



TIME USE STATISTICS: Measuring wellbeing & progress

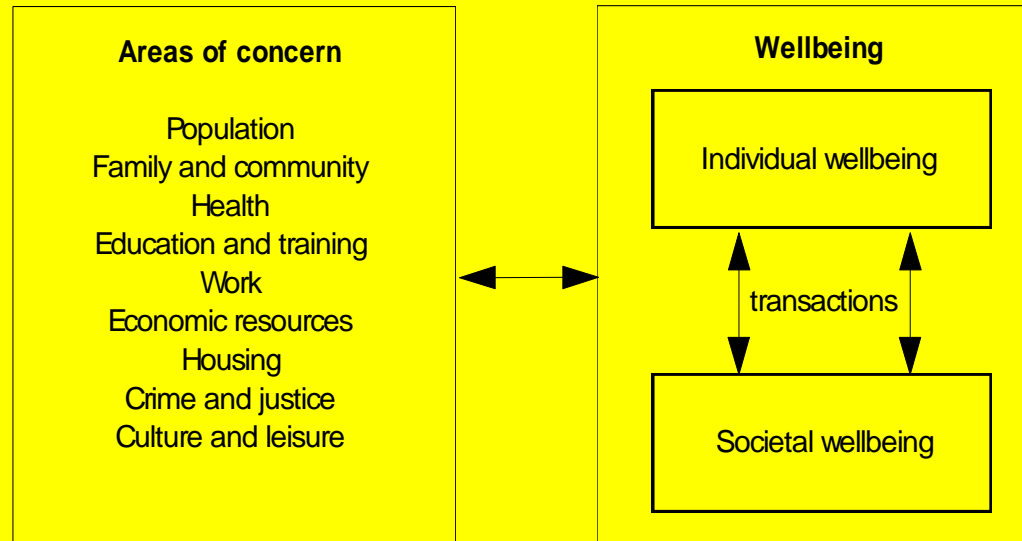
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What is wellbeing?

- Dynamic mix consisting of:
 - Natural environment
 - Human made environment
 - Social arrangements
 - Human consciousness
- State of health or sufficiency in all aspects of life

Wellbeing Framework

A FRAMEWORK FOR MEASURING WELLBEING



Social Inclusion

‘...all Australians feel valued and have the opportunity to participate fully in the life of our society.’

