

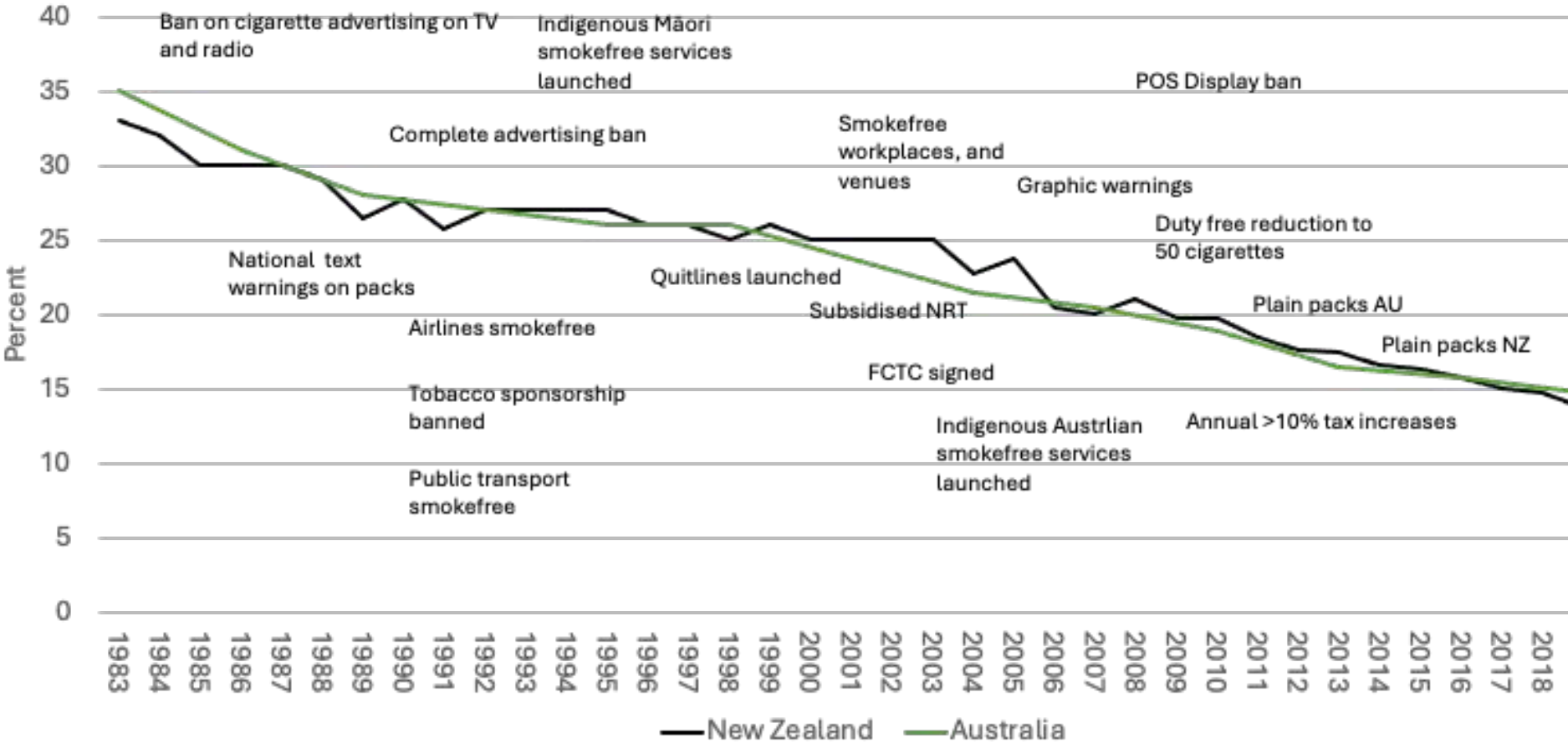


Pathways to Smokefree New Zealand vs Australia

Ben Youdan

E-cigarette Summit Washington DC 2024

A long shared history of aggressive tobacco policy



New Zealand Health Survey . Australian Health Survey.

Both have smokefree goals



Less than 5% adult
daily smoking by:

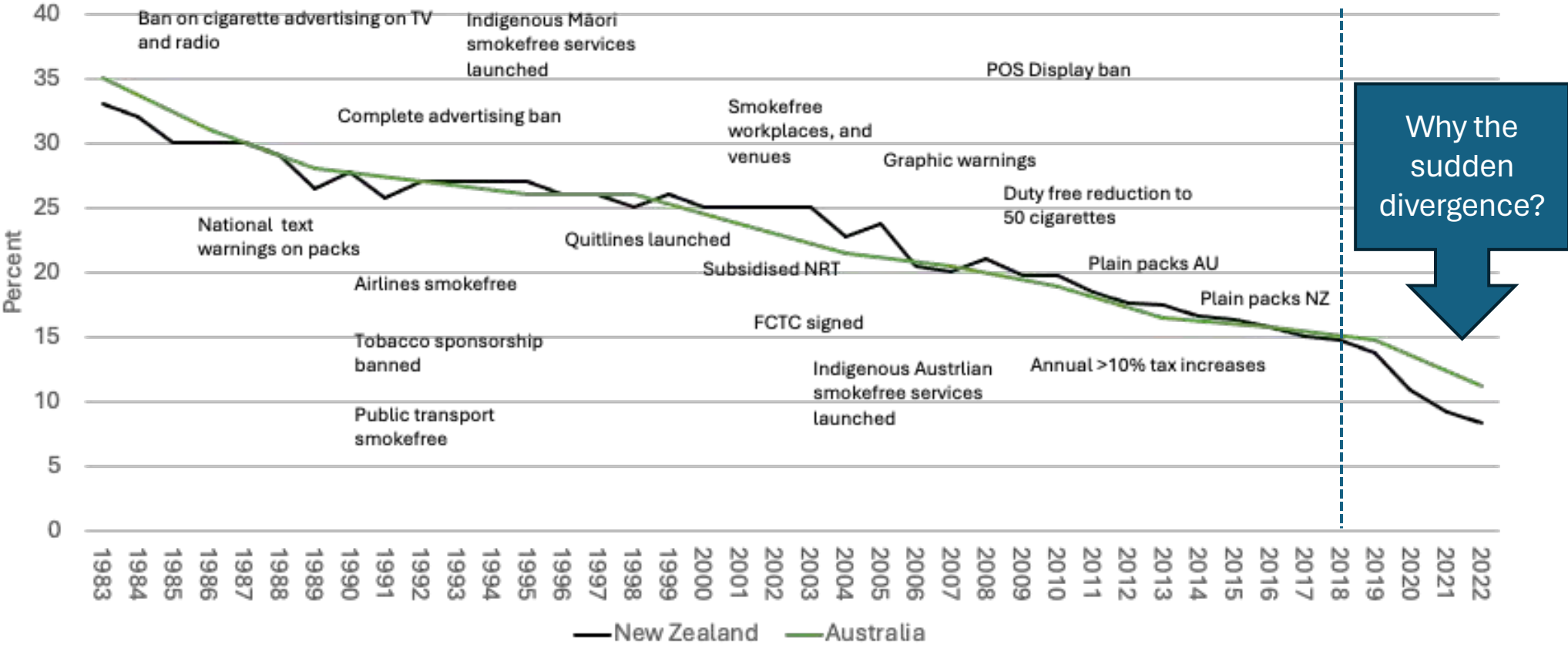
2025



Less than 5% adult
daily smoking by:

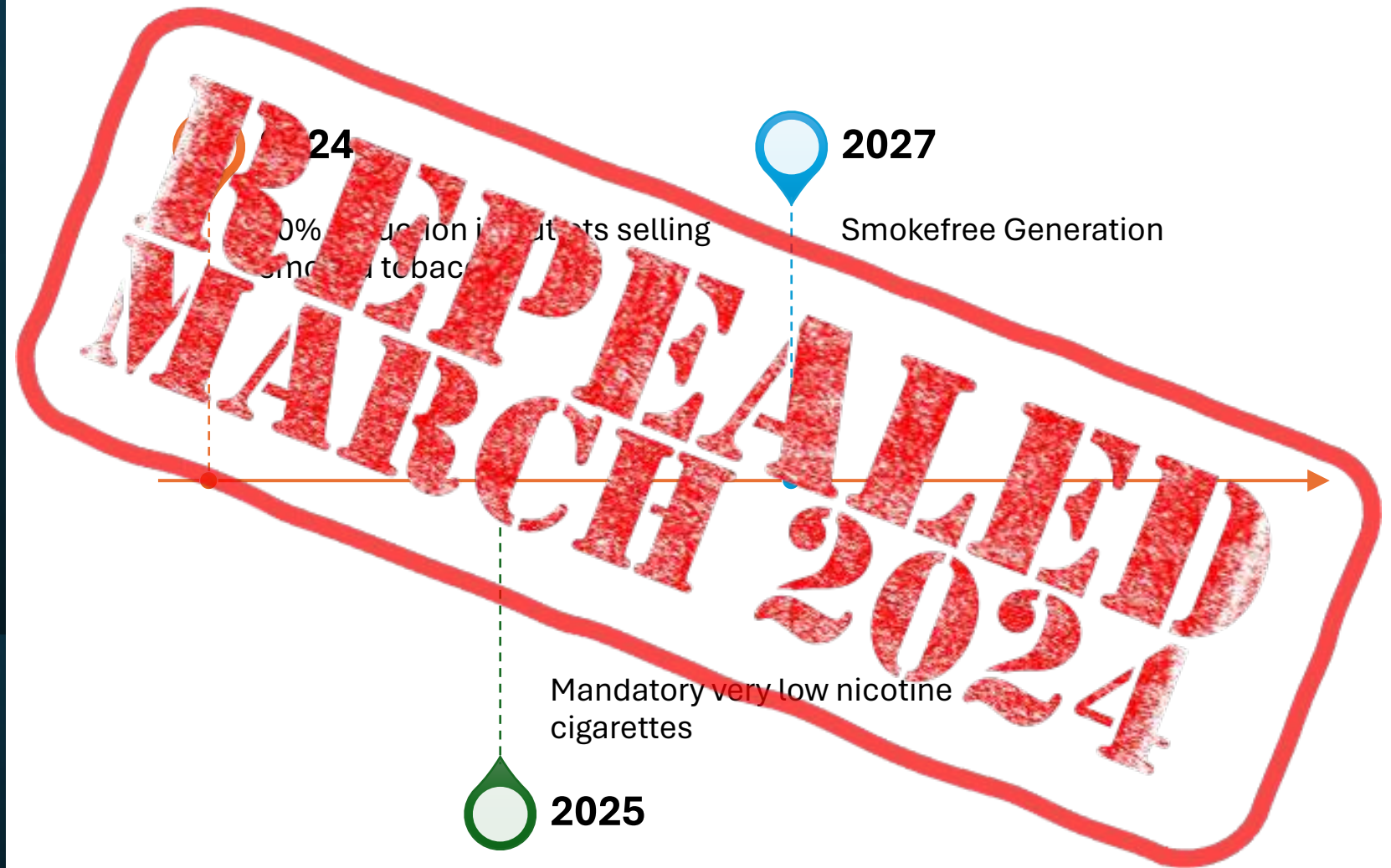
2030

A long shared history of aggressive tobacco policy



Why the sudden divergence?

What about New Zealand's endgame laws



Diverging views on vaping and Smokefree success



“Vaping has the potential to help people quit smoking and contribute to New Zealand’s Smokefree 2025 goal”

New Zealand Ministry of Health

www.vapingfacts.health.nz. May 2024



“It [vaping] poses a major threat to population health and Australia's success in tobacco control... The global health community is watching us closely.”

Australian Health Minister Butler. Hansard. 21 March 2024

The nicotine vape laws in New Zealand and Australia

	New Zealand	Australia	United States
Classification	Consumer	Prescription medicine	Tobacco product
Sale in general retailers	Limited to closed pods and 3 flavours	No	Yes
Sales in specialist retailers	Yes – all systems and flavours	No	Yes
Advertising allowed	No	No	Yes
POS display	Yes	Pharmacy only	Yes
Age restriction	18	Yes	18
Flavour restrictions	Partial – limit on language used	No	State by State
Nicotine limits	20mg freebase and 28mg nicotine salts	0mg (unless prescribed)	Uncapped
General use supported for smoking cessation	Yes, firstline and consumer	Secondline via prescription only	Yes, firstline and consumer
Disposable ban	Yes	No	No
Pack warnings	Yes	Yes	Yes

How do health systems in
New Zealand and Australia
portray vaping and nicotine?



**VAPING'S WAY
LESS HARMFUL
THAN SMOKING.**

 [vaping facts](#)



Vaping isn't harmless.
If you don't smoke, don't vape.

**VAPE
TO QUIT
STRONG**



Displayed at Martin place railway station

How do health systems in
New Zealand and Australia portray
people who vape?

**VAPING
FACTS**

Vaping to Quit with Kura

**Tips and tricks for
vaping to quit
smoking.**

Why vaping was right for me.



Jay the midwife – 7 weeks smokefree



Get the facts on vaping

vapingfacts.org.au

Quitline 13 7848 

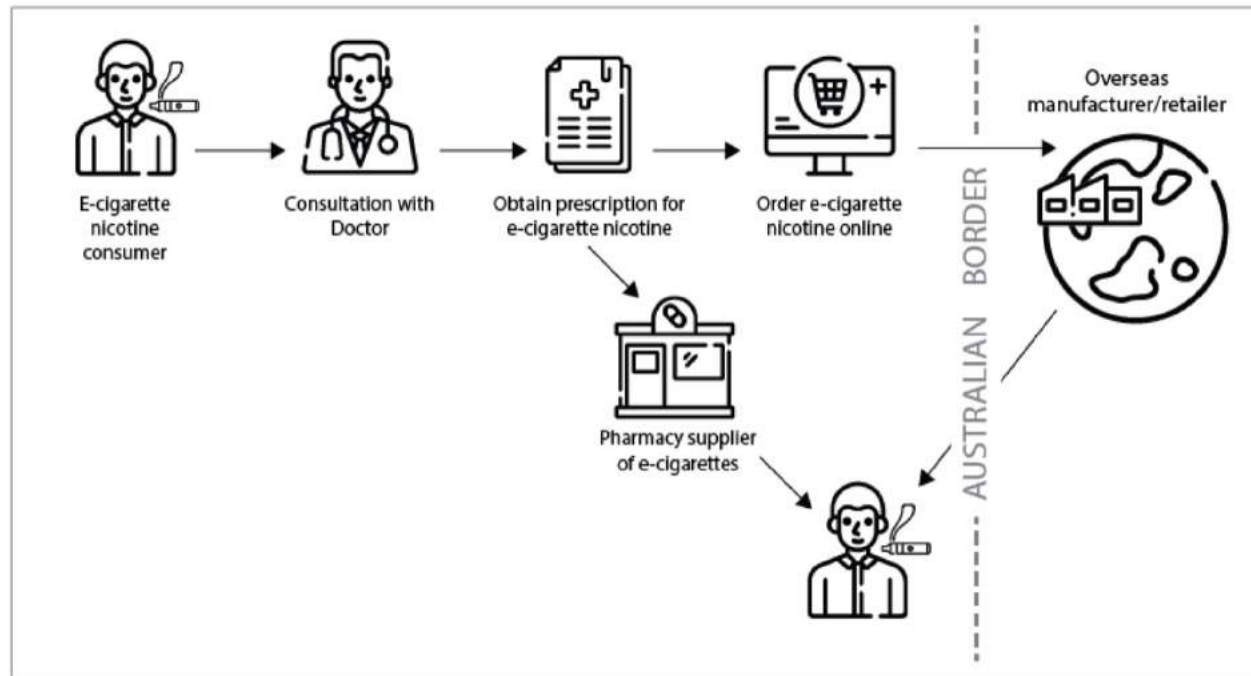


Treating people who vape as criminals (ACT)

	Penalty	Prison Term	Legislation
Possession of unauthorised nicotine	\$32,000	2 years	Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008
Possession of <150g fresh cannabis	Legal	-	Drugs of Dependence Ammendment Act 2022 (ACT)
Possession of small quantities of drugs. Eg: Cocaine Meth Heroin Ecstasy LSD Magic Mushrooms	\$100 Or Health education	-	Drugs of Dependence Ammendment Act 2022 (ACT)

