



Australian Jobs profile for November 2011

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. The statistical significance of the profiles also need to be considered. We repeat, caution is urged in any interpretation of these statistics. We acknowledge and thank the Australian Bureau of Statistics for the provision of original data, Dr Otto Hellwig of MDS for the microsimulation modelling and Phil Henry of Business Geographics for the mapping.

Summary of Results

After four years of Labor Governments Australia's unemployment level has risen by 130,000, with the original rate of unemployment up by about one percent. The regions to suffer the biggest increases have been in Queensland, where the tourism strips with their highly mobile workforces, such as the Gold Coast, have seen unemployment double to almost ten percent. More recent Kiwi arrivals could be among the drivers here. Inner Sydney is also experiencing the same pressures from recent economic migrants from neighbouring countries.

To the extent that recent refugees from the Middle Eastern countries such as Iraq have been settling in culturally compatible neighbourhoods, then they could also have been driving up unemployment in western Sydney's Fairfield Liverpool and Melbourne's North West. Something certainly has been. Another possible factor, welfare dependence, particularly for Parenting Payments, is also high in these regions and this variable proved to be an excellent predictor of unemployment rates two years into the future. In other words, some welfare payments are easier to hand out in hard times than they are to take back in the good times.

Over the past four years the biggest drops in unemployment have been in linked to the Australian born, especially older families, recently retired. These two groups tend to be found in provincial city regions like Gosford-Wyong, the Hunter, Wollongong and Richmond Tweed. When their retirement incomes drop with the stock market and falling deposit rates, these retirees have been successfully finding part time jobs consistent with their high school education and work experience.

There has been a huge fall in unemployment from workers employed in health and social assistance jobs and the disproportionate growth in jobs for Health, Public Admin and Education has been instrumental in holding Australian unemployment below seven percent, for the time being at least.

We also note the presence of Utility workers and Teachers in regions where unemployment has fallen significantly. The first has benefitted strongly from soft regulation of energy prices and the second from Labor's major boost to education spending.

The impact of this public and semipublic sector jobs growth has been to the benefit of Catholic School parents, who have enjoyed otherwise inexplicable improvements in their unemployment profiles. The report also looks at the groups which were unlikely to be unemployed in 2011. High debts and correspondingly high incomes to service them dominated this stereotype. Also we saw high per capita assets, assets in shares and spending on life insurance, hopefully for a self-funded retirement.

Method and Presentation

This profile is based on data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The primary source is the monthly Labour Force survey by Regions (6291.0.55.001), but includes national data from 6202.0, detailed quarterly data from 6291.0.55.003, earnings by industry 6302.0 and Demographic Statistics 3101.0.

The modelling used by ADS compares this cross section of data with our elaborate database and uses inferential statistics to project these sample results onto all Australian postcodes and Census Collectors Districts.

We present here in the Stereotype Tables the simple correlation between our database and the unemployment figures by region. The correlations have been ranked to typically show those which are normally significant to 95 percent or more (0.23). 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.

The 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. A positive correlation with arrears shown above the zero line means that the demographic group in question is concentrated in the postcodes with high or increasing levels of unemployment. A negative correlation means they're concentrated in suburbs where unemployment is lower or getting lower.

Many of the cultural variables like religion or ethnicity are useful descriptors, appear in the correlations, but only a few of them persist through higher levels of statistical number crunching and drive behaviour. But if we talk about any variable at length or in detail, it's usually because they've turned out to be important at the subsequent modelling stage. These drivers can be occupation, qualification, age, welfare dependence, previous unemployment, home loan arrears etc. The current model explains some 62 percent of the variation in November quarter unemployment across all Labour Force Regions, leaving a third due to local or state factors.

Some of the modelled data for unemployment is presented in the online maps, down to postcode level. The data is available from ADS down to CCD level via www.elaborate.net.au. Material in the ADS elaborate database is based on data from the ABS Census, Electoral Commissions, Household Expenditure Surveys modelled by MDS Data Systems, Fitch Ratings data on home loan arrears and a wide range of published data on political and economic behaviour.

Labour Force Regions	Nov-2007	Nov-2011	Nov 11 minus Nov 07	Labour Force Regions	Nov-2007	Nov-2011	Nov 11 minus Nov 07	Labour Force Regions	Nov-2007	Nov-2011	Nov 11 minus Nov 07
Gold Coast North SRS	3.5	8.3	4.8	Mackay-Fitzroy-Central West	2.7	4.3	1.6	South Eastern NSW	2.6	2.9	0.2
Fairfield-Liverpool	4.7	9.1	4.4	Northern, North Western and Central West	4.6	6.1	1.5	Western Adelaide	3.8	4.0	0.2
West Moreton	1.4	5.7	4.3	Lower Western WA	2.7	4.2	1.5	Central Perth	1.7	1.8	0.1
Murray-Murrumbidgee	1.6	5.8	4.1	Northern Adelaide	5.7	7.1	1.4	Inner Eastern Melbourne	4.4	4.4	0.0
Far North Qld	5.1	9.2	4.1	South East Perth	3.6	5.0	1.4	Inner Western Sydney	4.1	4.1	0.0
Northern-North West Qld	4.1	7.9	3.8	Central Western Sydney	4.9	6.3	1.4	Central Northern Sydney	3.7	3.5	-0.2
North Western Melbourne	3.5	7.1	3.6	St George-Sutherland	2.7	4.0	1.3	Eastern Adelaide	3.7	3.3	-0.4
Gold Coast South SRS	3.0	6.0	3.1	Eastern Suburbs Sydney	1.8	2.9	1.1	Darling Downs-South West	4.3	3.8	-0.5
Inner Melbourne	2.2	5.2	3.0	Barwon-Western District	4.4	5.5	1.1	All Gippsland	5.1	4.5	-0.6
Southern Tas	5.5	8.3	2.9	Southern and Eastern SA	3.7	4.7	1.0	Brisbane City Inner Ring	3.1	2.2	-1.0
Inner Sydney	3.3	6.0	2.7	South West Perth	3.1	4.0	1.0	NORTHERN TERRITORY	5.7	4.7	-1.0
North Brisbane Balance	1.7	4.4	2.7	Outer Western Melbourne	6.0	7.0	1.0	Outer Eastern Melbourne	3.8	2.7	-1.1
Canterbury-Bankstown	5.2	7.7	2.5	Southern Melbourne	2.7	3.6	1.0	Balance WA	2.9	1.7	-1.2
Brisbane City Outer Ring	3.1	5.3	2.2	Northern Beaches NSW	2.1	2.9	0.8	Outer South Western Sydney	4.9	3.6	-1.3
Far West NSW	7.9	10.0	2.1	AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	2.8	3.6	0.8	Loddon-Mallee	6.5	5.2	-1.3
Illawarra excluding Wollongong	5.0	7.1	2.1	North Perth	2.7	3.5	0.8	North Western Sydney	7.0	5.5	-1.5
Northern SRS Tas	5.0	7.0	2.1	Greater Hobart	5.0	5.7	0.7	Newcastle SRS	5.5	4.0	-1.5
Sunshine Coast	3.6	5.5	2.0	Lower Northern Sydney	2.3	2.9	0.6	Gosford-Wyong	6.1	4.6	-1.5
East Perth	3.8	5.7	1.9	Mersey-Lyell SRS Tas	5.9	6.5	0.5	Richmond-Tweed and Mid-North Coast	7.2	5.3	-2.0
North Eastern Melbourne	3.5	5.3	1.9	South and East Brisbane	4.6	5.0	0.4	South Eastern Melbourne	7.5	5.5	-2.0
Mornington Peninsula	3.0	4.8	1.9	Ipswich City	5.0	5.4	0.4	Wollongong SRS	7.5	5.4	-2.1
Wide Bay-Burnett	3.5	5.3	1.8	Northern and Western SA	4.9	5.1	0.3	Hunter excluding Newcastle	6.9	3.1	-3.8
Goulburn-Ovens-Murray	3.6	5.3	1.7	Southern Adelaide	4.6	4.9	0.2	Central Highlands-Wimmera	7.2	2.0	-5.2

Table 1. The maroon colour coding for Queensland Labour Force Regions are clustered towards the top left of this table, which shows Australia's Labour Force Regions ranked according to their growth or fall in monthly unemployment since November 2007. The bottom end of the table, where unemployment has fallen by more than five percent, is dominated by regions from Victoria in dark blue and provincial cities in NSW, in light blue.

The Green Tasmanian regions are also clustered towards the wrong side of the chart, with South Australia and West Australia towards the middle. We would expect to see WA's regions with unemployment falls, but unemployment can still remain high in a region where jobs growth is strong, due to workers in Agriculture, say, being displaced by the rise in the Aussie dollar accompanying the growth of nearby mining jobs. In many of these cases, the farm workers or their spouses, often simply become miners. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em.

Demographically, there are some clues to possible job losses for hospitality in the older, retirement regions in Queensland and Victoria in the stereotype tables below.

Code	Unem Nov 2007	Unem Nov 2011	Nov 2011 minus Nov 2010	Aust Means (RHS)
Mormons	-0.05	0.32	0.37	1.34
New Zealand	-0.36	-0.01	0.36	1.95
fNew Zealand	-0.34	0.01	0.35	1.92
fJehovahs Wit	-0.03	0.31	0.34	0.43
Moved past five years	-0.45	-0.12	0.33	39.73
Birth Not Stated	-0.27	0.05	0.32	7.52
NS_Inc	-0.23	0.09	0.32	9.52
Apostolic	0.02	0.33	0.32	0.03
fPapua N G	-0.19	0.12	0.31	0.14
fosNot Stated	0.22	0.53	0.31	21.04
Quals NS	0.19	0.50	0.31	20.91
fTransport	-0.01	0.30	0.31	2.31
F_NS_Inc	-0.20	0.11	0.31	8.59
Papua N G	-0.21	0.09	0.30	0.11
Rented Private	-0.31	-0.01	0.30	6.91
Motorbike	-0.05	0.26	0.30	0.67
fIraq	0.02	0.32	0.30	0.12
Iraq	0.02	0.32	0.30	0.13
fBirth Not Stated	-0.24	0.05	0.29	6.97
Not Stated	-0.14	0.15	0.29	10.30
NS	-0.28	0.01	0.29	7.12
Moved past year	-0.42	-0.15	0.27	15.98
fosInadequately described	-0.21	0.05	0.27	1.20
fApostolic	0.03	0.29	0.27	0.03
35-39	-0.40	-0.14	0.26	7.21
fNS	-0.18	0.07	0.26	6.38
Hours worked NS	0.20	0.45	0.26	1.93
fosfMixed Field Programs	0.13	0.38	0.25	0.18
fosfNot Stated	0.35	0.60	0.25	22.99

Table 2. Shows those groups most strongly correlated with unemployment growth between November 2007 and November 2011.

Statistically, these groups tend to be concentrated in the regions to the top left of Table 1, above.

Ignoring the tiny religious groups, the first thing we notice about these groups is that they are highly mobile and also they tend not to fill out their census forms, when it comes to their qualifications or field of study or hours of work.

The last group is linked to welfare claims for benefits such as parenting payments and family tax benefits, the payment of which is politically popular, but which seemed to slow unemployment declines during the post GFC economic upswing.

These welfare payments are certainly strong predictors of future unemployment.

We see young economic migrants from PNG, NZ and Iraq who would be living in rented homes and often commuting to jobs on a motorbike.

Despite Bondi's reputation, Kiwis love Queensland's coastal regions and they can be found in the maroon regions littering the top left of Table 1 and also in Inner Sydney.

The Iraqi groups tend to be in in Fairfield-Liverpool and North Western Melbourne, also at the top left of Table 1.

Code	Unem Nov 2007	Unem Nov 2011	Nov 2011 minus Nov 2010	Aust Means (RHS)
fHealth & social assist	0.31	-0.12	-0.42	17.89
fosfHealth	0.13	-0.25	-0.38	14.26
fosEducation	0.26	-0.11	-0.37	3.57
f85+ three kids	-0.03	-0.37	-0.34	0.4
f85+ two kids	-0.07	-0.40	-0.33	0.5
Pre School	0.11	-0.19	-0.30	1.47
fYear 9	0.61	0.32	-0.29	6.93
f80+	0.02	-0.27	-0.29	4.39
fAustralia	0.22	-0.06	-0.28	73.68
f80-84 three kids	0.04	-0.24	-0.28	0.6
Health & social assist	-0.08	-0.36	-0.28	4.23
Did not commute	0.12	-0.15	-0.27	10.84
Church Christ	-0.01	-0.28	-0.27	0.26
f75-79 two kids	0.10	-0.15	-0.26	0.8
ALP 07 to 10 Swing	0.19	-0.06	-0.25	-2.3
fChurch Christ	-0.03	-0.29	-0.25	0.31
Secondary Cath	0.05	-0.20	-0.25	1.27
Year 9	0.55	0.30	-0.25	7.43
15-19	0.27	0.02	-0.24	6.78
f80-84 two kids	-0.01	-0.25	-0.24	0.6
f70-74 no kids	0.11	-0.12	-0.23	0.3
Utilities	0.33	0.10	-0.23	1.40
f80-84 one kid	0.13	-0.10	-0.23	0.3
fUtilities	0.21	-0.02	-0.23	0.44
f75-79	0.19	-0.04	-0.23	3.00
f85+ no kids	-0.16	-0.39	-0.23	0.3
\$1-149	0.47	0.24	-0.22	4.74
Uniting	0.24	0.02	-0.22	5.47
Netherlands	0.04	-0.18	-0.22	0.42

Table 3. Shows those groups most strongly correlated with unemployment decline between November 2007 and November 2011.

These are the groups which tend to be concentrated to the bottom right of Table 1 – the groups and regions which have done best under Labor during four years of Government.

The big Kahuna here is the Australian born, which is just under three out of four Australians. So, if migrants have fared badly under Labor, the Australian born have fared a lot better.

Linked to the Australian born are the older families, recently retired. These two groups tend to be found in rural Australian Labor Force Regions to the right of Table 1, especially in provincial city regions like Gosford-Wyong, the Hunter, Wollongong and Richmond Tweed. When their super drops with the stock market and interest rates, they have been finding part time jobs consistent with their grade 9 education and work experience.

