# Australian Jobs profile for August 2010

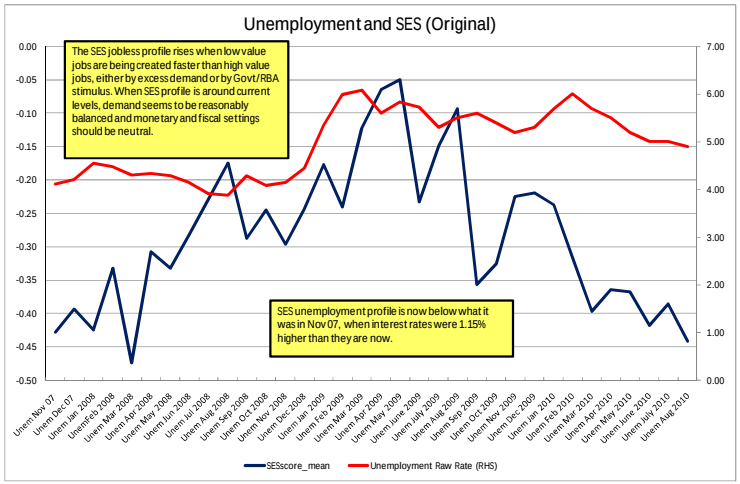
## Prepared by Australian Development Strategies Pty Ltd

This report has been prepared as an educational and public relations exercise and has not been designed as an advisory tool for business and we take no responsibility for those who use it for these purposes. The sampling errors for smaller Labour Force regions are large and the raw figures used cannot be easily adjusted for seasonal trends. There is also the statistical significance of the profiles to be considered. We repeat, caution is urged in any interpretation of these statistics.

# Job profiles lead economic cycles

The Australian Jobs Profile was begun by Australian Development Strategies in November 2008 as an ongoing attempt to learn more about Australian cycles of economic downturn and recovery in terms of the monthly profile of the unemployed and was originally called the Regional Unemployment Index (The RUIN report). We wanted to see if we could get some insights from looking at changing patterns of unemployment in regional Labour Force units and comparing these changes with their demographic composition. In other words, can the demographic profile of the recently unemployed provide a better guide to economic activity than crude national unemployment levels? Well, the answer to this question was unambiguously yes.

Before a downturn, we typically see strong demand driving down total unemployment, while the Reserve Bank tightens the money supply to moderate demand. However, before unemployment rises nationally, this monetary tightening has already started to work on part time professional jobs which are being lost at a great rate, with the unemployment profile for high SES workers rising from about minus 0.45 to minus 0.20. Part time professional consultants are sacked first in a downturn because they tend to be paid a lot and have no fixed employment contract. Employers simply stop returning phone calls.




Then follows middle white collar clerical and sales workers in lesser priority jobs and finally, unionised blue collar workers who tend to make things which need to be sold. During the downturn itself, wages are cut for the casual blue collar jobs like cab drivers, and these tend to be filled at a lower rate of pay by older workers or by those not normally employed, such as overseas born students. We have all seen examples of these trends in the recent downturn.

The standard Labour Force statistics cannot tell the industry or occupation profile of an unemployed person, because, by definition, they have none. And because we have some 600 variables in the profile database, we can also profile the unemployed by education, age, income, families, birthplace, religion, language, web usage, work commute, family type, assets, debts and expenditure, as well as occupation, industry and employment.

The tools used by Government also interact with the jobs market, not least of all because the Federal Government keeps hiring lots of workers during a downturn, until they run out of money and then they borrow some more and keep doing it. Since November 2007, Public Admin, Health and Education sector jobs have all grown by up to ten percent. It's hard to see this trend continuing.

Looser monetary policy can reduce the value of our dollar and help export industries such as mining or agriculture to soak up the existing unemployed and also drive the creation of net job gains. Tightening monetary policy has the reverse affect and we can measure the impact of both, using the unemployment profiles because they enable us to see what job the unemployed person had and hence, what job they are likely to be seeking.

The industry with the biggest loss in jobs – 25,000 - since November 2007 has been the media – which includes publishers, the music industry, television, the internet, web search providers, ISPs, data processors, telecommunications workers and librarians. These skilled jobs of particular interest to younger Australians have fallen by 11 percent since November 2007, despite the National Broadband Network.

In April and May 2009, the unemployment profiles for male and female media industry employees rose sharply and then in August 2009, we saw media industry employment fall from 227,200 to 211,000 and it is still at this level. So the monthly unemployment profiles can provide useful guides to future employment trends.

The most mendicant industry – manufacturing – continues to be the beneficiary of Government largesse, especially in Adelaide and Melbourne, but jobs continue to be lost, dropping steadily from 1,098,000 in November 1984 to 999,400 in August 2010, or a drop from one in six workers to one in 11. Driving this steady decline are unemployment profiles for Manufacturing which are invariably positive. To be precise, since September 1987, we have seen only two months in 23 years – Sept 1987 and Feb 1991 – where unemployment profiles for male manufacturing workers were marginally negative, that is, when manufacturing job skills gave you a better than 50/50 chance of finding a job. Thankfully, the pool of unemployed manufacturing workers is now back to the marginally positive territory of late 2007.

This paper looks at the comparison of original or raw monthly unemployment rates in 69 Labour Force regions, across Australia, and uses simple modelling to benchmark these percentage figures against our Elaborate database. Data for the current regions was available for the first time in February 09 and back dated to November 2007, which happened to be the date of the last Federal election.

Regression analysis has been used, when appropriate to cross check the model and do some basic projections. Typically, the regression analysis explains some 75 percent of the variance in the monthly unemployment data from our model and almost half of this is contributed from the actual levels of unemployment at the time of the 2006 Census.

In other words, neighbourhoods with high unemployment four years ago, tend to have high levels of unemployment now. In fact, this trend for high unemployment in certain neighbourhoods goes back at least 20 years. The yearly seasonal trends can be seen in the longer term correlational charts: for example, unemployment for 15-19 year olds (leaving school) is typically higher in January and February and then declines during the year.

## Reading the report

From the top, we have included stereotype tables, which are a handy demographic snapshot of August 2010 and of changes during the past 12 months.

Then we have the correlation charts, which are the main substance of the report. These take three forms. The first is the monthly trends since November 2007, when the series began. Monthly trends should be considered in the context of an annual cycle described earlier. In other words, younger school leavers will tend to have a higher unemployment profile in February, which will fall during the year; high SES jobless profiles will be higher in December and lower in June. We are looking here for trends which over ride the annual cycle, such as interest rates changes or the value of the dollar, which may impact on employment in export industries like mining, agriculture or tourism.

The second group of charts compares the monthly unemployment profiles for men and women in various industries with the quarterly employment figures for the same industries. Original or raw figures are used in all cases, to allow comparisons. We are looking here for links between unemployment profiles and employment changes in that industry.

The third group of correlation charts are the snapshot of August 2010, compared to August 2009. This comparison allows for monthly seasonal variation, but we stress we are looking at inferential statistics here and weaker correlations have a stronger likelihood of being due simply to chance factors. When we can, we check these out with regression analysis and this has given us some confidence we're on the right track with descriptive comments contained on most charts. But we can make mistakes or miss obvious points and the reader is invited to interpret them directly.

Finally we include the Regional Unemployment Index (RUIN) which presents the increases and falls in raw unemployment across all regions from August 09 to August 10. Those regions with the biggest unemployment gains will tend to contain those groups in Stereotype Table 1. The regions with the unemployment falls will be tend to be in Stereotype Table 2. A profile simply organizes real data in a systematic and objective way to see things we often miss by looking at a national summary with our own personal biases about what we expect to see.

# Summary of Results

The recession is well and truly over, with demand for high SES jobs now so high that unemployment in August 2010 in some rich inner city suburbs was heading down below two percent and demand driven inflation must now be a real concern for the Reserve Bank.

While demand is strong for better paid jobs, the lower paid jobs boosted by the fiscal and monetary stimulus are fading, relative to skilled white collar workers and tertiary trained professionals.

During the depths of the downturn, in April 2009, these relativities between high and low SES workers were so squeezed as to be almost nonexistent. Unemployment (original) for the top one third of family income Labour Force Regions was 5.1 percent and in both the middle and bottom income Labour Force regions it was 5.6 percent. There was little difference at that time between the unemployment profiles of top income Professionals, middle income Clerks and low income Laborers. In fact, Labourers were slightly better off than Clerks for a large part of 2009.

For the first six months of 2010, as the economy recovers, these relativities have been expanding to normal longer term patterns, where the better educated get more secure jobs and the less well educated get less secure jobs.  In the latest regional ABS figures for August 2010, the original unemployment figures for the three regions were: Rich – 4.0 percent and steady; Middle Income – 5.2 percent and falling fast; Poor – 6.4 percent and in slow decline. This 2.4 percent unemployment gap between rich and poor regions is well in excess of the 1.8 percent we saw before the downturn in November 2007.

In rural and regional Australia, jobless profiles for farmers, miners (males in exploration and support) and utility workers are weak, with a significant decline over the levels of 12 months ago. The employment security for Australians in August 2010 was strongest in the CBDs of the major cities and decreased, the further you moved away from the CBD.

This stage of the economic cycle of downturn and recovery is boosting inner urban economies with large concentrations of younger, better educated, better paid workers, often with no kids and many of the them overseas born – those who were the first to lose their jobs in the downturn. Similarly, in this stage of the recovery cycle, these higher SES workers are replacing the older, less well educated, unskilled, poorly paid and Australian born, often older women with families, who were drawn back into the workforce during

the downturn, either by the stimulus or by the desire of employers to cut costs. The demographic patterns in this current downturn and recovery cycle look similar to those of the dotcom slump.

Despite commonly held Dickensian prejudices to the contrary, the first workers to get sacked in the current downturn were Professionals, followed by Clerks (both before national unemployment figures rose) followed by the Labourers (as the recovery phase began in the second half of last year). The real canaries in the mineshaft nowadays are the professional consultants, whose jobs are cut by employers simply not returning their phone calls. That's the easiest way for an employer to cut immediate labour costs.

During the depths of the downturn more than 50 percent of Australian's 69 Labour Force Regions were recording recession levels of annual unemployment growth, in excess of 1.5 percent. In August, only seven regions were in recession and these were overwhelmingly from rural and regional New South Wales, Queensland Victoria and Tasmania. However, some 17 regions – mainly inner urban and high SES - were showing signs of annual unemployment decline in excess of 1.5 percent, meaning that the economy is clearly now in growth mode and interest rates will soon be on the increase.


The likelihood of an interest rate correction upwards is supported by the SES unemployment profiles which are now back to November 2007 levels, when interest rates were 1.15 percent higher than they are now.

When this correction happens, the skin and hair are likely to start flying for the Government in the opinion polls and in the Parliament, as Labor's political future depends on goodwill of a lot of low to middle income home buyers who were enticed into the housing market during the downturn by low interest rates and Government subsidies.

The day of reckoning is coming for this group.

# Stereotypes

We present here the simple correlation between our database, shown at the left of the following tables in summary form, and the figures for unemployment by region. We feature in these tables the profile of those demographic groups clustered in Labour Force regions with high levels of unemployment growth from Aug 09 to Aug 10. Also included are National Means for each variable.

The correlations in Tables 1 and 2 have been ranked to show those correlations which are normally significant to 95 percent or more. In other words, there's a five percent probability the correlations in the table are due to chance. The higher the correlation, plus or minus, the lower the probability it is due to chance.

We're interested here in groups which normally tend to show correlations indicating a possible high or low level of unemployment growth. For example, manufacturing in Australia has been in long term decline and hence will tend to show a consistent level of high unemployment in the profiles and this is simply the normal situation. However, when unemployment is growing significantly in manufacturing regions, then we have a short term problem for manufacturing employment levels.

We can really only say that a high positive correlation means that the group in question live in regions of high unemployment growth – they aren't unemployed because they are in a specific group. And a poor unemployment profile can co-exist with a rising total number of jobs, such as accommodation, where there more jobs being created, but they are less secure.

| Code | Unem Aug 2009 | Unem Aug 2010 | Aug 2010 minus Aug 2009 | Aust Means (RHS) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| fSalvation Army | -0.30 | 0.54 | 0.64 | 0.34 |
| Mort $400-549 | -0.21 | 0.52 | 0.55 | 6.11 |
| f55-59 three kids | -0.28 | 0.41 | 0.51 | 1.91 |
| Rent $100-139 | -0.19 | 0.48 | 0.51 | 11.11 |
| fUniting | -0.34 | 0.31 | 0.49 | 6.40 |
| Worked at home | -0.40 | 0.25 | 0.48 | 6.00 |
| Uniting | -0.34 | 0.30 | 0.48 | 5.47 |
| 55-59 | -0.29 | 0.35 | 0.47 | 6.52 |
| Mort $250-399 | -0.20 | 0.42 | 0.46 | 3.09 |
| f45-49 | -0.29 | 0.34 | 0.46 | 7.39 |
| F$250-399 | -0.13 | 0.47 | 0.46 | 16.20 |
| f55-59 | -0.32 | 0.30 | 0.46 | 6.40 |
| Rent $0-49 | -0.34 | 0.27 | 0.46 | 9.46 |
| Mort Not Stated | -0.33 | 0.28 | 0.45 | 9.42 |
| Mort $1-249 | -0.22 | 0.39 | 0.45 | 2.75 |
| fManagers | -0.44 | 0.17 | 0.44 | 11.13 |
| fAgriculture\ forestry & fishing | -0.29 | 0.29 | 0.44 | 4.06 |
| $250-399 | -0.10 | 0.48 | 0.44 | 10.12 |
| fosAgriculture & Environment | -0.30 | 0.27 | 0.42 | 4.09 |
| f65-69 three kids | -0.27 | 0.30 | 0.42 | 1.22 |
| Year 8 | -0.08 | 0.46 | 0.41 | 7.55 |
| Rented Other | -0.27 | 0.26 | 0.41 | 1.89 |
| fosfAgriculture & Environment | -0.34 | 0.21 | 0.40 | 1.54 |
| 50-54 | -0.29 | 0.27 | 0.40 | 6.78 |
| Australia | -0.35 | 0.21 | 0.40 | 71.86 |
| Agriculture\ forestry & fishing | -0.26 | 0.28 | 0.40 | 6.77 |
| Employed/away from work | -0.32 | 0.20 | 0.40 | 2.03 |
| Fam $500-649 | 0.01 | 0.52 | 0.39 | 10.11 |

**Table 1**. Shows in column four (fourth from the left) those demographic groups in the community most likely to be living in areas of high unemployment growth in the 12 months to May 2010.

We are seeing here lower income, older families, with religious beliefs and children. Their rents and mortgages, like their incomes, are first or second quartile.

These are the classic Howard Battlers from 2001 and 2004 who swung to Kevin Rudd in 2007 across the outer suburbs of Australian cities.

We also see a strong representation from rural and regional groups – Manager farmers, workers at home (farmers) or away from home (typically miners) and home owners or families owing very little in mortgage payments.

So, we have two basic clusters: outer urban working poor families and older rural and provincial groups, in both agriculture and mining, who would tend to own their own homes.

All the correlations for Aug 2009 are negative and almost all of them for Aug 2010 are positive, meaning these groups have moved from a position of employment security to a position of employment insecurity in the space of 12 months.

This is not a good look for the Government in rural and regional Australia.

| Code | Unem Aug 2009 | Unem Aug 2010 | Aug 2010 minus Aug 2009 | Aust Means (RHS) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Catholic Sec Fees 06_07 | 0.27 | -0.38 | -0.49 | $2,089 |
| PredUnemployed_mean_May 09 | 0.61 | -0.07 | -0.49 | |
| Catholic Total Fees 06_07 | 0.18 | -0.44 | -0.47 | $1,677 |
| fosfEngineering | 0.56 | -0.08 | -0.46 | 2.19 |
| Mort $1600-1999 | 0.25 | -0.33 | -0.45 | 11.06 |
| f30-34 one kid | 0.31 | -0.27 | -0.43 | 1.66 |
| Secondary Cath | 0.29 | -0.28 | -0.43 | 1.27 |
| Oth Religious | 0.38 | -0.19 | -0.43 | 0.52 |
| Total Catholic Ed Spend 06_07 | 0.29 | -0.28 | -0.43 | $36,997 |
| fosfManagement & Commerce | 0.22 | -0.34 | -0.42 | 19.66 |
| Mortgage Debt Per Cap 06_07 | 0.09 | -0.45 | -0.42 | $24,922 |
| Commute two methods | 0.28 | -0.27 | -0.42 | 2.37 |
| Elsewhere | 0.42 | -0.14 | -0.41 | 3.22 |
| f35-39 one kid | 0.19 | -0.35 | -0.41 | 1.36 |
| f35-39 | 0.23 | -0.31 | -0.41 | 7.39 |
| Admin consulting | 0.31 | -0.23 | -0.41 | 2.73 |
| Catholic Prim Fees 06_07 | 0.10 | -0.42 | -0.40 | $888 |
| Fam $1700-1999 | 0.04 | -0.47 | -0.40 | 6.71 |
| fElsewhere | 0.38 | -0.15 | -0.39 | 3.26 |
| F$800-999 | -0.02 | -0.51 | -0.38 | 6.22 |
| Total Cath | 0.28 | -0.23 | -0.38 | 2.84 |
| Commute three methods | 0.29 | -0.21 | -0.38 | 0.31 |
| Fam $2000-2499 | 0.00 | -0.47 | -0.38 | 7.26 |
| Ireland | 0.09 | -0.39 | -0.37 | 0.27 |
| fPoland | 0.27 | -0.23 | -0.37 | 0.28 |
| $1000-1299 | 0.04 | -0.43 | -0.37 | 9.47 |
| Total Debt Per Cap 06_07 | -0.03 | -0.50 | -0.37 | $43,637 |
| Polish | 0.31 | -0.18 | -0.37 | 0.22 |

**Table 2**. Shows in column four those demographic groups in the community most likely to living in areas of unemployment decline (and jobs growth) in the 12 months to Aug 2010.

The second top variable here is the modeled unemployment figures for May 09. In other words, the second biggest drop in unemployment has been from those areas where unemployment was highest in May 2009.

This is a pretty good sign that the recession that never quite arrived, had well and truly gone 12 months later.

This is a classic demographic portrait of the younger, professional, upwardly mobile young family groups, crowding in towards the inner suburbs of our major cities. These groups overwhelmingly voted Green in 2010 and swung, after preferences, to the Liberals.

There are higher incomes, along with higher debts, for mortgages and for both Catholic and Non Govt school fees. We are also starting to see signs of overseas born from Catholic countries like Ireland or Poland who send their children to Catholic schools.

Areas of employment include management and commerce and admin consulting.

There's some groups here carrying high levels of mortgage and total debt and they now have the sort of incomes and job security which means they can afford it.

# Correlation charts

Correlation charts should be read the same way as the worm debating chart – the zero line is neutral and the score heightens as the correlation increases its distance above or below the zero line. Correlations above the line indicate a positive relationship and correlations below the line show a negative relationship. The significance levels vary according to the number of pairs and we would advise the reader not to get too excited about any correlations below plus or minus 0.23.

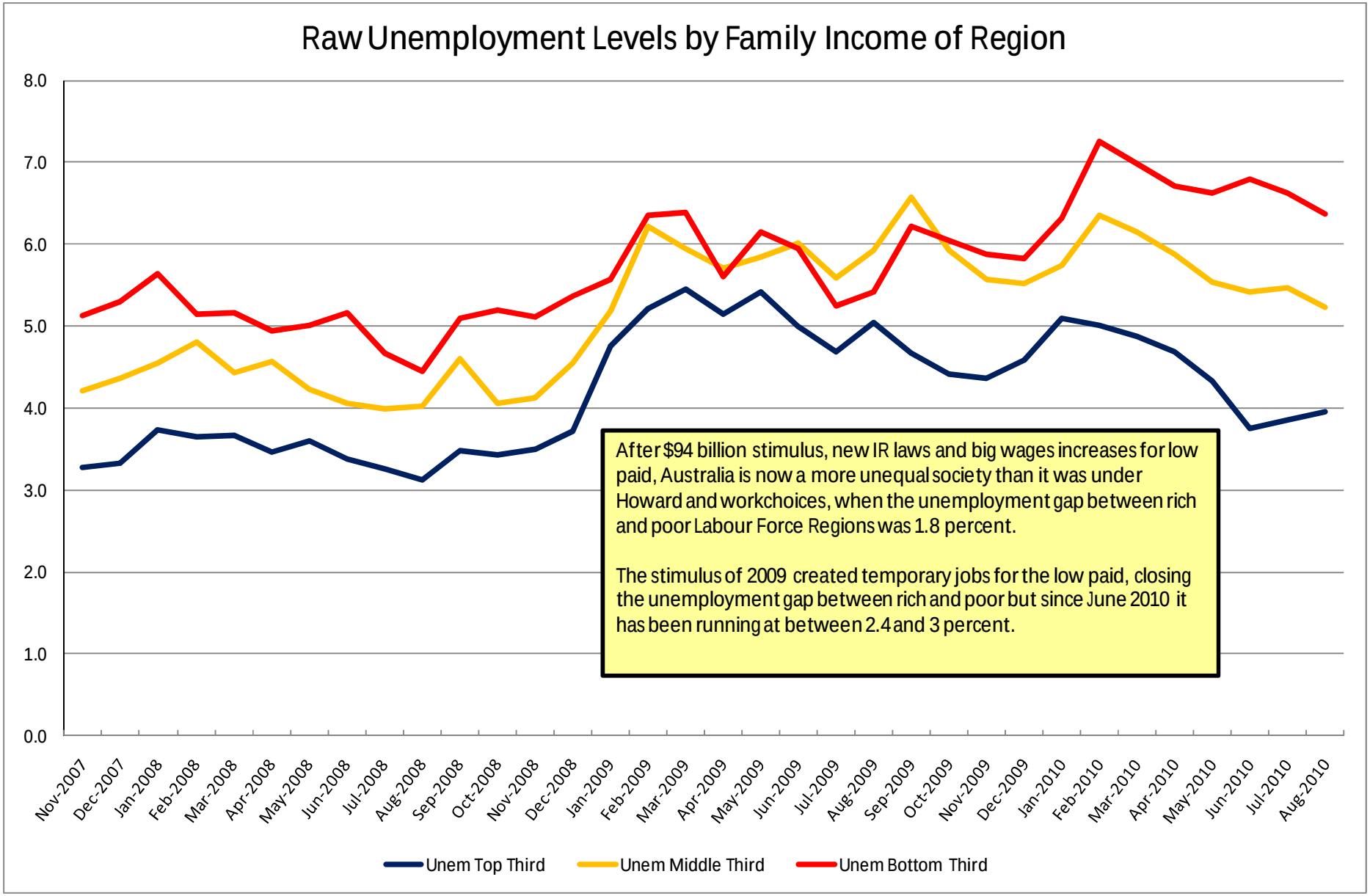
Similarly, the reader should be cautious about high correlations from variables with a very low mean, from the more esoteric religions, or unusual countries of birth or languages spoken at home. This is an arbitrary call, but, if it's less than about half of one percent of the population, it's usually pretty meaningless. **In summary, we are looking in the charts for longer vertical bars or trend lines, above or below 0.23, consistent patterns across each chart and big population numbers.** The corresponding national means for each variable are shown on the right hand axis.

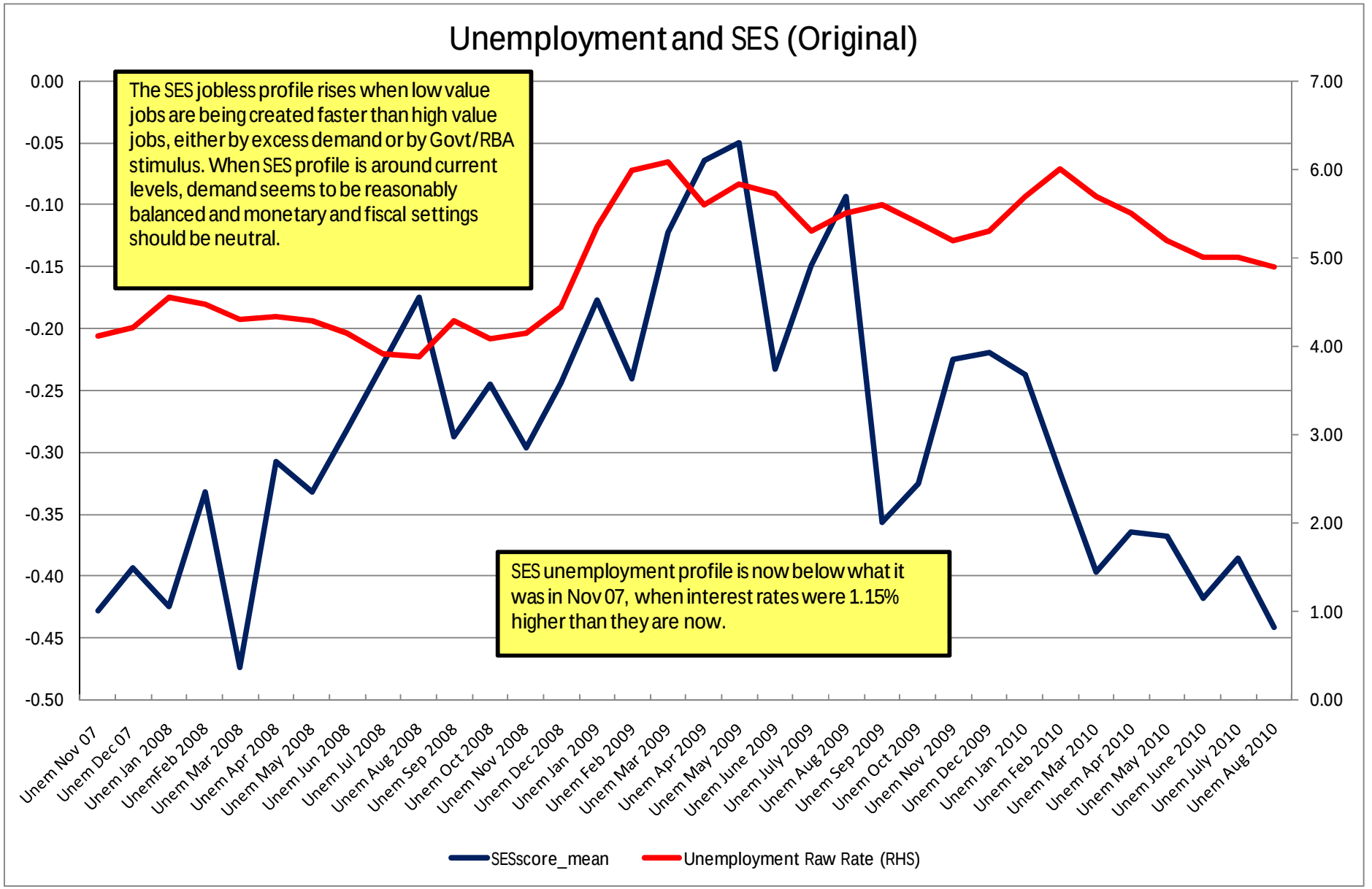
The descriptive information for each chart will tend to be found in the explanatory boxes within the charts themselves, with the important ones highlighted in colour.

