NEW HOUSEHOLD BALANCE SHEETS

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Until recently there have been substantial gaps in household balance sheet information, limiting the analysis of property investment and hampering a balance sheet-based confrontation of the flow measure of household saving (income less expenditure). New estimates have been compiled on other aspects of the household balance sheet that put residential property investment in a better context. This includes new estimates of currency holdings, equity in unincorporated and unlisted incorporated businesses and some unfunded superannuation benefits. This paper introduces the improved household balance sheet and analyses the results, including comparison with microeconomic information.