

- **American Supply Association Webinar**
 - **Thirty Years of OSHA's Hearing Conservation Amendment – How Are We Doing?**
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□ **By Timothy L. Rink, Ph.D.**

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- ❑ Noise transcended the workplace and became an environmental concern in the home (power tools, lawn mowers, recreational shooting, amplified music)

Regulatory Intervention: OSHA's 1983 Hearing Conservation Amendment to the Noise Standard (29 CFR 1910.95)

- ❑ Noise Monitoring
- ❑ Annual Employee Training
- ❑ Personal Hearing Protective Devices (HPD's)
- ❑ Annual Audiometric Testing

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- ❑ Noise monitoring records shall be maintained for a period of 2 years – longer is recommended

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- Training should focus on hazardous noise both in the workplace and at home
- At a minimum, training must include the following pertinent topics:
 - The effects of noise on hearing
 - The advantages, disadvantages, selection, fitting, use and care of personal hearing protection
 - The rationale for annual audiometric testing and an explanation of the testing procedure

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- ❑ Many employers encourage workers to take HPD's home for noisy jobs and hobbies (power tools, recreational shooting, etc).

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- ❑ The incidence of noise-induced persistent threshold shifts provides a measure of hearing conservation program effectiveness

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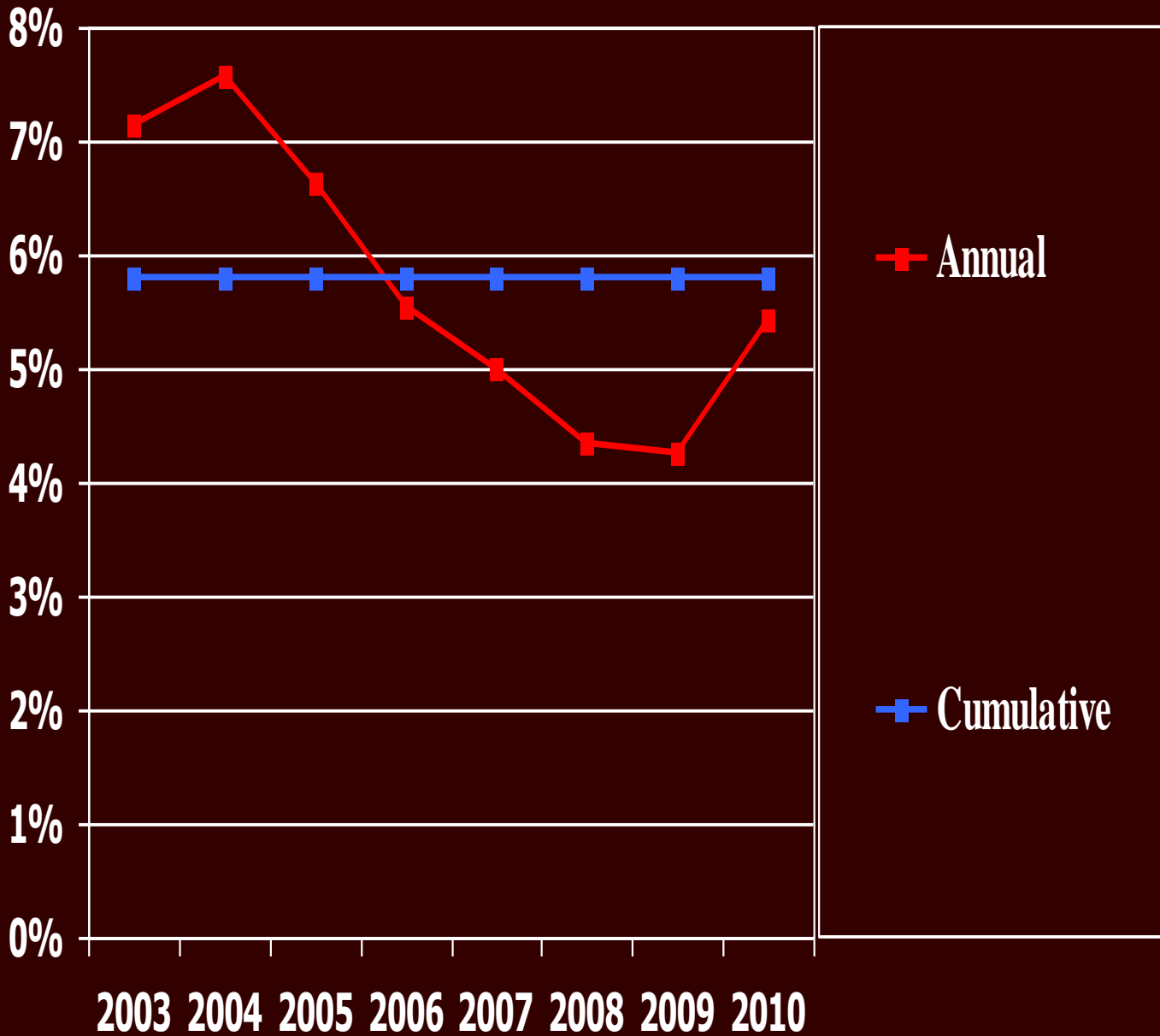
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- The following slides represent an eight year review of audiometric data analyzed, professionally reviewed and reported by HTI, Inc. following the 2003 revised criteria for recording hearing loss cases . Thirty years following the adoption of the hearing conservation amendment to the OSHA noise standard, how are we doing?