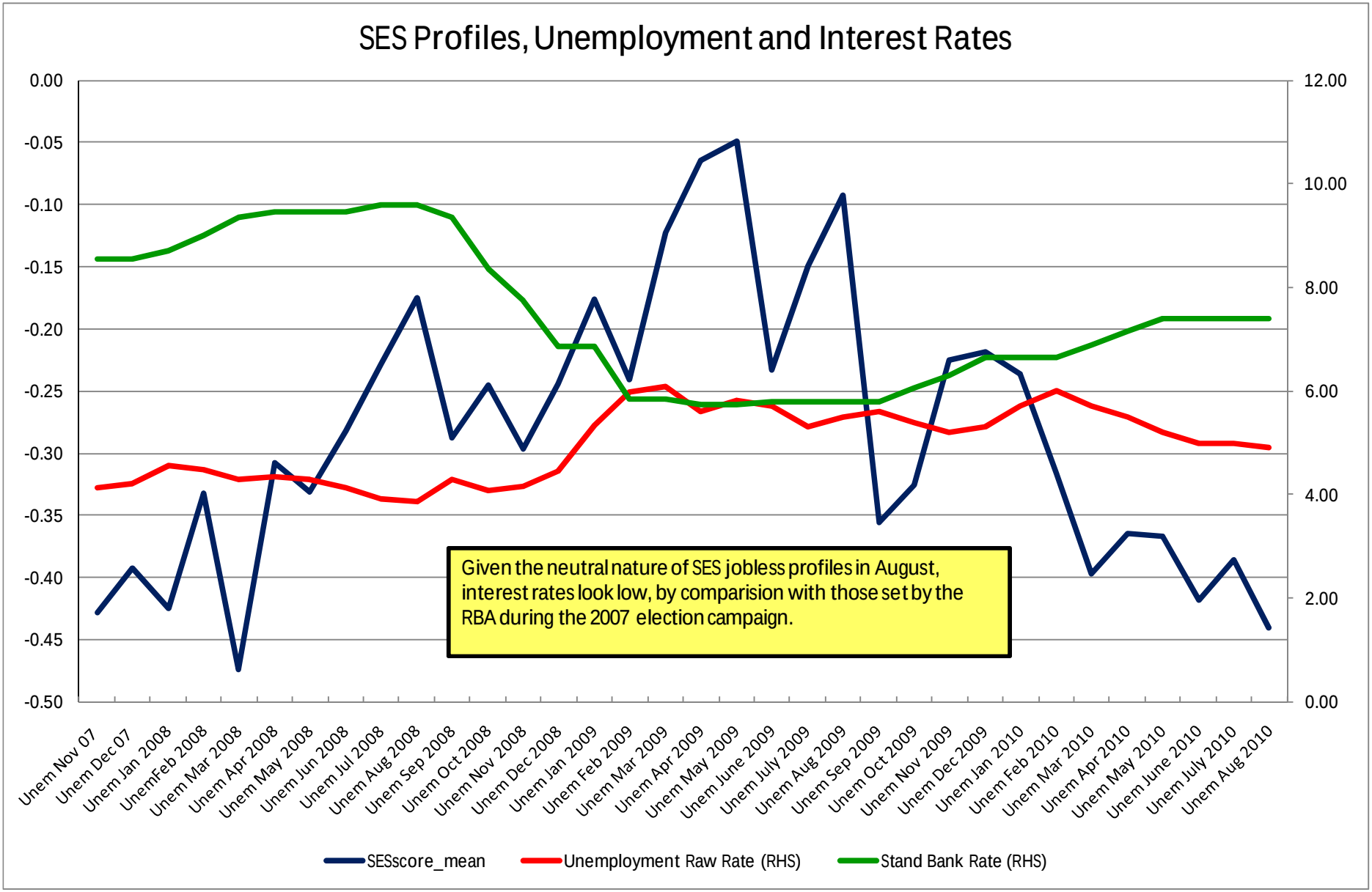
If the stereotype tables are snapshots, the following charts can be seen as small pictures, which can then be combined to make up a fine-grained demographic portrait or collage of unemployed Australians. We emphasize that we're looking here at what happened to the actual jobless figures, in terms of who lives in areas where unemployment is growing or declining, we're not looking survey results from an opinion poll, so causality can only be inferred.

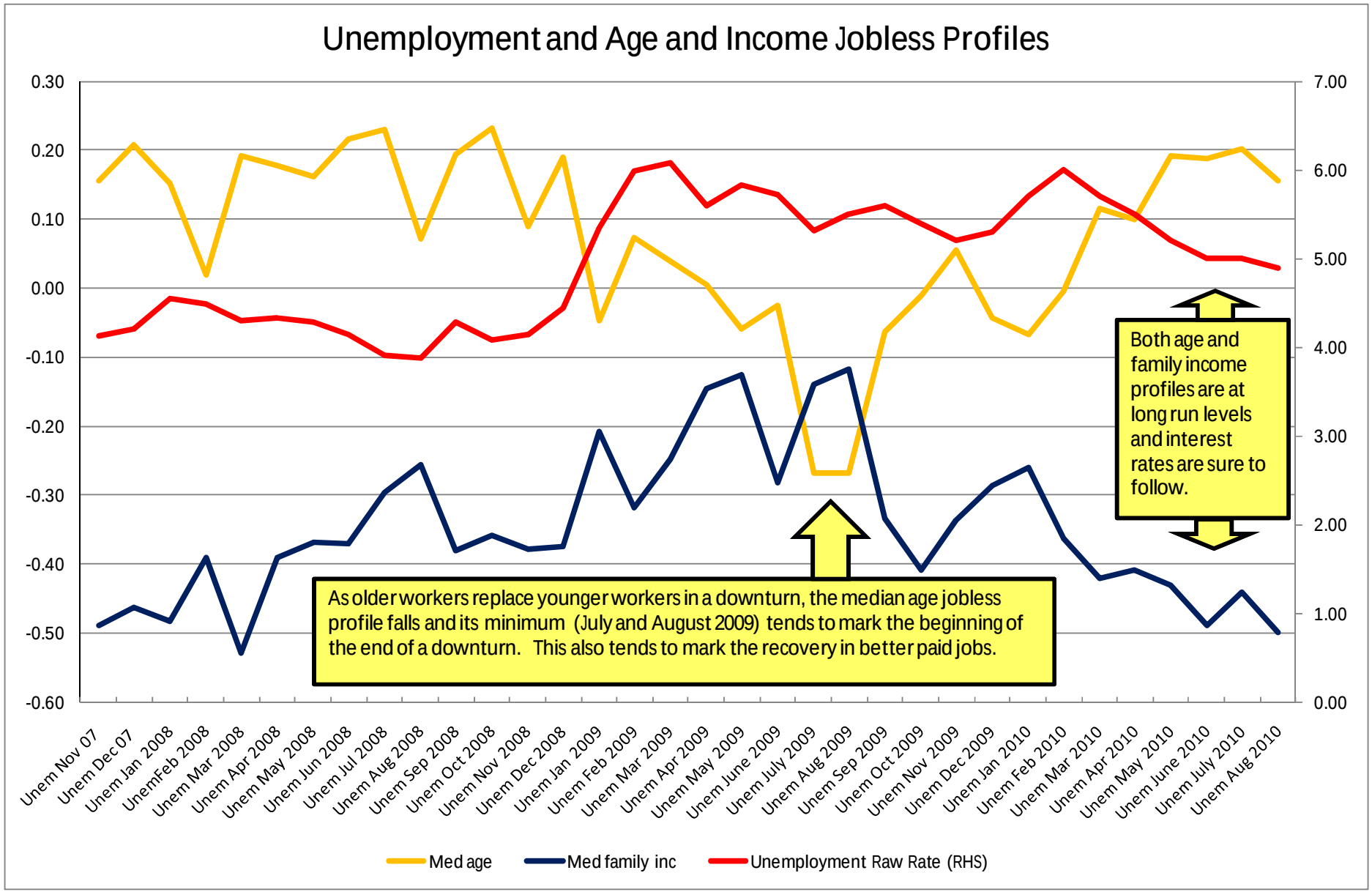
**We should also bear in mind that there's a large element of sampling error in these ABS Labour Force stats when they are broken down into smaller regional units and this error is magnified by profiling. So caution is advised and any findings of interest should be confirmed wherever possible by cross references to other data.** We've done this where time has permitted and we think the material is sufficiently useful and timely to warrant the effort. There's certainly an interesting story trying to get out from under the bland aggregates of any national data set and the Labour Force figures are no exception.

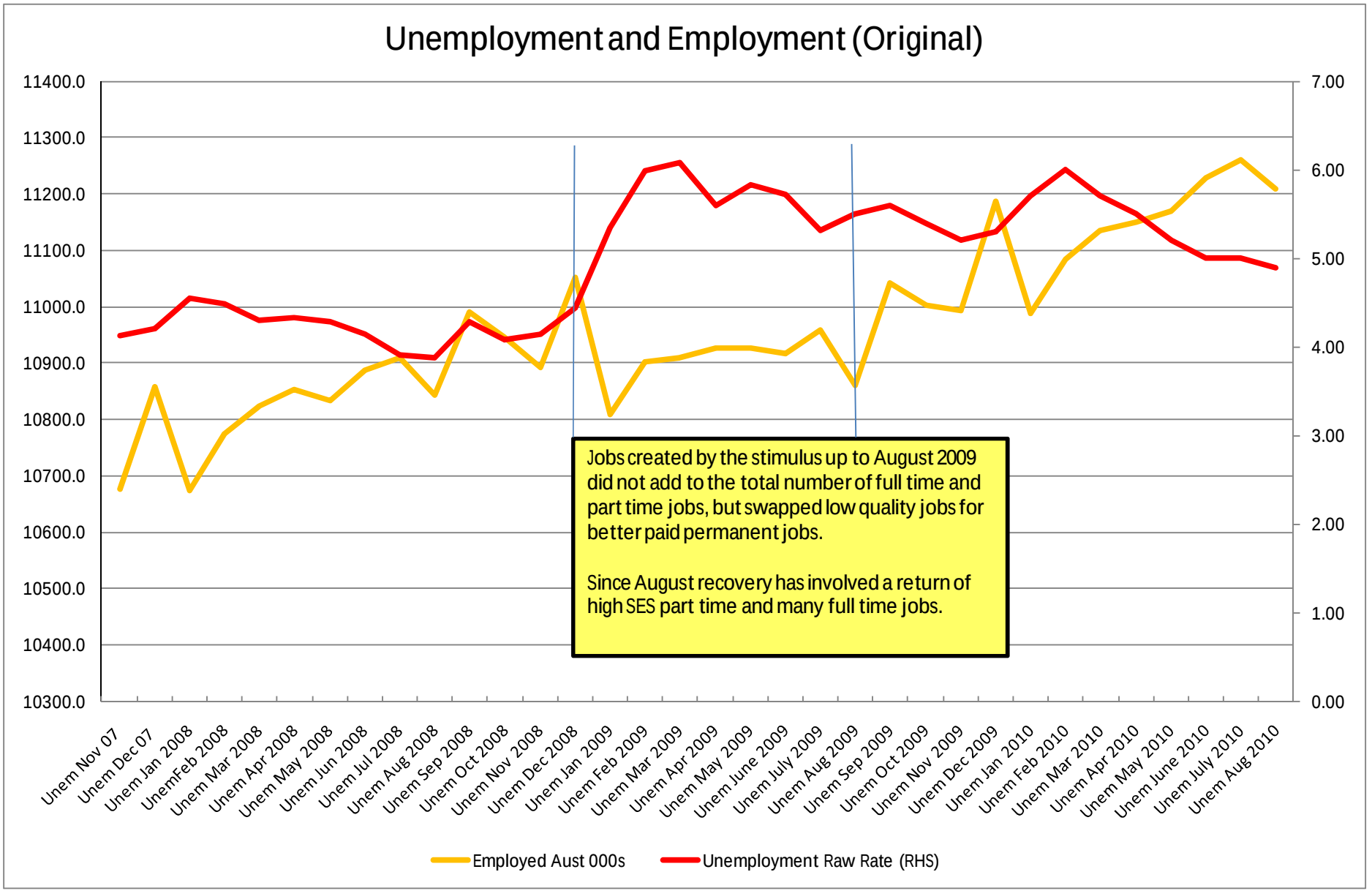
The first few charts below trace movements across the months from November 2007. When the profile of a variable heads down that means the unemployment profile for that particular group is improving – i.e. they are finding jobs. So a decline in any profile is a good thing and a rise is a bad thing. When we are looking at charts of actual data however, such as raw or seasonally adjusted unemployment, or interest rates, or the Trade Weighted Index, the data score can be read directly, usually from the right axis.

