



UCL Institute of Health Equity



The Health Gap

Professor Sir Michael Marmot

**Commissione Igiene e Sanità
del Senato della Repubblica**

Rome

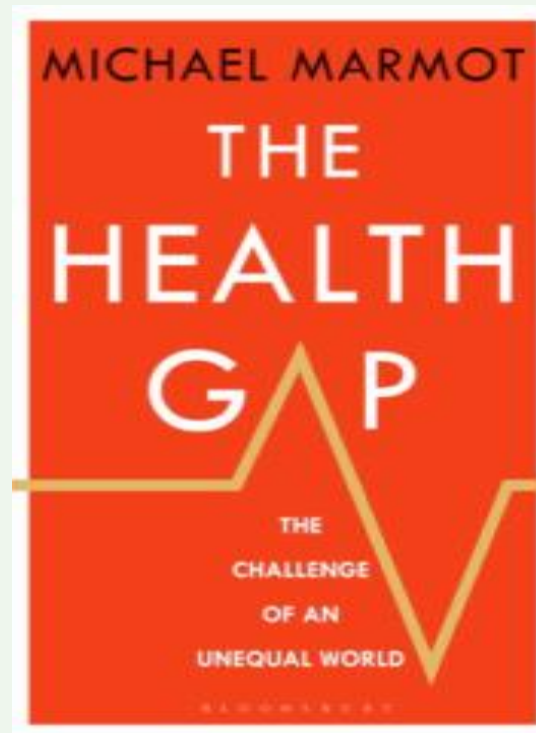
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@MichaelMarmot

www.instituteoftheequity.org



Why treat people and send them back to the conditions that made them sick?





It's Newtonian (well, almost)

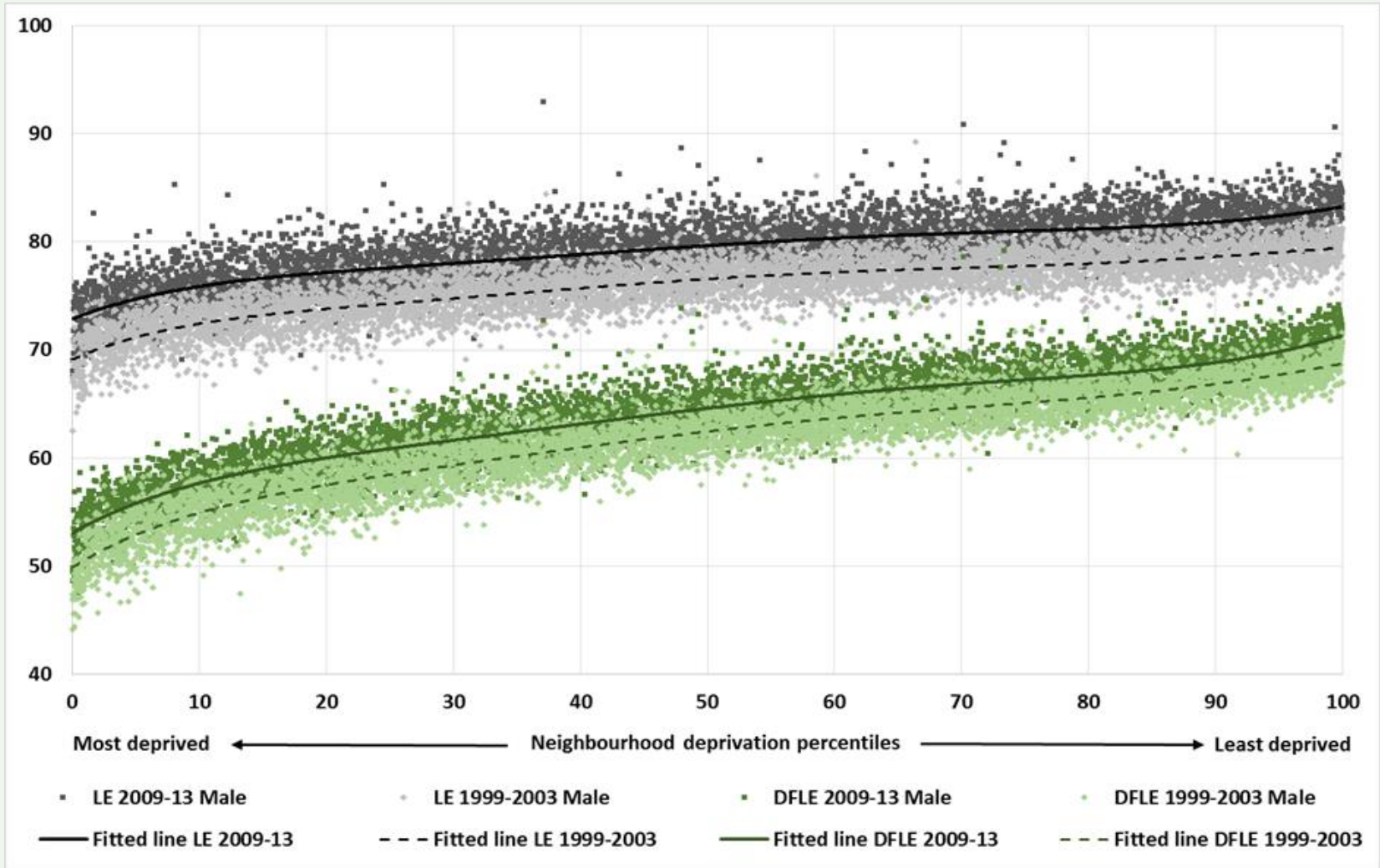
Demand

Funding

Quality of care

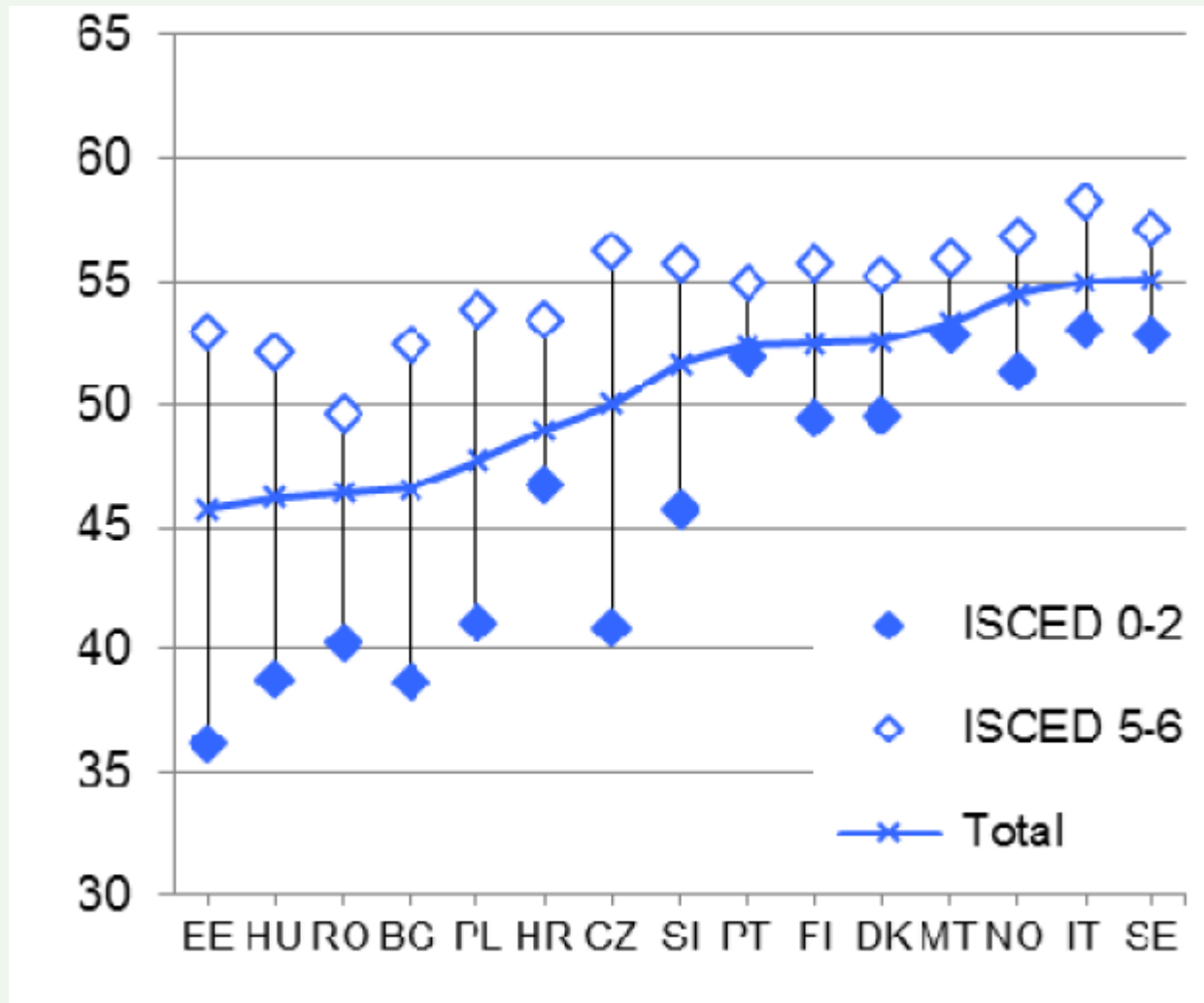


Life expectancy and disability free life expectancy, males - based on 2011 Census

