

Health inequalities:

the impact of the pandemic on young people



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Association for Young People's Health





Background

Young people's future health inquiry



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11.8 million young people in the UK

**Adolescence is a key period of development –
transitioning through different life events**


Generally considered to be “healthy”


Onset of long term conditions (physical and mental health)

Foundations for the future



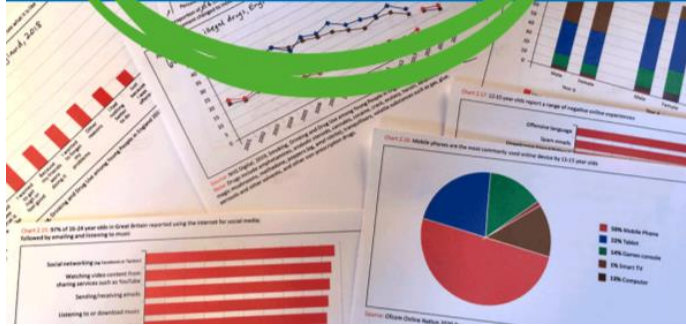
Young people matter

Supported by  The Health Foundation




Key Data on Young People 2021 Overview and Policy Implications

Ann Hagell, Lizzie Wortley, Lucy Ross and Eva Whitaker
November 2021



Health Inequalities Policy Programme:
Briefing Paper



Clarifying what we mean by health inequalities for young people

Rachael McKeown and Ann Hagell
December 2021



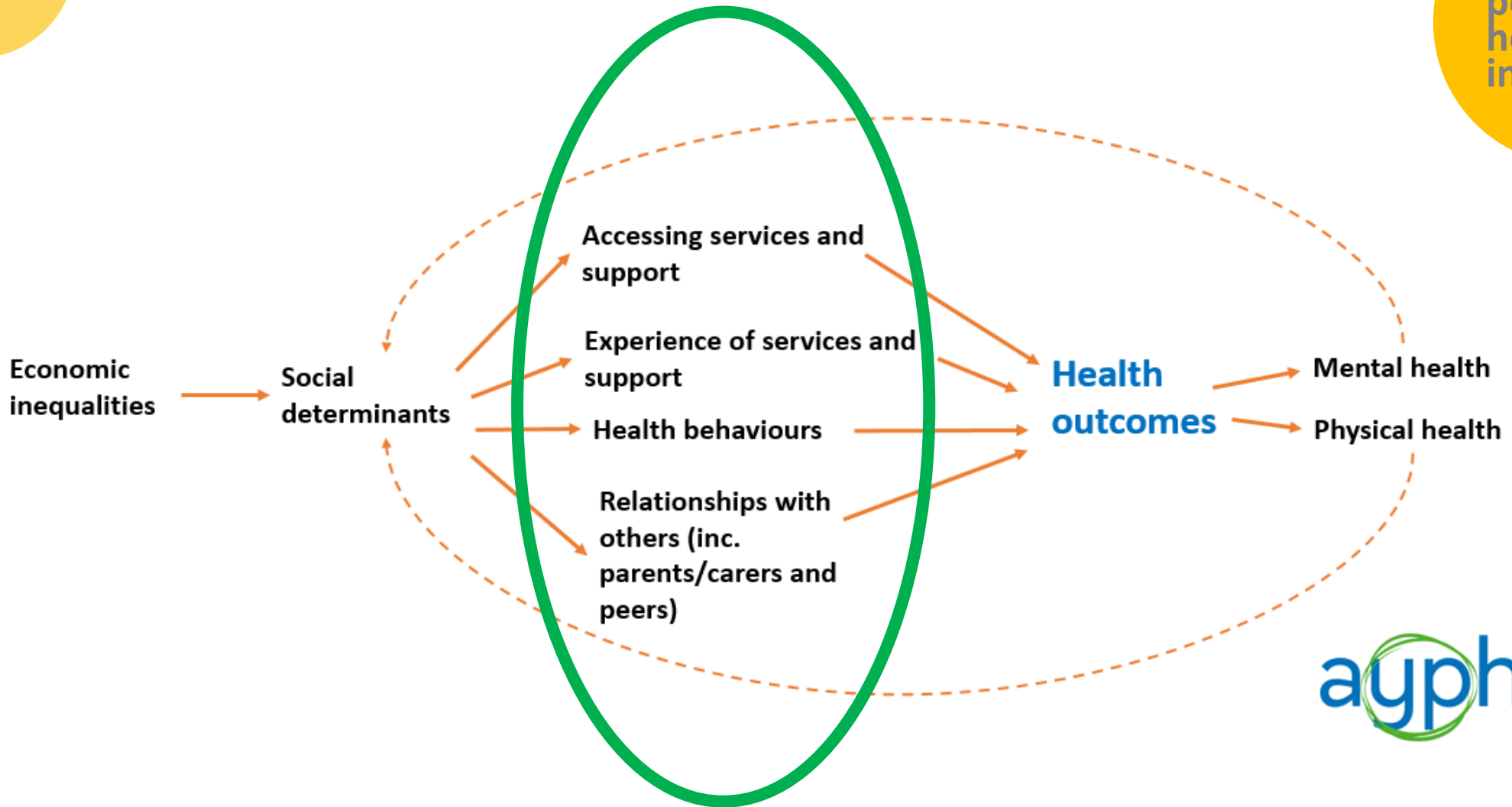
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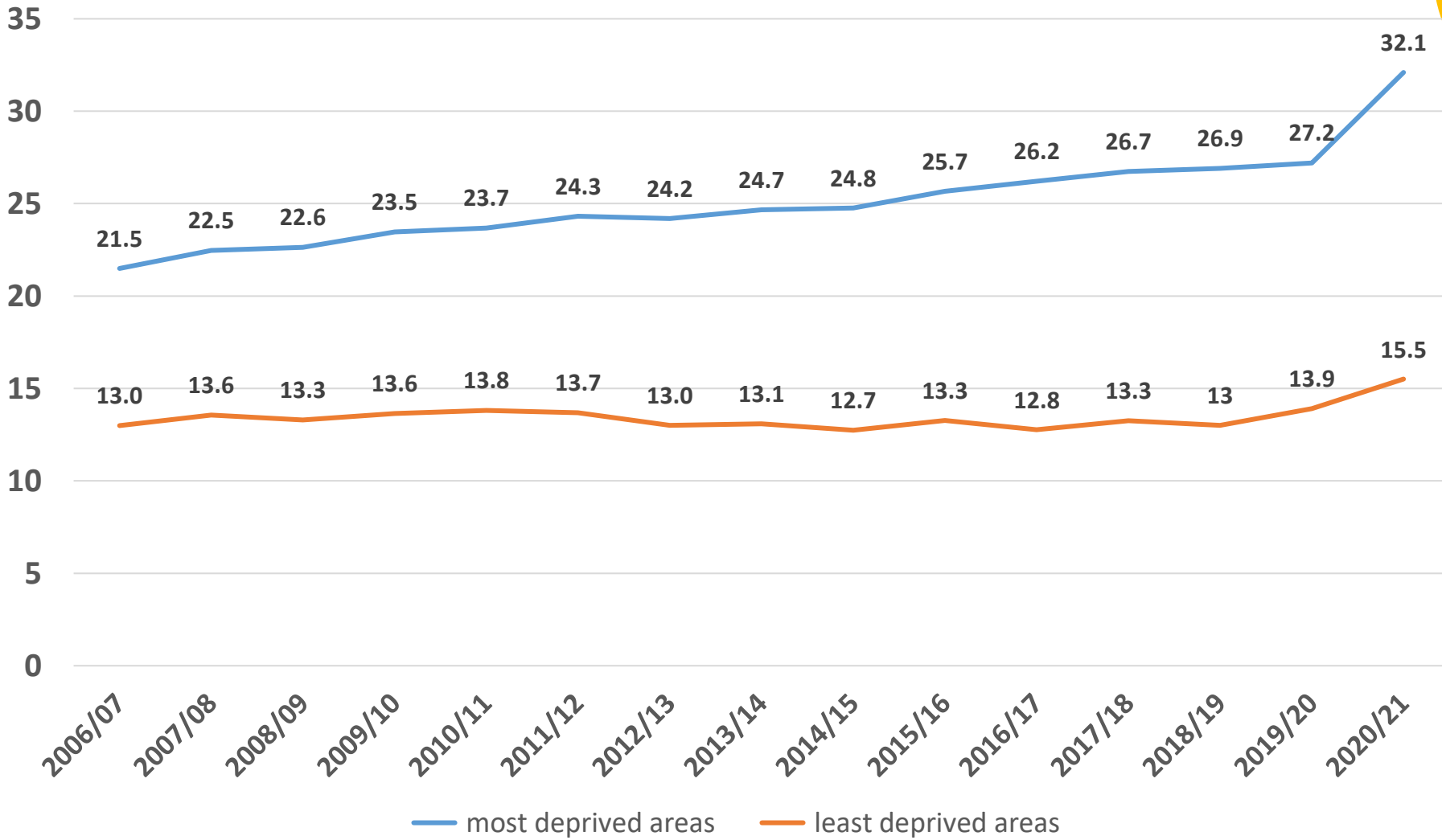
Young people's health inequalities