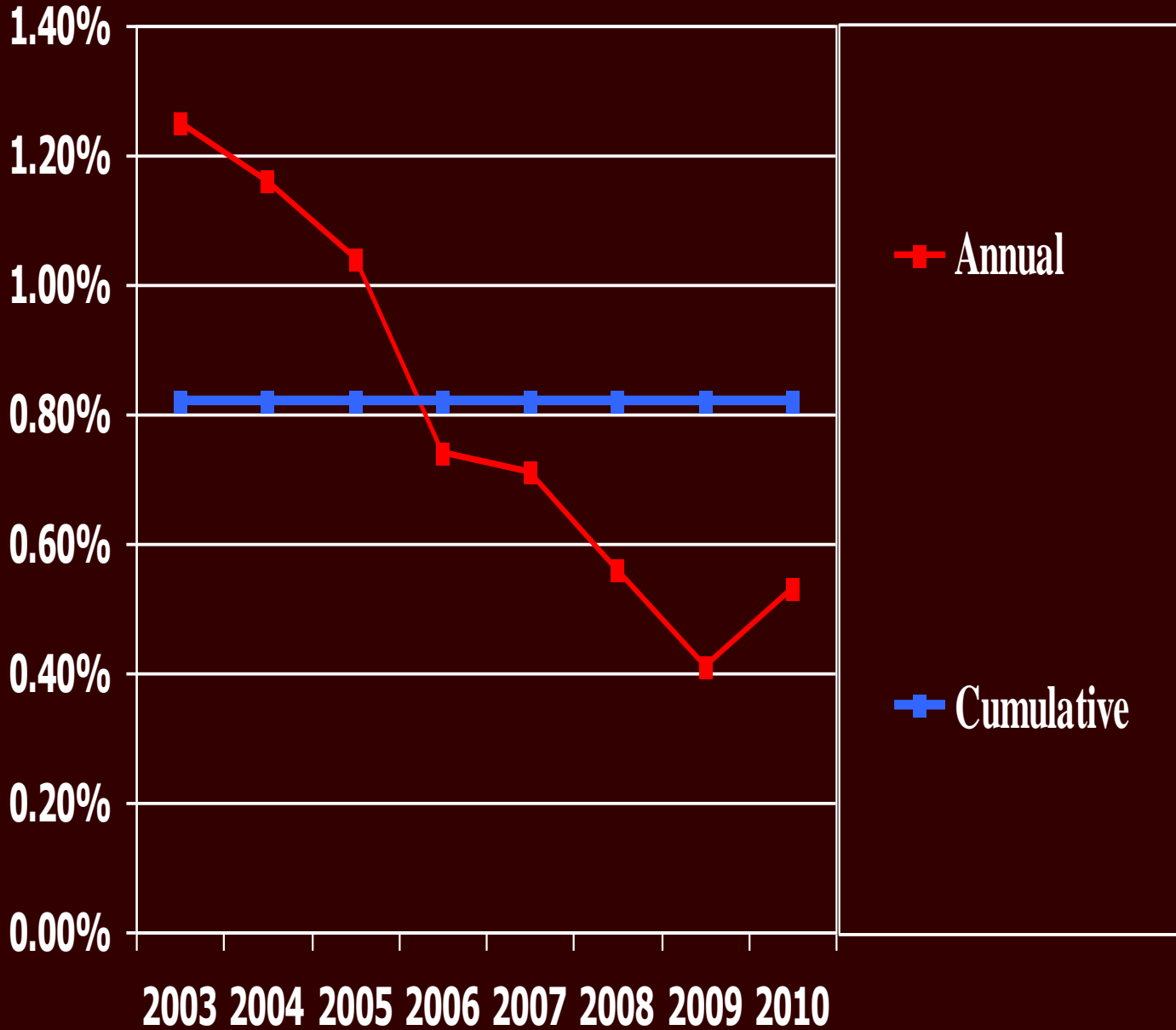
2003 through 2010 Aggregate Incidence of STS's and PTS's

Associates Participating in Testing Program	1,088,717	100%
Total Standard Threshold Shifts	63,016	5.79%
OSHA Recordable Standard Threshold Shifts	46,110	4.24%
Non-Recordable Standard Threshold Shifts	15,906	1.46%
Total Persistent Threshold Shifts Confirmed by Retest and Consistent with NIHL:	8,964	0.82%
OSHA Recordable Persistent Threshold Shifts	5,494	0.50%
Non-Recordable Persistent Threshold Shifts	3,470	0.32%

