

The Ruppin Index for Immigrant Integration at the Local Level

Karin Amit & Svetlana Chachashvili-Bolotin

Prof. Karin Amit

The MA Program in Immigration &
Social Integration (Head)
and the Dept. of Business Administration
Ruppin Academic Center

Dr. Svetlana Chachashvili-Bolotin

The MA Program in Immigration &
Social Integration
Ruppin Academic Center





Immigrant integration indices

Indices of immigrant integration in Israel and other countries mainly address the **national level**.

One of the prominent indices for immigrant integration at the national level in Israel is the **Ruppin index**.

There are no systematic measurements of immigrant integration in Israel at the **local-municipal level**.

Presentation aim:

To suggest using the Ruppin Index parameters for examining immigrant integration at the local level.

To present preliminary findings related to the integration of immigrants in 8 major cities in Israel compared to the national level.

To discuss challenges related to measuring immigrant integration at the local level.

The Ruppin Index Parameters

4

core dimensions of integration are represented in the Ruppin Index

Social
integration -
Language skills

Standard of
living

Economic
integration in
the labor market

Subjective
integration

Pulling the data



Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) Social Survey 2013-2018

N=43,354

Israelis aged 20+

The CBS Social Survey specifies information

about **8** cities



30% of the Israeli population resides in these cities (N=13,724)

Study groups

Ideally...😊

Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union (FSU) arriving after 1990

Immigrants from Ethiopia

Immigrants from Western countries (arriving after 1990): French, English and Spanish speakers

In practice...😞

Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union (FSU) arriving after 1990.

Comparison

- Israeli born (second & third generation) + veteran immigrants (before 1990)
- Israeli population (Jews and Arabs)

Description by cities and groups

The number of cases of Ethiopian, French, English & Spanish speakers is too low!

	FSU	Ethiopian	French-speakers	English-speakers	Spanish-speakers	Israeli born+ Imm. before 1990	Arabs	Total
Jerusalem	176	20	55	125	29	2126	1206	3737
Tel Aviv-Yafo	240	15	16	44	10	2104	71	2500
Haifa	462	18	9	9	6	1093	154	1751
Rishon LeZiyon	274	43	2	5	4	1095	0	1423
Petah Tikva	307	35	1	4	5	962	2	1316
Ashdod	464	30	20	7	8	667	2	1198
Beer Sheva	294	24	0	1	7	556	11	893
Netanya	210	35	30	6	6	619	0	906
Total	2427	220	133	201	75	9222	1446	13724

Examining FSU immigrants in 8 cities

Presenting

We present the findings only for FSU immigrants.

Comparing

We compare the integration of FSU in 8 major cities to:

FSU immigrants
at the **national level**

Total Israeli
population at the
national level

Israeli-born +
immigrants before
1990 at the
national level

Israeli-born +
immigrants
before 1990
at the **local level**

Findings

	FSU			Israeli-born + Imm. before 1990		
	% in the city	Age	% BA+	% in the city	Age	% BA+
Jerusalem	4.7%	53.2	65.3%	56.9%	45.2	28.5%
Tel Aviv-Yafo	9.6%	45.1	45.0%	84.2%	47.1	48.1%
Haifa	26.4%	50.8	49.8%	62.4%	51.1	39.5%
Rishon LeZion	19.3%	49.7	49.6%	77.0%	48.7	25.7%
Petah Tikva	23.3%	48.8	47.2%	73.1%	48.7	31.5%
Ashdod	38.7%	54.3	41.2%	55.7%	45.8	17.7%
Beer Sheva	32.9%	53.3	49.0%	62.3%	45.6	22.5%
Netanya	23.2%	53.2	49.0%	68.3%	48.1	24.4%
National level	13.9%	51.2	45.0%	63.0%	46.9	31.6%

The Ruppin Index Parameters

4

core dimensions of integration are represented in the Ruppin Index:

Social
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Language skills

Standard of
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Economic
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Subjective
integration



