

NLSY97 COVID-19 Supplement: Initial Findings and Future Use

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About NLSY97 Data

- Sample of 8,984 men and women who were born in the years 1980-84.
- Oversamples of Black and Hispanic individuals.
- First interviewed in 1997 when ages 12-17.
- Interviewed every year until 2011 and biennially since then.
- Round 21 is currently in the field, round 20 data (collected in 2021-22) available in December.



NLSY97 COVID-19 Supplement

- 12-minute survey, mostly over internet (some phone)
- Dates of data collection
 - ▶ February to May 2021
 - ▶ Between rounds 19 (began fall 2019) and 20 interviews (began fall 2021)
- Over 5,600 respondents participated
- Ages 36-41 at the time of the supplement



Topic Areas in COVID-19 Supplement

- Employment-respondent and spouse/partner
 - ▶ Last week
 - Hours worked
 - Hours worked from home
- Employment variation over last 12 months
- Child schooling last week
 - ▶ Mode: in-person and remote
 - ▶ Whether difficult to work or do other tasks
- Health—self reported, CES-D scale

What We Learned about Employment during the Pandemic

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-11/how-did-employment-change-during-the-covid-19-pandemic.htm>

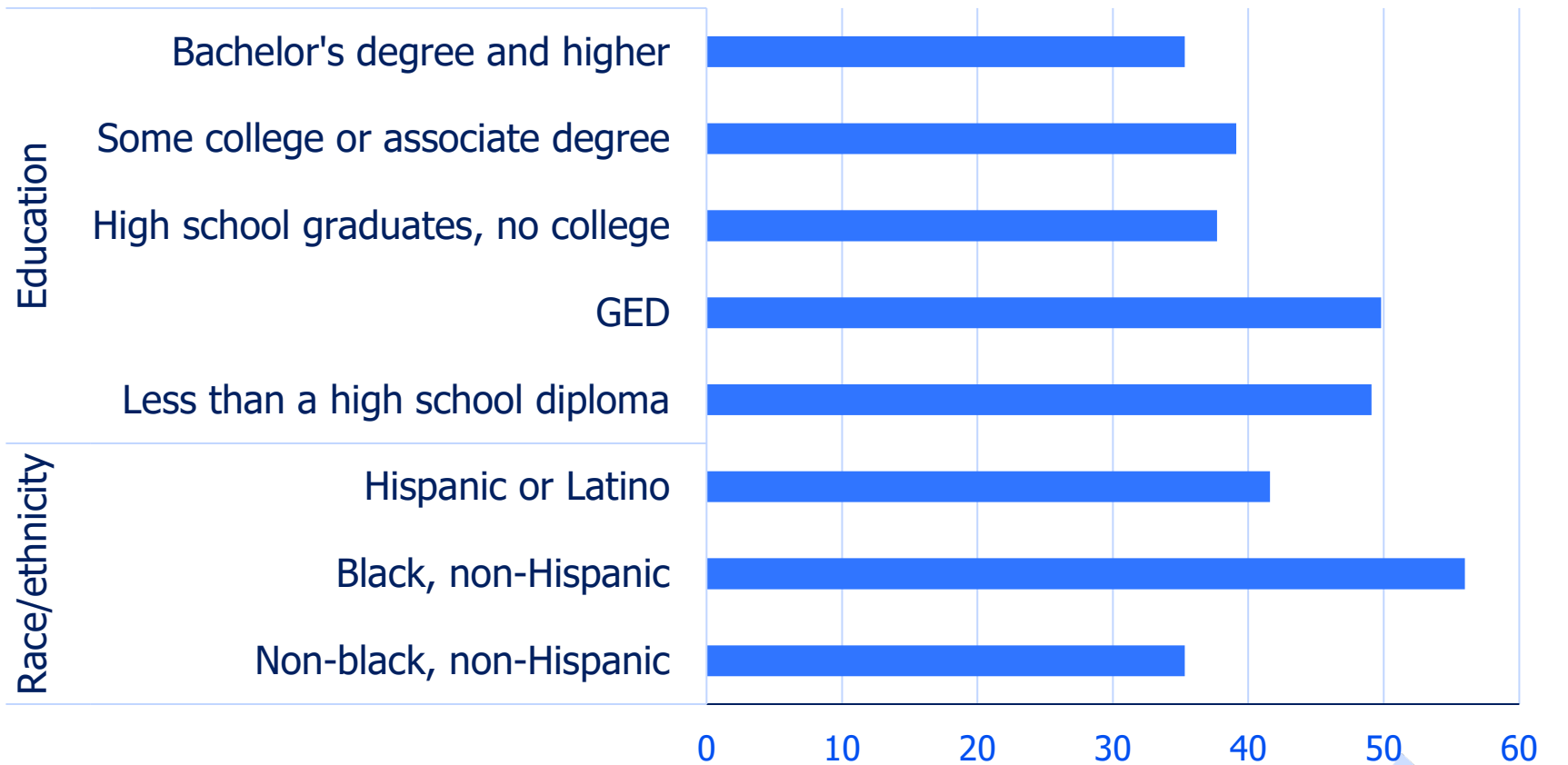


Percent working last week (week before interview) Feb-May 2021

Percent:	All	Men	Women
Total	77.1	81.1	72.9
Race and ethnicity			
Non-black, non-Hispanic	79.1	83.4	74.7
Black, non-Hispanic	70.4	70.5	70.4
Hispanic	74.4	82.1	65.5
Education			
Less than high school	50.1	56.7	43.2
GED	60.1	64.9	53.1
High school diploma	70.5	75.8	63.7
Some college	75.9	80.0	71.4
Bachelor's degree and higher	88.8	93.9	84.5



