



**FEAST Conference 2006**

*Research without borders*

Session 1

***Prof. Ron Johnston***

Director

Australian Centre for Innovation and  
International Competitiveness

**FEAST Revisited: How Far Have We Come?**

this session is sponsored by the Queensland Government

# **FEAST Revisited: How Far Have We Come?**



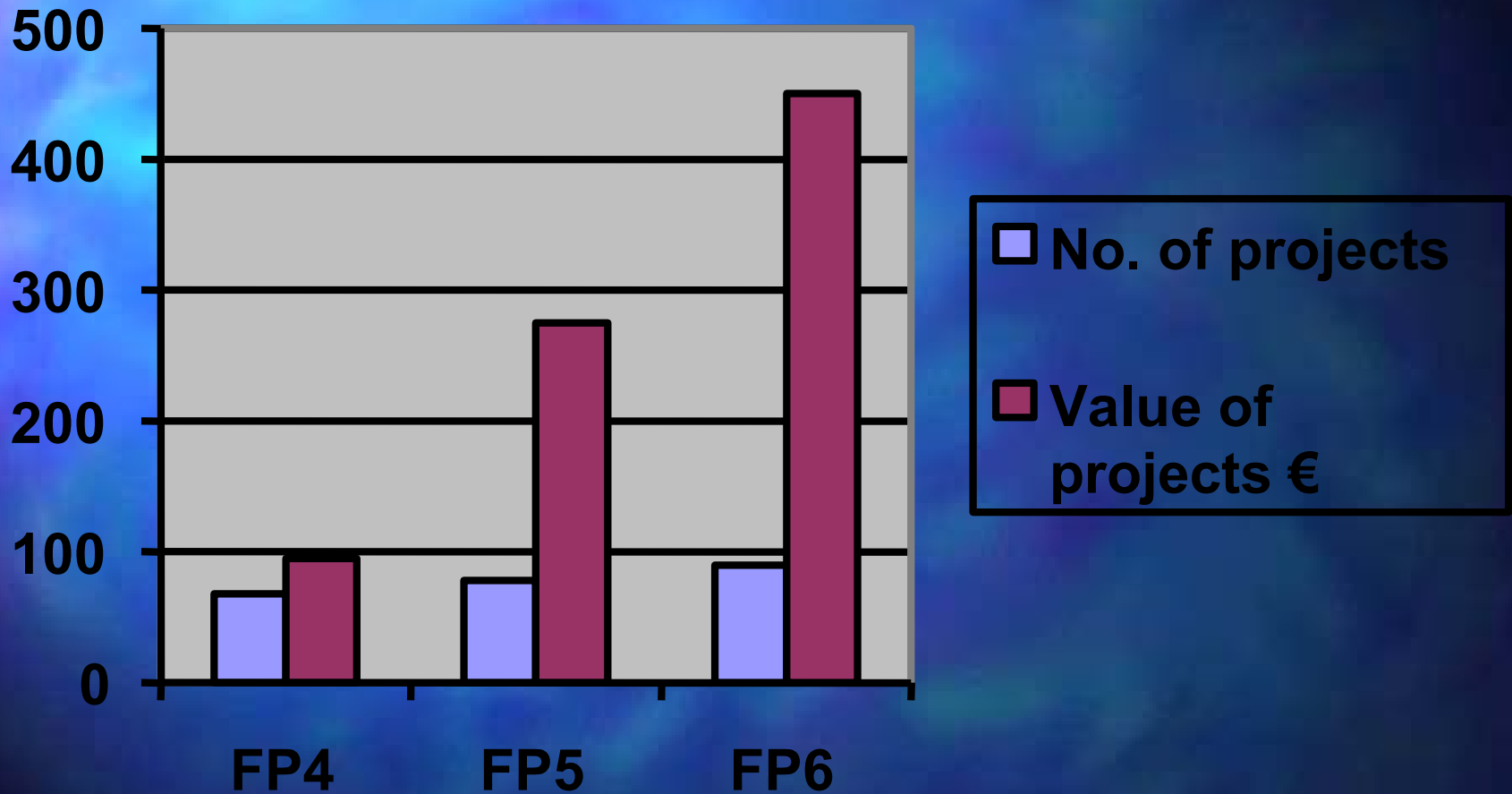
*Professor Ron Johnston  
Australian Centre for Innovation  
University of Sydney  
(last week DG-JRC-IPTS Seville)*

