

Access to Care: A Perspective from England

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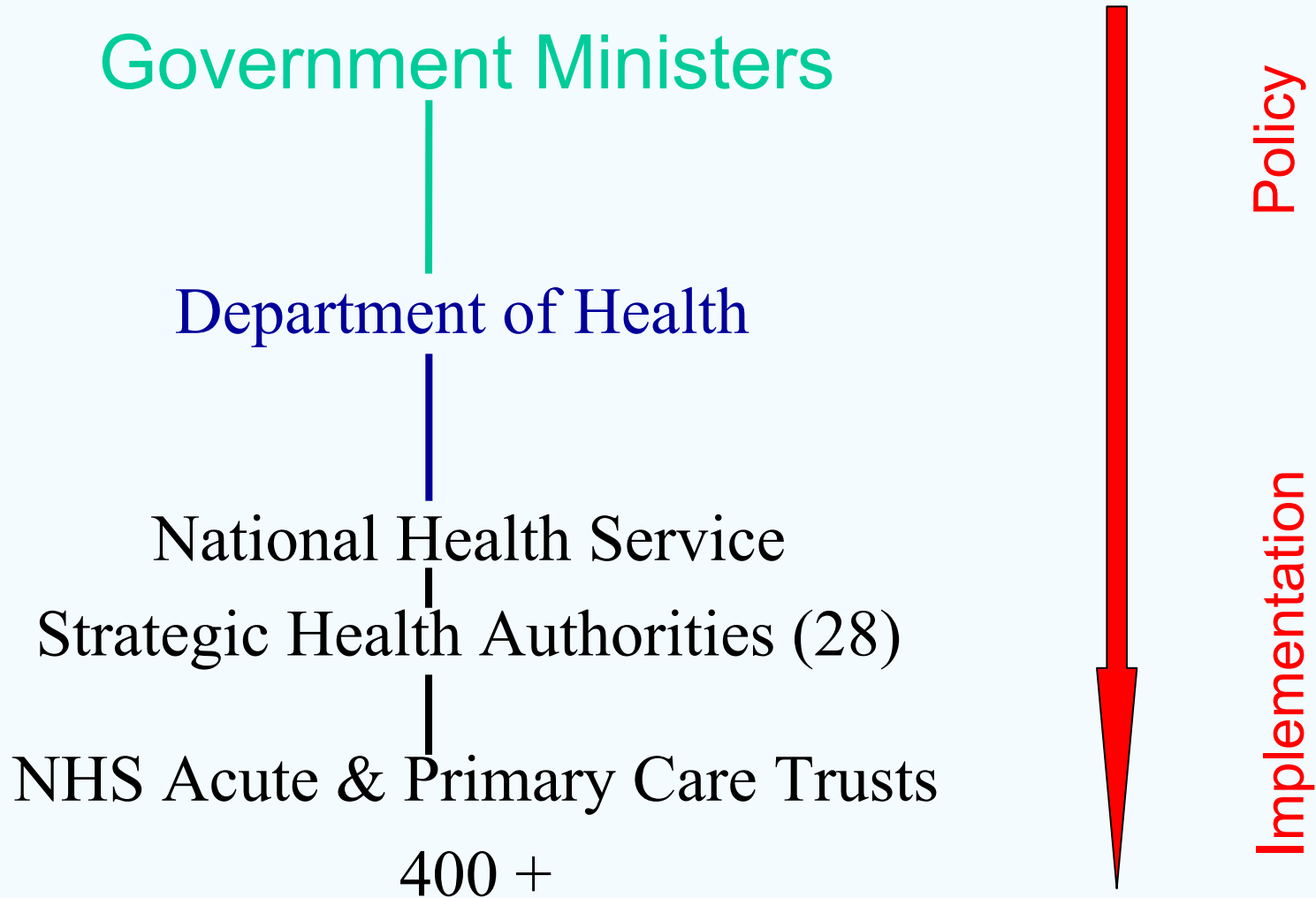
Department of Health - UK



Overviews of:

- NHS System Reform in England
- Dental Education Developments
- Oral Health in England

