortgage contracts across different markets
- Products that **raise leverage** → Used by public interventions to alleviate borrowing constraints
 - **Borrowing constraints:** Major barrier to home ownership (Gete and Reher, 2018; Blickle and Brown, 2019; Fuster and Zafar, 2016, 2021)
- However, higher leverage may have unintended consequences
 - for **wealth accumulation:** Constrained borrowers may only afford less costly houses (Gupta et al., 2021)
 - for **loan performance:** ↑ risk of default (Mayer et al., 2009; Campbell and Cocco, 2015)
- The institutional setting matters to improve borrowing conditions without affecting performance → Yet, little research on mortgage innovations from emerging markets

This paper

- **Mortgage product: Cofinavit**
 - Main Mexican co-financing program between a housing provident fund (HPF) and banks
 - **Goals:** i) enhance borrower's credit capacity, ii) reduce down payment, iii) enable purchase of a better house

This paper

- **Mortgage product: Cofinavit**

- Main Mexican co-financing program between a housing provident fund (HPF) and banks
- **Goals:** i) enhance borrower's credit capacity, ii) reduce down payment, iii) enable purchase of a better house

- **Research question**

- Which borrowers select co-financed over traditional bank mortgages?
- Relative to traditional, how do co-financed mortgages balance access vs. risk?
 - **Origination conditions:** Are borrowers able to take a larger combined loan? If so, do they increase leverage and/or buy a better home?
 - **Performance:** What are the implications for ex post performance?
 - **Heterogeneity by income:** Are there distributional effects?

Preview of results

- Which borrowers opt for a **co-financed** rather than a **traditional** bank mortgage?
 - Younger & poorer; w/longer employment history & higher formal wages
- How do **co-financed** compare to **traditional** mortgages?
- **Terms at origination**
 - Total (HPF + bank) loan volume: 13.8% larger (25.5% of SD)
 - Down payment: 5.8 pp smaller (34.0% of SD)
 - Property value: 3.8% higher (6.9% of SD)
 - Combined interest rate: 30.9 bp higher (44.1% of SD) (HPF higher; bank lower)
- **Performance**
 - Prob. of default: 0.13 pp & 0.15 pp lower after 2 & 3 yrs (< 2% of SD), no diff. after 4 yrs
 - Higher leverage offset by lower liquidity needs
- **Distributional effects**
 - At low incomes: Down payment declines more; property value increases less

Related literature

- **Financial innovations** that improve access to **housing finance** by targeting demand-side frictions:
 - Theoretical: Chambers et al. (2009); Ortalo-Magné and Rady (2006)
 - Empirical: Tracey and Van Horen (2022); Benetton et al. (2022)
- **Impact of mortgage market design on default**
 - Equilibrium models linking contractual features & market conditions: Greenwald et al. (2021); Campbell et al. (2021); Guren et al. (2021)
 - Second mortgages: Mian and Sufi (2011); Agarwal et al. (2020)
 - Liquidity: Ganong and Noel (2020); Elul et al. (2010); Fuster and Willen (2017); Defusco et al. (2019)
- **Lending and saving functions of HPFs**
 - Impact on home ownership and prices: Phang and Wong (1997); Tang and Coulson (2017); Zhou (2020)
 - Optimal paternalistic policies: Moser and Olea de Souza e Silva (2019)

Some institutional background

- **HPFs:** Institutions not in the market-based financial system. Grant **residential mortgages** & retirement benefits

- **Infonavit**

- Mexico's largest HPF. Largest mortgage lender in Latin America.
- Funded w/**mandatory savings from all formal private-sector workers**
 - Employer contributions (5% of salary) going into individual home accounts



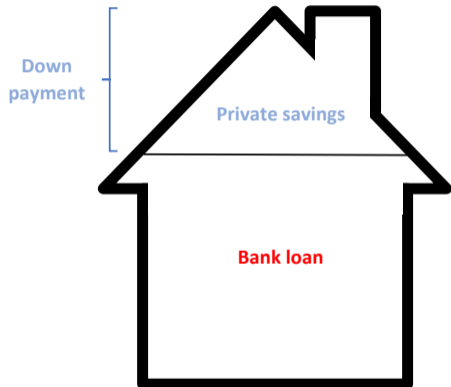
- **Cofinavit**

- Pools two loans granted & administered separately by each lender (Infonavit & bank)
- Cross-collateralization: Both lenders have first lien on the property

