

# Counting South African Women's Work

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# Outline

## Introduction

## Data and Methodology

Data

Methodology

## Results

“What do people do all day?”

Household Production Valued

Labour Income by Gender

Combining Market and Home

## Conclusion

# Why consider gender?

## Standard National Transfer Accounts (NTA):

- ▶ Obscure inter-group inequalities
  - ▶ Males and females may differ in access to education/health; timing of labour market entry; likelihood of finding employment; 'quality' of employment
  - ▶ Child-rearing may keep many women out of the labour force for extended periods of time
  - ▶ Potentially significant differences in resources in old age
- ▶ Suffer from the same problems as national accounts
  - ▶ SNA excludes non-market household production in which women often specialise
  - ▶ Female specialisation in time-inflexible, non-discretionary tasks constrains labour market engagement
  - ▶ Strong lifecycle dimension to non-market household production

# Why consider gender in South Africa?

Consistent high-level ‘commitment’ to gender equality...  
but...

- ▶ Traditional views of “women’s work” deeply rooted
  - ▶ Despite rapid increase in female labour force participation
  - ▶ Perhaps compounded by migrant labour system?
- ▶ Strong gender differences in the labour market
  - ▶ Participation, unemployment, job quality, wages etc.
  - ▶ Weaker outcomes linked to women’s obligations in non-market household production

# Data

## Time-Use Survey 2010

- ▶ Nationally representative; collected during fourth quarter of 2010
- ▶ Up to two (randomly selected) respondents aged 10+ per household
- ▶ 24 hour diary for the day preceding the interview, starting at 4am
- ▶ Slots of 30 minutes; up to three activities (simultaneous or consecutive); NO primary/secondary distinction
- ▶ ICATUS classification, with modifications (includes code for 'waiting') and specific prompting at the end of survey for omitted childcare

# Data

## Income and Expenditure Survey 2010/11

- ▶ Nationally representative; collected from September 2010 to August 2011
- ▶ Combination of diary (two weeks) and recall methods
- ▶ COICOP (“Classification of individual consumption according to purpose”) classification

## Labour Market Dynamics Survey 2010

- ▶ ‘Stacked’ Quarterly Labour Force Surveys, incl. wages

National Accounts, administrative data

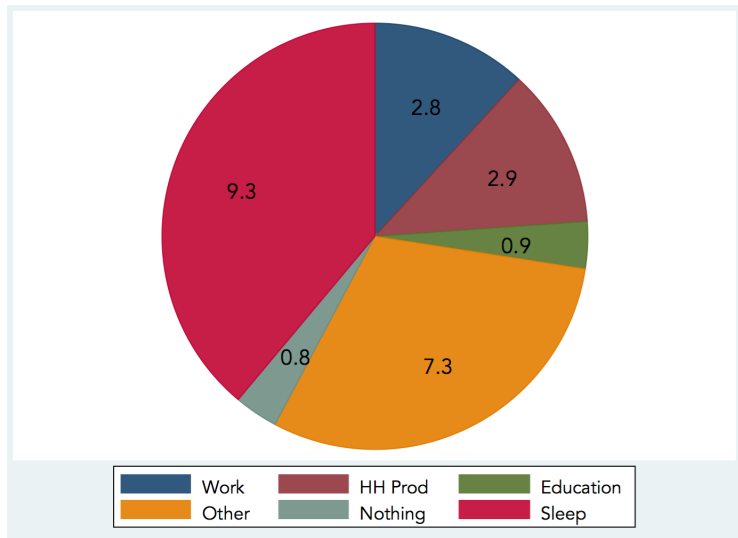
# Methodology

1. Disaggregation of market NTAs by gender
2. Construction of National Time Transfer Accounts by gender
  - ▶ From TUS, calculate time spent in unpaid household production, by gender
  - ▶ Allocation of production to consumption gives rise to transfers
  - ▶ Choice of appropriate wage to value unpaid household production
  - ▶ Valuation of time production, consumption and transfers
3. Combine NTA and NTTA

