

Prospects of Fertility Decline in Pakistan

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“United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Recent and Future Trends in Fertility”

Population Division , Department of Economic and Social Affairs , United Nations Secretariat , New York

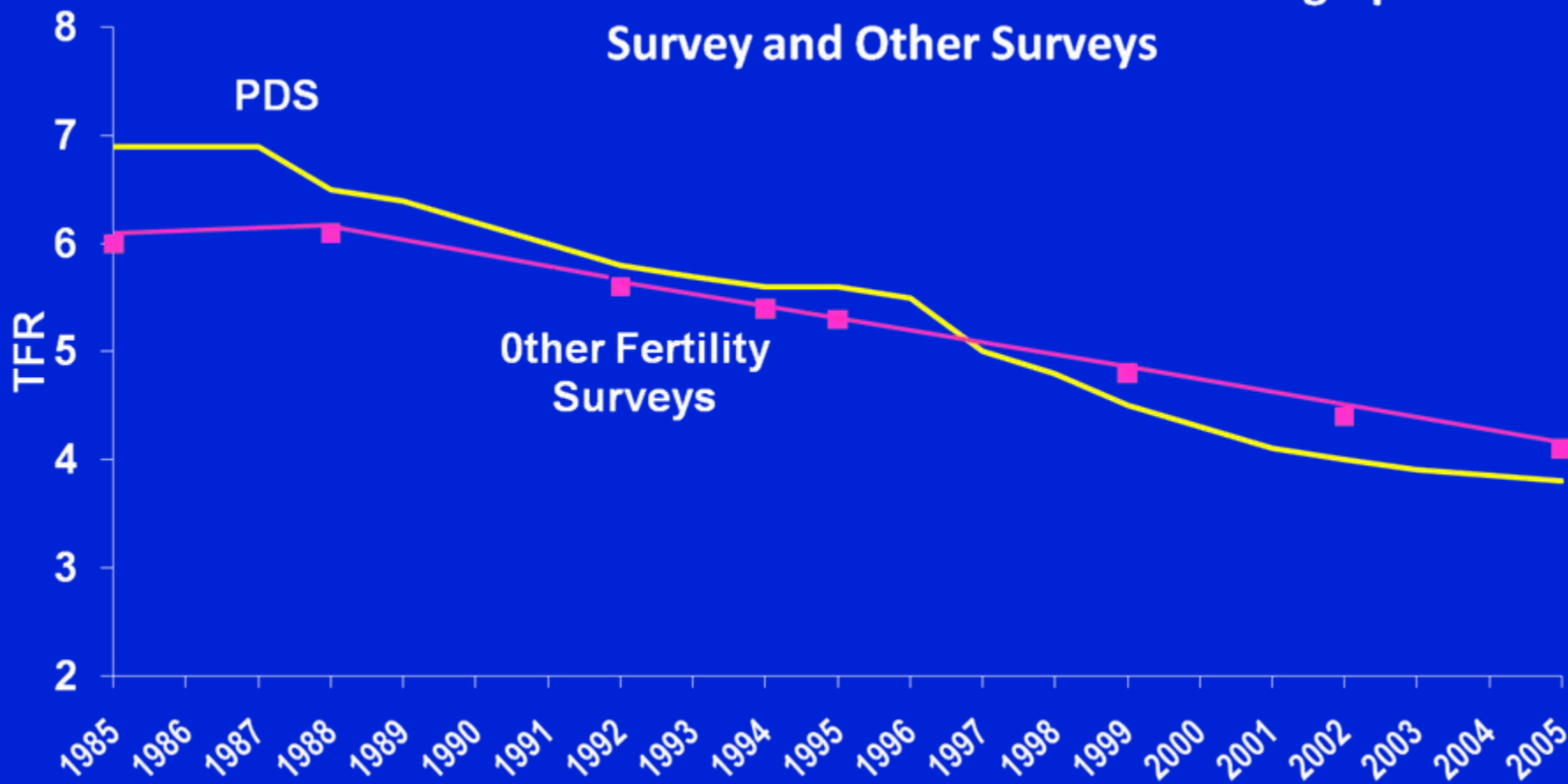
December 2 – 4, 2009

Fertility in Pakistan – the Twists and the Turns

- ❖ Pakistan one of the last nations to have high fertility and population above 100 million
- ❖ Fertility began declining around 1988 (Sathar and Casterline 1998), one of the last to experience transition
- ❖ Declared in 2001 as ‘evidence of a rapid decline in fertility, rapid even in comparison to Asia’ (Feeney and Alam 2003)
- ❖ Disappointment at the slow down in the speed of decline 2001-2007 (Population Council 2009)
- ❖ Need for review of fertility prospects and growth rates largely dependent on fertility decline