- Learn
- Work
- Engage
- Voice

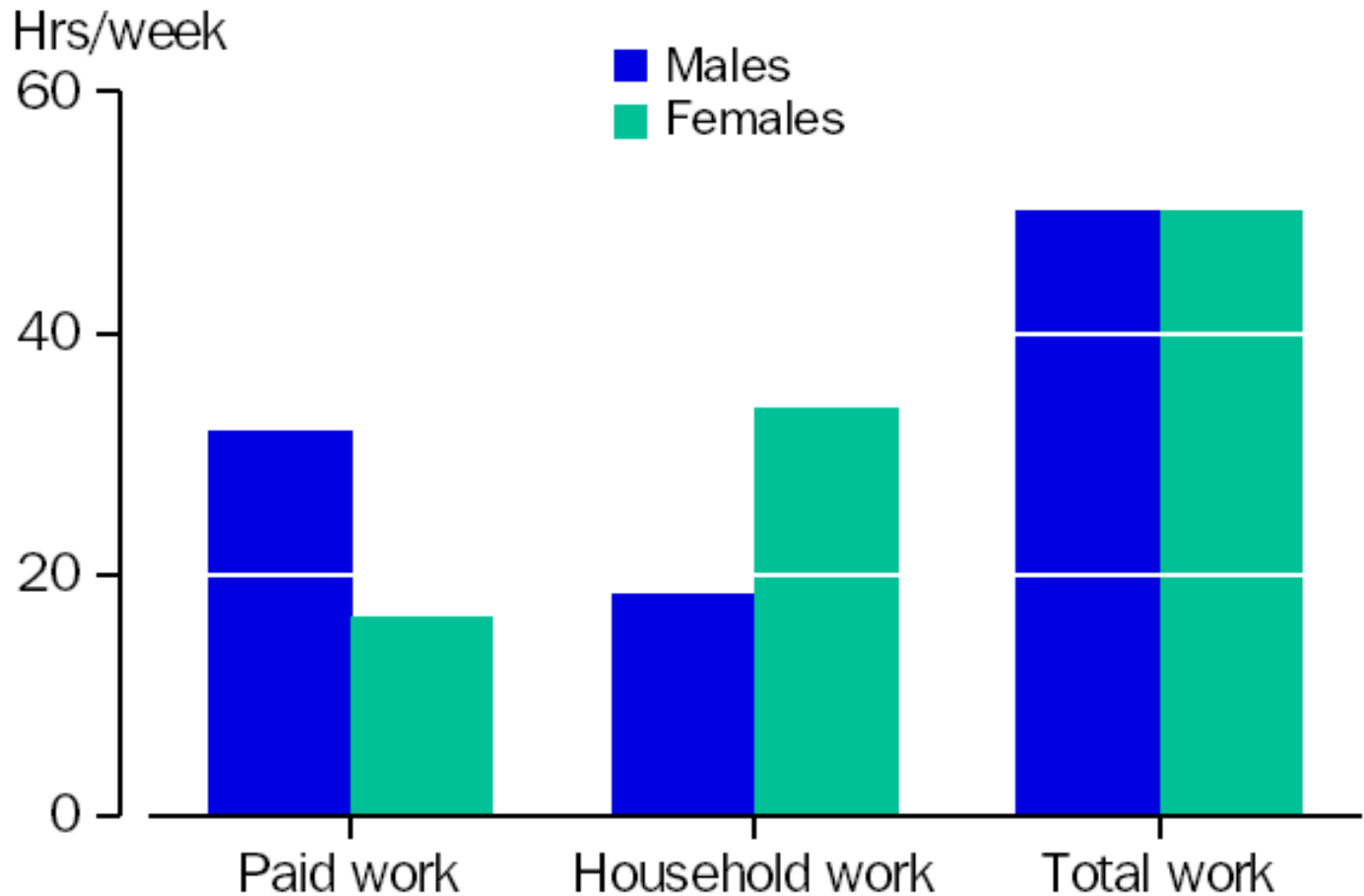
Time Use as a Social Indicator

- Everyone has 24 hours in a day
 - Demands vary greatly from person to person
- Differences due to personal choice
 - Other characteristics have determining effect: Life-cycle stage, family commitments, sex.

