Please note that all data used in the demonstration slides is SIMULATED DATA and should not be used for analysis.

Social Mobility
Commission

Mapping the UK: an analysis of social mobility across regions

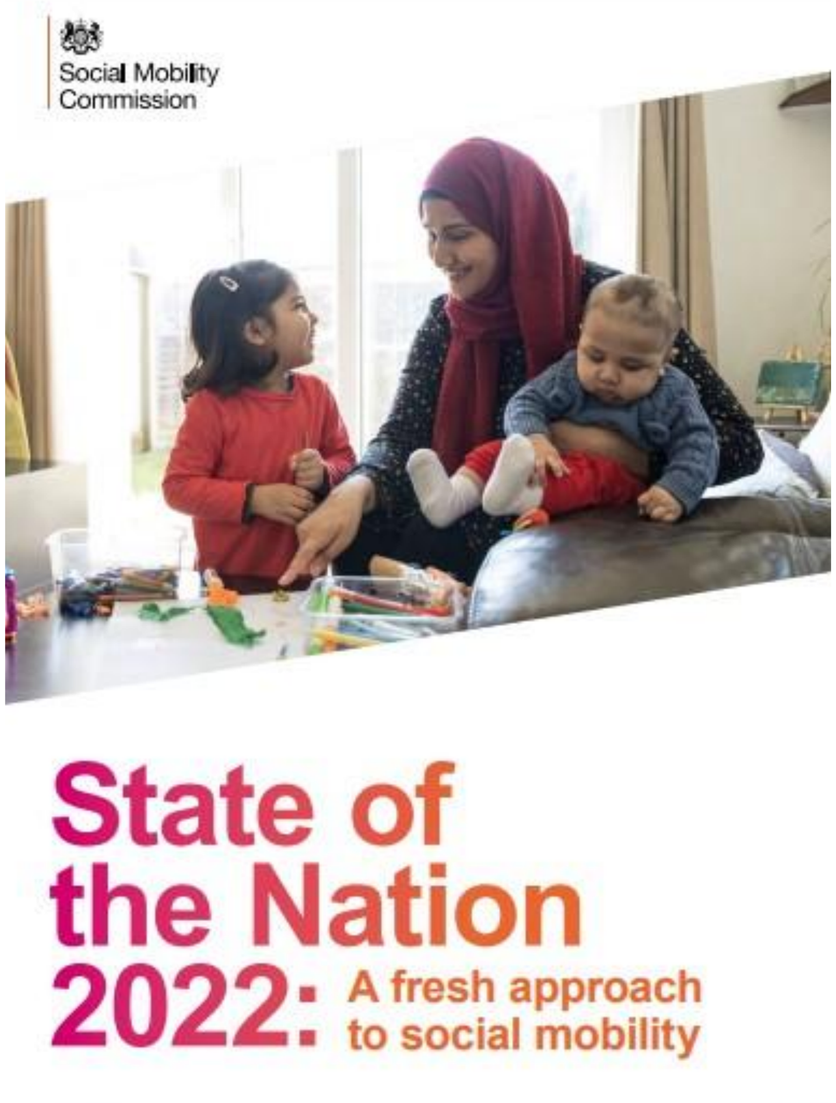
A Data Explorer Tool

June 2023

Overview

- State of the Nation: context
- Data explorer tool: where the idea came from, what it will do, users
- How it works: exploring the tool

State of the Nation - our annual monitoring report

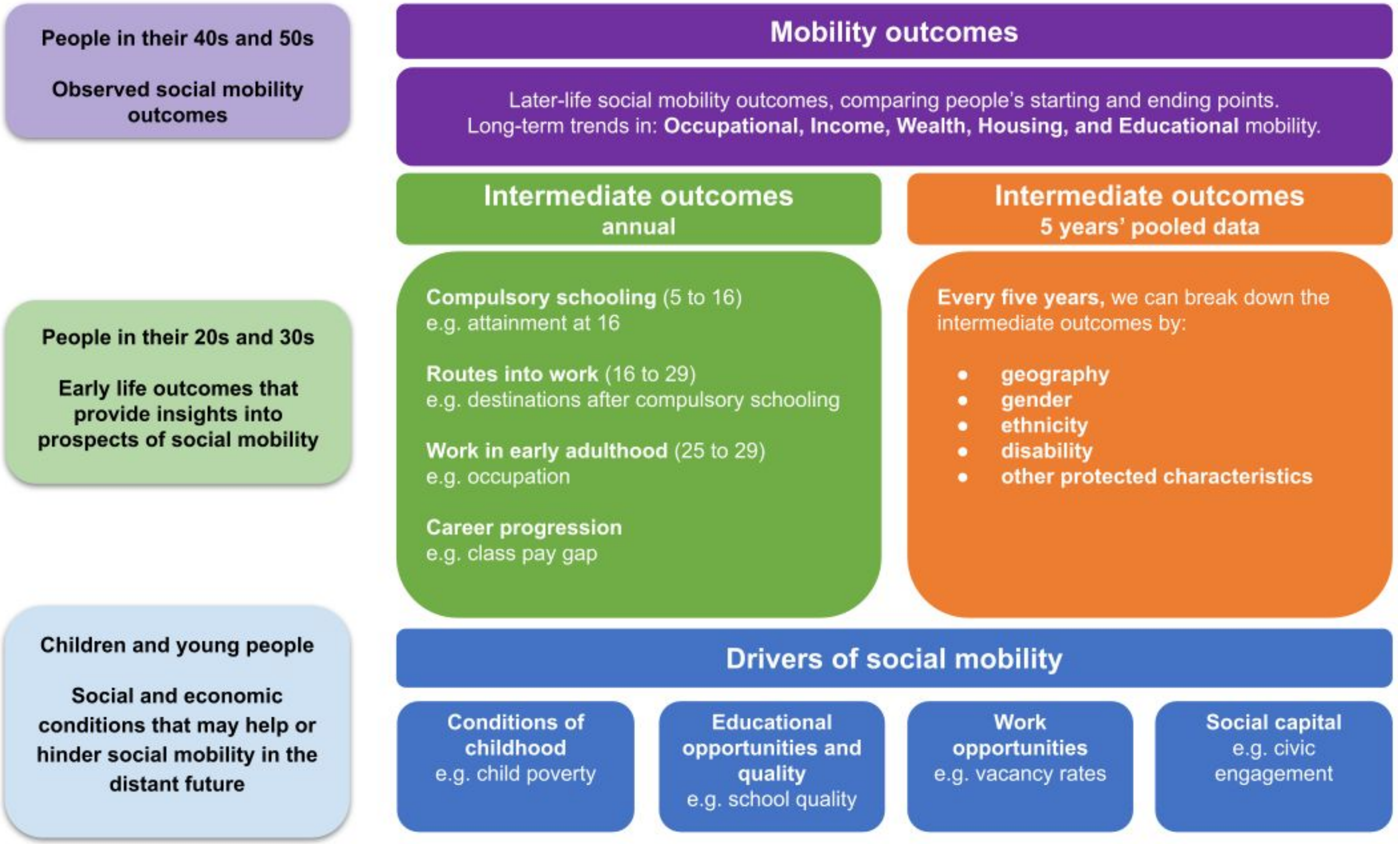

Social Mobility Commission

State of the Nation 2022: A fresh approach to social mobility

Published in June 2022, ***State of the Nation: A fresh approach to social mobility***, set out the new agenda for the Commission.

