



Australian Social Trends

USING STATISTICS TO PAINT A PICTURE OF AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY



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Australian Social Trends on the ABS website

- Editions of AST from 1994
- Social indicators: national, state & territory time series data cubes
- Hyperlinked cumulative topic index
- 2008 seminar series slideshows for each state and territory

[Homepage](#)[All articles](#)[Australian Social Trends seminars, 2009](#)[About this Release](#)[Young Australians: casual work and the comforts of their parents' home: ABS \(Media Release\)](#)[Qld and WA are the places to live \(Media Release\)](#)

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USING STATISTICS TO PAINT A PICTURE OF AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY

The June issue features articles about transitions in people's living arrangements, as well as how they work and student achievements in maths and science.

LATEST articles



[Relocation across the nation](#)



[Health literacy](#)



[Maths and science students](#)



[Casual employees](#)

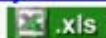


[Young people living with their parents](#)

LATEST national and state summary tables



[Population key statistics](#)



[Education and training key statistics](#)



[Other areas of social concern key statistics](#)



SINCE 1994 AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL TRENDS HAS PRESENTED ARTICLES AND KEY STATISTICS ACROSS ALL AREAS OF SOCIAL CONCERN

Population Ageing

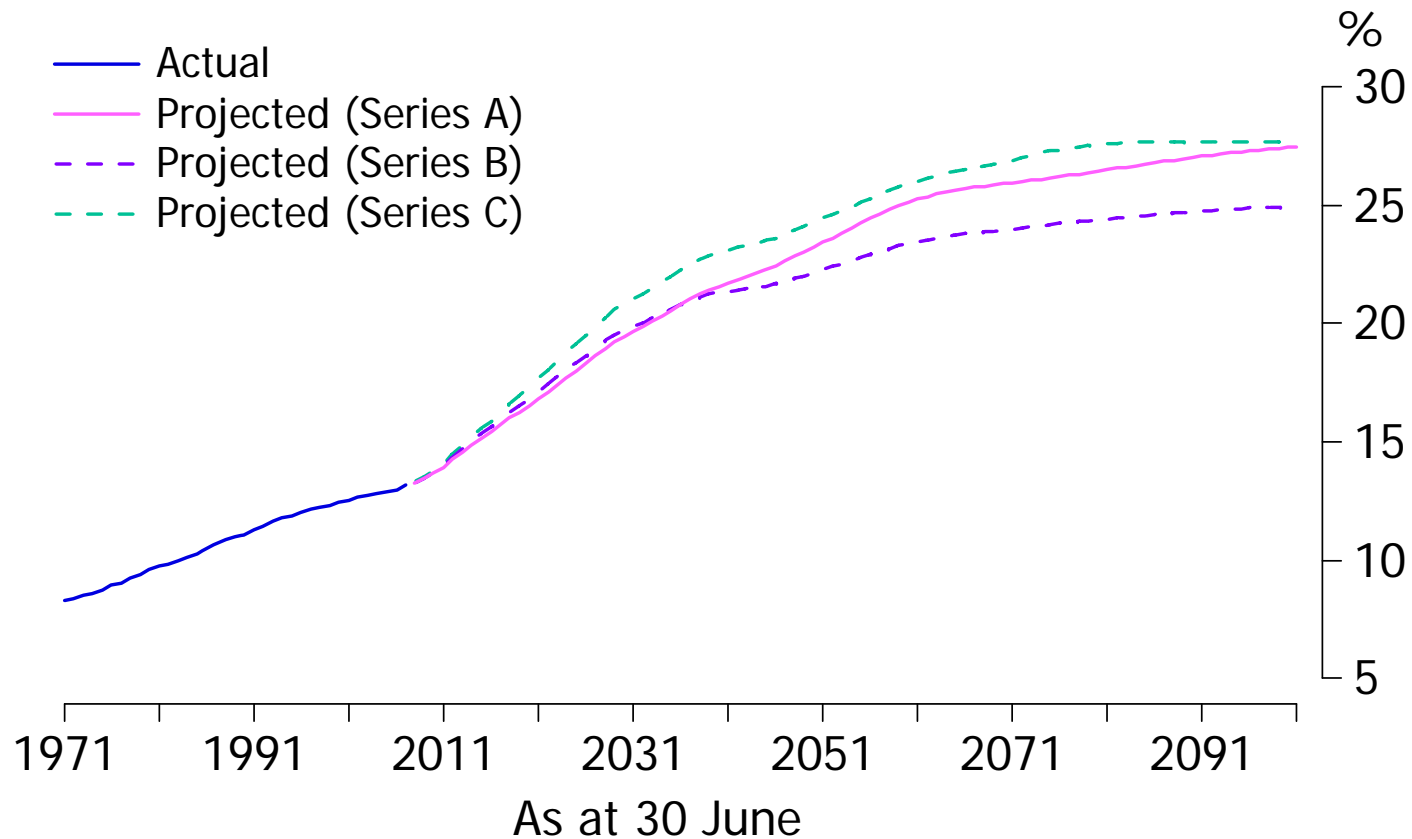
- Future population growth and ageing
- Retirement and retirement intentions
- Trends in superannuation coverage



**“POPULATION WILL PASS 30
MILLION BY 2056” - The Age**

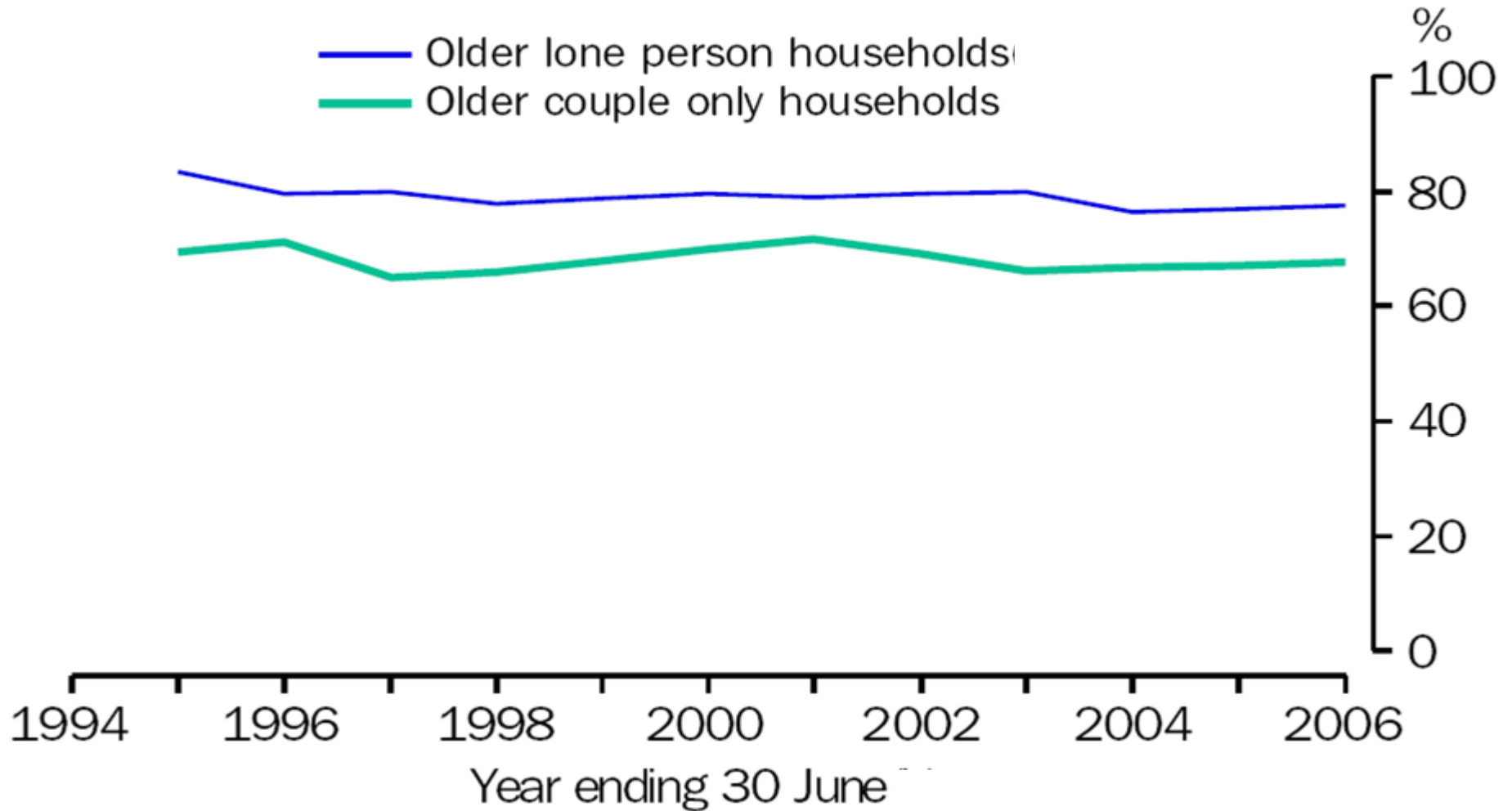
**“CLOCK'S TICKING ON SUPER
CONTRIBUTIONS” - AFR**

Proportion of population aged 65 years and over

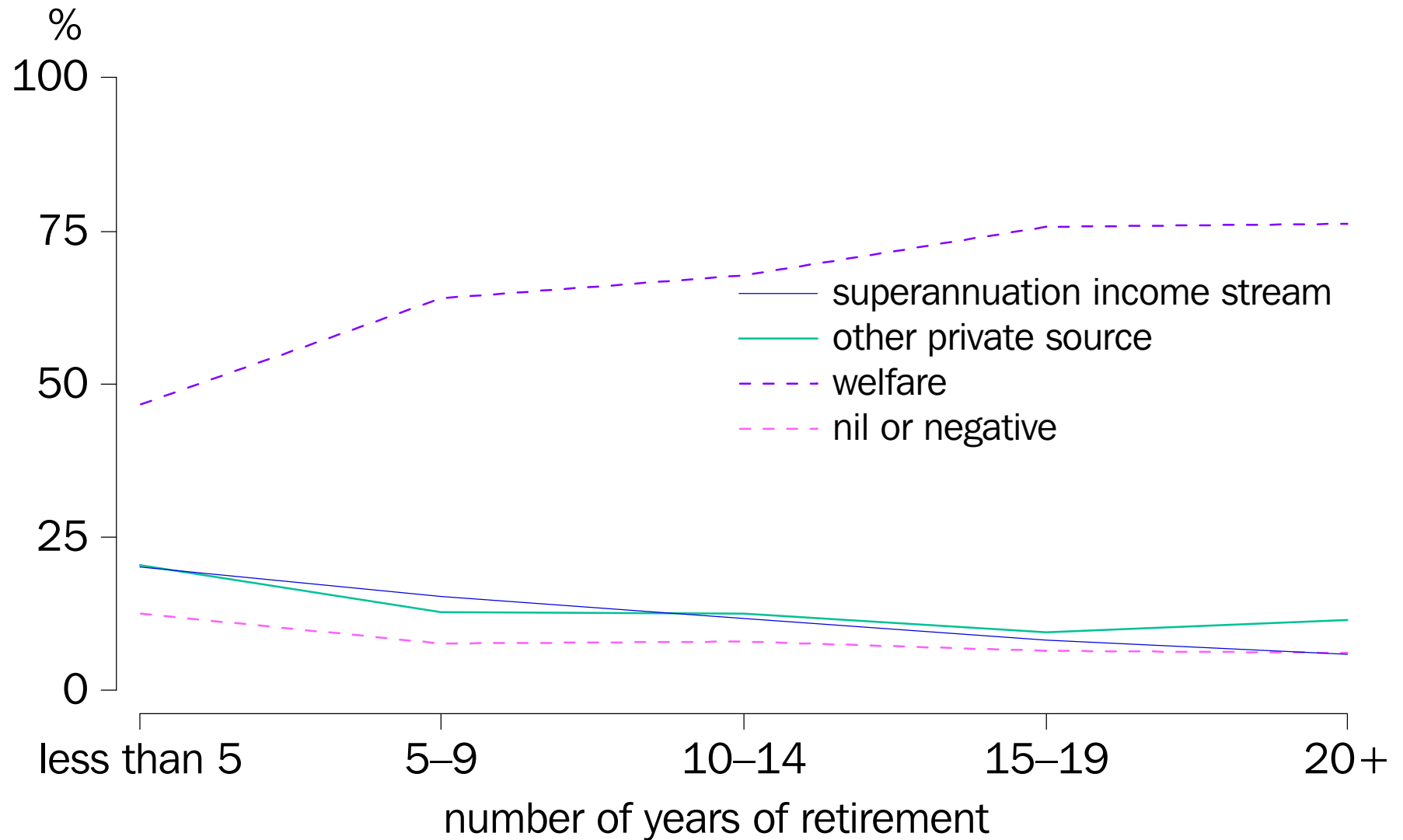


- **Series A** : high fertility (2.0 per woman) + high level of net migration from overseas (220,000 per year) + high life expectancy (96 years for newborn girls and 94 for newborn boys)
- **Series B** : current fertility (1.8) + medium net migration (180K) + medium life expectancy (girls 88, boys 85)
- **Series C** : low fertility (1.6) + low net migration (140K) + medium life expectancy (girls 88, boys 85)

