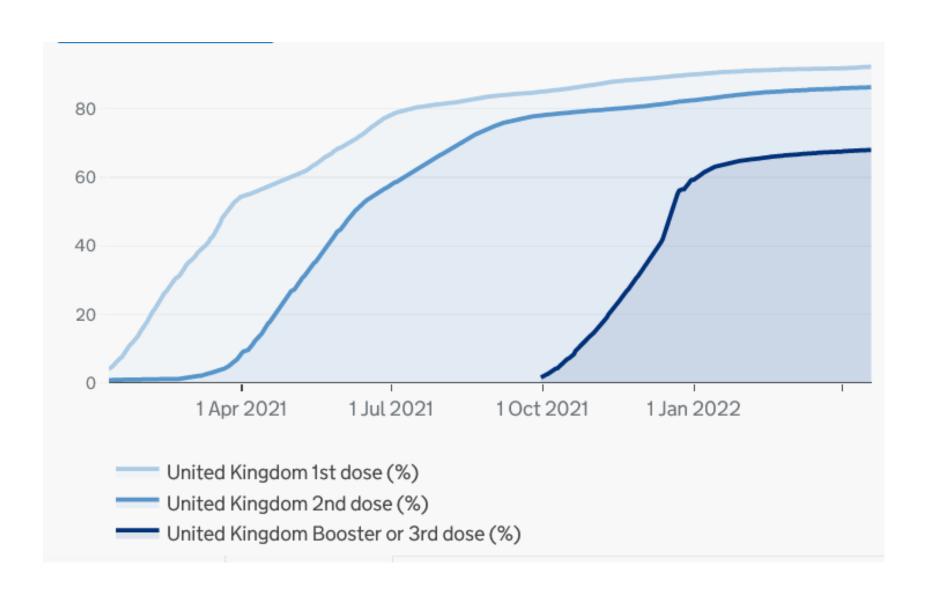
# THE NEXT WELFARE STATE?

