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Mapping the Unpaid Care Economy in the Asia-Pacific Region

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Developing Asia: Role of Individual and Household Data

Motivation

Is ageing Asia-Pacific facing a care crisis?

How to evaluate? Map the care economy.

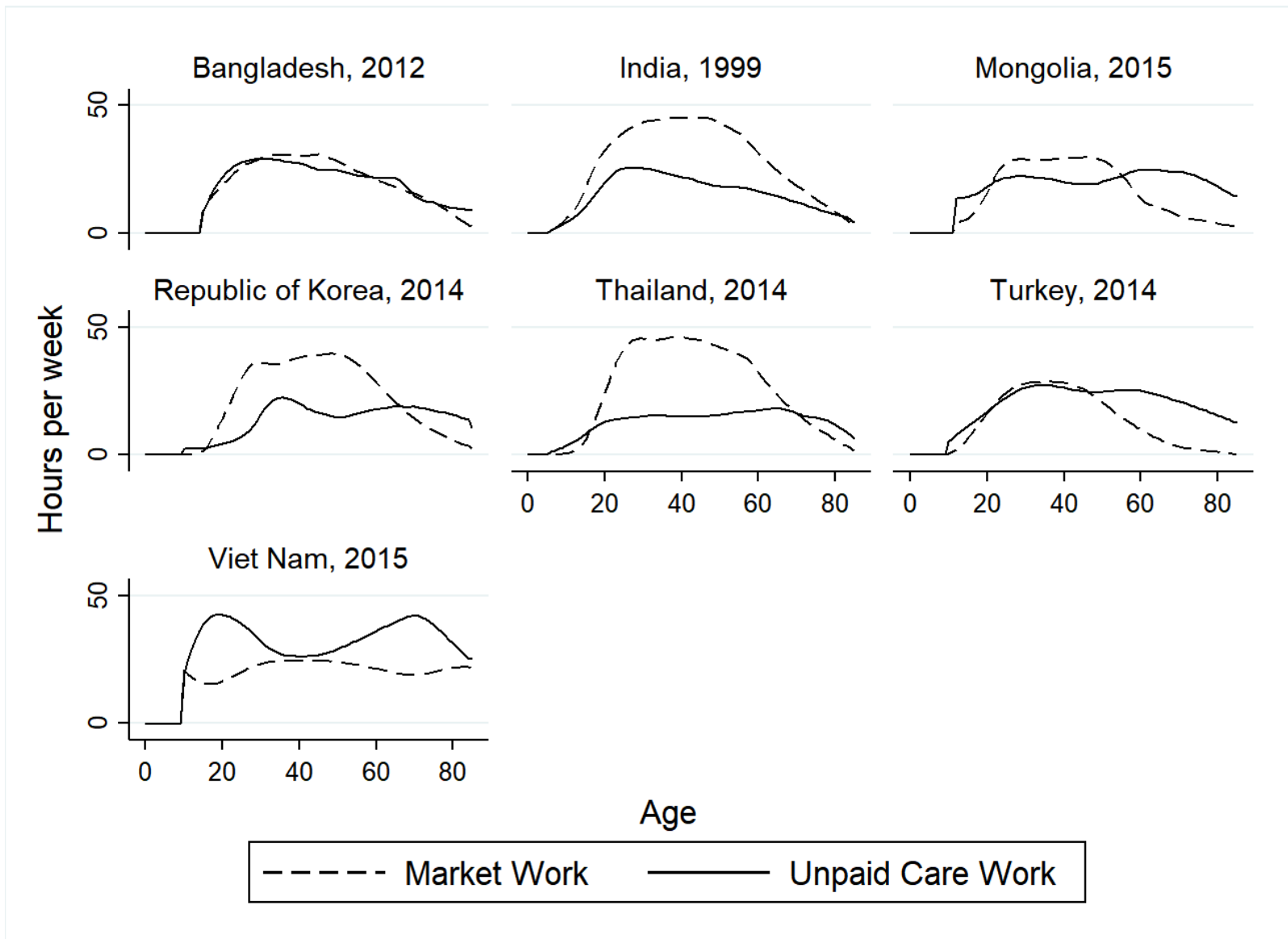
Different dynamics for paid care and unpaid care