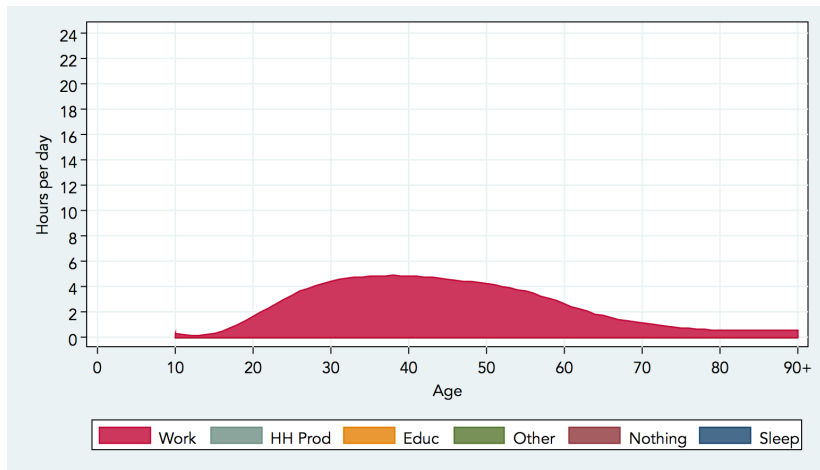


“What do people do all day?”

