

2004-2006
National Dental Telephone Interview
Survey

Comparison of
South Australian & National results

Presented by Anne Ellershaw

Acknowledgements

- **Australian Government Department of Health & Ageing**
- **Australian Institute of Health & Welfare**
- **Contribution of State & Territory Health Departments in conducting dental examinations, particularly South Australian Dental Service**
- **South Australia was the gold standard state**

NDTIS Sample Size – Dentate adults

SA



n=1,200

National

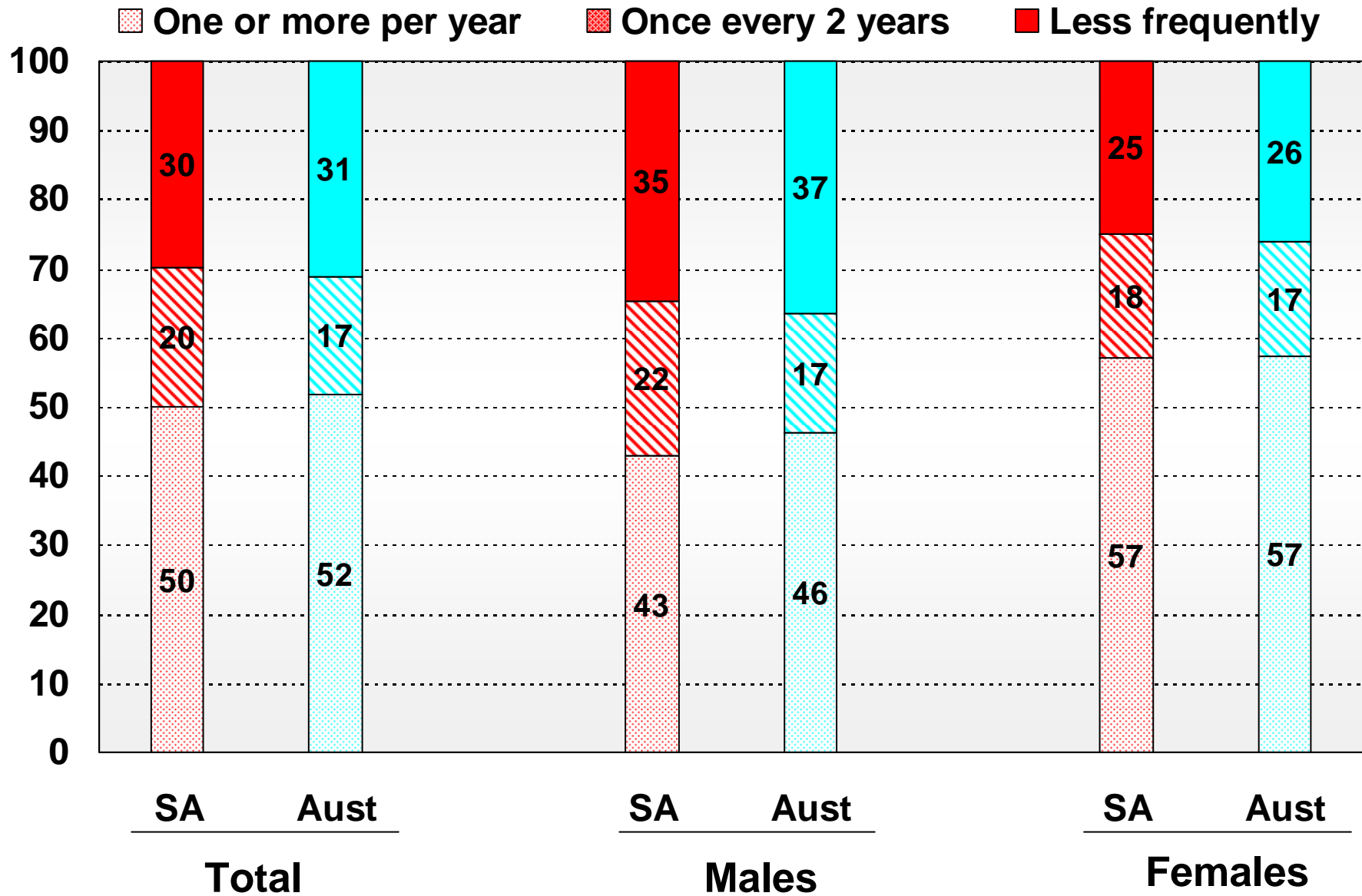


n=12,400

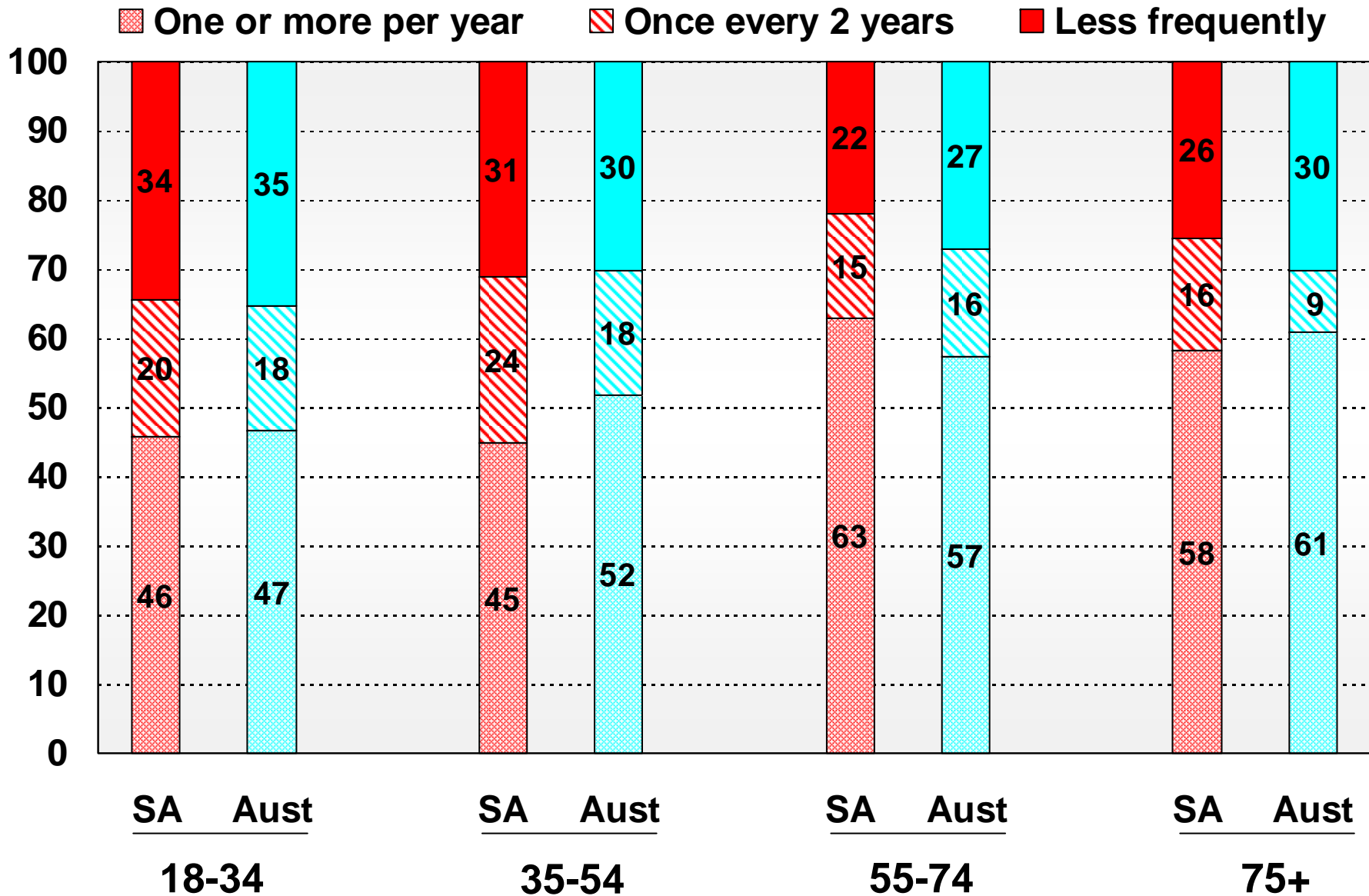
Dental visiting patterns

- Usual frequency of dental visit
- Usual reason for dental visit
- Site of last dental visit
- Whether visit a regular dentist

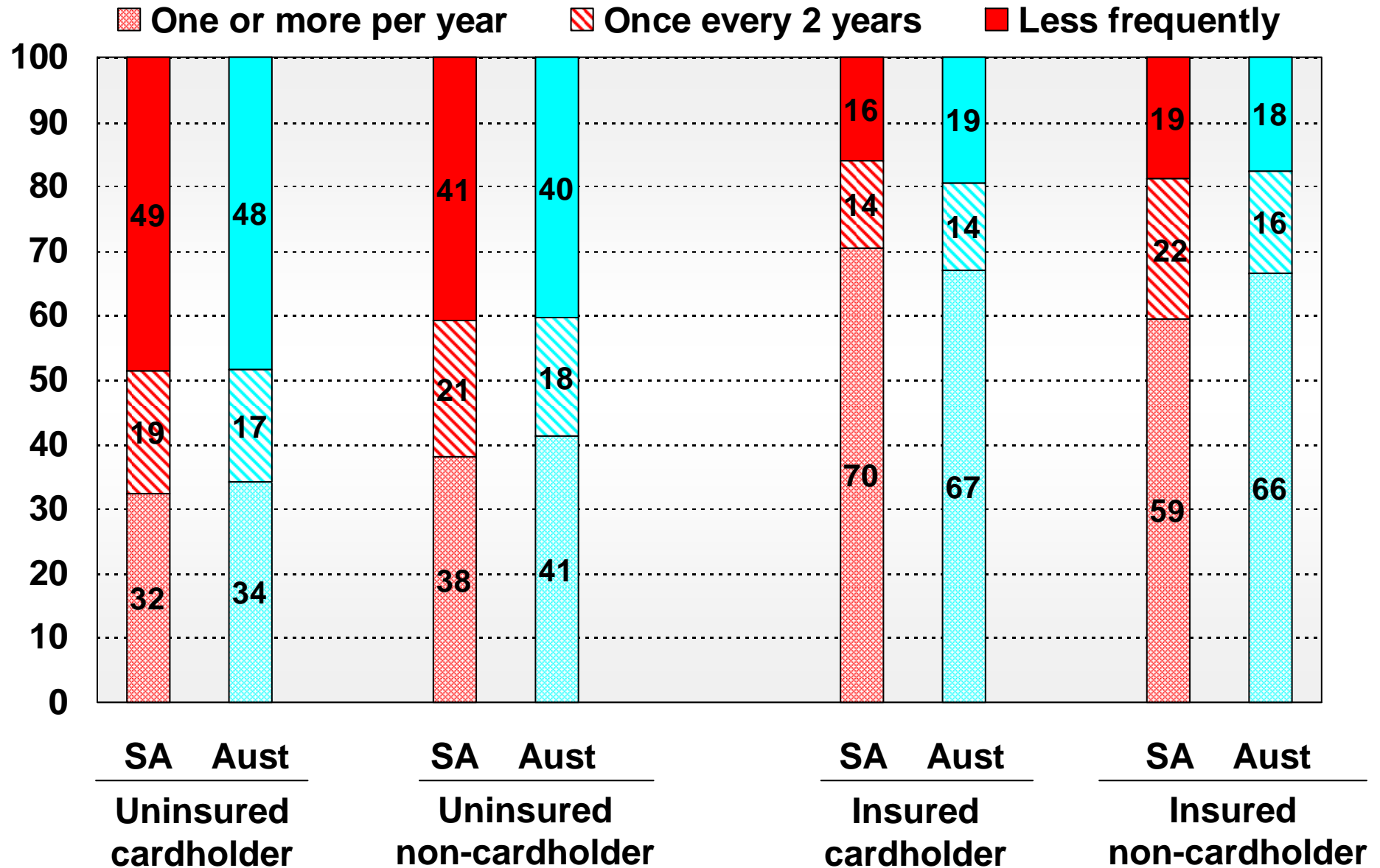
Usual frequency of visiting dentist by Sex – Dentate adults



Usual frequency of visiting dentist by Age – Dentate adults



Usual frequency of visiting dentist by Cardholder & Insurance Status – Dentate adults



Profile of South Australians in cardholder & insurance groups

- Age**
- Work Status**
- Highest level of education**
- Household income**

Uninsured cardholder

26% 18-34 yrs
32% 35-54 yrs
28% 55-74 yrs
14% 75+ yrs

Insured cardholder

5% 18-34 yrs
20% 35-54 yrs
57% 55-74 yrs
18% 75+ yrs

Age

Uninsured non-cardholder

39% 18-34 yrs
46% 35-54 yrs
10% 55-74 yrs
5% 75+ yrs

Insured non-cardholder

33% 18-34 yrs
44% 35-54 yrs
21% 55-74 yrs
2% 75+ yrs

Uninsured cardholder

12% employed full-time
17% employed part-time
25% unemployed
33% retired
12% home duties
1% student

Insured cardholder

4% employed full-time
17% employed part-time
9% unemployed
58% retired
10% home duties
2% student

Work Status

Uninsured non-cardholder

57% employed full-time
23% employed part-time
4% unemployed
9% retired
7% home duties
0% student

Insured non-cardholder

58% employed full-time
28% employed part-time
2% unemployed
7% retired
4% home duties
1% student

Uninsured cardholder

- 18% year 9 or less
- 18% year 10/11
- 13% certificate (1-2 yrs)
- 14% year 12
- 17% trade/apprenticeship
- 13% uni degree or higher

- 7% other

Insured cardholder

- 14% year 9 or less
- 22% year 10/11
- 10% certificate (1-2 yrs)
- 10% year 12
- 18% trade/apprenticeship
- 16% uni degree or higher

- 10% other

Highest level of Education

Uninsured non-cardholder

- 8% year 9 or less
- 19% year 10/11
- 13% certificate (1-2 yrs)
- 18% year 12
- 15% trade/apprenticeship
- 24% uni degree or higher

- 3% other

Insured non-cardholder

- 3% year 9 or less
- 16% year 10/11
- 14% certificate (1-2 yrs)
- 17% year 12
- 15% trade/apprenticeship
- 28% uni degree or higher

