

*The driving forces behind
the migratory patterns of young scientists:
exploring the research base that informs
mobility policies and programs*

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Neo-institutional Approach

- Theoretical framework of PhD
- Exploring how the global dynamic of mobility plays out at local level
- Theoretical framework to encompass the intersection of international, national and local spheres of institutional activity
- How does this interaction lead to national institutional change and/or transnational institution building?

– (Djelic and Quack, 2003)

Pilot study of theoretical approach

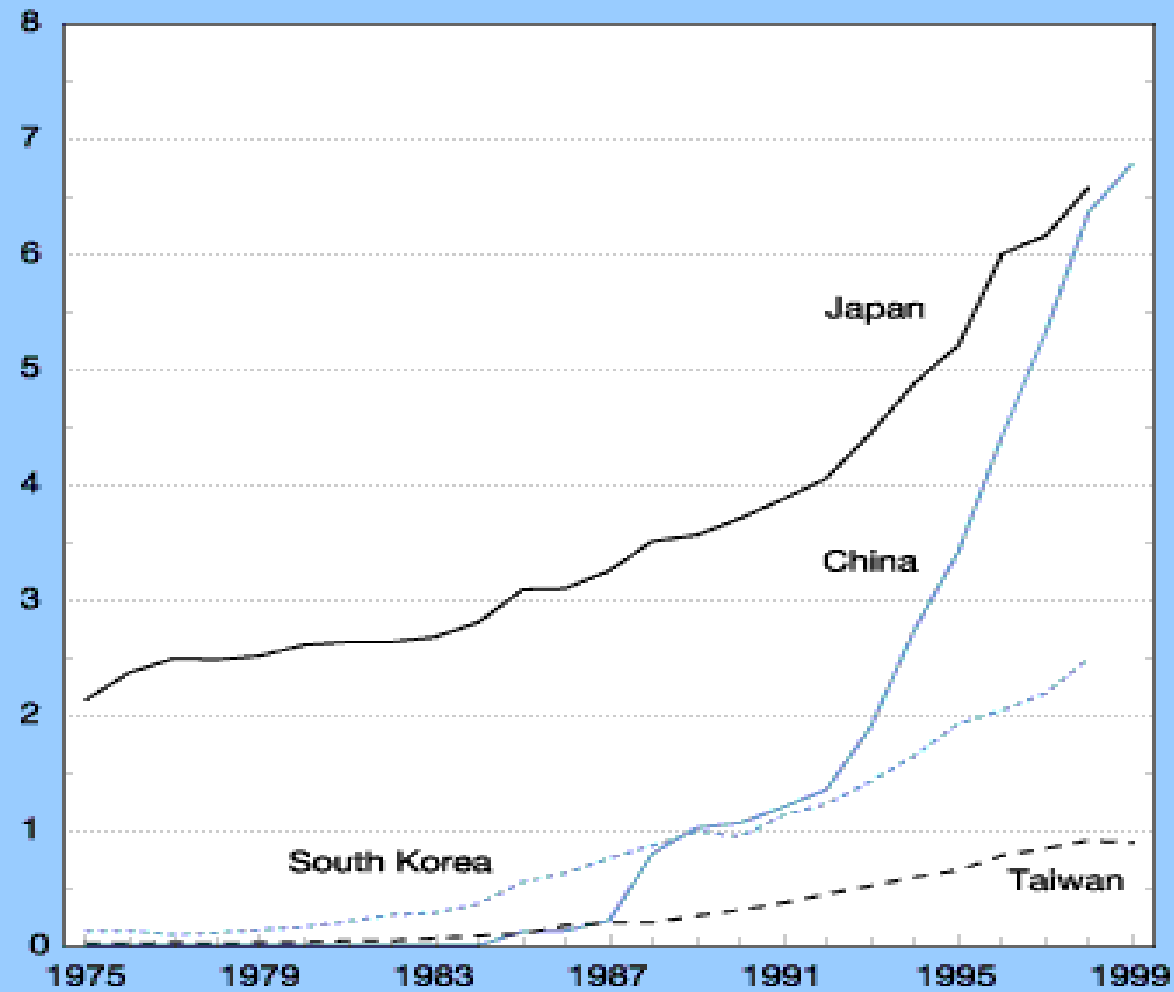
– East Timor

- Visited in February 2006
- Strong international involvement in building national institutions e.g. higher education
- How does it play out at the local level?
 - Student exchange arrangements
 - UNESCO speak: “we need to increase awareness of science in peoples’ daily lives”
 - National arrangement for 400 Cuban medical scientists to train in East Timor
 - Interview with Physics academic: “we have these frameworks from Brazil and Portugal, but they just don’t fit, so I’m actually just using our old one”

