

What do children need?

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Selection of indicators

Previous PSE

Comparability with FRS

Items identified by children

Adults (aged 16+, not just parents) asked to indicate whether item/s activities were necessities for children

Items deemed necessities if 50%+ of adults say children need them

Child items – high support

	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (2012)	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (1999)
A warm winter coat	97	95
Fresh fruit or vegetables at least once a day	96	93
Three meals a day	93	90
New, properly fitting, shoes	93	94
A garden or outdoor space nearby where they can play safely	92	68
Books at home suitable for their ages	91	89
Meat, fish or vegetarian equivalent at least once a day	90	77
A suitable place to study or do homework	89	-
Indoor games suitable for their ages	80	83

Child items – medium support

	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (2012)	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (1999)
Enough bedrooms for every child of 10 or over of a different sex to have their own bedroom	74	78
Computer and internet for homework	66	41
Some new, not second hand, clothes	65	70
Outdoor leisure equipment	58	60
At least four pairs of trousers, leggings, jeans or jogging bottoms	56	69
Money to save	54	-
Pocket money	54	-
Construction toys	53	62

Child items – not necessities

	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (2012)	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (1999)
A bicycle	45	54
Clothes to fit in with friends	31	-
A mobile phone for children aged 11 or over	26	-
An MP3 player	8	-
Designer/brand name trainers	6	-

Child activities – high support

	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (2012)	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (1999)
Celebrations on special occasions	91	92
A hobby or leisure activity	88	89
Toddler group or nursery or play group at least once a week for pre-school aged children	87	88

