

# Italian time transfers by age and gender in comparative perspective

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...Time is money!



# Background

- Time transfers are invisible to national accounts
- Time is an important form of intergenerational transfer of wealth and well-being
- Time transfers give us insights on intergenerational and gender relationships

# Goals

- To obtain a quantitative picture of household time production in a comparative perspective
- To estimate age profiles of time production and consumption by gender for Italy
- To better understand the relationship between gender, non monetary production, intra-household transfers and family structure
- To inform policies (e.g. how to ease the cost of parenting)

# Outline for this talk

- 1) Data
- 2) Comparative perspective on time spent in productive activities
- 3) Household time production
- 4) Household time consumption
- 5) Time deficit
- 6) Time cost of additional children
- 7) Discussion and future work

Focus on  
Italy

## Data

- HETUS (Harmonised European Time Use Survey), EUROSTAT: comparable data for 15 countries, but wide age groups, no microdata
- MTUS (Multinational Time Use Study): microdata available, but loss of some information to make data sets comparable
- Italian Time Use Survey, ISTAT 2002-2003: Very detailed, covers ages 3 and above

# Codes of Activities

Household and Family Care	
HETUS and ISTAT	MTUS
31 - Food Management	AV6 - Cook/Wash up
32 - Household Upkeep	AV7 - Housework
33 - Making and Care for Textiles	AV8 - Other Domestic Work
34 - Gardening and Pet Care	AV9 - Gardening
35 - Construction and Repairs	AV10 - Shopping
36 - Shopping and Services	AV11 - Childcare
37 - Household Management	AV12 - Domestic Travel
38 - Childcare	
39 - Help to an Adult Family member	

