

# The quantitative effects of selected risk factors on diabetes mellitus type 2: assessments according to age and sex

Elena von der Lippe



# Background

- About 12% of the population in Germany has diagnosed diabetes
- Constant increase in the last years, more than 500 000 people get newly diagnosed each year
- Sharp increase with age: prevalence of 1,5% in age groups 30-39 y:  
9,8 % in age groups 50-59 y  
33,1 % in ages 80 + years



# Background

- The attributable burden of disease describes the **proportion** of the disease burden of a condition that is due to a previous exposure to a risk factor.
- Many of the prevalent disease cases are attributable to **preventable** risk factors
- Estimating of risk attribution provides information on potential health gains from reducing certain risk factors

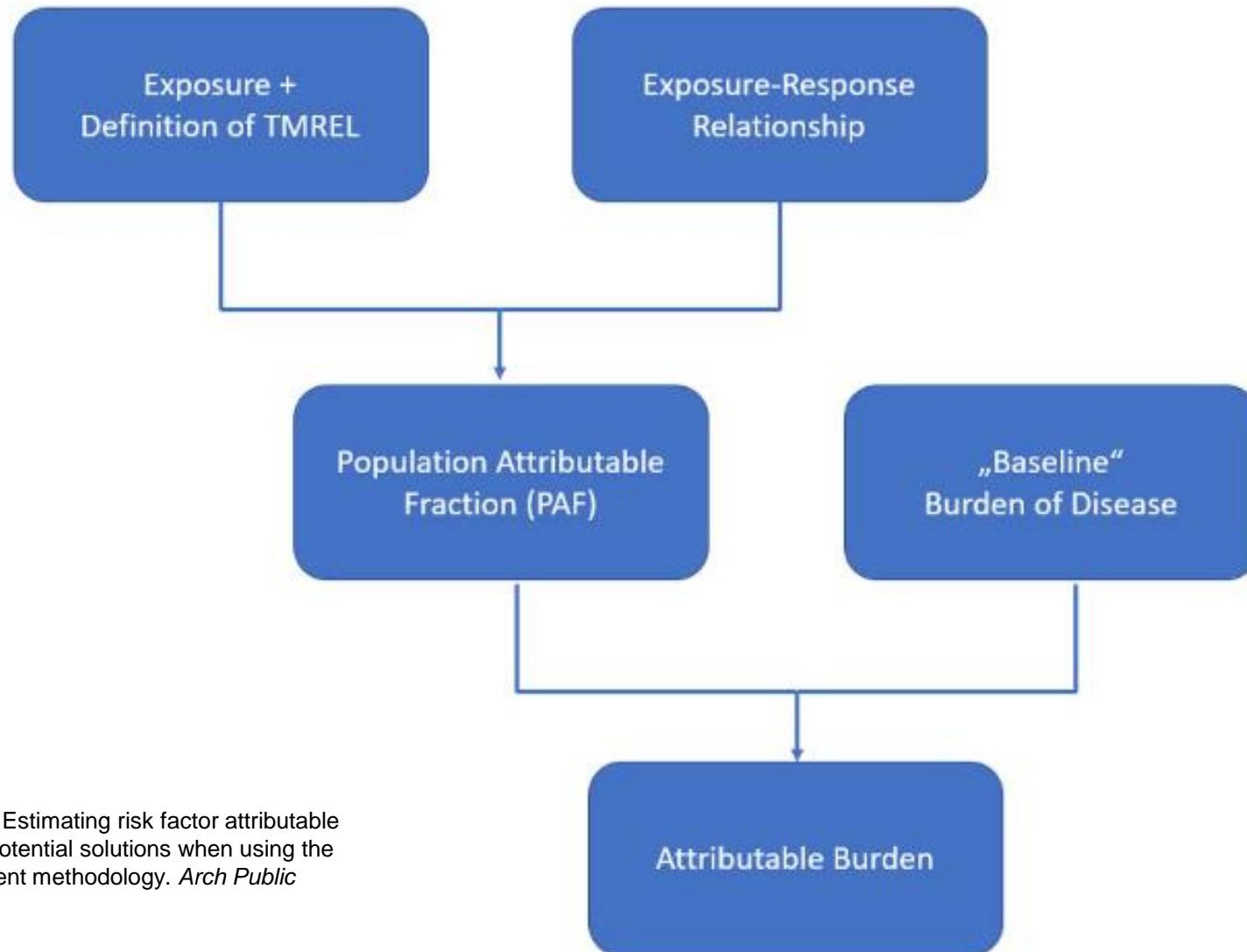


## Aims of the study

- To quantify the association between a set of risk factors and the burden of diabetes type 2
- Burden of diabetes is measured as YLL, YLD and DALY due to diabetes type 2
- Risk factors included: smoking, high body-mass index (BMI), diet low in fruits, risk alcohol consumption, low physical activity, high fasting plasma glucose and ambient particulate matter pollution