Social integration- Language skills

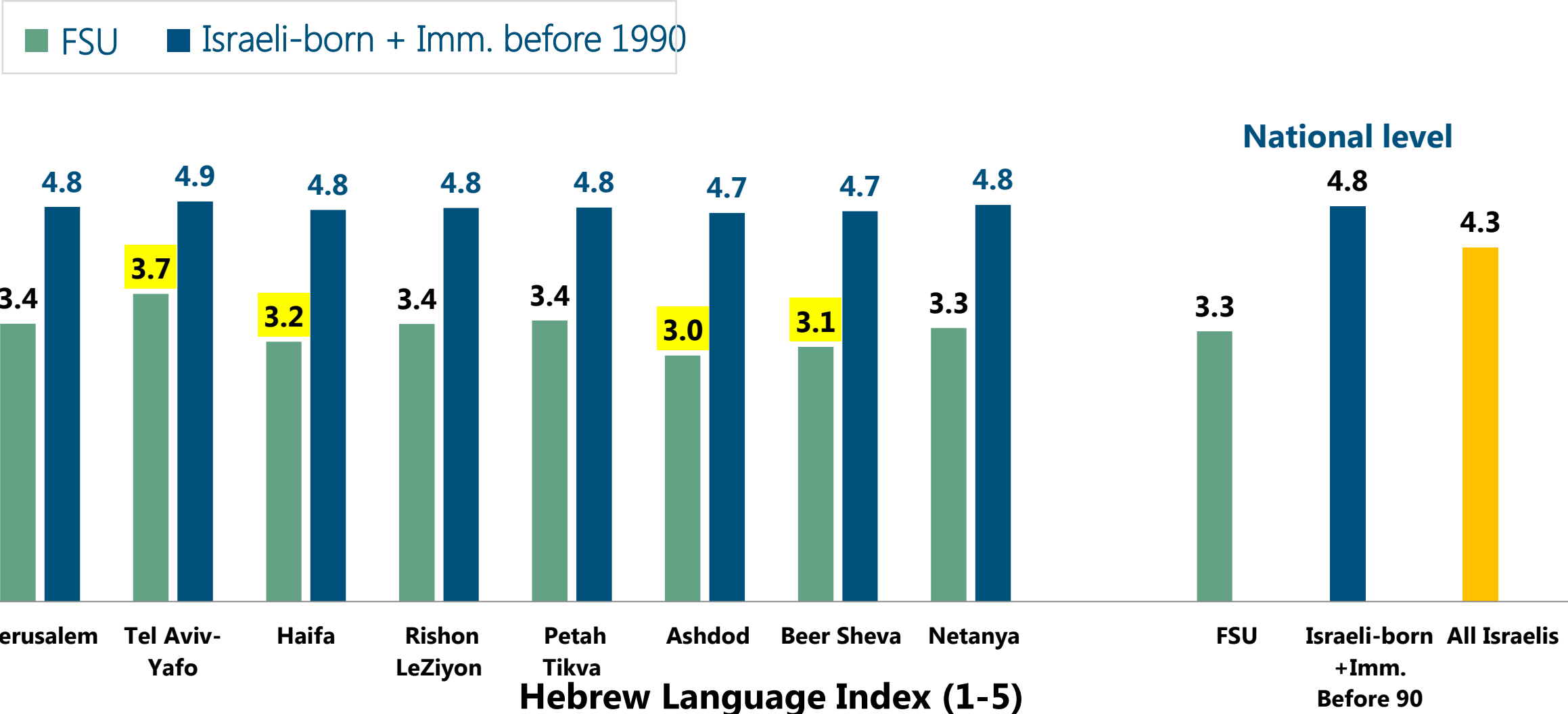
Hebrew language proficiency:

- Hebrew language index (1-5)

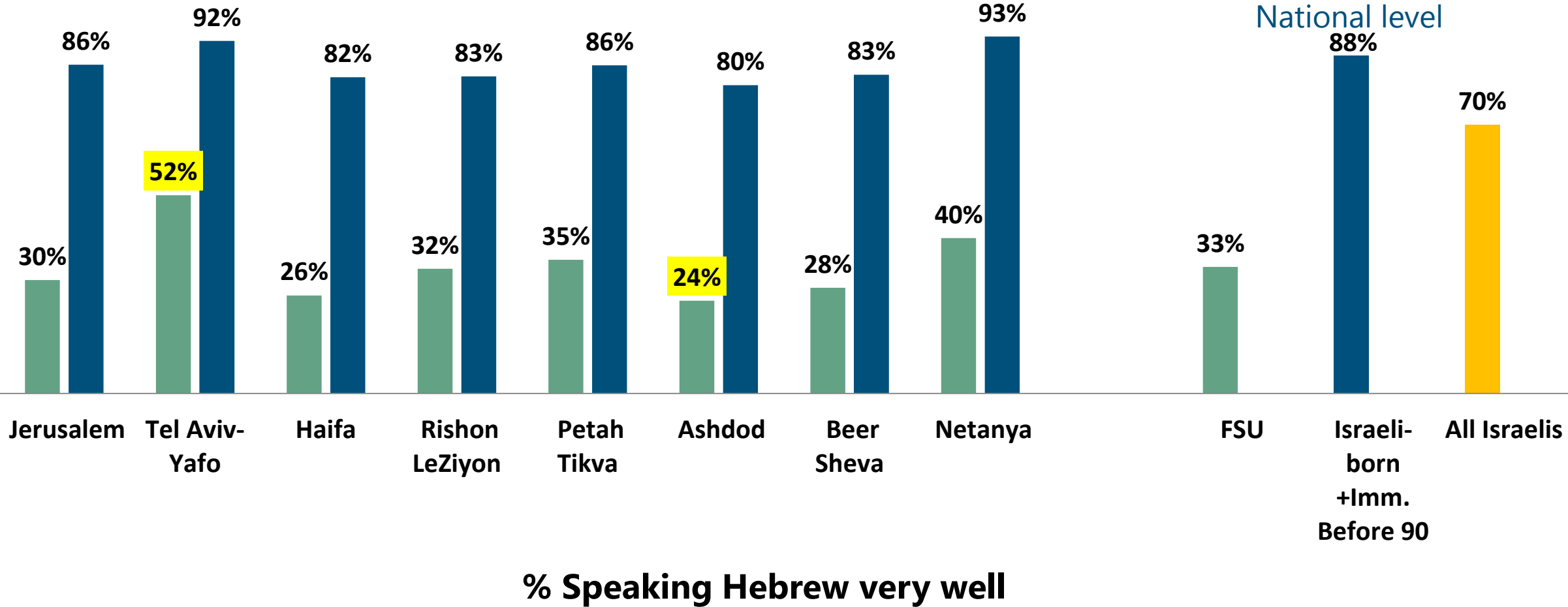
Reported language proficiency:
Speaking, reading & writing

