

# **Small Countries in Context: Perspectives on the Migration of Caribbean Health Professionals**

**Workshop on Human Resources for Health  
and Migration**

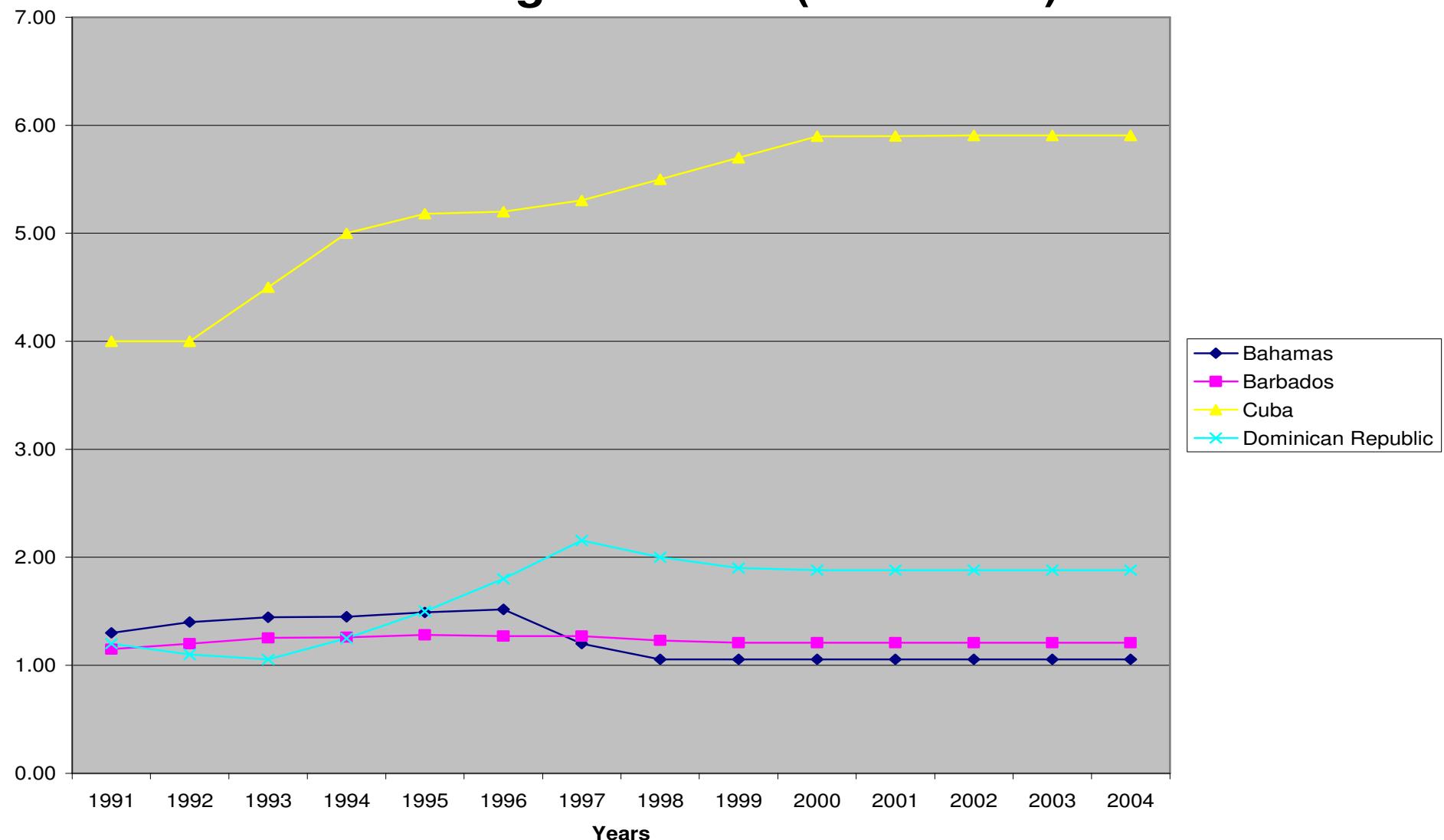
University of Sussex

16-17 May, 2007

Elizabeth Thomas-Hope  
University of the West Indies

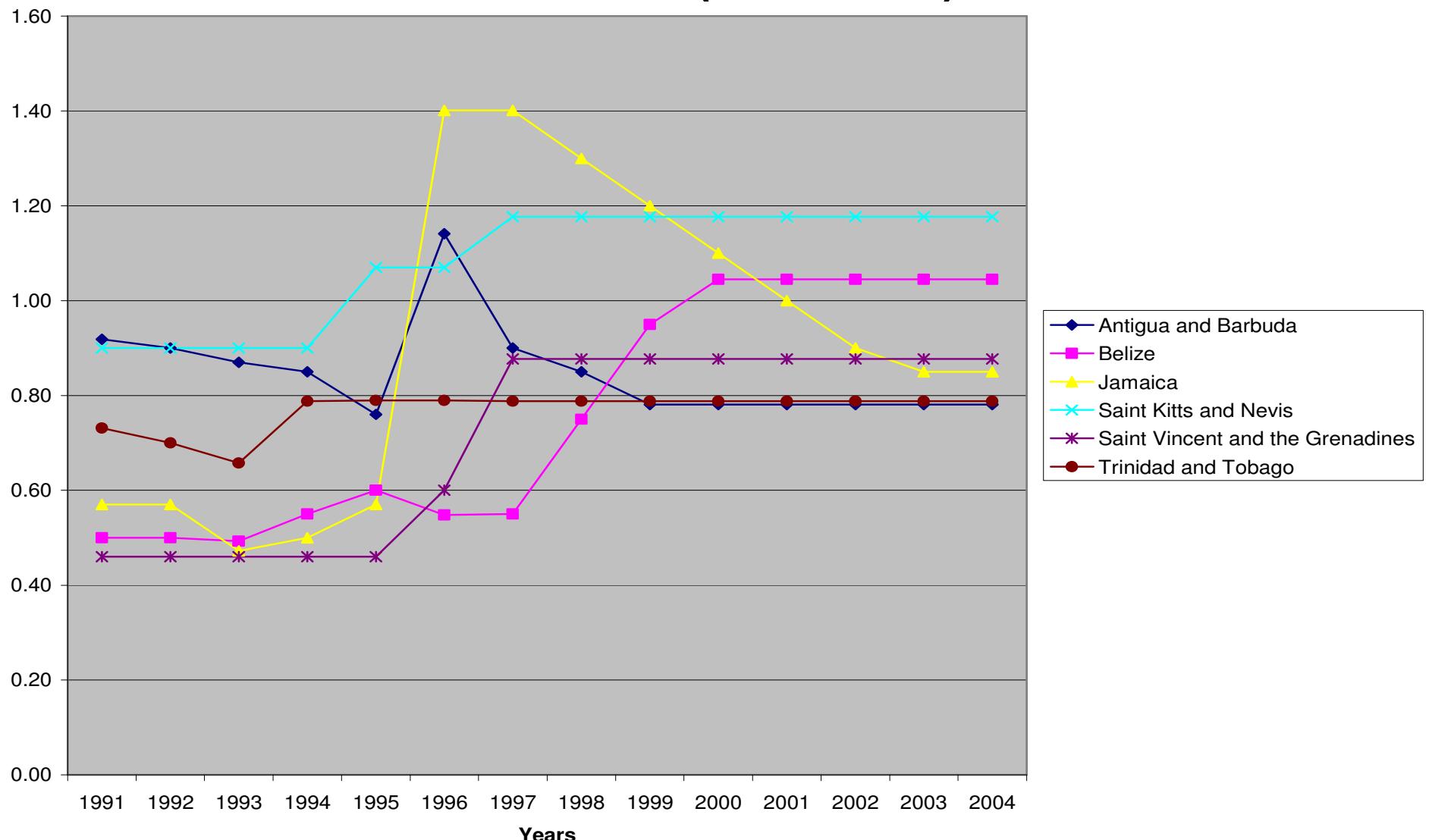
Variability in the Caribbean in the number of physicians per 1,000 people