Retired persons 80 and above is about three percent of the population and they are seen here in Uniting and Church of Christ homes, where they have been getting serviced by some of the huge fall in unemployment from workers employed in health and social assistance jobs. This industry has grown by 260,000 since November 2007.

Those voters who swung to Labor in 2010 were doing better in terms of unemployment between 2007 and 2011.

We also note the presence of Utility workers and Teachers. Both have benefitted strongly from Labor's oversight of the energy sector and education spending. The combined impact of this public sector jobs growth has been to the benefit of Catholic School parents.



Code	Unem Nov 2007	Unem Nov 2011	Nov 2011 minus Nov 2010	Aust Means (RHS)
Predicted Unem May Qtr 11	NA	0.68		
Predicted Unem Aug Qtr 11	NA	0.62		
Newstart Allowance	0.58	0.61	0.03	3.3
Parenting Payment Part	0.40	0.60	0.20	0.9
fosfNot Stated	0.35	0.60	0.25	22.99
PredUneNov10_mean	0.47	0.59	0.13	5.0
Commute NS	0.42	0.59	0.17	1.89
Predicted Unem Aug Qtr 10	0.45	0.57	0.12	5.1
Fam \$250-349	0.55	0.57	0.02	2.64
fQuals NS	0.39	0.57	0.17	25.72
Carer Allowance	0.53	0.54	0.02	3.2
Predicted Unem Feb Qtr 11	0.46	0.54	0.09	5.3
Family Tax Benefit B	0.42	0.53	0.11	9.3
fosNot Stated	0.22	0.53	0.31	21.04
Disability Support	0.52	0.52	0.00	5.5
Fam \$650-799	0.48	0.52	0.03	5.26
Parenting Payment Single	0.50	0.51	0.02	2.5
Predicted Arrears Sep 10	0.34	0.51	0.17	1.3
Family Tax Benefit A	0.41	0.50	0.10	12.5
fUnemployed	0.61	0.50	-0.10	2.82
Internet Not Stated	0.37	0.50	0.14	3.31
Quals NS	0.19	0.50	0.31	20.91
Unemployed	0.66	0.50	-0.16	3.43
Govt Cash Income Per Cap 06_07	0.53	0.49	-0.05	\$4,083
Not Stated	0.40	0.49	0.09	2.98
F\$150-249	0.55	0.47	-0.08	16.58
Machinery operators & drivers	0.42	0.47	0.05	11.08
Cars Not Stated	0.40	0.46	0.06	3.72
f25-29 two kids	0.38	0.45	0.07	0.9
Hours worked NS	0.20	0.45	0.26	1.93

Table 4. At left, shows those groups who tend to live in regions with the highest levels of unemployment in November 2011.

There has been an increasing concentration of unemployment in the four years to November 2011, back towards areas with persistently high patterns of unemployment in November 2007.

These groups tended to be unemployed in earlier 2011 and 2010, drawing some form of welfare benefit in 2010, or unemployed as far back as 2006.

Demographically, they tended to not complete census forms in relation to their field of study or qualifications, use of the internet, commute to work or hours worked.

From modelling both unemployment and the different welfare categories, we know these groups are moving in and out of unemployment and different welfare systems. Whatever the Government is trying to achieve here, in terms of giving people a helping hand back into the workforce, it's been going backwards for the past four years.

As we noted earlier, the groups of not stated on hours worked are linked to the parenting payments and family tax benefits and the former is a strong forward predictor of unemployment in subsequent years.

Other groups shown include young mothers with two kids and men working as machinery operators and drivers. Both of these demographics rely heavily on welfare top up payments, such as family tax A and B and also parenting payments.

Code	Unem Nov 2007	Unem Nov 2011	Nov 2011 minus Nov 2010	Aust Means (RHS)
Personal Loan Debt Per Cap 06_07	-0.59	-0.57	0.02	\$4,513
\$1600-1999	-0.40	-0.53	-0.13	3.60
Per Capita Assets Shares	-0.49	-0.53	-0.04	\$6,035
\$2000+	-0.48	-0.51	-0.03	5.44
Fam \$2500-2999	-0.45	-0.50	-0.05	5.67
Med family inc	-0.49	-0.49	0.00	\$1,215
Invest Income Per Cap 06_07	-0.49	-0.49	0.00	\$3,061
Unincorp Income Per Cap 06_07	-0.56	-0.48	0.08	\$4,686
Invest Loan Debt Per Cap 06_07	-0.52	-0.48	0.04	\$12,350
Per Capita Life Ins spend	-0.35	-0.47	-0.12	\$104
Total Income Per Cap 06_07	-0.54	-0.47	0.07	\$36,970
Total Debt Per Cap 06_07	-0.50	-0.47	0.04	\$43,637
Med indiv income	-0.52	-0.46	0.06	\$483
\$1300-1599	-0.36	-0.46	-0.10	5.60
Med hhold inc	-0.46	-0.46	0.00	\$1,030
F\$800-999	-0.45	-0.46	-0.01	6.22
Per Capita Assets Total	-0.42	-0.45	-0.04	\$115,576
Fam \$3000+	-0.45	-0.45	0.00	6.14
Graduate Diploma	-0.31	-0.45	-0.14	1.77
Super & Annuity Income Per Cap 06_07	-0.38	-0.45	-0.07	\$1,302
F\$1000-1299	-0.49	-0.44	0.04	5.57
fProfessionals	-0.36	-0.44	-0.08	21.70
SES	-0.43	-0.44	-0.02	96.5
Per Capita Super spend	-0.40	-0.44	-0.04	\$712
Credit Card Debt Per Cap 06_07	-0.56	-0.44	0.13	\$1,852
Wages Income Per Cap 06_07	-0.52	-0.44	0.08	\$23,839
Professional consulting	-0.43	-0.43	0.00	6.26
Per Capita Assets Banks	-0.36	-0.43	-0.07	\$21,300
F\$1300-1599	-0.40	-0.43	-0.03	2.63
DonationsPerCapita08_09_mean	-0.36	-0.43	-0.06	\$154

Table 5. At left, shows those groups who live in regions which had the lowest unemployment in November 2011.

As we can see, high levels of debt drive the need to work more than high levels of income, for this overwhelmingly private sector group where there's no sign of welfare churn.

High per capita personal loan debts top the list and these debts tend to be linked to unincorporated income earners. The high debt and corresponding income figures to service them are intertwined throughout this chart.

Also we see high per capita assets, assets in shares and spending on life insurance for self-funded retirement.

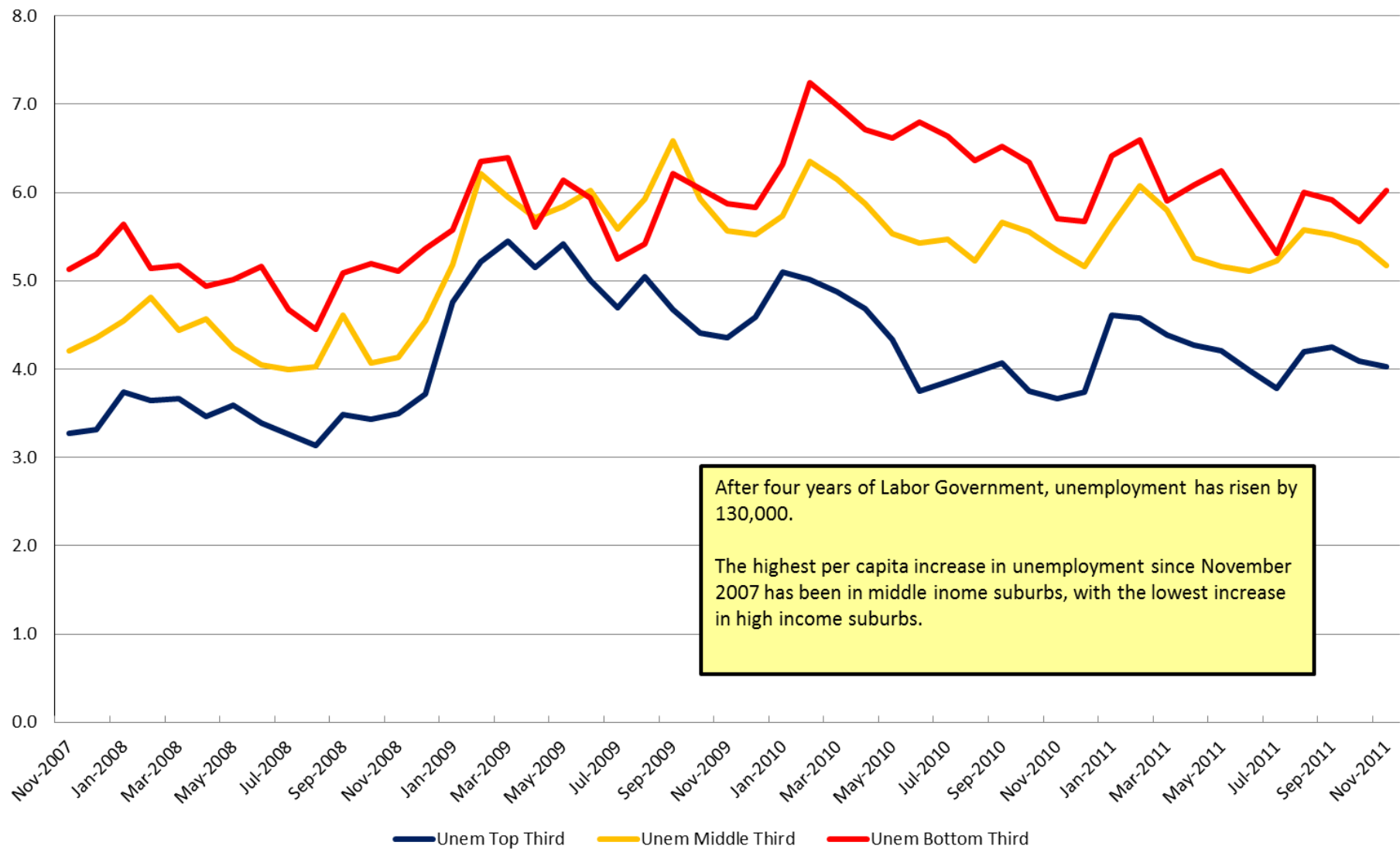
These groups have high SES scores, which means they tend to be graduates, employed in a professional job, with high incomes which tend to be unstable in a downturn.

For high SES workers employed here as professional consultants, the loss of their next job is only an unanswered phone call away. They tend to be the first groups to lose their jobs in a downturn simply because they're paid a lot and they're easiest to sack.

This employment contract for a high SES worker is more informal than their counterparts in the blue collar jobs who tend to be employed under an award and have some degree of union protection. They hang onto their jobs longer.

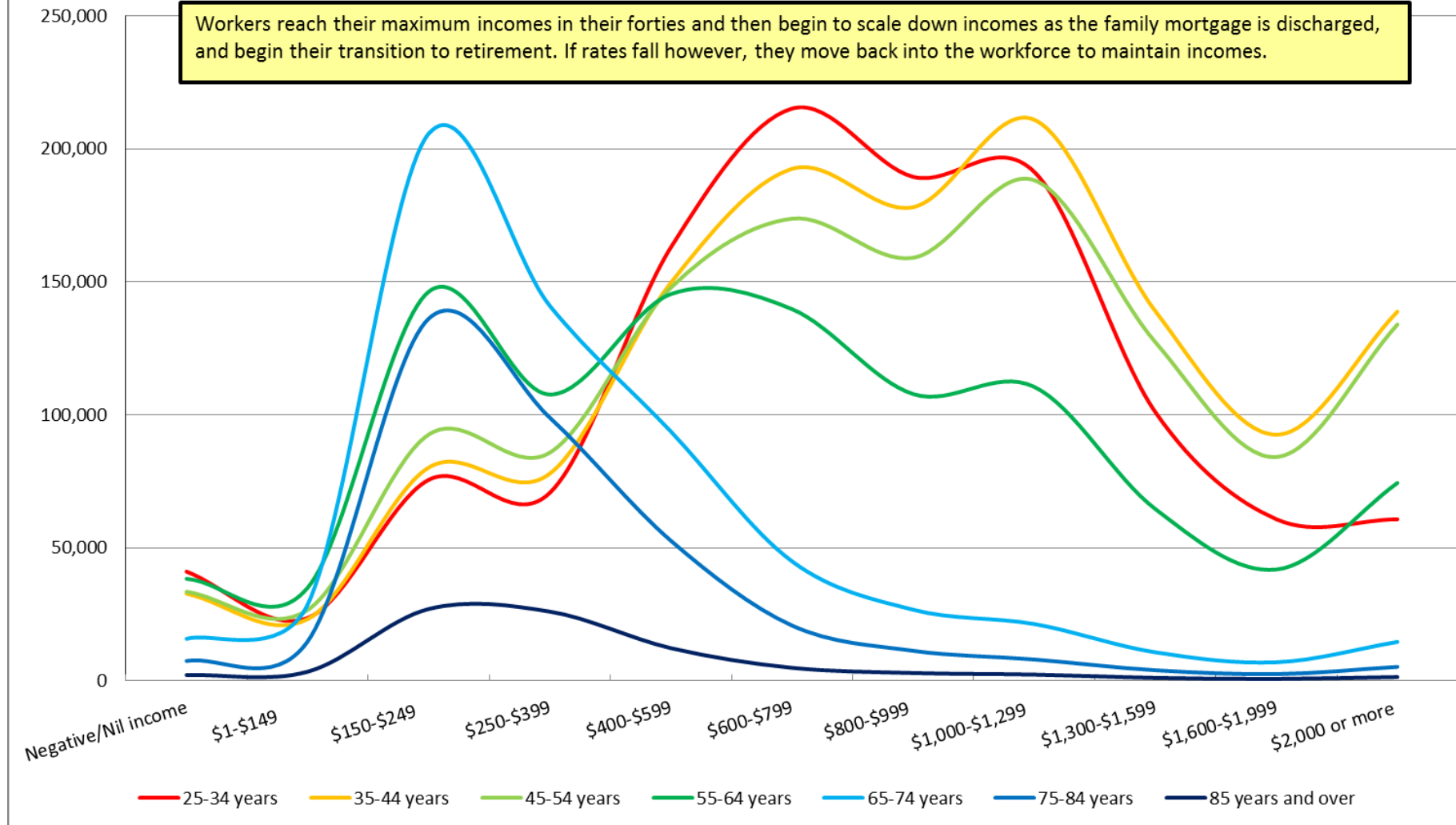
Despite this lack of job security, it's the high SES private sector workers who are the biggest donors to charity. Blue collar workers and public servants are missing in action when it comes to donations.