Public Health Policy Implementation



Need for System Reform

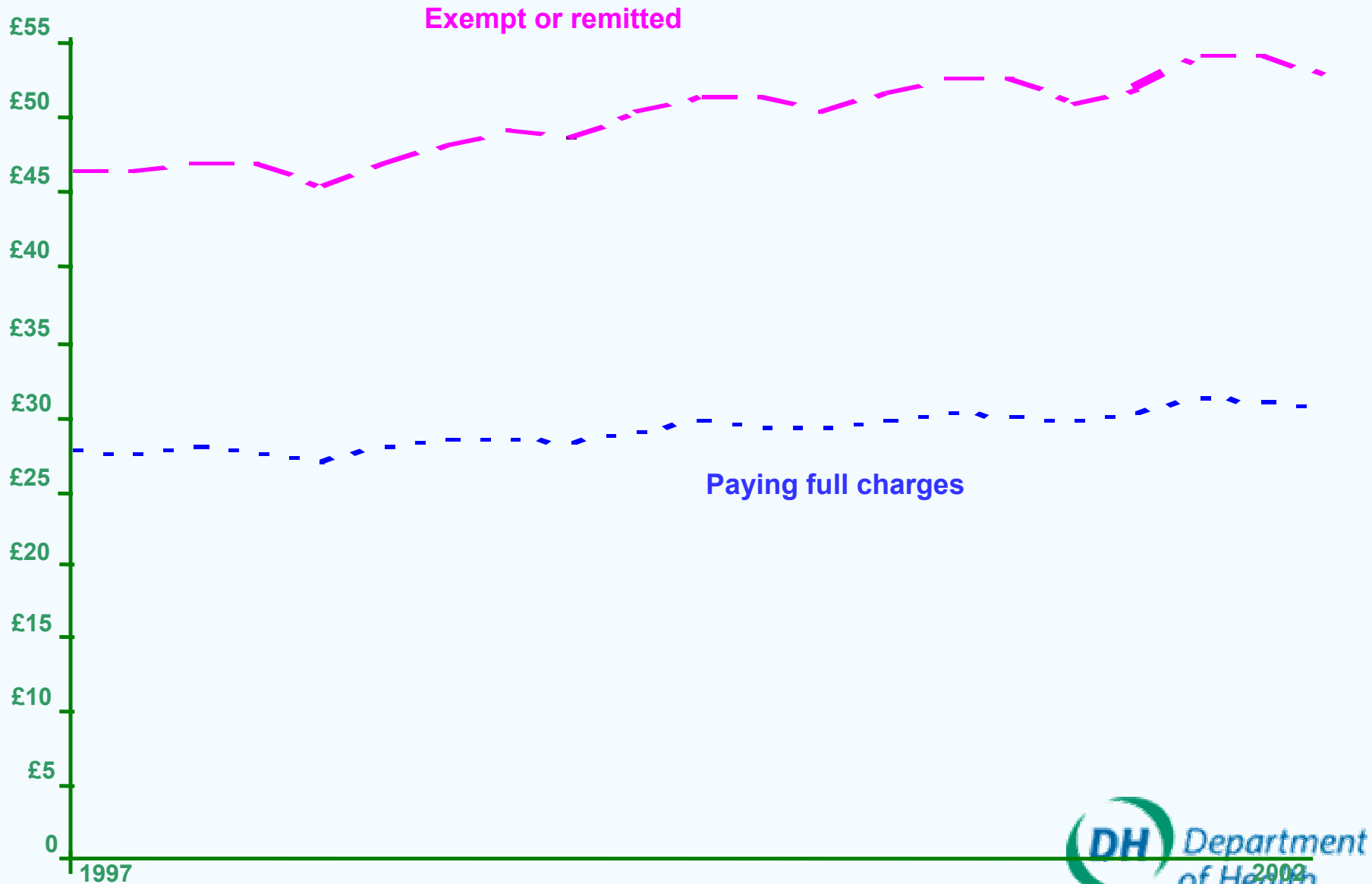
- NHS started in 1948
- High levels of oral health need
- 'Fee per item' encouraged dentists to treat
- Fluoride toothpastes introduced in 1970s
- Oral health improves
- Need to move to system more for 21st century.

What makes a medical professional?

- Principle of primacy of patient welfare
- Principle of patient autonomy
- Principle of social justice

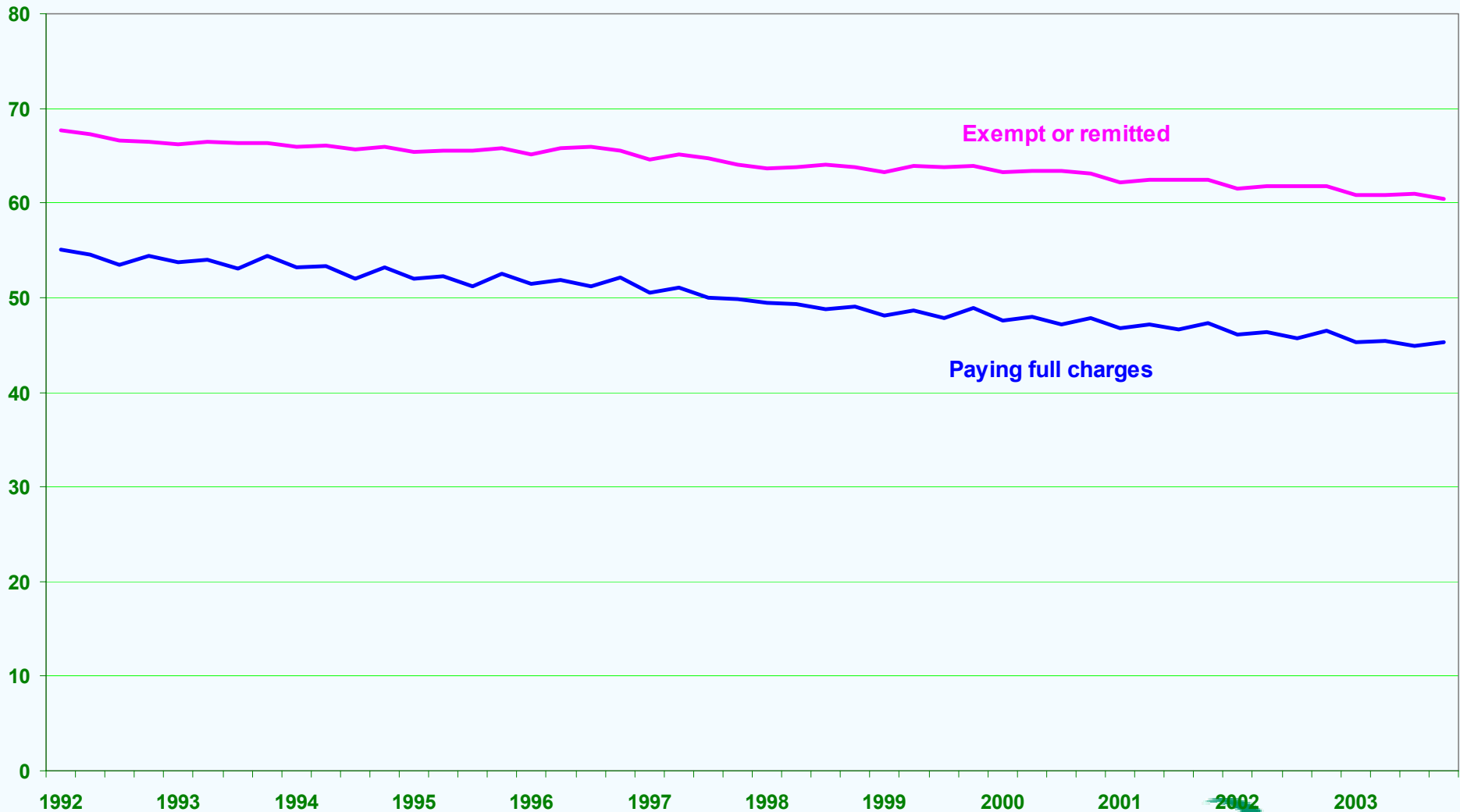
Charter on Medical Professionalism
Annals of Internal Medicine, 2002; vol 136; 243-246.