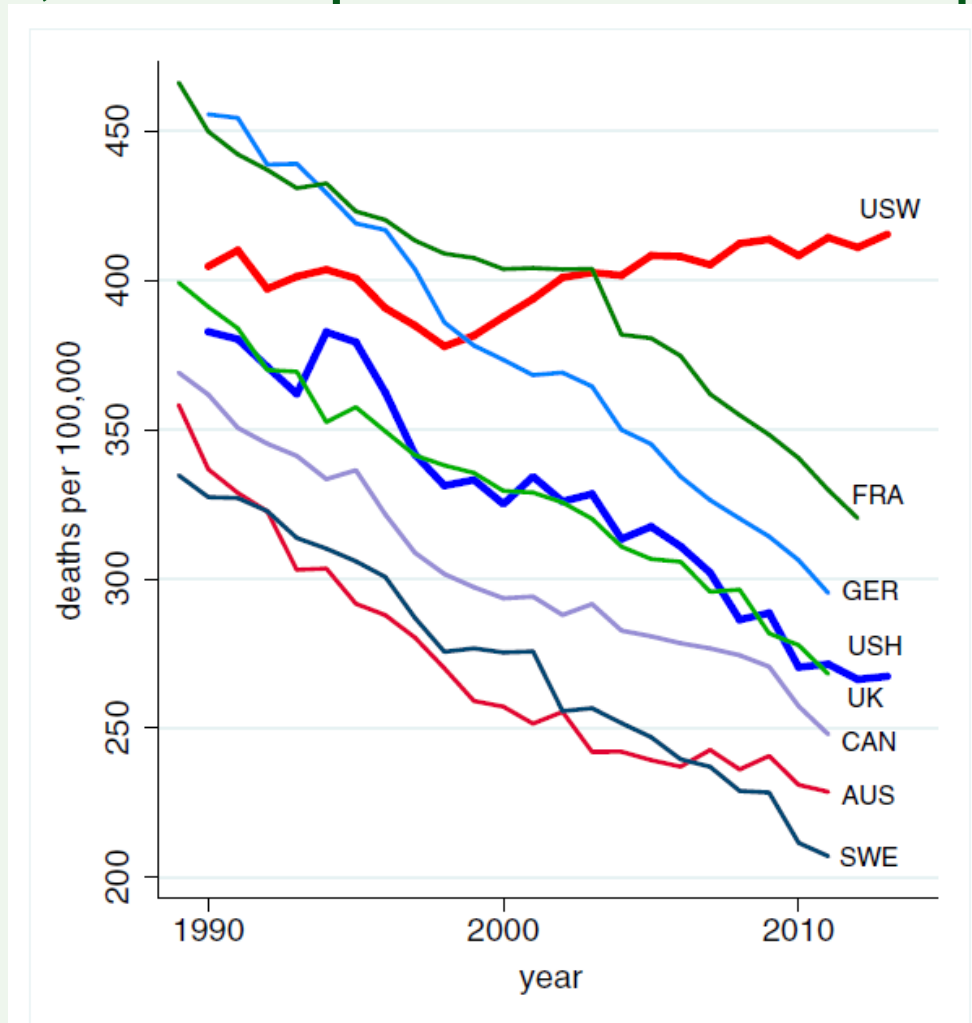


Life expectancy and disability-free life expectancy (DFLE) at birth, males by neighborhood deprivation, England, 1999–2003 and 2009–2013

Life expectancy at age 25 by education, men



All-cause mortality, ages 45–54 for US White non-Hispanics, US Hispanics, US Hispanics and 6 comparison countries

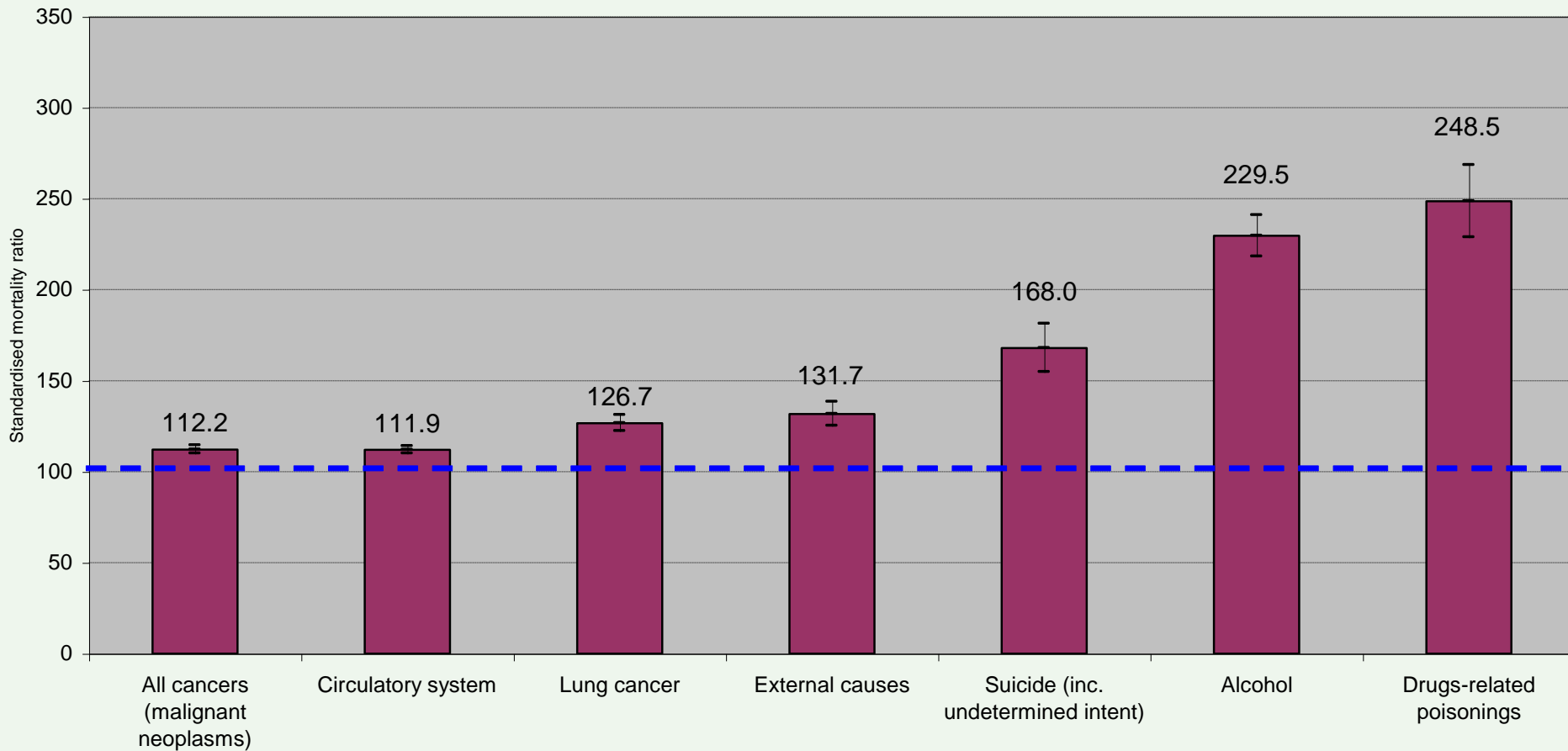


US White non-Hispanics (USW),
US Hispanics (USH),
France (FRA),
Germany (GER),
United Kingdom (UK),
Canada (CAN),
Australia (AUS),
Sweden (SWE).



SMRs by cause, all ages: Glasgow relative to Liverpool & Manchester

All ages, both sexes: cause-specific standardised mortality ratios 2003-07, Glasgow relative to Liverpool & Manchester, standardised by age, sex and deprivation decile
Calculated from various sources



Health improvement in difficult times

- A major element of the excess risk of premature death is psychosocially determined
- Study evidence of low sense of control, self efficacy and self esteem in population in these areas

H. Burns, former CMO

The mind is gateway by which social determinants affect ill-health.

- Mental illness and well-being.
- Psychosocial pathways to physical illness
 - Behaviours
 - Stress pathways

Jimmy, Calton, Glasgow

- Single mother with succession of partners; physical and ? sexual abuse
- Behaviour problems at school entry
- Delinquency; known to police: gangs and violence
- never had a 'proper' job – temporary manual work
- any money Jimmy gets goes into drink and drugs;
- Diet of pub food, fast food and alcohol.
- a series of short-term girlfriends, alcohol-fuelled violent behaviour.
- Jimmy's life expectancy less than Indian average.

Lifecourse

So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.

-F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*



Fair Society: Healthy Lives: some areas for concern

A. Give every child the best start in life

- **Funding issues, child poverty**

B. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives

- **Skills training, NEETS, whole school approaches**

C. Create fair employment and good work for all

- **Youth unemployment, contract workers, insecure employment, involuntary part-time working, ALMP policies**

D. Ensure healthy standard of living for all

- **Minimum income standard, minimum wages, benefit caps**

E. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities

- **Green policies, social isolation, housing**

F. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention

- **Cost inflation, resource allocation, demographic pressures**

Fair Society: Healthy Lives: some areas for concern

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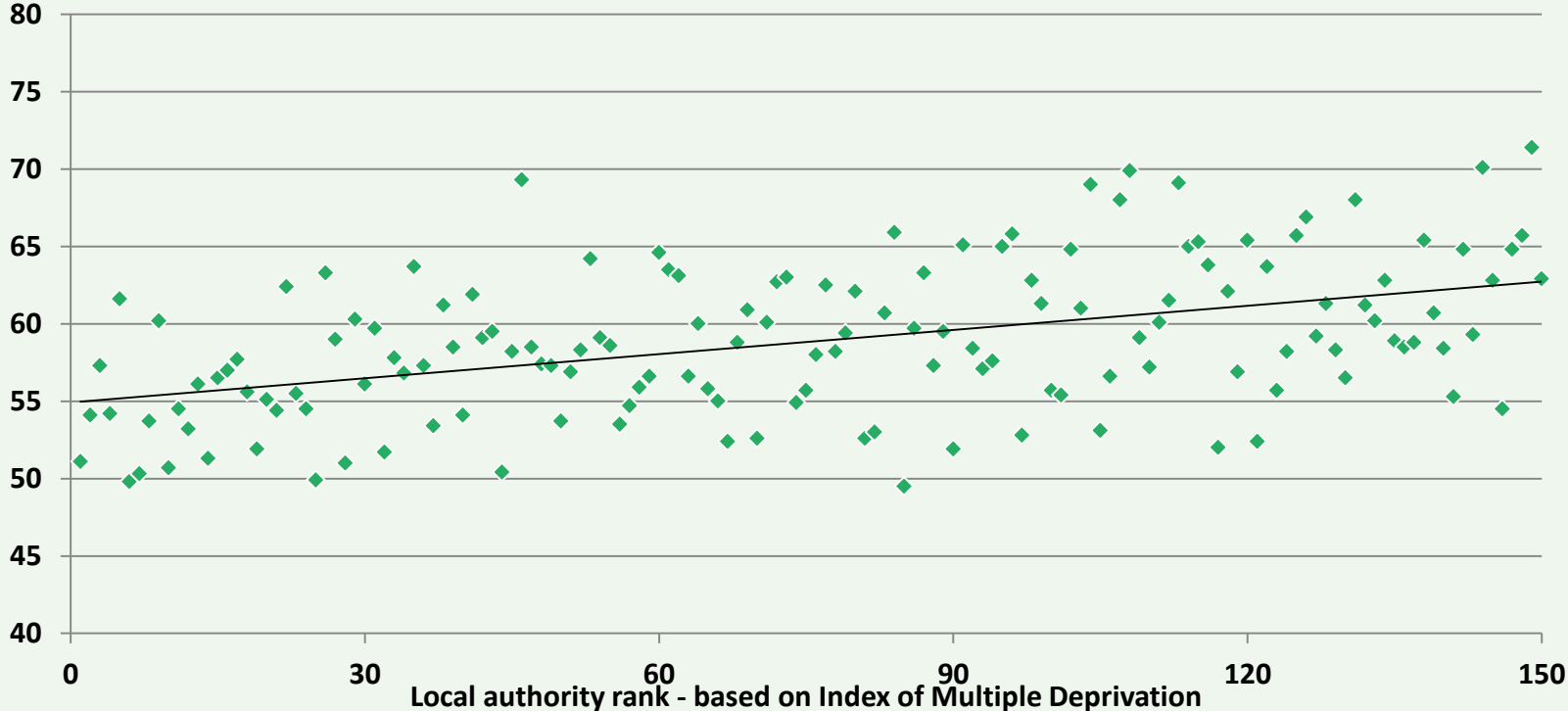
- **Funding issues, child poverty**



