

Accounting for the social context in the effects of social networks, social support, and loneliness on the health and quality of life of older people: NZLSA 2010 results.

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The New Zealand Longitudinal Study of Ageing: Findings and Policy Implications
Chair: Associate Professor Judith Davey
Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University of Wellington.
Thursday June 28, 2012

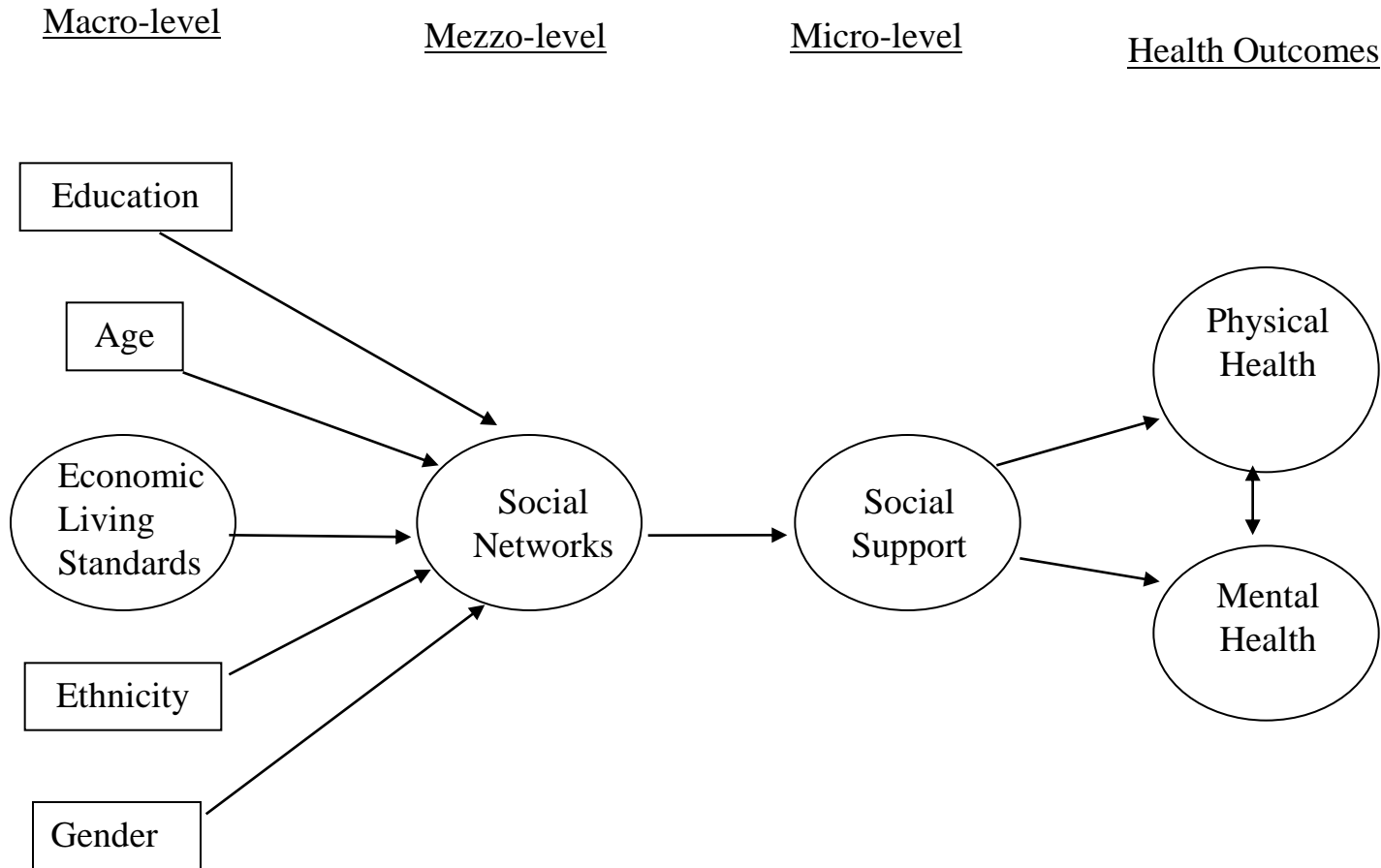
Social Connections and Health



Chess was one of the "sports" played at the Elder Peoples' Olympics held in Soko Banja, a spa town in Serbia.



