



Homelessness: An old problem with new faces?

Homelessness in Germany



Counting Strategies

What is the **total number of homeless people**, their basic structure (gender, age, household structure etc.) and how is that number changing over time?

There are *two different approaches* in determining the total number of homeless people:

1. Key Date Surveys

Regional Surveys determining the number of people involved in assistance in housing emergencies by the providers of the free welfare assistance

2. Housing Emergency Statistics

The legally anchored statistics at the federal level and at the level of individual states affected



Estimating the Number of Homeless People

Due to the lack of officially collected data on the federal level, BAG W regularly estimates the number of homeless people in Germany:

Homelessness in Germany 2011-2016

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total number of homeless persons	258.000	284.000	310.000	335.000	367.000	422.000
among them						
children	19.000	32.000	31.000	29.000	30.000	32.000
adults	239.000	252.000	279.000	306.000	253.000	390.000
among them						
women ¹⁾	56.000	63.000	74.000	86.000	93.000	103.000
men ¹⁾	183.000	189.000	205.000	220.000	244.000	287.000
among them						
in mutiple- households	93.000	99.000	94.000	96.000	109.000	132.000
single homeless	165.000	185.000	216.000	239.000	258.000	290.000
among them sleeping rough	23.000	26.000	34.000	39.000	34.000	52.000
<i>for information:</i>						
households threatend by homelessness ²⁾	-	144.000	164.000	172.000	164.000	172.000

1) For the percentage of men and women among the single homeless see "Statistikberichte der BAG Wohnungslosenhilfe" www.bagw.de

2) Different from the nummber of homelesss people, which refers to persons, the unit of reference for those threatened by homelessness is the household.

Source: BAG Wohnungslosenhilfe e.V., Estimate of the size of homeless and those threatened by homelessness in Germany, yearly basis



Documentation Strategy

Continuous collection of standardized data on clients within the institutions and services for homeless people

- **The main aim** is a survey and ongoing maintenance of standardized clients data – peer-to-peer and process-related - as a part of universal documentation of services for homeless people
- **Basis Data Set by the AG STADO** (Basisdatensatz der AG STADO) has been developed into a **nationwide standard** for the collection of client data services
- The members of AG STADO are the leading welfare organisations in Germany dealing with homelessness



Practical Relevance

Institutions and services for homeless people:

- Reporting under obligation to report
- Data basis for further development of services
- local/regional public relations

BAG Wohnungslosenhilfe:

- Annual statistical reports
- Data basis for political debate (positioning, etc.)
- Public relations (including press inquiries)
- Contribution to external statistics (eg ARB of the Federal Government)



Basis Data Set

The key aspect of the Basis Data Set by the AG STADO is the ***standardization of data collecting*** within the service field.

Over and above, this Basis Data Set is distinctly marked by a broadly aligned set of indicators and variables which all describe the living situation of homeless people.

Basis Data Set includes currently 55 variables throughout the following fields:

- Socio-Demographic Data (*e.g. age, gender, education, etc.*)
- Earnings and Labour (*e.g. situation about income, unemployment etc.*)
- Habitation (*e.g. situation about accommodation, emergency cases, etc.*)
- Socializing and Healthiness
- Medical Assistance