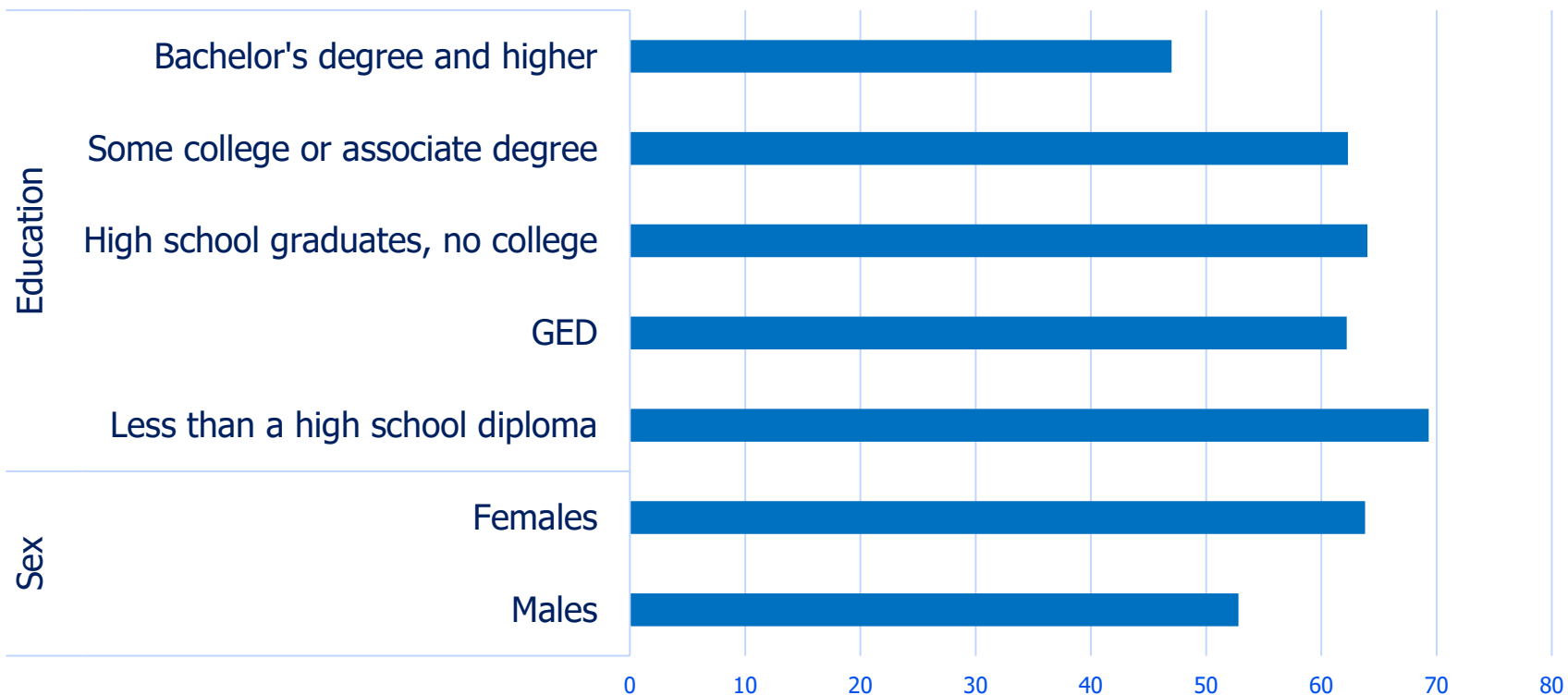
Percent of nonworkers whose main reason for not working due to the COVID-19 pandemic