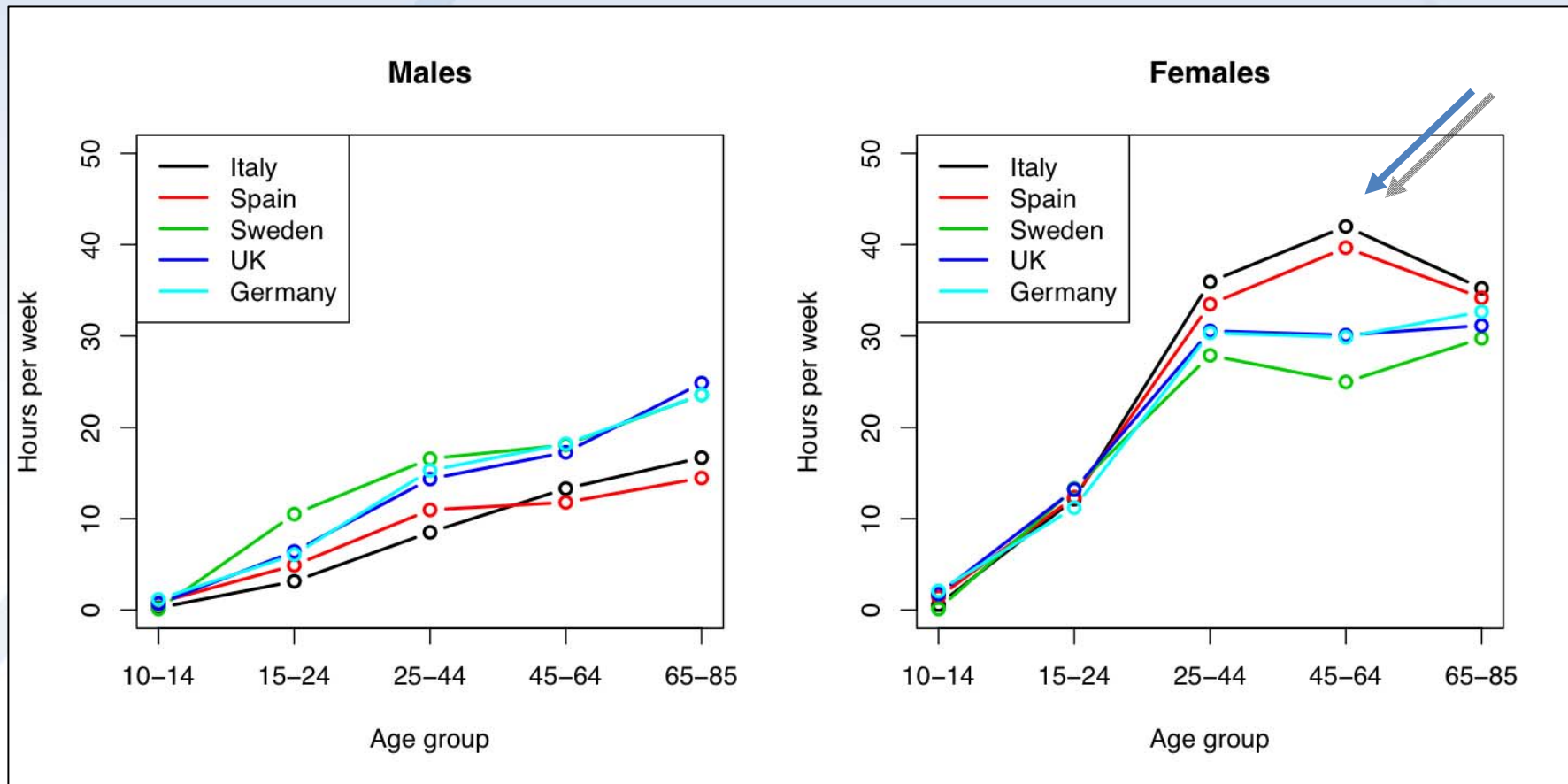


...hence:

- HETUS and MTUS: picture of gender differences in household production across European countries
- ISTAT: more detailed analysis for Italy



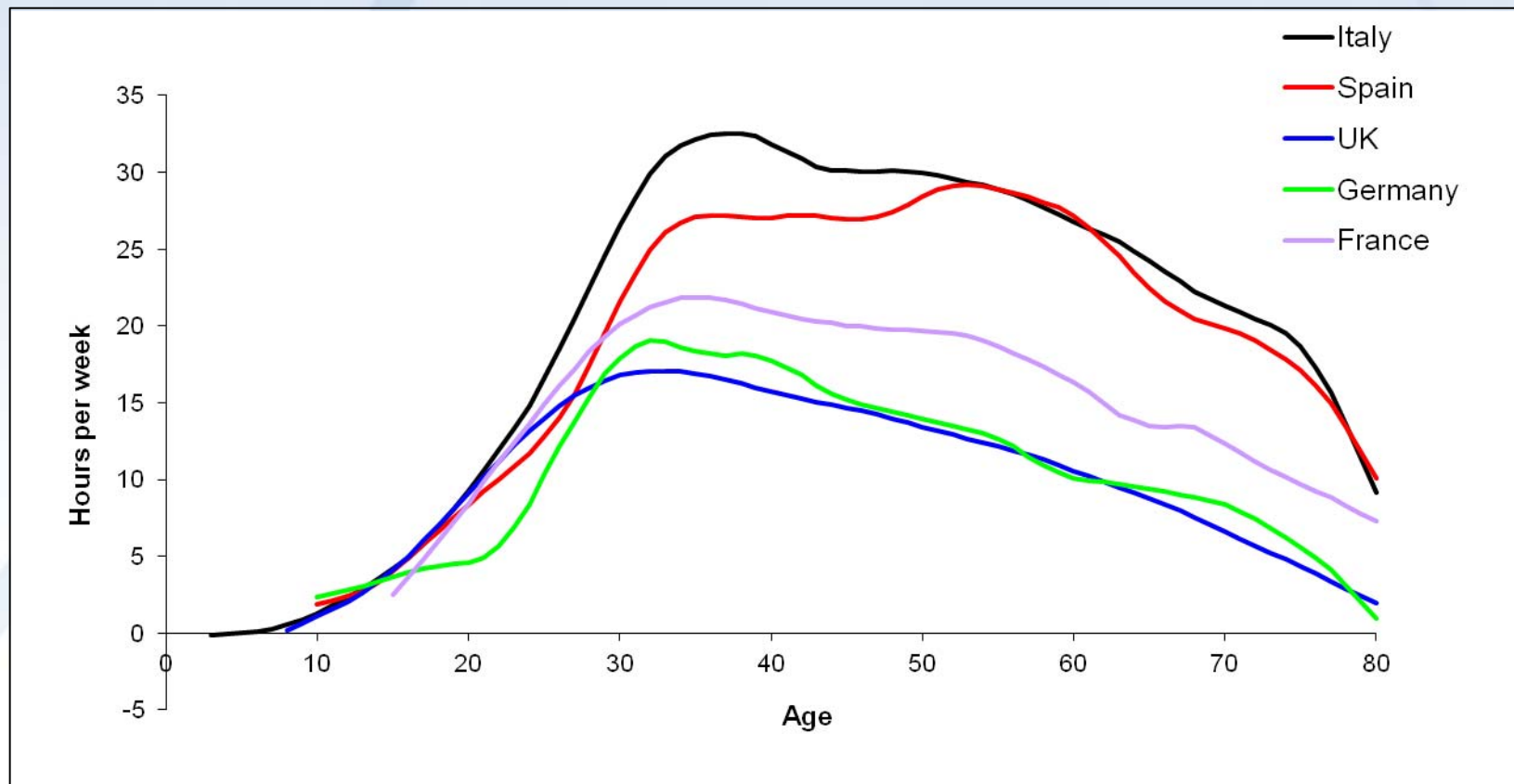
# Mean time spent in domestic production by age and gender (HETUS, 1999-2002)



