



Australian Government
Department of Employment
and Workplace Relations

Workforce Australia Select Committee Inquiry: Caseload presentation

3 November 2022

These slides were used to accompany evidence provided by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) at the Committee's public hearing on 3 November 2022.

The slides should be read with the evidence provided by DEWR at the hearing. A recording of the hearing and a transcript of the evidence provided by DEWR are available at the links below.

Recording: <https://parlview.aph.gov.au/mediaPlayer.php?videoID=594812>

Transcript: <https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22committees%2Fcommrep%2F26293%2F0000%22;src1=sm1>

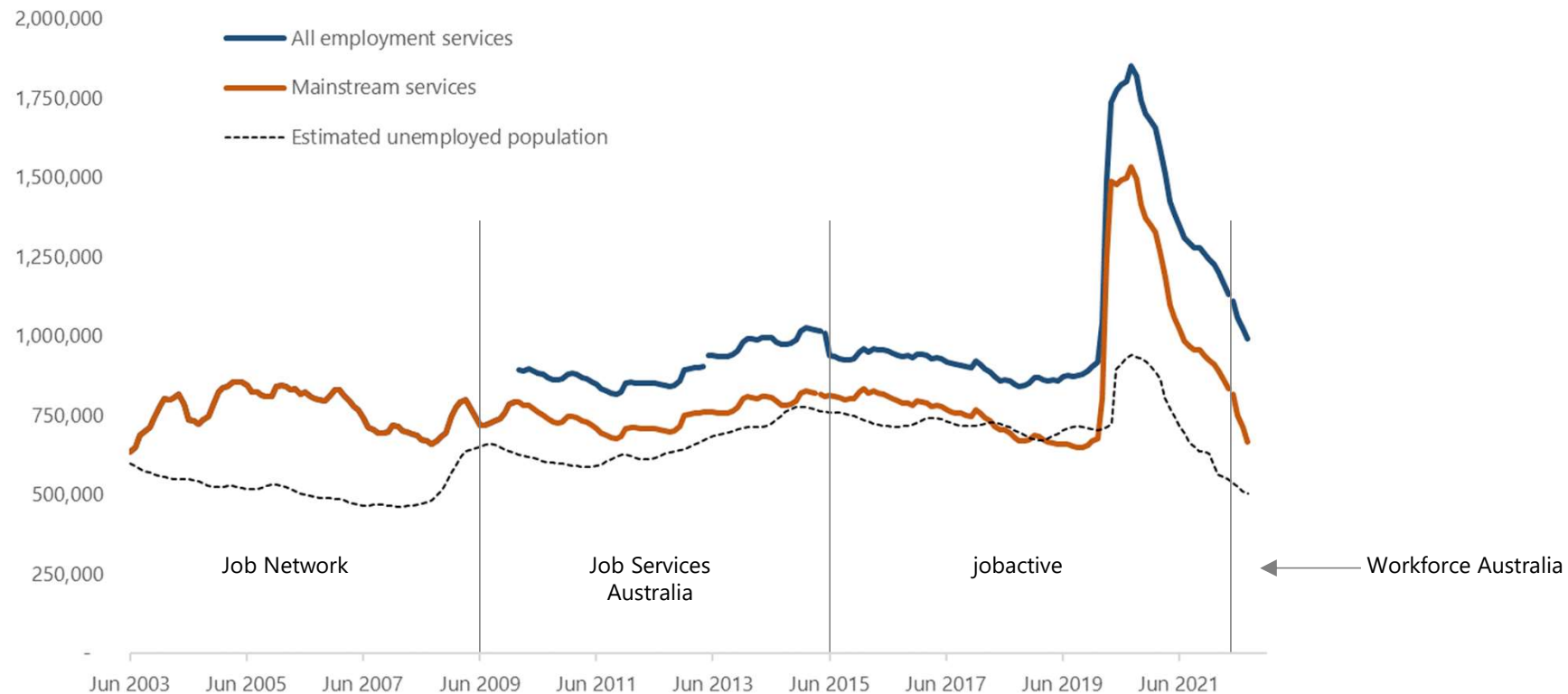
Workforce Australia in context

991,000 Australians were in an employment services program on 30 September 2022;
Workforce Australia accounts for two-thirds of this cohort.



Note: Some individuals are counted on the caseload of two programs at the same time (e.g. commenced in Workforce Australia Online and pending in Workforce Australia Services, or commenced in Workforce Australia and pending in Disability Employment Services). The total number of participants in Workforce Australia on 30 September 2022 was 667,341.

20 year caseload trend



Note: 'All employment services' includes Disability Employment Services (from March 2010) and remote employment services (from July 2013); jobactive caseload includes Transition to Work and Online Employment Services; Unemployment estimate is monthly trend series (ABS Labour Force, September 2022).

EMPLOYED

- ➔ Worked at least one hour in the reference week
- ➔ or had a job but were away from work

UNEMPLOYED

- ➔ Not employed
- ➔ and actively looking for work
- ➔ and available to start work

NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

- ➔ Neither employed
- ➔ nor unemployed

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CASELOAD

- ➔ Not eligible for income support
- ➔ Receiving an income support payment that is not activity tested
- ➔ and "Services Australia-managed job seekers"

- ➔ Earnings below the income support cut of threshold
- ➔ Nil rate income support recipients

May exit services after a period of regular paid work, remain in regular work with earnings below the threshold, or have irregular work

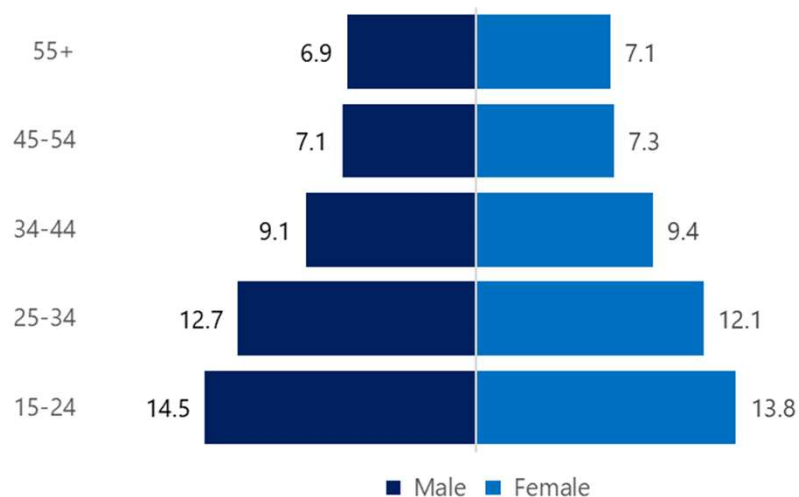
- ➔ Temporarily unable to work (medical reasons, caring responsibilities, personal crisis)
- ➔ Volunteering or studying