Average gross fees per adult course of treatment



Percentage of Courses of Treatment which involve any intervention

%



Need for System Reform

Dentists say system is

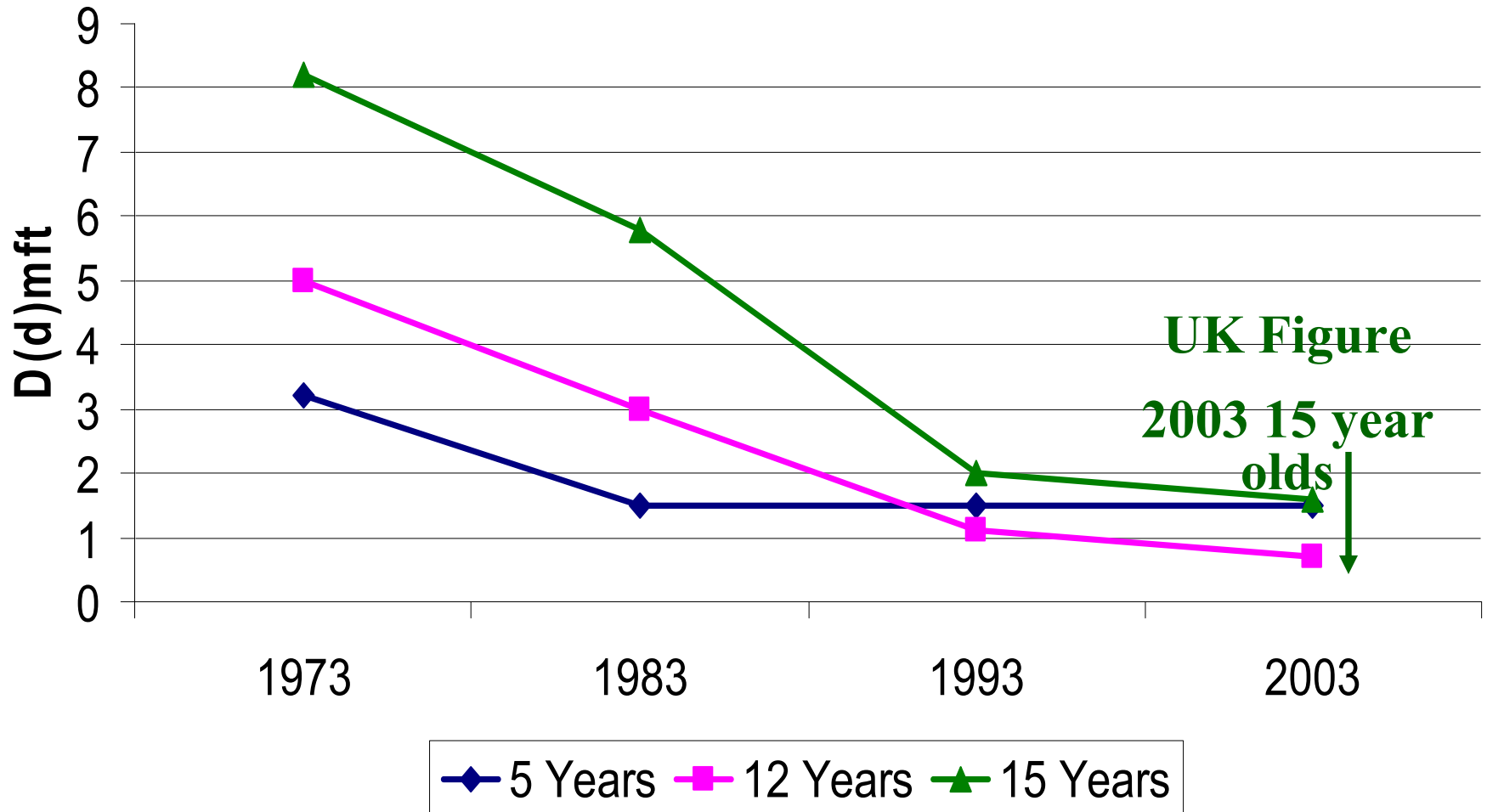
- Payment, time and treatment driven
- Bureaucratic
- Difficult to deliver high quality dentistry

This is leading to.....