*FEAST Conference  
'Research without Borders'  
November, 2006*

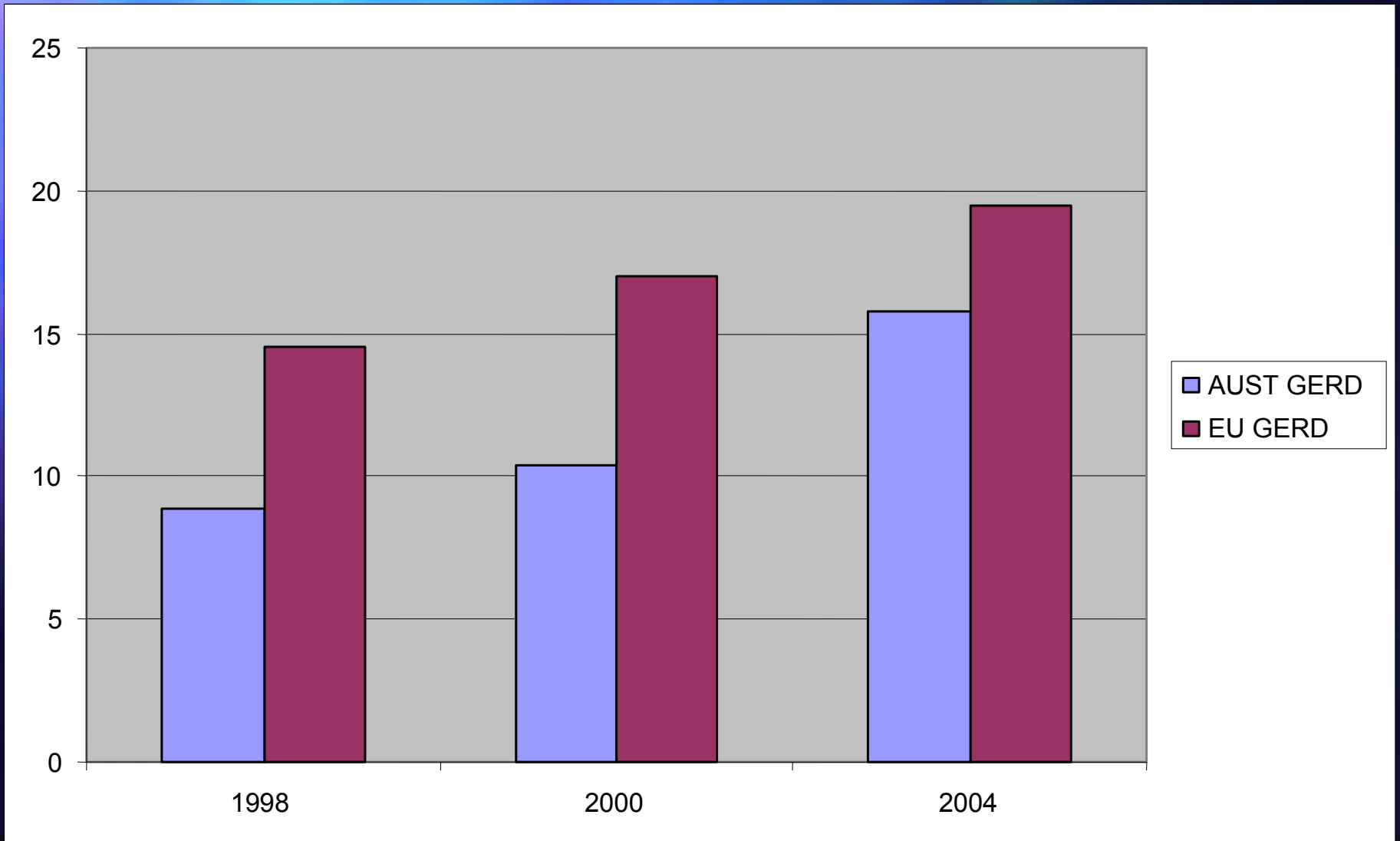
# Historic Events in Australian-EU S&T Relations

- **1994** - Australia signs **first** S&T Cooperation Agreement with EU (as a non-EU industrialised country)
- **2001** - FEAST established as an Aust-EU funded body to promote S&T cooperation – **another first**
- **2001** - FEAST1 – *'Enhancing Research through Collaboration and Linkages'*
- **2003** - FEAST Conference *'Networking for Excellence'*
- **2005** - FEAST model adopted by EU as role for promoting S&T cooperation – **another first**

# Australian Performance in EU Framework Programs



# Australian versus EU-25 R&D Investment



# Australian International S&T Linkages

1. International support of A\$522m (4.5% GERD) in 2002-3
  - *by funding* 47% US, 27% EU-25, 8% Asia
  - *by number of partnerships* 38% EU, 23% US, 28% Asia
2. For Australian funds 34% EU, 25% US and 32% Asia
3. For ARC Linkage grants in 2002, 40% with overseas partner: EU – 45%, US – 29%
4. One-third of all publications involve international collaboration (1999)  
45% EU, 35% US and 7% Japan

