

NSFG Sexlessness Analysis Results

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Ages 18–24, NSFG Waves 2006–2023

Key Finding:

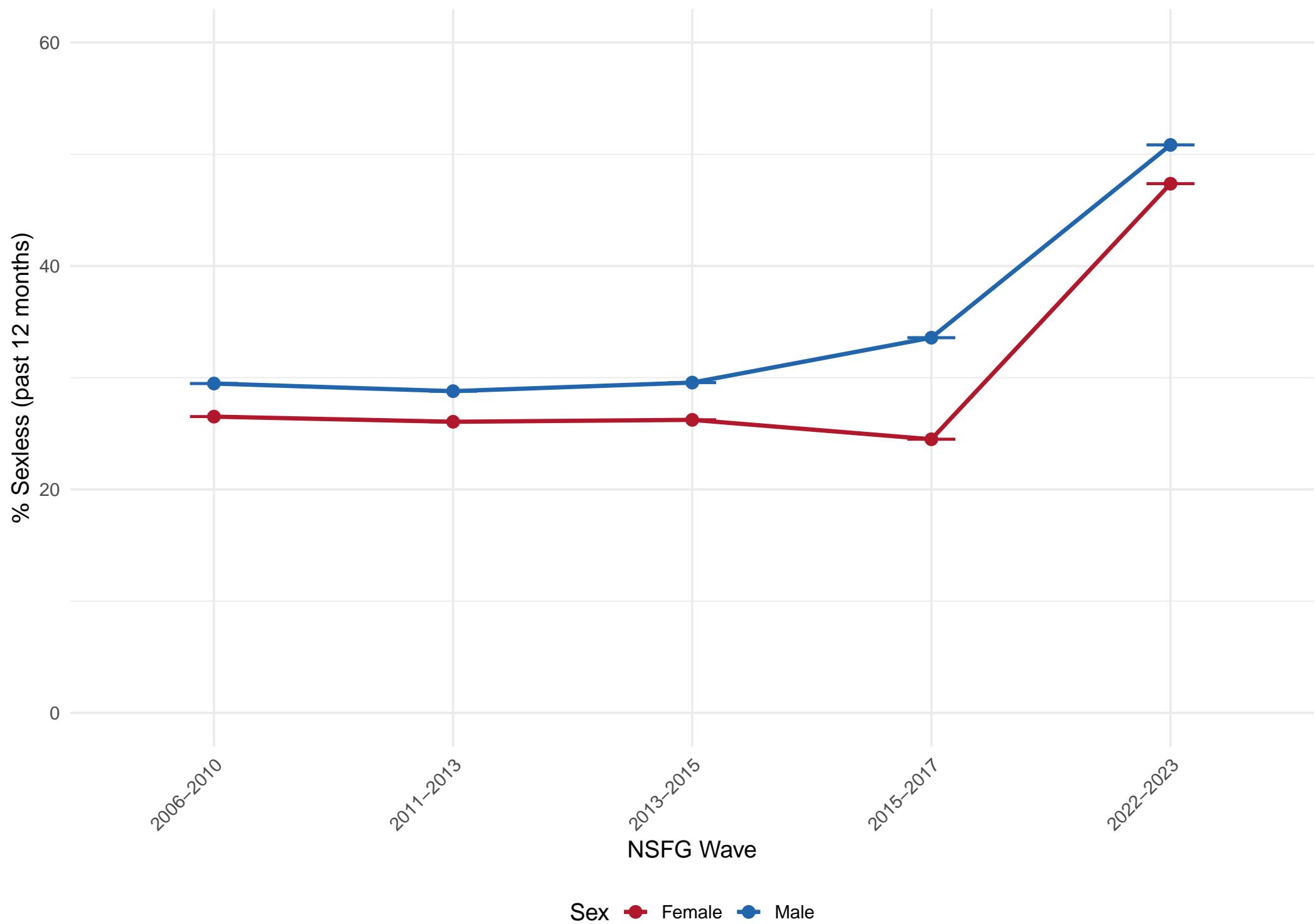
Dating apps caused a 6.2 pp widening of the male–female gap

in dry spell rates among sexually experienced young adults

($p = 0.017$)

