

# Widening Participation in Postgraduate Study

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3 August 2006

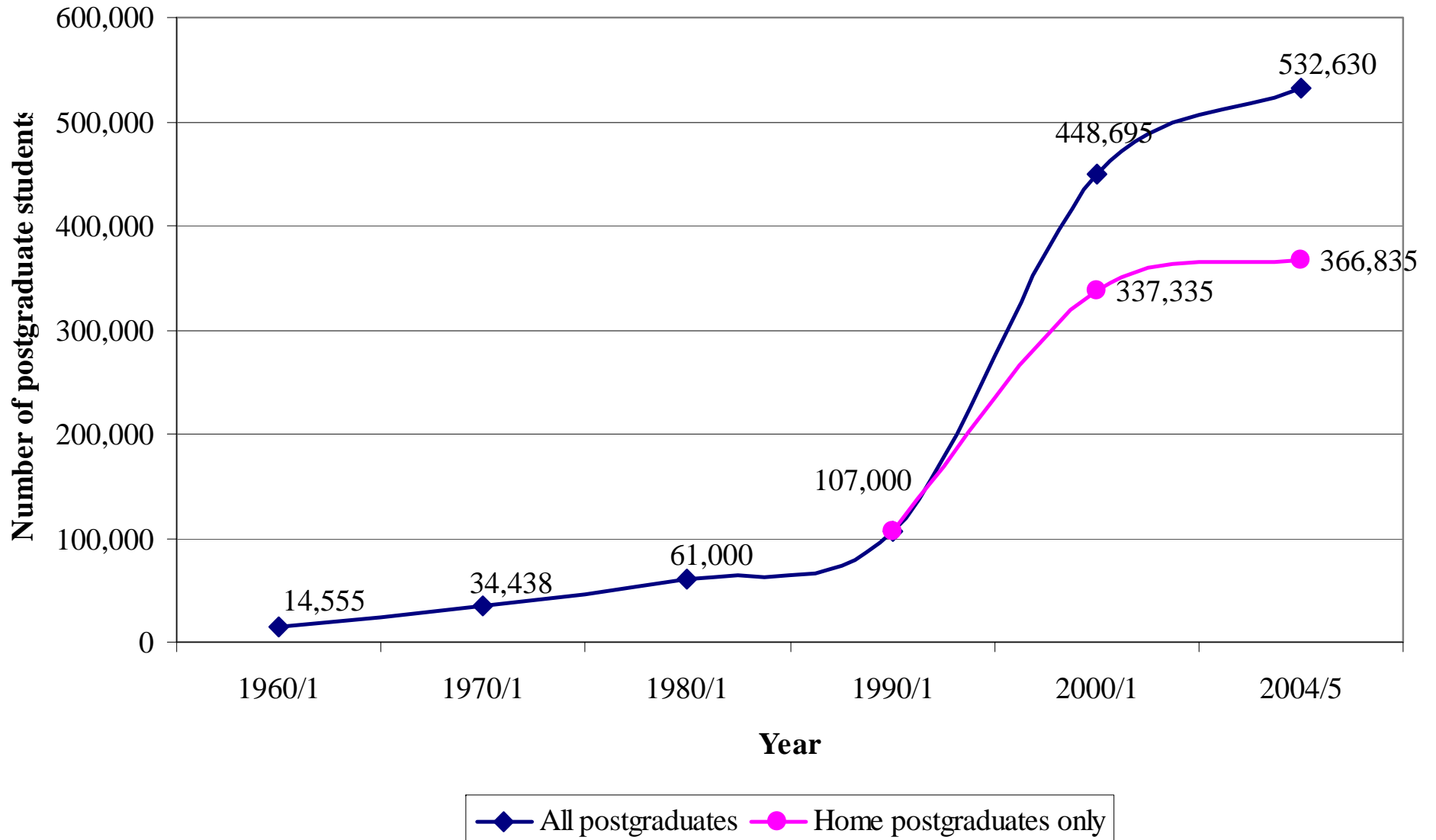
# Outline

- WP in PG: the State of the Art (?!)
- Overall trends: gender, ethnicity, social class
- Existing research
- Complexity: institution, subject, level, funding
- Does it matter?
- Examples of good practice