We introduced a **new Social Mobility Index,** which gives a more systematic way of measuring social mobility across the whole of the UK and across the life course.

What does the new index look like?



People in their 40s and 50s

Observed social mobility outcomes

People in their 20s and 30s

Early life outcomes that provide insights into prospects of social mobility

Children and young people

Social and economic conditions that may help or hinder social mobility in the distant future

Mobility outcomes

Later-life social mobility outcomes, comparing people's starting and ending points.
Long-term trends in: **Occupational, Income, Wealth, Housing, and Educational** mobility.

Intermediate outcomes
annual

Compulsory schooling (5 to 16)
e.g. attainment at 16

Routes into work (16 to 29)
e.g. destinations after compulsory schooling

Work in early adulthood (25 to 29)
e.g. occupation

Career progression
e.g. class pay gap

Intermediate outcomes
5 years' pooled data

Every five years, we can break down the intermediate outcomes by:

- **geography**
- **gender**
- **ethnicity**
- **disability**
- **other protected characteristics**

Drivers of social mobility

Conditions of childhood
e.g. child poverty

Educational opportunities and quality
e.g. school quality

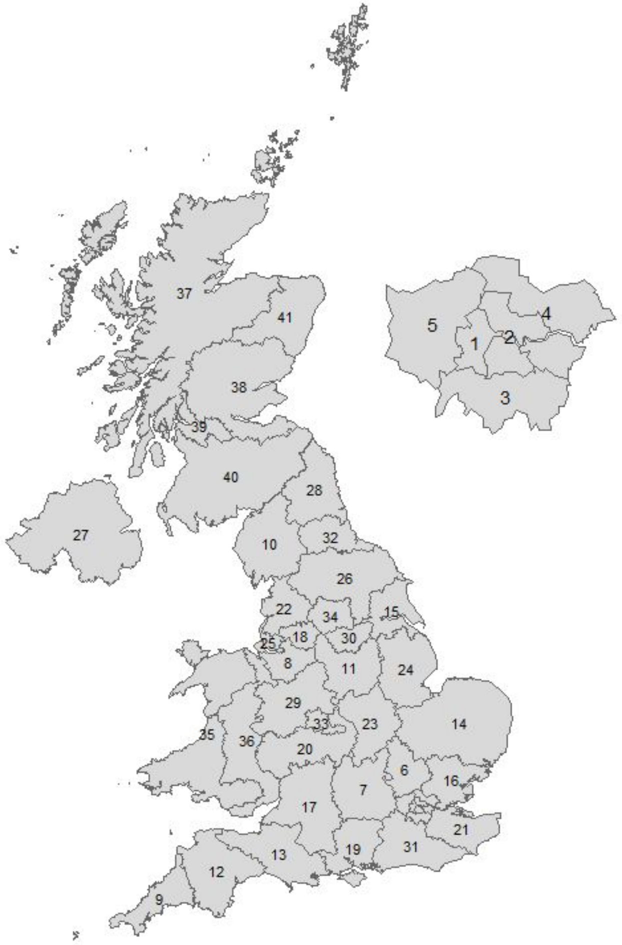
Work opportunities
e.g. vacancy rates

Social capital
e.g. civic engagement

Our new index provides, for the first time, a **systematic look at social mobility outcomes** themselves, and a critical starting point to improve the evidence base.

We focus on the mobility outcome of **occupational class**, and add further outcomes like **income, wealth, education and housing**, as the data allows.

State of the Nation 2023: A focus on People and Places


37
41
5
1
2
4
3
38
39
40
28
27
10
32
26
22
34
15
25
18
30
8
11
24
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33
23
14
35
36
20
6
16
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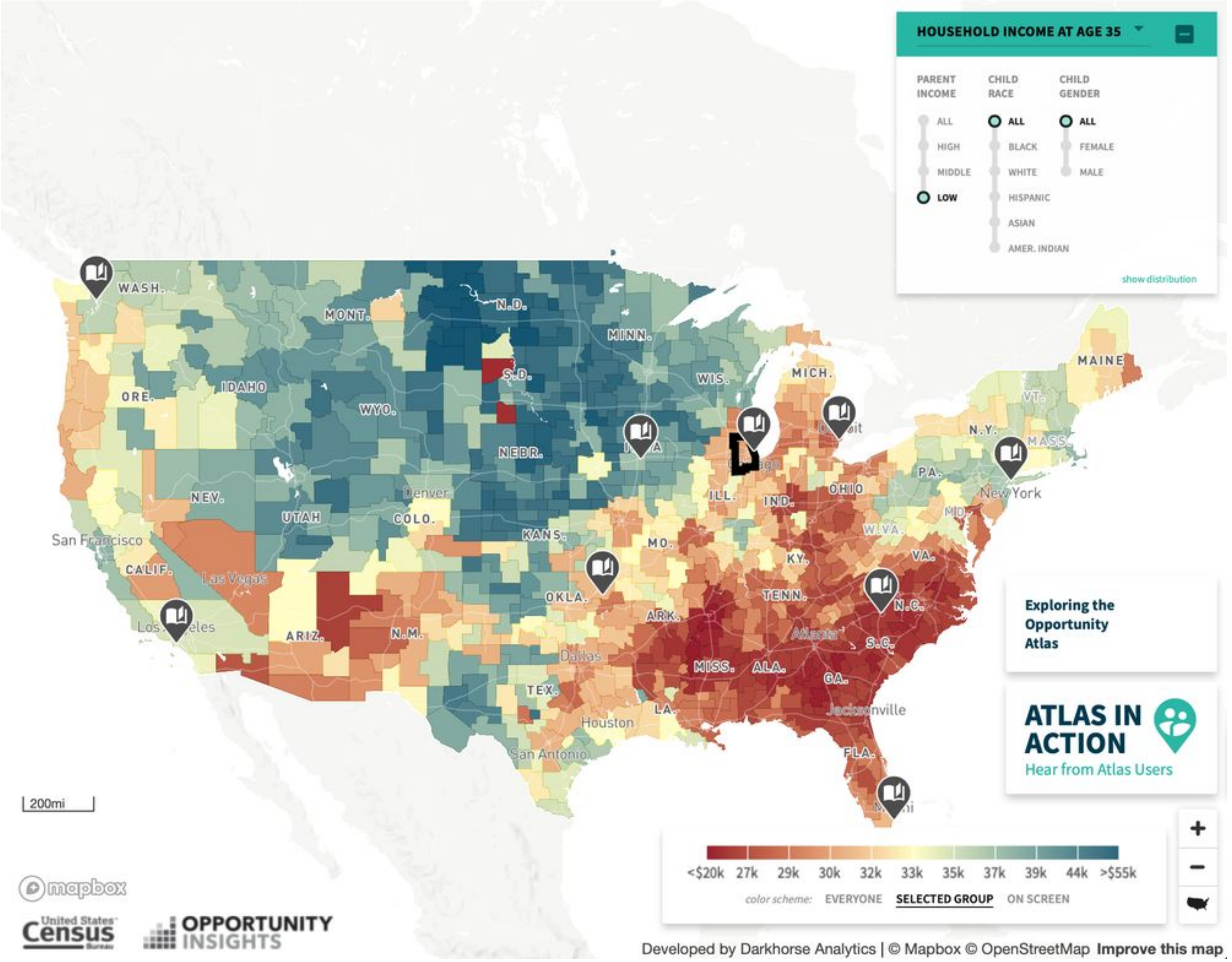
17
21
13
19
31
12
9

