

CASE and New Economics Foundation public discussion

About time – Examining the case for a shorter working week

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*Professor of Sustainable Development,
Surrey University*

Professor Lord Skidelsky

*Emeritus Professor, Political Economy,
University of Warwick*

Professor Juliet Schor

Professor of Sociology, Boston College

Anna Coote

Chair

 **LSE events**

Suggested hashtag for Twitter users: #lsetime



"Schor presents a documented and timely inversion of conventional economic logic." —Paul Hawken, author of *Blessed Unrest*

TRUE WEALTH

How and Why Millions of Americans
Are Creating A Time-Rich, Ecologically Light,
Small-Scale, High-Satisfaction Economy

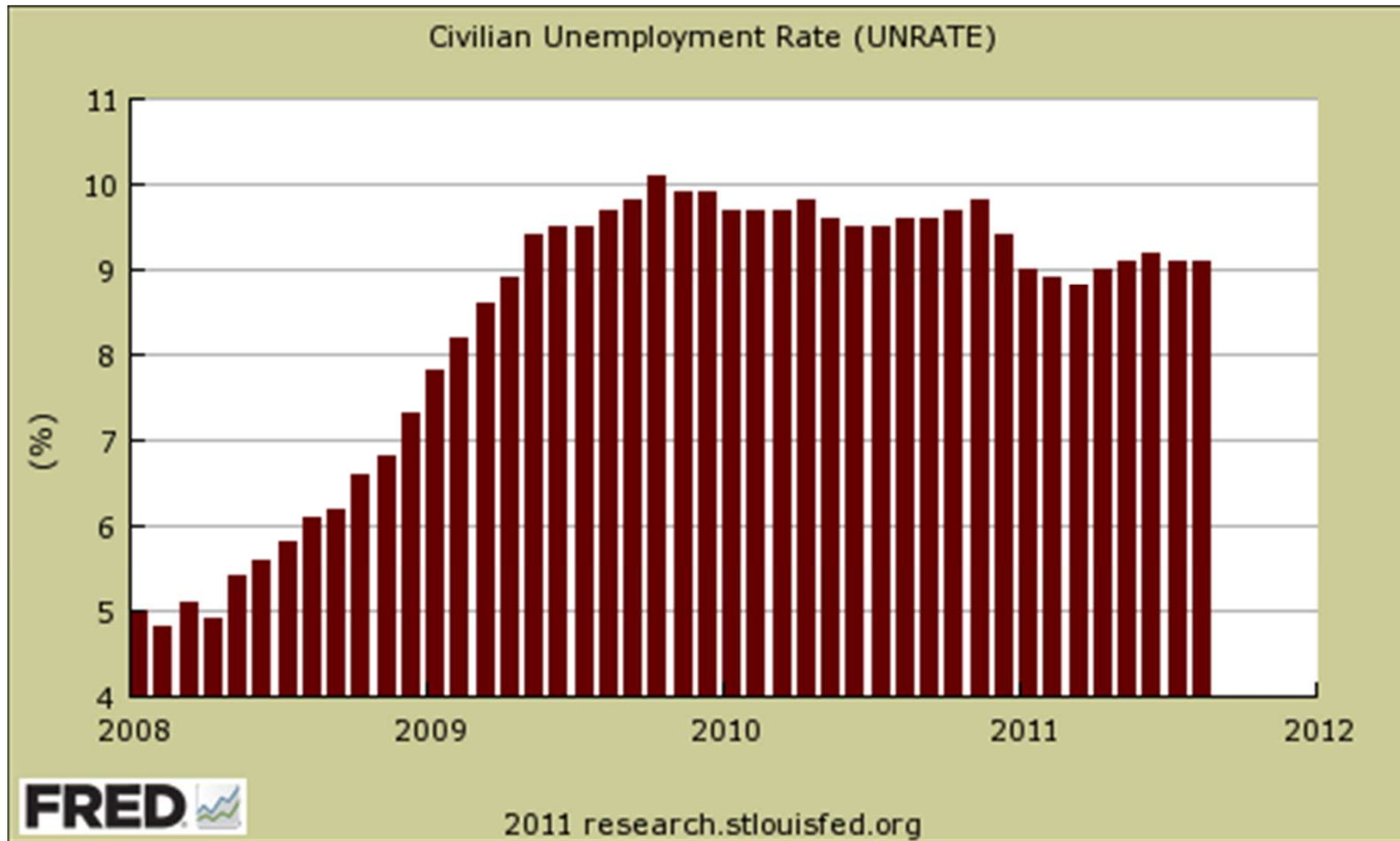
Juliet B. Schor



BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE OVERSPENT AMERICAN*

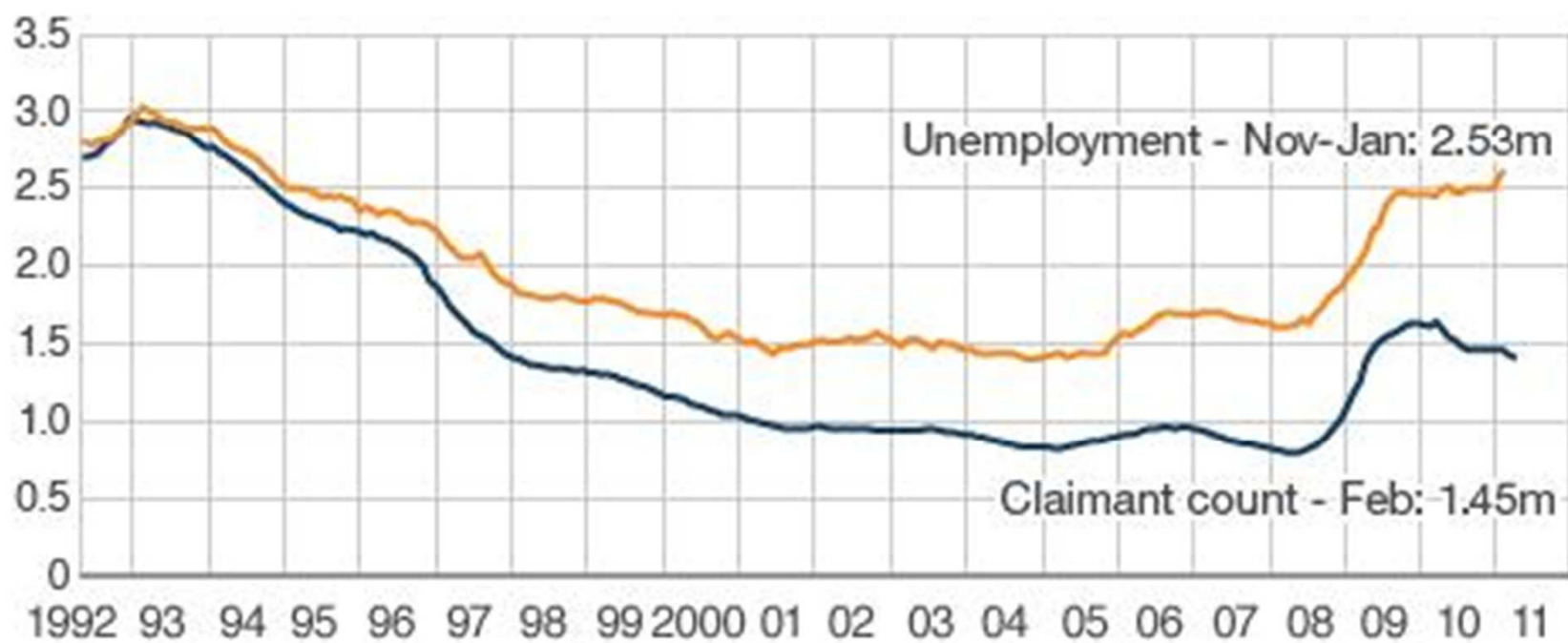
PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED AS *PLENTITUDE*