Older households (65+ years) with income support as their main income

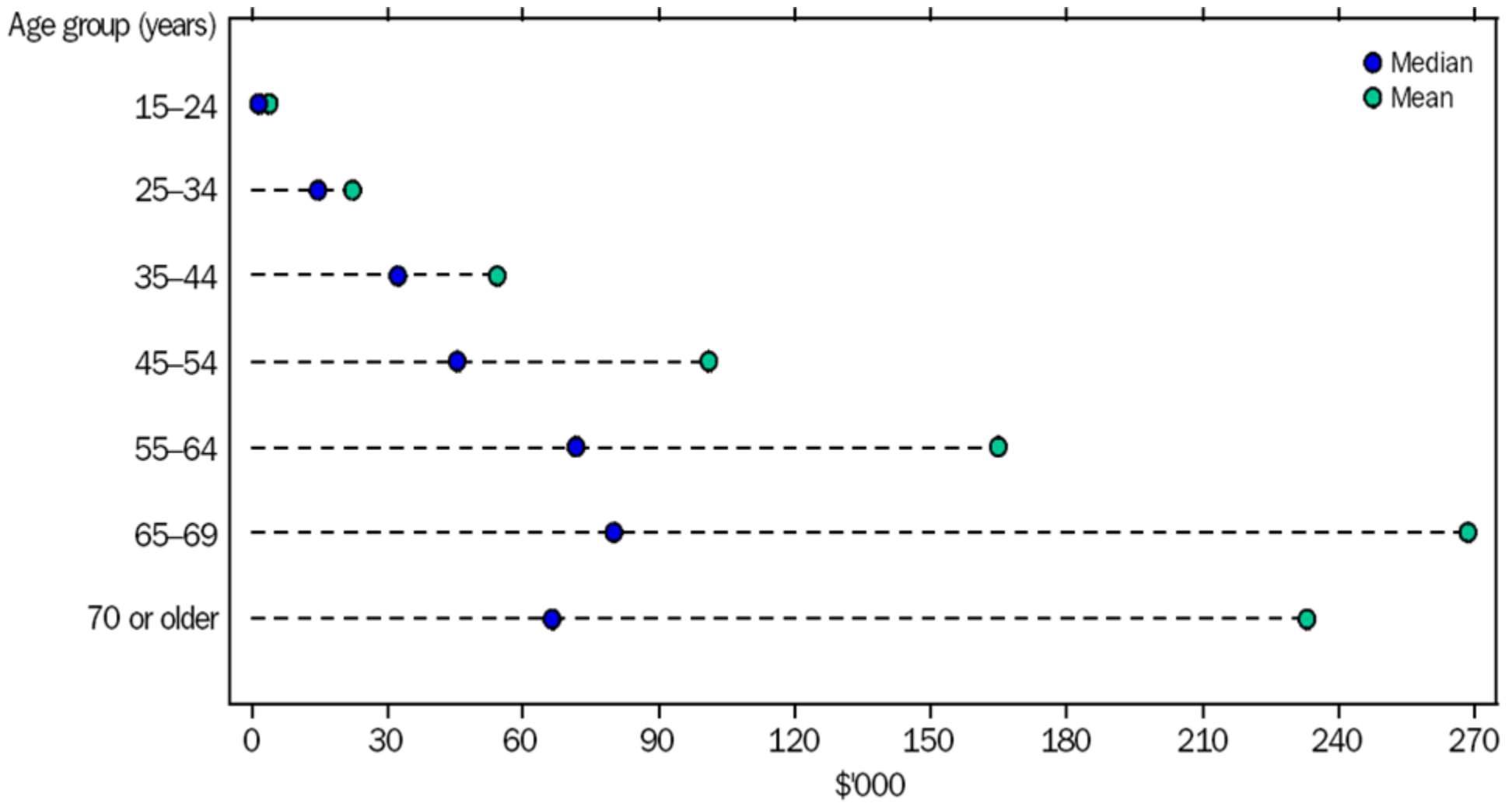


Retirees' main source of personal income — 2007

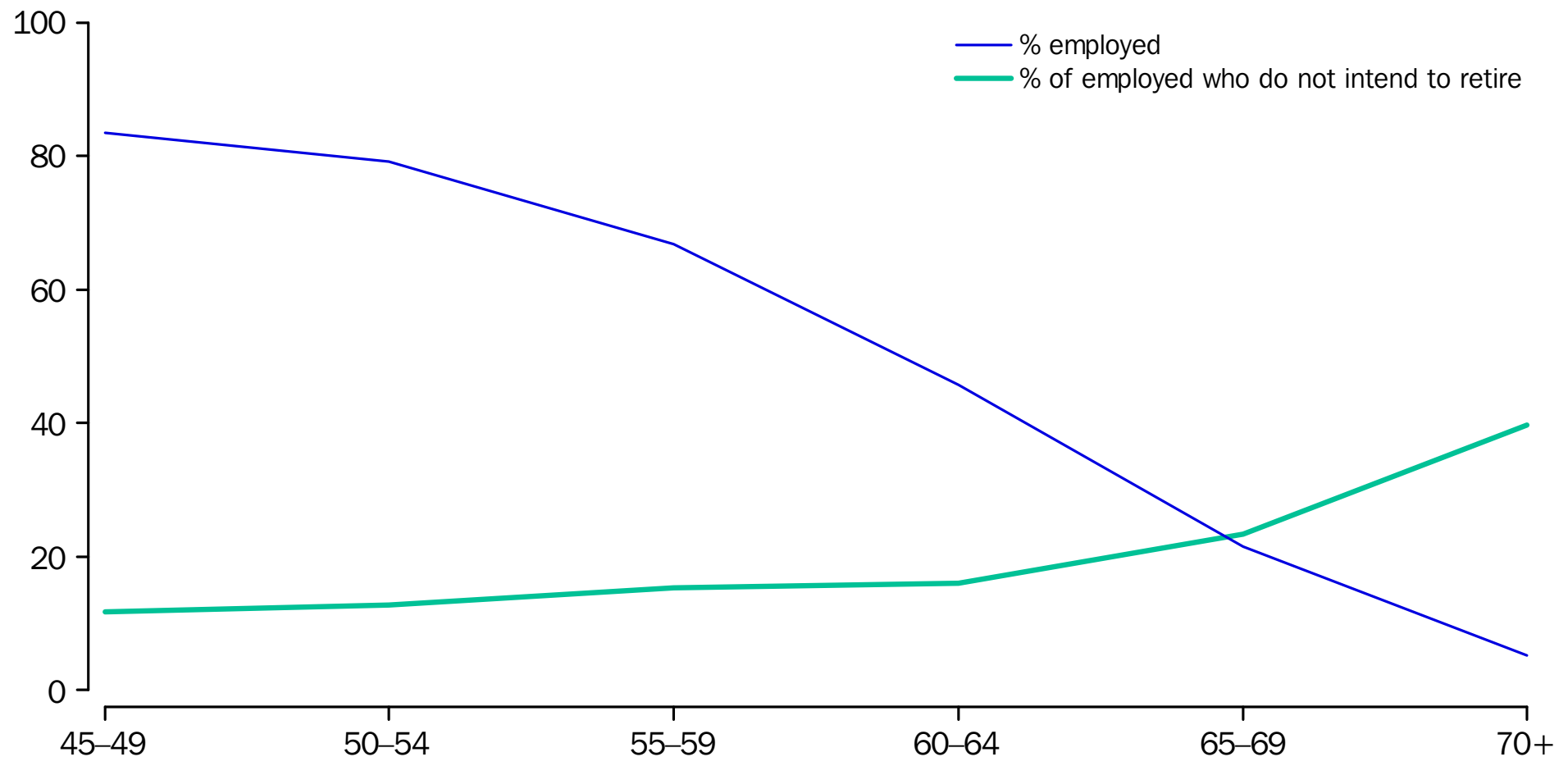


Average superannuation balances — 2007

(Overall median = \$24,000 and overall mean = \$71,000)



Employment rate vs retirement intentions



Mental Health

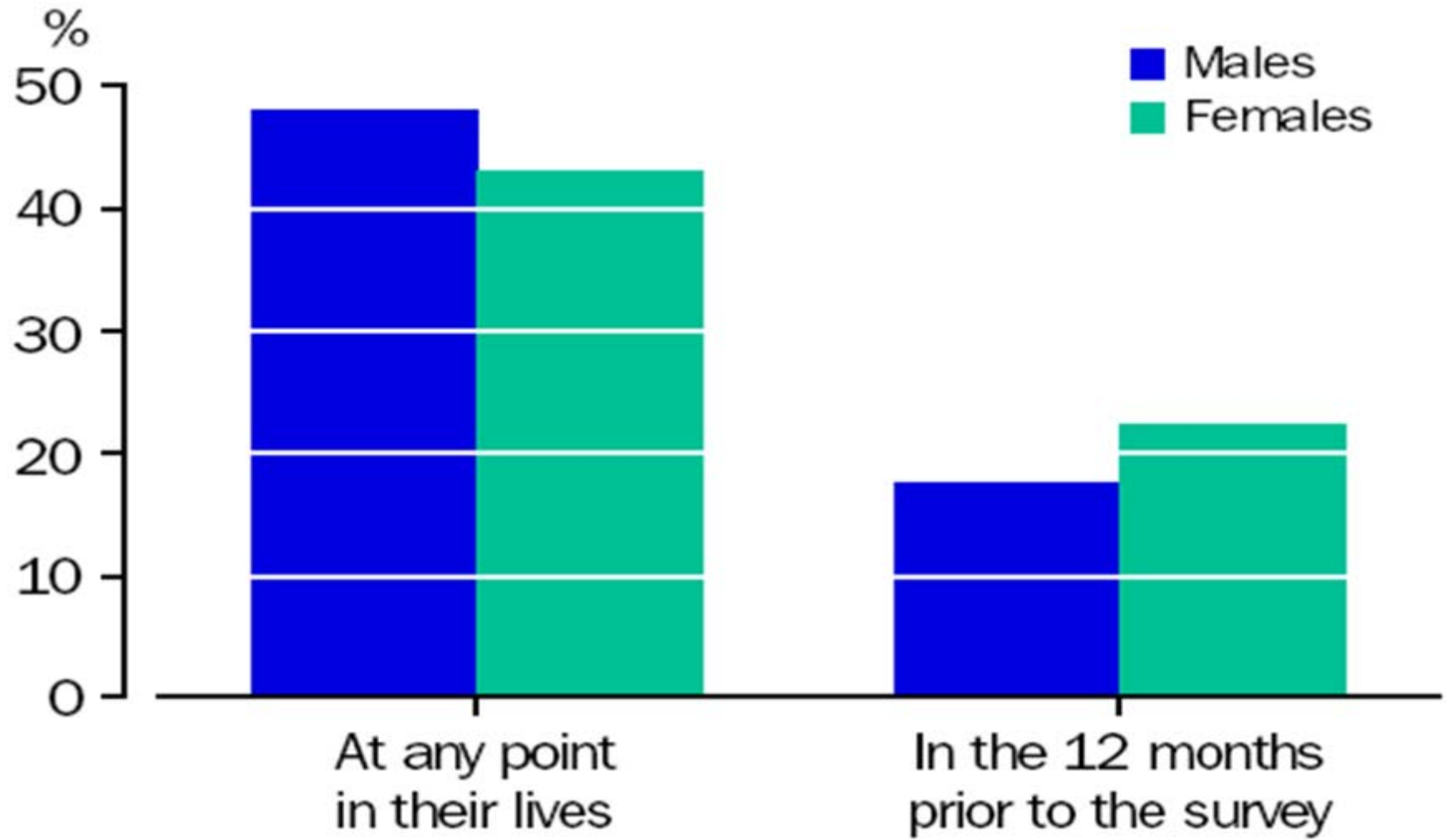
Mental Disorder -

'the existence of a clinically recognisable set of symptoms or behaviour associated in most cases with distress and with interference with personal functions'

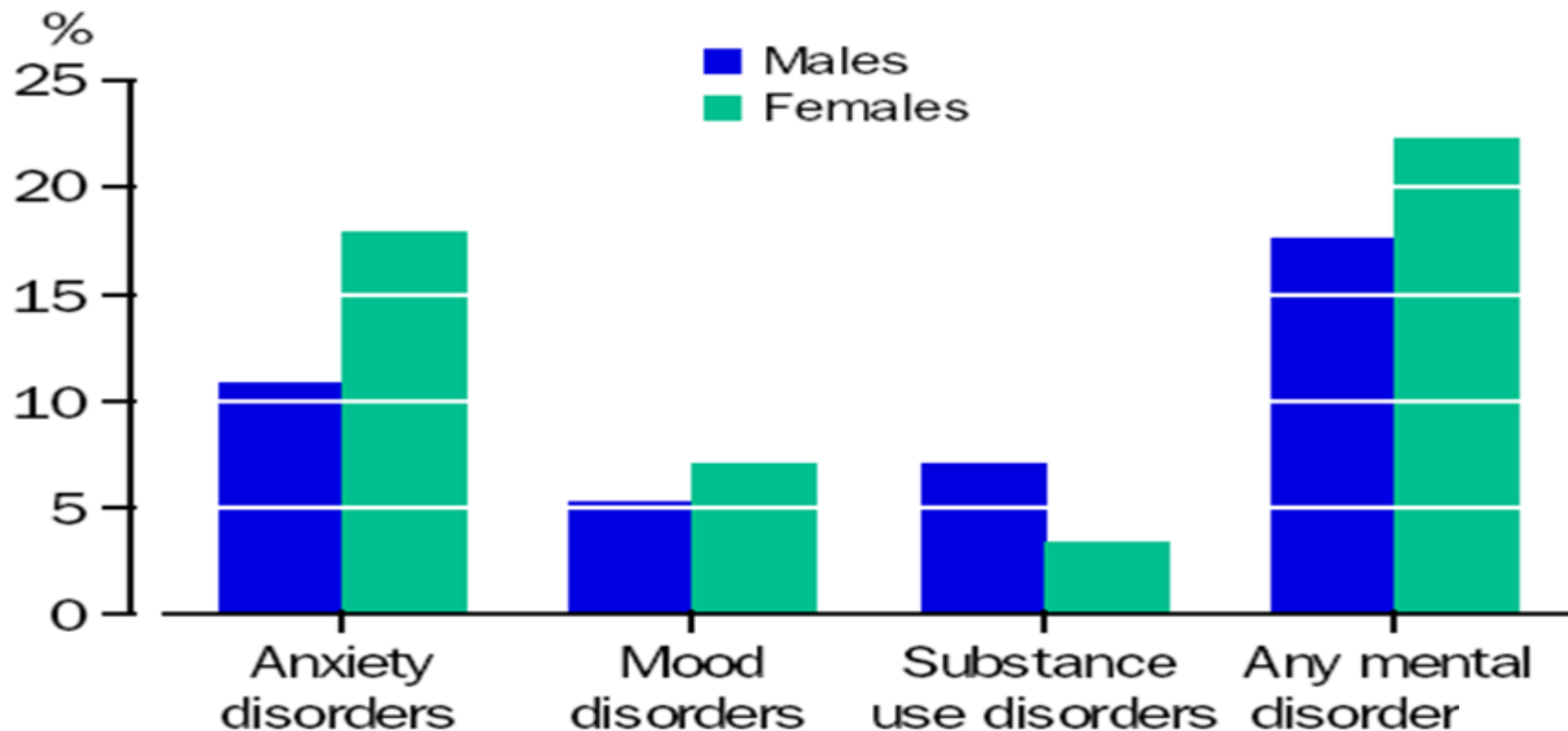
(ICD-10 Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders).



