



# Dr Brian McGregor

Medical Director, YORLMC Ltd

Member and Speaker GPCE

Chair BMA Yorkshire Regional Council

# GP CRISIS



General Practice at breaking point

# Dentistry 1990

- Imposed Contract
- Clawbacks
- Focus on urgent care, not prevention
- Reduced funding
- Private/Corporate competitors
- Separation from Devolved Nations (UDA contract)
- Reduced profitability
- Increased workload/poor wellbeing

THAT'S THE  
STANDARD  
TECHNIQUE OF  
**PRIVATIZATION:**  
DEFUND,  
MAKE SURE  
THINGS DON'T  
WORK, PEOPLE  
GET ANGRY,  
**YOU HAND  
IT OVER TO  
PRIVATE  
CAPITAL.**

NOAM CHOMSKY



# Contract Imposition

- 2022-23 AND 2023-24 End of a 5 year deal
- New Targets
- Additional workload
- Below inflation funding
- No additional funding to global sum
- Pay Transparency

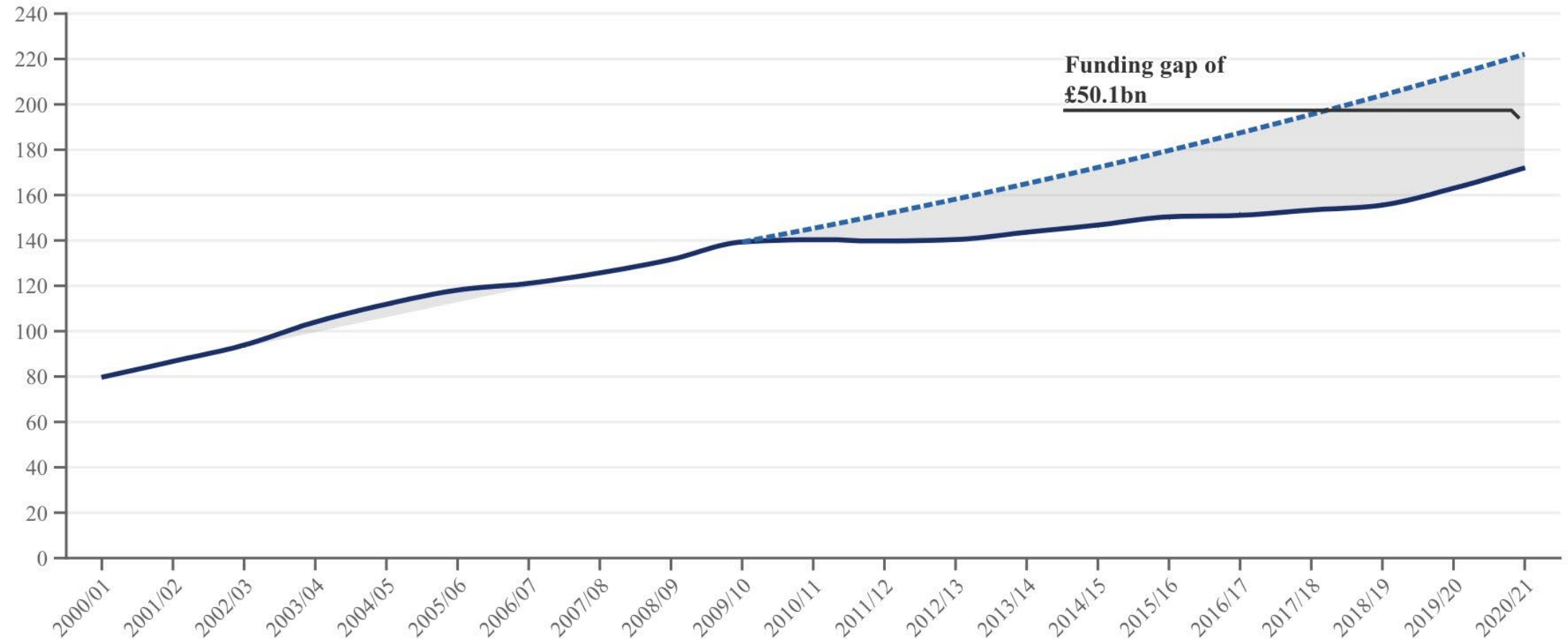




# Regular healthcare expenditure if it had kept pace with the historical average over the last decade

Healthcare expenditure, £ bn (2020/21 prices)

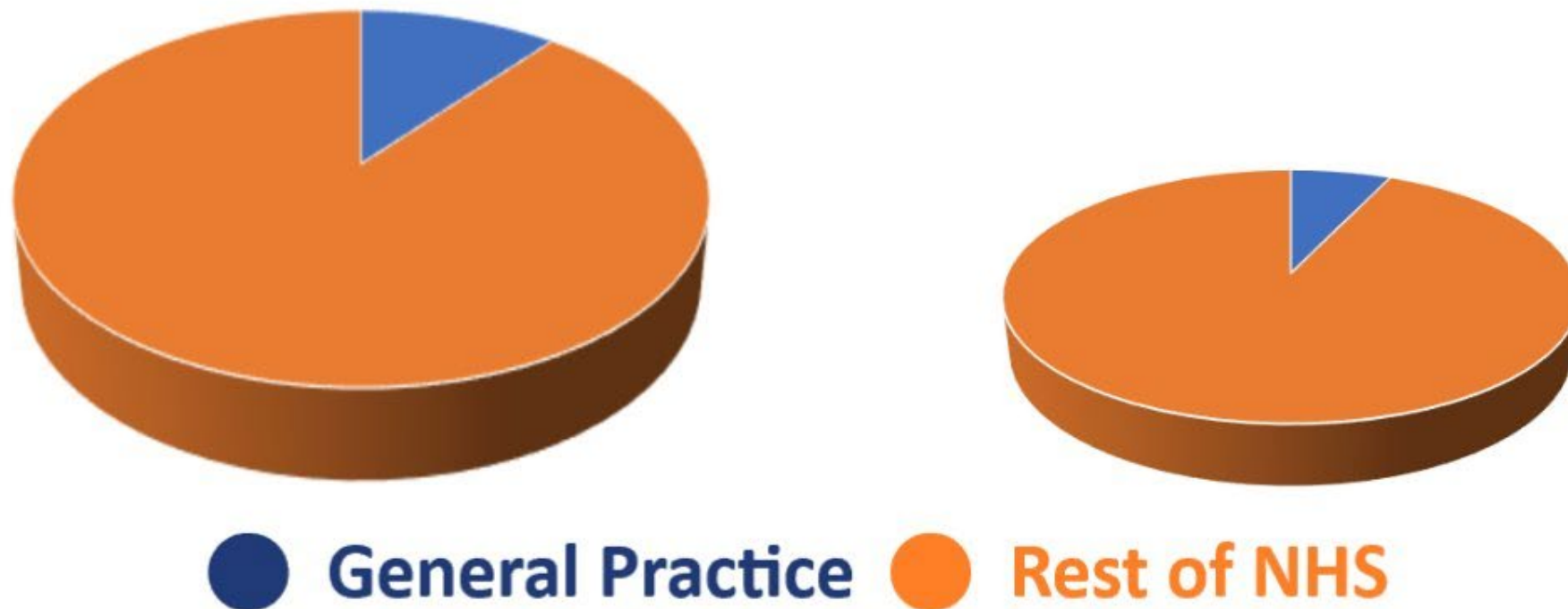
■ Actual (not including covid funding) ■ Estimated spending from 2009/10 if maintaining historic growth of 4.3%



Source: Health spending - ONS, annual abstract of statistics; PESA. GDP deflators - ONS series L8GG. • Estimated spending from 2009/10 shows funding if it had kept pace with the prior historical average of 4.3%



# GPs are receiving a smaller slice of a shrinking funding pie



**Health Spending has fallen behind by 25% over past decade, and the amount spent on general practice has shrunk from 11% to 7%**

Source: BMA Analysis of ONS Country & Regional Public Sector Finances

Produced by



**LOCAL LEICESTERSHIRE  
MEDICAL LEICESTER  
COMMITTEE RUTLAND**

to support local General Practices



# GP Earnings and Expenses Estimates Time Series

Average total expenses and cash and real terms income before tax by GP type and country



Select country  
(choose one)

England

Northern Ireland

Scotland

Wales

Select GP type  
(choose one)

