

UK research and innovation capability to support Government's five missions

Selected insights into the alignment of UK research with Government priorities

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Contents

Introduction	3
A new methodology	6
Findings	9
• UK research related to the Government's five missions	10
• An international view of research related to the missions	11
Insights on each mission	12
• Mission 1 – kickstart economic growth	13
• Mission 2 – make Britain a clean energy superpower	18
• Mission 3 – take back our streets	22
• Mission 4 – break down barriers to opportunity	26
• Mission 5 – build an NHS fit for the future	30
Potential for further insights	35
Definitions and data sources	37
Annex: Additional methods and classifications	42

Introduction

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Context

- An understanding of how UK research and innovation supports the Government's five missions would encompass many dimensions, such as the people, infrastructure and resource of the research system, as well its research output.
- A new methodology has been developed to map the UK's research publications to the Government's five missions. This offers an approach to understanding one dimension of this question and, potentially, insights into others.
- The findings in this presentation show how the method can be used to identify a body of UK research related to each mission. One could explore further what this body of work could reveal, for example the key people, institutions, places, technologies or ideas associated with research related to each mission.
- This new approach could provide insights that help research leaders and policymakers consider how the UK's considerable research and innovation capability could support the achievement of national goals.

Summary

- Academic research was mapped to the **UK Government's five missions**, as set out in the Labour Party Manifesto, as well as constituent subareas of interest (e.g. Mission 1: Kickstart economic growth includes the subarea Business Taxation).
- The analysis shows that during 2019-2023 **a significant share of UK's published research was found to be relevant to these Government priorities** (e.g. 11% of total UK output was found to be relevant to Mission 1: Kickstart economic growth).
- The policy relevance of the UK research is evidenced by prolific **citation of academic publications in policy-relevant literature**. For all missions, the average level of policy citation was higher than the national average for all UK research. Examples of subareas with high levels of citation in policy-related documents (over 20%) are: Regional Economic Empowerment (Mission 1: Kickstart economic growth); Armed crime (Mission 3: Take back our streets); and Healthcare accessibility (Mission 5: Build an NHS fit for the future).
- For each mission, the analysis maps **growth or decline in output volume and quality** in each subarea of interest from 2014-2018 to 2019-2023. In some cases, we have compared these changes when including or excluding research related to Covid-19 to reveal some underlying trends.

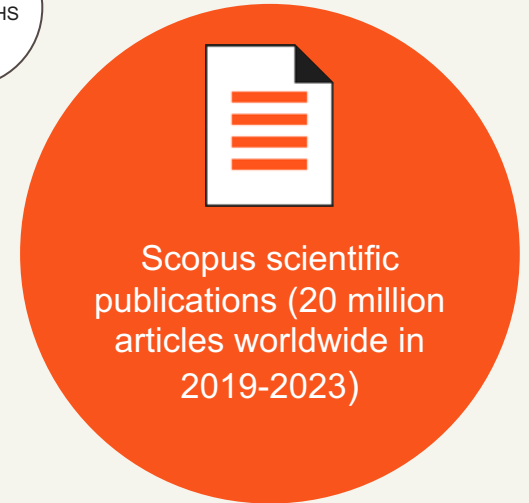
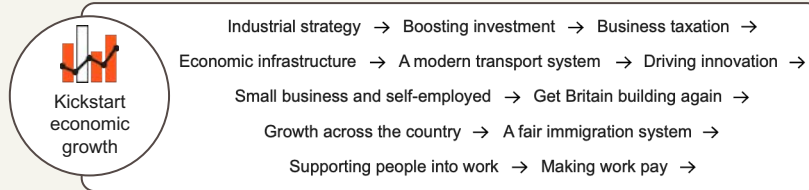
A new methodology

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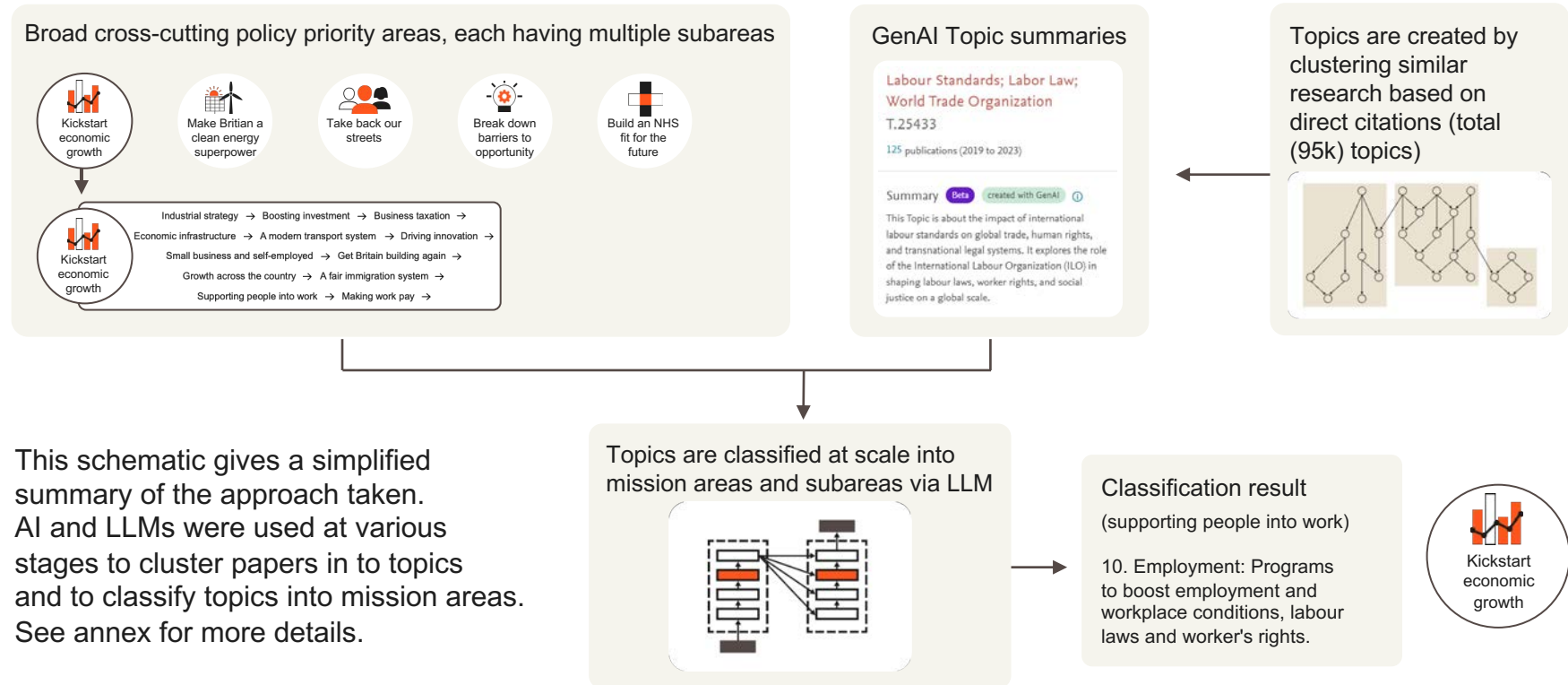
Mapping academic research to policy missions

Broad cross-cutting policy priority areas, each having multiple subareas.



The challenge is to map a large number of research articles to narrative descriptions of missions

