COUNTING WOMEN'S WORK IN SOUTH AFRICA

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COUNTING WOMEN'S WORK

DEVELOPMENT POLICY RESEARCH UNIT

NATIONAL TRANSFER ACCOUNTS

Understanding the generational economy

This research is made possible by ``Counting Women's Work'', the multi-country research project sponsored by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

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2. Patterns of time use in South Africa

3. Women's work counted

4. A gender dividend?

5. Demographic change and women's work

6. Conclusion

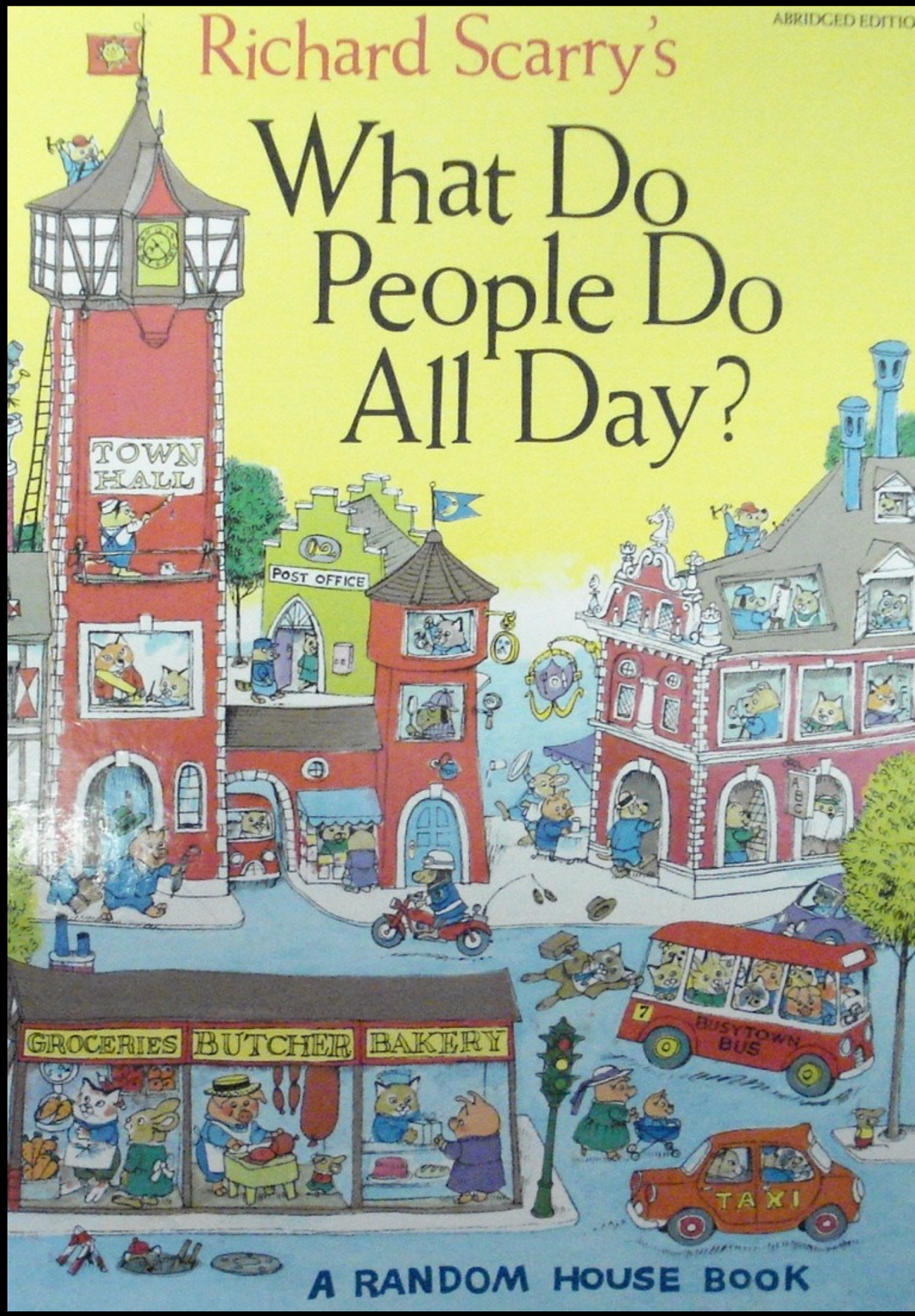
METHODOLOGY

- Third-party criterion (Reid 1934): we group 15 productive activities
- Production
  - Calculate time spent by each respondent across activities
  - Calculate mean time for each sex at each age in each activity
  - Smooth profiles
- Consumption
  - Allocate `production' of the non-market services to `consumers' within and outside the household (per capita, regression, rule-based)
- Transfers in-/out
  - Based on production and consumption

DATA

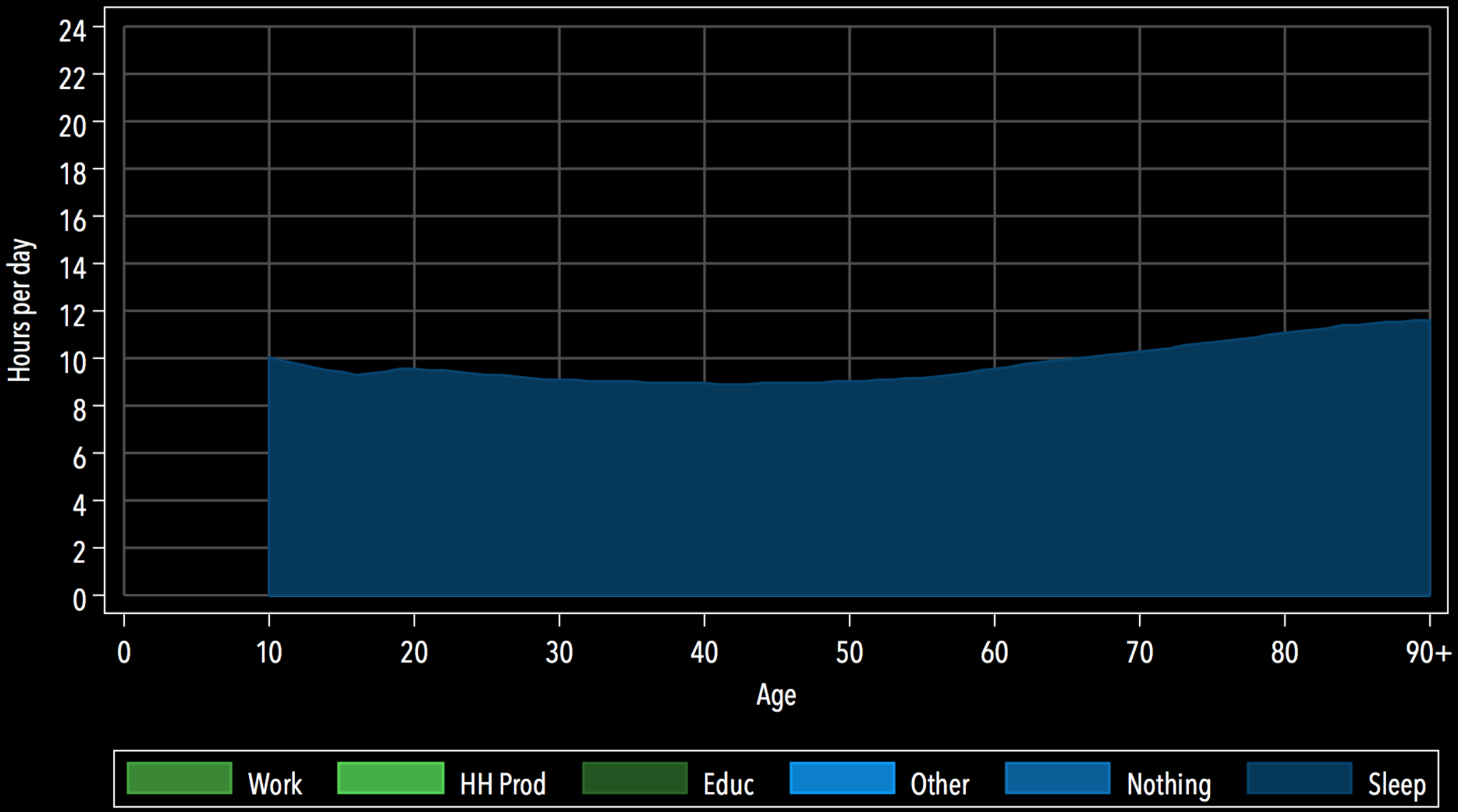
- Time-Use Survey 2010
  - 24-hour day (half-hour slots from 4am); “the day before today"; multitasking means splitting the time
  - Two respondents per household, ages 10+
    - Specific prompts around care
- Labour Market Dynamics Survey 2010
- Income and Expenditure Survey 2010/2011
- National accounts and administrative data

PATTERNS OF TIME USE IN SOUTH AFRICA



WHAT DO PEOPLE DO ALL DAY?

TIME USE BY AGE



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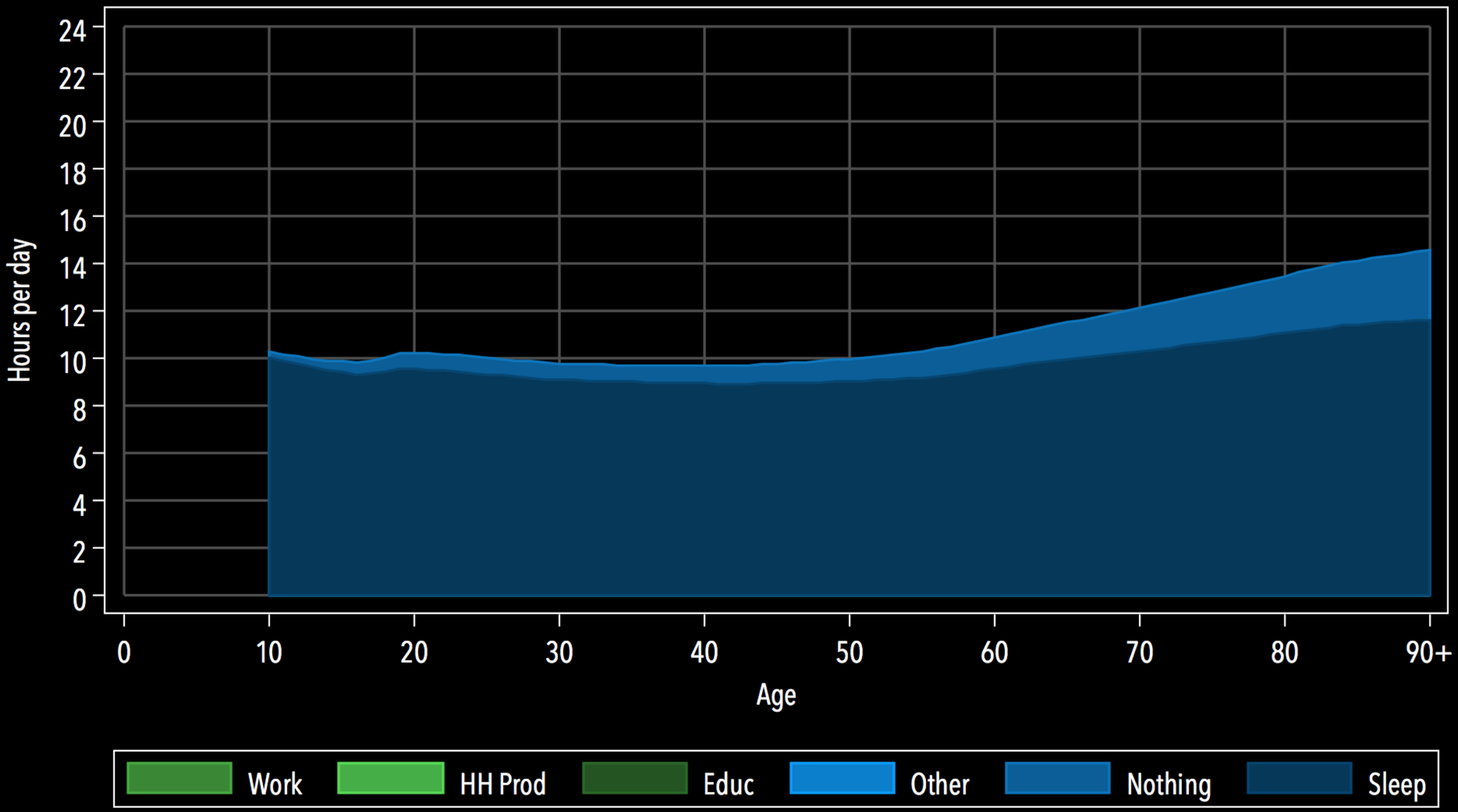

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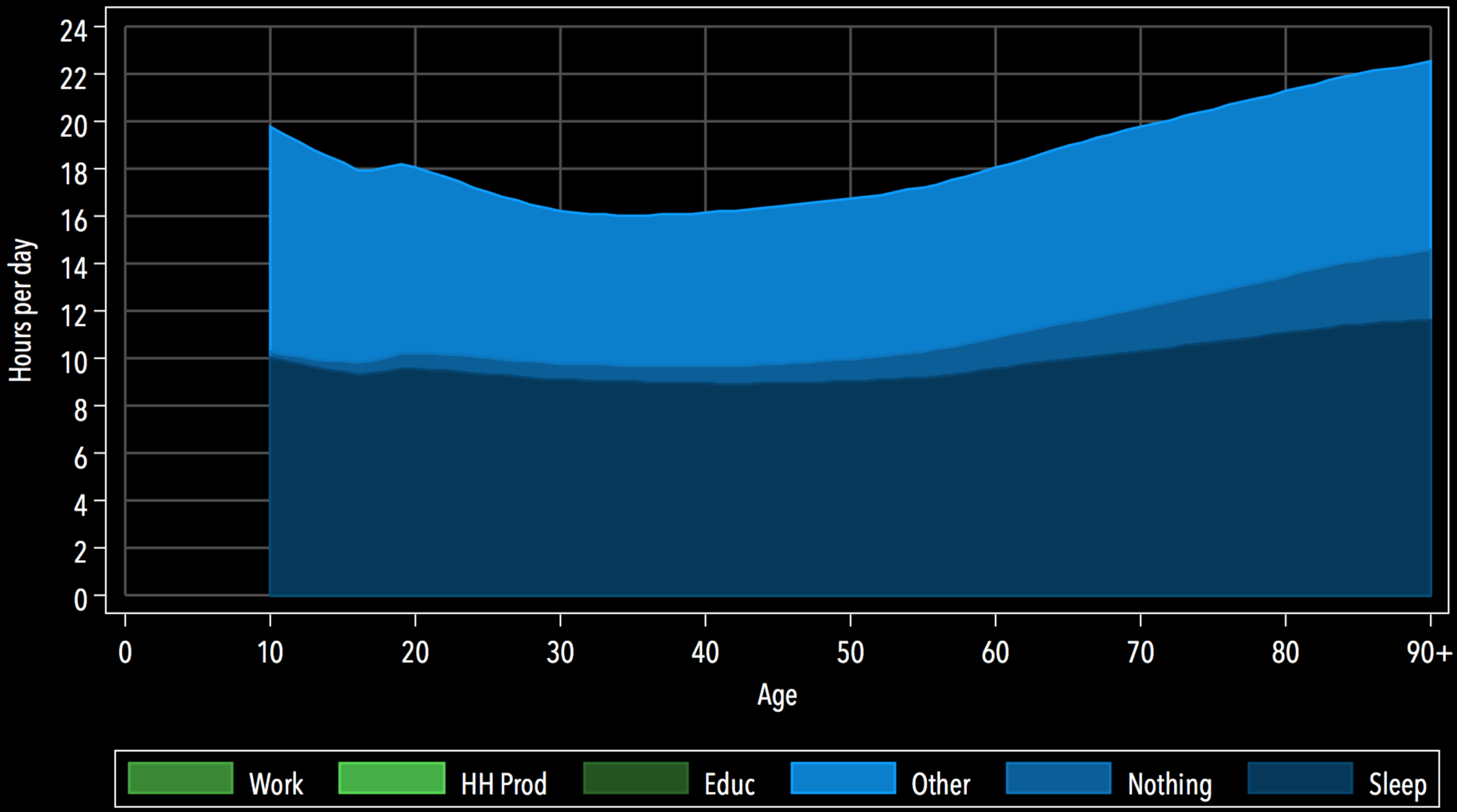

