

Indigenous employment: Recent trends and the role of the mining industry

Presentation to

ATNS Symposium on Indigenous Peoples, Economic Empowerment and Agreements with Extractive Industries

25-26 June 2013, Melbourne

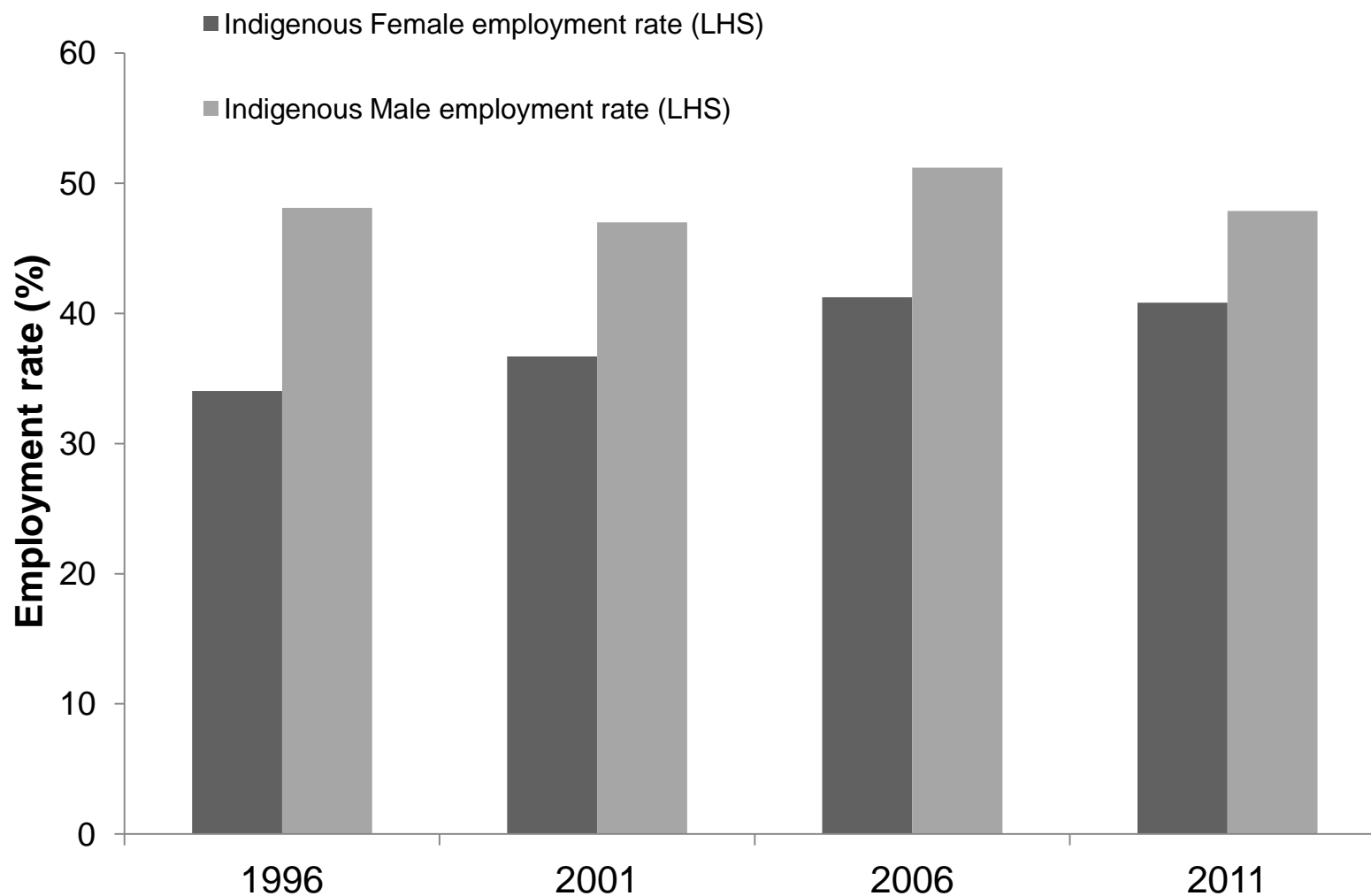
Professor Matthew Gray

Director, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research

Overview of presentation

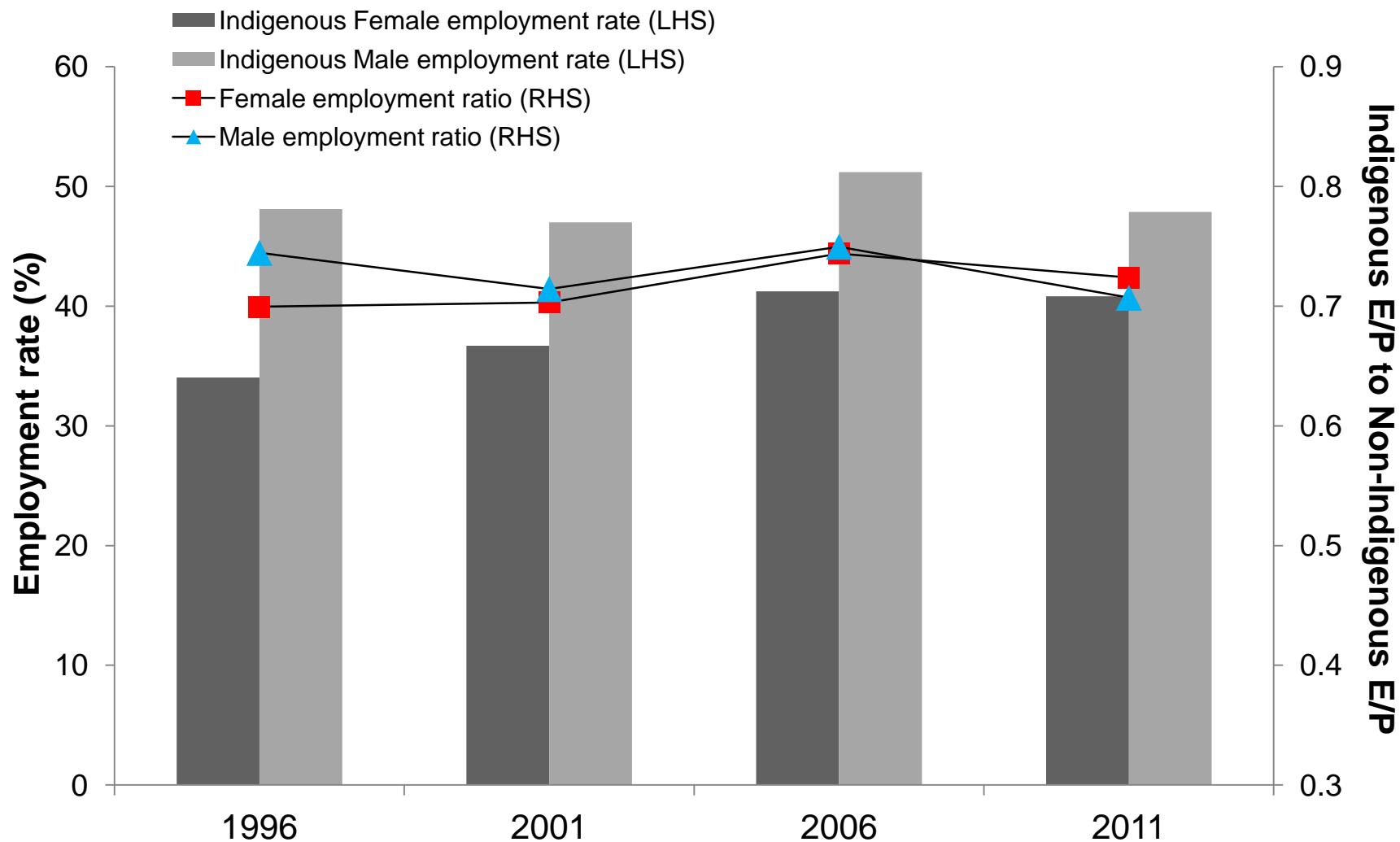
