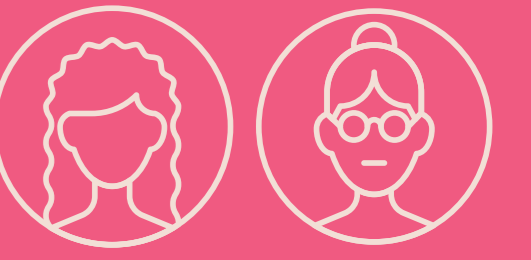


# HEALTH INEQUALITIES: COMPARISON UNITED KINGDOM AND NIGERIA



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**Introduction:** "Health inequalities are systematic differences in the health status of different population groups". It is the unfair avoidable differences in health across the population, and between different groups within the society. The social determinants of health include Income and social protection. Education. Unemployment. Work/life conditions etc.

**Objectives:** Comparison of health status in UK and in Nigeria

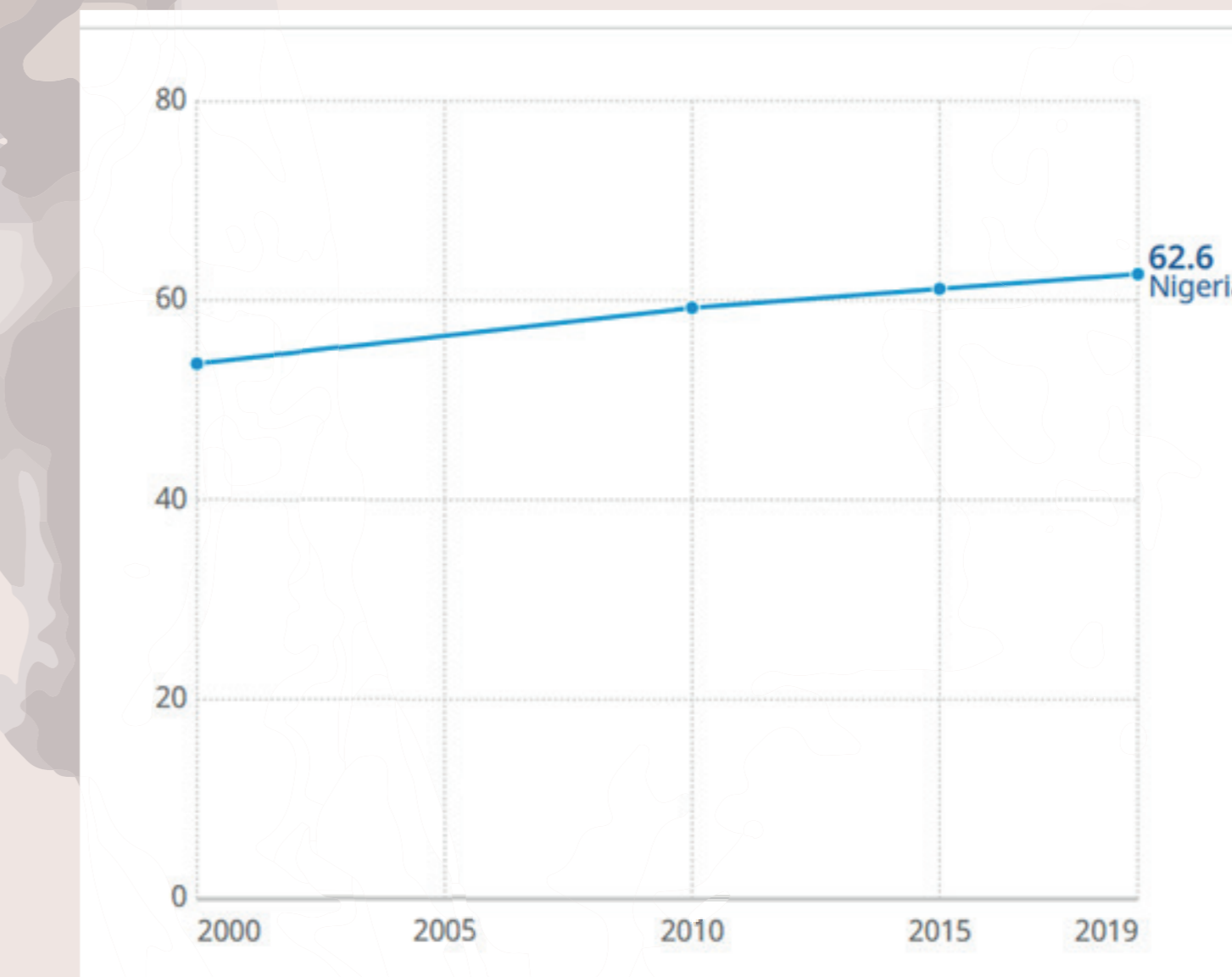
**Results:** The United Kingdom, composed of England, Scotland Wales, and Northern Ireland has the sixth largest economy in the world with a population of 66.97 million people. The healthcare system is comprised of two facilities public health care (funded by the NHS) and Private health covered by the health insurance. Life expectancy in the UK for men is 79 years and 82.4 years for women . Infant mortality: we see that since the years of 1980 infant mortality has greatly reduced in the UK being now at 3.6 deaths to 1000 live births. Maternal mortality: in 2020-2022 there were 13,41 deaths in every 10000 maternities Main reasons for death in the UK include: Alzheimer dementia, obesity and diabetes Mellitus.