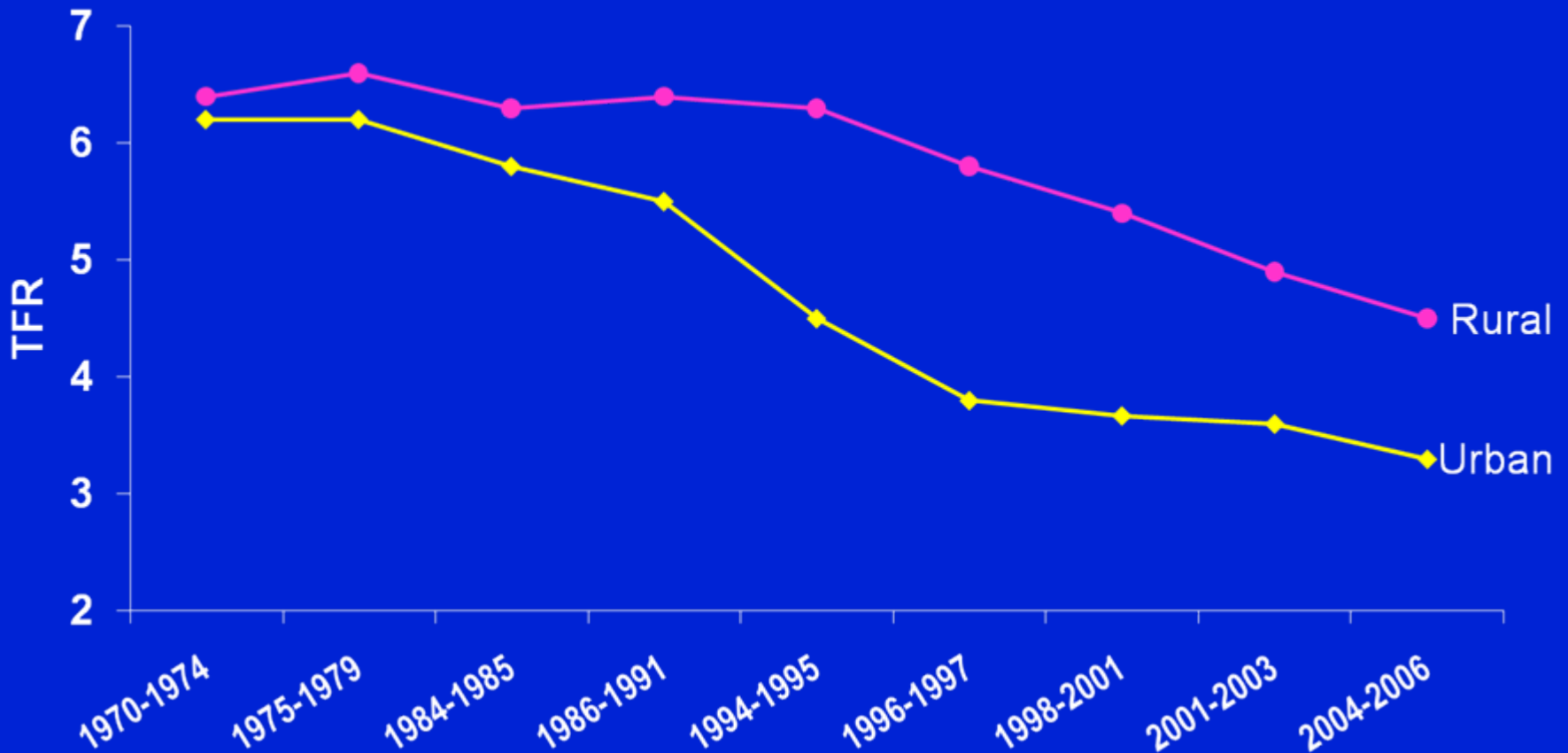
Fertility Decline – 1985-2007

Differences in TFR between the Pakistan Demographic Survey and Other Surveys



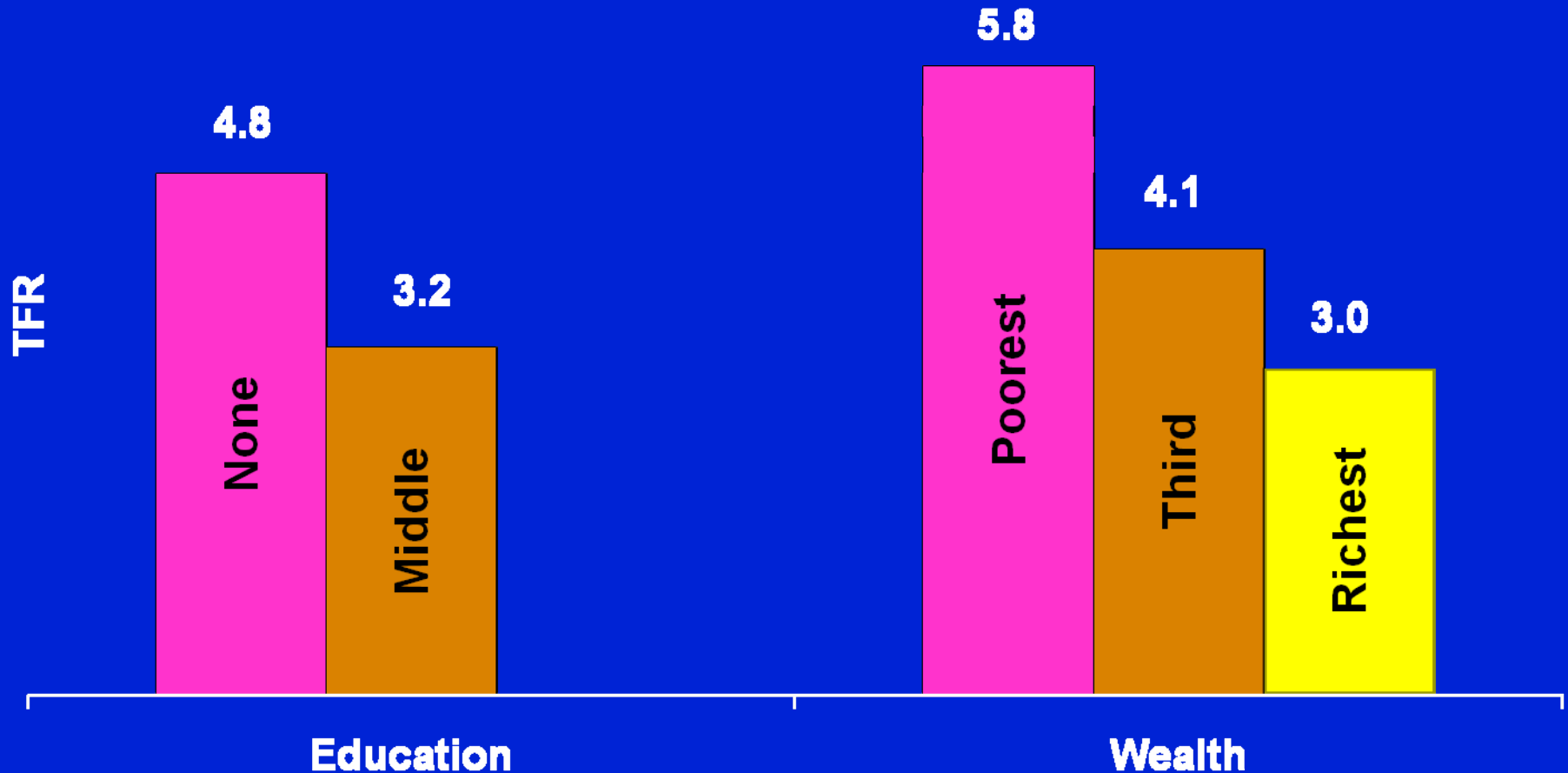
Sources: PDS 1985 till 2005; PCPS 1984-85; PDHS 1990-91; PCPS 1994; PFFPS 1997; PRHFPS 2001; SWRHFPS 2003; PDHS 2006-07

Urban Rural TFRs 1970-2007



Sources: PDS 1985 till 2005; PCPS 1984-85; PDHS 1990-91; PCPS 1994; PFFPS 1997; PRHFPS 2001; SWRHFPS 2003; PDHS 2006-07

Differentials in TFR by Education and Income (2007)

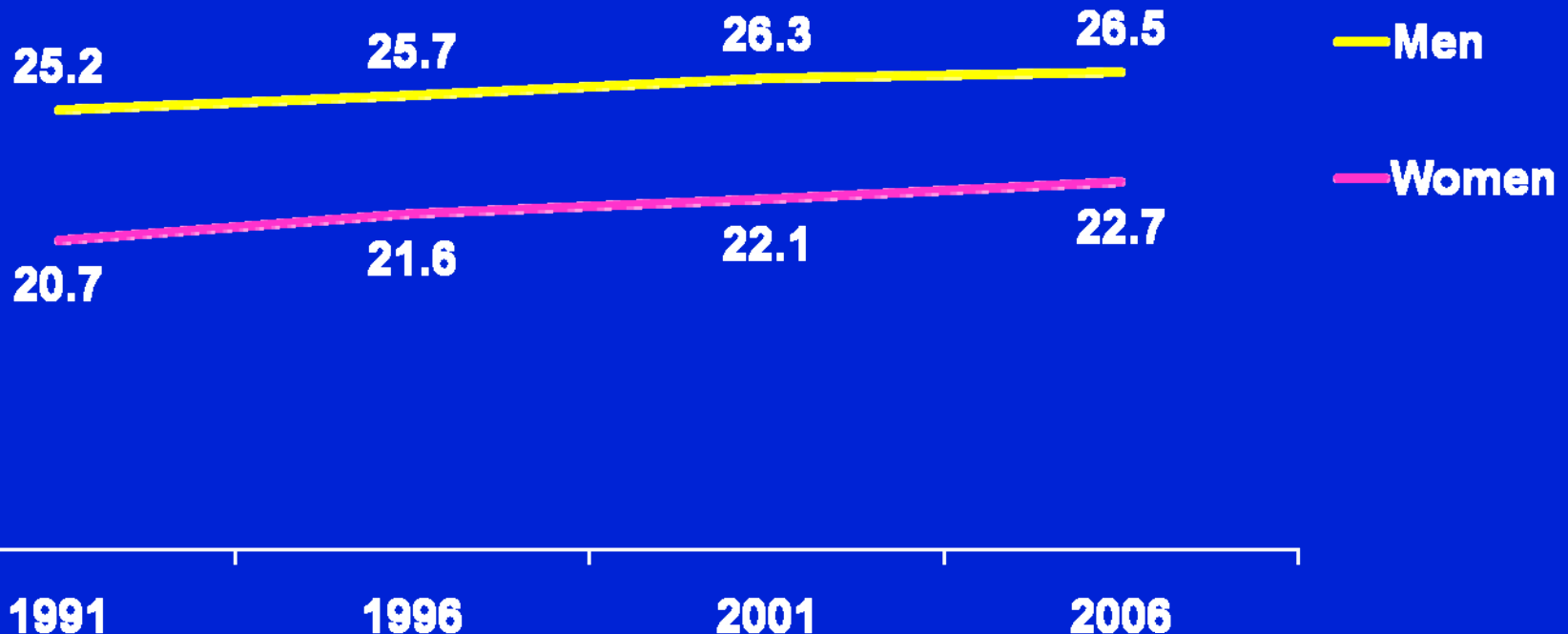


Source: PDHS 2006-07

The Proximate Determinants – Which one is more Important?

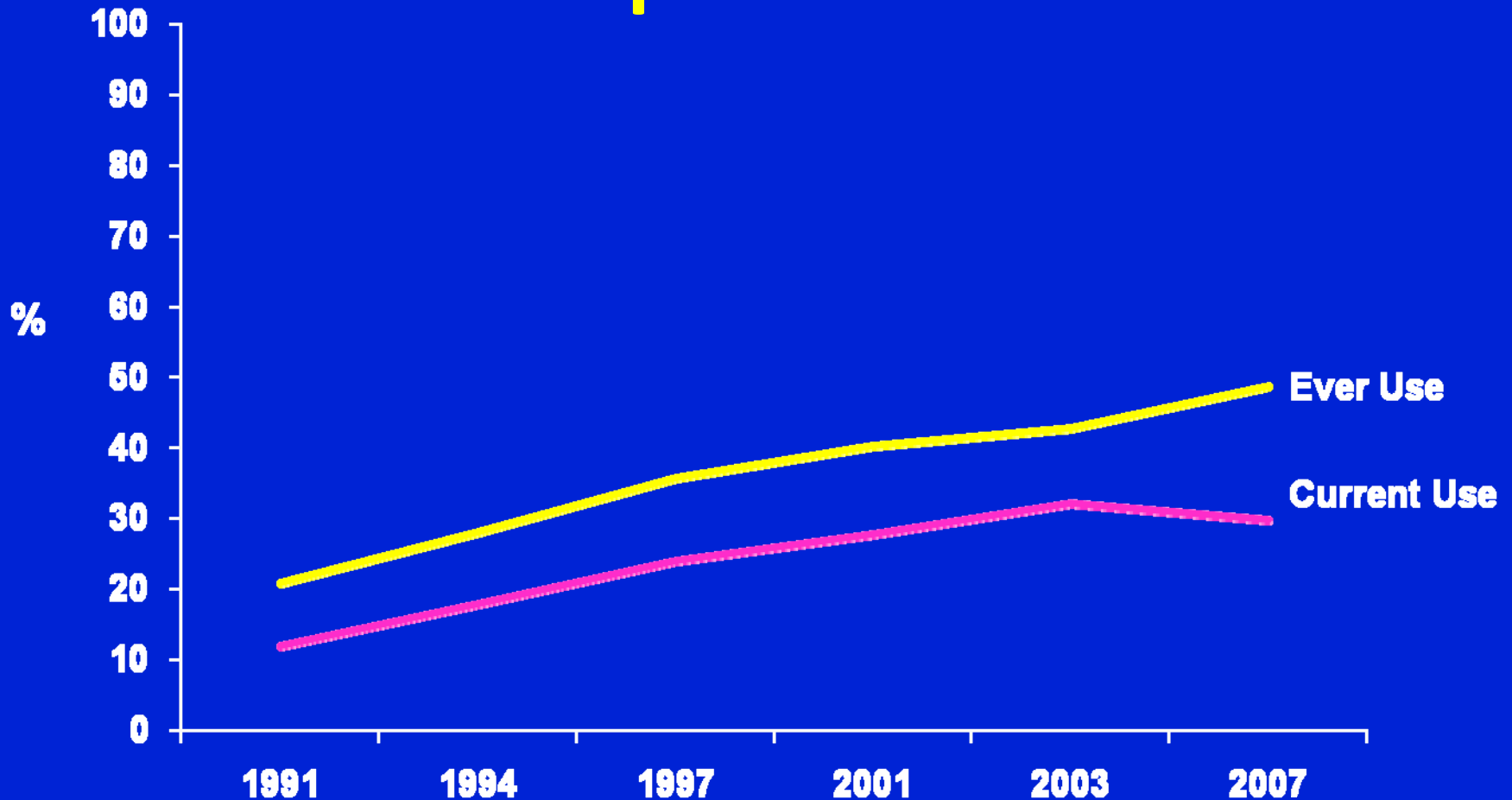
Age at Marriage has been Rising Steadily, Especially for Women