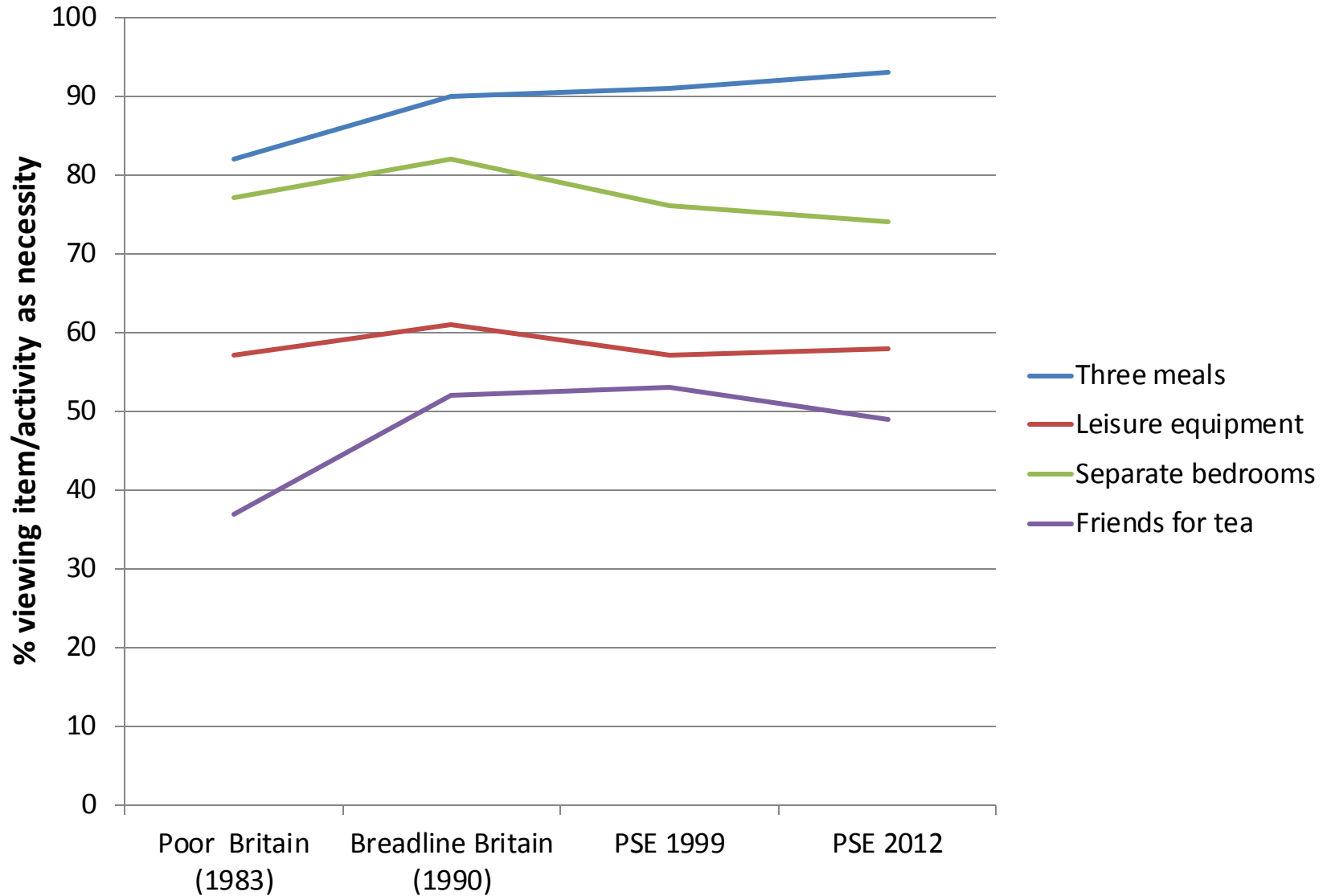
Child activities – medium support

	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (2012)	Proportion viewing item/ activity as a necessity (1999)
Children’s clubs or activities such as drama or football training	74	-
Day trips with family once a month	60	-
Going on a school trip at least once a term	55	74
A holiday away from home for at least one week a year	52	70

Child-identified items and activities

	Proportion viewing item/activity as a necessity (2012)
A garden or outdoor space nearby where they can play safely	92
Day trips with family once a month	60
Money to save	54
Pocket money	54
A holiday away from home for at least one week a year	52
Clothes to fit in with friends	31
An MP3 player	8
Designer/brand name trainers	6

Changes in perceptions over time



Differences by sub-group

Tested based on confidence intervals and relative risk ratios

Differences examined based on:

Age

Gender

Ethnicity

Country

Marital status

Presence of children

Being a lone parent

Number of children

Income

Social class

Education level

Tenure type

Subjective health

Objective health

Political affiliation

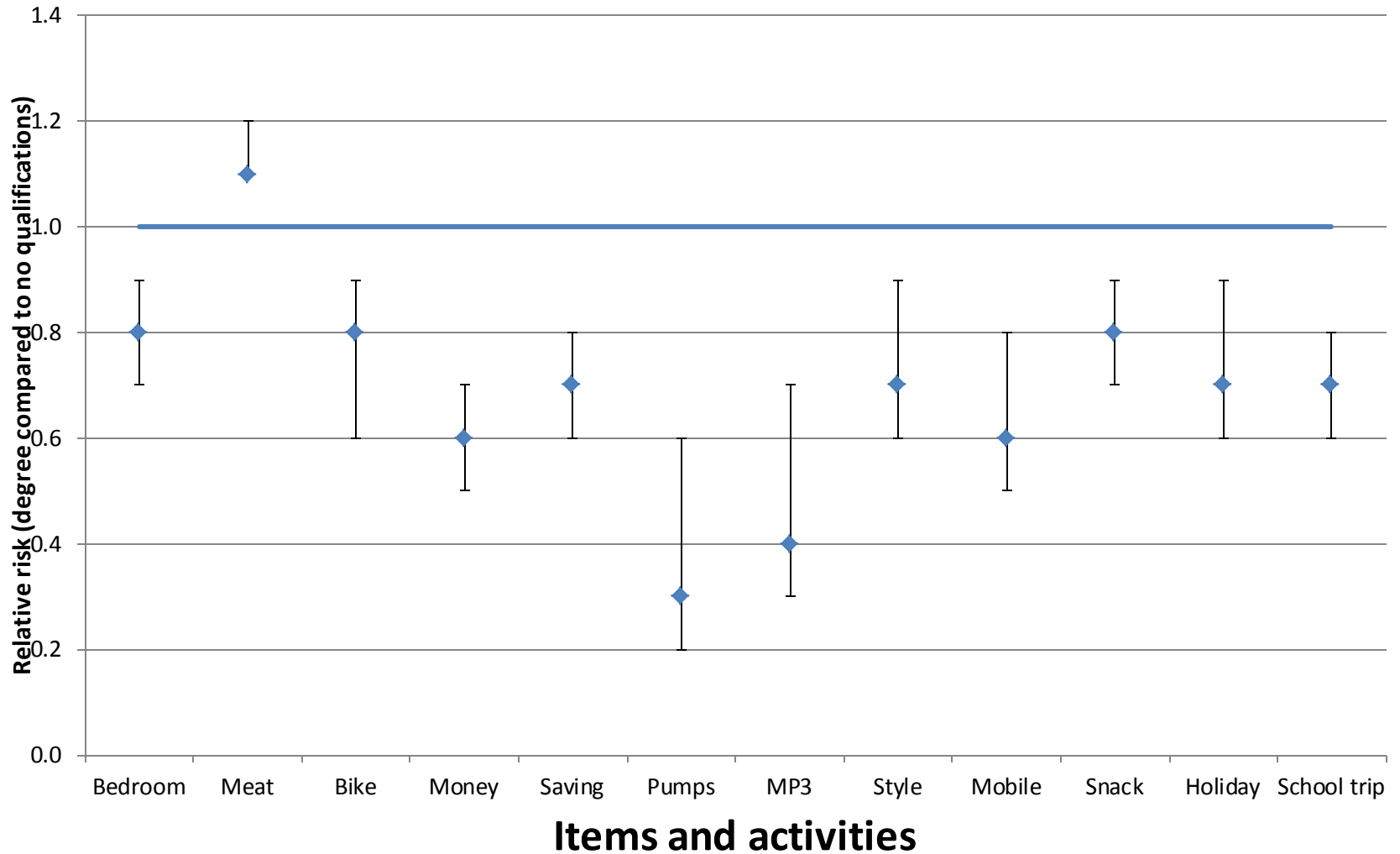
Differences by sub-group

For 12 items/activities, no significant differences by sub-group; a further 7 only 1-2 differences

