

Young adults living in the parental home. A statistical profile

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**Loughborough
University**

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Background

'Boomerang' trend of young adults
living with parents is rising – study

The Guardian, October 2020



The stay-at-home sons and daughters of
the housing crisis

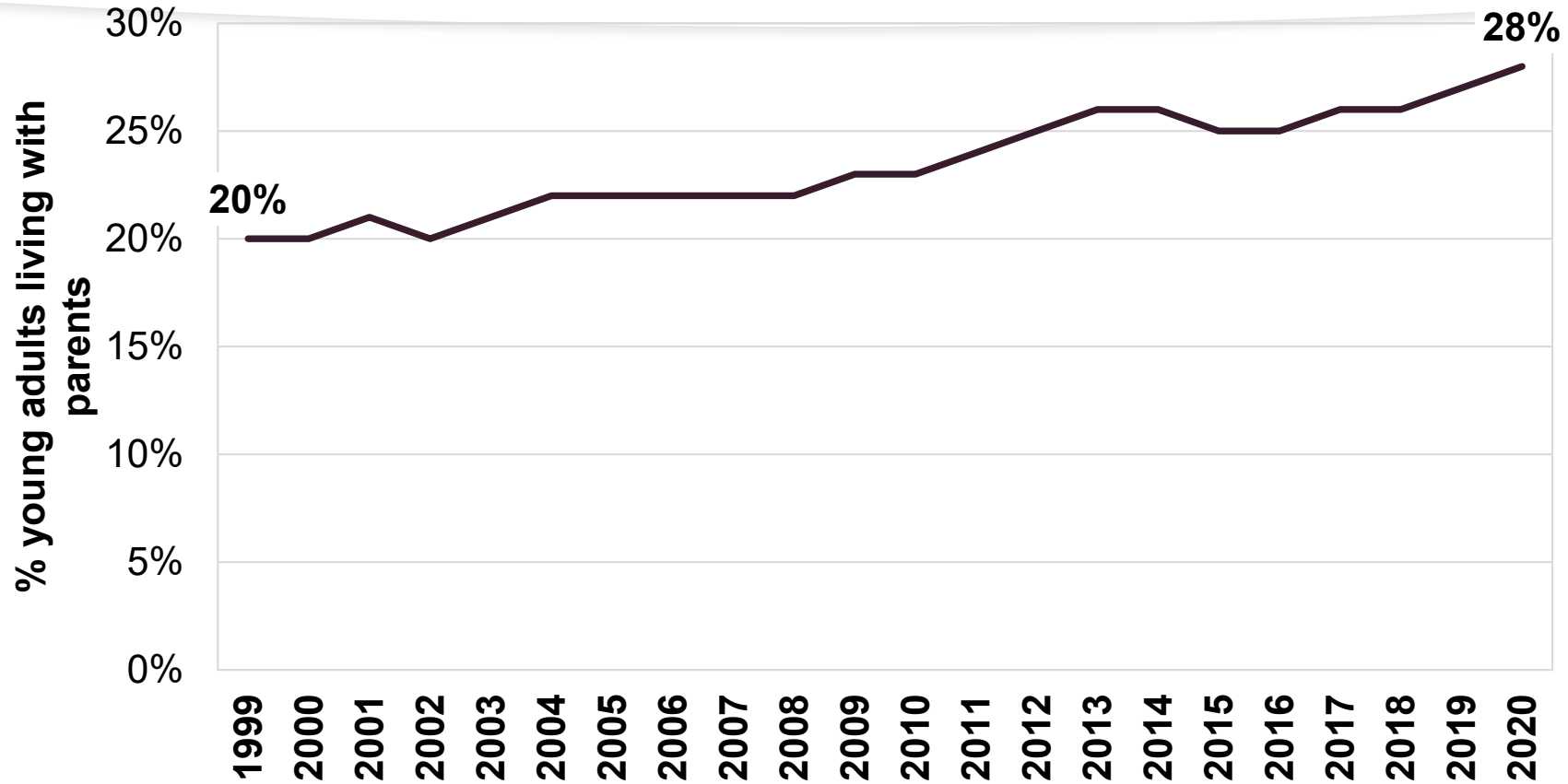
BBC News Online, February 2019



‘Boomerang generation’ keep
coming back to live with parents

