

# Australian Social Trends 2008



**Dr Paul Jelfs**  
Assistant Statistician  
Social Analysis and Reporting

**Australian Social Trends**  
2008 seminar, Hobart

8 September 2008

## **Online nation is against children**

The Herald-Sun, 24 July

### **SOCIAL TRENDS**

Big bucks seal it for the fly-in (male) worker

The Age, 24 July

## **Young drinkers alarm**

Alcohol use, internet  
among Tassie's flaws

The Hobart Mercury, 24 July

We're a smarter, poorer lot

The Courier Mail, 24 July

Quacks turn mainstream as demand doubles

The Australian, 24 July

## **Seven-year itch cured**

The Herald-Sun, 24 July

Young to get used to parents' largesse

The Australian Financial Review, 24 July

Half of young people can't read well

The Australian, 24 July

# Today's seminar



Population



Family and community



Health



Education and training



Work



Economic resources



Housing



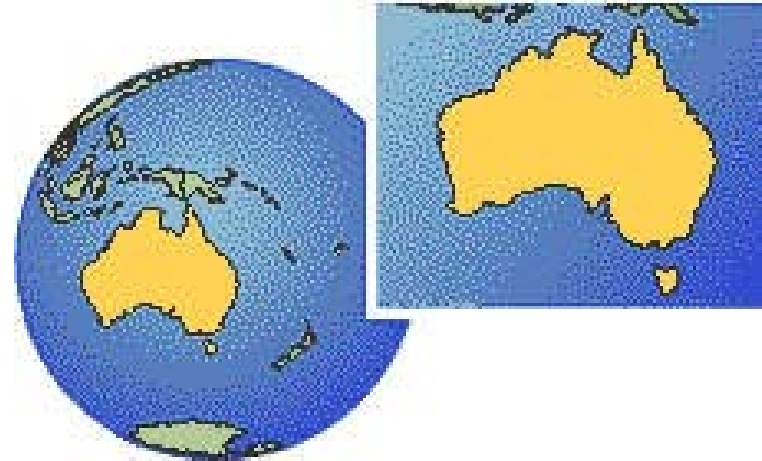
Other areas of concern

# Population

- Population distribution

- ...by Remoteness Areas

- ...change 1996-2006

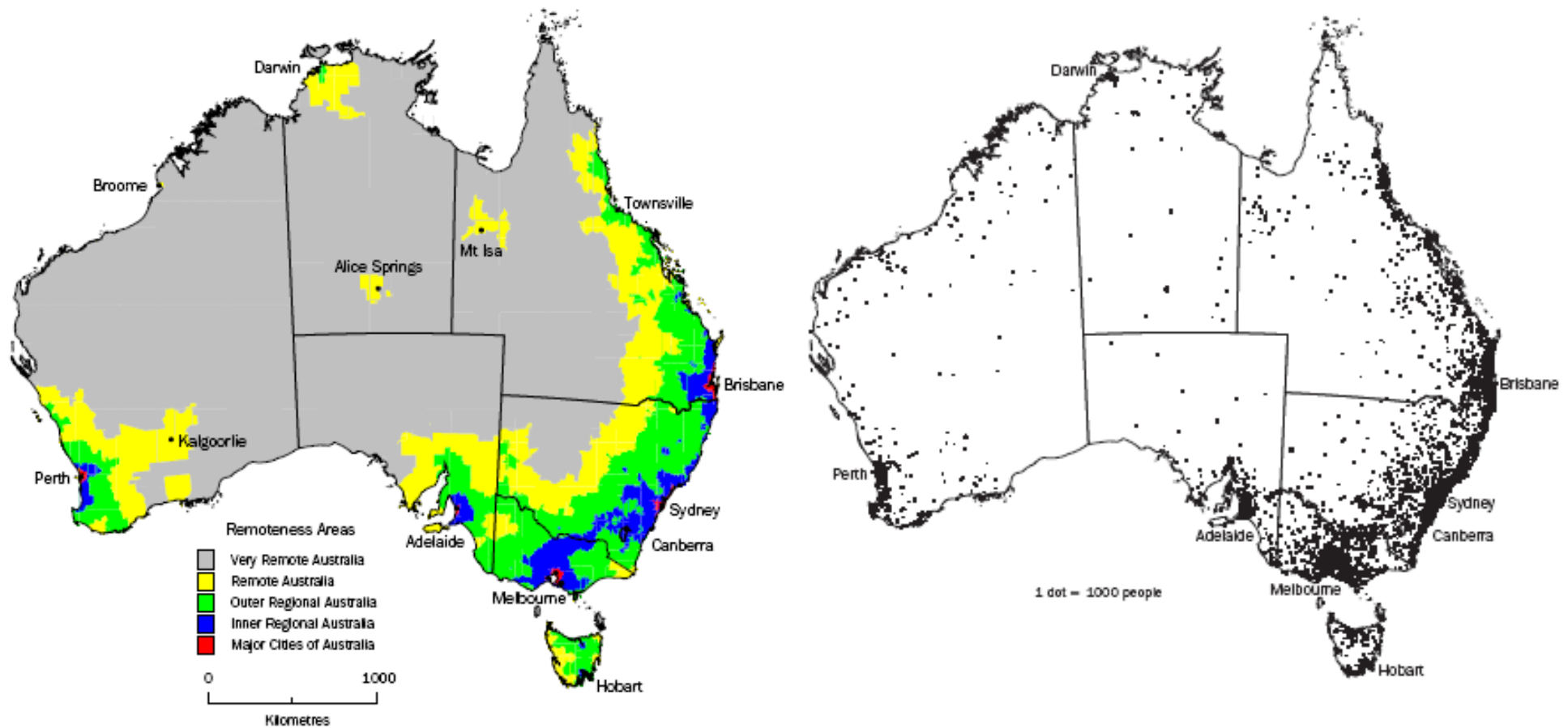


- Towns of the mineral boom

- ...which towns?

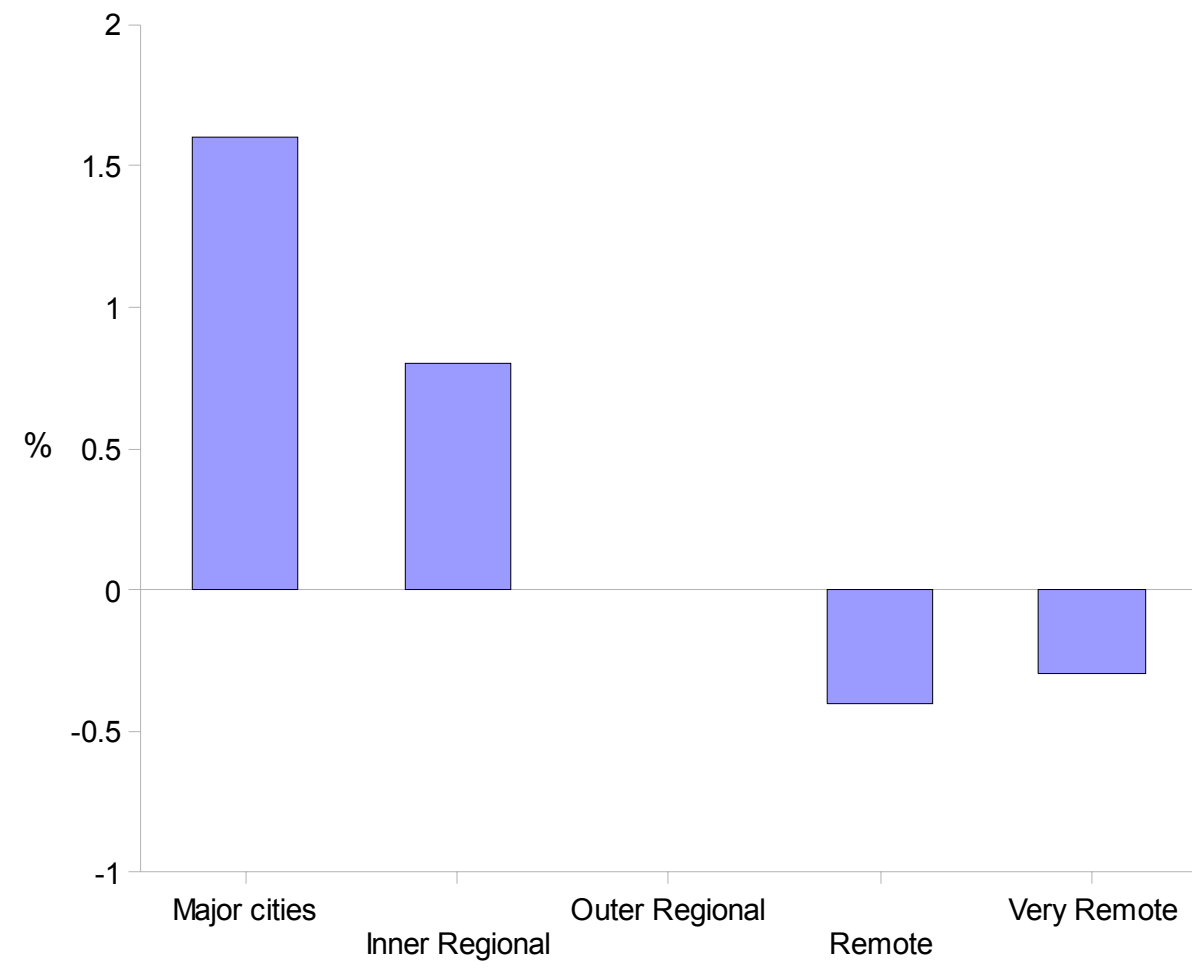
- ...socio-demographic changes

# Remoteness Areas and population distribution at 30 June 2006



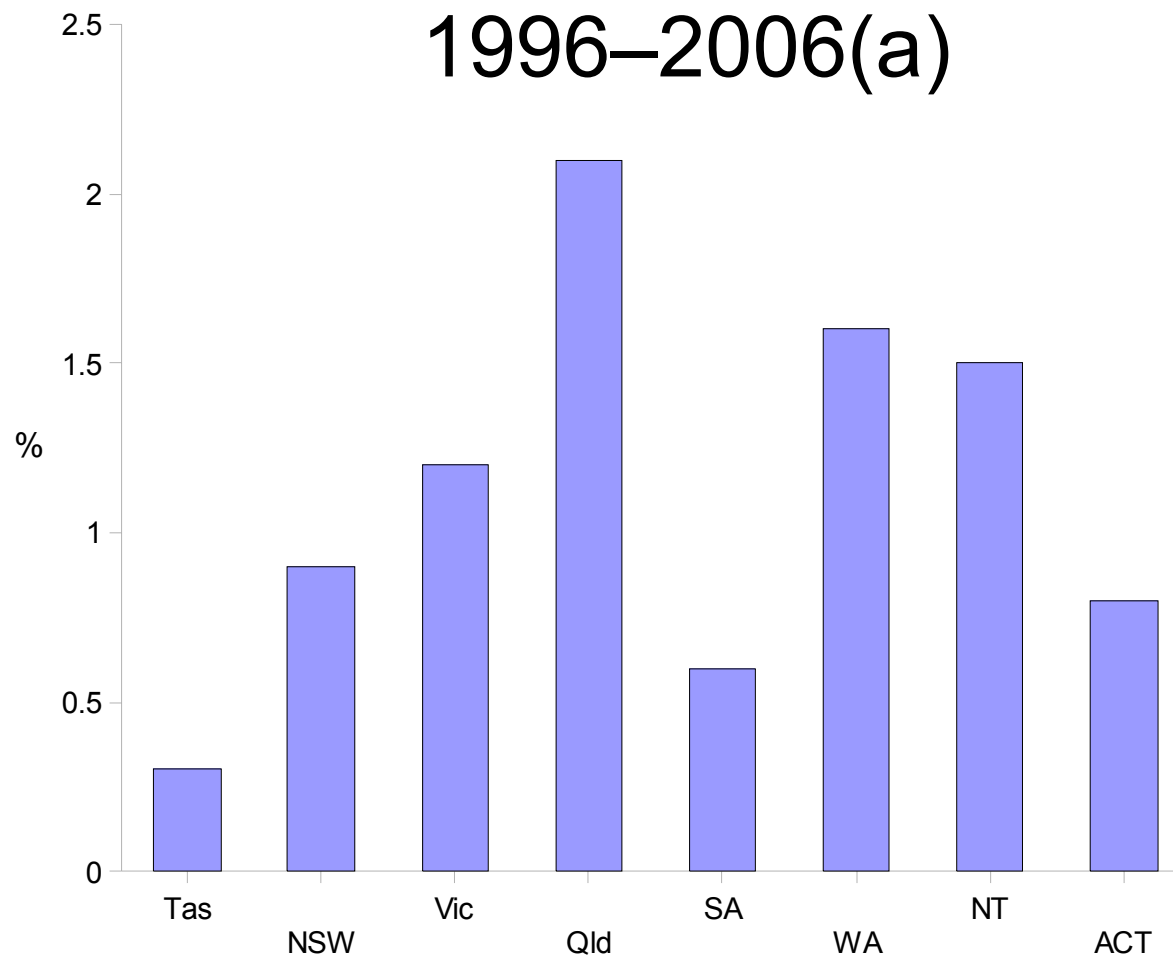
Source: ABS preliminary Estimated Resident Population

# Population change 1996–2006(a)



(a) Average annual growth rate  
Source: ABS preliminary Estimated Resident Population

# Population change in States and Territories 1996–2006(a)

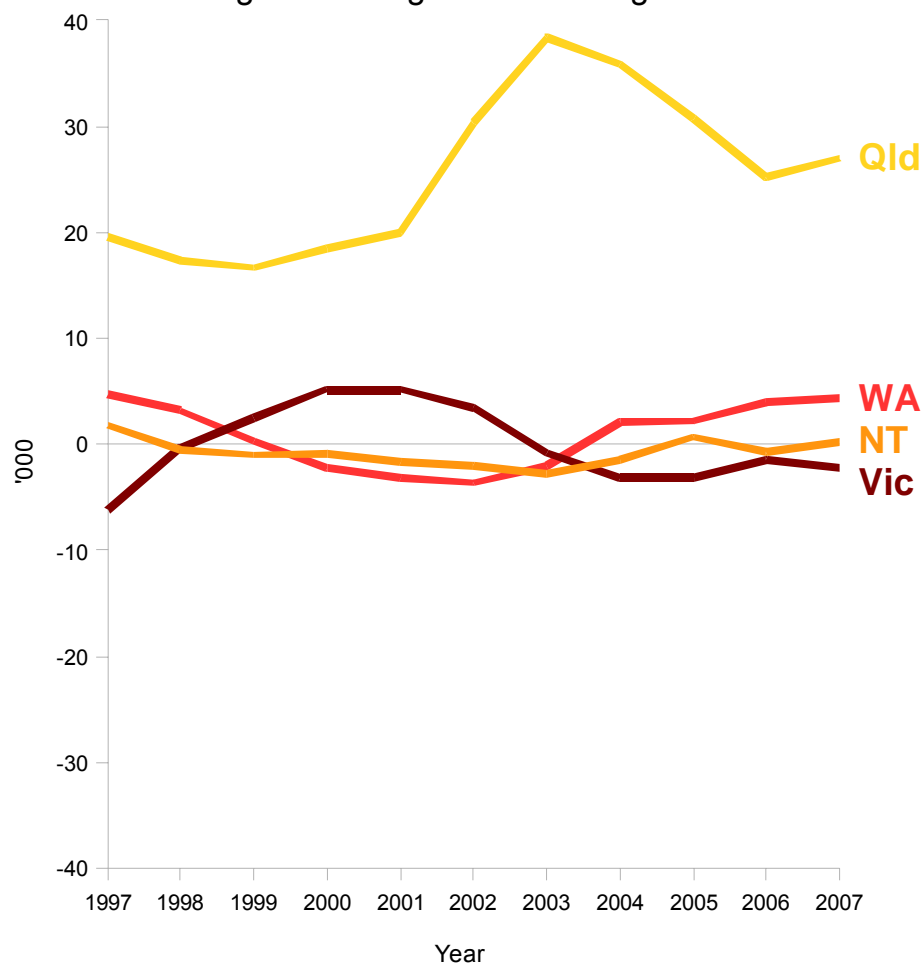


(a) Average annual growth rate  
Source: ABS Estimated Resident Population

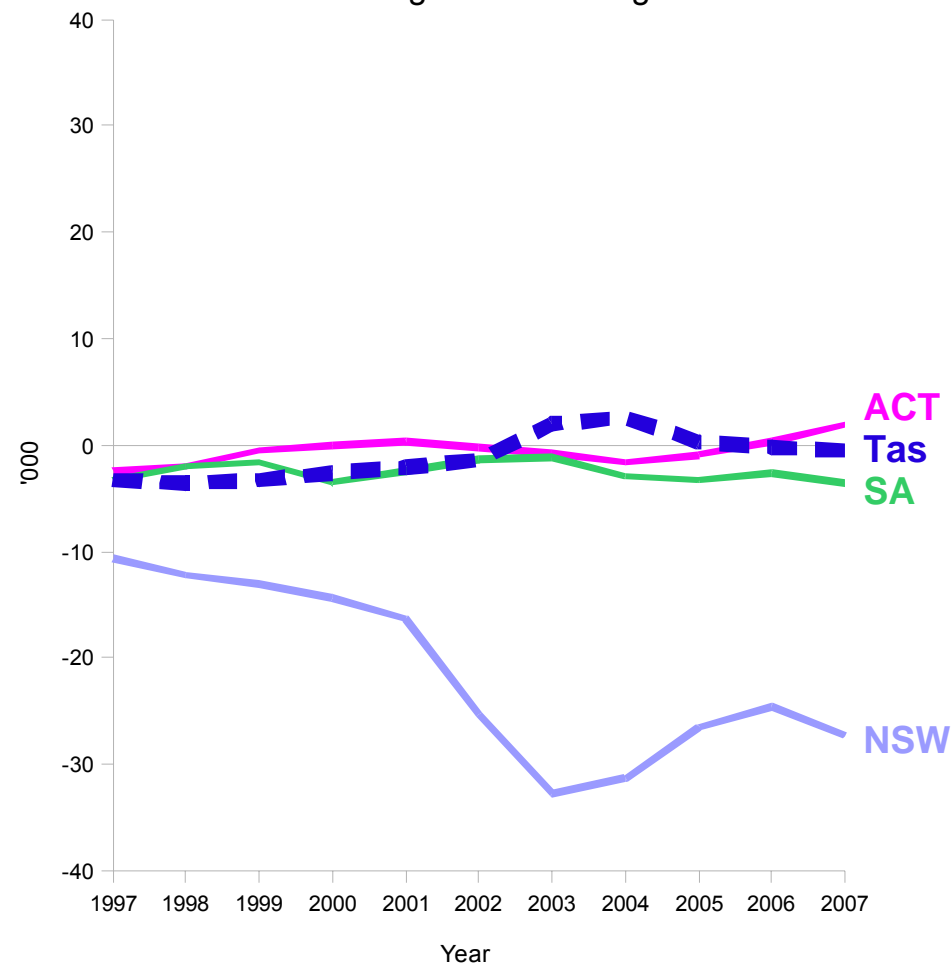


# Interstate Migration

Highest Average Interstate Migration



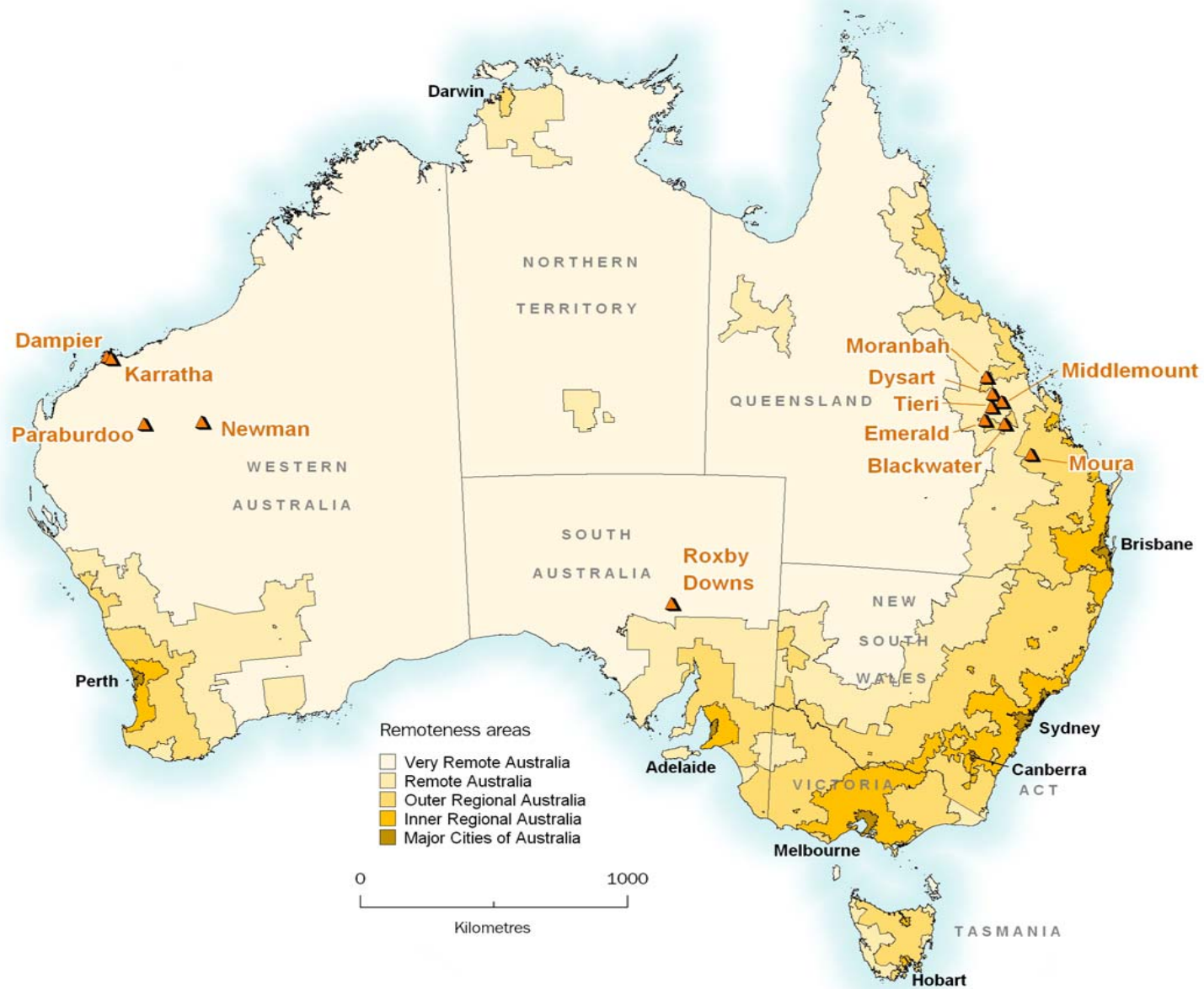
Lowest Average Interstate Migration



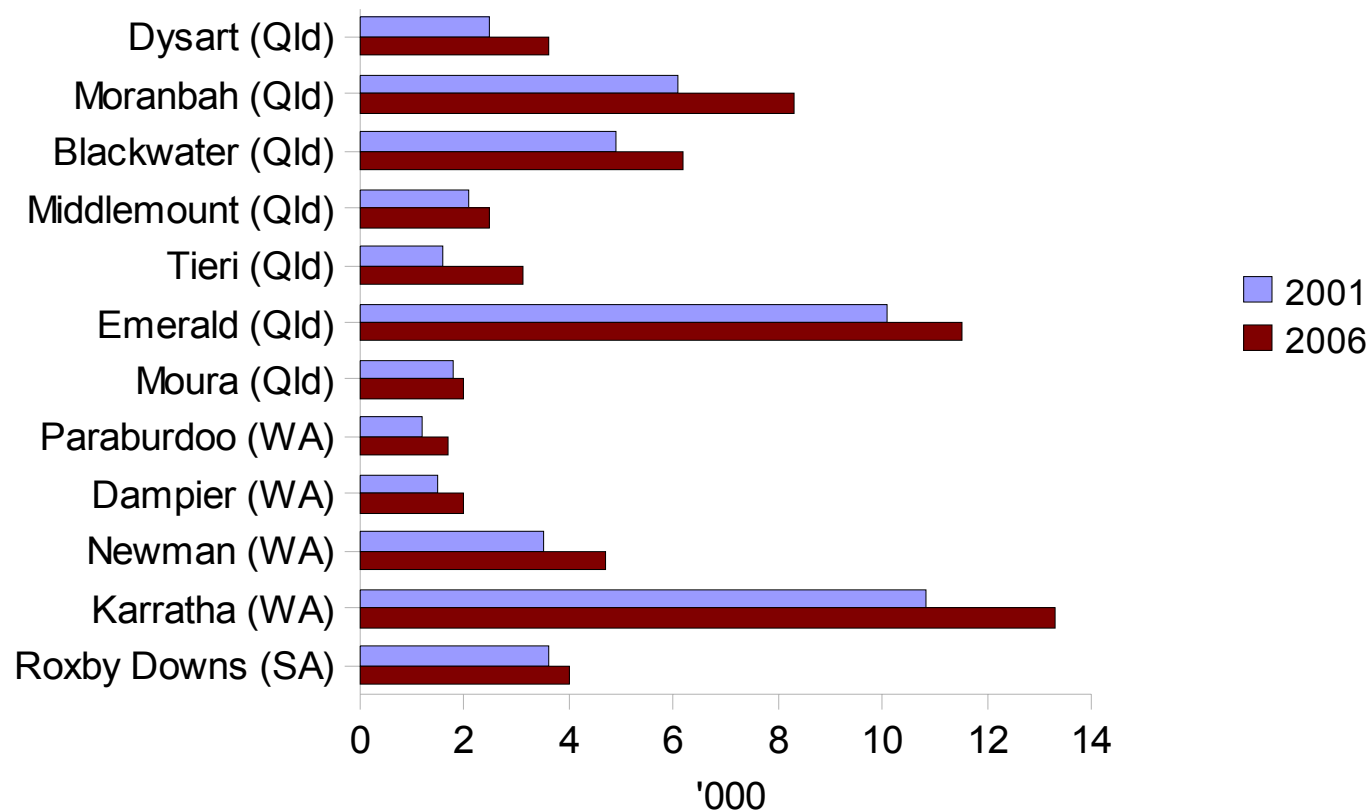
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics

## Towns of the mineral boom

- Rapid population growth
- High proportion employed in mining

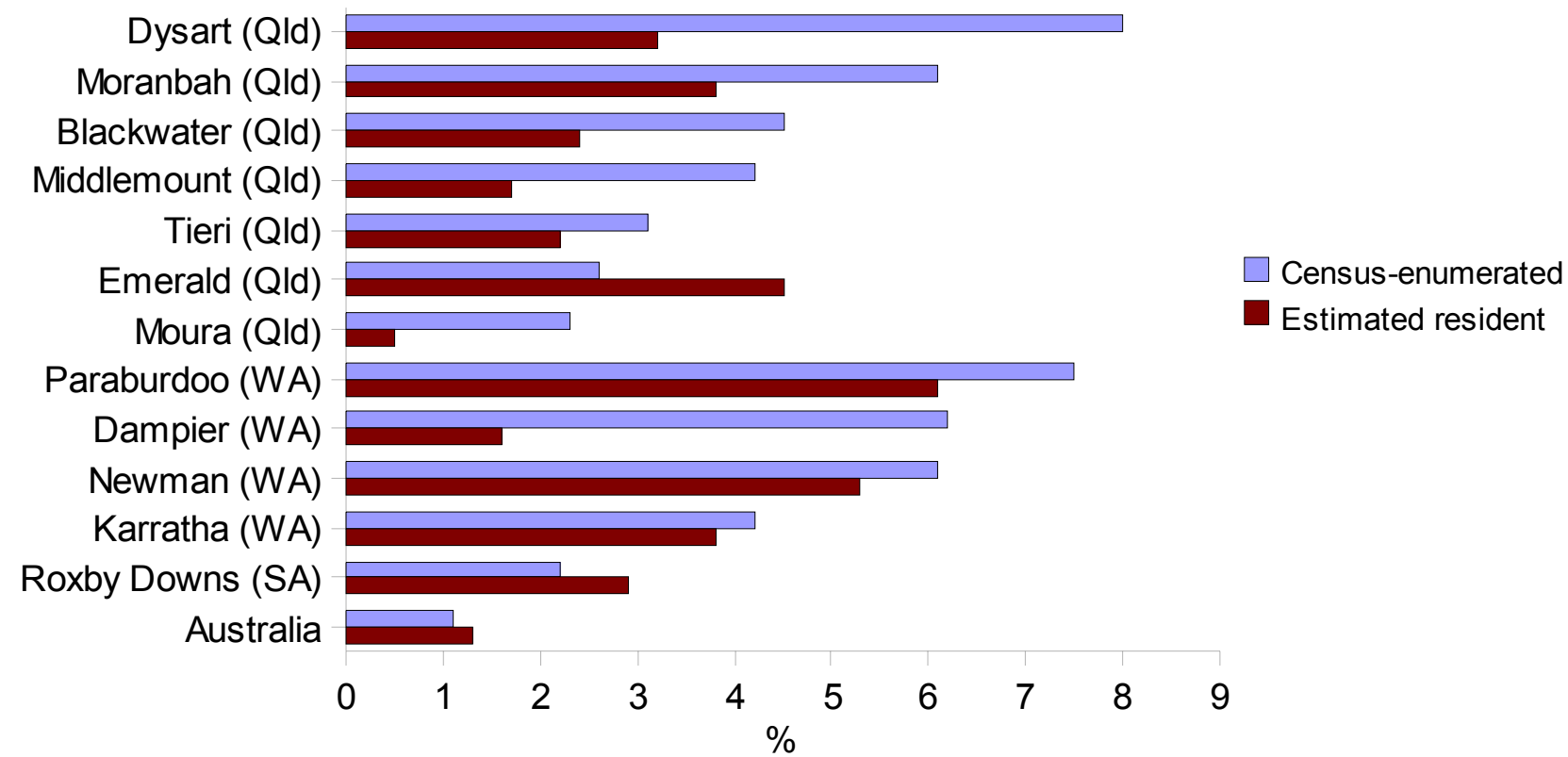


# Population of boom towns



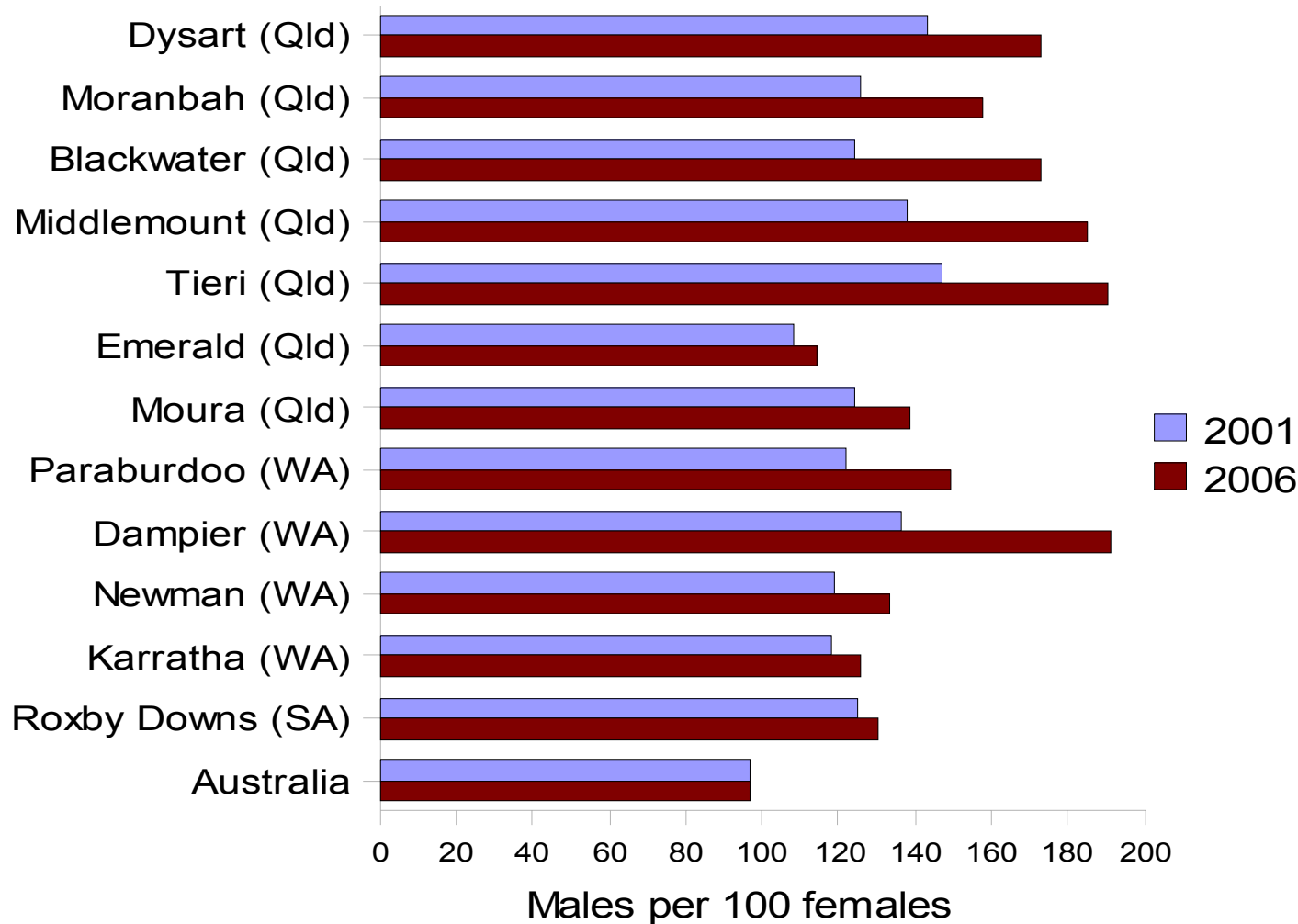
Source: 2001 and 2006 ABS Censuses of Population and Housing