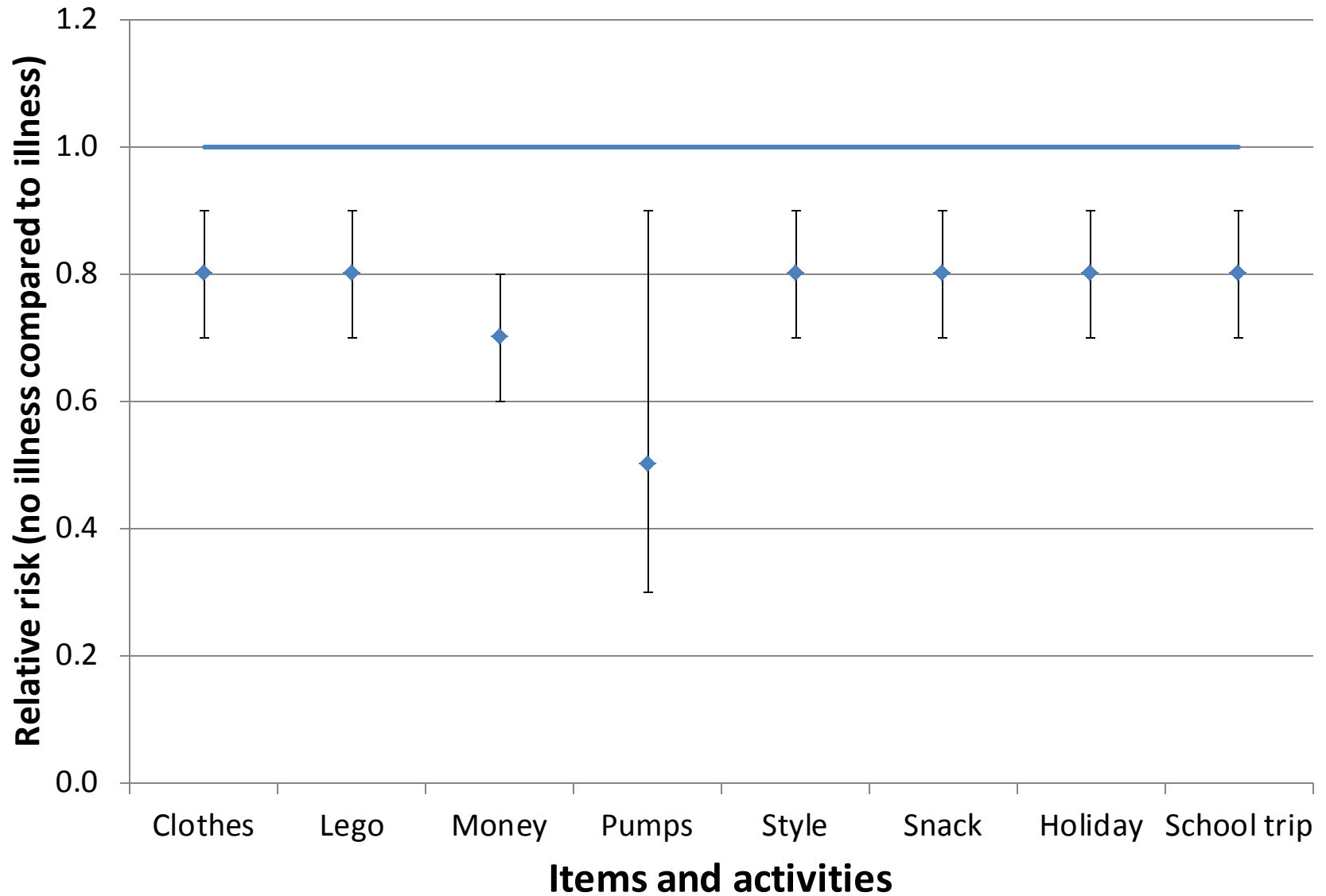
Trousers, money, MP3, trainers and snack all 5+ significant differences