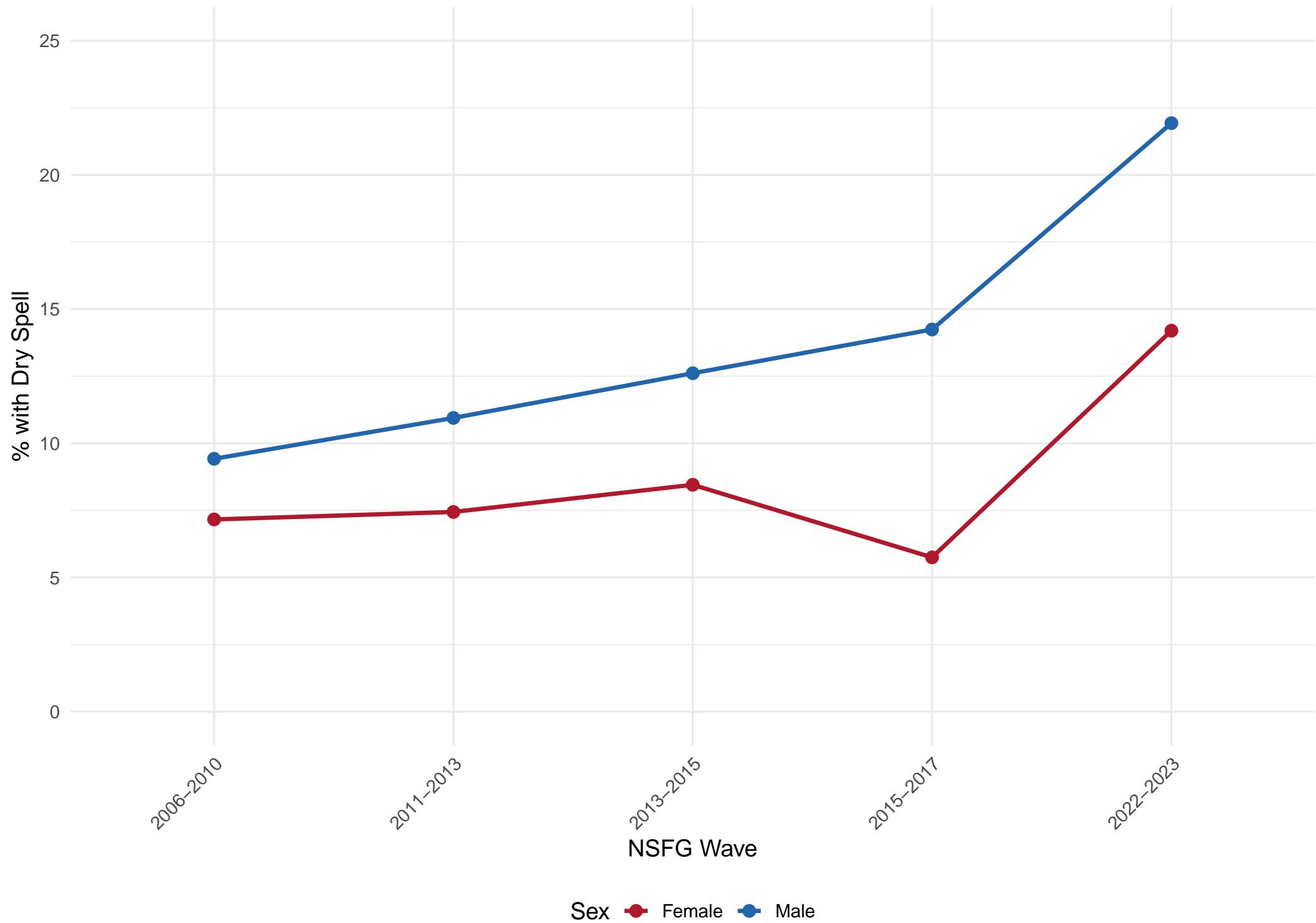
Overall Sexlessness Rates by Wave

Ages 18–24, weighted estimates