# Population growth in boom towns 2001-2006



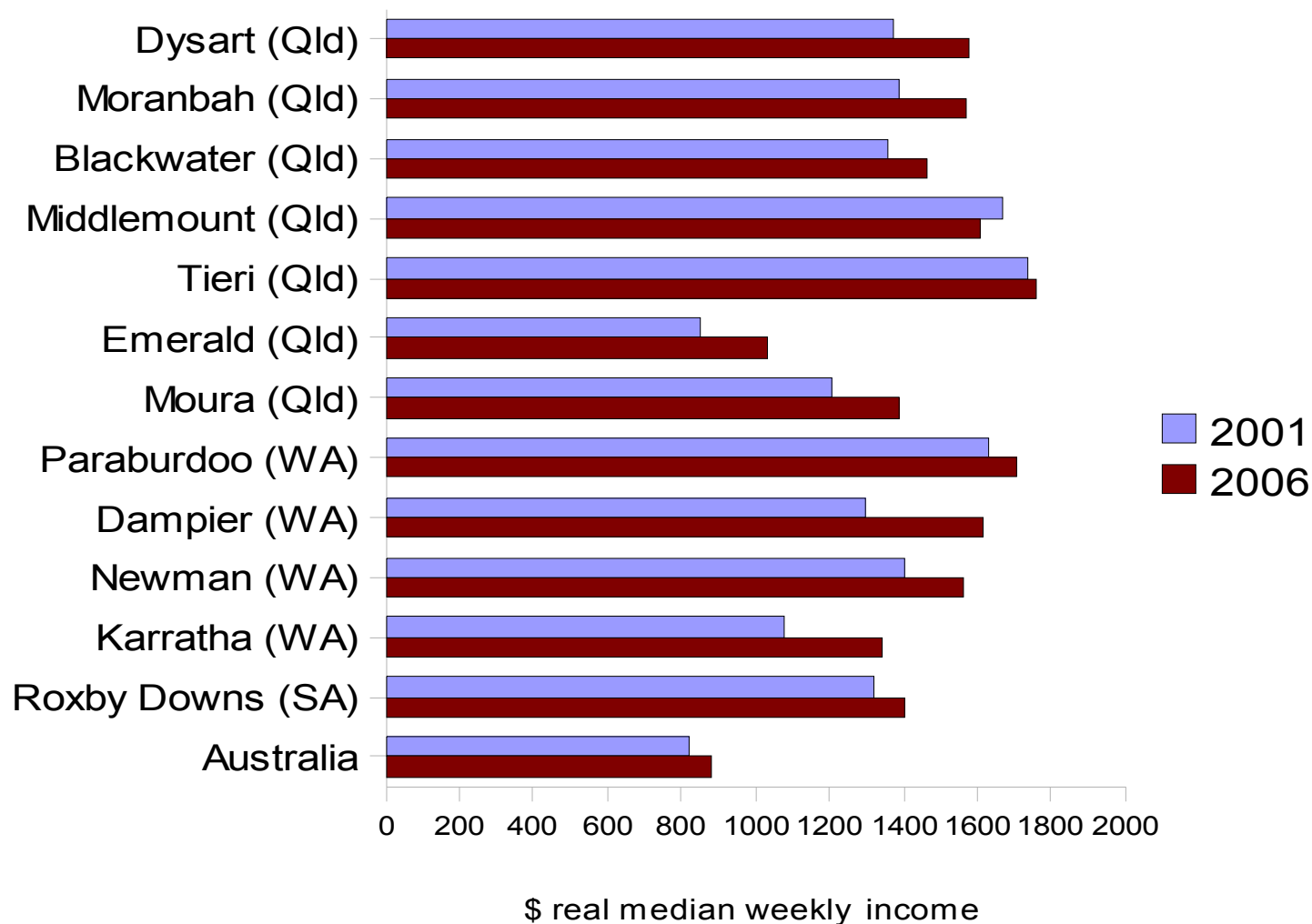
Source: 2001 and 2006 ABS Censuses of Population and Housing; Australian Demographic Statistics

# Male:female ratios in boom towns



Source: 2001 and 2006 ABS Censuses of Population and Housing

# Income of full-time workers in boom towns



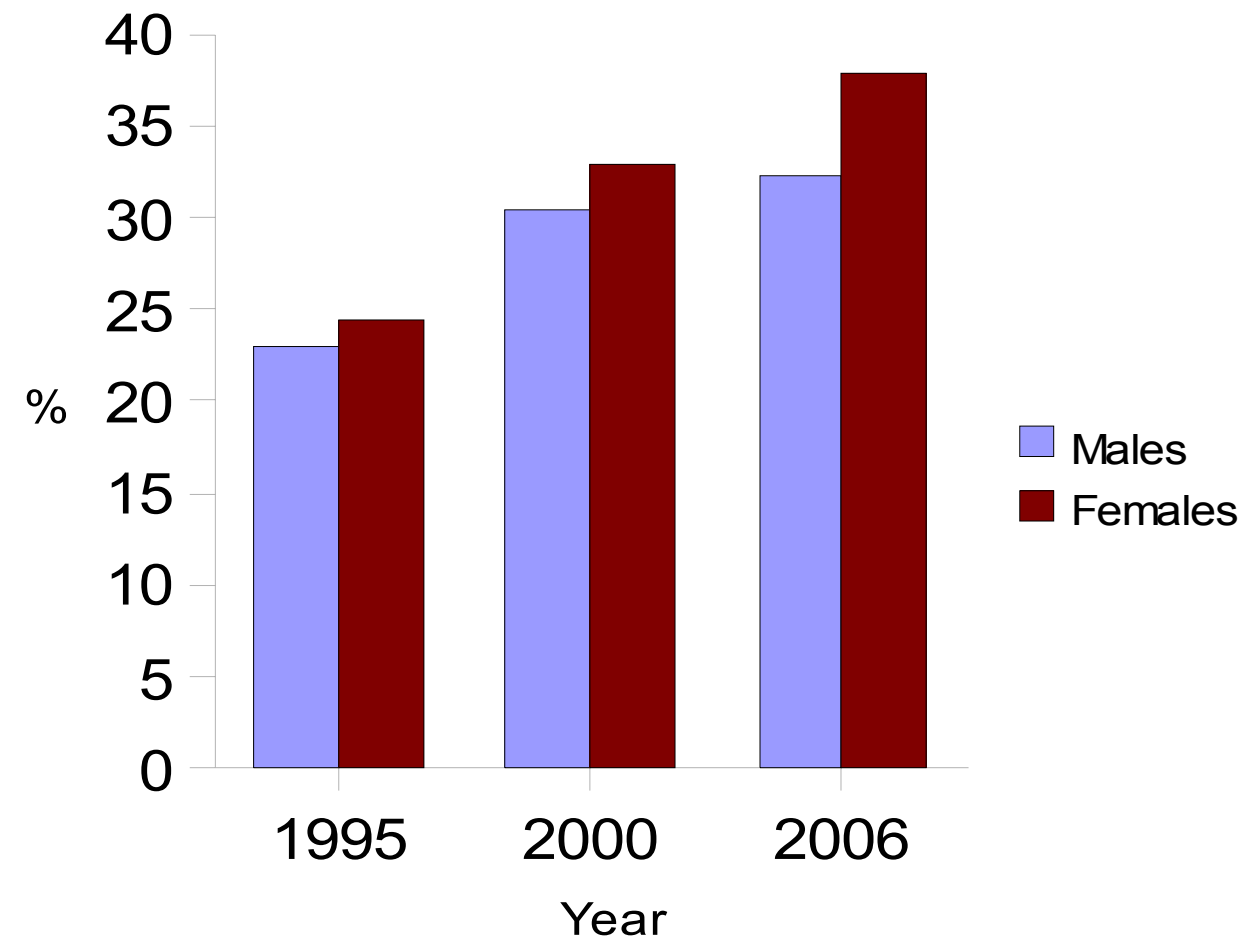
# Family and Community

- Voluntary work
  - ...increase in voluntary work
  - ...who is volunteering regularly?
  - ...what type of volunteering are they doing?



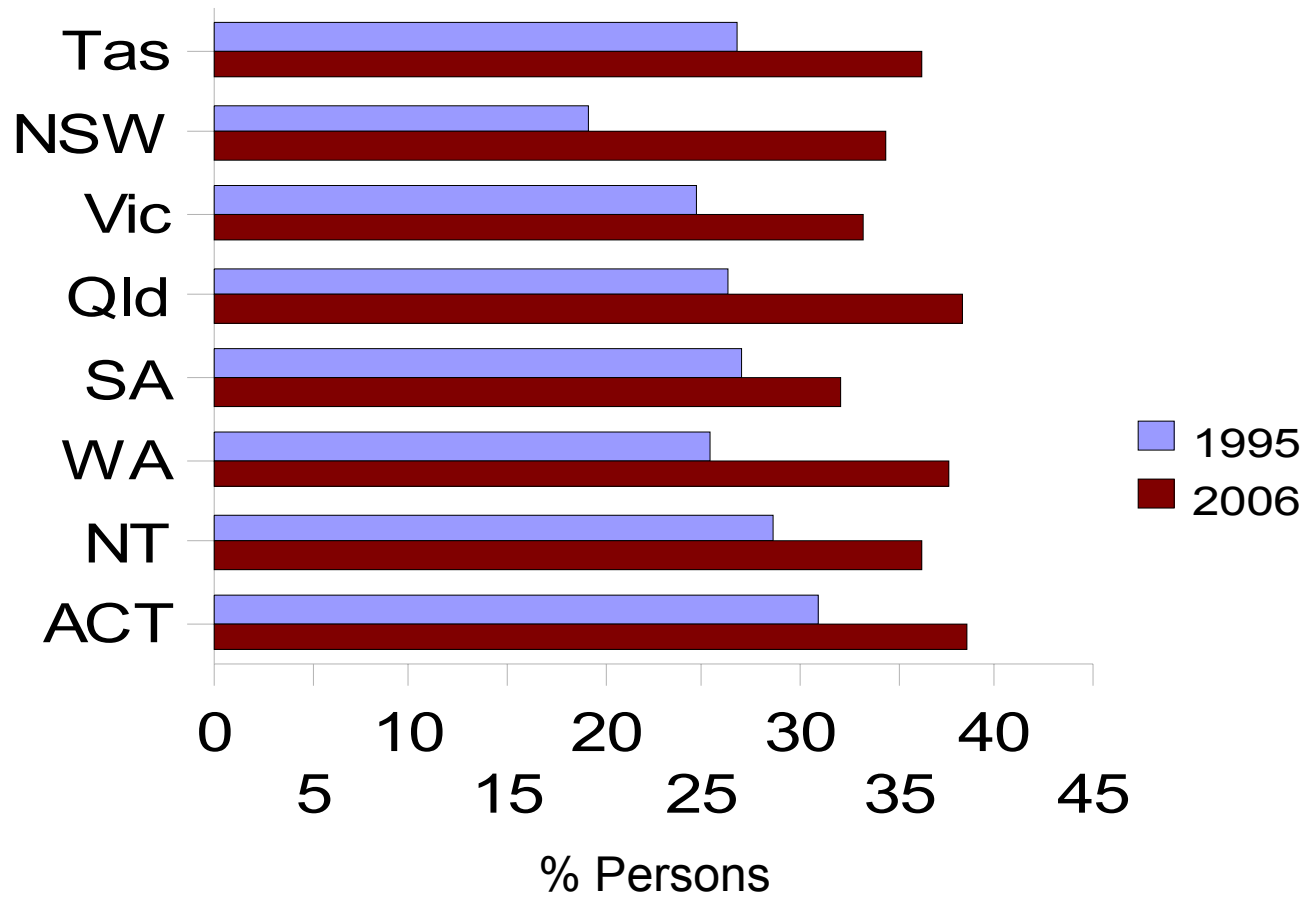


# Volunteering rates



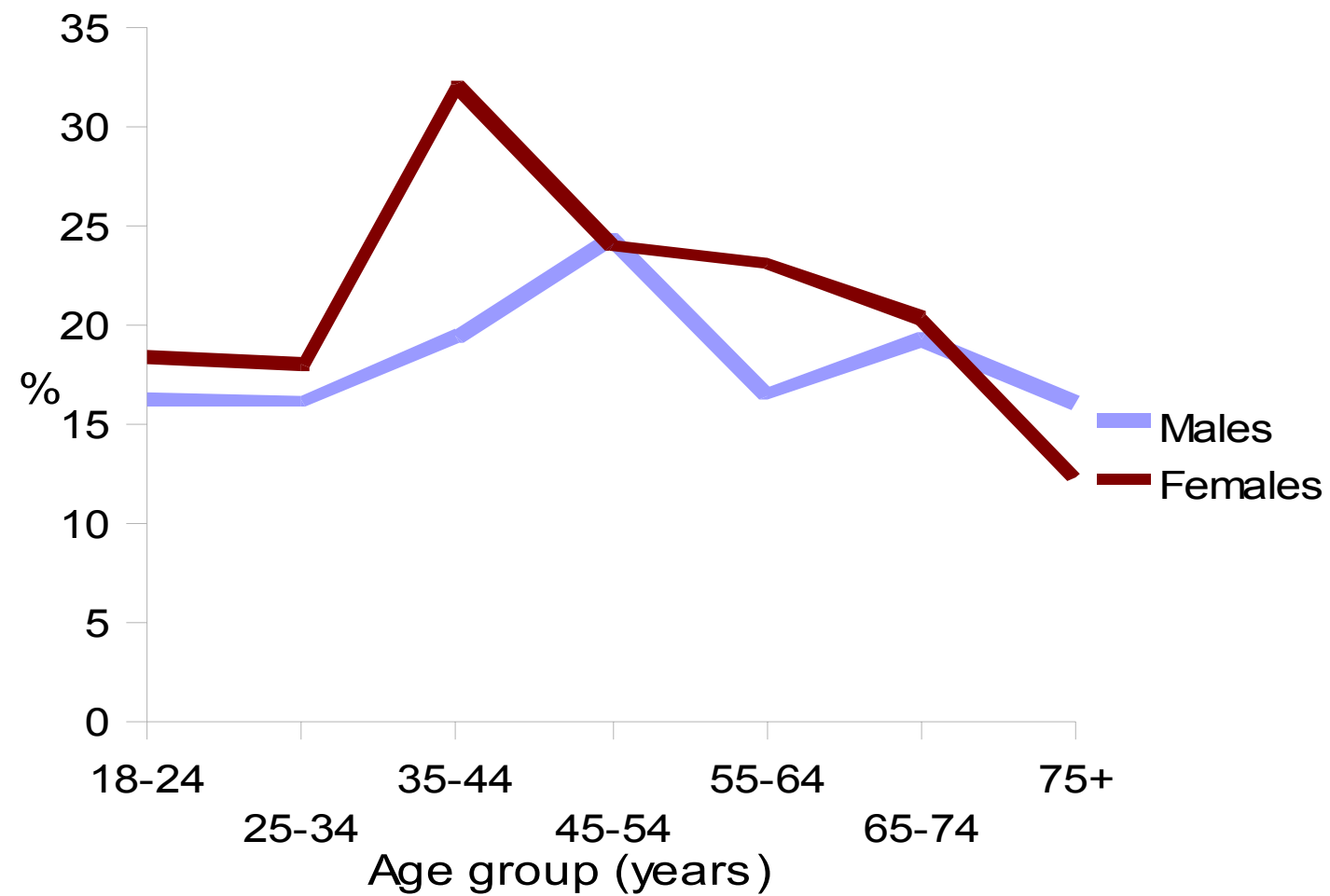
Source: ABS 2006 Voluntary Work Survey

# Volunteering rates: States and Territories



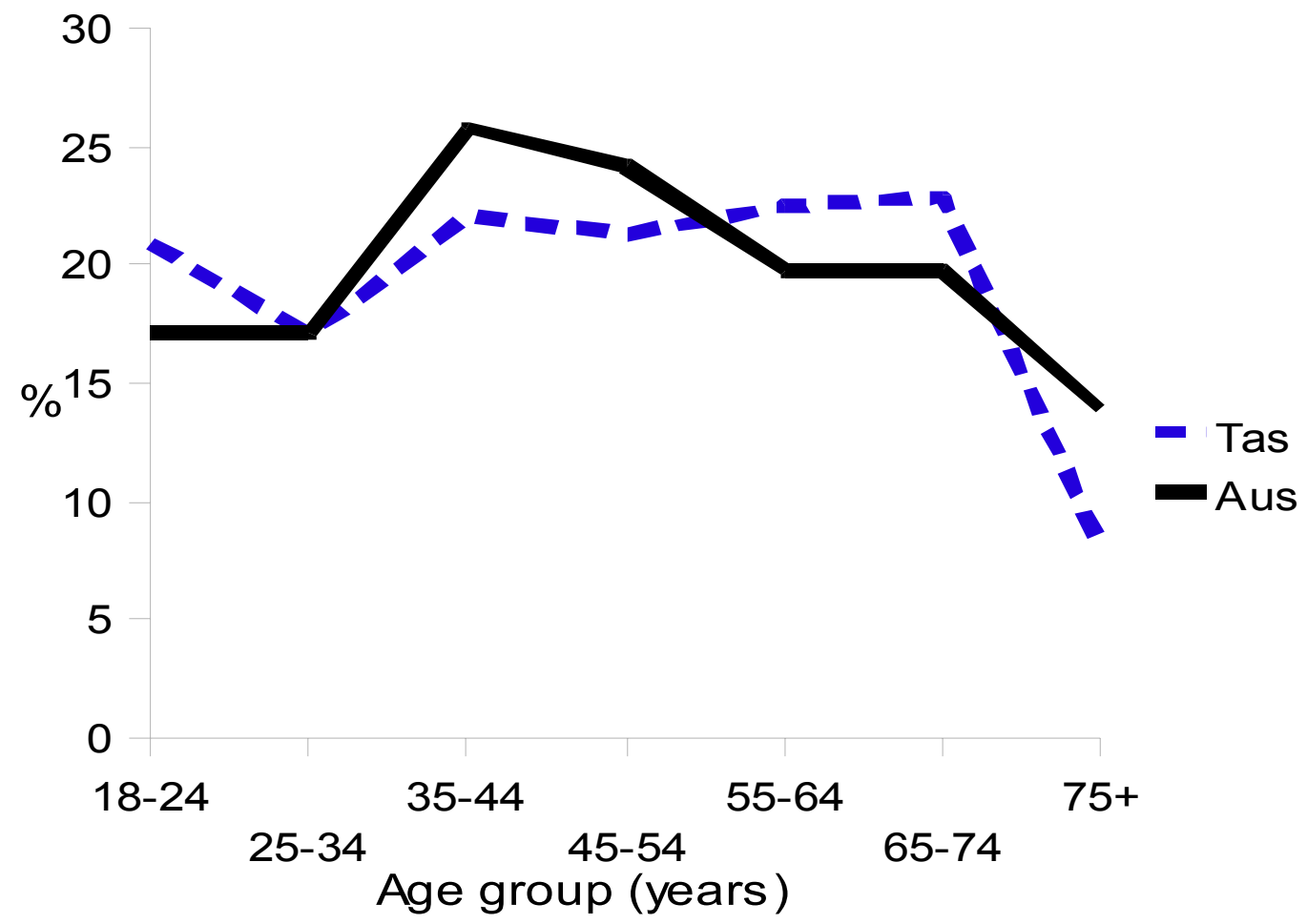
Source: ABS 2006 Voluntary Work Survey

# Regular volunteering by age and sex 2006



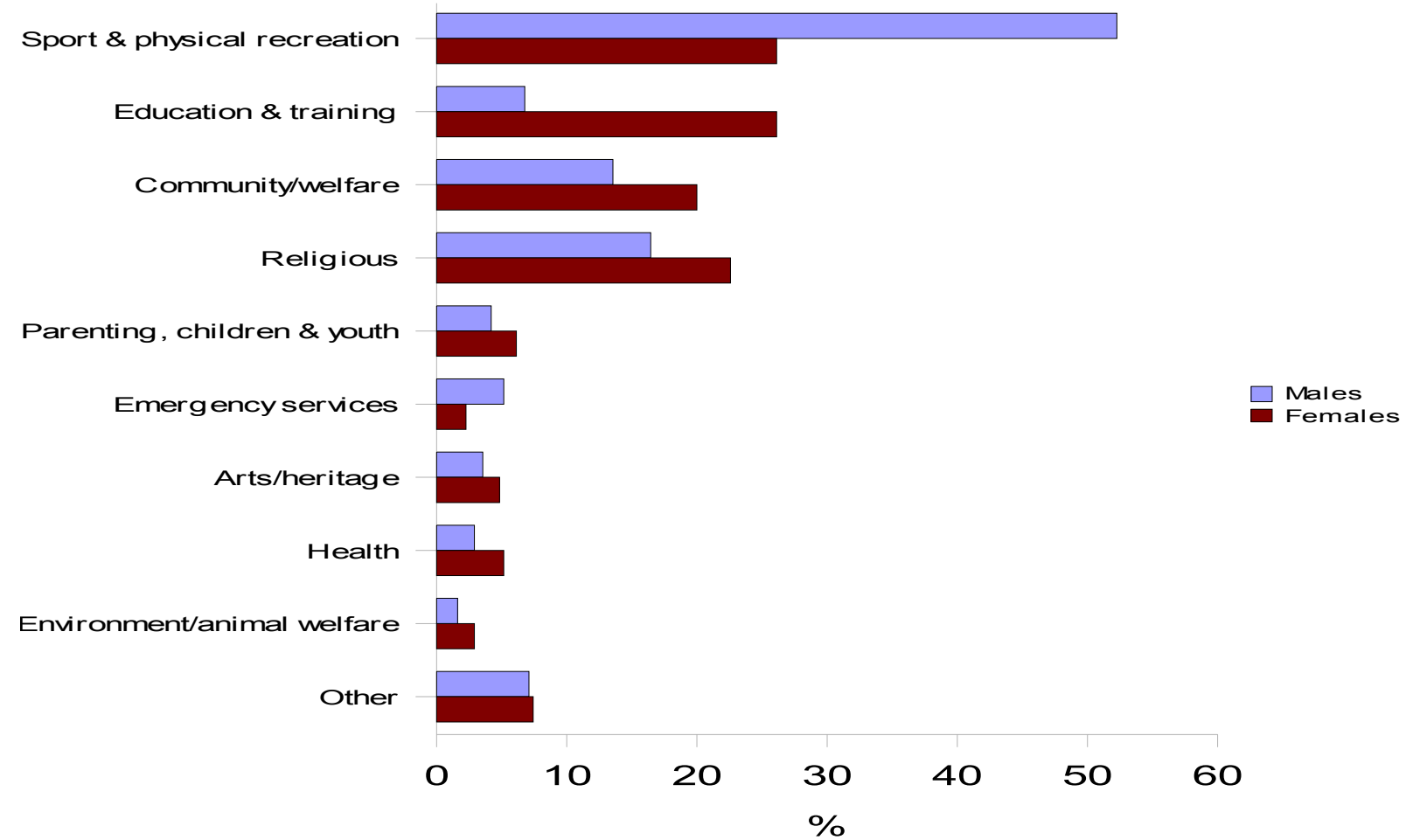
Source: ABS 2006 Voluntary Work Survey

# Regular volunteering by age 2006



Source: ABS 2006 Voluntary Work Survey

# Regular volunteers by type of organisation 2006



Source: ABS 2006 Voluntary Work Survey

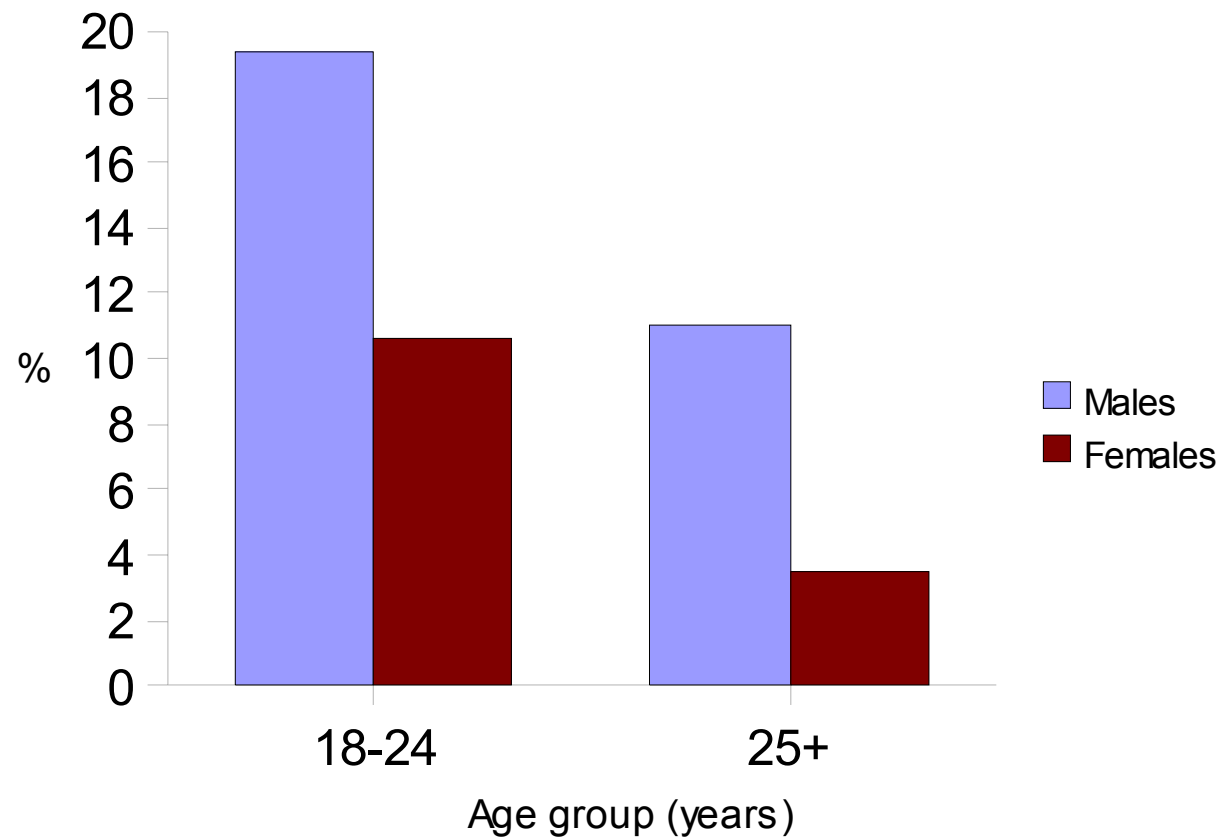
# Health

- Risk taking by young people
  - ...alcohol, drugs & dangerous driving
  - ...hospitalisation & death
- Complementary therapies
  - ...have become more common
  - ...who are they & who is seeing them?