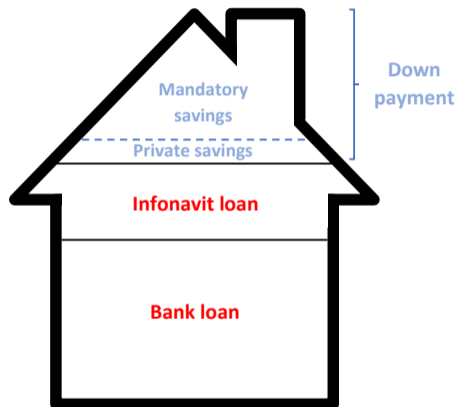


Traditional versus Cofinavit mortgages

Traditional bank mortgage



Cofinavit mortgage



Traditional versus Cofinavit mortgages

	Traditional		Cofinavit	
	Bank		Bank	Infonavit
Screening	Risk based		Same	Non risk based (minimum score)
Loan size	Determined by credit assessment and PTI limit		Same (residual after Infonavit volume approved)	Determined by credit limits + simple credit assessment
Maturity	20 years		Same	5 to 8 years
Interest rate	Depends on loan & borrower characteristics (decreasing in income)		Same	Increasing in income until Mar 17'; then fixed
Repayment	From cash on hand or private savings		Same. After Infonavit is repaid, also from employer contributions	From employer contributions & salary discounts
Default	No willingness or ability to pay		Same	Only if loses formal job; usually later than on bank
Non-performing status	3 months delinquent		Same	Up to 15 months delinquent

Data and sample

- Data

- R04 H report from banking regulator (CNBV) → each mortgage granted by banks
- Covered: Loan terms + borrower characteristics at origination + monthly follow up
- Not covered: Mortgage applications, follow up of co-financed loans granted by HPFs

- Sample selection

- **Traditional** bank mortgages & **Cofinavit** mortgages
- Borrowers working in private sector with income $> 3\text{MW}$ and $< 25\text{MW}$
- Purpose: purchase of new or second-hand property
- Origination period: June 2016 to June 2019
- Ten banks granting both products

Mortgage choice

- Dependent variable:
= 1 if co-financed mortgage;
= 0 if traditional mortgage

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
New property	.017*** (.003)	.005 (.003)	-.004 (.004)	-.082*** (.008)
log(Income)	-.144*** (.002)	-.005 (.089)	-.053 (.105)	.123 (.307)
Age	-.010*** (.000)	-.009*** (.000)	-.009*** (.000)	-.009*** (.000)
Male	.025*** (.002)	.028*** (.002)	.024*** (.003)	.029*** (.007)
Married	.037*** (.002)	.027*** (.002)	.017*** (.003)	.022*** (.008)
log(House price)	.084 (.082)	.087 (.084)	-.048 (.148)	-2.125* (1.234)
log(Formal empl.)	.030*** (.001)	-.015 (.013)	-.001 (.015)	.218 (.206)
log(Formal wages)	.026*** (.002)	-.042** (.021)	-.024 (.024)	-.346* (.207)
Co-borrower			.067*** (.006)	
Probability of default				.008* (.004)
Property region FE	Yes	-	-	-
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Bank time trends	No	Yes	Yes	-
Income group FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Workplace & property munic. FE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	.48	.48	.48	.44
Observations	154,294	154,294	107,063	13,507

Empirical approach

OLS estimation

$$y_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot \text{Co-financed}_i + X'(i; m_p, c - 1; m_w, c - 1)\lambda + \Gamma' + \epsilon_i, \quad (1)$$

- y_i : Terms of mortgage i at origination
- Co-financed_i : = 1 if co-financed mortgage; = 0 if traditional
- Covariates and fixed effects:
 - $X'(\cdot)$: borrower characteristics (income, age, gender, marital status), house prices of property's municipality in period $c - 1$ (m_p), formal employment & wages of workplace municipality in period $c - 1$ (m_w)
 - Γ' : time (i.e., cohort) FE, bank FE & bank-specific linear time trends, borrower's income group FE, workplace & property municipalities FEs

Empirical approach

OLS estimation

$$y_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \cdot \text{Co-financed}_i + X'(i; m_p, c - 1; m_w, c - 1)\lambda + \Gamma' + \epsilon_i, \quad (1)$$

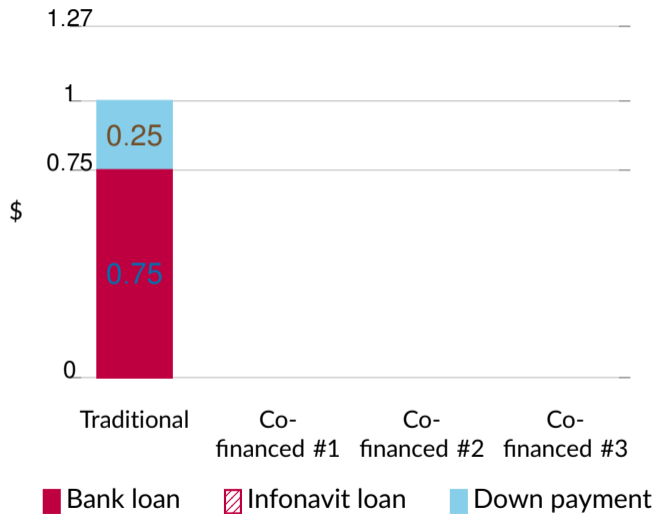
- y_i : Terms of mortgage i at origination
- Co-financed_i : = 1 if co-financed mortgage; = 0 if traditional
- Covariates and fixed effects:
 - $X'(\cdot)$
 - Γ'
- Regression adjustment: Control for $\text{Co-financed}_i \times X'(\cdot)$ (demeaned covariates)

Empirical approach (cont.)

