

Men die, women suffer?

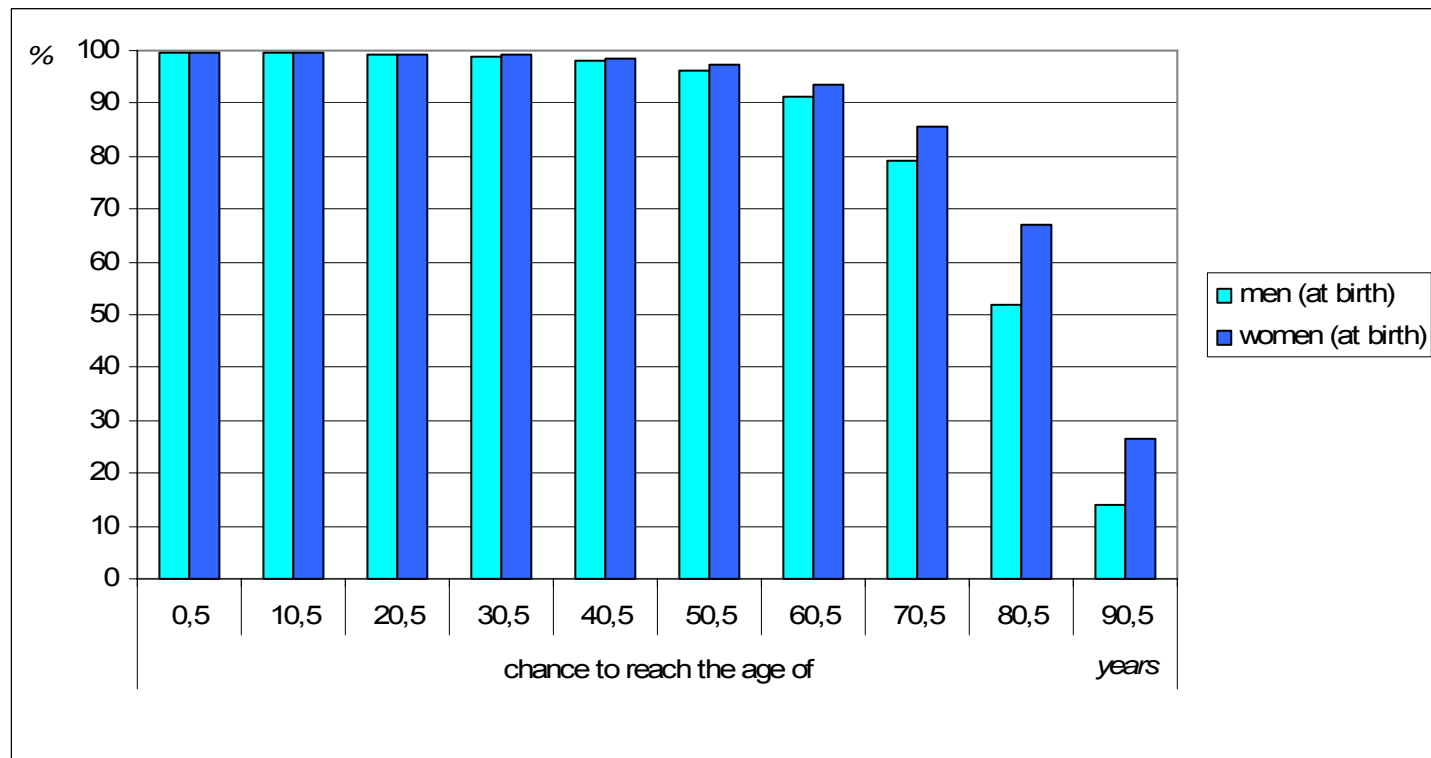
Gender differences in health expectancy

*REVES 2011,
Jan-Willem Bruggink,
Statistics Netherlands*

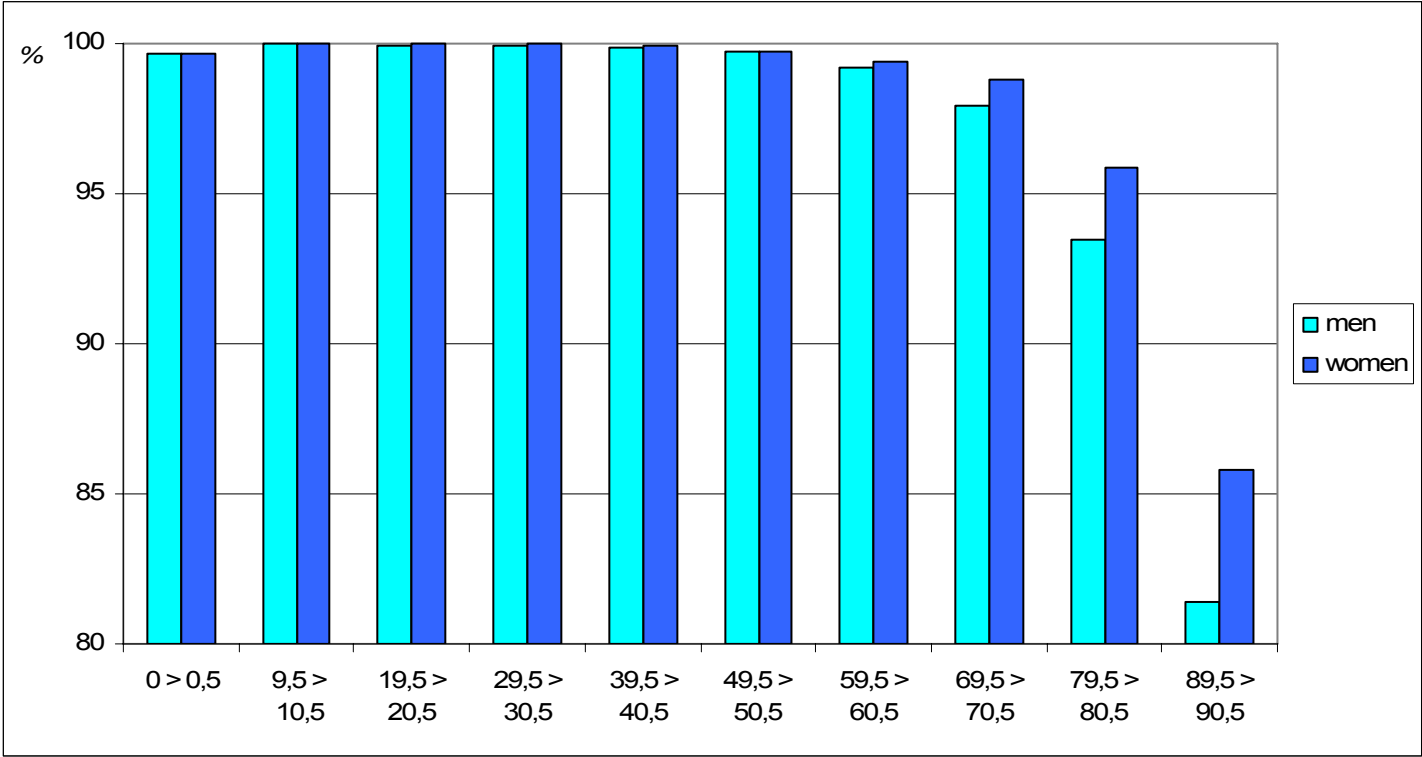
This presentation

- Differences between men and women
 - Gender differences in reaching old age