Children achieving a good level of development at age five, local authorities 2011: England

Good level
of development
at age 5

%



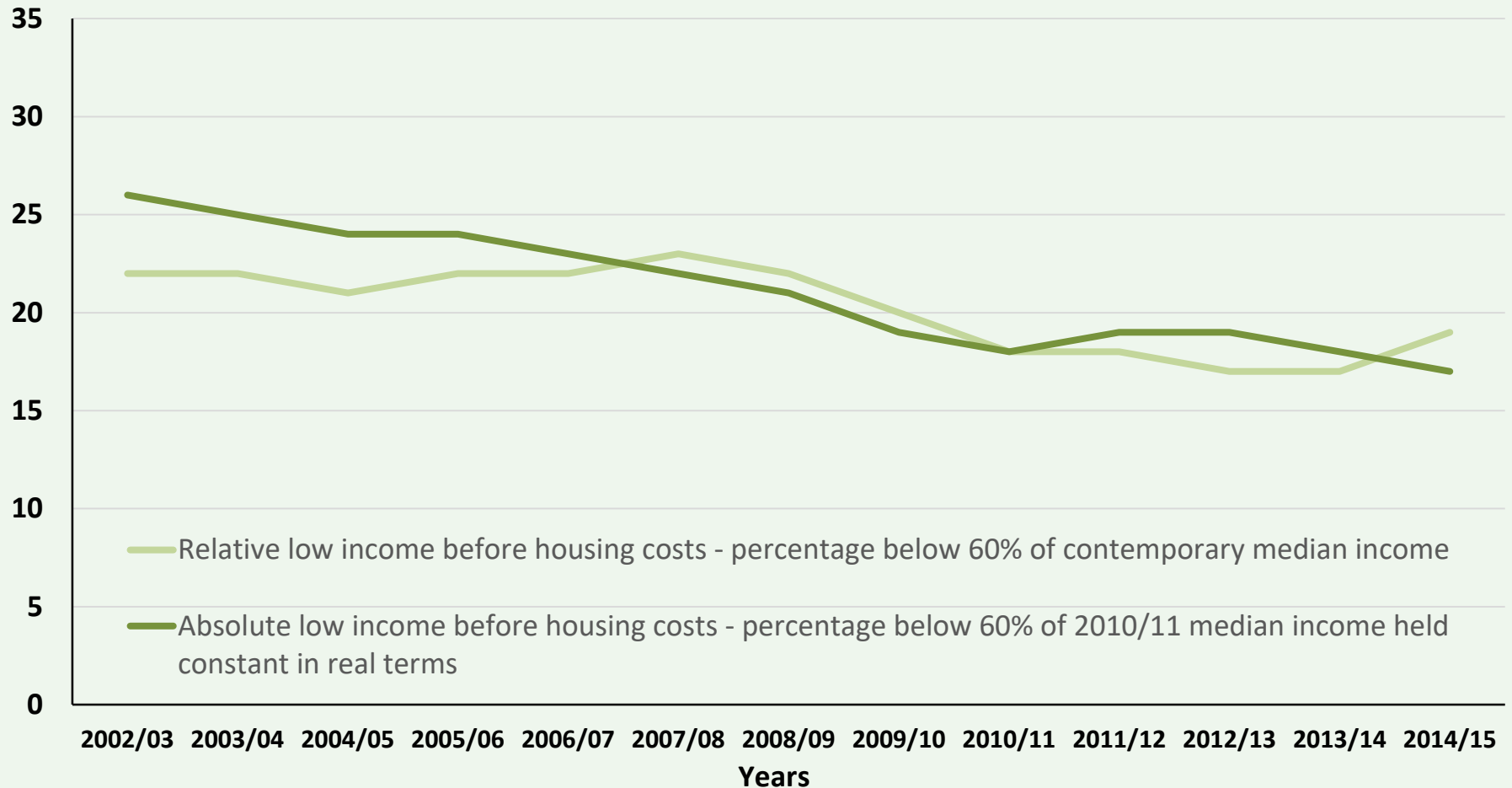
Source: LHO (2012)

Level of development at end of reception

England and selected local authority areas	Level of development at age 5, 2013/14		
	All pupils (%)	FSM pupils (%)	Gap between all and FSM pupils (percentage point)
England	60.4	44.8	15.6
Hackney	64.9	60.7	4.2
Bath and North East Somerset	62.5	33	29.5

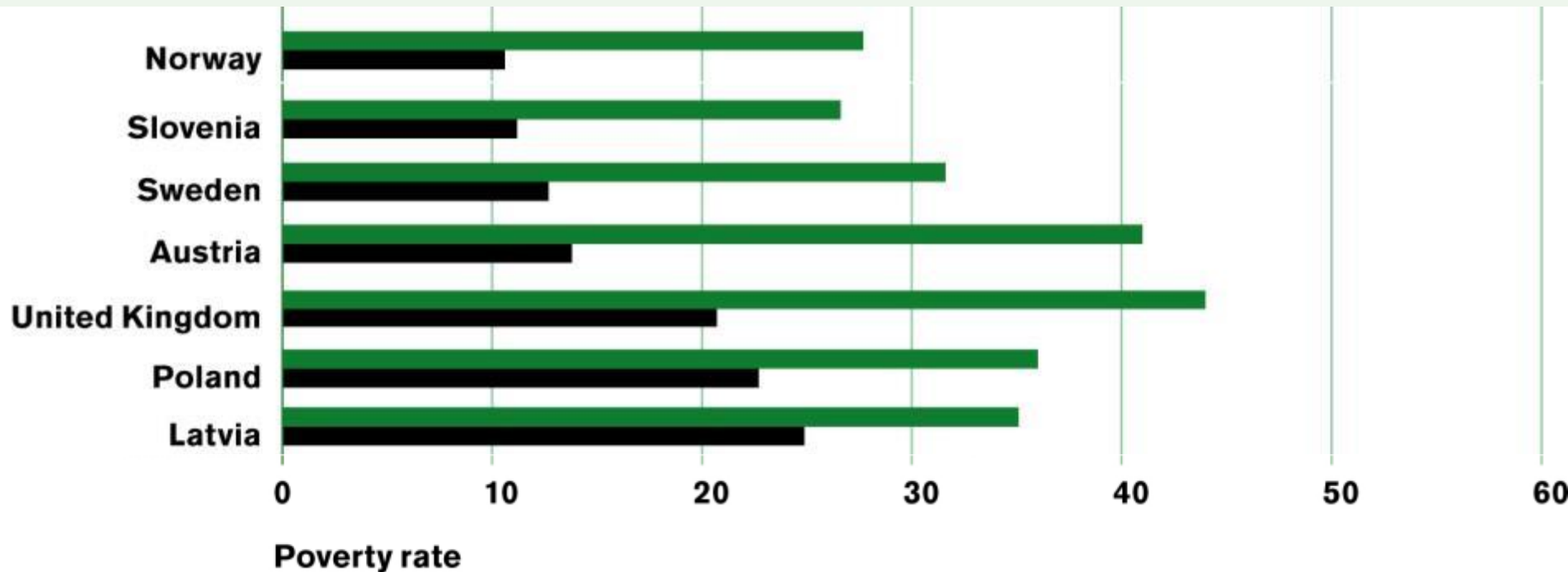
Children in relative and absolute low income before housing costs 2002/3 to 2014/15

Percent of children





Child poverty rates before and after transfers, ranked by after-transfer rate, EU-SILC 2009