# Number of Physicians per 1,000 people for the highest ranking countries (1991-2004)



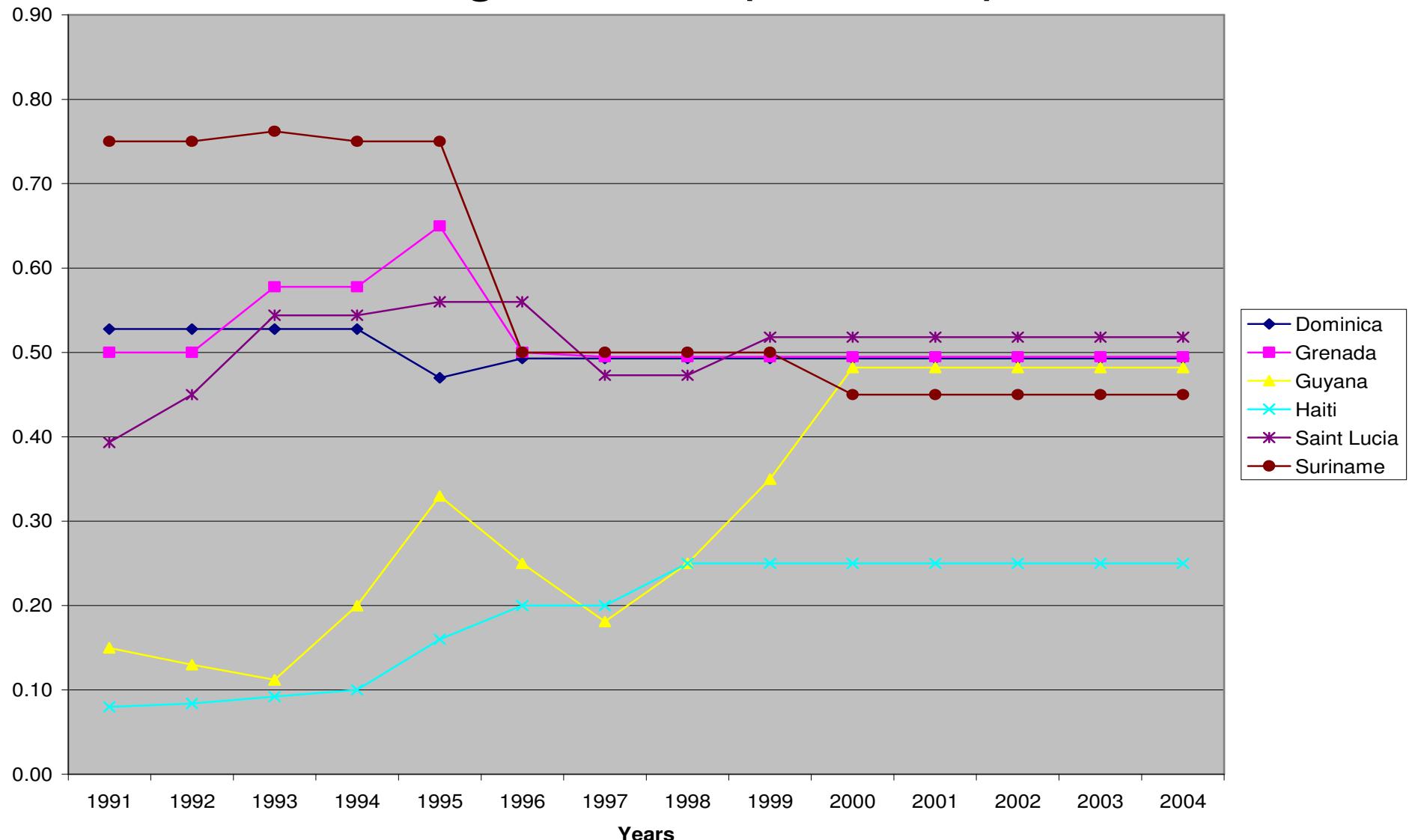
Source: A. Bhargava and F. Docquier. A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version.

# Number of Physicians per 1,000 people for the middle ranking countries (1991-2004)



Source: A. Bhargava and F. Docquier. A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version.

# Number of Physicians per 1,000 people for the lowest ranking countries (1991-2004)

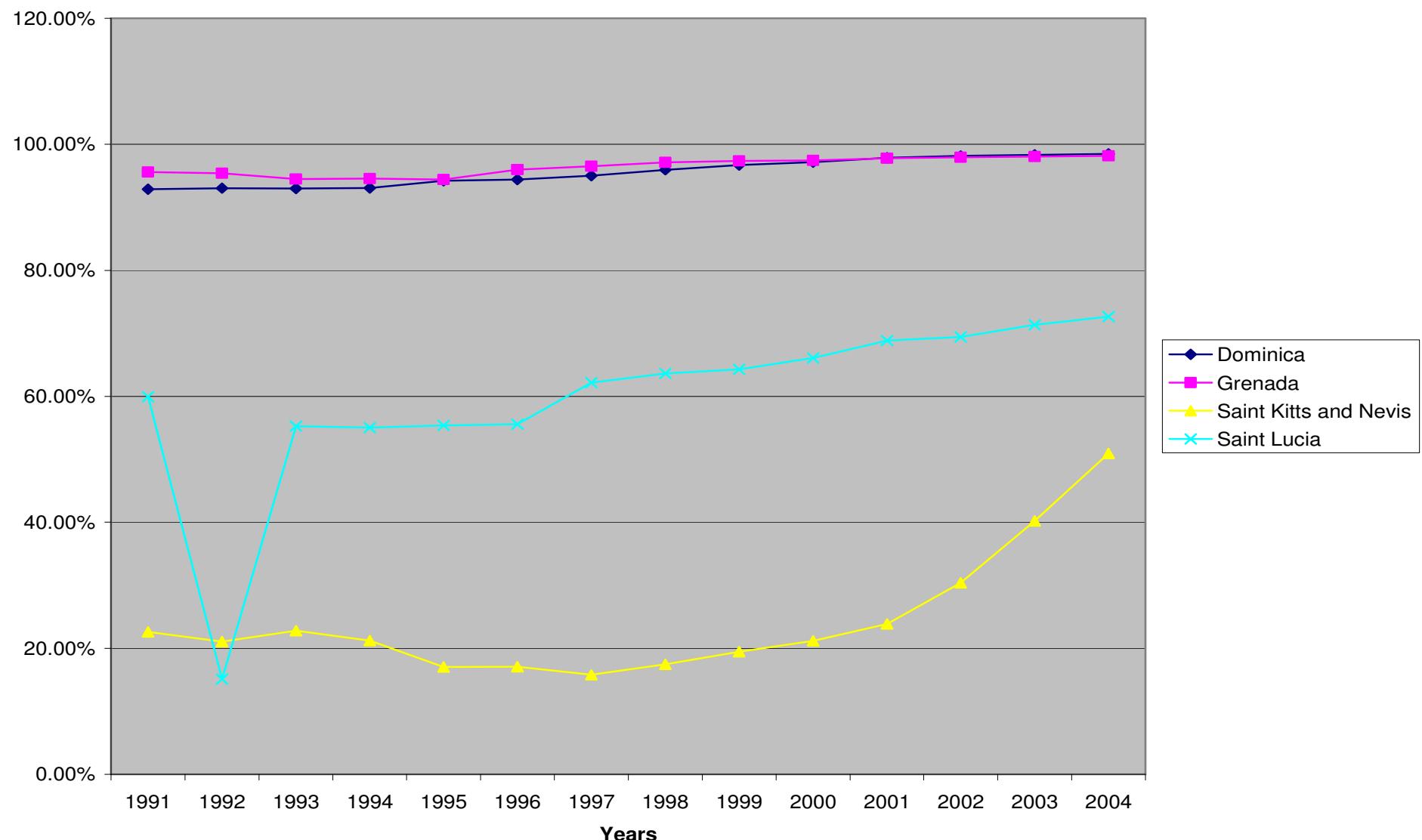


Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

# Physicians living abroad by country of birth

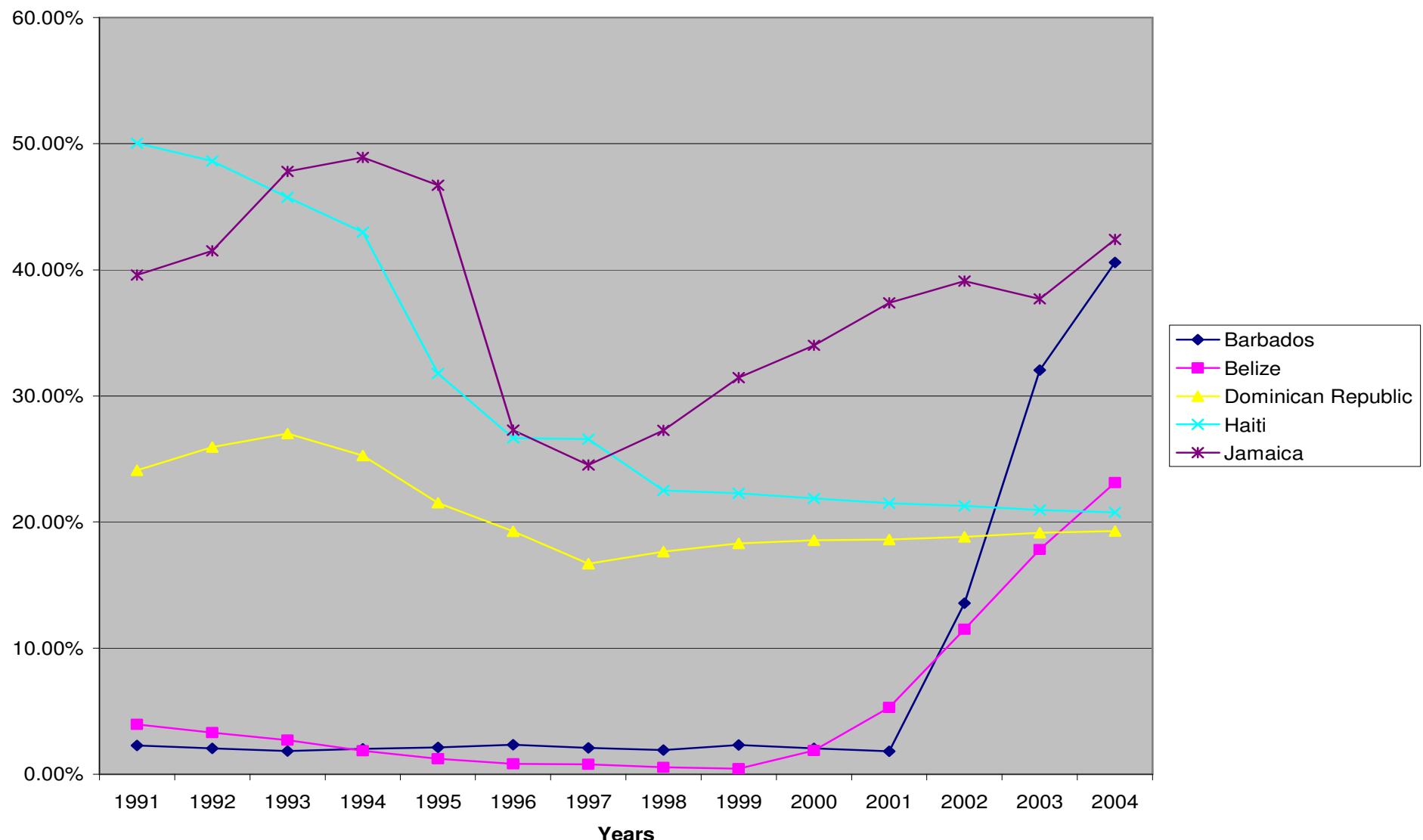
(percentages of the total number of physicians by country of birth)

# Percentage of Physicians living abroad by country of birth from 1991 to 2004; the most affected countries in the Caribbean



