

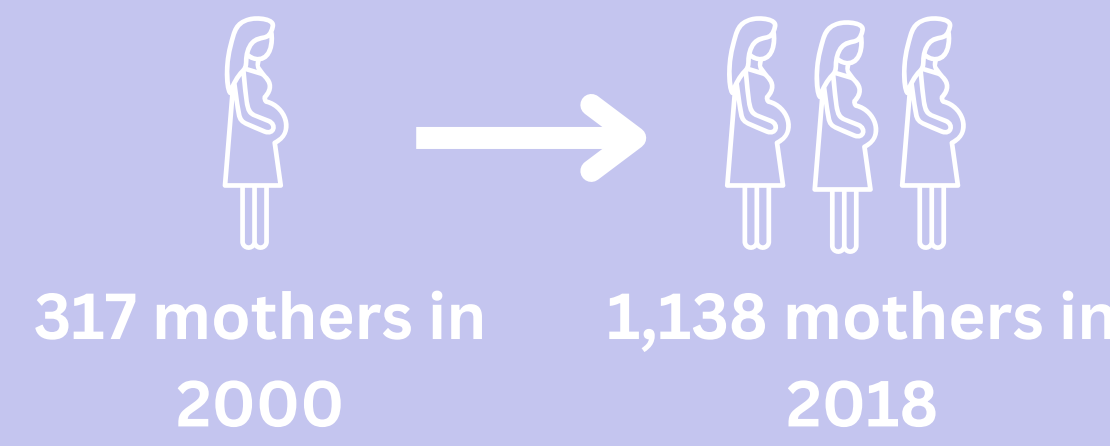
How might trends in Victorian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal characteristics have influenced their perinatal outcomes?

Background

Nationally, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perinatal death rates remain far higher than non-Aboriginal rates, displaying little recent progress. In contrast, Victoria has seen reductions in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander PND rates since 2008.



Notably, the number of Victorian mothers identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander has more than tripled.



This increase may be associated with changes to the socio-demographic profile of this population.

If these changes impacted well-established risk or protective factors for PND they may have influenced trends in perinatal outcomes.



Hypothesis

Improvements in perinatal outcomes within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population may have been influenced by changes in the characteristics of mothers identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

Aims

To examine trends in key maternal characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women giving birth in Victoria between 2000 and 2019.

To explore relationships between these characteristics of interest and adverse perinatal outcomes in the Victorian maternal population.

Methods and design

Retrospective population-based study of all births in Victoria from 2000-2019

Utilising the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection + CCOPMM database

