

# DROP THE BOTTLE

Rethinking drinking water consumption with data-driven insights

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#### The Problem



#### **Bottled water booming** despite worries over waste

If we care about plastic waste, why won't we stop drinking bottled water?

How the plastic bottle went from convenience to curse

The

Environmental impact of bottled water Economist 'up to 3,500 times greater than tap water'

Britain's love affair with bottled water a national scandal?

London's plastic water bottle waste is out of control, mayor is told

EU urged to ban 'carbon neutral' claims for food and drink: 'There's no such thing as a CO2 neutral banana'

Nanoplastics make up around 90% of the plastic particles found in bottled water

Why do we buy bottled water?

## **Case Study: United Kingdom**



- Availability of official data
- 100% access to tap water
- High standards of living
- Moderate climate



Source: OECD

## **Hypotheses**



I. Quality of tap water is comparable to bottled water.

II. Demand for bottled water is driven by **weather** patterns and socio-political **events**.

III. While seemingly convenient, bottled water is excessively priced.

## **Tap Water Data Source**

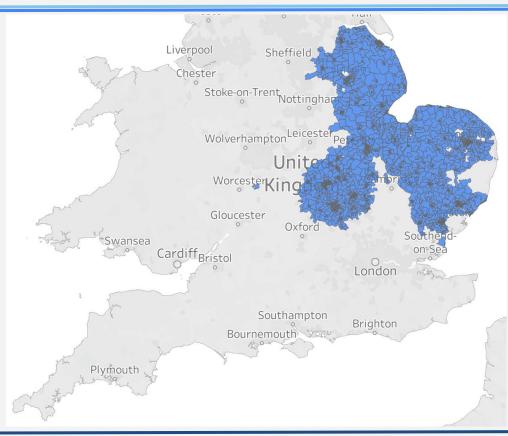


#### **Anglian Water Quality Data 2022**

14,439 samples from consumer taps in

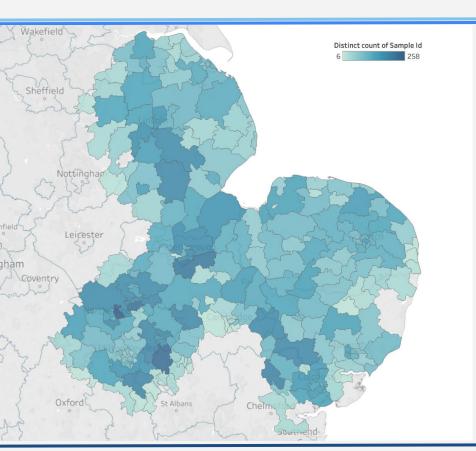
250 districts tested for

87 determinands (biological & chemical)



## **Tap Water Test Frequency**





Average of **5** samples per **month** per district

99.9% of results within legal limit

# **Results over Legal Limit**





Area	AreaDistrict	Day of Sample Date	Determinand	Max. Value	
Central Bedfordshire	LU7	18 August 2022	Iron	1,495	μg/I Fe
	LU95	18 August 2022	Iron	1,495	μg/I Fe
East Suffolk	IP4	21 June 2022	Aluminium	203.8	μg/l Al
	IP5	18 May 2022	E.Coli	9	No. /100ml
		21 June 2022	Aluminium	203.8	μg/l Al
Fenland	PE14	1 June 2022	E.Coli	1	No. /100ml
	PE15	1 June 2022	E.Coli	1	No. /100ml
		30 August 2022	Iron	220	μg/I Fe
North Lincolnshire	DN20	9 May 2022	Iron	351	μg/l Fe
	DN38	9 May 2022	Iron	351	μg/I Fe
North Norfolk	NR23	12 August 2022	Iron	202	μg/l Fe
Peterborough	PE2	9 March 2022	E.Coli	89	No. /100ml
	PE8	21 November 2022	Iron	277	μg/l Fe
South Holland	PE11	30 May 2022	Iron	284	μg/l Fe
			Manganese	185.9	μg/l Mn
South Kesteven	NG23	13 December 2022	Iron	280	μg/l Fe
South Norfolk	NR35	24 February 2022	E.Coli	1	No. /100ml
West Suffolk	IP32	27 July 2022	Aluminium	251.5	μg/l Al
			Manganese	122.8	μg/l Mn