- 7% other

Uninsured cardholder

48% < \$20,000
46% \$20 - <\$40,000
5% \$40 - <\$60,000
1% \$60,000+

Insured cardholder

42% < \$20,000
43% \$20 - <\$40,000
13% \$40 - <\$60,000
2% \$60,000+

Household Income

Uninsured non-cardholder

6% < \$20,000
26% \$20 - <\$40,000
27% \$40 - <\$60,000
41% \$60,000+

Insured non-cardholder

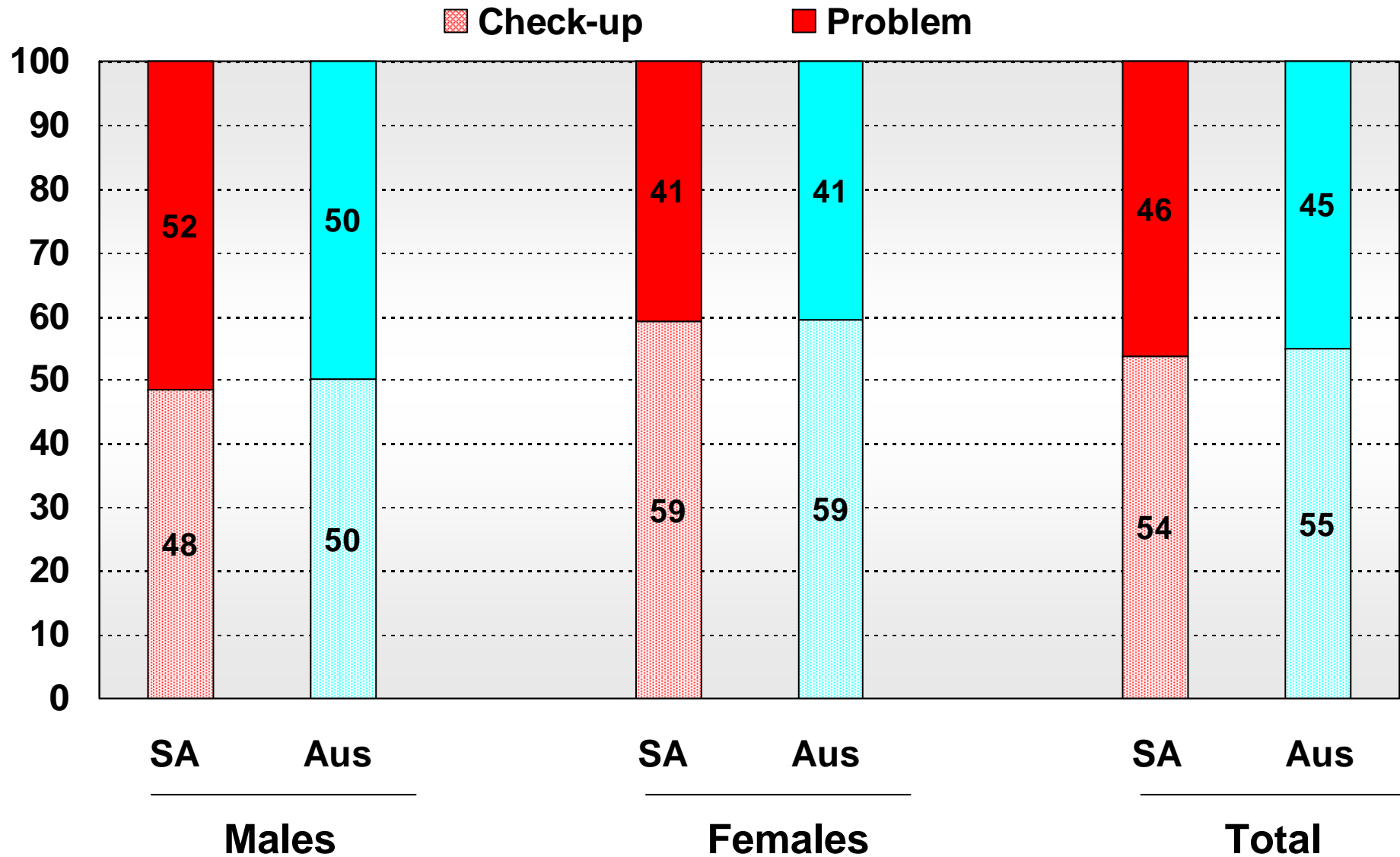
4% < \$20,000
17% \$20 - <\$40,000
27% \$40 - <\$60,000
52% \$60,000+

Usually visit less often than every two years by Cardholder & Insurance Status – Dentate adults

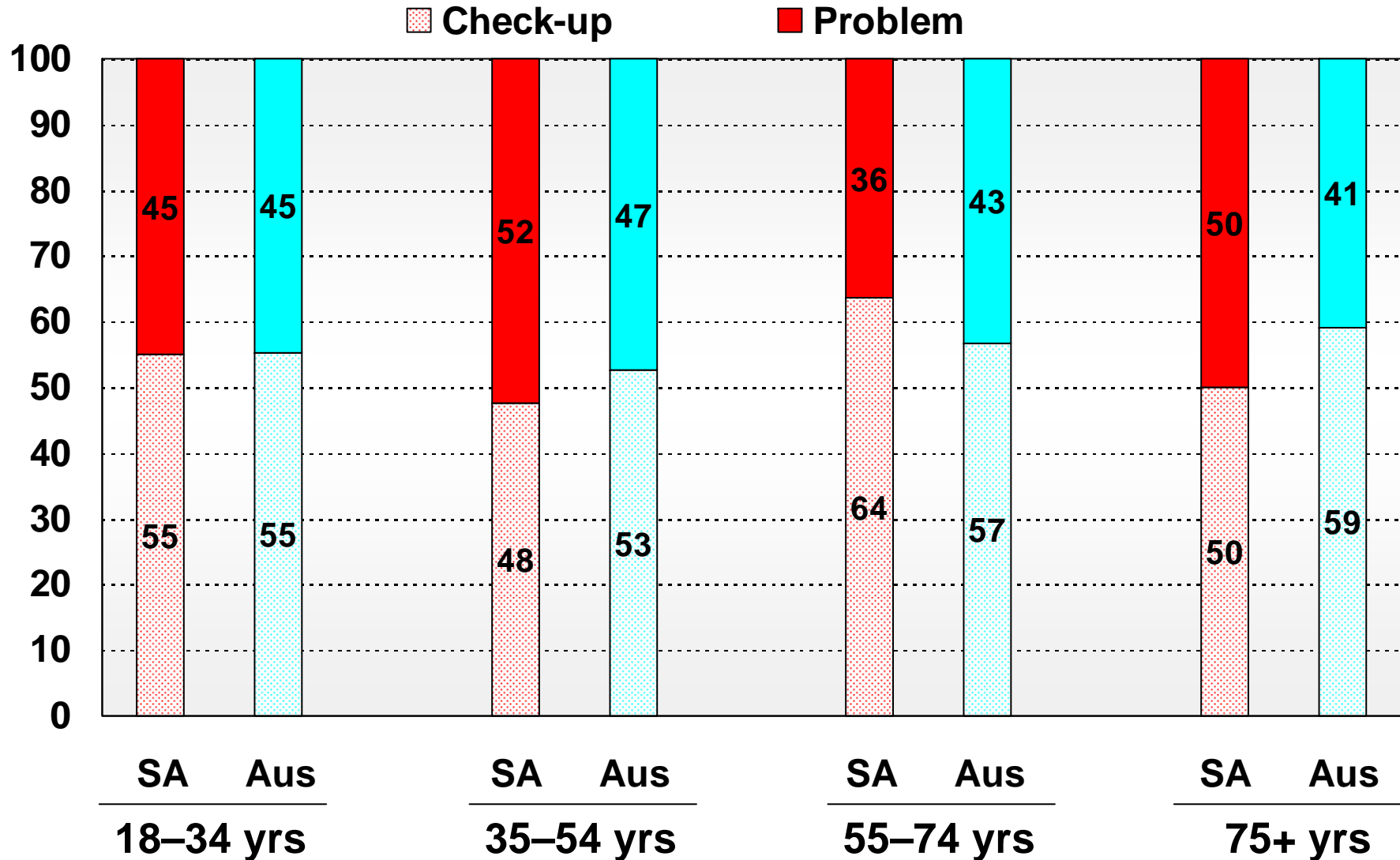
SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.76 *	2.16 , 3.52
Uninsured non-cardholder	2.13 *	1.67 , 2.72
Insured cardholder	1.03	0.64 , 1.66
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.88 *	2.61, 3.18
Uninsured non-cardholder	2.25 *	2.04 , 2.48
Insured cardholder	1.21 *	1.01 , 1.44
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

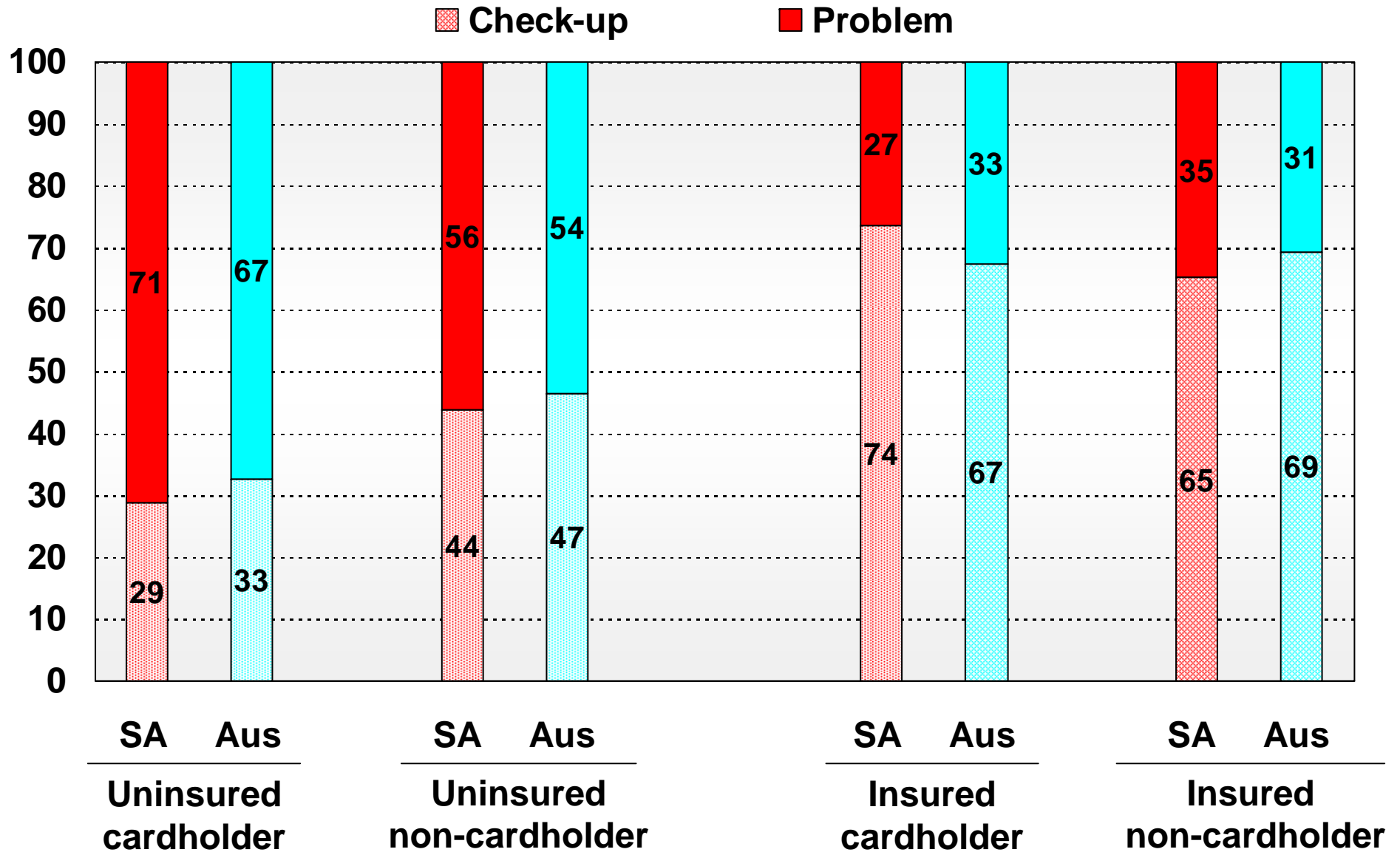
Usual reason for dental visit by Sex – Dentate adults



Usual reason for dental visit by Age – Dentate adults



Usual reason for dental visit by Insurance & Cardholder status - Dentate adults only

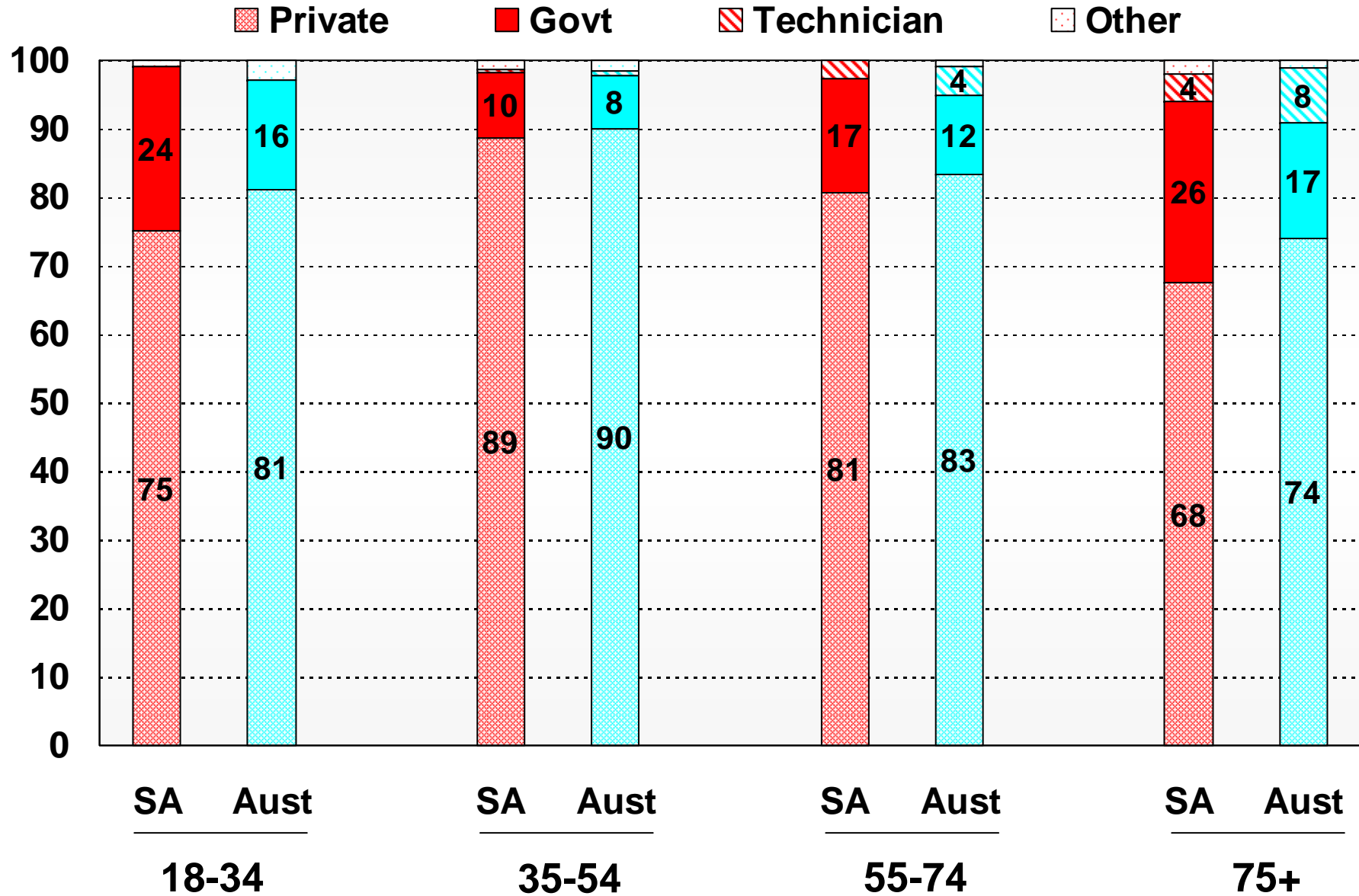


Usually visit for problem by Cardholder & Insurance Status – Dentate adults

SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.10 *	1.79 , 2.46
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.58 *	1.33 , 1.87
Insured cardholder	0.83	0.55 , 1.25
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.31 *	2.17, 2.47
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.76 *	1.65 , 1.88
Insured cardholder	1.16 *	1.01 , 1.32
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