We will provide a more detailed picture of social mobility in this year's report by breaking down indicators by **region and protected characteristics** (gender, ethnicity and disability status).

Our new analysis also has a **5-part division of SEB**: higher and lower professional, intermediate, and higher and lower working class.

Where did the idea for an interactive tool come from?



HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT AGE 35

PARENT INCOME: LOW

CHILD RACE: ALL

CHILD GENDER: ALL

ALL
HIGH
MIDDLE
LOW
ALL
BLACK
WHITE
HISPANIC
ASIAN
AMER. INDIAN
ALL
FEMALE
MALE
show distribution
WASH.
MONT.
N.D.
MINN.
S.D.
IDAHO
ORE.
WYO.
WIS.
MICH.
MAINE
VT.
N.Y.
MASS.
NEBR.
IOWA
Chicago
Detroit
PA.
New York
NEV.
UTAH
Denver
COLO.
ILL.
IND.
OHIO
MD.
San Francisco
CALIF.
KANS.
MO.
W.VA.
KY.
VA.
Las Vegas
OKLA.
TENN.
N.C.
Los Angeles
ARIZ.
N.M.
ARK.
Atlanta
S.C.
Dallas
MISS.
ALA.
GA.
TEX.
LA.
Jacksonville
Houston
San Antonio
FLA.
Miami
Exploring the Opportunity Atlas
ATLAS IN ACTION
Hear from Atlas Users
200mi
<$20k
27k
29k
30k
32k
33k
35k
37k
39k
44k
>$55k
color scheme:
EVERYONE
SELECTED GROUP
ON SCREEN
+
−
mapbox
United States Census Bureau
OPPORTUNITY INSIGHTS
Developed by Darkhorse Analytics | © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap Improve this map

The idea was inspired by the American Economist, **Raj Chetty's, Opportunity Atlas** (pictured).

To our knowledge, nothing similar to this tool exists in the UK. We wanted a way to **simplify and translate** the findings from our State of the Nation report.

What does the tool do?

The data explorer tool is a collection of **interactive maps, charts and commentary** that shows social mobility measures across the UK.

The tool presents the underlying data in a **more accessible way**, and allows users to explore the data and insights to **meet their individual needs**.

It serves as a **direct complement** to our State of the Nation report, which we will publish in the autumn. It brings the report and findings to life.

Who is it for?

Changemakers

Make evidence-based decisions

- Government policy advisers
- NGOs and special interest groups
- Local authorities or public services
- Businesses and private sector organisations

Storytellers

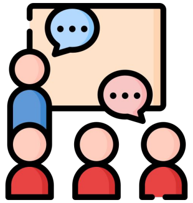
Influence public debate & policy

- Comms and press officers
- Journalists
- Government researchers
- Academics and think-tanks

How do we see this tool being used?

For changemakers

- Find insights that relate to specific area or policies
- Quickly understand what the data is showing
- Be confident that data is current, accurate and reliable
- Copy info or save charts
- Have a permalink to the source being referenced



For storytellers

- Understand what data is available (or planned)
- Easily find the data that’s relevant
- Quickly get to key issues and what’s important
- Check background info (e.g. methodology or sources)
- Download the data in a machine-readable format
- Compare/combine it with other data to create insights

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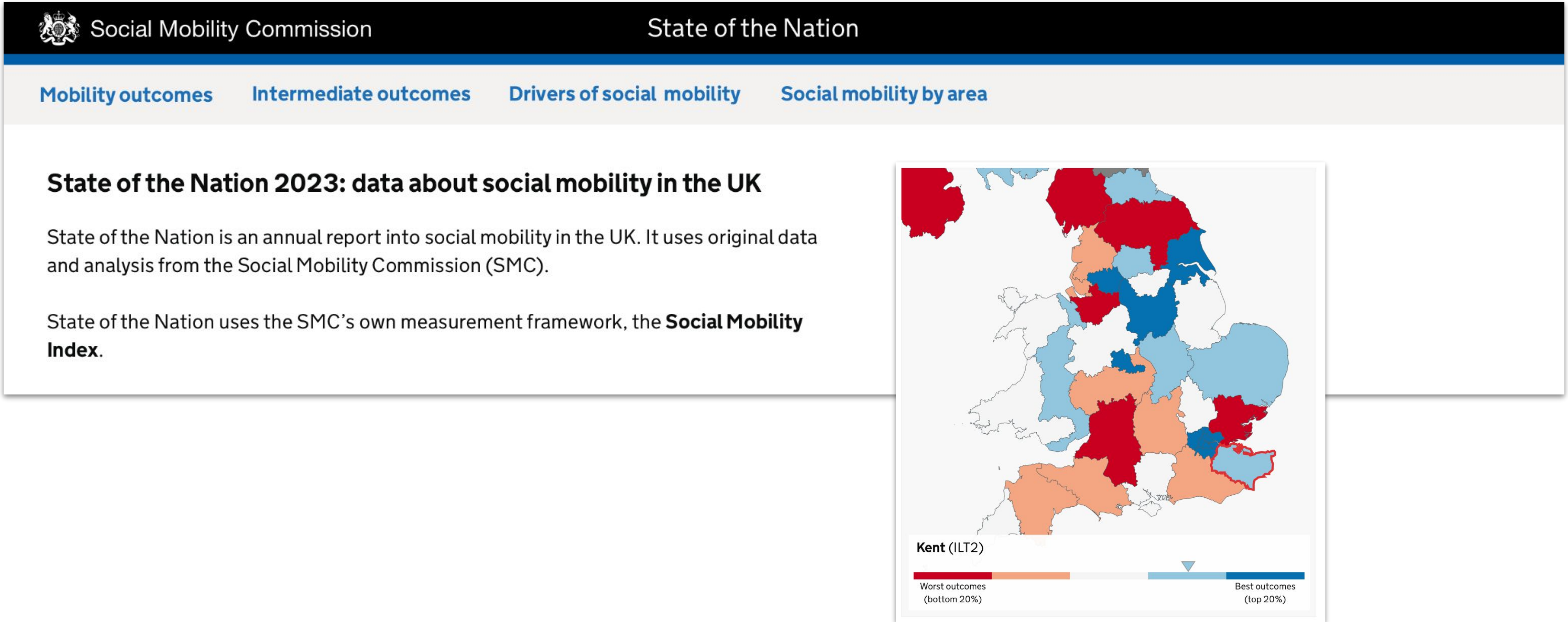
Data Explorer Tool - a preview



