

# How Many Applied Demographers are there in PAA?

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# Definitions of Applied Demography

- Conceptual Definitions
- Operational Definitions

# Selected Definitions of Applied Demography or Demographers

“Applied Demography is the subfield of demography that focuses on practical applications of demographic methods and material for decision-making purposes,”

Smith 2003

“Applied Demography is primarily concerned with solving exogenously-defined problems by producing information necessary to effect practical decision-making while minimizing the time and resources needed to produce the information.”

Swanson et al. (1996)

“Simply defined, applied demography is the subfield of demography focusing on practical applications of demographic materials and methods.”

Siegel 2002

“There are several ways to measure the number of Applied Demographers in the PAA. One is based on the number of PAA members who work in a non-academic setting. “

Smith 2003

# 2 Key Elements in Applied Demography

- Data are used for decisions
- Work is conducted outside academia

# Data for Presentation

PAA Membership File form May 2015 (N= 3,541)

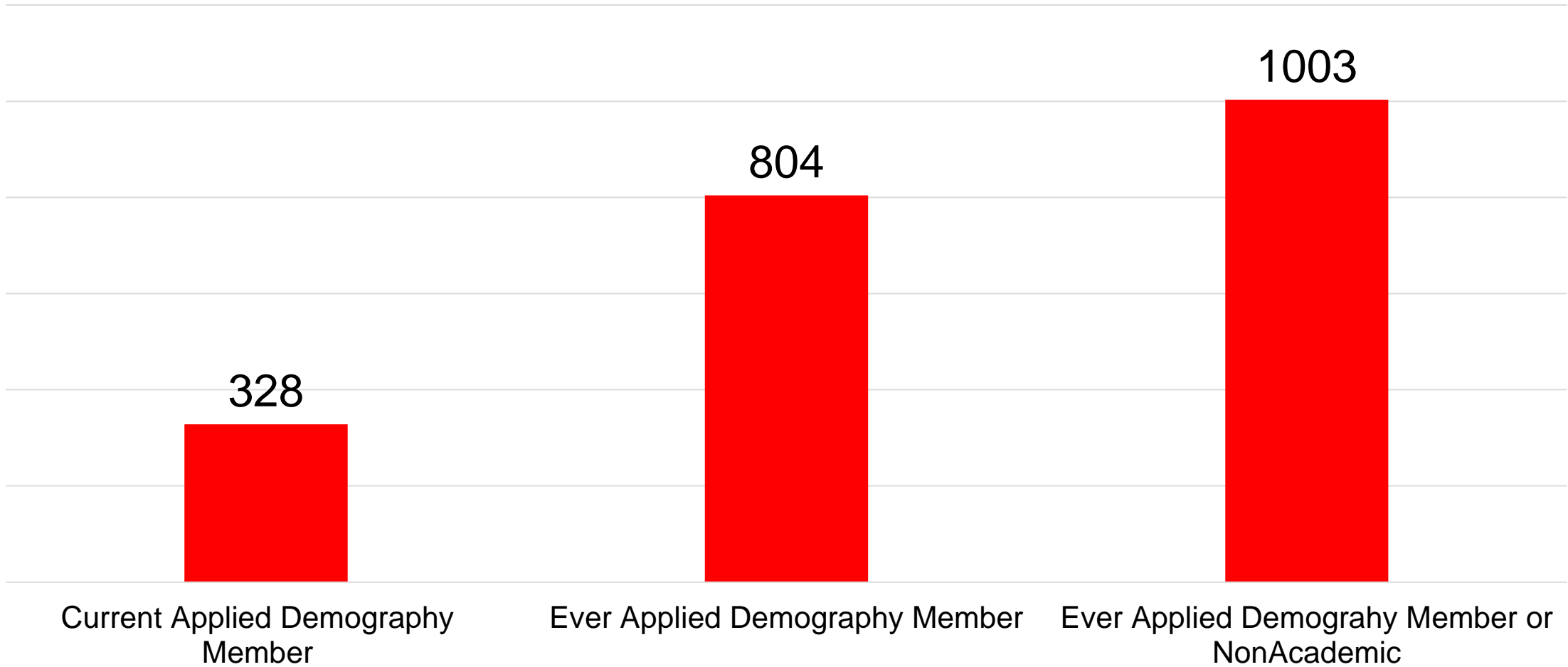
- Field indicating when Applied Demography membership expires (back to 1988)
- Every field has some missing data
- Most fields are text fields and not filled in consistently (PhD, Dr. PHD, doctorate, ABD ....)