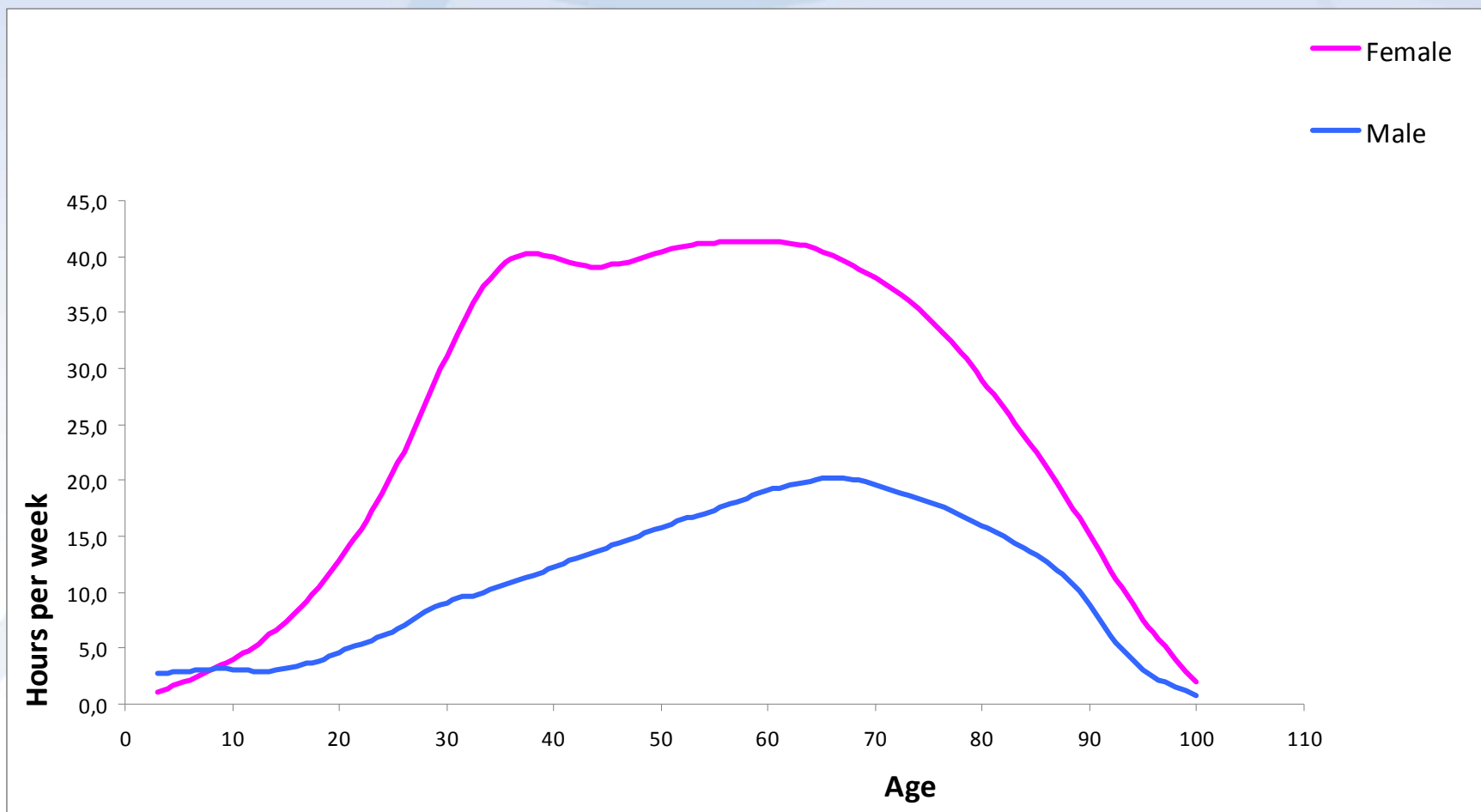
## Employment rate by gender for 15-64 age group (per cent values), EUROSTAT