- Trends in Indigenous employment since the mid-1990s
 - The importance of adjusting for CDEP
 - Impact of the Global Financial Crisis
 - Gender, age and geographic remoteness
- Private versus public sector
- The role of the mining industry
- Demographic projections, education and future prospects
- Concluding comments

Non-CDEP plus CDEP employment (15+), 1996-2011



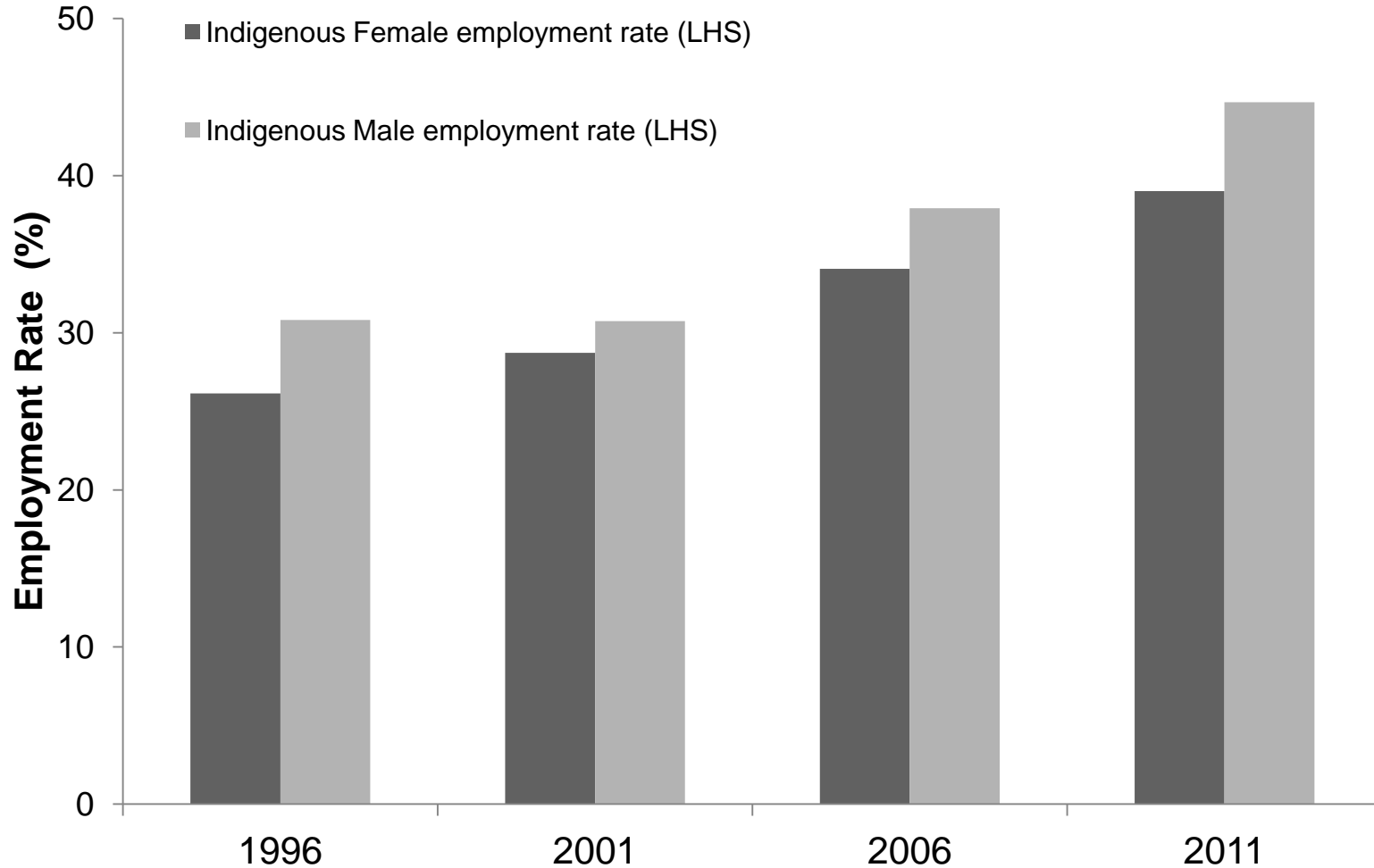
Sources: Census data; CDEP program data; ABS Cat. 3101.0