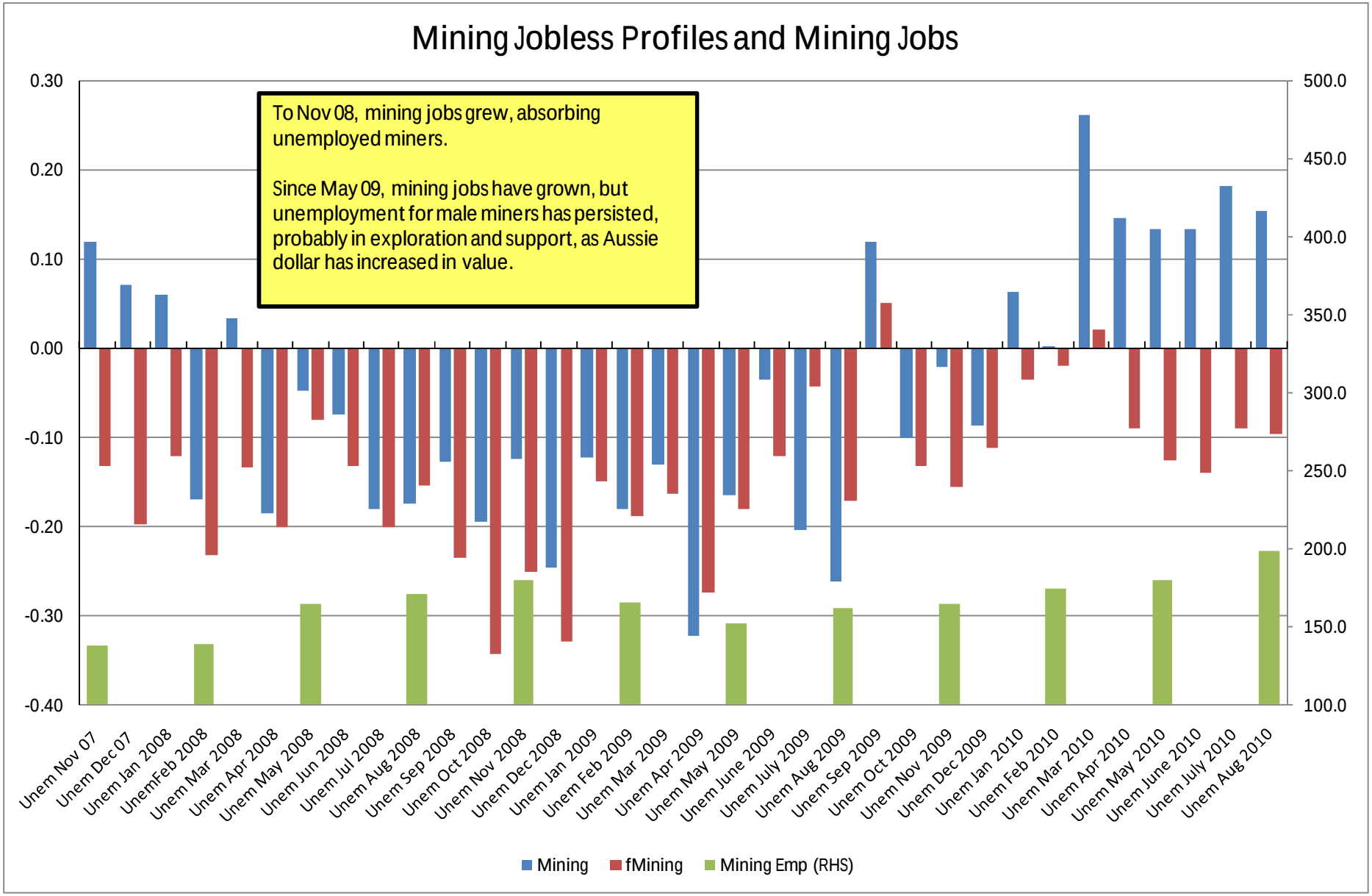


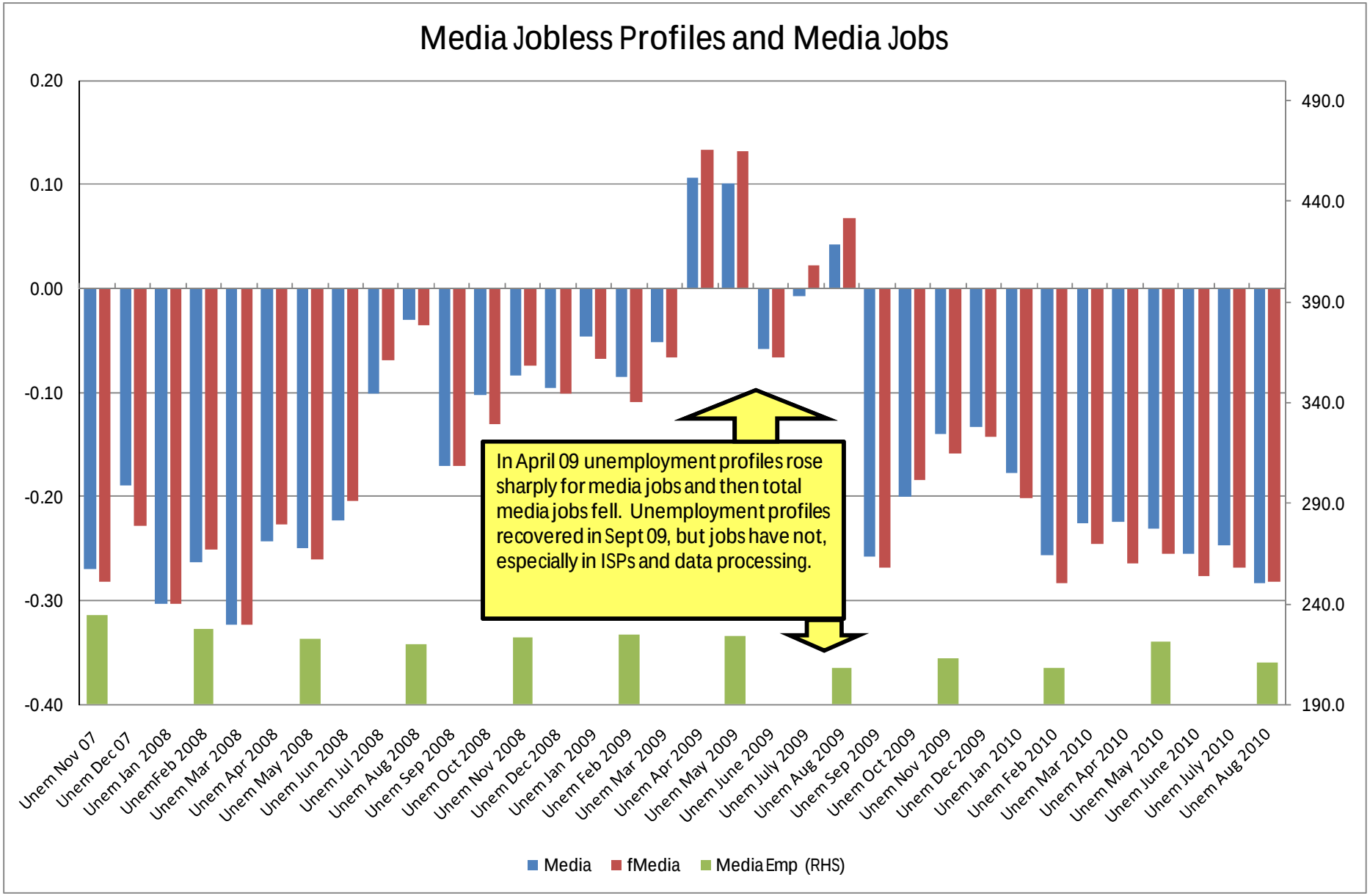


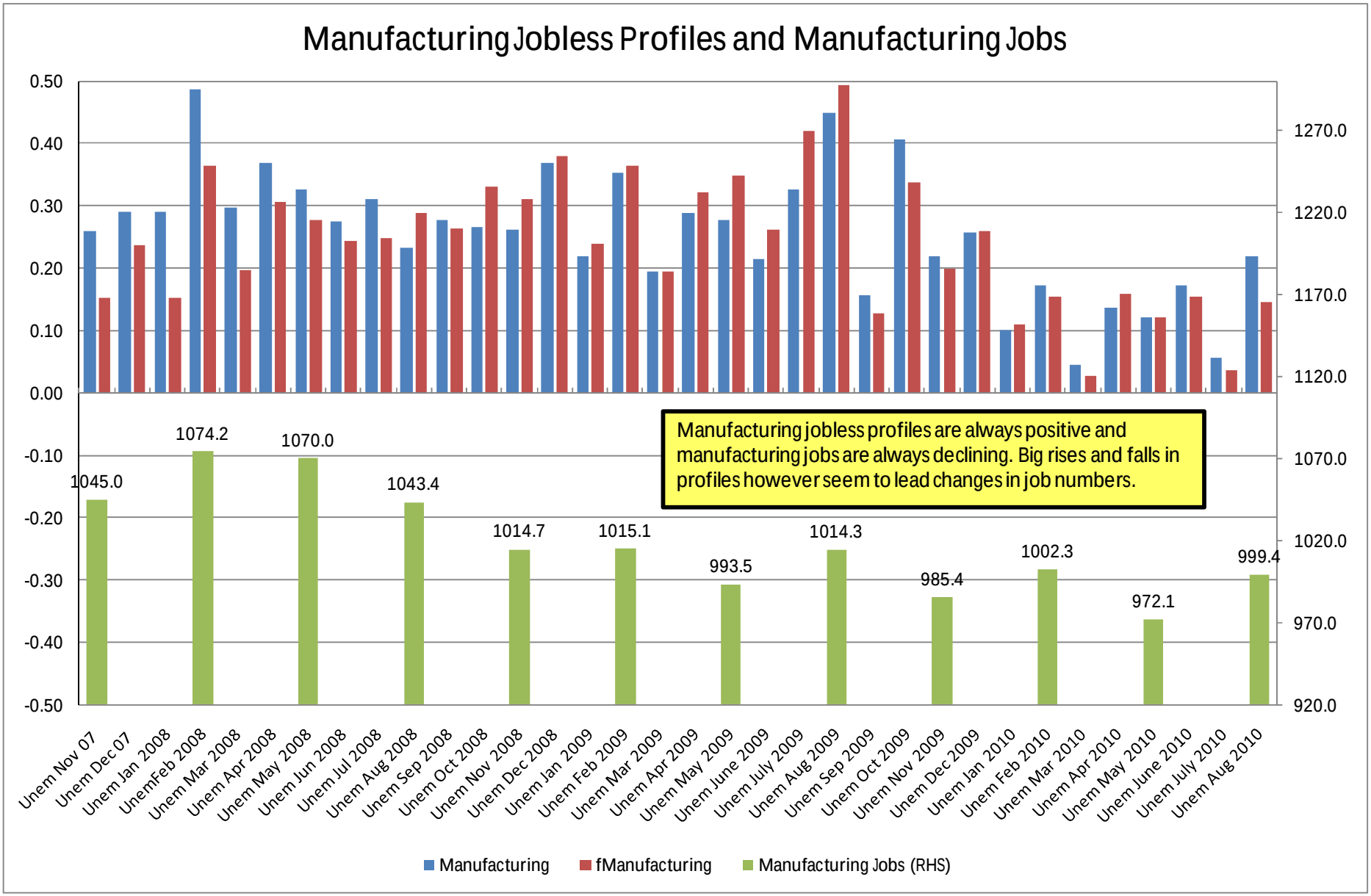


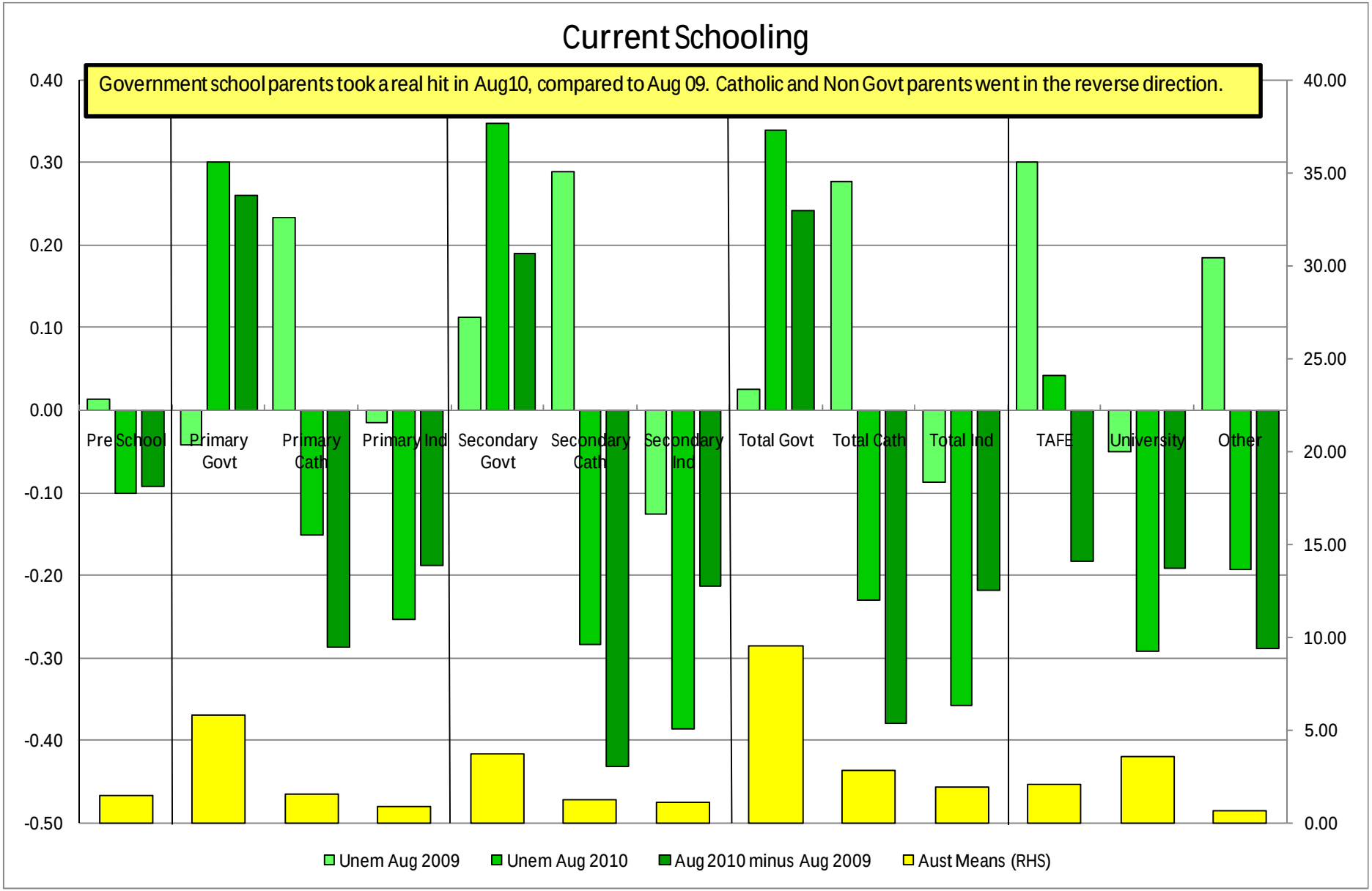


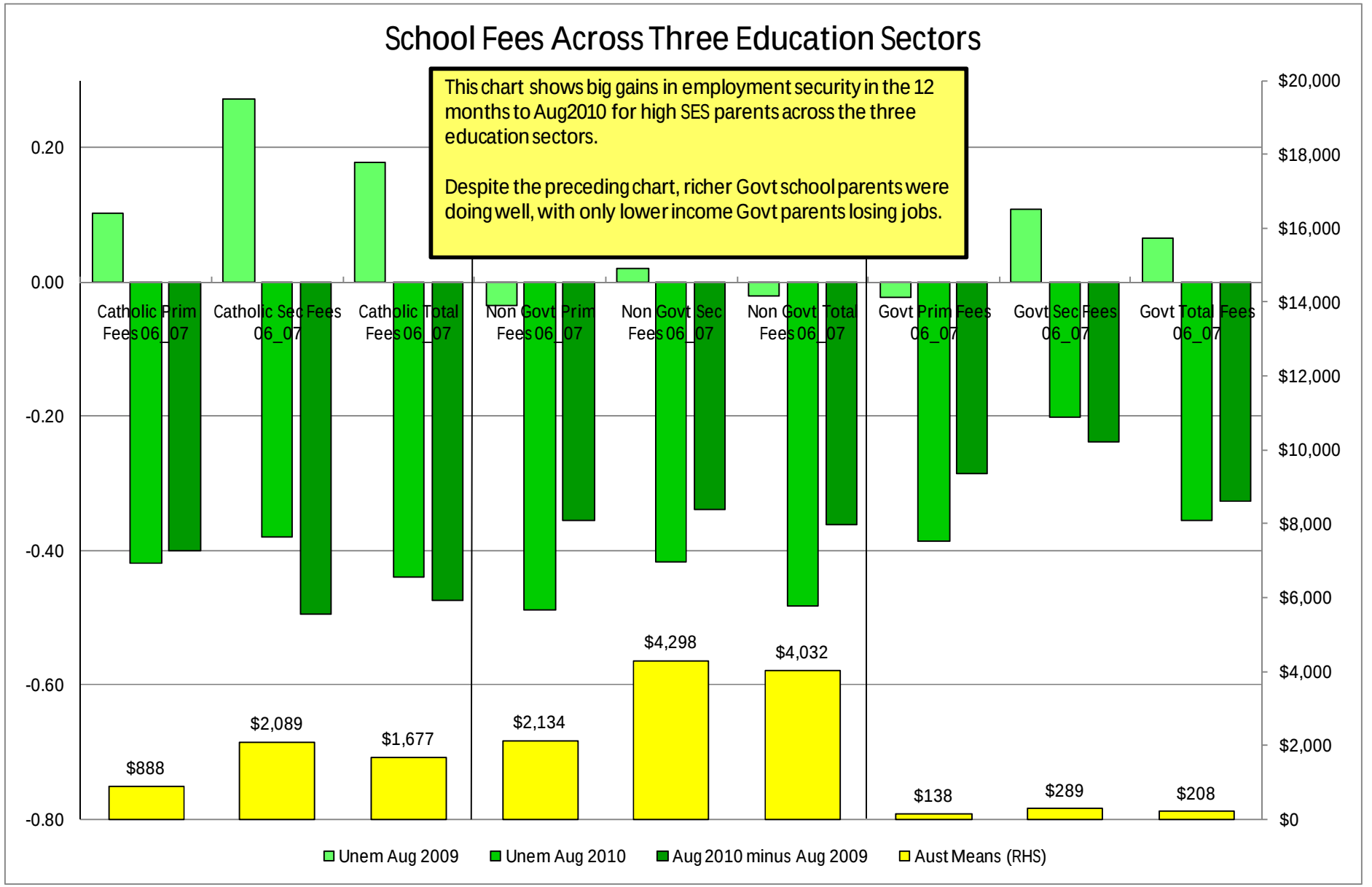


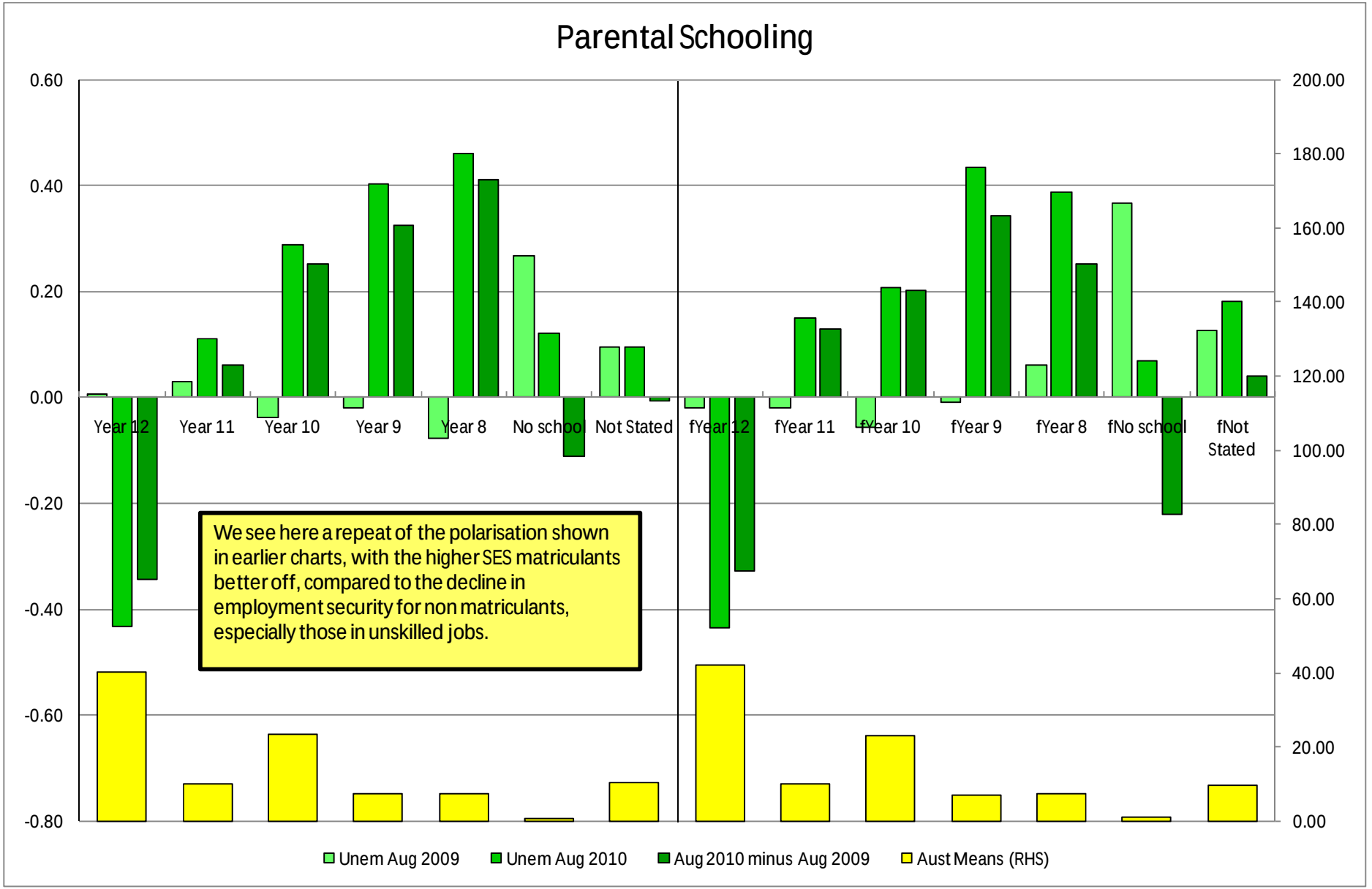




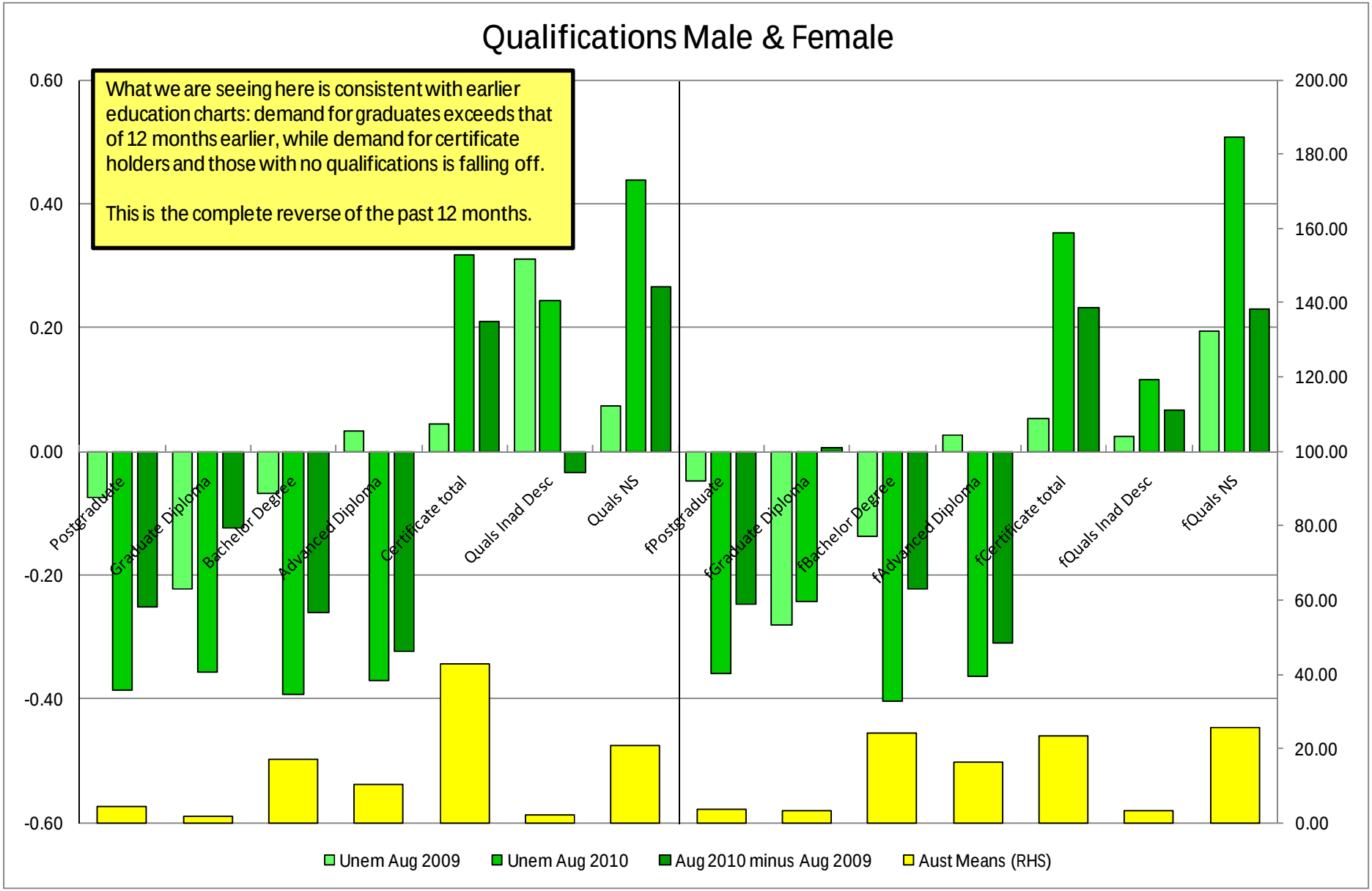


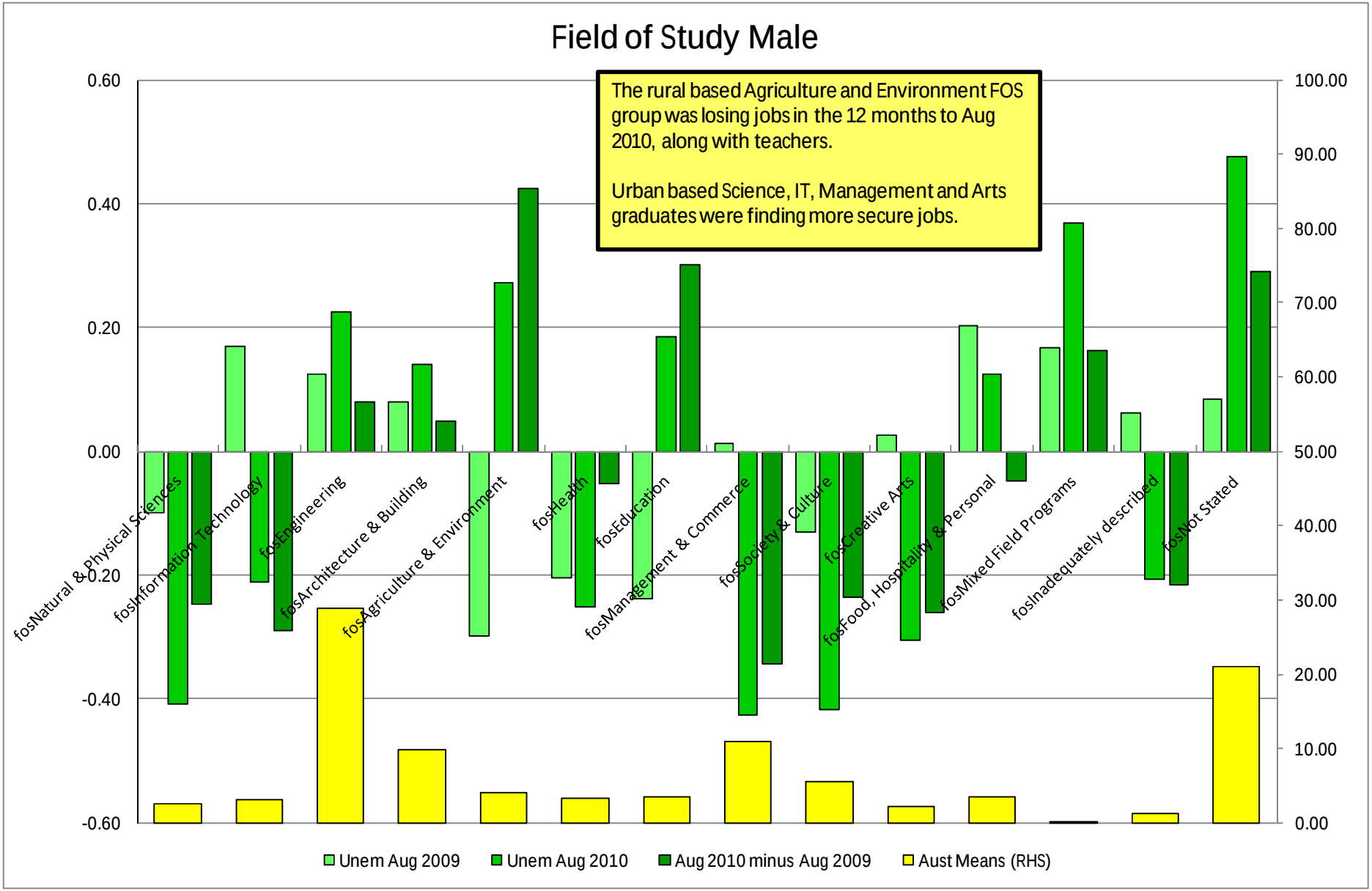


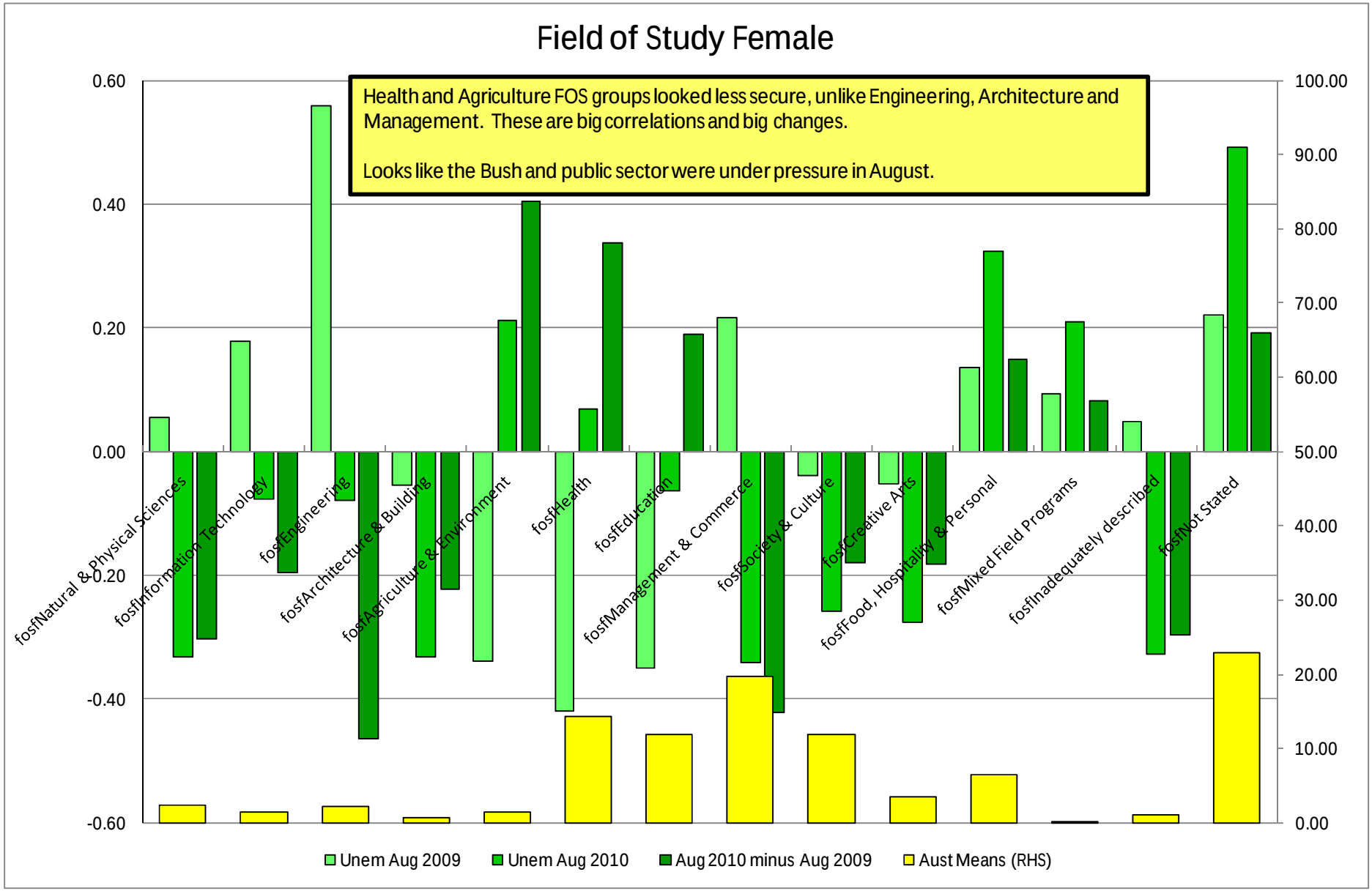


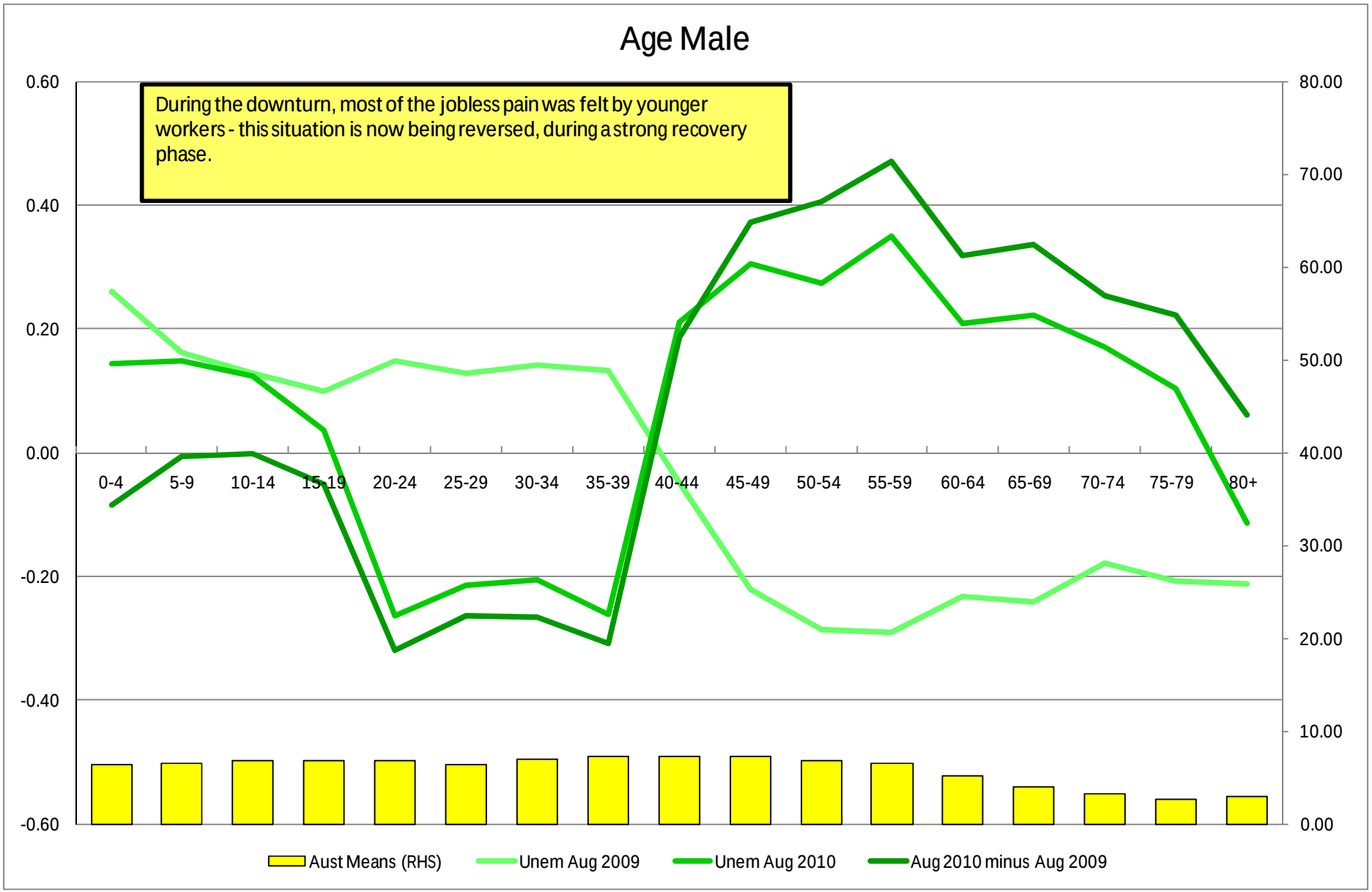


