The aggregate and distributional implications of credit shocks on housing and rental markets *

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Abstract

We propose a joint model of the aggregate housing and rental markets in which both house prices and rents are determined endogenously. Households can choose their housing tenure status (renters, homeowners, or landlords) depending on their age, wealth, and income. We use our model to study the introduction in Ireland in 2015 of macroprudential policies that limited loan-to-value (LTV) and loan-to-income (LTI) ratios of newly originated mortgages. The introduction of stringent LTV and LTI ratios mitigates house price growth, but increases rents and reduces homeownership rates. As a result, middle-income households are negatively affected.

Keywords: House Prices, Rental Prices, Homeownership, Life-cycle, Housing Affordability, Credit Conditions, Macroprudential Policy

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