

# What Do Prime Age NILF Men Do With Their Time? A Cautionary Tale for Advocates of UBI

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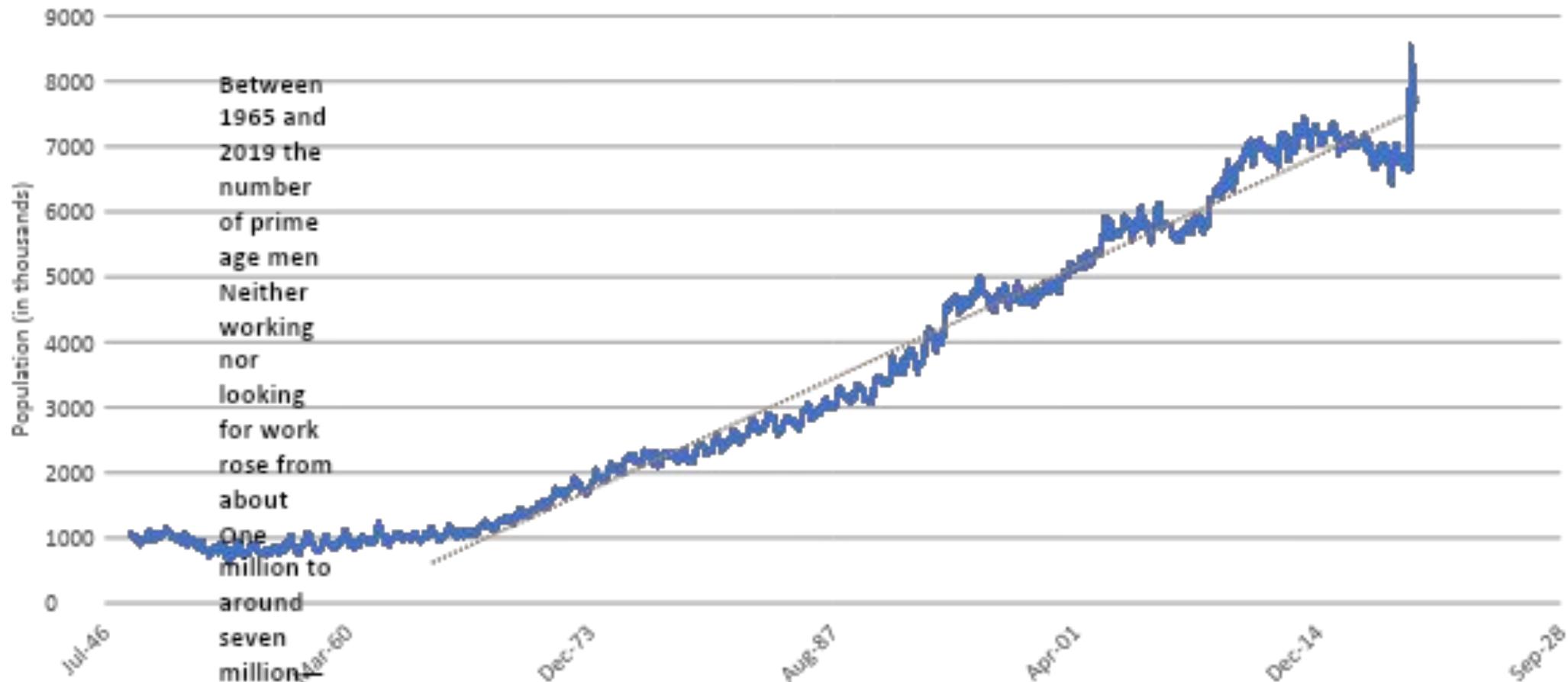
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# Rise Of The NILFs

## Prime-Age Men (25-54) Not in Labor Force

### USA: January 1948 – July 2020



Note: Author's calculations. The orange trendline traces a regression line in the NILF population from January 1965 to December 2019.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, "(Unadj) Population Level - 25-54 yrs., Men [LNU00000061]," accessed August 27, 2020,

<https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNU00000061>; and Bureau of Labor Statistics, "(Unadj) Civilian Labor Force Level - 25-54 yrs., Men [LNU01000061]," accessed August 27, 2020, <https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNU01000061>.