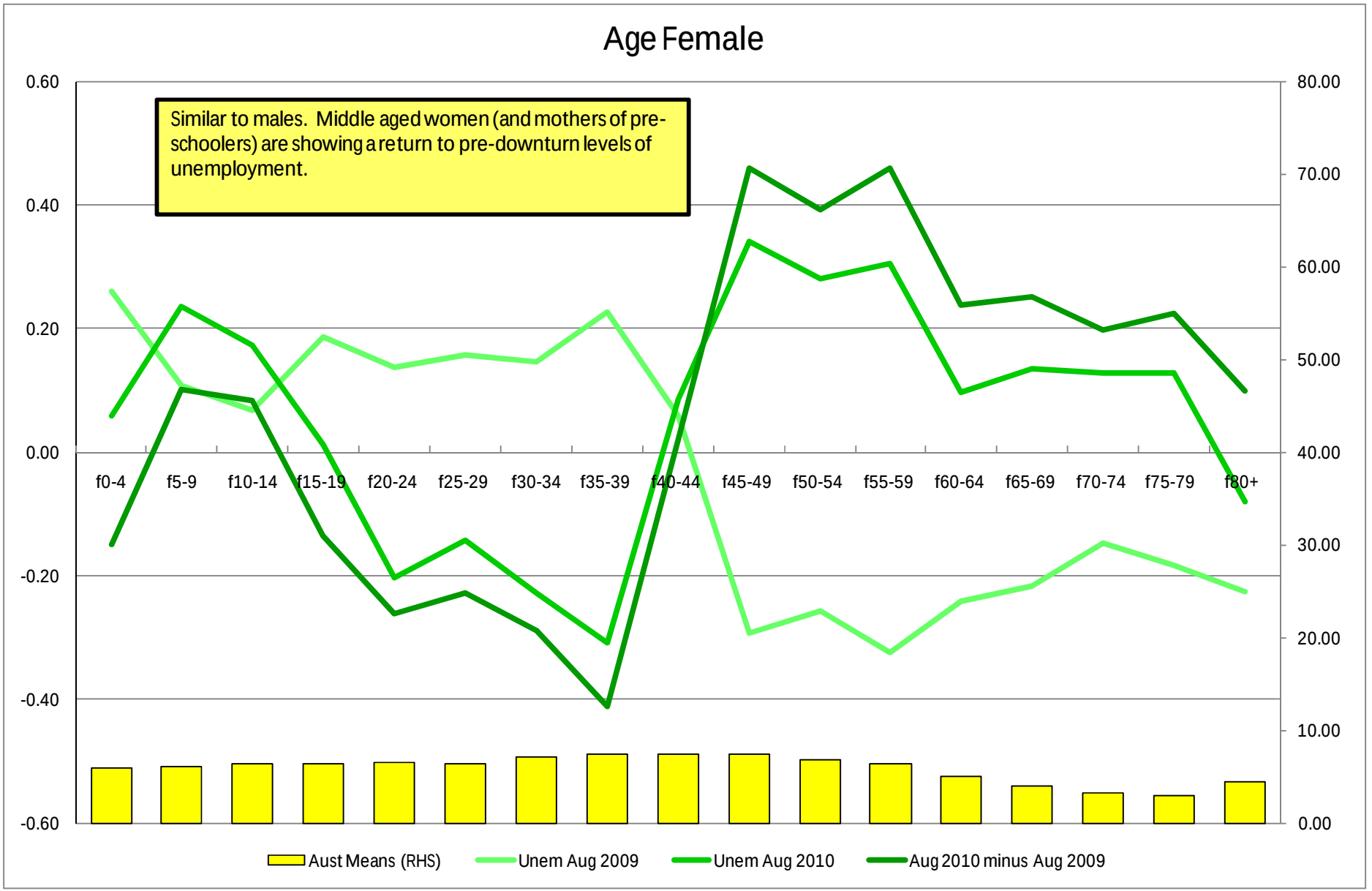
# Qualifications Male & Female

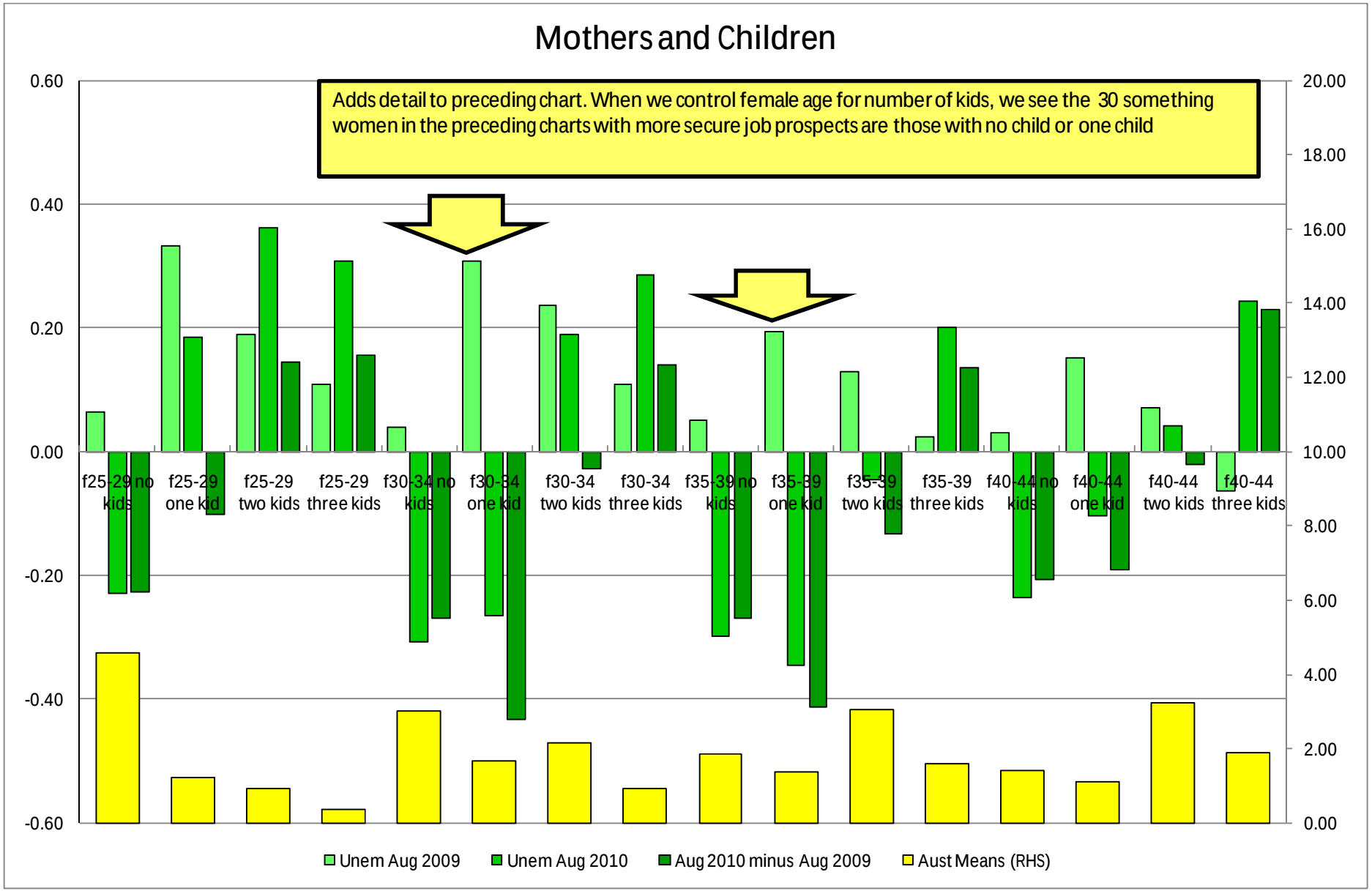


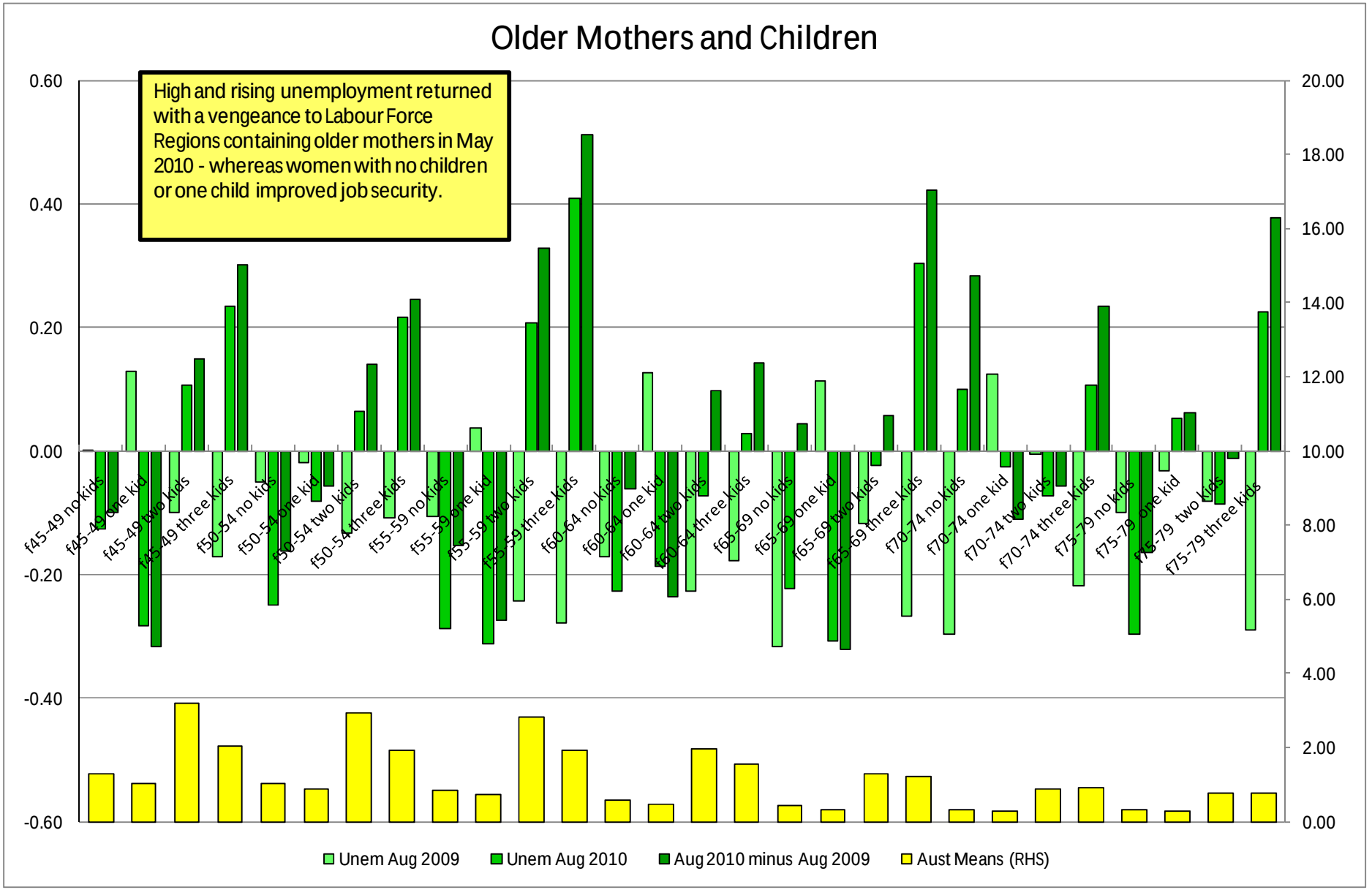


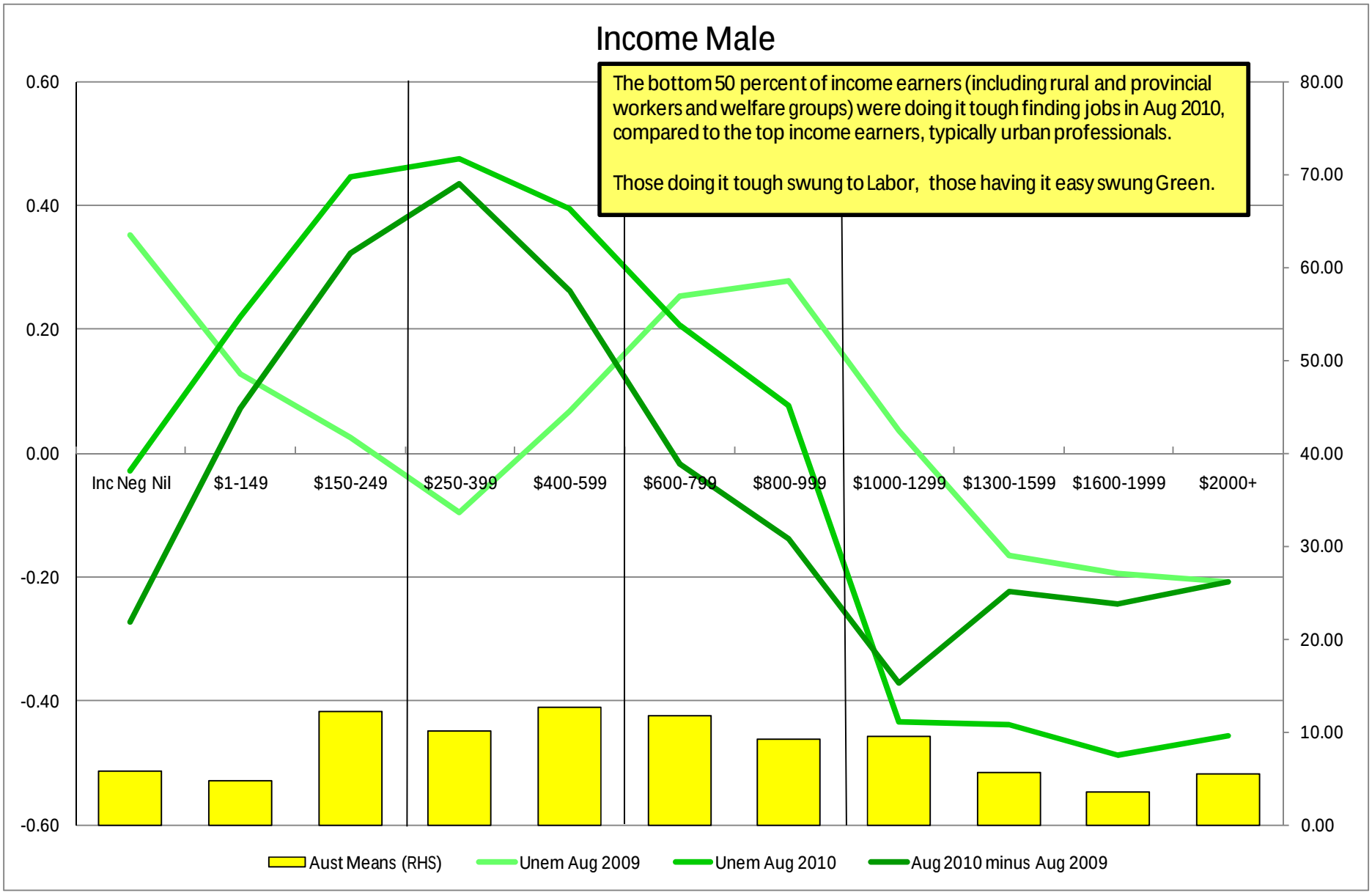


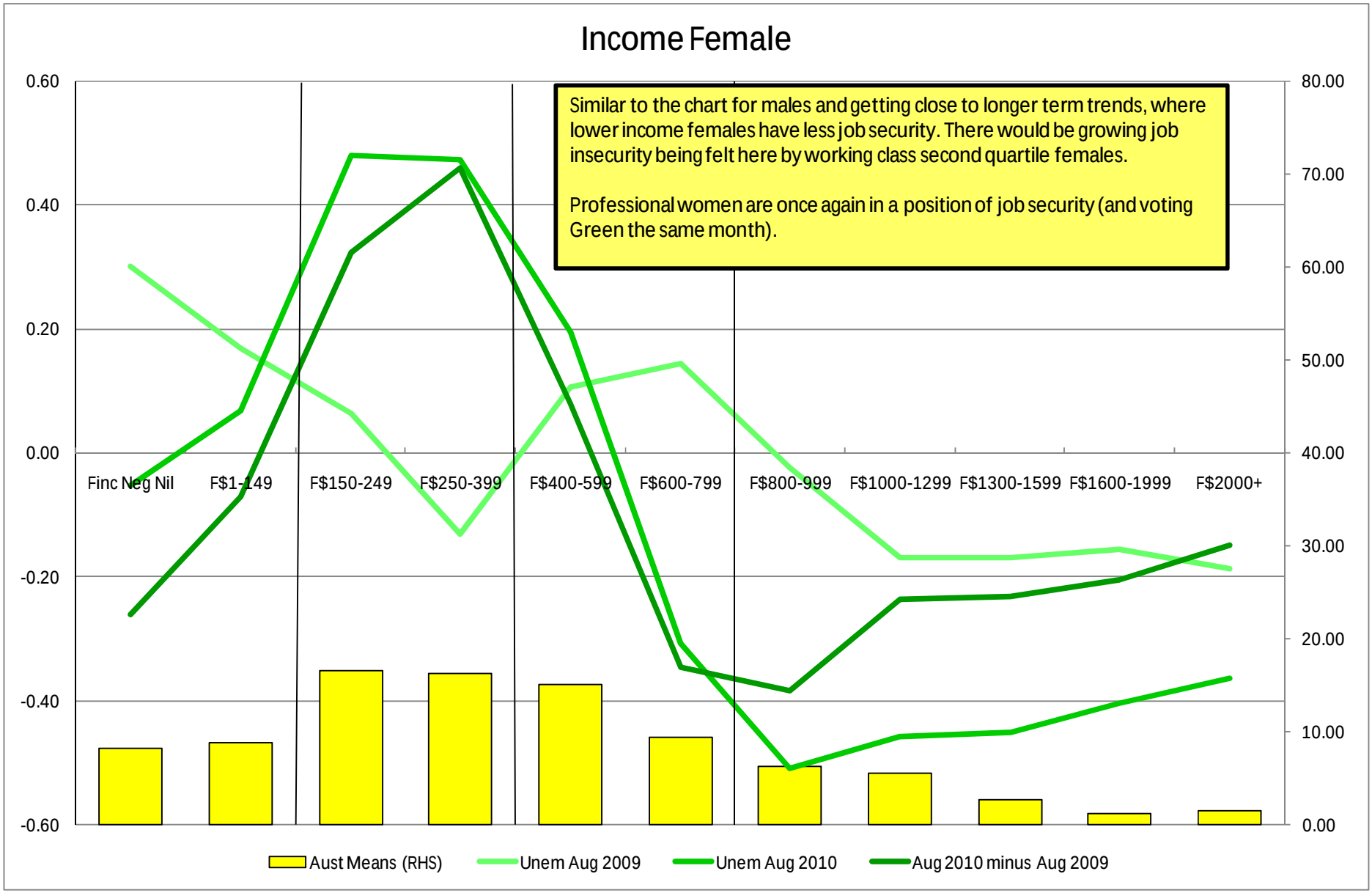


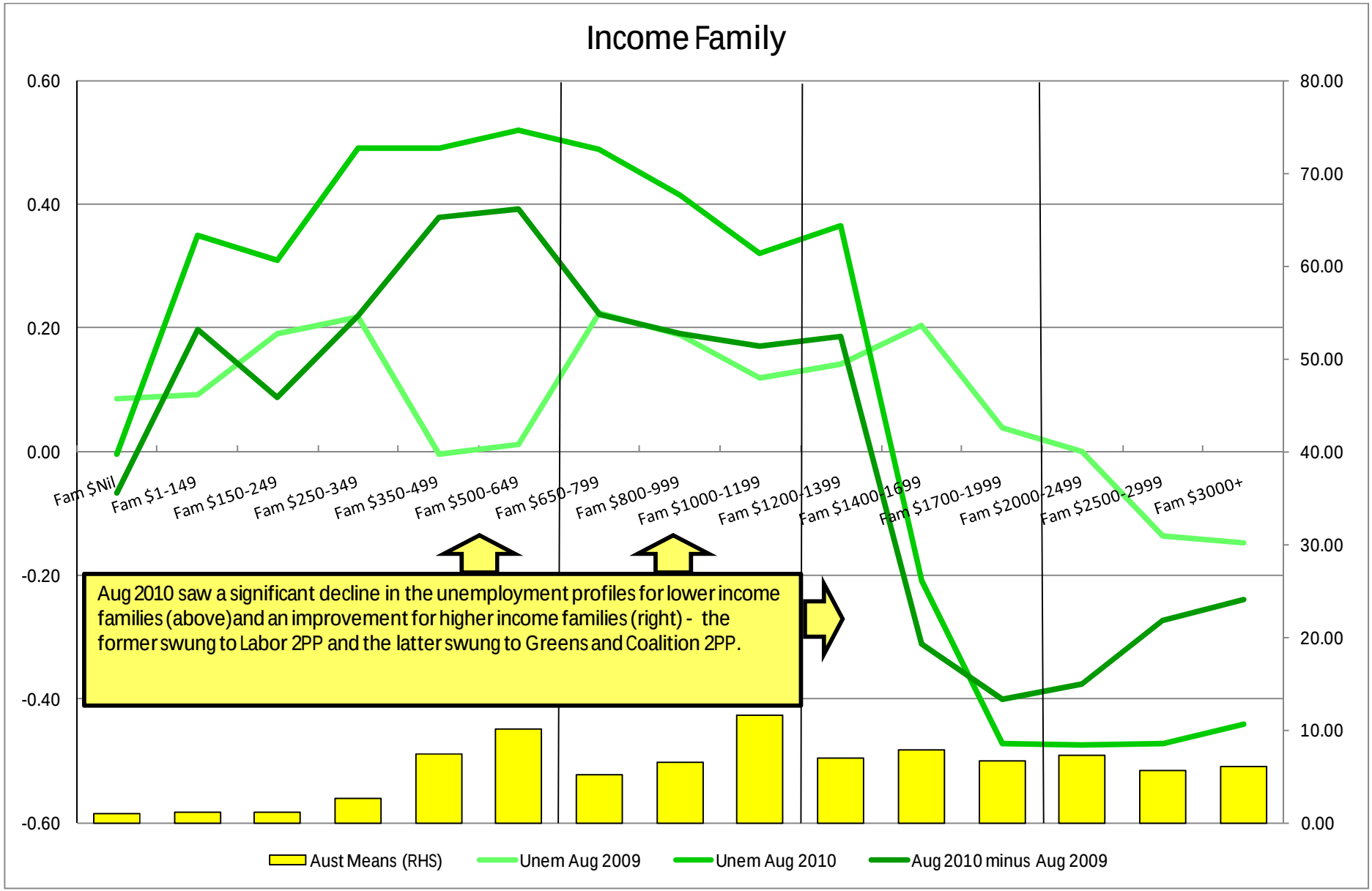












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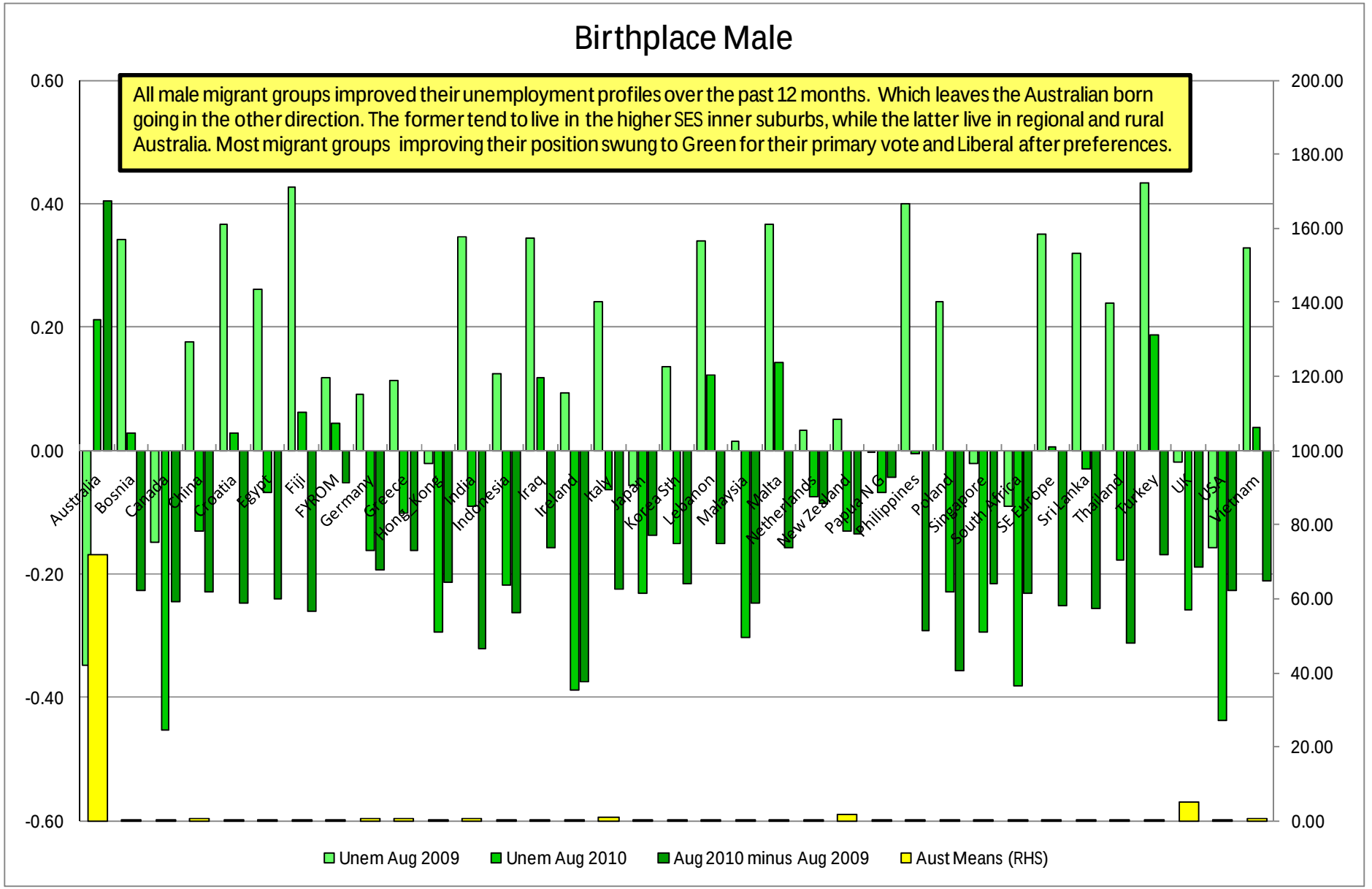