# The Roles of FEAST

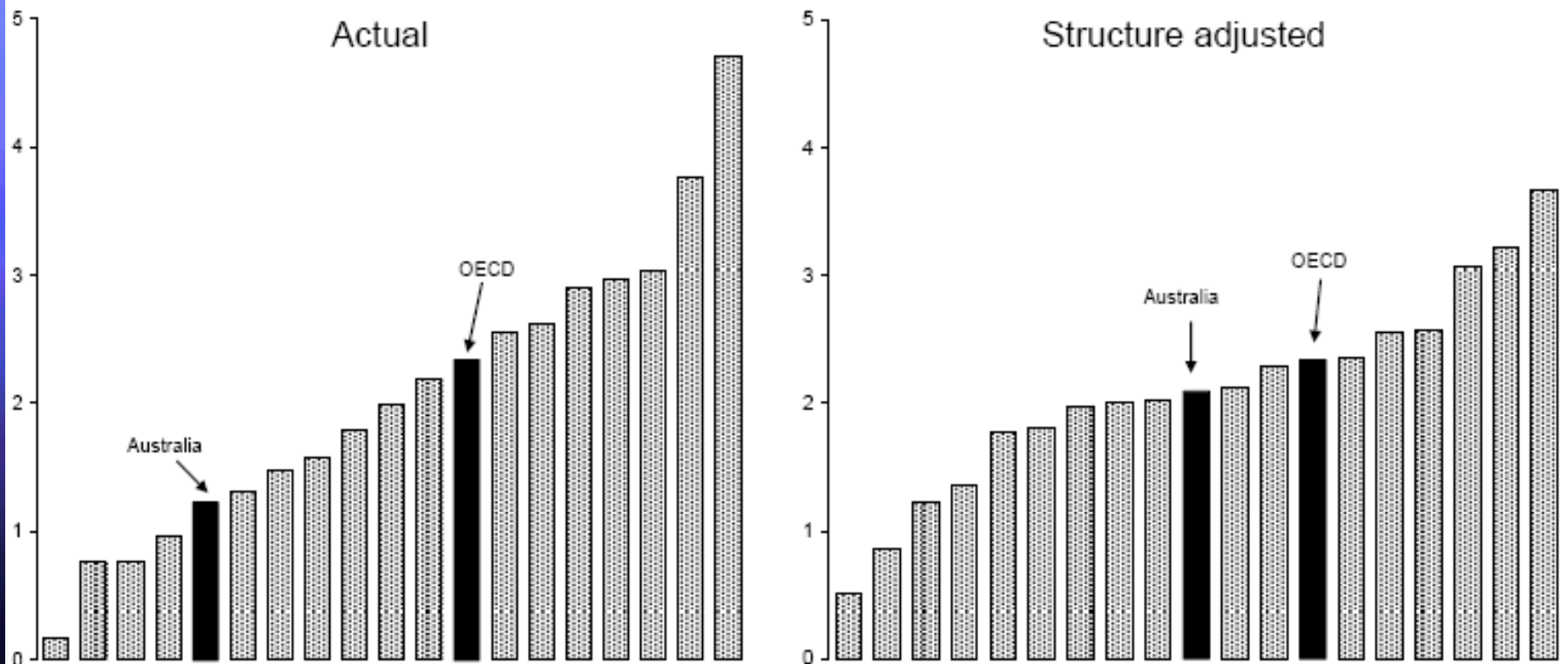
- Focal point – 4000 members, growing at 20% pa
- Website designed to assist researchers in establishing collaboration – 11,000 hits=900 individuals/day
- News information provider via Newsletter
- Broker/interpreter/assistant
- Thematic workshops
- Progenitor of FEAST-France (1160 members) and ARIA (550 members); new networks being formed
- Strong promoter of uptake of Marie Curie Fellowships
- Widespread support from the research community

# Key Structural Features in Australian S&T Landscape

1. Industry Structure
2. Knowledge versus R&D
3. Services-dominated BERD
4. Research-intensive labour force
5. Changing graduate composition
6. Crucial role of migration policy

# Australia - some key structural features - 1

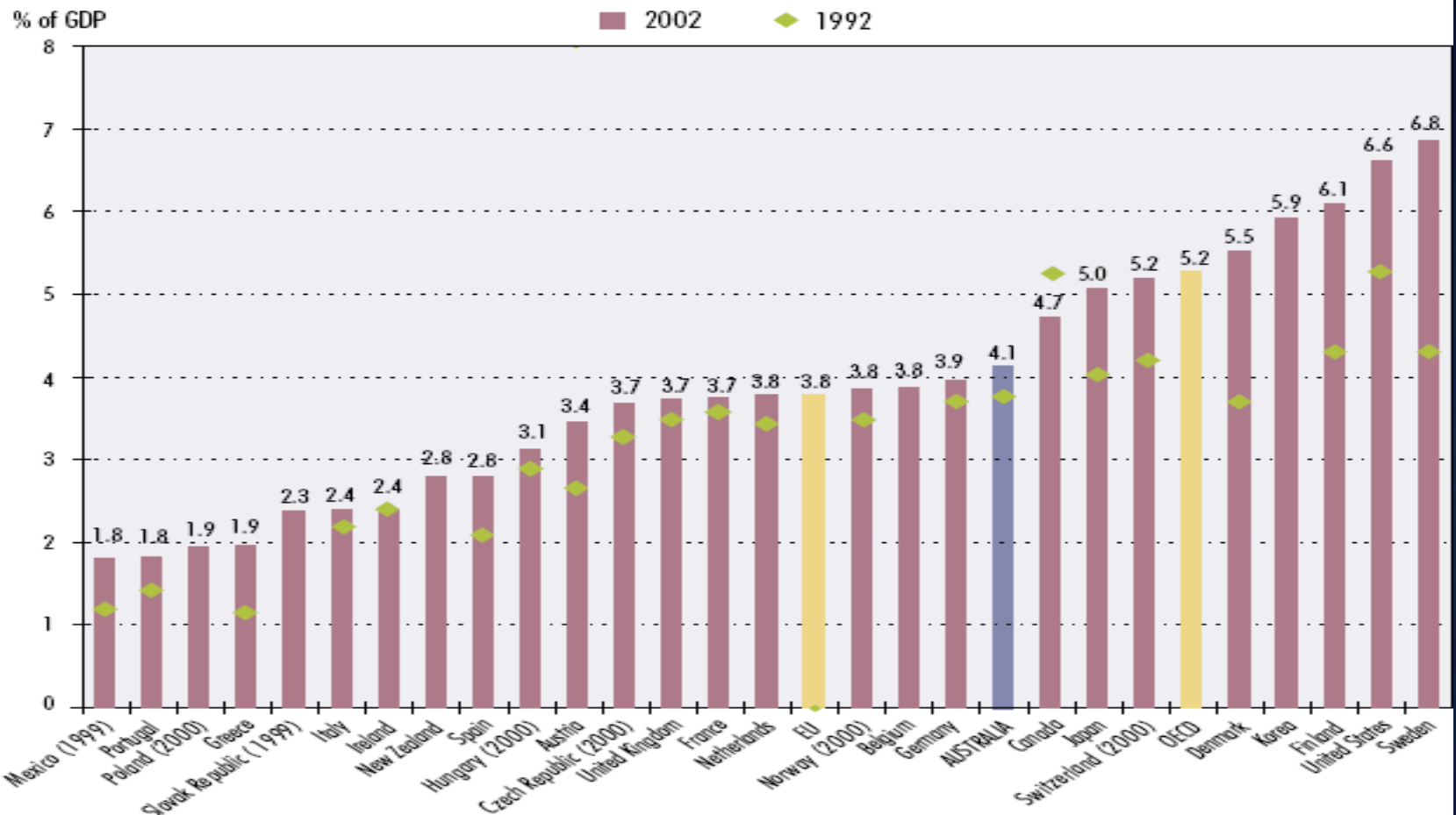
Figure 3 The R&D 'gap' narrows considerably once industry structure is taken into account  
BERD/value-added ratio (per cent), 2002<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup> The structure-adjusted estimates use the (OECD average) industry structure.