# Three Operational Definitions of Applied Demographers

Currently a member of PAA and;

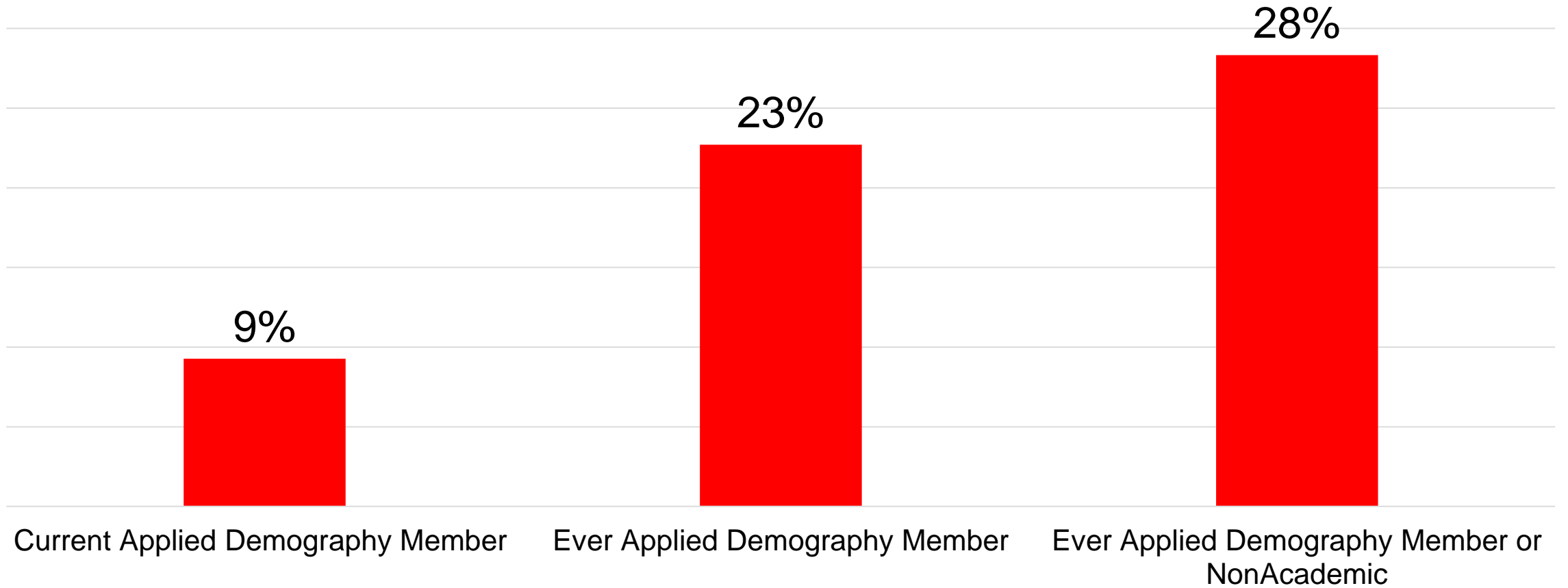
- 1) Currently a Member of Applied Demography (Self Selected - \$5)
- 2) Ever a Member of Applied Demography since 1988 (Self Selected - \$5)
- 3) Ever a member of Applied Demography or Working Outside of Academia