Original Unemployment by Family Income

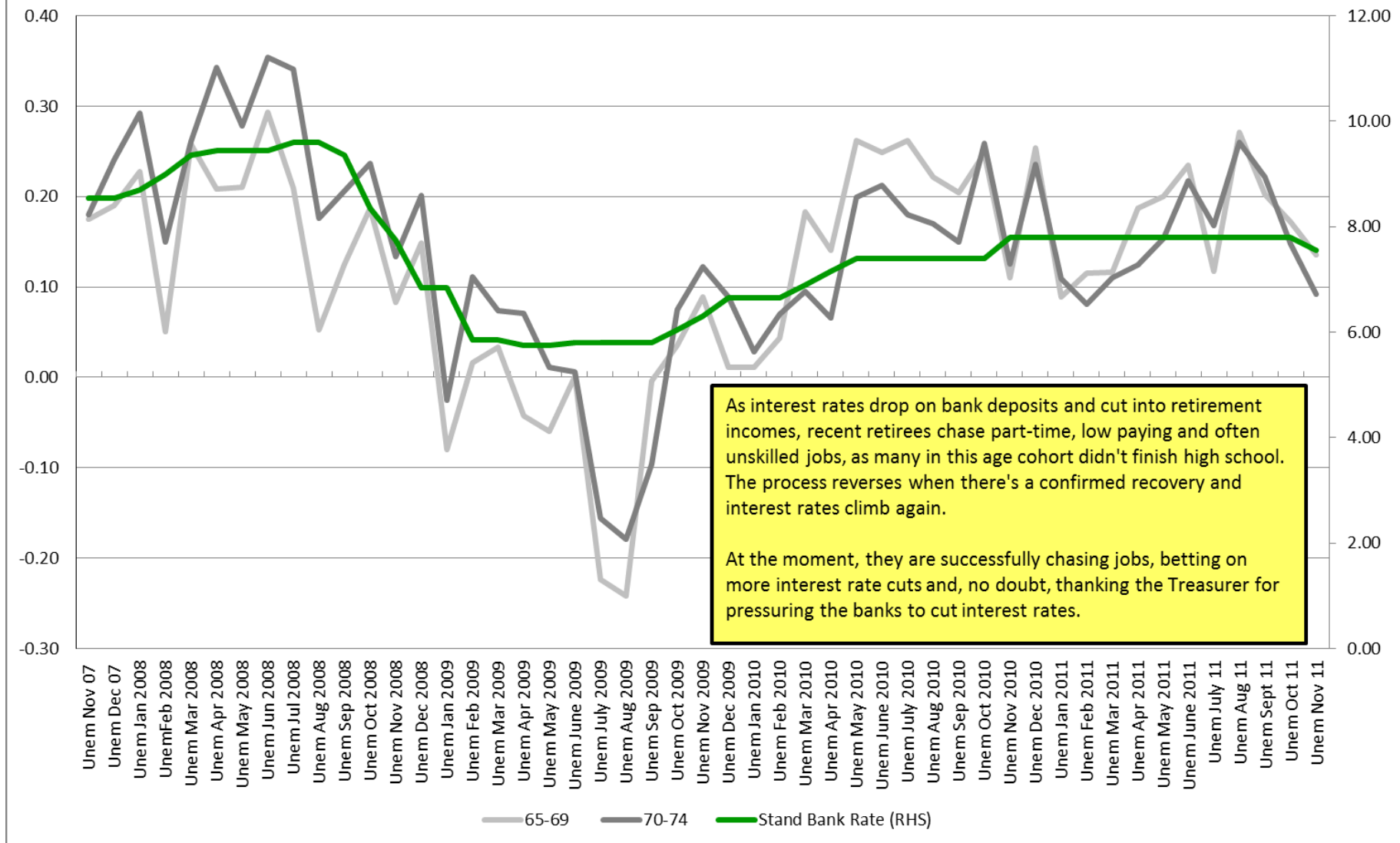


Age bands by income ranges - men

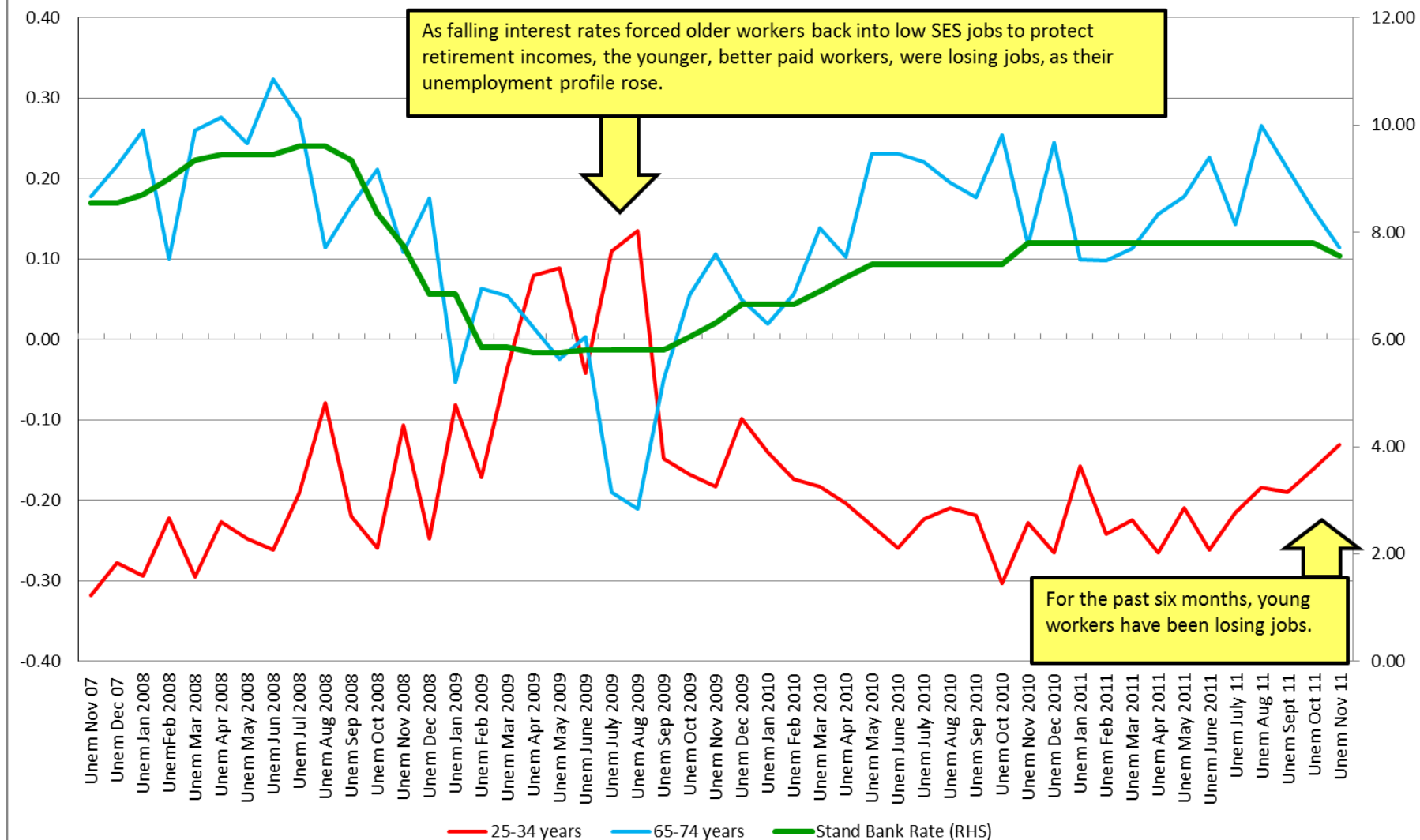
Workers reach their maximum incomes in their forties and then begin to scale down incomes as the family mortgage is discharged, and begin their transition to retirement. If rates fall however, they move back into the workforce to maintain incomes.



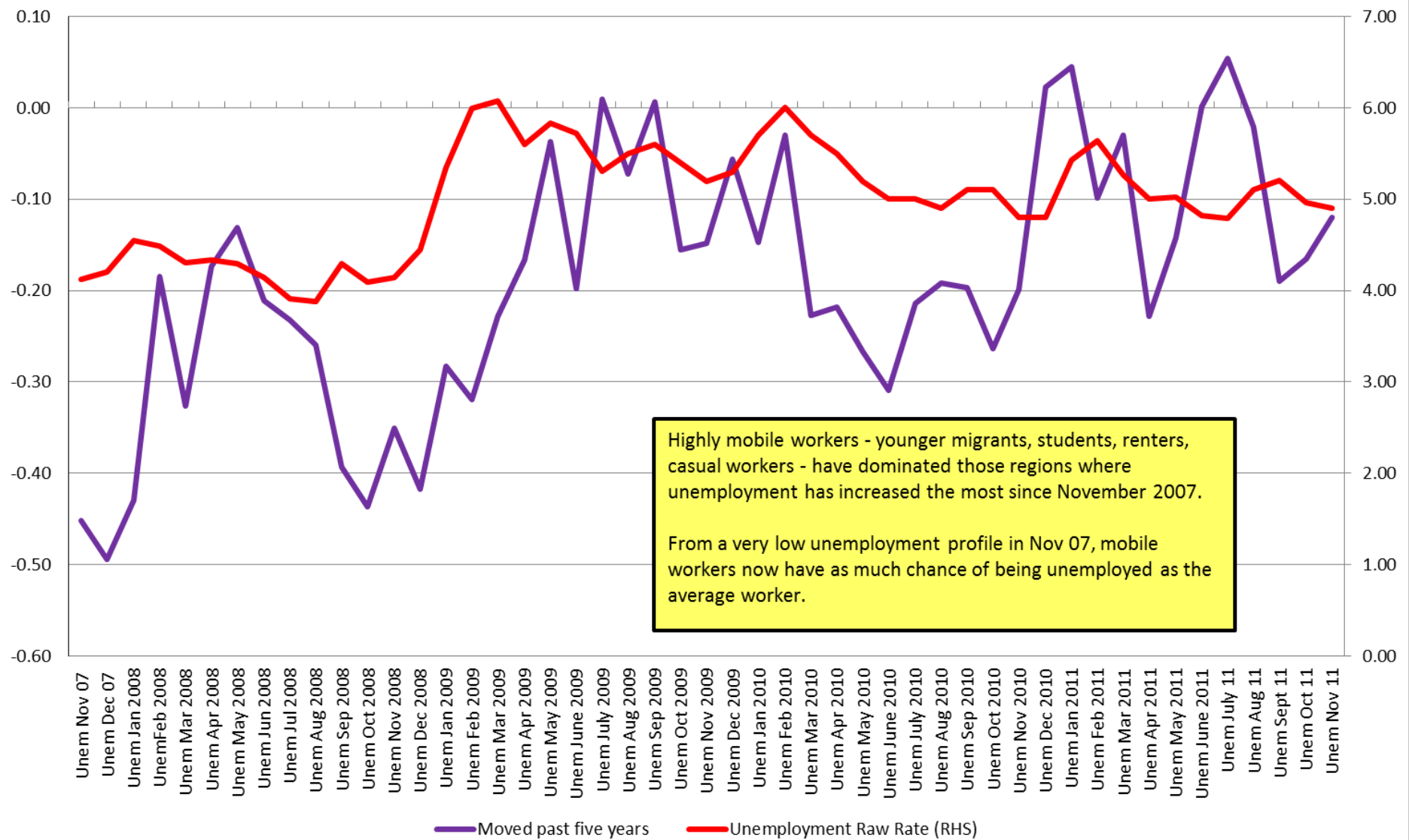
Interest Rates & retirees's jobless profiles



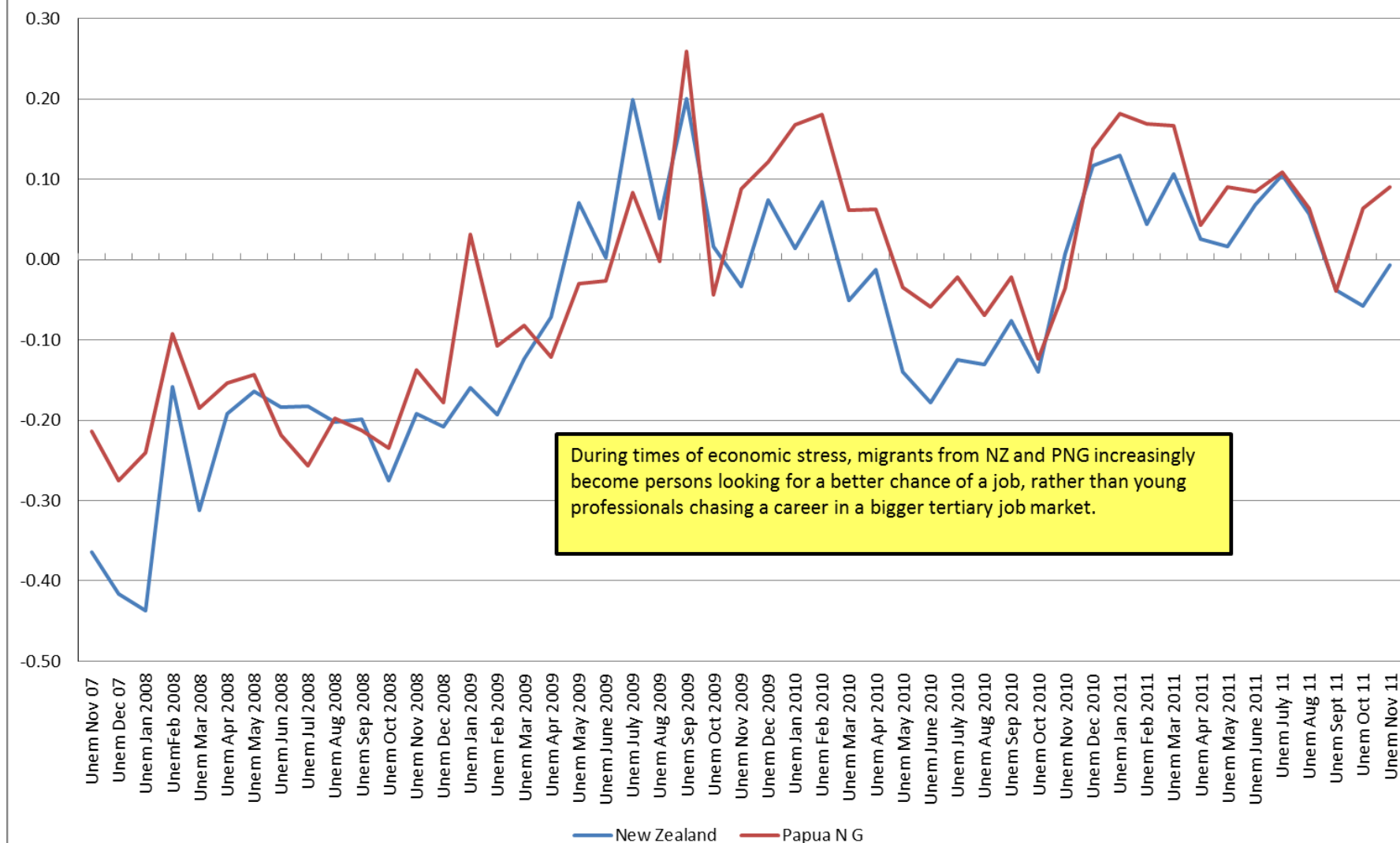
Unemployment profiles by selected age groups - males



