

# NatCen

Social Research that works for society

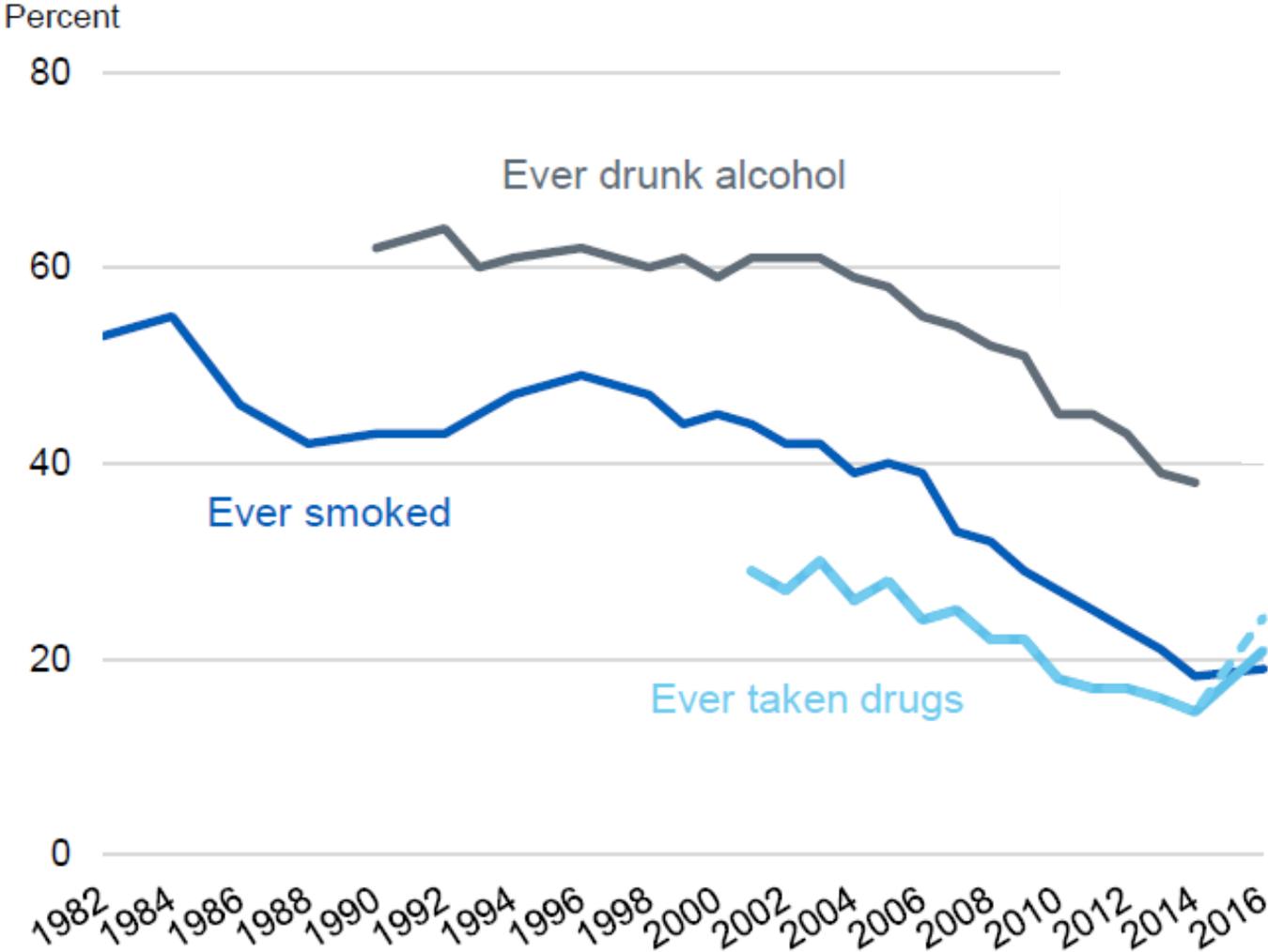


# Surveys in the time of Covid-19

Sally McManus, National Centre for Social Research  
City, University of London

Society Watch 2021 Mental Health 29/4/2021

# Common-sense assumptions: Kids nowadays eh?



NHS  
Digital

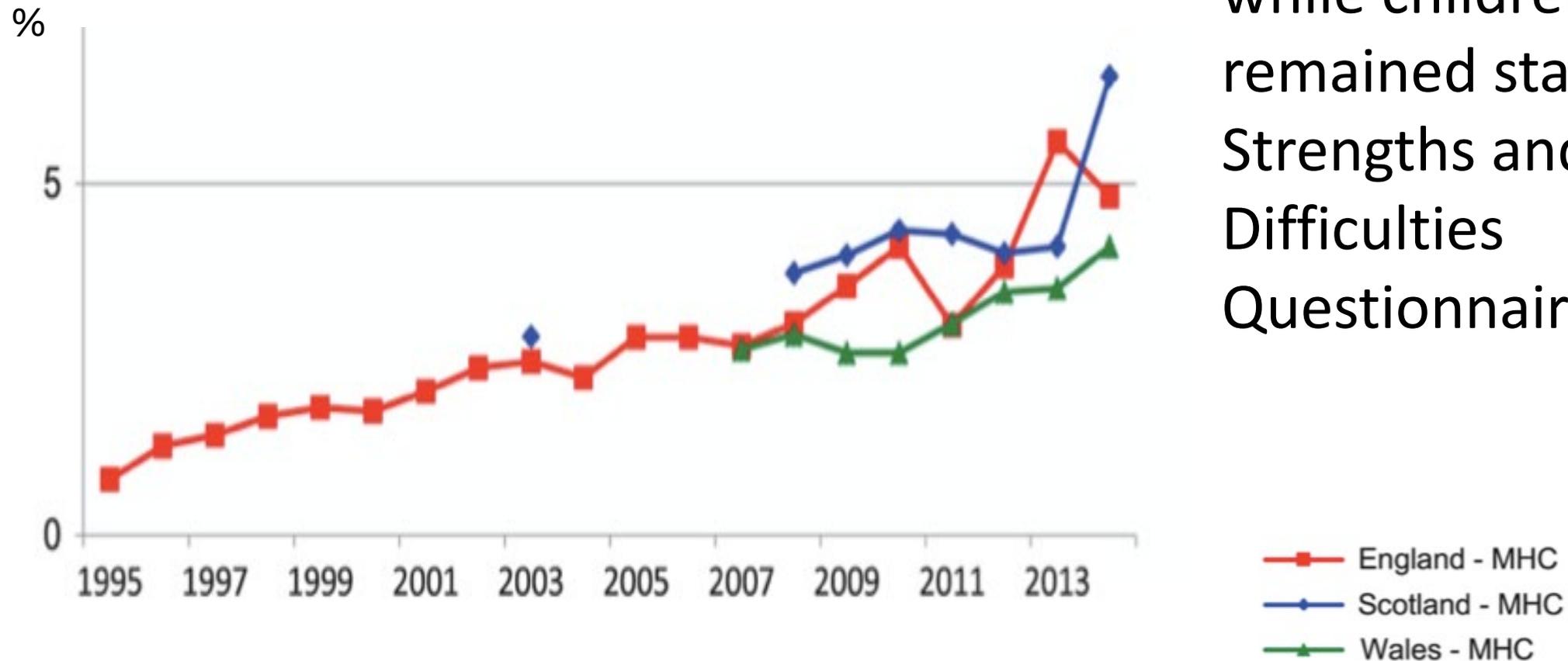
## Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people

England: 2016

Information and technology  
for better health and care

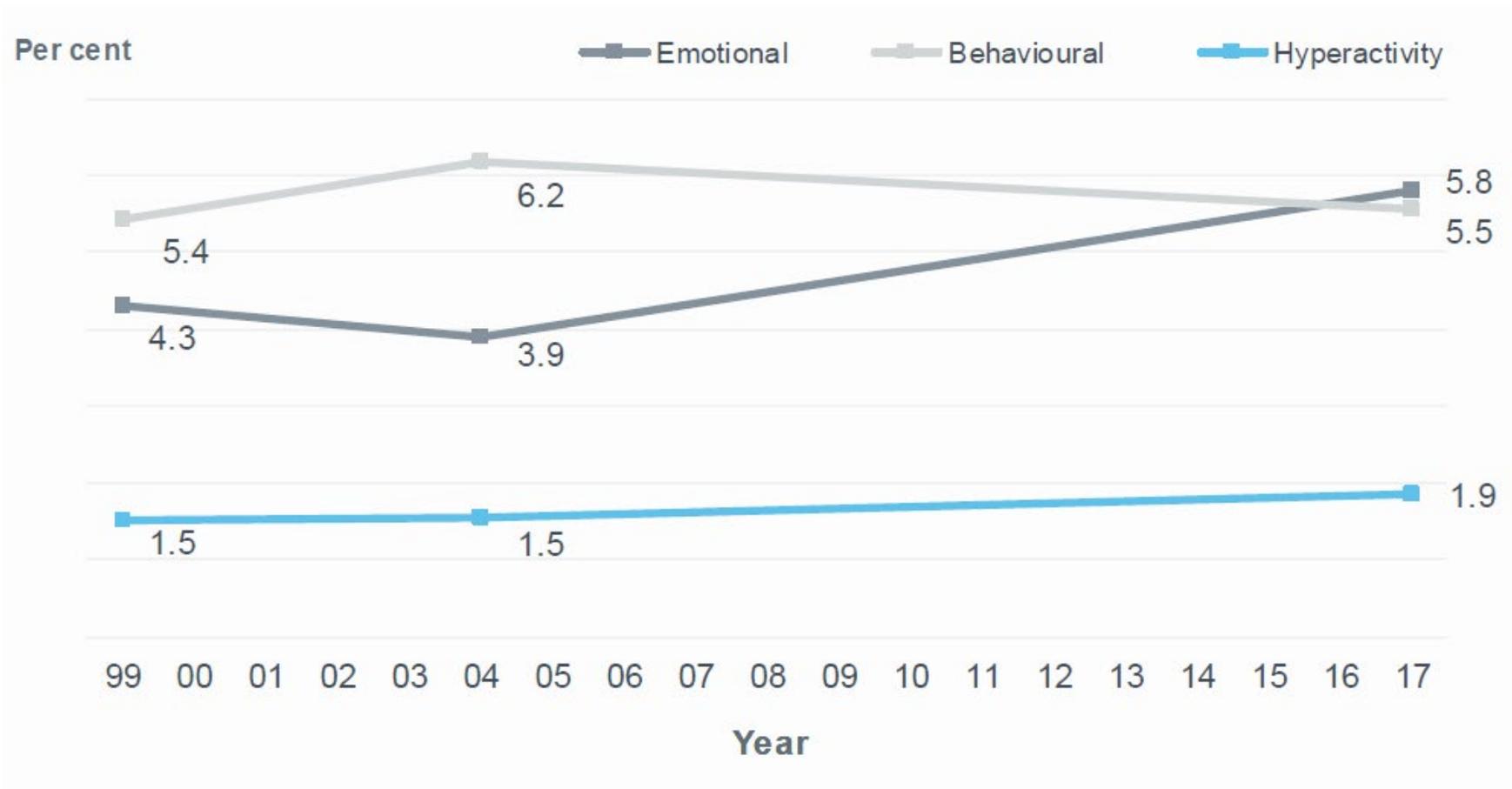
Published 02 November 2017

Parents have become more likely to *perceive* long-term mental health conditions in children...



while children's scores remained stable on the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ).

