



The
Australian
Honours and Awards
Branch

Report
2012-16

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Information about the operations of the Australian Honours and Awards Branch and the Australian honours system more generally is available at the following internet addresses:

Internet home page: www.gg.gov.au

Internet annual reports:

www.gg.gov.au/office-official-secretary-governor-general/annual-reports

Australian honours:

www.dpmc.gov.au/government/its-honour

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Introduction

In February 2012, following a “Principles, Practices and Protocols” meeting of the Council for the Order of Australia, it was agreed that the Honours and Awards Branch would prepare and publish on the Governor-General’s website a five-yearly report on the Order, the work of the Council and the Australian Honours and Awards Branch (“the Branch”).

This report includes material addressing all elements of the Australian honours system administered by the Branch.

The first part of the report explains the honours system, its elements, the advisory bodies and the supporting administration.

The second part of the report is devoted to statistics and analysis, focussing on the Order of Australia. The majority of the Branch’s work is concerned with nominations in the Order, and it also attracts the most public interest. Some statistics are published regularly in the Annual Reports of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General. In those cases, generally only the last five years of statistics have been reproduced in this report. Some statistics have not been published before. Where resources have allowed, these statistics have been presented back to the beginning of the Australian honours system, in 1975. Statistics in this report are mostly for financial years, and any exceptions are noted. Charts labelled “2012-16” represent the financial years 2011-12 to 2015-16, inclusive.

Unless otherwise specified, references to the Order of Australia should be taken to refer only to the General Division. Nominations in the Military Division are initiated, considered and recommended external to the Branch, and this Office therefore only records data in relation to the outcomes.

Although not technically part of the Australian Public Service, the Office is committed to similar principles: to be impartial, committed to service, accountable, respectful and ethical in all its dealings.

There is no right or entitlement to an award. Whilst a merit-based process, it is necessarily subjective, judged against broad criteria.

The Office carefully manages honours processes, which are independent in character and free from political interference.

Thank you to staff of the Australian Honours and Awards Branch for their many, many hours of work to complete this report; finding time around their regular duties. Thank you, also, to staff from the honours areas in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Defence, Premiers’ Departments as well as members of the Council of the Order of Australia for their invaluable input.

Sharon Prendergast

Director

Australian Honours and Awards Branch

10 October 2016

The Australian honours system

There are detailed introductions to the honours system and descriptions of its elements available elsewhere, notably on the “It’s An Honour” website, www.dpmc.gov.au/government/its-honour. What follows is a precis of the system and its broad elements.

The Australian honours system formally began on 14 February 1975 with the introduction of three main elements:

- The Order of Australia
- The Australian Bravery Decorations
- The National Medal

The Order of Australia is a multi-level “society of honour”, recognising the merit of the service and achievements of its individual members. The Australian Bravery Decorations recognise individual or group acts of bravery. The National Medal is a long service and good conduct medal, awarded to members of uniformed services which aid people and property in times of crisis. Awards are made after 15 years of “diligent” service, and clasps to the medal may be awarded for additional periods of ten years.

Although the system formally began in 1975, uniquely Australian medals existed before then. Service during World War II by Australians was recognised through the Australia Service Medal 1939-45; and a Vietnam Medal was also established, in 1968. Both medals were created within the British Imperial honours system then in use, but could only be awarded for service by members of Australian armed forces. Even after 1975, the Australian and British systems operated in parallel. Imperial honours were awarded less often as time went on, until 1992, when it was agreed with Buckingham Palace that Australian governments would no longer recommend such awards.

The Sovereign still establishes Australian awards through Letters Patent, exercising the Royal prerogative. However, in all cases except the Victoria Cross for Australia, the Governor-General approves recommendations for appointment or award.

Since 1975, additional Australian awards have been established to enable the recognition of various types of service and achievements to continue, as the British forms were phased out. The Australian honours system has developed to a point at which it is truly unique, and tailored to Australia’s needs.

The broad groups of awards are meritorious, bravery and gallantry, long service and good conduct, operational service, and commemoration.

Meritorious

These awards recognise individuals who have performed service at a level above that which would be expected of someone in their position, or have made significant achievements. The Order of Australia is the pre-eminent member of this group and comprises a General Division for civilians and a Military Division for members of the Australian Defence Force. Honorary awards are also awarded to non-Australian citizens, in both Divisions. There are other awards to recognise individuals in specific fields: the Public Service Medal, the Australian Police Medal, the Australian Fire Service Medal, the Ambulance Service Medal, the Emergency Services Medal,

and the Australian Antarctic Medal. These awards entitle recipients to use post-nominals, letters placed after the name which denote a particular award, e.g. AO, AFSM.

Appointments and awards in the General Division of the Order of Australia are recommended by the Council for the Order, a 19-member body appointed by the Governor-General which meets twice a year to consider nominations. It includes representatives of every state and territory government, as well as community representatives and ex-officio members. The regulations governing the other meritorious awards provide for responsible ministers in each state and territory, and the Commonwealth, to recommend awards.

The Branch provides significant support to the Council for the Order of Australia, including receiving nominations, researching them, and preparing them for consideration. Between 1,500 and 2,000 eligible nominations are received every year, and the Council's policy is to consider all of them. Following Council consideration, the Branch administers the preparation of recommendations for the Governor-General, attends to sounding of potential recipients, and arranges the publication of honours lists. The Branch also handles the preparation of all insignia (medals) and warrants, for presentation around the country.

The Constitution of the Order of Australia provides for honorary awards to be recommended for foreign citizens who have made contributions of significant benefit to the Australian community or humanity at large. The Prime Minister or the Minister for Defence recommends honorary awards, in the General and Military Divisions respectively, to the Governor-General for approval.

On the recommendation of the Minister for Defence, the Governor-General approves appointments and awards in the Military Division of the Order of Australia to members of the Australian Defence Force.

The Branch receives recommendations for all other meritorious awards, makes checks for adherence to the provisions of governing documents, and presents them to the Governor-General. Sounding, announcement, insignia and warrant preparation are also carried out by Branch staff. Meritorious awards are usually announced in the two major honours lists each year, on Australia Day and The Queen's Birthday public holiday, on the Governor-General's website, and publically announced through media. Publication of the list is also notified in the Commonwealth Gazette. There is one exception, the Australian Antarctic Medal, which is always announced on Mid-Winter's Day, 21 June.

Bravery and Gallantry

Bravery and gallantry decorations recognise acts of bravery by individuals or groups. Gallantry decorations were instituted for the purpose of according recognition to members of the Defence Force and certain other persons who perform acts of gallantry in action or under fire.

Bravery decorations are for civilians, or members of Australia's armed forces who carry out a brave act in times of peace, or of war (where the act was carried out in circumstances other than in actions against the enemy). Bravery and gallantry decorations at all levels except the commendation level, and group citations, come with a post-nominal entitlement.

The Branch supports the Australian Bravery Decorations Council, which is a 14-member body appointed by the Governor-General and includes representatives of each state and territory, two ex-officio members and four community members. The Council meets twice yearly, usually in May and November, to consider nominations and make recommendations to the Governor-General for awards.

Like the Order of Australia, the Branch handles all processes following the Council's meeting, up to preparing insignia and warrants for presentation. Bravery award recipients appear in the Bravery honours list which is published twice a year on the website and publically announced through media. Publication of the list is also notified in the Commonwealth Gazette. There is no set timeframe for the announcement of bravery awards, although generally there are two announcements each year during March and August.

Nominations for gallantry decorations are generated in the military chain of command and are recommended for the Governor-General's approval by the Minister for Defence. Gallantry decorations are usually announced in the two major honours lists each year. The Victoria Cross for Australia is approved by The Sovereign on the recommendation of the relevant Minister.

Long service and good conduct

These medals recognise the commitment and good service of members of those services which protect life and property, at personal risk to those members. The National Medal was the first such medal in the Australian system, and was intended to cover all services. It initially included police, fire, ambulance and defence services. However, separate defence medals were created in 1982, and other services have been added to the National Medal in subsequent years, including emergency services, corrective services, surf patrols, vehicle rescue services, and helicopter rescue services. The defence medals established in 1982 were replaced with a single, all-ranks medal in 1998. In 2010 the National Police Service Medal was established for the purpose of according recognition for the unique contribution and significant commitment of those persons who have given ethical and diligent service as a sworn member of an Australian police service. Long service and good conduct medals do not have a post-nominal entitlement.

The Chief Officer of each eligible organisation makes recommendations for the award of the National Medal directly to the Governor-General. In the case of defence medals, the Chief of the Defence Force is the formal recommending authority, but this authority is usually delegated.

The Branch receives schedules of recommended awards from Chief Officers, conducts checks for compliance with governing documents, and presents them to the Governor-General. The outcomes are then reported back to each organisation, and insignia for civilian awards are engraved and sent out for presentation by each organisation. There are in excess of 8,000 National Medals or clasps to the medal awarded every year. Preparation of defence long service medals is handled by the Department of Defence's Directorate of Honours and Awards. There is no announcement of the award of long service and good conduct medals, and presentations generally occur within the relevant organisations at a local level.

Operational Service

These medals have traditionally been for military service in particular places, at particular times. They represent participation in a defined campaign, as a member of a specified group, considered to be collectively merit-worthy because of the objective and, sometimes, the danger involved in carrying out the mission. Because they are for participation in a collective effort, there is no post-nominal entitlement for operational service medal recipients.

For the military, “campaign medals” are considered a different variety of operational service medal, being established for specific campaigns. Australian campaign medals include the Vietnam Medal, the Iraq Medal and the Afghanistan Medal.

The Australian military has had a succession of contemporary and historical operational service medals, which were awarded with a clasp to denote the particular deployment on which they were earned. This group comprises the Australian Service Medal 1945-75, the Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75, the Australian Service Medal, the Australian Active Service Medal, and the Australian Operational Service Medal. The “1945-75” medals were created to retrospectively recognise Australian military deployments which had not been recognised at the time, and a distinction was made between non-warlike and warlike deployments. The contemporary medals followed the same scheme, and both were replaced by the single Australian Operational Service Medal in 2012. There are no clasps for the current medal. Instead, it can be awarded multiple times with different ribbons denoting the deployment for which it is awarded. The non-warlike/warlike nature of the deployment is identified in the ribbon design, usually with the inclusion of a central red stripe to denote “warlike”. Qualification for these medals is based on service records, and the schedules are prepared by the Defence Directorate of Honours and Awards, for approval by the Governor-General.

A small number of civilian operational service medals also exist. In 1991, the Police Overseas Service Medal was established, to provide recognition to police deployed overseas on peacekeeping missions. A single medal is issued, with a clasp to denote the operation for which it was awarded. Subsequent awards for different deployments are indicated by additional clasps. The medal is awarded on the recommendation of the Chief Officer of an Australian police force.

The Civilian Service Medal 1939-45 was established in 1994, in response to a recommendation of the 1994 report of the Committee of Inquiry into Defence and Defence Related Awards. The medal recognises members of World War II home-front services which supported the war effort. There are requirements to have served with particular organisations, as well as for minimum duration, place and time. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet receives and assesses applications, although most claims to this award have now been made.

The Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal was established in 1999, in response to a recommendation of the 1995 Report of the Review of Australian Honours and Awards. The medal recognises service in declared humanitarian operations, by members of groups prescribed for that operation. Service must be in particular places for minimum durations, in a particular time frame. Applications are received and assessed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Finally, in 2011 the National Emergency Medal was established, as a domestic counterpart to the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal. A Committee appointed

by the Governor-General makes recommendations to establish operations, and assesses awards for “significant service”. Otherwise, awards for “sustained service” are assessed against the regulations for the award by the staff of the Australian Honours and Awards Branch.

Operational service medals are not included in honours lists, with presentation generally occurring at a local level.

Commemoration

Commemorative medals are issued to mark significant occasions in the life of the nation. There have been three such Australian medals: the 80th Anniversary Armistice Remembrance Medal, issued in 1999 to all 71 surviving Australian World War I veterans; the Australian Sports Medal, issued in 2000, to coincide with the Sydney 2000 Olympics; and the Centenary Medal, issued on a broad basis, to commemorate Australia’s Centenary of Federation in 2001. Commemorative medals do not come with a post-nominal entitlement, and are not announced in honours lists.

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The bodies which administer the system are as follows:

The Australian Honours and Awards Branch

The Branch is located at Government House, Canberra, with a staff of approximately thirty. Nearly half are employed full-time in supporting the Council for the Order of Australia – conducting research on nominations and preparing them for consideration by the Council at its two meetings each year. Other staff are dedicated to supporting the Bravery Decorations Council, the National Emergency Medal Committee, and providing administrative support to other functions.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

The Department is responsible for honours policy advice to the government of the day, as well as promoting the honours system, primarily through the dedicated website, www.dpmc.gov.au/government/its-honour. The Department has administrative responsibility for the Civilian Service Medal 1939-45, the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal, honorary awards in the Order of Australia, and the Public Service Medal (federal).

The Directorate of Honours and Awards – Department of Defence

The Directorate administers most aspects of Australian honours available to members of the Australian Defence Force. This largely involves long service medals, the Australian Defence Medal, and operational service medals, but also includes meritorious awards in the Distinguished and Conspicuous Decorations, Gallantry medals, and the Military Division of the Order of Australia. The final stages of the meritorious awards processes are administered at the Branch. The Directorate also provides policy advice on military awards to the Defence leadership group and to the Government, in consultation with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Chief Officers of various organisations

Police, fire, ambulance, emergency and corrective services at all levels of government are responsible for preparing recommendations for long service and good conduct awards, as well as for their respective meritorious awards (e.g. the Australian Police Medal). Most of these organisations have a protocol or ceremonial area which handles these responsibilities, and which liaises with the Branch for advice as required. The service awards are recommended directly by organisations, while meritorious awards have to be submitted to the responsible minister for recommendation.

The Australian Honours and Awards Branch – five year report

The majority of Branch work supports the three advisory bodies for the Order of Australia, Australian Bravery Decorations and the National Emergency Medal. This report is arranged to firstly focus on those elements of the honours system with which the Branch is most involved. The order of presentation is as follows:

- Order of Australia
- Australian Bravery Decorations
- National Emergency Medal
- Meritorious Awards
- Long service and good conduct medals
- Gallantry decorations
- Distinguished and Conspicuous service decorations and the Champion Shots Medal
- Civilian operational service medals

No further information is presented on commemorative medals. Such medals are established to mark a particular occasion, and are usually all awarded over a short period of time, with no continuing eligibility. All three Australian commemorative medals were established more than ten years prior to the period on which this report is focused, and only one such award, of the Centenary Medal, was made in the period covered by this report.

One of the qualifying criteria for the Centenary Medal is living through the first century of Australian federation, i.e. those Australian citizens born on or before 31 December 1901 and who lived to celebrate the centenary of federation on 1 January 2001. One award of the Centenary Medal in this category was made in 2012.

Before addressing the various elements of the honours system, there is a brief report on significant developments in the Branch's work in the last five years.

1. Developments 2012-16

Digital documentation

The major development in the Australian Honours and Awards Branch in the last five years has been the transition to electronic delivery and presentation of meeting papers.

Beginning with the National Emergency Medal Committee meeting in October 2013, a format for delivering searchable PDF documents on tablet devices has been developed and is now fully implemented for all three advisory bodies. This has enabled significant savings in paper stocks, and in freight charges. For example, when presented in hard-copy, the full set of papers delivered to members of the Council for the Order of Australia for each meeting usually occupied ten ring binders, delivered to each member by freight in two secure suitcases. This occurred twice per year. The same volume of information can now be delivered on a single tablet device.

With the development of electronic presentation, papers can also be delivered and updated by secure services, enabling members of advisory bodies to preview and comment on documents prior to receiving the final versions. Furthermore, the papers themselves, and complementary material, is displayed on a large common screen during meetings. Our experience is that this can enhance discussion by allowing all members to literally be on the same page.

These developments have been welcomed and encouraged by members of the honours advisory bodies. All three bodies now use this technology, and the Branch's existing processes for generating documents have been adapted with this end product in mind.

The Branch continues to work towards a fully-functioned electronic nomination form for the Order of Australia, capable of being completed and submitted online.

Knights and Dames of the Order of Australia

On 25 March 2014 the then Prime Minister announced the reinstatement of the Knight/Dame level in the Order of Australia. On 29 October 2015 the level was removed. Two women became Dames and three men became Knights in this period. In early 2015 the Constitution of the Order was changed so that appointments at this level would be recommended by the Council rather than the Prime Minister, but no appointments were made in this way before the level was removed.

2. Order of Australia: Members of the Council

The Council for the Order of Australia comprises 19 members, made up of three groups:

- eight members, one recommended by each of the State Premiers and Territory Chief Ministers
- eight members recommended by the Prime Minister from the broader community (one of whom is recommended to be Chair of the Council)
- three ex-officio members:
 - the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council
 - the Deputy Secretary, Governance, of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
 - the Chief of the Defence Force

Members appointed in the first two groups serve two year terms, and may be re-appointed.

Deputies may be appointed for state and territory representatives, and for ex-officio members, to attend if the member is unable to do so.

The Council generally meets twice each year to consider nominations for awards and appointments in the Order, to be announced on Australia Day or The Queen's Birthday. The meetings occur approximately 5-6 months ahead of the respective announcements, and are usually two full days in duration each.

The current membership of the Council is available through the Governor-General's website, www.gg.gov.au, and is published in each Annual Report of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General.

The Council applies policies which affect its members during their appointments:

- a current member may not be a nominator or a nominee
 - if a nomination is received for a current member, it is set aside by the Branch until the person is no longer a member
- current members are not consulted as referees for nominations

These policies are intended to avoid conflicts of interest and preserve the integrity of the consideration process. The Council also has a standing arrangement for members to declare a conflict or potential perception of a conflict of interest on particular nominations under consideration, and be excluded from discussion as appropriate. However, this is balanced with the expertise or perspective that a Council member can bring to a discussion through personal knowledge of a nominee, and is judged on a case-by-case basis.

Below are statistics on the gender balance and duration of appointment of Council members. The figures in this section do not represent financial years.

Since 1975, the gender split of all persons appointed to the Council for the Order of Australia has been 78.8% male, 21.2% female. This data represents the gender of members appointed, but does not represent attendance at meetings.

Chart 1: OA Council members by gender, 1975-2016

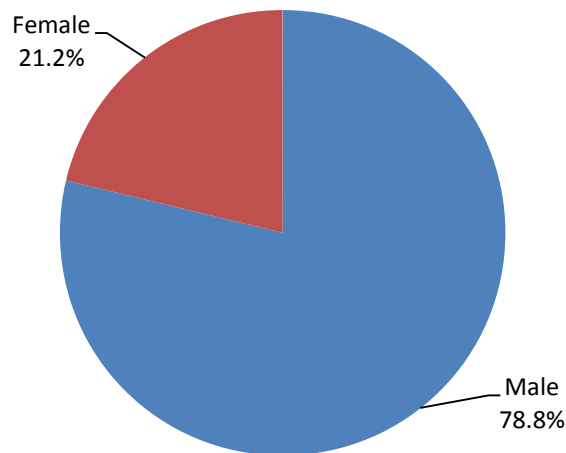


Chart 2: OA Council: ex-officio members by gender, 1975-2016

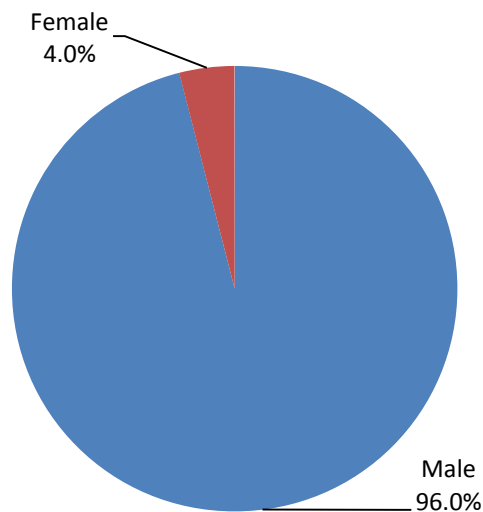


Chart 3: OA Council: state/territory members by gender, 1975-2016

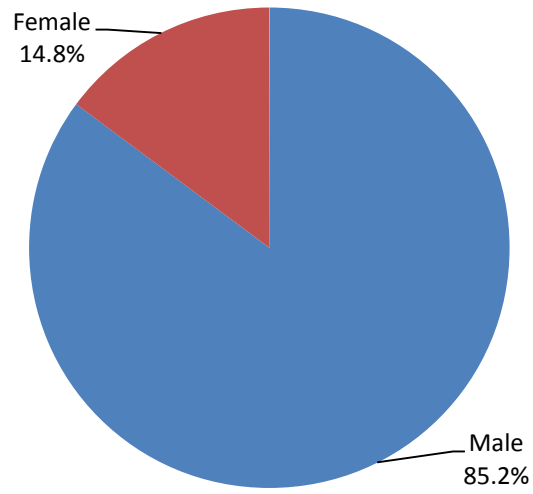


Chart 4: OA Council: community members by gender, 1975-2016

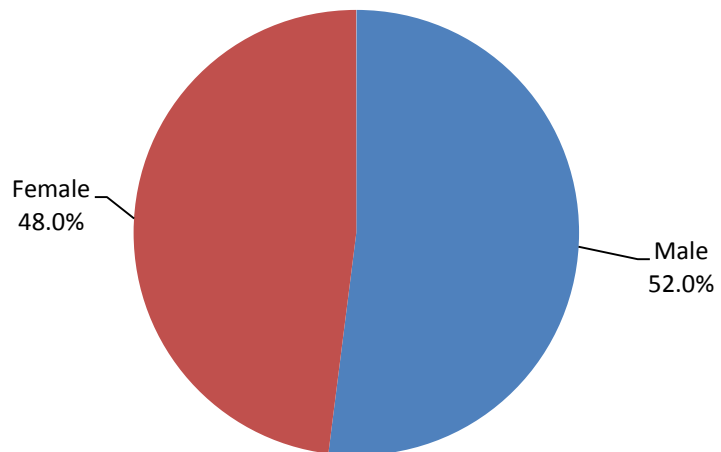
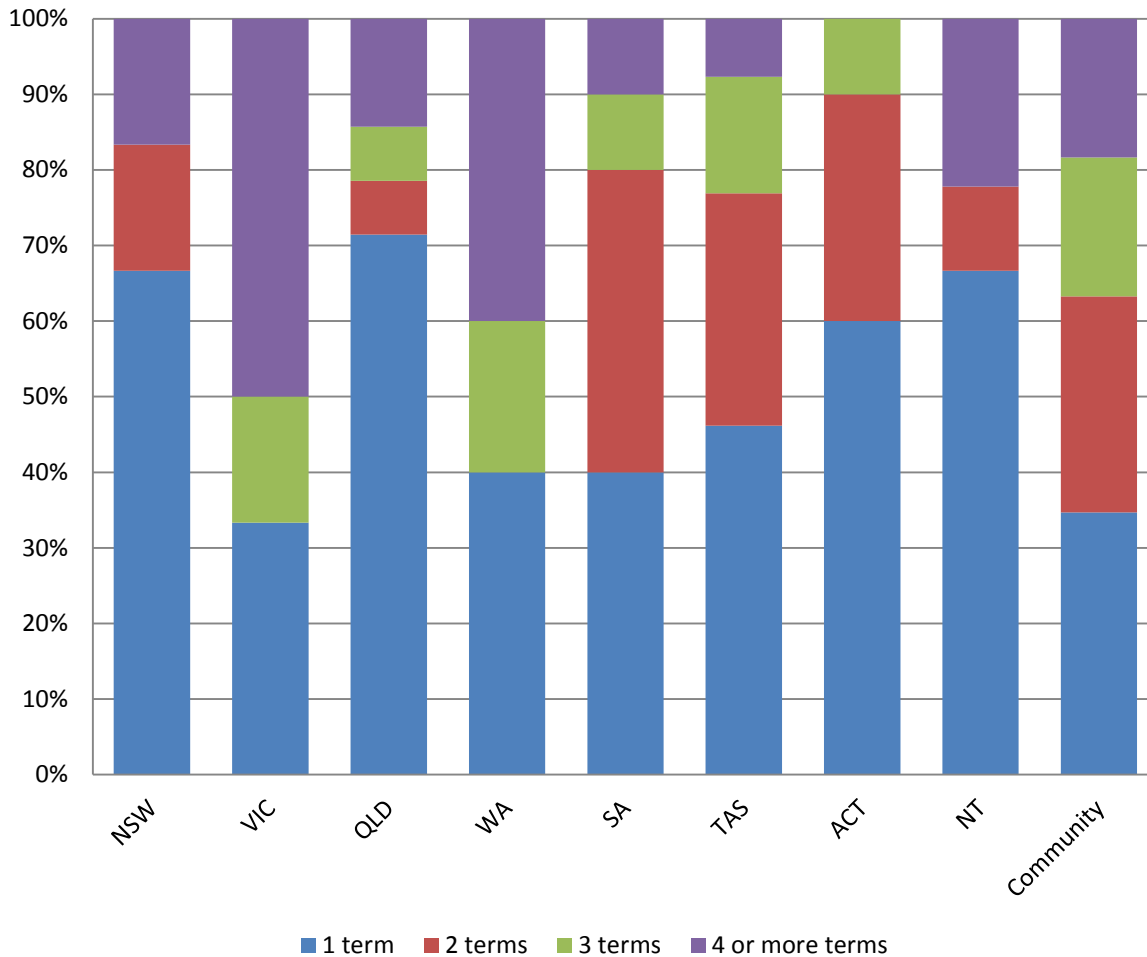


Chart 5 gives a proportional comparison of the length of appointment of members from the states, territories, and of community members. Each column illustrates the proportion of members appointed for one, two, three, or four or more terms.

Chart 5: OA Council: comparative length of appointments, by role, 1975-2016



This data does not include deputies or ex-officio members. Noting that appointments are for two years duration, and that there are two meetings per year, a single term represents service over 4 meetings. However, as noted above, this data is not intended to represent actual attendance.

The raw number of members since 1975, from each state or territory, and appointed as community members, is as follows:

Table 1: OA Council members by role, number since 1975

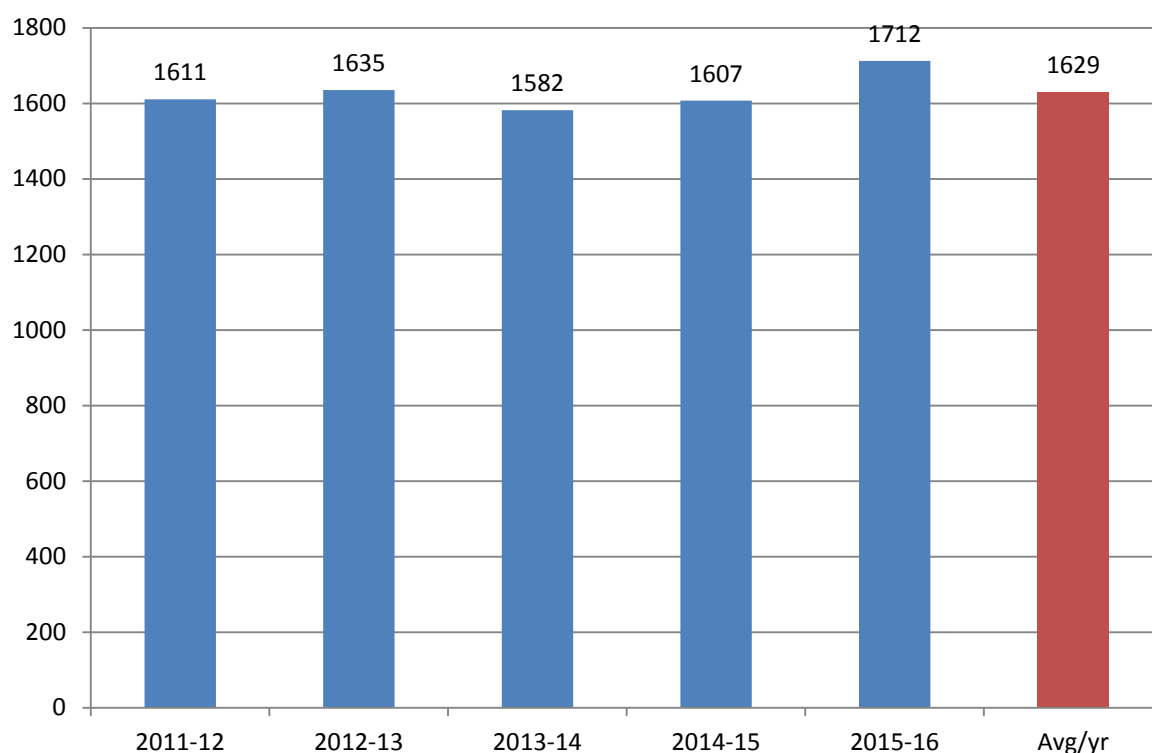
NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Comm
12	6	14	5	10	13	10	9	49

3. Order of Australia: volume of nominations received

Anyone can nominate a member of the community for an award in the General Division of the Order of Australia. There are no advertised closing dates for nominations, and they are received at the Australian Honours and Awards Branch, both electronically and in hardcopy, continuously throughout the year.

Nominations are generally processed in order of receipt and the nomination process can take between 18 months and two years, from receipt of the nomination to the announcement of an award. Monitoring the flow of eligible nominations received so that they are researched and presented for consideration by the Council, without major fluctuation in numbers, is a core task of the Australian Honours and Awards Branch. As demonstrated below, the volume received is reasonably stable, and able to be researched within the resources available in a timely manner. The most recent five years to June are shown in the following charts.

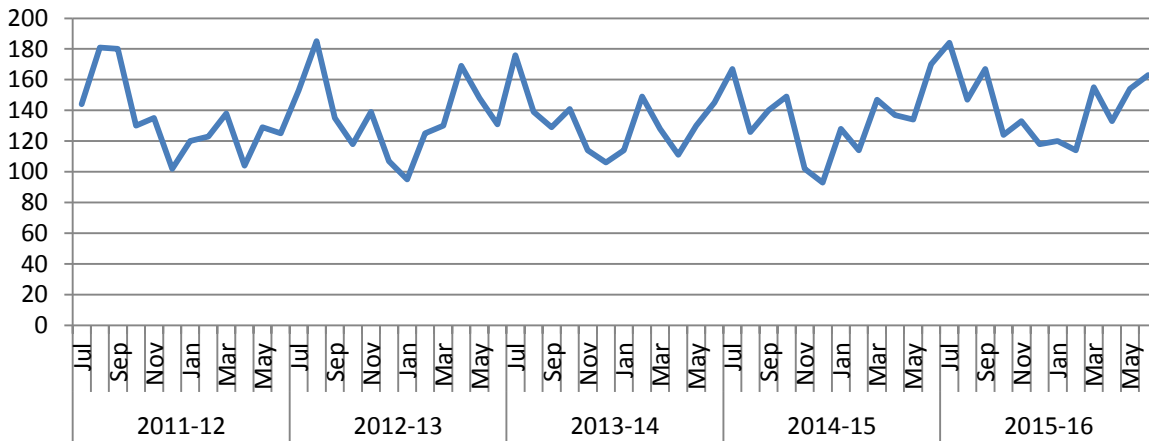
Chart 6: OA nominations received, annual volume 2012-16



There is natural variation around an average of approximately 1,600 nominations received per year. This translates to approximately 800 nominations considered at each meeting of the Council.

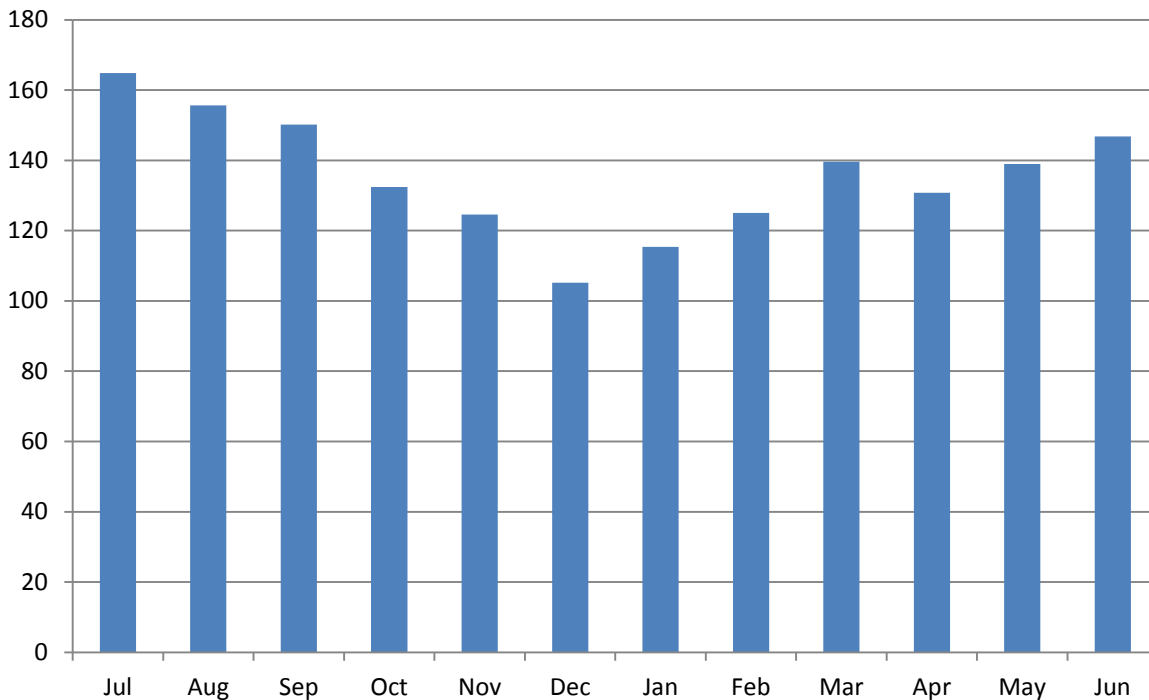
The actual number of nominations considered at each meeting, and the resulting success rate, is provided to media outlets as part of the embargoed information supplied prior to each honours list announcement. The same data is published as an annual figure in each Annual Report of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General.¹

Chart 7: OA nominations received by month, 2012-16



There is substantial variation from month to month, ranging between the highest point of 185 (August 2012) and the lowest point of 93 (December 2014).

Chart 8: OA nominations: average received per calendar month, 2012-16



Nominations increase after each honours list announcement – Australia Day (26 January) and The Queen’s Birthday (second Monday in June).

4. Order of Australia: gender balance in recipients and nominees

Women currently receive approximately 30% of all awards (see **Chart 11**). The figure is slightly lower for the full life of the Order. Charts 9 and 10 do not represent financial years.

Chart 9: OA gender balance, all recipients 1975-2016

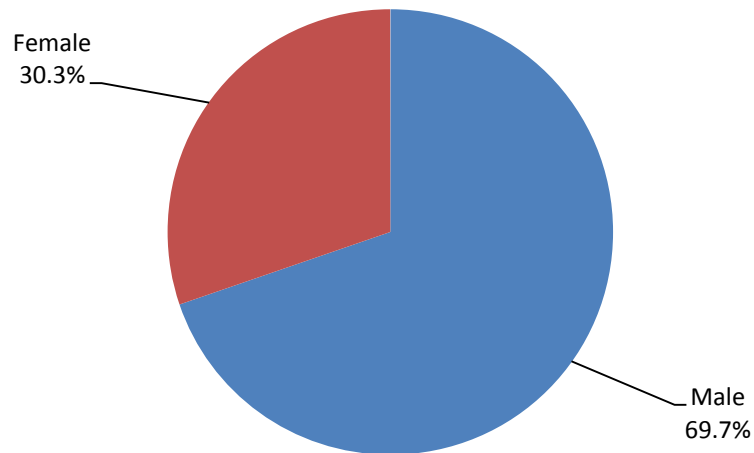


Chart 10: OA gender balance, all nominees 1975-2016

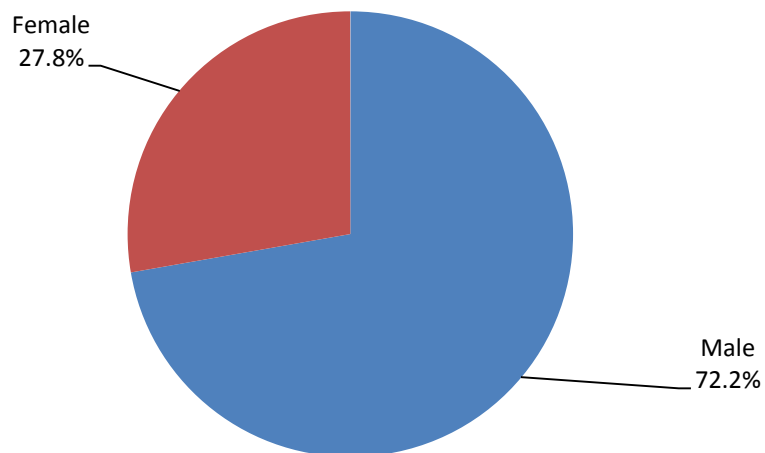


Chart 11: OA gender balance, all recipients 2012-16

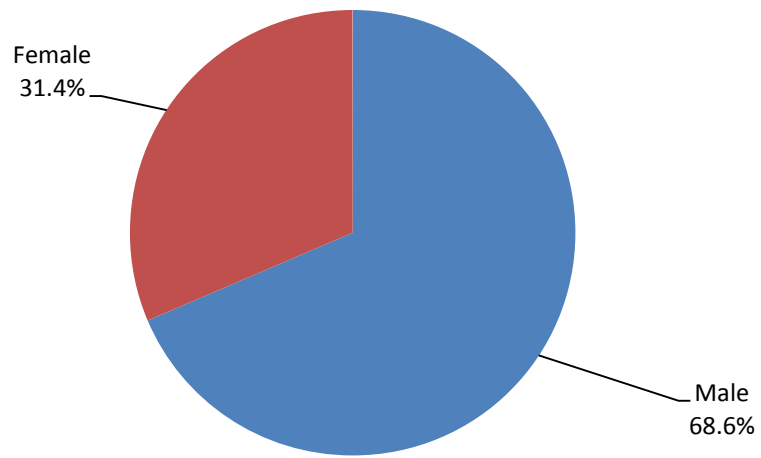
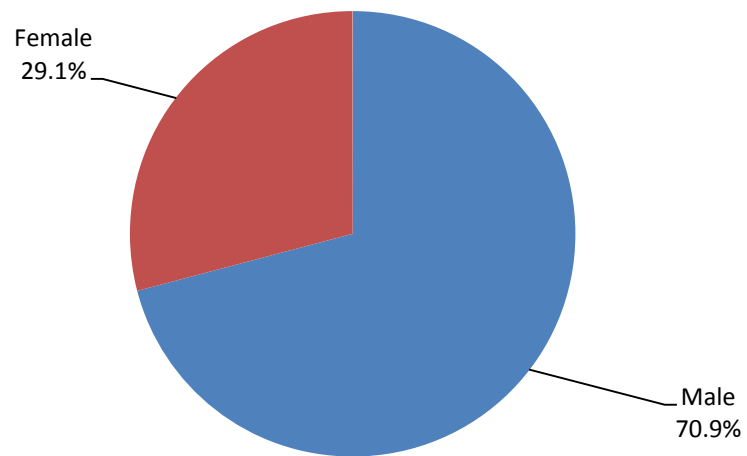


Chart 12: OA gender balance, all nominees 2012-16



5. Order of Australia: nomination and award trends by category

In preparing nominations for consideration by the Council, the Branch groups them according to category of service. There are thirty major categories, and most have sub-categories, as well as an “other”, and/or a “general” category, to be able to accommodate unusual or new types of service or achievement. Grouping nominations in this way assists the Council to consider comparative merit.

The following pages include charts illustrating volumes and trends for each major category, by gender and award level. The introductory text lists any included sub-categories. There is also a description of volume. For this report, a volume of under 100 for the five years is described as “small”, between 100 and 500 is “medium”, and over 500 is “large”. The description of the volume applies to the volume of nominations received, but does not imply any expectation of future trends. For example, it is possible that a surge of nominations, or a drop, could alter the volume description of a particular category in future.

The data is broken down into individual meetings, giving ten data points for the five years. “ADXX” is data for an Australia Day honours list, while “QBXX” is for a Queen’s Birthday honours list. A financial year figure can be derived by combining the AD and QB figures for a given year.

It is important to note that each nomination counted is the presentation of that nomination at a single meeting. This does not preclude the same nominee being presented at the next or a subsequent meeting, in cases where the Council decides to defer consideration, or where a new nomination for the same person is made; and this would mean the same nominee appears more than once in this data.

Therefore, the volume of nominees is actually fewer than the total nominations presented in this data. It follows that a nomination not counted as successful at one meeting (because it was deferred) may be successful at a subsequent meeting. This presentation therefore may overstate the number of unsuccessful nominations.

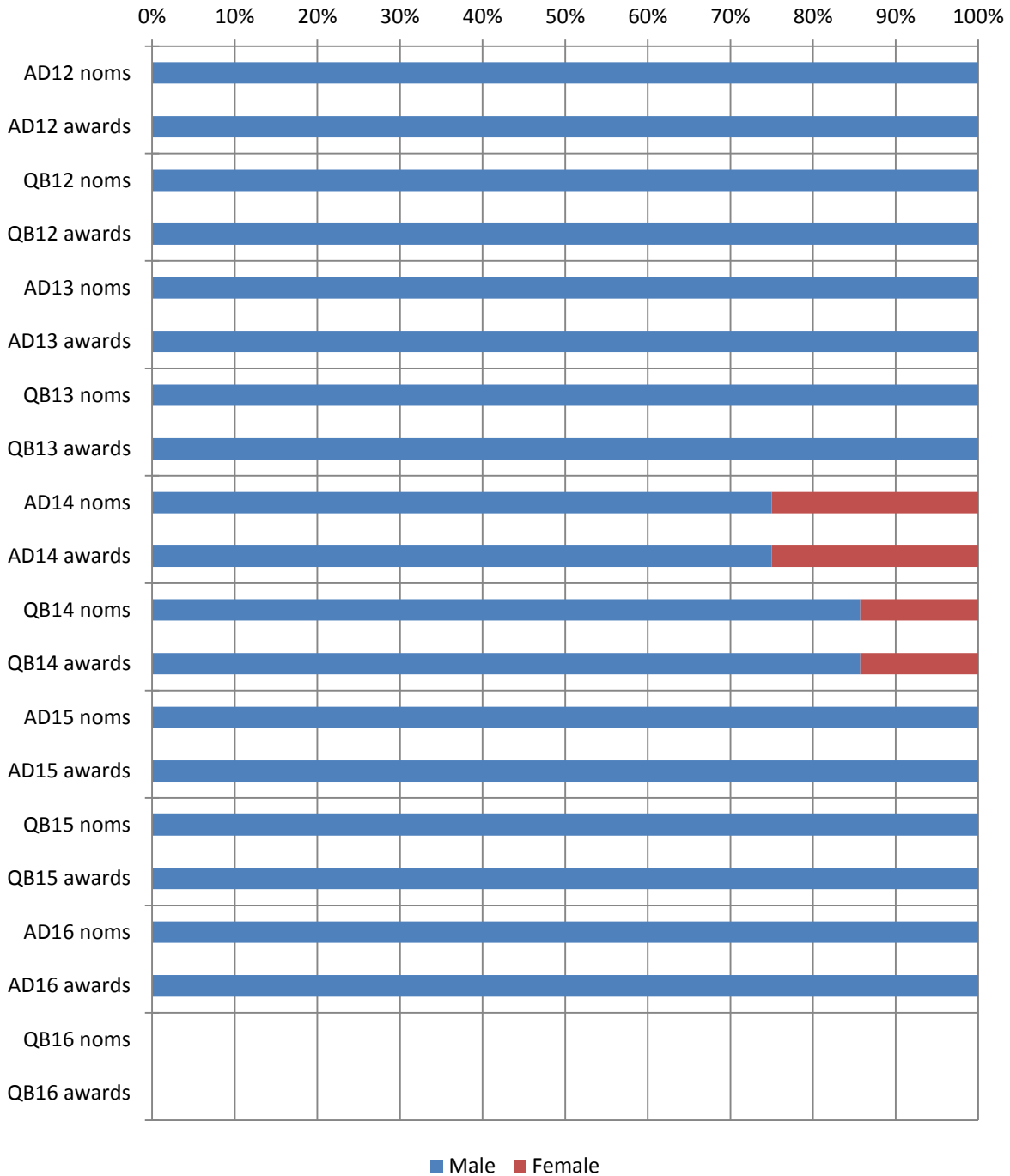
Award level profiles are given for each category, in raw numbers, by gender. Awards at the Knight/Dame level are not included in the data presented here, because no appointments at that level have been made on the recommendation of the Council. Where applicable, appointments recommended by the Prime Minister at this level are noted following the award level profile chart.