May exit services to become 'Services Australia-managed job seeker' if mutual obligations exemption is long-term

817,000 people were referred to jobactive or Transition to Work in 2020-21 (5.0% of the population aged 15-64)

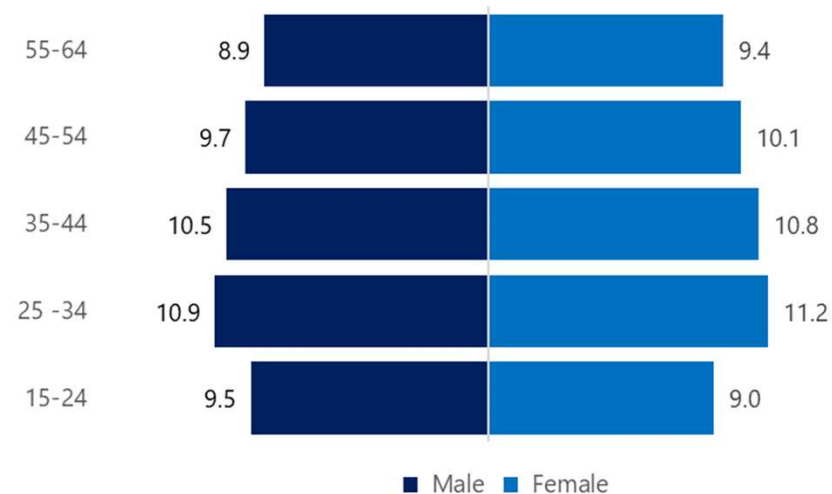
Caseload inflow

Per cent of total



'Working age' population

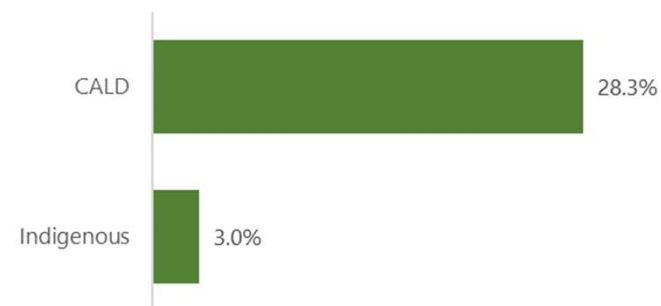
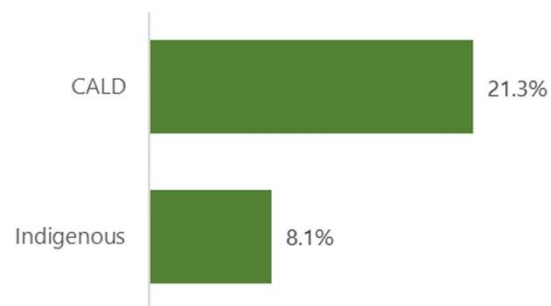
Per cent of total



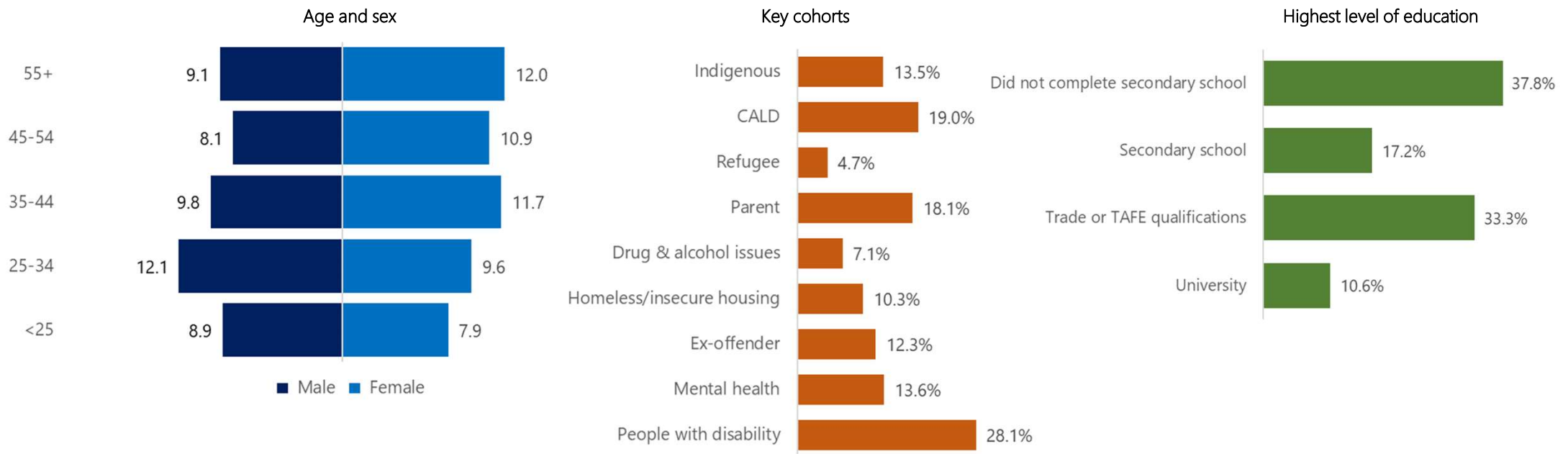
Participant inflow is

- younger
- more likely to be Indigenous & less likely to be from a CALD background