chronic unemployment US



Unemployment in the UK 1992–2011

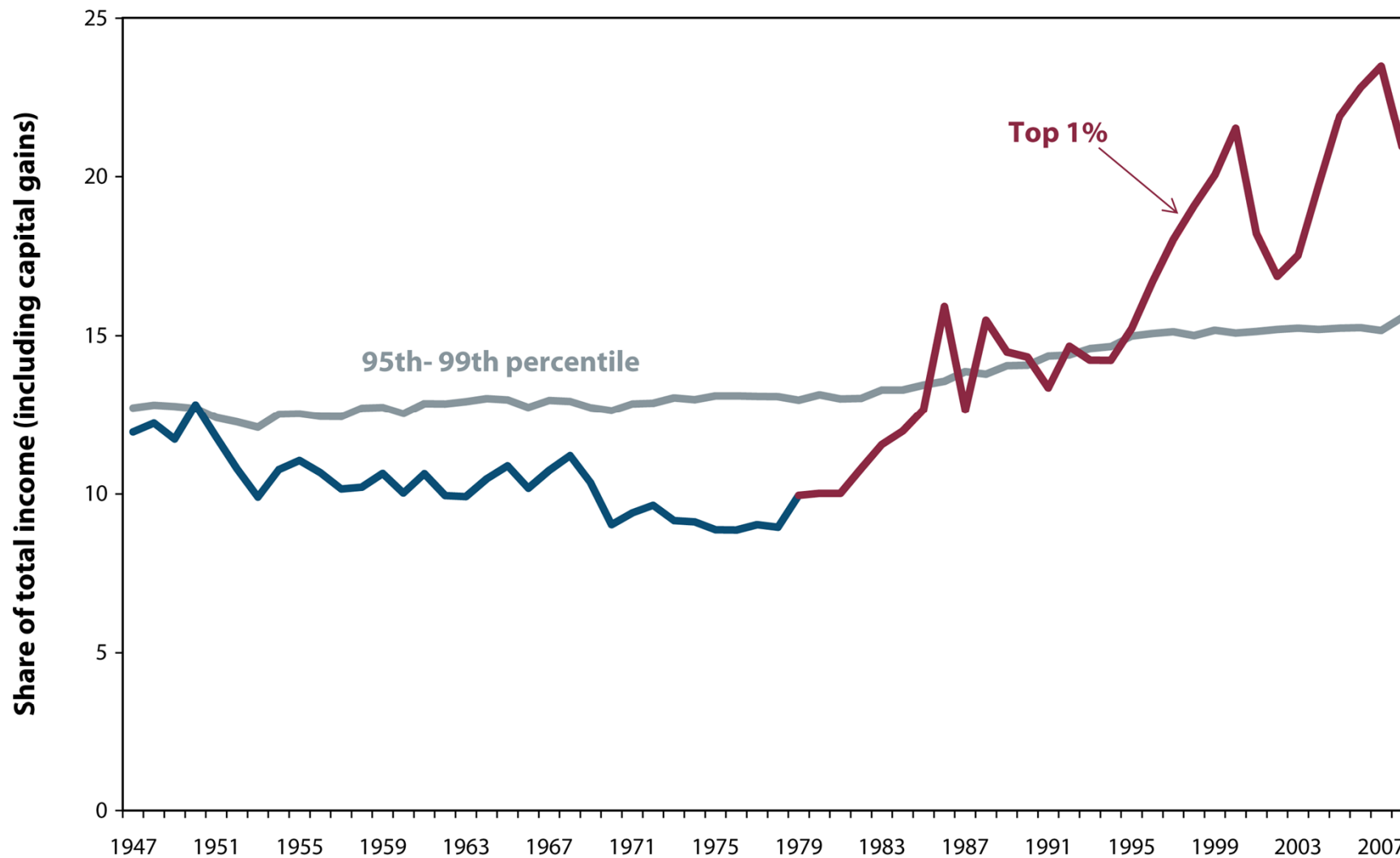
Number, millions



Source: ONS

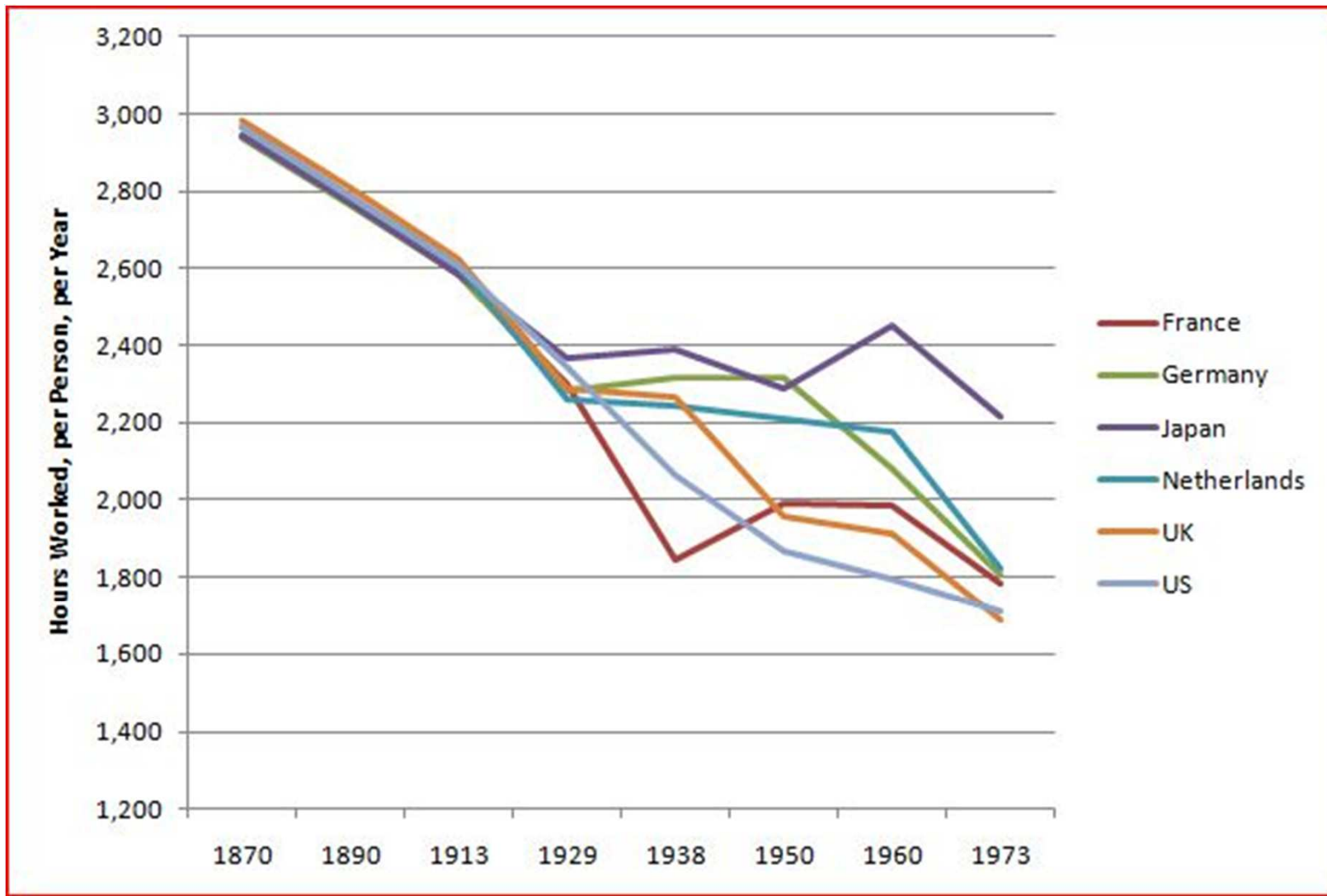
Greater concentration at the very top

Share of total income accruing to the top 1% and 95-99%, 1947-79 and 1979-2008



Source: Piketty and Saez.