Mapping academic research to policy missions



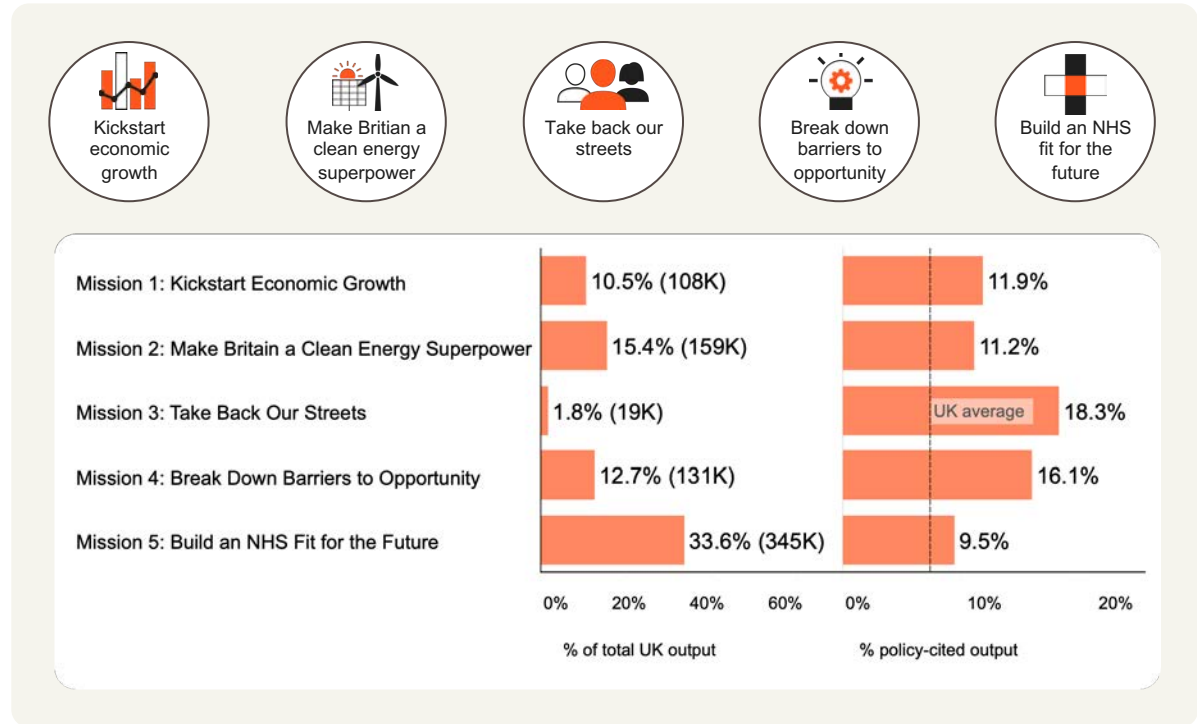
Findings

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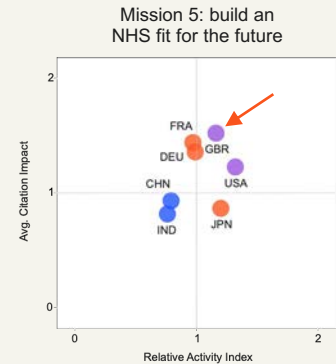
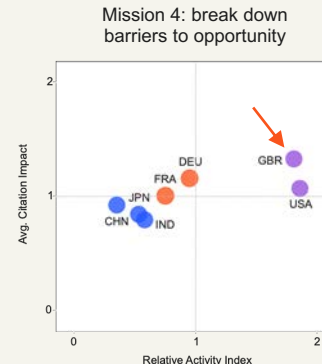
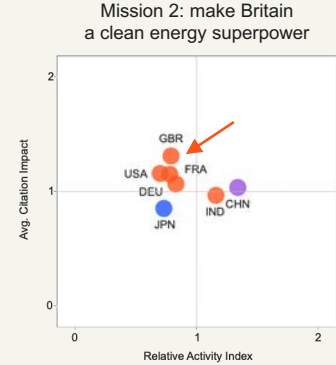
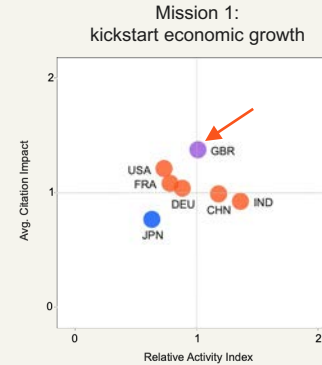
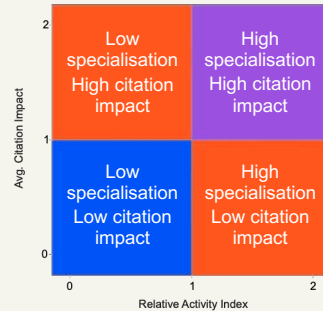
UK research related to the Government's five missions

- UK research and innovation is relevant to the Government's five missions. A significant share of UK research in 2019-2023 is on subject matter which is directly related to the five missions.
- Research identified as relevant to the missions is valuable in policymaking. A higher share of research related to missions is cited in policy documents than the national average for UK research.



An international view of research related to the missions

- The UK is strongly positioned in terms of specialisation (Relative Activity Index) and quality (field-weighted citation impact) of academic research relevant to the UK Government's missions.
- This international view of could be used to consider global collaborators, suppliers and competitors in research related to the Government's five missions.





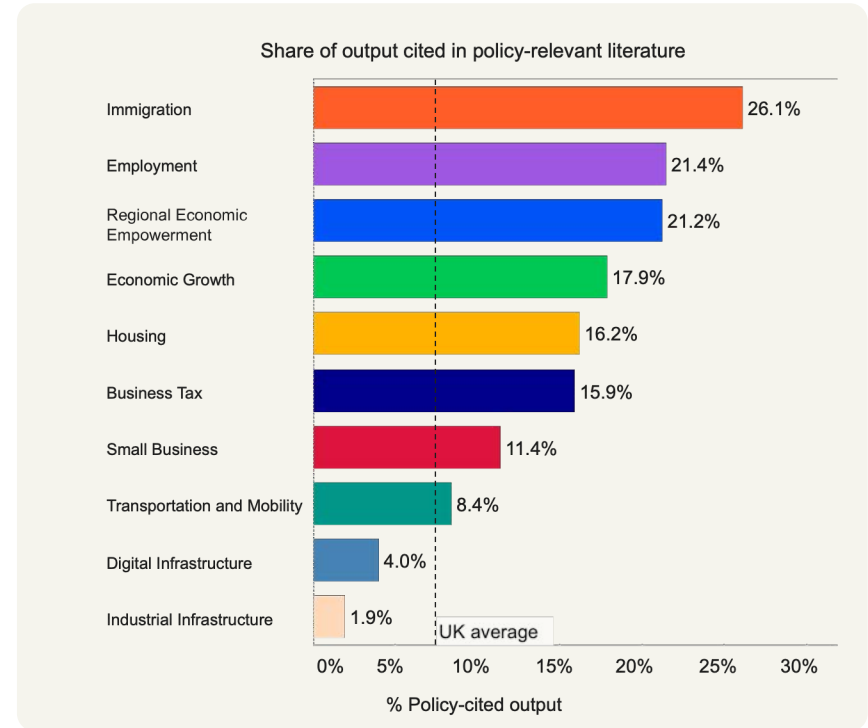
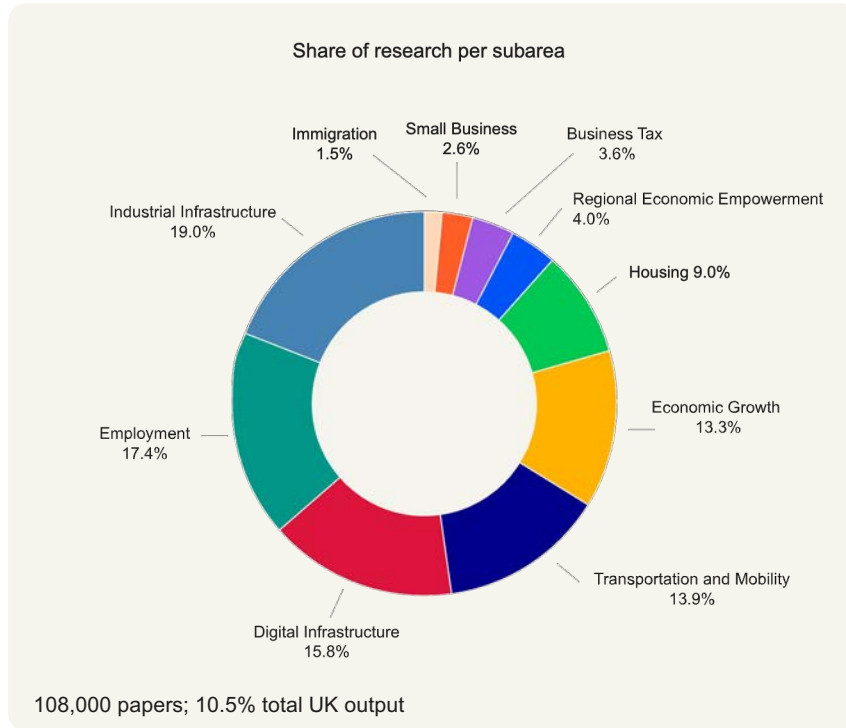
Insights on
each mission

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Mission 1:

Kickstart Economic Growth

Mission 1: Kickstart Economic Growth



Highlight: Regional economic empowerment

- UK research contributes to shaping better regional innovation strategies by providing key analysis on uneven regional distribution of innovation and uneven economic gains.
- This BEIS report draws heavily on UK-produced academic evidence to explore the factors driving innovation and its relationship with productivity and inclusive growth across UK regions, emphasising the need for targeted R&D investment to reduce regional inequalities.

