

Population and sustainable development in the context of the post-2015 UN development agenda

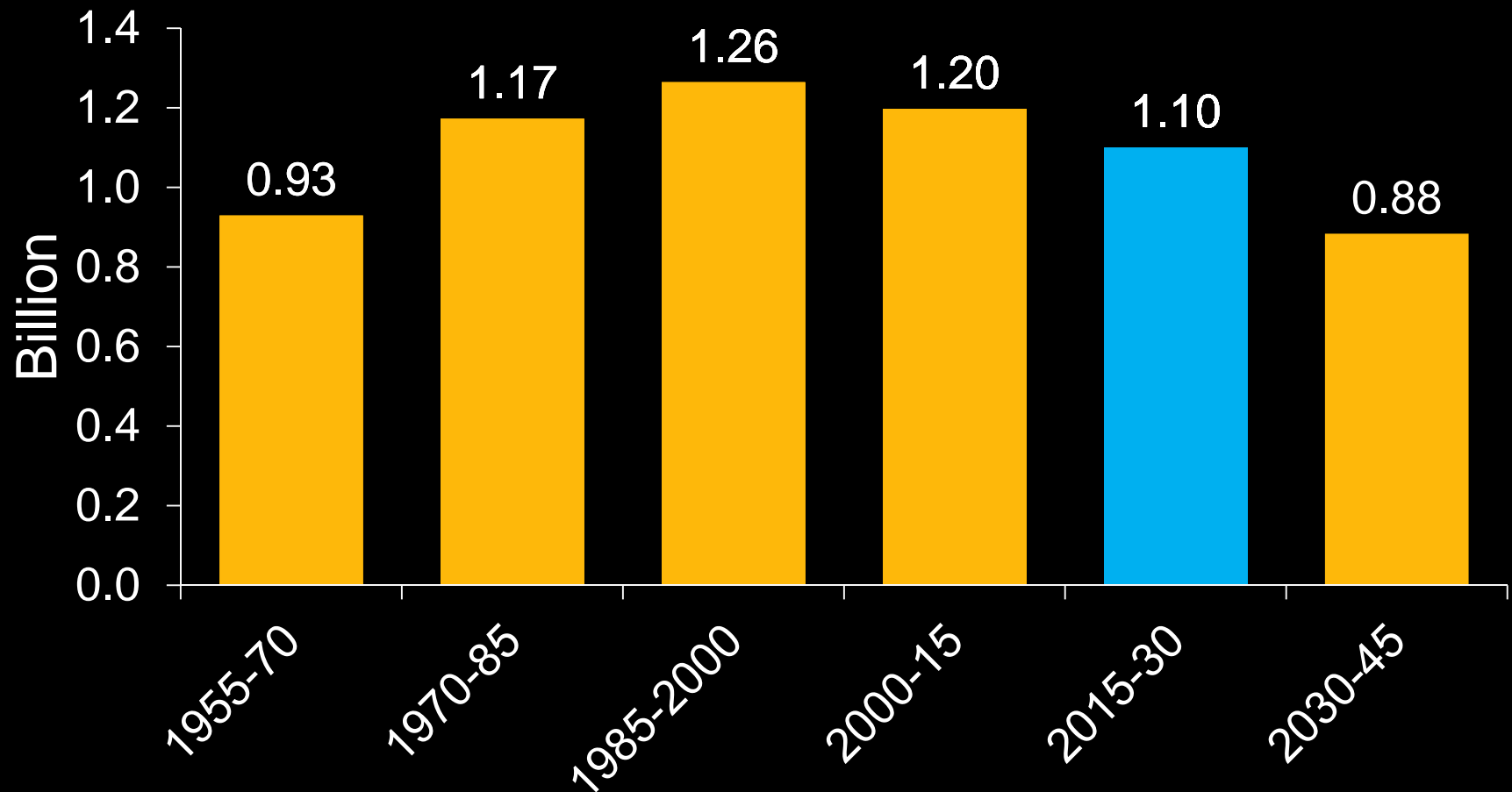
United Nations Commission on Population and
Development
8 April 2014

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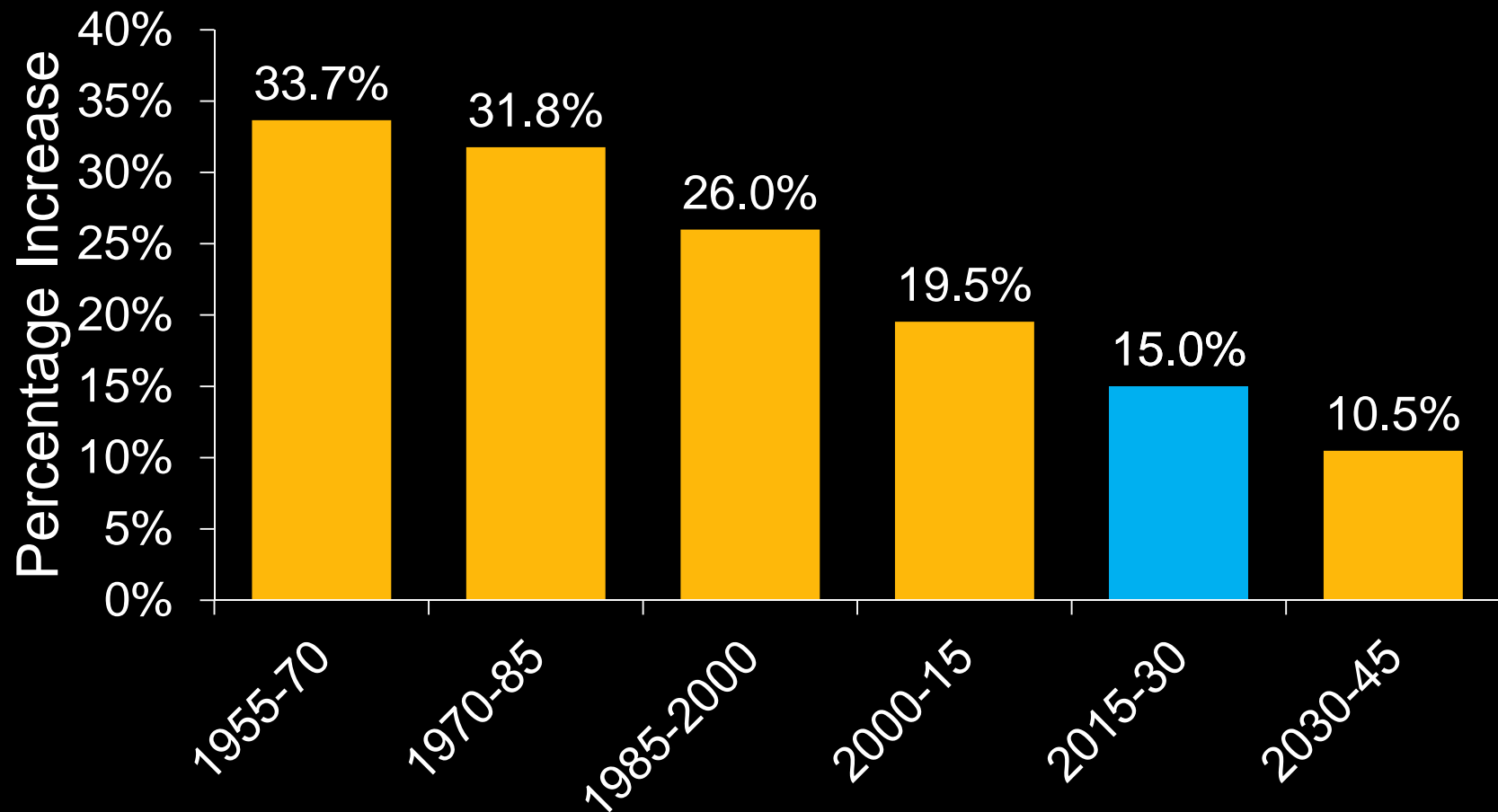
How will population affect development from 2015 to 2030?

- According to UN Medium Variant projections:
 - The world will add 1.1 billion people
 - Asia will add 500 million
 - Sub-Saharan Africa will add 419 million
- How does this compare to previous 15-year periods?

Addition to world population for 15-year periods, 1955-2045



Percentage increase in world population for 15-year periods, 1955-2045



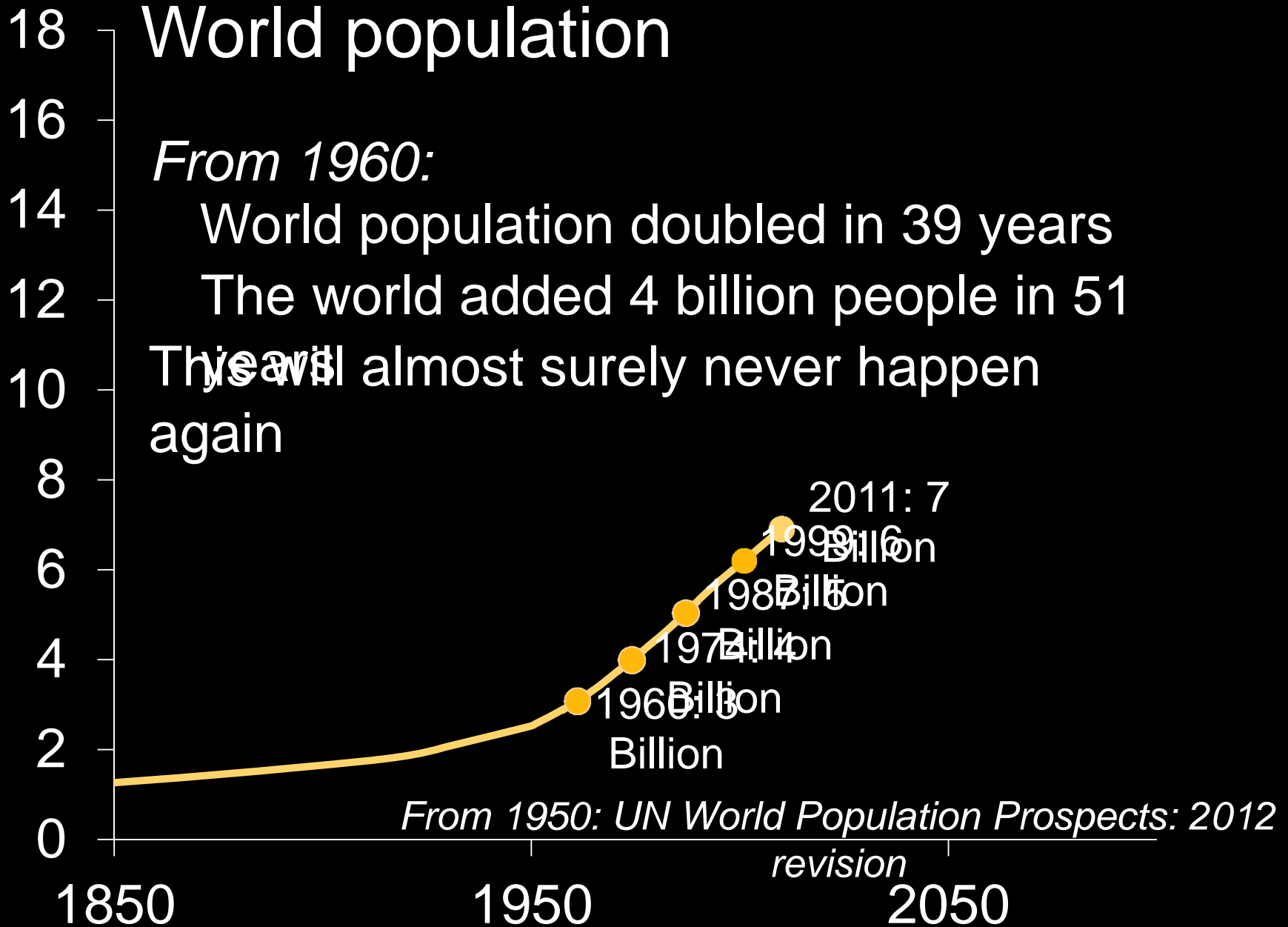
World population

From 1960:

World population doubled in 39 years

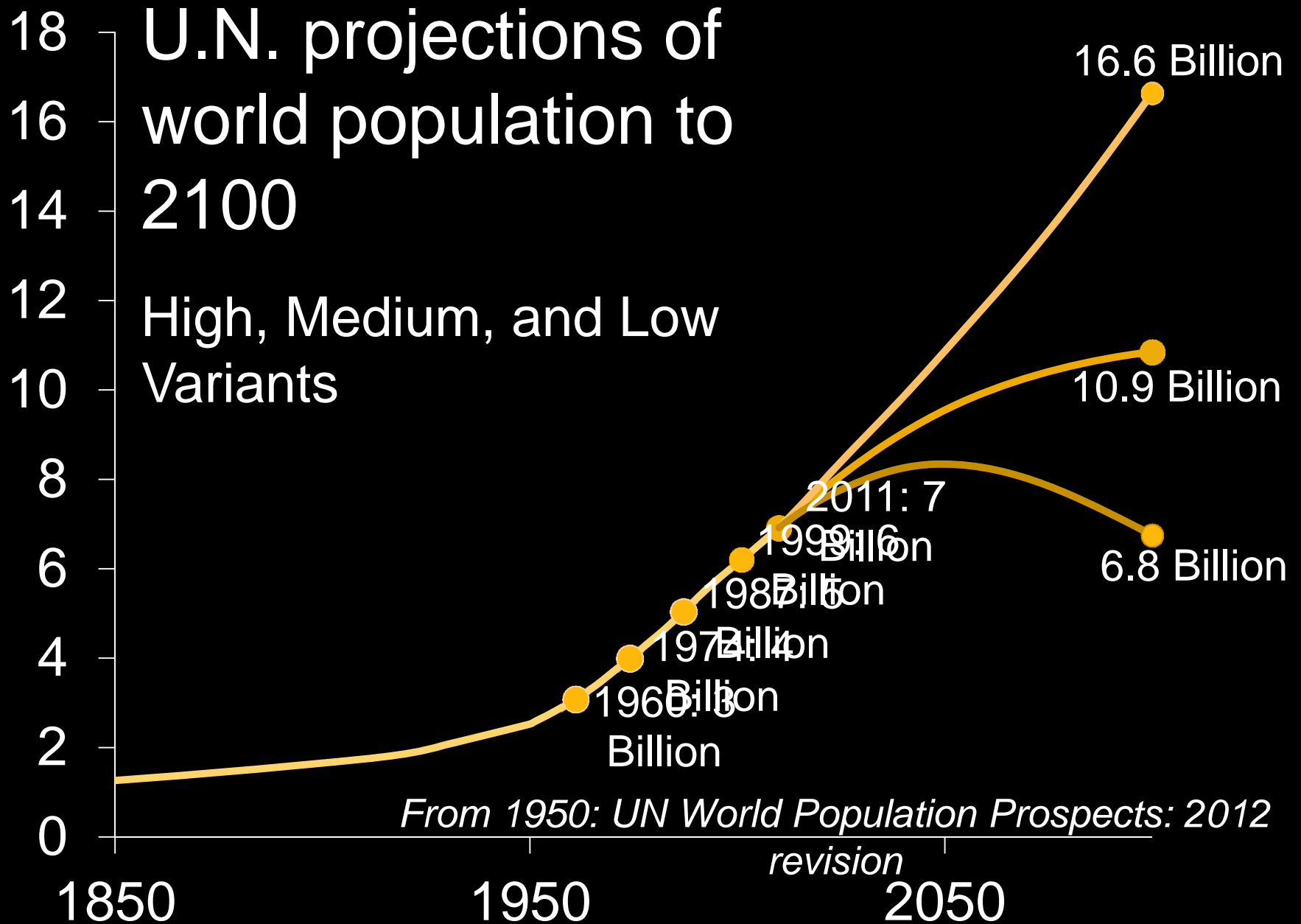
The world added 4 billion people in 51

years. This will almost surely never happen again



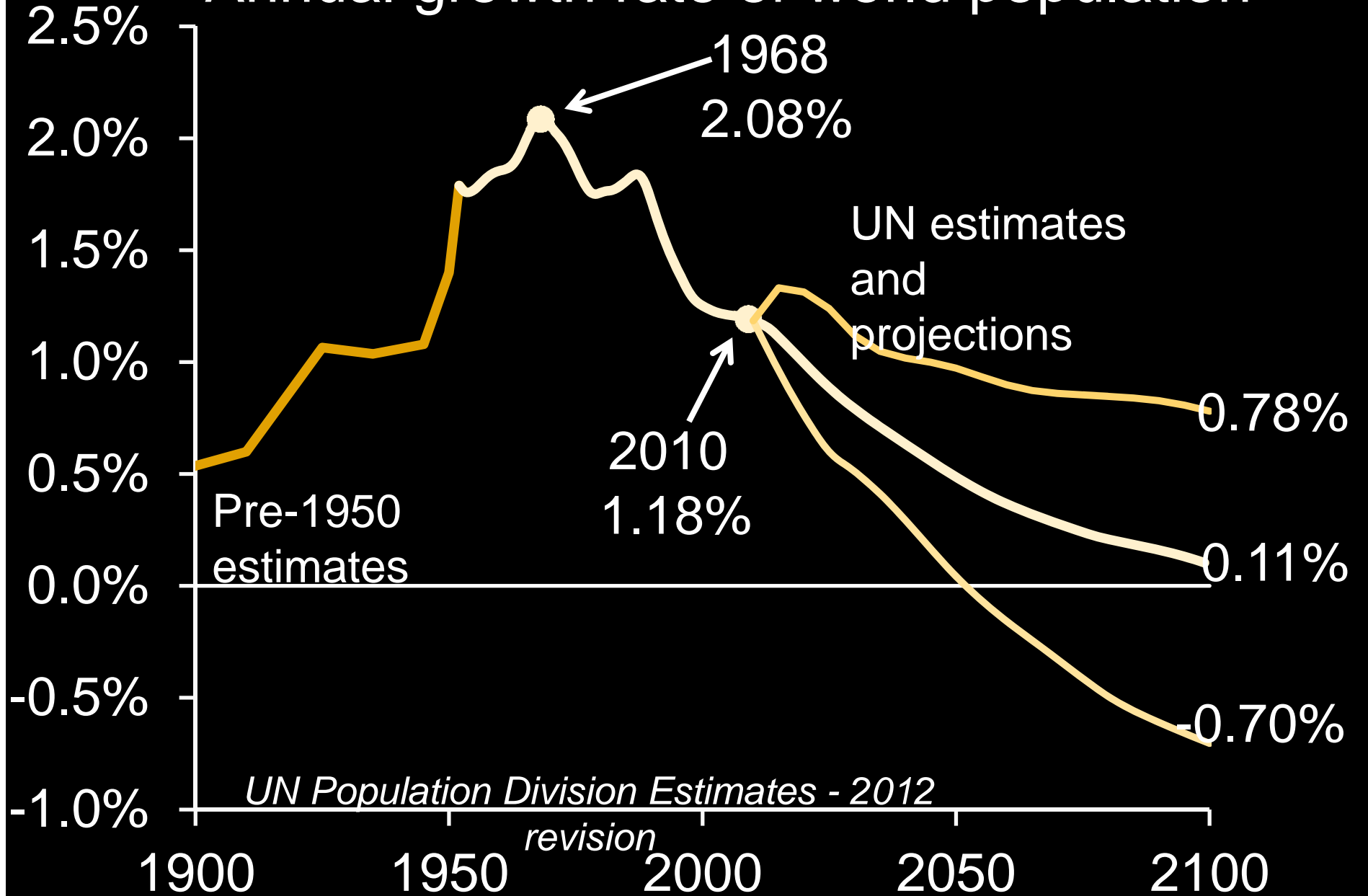
U.N. projections of world population to 2100