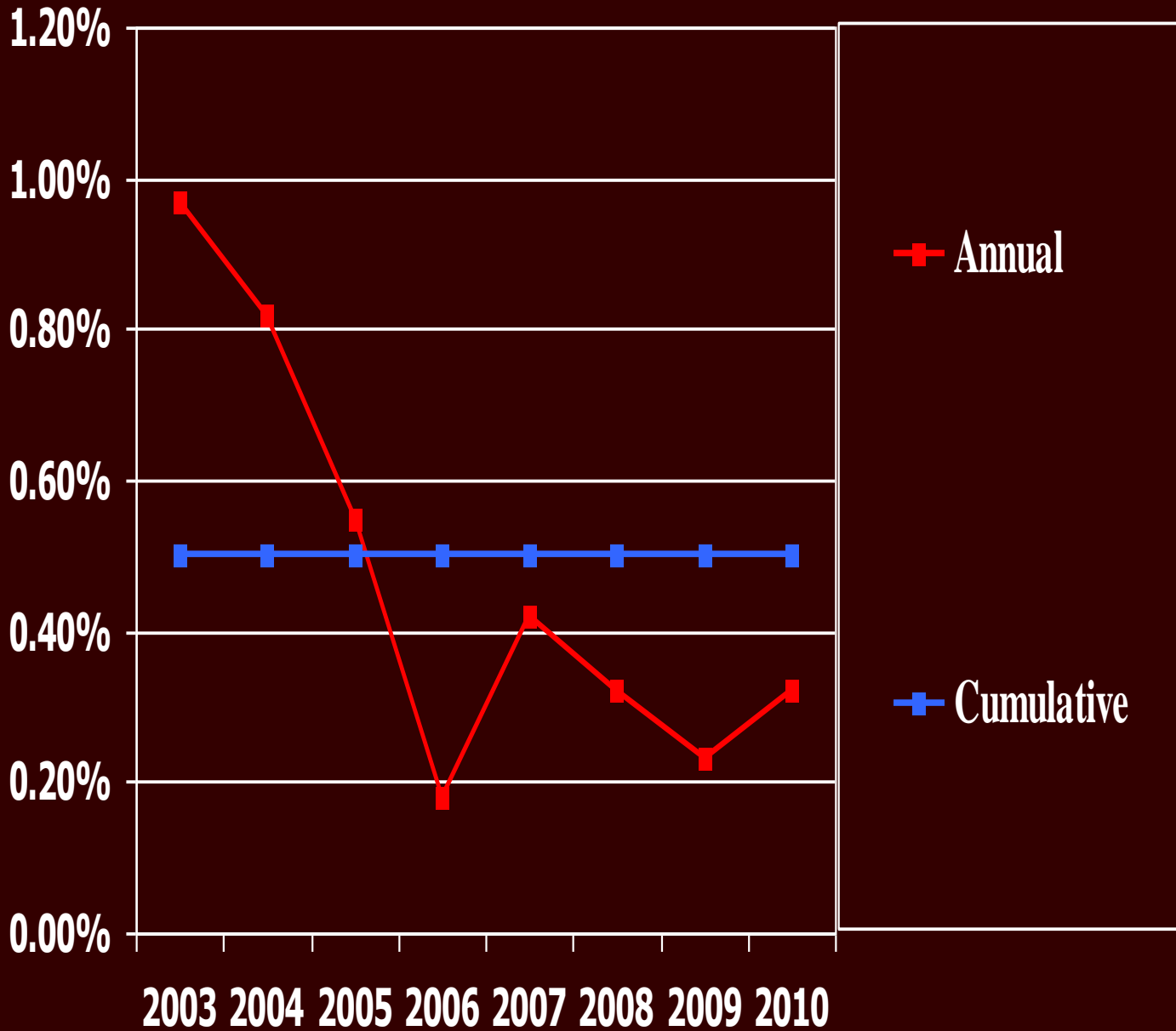
Eight -Year Trend: Incidence of Standard Threshold Shifts (STS)