People with a mental illness — 2007

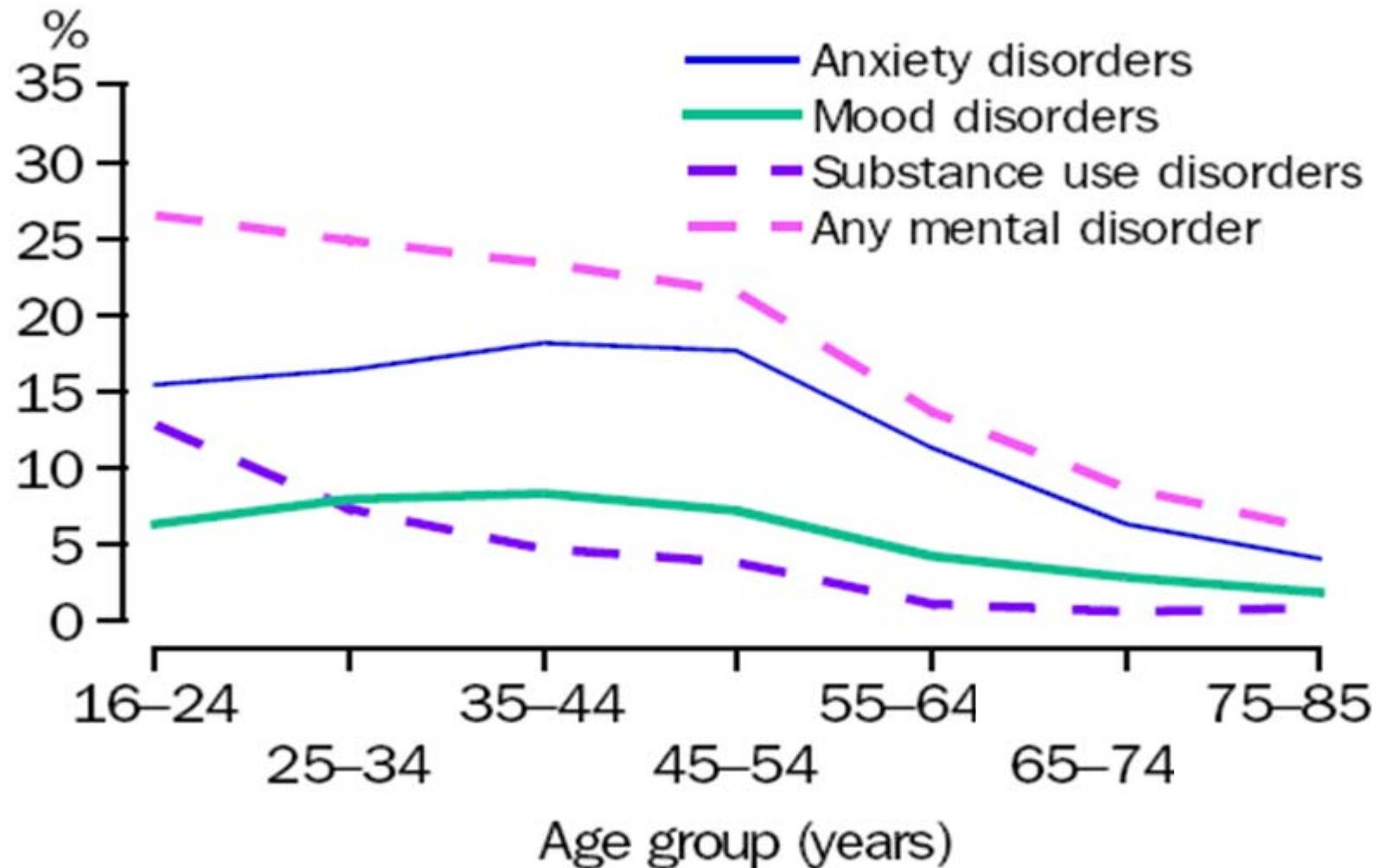


Prevalence of selected mental illness (12 months) — 2007

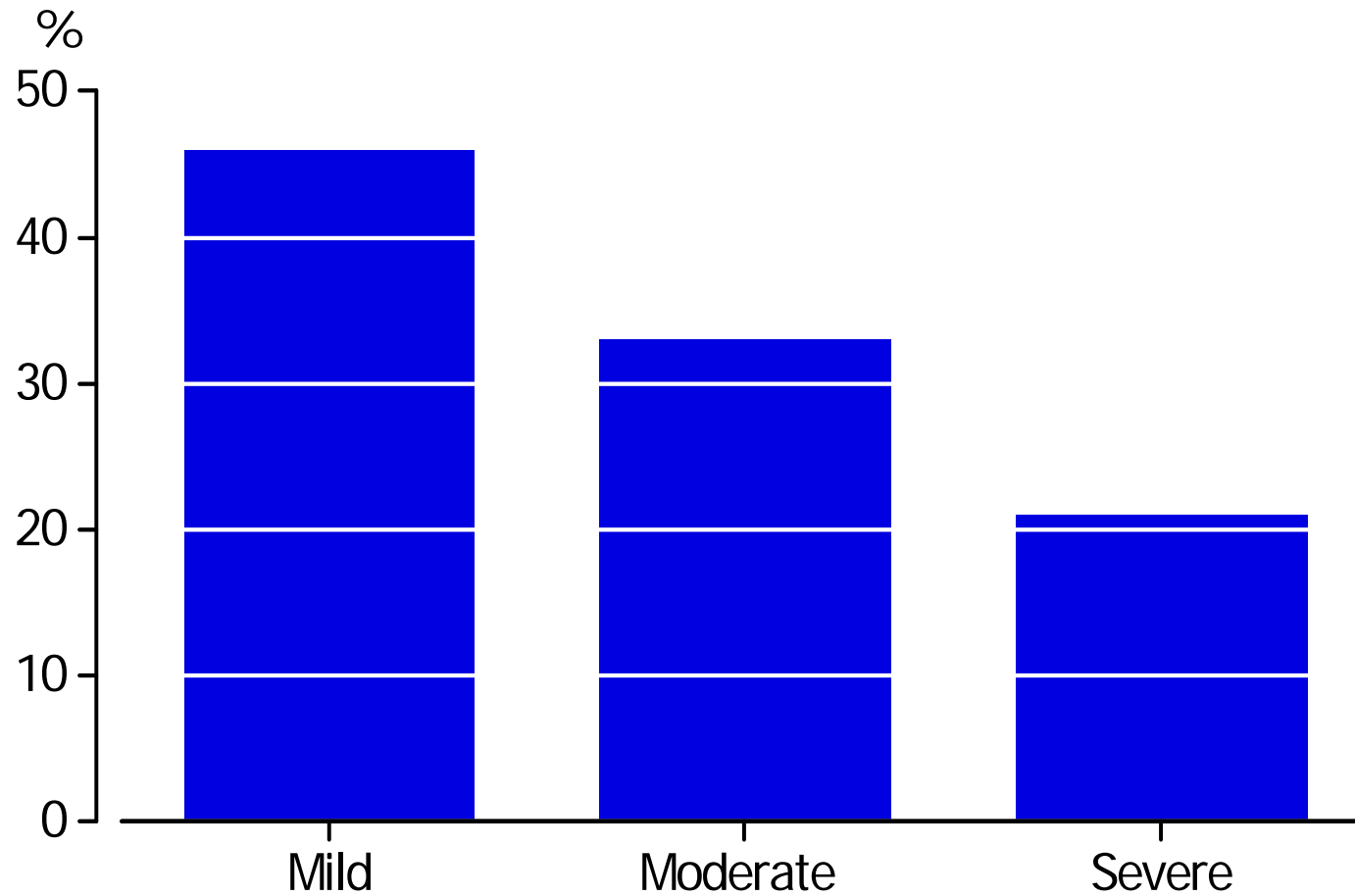


- Anxiety disorders such as panic disorders, involving tension, stress and nerves.
- Mood disorders such as depression and bi-polar.
- Substance use disorders such as alcohol and drug abuse.

Prevalence of mental illness (12 months), by age - 2007

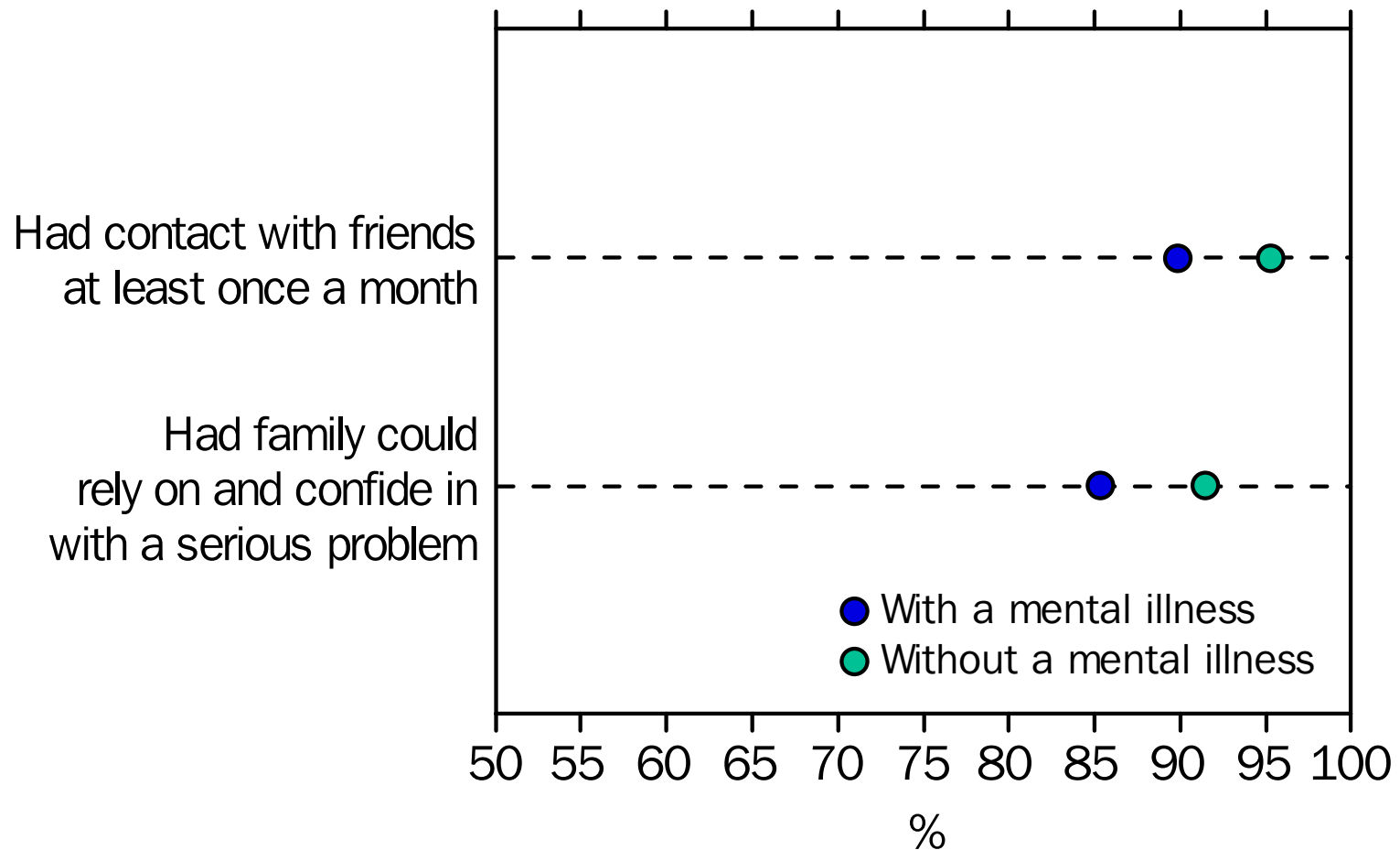


Severity of mental disorders — 2007



Social Isolation — 2007

Contact with family and friends



Health Literacy

Health literacy -

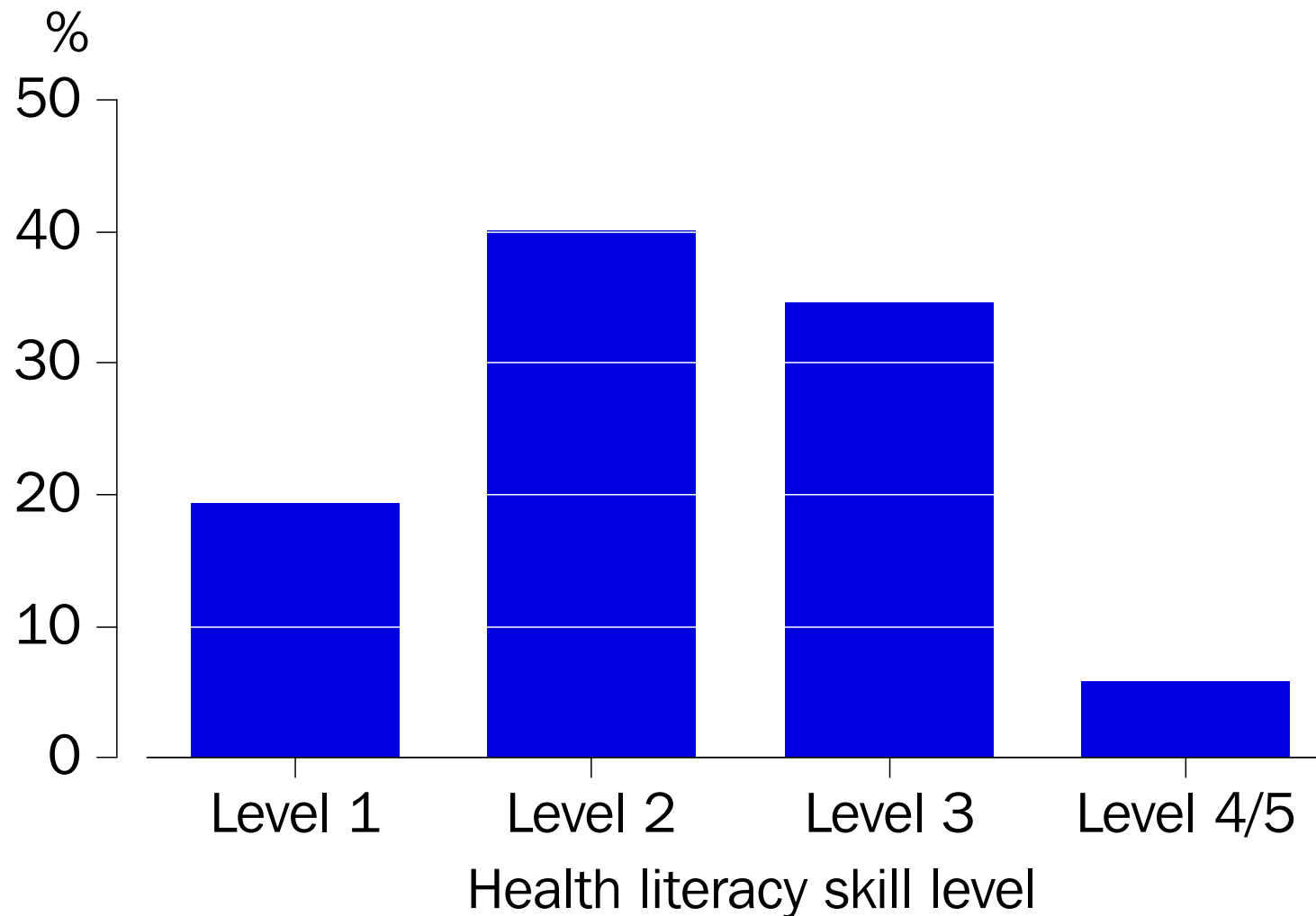
ability to use & understand health information such as the directions printed on medications