Preliminary results: the mobility
of younger scientists in the
Asia Pacific region

Figure 2-29.
Doctoral S&E degrees earned in selected Asian countries and economies: 1975–99

Number of degrees (thousands)

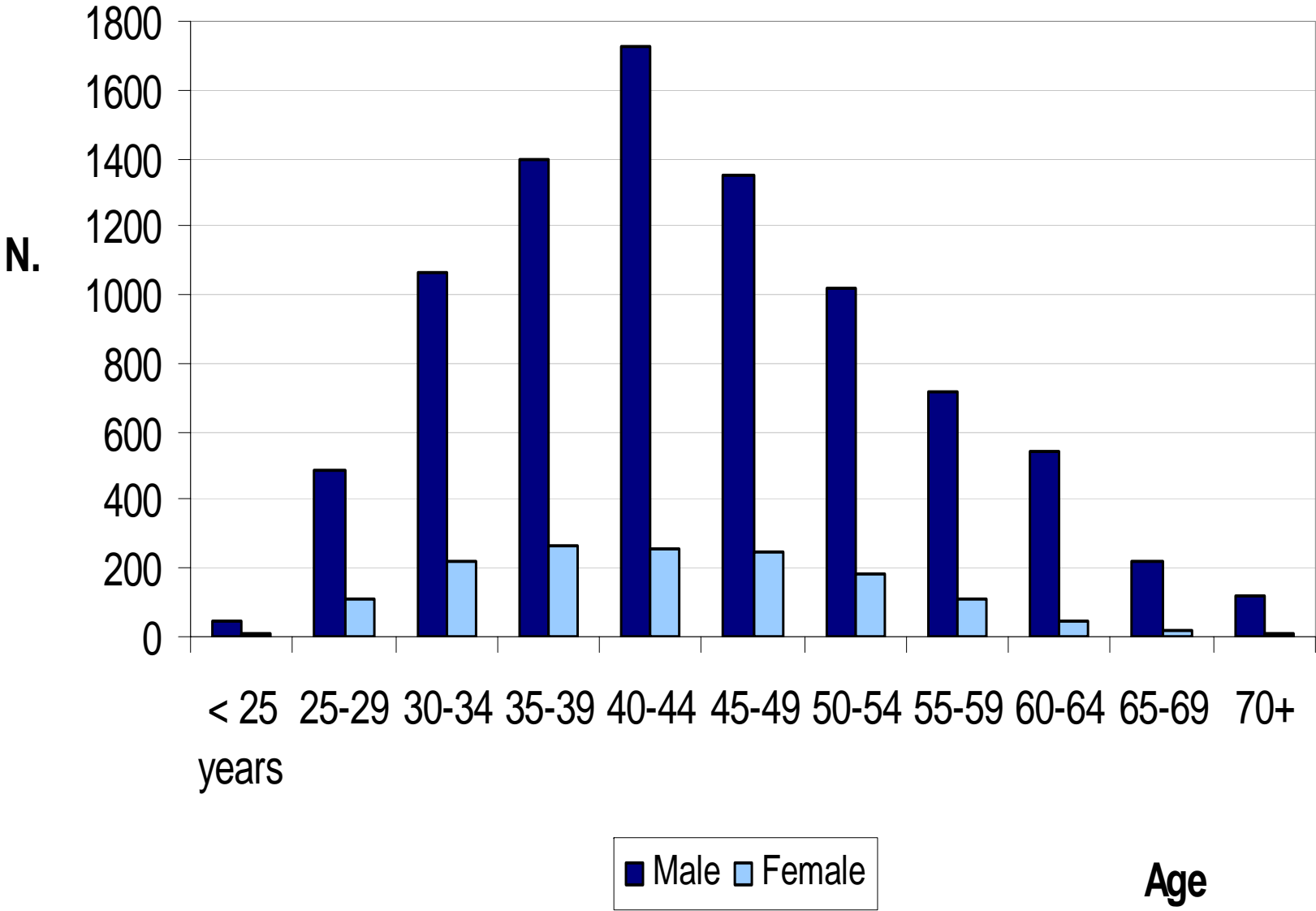


See appendix table 2-39. *Science & Engineering Indicators – 2002*

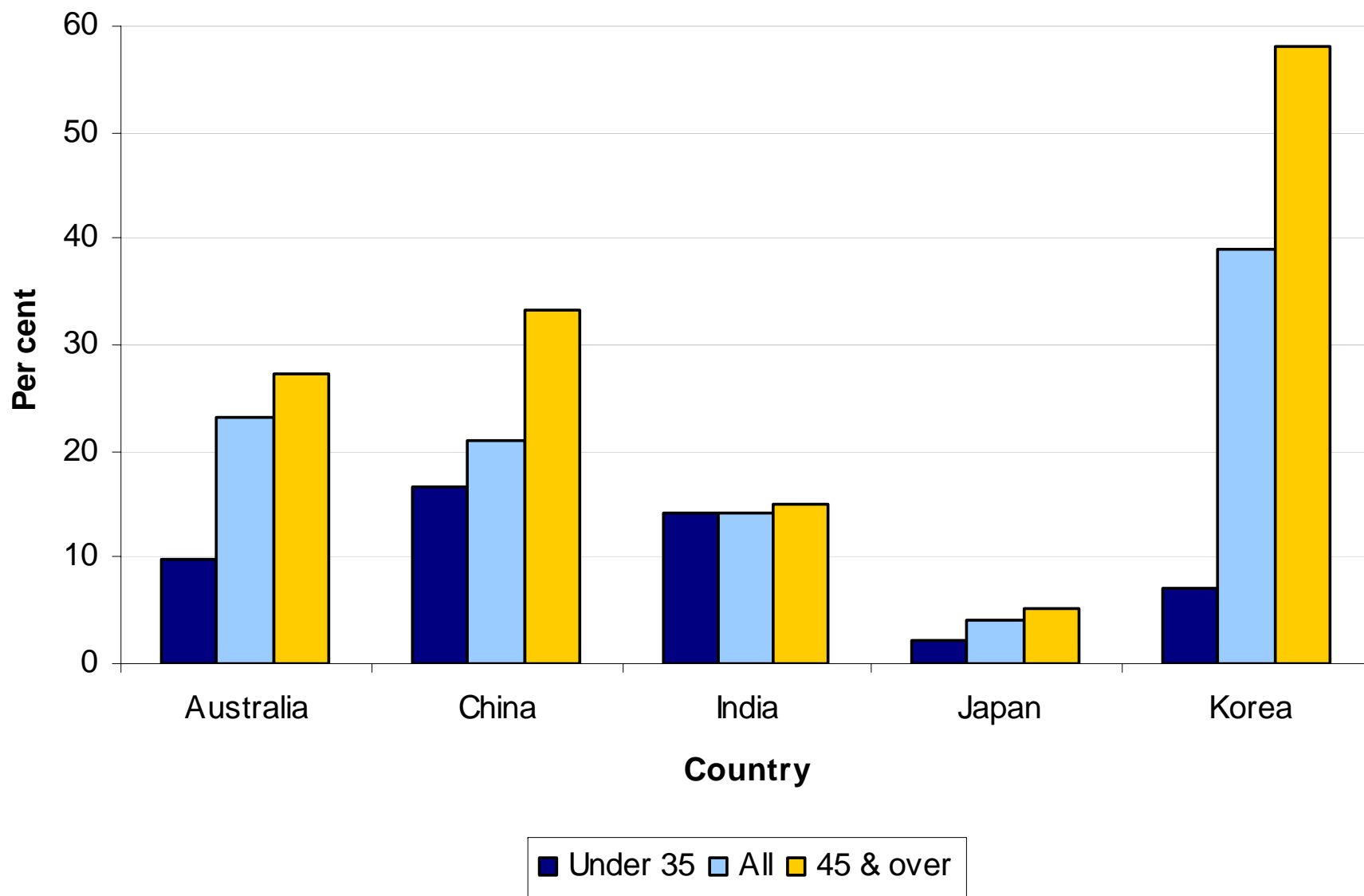
Context

- Data are drawn from a survey of 10,000 scientists in a UNESCO/Australian Research Council funded project.
- Sub-sample of younger scientists (<35 years of age, n = 1978)
- Initial observations
 - nearly 50% younger respondents seeking to move
 - younger respondents more likely to be “home” trained
 - mobility strongly driven by scientific reasons