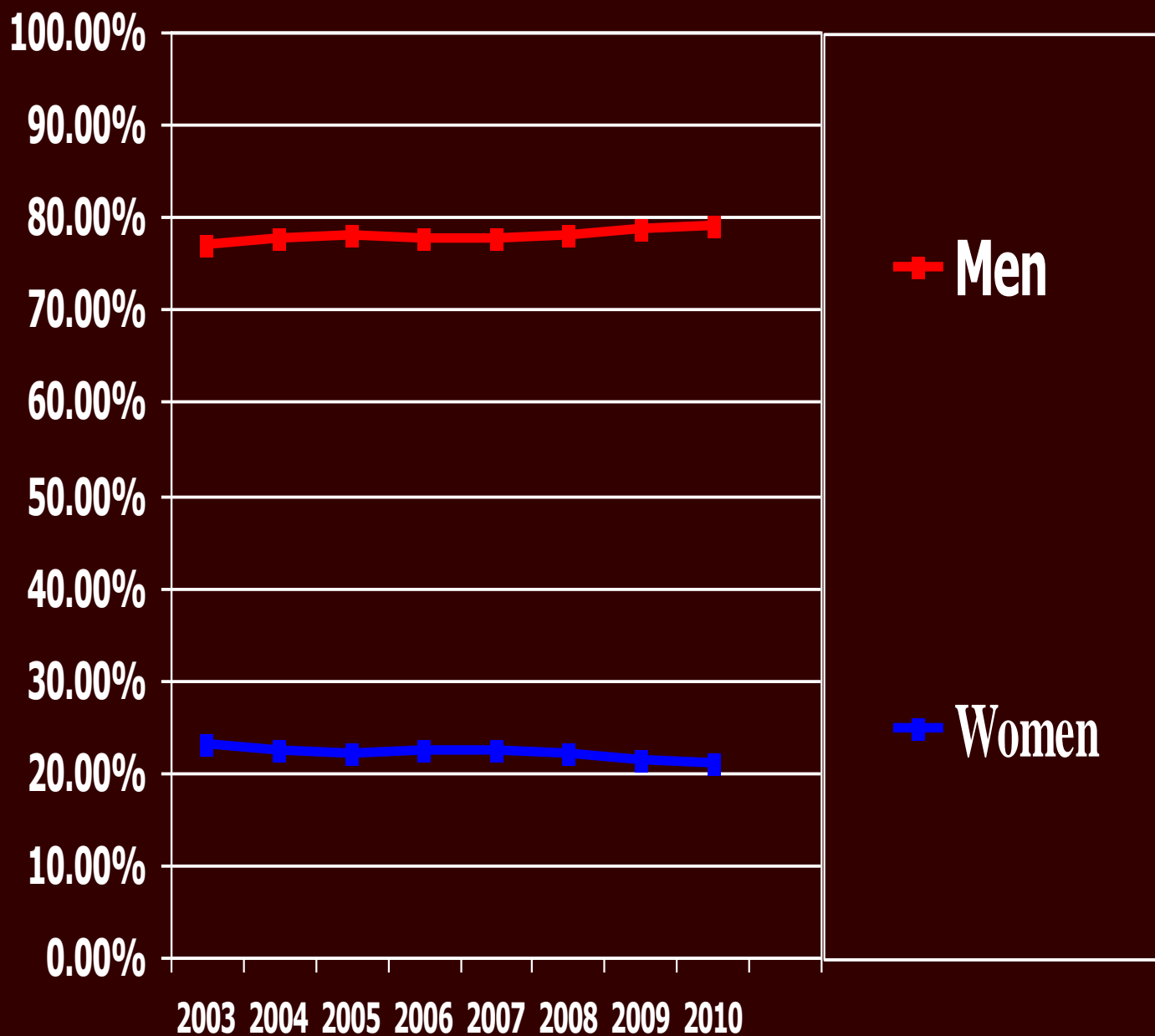
Eight -Year Trend: Incidence of Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts (NIPTS)



Eight -Year Trend: Incidence of Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts (RNIPTS)