# Number of Applied Demographers in the Population Association of America Under Different Definitions



Source: PAA Membership File May 2015

# Applied Demographers as a Percent of the Population Association of America Membership Under Different Definitions



Source: PAA Membership File May 2015



# Changes Over Time

## Subscriptions to Applied Demography Newsletter

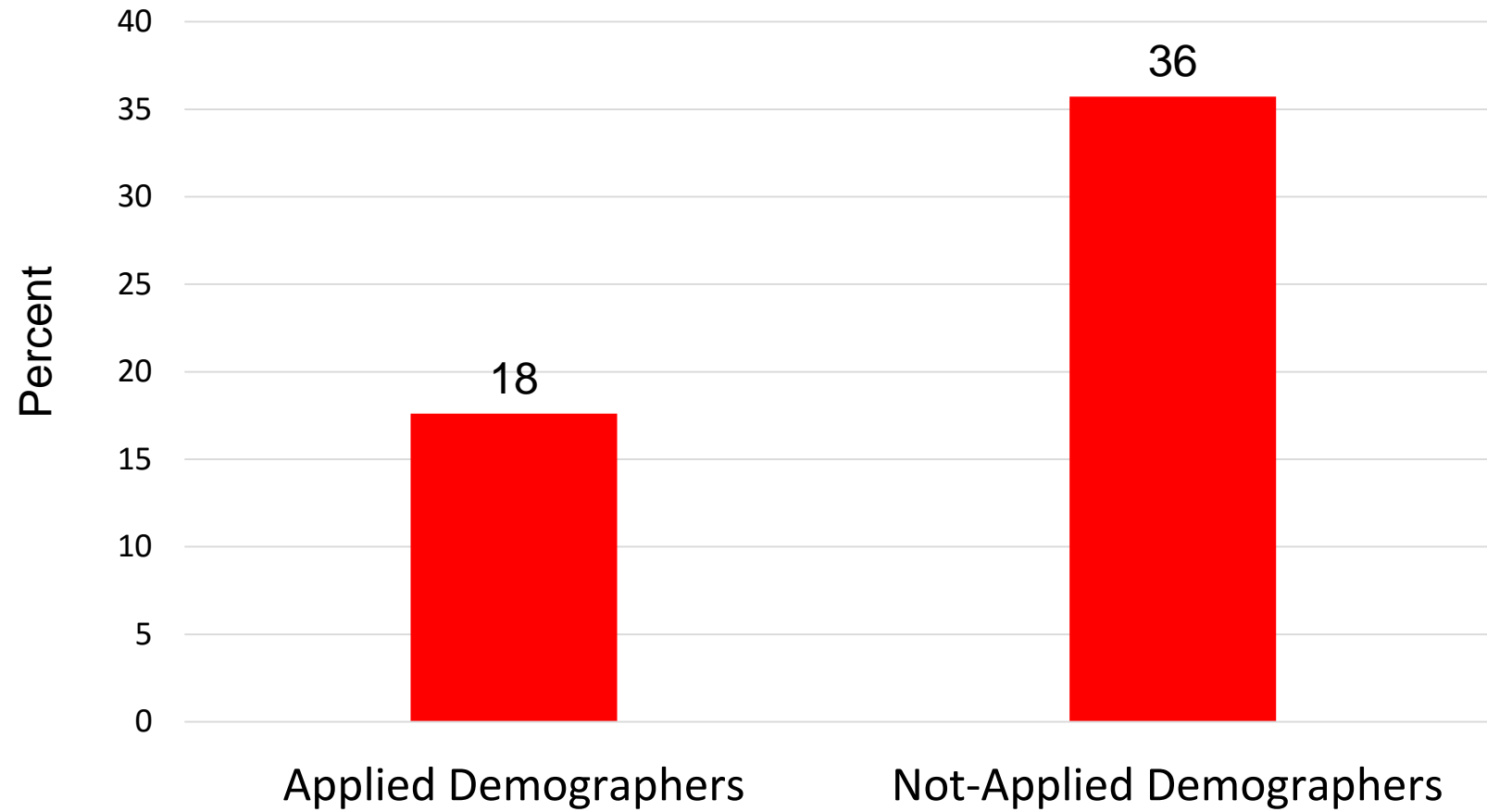
	Number	Percent of PAA
2002*	377	13
2015	329	9