A success trend line by gender is also given for “medium” and “large” categories, but would not have been meaningful for the “small” categories.

Architecture

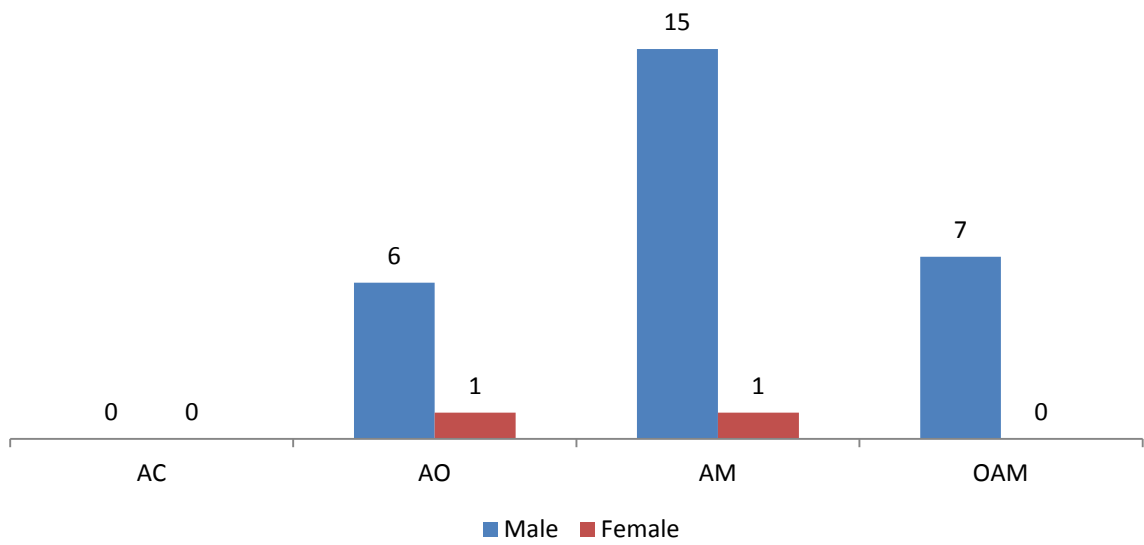
This is a small category, with 34 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It includes two sub-categories: Architecture and Town Planning.

Chart 13: Architecture – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the QB16 meeting.

Chart 14: Architecture – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



The Arts

This is a medium category, with 448 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It includes the following sub-categories: Acting/Theatre, Administration, Art, Dance, Entertainment, General, Literature, Museums & Galleries, Music, Opera, Photography, Sculpture/Pottery/Artisan/ Crafts/Trades, and Other.

Chart 15: The Arts – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

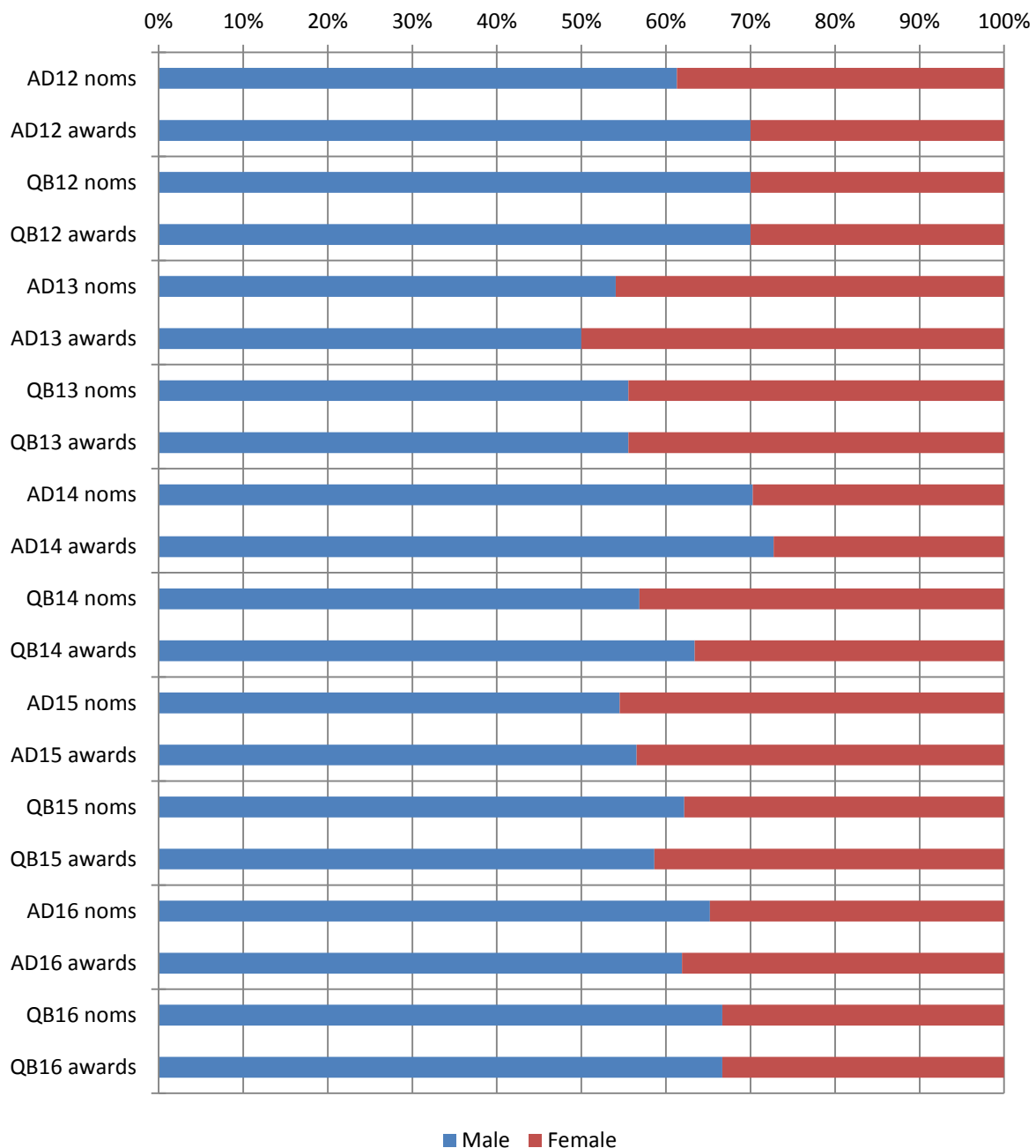


Chart 16: The Arts – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

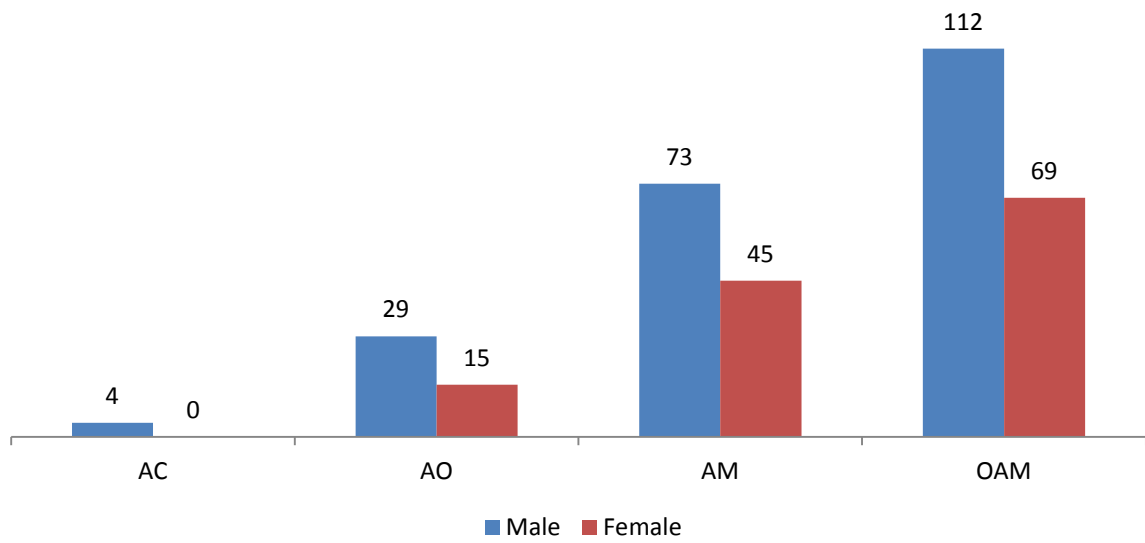
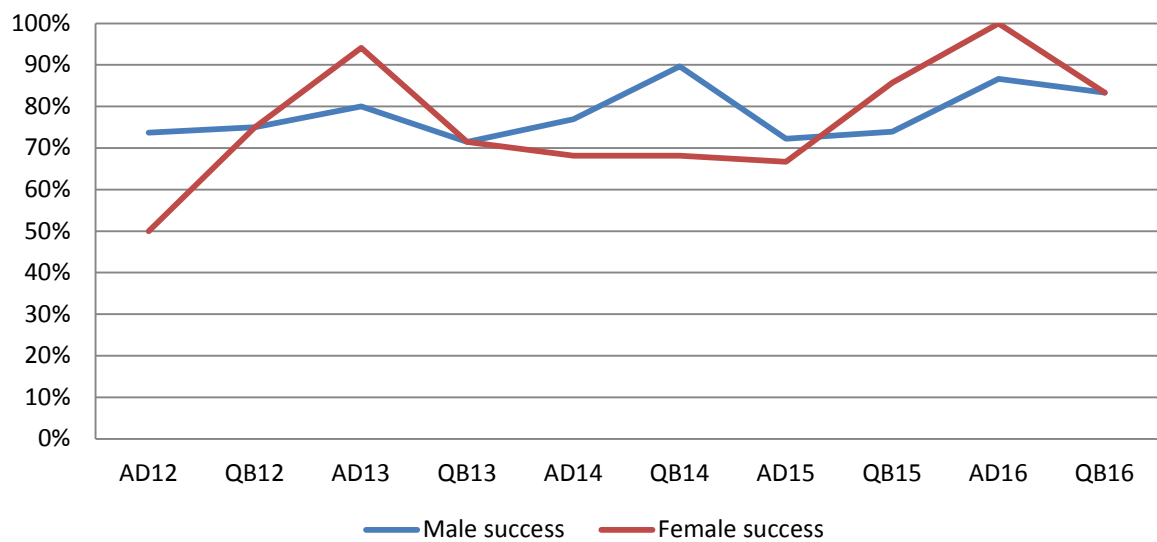


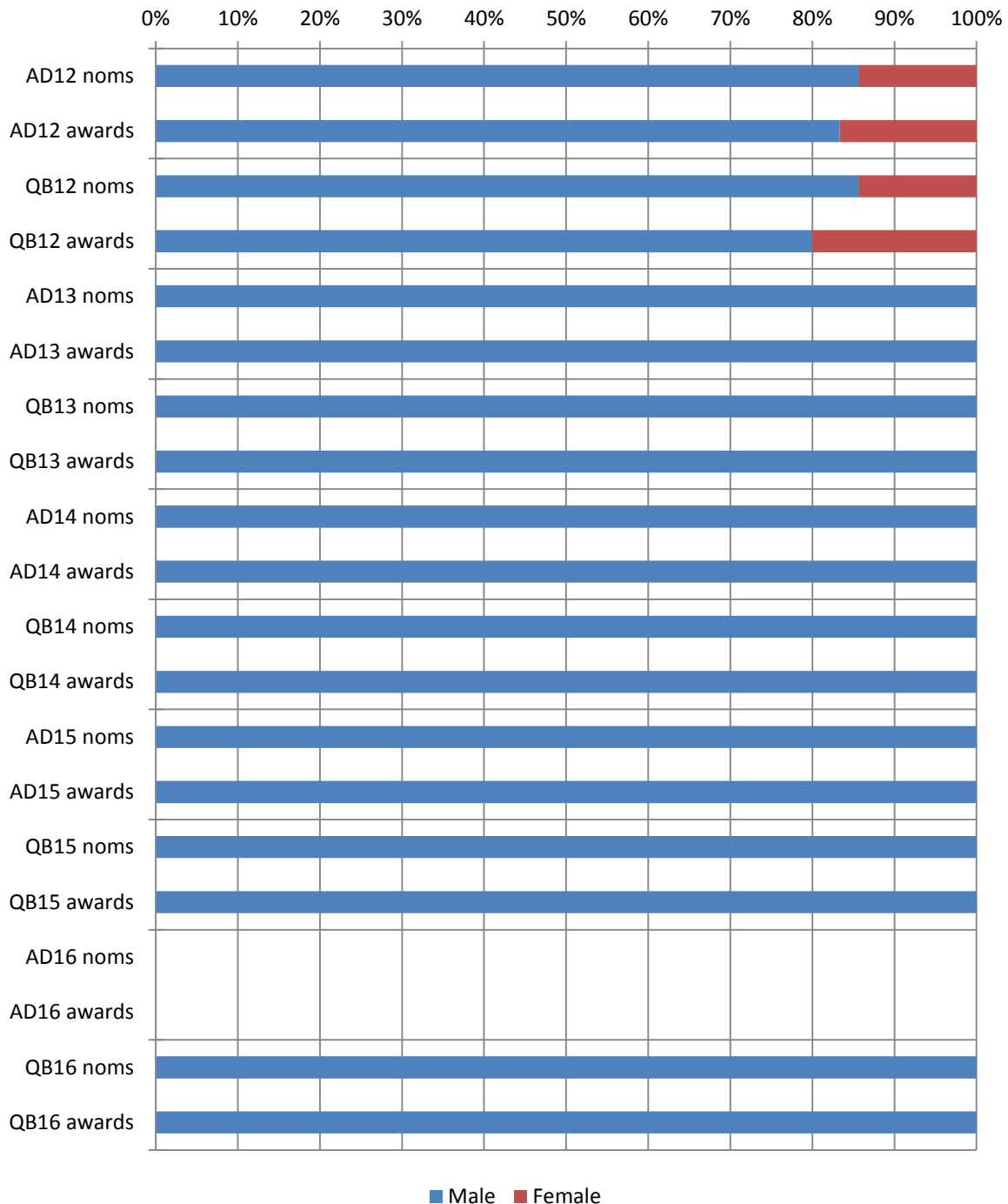
Chart 17: The Arts – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Building and Construction Industry

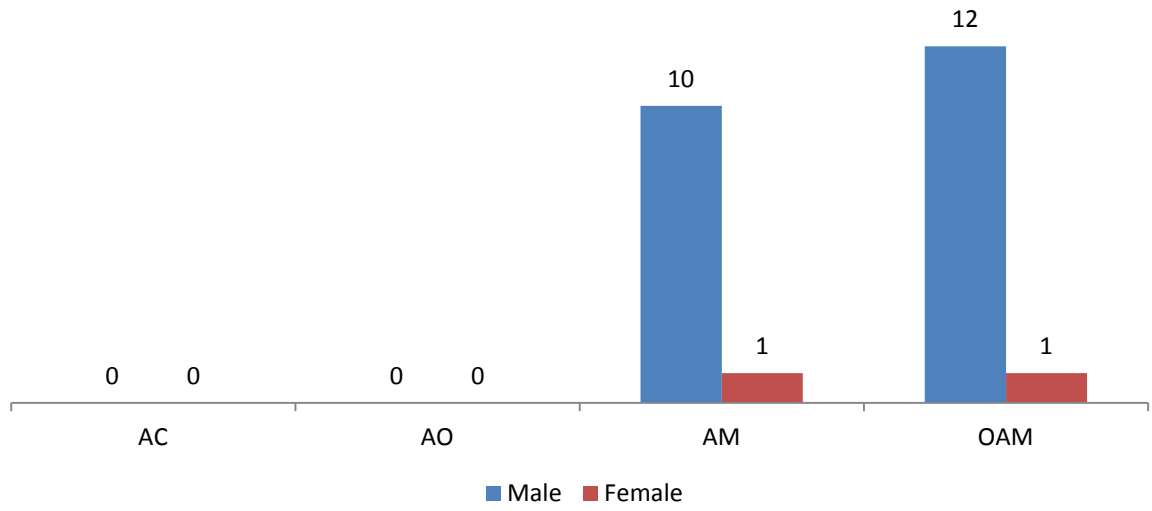
This is a small category, with 40 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 18: Building and Construction – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the AD16 meeting.

Chart 19: Building and Construction – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Business & Commerce

This is a medium category, with 317 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It includes the following sub-categories: Accountancy, Finance, General, Industry, Insurance, International Trade, Manufacturing, Real Estate, Retailing, and Other.

Chart 20: Business & Commerce – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

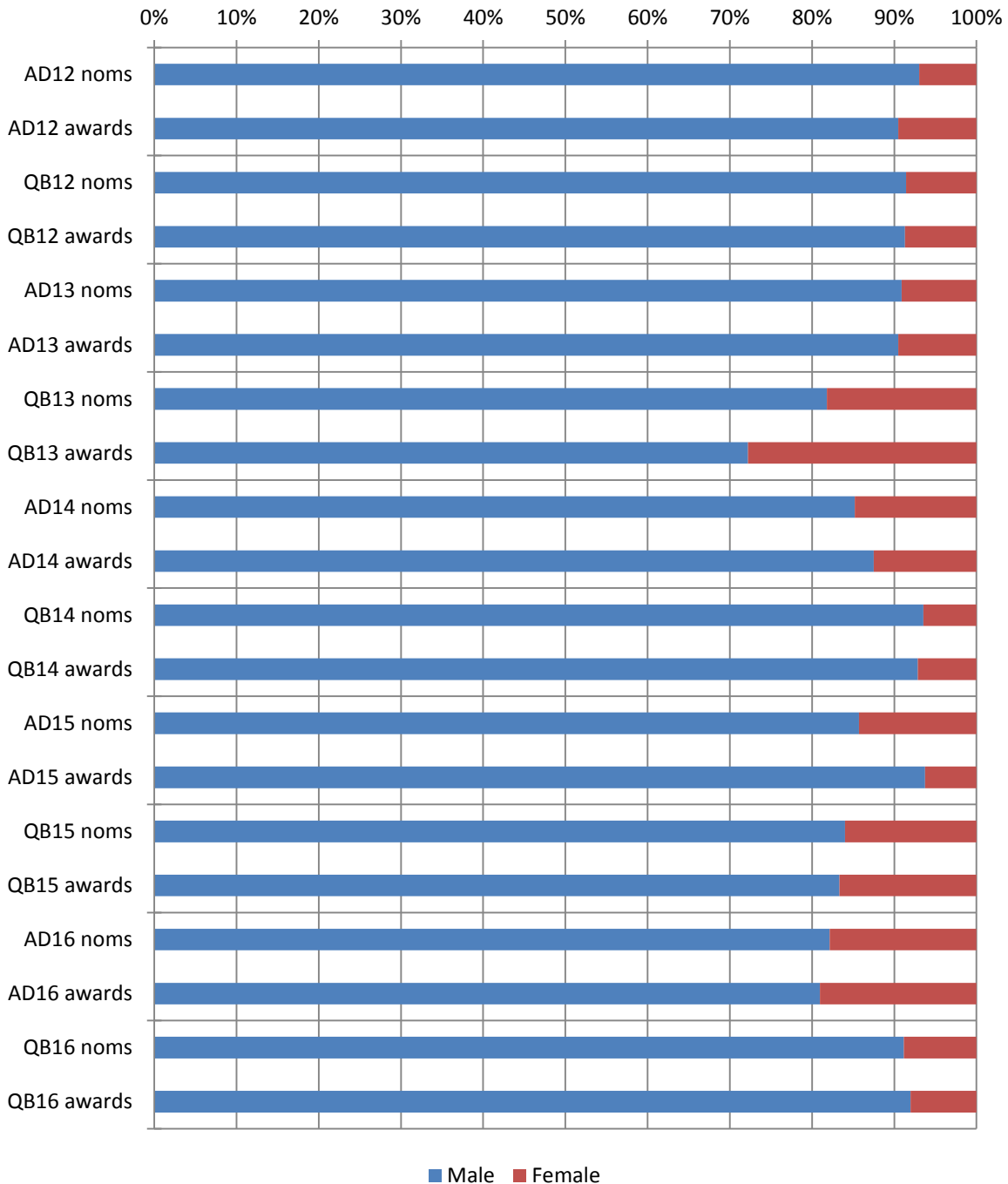


Chart 21: Business & Commerce – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

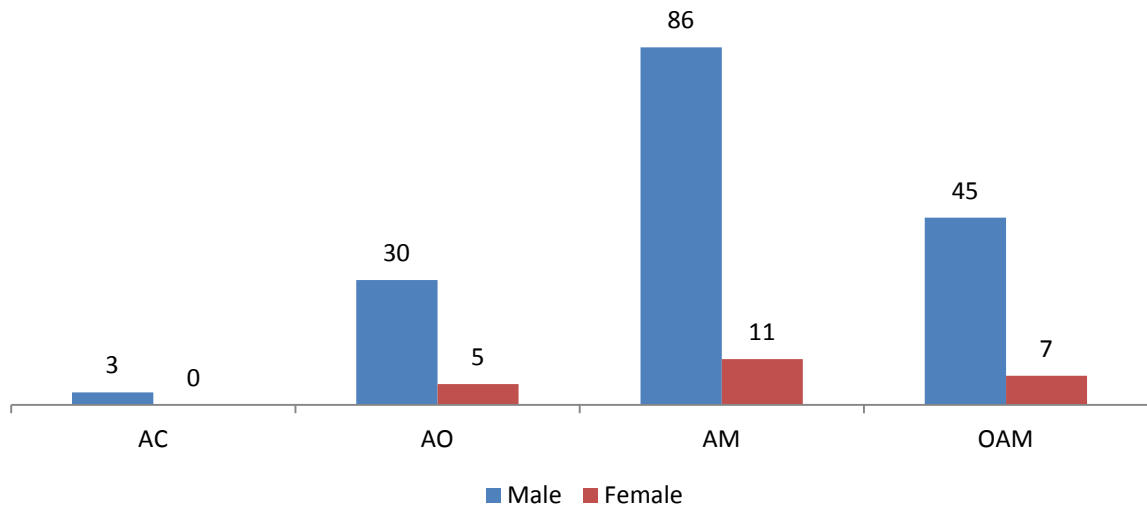
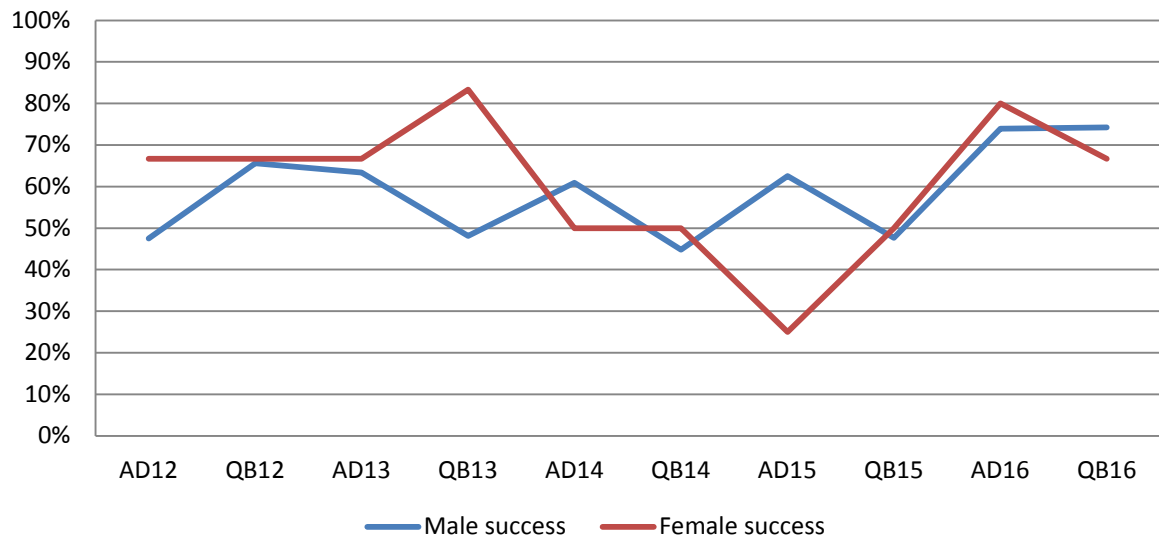


Chart 22: Business & Commerce – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Community – Multicultural Affairs

This is a medium category, with 263 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It includes the following sub-categories: Chinese, General, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Lebanese, Maltese, Polish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Yugoslavia, and Other.

Chart 23: Community – Multicultural Affairs – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

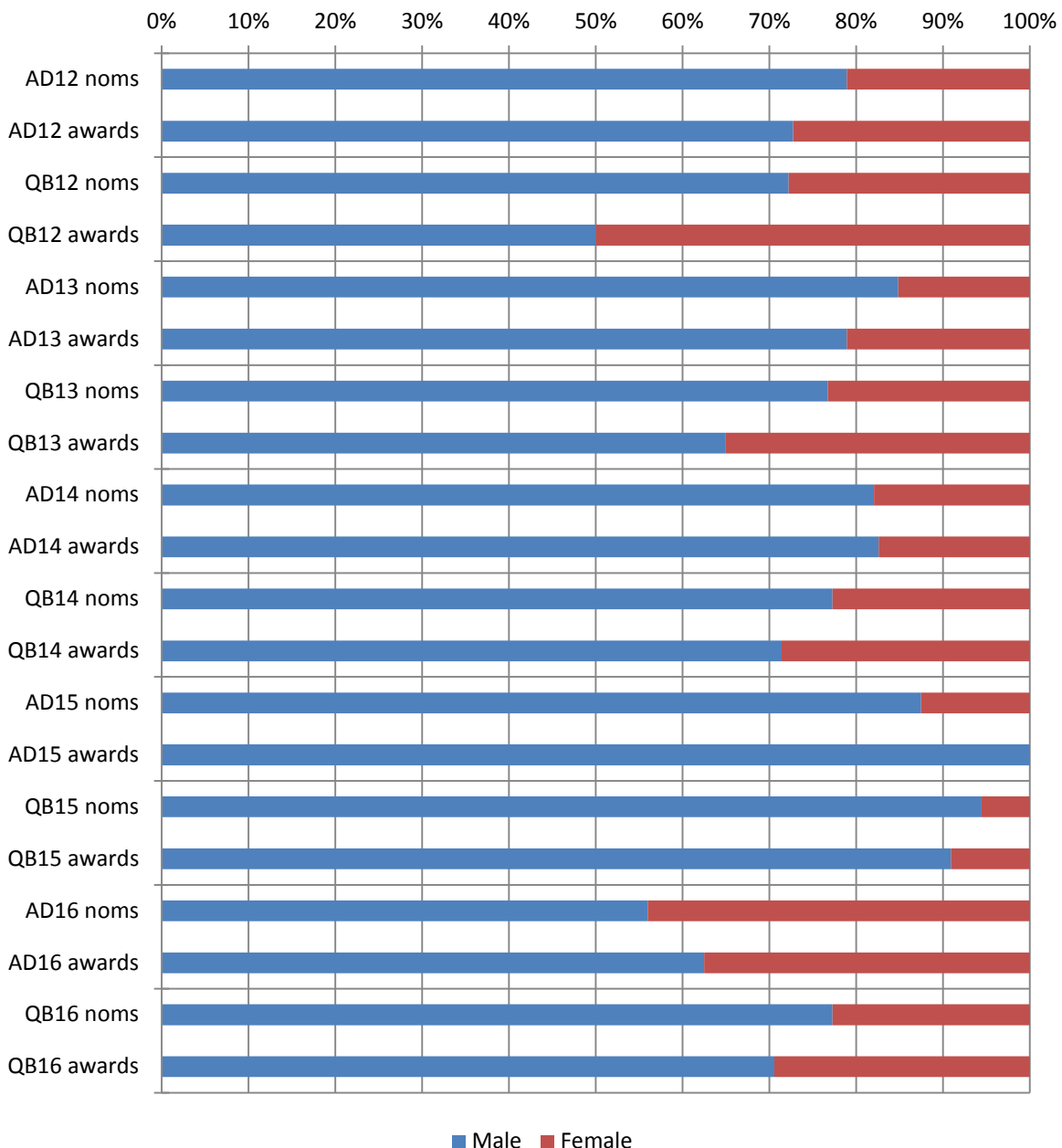


Chart 24: Community – Multicultural Affairs – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

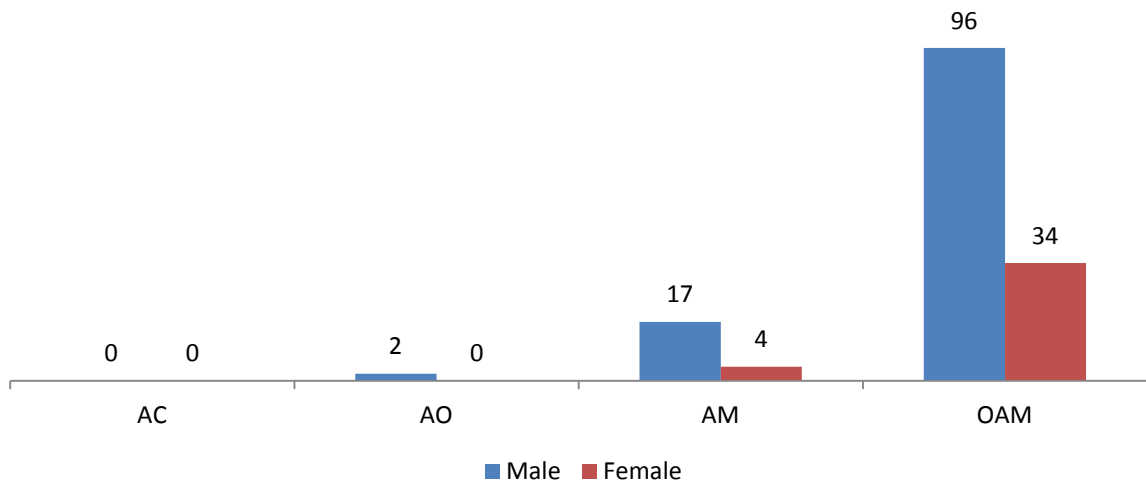
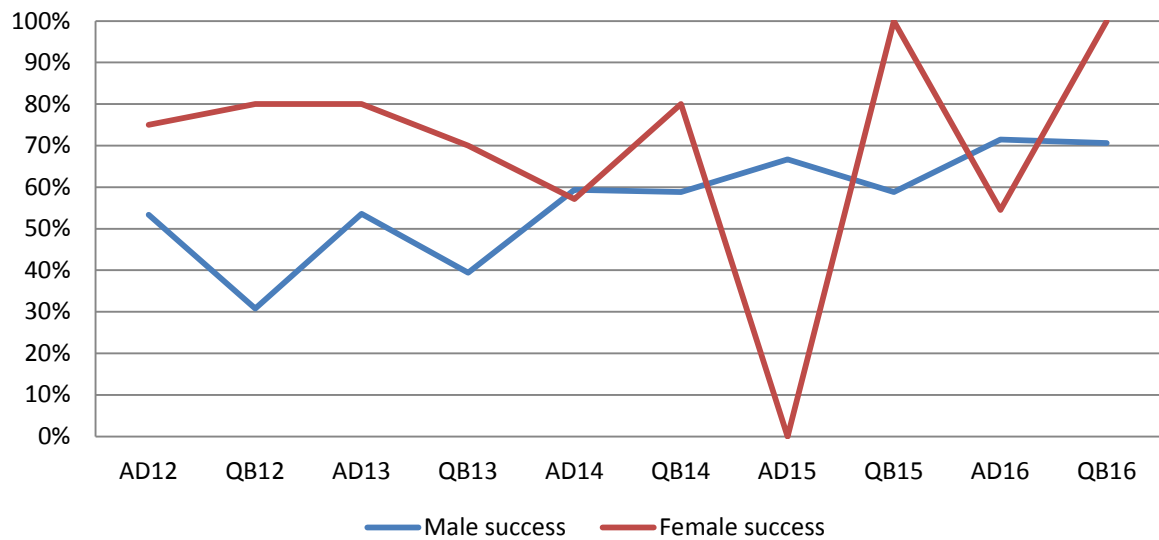


Chart 25: Community – Multicultural Affairs – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Community

This is the largest category, with 3,680 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It includes the following sub-categories: Alcohol & Drug Abuse, Aged Welfare, Celebrations, Charitable, Children, Church, Disasters, Ex-Service Welfare, Fire & Emergency Services, General, Health, History, Hospital, Indigenous, Jewish, Local, Music, Peace, Service Groups, Social Welfare, Surf Lifesaving, Women’s Affairs, Youth and Other.

Chart 26: Community – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

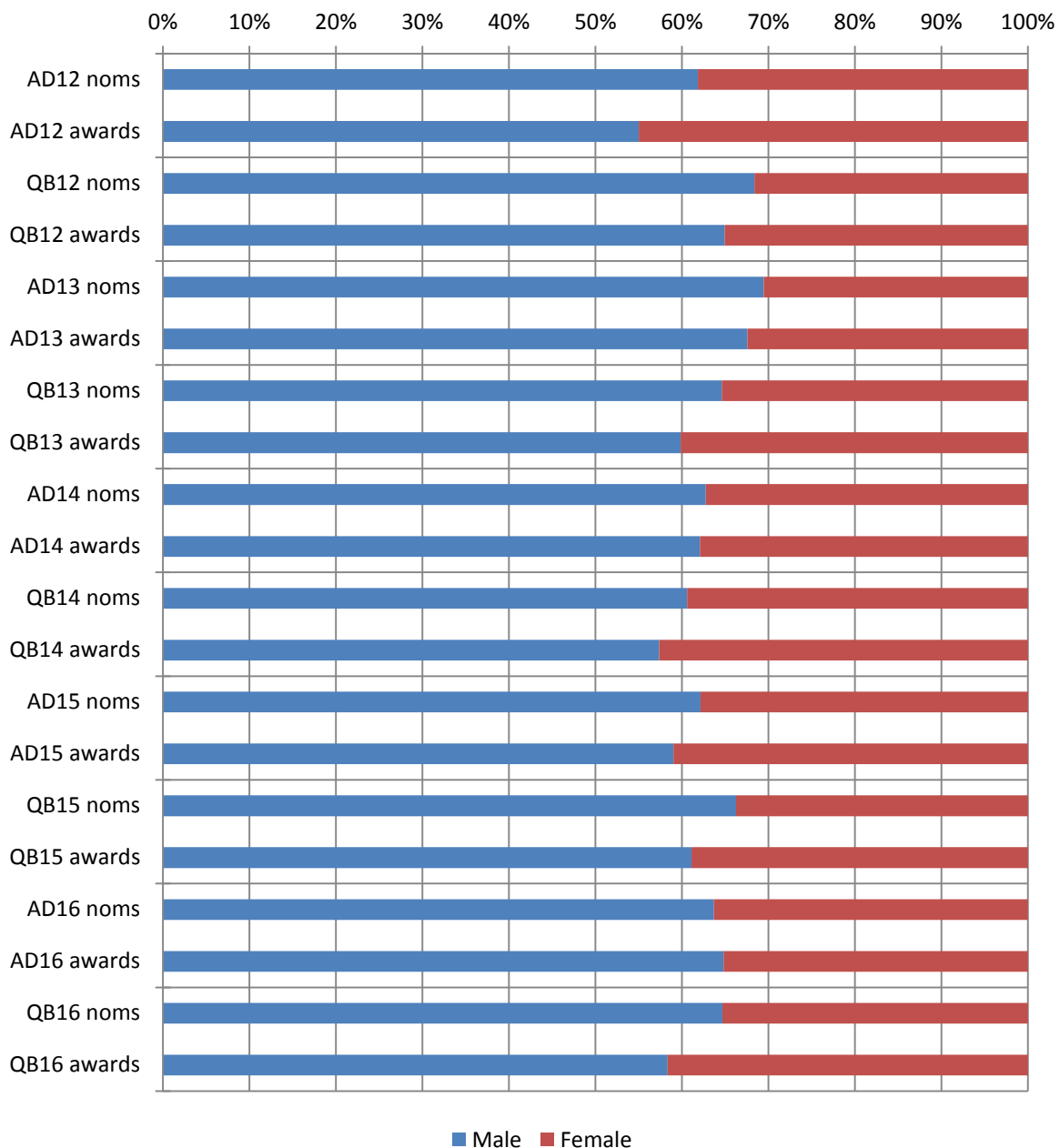
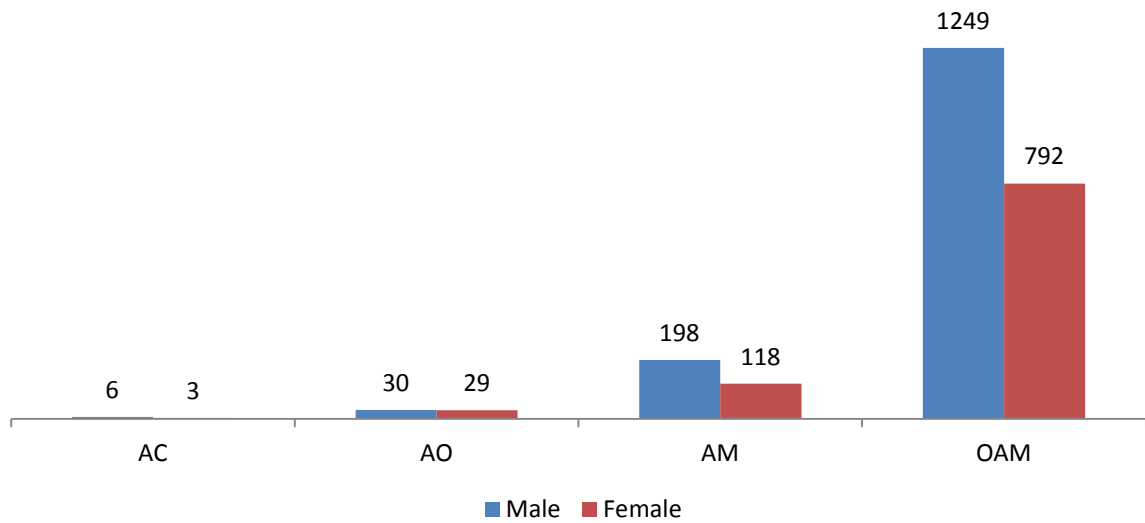
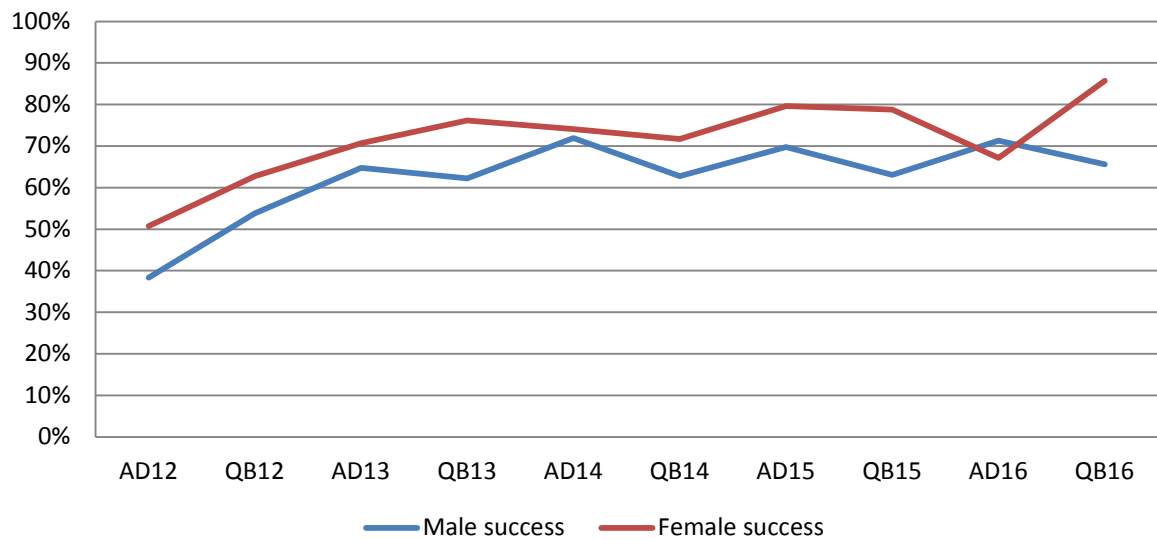


Chart 27: Community – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



One appointment at the Knight (AK) level was made, in the “Community” category, in the Australia Day 2015 Honours List: Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK AFC (Ret’d).

