



**Tackling Social Inequity
through Primary Health Care
*-WHO Update***

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World Health Organization**

Global Oral Health Programme

Chronic Disease and Health Promotion

Geneva - Switzerland



Objectives of this intervention

- **Social inequality in oral health across Europe**
- **Revitalization of Primary Health Care**
- **Social equity – *fairness in oral health***



Inequity in health and health care

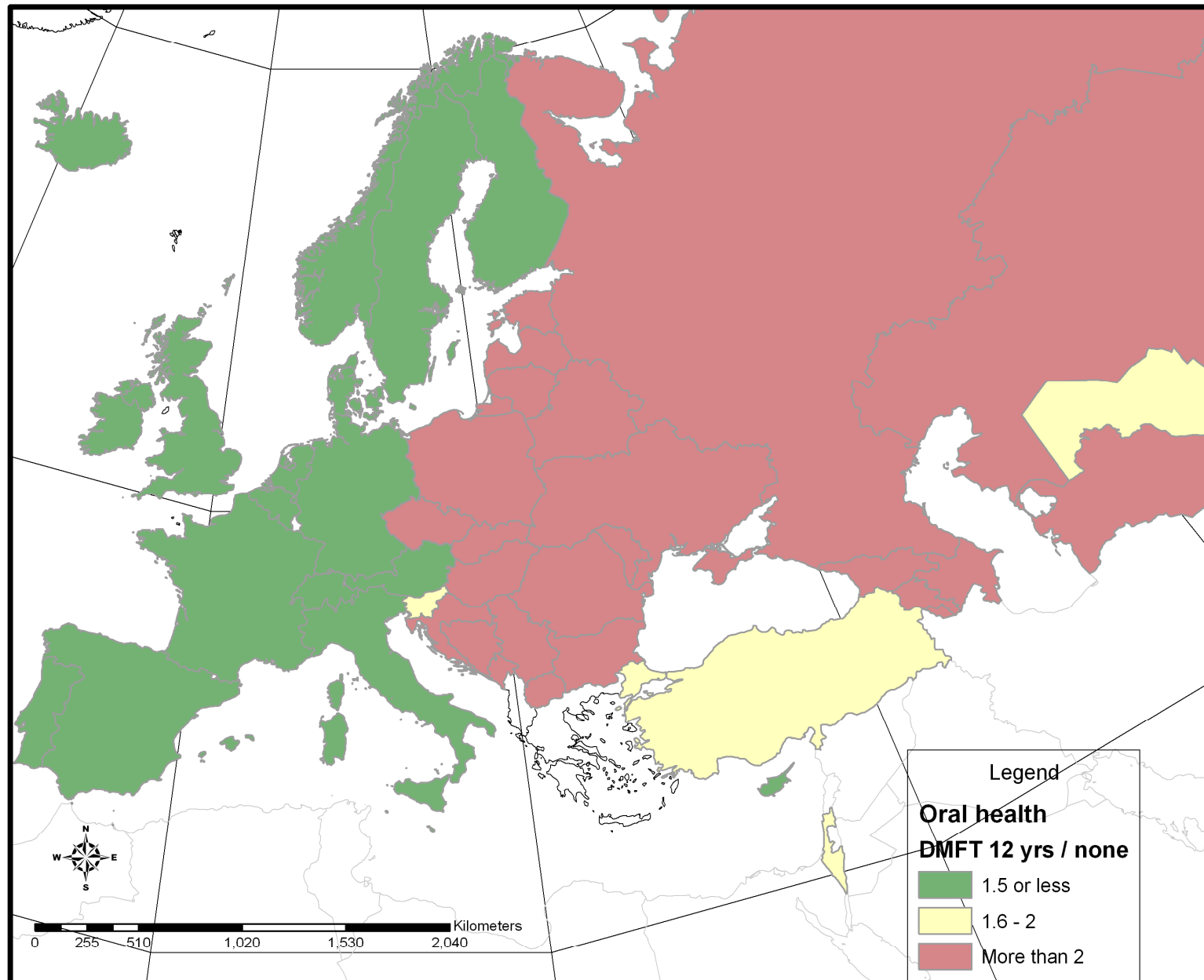
- **Between countries**
- **Within countries**
 - *Income*
 - *Education*
 - *Occupation*
 - *Gender – Age*
 - *Residence*
 - *Ethnicity*



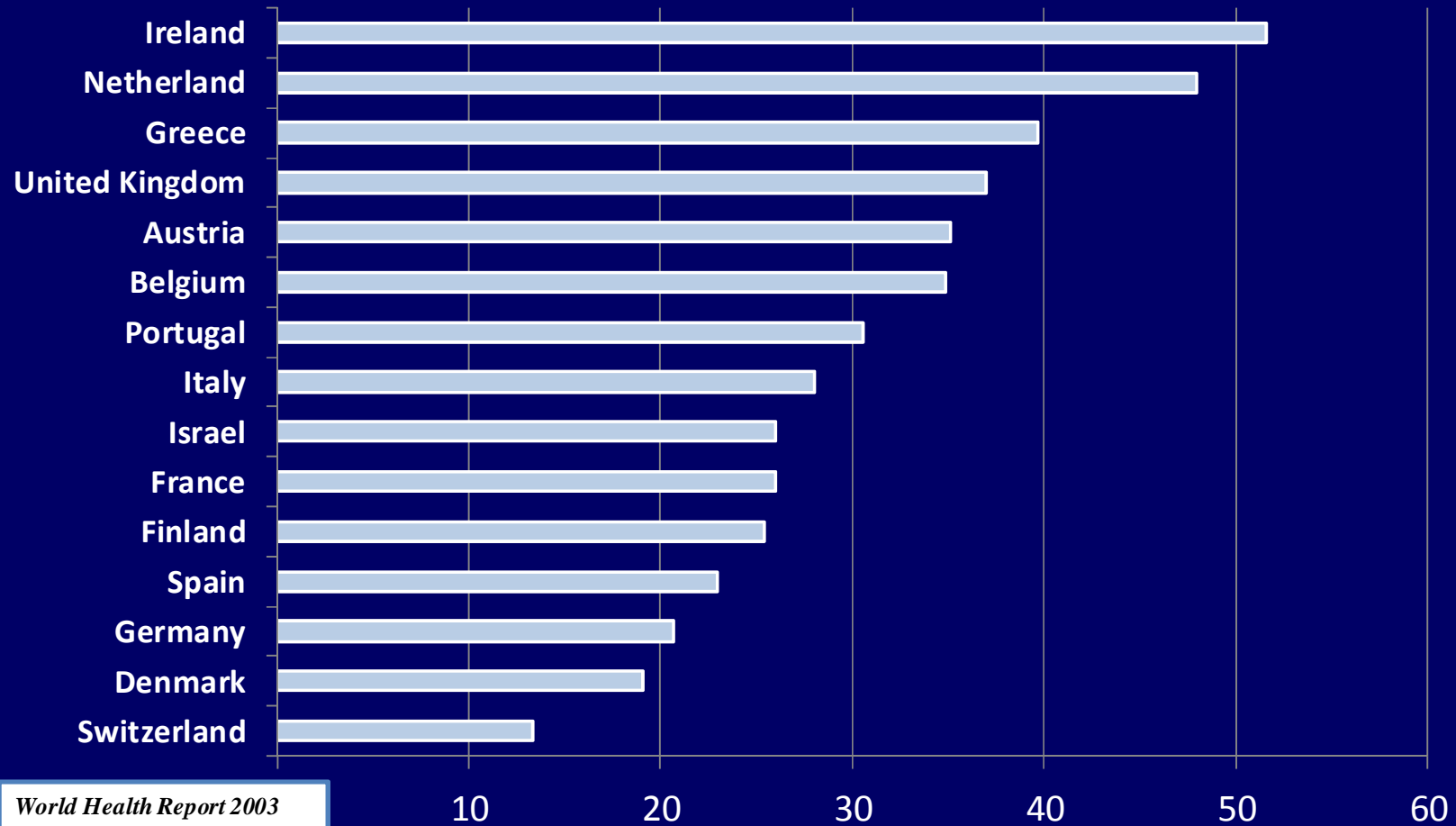
Social inequality - oral diseases and conditions

- *Dental caries*
- **Periodontal diseases**
- *Tooth loss*
- *Oral cancer/pre-cancer*
- **Mucosal infections and diseases**
- **HIV/AIDS**
- **Injury and trauma**