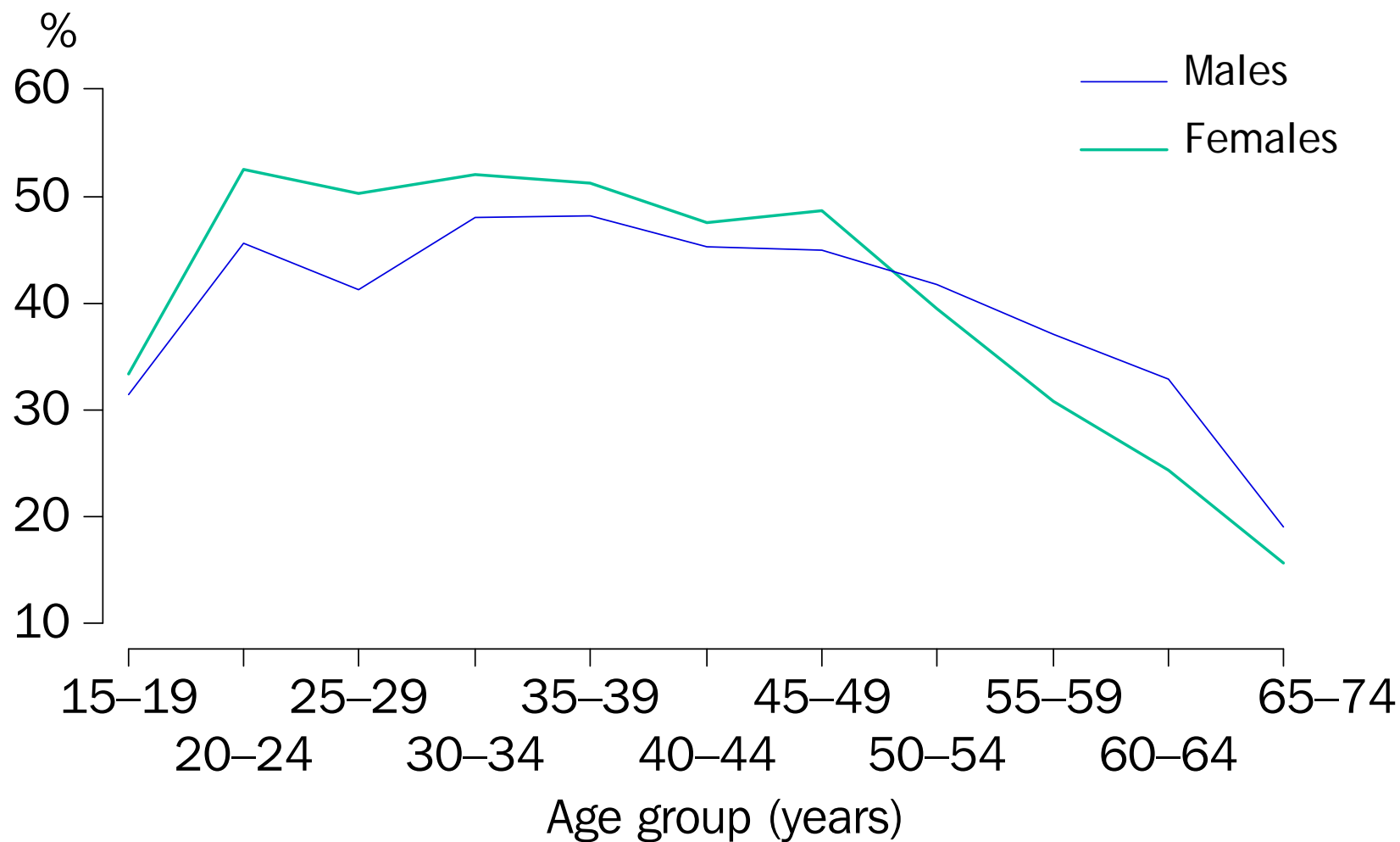
“Health knowledge
declines with age” –
ninemsn

Health literacy skill level

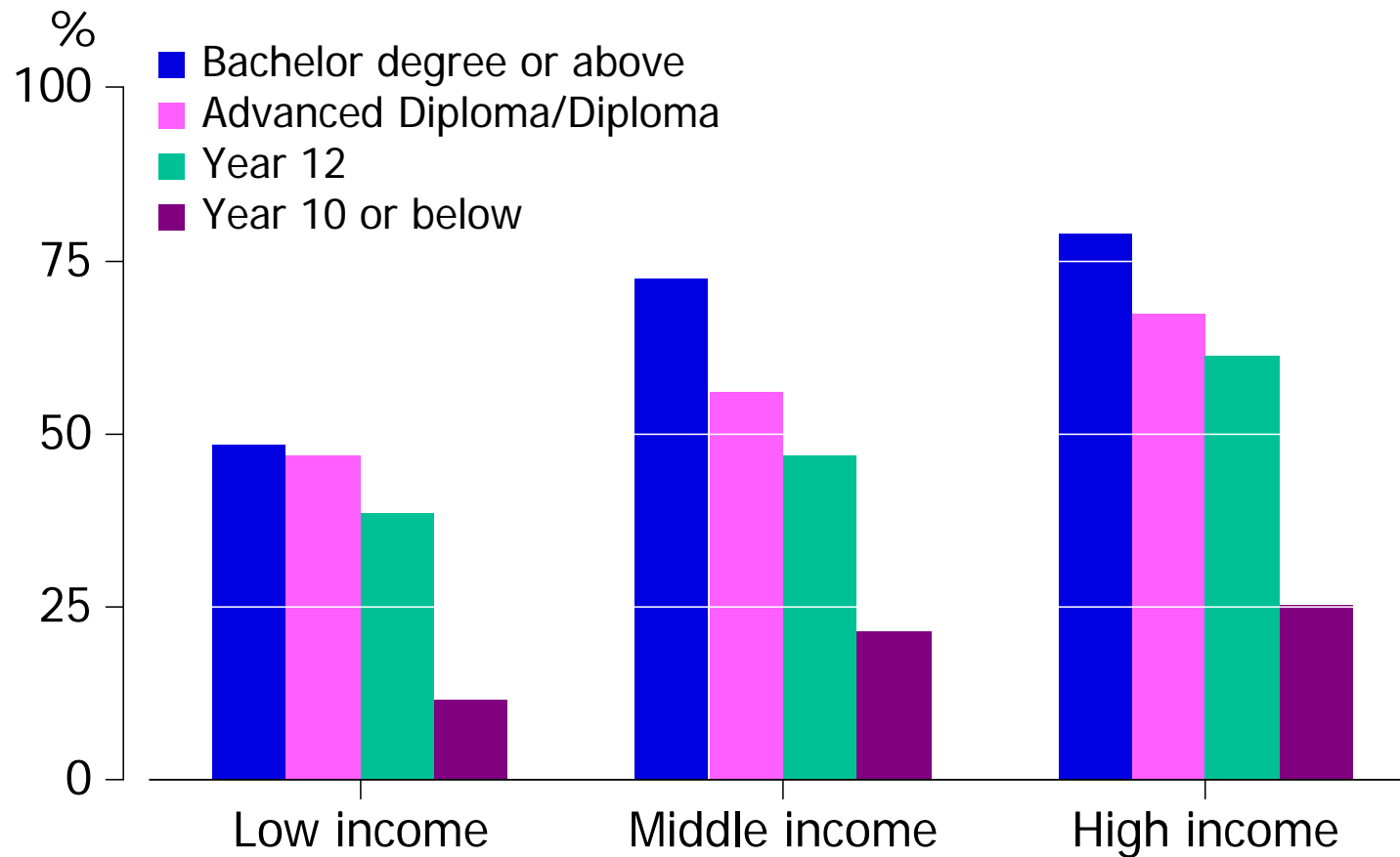
Levels 3, 4 and 5 represent adequate or better health literacy



People with adequate or better health literacy - age and sex



Highest level of education and household income

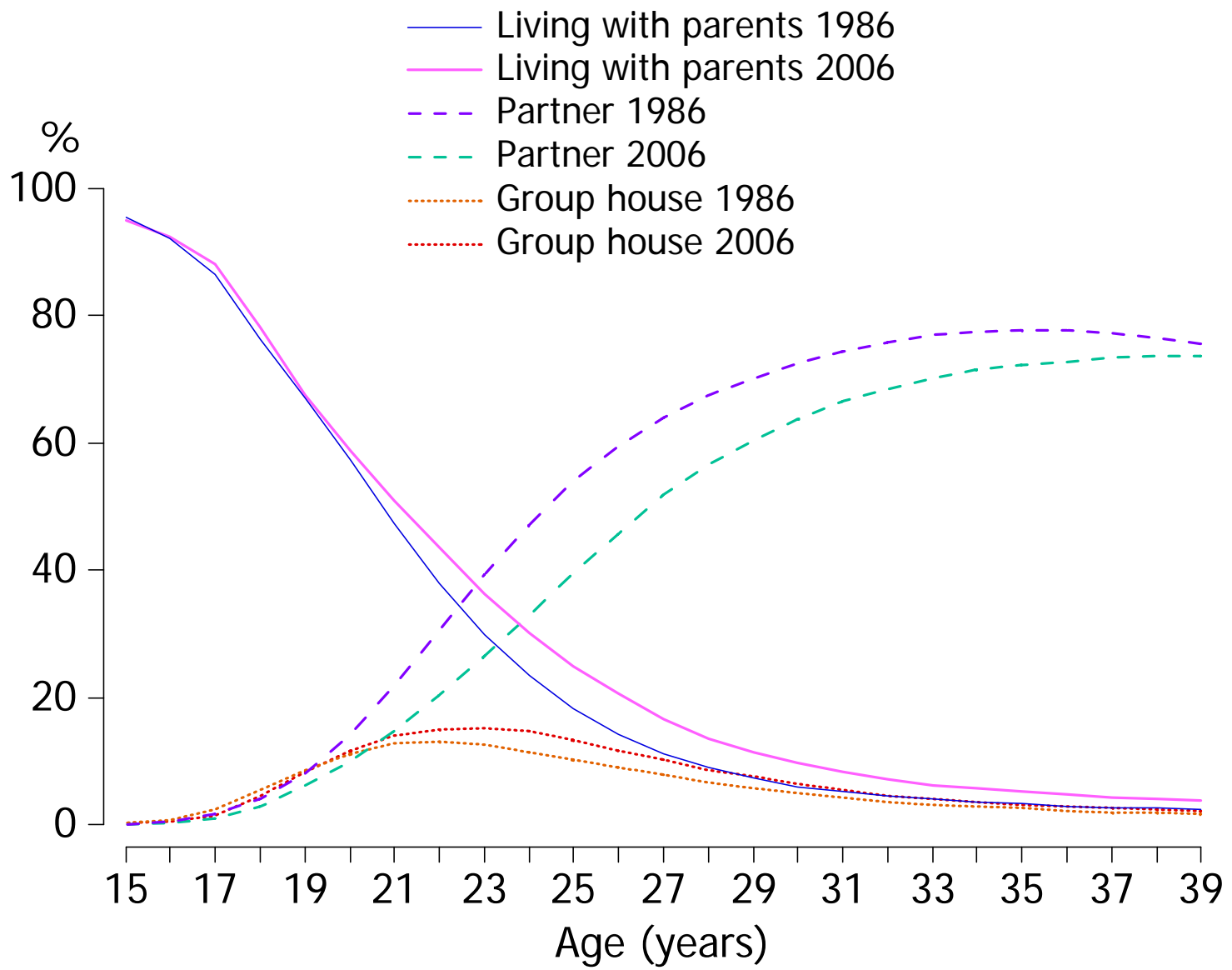


Young people moving out of the parental home (and back again)