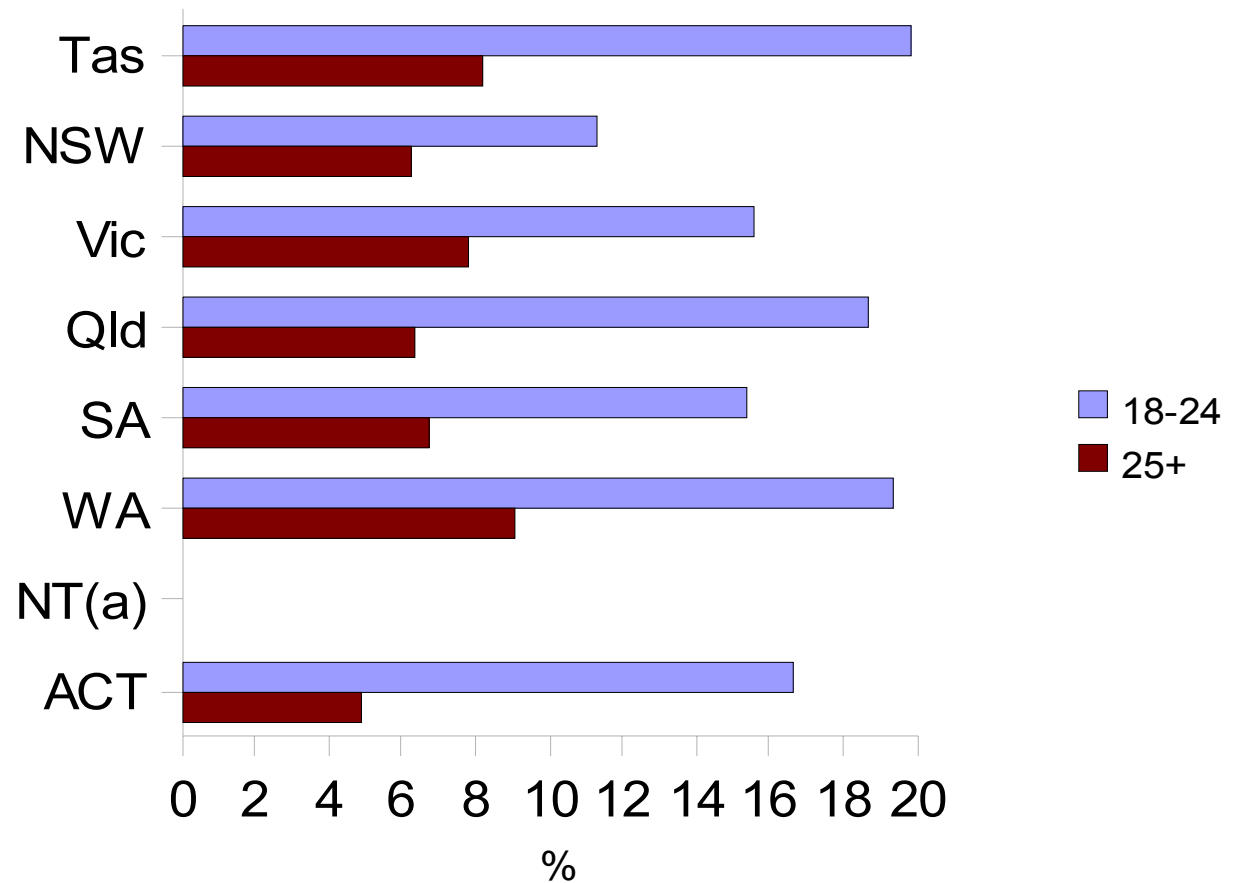
# Risk taking by young people

Short term risky/high risk drinking at least once a week 2004–05



Source: ABS 2004–05 National Health Survey

# Short term risky/high risk drinking at least once a week 2004–05

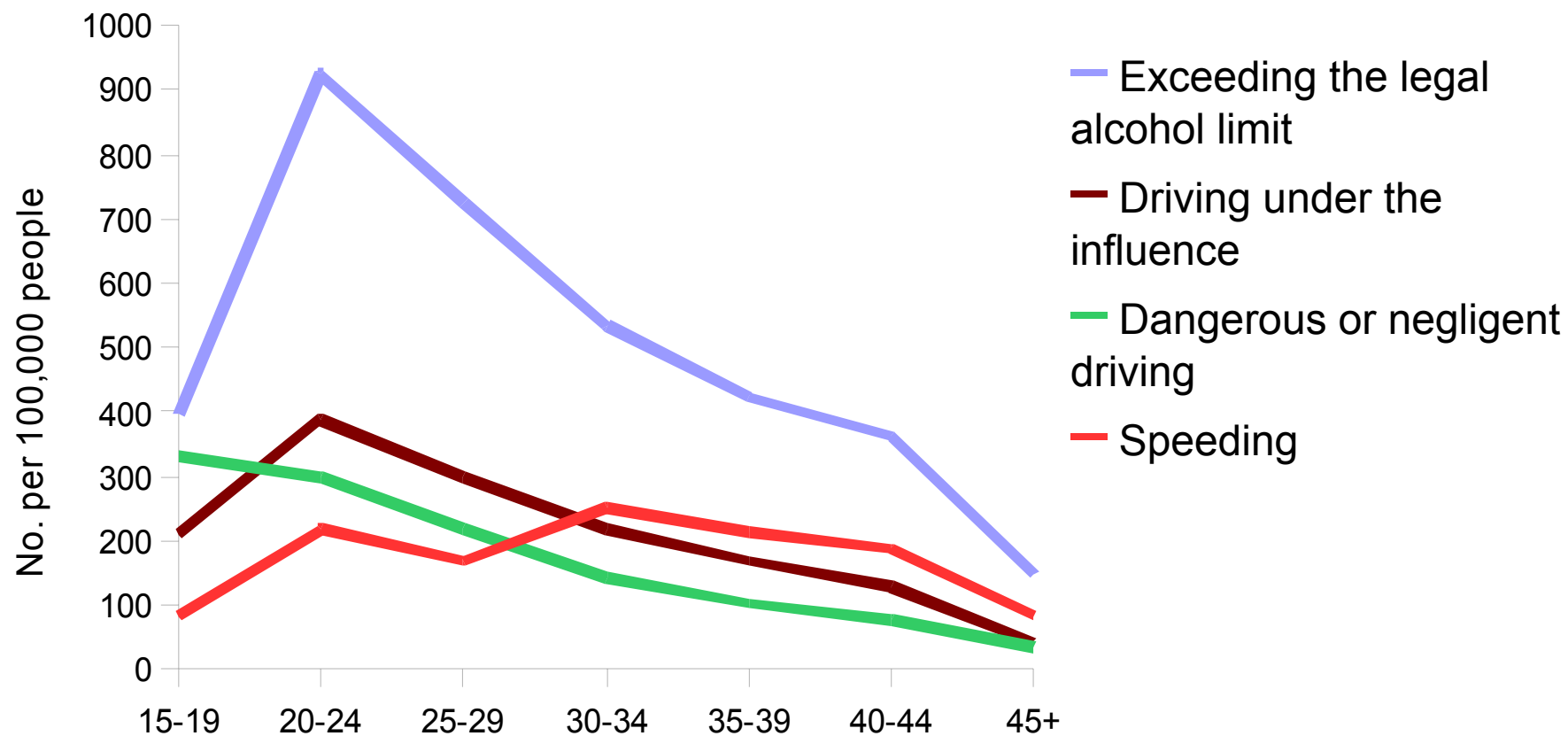


(a) Data are not available for the Northern Territory

Source: ABS 2004–05 National Health Survey

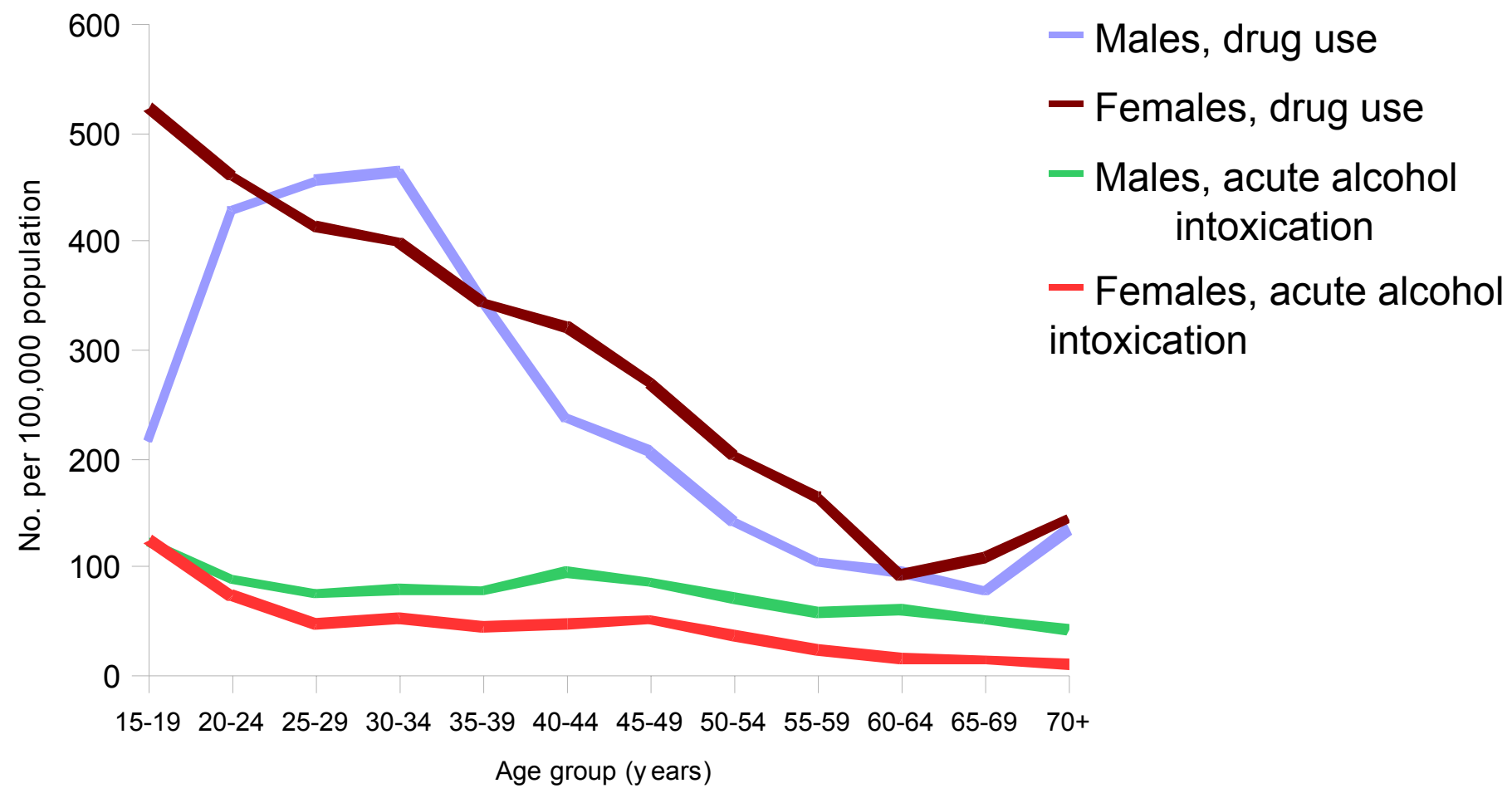


# Dangerous driving related offences 2006–07



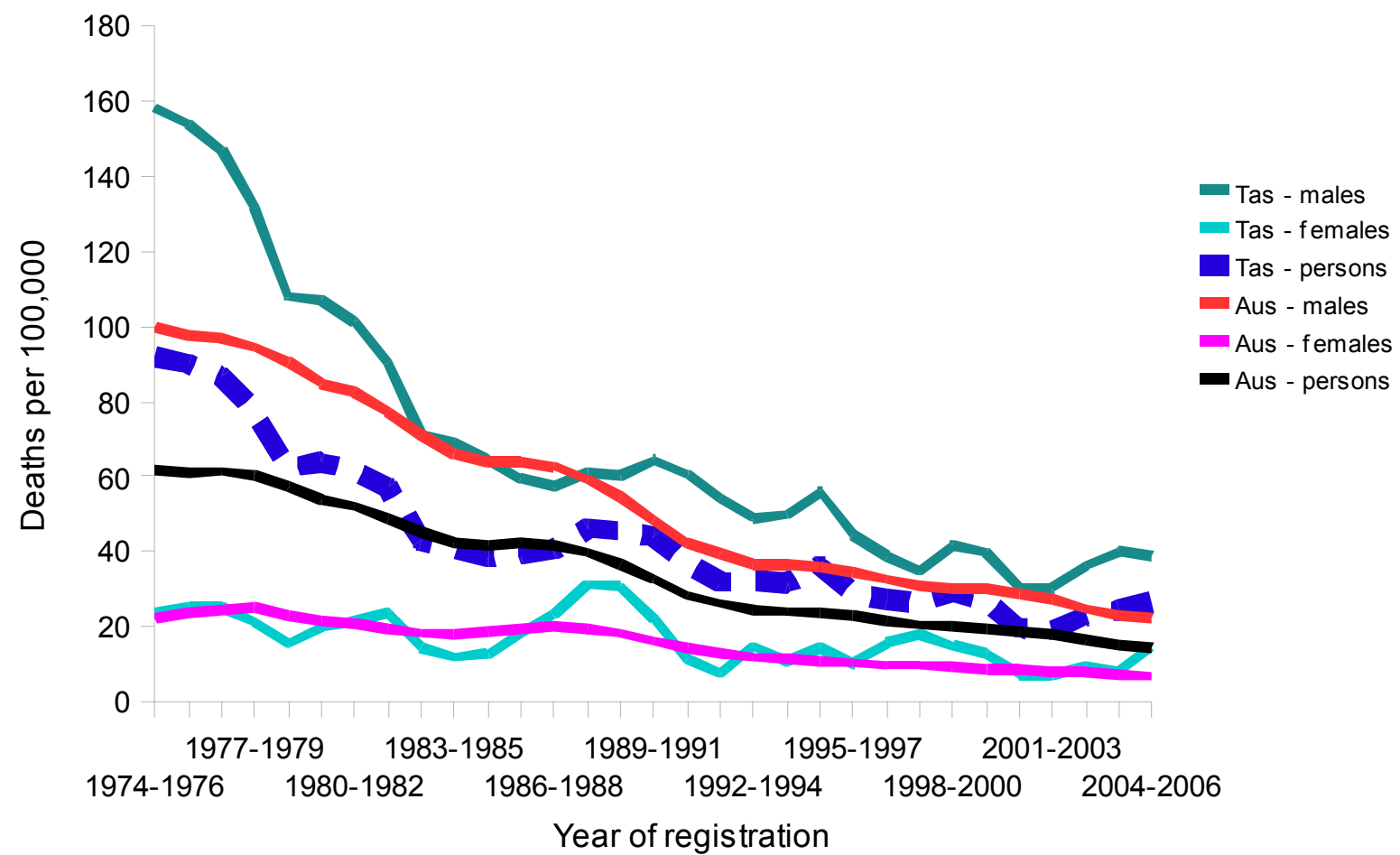
Source: ABS Criminal Courts Collection

# Alcohol and drug-related hospitalisations 2005–06



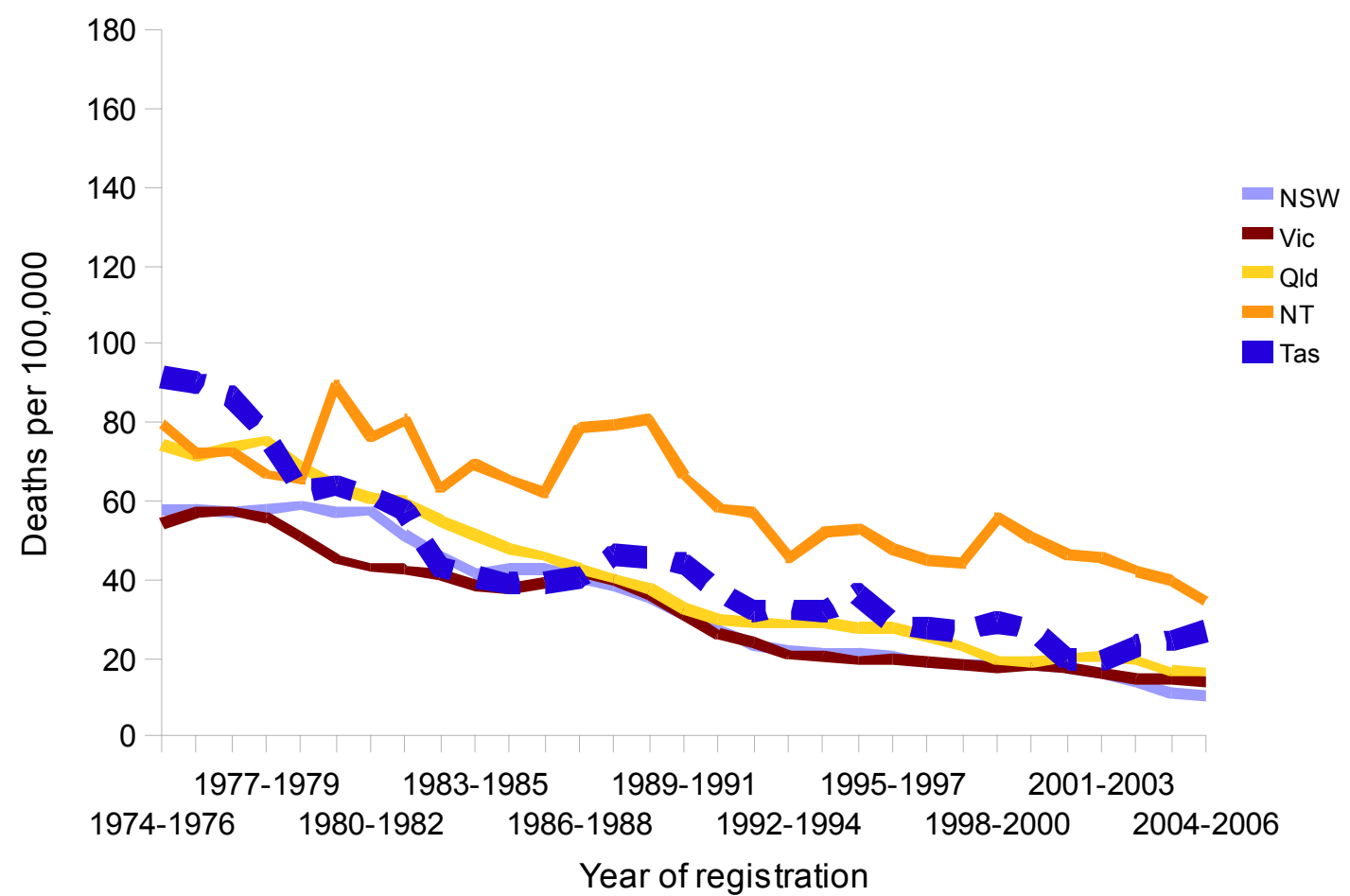
Source: AIHW Hospital Morbidity Database

# Transport accident deaths (15-24 years)



Source: ABS Causes of Death collection

# Transport accident deaths (15-24 years)

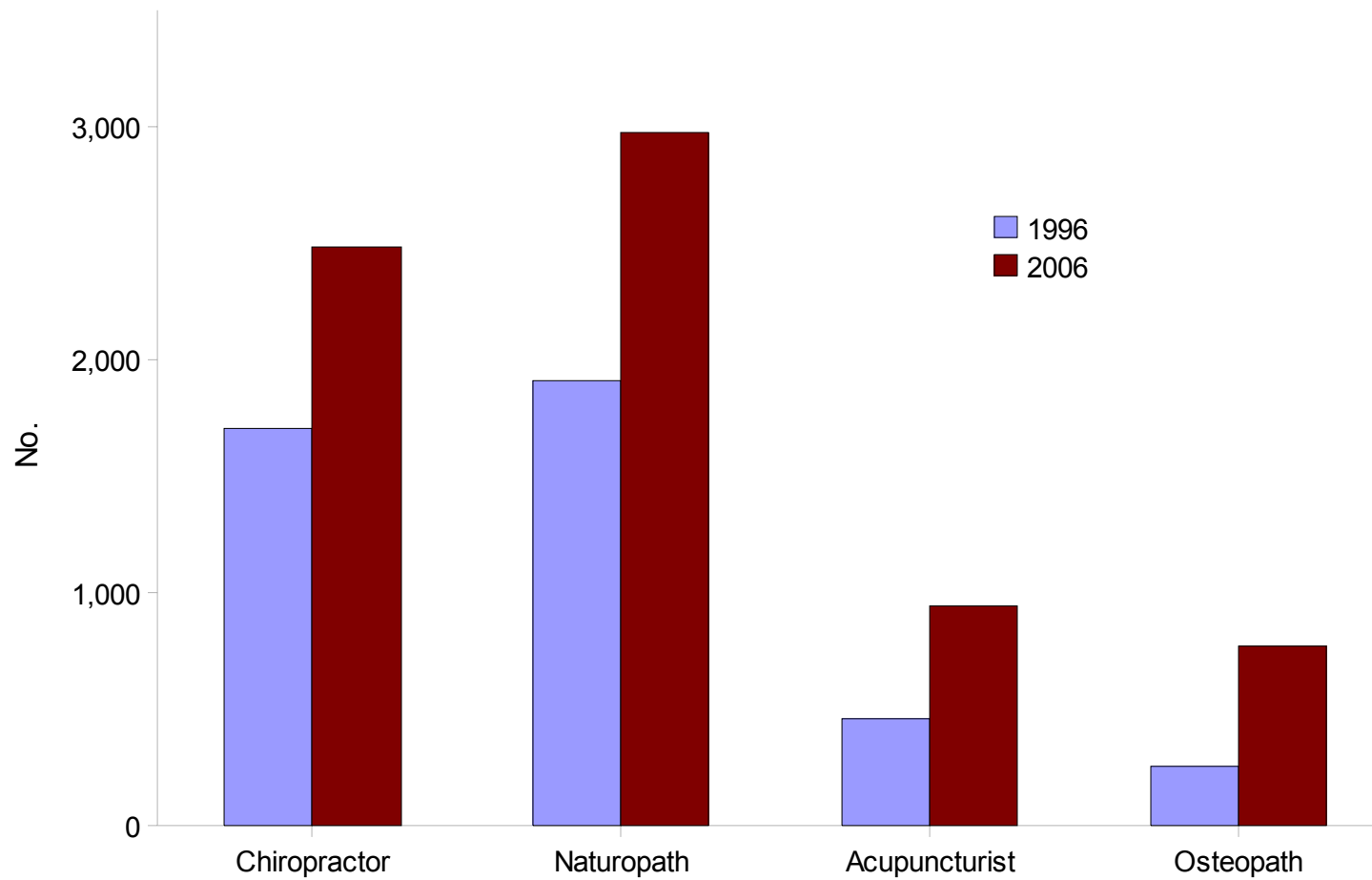


Source: ABS Causes of Death collection

# Complementary therapies

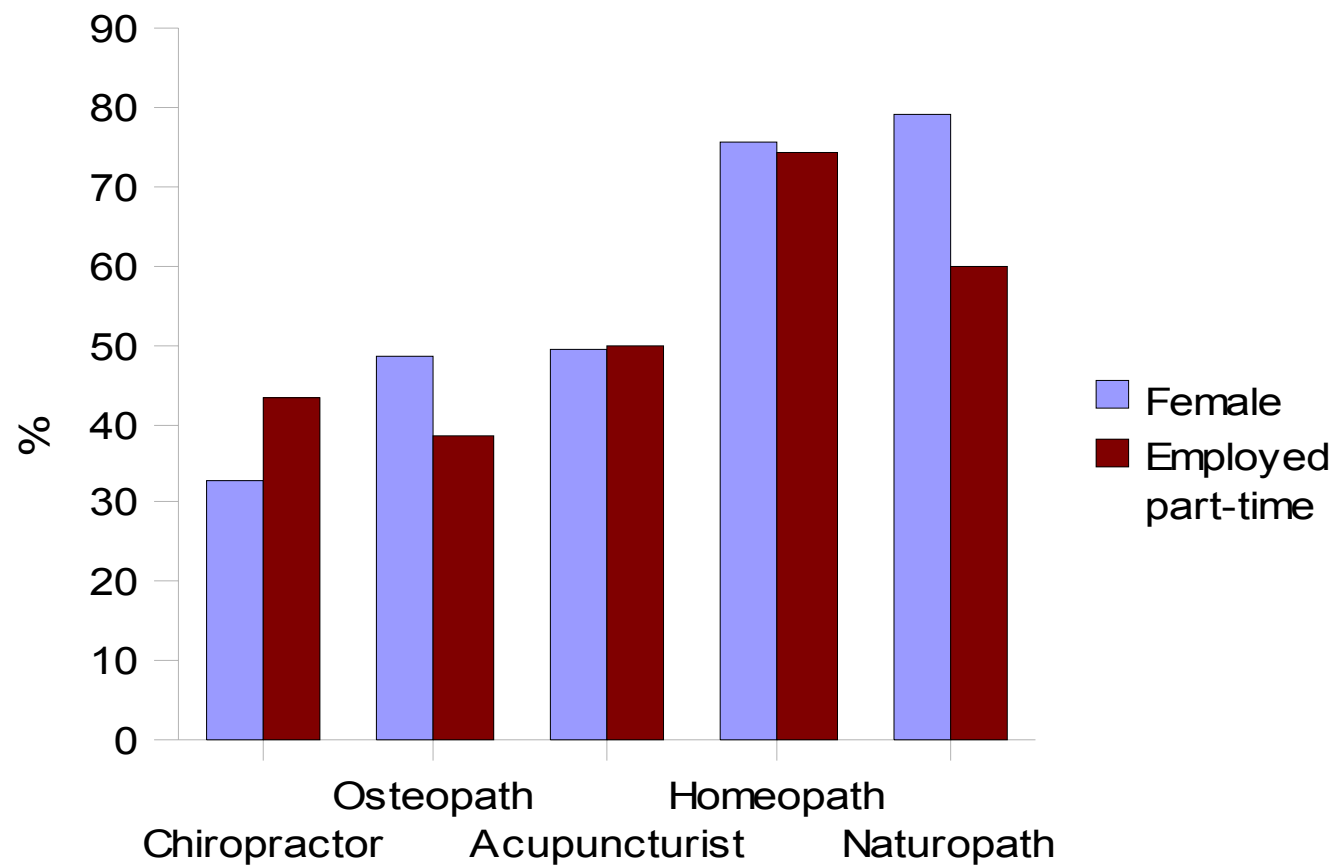
- Number of complementary therapists is small but growing quickly, from 4,787 in 1996 to 8,595 in 2006.
- Fastest growing occupation group is osteopaths
- Leading occupation groups are naturopaths and chiropractors

## Complementary therapists



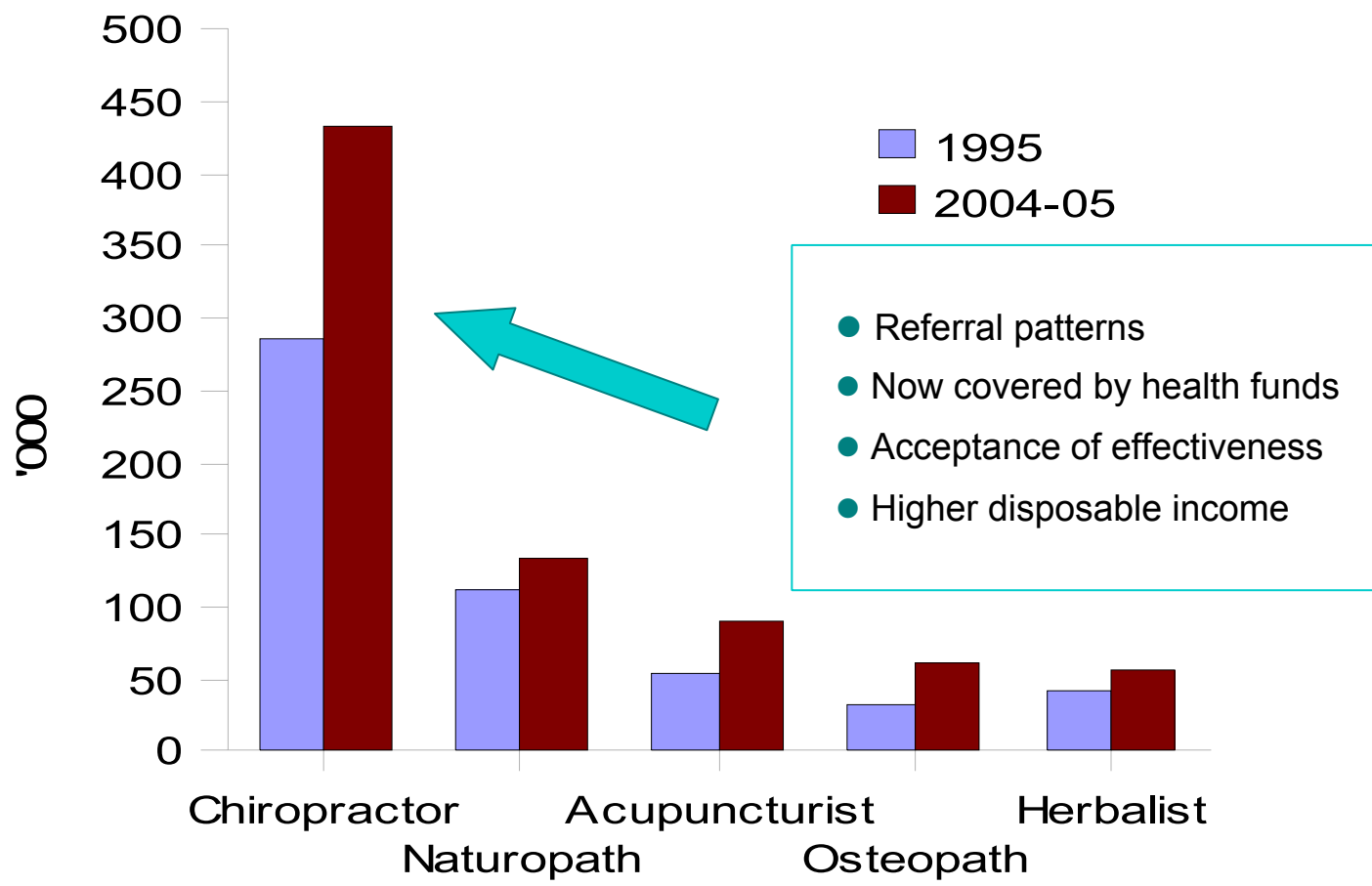
Source: 1996 & 2006 Censuses of Population and Housing

# Characteristics of therapists 2006



Source: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

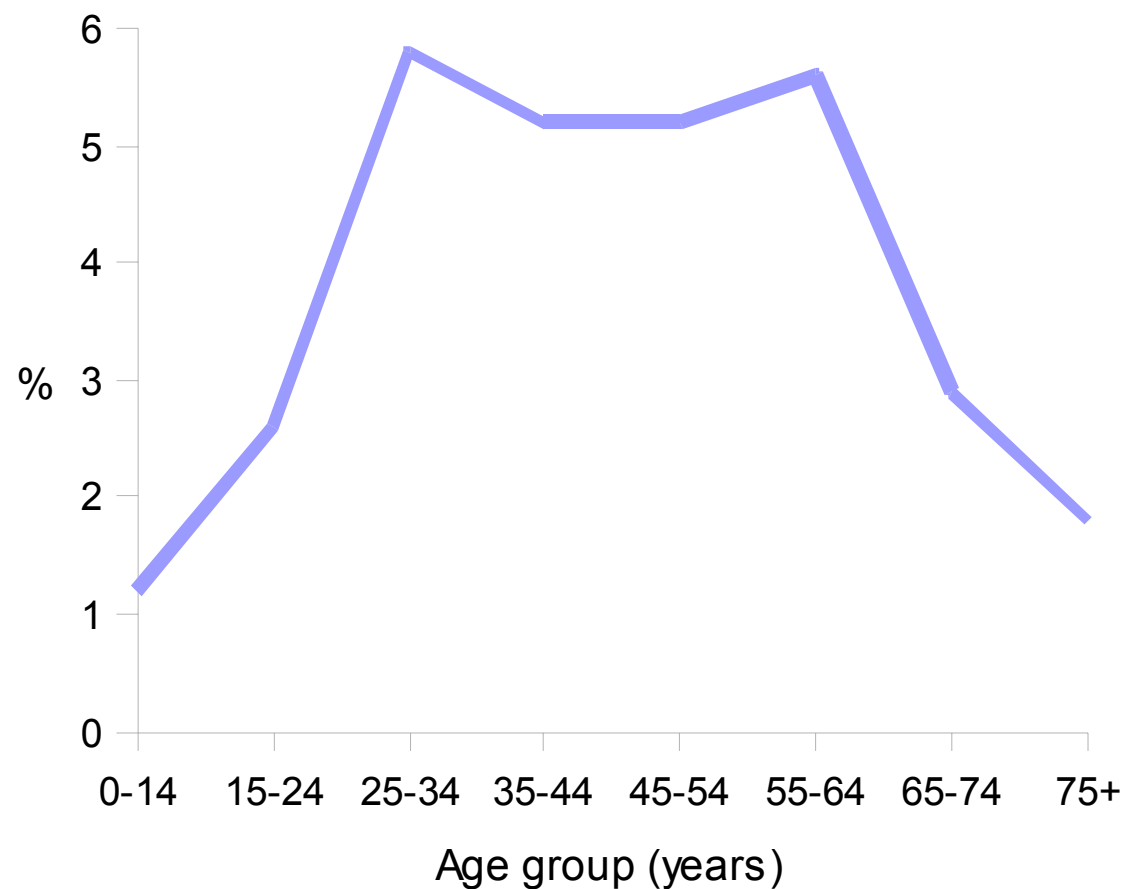
# Visits to therapists (last two weeks)