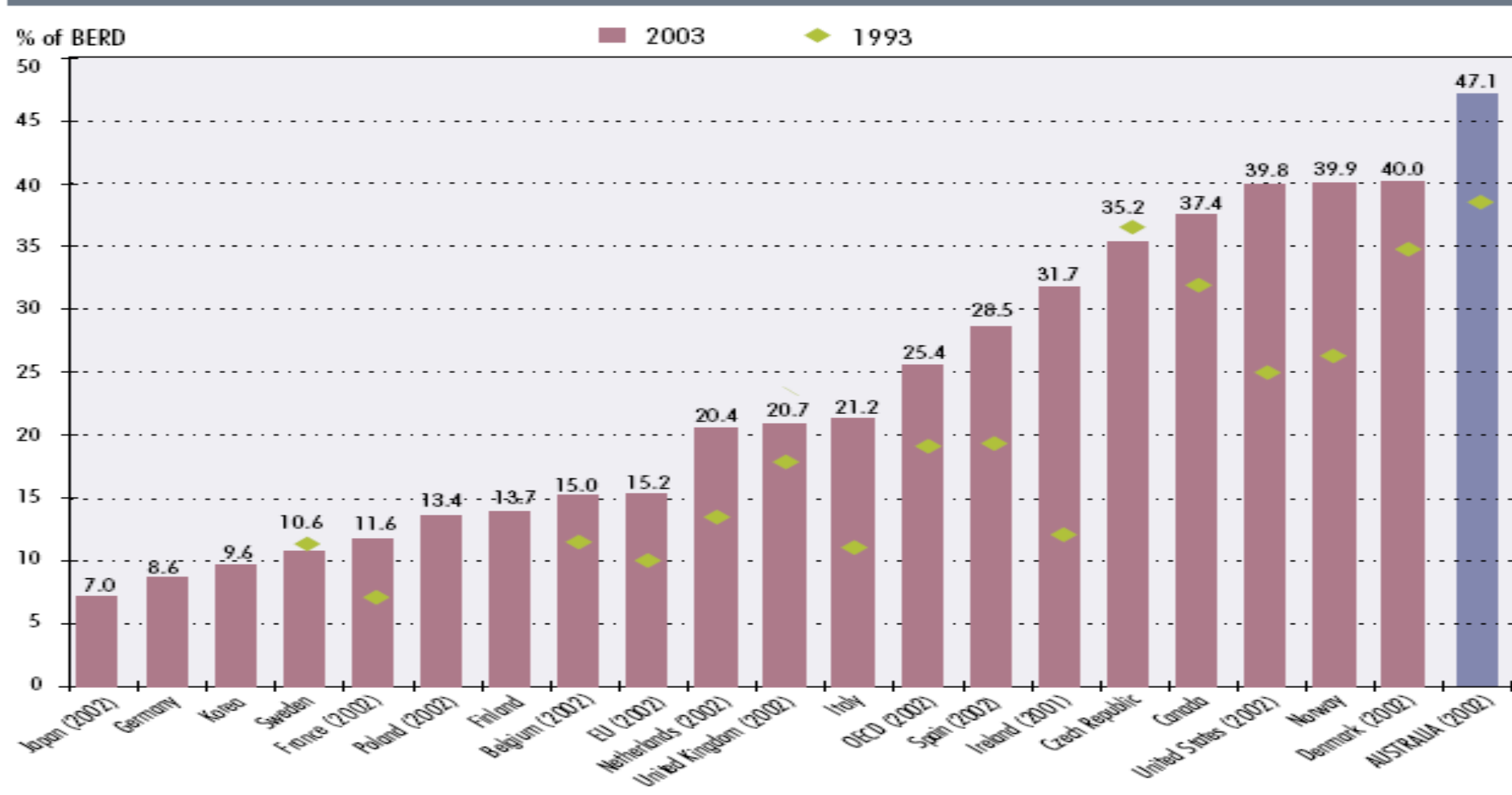
# Australia - some key structural features - 2