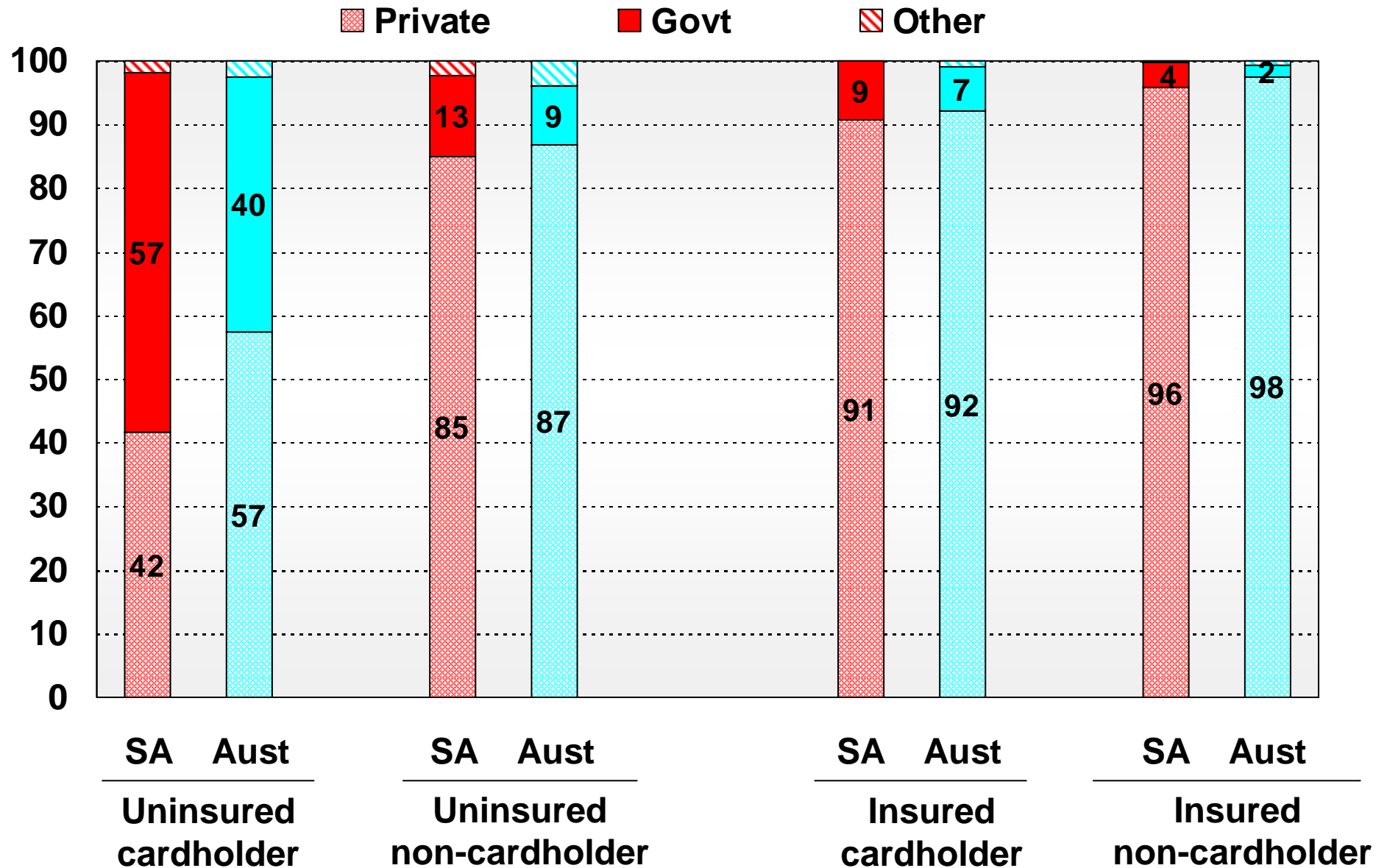
Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

Site of last visit by Age - Adults

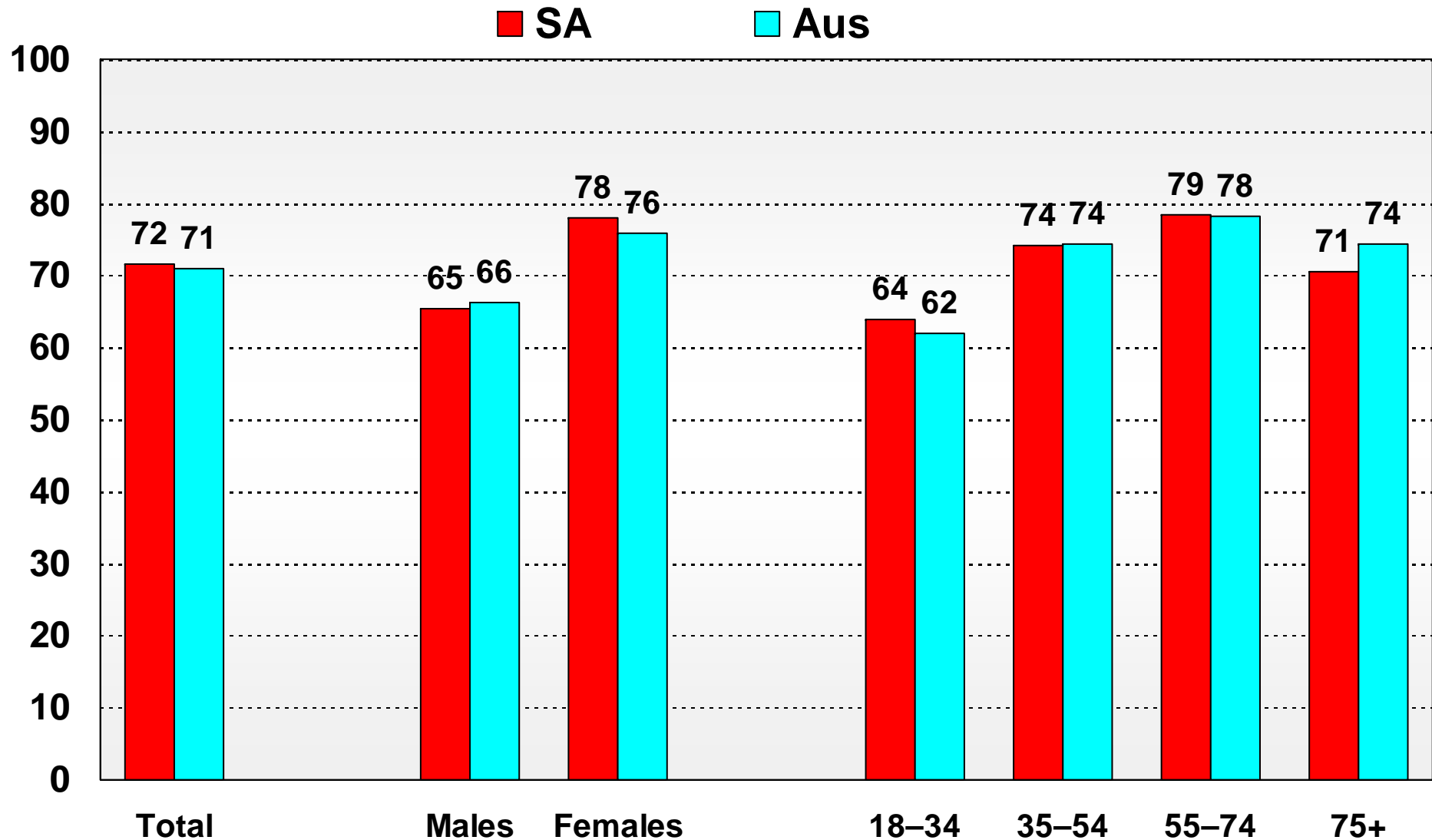


Site of Last Visit

by Cardholder & Insurance Status – Dentate adults

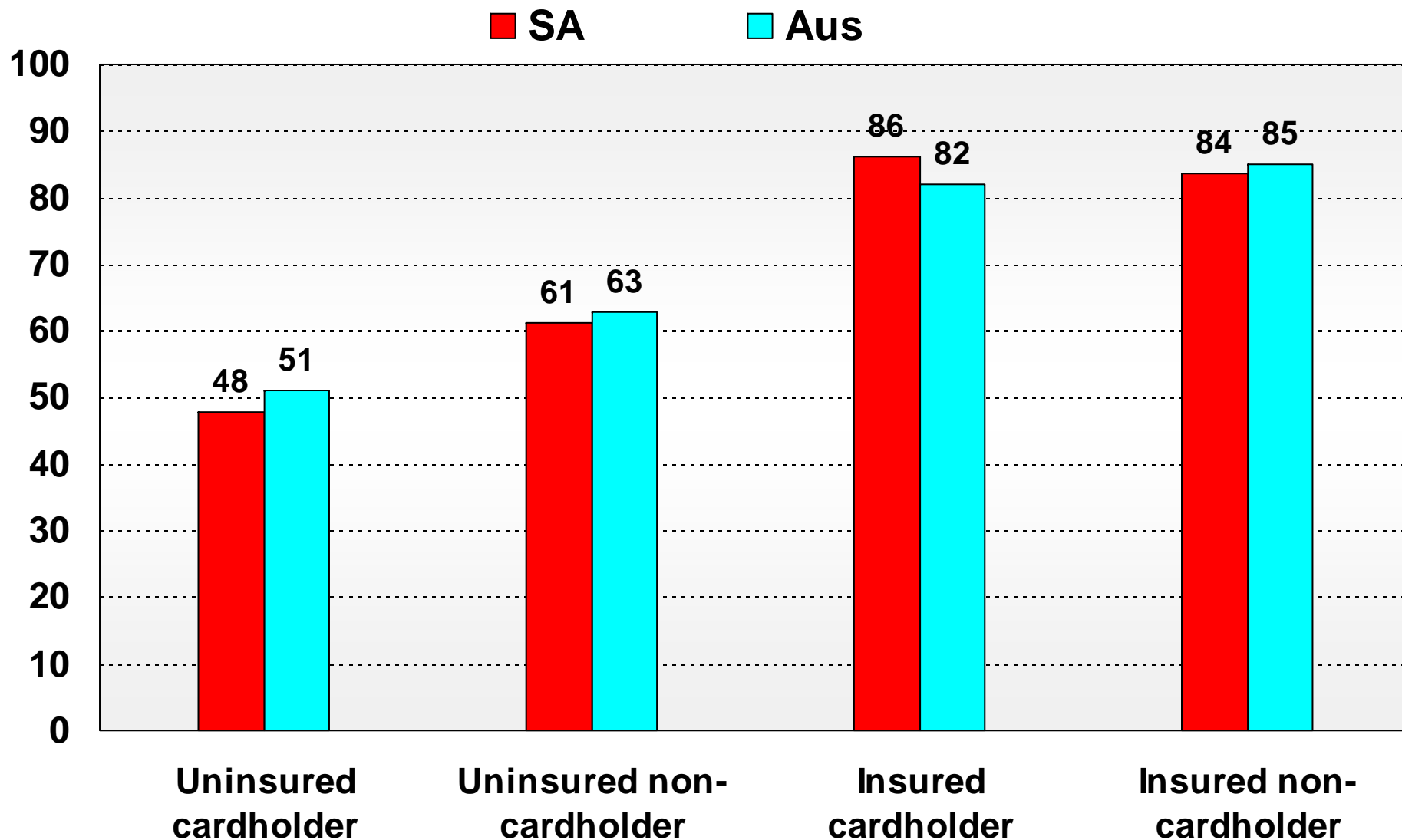


% Visit regular dentist by Sex & Age – Dentate adults only



% Visit regular dentist

by Insurance & Cardholder Status – Dentate adults



Conclusions

Dental visiting patterns

- **Dental visiting patterns of South Australian adults were very similar to National patterns**
- **30% of South Australians usually visit a dentist less often than once every two years (National figure same)**
- **Males & 18-54 year olds visit less frequently than other Australians (both SA & National)**
- **Males & 18-34 year olds are less likely to visit a regular dentist**

Conclusions

Dental visiting patterns

- **Males & 35-54 year olds had higher prevalence of problem oriented visiting**
- **Insurance status was a more important factor than cardholder status in determining dental visiting behaviour**
- **The uninsured are far more likely to be infrequent dental visitors than the insured, particularly uninsured cardholders**
- **Insured cardholders had similar visiting patterns to insured non-cardholders despite having a much lower income profile**

Conclusions

Dental visiting patterns

- **Uninsured cardholders more than twice as likely & uninsured non-cardholders more than 1½ times as likely to be problem oriented visitors**
- **South Australians more likely to have visited a Government dental clinic at last visit than other Australians**

Financial barriers to dental visiting - questions asked

During the last 12 months have you avoided or delayed visiting a dental professional because of cost?

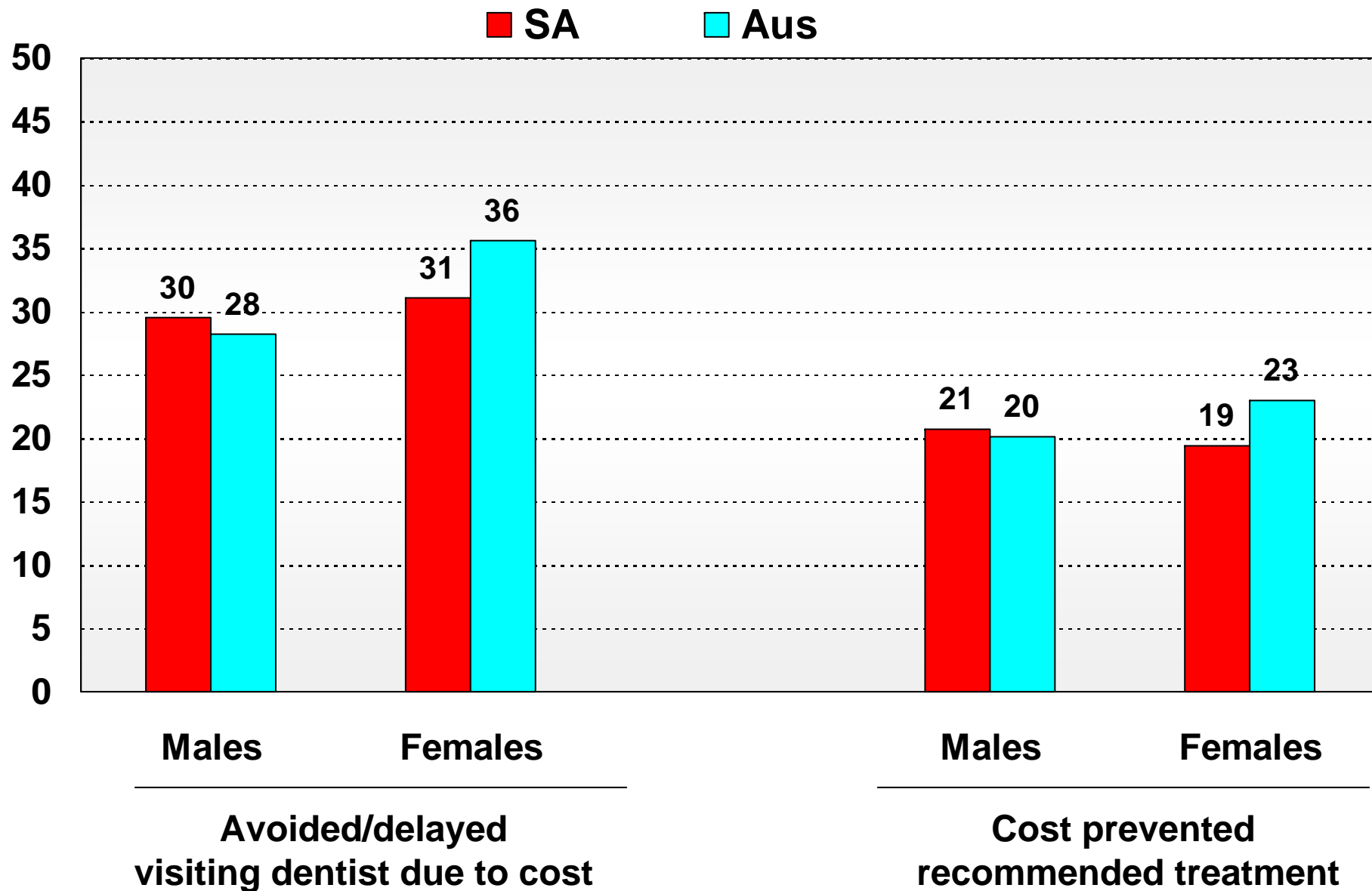
- Yes/No

Has cost prevented you from having any dental treatment that was recommended in the last two years?