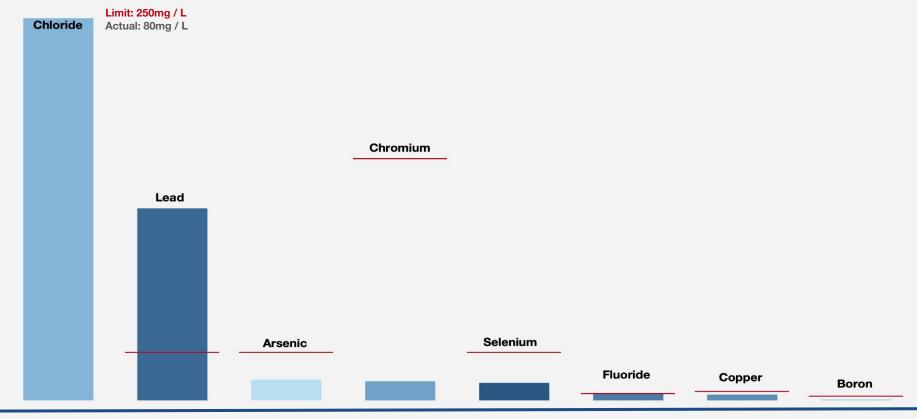
## **Comparison of Nutritional Values**



	Calcium	Magnesium	Sodium	Chloride	Sulfate	Nitrate	рН
Anglian Tap	125.7	6.8	34.1	80.1	72.4	24.5	7.7
Asda	40.0	14.0	6.0	11.0	10.0	8.0	7.8
Buxton Spring	55.0	19.0	24.0	37.0	13.0	0.1	7.4
Evian	80.0	26.0	6.5	10.0	14.0	3.8	
Harrogate Spa	57.0	19.0	8.0	37.0	13.0	1.0	7.0
Highland Spring Water	40.5	10.1	5.6	6.1	5.3	3.1	
Pure Life	59.0	10.0	11.9	18.1	9.7		6.5
Sainsbury's	40.0	20.0	10.0	10.0	5.0	1.0	7.2
San Pellegrino	166.0	49.5	30.0	49.6	401.0	2.8	
Tesco	11.0	3.0	10.0	14.0	11.0		
Volvic	12.0	8.0	12.0	15.0	9.0	7.3	
	0 50 100 150	0 20 40	0 10 20 30	0 20 40 60 80 0	200 400		7 8
	Calcium	Magnesium	Sodium	Chloride	Sulfate	Nitrate	рН