Singulate Mean Age at Marriage



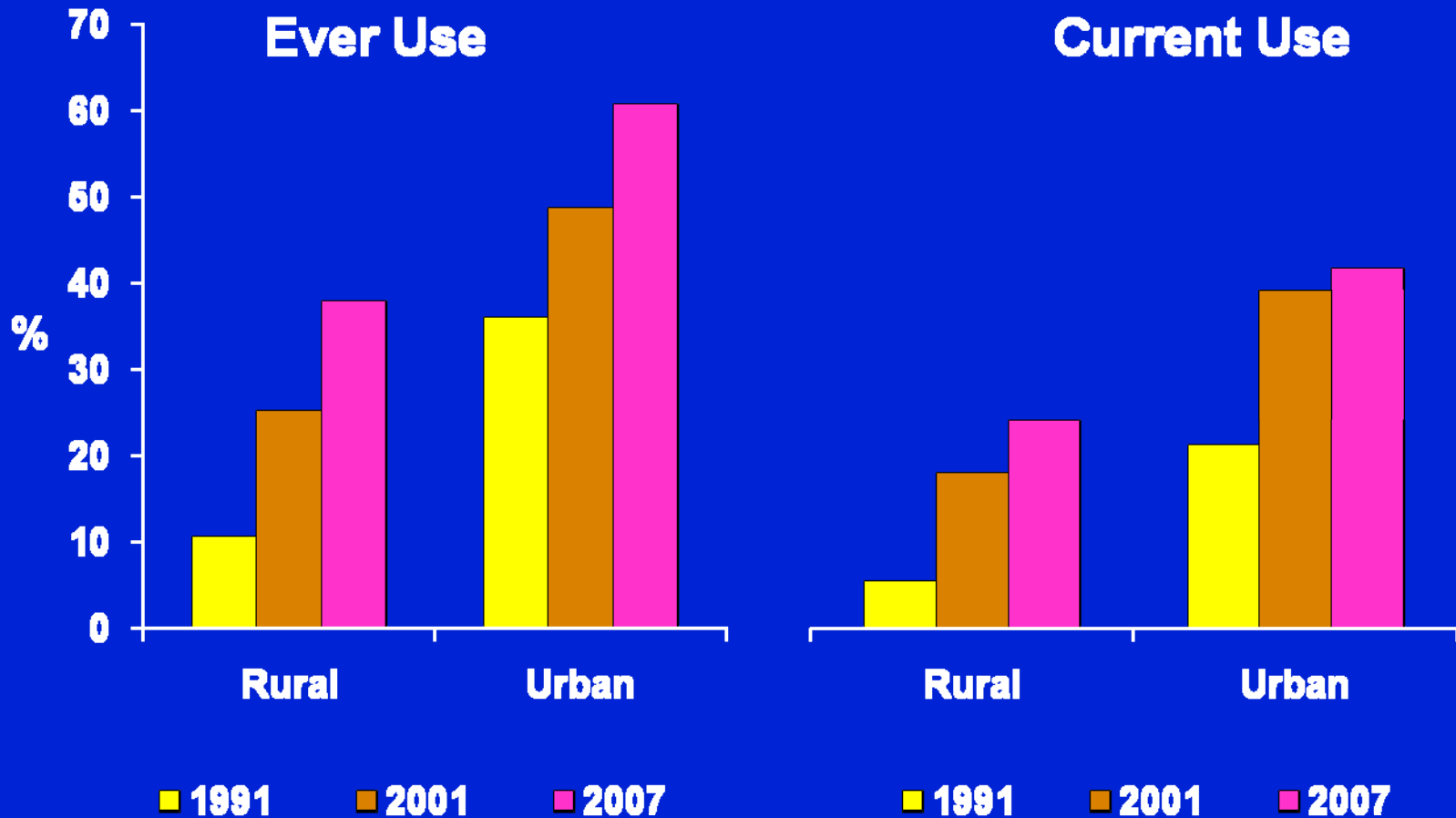
Source: Pakistan Demographic Surveys 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006

Changes in Current and Ever Use of Contraception over Time



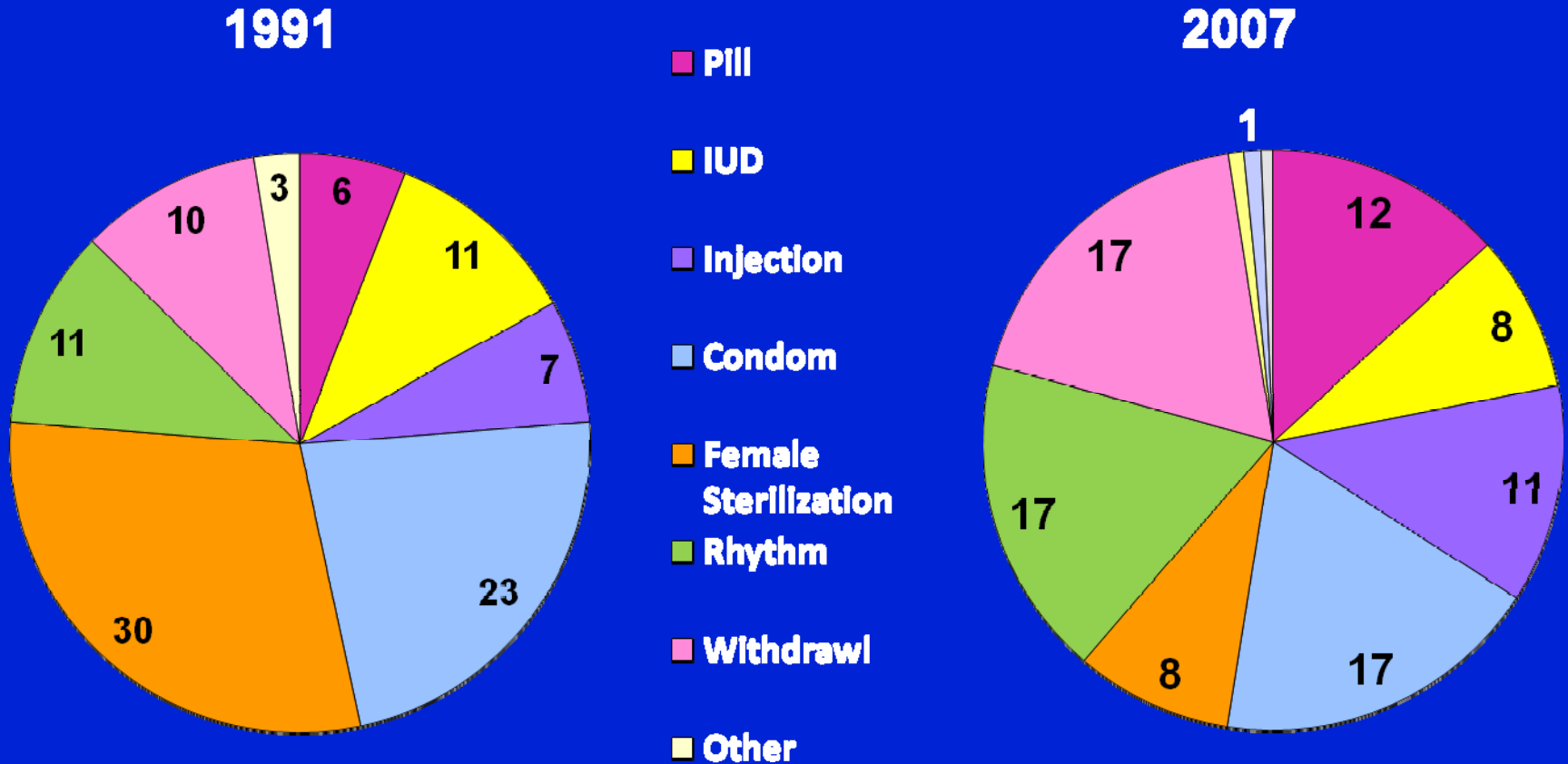
Sources: PDHS 1990-91 & 2006-07; PCPS 1994; PFFPS 1997; PRHFPS 2001; SWRHFS 2003