Source: ABS 1995 and 2004-05 National Health Surveys



# Users of complementary therapists 2004–05



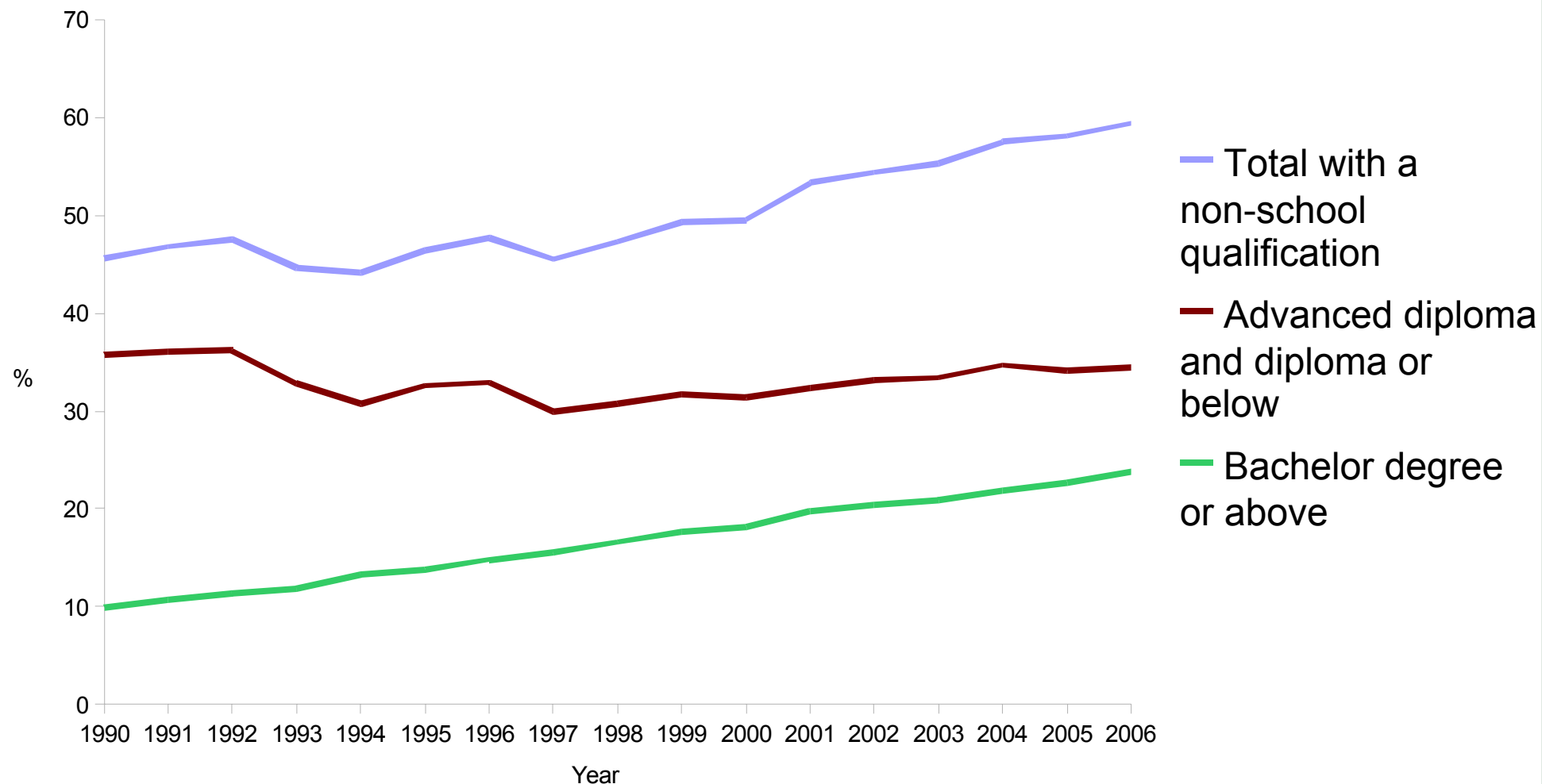
Source: ABS 2004–05 National Health Survey

# Education

- Education across Australia
  - ...school retention rates
  - ...non-school qualifications

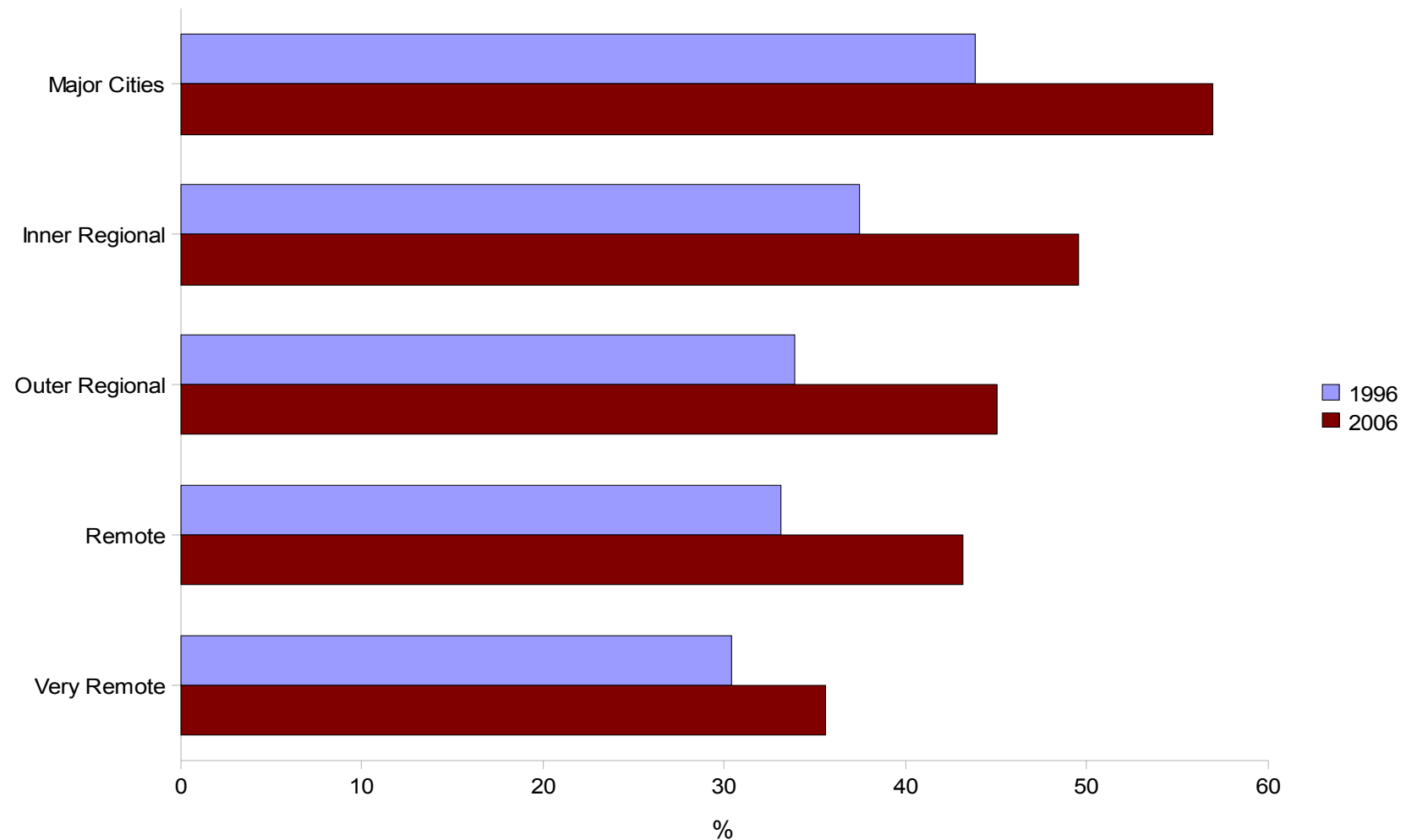


# Proportion of Australians with a non-school qualification (ages 25-64 years)



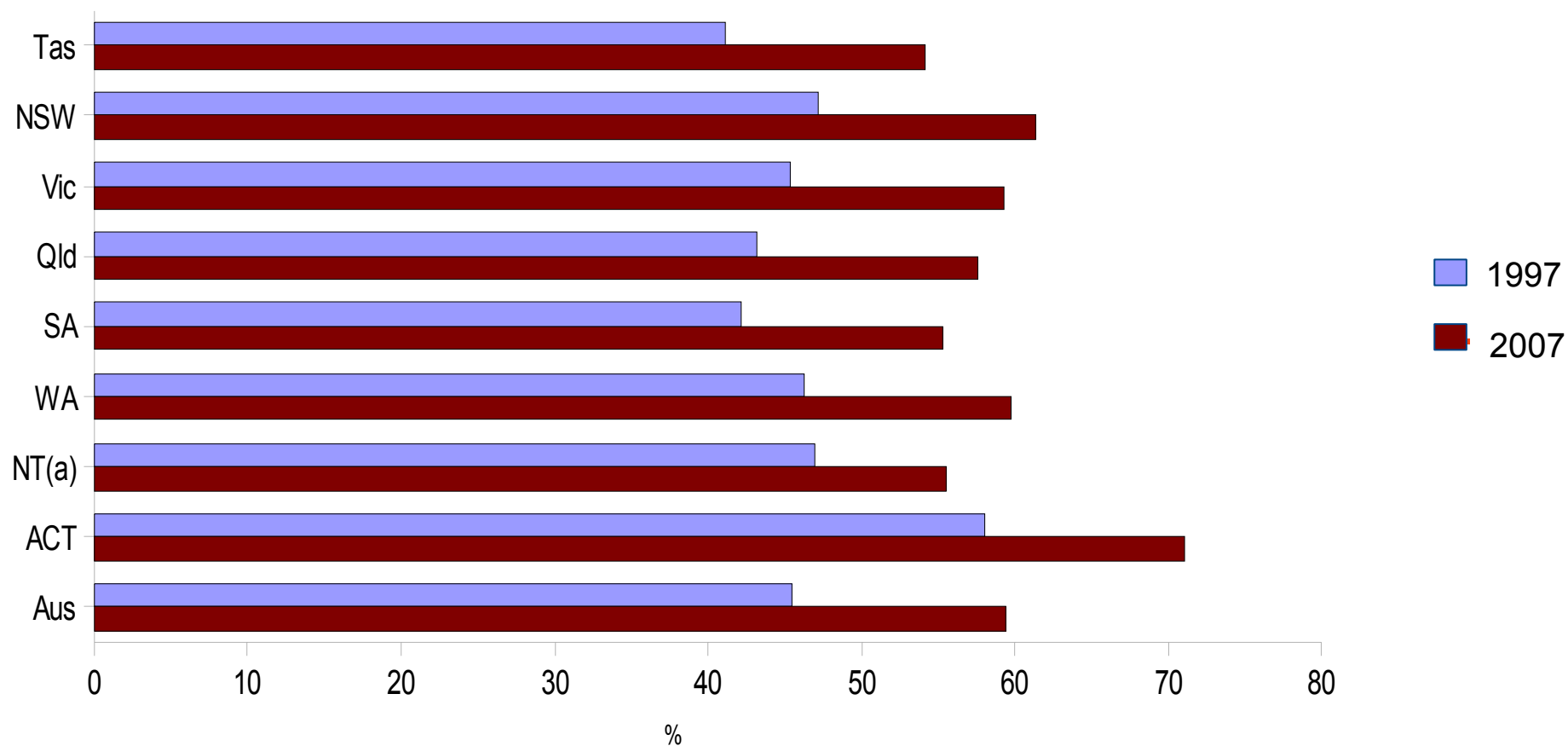
Source: ABS 1990-2006 Survey of Education and Work

# Non-school qualification by Area (Ages 25-64)



Source: ABS 1996 and 2006 Censuses of Population and Housing

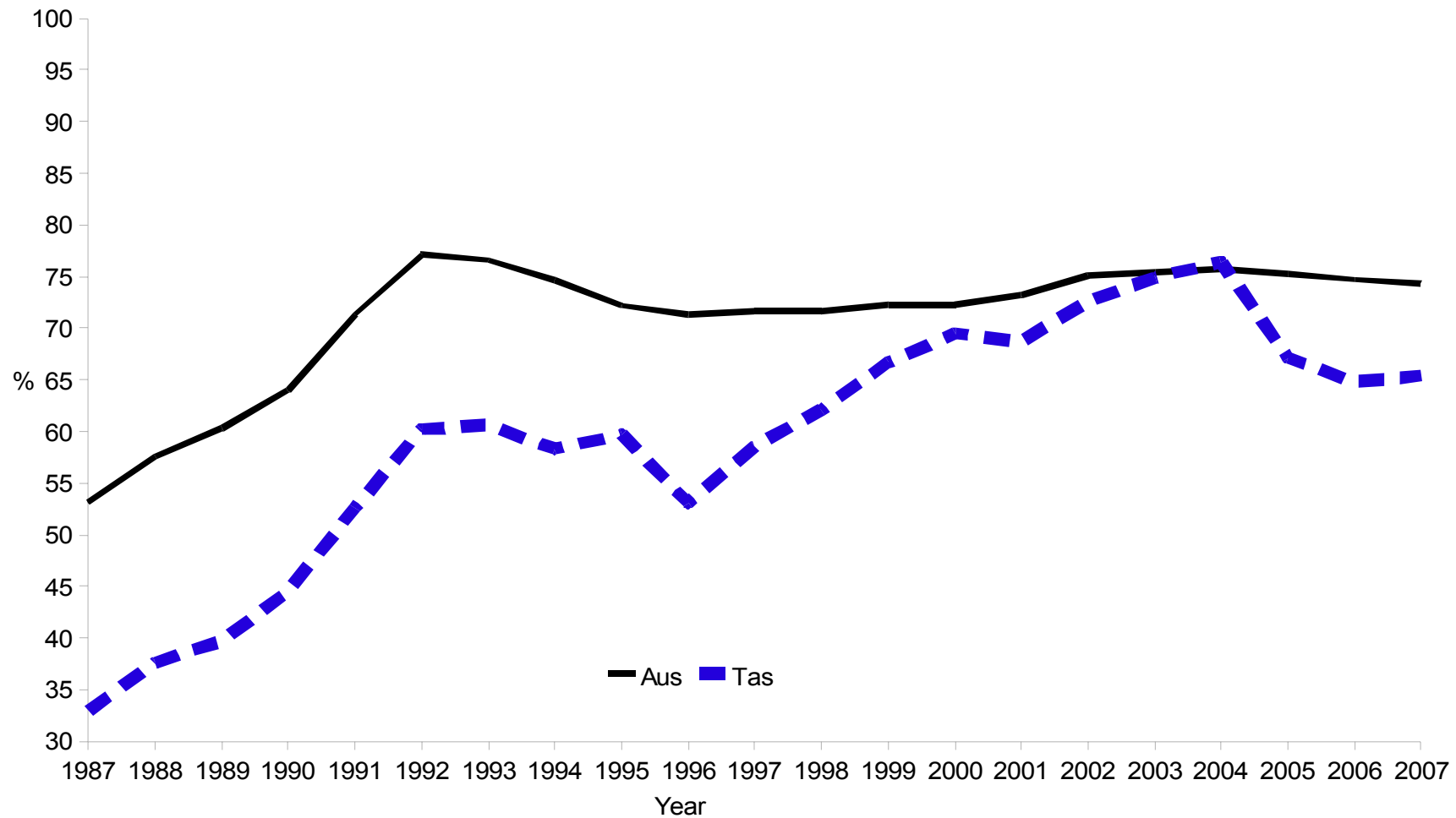
# People aged 25–64 years with non-school qualifications: States and Territories



(a) Refers to mainly urban areas only

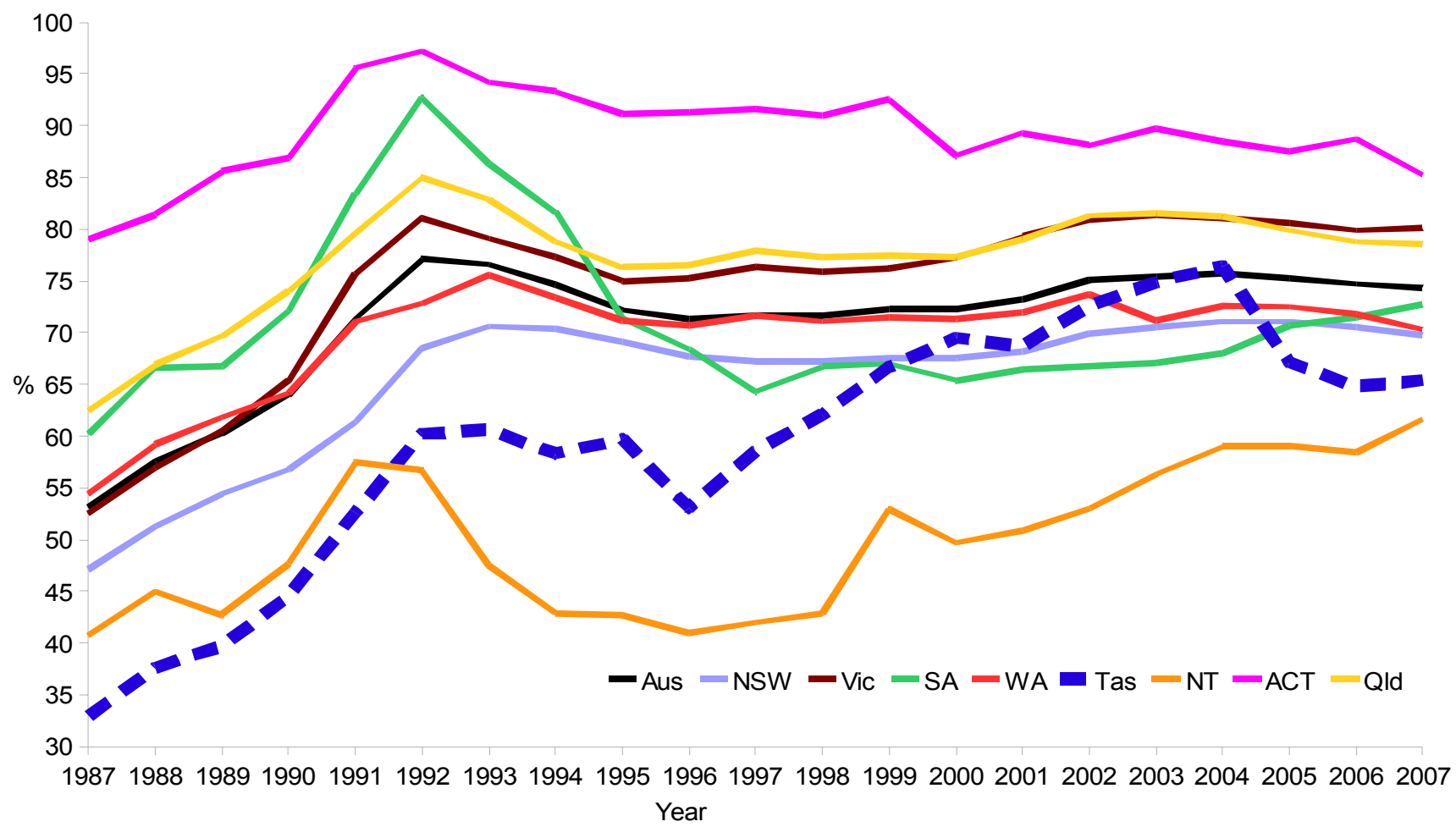
Source: ABS Survey of Education and Work

# Year 7/8 to year 12 retention rates



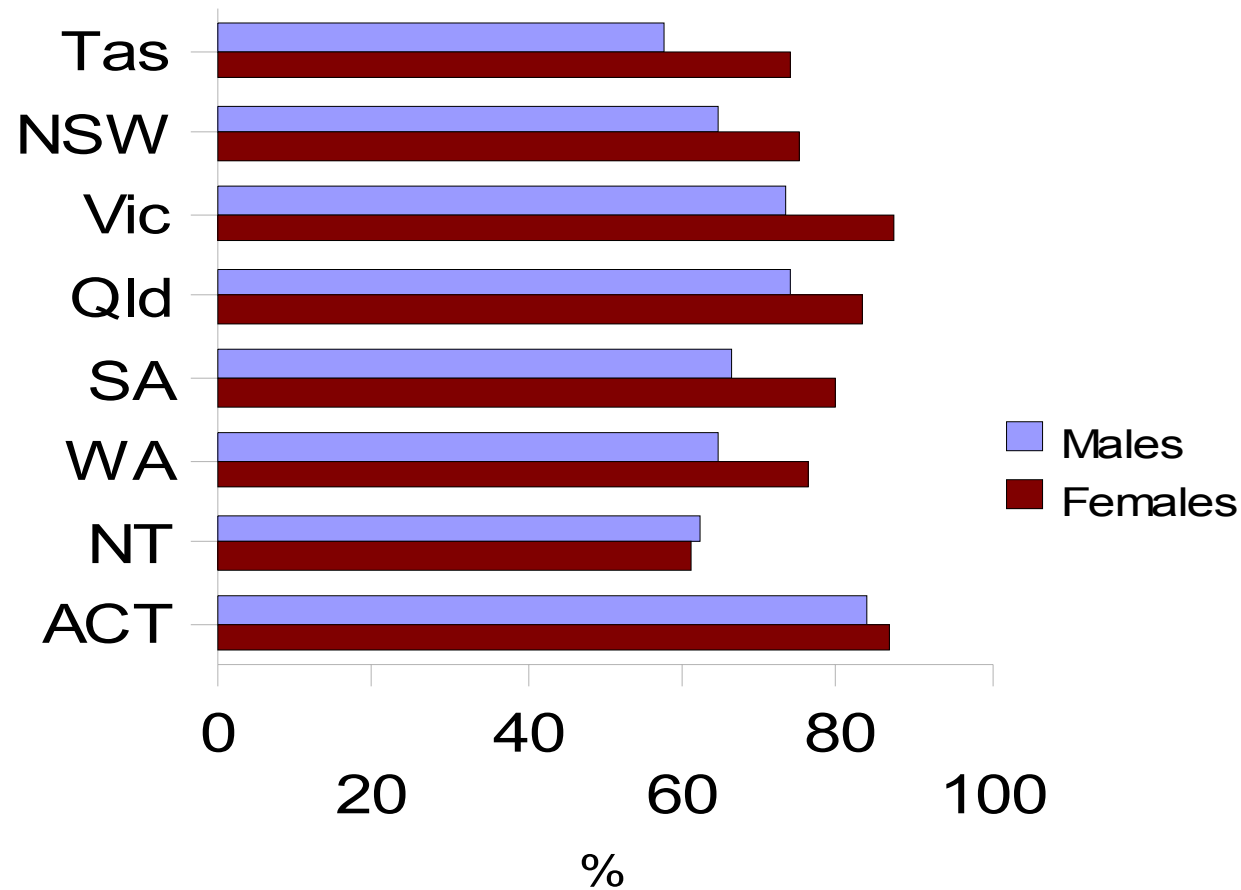
Source: National Schools Statistics Collection

# Year 7/8 to year 12 retention rates



Source: National Schools Statistics Collection

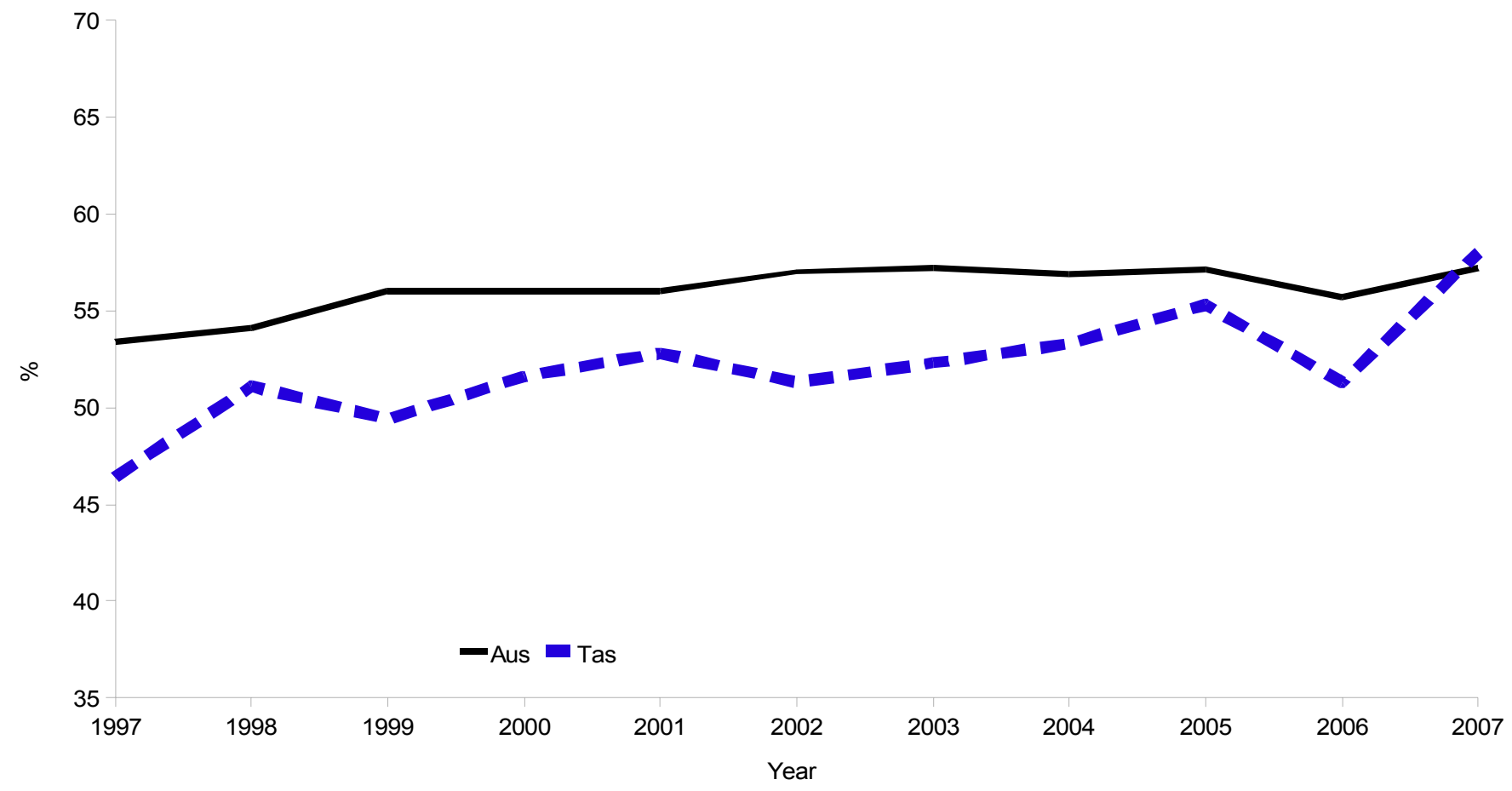
## Year 7/8 to year 12 retention rates: by sex, 2007



Source: National Schools Statistics Collection

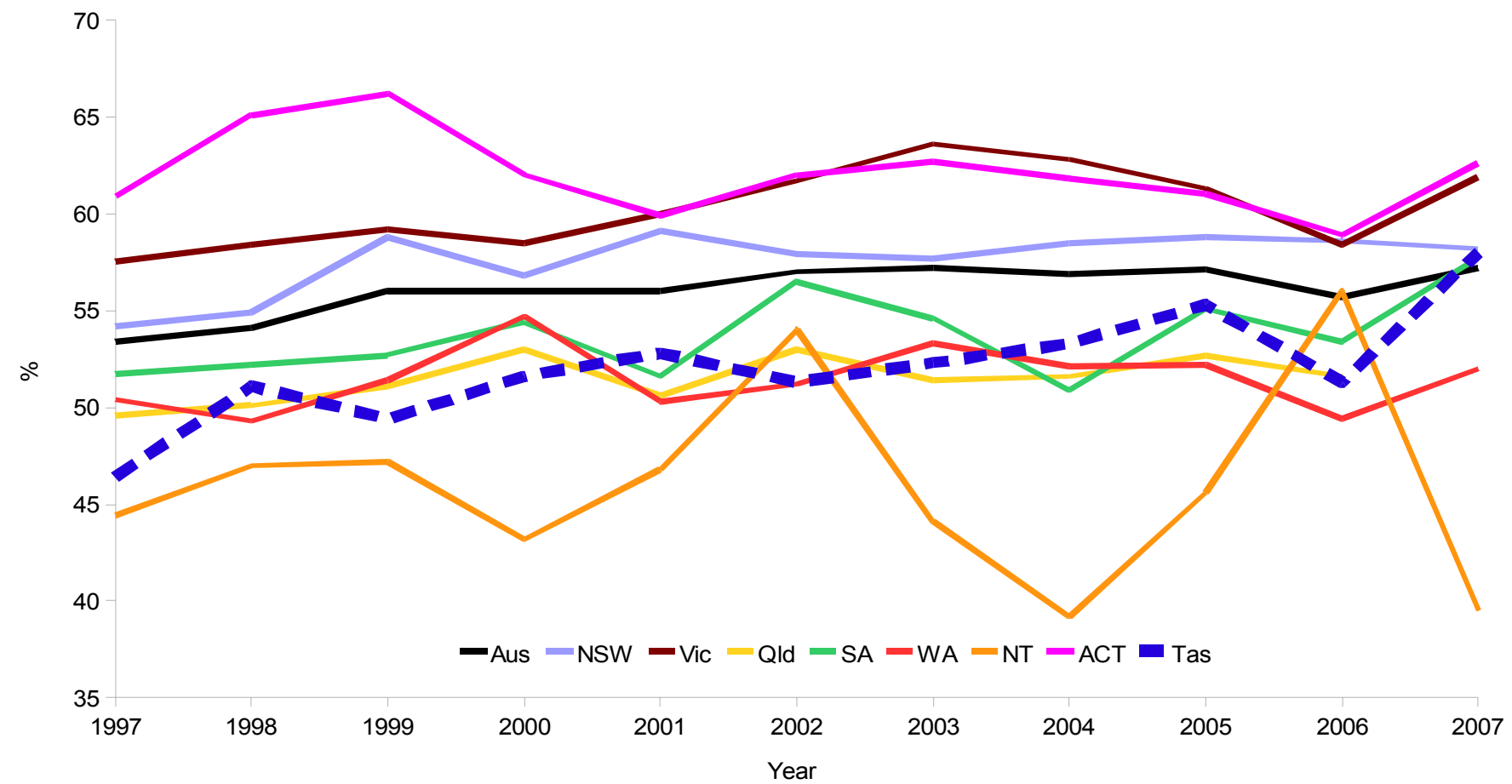


# Education participation rate (Ages 15-24)



Source: ABS Survey of Education and Work

# Education participation rate (Ages 15-24)



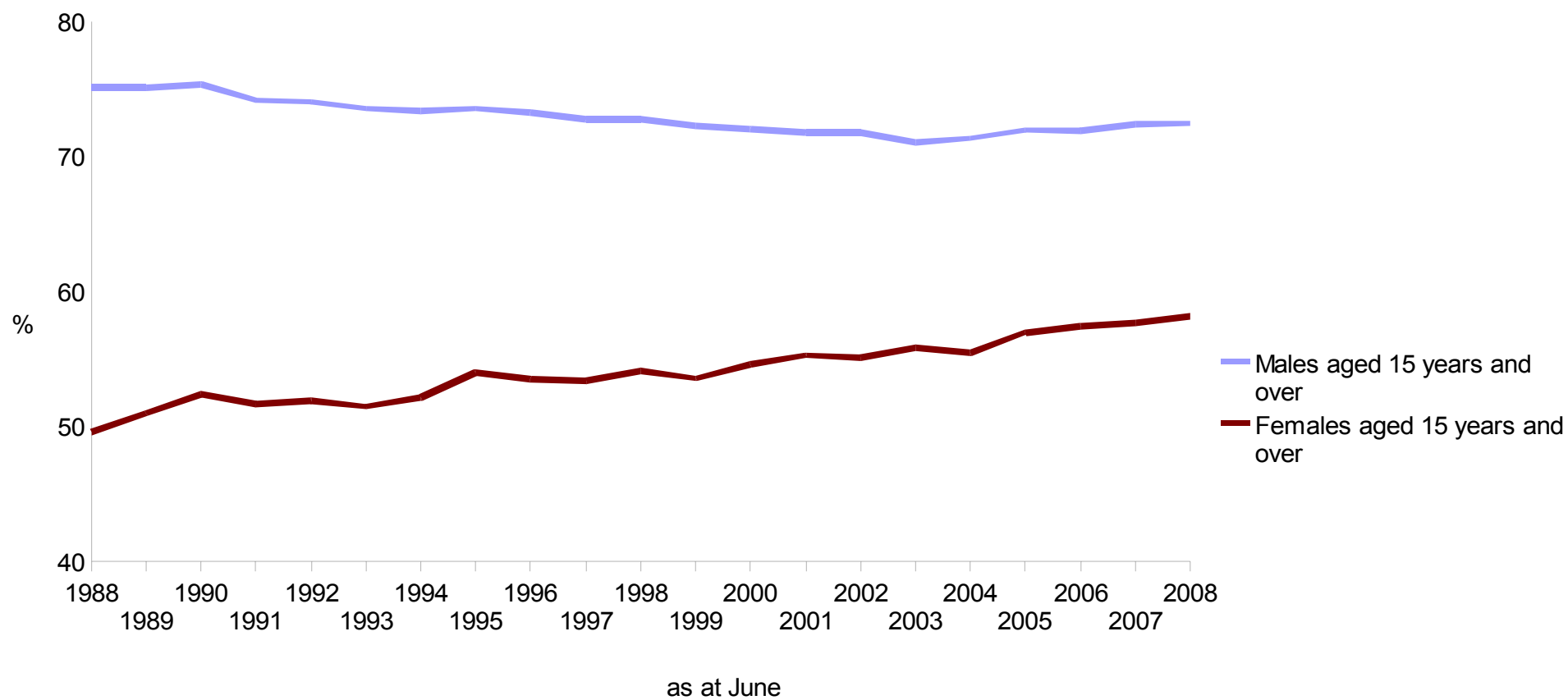
Source: ABS Survey of Education and Work