Berkman et al. Model



Health Work and Retirement 2006

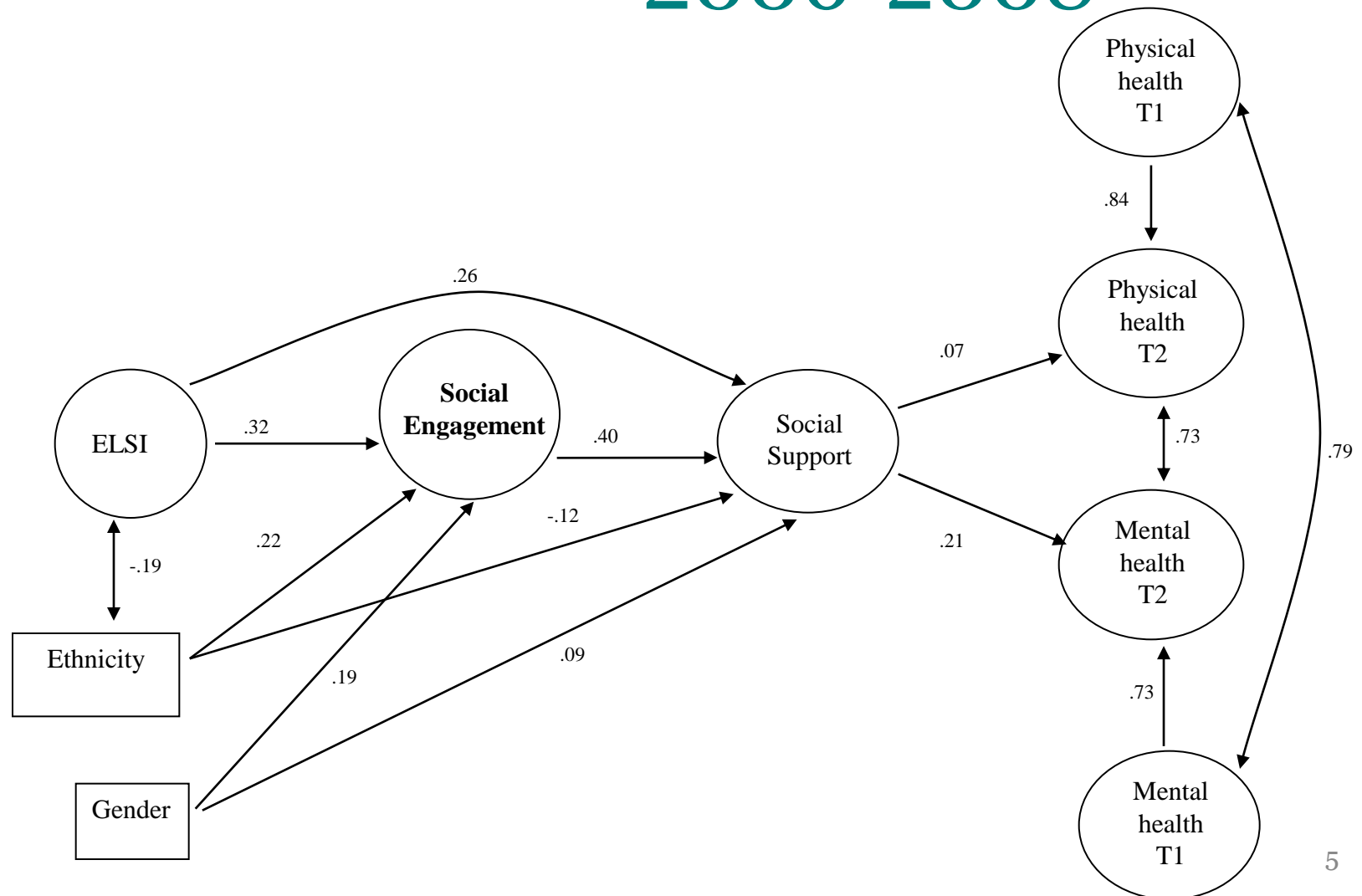
▶ Social Support (DV)

- ▶ Age
- ▶ Gender
- ▶ ELSI
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Family Network x
- ▶ Integrated Network
- ▶ Self-Cont. Network
- ▶ Private Network
- ▶ Wider Network

▶ Physical and Mental Health (DV)

- ▶ Loneliness*
- ▶ Social Support

Health Work and Retirement 2006-2008



NZLSA measures 2010

Physical and Mental health: SF12v2.
(QualityMetric)