- % Speaking very well

FSU immigrants living in Tel Aviv-Yafo have the highest level of Hebrew proficiency



FSU immigrants living in Tel Aviv-Yafo have the highest level of Hebrew proficiency



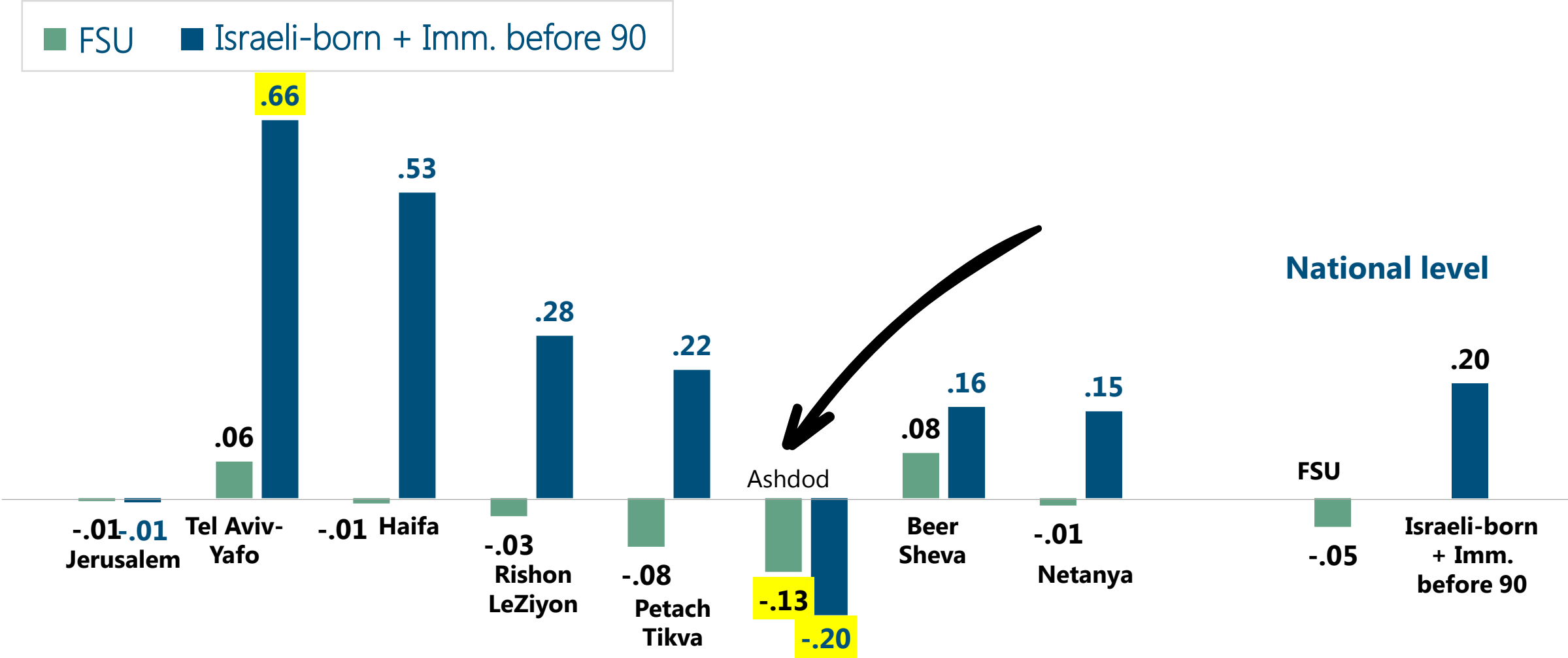


Standard of living

- Family income
- Ability to cover expenses
- Consumption patterns (domestic help)
- Housing density