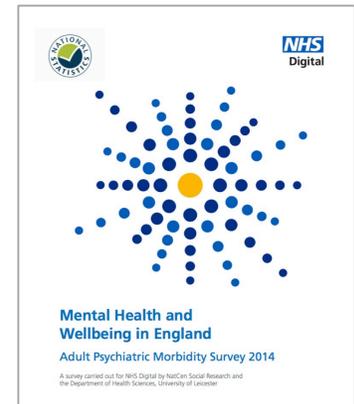
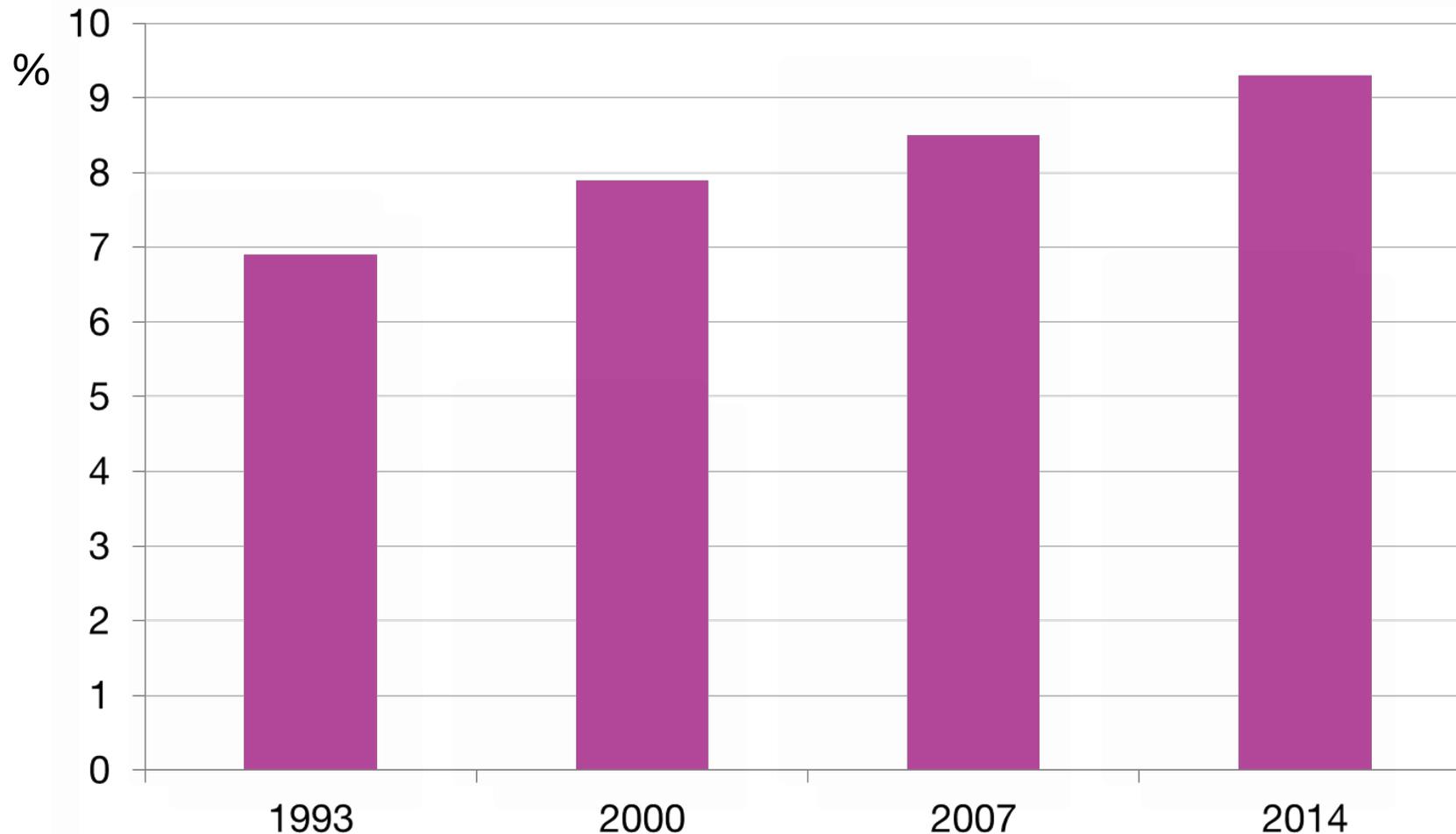
# Trends vary by disorder type, 5-15 year olds in England



Based on child, parent, teacher report and clinical consensus rating using the DAWBA. 5-15 year olds living in England, MHCYP.