Contractor

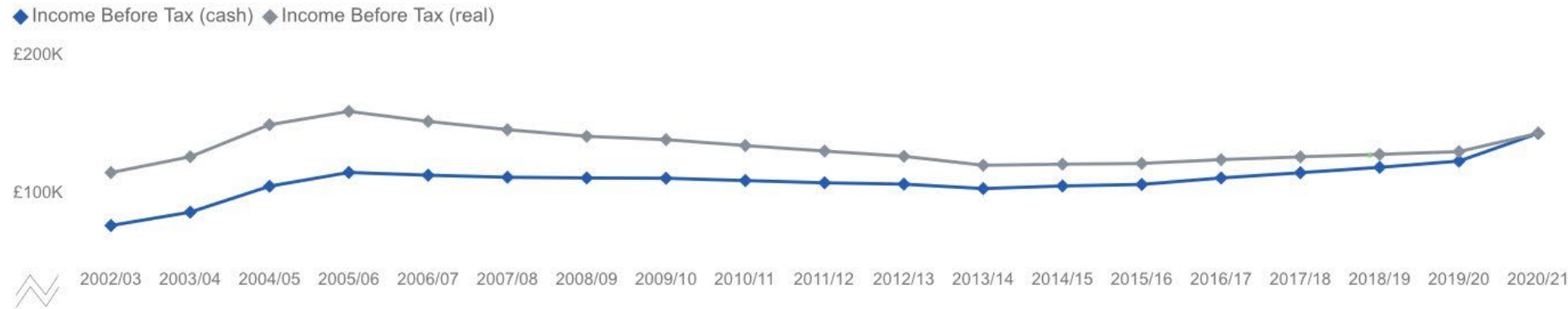
Salaried

Average income before tax and total expenses (cash terms) by year Contractor



Average income before tax (cash terms and real terms) by year - Contractor

England

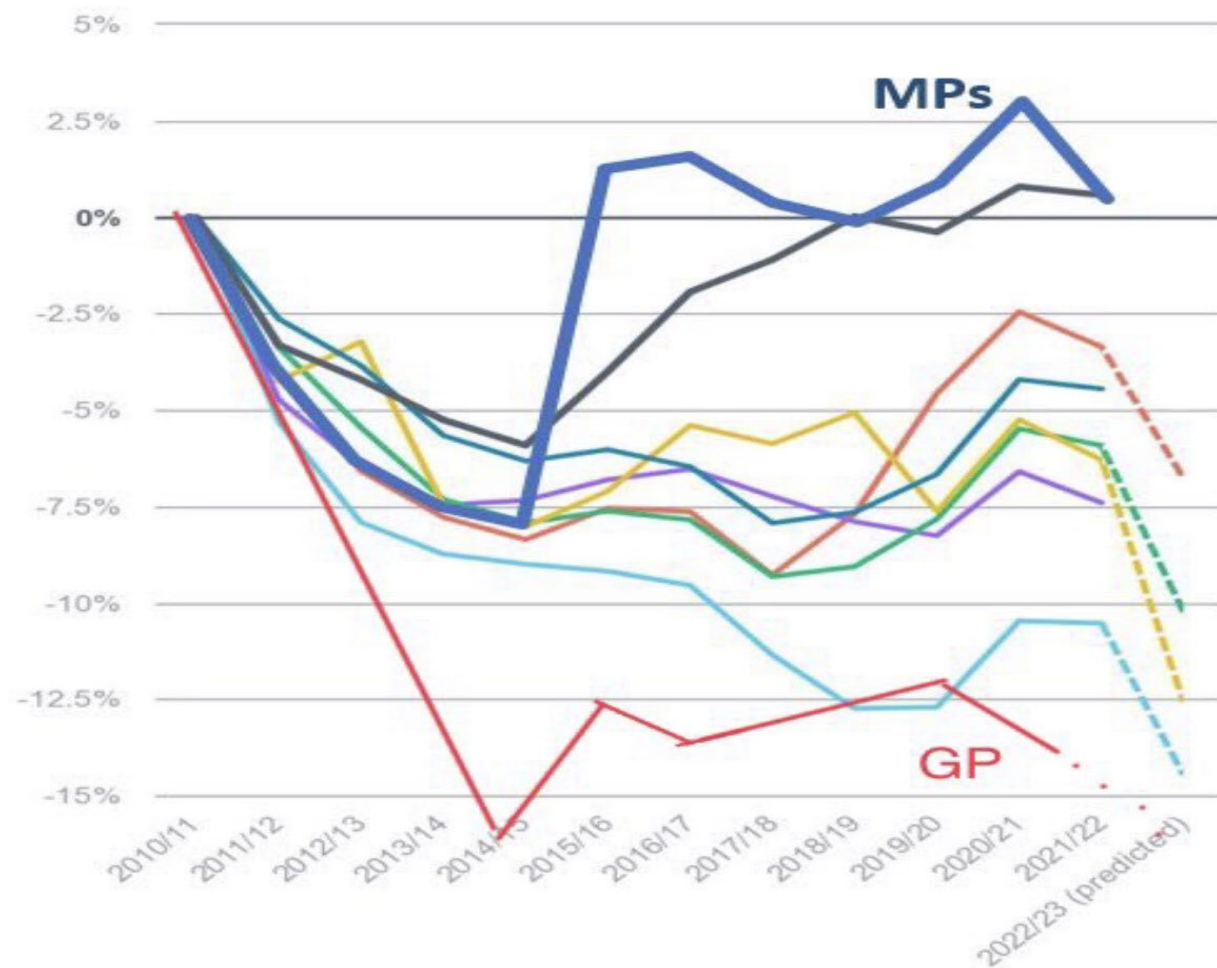


**Note:**  
1. r 2014/15 Income Before Tax and Gross Earnings figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland contractors have been recalculated since the GP Earnings and Expenses Estimates 2014/15 publication using updated adjustments for superannuation contributions

[Further information](#)

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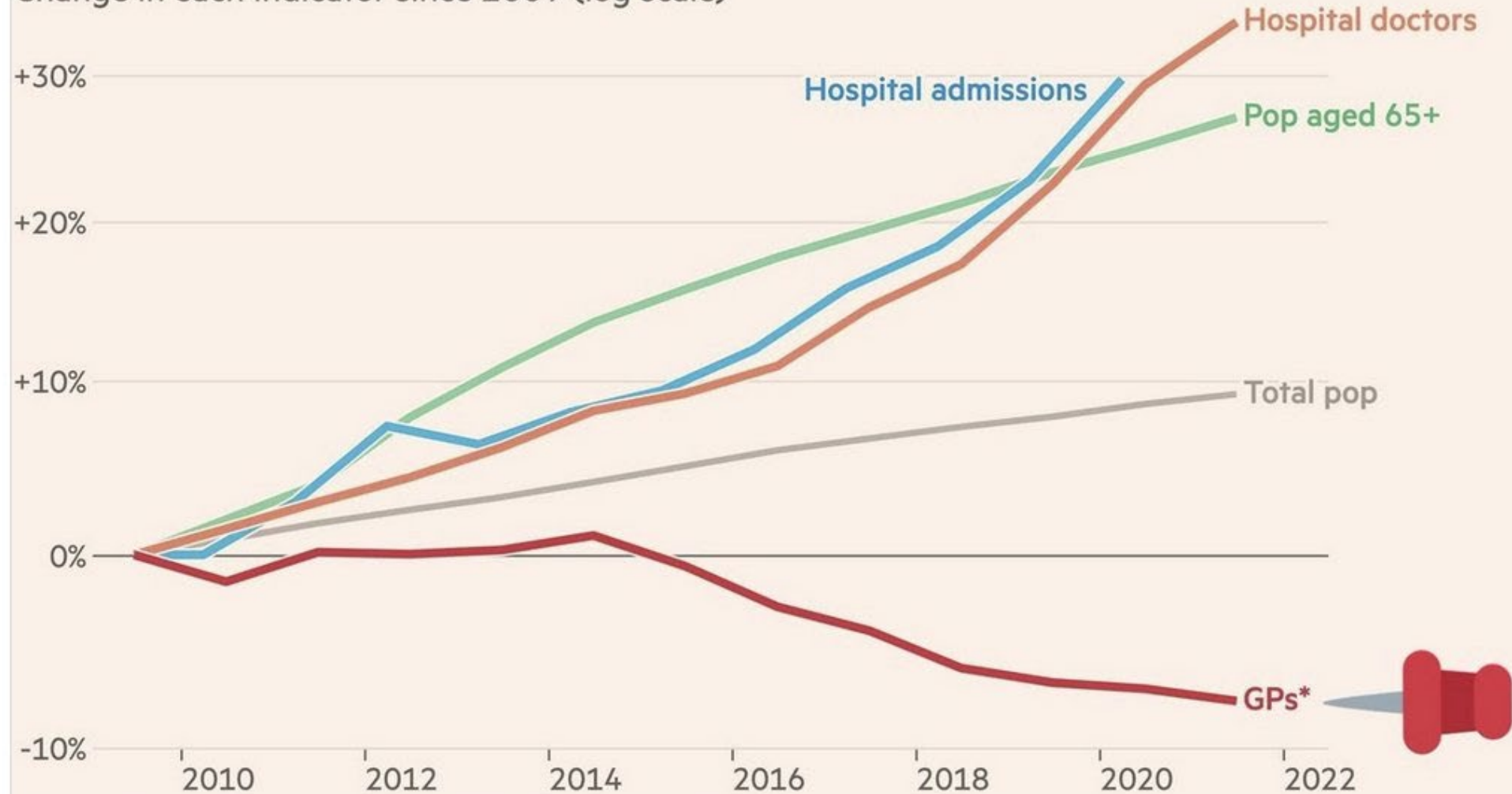
Average earnings compared to 2010/11