High, Medium, and Low Variants



From 1950: UN World Population Prospects: 2012 revision

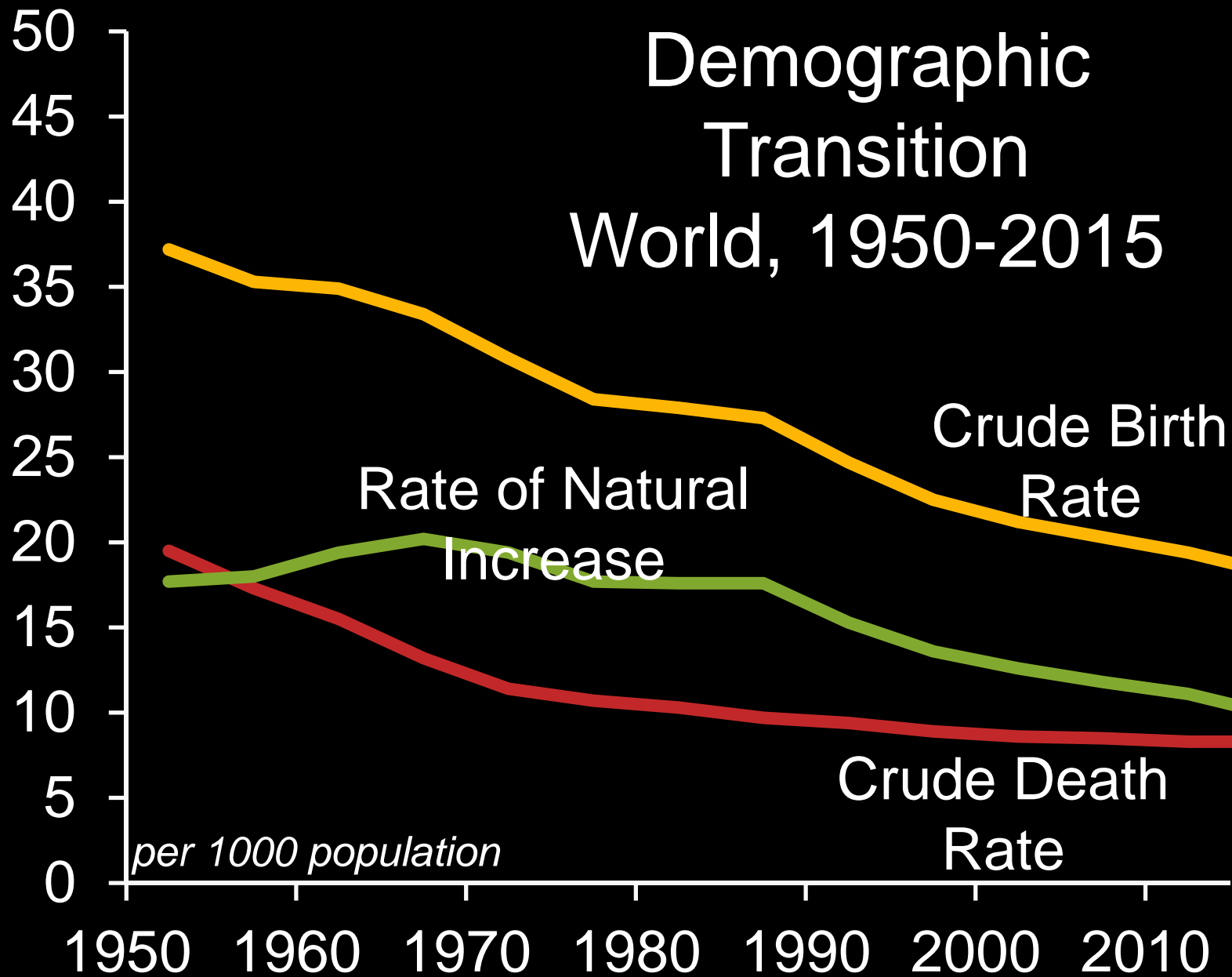
Annual growth rate of world population



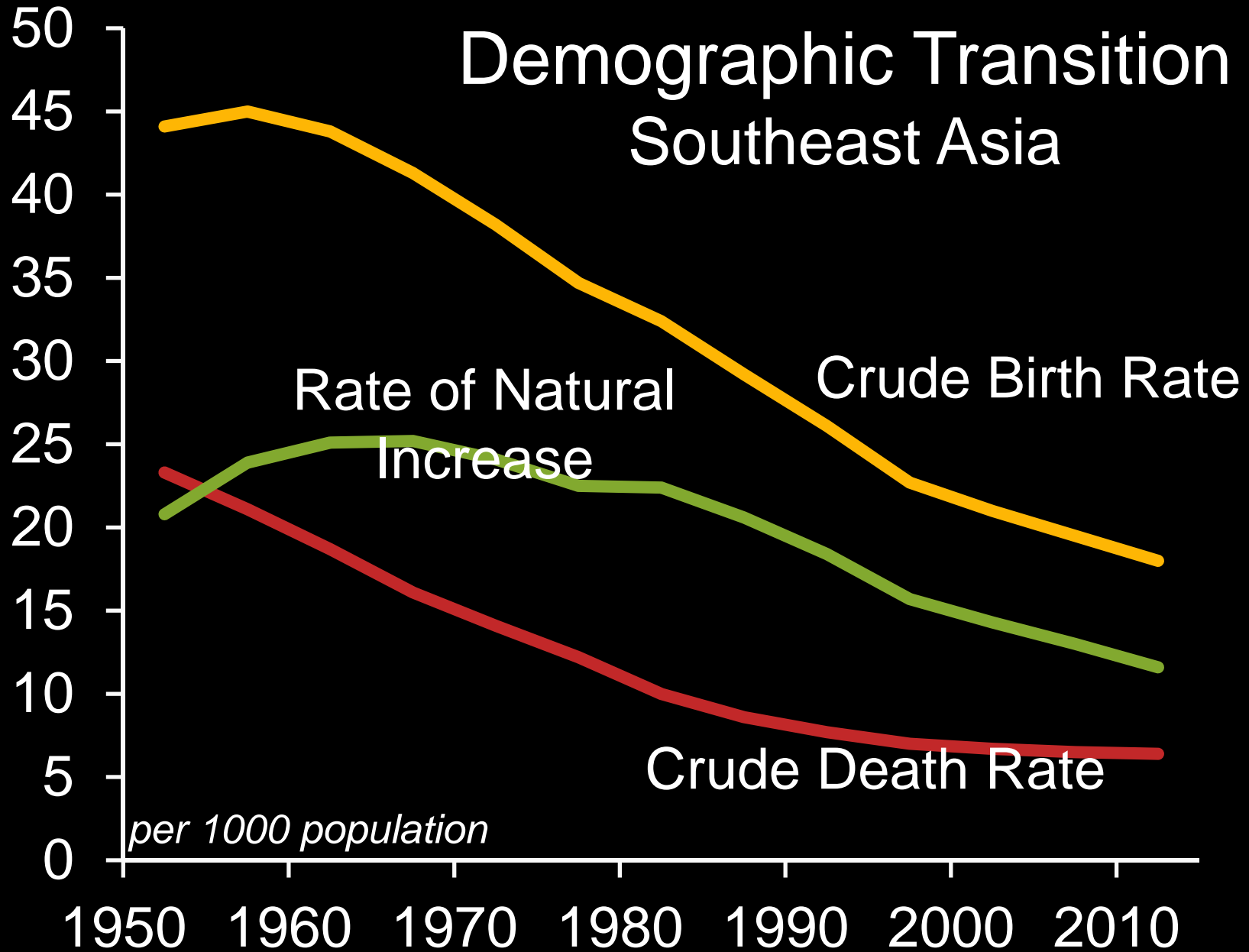
UN Population Division Estimates - 2012

revision

Demographic Transition World, 1950-2015

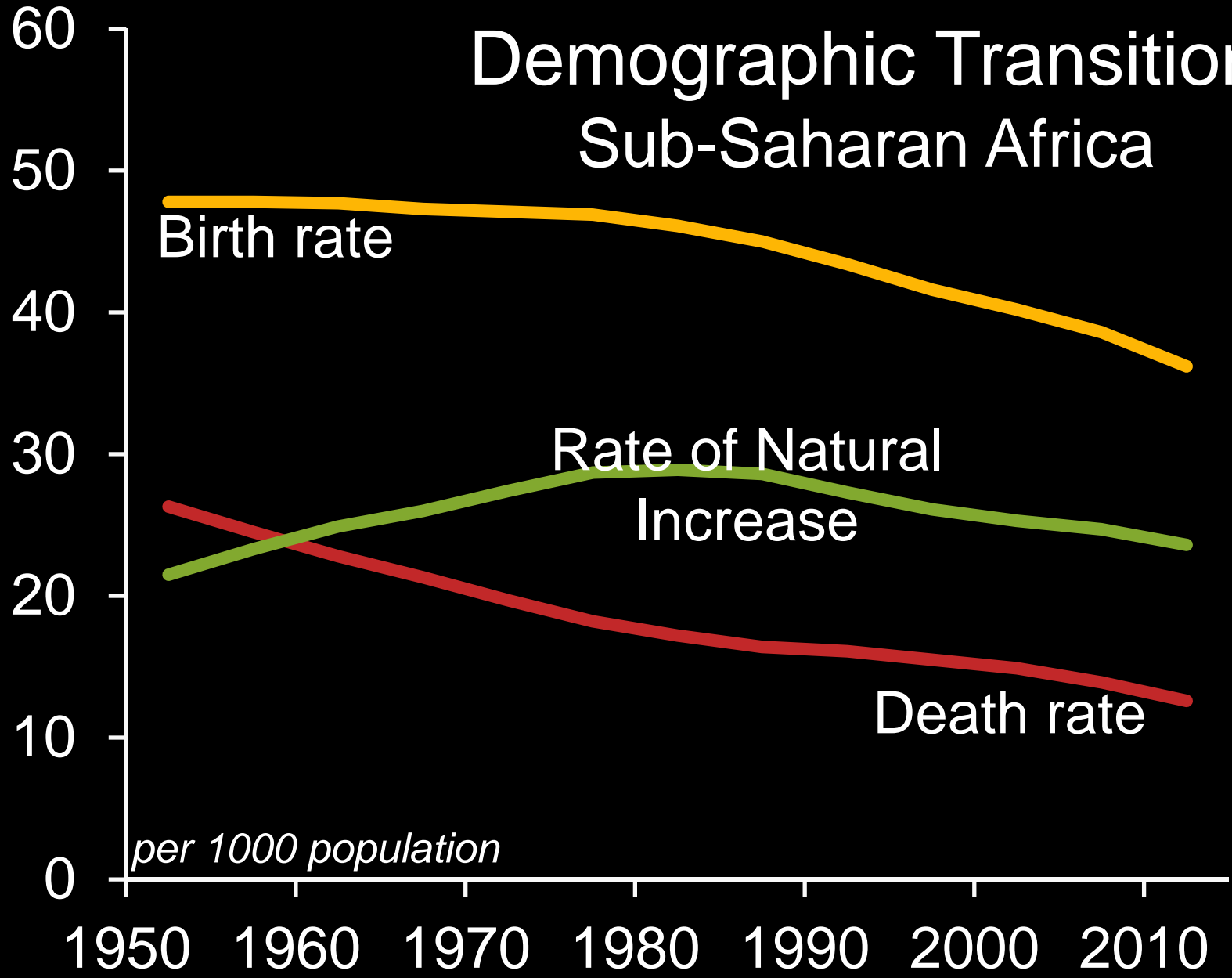


Demographic Transition Southeast Asia



per 1000 population

Demographic Transition Sub-Saharan Africa

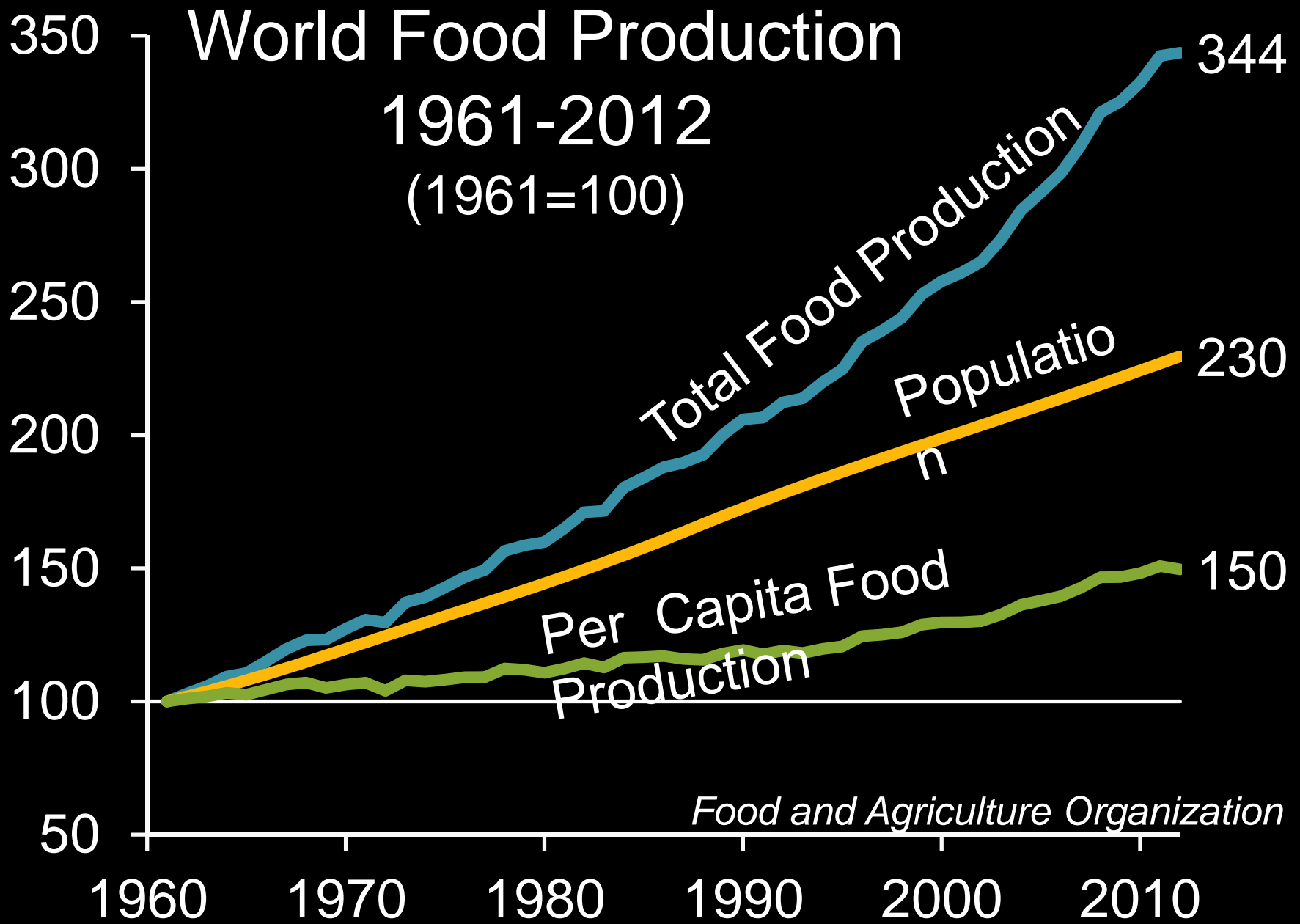


per 1000 population

Overview of last 50 years