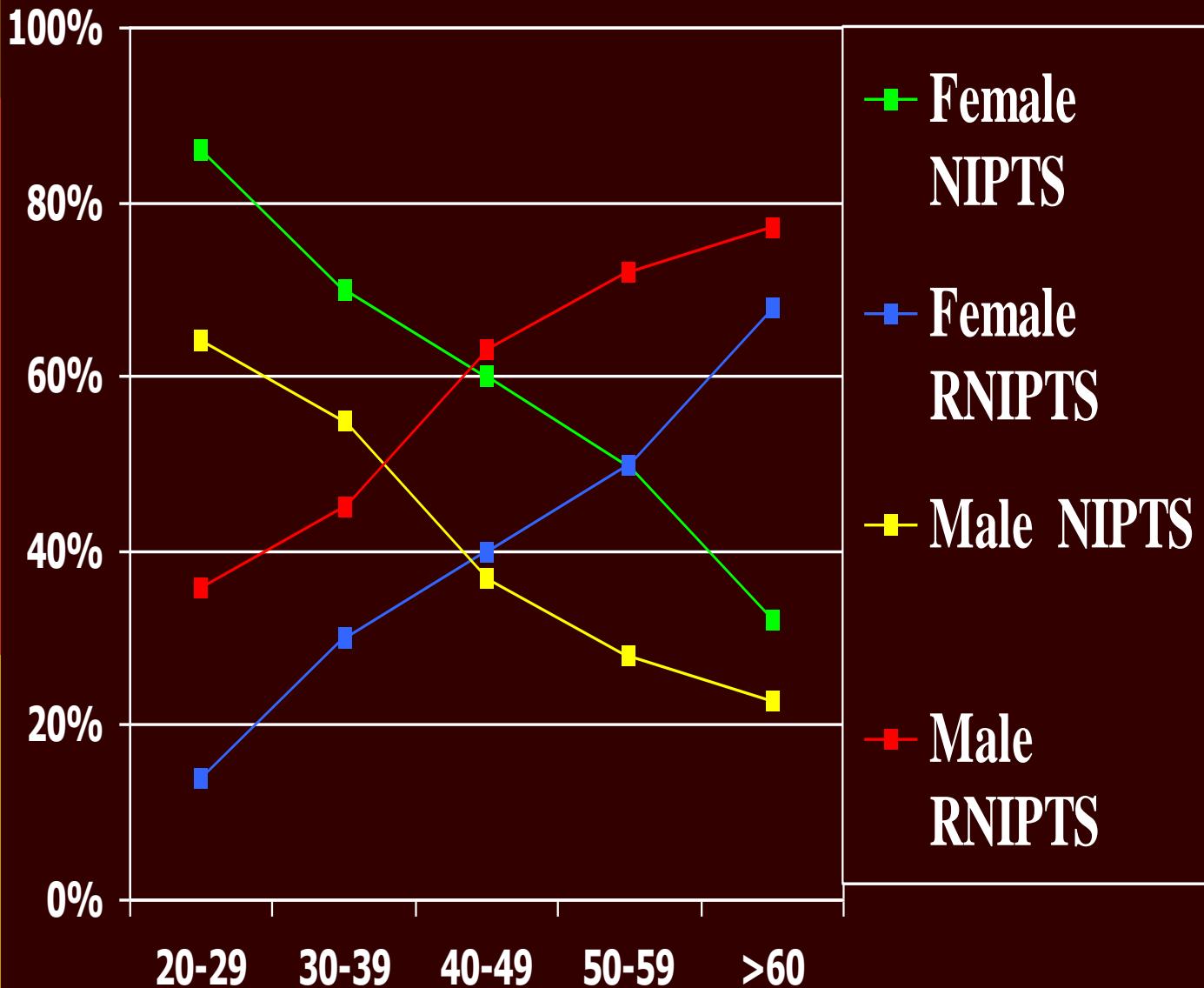
Eight -Year Incidence of Women and Men Participating in Audiometric Testing



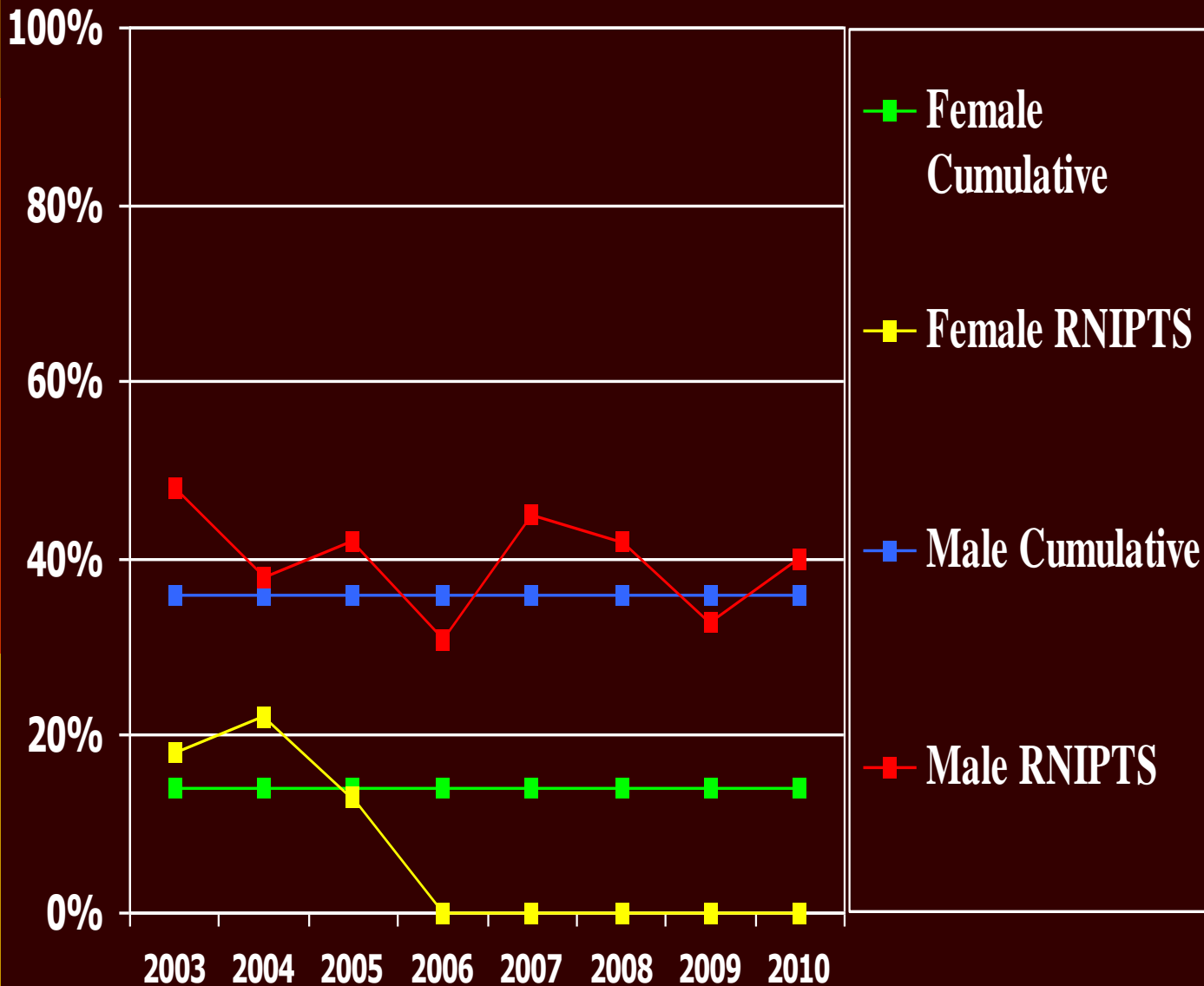
Eight Year Age/Gender Distribution NIPTS & RNIPTS