Chart 28: Community – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Conservation and the Environment

This is a medium category, with 194 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 29: Conservation and the Environment – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

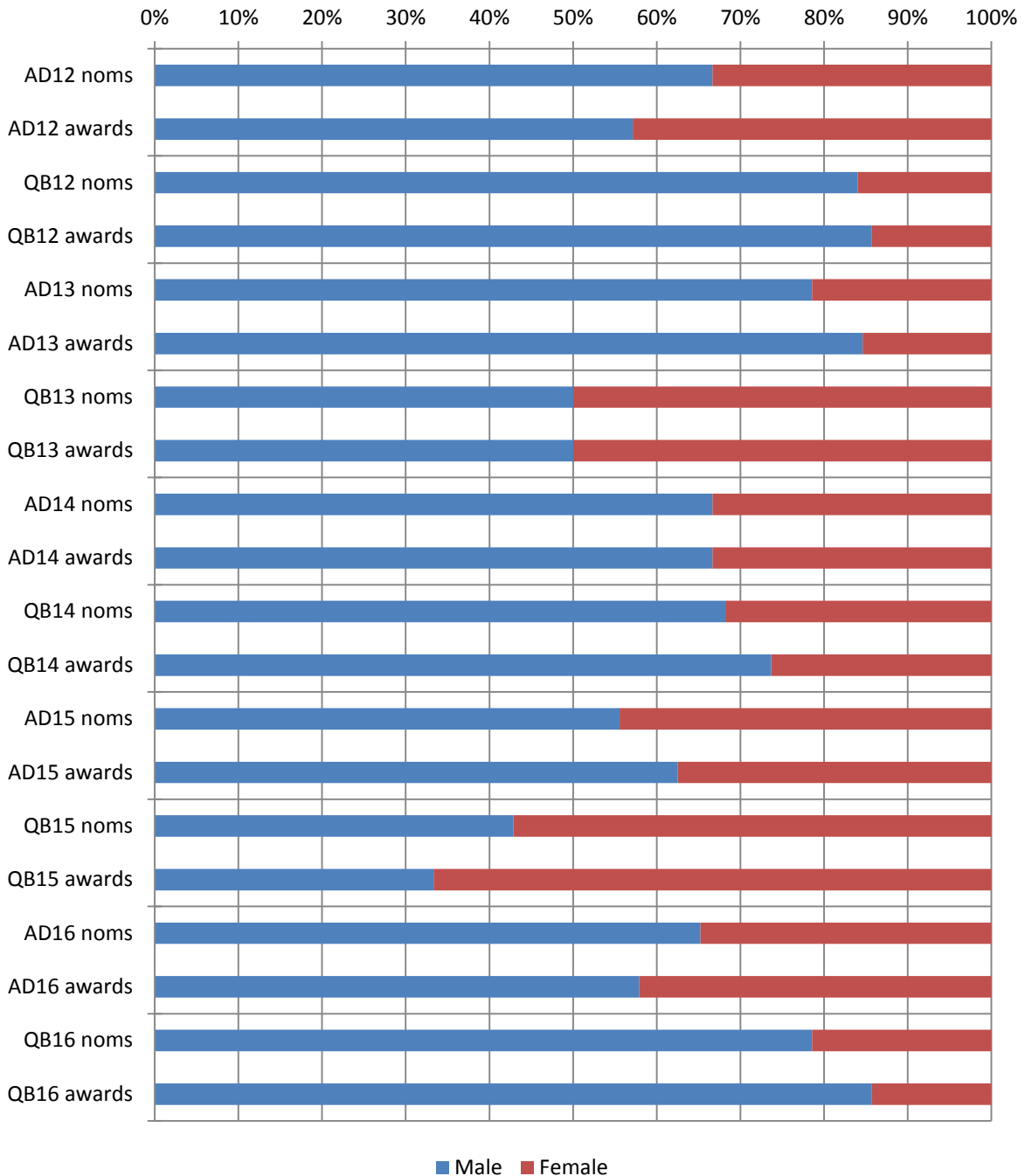


Chart 30: Conservation and the Environment – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

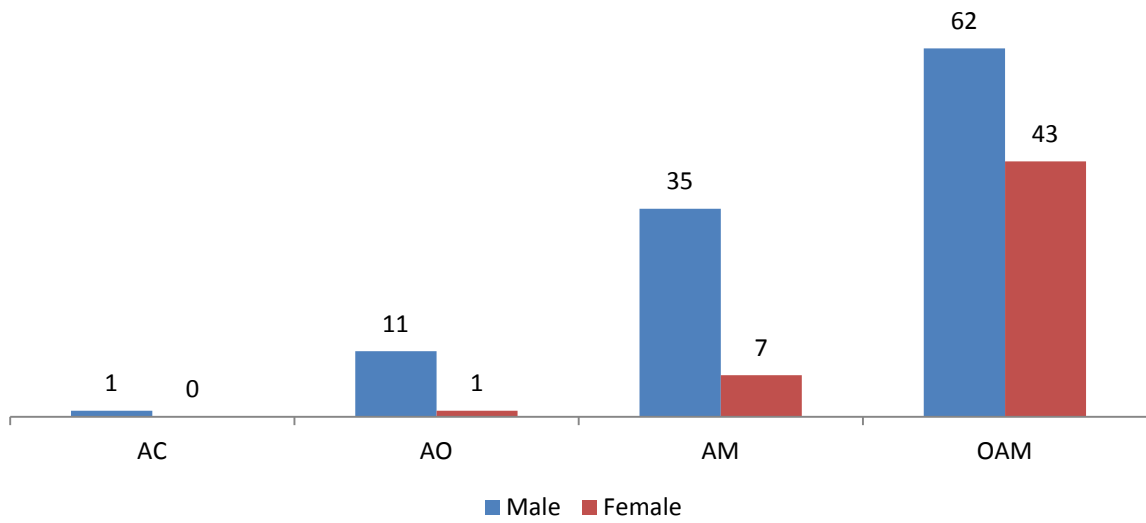
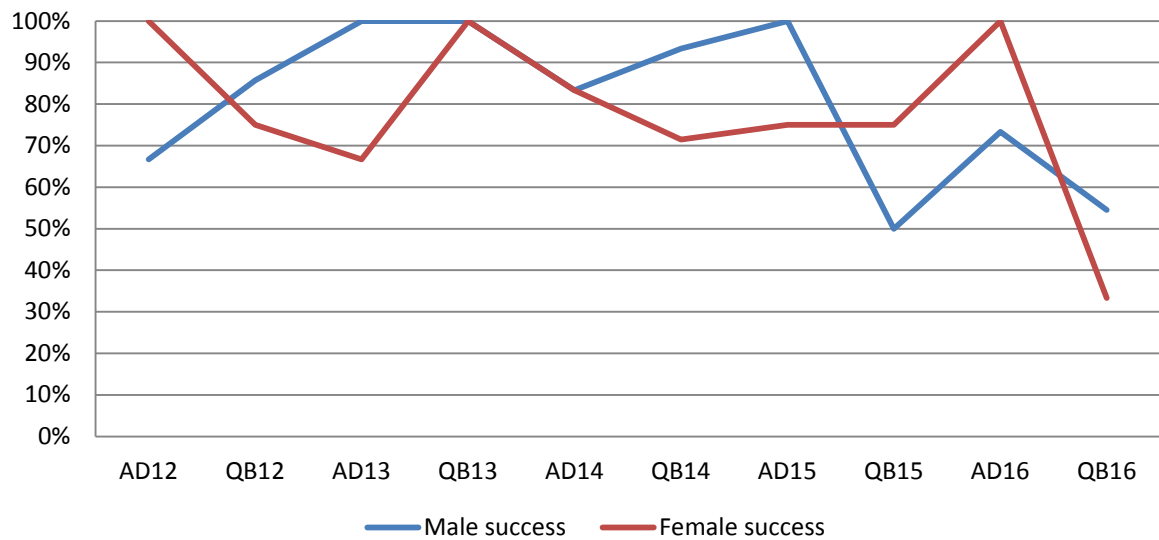


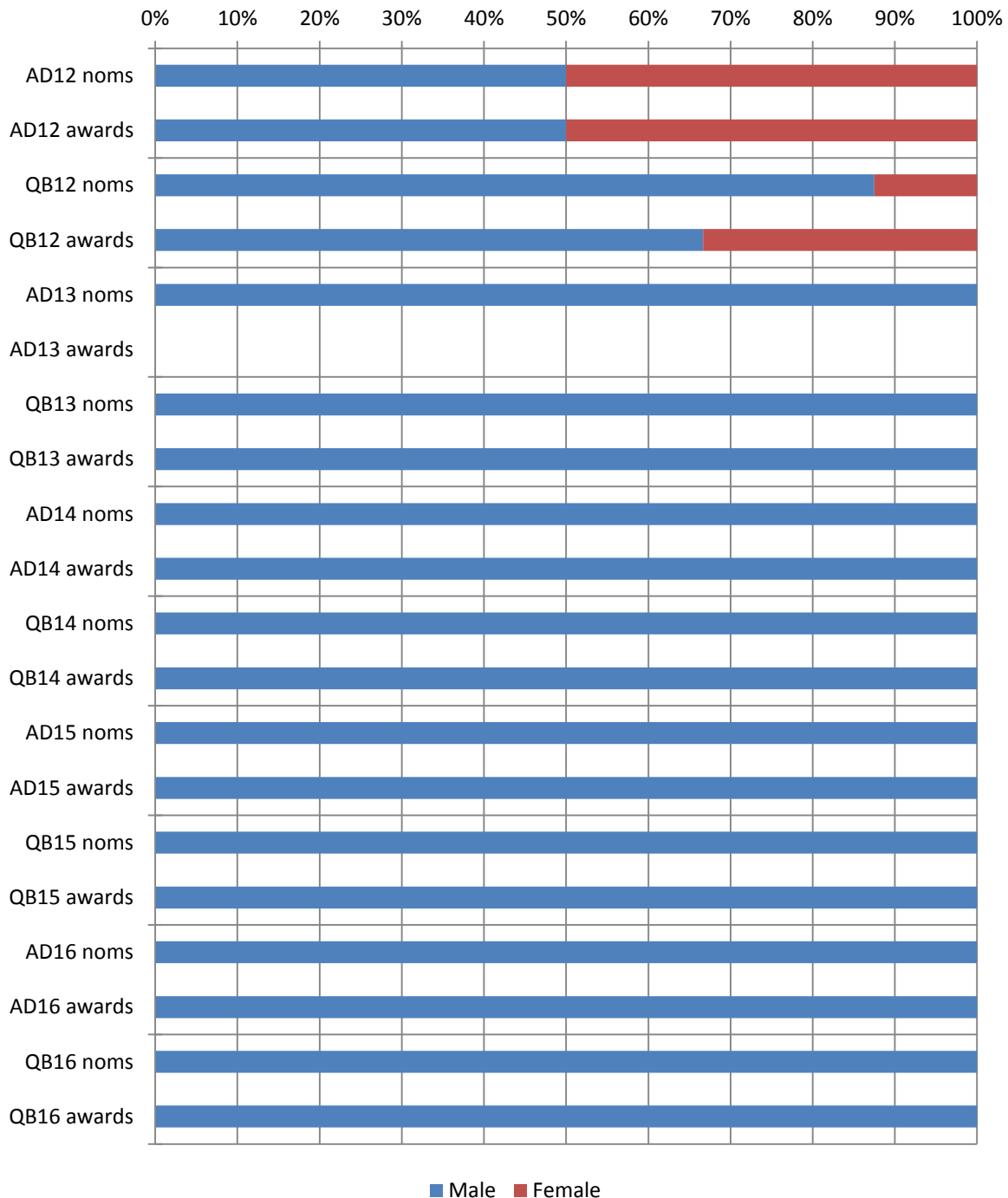
Chart 31: Conservation and the Environment – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Dentistry

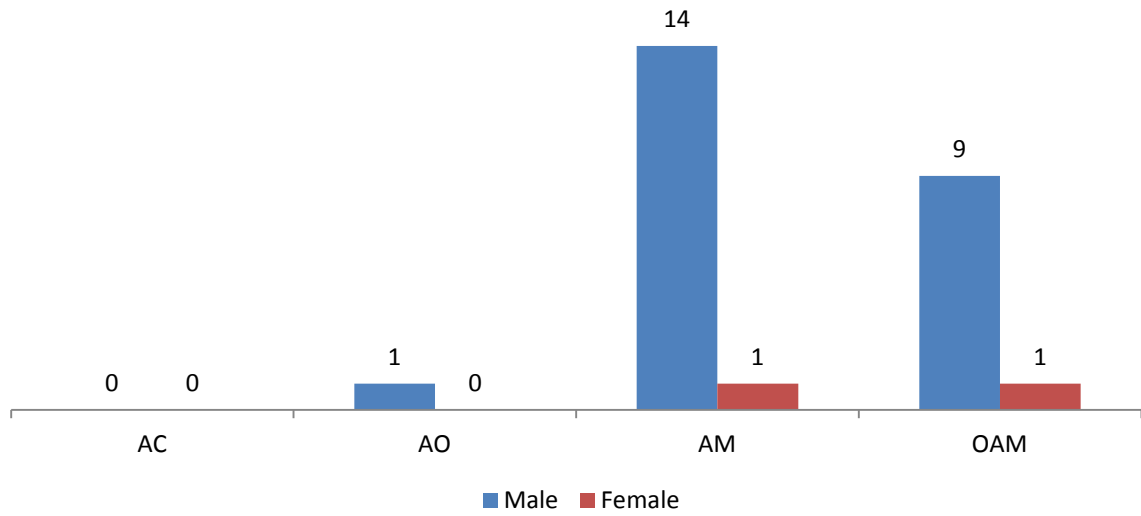
This is a small category, with 35 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 32: Dentistry – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No awards in this category were recommended for the AD13 honours list.

Chart 33: Dentistry – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Disabled

This is a medium category, with 138 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It includes the following sub-categories: General, Hearing Impaired, Intellectually, Physically, and Visually Impaired.

Chart 34: Disabled – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

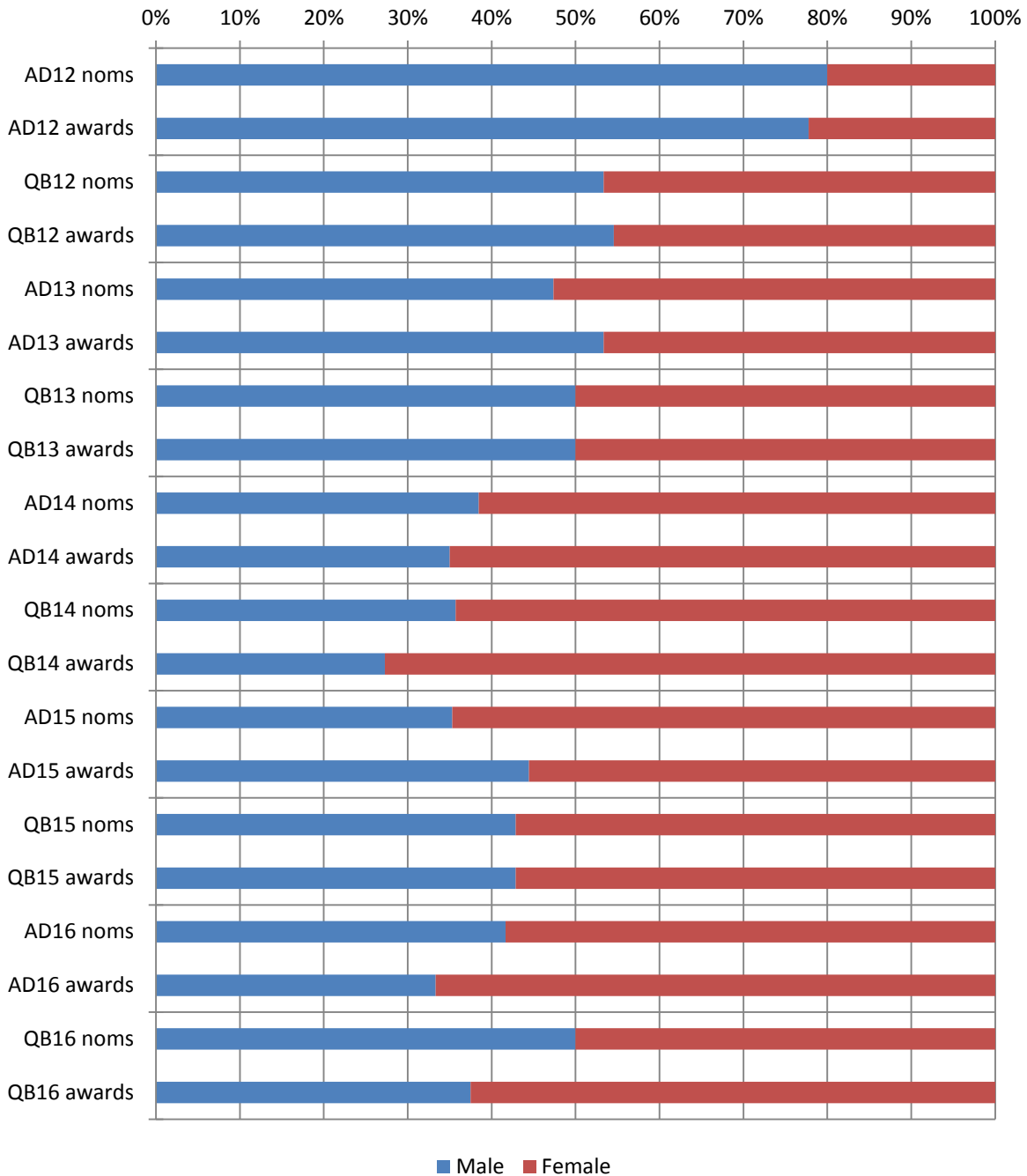


Chart 35: Disabled – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

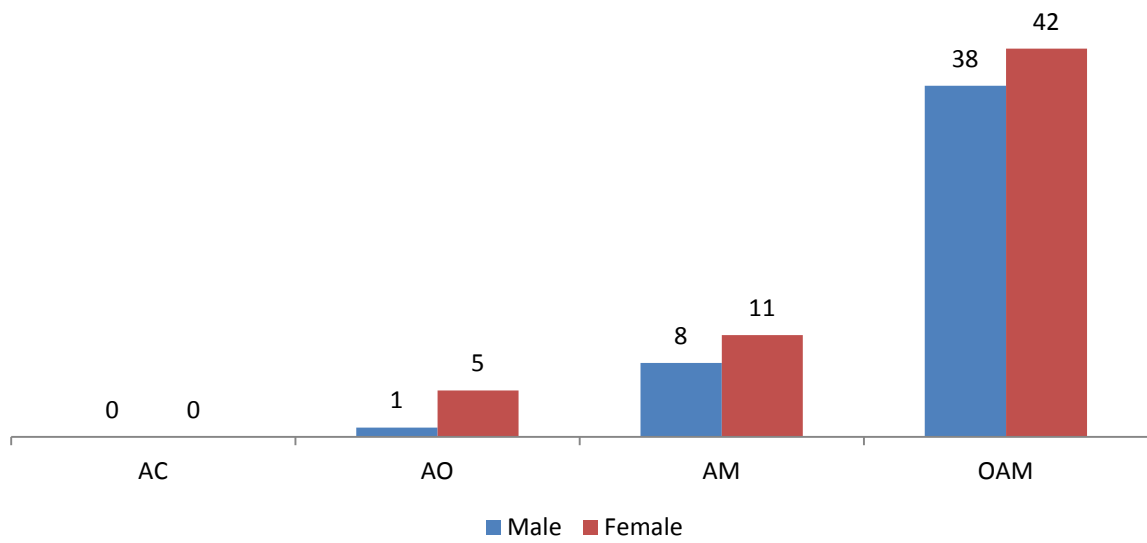
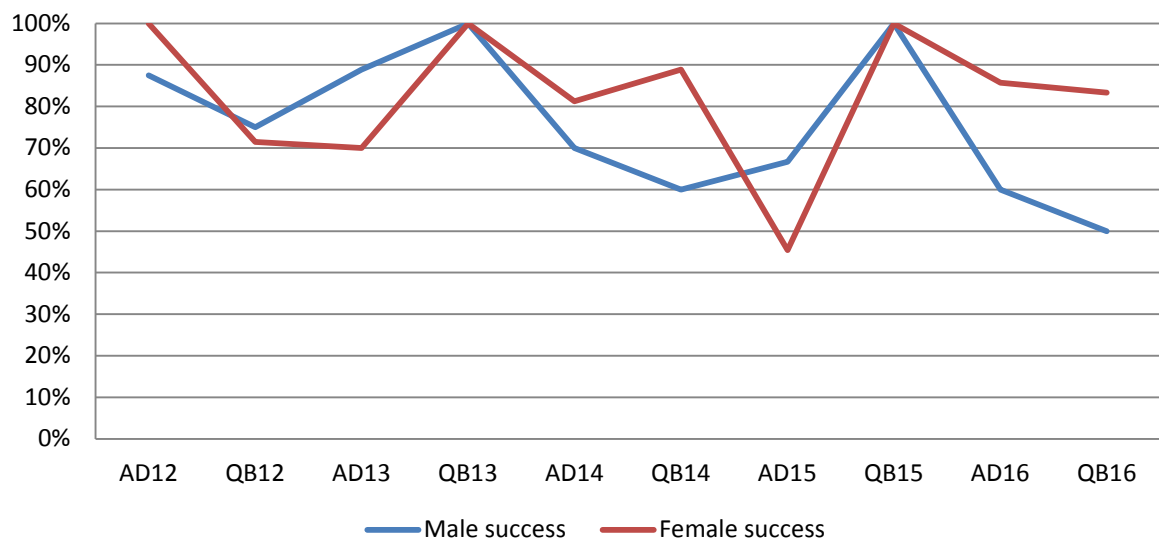


Chart 36: Disabled – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Education

This is a medium category, with 431 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 37: Education – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

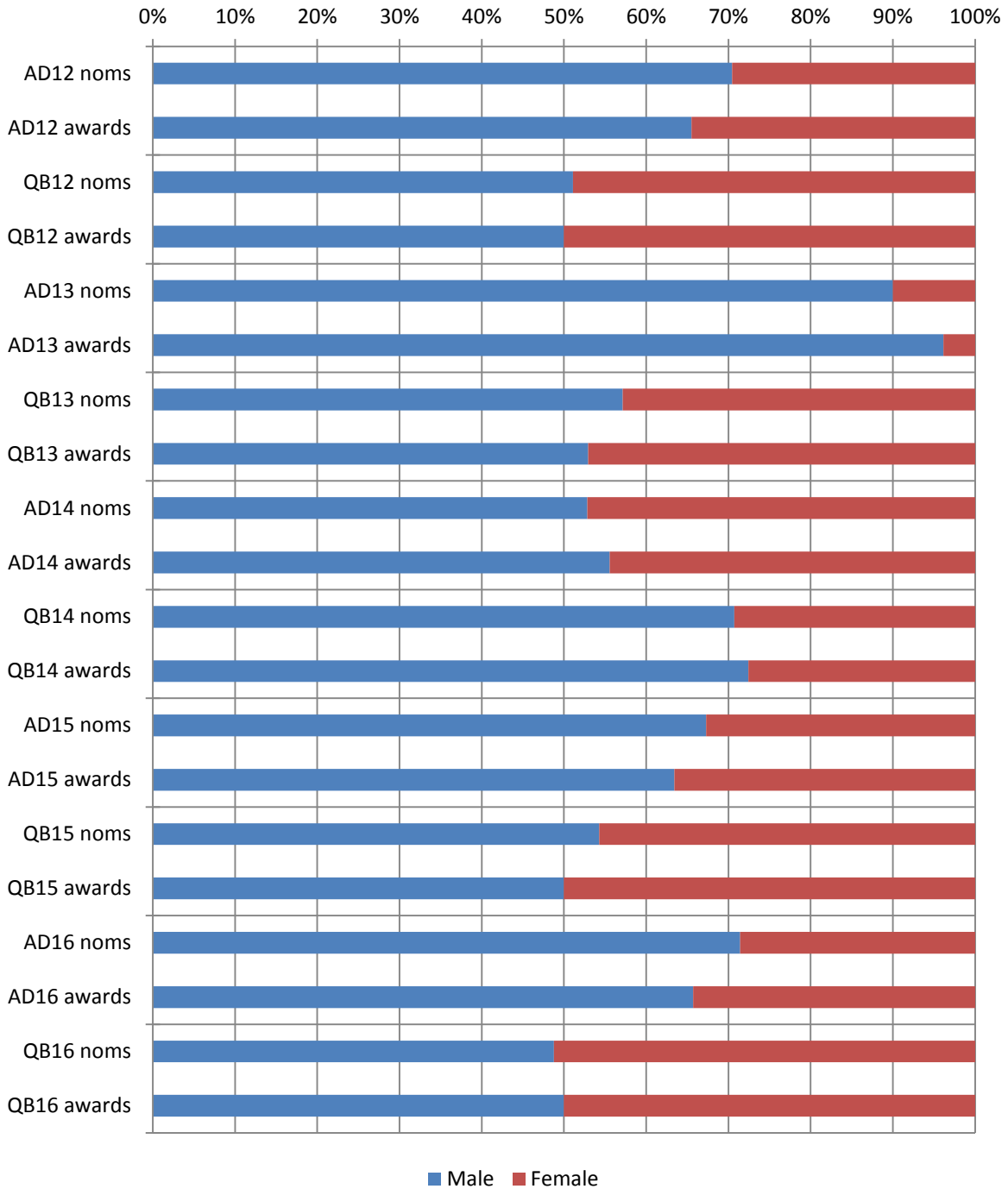


Chart 38: Education – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

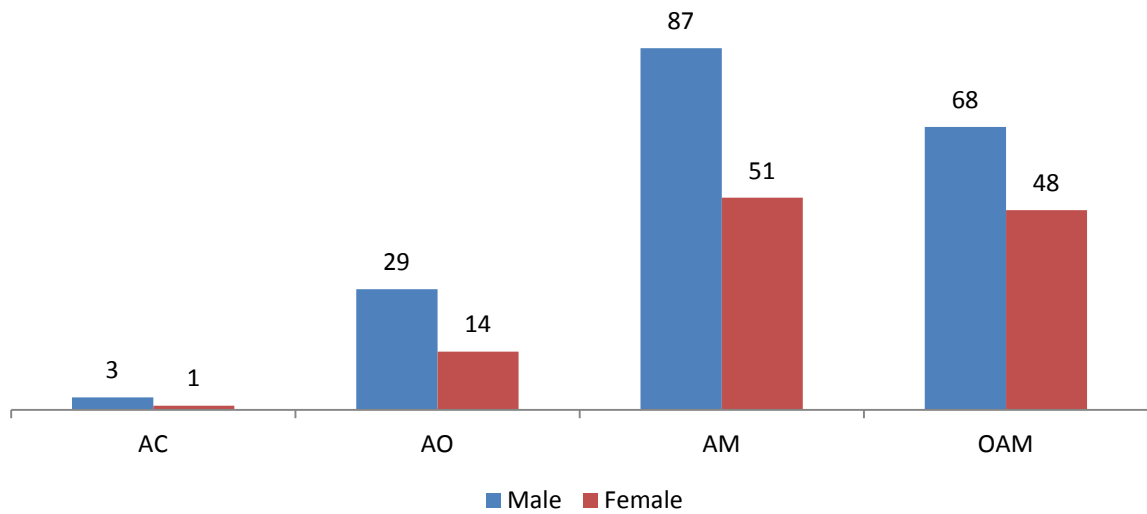
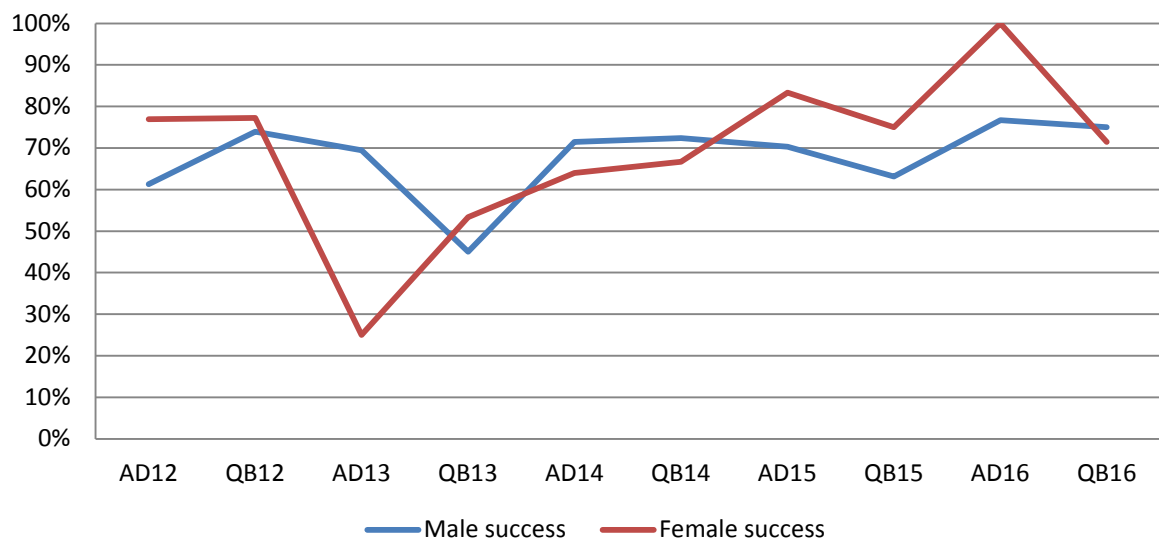


Chart 39: Education – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Engineering

This is a small category, with 65 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 40: Engineering – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

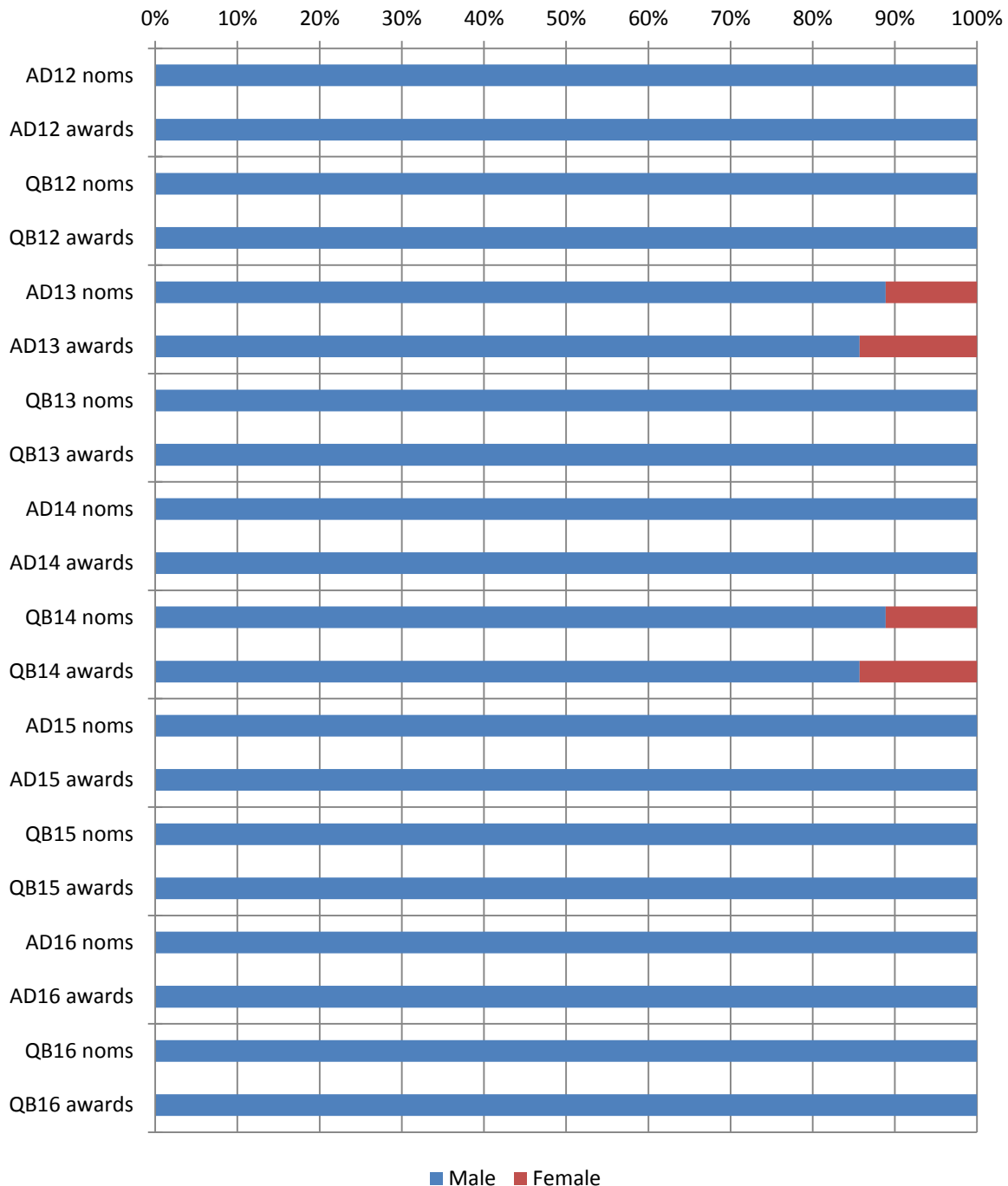
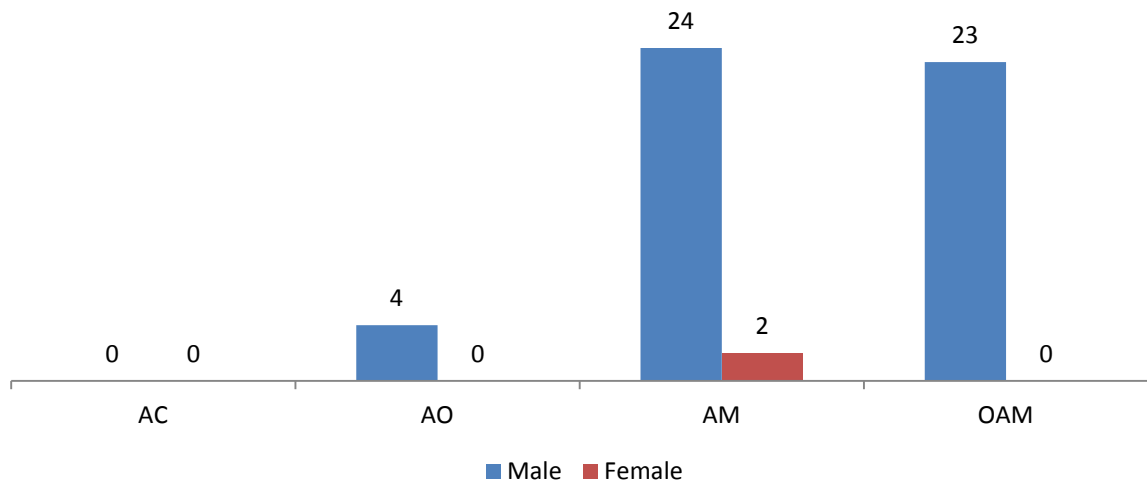


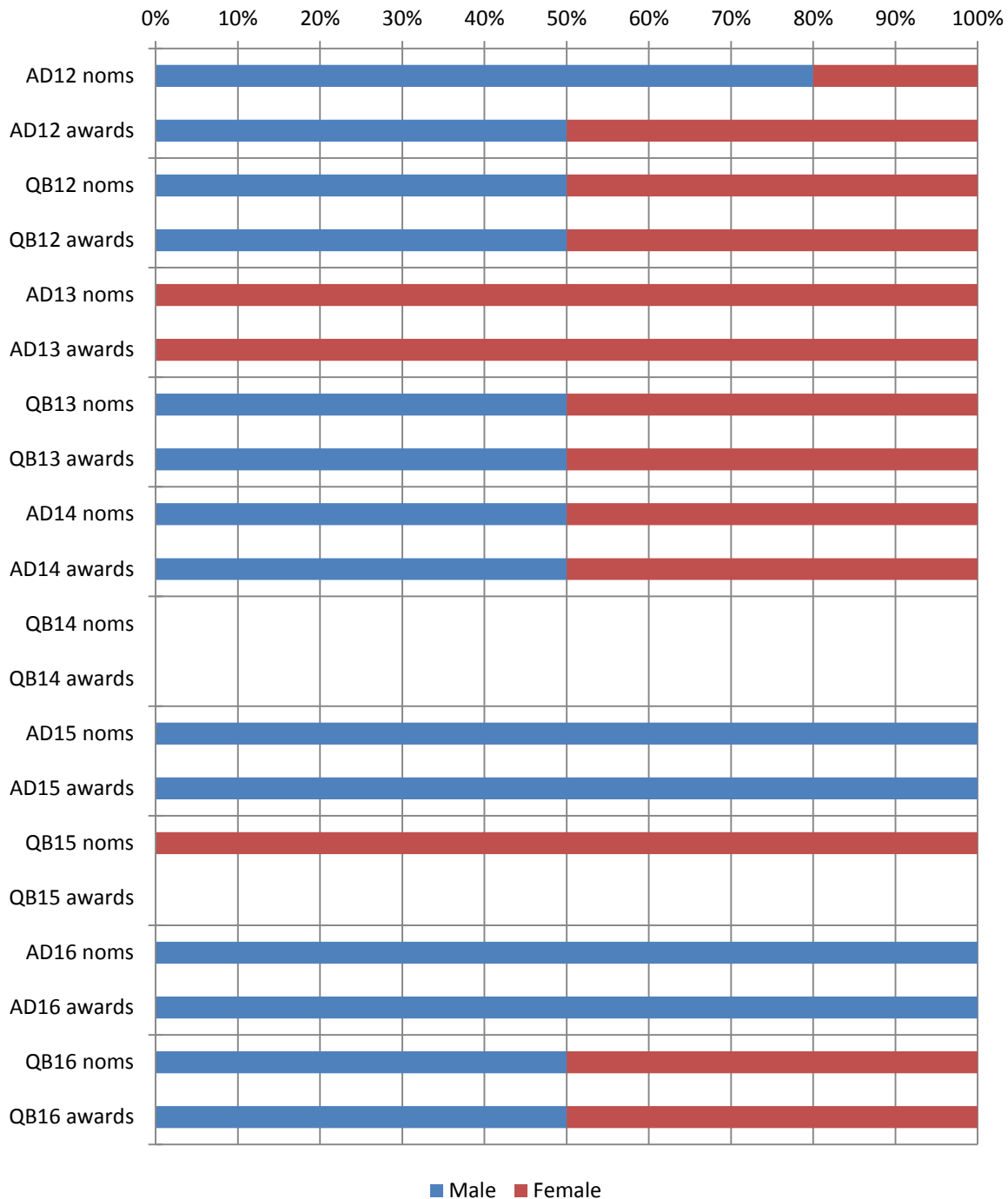
Chart 41: Engineering – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Industrial Relations

This is a small category, with 17 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has three sub-categories: Employers, General, and Trade Unions.

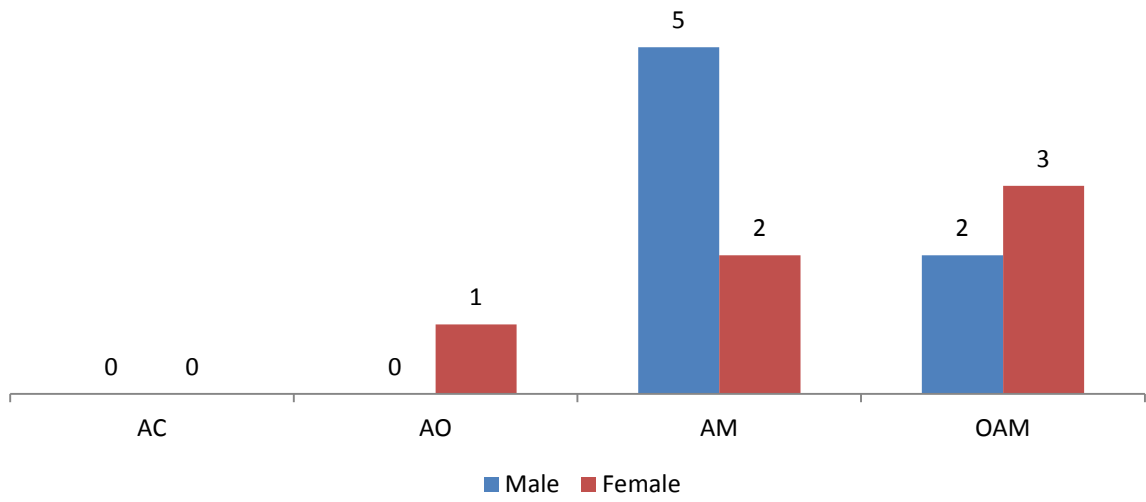
Chart 42: Industrial Relations – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the QB14 meeting.

No awards in this category were recommended for the QB15 honours list.

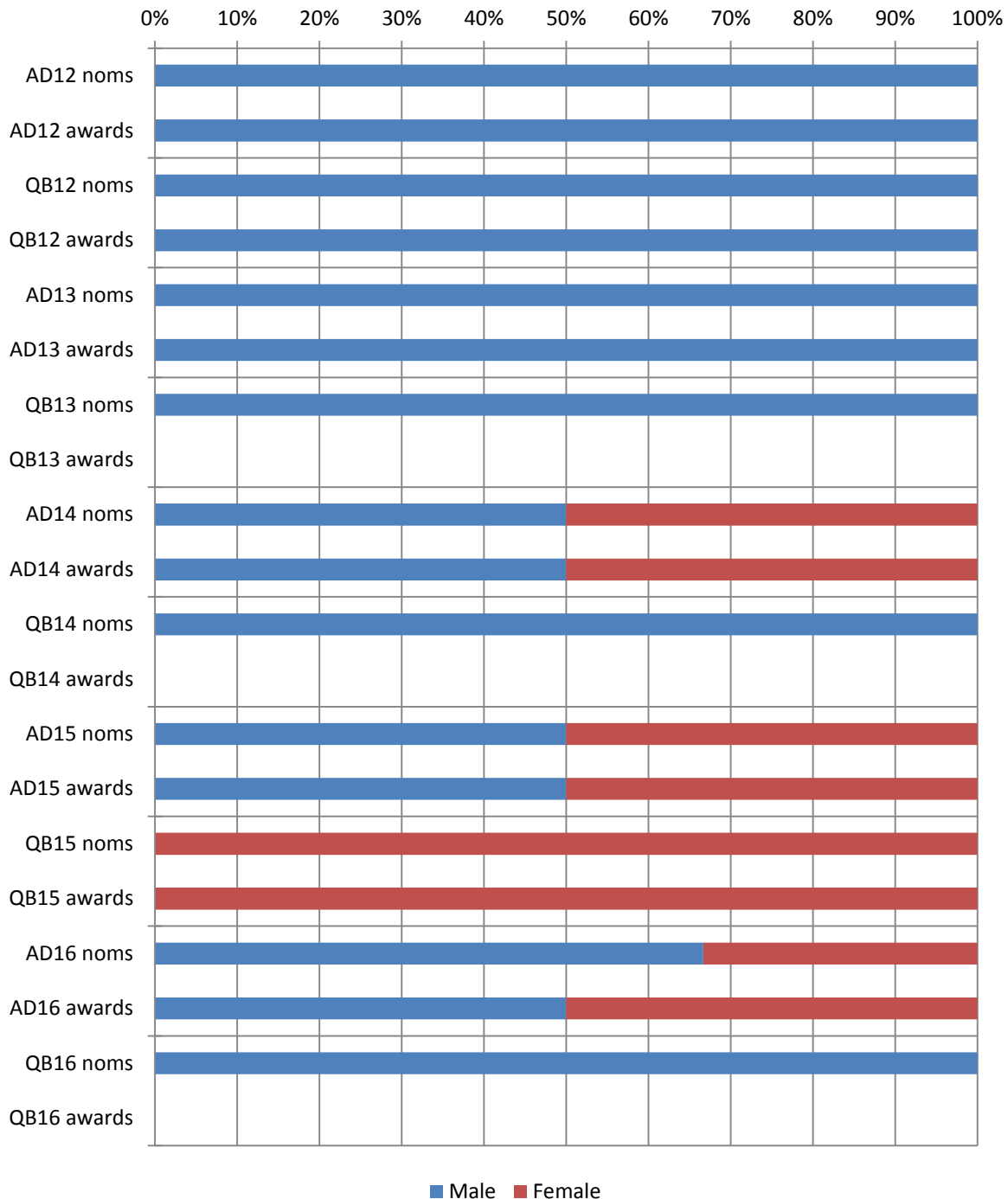
Chart 43: Industrial Relations – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Information Technology

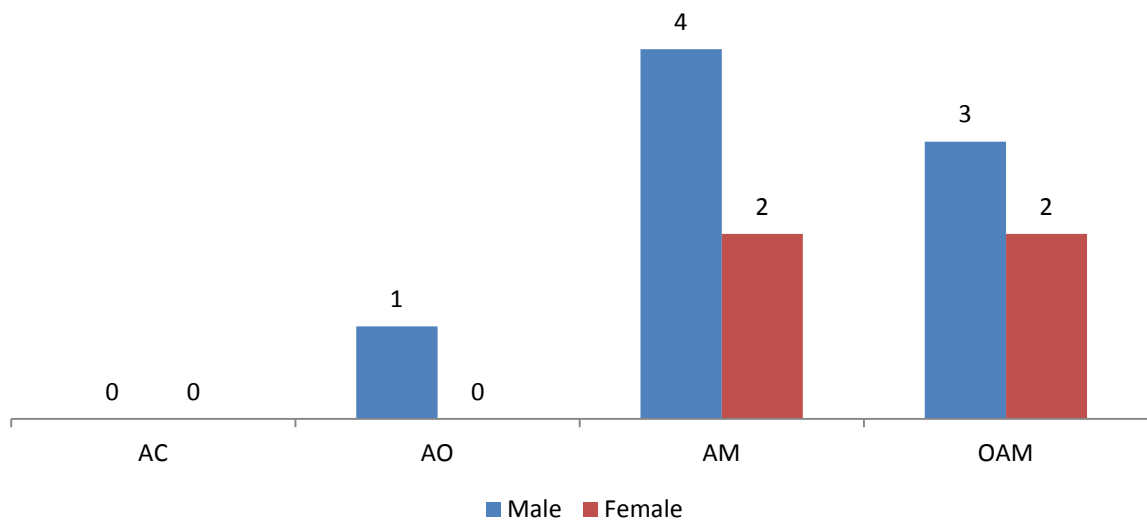
This is a small category, with 18 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 44: Information Technology – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No awards in this category were recommended for the QB13, QB14 and QB16 honours lists.