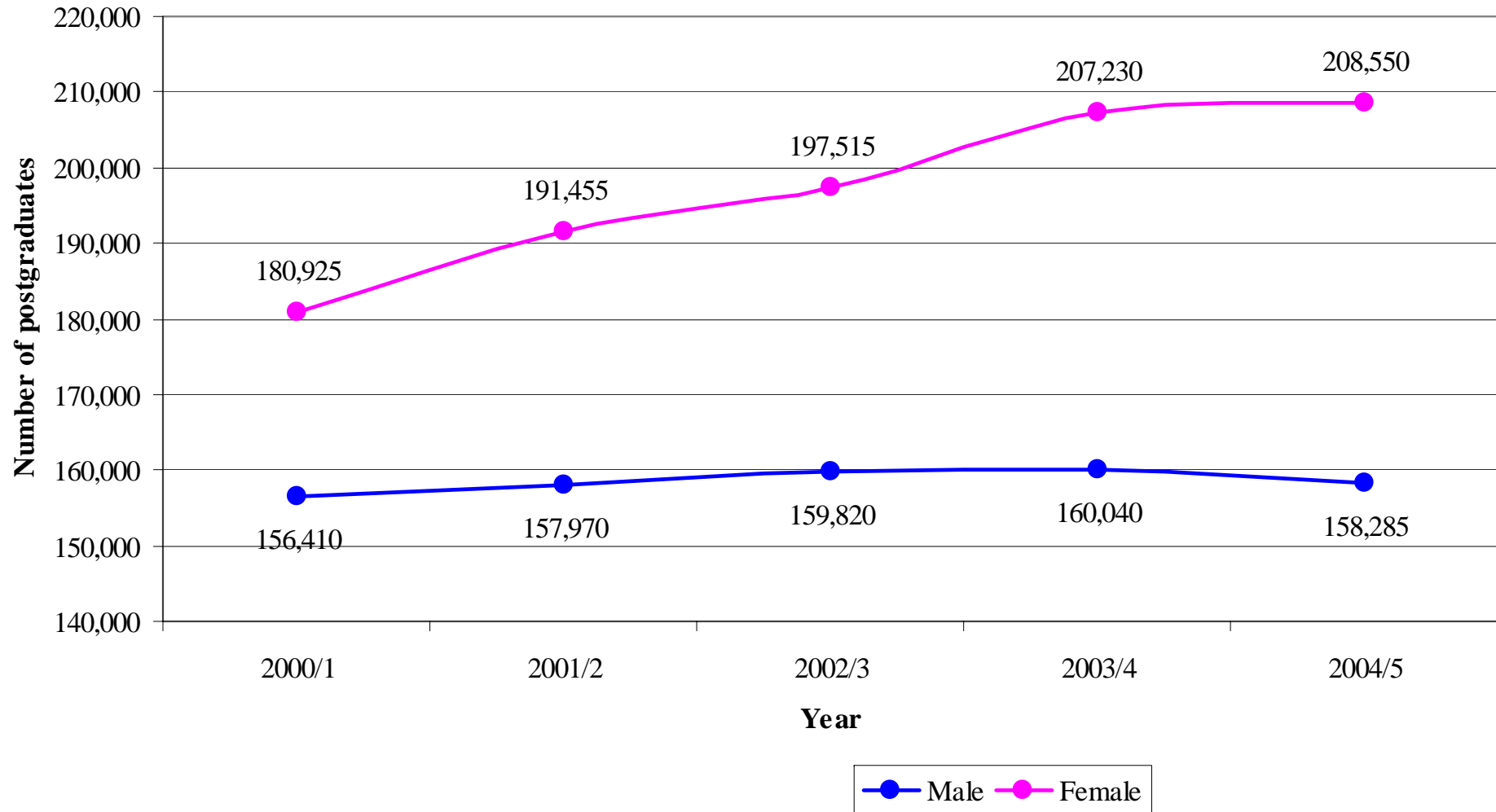
# The State of the Art ?!