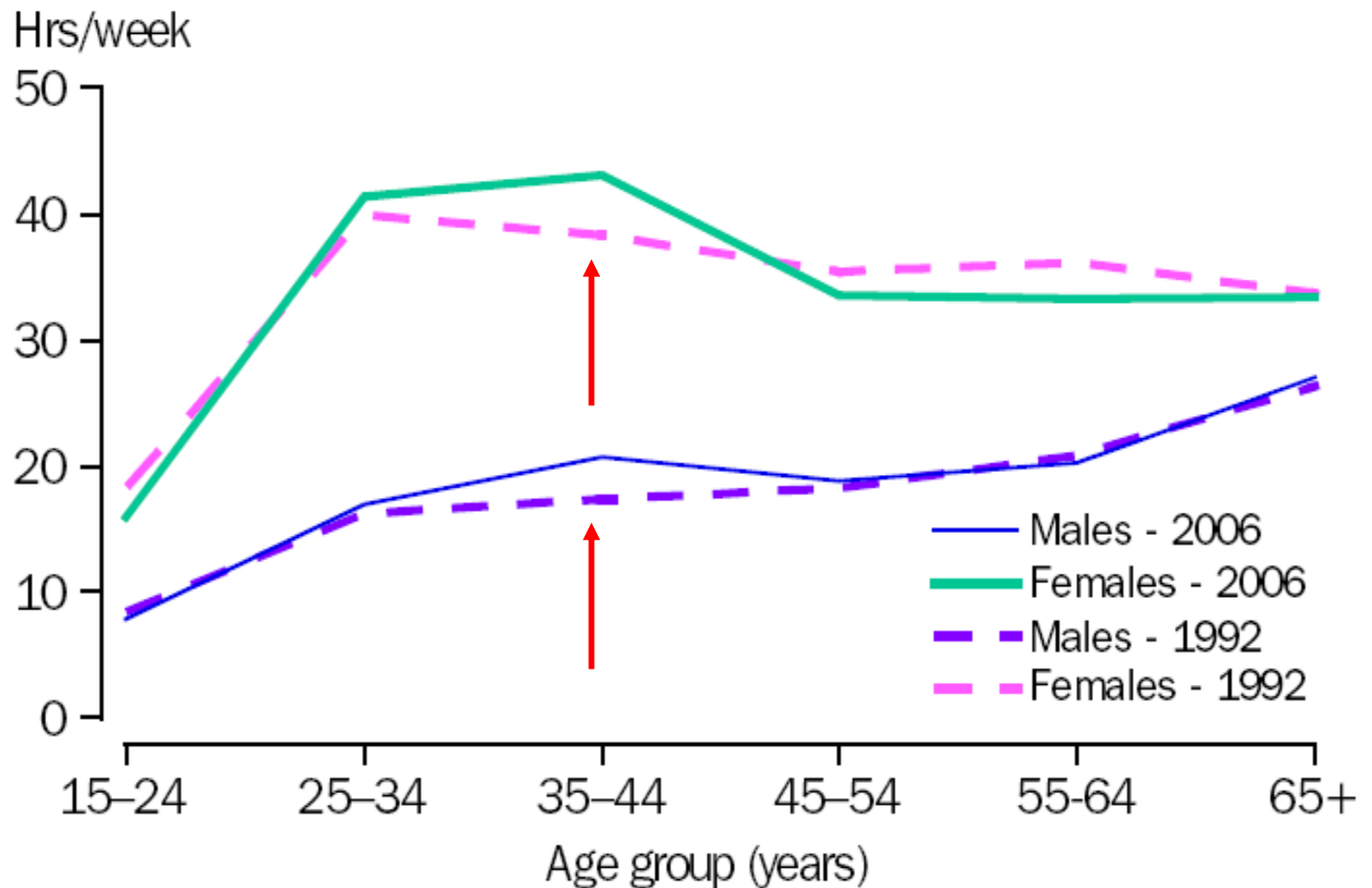
Time Use Survey

- 1992, 1997 & 2006
- Next survey 2013

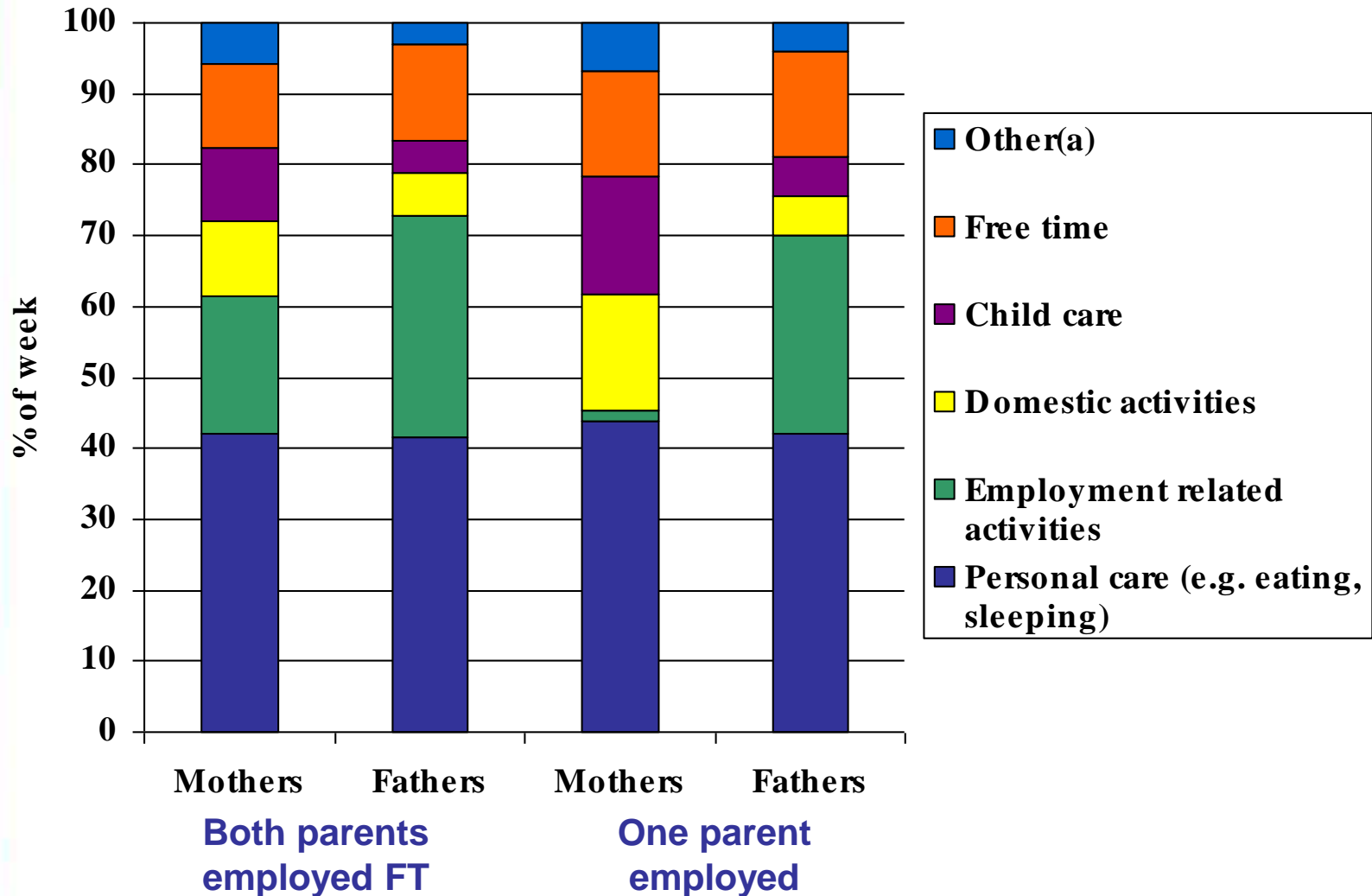
Paid work vs Household work, 2006



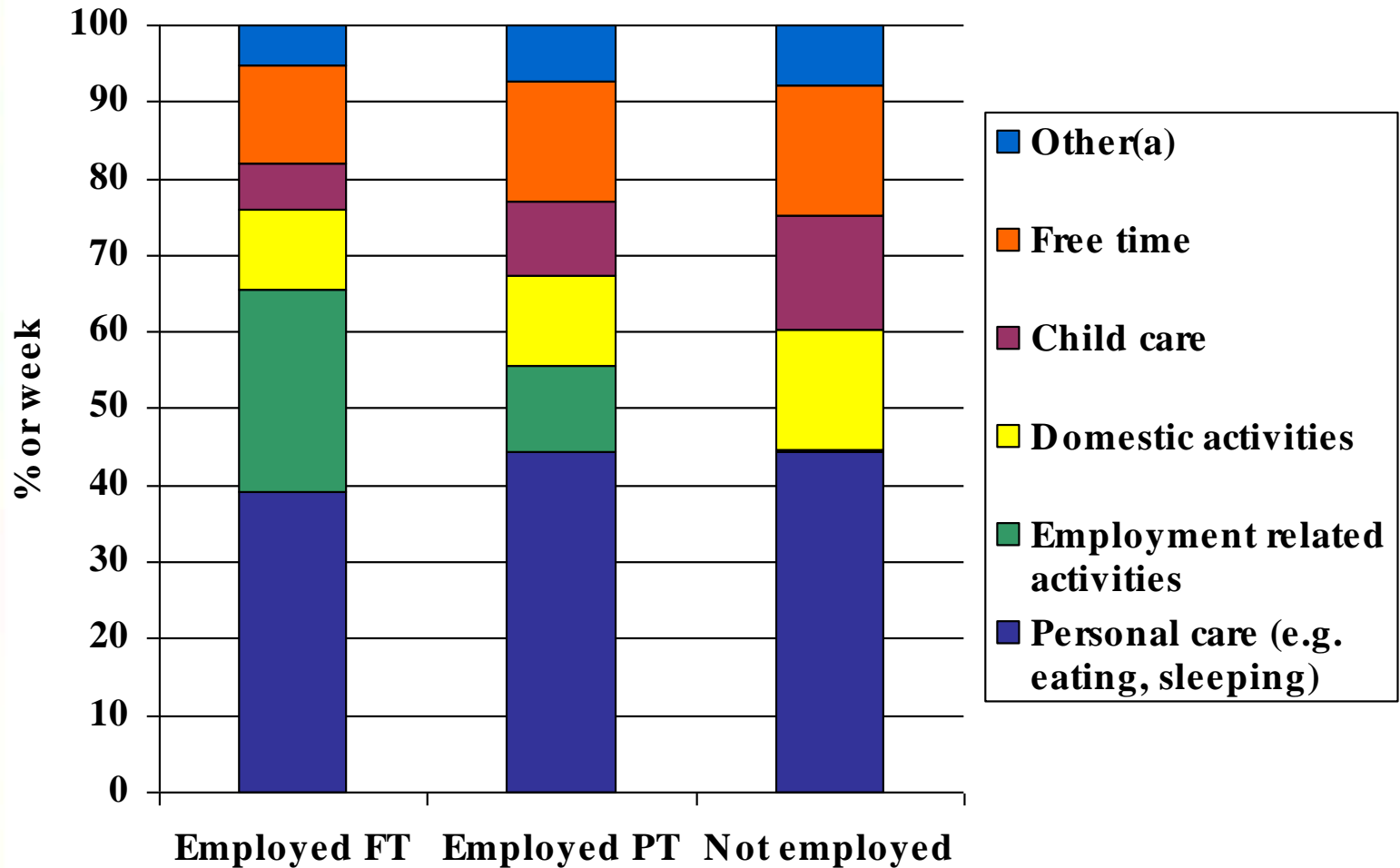
Time spent on household work—by sex and age



Couple families



Lone parents



How do children spend their time?

- Longitudinal Study of Australian Children
- Explores family and social issues, and addresses a range of research questions about children's development and wellbeing.

Working Moms and Cuddle Time, New York Times, October 20
2009

- A publication that provides statistical evidence about whether life in Australia is getting better
- Uses a suite of indicators to describe progress

IS LIFE IN AUSTRALIA GETTING BETTER?
SOCIETY • THE ECONOMY • THE ENVIRONMENT

www.abs.gov.au/about/progress

*The 3rd OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policy"
Busan, Korea – 27–30 October 2009*

Dimensions of MAP

- **Health**
- **Education and Training**
- **Work**
- **Culture and Leisure**
- **Family, community and social cohesion**
- **Crime**
- **Democracy, governance and citizenship**
- **Communication**
- **Transport**
- **National Income**
- **Economic Hardship**
- **National Wealth**
- **Housing**
- **Productivity**
- **Competitiveness and Openness**
- **Inflation**
- **The natural landscape**
- **The air and atmosphere**
- **Oceans and Estuaries**