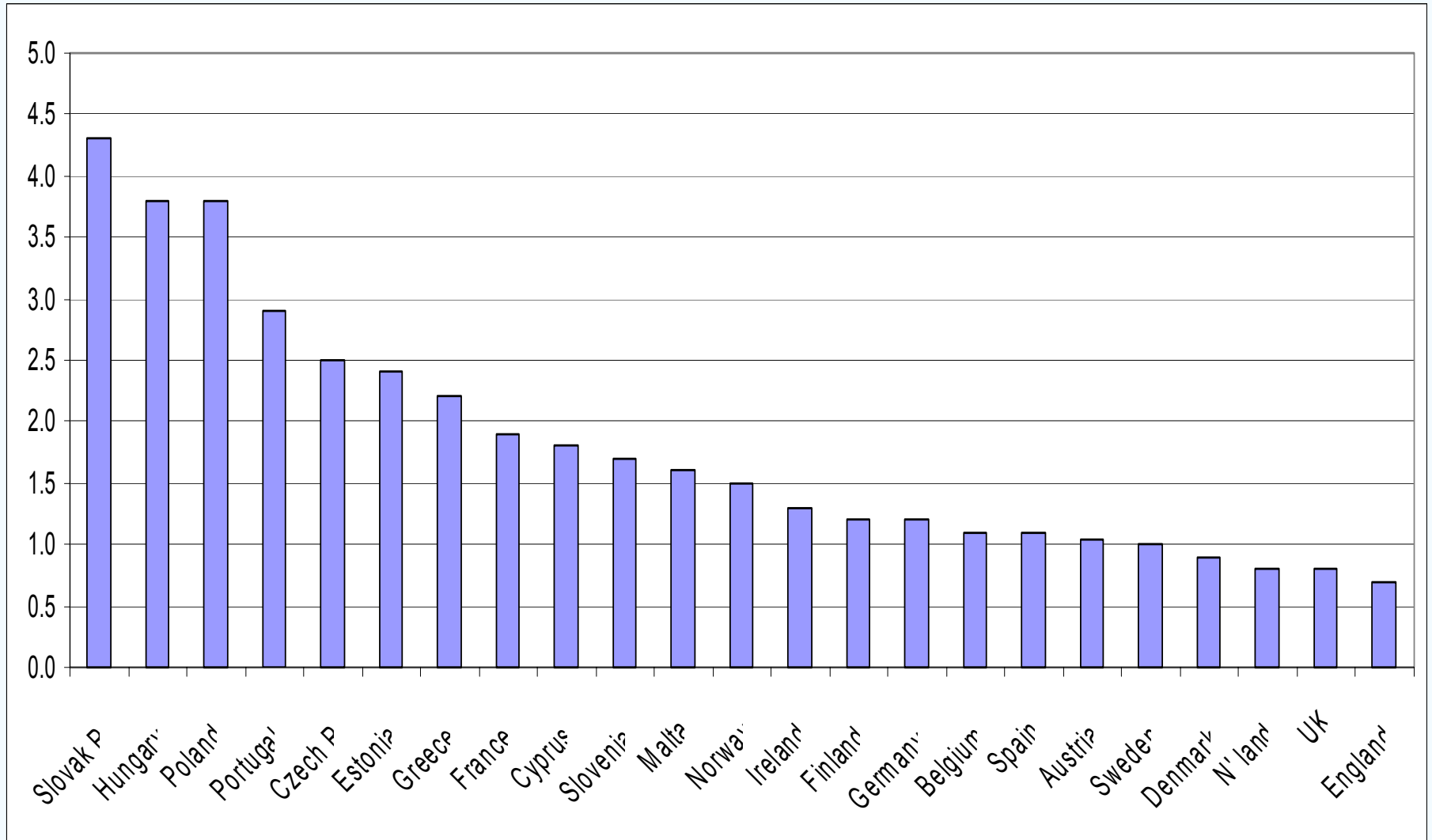
- An increase in private treatment
- Problems in accessing NHS dentistry in some areas