Chart 45: Information Technology – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



International Relations

This is a medium category, with 128 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 46: International Relations – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

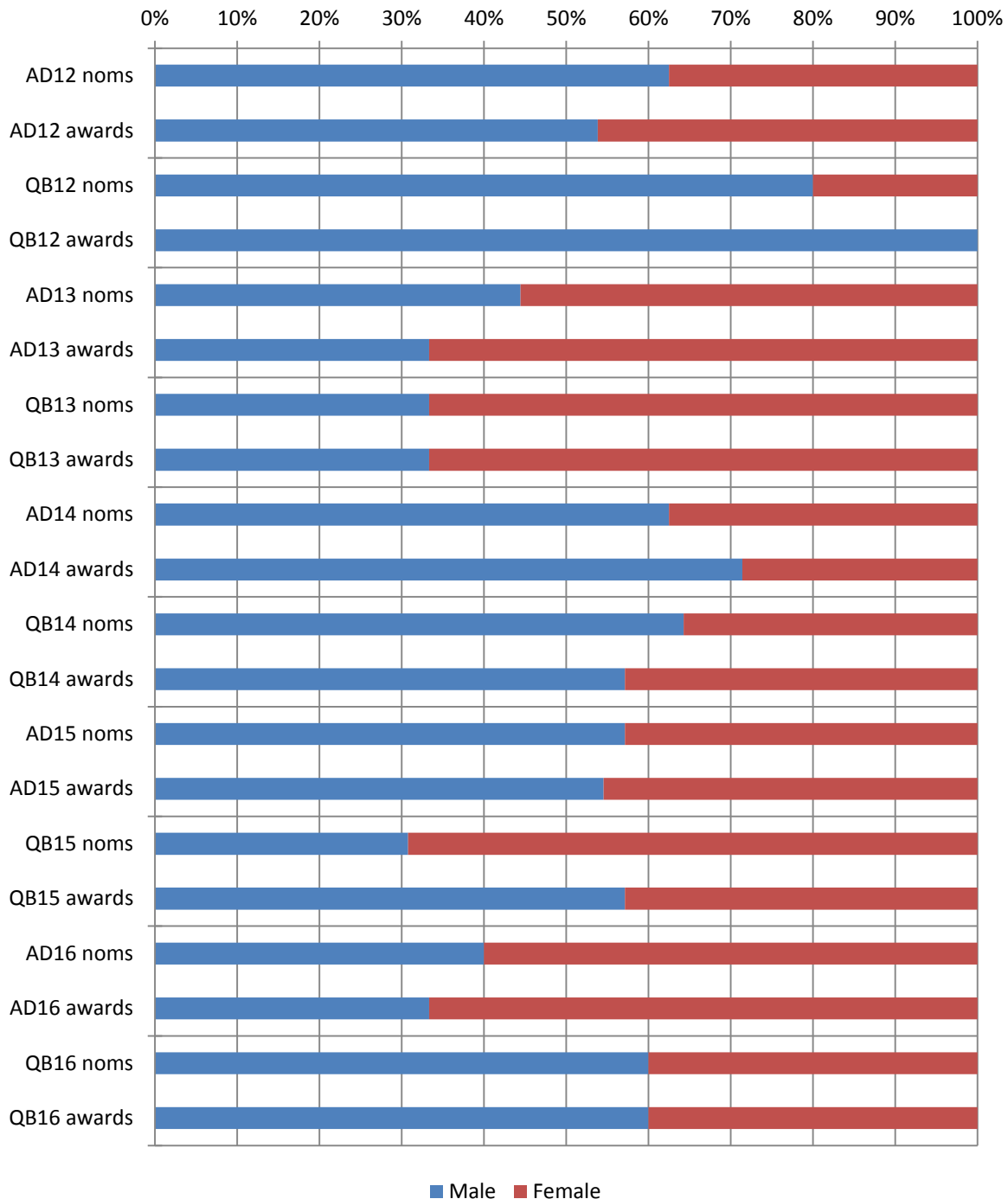


Chart 47: International Relations – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

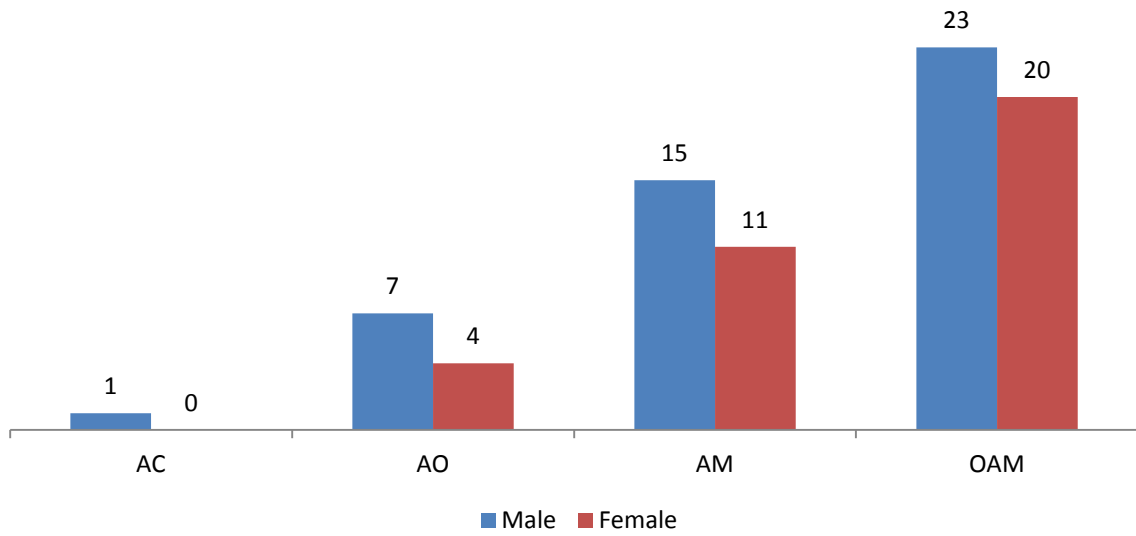
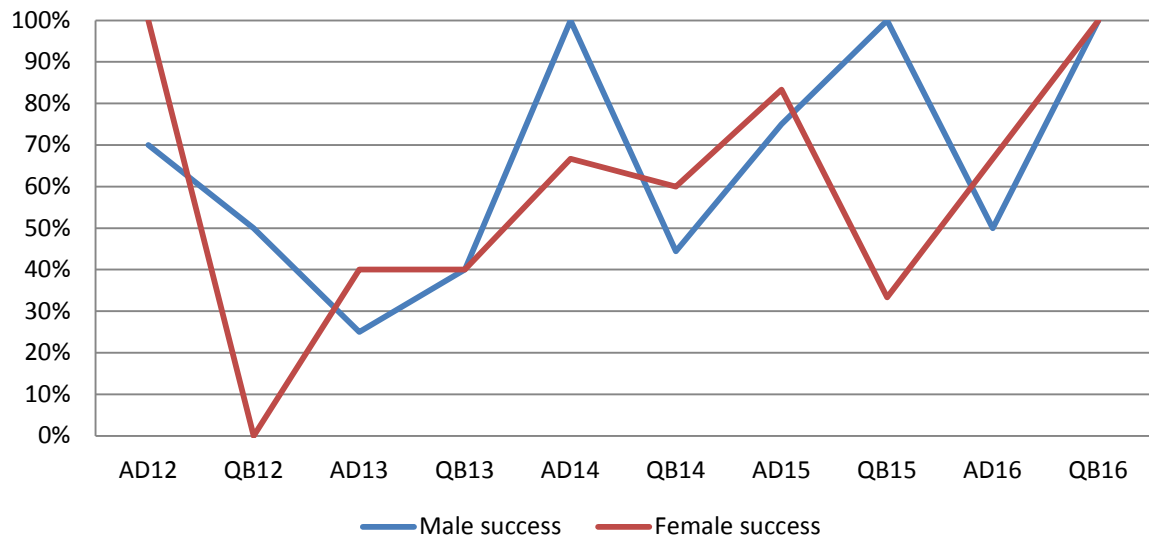


Chart 48: International Relations – success rate by gender, 2012-16



The Law

This is a medium category, with 180 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has two sub-categories: High Court Judges and General.

Chart 49: The Law – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

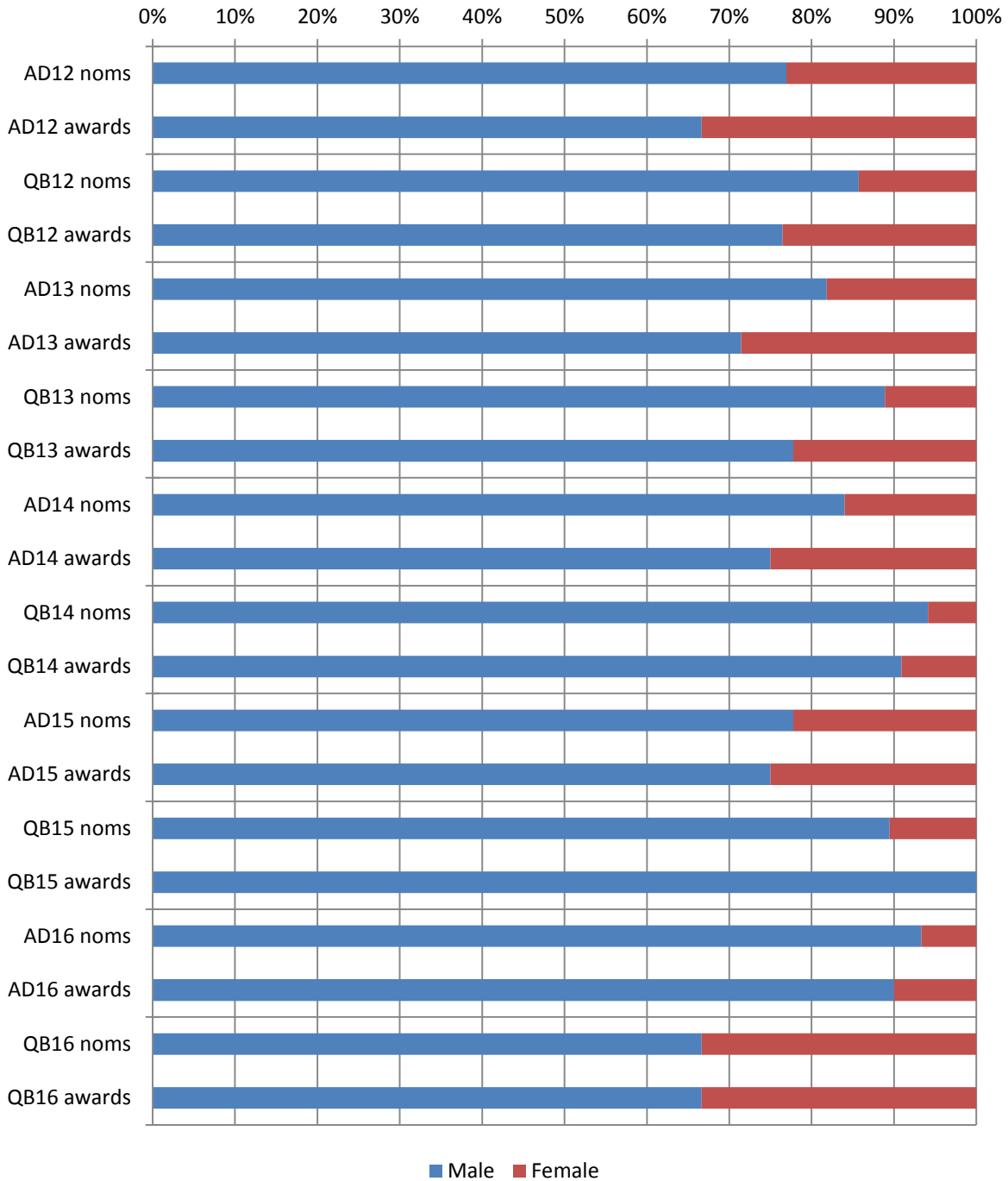


Chart 50: The Law – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

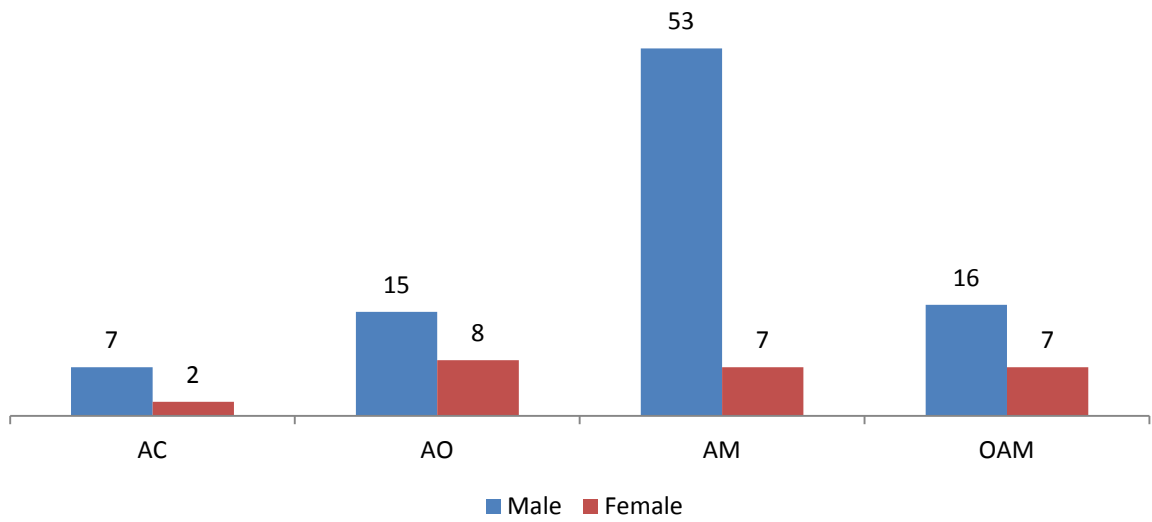
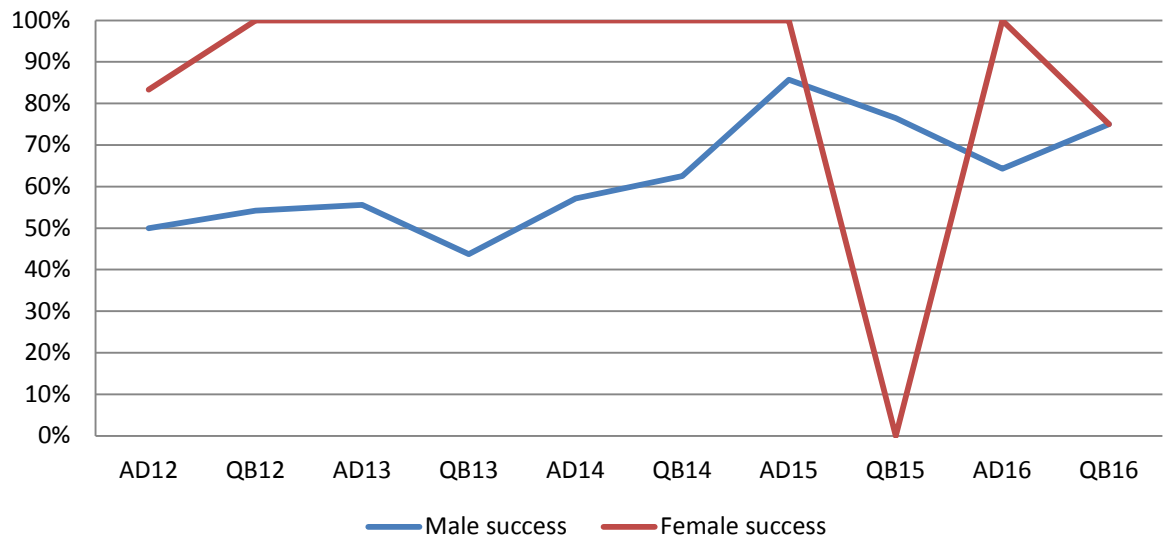


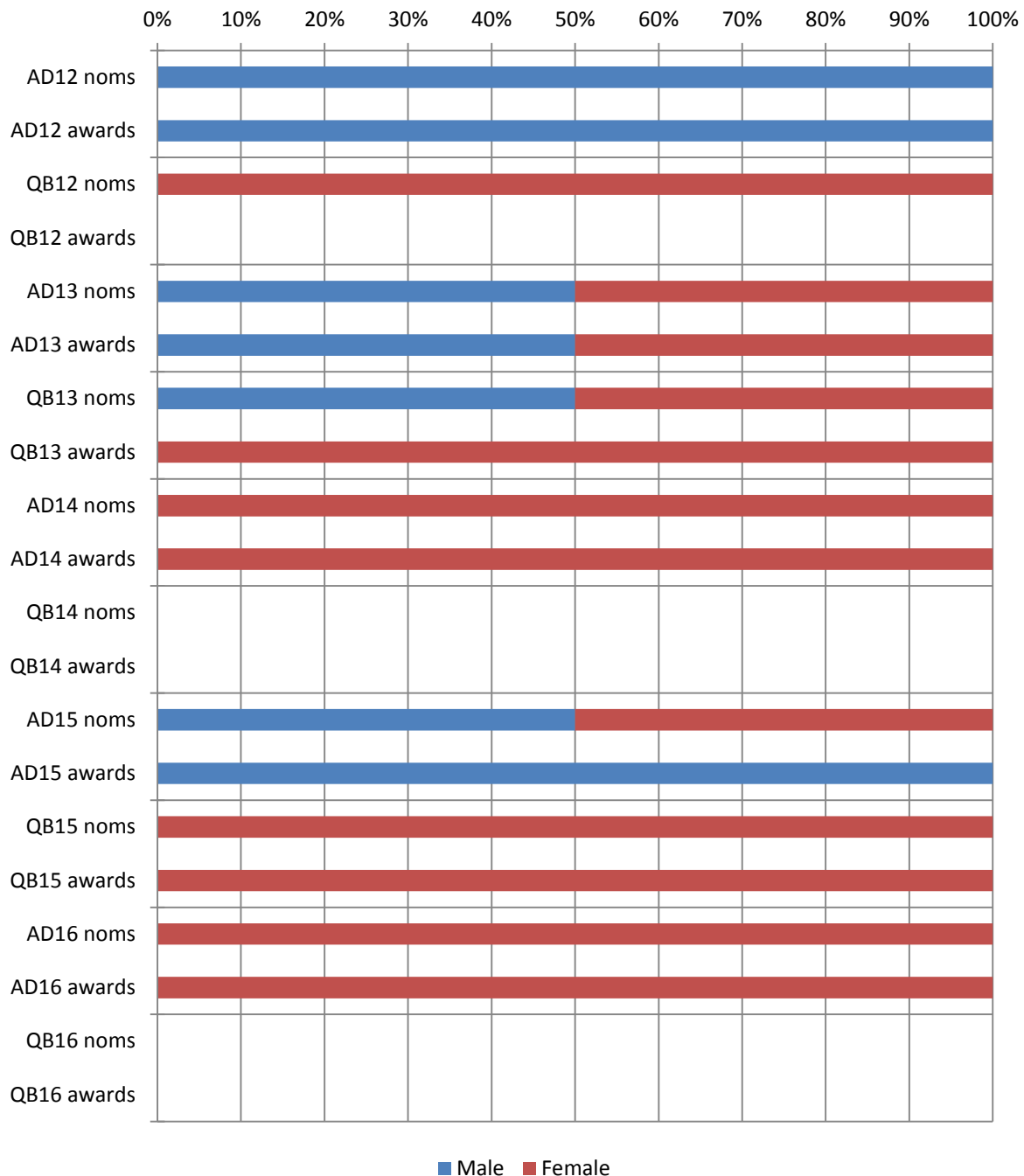
Chart 51: The Law – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Library and Related Occupations

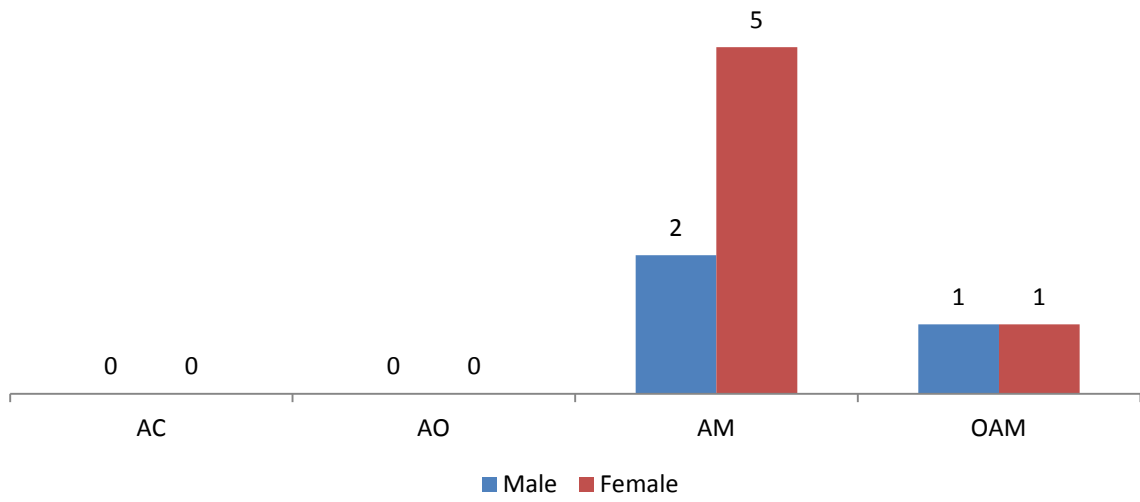
This is a small category, with 13 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 52: Library and Related Occupations – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the QB14 and QB16 meetings. No awards in this category were recommended for the QB12 honours list.

Chart 53: Library and Related Occupations – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Local Government

This is a medium category, with 205 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has three sub-categories: Elected, Employee, and General.

Chart 54: Local Government – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

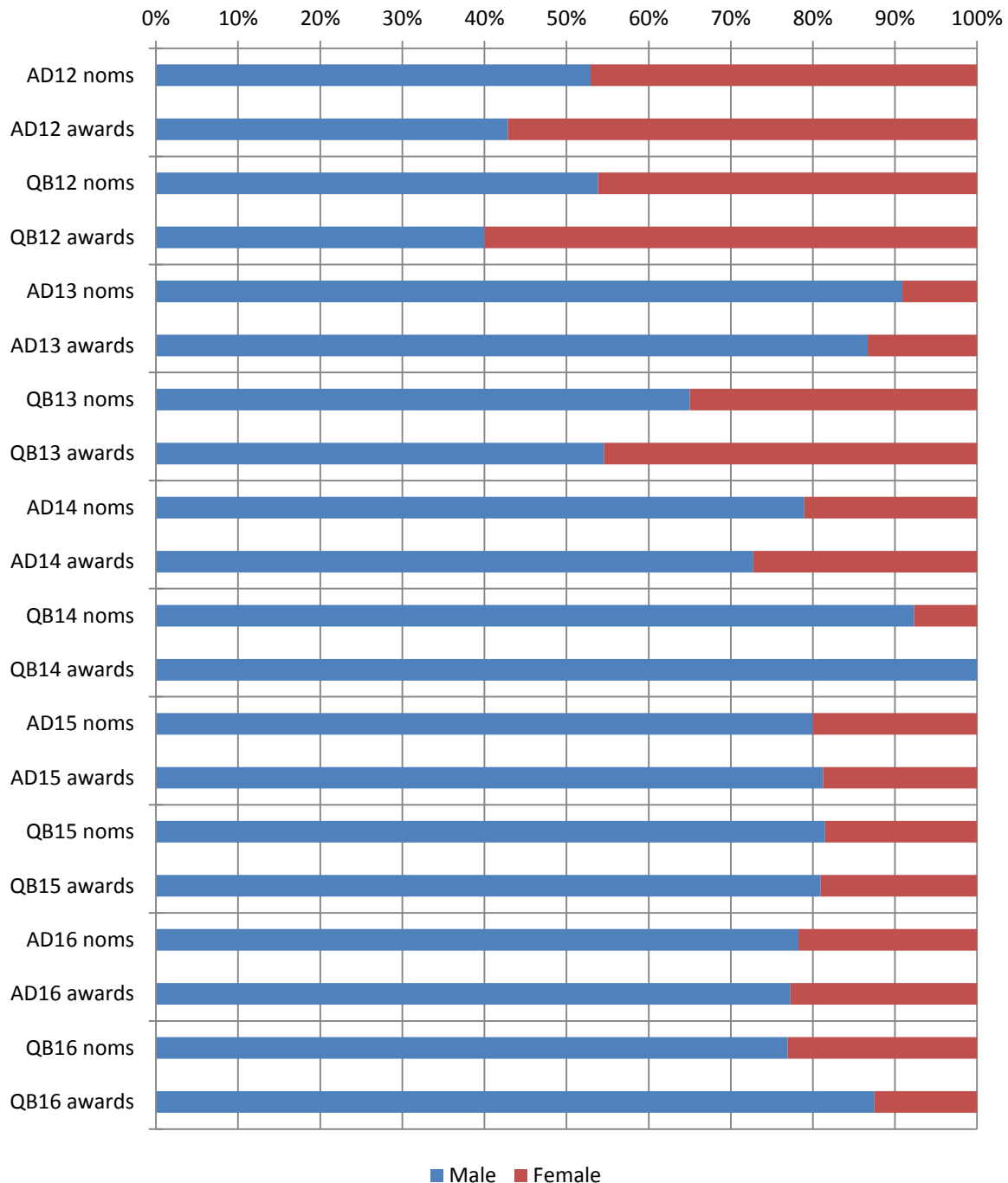


Chart 55: Local Government – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

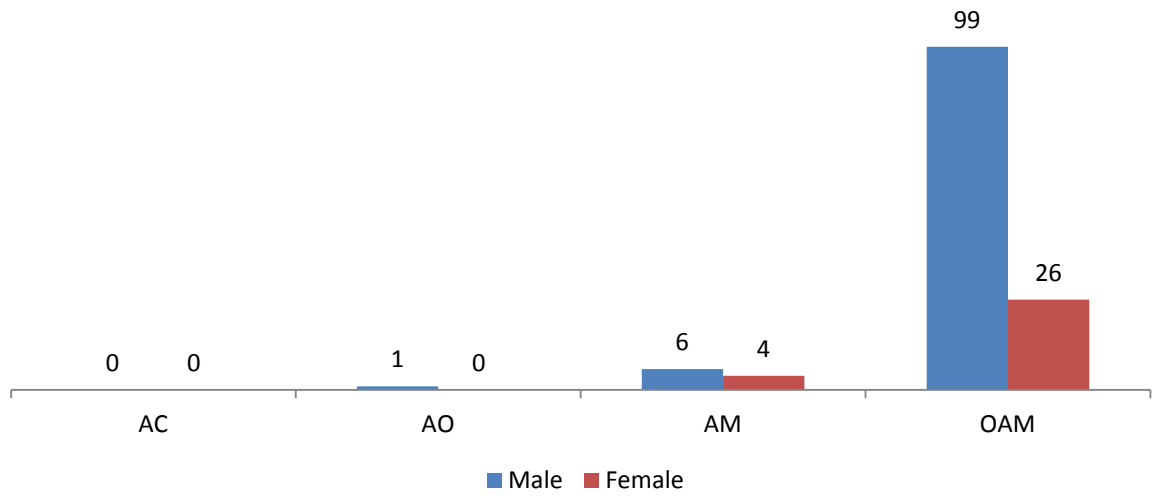
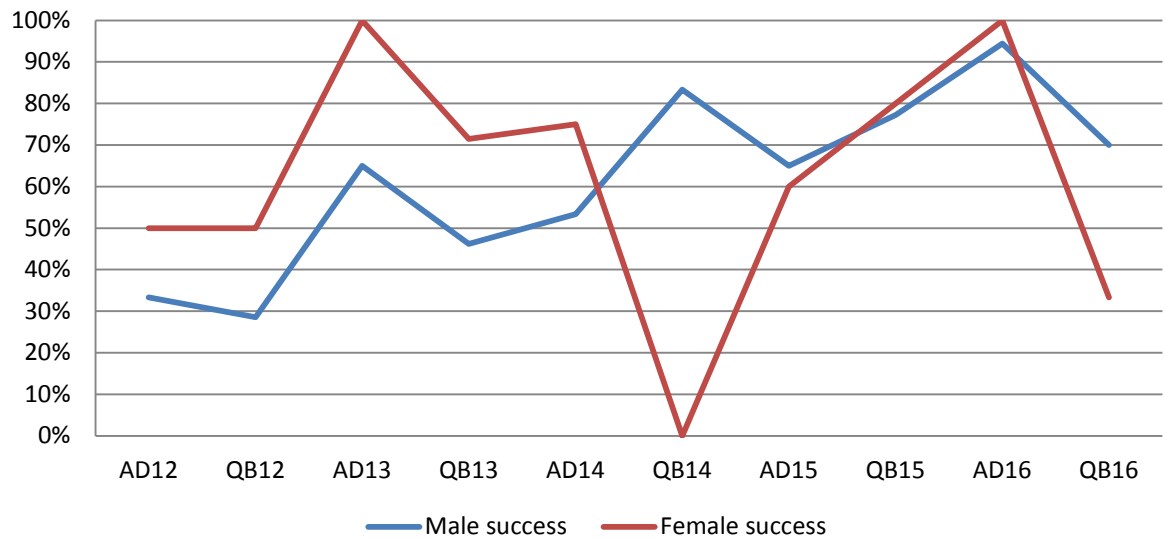


Chart 56: Local Government – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Media & Communications

This is a medium category, with 104 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: Films, General, Journalism, Print, Radio, Television, and Other.

Chart 57: Media & Communications – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

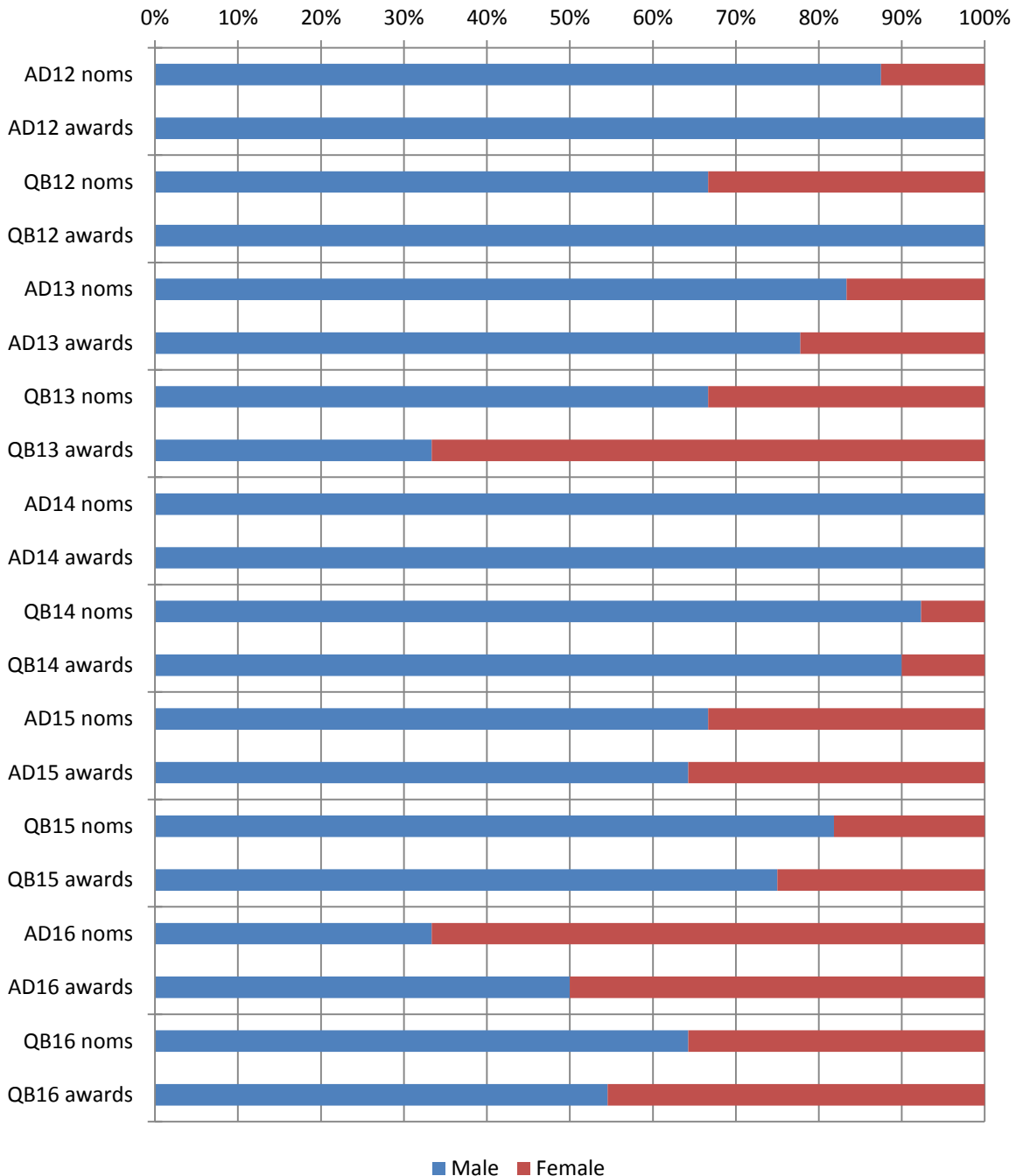


Chart 58: Media & Communications – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

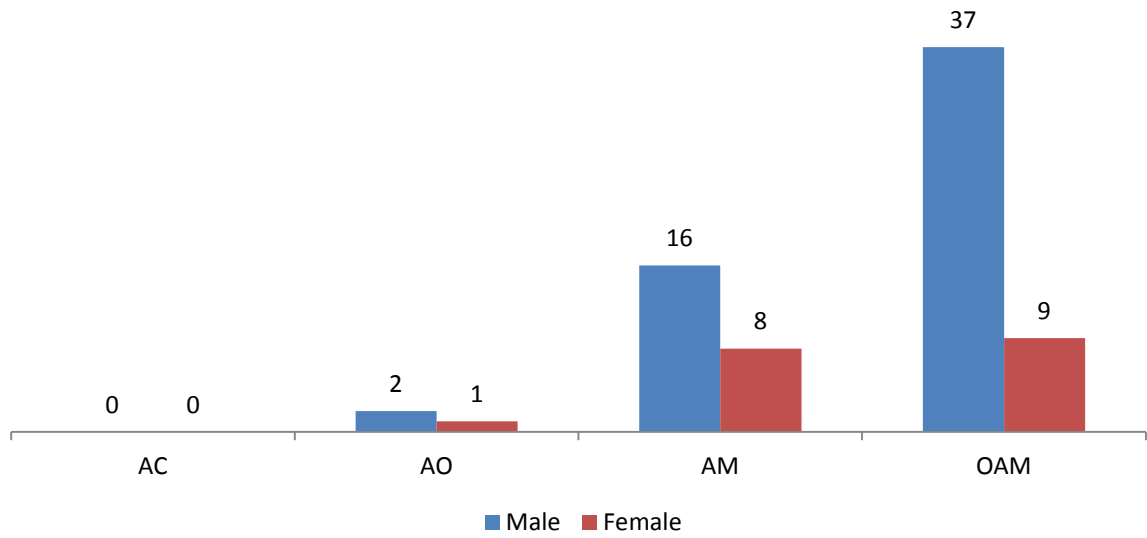
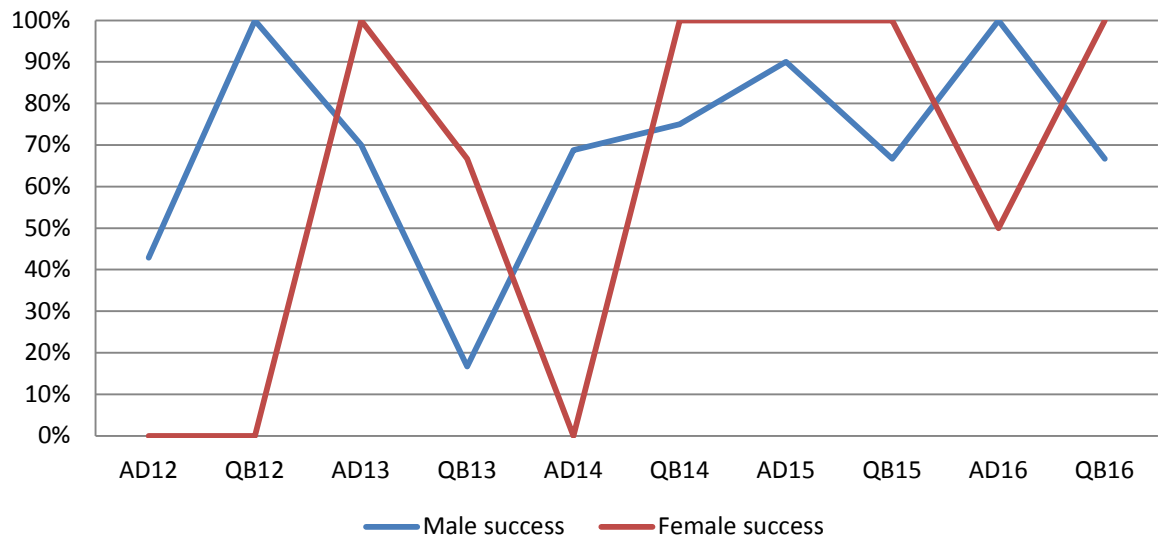


Chart 59: Media & Communications – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Medicine

This is a large category, with 754 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: Administration, General, Nursing, Pharmacy, Research, Specialist, and Other.

Chart 60: Medicine – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

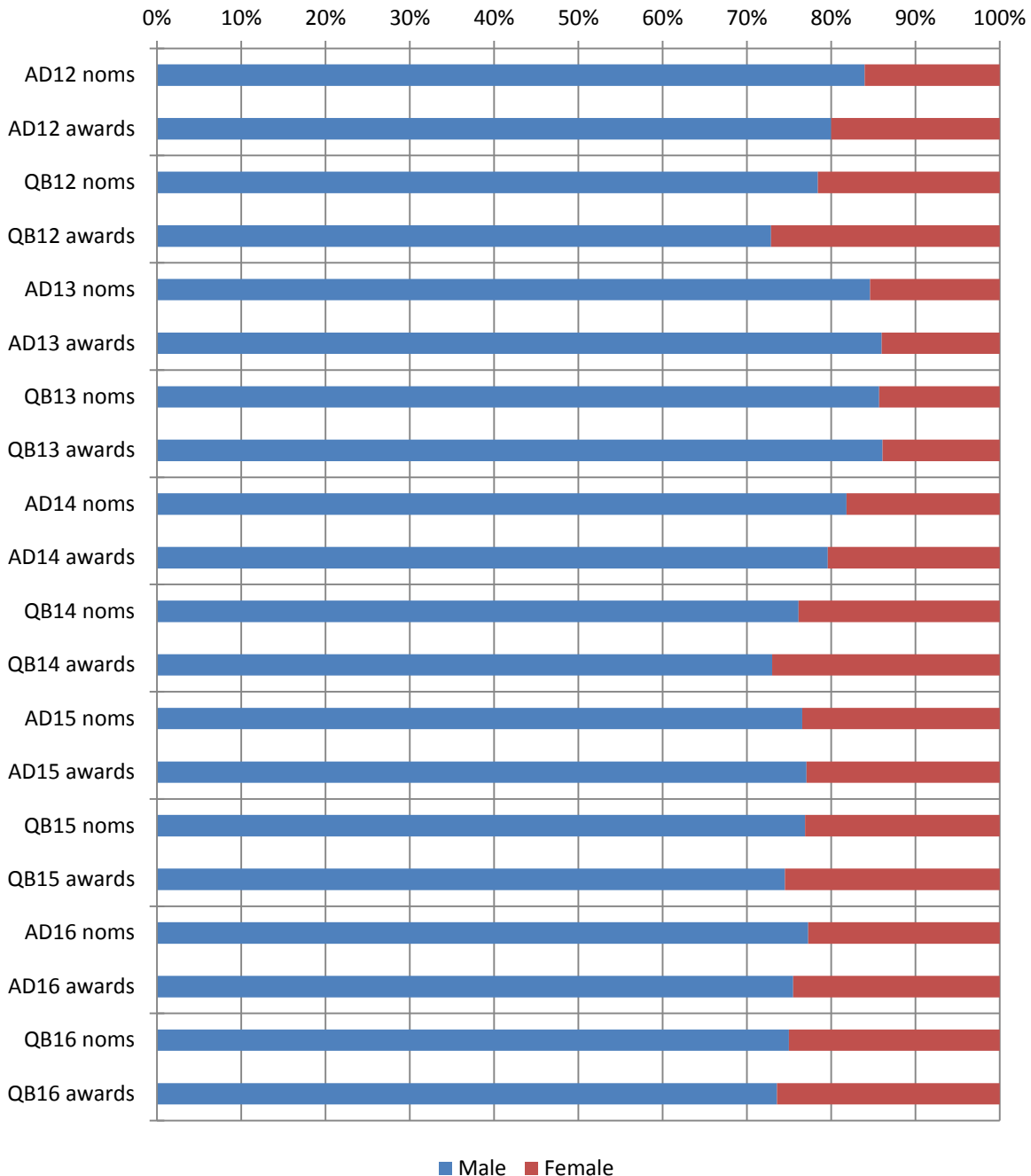


Chart 61: Medicine – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

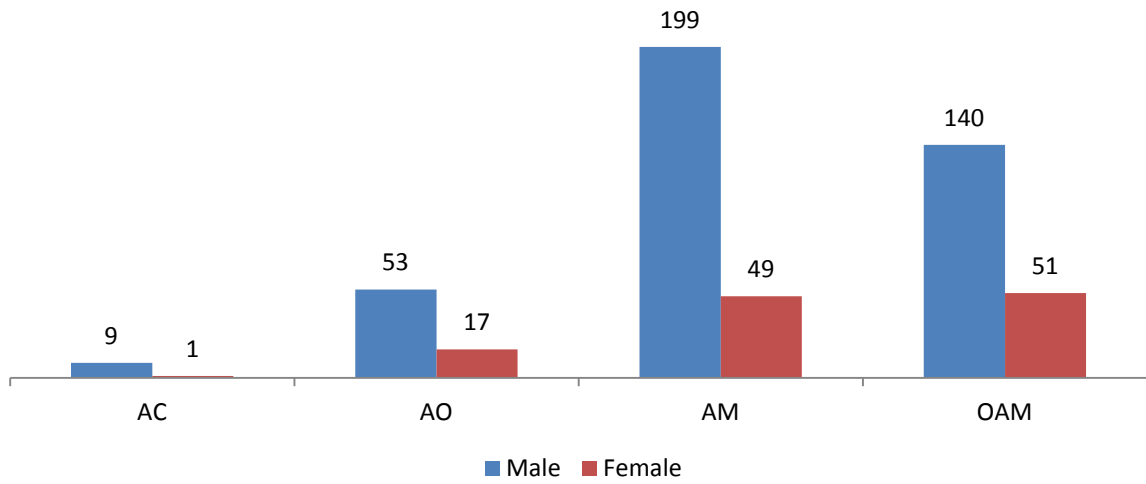
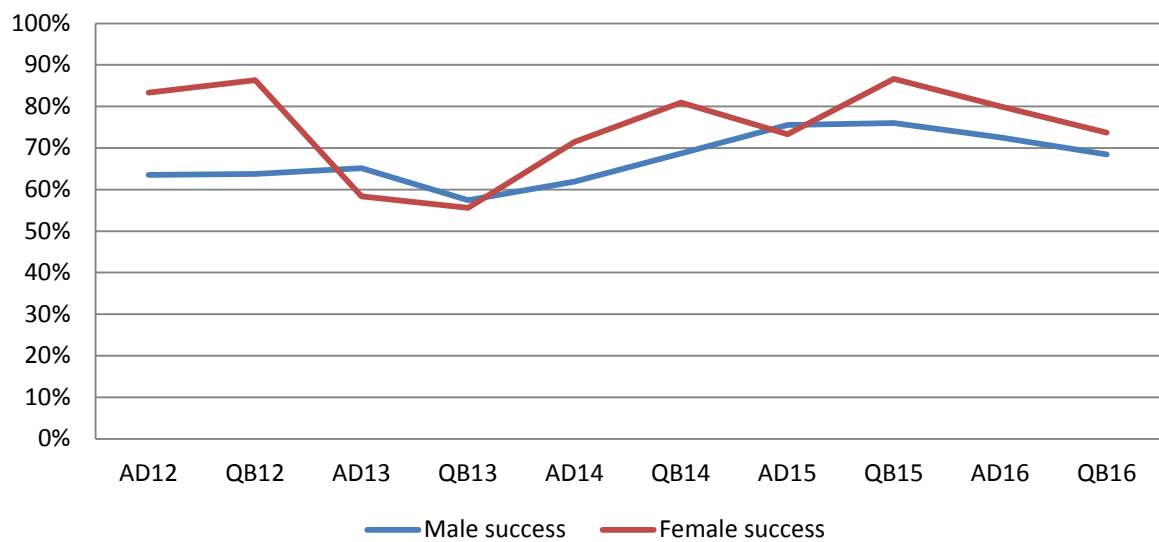


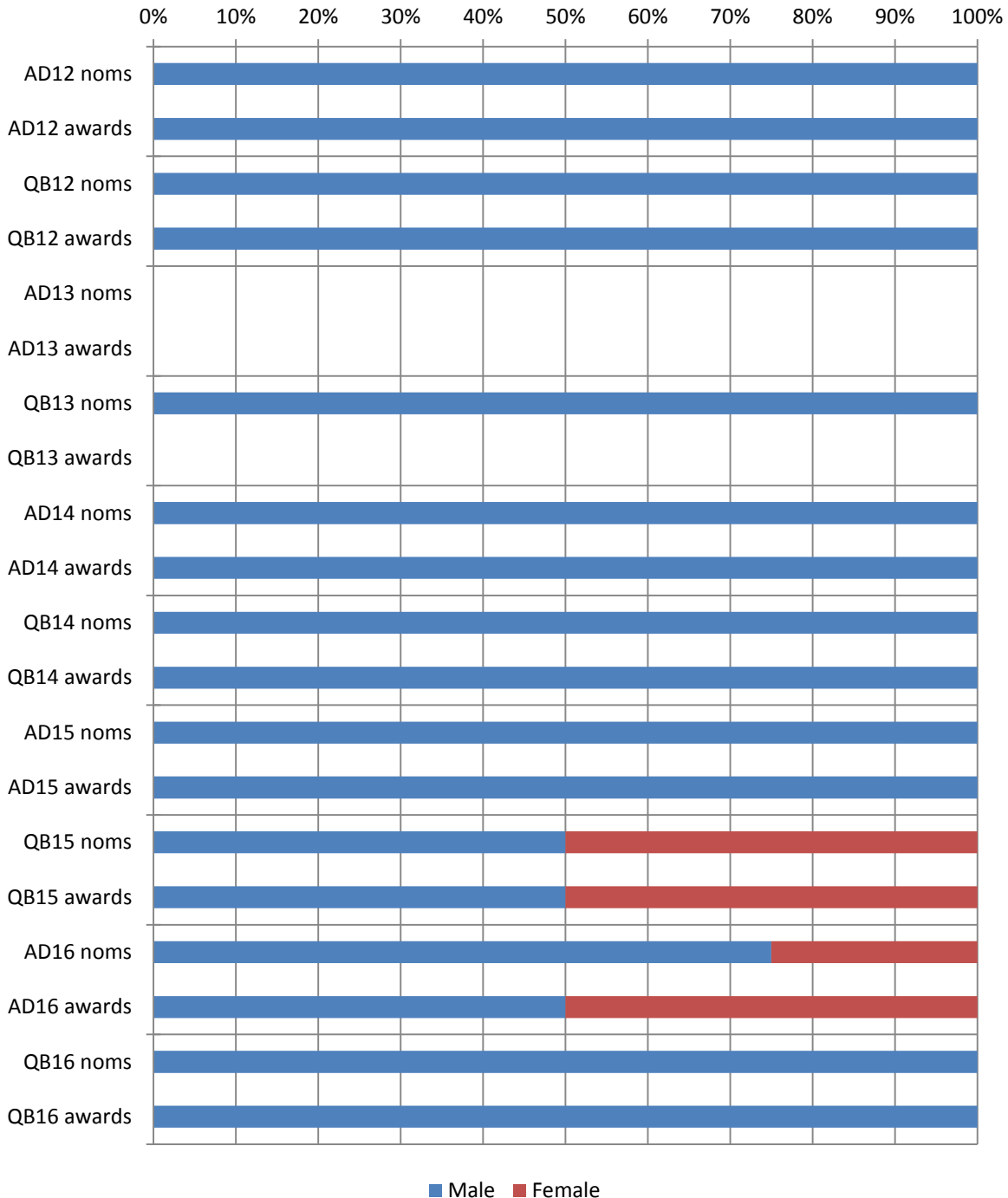
Chart 62: Medicine – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Mining

This is a small category, with 20 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

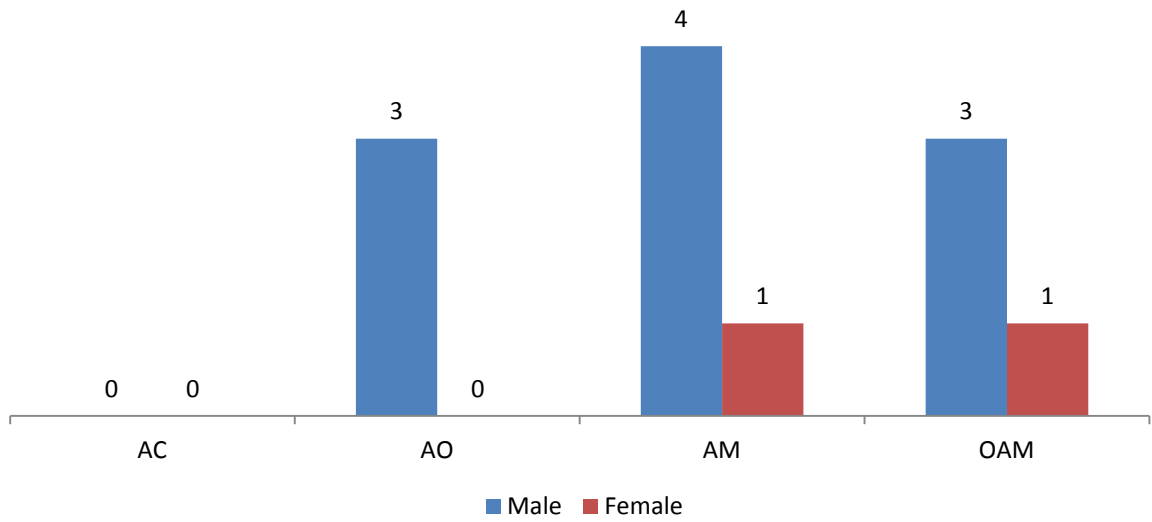
Chart 63: Mining – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the AD13 meeting.

