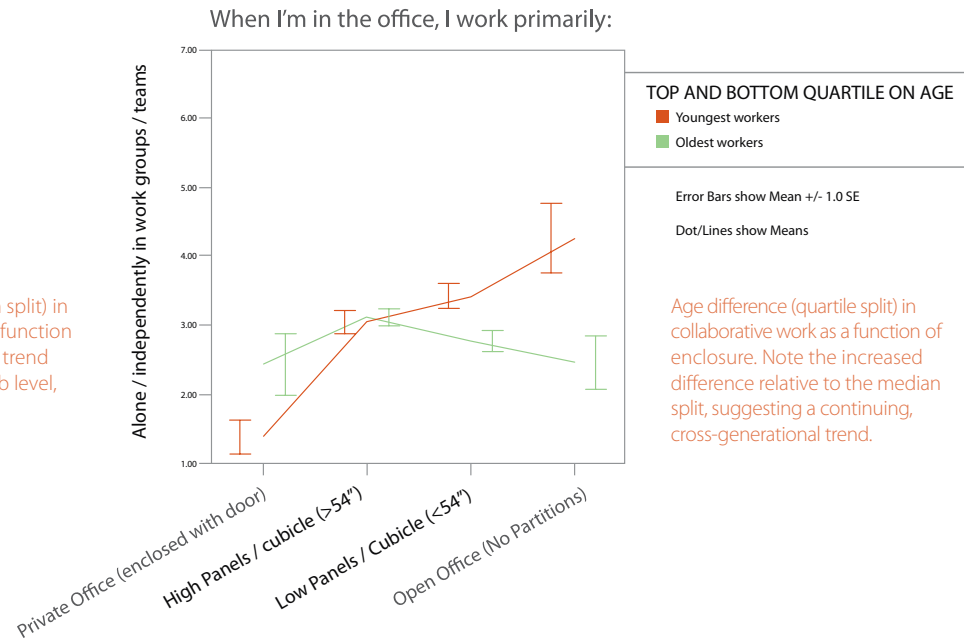
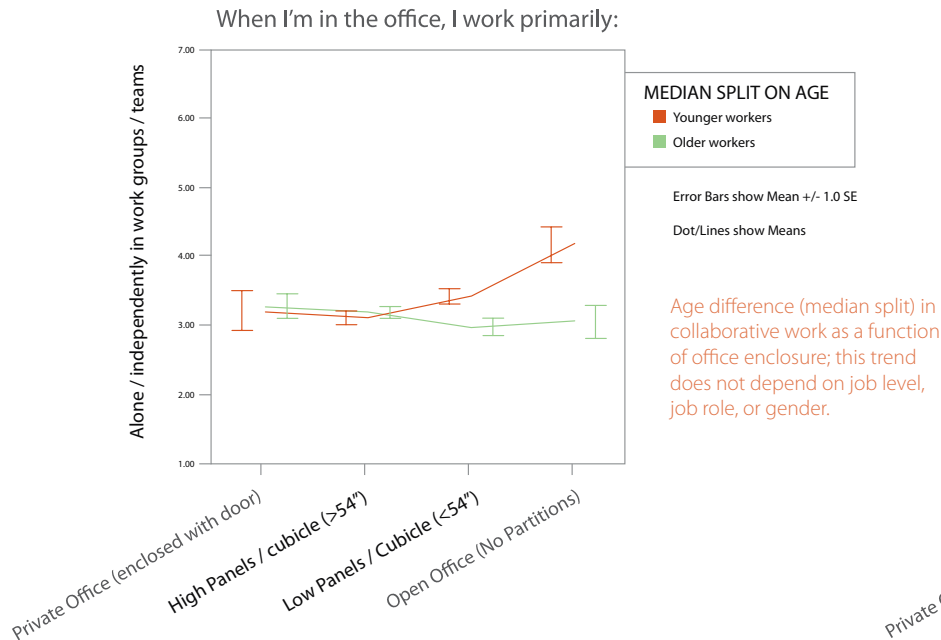


OFFICE DESIGN CHALLENGES

Younger office workers spend a greater portion of their time working in groups or teams than older employees. This trend increases in more open work environments and for younger employees (Brand, 2008).

AGE AND COLLABORATION WORK TRENDS IN NORTH AMERICA



Given the long-term trend toward greater collaboration, office environments should be designed to accommodate this shift.

Some considerations:

- Employees should be prepared for the shift from personal territories and dedicated individual space to group and team territories.
- Provide collaborative zones proximal to individual work areas.
- Private offices or work areas are still needed for concentrative, individual work.
- If possible, group and individual work activities should be acoustically separated.

These benefits can be provided by a variety of work areas differing in size, formality, and privacy levels, which allow workers to self-select appropriate environments for various tasks.