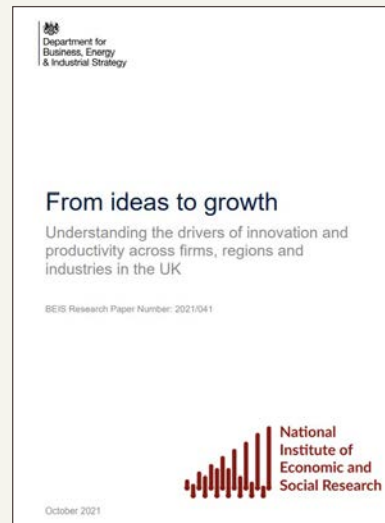
JOURNAL ARTICLE

Regional inequality in Europe: evidence, theory and policy implications [Get access >](#)

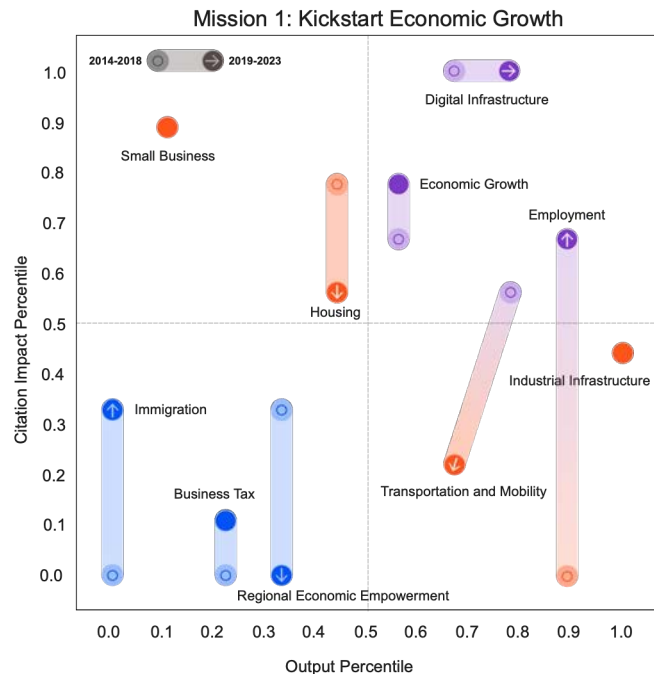
Simona Iammarino, Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Michael Storper 

Journal of Economic Geography, Volume 19, Issue 2, March 2019, Pages 273–298,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lby021>

Published: 27 April 2018 [Article history ▾](#)



Mission 1: Positioning matrix and key topics



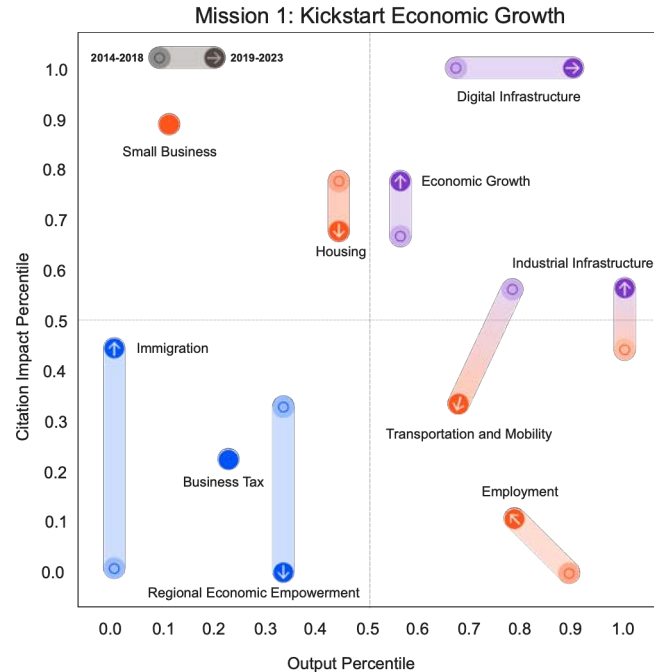
The chart displays the percentile ranks of research underpinning policy subcategories based on their output and citation impact. Arrow dots represent the percentile ranks for the period of 2019-2023, while smaller hollow dots indicate the ranks for the preceding period, 2014-2018. The arrow indicates the direction of time. Dots are colour-coded to highlight subcategories according to the combination of quantity and quality of output.

Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

Digital Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intelligent reflecting surfaces Federated learning applications UAV-assisted communication
Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circular economy impacts Economic growth and sustainability Bitcoin price volatility
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychological impact of COVID-19 Facemask Filtration Efficiency Healthcare Workers' Well-being
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature's health benefits Urban sustainability transitions Smart city technology
Industrial Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laser additive manufacturing Digital twin technology Smart manufacturing technologies
Small Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family dynamics in business Entrepreneurship education impact Social entrepreneurship significance
Transportation and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lithium-ion battery health Optimizing EV charging Tidal energy turbines
Business Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSR impact on firm performance Stock market strategies Corporate environmental disclosure
Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International investment law Polish migration to the UK Security discourse and immigration
Regional Economic Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic resilience in regions Rural energy access Palm oil impact on sustainability

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Mission 1: Positioning matrix and key topics (excl. Covid-19)



The chart displays the percentile ranks of research underpinning policy subcategories based on their output and citation impact. Arrow dots represent the percentile ranks for the period of 2019-2023, while smaller hollow dots indicate the ranks for the preceding period, 2014-2018. The arrow indicates the direction of time. Dots are colour-coded to highlight subcategories according to the combination of quantity and quality of output.

Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

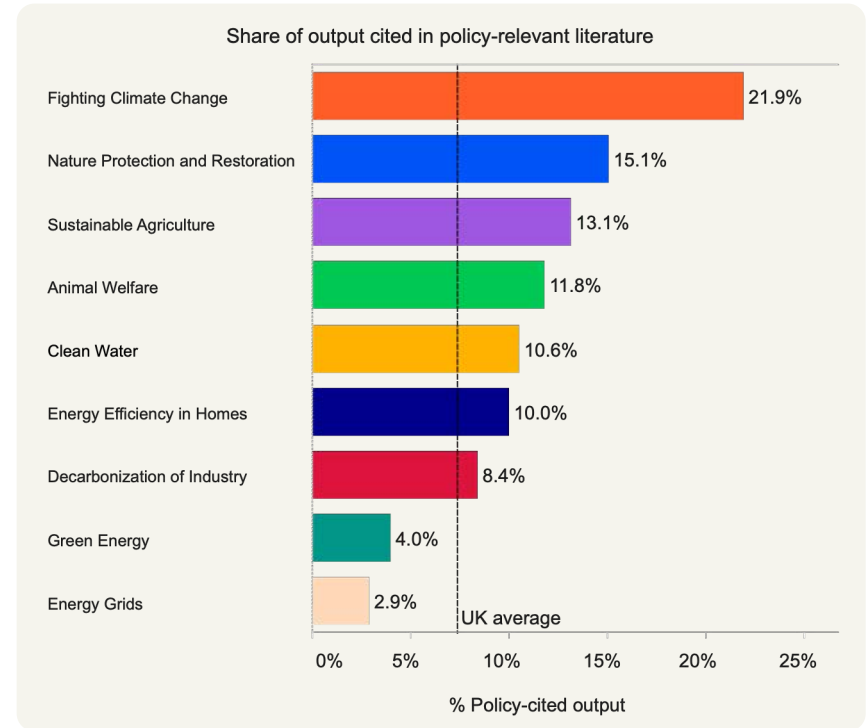
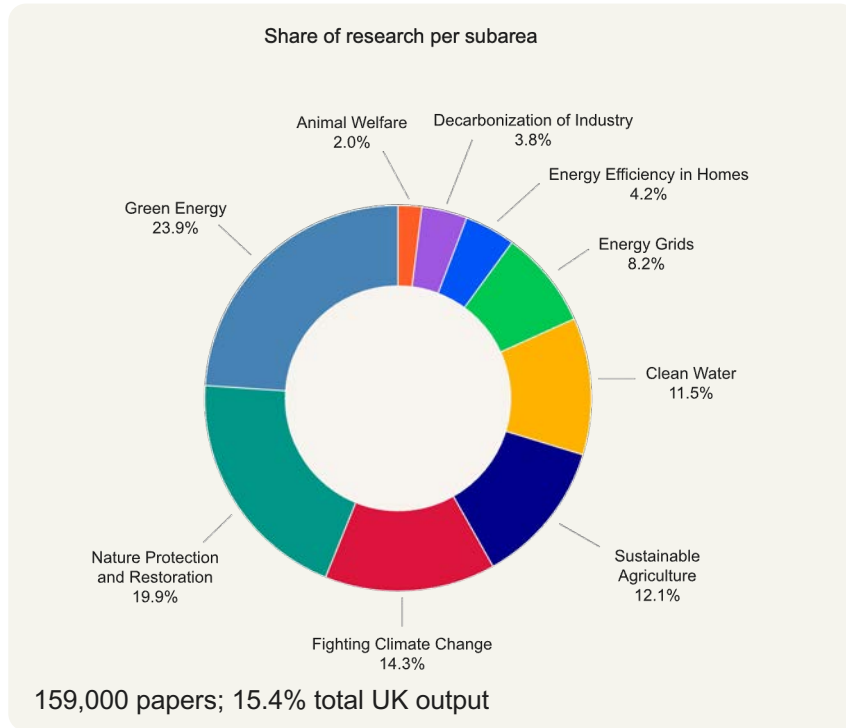
Digital Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intelligent reflecting surfaces Federated learning applications UAV-assisted communication
Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circular economy impacts Economic growth and sustainability Bitcoin price volatility
Industrial Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laser additive manufacturing Digital twin technology Smart manufacturing technologies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature's health benefits Urban sustainability transitions Smart city technology
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternal health care barriers Institutional change impacts Surgical care in low-resource settings
Small Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family dynamics in business Entrepreneurship education impact Social entrepreneurship significance
Transportation and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lithium-ion battery health Optimizing EV charging Tidal energy turbines
Business Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSR impact on firm performance Stock market strategies Corporate environmental disclosure
Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polish migration to the UK Climate change and migration Global justice and refugees
Regional Economic Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic resilience in regions Rural energy access Palm oil impact on sustainability