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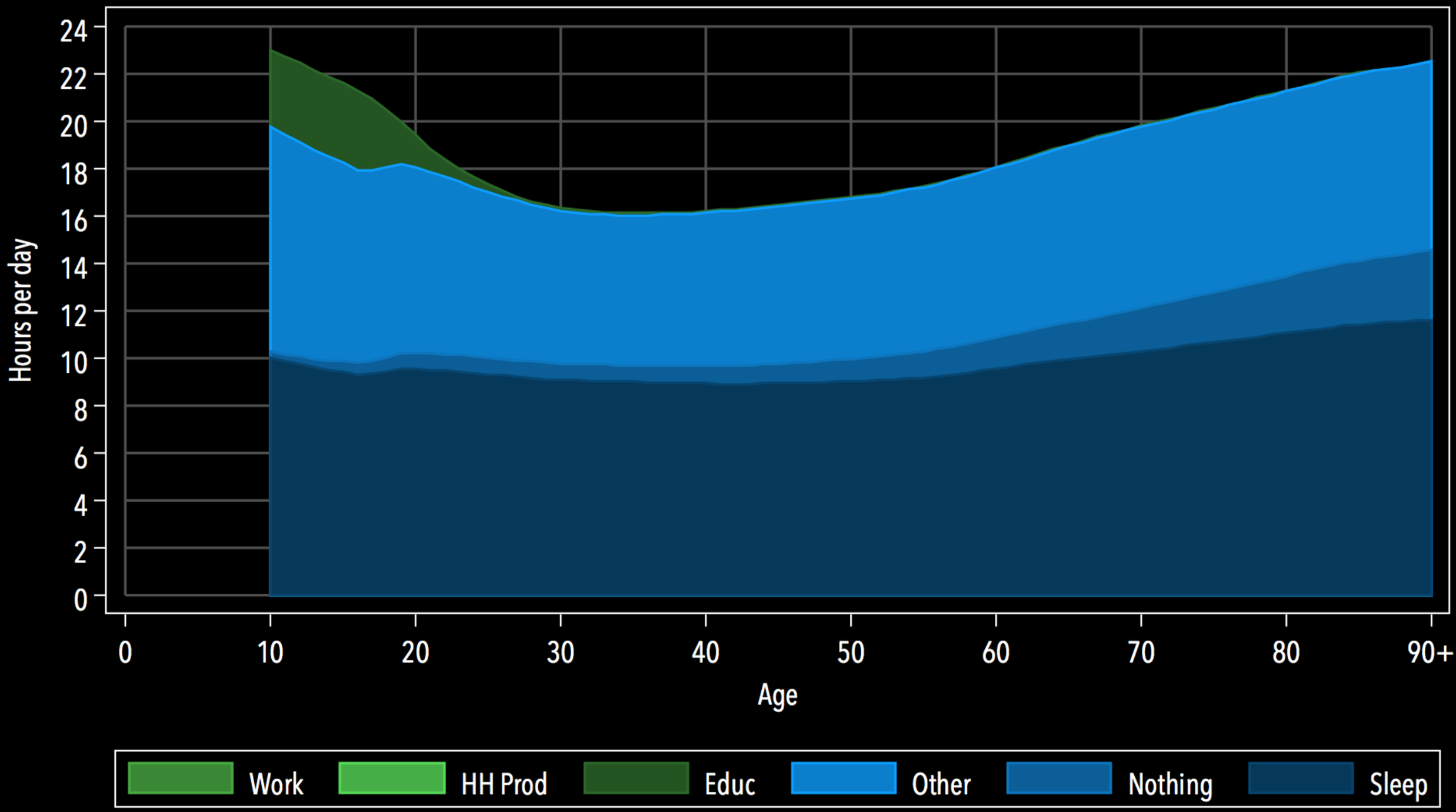

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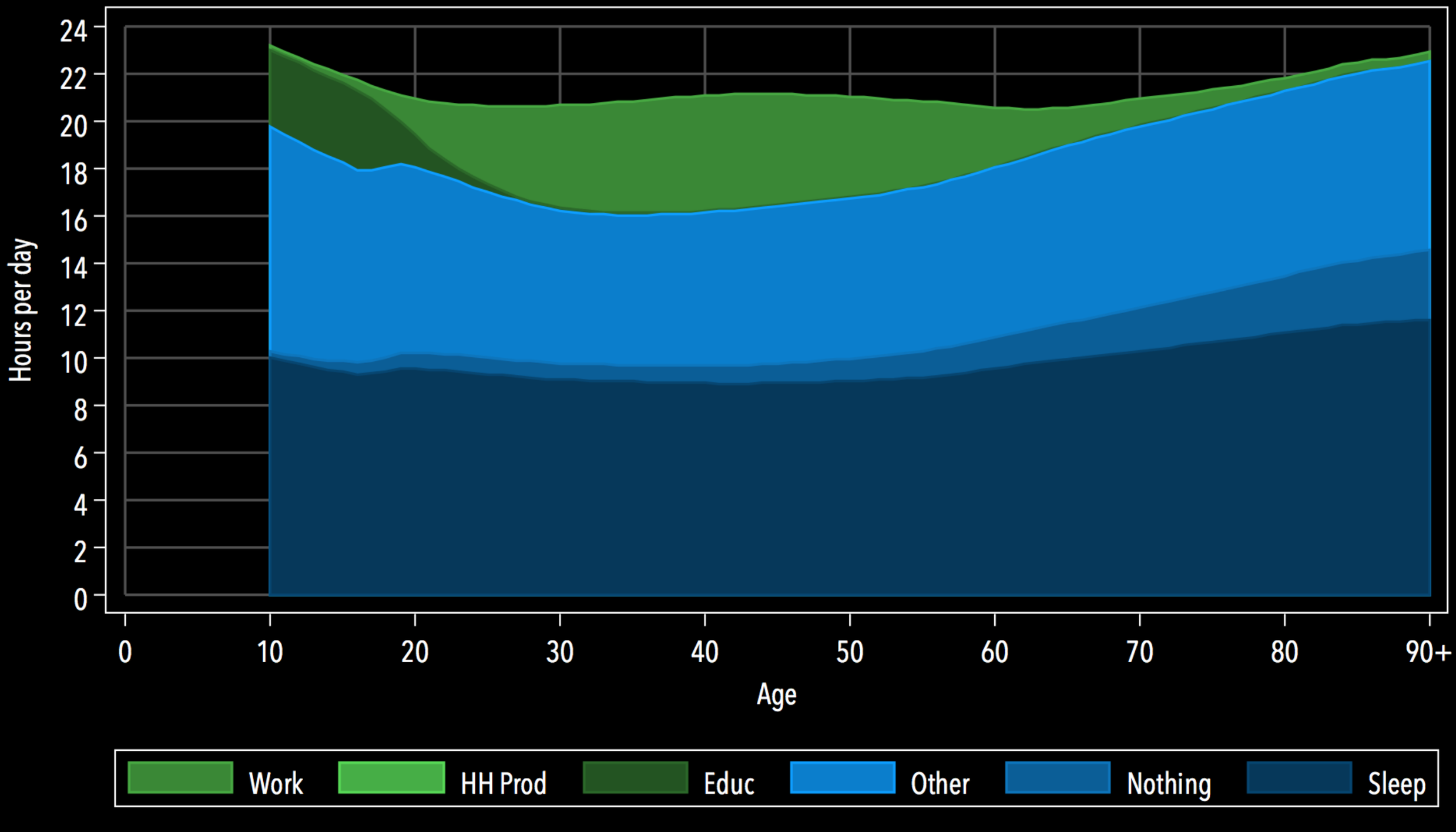

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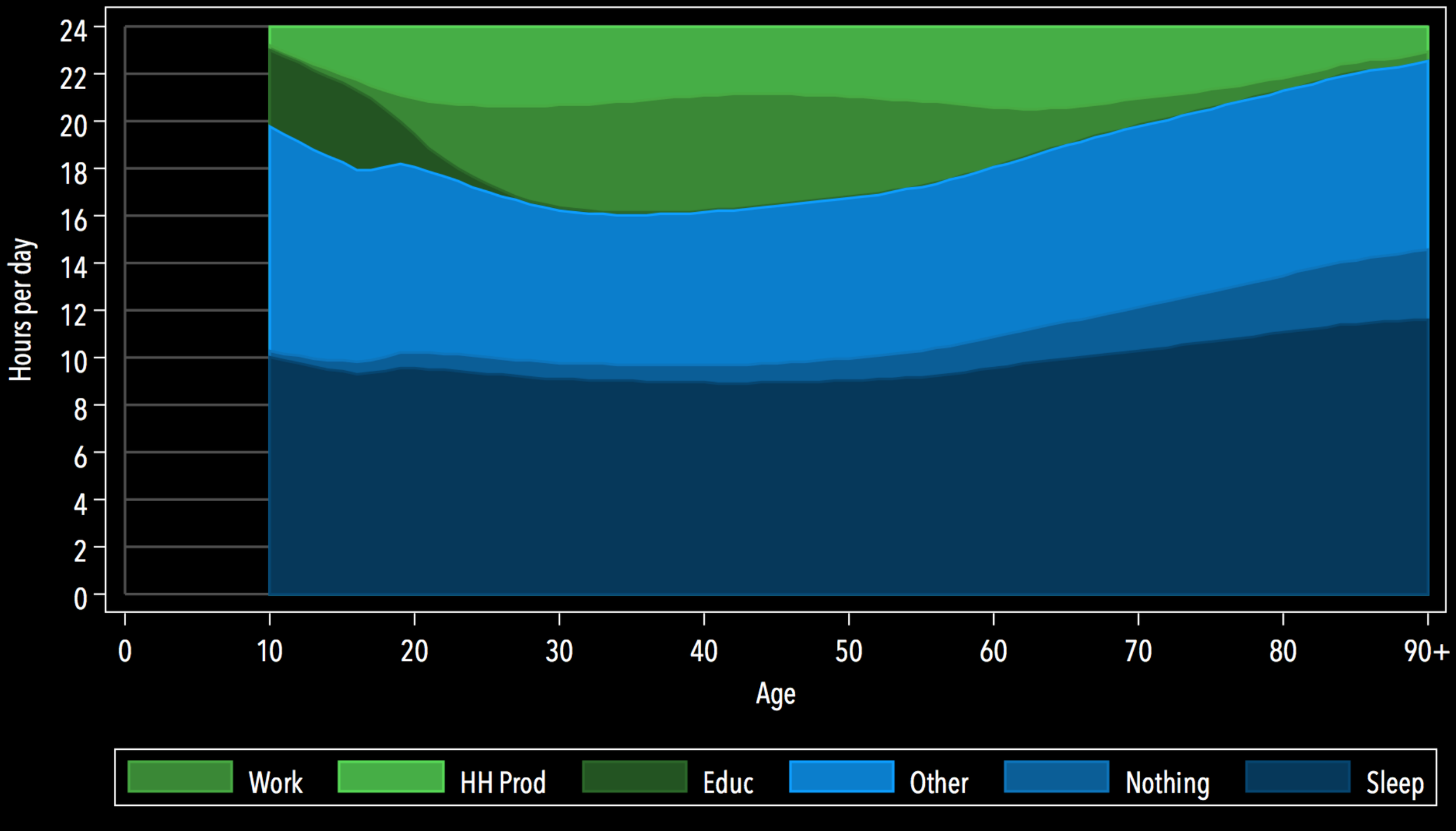
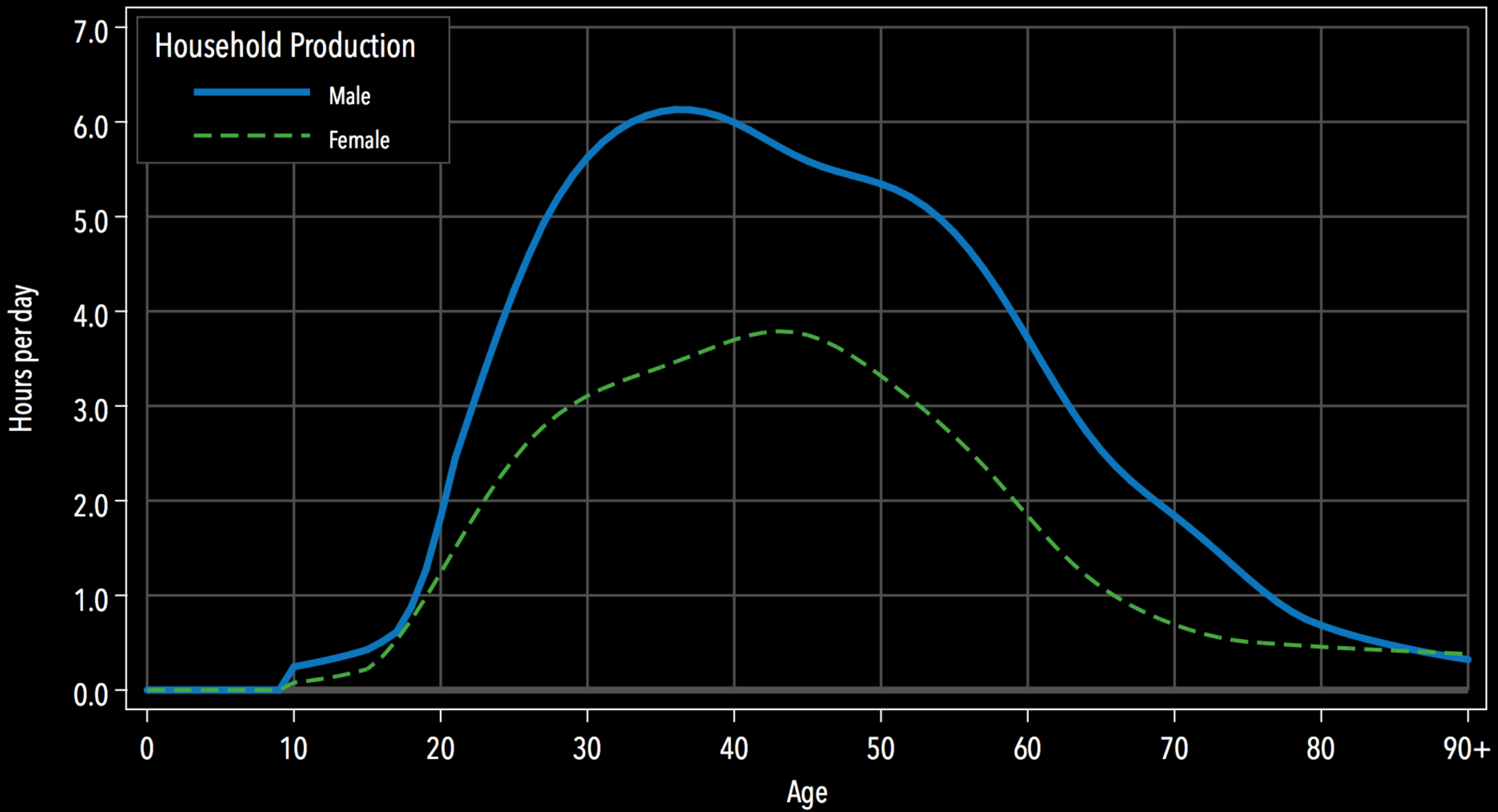


TIME SPENT IN CARE AND HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES

TIME USE BY AGE BY SEX



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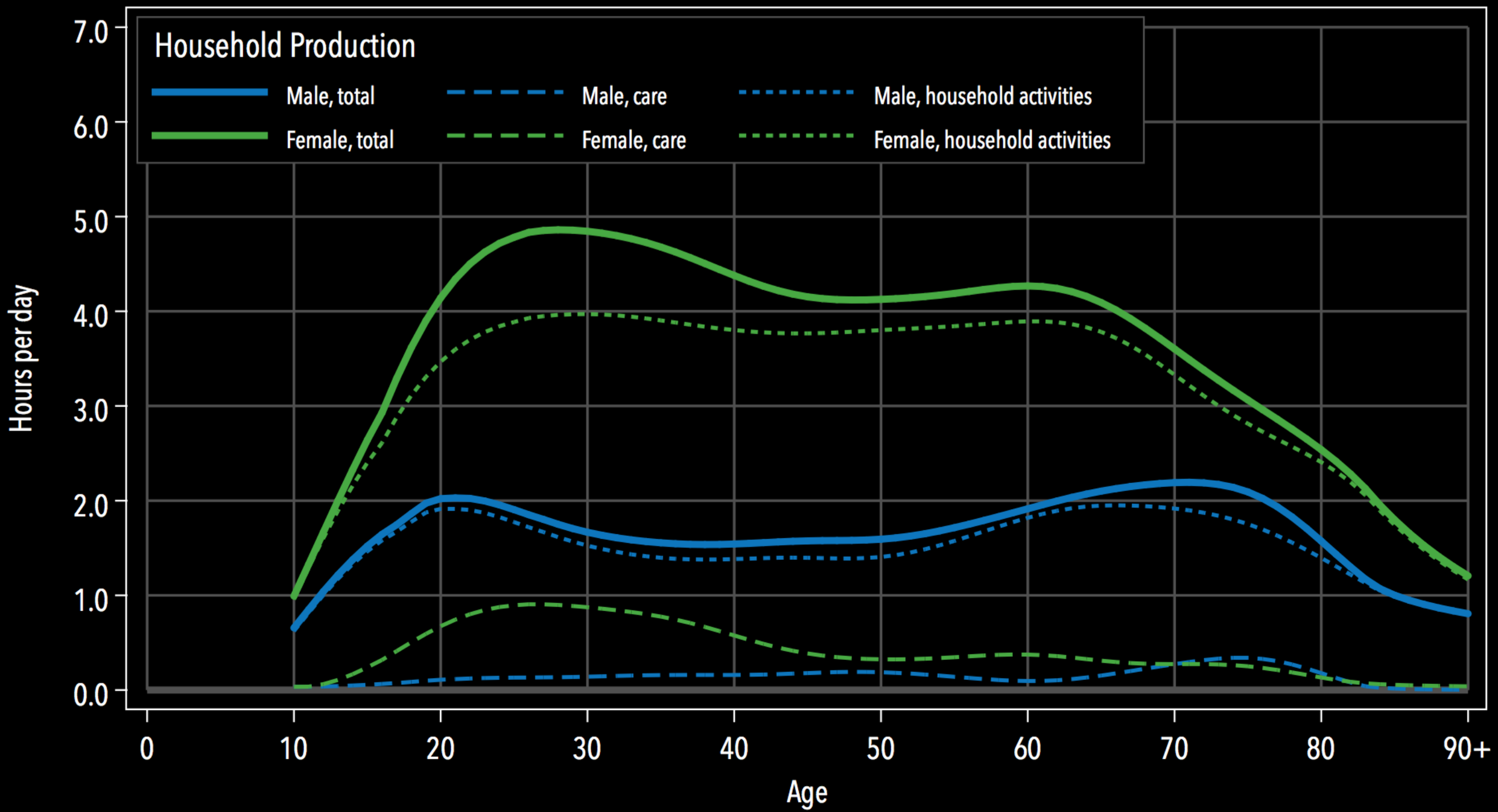
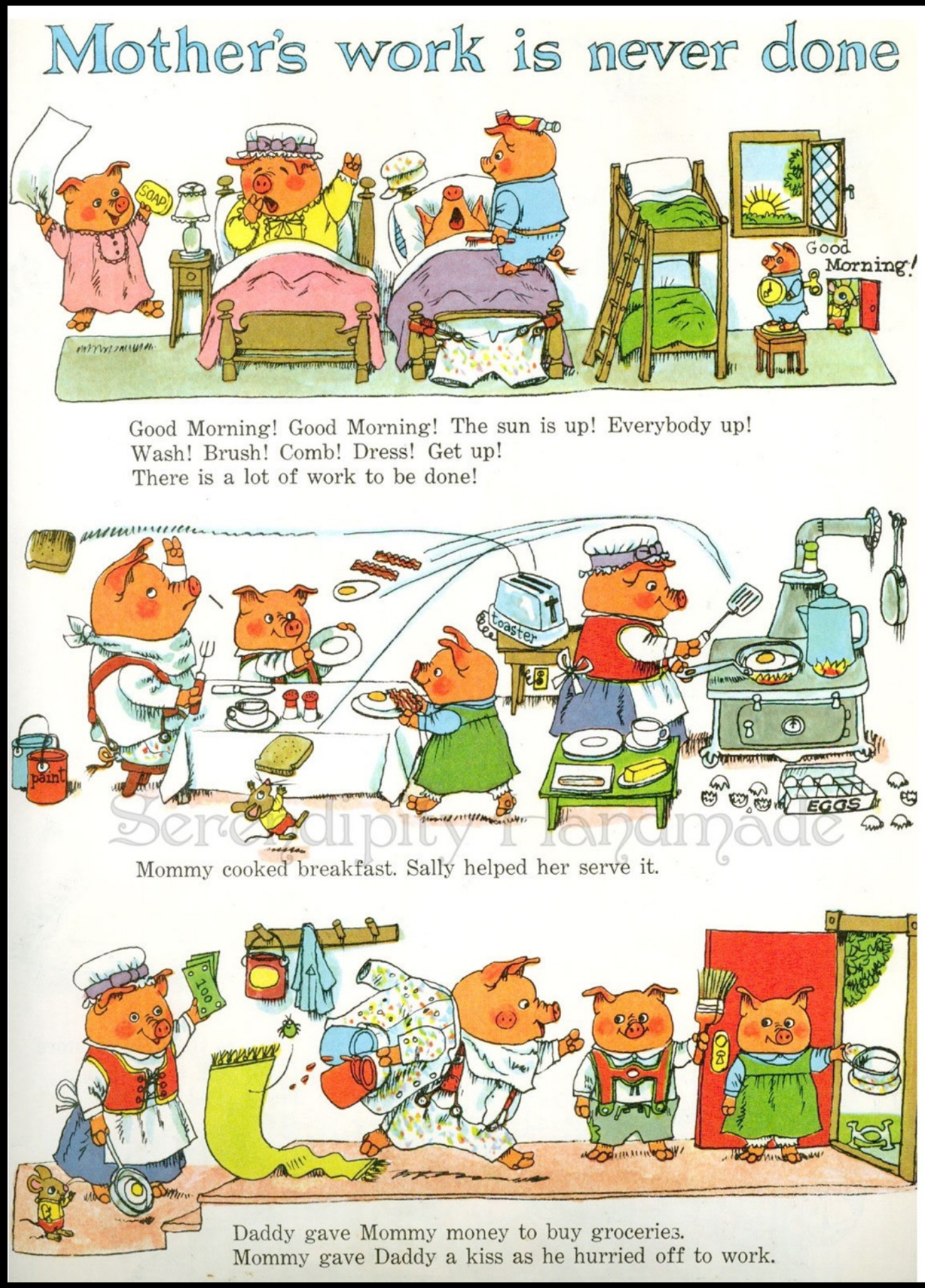