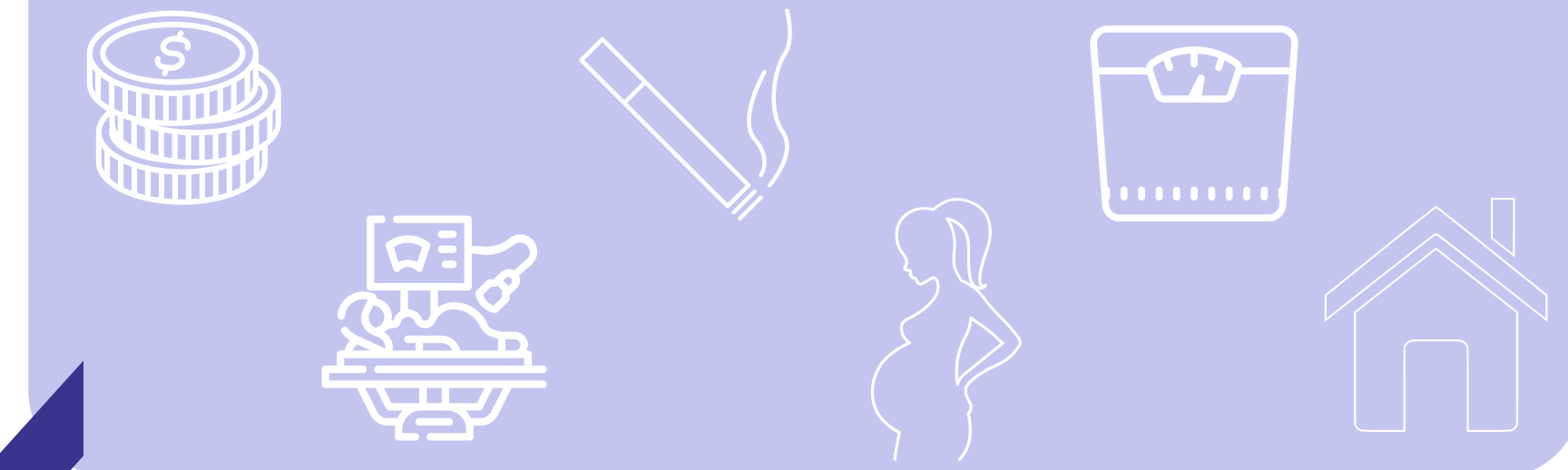
Outcome of interest

Perinatal Death

Neonatal death

Stillbirth

Characteristics of interest



Descriptive statistics

Frequencies and crosstabulations with trends graphed over time

Statistical analysis

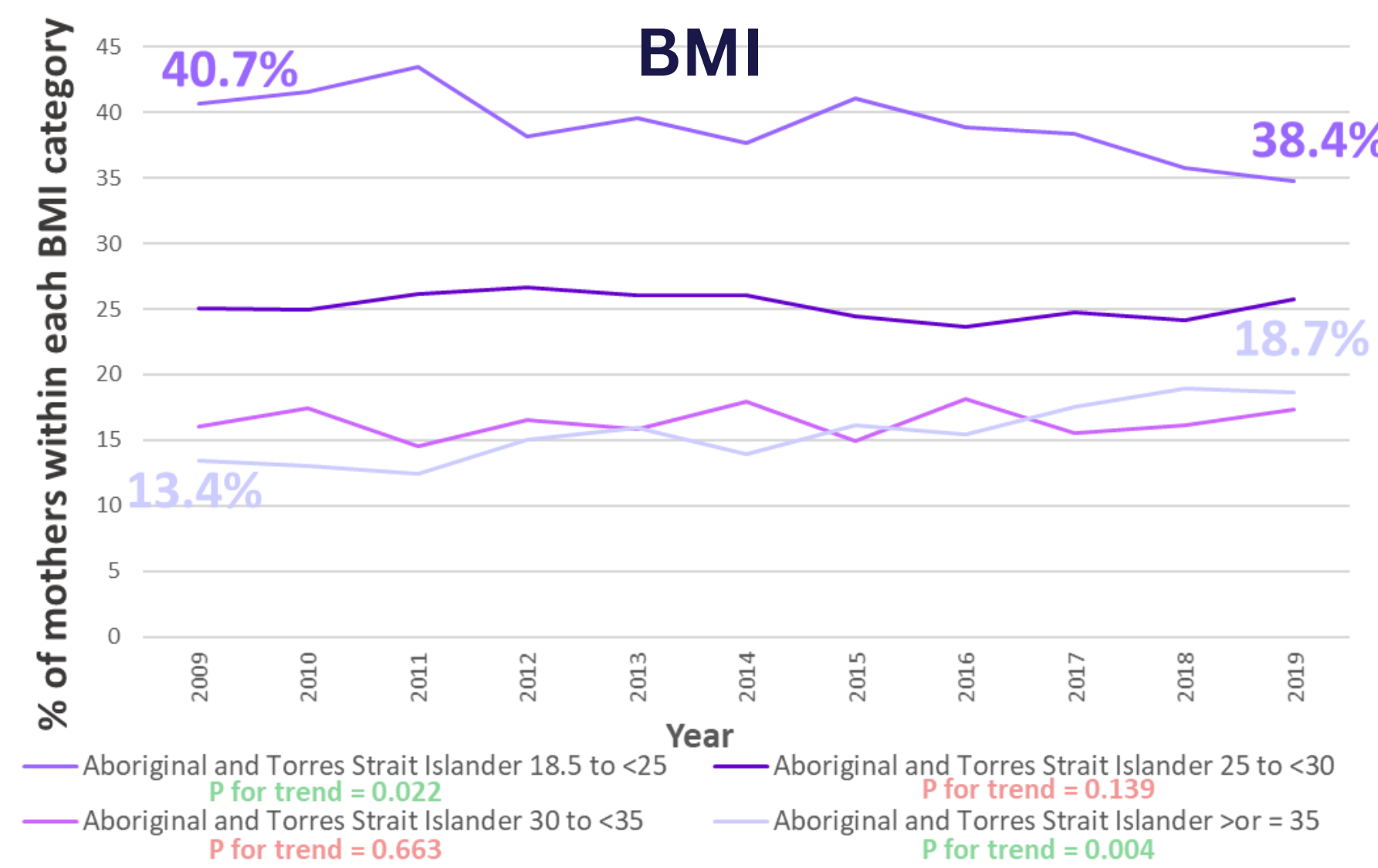
Trend analysis, Chi square or Fisher's exact, Relative risk ratios