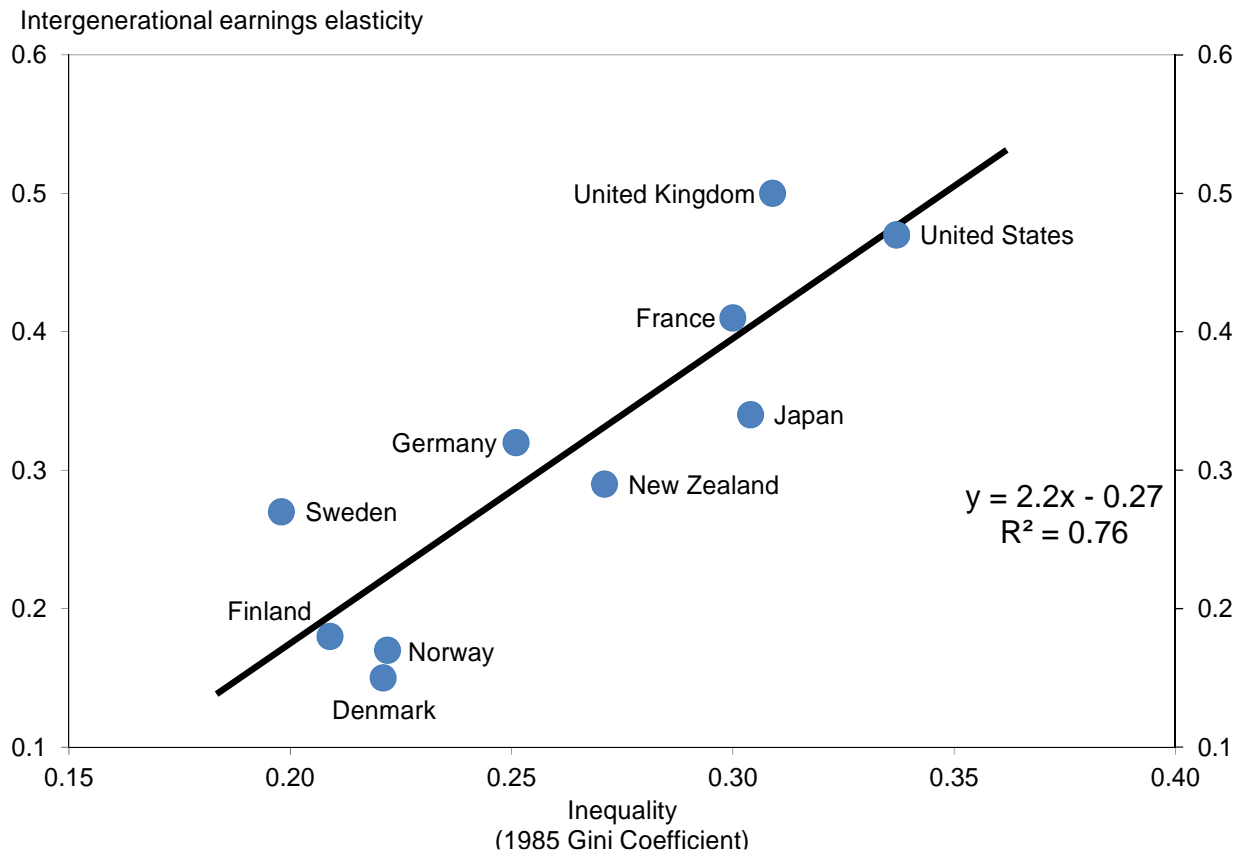


■ Before social transfers

■ After social transfers



Higher income inequality associated with lower intergenerational mobility



Source: Corak (2011), OECD, CEA estimates

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Within country maths results by quarters of ESCS (economic social and cultural status), PISA, 2013



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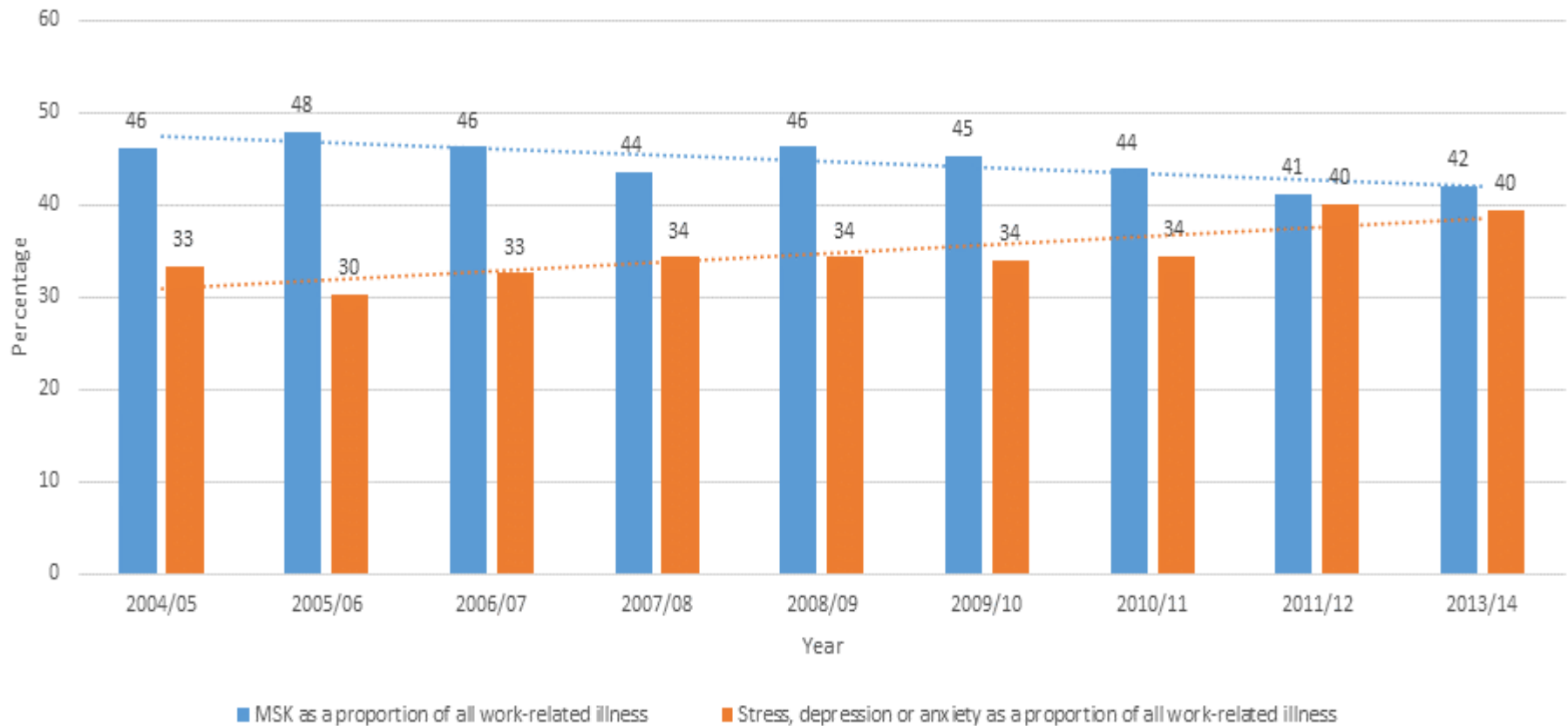
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C. Create fair employment and good work for all

- Youth unemployment, contract workers, insecure employment, involuntary part-time working, ALMP policies

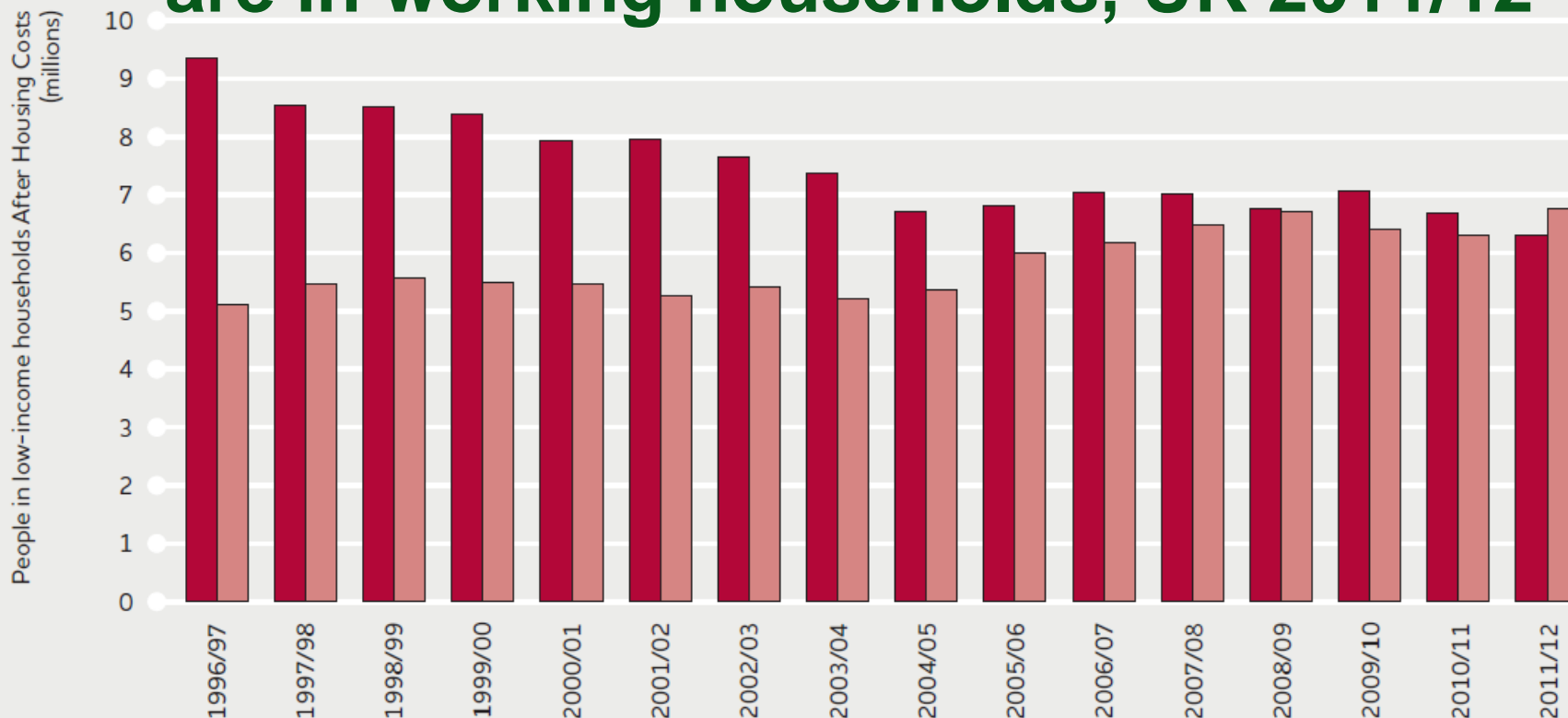
Good quality work

Musculoskeletal disorders, and stress, depression or anxiety as a proportion of all work-related ill health, 2004/05 - 2013/14





6.7 million of the 13 million people in poverty are in working households, UK 2011/12



