

Restructuring of markets, politics, and rights under the current crisis in Portugal

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Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Contextualization**
- **Policies to combat the crisis**
- **Main trends in employment**
- **Case study: changes in public employment**
- **Discussion – the changing of the citizenship regime**

Conceptual contextualization

- **New phase of the globalisation process is shaping a different form to connect markets, politics and rights (Somers, 2010)**
- **Concept of citizenship regime (Jenson, 2007) can help us to guide our thinking about what is going on: “set of institutional arrangements, rules and understandings that guide and shape concurrent policy decisions and expenditures of states, problem definitions by states and citizens, and claims-making by citizens”.**

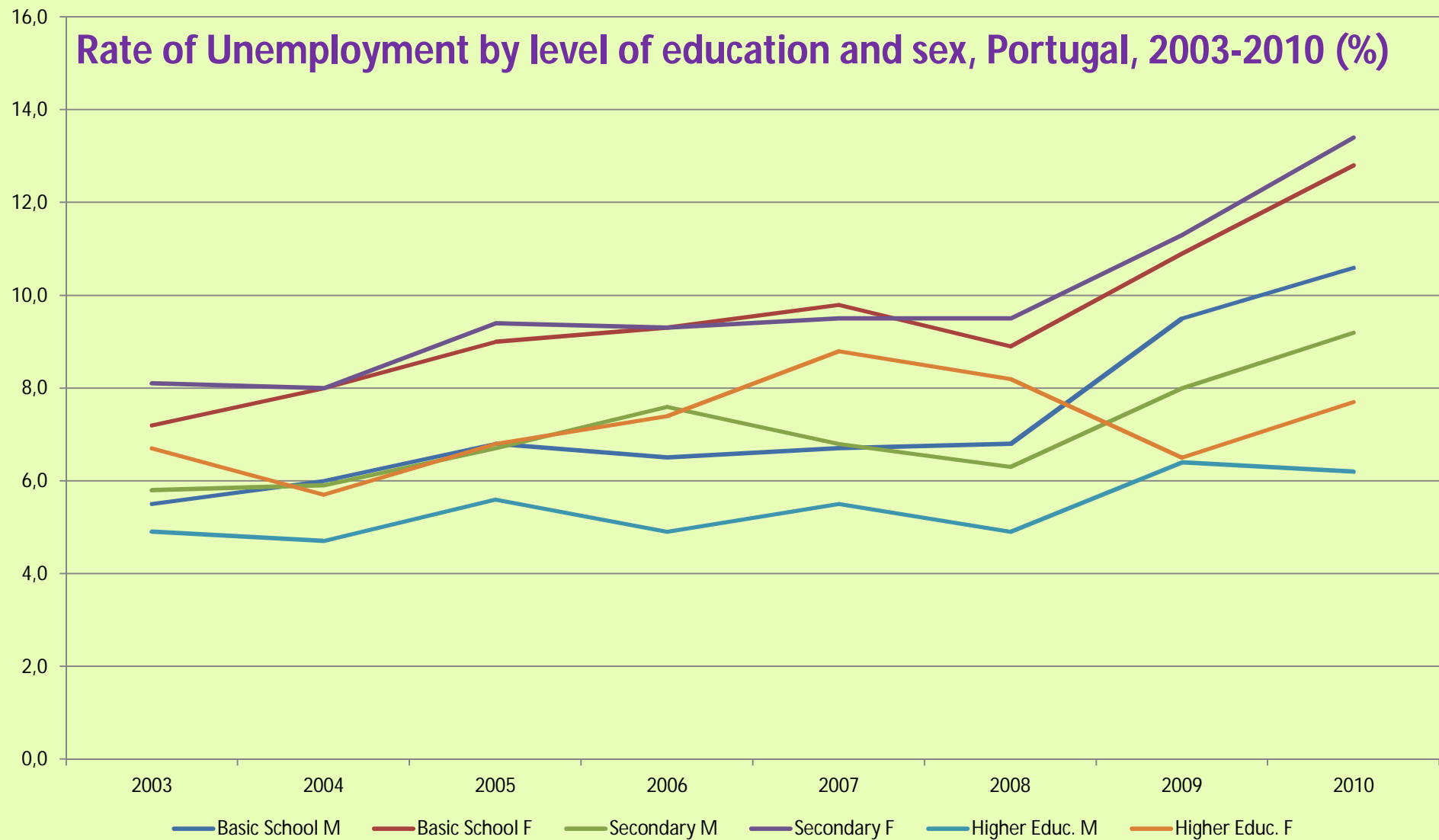
Empirical contextualization

- During the 90', the new governance deal assigned greater space to NGO and market-based decision-makers – new forms of citizen involvement in and access to policy-making were initiated, in which rights were defined in general and flexible ways, to be given content in decentralized processes (Newman et al., apud Jenson, 2007).
- The social agenda configured since Lisbon the welfare responsibility mix in face of the recognition of the so-called new social risks that urged for improved parental leaves, childcare and other social supports to family life.
- The time to recognize the need to socialize reproduction costs had come, as low levels of European competitiveness and feeble sustainability of welfare regimes demanded for pro-activity.
- EU member-states seem to be taking advantage of the sovereign debt crisis to reduce their share in the welfare responsibility mix