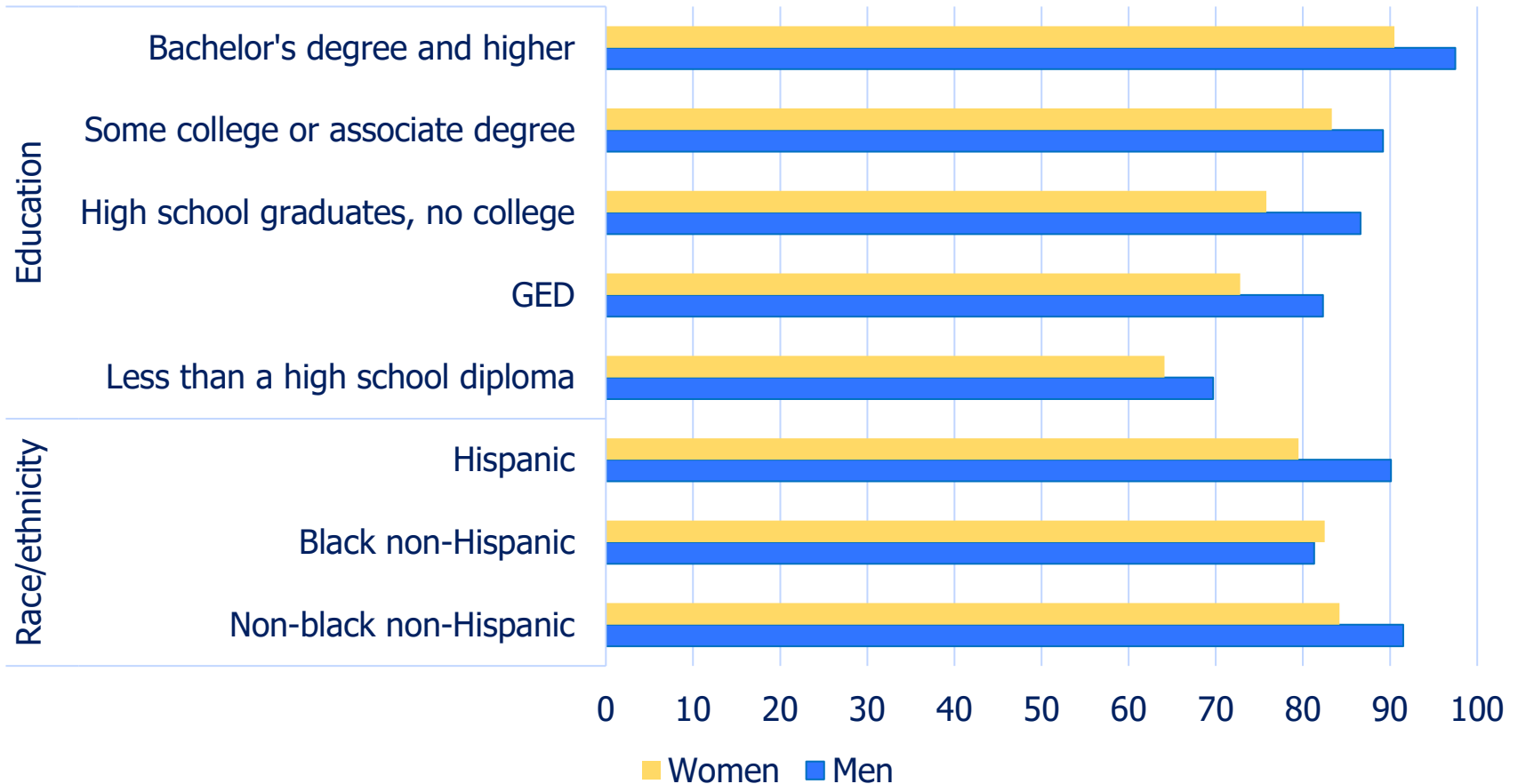
Conditional on working last week: hours worked and work from home

	Hours		Work from home		
	Lt 35	35 +	None	Some	All
Percent:					
Total	15.9	84.1	53.3	21.3	25.4
Race and ethnicity					
Non-black, non-Hispanic	15.5	84.5	51.6	22.2	26.2
Black, non-Hispanic	17.0	83.0	62.0	15.9	22.1
Hispanic	17.0	83.0	54.4	21.5	24.2
Education					
Less than high school	32.2	67.8	82.3	9.7	8.0
GED	24.9	75.1	79.0	12.7	8.3
High school diploma	16.1	83.9	76.2	13.2	10.6
Some college	17.1	82.9	61.9	18.4	19.6
Bachelor's degree and higher	11.9	88.1	32.1	28.5	39.4

If any in-person work: percent whose work requires frequent close contact with customers or coworkers