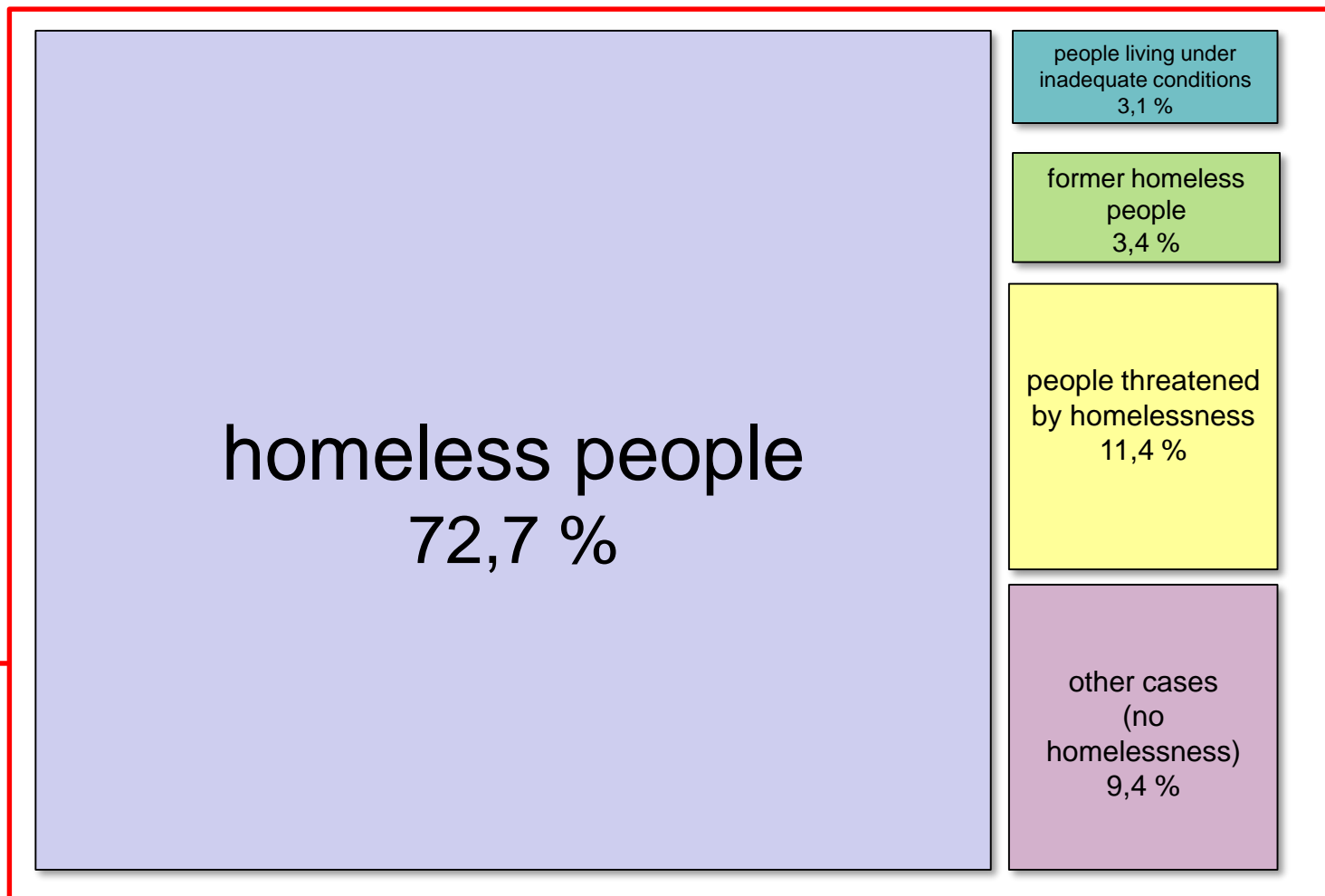


DzW [Dokumentationssystem zur Wohnungslosigkeit] =
documentation system on homelessness

Annual Report of
BAG W

- Data given by
176 services
(2016)
- In total: 34.696
cases (2016)