Current and Ever Use by Region 1991-2007



Source: PDHS 1990-91, PRHFPS 2001 and PDHS 2006-07

Contraceptive Mix 1991-2007

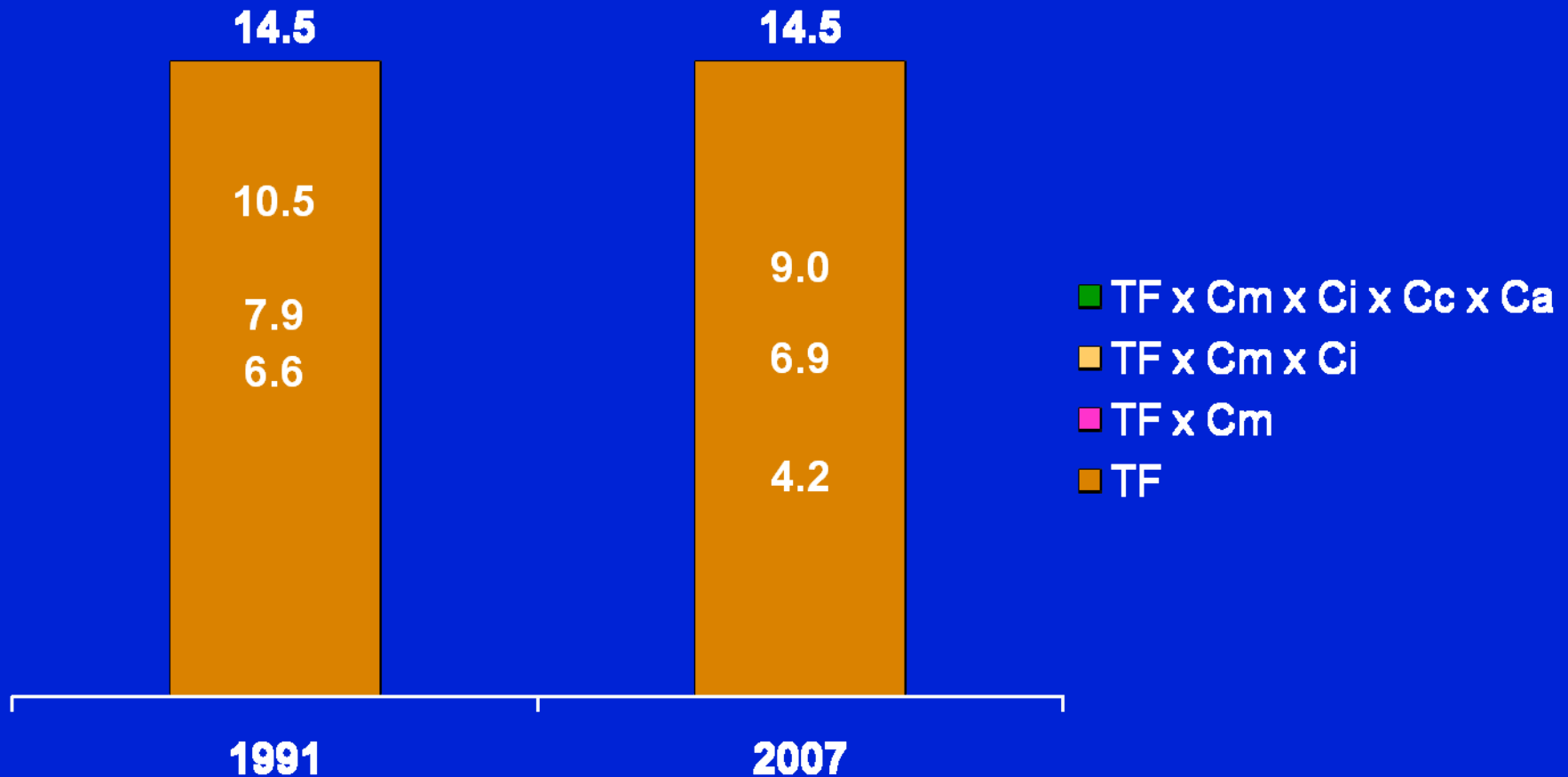


Source: PDHS 1990-91 & 2006-07

Abortions a Reality

- ❖ **One in four** pregnancies are unplanned (PDHS 2007)
- ❖ Alan Guttmacher Institute and Population Council estimated that **890,000 induced abortions** took place in 2002
- ❖ They estimated an abortion rate of **29 abortions per 1000 women (15-49)**
- ❖ The abortion ratio was **14 abortions per 100 pregnancies**, suggesting **one in seven** pregnancies is terminated by induced abortion in Pakistan

Contribution of Proximate Determinants of Fertility

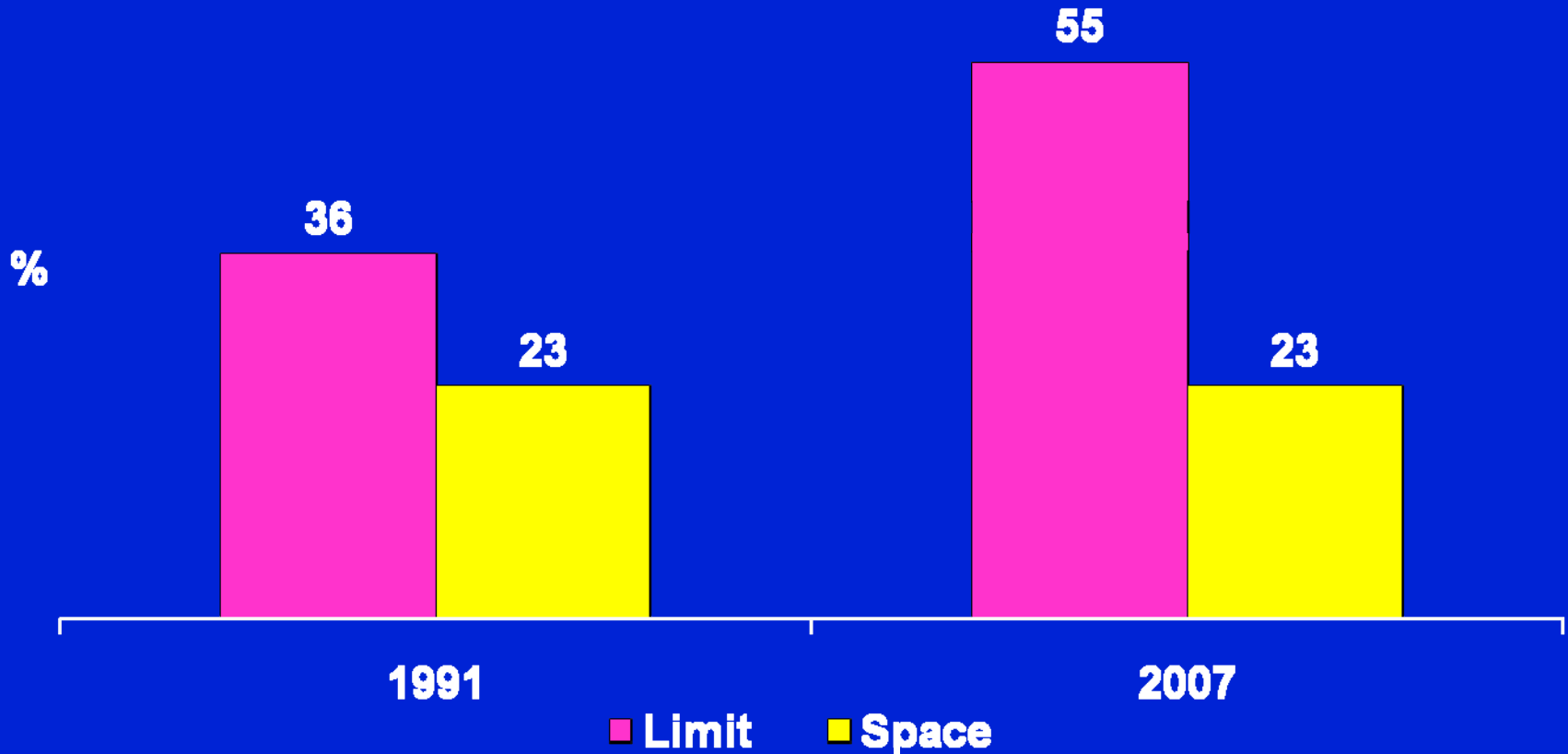


Using data from PDHS 1990-91 and 2006-07

What Do Intentions have to Do with it ?

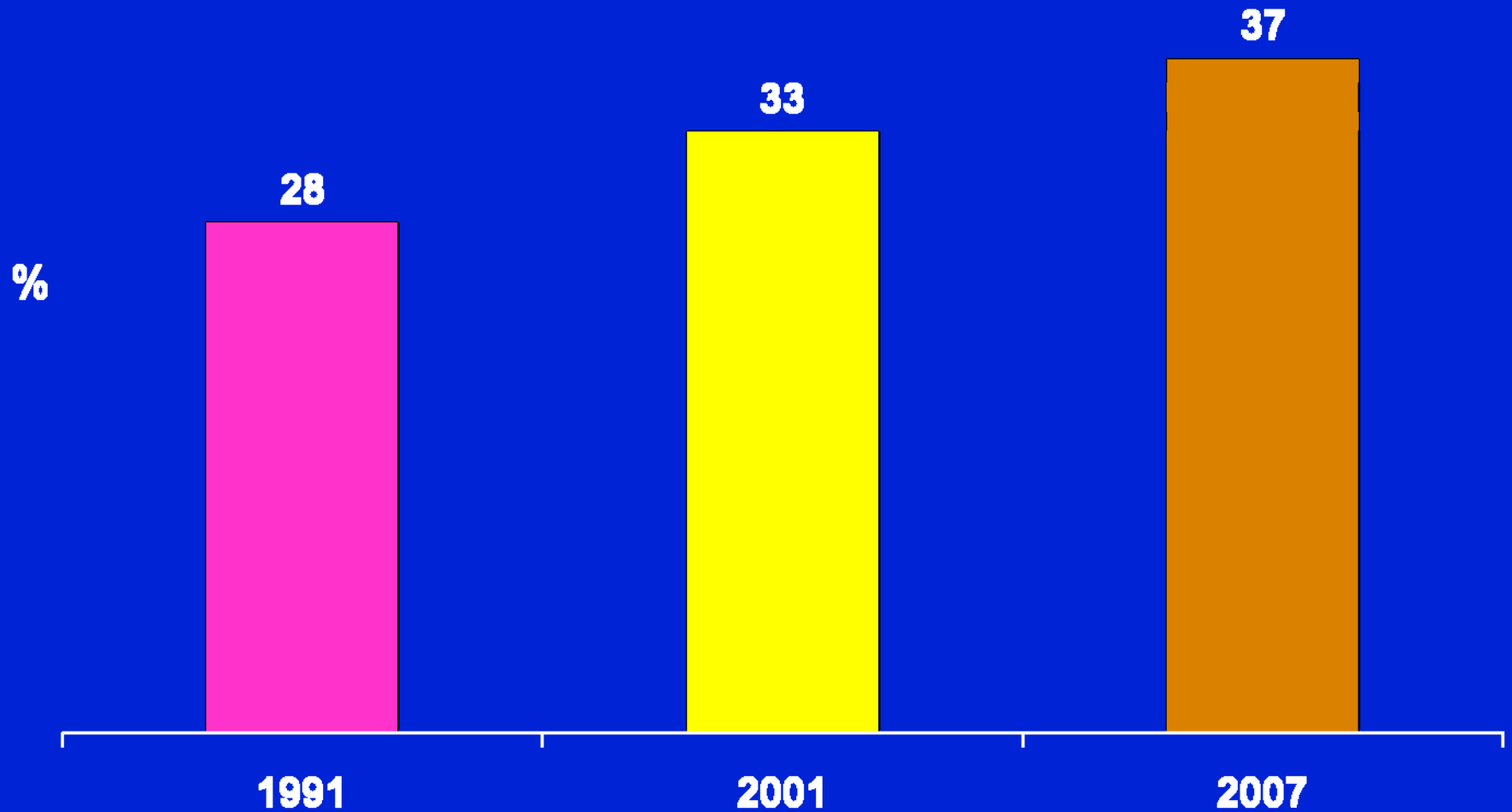
Desire to Practice Fertility Control is Increasing