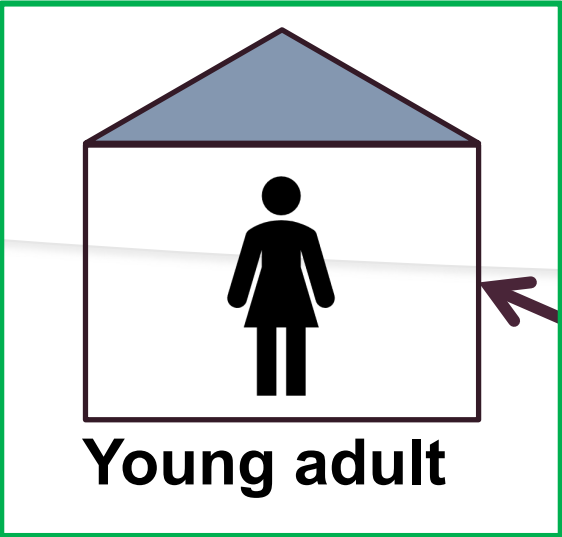
Telegraph, May 2021

Percentage of 20-34 year olds living with their parents, 1999-2020

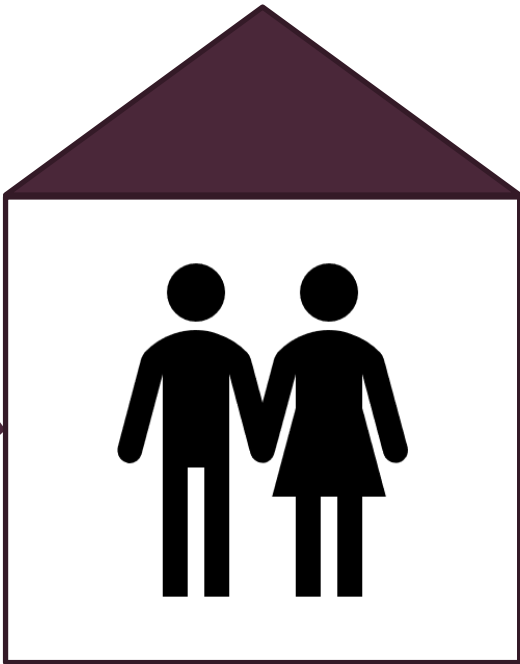
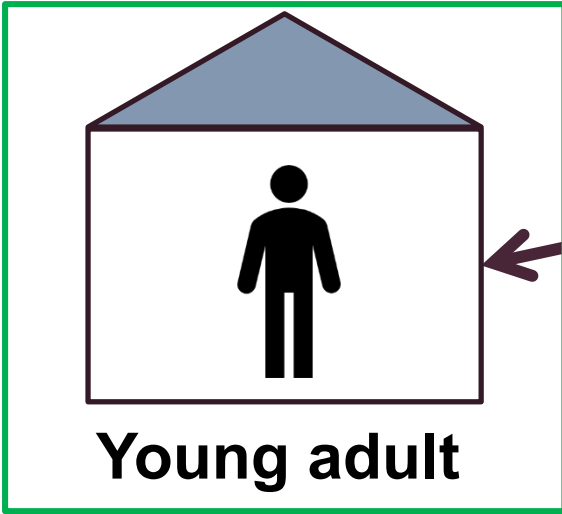


Source: Office for National Statistics - Labour Force Survey

Our research: two sides of the same coin



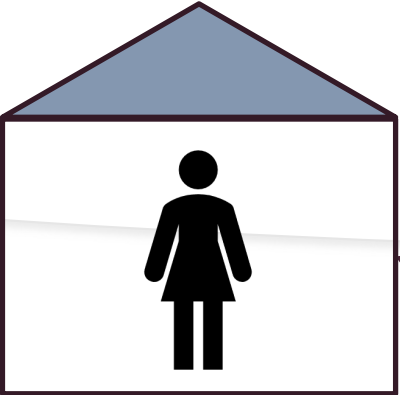
Family Resources Survey



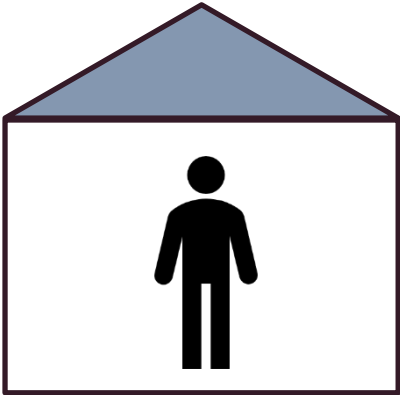
Parent(s)



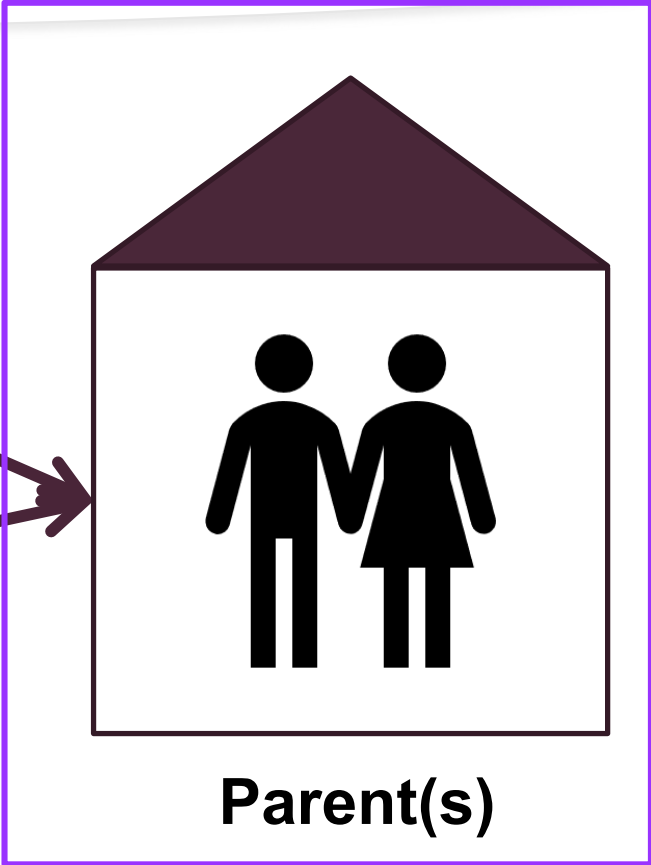
Our research: two sides of the same coin