\*Source: Stan Smith report to Applied Demography board

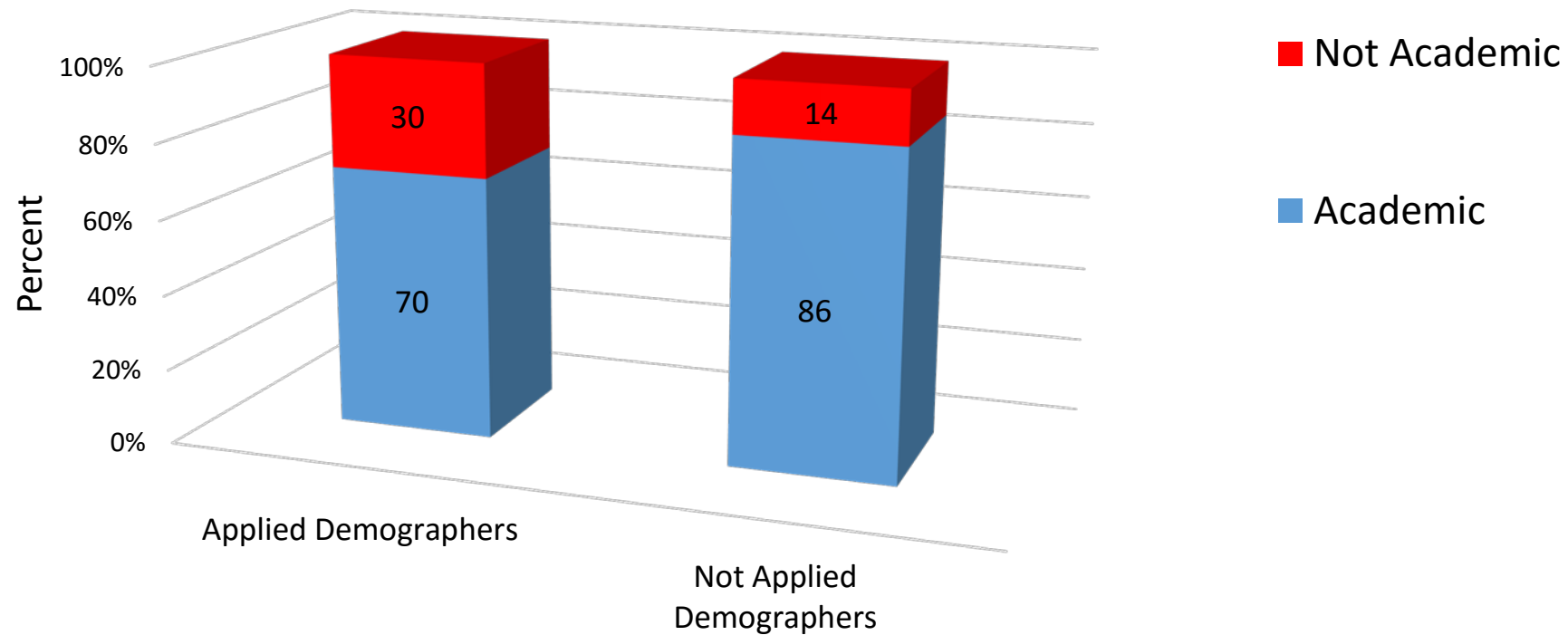
# Characteristics of Applied Demographers Compared to Not Applied Demographers

- I use ever a member of Applied Demography for the data shown below --why
  - Middle estimate of three
  - Database is larger than currently Applied Demographer
- Not Applied Demographers = Total PAA Membership – Applied Demographers