WOMEN'S WORK COUNTED



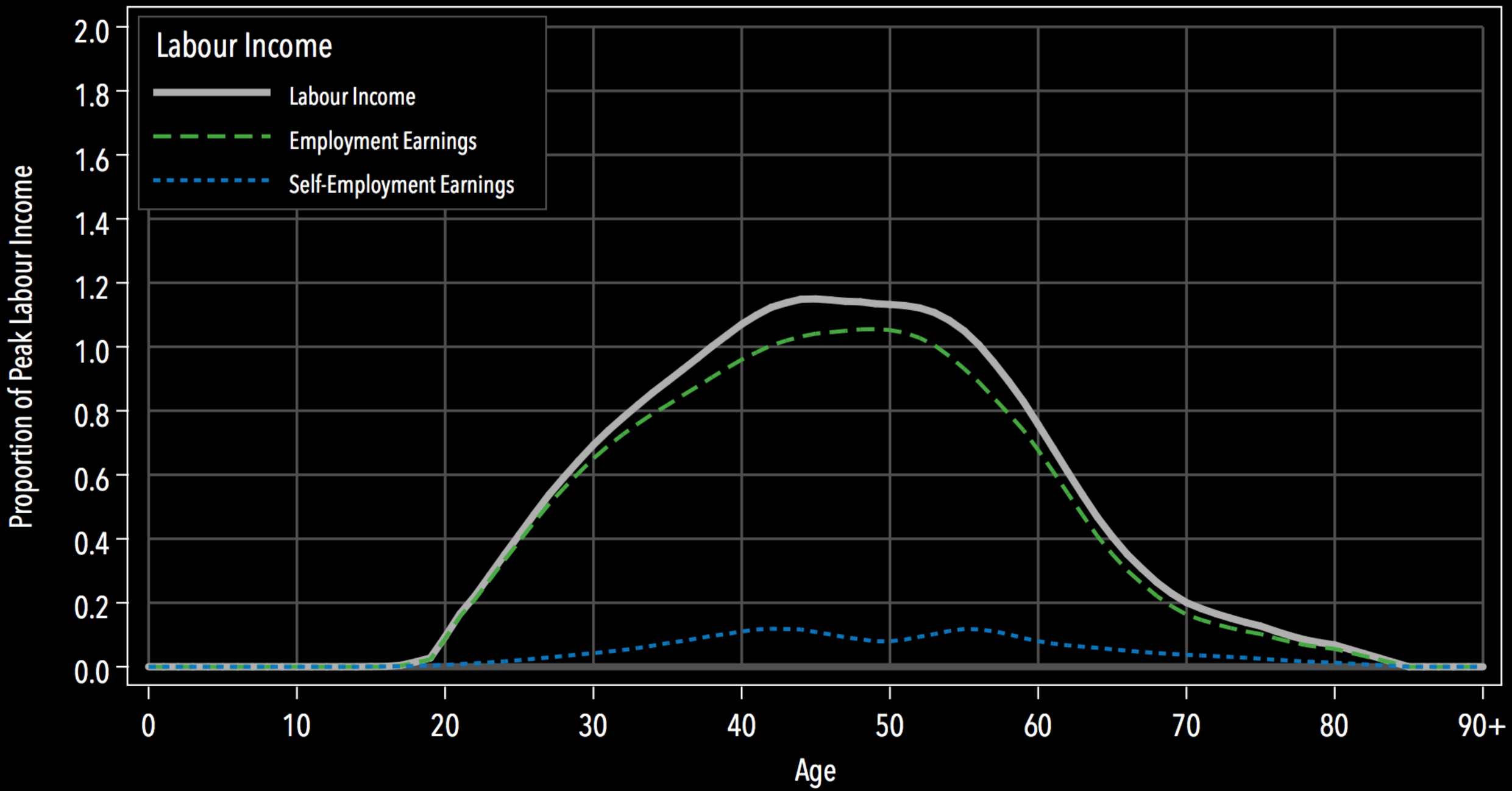
COUNTING WOMEN'S WORK

- Sex-specific NTA profiles
- Valuation of time spent in non-market production

  ➡ Wage: Specialist, mean hourly

LABOUR INCOME, 2010

NTA BY SEX



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LABOUR INCOME, 2010

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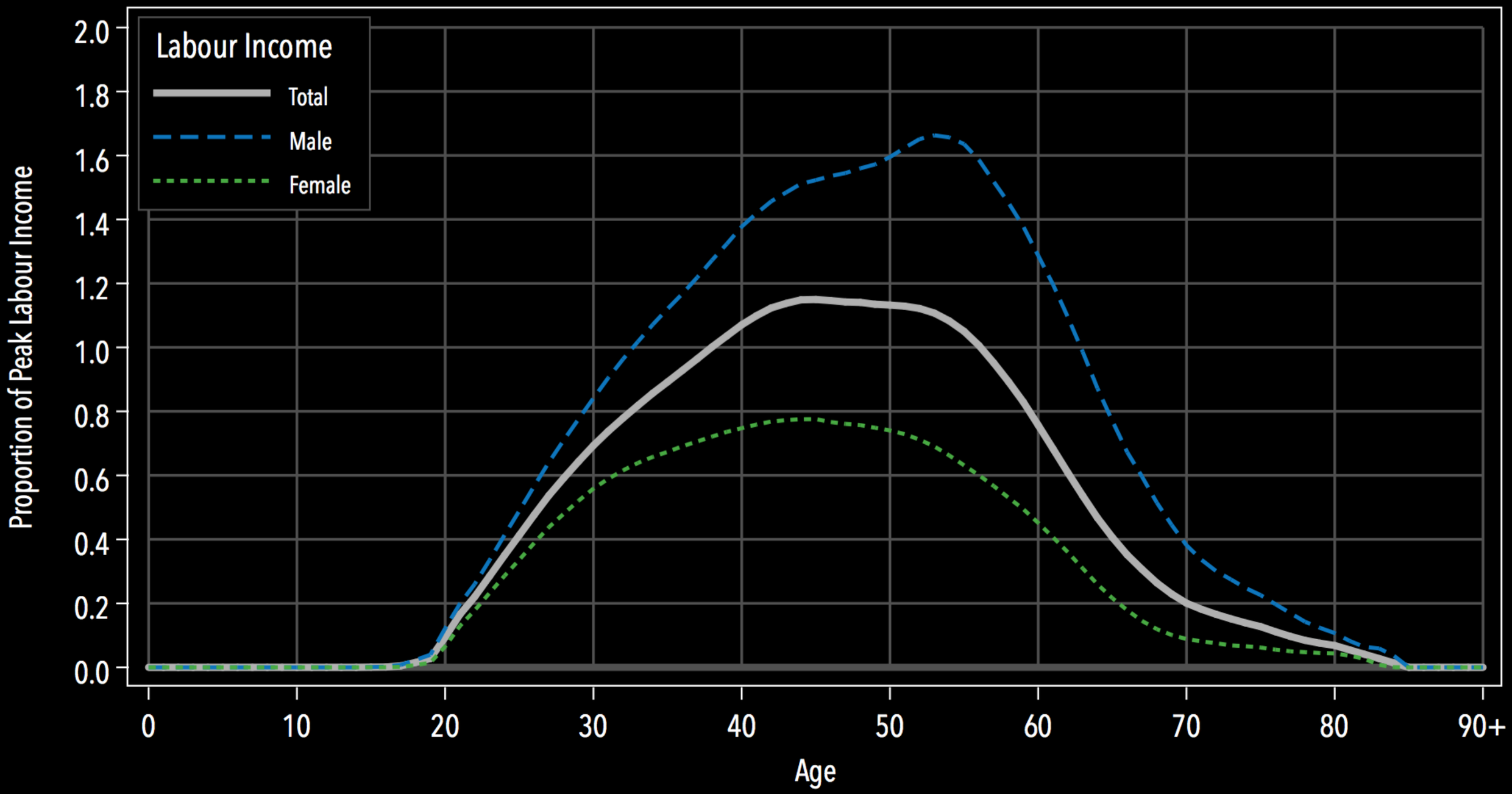

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CONSUMPTION, 2010

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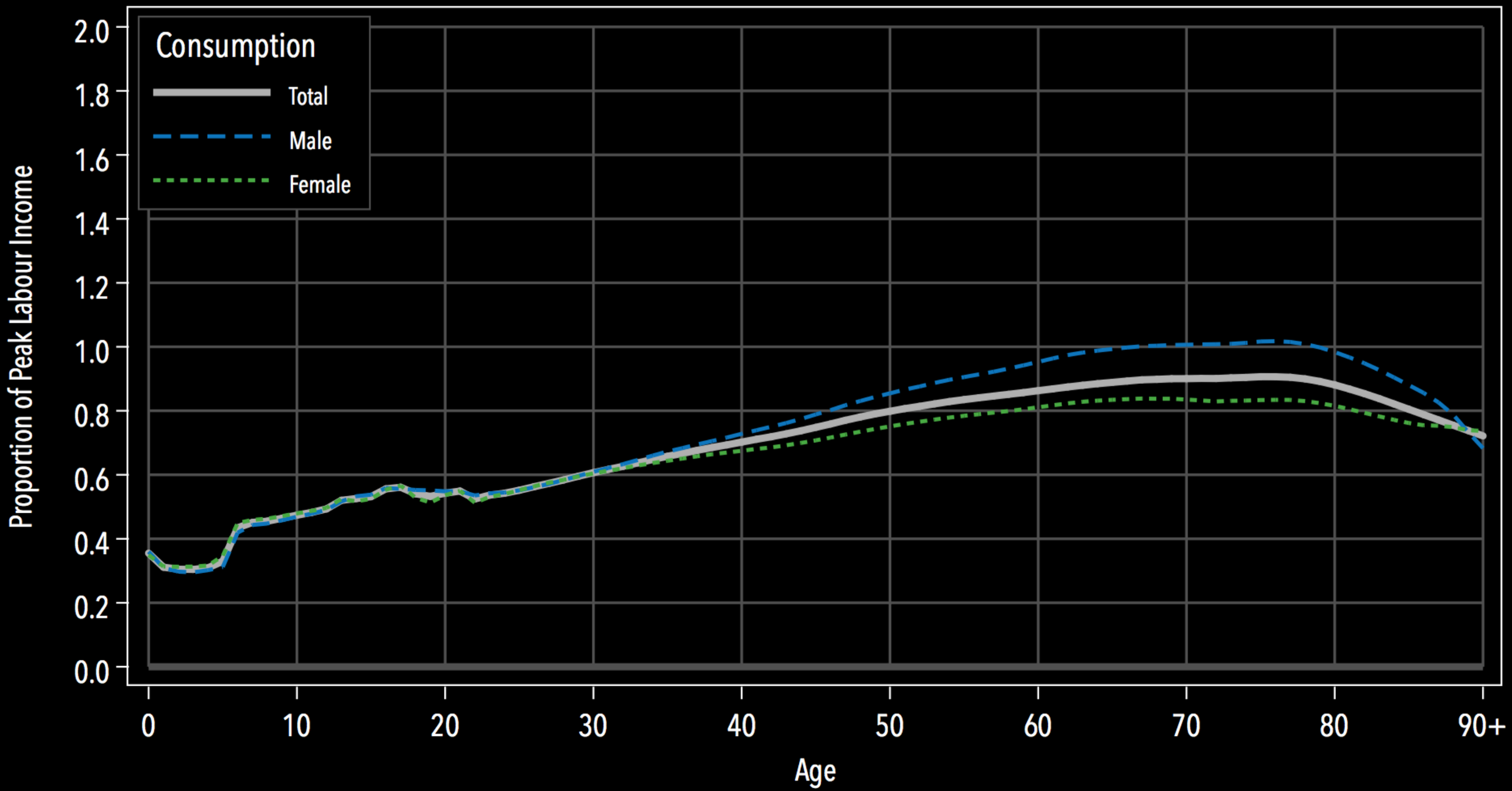

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PRODUCTION, 2010

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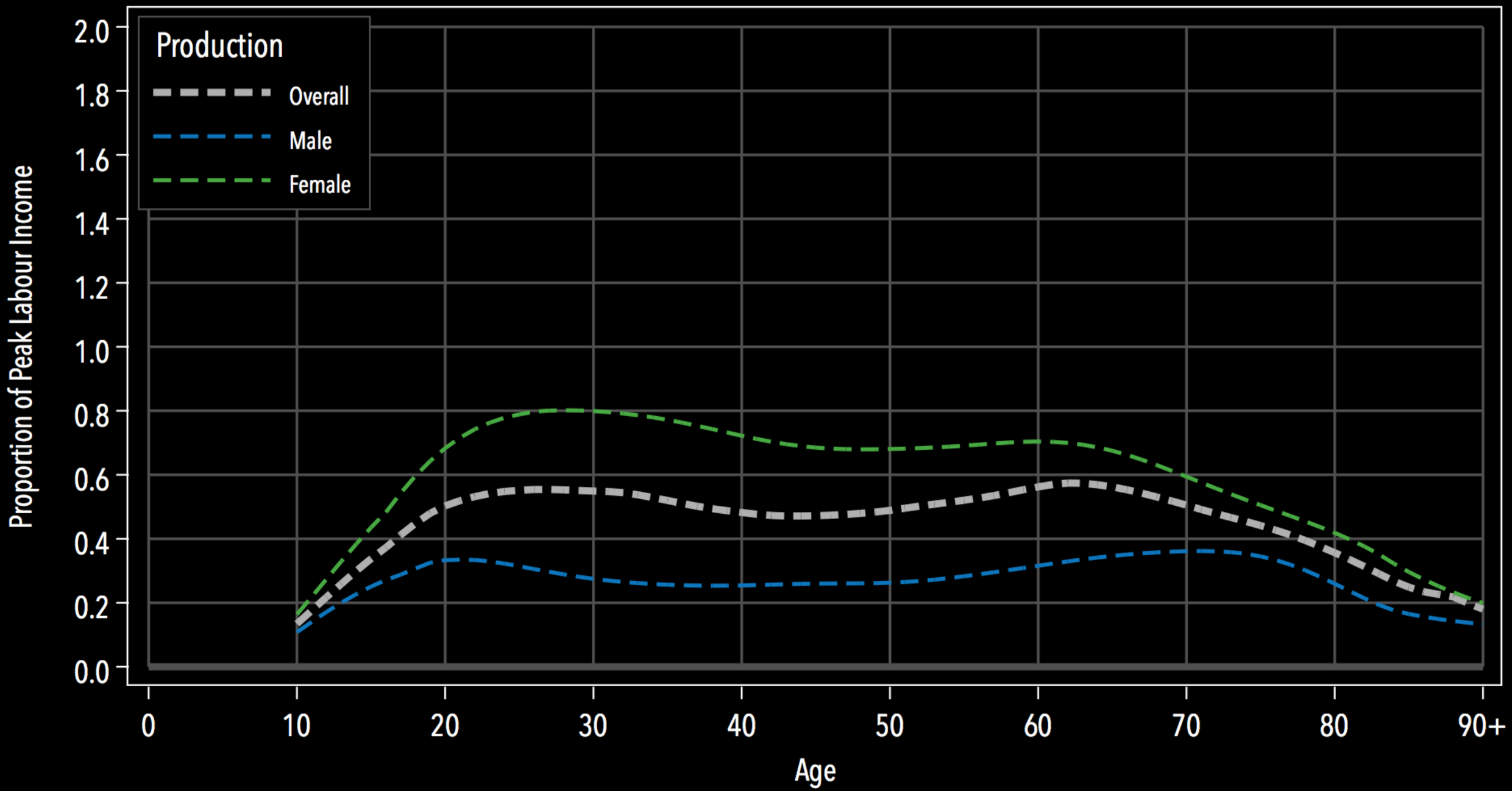