Education, objective health and income related to the most items/activities

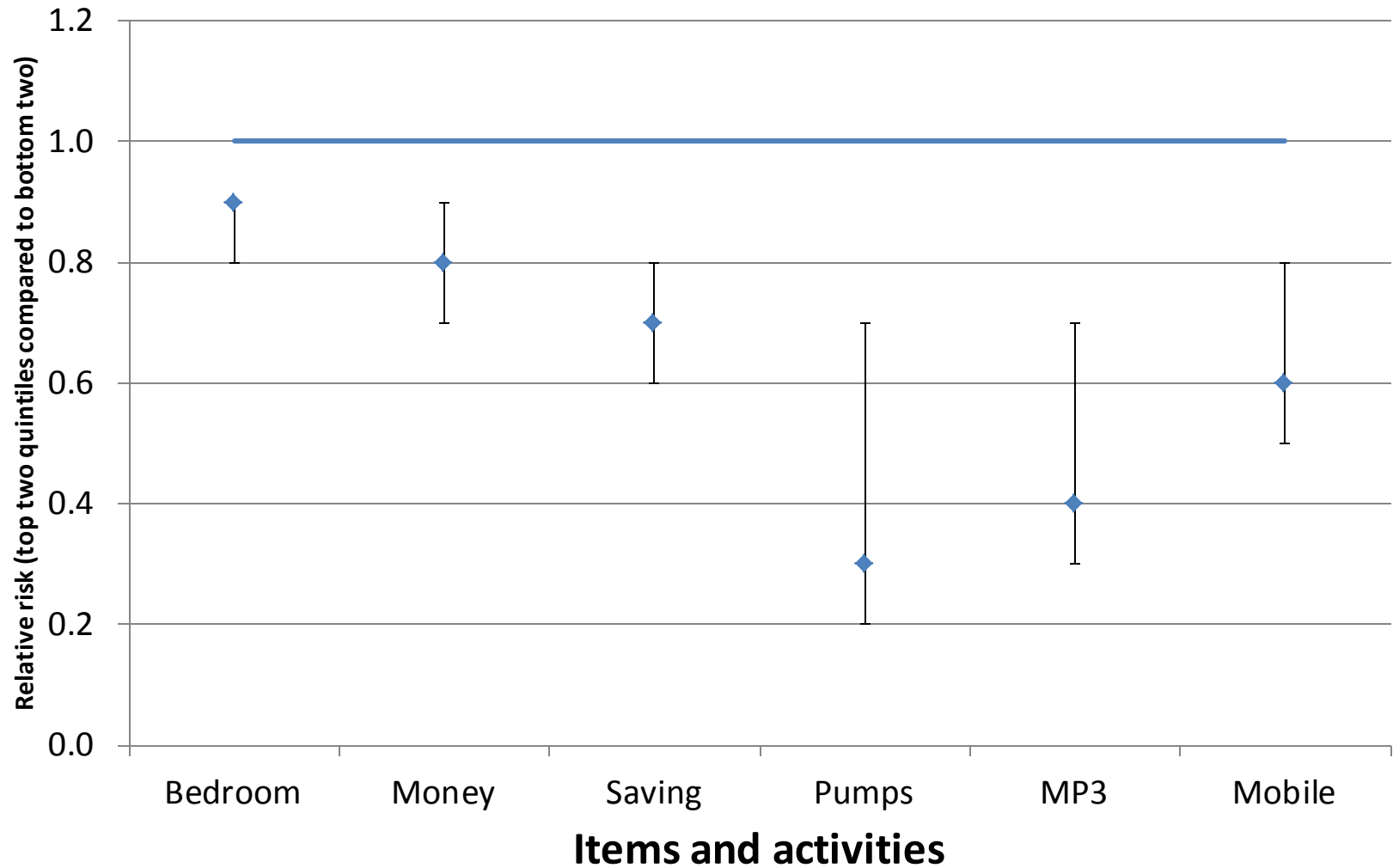
Education



Limiting illness/disability



Income