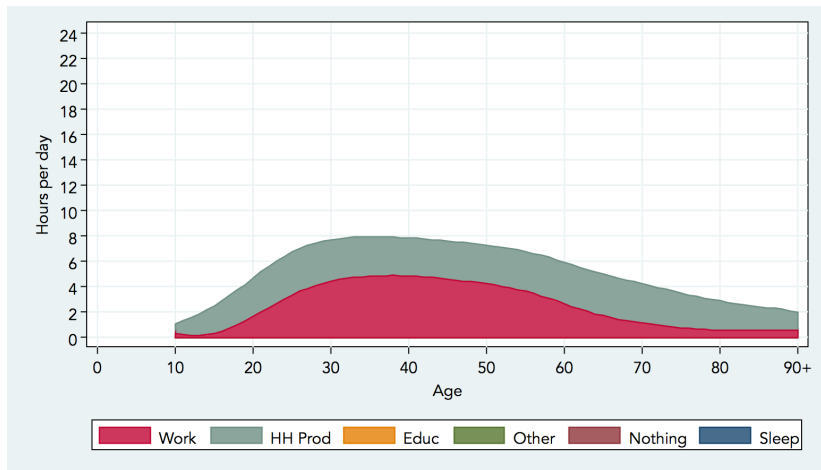
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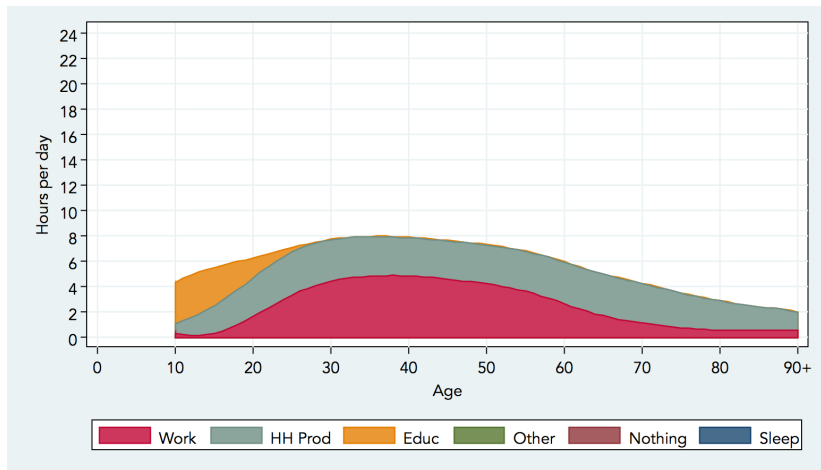
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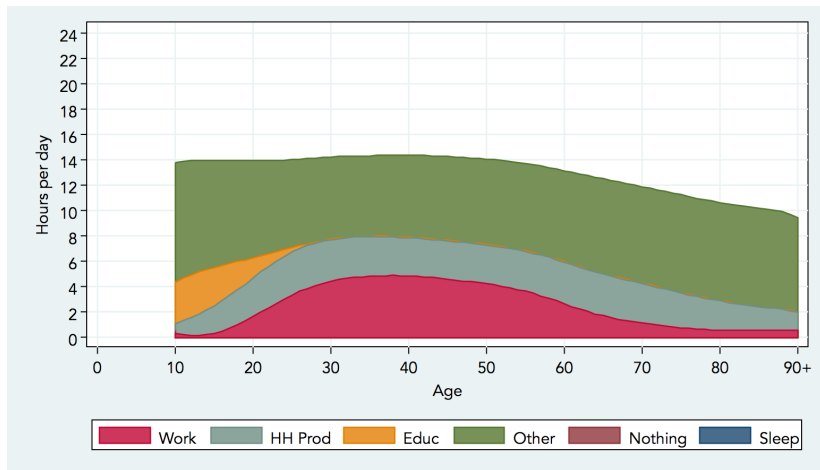
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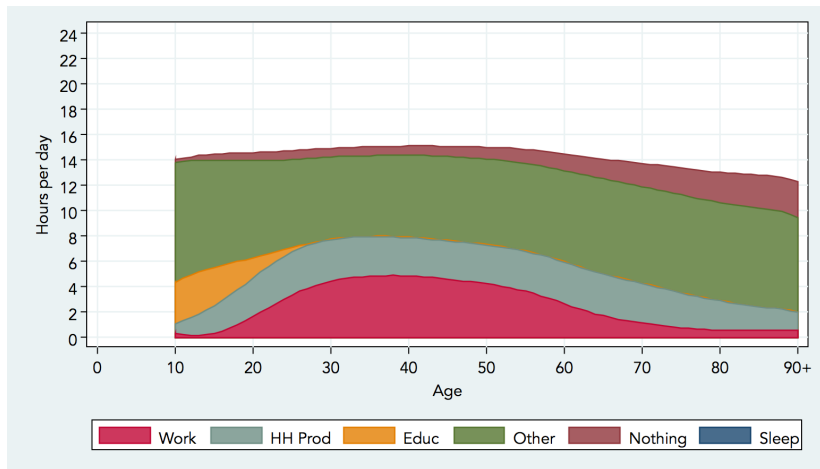
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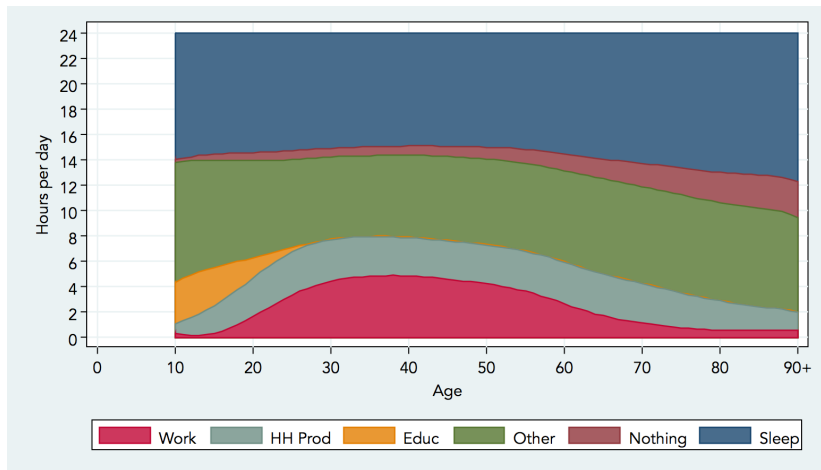
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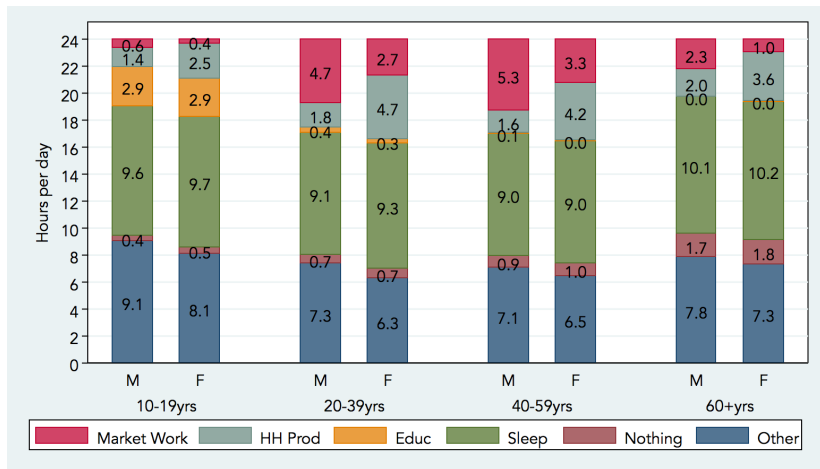