Results

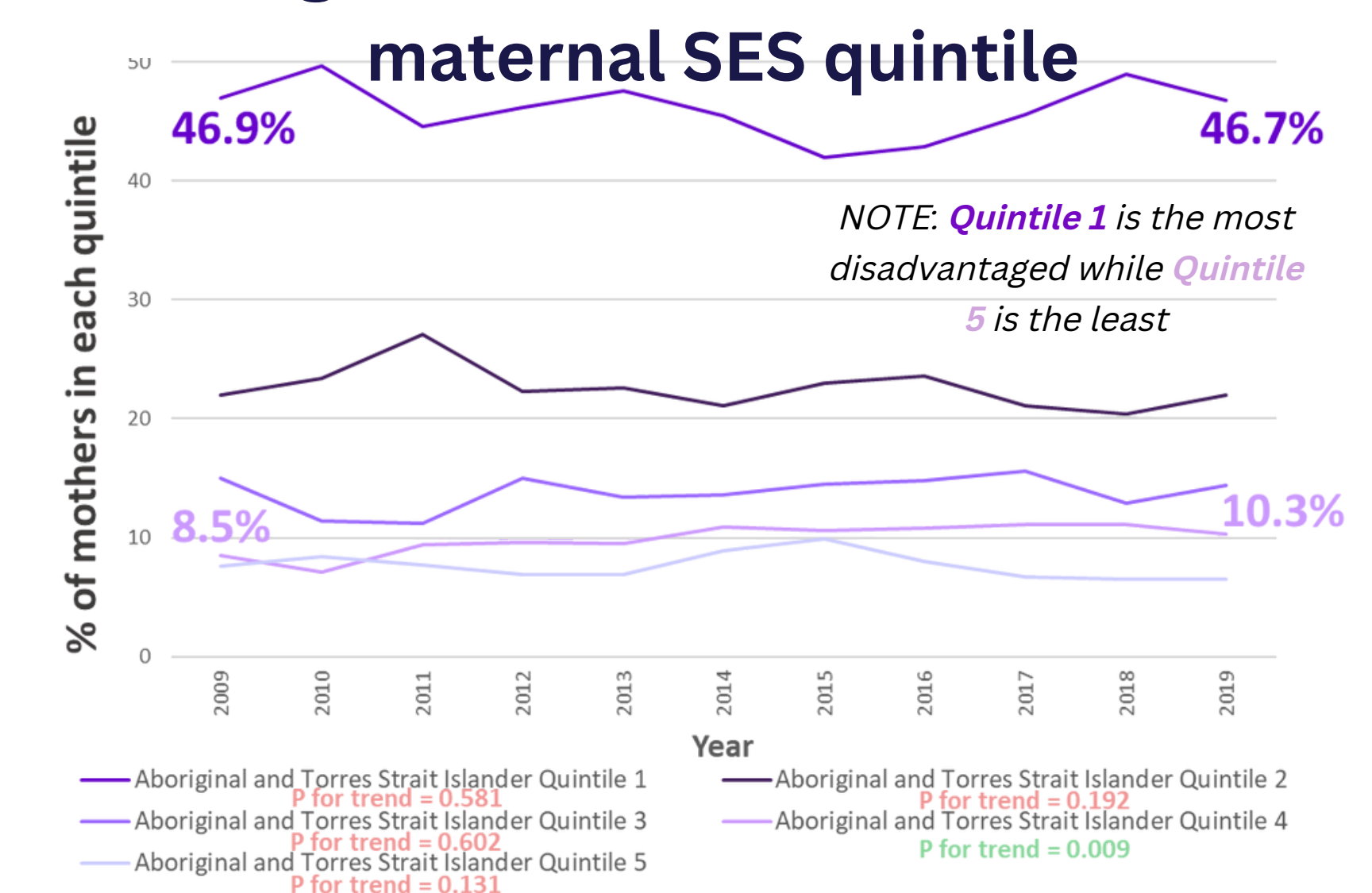
Victorian teenage mothers



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal BMI