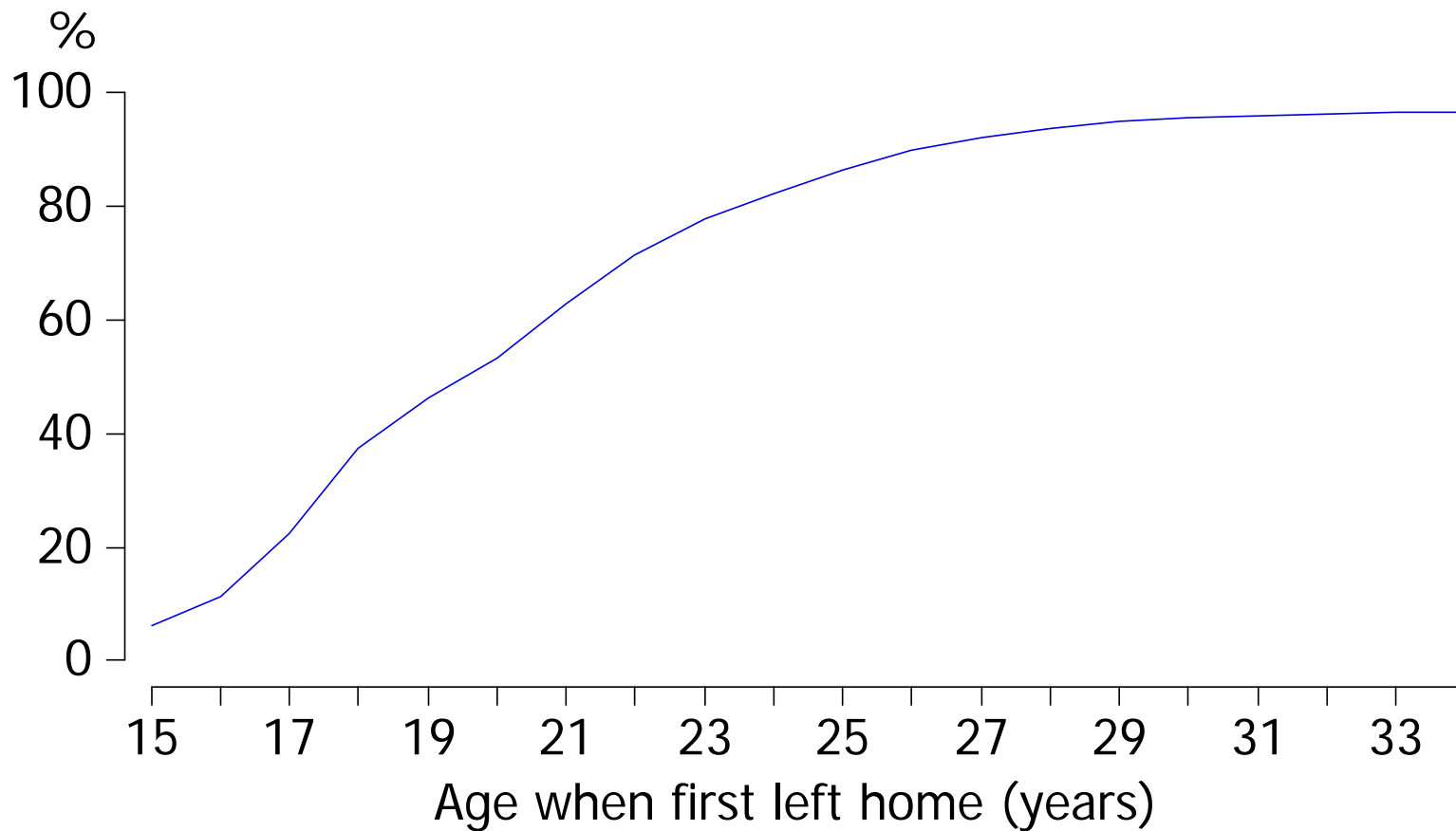


“Young adults remain in nest longer” -
West Australian

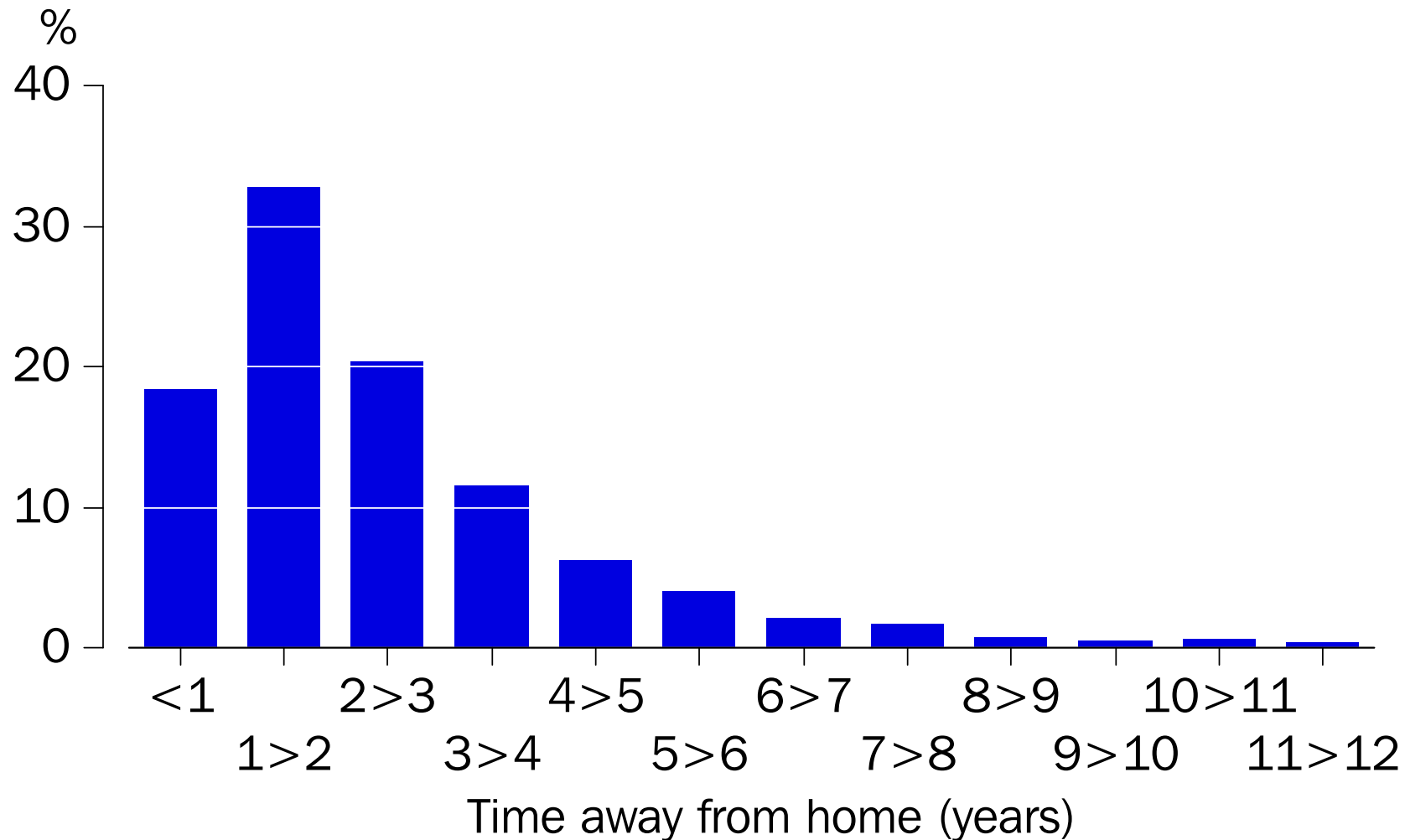
Selected living arrangements



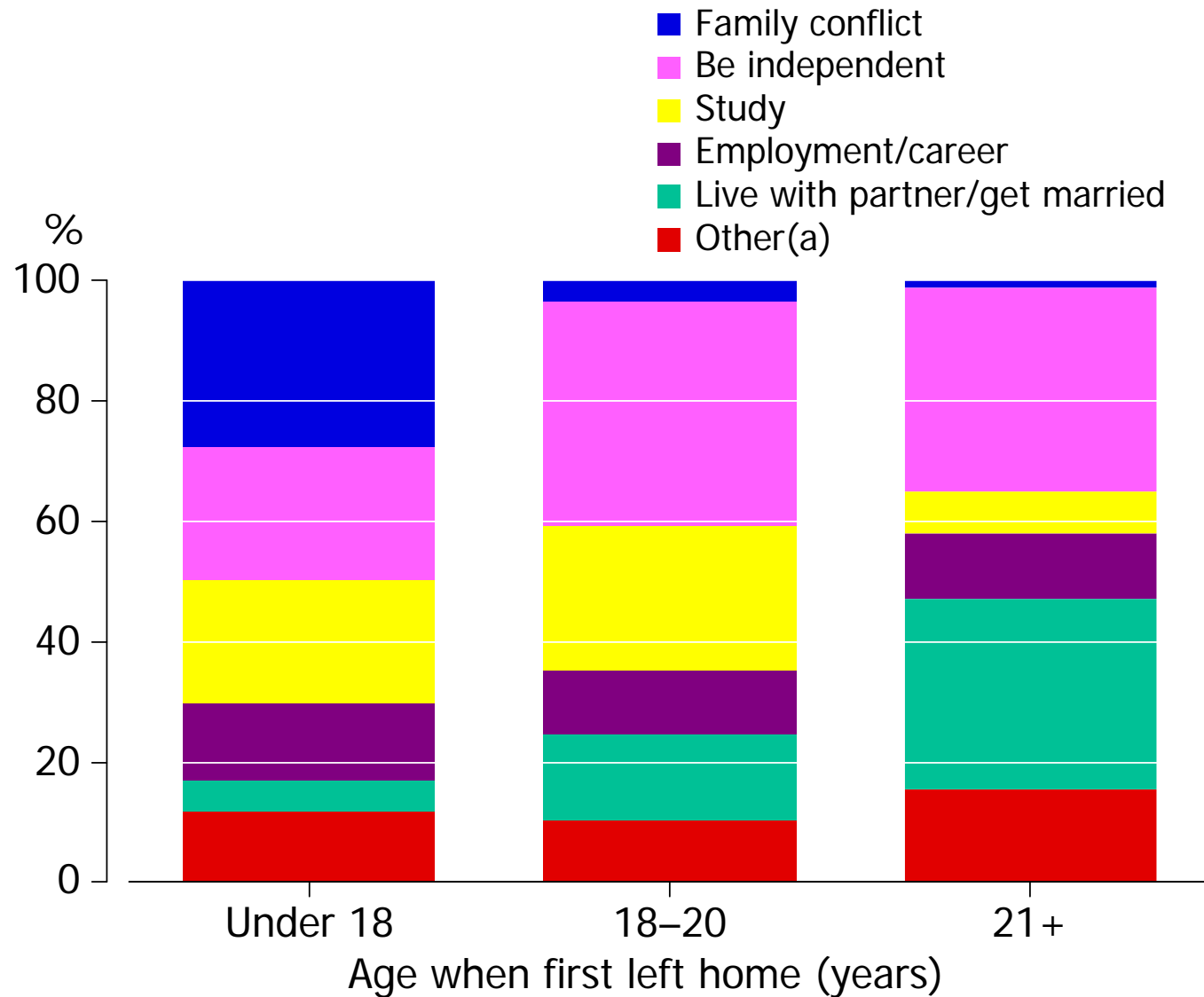
Probability of first leaving home by a certain age, people aged 18-34 years



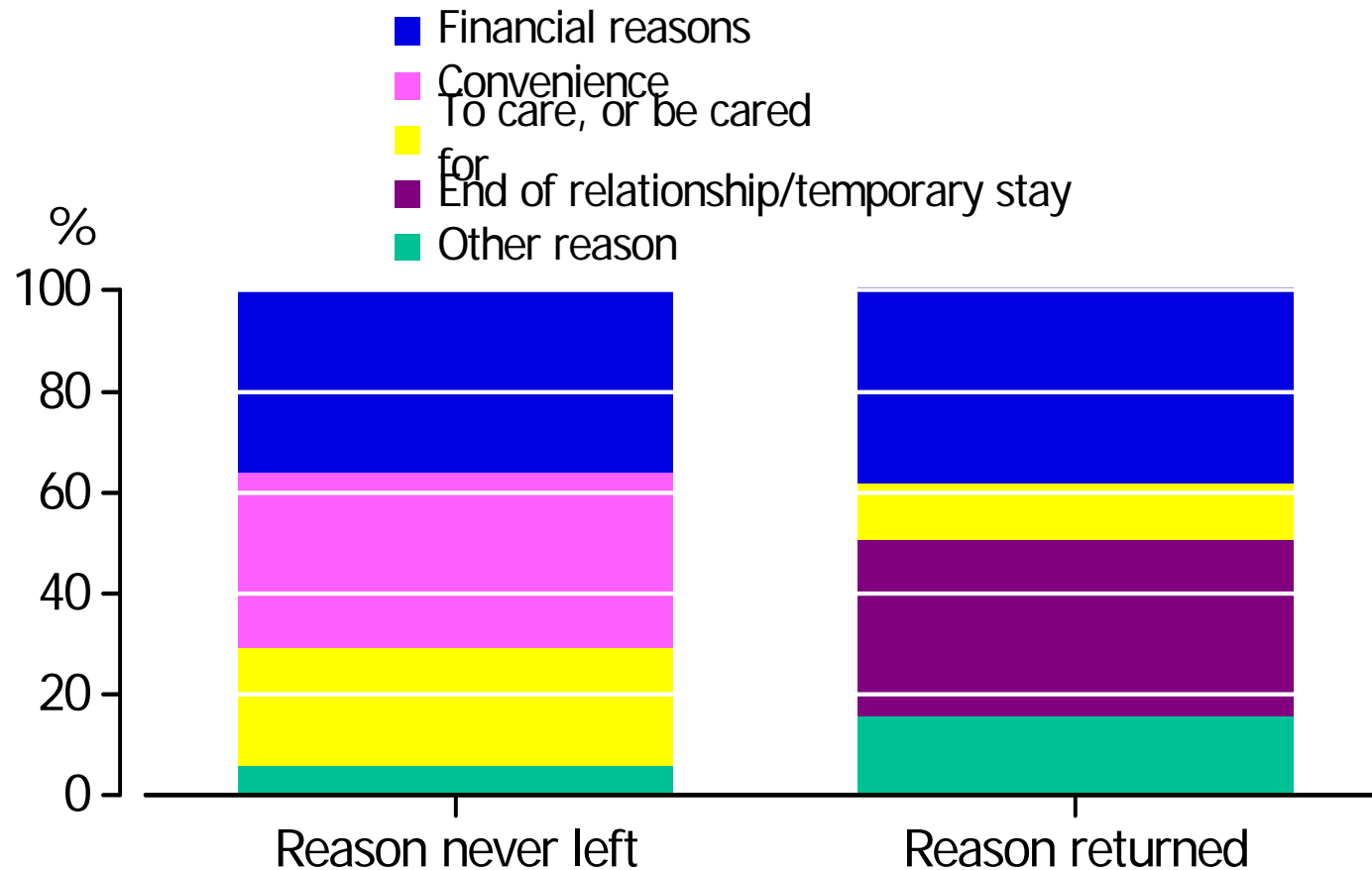
People aged 18-34 who had left home and returned, length of first time away, 2006-07



Main reason first left home (18-34 years)