Country	Year 2001		
	Males	Females	Differences
Germany	72,8	58,7	14,1
Spain	72,5	43,1	29,4
France	69,7	56,0	13,7
Italy	68,5	41,1	27,4
United Kingdom	78,0	65,0	13,0
	Year 2010		
	Males	Females	Differences
Germany	76,0	66,1	9,9
Spain	64,7	52,3	12,4
France	68,1	59,7	8,4
Italy	67,7	46,1	21,6
United Kingdom	74,5	64,6	9,9

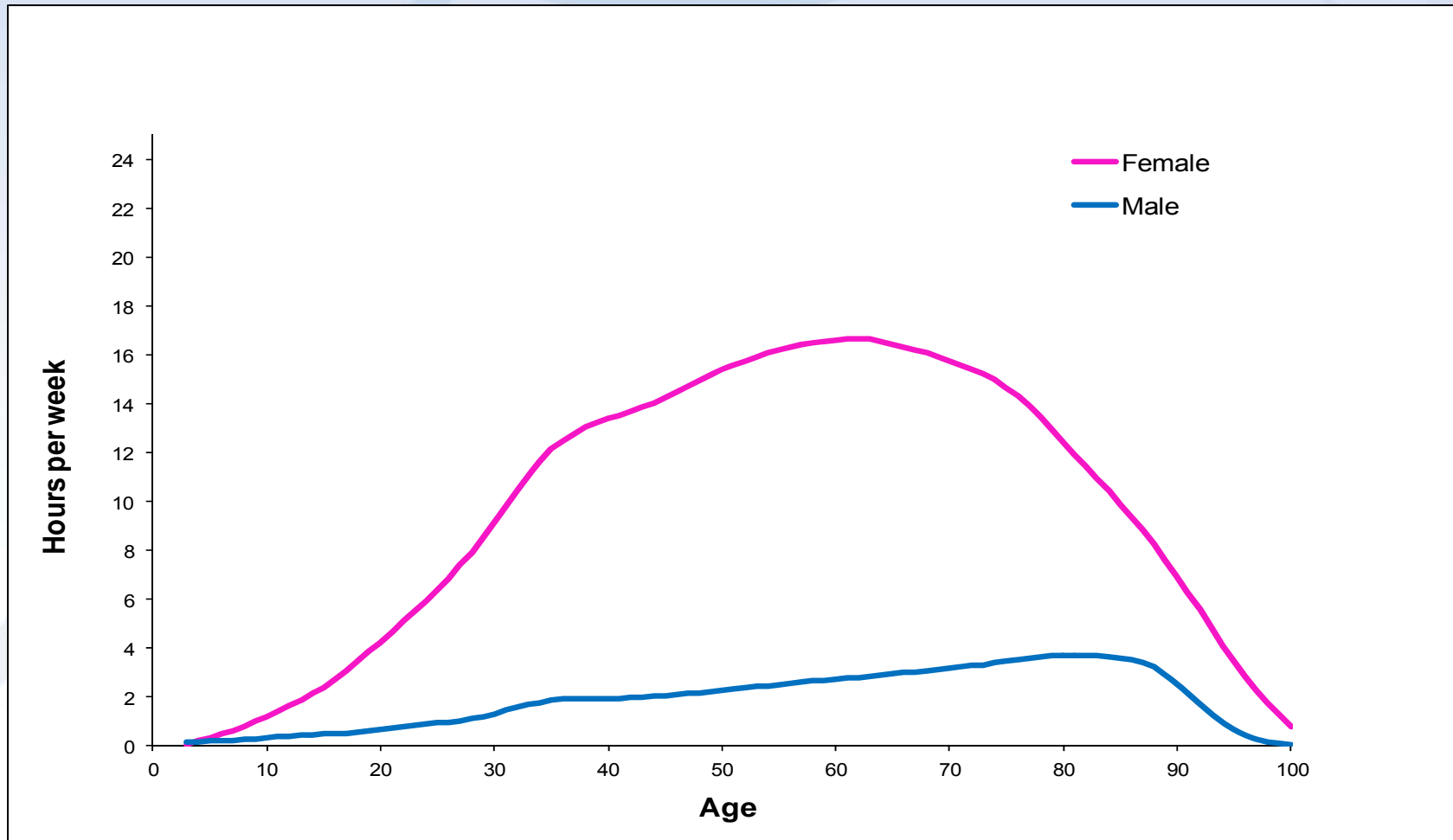
# Women-men difference in household time production by age (MTUS, 1999-2002)