Percent working in the last 12 months

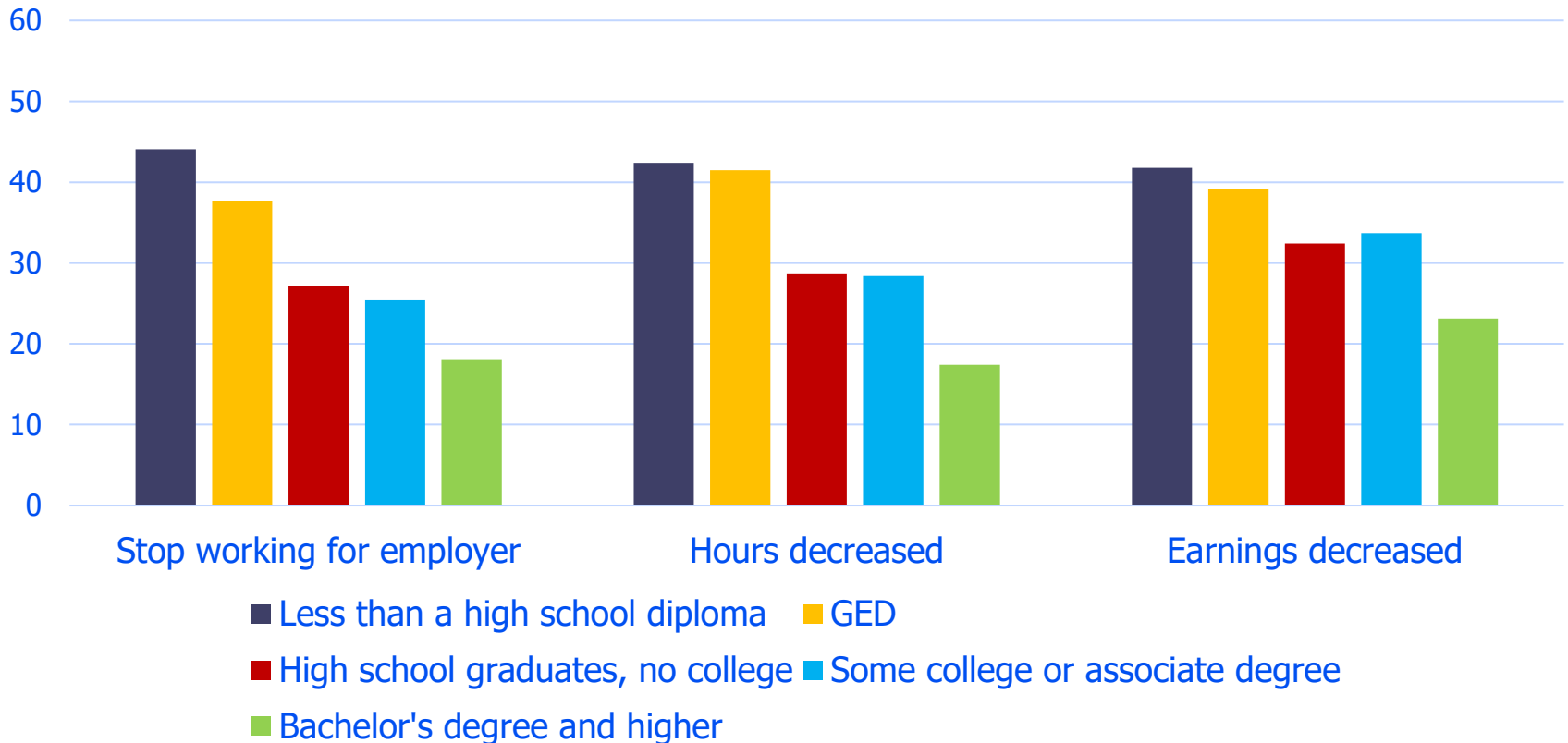


If worked in last 12 months: employment changes due to the pandemic

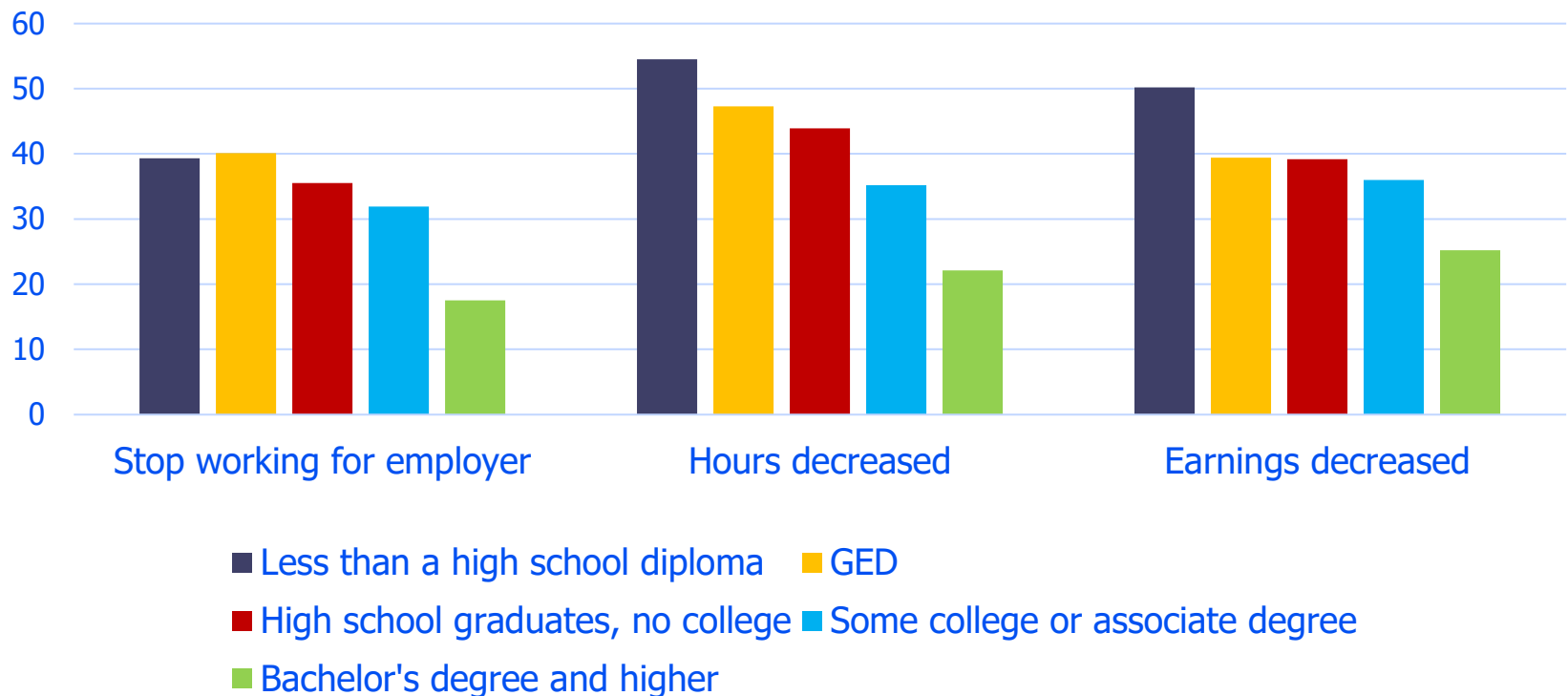
- Stopped working for employer
- Started working at new employer
- Hours decreased
- Hours increased
- Earnings decreased
- Earnings increased