Young adult

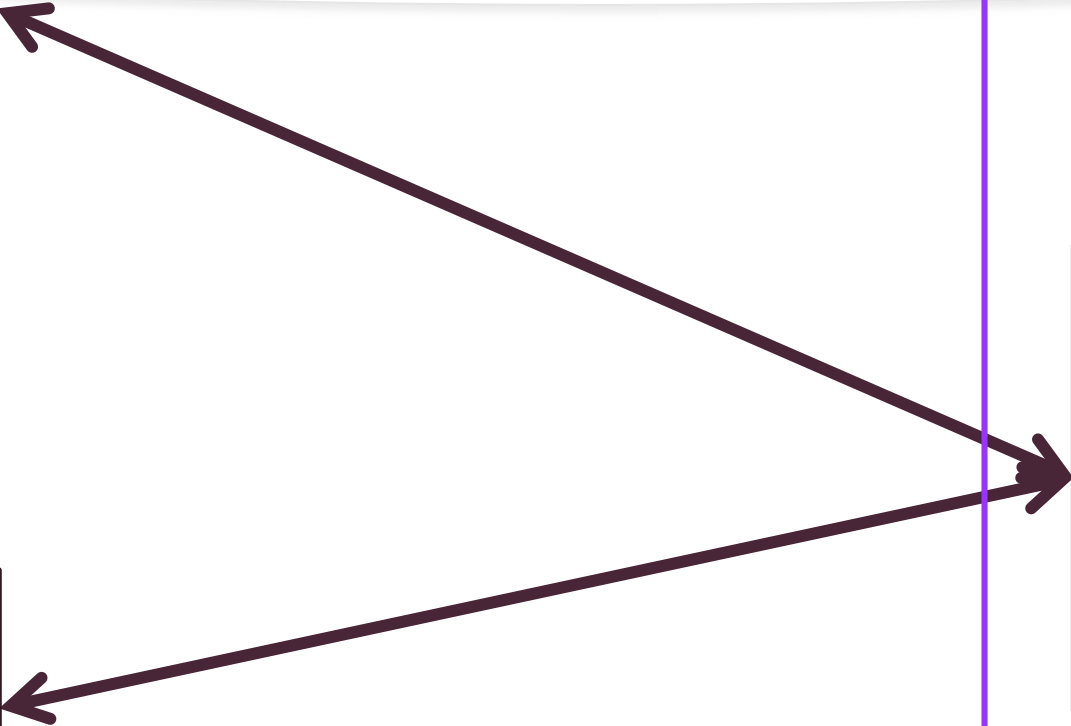


Young adult



Parent(s)

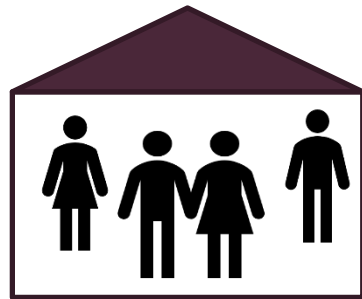
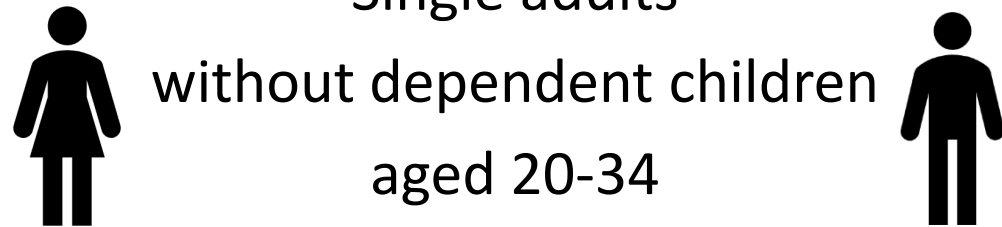
Understanding Society