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Mission 2:

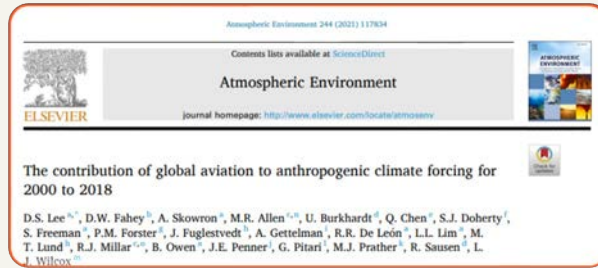
Make Britain a Clean Energy Superpower

Mission 2: Make Britain a Clean Energy Superpower

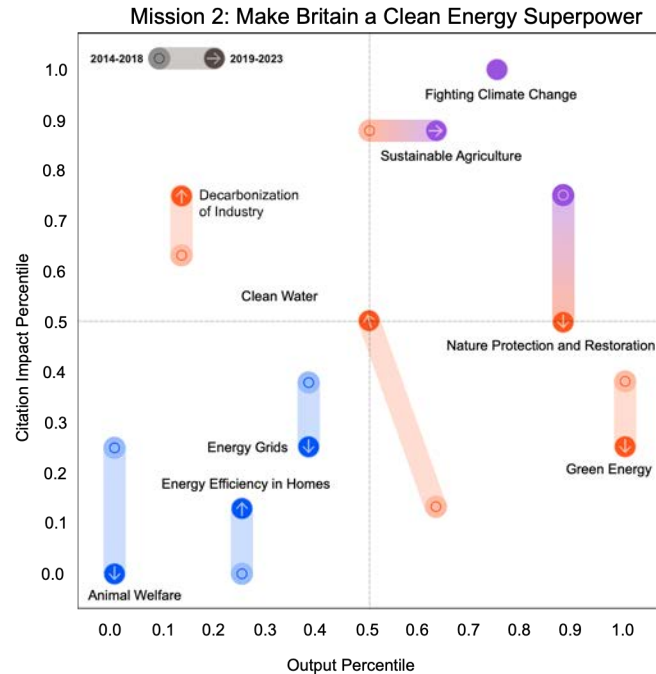


Highlight: Fighting climate change via net zero aviation

- Climate change research from the UK informed the UK Government's recent Jet Zero strategy.
- The strategy aims to achieve net zero aviation emissions by 2050 through measures like improving system efficiencies, adopting sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), developing zero-emission flights, and enhancing carbon markets.
- In particular, the cited example contributed to the understanding of non-CO2 climate impacts from aviation.
- The evidence suggests, that non-CO2 emissions contribute roughly two-thirds of aviation's historical climate effects.



Mission 2: Positioning matrix and key topics



The chart displays the percentile ranks of research underpinning policy subcategories based on their output and citation impact. Arrow dots represent the percentile ranks for the period of 2019-2023, while smaller hollow dots indicate the ranks for the preceding period, 2014-2018. The arrow indicates the direction of time. Dots are colour-coded to highlight subcategories according to the combination of quantity and quantity of output.

Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

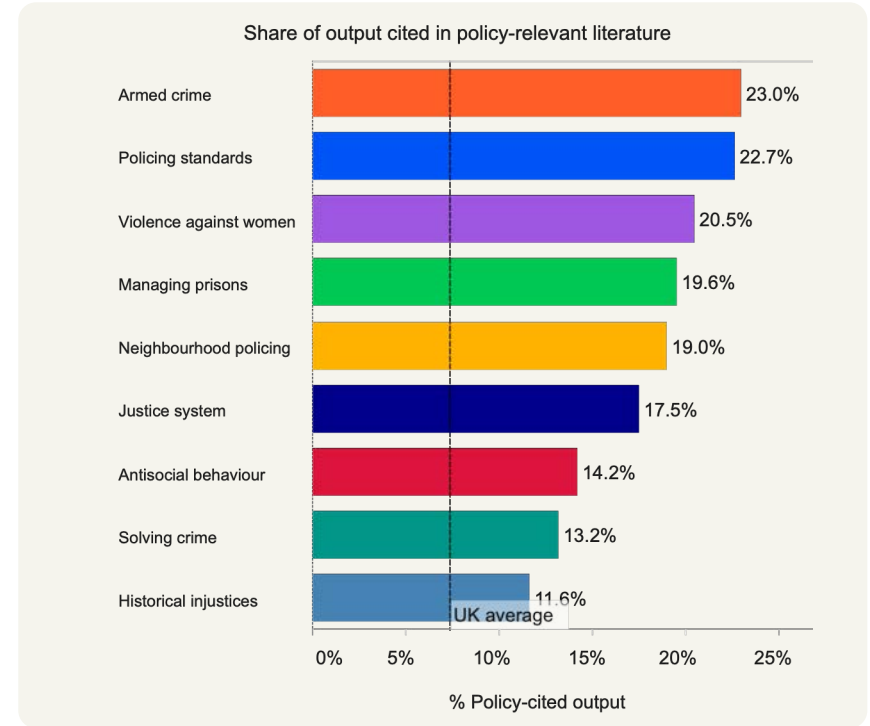
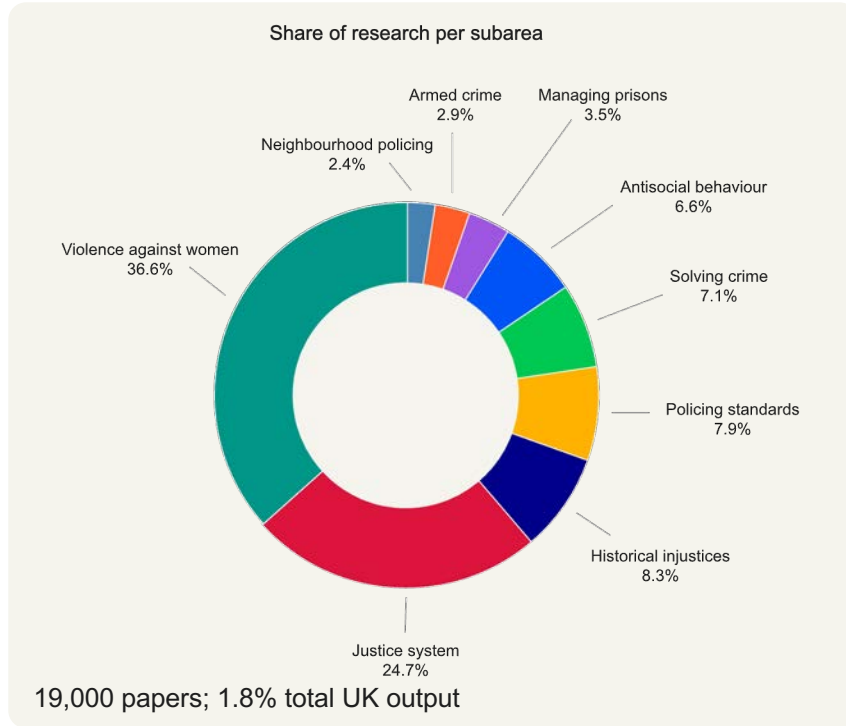
Fighting Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban sustainability transitions • Economic growth and sustainability • Climate change scenarios
Sustainable Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circular economy impacts • Environmental impact of food production • CRISPR/Cas9 in plant genome editing
Clean Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microplastics analysis • Antibiotic resistance genes • Hydrodynamic flow modeling
Decarbonization of Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart manufacturing technologies • Global carbon emission trade • Green innovation impact
Green Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perovskite solar cells • Tidal energy turbines • Electrocatalysts for water splitting
Nature Protection and Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural environments' health benefits • Anopheles mosquitoes and malaria • Genomic evolution and analysis
Animal Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bovine tuberculosis management • Antimicrobial stewardship • Animal behavior variation
Energy Efficiency in Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIM in construction • Phase change materials • Household air pollution
Energy Grids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lithium-ion battery health • Electric vehicle charging optimization • Decentralized energy trading