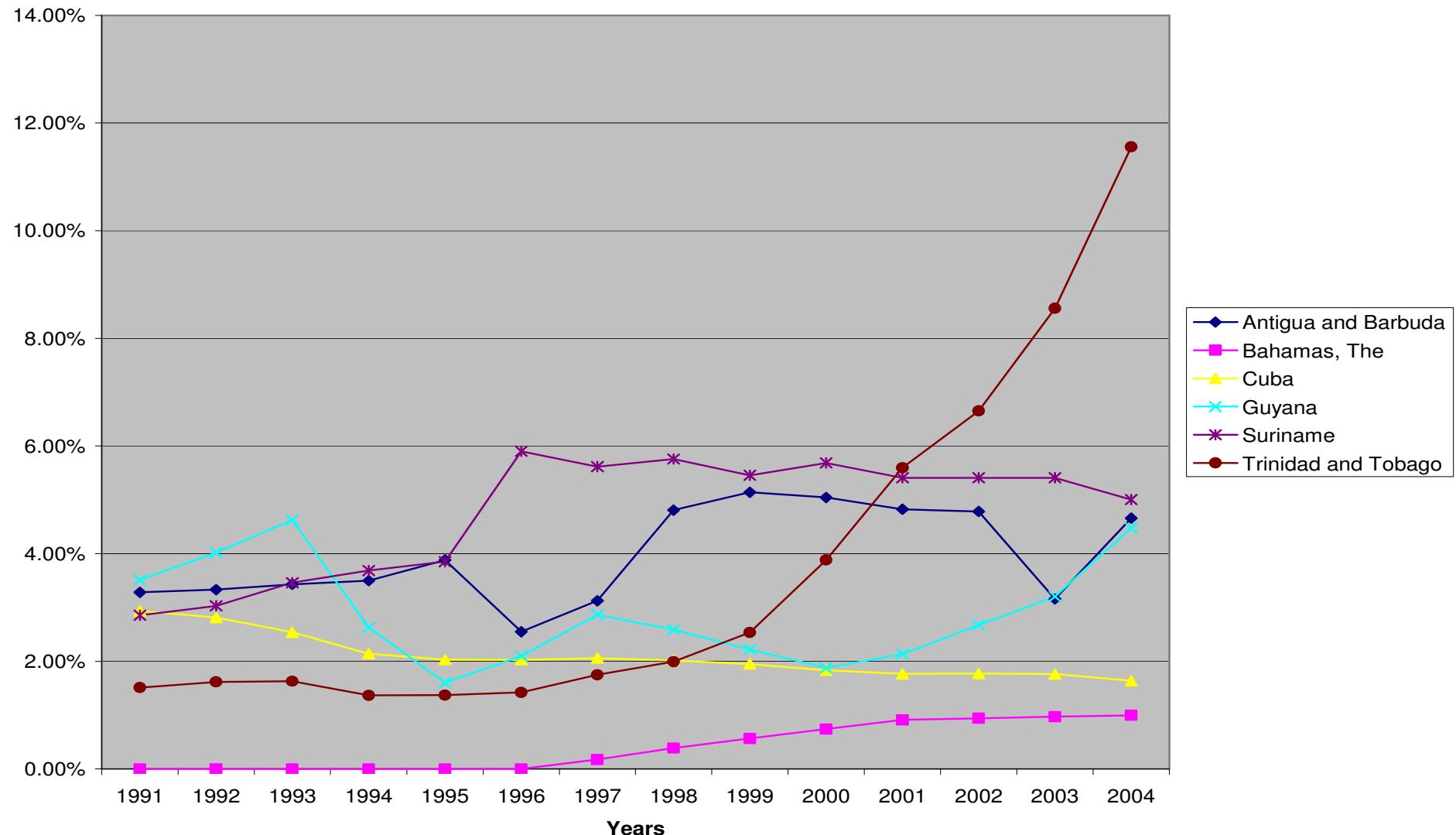
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004).Preliminary Version

# Percentage of Physicians living abroad by country of birth from 1991 to 2004; the moderately affected countries in the Caribbean



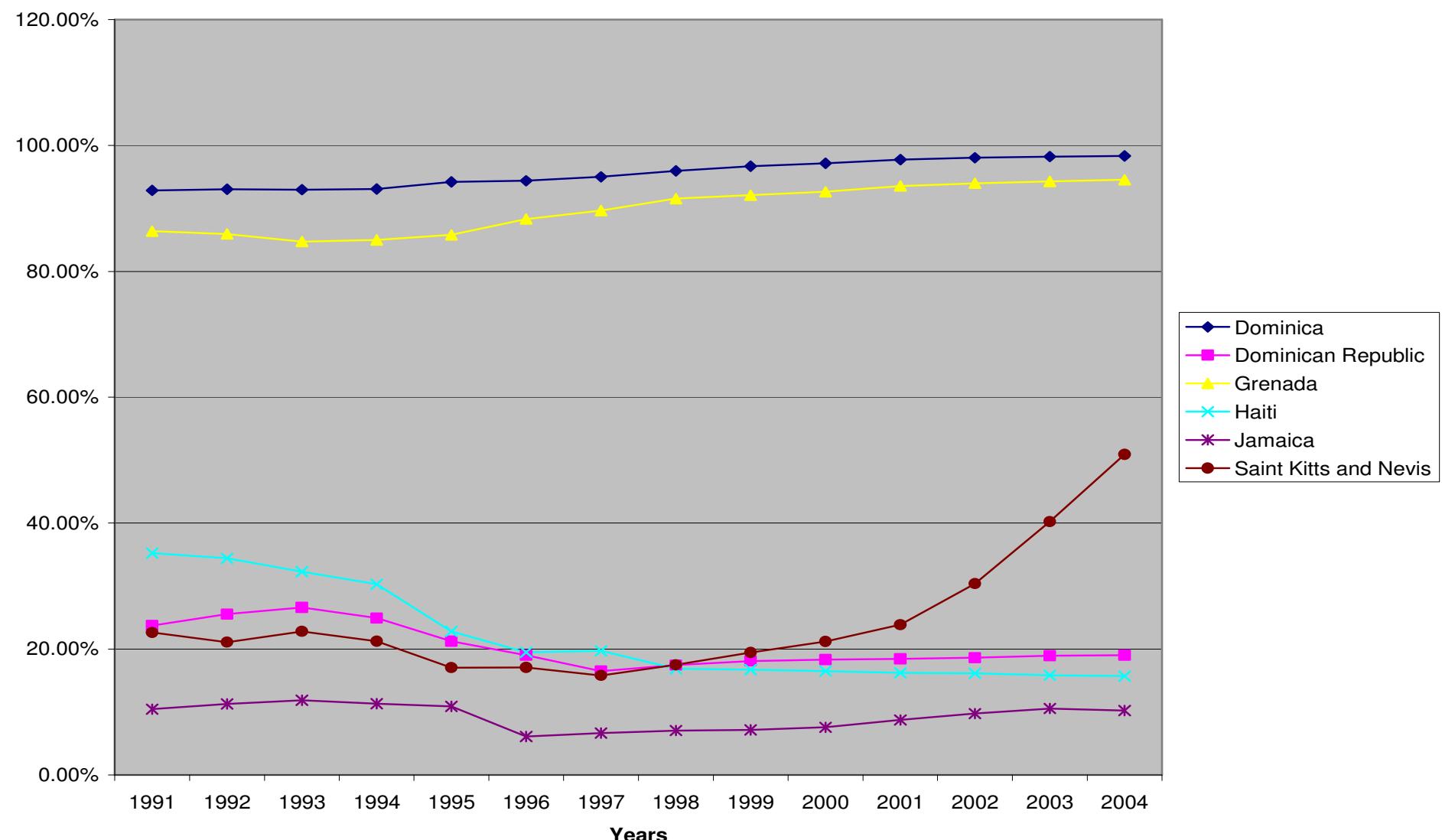
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

# Percentage of Physicians living abroad by country of birth from 1991 to 2004; the least affected countries in the Caribbean



