

Adult learning: the golden thread

Adult education matters...

Economic growth given productivity growth – the ultimate driver of prosperity – has flatlined since 2008

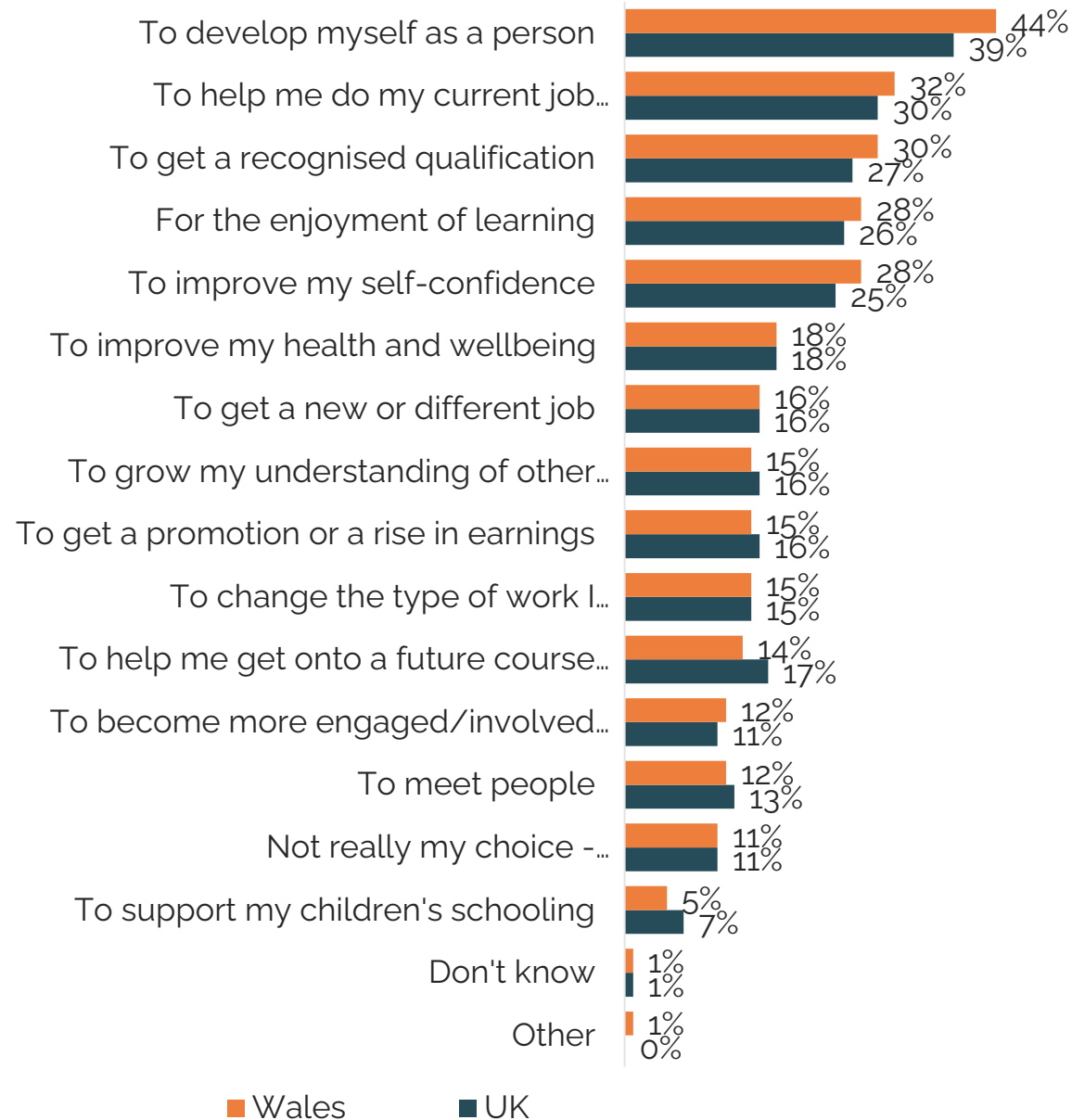
Work and careers to help people find work or change path in midlife

Health and wellbeing given an aging population and rising LT health conditions

Citizenship & friendship to promote active, cohesive communities

Just because ... people like learning, are naturally curious, and want to explore