**Chart 1 Investment in knowledge as a percentage of GDP – by OECD country, 1992 and 2002**



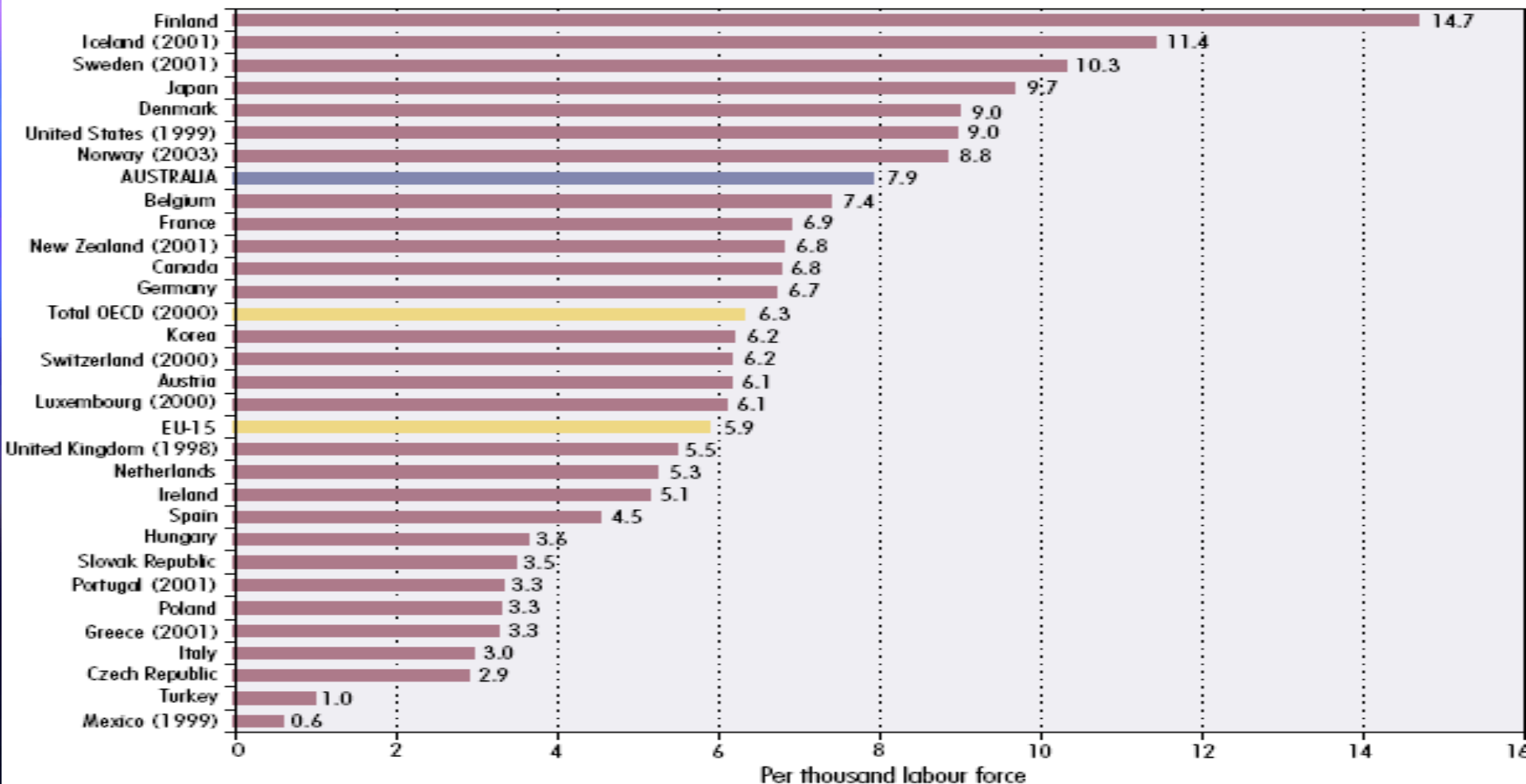
# Australia - some key structural features - 3