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/mental-health-of-children-and-young-people-in-england/2017/2017>

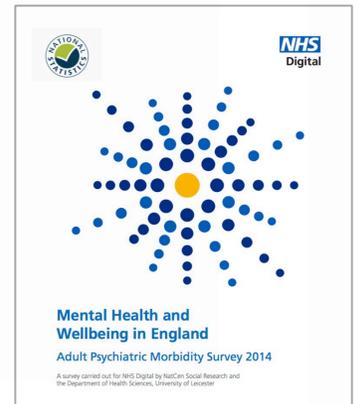
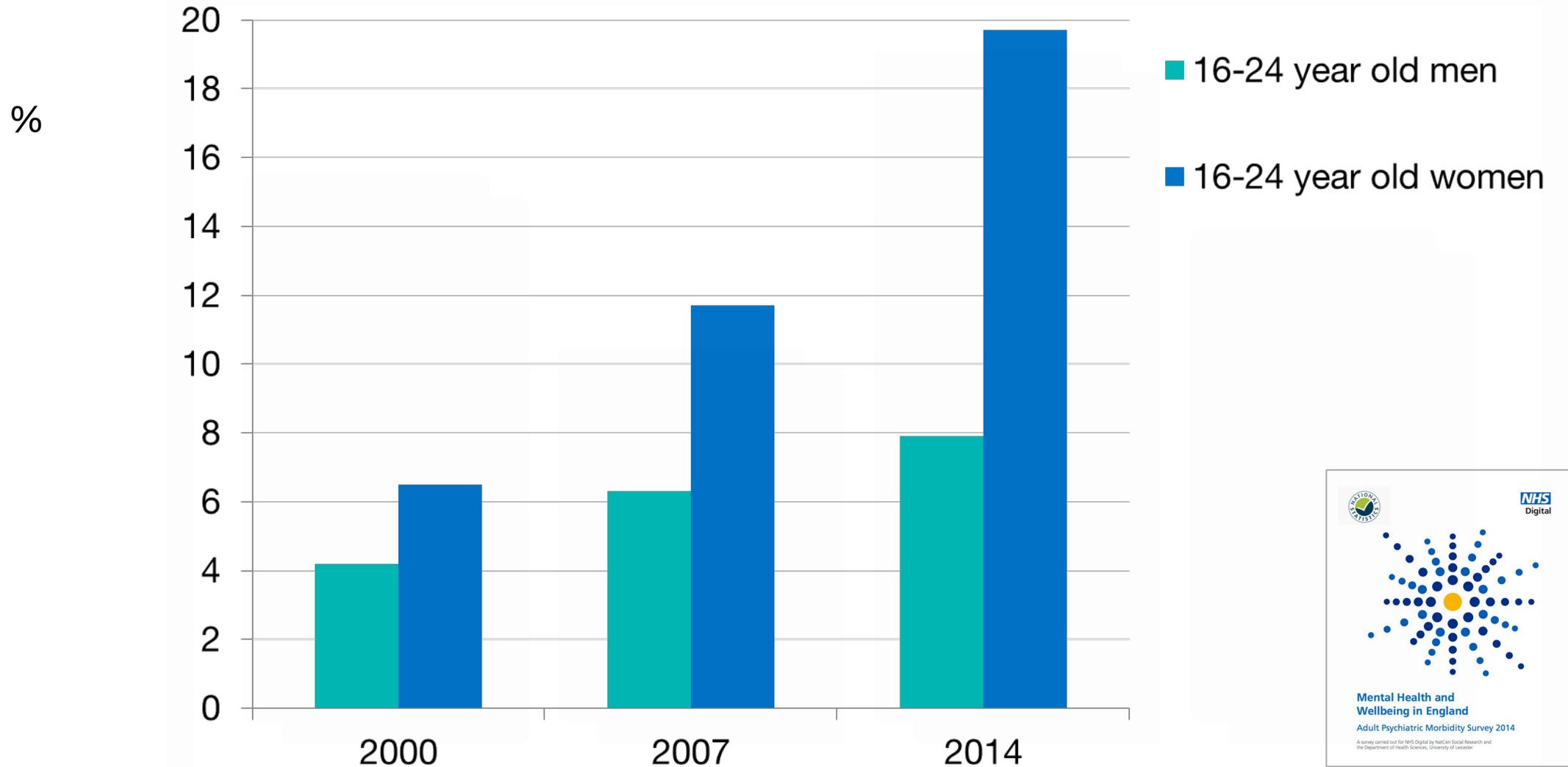
# Steady increase in severe anxiety and depressive symptoms, 1993-2014



CIS-R score of 18+ in adults aged 16-64 living in England by survey year. Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey (APMS) 2014