Reasons for not leaving home/returning home

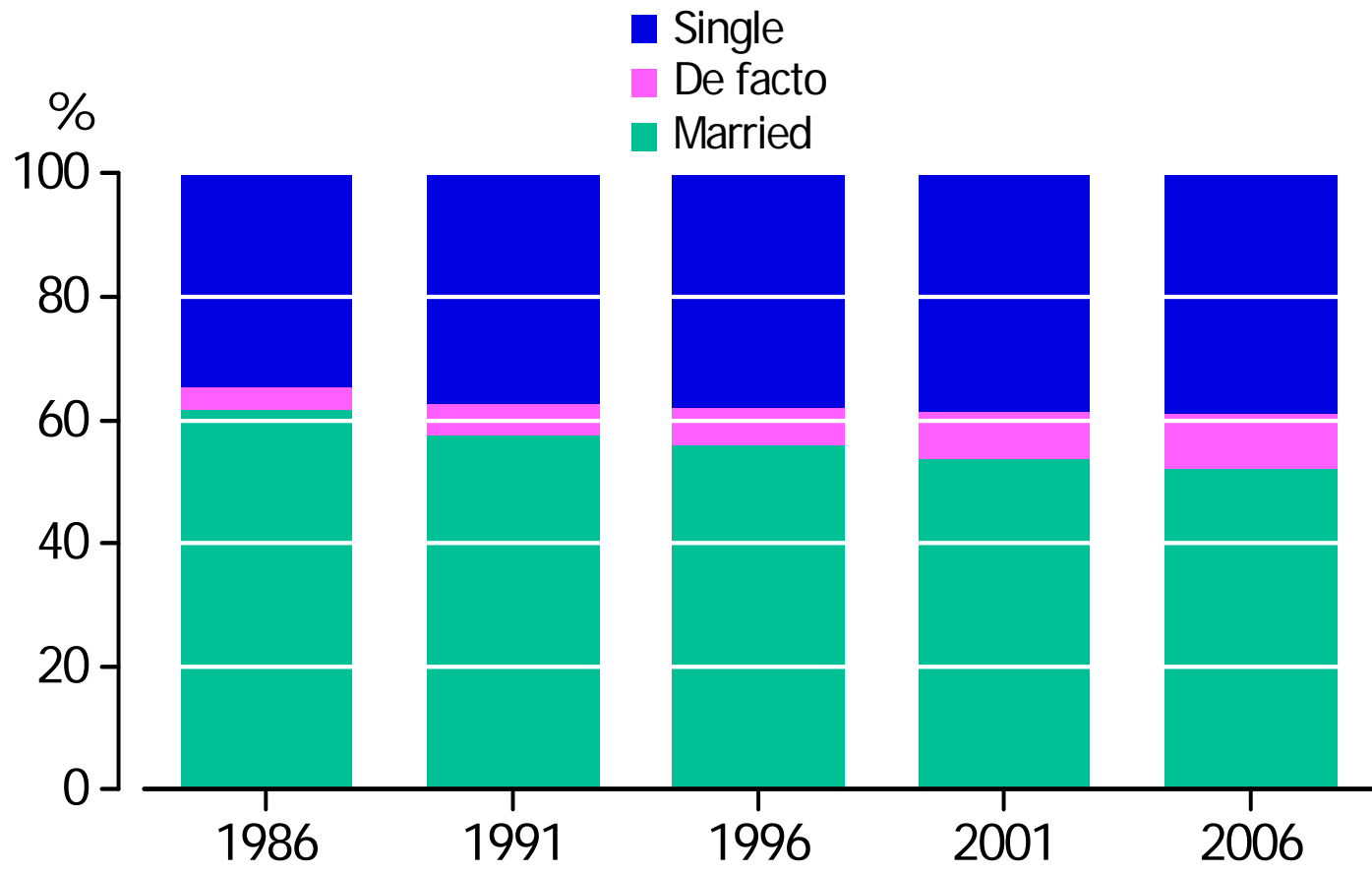


Couples in Australia



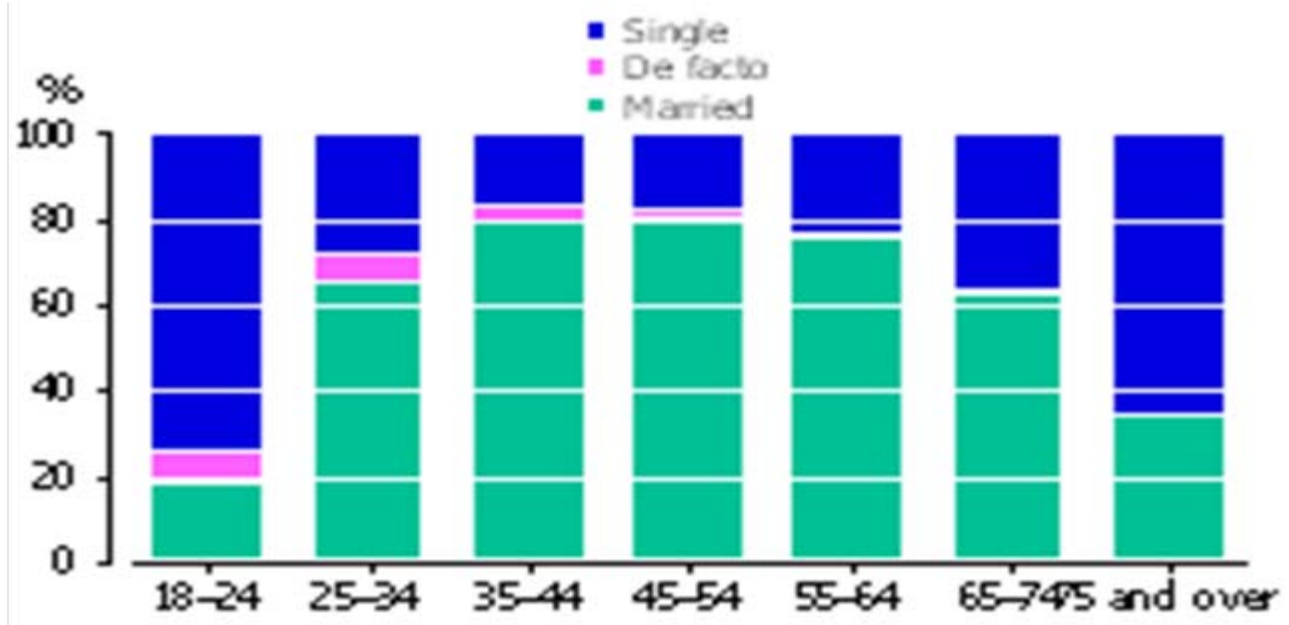
**“MORE COUPLES JUST `LIVE
TOGETHER”** - The Advertiser