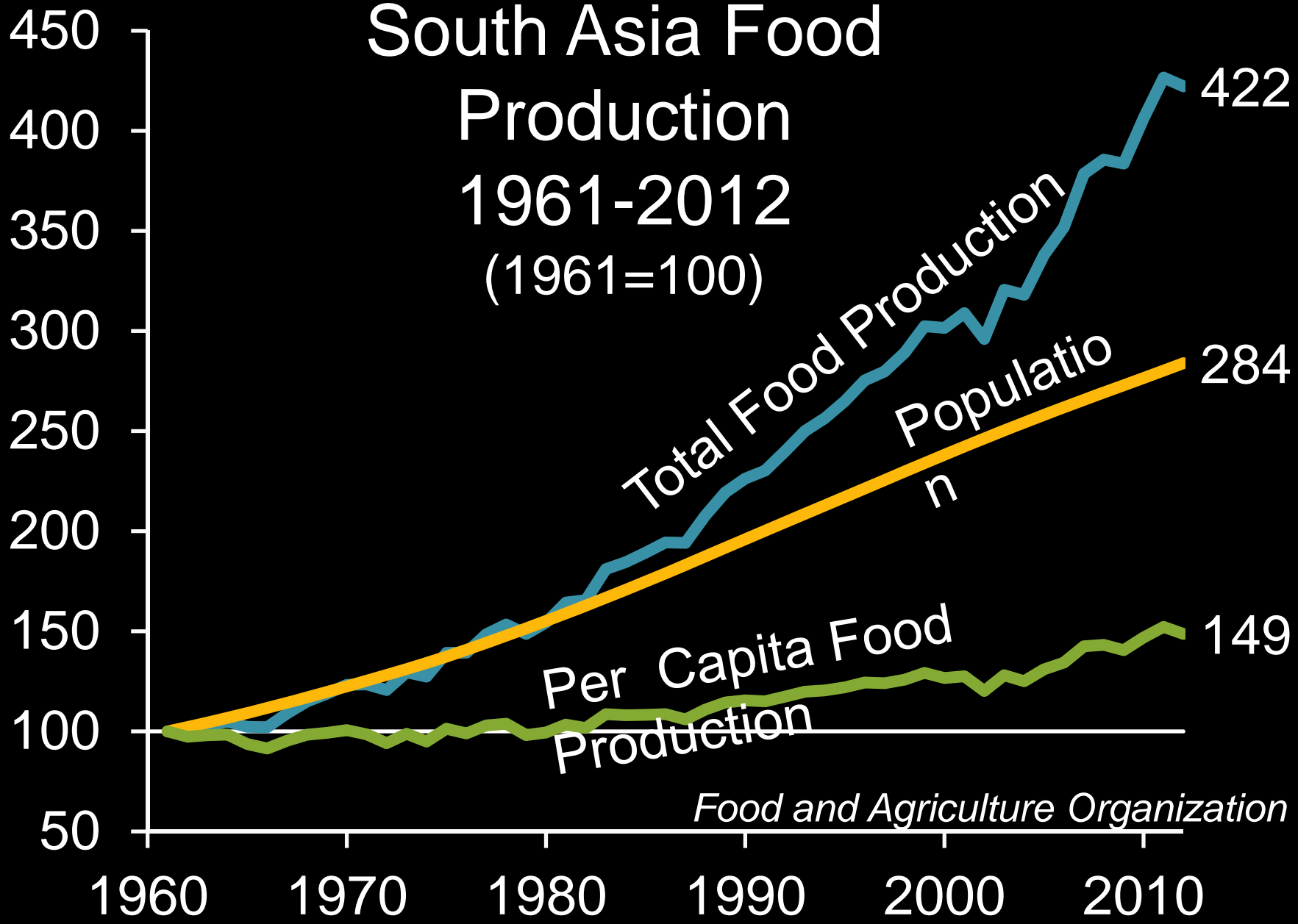
- World population grew faster than it has ever grown before or ever will grow again.
- Broadly similar patterns of population change across developing countries.
 - Key exception is slower fertility decline in Sub-Saharan Africa
- This period should be important in understanding links between population and development.

What happened to food availability during this period of unprecedented population growth?



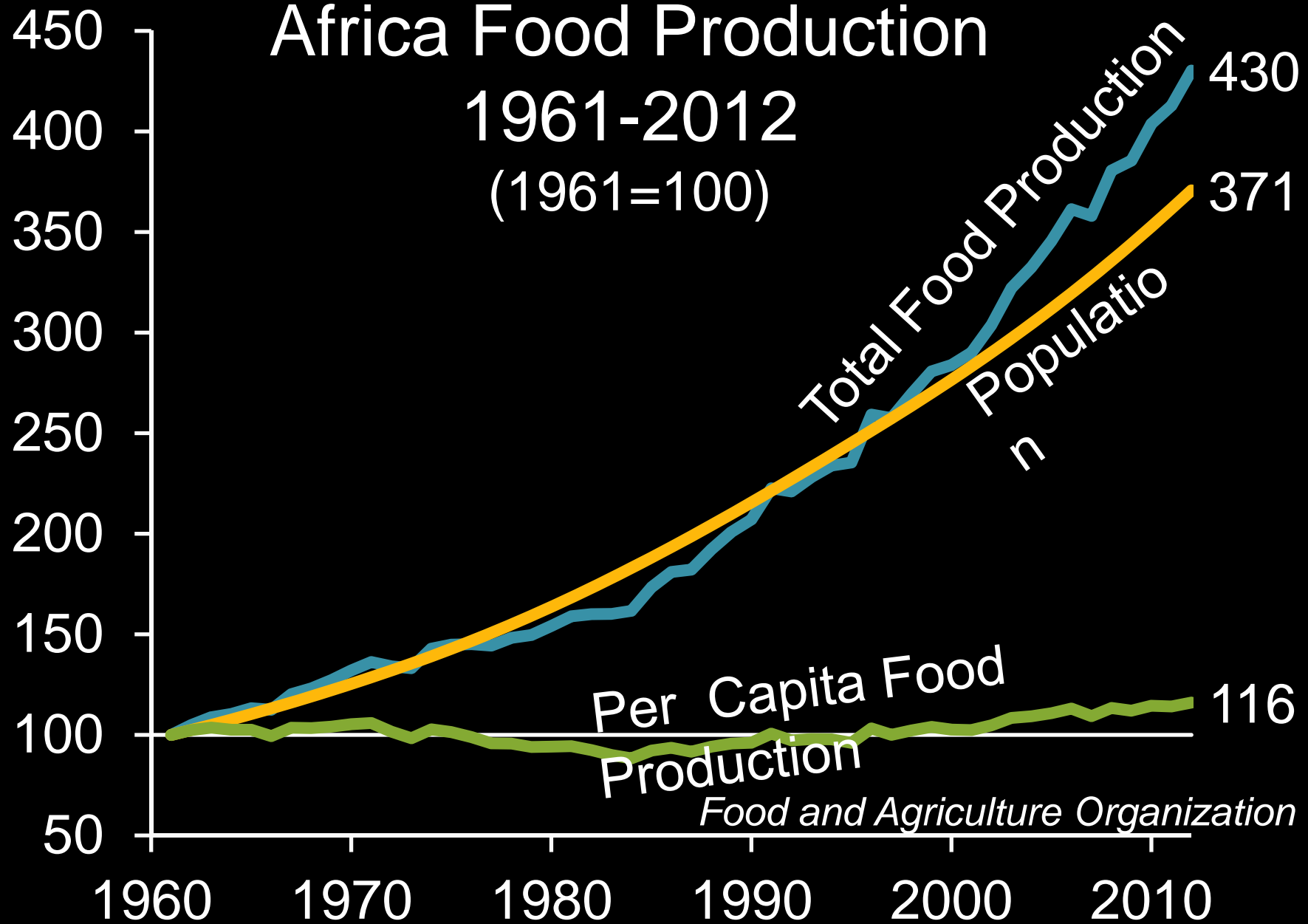
Food and Agriculture Organization

South Asia Food Production 1961-2012 (1961=100)