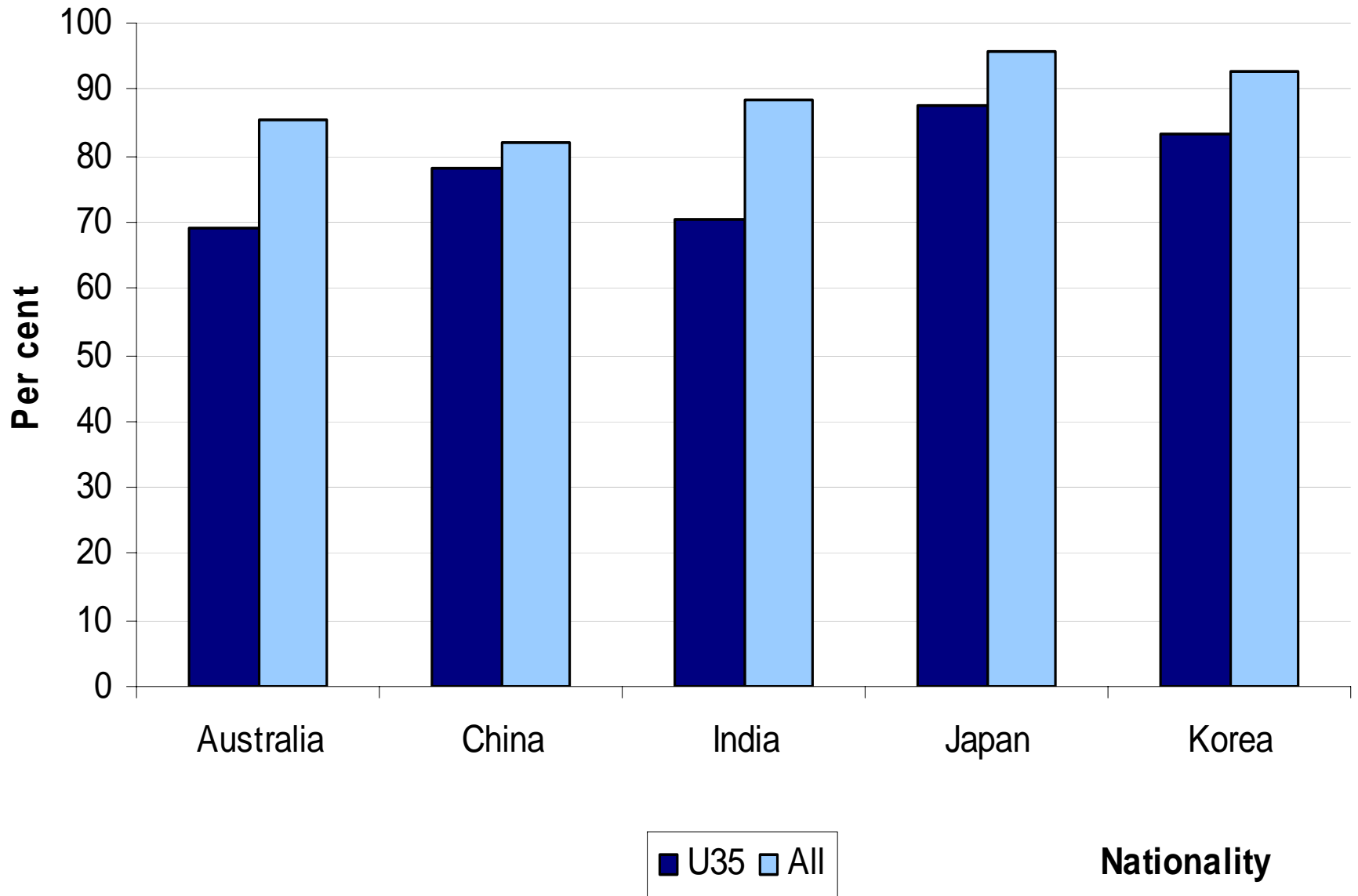
All respondents by age and gender (n=10,162)