Non-CDEP plus CDEP employment (15+), 1996-2011



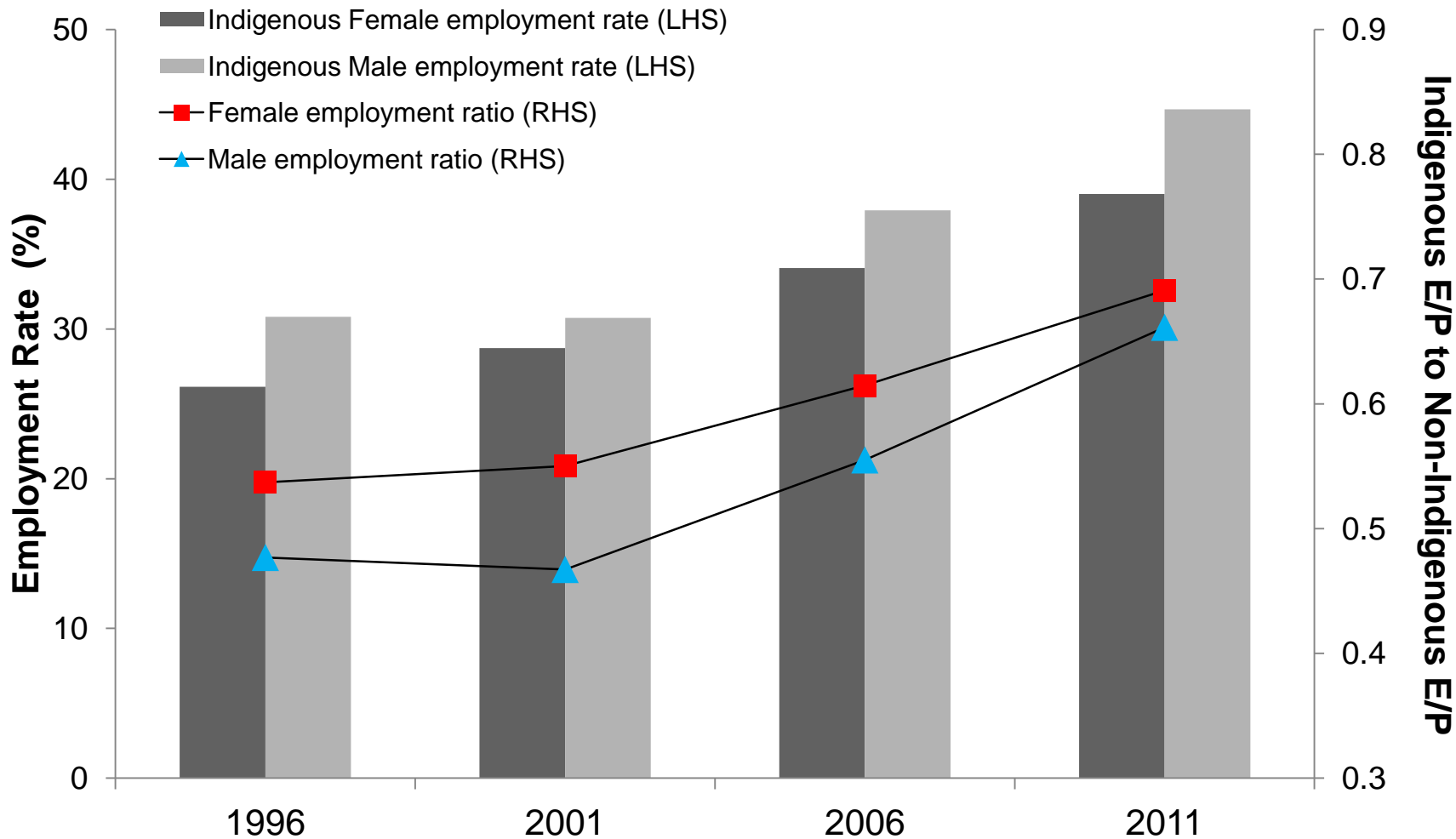
Sources: Census data; CDEP program data; ABS Cat. 3101.0