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Mission 3:

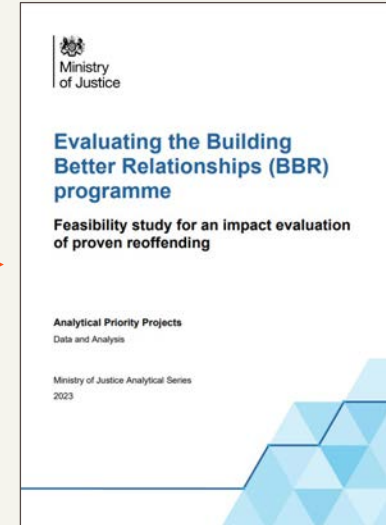
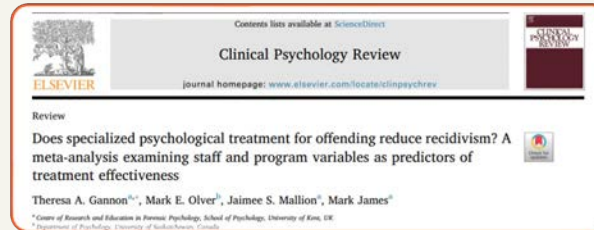
Take Back Our Streets

Mission 3: Take Back Our Streets

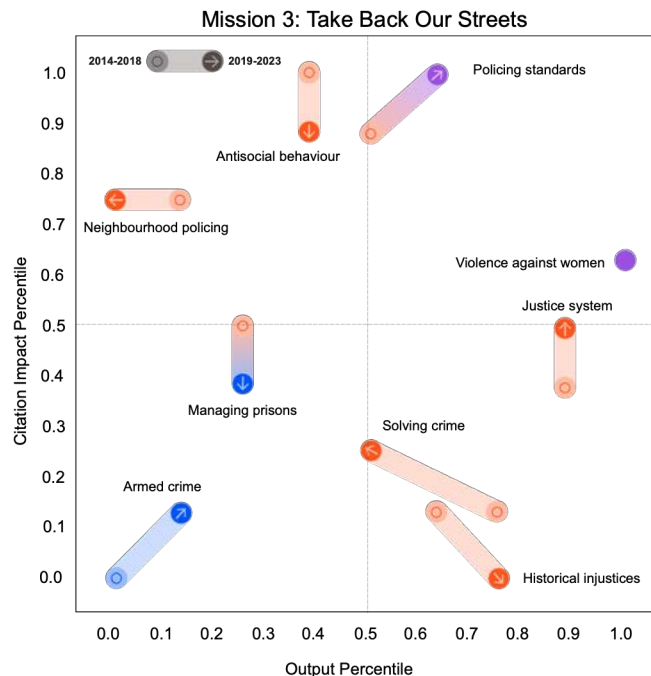


Highlight: Impact of psychological treatment for offending

- UK research was found to have informed multiple Government strategies and projects related to public safety and criminal justice.
- This example shows how UK research on the effectiveness of psychological treatment for offending was used as a crucial piece of evidence to support a programme dedicated to cognitive-behavioural interventions for men convicted of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) offences.



Mission 3: Positioning matrix and key topics



The chart displays the percentile ranks of research underpinning policy subcategories based on their output and citation impact. Arrow dots represent the percentile ranks for the period of 2019-2023, while smaller hollow dots indicate the ranks for the preceding period, 2014-2018. The arrow indicates the direction of time. Dots are colour-coded to highlight subcategories according to the combination of quantity and quality of output.

Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

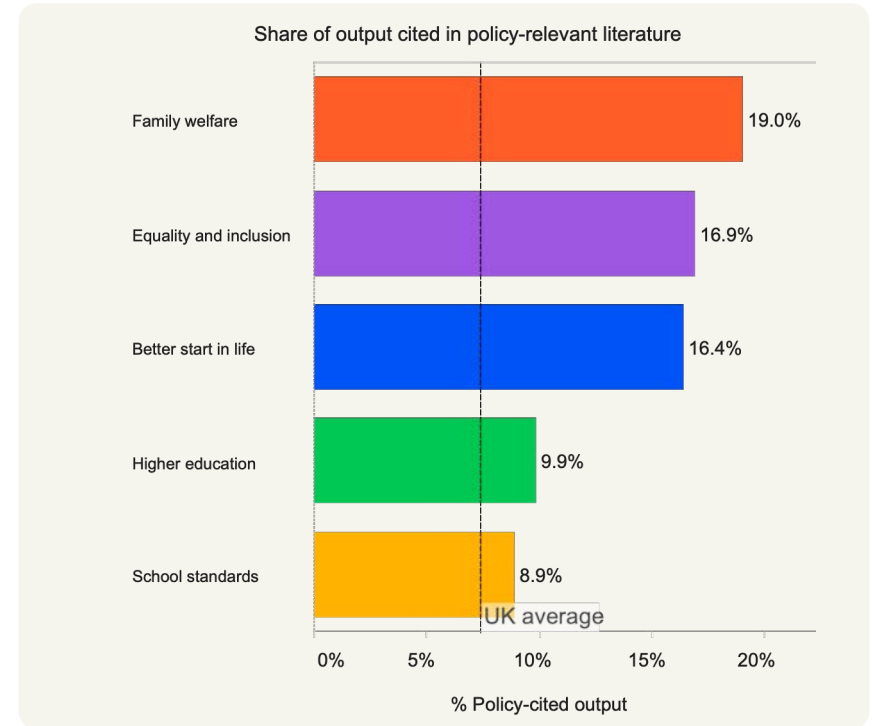
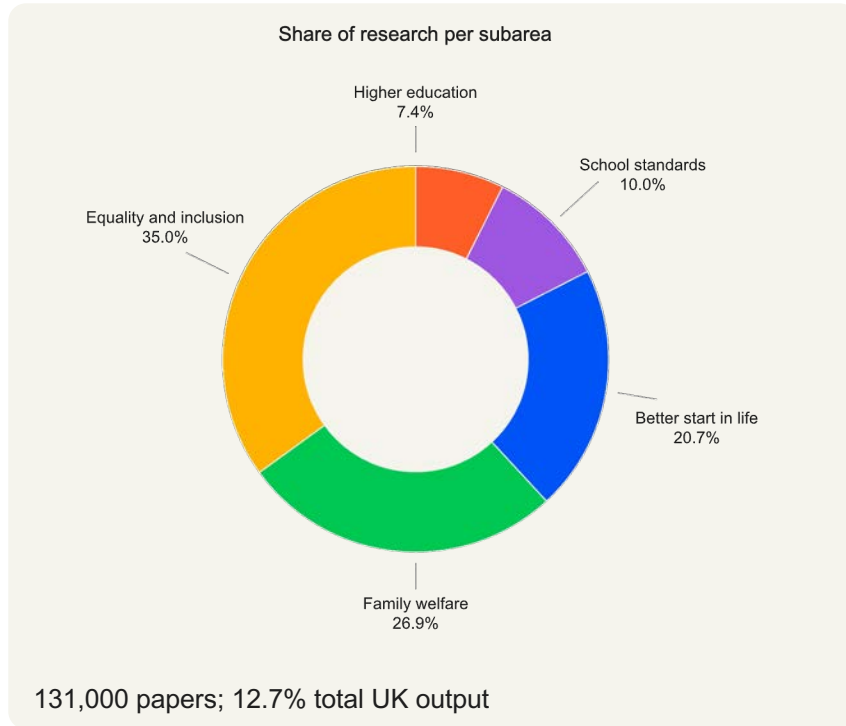
Policing standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fairness in AI systems Ethical AI governance Impact of corruption
Violence against women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adolescent self-harm behavior Gender-based violence dynamics Peer victimization impacts
Antisocial behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet gaming disorder Homelessness impact Detecting hate speech
Historical injustices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collective memory studies Power-sharing in divided societies Transitional justice mechanisms
Justice system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Childhood adversity impacts Study of conspiracy beliefs Influence of external support and media repression on conflict
Neighbourhood policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counterterrorism and stigmatization of Muslim communities Spatial analysis in crime prevention Fear of crime dynamics
Solving crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychopathy and offender behavior Deception detection methods Police interrogation tactics
Armed crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radicalization and terrorism Gang membership dynamics Psychiatric disorders and violence
Managing prisons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prison life dynamics Mental health in prisons Desistance in offenders