Or as sick people incapable of self determination

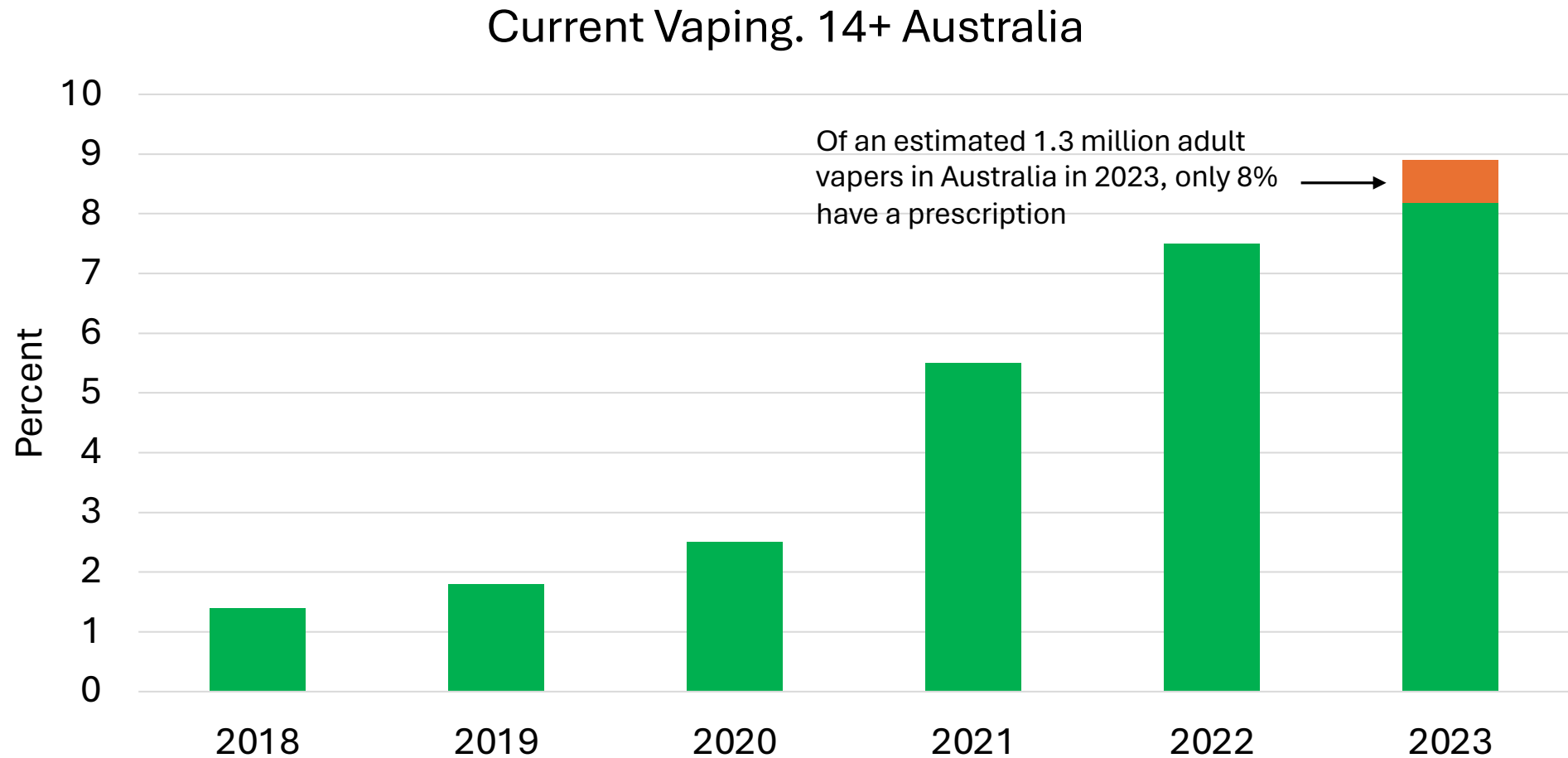
Australian Department of Health Flowchart outline steps leading to dispensing nicotine vapes in Australia



1- 10 weeks

- Only around 2% of Australian Doctors list themselves to prescribe nicotine
- Many Australians get their prescription from New Zealand
- Patients are usually better informed than GPs
- Rural, low income, indigenous Australians have very poor healthcare access – they also have highest smoking, and related deaths

Dominance of illicit, and unprescribed products





Victoria
Young children paid \$500 to set shop alight in Victoria's tobacco and vape wars

Gangs fighting to control state's illicit tobacco and vape market are using children to commit arson, inquiry hears

The Daily Telegraph

Subscribe today to unlock it and more...



ABF smash vape crime syndicate in raids across Sydney

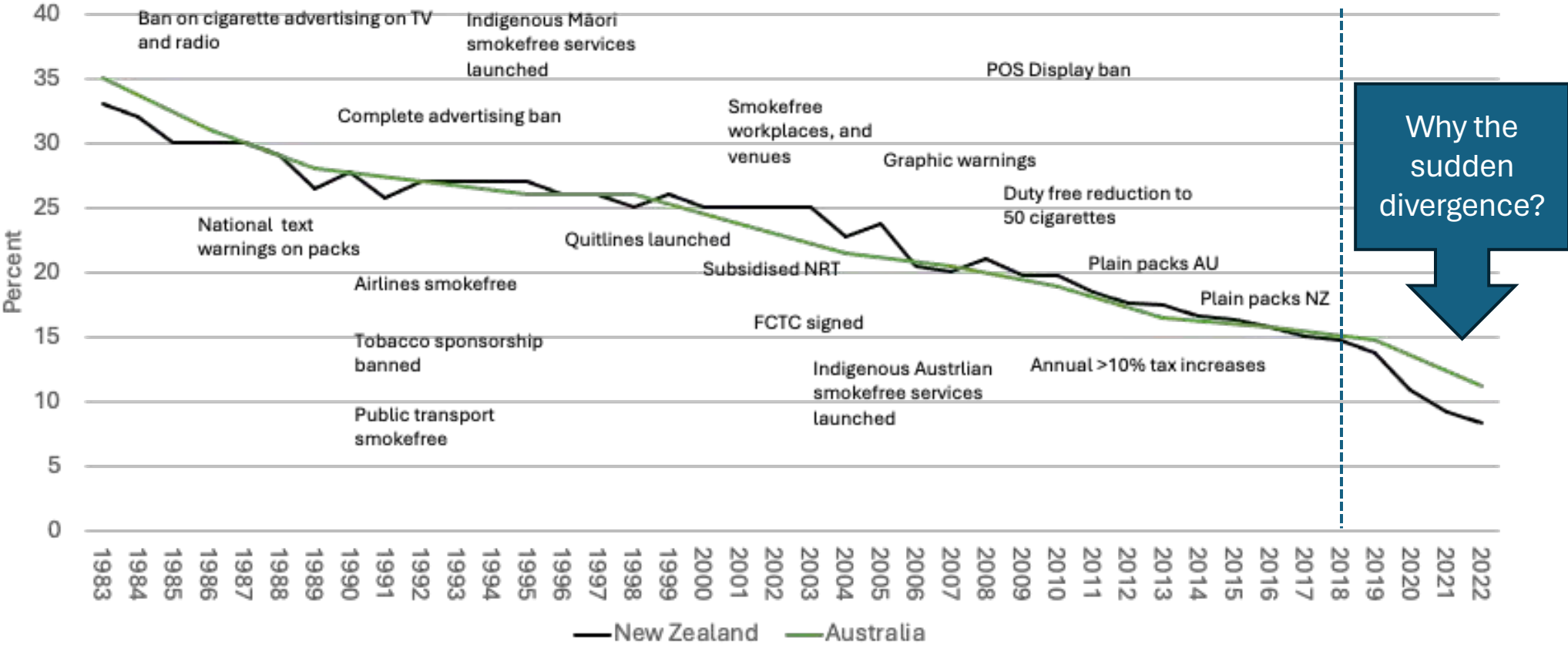
Border Force officers have stopped more than five million cigarette sticks, \$13.5 million of illegal vapes, firearms, tobacco and cash from reaching Sydney's streets after raids across the city.

