

THE WELFARE OF ETHNIC GROUPS IN VIETNAM 1989-2009

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Most Studies of Ethnic Minorities in Vietnam

- **Studies based on national surveys**
 - Group ethnic minorities into one group and compare to Kinh majority

OR

- **Studies of specific groups or places**
 - Valuable, but do not present comparative story or changes over time

Contribution of This Study

- **Census data**
- **Coverage of ALL ethnic groups**
- **Long-term changes: 1989-1999-2009**

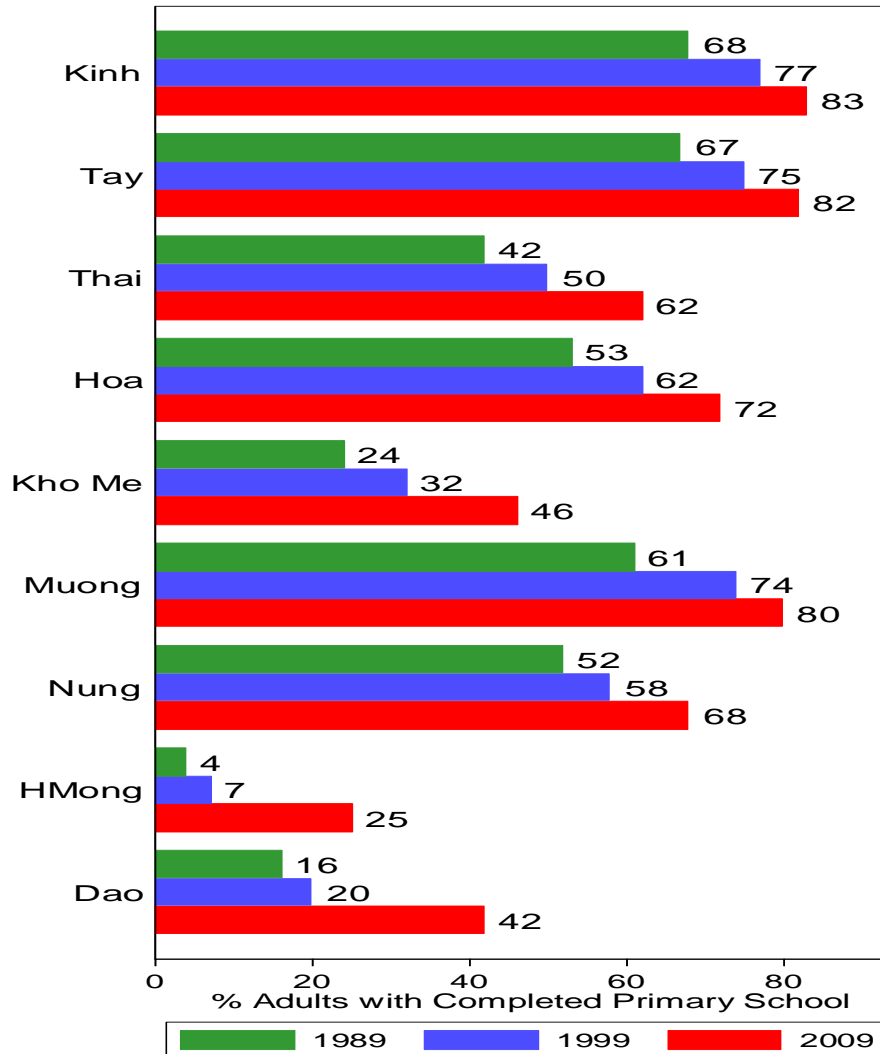
This Presentation

- **Simple summary measures for 9 largest groups, 1989-1999-2009**
- **Wealth index vs. characteristics, 1999-2009 for all groups**