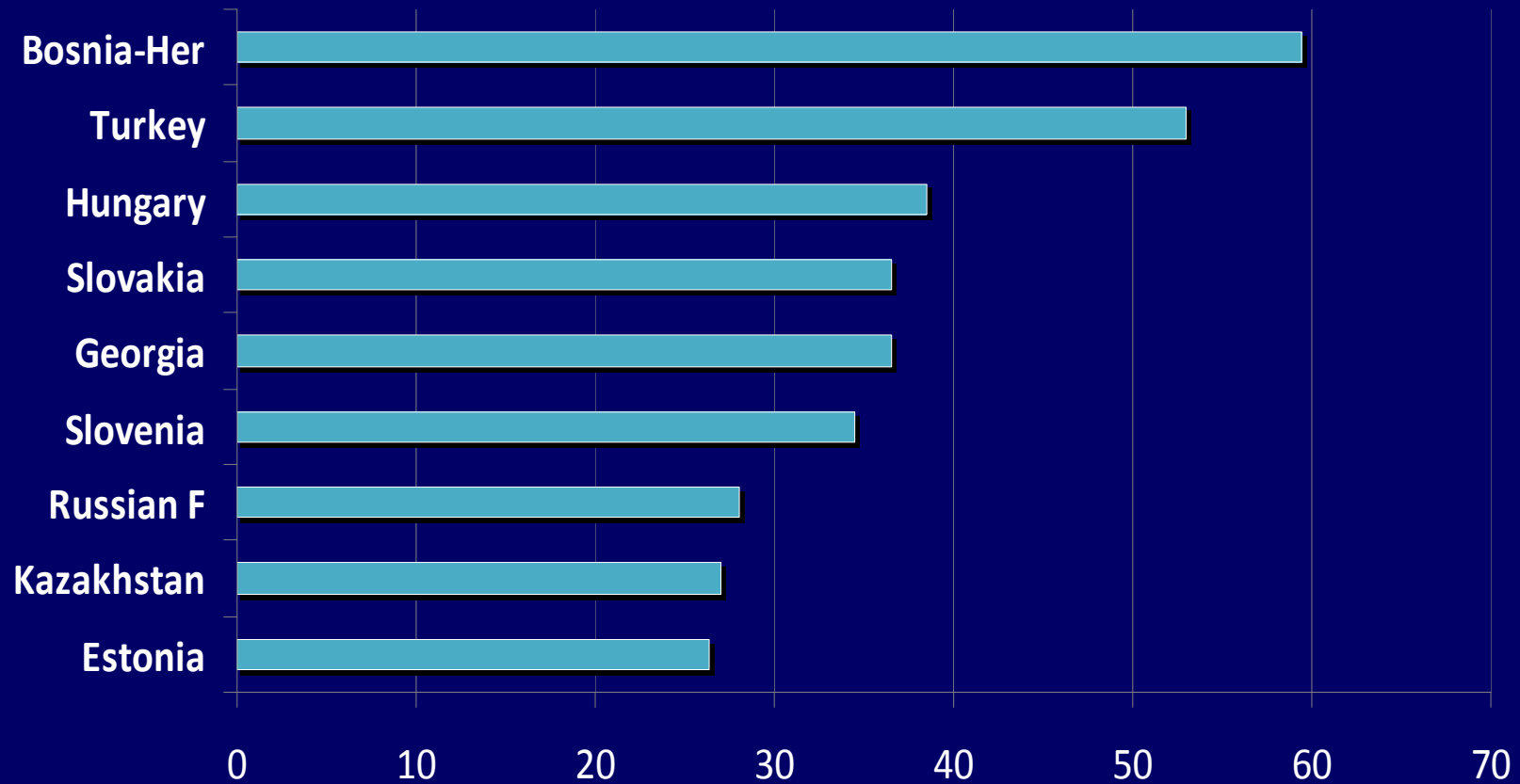
DMFT index of children in European countries, 2011



Percentage of edentulous people aged 65-74 years in Western European countries - 2003