Proportion of Women with 3 Children who want to Limit or Space their Next Birth



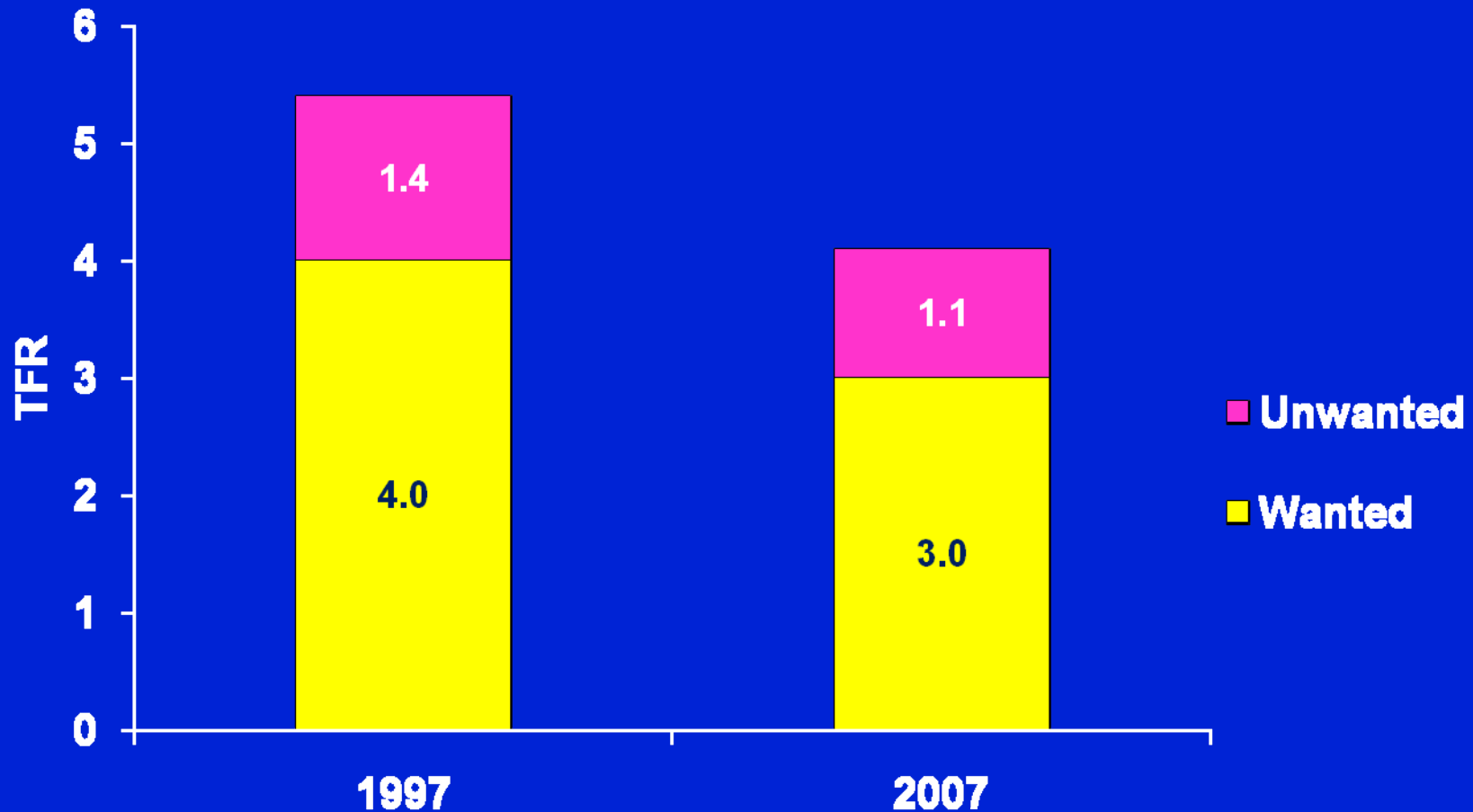
Source: PDHS 1990-91 & 2006-07

More than one in three Women has Unmet Need for Family Planning



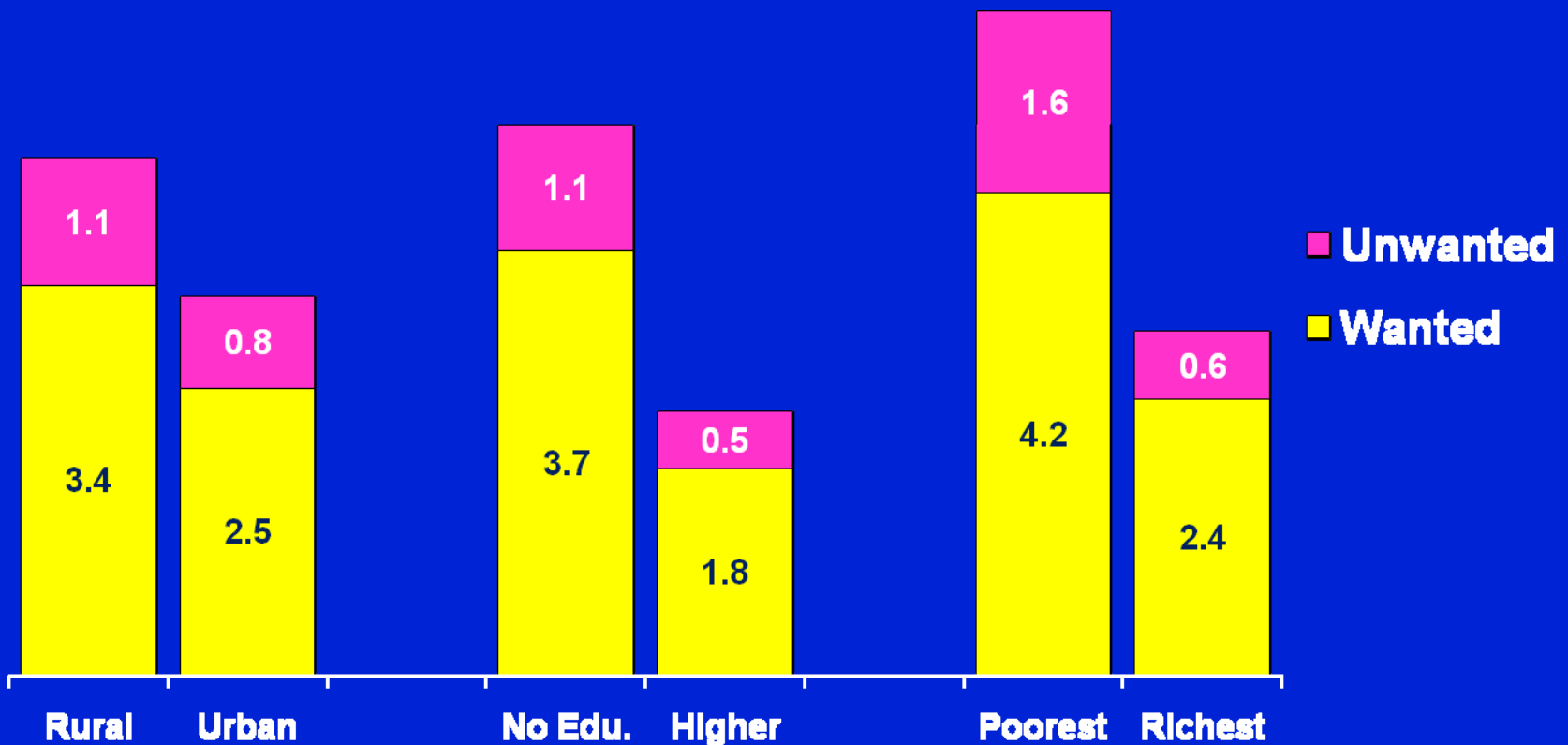
Sources: PDHS 1990-91; PRHFPS 2001; PDHS 2006-07

Total and Unwanted Fertility (1997 – 2007)



Source: PFFPS 1996-97 and PDHS 2006-07

Wanted and Unwanted Fertility by Region, Education and Income (2007)



Source: PDHS 2006-07

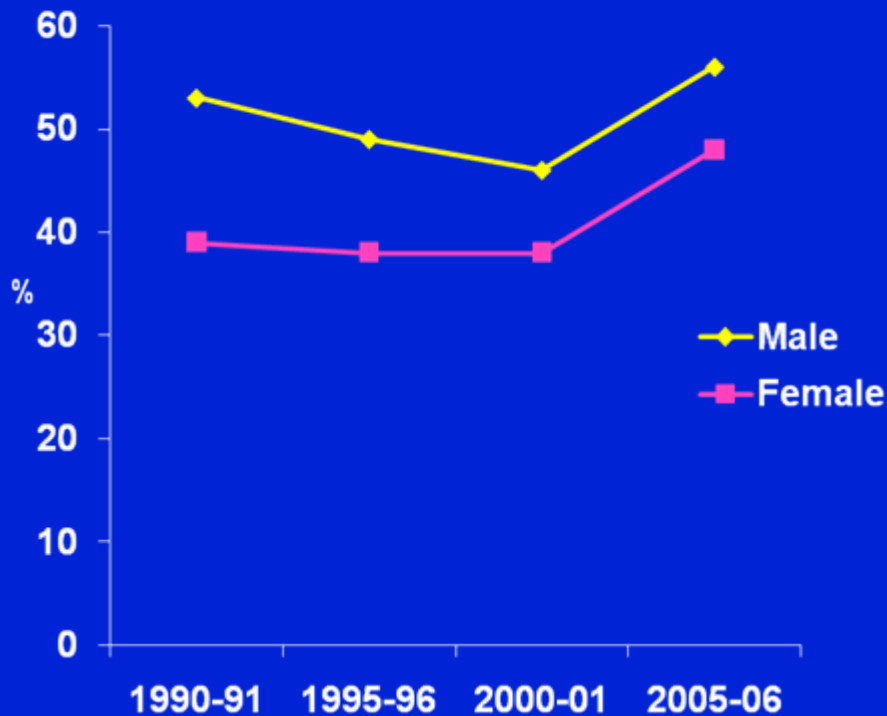
The Changing Context – Policies, Gender, Education and Poverty