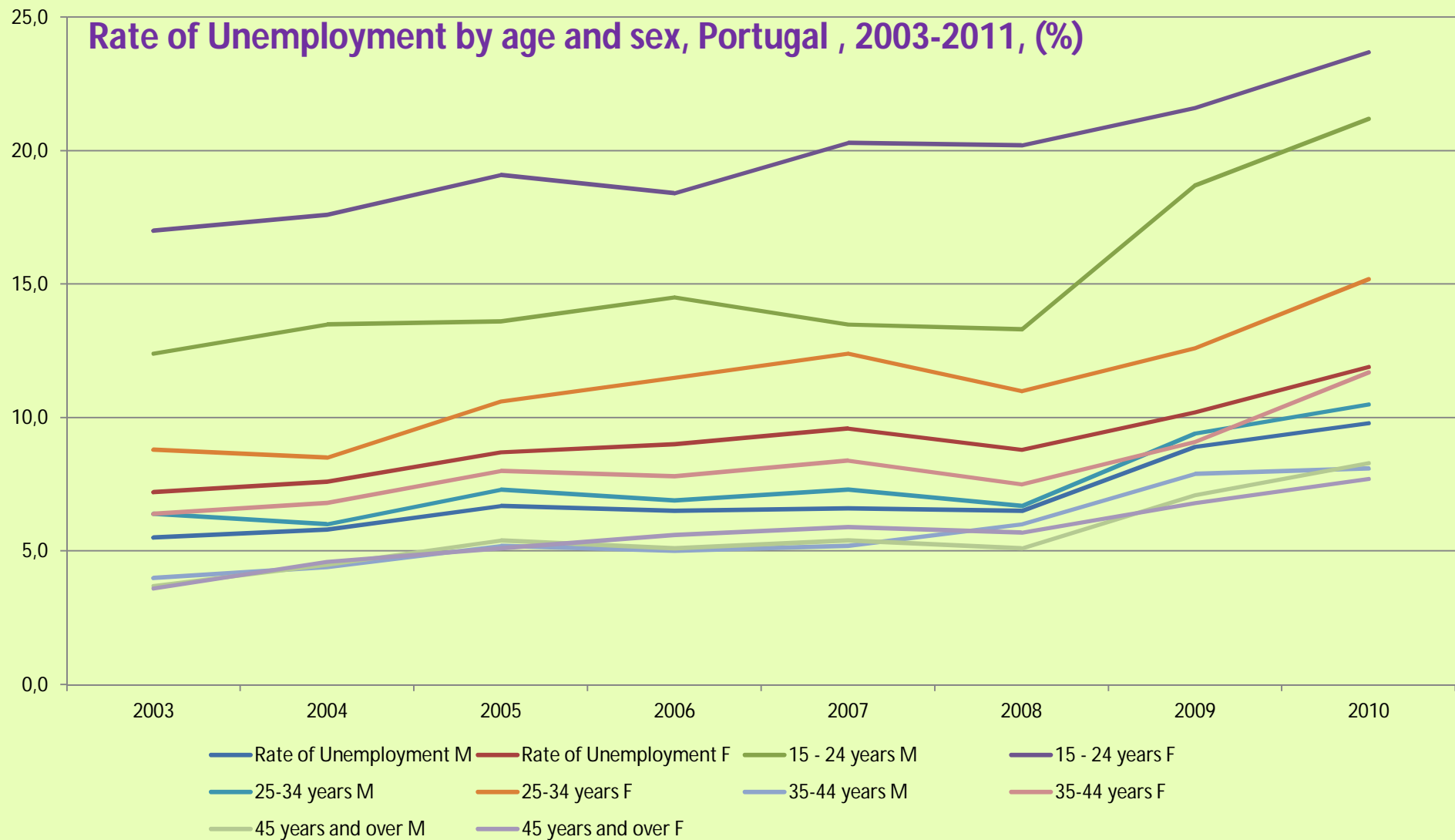
Main anti-crisis (?) Policies

1. Wage cuts and recruitment freeze
2. Restructuring of public administration
3. Freezing of lowest pensions and cuts in pensions over 1,500€
4. Cuts in social expenditure in family allowances and other social aids
5. Increase in civil servants contribution rate for social security
6. Extraordinary 2011 tax – 50% of 14th month (above 485€)
7. Increases of VAT rates
8. Increases of transports, gas and electricity
9. Extension of daily working time (half an hour)
10. Deregulation of labour relations, easing of dismissals and flexibility of working hours and workers' s mobility

Trends in unemployment - Groups