Men: Percent who experienced employment changes in last 12 months



Women: Percent who experienced employment changes in last 12 months



COVID-19 Supplement Findings for Subsample with Children in School

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2023/article/employment-telework-and-child-remote-schooling-from-february-to-may-2021-evidence-from-the-national-longitudinal-survey-of-youth-1997.htm>



Rates of Work and Telework

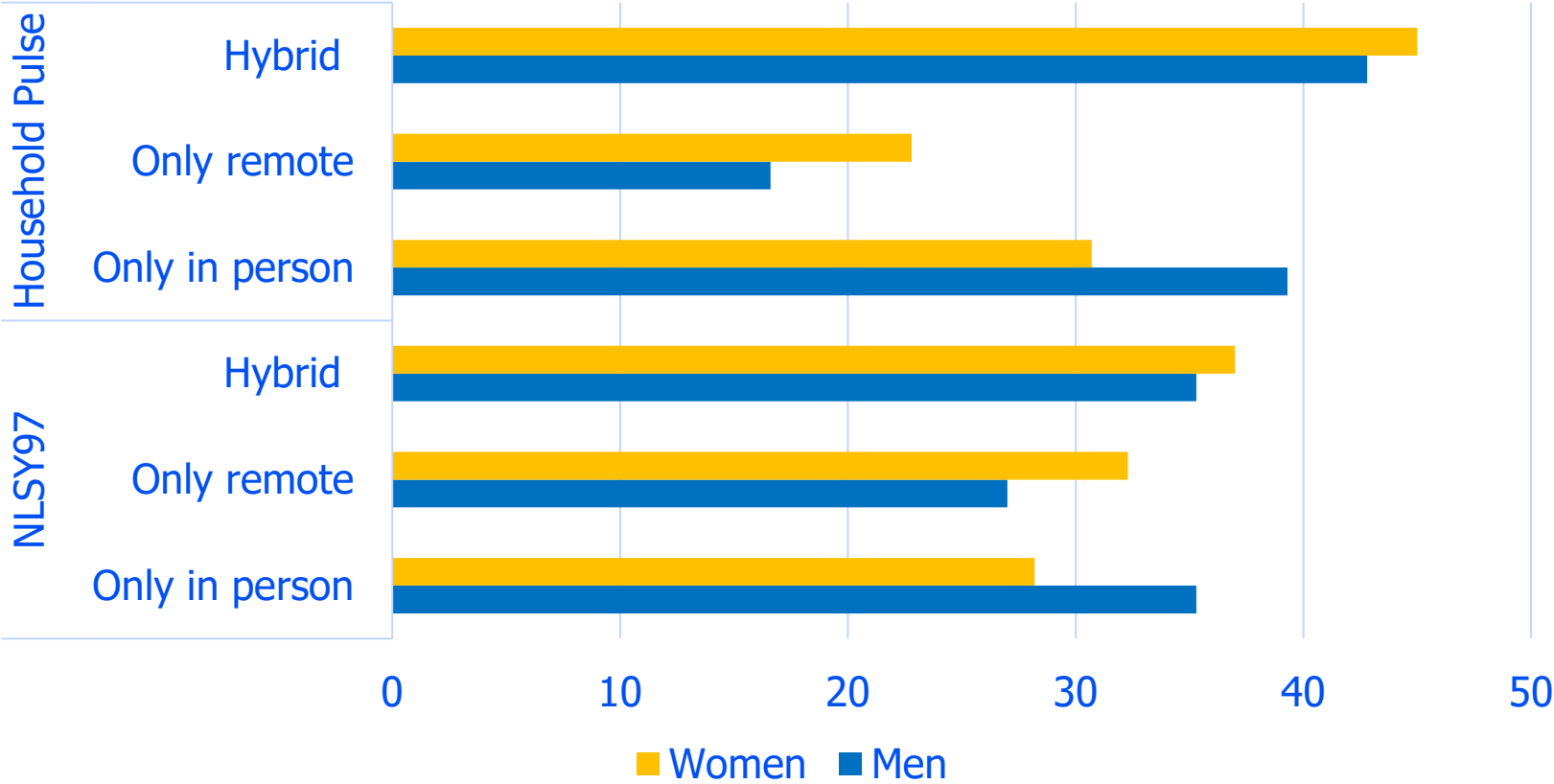
- 80% worked in the week prior to the supplement interview.
- Among those working: 46% had any telework and 23% had full telework.