Social Mobility Commission

State of the Nation

Mobility outcomes

Intermediate outcomes

Drivers of social mobility

Social mobility by area

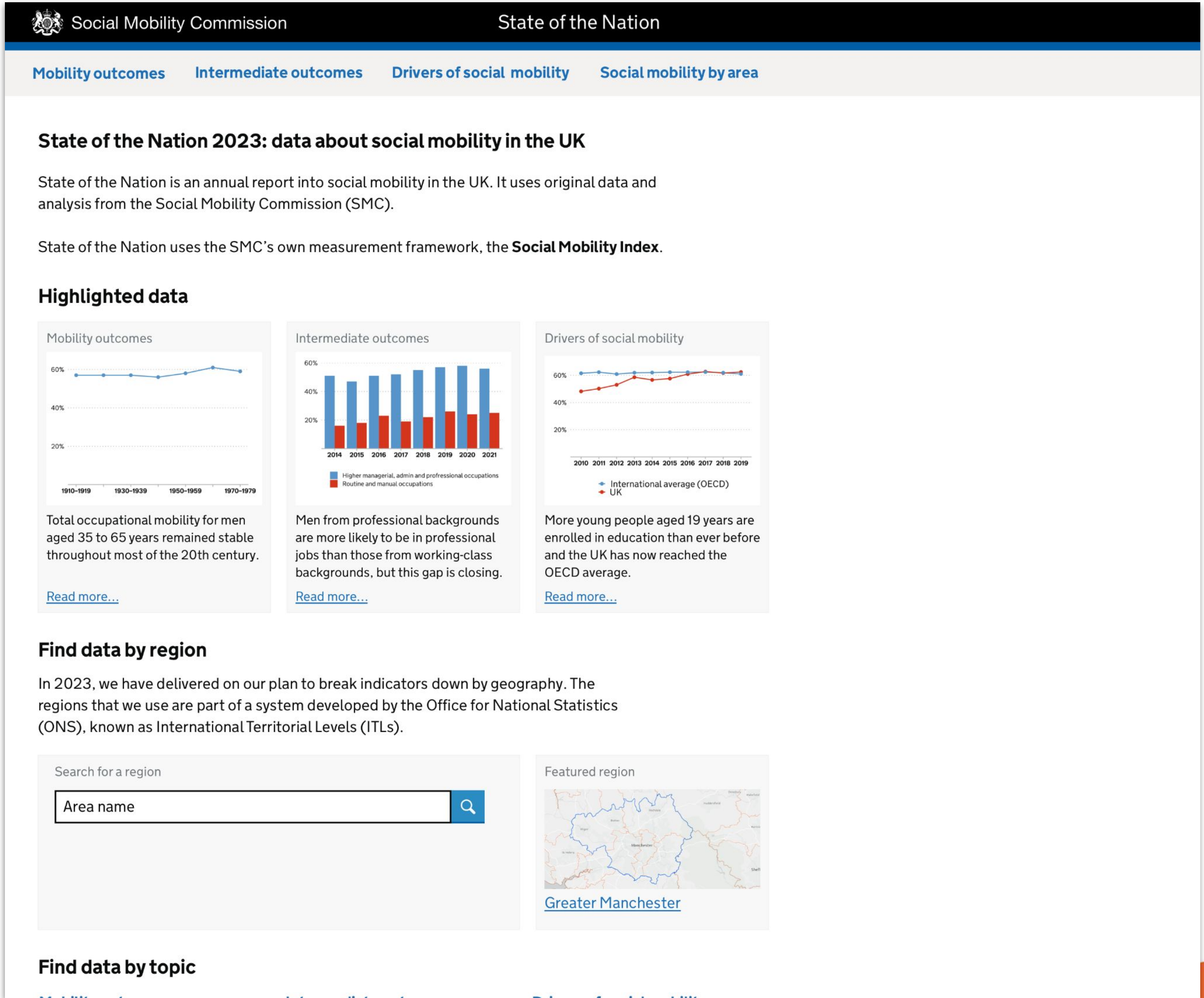
State of the Nation 2023: data about social mobility in the UK

State of the Nation is an annual report into social mobility in the UK. It uses original data and analysis from the Social Mobility Commission (SMC).

State of the Nation uses the SMC's own measurement framework, the **Social Mobility Index**.

Kent (ILT2)
Worst outcomes
(bottom 20%)
Best outcomes
(top 20%)

Home page


Social Mobility Commission
State of the Nation
Mobility outcomes
Intermediate outcomes
Drivers of social mobility
Social mobility by area
Mobility outcomes
60%
40%
20%
1910-1919
1930-1939
1950-1959
1970-1979
Intermediate outcomes
60%
40%
20%
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
Higher managerial, admin and professional occupations
Routine and manual occupations
Drivers of social mobility
60%
40%
20%
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
International average (OECD)
UK
Read more...
Read more...
Read more...
Search for a region
Area name
Featured region
Greater Manchester

State of the Nation 2023: data about social mobility in the UK

State of the Nation is an annual report into social mobility in the UK. It uses original data and analysis from the Social Mobility Commission (SMC).

State of the Nation uses the SMC's own measurement framework, the **Social Mobility Index**.

Highlighted data

Total occupational mobility for men aged 35 to 65 years remained stable throughout most of the 20th century.

Men from professional backgrounds are more likely to be in professional jobs than those from working-class backgrounds, but this gap is closing.

More young people aged 19 years are enrolled in education than ever before and the UK has now reached the OECD average.

Find data by region

In 2023, we have delivered on our plan to break indicators down by geography. The regions that we use are part of a system developed by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), known as International Territorial Levels (ITLs).

