

Setting the scene and identifying the research agenda

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European Health Forum
Gastein
2009

Outline

- Health inequities are avoidable;
- Health is not equal to health care;
- Action to reduce health inequities includes research.



Commission on
Social Determinants of Health

Closing the gap in a generation

Health equity through action on
the social determinants of health



Social Justice

Empowerment

- Material
- Psychosocial
- political

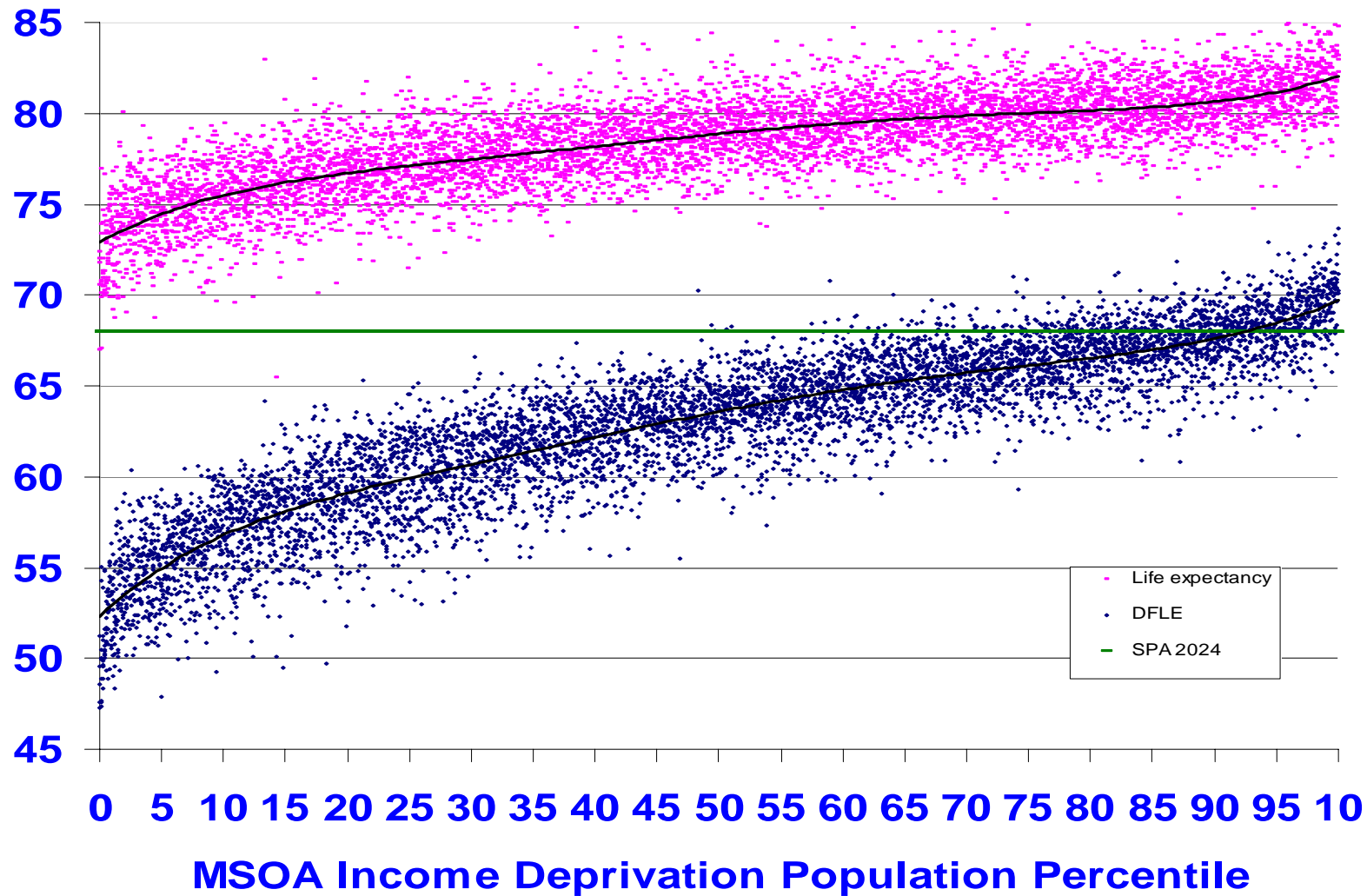
**Creating conditions for
people to lead flourishing
lives**