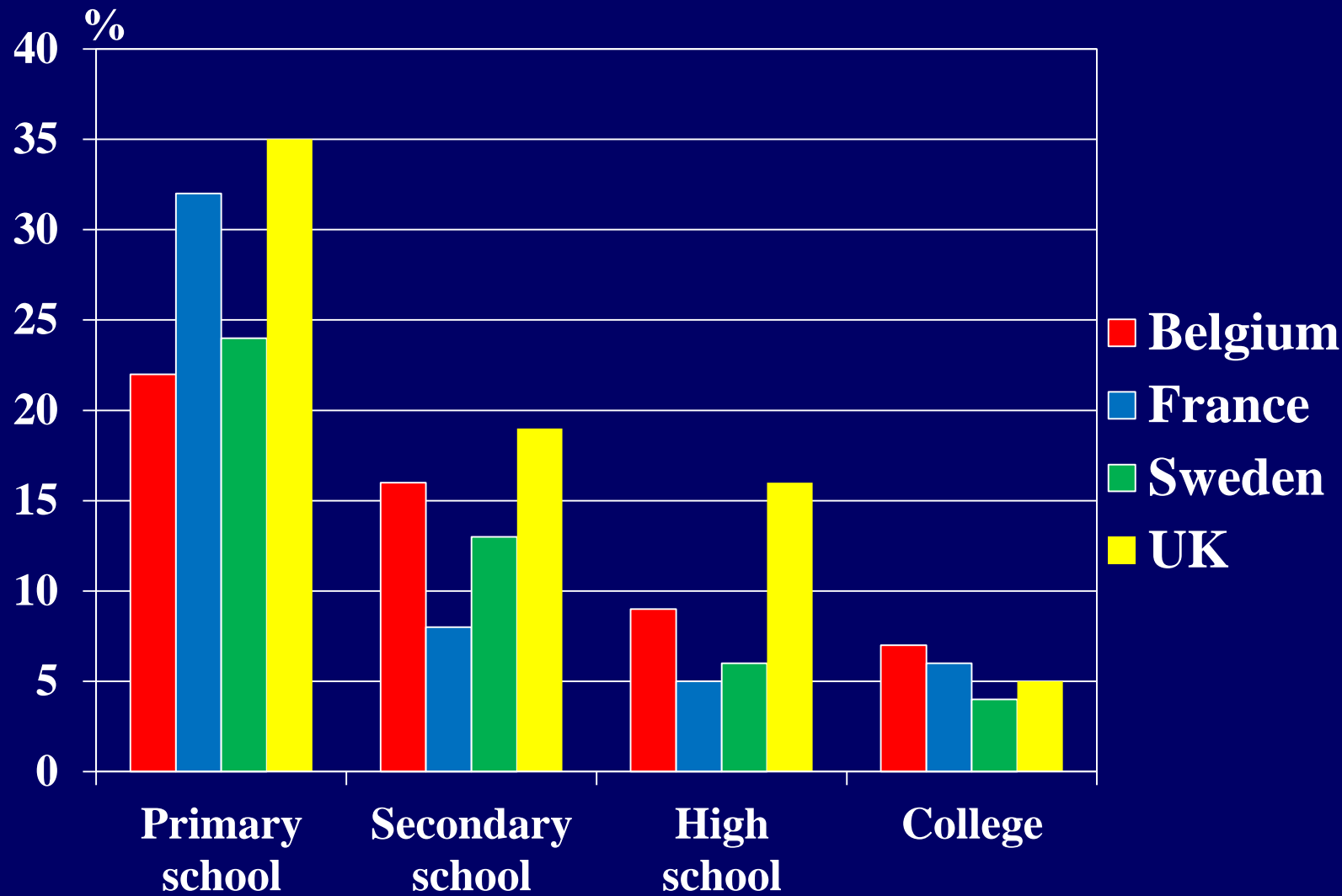


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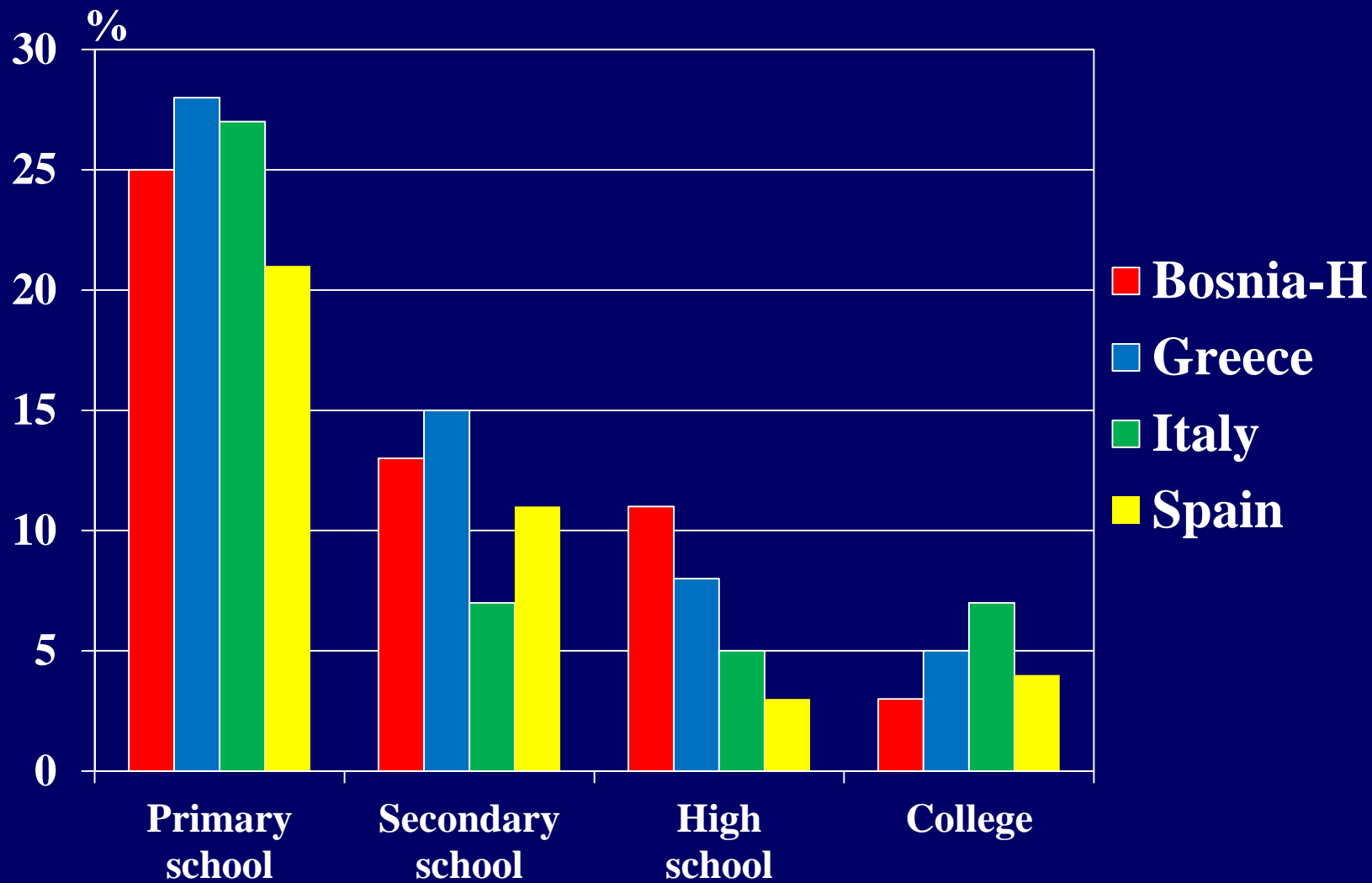


World Health Report 2003

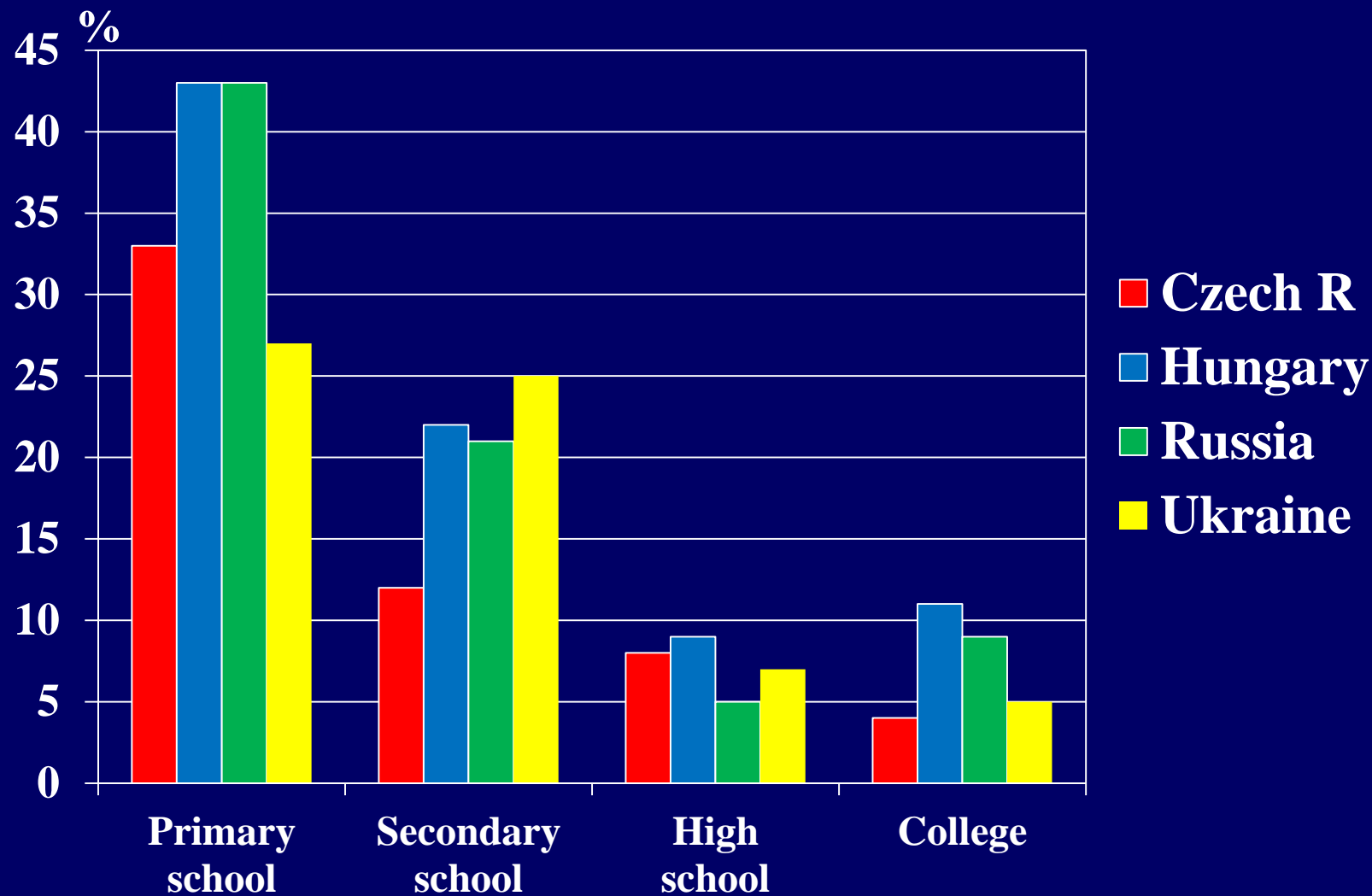
Pct of adults (18 yrs+) having lost all natural teeth by education (selected countries)



