

In a distributional examination of monetary policy impacts, my study explores how changes in the federal funds rate affect short-term consumption dynamics through the wealth inequality channel. Differential returns and prices of housing and equity along with heterogeneous marginal propensities to consume out of income across households, cause uneven effects of monetary policy on individuals with different net wealth. Exploring the impacts unveils surprising results contrasting to existing literature: a 1% federal funds rate drop increases consumption of outright homeowners by more than double relative to mortgage holders (3.02% vs 1.43%), yields a 1.72% rise for older individuals with a 1.29% boost for younger ones. The middle 50-90% net wealth distribution gain nearly twice as much as the bottom 50% (1.51% vs 0.8%). The analysis unveils varying group susceptibilities to monetary policy, underscoring the diversified effects based on housing tenure, age, and borrowing constraints. Besides identifying winners and losers, I also study how the distribution affects the aggregate. A 1% reduction in the federal funds rate increases overall consumption by 1.63%. There also exists significant asymmetries at all levels with 1% increase curtailing aggregate consumption by merely 1.02%, signifying hurdles in achieving a 'soft landing.'