Find data by topic

Domain page

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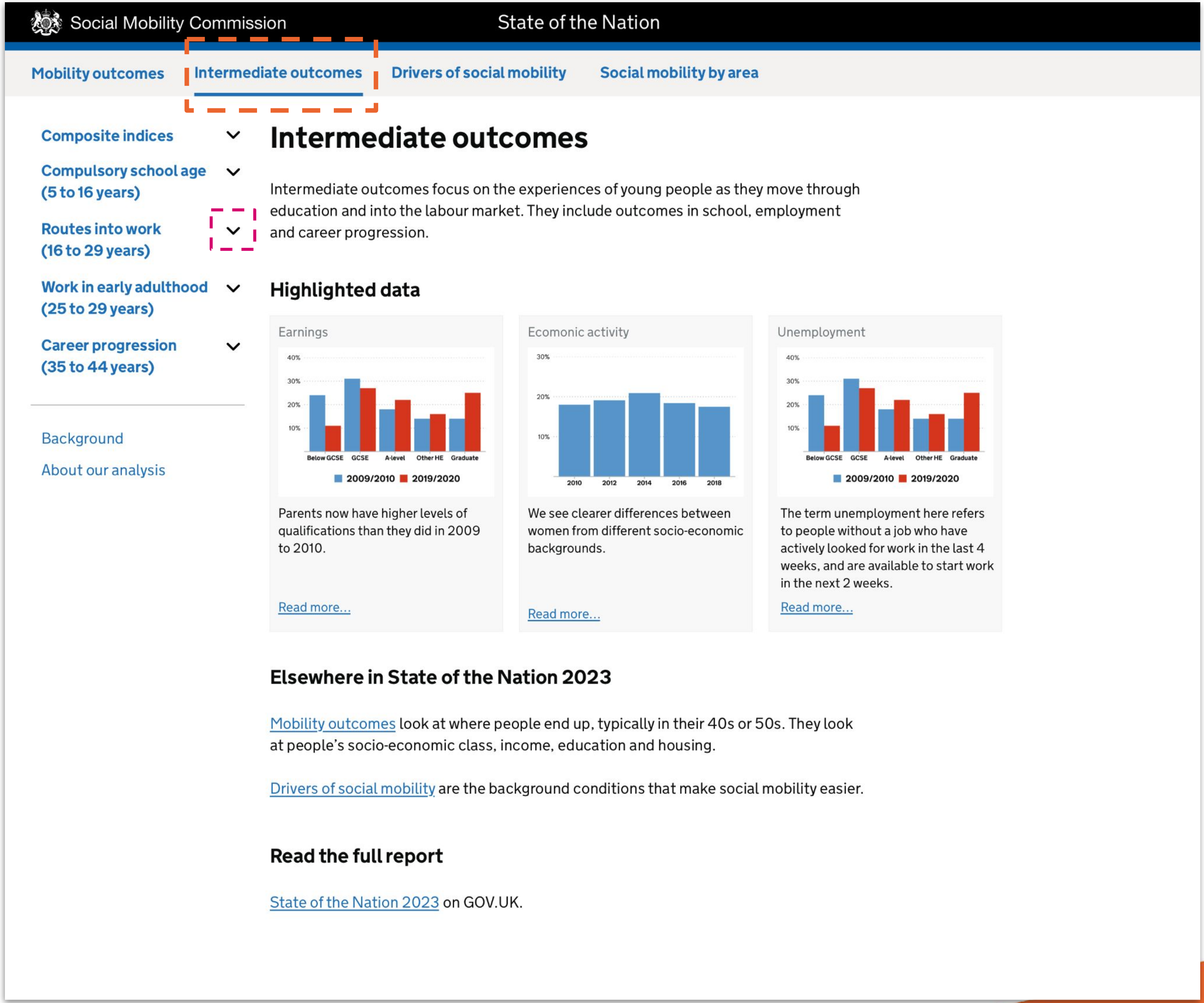

Social Mobility Commission
State of the Nation
Mobility outcomes
Intermediate outcomes
Drivers of social mobility
Social mobility by area
Composite indices
Compulsory school age (5 to 16 years)
Routes into work (16 to 29 years)
Work in early adulthood (25 to 29 years)
Career progression (35 to 44 years)
Background
About our analysis

Intermediate outcomes

Intermediate outcomes focus on the experiences of young people as they move through education and into the labour market. They include outcomes in school, employment and career progression.

Highlighted data

Earnings
40%
30%
20%
10%
Below GCSE
GCSE
A-level
Other HE
Graduate
🟦 2009/2010 🟥 2019/2020

Parents now have higher levels of qualifications than they did in 2009 to 2010.

Read more...

Ecomonic activity
30%
20%
10%
2010
2012
2014
2016
2018

We see clearer differences between women from different socio-economic backgrounds.

Read more...

Unemployment
40%
30%
20%
10%
Below GCSE
GCSE
A-level
Other HE
Graduate
🟦 2009/2010 🟥 2019/2020

The term unemployment here refers to people without a job who have actively looked for work in the last 4 weeks, and are available to start work in the next 2 weeks.

Read more...

Elsewhere in State of the Nation 2023

Mobility outcomes look at where people end up, typically in their 40s or 50s. They look at people's socio-economic class, income, education and housing.

Drivers of social mobility are the background conditions that make social mobility easier.

Read the full report

State of the Nation 2023 on GOV.UK.

Intermediate Outcomes - Economic activity

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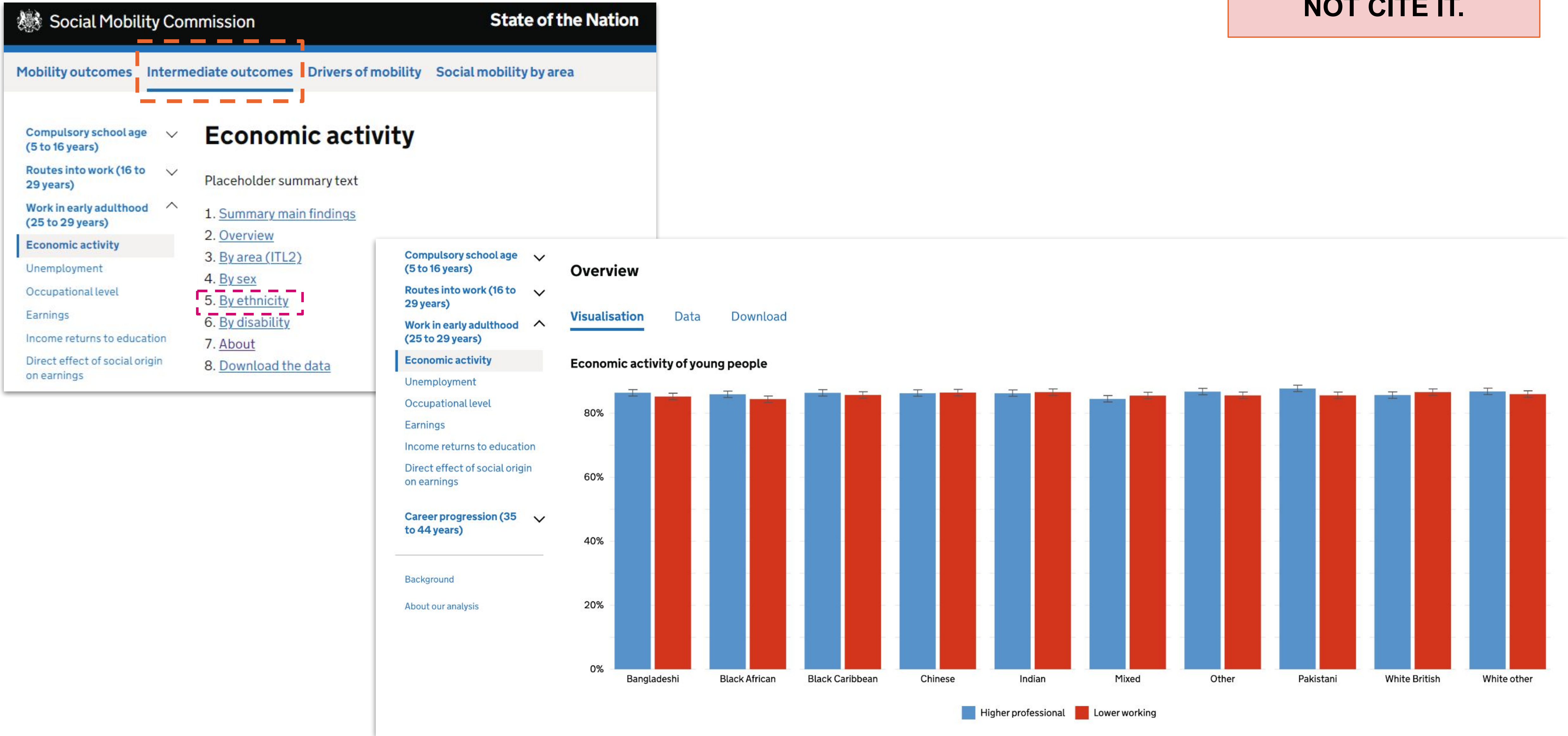