Non-CDEP employment (15+), 1996-2011



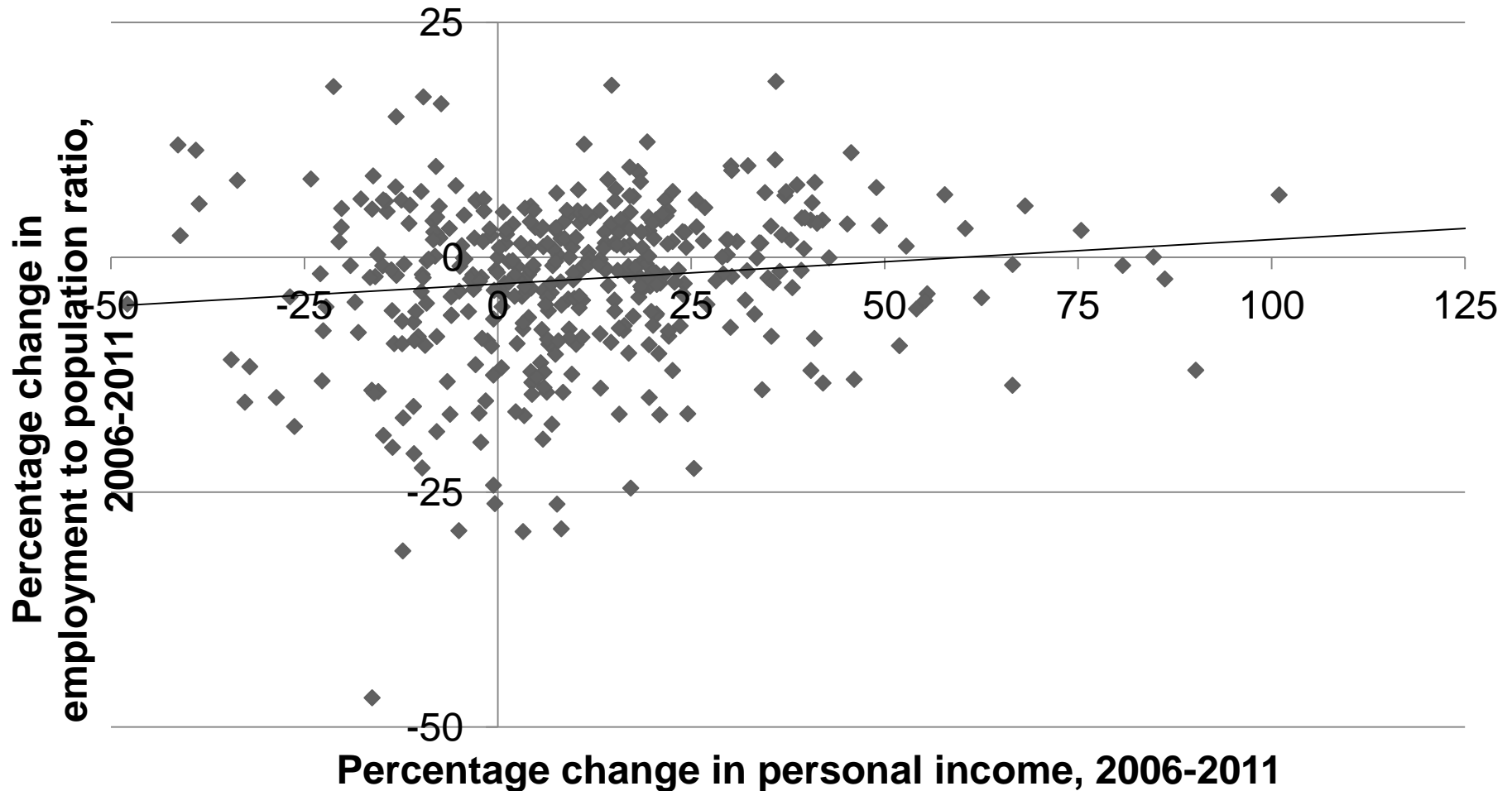
Sources: Census data; CDEP program data

Non-CDEP employment (15+), 1996-2011



Sources: Census data; CDEP program data

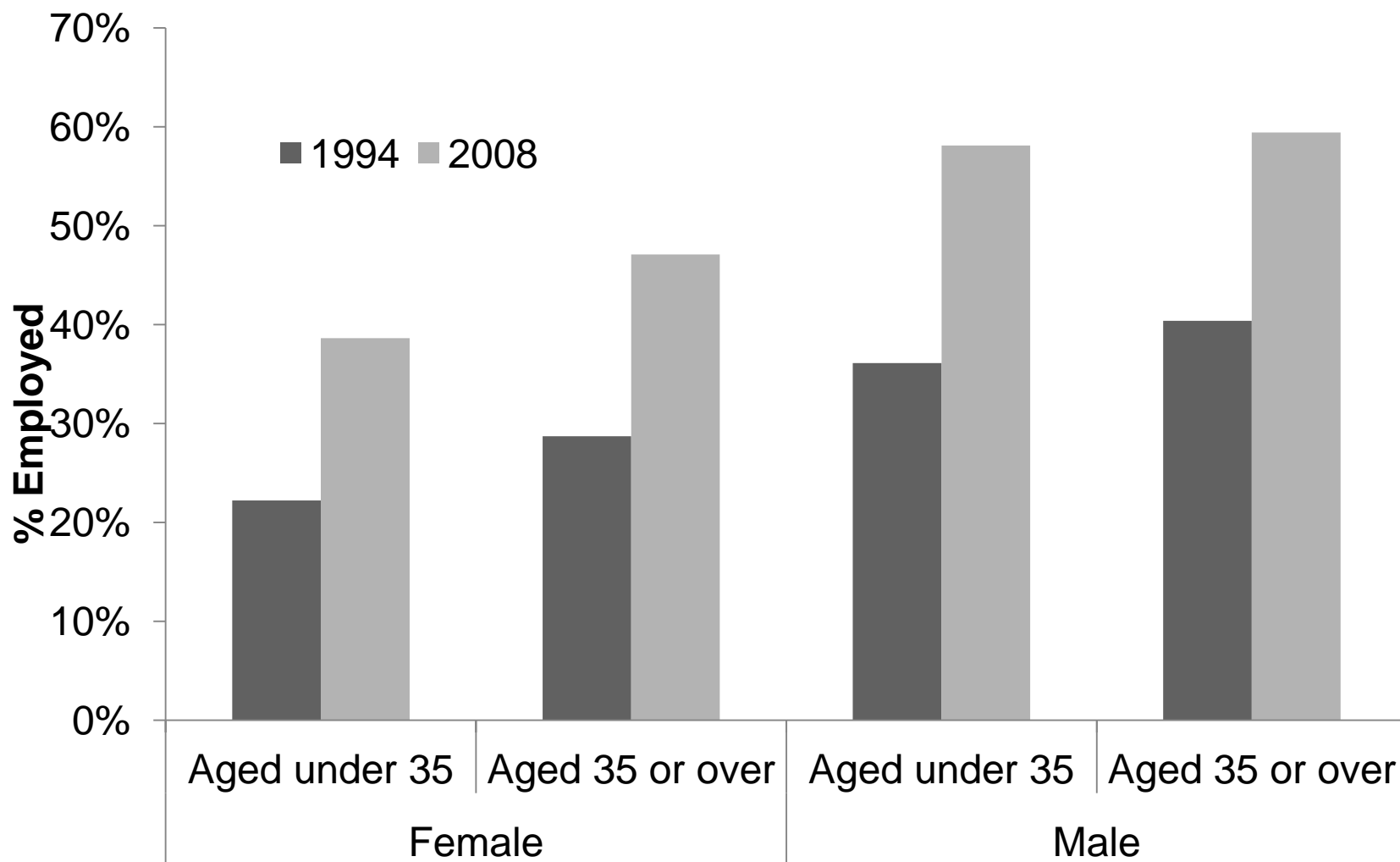
Local changes (IAREs) in Indigenous employment and income, 2006 to 2011