- Private sector
- Nurse starting salary
- Nurses & health visitors
- Consultant
- All staff
- All doctors
- Foundation doctor year 1

# The number of NHS hospital doctors has grown broadly in line with demand for hospital care, but GP numbers have fallen over the last decade

Change in each indicator since 2009 (log scale)



Sources: Health Foundation, NHS      \*Fully-qualified, permanent GPs

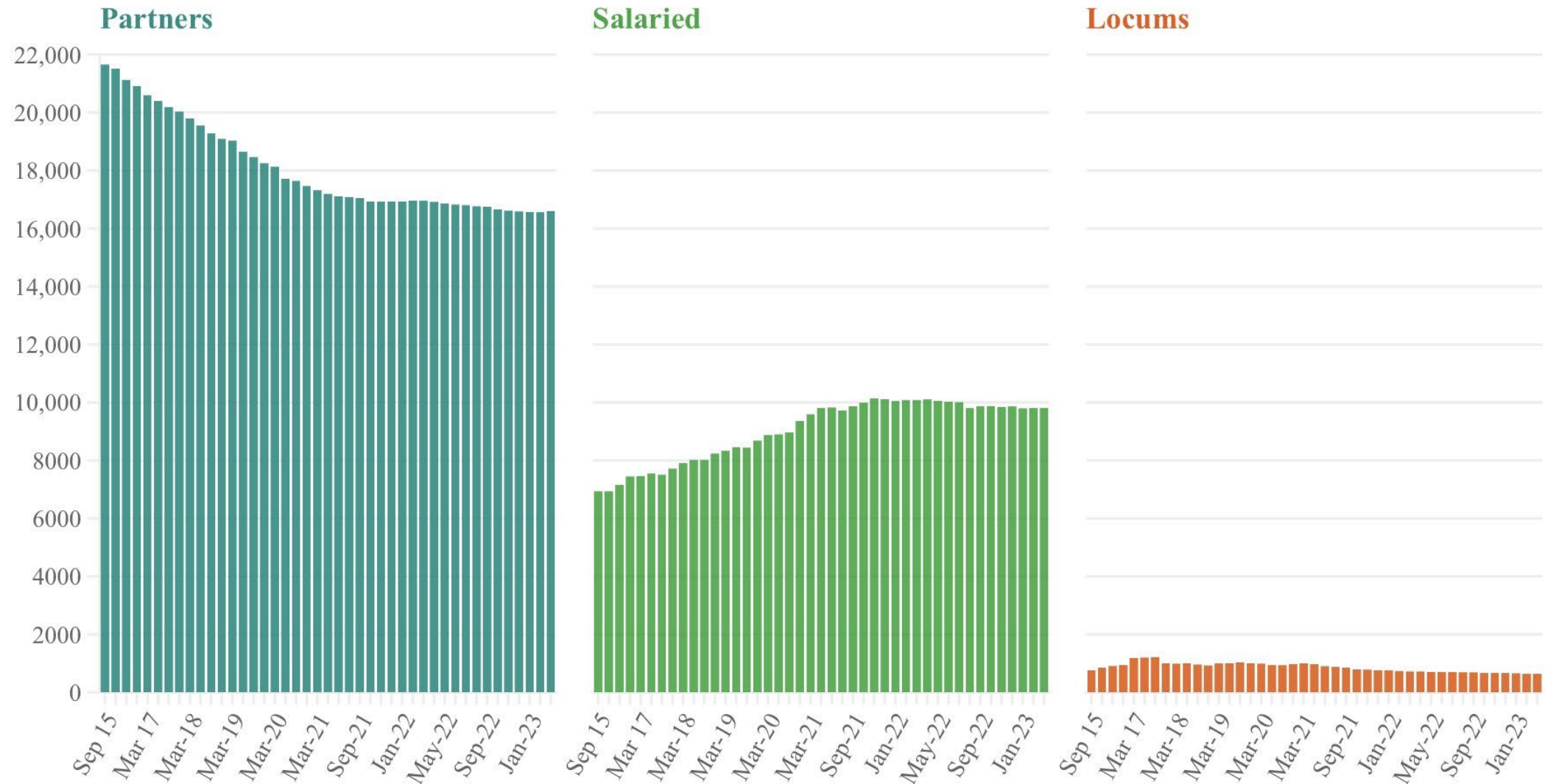
FT graphic by John Burn-Murdoch / @jburnmurdoch

© FT



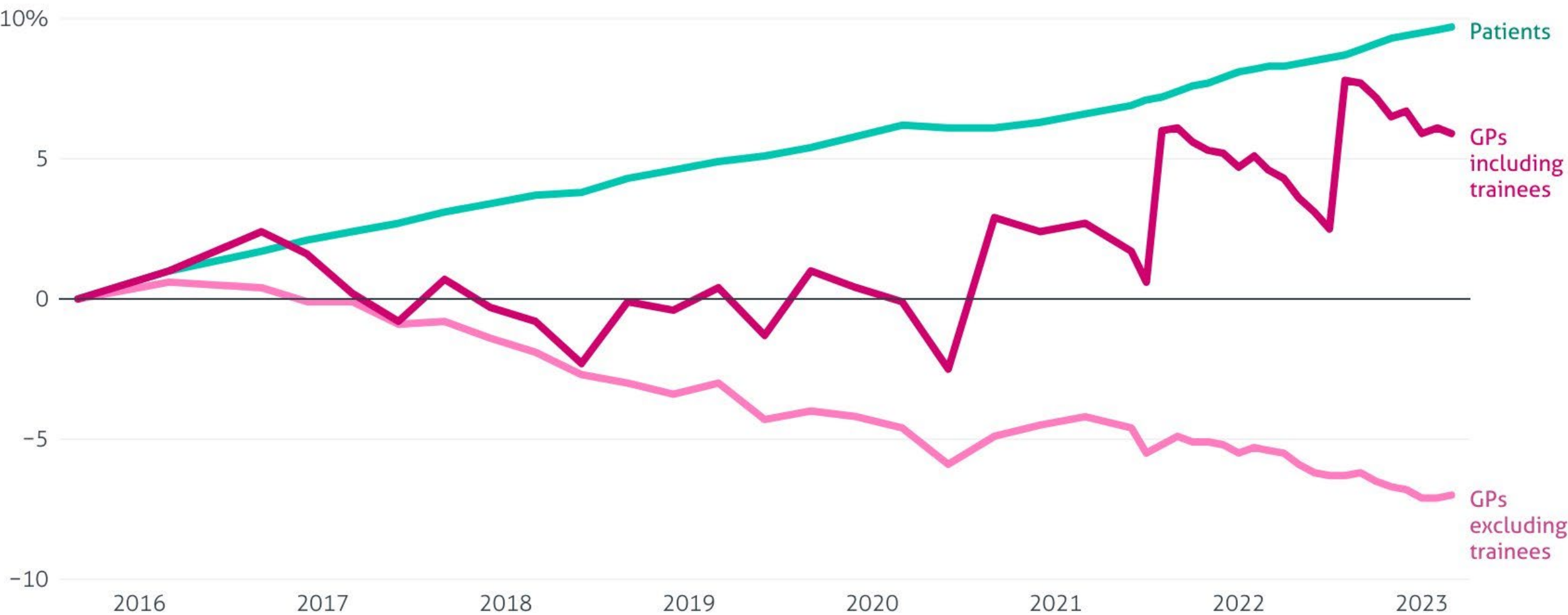
# Number of GP Partners, and Salaried and Locum GPs (FTE)