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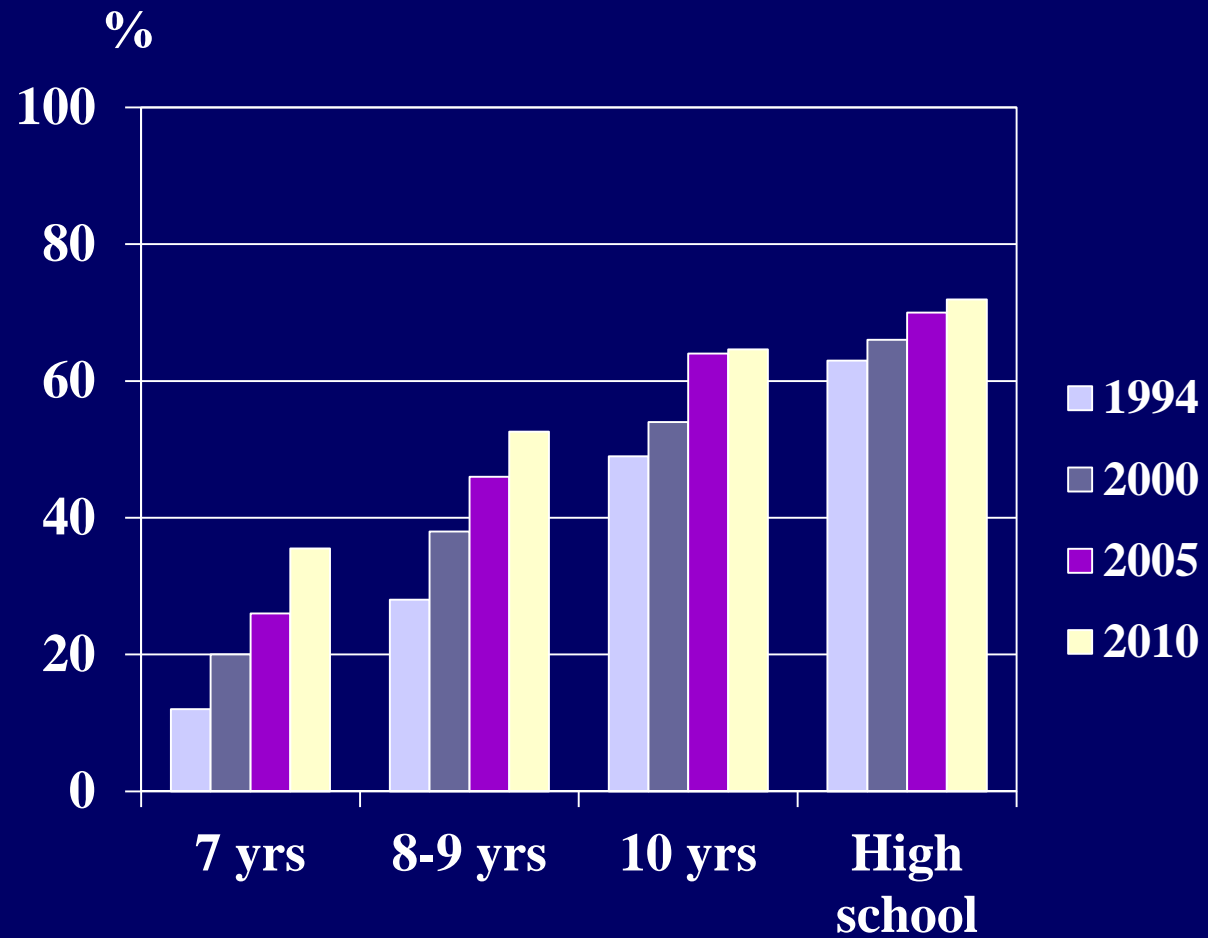


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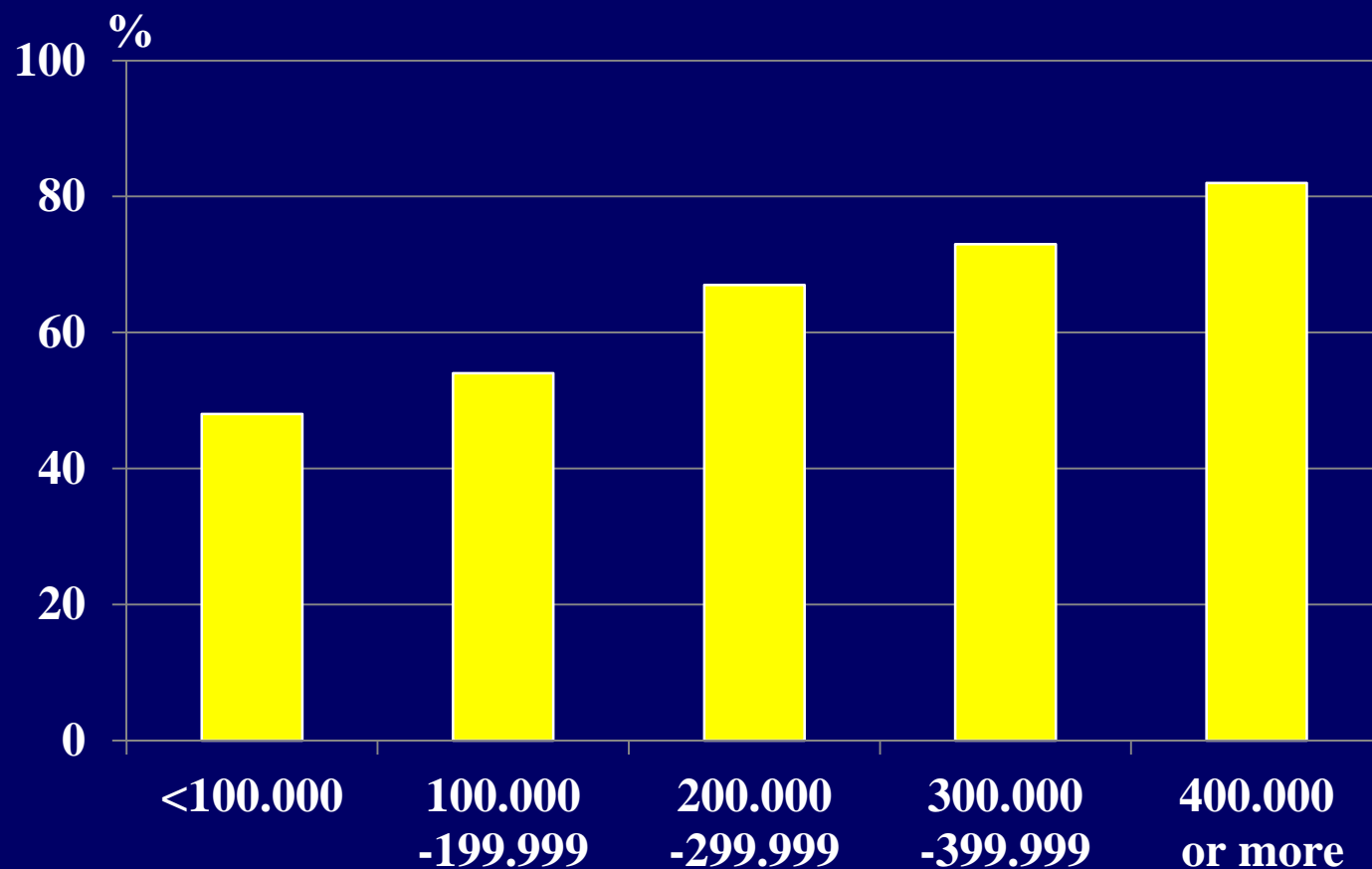