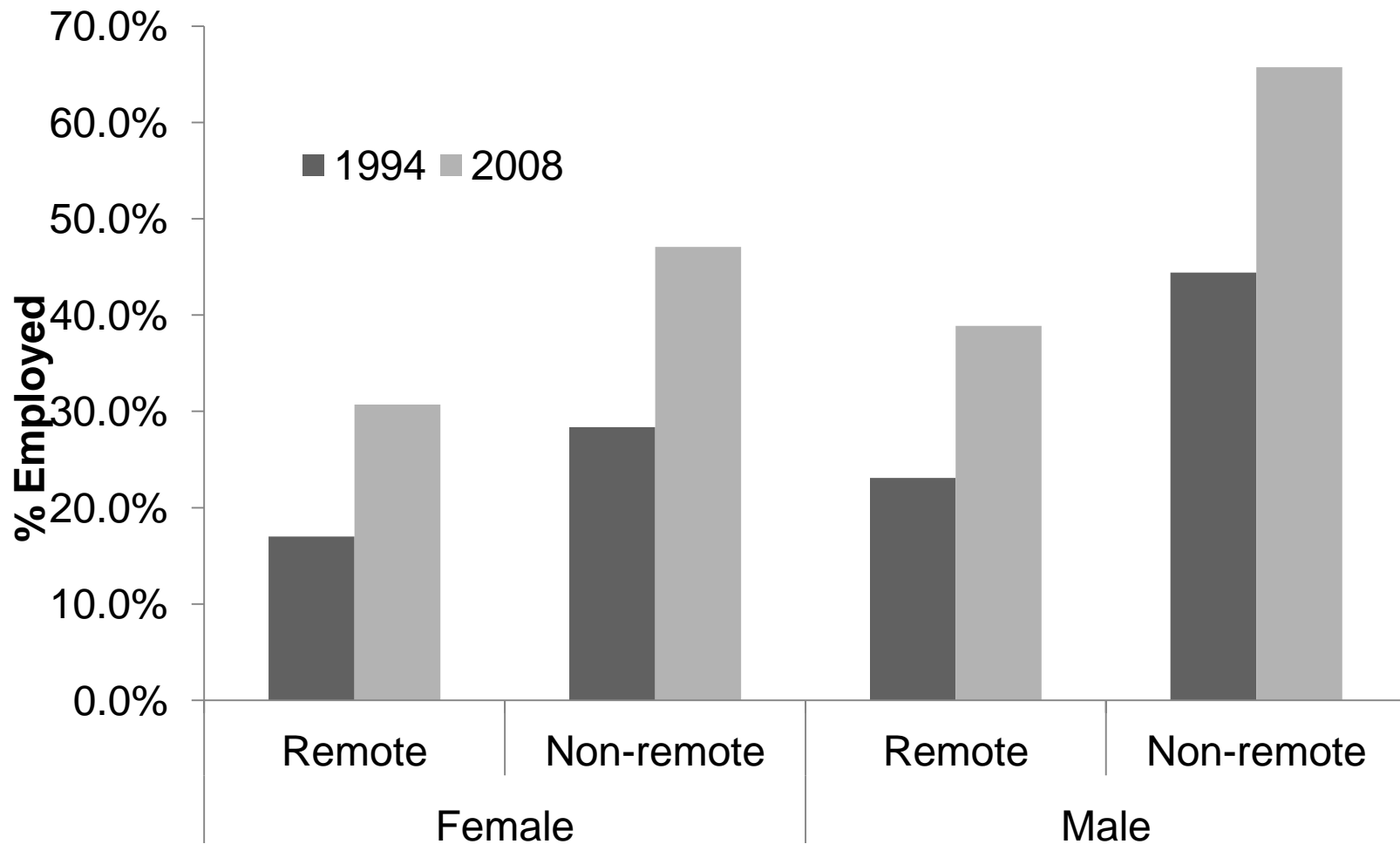
Areas with largest decrease in Indigenous employment (CDEP + non-CDEP), 2006-11

	Change employment 2006-11		Change income 2006-11
		%	
Yarrabah (QLD)*	-47		-16.2
Fitzroy River (WA)	-31		-12.3
Halls Creek – Surrounds (WA)	-29		3.3
Fitzroy Crossing (WA)	-29		-5.0
Hope Vale (QLD)	-29		8.2
Warburton (WA)	-26		7.6
Kowanyama (QLD)	-26		-0.4
Great Sandy Desert (WA)	-26		17.2
North Kimberley (WA)	-24		-0.6
Broome – Surrounds (WA)	-22		25.3
Argyle – Warmun (WA)	-22		-9.8
Aurukun (QLD)	-20		-10.8
Cherbourg (QLD)	-20		-13.6

Non-CDEP employment rates by age group, males and females, Indigenous, 1994 & 2008



Non-CDEP employment by geographic remoteness, males & females, Indigenous, 1994 & 2008



Proportion of employment in private sector by gender and remoteness, 2006-2011

	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous	
	Remote	Non-remote	Remote	Non-remote
	Female			
2006	57.3	74.9	77.9	82.4
2011	63.0	74.2	75.7	80.5
	Male			
2006	57.4	82.9	88.0	88.2
2011	71.0	83.3	88.6	87.6