Outline

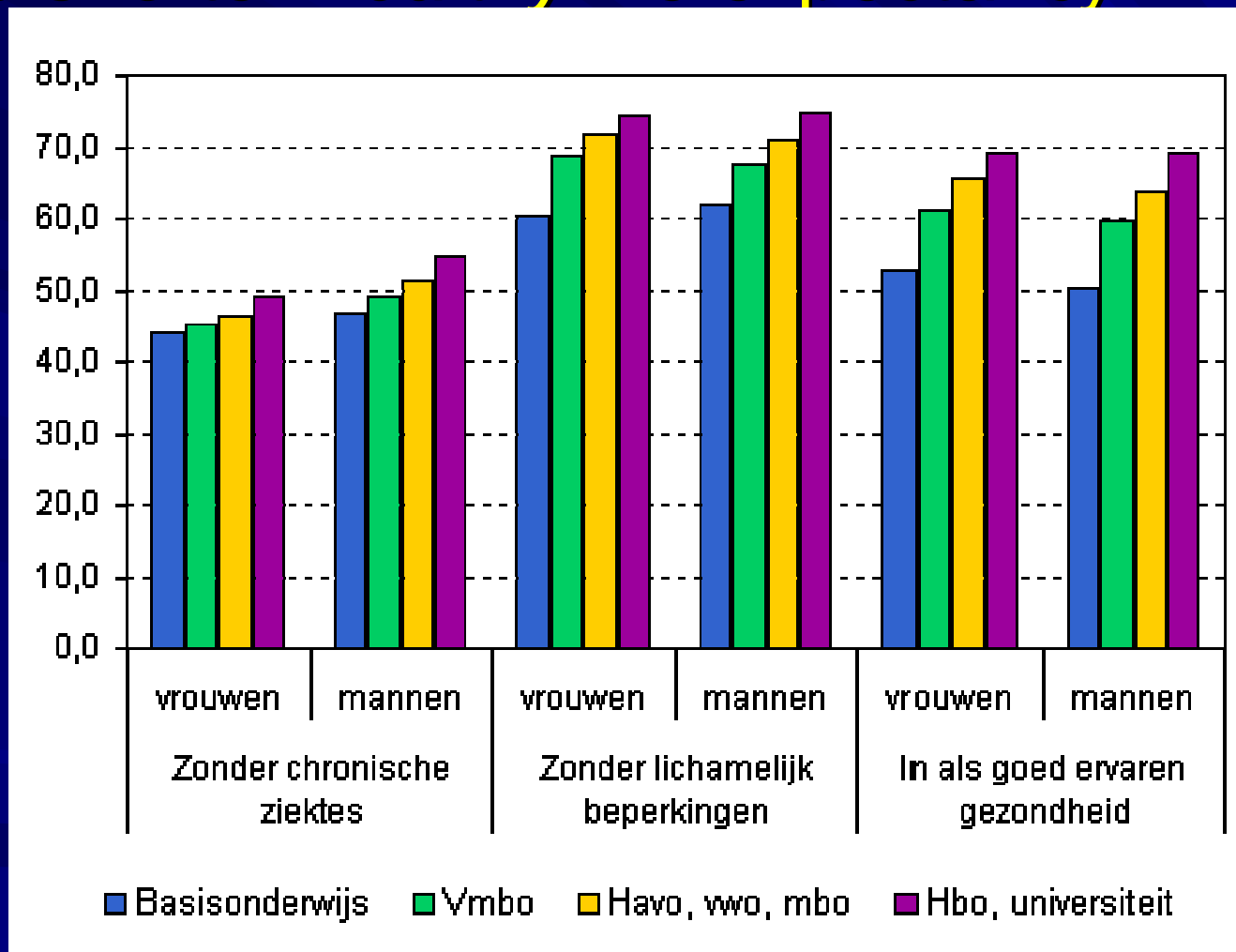
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Life expectancy and disability free life expectancy at birth, persons by MSOA income level, England, 1999-2003

Years



Lower educated groups have shorter *healthy* life expectancy: Netherlands



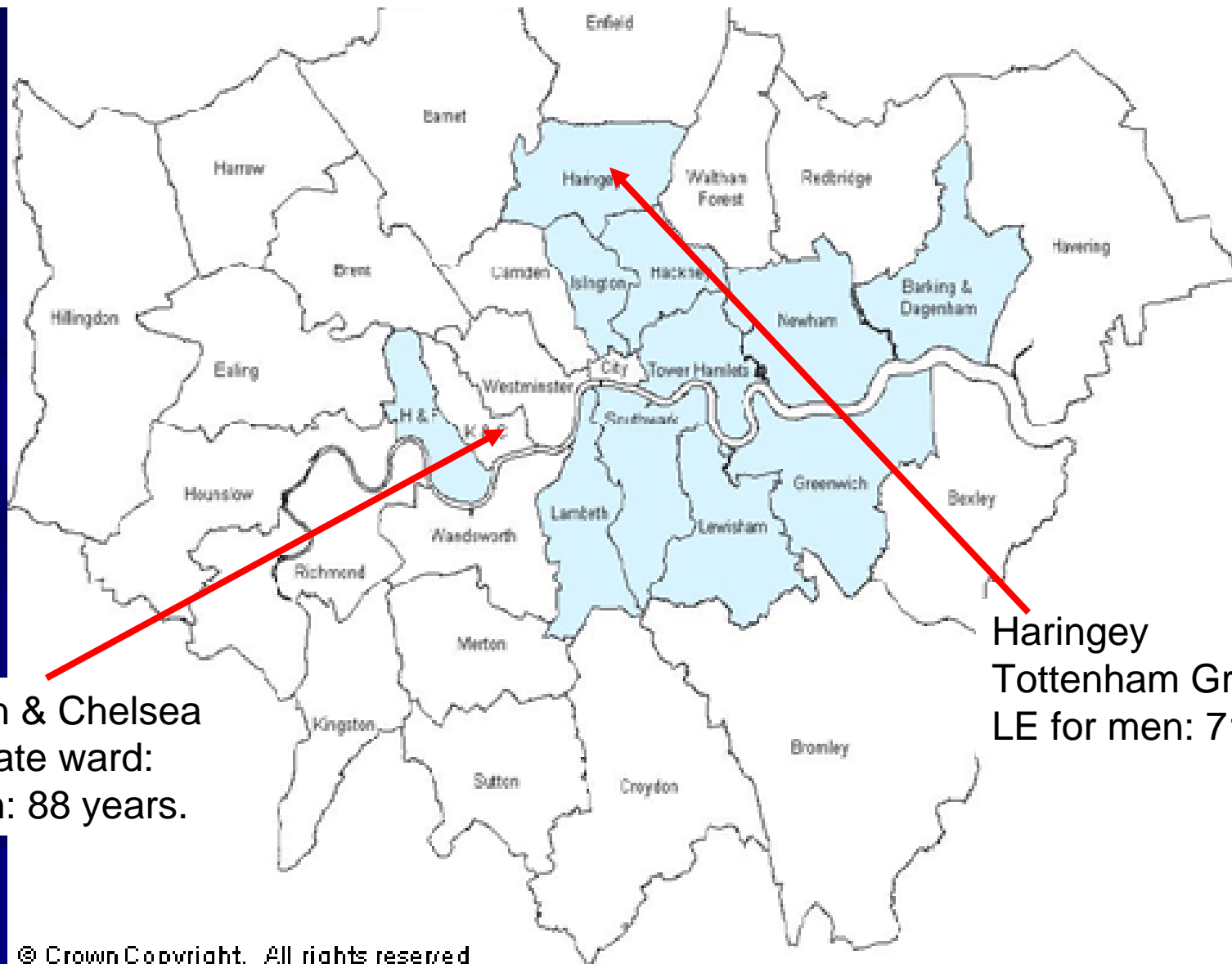
♀ 16 years:
53 vs. 69 years
♂ 19 years:
50 vs. 69 years