WORKING HOURS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1870-1973



Working Hours in Selected Countries, 1973-2007

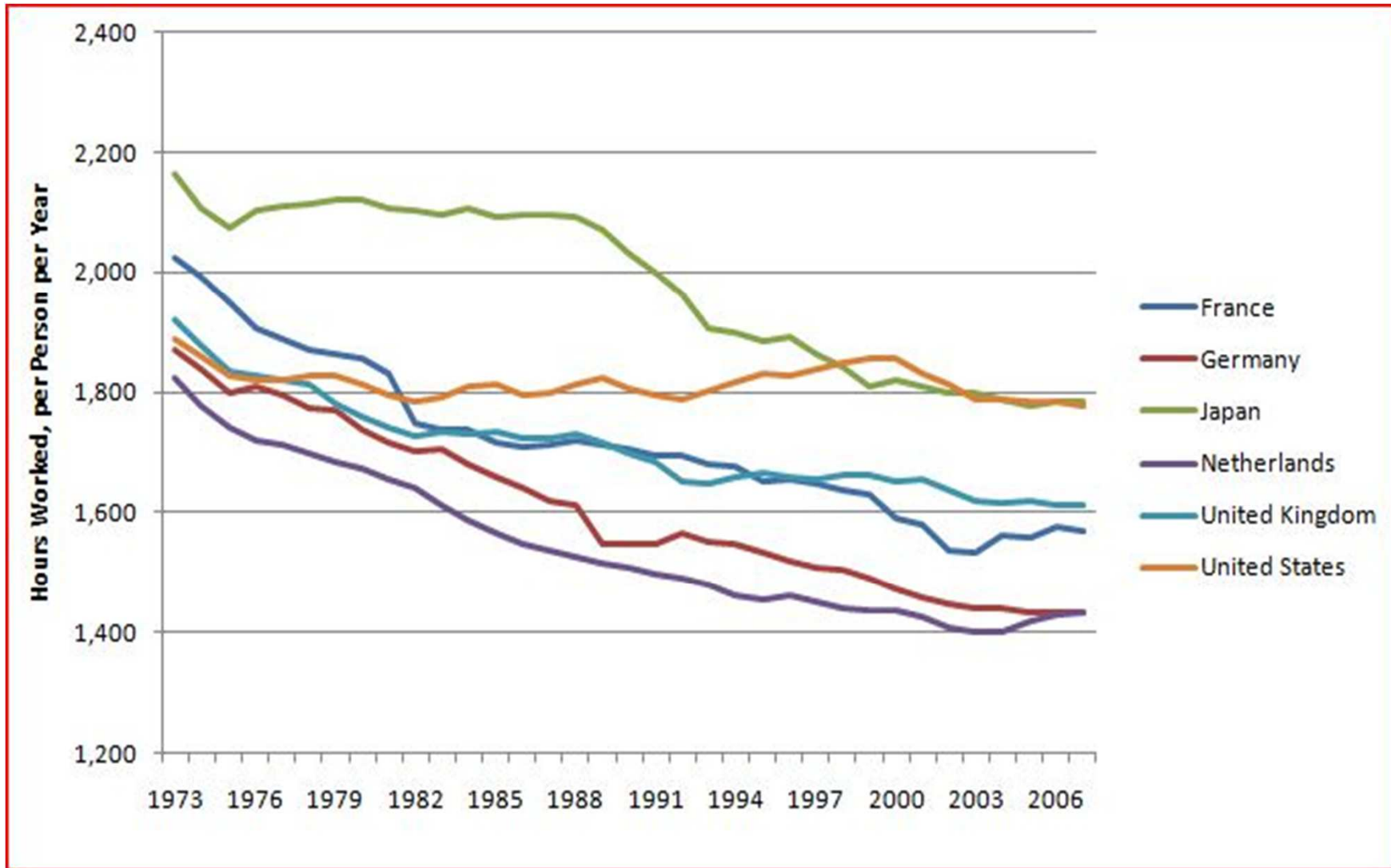