# Riskattribution



Source: Plass et al. 2022. Estimating risk factor attributable burden – challenges and potential solutions when using the comparative risk assessment methodology. *Arch Public health* 80, 148

# Risk factors for diabetes in BURDEN 2020

Risk factors	Data source
BEHAVIORAL RISKS	
Smoking	GEDA – gepoolt
Alcohol use	DEGS
Diet low in fruits	DEGS
METABOLIC RISKS	
High BMI	GEDA – gepoolt
High fasting plasma glucose	DEGS
ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS	
Ambient particulate matter pollution	UBA



# Smoking PAF estimation

## Population attributable fraction (PAF)

As in GBD 2017, we estimated PAFs based on the following equation:

$$PAF = \frac{p(n) + p(f) \int \exp(x) * rr(x) + p(c) \int \exp(y) * rr(y) - 1}{p(n) + p(f) \int \exp(x) * rr(x) + p(c) \int \exp(y) * rr(y)}$$

where  $p(n)$  is the prevalence of never smokers,  $p(f)$  is the prevalence of former smokers,  $p(c)$  is the prevalence of current smokers,  $\exp(x)$  is a distribution of years since quitting among former smokers,  $rr(x)$  is the relative risk for years since quitting,  $\exp(y)$  is a distribution of cigarettes per smoker per day or pack-years, and  $rr(y)$  is the relative risk for cigarettes per smoker per day or pack-years.

We used pack-years as the exposure definition for cancers and chronic respiratory diseases, and cigarettes per smoker per day for cardiovascular diseases and all other health outcomes.