Coarsened exact matching (CEM) approach by Iacus et al. (2012)

- Pre-process data to ↓ imbalance between co-financed & traditional mortgages
- Compares mortgages granted to borrowers with similar characteristics, by the same bank, under same Infonavit plan
- α_1 : ATE of co-financing in the population → **Assumptions:**
 1. **Common support** of co-financed & traditional mortgages
 - Select borrowers & mortgages eligible for and targeted by Cofinavit
 - CEM only uses strata with both loan types
 2. **Ignorability** of co-financing conditional on observables
 - Results robust to controlling for a bank's internal measure of default risk
 - Unobserved savings correlated with outcomes could also affect product choice
- Results not causal, interpreted as expected bounds for actual effects

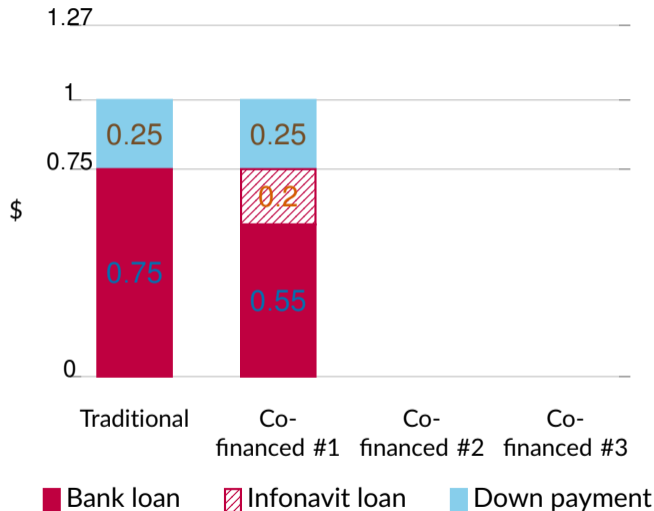
Theoretical effects: Origination conditions



- Cofinavit goals:

- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \downarrow
- property value \uparrow

Theoretical effects: Origination conditions



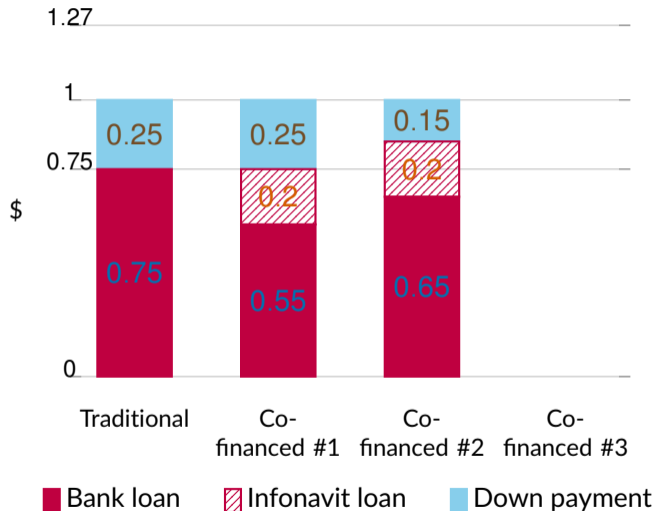
- Cofinavit goals:

- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \downarrow
- property value \uparrow

- Case #1: No goal achieved

- bank loan \downarrow (full substitution)
- total mortgage loan \simeq
- down payment \simeq
- property value \simeq

Theoretical effects: Origination conditions



- Cofinavit goals:

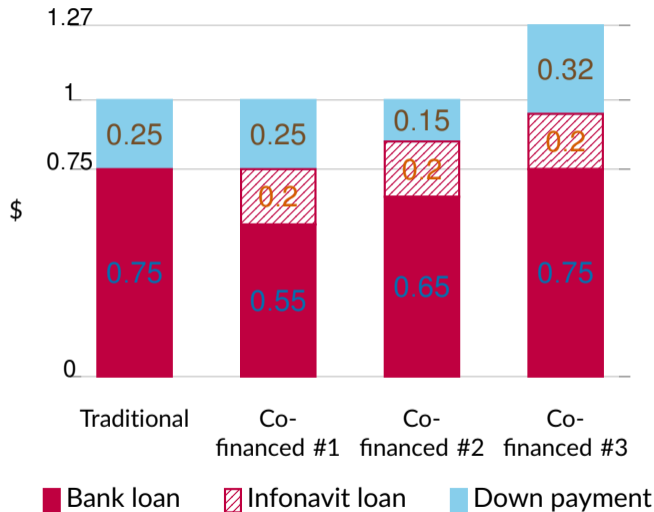
- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \downarrow
- property value \uparrow

- Case #1: No goal achieved

- Case #2: Pure down payment \downarrow

- bank loan \downarrow (no full substitution)
- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \downarrow
- property value \simeq

Theoretical effects: Origination conditions



- Cofinavit goals:

- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \downarrow
- property value \uparrow