 - Gender differences in health...
 - ...and in health expectancies
 - The role of socio-economic status
 - In detail: chronic diseases
- Figures based on Dutch health survey and Dutch mortality statistics, Sullivan method

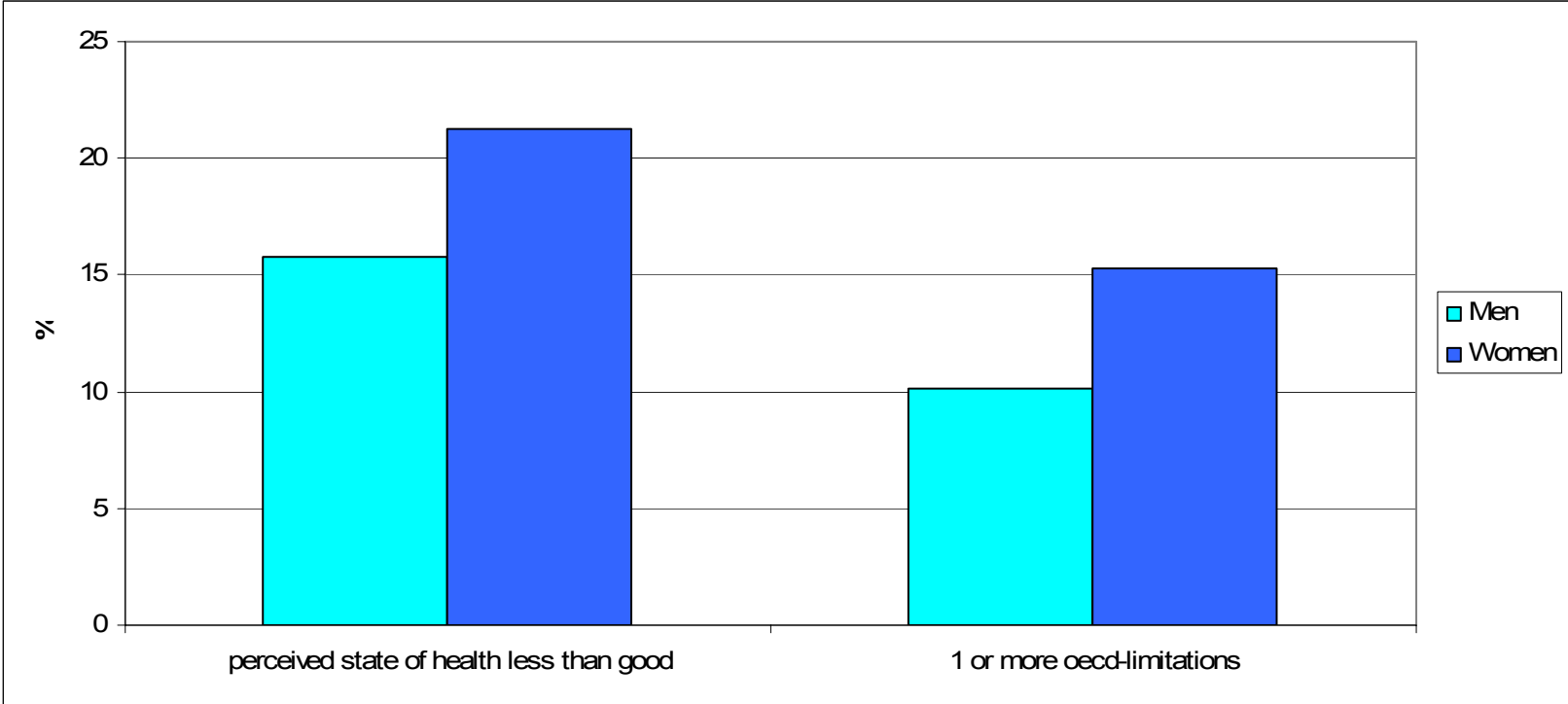
Women have a better chance to reach old age...