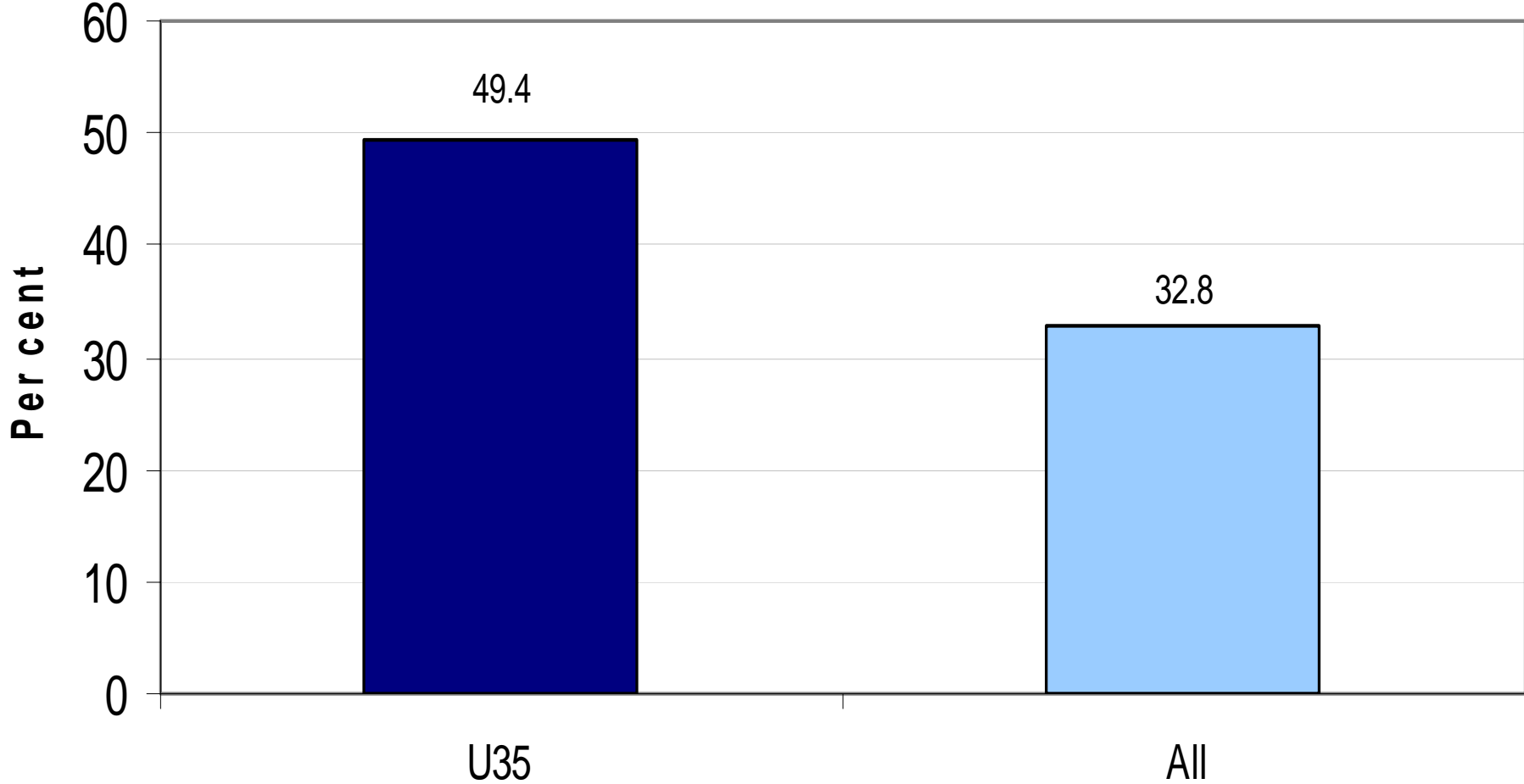
International research degree training rates



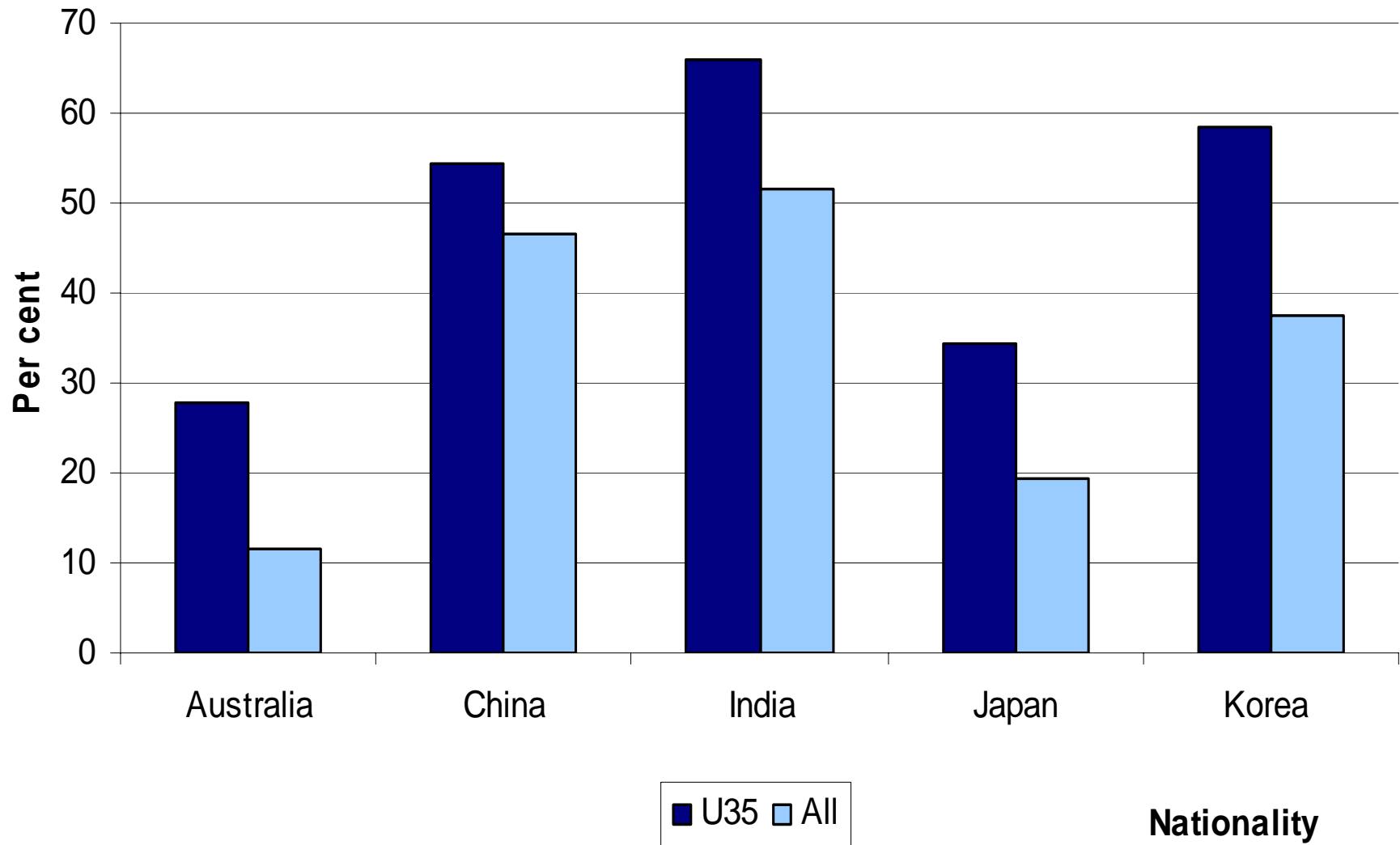
**Currently working at "home" -
U35 & All**