September 2015 to March 2023



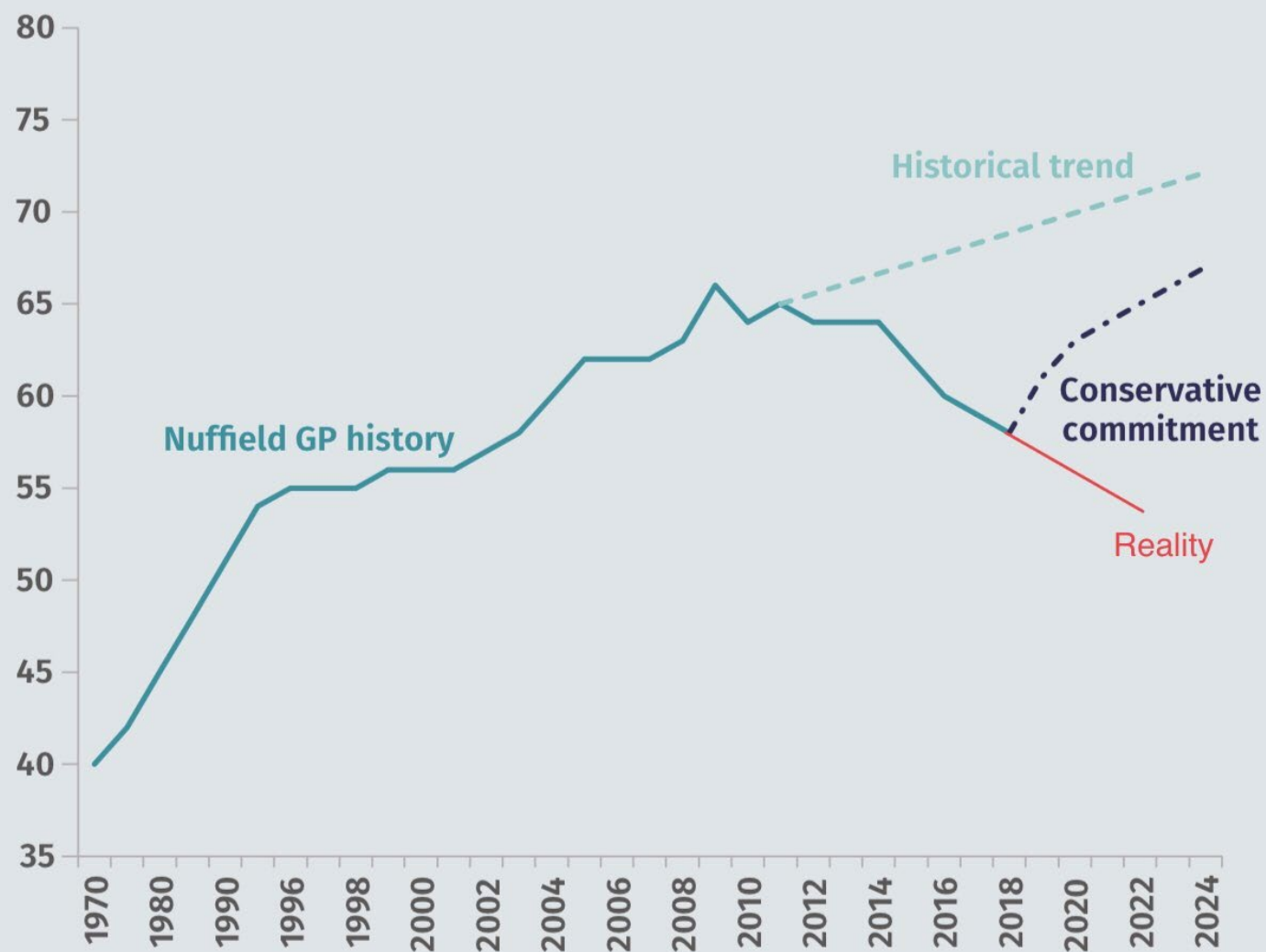
Source: [General Practice Workforce Statistics](#) • Salaried includes GP retainers.

# Change in GP numbers and patients registered with GP practices since September 2015



Source: Institute for Government analysis of NHS Digital, 'General Practice Workforce, England, Bulletin Tables September 2015 – March 2023'. • Notes: Data was first published in 2015/16. "GPs" refers to the number of fully-qualified, permanent GPs.

### Comparison of historical trends in fully qualified GP numbers (headcount) per 100,000 people in England, with Conservative Party manifesto commitment



Source: Authors' analysis of Palmer 2019, ONS 2019 and NHS Digital 2019d





**Jeremy Hunt** 

@Jeremy\_Hunt



We want 5,000 more GPs by 2020 - the biggest chance for more investment in a generation, which will help deliver 7 day services [#GPnewdeal](#)

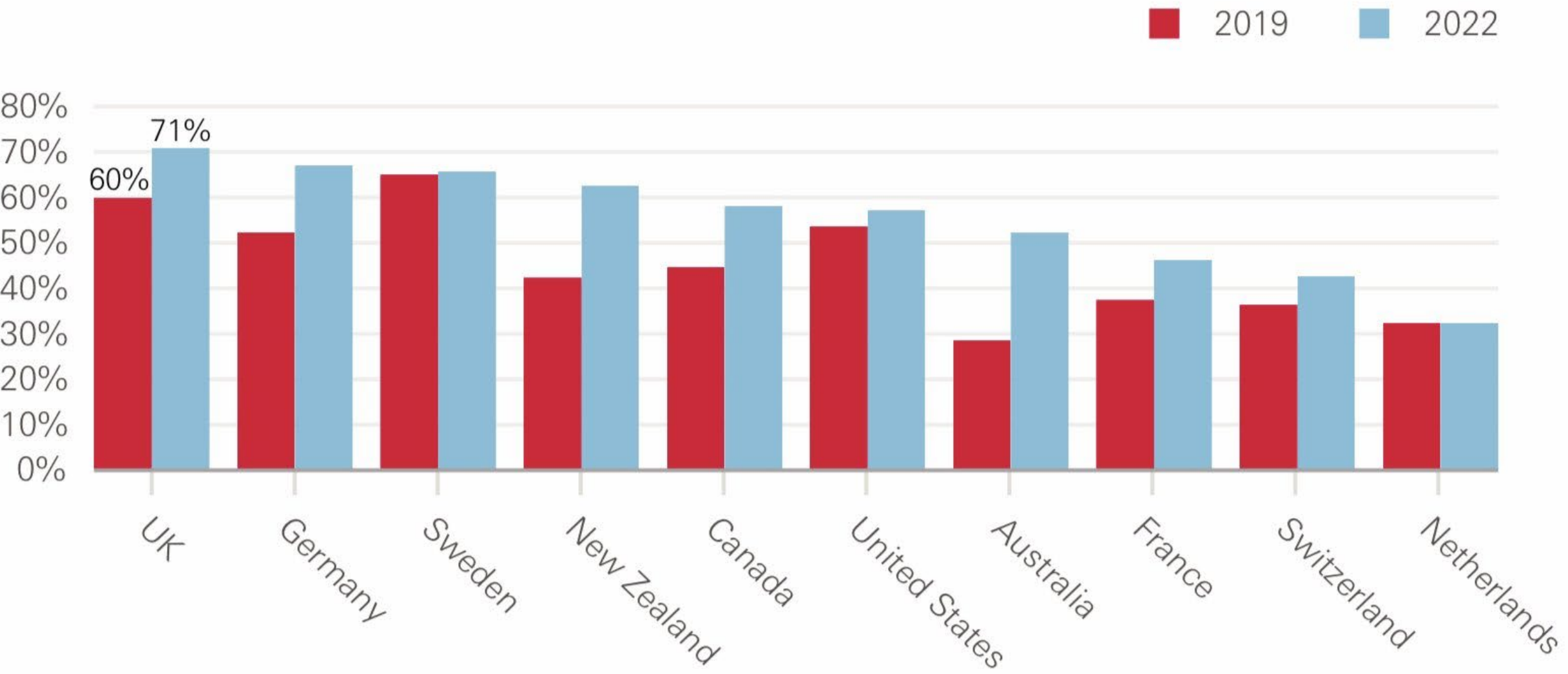
9:35 AM · Jun 19, 2015 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

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**36** Retweets   **14** Likes