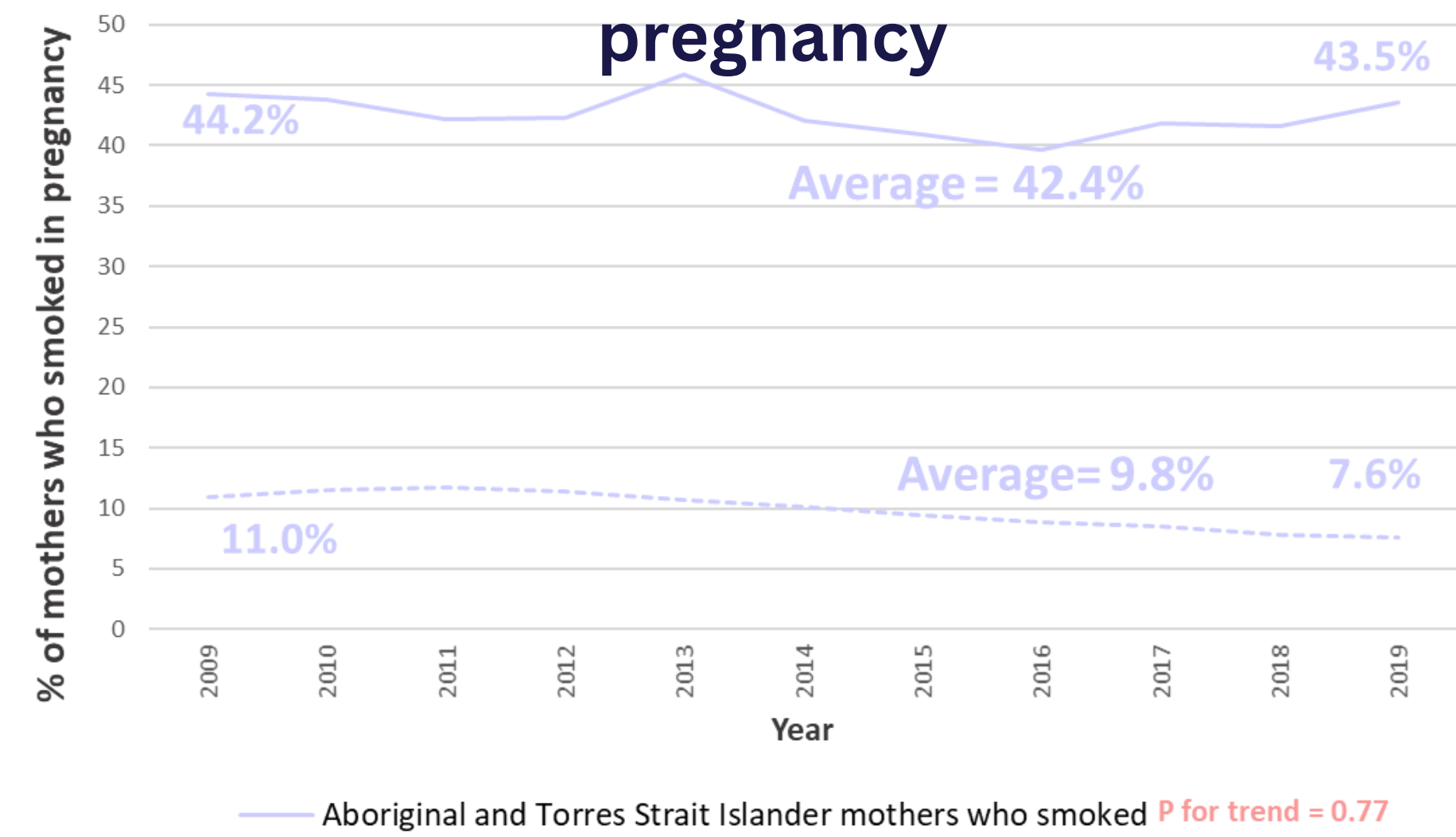


Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal SES quintile