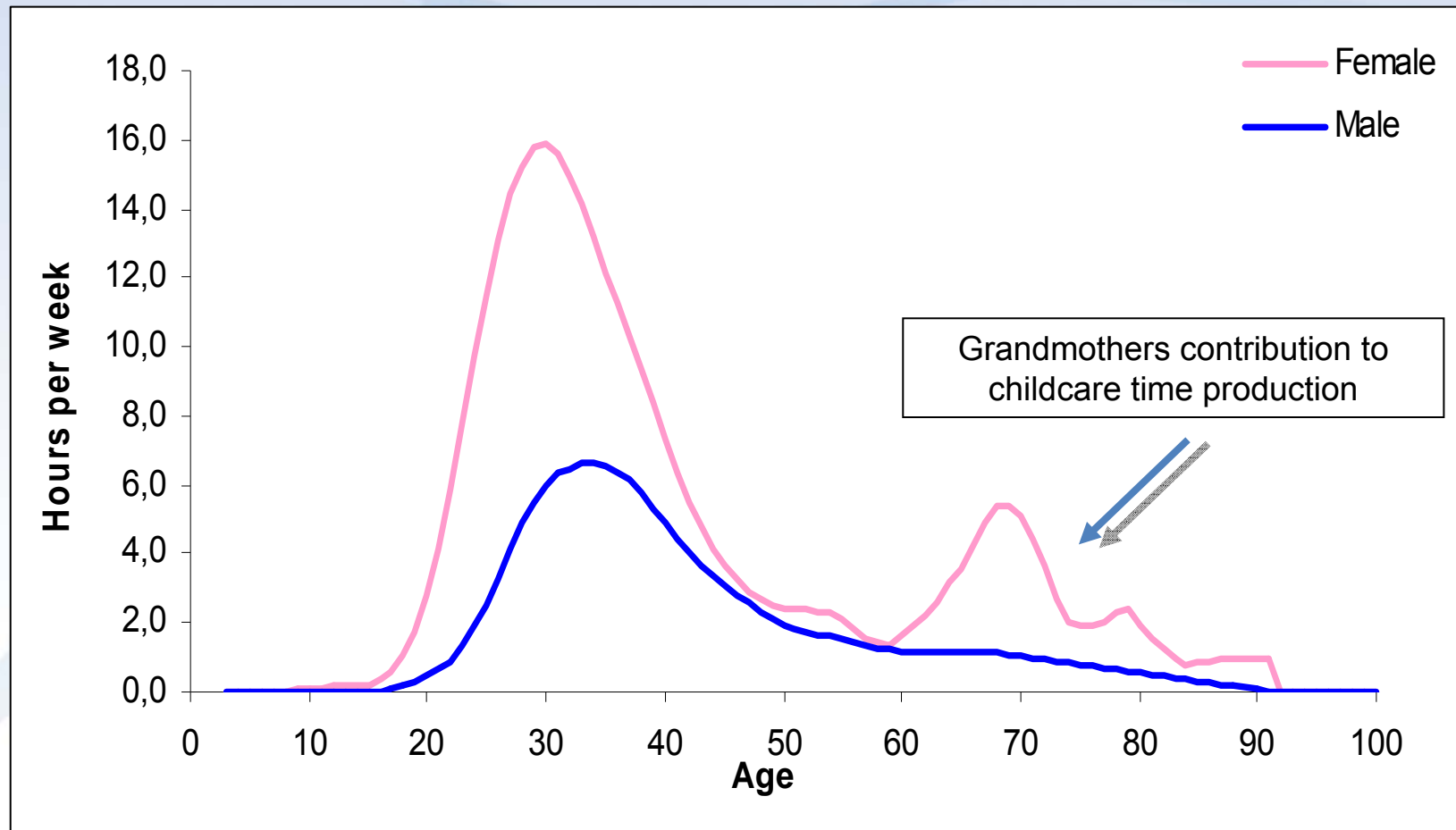
# Overall household production (Italy, 2003)