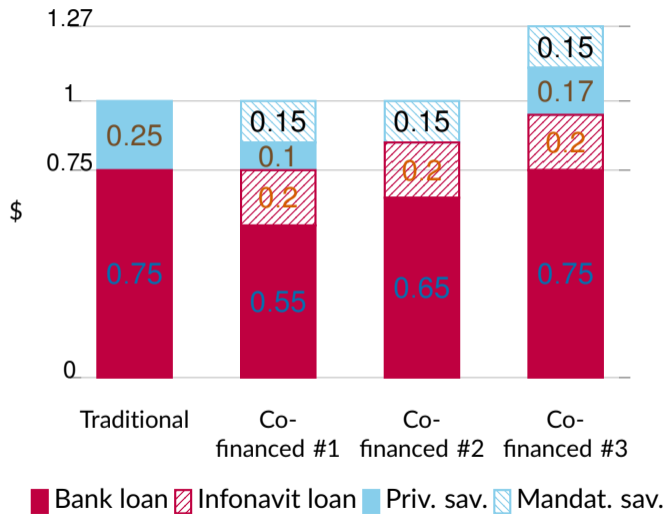
- Case #1: No goal achieved

- Case #2: Pure down payment \downarrow

- Case #3: Pure property value \uparrow

- bank loan \simeq (no full substitution)
- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \simeq
- property value \uparrow

Theoretical effects: Origination conditions



- Cofinavit goals:

- total mortgage loan \uparrow
- down payment \downarrow
- property value \uparrow

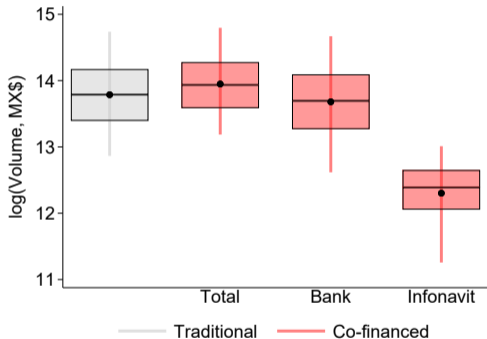
- **Case #1:** No goal achieved

- **Case #2:** Pure down payment \downarrow

- **Case #3:** Pure property value \uparrow

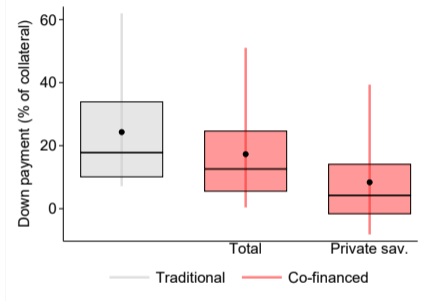
- All cases: \downarrow liquidity needs

Mortgage volume



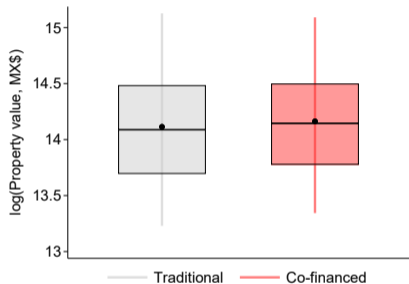
Dependent variable:	log(Total volume)		log(Bank volume)	
	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Co-financed	-.003 (.003)	.129*** (.003)	-.275*** (.003)	-.129*** (.003)
$X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	No	Yes	No	Yes
Income group FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Property munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	.57	.54	.62	.58
Observations	154,294	110,617	154,294	110,617

Down payment and property value



Dependent variable:	Down payment					
	Total		Paid w/ private savings		log(Property value)	
	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Co-financed	-7.444*** (.088)	-5.844*** (.120)	-16.448*** (.085)	-15.781*** (.121)	-.121*** (.003)	.038*** (.003)
$X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Income group FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Property munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	17.56	17.17	18.50	18.13	.58	.55
Observations	154,294	110,617	154,294	110,617	154,294	110,617

Down payment and property value



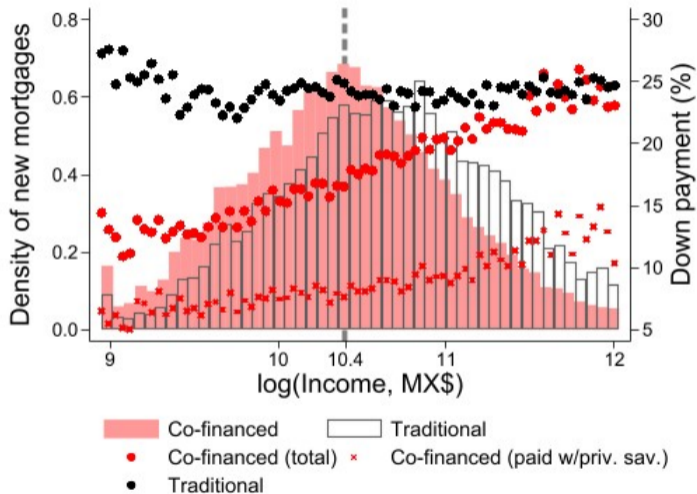
Dependent variable:	Down payment					
	Total		Paid w/ private savings		log(Property value)	
	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Co-financed	-7.444*** (.088)	-5.844*** (.120)	-16.448*** (.085)	-15.781*** (.121)	-.121*** (.003)	.038*** (.003)
$X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Income group FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Property munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	17.56	17.17	18.50	18.13	.58	.55
Observations	154,294	110,617	154,294	110,617	154,294	110,617