Teenage motherhood increased PND risk by 143.0% (95% CI 2.22-2.66)

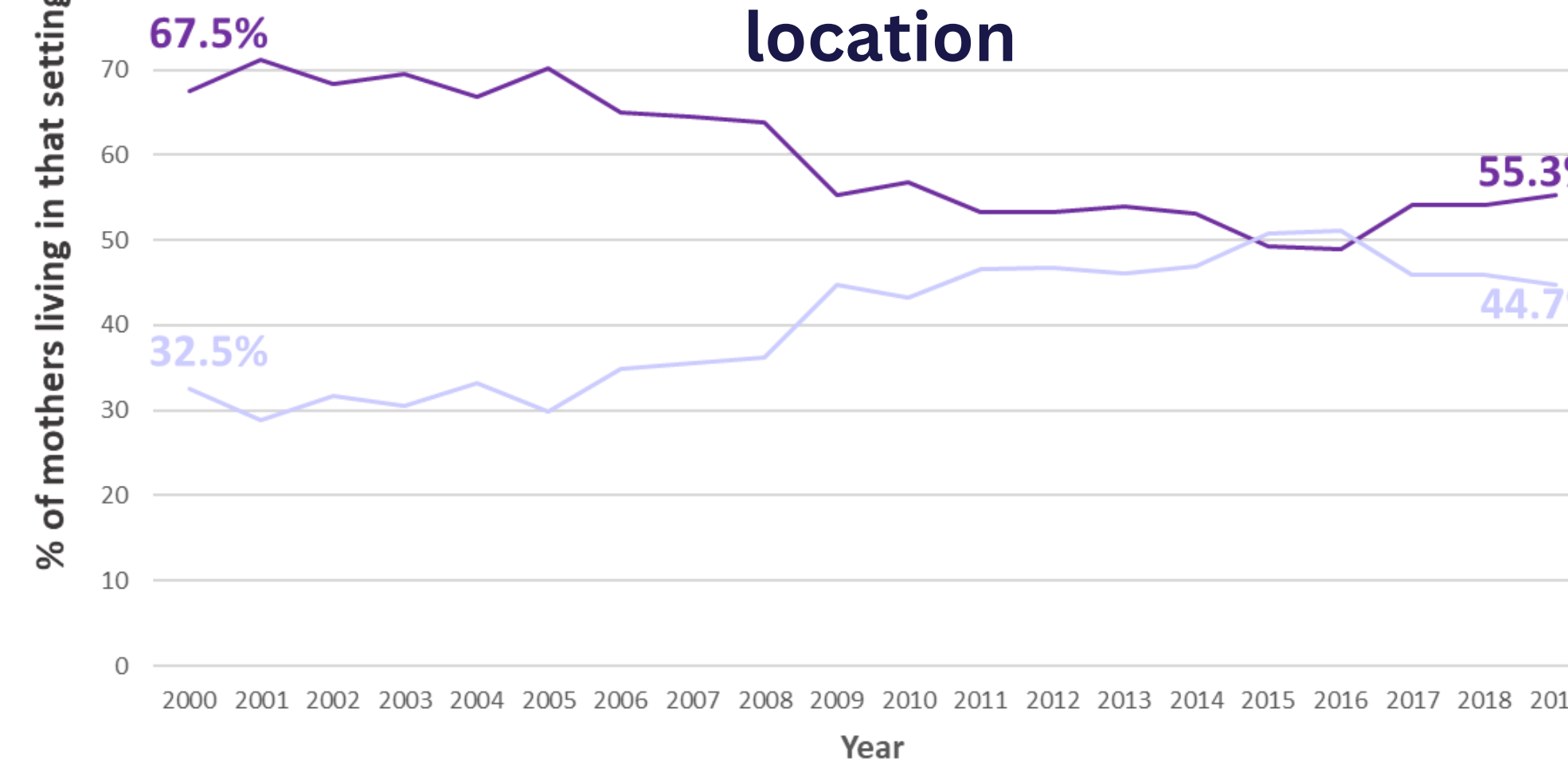
Victorian mothers smoking during pregnancy