# What Do They Do All Day?

## Self-Reported Time Use By Age, Sex and Employment Status: USA 2019

<b>Time Use by Selected Activities: Prime-Age (25–54) Men and Women by Employment Status, 2019 (Average Minutes per Day)</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Men Not in the Labor Force</b>	<b>Employed Men</b>	<b>Unemployed Men</b>	<b>Employed Women</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	609	542	618	569
<b>Household Care</b>	83	73	126	106
<b>Caring for Household Members</b>	25	28	29	49
<b>Work</b>	4	362	64	292
<b>Education</b>	62	5	41	10
<b>Eating or Drinking</b>	56	63	50	61
<b>Socializing, Relaxing, and Leisure</b>	469	215	399	185

Source: US Census Bureau, "American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019," (accessed on July 22, 2019).

# Not All NILFs Are NEET\*

(\*Neither Employed Nor In Education or Training)

Self- Reported Time Use by Selected Activities: Prime-Age (25–54) Men and Women by Employment and Education Status, 2019 (Average Minutes per Day)						
Activity	Prime-Age Men					Prime-Age Women
	NEET	NILF In School	All NILF	Unemployed	Employed	Employed
Personal Care	615	603	609	618	542	569
Work	7	0	4	64	362	292
Education	4	427	62	41	5	10
Eating and Drinking	58	65	56	50	63	61
Socializing or Leisure	494	176	469	399	215	185
<i>Screen Time</i>	336	83	315	263	133	112
Sports	61	12	39	21	20	15
Religious	2	2	6	1	6	6
Volunteering	0	0	0	2	6	6
Travel	45	48	46	45	84	86

Note: “NEET” is an acronym for “Not Employed, in Education, or Training.” “Screen Time” captures a combination of two leisure activities that involve the use of screens: “Television and movies (not religious)” and “Computer use for leisure (exc. Games).” This category does not capture time spent playing video games, meaning it likely underestimates total screen time. The column “All NILF” includes respondents who did not provide Census Bureau with information regarding their educational enrollment status. In other words, the “All NILF” column reflects the average time spent on different activities by NILF men enrolled in school, not enrolled in school, and of unknown enrollment status.

Source: US Census Bureau, “American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019,” (accessed on July 22, 2019).

# What A NEET Way To Spend Your Day

<b>Self-Reported Time Use by Selected Activities: NEET Prime-Age (25–54) Men by Education Level, 2015-19 (Average Minutes per Day)</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Less than HS</b>	<b>HS</b>	<b>Some College</b>	<b>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</b>
<b>Personal Care</b>	658	671	607	585
<b>Work</b>	10	7	12	42
<b>Education</b>	2	0	1	32
<b>Eating and Drinking</b>	46	54	57	77
<b>Socializing or Leisure</b>	490	464	454	338
<i>Screen Time</i>	343	324	311	235
<b>Sports</b>	37	29	19	31
<b>Religious</b>	3	4	8	4
<b>Volunteering</b>	3	5	6	3
<b>Travel</b>	33	46	46	69

Note: “NEET” is an acronym for “Not Employed, in Education, or Training.” “Screen Time” captures a combination of two leisure activities that involve the use of screens: “Television and movies (not religious)” and “Computer use for leisure (exc. Games).” This category does not capture time spent playing video games, meaning it likely underestimates total screen time.

Source: US Census Bureau, “American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019,” (accessed on July 22, 2019).