than the overall population



Workforce Australia caseload composition



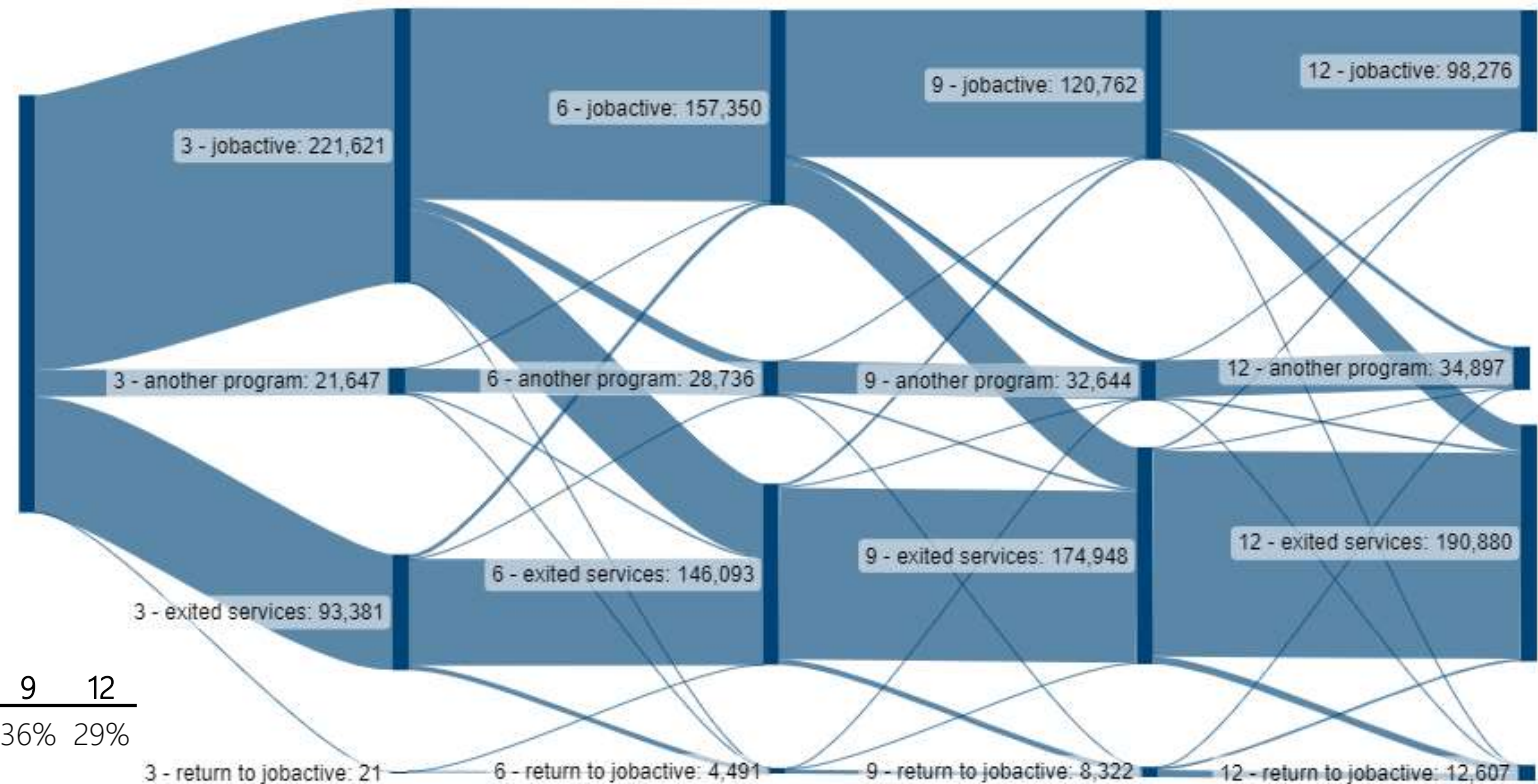
The caseload is 52% female overall, but among those under the age of 35 men outnumber women

All figures shown are percentage of the total Workforce Australia caseload as at 30 September 2022.

Typical participant flow in the 12 months after referral

336,670 individuals referred to jobactive between 1 October 2020-31 March 2021

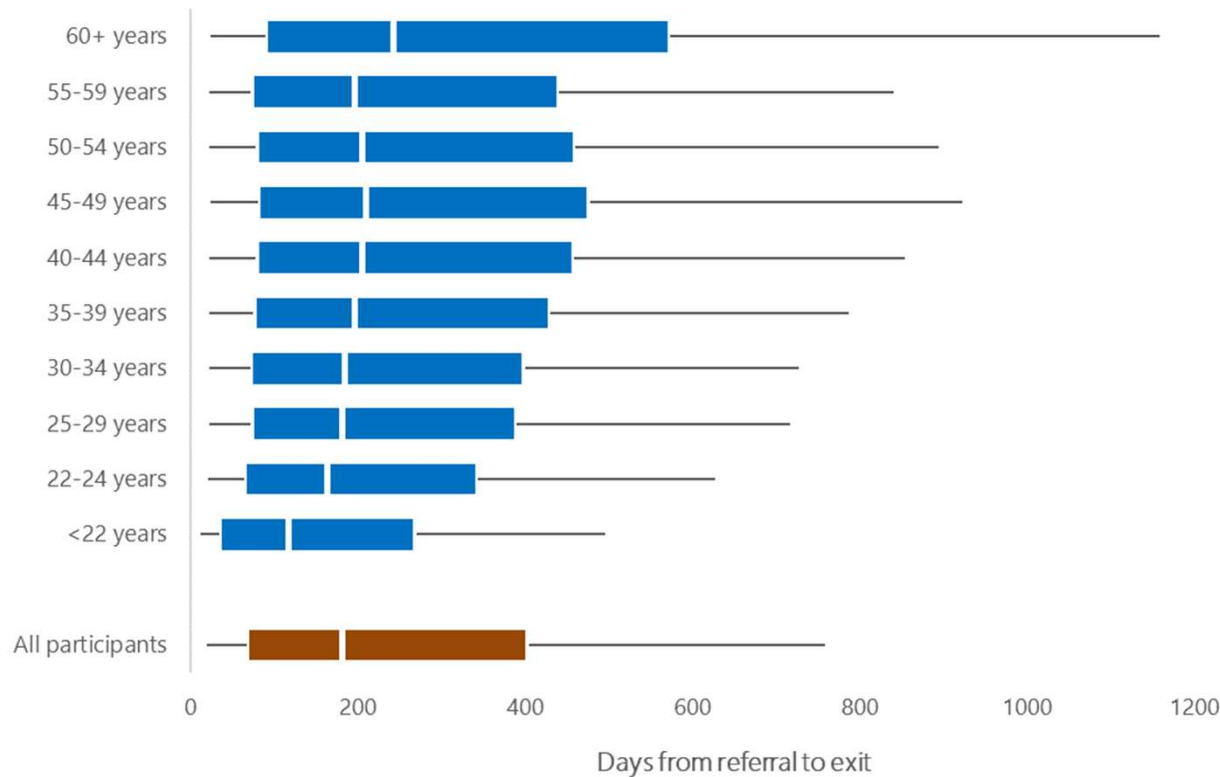
Snapshot of caseload status at 3 month intervals since referral