Population Policies

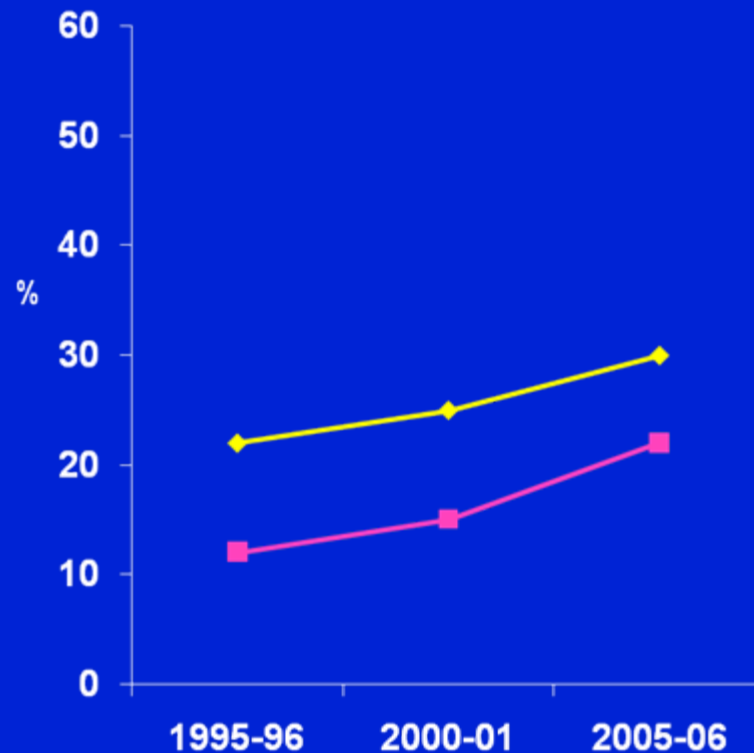
- ❖ National Population program since 1965
- ❖ Moribund status for much of the 70's
- ❖ Birth of social marketing since 80's but restricted to urban areas
- ❖ Renewed fervour since 1998-new population policy
2002-Government invests its own funds in family planning since international funds dwindle
- ❖ Lady health workers since 1994-door step delivery
- ❖ Latest revival of interest of Ministry of Health to deliver family planning services

Rise in Enrollment Rates but is it Enough?

Primary Enrollment Rates by Gender & Year



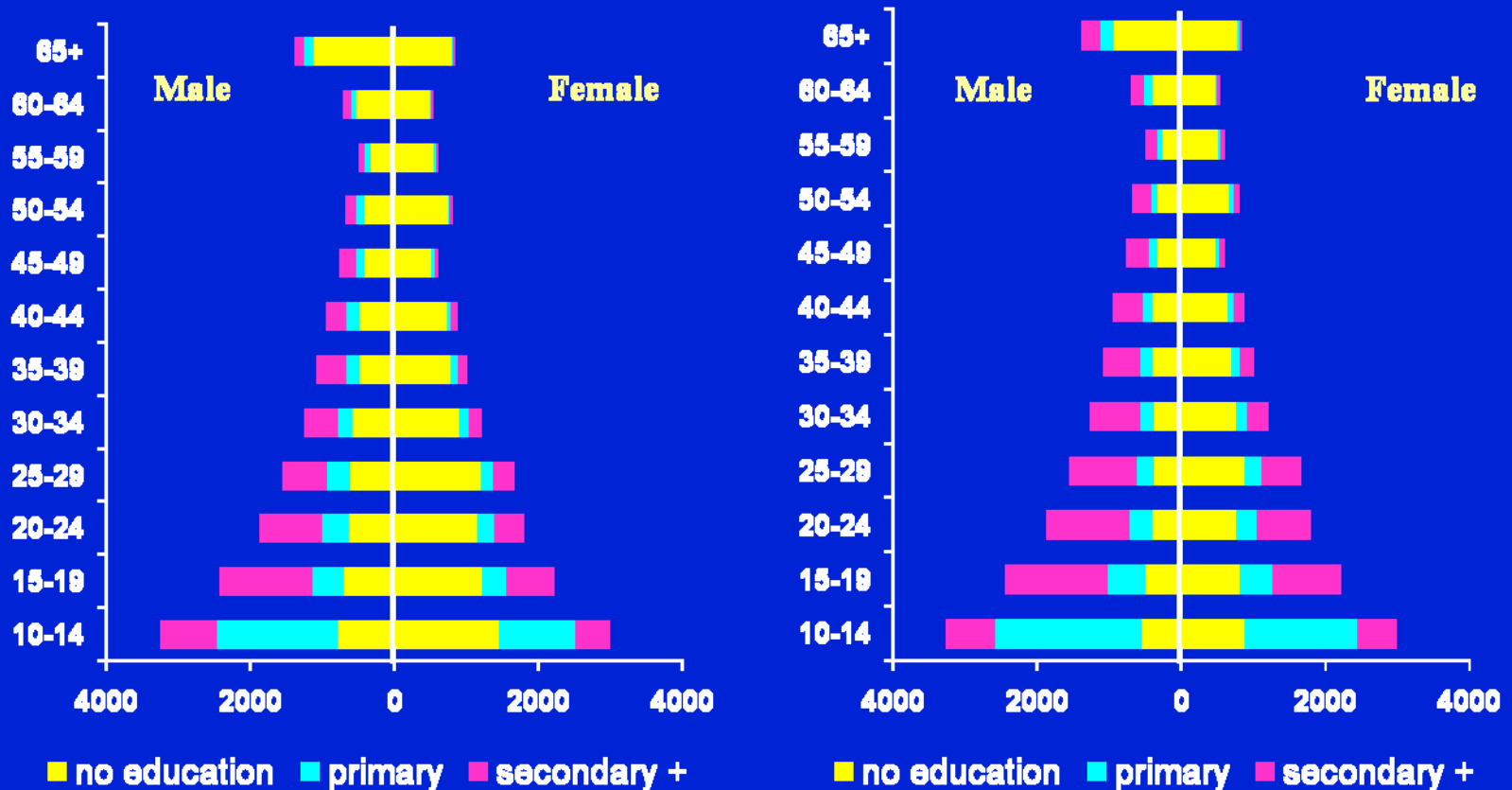
Secondary Enrollment Rates by Gender & Year



Sources: PIHS and PSLMS 1991 – 2006

Pakistanis More Educated but Women Lag Behind

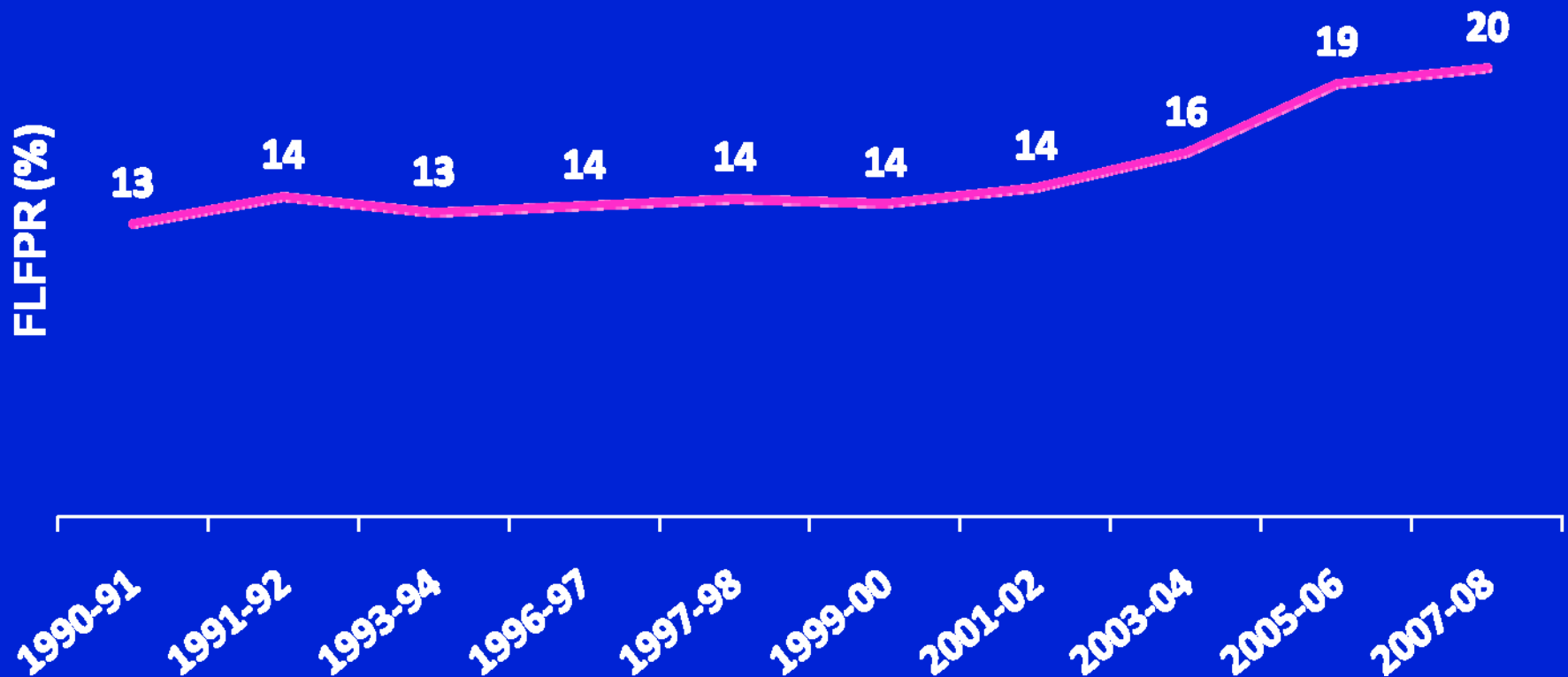
Population age Education Pyramid (10+)