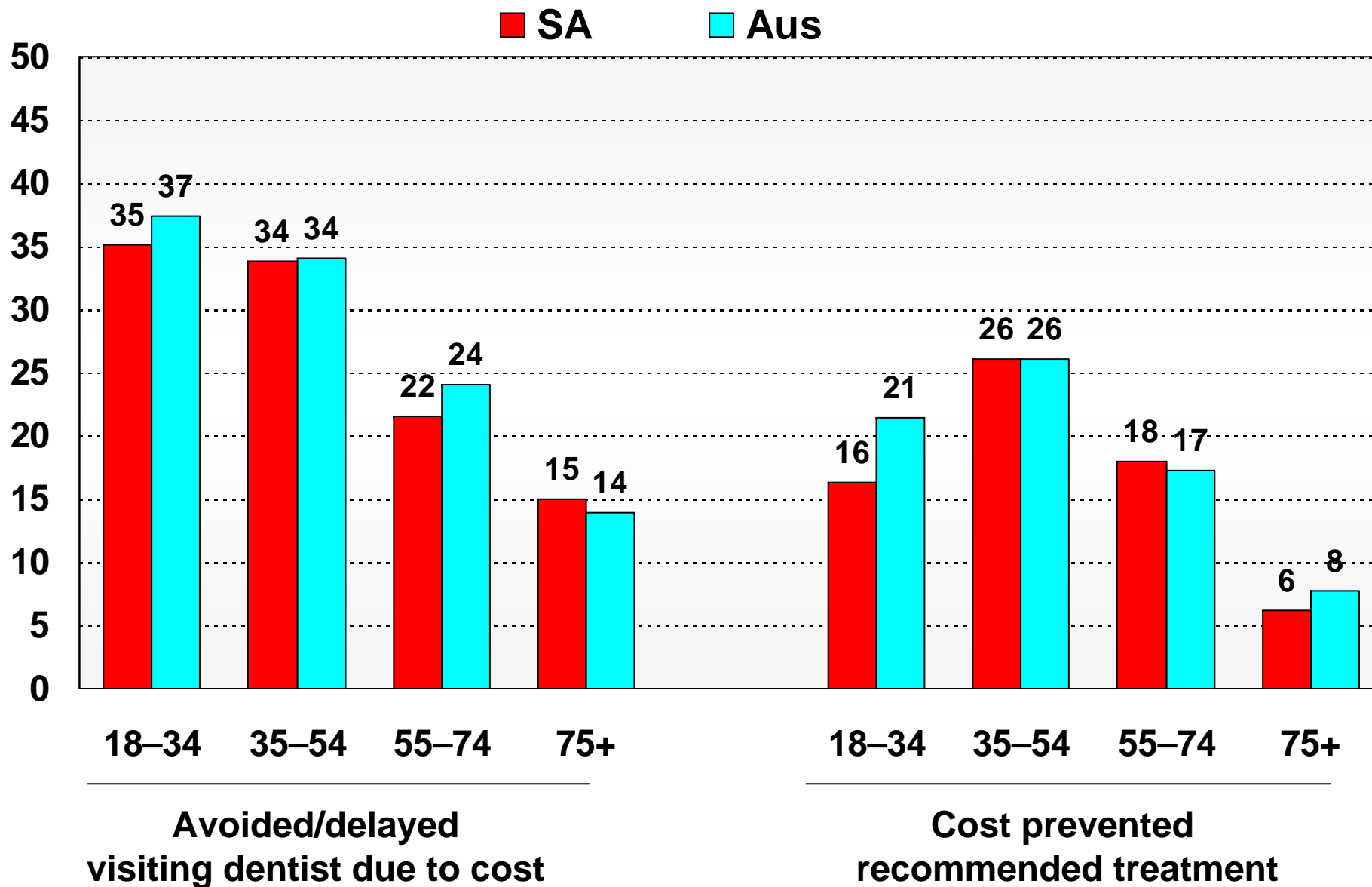
- Yes/No

(only completed by those visiting dentist in last two years)

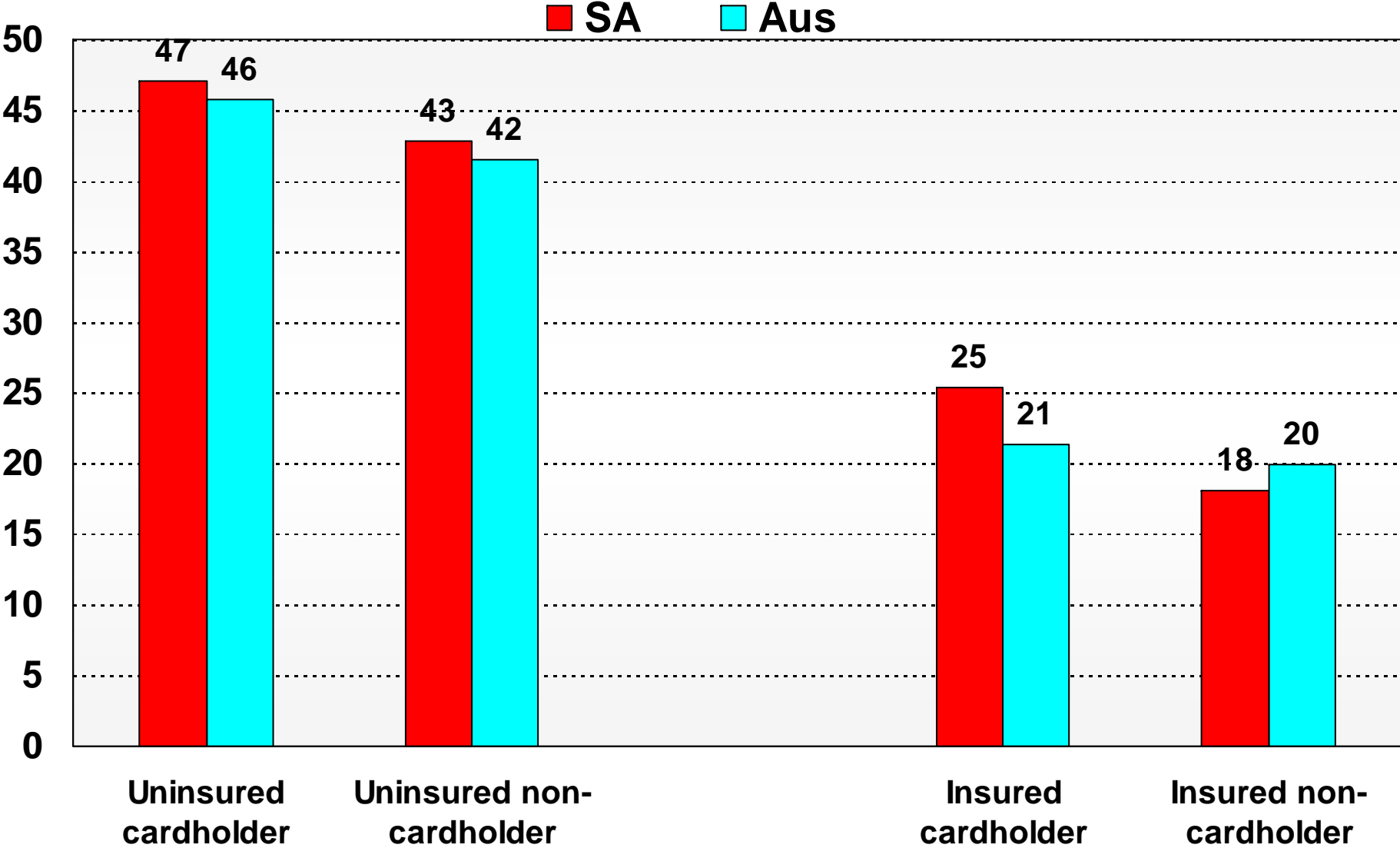
Financial barriers by Sex – Dentate adults



Financial barriers by Age – Dentate adults



Avoided/delayed dental care due to cost by insurance & cardholder status – Dentate adults

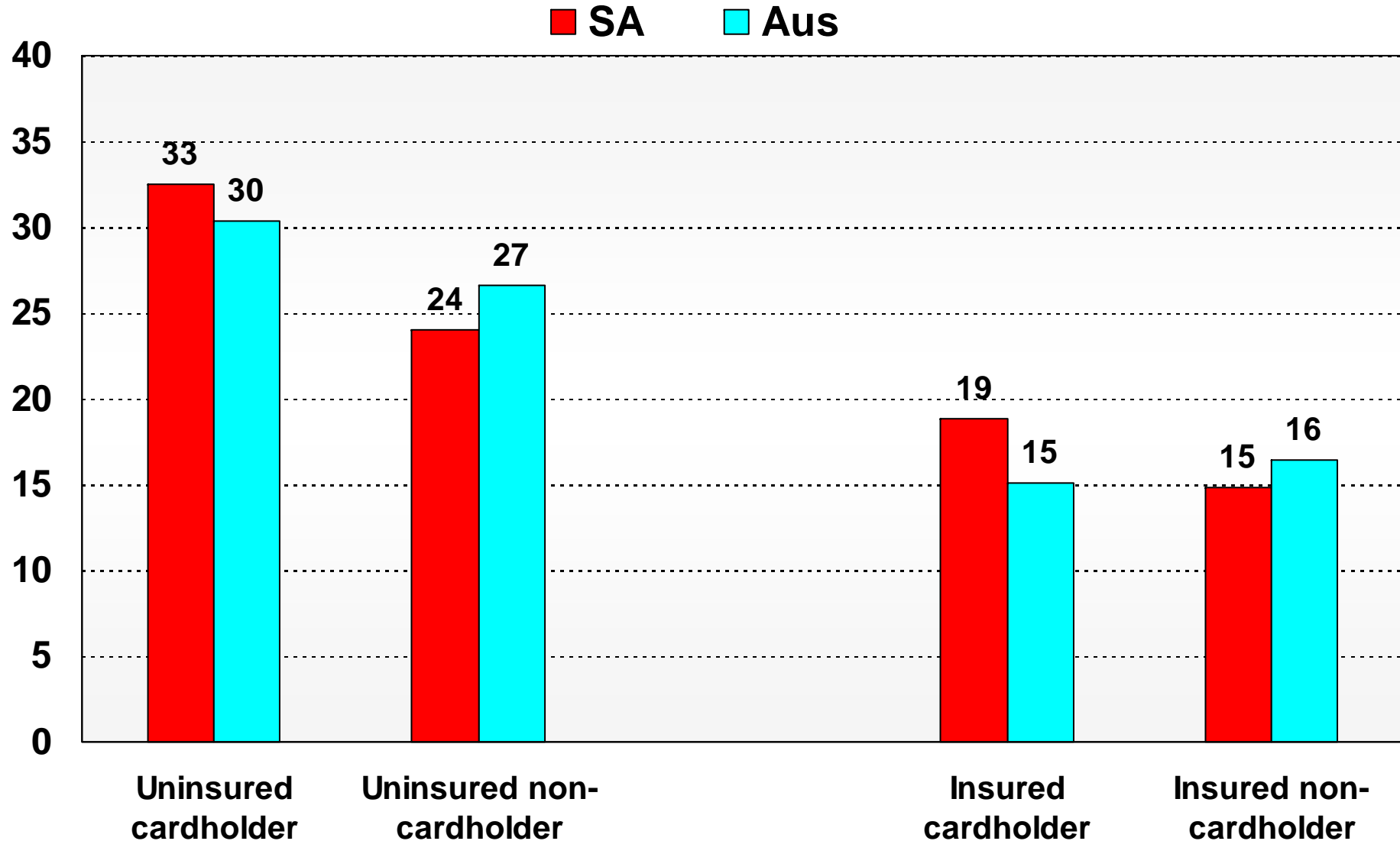


Avoided/delayed dental care due to cost – Dentate adults

SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.93 *	2.14 , 4.02
Uninsured non-cardholder	2.30 *	1.73 , 3.05
Insured cardholder	1.96 *	1.13 , 3.40
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.66 *	2.43, 2.91
Uninsured non-cardholder	2.05 *	1.87 , 2.24
Insured cardholder	1.39 *	1.15 , 1.67
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

Cost prevented recommended treatment by insurance & cardholder status – Dentate adults



Cost prevented dental treatment – Dentate adults

SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.36 *	1.55 , 3.59
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.65 *	1.02 , 2.67
Insured cardholder	1.58	0.80 , 3.11
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.18 *	1.90, 2.50
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.66 *	1.47 , 1.87
Insured cardholder	1.21	0.97 , 1.52
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

Conclusions

Financial barriers

- **Results very similar for SA & Australia**
- **Financial barriers were more prevalent for 18-34 & 35-54 year olds than older age groups**
- **Uninsured groups significantly more likely to report financial barriers than insured groups, particularly uninsured cardholders**
- **Insured cardholders significantly more likely to report avoiding or delaying dental care than insured non-cardholders**
- **Insured cardholders were equally likely to report that cost had prevented recommended treatment than insured non-cardholders**