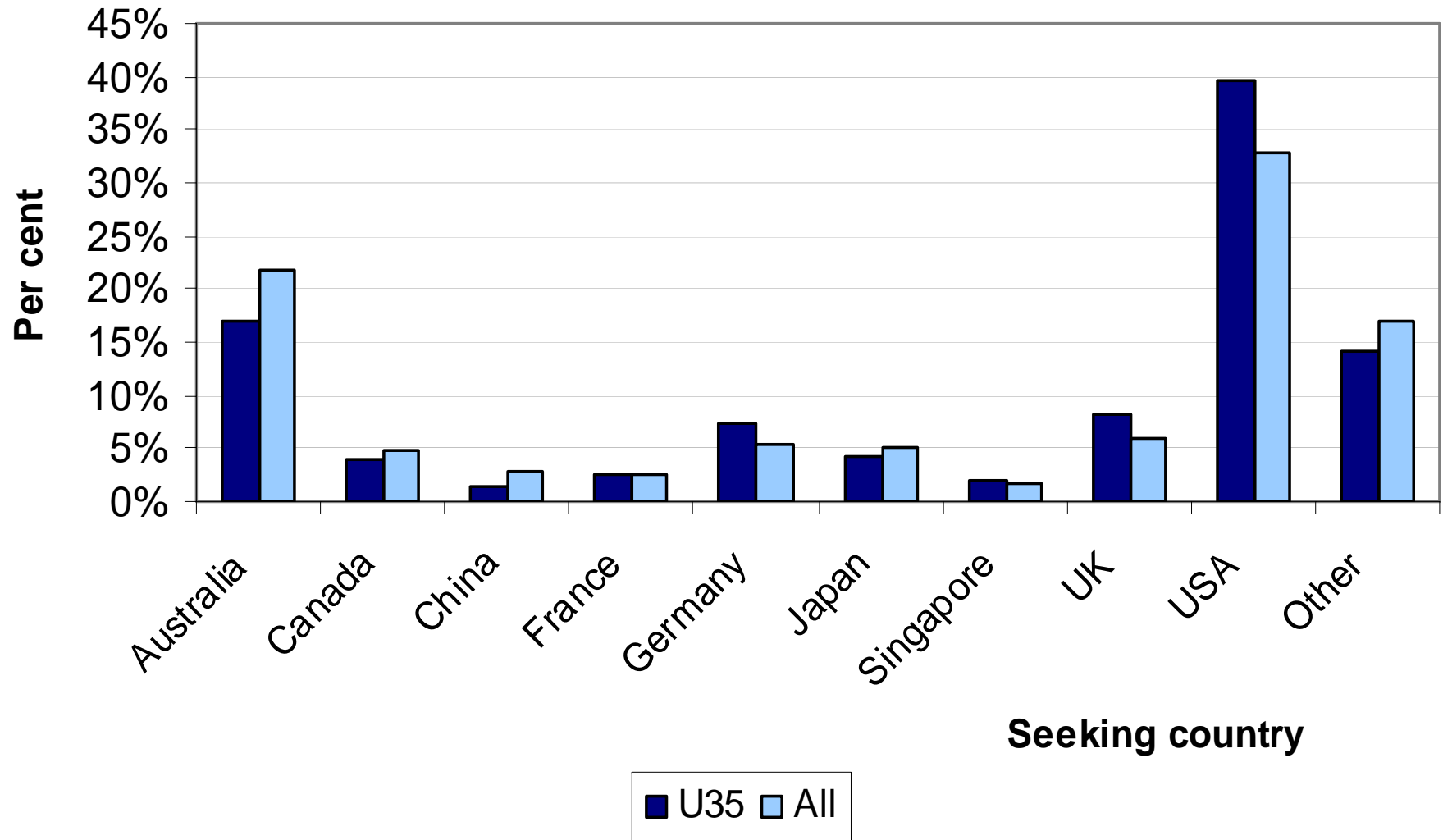
Are you seeking to move to another country?