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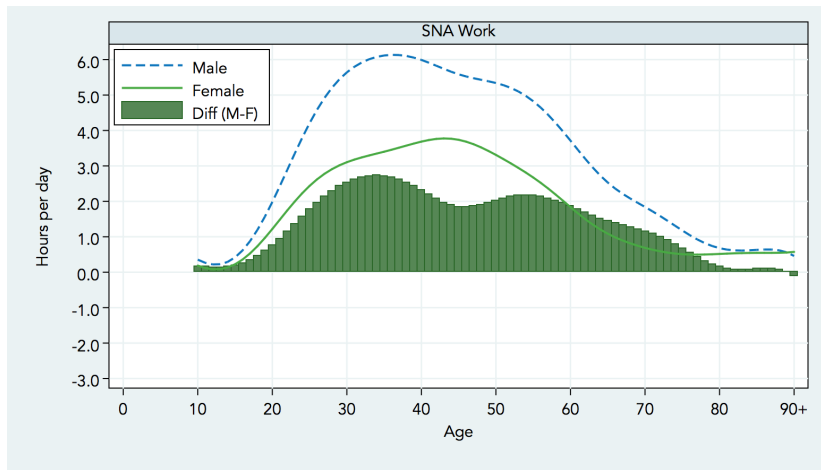




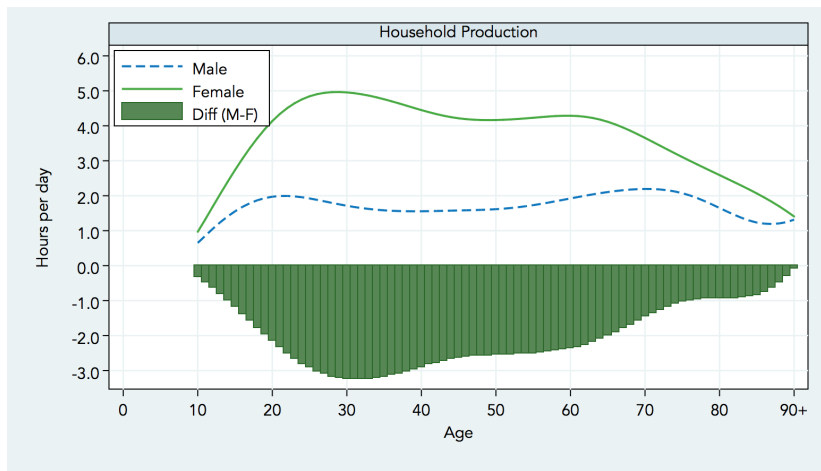
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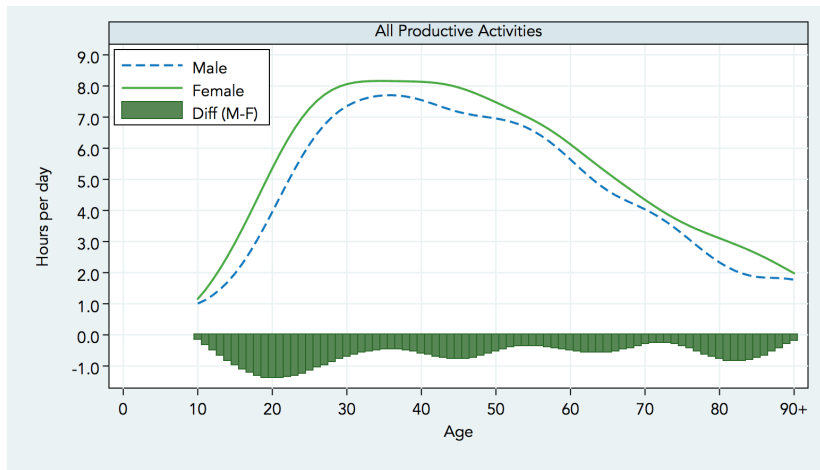
Males typically work more hours in the market...