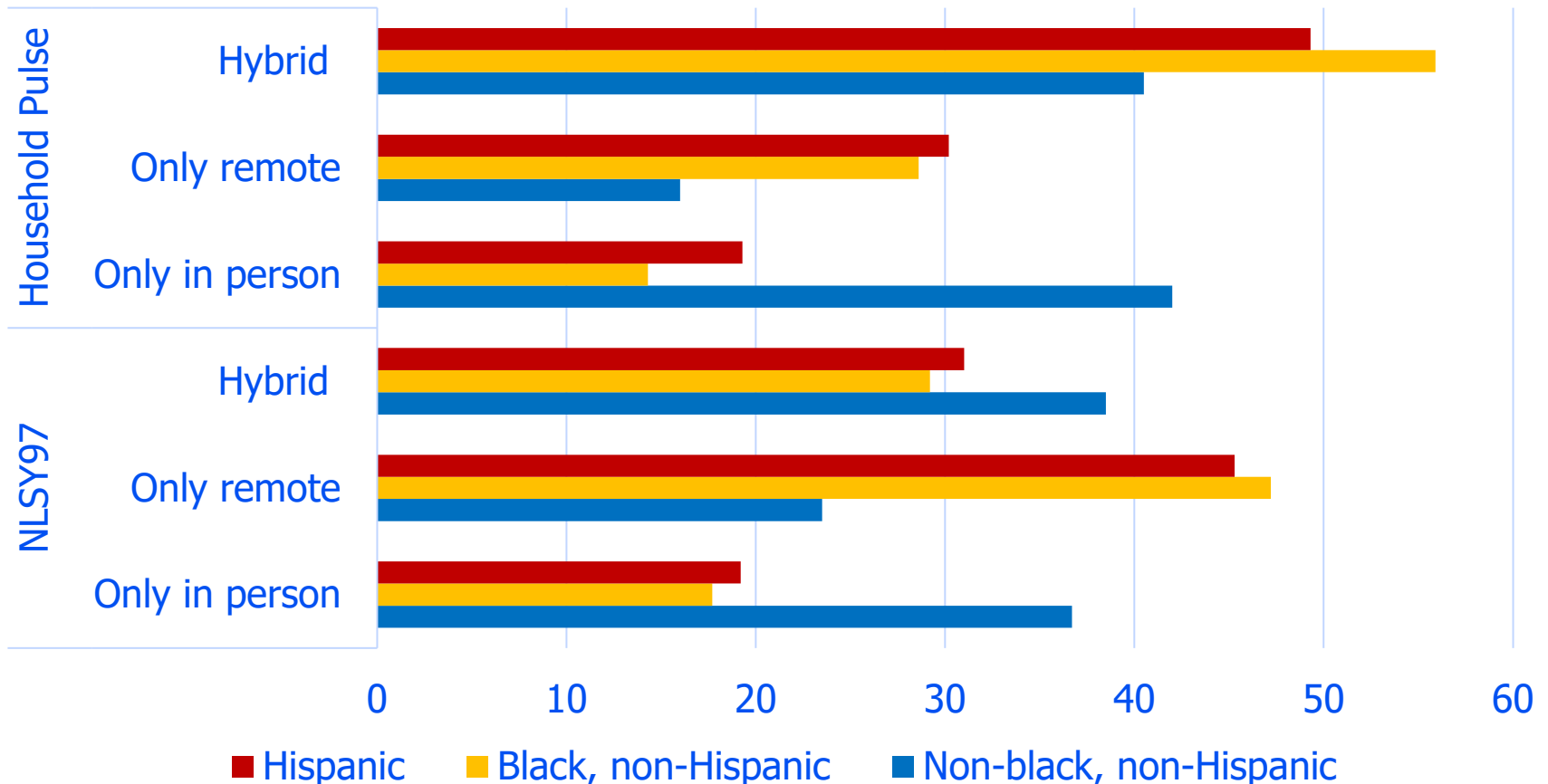
Likelihood of Full Telework Last Week: Sample with Children in School

- Linear probability model with state fixed effects
- Probability of Full Telework, among those working.
 - ▶ Increased probability if female, highest quartile AFQT score, bachelor's degree+, job conducive to telework at r19 interview, health condition that limits kind/amount of work at r19 interview.
 - ▶ Decreased probability if positive change in county-level workplace activity based on cell-phone data and location at r19 interview.