Meanwhile,
cigarette sales
are everywhere



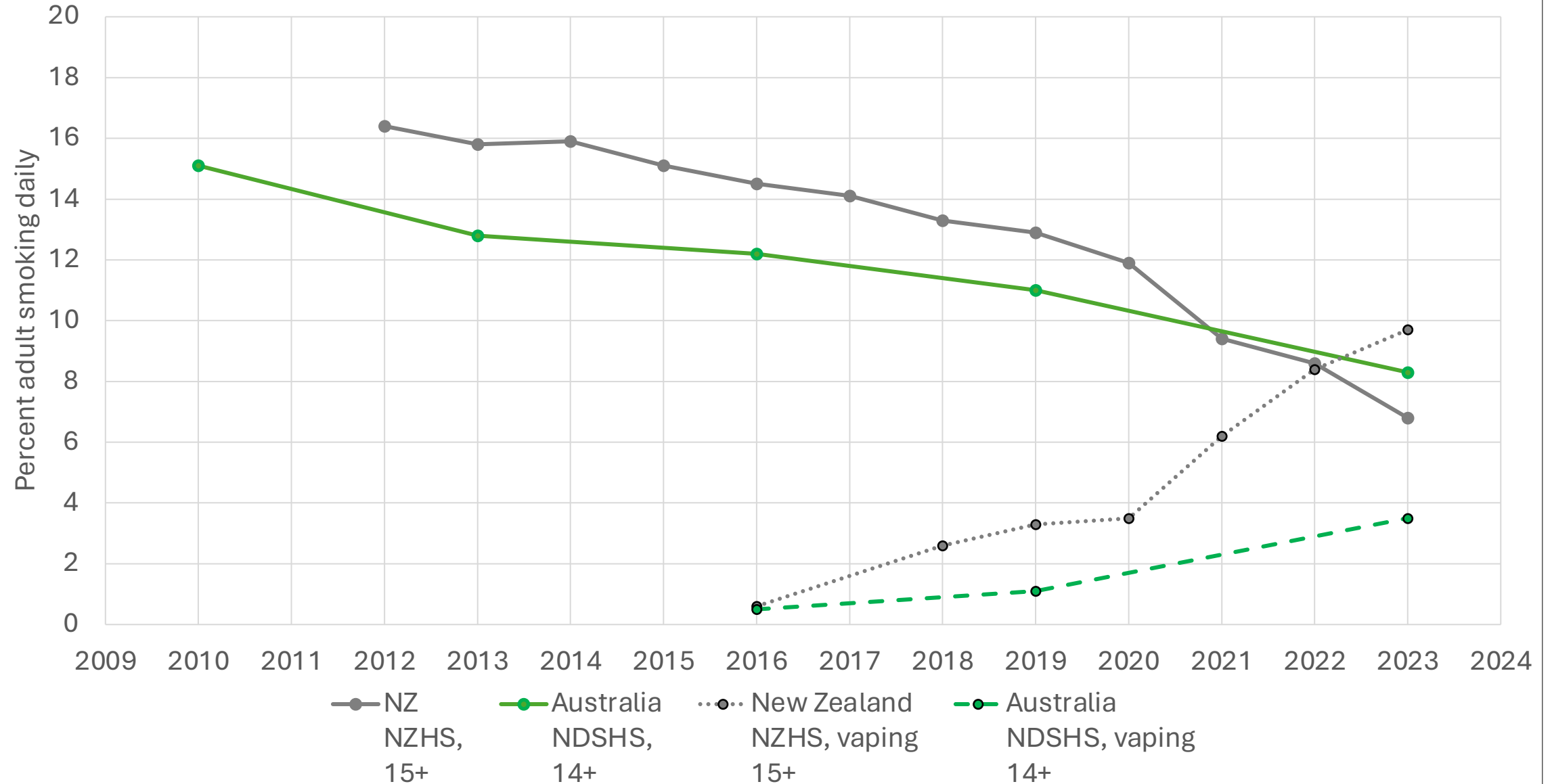


A long shared history of aggressive tobacco policy

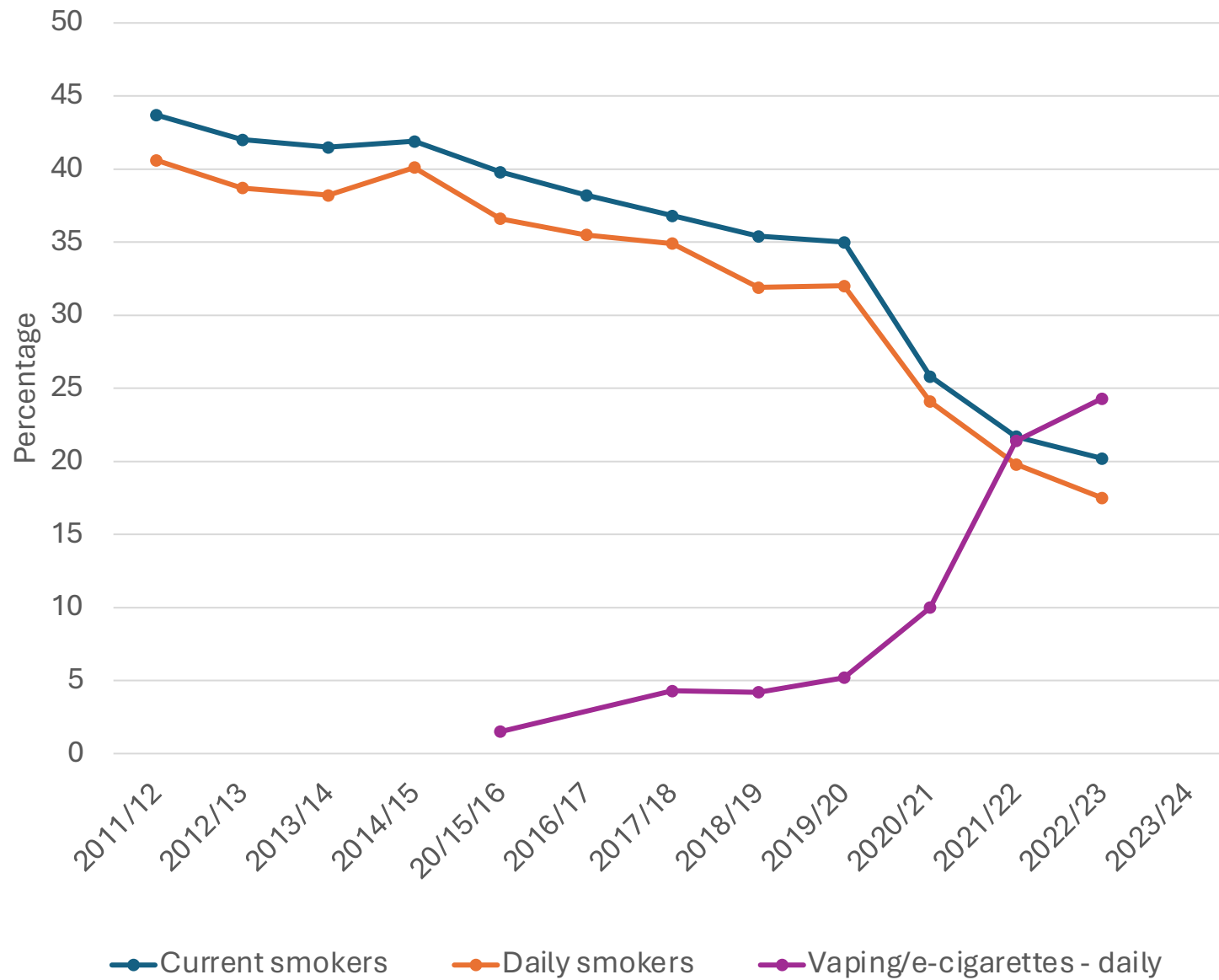


Why the sudden divergence?