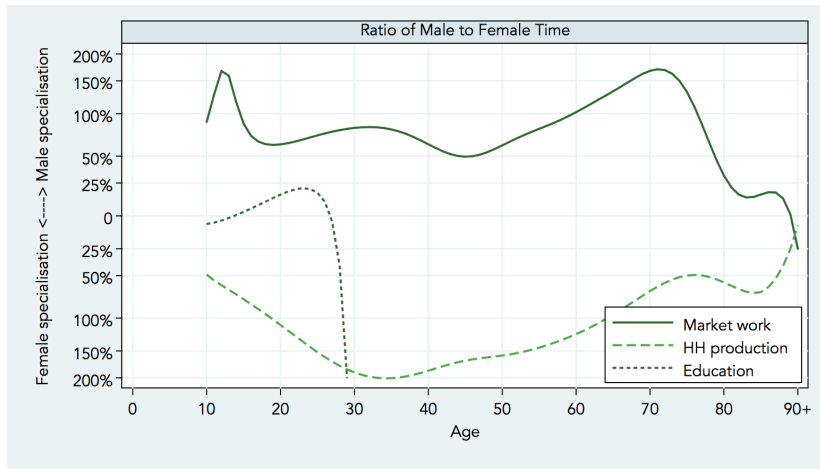
...but women spend more time in household production



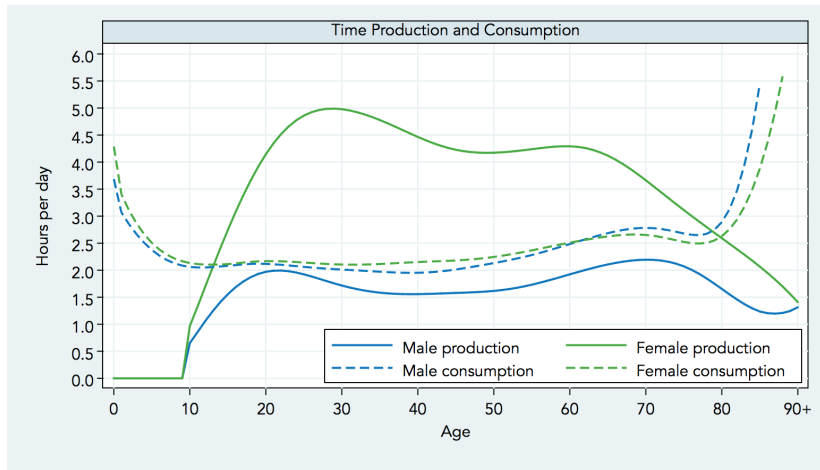
# Overall, women spend more time in productive activities