- Ten years behind?
- Very little research
- Little systematic analysis of data
  - Nationally (funding councils, research councils)
  - Locally (institutions)
- Few surveys
- No data – e.g. social class/postcode

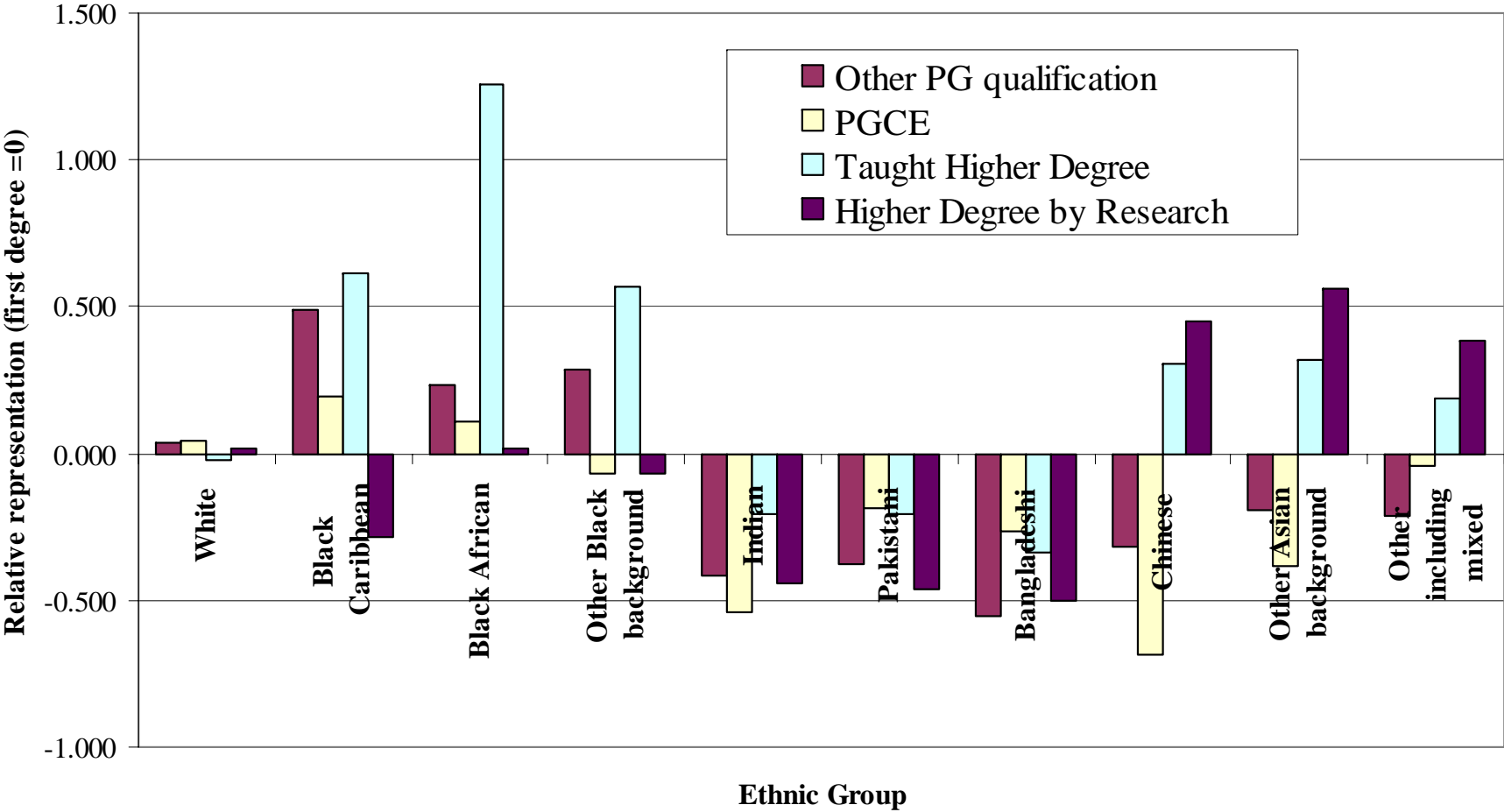
## UK Postgraduate Student Numbers, 1960/1 - 2004/5



