



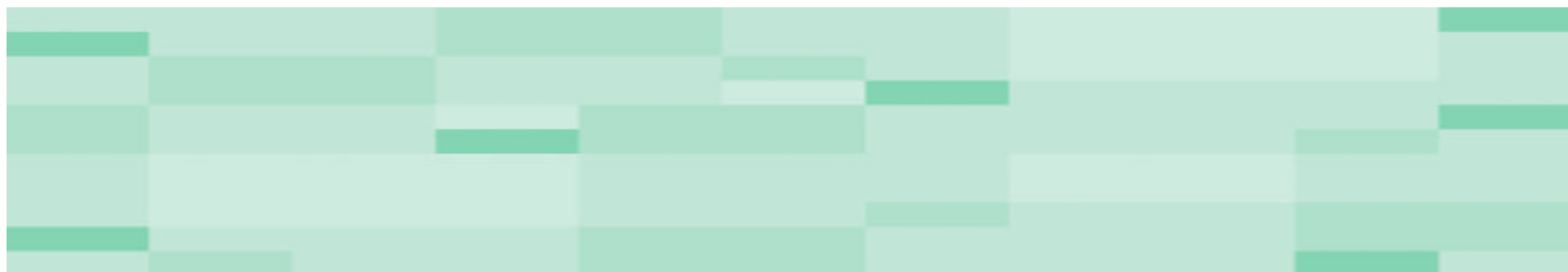
WORKING TOWARDS EQUAL NUMBERS OF WOMEN AND MEN STARTING BUSINESSES

# Focus on Women's Enterprise in Wales

Jackie Brierton, Prowess\SBS



- About Prowess
- Some statistics
- Recent research
- EU developments
- International overview



# About Prowess



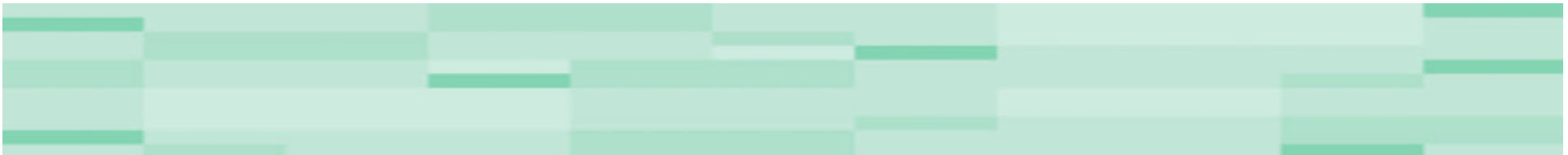
- UK-wide association for organisations providing business support for women
- Working towards equal numbers of women & men starting and growing businesses
- Developing capacity in the business support sector, advocacy and influencing policy
- Launched October 2002 – 140+ members



# Prowess Flagship Standards Best Practice



- **Criteria set against 4 key areas:**
  1. **Inclusion - outreach; access; commitment to diversity**
  2. **Client focused - segmented market approach**
  3. **Equality - some women-only provision**
  4. **Quality - coherent range of services & effective partnerships**
  