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Mission 4:

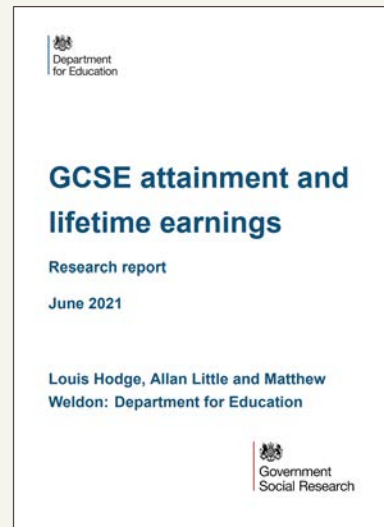
Break Down Barriers to Opportunity

Mission 4: Break Down Barriers to Opportunity

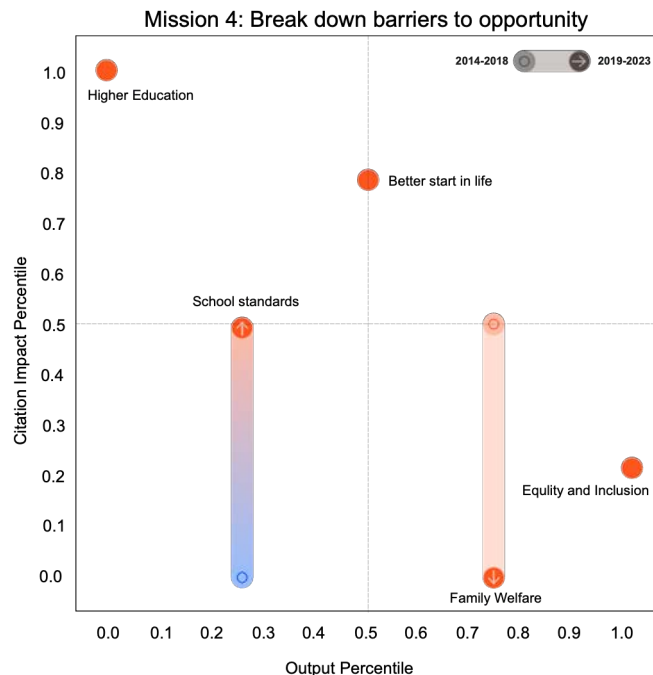


Highlight: School standards

- UK academic research has informed multiple policy-related reports aimed at improving school standards and learning outcomes.
- Example: The UK Department for Education relied in scientific evidence, including the highlighted publication, to estimate the lifetime earnings value of improvements in GCSE attainment.



Mission 4: Positioning matrix and key topics



The chart displays the percentile ranks of research underpinning policy subcategories based on their output and citation impact. Arrow dots represent the percentile ranks for the period of 2019-2023, while smaller hollow dots indicate the ranks for the preceding period, 2014-2018. The arrow indicates the direction of time. Dots are colour-coded to highlight subcategories according to the combination of quantity and quality of output.

Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

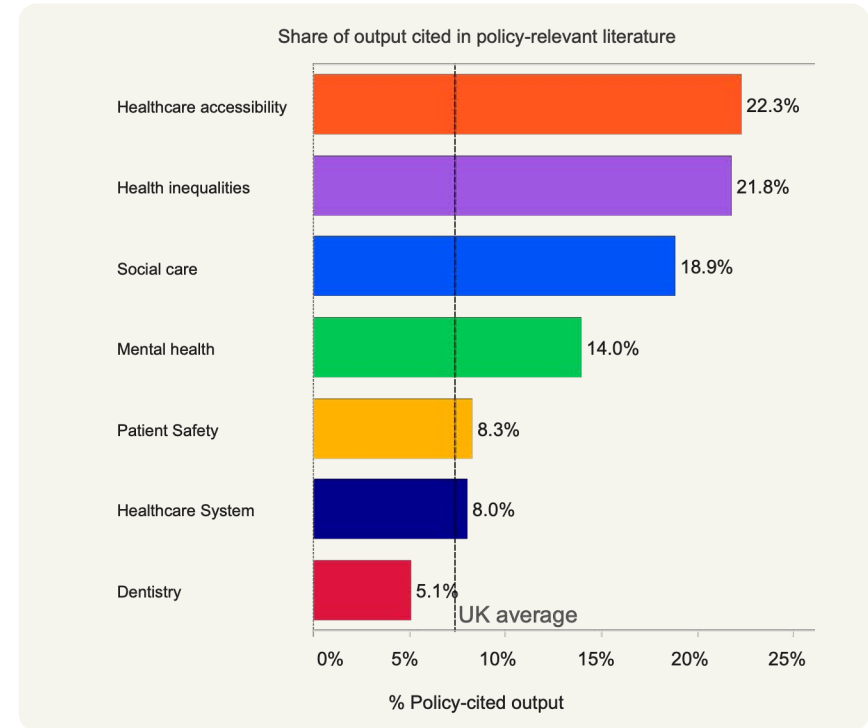
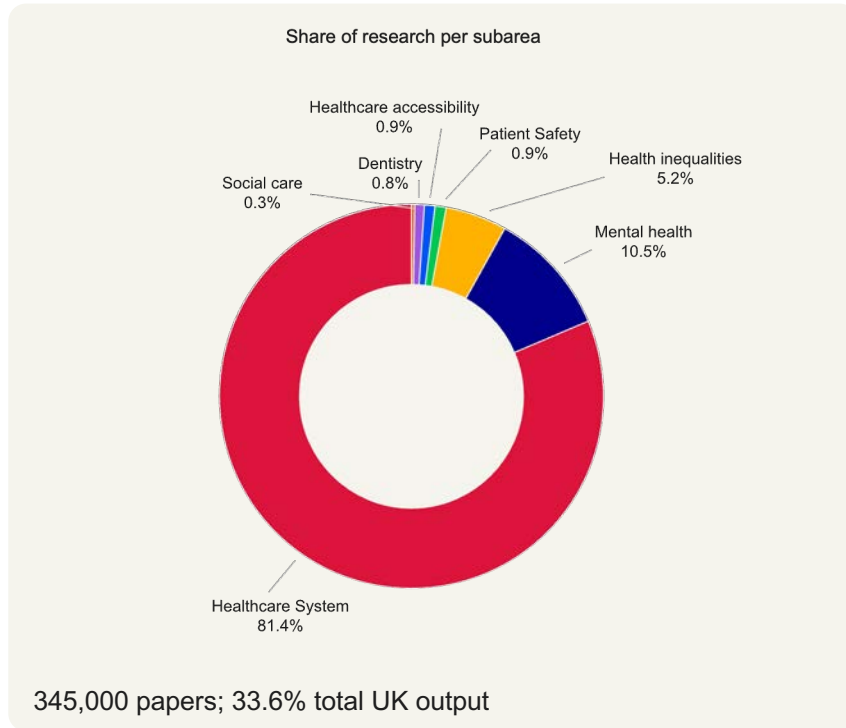
Better start in life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychological impact of COVID-19 Factors influencing COVID-19 vaccine acceptance Behavioral addictions and internet gaming disorder
Equality and inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Populism in political discourse Combating misinformation impact Risk of psychosis
Family welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social isolation in older adults Frailty in aging individuals Mental health policies in LMICs
Higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of smart manufacturing technologies Impact of COVID-19 on medical training and education Graduate employability
School standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posthumanist education perspectives Conversation dynamics analysis Formative assessment practices

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Mission 5:

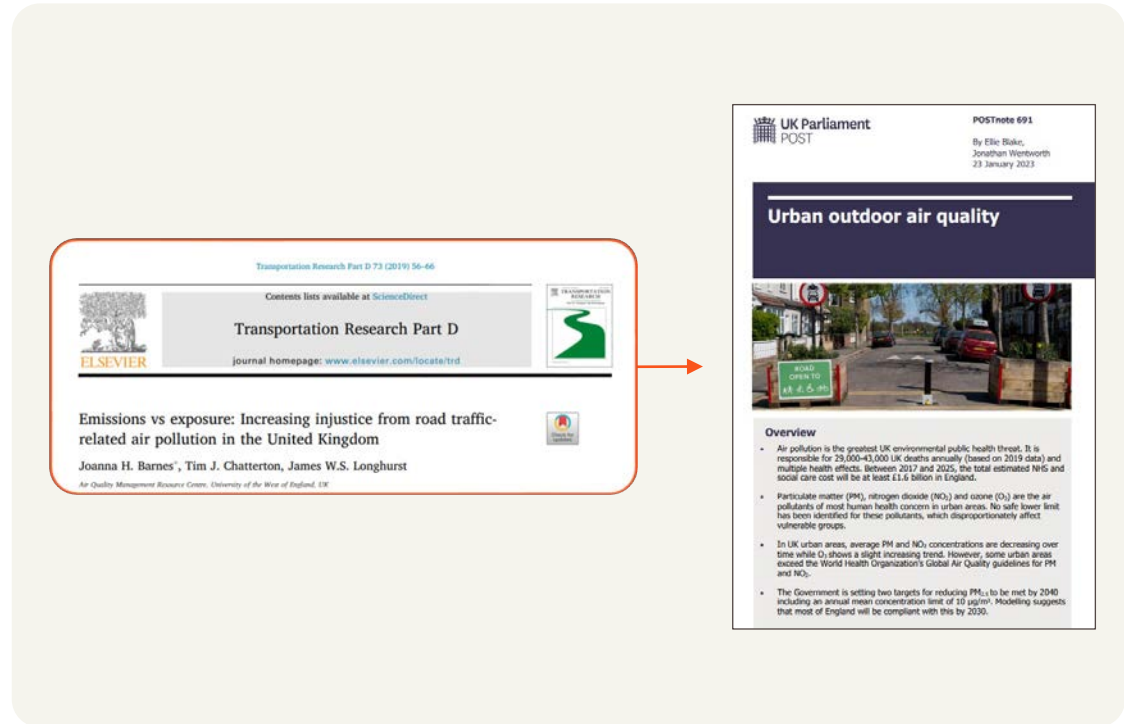
Built an NHS Fit for the Future

Mission 5: Build an NHS Fit for the Future

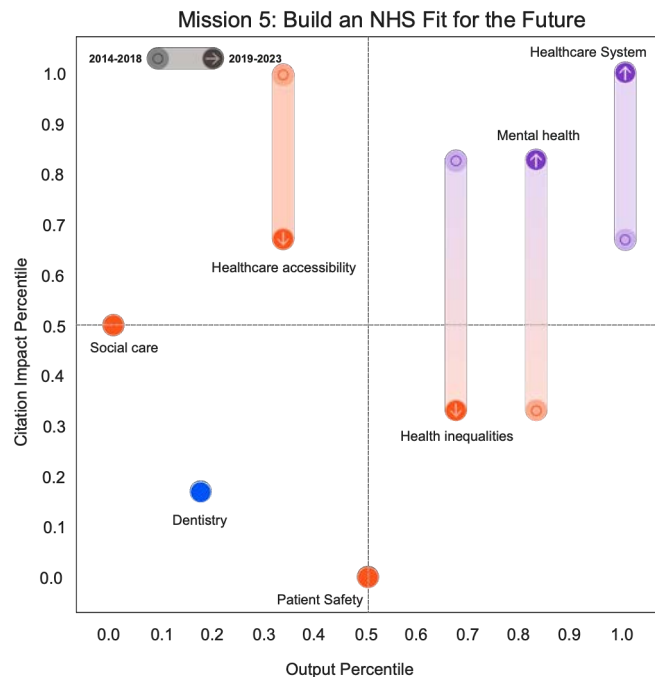


Highlight: Health inequalities caused by uneven emissions exposure

- A 2023 POST note on outdoor air quality and related health inequalities utilised multiple UK academic studies.
- Included in these studies is a publication by researchers from the University of West of England emphasising the distinction between measuring emissions vs exposure.
- The note uses academic evidence to
 - In urban areas, individuals from deprived neighborhoods are more likely to be exposed to poor air quality.
 - People from ethnic minority backgrounds are also more likely to be exposed to poor air quality.



Priority 5: Positioning matrix and key topics



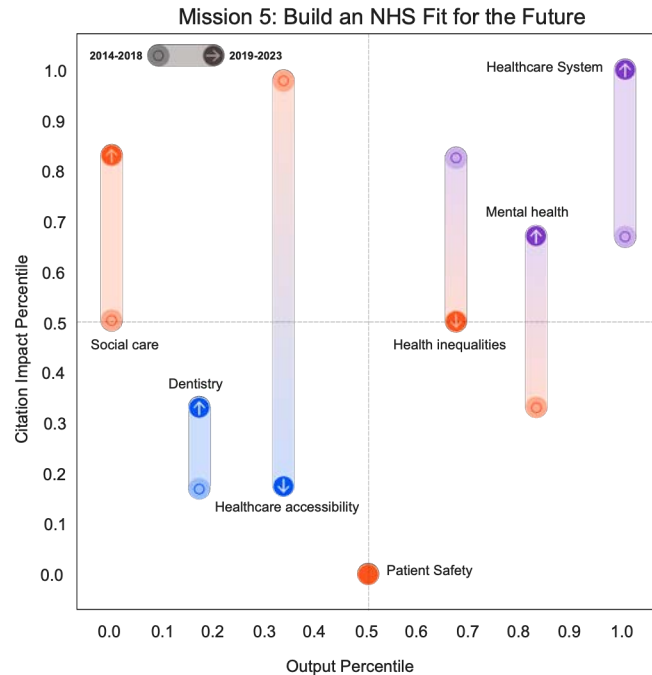
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Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

Healthcare System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mendelian randomization in health Genetic associations and polygenic scores Impact of SARS-CoV-2 variants
Mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychological impact of COVID-19 Nature's mental health benefits Social isolation and loneliness in older adults
Health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternal health care barriers Telemedicine in orthopedic and trauma care Child nutrition and growth
Healthcare accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hypertension and healthcare access Integrated care pathways Community health worker programs
Patient Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient engagement in research Patient involvement in decision making Patient preferences in healthcare
Social care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caregiving for dementia Social entrepreneurship impact Managing COVID-19 outbreaks in care homes
Dentistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dental procedures and aerosol contamination Oral drug dissolution and absorption Child Oral health and dental caries

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Priority 5: Positioning matrix and key topics (excl. Covid-19)



The chart displays the percentile ranks of research underpinning policy subcategories based on their output and citation impact. Arrow dots represent the percentile ranks for the period of 2019-2023, while smaller hollow dots indicate the ranks for the preceding period, 2014-2018. The arrow indicates the direction of time. Dots are colour-coded to highlight subcategories according to the combination of quantity and quality of output.

Top topics per policy subcategory (2019-2023)

Healthcare System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mendelian randomization in health Genetic associations and polygenic scores SGLT-2 inhibitors and GLP-1 agonists
Mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature's mental health benefits Social isolation in older adults Mental health policies in LMICs
Social care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caregiving for dementia Social entrepreneurship impact Robots in elderly care
Health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternal health care barriers Child nutrition and growth Temperature extremes on health
Patient Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient engagement in research Patient involvement in decision making Patient preferences in healthcare
Dentistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral drug dissolution and absorption Child oral health and dental caries Periodontal disease and systemic health
Healthcare accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hypertension and healthcare access Integrated care pathways Community health worker programs

The bullet points above summarise top research topics within each policy subcategory for the period of 2019-2023. The topics are colour-coded according to the percentile quadrant to the left.

Potential for
further insights



Potential for further insights



Having identified a body of work related to each mission, it could be of interest to explore what other insights it can reveal.



It is feasible to explore, for example:

- People and places: the strengths in expertise to build upon, both nationally and internationally
- Content: understanding the state of the art in research related to missions, and what it can tell us about the frontiers e.g. emerging themes in research questions, technologies of relevance
- Commercialisation: use of research related to missions in patents



These insights could help research leaders and policymakers to understand the existing assets they can draw upon to deliver the missions and future needs for investment.

Definitions and data sources

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Indicators

Output volume (number of publications)

Also referred to as output, this indicator is the number of articles published by a given entity. Using the full counting method, each entity represented by each author listed on a publication receives full credit (1 publication) for that paper. For example, if a publication is authored by two researchers affiliated with the United Kingdom, one with Spain and one with the United States, that publication is counted once for the world, once for the United Kingdom, once for Spain and once for the United States.

A publication count based on full counting indicates which entities are involved in the production of an article, regardless of their individual level of contribution to the article.

Field-weighted citation impact (FWCI)

When evaluating research performances according to citation impact, the analyses use the field-weighted citation impact (FWCI) indicator.

FWCI is a measure of citation impact that normalises the citations received by an article against the World benchmark of citations received in the same field, publication type, and year of publication, thus also making values comparable across these three dimensions. The World FWCI is indexed to a value of 1.0, meaning that values above 1.0 indicate above average citation impact. For example, a value of 1.7 indicates a citation impact that is 1.7 times the average or 70% above average.

Relative activity index (RAI)

Relative activity index (RAI) is defined as the share of a country's article output in a research area relative to the world's share of articles in the same research area. For example, the UK published 10% of its articles in 2019–2023 in Energy research, while globally, 5% of all articles published were in Energy.

The Relative activity index for the UK in Energy is therefore calculated as the UK's article share in Energy divided by global article share in Energy. A value of 1.0 indicates that the country's research activity in a field corresponds exactly with the global activity in that field; a value higher than 1.0 implies a greater emphasis; and a value lower than 1.0 suggests a lesser focus.