Food and Agriculture Organization

Africa Food Production 1961-2012 (1961=100)

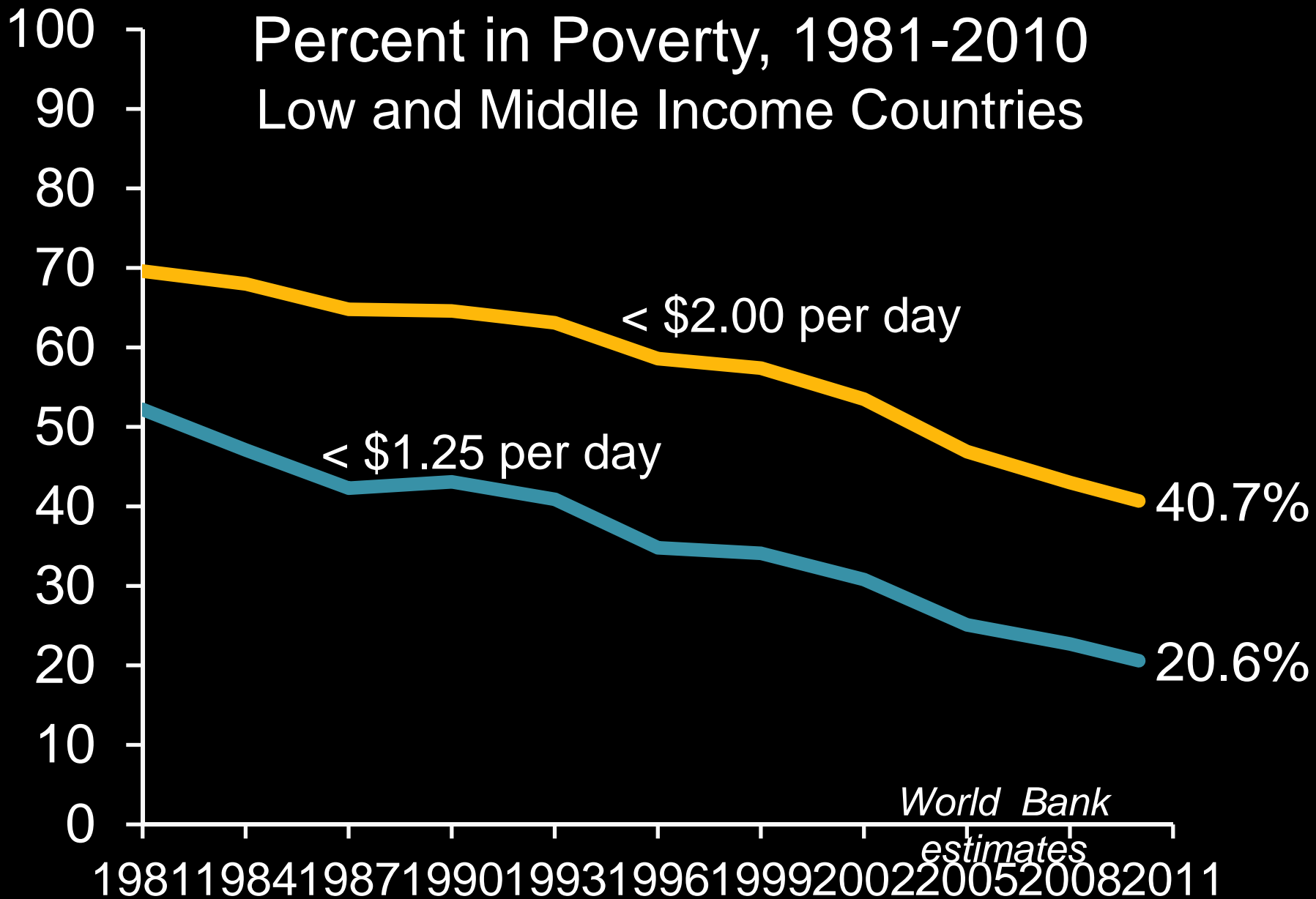


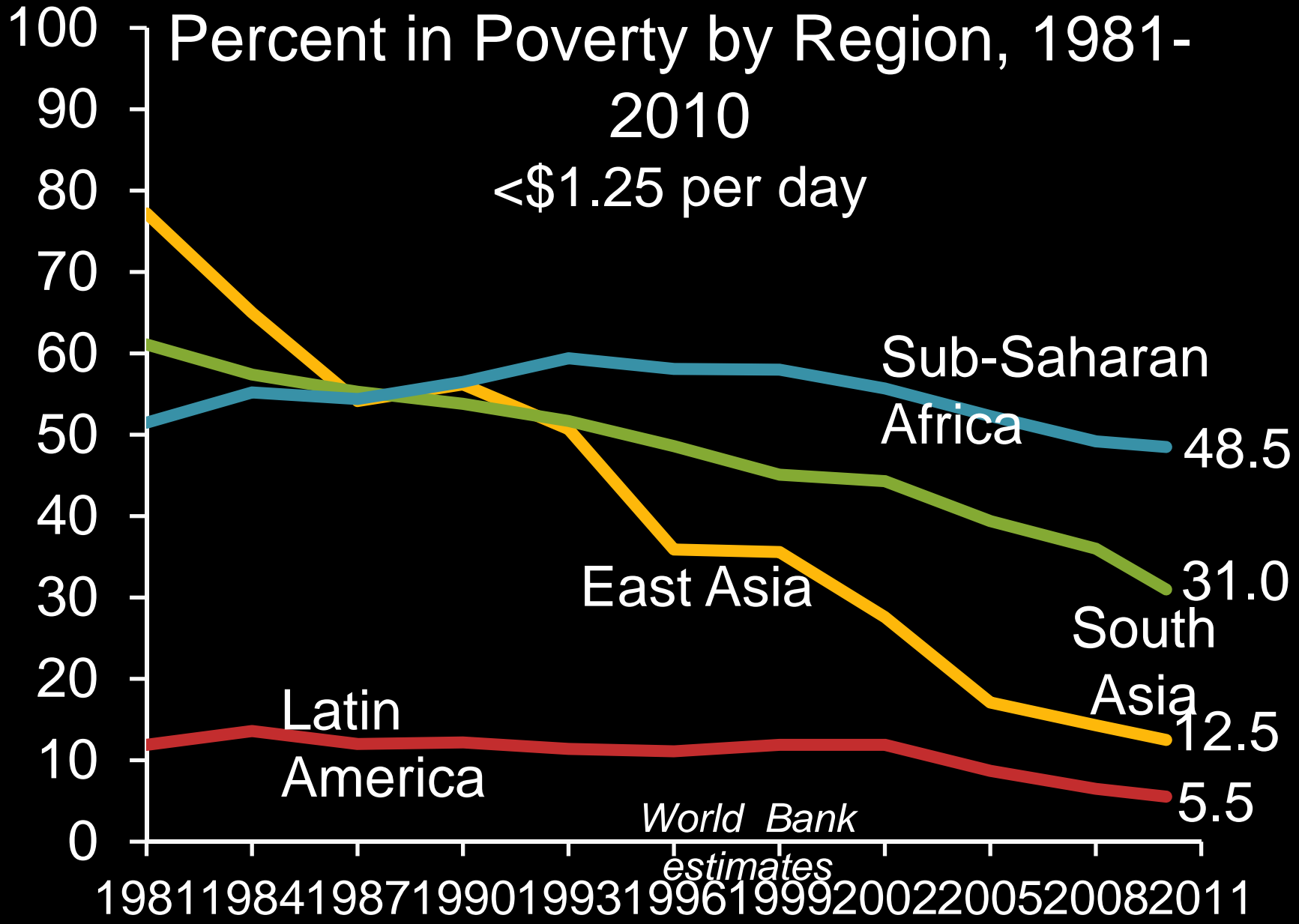
Food and Agriculture Organization

What has happened
to poverty?