Self-reported Oral Health Status

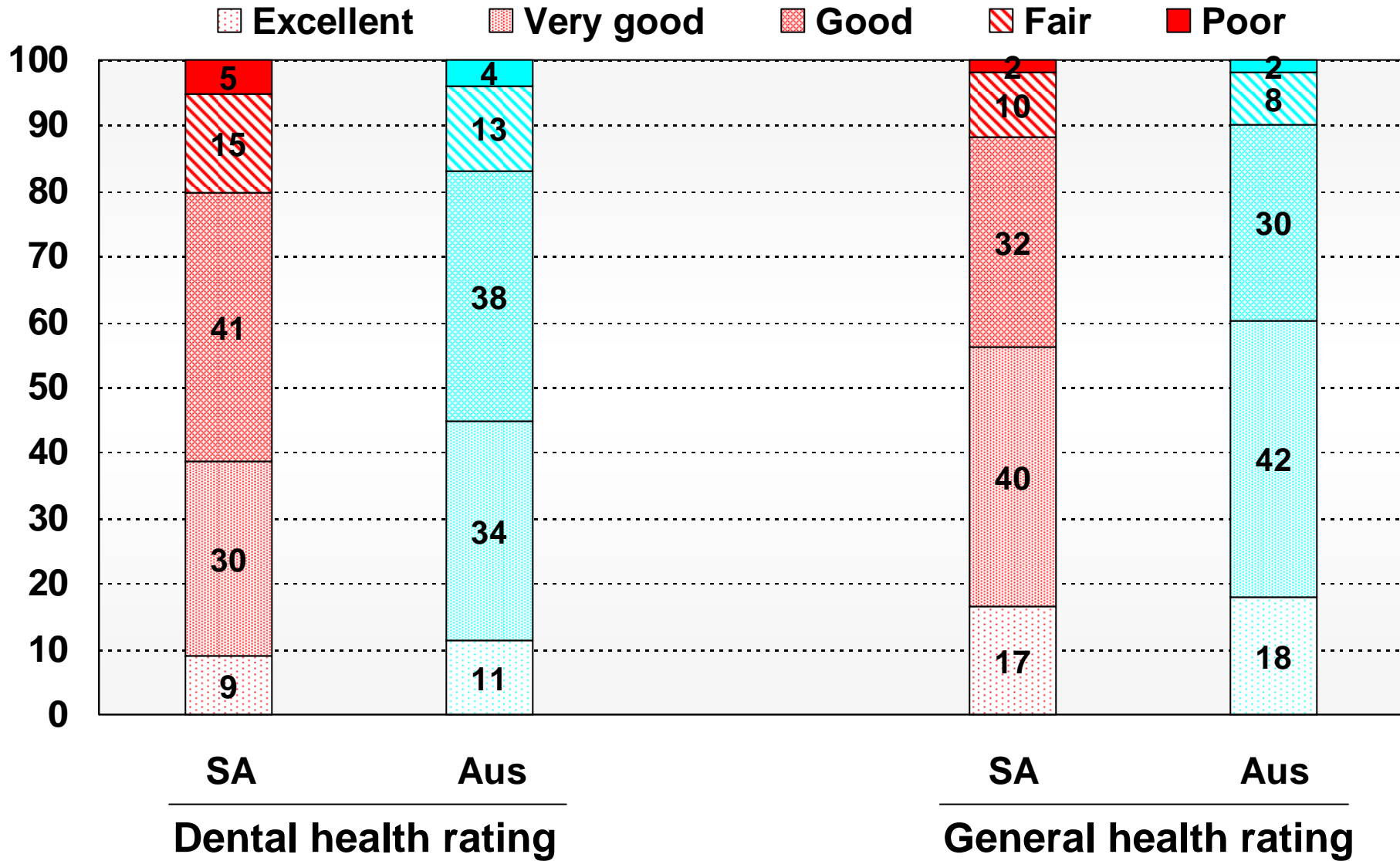
- **Self-rated dental health**
- **Self-rated general health**
- **Prevalence of toothache**
- **Prevalence of bleeding gums**

Dental Health Status question

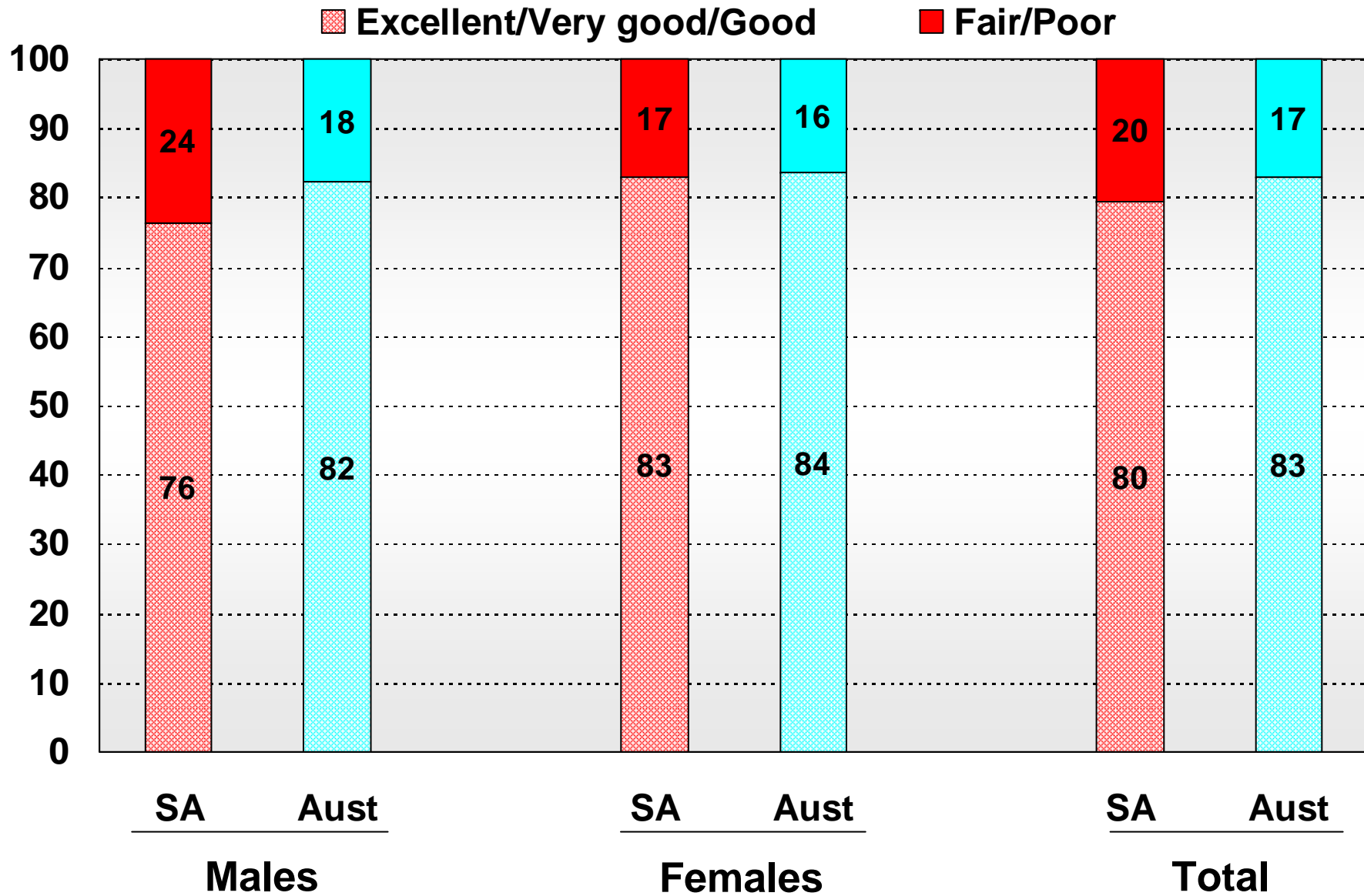
How would you rate your dental health?

- **Excellent**
- **Very good**
- **Good**
- **Fair**
- **Poor**

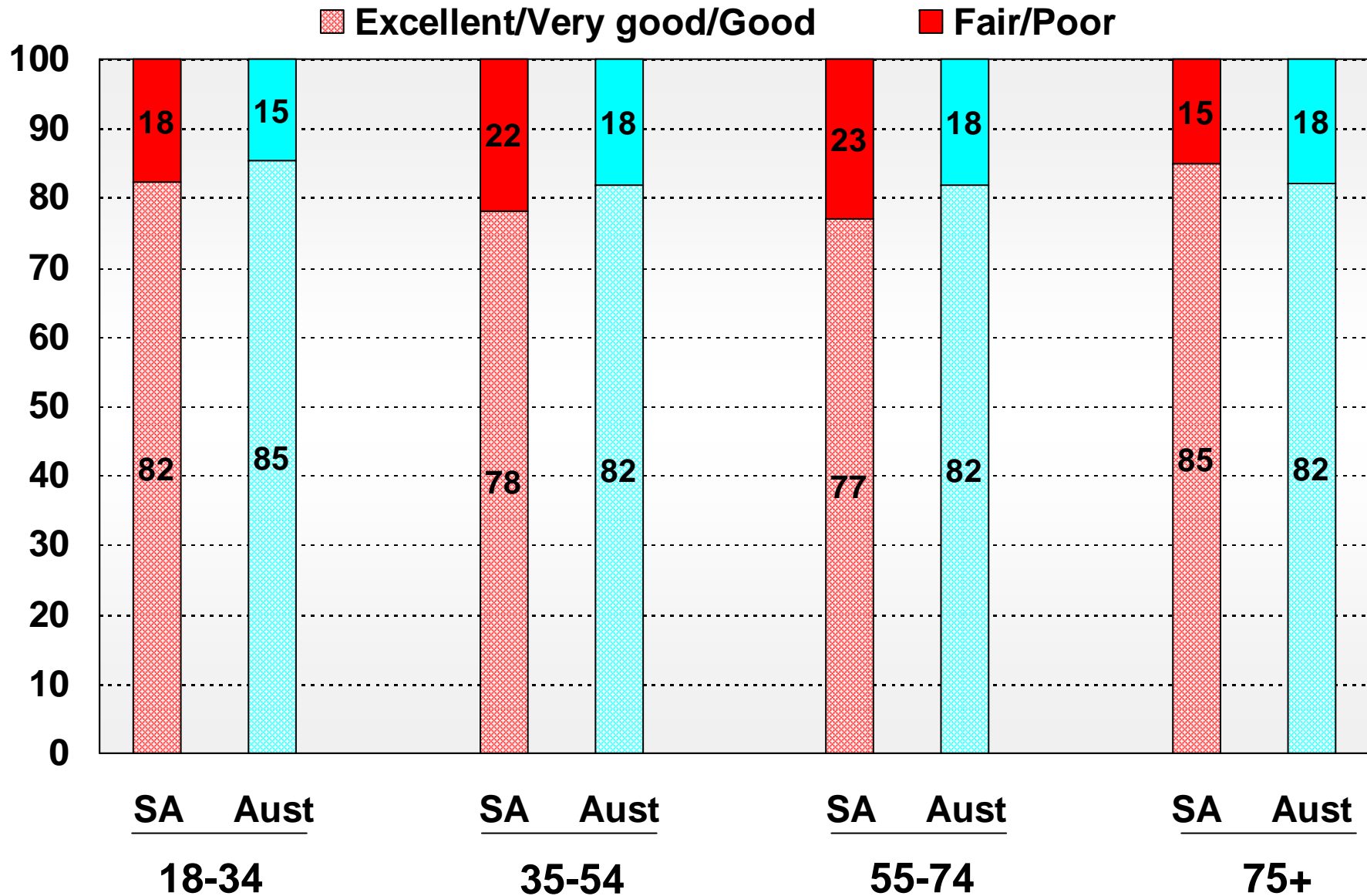
Comparison of Dental Health & General Health Rating – Dentate Adults



Dental Health Rating by Sex – Dentate adults

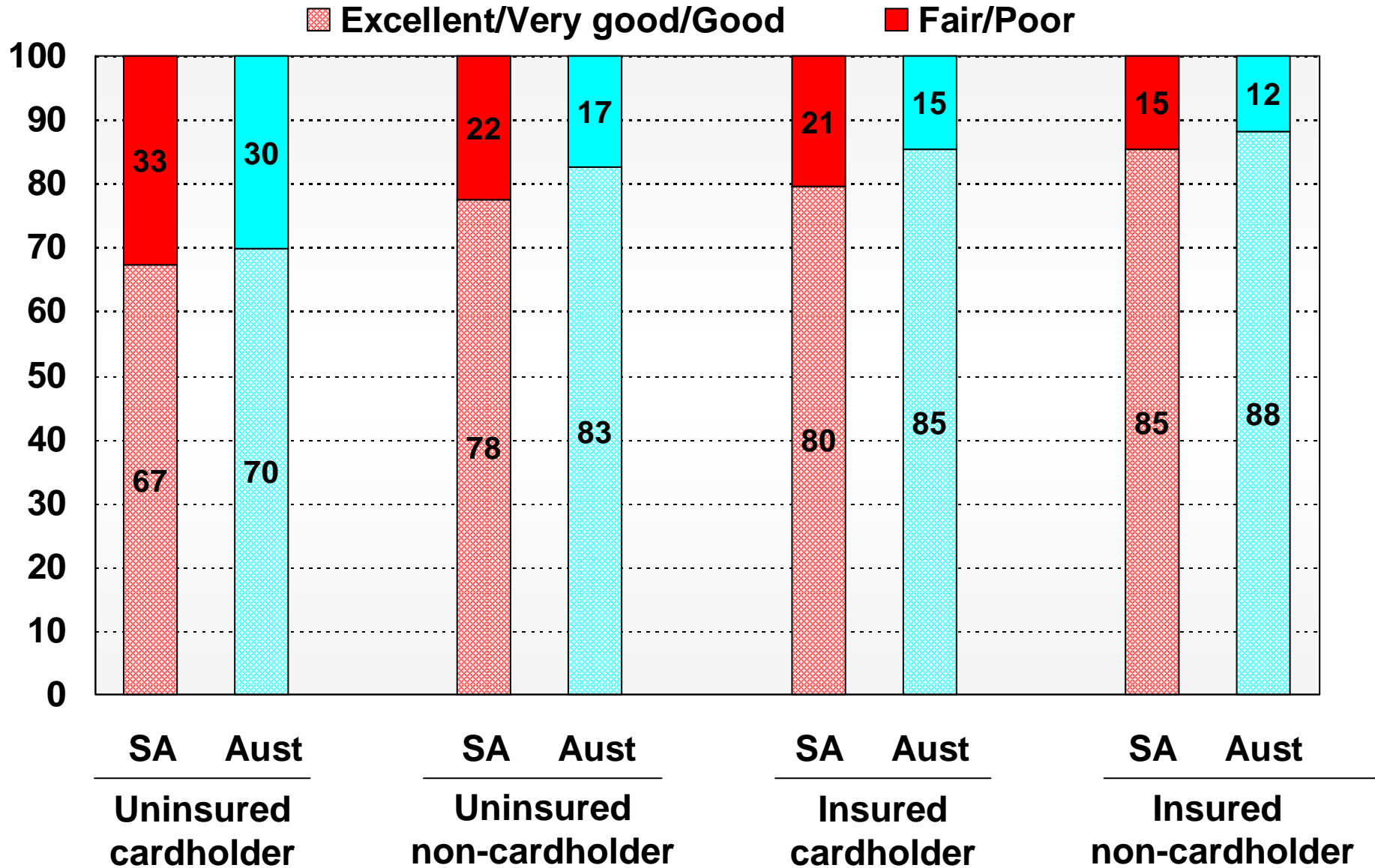


Dental Health Rating by Age – Dentate adults



Dental Health Rating

by Insurance & Cardholder Status – Dentate adults



Dental health rating fair/poor – Dentate adults

SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.34 *	1.59 , 3.42
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.57 *	1.02 , 2.40
Insured cardholder	1.44	0.87 , 2.38
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.69*	2.37, 3.05
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.52 *	1.35 , 1.72
Insured cardholder	1.33 *	1.07 , 1.64
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