Differences by sub-group

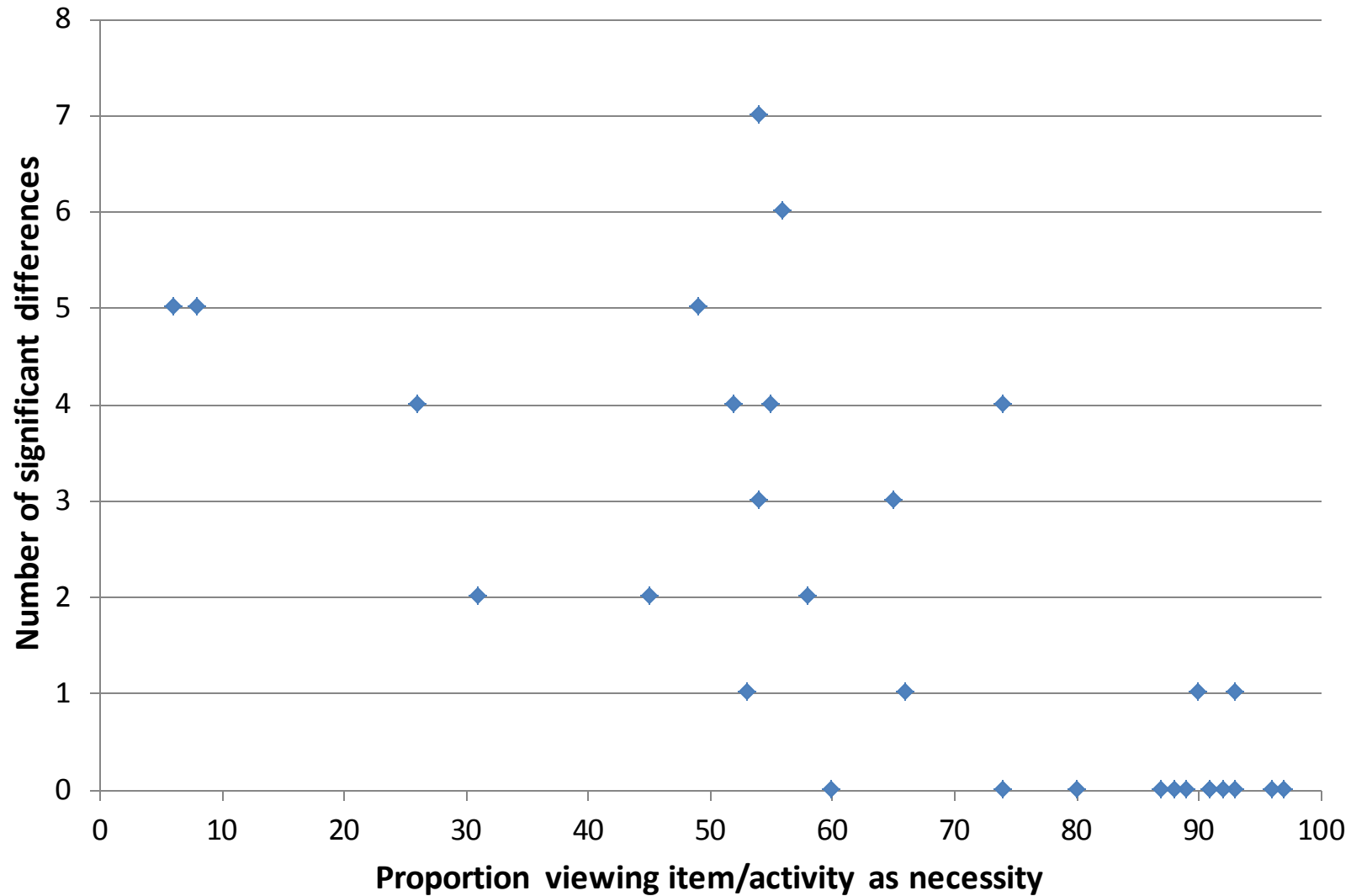
Generally fewer significant differences between sub-groups of the population for items and activities where support was stronger