Likelihood of having a child in household who attended only in person, only remote or hybrid schooling last week



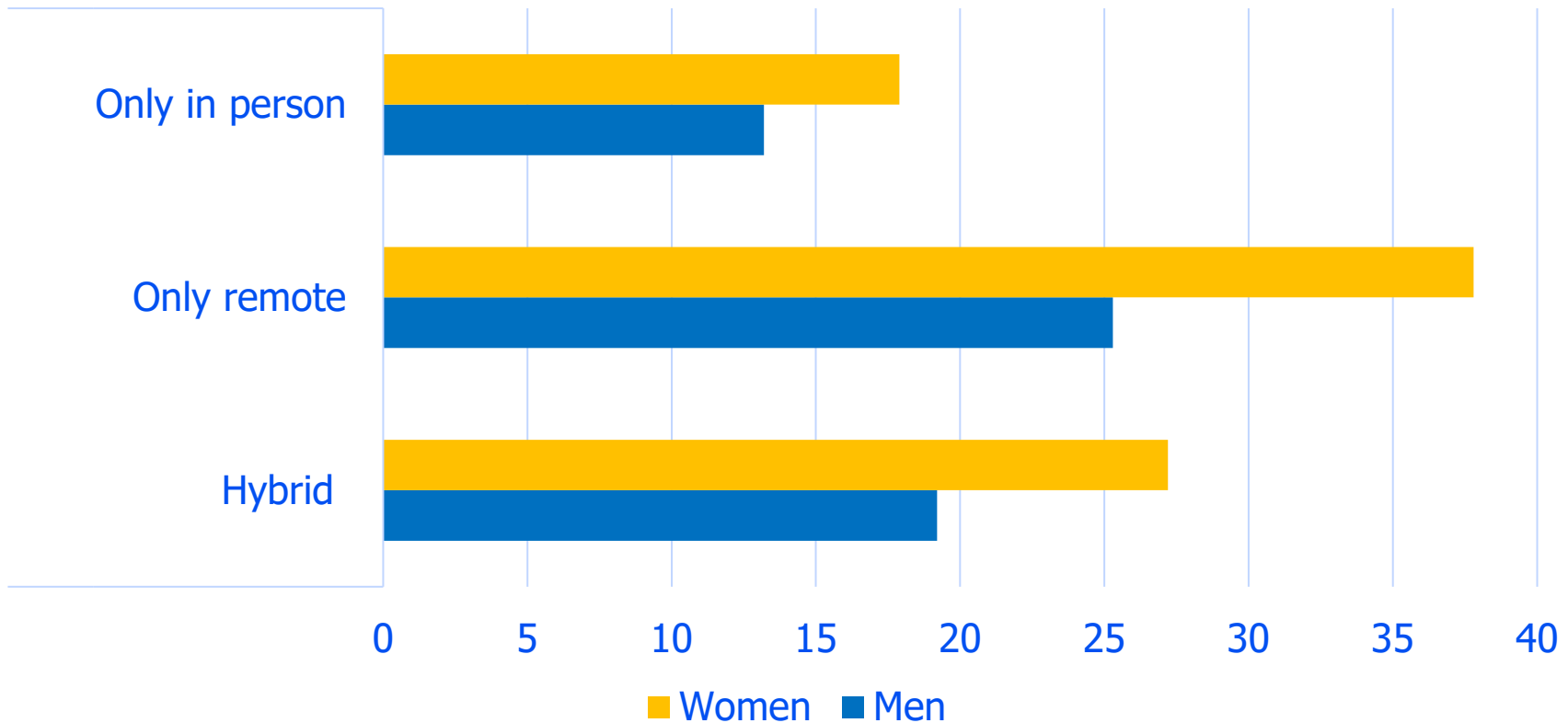
Likelihood of having a child in household who attended only in person, only remote or hybrid schooling last week



Probability Children Attend In-Person School Only in the Week Before the COVID-19 Supplement Interview

- Linear probability model with state fixed effects
- Probability in-person school only (vs remote only, hybrid)
 - ▶ Increased probability if h.s. diploma, some college or, bachelor's degree+, only children under age 6 in household, positive change in county-level workplace activity based on cell-phone data and location at r19 interview.
 - ▶ Decreased probability if female (adult), black, Hispanic, urban location at r19 interview.

Likelihood of full telework in the prior week, by schooling type and sex



Additional COVID-19 Questions in Round 20

Collected in 2021-22



Round 20 Questions about COVID-19



Employment:

For each job

- If experienced volatility due to pandemic
- Main reason left job, follow up asks if due to the pandemic



Job search, gaps, why not looking for work:

Main reason not looking for work, follow up asks if due to the pandemic



Income: COVID-19 stimulus payments in 2020



Health: tested positive for COVID-19, whether received the vaccine.

Future Research



Future Research: Round 20 Data



Expected release December 2023.

Covers period before and during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Labor market history from the 2019 interview (and earlier) through 2021 interview.

Additional questions about experiences during COVID-19 pandemic.

Methodological Research

- Examine how reports of employment and hours in the NLSY97 COVID-19 supplement compare with work event history reported in Round 20.