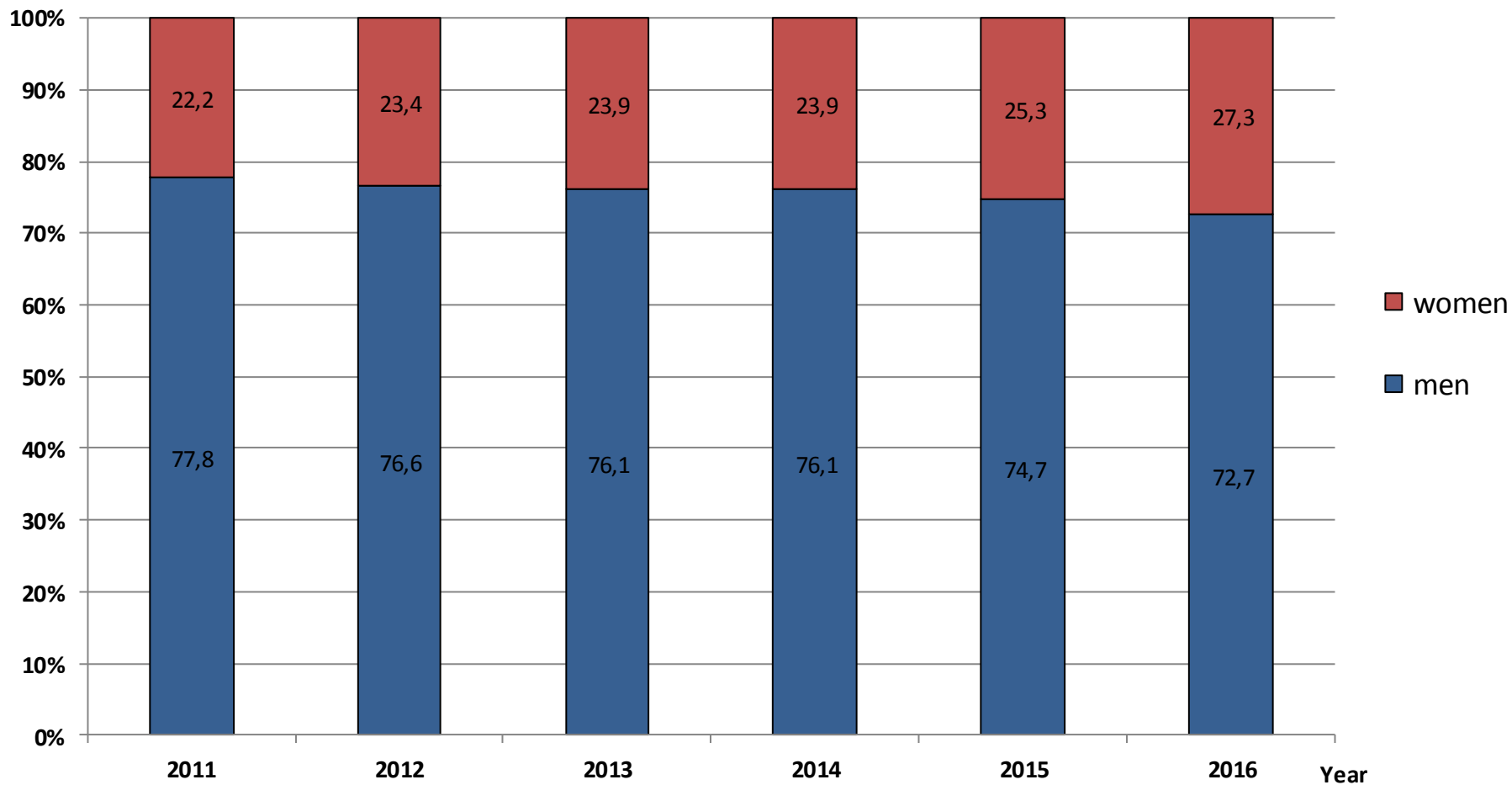
Cases
included
in DzW
2016



Data from... ambulant system: 