Quality of Life:
CASP-12 (Wiggins et al., 2008)
WHOQoL-8

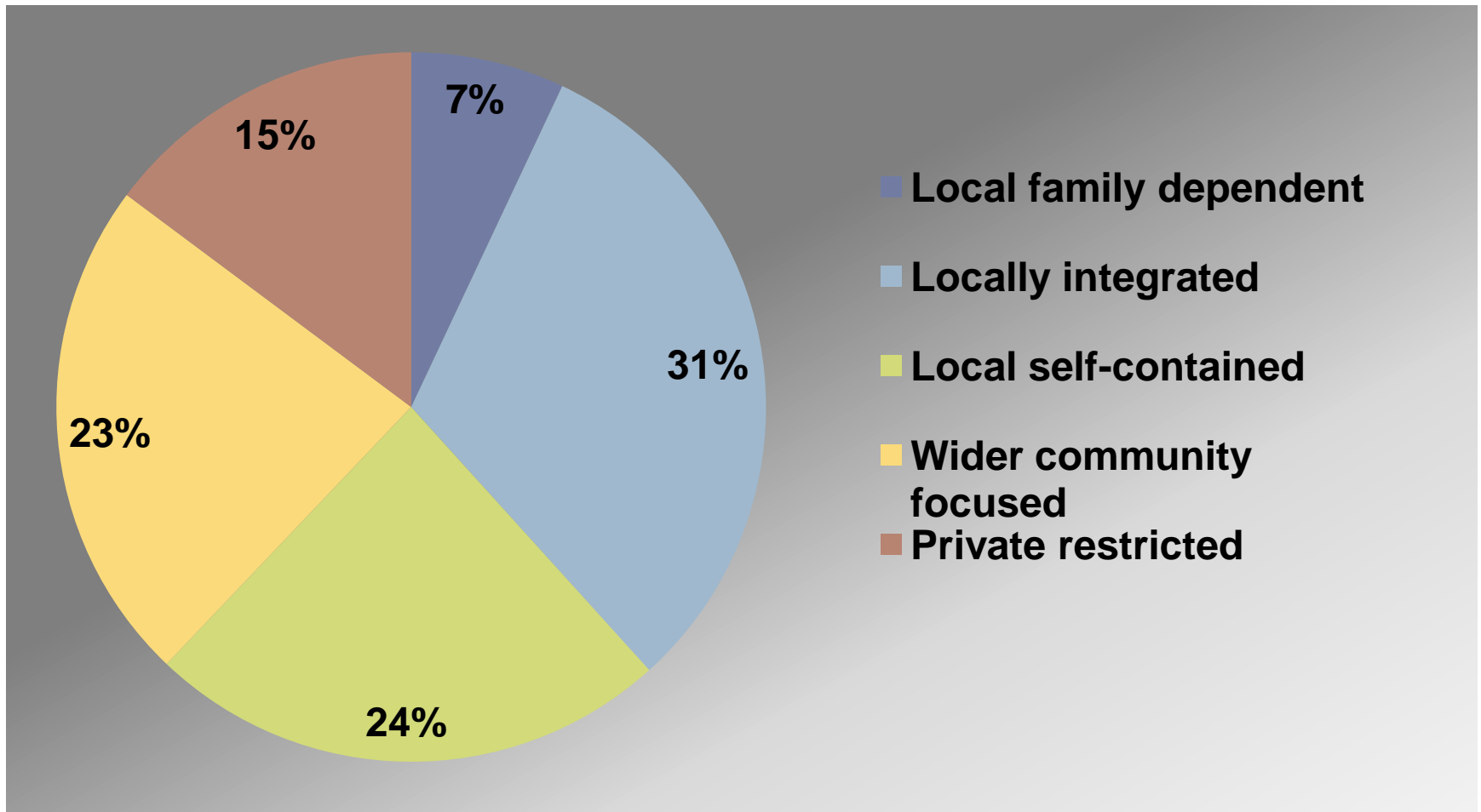
Social Support: Social Provisions Scale (Cutrona & Russell, 1987).

Social Networks: Wenger Network Assessment
Instrument

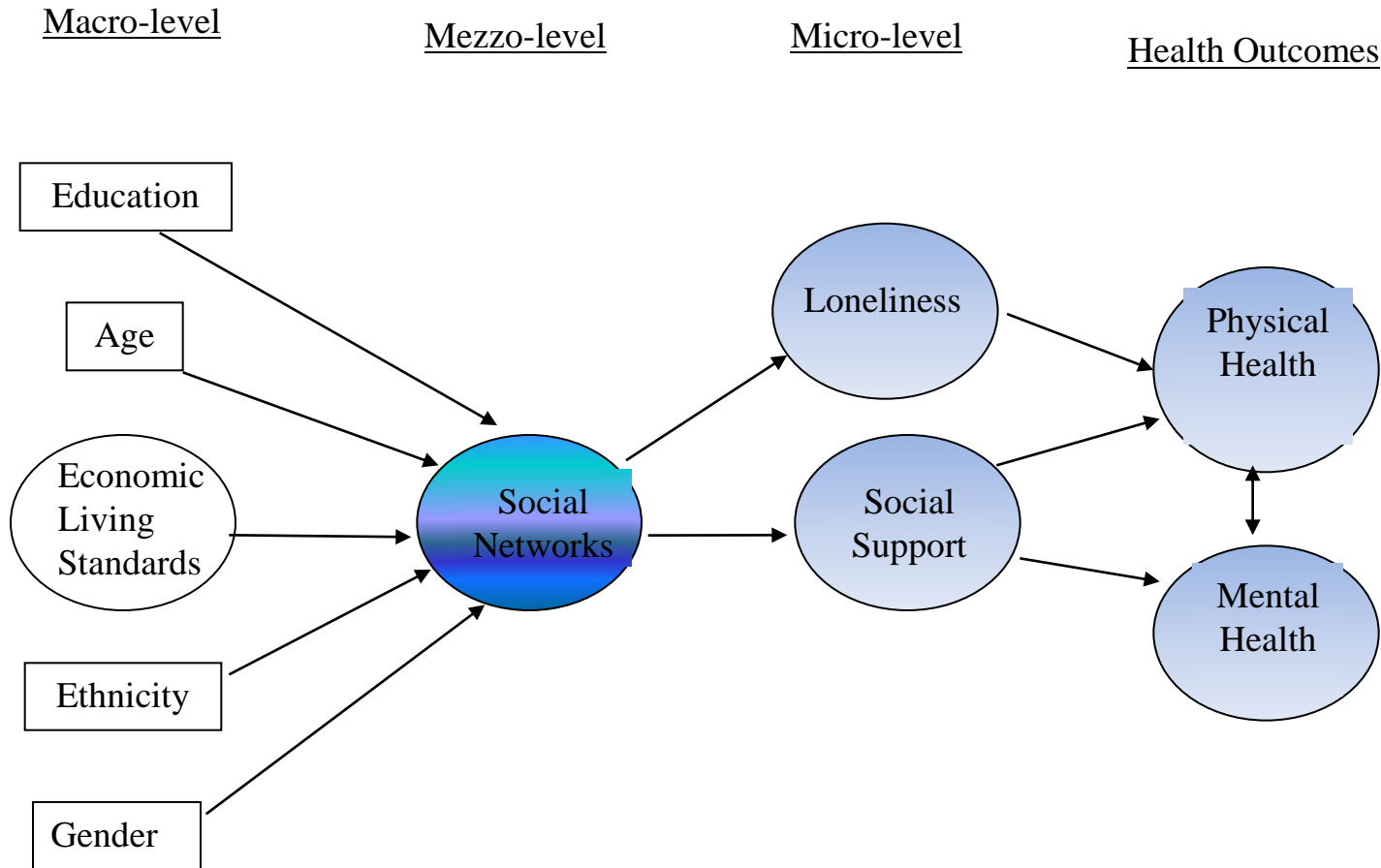
Loneliness: De Jong Gierveld Loneliness Scale (de Jong Gierveld et al., 2009).