# Gender specialisation in time



# Time Production and Consumption



## Valuing household production

# Valuing household production

- ▶ Opportunity cost vs replacement cost
- ▶ Specialist vs generalist replacement
  - ▶ For now, generalist replacement across all activities:  
Domestic worker wage
  - ▶ Domestic work one of SA's largest 'employers': 970k out of 15.3 million employed (6.4 percent)
  - ▶ Unskilled workers account for 27.8 percent of total employment; bulk of unemployed are relatively unskilled
  - ▶ Domestic workers are commonly employed to undertake most, if not all, household production activities
- ▶ Imputed wages for bracket responses; trimmed top 0.2% of the distribution
  - ▶ National mean hourly wage: R 32.43 (USD 2.95)
  - ▶ Mean hourly wage: R 13.75 (USD 1.25)
  - ▶ Median hourly wage: R 8.65 (USD 0.79)
  - ▶ Official minimum wage: R 6.44–9.12 (USD 0.59–0.83)



# Valuing household production

| MEDIAN WAGE          |               | GDP             | Labour Income   |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Value                |               | R 2 659 billion | R 1 457 billion |
| NNTA work            | R 372 billion | 14.0%           | 25.5%           |
| Male                 | R 104 billion | 3.9%            | 7.2%            |
| Female               | R 268 billion | 10.1%           | 18.4%           |
| Household production | R 327 billion | 12.3%           | 22.4%           |
| Male                 | R 96 billion  | 3.6%            | 6.6%            |
| Female               | R 230 billion | 8.7%            | 15.8%           |
| Care work            | R 45 billion  | 1.7%            | 3.1%            |
| Male                 | R 8 billion   | 0.3%            | 0.6%            |
| Female               | R 37 billion  | 1.4%            | 2.5%            |

For females, care work is 13.9% of NNTA work

For males, it is 7.8%

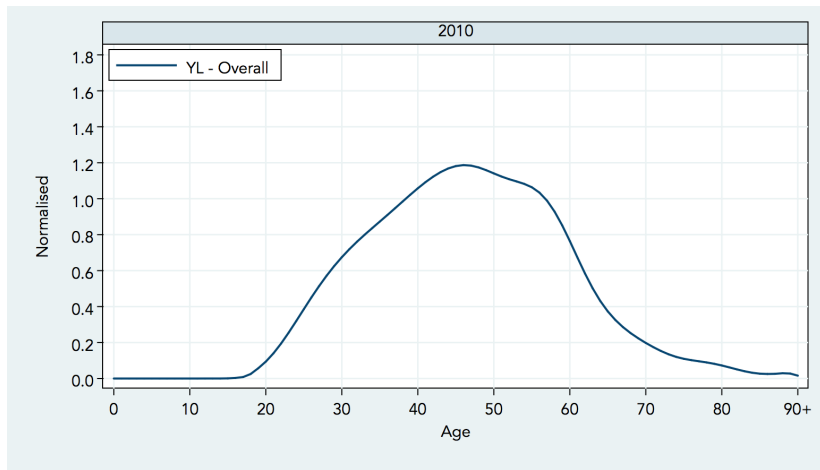
# Valuing household production

| MEAN WAGE            |               | GDP             | Labour Income   |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Value                |               | R 2 659 billion | R 1 457 billion |
| NNTA work            | R 591 billion | 22.2%           | 40.6%           |
| Male                 | R 166 billion | 6.2%            | 11.4%           |
| Female               | R 425 billion | 16.0%           | 29.2%           |
| Household production | R 519 billion | 19.5%           | 35.6%           |
| Male                 | R 153 billion | 5.7%            | 10.5%           |
| Female               | R 366 billion | 13.8%           | 25.1%           |
| Care work            | R 72 billion  | 2.7%            | 4.9%            |
| Male                 | R 13 billion  | 0.5%            | 0.9%            |
| Female               | R 59 billion  | 2.2%            | 4.0%            |