No awards in this category were recommended for the QB13 honours list.

Chart 64: Mining – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Parliament & Politics

This is a medium category, with 114 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: ACT, Federal, General, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia.

Chart 65: Parliament & Politics – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

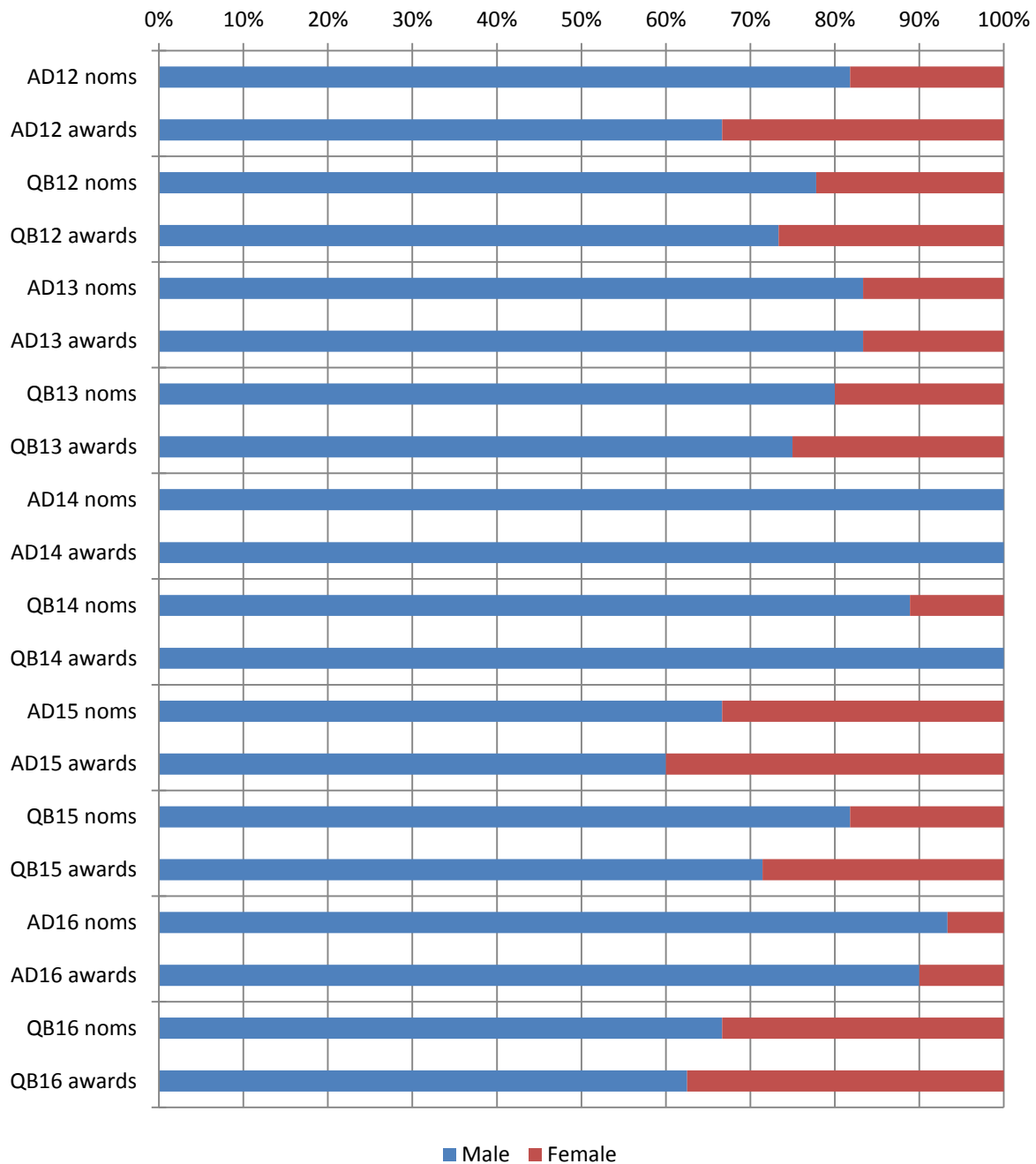


Chart 66: Parliament & Politics – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

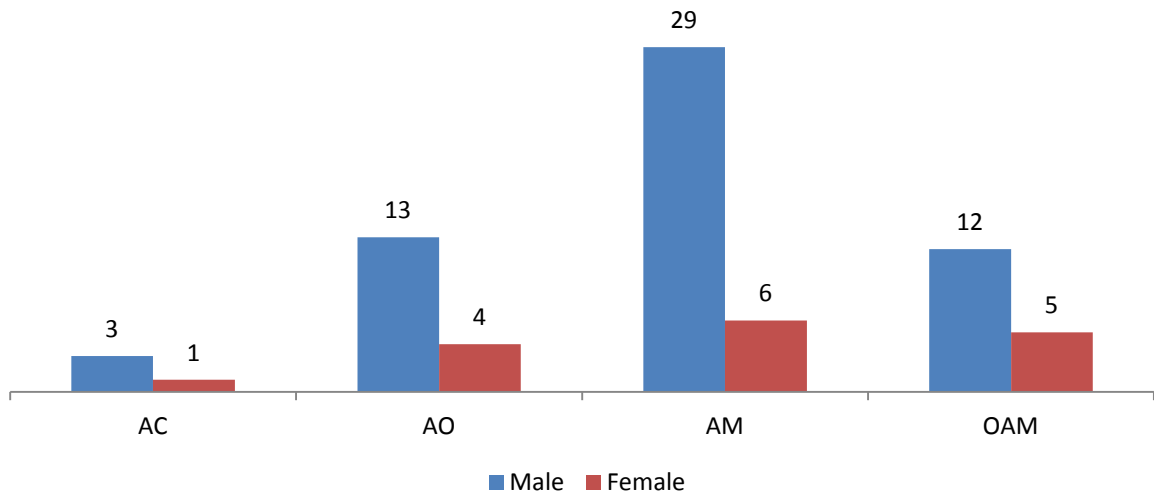
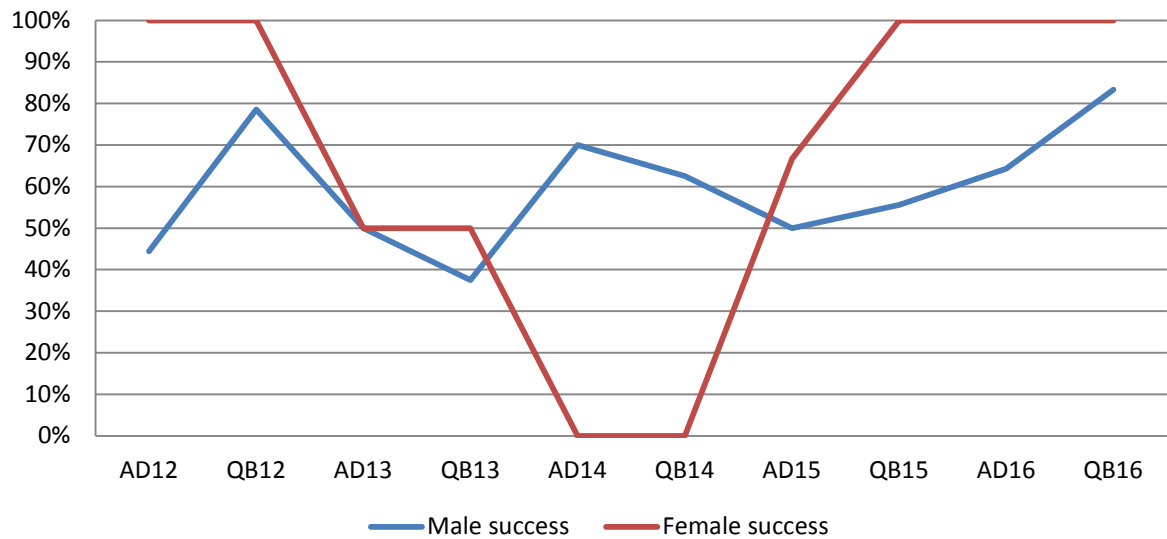


Chart 67: Parliament & Politics – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Primary Industry

This is a medium category, with 136 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: Crops, Fishing, Forestry, General, Horticulture, Livestock, Oenology, and Wool.

Chart 68: Primary Industry – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

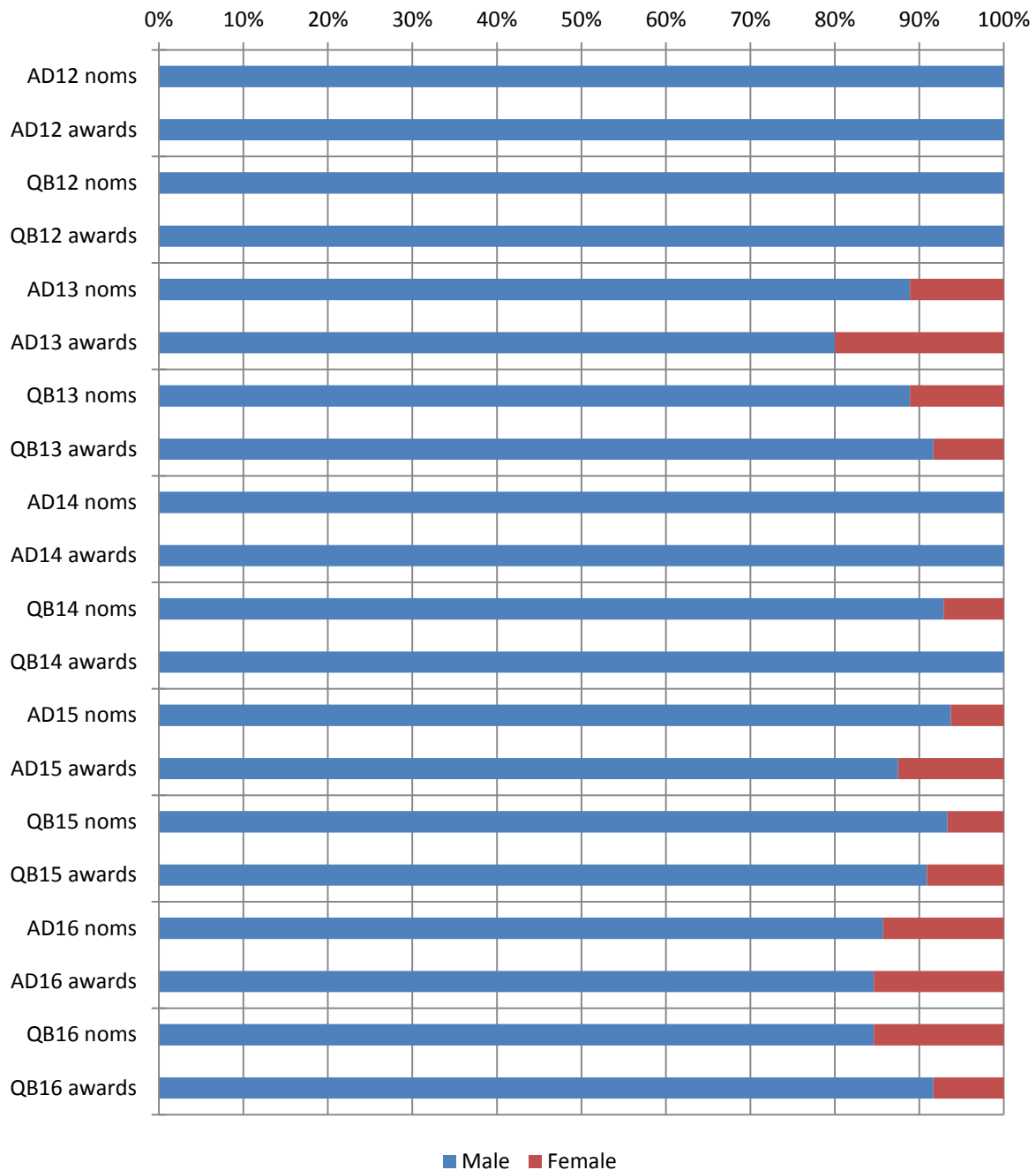


Chart 69: Primary Industry – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

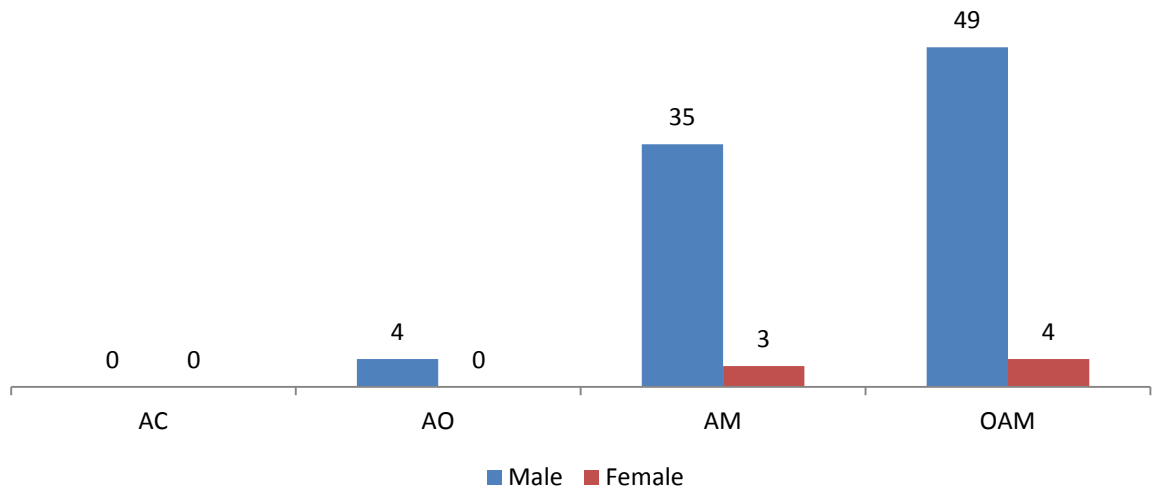
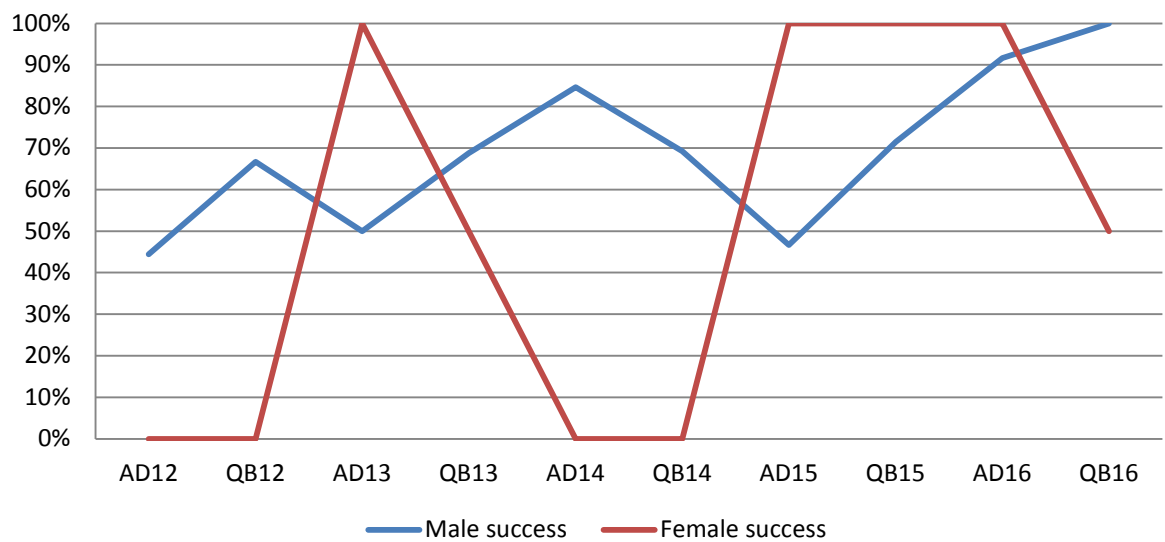


Chart 70: Primary Industry – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Public Service

This is a medium category, with 172 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: To the Crown, Federal, ACT, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia.

Chart 71: Public Service – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

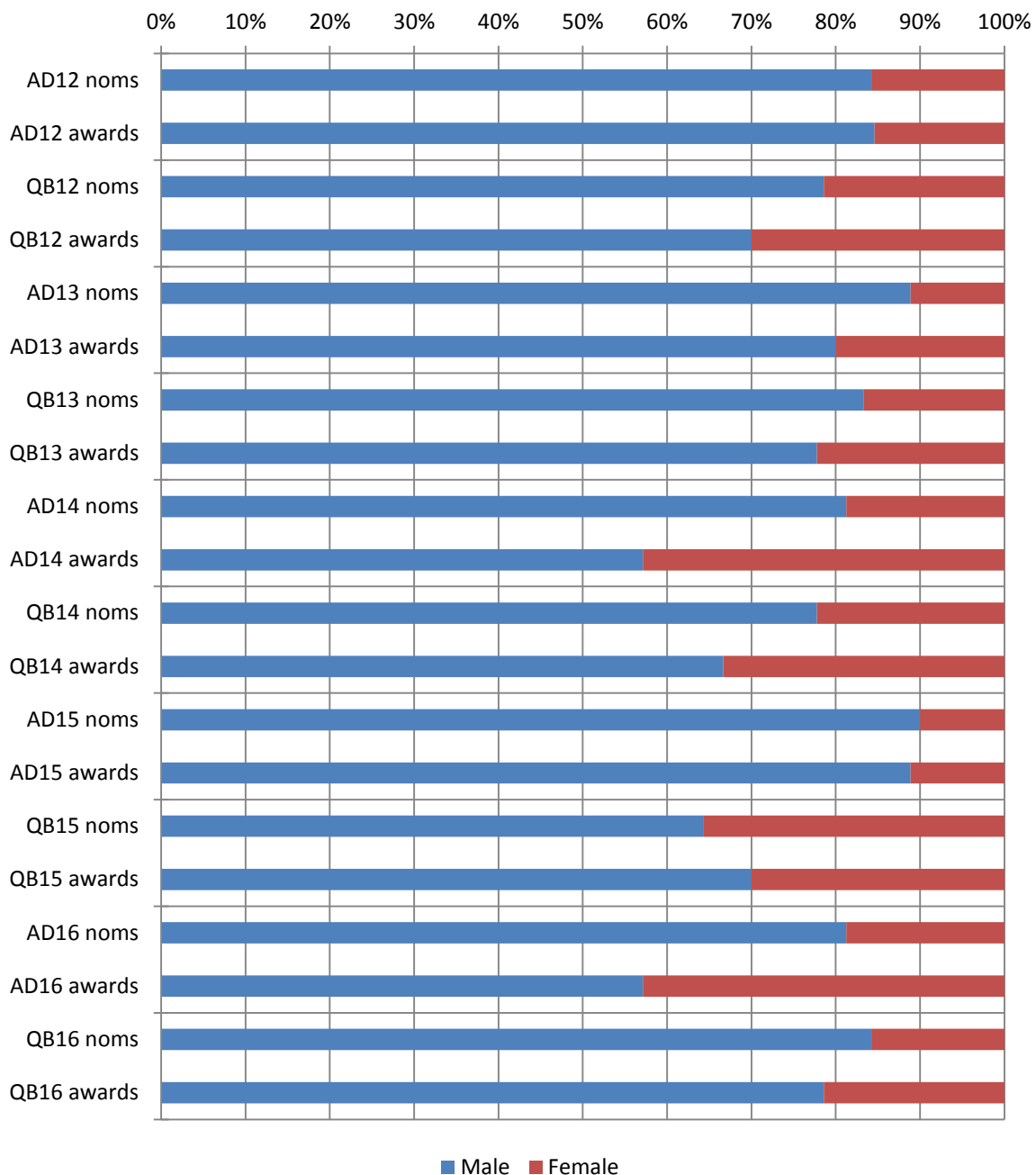
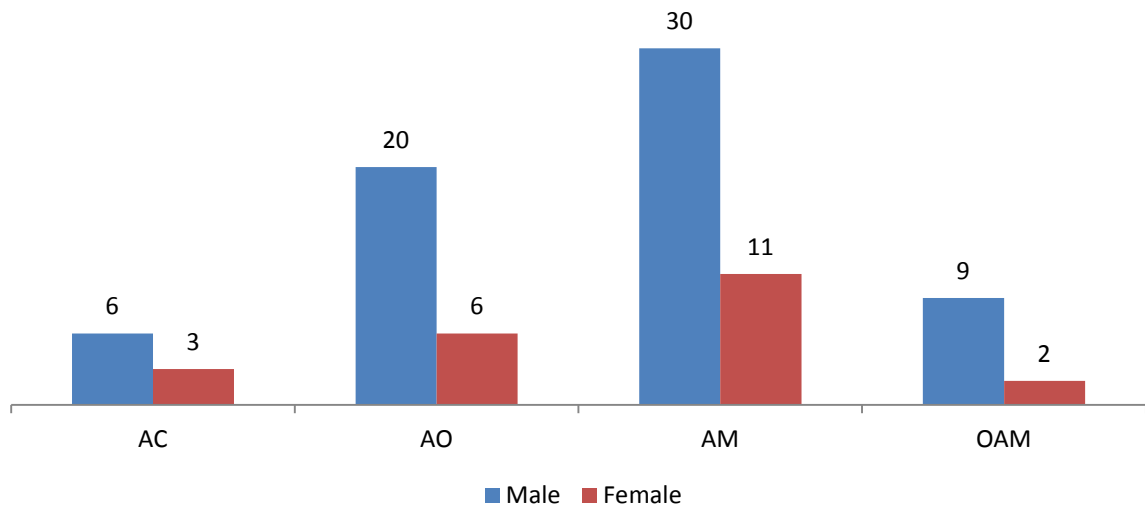
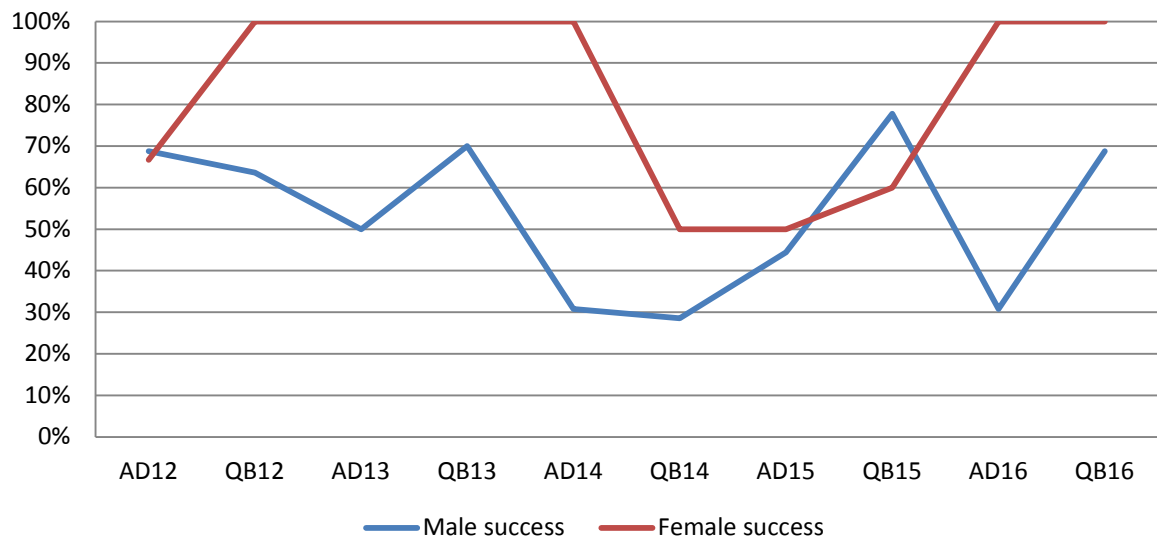


Chart 72: Public Service – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



One appointment was made at the Dame level (AD) in the “Public Service” category, in The Queen’s Birthday 2014 Honours List: Professor the Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO.

Chart 73: Public Service – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Religion

This is a medium category, with 109 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: Anglican, Baptist, General, Jewish, Roman Catholic, Uniting Church, and Other.

Chart 74: Religion – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

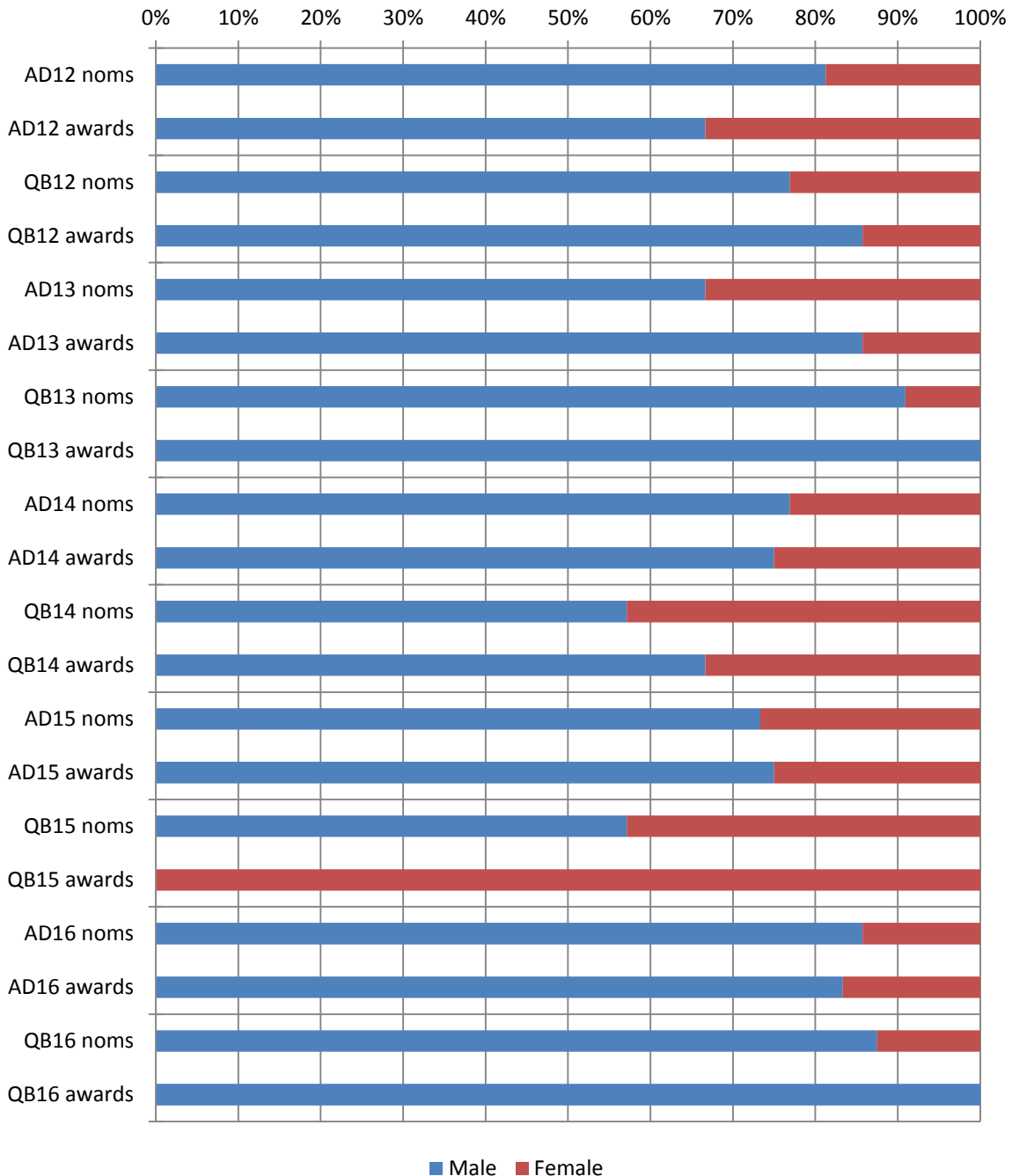


Chart 75: Religion – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

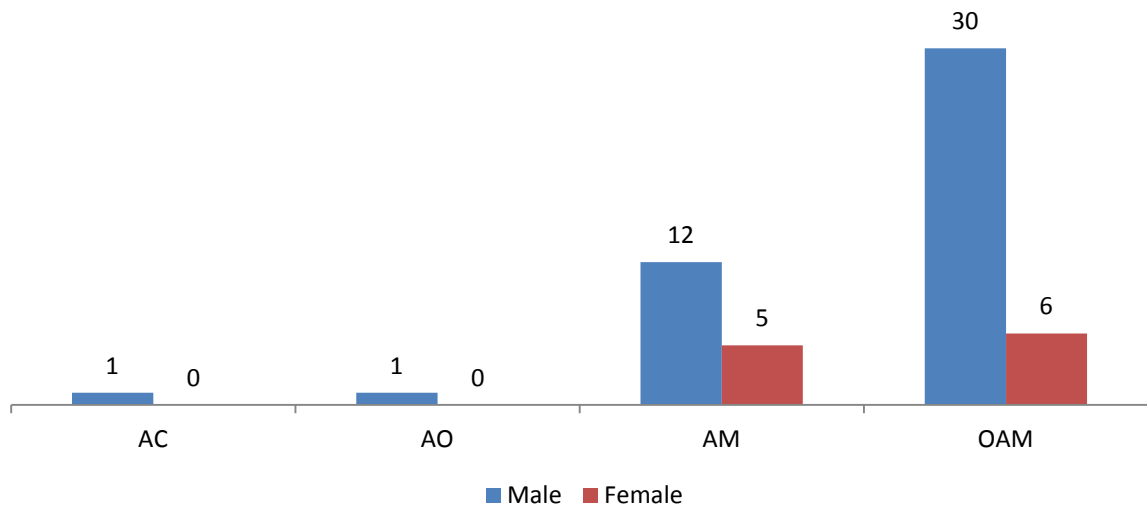
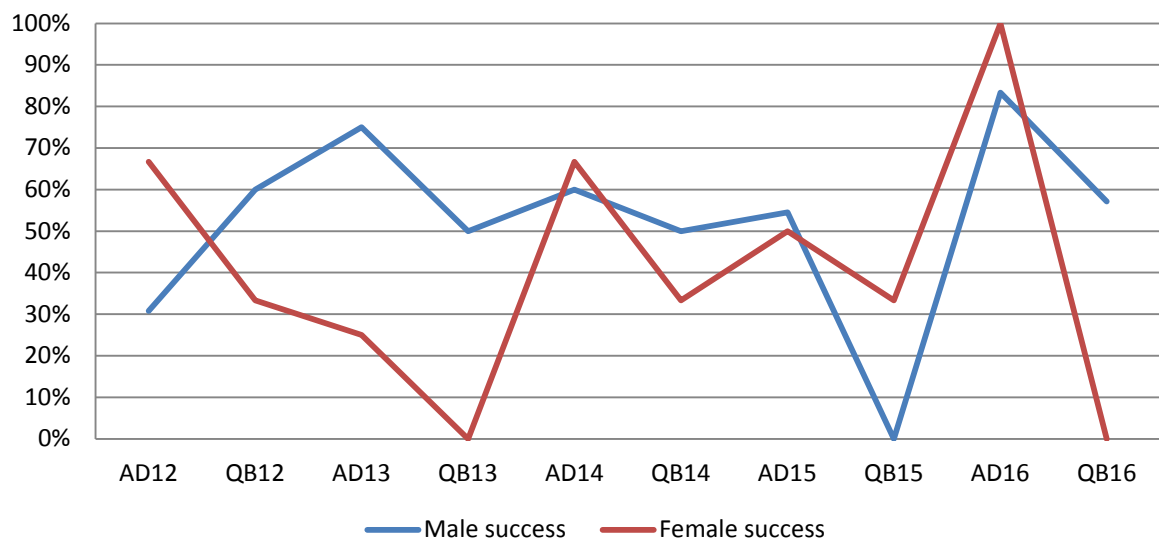


Chart 76: Religion – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Science, Technological Developments, Research & Development

This is a medium category, with 135 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 77: Science, Tech, R&D – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

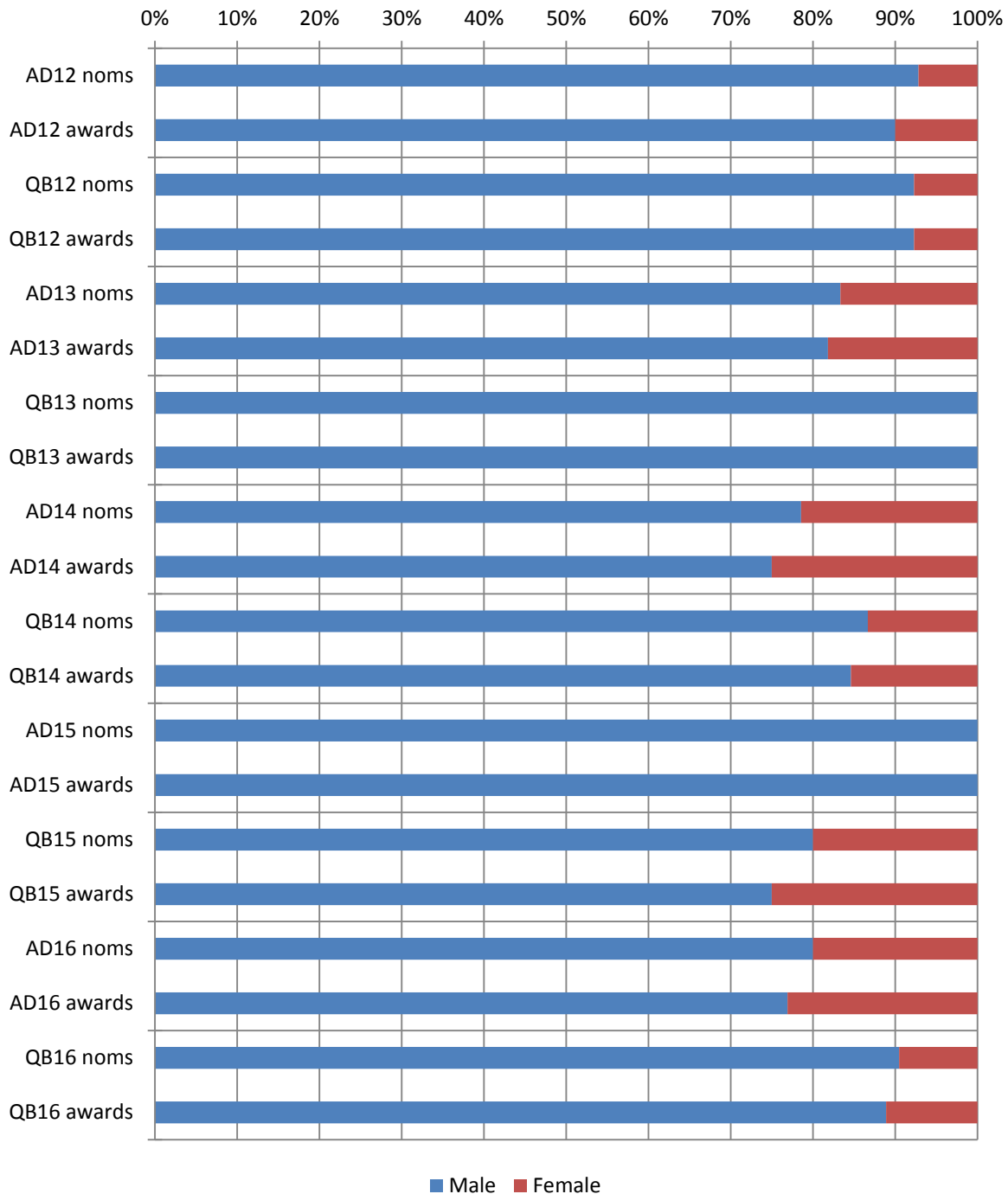


Chart 78: Science, Tech, R&D – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

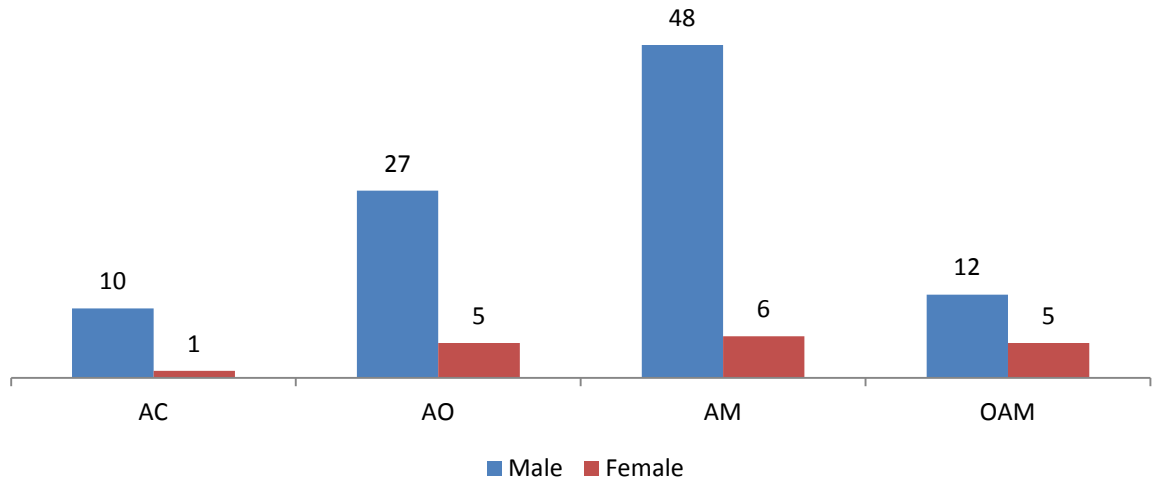
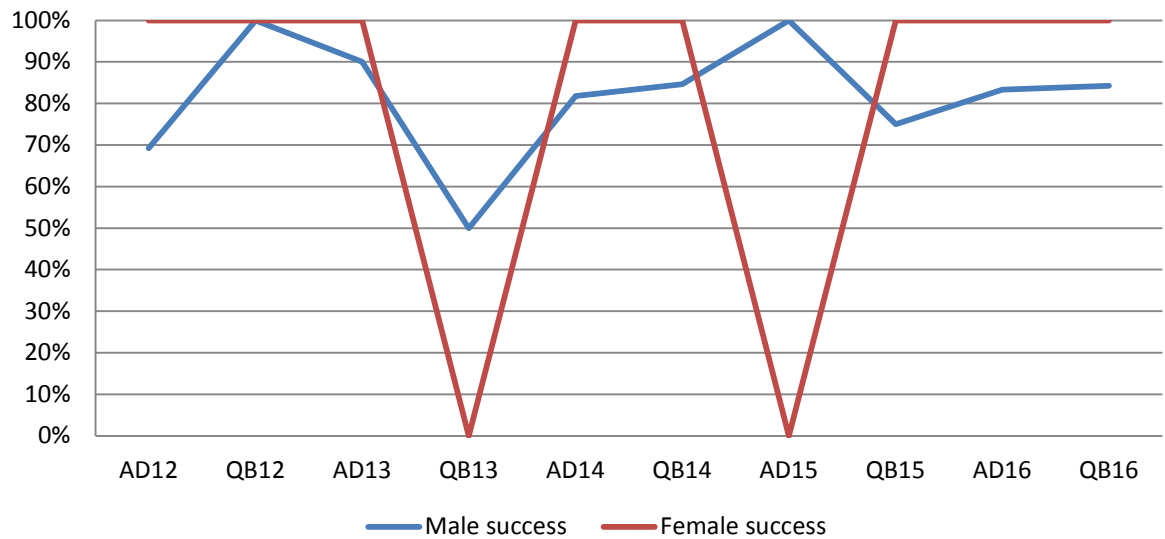


Chart 79: Science, Tech, R&D – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Sport

This is a large category, with 575 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has the following sub-categories: Administration, Archery, Australian Rules Football, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Billiards/Snooker, Cricket, Cycling, Disabled, Fishing, General, Gold Medal Olympians, Golf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Horse Sports, Lawn Bowls, Motor Sports, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Rowing, Sailing, Shooting, Soccer, Squash, Swimming, Tennis, Weightlifting, Water Polo, Wrestling, and Sport & Leisure.

Note: Nominations for Gold Medallists in the London 2012 Olympic Games were considered for the Australia Day 2014 Honours List (AD14).