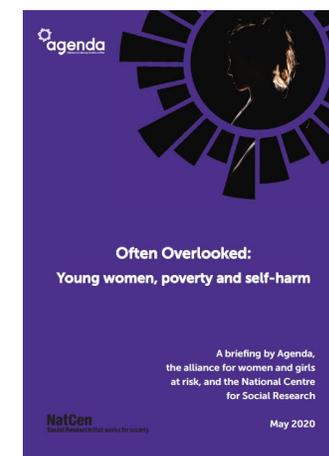
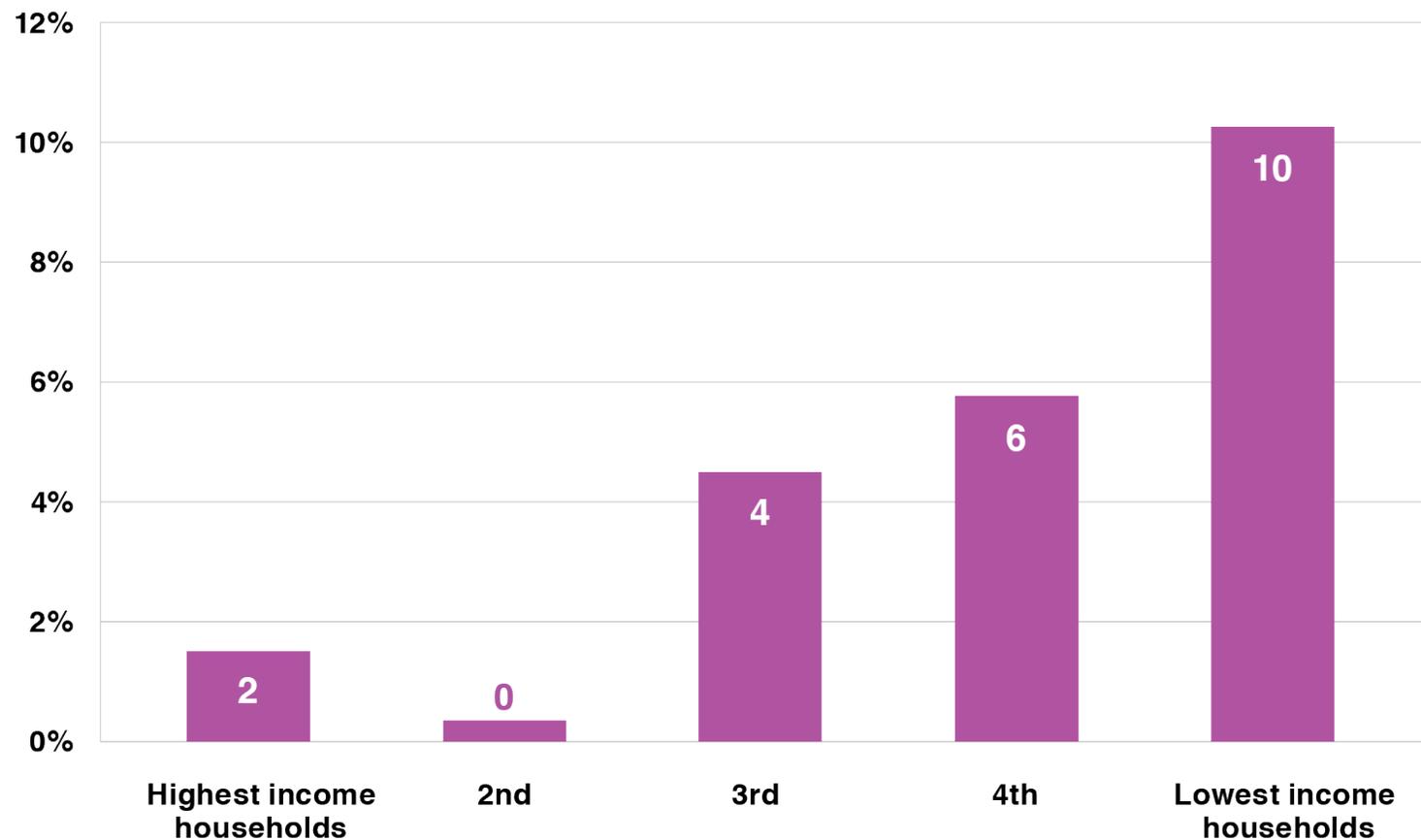
<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/adult-psychiatric-morbidity-survey/adult-psychiatric-morbidity-survey-survey-of-mental-health-and-wellbeing-england-2014>

# Steeper rise in self-harm, especially young women



Self-harm ever in adults aged 16-24 living in England by survey year.