In Z scores compared to the national average (all groups)

The standard of living of FSU immigrants is lower compared to Israeli-born + Imm. before 1990



Standard of living index (compared to all Israelis at the national level Z=0)

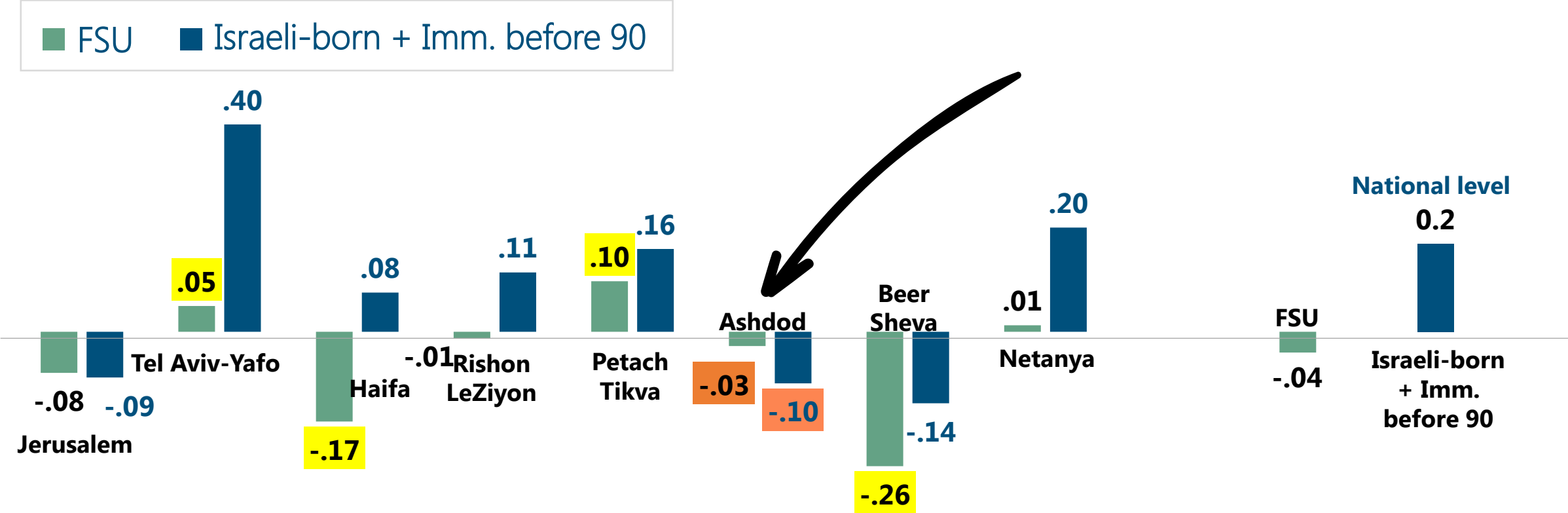
A background image of an office environment. Several people are seated at long wooden desks, working on computers. In the foreground, a man in a light blue shirt is seen from the side, typing on a keyboard. Other workers are visible in the background, some looking at their screens and others talking. The office has a modern feel with blue chairs and various office supplies on the desks.

Economic integration in the labor market

Actual integration in the labor market (employed only)