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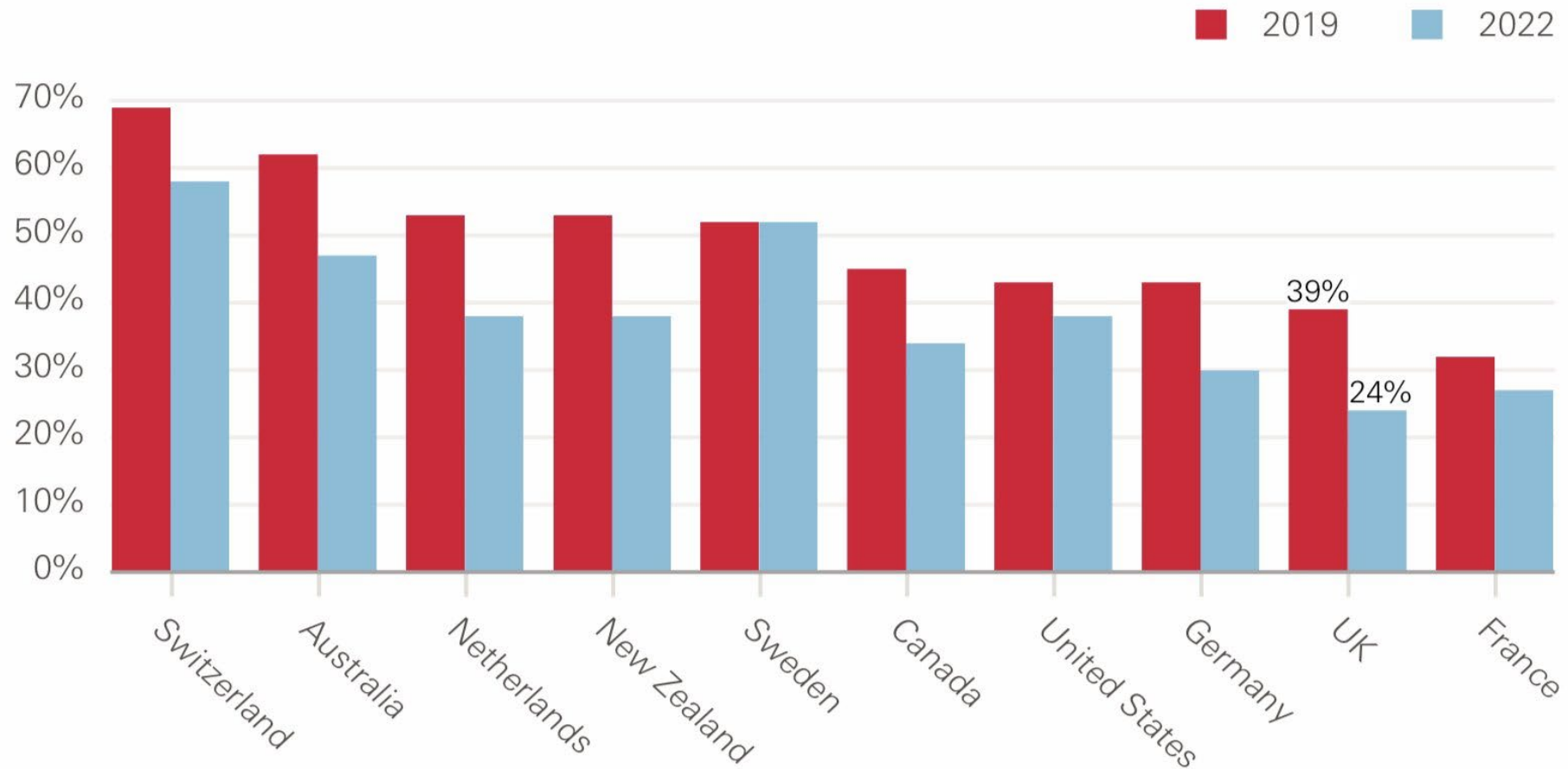
**Figure 4: How stressful is your job?**  
The percentage of GPs responding 'extremely stressful' or 'very stressful', 2019 and 2022



Source: Health Foundation analysis of the Commonwealth Fund's International Health Policy Survey of Primary Care

## Figure 1: Overall how satisfied are you with practising medicine?

The percentage of GPs answering 'extremely satisfied' or 'very satisfied', 2019 and 2022