Sources: PDHS 1991 & PDHS 2007, NIPS

Women More Engaged in Productive Work but still Very Low Participation

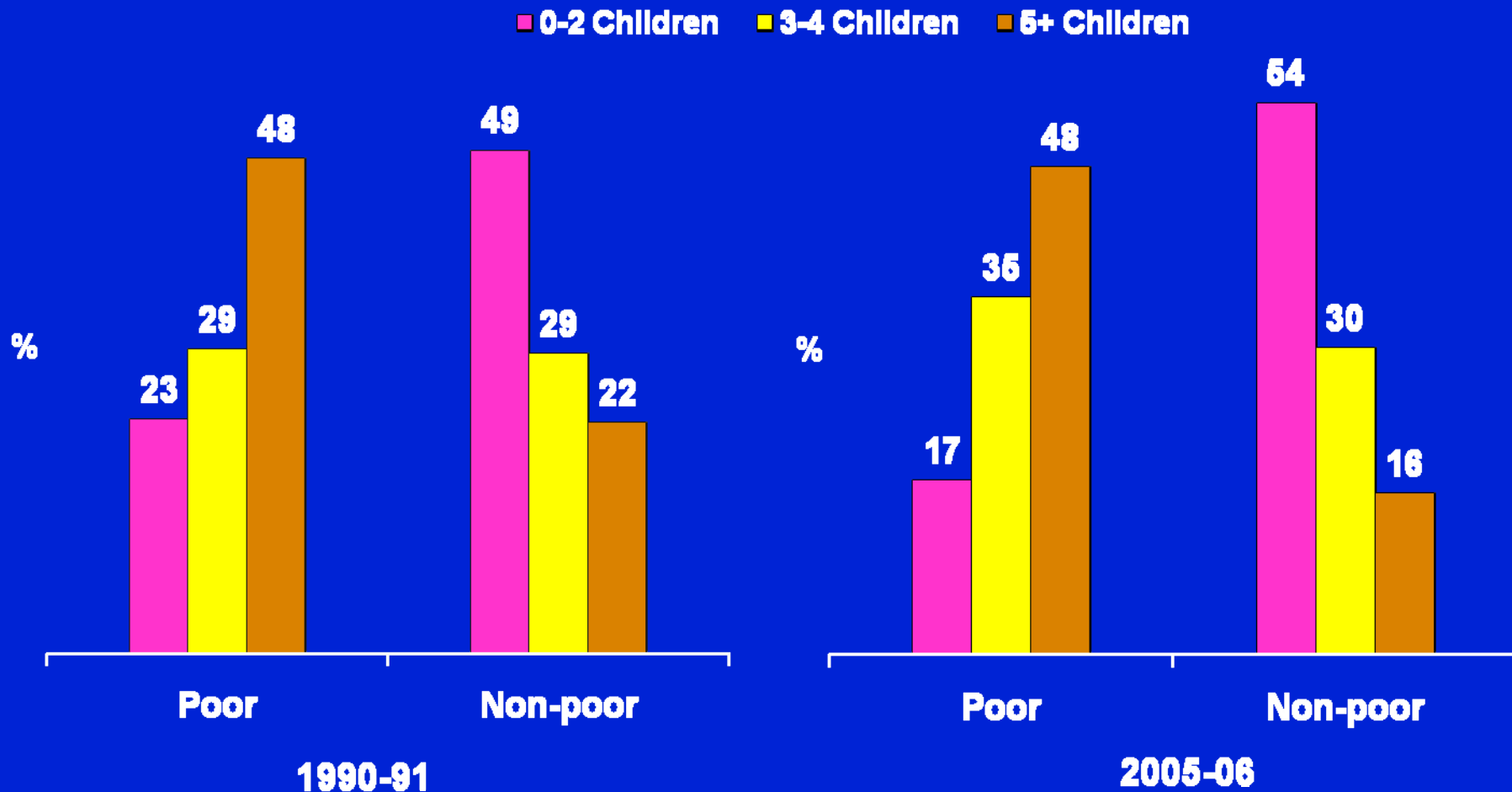
Female Labour Force Participation (ages 10+)