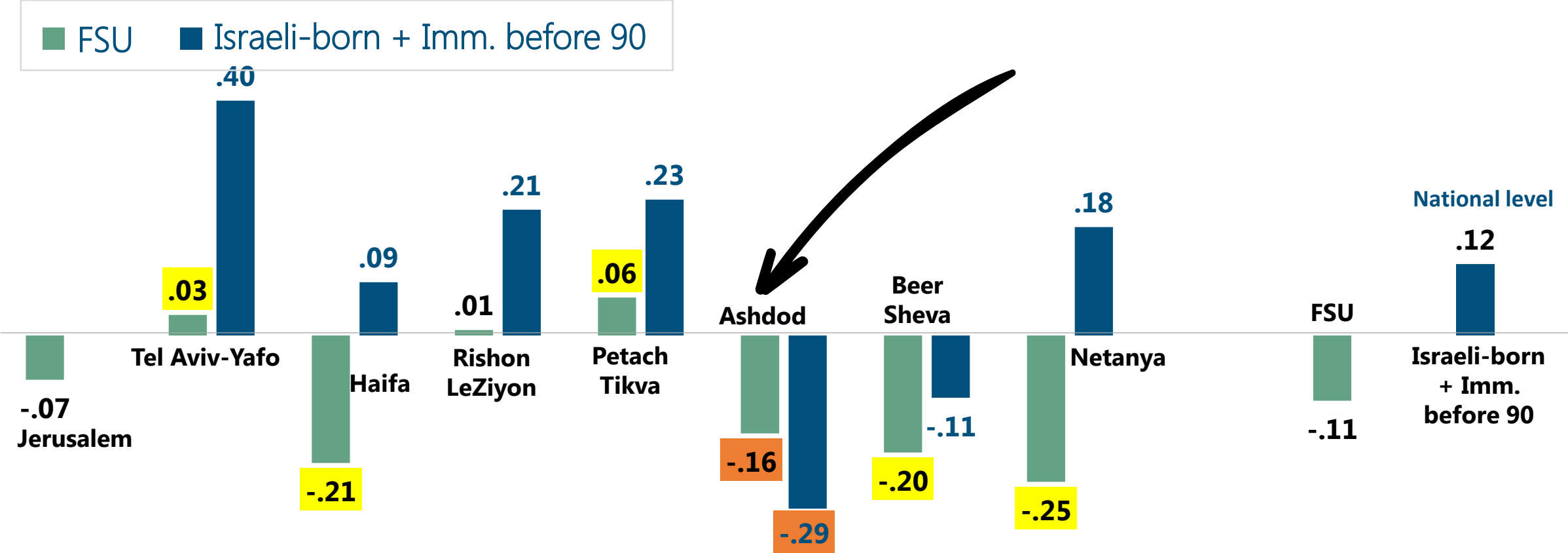
- Wages
- PTM (Professional, Technical and Managerial) occupation
- Full time vs. part time

The integration in the labor market of FSU immigrant **men** is lower compared to Israeli-born + Imm. before 1990, but is close to the Israeli average



Actual integration in the labor market- Men FSU
(compared to all Israeli (Jews + Arabs) men at the national level Z=0)

The integration in the labor market of FSU immigrant **women** is lower compared to Israeli-born + Imm. before 1990 but also lower than the Israeli average for women



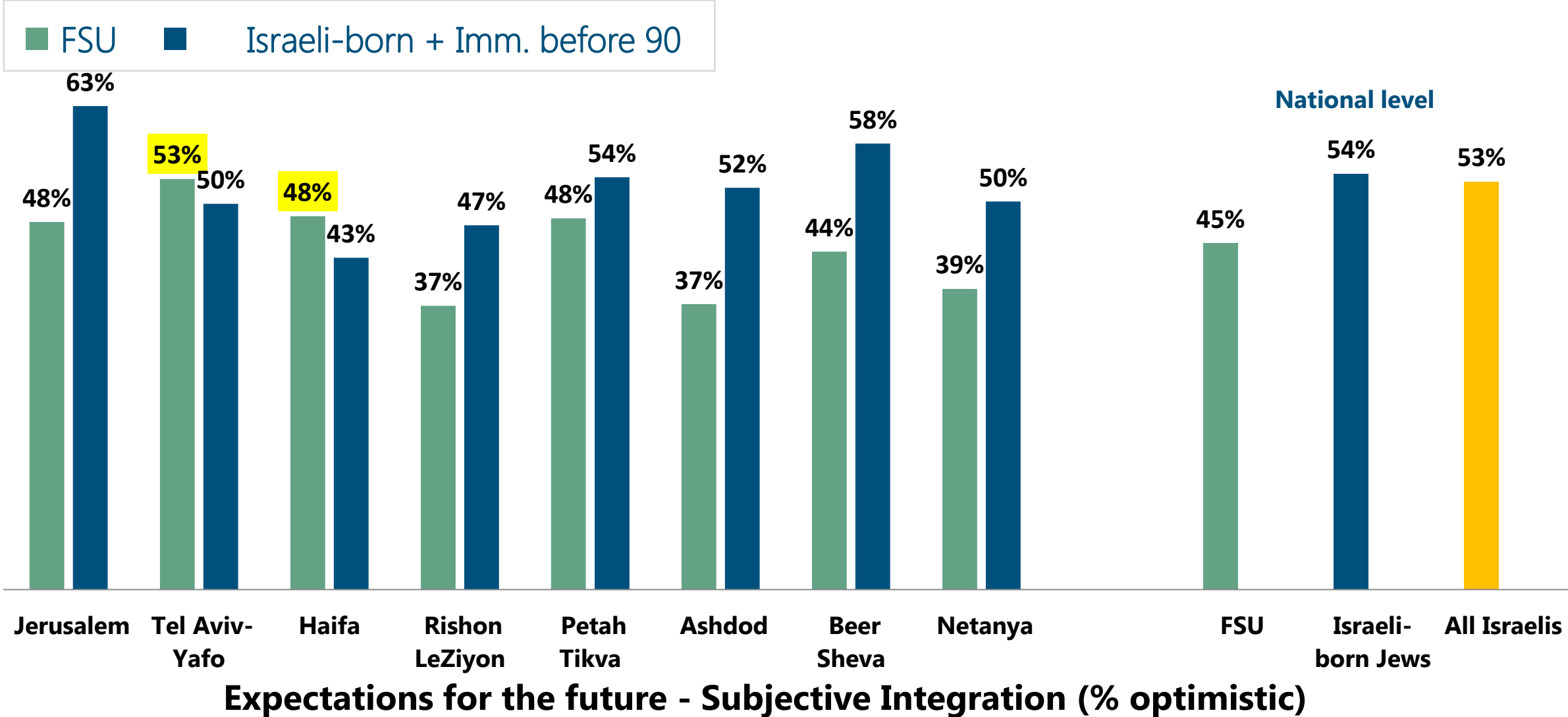
Actual integration in the labor market- Women FSU
(compared to all Israeli (Jews + Arabs) women at the national level Z=0)

