



Diversity, access and success of the student body: State of the art and tasks for the social dimension after Leuven!

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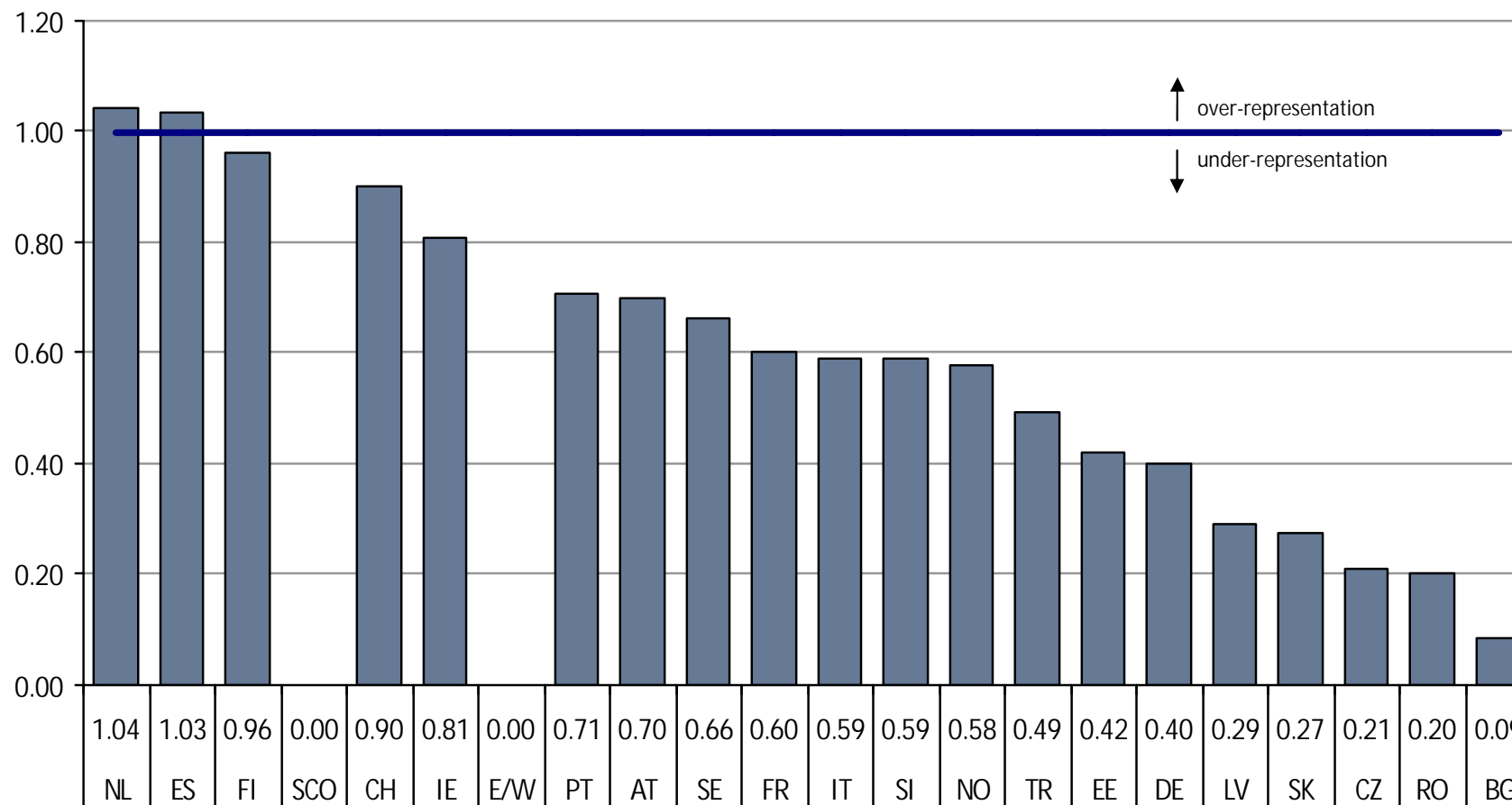