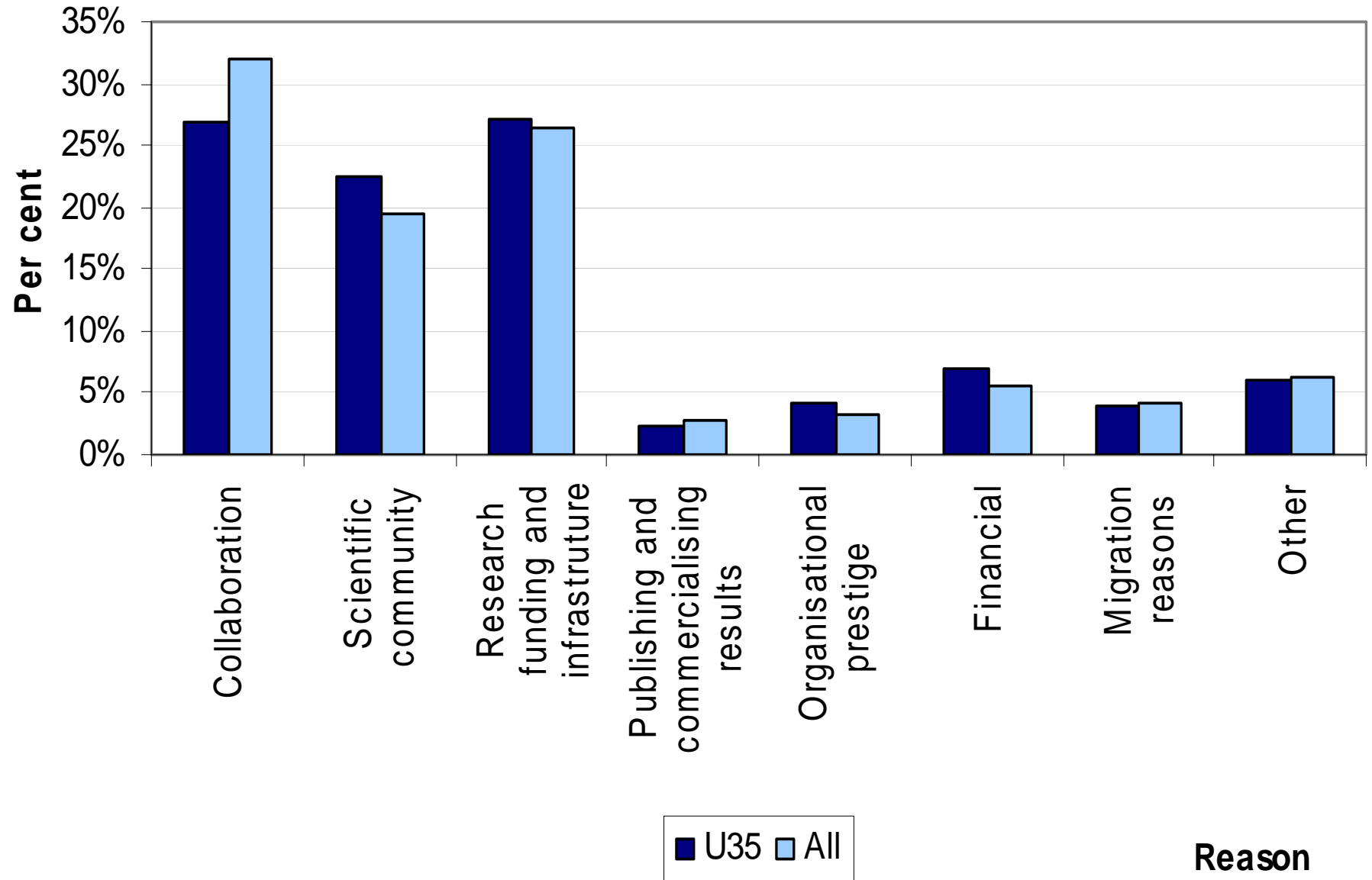
Nationals working at home & seeking to work in another country U35 & All