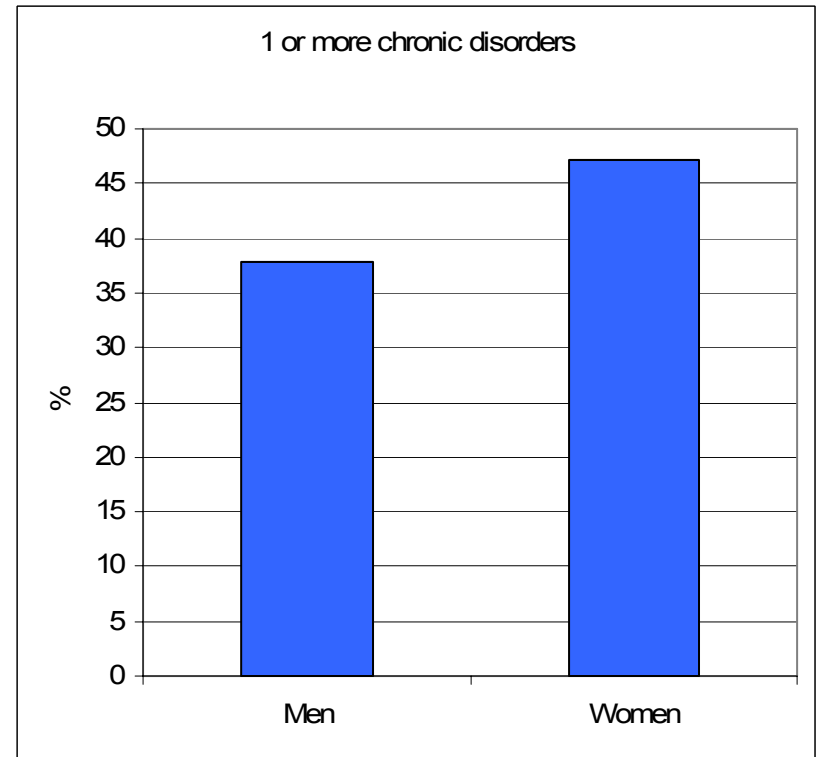
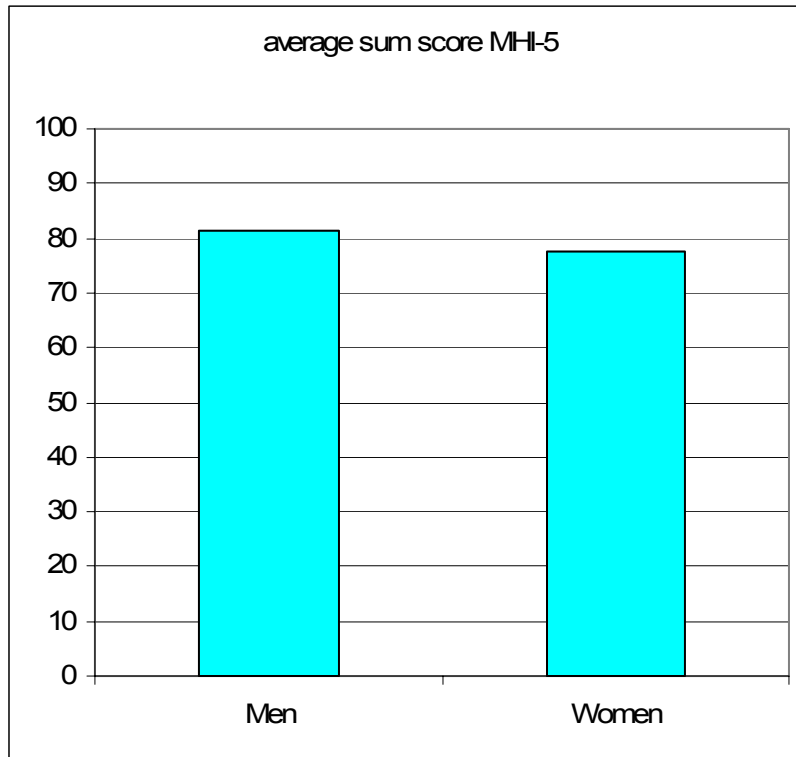
...and a bigger change to survive the following year



But women do have more health problems (2009)