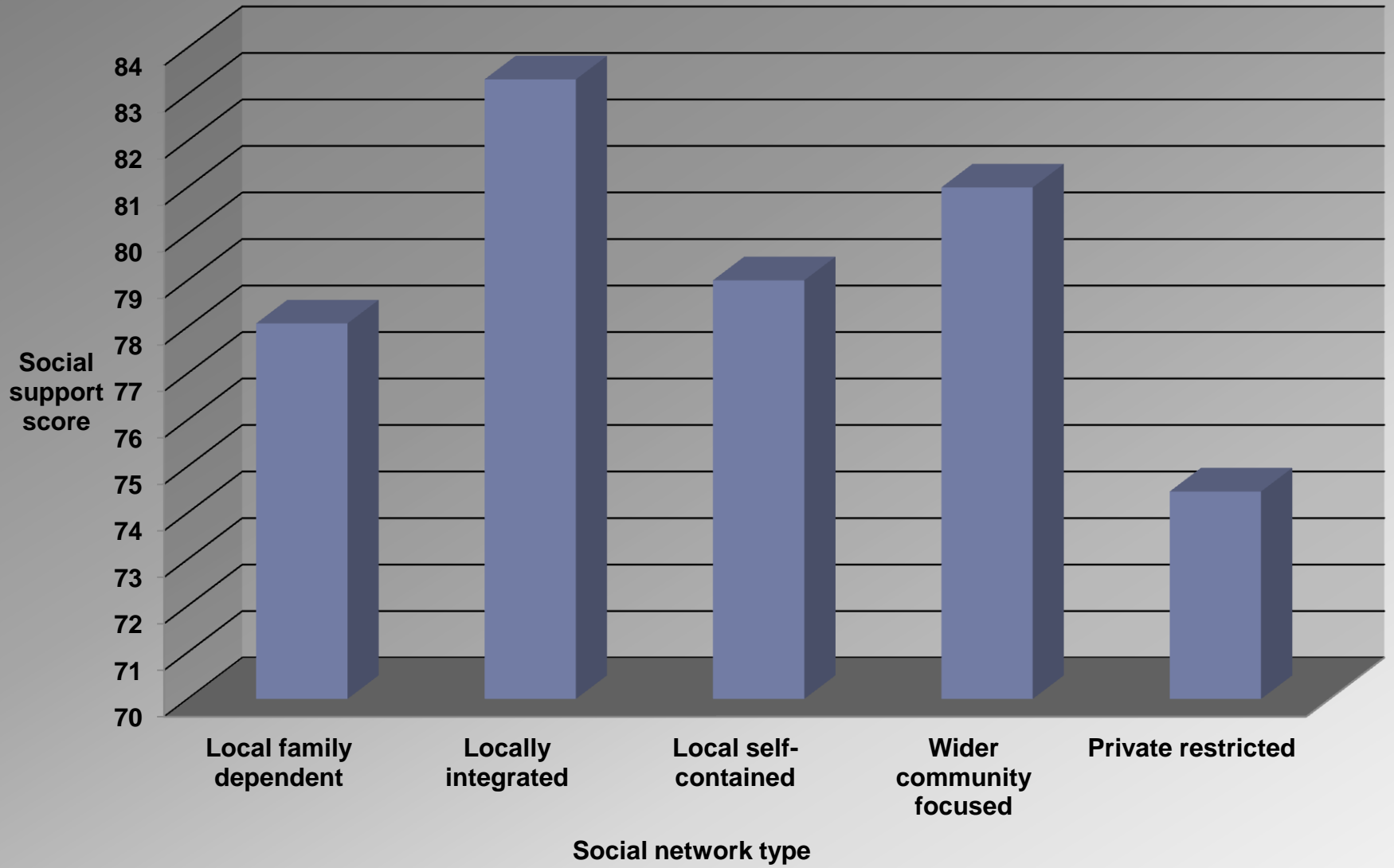
Living Standards: Economic Living Standards
Index – Short Form (2008).

