

# **The Scientific and Public Perspective**

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**Normal Labour & Birth: 20 years of Evidence & Debate**

**December 1, 2021**

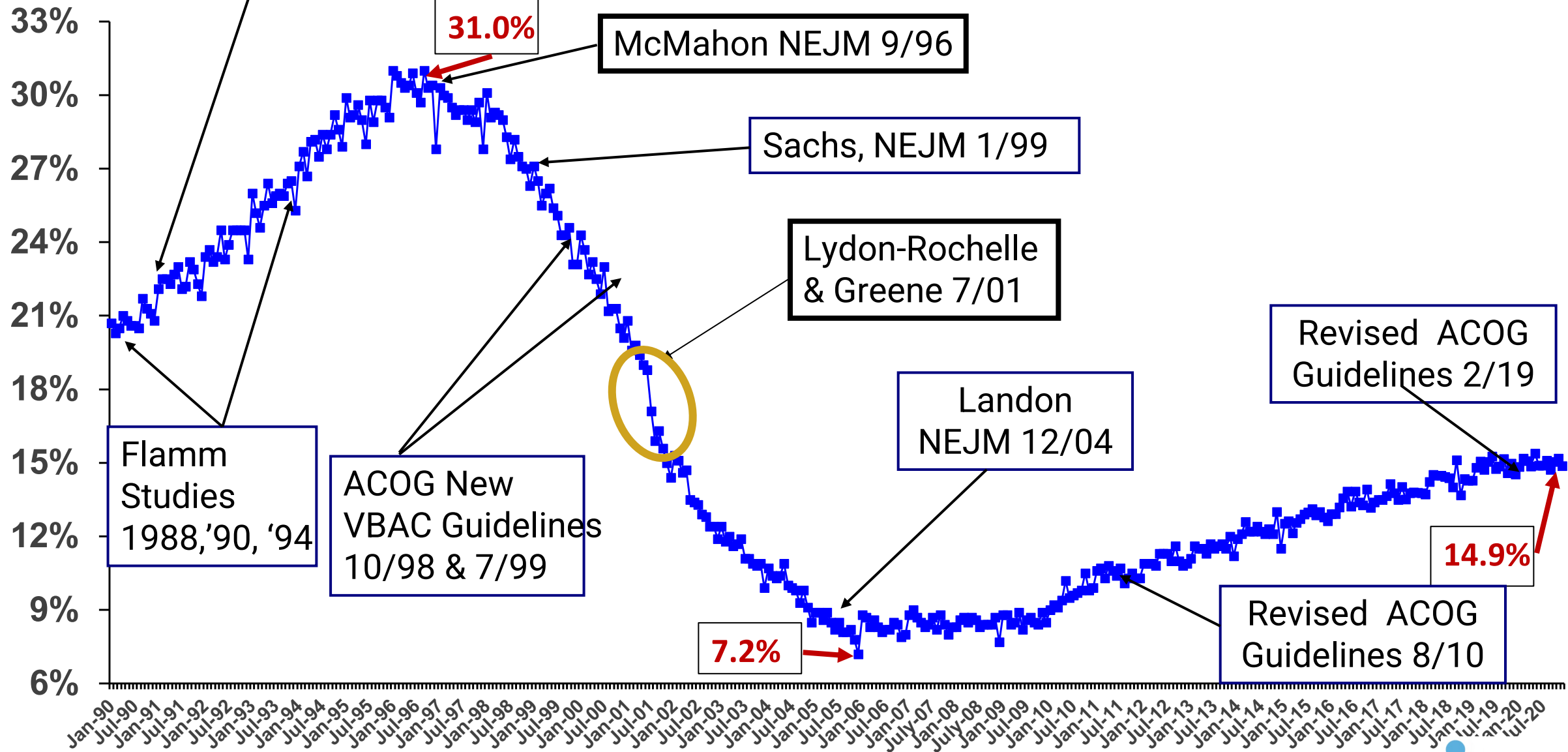
# How much research and evidence impacts practice depends on multiple factors