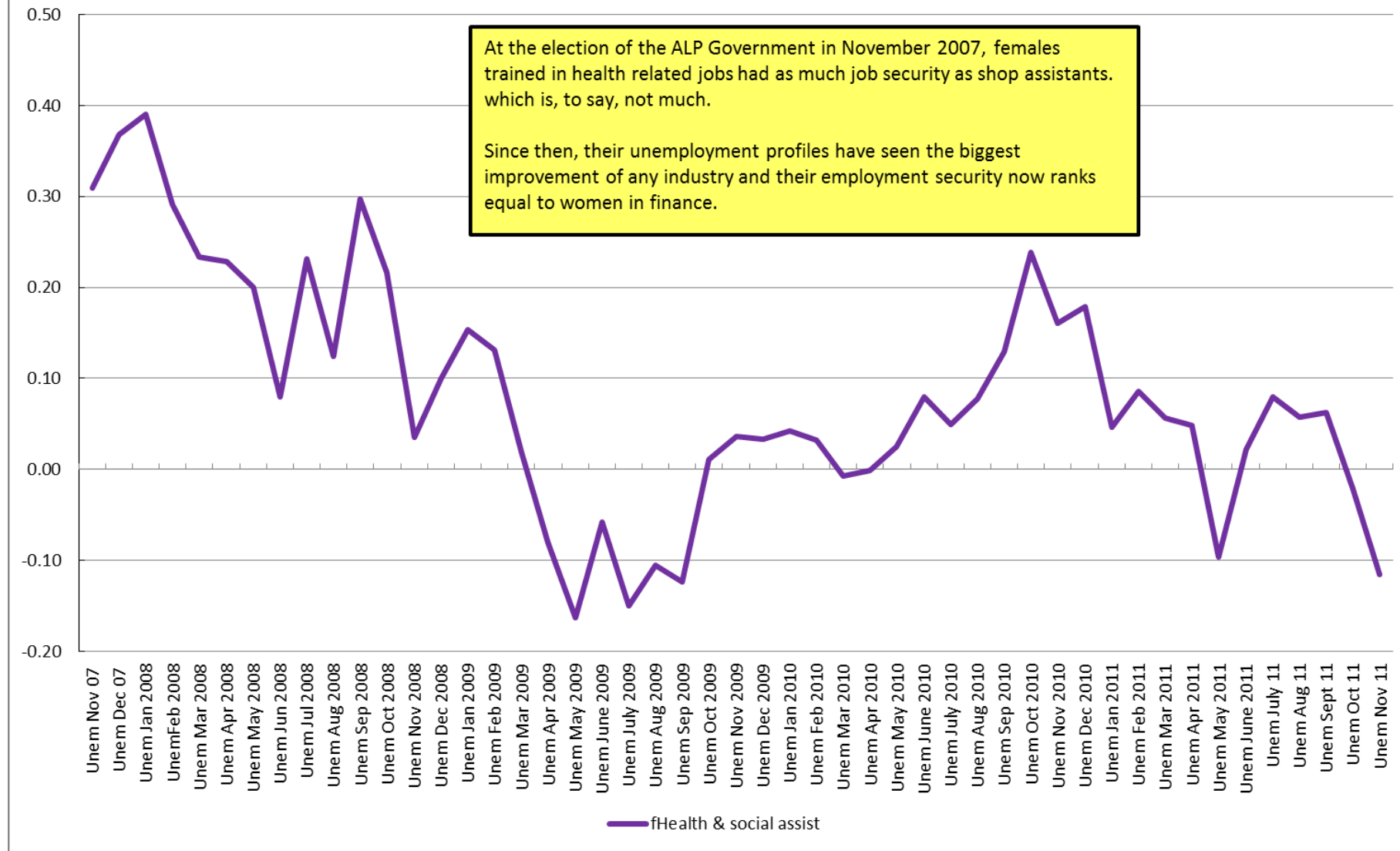
Mobile Workers Chasing Jobs



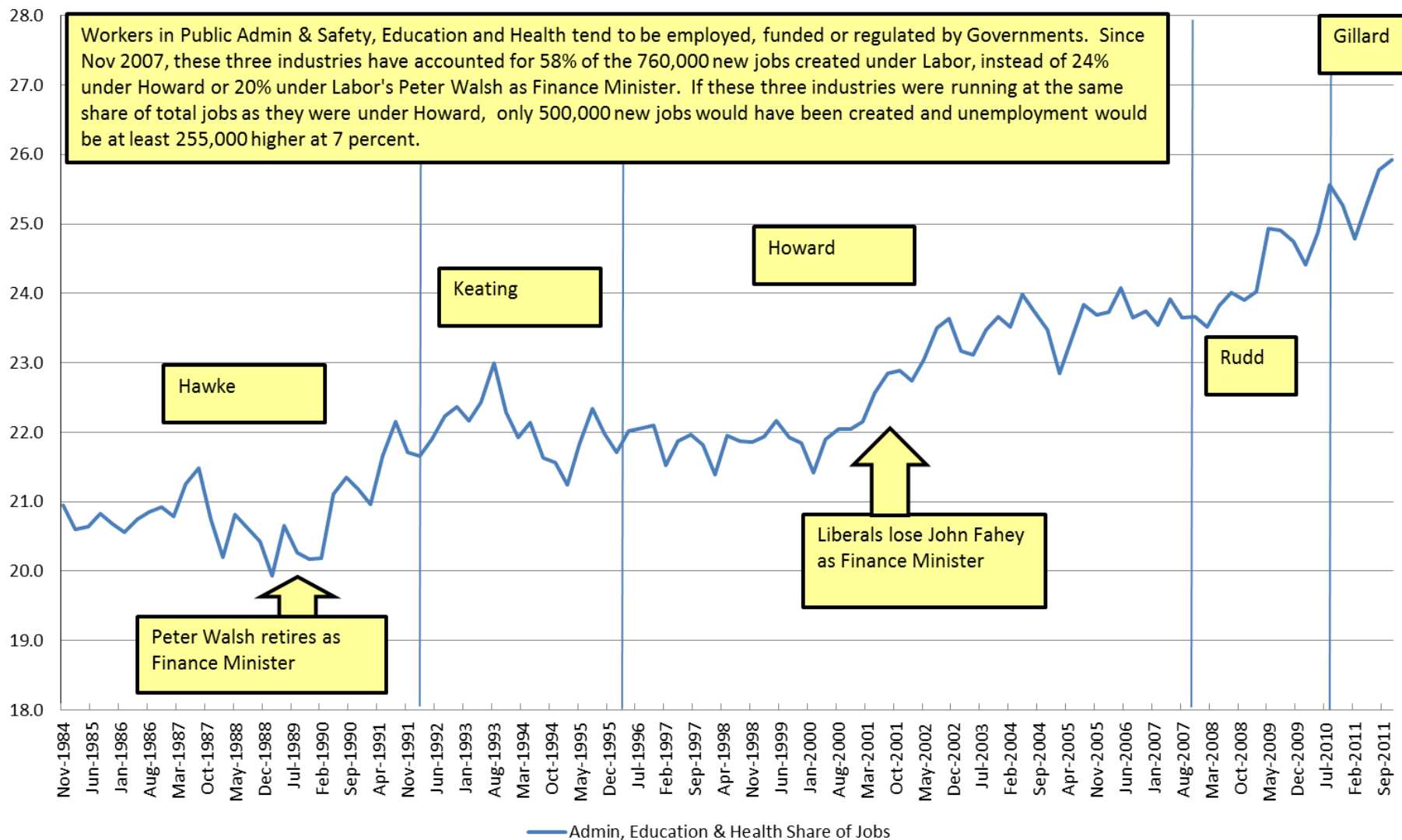
Unemployment Profiles for Kiwis & PNG



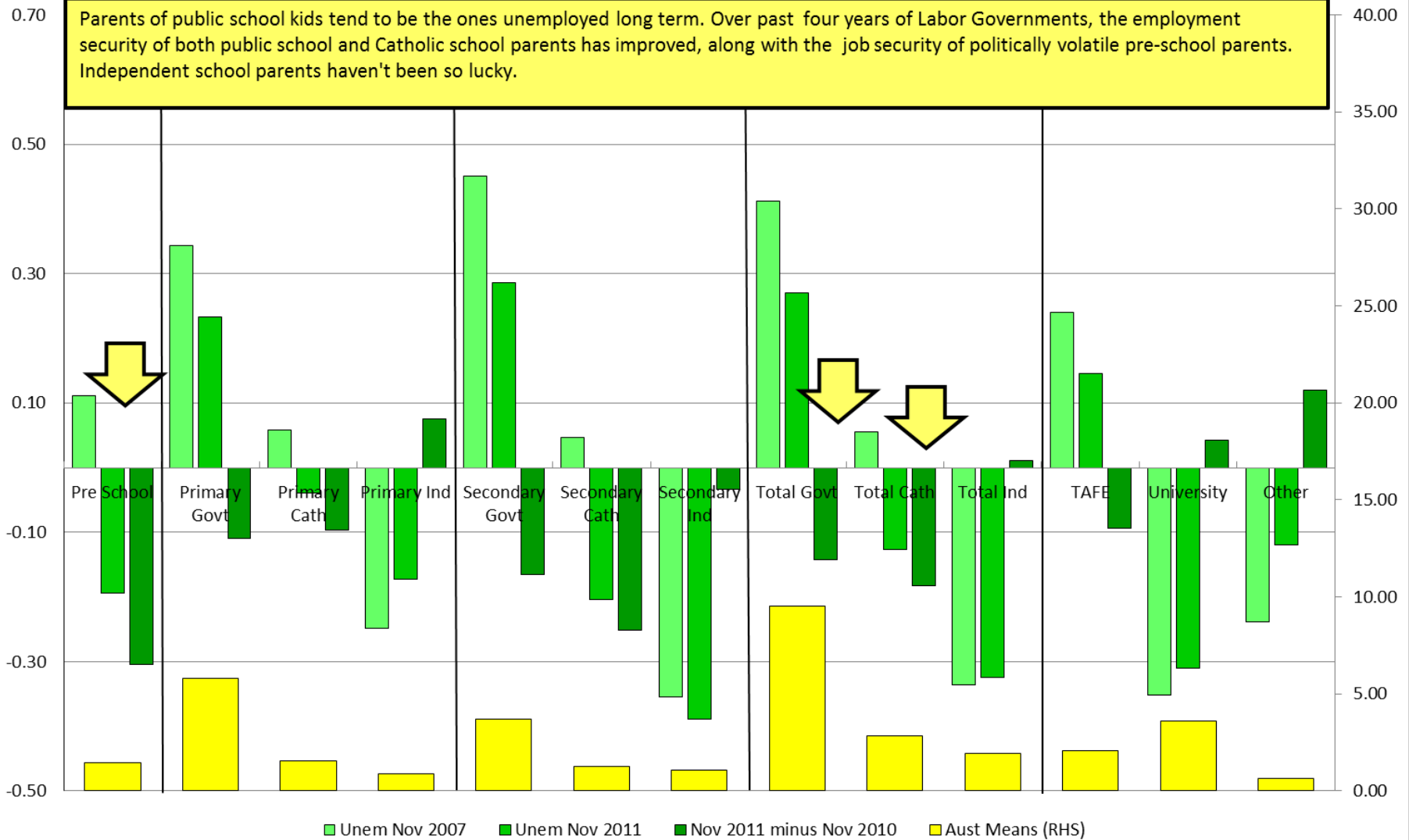
Unemployment Profiles Health female

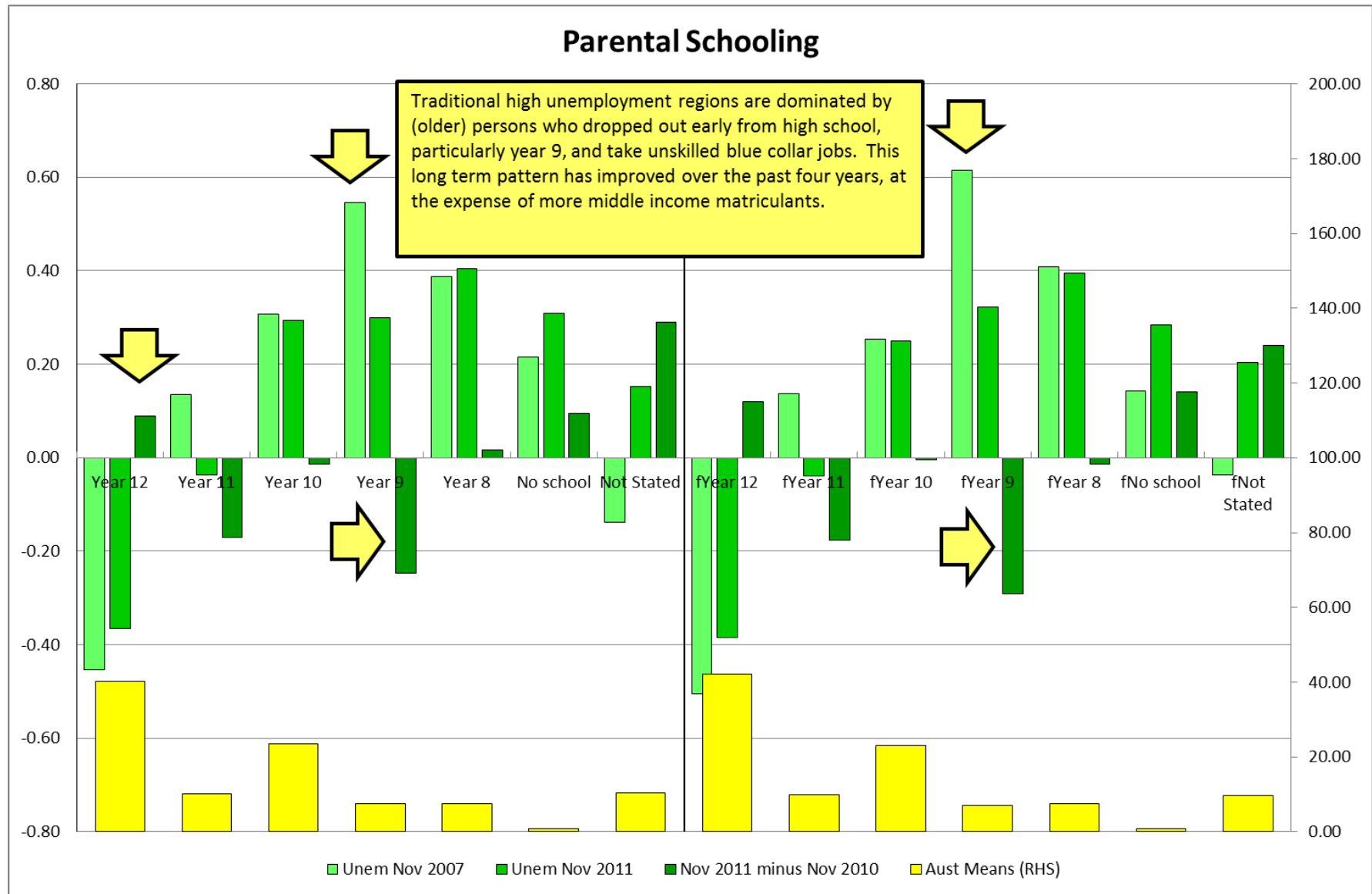


Admin, Education & Health Share of Jobs

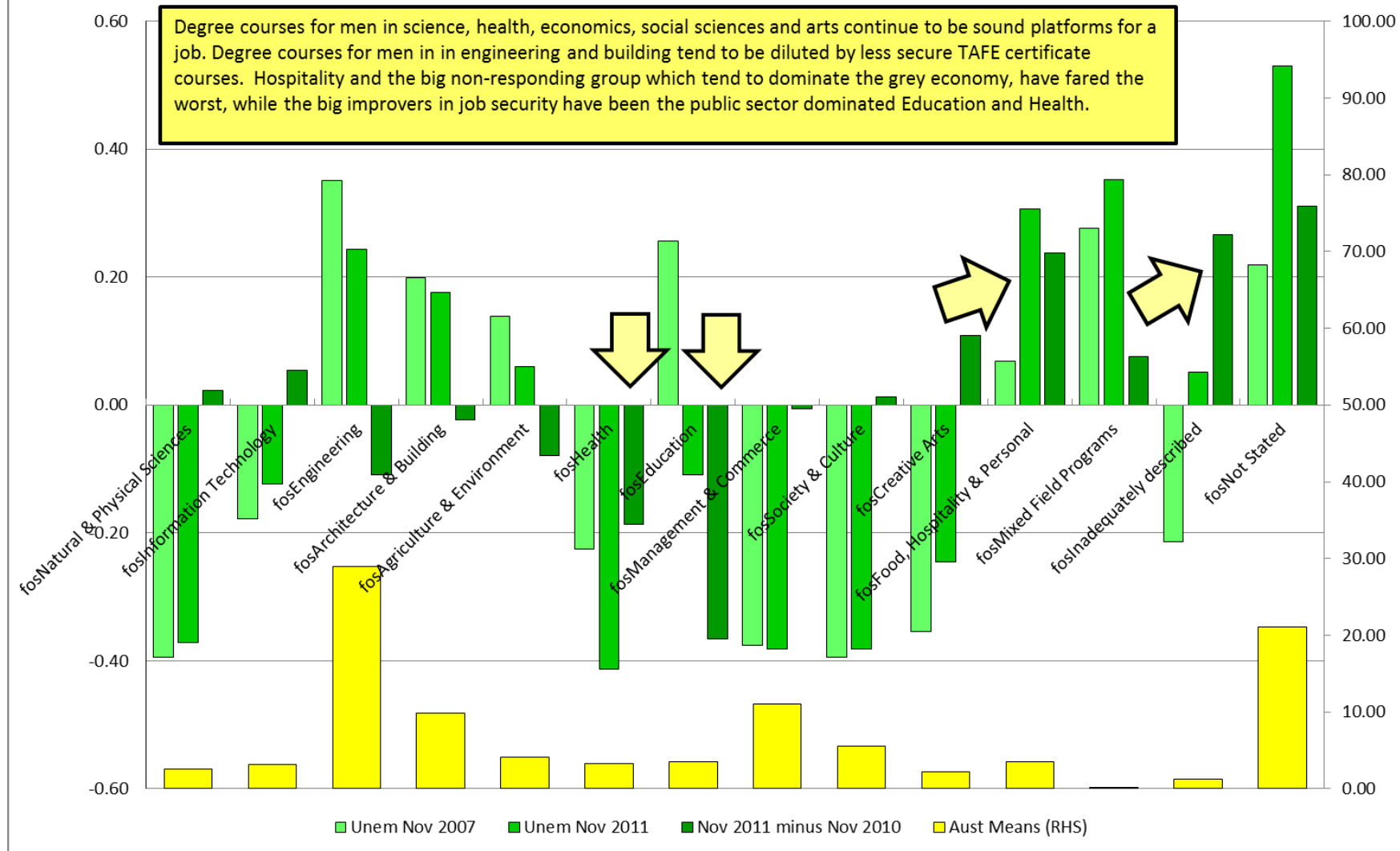