Chart 80: Sport – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

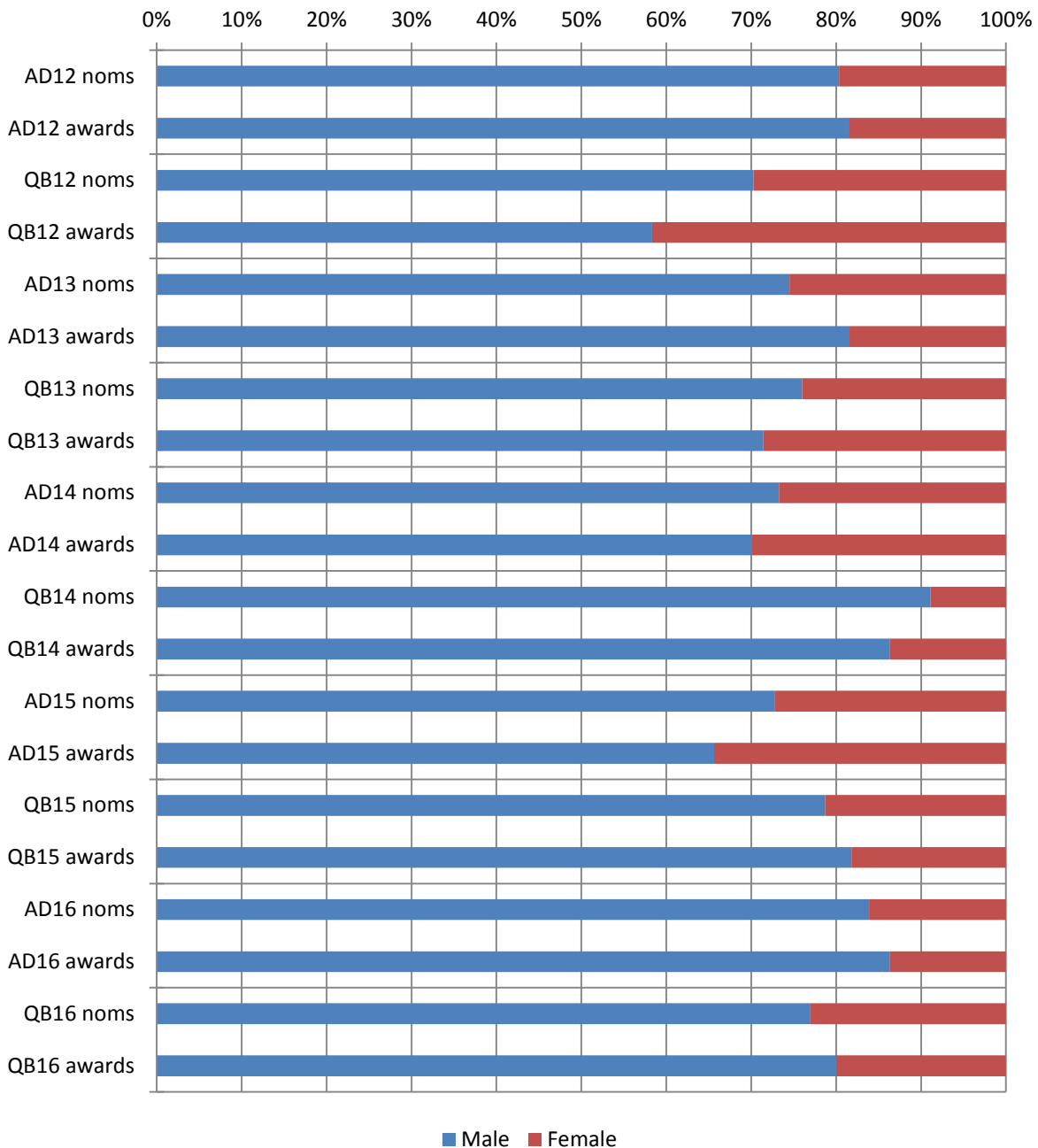


Chart 81: Sport – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16

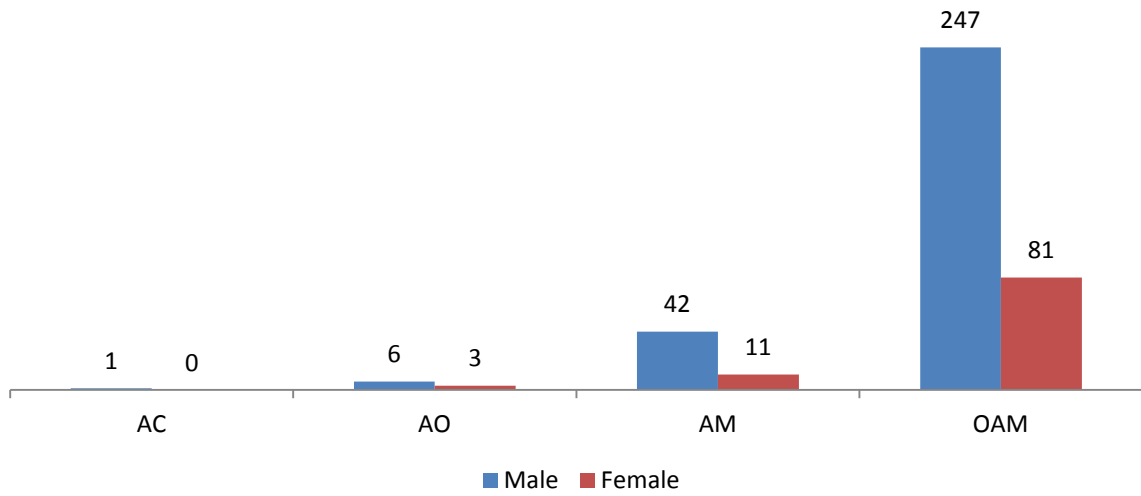
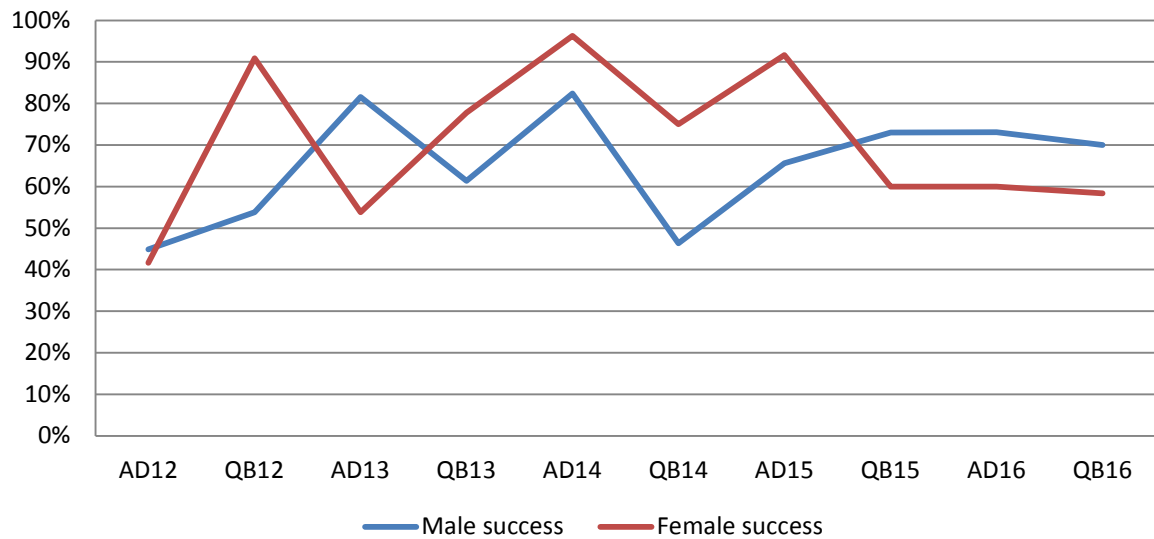


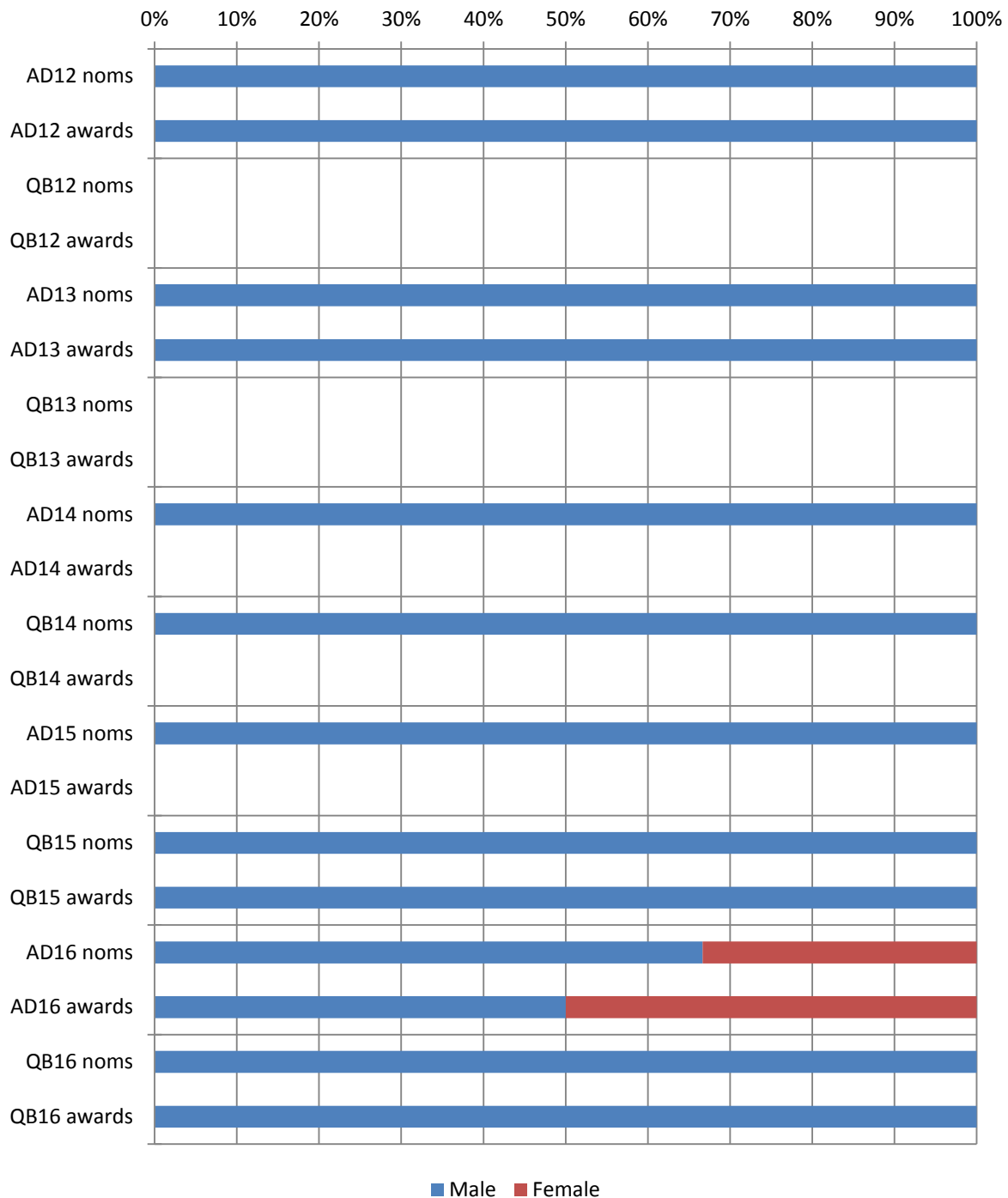
Chart 82: Sport – success rate by gender, 2012-16



Surveying & Mapping

This is a small category, with 11 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

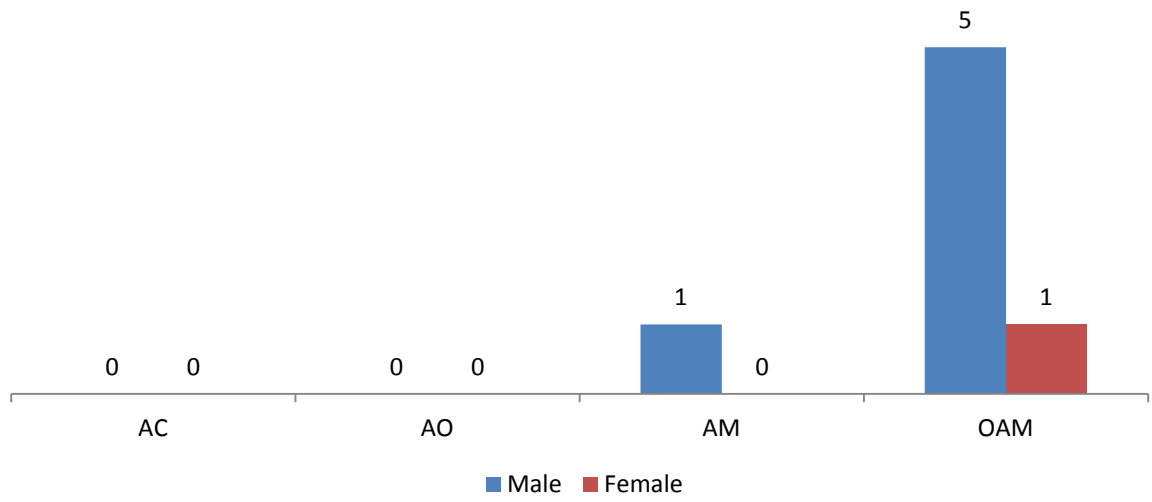
Chart 83: Surveying & Mapping – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the QB12 and QB13 meetings.

No awards in this category were recommended for the AD14, QB14 and AD15 honours lists.

Chart 84: Surveying & Mapping – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Tourism & Hospitality

This is a small category, with 50 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 85: Tourism & Hospitality – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16

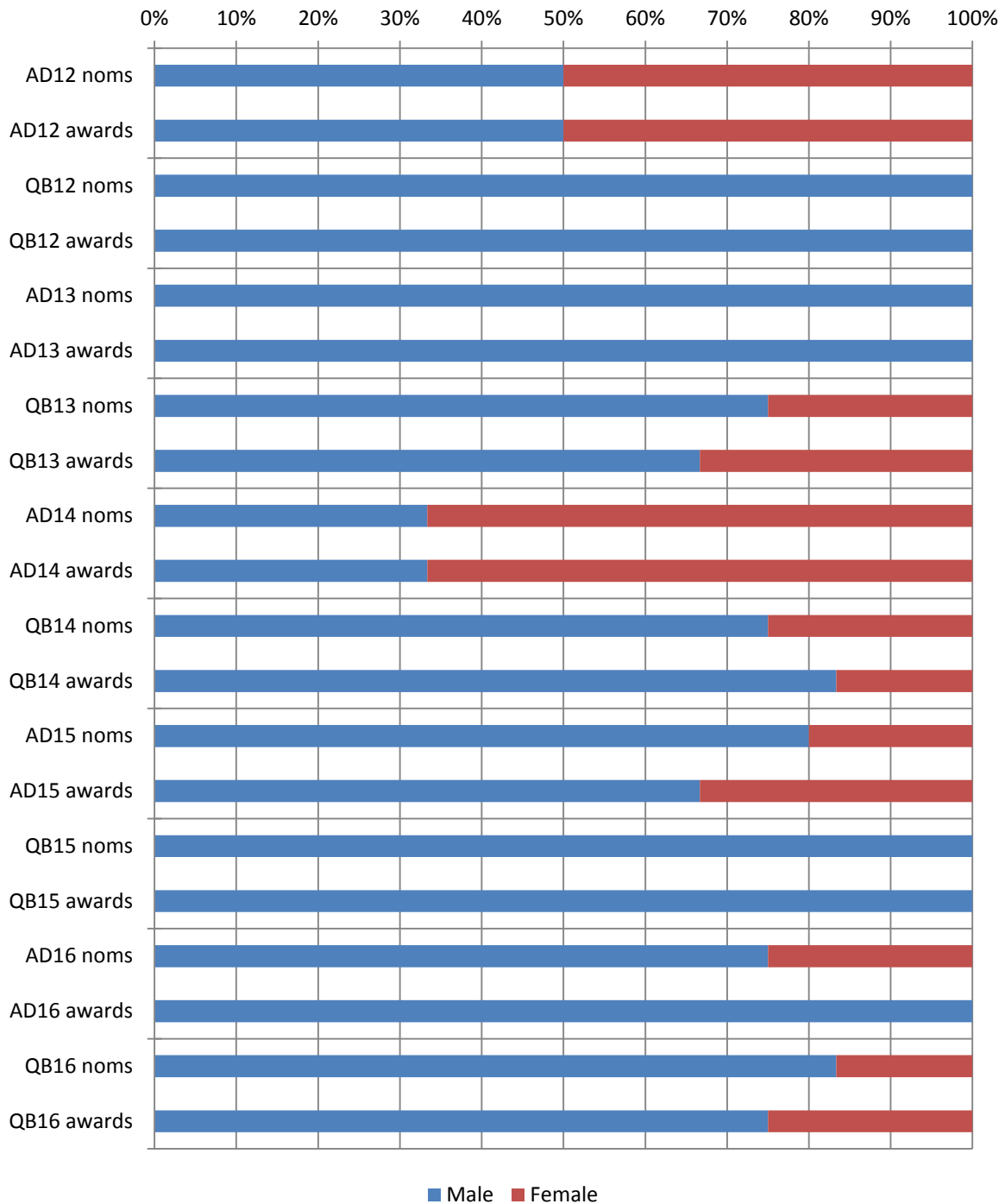
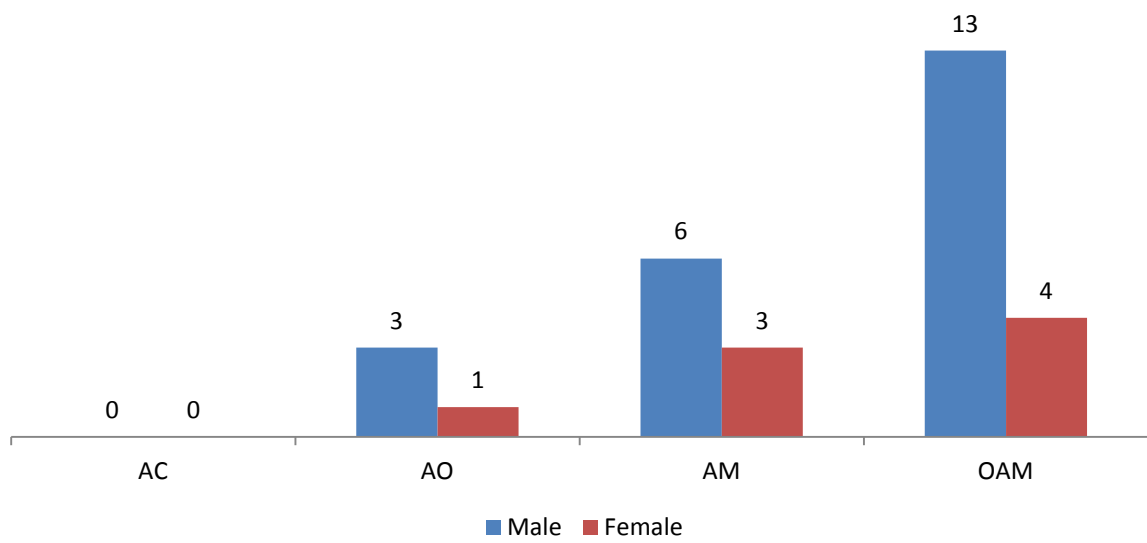


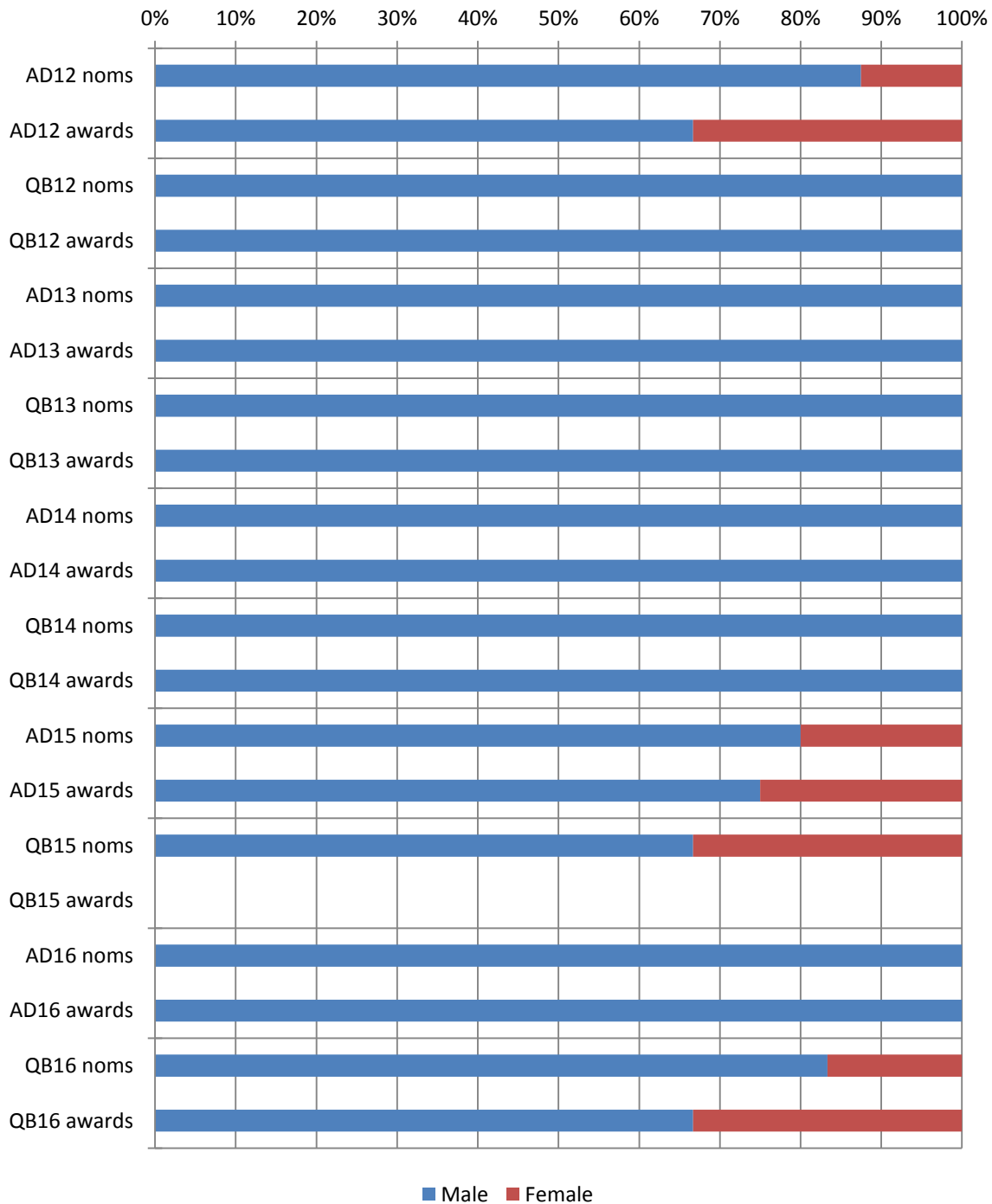
Chart 86: Tourism & Hospitality – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Transport

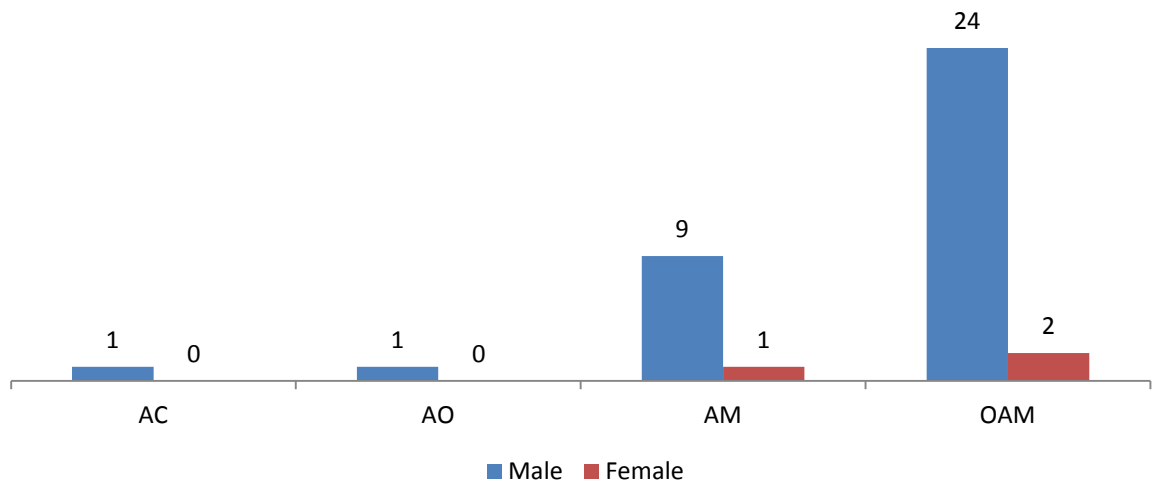
This is a small category, with 62 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has four sub-categories: Aviation, General, Roads, and Shipping.

Chart 87: Transport – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No awards in this category were recommended for the QB15 honours list.

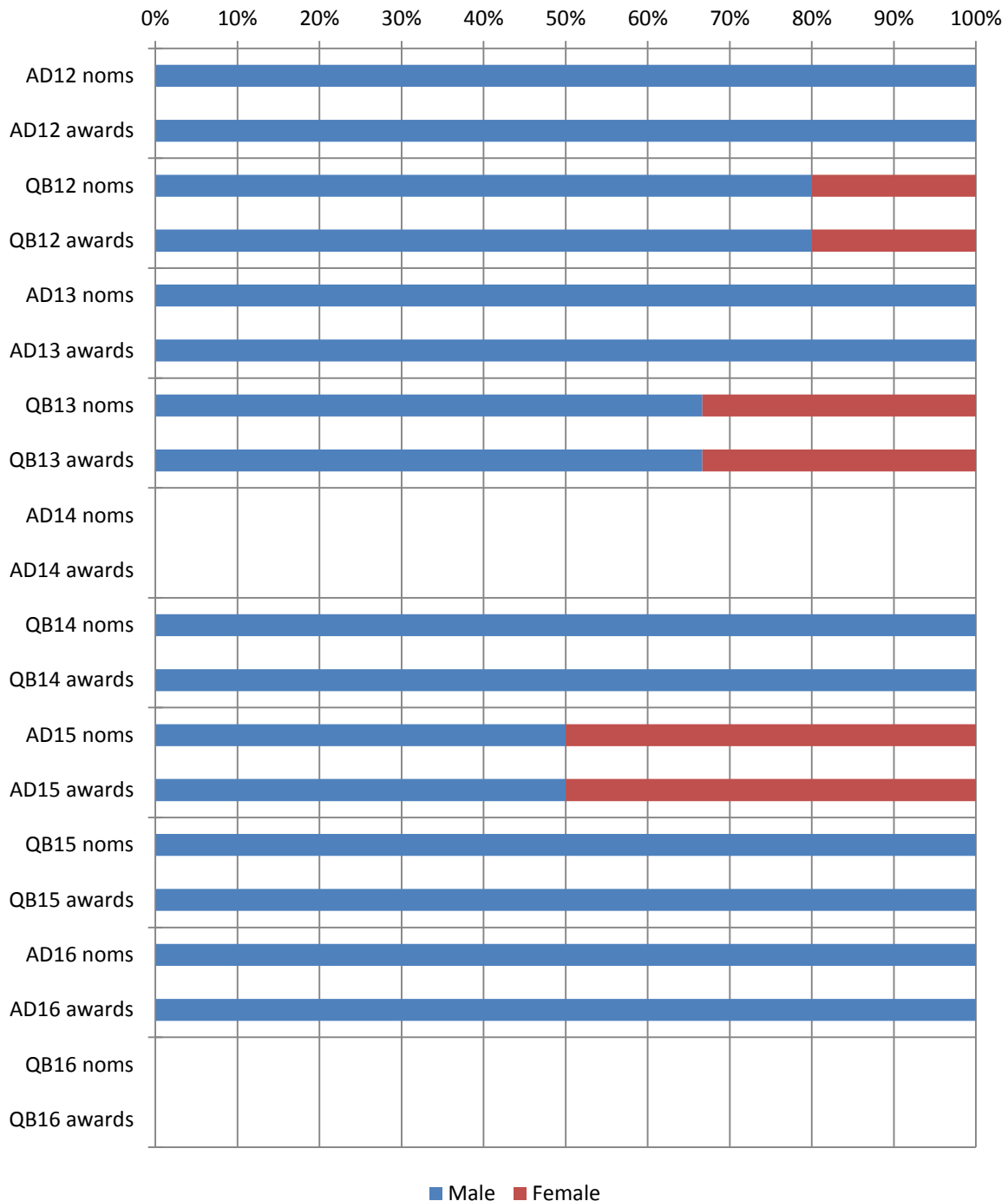
Chart 88: Transport – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



Veterinary Science

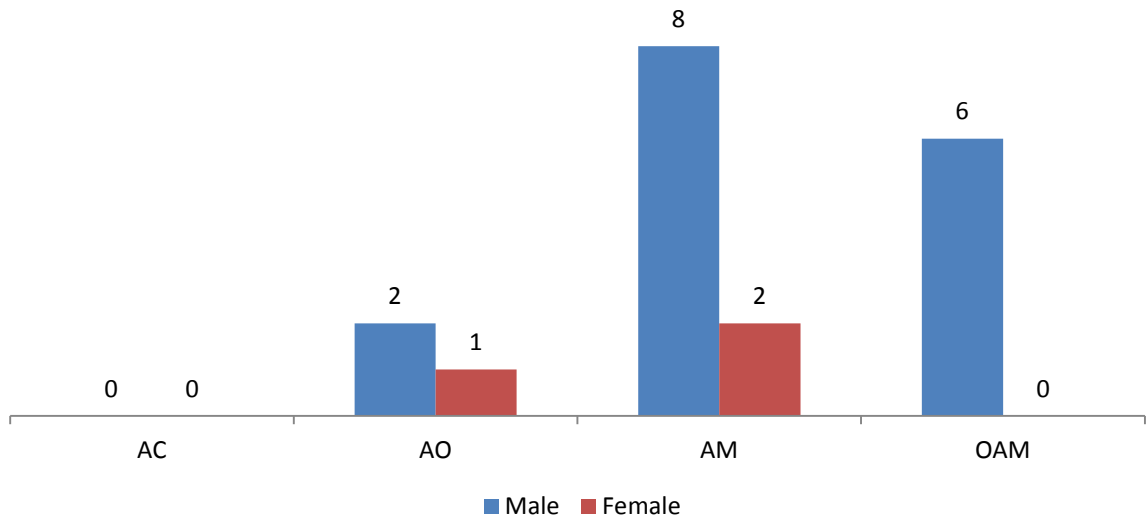
This is a small category, with 19 nominations considered in the period 2012-16. It has no sub-categories.

Chart 89: Veterinary Science – nominations and awards by gender, 2012-16



No nominations in this category were considered at the AD14 and QB16 meetings.

Chart 90: Veterinary Science – awards made, by level and gender, 2012-16



6. Order of Australia: nominators

The Branch treats the identity of nominators confidentially, not even revealing them to recipients. The following charts therefore illustrate a number of major characteristics of nominators without enabling their identification.

The Branch's database does not currently store the nominator's gender, and so gathering this data has required closely examining individual records to determine gender based on a title or given name. For comparison purposes, the charts in this section cover only the last four financial years (2012-13 to 2015-16 inclusive), representing the period for which nominator gender data could be gathered.

Gender

Chart 91: OA nominator gender, 2013-16

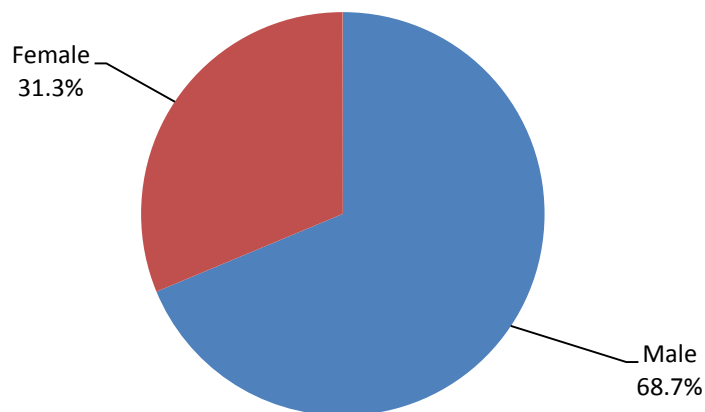


Chart 92: OA male nominators, by gender of nominee, 2013-16

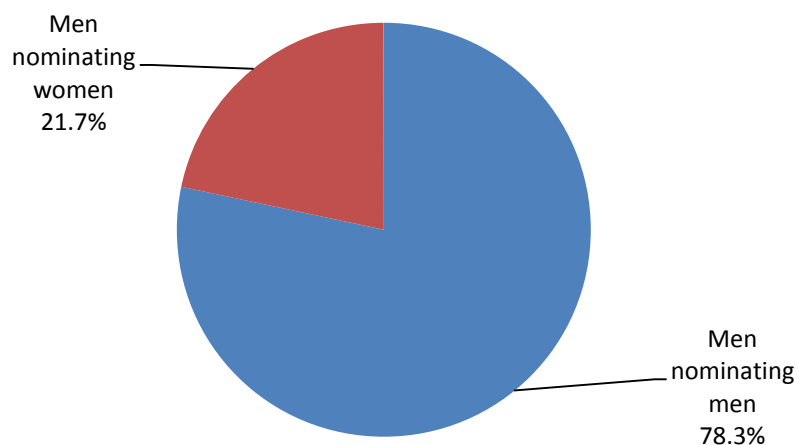
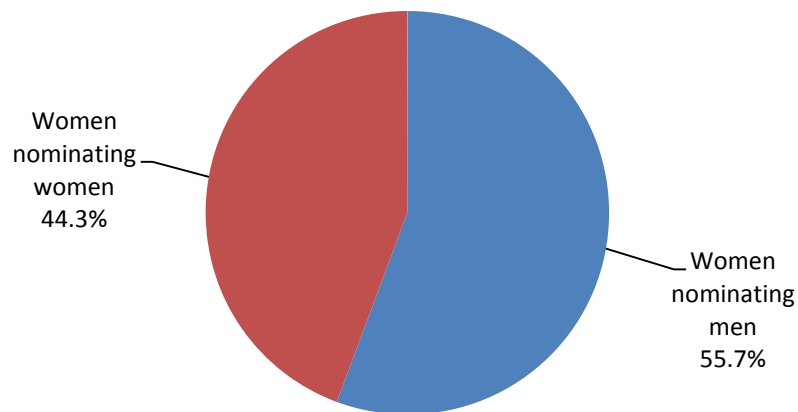
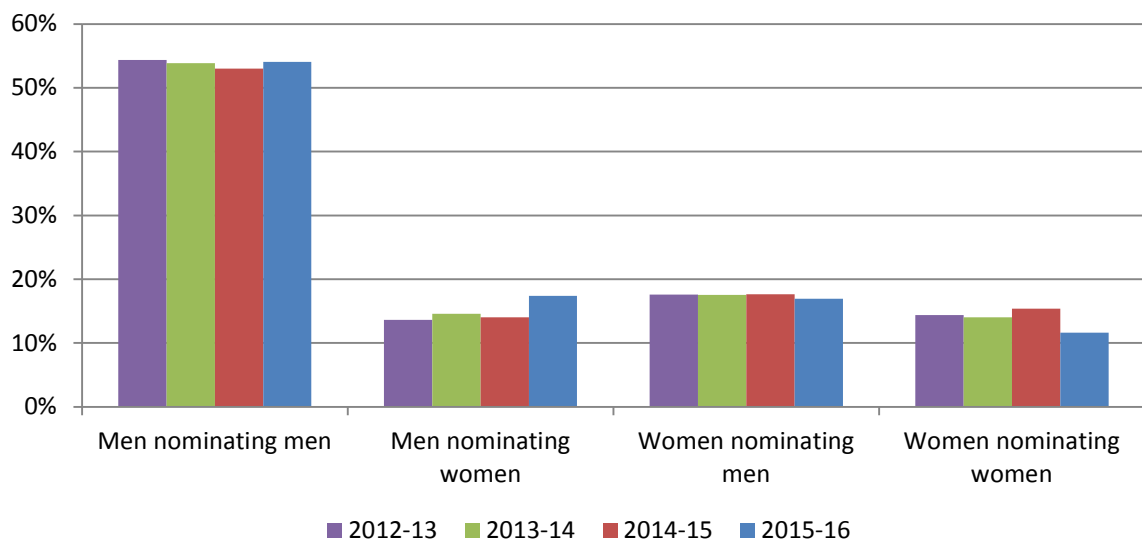


Chart 93: OA female nominators, by gender of nominee, 2013-16



The gender relationships between nominator and nominee in **Chart 94** have been relatively stable over the past four years.

Chart 94: OA nominator-nominee gender relationships, 2013-16



State of residence

Another major point of analysis for nominators is where they are from, in relation to the person they are nominating. The given address of nominators and nominees is used to base an analysis on state of residence. **Charts 95** and **96** illustrate this data over the last four years. Percentages have been used, to eliminate the influence of volume fluctuation between years. “OS” is “overseas”.

Chart 95: OA nominators by state of residence, 2013-16

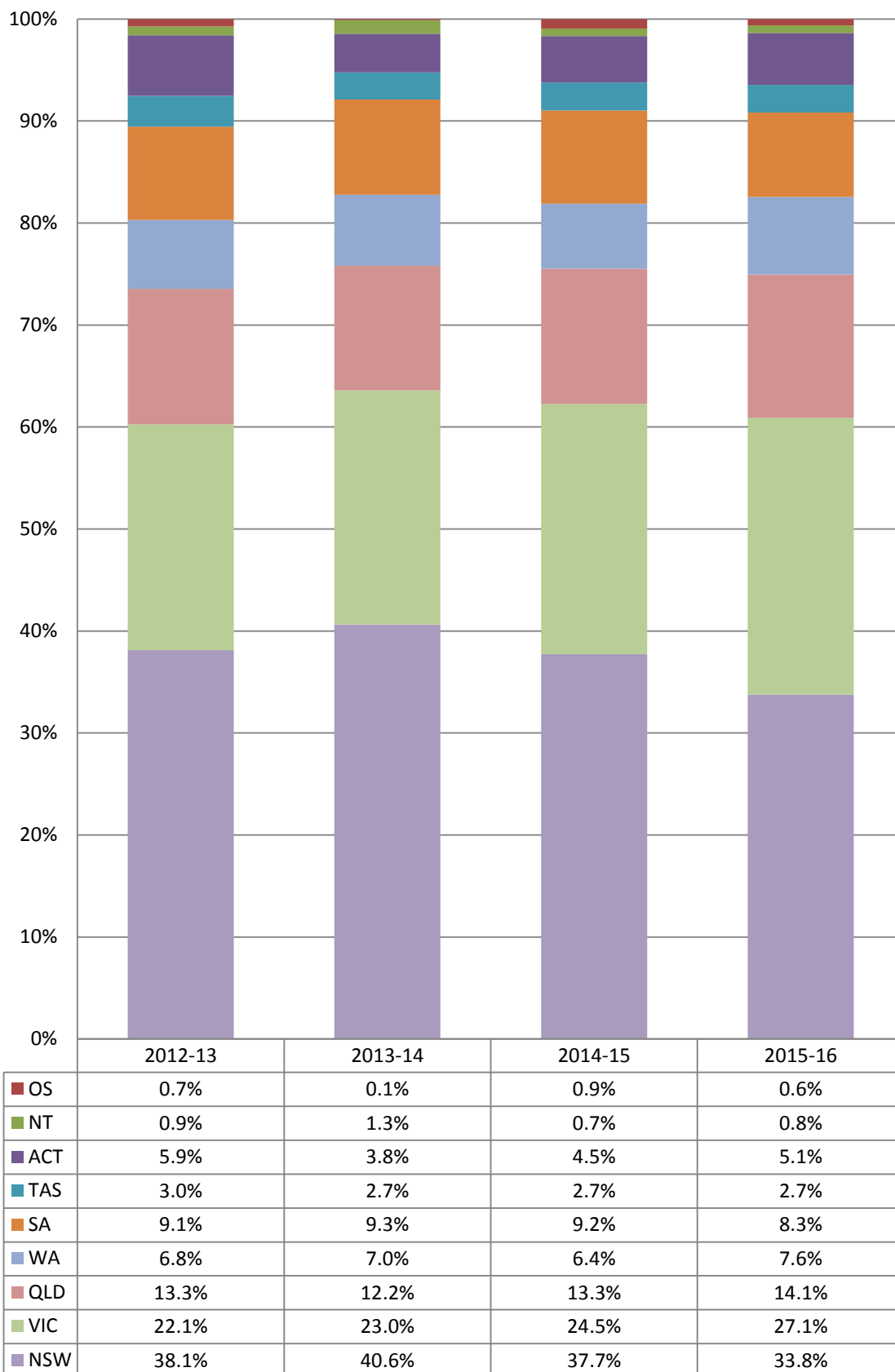


Chart 96: OA nominees by state of residence, 2013-16

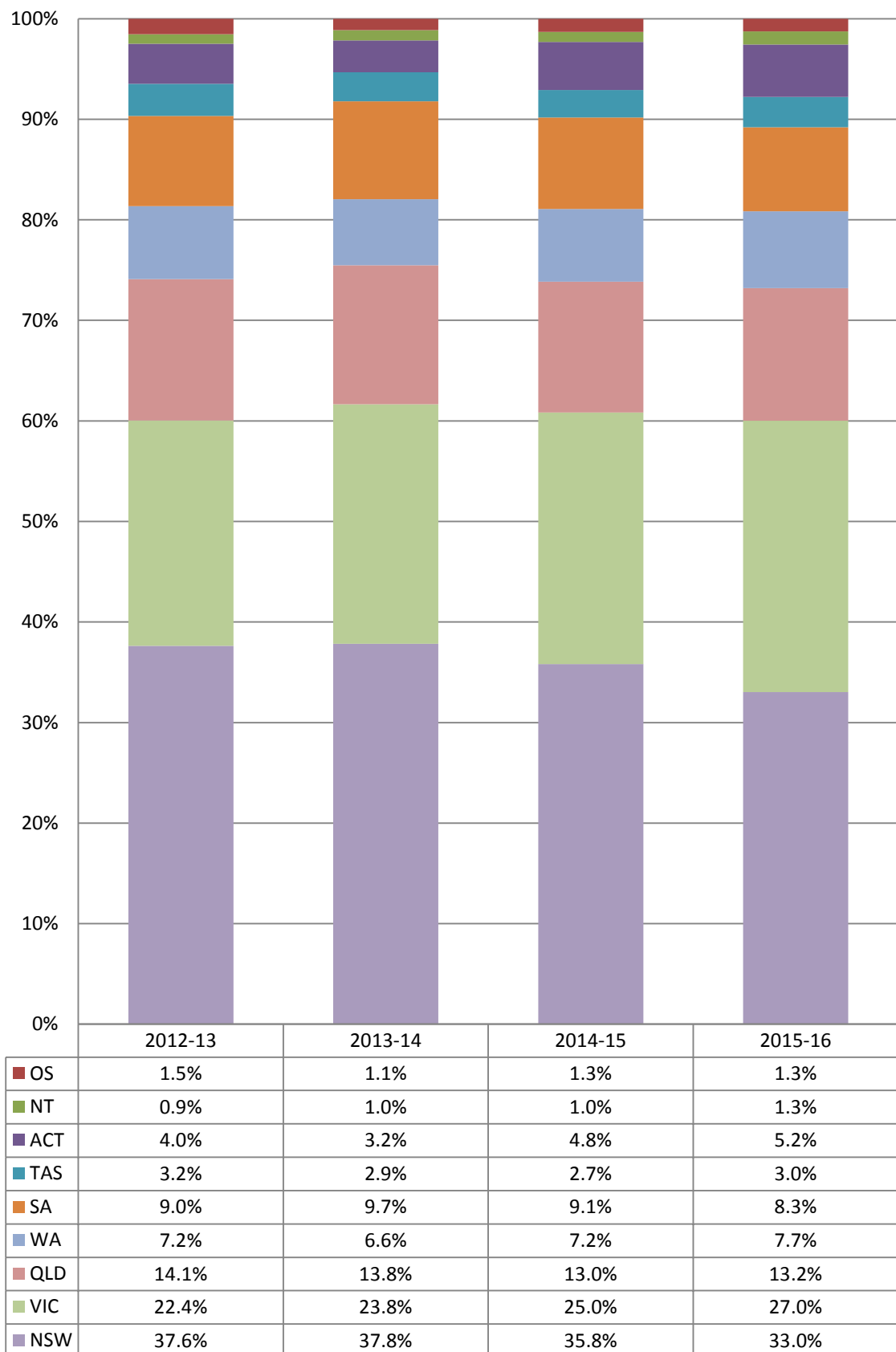
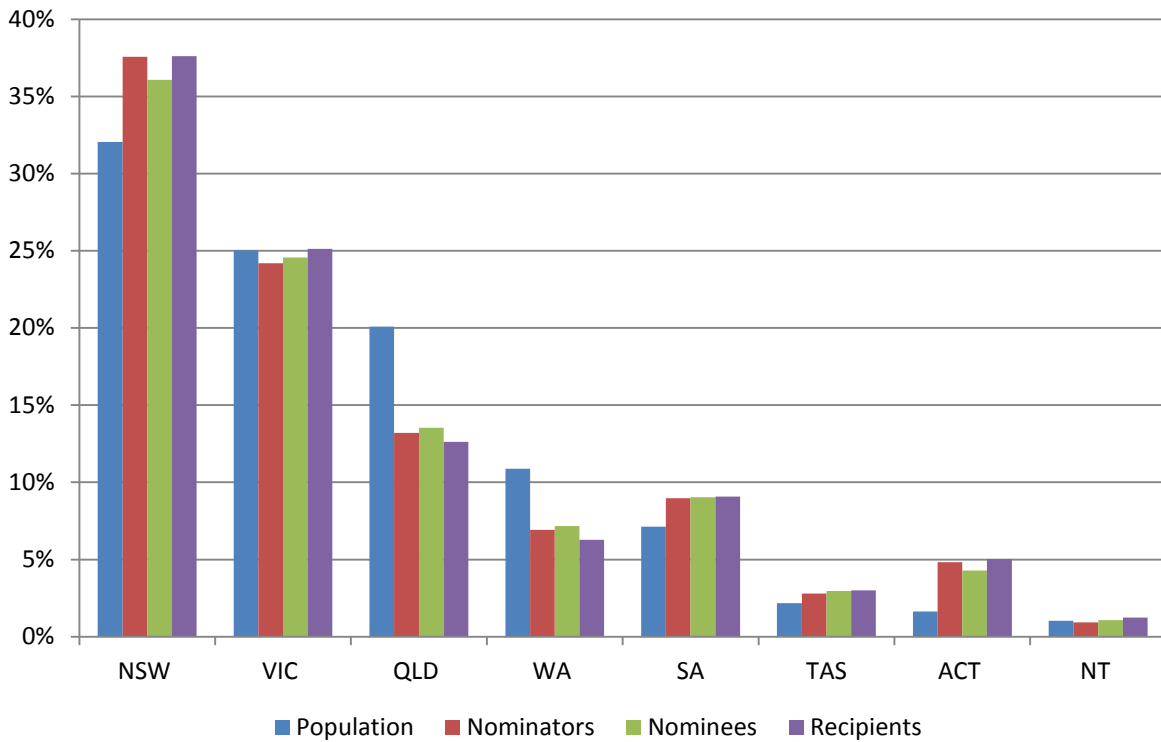


Chart 97: OA nominators, nominees and recipients, by state of residence, compared to population, 2013-16



The nominator, nominee and recipient percentages used in this chart are mean averages for the last four years.