Pct. of Danish 65+ year olds with 20+ teeth by education and year of study



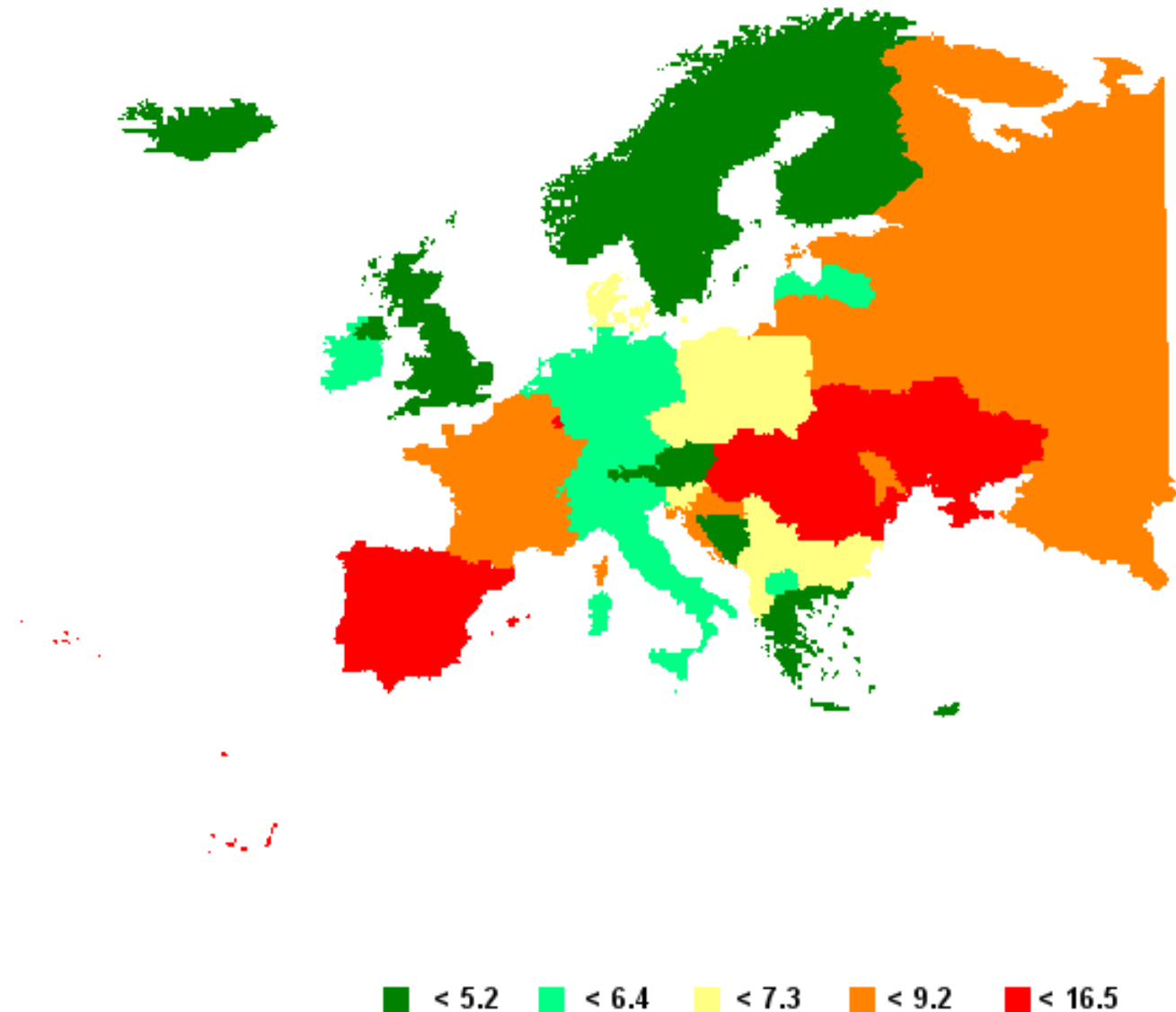
Petersen et al, 2010

Pct. Danish *regular dental visitors* aged 65+ years with 20 teeth or more by personal annual income (DKK)

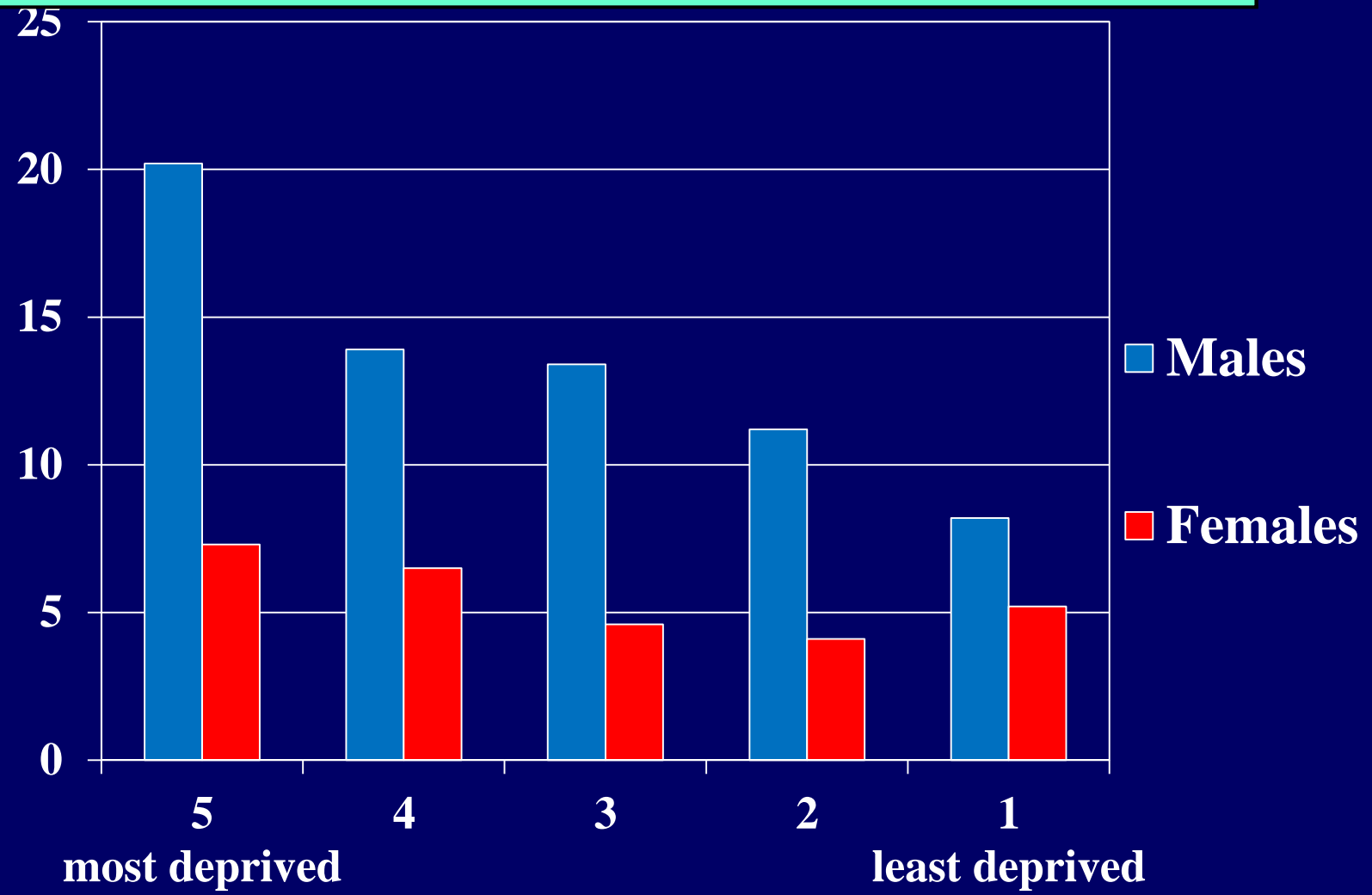


Petersen et al. 2010

Estimated age-standardized incidence rate per 100,000 Lip and oral cavity cancer: male, all ages



Age-Standardized Incidence Rates (2002) of oral and oro-pharyngeal cancer by sex and deprivation score *Scotland 2002*