Oral Health in England

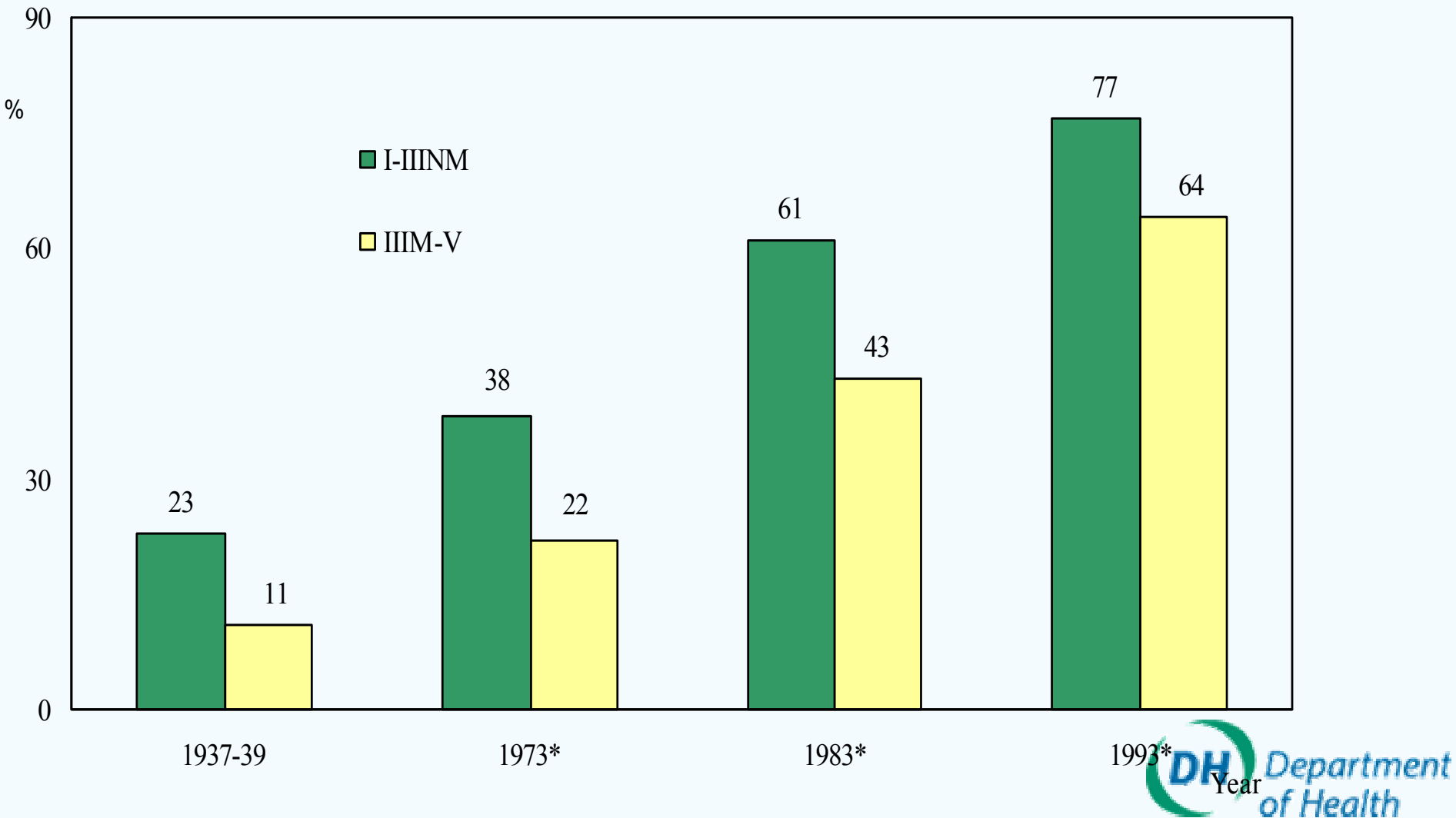
Average D(d)mft per child in England

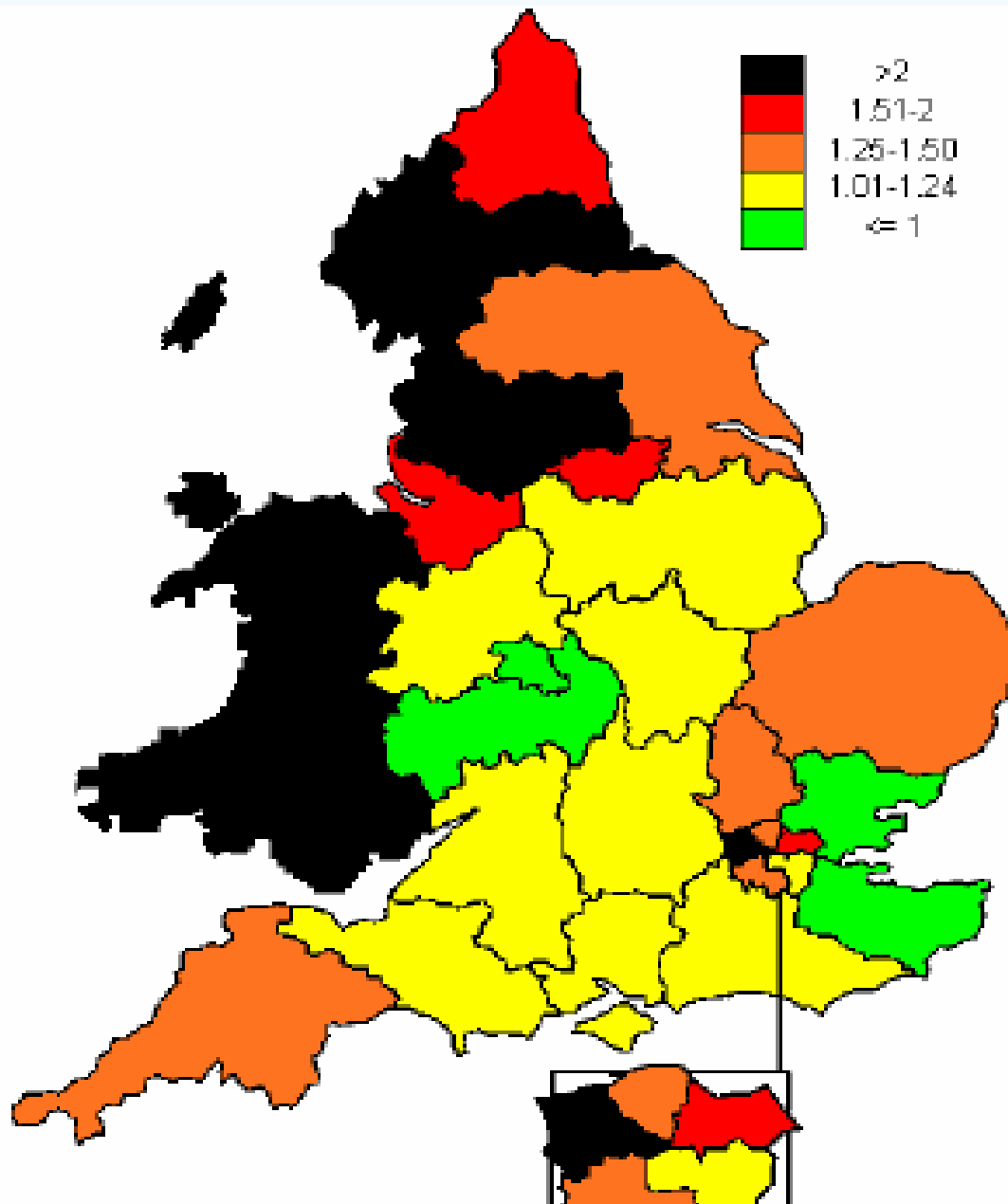


Dental Caries Experience (DMFT) of 12 Year old – Europe