Future directions for MAP

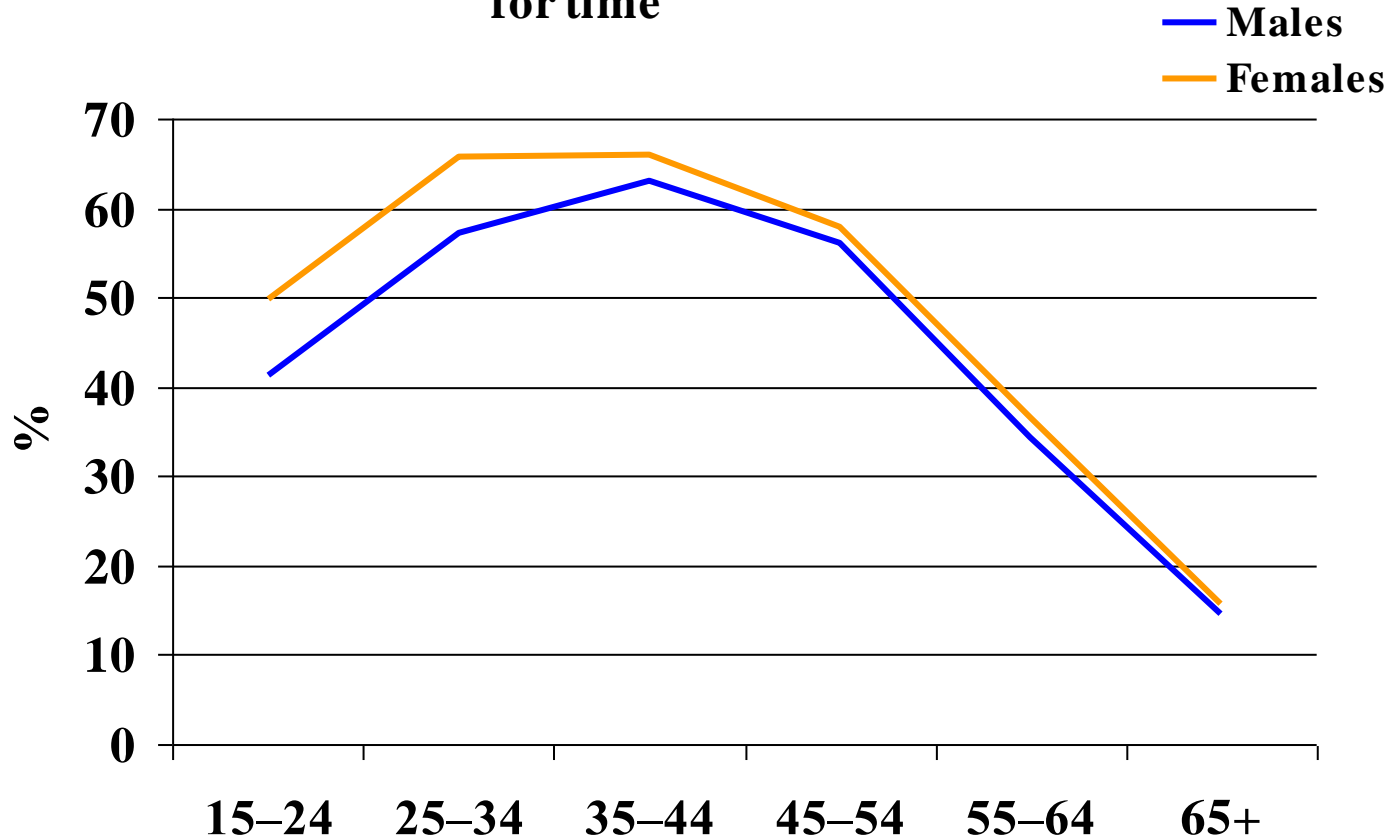
- Interest in people who have too little time and too much
- Can we consider time as the comparable measure for non-market activities

2006 Time Use Survey

- New questions
 - Satisfaction with time spent alone or with other people
 - Feelings of time stress
 - How often has too much time