Source: Census data

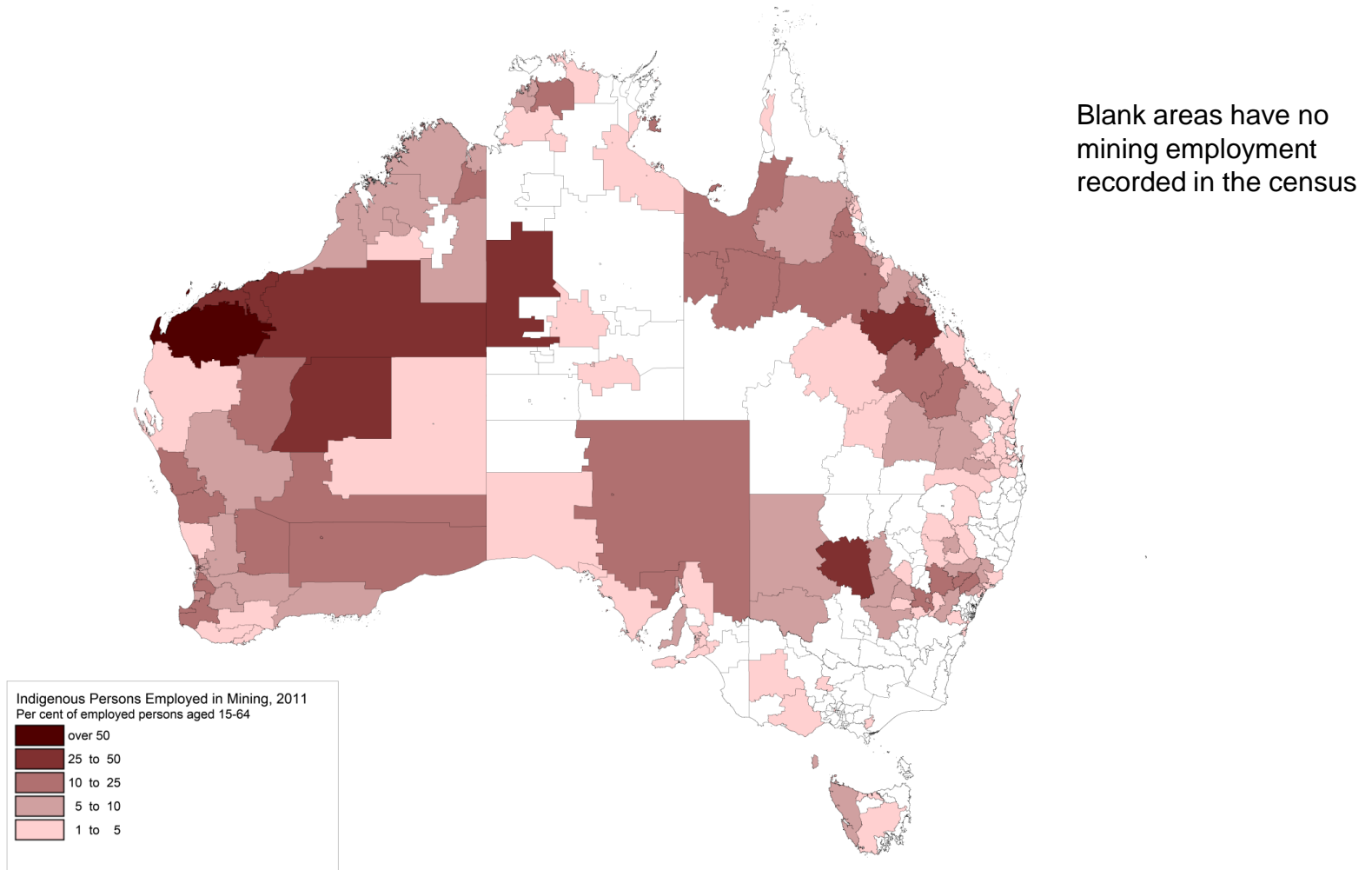
Selected industry employment, Indigenous, female 2006-11

	2006		2011		Change	
	Remote	Non-remote	Remote	Non-remote	Remote	non-remote
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	250	738	261	739	11	1
Mining	242	268	606	746	364	478
Construction	142	797	197	1,262	55	465
Public Administration & Safety	5,077	6,587	2,951	8,659	-2,126	2,072
Health Care & Social Assistance	3,799	11,492	3,321	18,093	-478	6,601
Other Services	586	1,762	1,495	2,733	909	971