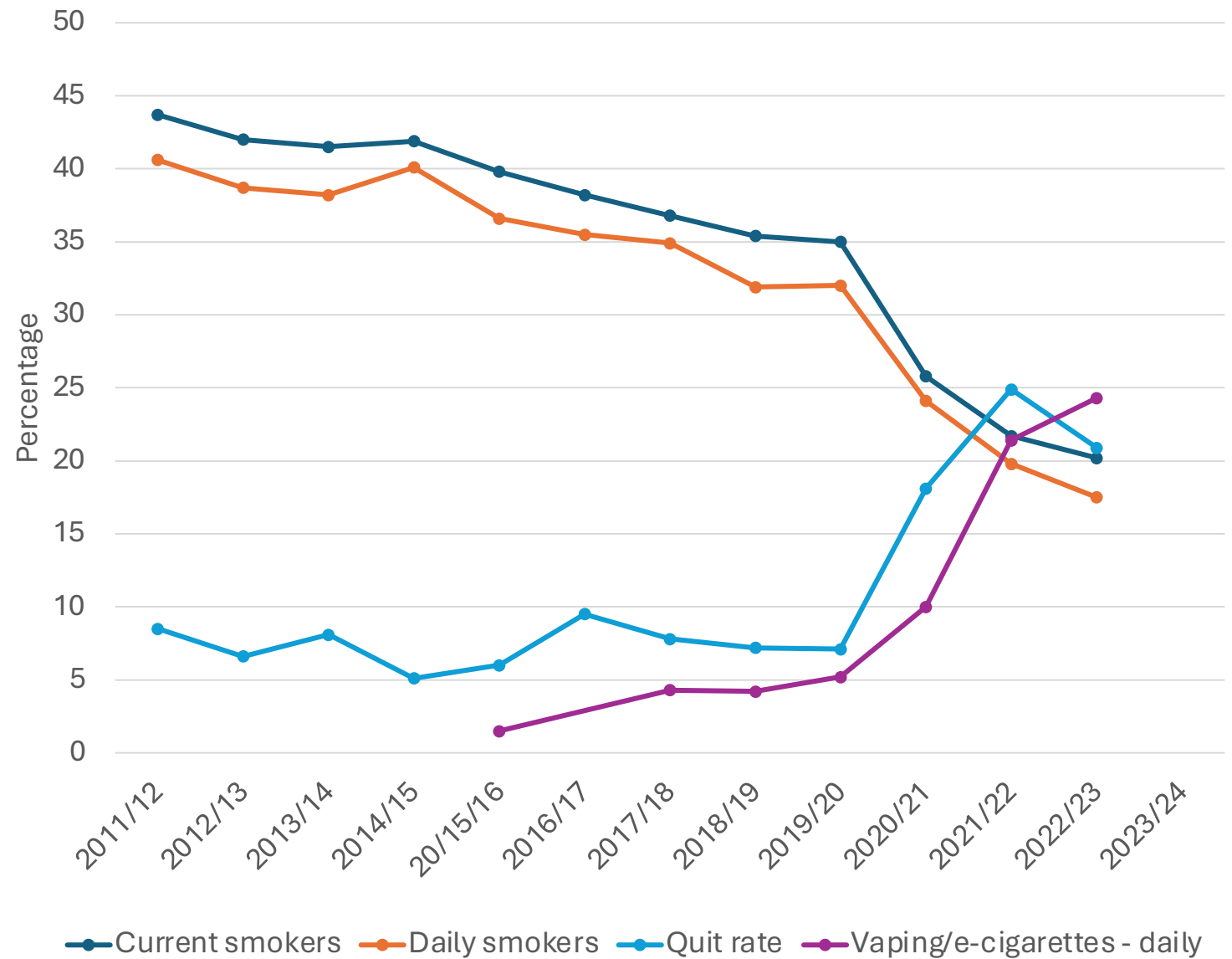
Daily adult smoking and vaping New Zealand | Australia