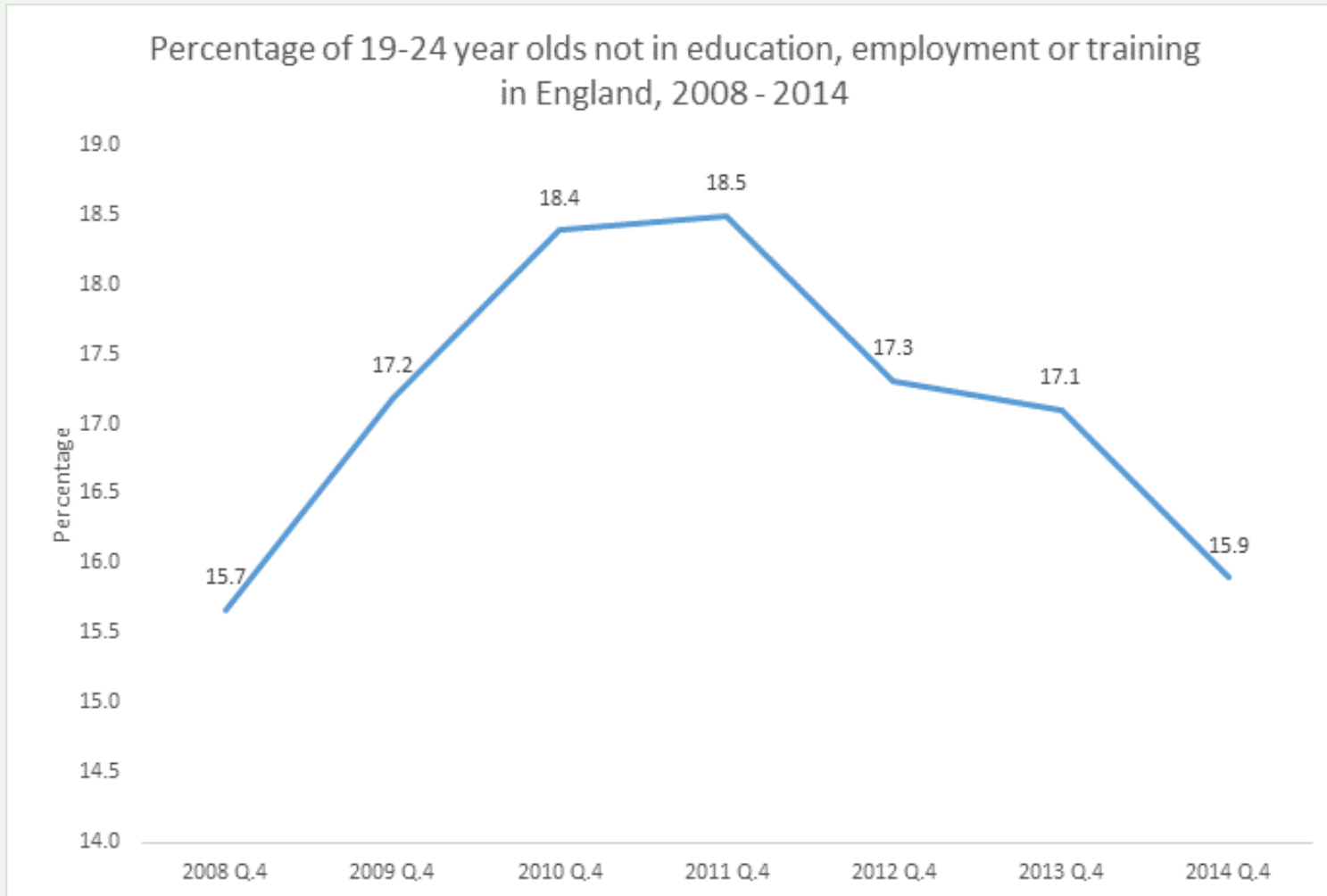
Source: Households Below Average Income, DWP; the data is for the UK

Workless working-age or retired Working

(JRF 2013 using DWP data)



NEETS – not in education, employment or training.



Proportion of NEETS highest in the North East (around 1 in 5) and lowest in the South West and London (12.9% and 13.5% respectively).

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Chart 1: Change in real household income by percentile point: 2007–08 to 2020–21 [[Download the data in Excel](#)]

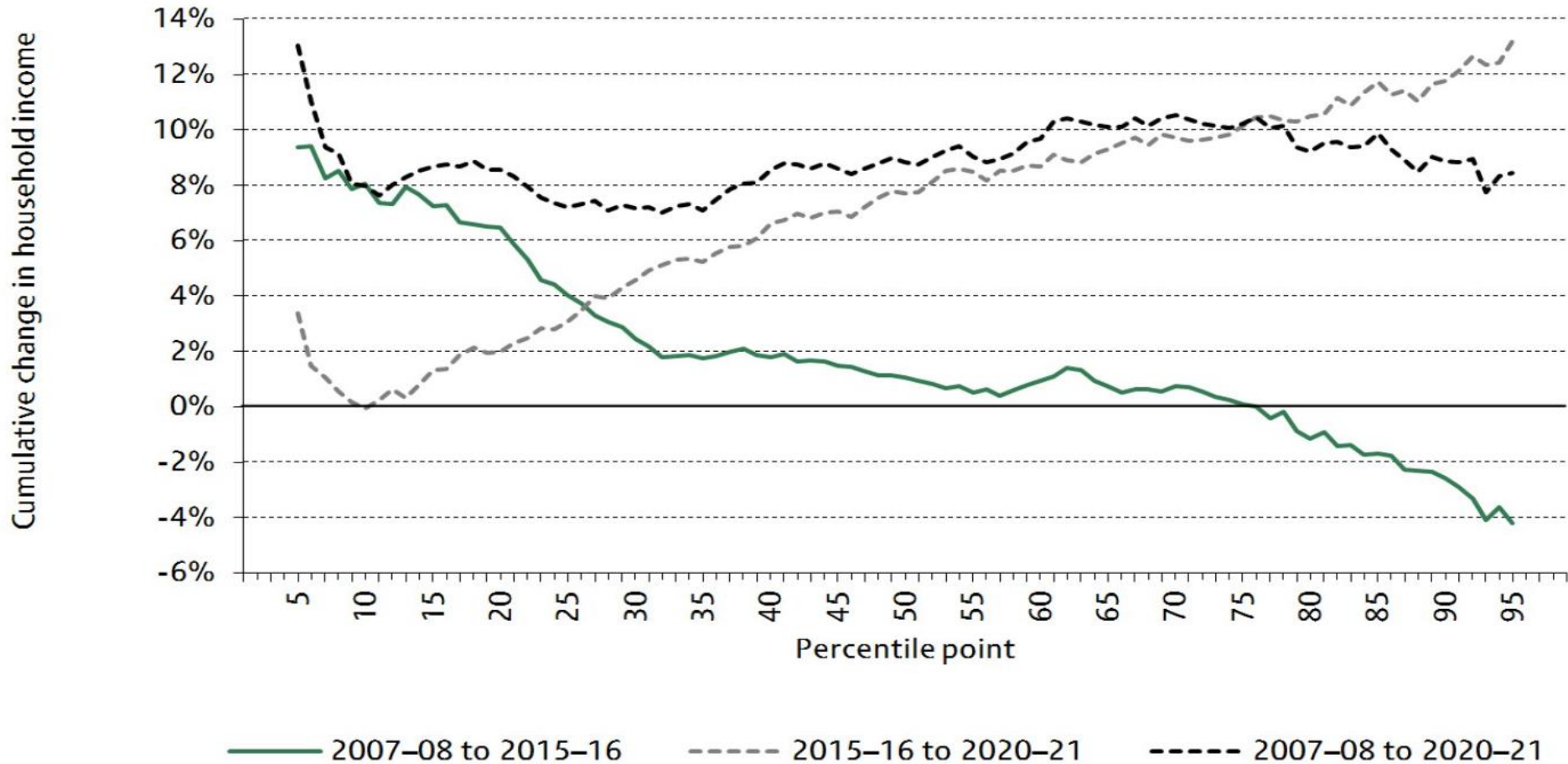


Chart 2: Median income by age: 2007-08 to 2015-16 (2007-08 = 100)

[\[Download the data in Excel\]](#)