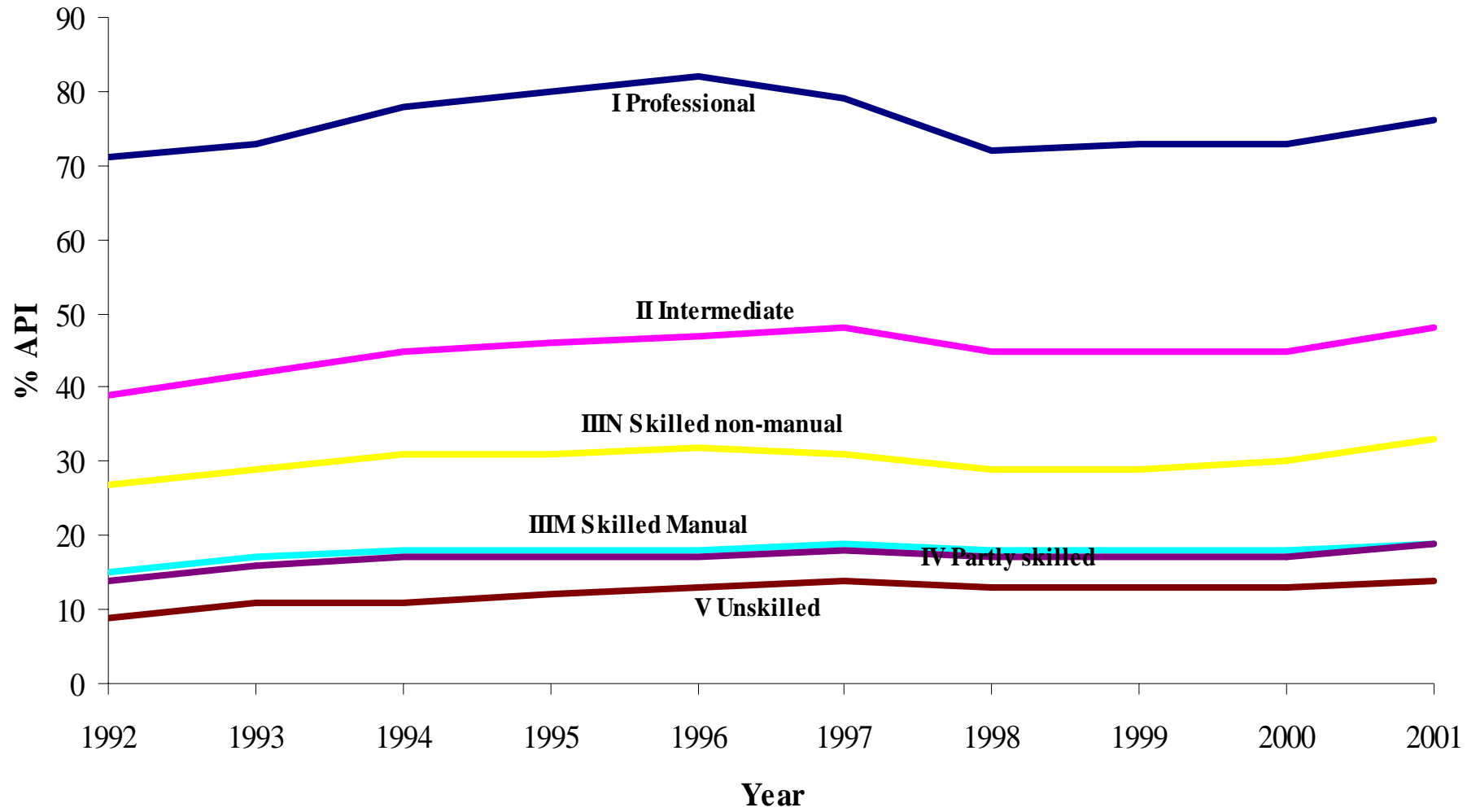
## Gender of UK-domiciled postgraduate students, 2000/1 - 2004/5



# Relative representation in postgraduate study by Ethnic Group



## Undergraduate Age Participation Index by Social Class 1992 - 2001



Source: DfES

# Existing Research

- Social class:
  - HEFCE 05/03
  - Oxford
  - Purcell *et al*
  - Wakeling
- Ethnicity:
  - Connor *et al*
  - Wakeling and Johnson



## Summary...and Does it Matter?

- Women, ethnic minorities:
  - Equality (?) or better for taught programmes
  - Under-representation for research
- Social class
  - Not enough evidence to be clear
- Very complex
- The benefits of PG study?

# Discussion

- Any questions on the presentation
- Examples of good practice:
  - Newcastle and 'Premia' [www.premia.ac.uk](http://www.premia.ac.uk)
  - NPC
  - HEA study at Kingston
- The political agenda
- Discussion of experiences – anecdotal or otherwise!