# Combined PAF estimation

$$PAF_{combi} = 1 - \prod_i (1 - PAF_i)$$

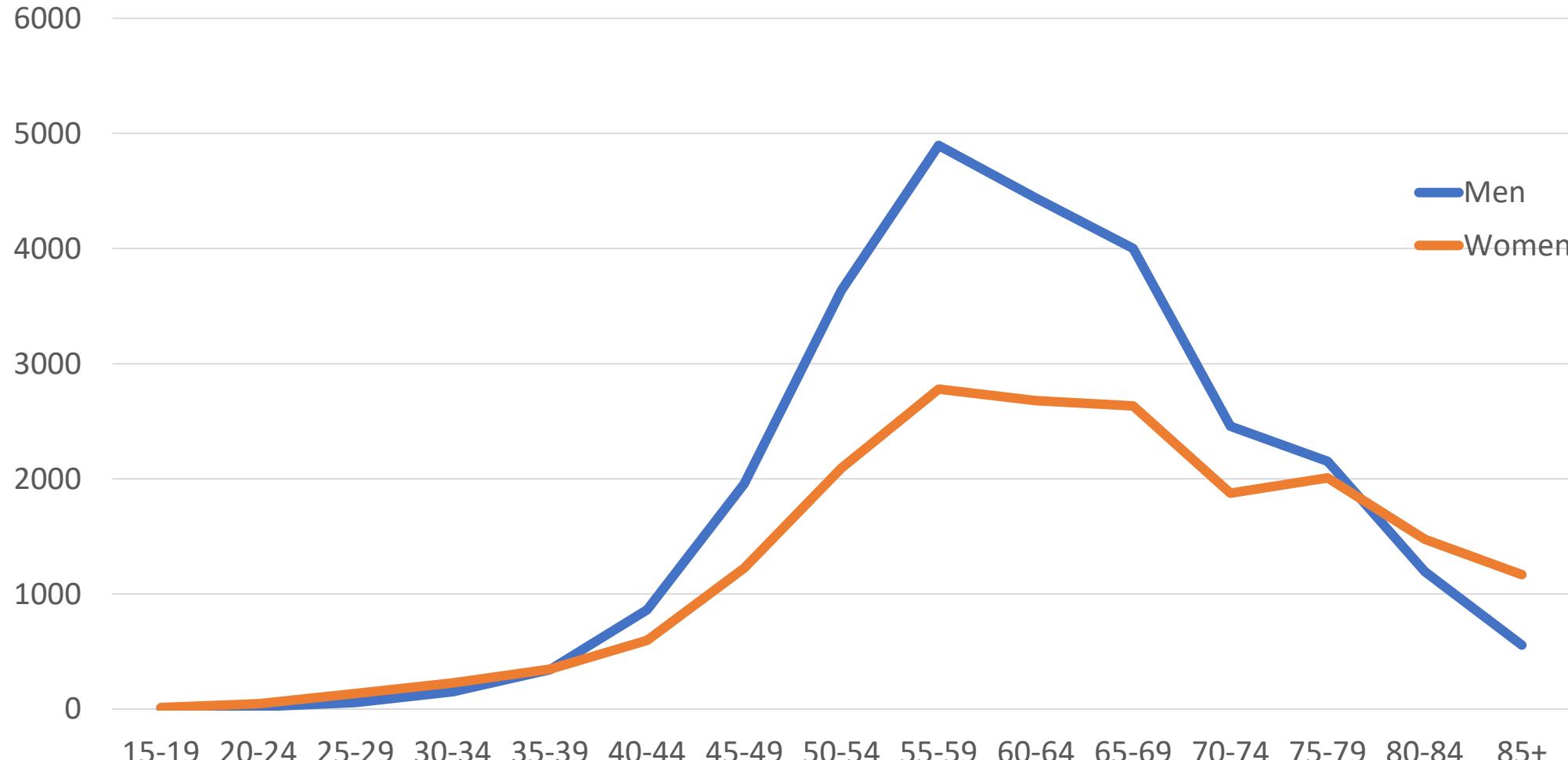


# PAFs (both sexes)

	smoking	risk alcohol consumption	BMI	low fruit comsumption
15-19 y	0,094	0,000	0,339	0,062
20-24 y	0,125	0,001	0,436	0,060
25-29 y	0,150	0,004	0,545	0,064
30-34 y	0,148	0,003	0,598	0,054
35-39 y	0,144	0,001	0,613	0,054
40-44 y	0,152	0,002	0,597	0,048
45-49 y	0,157	0,002	0,580	0,037
50-54 y	0,141	0,004	0,578	0,033
55-59 y	0,136	0,003	0,568	0,026
60-64 y	0,094	0,002	0,542	0,019
65-69 y	0,072	0,004	0,489	0,017
70-74 y	0,047	0,004	0,456	0,013
75-79 y	0,031	0,002	0,406	0,011
<b>Total</b>	<b>0,118</b>	<b>0,003</b>	<b>0,511</b>	<b>0,046</b>

