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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Prefatory Note -- Introduction -- 1 Present NIPA Saving Measures: Their Characteristics and Limitations -- 2 Measuring Household Saving: Recent Experience from the Flow-of-Funds Perspective -- 3 Flow-of-Funds and National Income and Product Account Savings Estimates in Latin America -- 4 Aggregate U. S. Private Saving: Conceptual Measures and Empirical Tests -- 5 The Accumulation of Human and Nonhuman Capital, 1948 -84 -- 6 Government Saving, Capital Formation, and Wealth in the United States, 1947-85 -- 7 The Theory and Measurement of the Nominal Output of Banks, Sectoral Rates of Savings, and Wealth in the National Accounts -- 8 World Payments Imbalances and U.S. Statistics -- 9 Year- Apart Estimates of Household Net Worth from the Survey of Income and

Program Participation -- 10 Survey Estimates of Wealth: An Assessment of Quality -- 11 Using Panel Data to Assess the Bias in Cross-sectional Inferences of Life-Cycle Changes in the Level and Composition of Household Wealth -- 12 The Wealth of the Aged and Nonaged, 1984 -- 13 Pension Wealth, Age-Wealth Profiles, and the Distribution of Net Worth -- 14 The Importance of Gifts and Inheritances among the Affluent -- 15 Long-Term Trends in U.S. Wealth Inequality: Methodological Issues and Results -- Contributors -- Author Index -- Subject Index

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Sommario/riassunto

There is probably no concept other than saving for which U.S. official agencies issue annual estimates that differ by more than a third, as they have done for net household saving, or for which reputable scholars claim that the correct measure is close to ten times the officially published one. Yet despite agreement among economists and policymakers on the importance of this measure, huge inconsistencies persist. Contributors to this volume investigate ways to improve aggregate and sectoral saving and investment estimates and analyze microdata from recent household wealth surveys. They provide analyses of National Income and Product Account (NIPA) and Flow-of-Funds measures and of saving and survey-based wealth estimates. Conceptual and methodological questions are discussed regarding long-term trends in the U.S. wealth inequality, age-wealth profiles, pensions and wealth distribution, and biases in inferences about life-cycle changes in saving and wealth. Some new assessments are offered for investment in human and nonhuman capital, the government contribution to national wealth, NIPA personal and corporate saving, and banking imputation.

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