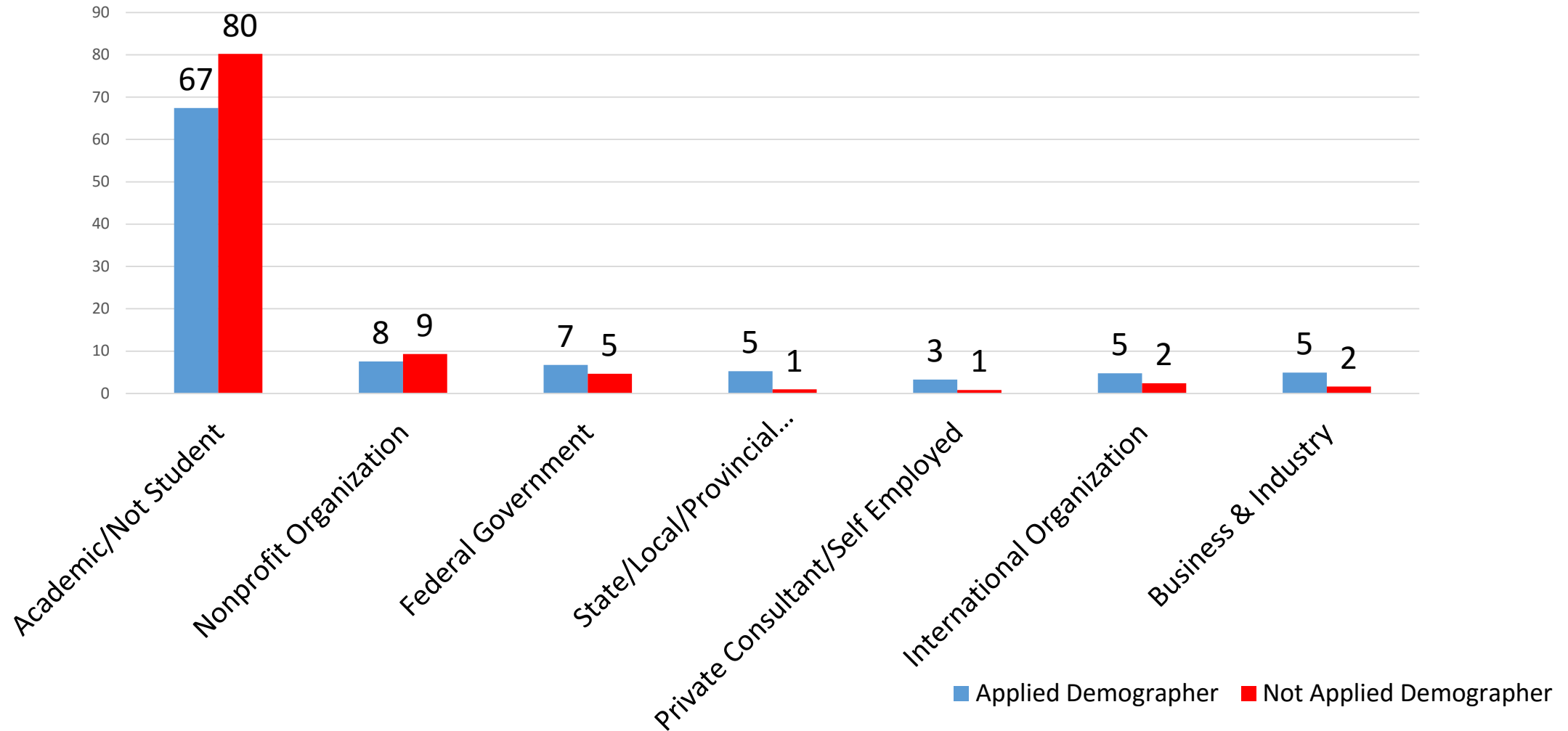
## Percent of Applied Demographers and Not-Applied Demographers Who Are Students