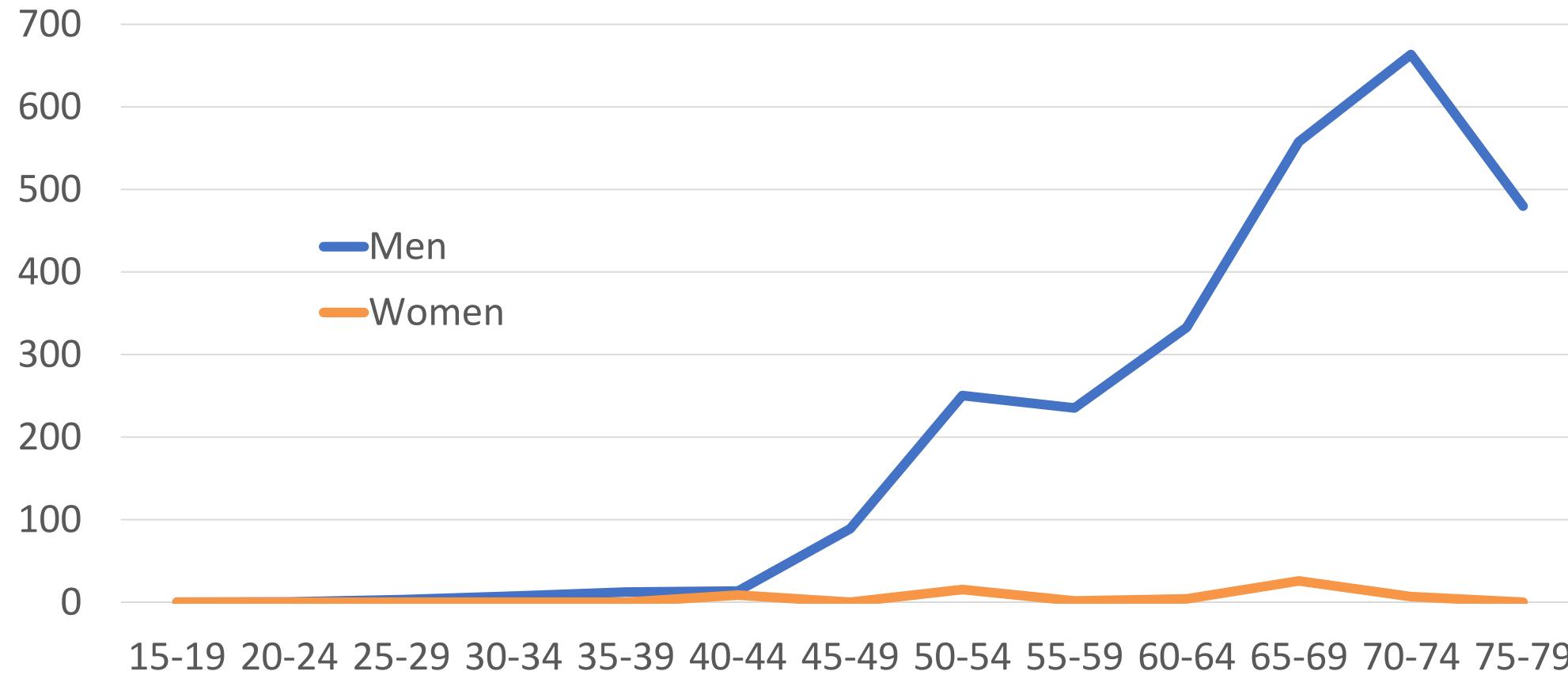


# DALY DT2 attributable to smoking



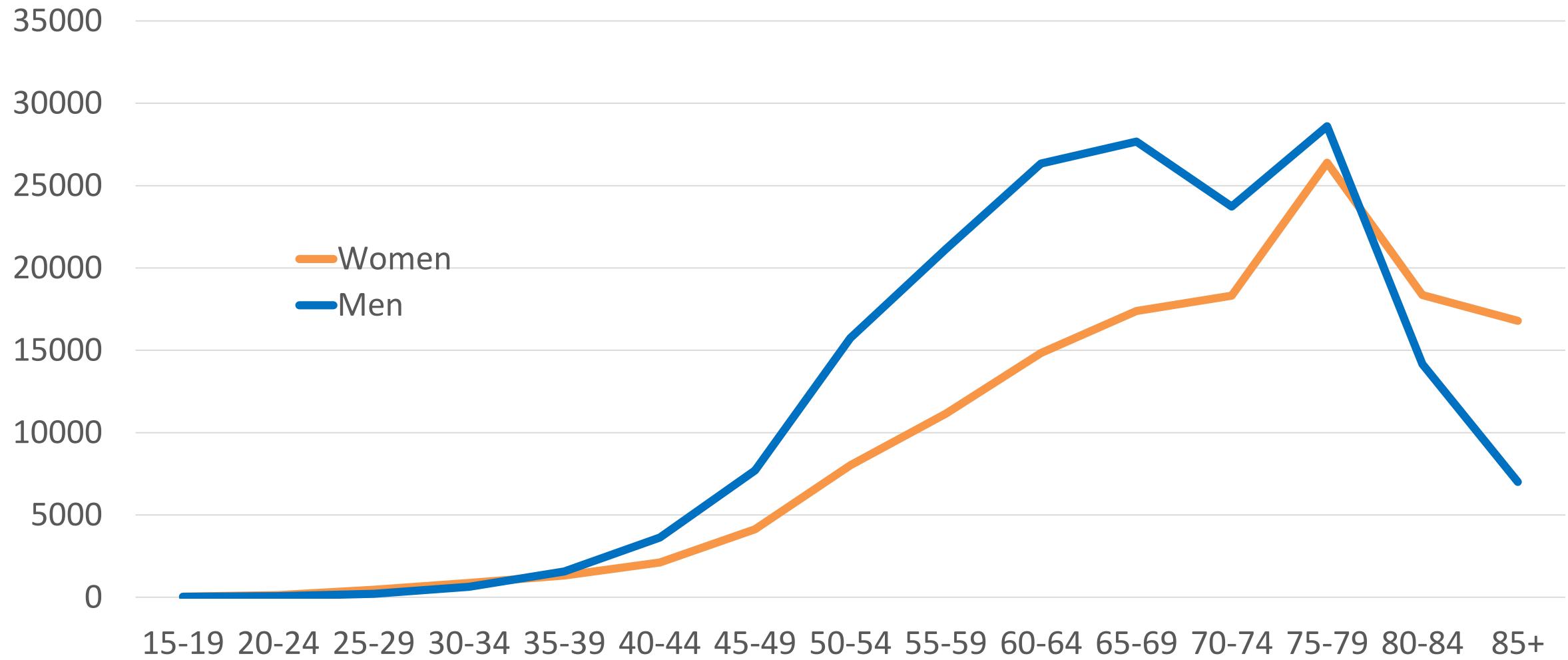


# DALY DT2 attributable to risk alcohol consumption



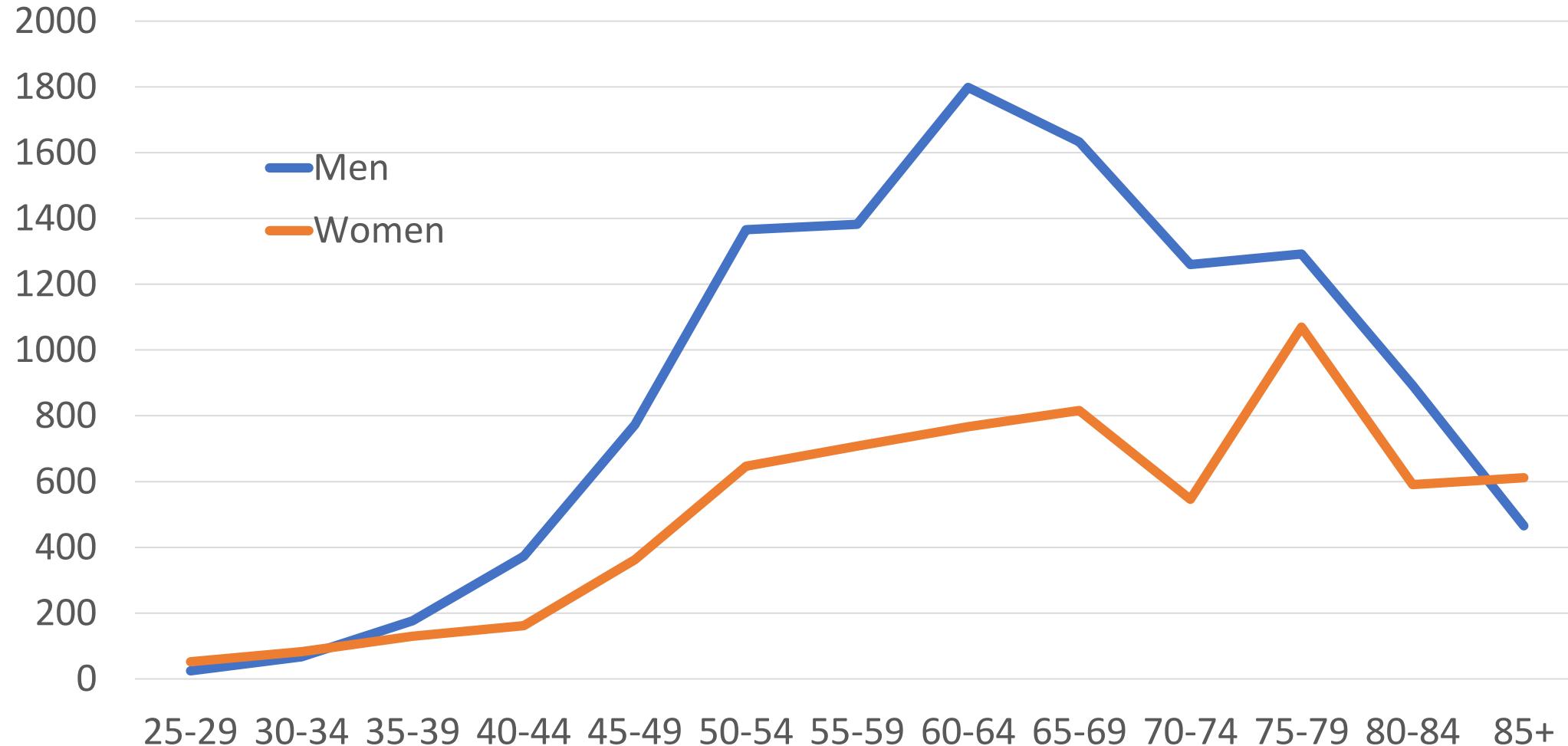


# DALY DT2 attributable to high BMI





# DALY DT2 attributable to low fruit intake





# PAFs (both sexes)

	smoking	risk alcohol consumption	BMI	low fruit comsumption	Combined
15-19 y	0,094	0,000	0,339	0,062	0,438
20-24 y	0,125	0,001	0,436	0,060	0,537
25-29 y	0,150	0,004	0,545	0,064	0,639
30-34 y	0,148	0,003	0,598	0,054	0,677
35-39 y	0,144	0,001	0,613	0,054	0,687
40-44 y	0,152	0,002	0,597	0,048	0,675
45-49 y	0,157	0,002	0,580	0,037	0,660
