

What Makes an Inventor a Superstar?

The Typical Inventor
represents 95% of inventors

average
of patents



3

max
of citations
per patent



23

% who move internationally **0.6%**



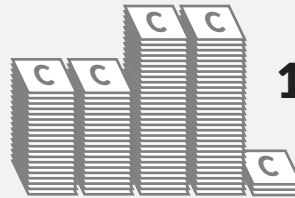
The Rising Star
represents the top 1-5% of inventors

average
of patents



29

max
of citations
per patent



103

% who move internationally **3.6%**



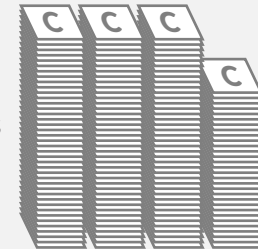
The Superstar
represents the top 1% of inventors

average
of patents



54

max
of citations
per patent



150

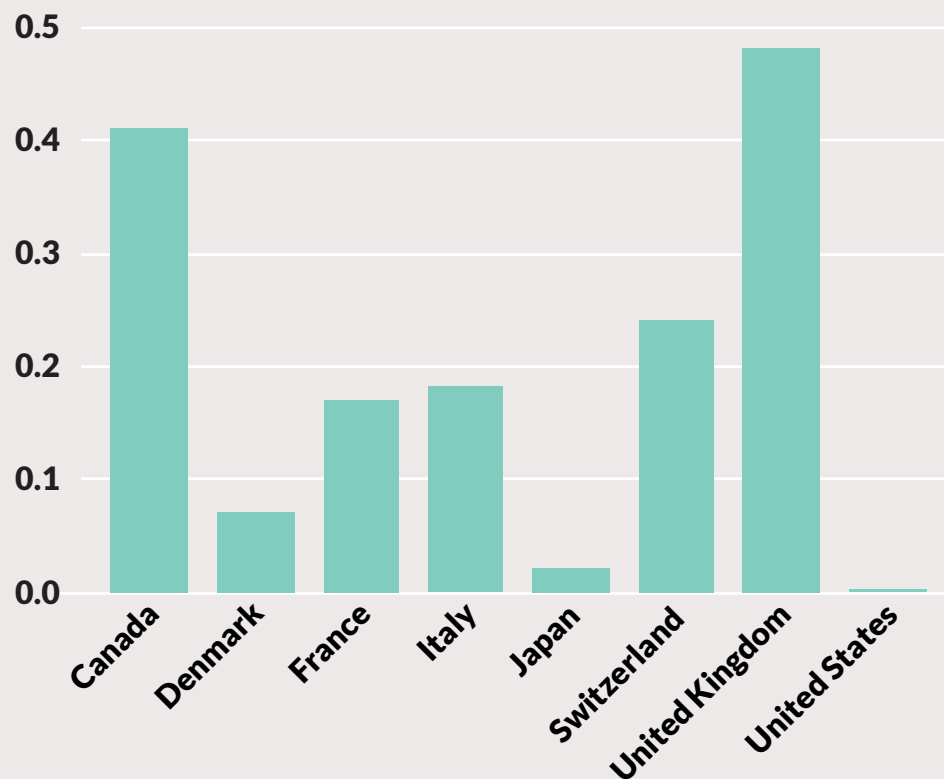
% who move internationally **4.6%**



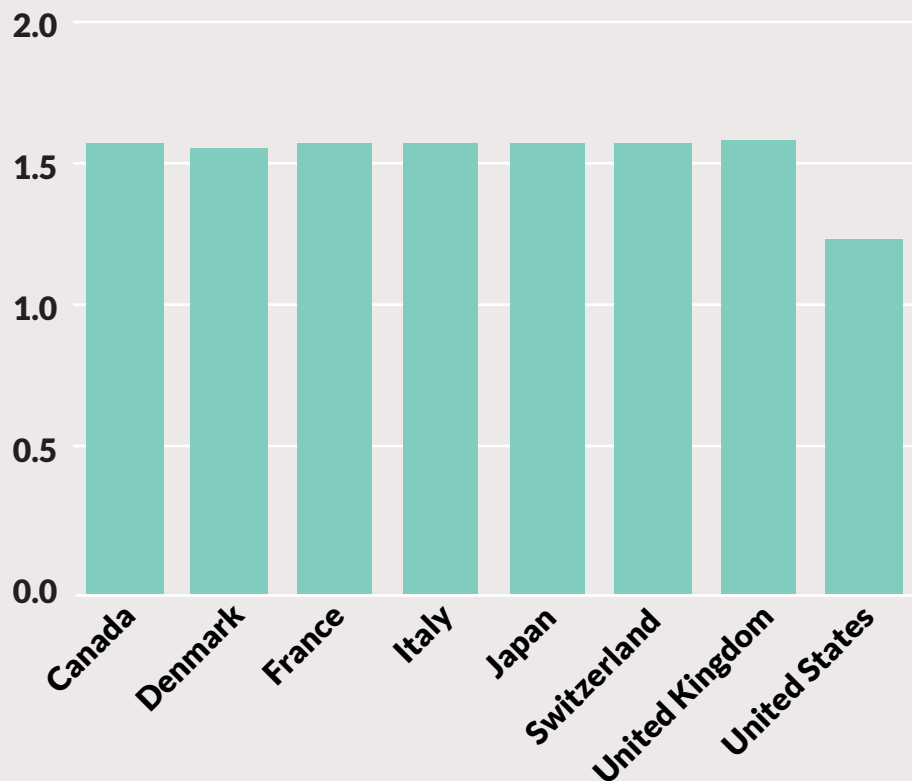
Different Countries Exhibit Different Responses of Superstar (Top 1%) Inventors' Migration to Taxes

The left chart shows the elasticity of the number of domestic superstar (top 1%) inventors to the top tax rate and the right chart shows the elasticity of the number of foreign superstar inventors to the top tax rate.