...for all kinds of reasons

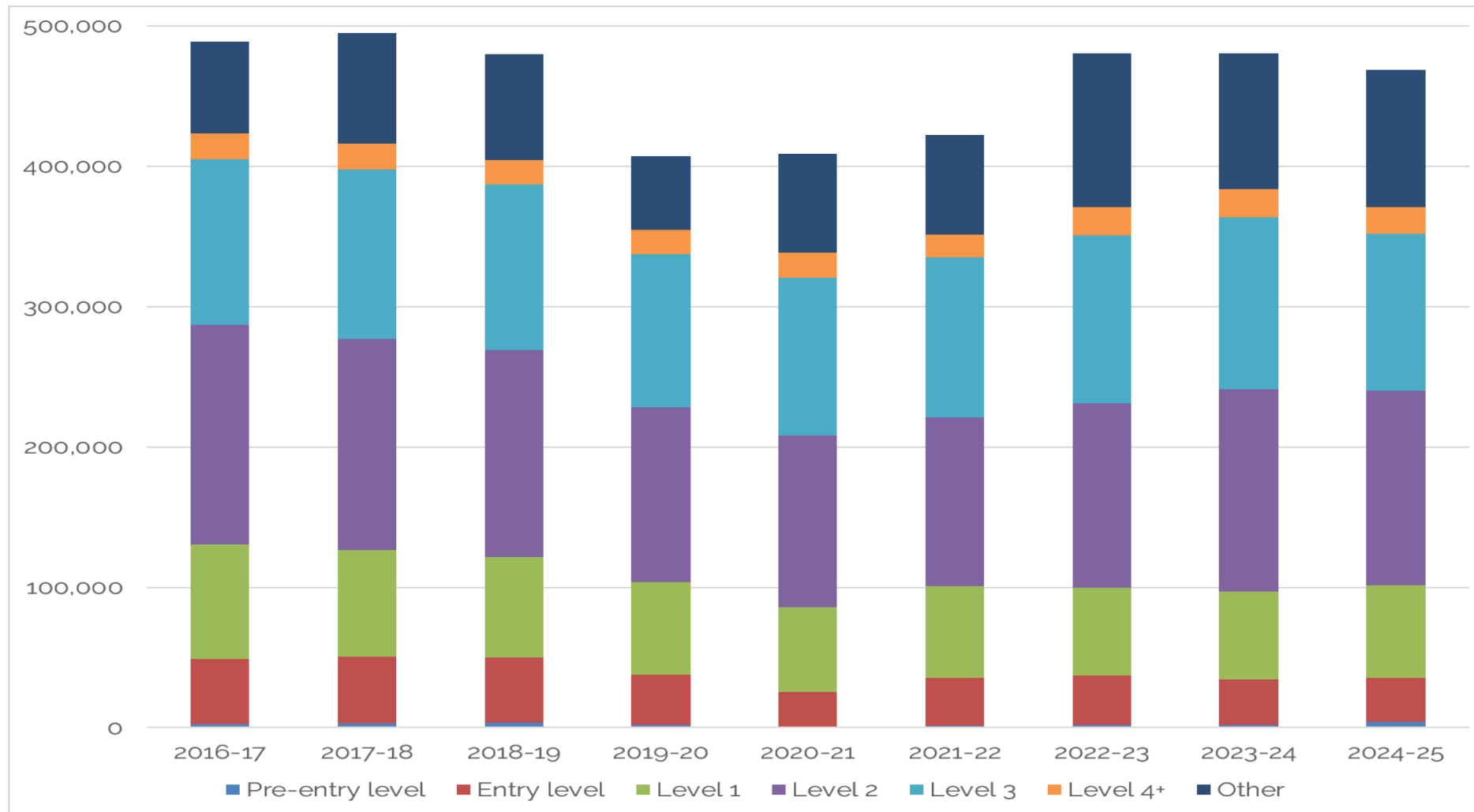


An ageing population means health & wellbeing benefits will increase in importance

Longer working lives and changes in technology mean people will need to update their skills and change career more often

Changing societies including how people get information mean adult education is ever more vital

Bad news: formal learning falling...