Trends in unemployment - Groups



Trends in unemployment - Sectors

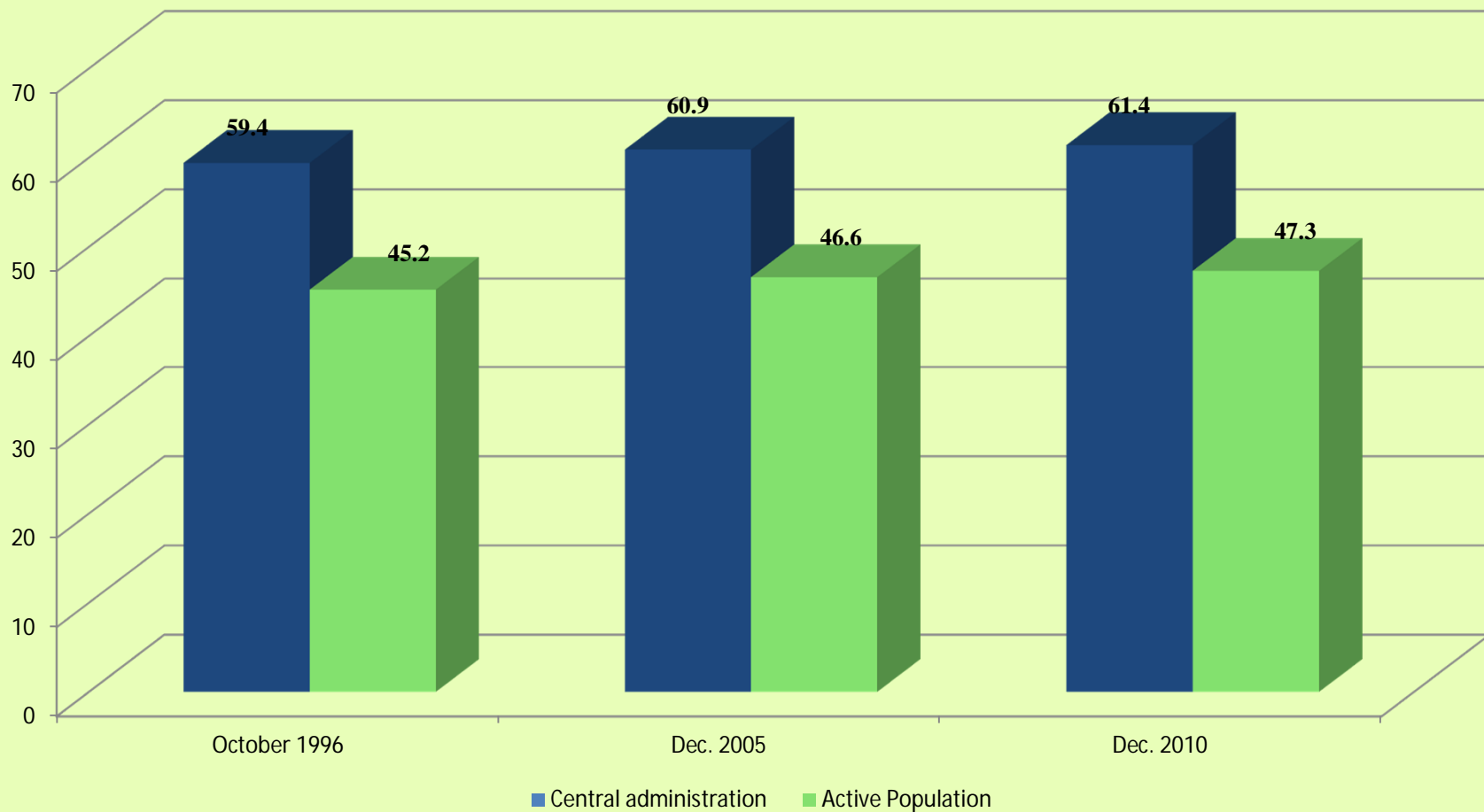
- Male employment was the first to be hit by the crisis, from January 2009 on; female employment started to be hit one year later.
- Employment gap between the employment rates of men and women closed slightly, because manufacturing (automobile sector) and the construction were the sectors more affected; men registered higher job loss.
- Men hold 2 in each 3 of the job positions loosed during 2009 and 2010.
- The segregation index and gender pay gap are increasing.
- The gender gaps in terms of quality and working conditions did aggravate – “feminization” of the labour force.