Time Use Survey ... results

Proportion who always/often feel rushed or pressed
for time



Reasons for time stress

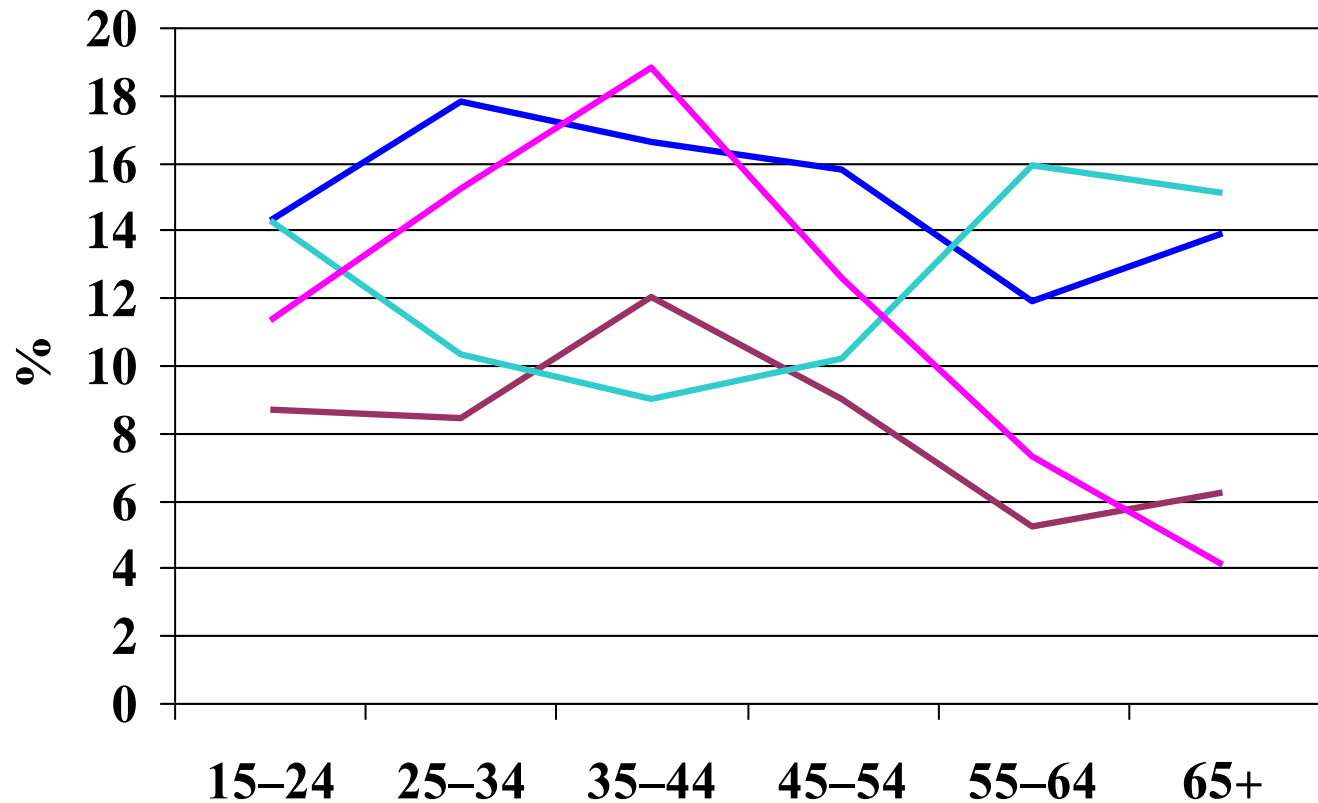
		<i>Work/Family responsibilities (%)</i>	<i>Pressure of work/study (%)</i>	<i>Demands of family (%)</i>
Males	15–24	36	46	2*
	25–34	62	22	1*
	35–44	69	11	3*
	45–54	68	16	1*
	55–64	44	17	6*
Females	15–24	41	45	3*
	25–34	54	12	23
	35–44	73	5	17
	45–54	72	7	10
	55–64	49	10	11