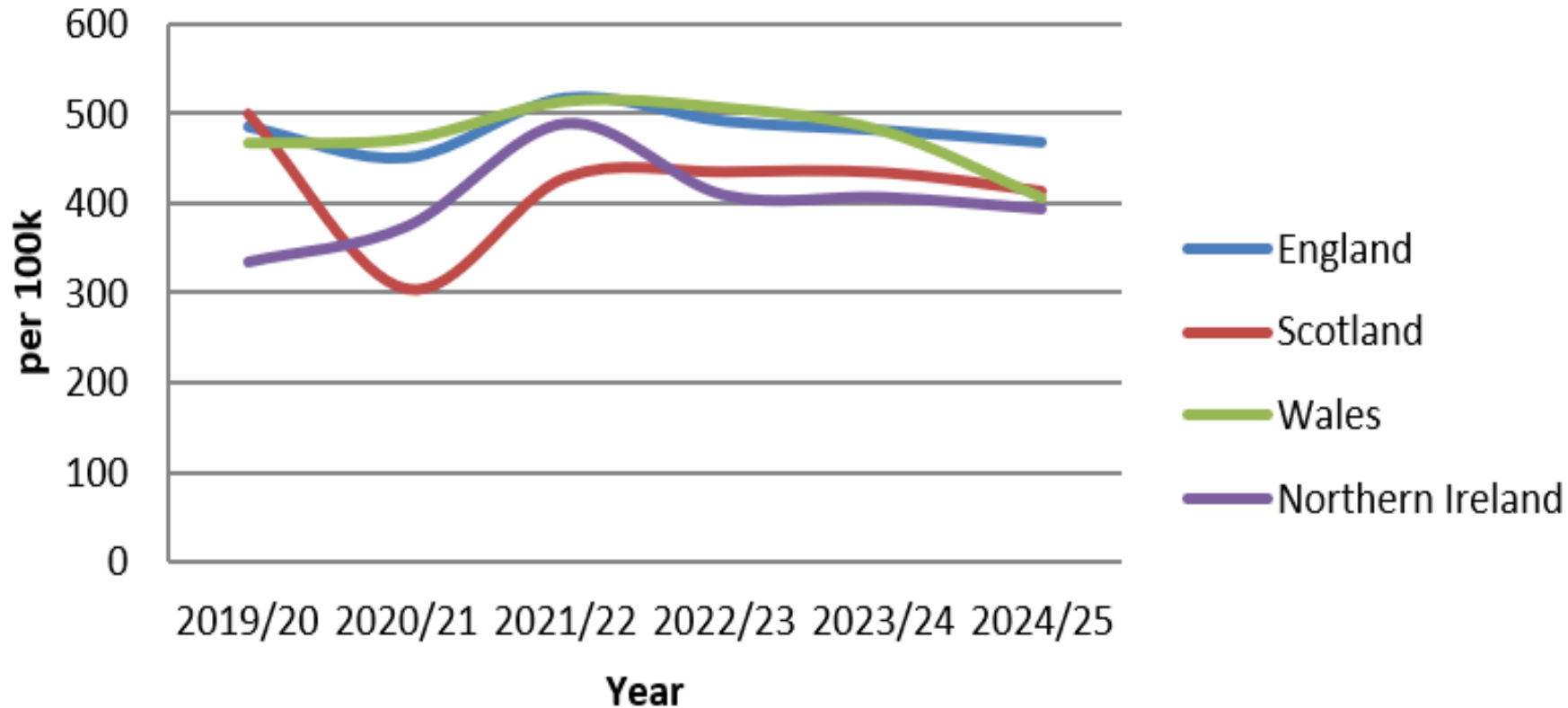


Government & employers
both spending less

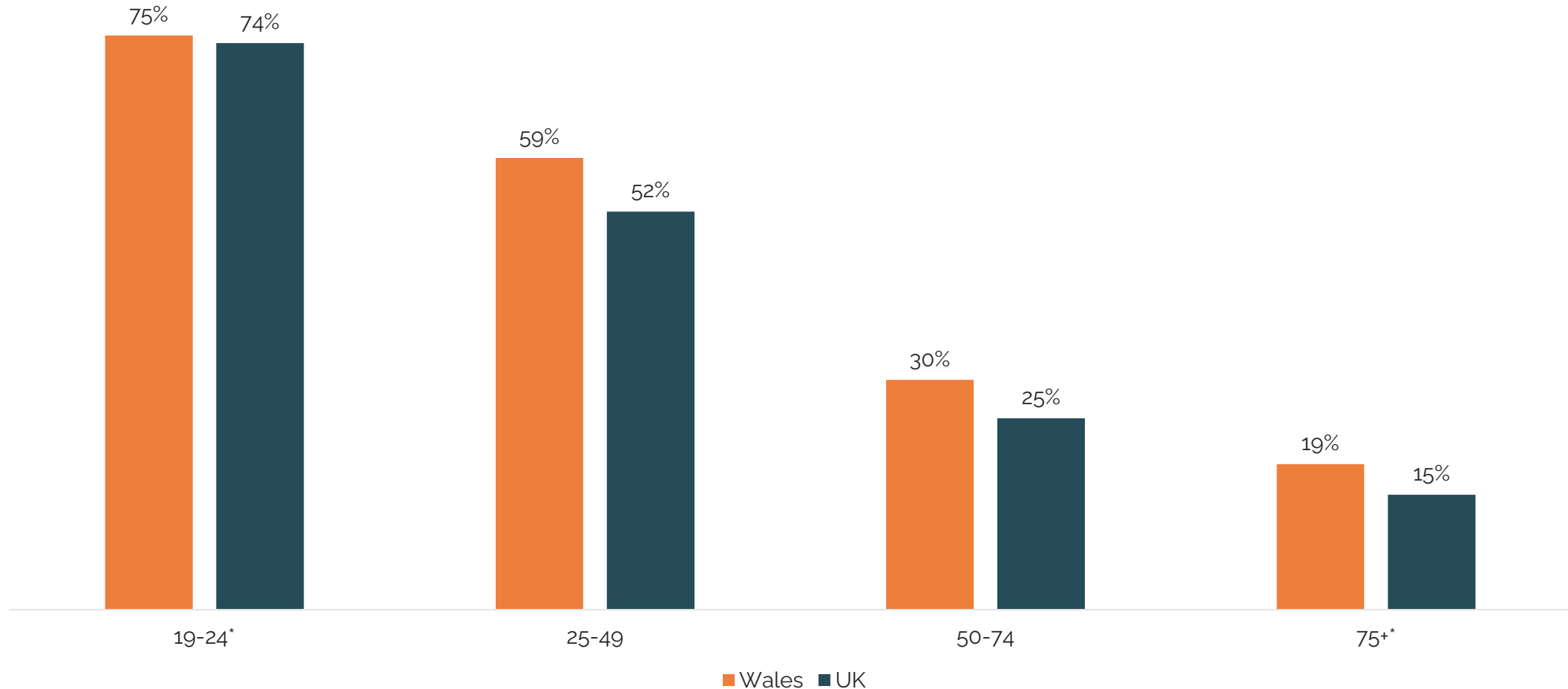
Policy more & more
focused (in England at
least) on **skills for jobs**,
not learning for life

...including apprenticeships...