Trends in Public Employment

- Public sector represents 14% of overall employment
- High share of public sector in female employment
 - 21.8% of waged female employment
- Public sector is an important employer of graduate people:
 - 55.7% as comparing with 17% of overall employment
- The idea that civil servants are underworking and overpaid employees is widely spread; some studies show that:
 - Civil servants earn higher wages than in the private sector, specially in the lower and intermedium categories;
 - This premium is higher in the case of women;
 - Premium increased between 1995 and 2005 up to 26.5% (comparing to 12.9%, in the case of men).

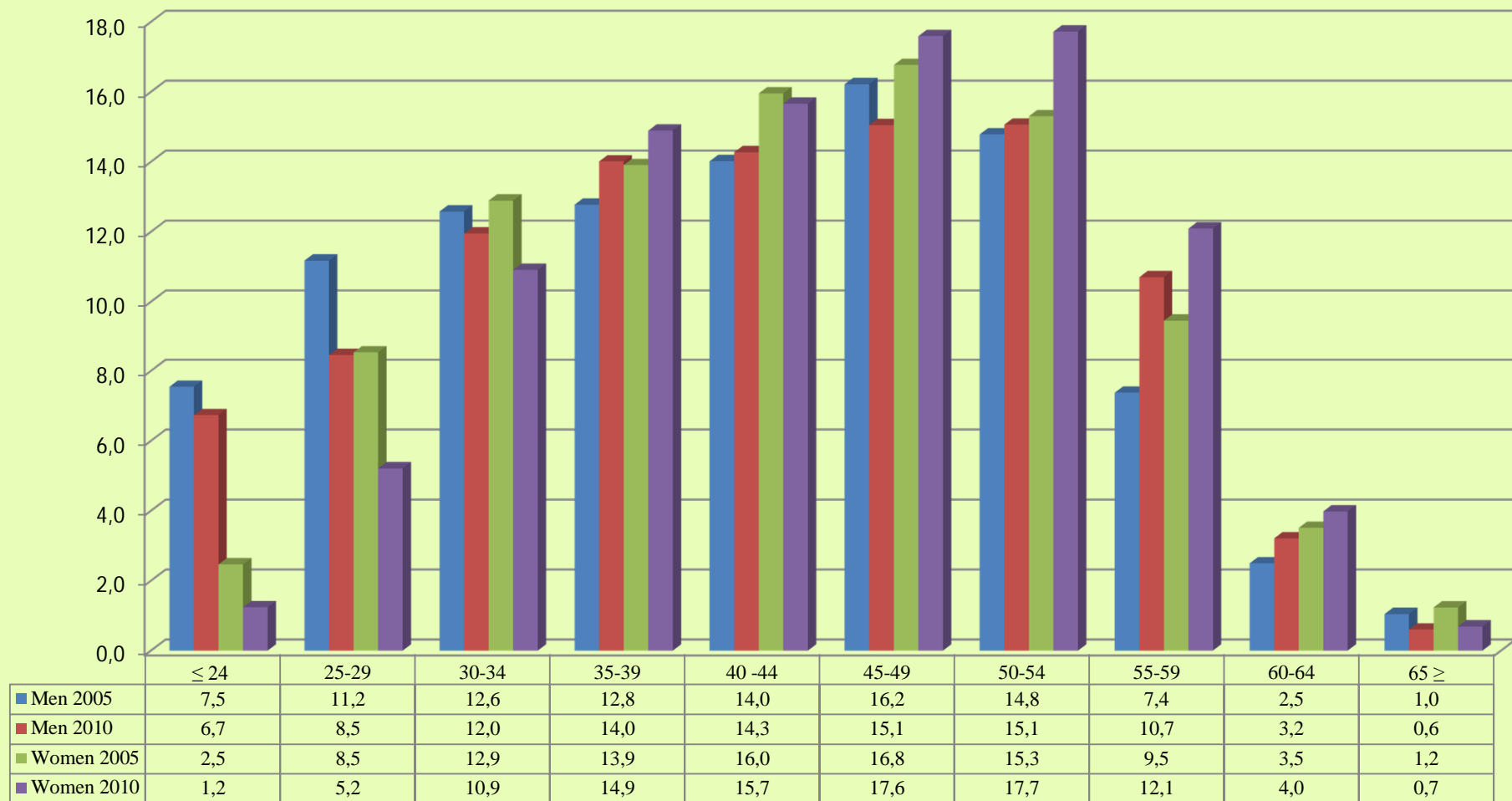
Feminization of public employment

Feminization of Central Public Administration Blue columns) and Active Population (green ones), Portugal, 1996-2010 (%)



Central Public Admin, by age and sex

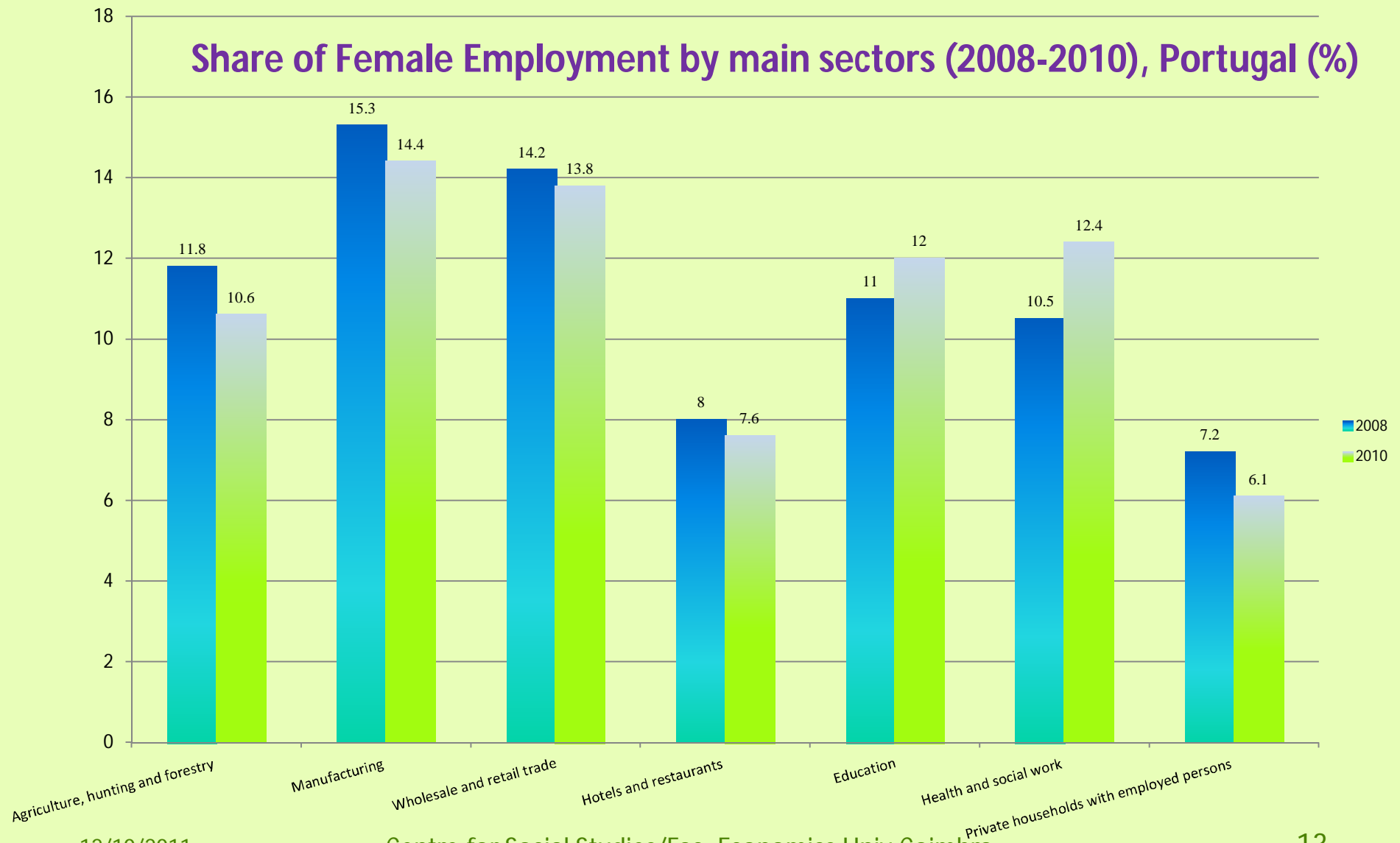
Central Public Admin. By sge and sex, 2005-2010, Portugal (%)