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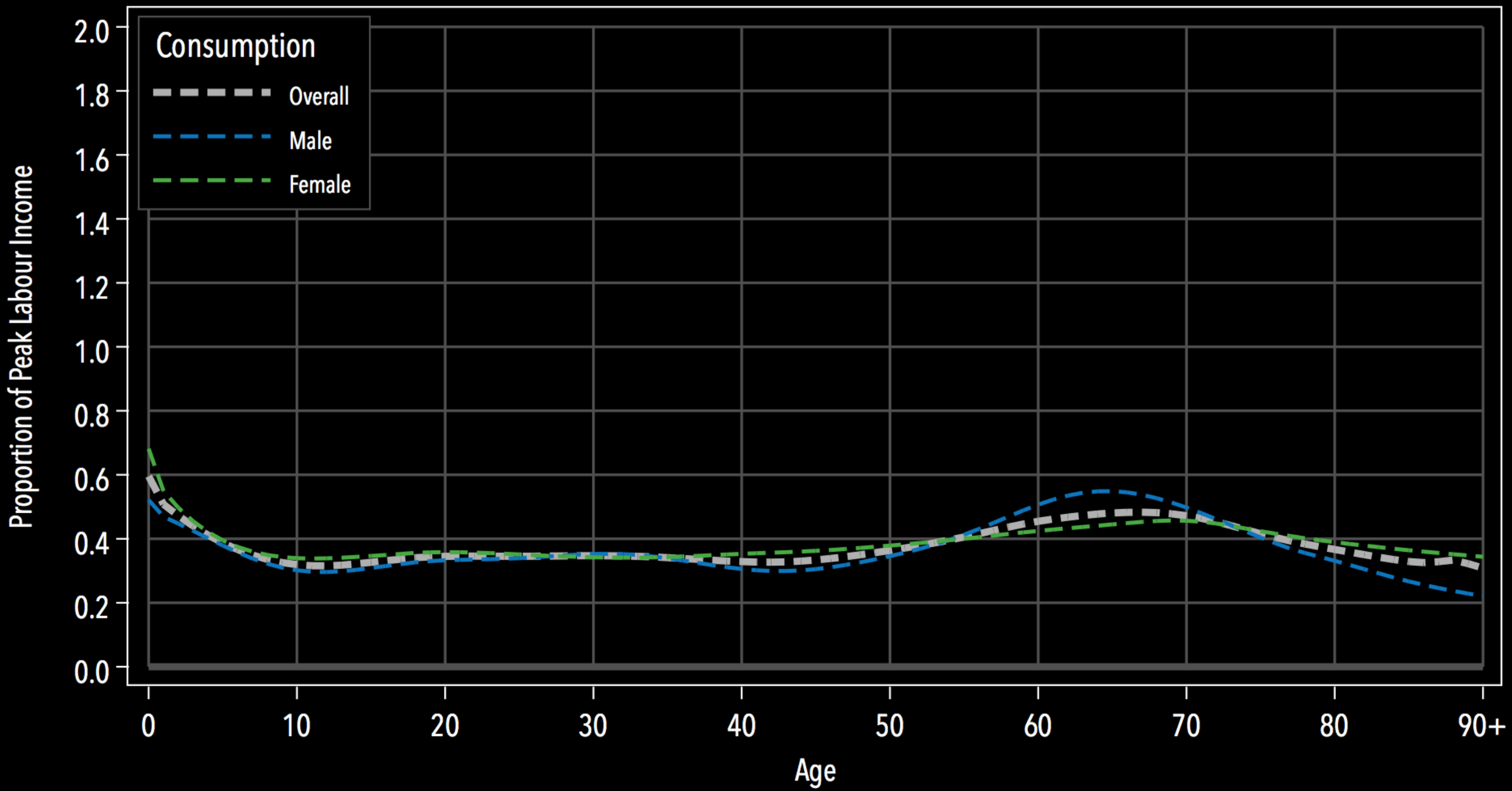

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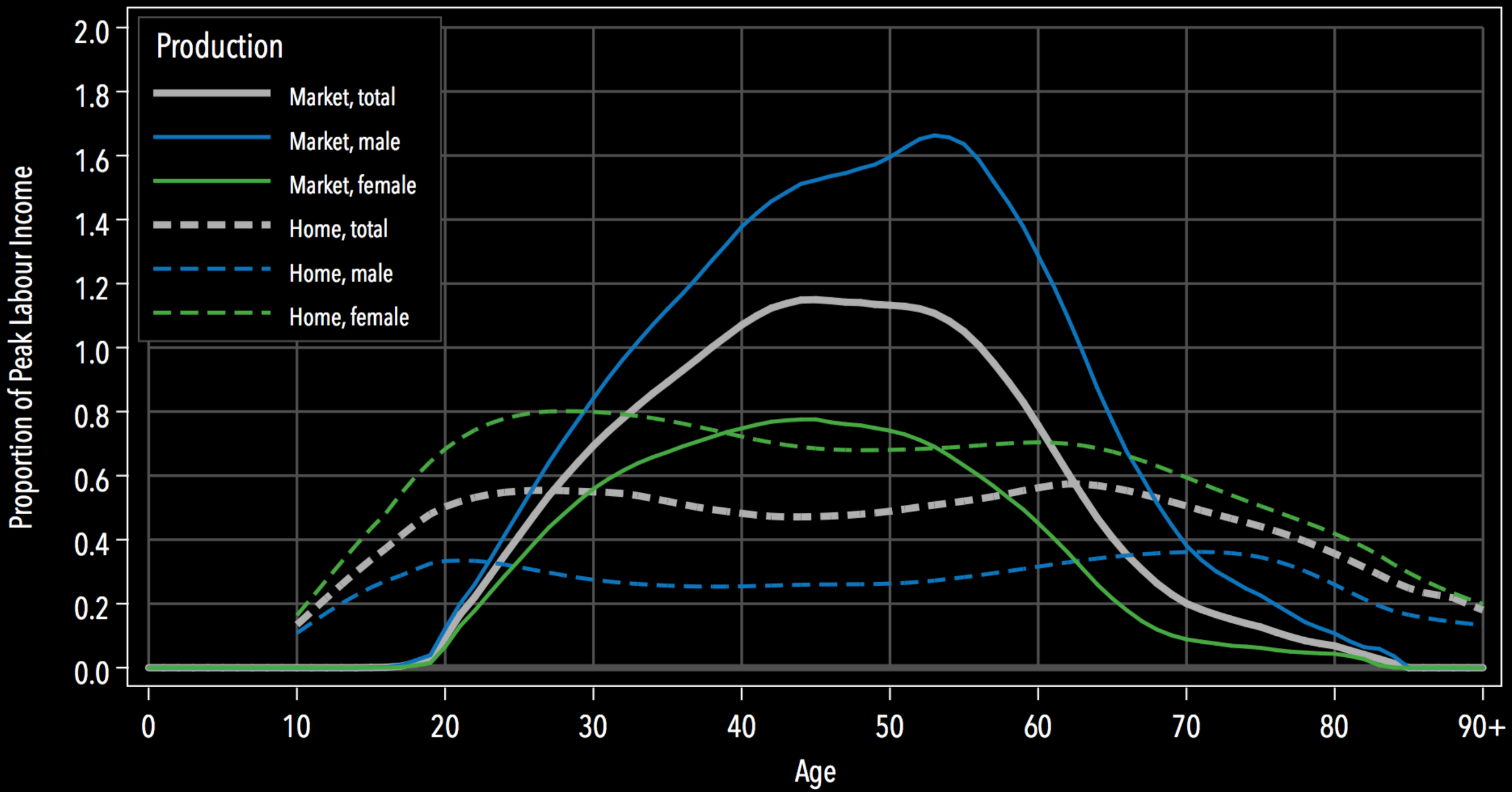
PRODUCTION, 2010

COMBINING MARKET AND HOME



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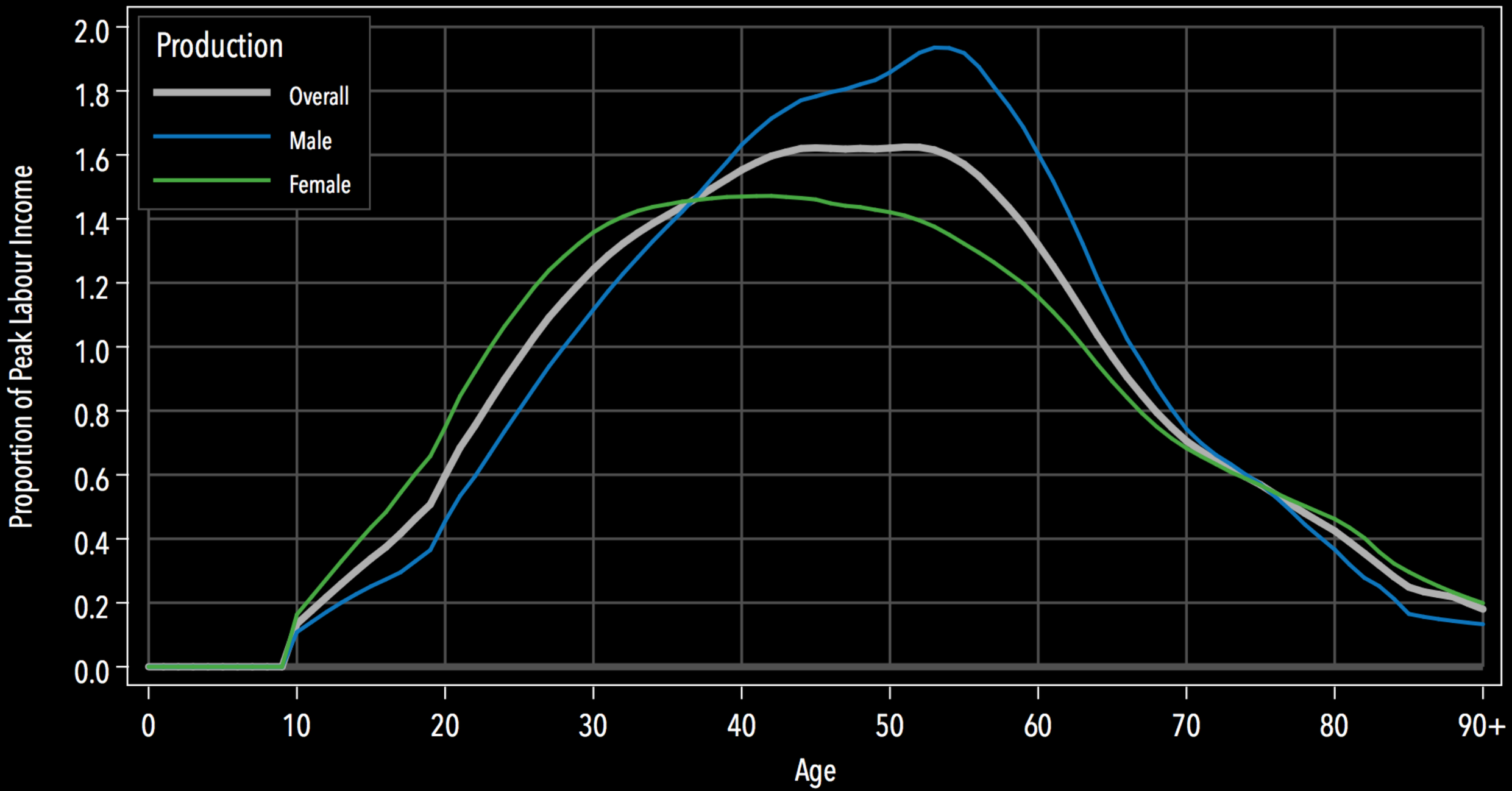

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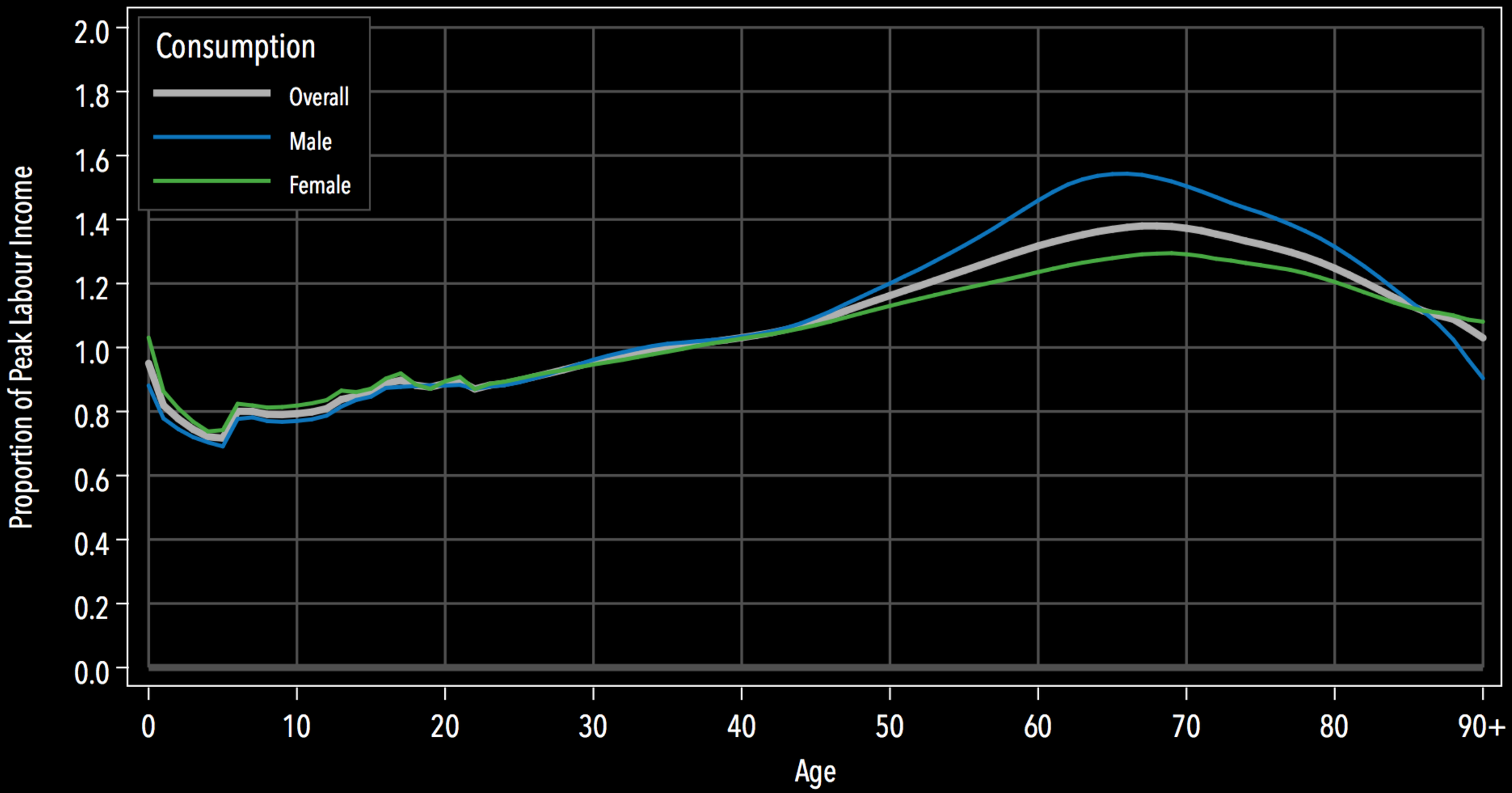

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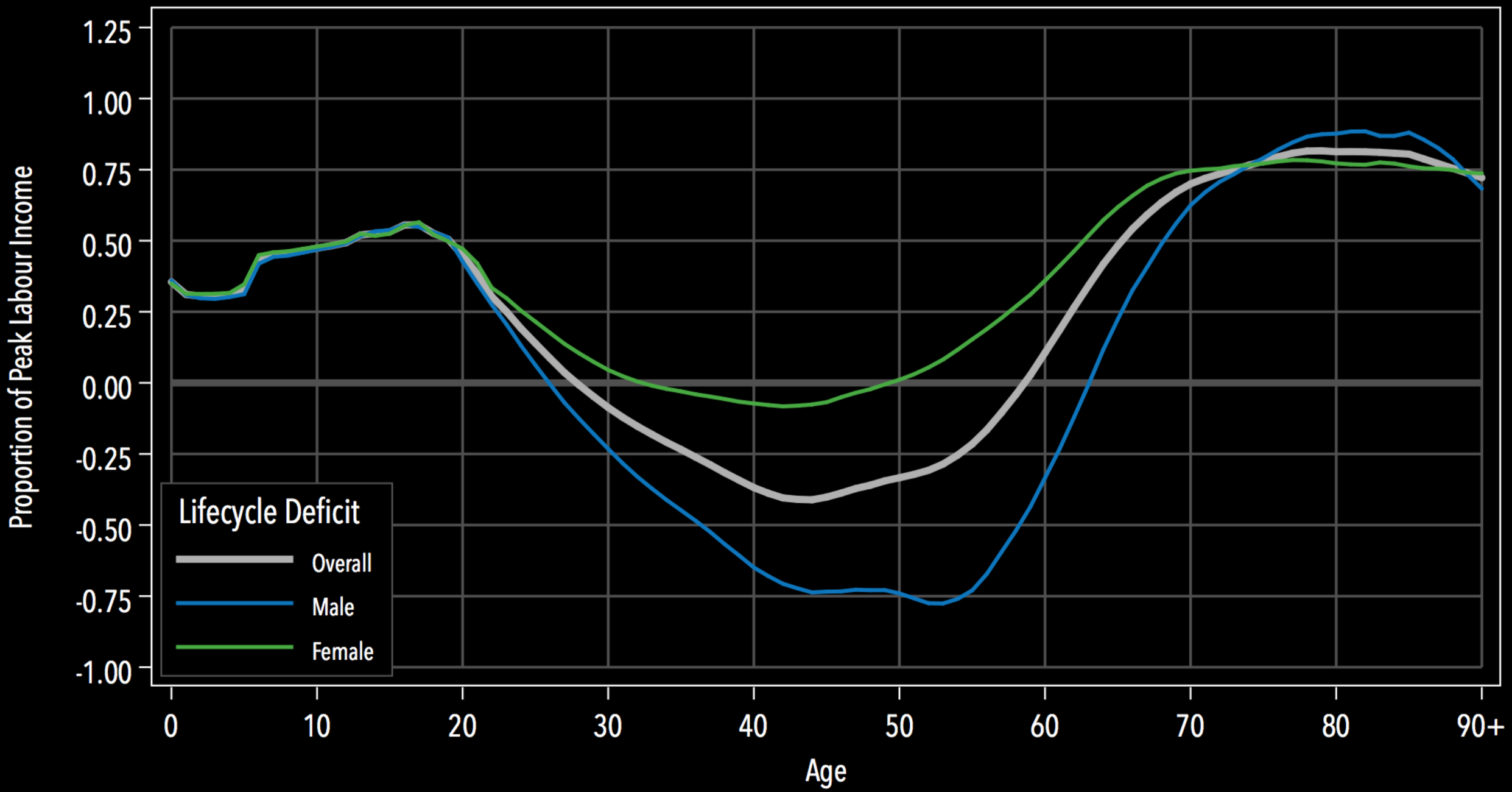
MARKET LIFECYCLE DEFICIT, 2010