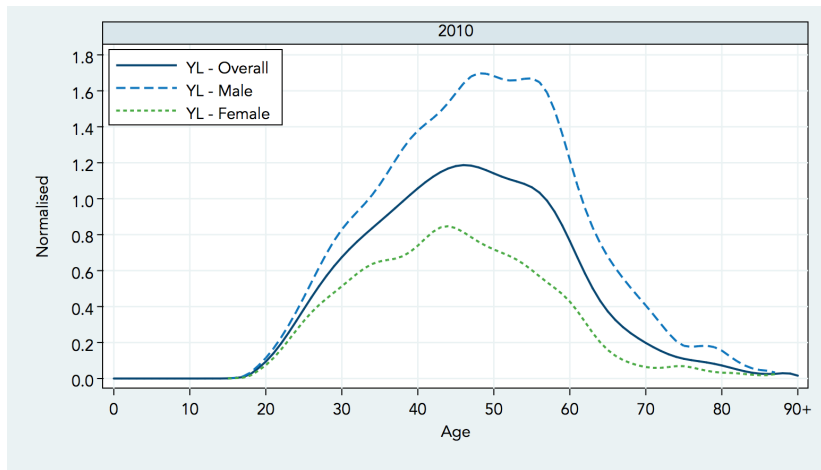
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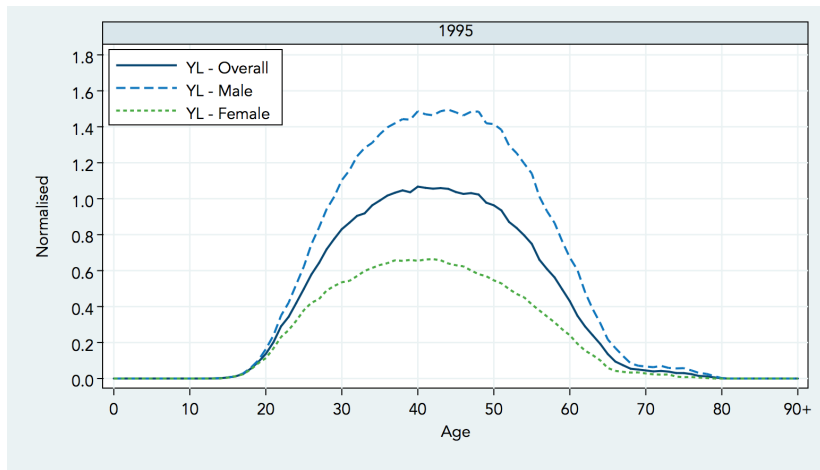
# Labour income by gender