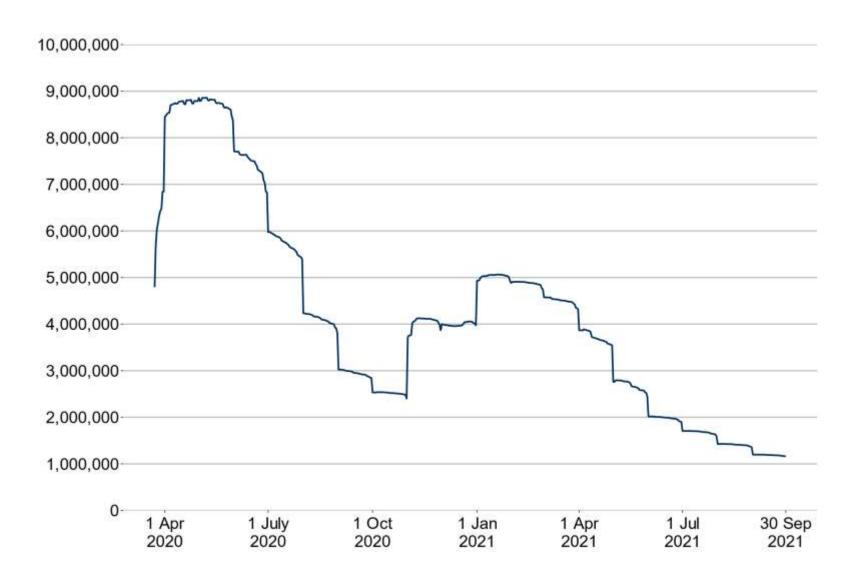
UK WELFARE AFTER COVID-19

CHRISTOPHER PIERSON

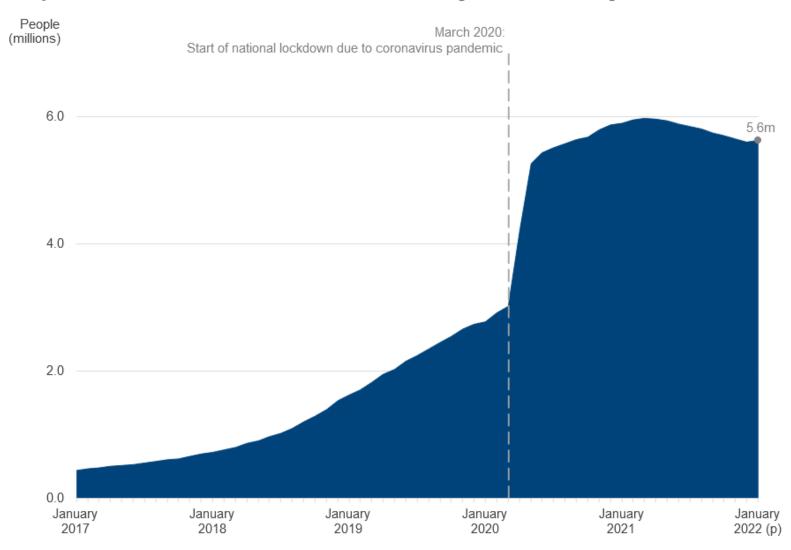
### Vaccine coverage of UK population



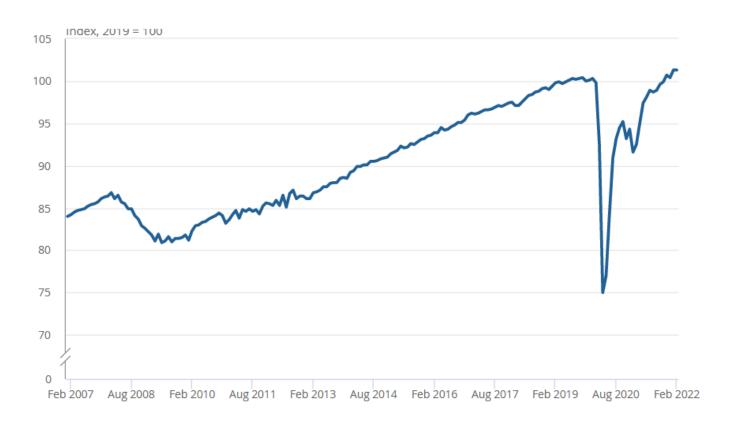
### Workers on furlough 2020-21



#### People on Universal Credit, Great Britain, January 2017 to January 2022

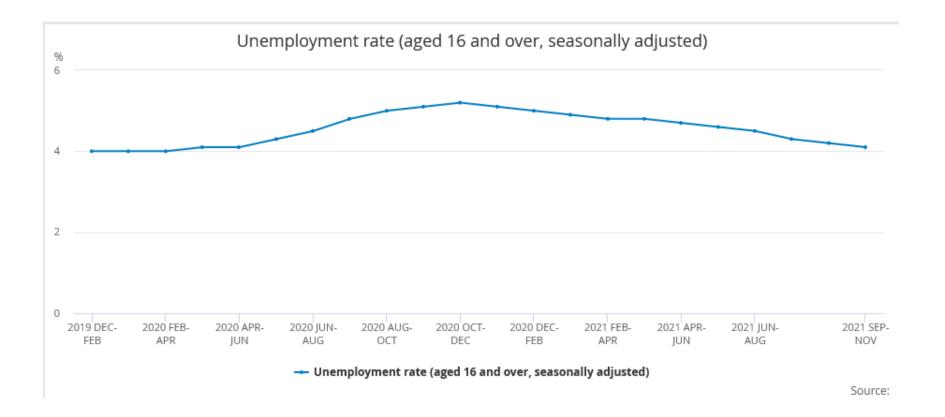