86% & stationary system: 14%

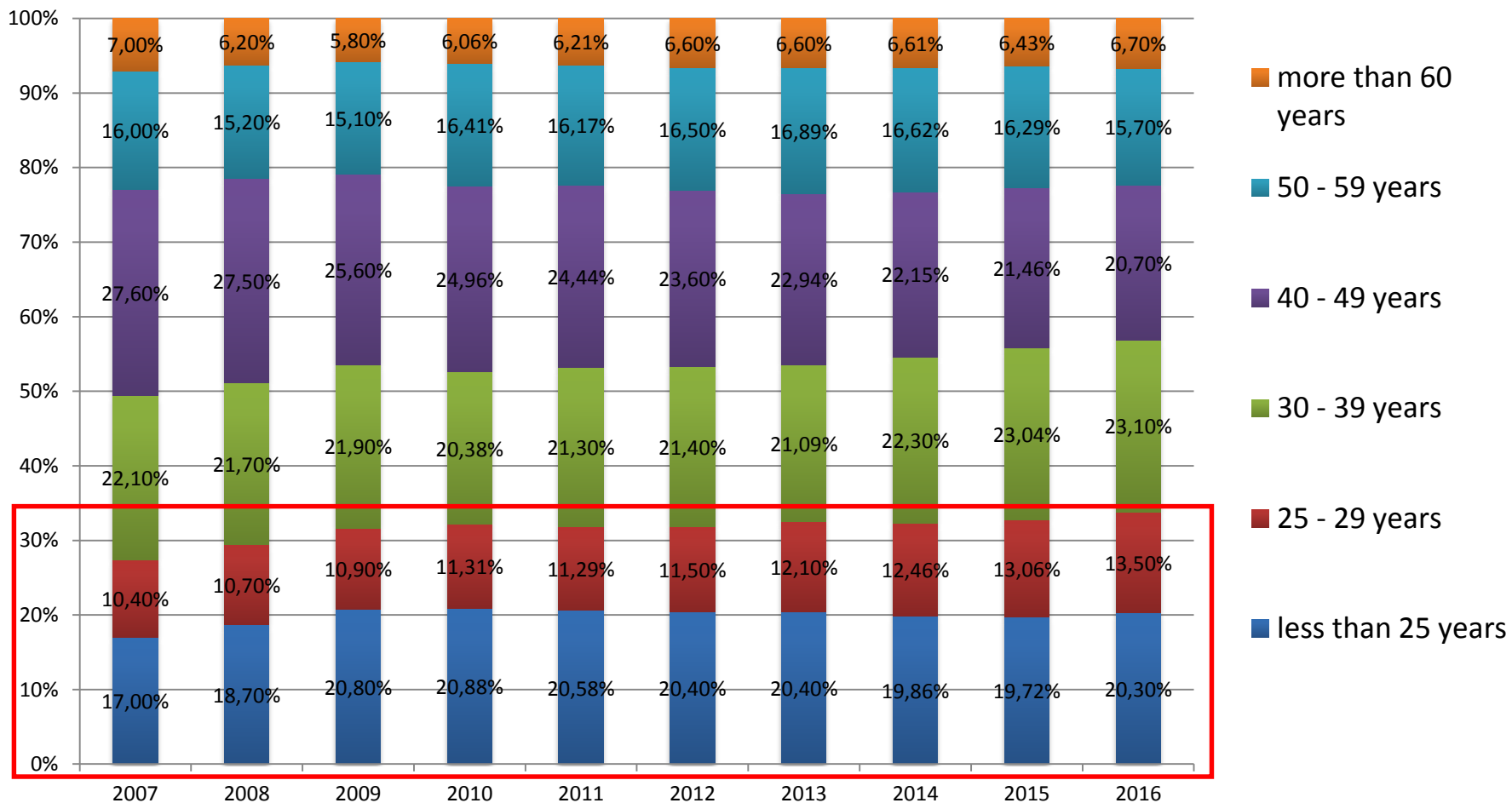


All Cases by Sex (in %)