- **Disaggregated data collection important**
  
- **Separate criteria for networks**
  
- **Currently 8 Flagship organisations**

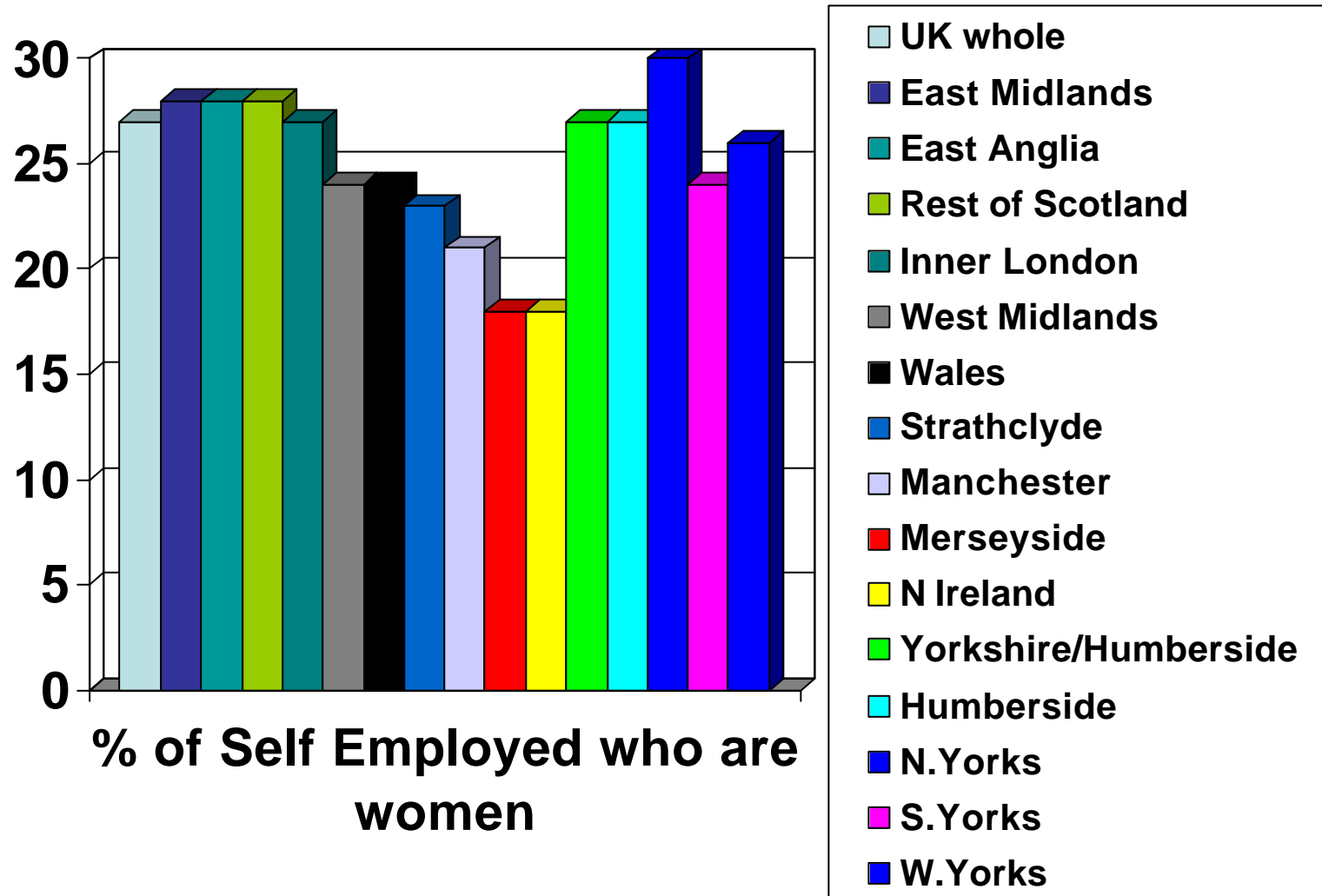




## Data – what do we know?

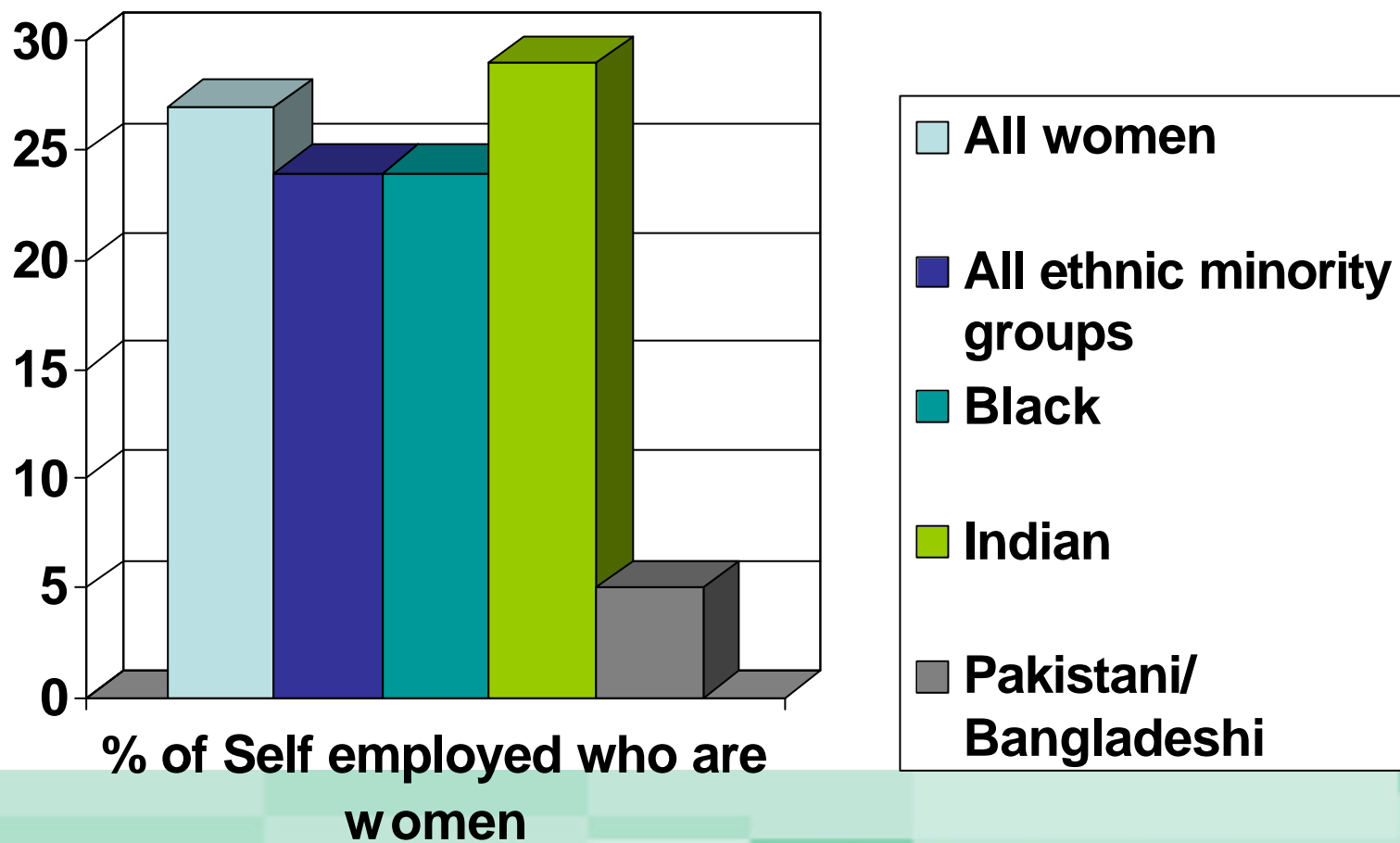
- Lack of gender disaggregated data available
- Labour Force Survey (LFS) – consistent self-employed data
- SBS Omnibus & Household surveys
  - **12-14% of businesses wholly\majority owned by women**
  - **62% of businesses wholly\majority owned by men**
- Invisibility of women business owners – 35% of business co-owned (24% equal ownership)

# Regional variations





# Ethnicity



# Research – Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM)



“....one of the clearest ways for the the UK to increase its levels of entrepreneurship would be by encouraging and supporting more women into business.....” (UK 2001 report)

“....there is perhaps no greater initiative a country can take to realise higher levels of entrepreneurial activity than to encourage more of its women to participate.....(Global 2000 report)