with 95% CI



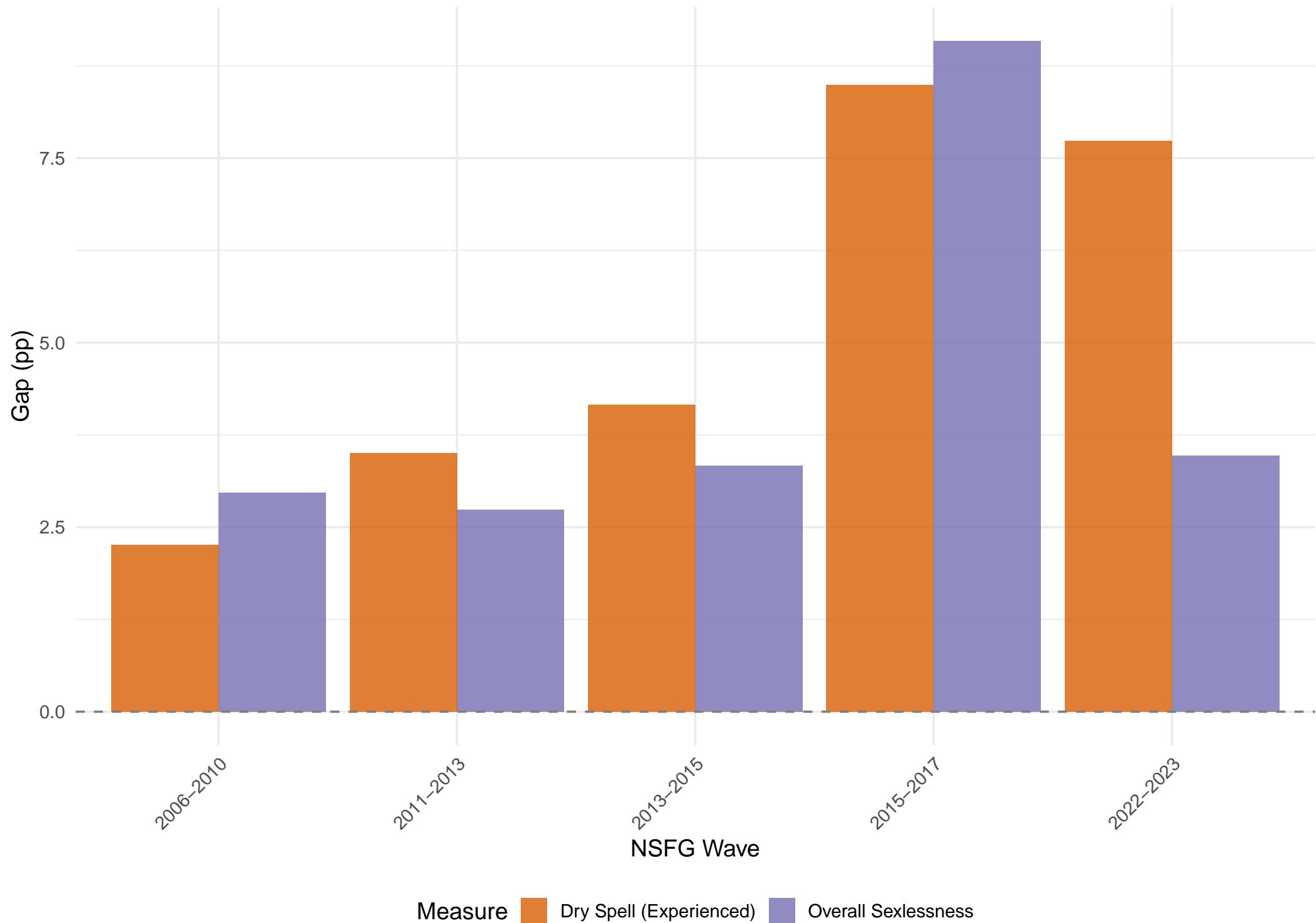
Dry Spell Rates Among Sexually Experienced