# Food management (Italy, 2003)



# Childcare (Italy, 2003)



## Household consumption of time by age

- Method suggested by G. Donehower  
(Incorporating Gender and Time use into NTA: National Time Transfers Accounts Methodology, October 2011)
- Method of regression

$$C_j = \beta(0) \cdot N_j(0) + \beta(1) \cdot N_j(1) + \dots + \beta(a) \cdot N_j(a) + \beta(\omega) \cdot N_j(\omega)$$

where:

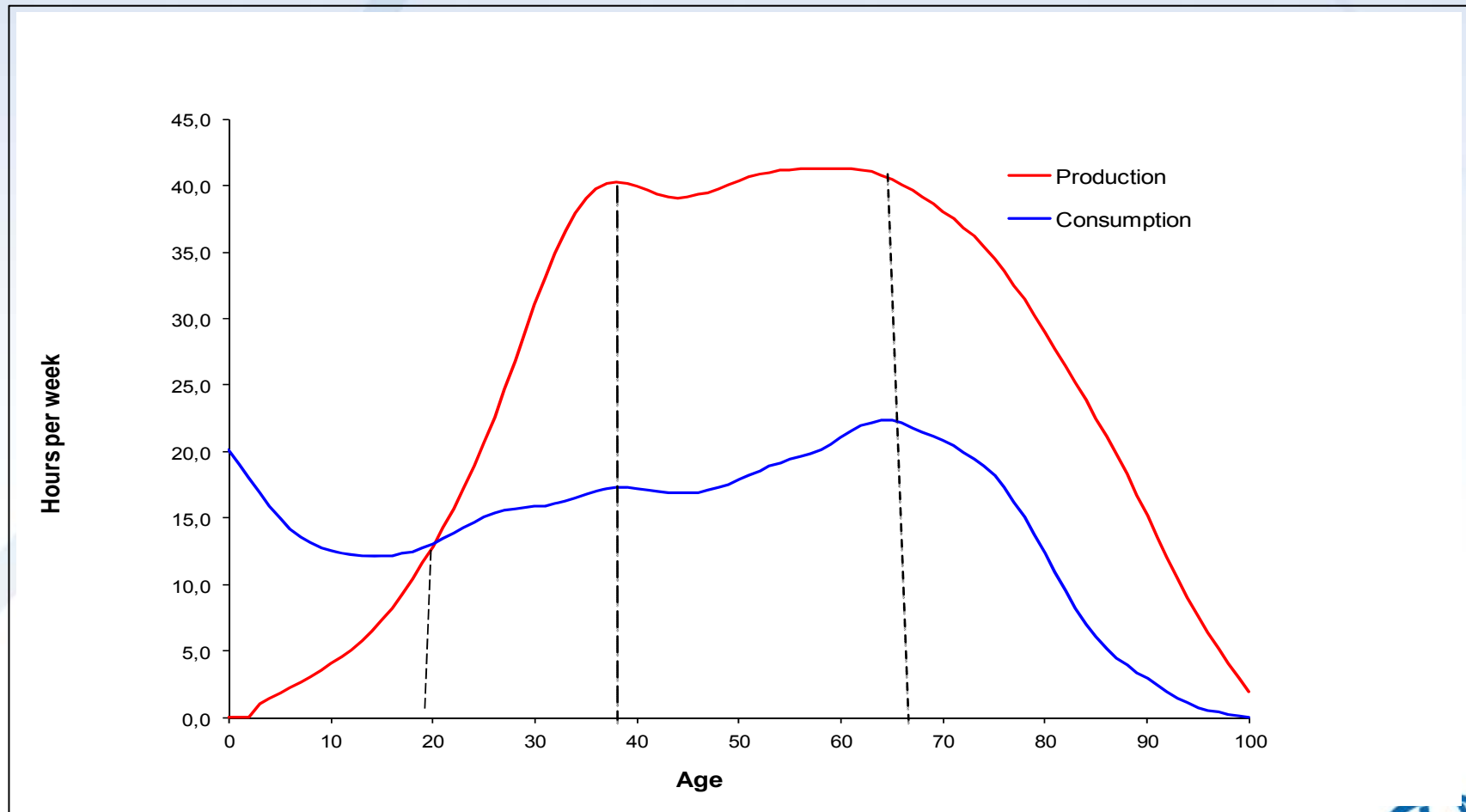
$C_j$  = time consumption for household j