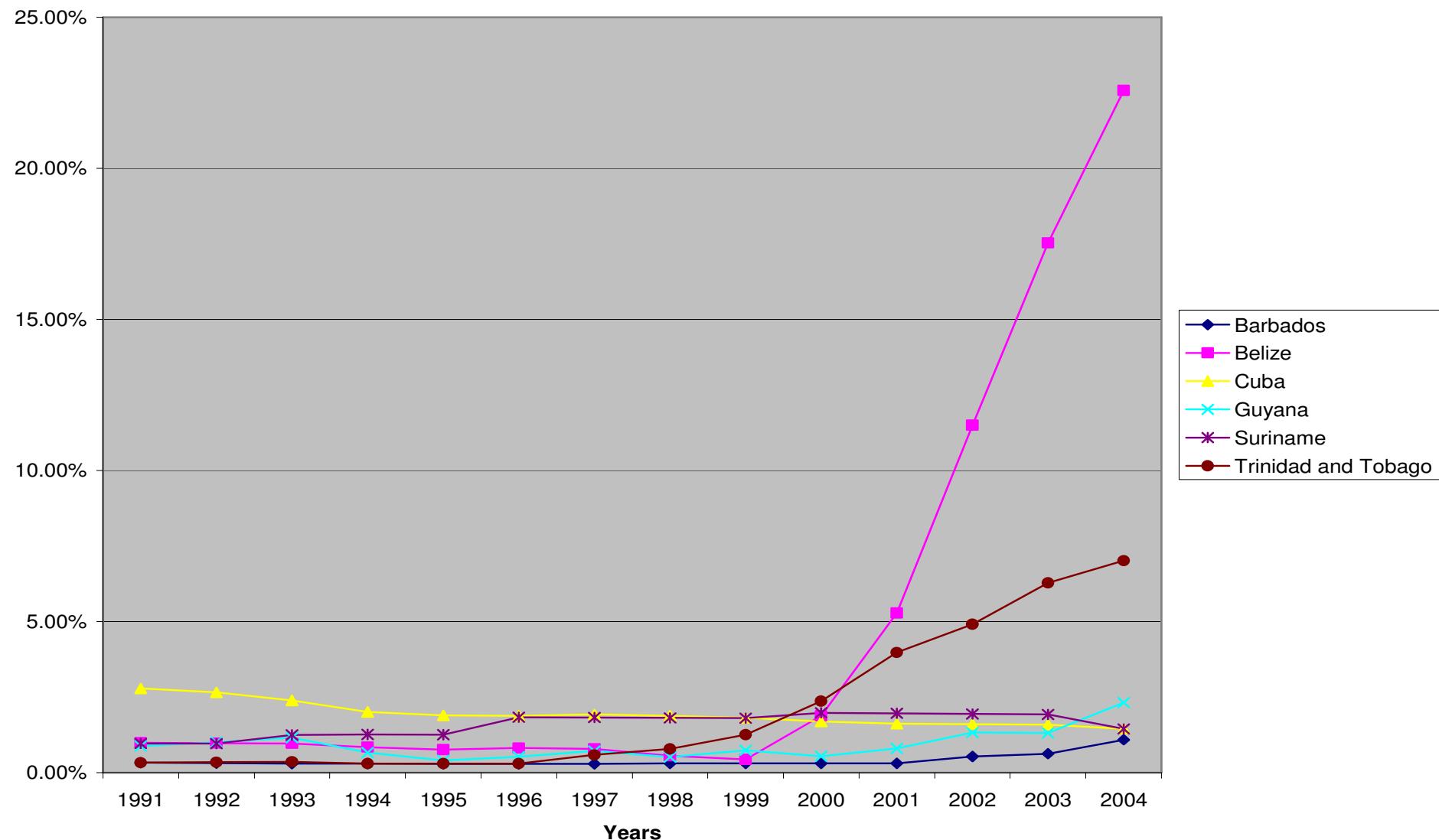
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

# Percentage of Physicians migrating to the United States of America from 1991 to 2004; the most affected countries in the Caribbean



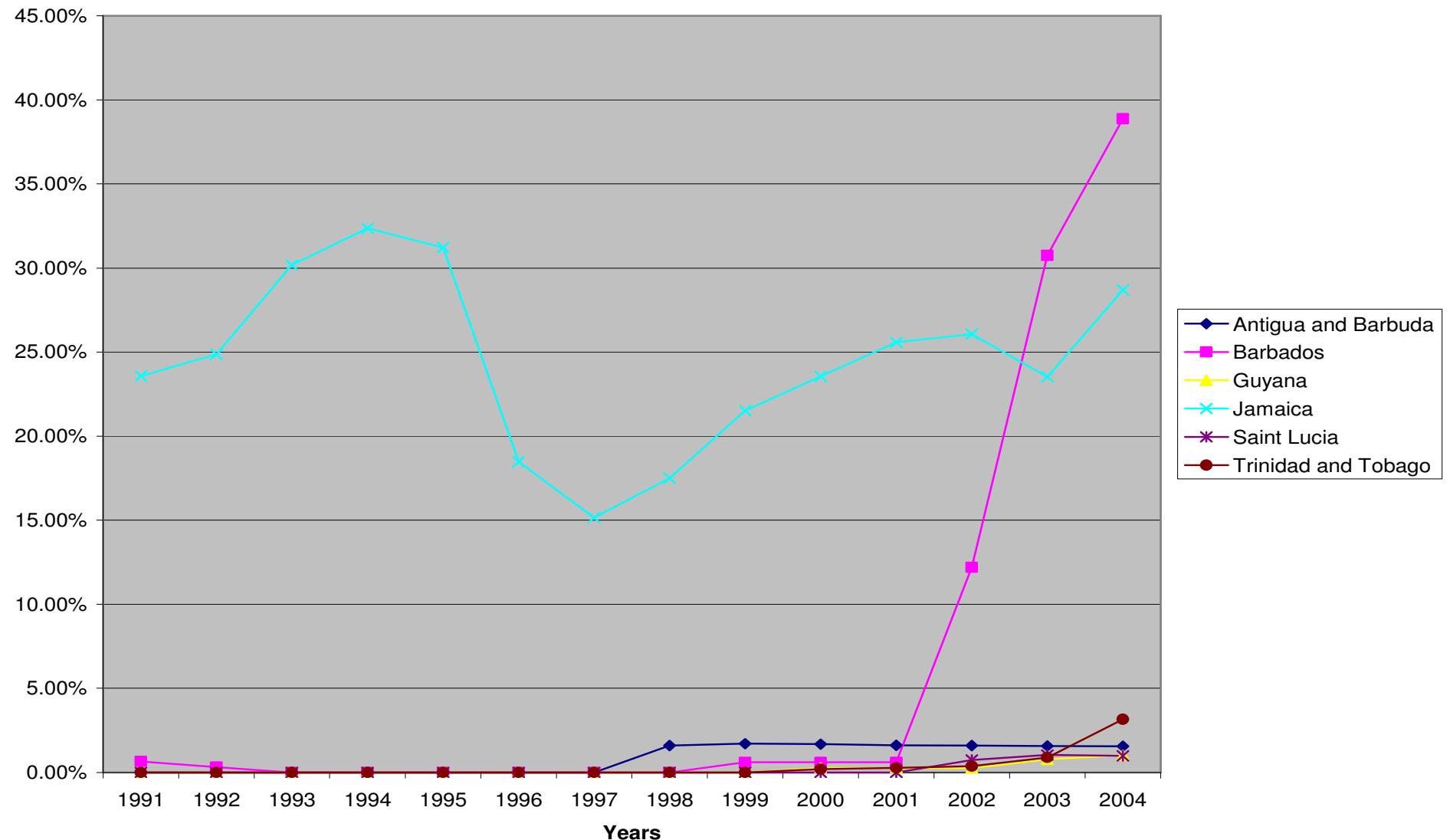
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

## Percentage of Physicians migrating to the United States of America from 1991 to 2004; the least affected countries in the Caribbean



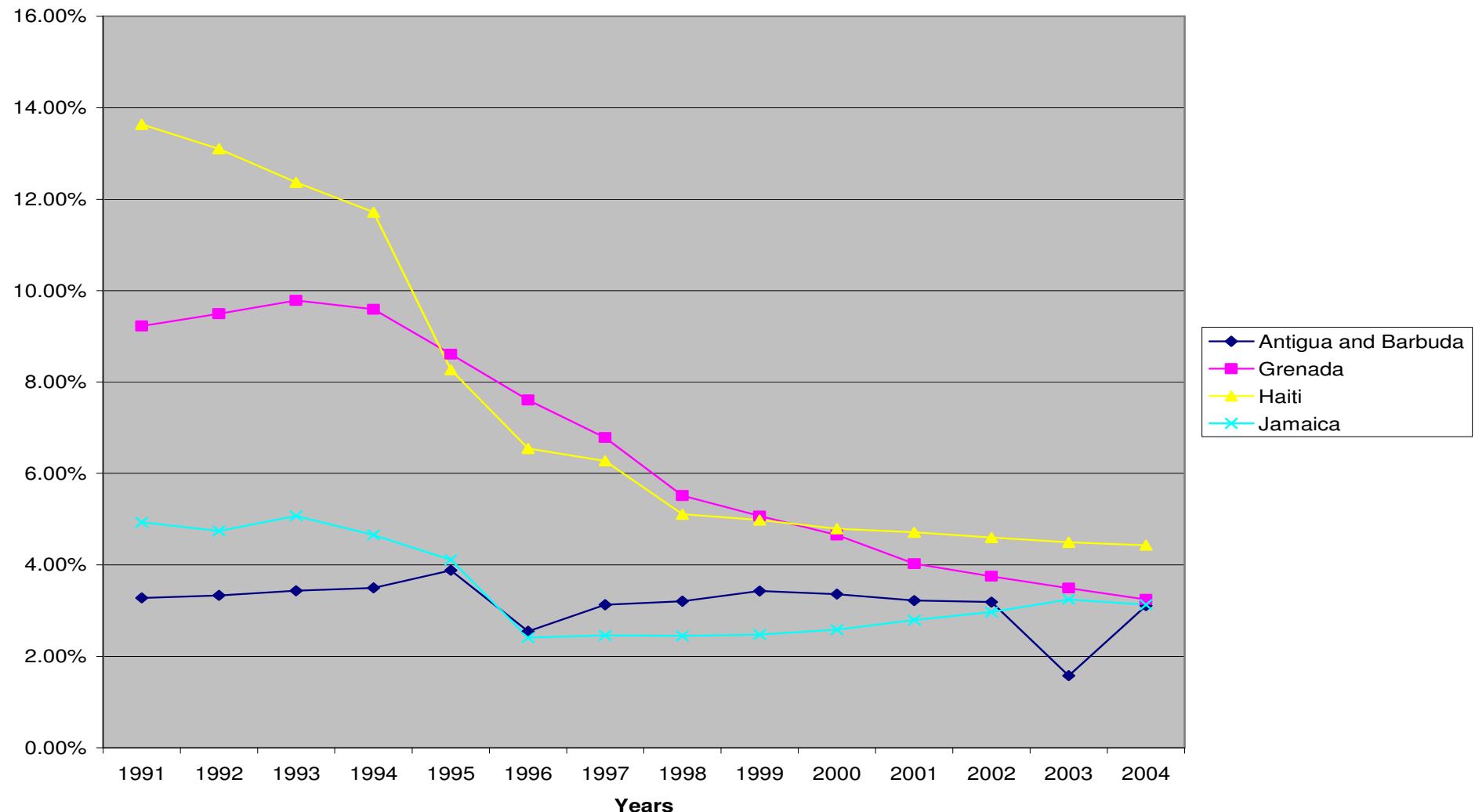
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

# Percentage of Physicians migrating to the United Kingdom from 1991 to 2004; the most affected countries in the Caribbean