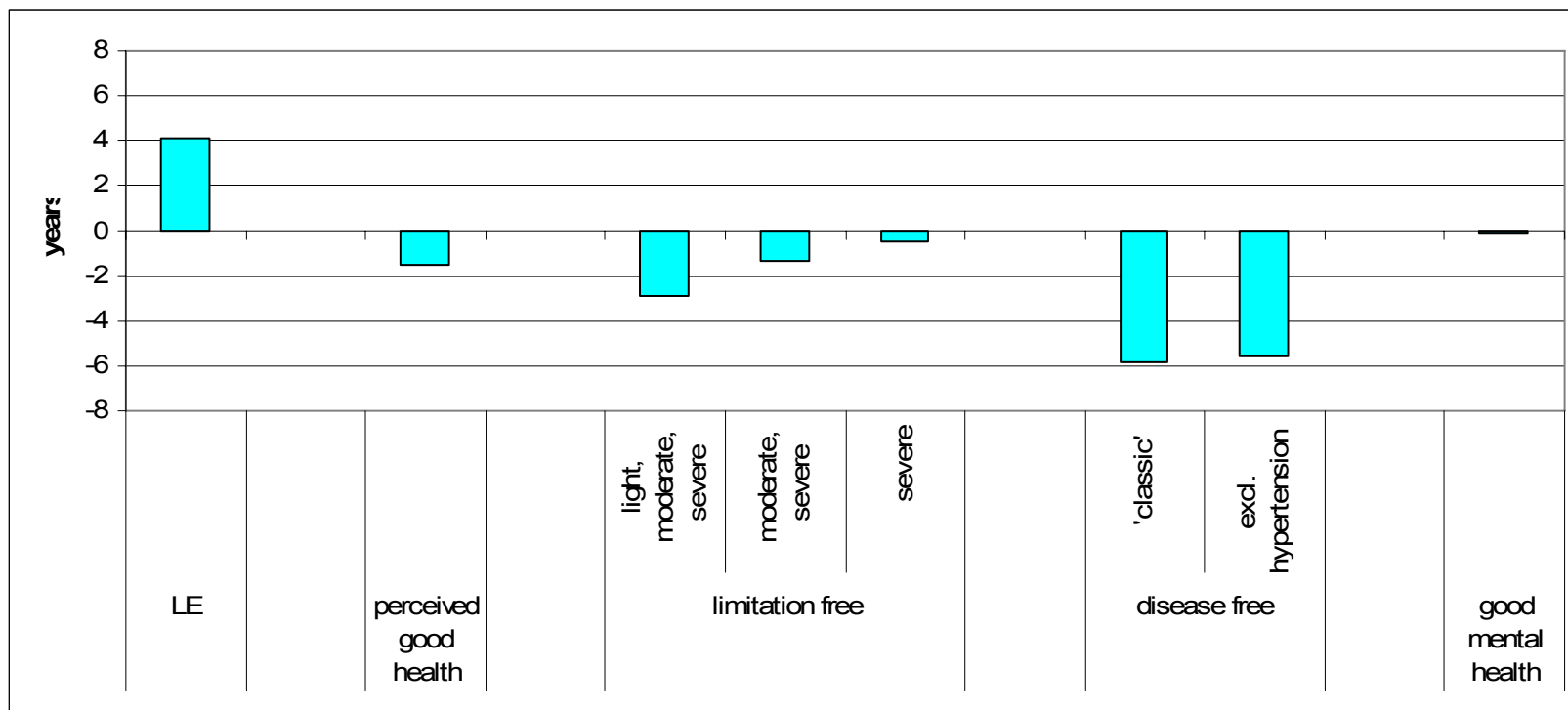


Health problems, continued (2009)



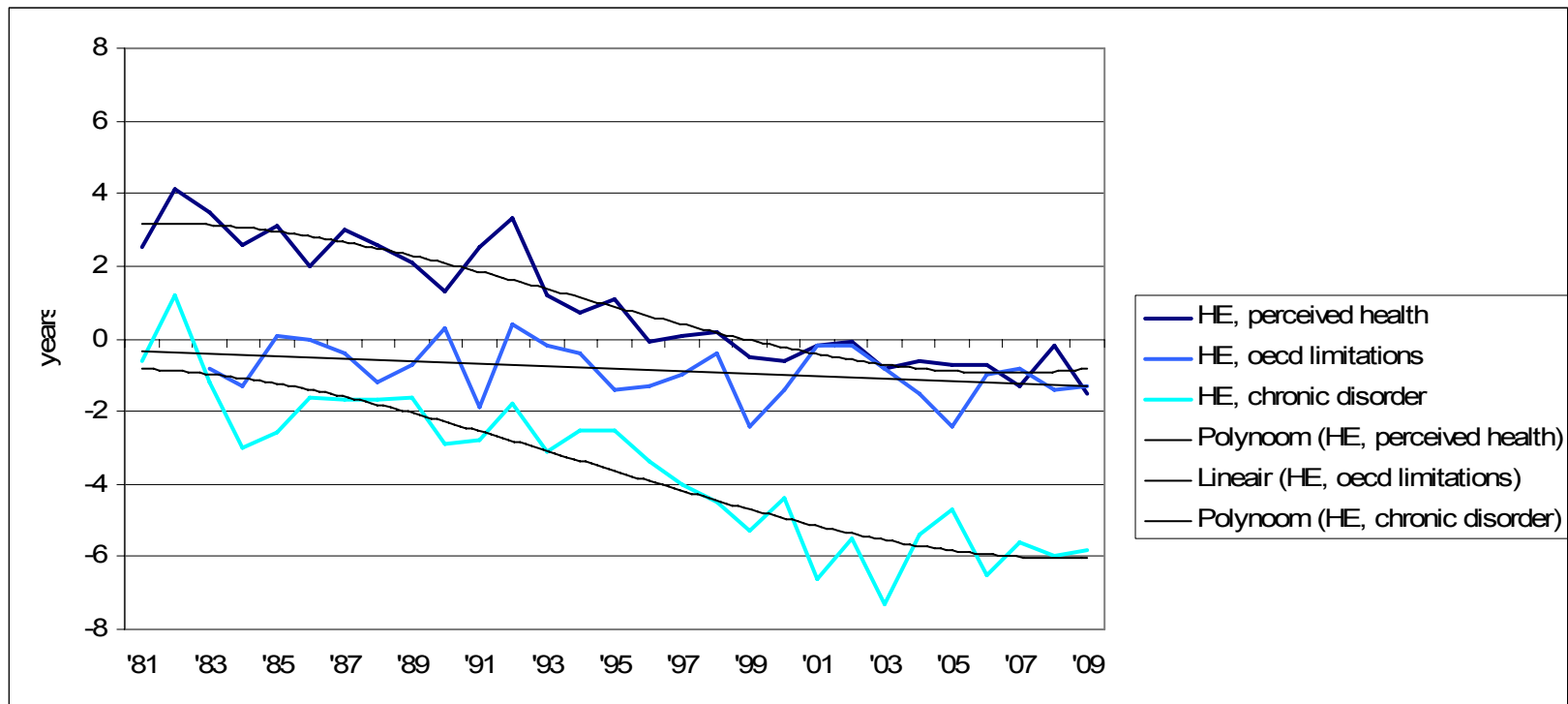
So their HE's are lower, while their LE is higher