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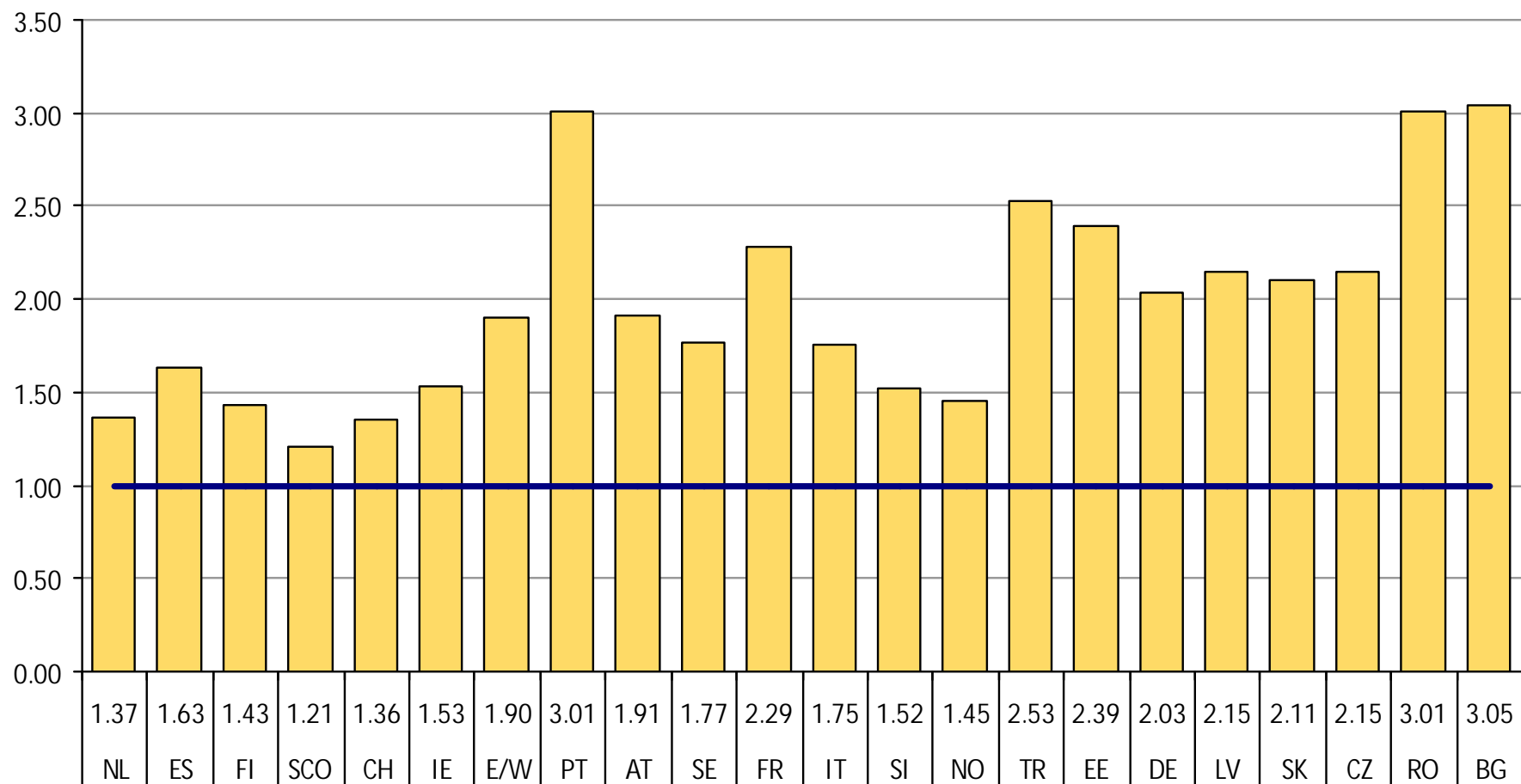
Diversity: Ratio of highest education attainment of students' fathers compared to the general population (men 40-60 yrs., %)