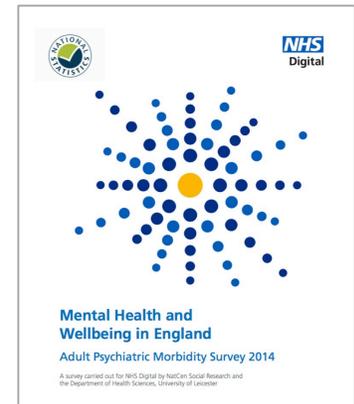
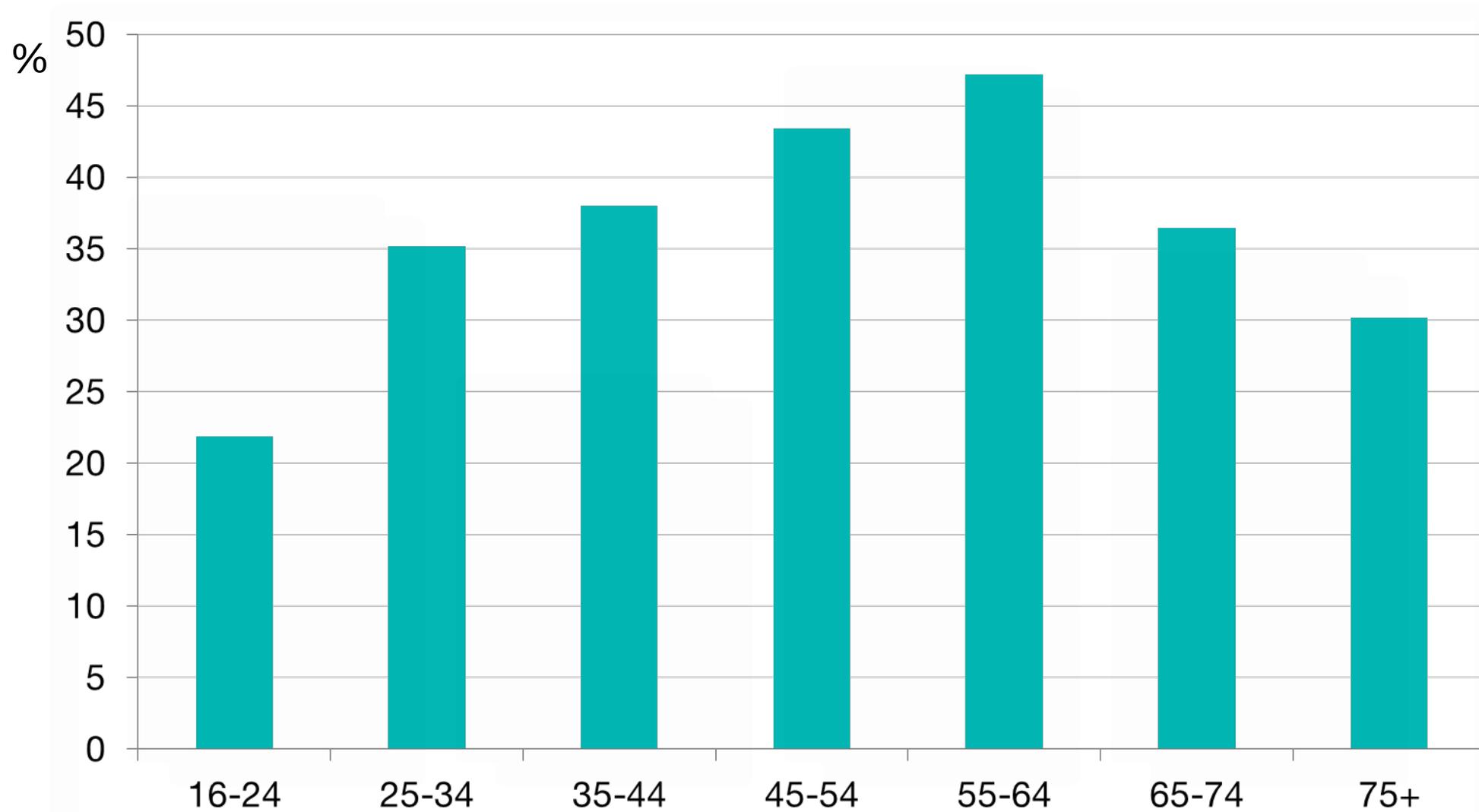
# Self-harm in past year in young women, more common in the poorest households



16-34 year old women living in England, Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey 2014

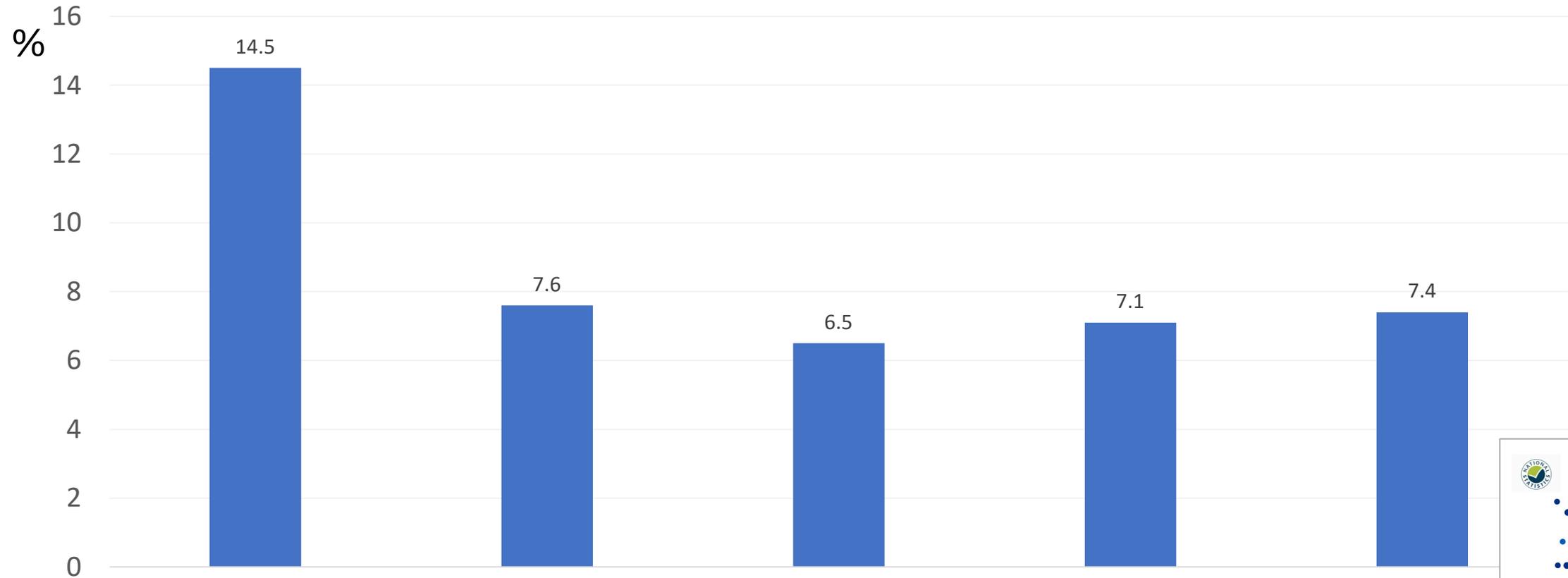
<https://weareagenda.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Often-Overlooked-Young-women-poverty-and-self-harm-2.pdf>