GENDER	AGE RANGE	NIPTS	%	RNIPTS	%	TOTAL
F	20-29	32	86%	5	14%	37
	30-39	110	70%	48	30%	158
	40-49	246	60%	161	40%	407
	50-59	268	50%	272	50%	540
	>60	88	32%	186	68%	274
F Total		744	53%	672	47%	1,416
M	20-29	217	64%	122	36%	339
	30-39	654	55%	540	45%	1,194
	40-49	922	37%	1,602	63%	2,524
	50-59	700	28%	1,792	72%	2,492
	>60	233	23%	766	77%	999
M Total		2,726	36%	4,822	64%	7,548
Grand Total		3,470	39%	5,494	61%	8,964

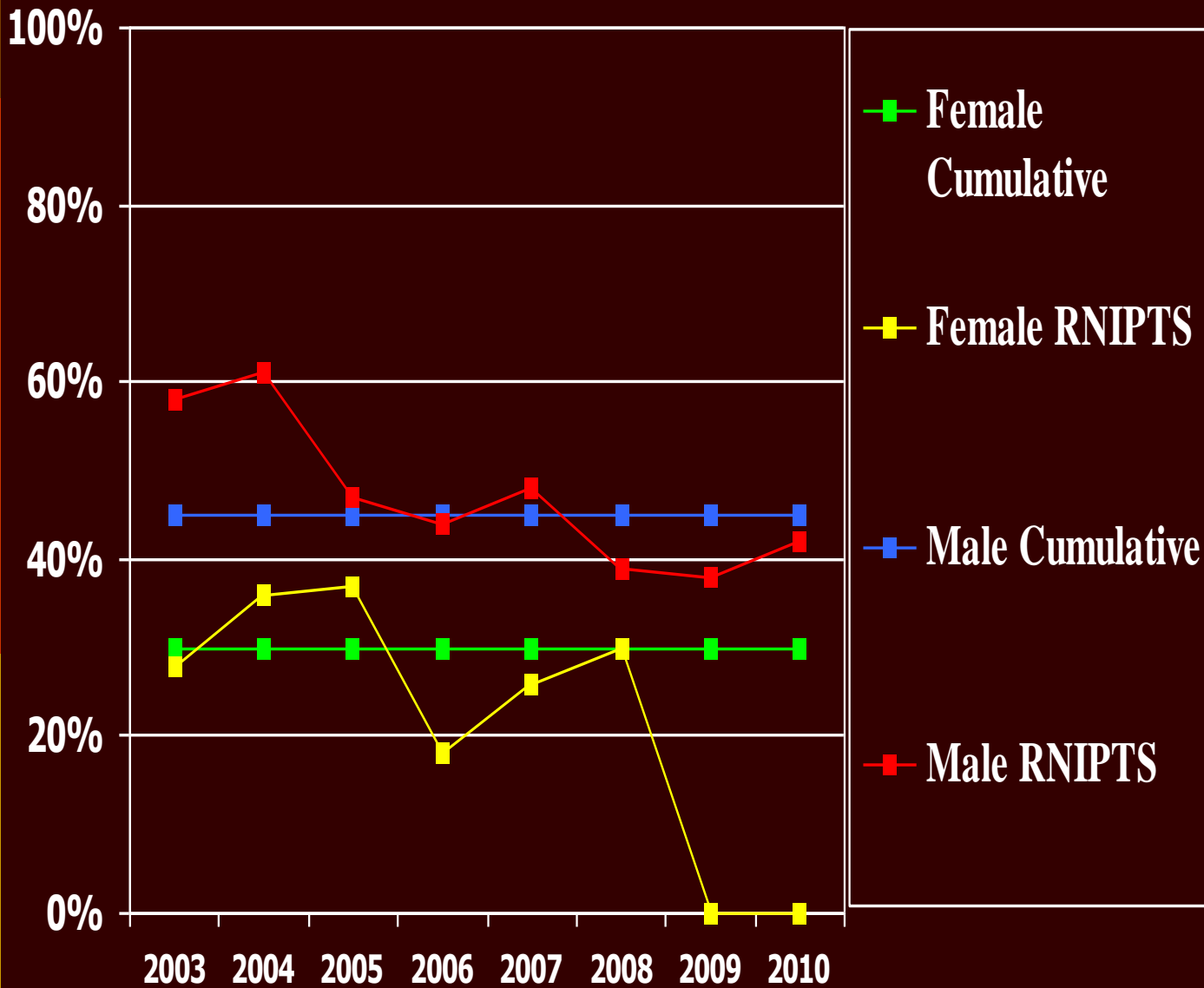
Eight Year Incidence of Non-Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts and Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts by Age and Gender