Marital status of adults

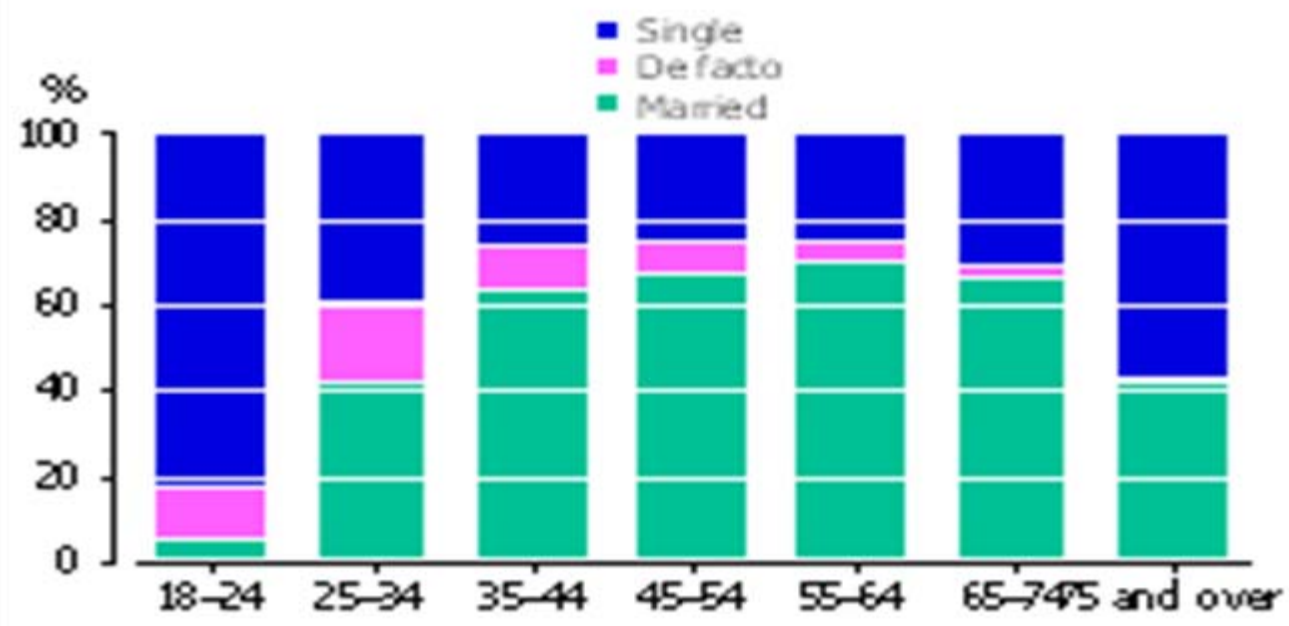


Marital status of adults – age group

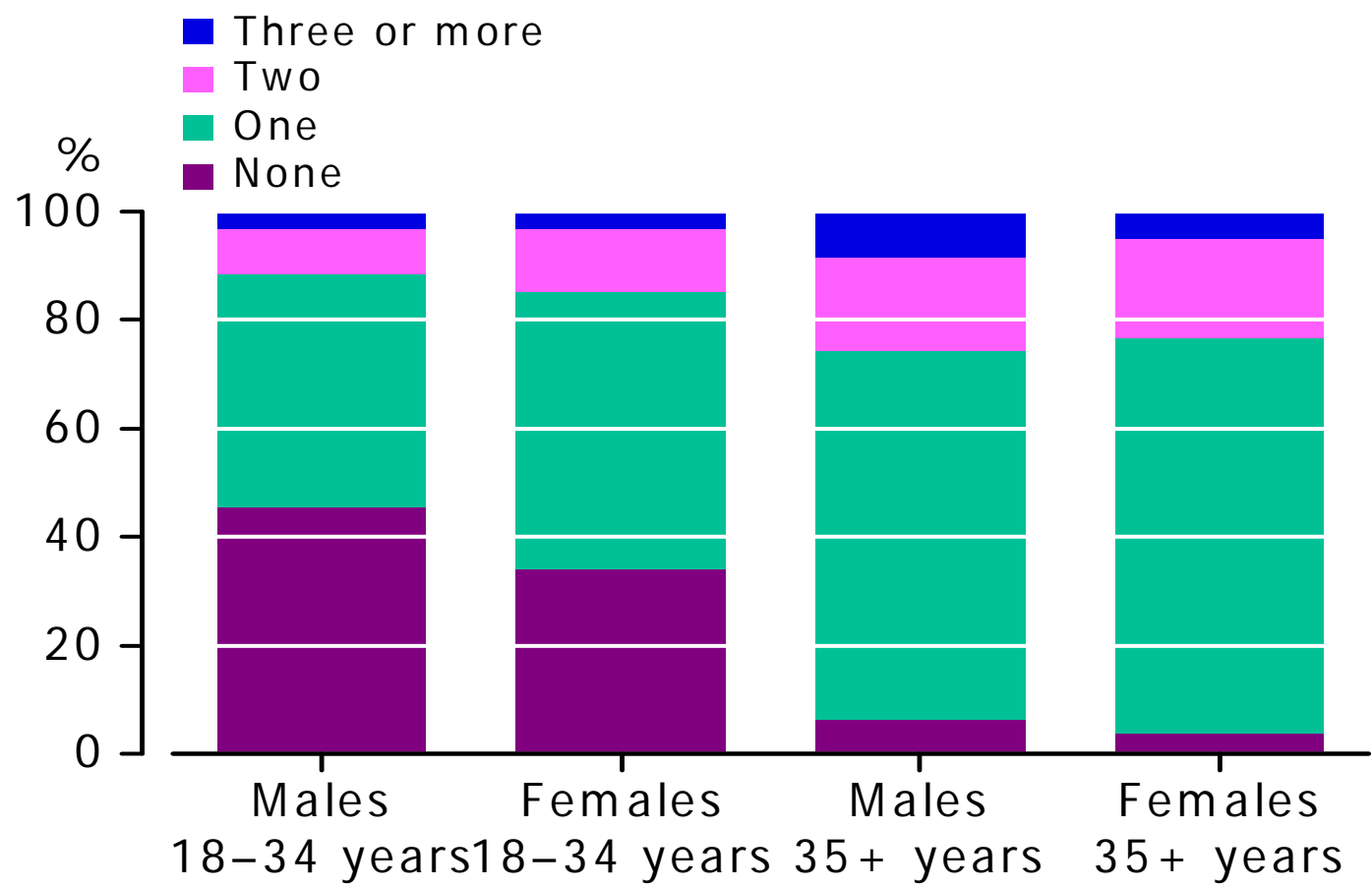
1986



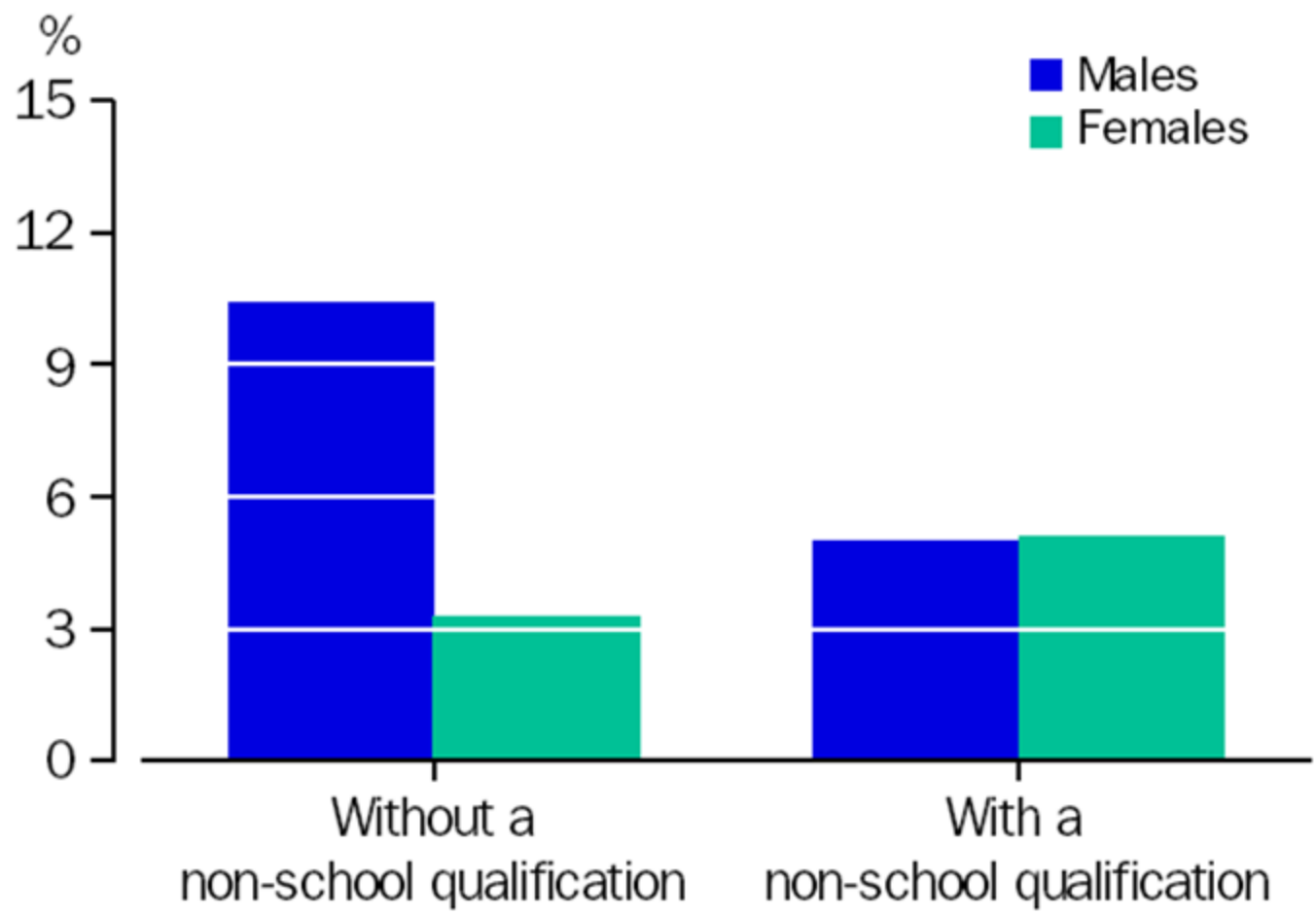
2006



Number of live-in relationships 2006–07

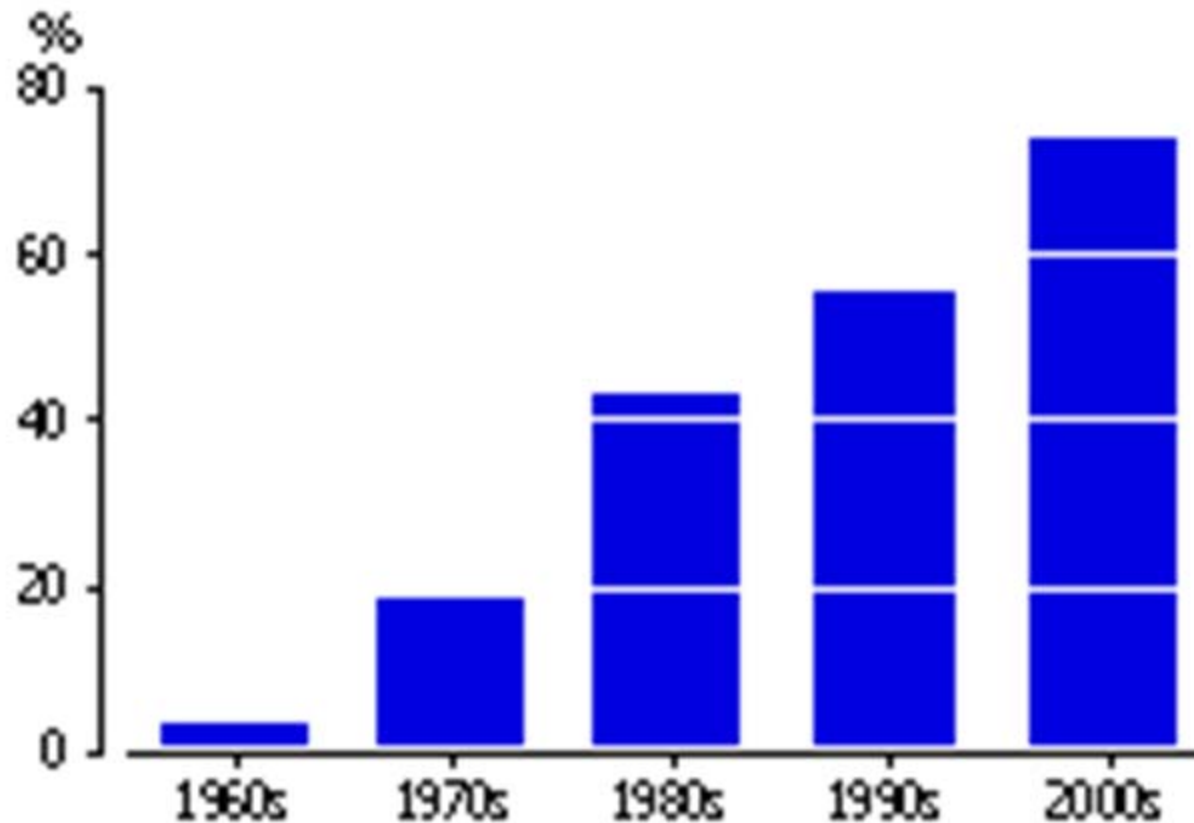


Never partnered people aged 35–64 years — 2006–07

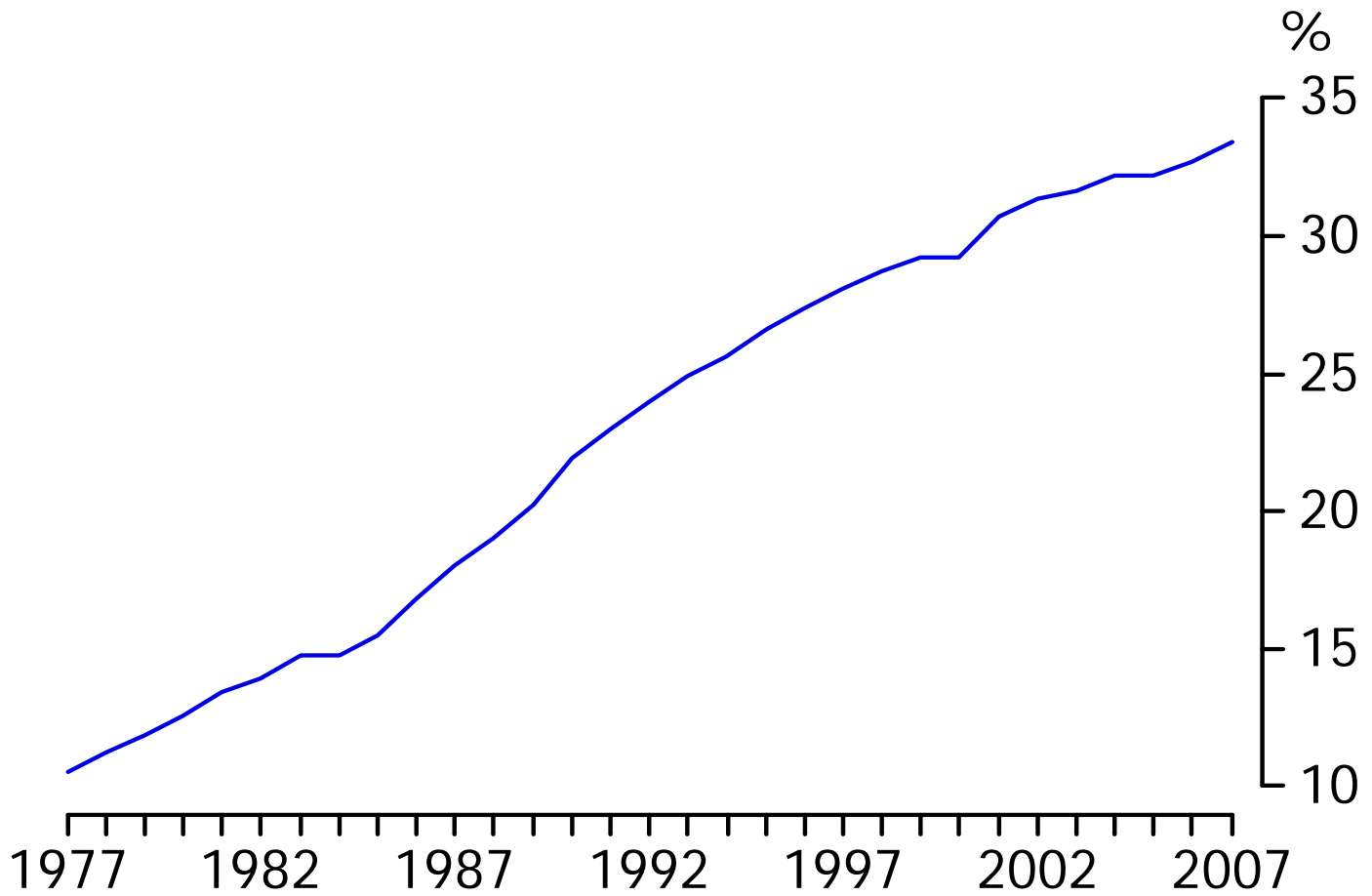


De facto as a step to marriage:

proportion of married couples who lived together before marriage, by decade of marriage



Births to unmarried mothers

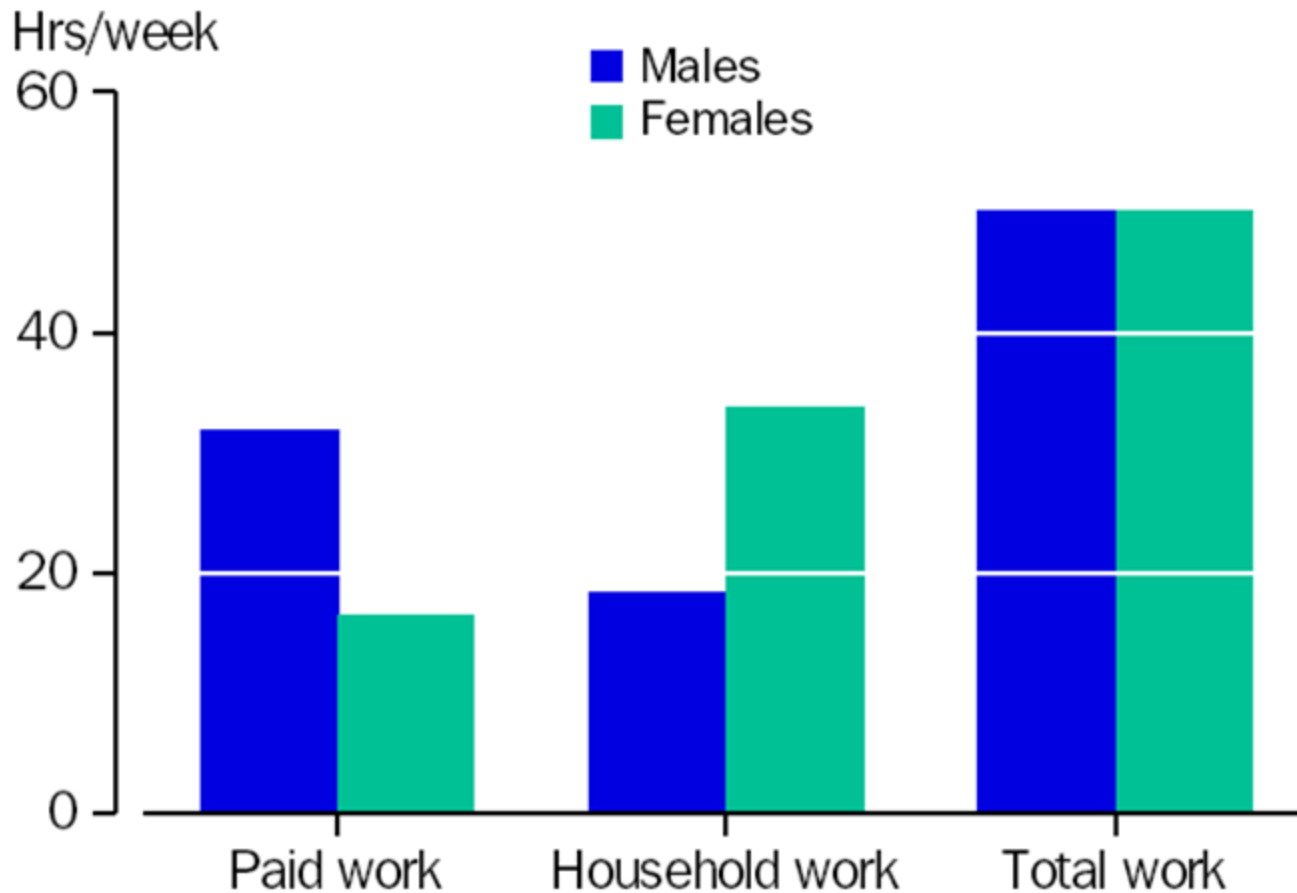


Trends in household work

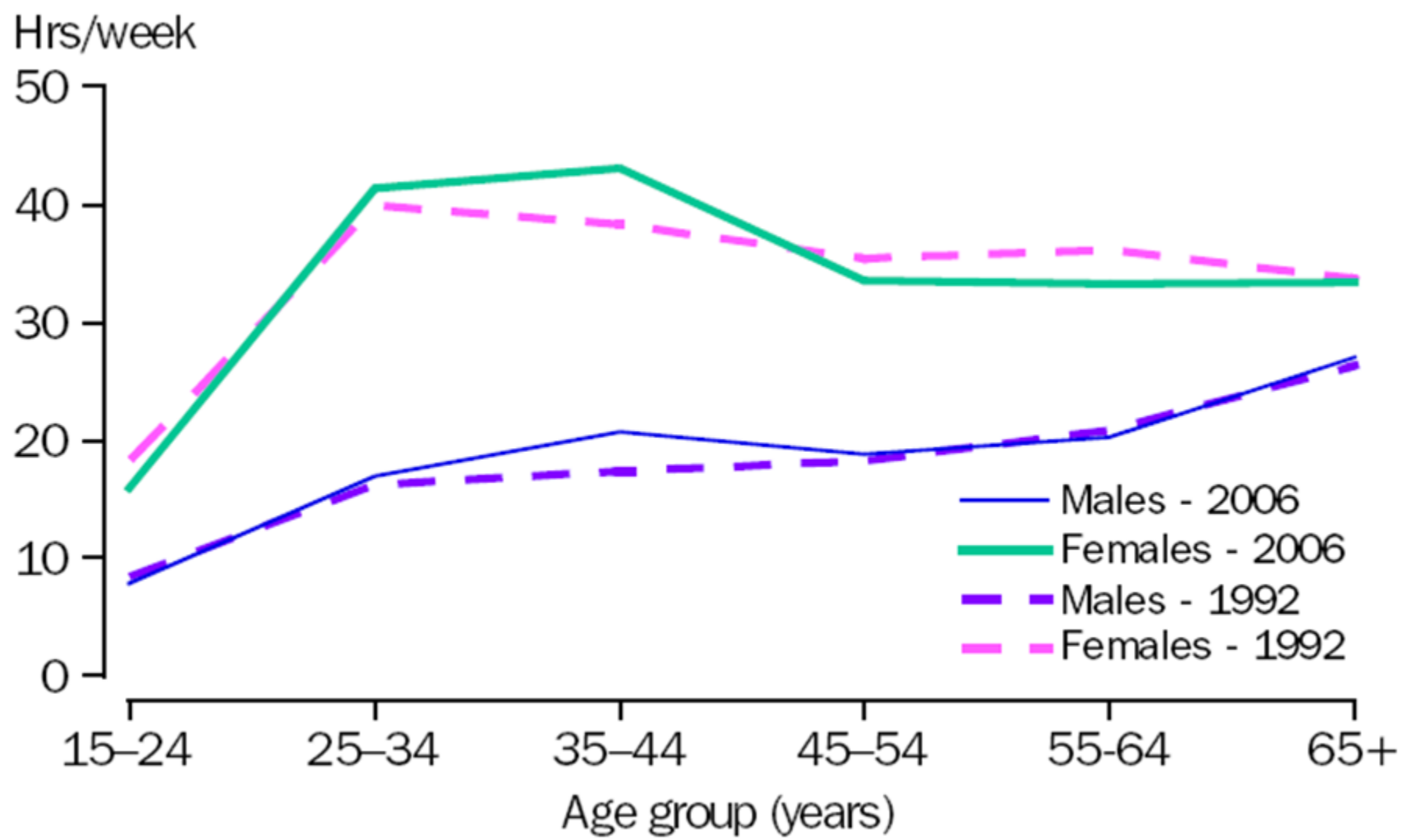
**“MEN PICK UP PACE BUT HOUSE IS
STILL WOMEN’S WORK” - The Australian**



Paid work vs Household work — 2006



Time spent on household work, by sex and age group - 2006



Time spent on selected household tasks 2006

- ***Food preparation and clean up***
Males:3 hours and 25 minutes
- Females:8 hours