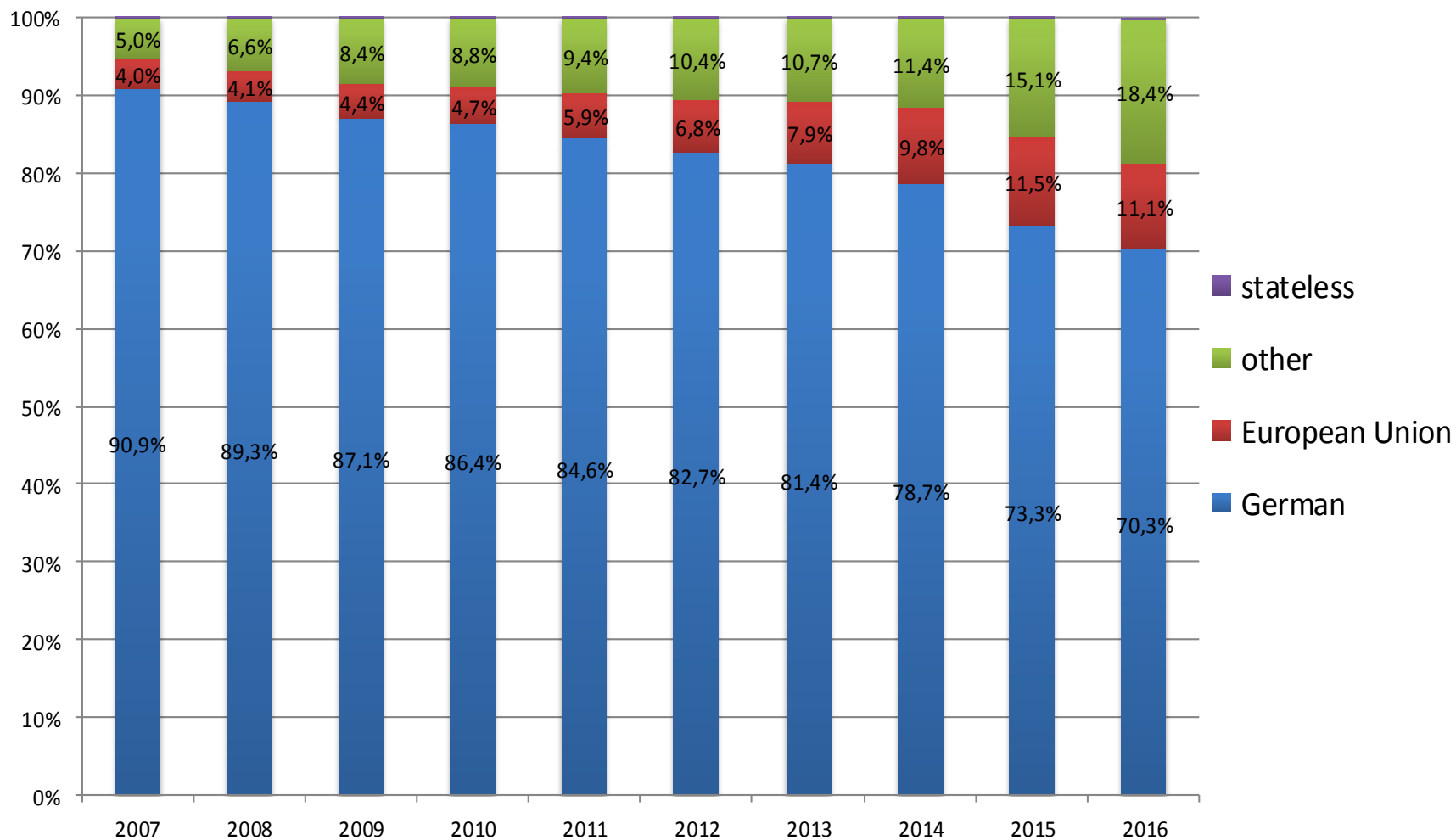


All Cases by Age (in %)