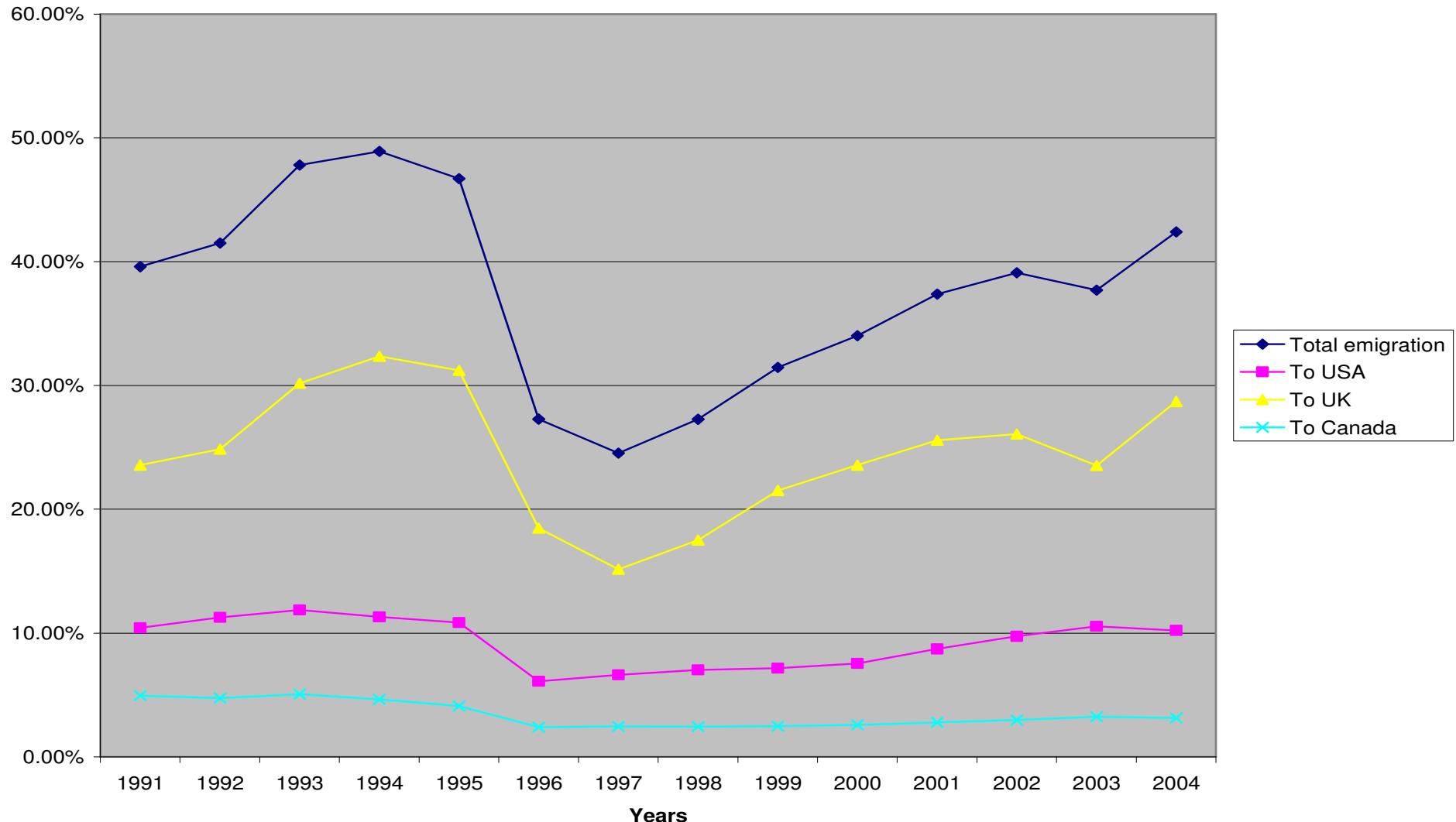
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

# Percentage of Physicians migrating to Canada from 1991 to 2004; the most affected countries in the Caribbean



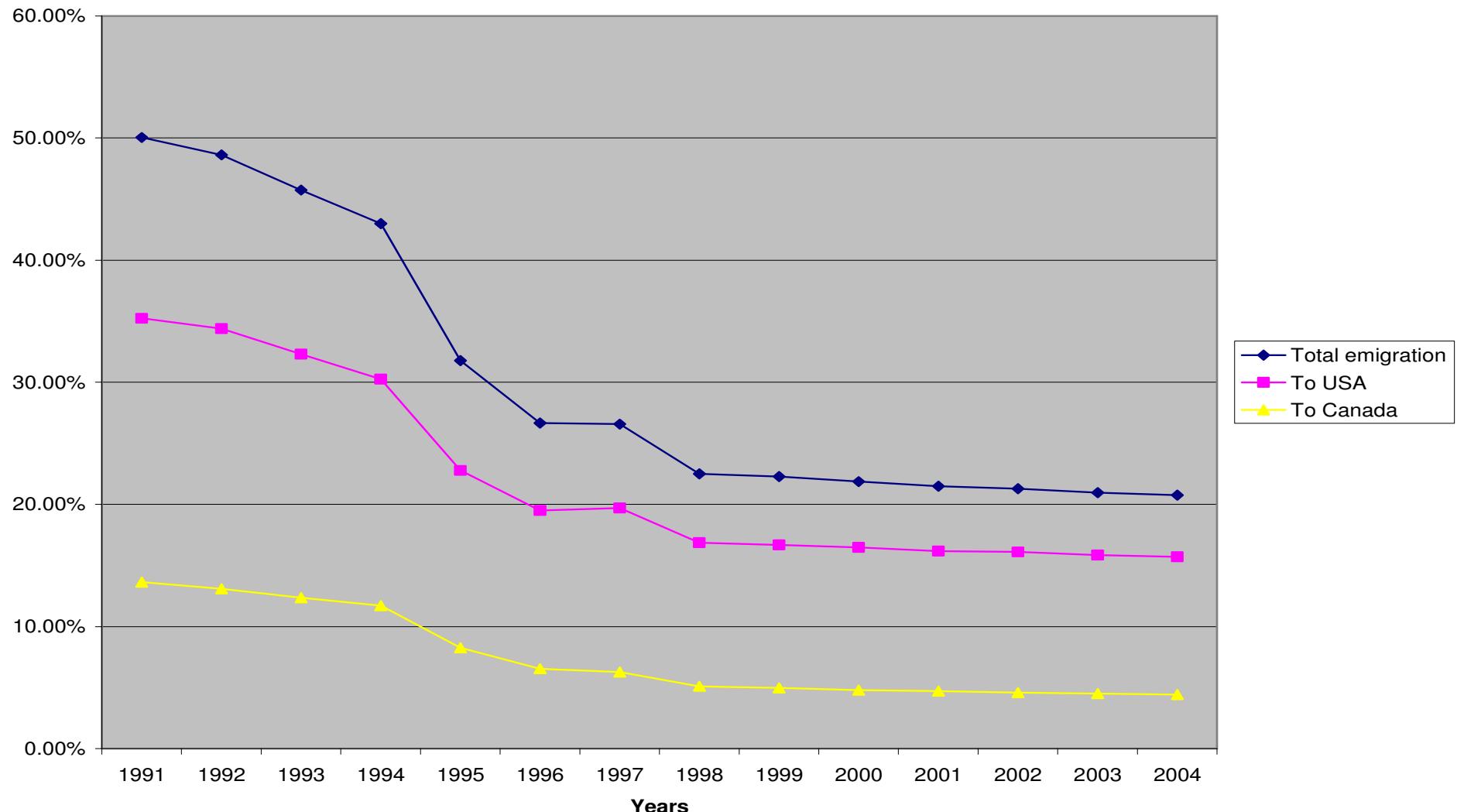
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

# Percentage of Jamaican physicians migrating to selected destinations from 1991 to 2004



Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

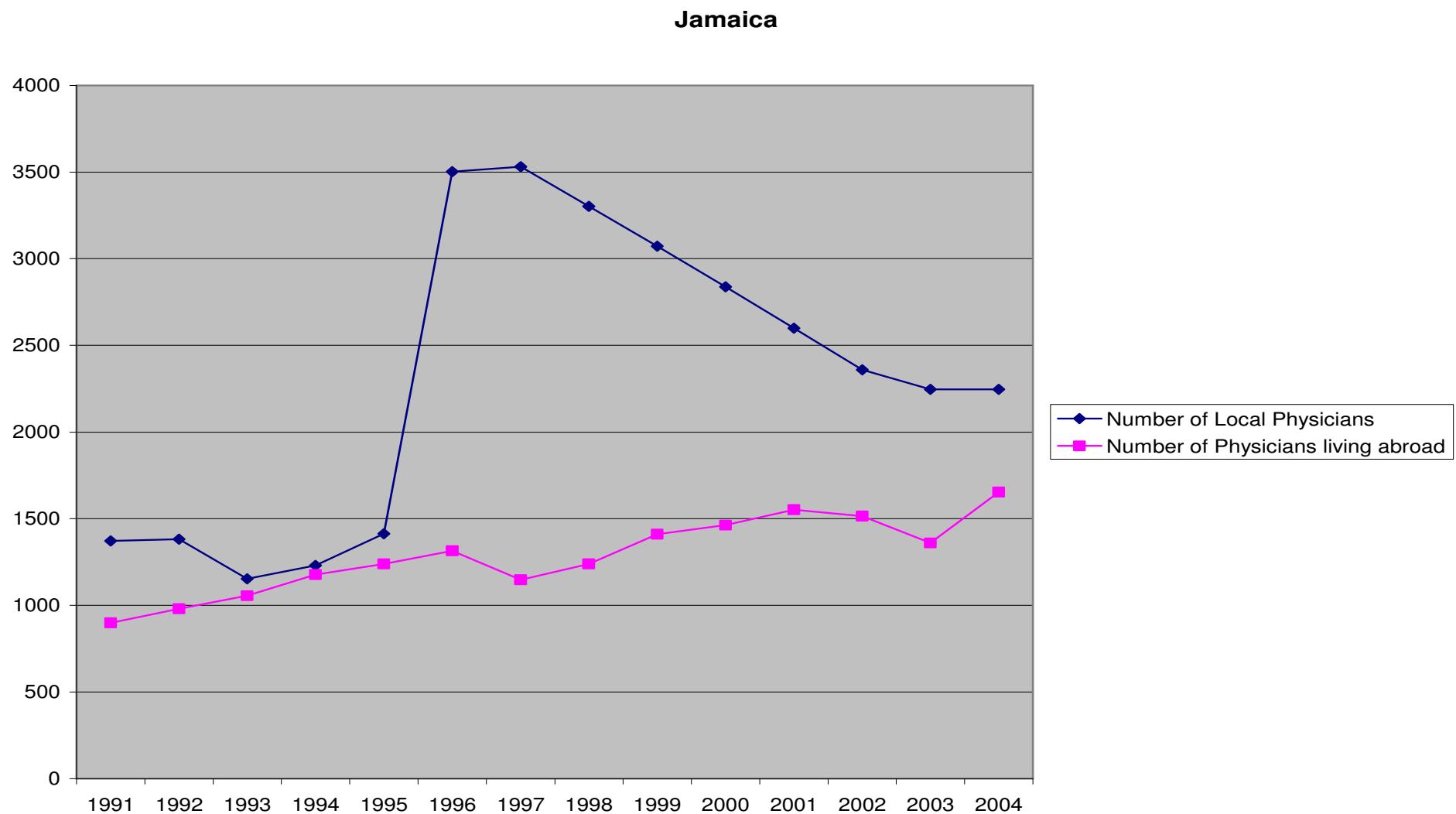
# Percentage of Haitian physicians migrating to selected destinations from 1991 to 2004



Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version

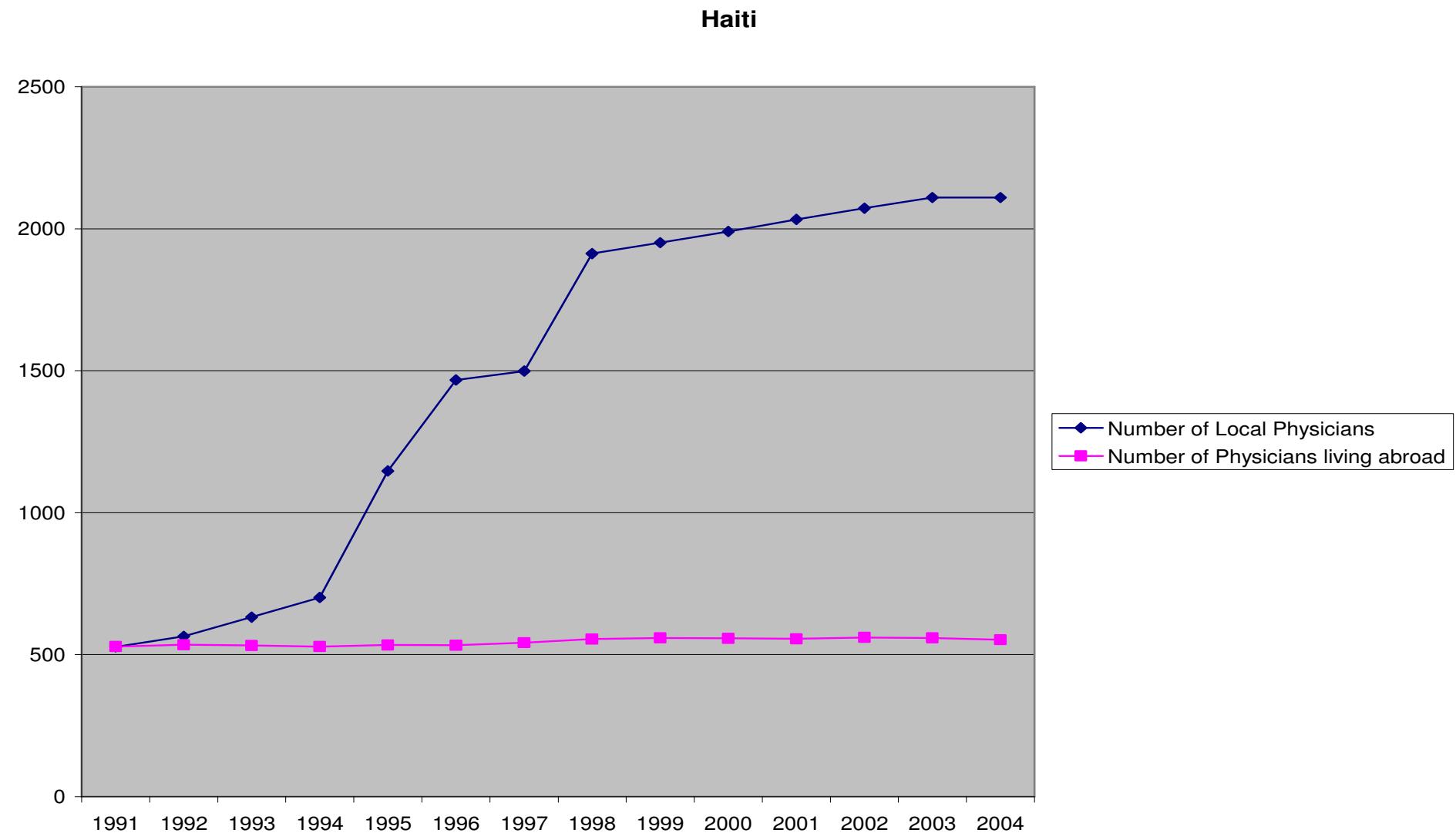
- Replacement of Physicians

# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for Jamaica from 1991 to 2004



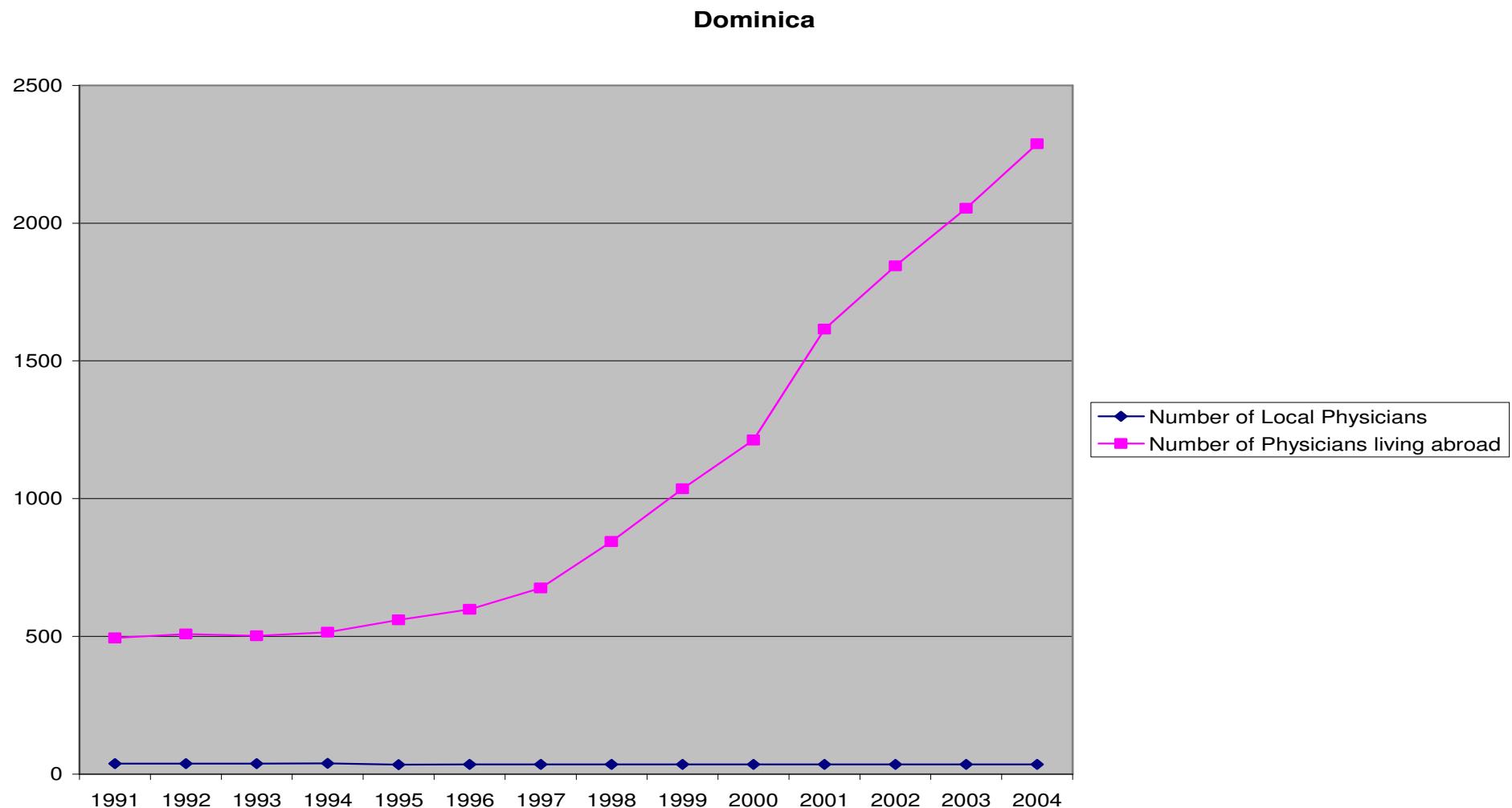
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version,  
A. Bhargava and F. Docquier.[http://www.ires.ucl.ac.be/CSSSP/home\\_pa\\_pers/docquier/oxlight.htm](http://www.ires.ucl.ac.be/CSSSP/home_pa_pers/docquier/oxlight.htm)

# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for Haiti from 1991 to 2004



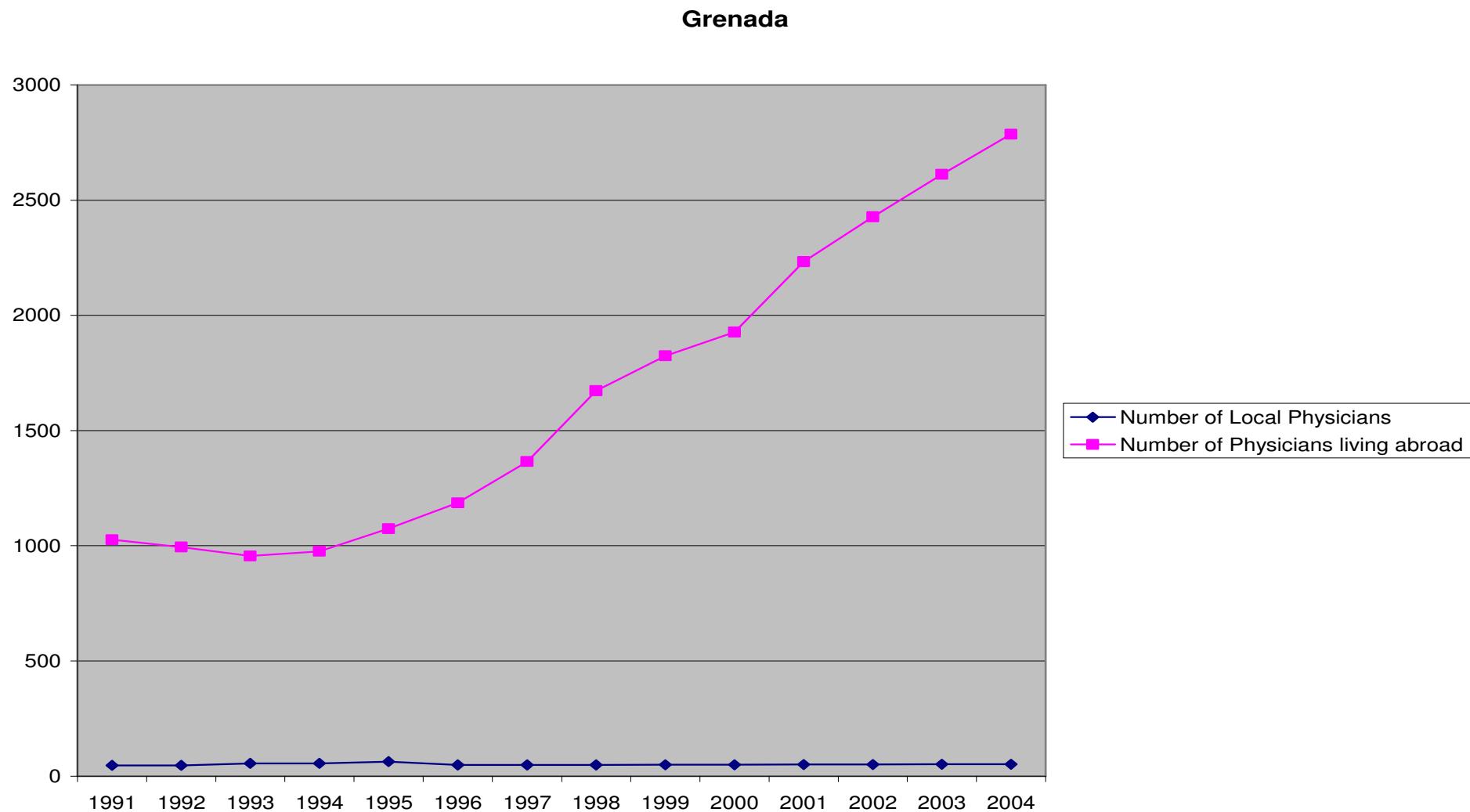
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# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for Dominica from 1991 to 2004



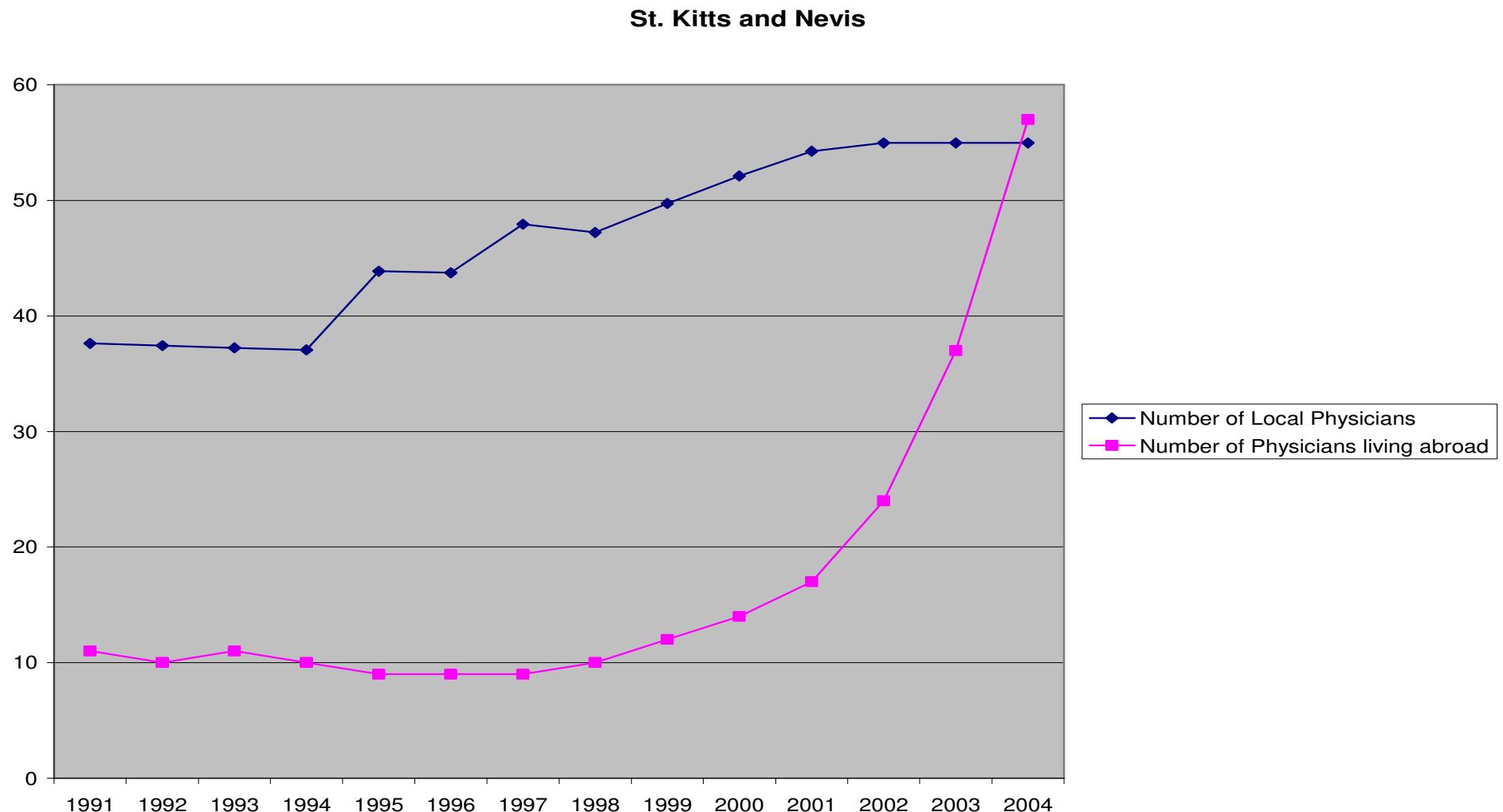
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version,  
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# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for Grenada from 1991 to 2004



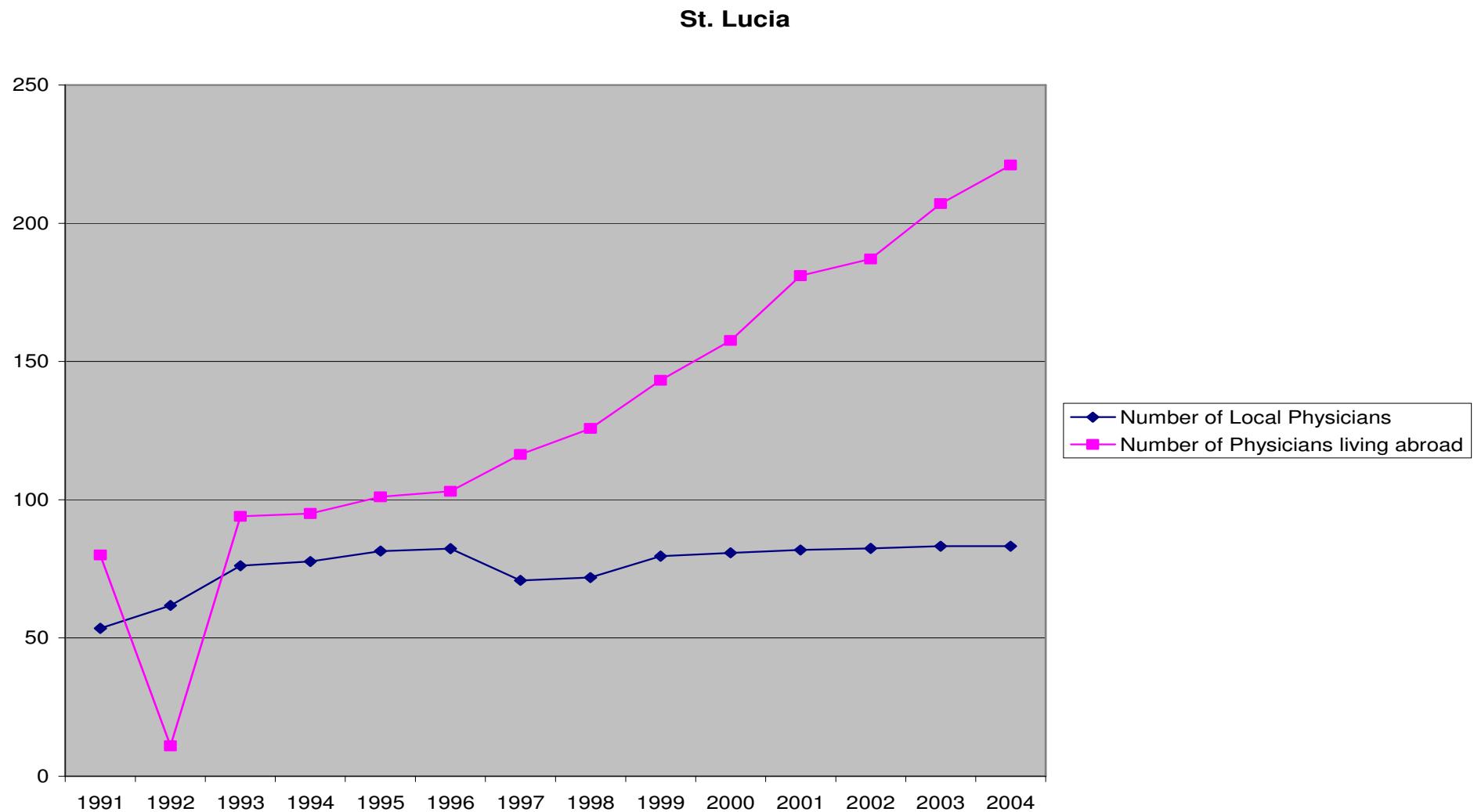
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# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for St. Kitts and Nevis from 1991 to 2004