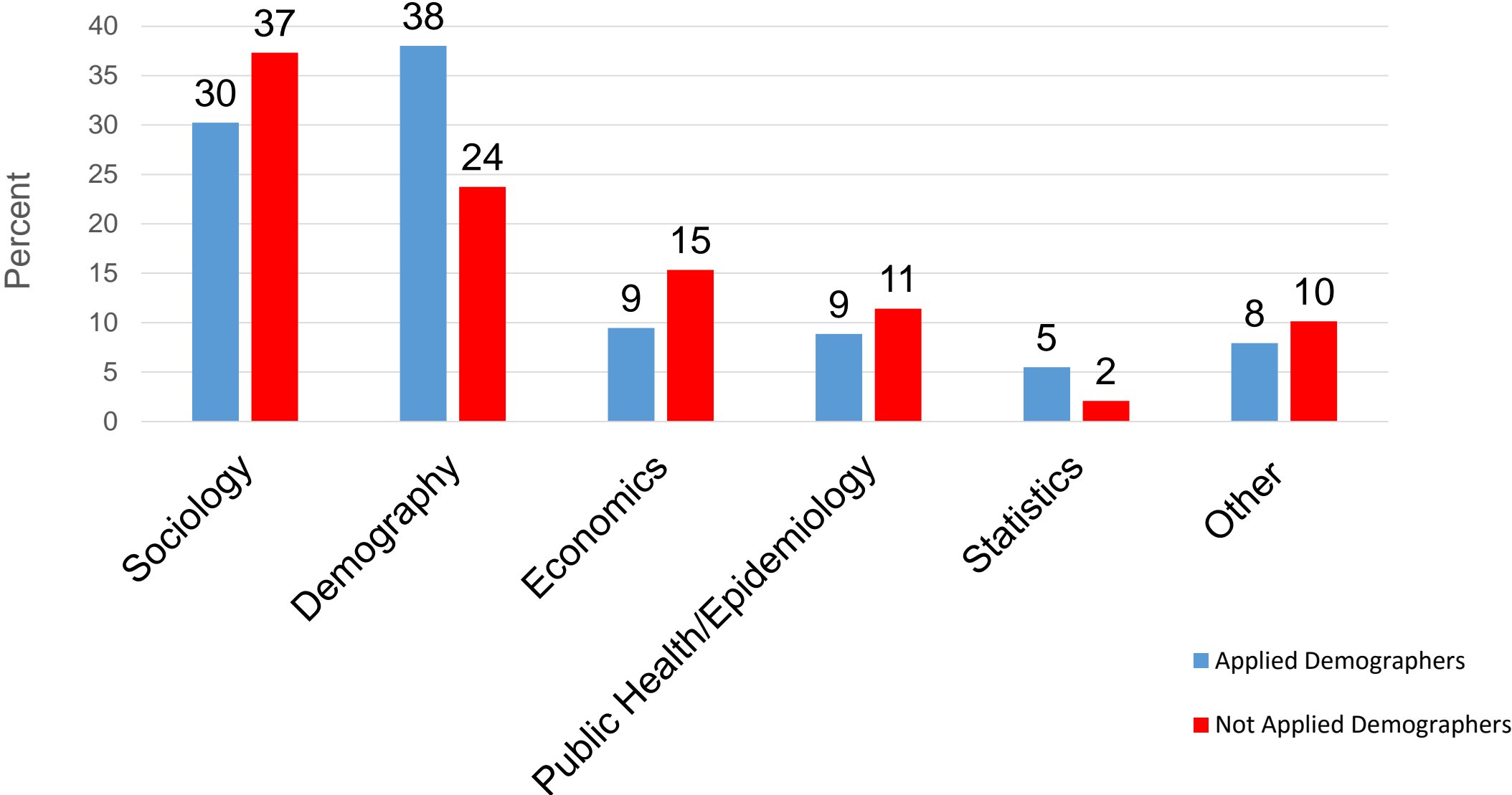
# Percent of Applied Demographers and Non-Applied Demographers in Academic and Non-Academic Settings (includes Students)