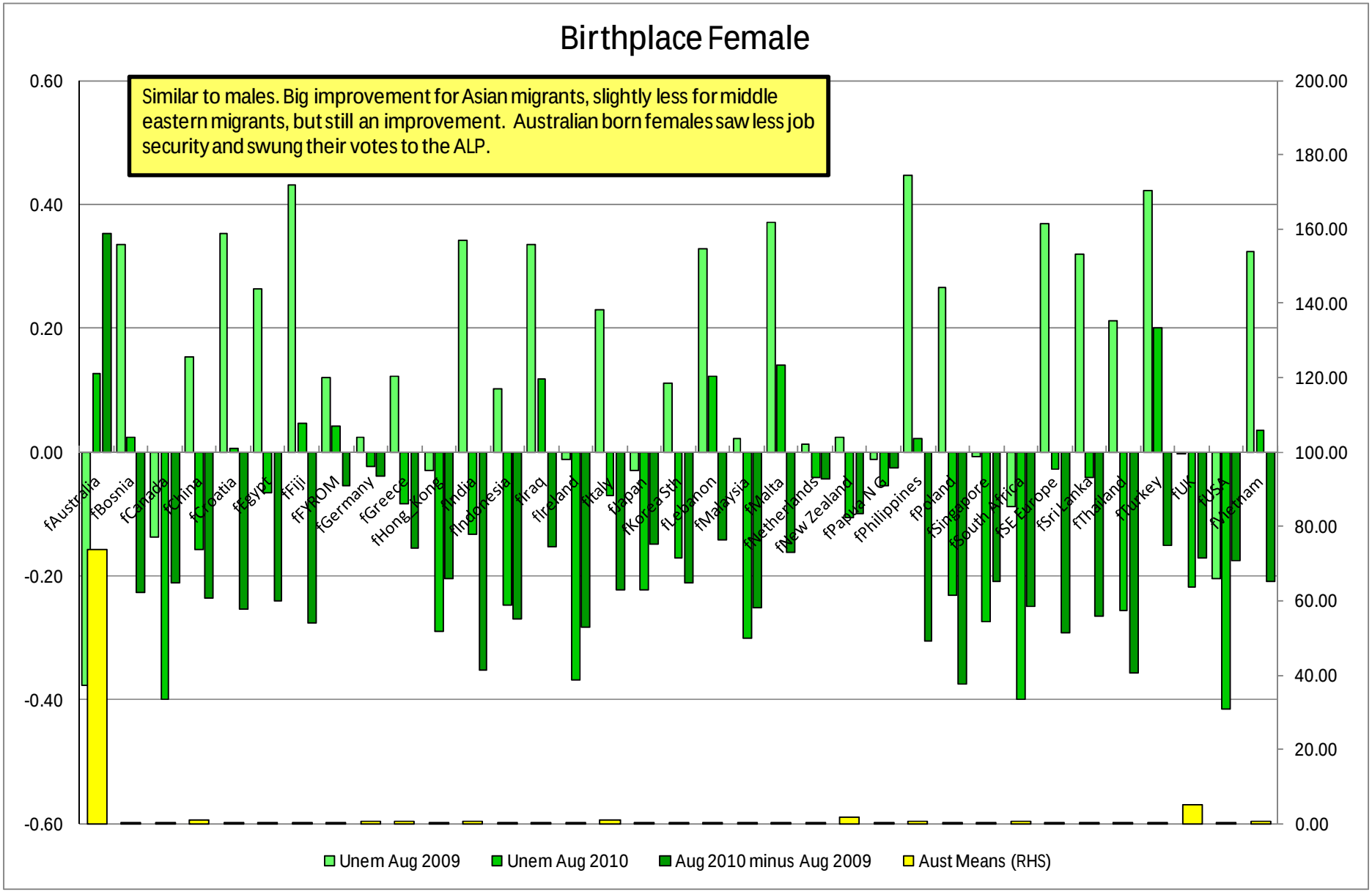

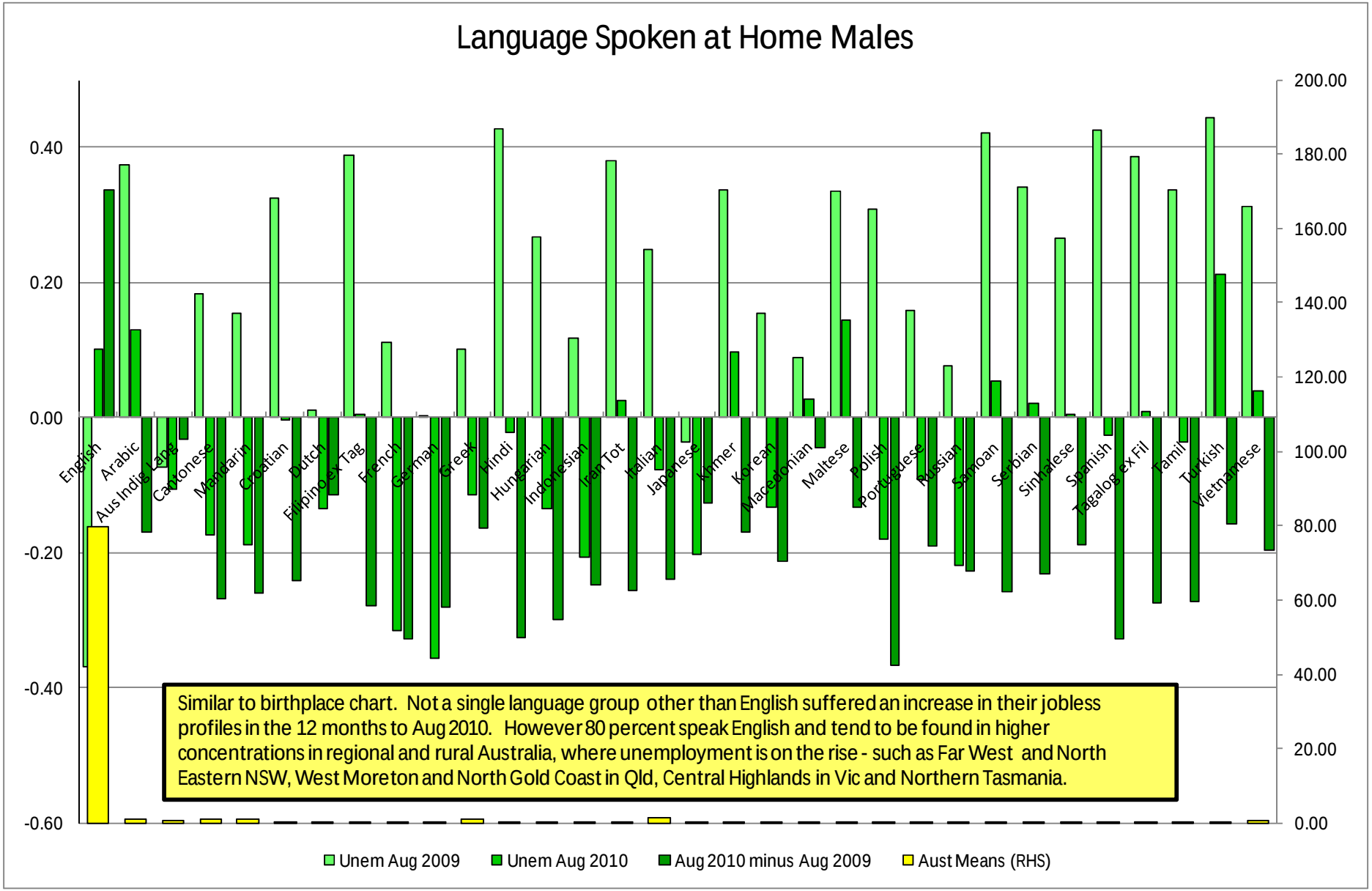

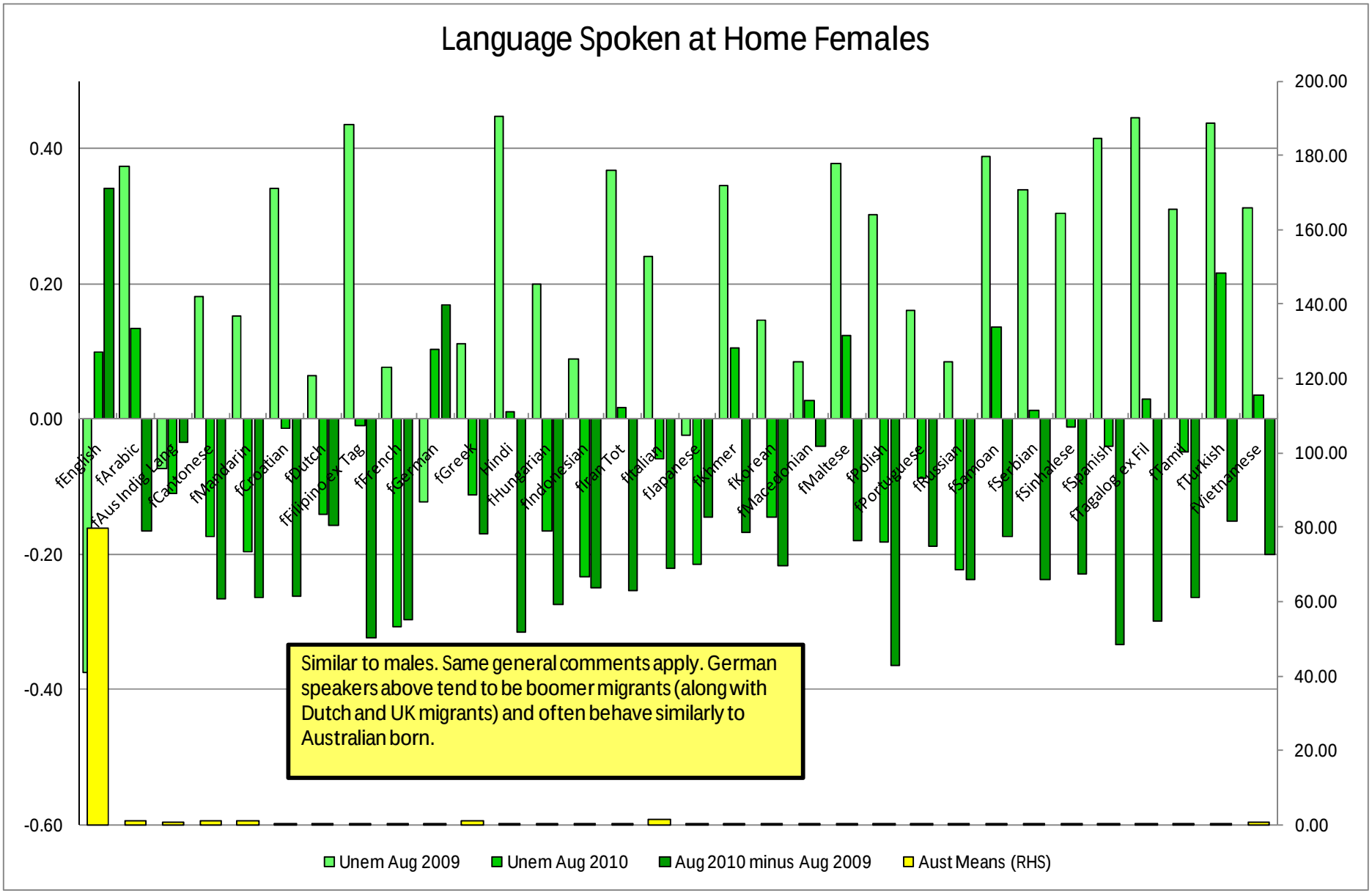

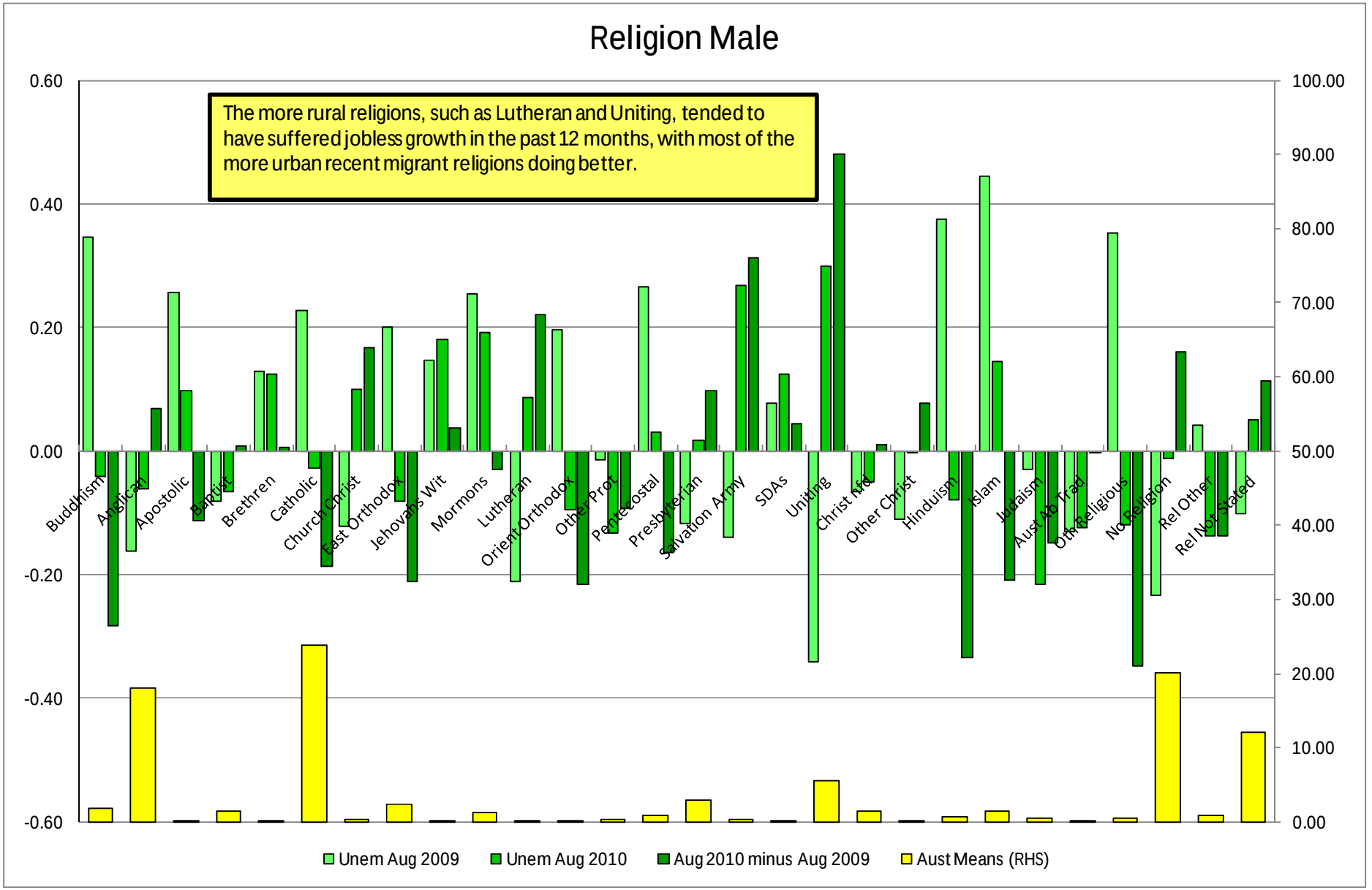

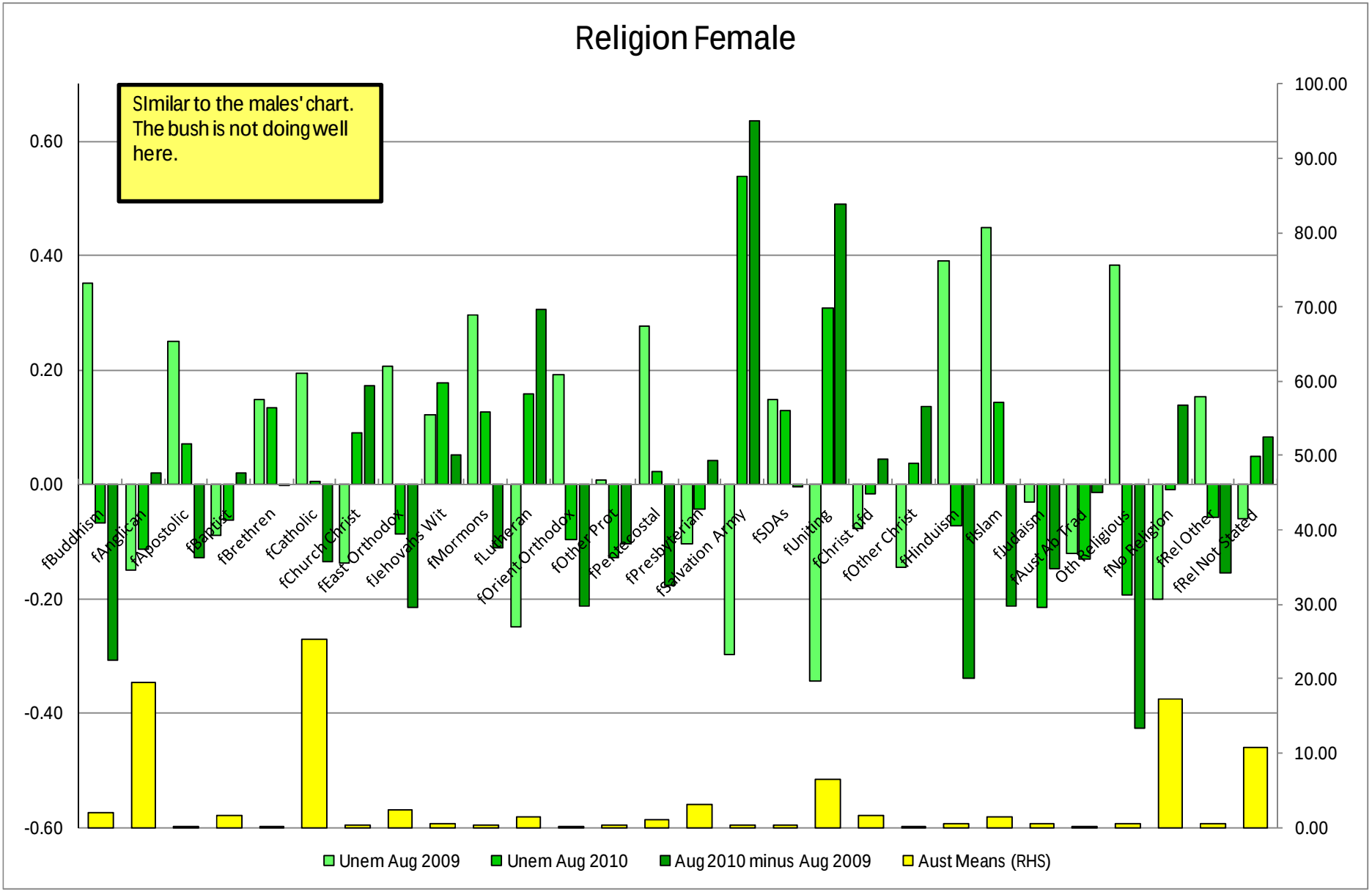

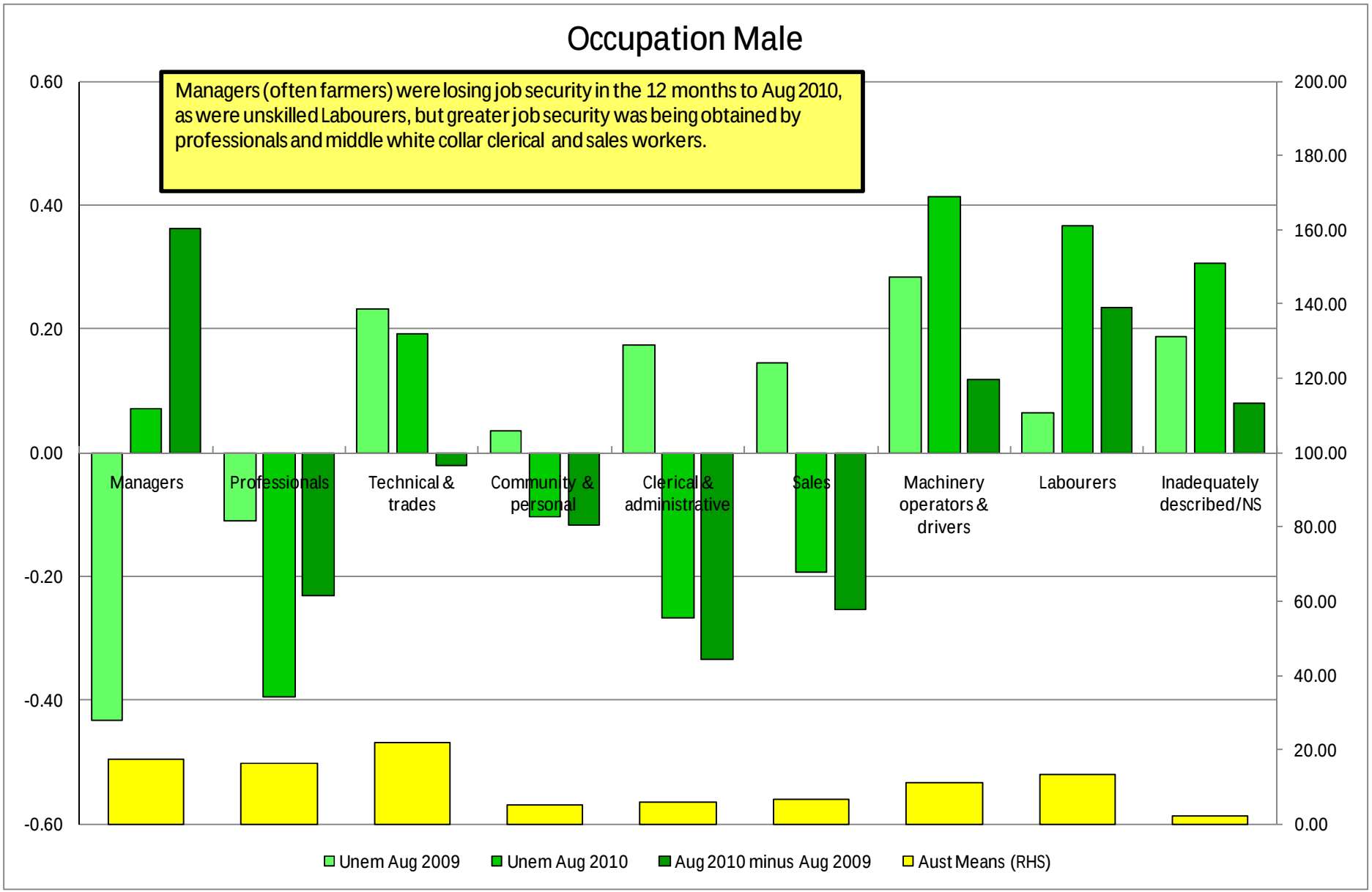

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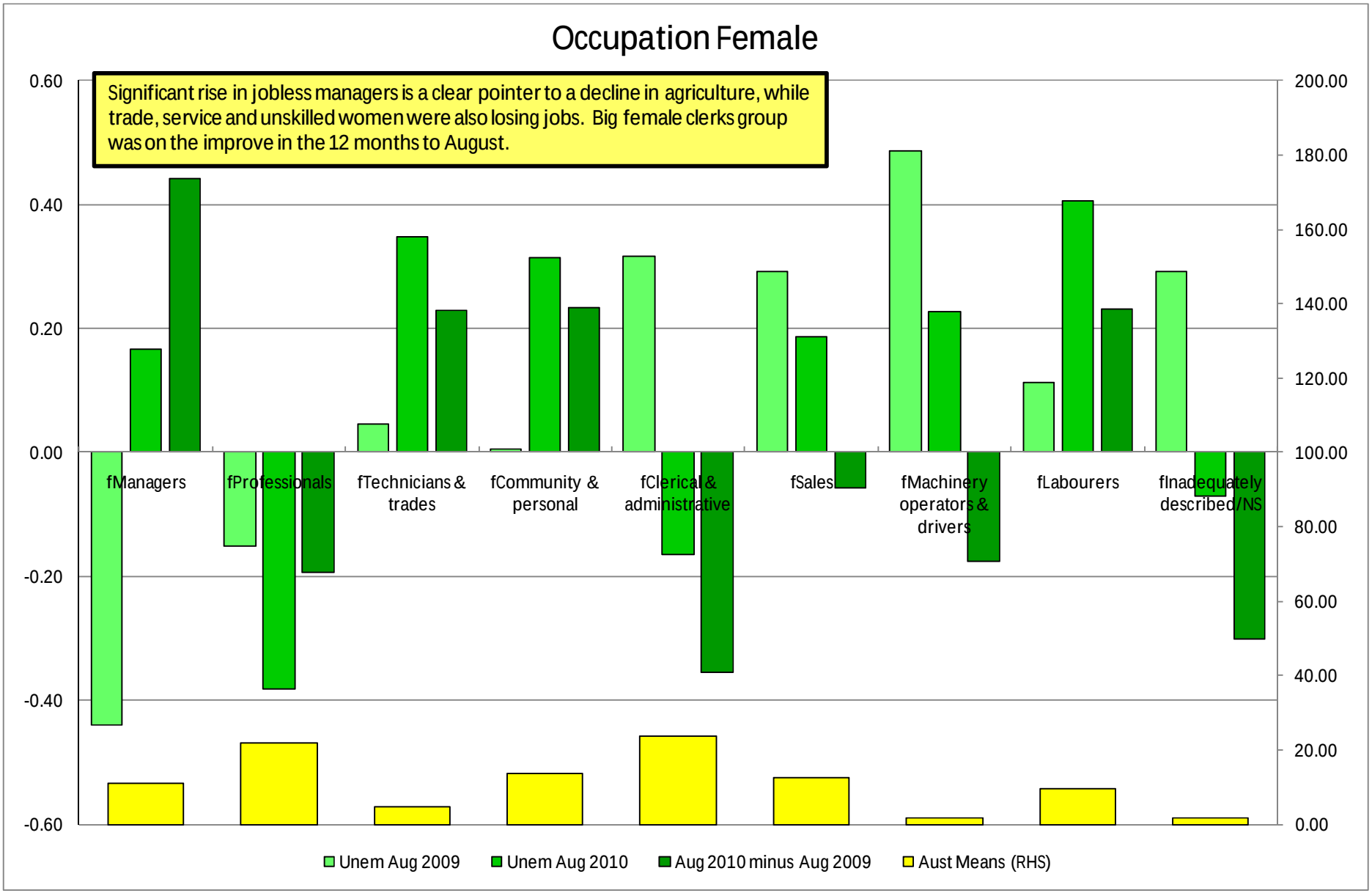