* RSE greater than 25%

Time Use Survey ... results

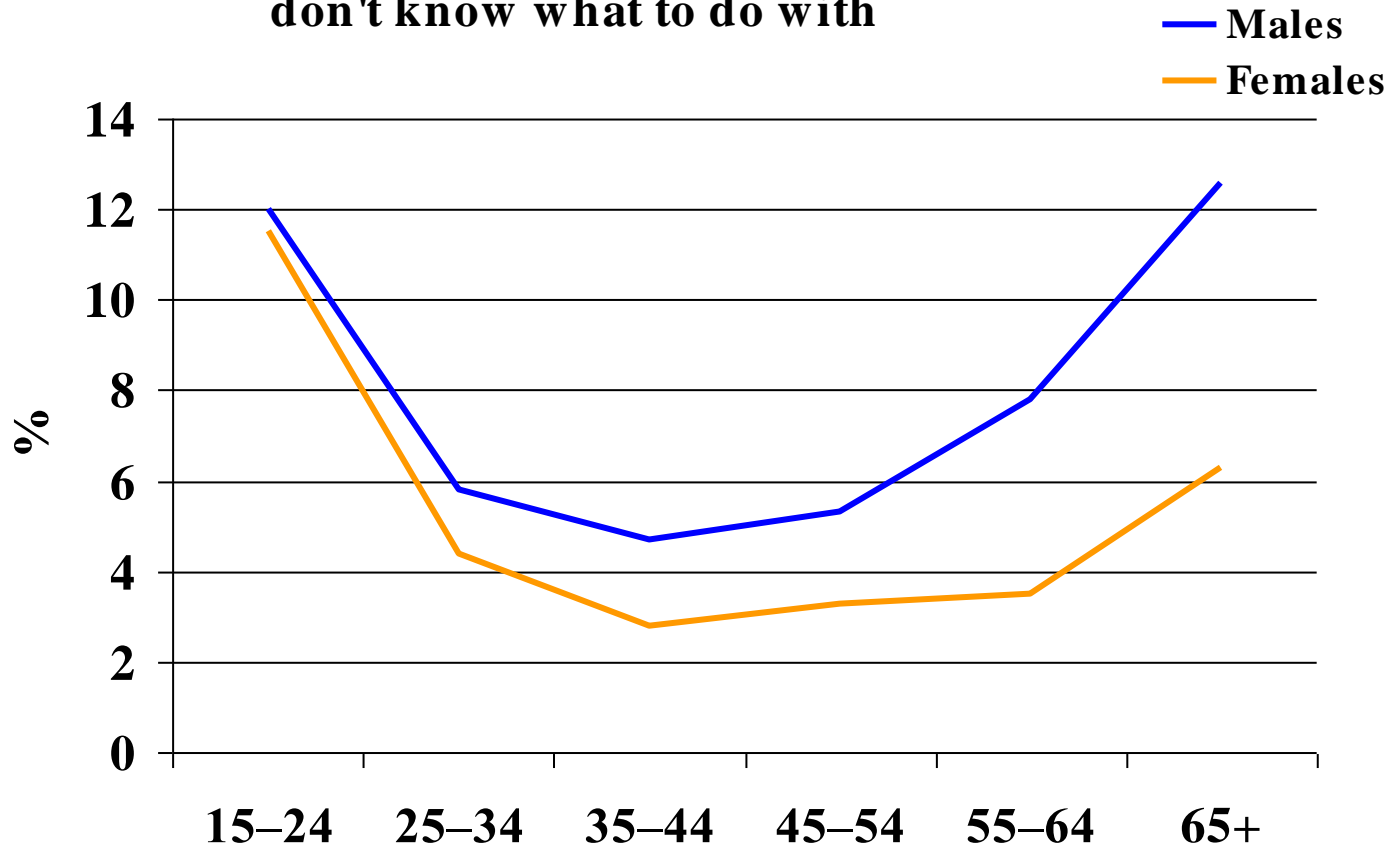
Proportion who prefer less time alone or more time alone

- Males less
- Males more
- Females less
- Females more



Time Use Survey ... results

Proportion who always/often has spare time they
don't know what to do with



Time: non-market activities

UNPAID WORK \$261 billion (AUD)

- 48% of Australia's GDP
- Value increased 16% from 1992
- Proportion of GDP fell 6pp from 54% in 1992.

Satellite Accounts (2006-07)

Non-profit institutions contribute 4.1%
to the Australian Economy

- \$43 billion (AUD)
- Volunteers: \$14.6 billion (AUD)
 - 623 million hours
 - 317,200 FTE jobs

Measuring Progress → Relationship with time

- Difficult to resolve this issue....
 - Is time a measure that is appropriate at a macro level – across society?
 - Is it better used as a focussed measure for particular populations or situations?
 - Can you value time in a standardised way across all the population?
 - Can you define a goal for time?
 - How do you resolve progress when you get time concepts intersecting – age and work/life balance?