# NEET America’s “Asian Paradox”?

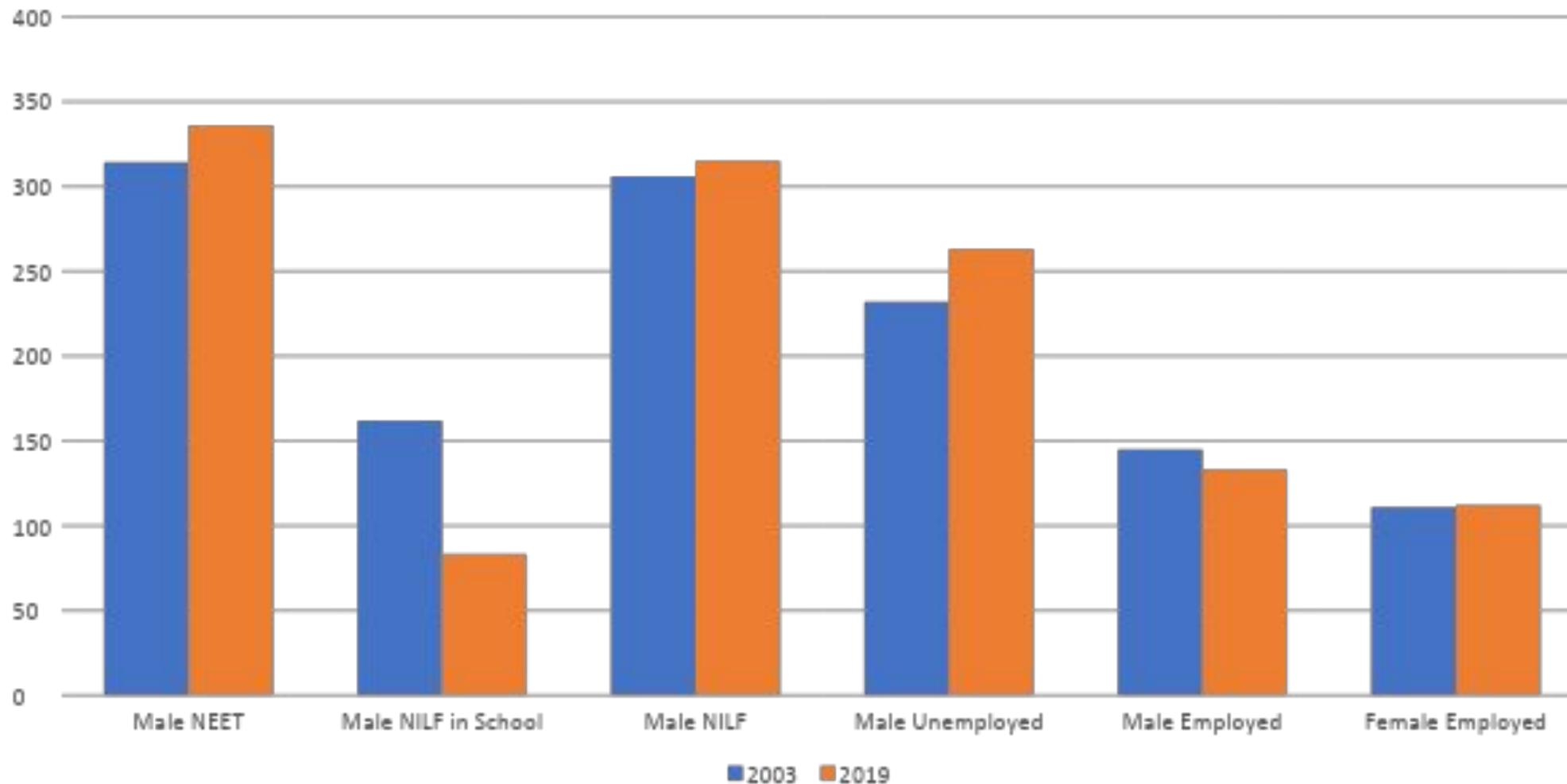
Self-Reported Time Use by Selected Activities: NEET Prime-Age (25–54) Men by Ethnicity/Race, 2015-19 (Average Minutes per Day)				
Activity	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian
Personal Care	597	712	685	622
Work	20	7	2	41
Education	4	13	3	10
Eating and Drinking	64	40	54	78
Socializing or Leisure	444	488	430	287
<i>Screen Time</i>	313	341	285	135
Sports	40	15	15	19
Religious	2	12	4	8
Volunteering	4	9	4	0
Travel	47	36	55	84

Note: “NEET” is an acronym for “Not Employed, in Education, or Training.” “Screen Time” captures a combination of two leisure activities that involve the use of screens: “Television and movies (not religious)” and “Computer use for leisure (exc. Games).” This category does not capture time spent playing video games, meaning it likely underestimates total screen time.

Source: US Census Bureau, “American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019,” (accessed on July 22, 2019).