Ratios for students with low education background

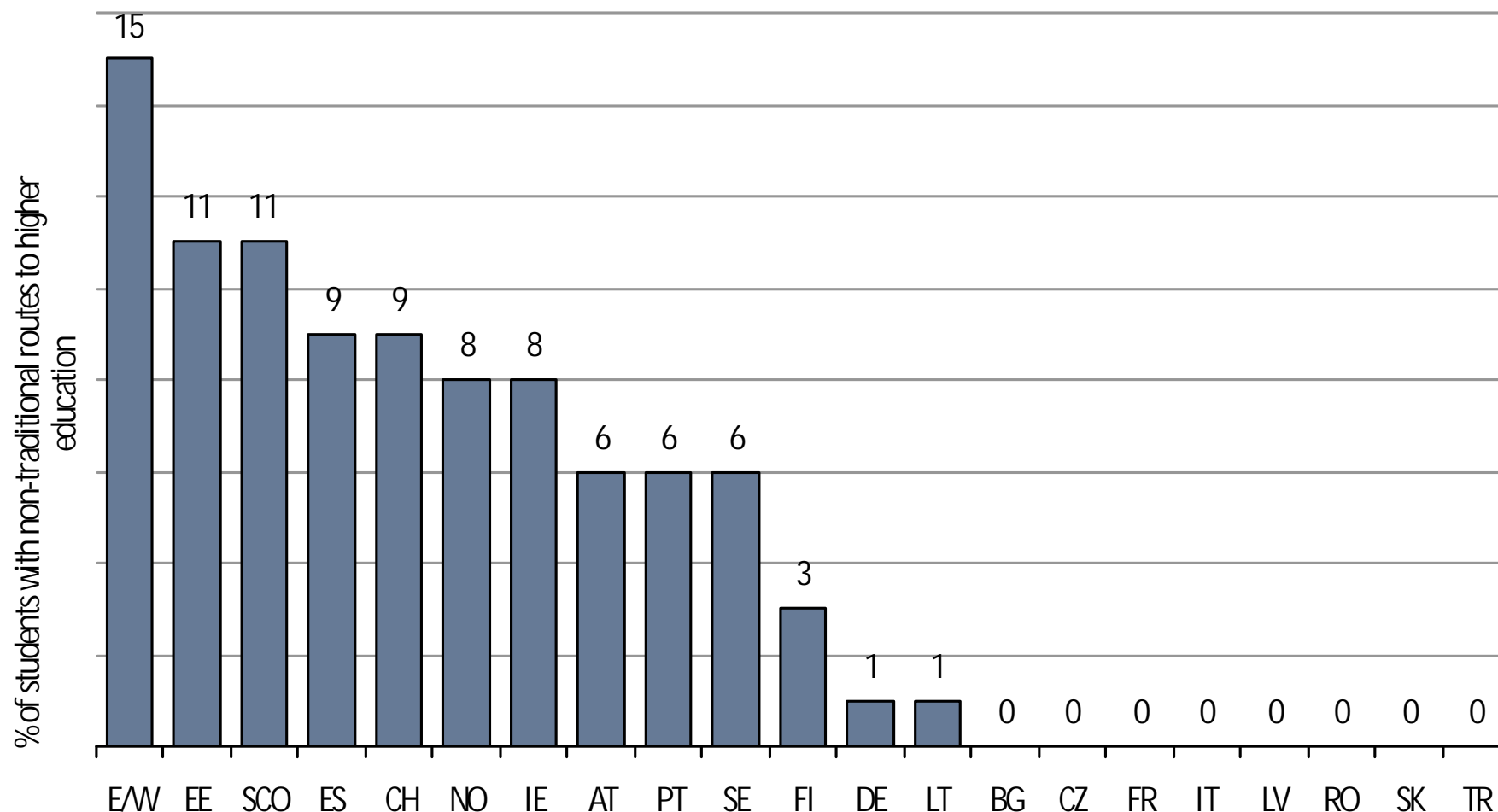


Diversity: Ratio of highest education attainment of students' fathers compared to the general population (men 40-60 yrs., %)