# Work

- Labour force participation across Australia
  - ...sex and age
  - ...part-time and full-time employment
- Trade union members
  - ...sex and age
  - ...industry type



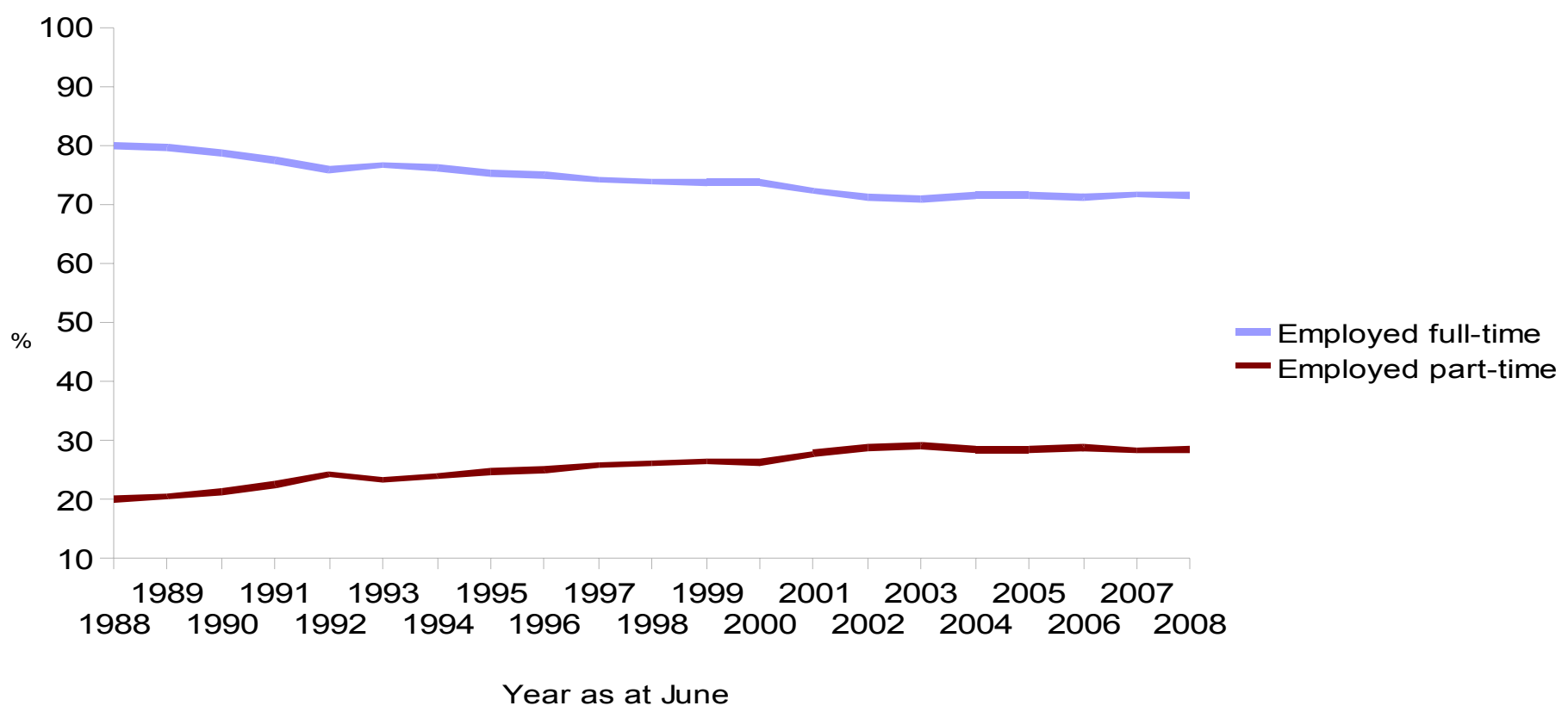
# Labour force participation rate by sex



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

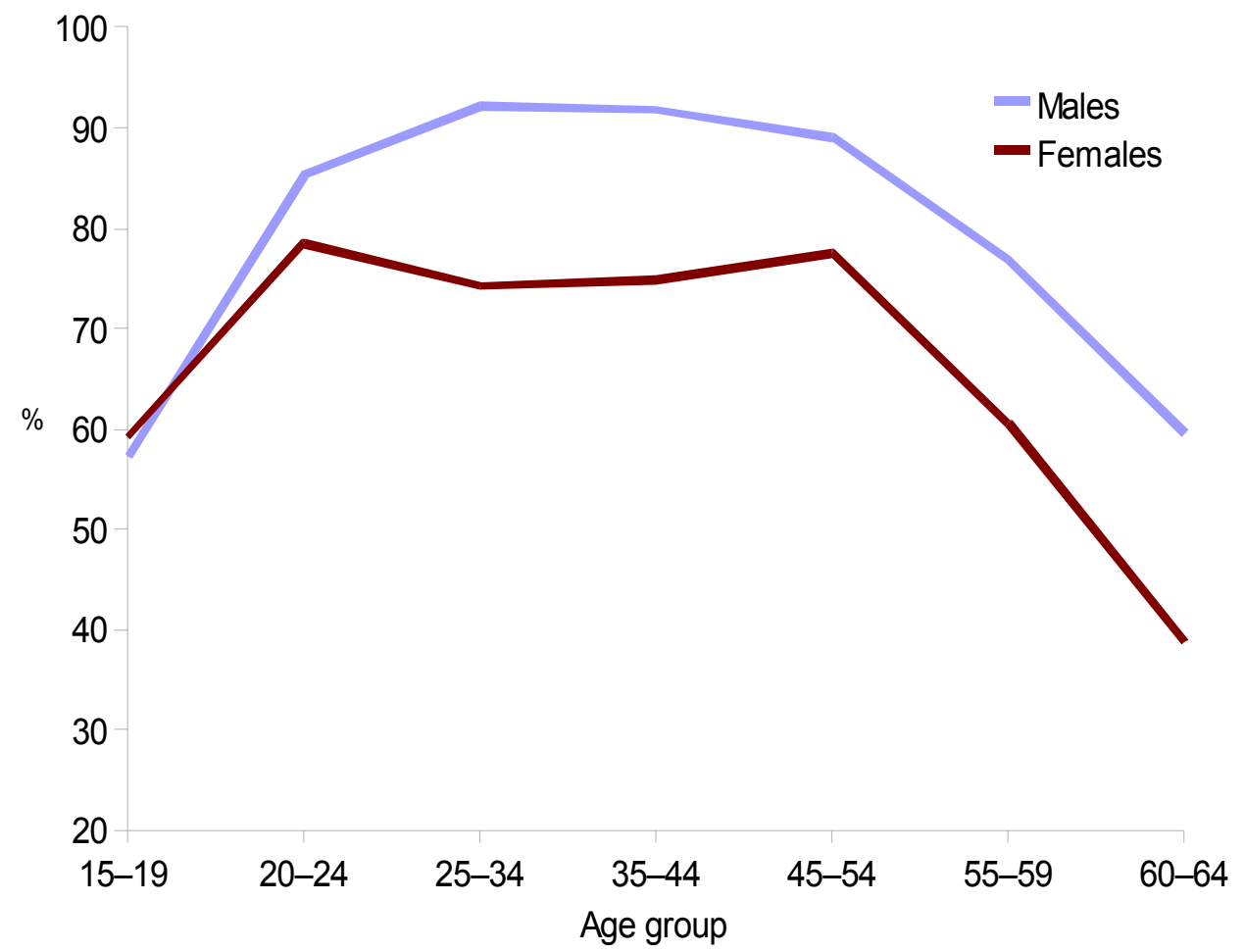
# Employment trends for people aged 15–64 years

..as a proportion of total employment



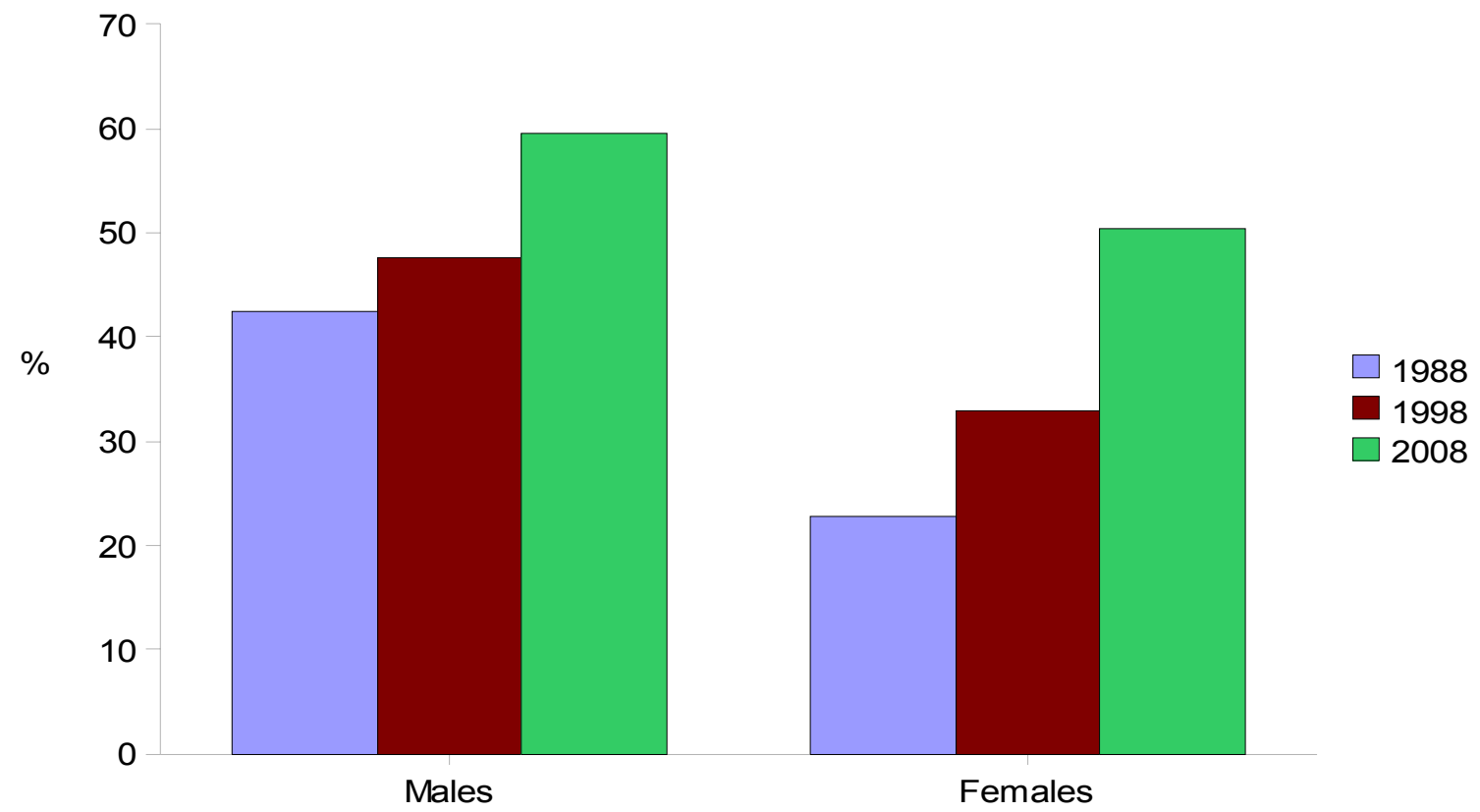
Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

# Labour force participation rate by age and sex 2008



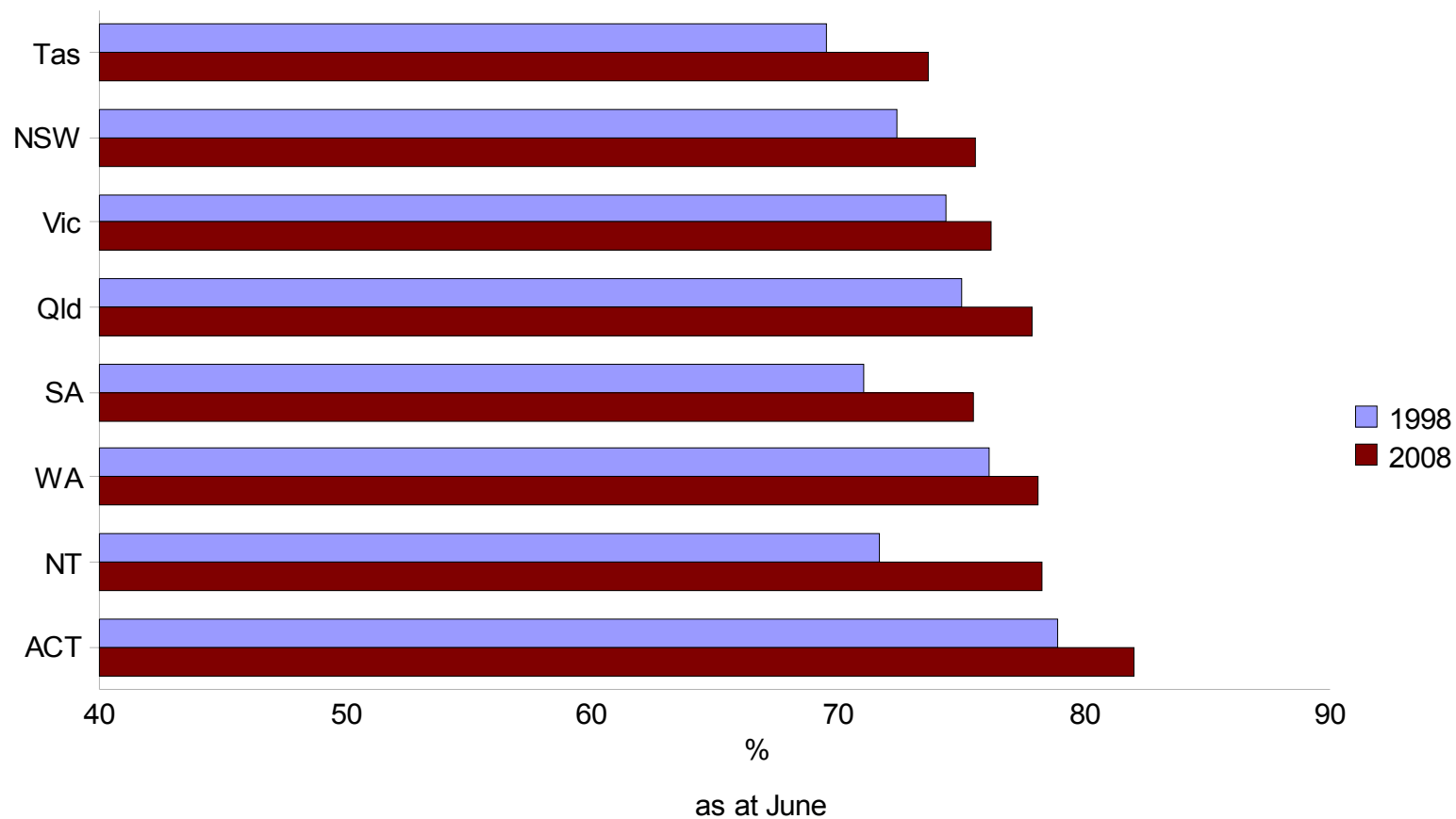
Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

# Labour force participation of people aged 55–64 years



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

# Labour force participation rate: States and Territories, people aged 15-64 years

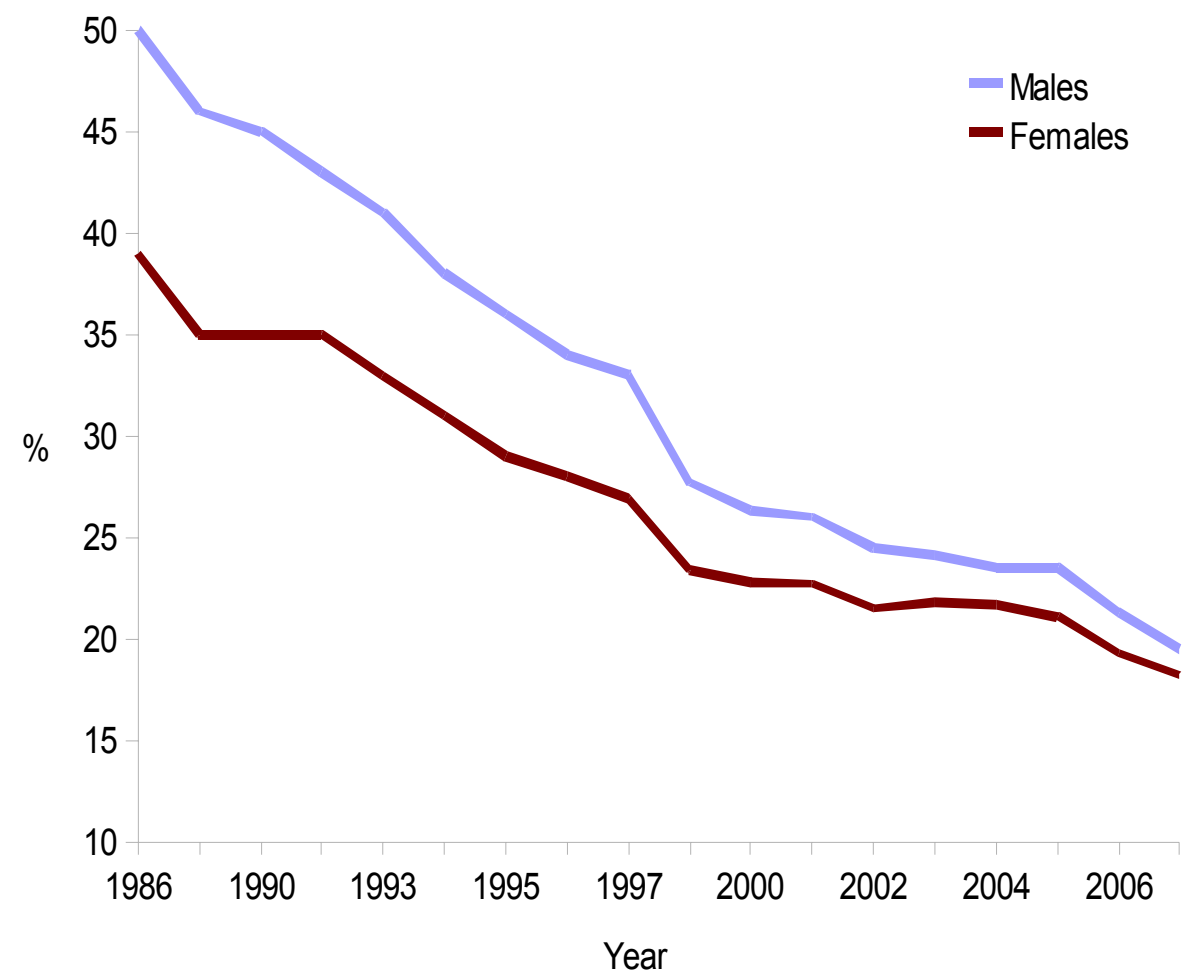


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey



# Trade union membership

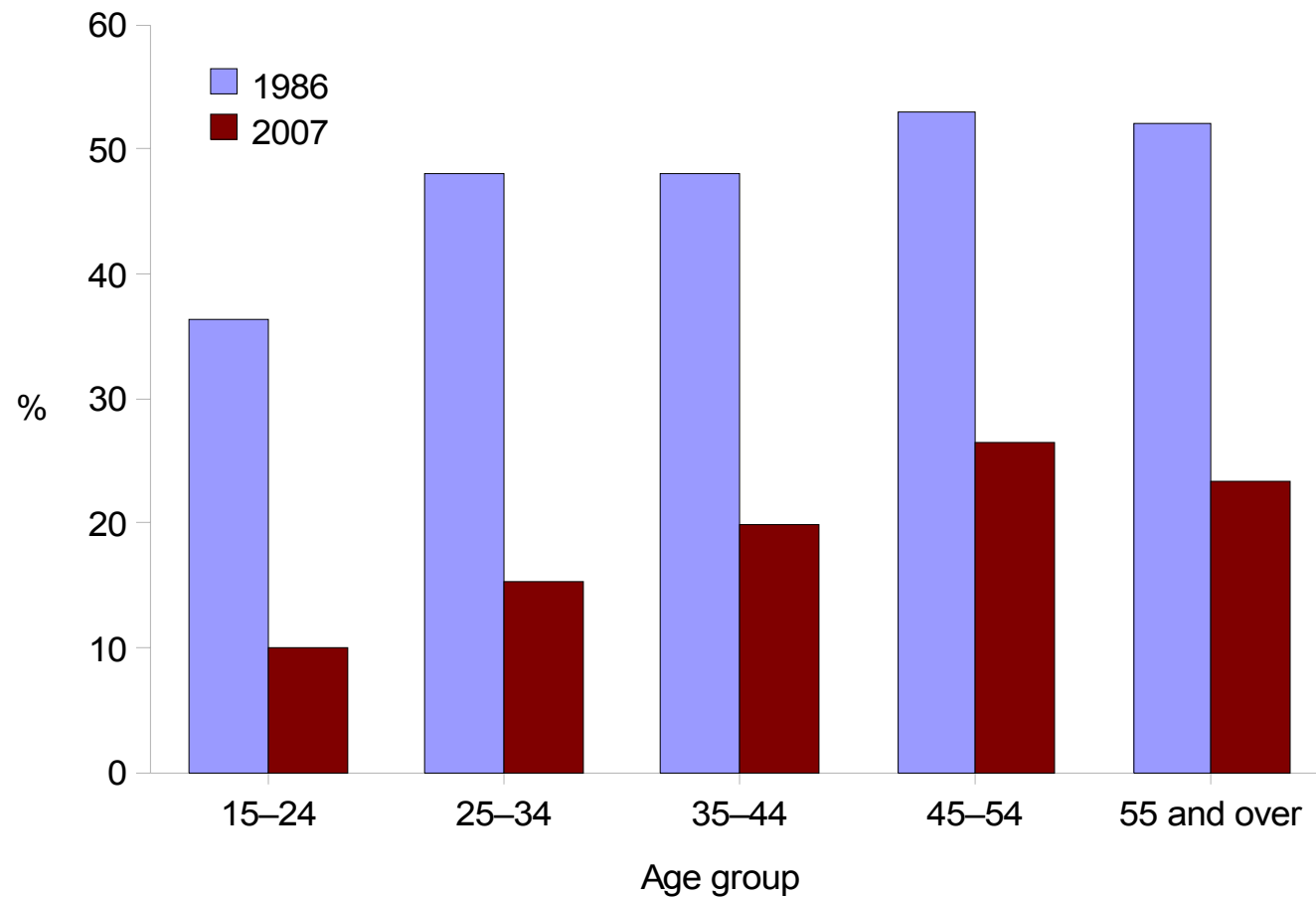
## Unionisation rates by sex



Source: *Trade Union Members, Australia, August 1986, Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia, August 2007*

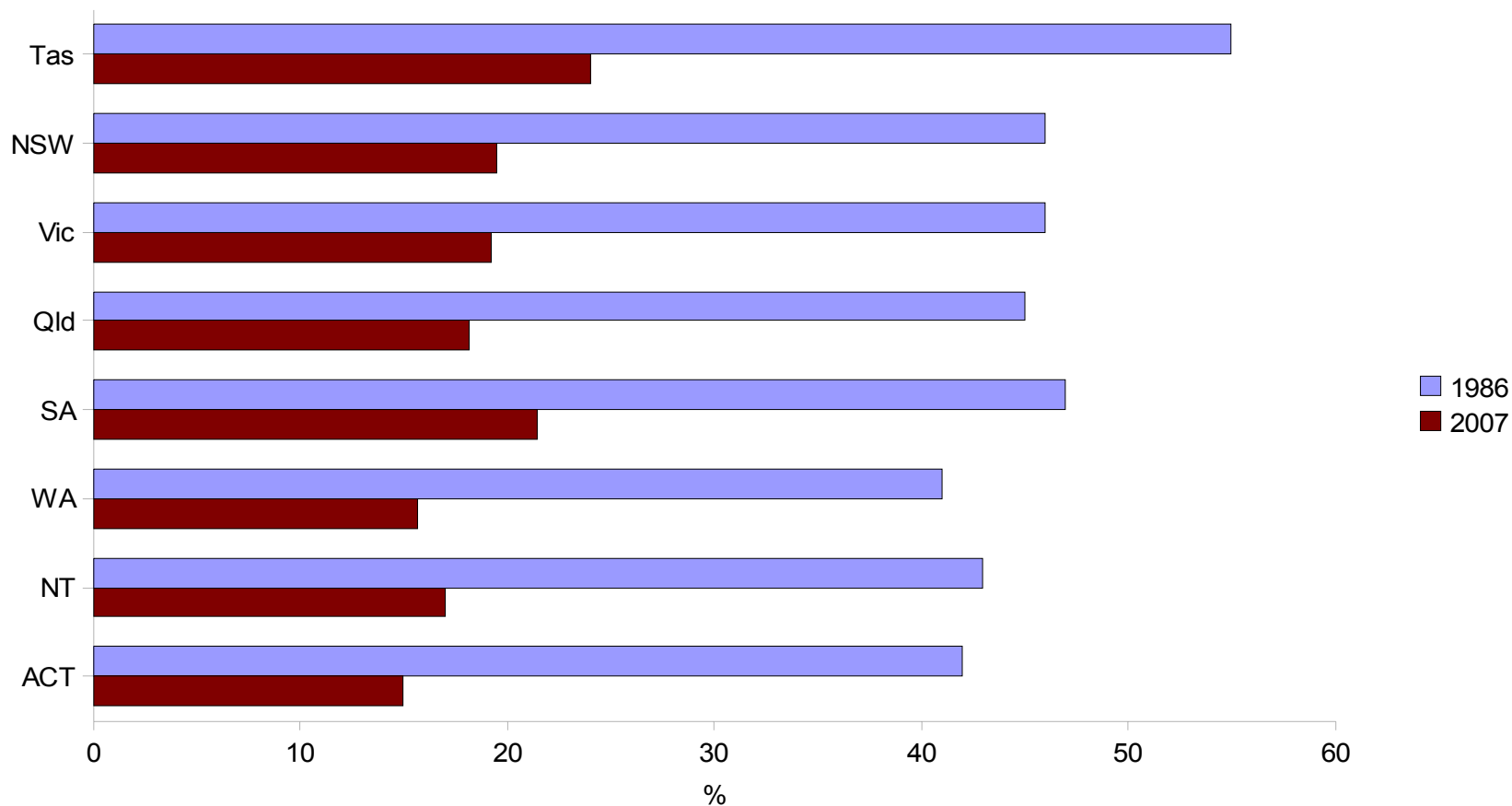
# Trade union membership

## Unionisation rates by age



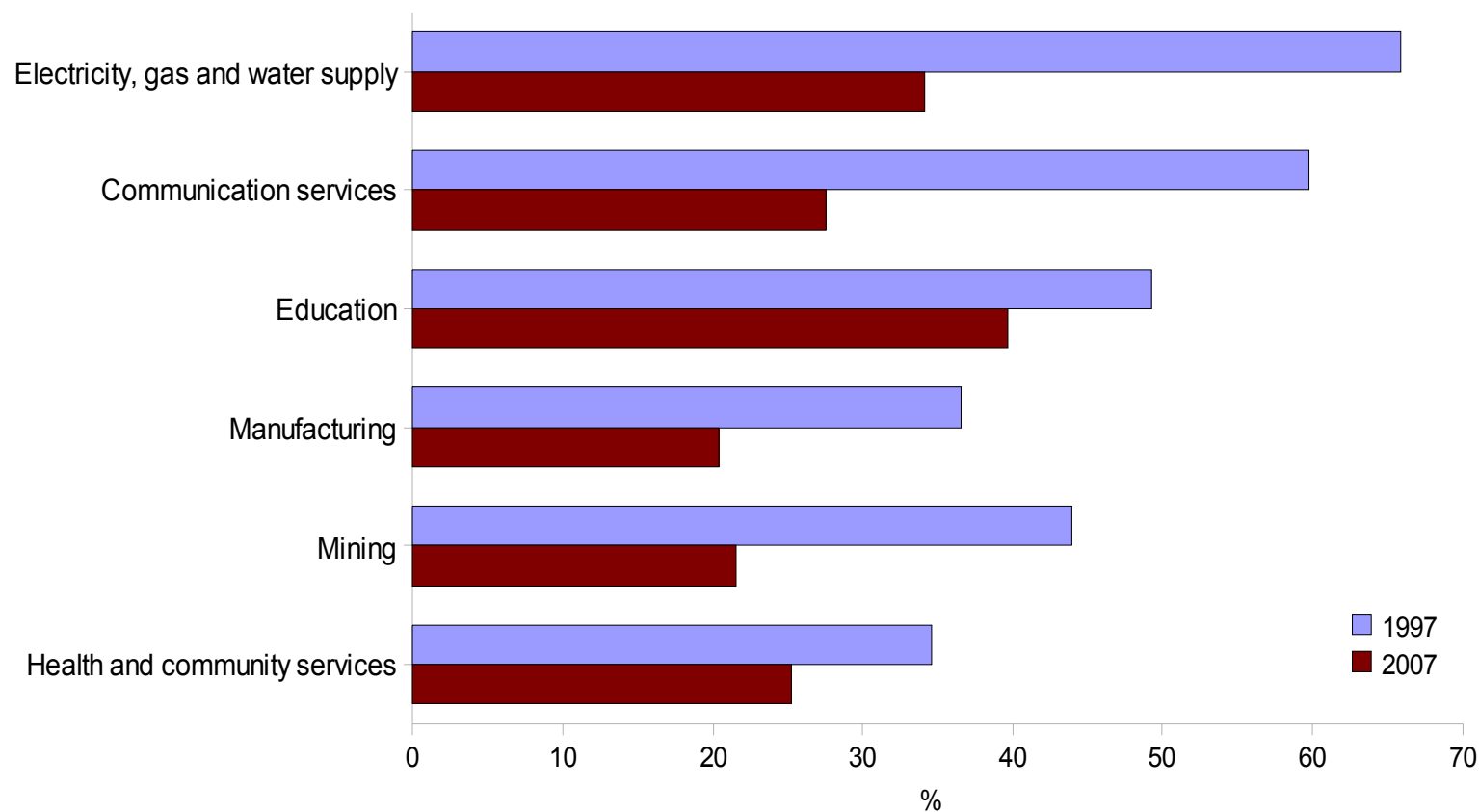
Source: 1986 Survey of Trade Union Members and 2007 Survey of Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership

# Unionisation rates: States and Territories



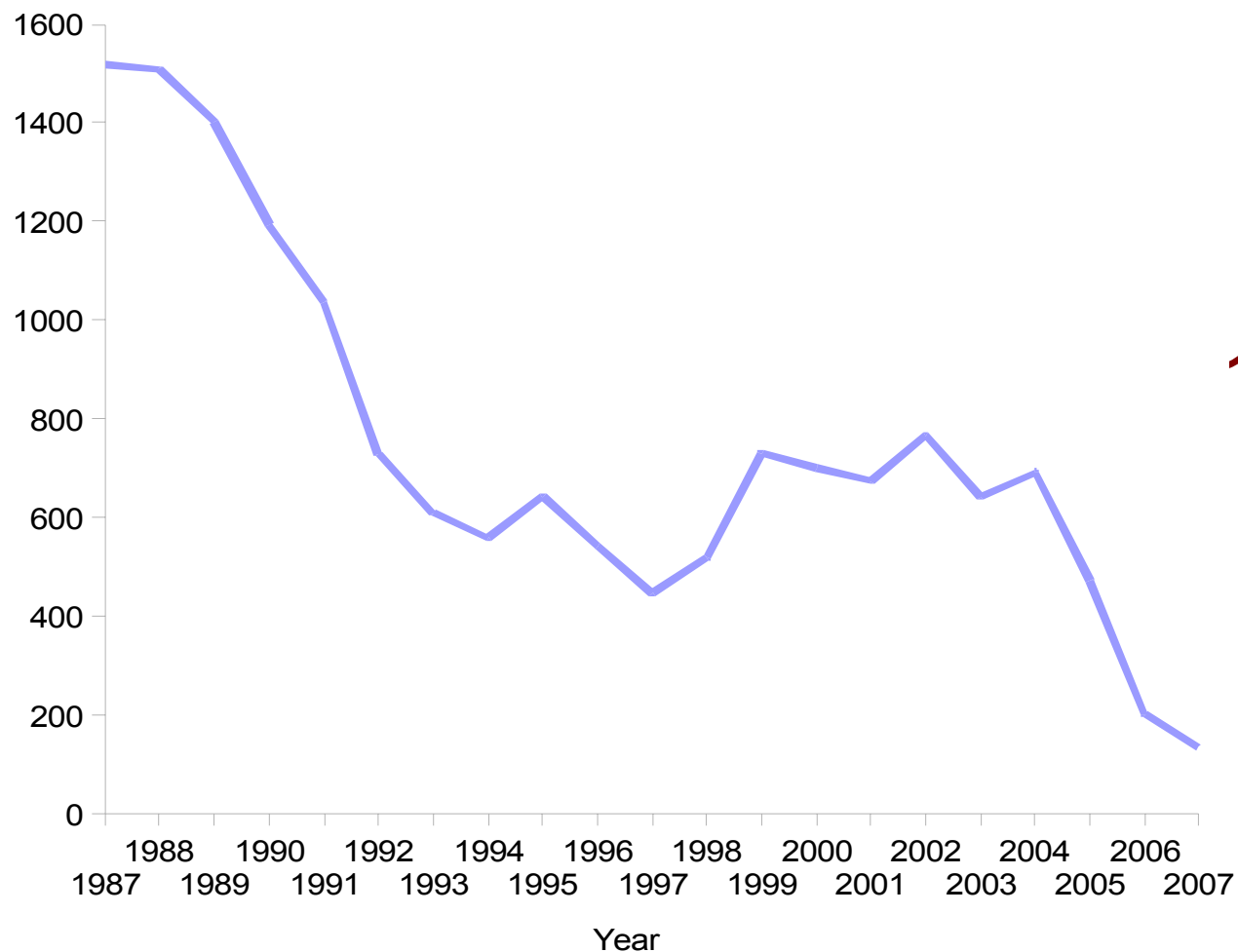
Source: *Trade Union Members, Australia, August 1986, Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia, August 2007*

# Unionisation rates by selected industry 1997 to 2007



Source: 1997 Survey of Weekly Earnings of Employees and 2007 Survey of Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership

# The number of industrial disputes have also declined



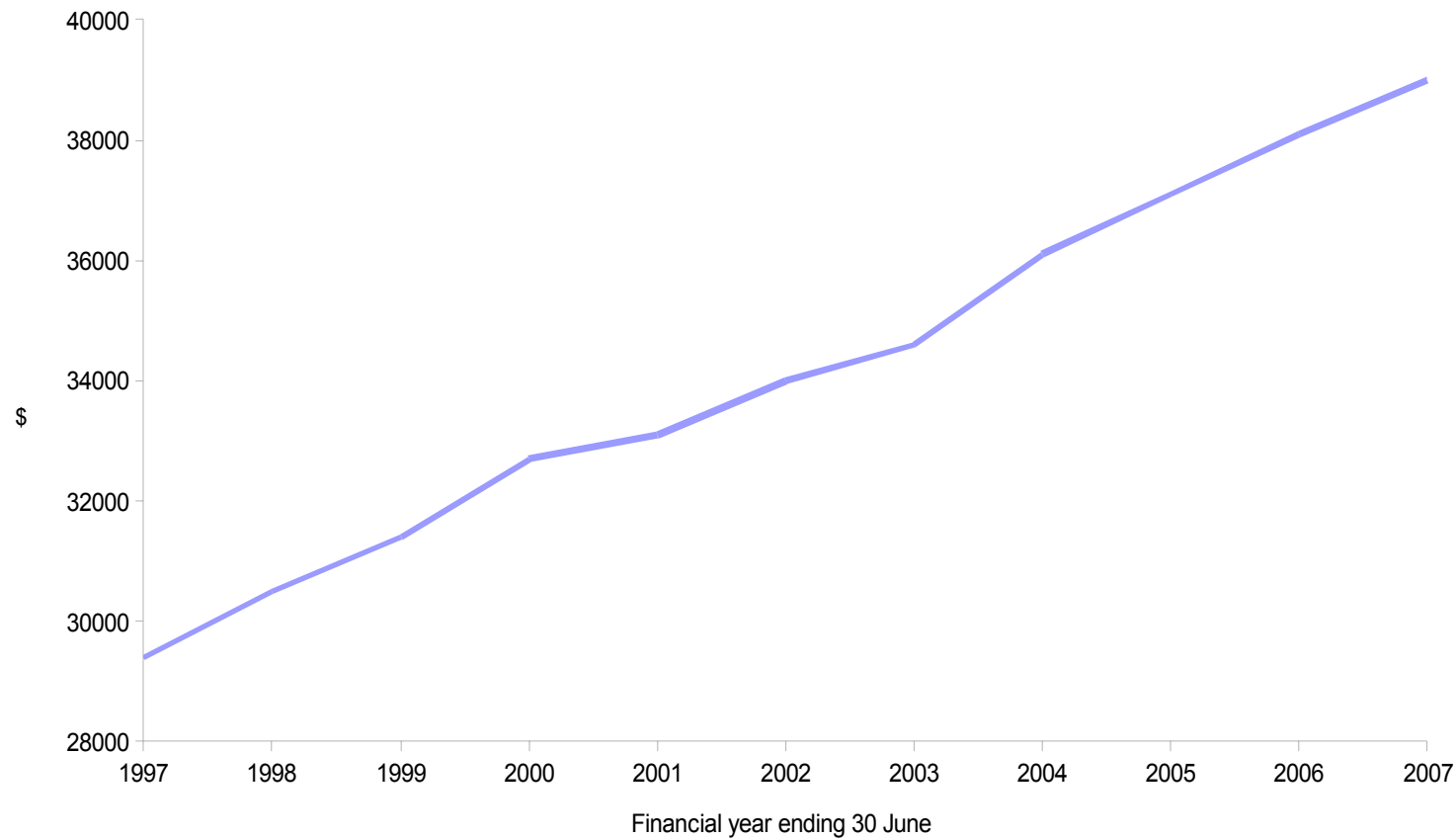
...from  
**1,519** in 1987 to  
**135** in 2007

# Economic Resources

- Government benefits, taxes and household income  
...on household type
- Women's incomes  
...change over time



# Real net national disposable income per person(a)

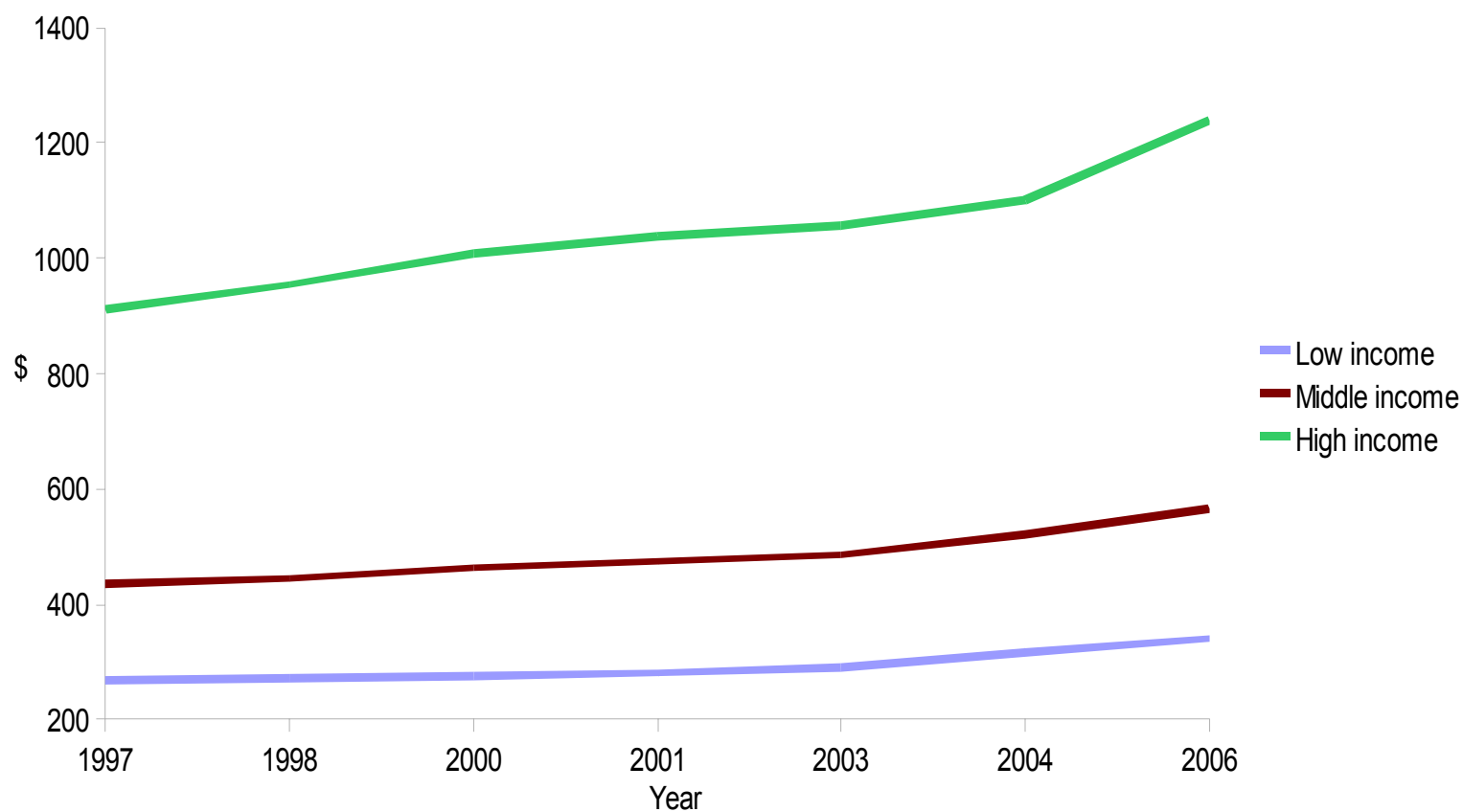


(a) Chain volume measure, reference year 2005-06

Source: Australian System of National Accounts

# Household income

## Mean weekly equivalised household income by income groups

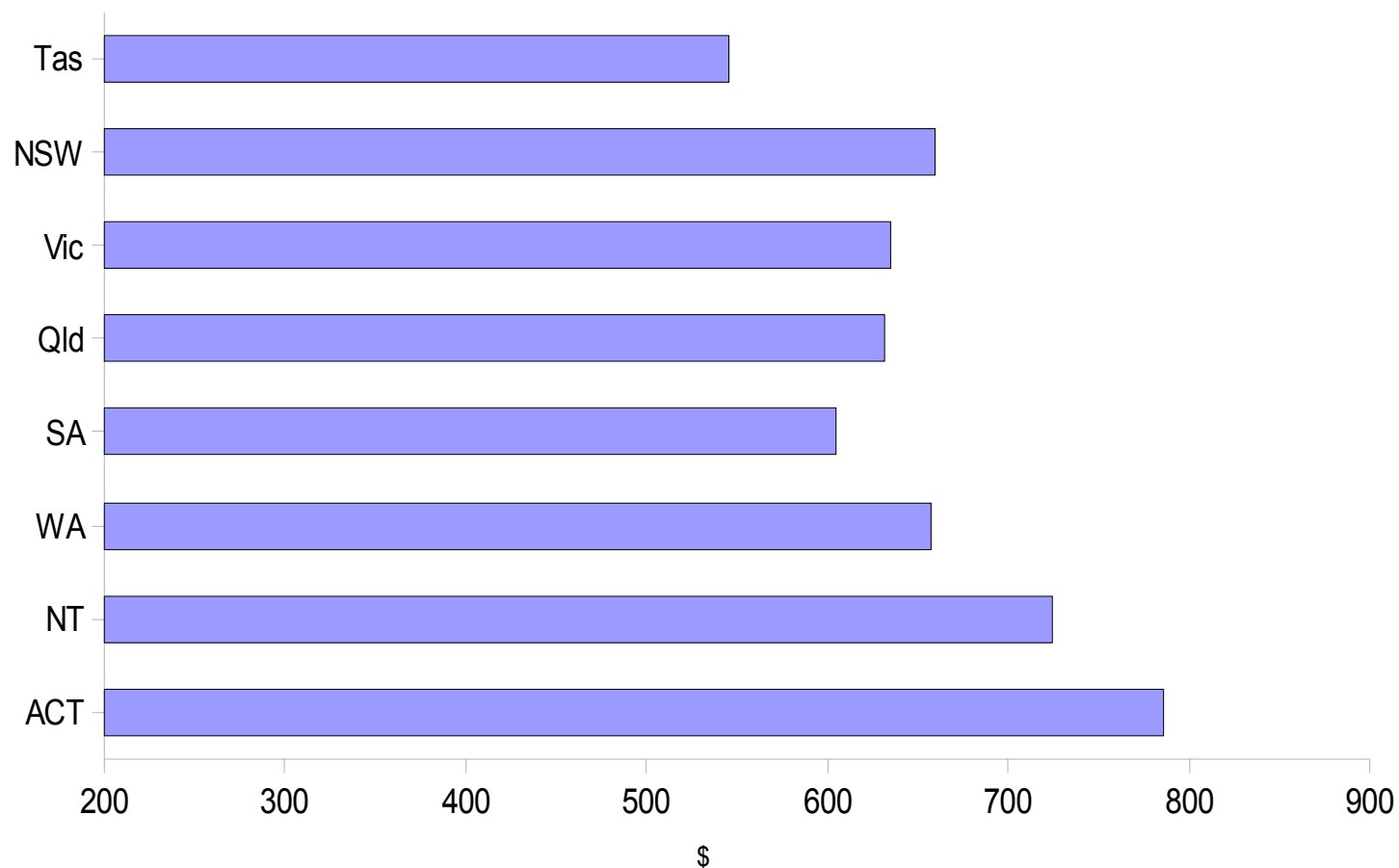


Source: ABS Survey of Income and Housing



# Household income: States and Territories 2005–06

Mean weekly equivalised household income for all households



Source: ABS 2005–06 Survey of Income and Housing

# Government taxes and benefits

...redistribute economic resources from people with **higher private incomes** to those with **lower private incomes**

## Final income =

Private income + Govt cash benefits – income tax + social transfers in kind – taxes on production

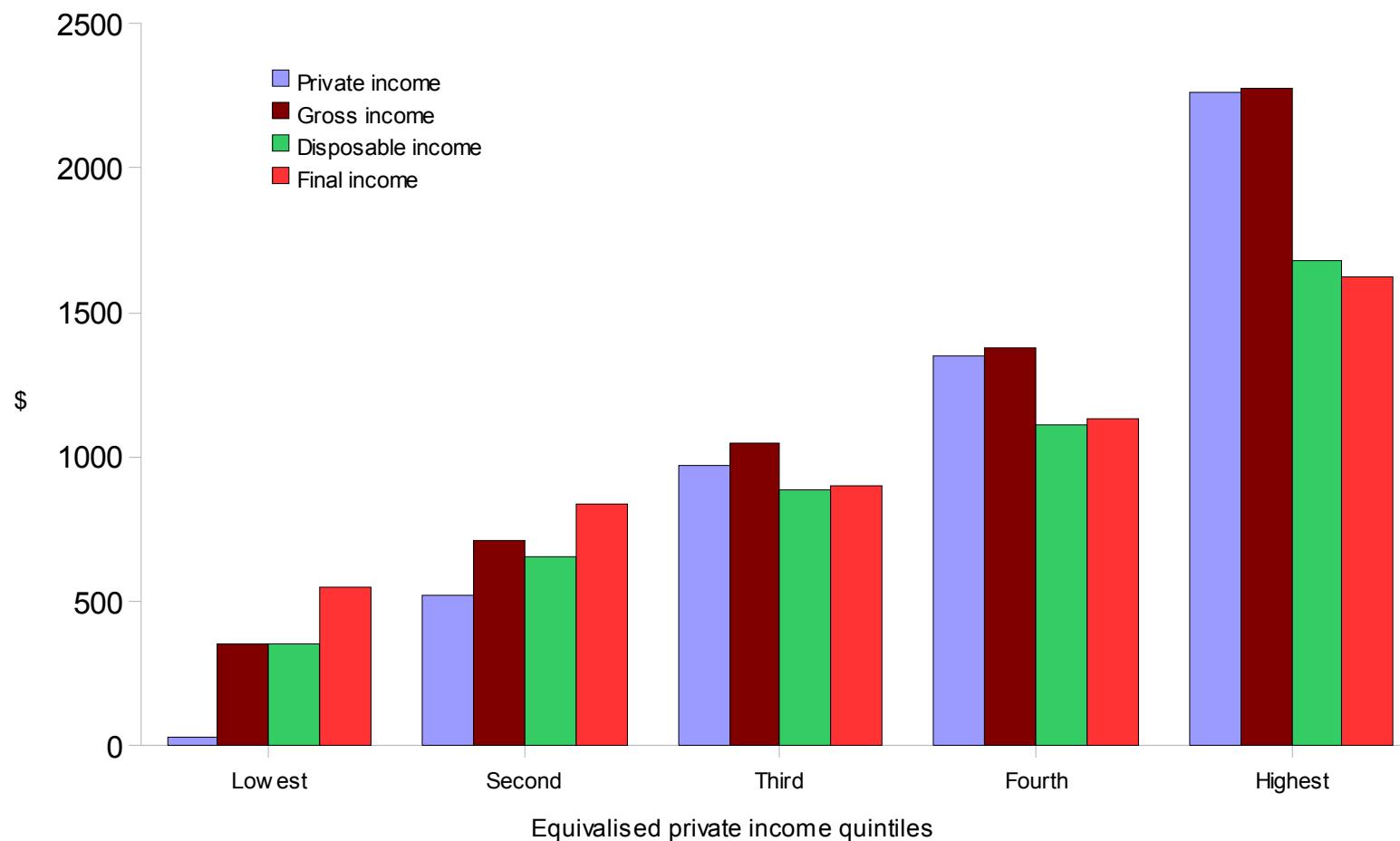
**Private income:** all forms of income except govt cash benefits.

**Govt cash benefits:** mainly pensions & allowances, family payments, baby bonus, rent assistance etc.

**Social transfers in kind:** include the value of goods & services provided or subsidised by govt. e.g. schooling, Medicare services, child care.

**Taxes on production:** intermediate taxes that producers pay in process of production and are passed on to consumers + GST and excise

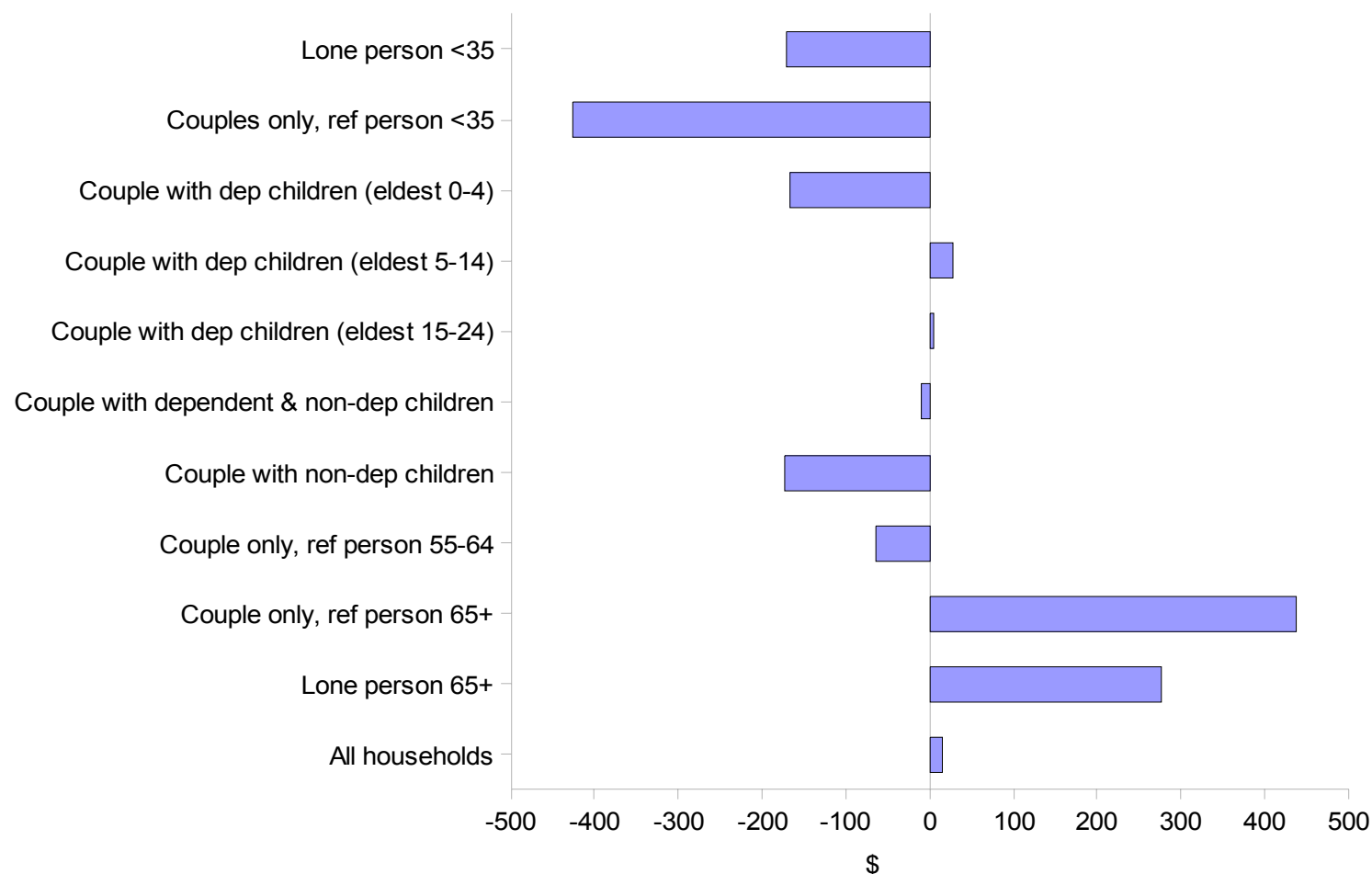
# From private to final income 2003–04(a)



(a) Average weekly value

Source: *Government Benefits, Taxes and Household Income, Australia, 2003–04*

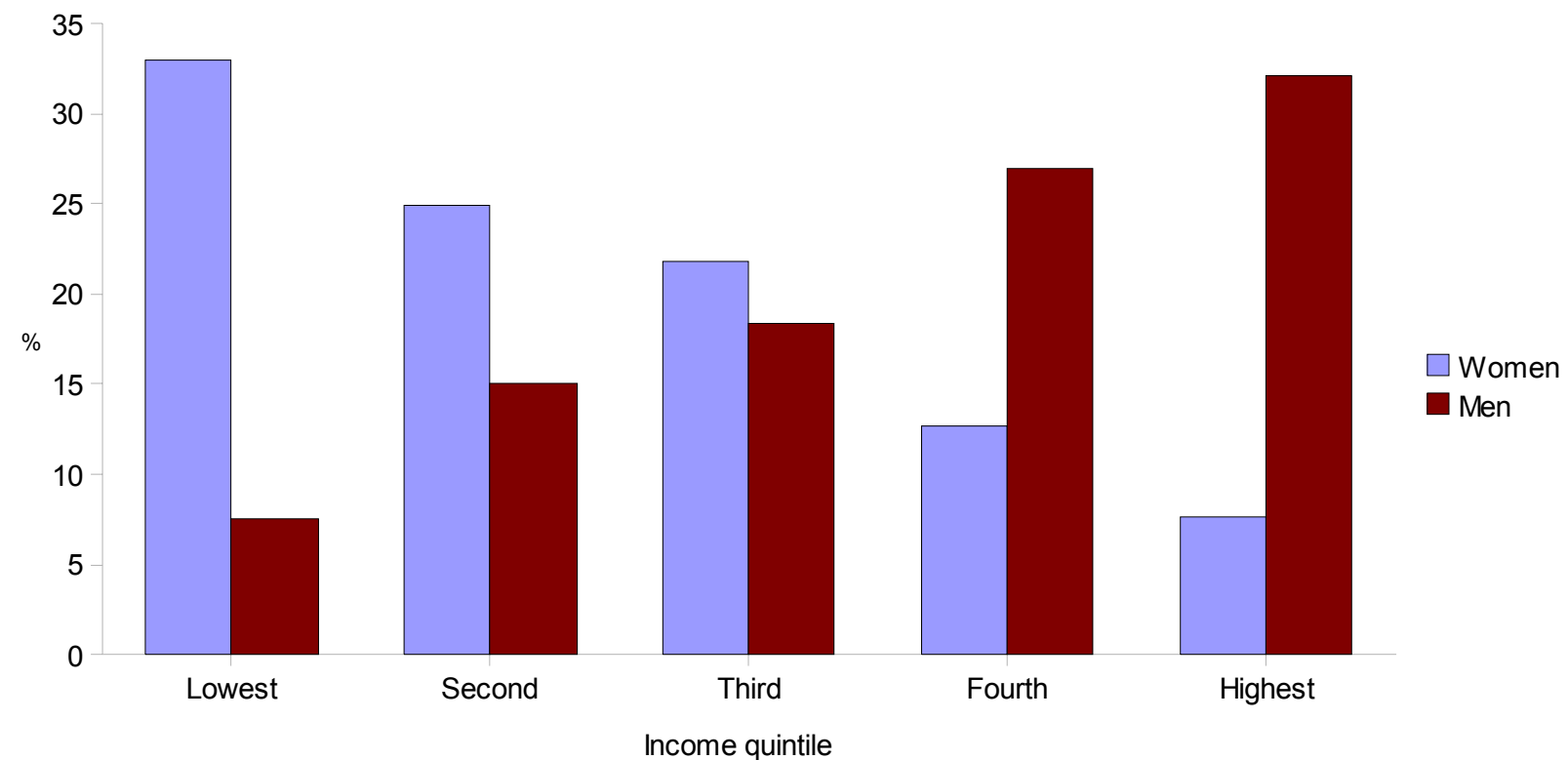
# Net effect of taxes and benefits on the household income of selected life course groups 2003–04(a)



(a) Average weekly value

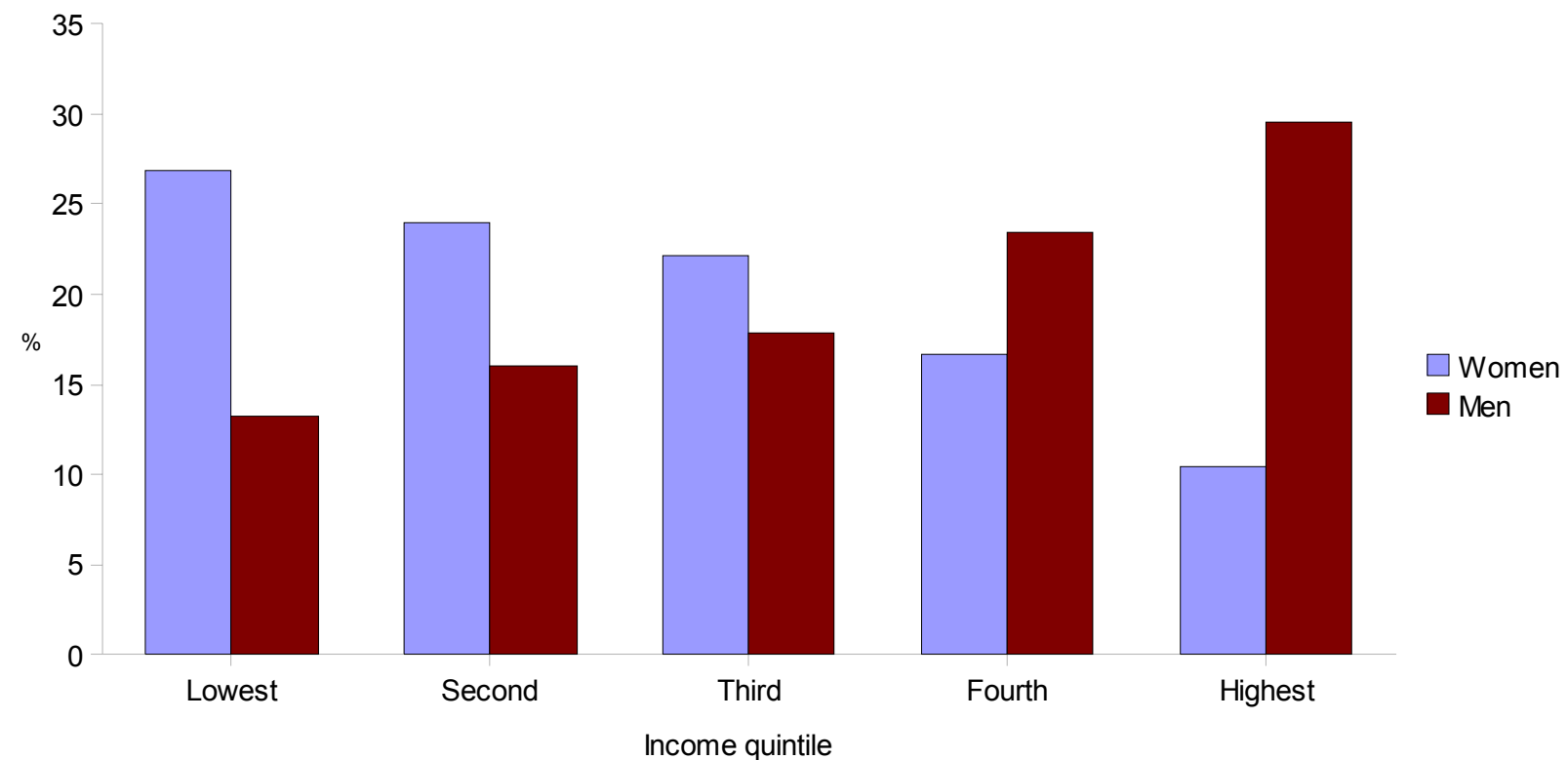
Source: *Government Benefits, Taxes and Household Income, Australia, 2003-04*

