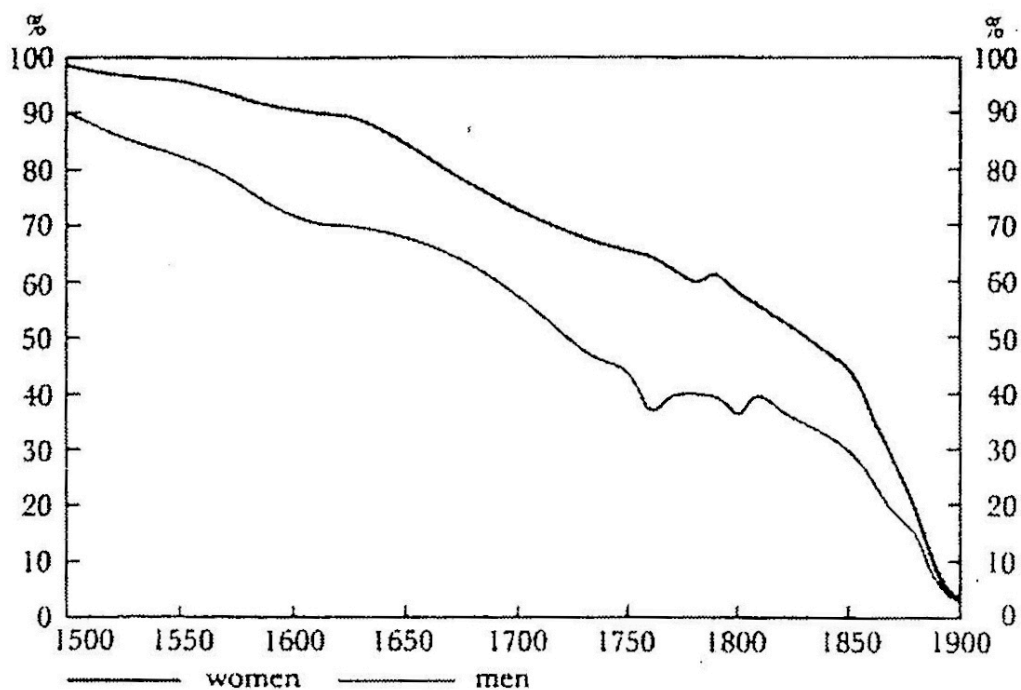


Estimated illiteracy of men and women in England, 1500-1900



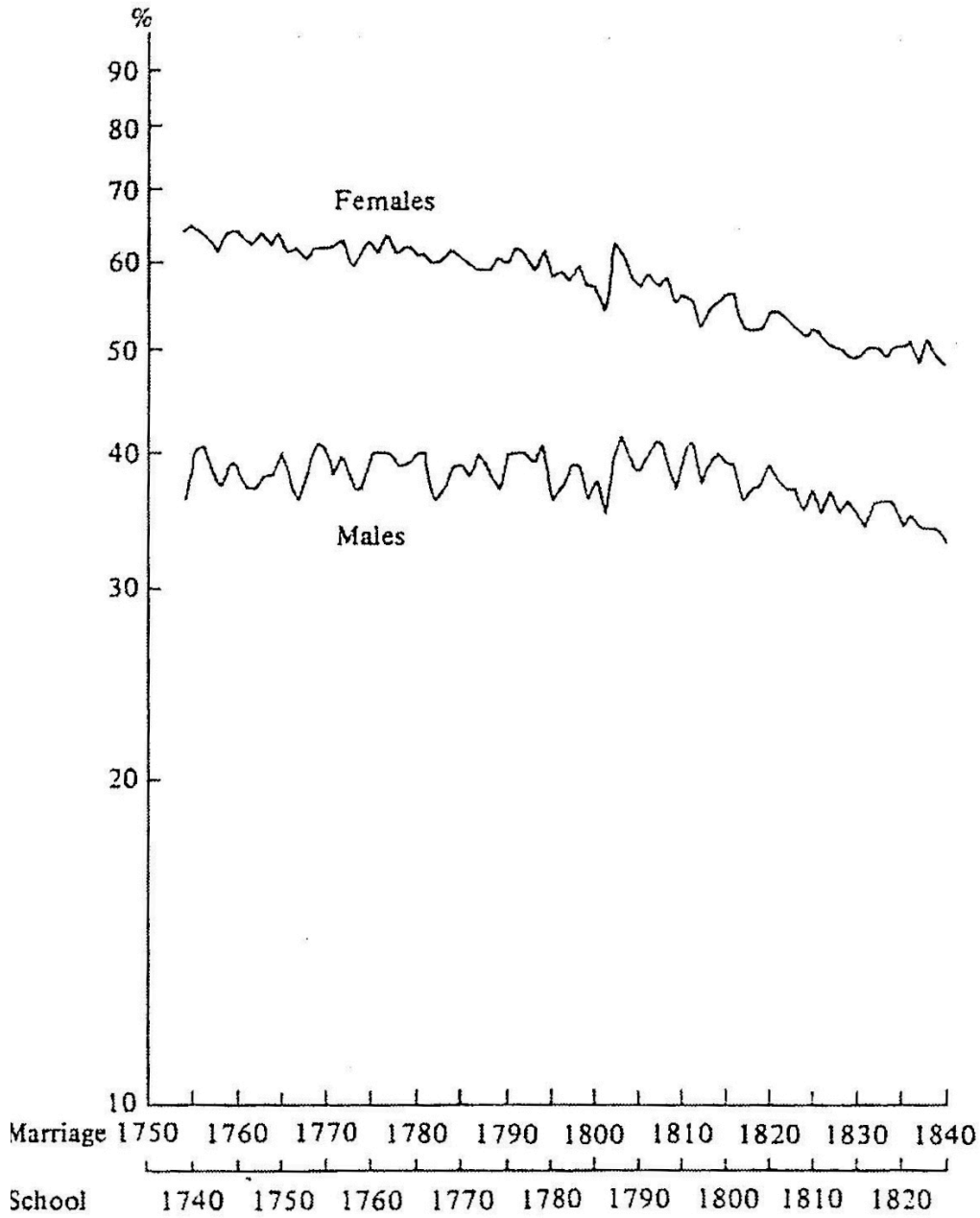
Literacy for selected areas in Europe and North America c. 1700

Region	Male literacy rate	Female literacy rate
England	40%	25%
France	29%	14%
Amsterdam	70%	44%
Moklinta, Sweden	89%	89%
(reading ability)		
Iceland	Almost 50%	Almost 50%
New England	70%	

Note: Literacy rates for England, France and Amsterdam based on signature rates at marriage.

David Mitch, "Education and Skill of the British Labour Force," in Roderick Floud and Paul Johnson, eds., *The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Britain, Vol. I: Industrialisation, 1700-1860*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. p. 344.

Estimated annual percentage of males and females unable to sign at marriage, 1754-1840  
(from a random sample of 274 English parish registers)



David Mitch, "Education and Skill of the British Labour Force," in Roderick Floud and Paul Johnson, eds., *The Cambridge Economic History of Modern Britain, Vol. I: Industrialisation, 1700-1860*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. p. 345