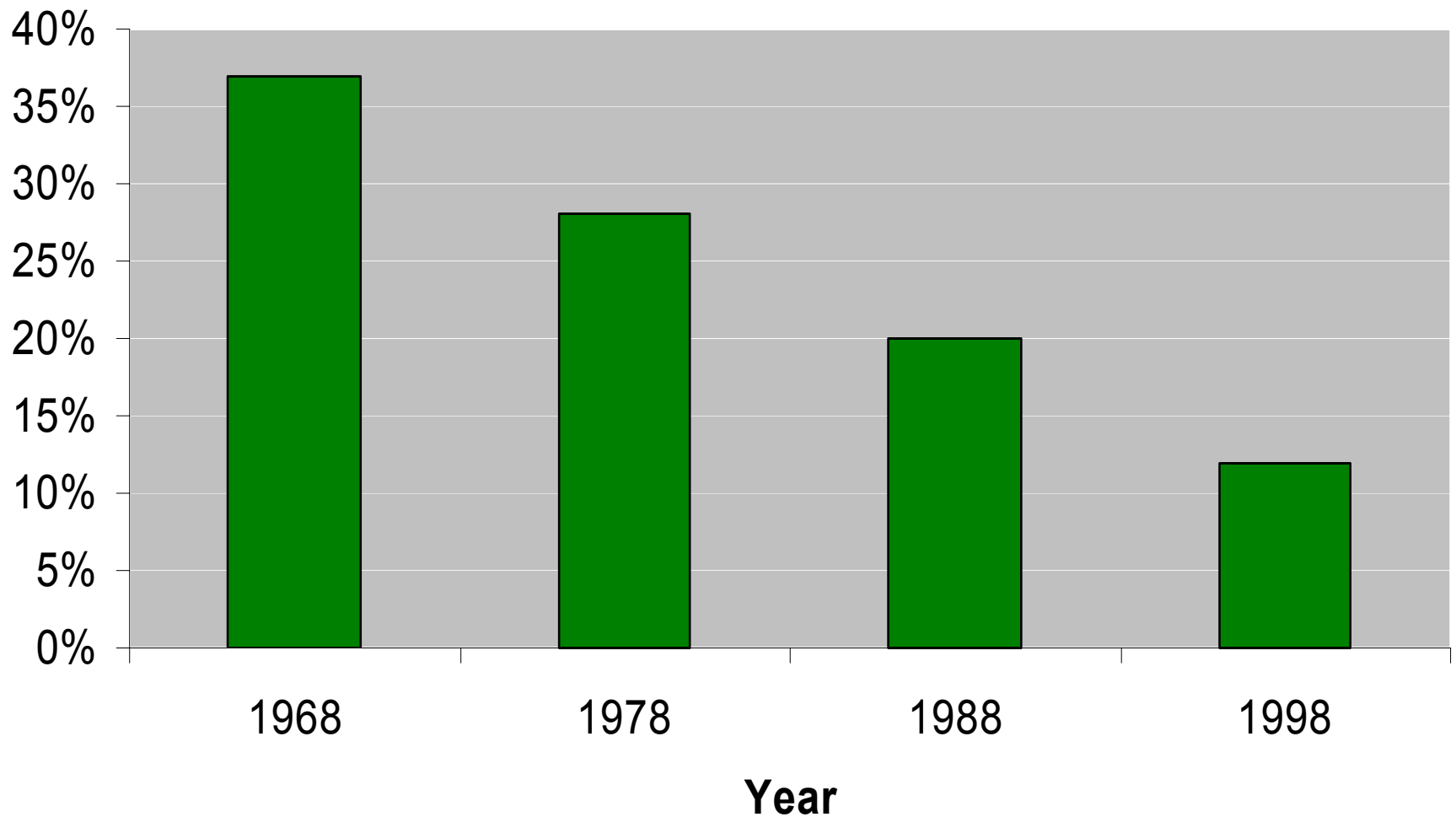


Changing social class inequalities in children's dental health in Britain 1937-1993: the prevalence of caries-free 5 year olds