Source: CBS, 2008

Source: National Compass Public Health

Slide courtesy of Dr Mariel Droomers

Life expectancy at birth for selected London electoral wards 2002-06



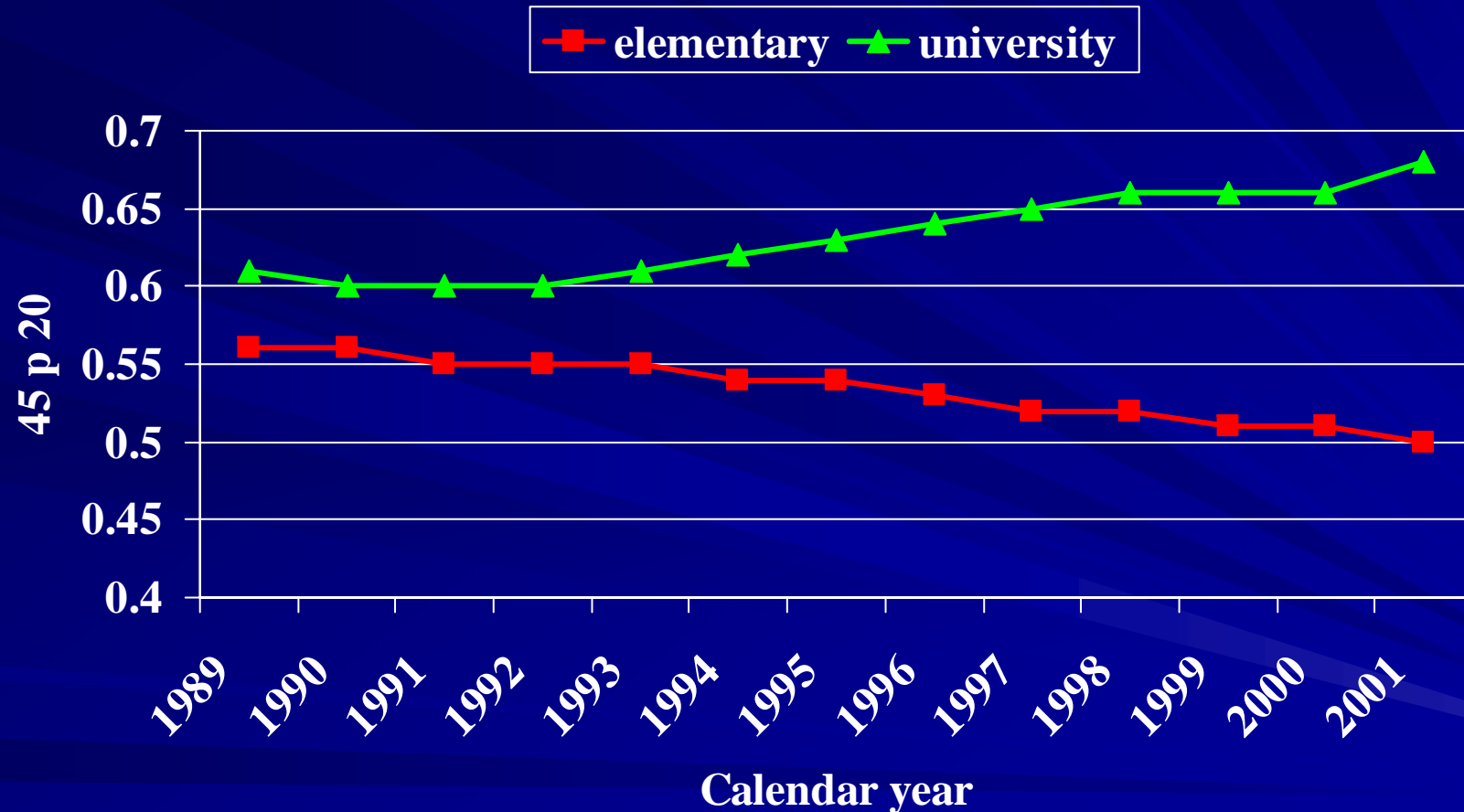
Haringey
Tottenham Green
LE for men: 71 years

Kensington & Chelsea
Queens Gate ward:
LE for men: 88 years.