Months since initial referral

	3	6	9	12
Remained in jobactive	66%	47%	36%	29%
Moved to another employment program	6%	9%	10%	10%
Exited services	28%	43%	52%	57%
Returned to jobactive		1%	2%	4%

Younger participants typically have shorter periods of assistance



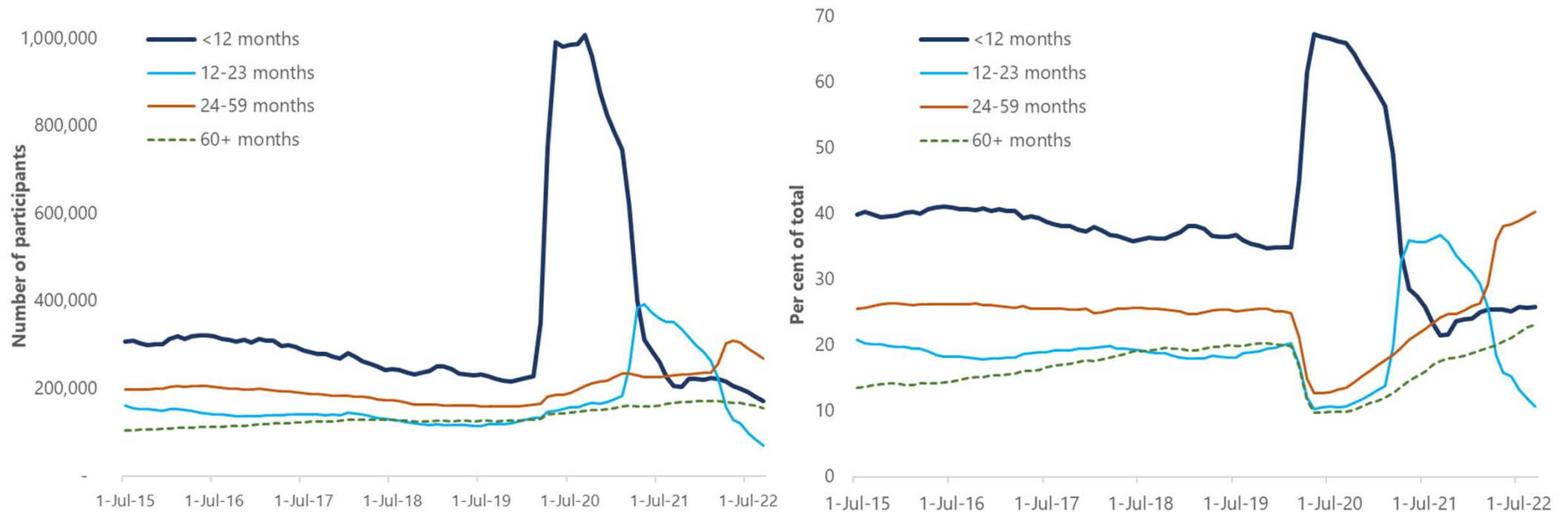
The median period of assistance for jobactive participants aged under 25 was around 3 months; around 4 months for those aged 25-59 and around 5 months for those aged 60 years or older.

In all age groups, 25% of participants exited jobactive within 2 months or less.

75th and 90th percentiles generally increased with age.

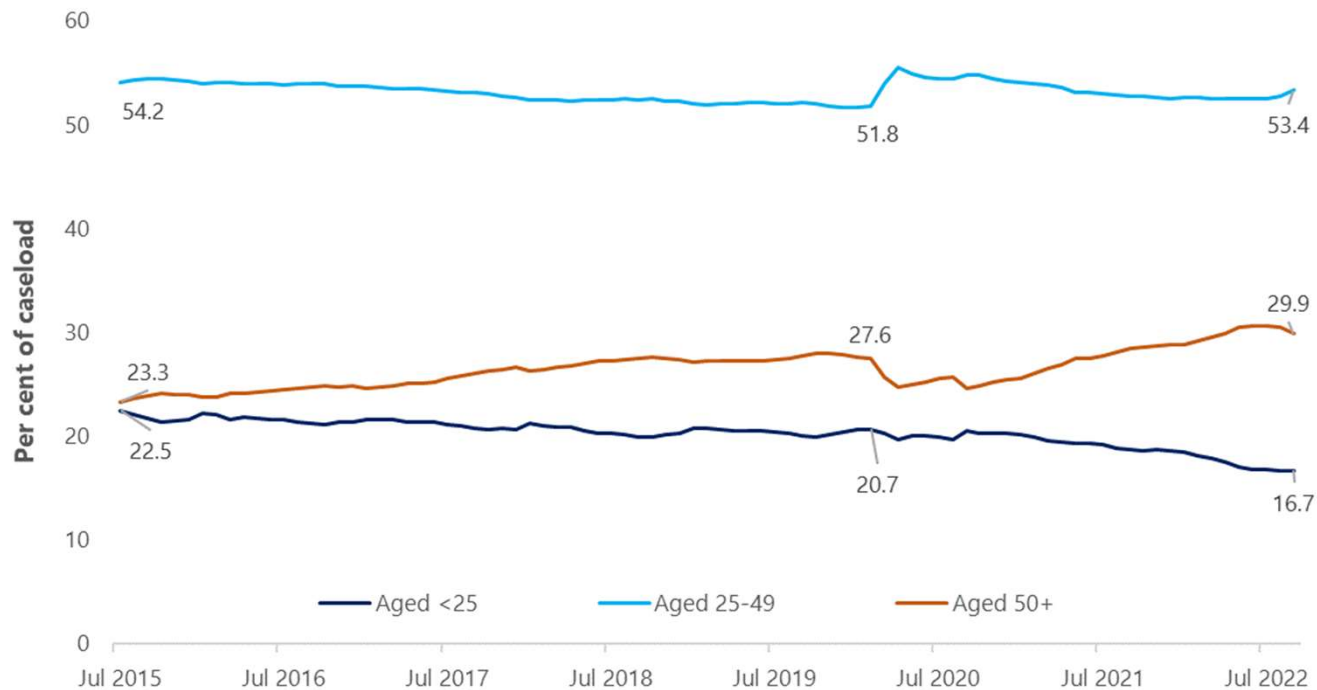
All exits from jobactive, 1 July 2015 – 30 June 2022. Age group is based on participant age on the exit date.