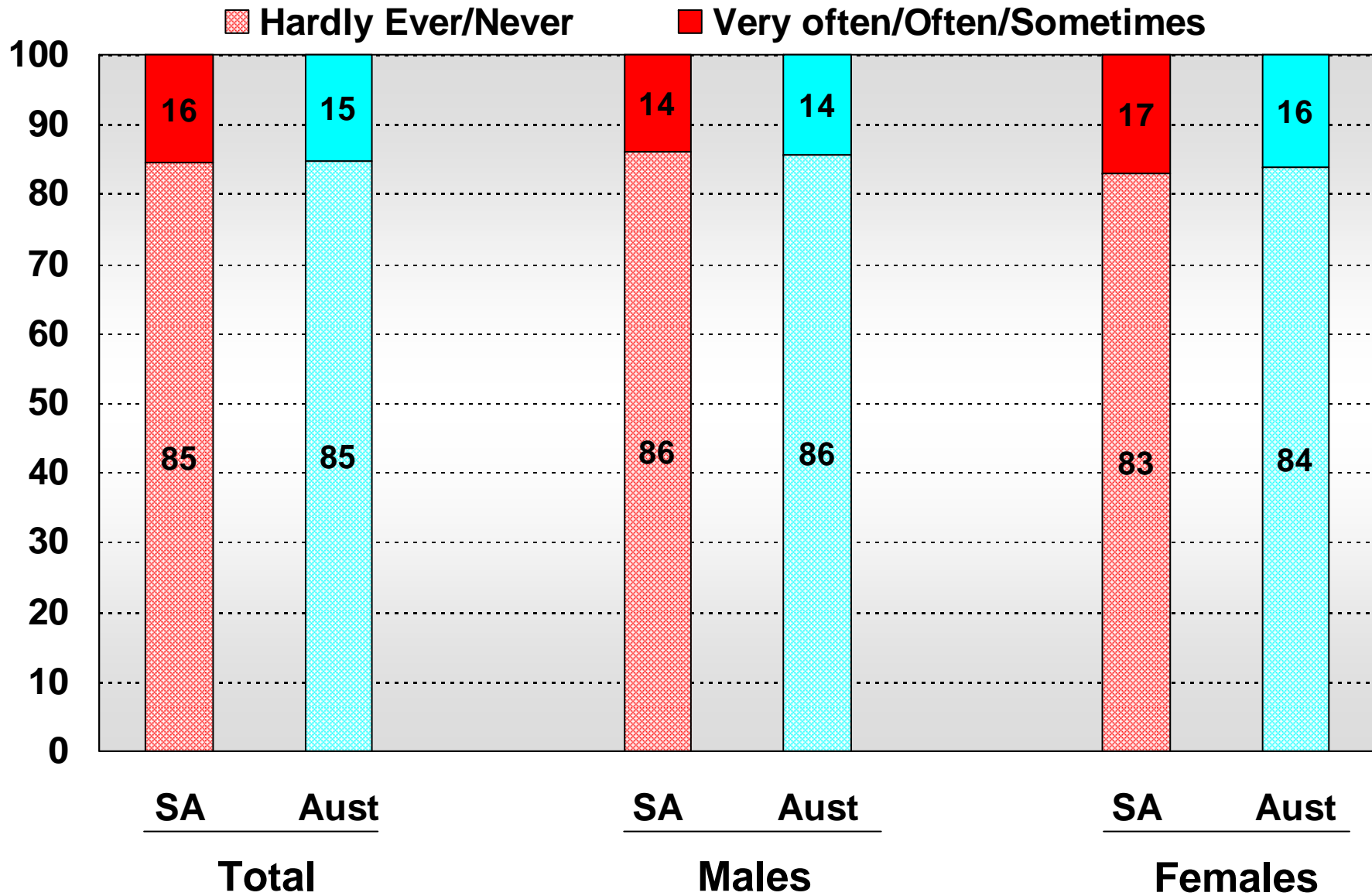
Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

Frequency of toothache question

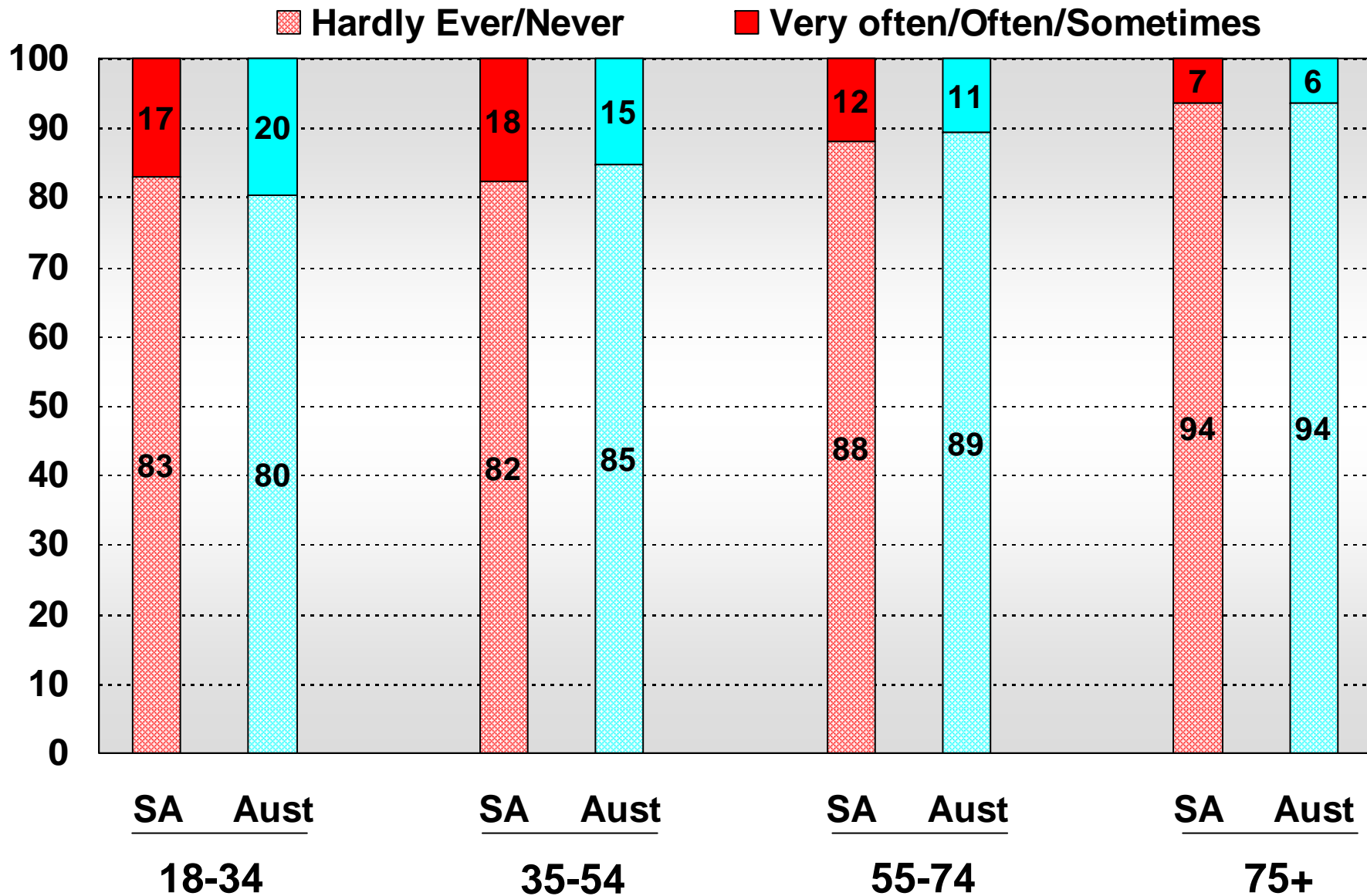
During the last 12 months how often have you had toothache?

- **Very often**
- **Often**
- **Sometimes**
- **Hardly ever**
- **Never**

Prevalence of Toothache by Sex – Dentate adults

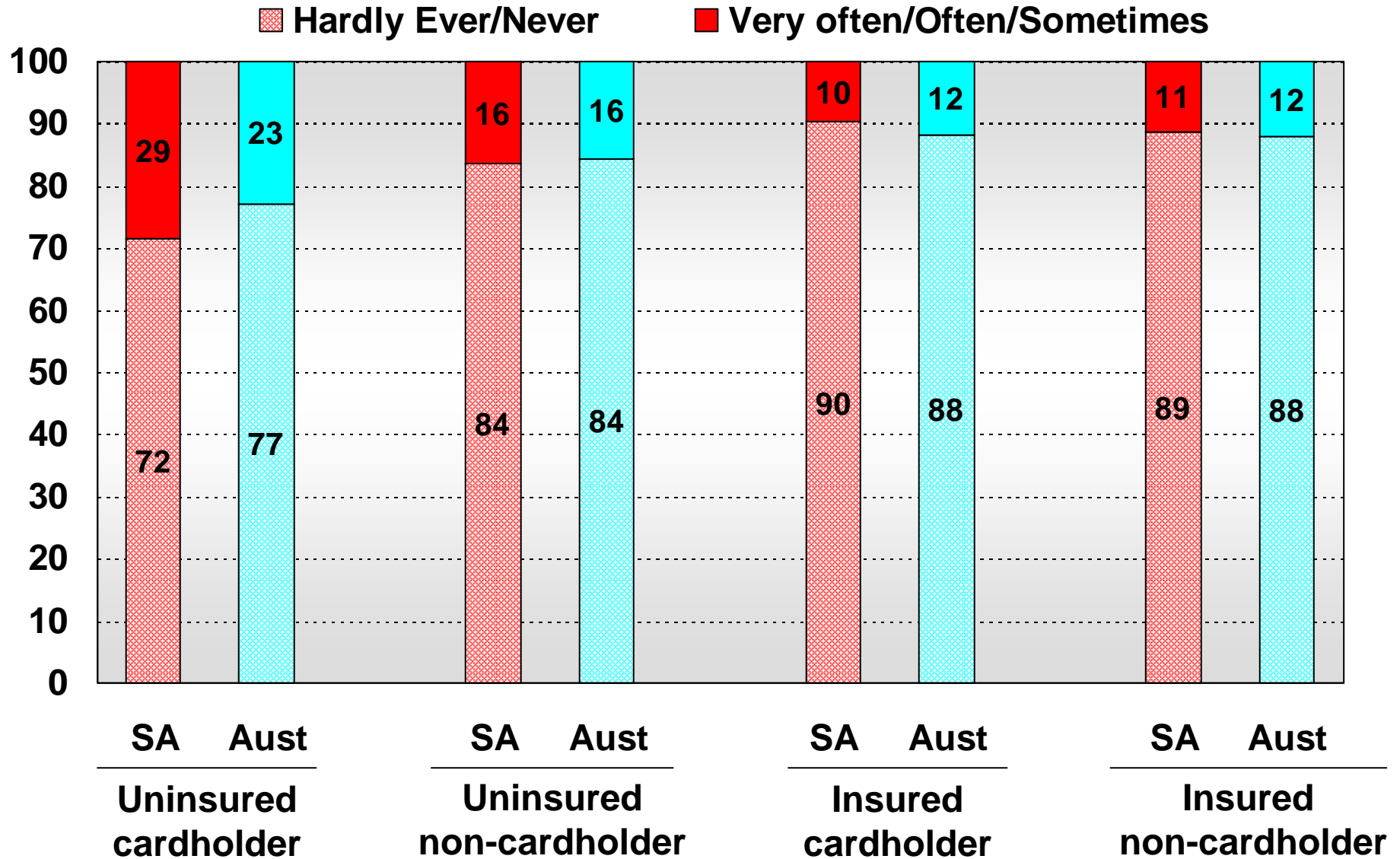


Prevalence of Toothache by Age – Dentate adults



Prevalence of Toothache

by Insurance & Cardholder Status – Dentate adults



Toothache very often/often/sometimes in last 12 months

SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.85 *	1.77 , 4.61
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.41	0.86 , 2.33
Insured cardholder	1.17	0.65 , 2.10
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	2.23*	1.94 , 2.56
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.23 *	1.08 , 1.41
Insured cardholder	1.32 *	1.01 , 1.72
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

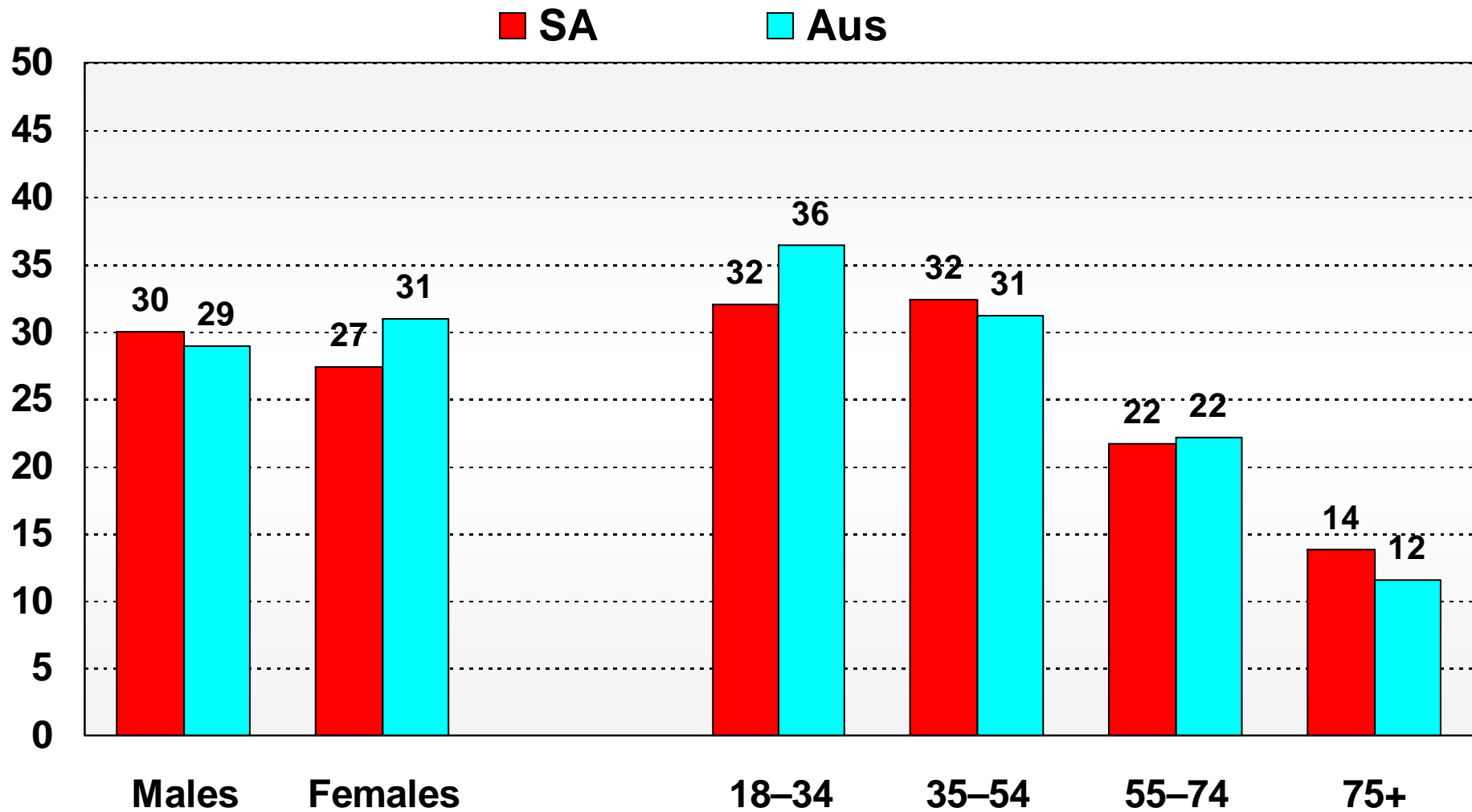
Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