$N_j(a)$  = number of member aged a in household j

$\beta(a)$  = time consumption by a person of age a



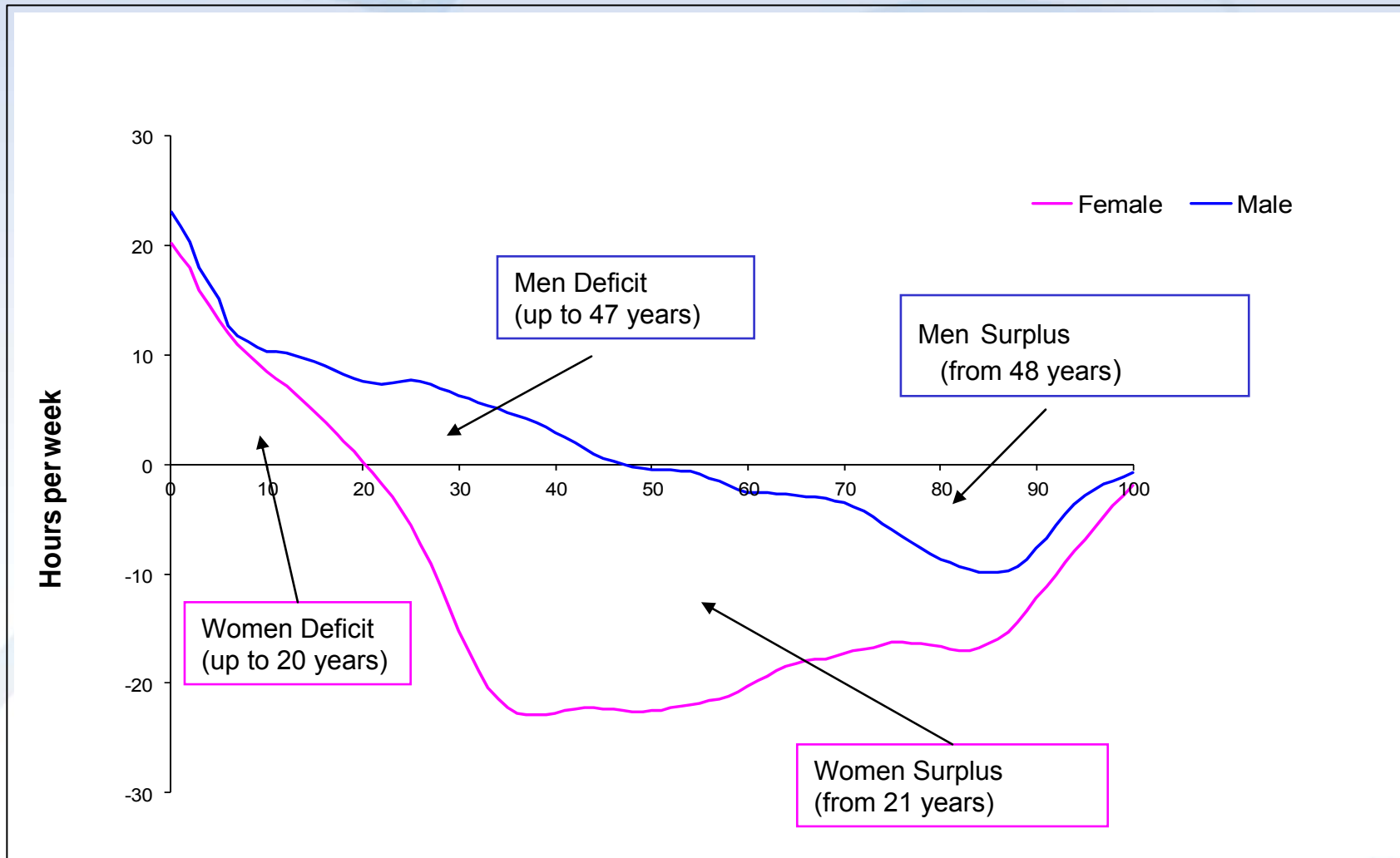
# Women age profiles of time consumption and production (Italy, 2003)



