Figure 4.2. Frequency of New and Ongoing Takeoffs in Low-Income Countries

The share of low-income countries (LICs) starting and sustaining growth takeoffs increased sharply beginning in the 1990s. Nearly one-third of LICs were still sustaining a takeoff in 2011 despite the Great Recession. On average, takeoffs during the past two decades have been stronger and longer than those before the 1990s.

Sources: IMF, World Economic Outlook database (October 2012); Penn World Table 7.1; World Bank, World Development Indicators database; and IMF staff calculations.

Note: Economy groups and indicators are defined in Appendix 4.1. See the text for definitions of new and ongoing growth takeoffs.  

1The horizontal line inside each box is the median within the group; the upper and lower edges of each box show the top and bottom quartiles. The distance between the black lines (adjacent values) above and below the box indicates the range of the distribution within that generation, excluding outliers.  

2The episodes before 1990 include one ongoing takeoff (Vietnam since 1981).