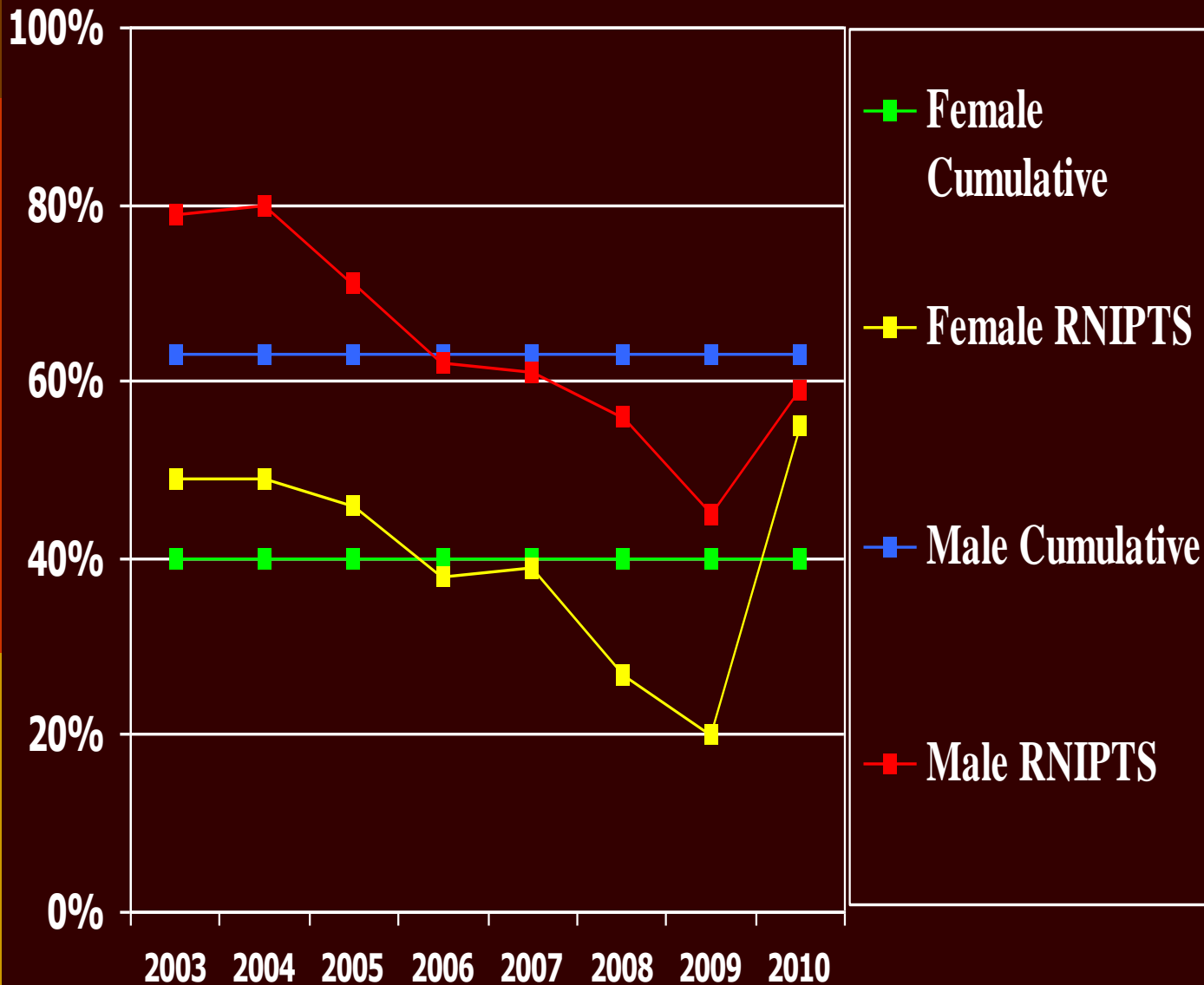
Eight Year Trend: Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts: 20-29 Year Olds