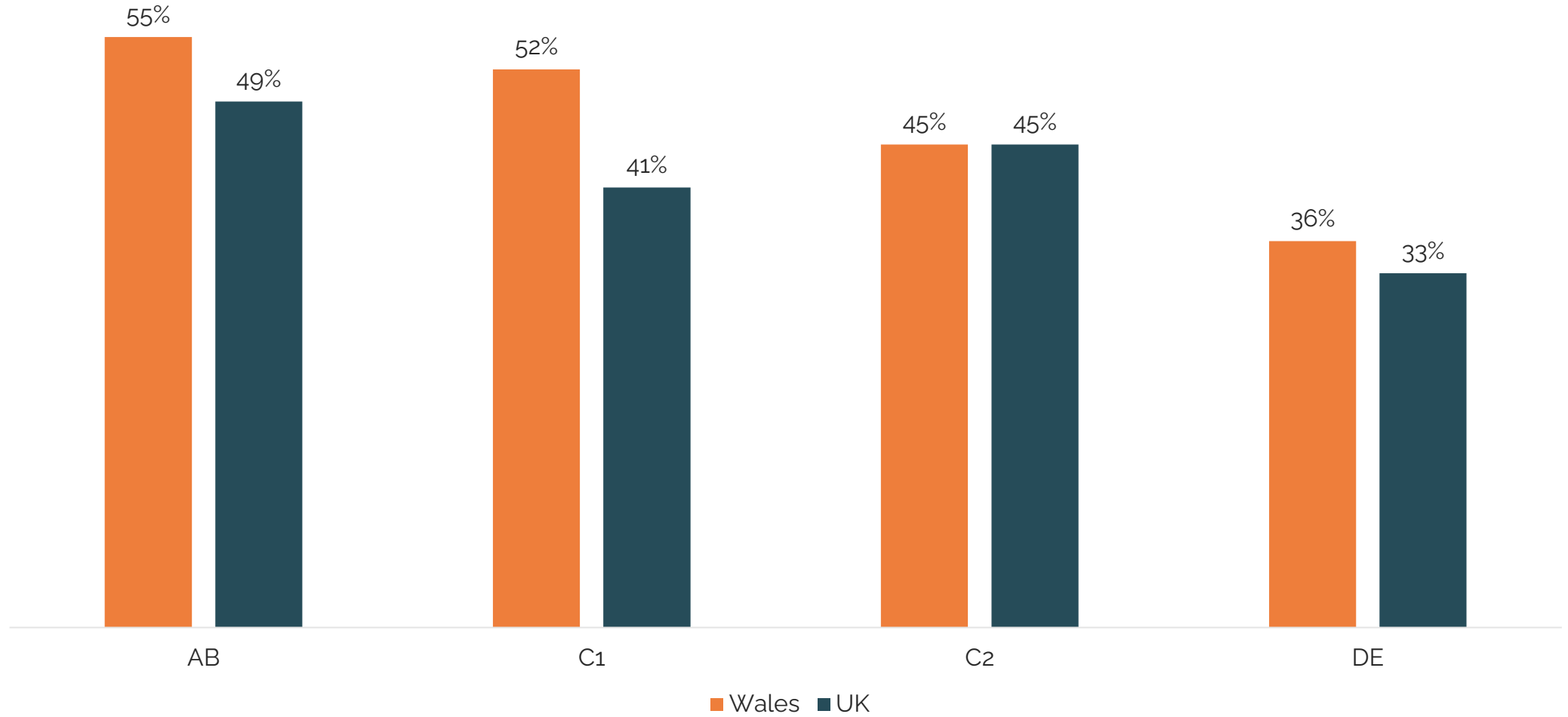
Under 25 — per 100k of 16–64



...with stark divides by age...