Long-term participant trends



Grouping are duration of current period of registration for employment services, which incorporates all employment services and periods as a 'Services Australia-managed job seeker'

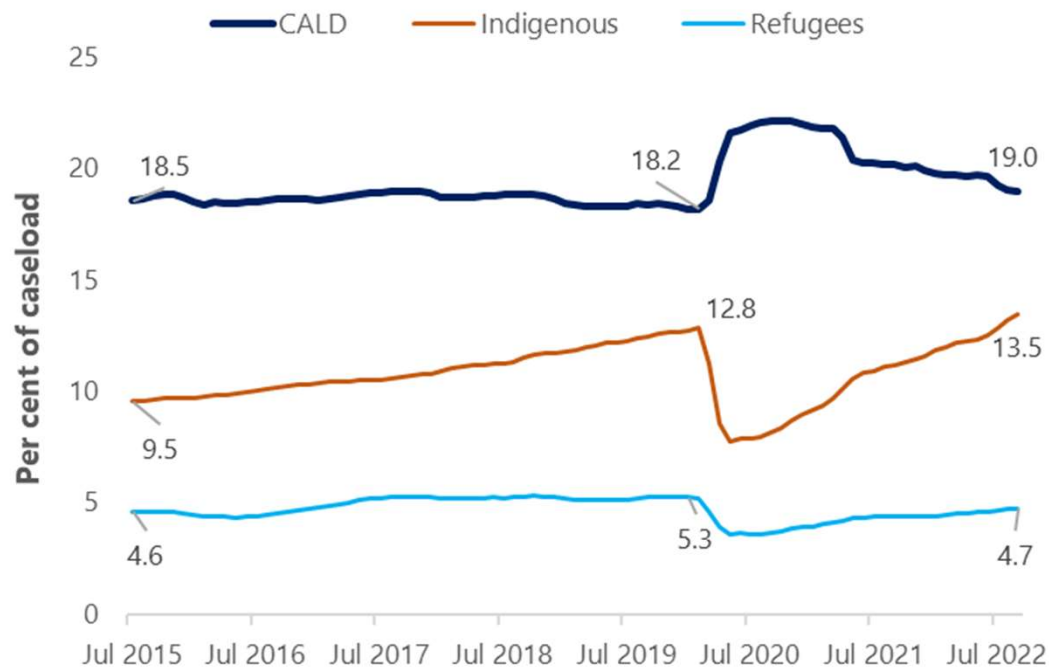
Caseload ageing



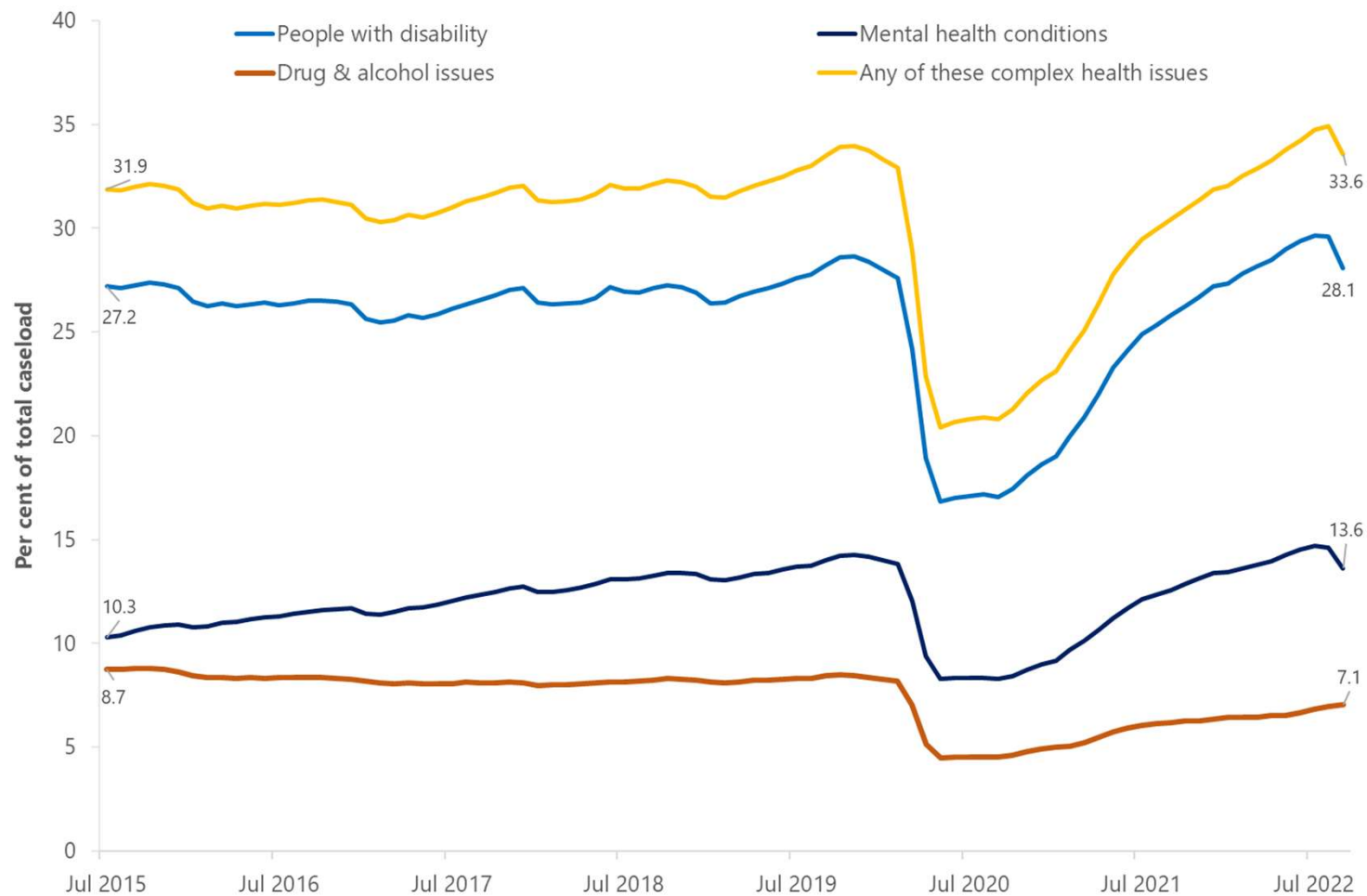
Over the life of jobactive, participants aged under 25 steadily declined as a percentage of the caseload.