7. Order of Australia: foreign-born nominees and recipients

Information about cultural background of nominees is not collected, as it does not affect a person's eligibility for recognition in the Order of Australia. However, Australian citizenship is a requirement, and where a person was not born in Australia, this information is recorded, to enable verification of citizenship.

From 1975-2016, approximately 11% of nominees, and 12% of recipients, were born overseas (**Charts 98 & 99**). These figures do not represent financial years.

Chart 98: OA nominees: Australian-born vs foreign-born, 1975-2016

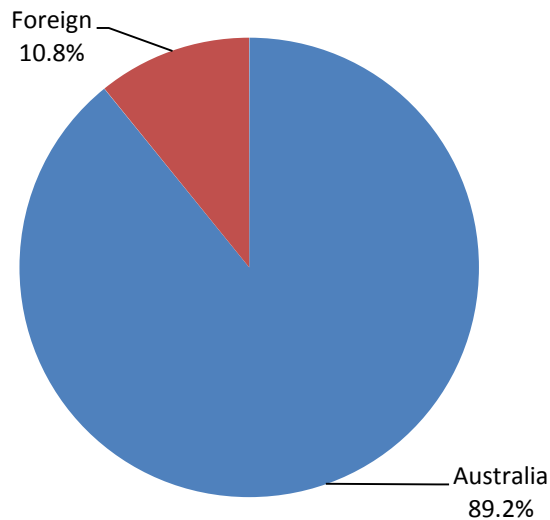


Chart 99: OA recipients: Australian-born vs foreign-born, 1975-2016

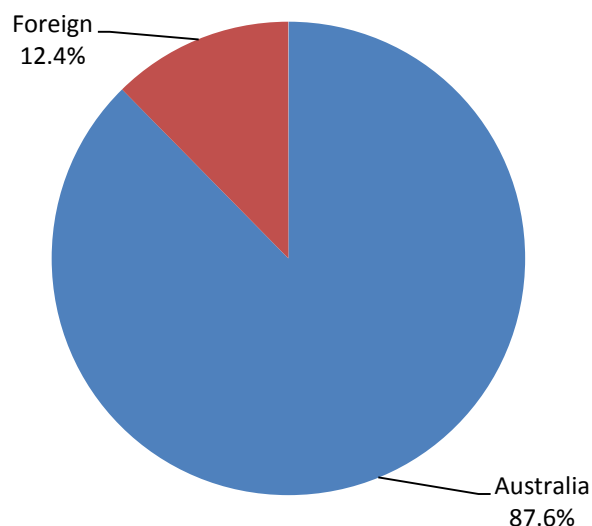
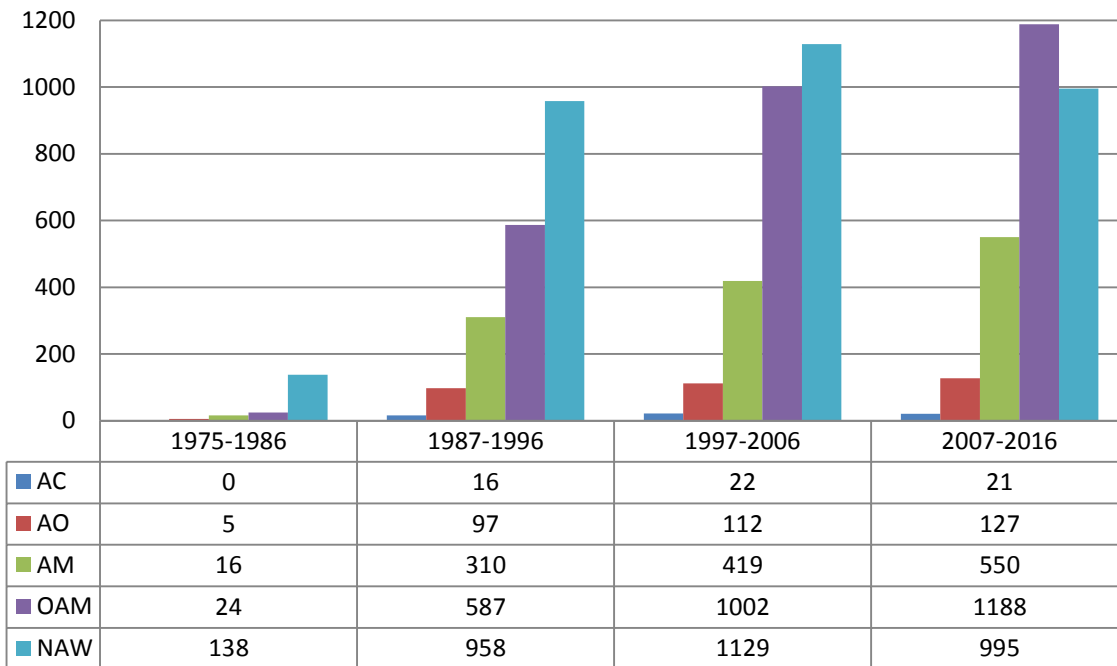


Chart 100 breaks down the outcomes of all nominations of persons born overseas, by the outcome – level of award, or no award recommended (“NAW”). These results are further broken down into decades, up to 2016. Please note that the first period is twelve years.

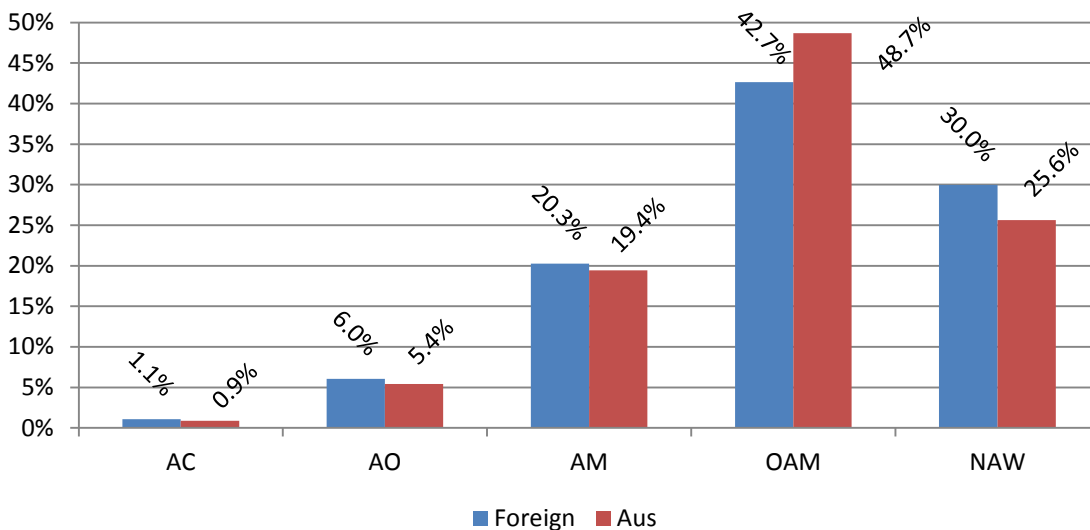
Chart 100: OA recipients: foreign-born, by outcome and decade, 1975-2016



The Knight/Dame level (AK/AD) is not included in this data, because no appointments at the AK/AD level have resulted from a Council recommendation. ²

Chart 101 compares the outcomes from 2012-2016, for foreign-born and Australian-born nominees.

Chart 101: OA: Australian-born and foreign recipients, by outcome, 2012-16



Nominees and recipients in the Order have come from 116 countries other than Australia. These have been grouped into regions, and **Charts 102 & 103** illustrate the region of origin for all foreign-born nominees and recipients for the life of the honours system (1975-2016). These figures do not represent financial years.

Chart 102: OA foreign-born nominees, by region of origin, 1975-2016

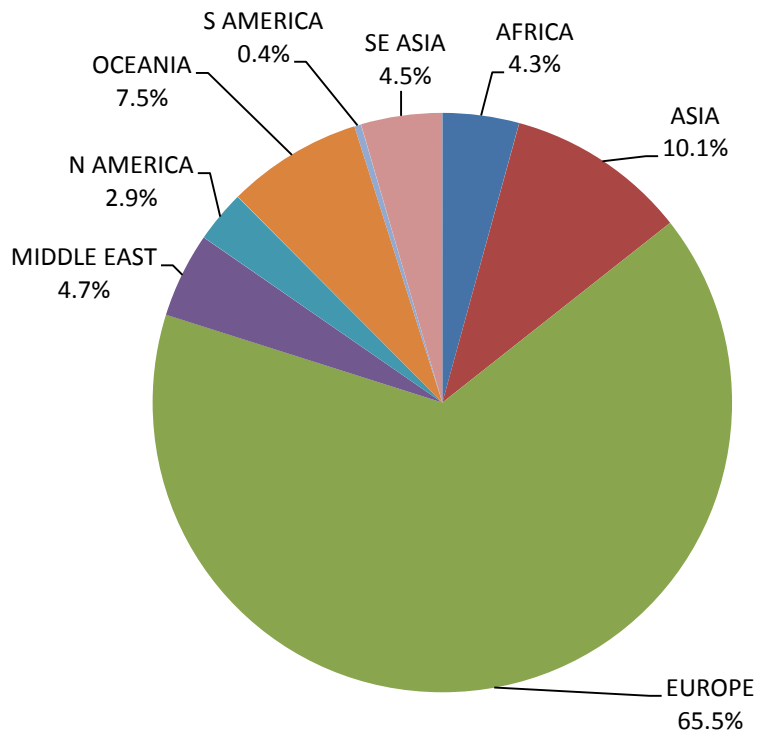
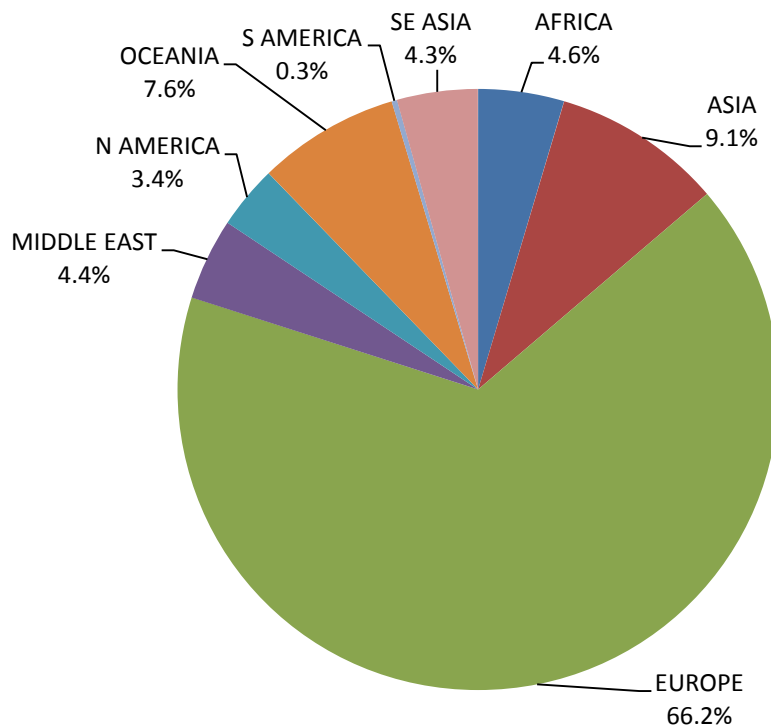


Chart 103: OA foreign-born recipients, by region of origin, 1975-2016



Taking this data further, **Table 2** provides the top six birth countries in each region, by number of nominations received

Table 2: OA foreign-born nominees, top 6 countries per region, 1975-2016

Africa	South Africa 193	Kenya 20	Zimbabwe 18	Uganda 6	Mauritius 5	Tanzania 5
Asia	India 224	China 154	Sri Lanka 115	Hong Kong 59	Philippines 32	Pakistan 19
Europe	UK 2,006	Italy 345	Germany 291	Poland 263	Greece 203	Netherlands 187
Mid East	Egypt 132	Lebanon 85	Israel 42	Iraq 18	Iran 12	Syria 11
N America	USA 137	Canada 54	Trinidad & T 4	Barbados 1	Panama 1	<i>(Only 5 in this group)</i>
Oceania	New Zealand 387	Fiji 54	PNG 28	Tonga 6	Vanuatu 5	Sol Islands 2
S America	Chile 8	Argentina 5	Uruguay 3	Brazil 2	Peru 2	Columbia 1
SE Asia	Malaysia 120	Vietnam 68	Singapore 44	Indonesia 36	Cambodia 17	Laos 3

Note that: "N AMERICA" includes Central America and the Caribbean; and that Egypt is grouped with "MID EAST".

8. Order of Australia: declined offers of award or appointment

After the Council for the Order of Australia recommends an award or appointment in the Order, but before the recommendation is presented to the Governor-General, the Branch writes to the potential recipient to ask whether, if approved, they would accept the honour. This is known as “sounding”. The material sent to the person includes a summary of the service and achievements on which the Council based its recommendation, and a proposed citation to be announced with the award.

It is open to a potential recipient to decline the offer of award. A person’s reasons for declining remain a private matter, and the Branch does not comment on individual cases.

The figures in this section do not represent financial years. **Chart 104** illustrates offers declined at each level, broken down by gender.

Chart 104: OA offers declined, by level and gender, 1975-2016

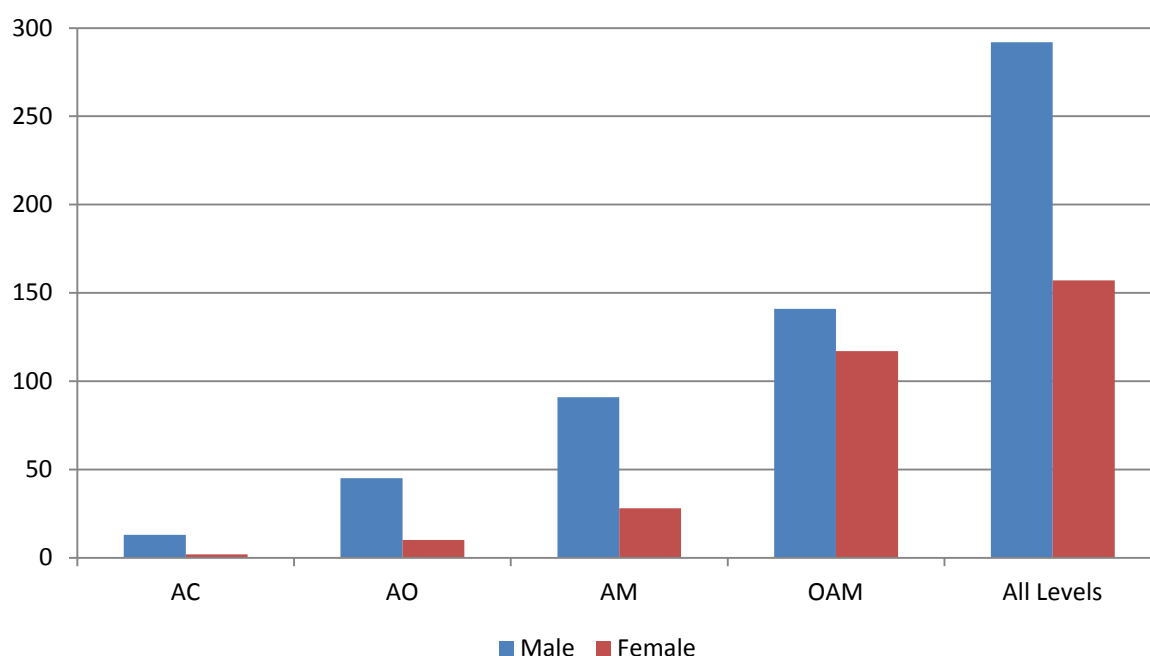
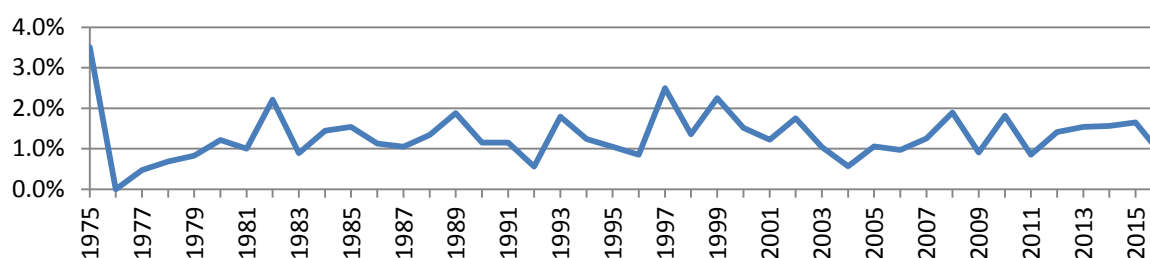


Chart 105 illustrates the number of declines per year as a percentage of all offers of award or appointment in that year. Note that there are two honours lists announced per year, but a single data point is given for each year.

Chart 105: OA declines per year, as % of all offers, 1975-2016

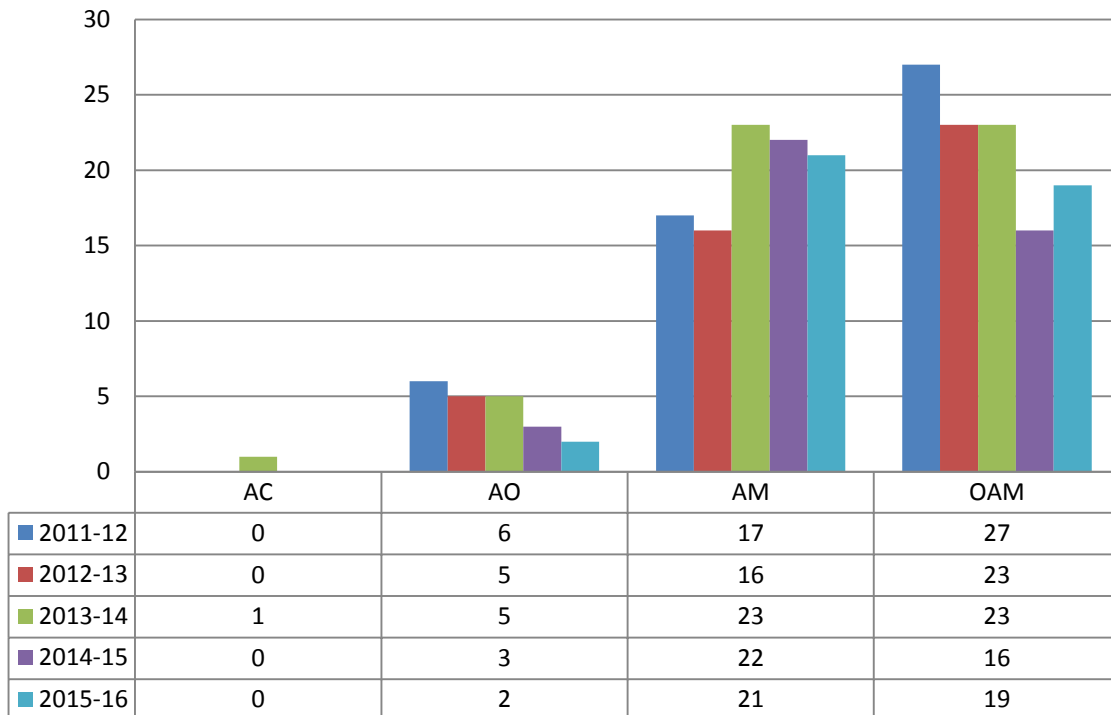


9. Order of Australia: Military Division

Appointments and awards in the Military Division of the Order are initiated within the Australian Defence Force chain of command, and are recommended by the Minister for Defence. The Constitution of the Order includes formulas for determining the number of appointments at the Companion and Officer levels that may be made each year. There is no restriction on the number of Members that may be appointed or Medals awarded.

The number of appointments and awards at each level made over the last five years in the Military Division is illustrated below. Honorary appointments and awards are included in the “Honorary” section of this report (see section 10).

Chart 106: OA Military Division, all awards 2012-16

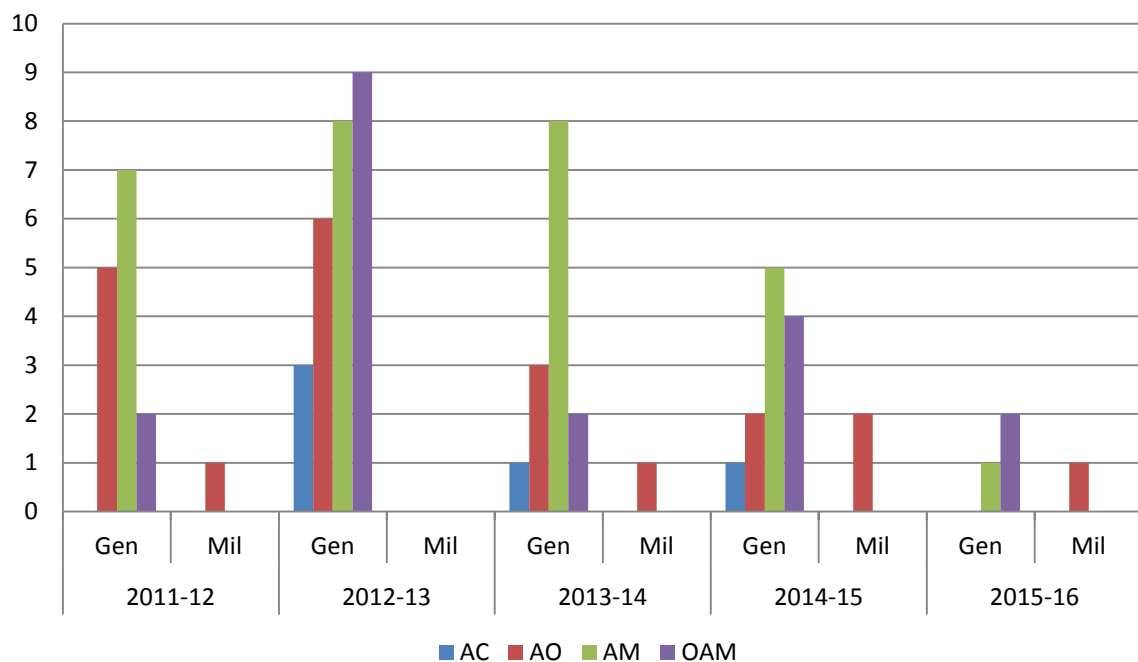


10. Order of Australia: honorary appointments and awards

The Australian Government may honour non-Australians through the Order of Australia, by making honorary appointments and awards in either Division (General or Military), as appropriate. The Prime Minister makes recommendations for honorary awards in the General Division, and the Minister for Defence recommends honorary awards in the Military Division. Honorary awards may be gazetted and announced at any time.

The following chart illustrates the number of honorary appointments and awards at each level and in each Division made over the last five years.

Chart 107: OA honorary, by Division and level, 2012-16



11. Order of Australia: Terminations, Cancellations and Resignations

Terminations and Cancellations

The Council considers cases in accordance with the “Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance”, made under the Constitution of the Order.³ The Ordinance sets out the grounds on which the Council may recommend termination or cancellation, and the process and timeframes that must be observed in doing so.

The Branch monitors media and other sources of information that may relate to members. The process of reconsideration of a membership is deliberately a two stage process. Matters of potential concern are brought to the attention of the Council for discussion and consideration.

The process requires that the member is given the opportunity to respond to any allegations before a recommendation is made by the Council to the Governor-General. Any response is provided to the Council for consideration. Each termination and cancellation is published as a notice in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette.

For clarity, appointments are terminated; awards are cancelled. The Knight/Dame, Companion, Officer and Member levels of the Order are appointments, while the Medal level is an award. Despite the terminology differences, the process is identical.

Table 3 provides data on the year, gender, and level of all terminations and cancellations in both Divisions of the Order (General and Military). “Year” is the financial year in which the gazette notice appeared announcing the termination or cancellation. The last five years, and a total for those years, is highlighted.

Note that there were no terminations or cancellations prior to 1992-93. The Ordinance commenced operation in August 1992, and no cases reached a conclusion before the following year.

Resignations

There is also provision in the Constitution of the Order for a person to resign.⁴ The process involves the member writing to the Governor-General saying that they wish to resign, and giving an explanation. If the Governor-General accepts the resignation, it takes effect from that date, and a notice is published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette.

Table 4 provides data on the year, gender, and level of all resignations from the Order of Australia. “Year” is the financial year in which the gazette notice appeared announcing the resignation. Only years with resignations are given in the table. The last five years, and a total for those years, is highlighted.

When a termination, cancellation or resignation occurs, the Secretary of the Order writes to inform the person of the outcome. Included in that letter is a direction to return the insignia of their appointment or award, and their warrant. They are also instructed to cease using the relevant post-nominal.

Table 3: Order of Australia: Terminations and Cancellations, 1975-2016

Year	Medal (OAM)		Member (AM)		Officer (AO)		Companion (AC)		TOTAL		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
1992-93			1						1	0	1
1993-94	2								2	0	2
1994-95			2				1		3	0	3
1995-96			1		2				3	0	3
1996-97	1				1				2	0	2
1997-98	1								1	0	1
1998-99	2				1				3	0	3
1999-2000		1							0	1	1
2000-01									0	0	0
2001-02	2								2	0	2
2002-03	1								1	0	1
2003-04									0	0	0
2004-05	1								1	0	1
2005-06	1		1						2	0	2
2006-07	1								1	0	1
2007-08	1		1						2	0	2
2008-09	2				1				3	0	3
2009-10									0	0	0
2010-11	1								1	0	1
2011-12									0	0	0
2012-13			2						2	0	2
2013-14		1							0	1	1
2014-15	3		2		2				7	0	7
2015-16	2		1						3	0	3
TOTAL (last 5 years)	5	1	5	0	2	0	0	0	12	1	13
TOTAL	21	2	11	0	7	0	1	0	40	2	42

Table 4: Order of Australia: Resignations, 1975-2016

Year	Medal (OAM)		Member (AM)		Officer (AO)		Companion (AC)		TOTAL		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
1975-76					1				2		3
1976-77						1					1
1985-86			1								1
2003-04				1							1
2004-05			1								1
2005-06			1								1
2007-08			1					1			2
2008-09	1										1
2010-11	1										1
2011-12	1										1
2012-13	1										1
2014-15	1										1
2015-16	1										1
TOTAL (last 5 years)	4									4	4
TOTAL	6	0	4	1	1	1	1	3	0	2	16

12. Australian Bravery Decorations

The Australian Bravery Decorations were introduced as one of the original components of the Australian honours system. There are four levels of individual award, and a group bravery citation, for collective acts of bravery by a group of persons. In order from the top, the individual awards are:

- Cross of Valour (CV)
- Star of Courage (SC)
- Bravery Medal (BM)
- Commendation for Brave Conduct (no post-nominal)

The Cross of Valour is the most senior Australian decoration a civilian can be awarded.

Anyone can be nominated, and anyone can nominate – awards are not restricted to Australian citizens. The brave act does not have to have occurred in Australia either, provided that the act itself was considered worthy of recognition in the interest of Australia.

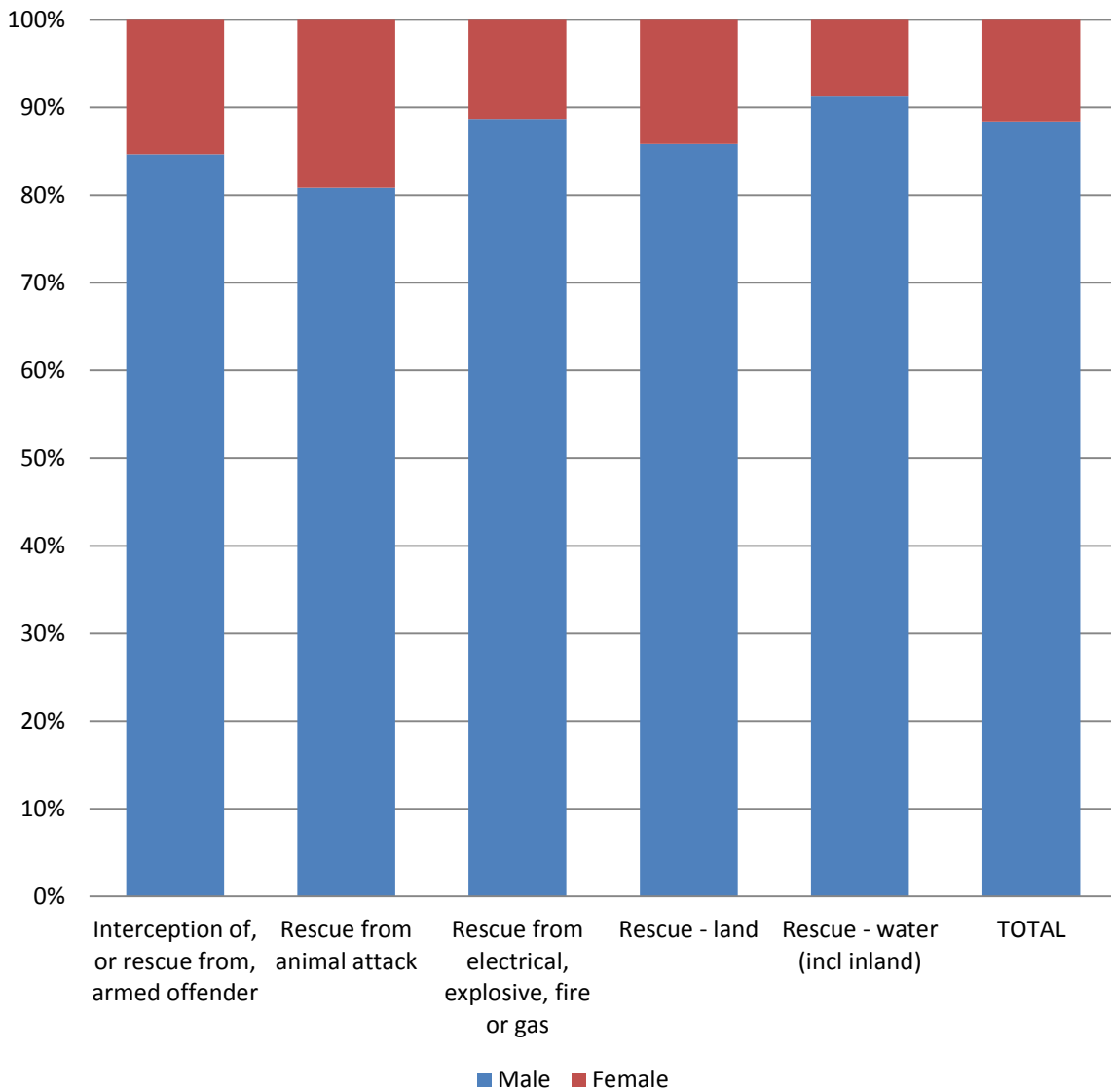
The Australian Bravery Decorations Council meets twice per year to consider nominations, and to make its recommendations to the Governor-General. The approved awards are announced in two bravery honours lists, usually published in March and August.

The Council consists of fourteen members including representatives of each state and territory, two ex-officio members and four community members. The current membership of the Council is always available through the Governor-General's website, www.gg.gov.au, and is published in each Annual Report of the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General.

The Council uses 19 categories of brave acts, to assist with comparative decision-making. To simplify presentation and analysis, the data on the following pages uses five categories, grouping the 19 as follows:

Interception of, or rescue from, armed offender	
Interception of armed offender	Rescue from armed offender
Rescued from animal attack (no grouping)	
Rescue from electric, explosive, fire or gas hazard	
Rescue from electrical hazard	Rescue from explosive hazard
Rescue from fire - aircraft	Rescue from fire - building
Rescue from fire - bushfire	Rescue from fire - motor vehicle
Rescue from fire - other	Rescue from gases, toxic fumes etc.
Rescue - land	
Rescue from heights, cliffs	Rescue from holes, wells or mines
Rescue from path of oncoming vehicle	Rescue from other situation
Rescue – water (incl inland)	
Rescue from inland waters	Rescue from water – other
Rescue from water – sea	Rescue from water - submerged vehicle

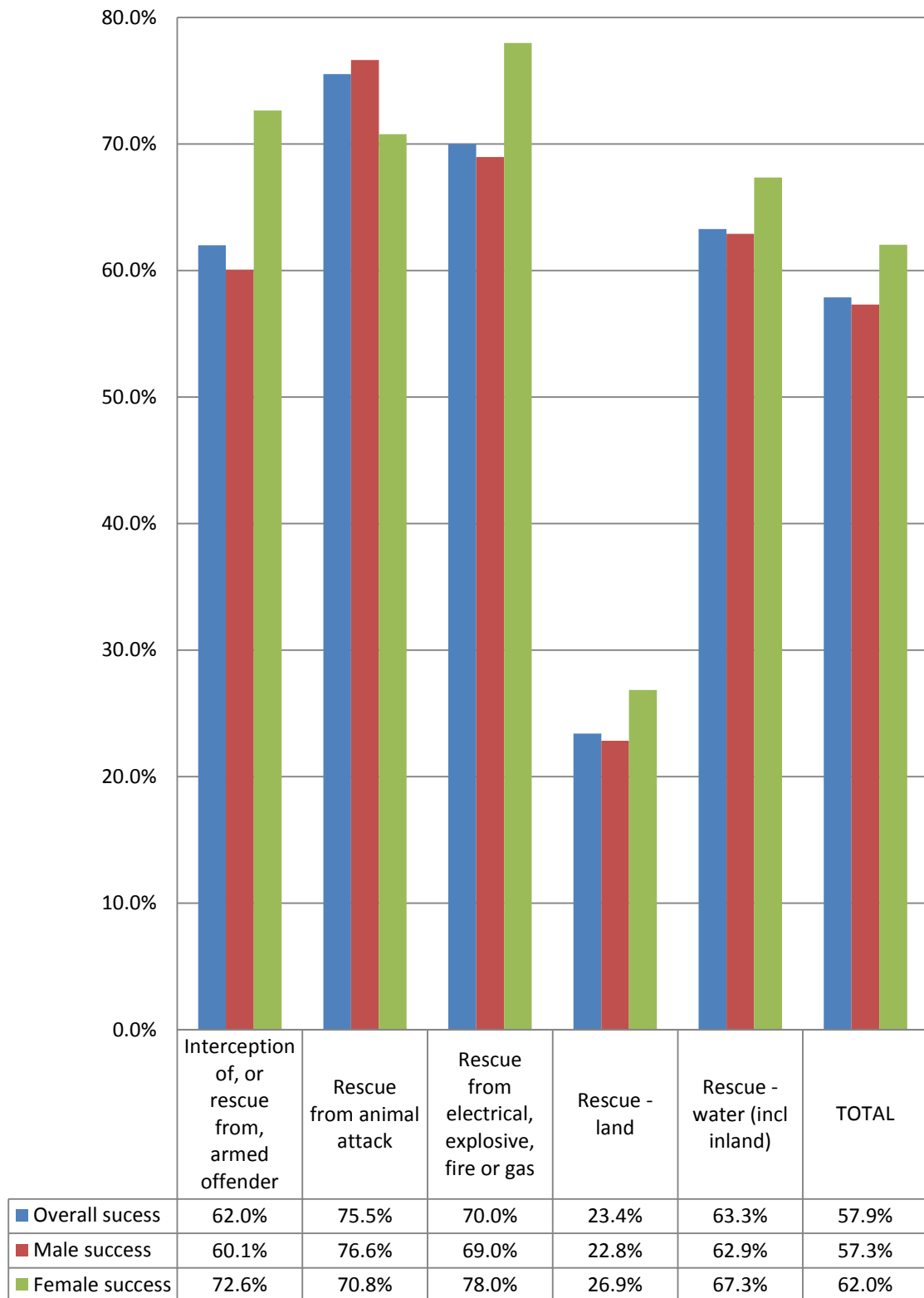
Chart 108: Bravery – all nominations, by category and gender, 2012-16



These figures have been illustrated as percentages, to eliminate variation in volume.

Chart 109 illustrates the overall success rate of nominations in each of the categories, in total and by gender.

Chart 109: Bravery – nomination success rates, by category and gender, 2012-16



Since Group Bravery Citations comprise multiple recipients, the bravery outcomes are presented two ways. **Chart 110** covers all recipients of an award, including every recipient in each Group Bravery Citation. **Chart 111** only counts each Group Bravery Citation once.

Chart 110: Bravery – all recipients, by category, 2012-16

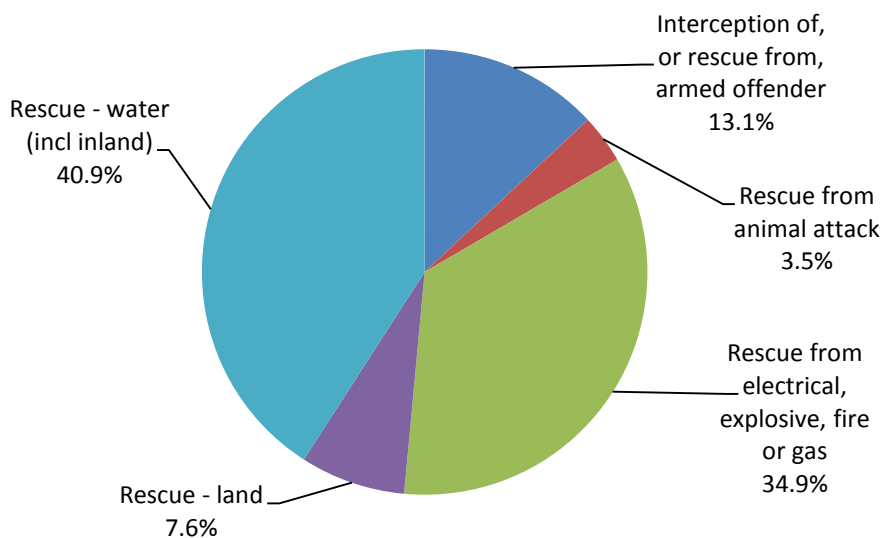
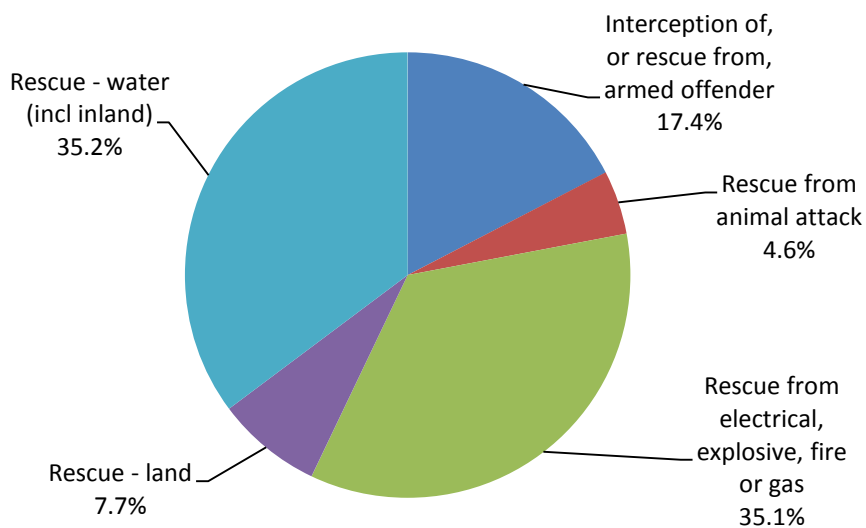
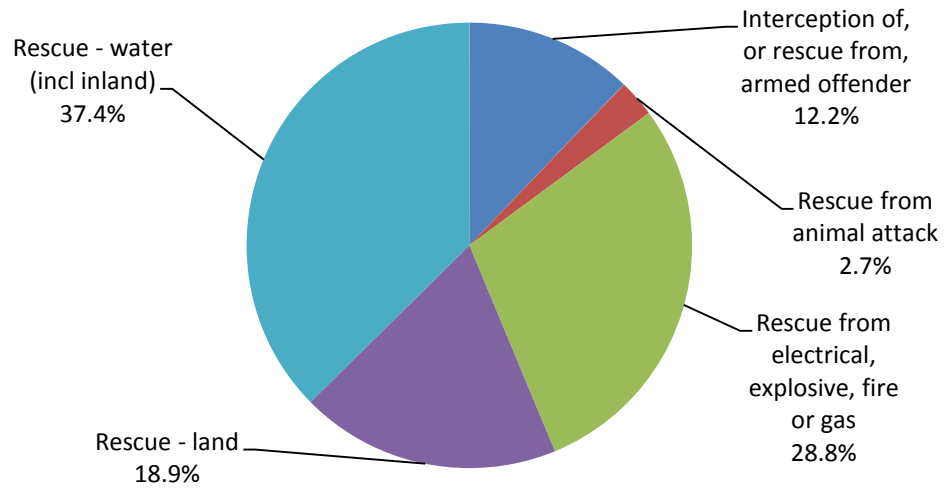


Chart 111: Bravery – all awards, by category, 2012-16



The proportions of nominations received, by category group, are illustrated in **Chart 112**.

Chart 112: Bravery – all nominations, by category, 2012-16



13. National Emergency Medal

The National Emergency Medal (NEM) was established in 2011, as an operational service medal to recognise significant or sustained service to others in a nationally significant emergency. As an operational service medal, there is no post-nominal entitlement. The abbreviation “NEM” is used in this section for convenience only.

It can be awarded to members of identified organisations or individuals who give service in response to nationally significant emergencies within Australia, and there are two ways of qualifying. For “sustained service”, it is awarded to those who render a minimum duration of service during specified dates in specified places. For “significant service”, it may be awarded to those who do not satisfy the “sustained” criteria, but who render extraordinary service in response to the emergency.

The Australian Honours and Awards Branch administers the NEM, and supports the National Emergency Medal Committee. The Branch verifies all applications for the NEM for “sustained” service, and the Director recommends awards for the Governor-General’s approval. The Committee may recommend the declaration of an emergency and is responsible for determining criteria to qualify for award, as well as considering all applications for the NEM for “significant” service. The Committee also considers some “sustained” cases which are referred by the Branch, if discretion is required to decide whether the criteria have been met. For example, persons who died during the event, or who were evacuated due to injury or illness, before completing the minimum duration service to qualify.

The emergencies that have been declared for the NEM so far are the 2009 Victorian Bushfires, and the 2010-11 Queensland Floods and Cyclone Yasi natural disasters.

All awards of the NEM were made within the last five years, so the statistics presented here represent the full history of the NEM.