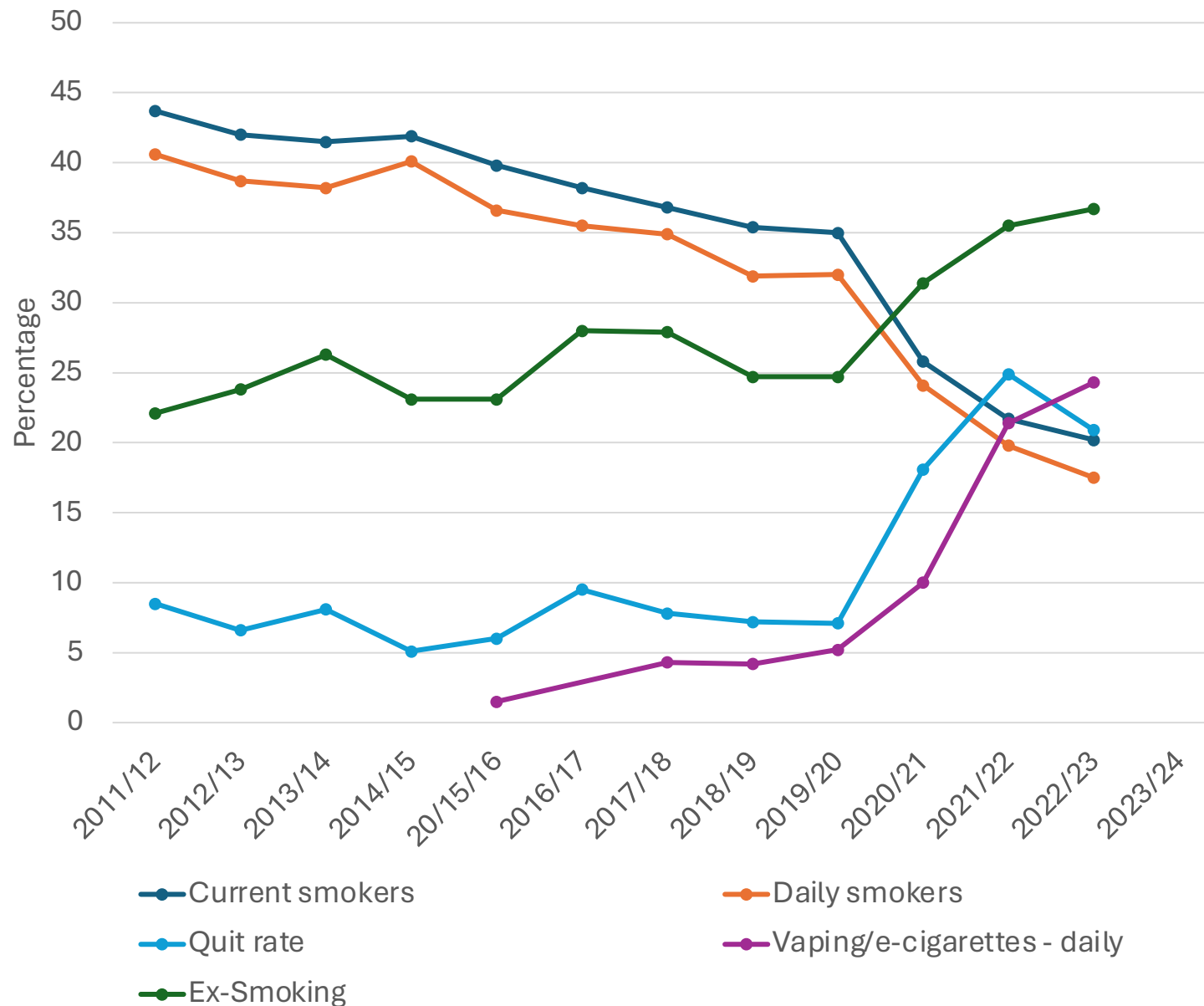
Māori women. % Daily Smoking 2011-2022



Māori women. % Daily Smoking 2011-2022

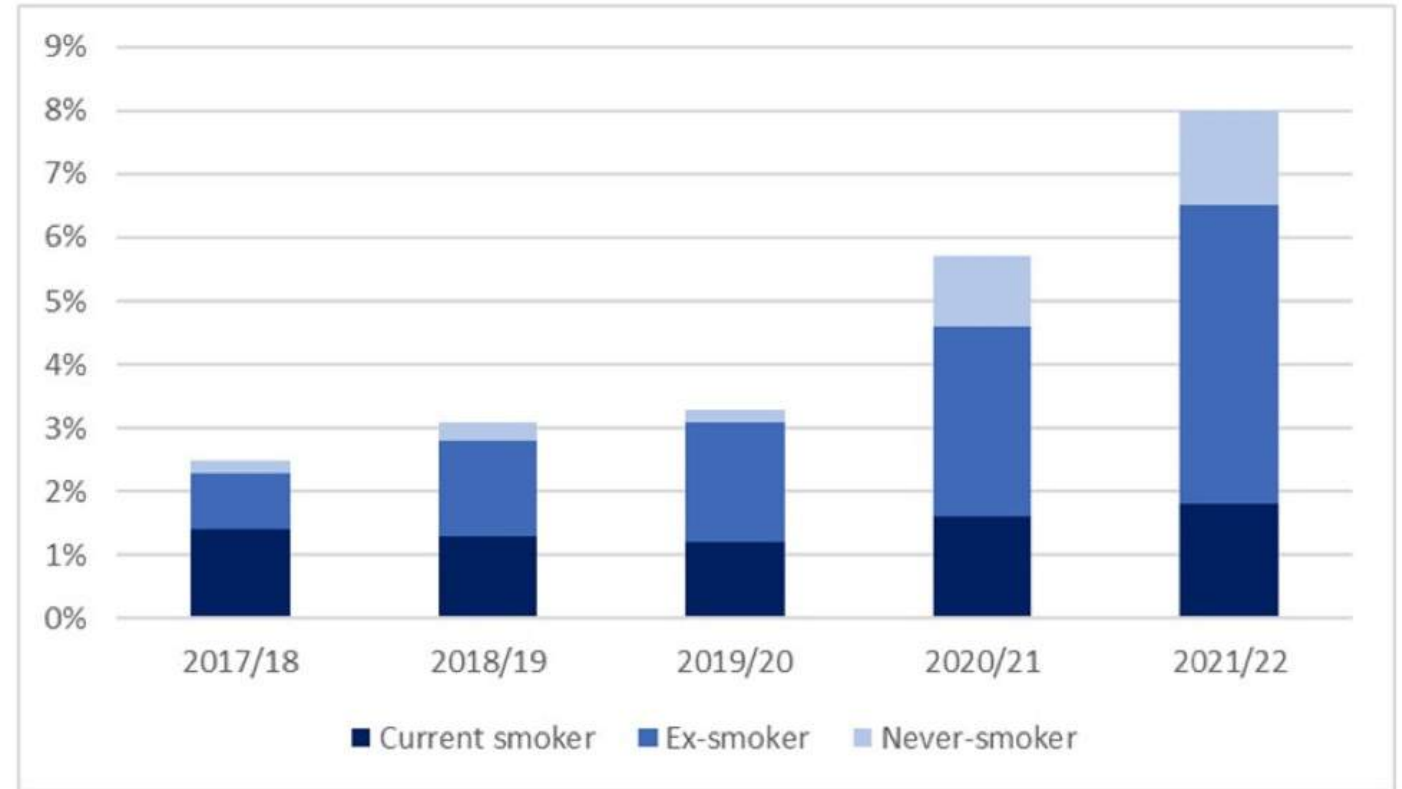


Māori women. % Daily Smoking 2011-2022



Smoking Status of Daily Vapers in New Zealand

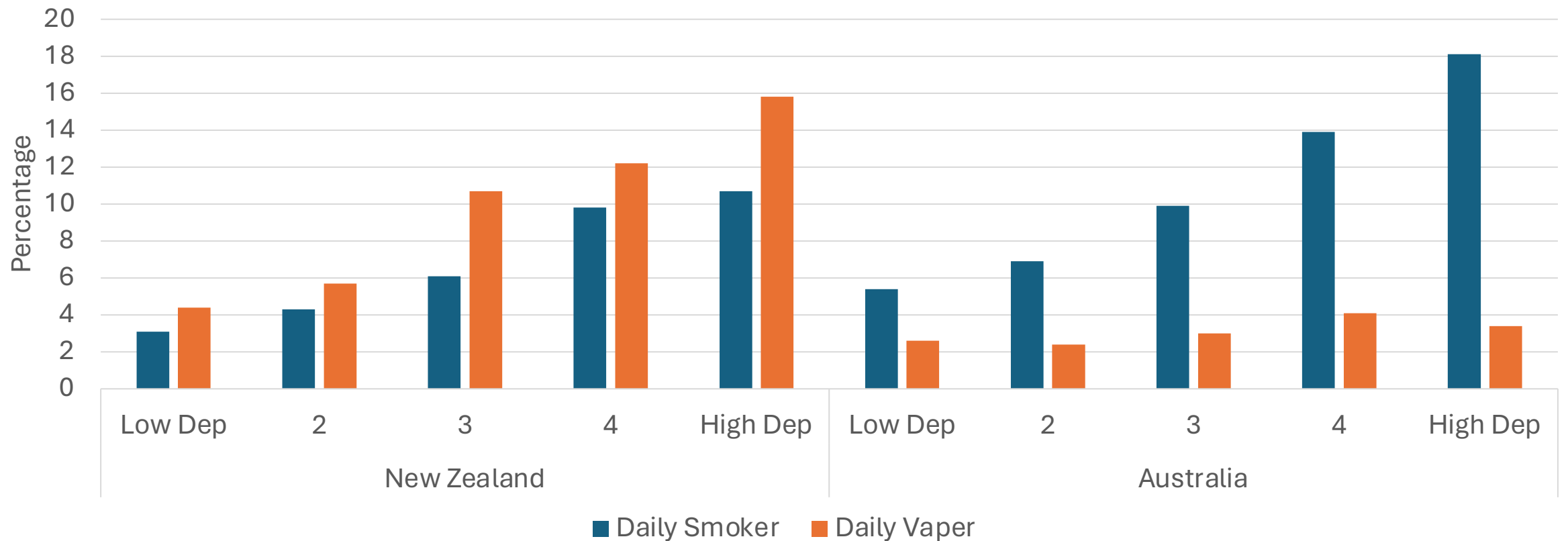
Figure 5: Daily vaping in people aged 15 and older, by smoking status, 2017/18 to 2021/22



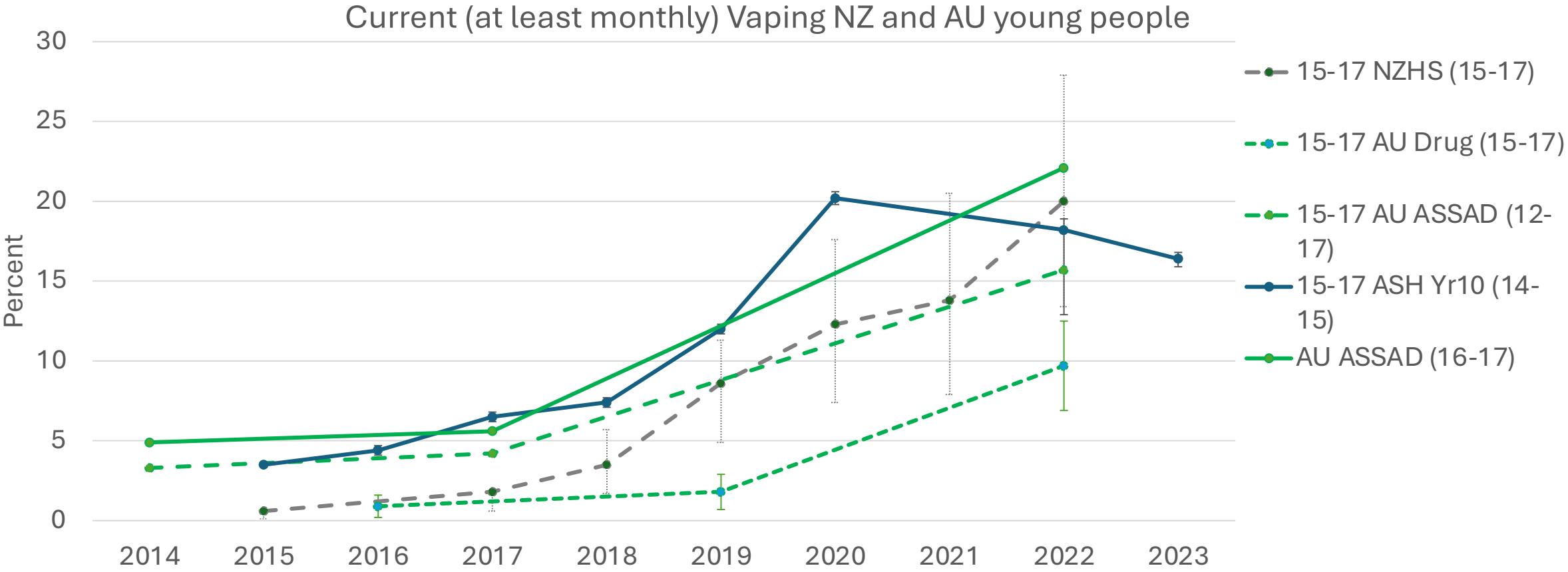
Note: excludes the Other smoking group, so percentages do not sum to daily vaping estimates published in the *Annual Data Explorer 2021/22* (Ministry of Health 2022a)