Mature age participants increased in caseload share, while the 'prime age' participant caseload declined slightly in relative terms.

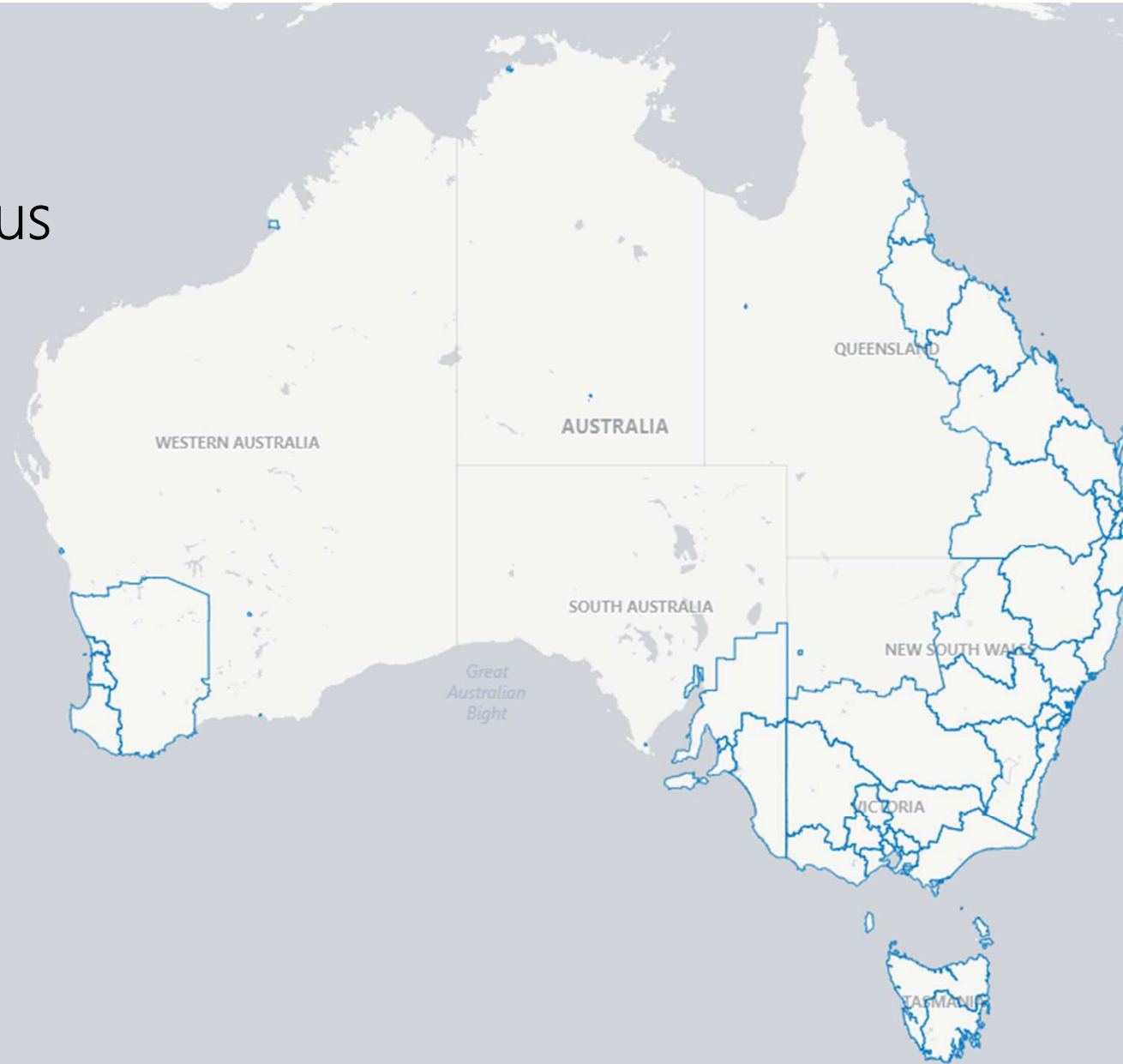
Increasing concentration of several disadvantaged cohorts