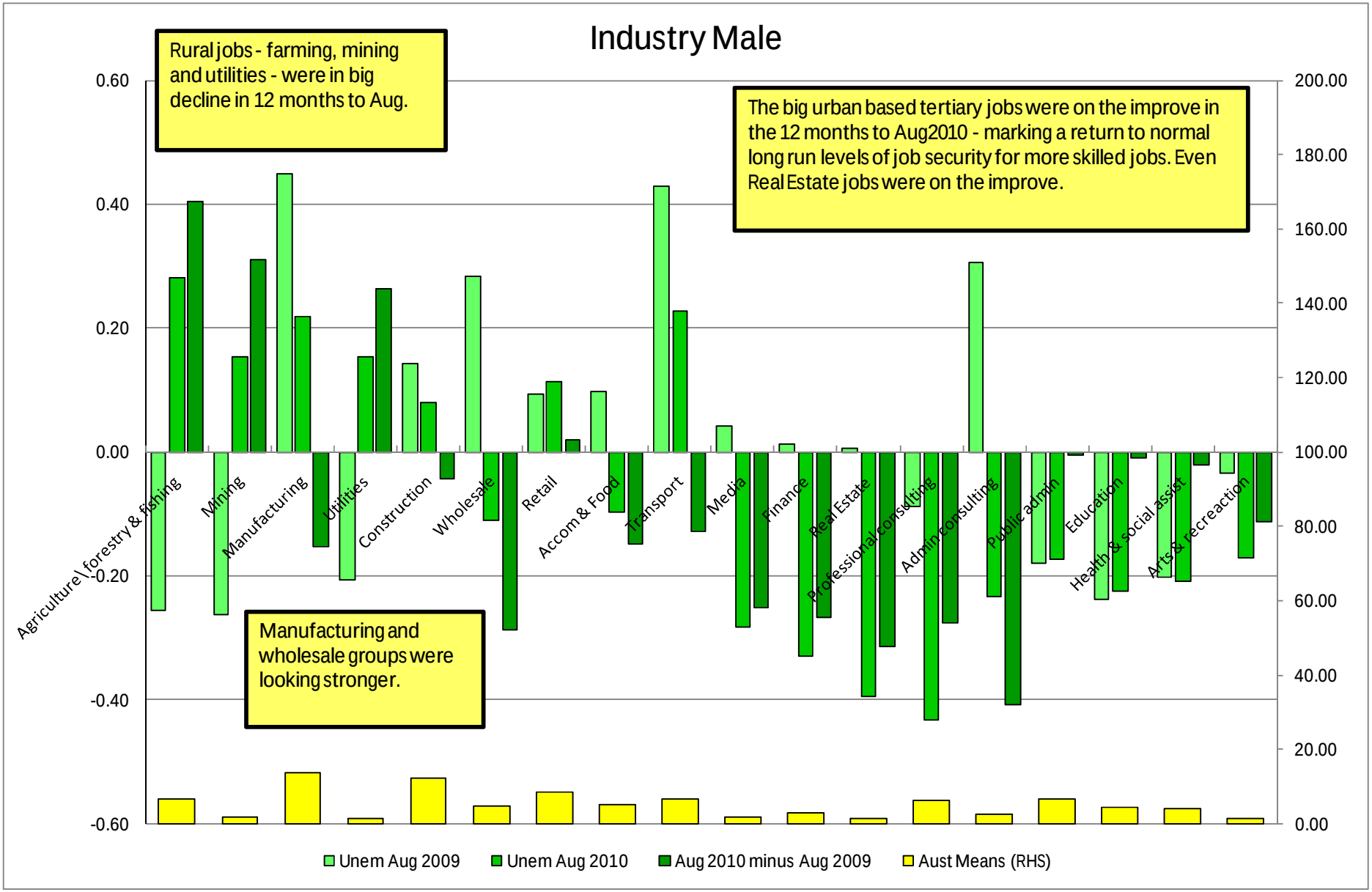

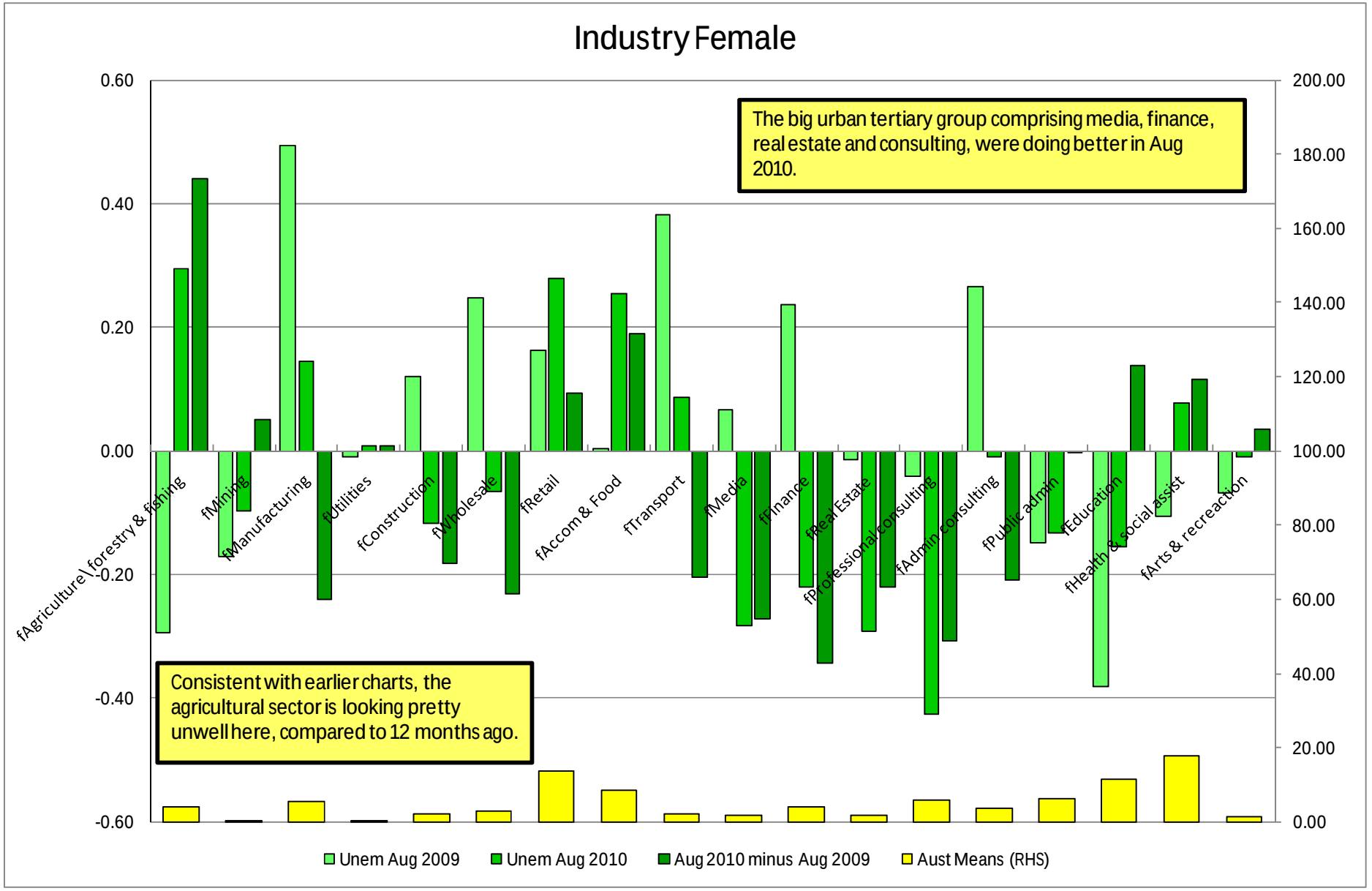

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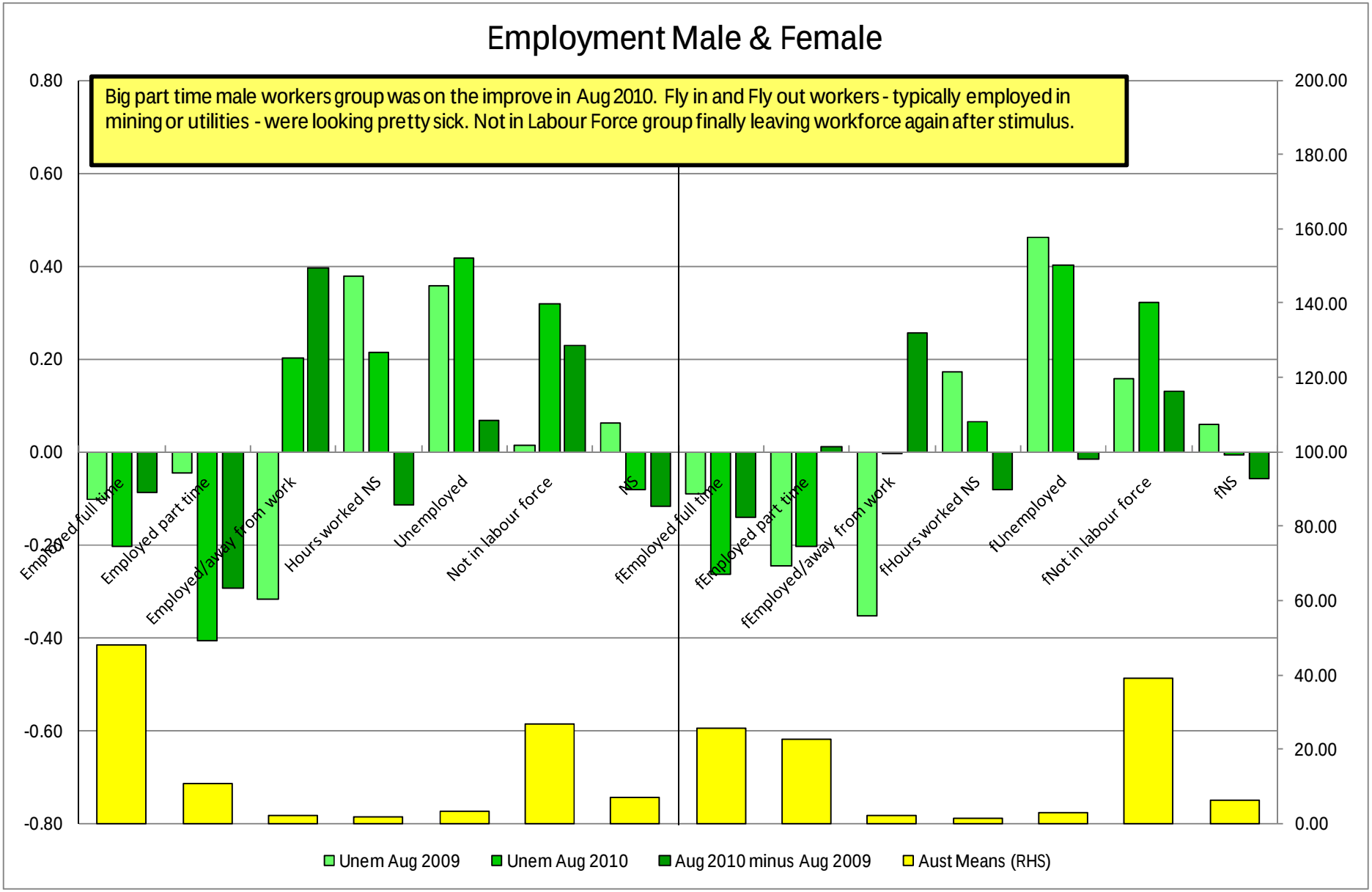