Chart 113: NEM – all approved, by type, 2012-16

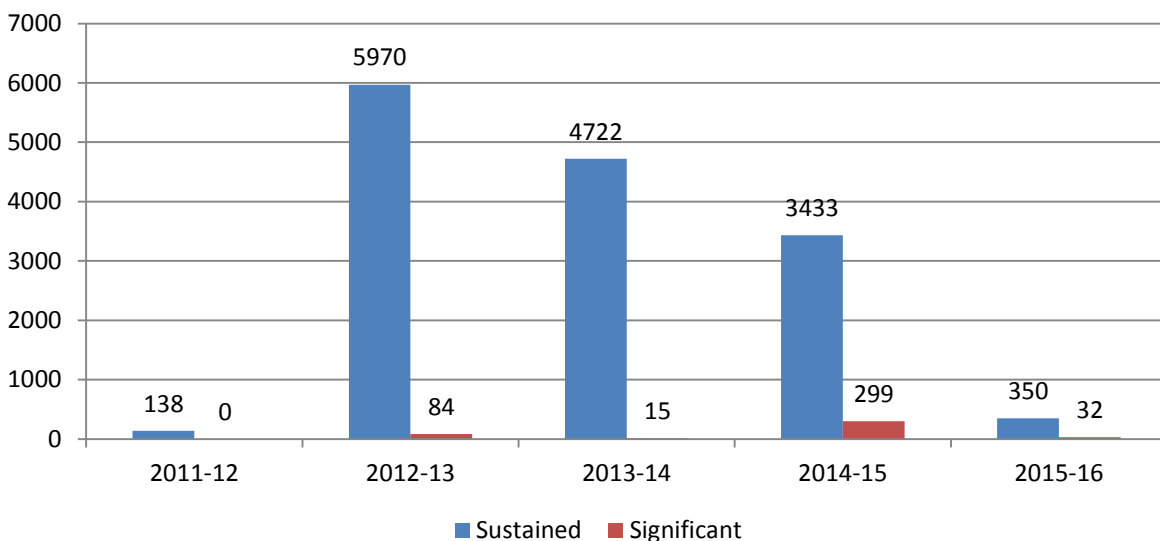


Chart 114: NEM awards, by gender, 2012-16

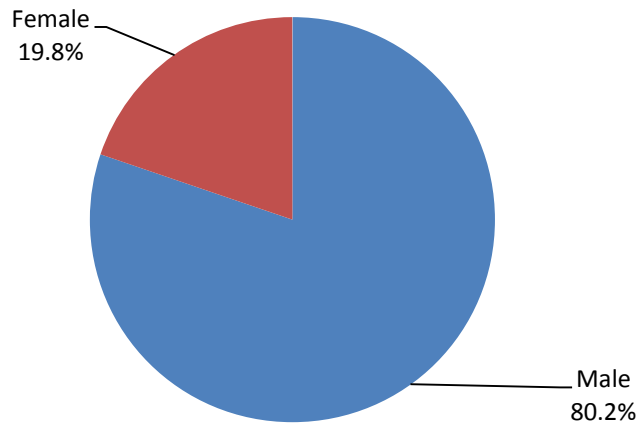


Chart 115: NEM Sustained Service awards, by gender, 2012-16

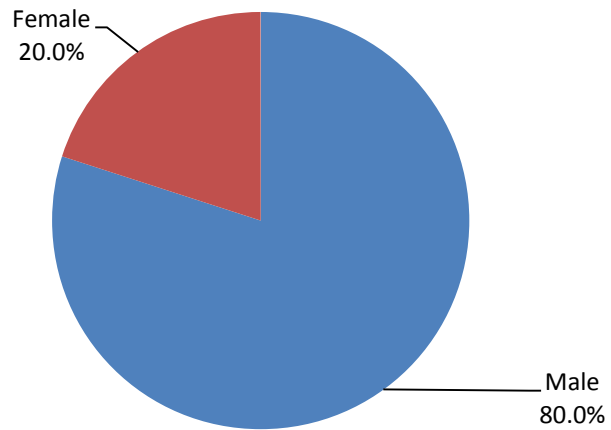


Chart 116: NEM Significant Service awards, by gender, 2012-16

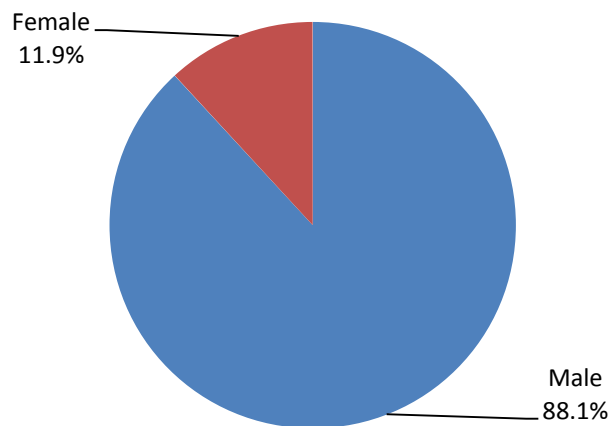


Chart 117: NEM Awards to men by type, 2012-16

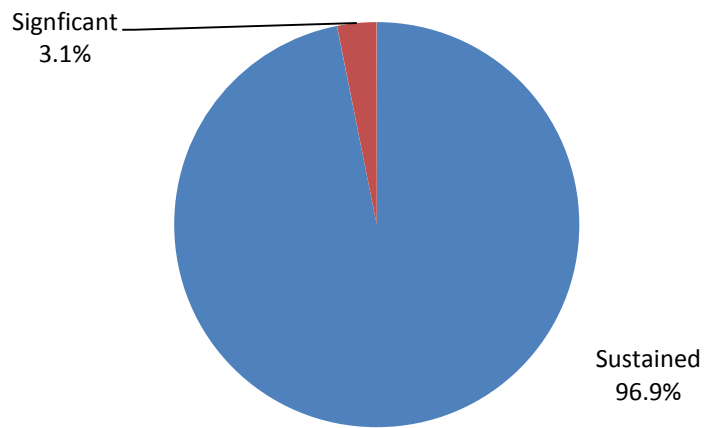
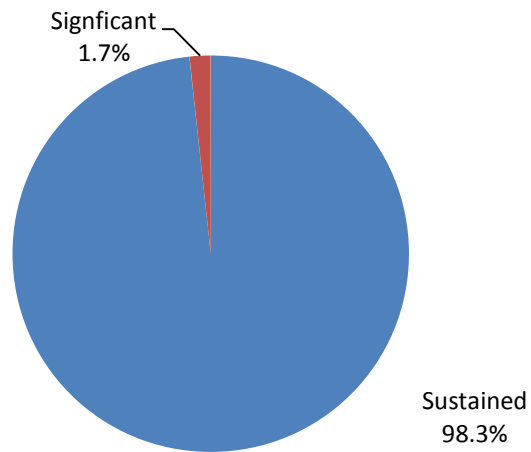


Chart 118: NEM Awards to women by type, 2012-16



14. Meritorious awards

As noted in the first part of this report, the meritorious group of awards is made up of medals recommended by federal, state and territory ministers, to recognise members of particular services for their outstanding or distinguished achievements. Upon receipt of recommendations, the Branch makes checks for adherence to the governing documents, organises sounding, and presents them to the Governor-General. If approved, the Branch prepares material for publication in the relevant honours list. The Branch is also responsible for preparation and despatch of warrants (a document certifying the award) and insignia (the medal) to the relevant Government House, for investiture.

It should be noted that the numbers of such awards that may be recommended federally, and by each state or territory in a given calendar year, is limited by quota. No comparison has been done between jurisdictions, because the differences are fixed, according to the comparative size of the services concerned. Therefore statistics provided cover the gender split for each award over the total five-year period, and a comparison of total numbers awarded in each of the last five years.

The awards included in this section are the:

- Public Service Medal
- Australian Police Medal
- Australian Fire Service Medal
- Ambulance Service Medal
- Emergency Services Medal
- Australian Antarctic Medal

Public Service Medal

The Public Service Medal (PSM) may be awarded for outstanding service by any employee of a federal, state, territory or local government agency. No more than 100 may be awarded, in total, each calendar year. The number available to each jurisdiction is established in the medal regulations. The number for each state includes awards to local government employees in that state.

Chart 119: PSM by gender, 2012-16

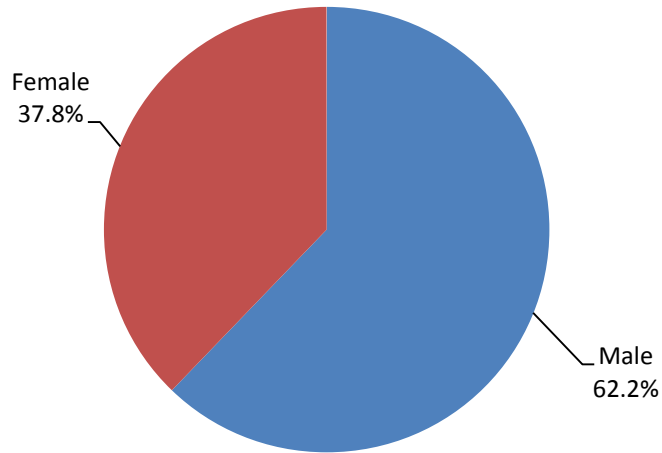
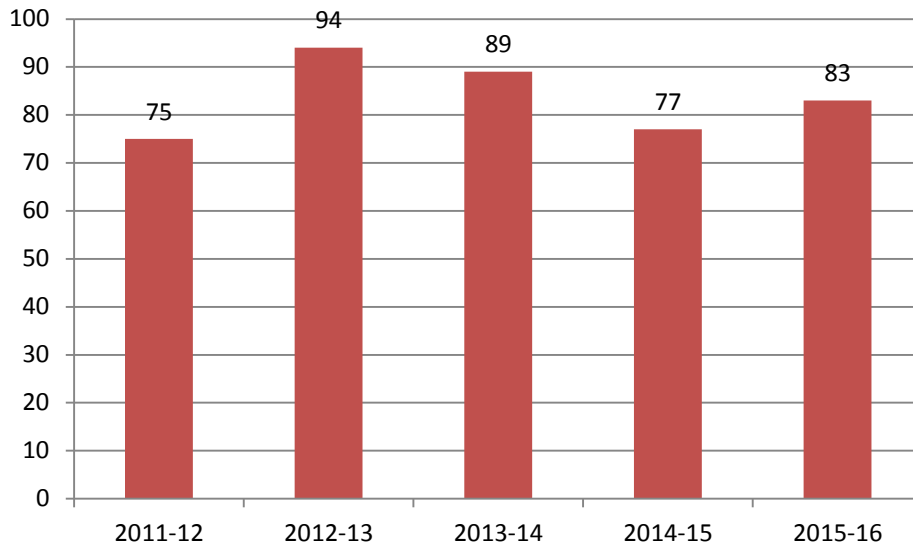


Chart 120: PSM: volume awarded, 2012-16



Australian Police Medal

The Australian Police Medal (APM) may be awarded for distinguished service by sworn members of any Australian police force, including at the federal level. The number that may be awarded in each service in each calendar year is one for each thousand members of the force, or part thereof, plus one.

Chart 121: APM by gender, 2012-16

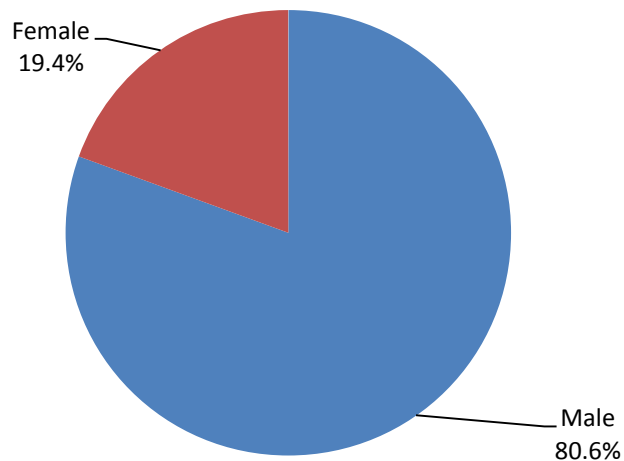
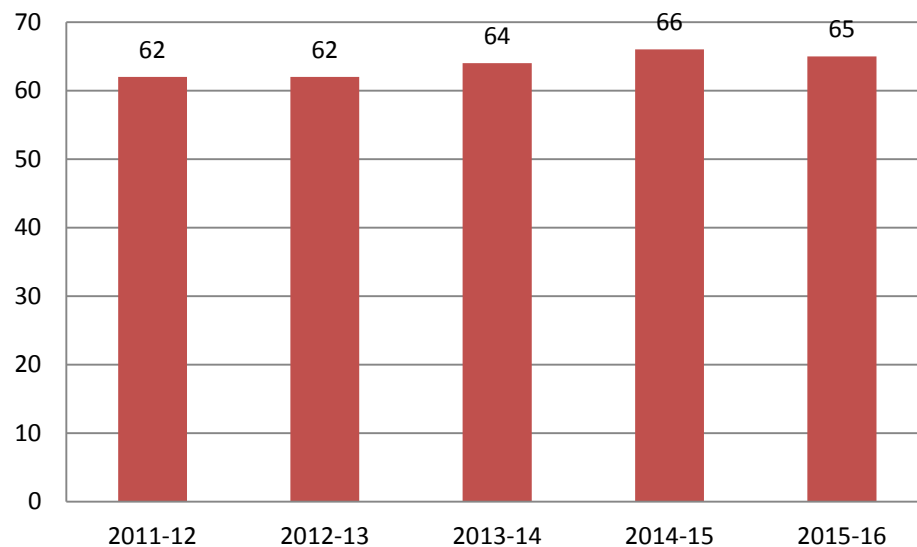


Chart 122: APM: volume awarded, 2012-16



Australian Fire Service Medal

The Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM) may be awarded for distinguished service by members of any Australian fire service. The formula for calculating each jurisdiction's annual quota is: one award for each 1,000 (or part thereof) full time permanent members of the combined fire services, plus one award for each 5,000 (or part thereof) part-time, volunteer or auxiliary members, plus one additional. One award per year may be made in a Commonwealth fire service, and one for the fire service of an External Territory.

Chart 123: AFSM by gender, 2012-16

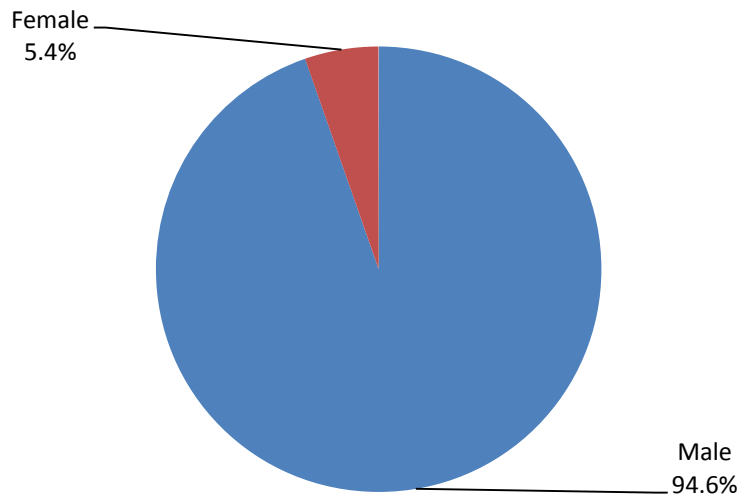
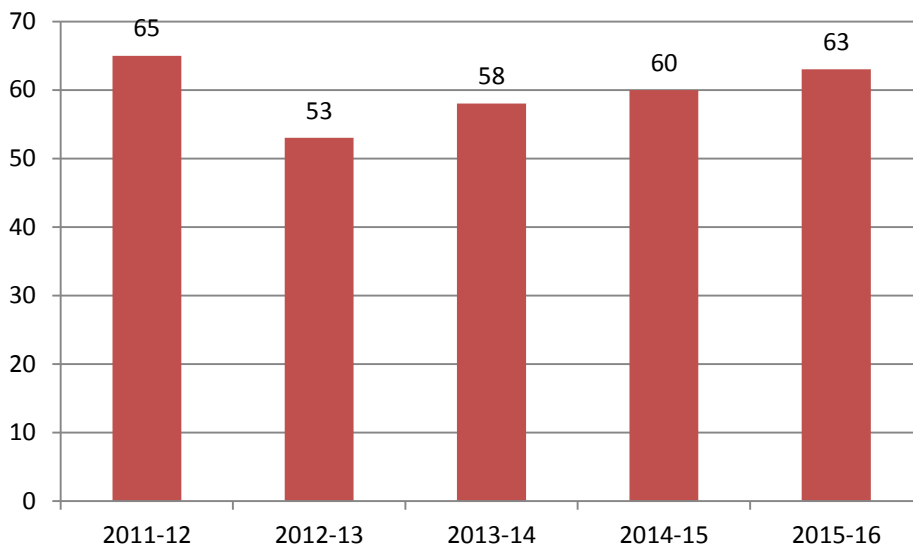


Chart 124: AFSM: volume awarded, 2012-16



Ambulance Service Medal

The Ambulance Service Medal (ASM) may be awarded for distinguished service by members of any Australian ambulance service. The formula for calculating each jurisdiction's annual quota is: one award for each 1,000 (or part thereof) full time permanent members of the combined fire services, plus one award for each 5,000 (or part thereof) part-time, volunteer or auxiliary members, plus one additional. One award per year may be made in each of the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory, and one for all of the External Territories.

Chart 125: ASM by gender, 2012-16

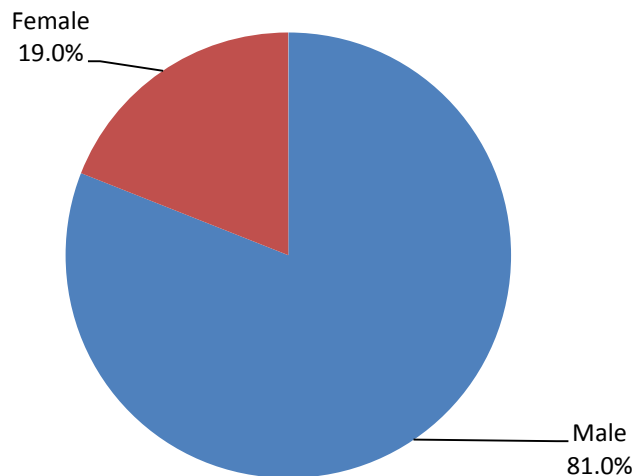
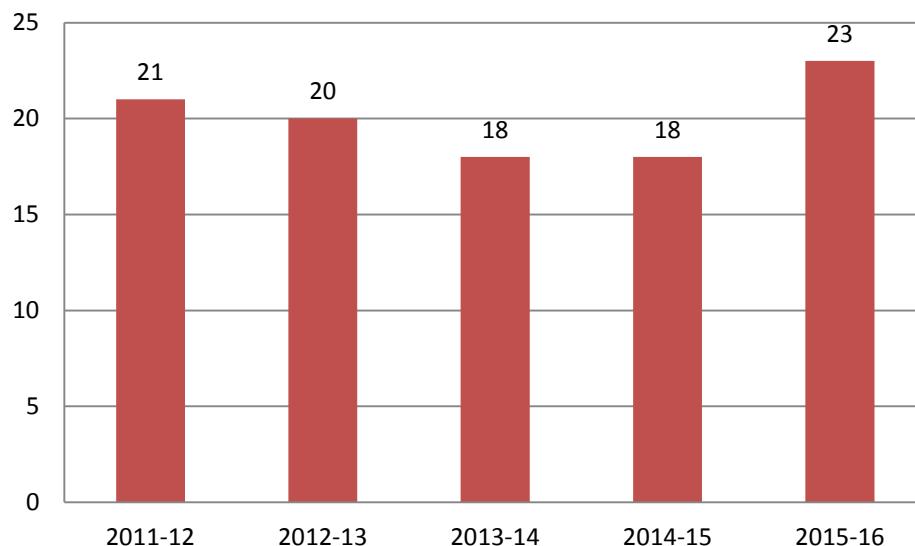


Chart 126: ASM: volume awarded, 2012-16



Emergency Services Medal

The Emergency Services Medal (ESM) may be awarded for distinguished service by members of any Australian emergency service. This includes the SES, independent volunteer rescue services, marine rescue services and surf lifesaving organisations. The formula for calculating each jurisdiction's annual quota is: one award for each 1,000 (or part thereof) full time permanent members of the combined emergency services, plus one award for each 5,000 (or part thereof) part-time, volunteer or auxiliary members, plus one additional. One award per year may be made in each of the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory, and one for all of the External Territories.

Chart 127: ESM by gender, 2012-16

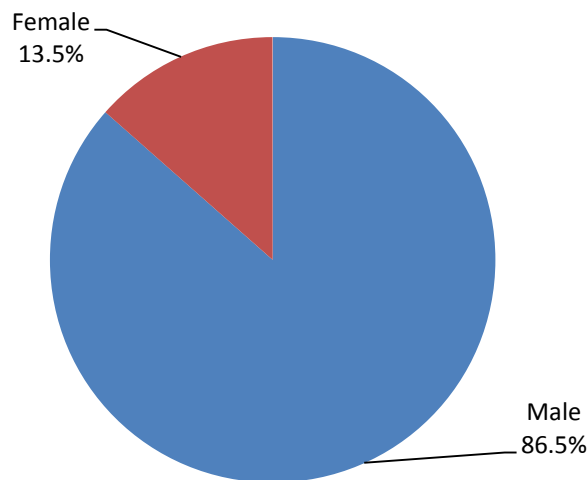
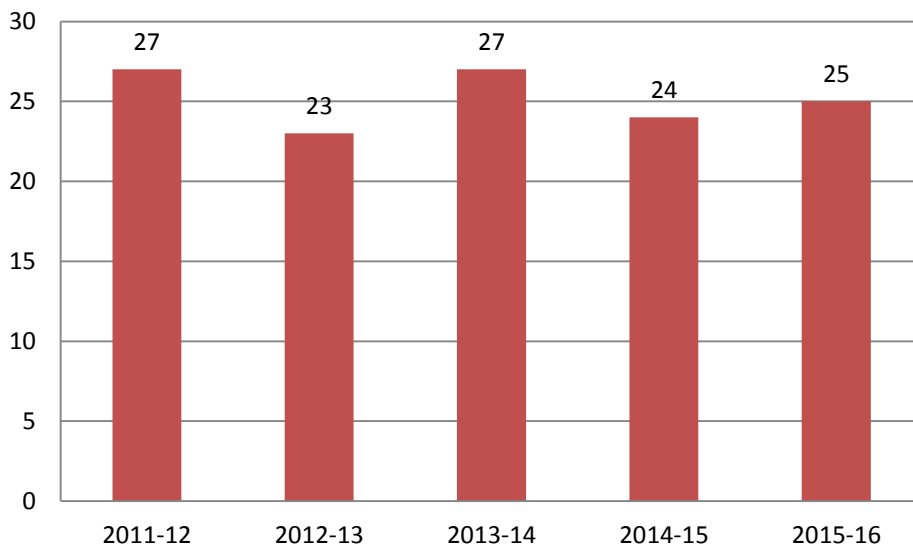


Chart 128: ESM: volume awarded, 2012-16



Australian Antarctic Medal

The Australian Antarctic Medal (AAM) may be awarded for outstanding service in scientific research or exploration, or in support of such work, in the course of, or connected to, an Australian Antarctic expedition. There is no quota. Except in exceptional circumstances, the recipient must have worked at least 12 months in the Antarctic climate, south of 60° latitude, or elsewhere in the Antarctic region where the climate and terrain are similar.

Chart 129: AAM by gender, 2012-16

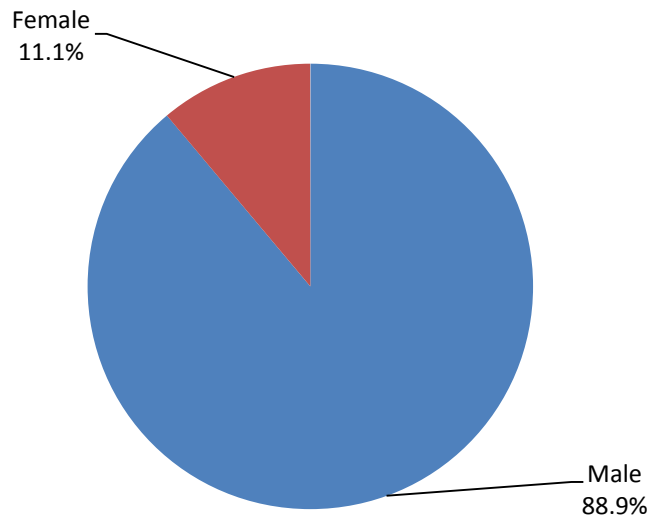
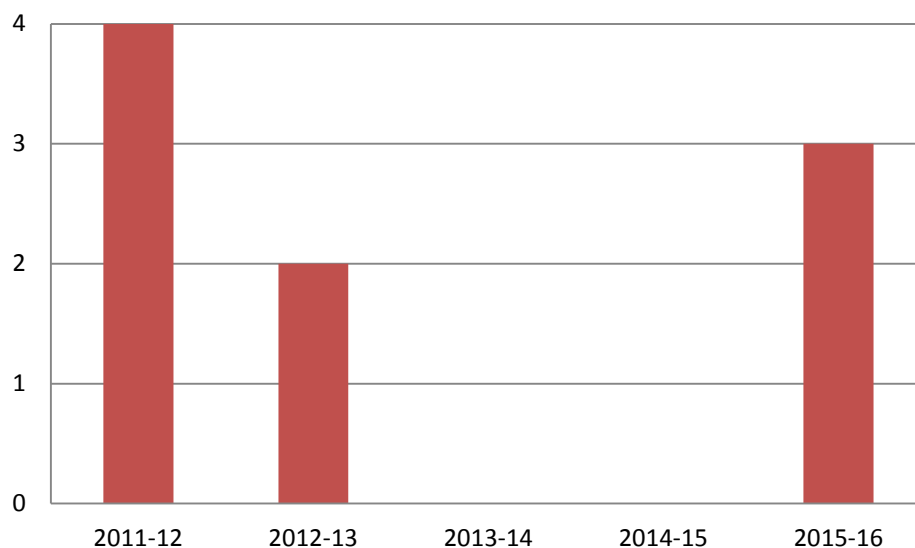


Chart 130: AAM: volume awarded, 2012-16



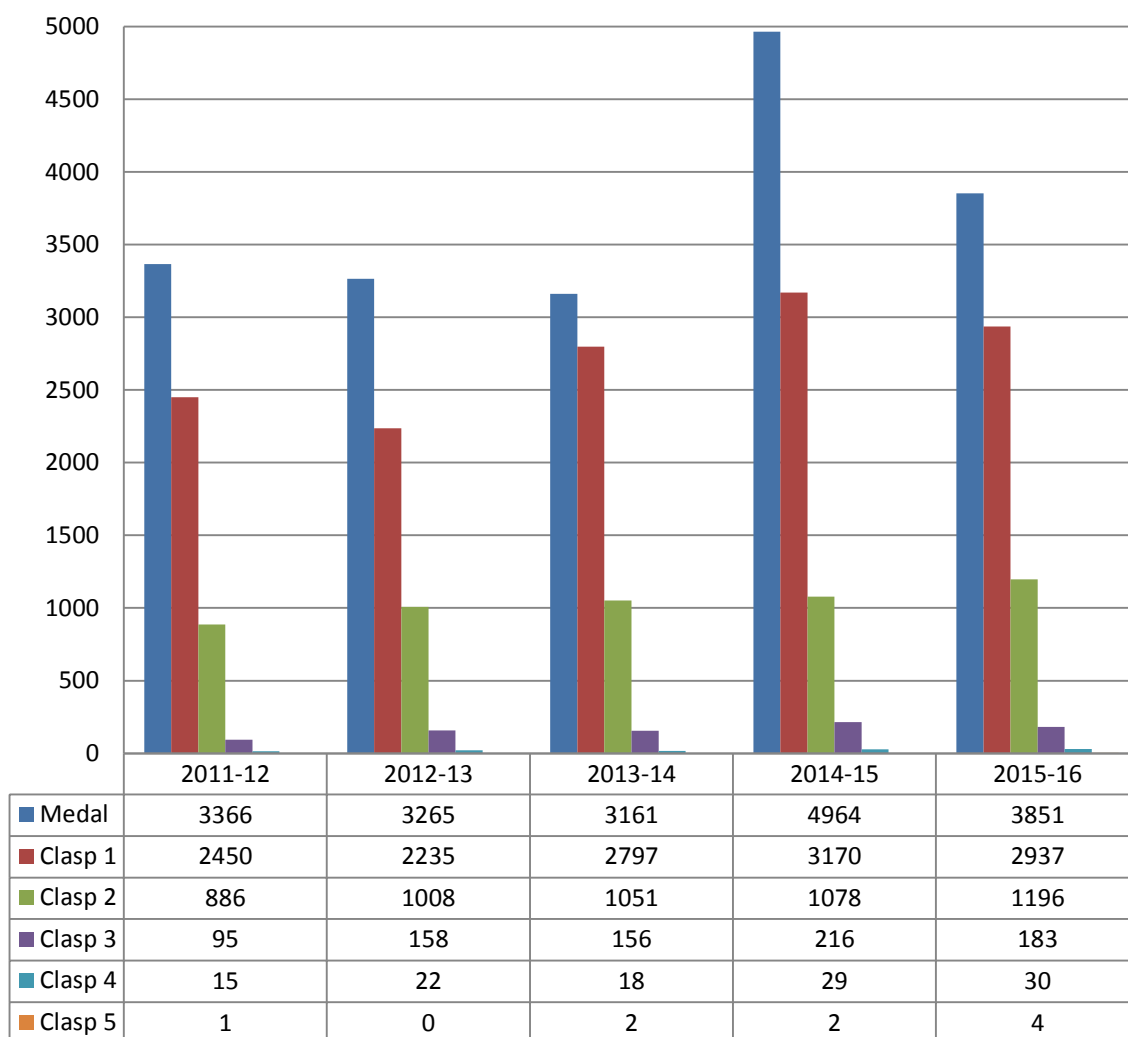
15. Long Service and Good Conduct Medals

The Branch processes two long service and good conduct medals: the National Medal, and the National Police Service Medal. Eligible organisations around the country use their personnel files to determine when eligible staff qualify for these medals, and periodically submit schedules of recommended recipients to the Branch. The Branch checks these against the current register of awards, and scrutinises them for internal consistency, before being submitted for approval.

Since a person either is or is not eligible, the only data presented here is volume, to demonstrate through-put at the Branch.

The National Medal is awarded for 15 years of “diligent” service in eligible roles in eligible organisations. A clasp to the medal may be awarded for additional periods of 10 years of diligent service. A person who has been awarded a fifth clasp, for example, has given 65 years of such service. **Chart 131** illustrates the number of medals and clasps processed and approved through the Branch in each year. The National Medal has no post-nominal entitlement.

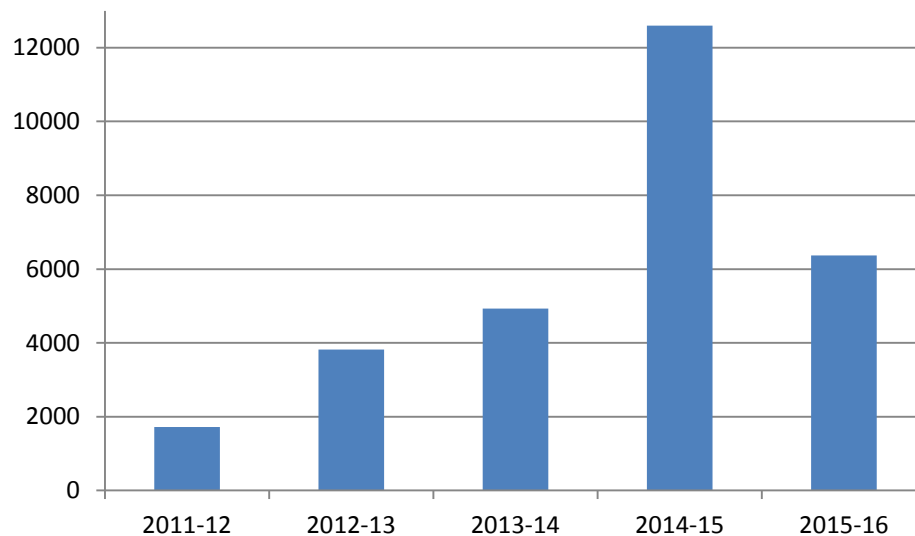
Chart 131: National Medal – volume awarded, 2012-16



The National Police Service Medal (NPSM) was established in late 2010, to recognise the unique contribution and significant commitment of sworn members of Australian police services. It is awarded on the completion of 15 years of “ethical and diligent” service, and there are no clasps for additional periods of service. It has no post-nominal entitlement. The abbreviation “NPSM” is used in this report only for convenience.

Since the first awards of the NPSM were approved in the second half of 2011, this data covers all awards made to date.

Chart 132: NPSM – volume awarded, 2012-16



This chart clearly illustrates the gradual roll-out of the NPSM, reaching a peak in 2014-15, and settling back to a more regular flow of recommendations in 2015-16.

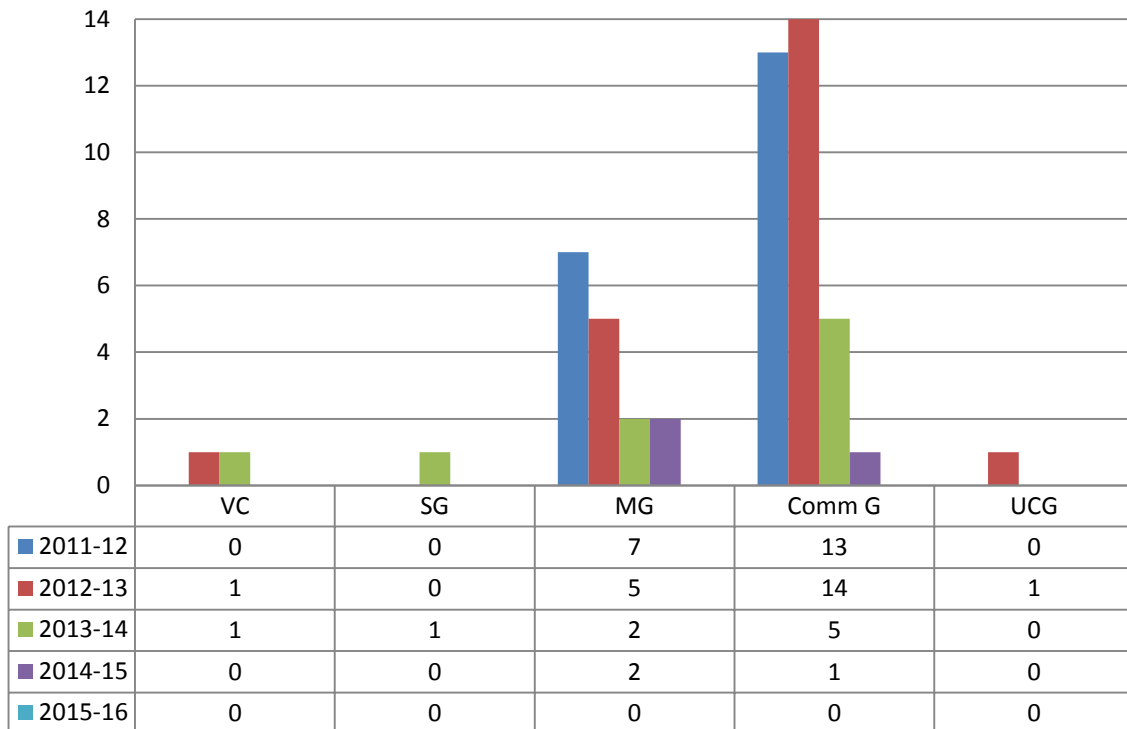
16. Gallantry Decorations

Gallantry decorations were created for the purpose of according recognition to members of the Defence Force and certain other persons who perform acts of gallantry in action or under fire.

The pre-eminent decoration is the Victoria Cross for Australia, which is approved by The Sovereign, on the recommendation of the Minister for Defence. The other decorations are approved by the Governor-General. In addition to the Star of Gallantry and the Medal for Gallantry, there is a Commendation for Gallantry, and a Unit Citation for Gallantry.

The following chart illustrates the number of gallantry decorations, commendations and unit citations made in the last five years.

Chart 133: Gallantry decorations, volume awarded, by type, 2012-16



Key:

VC = Victoria Cross for Australia

SG = Star of Gallantry

MG = Medal for Gallantry

Comm G = Commendation for Gallantry

UCG = Unit Citation for Gallantry

17. Distinguished and Conspicuous decorations, and the Champion Shots Medal

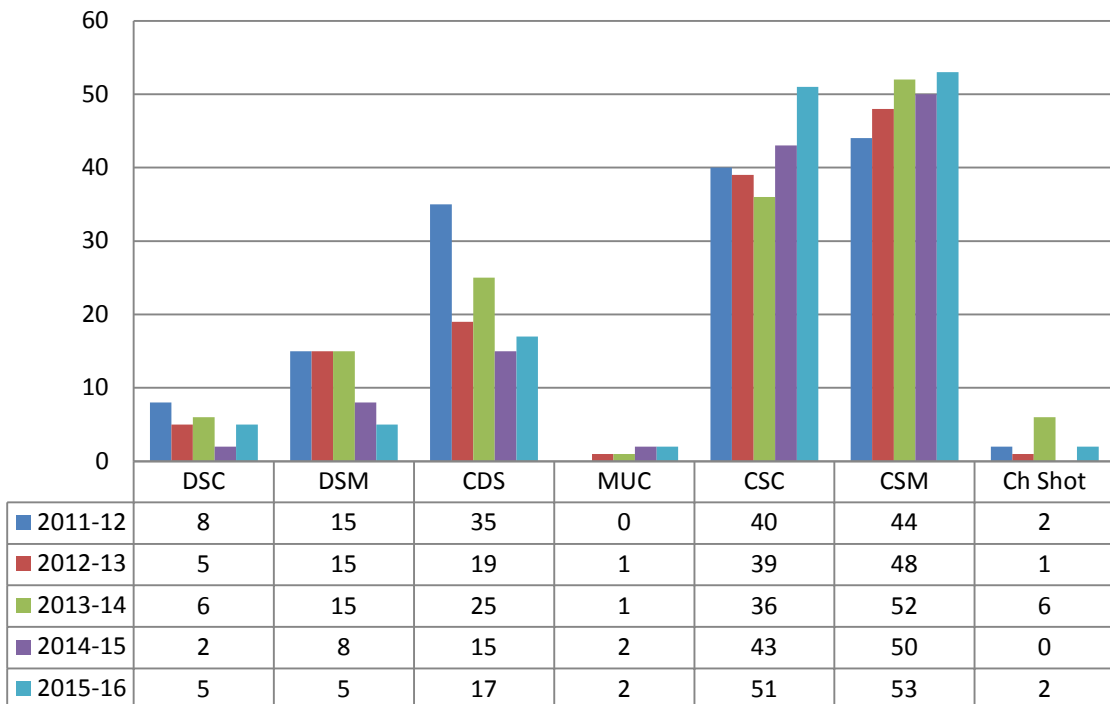
The Australian Defence Force has two sets of meritorious awards for recognising outstanding achievements or service.

The Distinguished Service Decorations are awarded for such service in warlike operations, while the Conspicuous Service Decorations are for outstanding service in non-warlike circumstances. Both sets of decorations have a Cross and a Medal, and the Distinguished Service Decorations include a Commendation and a Unit Citation. A bar may be added to the Cross or Medal, indicating the person has been recognised at the same level a second or subsequent time.

The Champion Shots Medal is awarded to the winner of the annual marksmanship competition of each service of the Australian Defence Force, so that a maximum of three may be awarded each year. Bars may be added to the Medal, to indicate a subsequent award.

The following chart illustrates the numbers of these awards made over the last five years. Note that the Champion Shots Medals are usually announced in the first half of the financial year, but in 2014 three were announced in June, which was in the same financial year as the previous announcement, in July 2013.

Chart 134: Distinguished, Conspicuous, and Champion Shots, volume awarded, 2012-16



Key:

- DSC = Distinguished Service Cross
- DSM = Distinguished Service Medal
- CDS = Commendation for Distinguished Service
- MUC = Meritorious Unit Citation
- CSC = Conspicuous Service Cross
- CSM = Conspicuous Service Medal
- Ch Shot = Champion Shots Medal

18. Civilian operational service awards

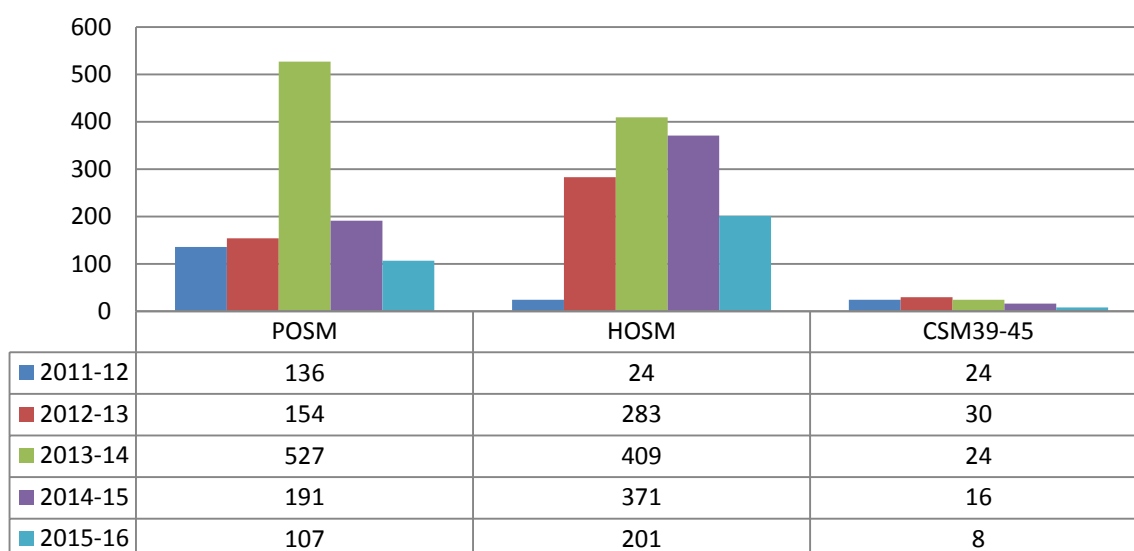
Operational service awards recognise participation in a particular place and time, as part of a collective, meritorious effort. They are used in the military to recognise participation in specified deployments, and a small number of awards exist to recognise civilian service in a similar way.

The Police Overseas Service Medal was established in 1991 to recognise operational deployments of Australian police on overseas peacekeeping missions. The medal is issued with a clasp to denote the operation for which the medal was awarded, and awards for subsequent deployments are indicated by the addition of the respective clasp to the existing medal. Awards are recommended to the Governor-General by the Chief Officer of an Australian police force.

The Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal was established in 1999, to recognise service by Australians in overseas humanitarian disasters. Like the Police Overseas Service Medal, it is awarded once, with awards for subsequent deployments indicated by the addition of a clasp. Applications for the award are assessed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and recommended to the Governor-General by the Secretary of the Department, or a delegate.

The Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945 recognises work by Australians during World War II as part of a recognised group, in particular locations. The 38 eligible groups, locations, time frames and duration of service for qualification were determined in 1994-5, and applications for the medal are assessed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Awards are recommended by the Secretary of the Department, or a delegate.

Chart 135: Civilian operational service awards, volume awarded, 2012-16



Key:

POSM = Police Overseas Service Medal

HOSM = Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal

CSM39-45 = Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945

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Endnotes

¹ The Office's Annual Reports are available on the Governor-General's website: <https://www.gg.gov.au/office-official-secretary-governor-general/annual-reports>

² There are three foreign-born Knights of the Order of Australia, but none were appointed through a recommendation/approval process, either by the Council or the Prime Minister. One became the Principal Knight upon being appointed Governor-General, and two were given precedence in the Order, as Knights, through amendments to the Constitution.

The Rt Hon Sir Ninian Stephen AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE was born in the UK. He became a Knight of the Order in 1982, upon his appointment as Governor-General, under the provision of the Order's Constitution which provided (at the time) that the Governor-General is the Chancellor *and Principal Knight of the Order*. (The equivalent section now provides that the Governor-General is the *Principal Companion* of the Order, unless he or she is already a Knight or Dame.)

The remaining two foreign-born Knights are HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and HRH Charles, Prince of Wales. Both became Knights of the Order through amendments to the Order's Constitution to accord them precedence, in 2015 and 1981, respectively.

³ The Terminations and Cancellations Ordinance is on page 42 of the *Order of Australia Booklet*: https://www.gg.gov.au/sites/default/files/feature/order_of_australia_booklet_11th_edition_v2-2015.pdf.

⁴ See paragraph 25 (2) (b) of the Constitution of the Order of Australia, p. 24, *Order of Australia Booklet*, *ibid*.