COMBINING MARKET AND HOME



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NON-MARKET LIFECYCLE DEFICIT, 2010

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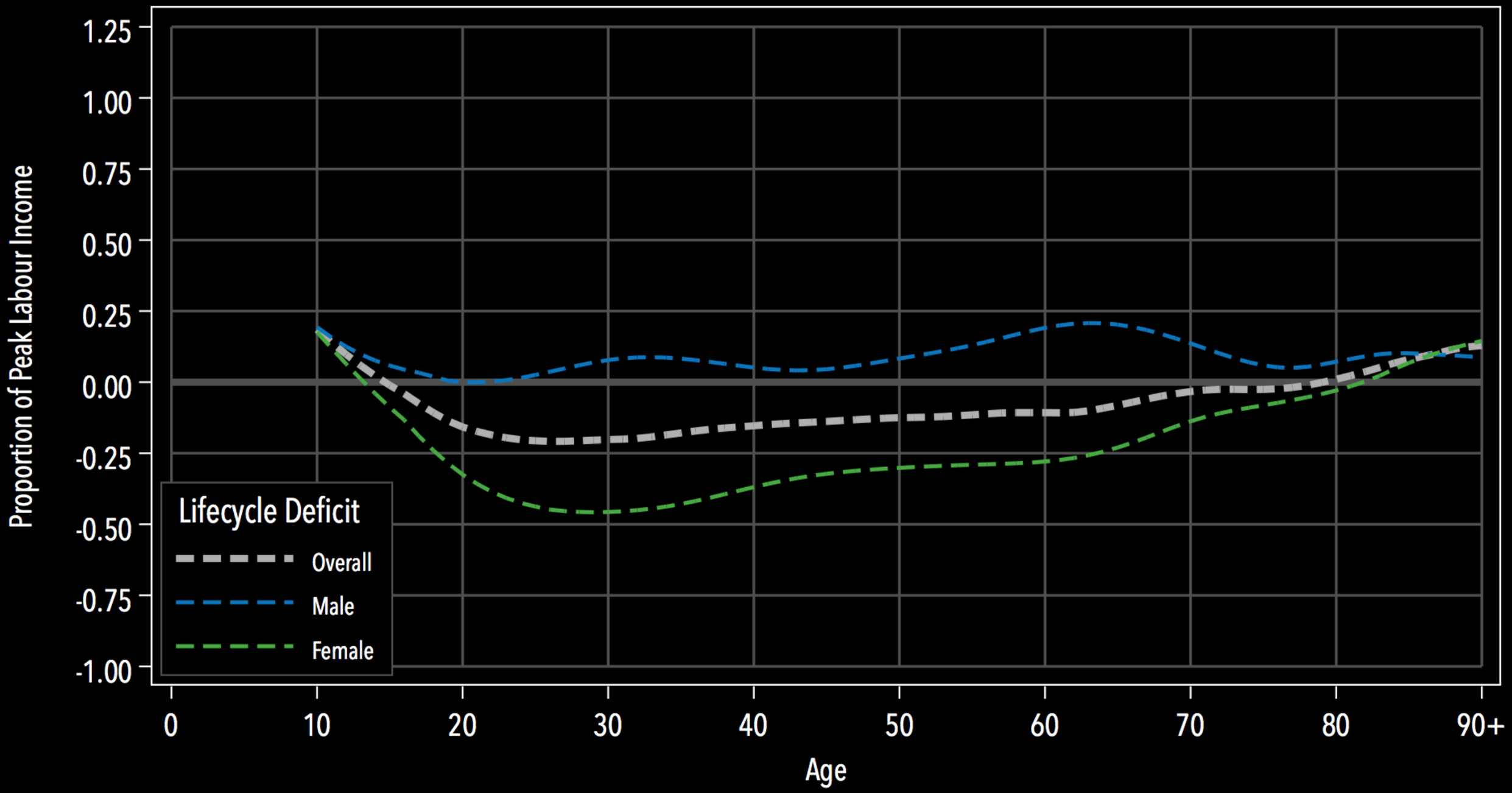

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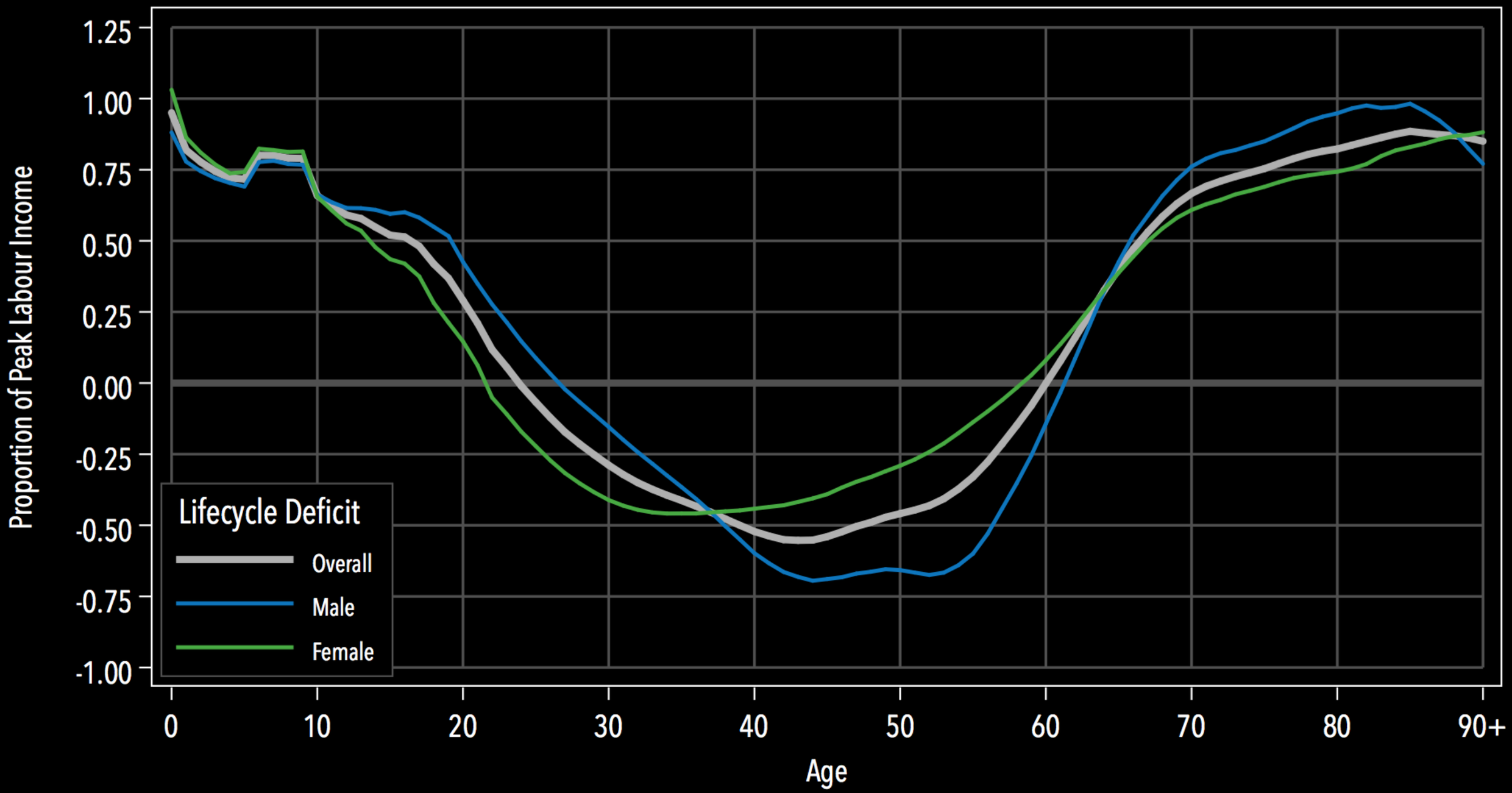
TOTAL LIFECYCLE DEFICIT, 2010

COMBINING MARKET AND HOME



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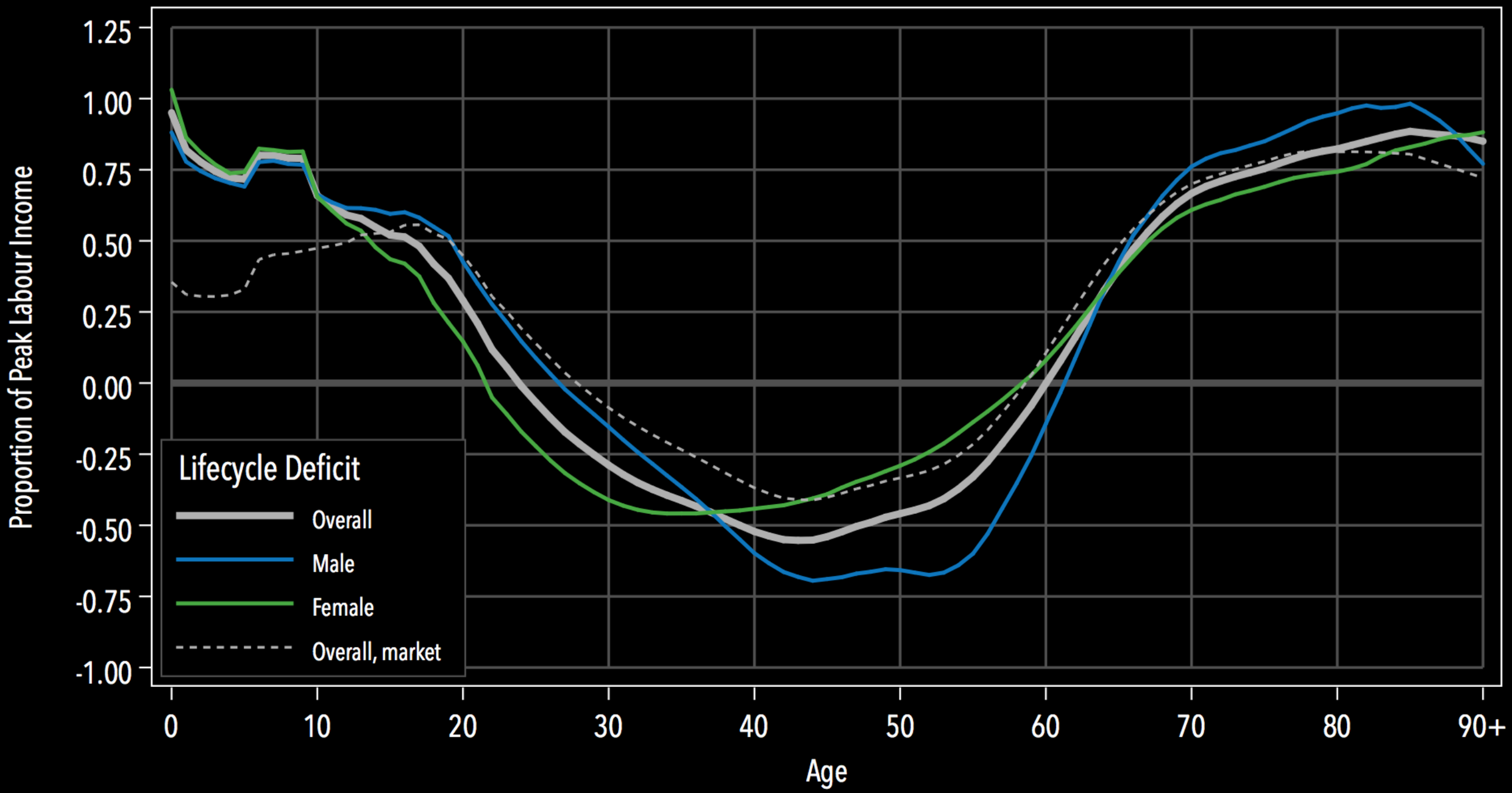

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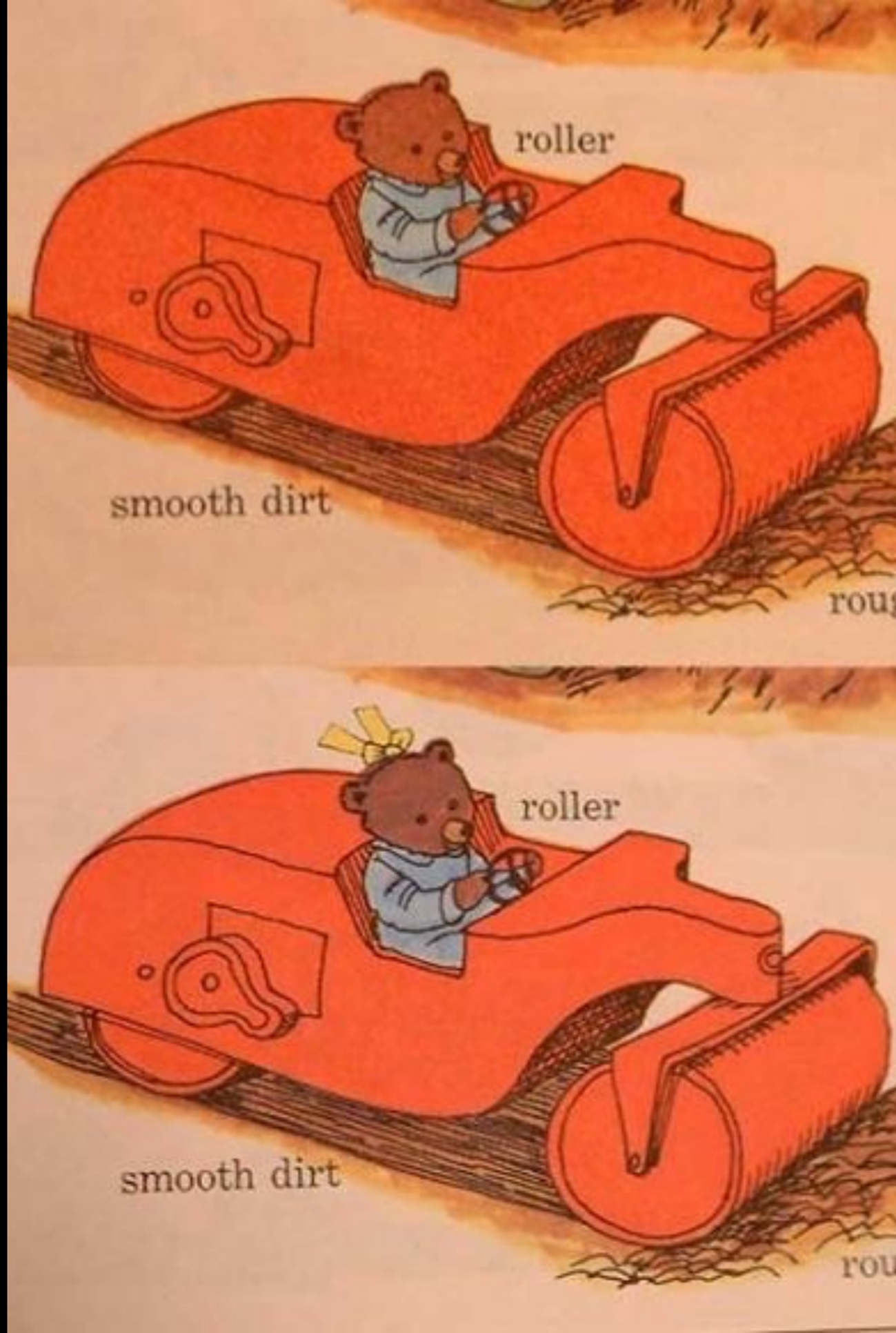
A GENDER DIVIDEND?



A GENDER DIVIDEND?