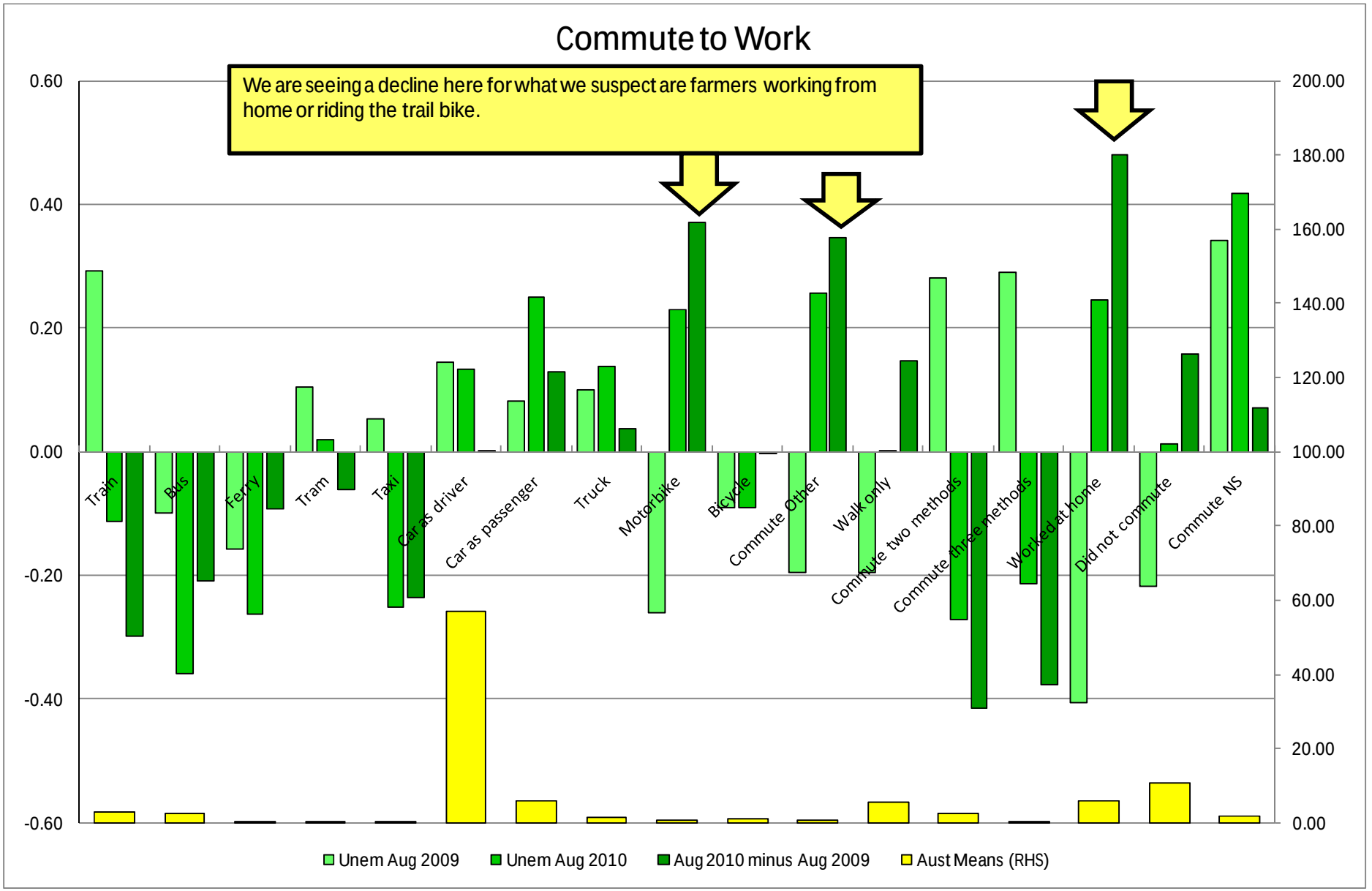

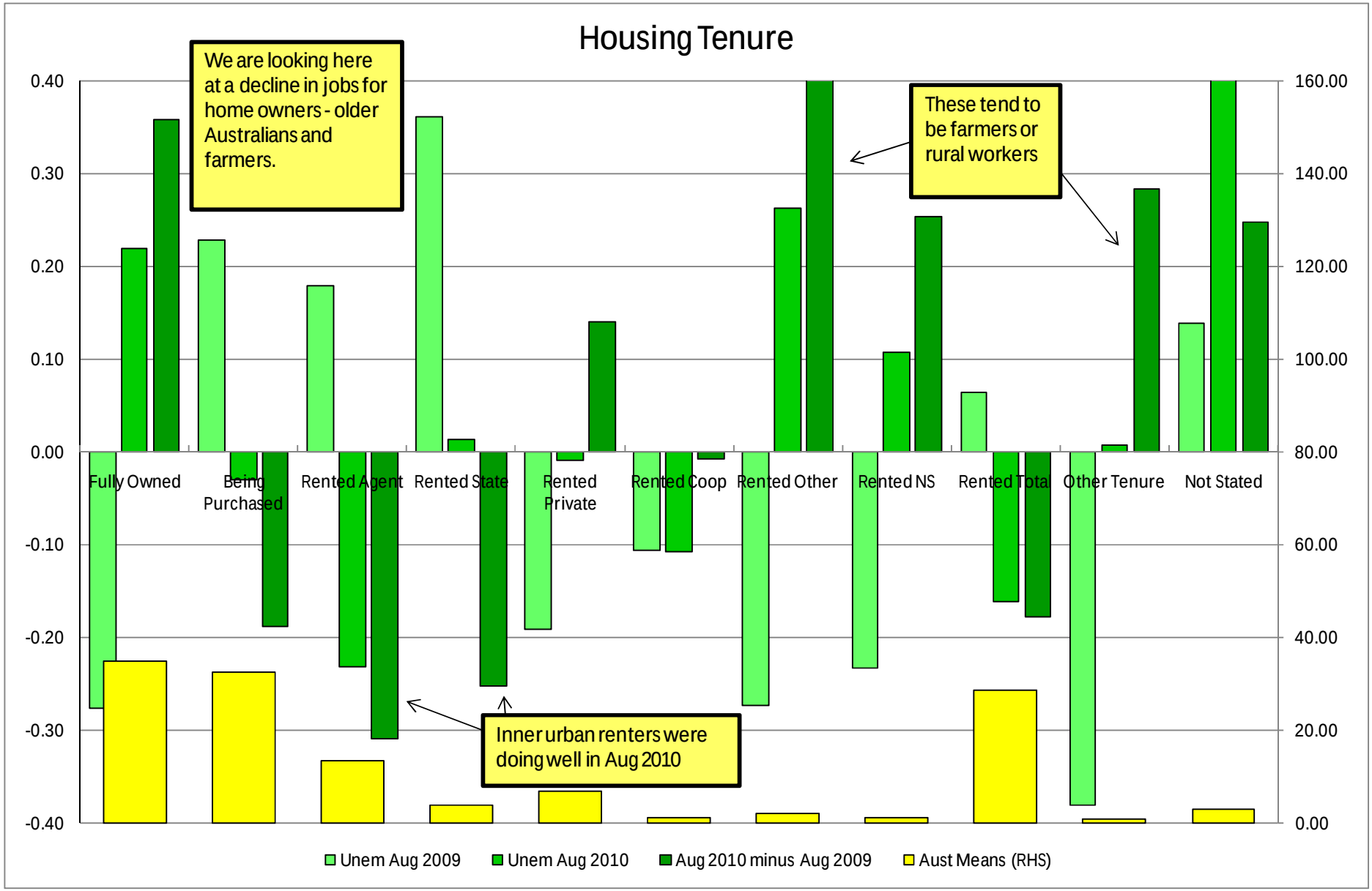

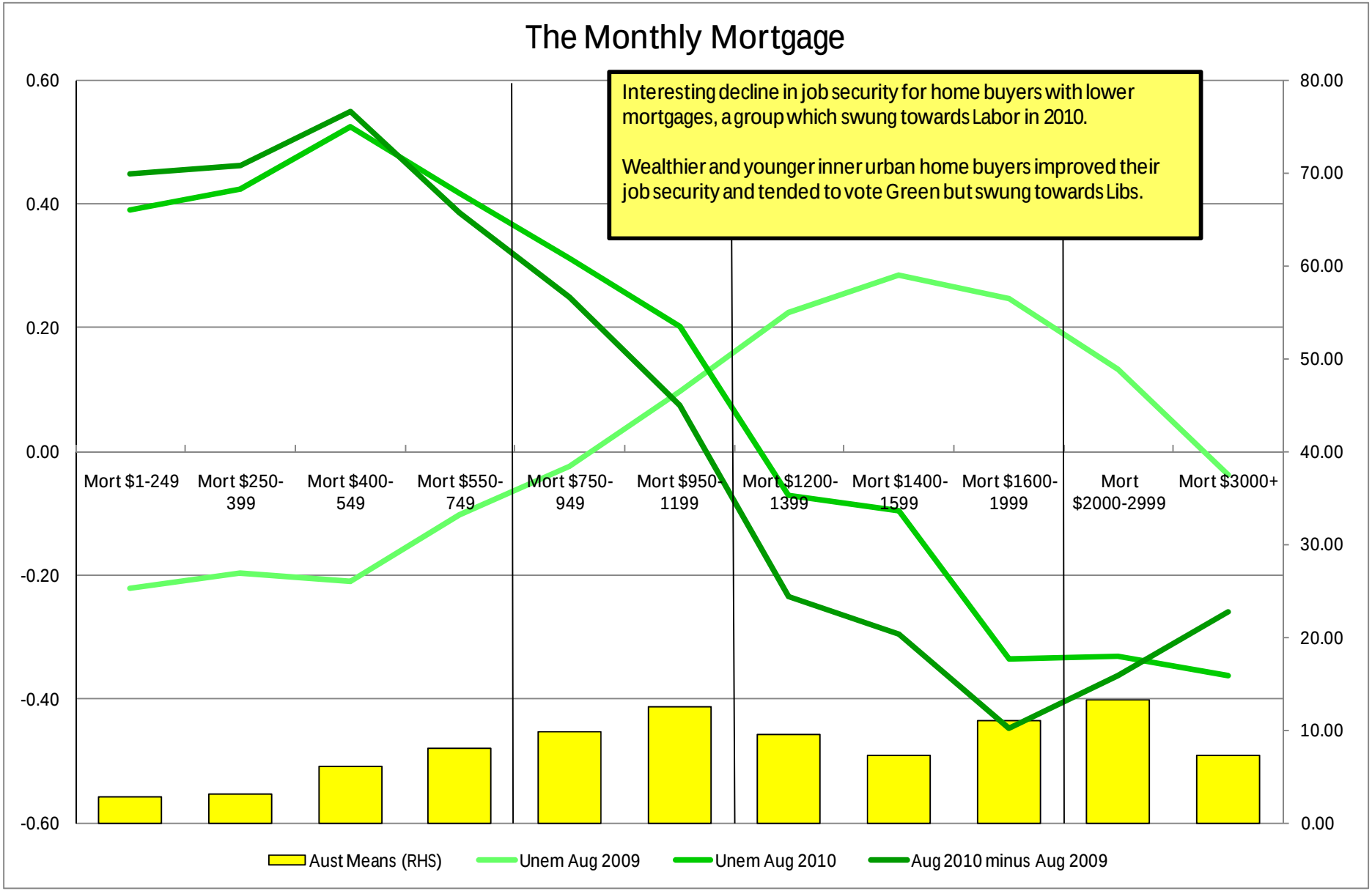

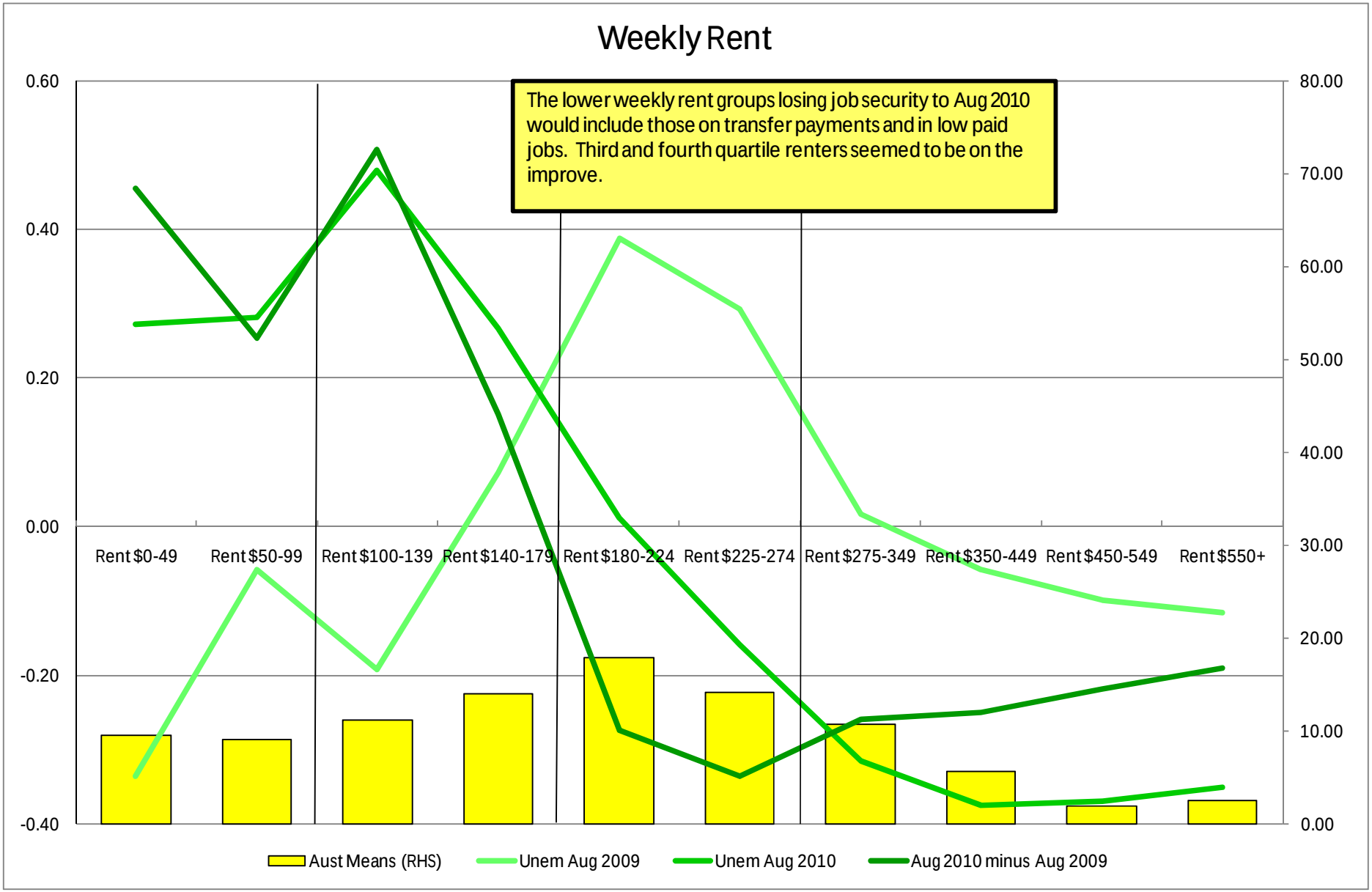

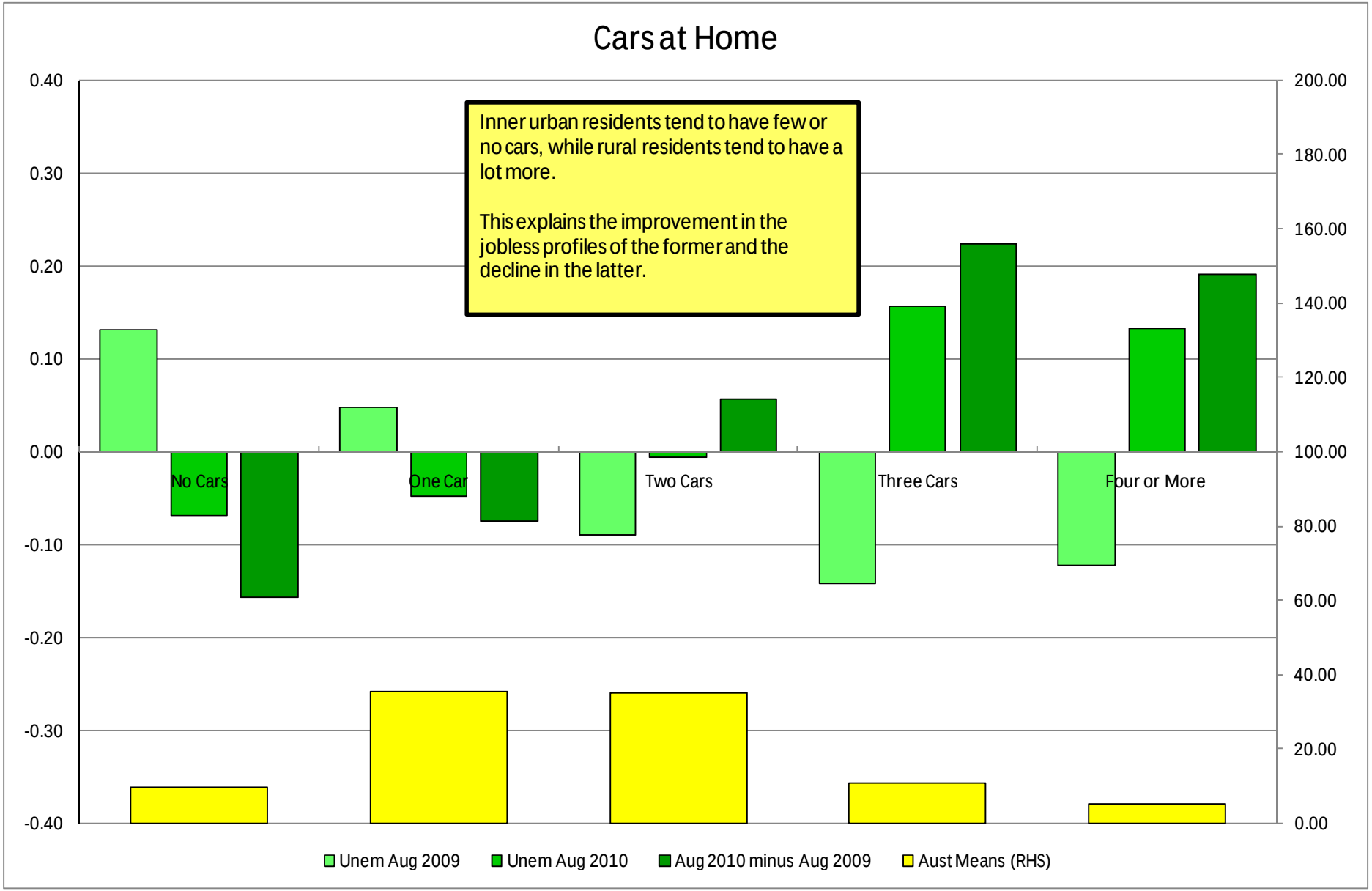

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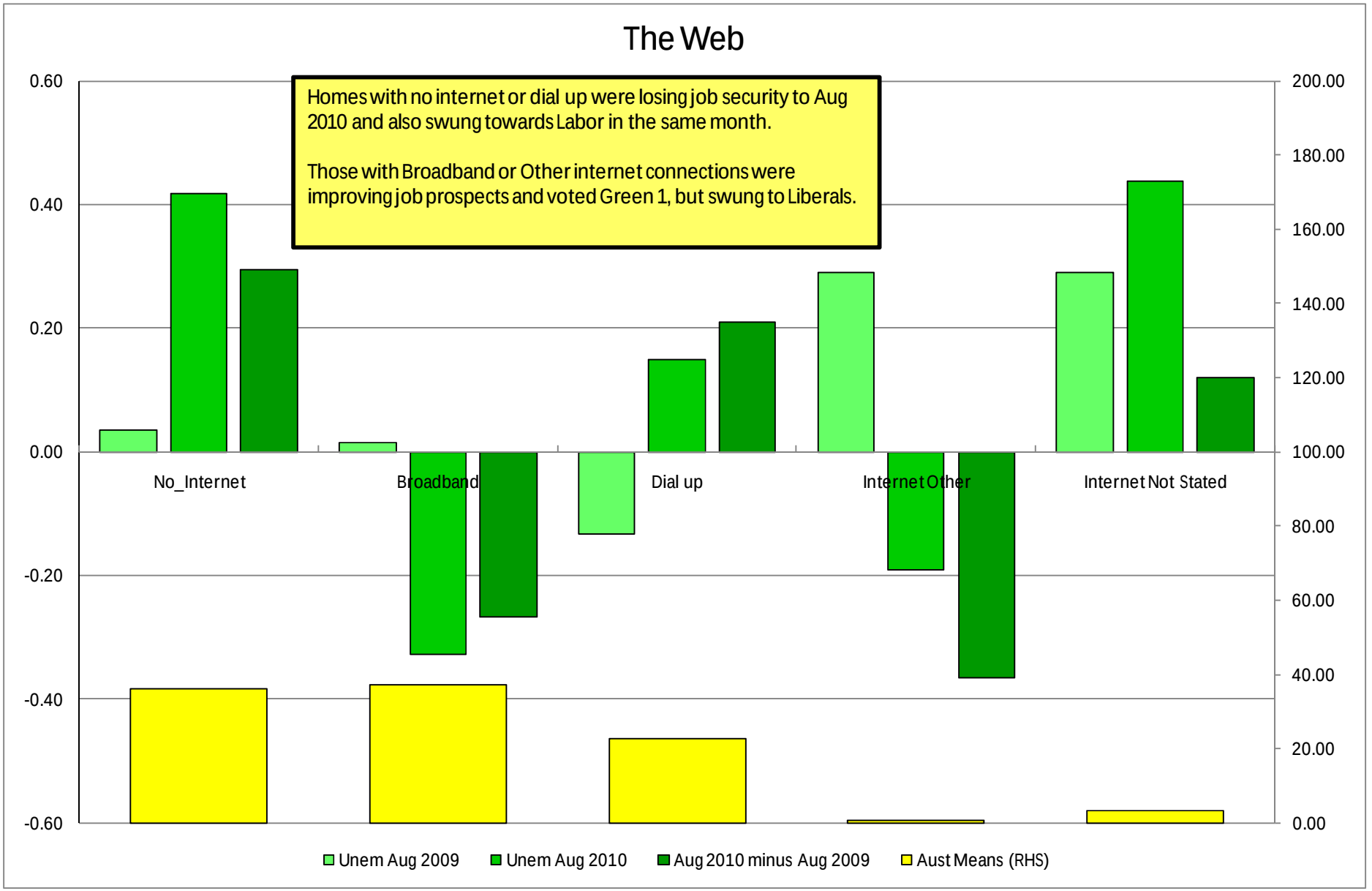
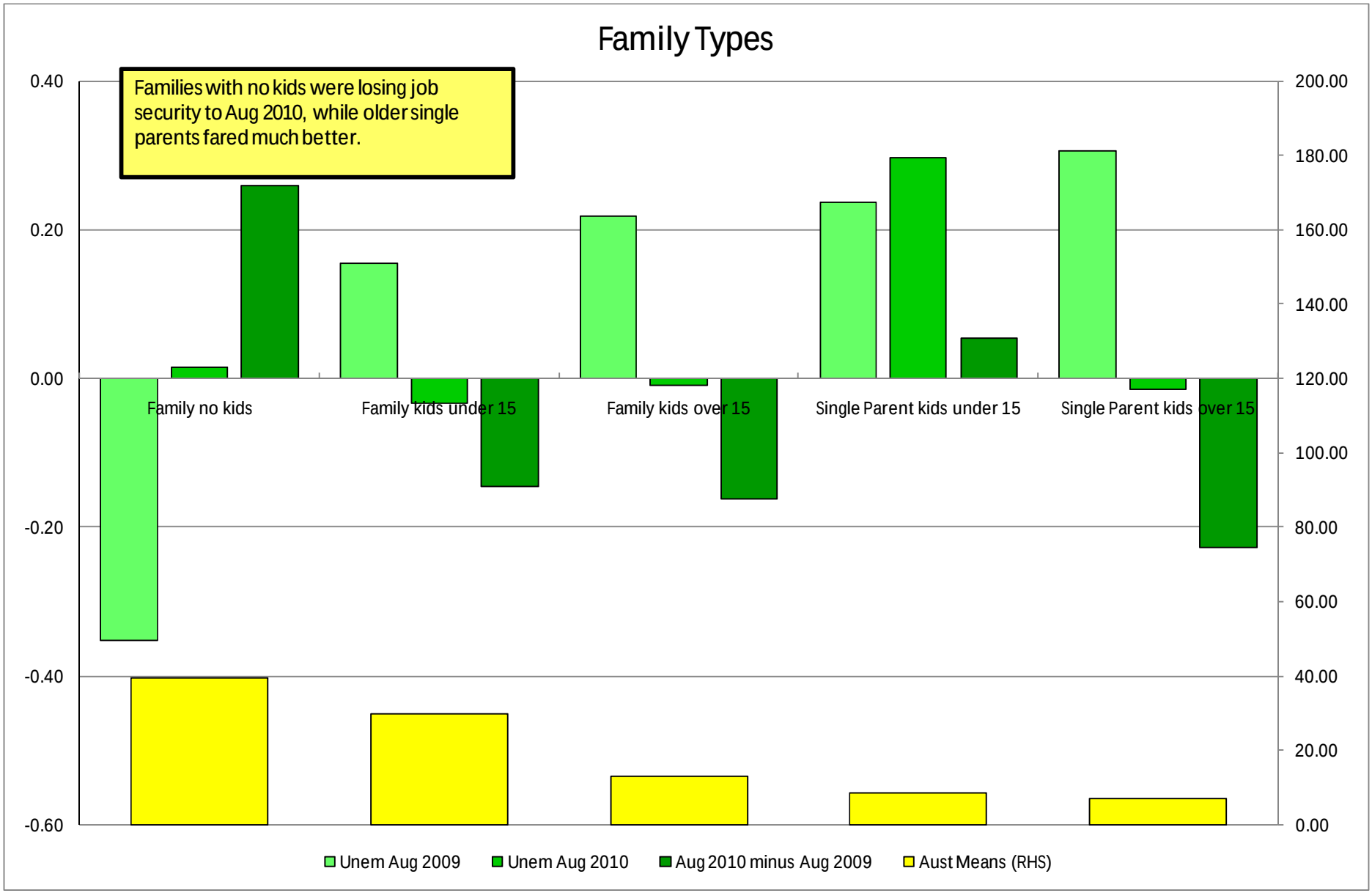
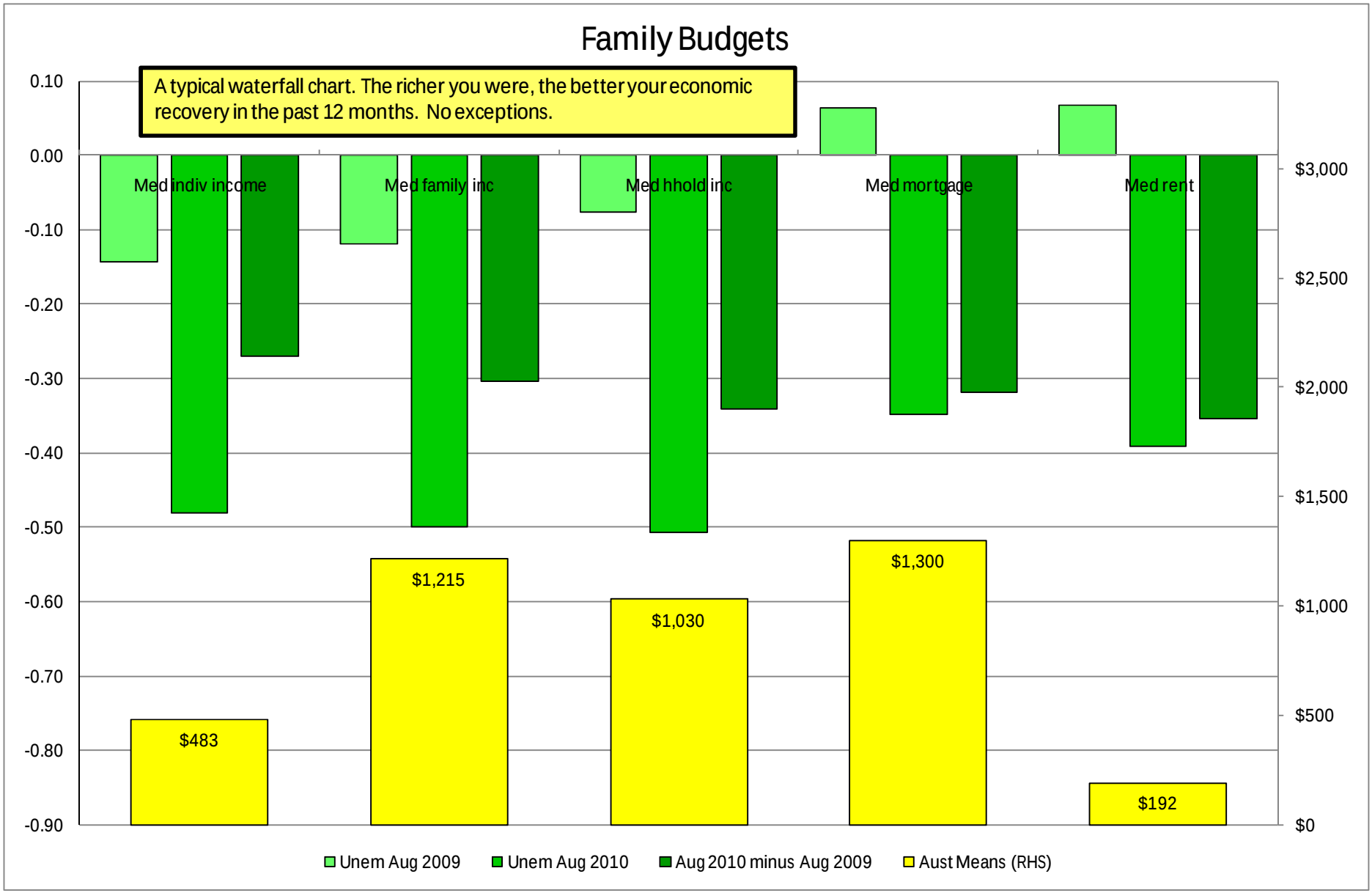
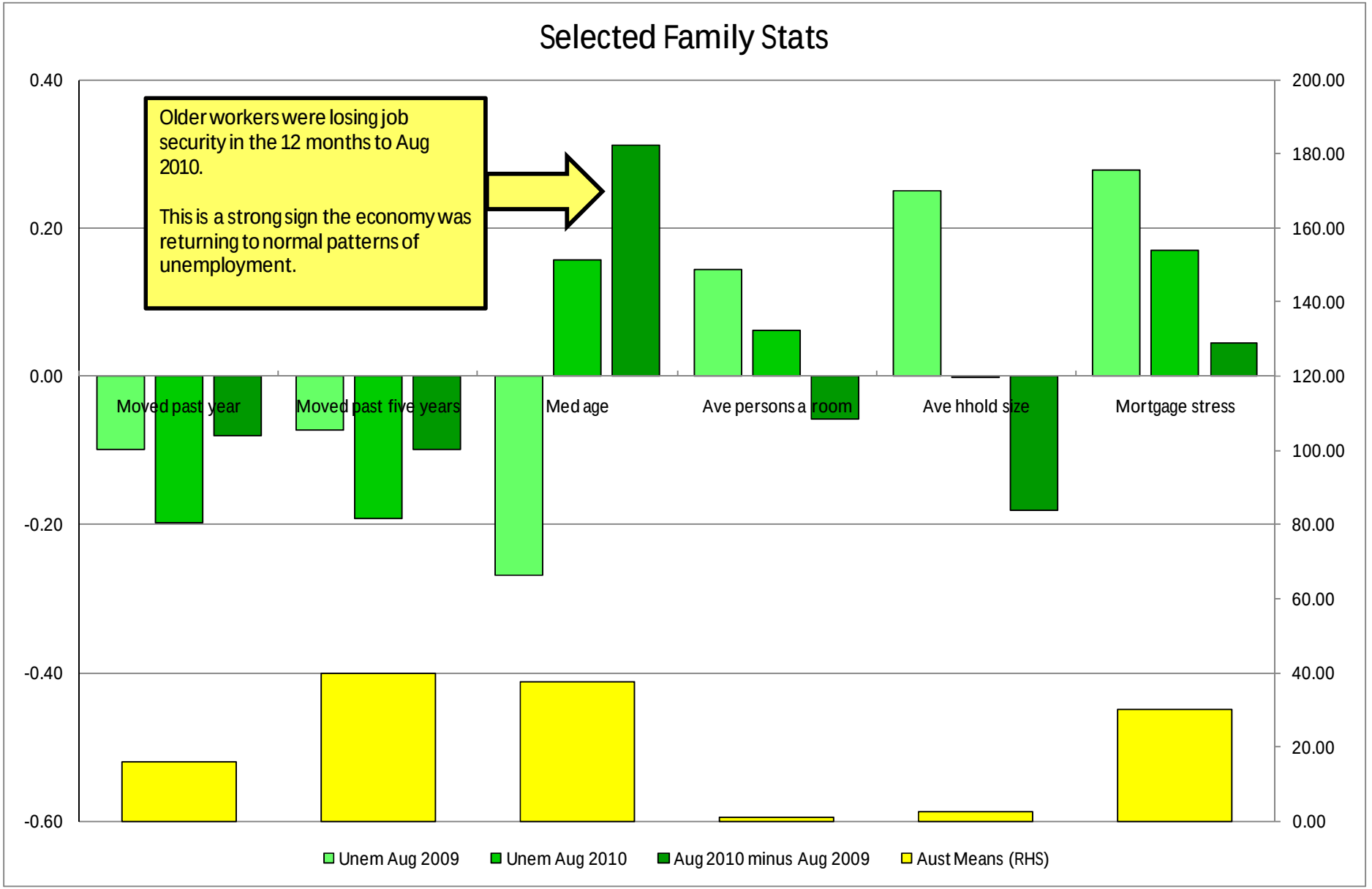
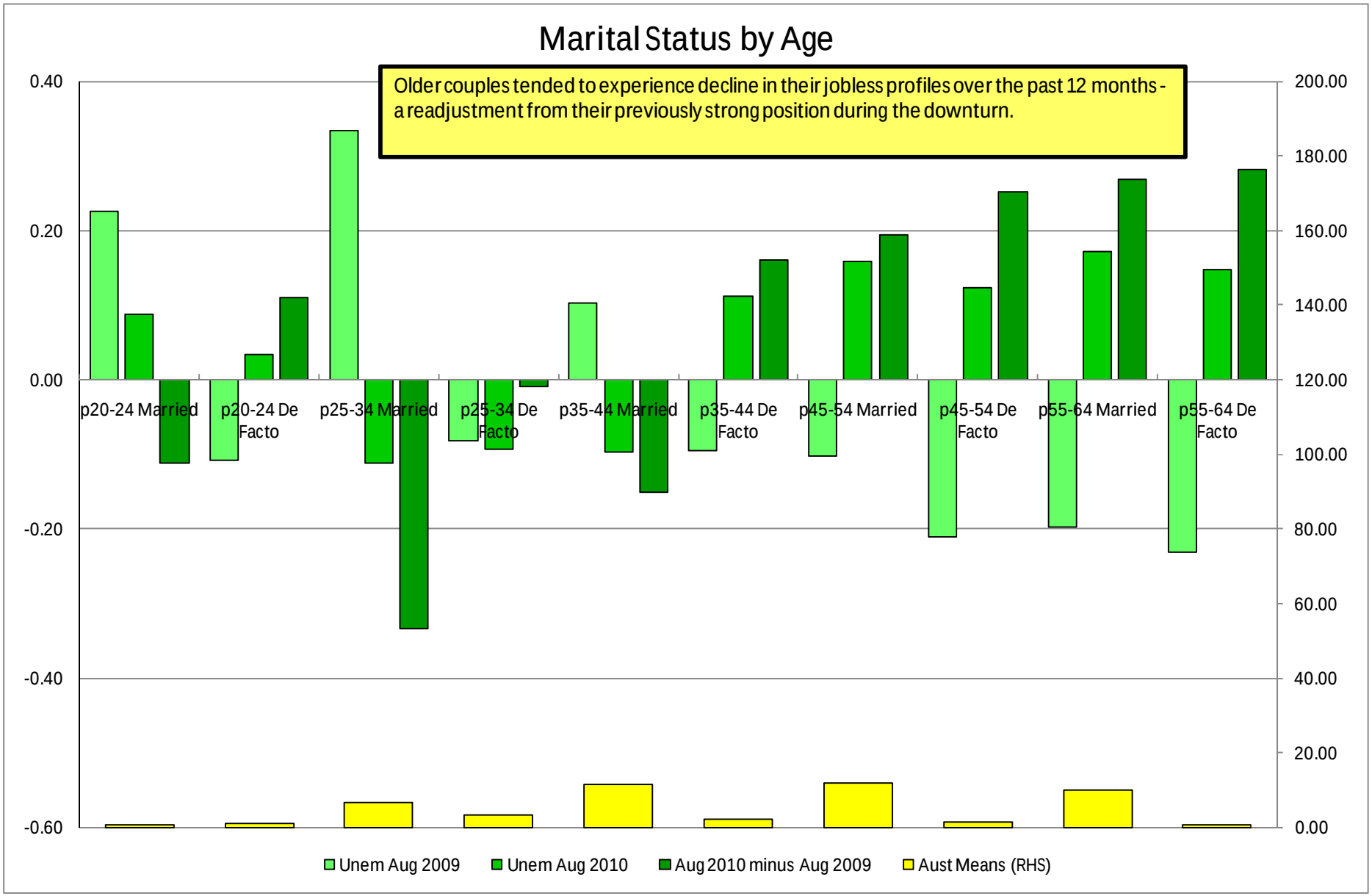
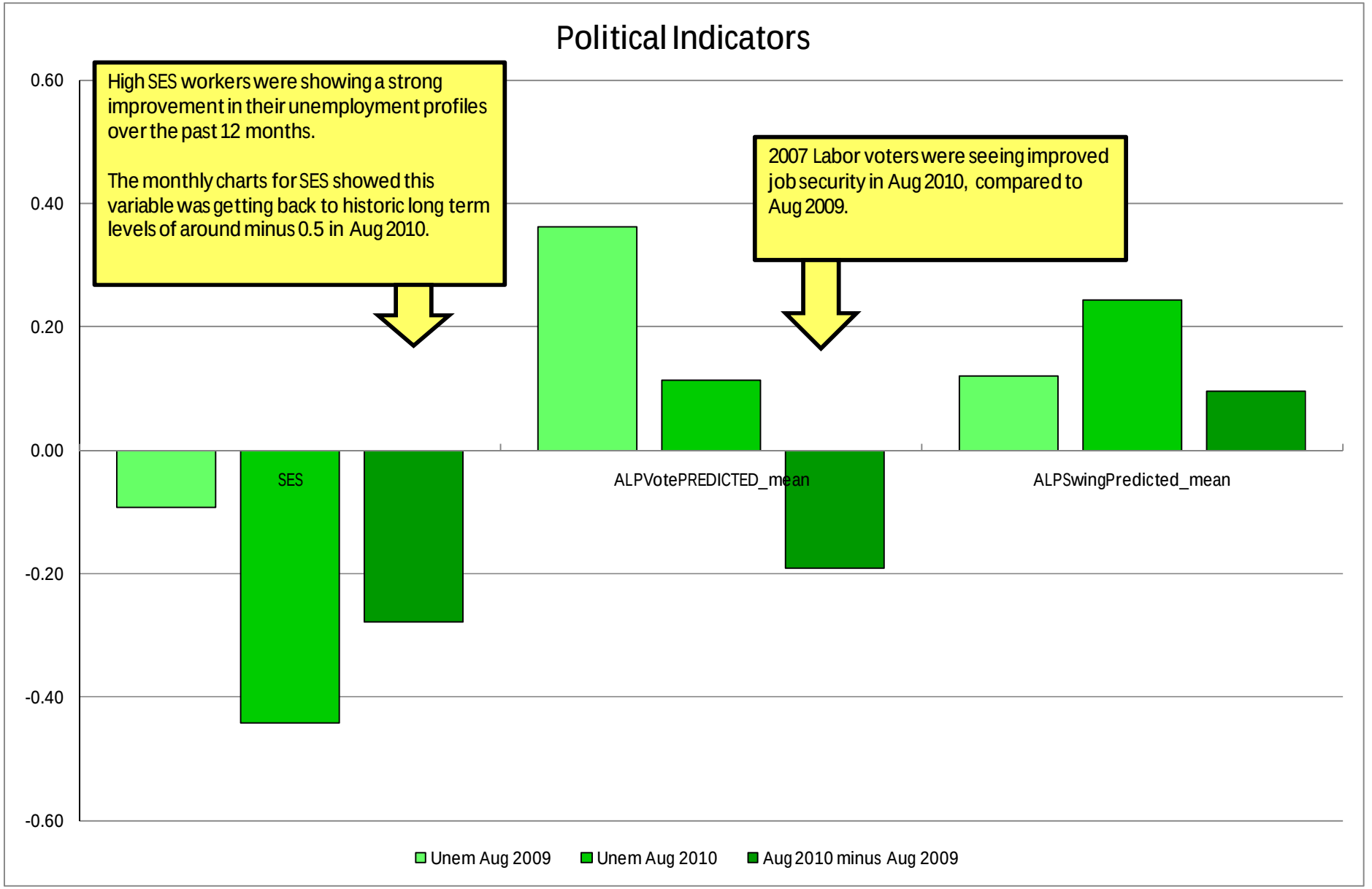