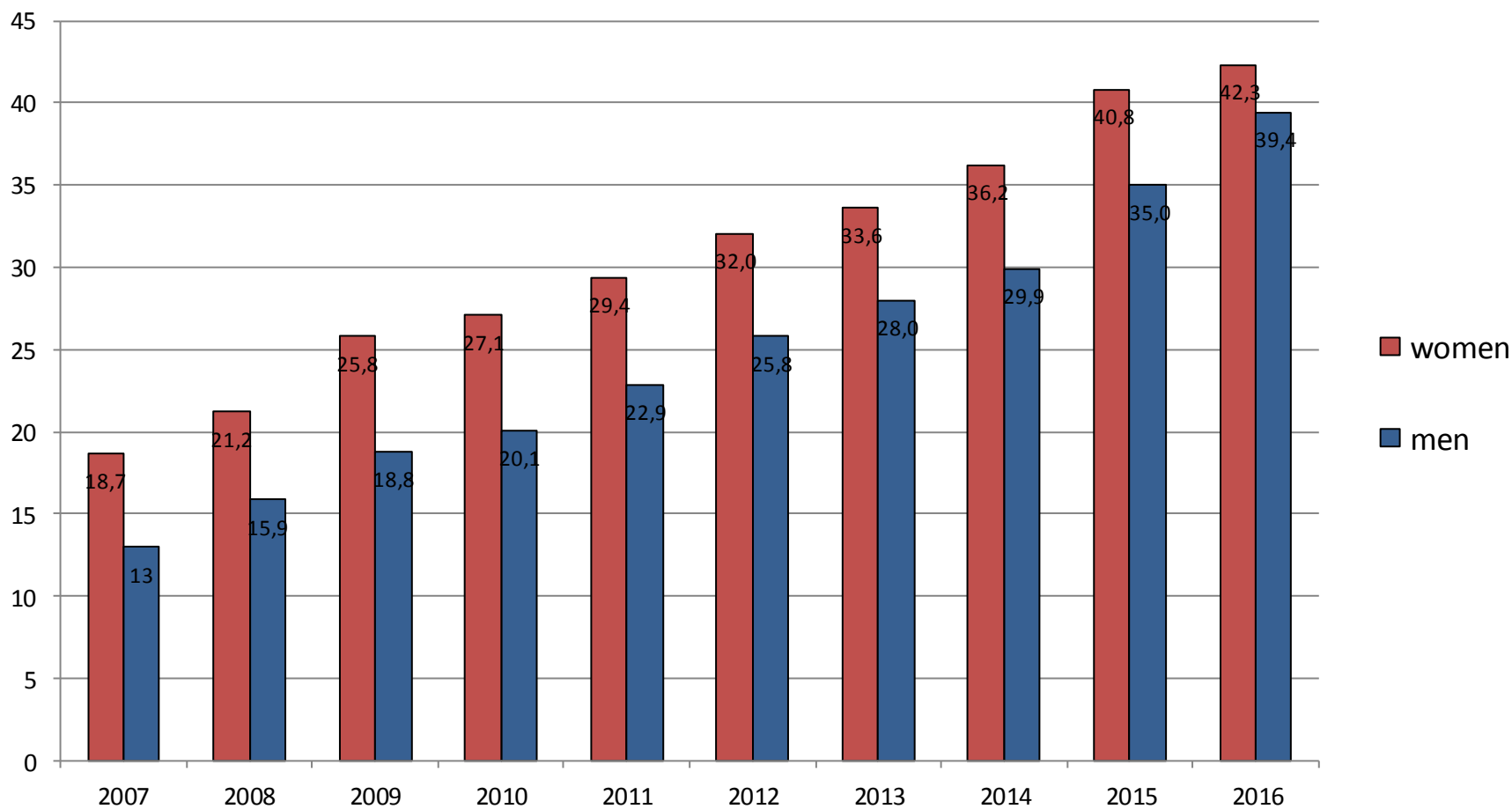


All Cases by Origin (in %)