The figure shows expectancy differences in years between males and females, 2009



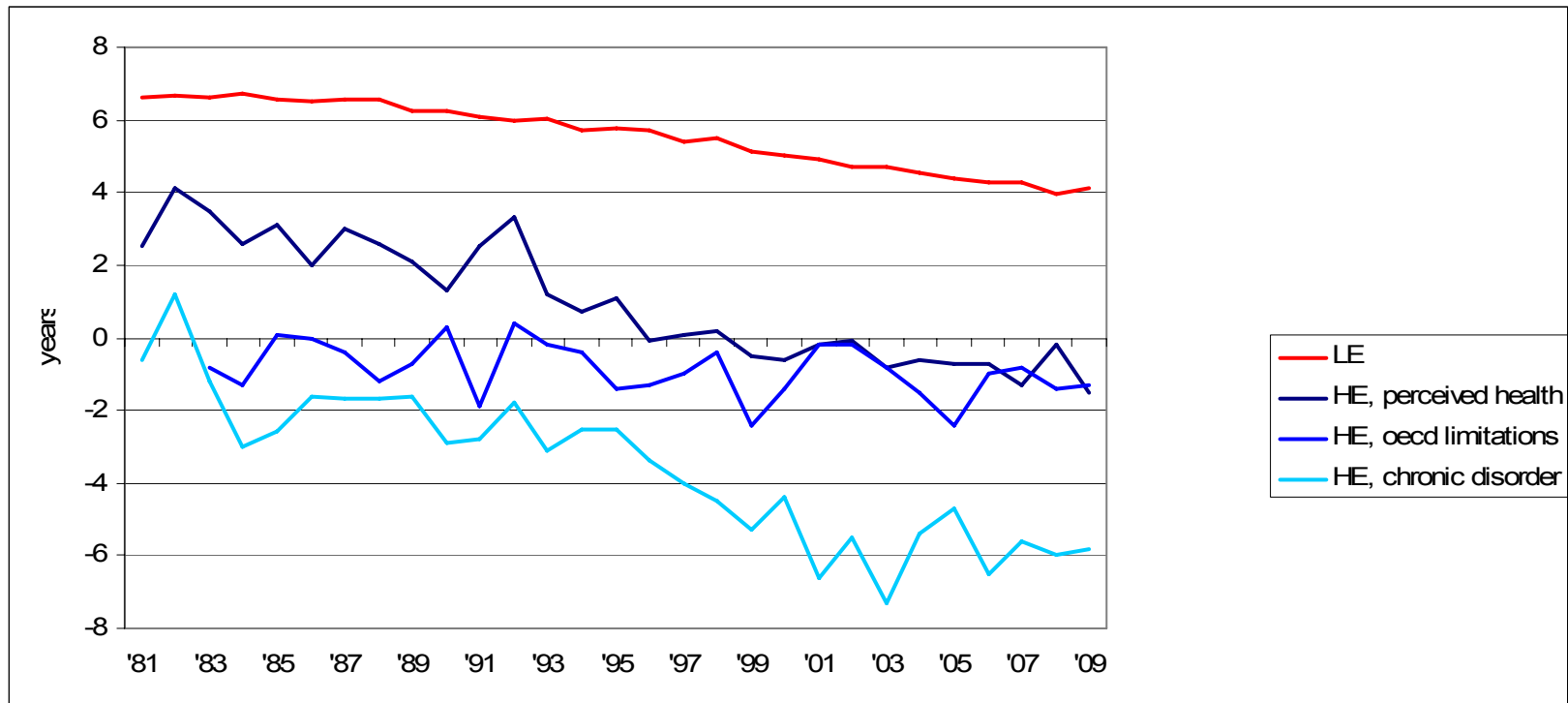
This has not always been the case

again: the figure shows differences between men and women



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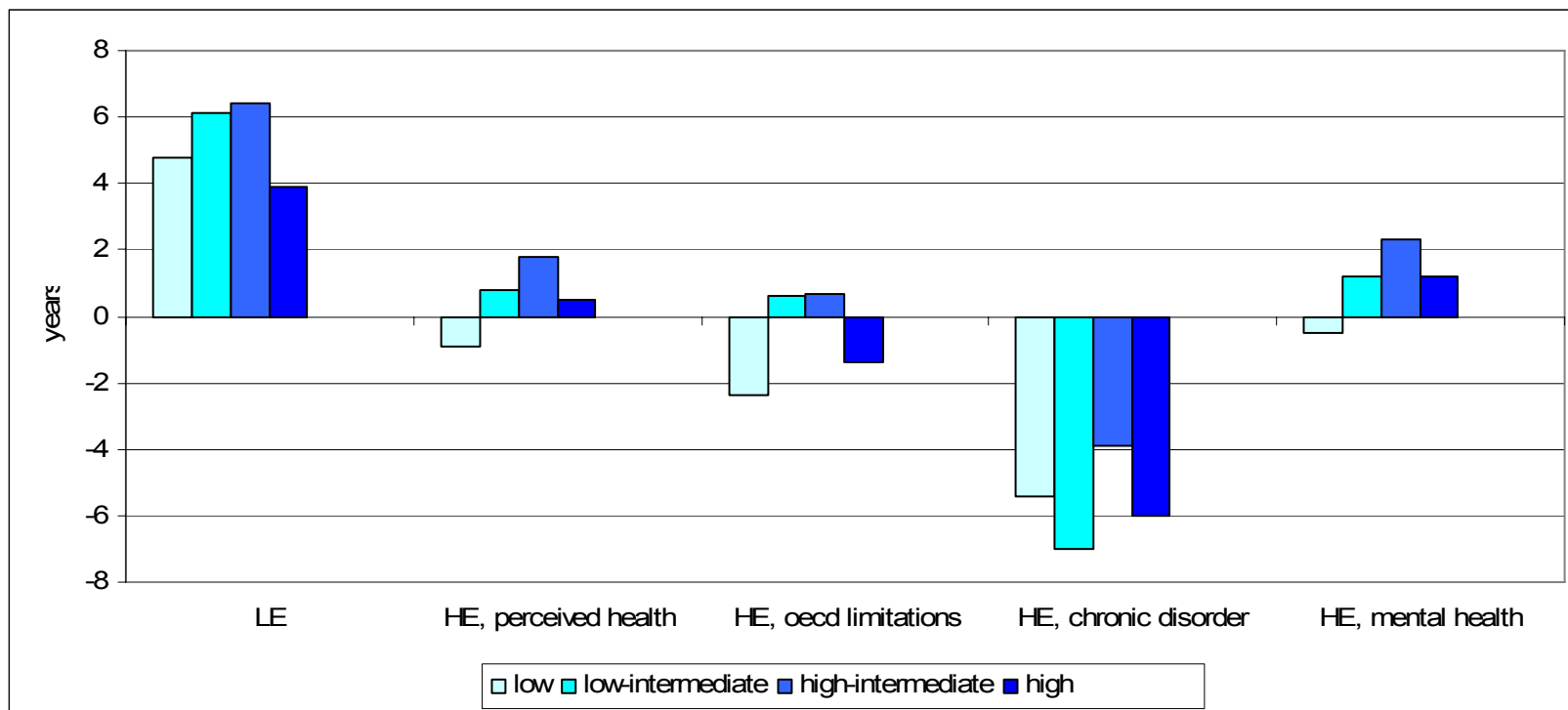