Gum Health question

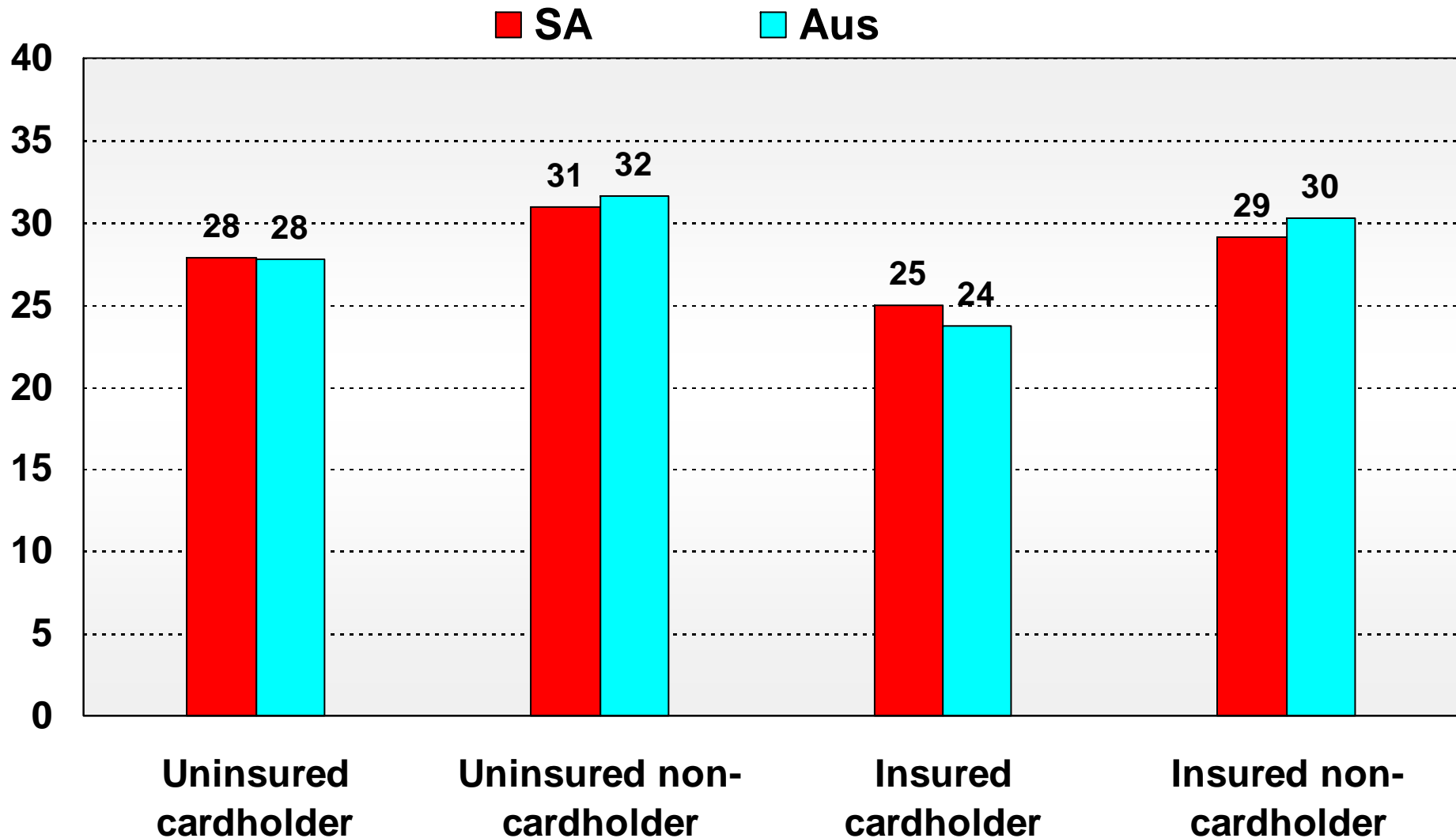
**During the last 12 months have
you had gums that bleed ?**

- yes**
- no**

% Experienced Bleeding Gums in last 12 months by Sex & Age - Dentate adults



% Experienced Bleeding Gums in last 12 months by Insurance & Cardholder Status - Dentate adults



Experienced bleeding gums in last 12 months

SA	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	1.07	0.83 , 1.36
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.04	0.78 , 1.38
Insured cardholder	1.13	0.80 , 1.62
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00
AUS	Prevalence Ratio	95% CI
Uninsured cardholder	1.05	0.94, 1.16
Uninsured non-cardholder	1.01	0.92 , 1.10
Insured cardholder	0.99	0.85 , 1.16
Insured non-cardholder	1.00	1.00

Prevalence ratios adjusted for age

Conclusions

Oral health status

- **Dental health rating similar among age groups & gender**
- **18-34 & 35-54 year olds more likely to report toothache & bleeding gums than older age groups**
- **Oral health status influenced more by insurance status than cardholder status**

Conclusions

Oral health status

- **Uninsured groups are more likely to rate their dental health fair/poor than insured groups, particularly uninsured cardholders**
- **Uninsured groups are more likely to report toothache than insured groups, particularly uninsured cardholders**
- **All cardholder & insurance groups are equally likely to report bleeding gums after age differences are adjusted**

THE END

Conclusions

18-54 year olds :

- **Have poorer dental visiting behaviour**
- **More likely to report avoiding/delaying dental care due to cost**
- **More likely to report toothache & bleeding gums**

Conclusions

Insurance status was a more important factor than cardholder status in determining :

- **Dental visiting behaviour**
- **Whether financial barriers existed in accessing dental care**
- **Self reported dental health status**
- **Prevalence of toothache**

Uninsured cardholders fared worst in all of these categories

SA Dentate adults

Uninsured cardholder	18%
Uninsured non-cardholder	27%
Insured cardholder	10%
Insured non-cardholder	45%

Aus Dentate adults

Uninsured cardholder	17%
Uninsured non-cardholder	36%
Insured cardholder	6%
Insured non-cardholder	41%

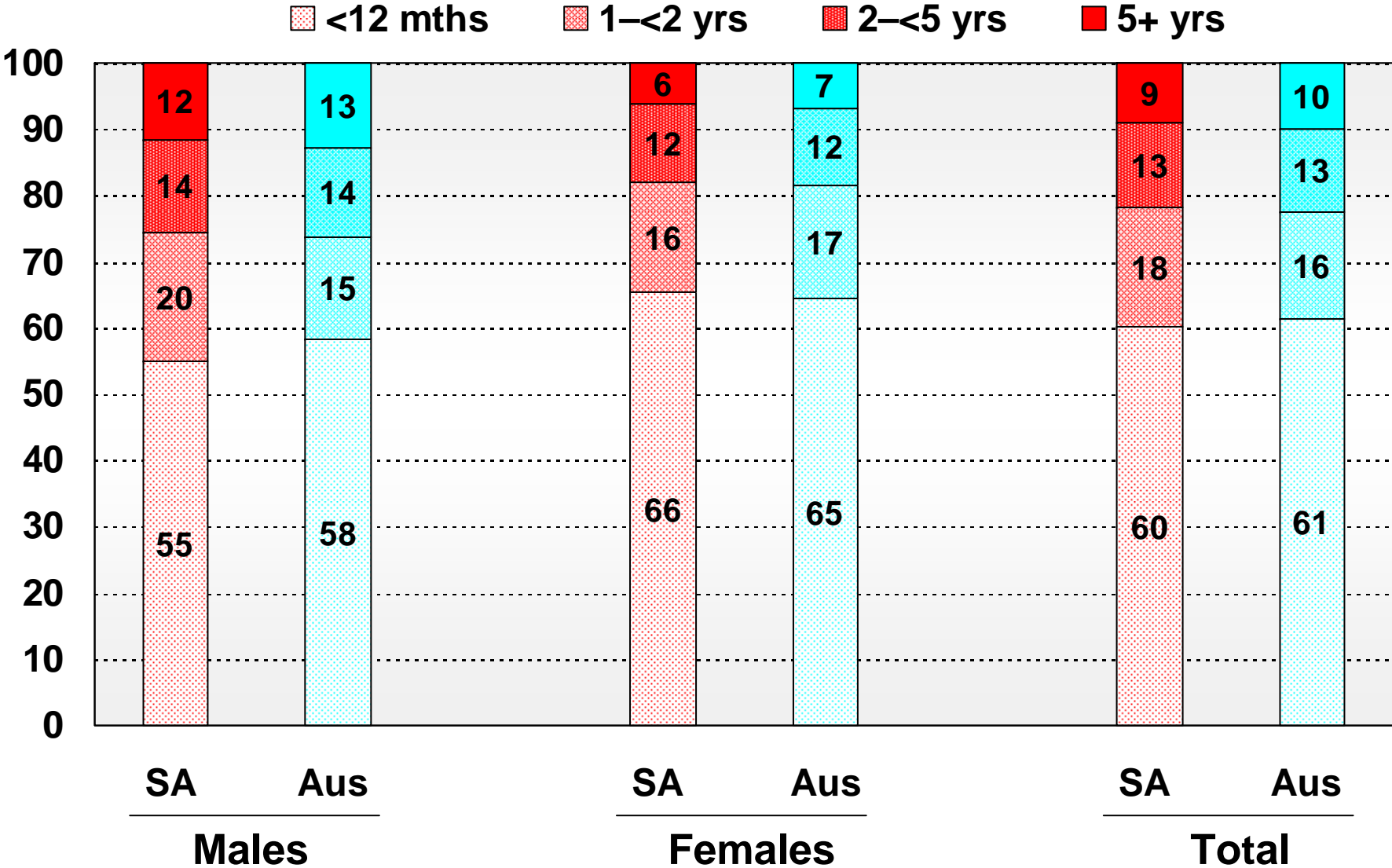
Where to from here?

- **Extend analysis to clinical examination data for insurance & cardholder groups**

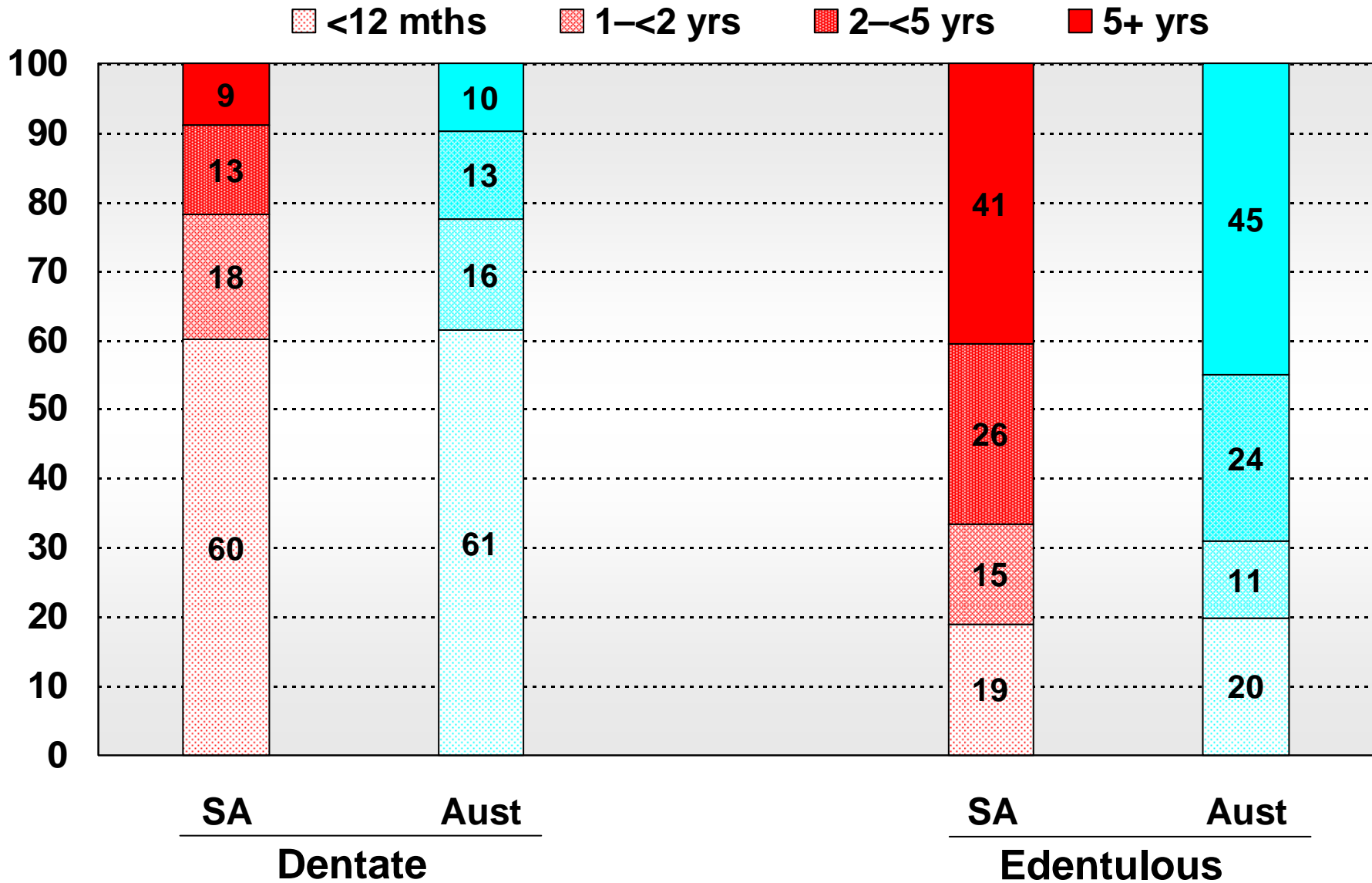
Policy implications

- **More incentives to increase dental insurance coverage**
- **Promote oral health hygiene to adults aged between 18-54**