Focus here on unpaid care work

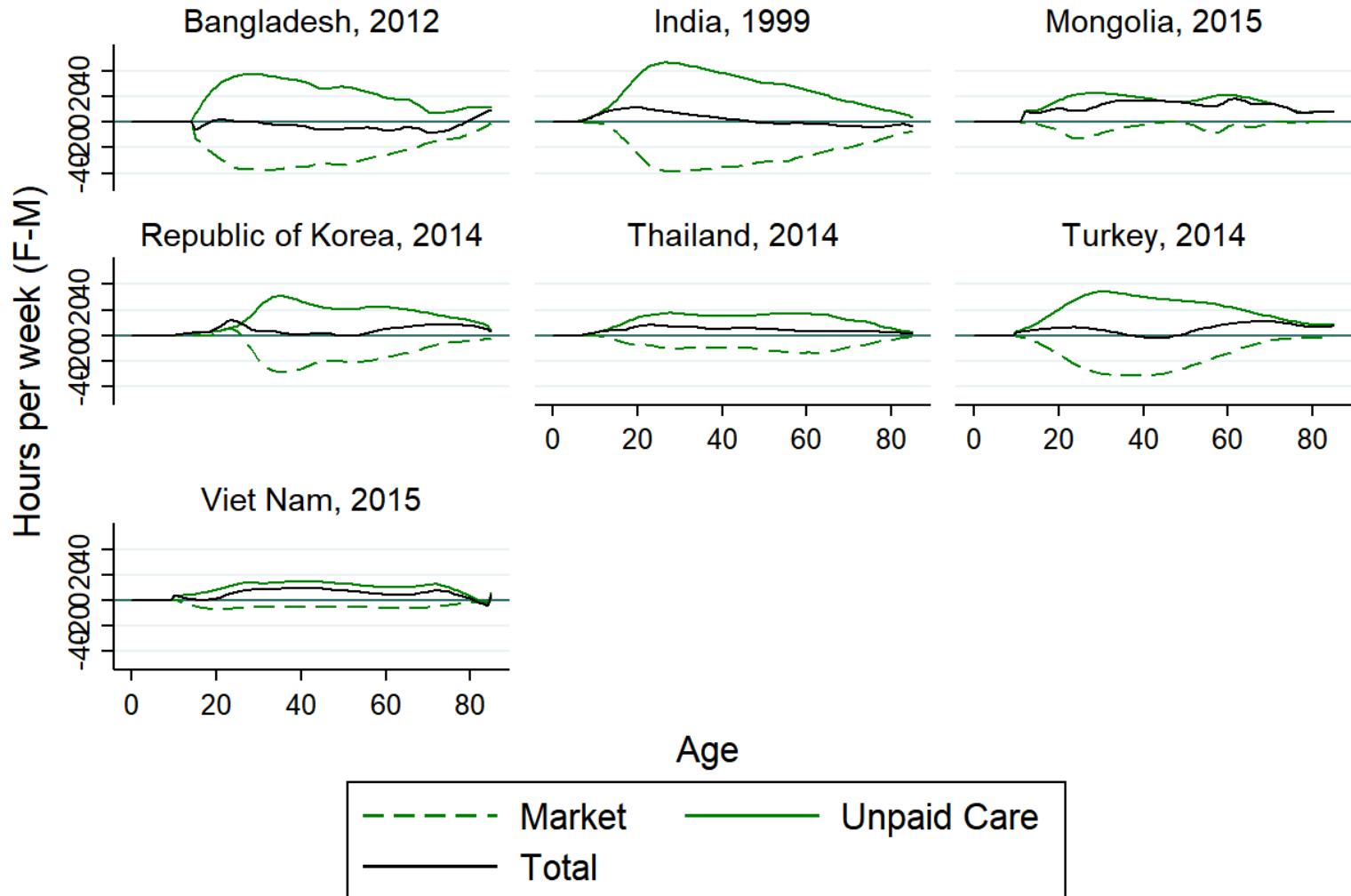
Unpaid care work and ageing

- We have many ideas about unpaid care work (UCW) and ageing populations, but what are the facts?
- What is UCW?
 - Direct care for persons and the community
 - Indirect care through housework and other household activities
- Measured using time use surveys