Social Mobility Commission

State of the Nation

Mobility outcomes | Intermediate outcomes | Drivers of mobility | Social mobility by area

- Compulsory school age (5 to 16 years)
- Routes into work (16 to 29 years)
- Work in early adulthood (25 to 29 years)
  - **Economic activity**
  - Unemployment
  - Occupational level
  - Earnings
  - Income returns to education
  - Direct effect of social origin on earnings

Economic activity

Placeholder summary text

1. Summary main findings
2. Overview
3. By area (ITL2)
4. By sex
5. By ethnicity
6. By disability
7. About
8. Download the data

- Compulsory school age (5 to 16 years)
- Routes into work (16 to 29 years)
- Work in early adulthood (25 to 29 years)
  - **Economic activity**
  - Unemployment
  - Occupational level
  - Earnings
  - Income returns to education
  - Direct effect of social origin on earnings
- Career progression (35 to 44 years)

Background

About our analysis

Overview

Visualisation | Data | Download

Economic activity of young people

80%
60%
40%
20%
0%
Bangladeshi
Black African
Black Caribbean
Chinese
Indian
Mixed
Other
Pakistani
White British
White other
Higher professional
Lower working

Composite index

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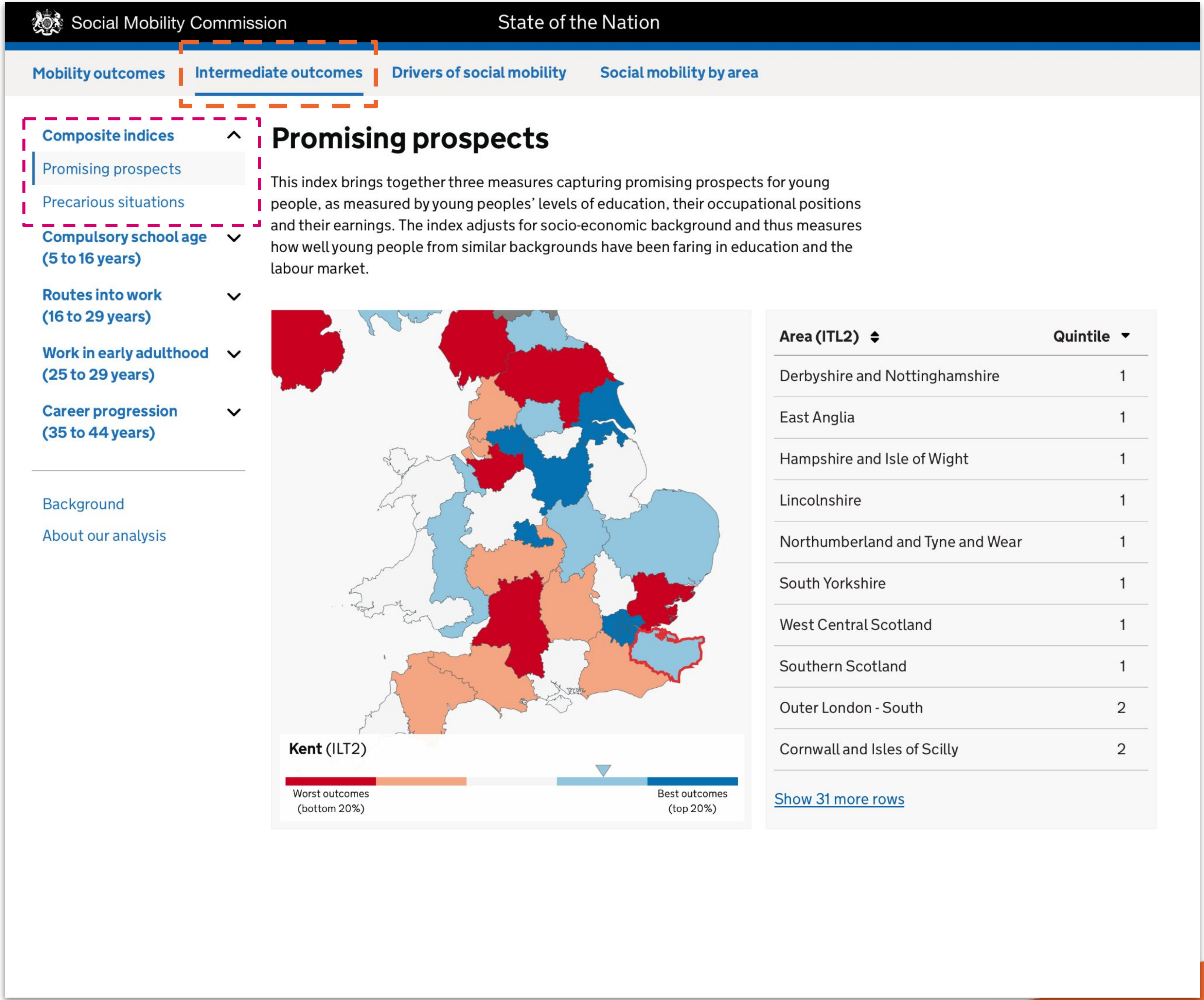
Social Mobility Commission
State of the Nation
Mobility outcomes
Intermediate outcomes
Drivers of social mobility
Social mobility by area
Composite indices
Promising prospects
Precarious situations
Compulsory school age (5 to 16 years)
Routes into work (16 to 29 years)
Work in early adulthood (25 to 29 years)
Career progression (35 to 44 years)
Background
About our analysis
Kent (ILT2)
Worst outcomes (bottom 20%)
Best outcomes (top 20%)
Show 31 more rows

Promising prospects

This index brings together three measures capturing promising prospects for young people, as measured by young peoples' levels of education, their occupational positions and their earnings. The index adjusts for socio-economic background and thus measures how well young people from similar backgrounds have been faring in education and the labour market.