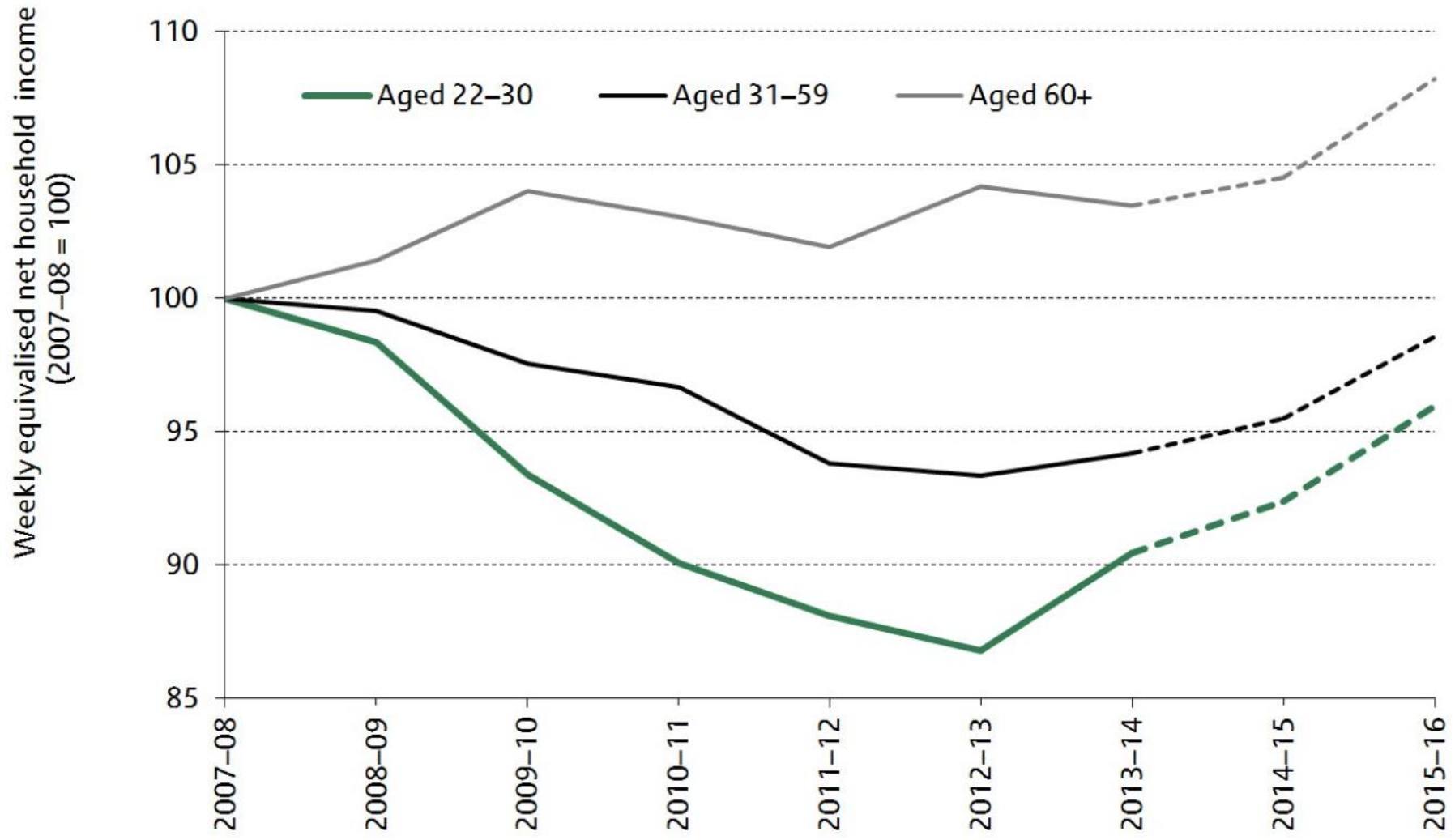
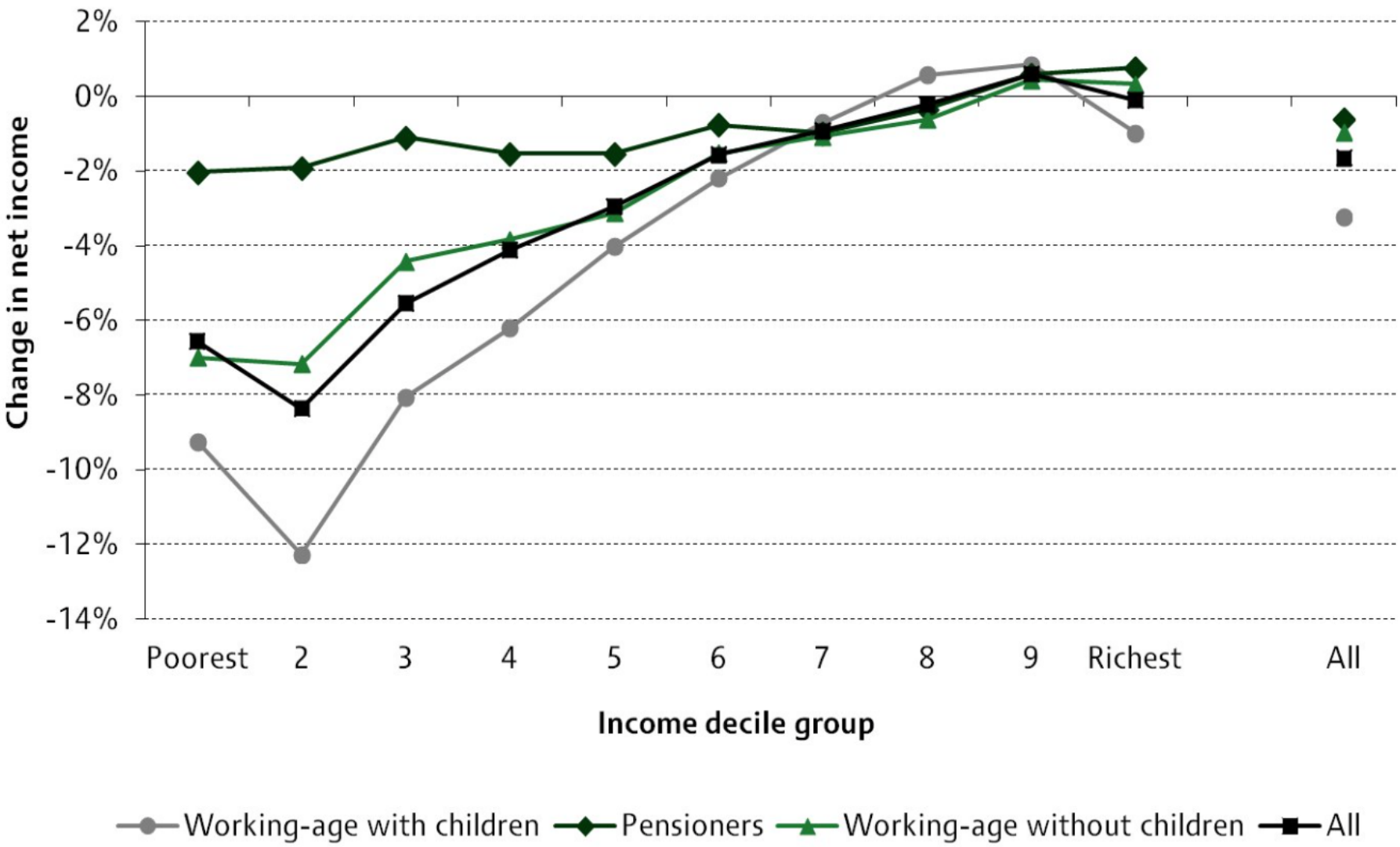
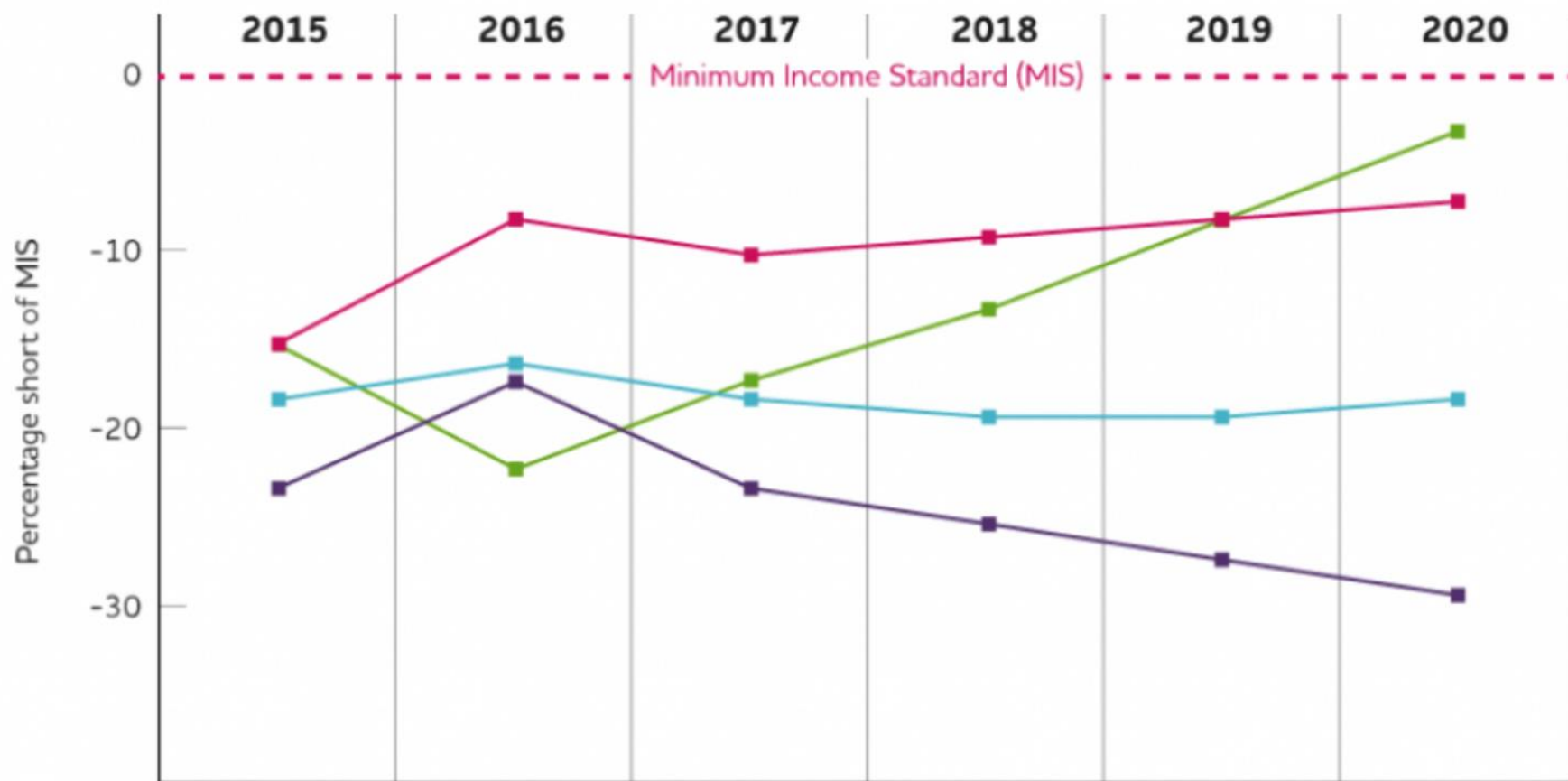


Chart 4: Long-run impact of tax and benefit reforms introduced between May 2015 and April 2019 by income decile and household type (including universal credit) [[Download the data in Excel](#)]



Will people earning the national living wage be closer to affording the Minimum Income Standard in 2020?