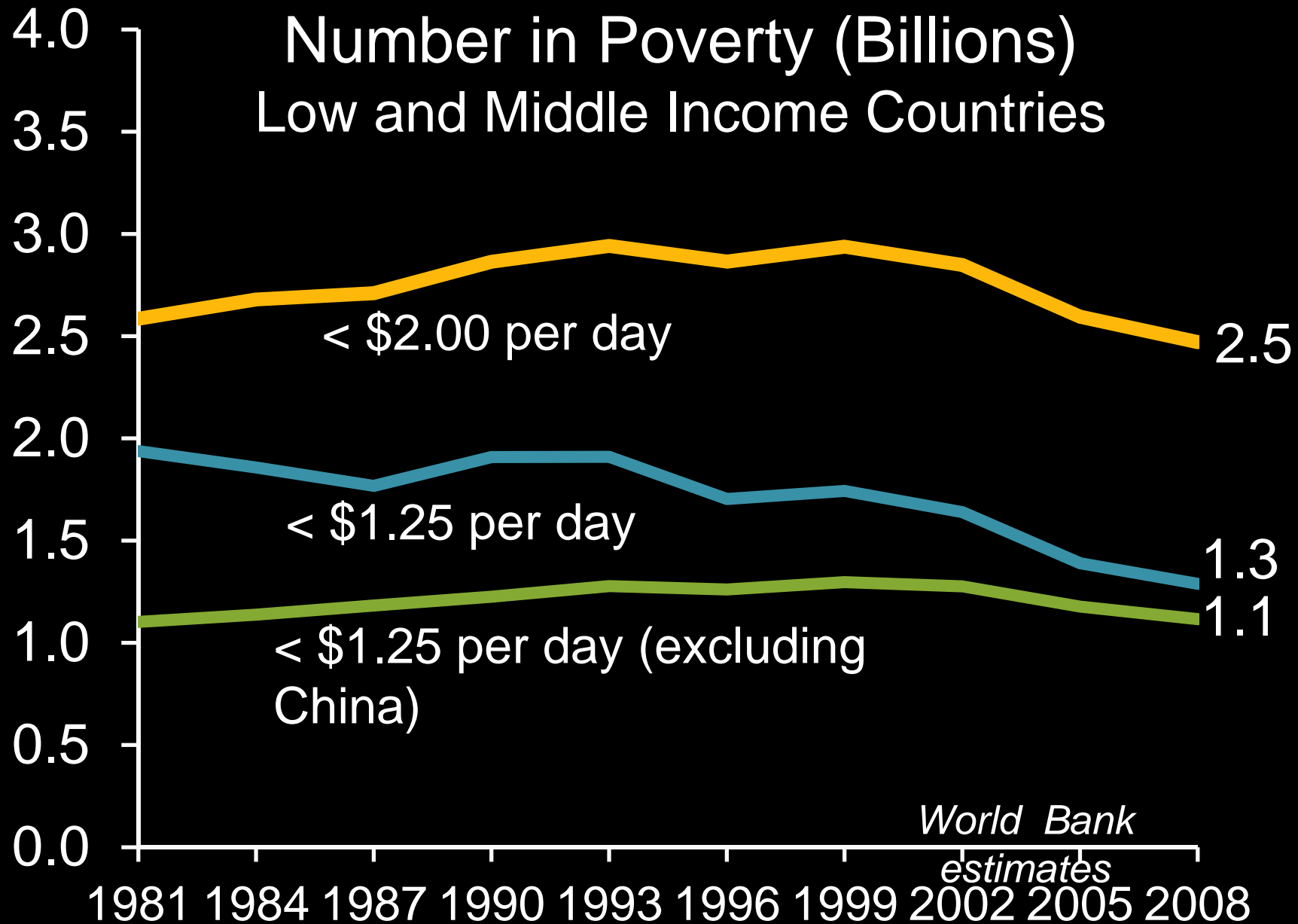
Percent in Poverty, 1981-2010

Low and Middle Income Countries

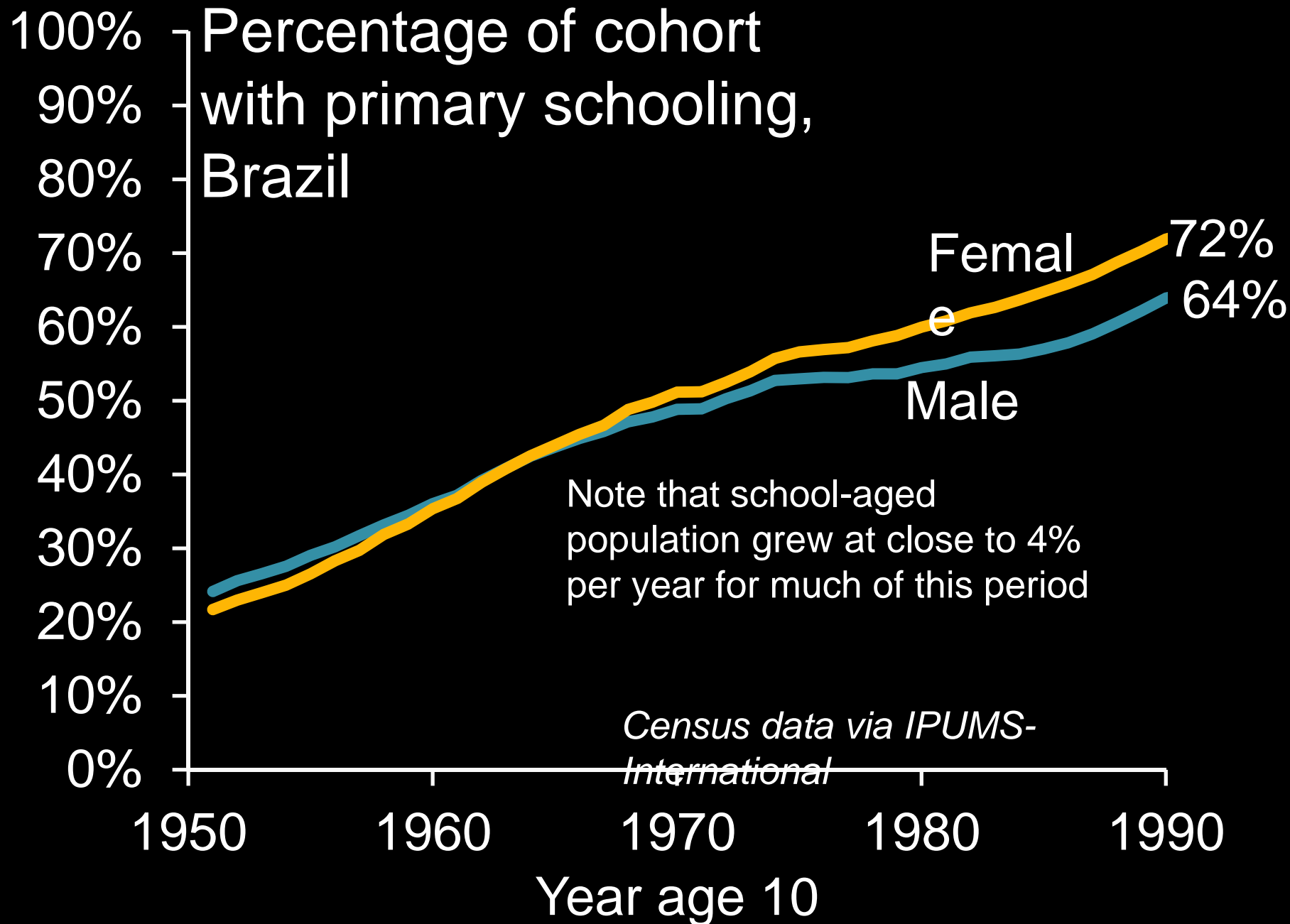


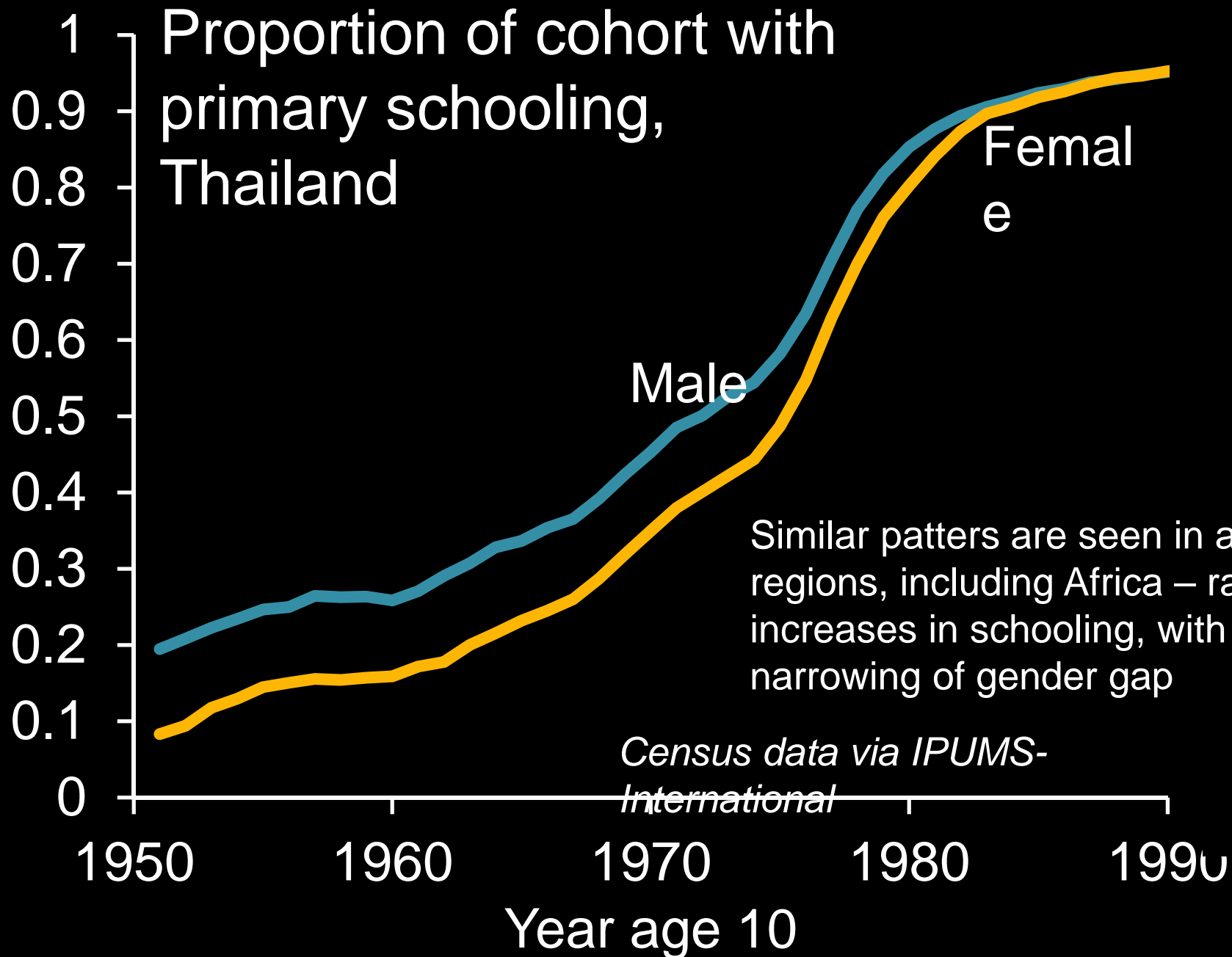


Number in Poverty (Billions) Low and Middle Income Countries



What has happened
to education in
developing countries?