Area (ITL2)	Quintile
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	1
East Anglia	1
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	1
Lincolnshire	1
Northumberland and Tyne and Wear	1
South Yorkshire	1
West Central Scotland	1
Southern Scotland	1
Outer London - South	2
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	2

Social Mobility by Area

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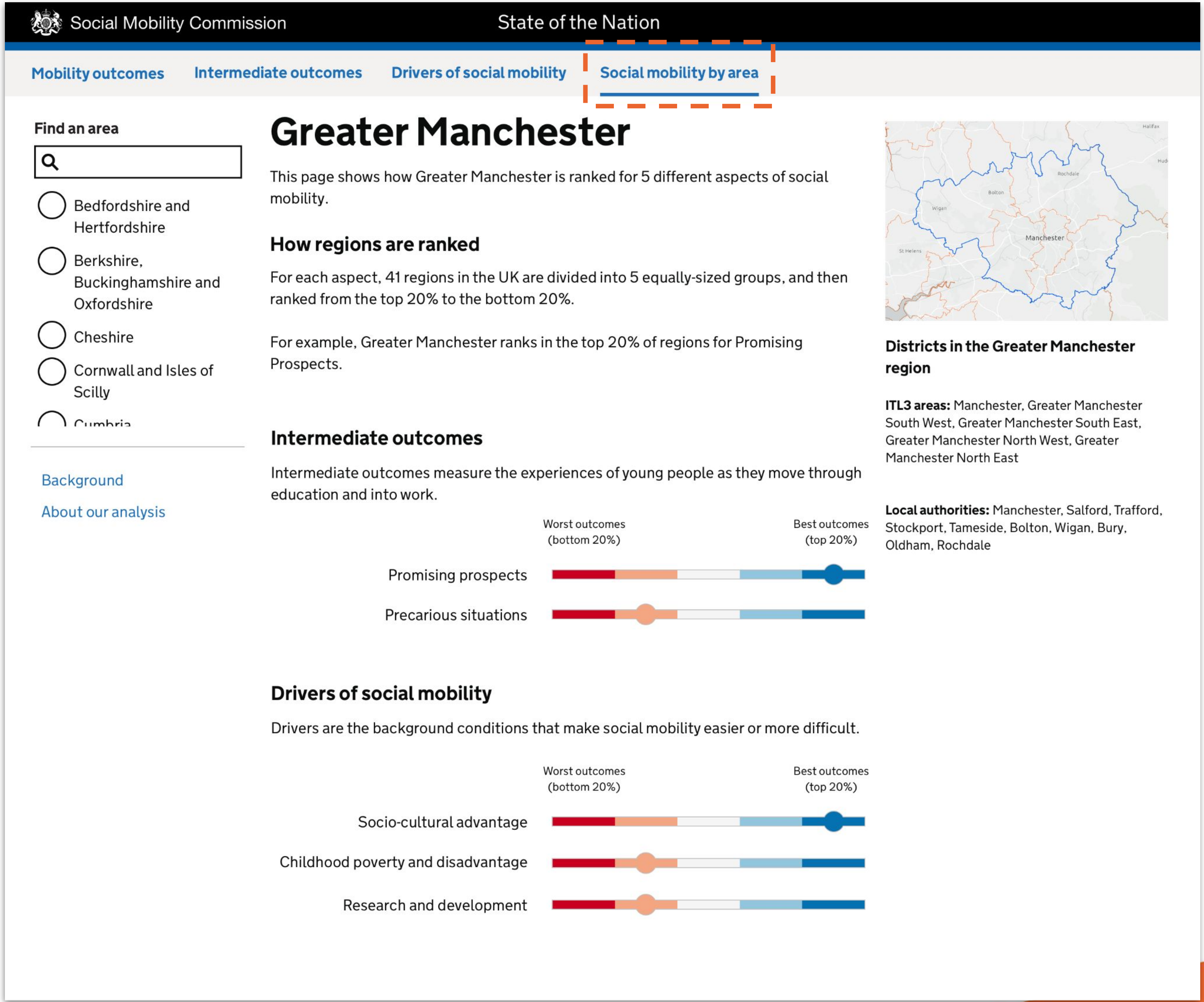


Social Mobility Commission
State of the Nation
Mobility outcomes
Intermediate outcomes
Drivers of social mobility
Social mobility by area
Find an area
Background
About our analysis
Halifax
Rochdale
Bolton
Wigan
Manchester
St Helens

○ Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire
○ Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire
○ Cheshire
○ Cornwall and Isles of Scilly
○ Cumbria

Greater Manchester

This page shows how Greater Manchester is ranked for 5 different aspects of social mobility.

How regions are ranked

For each aspect, 41 regions in the UK are divided into 5 equally-sized groups, and then ranked from the top 20% to the bottom 20%.

For example, Greater Manchester ranks in the top 20% of regions for Promising Prospects.

Intermediate outcomes

Intermediate outcomes measure the experiences of young people as they move through education and into work.

Worst outcomes (bottom 20%)
Best outcomes (top 20%)

Promising prospects
Precarious situations

Drivers of social mobility

Drivers are the background conditions that make social mobility easier or more difficult.

Worst outcomes (bottom 20%)
Best outcomes (top 20%)