The role of socio-economic status

- Gender is not the only aspect that makes a difference in LE and HE
- SES has an impact as well (in fact: differences between groups with high and low ses are much bigger than gender differences)
- Education level is an individual ses indicator
- Better to compare low-educated women with low-educated men and high-educated women with high-educated men instead of just comparing women and men?

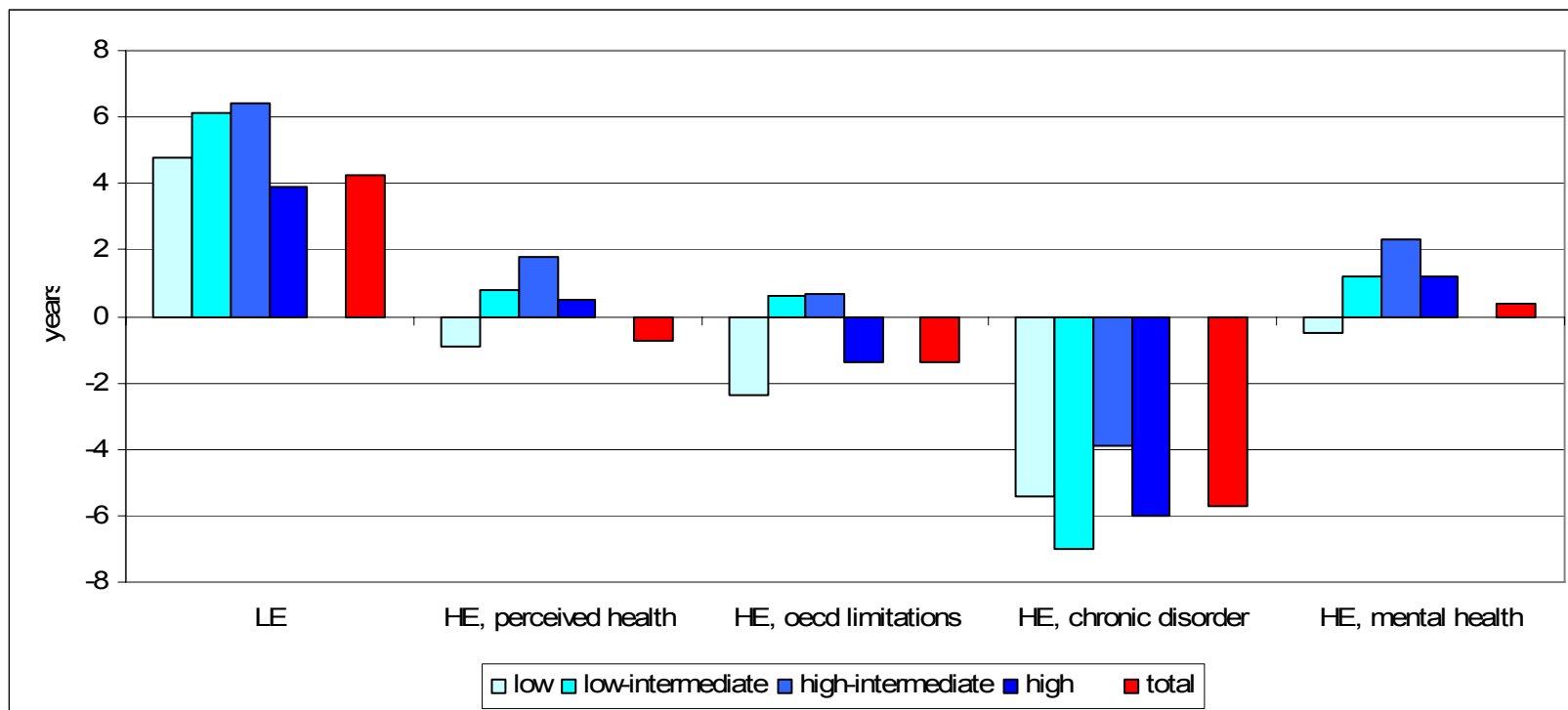
Gender differences by education level

Lower educated women compared to lower educated men etc.
The figures shows data of 2005/2008