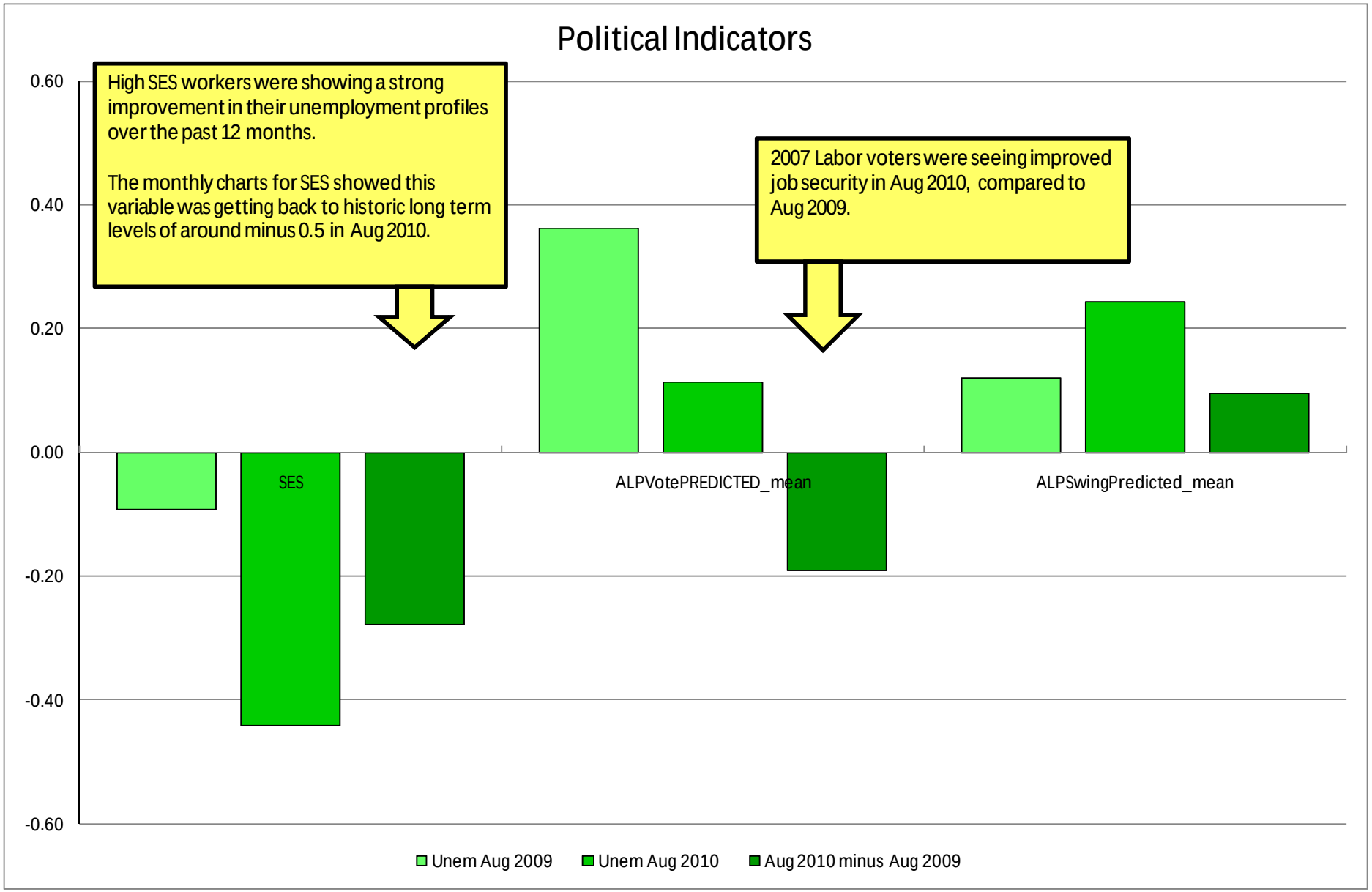




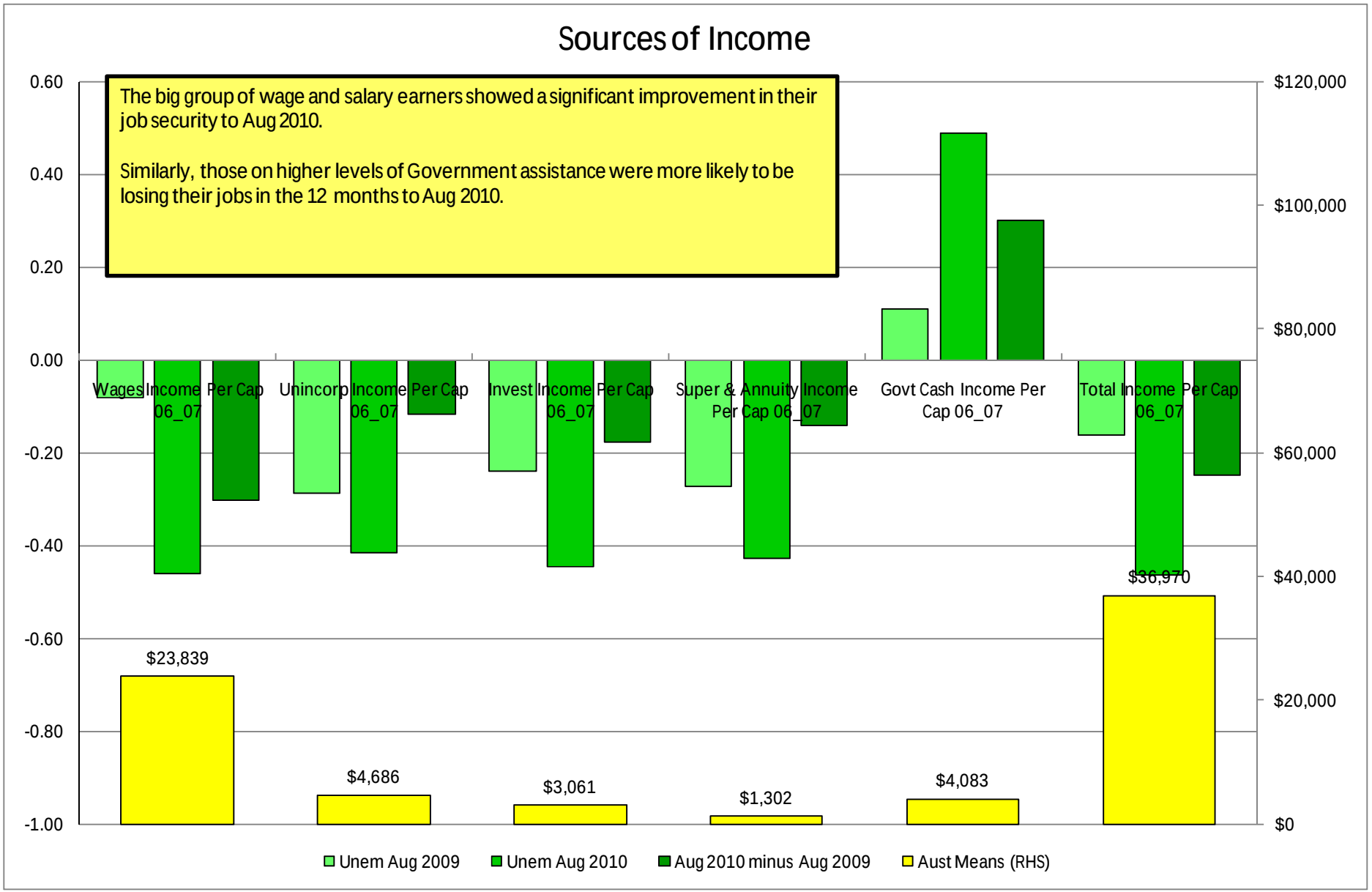


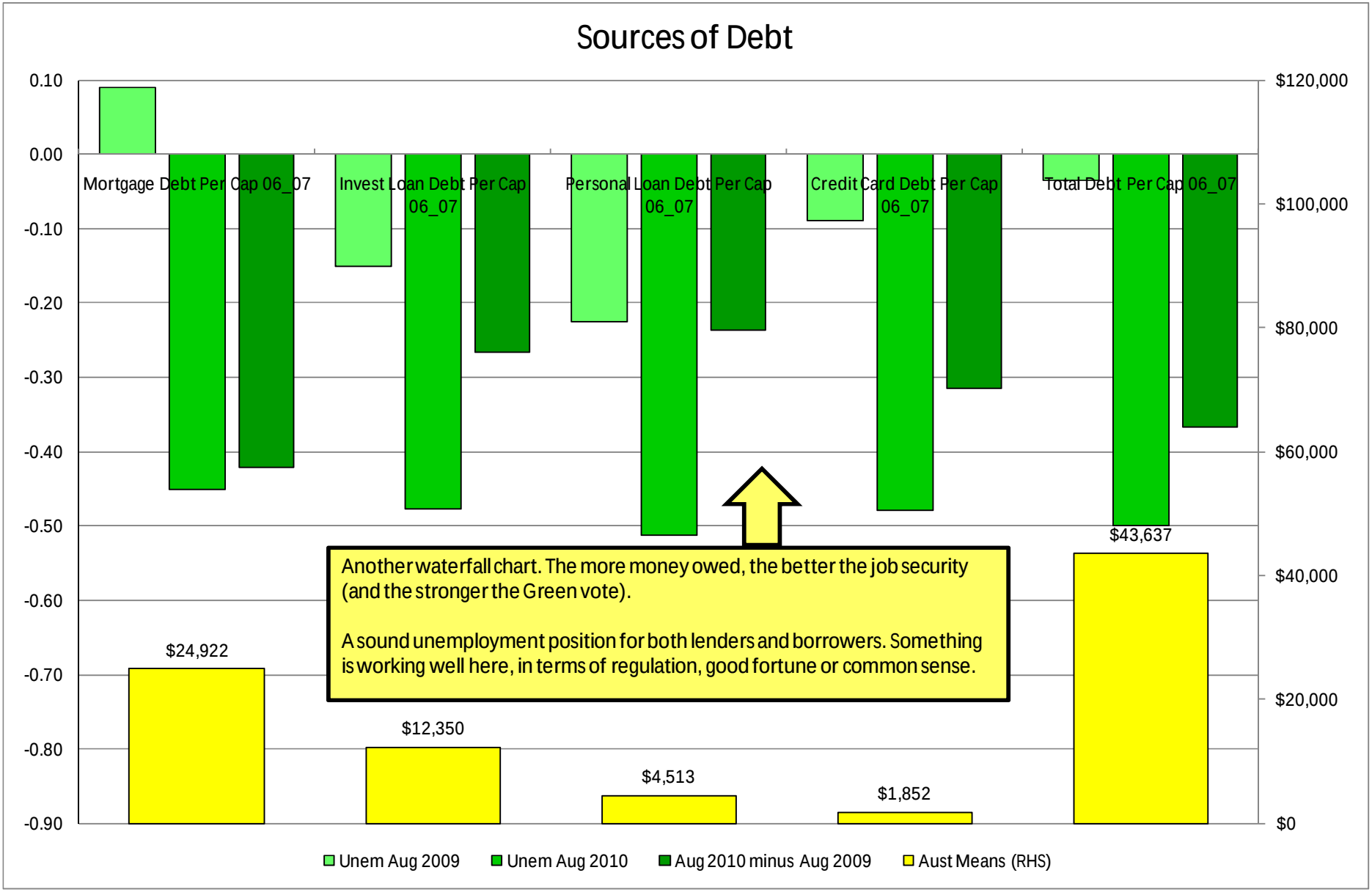






# Sources of Income





# Regional Unemployment Index (RUIN)

Tables below show the 69 regions used in the Labour force monthly survey, the corresponding Aug 2008, Aug 2009 and Aug 2010 unemployment rate and the change in unemployment over the past 12 months. The RUIN table is ranked by the changes over the past 12 months and where these changes are equal to or greater than 1.5 percent, then the region is a candidate for spatial recession as the local economy would be experiencing GDP growth of at least three percent below its full employment potential (for each percentage point by which unemployment exceeds its 'natural rate', GDP falls short of its potential level by between two and three percentage points).

| Labour Force Regions | Aug-2008 | Aug-2009 | Aug-2010 | Aug 10 minus Aug 9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Far West NSW | 0.0 | 0.0 | 17.0 | 17.0 |
| West Moreton | 5.5 | 1.3 | 7.5 | 6.2 |
| Central Highlands-Wimmera | 8.1 | 4.2 | 8.6 | 4.4 |
| Murray-Murrumbidgee | 3.3 | 2.8 | 5.4 | 2.6 |
| Richmond-Tweed and Mid-North Coast | 7.6 | 4.2 | 6.4 | 2.3 |
| Northern SRS Tas | 3.0 | 4.9 | 6.7 | 1.8 |
| Gold Coast North SRS | 3.7 | 6.0 | 7.8 | 1.8 |
| Darling Downs-South West | 1.8 | 3.4 | 4.8 | 1.4 |
| St George-Sutherland | 3.5 | 3.2 | 4.5 | 1.3 |
| Loddon-Mallee | 5.5 | 6.2 | 7.4 | 1.2 |
| Illawarra excluding Wollongong | 1.9 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 1.1 |
| Lower Northern Sydney | 3.3 | 2.5 | 3.6 | 1.1 |
| Southern Adelaide | 3.4 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 1.1 |
| Northern-North West Qld | 2.3 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 1.0 |
| Mersey-Lyell SRS Tas | 5.5 | 6.4 | 7.5 | 1.0 |
| South West Perth | 2.5 | 5.1 | 6.1 | 1.0 |
| Gold Coast South SRS | 3.6 | 5.0 | 5.9 | 0.9 |
| South and East Brisbane | 3.6 | 5.5 | 6.3 | 0.8 |
| Lower Western WA | 2.5 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 0.7 |
| All Gippsland | 3.4 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 0.5 |
| Northern and Western SA | 5.3 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 0.5 |
| Brisbane City Inner Ring | 2.3 | 3.3 | 3.9 | 0.5 |
| Goulburn-Ovens-Murray | 4.8 | 6.3 | 6.8 | 0.4 |

**Table 6. The Regional Unemployment or RUIN Table, for all Australian Labour Force Regions, runs down three consecutive pages.**

It shows the Unemployment levels for each region as at Aug 2010 and the changes from Aug 09 to Aug 10. Any region with monthly unemployment growth of 1.5 percent or more during the past 12 months is in recession, according to our definition.

This chart will tend to be consistent with the stereotypes, in that the variables worst hit by unemployment growth to Aug 10 in Table 1 should dominate those regions at the top of this list. These variables include older, lower income working families, fly in and fly out miners, farmers and farm workers.

This is why most of the regions here are from Queensland, Tasmania and rural regions from New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Greater Hobart | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 0.4 |
| North Eastern Melbourne | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 0.4 |
| Barw on-Western District | 3.0 | 6.1 | 6.3 | 0.2 |
| Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West | 4.1 | 4.3 | 4.2 | -0.0 |
| Sunshine Coast | 2.7 | 5.0 | 4.9 | -0.1 |
| Southern and Eastern SA | 3.2 | 5.8 | 5.7 | -0.1 |
| Southern Tas | 1.4 | 7.2 | 6.9 | -0.3 |
| Balance WA | 5.2 | 5.2 | 4.8 | -0.3 |
| Canterbury-Bankstow n | 6.6 | 6.7 | 6.4 | -0.3 |
| New castle SRS | 4.5 | 4.2 | 3.9 | -0.4 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY | 2.1 | 3.2 | 2.8 | -0.5 |
| AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY | 3.4 | 3.2 | 2.6 | -0.6 |
| Central Perth | 2.2 | 4.6 | 3.8 | -0.8 |
| Eastern Adelaide | 2.5 | 4.5 | 3.7 | -0.8 |
| Gosford-Wyong | 7.2 | 6.0 | 5.2 | -0.8 |
| North Western Sydney | 5.6 | 7.3 | 6.5 | -0.8 |
| Wollongong SRS | 5.1 | 8.6 | 7.8 | -0.9 |
| Brisbane City Outer Ring | 1.7 | 4.5 | 3.6 | -0.9 |
| North Brisbane Balance | 3.0 | 3.8 | 2.8 | -1.0 |
| Northern Adelaide | 6.0 | 8.3 | 7.2 | -1.0 |
| Wide Bay-Burnett | 6.4 | 7.8 | 6.7 | -1.1 |
| Mornington Peninsula | 3.6 | 5.7 | 4.6 | -1.1 |
| Inner Eastern Melbourne | 3.2 | 4.9 | 3.7 | -1.1 |

The Labor Force Regions in this, <u>the second page of the RUIN table</u>, are better off than the first one third of regions on the preceding page and most of them are now showing some signs of economic recovery – i.e. they have negative unemployment growth.

There's a reasonable demographic mix here from south east Qld, rural and regional Qld, rural and provincial NSW, Melbourne, WA and SA.

This looks like middle Australia, with some rural areas, some provincial, some inner city and some of the outer suburbs.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| North Perth | 1.8 | 5.3 | 4.1 | -1.2 |
| Southern Melbourne | 3.6 | 5.0 | 3.8 | -1.2 |
| North Western Melbourne | 4.9 | 9.3 | 8.0 | -1.2 |
| East Perth | 2.7 | 3.6 | 2.4 | -1.2 |
| Inner Melbourne | 3.7 | 6.2 | 5.0 | -1.3 |
| Outer Western Melbourne | 5.1 | 6.6 | 5.2 | -1.4 |
| South Eastern Melbourne | 4.1 | 8.9 | 7.3 | -1.7 |
| Outer Eastern Melbourne | 2.1 | 5.4 | 3.7 | -1.7 |
| Northern, North Western and Central West | 5.1 | 5.5 | 3.7 | -1.9 |
| South Eastern NSW | 3.6 | 4.8 | 3.0 | -1.9 |
| Inner Sydney | 2.3 | 6.2 | 4.2 | -2.0 |
| Western Adelaide | 5.0 | 5.8 | 3.1 | -2.7 |
| Fairfield-Liverpool | 7.6 | 9.0 | 6.2 | -2.8 |
| Northern Beaches NSW | 2.8 | 4.7 | 1.9 | -2.8 |
| Eastern Suburbs Sydney | 4.1 | 5.4 | 2.4 | -3.0 |
| Central Western Sydney | 7.1 | 10.6 | 7.4 | -3.2 |
| Inner Western Sydney | 2.5 | 7.2 | 3.9 | -3.2 |
| Central Northern Sydney | 2.0 | 5.5 | 2.2 | -3.3 |
| Ipswich City | 1.9 | 7.5 | 4.2 | -3.3 |
| South East Perth | 2.4 | 7.2 | 3.7 | -3.5 |
| Far North Qld | 4.3 | 11.8 | 7.9 | -3.9 |
| Hunter excluding Newcastle | 4.5 | 5.2 | 0.8 | -4.3 |
| Outer South Western Sydney | 6.0 | 10.0 | 4.5 | -5.5 |

Page 3 of the RUIN Table at left. There's a lot of light and dark blue down the bottom of this chart, which is a very good sign for New South Wales and Victorian Labour Force Regions. WA isn't looking too bad either.

Consistent with the profile of unemployment decline shown in Table 2, we are seeing here strong signs of recovery from some of the areas hit last year by higher unemployment, such as Fairfield Liverpool or Far North Queensland.

We also see a lot of higher SES inner city regions, in Perth, Melbourne and Sydney. The recession is over, for the time being and the next problem is clearly going to be an excess of demand in higher income urban areas.