Domestic Inventors



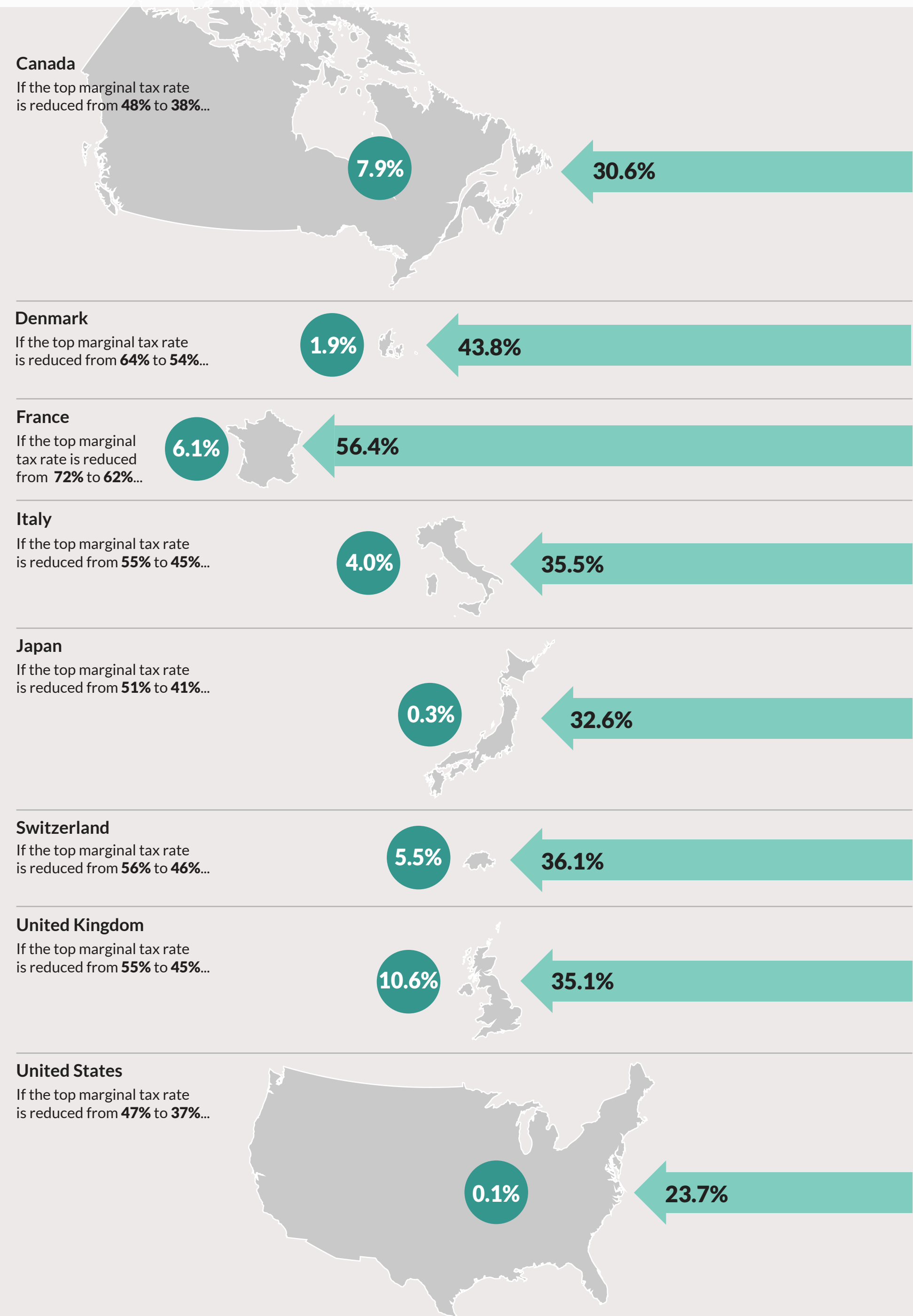
Foreign Inventors



How do Superstar (Top 1%) Inventors Respond to Decreased Top Tax Rates?

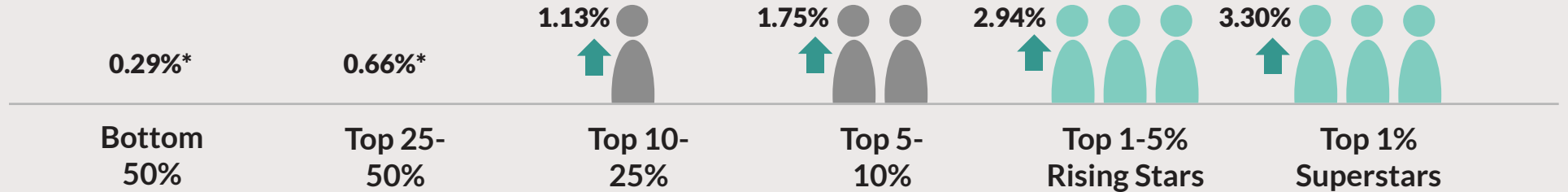
This chart shows how many domestic superstar (top 1%) inventors and foreign superstar inventors would be added to a country if the top tax rate decreased by 10 percentage points from its level in that country in the year 2000.

● Percent increase in domestic superstar inventors ← Percent increase in foreign superstar inventors



Inventors' Responses to Decreased Tax Rates at the Macroeconomic Level

On average, what would be the percent increase in domestic inventors who remain in their home country if the top tax rates were reduced from a fictitious level of 50% to 40%?



Note: * There is no statistically significant effect on the number of bottom 50% and top 25-50% inventors.

Source: Author's calculations and Akcigit, Baslandze, and Stantcheva. "Taxation and the International Mobility of Inventors." NBER Working Paper 21024, March 2015.