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Areas in blue are known as “Spearhead Authorities” (data from London Health Observatory)

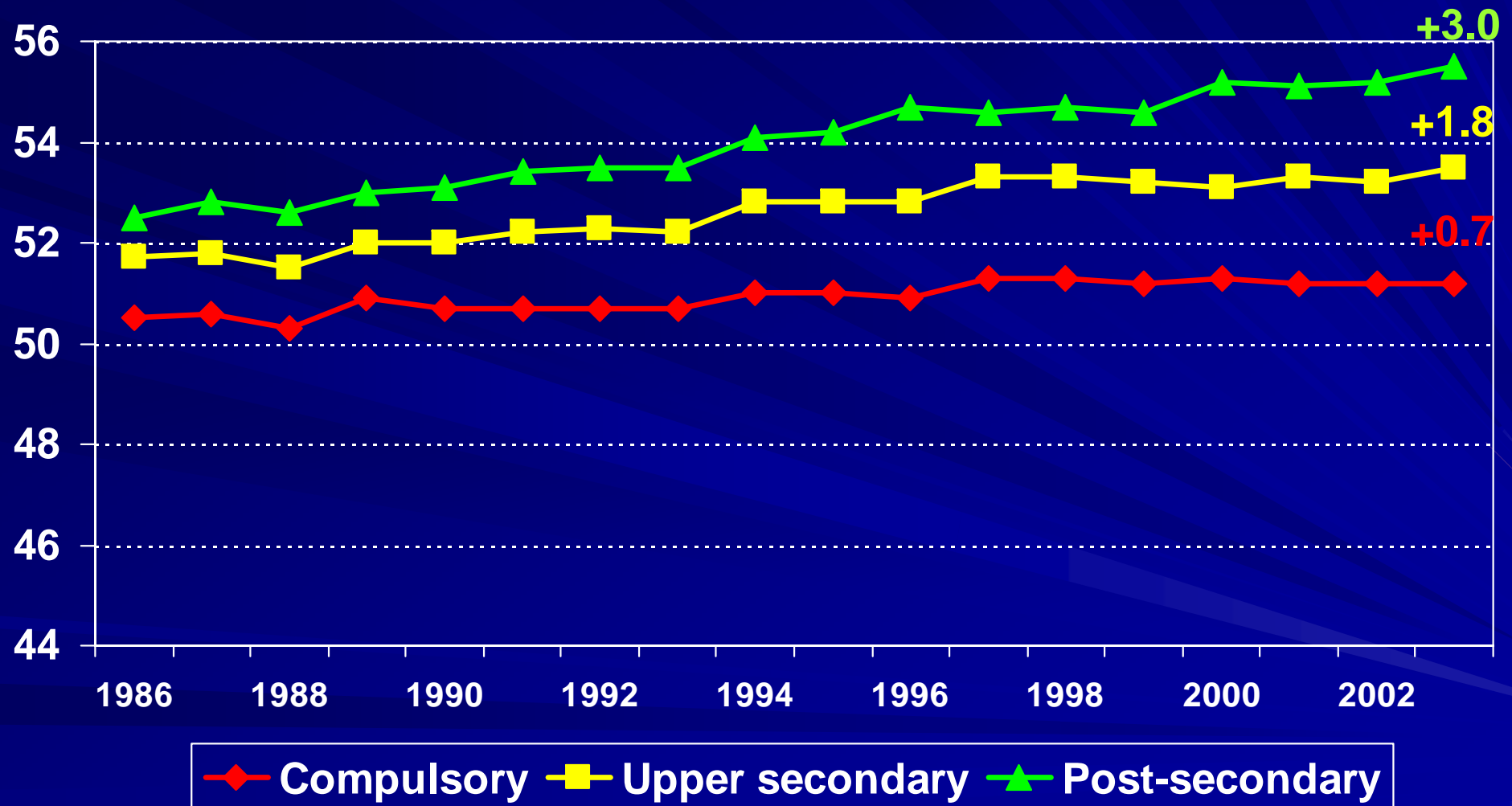
The widening trend in mortality by education in Russia, 1989-2001



45 p20 = probability of living to 65 yrs when aged 20 yrs

Source: Murphy et al, AJP, 96, 1293-9, 2006

Sweden: Life Expectancy at age 30 by level of education, 1986 – 2003, women



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CSDH – Areas for Action

**Structural drivers of those conditions
at global, national and local level**

**Conditions in which people are
born, grow, live, work and age**

Monitoring, Training, Research

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CSDH – Areas for Action

Health Equity in all Policies

Fair Financing

**Good Global
Governance**

**Early child development and
education**

Healthy Places

Fair Employment

Social Protection

Universal Health Care

**Market
Responsibility**

Gender Equity

**Political empowerment
– inclusion and voice**

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Actions to tackle the social determinants should be evidence based

- What constitutes evidence?