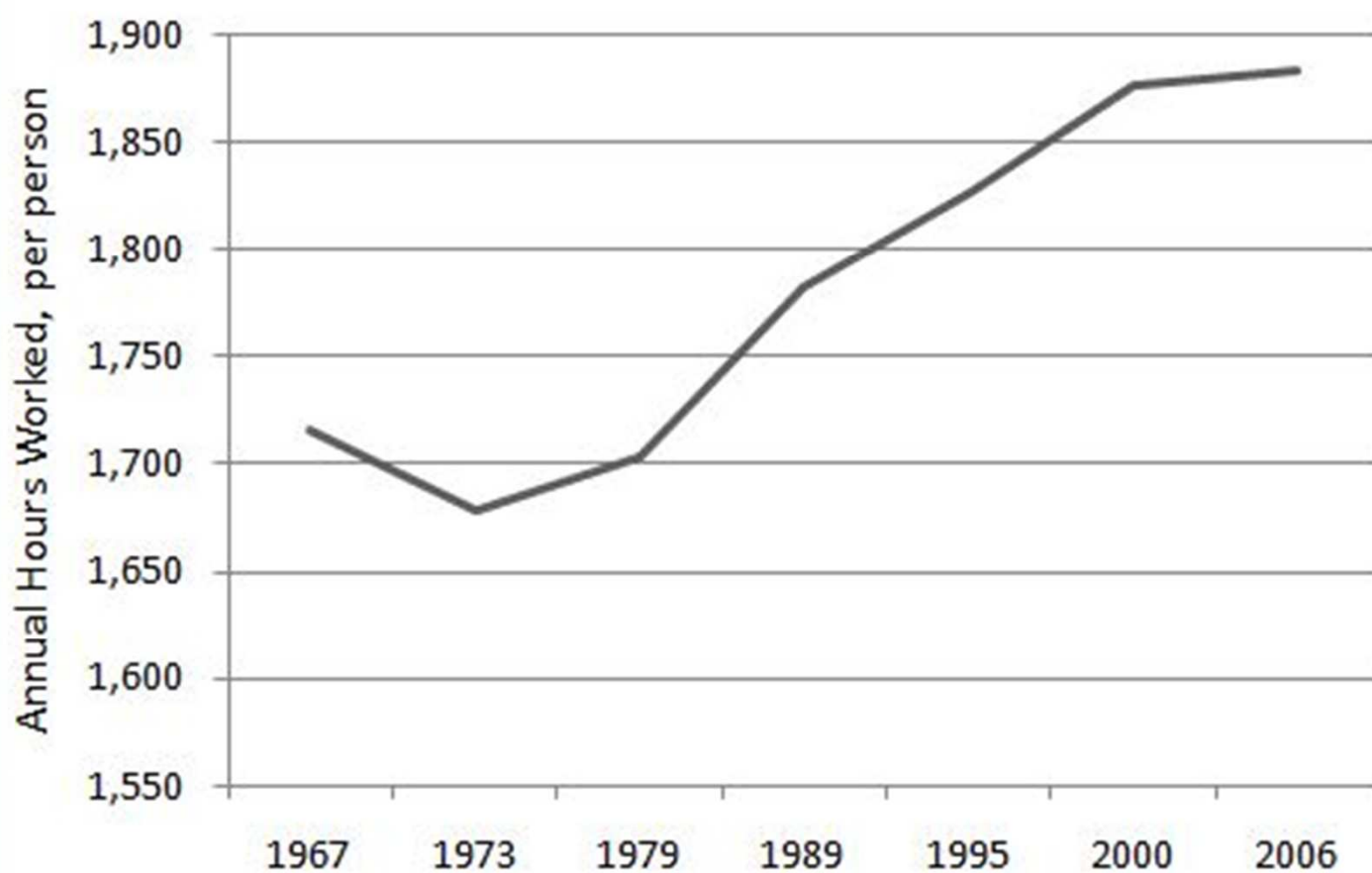
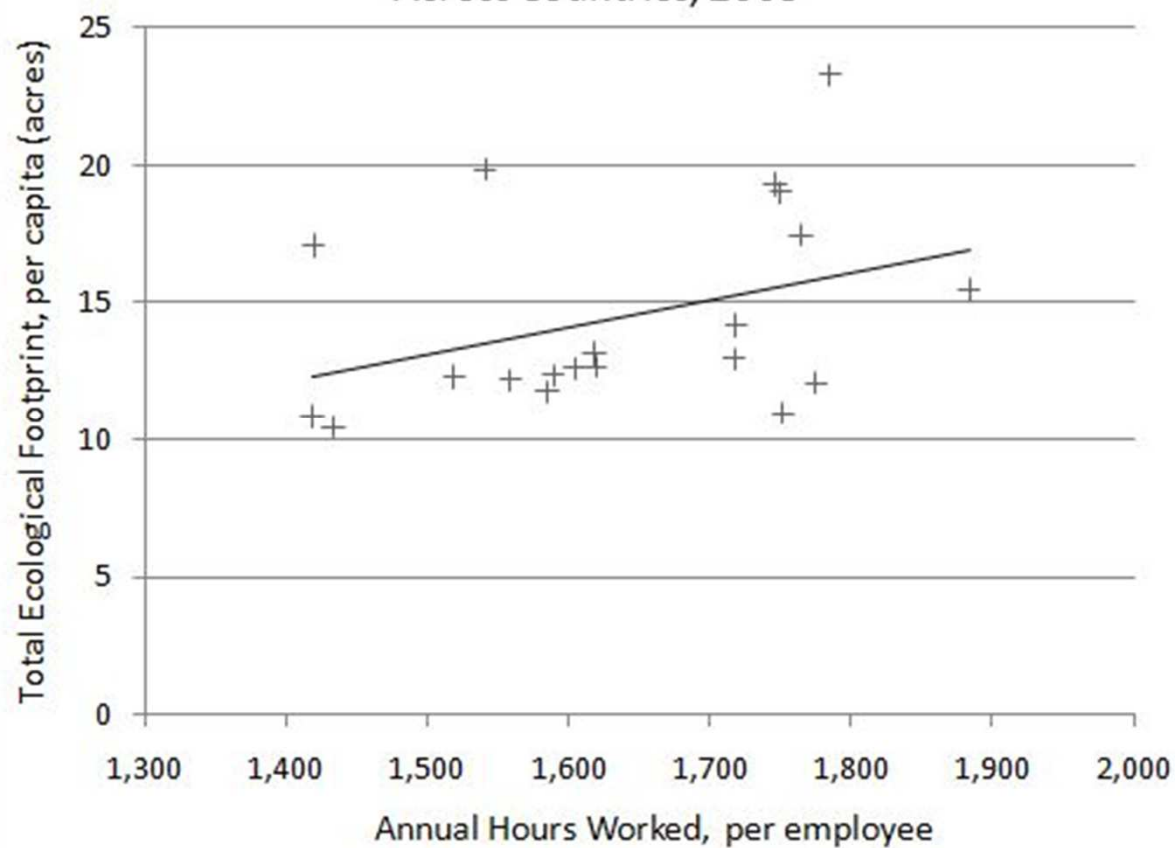