# Lights, Cameras, Inaction!

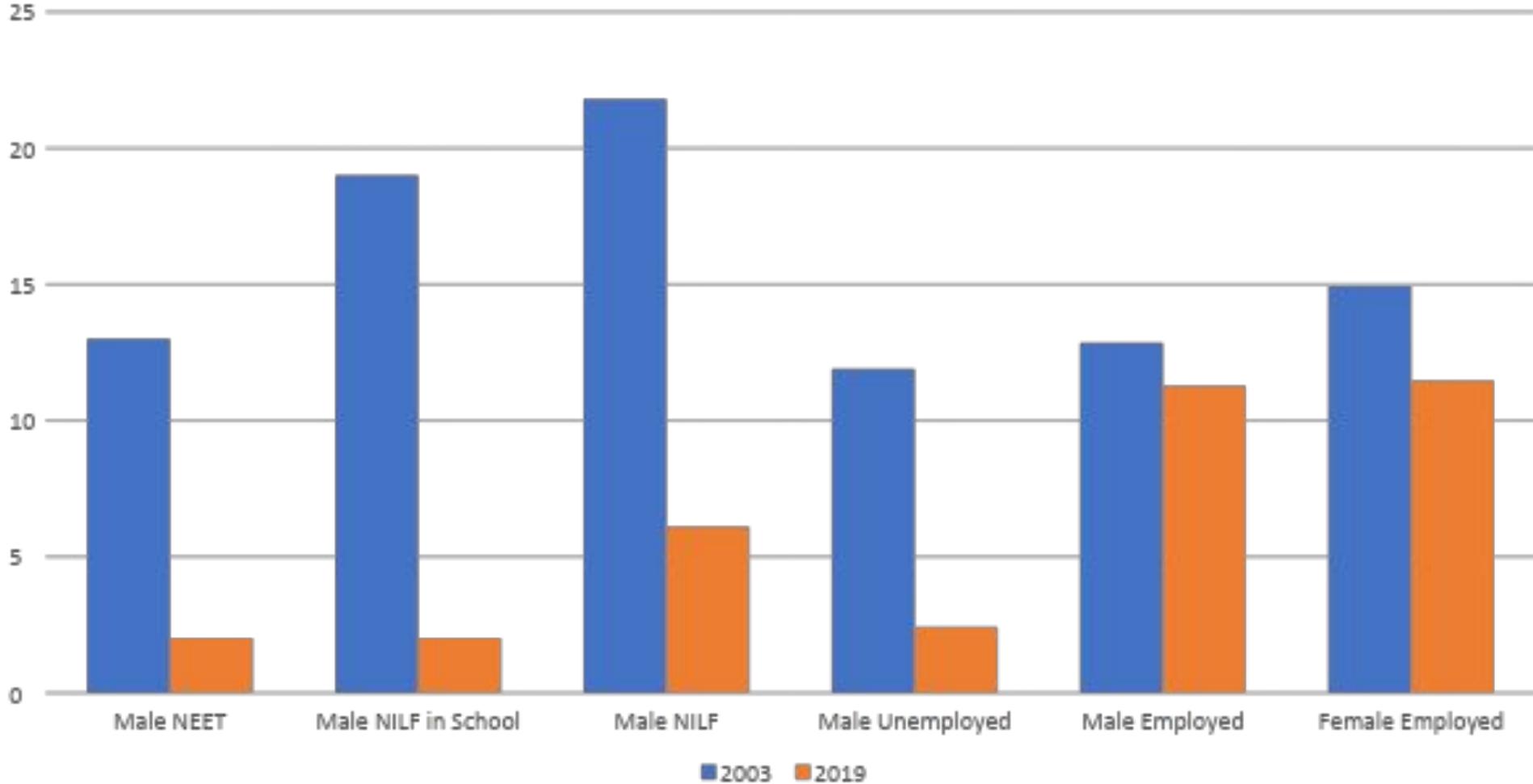
Self-Reported Screen Time Per Day in Minutes:  
Prime-Age (25–54) Men and Women by Employment Status,  
USA—2003 v. 2019



Source: US Census Bureau, "American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics," (accessed on July 22, 2019).