Barriers to access is an equity issue

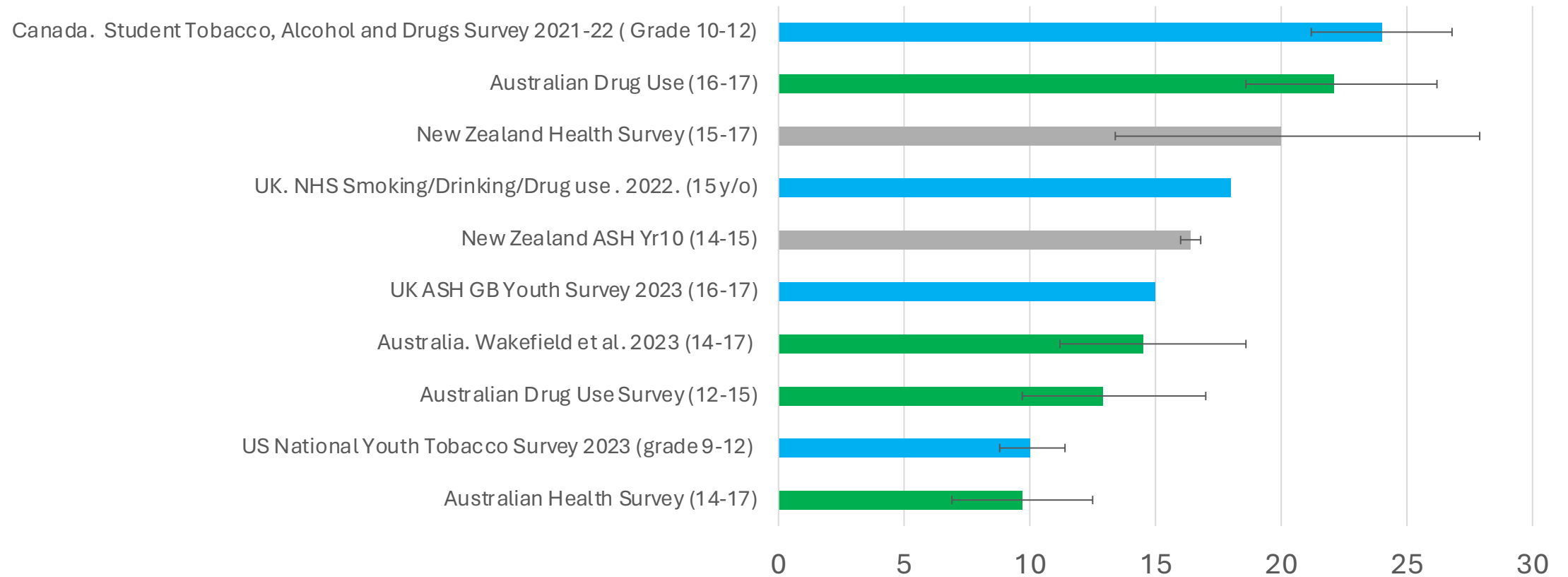
Smoking and Vaping by Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage 2022



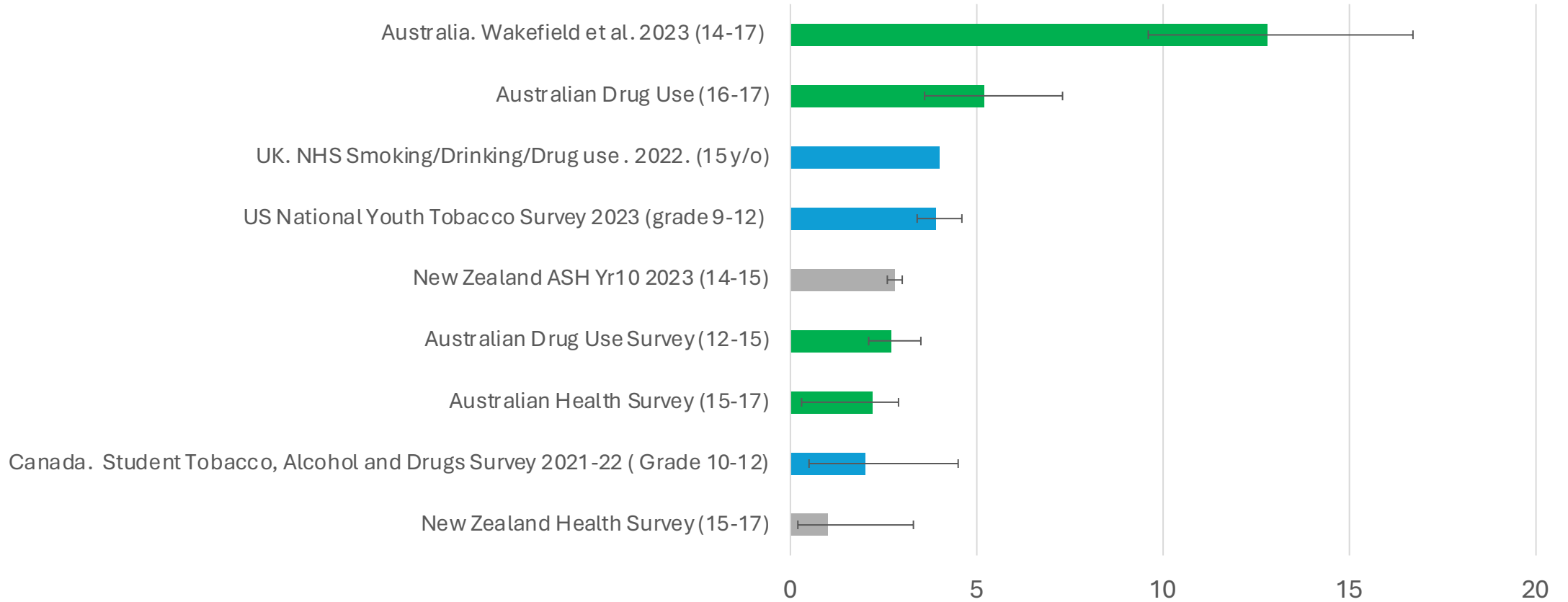
What about the youth?



Current youth vaping. Monthly or 30 day use



Current youth smoking. Monthly or 30 day use



A photograph of two kangaroos standing on a sandy beach, looking out towards the ocean. The background features a calm sea, distant hills, and a clear sky with light clouds. The kangaroos are in the foreground, with their long tails extending to the ground. The text 'Where to next for Australia and New Zealand?' is overlaid in white, centered on the image, with a white horizontal line underneath it.