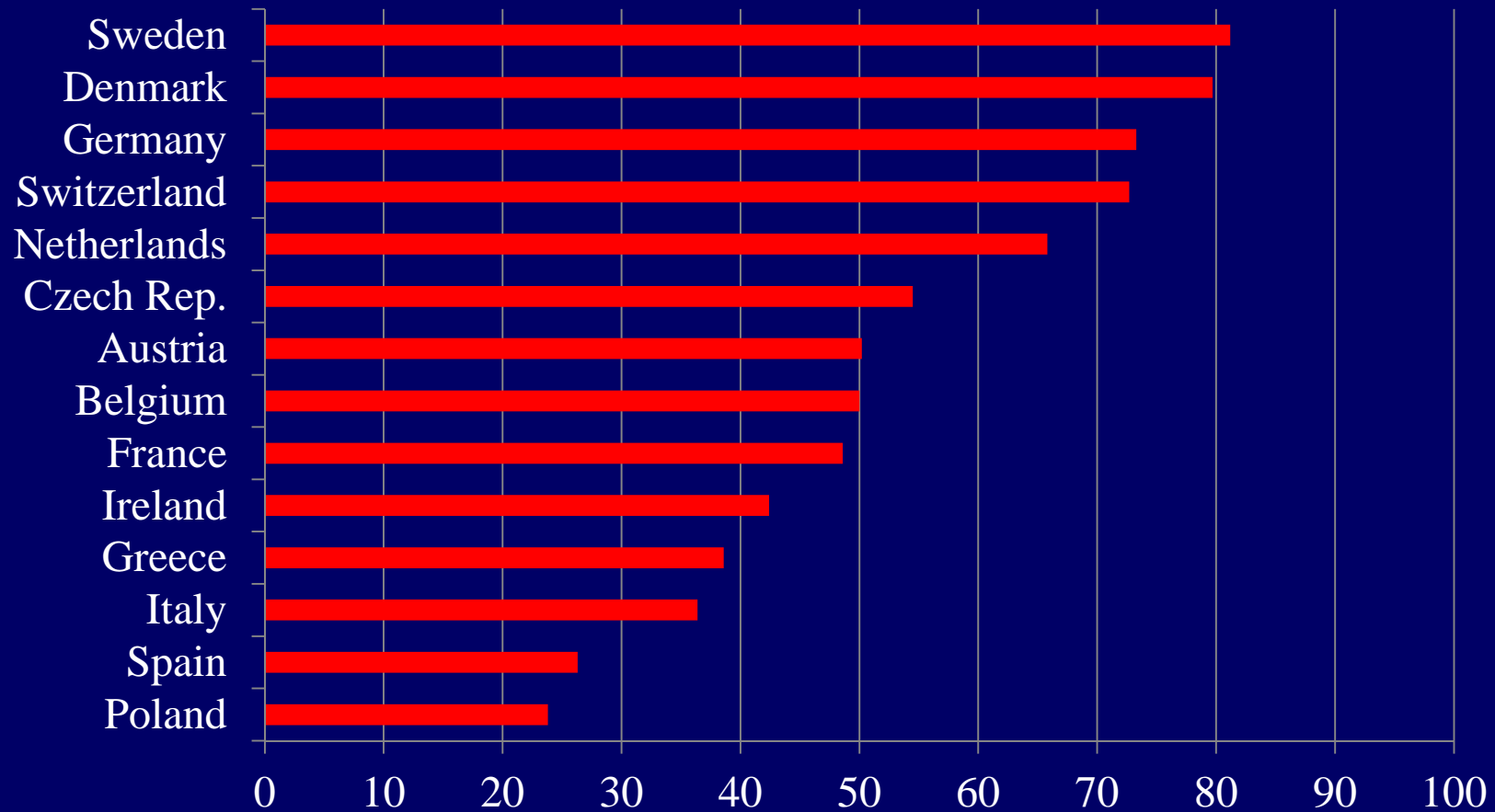




Equity in health care

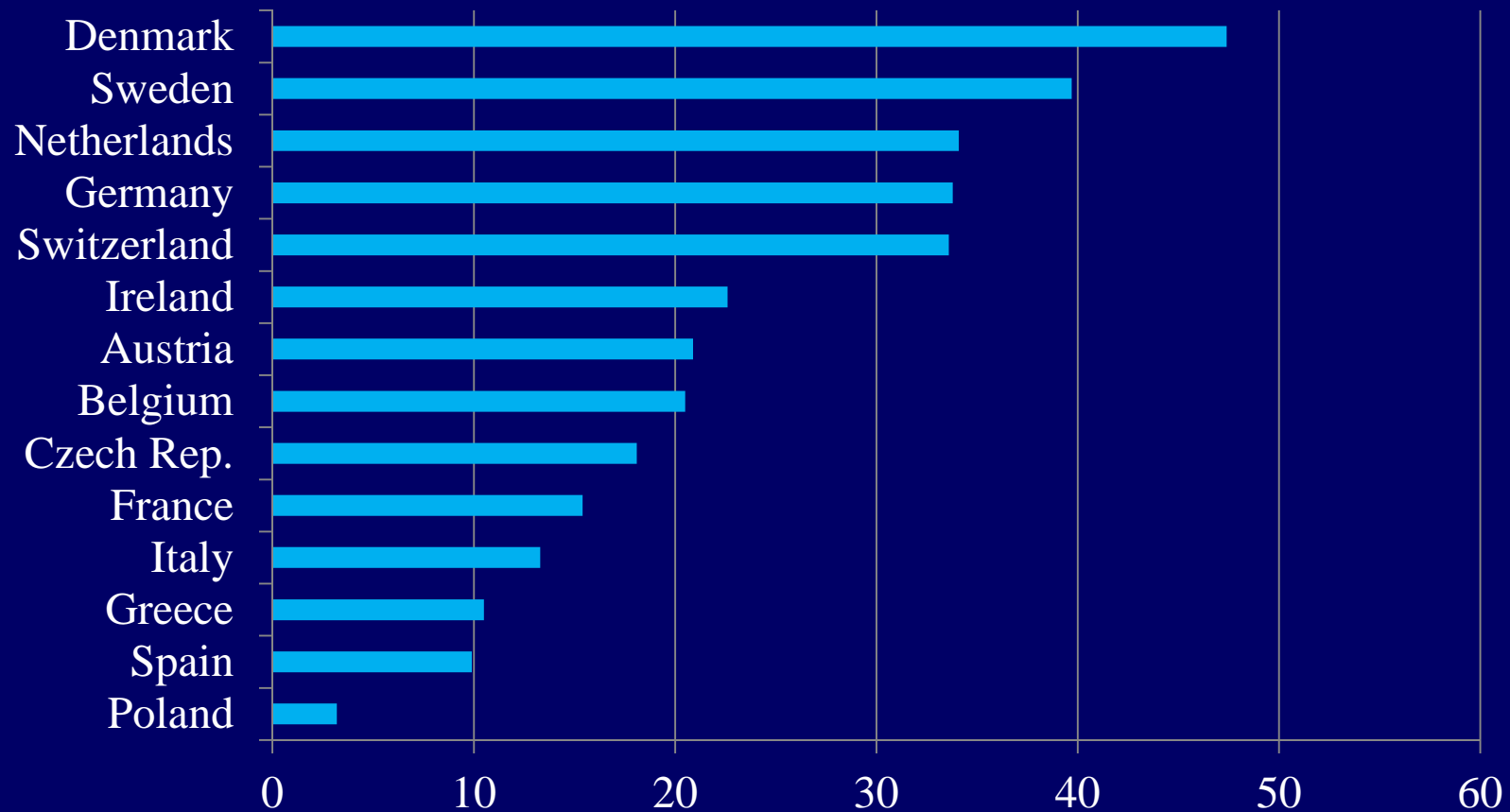
- * Equal access to available care for equal need**
- * Equal utilization for equal need**
- * Equal quality of care for all**