Different kinds of research

**Qualitative/quantitative
epidemiological**

Analytical epidemiological

Economic analysis

Case studies

**Randomised
control trials**

Observational

**Policy
analysis**

Research across sectors

- Economic
- Social
- Political
- Biological
- Medical
- Psychosocial
-

Research at different levels of societal organisation

- Global
- Regional
- National
- Sub-national
- Community
- Individual
- Voice

- Evidence not as good as we would like
- We know enough to take action
- Actions need to be evaluated

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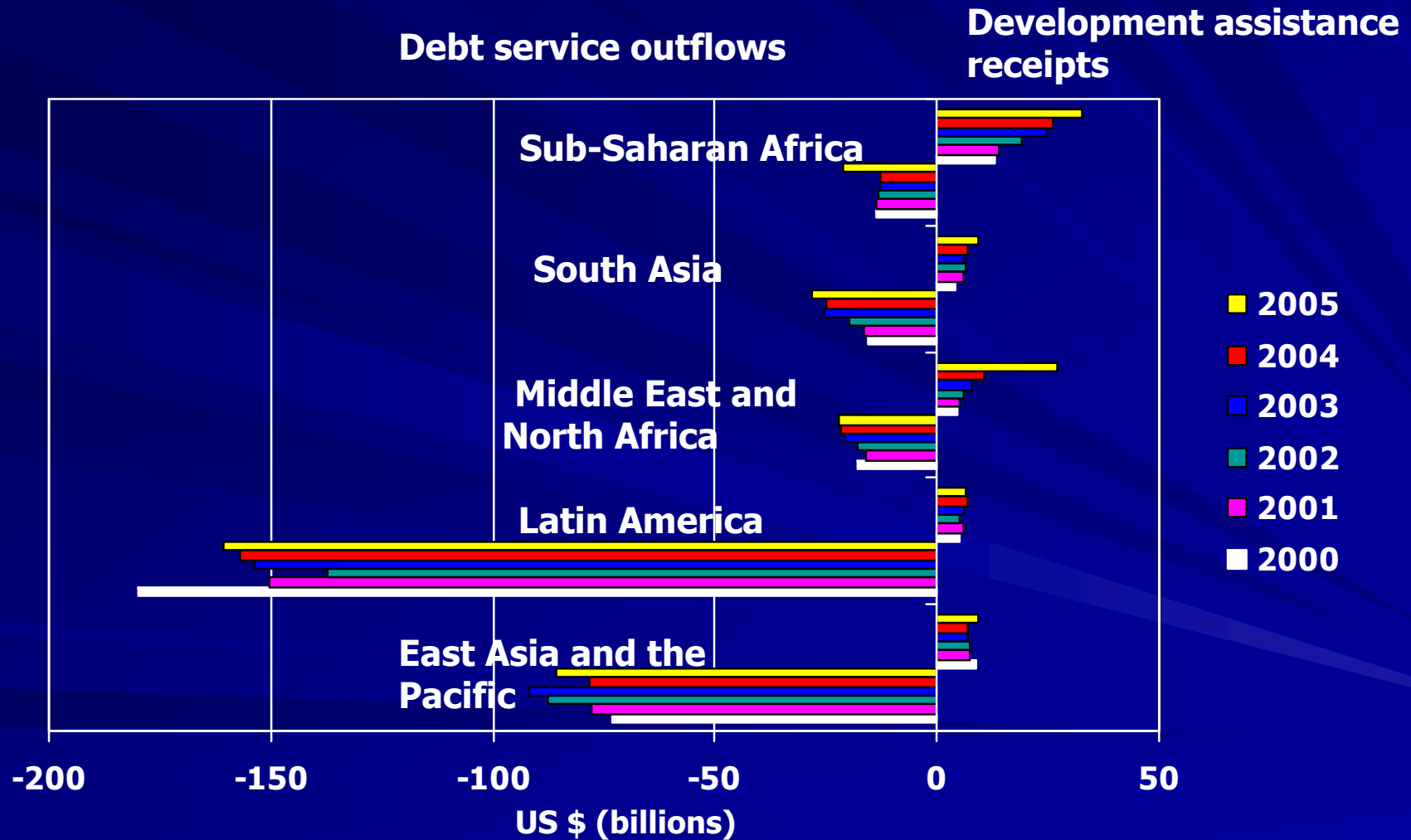
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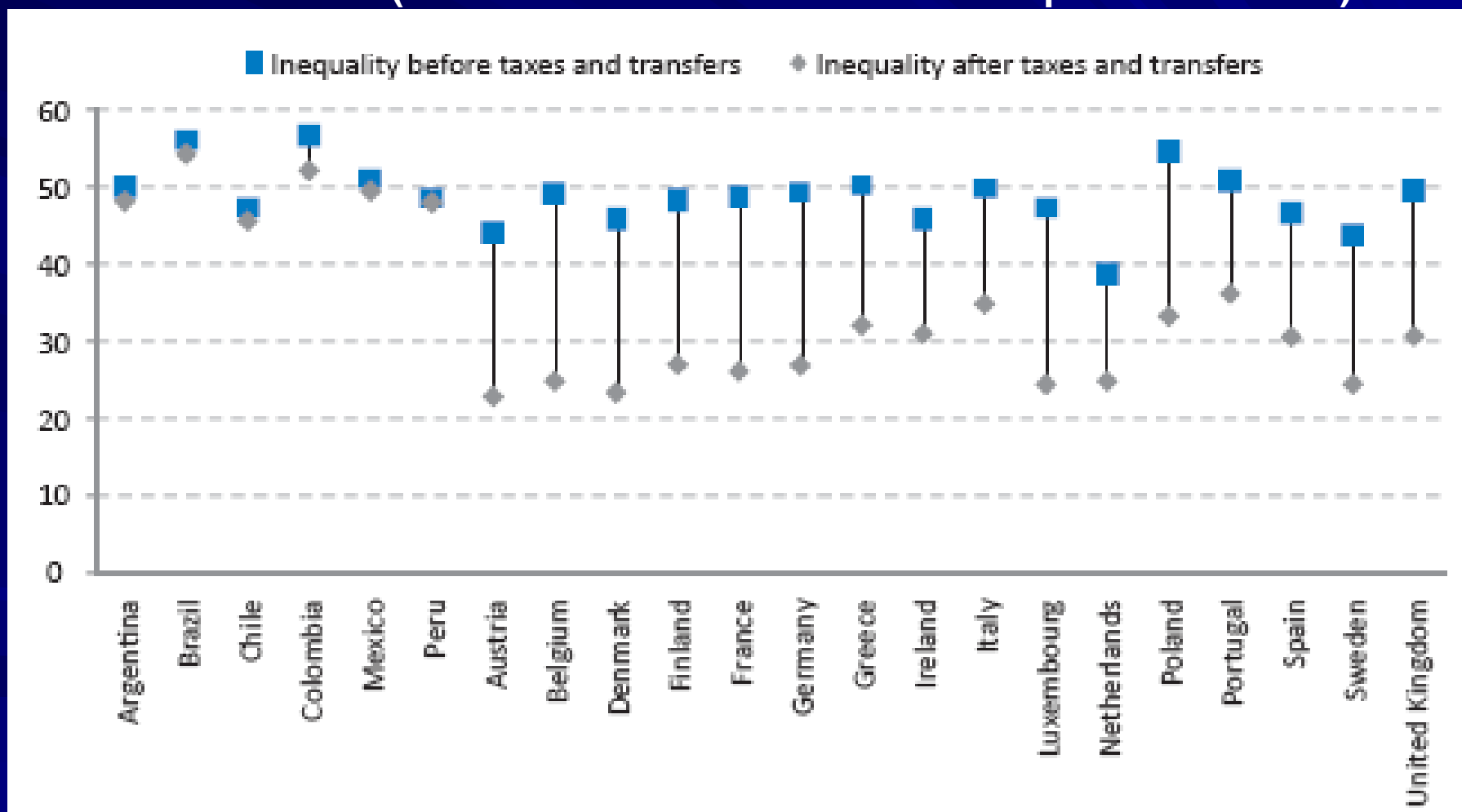
Debt service and development assistance, by region, 2000 - 2005



Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators (accessed March, 2008)

Income Inequality and Fiscal Redistribution: selected LAC and European Countries

(Gini coefficients of market and disposable income)



Source: Latin American Economic Outlook 2009, OECD

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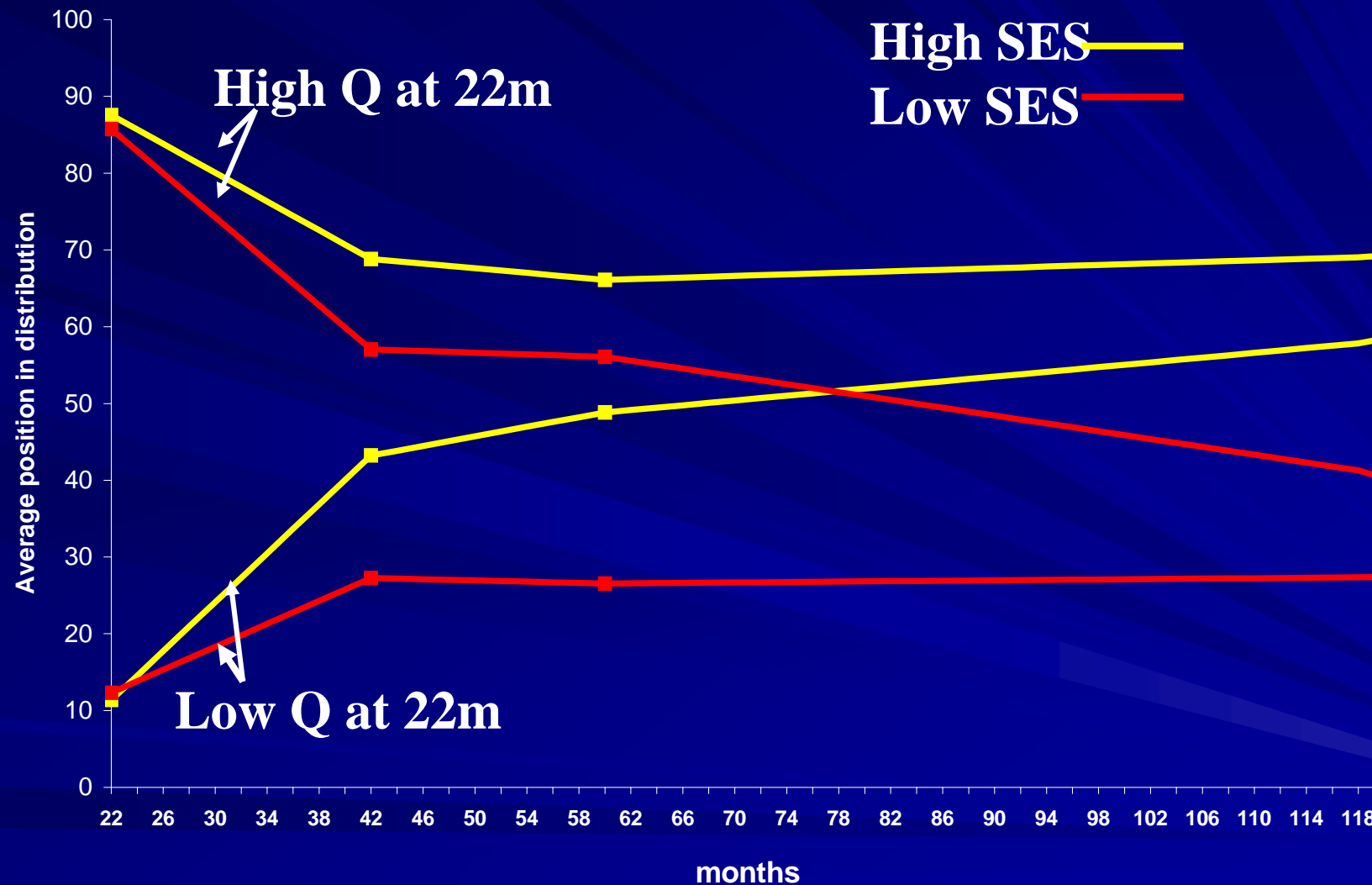
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- Child survival and early child development
- Physical, cognitive/language, social/emotional