Fertility decline and investments in children

- Increase in education is directly related to declines in fertility
- Transition from large numbers of children with low investments to smaller families with higher investments
- This is a major component of economic development

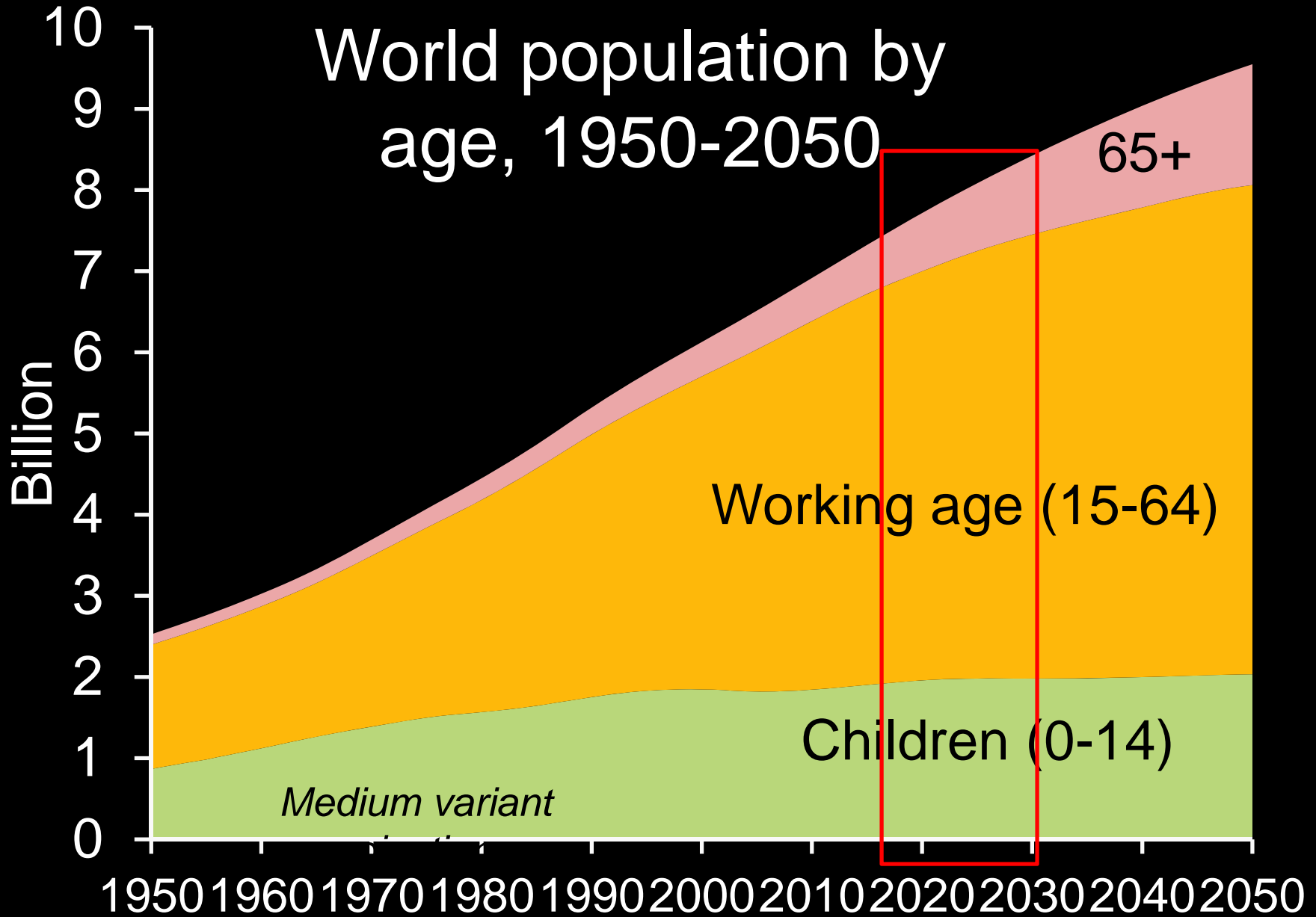
Lessons of last 50 years

- Unprecedented population growth did not lead to increases in starvation or poverty or stagnation in education
- Reasons
 - Major technological advances
 - Market responses
 - Globalization
 - Declines in fertility, increases in education
- Many caveats:
 - Unequal outcomes across countries and within countries
 - Environmental problems, climate change
 - Recent increases in commodity prices

Post-2015 Demographic Change

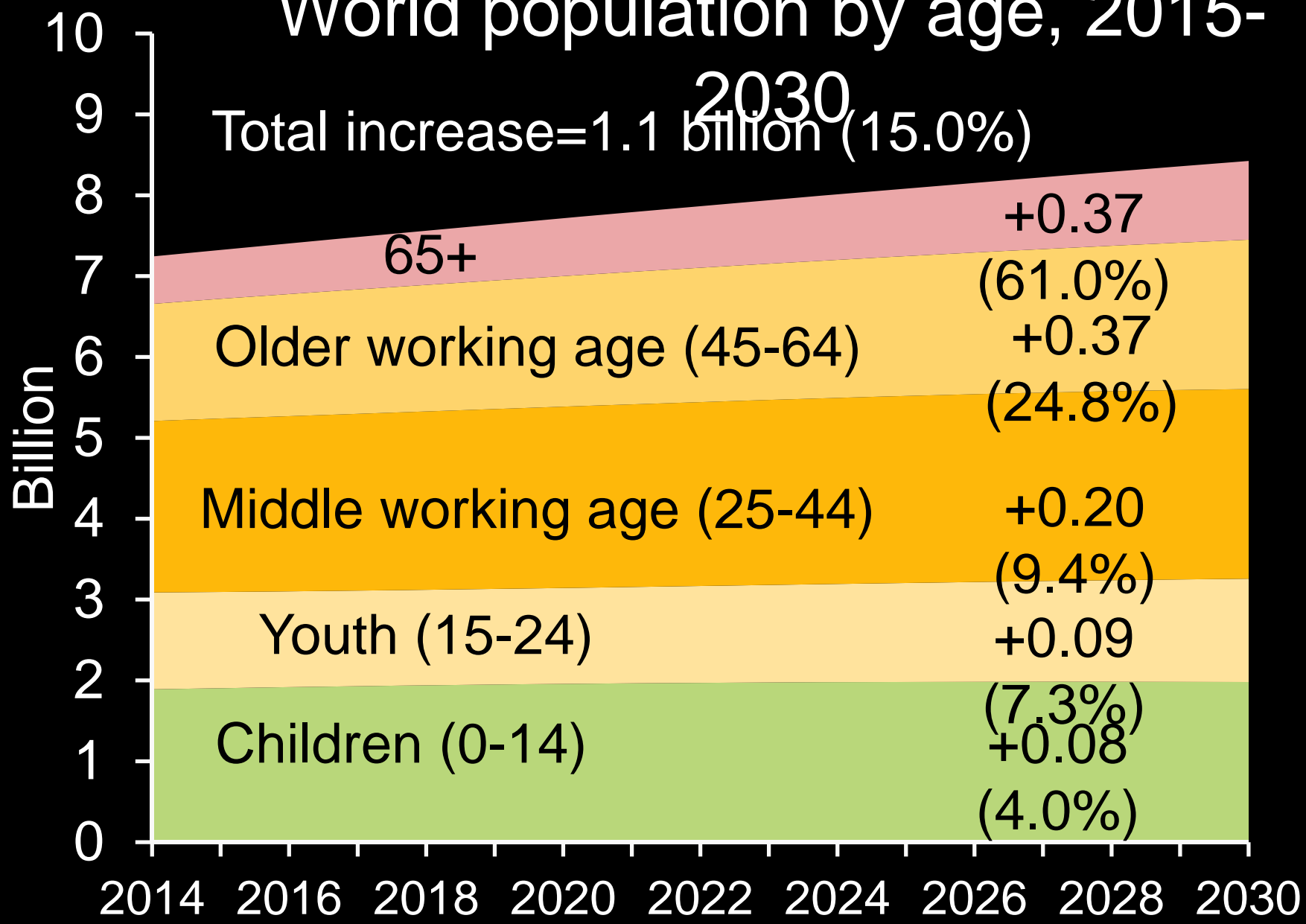
- Demography of children and youth
- Demography of working-age population
- Regional variation
- Implications for Post-2015 Development Goals

World population by age, 1950-2050

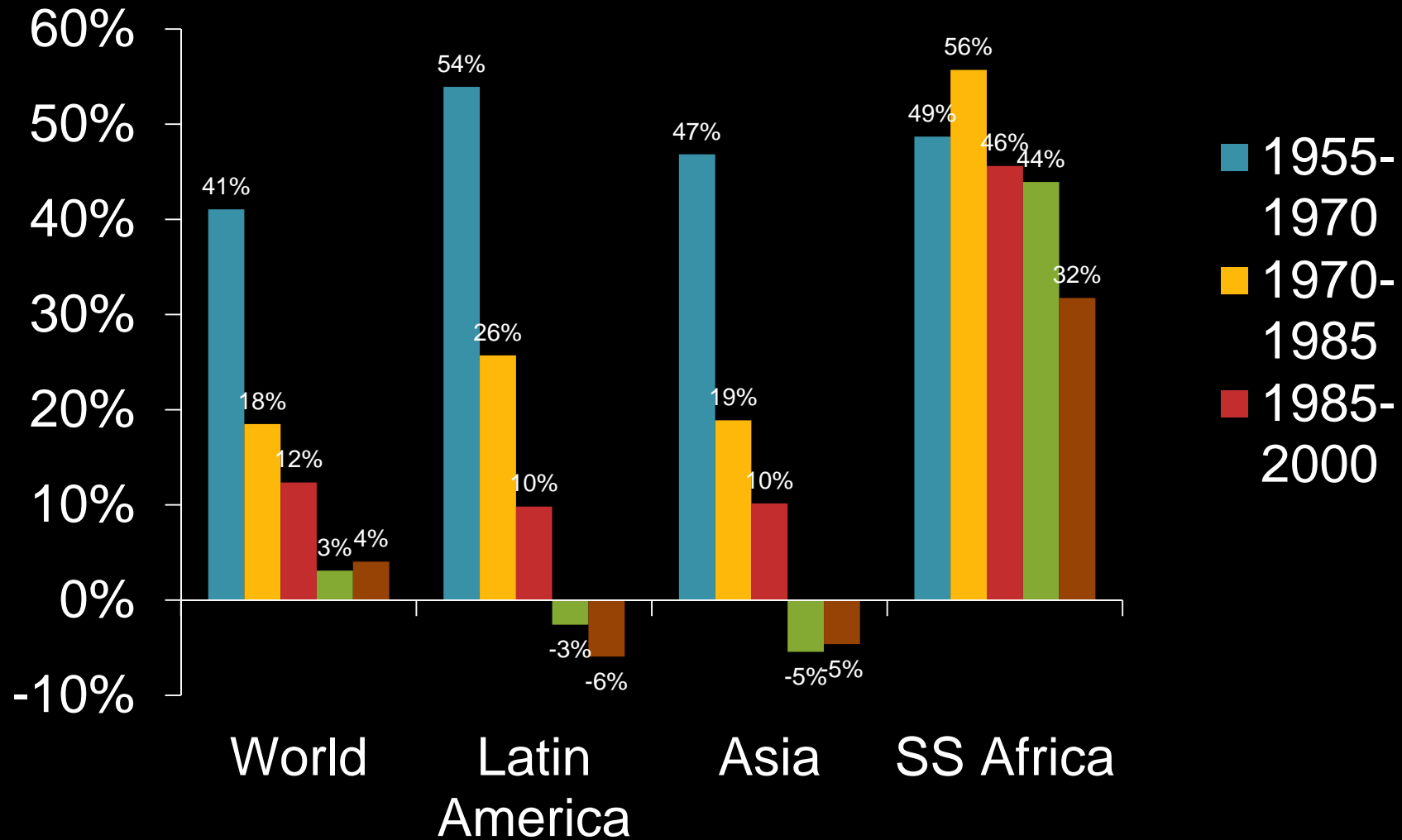


World population by age, 2015-2030

Total increase=1.1 billion (15.0%)