Pct. of Europeans aged 50+ with access to dental care within the past 12 months



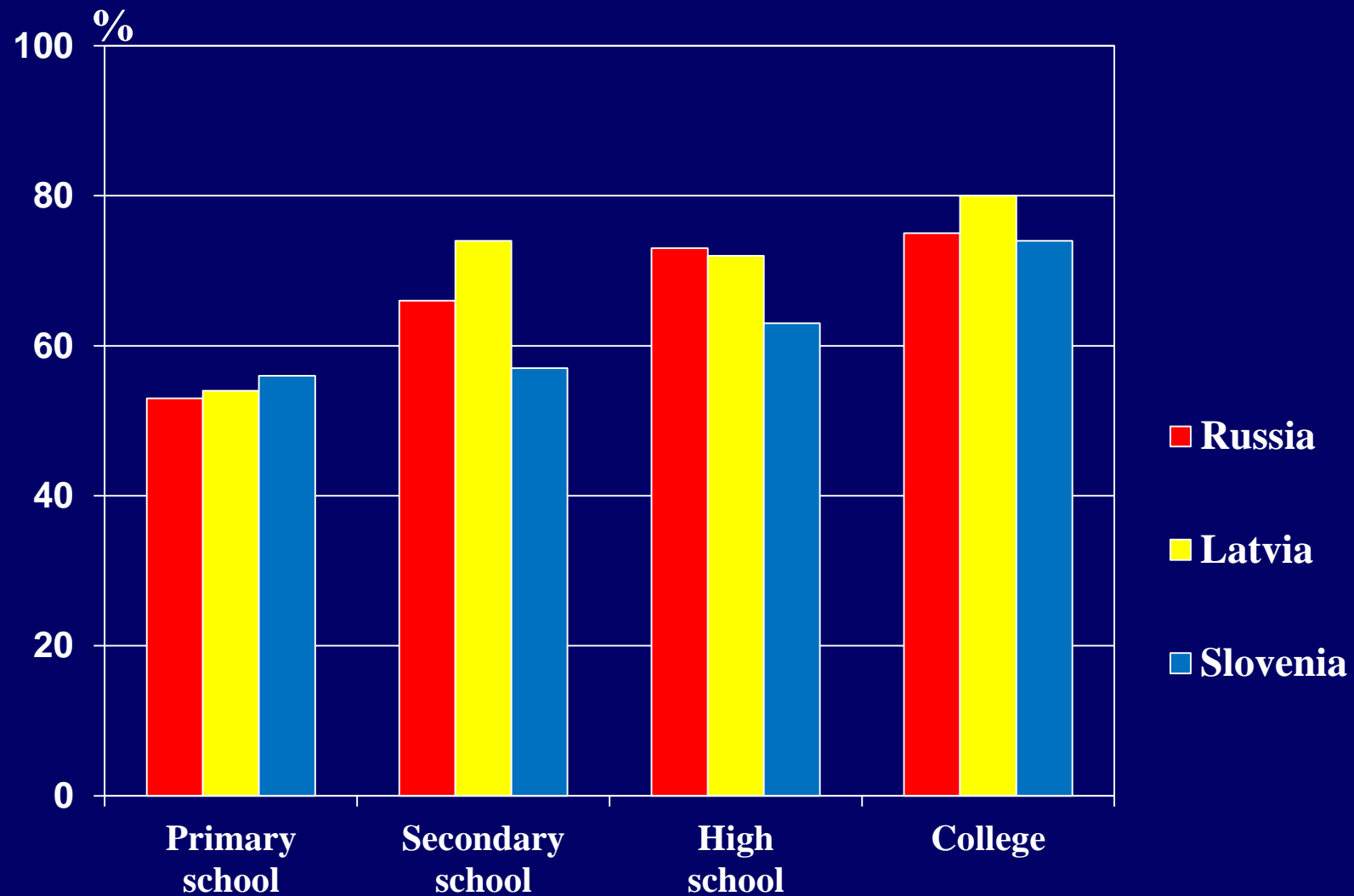
Source: Listl S, 2011

Pct of Europeans aged 50+ attending the dentist for preventive reasons only

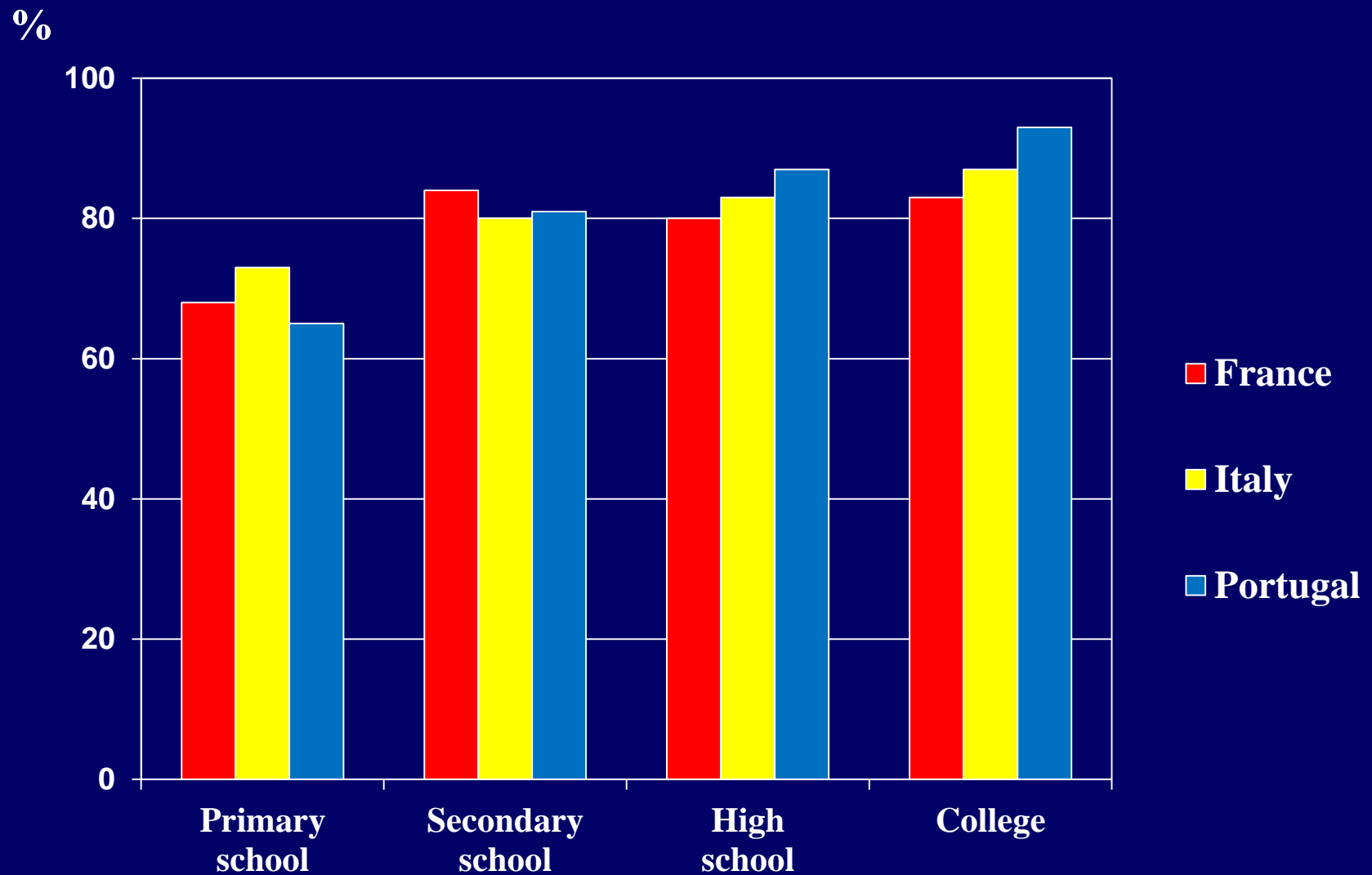


Source: Listl S, 2011

Pct. people (18+ years) who had health care for their oral problems by education (*selected countries*)