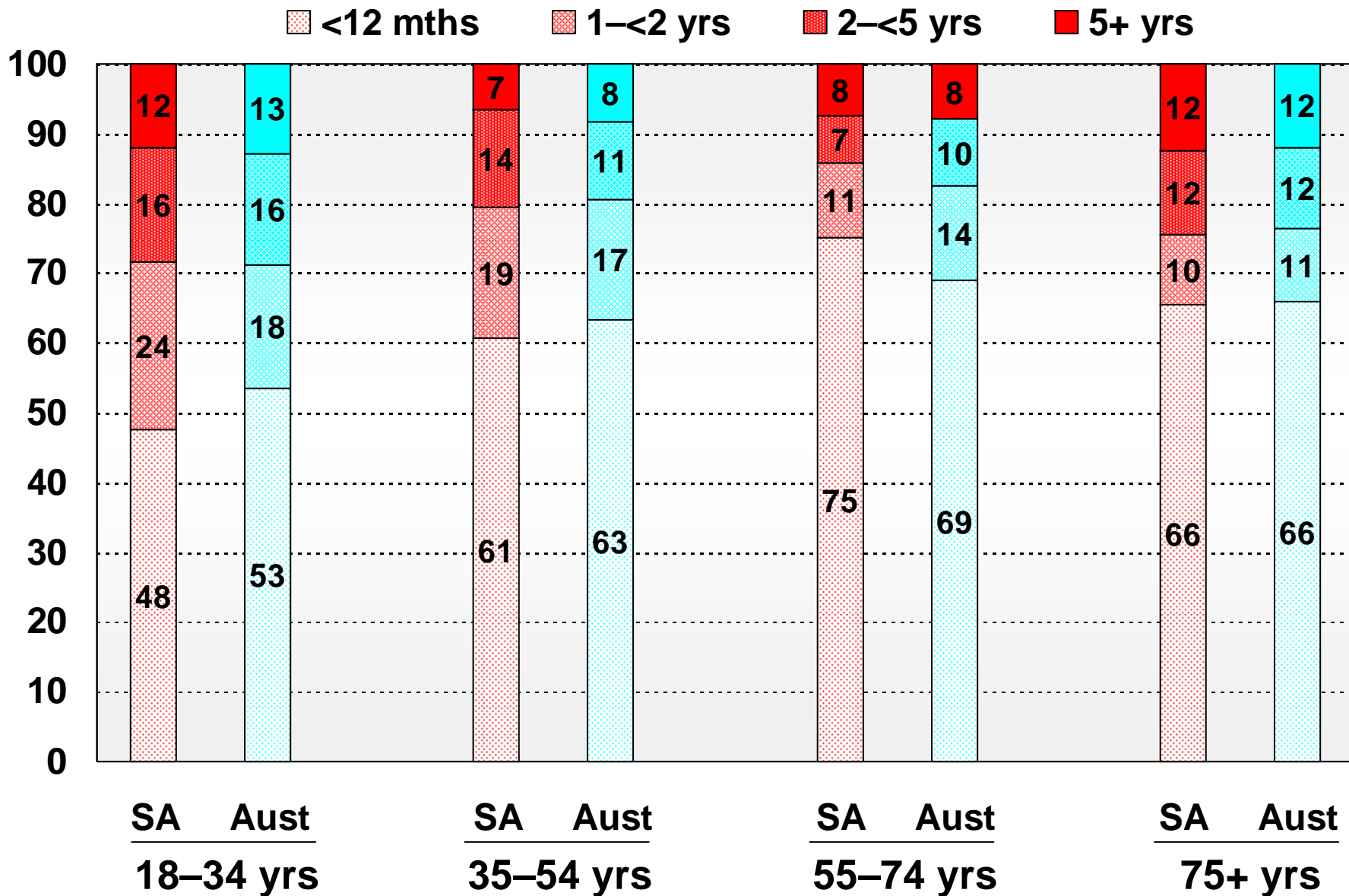
Last visited dentist by Sex – Dentate adults



Last visited dentist by Dentate Status - Adults

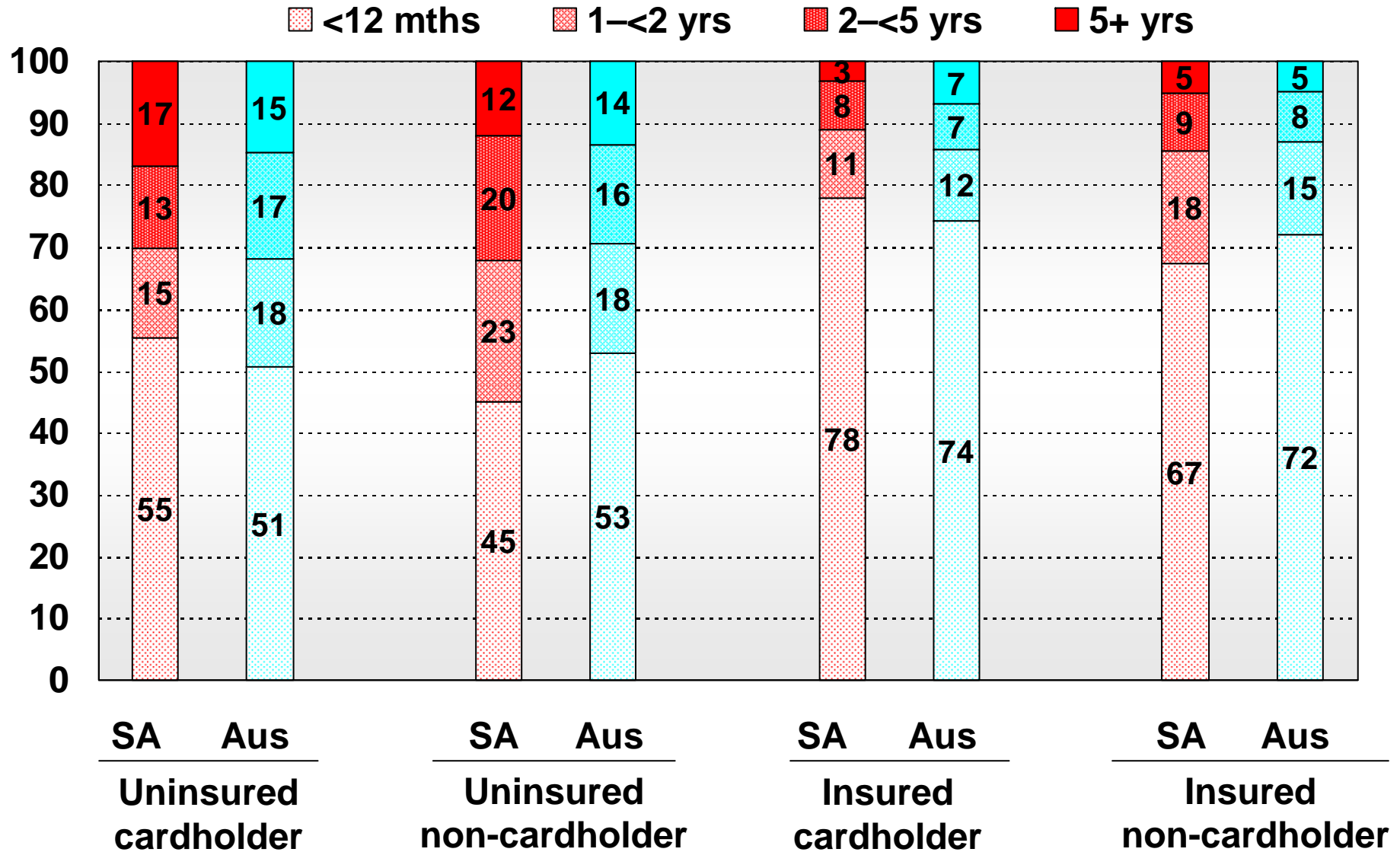


Last visited dentist by Age – Dentate adults



Last visited dentist

by Cardholder & Insurance Status – Dentate adults



Profile of South Australians in 4 groups

Uninsured cardholder

76% dentate
24% edentulous

Dentate

Age

26% 18-34 yrs
32% 35-54 yrs
28% 55-74 yrs
14% 75+ yrs

Gender

47% male
53% female

Uninsured non-cardholder

96% dentate
4% edentulous

Dentate

Age

39% 18-34 yrs
46% 35-54 yrs
10% 55-74 yrs
5% 75+ yrs

Gender

58% male
42% female

Insured cardholder

84% dentate
16% edentulous

Dentate

Age

5% 18-34 yrs
20% 35-54 yrs
57% 55-74 yrs
18% 75+ yrs

Gender

47% male
53% female

Insured non-cardholder

98% dentate
2% edentulous

Dentate

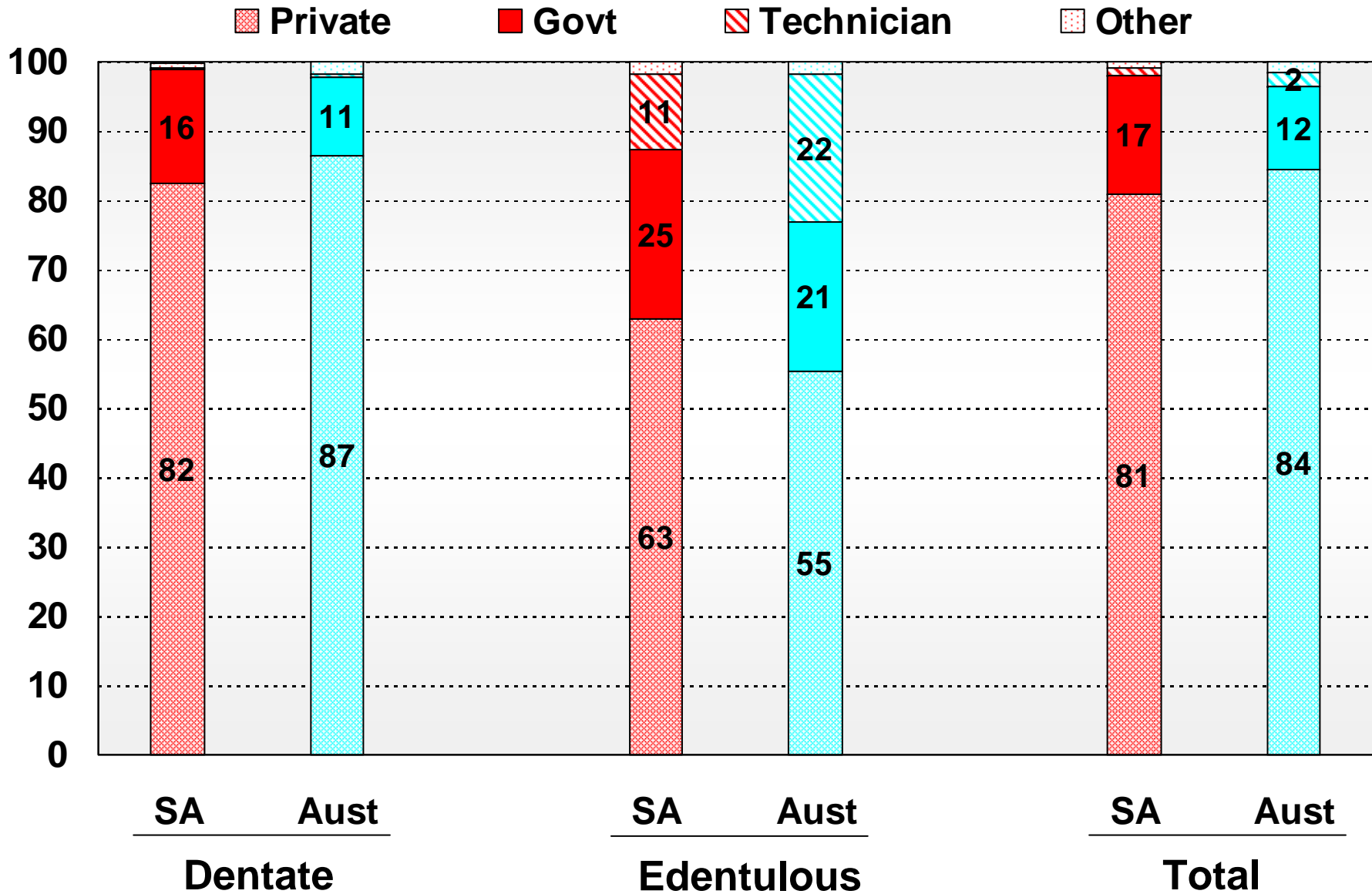
Age

33% 18-34 yrs
44% 35-54 yrs
21% 55-74 yrs
2% 75+ yrs

Gender

47% male
53% female

Site of last visit by Dentate status - Adults

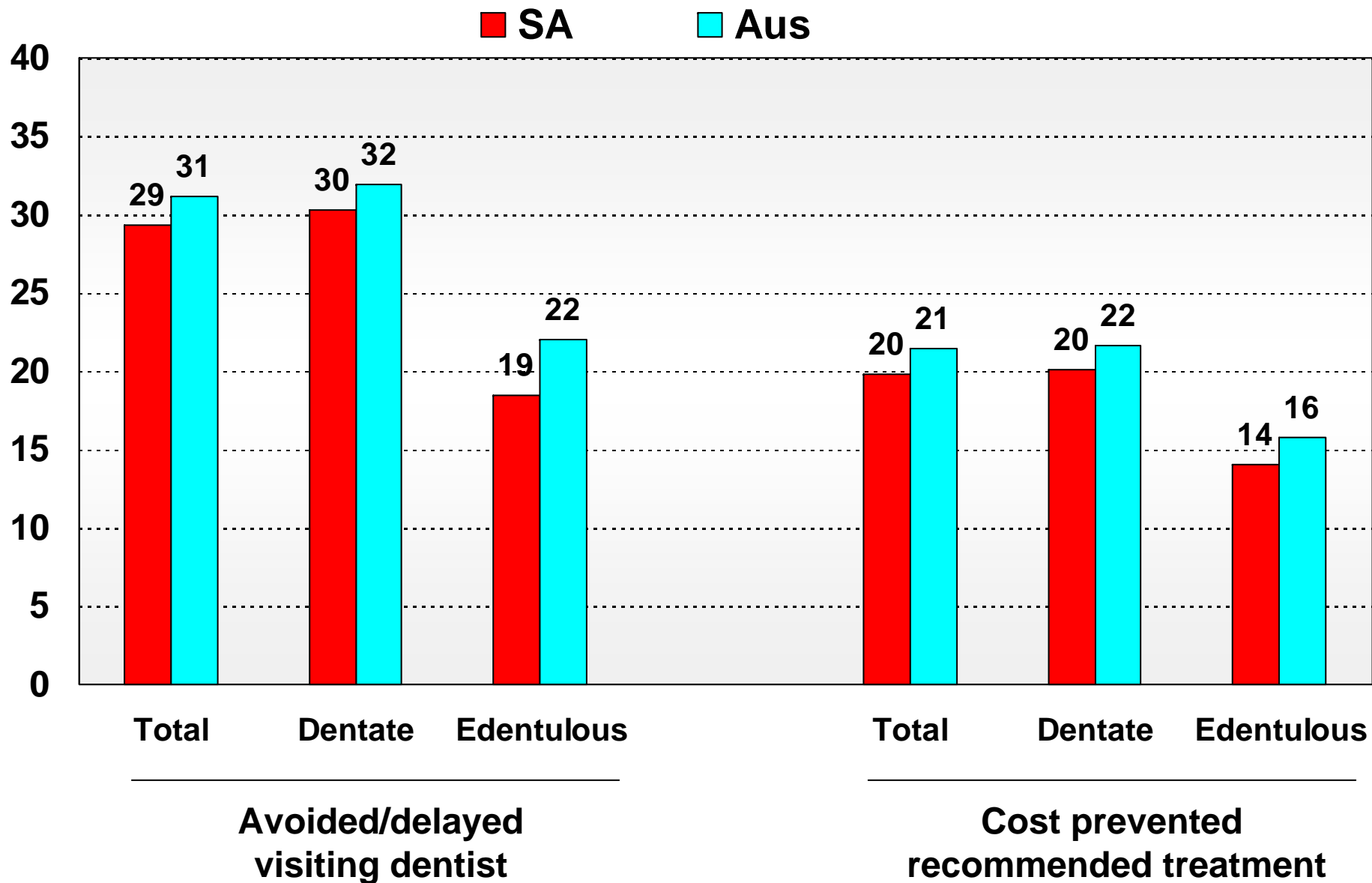


Conclusions

Dental visiting patterns

- **Males, 18-34 year olds & uninsured less likely to have visited dentist within last 12 months & more likely to have not visited in last 5 years**
- **Males, 18-34 year olds & uninsured more likely to usually visit a dentist less often than once every two years**
- **Males, 18-34 year olds & uninsured less likely to visit regular dentist**

Financial barriers by Dentate status – Adults



Gum experience in last 12 months by Dentate Status - Adults