Additional Research Topics

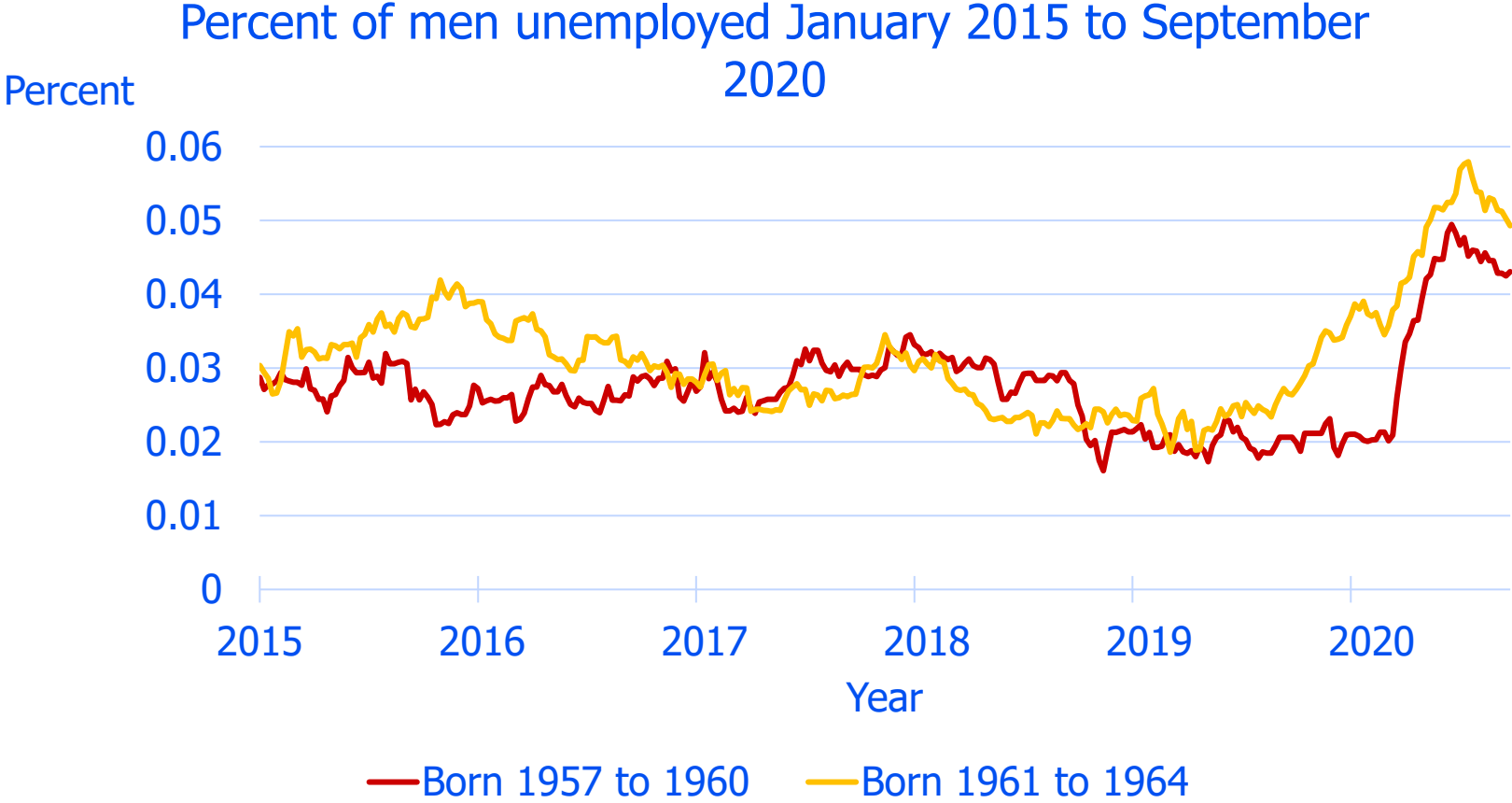
- Job changes and job loss during the pandemic—controlling for prior labor market histories—could compare the NLSY79 and NLSY97.
- Telework, occupation, job flexibility, and the pandemic.
- Health impacts of the pandemic.
- Program participation, income, financial stability, and inequality—impacts of the pandemic.



Research with the NLS

- The structure of the NLSY surveys
 - ▶ Event histories of employment
 - ▶ Wide breadth of topics
 - ▶ Repeated measures
- Enables the study of outside events (Great Recession, COVID-19 pandemic) across many domains.

Example of Use of Work History Data Before and During Pandemic: NLSY79



Contact Information

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References

1. Alison Aughinbaugh and Donna S. Rothstein, "How did employment change during the COVID-19 pandemic? Evidence from a new BLS survey supplement," *Beyond the Numbers: Employment & Unemployment*, vol. 11, no. 1 (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, January 2022). <https://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-11/how-did-employment-change-during-the-covid-19-pandemic.htm>
2. Alison Aughinbaugh, Jeffrey A. Groen, Mark A. Loewenstein, Donna S. Rothstein, and Hugette Sun, "Employment, Telework, and Child Remote Schooling from February to May 2021: Evidence from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997," *Monthly Labor Review* (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, March 2023). <https://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2023/article/employment-telework-and-child-remote-schooling-from-february-to-may-2021-evidence-from-the-national-longitudinal-survey-of-youth-1997.htm>