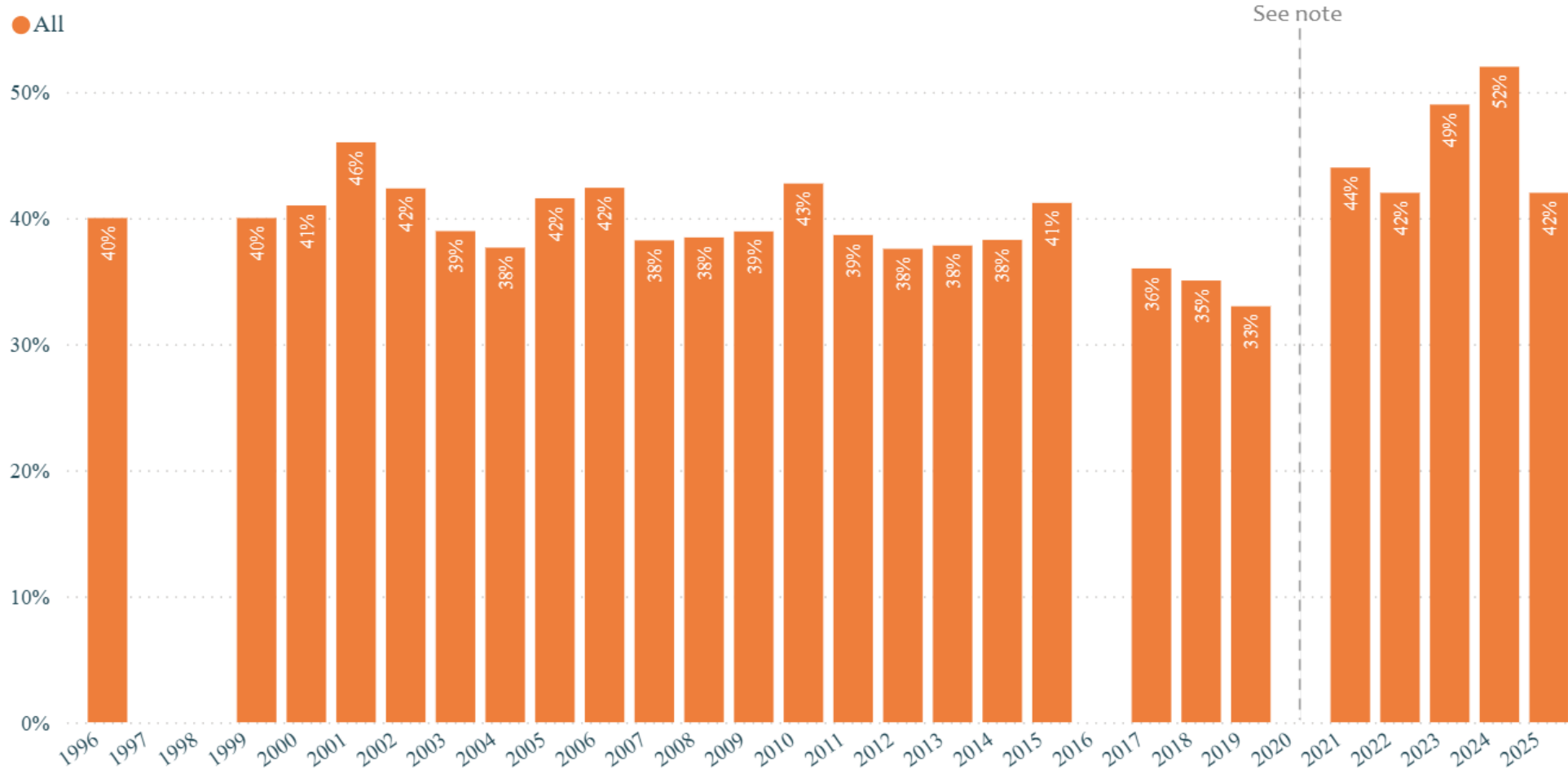


...and class (and more)

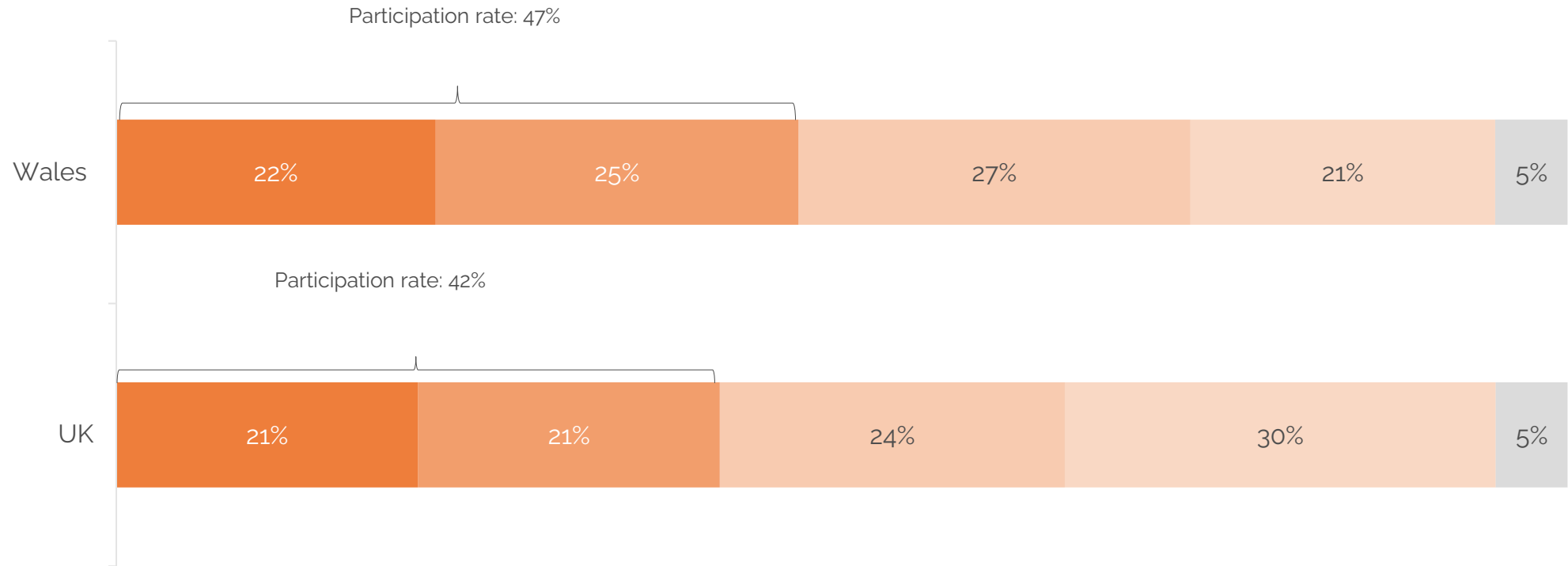


Good news: learning participation is up...