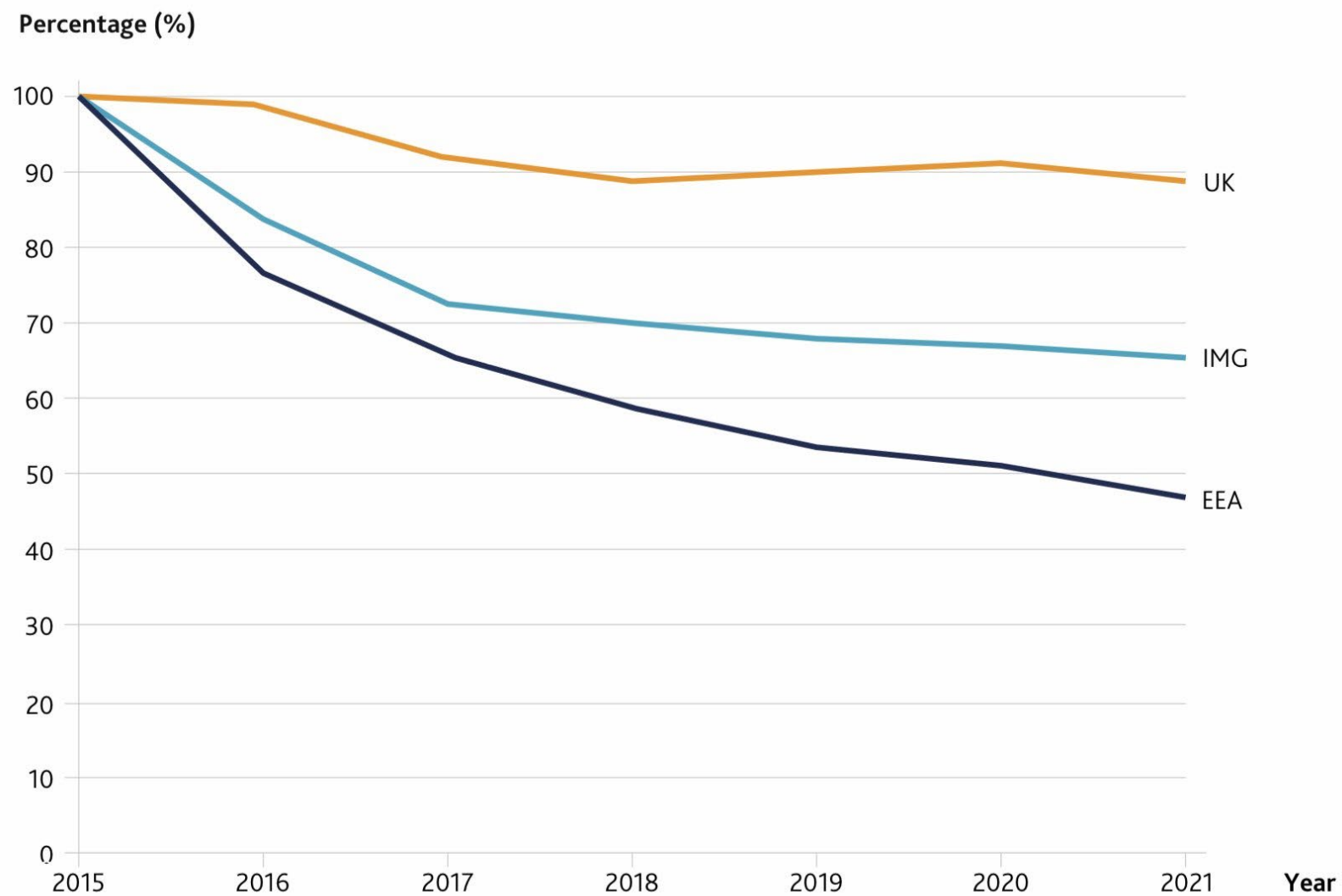


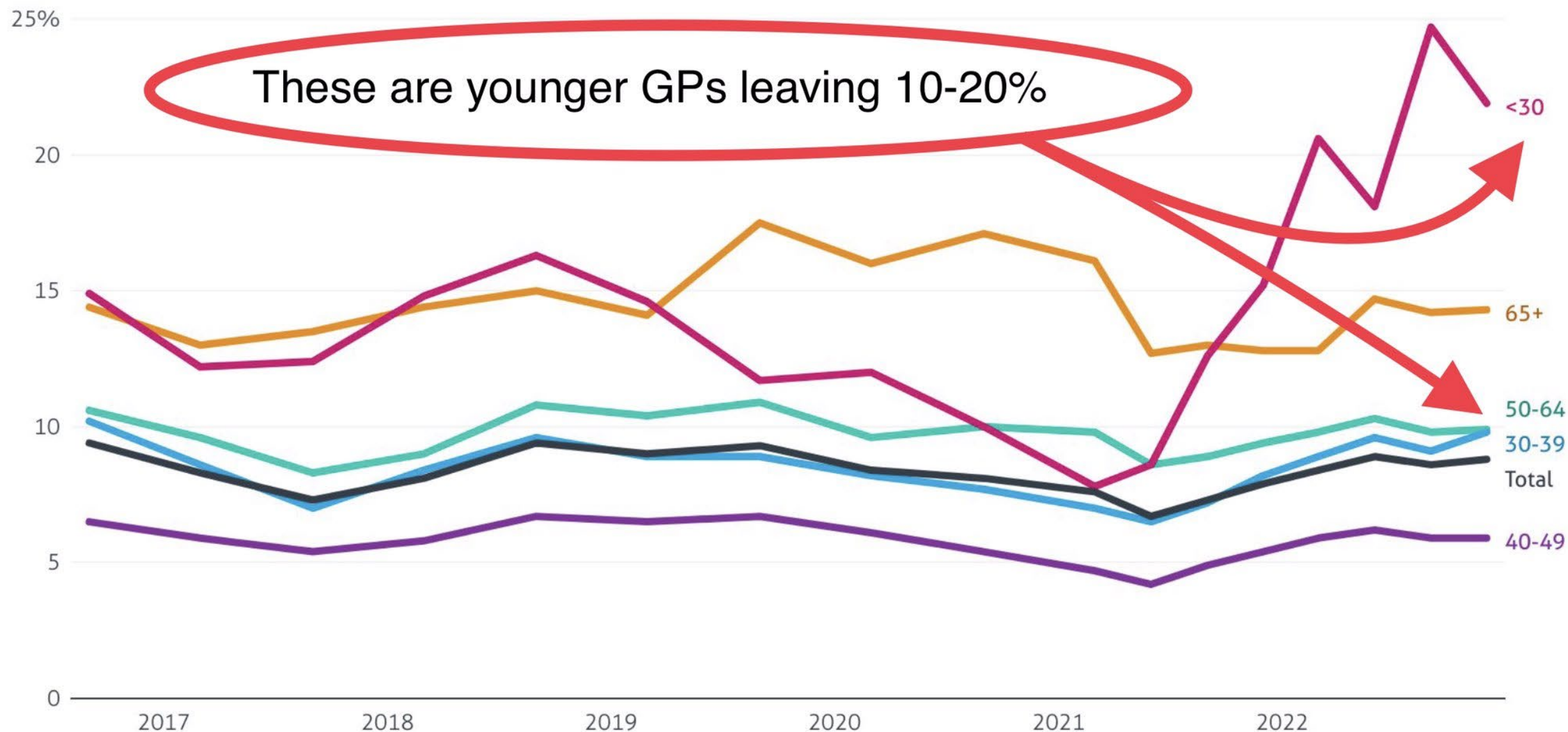
Source: Health Foundation analysis of the Commonwealth Fund's International Health Policy Survey of Primary Care Physicians, 2019 and 2022.

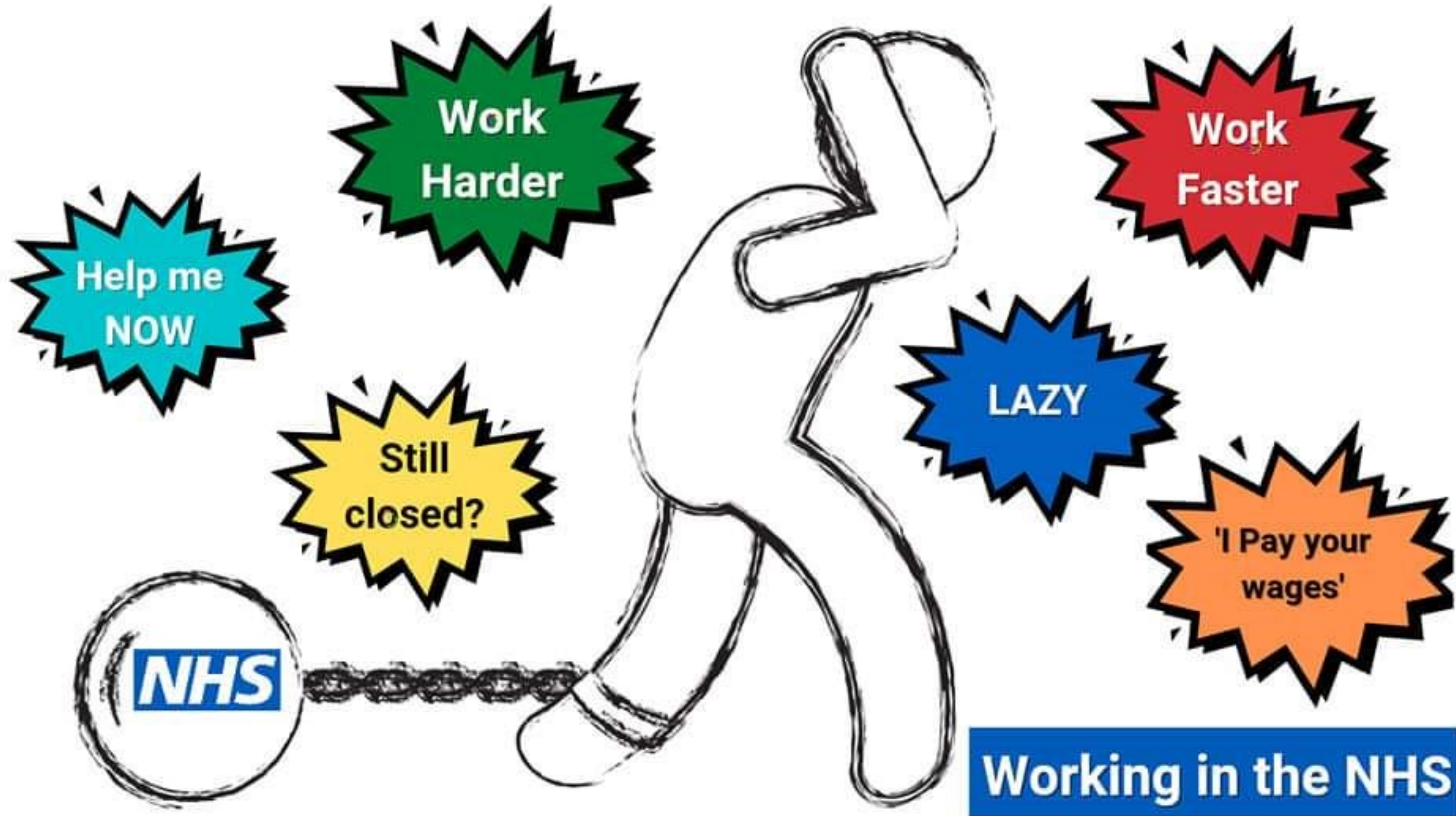
Note: in 2022, the UK was significantly different from all countries except France. See the appendix for 95% confidence intervals.



**Figure 43: Proportion of doctors who joined in 2015 that were licensed on 31 December of each subsequent year**









# General practice change under NHS England

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6,495 (-20%)

Total GP practices in England (change since April 2013)



9,502 (+37%)

Average GP practice list in England (change since April 2013)



45 (-12%)

GPs per 100,000 patients (change since Sept 2015)