Inequality in Early Cognitive Development of British Children in the 1970 Cohort, 22 months to 10 years



Source: Feinstein, L. (2003) 'Inequality in the Early Cognitive Development of British Children in the 1970 Cohort', *Economica* (70) 277, 73-97

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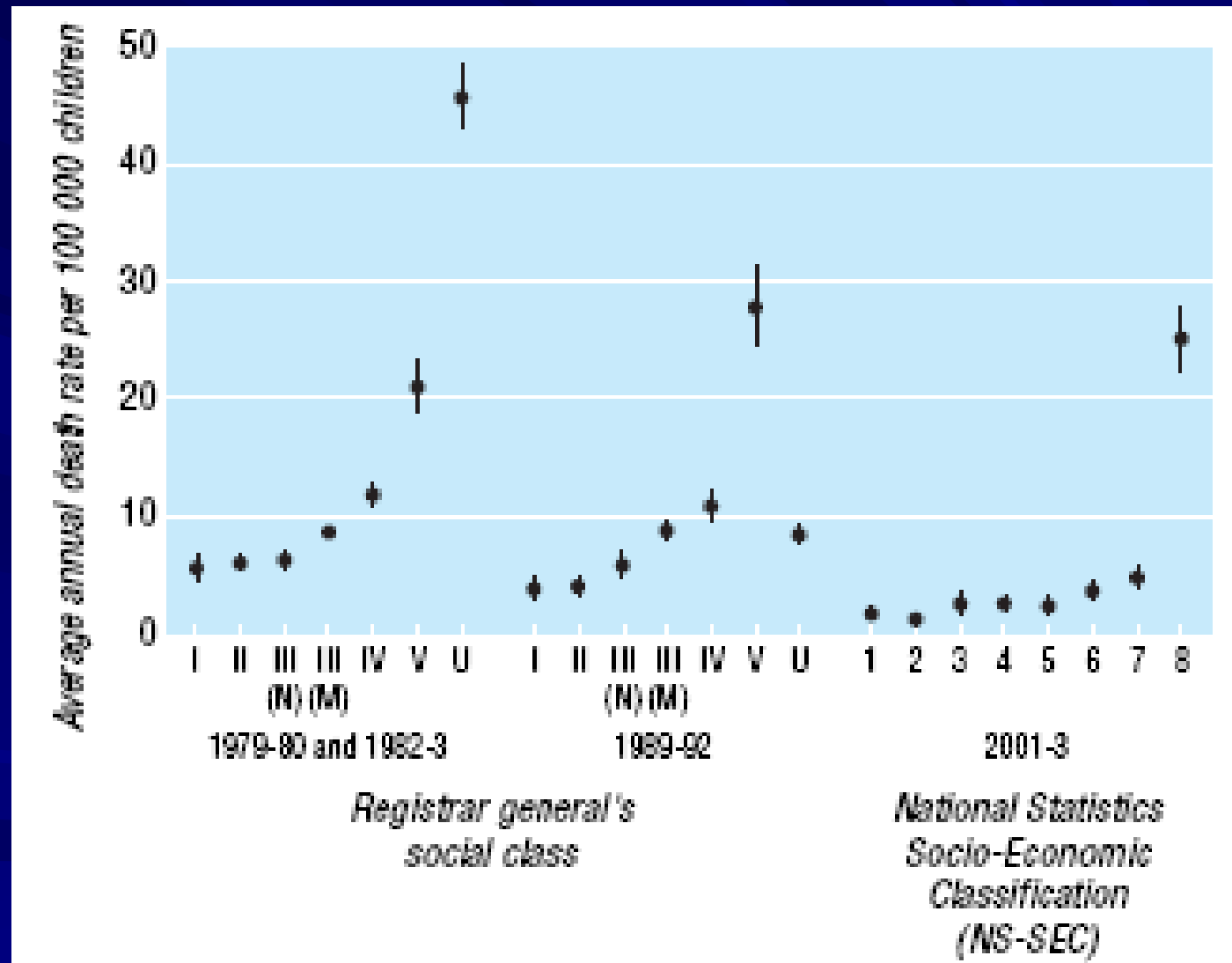
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Average annual death rate from injury per 100 000 children aged 0-15 years in England and Wales at three points in time