Participation rates

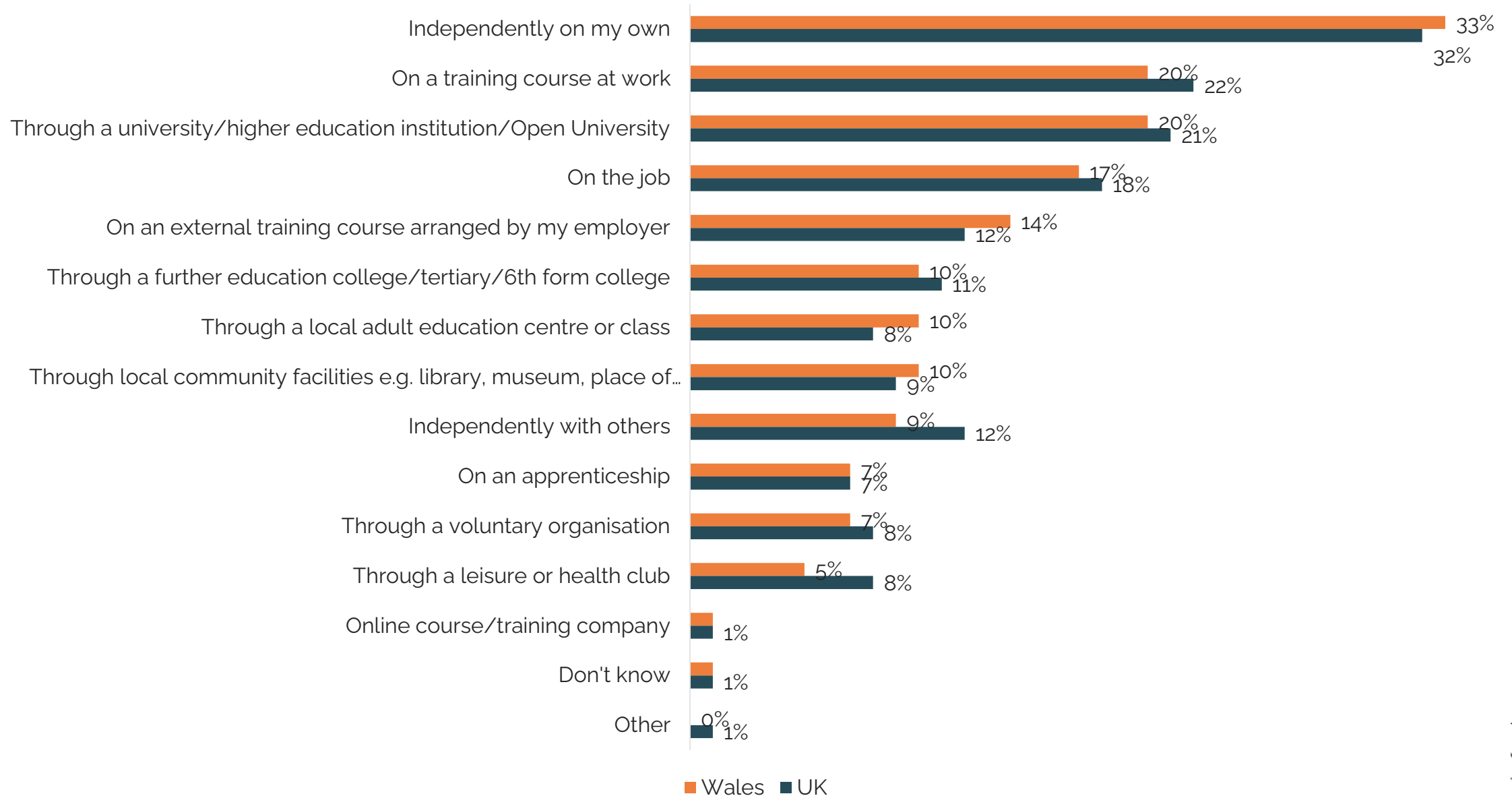


...and higher in Wales...