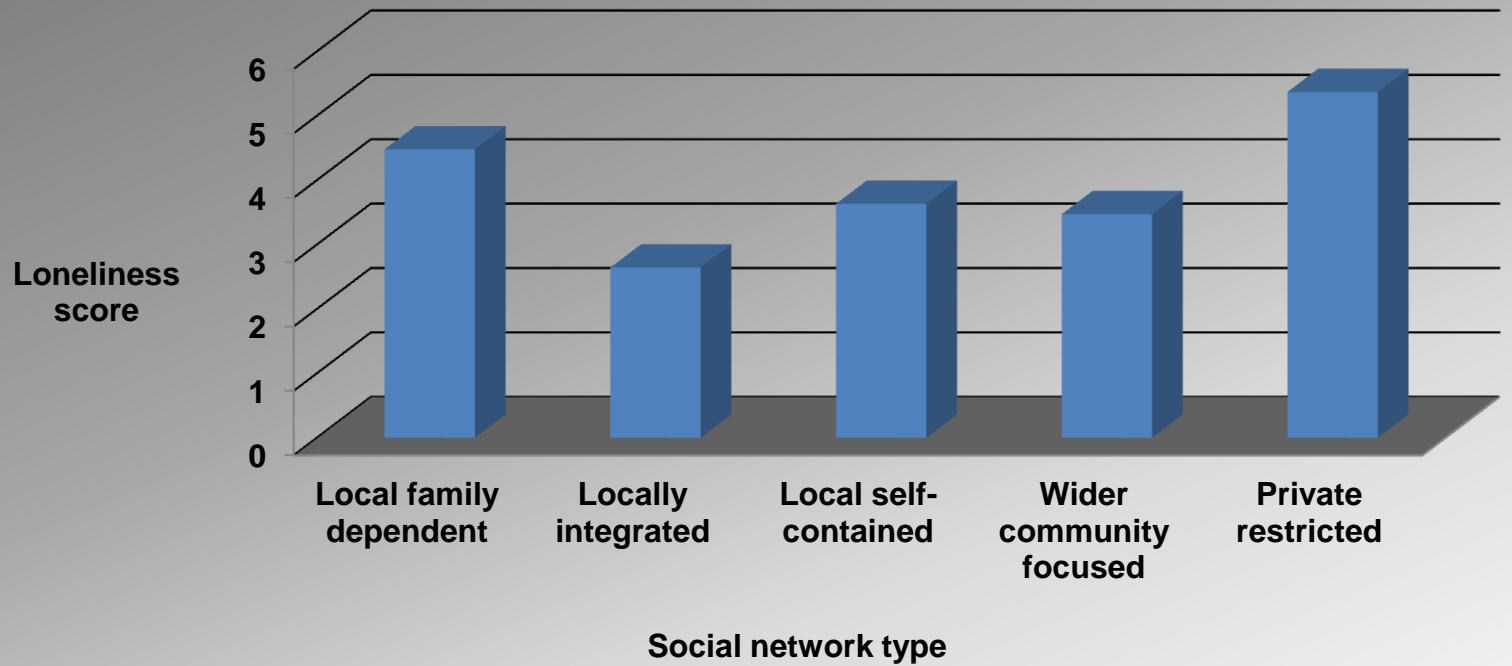
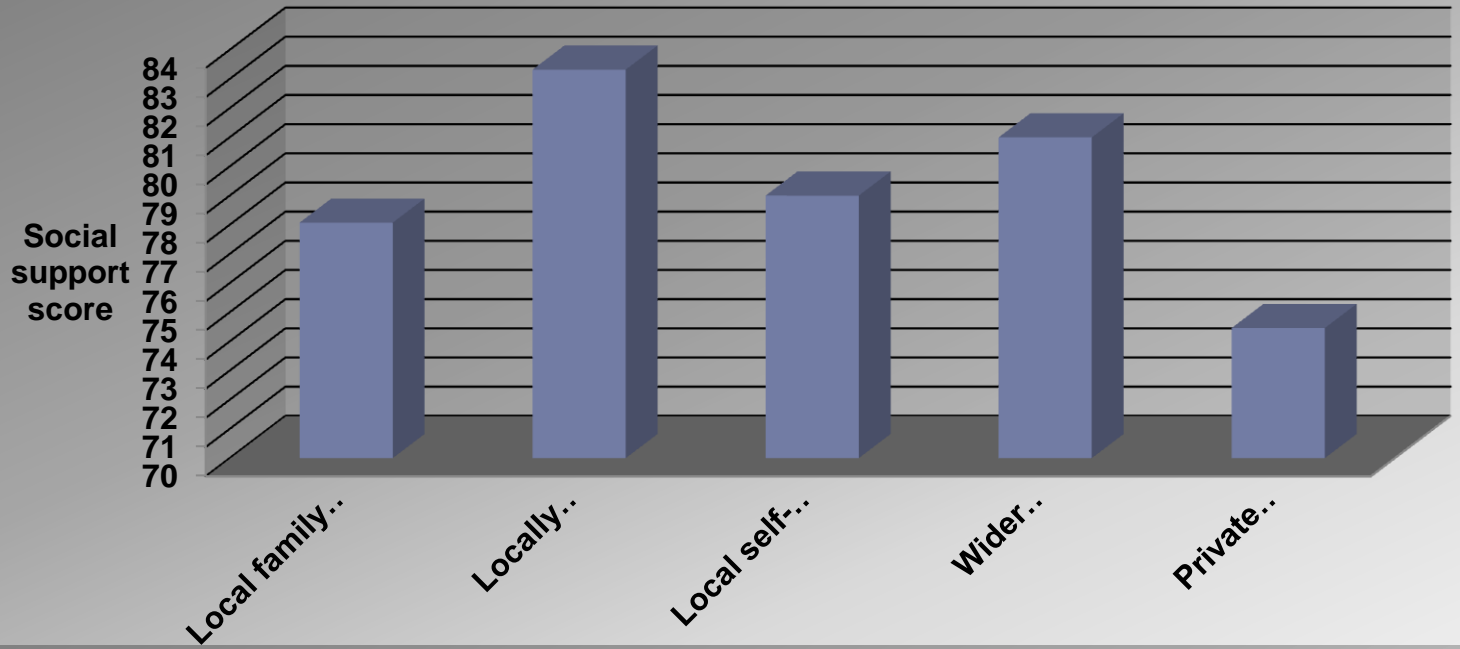
Social Network Categories