# Men age profiles of time consumption and production (Italy, 2003)



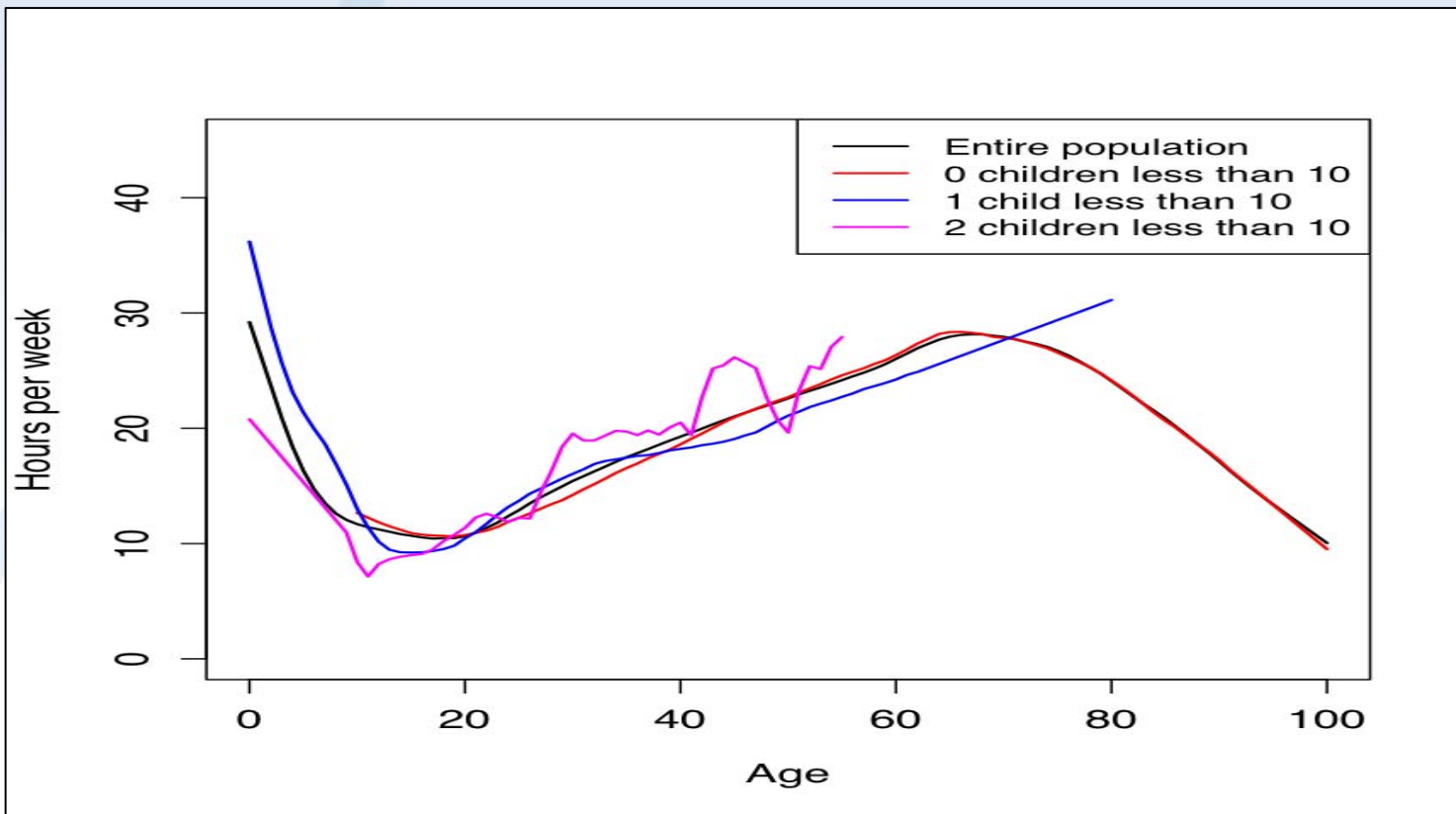
# Time deficit by sex and age (Italy, 2003)



# Time cost of additional children

## Per capita age profiles of time consumption for different family structures

An additional child increases the overall household time production but decreases the mean time dedicated to each child



## Conclusions

- Large gender differences in time dedicated to household production
- Childcare is an important component during central ages, but even during older ages due to the special role played by grandmothers.
- Women spend up to 40 hours per week for household production, similarly to a full-time job

## Conclusions

- Women produce more time than they consume for most of their life, while men are in time deficit until age 50 (they produce less time and later)
- Culturally sanctioned separation of roles, differences in occupational levels, labor market rigidities, or lack of family welfare (e.g. facilities that ease parenting) may be reasons for what we observe

...what to look for:

- What is the importance of inter-household transfers of time?
- What is the effect of population aging on traditional forms of intergenerational support?
- How much is low fertility related to the time investment to run a household?



Thanks!  
Gracias!  
Obrigada!

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