Smoking increased PND risk by 59.0% (95% CI 1.48-1.70)

Maternal BMI >=35 increased PND risk by 58.0% (95% CI 1.44-1.73)

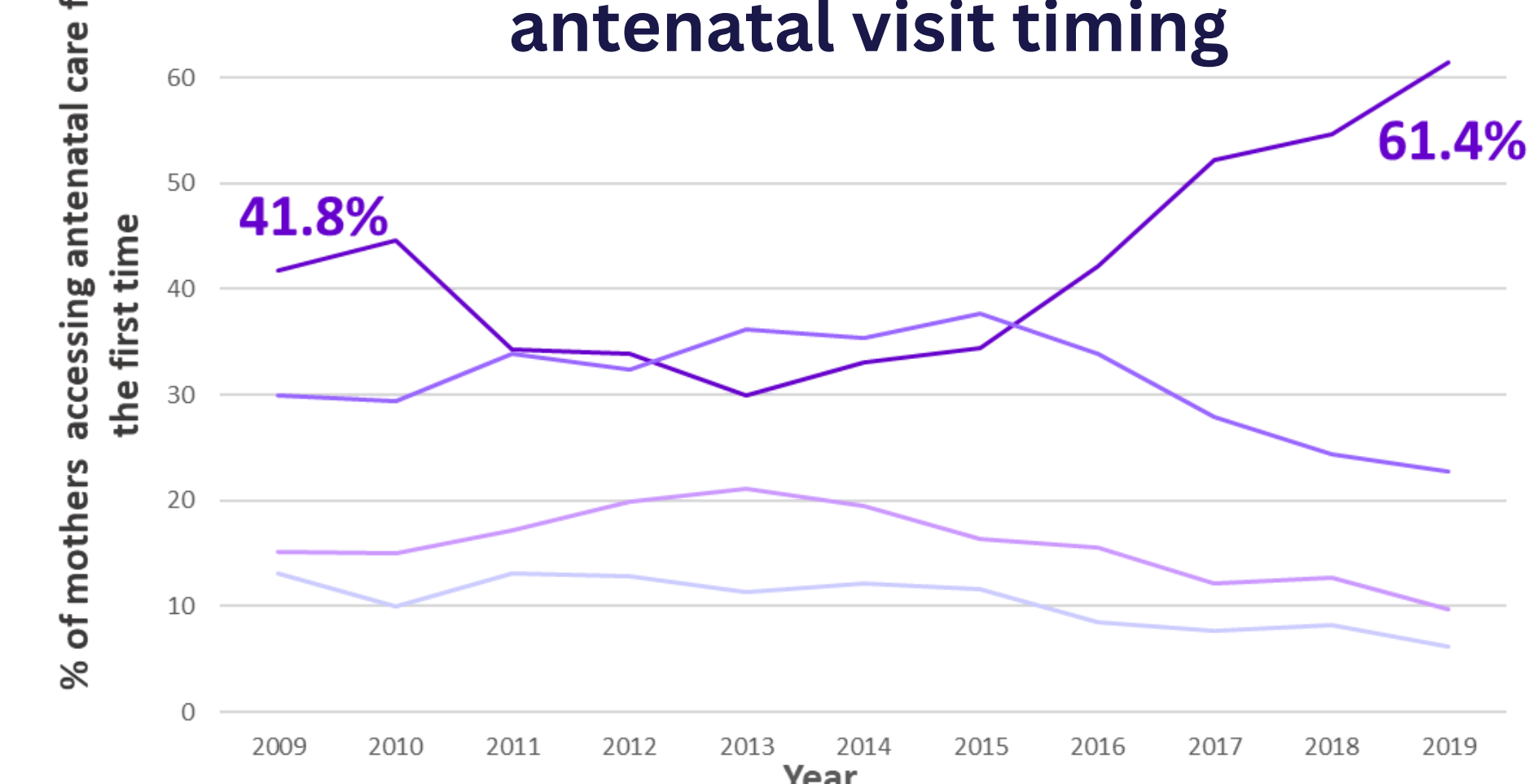
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal living location