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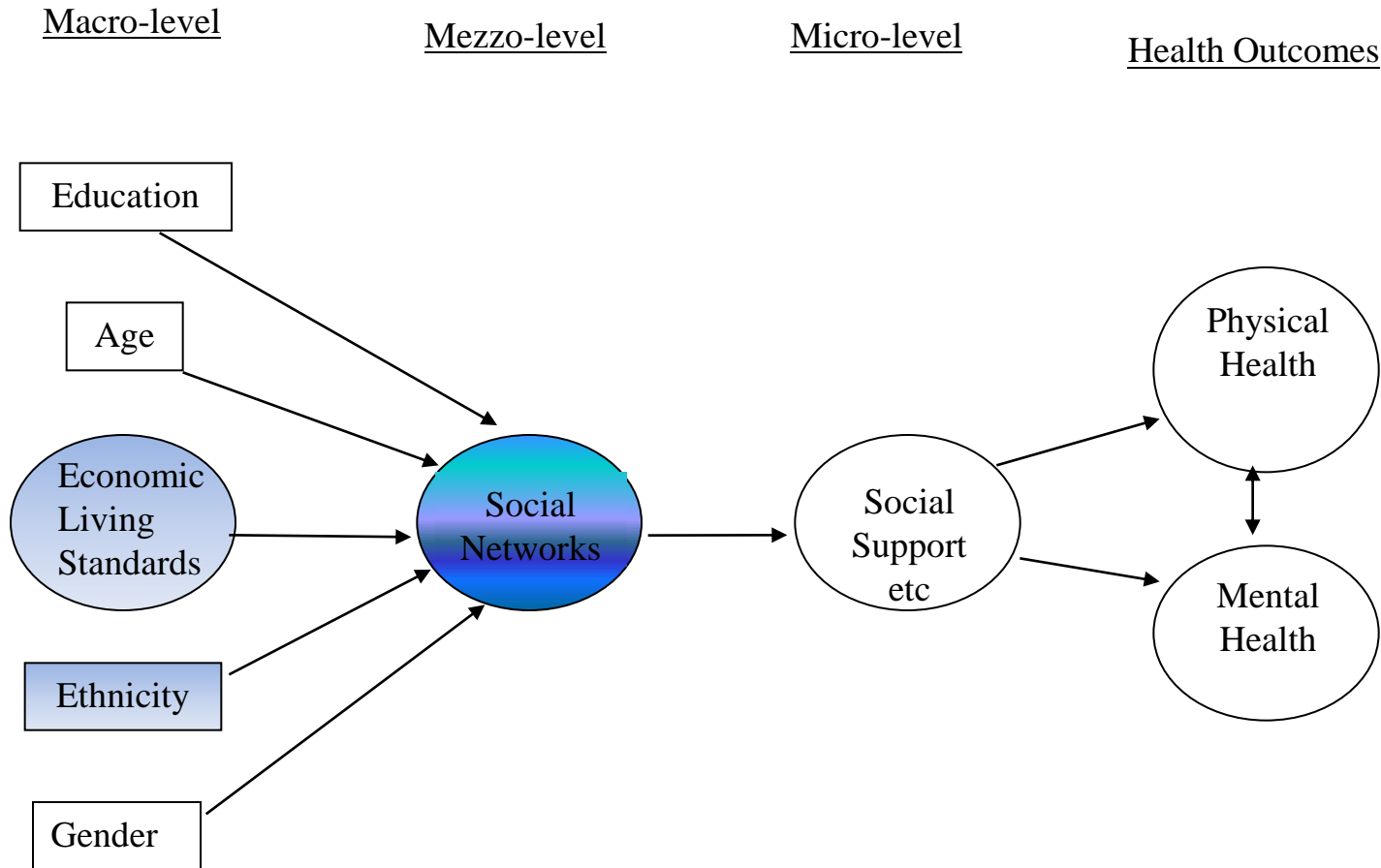