Percentage adults with no teeth (England)



Oral Health Inequalities

- Adults in the north of England are twice as likely to have no natural teeth as those in the South
- Wide differences in the oral health of young children between regions
- Oral health related to social, economic and cultural variations

Improving Oral Health

- Tackle the causes of ill-health
- Reduce inequalities
- Personal responsibility for health
- Provide high quality information

NHS Dentistry

New Ways of Working

- Improving oral health
- Improving access to NHS Dentistry
- Reforming and improving NHS Dental services

Benefits for the dental team

- More time to spend with patients
- Less bureaucracy, less pressure
- Ability to work more closely with wider NHS

Personal Dental Services

Already 25% of dental practices in England are working in new ways:

- Contracting with the NHS to provide care based on need and not just demand
- Dentists paid by agreed courses of treatment completed rather than what they do in a course
- Preventive focus

Improving access to NHS Dentistry

- Increasing workforce
- Flexible workforce
- Location
- Education

NHS dentistry - access

- Dentists not happy with existing NHS contract
- Undertaking more private work
- Less capacity for NHS dentistry
- Skill mix not fully developed
- Increase in female graduates

Increasing Capacity of NHS Dentistry – short term

- International recruitment
650 whole time equivalent dentists to be recruited by October 2005
Current recruitment areas:
Poland, Portugal, Spain, India
- Returners to NHS dentistry, circa 100 by October 2005

Increasing Capacity of NHS dentistry – longer term

- 25% increase in dental students (2005 intake)
- Increase in numbers of Professionals Complementary to Dentistry
- Increasing role of the dental team

Education

- Process
 - from student application to practising clinician
- Dental teaching establishments
- Current developments
 - outreach teaching and beyond

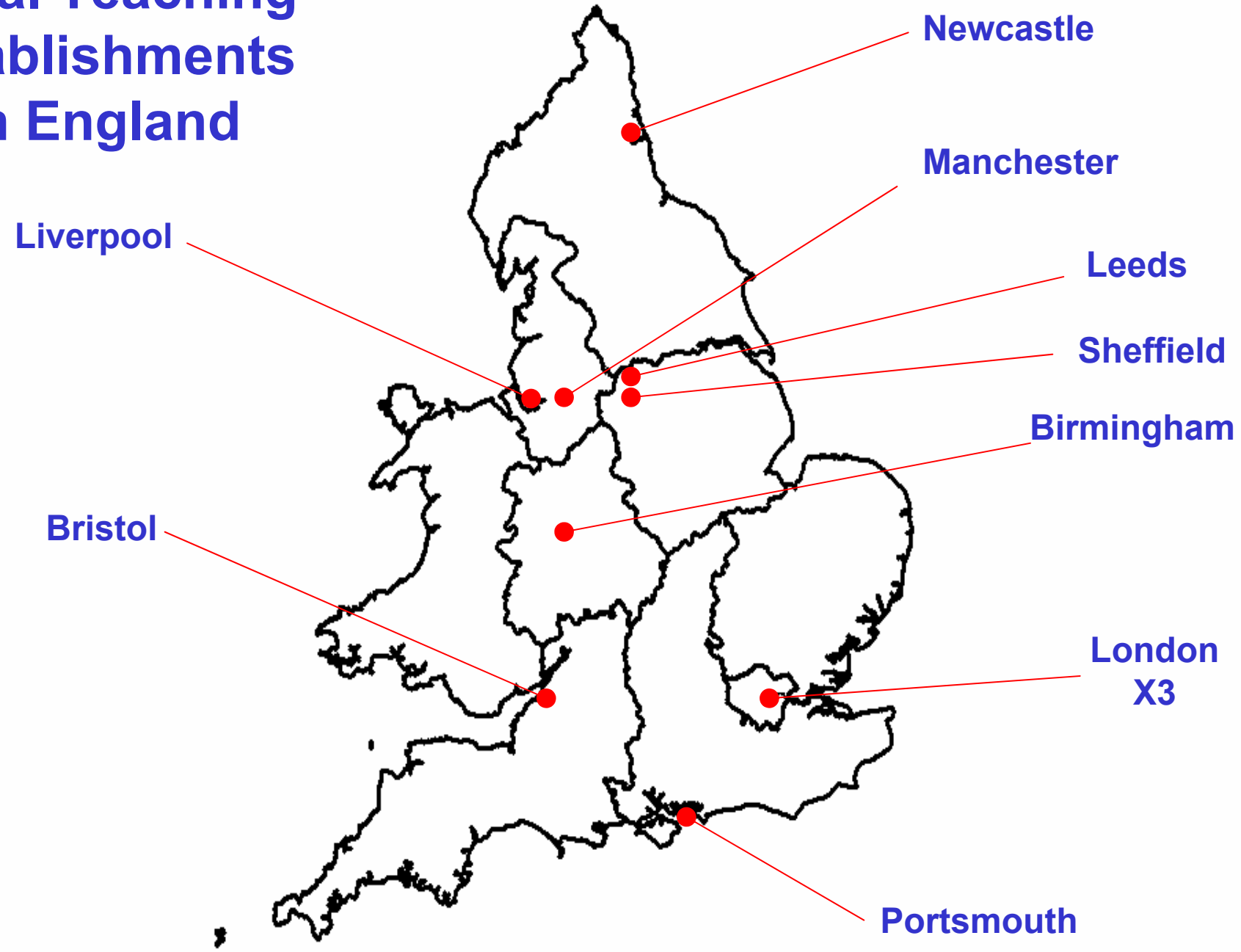
Vocational Training (VT)