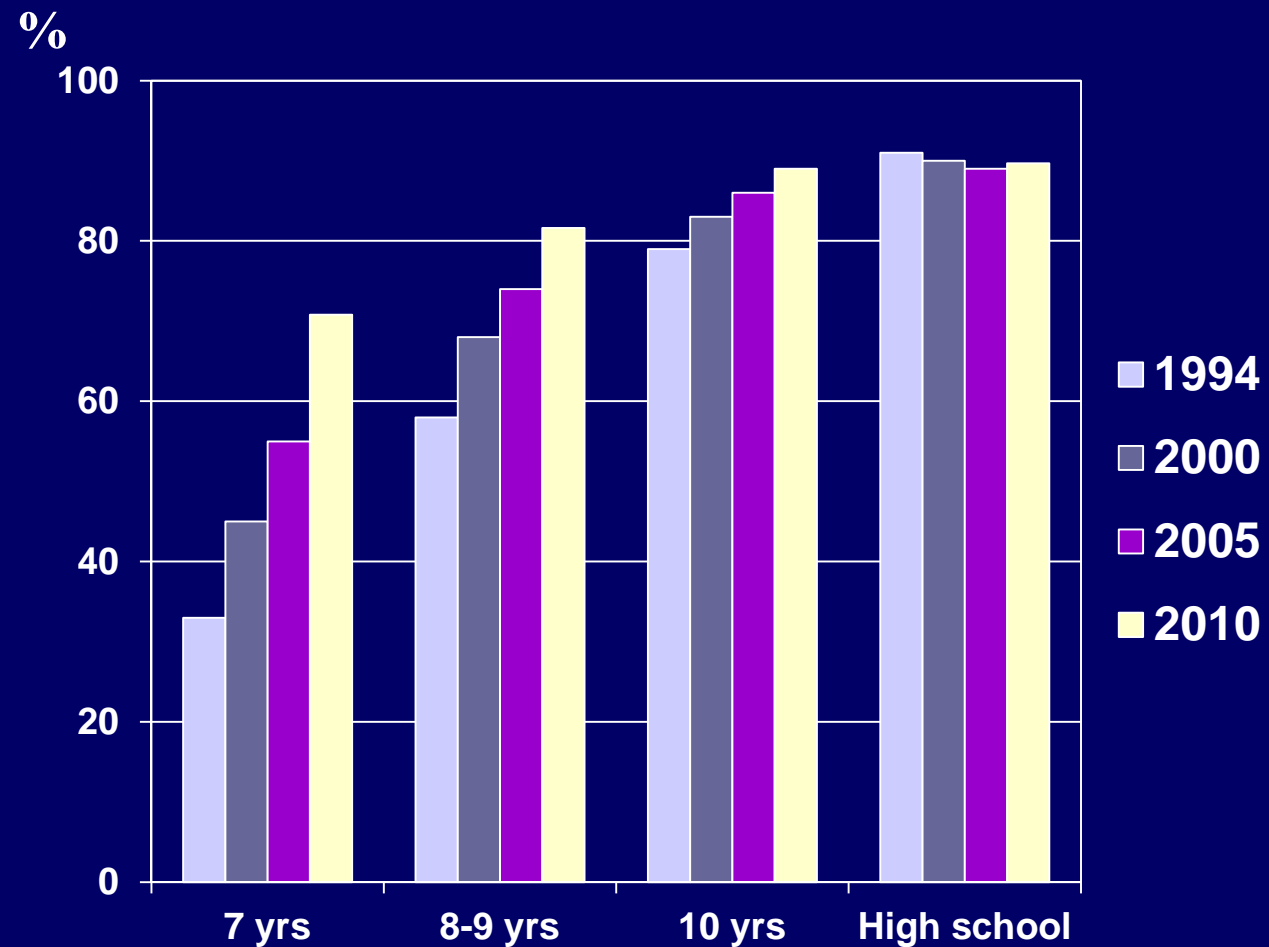


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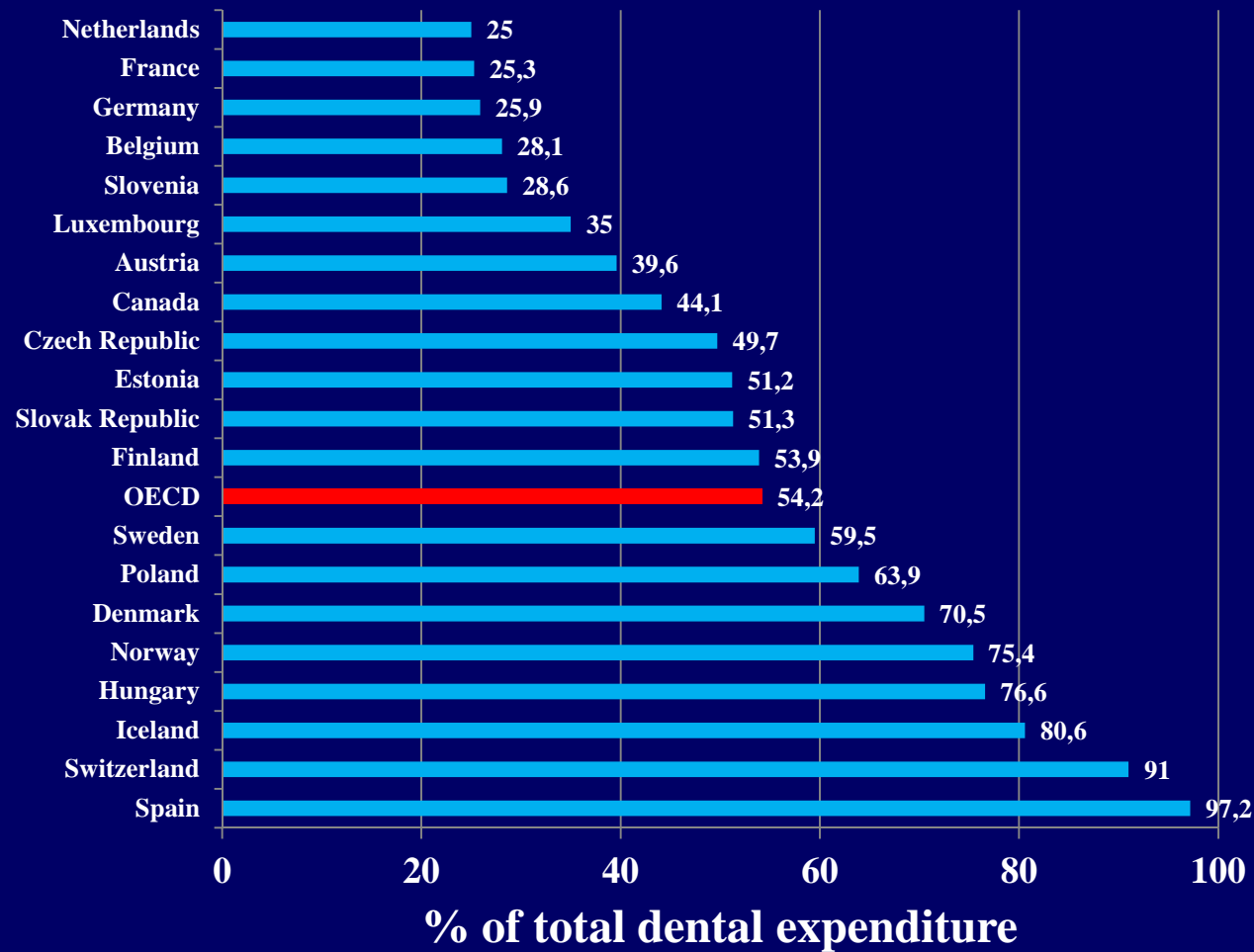


Pct. of 65+ year old Danes with regular dental visits by education and year of study



Petersen et al, 2010

Out-of-pocket dental expenditure, 2009 (or nearest year)



Source: OECD Health Data 2011



WHO Report 2010 Equity, Social Determinants and Public Health Programmes

- **How much unfairness in health is acceptable ?**
- **Translate knowledge into concrete, workable actions**
- **Important public health problems**



Equity, social determinants and public health programmes



Edited by Erik Blas and Anand Sivasankara Kurup



Public health intervention for oral health

- **Healthy public policies and legislation are important upstream measures**
- **Healthy settings**
- **Risk factors approaches**
- **Healthy lifestyles**
- **Universal health care**

Introduction and Overview

The World Health Report 2008

Primary Health Care



Now More Than Ever





Primary Health Care Reforms

- * **Universal coverage**

Improve health equity

- * **Service delivery**

People-centred health systems

- * **Public policy**

Promote/protect health of communities

- * **Leadership**

Reliable health authorities



Primary Health Care

...is *essential health care* based on practical, scientifically sound and socially acceptable methods and technology made *universally* accessible to individuals and families in the community through their full participation and at a *cost* that the community and country can afford



Primary Health Care

- **Basic packages –**
".... poor care for poor people"
- **Essential care for disease control, maintaining health and quality of life**



People-centred primary care

- **Outreach care to the poor and disadvantaged people**
- **Continuity of care**
- **Comprehensiveness**
- **Responsibility for a well-identified population**
- **Financially fair third-party payment systems must match the needs of socially disadvantaged**



Underserved population groups

- **Poor people - socially disadvantaged**
- **Older people**
- **Ethnic groups**
- **Disabled people**
- **Institutionalized people**
- **Special medical conditions**



Universal health coverage

- **Affordability of care**
 - *Out-of-pocket user fees, co-payments, deductibles*
 - *Caps offer some protection against financial catastrophe*
- **Risk-pooling - solidarity**
 - *enrolment in third-party payment systems*
 - *all citizens or segregation*
 - *below poverty line*



HEALTH

21

— *health for all
in the
21st century*

European
Health for All
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Governments and PHC

Governments have a responsibility for the health of their people to lead a socially and economically productive life.

Primary health care is the key to attaining this target as part of development in the spirit of social justice



Inequality - Equity

- **Health equity is a moral position as well as a logically derived principle**
- **Political proponents and opponents**
- **Demonstrate the health inequities are avoidable, in that there are plausible interventions**



WHO Commission on Social Determinants 2008

- * *“.....the means to level out inequities in health are already available; unjust social inequity in health can thus be eradicated if there is political will to do so”.*

A photograph of the United Nations flag flying in front of a modern, multi-story building with a grid of windows. The sky is blue with some clouds. The flag is the central focus, waving in the wind. The building behind it has a distinctive architectural style with a flat roof and a grid of windows.

**Thank you very much
for your attention**



Oral Health Programme

www.who.int/oral_health