- Interest rates [▶ Go](#)

Heterogeneity by income

- Both demand and supply forces vary with income:
- **Demand**
 - At higher incomes:
 - More PTI ratio slack → higher capacity to increase debt
 - More (mandatory and, very likely, private) savings (Dynan et al., 2004) → less need for a reduced down payment
- **Supply**
 - Conditions of Infonavit and bank loans (interest rates, credit limits) vary differently with income

Mortgage origination conditions by income



Origination conditions by income

Dependent variable:	log(Total	log(Bank	Down payment		log(Property	Average	Bank
	volume)	volume)	Total	w/priv. sav.	value)	rate	rate
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
				Low income			
Co-financed	.157*** (.004)	-.156*** (.005)	-8.510*** (.186)	-16.658*** (.187)	.024*** (.004)	.368*** (.006)	-.213*** (.006)
Observations	45,066	45,066	45,066	45,066	45,066	45,066	45,066
				High income			
Co-financed	.115*** (.004)	-.109*** (.005)	-4.141*** (.161)	-15.334*** (.161)	.052*** (.004)	.273*** (.006)	-.214*** (.006)
Observations	65,494	65,494	65,494	65,494	65,494	65,494	65,494
$X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Income group FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
H_0 : Low = High income	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.912

Theoretical effects: Loan performance

- Opposing forces affecting probability of default of the **bank portion** of a Cofinavit:
 1. **Leverage at origination** → ↑ default
 - Previous evidence: ↓ down payment → ↑ combined LTV
 2. **Liquidity** → ↓ default
 - Regular payments: Partly covered by employer contributions → ↓ liquidity needs
 - If unemployed: Borrower can defer payments to Infonavit for > 1 year → ↑ financial relief
 3. **Infonavit's secure repayment system** → ↓ default
 - If employed, borrower can default on bank but not on Infonavit → ↓ cash flow & bank starts foreclosure

Loan performance

Dependent variable:	Default: years after origination					
	first 2		first 3		first 4	
	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Co-financed	-.182*** (.045)	-.134** (.065)	-.206*** (.057)	-.154* (.079)	-.214*** (.063)	-.129 (.086)
$X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Time FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Income group FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Property munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. dev. dependent variable	7.99	7.32	9.92	9.15	11.17	10.31
Observations	1,298,502	692,735	1,865,795	999,287	2,398,929	1,289,378

Loan performance controlling for combined LTV

Dependent variable:	Defaults: years after origination					
	first 2		first 3		first 4	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Co-financed	-.134** (.065)	-.208*** (.068)	-.154* (.079)	-.251*** (.081)	-.129 (.086)	-.239*** (.087)
$X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Time FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Income group FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Combined LTV FE	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	7.32	7.32	9.15	9.15	10.31	10.31
Observations	692,735	692,735	999,287	999,287	1,289,378	1,289,378

Loan performance by income

Dependent variable:	Default: years after origination					
	first 2		first 3		first 4	
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
Income:	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Co-financed	.052 (.107)	-.223*** (.075)	.095 (.133)	-.329*** (.102)	.192 (.142)	-.403*** (.109)
$X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Time FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Income group FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observations	283,396	408,661	410,409	587,867	531,475	756,516
H_0 : Low = High income		0.033		0.010		0.001

Robustness checks

- Conditions at origination accounting for ex ante credit risk [▶ Go](#)
- Outcomes by supply-side conditions
 - Examine if results depend on Infonavit loan conditions [▶ Go](#)
 - Reestimate results for mortgages originated under old and new Infonavit credit plans separately (new plan since April 2017)
 - Examine if results vary by bank
 - Reestimate results for each of the 5 more represented, larger banks
- Sensitivity analysis
 - Oster's (2019) test for selection on unobservables

Cofinavit vs. piggyback loan structures

- **Piggyback mortgages:** Second-lien mortgages taken out to reduce down-payment & avoid insurance
- Suspected of contributing to pre-2008 housing bubble in US (Lee et al., 2013)
 - Successful in expanding home ownership (Chambers et al., 2009), but recent evidence dismisses its role in subprime crisis (Bhutta and Keys, 2022)
- Main risks: Misaligned banks' incentives (e.g. underreporting of 2nd loan) when securitization available
- **Cofinavit:** Increases efficiency by reducing individual risks. No risk-shifting via securitization.
 - Requires paternalistic saving scheme + home financing option w/secure repayment
 - → When is it optimal? (see Fadlon and Laibson, 2022; Moser and Olea de Souza e Silva, 2019)

Conclusions

- Co-financing w/HPF: Opportunity to study mortgage demand in developing country
- **Main findings:**
 - Co-financing is effective to relax borrowing constraints: \uparrow total funding; \downarrow down payments
 - Less potential to \uparrow wealth accumulation & \downarrow inequality: Limited effect on property value; stronger \uparrow at high incomes
 - Despite \uparrow leverage, not worsening of credit risk: \downarrow liquidity needs & secure repayment
- **Policy implications:**
 - Paternalistic institutions, managing a portion of employees' wages, can relax borrowing constraints without increasing credit risk through products co-financed with banks
- **Ongoing work:** Counterfactual analysis of financial gain or loss under Cofinavit
 - Determine break-even rate of return on mandatory savings, below which Cofinavit leads to financial gains relative to traditional mortgages