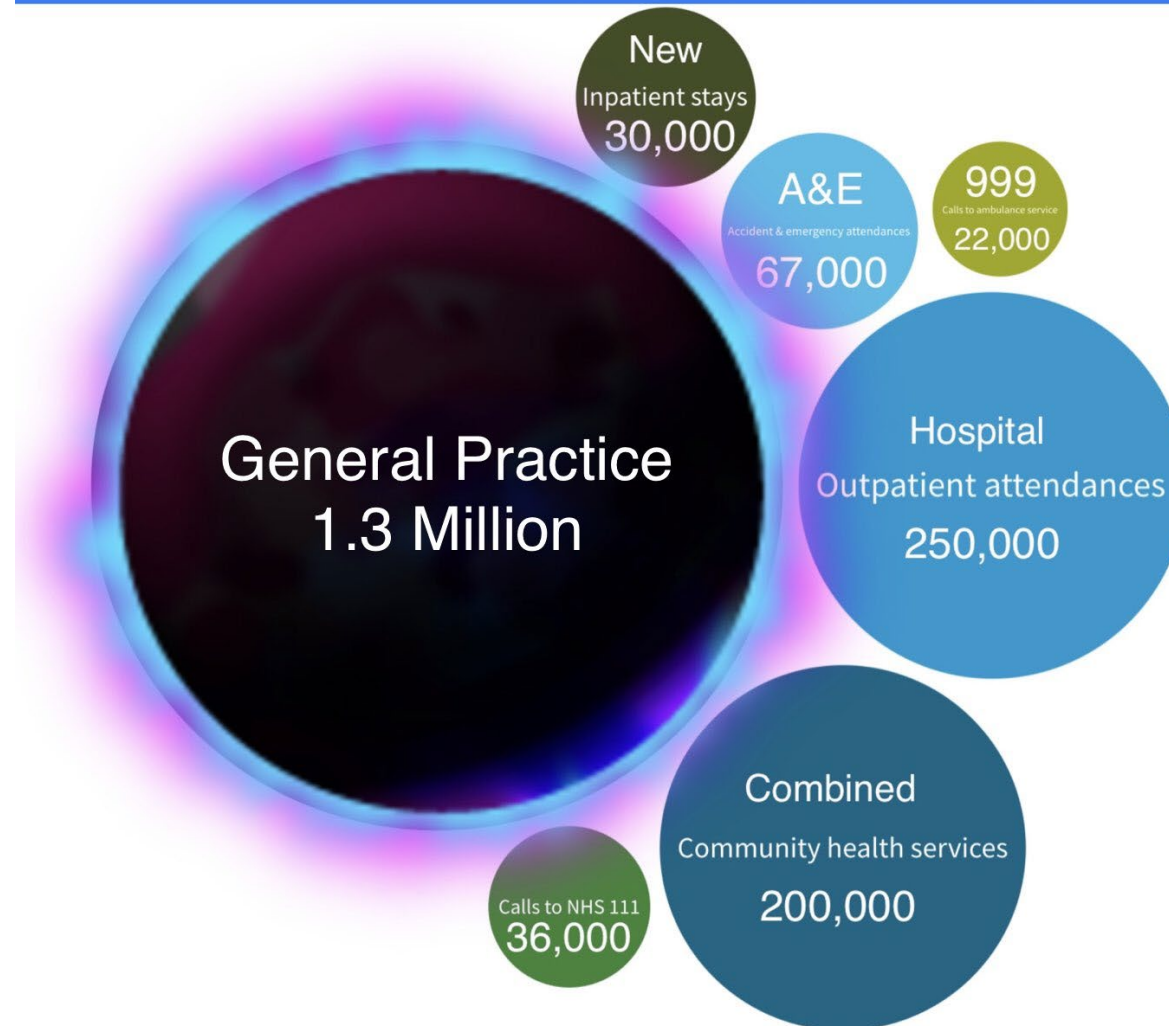


10 (-27%)

GP partners per 100,000 patients (change since Sept 2015)



# EVERYDAY IN THE NHS



Individual patient journeys

# THE MAGIC ROUNDABOUT

LOCAL  
PHARMACY

CALL 111

GP  
NURSE  
PHARMACIST  
HCA

999  
URGENT  
TREATMENT  
CENTRE



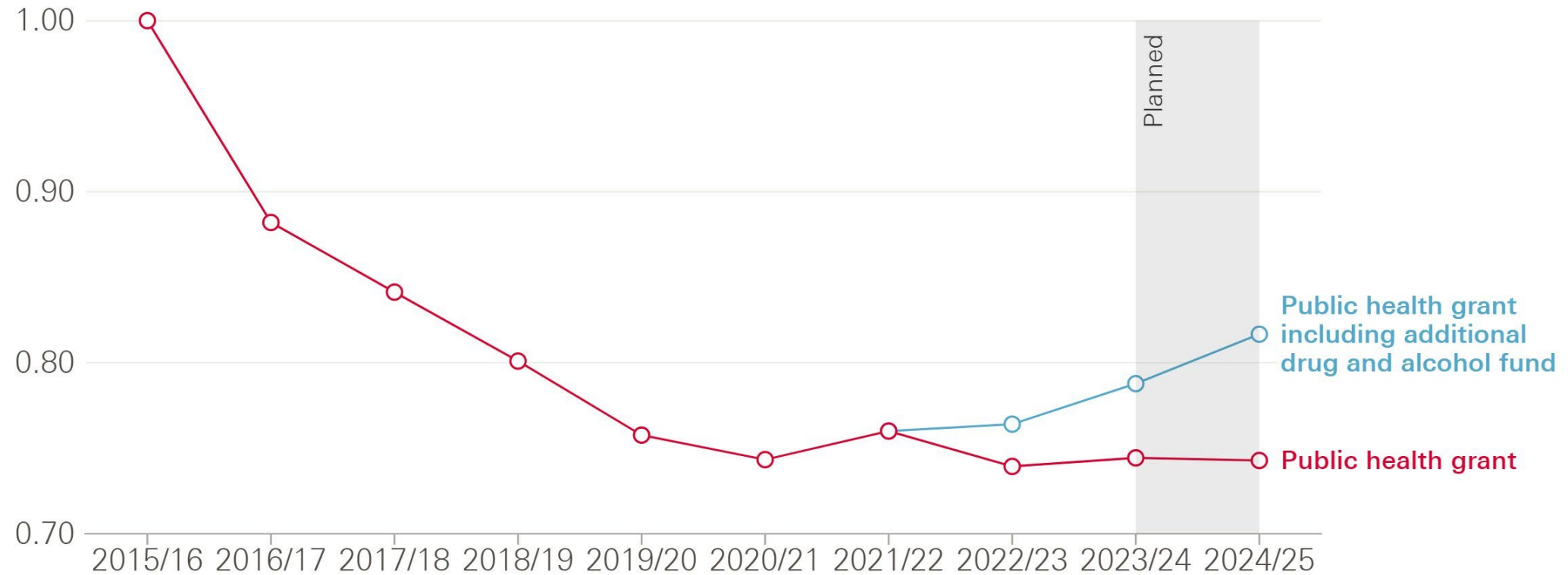
A & E



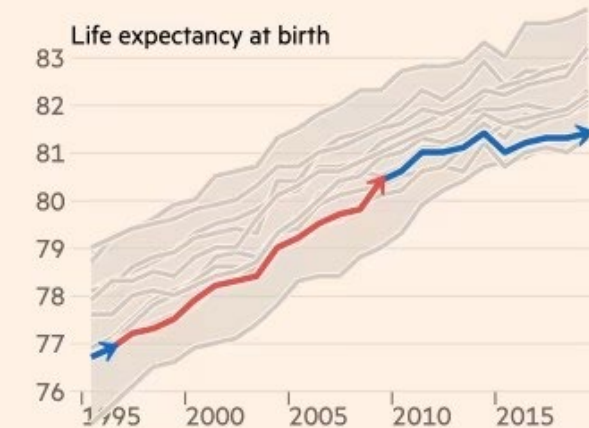
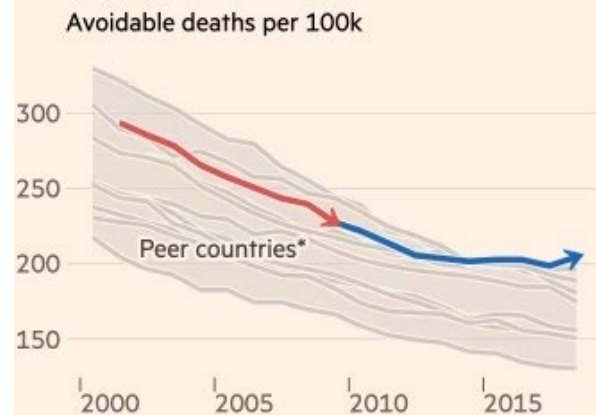
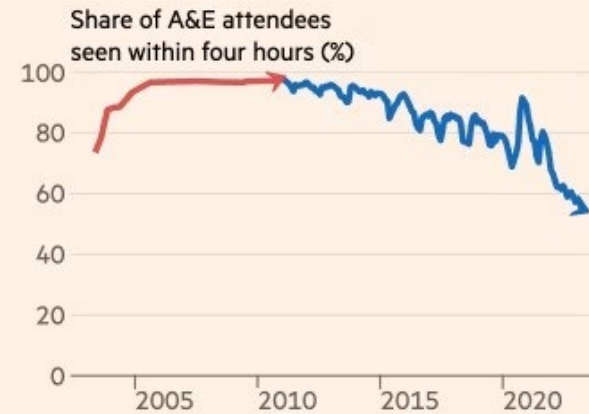
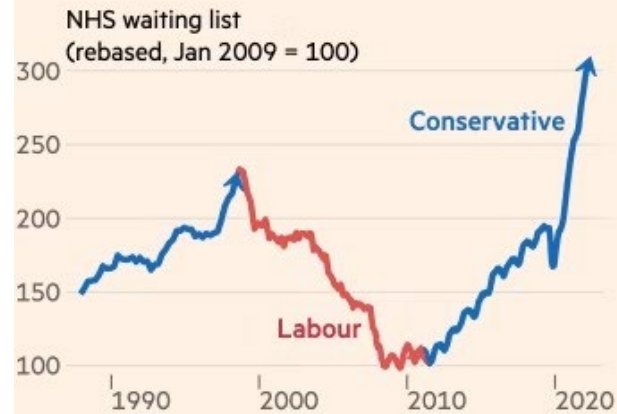