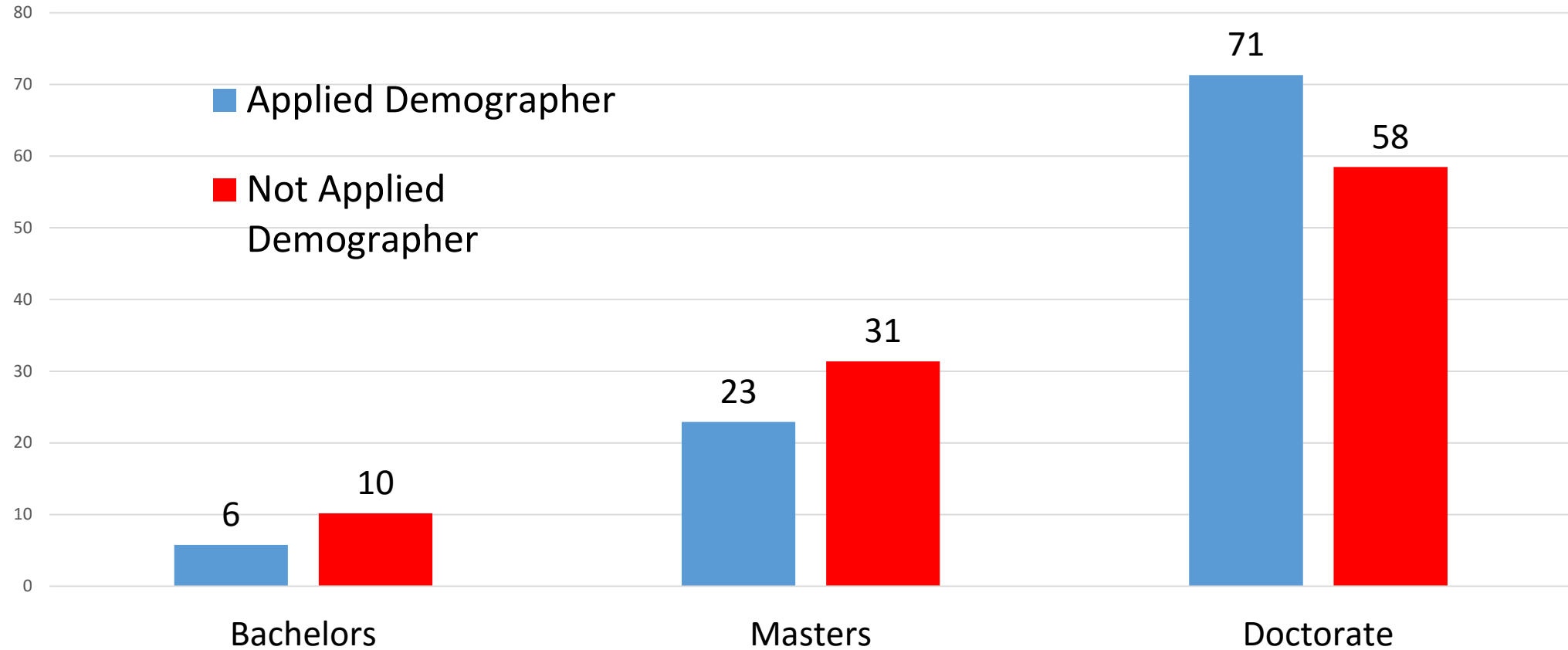
# Percent Distribution of Work Place Locations of Applied Demographers and Not Applied Demographers (No Students)



# Percent Distribution of Applied and Not Applied Demographers by Professional Field



## Distribution of Applied Demographers and Other PAA members by Degree (No Students)



# Summary

- Applied Demographers in PAA number between 329 and 1003
- Applied Demographers in PAA constitute between 9 and 28 percent of membership
- Significant share of PAA members working outside of Academia are Not Applied Demographers
- Applied Demographers are more likely to be:
  - Located outside Academia
  - Less Likely to be Students
  - More likely to be Demographer or Statistician/ less likely to be Sociologists or Economists.



# Thanks

Contact Information

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