Ratios for students with high education background

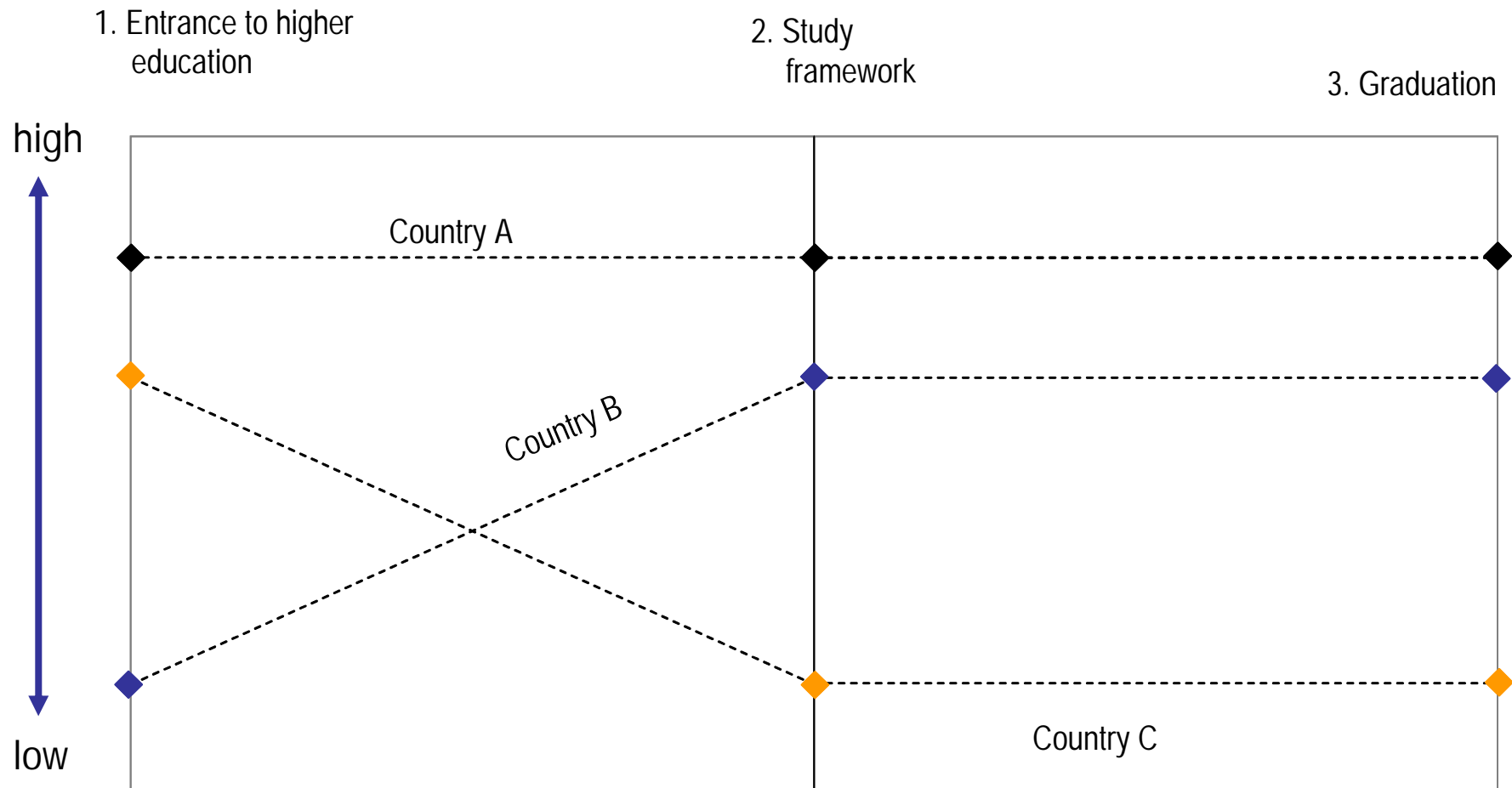


Access: Share of all students with non-traditional routes to higher education in % – Narrow definition (all students)