- **Quality of evidence(?) – sort of**
  - Challenge is the overabundance of research from disparate sources
  - Political and ideological questioning of evidence
- **Trustworthiness of source**
- **Institutional control over practice**
- **Predisposition of the audience**

**3 quick examples**

# % VBAC Lower Risk\* Mothers, U.S., Monthly Rates, 1990-2020

ACOG guidelines encourage VBAC, 1/82 10/88 Reaffirmed 1991

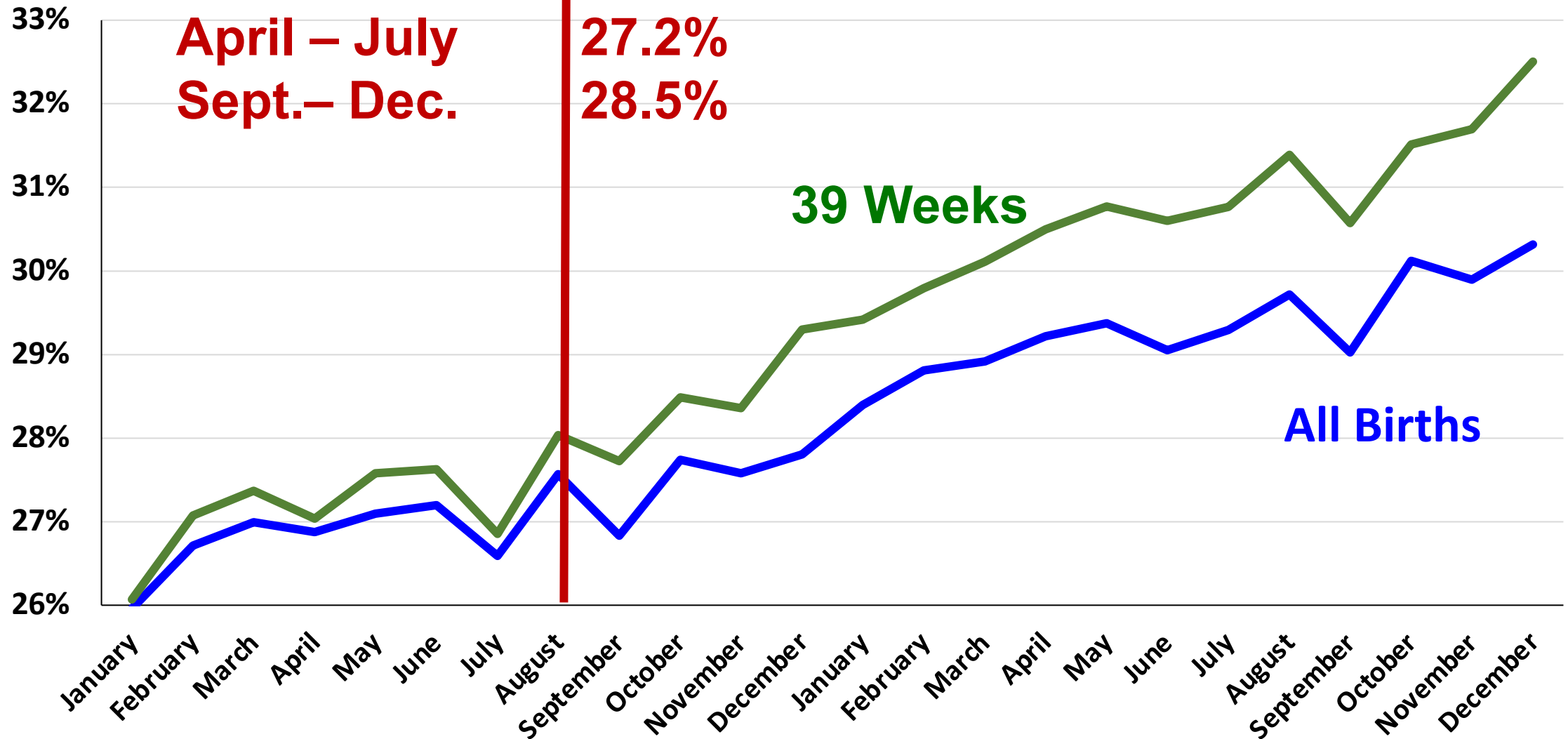


Sources: 1990-2020, CDC Vital Statistics & VSS data sets

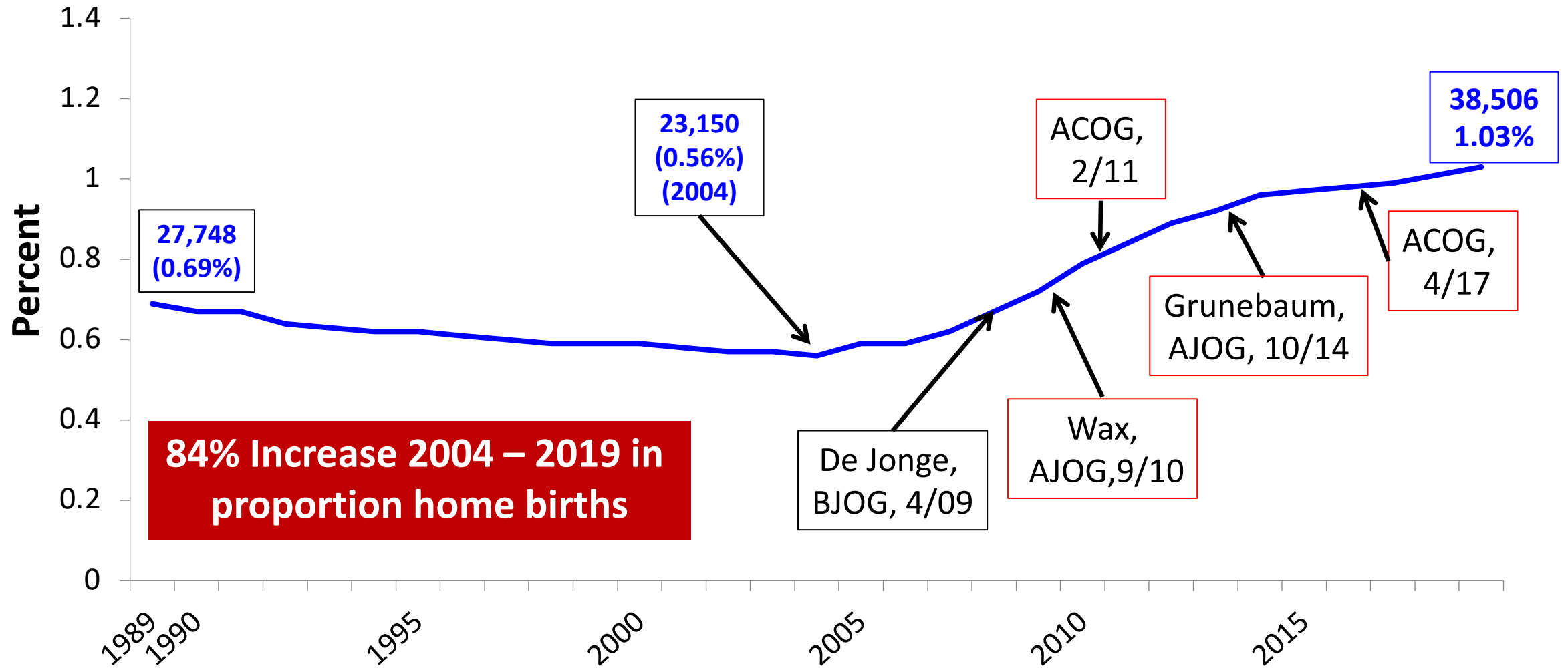
\* Full-gestation(37+ weeks), vertex presentation, singleton births