UCW is a large part of working lives

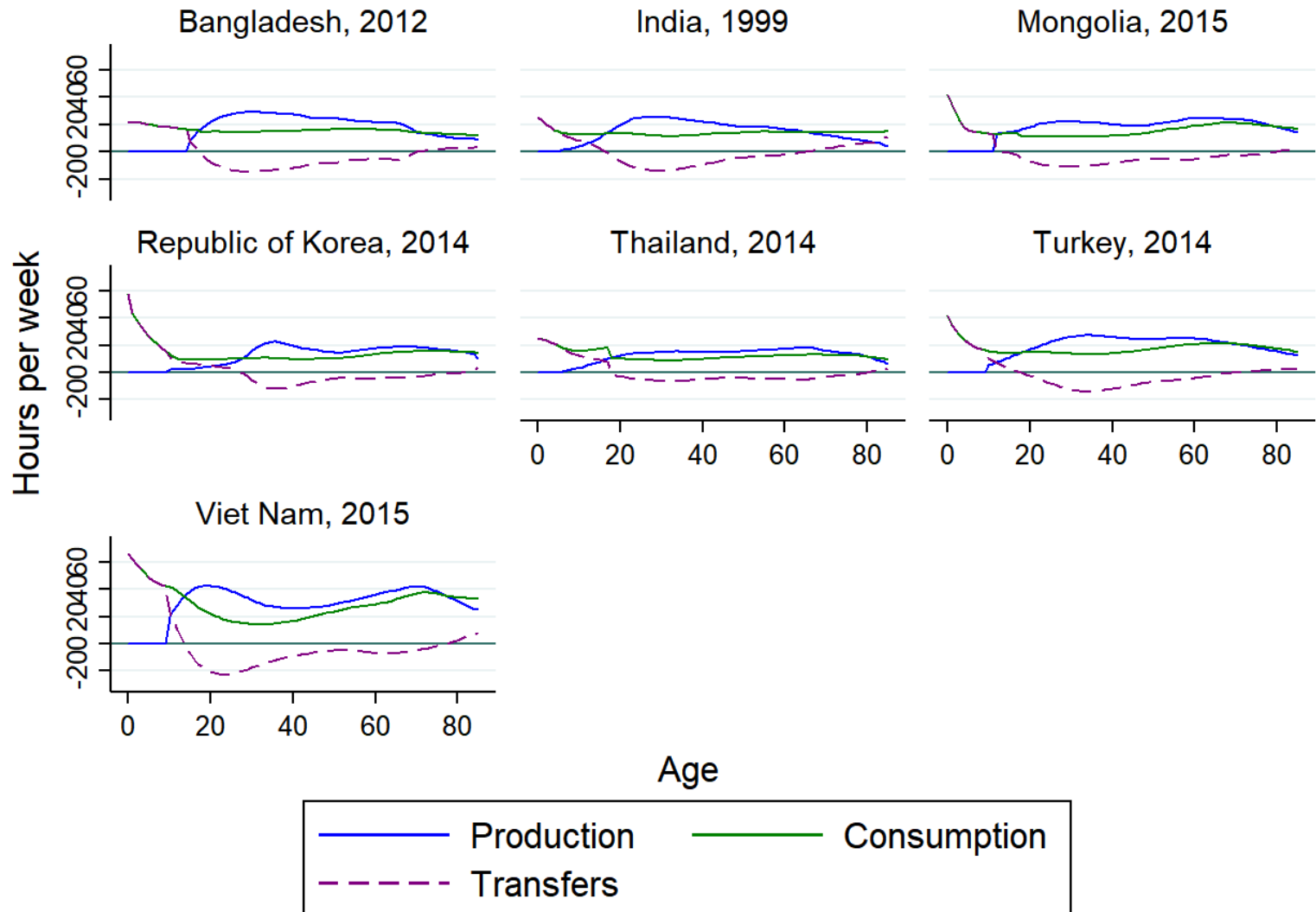


Women specialize in UCW

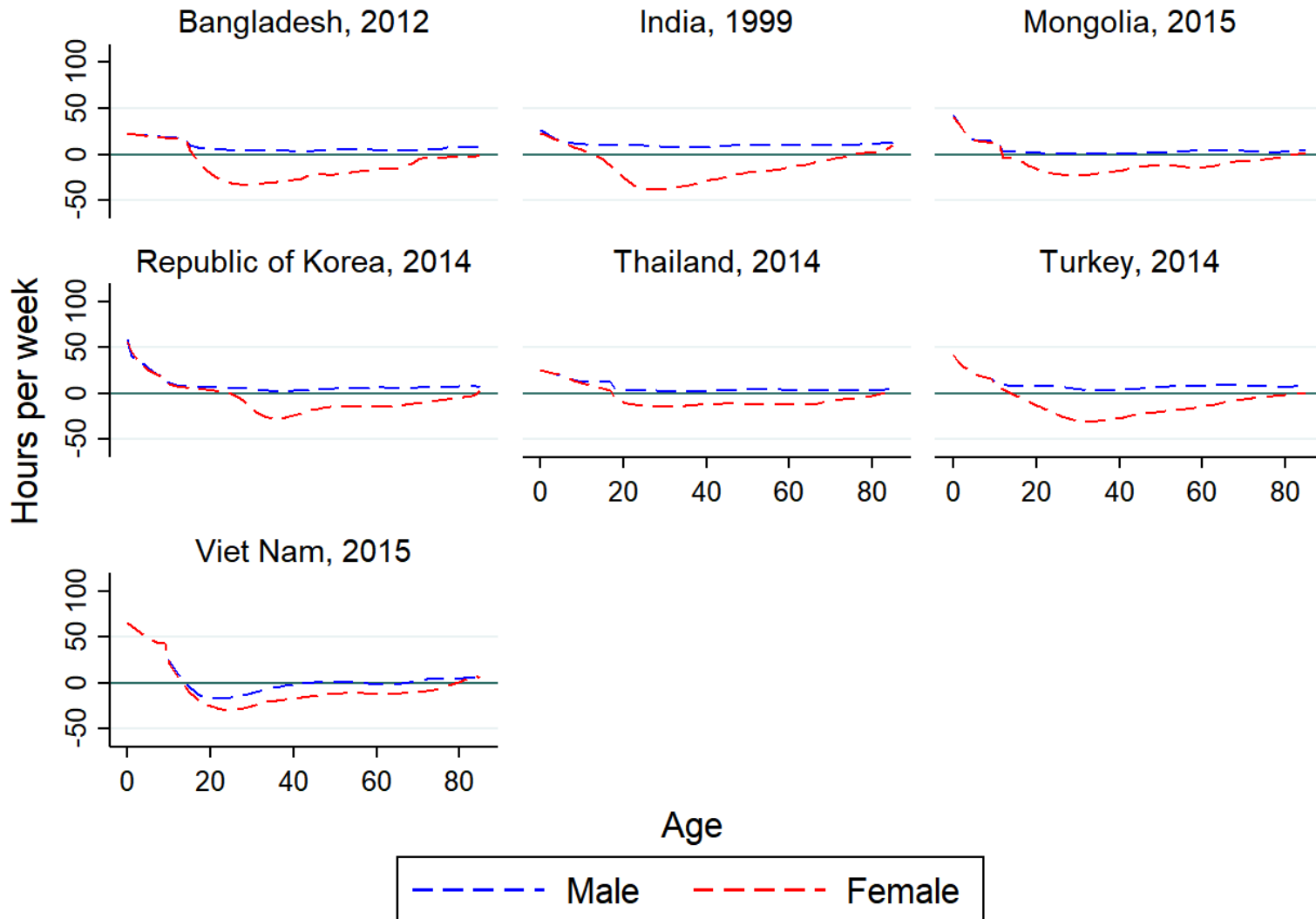


Gaps are expressed as Female - Male.

UCW produced and consumed by different age and sex groups



UCW transferred by different age and sex groups



Future of UCW in ageing populations

- UCW “snapshot” age profiles of production and consumption by age and sex, $UCWP(a,s)$ and $UCWC(a,s)$
 - Can also focus on sub-types of UCW
- Weighted by UN population projections for each year, $N(a,s,y)$, to create unpaid care work support ratios:

$$UCWSR_y = \frac{\sum_a \sum_s UCWP(a,s) N(a,s,y)}{\sum_a \sum_s UCWC(a,s) N(a,s,y)}$$

Future of UCW in ageing populations

- UCWSR is an indicator of how population change will impact unpaid care economy
 - Rising SR: easier to supply care over time
 - Falling SR: harder to supply care over time
- Caveats
 - Indicator only, UCW demand and supply must adjust
 - Does not imply that current UCW supply and demand are optimal