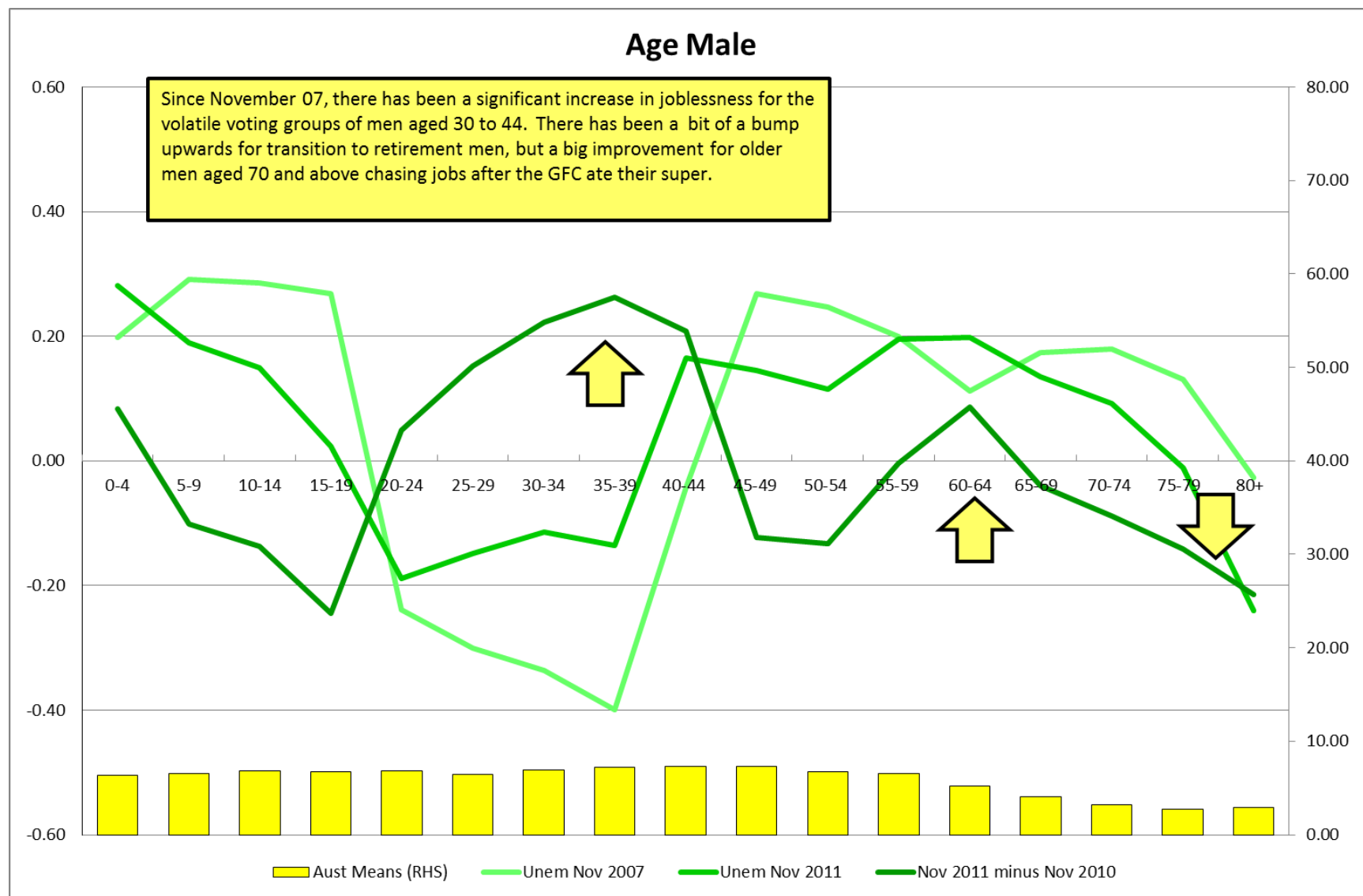
Current Schooling



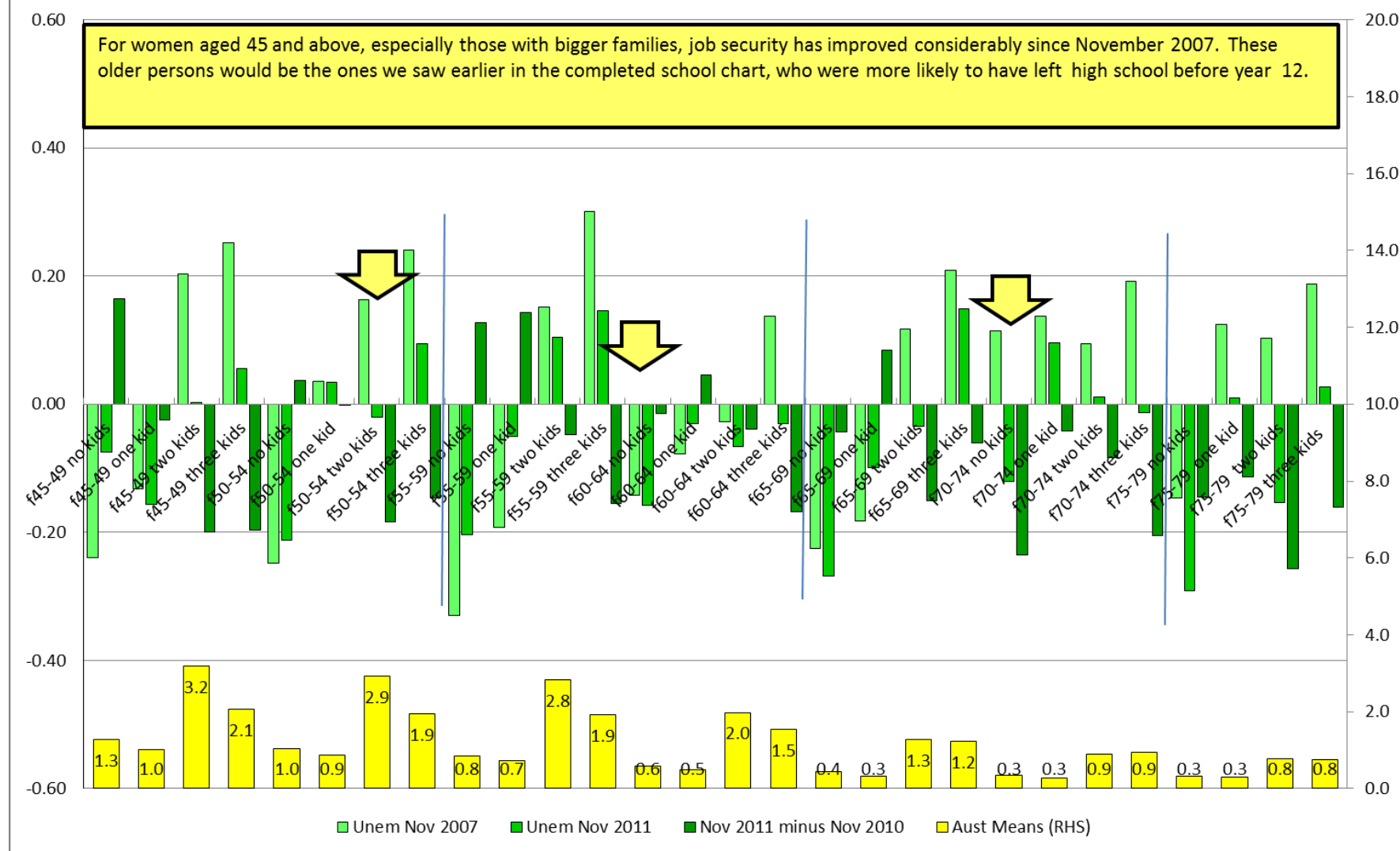


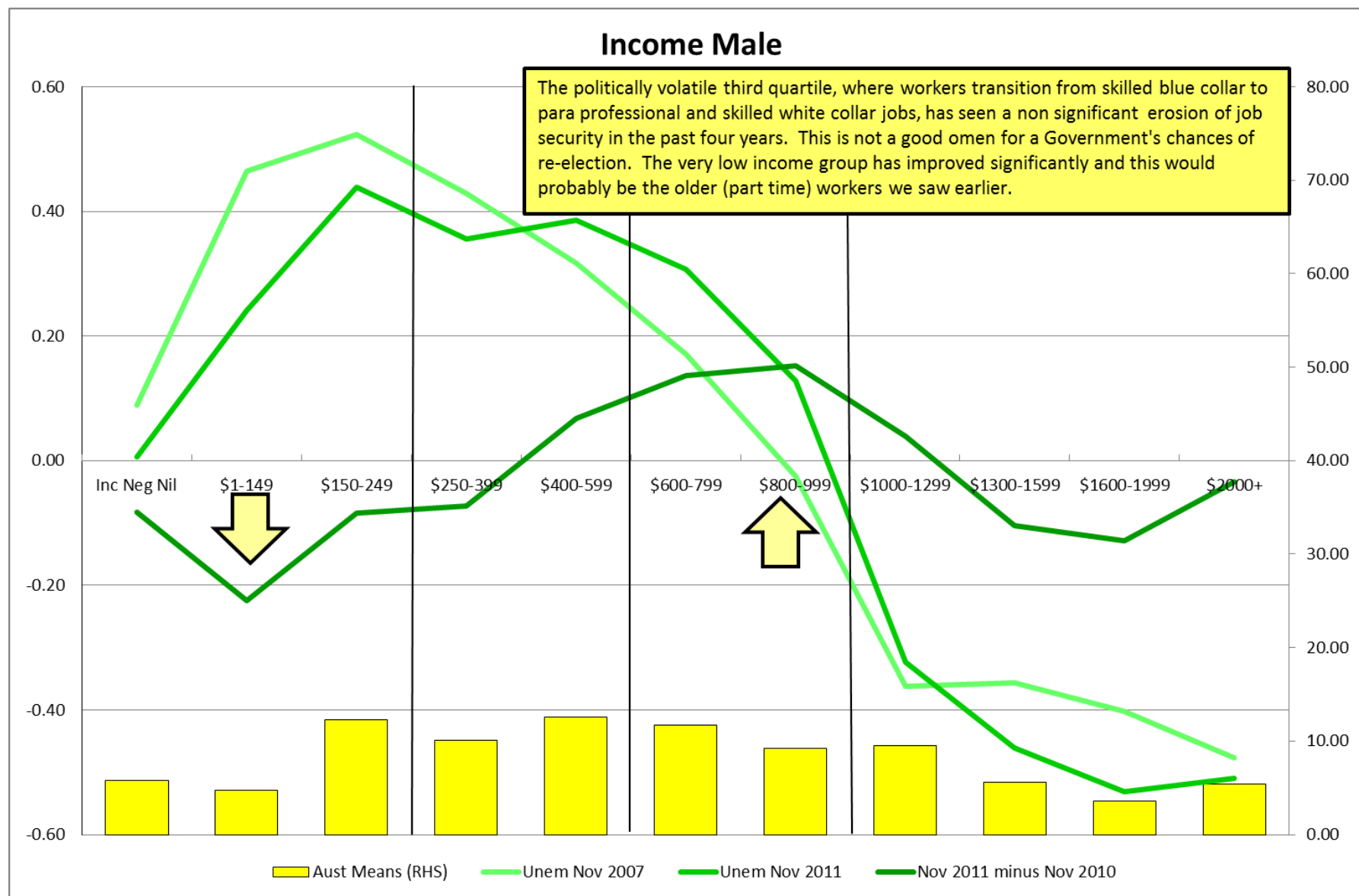
Field of Study Male



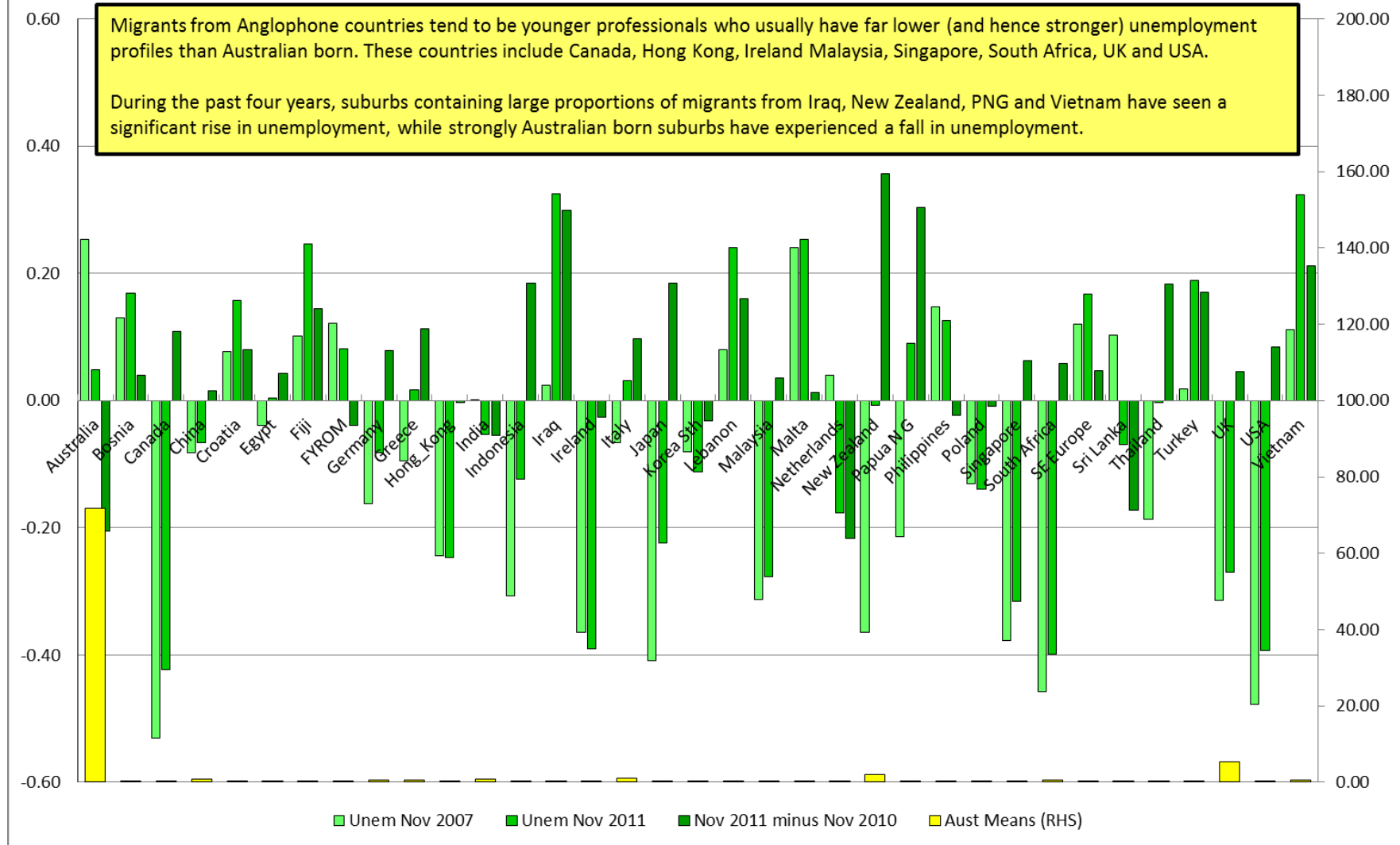


Older Mothers and Children

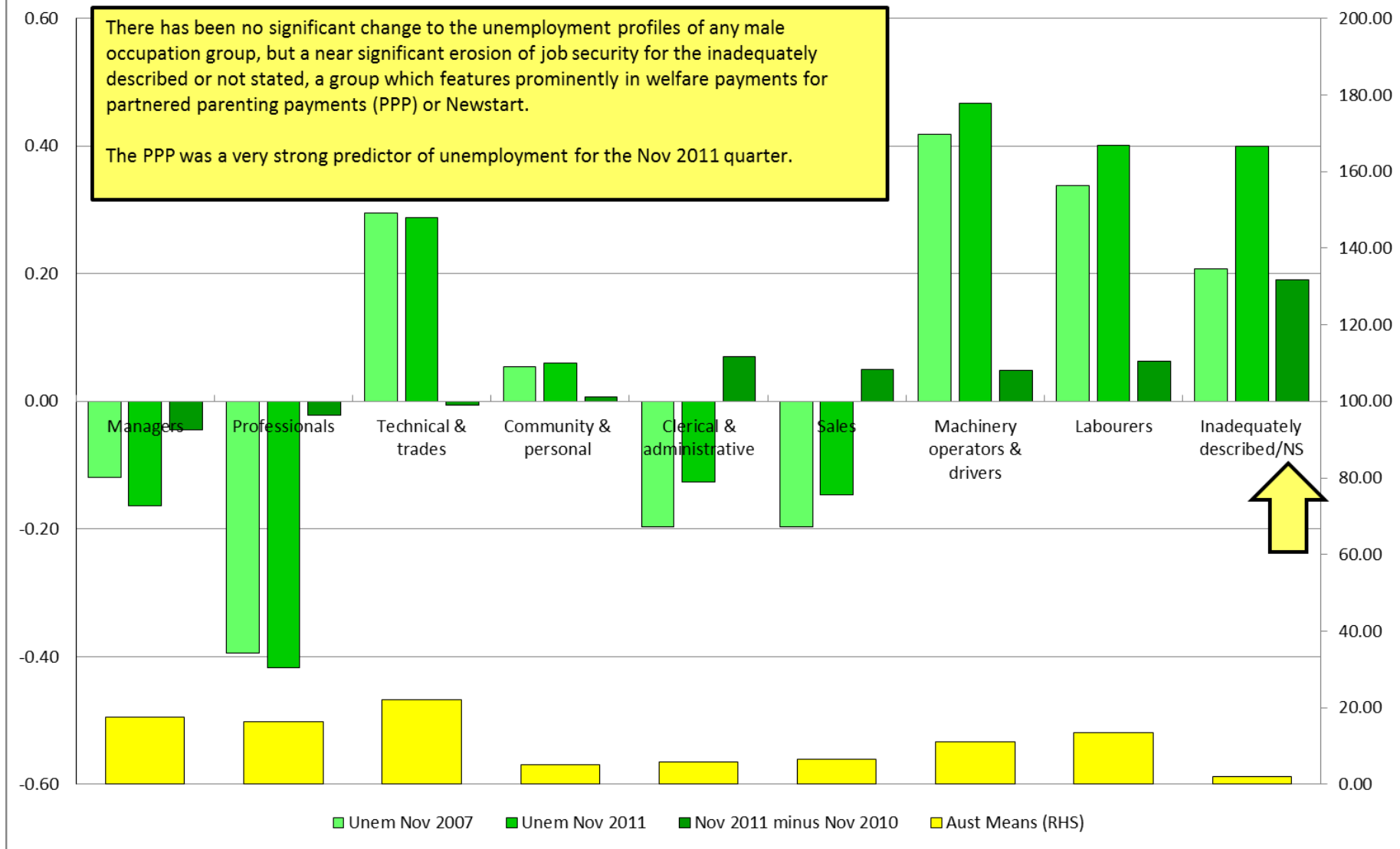




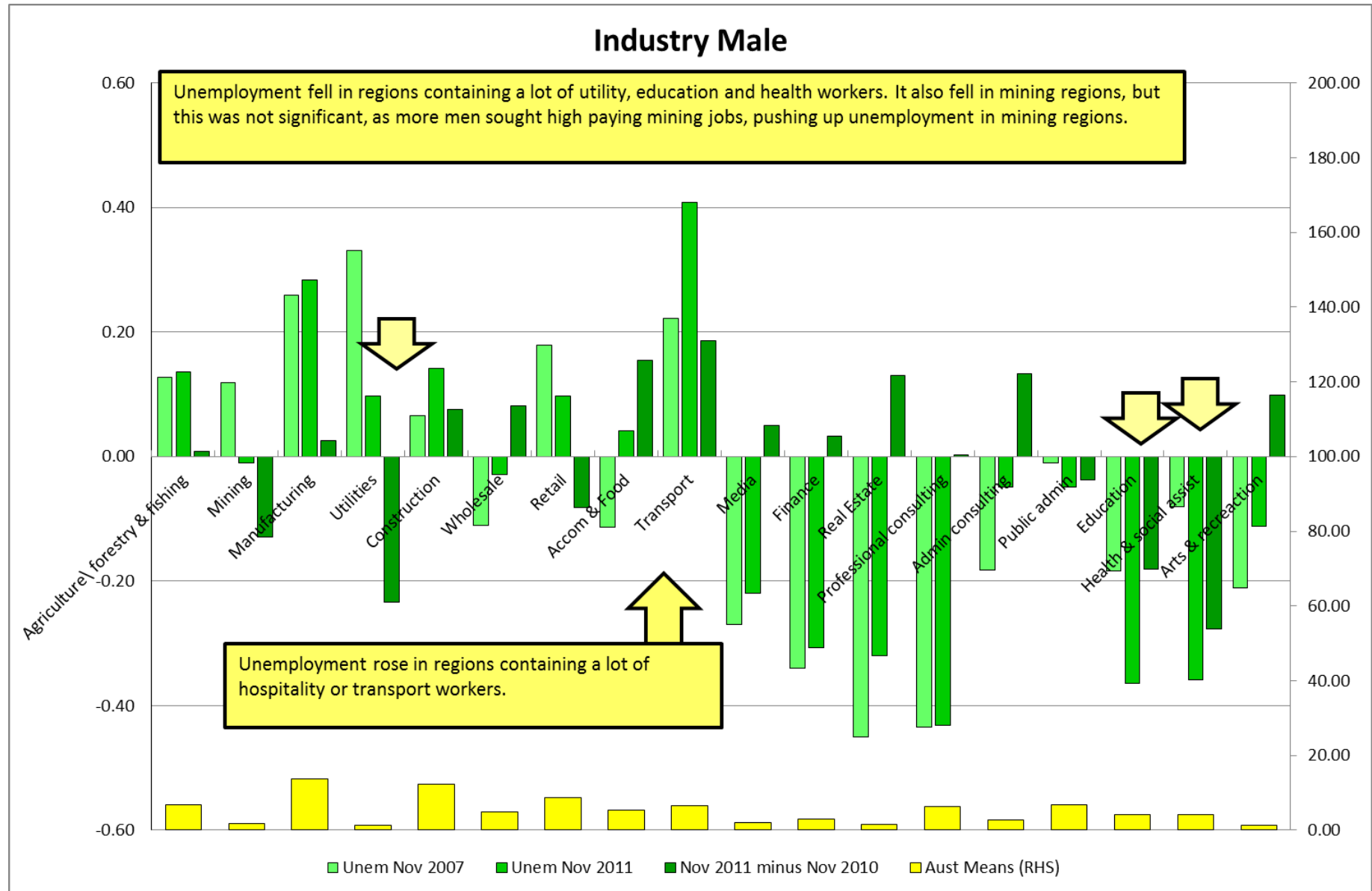
Birthplace Male



Occupation Male