Chart 25 Share of services in BERD – by OECD country, 1993 and 2003



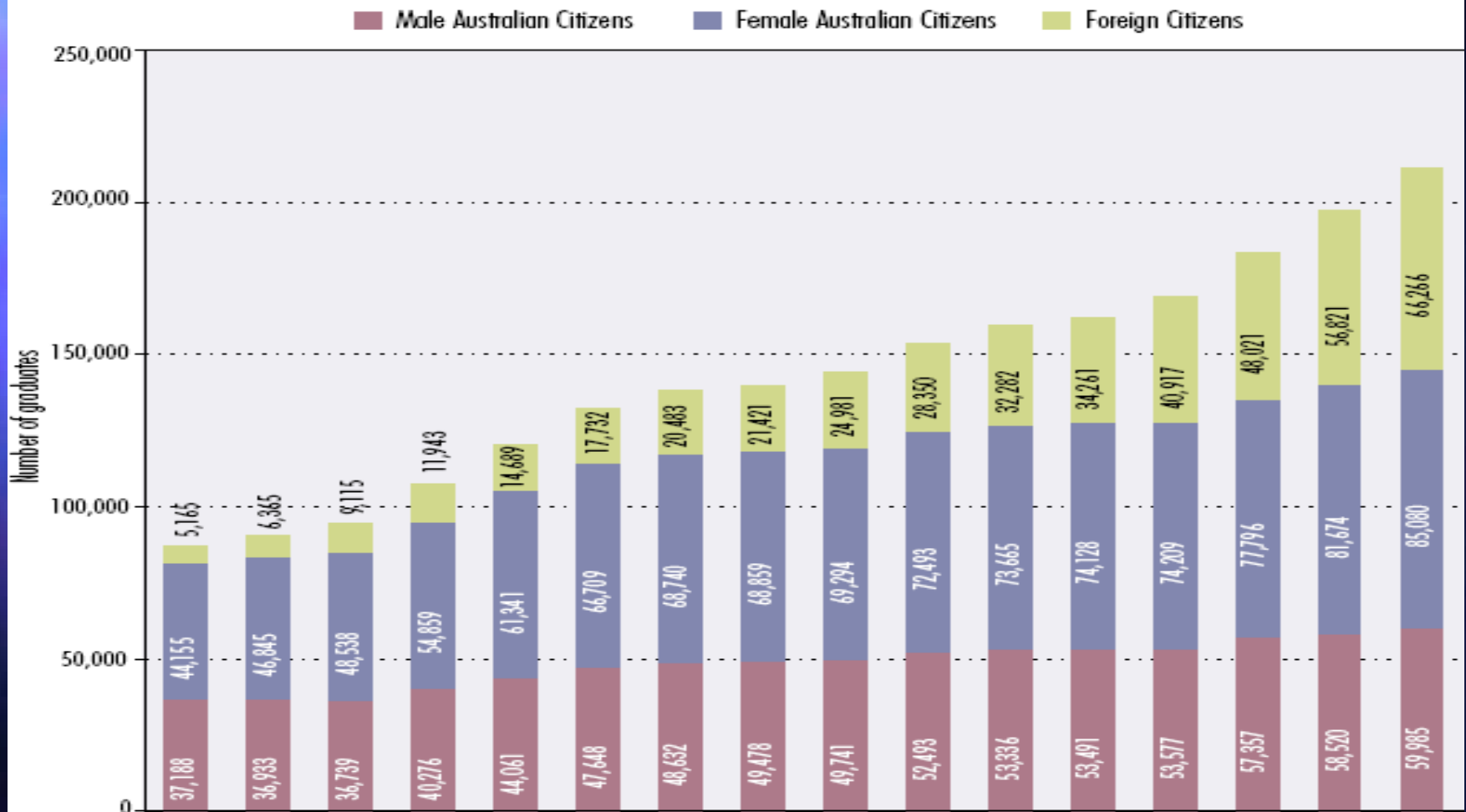
# Australia - some key structural features - 4

Chart 47 Total researchers per thousand labour force – by OECD country, 2002



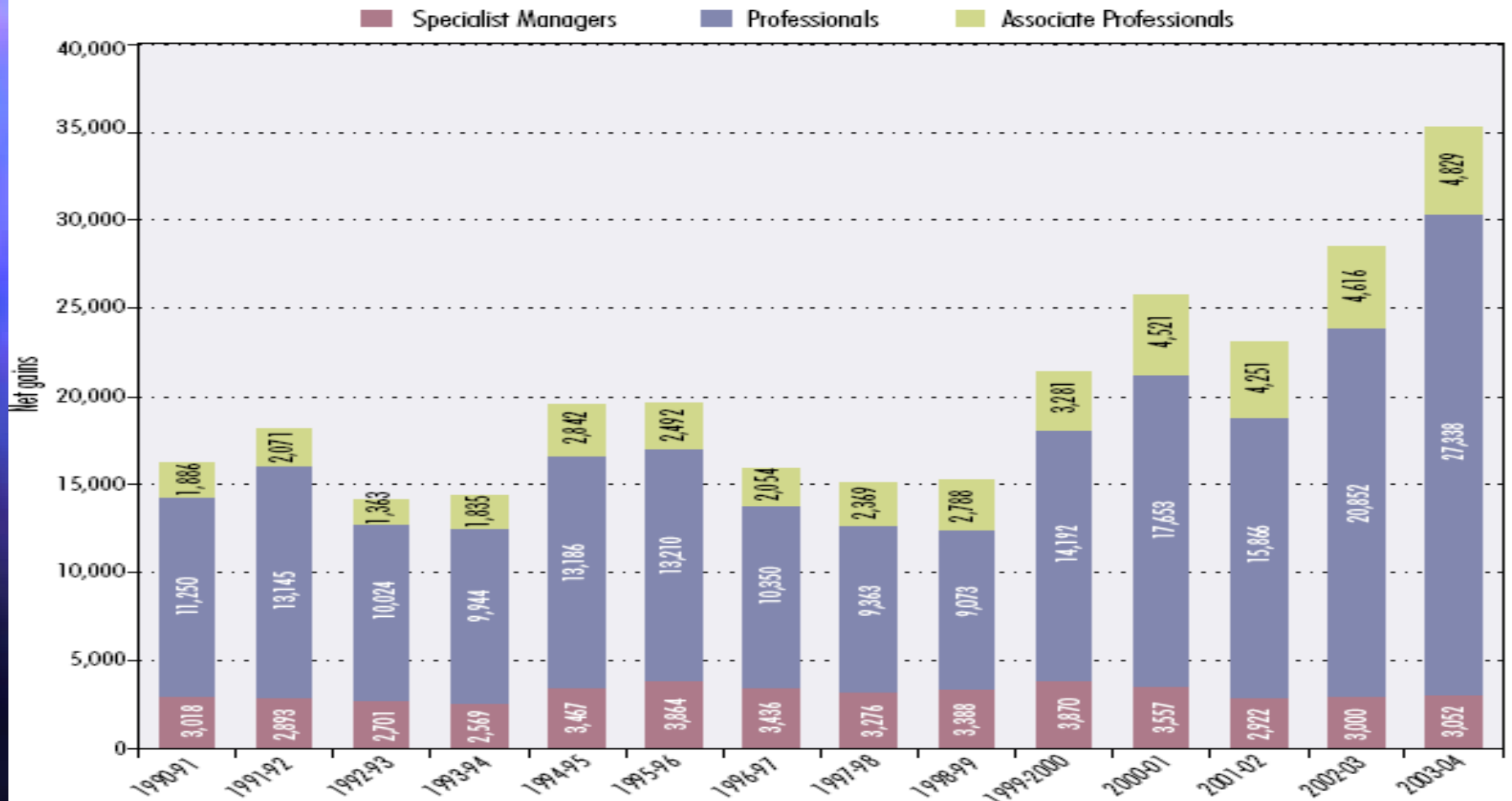
# Australia - some key structural features - 5