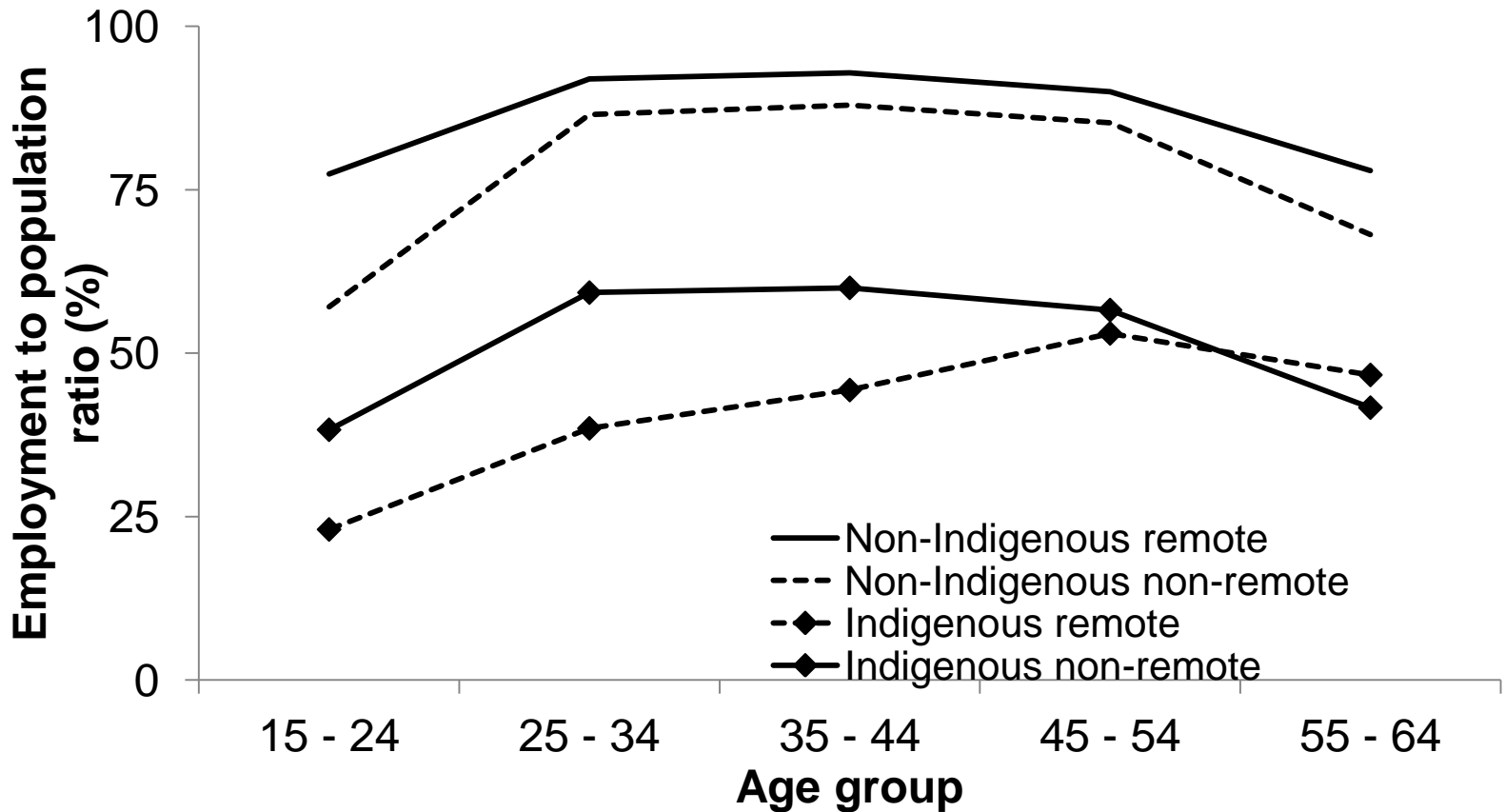
Selected industry of employment, Indigenous, male, 2006-11

	2006		2011		Change	
	Remot e	Non- remote	Remote	Non- remote	Remote	non- remote
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	1,155	2,622	1,342	2,624	187	2
Mining	1,205	1,595	2,500	3,612	1,295	2,017
Construction	1,133	8,970	1,738	12,979	605	4,009
Public Administration & Safety	7,970	7,537	4,386	9,359	-3,584	1,822
Health Care & Social Assistance	3,339	4,088	1,727	5,458	-1,612	1,370
Other Services	713	2,181	2,461	3,474	1,748	1,293