- We know that sex-specific YL curves differ significantly.
- Three scenarios based on sex-specific YL curves

1. Convergence of YL_f to YL_m by 50%, 2010-2050
2. Convergence of YL_f to YL_m by 25%, 2010-2050
3. Convergence of YL_f and YL_m by 25%, 2010-2050

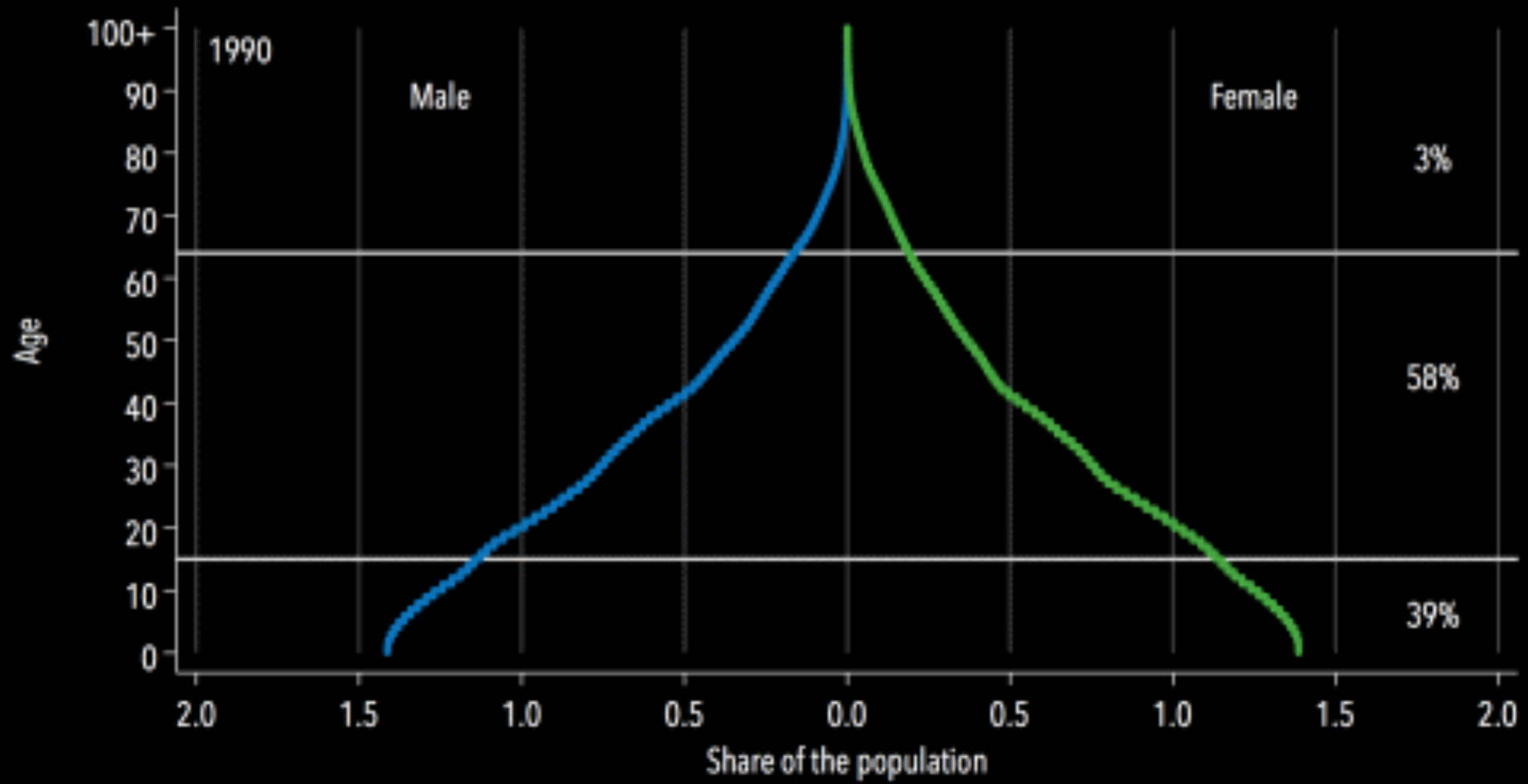
A GENDER DIVIDEND?

A note on support ratios and demographic dividends

- Support ratio is ratio of effective producers to effective consumers
  - ➡ Population weighted YL and C profiles give ‘aggregate production’ and ‘aggregate consumption’ for a given year
- Demographic dividend is the rate of change of the support ratio
  - ➡ If ‘aggregate production’ is increasing more rapidly than ‘aggregate consumption’, a positive dividend

HOW IS THE POPULATION STRUCTURE EXPECTED TO CHANGE?

BUT FIRST...



Source: World Population Prospects (2015)

ASSUMING SHIFTS IN SEX-SPECIFIC LABOUR INCOME PROFILES

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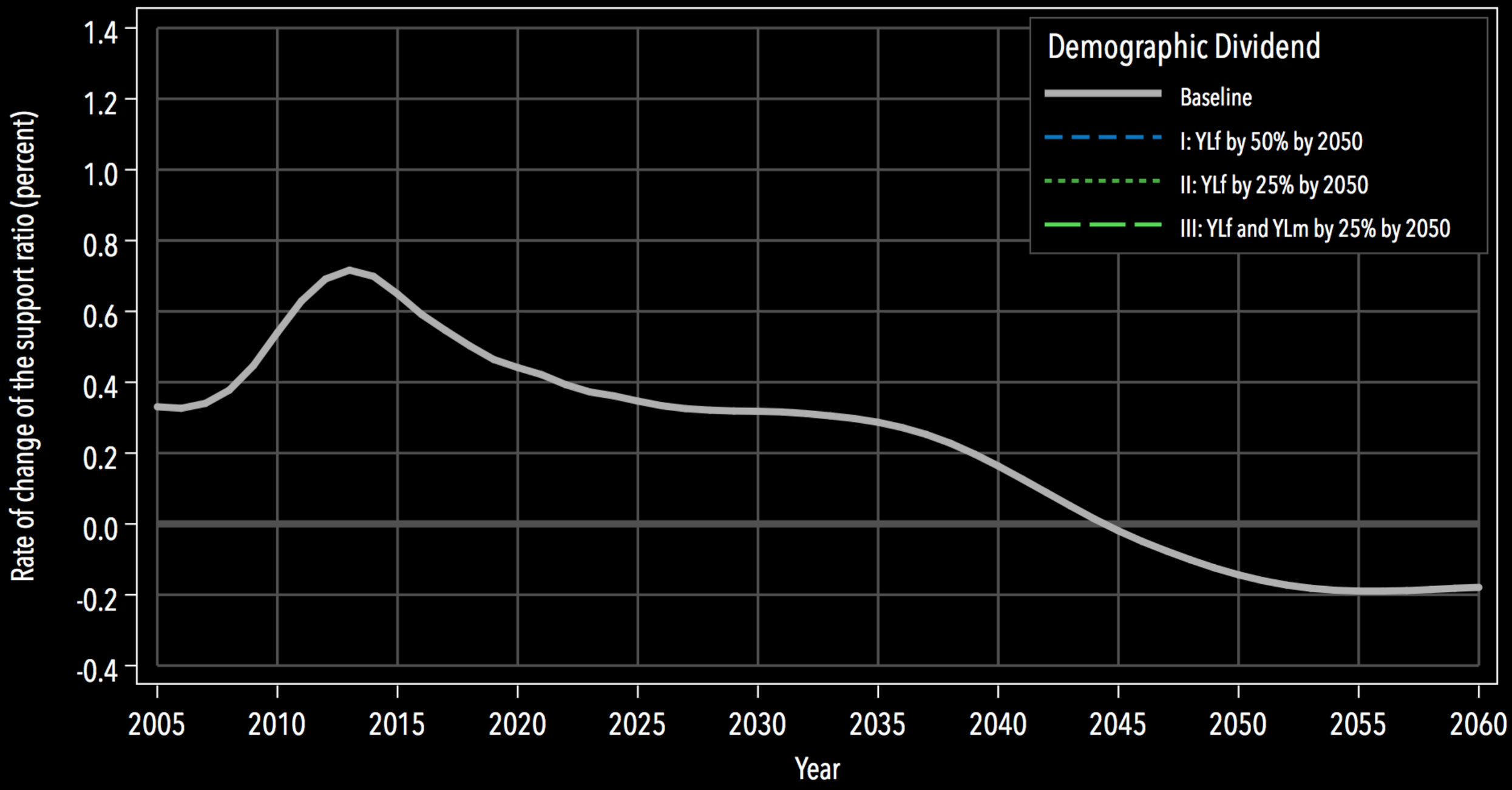

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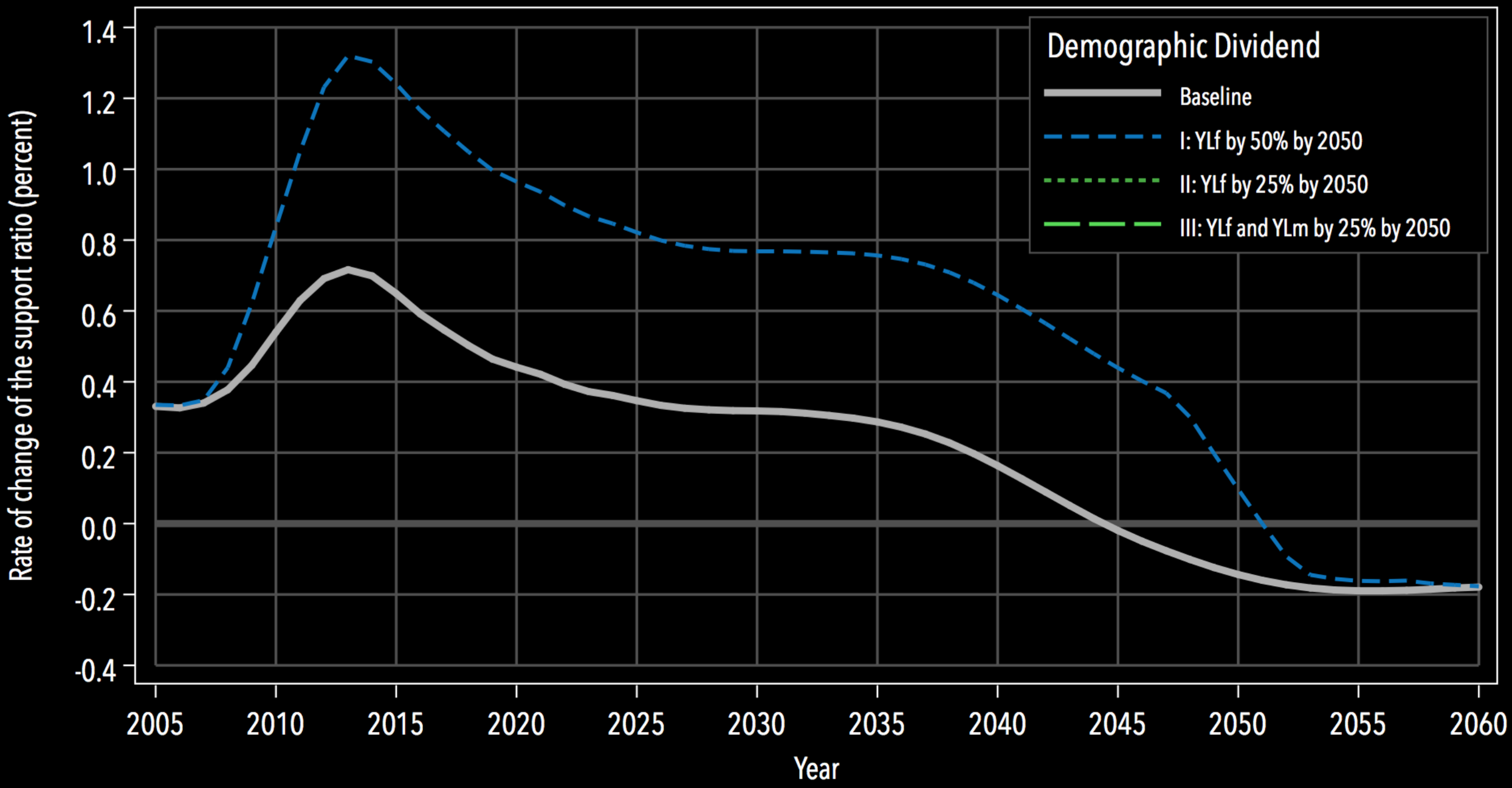

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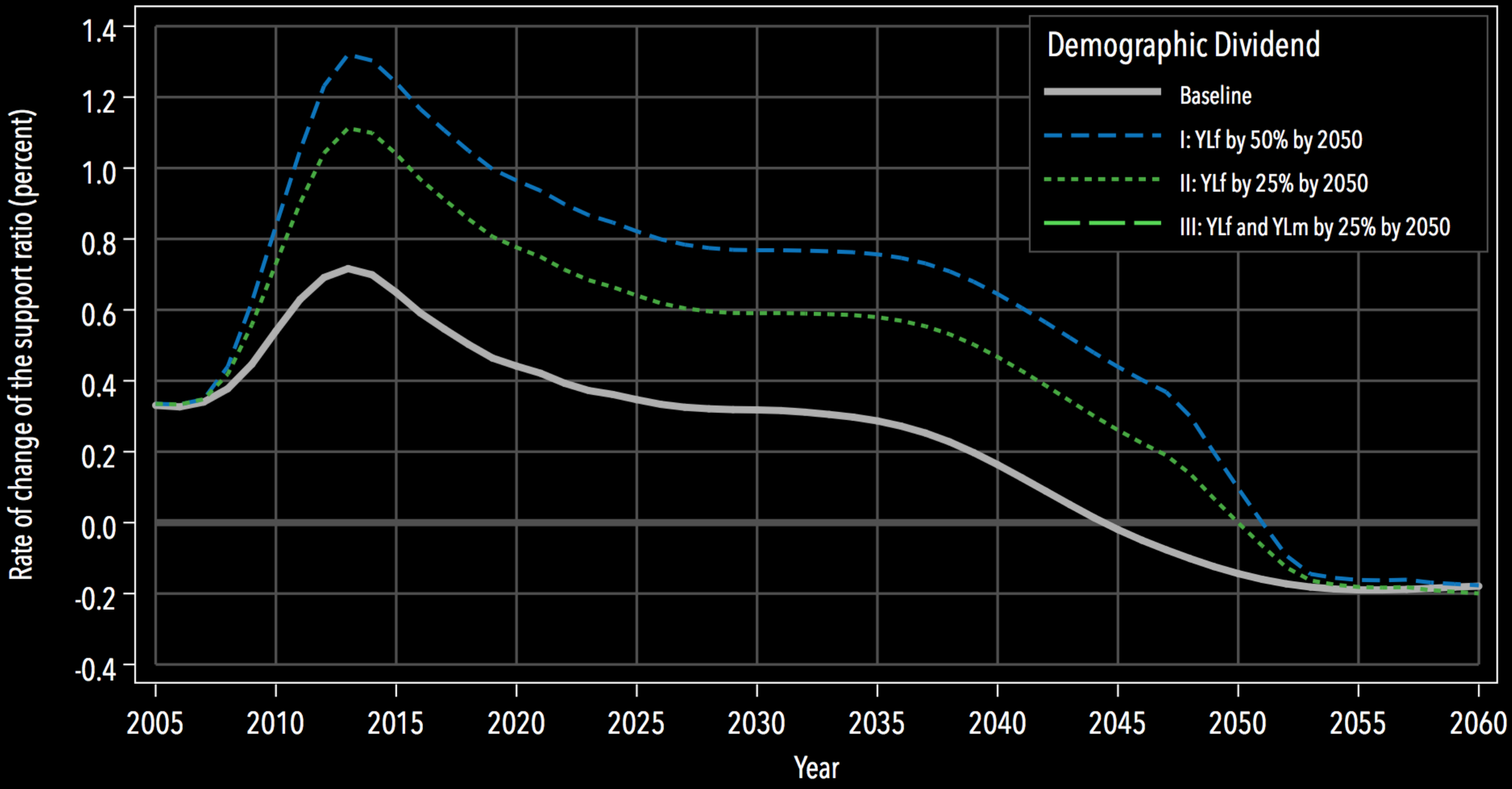

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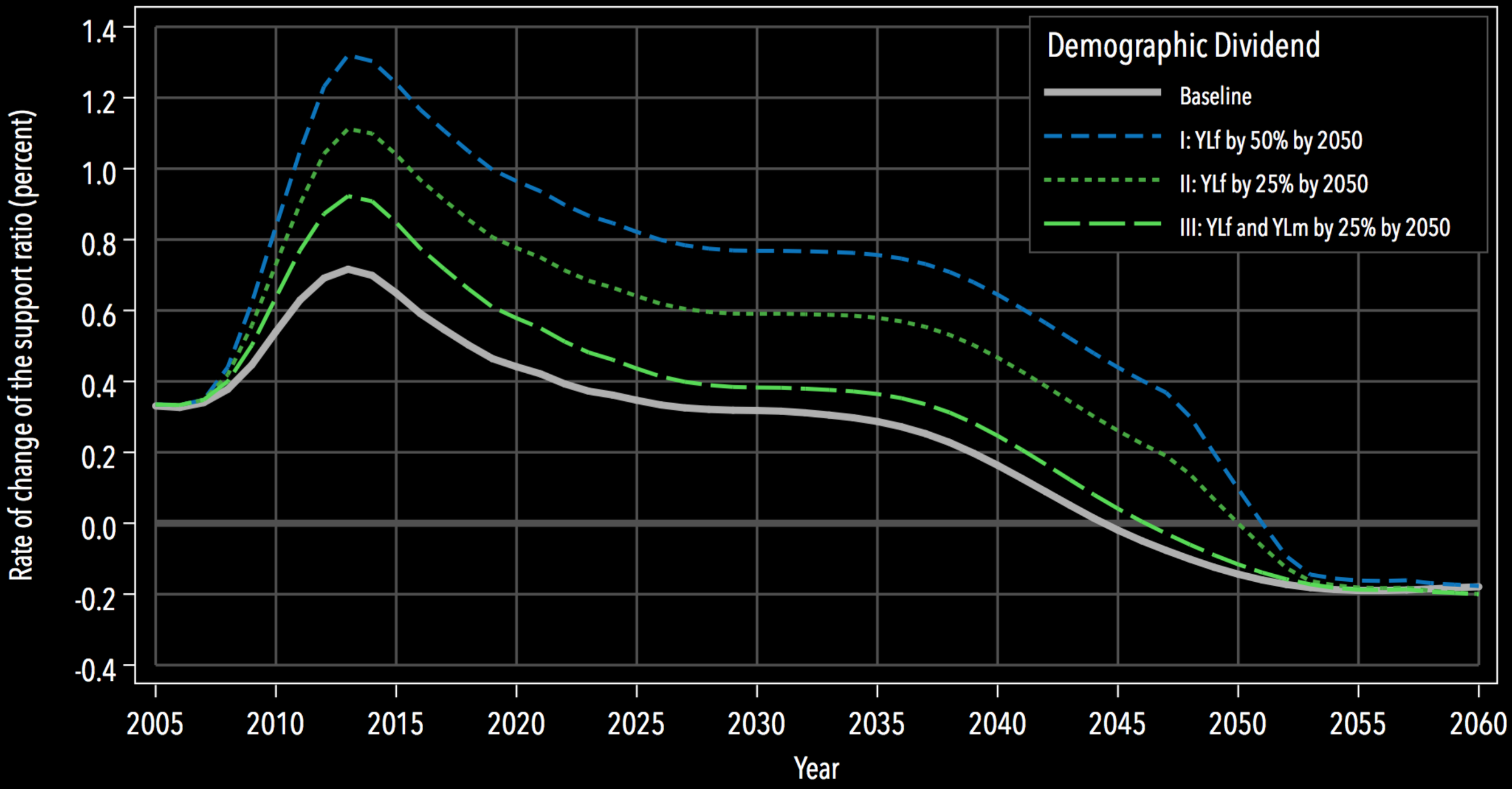