Classifications – living arrangements

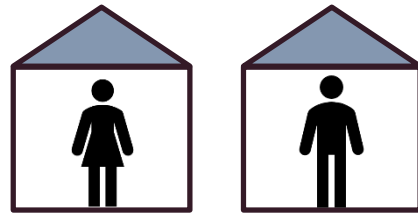
Family Resources Survey

Single adults
without dependent children
aged 20-34



Living with parents

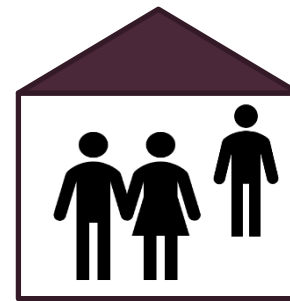
VS



Living
Independently

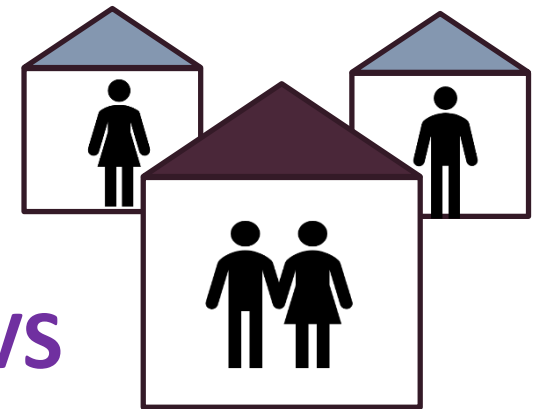
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People with at least one son or daughter
currently aged 20-34



At least one adult
child co-resident

VS



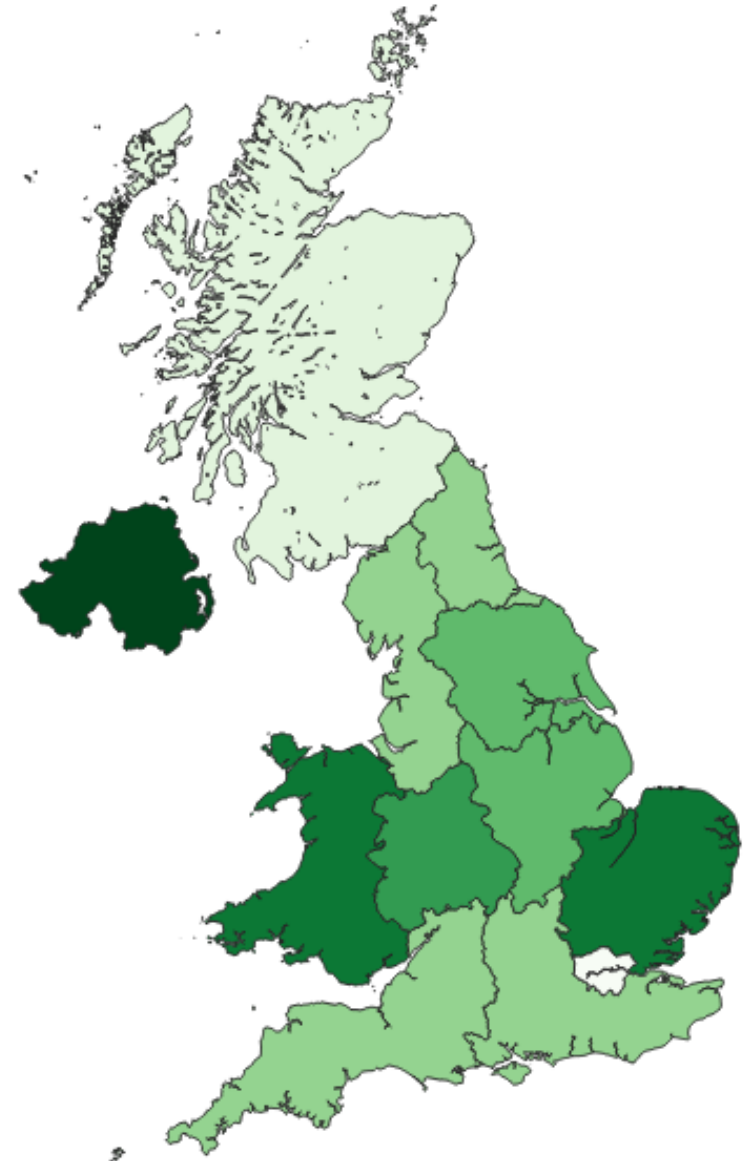
All adult children
living elsewhere

A close-up photograph of a red pushpin stuck into a map. The map shows various geographical features like roads and rivers. In the background, several other pushpins in different colors (blue, yellow) are visible but out of focus. The overall scene suggests a focus on specific locations or regional analysis.

Regional differences

Regional variation: young adults

Country/Region	% young adults living with parents
Northern Ireland	77.0%
Wales	72.9%
East of England	70.2%
West Midlands	68.1%
East Midlands	63.5%
Yorks and Humberside	63.3%
South West	62.0%
North West and Merseyside	60.8%
South East	59.9%
North East	59.4%
Scotland	53.7%
London	48.2%



Regional variation: parents

Country/Region	% of parents of young adults who are co-resident
London	52.5%
Northern Ireland	42.3%
East of England	39.4%
South East	35.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	34.1%
Wales	33.7%
East Midlands	30.7%
North West	30.2%
West Midlands	27.5%
North East	25.7%
South West	23.6%
Scotland	22.9%