# The public health grant has been cut by over a quarter since 2015/16

Change in public health allocations 2015/16–2023/24: England, real terms per person (GDP deflator)



The impacts have been stark, from ballooning waiting lists and worsening A&E performance, to a rise in avoidable deaths and stalling life expectancy



\*Austria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland

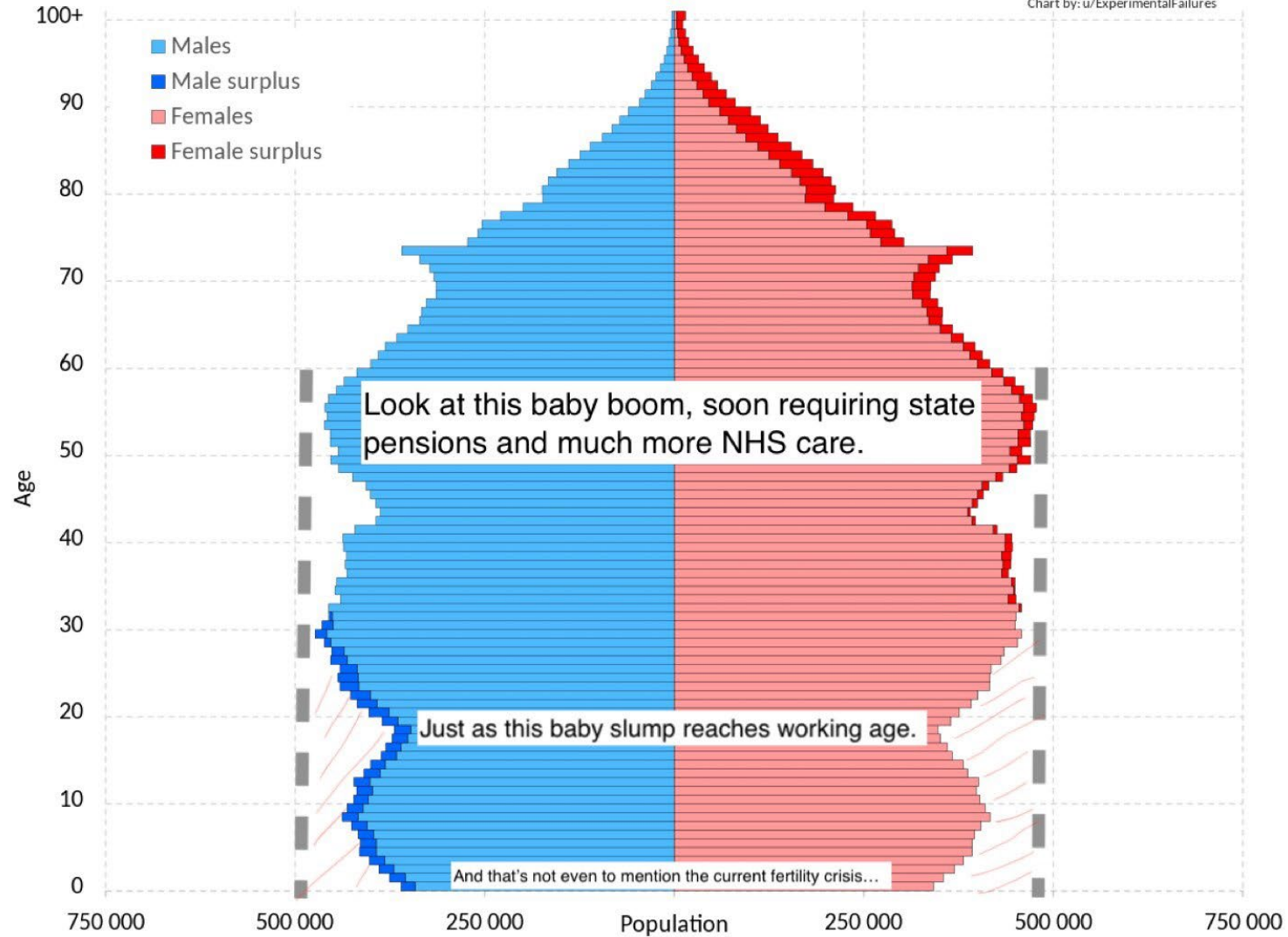
Sources: FT analysis of NHS England, OECD

FT graphic: John Burn-Murdoch / @jburnmurdoch

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## United Kingdom - Mid 2020

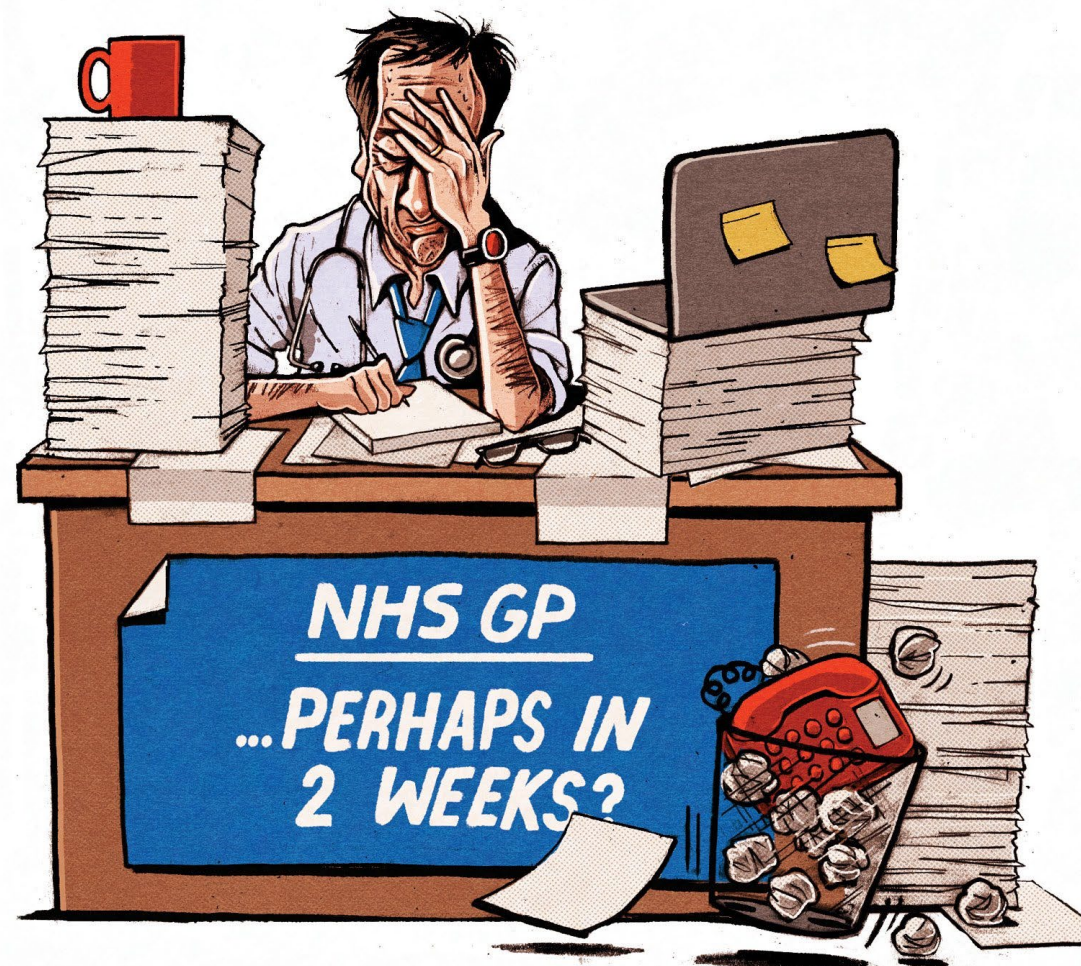
Source data: Office for National Statistics  
90+ age distribution estimated  
Chart by: u/ExperimentalFailures





# Babylon Health – GP at Hand

- 100,000 patients (London)
- Younger, fitter, more IT savvy patients
- Withdrawn from GP practices in Birmingham (run with local Trust)
- Losing \$63.2 Million a quarter
- Billion in investment
- Shareholders sidelined 11/5/23
- Declared NHS GP as “unprofitable”



# Where next?

- GPCE negotiating a new contract (likely 2 years)
- Survey of the profession on potential action/mood (likely this year)
- Core/workforce/safety/future
- “Plan B”
- Wellbeing and workload restriction
- Report workload effectively
- Retention



"It will last as long as there are folk  
left with the faith to fight for it"