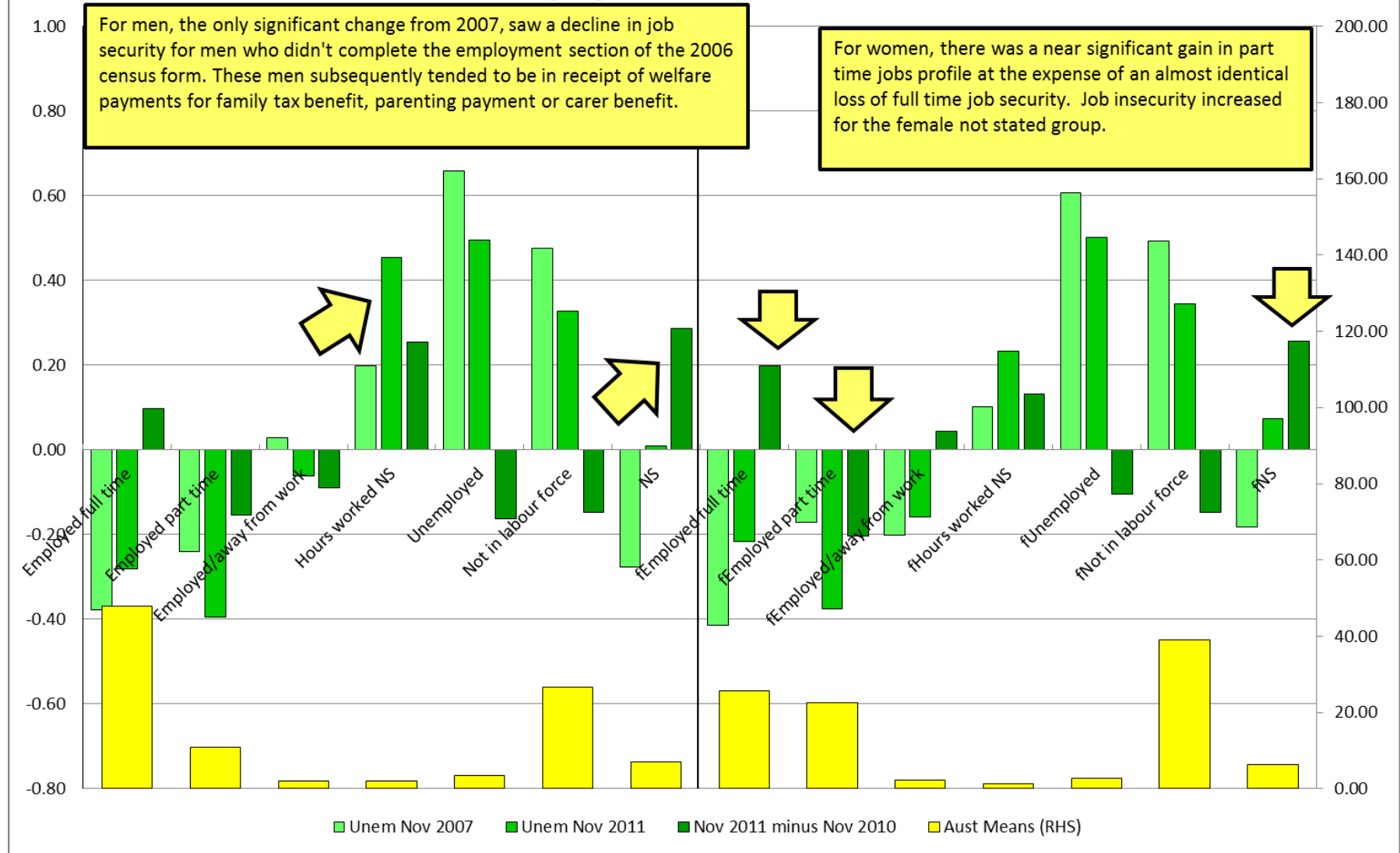
Industry Male



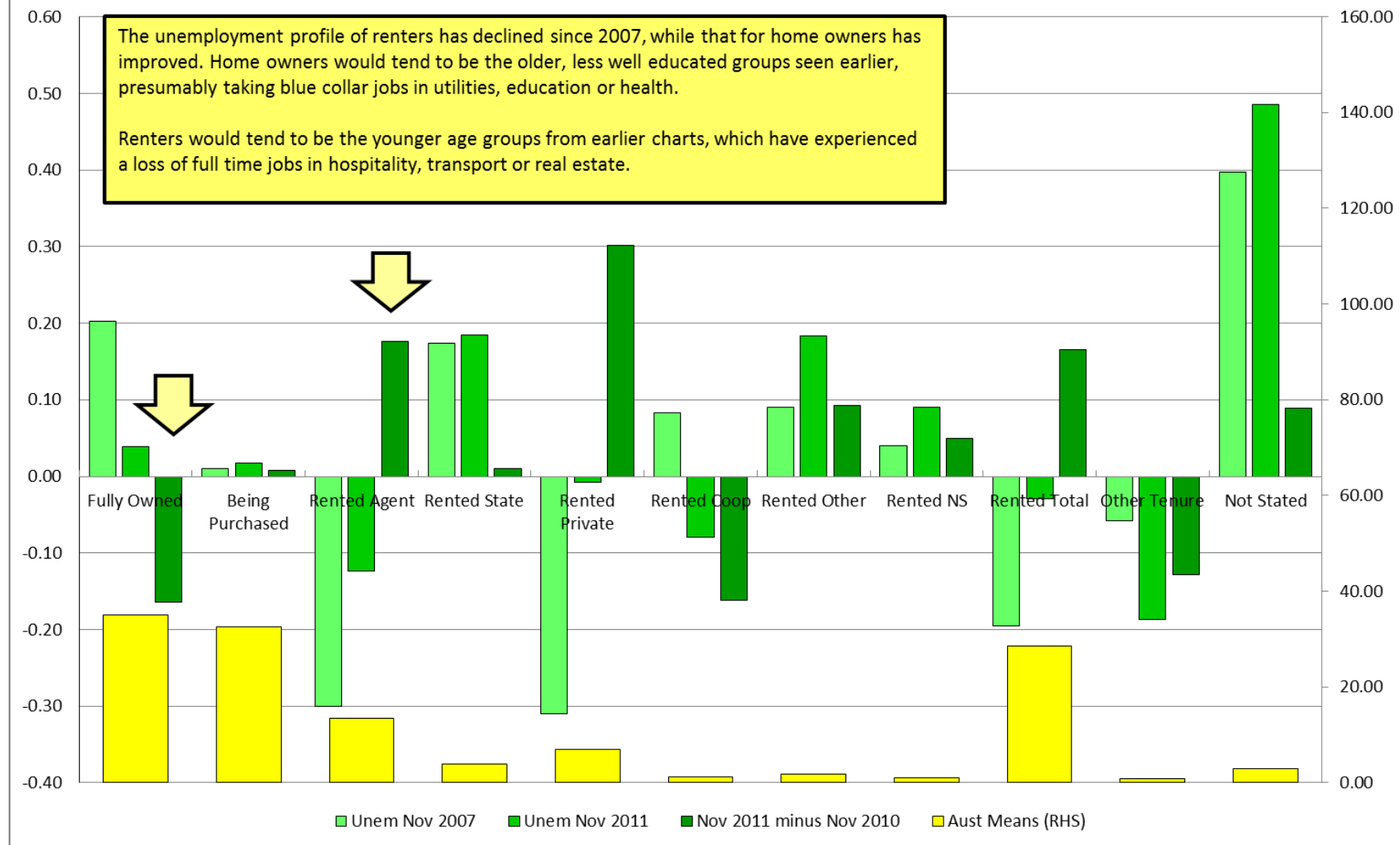
Industry Female



Employment Male & Female



Housing Tenure

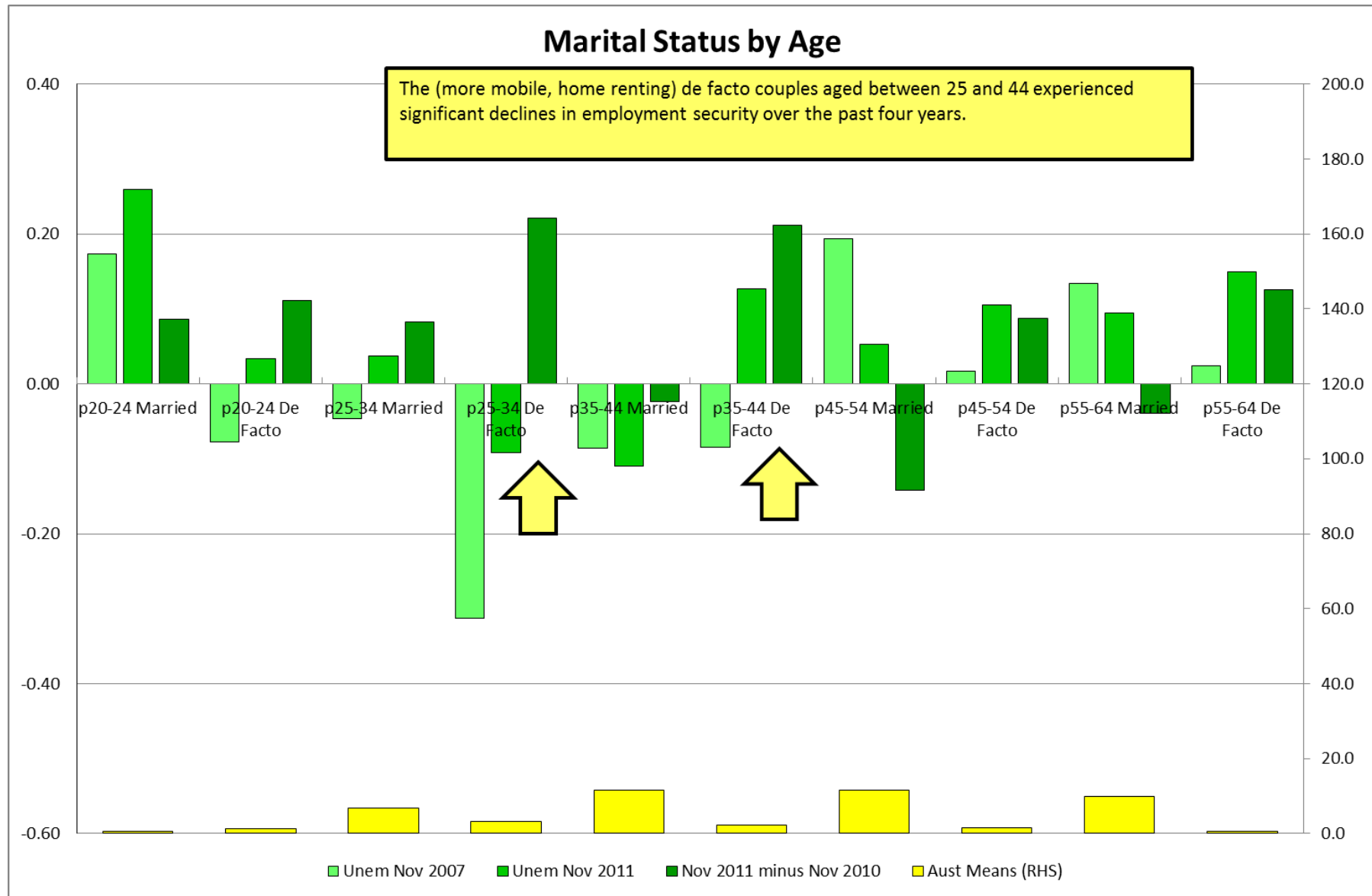


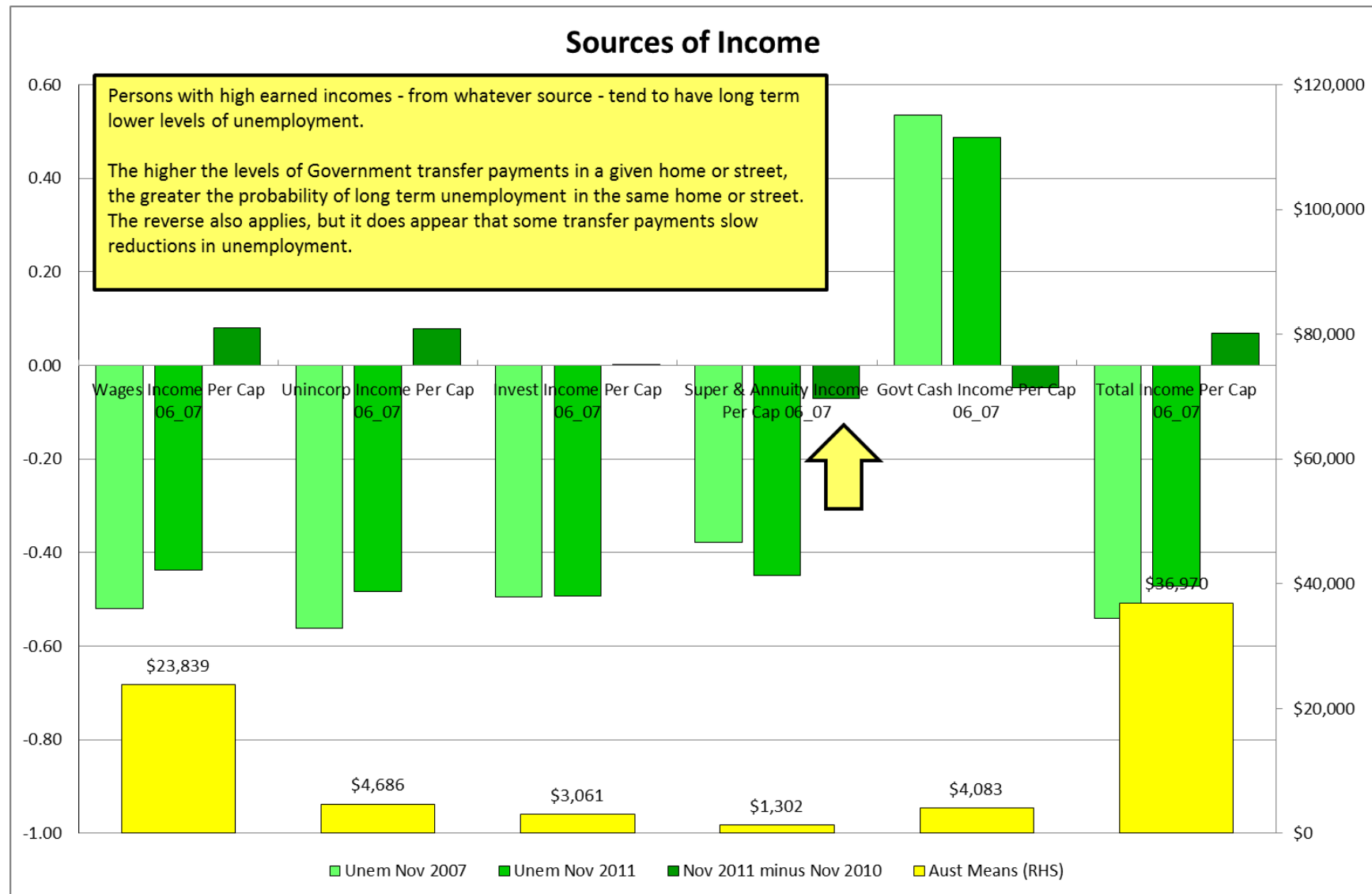
Family Budgets

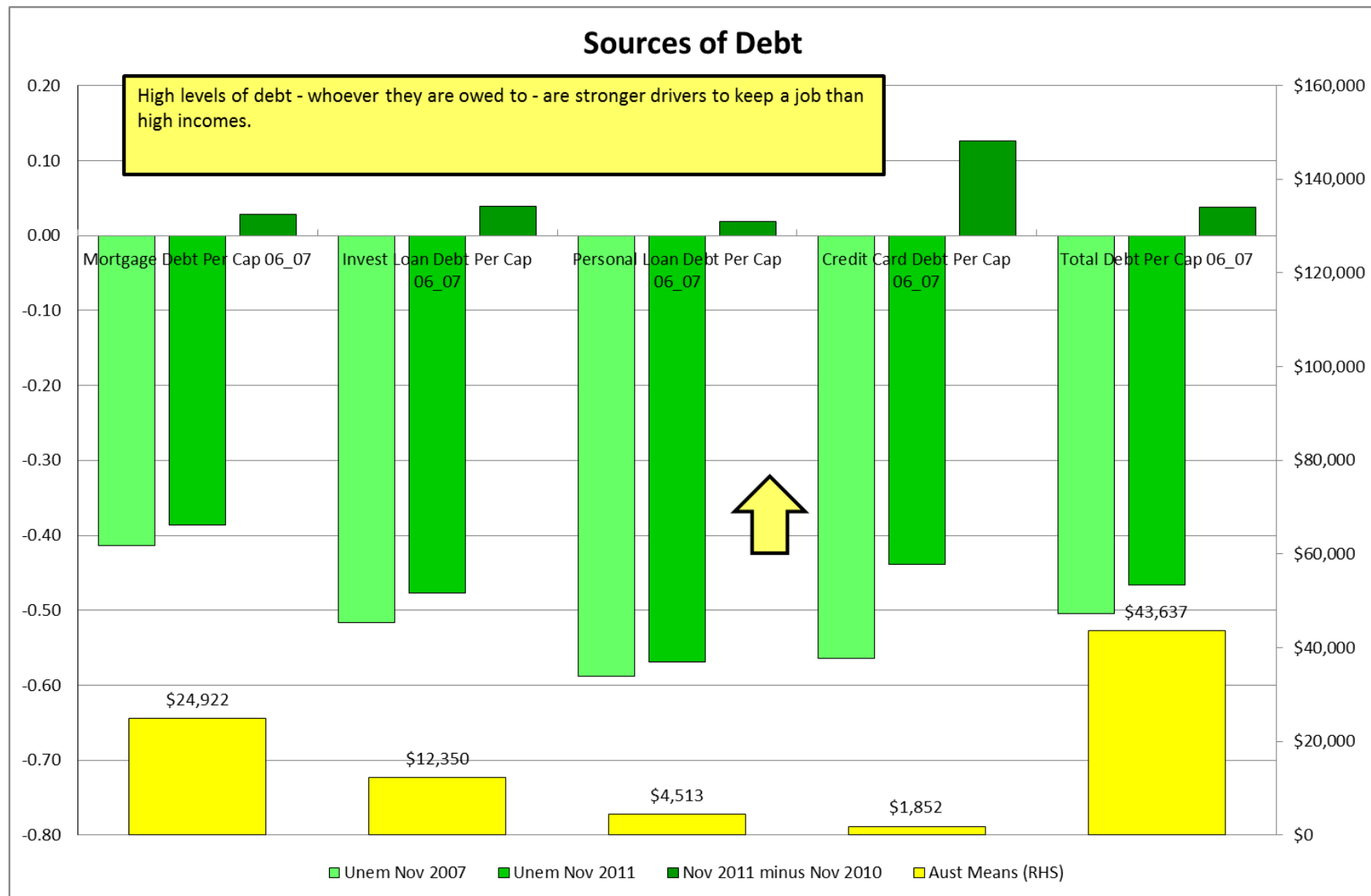
The higher the income and housing costs, the less chance of being unemployed. This was