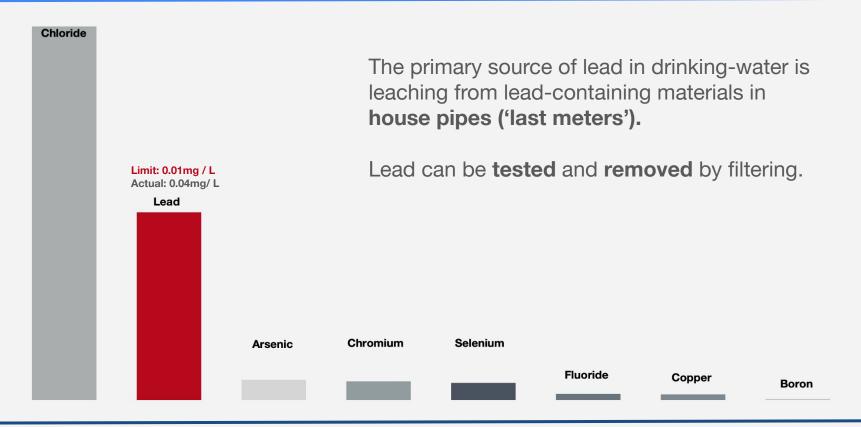
## **Tap Water Meets WHO Standards**





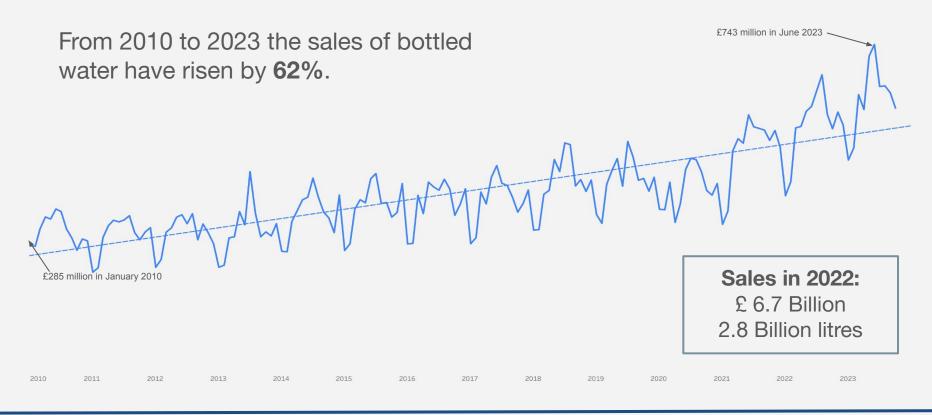
#### The Lead Matter





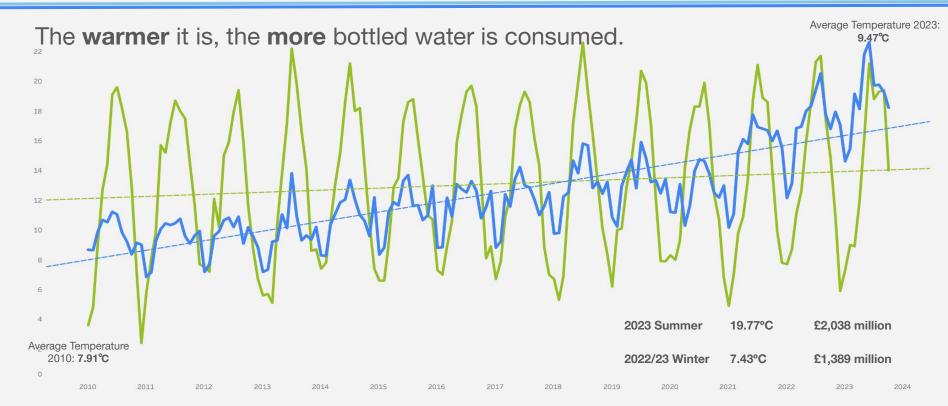
### **Bottled Water Sales Trend**





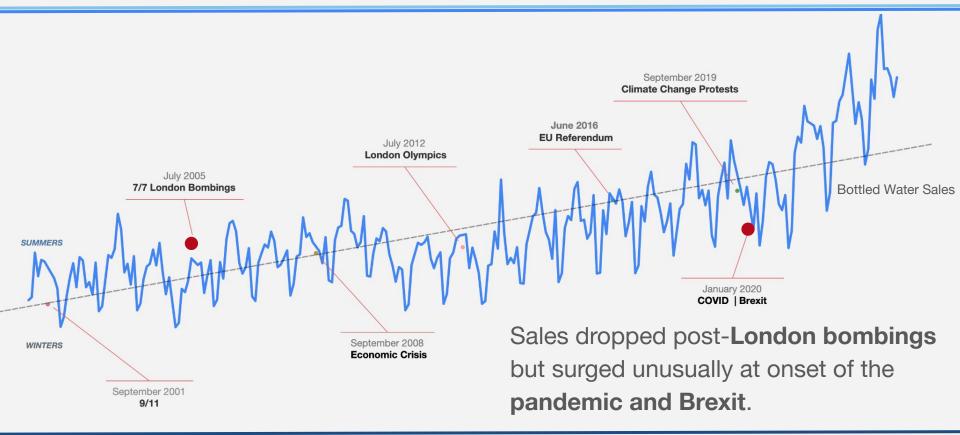
## The Effect of Temperature on Sales





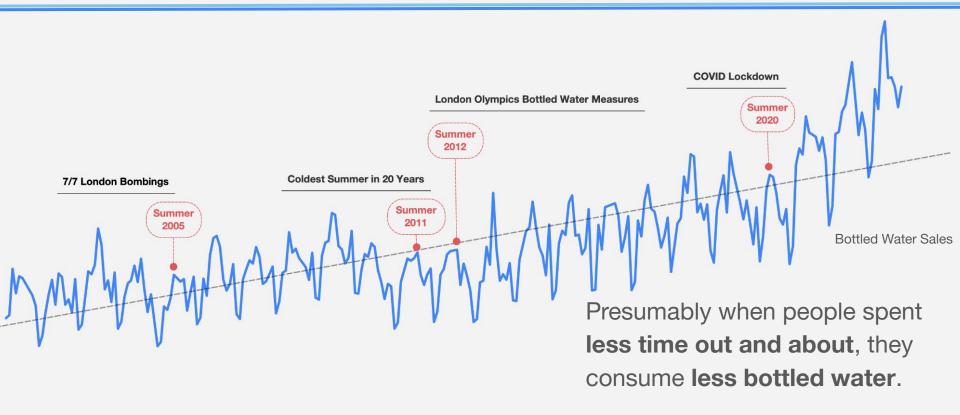
# The Impact of Socio-political Events (2001-2023)