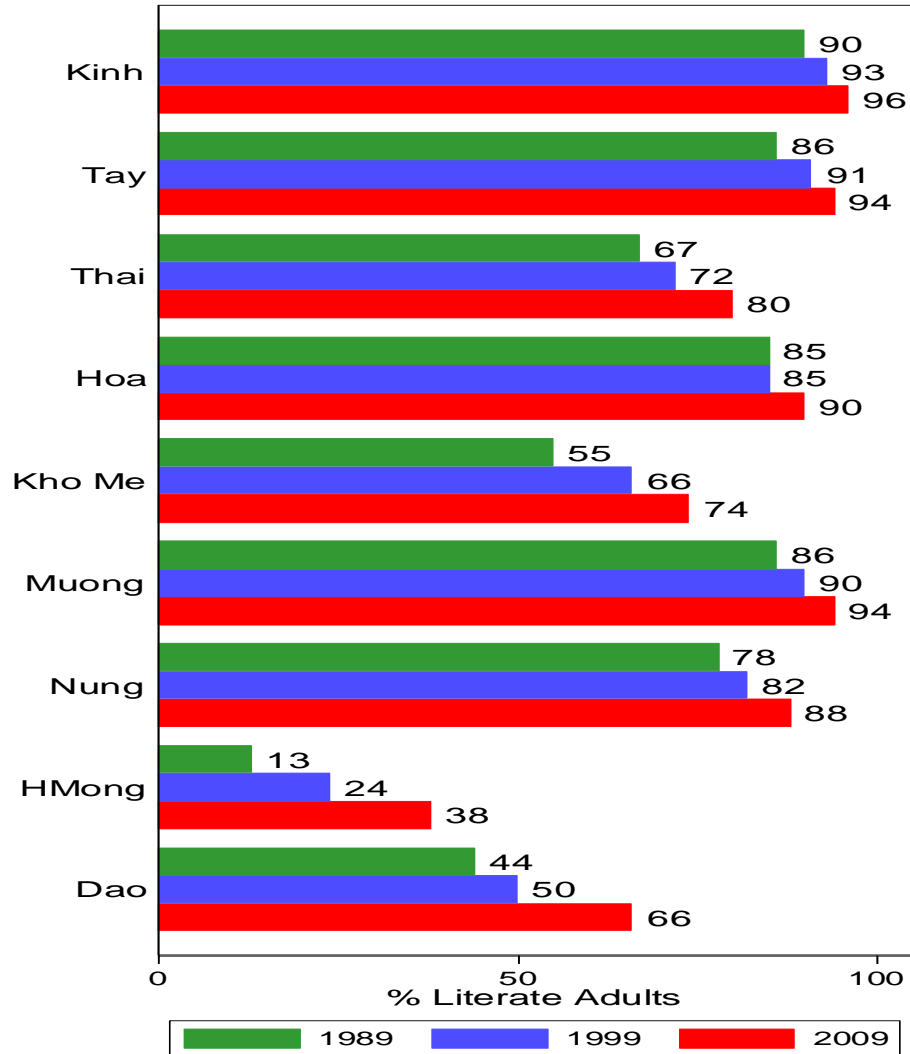
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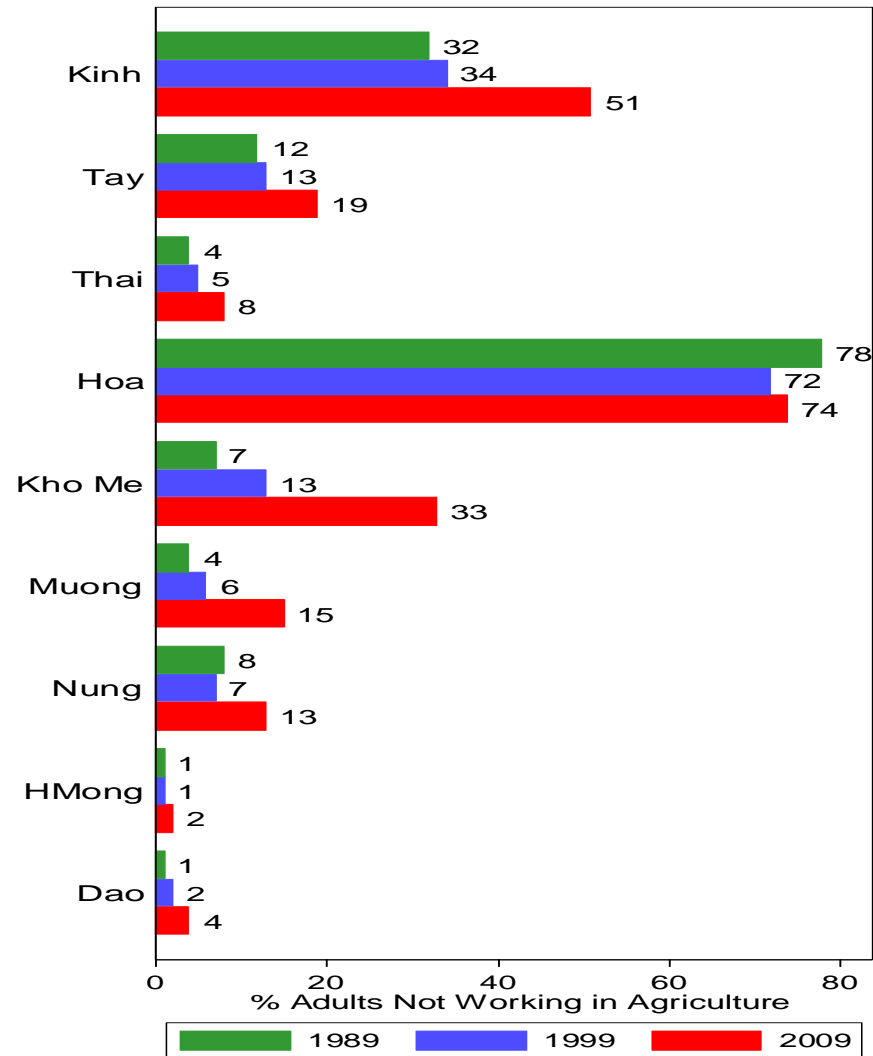
Primary Completion Rates