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TOTAL IMPACT OF CONVERGENCE ON DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND

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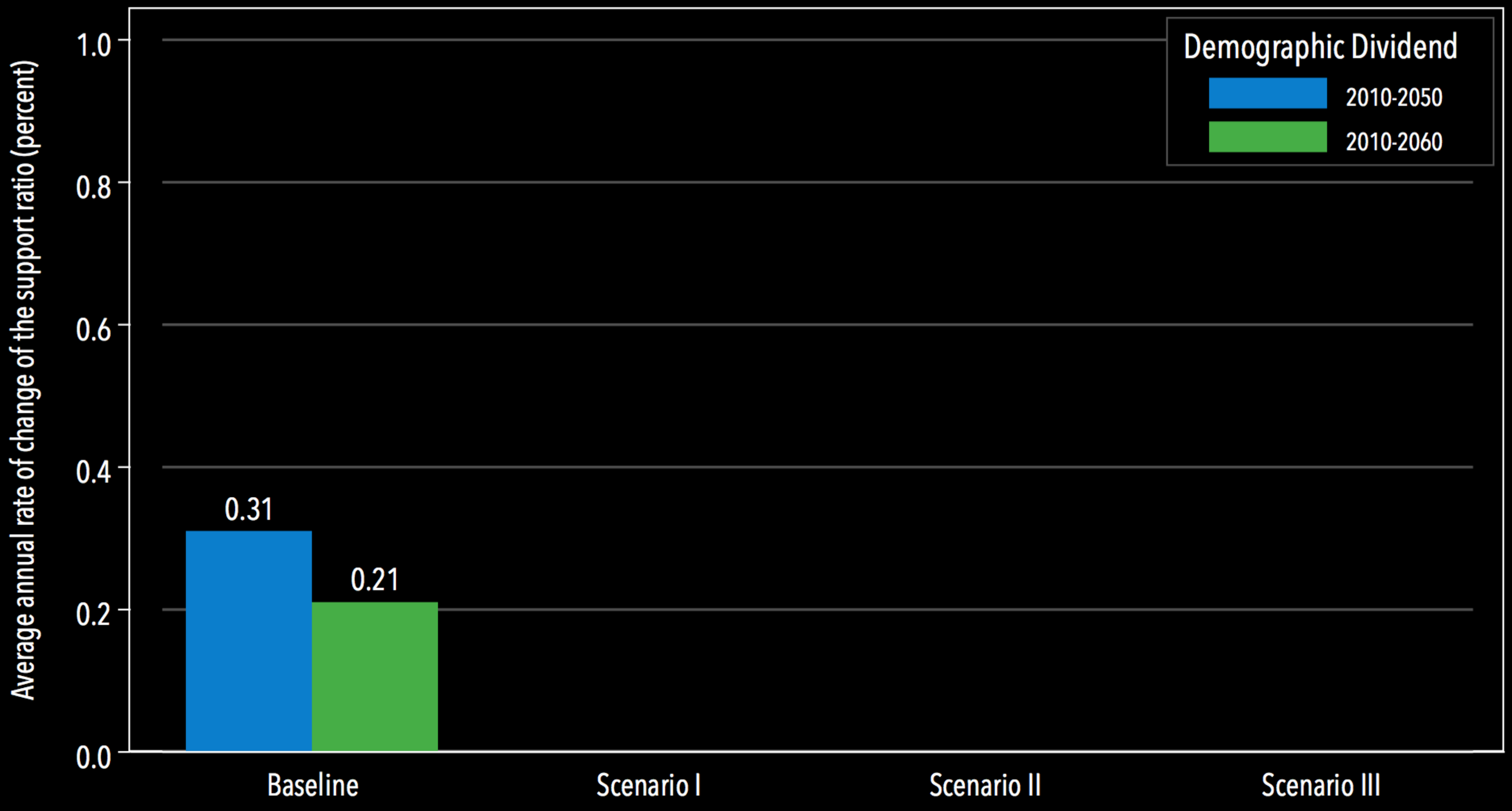

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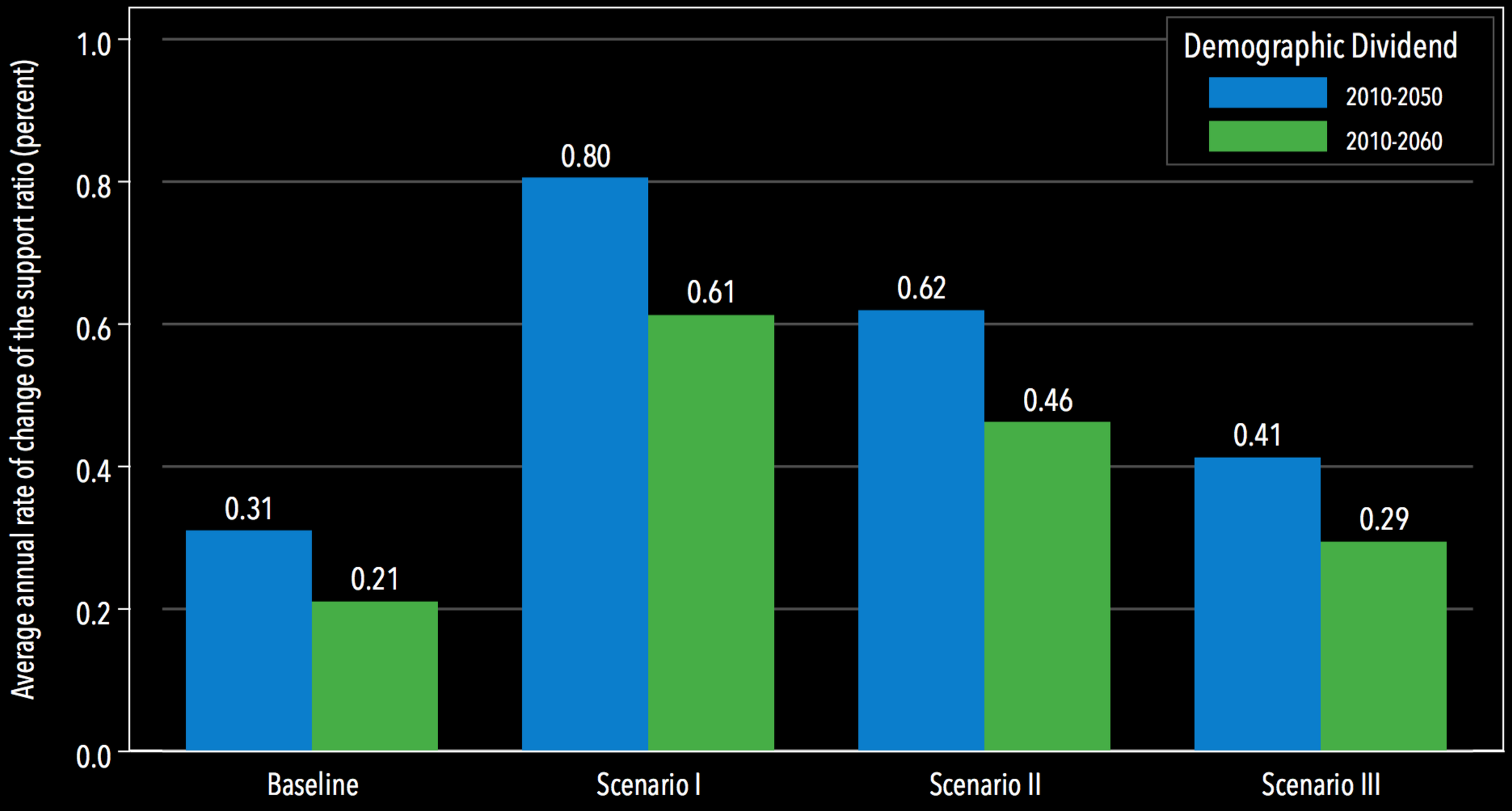

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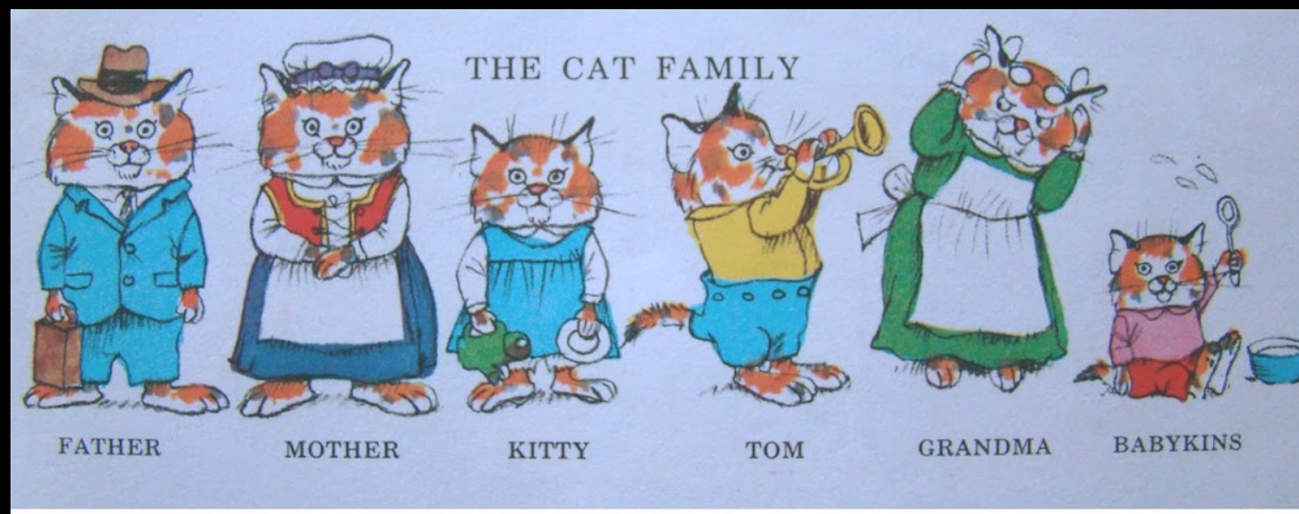
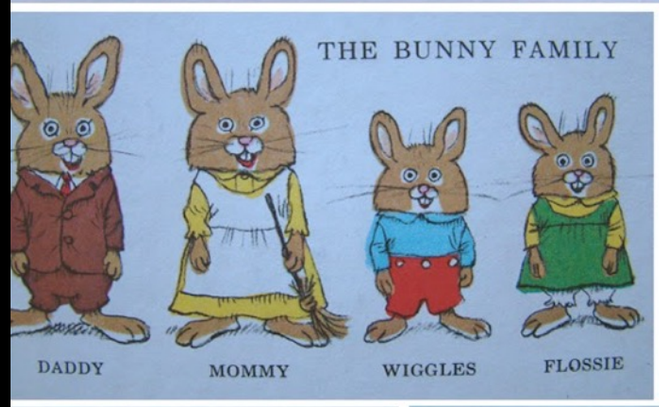
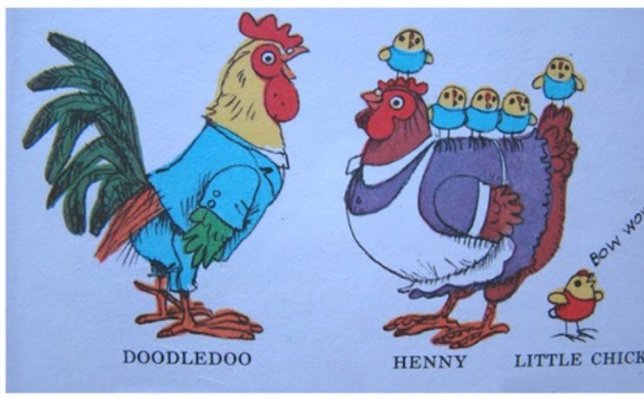
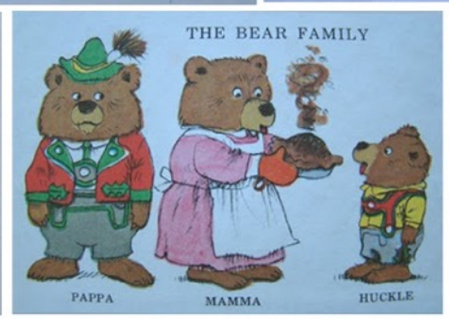
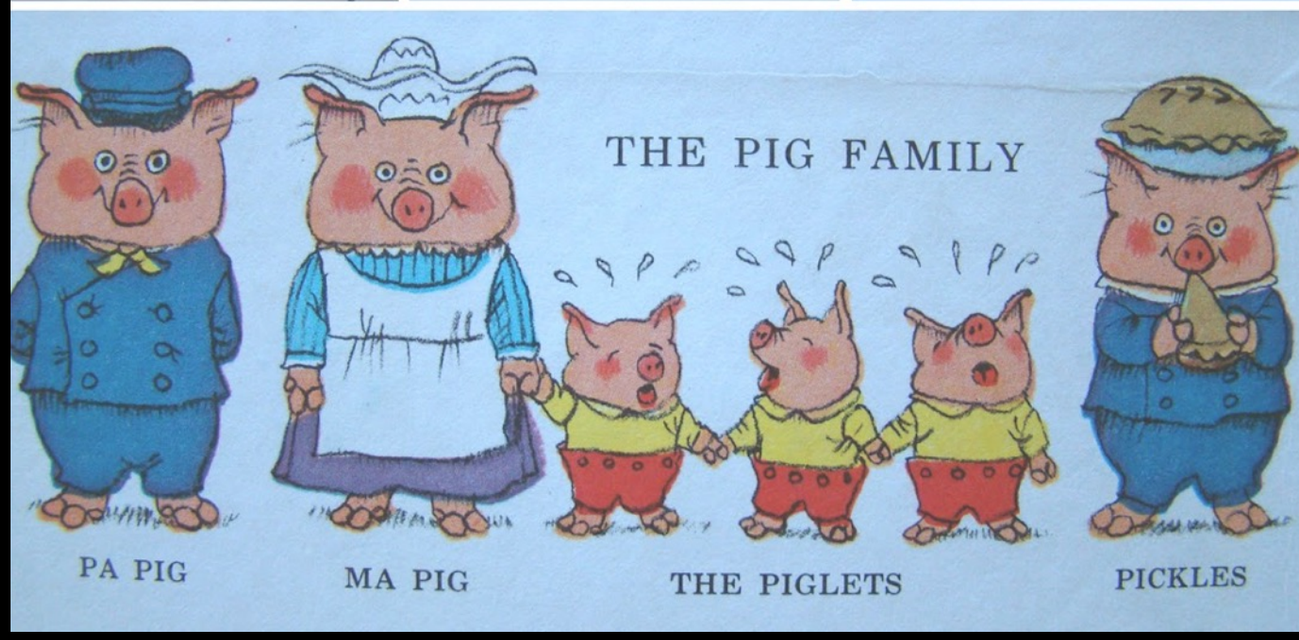
DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND WOMEN'S WORK











IMPACT OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

- Demographic change expected to alter aggregate ‘supply’ of and ‘demand’ for household production
- Ageing population may see relative declines in ‘demand’ for childcare, but relative increases in ‘demand’ for adult- or eldercare
- For household activities, effect is not entirely clear

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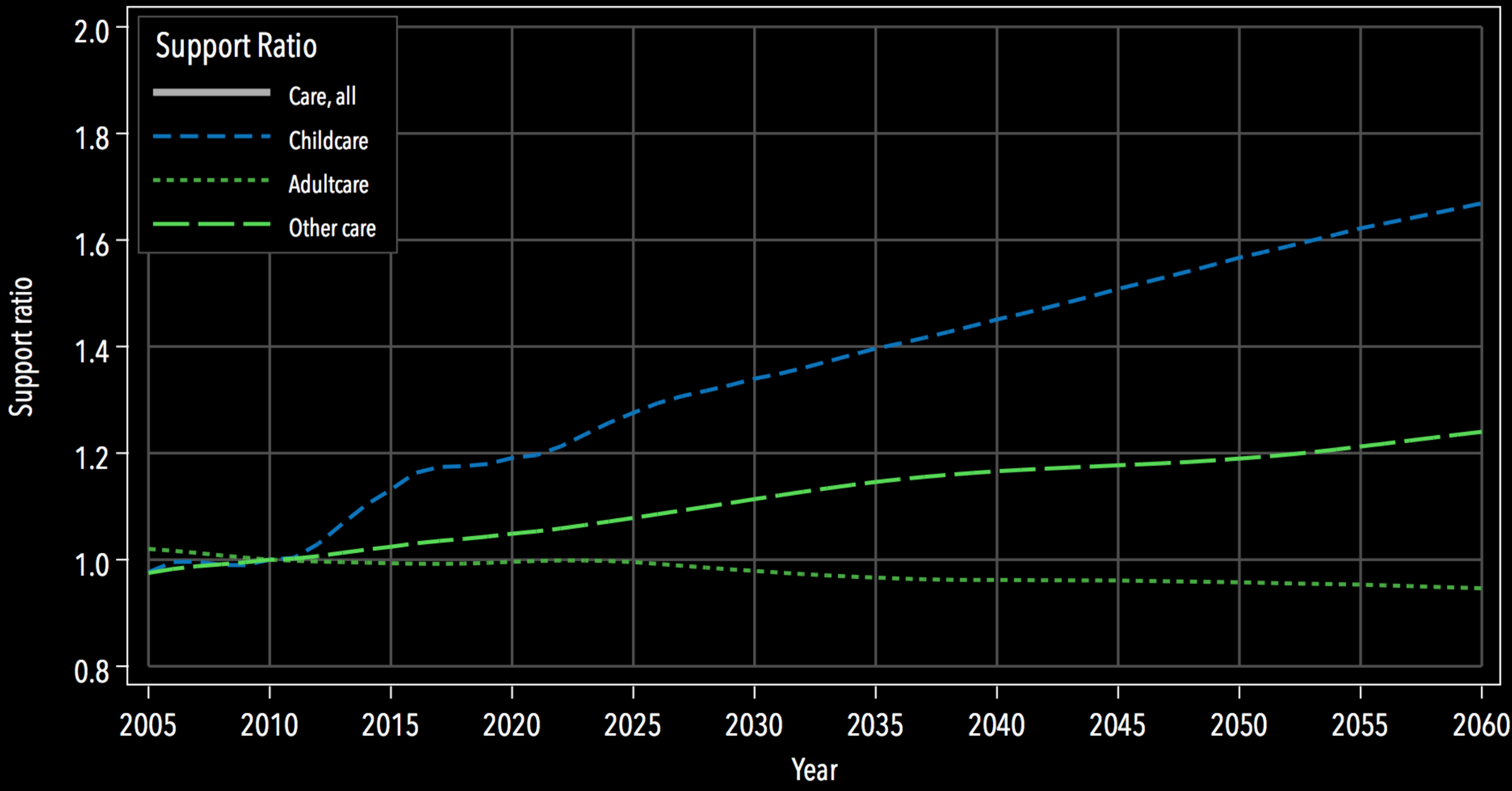
- Ageing population may see relative declines in 'demand' for childcare, but relative increases in 'demand' for adult- or eldercare
- For household activities, effect is not entirely clear
- Question: What does the non-market demographic dividend look like for South Africa?