### **Economic recovery**

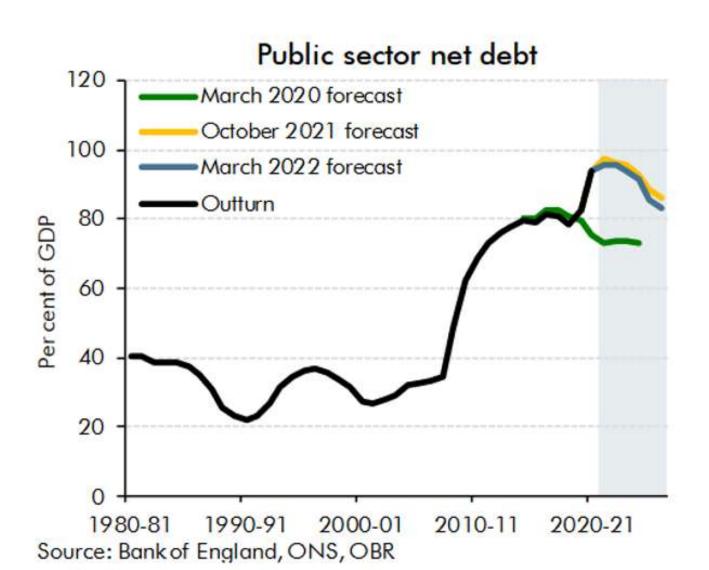


Source: Source: Office for National Statistics - GDP monthly estimate

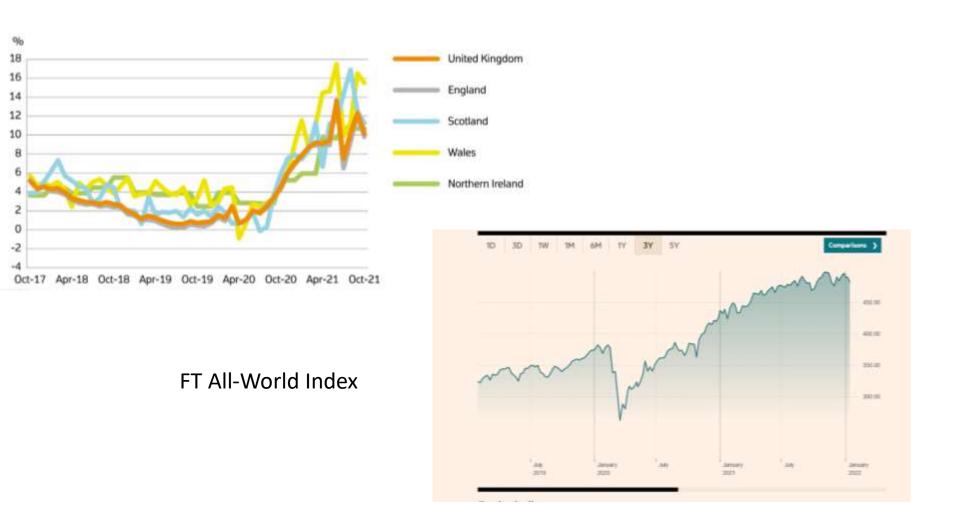
### Unemployment

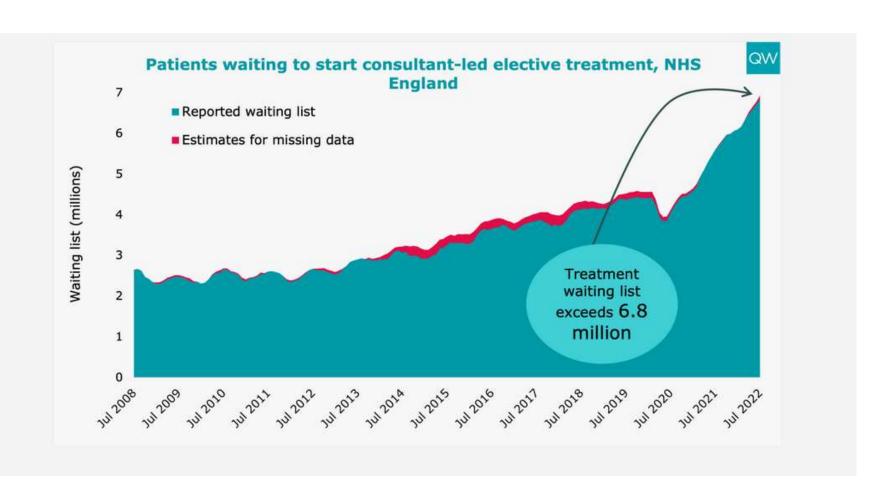


### The public costs of COVID



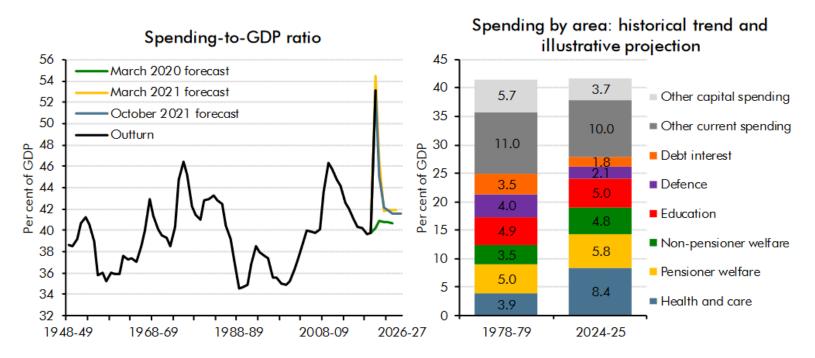
#### Annual house price change since 2017