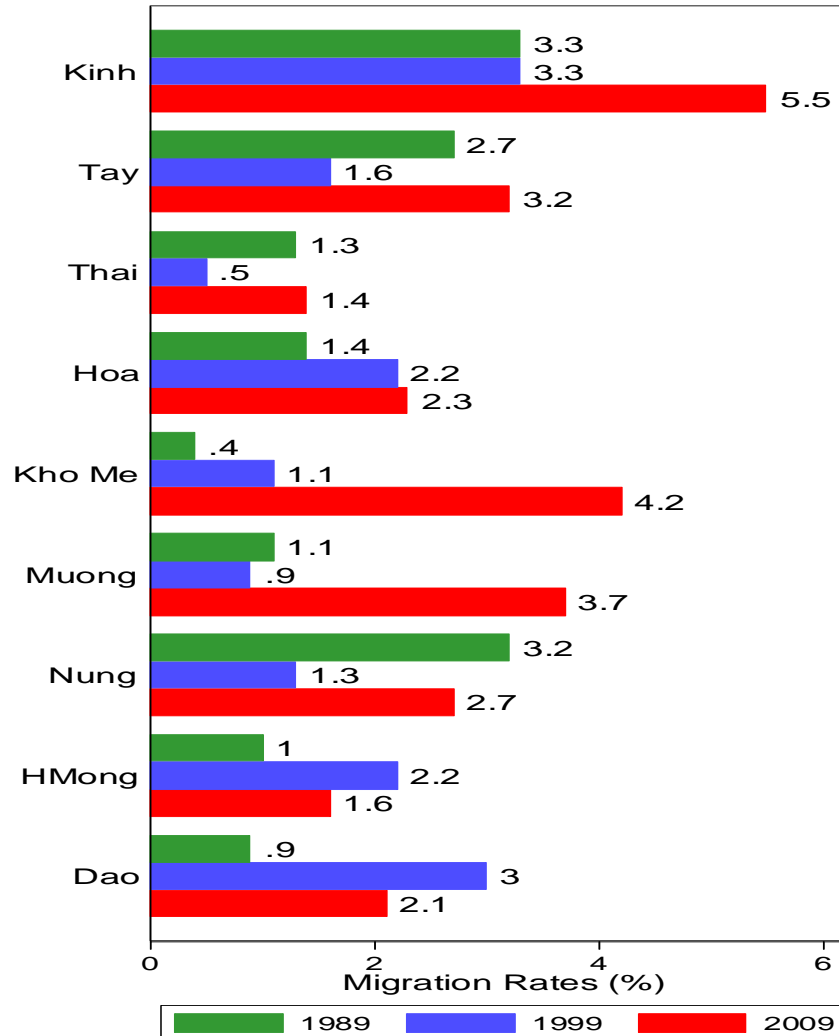
Literacy Rates



% Not Working in Agriculture



Migration: % Living in Different Province 5 Years Before

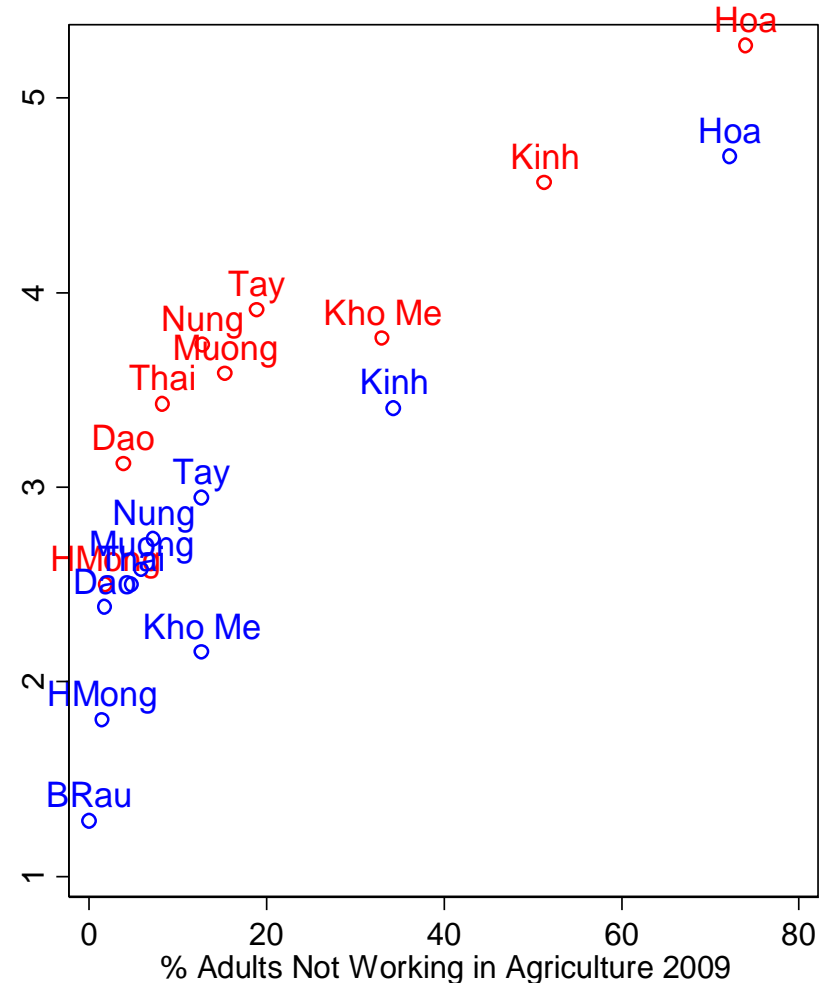
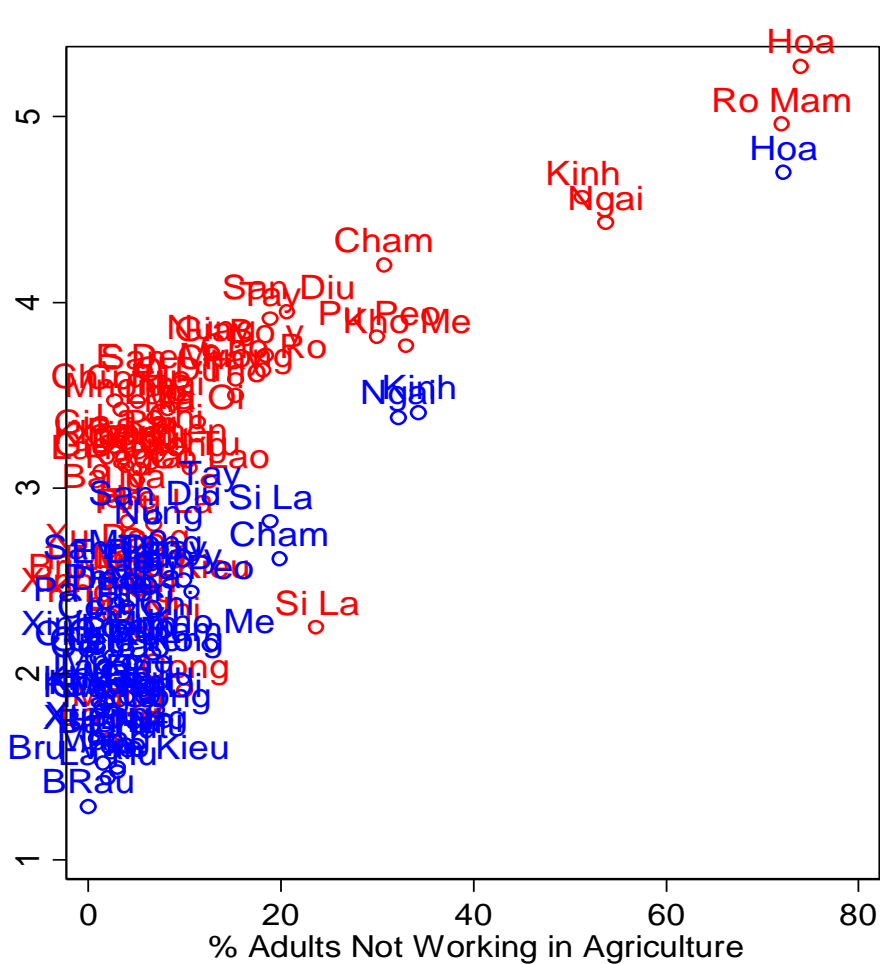


Wealth Index

Based on 7 variables in census:

1) a television, 2) a radio, 3) a modern toilet, 4) access to potable drinking water, 5) electricity for lighting, 6) a living area of 50 square meters or more, and 7) ownership of its residence.

Wealth Index vs. % Not Working in Agriculture



Findings

- Experiences of individual ethnic groups over the period 1989-2009 are varied.
- All groups have experienced increasing wealth levels, rising school completion rates, rising literacy, and a shrinking share working in agriculture. Most have seen rising migration rates.
- The relative positions of the groups along these welfare measures in 2009 are correlated with their relative positions in 1989.

Ongoing Work

- **Analysis of other variables**
- **Determinants of variation in experiences across ethnic groups**
- **Policy implications**