Banks will benefit from the law; they will be able to collect direct credit from your salary



By **Aurora Writes** — March 18, 2022 🗨️ No Comments 🕒 4 Mins Read

BREAKING NEWS

What are payroll credits with delegated collection and what risks would they entail for the worker

This reform would jeopardize the legitimate right of workers to receive their full wage; the Senate is reflecting on the consequences this would entail

Newsroom Infobae

March 22, 2022

Morena revive iniciativa para que bancos “se cobren a lo chino”

La nueva iniciativa consiste en que los créditos vigentes, estén o no siendo pagados, se mantienen intactos, mientras que la figura de cobranza delegada aplicará para los nuevos préstamos a través de la firma de un contrato

Literature I

- Sumit Agarwal, Brent W. Ambrose, and Vincent W. Yao. Lender steering in residential mortgage markets. *Real Estate Economics*, 48(2):446–475, 2020.
- Matteo Benetton, Philippe Bracke, João F Cocco, and Nicola Garbarino. Housing consumption and investment: Evidence from shared equity mortgages. *The Review of Financial Studies*, 35(8):3525–3573, 2022.
- Neil Bhutta and Benjamin J Keys. Moral hazard during the housing boom: Evidence from private mortgage insurance. *The Review of Financial Studies*, 35(2):771–813, 2022.
- Kristian Blickle and Martin Brown. Borrowing constraints, home ownership and housing choice: Evidence from intra-family wealth transfers. *Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking*, 51(2–3):539–580, 2019.
- John Y Campbell and Joao F Cocco. A model of mortgage default. *The Journal of Finance*, 70(4):1495–1554, 2015.
- John Y Campbell, Nuno Clara, and Joao F Cocco. Structuring mortgages for macroeconomic stability. *The Journal of Finance*, 76(5):2525–2576, 2021.

Literature II

- Matthew S. Chambers, Carlos Garriga, and Don E. Schlagenhauf. Accounting for changes in the homeownership rate. *International Economic Review*, 50(3):677–726, 2009.
- Anthony A Defusco, Stephanie Johnson, and John Mondragon. Regulating household leverage. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 87(2):914–958, 2019.
- Karen E. Dynan, Jonathan Skinner, and Stephen P. Zeldes. Do the rich save more? *Journal of Political Economy*, 112(2):397–444, 2004.
- Ronel Elul, Nicholas S. Souleles, Souphala Chomsisengphet, Dennis Glennon, and Robert Hunt. What “triggers” mortgage default? *American Economic Review: P&P*, 100(2): 490–94, 2010.
- Itzik Fadlon and David Laibson. Paternalism and pseudo-rationality: An illustration based on retirement savings. *Journal of Public Economics*, 216:104763, 2022.
- Andreas Fuster and Paul S. Willen. Payment size, negative equity, and mortgage default. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 9(4):167–91, 2017.

Literature III

Andreas Fuster and Basit Zafar. To buy or not to buy: Consumer constraints in the housing market. *American Economic Review*, 106(5):636–40, 2016.

Andreas Fuster and Basit Zafar. The sensitivity of housing demand to financing conditions: Evidence from a survey. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 13(1):231–65, 2021.

Peter Ganong and Pascal Noel. Liquidity versus wealth in household debt obligations: Evidence from housing policy in the great recession. *American Economic Review*, 110(10): 3100–3138, October 2020.

Pedro Gete and Michael Reher. Mortgage supply and housing rents. *The Review of Financial Studies*, 31(12):4884–4911, 2018.

Daniel L Greenwald, Tim Landvoigt, and Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh. Financial fragility with SAM? *The Journal of Finance*, 76(2):651–706, 2021.

Arpit Gupta, Christopher Hansman, and Pierre Mabilille. Financial constraints and the racial housing gap. *INSEAD Working Paper No. 2021/72/FIN*, 2021.

Literature IV

- Adam M Guren, Arvind Krishnamurthy, and Timothy J McQuade. Mortgage design in an equilibrium model of the housing market. *The Journal of Finance*, 76(1):113–168, 2021.
- Stefano M. Iacus, Gary King, and Giuseppe Porro. Causal inference without balance checking: Coarsened exact matching. *Political Analysis*, 20:1–24, 2012.
- Donghoon Lee, Christopher Mayer, and Joseph Tracy. *Housing and the Financial Crisis*, chapter A New Look at Second Liens. University of Chicago Press, 2013.
- Christopher Mayer, Karen Pence, and Shane M. Sherlund. The rise in mortgage defaults. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 23(1):27–50, 2009.
- Atif Mian and Amir Sufi. House prices, home equity-based borrowing, and the US household leverage crisis. *American Economic Review*, 101(5):2132–56, 2011.
- Christian Moser and Pedro Olea de Souza e Silva. Optimal paternalistic savings policies. Columbia Business School Research Paper No. 17-51, 2019.