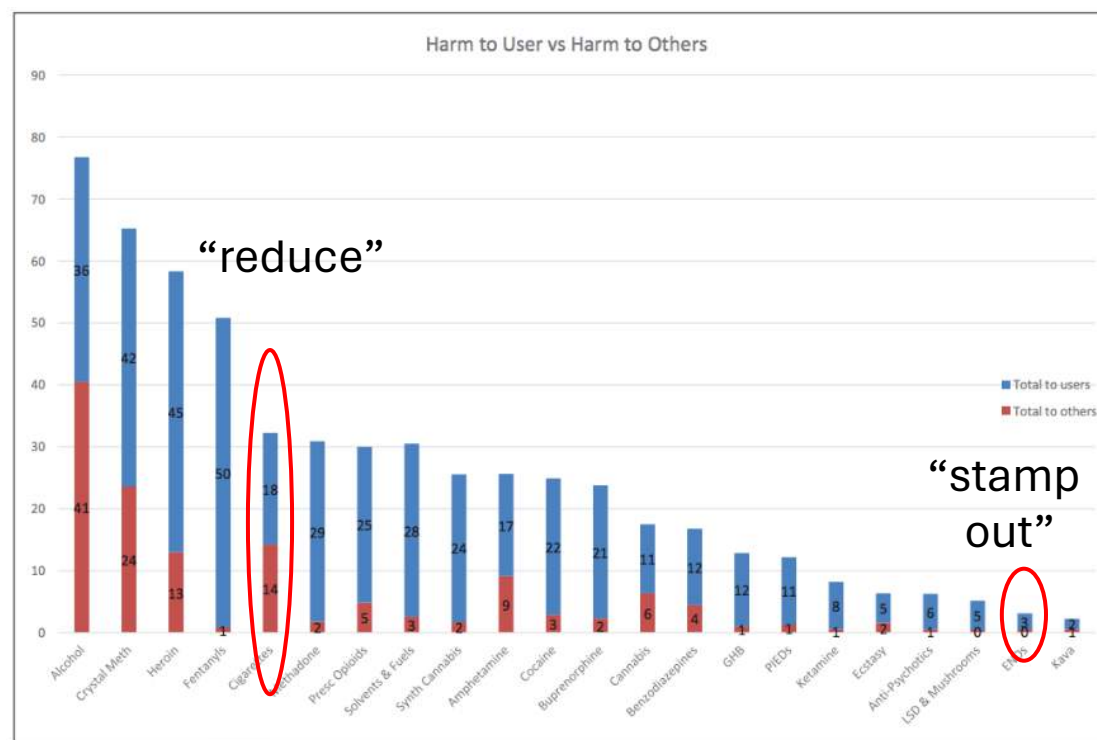
Where to next for Australia and New Zealand?

“The Albanese Government is taking strong action to reduce smoking and stamp out vaping”

Australian Health Minister Greg Hunt. Media Release March 2024

... ban the importation, domestic manufacture, supply, commercial possession and advertisement of vaping goods, except in very limited circumstances.

Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Bill 2024. Community Affairs Legislation Committee. Australian House of Representatives. May 2024



Bonomo Y, et al The Australian drug harms ranking study. J Psychopharmacol. 2019 Jul;33(7):759-768

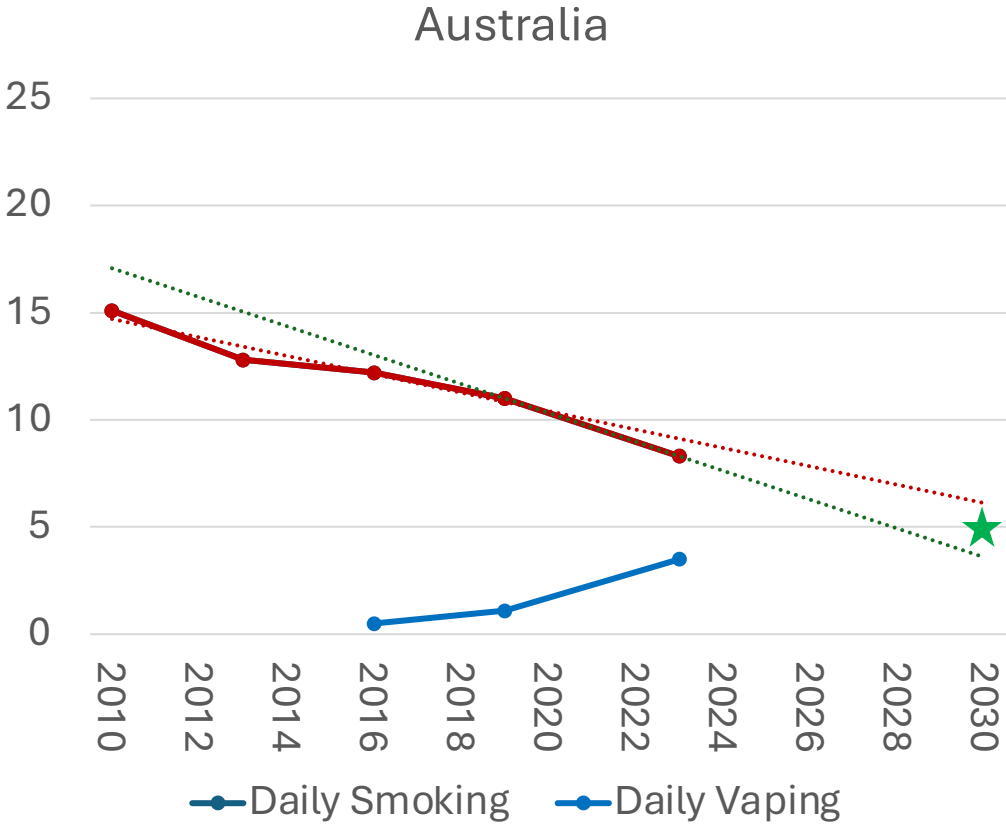
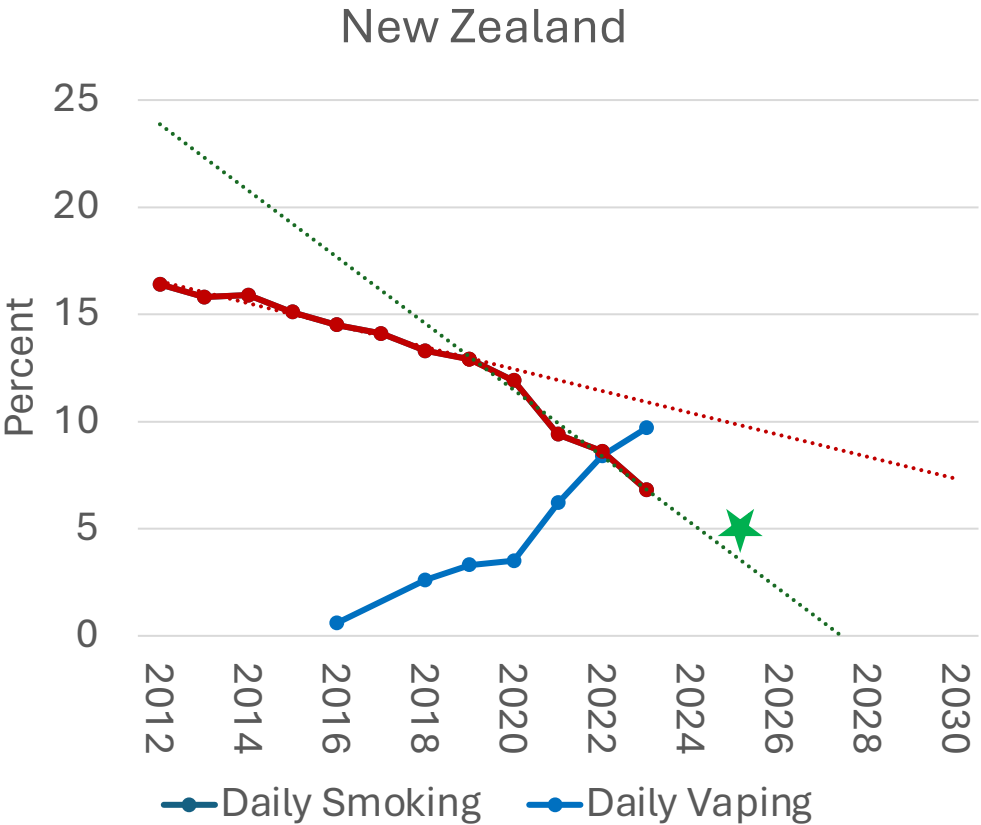
Future for New Zealand?



- Ban on disposable vapes
- Increased penalties for youth supply
- Possible broadening of THR to include oral products
- An alternate plan still to be decided...

Will Smokefree goals be achieved?

Daily Smoking and Vaping





Thank you!

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