Subjective integration

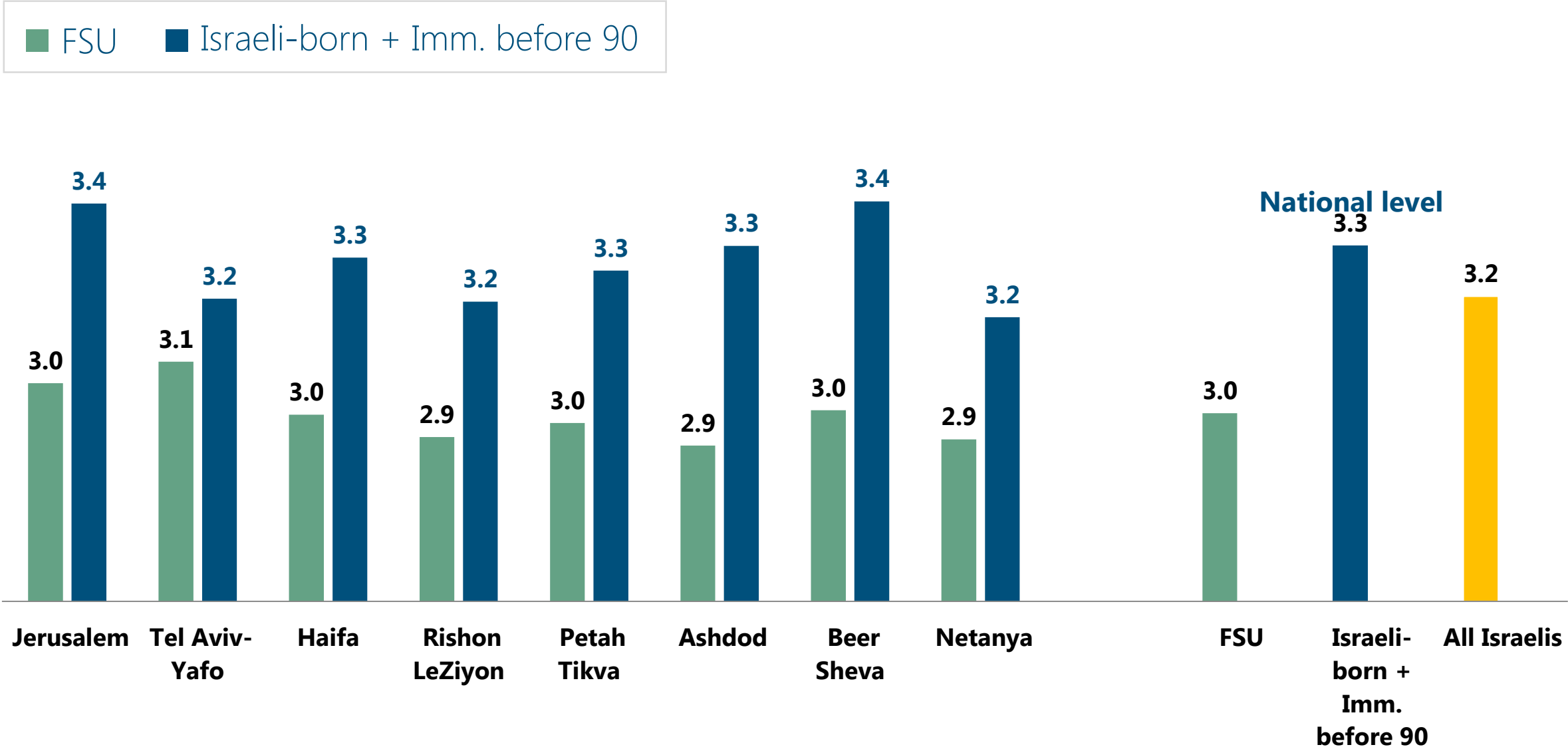
Are people optimistic about the future? Are they satisfied with their lives?