#### **Summers with Low Sales**





## **Price Increase 2015 - 2023**

Mineral Water/Soft Drinks



Inflation per year: 17,79% Gas and electricity can not be substituted. 124,59% Bottled water can be substituted with tap water. 94,99% 39,06% 35,67% Inflation per year: 2,84% 555 19,93%

Package Holidays

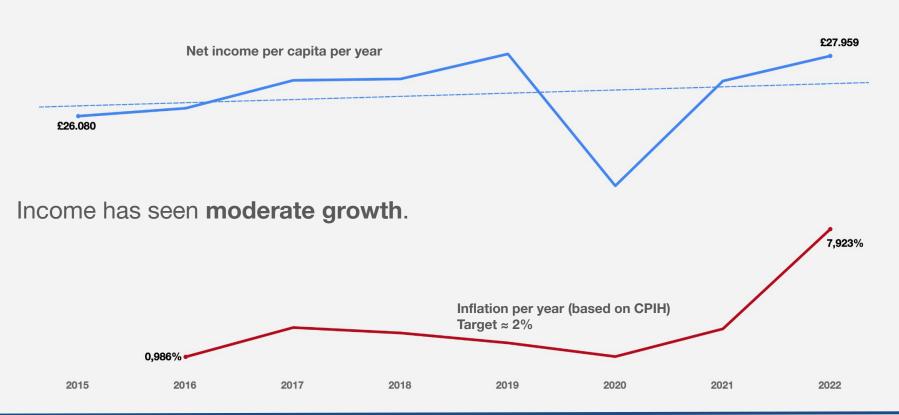
Gas

Electricity

Tap Water

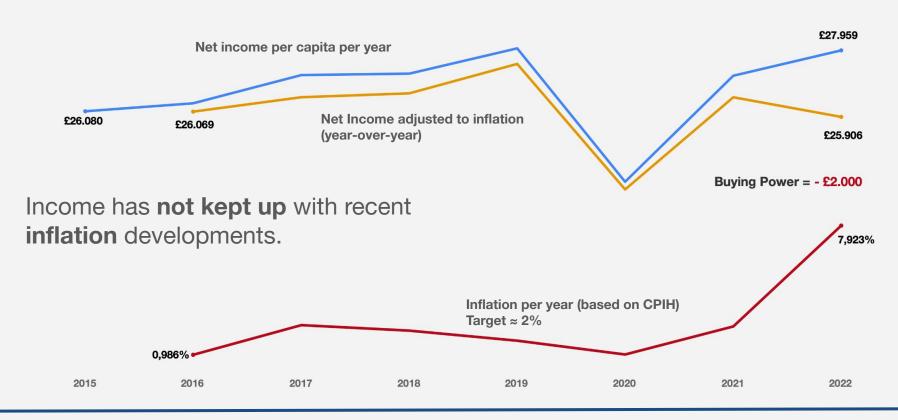
### **Income and Inflation**





## **Loss of Buying Power**





## **Cost Comparison**



Recommended daily intake: 2 Liter

Brand	Per Liter	Per Day	Per Year
evian. Natural Spring Water	£ 1.00	£ 2.00	£ 720
HIGHLAND SPRING	£ 0.60	£ 1.20	£ 432
SUPERMARKET	£ 0.20	£ 0.40	£ 244
	£ 0.006*	£ 0.012	£ 4.32

<sup>\*</sup> including sewage, based on 140 litres per day usage for a single household.

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## **Key Takeaways**



- Data on tap water quality is available.
- Quality of tap water is comparable to bottled water.
- Bottled water sale is driven by individual convenience.
- Bottled water is at least 50 times more expensive than tap water.