Disability and complex health conditions



Regional focus

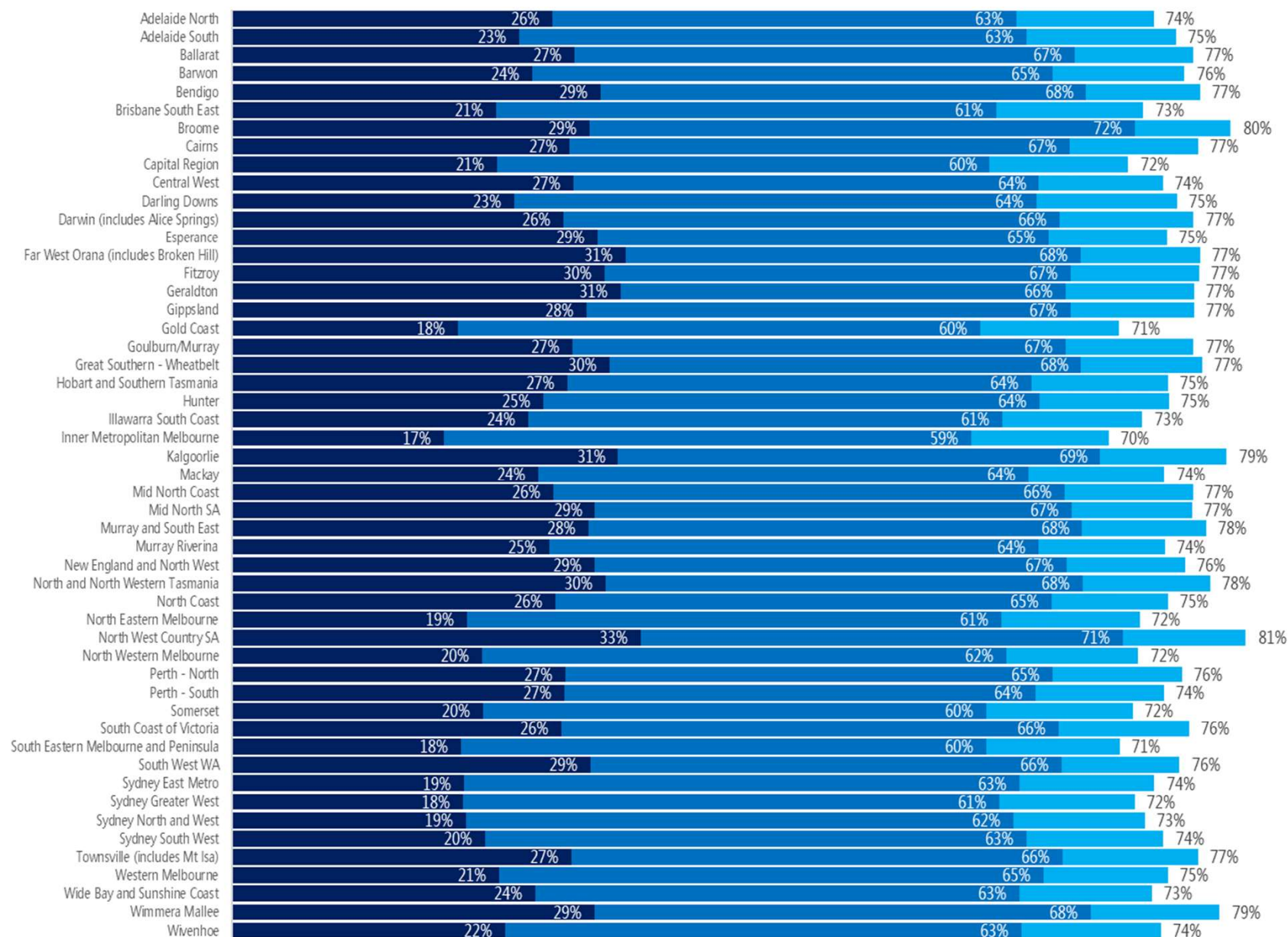


Length of time in employment services

12+ months

24+ months

60+ months



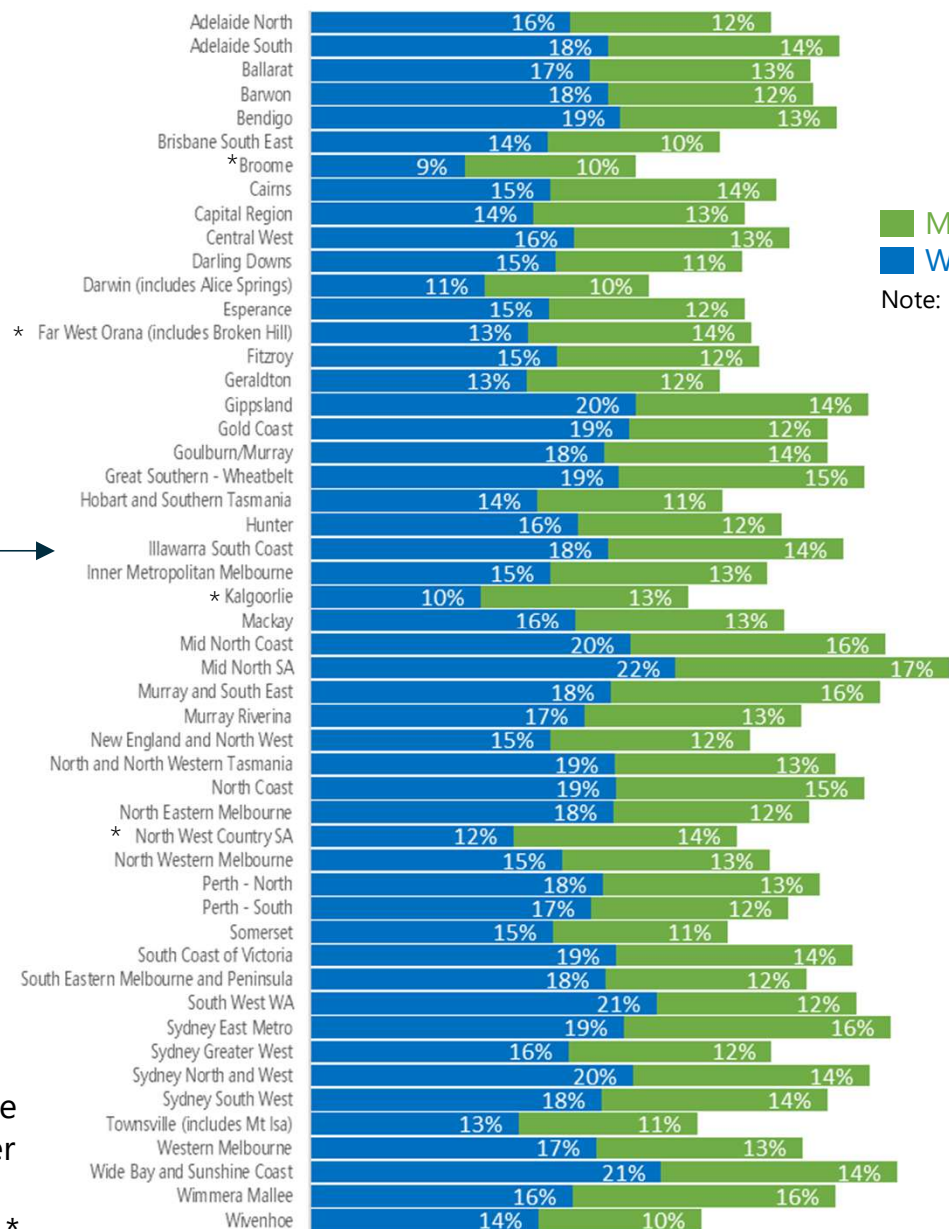
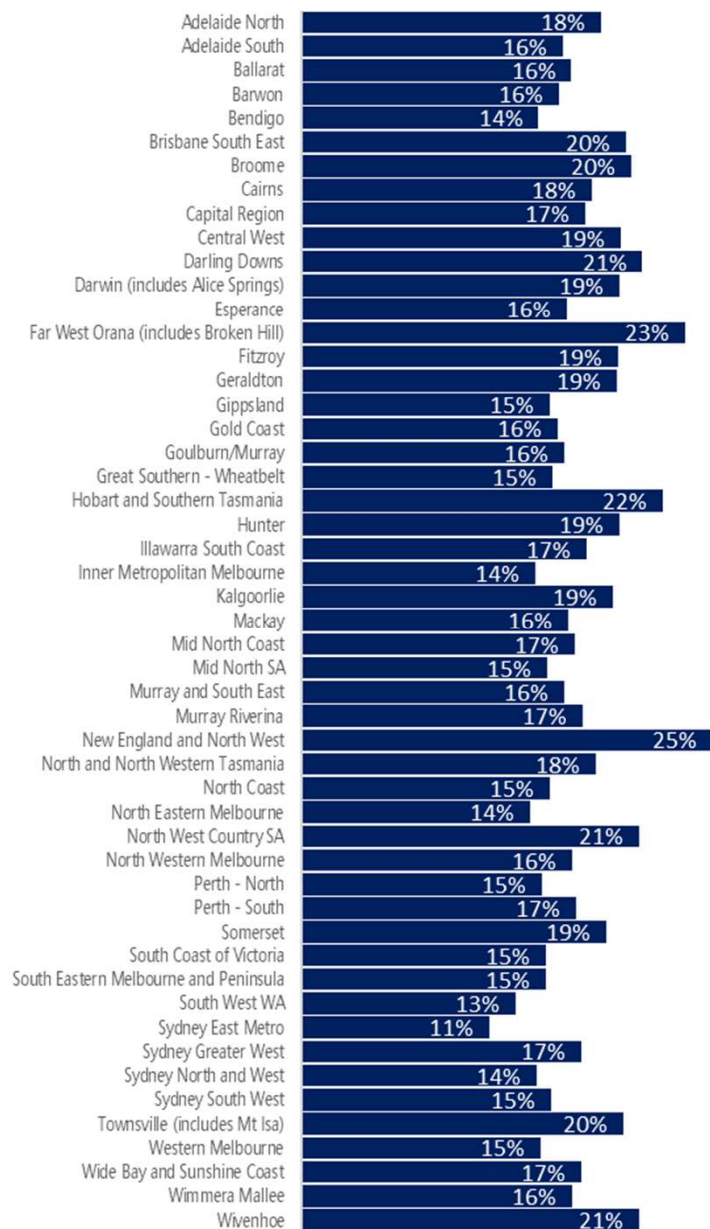
← Aged under 25