Source: Pakistan Labour Force Surveys 1991- 2008

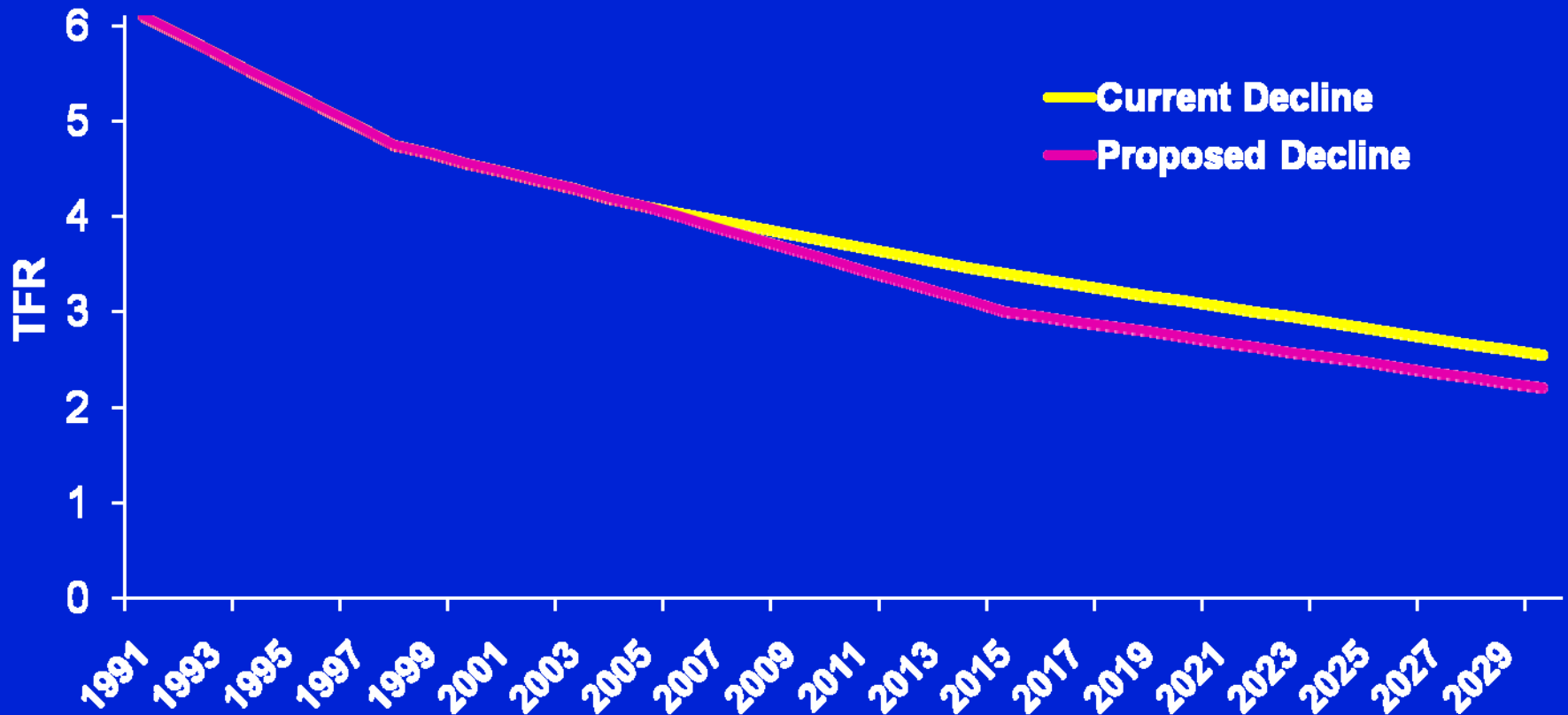
Looking Ahead

Decline in Fertility Greater in Non-Poor Households



Source: PSLM 2005-06

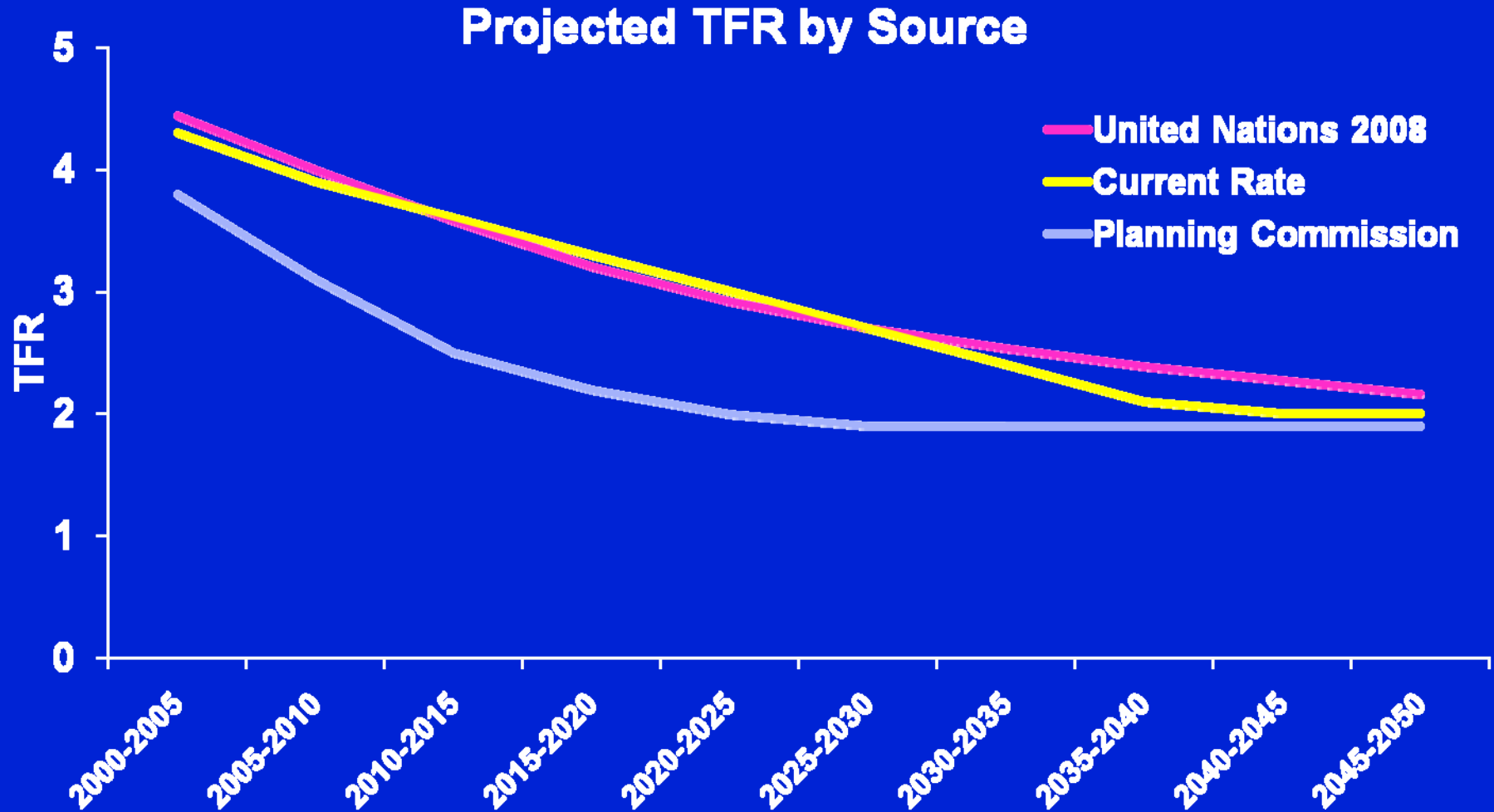
Fertility Trends- Past and Future



Current decline shows TFR reaching 3.4 in 2015 and 2.6 in 2030

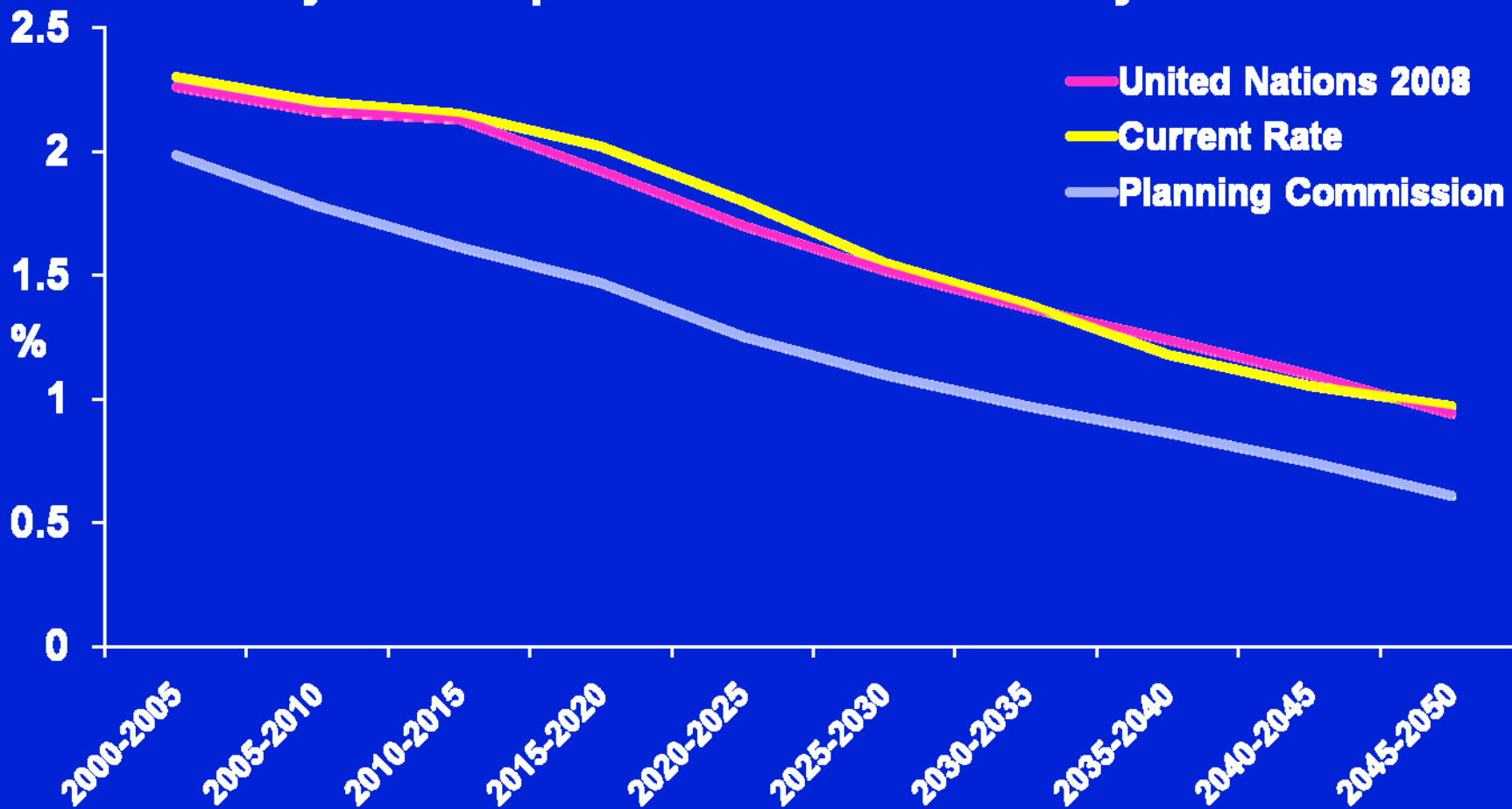
Proposed decline shows TFR reaching 3.0 in 2015 and 2.2 in 2030

Fertility Decline Scenarios

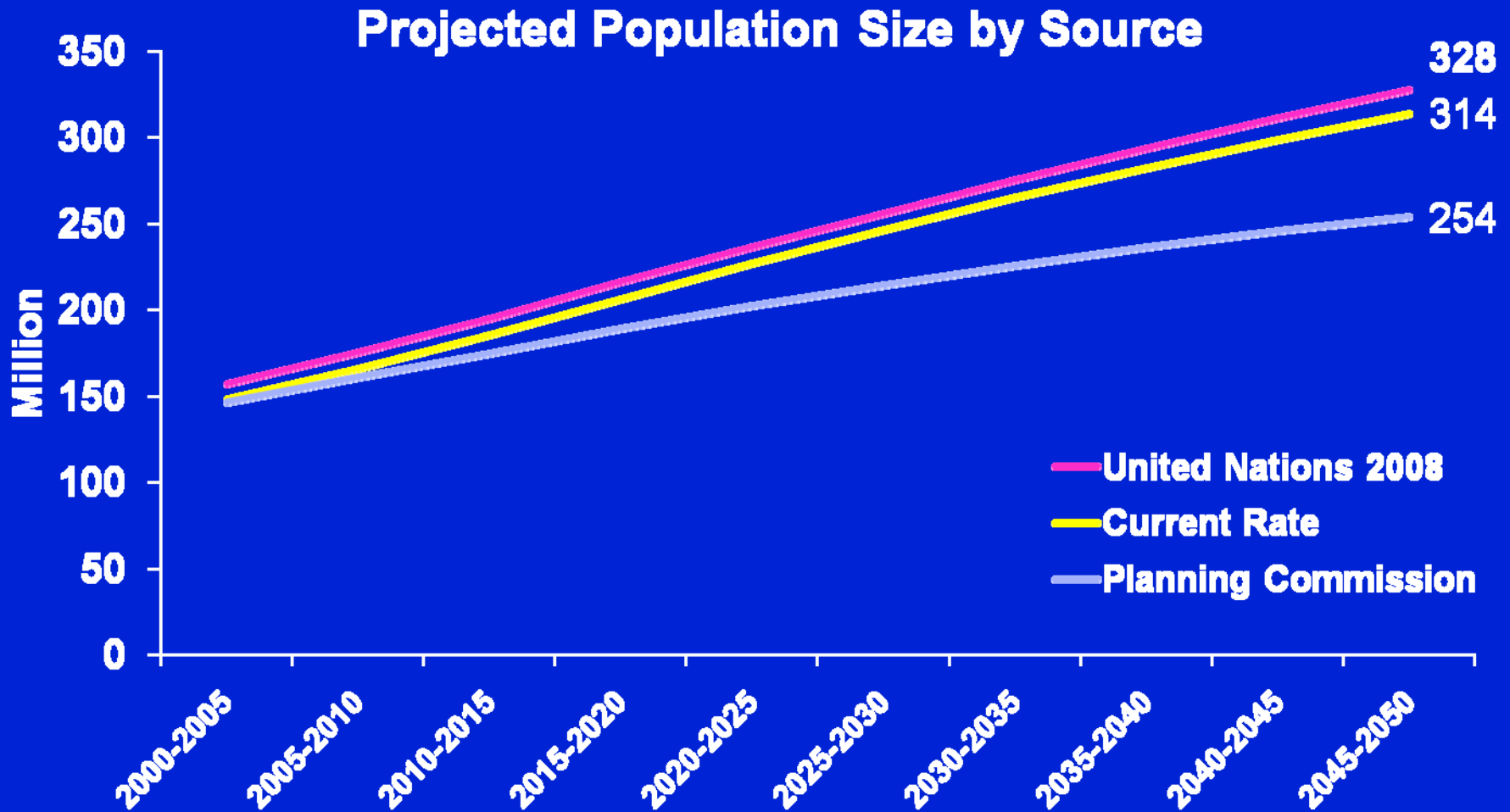


Prospects for Growth

Projected Population Growth Rates by Source



Projected Population Size



Conclusions

- ❖ Dispute about fertility levels now narrowing to slimmer differences
- ❖ Marriage changes major explanation for fertility decline through out
- ❖ Some tempo effects may explain fertility decline in the absence of contraceptive use change
- ❖ Economic conditions likely to intensify desires for lesser children, and to increase unwanted fertility
- ❖ Further fertility decline is largely contingent on active policy to promote family planning services

Thanks!