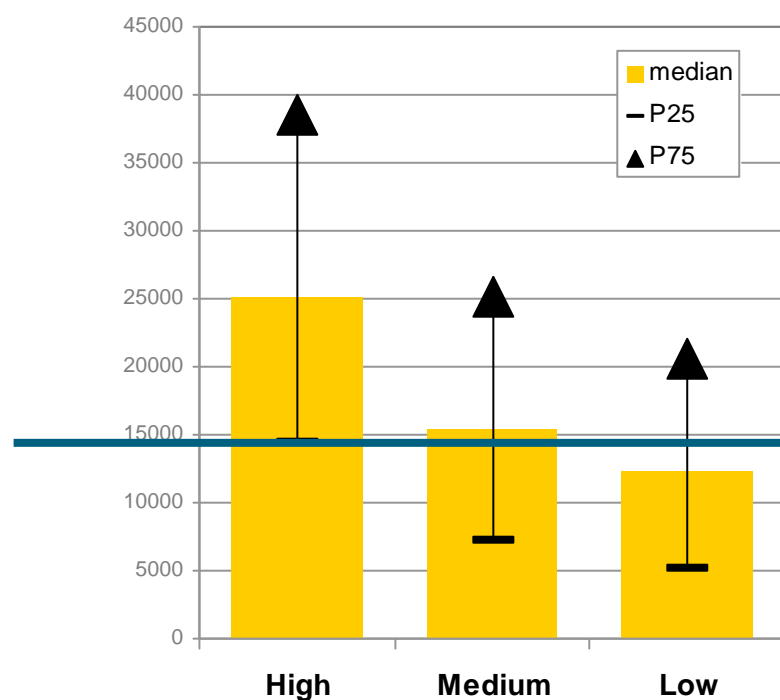
Access: Differences in “moments” of participative equity

Participative equity: "(...) the societal goal that the student body entering, participating in and completing higher education should reflect the diversity of our populations."

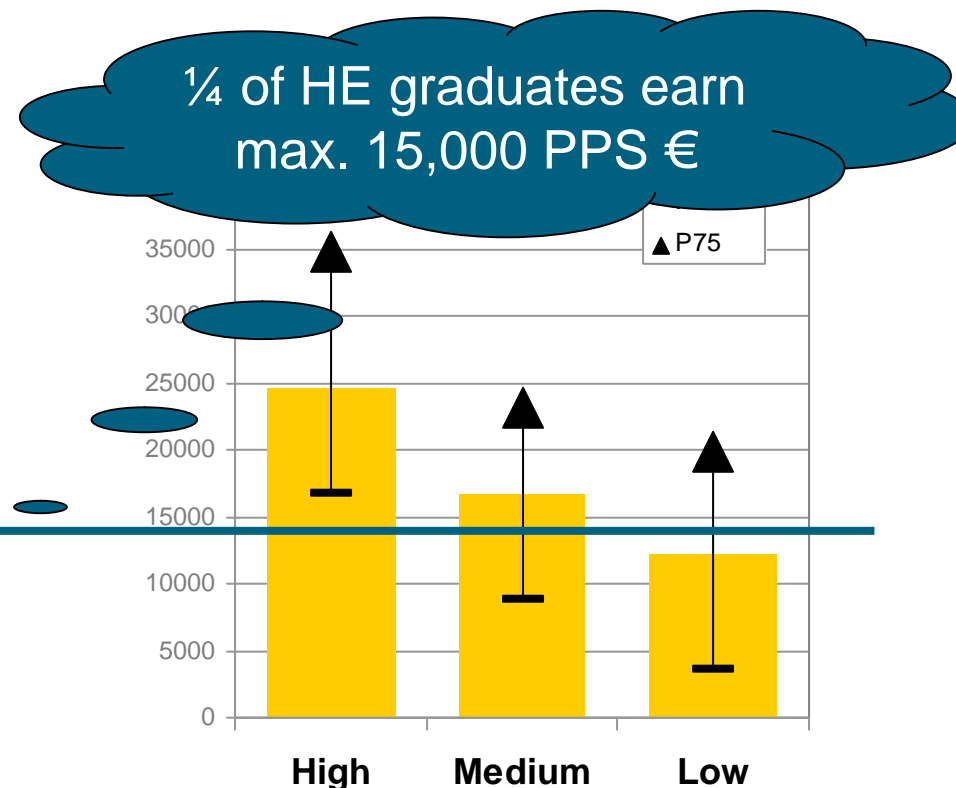


Success: Effective outcomes and employability

Annual gross income (cash and non-cash) of workers in PPS EUR, by educational attainment — 2006