Chart 57 Tertiary graduates in Australia – by citizenship and gender, 1988 to 2003



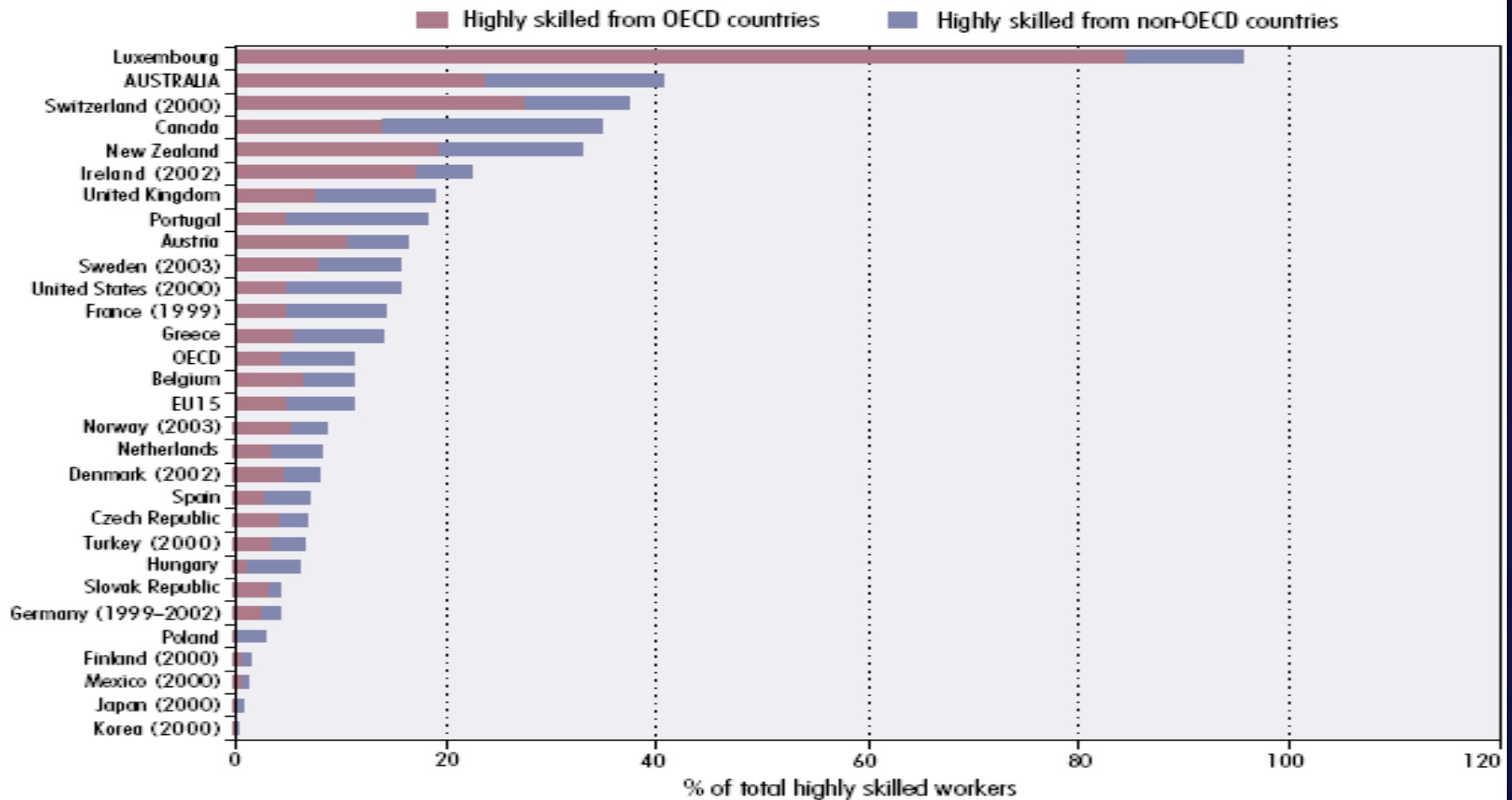
# Australia - some key structural features - 6

