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# Use of projections for reporting on SDG indicator 4.6.2: youth and adult literacy rate

Friedrich Huebler, UIS

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# GALP: Global Age-specific Literacy Projections model

## **Problem: scarce literacy data, incomplete time series**

- Sources of literacy data: population censuses, household surveys
- Infrequent data collection: censuses every 10 years, surveys every 3-5 years

## **Solution**

- Projections for years without data
- GALP (Global Age-specific Literacy Projections): developed in 2006/07

## **Required data**

- Literacy rate by age (source: census, survey)
- Population by age (source: UN Population Division)
- GALP combines projected literacy rates with data on demographic trends to generate estimates of the illiterate population

## **Core assumption**

- Literacy (or illiteracy) at age 15 is maintained for life



## Literacy rate by year and age

Age (years)	2010	2011	2012	2013
15	92			
16	91	92		
17	90	91	92	
...	...	...	...	...
84	23	24	25	26
85+	22	23	24	25

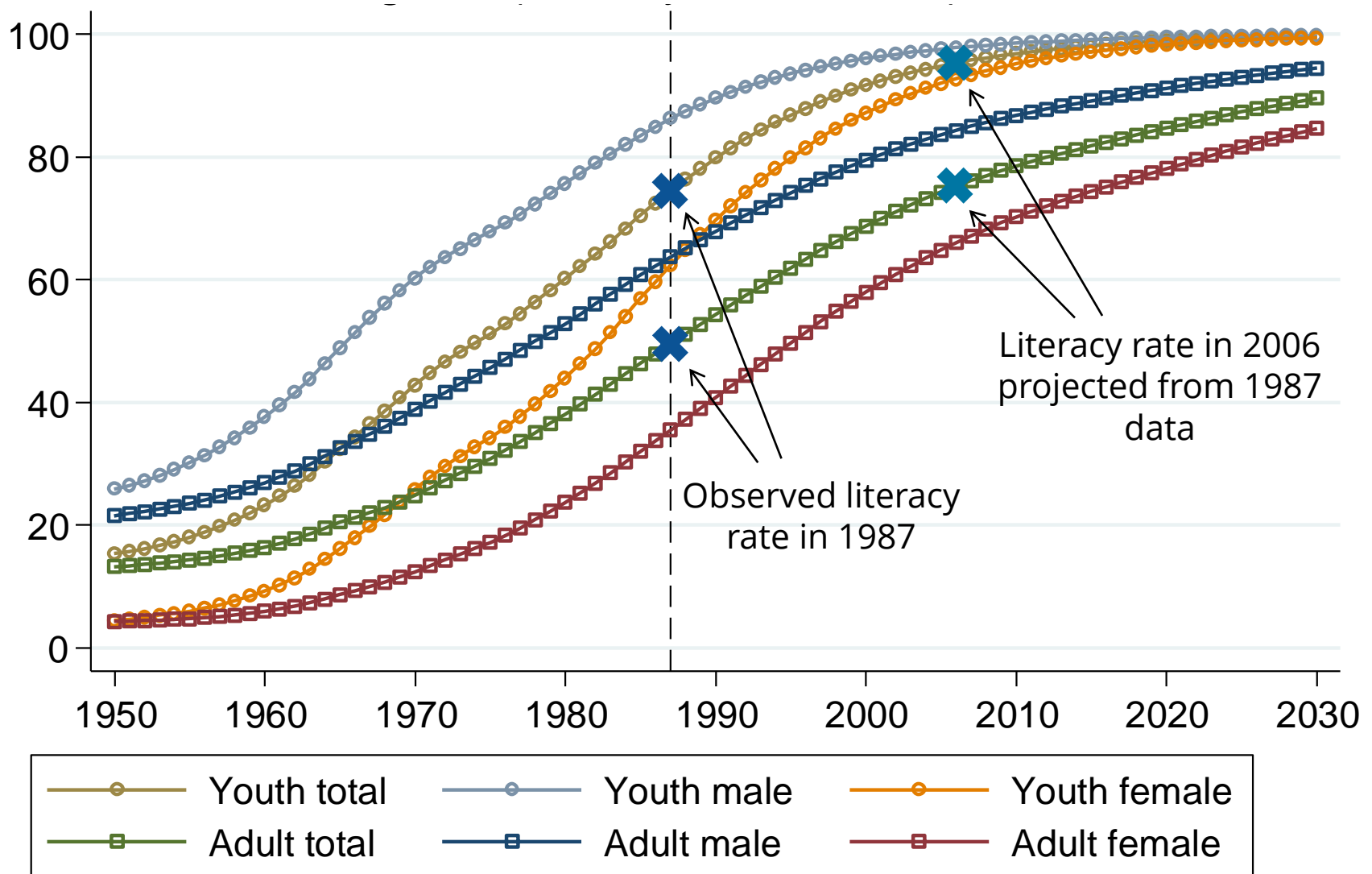
# Literacy rate by year and age

Age (years)	2010	2011	2012	2013
15	92	93	94	95
16	91	92	93	94
17	90	91	92	93
...	...	...	...	...
84	23	24	25	26
85+	22	23	24	25