Literature V

François Ortalo-Magné and Sven Rady. Housing Market Dynamics: On the Contribution of Income Shocks and Credit Constraints. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 73(2):459–485, 2006.

Emily Oster. Unobservable selection and coefficient stability: Theory and evidence. *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 37(2):187–204, 2019.

Sock-Yong Phang and Wing-Keung Wong. Government policies and private housing prices in singapore. *Urban Studies*, 34(11):1819–1829, 1997.

Mingzhe Tang and N Edward Coulson. The impact of china's housing provident fund on homeownership, housing consumption and housing investment. *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 63:25–37, 2017.

Belinda Tracey and Neeltje Van Horen. Help to spend? The housing market and consumption response to relaxing the down payment constraint. CEPR - Discussion Paper DP 16144, 2022.

Xiaoqing Zhou. A quantitative evaluation of the housing provident fund program in China. *China Economic Review*, page 101436, 2020.

Applying for a mortgage

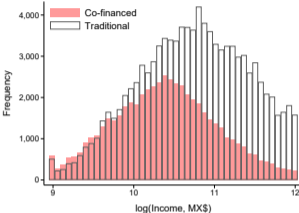
DATOS DEL SOLICITANTE		<input type="checkbox"/> Nómina-Habiente	<input type="checkbox"/> Acreditado	<input type="checkbox"/> Coacreditado	<input type="checkbox"/> Obligado Solidario	<input type="checkbox"/> Garante hipotecario	Fecha de solicitud	dia mes año	
Nombre y apellido		Nombre(s)		Apellido paterno		Apellido materno		Fecha de nacimiento	dia mes año
RFC	/	País de nacimiento		Estado de nacimiento		Nacionalidad		Género / Sexo	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
CURP		Identificación				Número			
Número de IMSS		Domicilio		La dirección debe coincidir con la identificación oficial					
Código postal		Colonia			Alcaldía o municipio				
Ciudad		Estado		Teléfono(s) domicilio		1.		2.	
Teléfono		Correo electrónico				Tipo de vivienda			
Antigüedad domicilio actual		años	meses	Estado civil		Régimen matrimonial			
Dependientes económicos		Escolaridad							
DATOS DEL CÓNYUGE O CONCUBINA(RIO) O SEGÚN APLIQUE		Nombre(s)		Apellido paterno		Apellido materno			
Participa en el crédito		<input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No	RFC / Homoclave		Nacionalidad				
CURP		Identificación		Número		Número de IMSS			
DATOS DEL CRÉDITO		Destino		Producto solicitado		Programa			
Importe del crédito solicitado		\$	Valor estimado del inmueble		\$	Plazo del crédito			
INFORMACIÓN ECONÓMICA / TOTAL DE INGRESOS								COFINAVIT COFINAVIT INGRESOS ADICIONALES APOYO INFONAVIT	
Ingreso bruto mensual fijo		\$	Otros ingresos		\$	Fuente de otros ingresos			
EMPLEO ACTUAL Y ACTIVIDAD ECONÓMICA DEL SOLICITANTE (FUENTE DE INGRESO DE MAYOR APORTACIÓN)									
Compañía o empresa				Puesto o actividad			Profesión		
Sector		<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Estatal <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> Privado	Ingreso mensual		\$	Comprueba ingresos con			
Giro o actividad		Retiene impuestos		<input type="checkbox"/> Sí <input type="checkbox"/> No	Tipo de contrato		<input type="checkbox"/> Fijo <input type="checkbox"/> Temporal <input type="checkbox"/> Independiente <input type="checkbox"/> Otro ¿Cuál?		
Antigüedad del empleo actual		años	meses	Antigüedad del empleo anterior		años	meses	Teléfono	
Domicilio (calle, número exterior e interior, colonia o fraccionamiento, código postal, alcaldía, ciudad y estado)									

CEM algorithm and estimation [▶ Back](#)

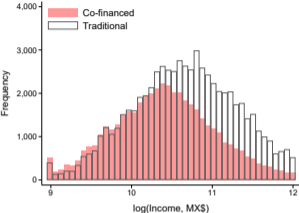
- Variables and coarsening levels used for the matching:
 1. log income (20 bins, equally spaced)
 2. gender (2 bins)
 3. age (13 bins, 5-year intervals)
 4. marital status (2 bins)
 5. region where borrower works (5 bins)
 6. bank granting the mortgage (10 bins)
 7. whether granted under the old or new credit plan (2 bins)
- Define strata for all combinations of covariates' bins
- Assign weights:
 - 1 → co-financed mortgages
 - stratum weight → traditional mortgages
 - increasing in proportion of co-financed mortgages
 - 0 → unmatched observations
- Estimate equation (1) using CEM weights

Support and balance of matching covariates

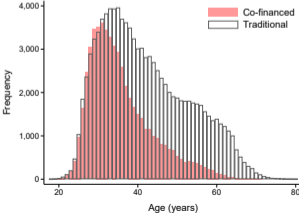
Income (full sample)



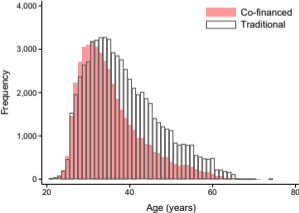
Income (balanced sample)



Age (full sample)



Age (balanced sample)



Empirical approach (cont.)