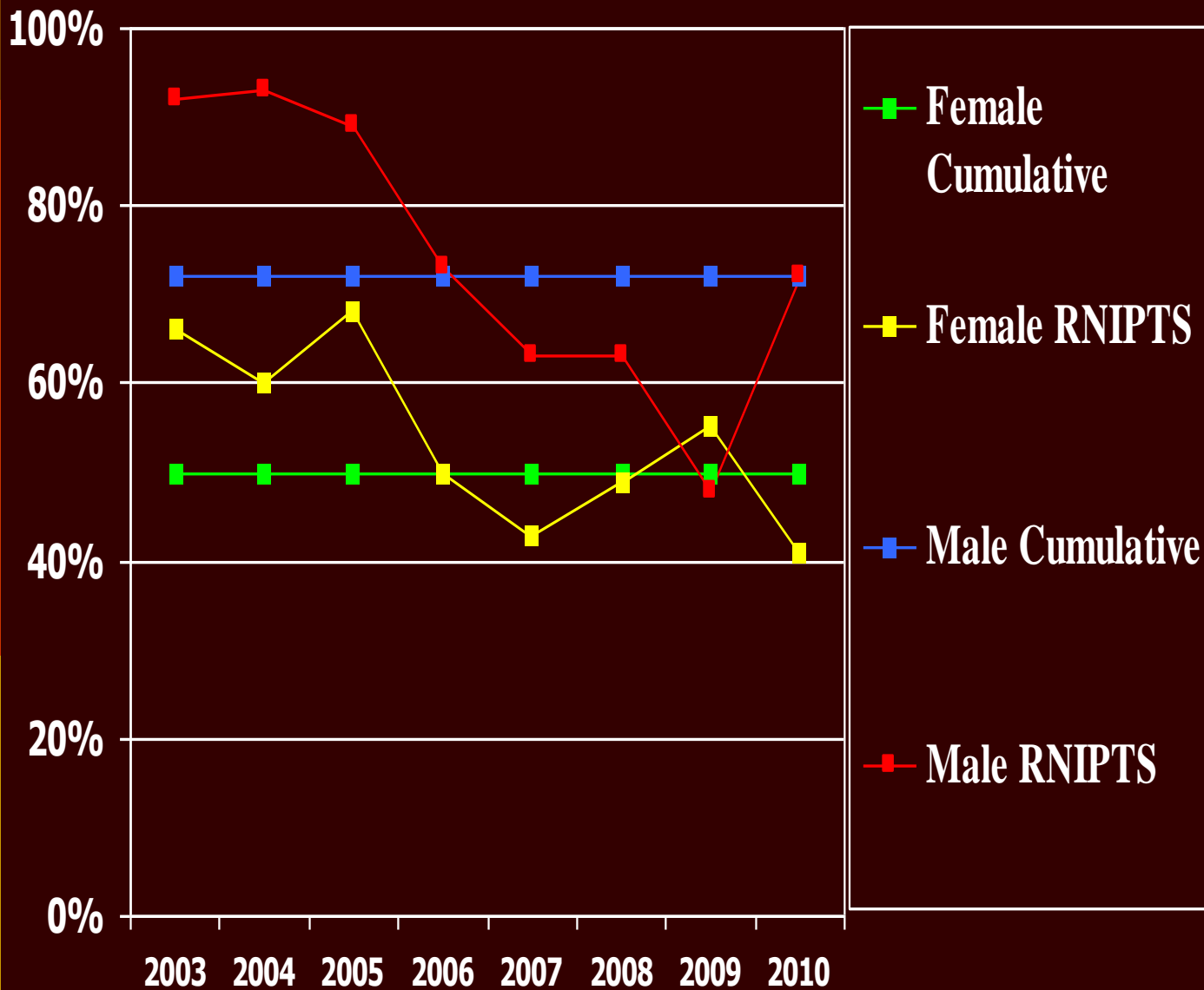
Eight Year Trend: Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts: 30-39 Year Olds



Eight Year Trend: Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts: 40-49 Year Olds



Eight Year Trend: Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts: 50-59 Year Olds



Eight Year Trend: Recordable Noise-Induced Persistent Threshold Shifts: >60 Year Olds