Very few items, and no activities, with strong (>75%) support and any significant sub-group differences

- Three meals – difference based on age group

- Meat – difference based on educational level

Differences by sub-group



Differences by sub-group

Some sub-groupings with non-linear associations to % seeing items/activities as necessities

Significant U-shaped relationship with age for four items and activities:

- Bedroom (lowest % at age 45)

- Save (lowest % at age 47)

- Style (lowest % at age 37)

- Snack (lowest % at age 42)

Most likely age group to be parents of children who these items are relevant for?

But presence of children in household not significantly associated with differences for any of these items/activities

Differences by sub-group

Significant, inverted-U shape associations with income quintile (ie. richest and poorest least likely to see as necessity) for:

Clothes

Money

Holiday

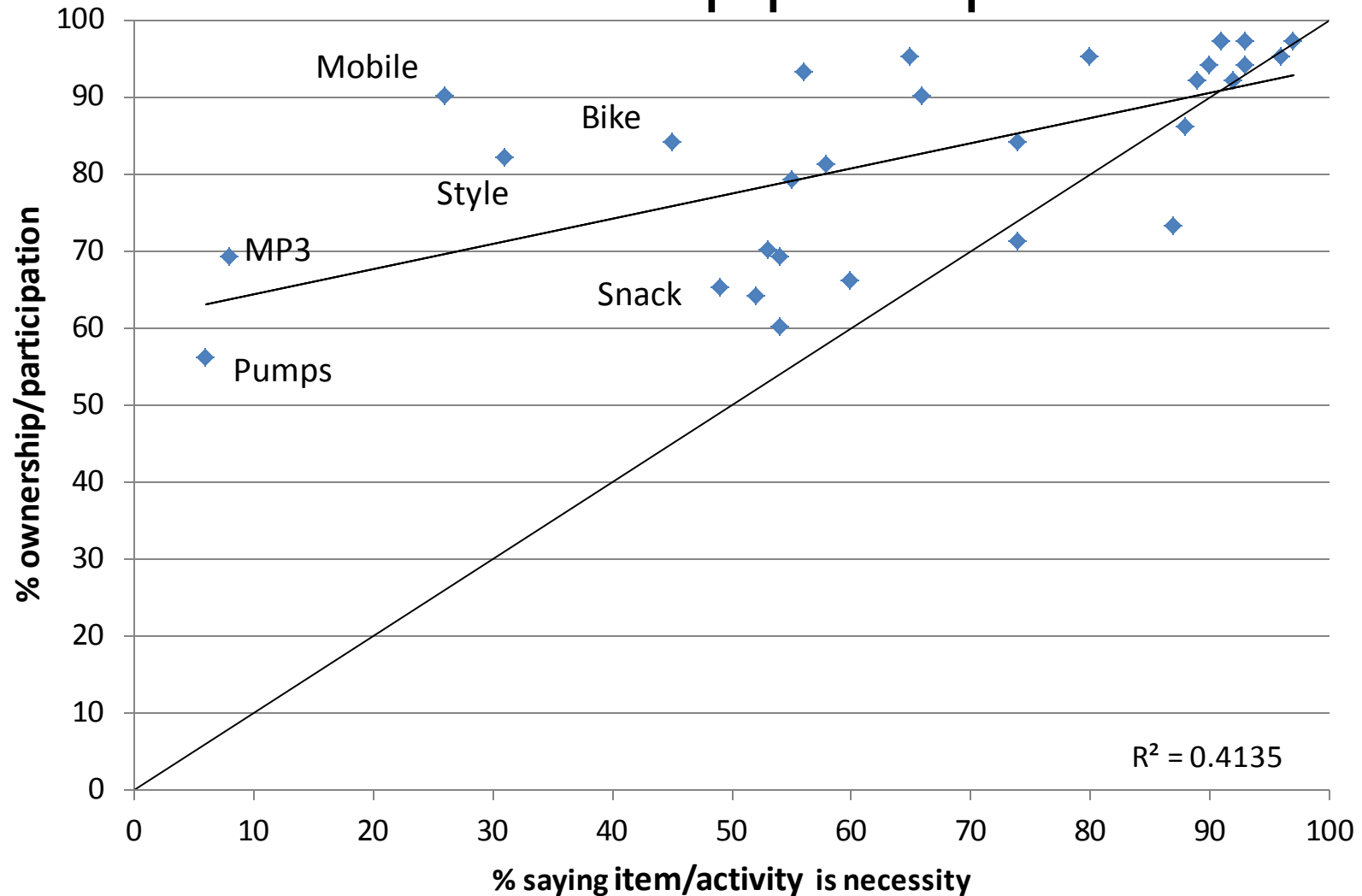
All with moderate levels of support:

Clothes 65%

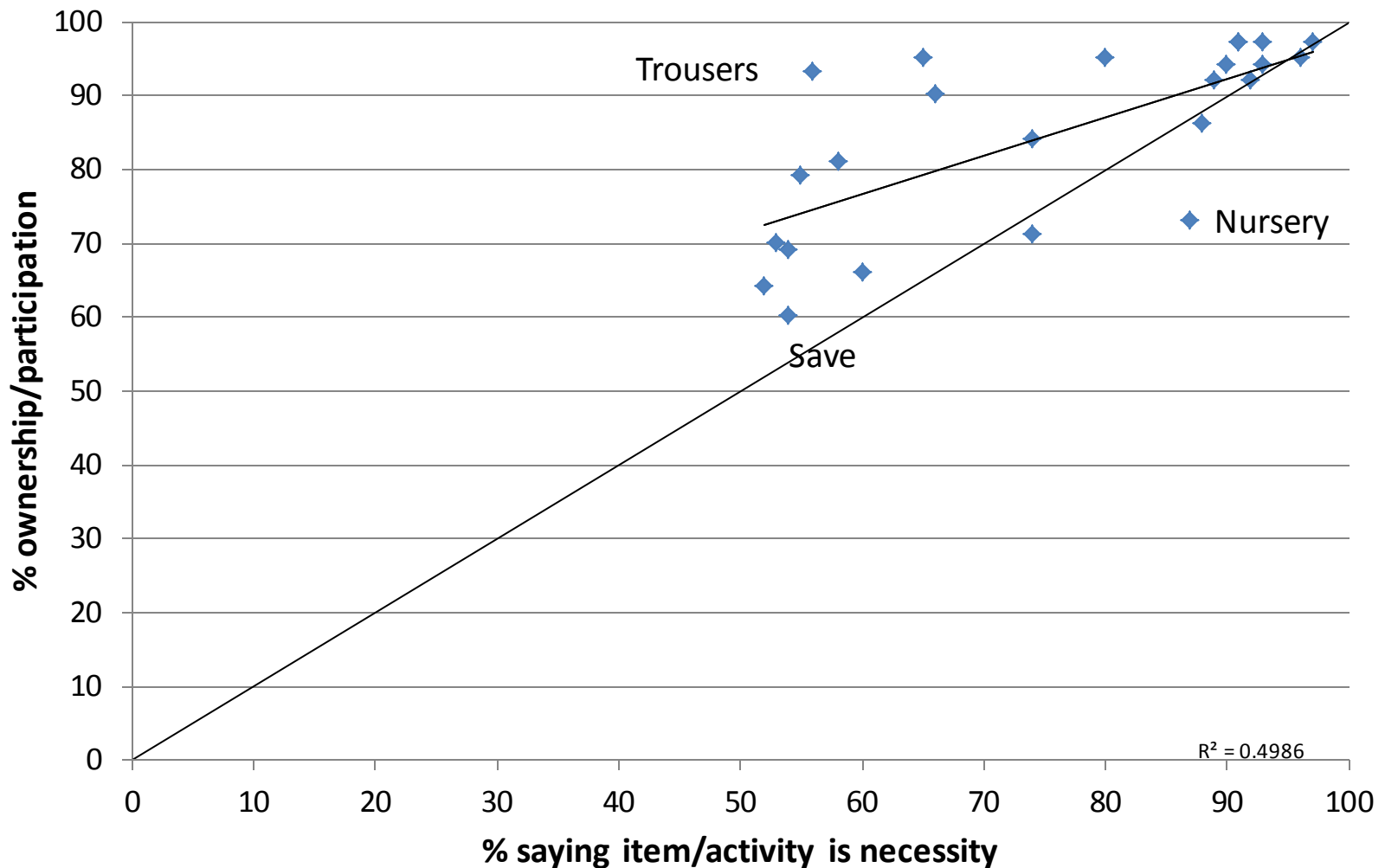
Money 54%

Holiday 52%

Perceptions of necessity by ownership/participation – all



Perceptions of necessity by ownership/participation – just necessities



Protecting children – perceptions of necessities

	% say necessity for adults	% say necessity for children
Two/three meals a day	91	93
Fresh fruit/veg daily	83	96
Celebrations on special occasions	80	91
Warm coat	79	97
Meat/fish	76	90
Hobby	70	88
Two pairs shoes	54	93
Annual holiday	42	52

Protecting children – adults and children in households with children

	% adults in hh with children have	% children have
Two/three meals a day	97	97
Fresh fruit/veg daily	89	95
Celebrations on special occasions	93	97
Warm coat	90	97
Meat/fish	93	94
Hobby	63	86
Two pairs shoes	85	94
Annual holiday	55	64

In 93% of households where children go without adequate food, at least one adult skimped on their food ‘sometimes’ or ‘always’ to ensure others have enough to eat.

Conclusions

Perceptions of necessities for children have for the most part remained relatively stable between 1999 and 2012.

- Some items – eg. computer and internet – more important.

- Some items identified as important by children meet criteria for SPNs

- Poverty evidently viewed as a relative issue

Perceptions of necessities very stable across sub-groups

- Most differences based on education, income and health

- Worse-off more likely to see items/activities as necessities

- Sub group differences greater where there is less strong agreement that item/activity is necessary

Perceptions of necessity are somewhat related to prevalence of ownership

- Stronger relationship amongst necessities

- Not all items/activities which are owned by a (substantial) majority seen as necessities

Adults and parents are protective of children

- Stronger support for items/activities as necessities for children

- Adults in households with children go without to provide for children