- Main sources of bias from 2-stage selection of borrowers into mortgage products:

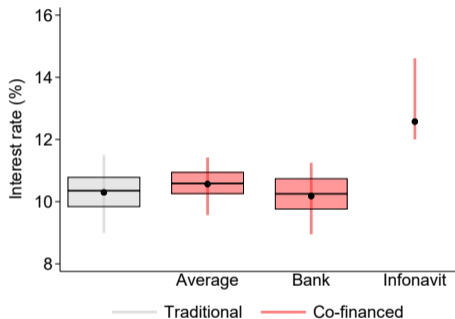
1. Households' application: Self-select into products according to

- *Financial needs*: Level & composition of savings not observed (i.e., borrowing & liquidity constraints)
- *Bank eligibility conditions*: Same for both products
- *Infonavit eligibility conditions*: Specific requirements unlikely to affect loan outcomes

2. Lenders' approval:

- *Bank loan officer*: Unobserved factors, e.g., applicant's length of employment, credit history
- *Infonavit loan officer* (if Cofinavit): No crucial role

Mortgage interest rate at origination [▶ Back](#)



Mortgage interest rate at origination [▶ Back](#)

Dependent variable:	Average rate		Bank rate	
	OLS	CEM	OLS	CEM
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Co-financed	.336*** (.003)	.309*** (.004)	-.237*** (.003)	-.214*** (.004)
$X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	No	Yes	No	Yes
Income group FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Property munic. FE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	No	Yes	No	Yes
St. dev. dependent variable	.72	.70	.75	.74
Observations	154,294	110,617	154,294	110,617

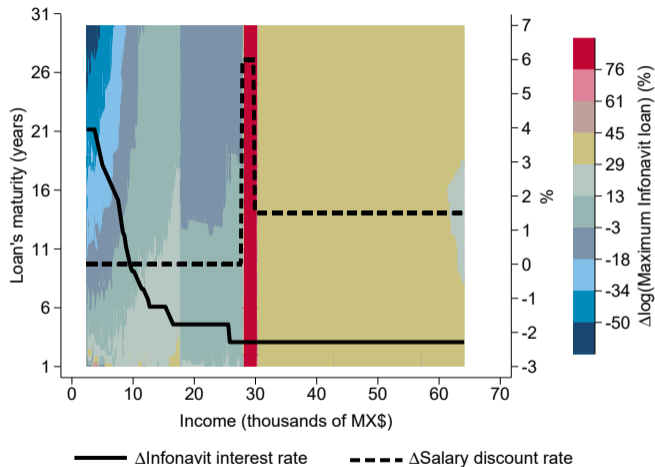
Robustness: Origination conditions accounting for ex ante credit risk

▶ Back

- Ex ante credit risk → potentially important **omitted variable**

Dependent variable:	log(Total volume)	log(Bank volume)	Down payment	Down pay. w/ priv. sav.	log(Property value)	Bank rate
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Co-financed	.106*** (.013)	-.224*** (.021)	-6.301*** (.432)	-15.307*** (.384)	.017* (.012)	-.285*** (.013)
PD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
$X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Income group FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-financed \times PD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	.50	.55	14.98	16.24	.50	.53
Observations	8,029	8,029	8,029	8,029	8,029	8,029

Contractual changes in Infonavit loan conditions

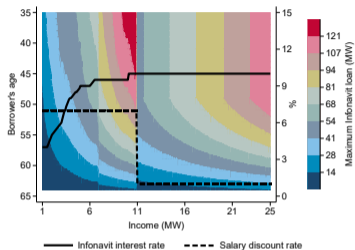


- April 2017 → New credit plan changes **Infonavit loan** conditions in a Cofinavit
- For high- relative to low-income borrowers:
 - **Interest rates:** More generous
 - **Credit limits:** Less generous

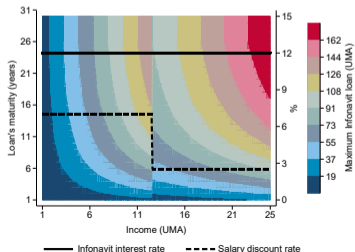
▶ Terms before and after

Infonavit loans: Credit limits, interest rates, salary discount rates [▶ Back](#)

Panel A: Loans originated before April 2017



Panel B: Loans originated after April 2017



Conditions at origination under different credit plans [▶ Back](#)

Dependent variables:	log(Total volume)		Down payment		log(Property value)		Average rate	
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Co-financed	.108*** (.005)	.120*** (.003)	-5.704*** (.205)	-4.921*** (.127)	.023*** (.005)	.042*** (.003)	.636*** (.008)	.202*** (.004)
$X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cohort FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bank time trends	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Income group FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Workplace munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property munic. FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-financed $\times X'(\cdot)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
St. dev. dep. var.	.53	.55	16.93	17.47	.55	.55	.86	.57
Observations	33,845	104,991	33,845	104,991	33,845	104,991	33,845	104,991