# Young people with CMD, least likely to get treatment



Proportion of people with a CMD currently using psychotropic medication or psychological therapy by age. England. APMS 2014

# People identifying as Black least likely to receive mental health treatment



Mean CIS-R:	5.3	4.6	6.7	5.3	5.5
aOR:	REF	0.58	0.27	0.47	0.36

Proportion of people with currently using psychotropic medication or psychological therapy by ethnic group. England. APMS 2014

# Then Covid-19 happened

Comment 

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## Says who? The significance of sampling in mental health surveys during COVID-19

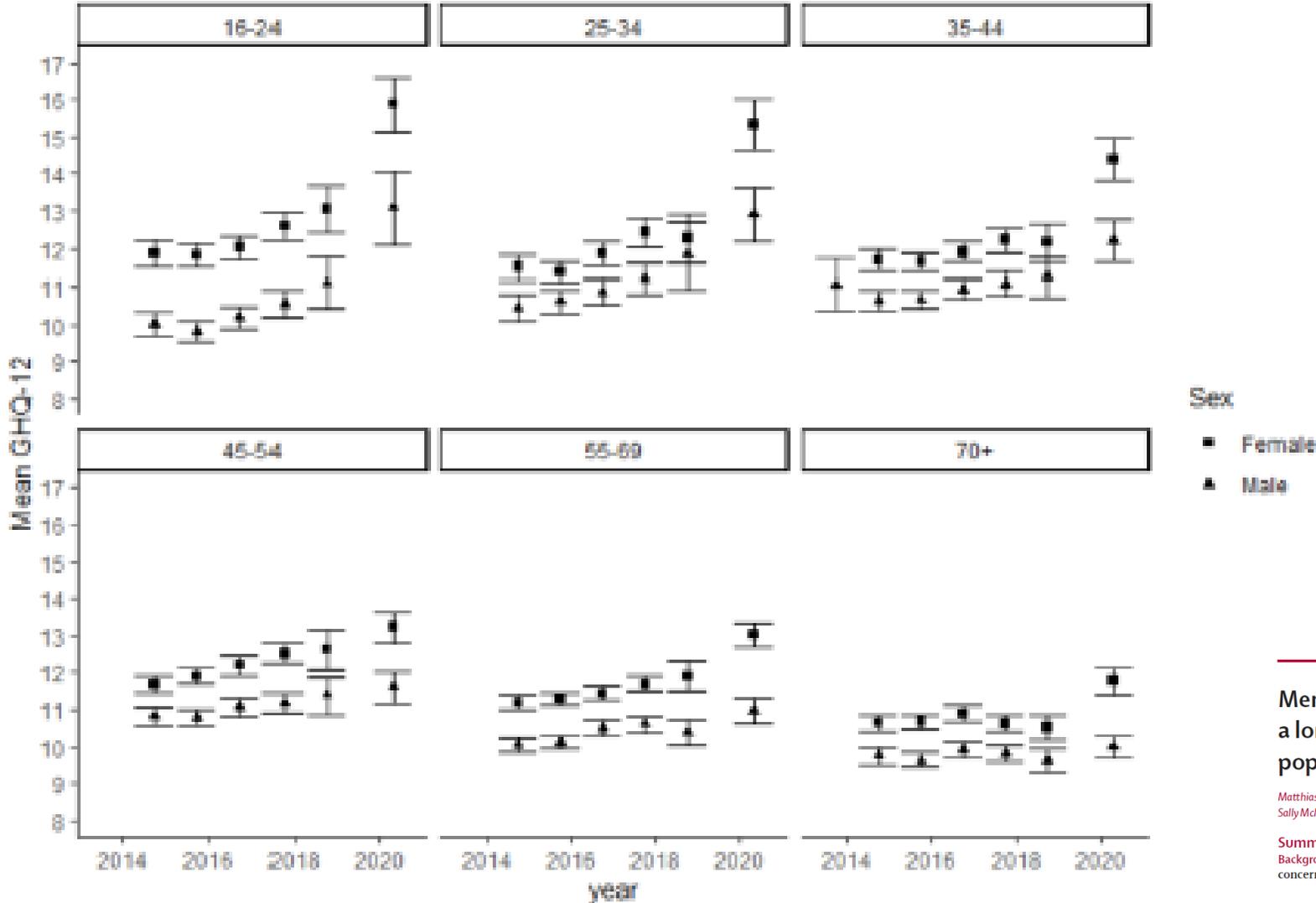


The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to have profound and enduring effects on mental health but, until we have data, we will not know its form, extent, duration, or distribution. An appropriate public health response to

with existing or severe mental illness are less likely to participate online than those without such conditions,<sup>2</sup> whereas half of people aged 75 and over, and many with mental illness (who represent a key COVID-19 risk

Published Online  
June 2, 2020  
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366\(20\)30237-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2215-0366(20)30237-6)