Childless person aged 25+ working **full time** on NLW



Lone parent with one child aged under 2, working **full time** on NLW



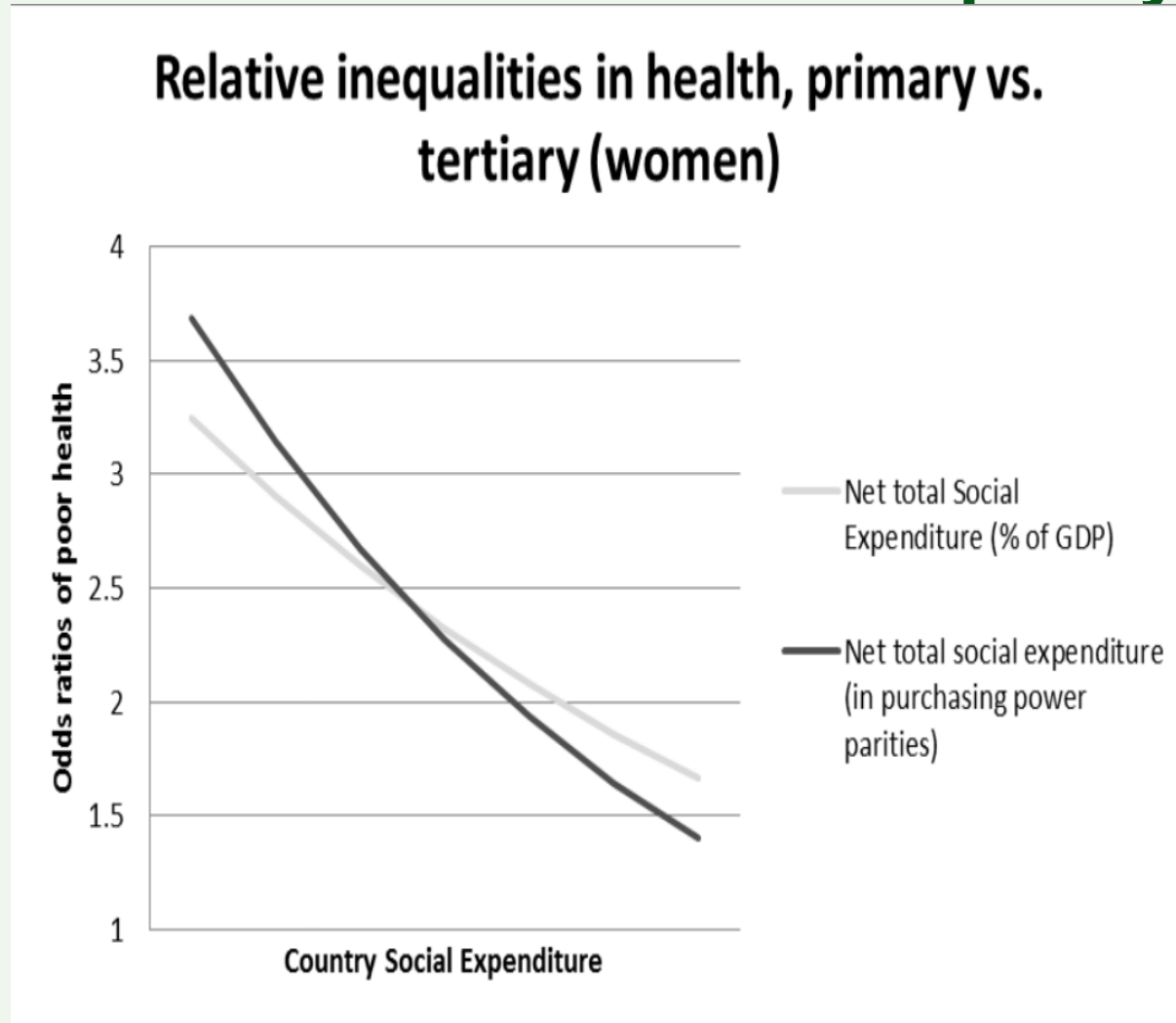
Couple with two children (one pre-school, one primary) one adult working **full time** on NLW, one **part time** on NLW



Couple, both working **full time** on NLW, with two children, pre-school and primary age

NLW = national living wage

Shocking news: Welfare spending improves health and reduces inequality



Source:
Lundberg et
al 2012

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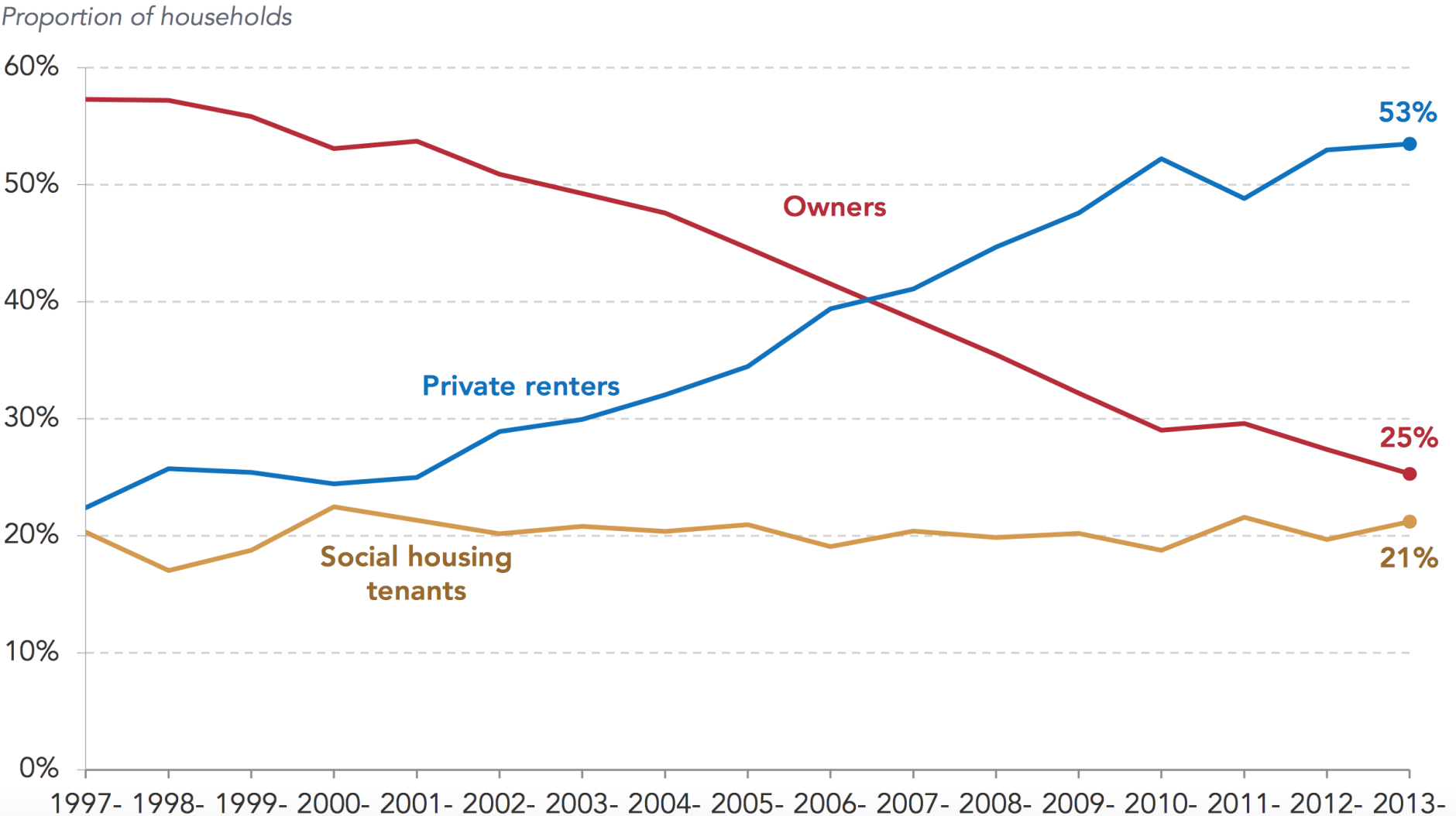


Local authority cuts 2009-10 to 2014-15

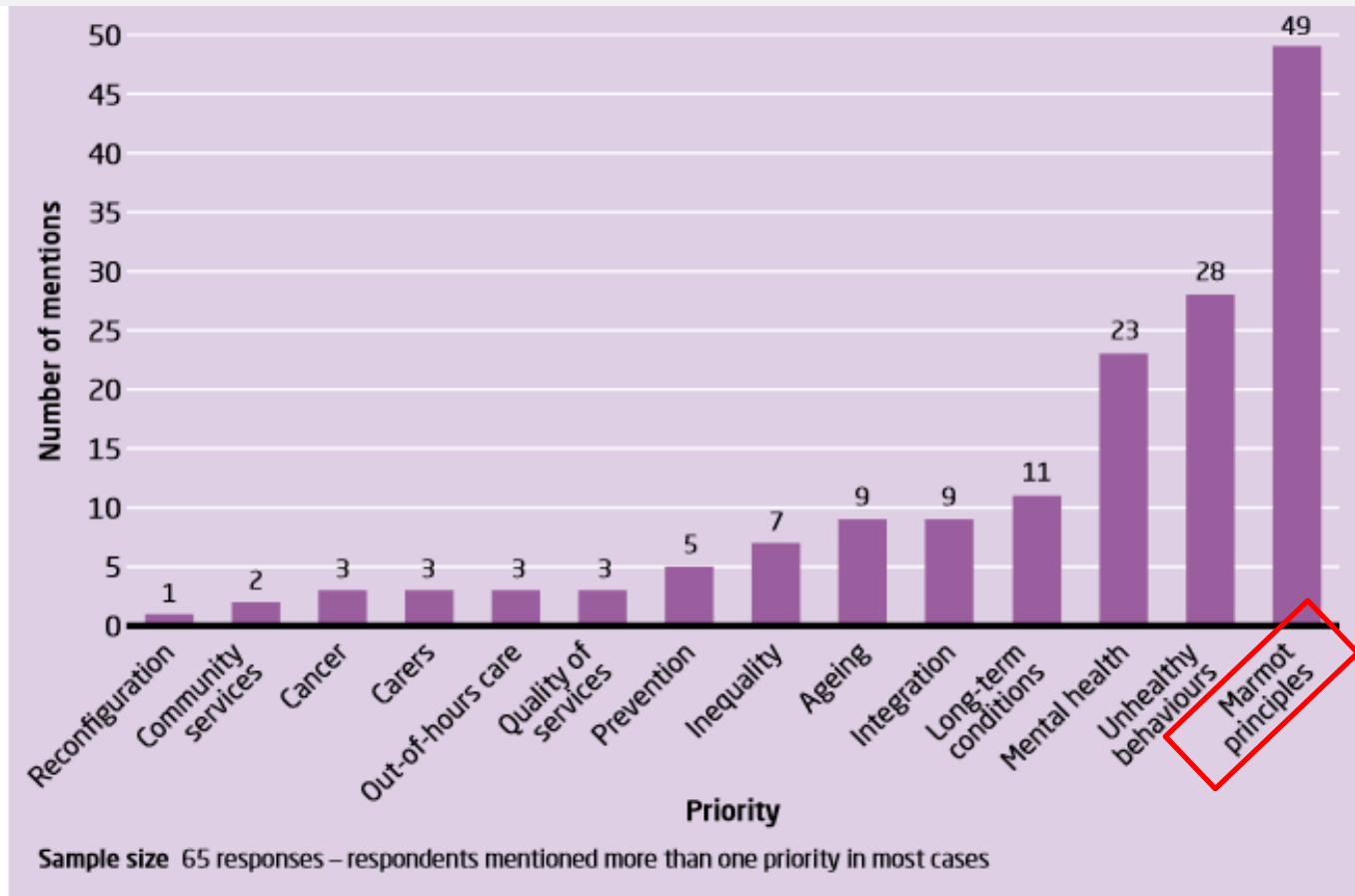
- 23% cuts in the spending power of local authorities - after accounting for inflation and population growth
- Net spending per capita on social care cut by 17% in real terms
- Central government grants cut by 39% per person in real terms
- On average cuts were greatest in areas with a high level of spending need relative to revenue-raising capacity and those with faster population growth.