SUPPORT RATIOS: CARE (2005-2060)

WOMEN'S WORK TOMORROW



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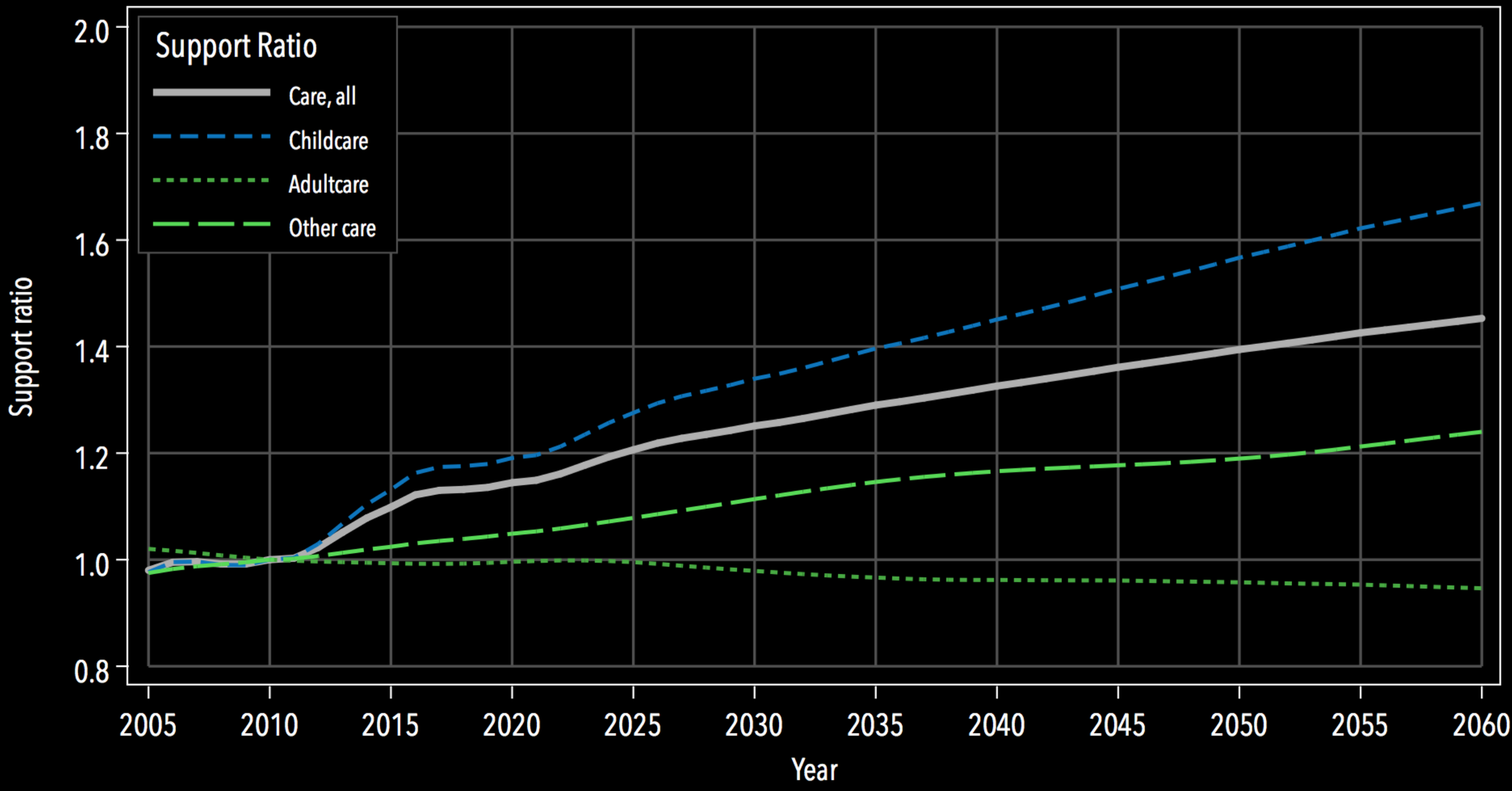

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SUPPORT RATIOS: ALL HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTION (2005-2060)

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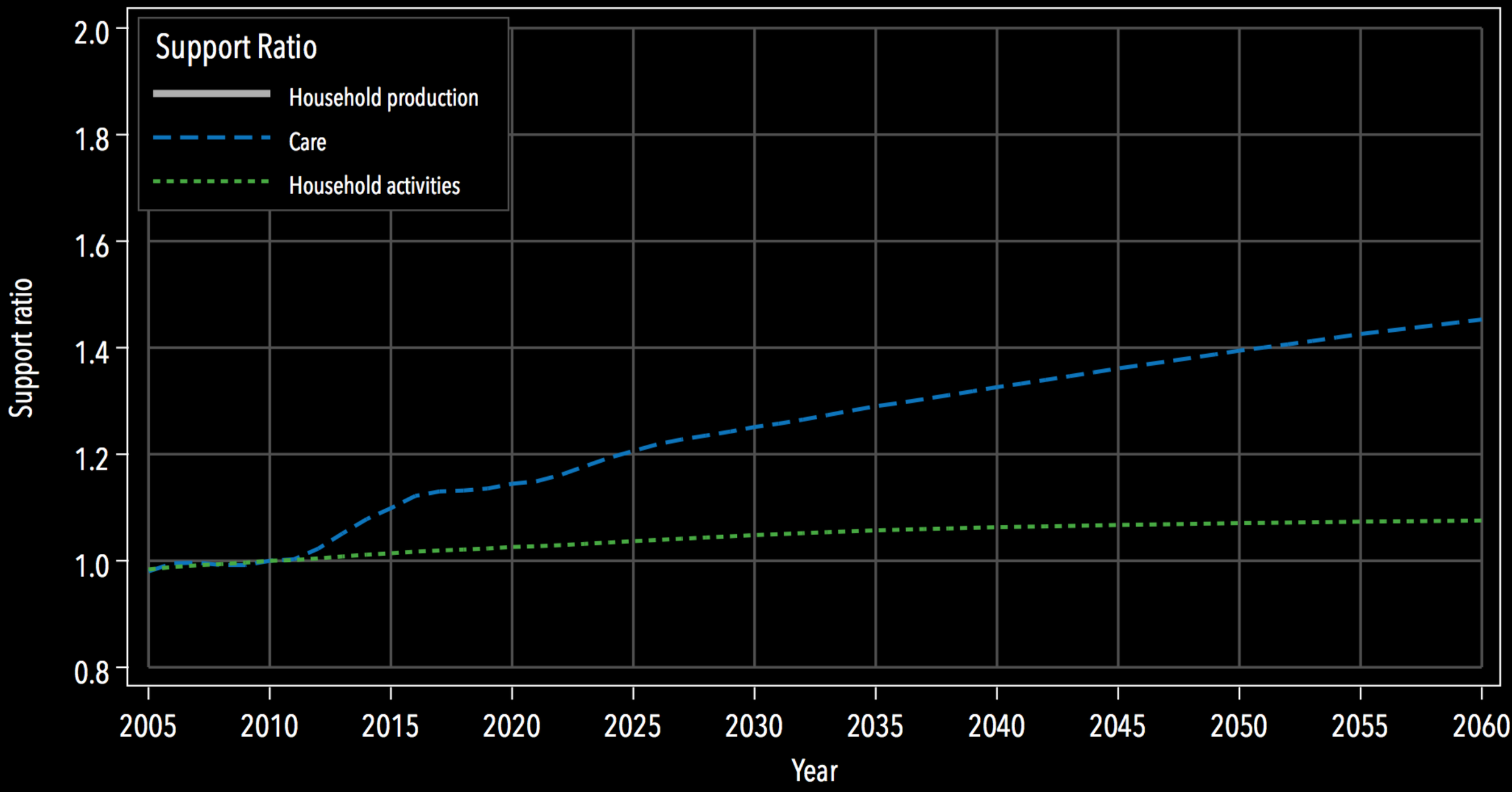

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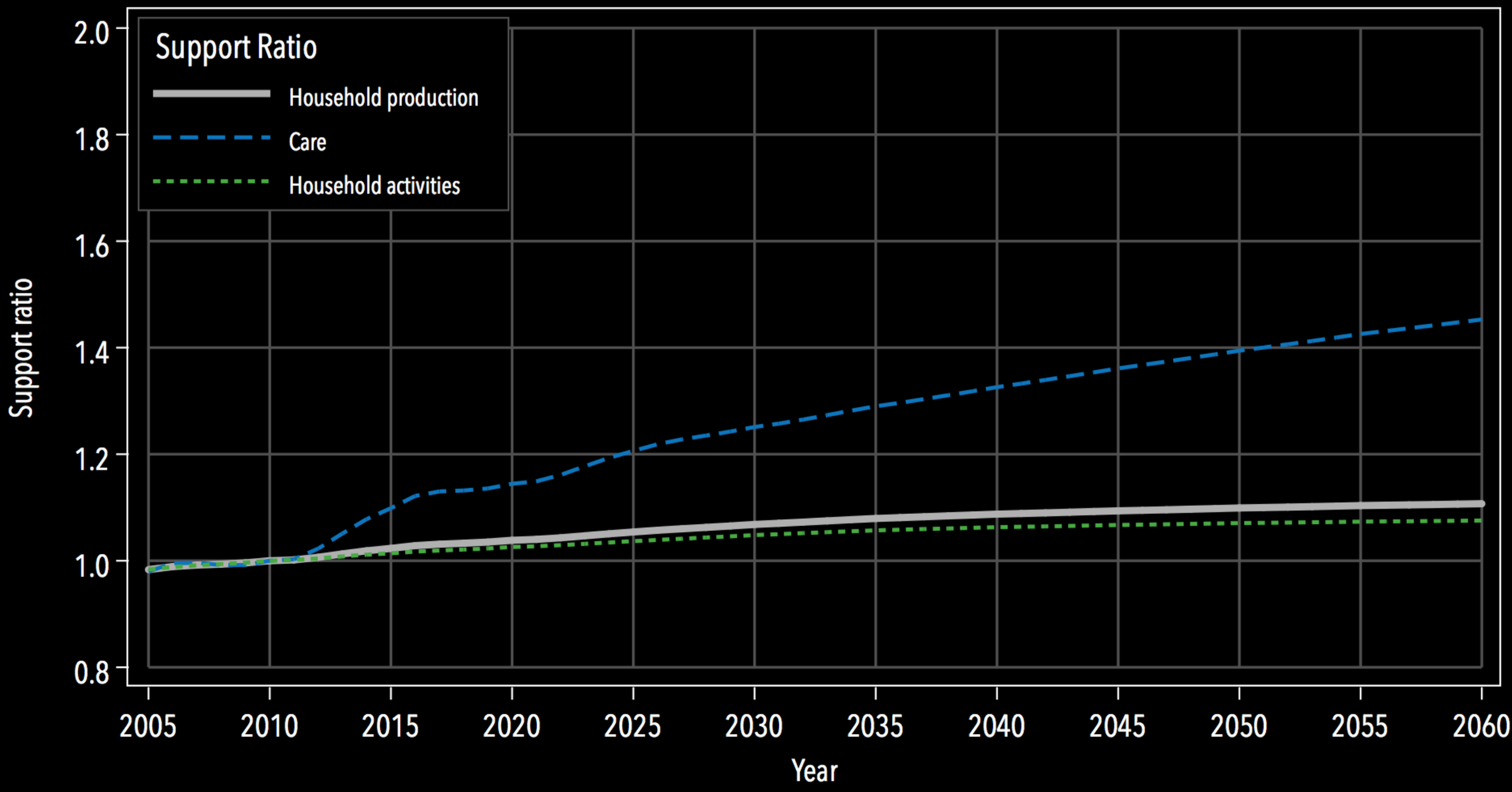

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DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND: CARE (2005-2060)

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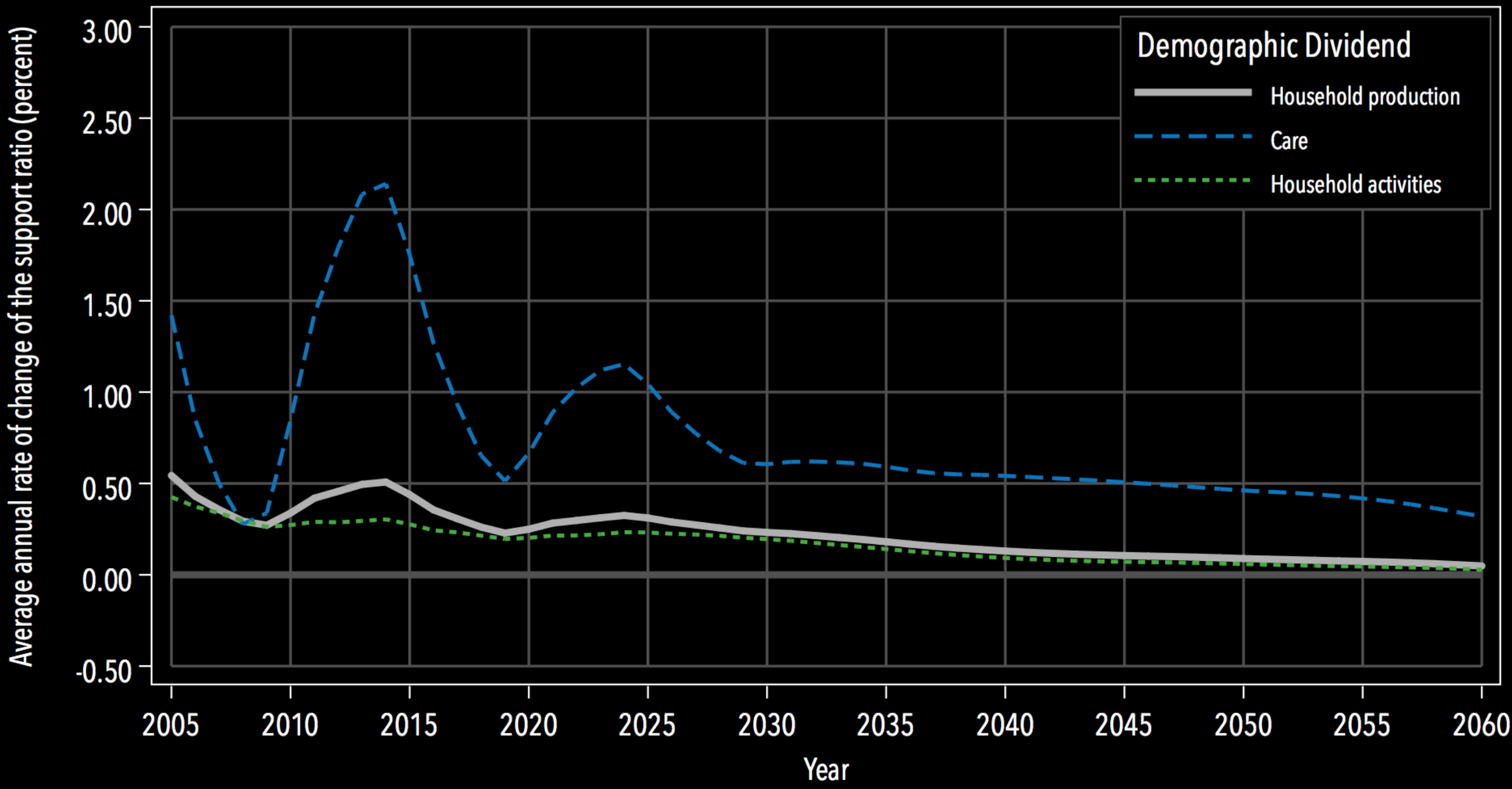

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CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

1. Clear gender specialisation in South Africa
    - During ages 20-60, men spend 1.5 to 2 times the time spent by women in market production
    - On average, women spend 3h 55 min per day in household production activities: more time at each age than men
    - Women responsible for 91% of childcare — speaks also to pattern of household structure in SA
    - Girls spend significant time in household production: 2 hours/day by age 14, 3 hours/day by age 17

CONCLUSION

2. Non-market production is substantial in South Africa

- Even using a relatively low wage to value time spent in non-market production, it is equivalent to 25% of GDP

CONCLUSION

3. Reducing gender-based inequality in labour market outcomes (as proxied by YL) can boost and extend the demographic dividend

   ➡ Positive first dividend ending 2051 instead of 2045

   ➡ Between ⅓ and 3 times larger, depending on period and assumptions

   ➡ Relatively large gain in magnitude of first dividend compared with other countries

CONCLUSION

4. A non-market demographic dividend may create space for greater engagement in labour market by women

   - ➡ Care demographic dividend is significant and positive beyond 2060
   - ➡ Household activities demographic dividend is much smaller, but still positive
   - ➡ BUT this depends on changing norms around gender roles in the context of a growing economy with rising employment