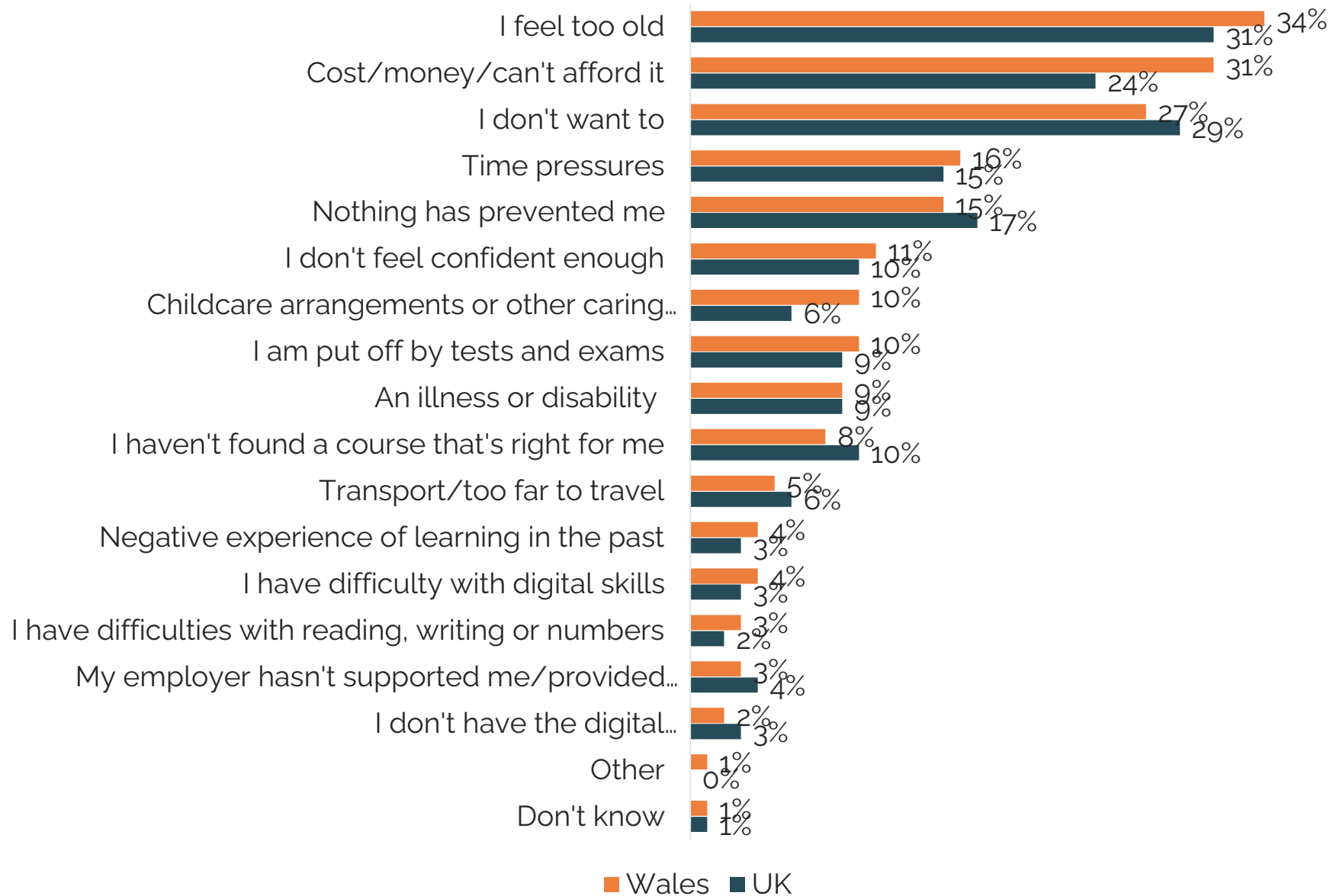


■ Currently learning ■ Learning in last 3 years ■ Past learning (+3 years ago) ■ Not learned since full-time education ■ Don't know

...as people have found new ways to learn



What can we do?



Inspire people to want to learn

Make learning an everyday choice

Make learning as easy as possible

Build learning into public services making it a golden thread

What can we do? (2)



Aim high

Making a tertiary system a reality

Make learning an everyday choice

Build learning into other public **services** making it a golden thread