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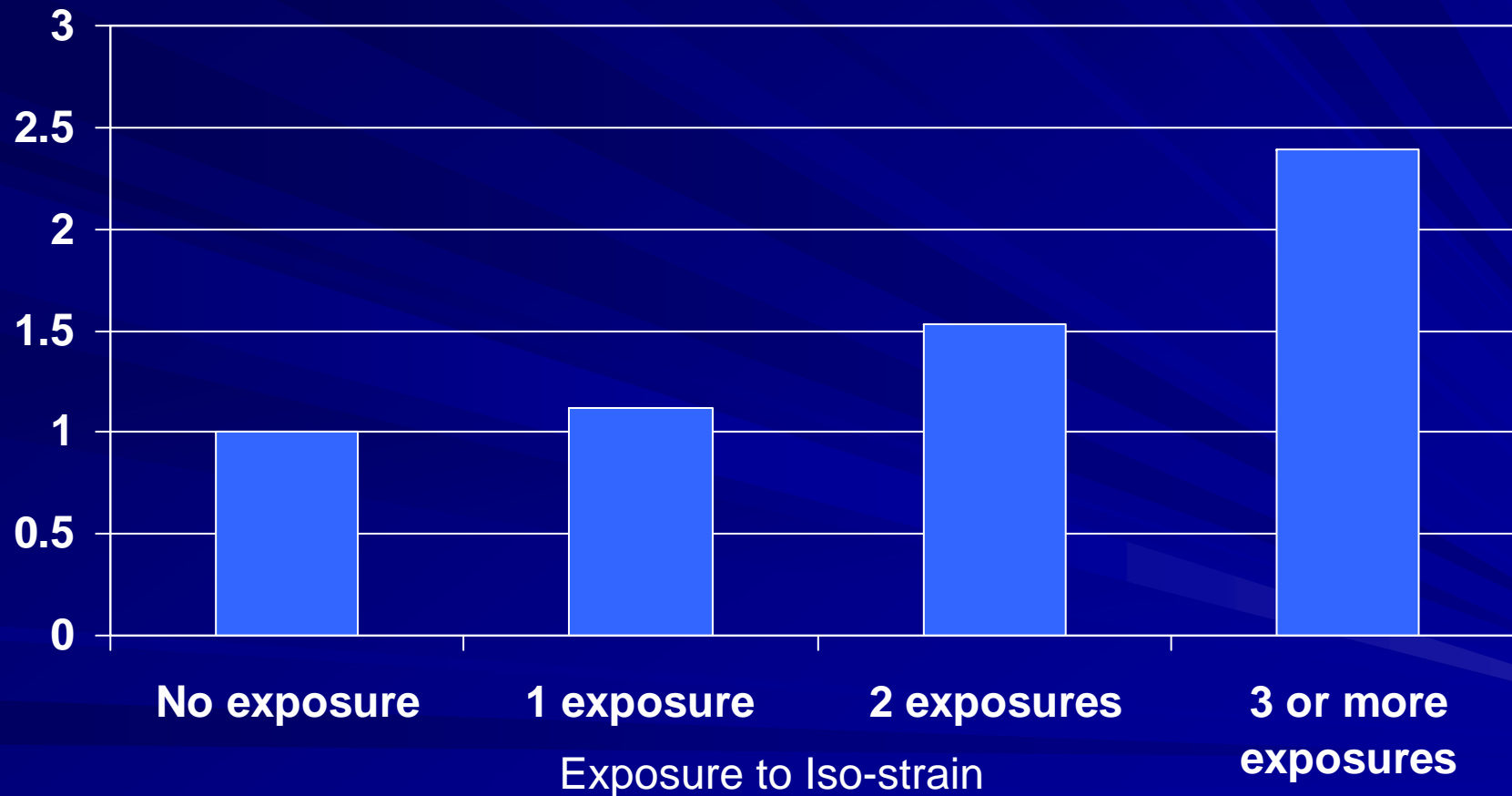
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ODDS RATIO* OF METABOLIC SYNDROME BY EXPOSURE TO ISO-STRAIN: WHITEHALL II PHASES 1 TO 5

Odds Ratio



*Adj. for age, employment, grade and health behaviours

Chandola, Brunner & Marmot, BMJ, 2006

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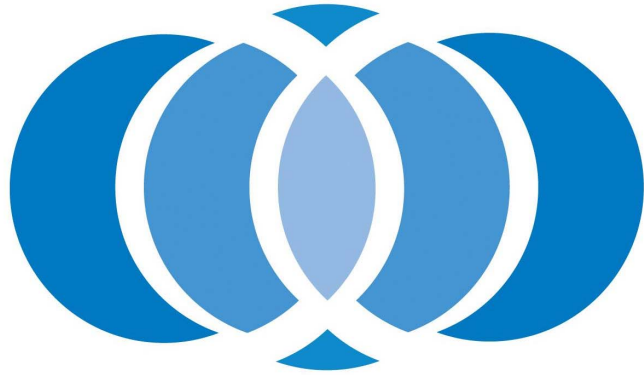
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**A world
where social
justice is
taken
seriously**

www.who.int/social_determinants/en

Commission on Social Determinants of Health FINAL REPORT | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



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