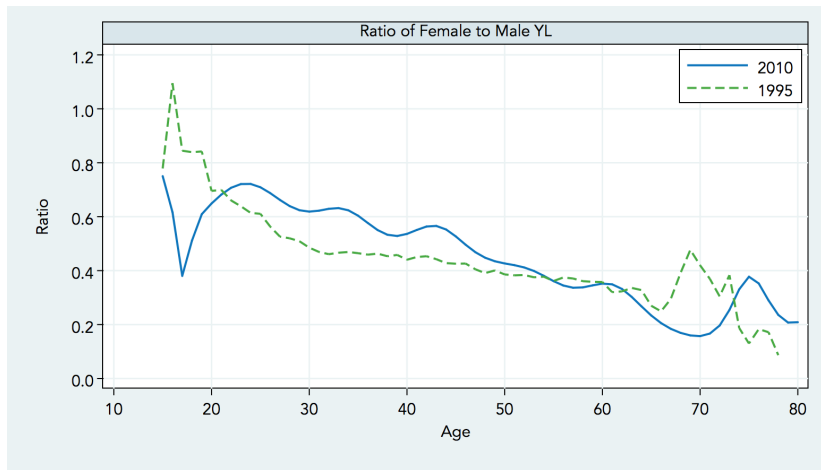
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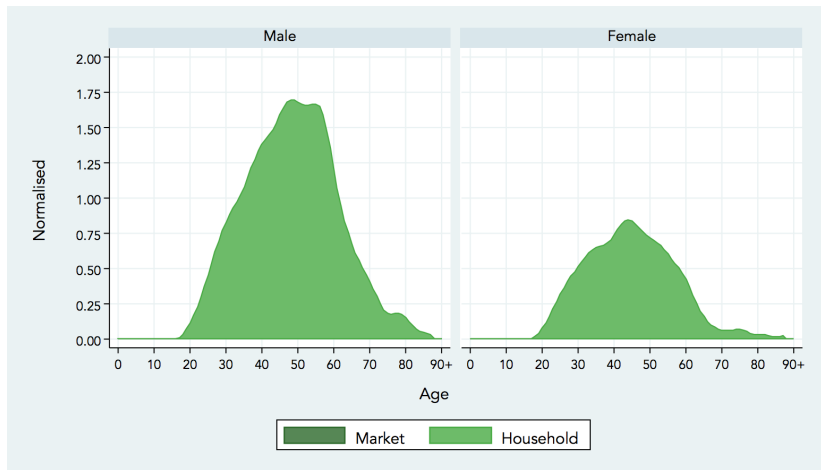
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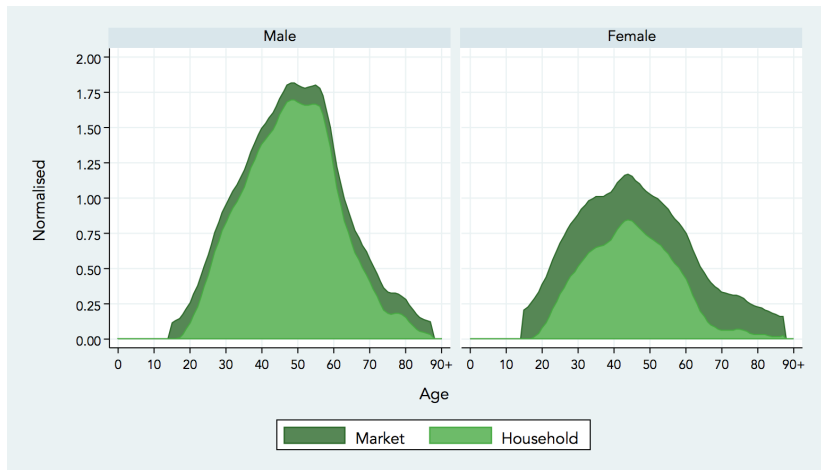
# Labour income by gender



# Combining market and home

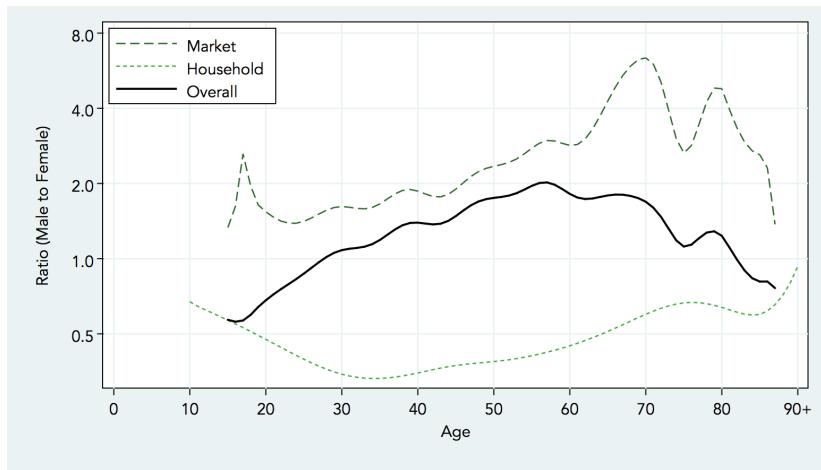


# Combining market and home





# Combining market and home



# Conclusion

Household production represents a significant proportion of total output in SA

Large differences in market and household production between males and females

Including household production does not close total production gap between males and females (an issue of the wage used to value time?)

Females responsible for majority of household production, and particularly care work

At no point in the lifecycle do males generate a surplus in terms of time