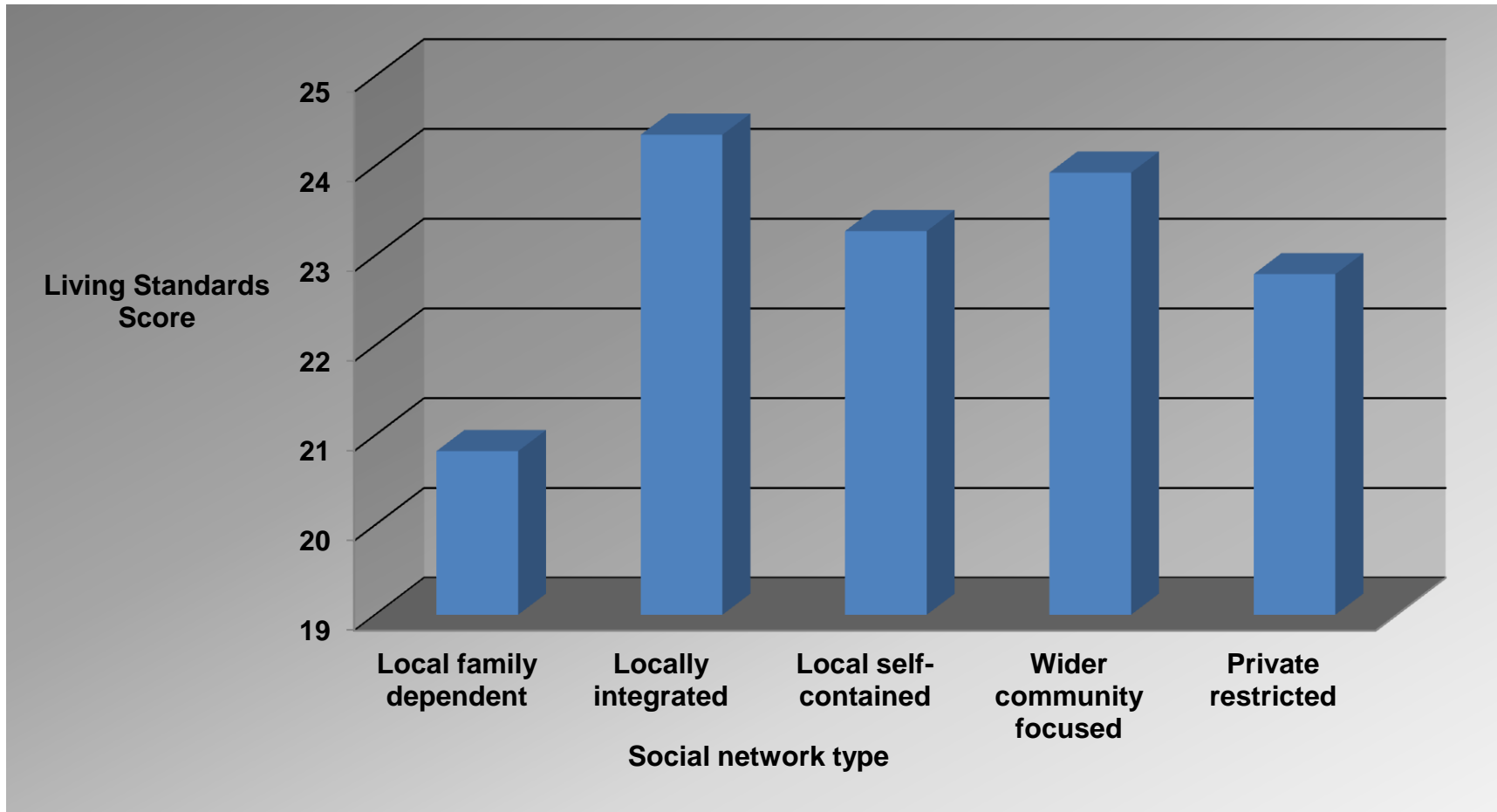
Correlations with downstream outcomes

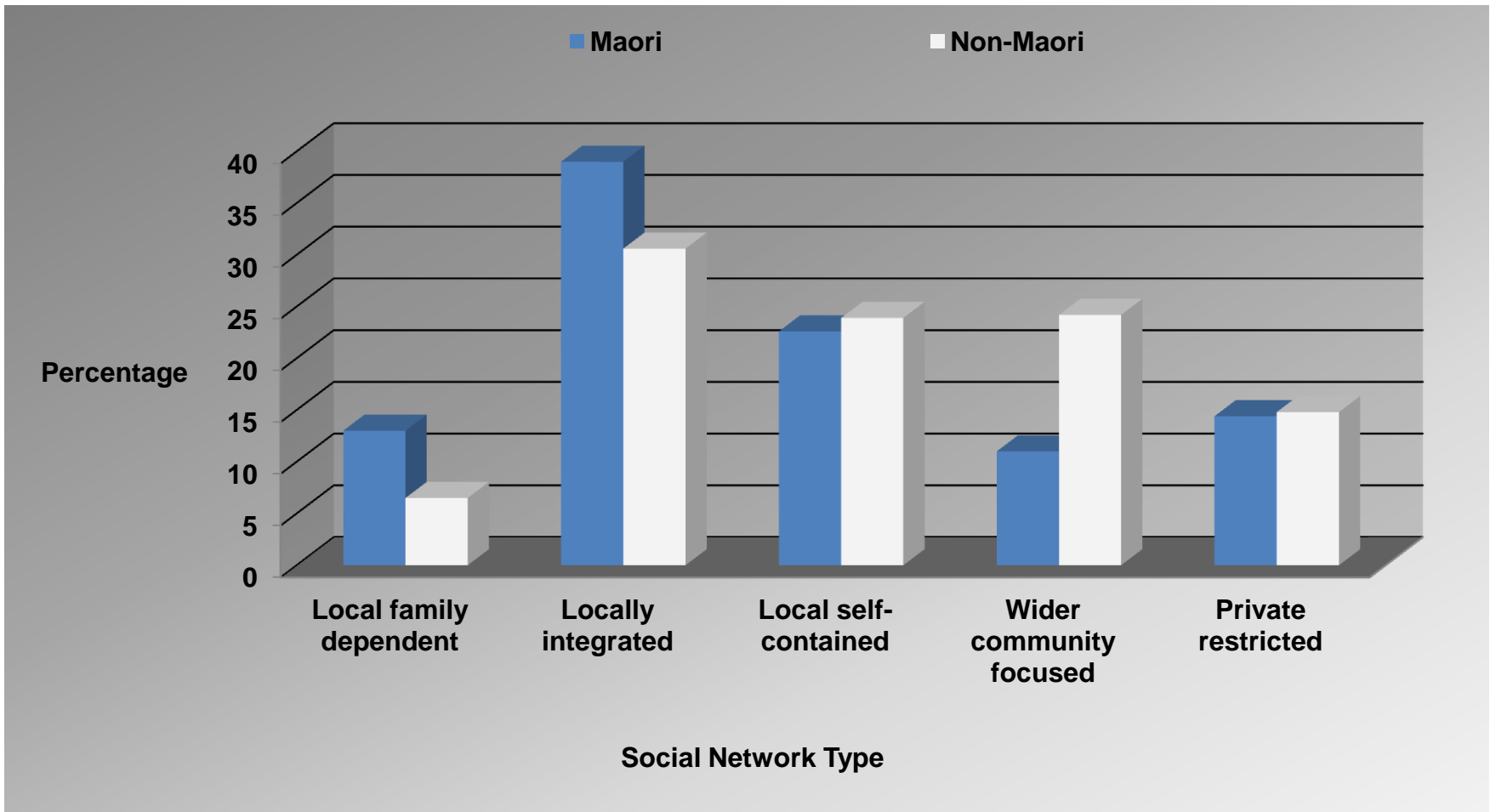
	SF12 Physical Health	SF12 Mental Health	QoL
Social Support	.22*	.32*	.50*
Loneliness	-.11*	-.39*	-.54*