# The Flight From Civil Society

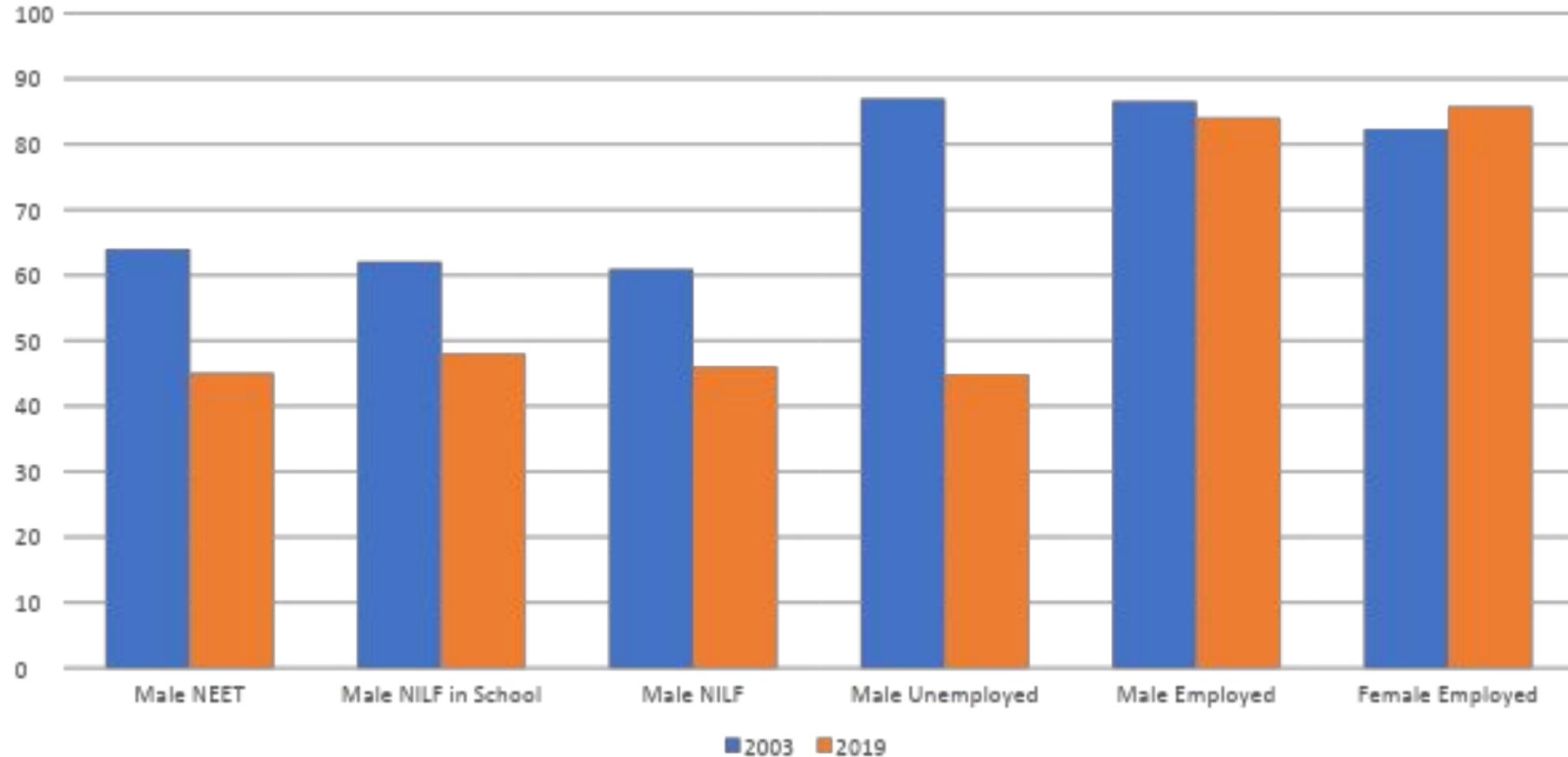
Self-Reported Religious and Volunteer Activity Per Day In Minutes  
Prime-Age (25–54) Men and Women by Employment Status,  
USA—2003 v. 2019



Source: US Census Bureau, “American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics,” (accessed on July 22, 2019).

# Don't Get Around Much Any More

Self-Reported Travel Outside The House Per Day In Minutes  
Prime-Age (25–54) Men and Women by Employment Status,  
USA—2003 v. 2019



Source: US Census Bureau, "American Time Use Survey, United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics," (accessed on July 22, 2019).