Nigeria boast Africa's largest population with around 230 million people. Nigeria's healthcare system is primarily the responsibility of the federal state and local government it is a mixed healthcare system . Life expectancy in Nigeria as improved by 8.99 years from 53.6 years in 2000 to 62.6 years in 2019. Infant mortality: the overall rate for infant mortality of 2013-2017 was 61.5 per 1000 live births. Maternal mortality: there has been a decline in maternal mortality from the years of 2009. Main reasons of death in Nigeria: maternal mortality, infectious diseases and malaria.

**Conclusion:** the main differences between Nigeria and the UK are said to be in the Demographics: In the UK, people live longer, which is why dementia is more common. Little exercise and diet have an impact on the high prevalence of obesity and DM2 in the UK. In Nigeria there is a higher infant mortality rate, and the main reason of death is infectious disease.

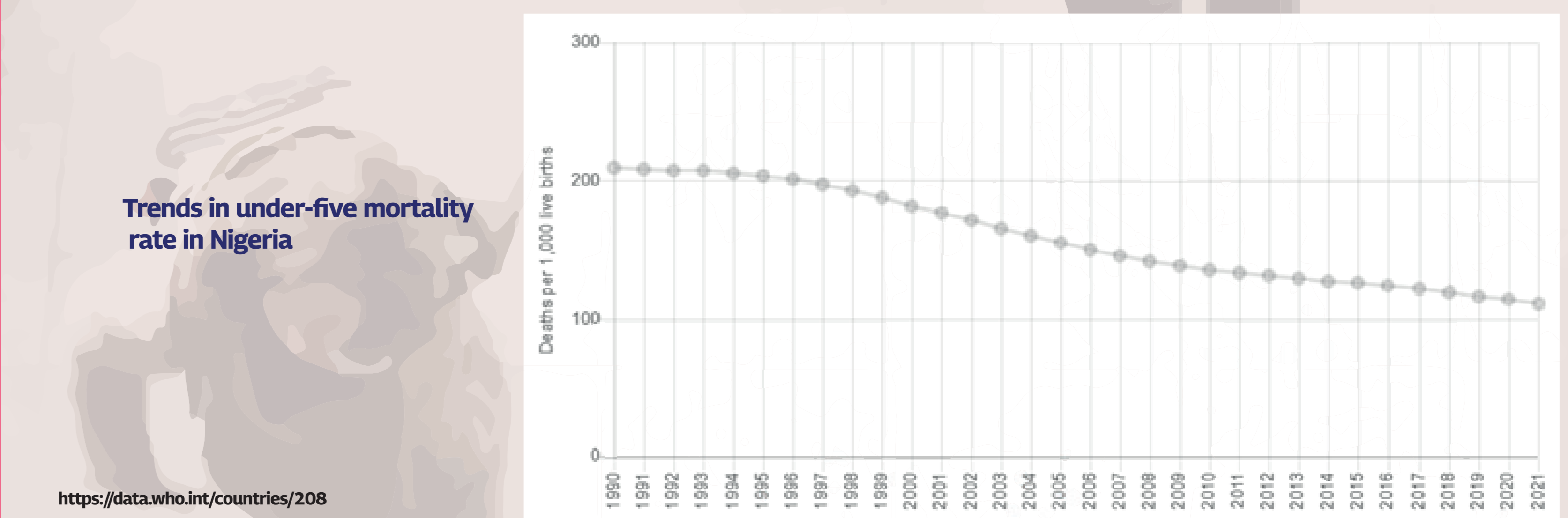
**Environmental:** Nigeria as a country with tropical climates creates ground works for the breeding ground for infectious diseases, its climate along with the forestation creates breeding ground for mosquitoes and other vectors that lead to infectious diseases malaria etc. The UK does not have quite as much environmental problems as Nigeria which makes it less susceptible to infectious diseases.