a. Unpaid Care Work

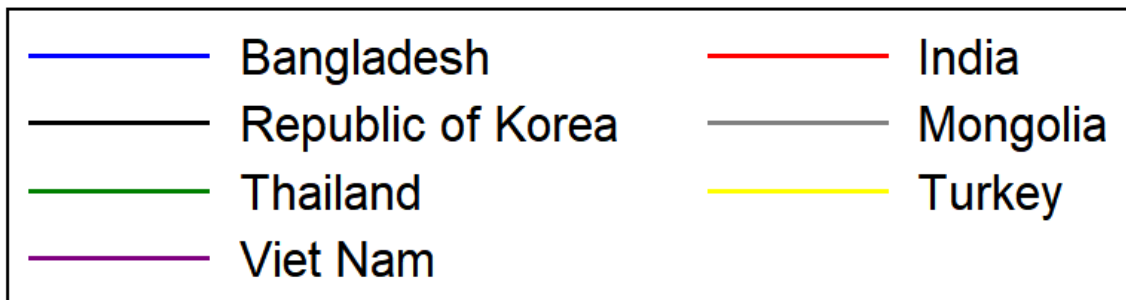
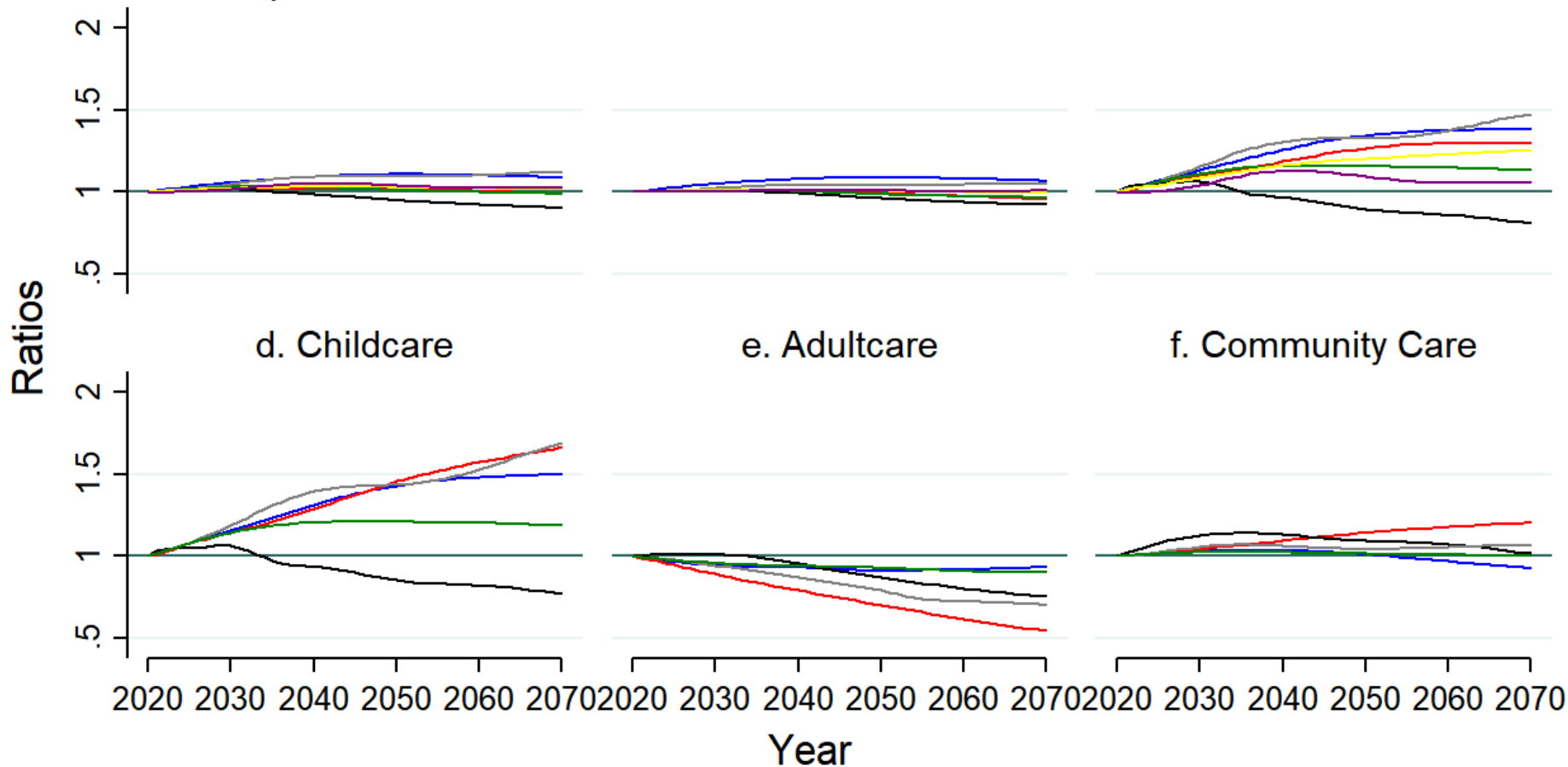
b. Housework

c. Care

d. Childcare

e. Adultcare

f. Community Care



Conclusions

- Unpaid care work is
 - a large part of total work effort,
 - done mostly by women,
 - consumed at the greatest levels by children
- Impacts of population ageing
 - less childcare consumption, more eldercare consumption
 - negative impacts can be ameliorated by supporting eldercare providers, enhancing paid care options