Indicators

Share of publications cited by policy documents

This is an indicator that informs on the uptake of scientific discovery by policymakers, governmental bodies and agencies. This is the number of scientific publications cited by a policy-related document proportional to the total number of scientific publications. It is measured by linking records in Scopus to the policy document literature.

The data source of policy documents is Overton, which is the world's largest searchable index of policy documents, guidelines, think-tank publications and working papers.

Topics

A topic is a collection of documents with a common intellectual interest, and topics are based on clustering the citation network of 95% of Scopus content (all documents published from 1996). Each topic is clustered within SciVal based upon a direct citation analysis using document reference lists.

A document can belong to only one topic. As newly published documents are indexed, they are added to the topics using their reference list. This makes the topics dynamic and most will increase in size over time.



Data sources

Scopus

Scopus is a comprehensive, source-neutral abstract and citation database curated by independent subject matter experts who are recognized leaders in their fields. 91+ million items include data from 7,000+ publishers, 94,000+ affiliation profiles and 17+ million authors. Scopus puts powerful vdiscovery and analytics tools in the hands of researchers, librarians, research managers and funders to promote ideas, people and institutions.

Delivering a comprehensive overview of the world's research output in the fields of science, technology, medicine, social sciences, and arts and humanities, our state-of-the-art search tools and filters help uncover relevant information, monitor research trends, track newly published research and identify subject experts. Worldwide, Scopus is used by more than 3,000 academic, government and corporate institutions and is the main data source that supports the Elsevier Research Intelligence portfolio.

SciVal

SciVal is a web-based analytics solution with unparalleled flexibility that provides access to the research performance of over 20,000 academic, industry and government research institutions and their associated researchers, output and metrics. SciVal allows users to visualize research performance, benchmark relative to peers, develop strategic partnerships, identify and analyze emerging research trends, and create uniquely tailored reports.

overton

Overton is the world's largest searchable index of policy documents, guidelines, think-tank publications and working papers. Its database consists of more than 1.65 million policy documents, with data collected from 182 countries and over a thousand sources worldwide. These policy documents include white papers from international multilateral organizations, as well as guidelines from city councils, parliamentary transcripts and other classes of the so-called "gray literature." Around half of these documents make citations to academic or scholarly publications. More than 2 million distinct journal-based publications are cited by at least one policy document in the database.

Annex

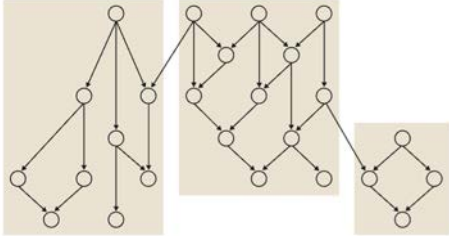
Additional methods and classifications

ELSEVIER



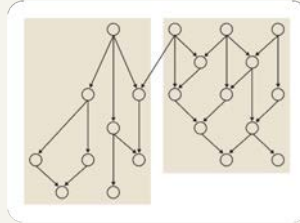
Topics scoping (additional pre-classification step)

Topics are created by clustering similar research based on direct citations. There are 95k topics overall.



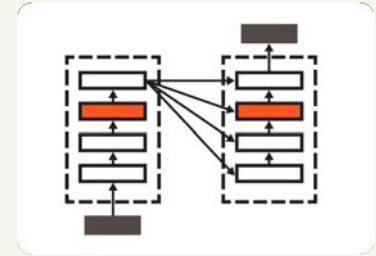
To make the number of topics manageable for large-scale LLM classification, we limited the number of topics in each mission by topics that are likely more relevant to each mission. This was done by taking topics with at least 100 publications that related to a relevant SDG.

For example, for Mission 1: Kickstart Economic Growth, we took only topics that had at least 100 publications related to the SDG 8. Decent work and Economic Growth or SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.



This helped reduce the number of topics to be classified from 95k per mission to no more than 15k per mission, with the exact number varying per mission.

Topics are classified at scale into mission areas and subareas via LLM



Mapping academic research to policy missions

Mission 1: Kickstart Economic Growth

UK Government definition	Definition used for classification
Industrial strategy Driving innovation	Economic Growth: National industrial and innovation strategies for economic expansion.
Boosting investment	Industrial Infrastructure: Development of industrial supply chains and manufacturing.
Business taxation	Business Tax: Corporate tax policies and business financial regulations.
Economic infrastructure	Digital Infrastructure: Improving national communication networks and digital connectivity.
A modern transportation system	Transportation and Mobility: Upgrading transportation networks, automotive, aviation and airspace sectors.
Small business and self-employed	Small Business: Support for small businesses, startups, and entrepreneurs.
Get Britain building again	Housing: Housing development and urban planning policies.
Growth across the country	Regional Economic Empowerment: Strategies for local governance and development through devolution.
A fair immigration system	Immigration: Immigration linked to workforce and skills policy.
Supporting people into work Making work pay	Employment: Programs to boost employment and workplace conditions, labour laws and worker's rights.

Mapping academic research to policy missions

Mission 2: Make Britain a Clean Energy Superpower

UK Government definition	Definition used for classification
Clean power	Green Energy: Zero carbon, wind, solar, marine and nuclear power, carbon capture and storage, green hydrogen, responsible management of oil and gas.
Great British energy Energy system reform	Energy Grids: Development of energy transmission infrastructure and national energy supply chains.
Warm homes	Energy Efficiency in Homes: Low carbon heating, fuel poverty, energy savings in buildings
Accelerating to net zero	Decarbonization of Industry: Sustainable energy transitions, carbon pricing, carbon taxes.
Improving resilience	Fighting Climate Change: Strategies for climate resilience, climate mitigation and climate adaptation.
Protecting nature	Nature Protection and Restoration: Biodiversity conservation, protection of wildlife.
Clean water	Clean Water: Improving water management and reducing water pollution.
Supporting British farmers	Sustainable Agriculture: Food production and land management.
Animal welfare	Animal Welfare: Ethical treatment, protection, and care of animals.

Mapping academic research to policy missions

Mission 3: Take Back our Streets

UK Government definition	Definition used for classification
Neighbourhood policing	Neighbourhood policing: Community policing, patrols and crime prevention.
Antisocial behaviour	Antisocial behaviour: Prevention of public drinking and drug use, vandalism and shoplifting.
Knife crime action plan	Armed crime: Prevention of armed crimes, focusing particularly on crimes involving knives and other cold weapons.
Tackling violence against women and girls	Violence against women: Domestic abuse of women, sexual harassment and stalking.
Better policing	Policing standards: policing performance, misconduct by police and erosion of trust in police.
Solving crime	Solving crime: Investigation and prosecution of crime, forensics.
Justice system reform	Justice system: Improving criminal justice, victim protection.
Prisons	Managing prisons: Prison conditions, reduction of criminal reoffending.
Historical injustices	Historical injustices: Addressing state-related deaths, disasters, and compensation for victims.

Mapping academic research to policy missions

Mission 4: Break Down Barriers to Opportunity

UK Government definition	Definition used for classification
Family security	Family welfare: Measures to reduce poverty and homelessness, improve retirement security.
Best start in life Access to arts, music and sport	Better start in life: Ensuring access to quality early education, childcare, and comprehensive child support.
Raising schooling standards	School standards: Improving teaching quality, teacher retention and training, inclusive education.
Further and higher education	Higher education: Raising standards in higher education, addressing national skills shortages.
Respect and equality	Equality and inclusion: Gender and race equality, fighting hate crime and discrimination.

Mapping academic research to policy missions

Mission 5: Build and NHS Fit for the Future

UK Government definition	Definition used for classification
Get the NHS back on its feet Modernising the NHS Action on public health	Healthcare System: Diagnostics and prevention, clinical trials, dementia treatment, AI for health.
Power to the patients Ensuring patient safety	Patient Safety: patient rights, and patient well being.
Healthcare closer to home	Healthcare accessibility: General practitioners and primary healthcare access.
Dentistry rescue plan	Dentistry: Dental care, dental hygiene.
Social care reform	Social care: Improving social care standards and access.
Improving mental health	Mental health: Improving mental wellbeing, mental health policies.
Reducing health inequalities	Health inequalities: Health equity, health disparities.

Positioning matrix framework – priority subareas

- To help position priority subareas according to their strengths and weaknesses, we calculate percentile rank of output and citation impact of each subarea for two consecutive 5-year periods:
 - 2014-2018**
 - 2019-2023**
- The subareas are then plotted on a 2x2 as shown on the right, to identify those with higher/lower output and higher/lower citation impact. In addition, the arrow shows how the rank of a subarea has changed from one period to the next.