Turning off the damper of social inequalities between women

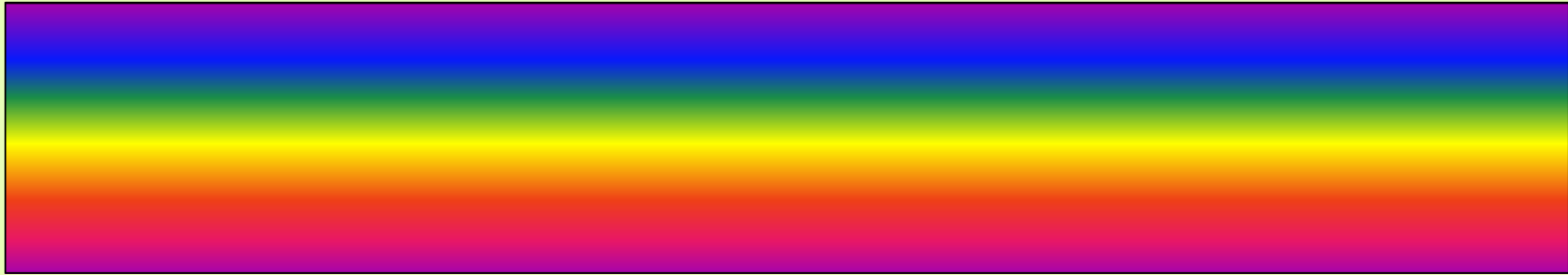
- Female civil servants contribute with 43% for their household income (2000)
 - Comparing to 33% of women working in private sector;
- Demand for domestic services decreases;
- Opportunities for low qualified women are decreasing;
- Inequalities between women are increasing;
- The overall gender inequality index is reduced.

Impact of changes



Where are we going from here?

- Policing the poor – criminalising poverty (Bauman, 2010);
- Socialization of bank risks and privatization of profits;
- Means-tested social protection scheme, accentuated by the crisis, increases family subsidiarity; reduces women's autonomy in the three important dimensions of the citizenship regime: the individual, the societal and the political.
- De-politicization of citizenship and gender regimes (Somers, 2010)
 - De-statization and contractualization of citizenship
- Back to familistic welfare regimes? Back to the Southern European welfare mix?



Thank you for your attention!

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