50-54 y	0,141	0,004	0,578	0,033	0,651
55-59 y	0,136	0,003	0,568	0,026	0,637
60-64 y	0,094	0,002	0,542	0,019	0,593
65-69 y	0,072	0,004	0,489	0,017	0,536
70-74 y	0,047	0,004	0,456	0,013	0,490
75-79 y	0,031	0,002	0,406	0,011	0,431
<b>Total</b>	<b>0,118</b>	<b>0,003</b>	<b>0,511</b>	<b>0,046</b>	<b>0,589</b>



## Discussion

- Overall, about 60 % of the burden of diabetes (YLL, YLD, DALY) is attributable to modifiable risk factors
- The highest share of the burden is attributable to high BMI
- There are significant differences according to age, generally increasing with age
- Higher number of DALY attributable to risk factors are observed in men, compared to women



# Conclusion

- Political interventions aiming at change in life style of people could contribute to less DALY due to DT2
- Interventions should be tailored according to age and sex



# Outlook

- Inclusion of further risk factors
- Extension of estimation towards other diseases (lung cancer and COPD)
- Estimations on regional level
- Further investigation according to social determinants



RKI

Alexander Rommel, Elena von der Lippe, Annelene Wengler, Michael Porst,  
Janko Leddin, Aline Anton, Caoimhe Cawley & Thomas Ziese

UBA

Dietrich Plaß & Heike Gruhl

WIdO

Katrin Schüssel, Gabriela Brückner, Jan Breitkreuz & Helmut Schröder

Umwelt  
Bundesamt

**WIdO** Wissenschaftliches  
Institut der AOK