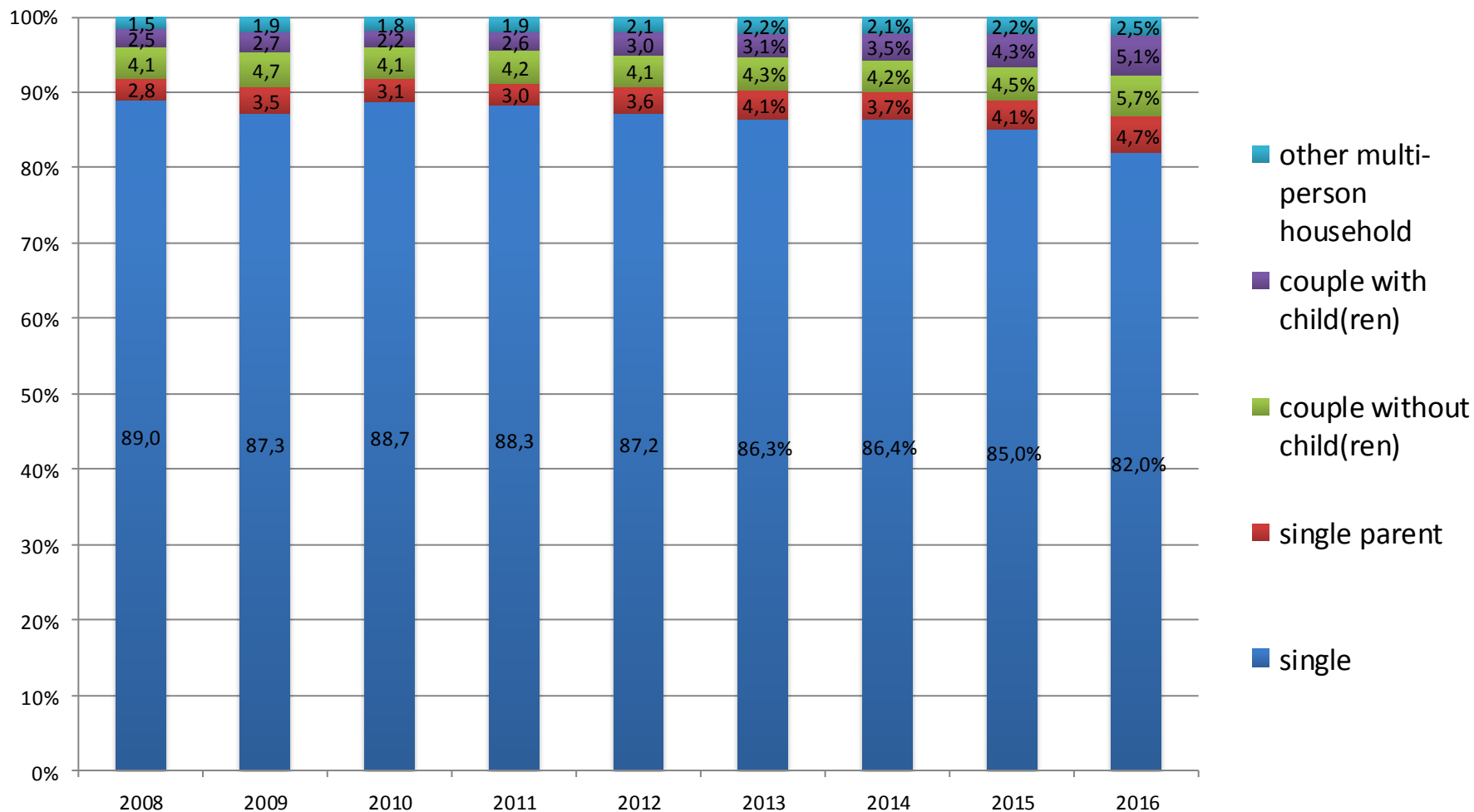
Clients with Migration Background by Sex (in % of of all male and female clients)



in total - people living in Germany with migration background (2016): 22,5 %



All Cases by Household Structure (in %)