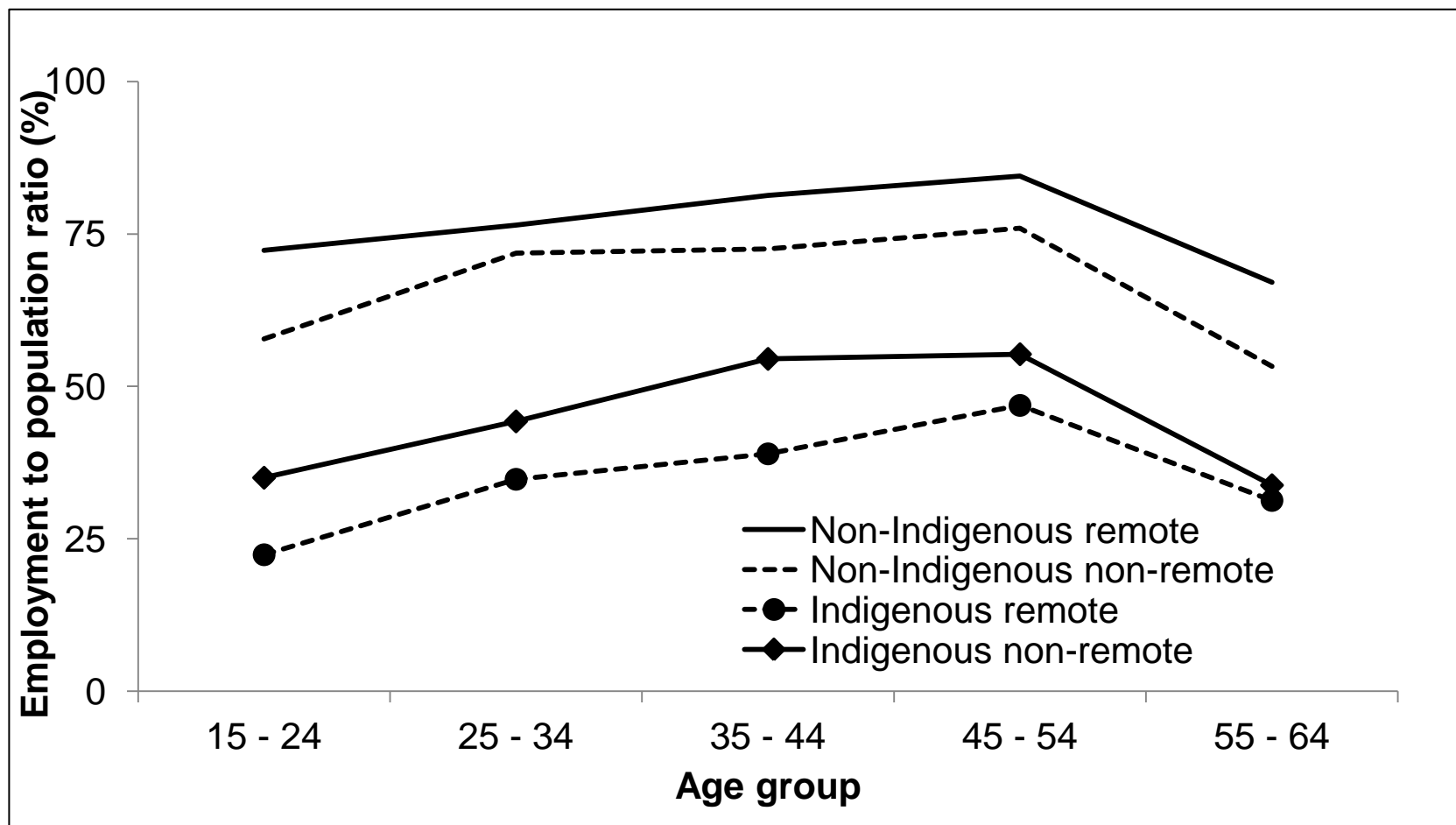
Indigenous employment in mining, 2011



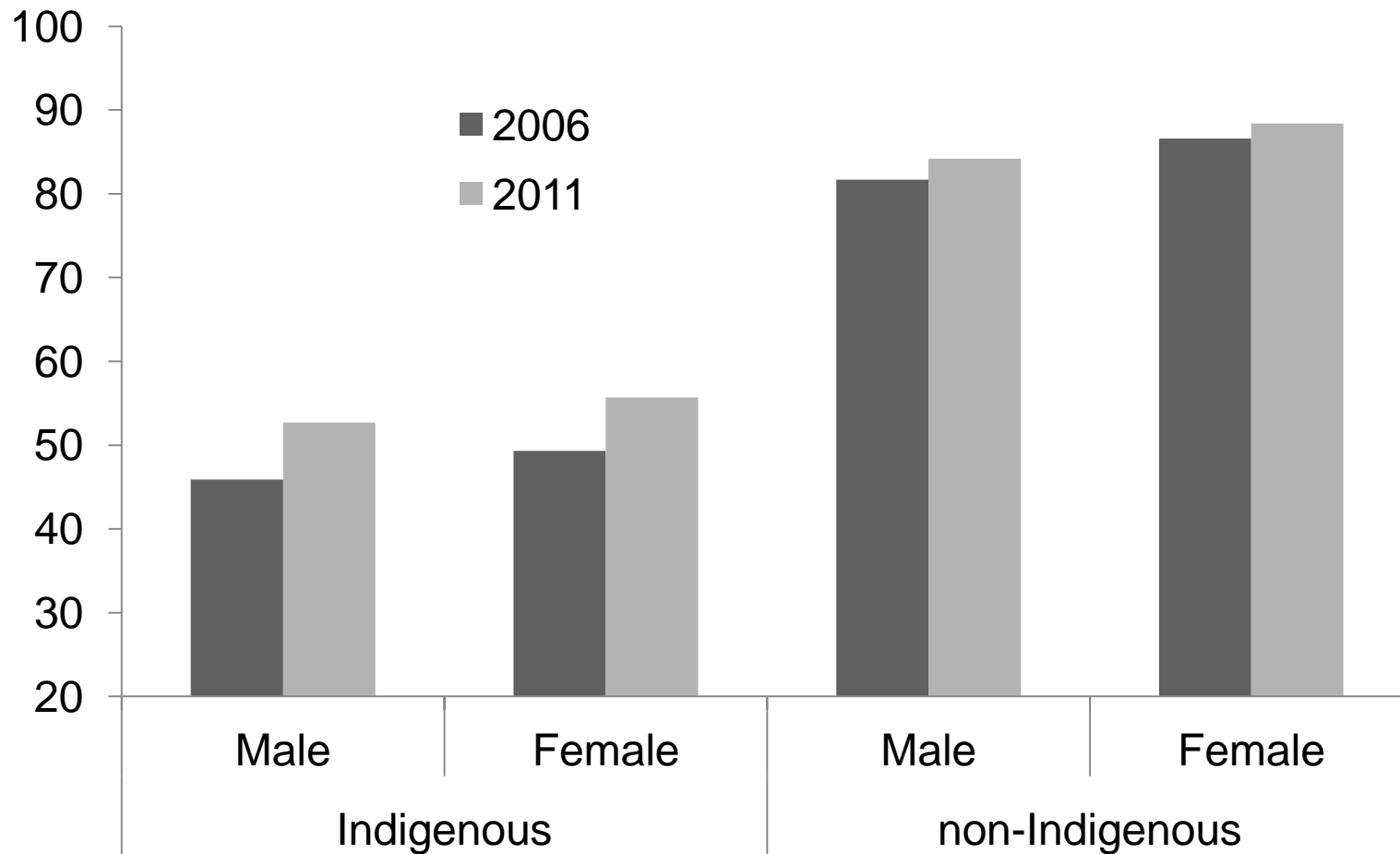
non-CDEP employment rate by age group and Indigenous status, men, 2011 (%)



non-CDEP employment rate by age group and Indigenous status, women, 2011 (%)



% 20-24 year olds with Year 12 or above qualification, 2006 and 2011



Concluding comments

- Big increases in non-CDEP employment since mid-1990s
 - found using National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey, Labour Force Survey and Census
 - Increases post the GFC
- Increases in both remote and non-remote areas, for younger and older and for males and females
- Increases in employment for the Indigenous population are greater than for the non-Indigenous population
- Failure to clearly focus on non-CDEP employment leads to very misleading conclusions about employment growth and the effectiveness of government policy

Concluding comments, cont ..

There are number of possible explanations for increases in employment

- strong macro-economic conditions
- changes in the characteristics of the Indigenous population have contributed to the increases in non-CDEP employment
 - ↑ education, ↓ arrest (males), ↓ % remote areas
- changes to the income support system designed to encourage income support recipients to find paid employment
- increasing emphasis in Indigenous labour market policies on unsubsidised employment
- Focusing of wage subsidies on Indigenous
 - Indigenous Australians may have been shuffled up the job queue (by reducing their relative cost)

Local changes (IAREs) in non-Indigenous employment & income