Figure 4.1 Annual Hours Worked, U.S. 1967-2006



Source: Mishel, Bernstein, & Shierholz (2009, Table 3.2)

Figure 4.2 Ecological Footprint and Hours Worked
Across Countries, 2005



Sources: Ecological Footprint from Global Footprint Network (2008); hours from The Conference Board and Groningen Growth and Development Centre (2008)

The triple dividend of shorter hours

- **Benefit #1:** shorter hours lead to lower unemployment and more job creation
- **Benefit #2:** shorter hours reduce ecological and carbon footprints
- **Benefit #3:** shorter hours give people more free time, reduce stress, enhance family life and community.

Step #2: New ways of consuming

thredUP

**You don't wear 25% of
the clothes in your closet**

Join thredUP and start exchanging
them for some that you will!

thredUP: the Netflix of Clothing

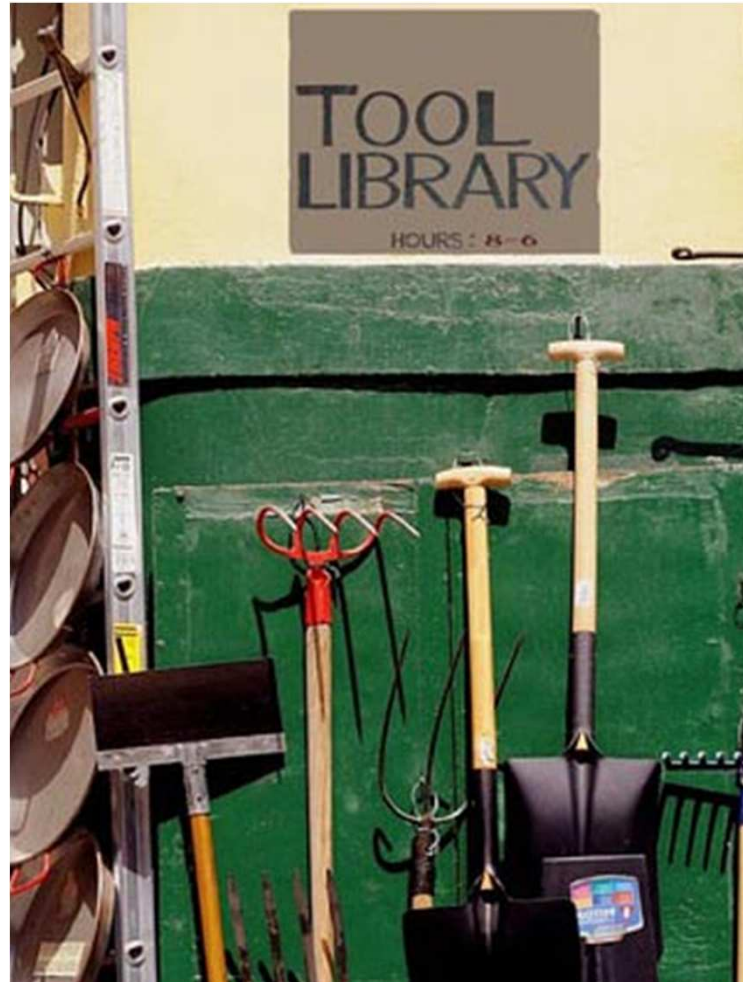


WHAT IS THE FASTEST GROWING FORM OF
TRANSPORTATION IN THE WORLD?

BIKE SHARING



The rise of sharing



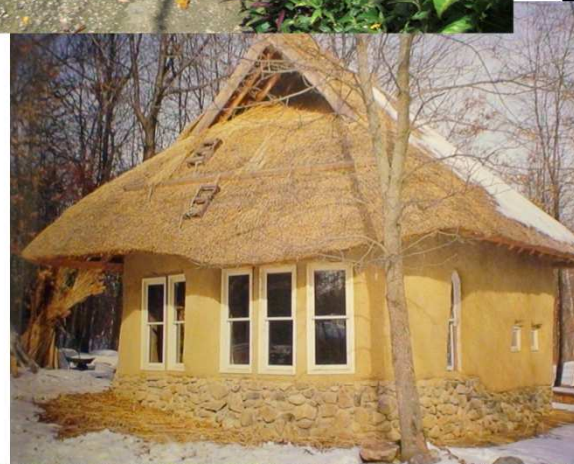
Step #3: High tech self- provisioning , i.e., DIY

Urban food growing and
agriculture, permaculture

Alternative home construction
using low-cost, natural
materials (earth, straw, stone)

Micro-generation of energy

Small scale manufacturing
using “fab lab” technologies





Plenitude Emerging



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