Living rurally increased PND risk by 12.0% (95% CI 1.07-1.17)

Low SES increased PND risk by 55.0% (95% CI 1.43-1.68)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander antenatal visit timing

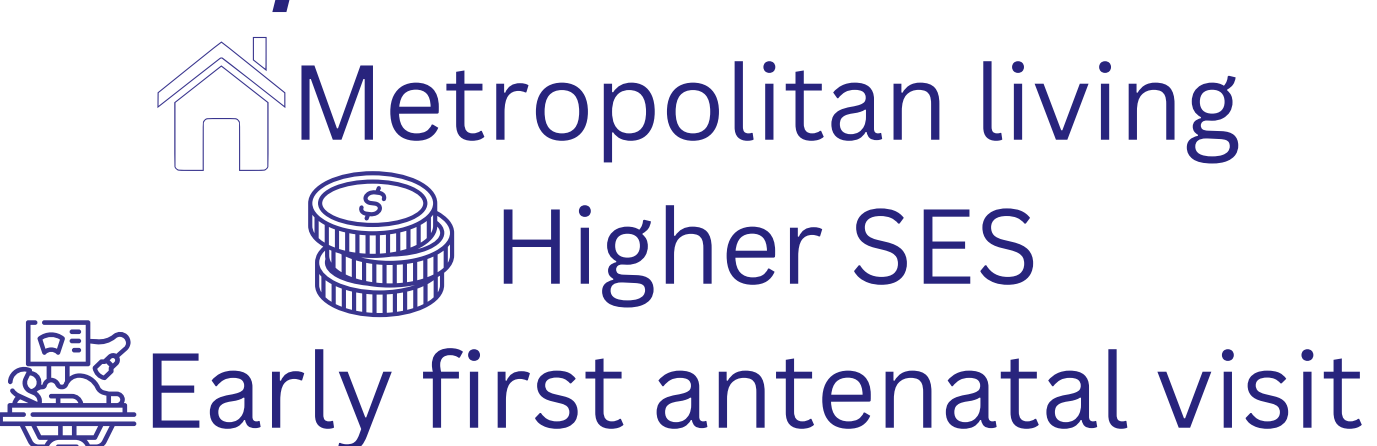


Late first visit increased PND risk by 55.0% (95% CI 1.43-1.68)

Conclusion

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An increase in characteristics associated with lower perinatal death risk



A decrease in characteristics associated with higher perinatal death risk



May have contributed to The reduction in Victorian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perinatal death rates we observed over the study period

Unfavourable trends: Decrease in normal BMI, Increase in BMI >=35, Stagnant and high smoking rates

May have limited further progress