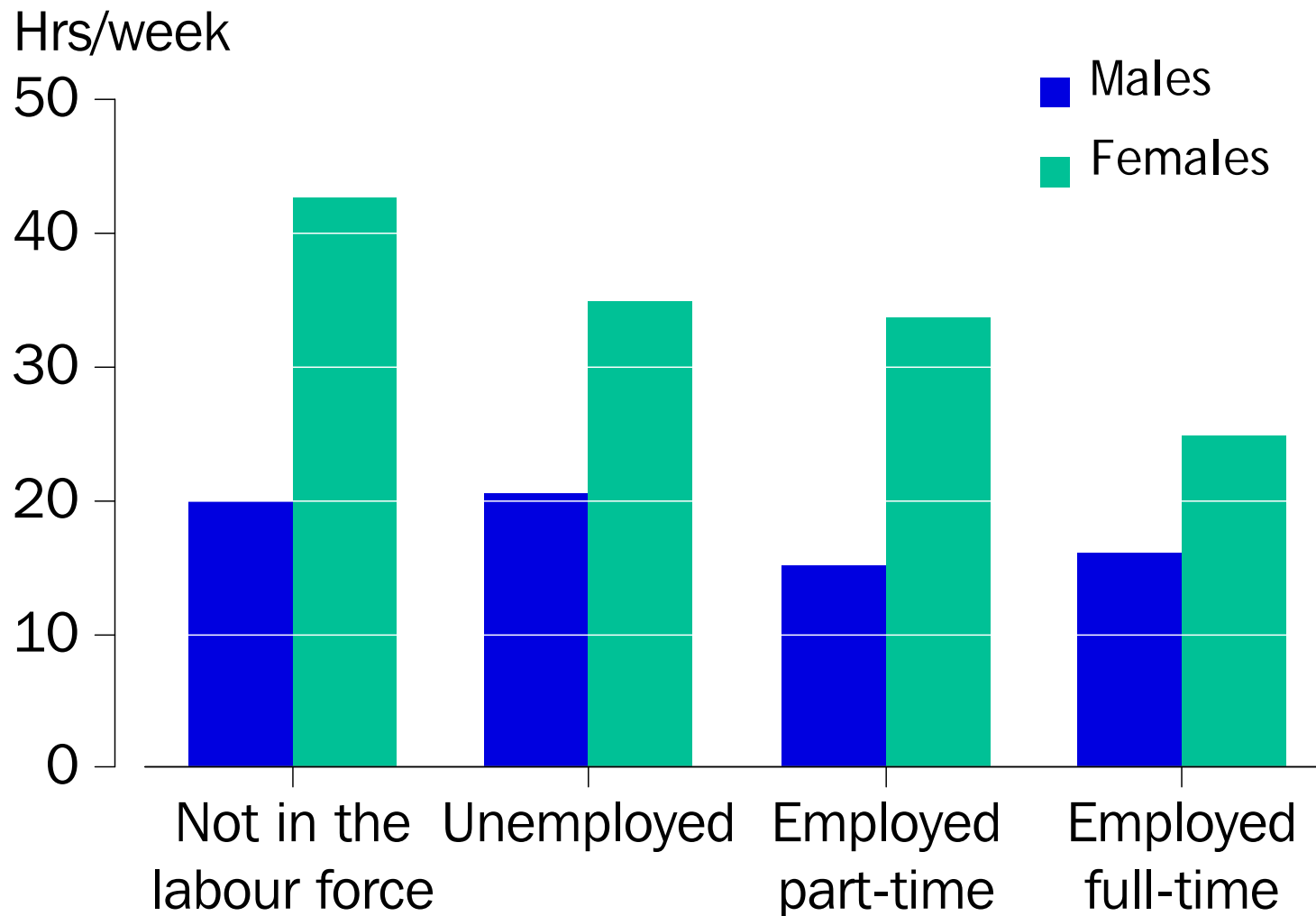
- ***Laundry and clothes care***
- Males:35 minutes
- Females:3 hours and 25 minutes

- ***Home maintenance***
- Males:1 hour and 40 minutes
- Females:20 minutes

- ***Child care***
- Males:2 hours and 35 minutes
- Females:6 hours and 55 minutes

- ***Purchasing goods and services***
- Males:4 hours and 25 minutes
- Females:6 hours and 45 minutes

Time spent on household work, by sex and status in employment - 2006

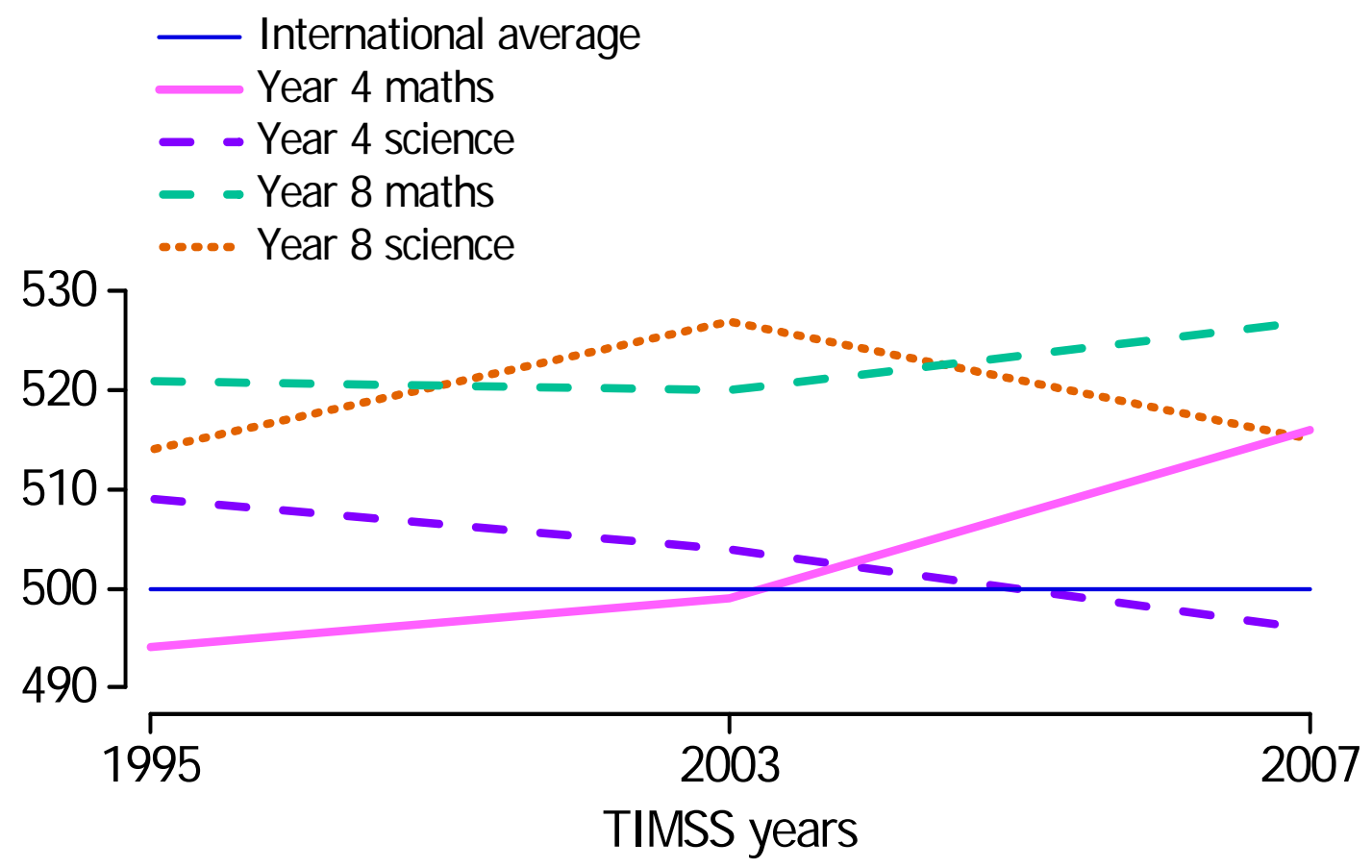


Student achievement in maths and science

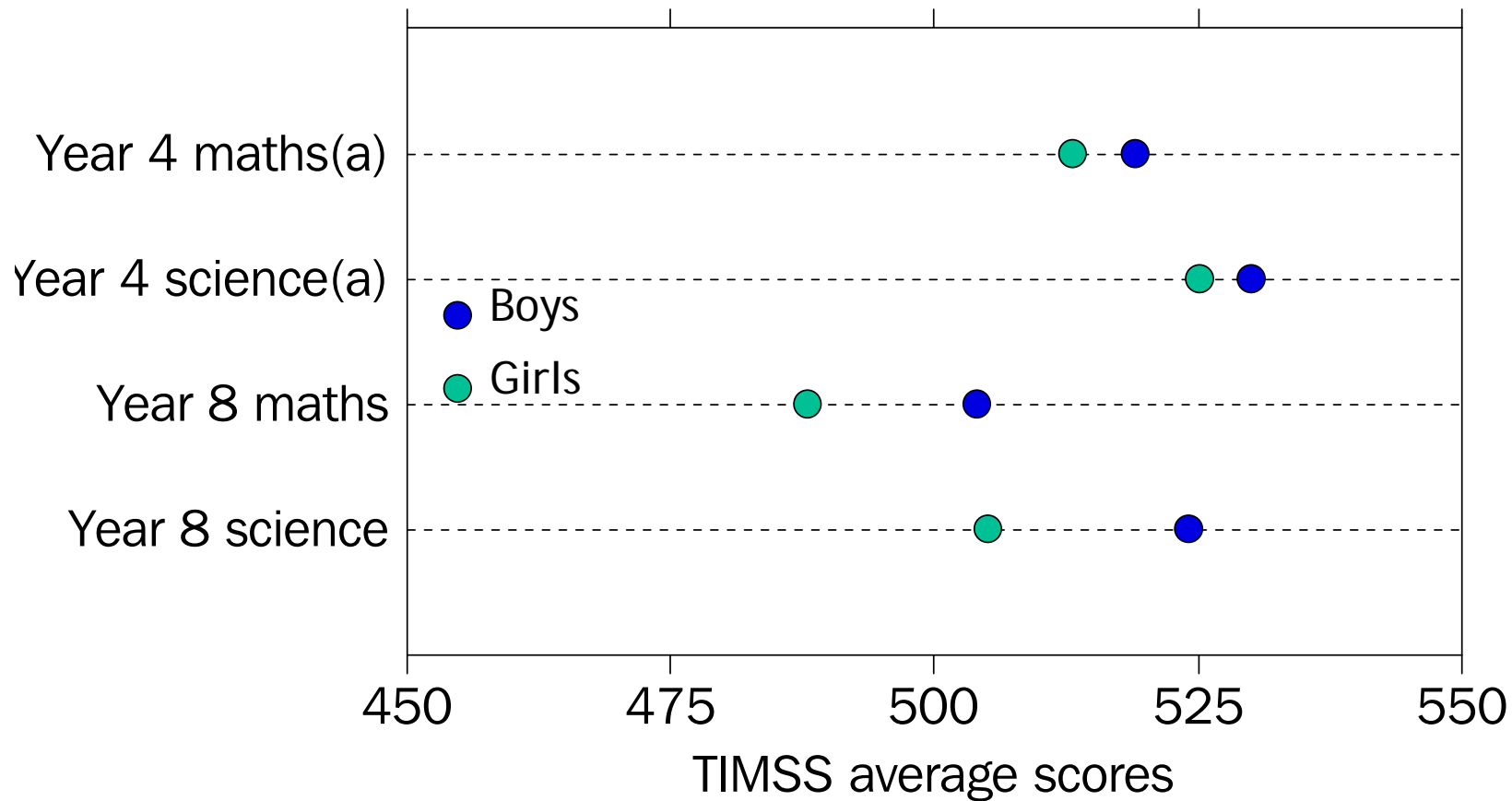


*“Teen boys buck trend to outdo girls in
maths, science” – The West Australian, 30 June
2009*

Maths and science scores, 1995-2007

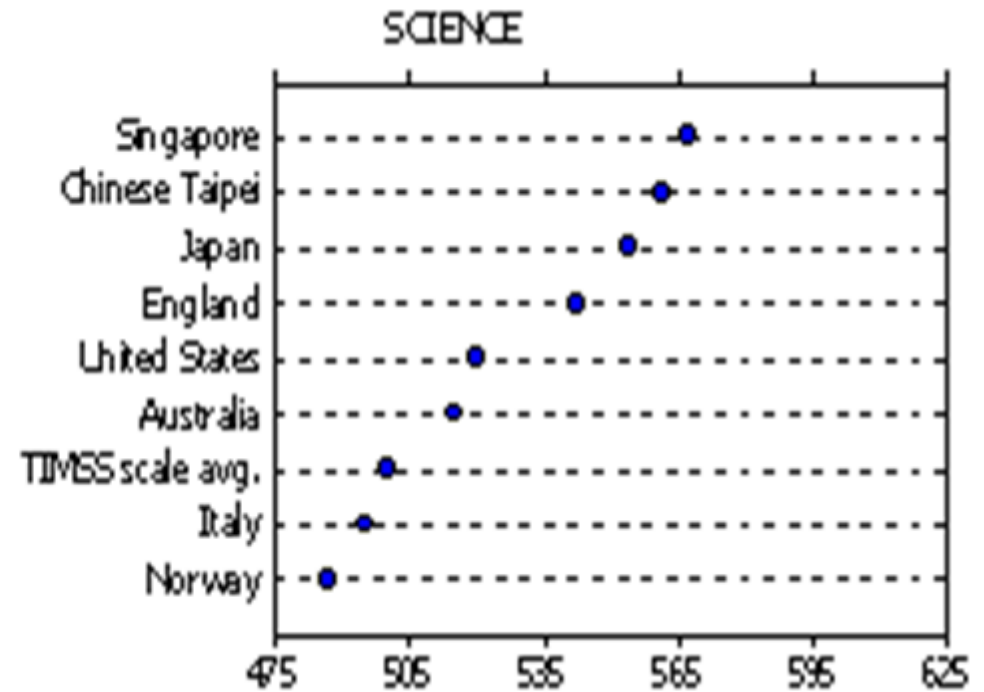
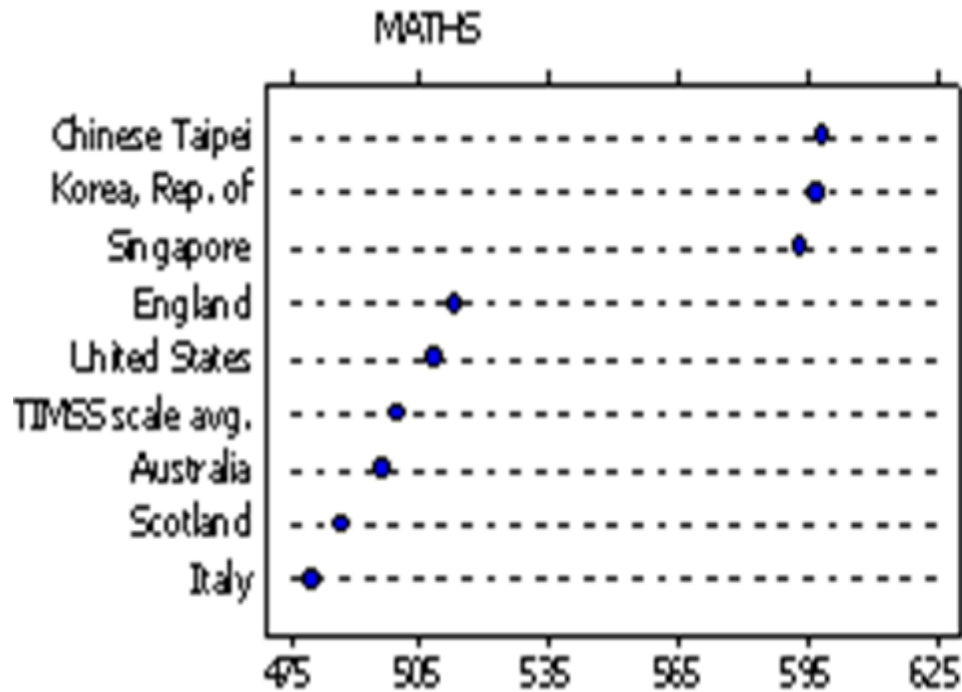


Average scores by sex, 2007



(a) Difference between boys and girls are not significant

Selected countries achievement, year 8 maths and science, 2007



Coming up...

September issue of AST

- Expanding links with Asia
- Childhood overweight and obesity
- Carers
- Multiple job holders
- Work/family balance

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Further information

- www.abs.gov.au
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