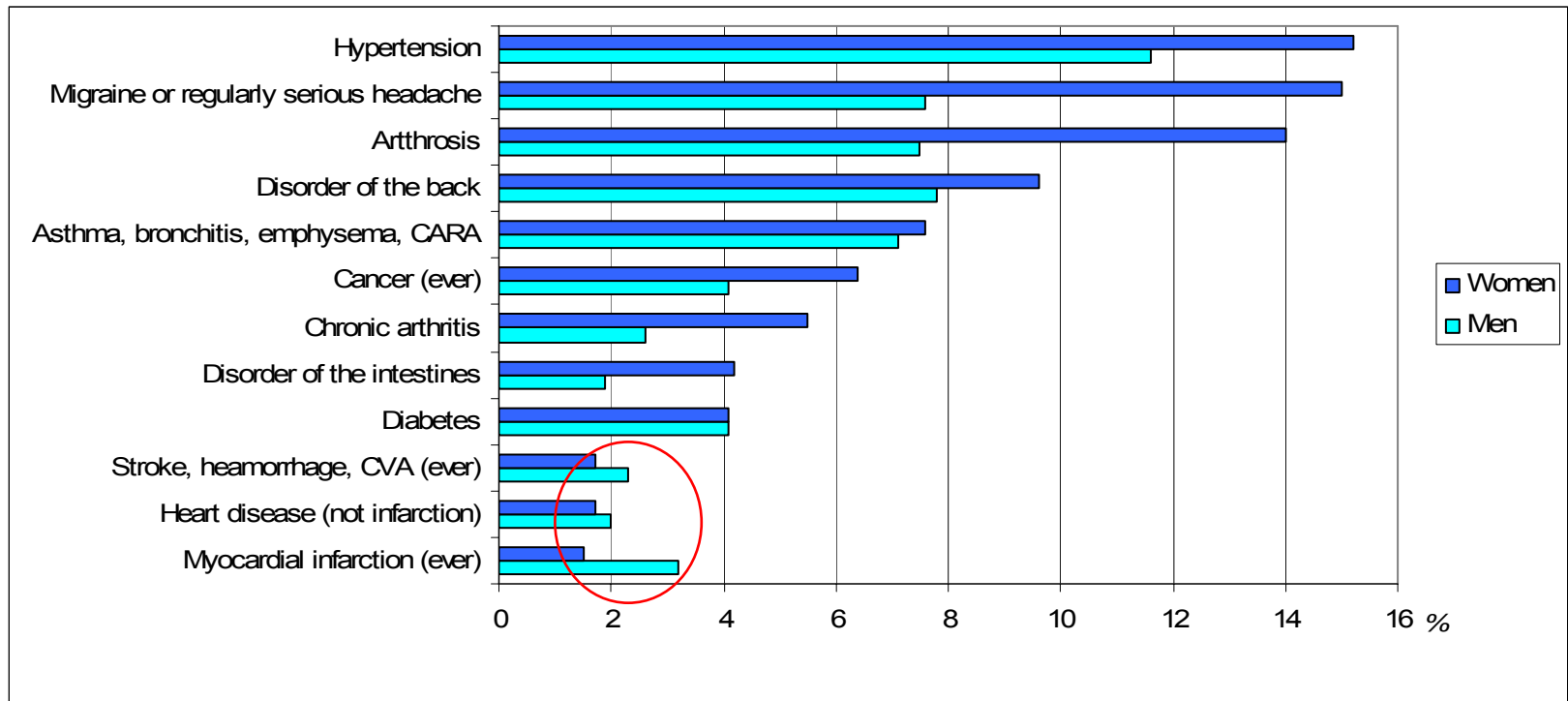


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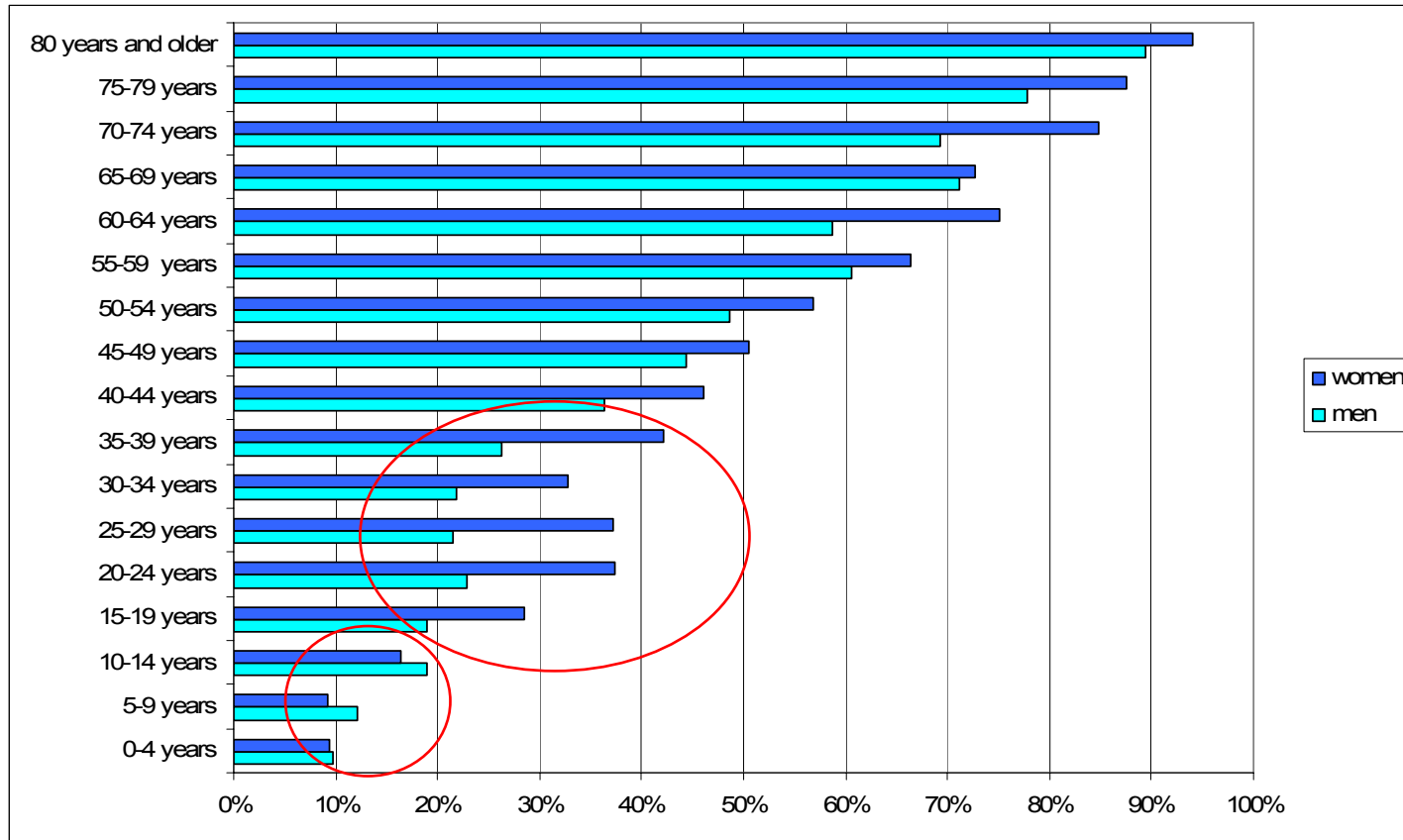