Housing tenure UK 1997-2014 aged under 35

Figure 25: Change in tenure among low to middle income households aged under-35: UK 1997-98 - 2013-14



Health and wellbeing Boards one year on – what priorities have been agreed?



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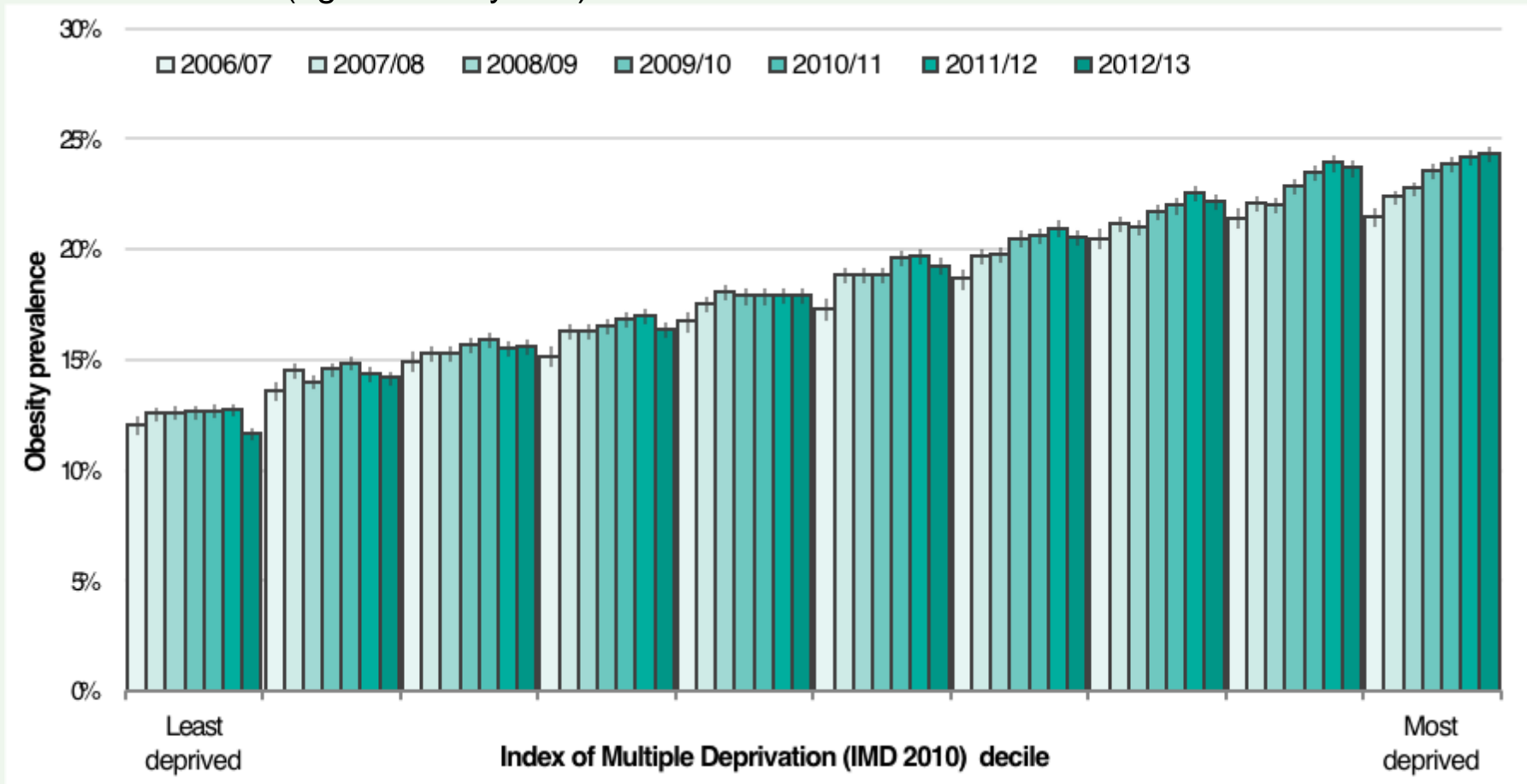
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Inequalities in childhood obesity are increasing in England: Obesity prevalence by deprivation decile 2006/7 to 2012/13

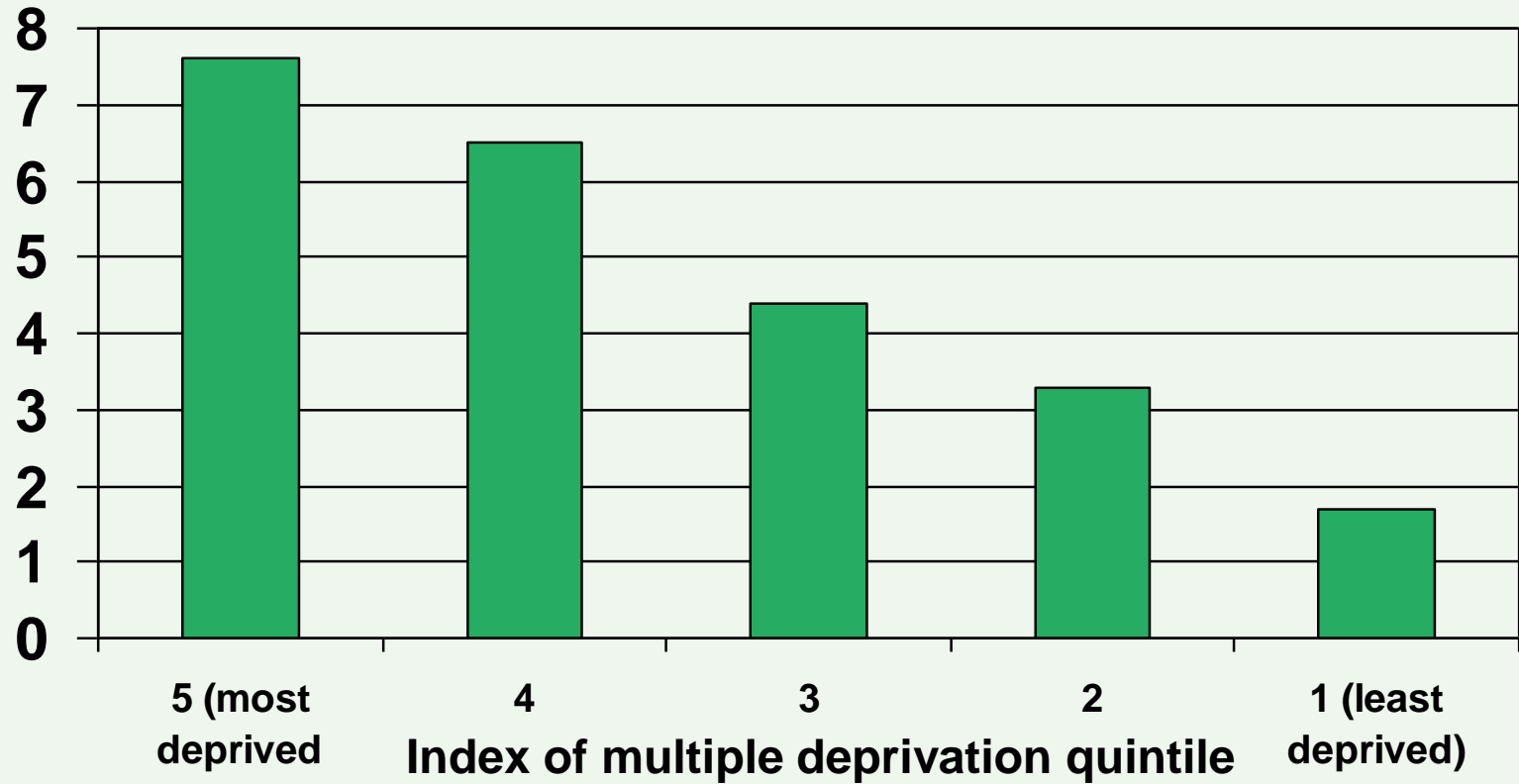
Children in Year 6 (aged 10-11 years)



Child obesity: BMI \geq 95th centile of the UK90 growth reference

Fast food chains more common in deprived areas: England and Scotland

■ Mean number of fast food outlets* per 100000 people



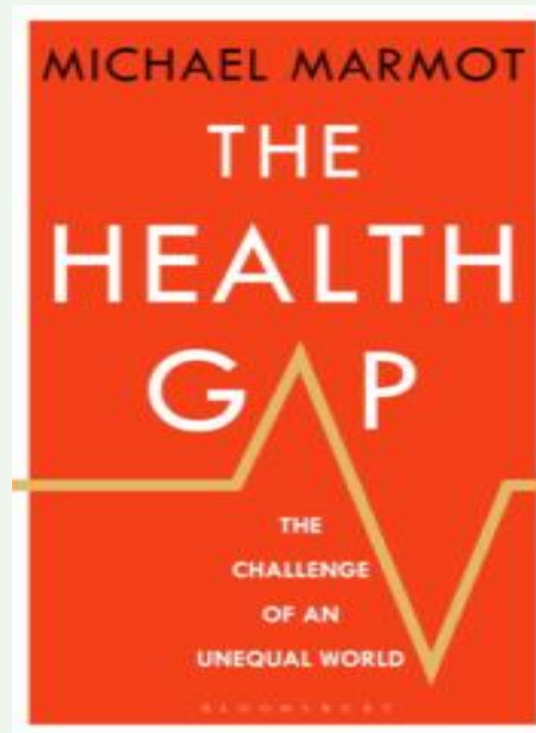
(*McDonald's, Burger King, KFC and Pizza Hut)

Lifestyles and eating: England

- Only 18% of people have one or more meals a day at their table;
- Nearly two thirds of people eat at their table less than once a week;
- 30% of households use their table for meals barely a few times a year;
- 3% have no table.



Why treat people and send them back to the conditions that made them sick?



My two messages in a world of post-fact politics

- Evidence-based policy
- Spirit of social justice

Remember: We said that

“Social injustice is killing on a grand scale”

Martin Luther King