Increase in population 0-14 over 15 year periods



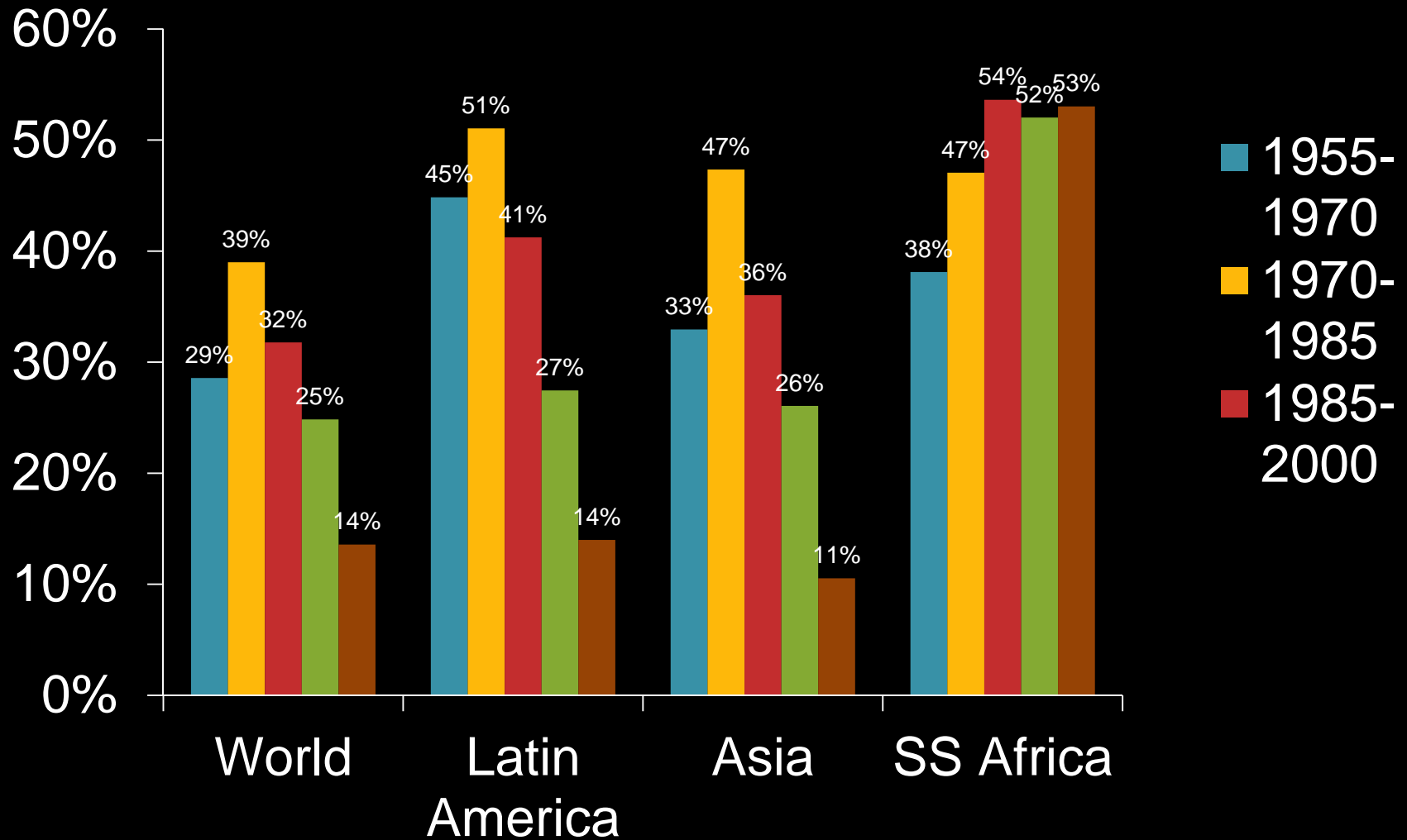
Implications for development goals 2015-2030

- Rate of growth of child population is much lower than in previous decades.
 - This should make it easier to make further progress on goals such as reduction of child mortality, universal primary education
 - Some regions, including Sub-Saharan Africa, will continue to have rapid growth of children and youth populations (but at lower rates than previous periods)

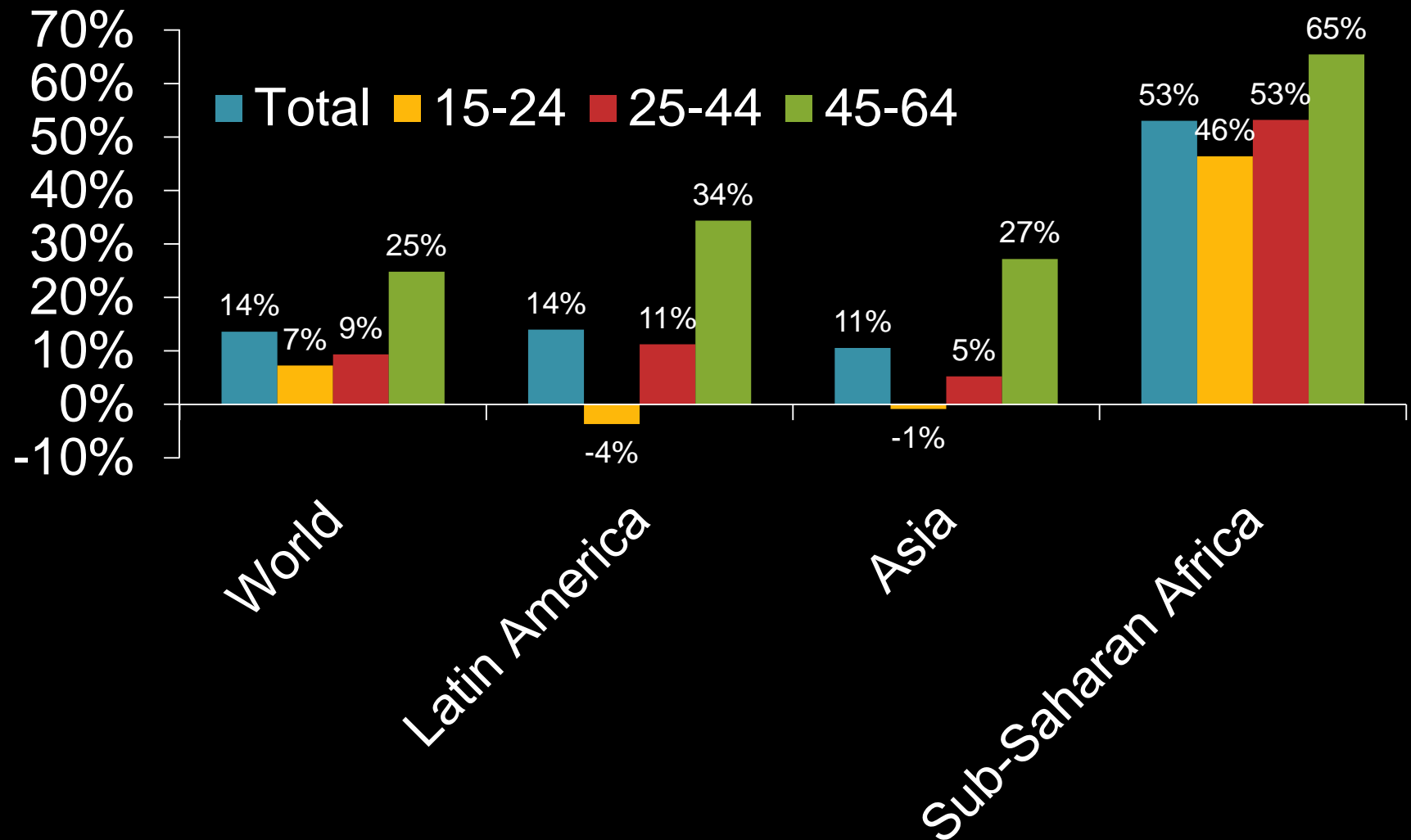
Population and employment, 2015-2030

David Lam and Murray Leibbrandt, “Global Demographic
Trends and Their Implications for Employment,”
background paper prepared for the High Level Panel on
the Post-2015
Development Agenda, May 2013

Increase in working-age population (15-64) over 15 year periods



Growth of working-age population, 2015-2030



Demography of labor market 2015-2030

- The world's working-age population will increase by 650 million, a 14% increase
 - We will need over 40 million jobs per year to maintain current employment rates
 - Sub-Saharan Africa will need 1.6 million new jobs per month by 2025-2030
- This is a challenge, but:
 - Working-age population increased by 960 million between 2000 and 2015, an increase of 25%
 - Youth component is growing at a slower rate than overall working-age population in all regions

Population and Development 2015-2030

- Reasons for optimism
 - The world experienced its largest improvements in standards of living during a period of even more rapid population growth
 - Child and youth populations have stopped growing in most regions, relieving pressure on health services, schools, and youth employment
- Remaining challenges
 - Continued rapid growth of children and youth in some regions mean that we will need increased investments in child health, schooling, and employment creation
 - An extra 1.1 billion people will continue to put pressure on resources and environment,