Chronic diseases (2009): women's weak point?

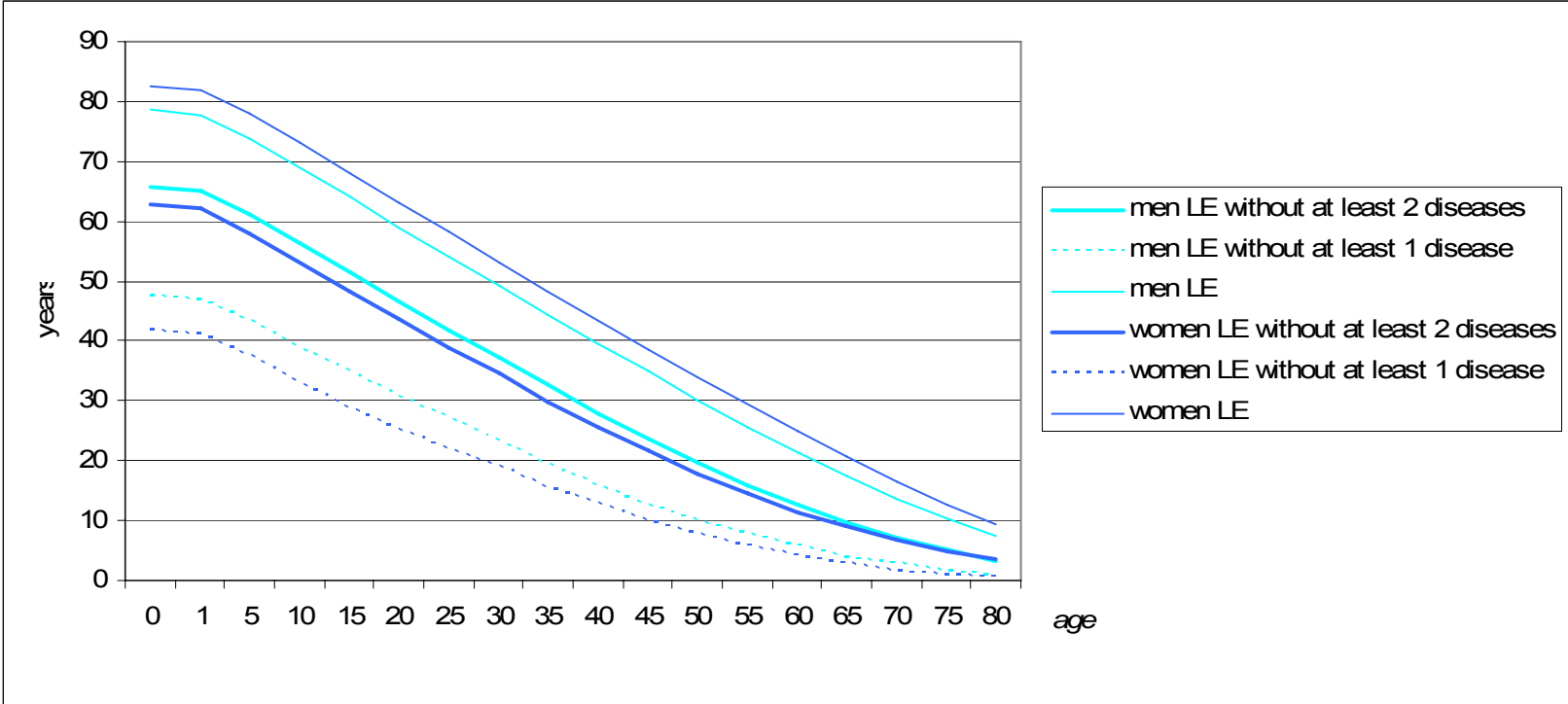


Higher prevalences from early adulthood onwards

In the figure: prevalence of having at least 1 disease, by age



LE without multimorbidity (2009)



Findings

- Women do suffer more from bad health, while men die earlier
- Only a small part of the difference can be explained by differences in education level
- Younger generations: females higher educated than men → will this (*ceteris paribus*) lead to somewhat smaller differences in HE in the future?
- Chronic diseases make the difference
- More chronic disease are reported among females from early adulthood onwards: relations to limitations and perceived (mental) health?
- Also more multimorbidity among women
- Should we conclude that gender differences are not mainly a social issue?

QUESTIONS?