EU-27

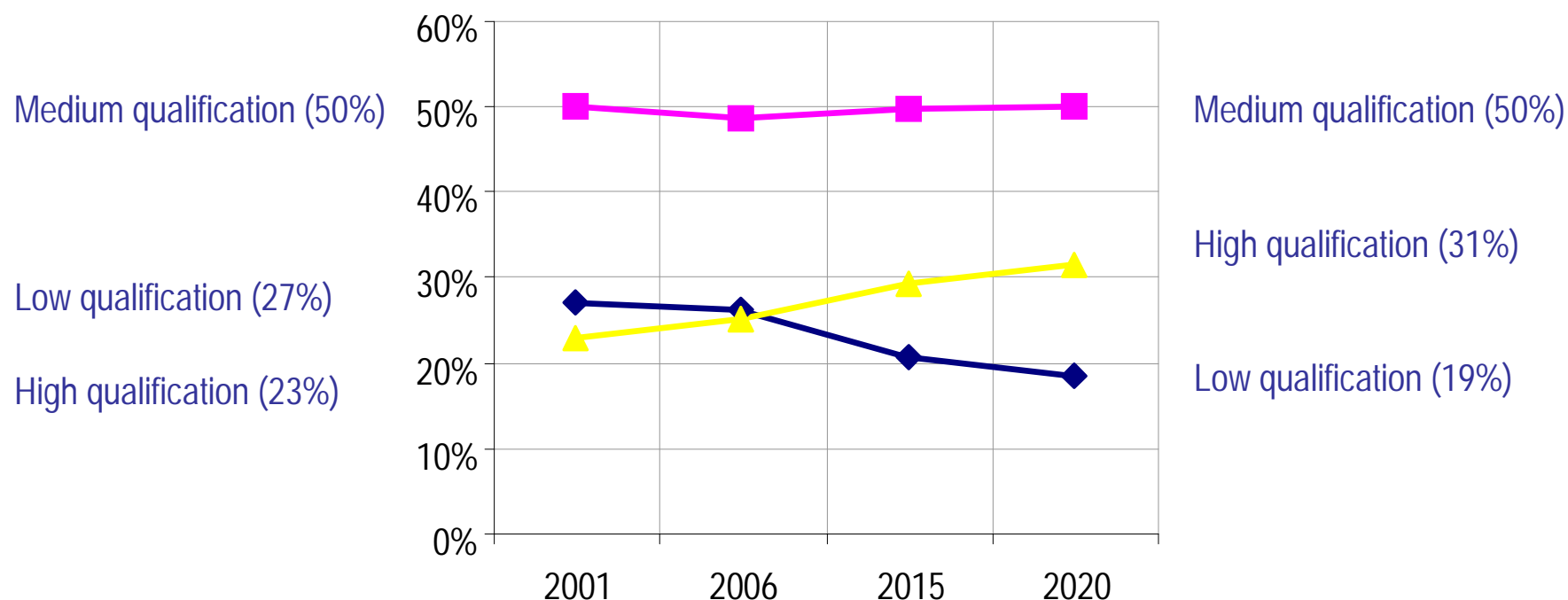


Bologna

Success: Effective outcomes and employability

- n 1/3 of population between 25 and 34 has completed HE
 - Very different completion rates ranging from 45% to 87%
- n Graduates earn on average double that of non-graduates of HE
 - Overlaps between attainment levels mean that a HE certificate is not always a guarantee for higher wages
 - Gender also affects wage level, but lower affects for HE graduates
 - Unemployment levels also related to field of study (humanities)
- n Evidence of a mismatch between HE qualification and theoretical skill level of employment for 20% of graduates
 - However, the share lies at around 20% in many countries irrespective of proportion of HE graduates
 - HE might drive a labour market towards higher skilled jobs