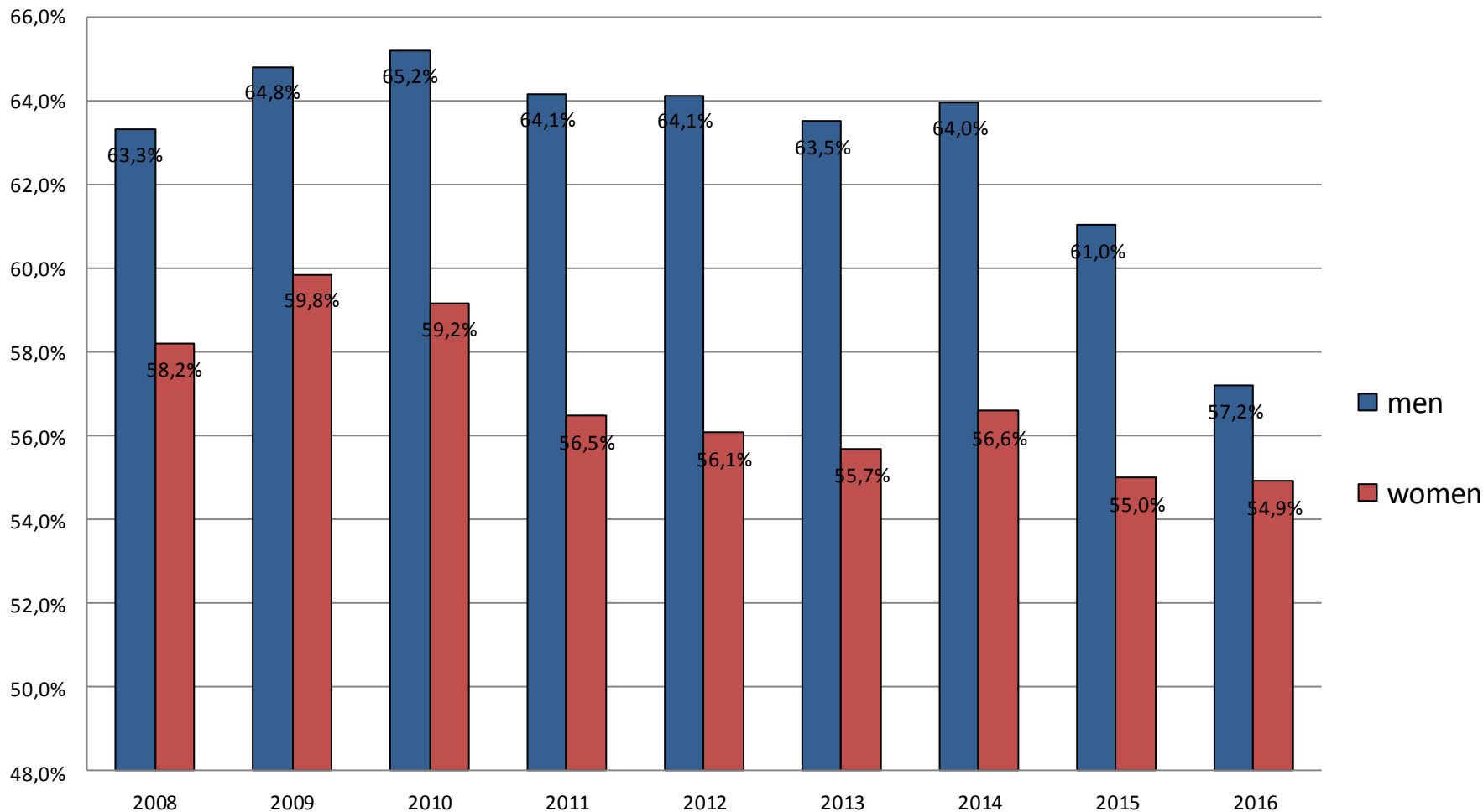


All Cases by Income Situation (at the Beginning of Help)





Clients with Debts (in % of all male and female clients)





Homelessness in Germany - final conclusion

1. Rise of the total number of homelessness
(s. estimation by BAG W)
 2. Diversification of social-demographic parameters of homelessness (age, gender, nationality, income, household structure)
- new problems and challenges for the services and professionals dealing with homelessness
(key words: Superdiversity & Intersectionality)



The End

Thank you for your attention