# Research

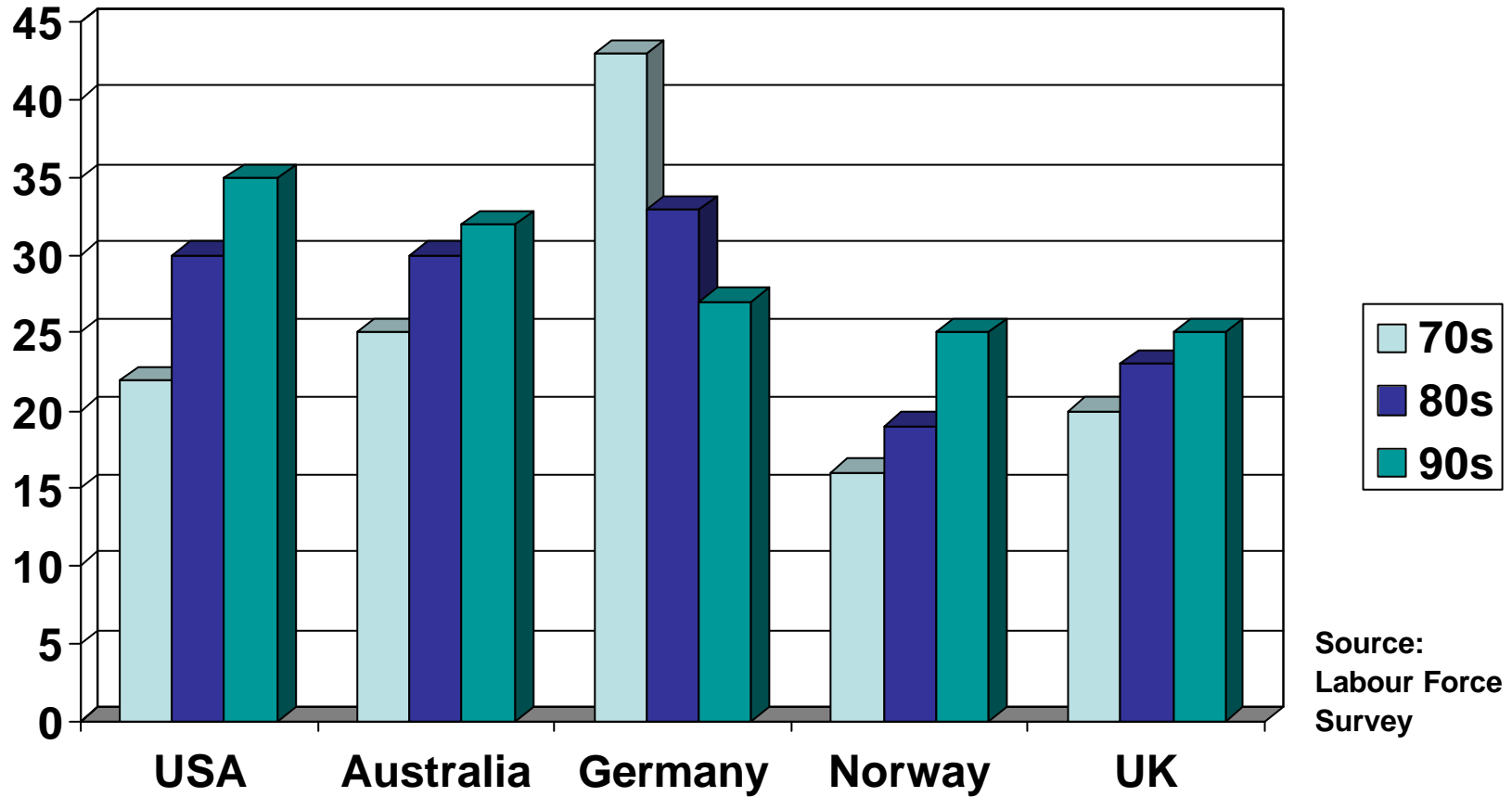
## Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) 2003 UK



- Tracks 'Total Entrepreneurial Activity' – TEA
- Male TEA 8.9% - Female TEA 3.8%
- In Wales – 9.1% and 4.1%
- Gap wider than in US, Canada, Netherlands & Italy
- Social entrepreneurship trends – more women involved than men (in many regions)

# International Comparisons

Female share of employers and self-employed





## EU Developments

- Entrepreneurship Green Paper – ‘Action Plan’ recently published
- Limited women’s entrepreneurship actions
- Further consultation currently underway - ‘Multi-annual Programme (MAP) on Enterprise & Entrepreneurship’ – opportunity for innovation on WE



# Sharing experiences with US & Canada



- Trilateral Alliance – UK\US\Canada
- Sharing - best practice, policy development and ideas
- Virtual Summit - 5 – 23 April 04
- Influencing OECD Ministerial Conference (June 04)
- Project Tsunami

[www.projecttsunami.org](http://www.projecttsunami.org)



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