% young people (aged 10/11) who are obese in England

Young people's health inequalities





Impact of
Covid-19

Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people

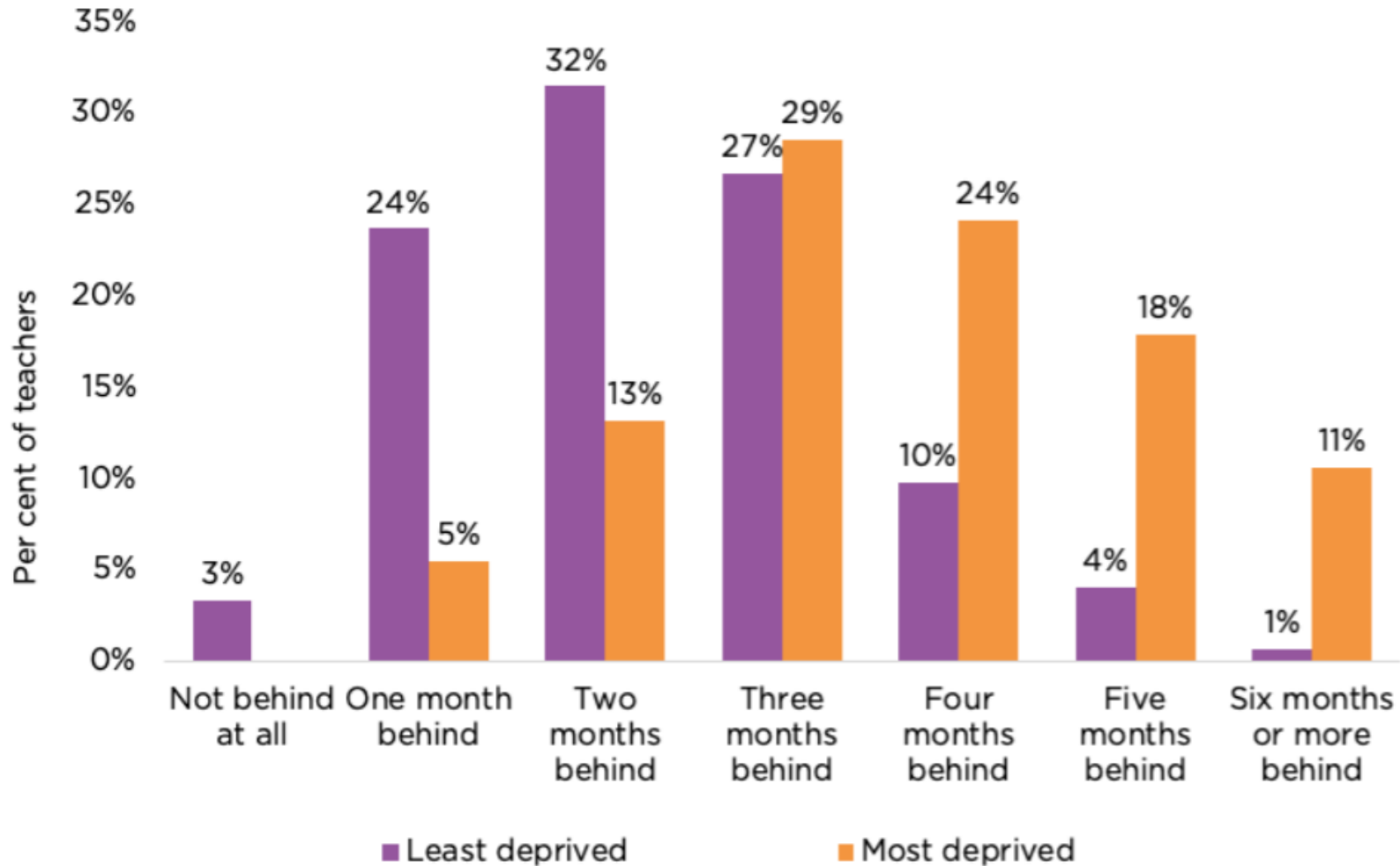
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“Attainment gap” in education