In Tel Aviv-Yafo and Haifa, FSU immigrants are more optimistic than the Israeli-born population



In general, the life satisfaction of Israelis is high



Subjective Integration - Life satisfaction (1-4)

To summarize...

**Social
integration:
Language skills**

There are differences in the language proficiency of FSU immigrants in Tel Aviv-Yafo compared to other cities- FSU immigrants living in **Tel Aviv-Yafo** have the highest level of Hebrew proficiency while those living in **Ashdod Beer Sheva & Haifa** have the lowest.

**Economic
integration:
Standard of living**

There are differences in the standard of living between cities, both among FSU immigrants and Israeli born + immigrants before 1990. The highest level is in **Tel Aviv-Yafo** the lowest in **Ashdod**.

Integration in the labor market



There are differences between cities, both among FSU immigrants and Israeli born+immigrants before 1990.

For FSU immigrants, the highest level of labor market integration is in **Petah Tikva and Tel Aviv-Yafo** and the lowest is in **Beer Sheva** and **Haifa**.

The case of Ashdod - FSU immigrants have higher level of labor market integration compared to the Israeli born+ immigrants before 1990 living in Ashdod.

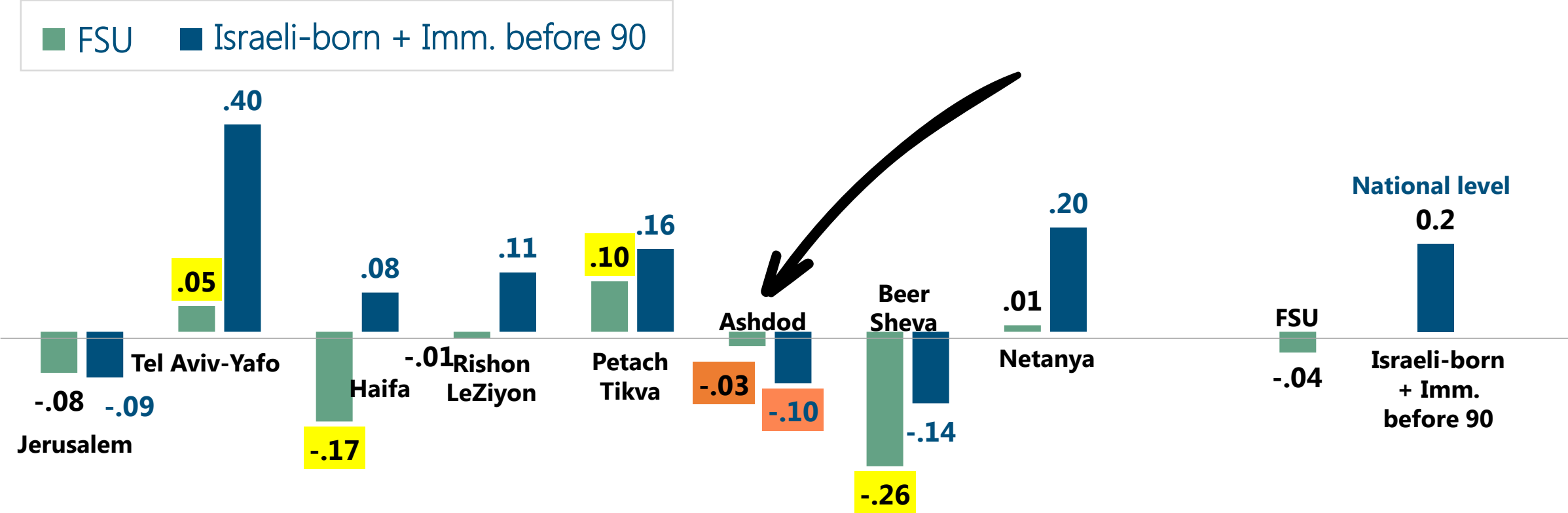


There are differences between cities, both among FSU immigrants and Israeli born +immigrants before 1990.