Aged 50+ →

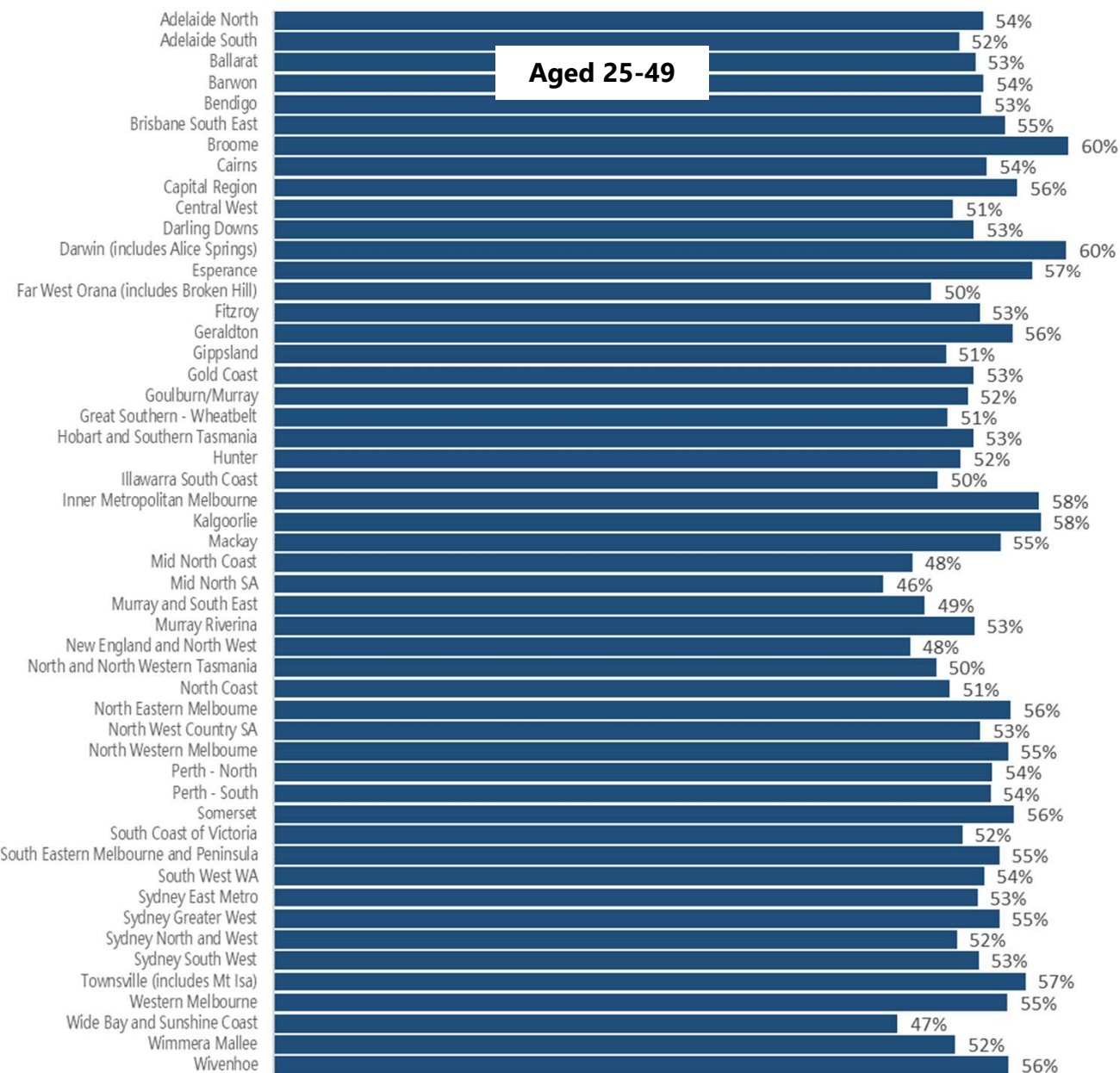
In most regions, mature age women outnumber mature age men.
Exceptions are marked *

Men
Women

Note: Bars are stacked



Aged 25-49



Parents