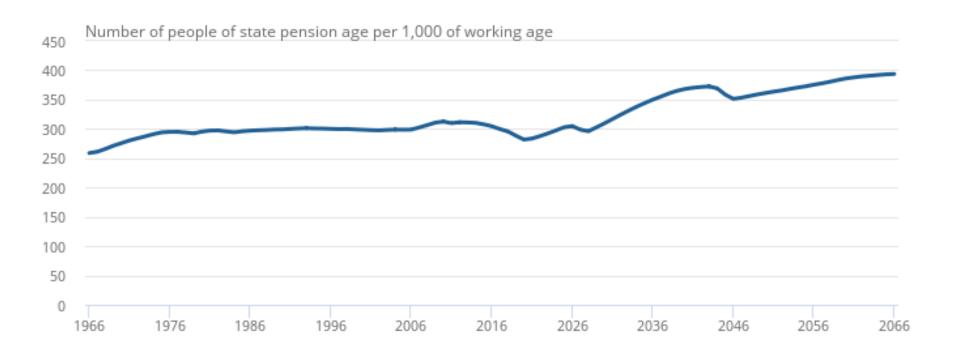
### The Big Post-COVID welfare state

Chart 1.7: Spending as a share of GDP and change in the composition of spending



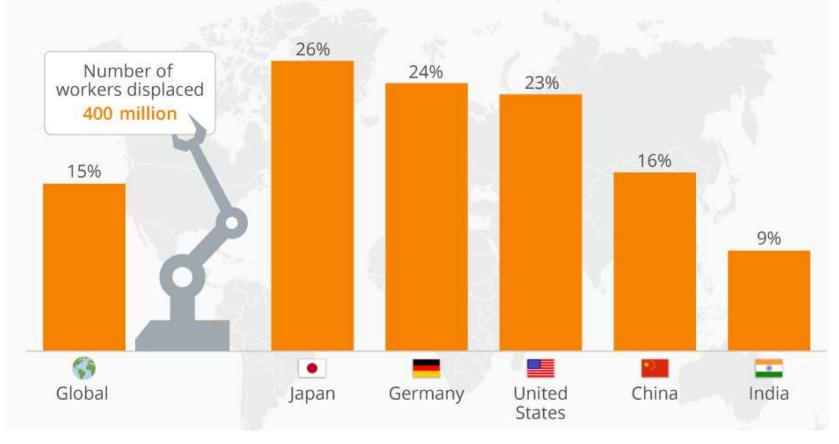
Source: OBR, 2021

Figure 17: Old age dependency ratio, 1966 to 2066 (projected), UK



#### **Autocomplete: Jobs Under Threat From Automation**

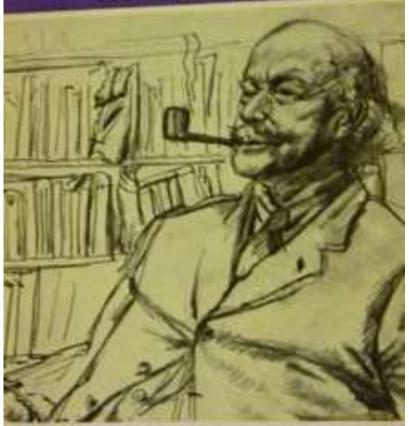
Share of current work hours with potential for automation by 2030 in selected countries\*





## A Strategy of Equality?





RHTAWNEY

"Differences of remuneration between different individuals would remain; contrasts between the civilization of different classes would vanish".

(Tawney, Equality)

"Organized labour, in parties and unions, would mobilise behind an incremental growth in entitlements (to both incomes and services) based around social citizenship. This would countermand the inequalities generated by an expanding mixed-market economy in which governments were the key economic players."

(Tawney, *Equality*)

#### The last social democratic welfare state?



## "The strategy of equality": Looking Backward

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... it is impossible to think of a sustainable future for the well-being of the mass of the population without a real and substantial change in the distribution of wealth.

### Two possibilities?

1) 'Topsy-Turvy Nationalisation'

(James Meade, 1907-1995)



### Two possibilities?

2) From the taxation of income to the **taxation of wealth** 

e.g. capital gains inherited wealth

### Two possibilities?

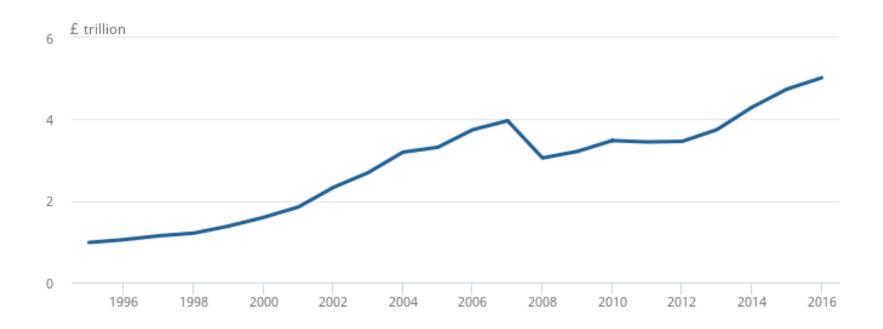
From the taxation of income to the taxation of land values

(Henry George, 1839-97)



# Taxing the value of land (natural resources and opportunities)

Figure 2: Estimated value of UK land, 1995 to 2016



# THE NEXT WELFARE STATE?

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