# Proportion of men and women in gross personal income quintiles 1982



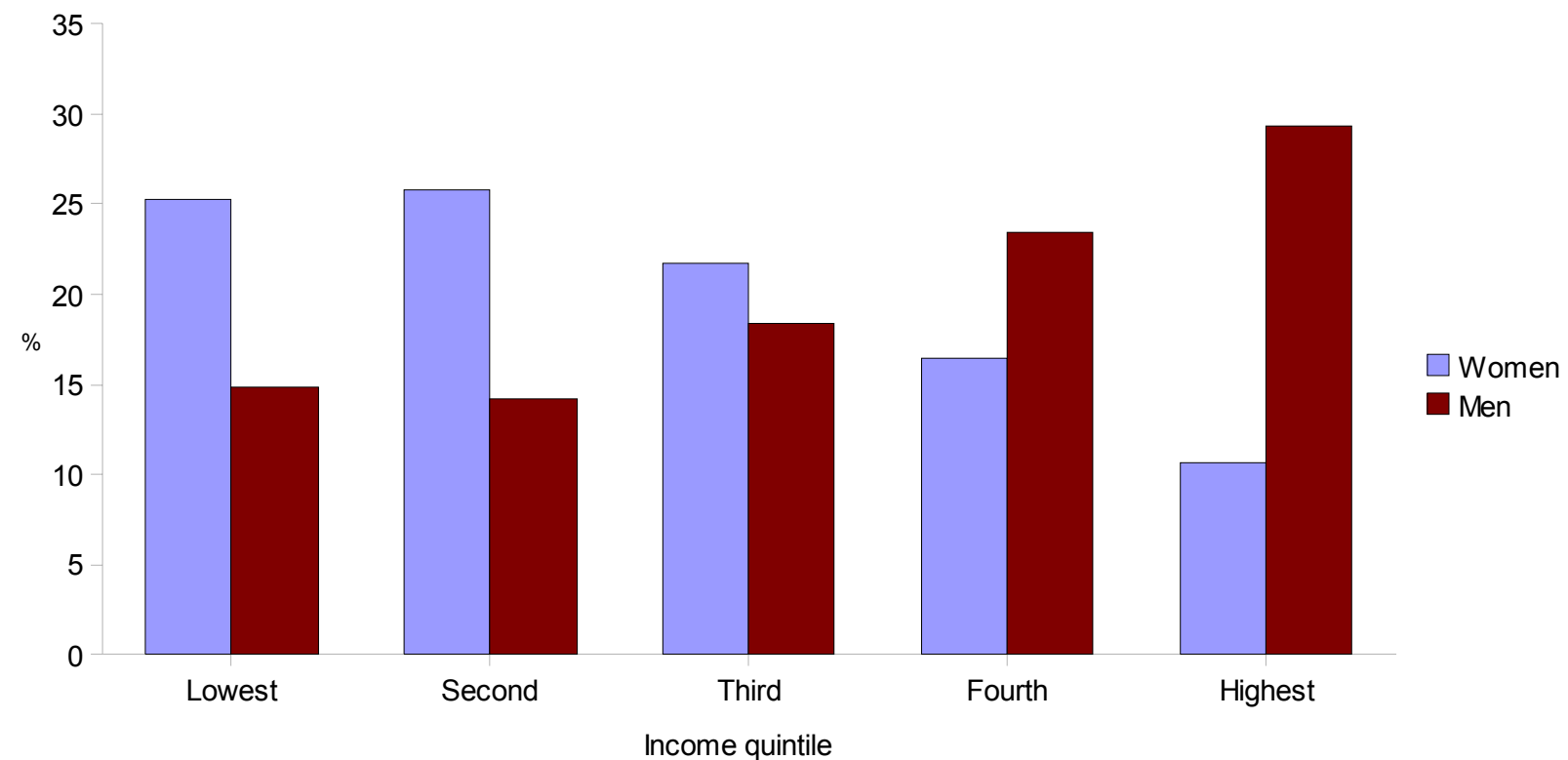
Source: Surveys of Income and Housing

# Proportion of men and women in gross personal income quintiles 1995–96



Source: Surveys of Income and Housing

# Proportion of men and women in gross personal income quintiles 2005–06



Source: Surveys of Income and Housing

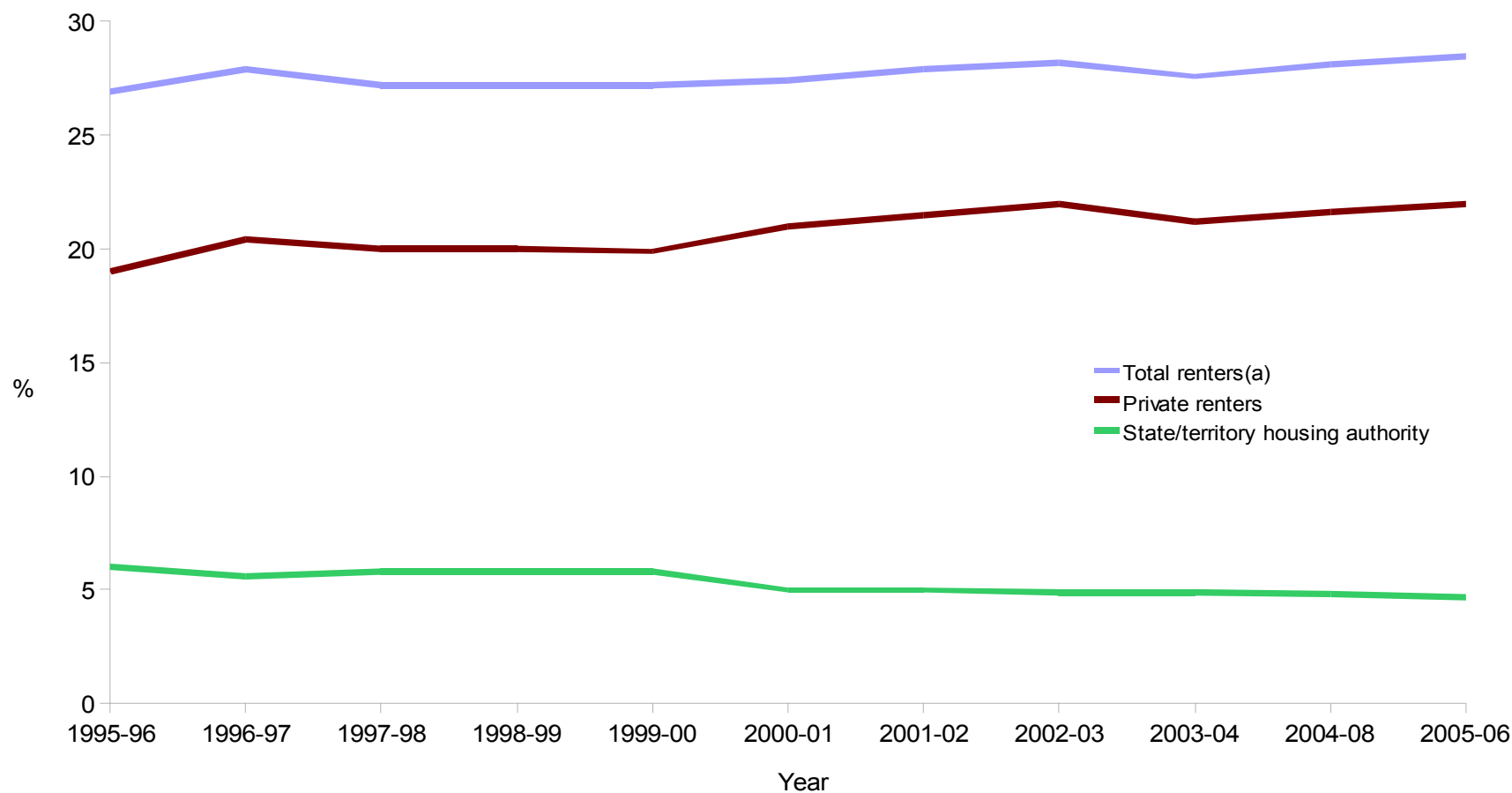
# Housing

- Renter Households  
...renting versus home ownership
- First home buyers  
...rising cost of home loans





# Proportion of households renting 1995-96 to 2005-06

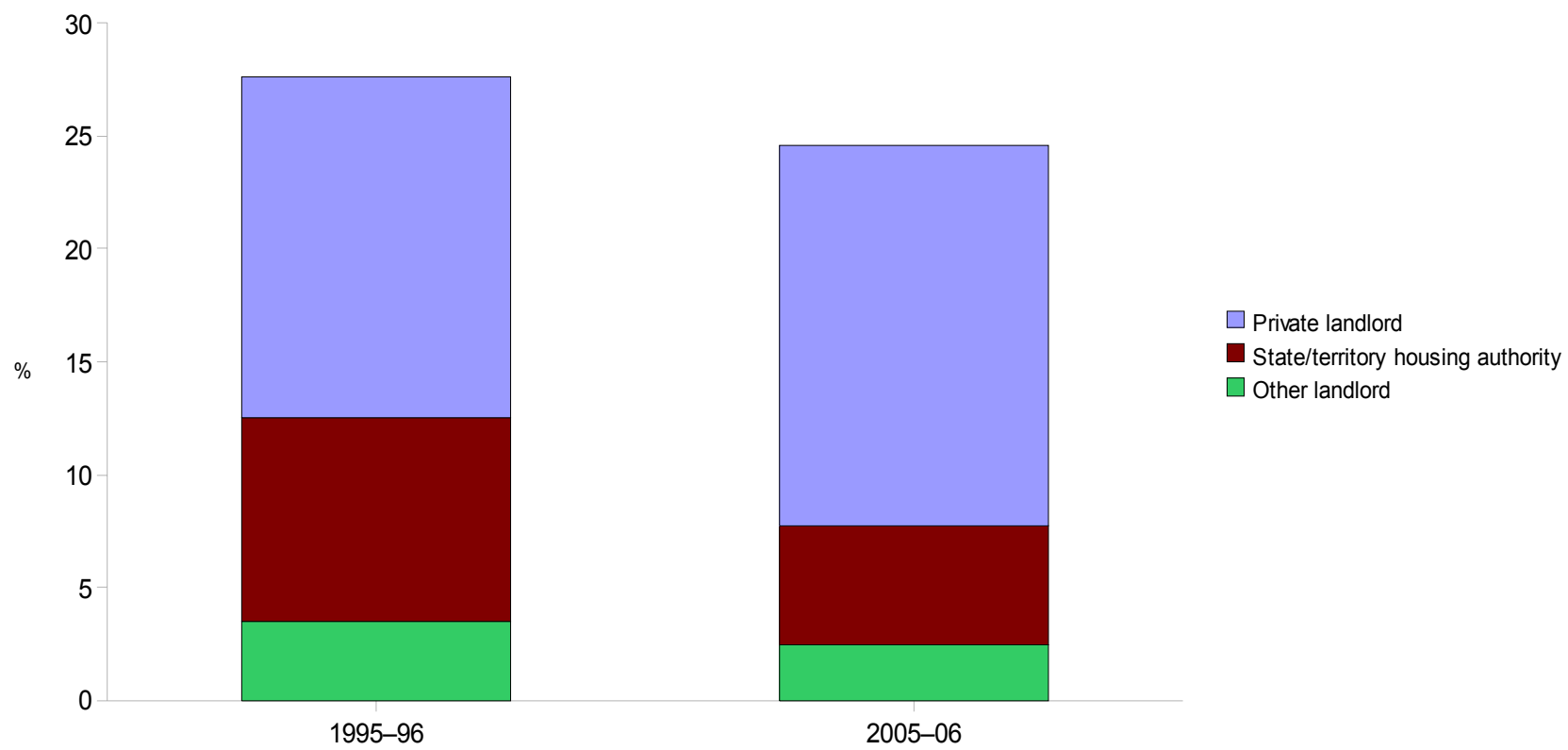


(a) Includes households renting from other landlords

Source: ABS Surveys of Income and Housing

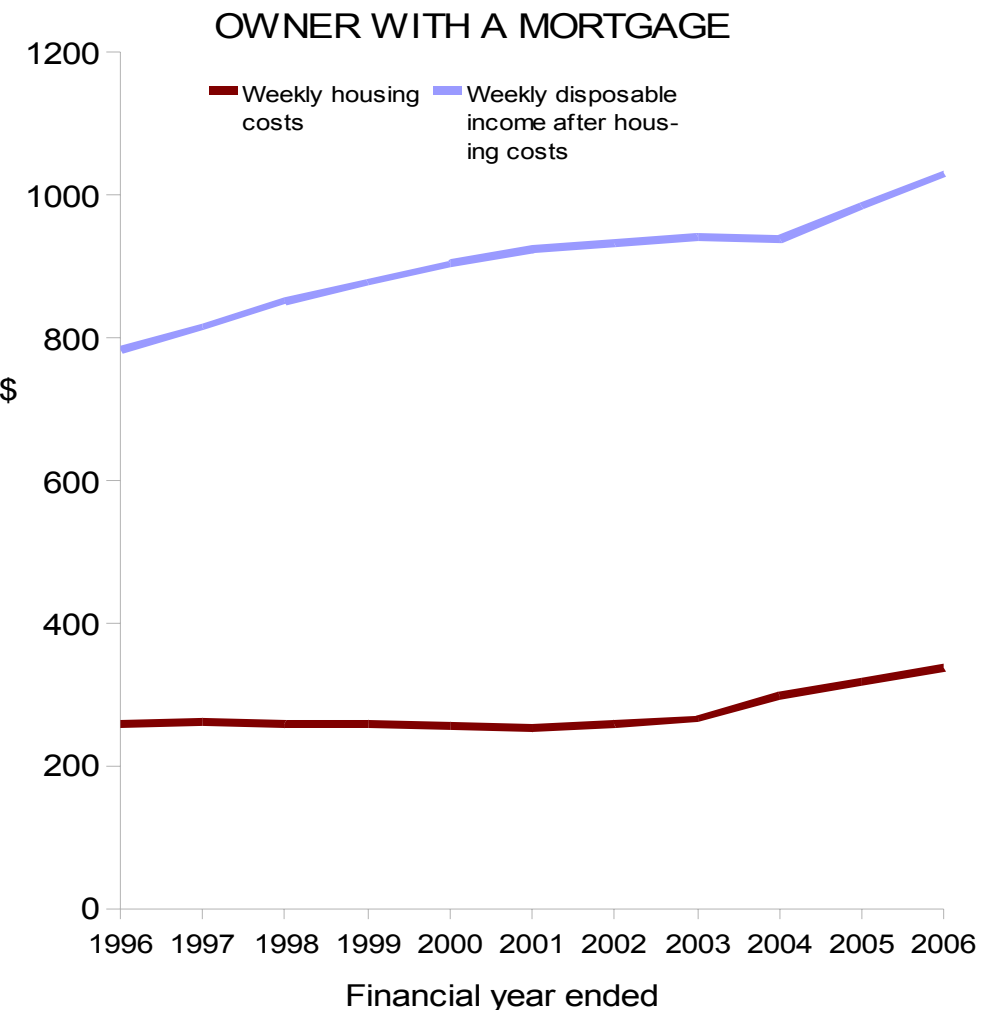
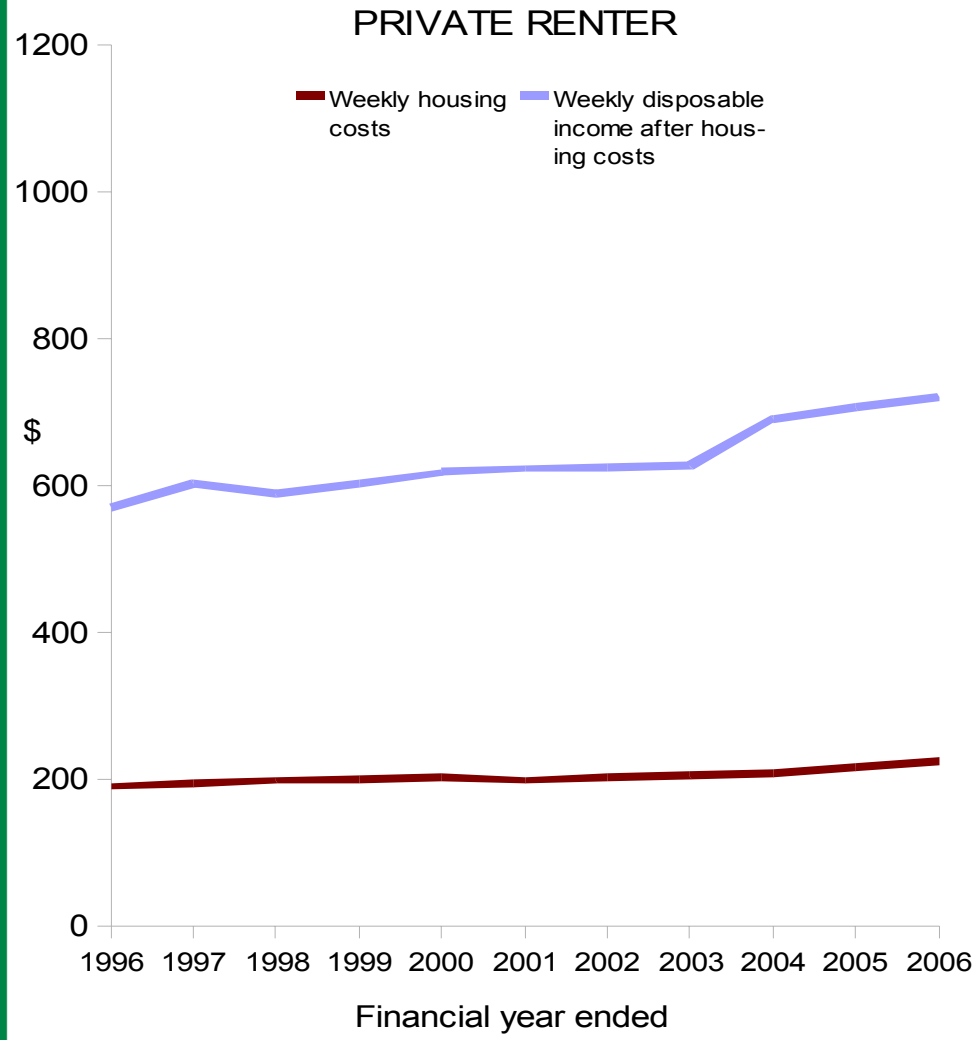
# Proportion of households renting 1995–96 and 2005–06

Tasmania



Source: ABS Surveys of Income and Housing

# Mean weekly housing costs and disposable household income after housing costs



Source: ABS Surveys of Income and Housing

# First home buyers

During the year to March 2008 there were **135,000** housing finance commitments to first home buyers...

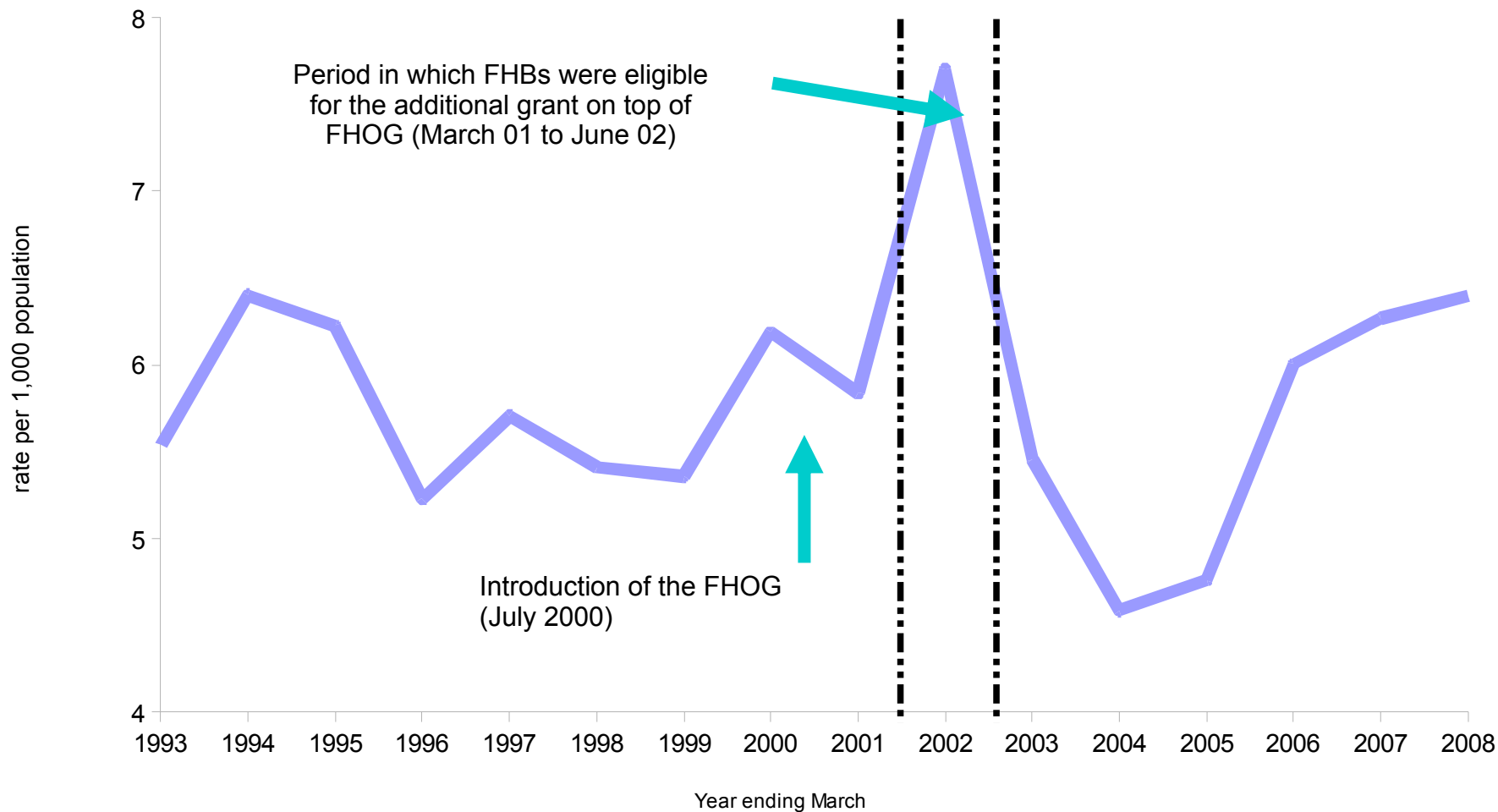
...equivalent to 6.4 commitments per 1,000 people

Between 1991 and 2008 average home loan commitments to first home buyers increased...

... from **\$96,100** to **\$215,000**



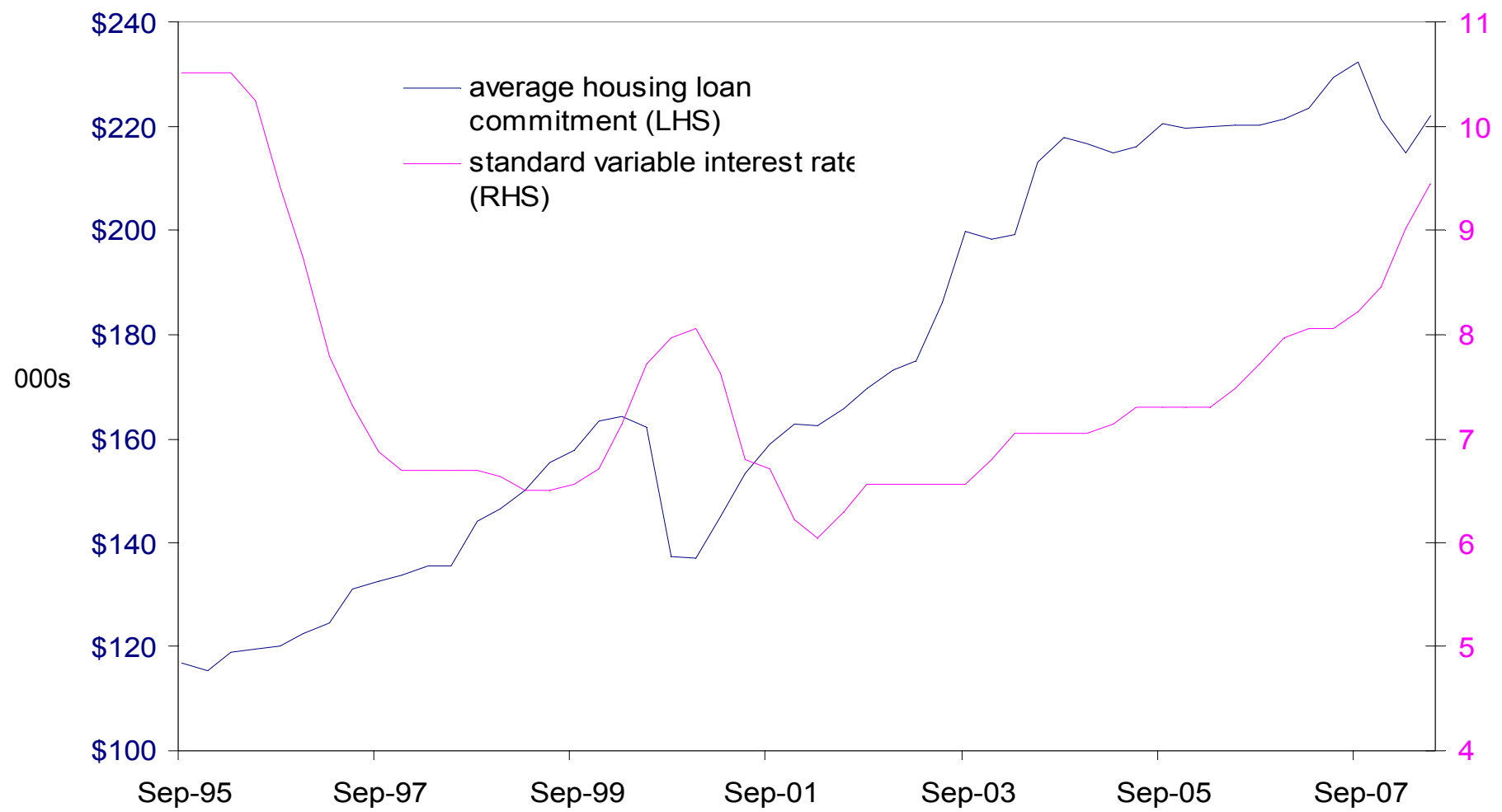
# Annual housing finance commitments to first home buyers(a)



(a) From significant lenders for owner occupation, excluding alterations and additions

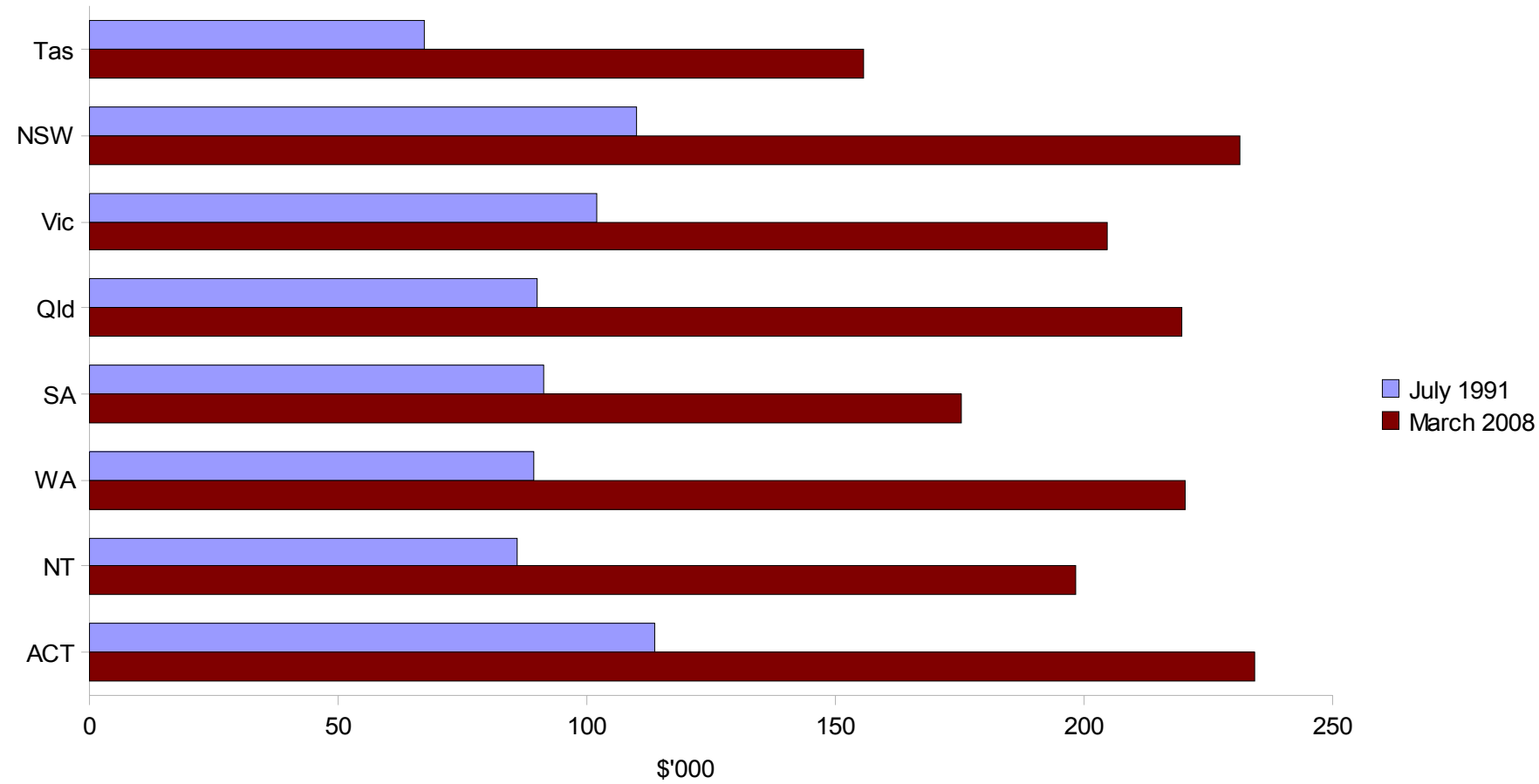
Source: *Housing Finance Australia, Australia, April 2008, Australian Demographic Statistics, December Quarter 2007*

# Average real housing loan commitment to first home buyers



Source: ABS Housing finance, Australia, RBA Bulletin Statistical Tables

# Real change in the size of an average housing loan(a) to a first home buyer



(a) From significant lenders for owner occupation, excluding alterations and additions

Source: Housing Finance, Australia, April 2008; Consumer Price Index, Australia, March Quarter 2008

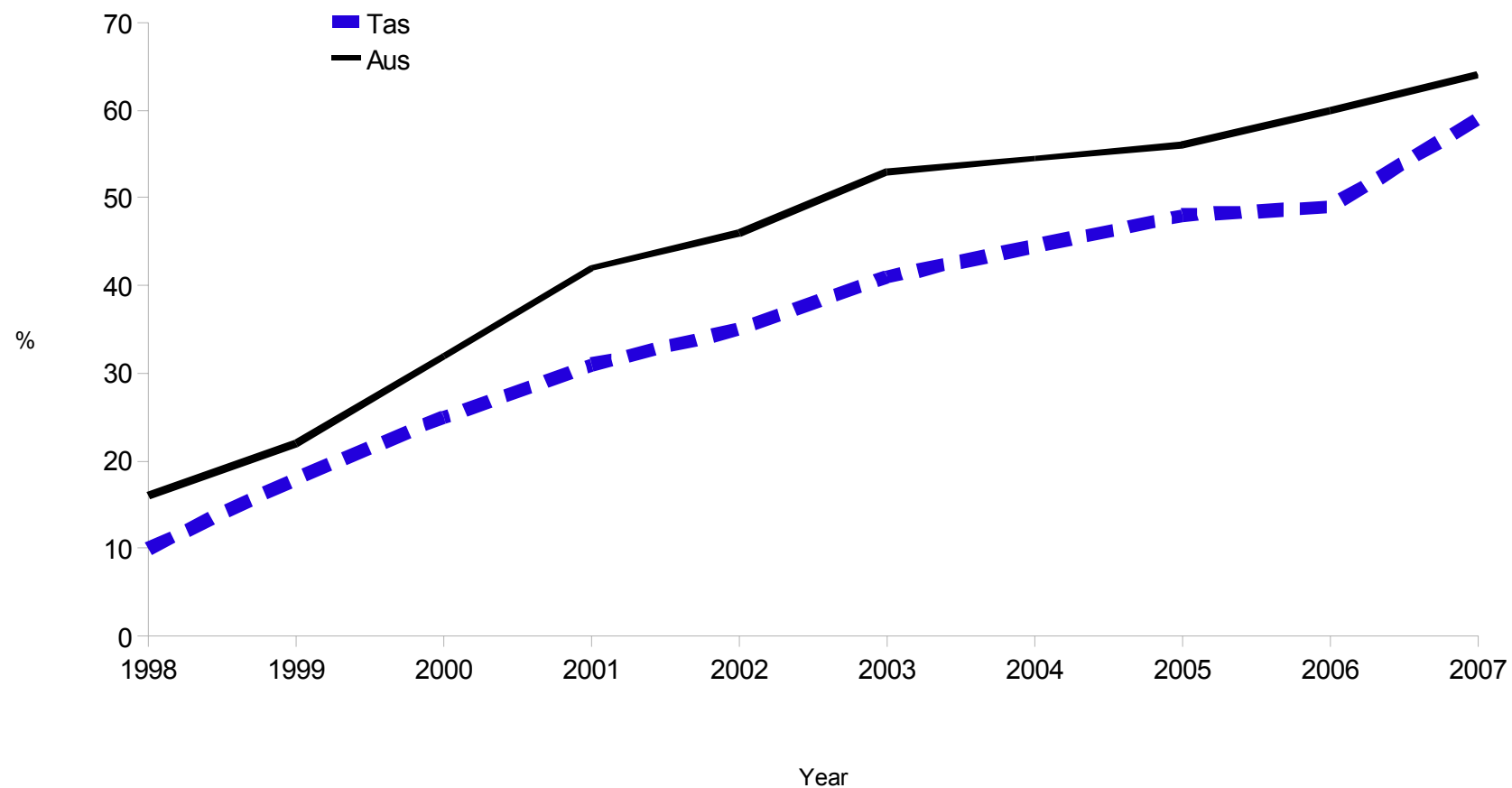
# Other Areas of Social Concern

- Internet access at home  
...increase in Internet connections
- Public transport use  
...over time  
... in Australian cities