For FSU immigrants, the highest level of labor market integration is in the center - **Petah Tikva Tel Aviv-Yafo and Rishon LeZion** and the lowest is in **Netanya, Beer Sheva** and **Haifa**.

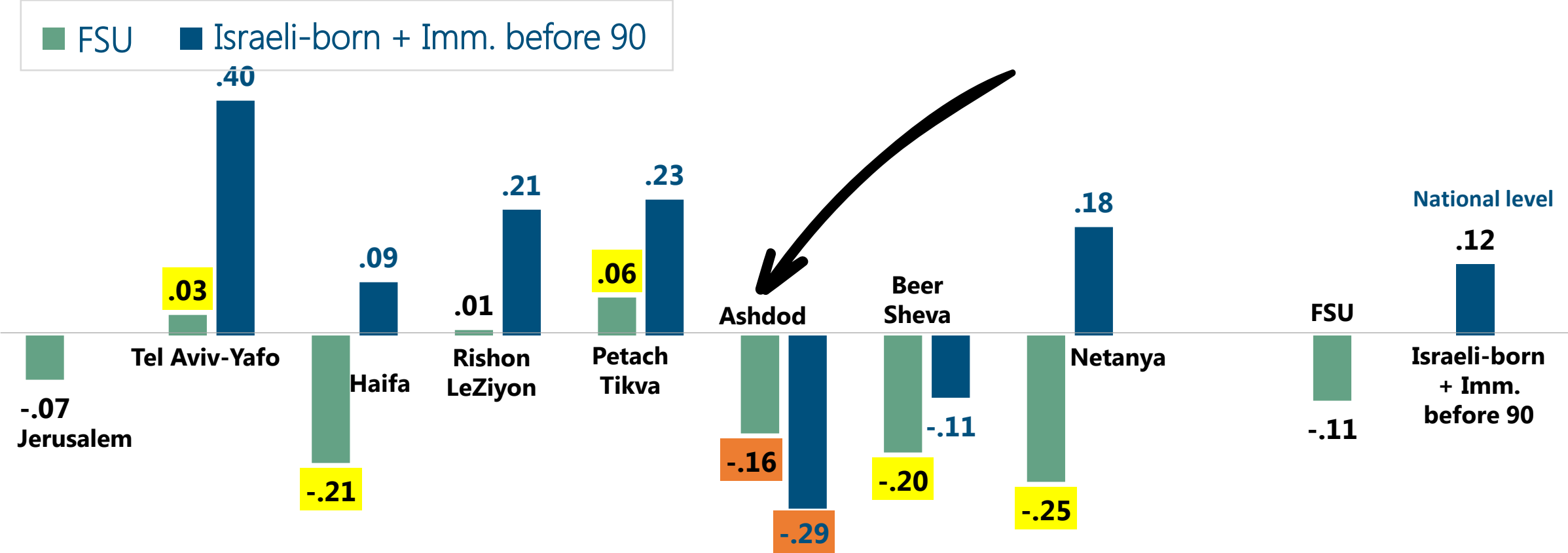
The case of Ashdod - FSU immigrants have higher level of labor market integration compared to the Israeli born+ immigrants before 1990 living in Ashdod.

The integration in the labor market of FSU immigrant **men** is lower compared to Israeli-born + Imm. before 1990, but is close to the Israeli average



Actual integration in the labor market- Men FSU
(compared to all Israeli (Jews + Arabs) men at the national level Z=0)

The integration in the labor market of FSU immigrant **women** is lower compared to Israeli-born + Imm. before 1990 but also lower than the Israeli average for women



Actual integration in the labor market- Women FSU
(compared to all Israeli (Jews + Arabs) women at the national level Z=0)

**Subjective
integration:
Expectations for
the future**

In **Tel Aviv-Yafo** and **Haifa** FSU immigrants are more optimistic than the Israeli-born + immigrants before 1990.

FSU living in **Ashdod** and **Rishon LeZion** are the least optimistic.

**Subjective
integration:
Life satisfaction**

The differences between cities for FSU immigrants are small.

Future considerations

- Our findings emphasize the importance of analyzing immigrant integration **at the local level**.
- The findings can be useful for municipalities and policy makers at the local and national levels.
- This analysis should be conducted for **all immigrant groups** in Israel and **for additional cities**.
- **A comparative study** of immigrant integration in cities in Israel and Canada can shed more light on the integration of specific immigrant groups in different locations (FSU).
- **The challenge** is to allocate a better data sample which can allow these additional analyses.

Thank you!