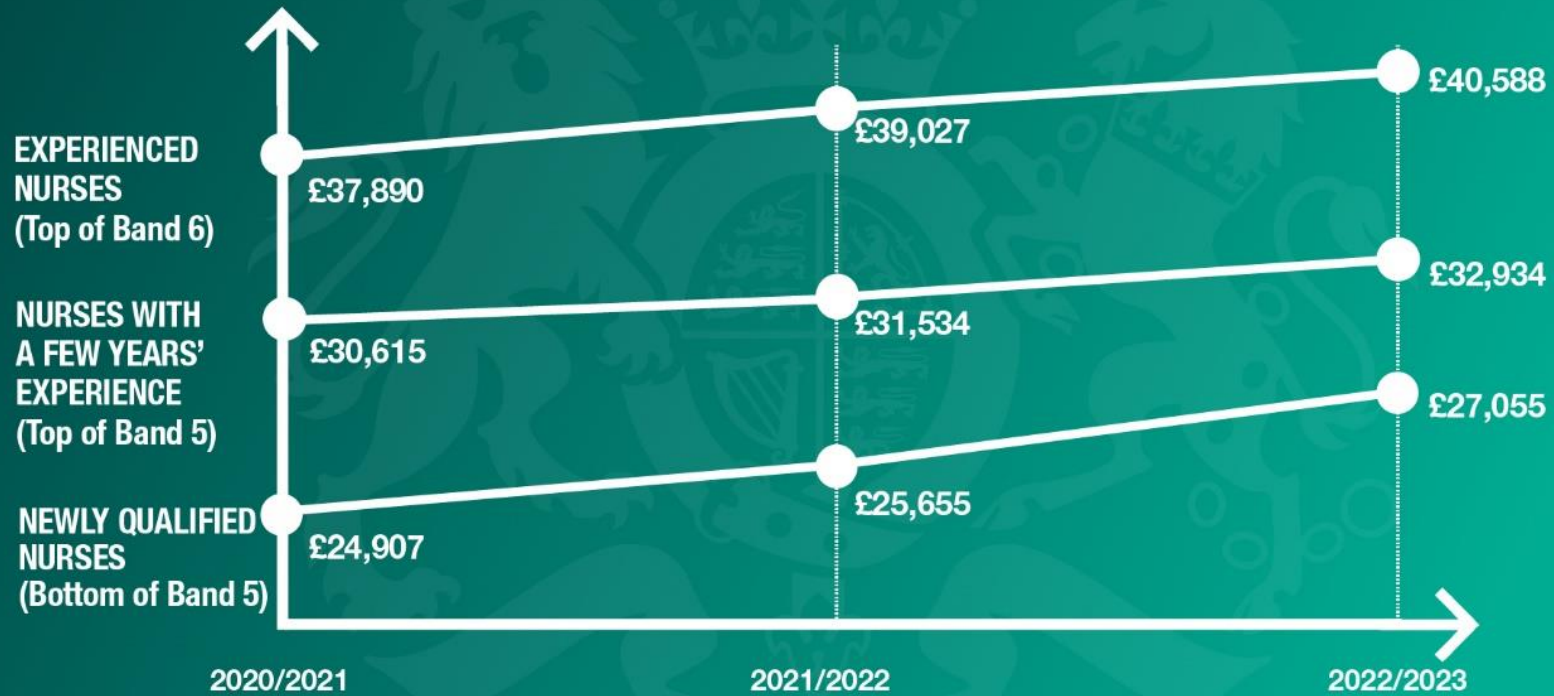




HOW NURSES' PAY HAS INCREASED



What is going on?

What The Graph 31: teacher notes

Notes/comments

- The graph was tweeted from the official Governmental account for the Department of Health and Social Care. I found it in an article on the website 'Nursing in Practice' (link is below). The webpage is a perfect explanation of the problems with data presentations and is ideal for core maths!
- Ask about the effect of not starting the y-axis at zero.
- Did they spot that in the first column of data there is supposed to be a £7000 difference between the top 2 data points, but an under-£6000 difference between the bottom 2 data points. The diagram has the wrong size gaps!
- Did they spot that the £27,000 on the right-hand side doesn't match up with the £24,000 and the £30,000 on the left?
- Here are some quotes from the webpage:
- The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) said it was a 'poor and misleading representation' of nurses' pay. The UKSA agreed "that since the vertical axis started at £20,000, this 'exaggerates the proportionate increase in pay over the period'." And 'the freehand way in which the lines appear to have been drawn suggests a bigger relative increase in pay for newly qualified nurses and a bigger pay premium for a "few years' experience" than the underlying data justify'.
- On the next slide is a corrected version of the graph, produced by UKSA. A bit embarrassing for the Department of Health!

Source:

- <https://www.nursinginpractice.com/latest-news/dhsc-published-misleading-nurses-pay-graph-says-statistics-authority/>



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