Chart 62 Australia's net gains in highly skilled workers through migration, 1990-91 to 2003-04

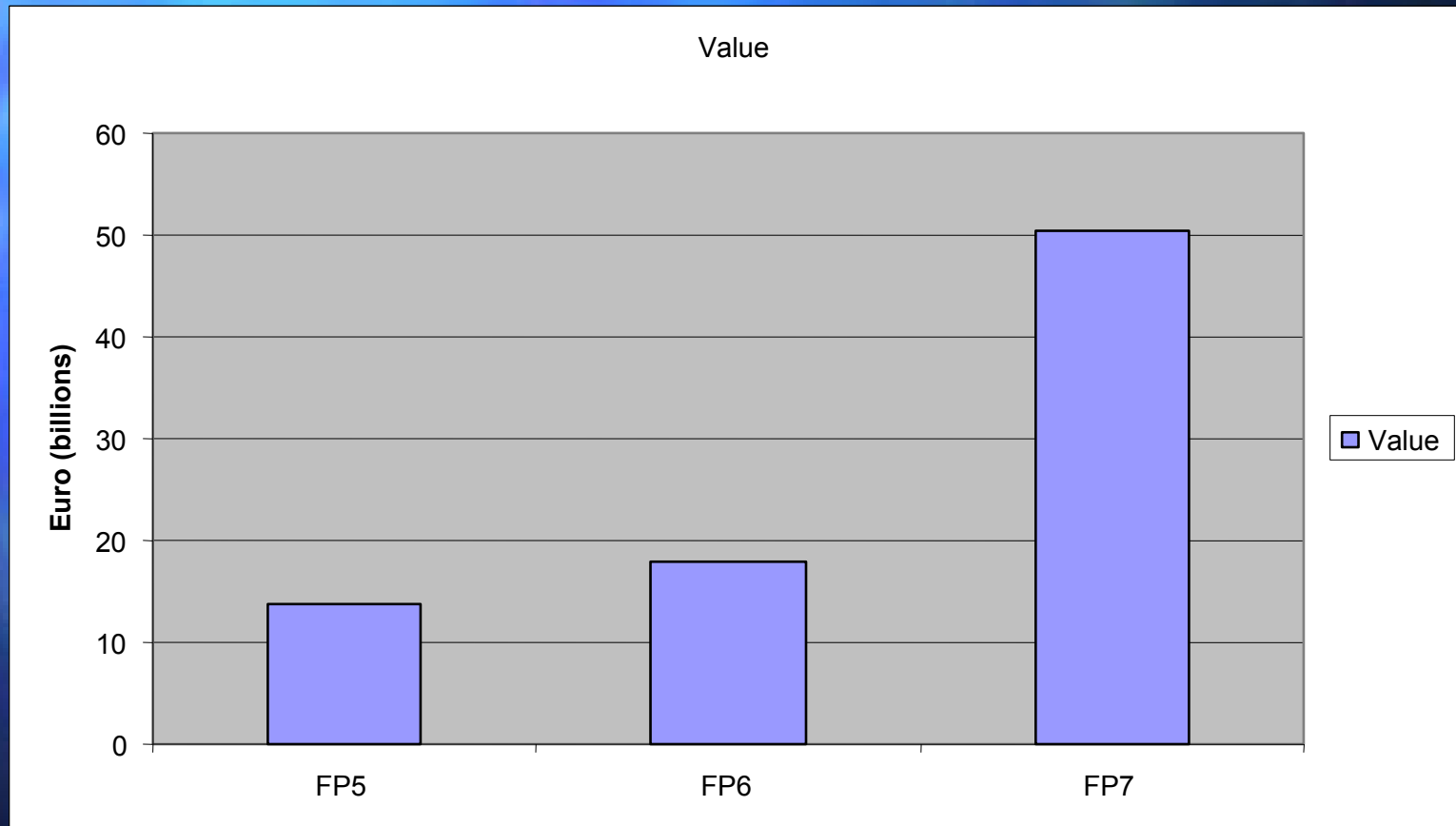


# Australia - some key structural features -7

**Chart 64 Highly skilled migrants as a percentage of total highly skilled workers – by OECD country, 2001**



# Key Developments in Europe – Funding for the Framework Programs



# Key Developments in Europe

- The drive to establish a European Research Area (ERA)
- Establishment of a European Research Council
- Establishment of a 'Competitiveness and Innovation' Framework Project (CIP)
- The proposal to establish a European Institute of Technology (EIT)

# So, How Far Have We Come?

- A long way
- But we have much further to go
- And to search for the right answers is why we are here