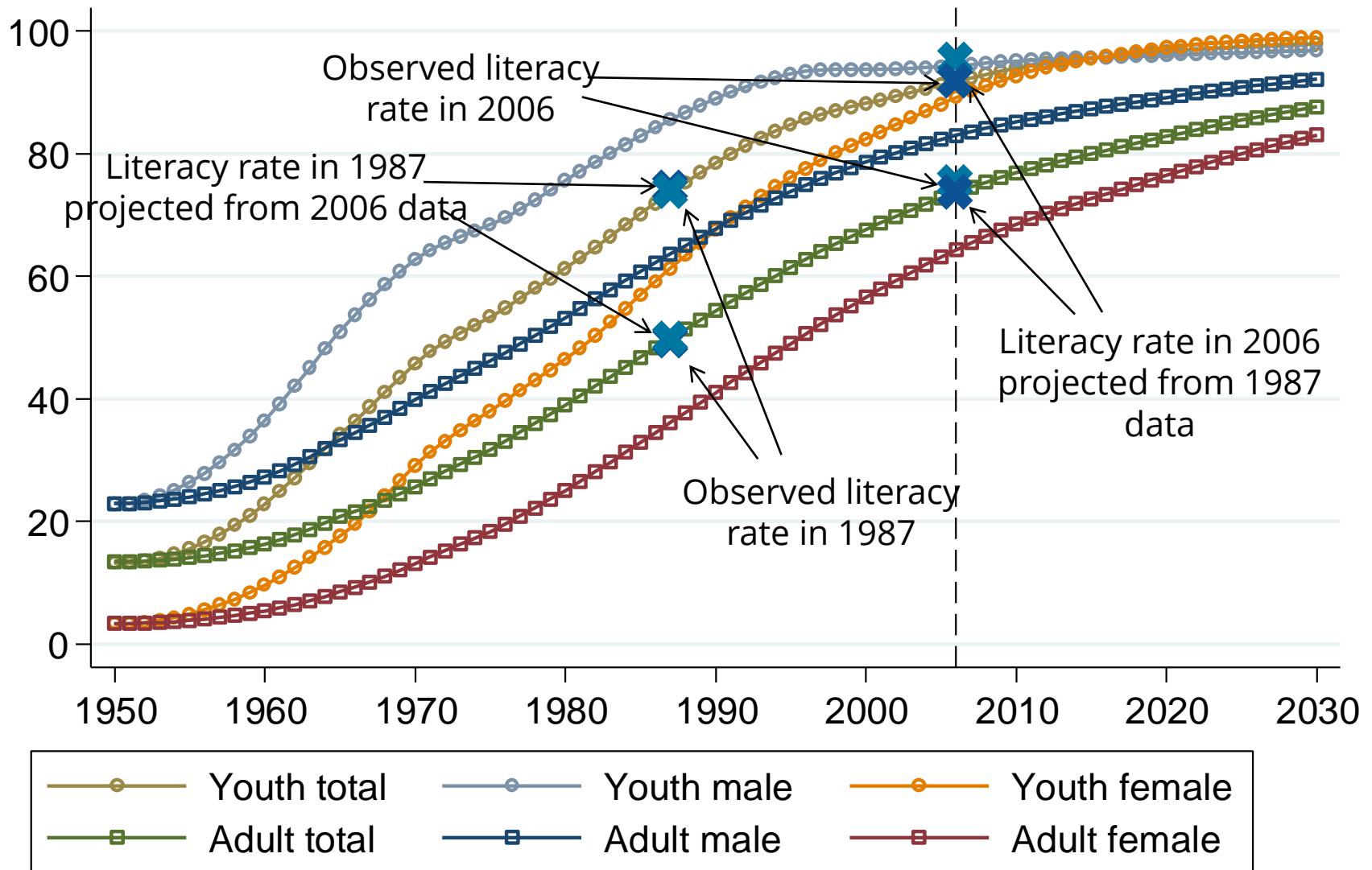
Projection

Observed data

# Algeria: Observed and projected literacy rates from 1987 data

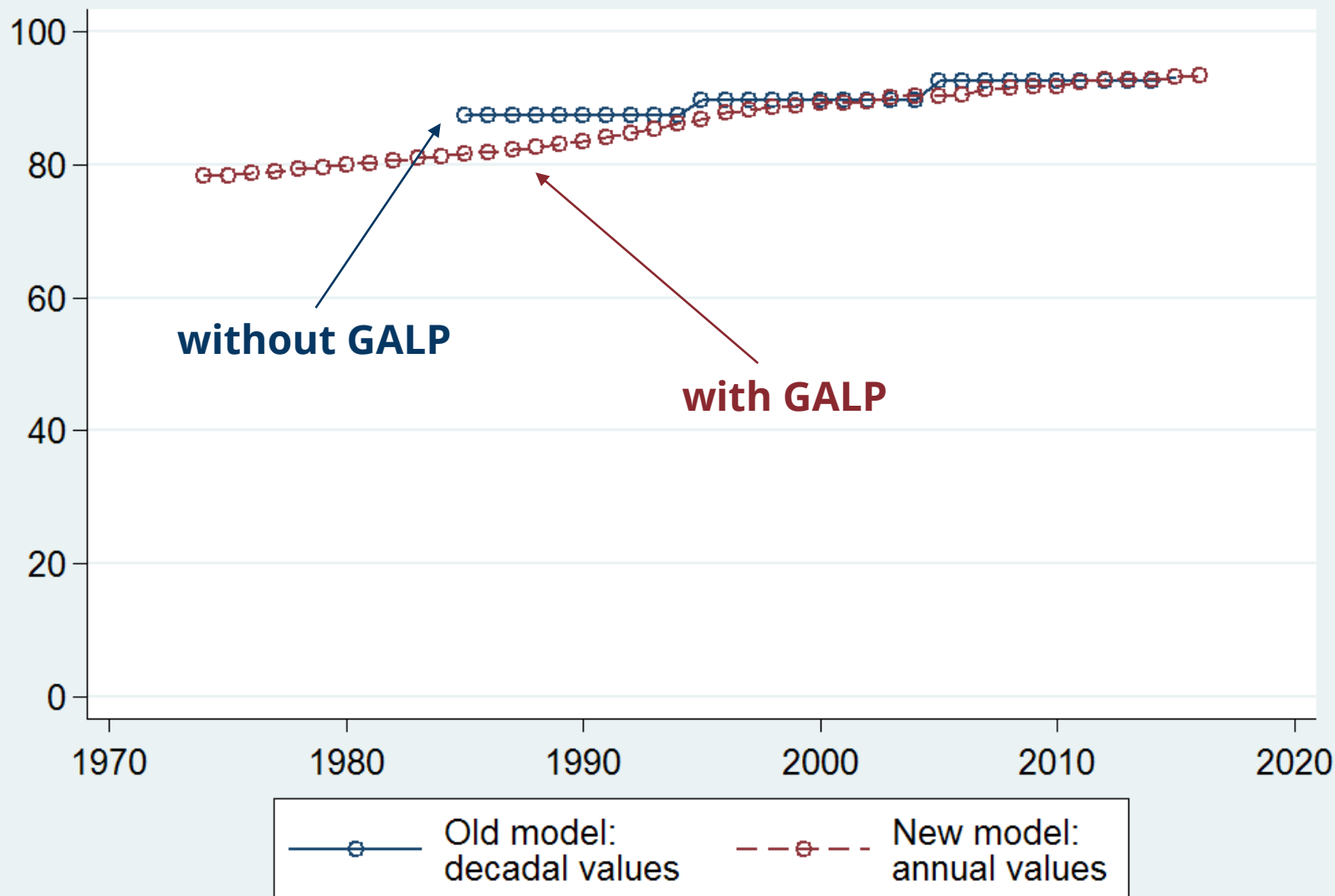


# Algeria: Observed and projected literacy rates from 2006 data



# Use of national GALP estimates for calculation of regional averages: annual instead of decadal values

Adult literacy rate: Latin America and the Caribbean





# Summary: Applications of GALP

## National estimates for years without data

- Literacy rate (indicator 4.6.2)
- Illiterate population
- More countries with data (observed and projected)

## Improved regional and global averages

- Projections -5/+10 years to fill gaps in national time series
- More regions with minimum coverage for calculation of regional values
- Since 2017: annual averages instead of decadal averages
- Increased precision of regional values

## UIS plans

- Document methodology
- Improve backwards projections



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Friedrich Huebler

Head of Section, Education Standards and Methodology

UNESCO Institute for Statistics

[f.huebler@unesco.org](mailto:f.huebler@unesco.org)

<http://uis.unesco.org>

 @UNESCOstat