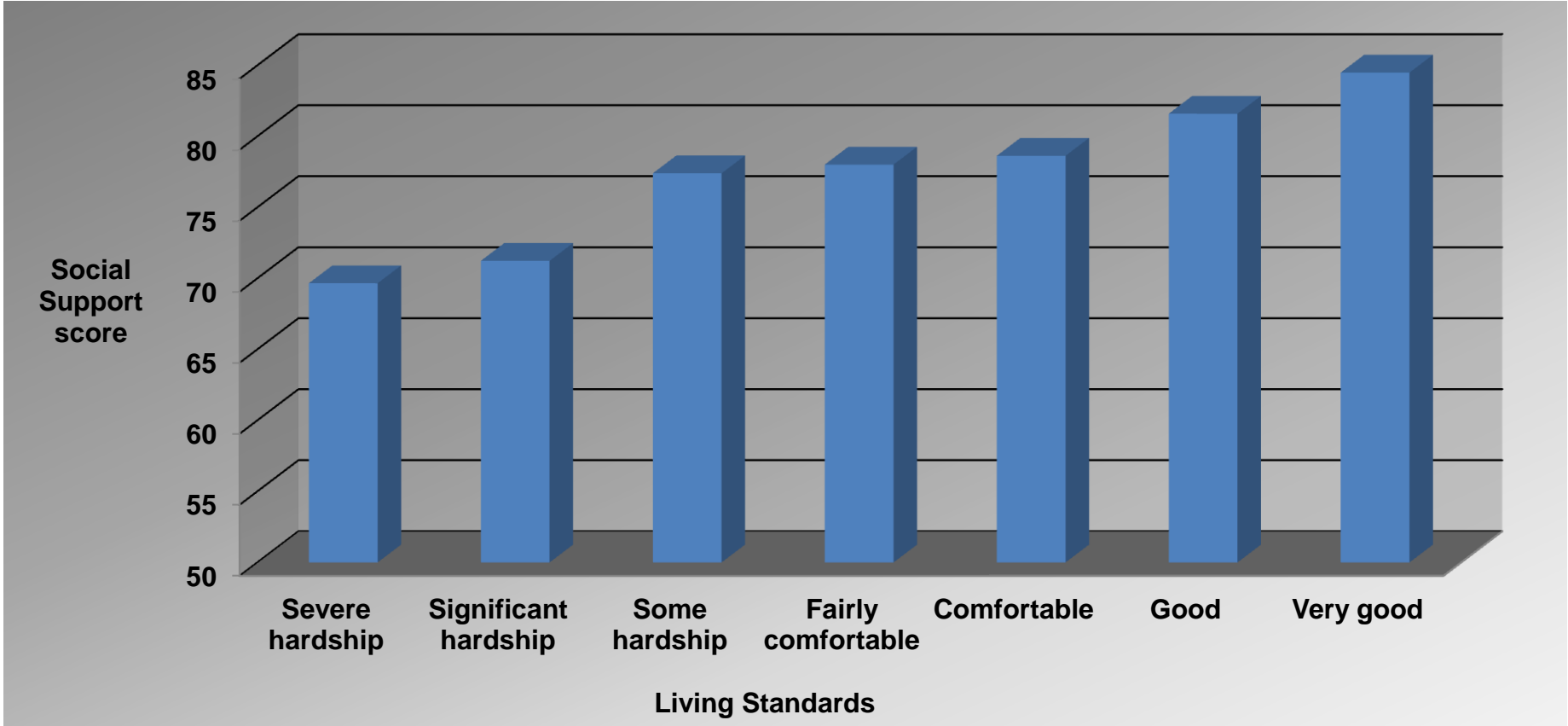
* $p < .001$

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Implications

- Social support and health.
- The effects of socio-economic status and other broader social factors are important.
- Social networks help to explain the provision of social support.
- The example of Housing.



References

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