the position in 2007 and remained the case in 2011. High housing debts, as well as high incomes, tend to accompany low levels of unemployment.





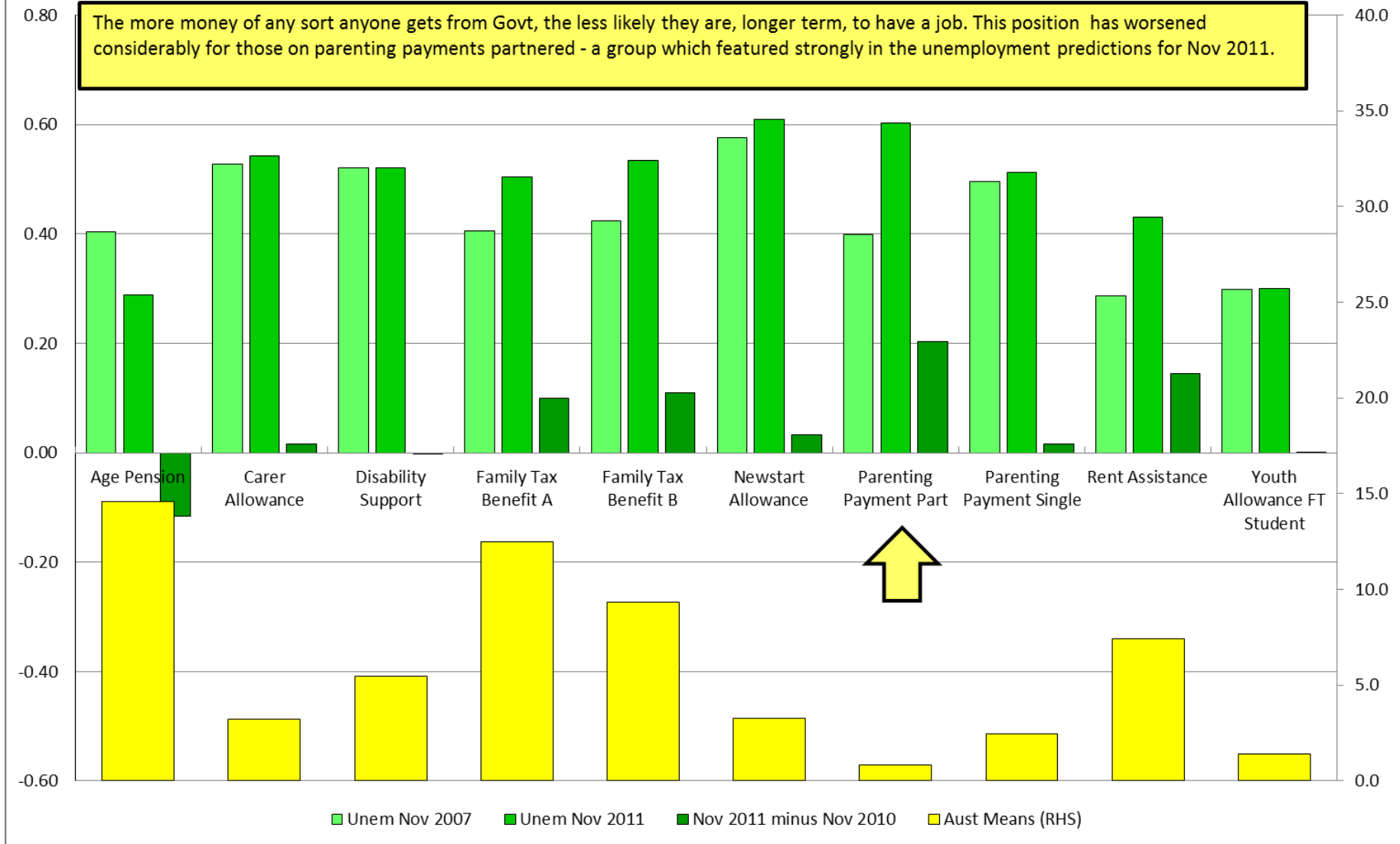






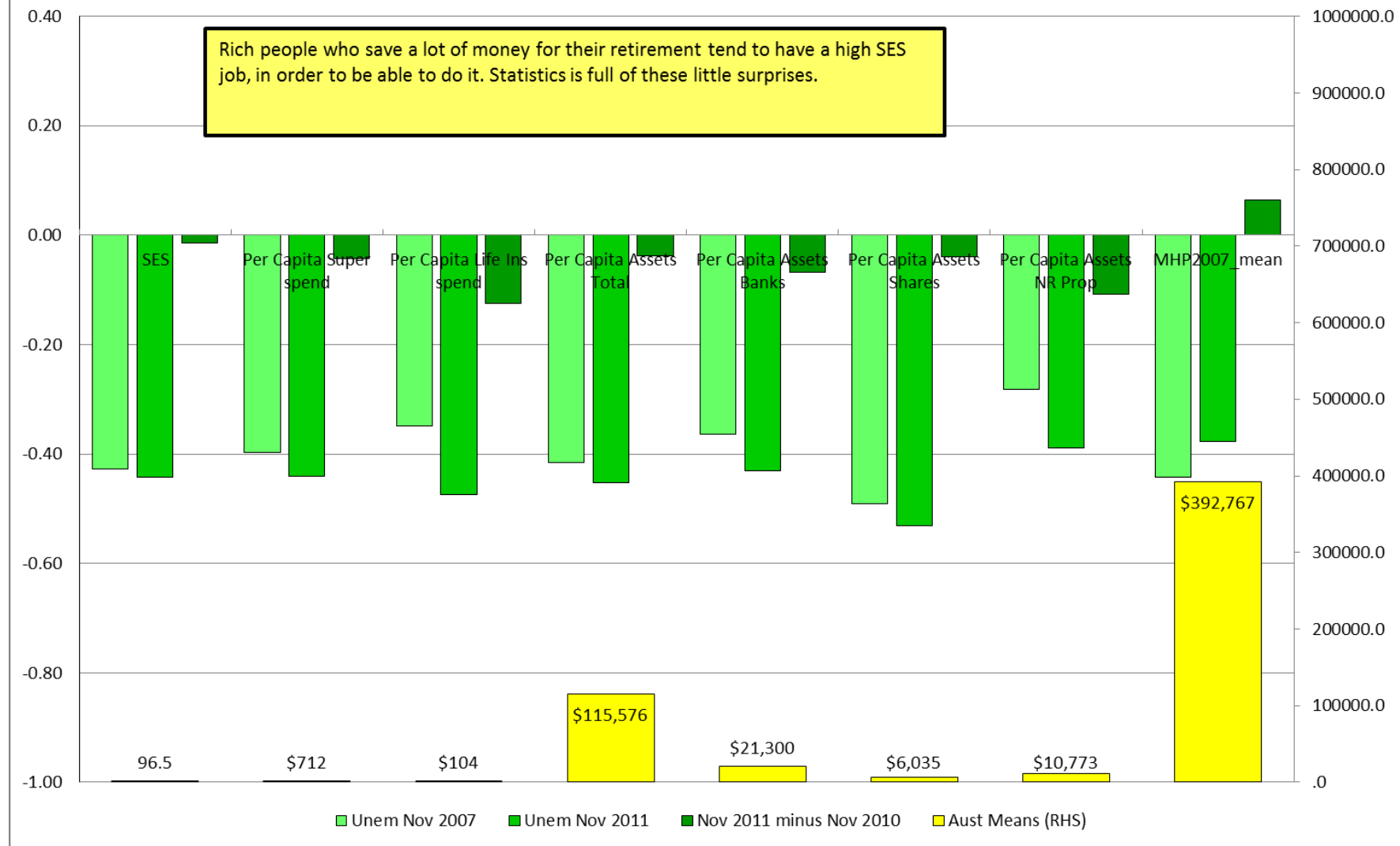
Transfer Payments

The more money of any sort anyone gets from Govt, the less likely they are, longer term, to have a job. This position has worsened considerably for those on parenting payments partnered - a group which featured strongly in the unemployment predictions for Nov 2011.



Selected Spend and Assets

Rich people who save a lot of money for their retirement tend to have a high SES job, in order to be able to do it. Statistics is full of these little surprises.



Political - Look at Moi!