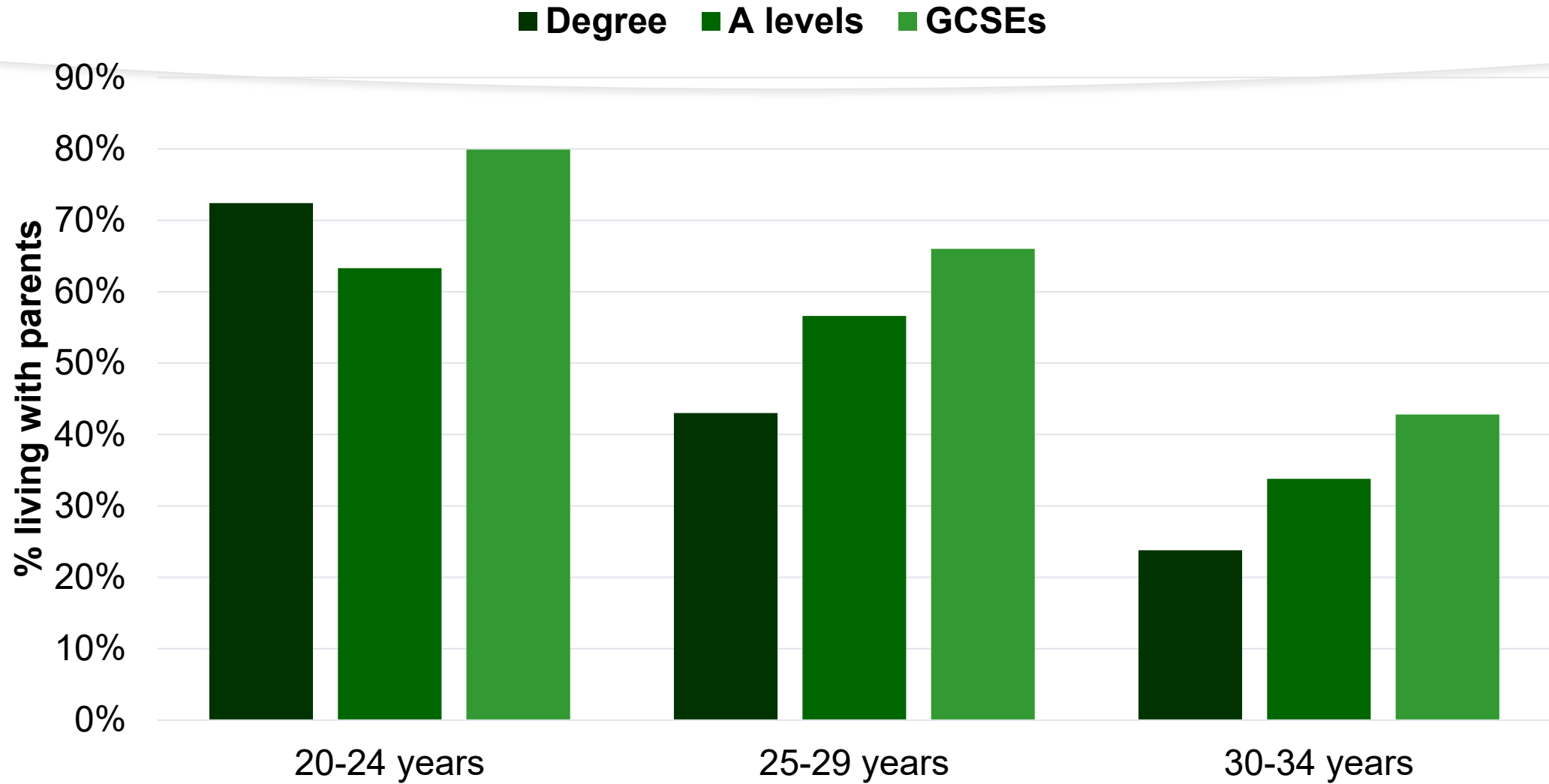
Socioeconomic circumstances



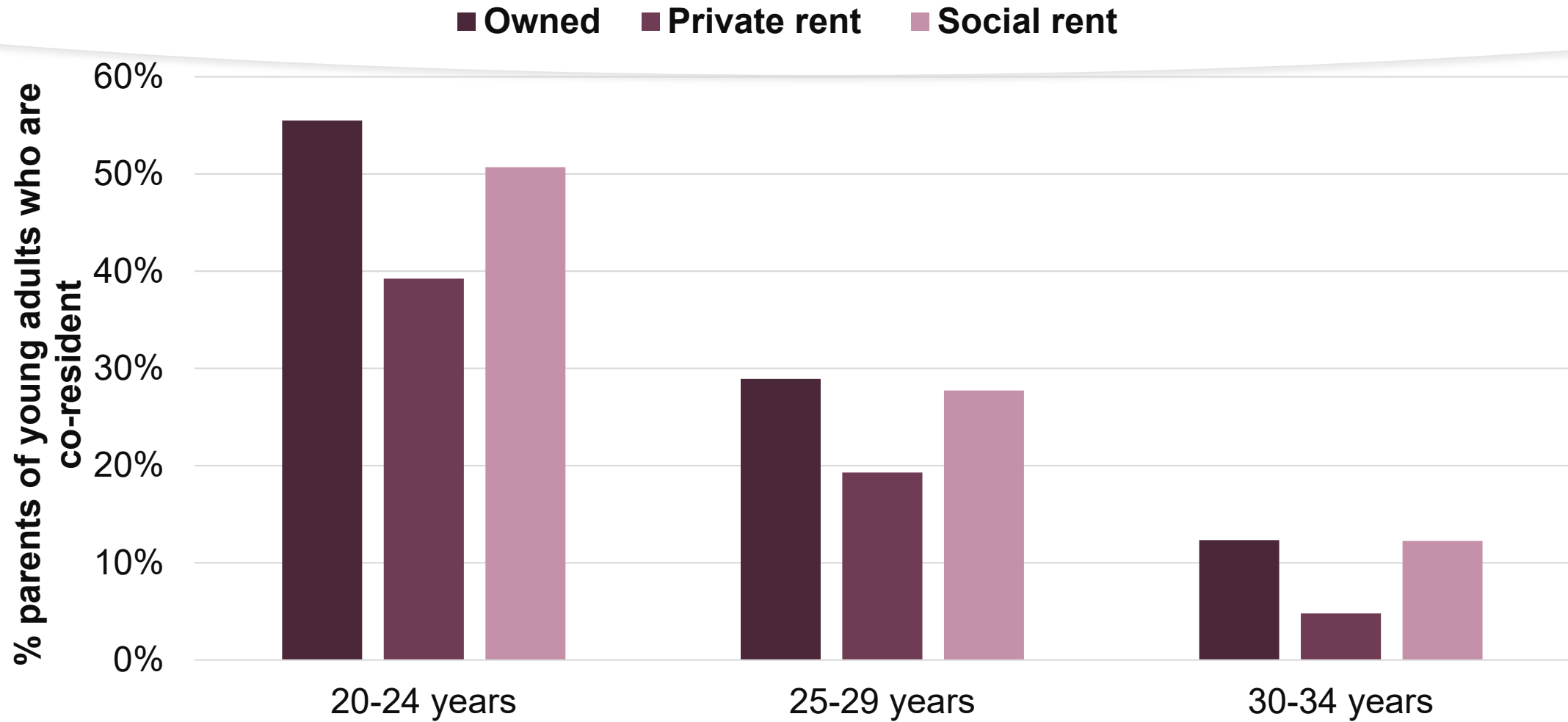
Socioeconomic circumstances



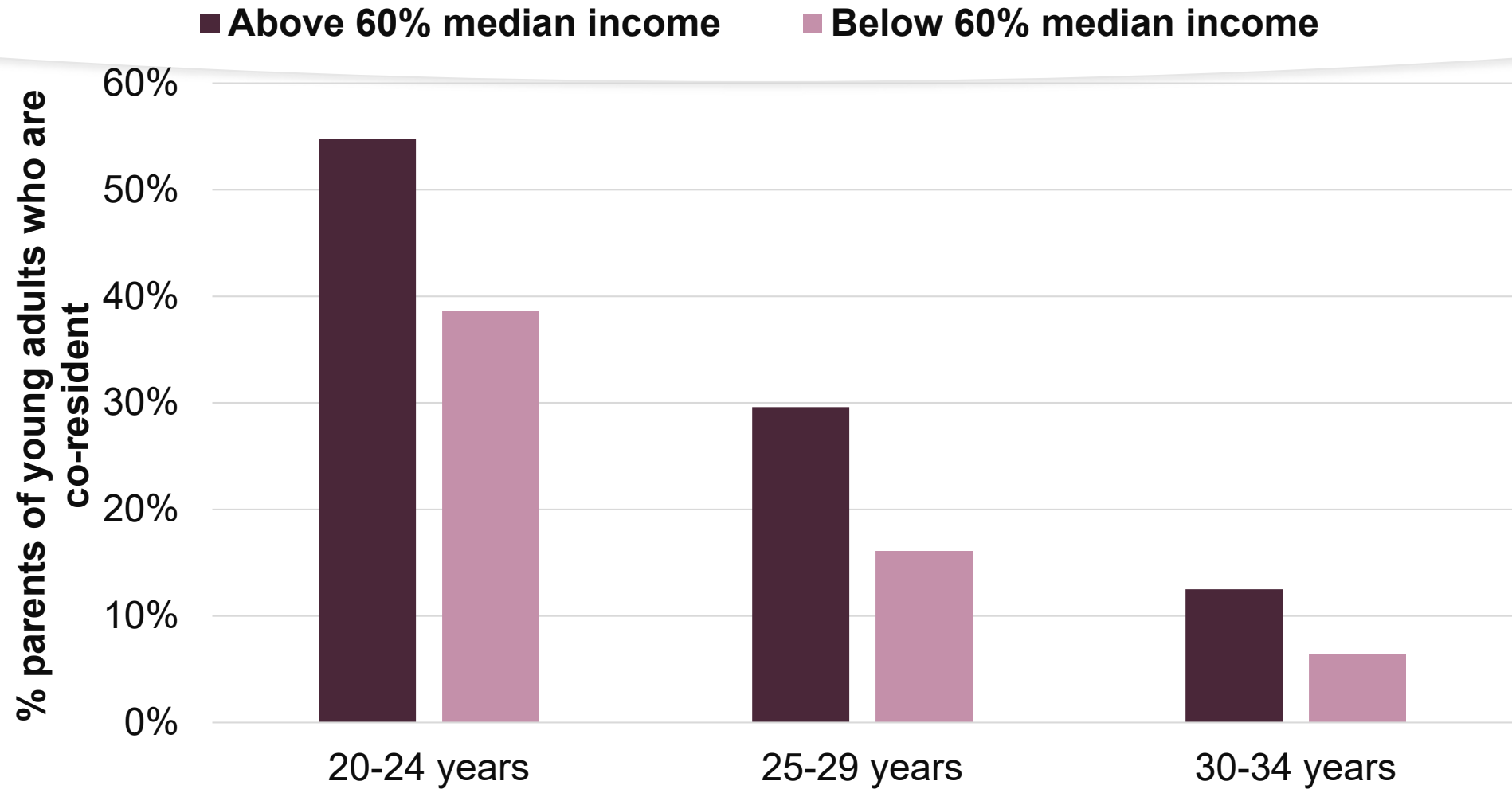
Socioeconomic circumstances



Socioeconomic circumstances



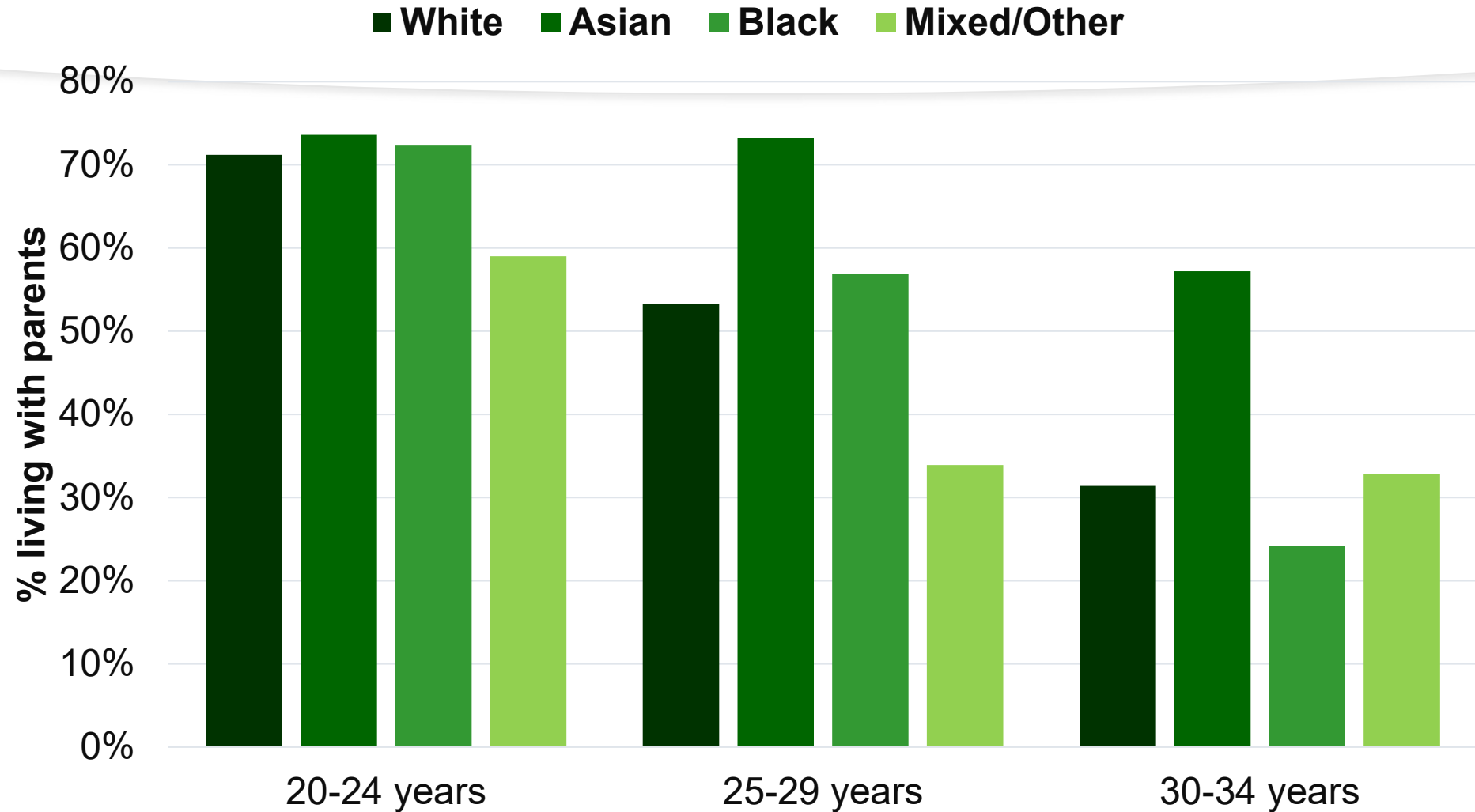
Socioeconomic circumstances



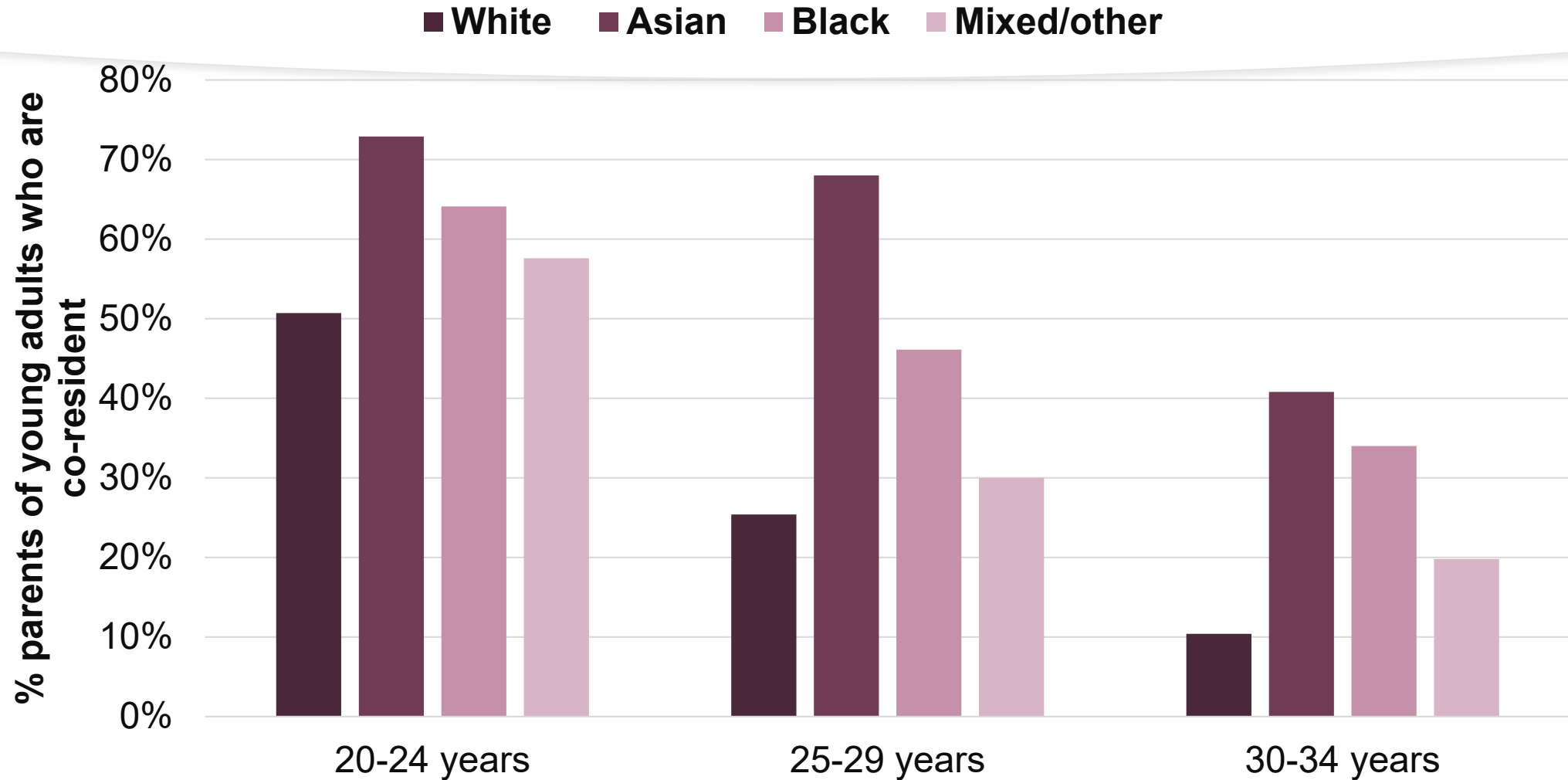
Ethnicity



Ethnicity



Ethnicity



Qualitative findings



Qualitative interviews

- 36 in-depth interviews. 18 young adults (YA) age 18-34, 18 parents, in 26 low to middle income families
- Some in the same families interviewed separately. Second person recruited via the first.
- Mix of household situations – couple / single parents, with/ without siblings at home, YA never left or left and returned
- Included London, other urban and small town/rural, different tenure type and occupancy levels

Coresident households - financial context

- Varied situations – importance of security
- Positive eg. young adult's financial contribution helping parents to 'make ends meet'
- Negative eg. reduction in benefits related to household situation - loss of Tax credits / child benefit; non-dependent deduction
- Cultural variation - expectations around living with parents/ moving out, supporting parents in later life

Policy issues – social security

- Benefit non-take-up by young adults
- ‘Cliff edge’ withdrawal of Tax Credit/ child benefit’ can cause difficulty.
- Housing entitlements - young adult cannot claim housing benefit.
- Non dependant deduction
- Keeping a room – implications for bedroom tax
- Overall issue: lack of information/understanding. Approaches to improving understandings?

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