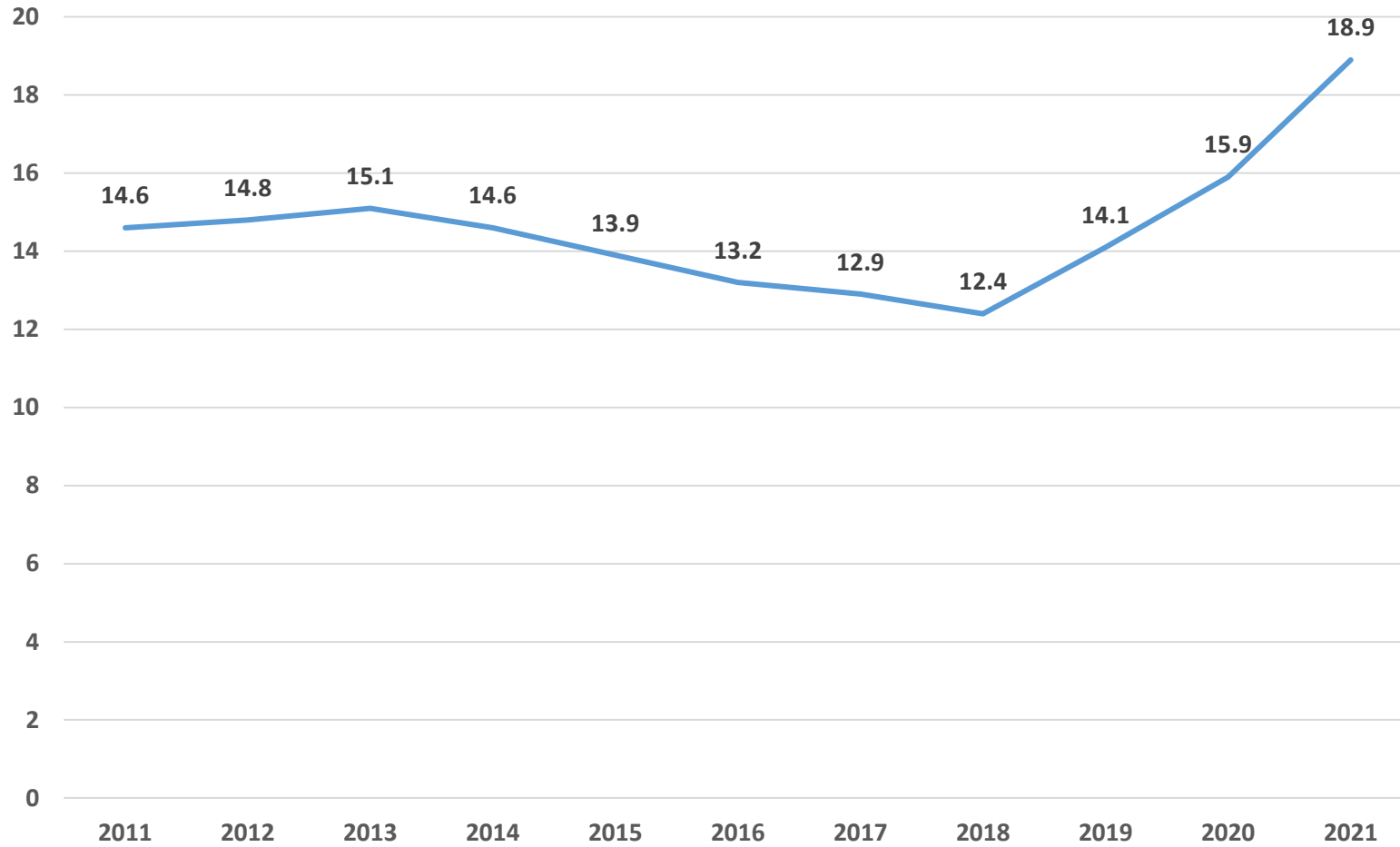
Impact of
Covid-19





% secondary school pupils eligible for Free School Meals in England

Impact of Covid-19

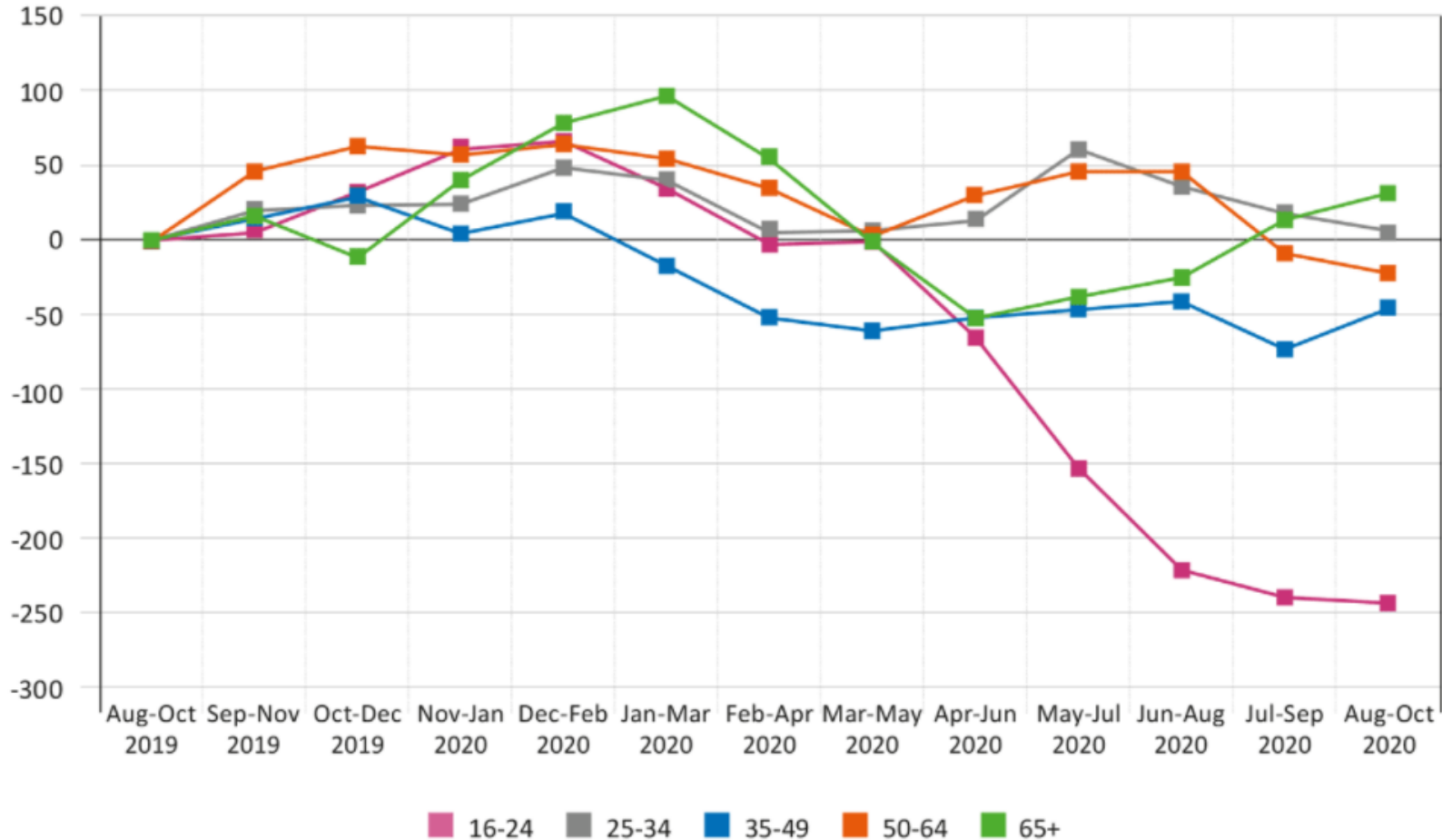




Employment

Impact of Covid-19

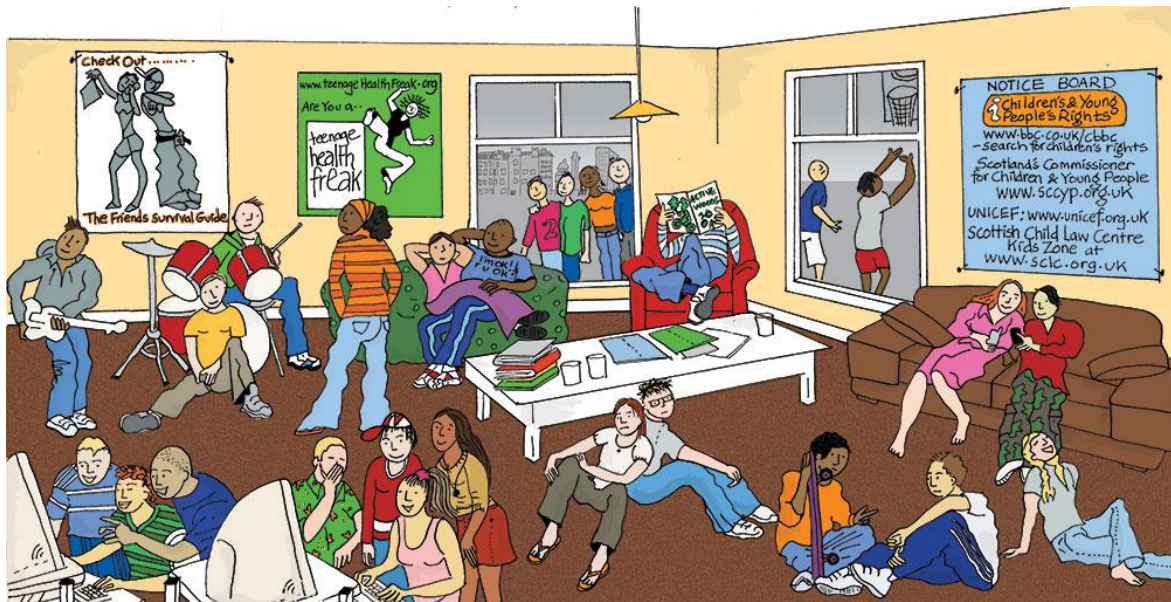
UK employment level by age, seasonally adjusted cumulative growth





Disruption to social lives and access to services

Impact of Covid-19



750 youth services closed

Difficulties accessing health services & digital appointments



Impact of
Covid-19

The impact of Covid-19 has not been equal

84% LGBT young people experienced a mental health problem

64% young adult carers spending more hours per week caring

“Don’t know how to read or write... Don’t know how to get an email prescription”



Impact of
Covid-19

**Less on health outcomes, more on the
social determinants and the “levers”**

We don't yet know the full impact



What would we like to see?

Young people and the youth sector are recognised as important

More funding is provided for youth specific services & safe spaces for young people

Different groups of young people have specific needs

More and better data on young people's health inequalities

Young people's voices at the heart of policy and practice design

How to keep in touch

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