# 2018-19 U.S. Inductions Overall & at 39 Weeks by Month

Arrive Trial, *NEJM*, Aug. 9, 2018

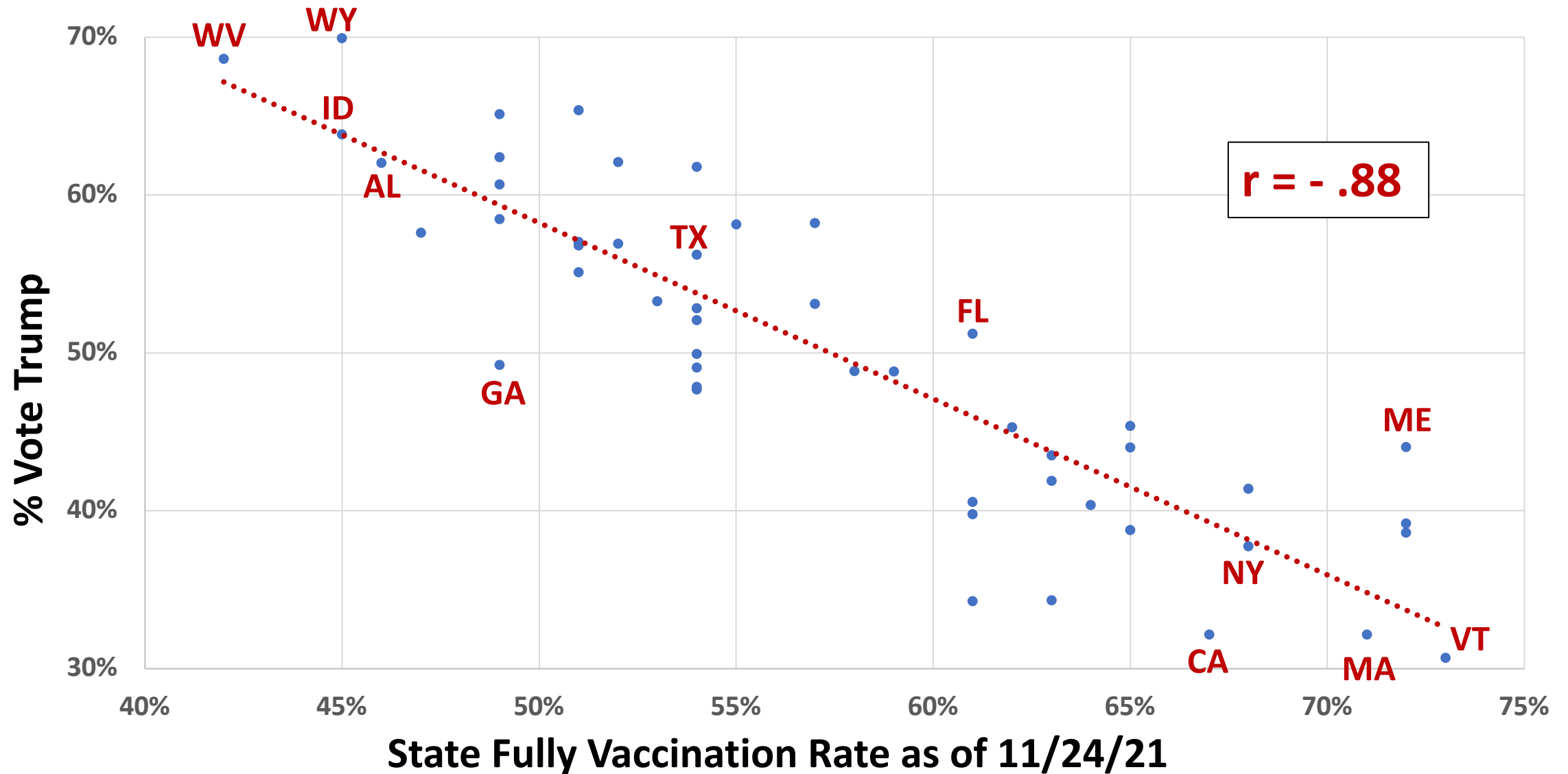


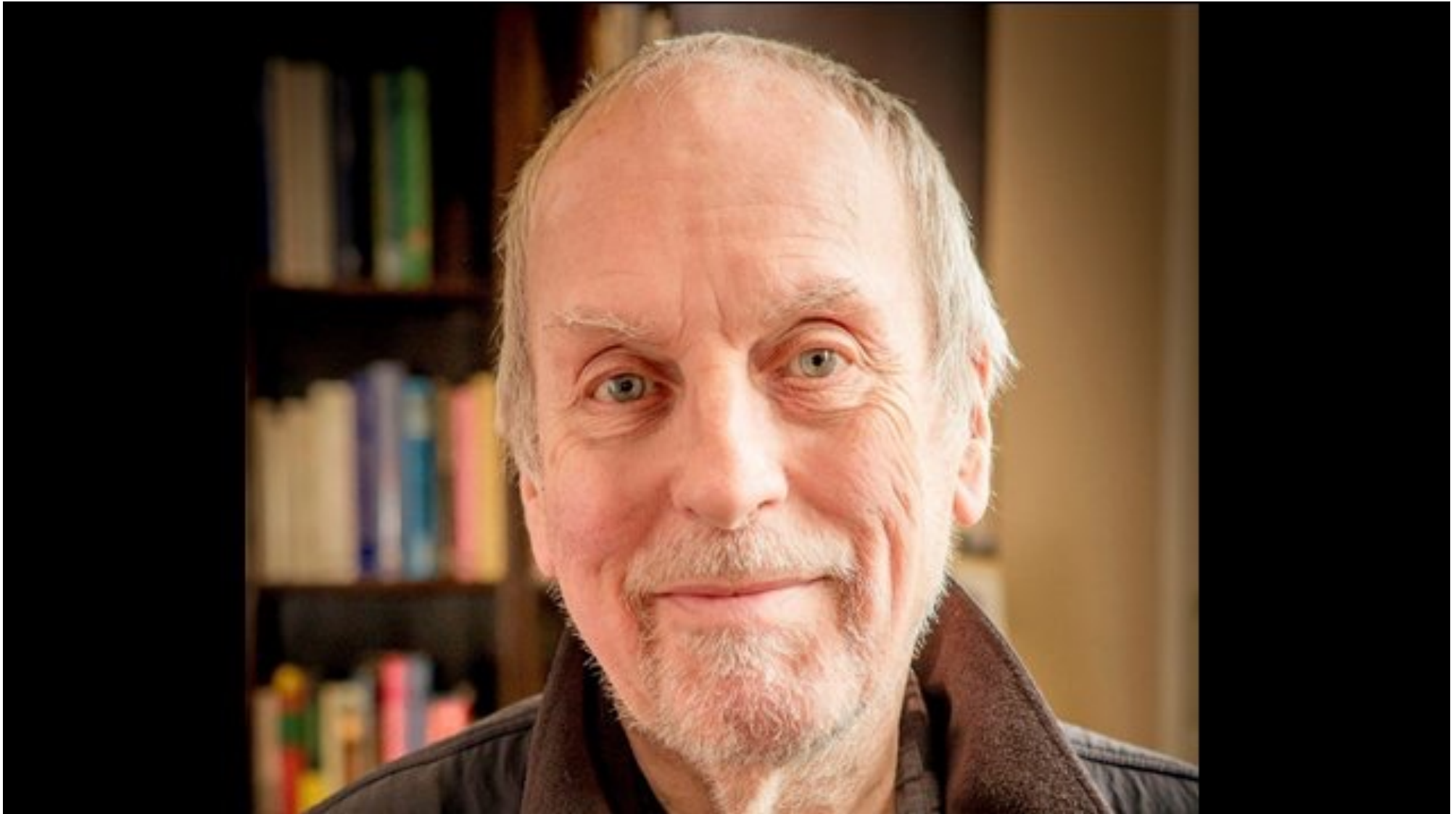
# Percent of all births at home, United States, 1989-2019



**84% Increase 2004 – 2019 in proportion home births**

# Vote for Trump (2020) & State Vaccination Rates (no D.C.)





**Sir Iain Chalmers & AGM of RCM**