**Socioeconomic:** Education, occupation and income can affect access to preventive measures and treatment. In the UK we see that they have a good level of education, employment levels are one of the best in the world and most people are able to survive with minimum wage where as in Nigeria the literacy level is not as high, a good amount of the population live under poverty levels and are unemployed.



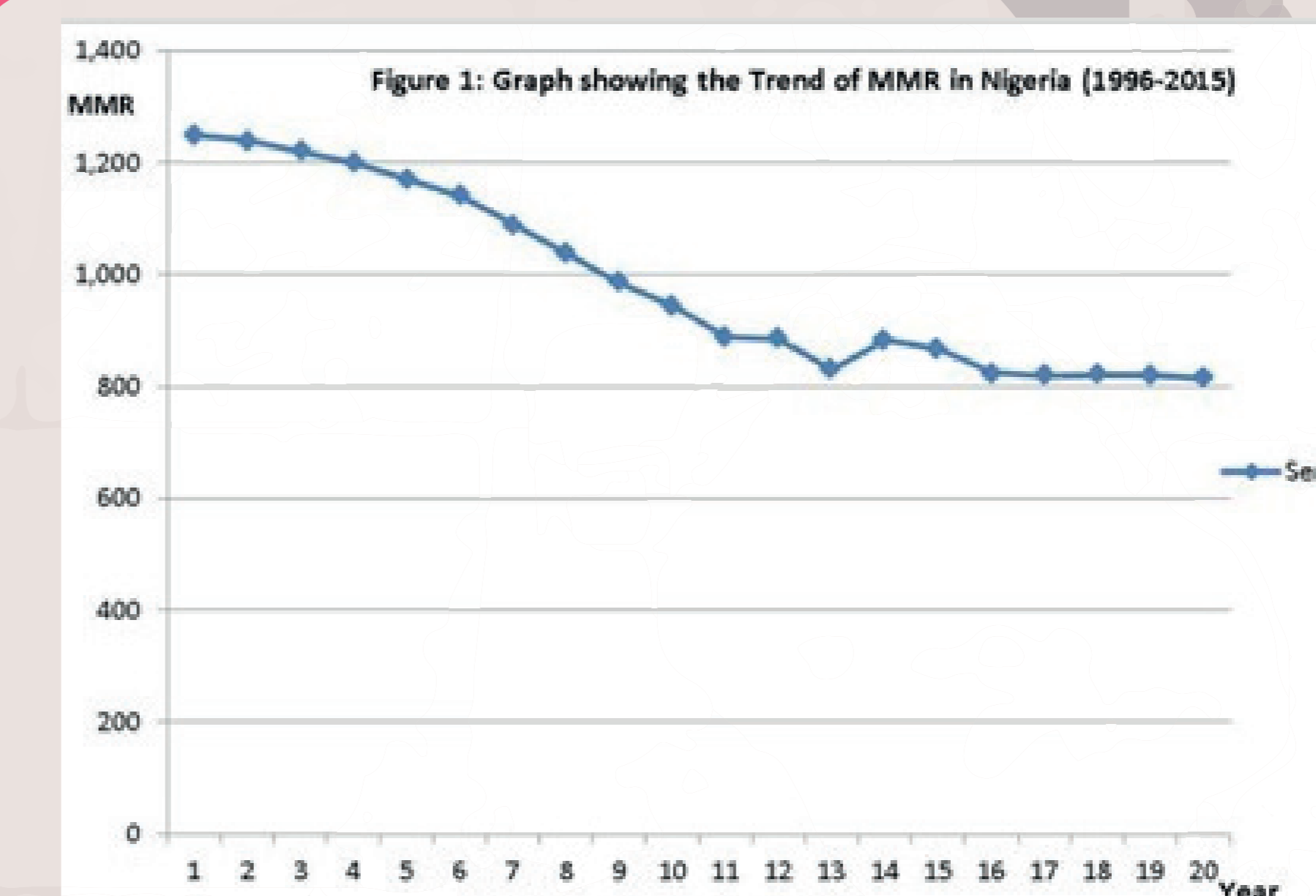
**Life expectancy at birth**  
The average number of years that a newborn could expect to live. Nigeria, both sexes, 2000 - 2019