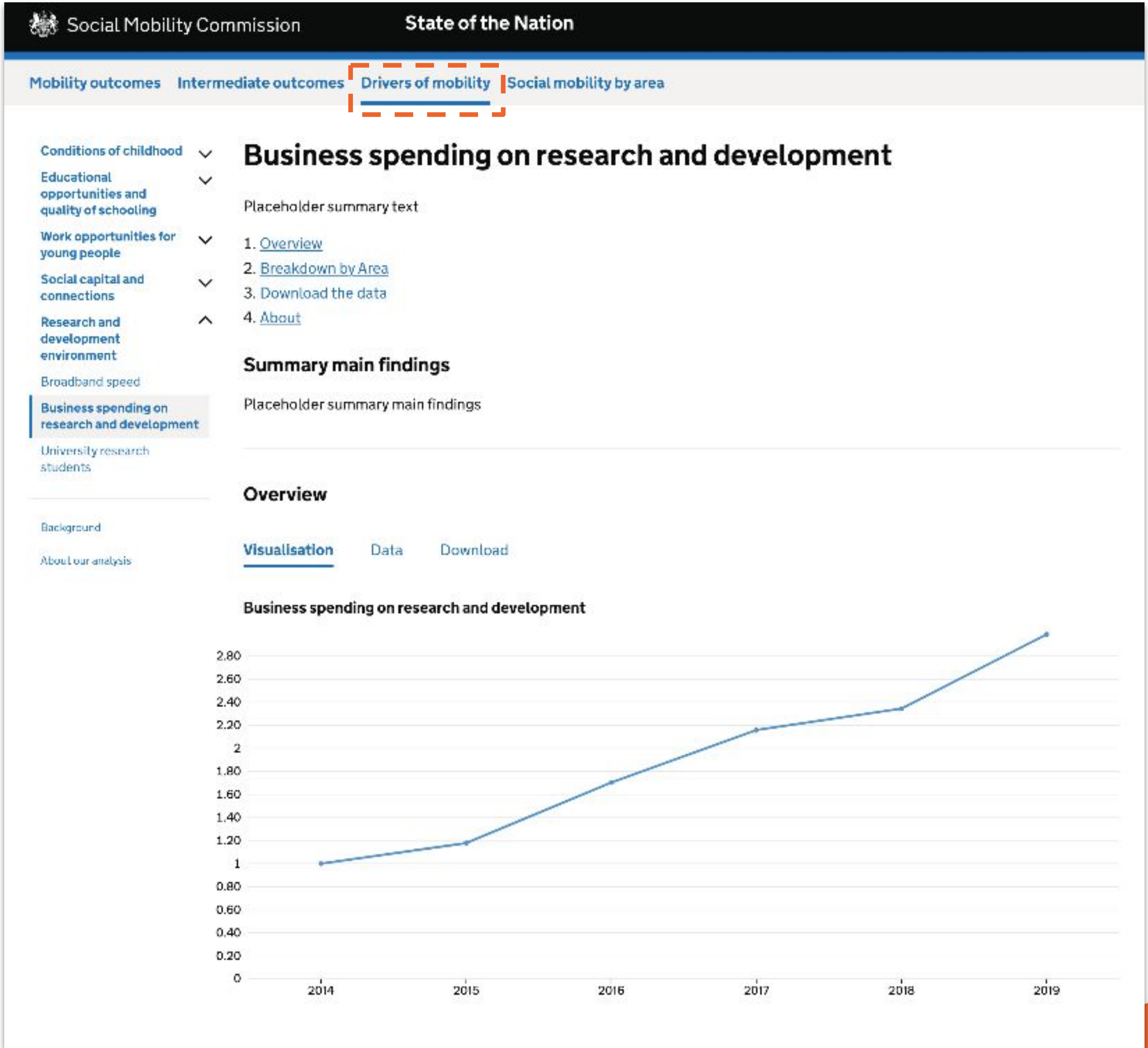
Socio-cultural advantage
Childhood poverty and disadvantage
Research and development

Districts in the Greater Manchester region

ITL3 areas: Manchester, Greater Manchester South West, Greater Manchester South East, Greater Manchester North West, Greater Manchester North East

Local authorities: Manchester, Salford, Trafford, Stockport, Tameside, Bolton, Wigan, Bury, Oldham, Rochdale

Drivers - Business expenditure in R&D


Social Mobility Commission
State of the Nation
Mobility outcomes
Intermediate outcomes
Drivers of mobility
Social mobility by area
Conditions of childhood
Educational opportunities and quality of schooling
Work opportunities for young people
Social capital and connections
Research and development environment
Broadband speed
Business spending on research and development
University research students
Background
About our analysis

Business spending on research and development

Placeholder summary text

1. Overview
2. Breakdown by Area
3. Download the data
4. About

Summary main findings

Placeholder summary main findings

Overview

Visualisation
Data
Download

Business spending on research and development

2.80
2.60
2.40
2.20
2
1.80
1.60
1.40
1.20
1
0.80
0.60
0.40
0.20
0
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019

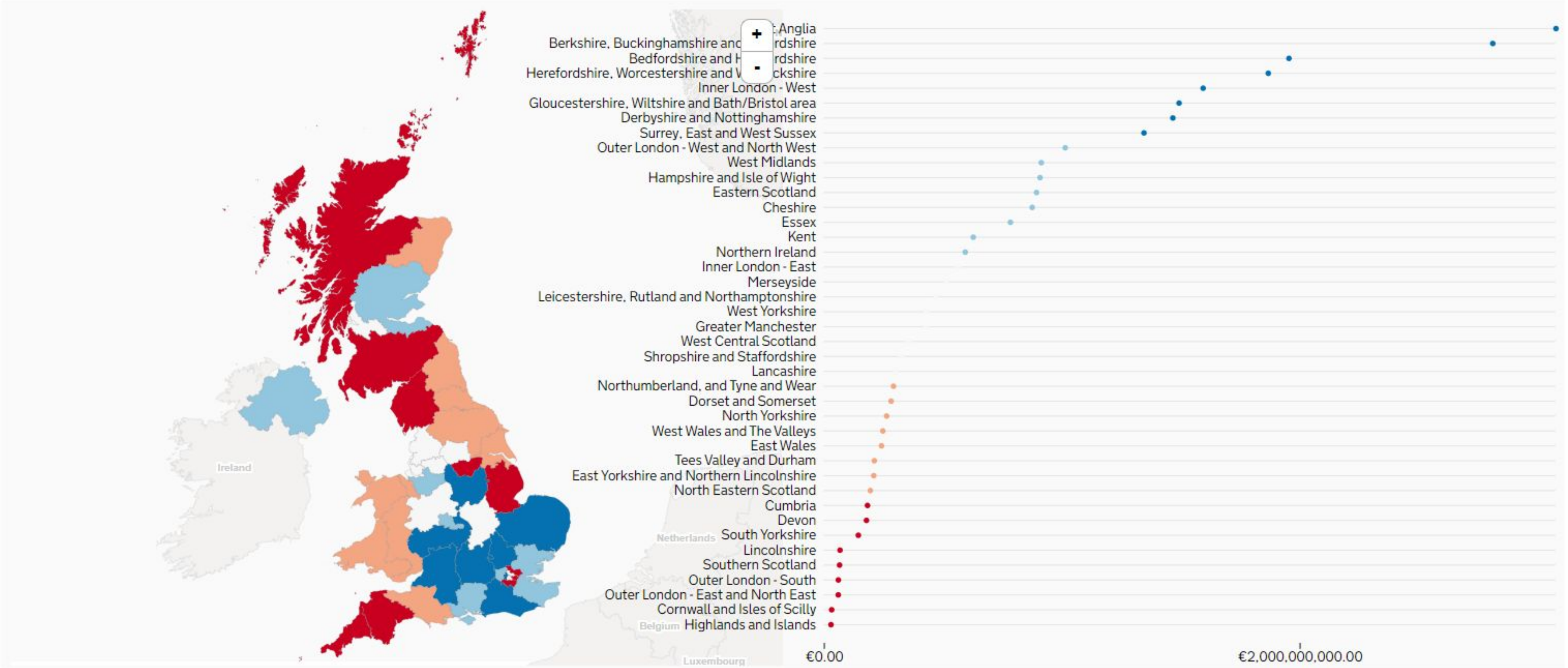
Drivers - Business expenditure in R&D

1. Summary main findings
2. Overview
3. By area (ITL2)
4. About
5. Download the data

By area (ITL2)

Visualisation Data Download

Business spending on research and development



Thank you for your interest

Special thanks to Professors Anthony Heath and Yaojun Li
And we are grateful to the Digital Team of the Equality Hub for their contributions : Jags Parbha, Doug Somerville, Alistair Knight

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