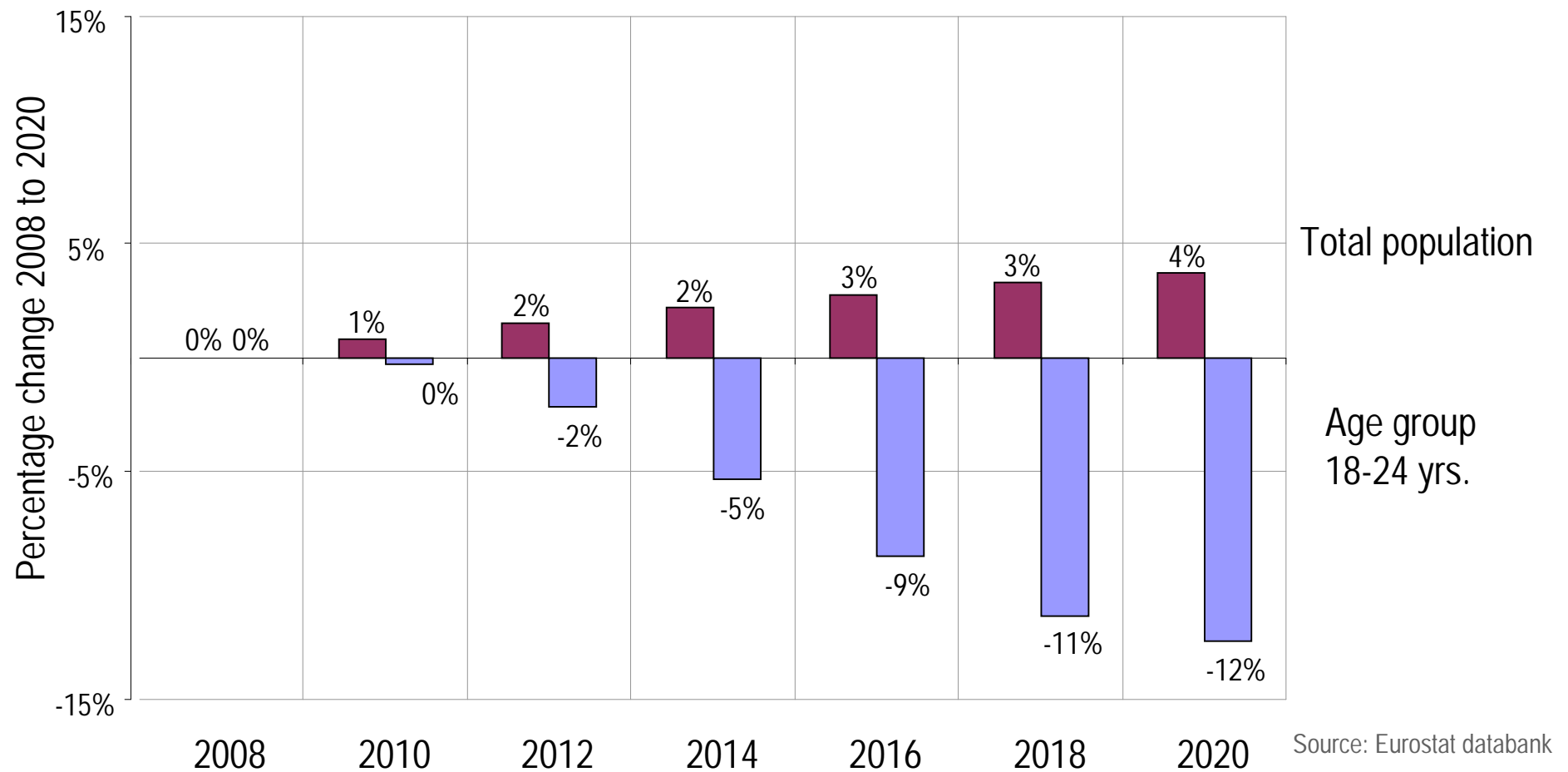
Future challenges: EU-Qualification requirement in 2020



Consequences for (higher) education

- more people should receive a higher level of initial training,
- more opportunities for people to return to the education system to up-date and extend their skills irrespective of their previous educational successes