<https://data.who.int/countries/208>



**Trends in under-five mortality rate in Nigeria**

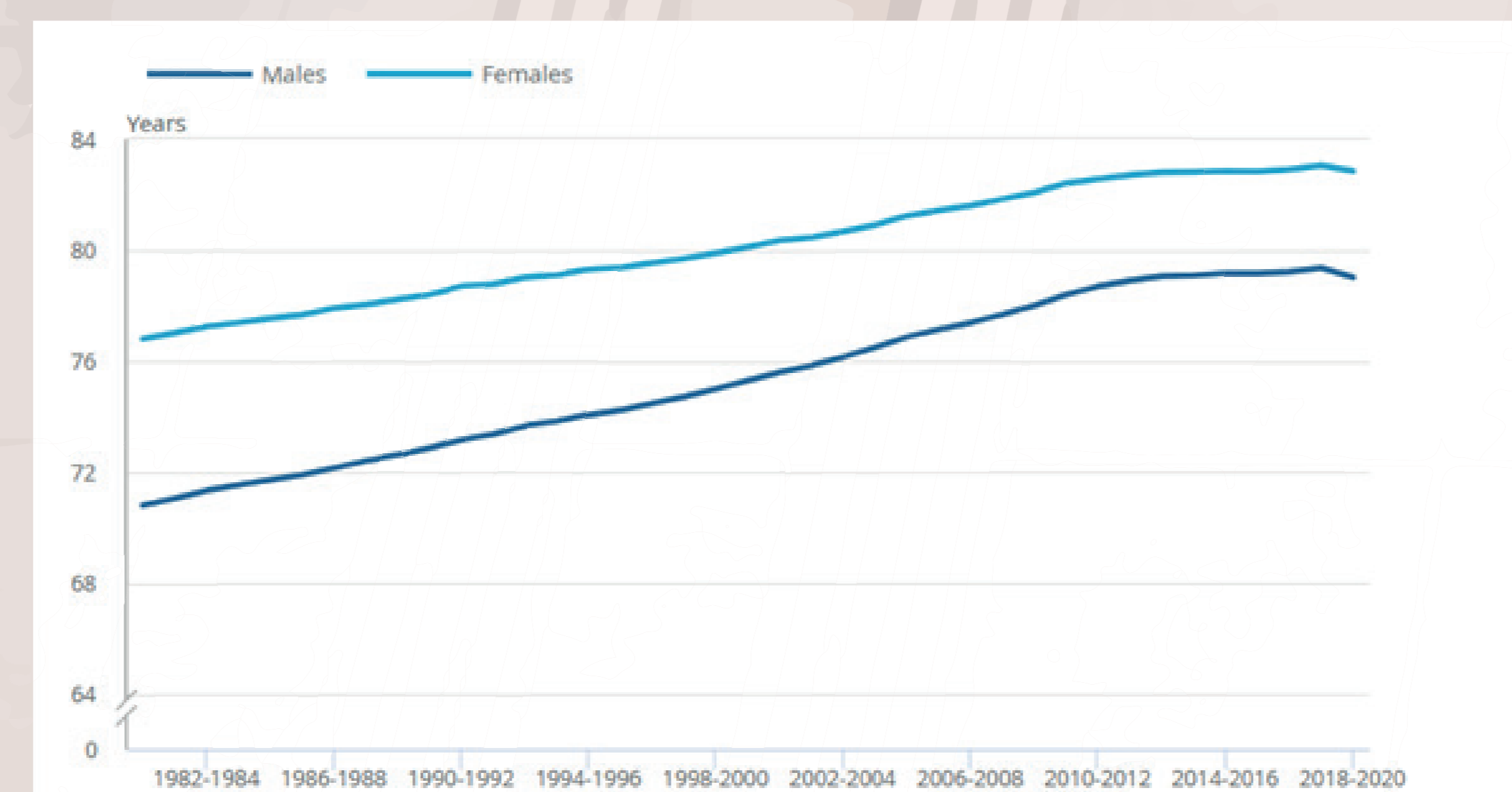
<https://data.who.int/countries/208>



**Graph showing the Trend of MMR in Nigeria (1996-2015)**

<https://data.who.int/countries/208>

**Life expectancy in the UK in 2018 to 2020 fell to the level of 2012 to 2014 for males and was similar to 2015 to 2017 for females**  
**Life expectancy at birth for males and females, UK, between 1980 to 1982 and 2018 to 2020**



2020 National life tables - life expectancy in the UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

**Life expectancy at birth for males and females, UK, between 1980 to 1982 and 2018 to 2020**

- Office of National Statistics (2021) National life tables – life expectancy in the UK: 2018 to 2020. [Online] Available at: National life tables – life expectancy in the UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk) (Accessed: 10 February 2024)
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