# Population prevalence of mental distress increased



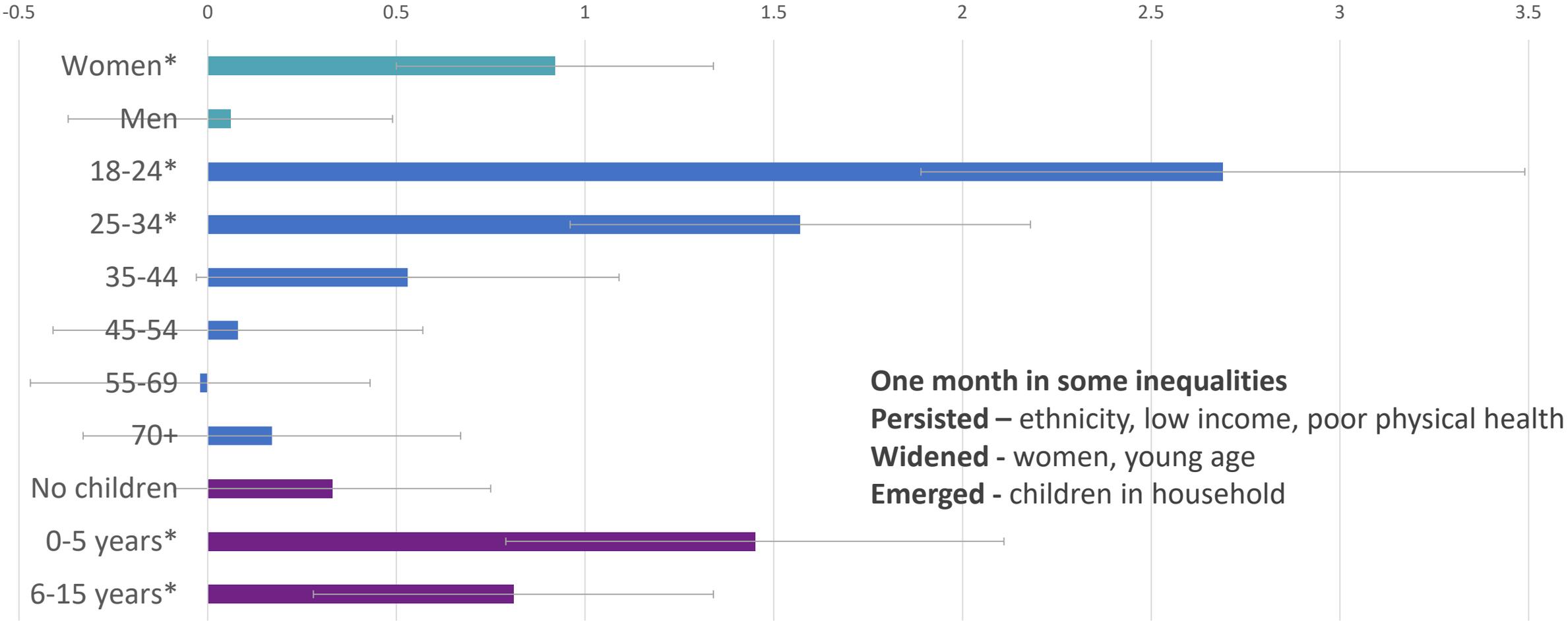
## Mental health before and during the COVID-19 pandemic: a longitudinal probability sample survey of the UK population



Matthias Pierce, Holly Hope, Tamsin Ford, Stephani Hatch, Matthew Hotopf, Ann John, Evangelos Kontopantelis, Roger Webb, Simon Wessely, Sally McManus\*, Kathryn M Abel\*

**Summary**  
**Background** The potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on population mental health is of increasing global concern. We examine changes in adult mental health in the UK population before and during the lockdown. *Lancet Psychiatry* 2020; 7: 883-92

# Initial increases in mental distress greater in some groups



Fixed effects regression showing the within-person change in GHQ-12 score associated with the pandemic above the trends observed 20014-2019 and other factors. 15,376 Understanding Society Covid web-survey participants aged 18+.

Pierce M, et al. (2020) Mental Health Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Longitudinal Probability Sample Survey of the UK Population. *Lancet Psychiatry*. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366\(20\)30308-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366(20)30308-4/fulltext)

# What next

- Trajectories in distress across the pandemic – recovery or sustained?
- Long-term change in prevalence of mental health conditions?

**Adult  
Psychiatric  
Morbidity  
Survey:**  
what  
should the  
2022 survey  
cover?

**Face to face 1**

**Household  
ADL  
Caring  
Mental wellbeing  
General health  
Medication  
Service use  
Anxiety/depression  
Self-harm  
Psychosis  
ADHD  
Work-related stress  
Smoking**

**Self-completion**

**Drinking  
Drug use  
Personality disorder  
Social functioning  
Bipolar disorder  
Autism  
PTSD  
IPV, child neglect  
Self-harm  
Discrimination  
Sexual behaviour, identity  
Menopause**

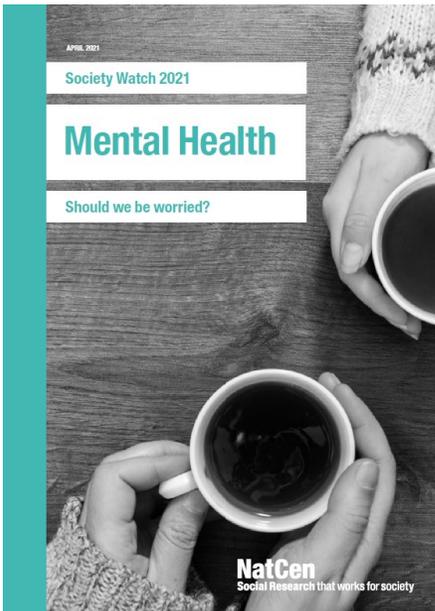
**Face to face 2**

**Intellectual functioning  
Cognitive function  
Key life events  
Social support  
Religion  
Local area  
Housing  
Debt, deprivation  
Socio-demographics  
Data-linkage permission**

# APMS 2022 consultation open

## 7<sup>th</sup> May-6<sup>th</sup> June 2021

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