Where are you seeking to move - U35 and All

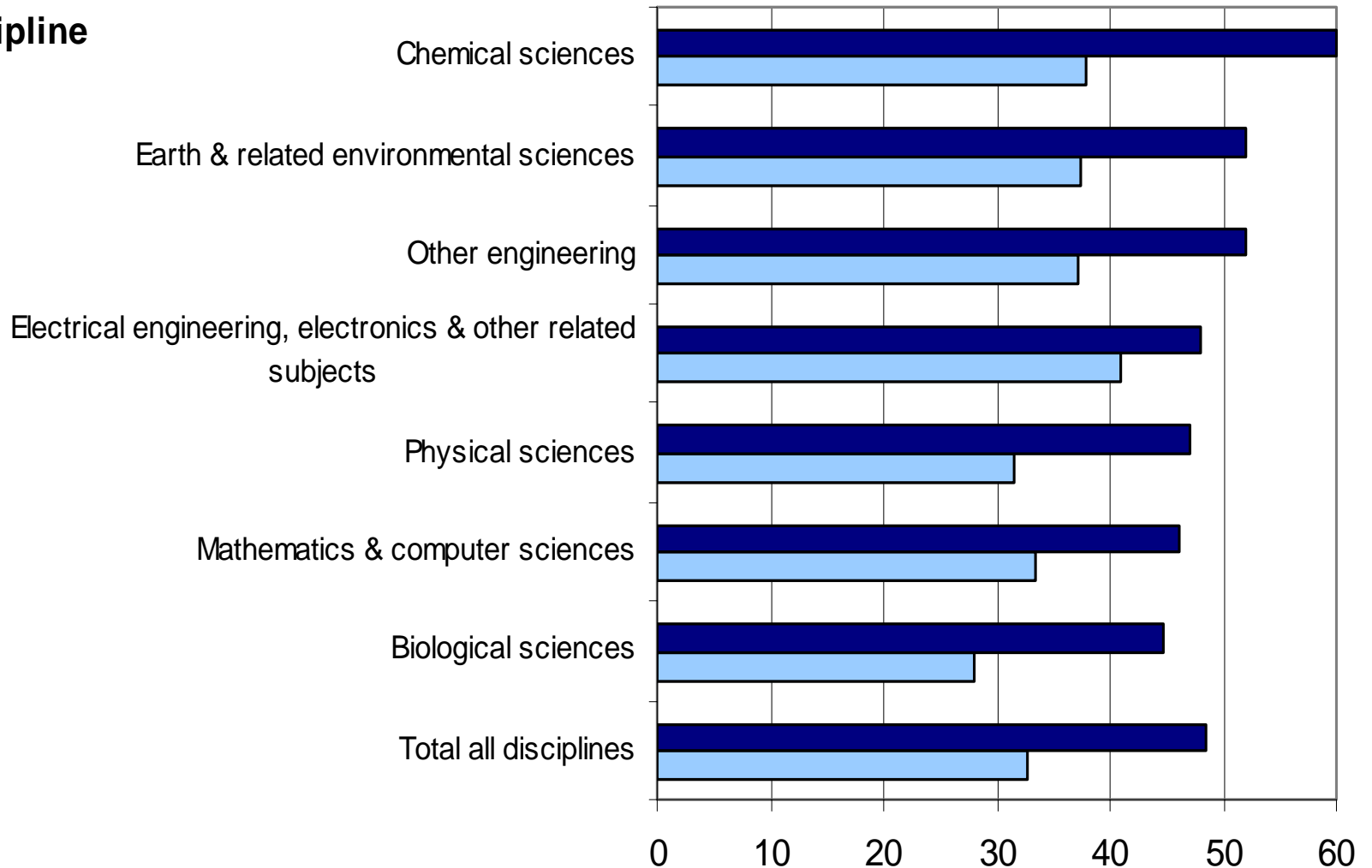


Why are you seeking to move? (U35 and All)



Seeking to move by discipline (U35 and All)

Discipline



Percent

□ All

■ Under 35

Concluding observations.....

- Younger scientists more likely to be seeking to move to another country
- Mobility strongly linked to scientific reasons
- Variations across disciplines
- Evidence of decline in rate of international research degree training for younger scientists
- USA leading preferences for those seeking to move (across nationalities and disciplines)

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