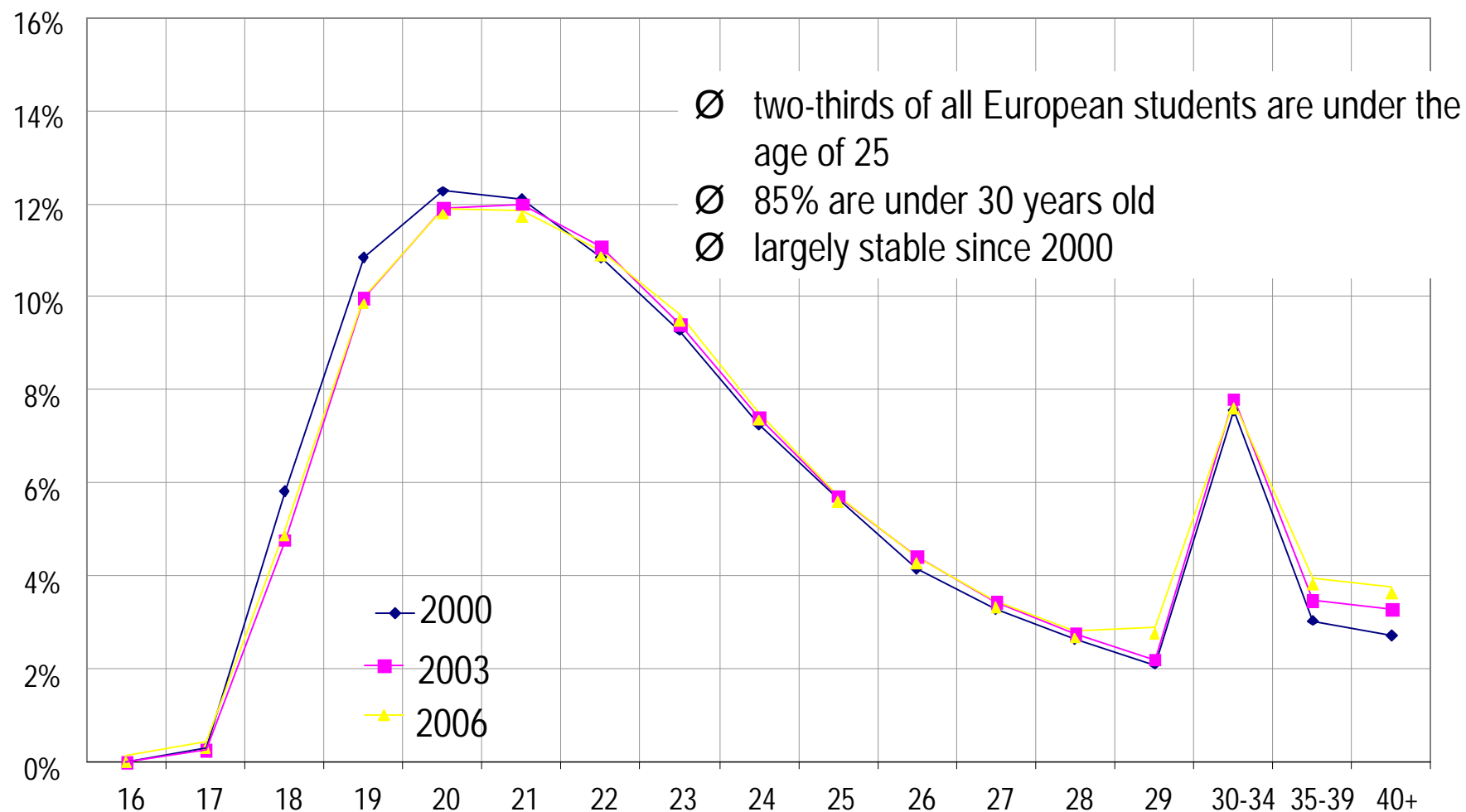
Future challenges: Changing European demographics for higher education (EU-27)



Consequences for (higher) education

- Policy-makers and university leaders must look beyond the classic "normal student"

Current age profiles of students (EU-27, ISCED 5A)



Source: Eurostat databank

Tasks for social dimension after Leuven

- n Reducing under-representation of students with low education background for most European countries
- n Improving access to the HE system by taking all 3 phases of academic study into account (entrance, retention, graduation)
- n Increasing openness of the system with respect to HE entrance qualification and target age group of students to meet future requirements of the labour market and demographic development

Equity and the social dimension may become the litmus test for sustainability in higher education in view of the concurrent middle and long term trends towards higher skilled jobs, an aging population and declining numbers of young people.