The primary aim of VT is educational - enhancing clinical and administrative competence and promote high standards through:

- 12 month structured placement
- Paid a salary of around \$40,000

Dentists must have a VT number before they can have a contract to provide NHS dental services as an independent contractor.

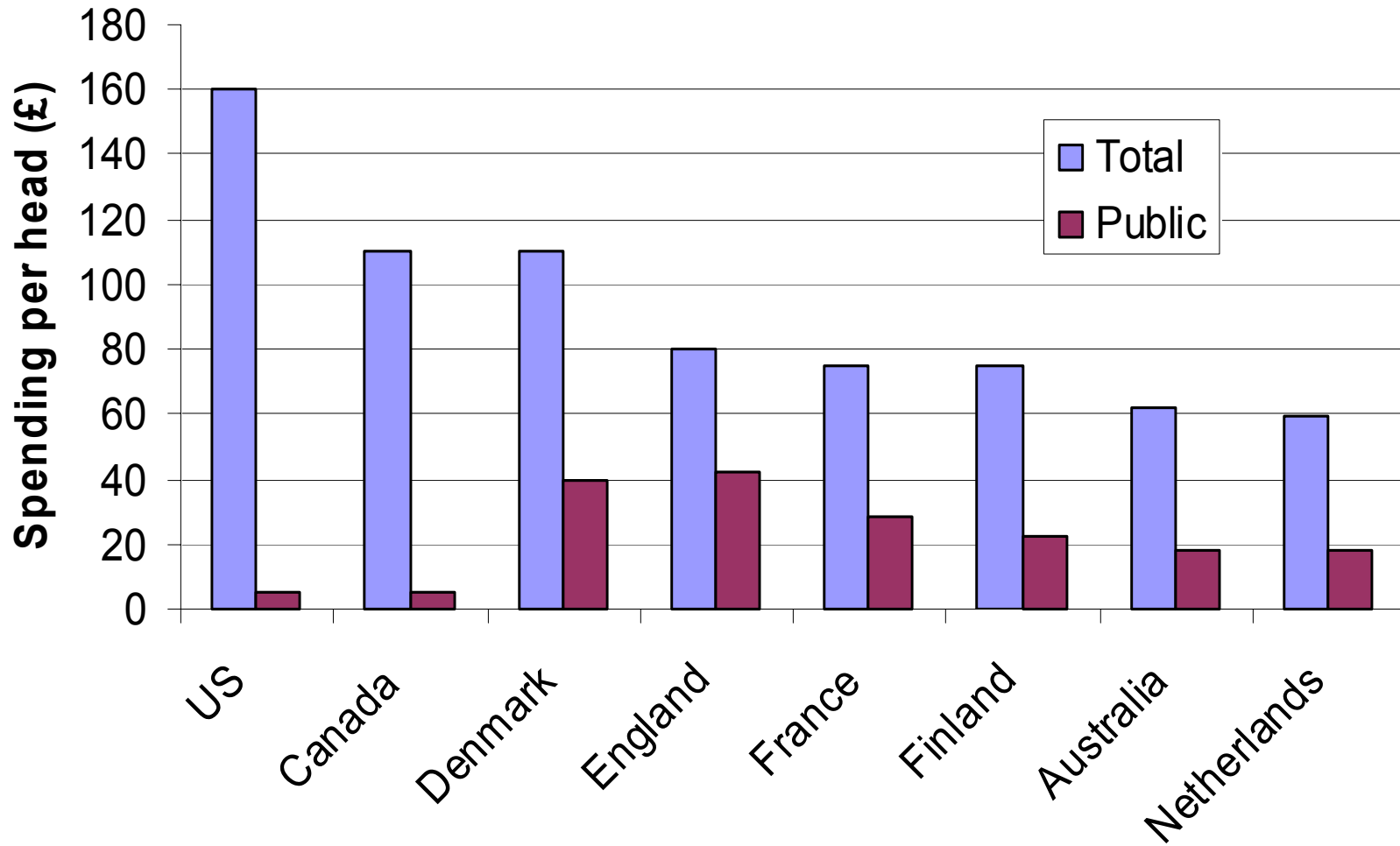
Dental Teaching Establishments in England



Investment

- £250m (\$450m) increase in dentistry budget
- Equivalent to 19.3% growth over two years
- Annual spend on NHS dental services will rise from £1.3 billions (\$2.3 billions) to £1.6 billions (\$2.9 billions)

Dentistry Spending per Head of Population



NHS Dentistry: Delivering Change

Report by the Chief Dental Officer
(England) July 2004



NHS