Ages 18–24 who have had sex but 0 partners in past 12 months



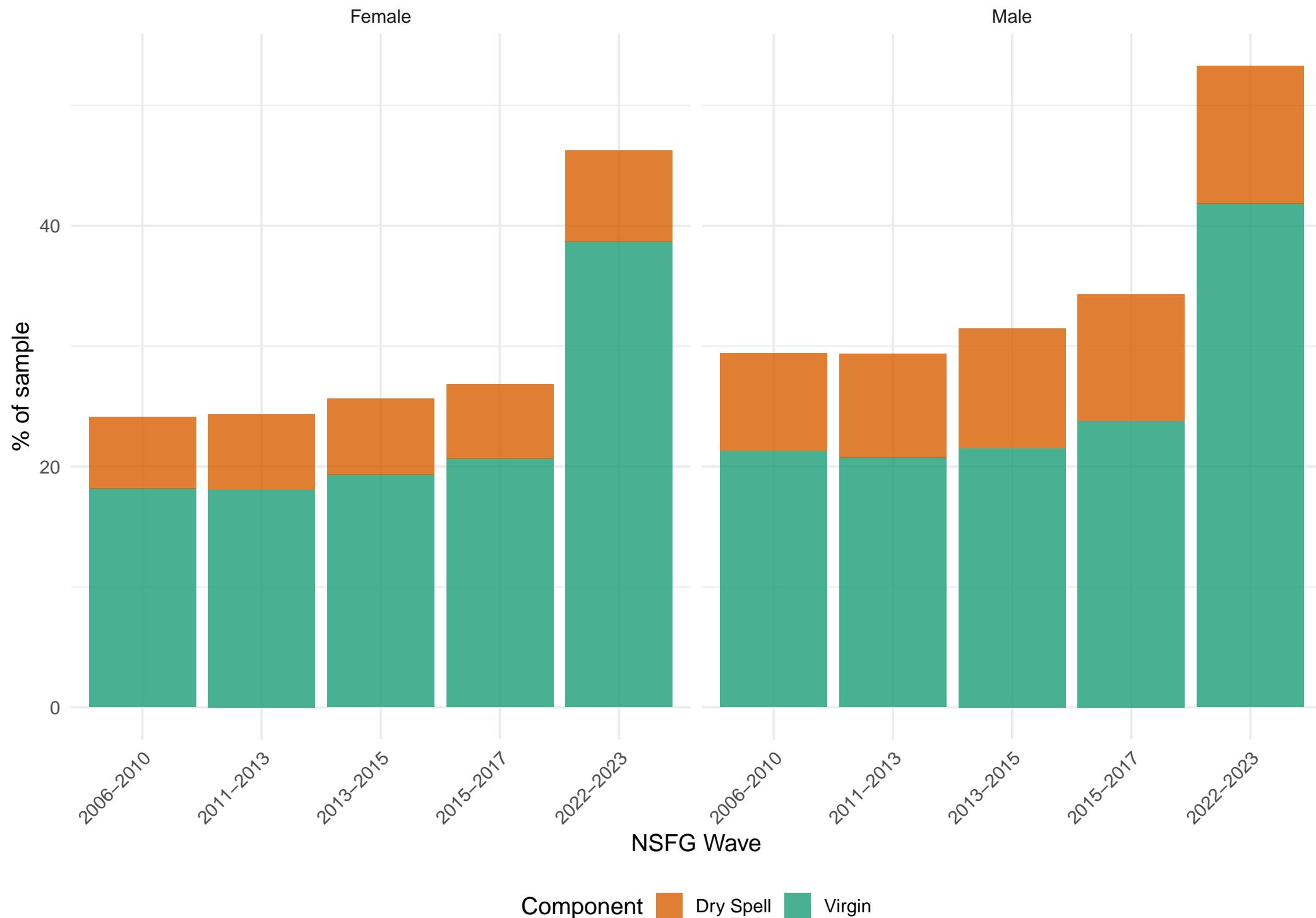
Male–Female Gap: Overall vs Dry Spell

Gap = Male rate – Female rate (percentage points)



Decomposition: Virginity vs Dry Spell

Together these sum to total sexlessness rate



Difference-in-Differences Results

Comparison	Outcome	DiD (pp)	SE (pp)	P-value	Significant
2006–10 vs 2015–17	Dry spell	6.2	2.6	0.017	Yes*
2006–10 vs 2022–23	Dry spell	5.5	3.5	0.119	No
Pre-trend: 2006–10 vs 2011–13	Dry spell (falsification)	1.2	2.1	0.561	No (good)

Comparison with GSS Results

Analysis	Pre Period	Post Period	DiD Estimate	P-value	Significant
GSS Overall Sexlessness	2000–2011	2012–2018	+10.6 pp	0.024	Yes
NSFG Overall Sexlessness	2006–2010	2022–2023	+0.5 pp	0.890	No
NSFG Dry Spell (Sexually Exp.)	2006–2010	2015–2017	+6.2 pp	0.017	Yes

Effect Size Comparison Across Analyses

Analysis	DiD_Estimate_pp	P_value	Significant
GSS: Overall sexlessness (2000–2011 vs 2012–2018)	10.600000	0.02400000	Yes
NSFG: Dry spell among experienced (2006–10 vs 2015–17)	6.230781	0.01694887	Yes
NSFG: Dry spell among experienced (2006–10 vs 2022–23)	5.472593	0.11944761	No

Sample Sizes by Wave and Sex

wave	Total_Female	Total_Male	Sexually Exp._Female	Sexually Exp._Male
2006–2010	3078	2700	2518	2125
2011–2013	1406	1248	1152	989
2013–2015	1350	1106	1089	868
2015–2017	1128	1009	895	769
2022–2023	938	760	575	442

Summary of Key Findings

1. Overall sexlessness shows NO significant dating app effect
 - Both sexes experienced ~20pp increase in sexlessness
 - Gap remained stable throughout
2. This is because VIRGINITY increased equally for both sexes
 - Male virginity: 21% → 42%
 - Female virginity: 18% → 39%
3. Among SEXUALLY EXPERIENCED, the pattern emerges:
 - DiD estimate: +6.2 pp (p=0.017)
 - Male dry spell rate increased faster than female
4. CONVERGENT VALIDITY with GSS:
 - GSS DiD (overall): +10.6pp, p=0.024
 - NSFG DiD (dry spell): +6.2pp, p=0.017
5. Falsification test PASSED:
 - Pre-trend (2006–10 vs 2011–13): +1.2pp, p=0.561 (n.s.)