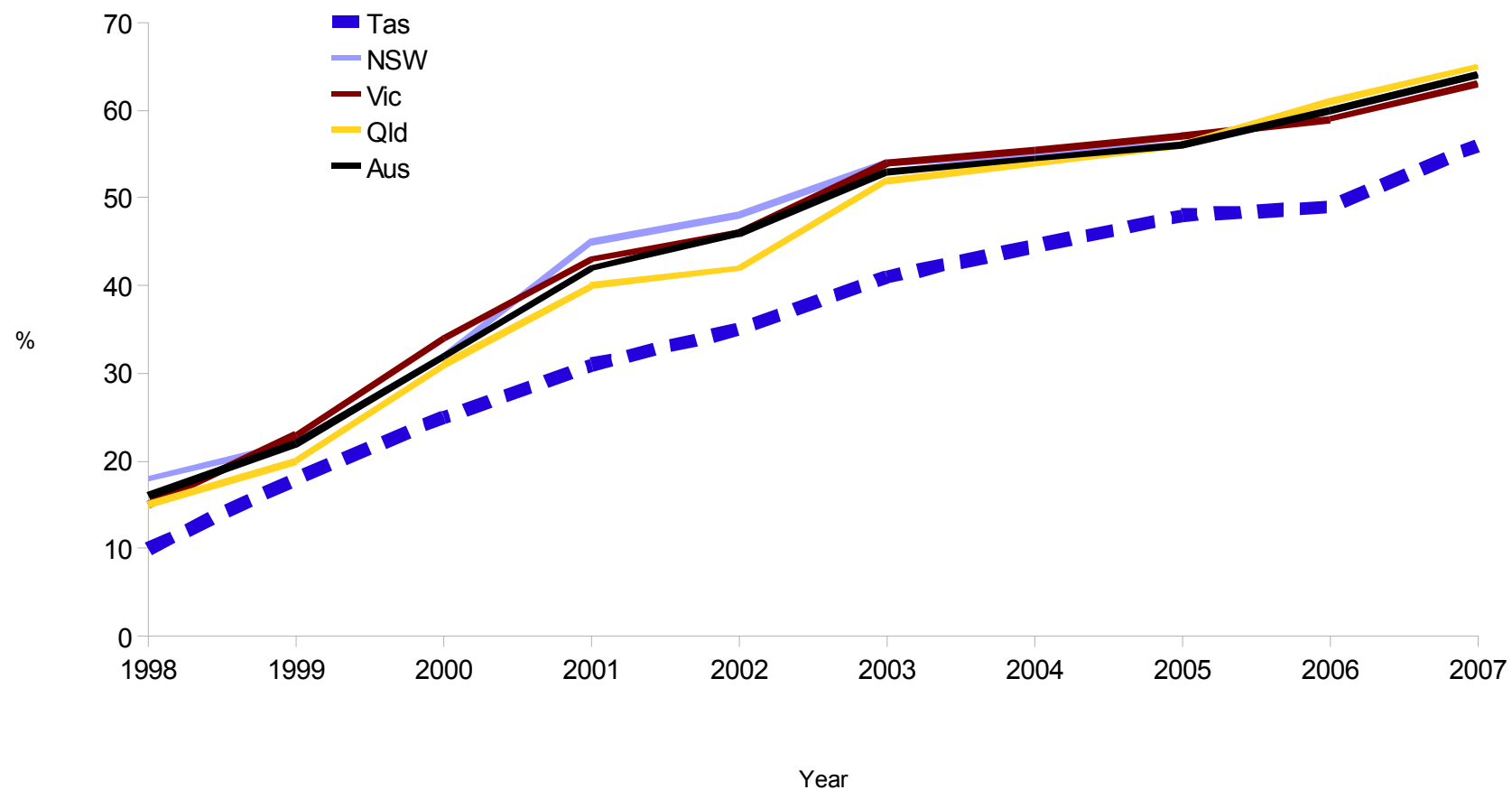


# Proportion of Australian households with access to the Internet



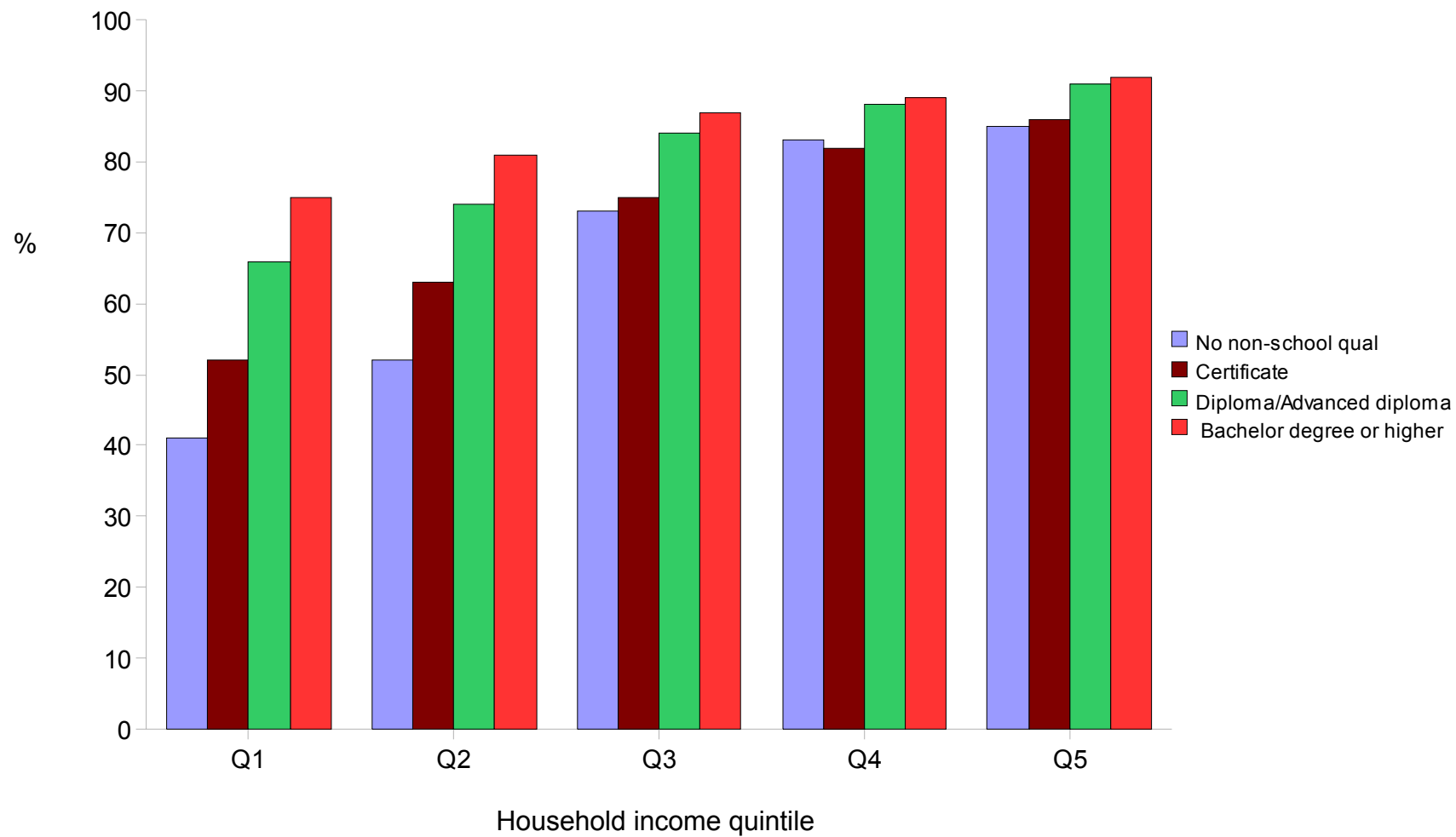
Source: Household Use of Information Technology, Australia

# Proportion of Australian households with access to the Internet



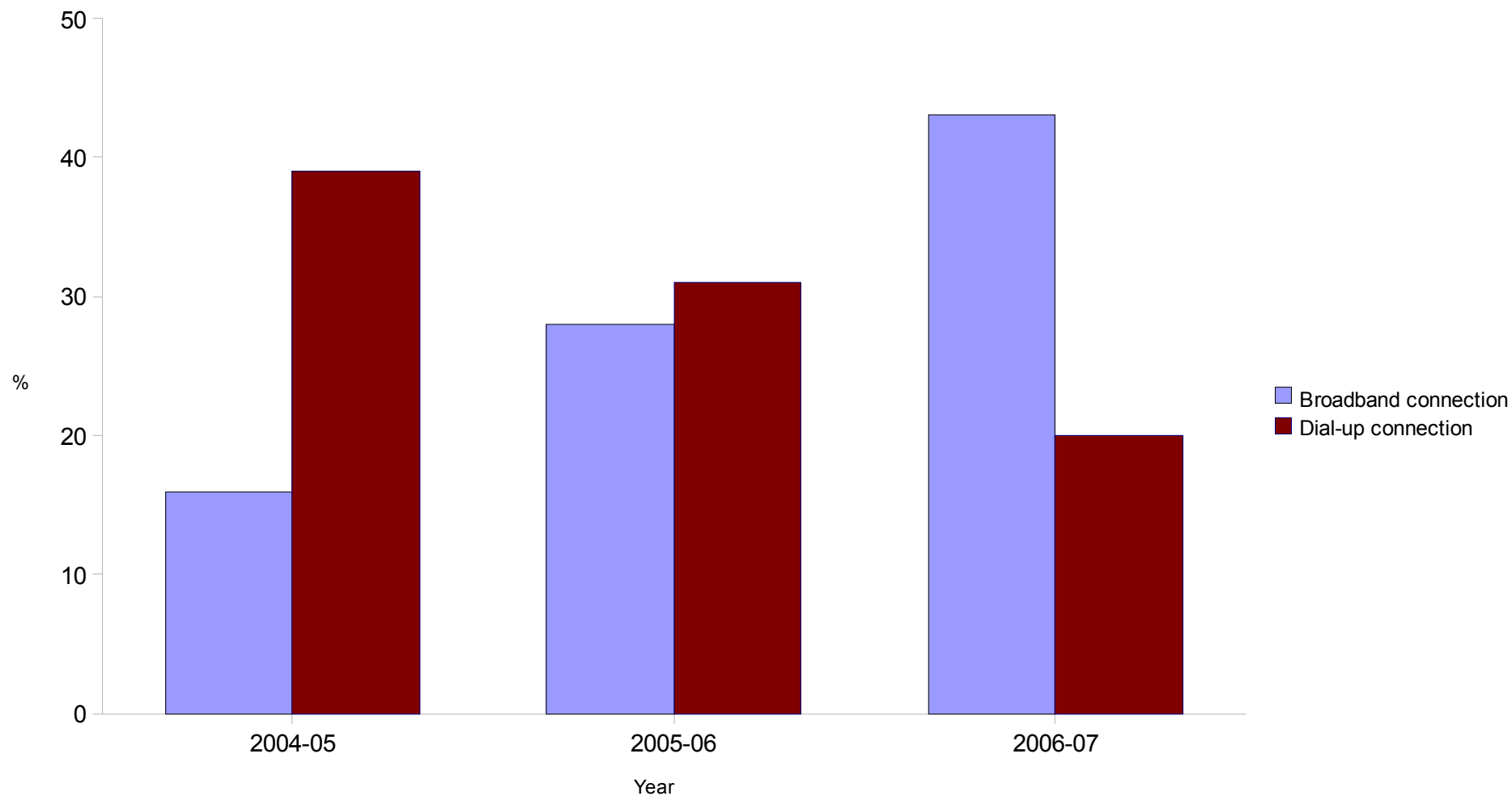
Source: Household Use of Information Technology, Australia

# Internet use by education and income 2006



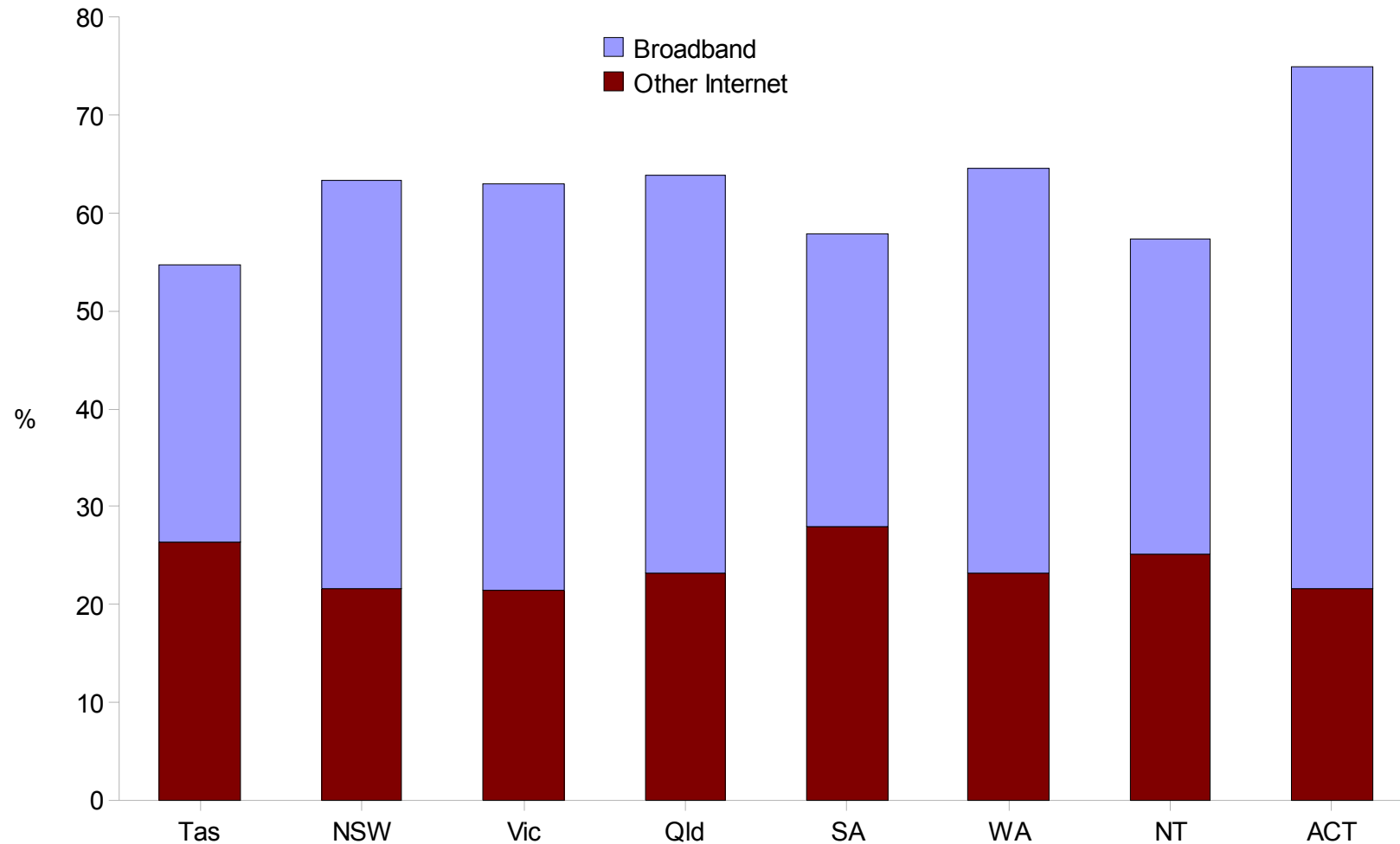
Source: 2006 Census of Population and Housing

# Proportion of households with dial-up or Broadband Internet connection



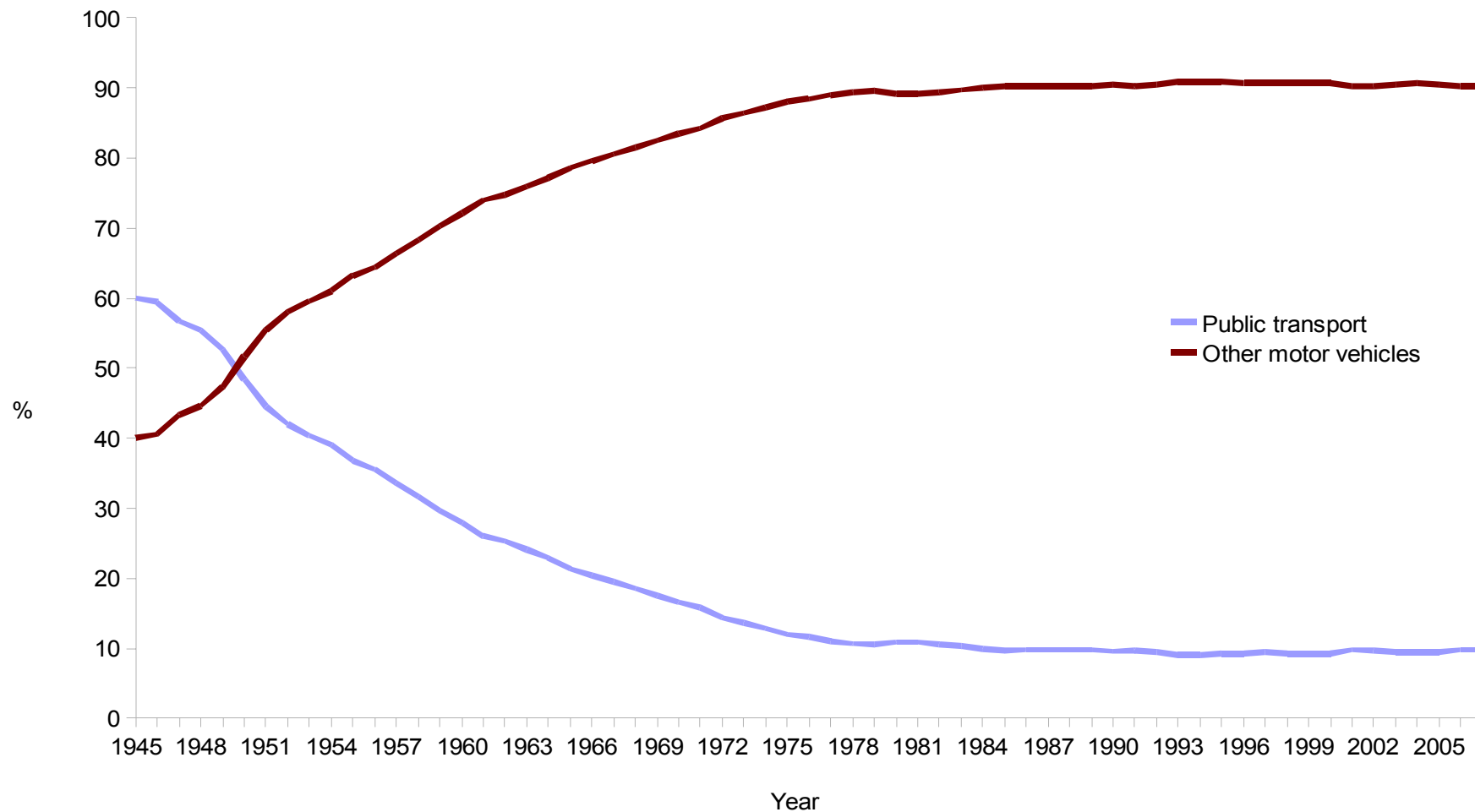
Source: *Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2006-07*

# Type of Internet access: State and Territory 2006



Source: ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing

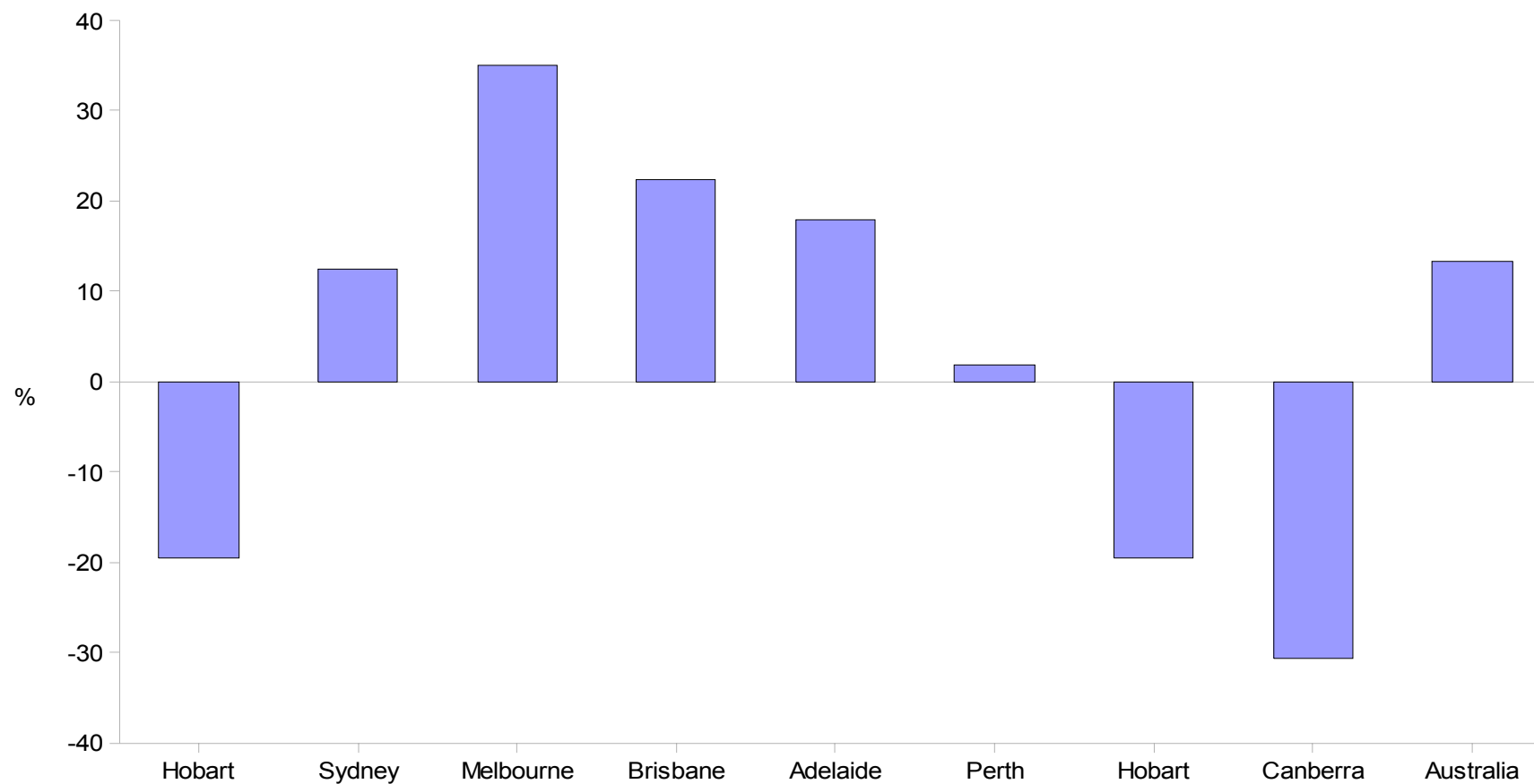
# Proportion of passenger-kms travelled by motorised vehicle type: capital cities – 1945 to 2007



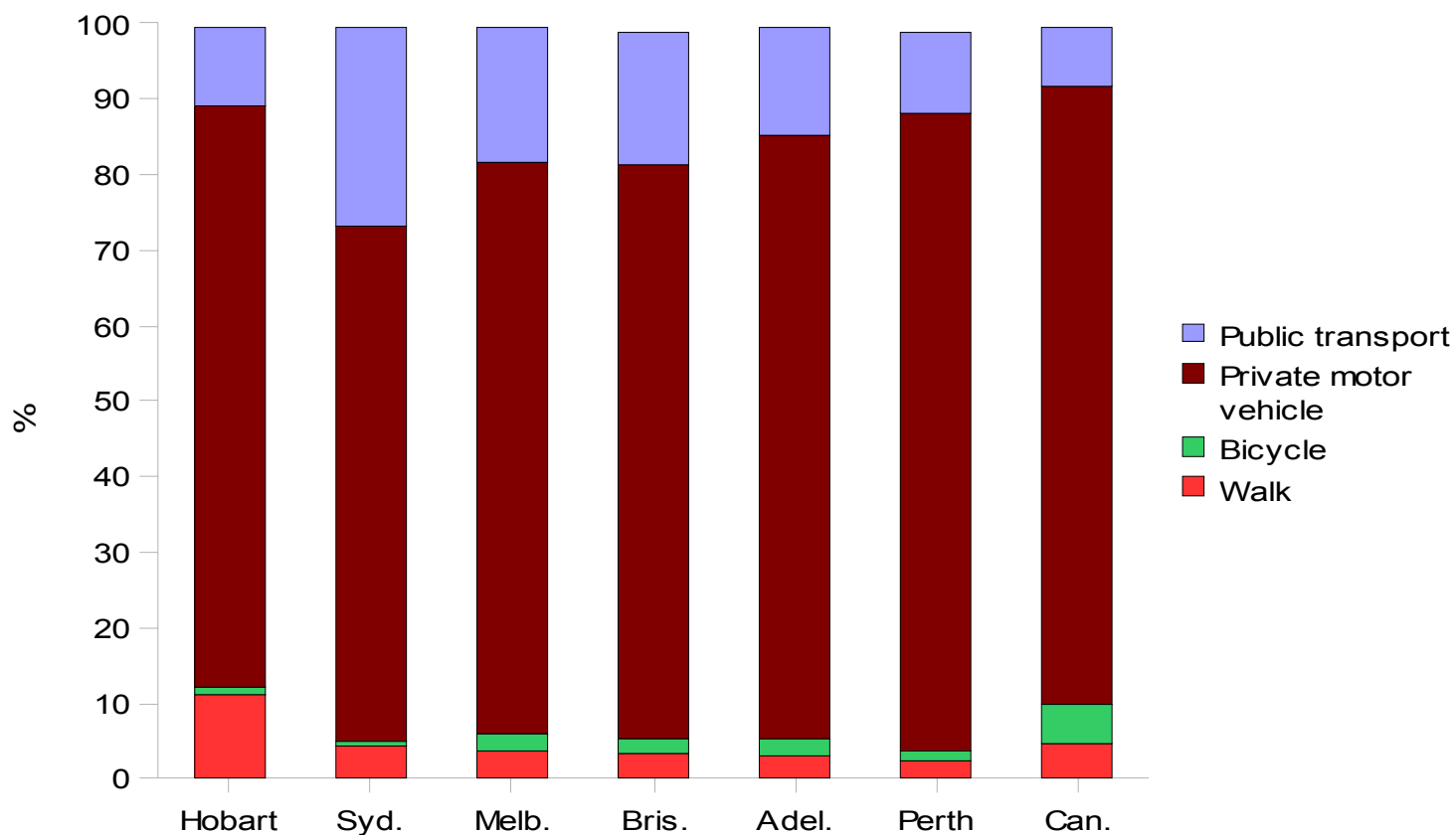
Source: Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics (BTRE), 2007, *Estimating urban traffic and congestion cost trends for Australian cities*

# Proportion of adults using public transport for their usual trip to work or study

...percentage change between 1996 & 2006



# Usual transport to work in capital cities(a)

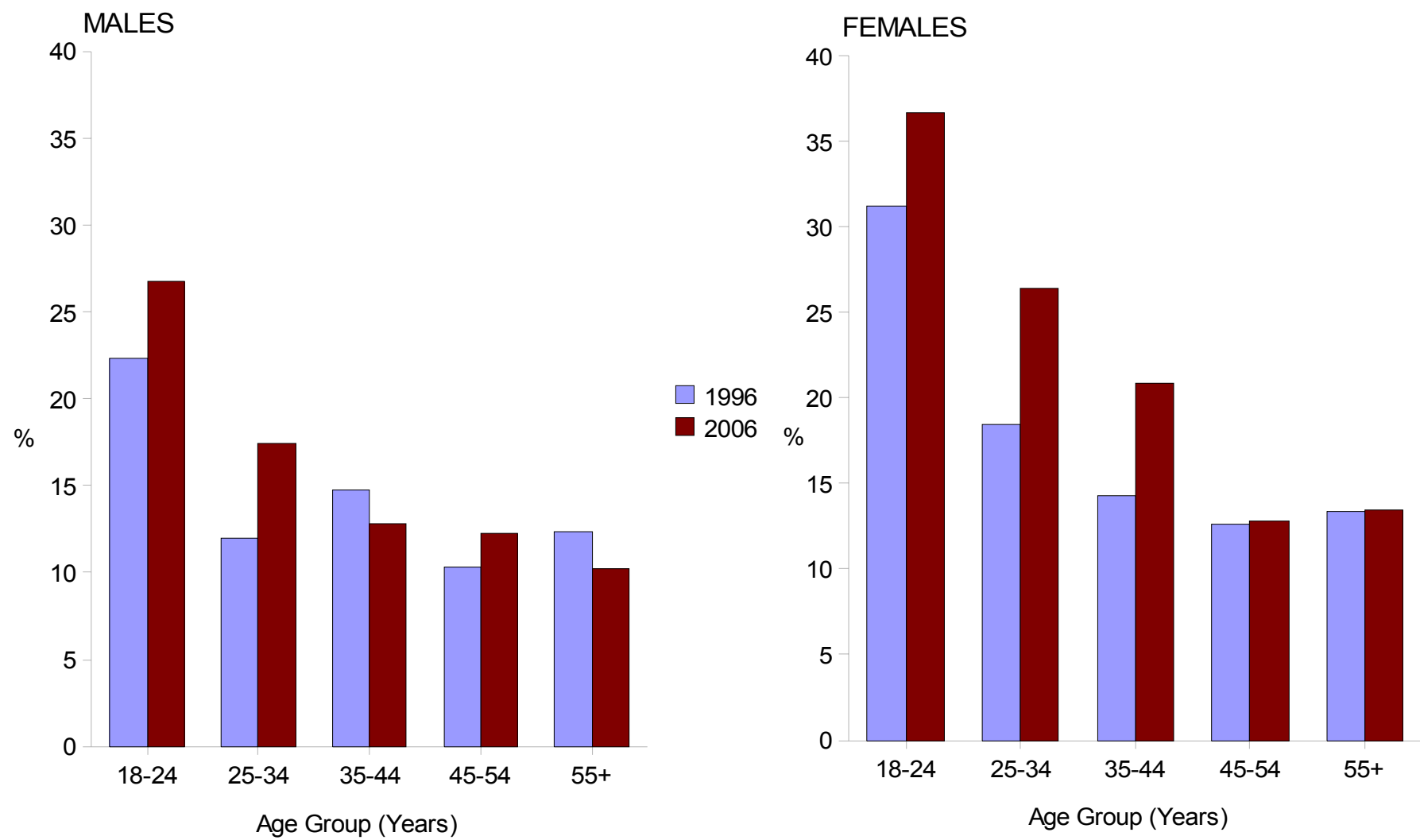


(a) Excludes Darwin

Source: 2006 Household Survey of Waste Management and Transport Use



# People using public transport as main form of transport for usual trip to work or study(a) in capital cities(b)



(a) As a proportion of the total number of persons in each age group  
 (b) Excludes Darwin

# Coming soon...

- AST review
  - ...frequency of release
  - ...format
- AST 2009
  - ...unpaid housework
  - ...superannuation
  - ...homelessness

# What have we missed?



# Further information

- [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)  
**Australian Social Trends**  
ABS catalogue number 4102.0
- **Dr Paul Jelfs**  
paul.jelfs@abs.gov.au  
Phone: (02) 6252 6690
- **Linda Fardell**  
linda.fardell@abs.gov.au  
Phone: (02) 6252 7187