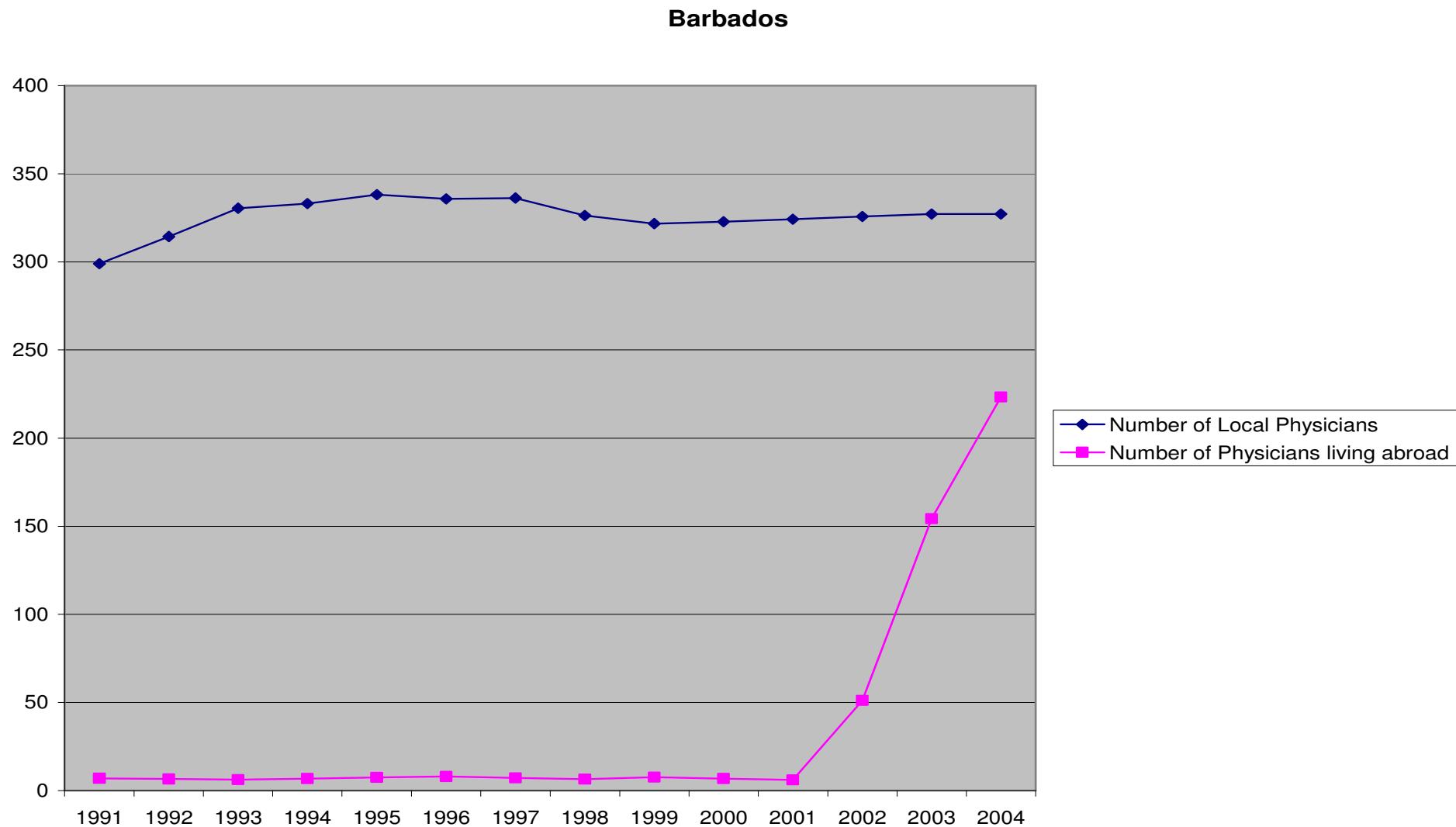
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version,  
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# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for St. Lucia from 1991 to 2004



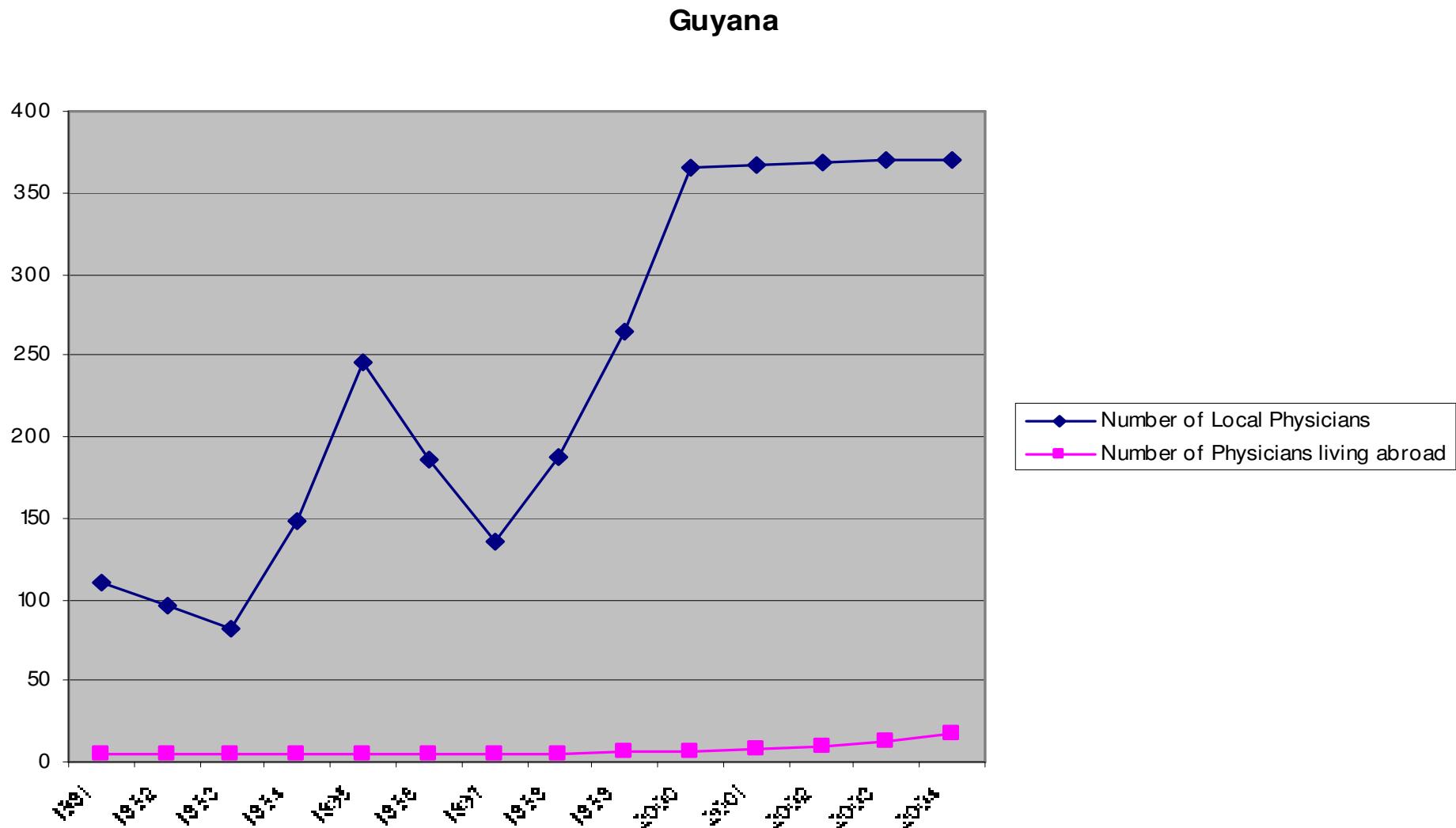
Source: A New Panel Data Set on Physicians' Emigration Rates (1991-2004). Preliminary Version,  
A. Bhargava and F. Docquier. [http://www.ires.ucl.ac.be/CSSSP/home\\_pa\\_pers/docquier/oxlight.htm](http://www.ires.ucl.ac.be/CSSSP/home_pa_pers/docquier/oxlight.htm)

# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for Barbados from 1991 to 2004



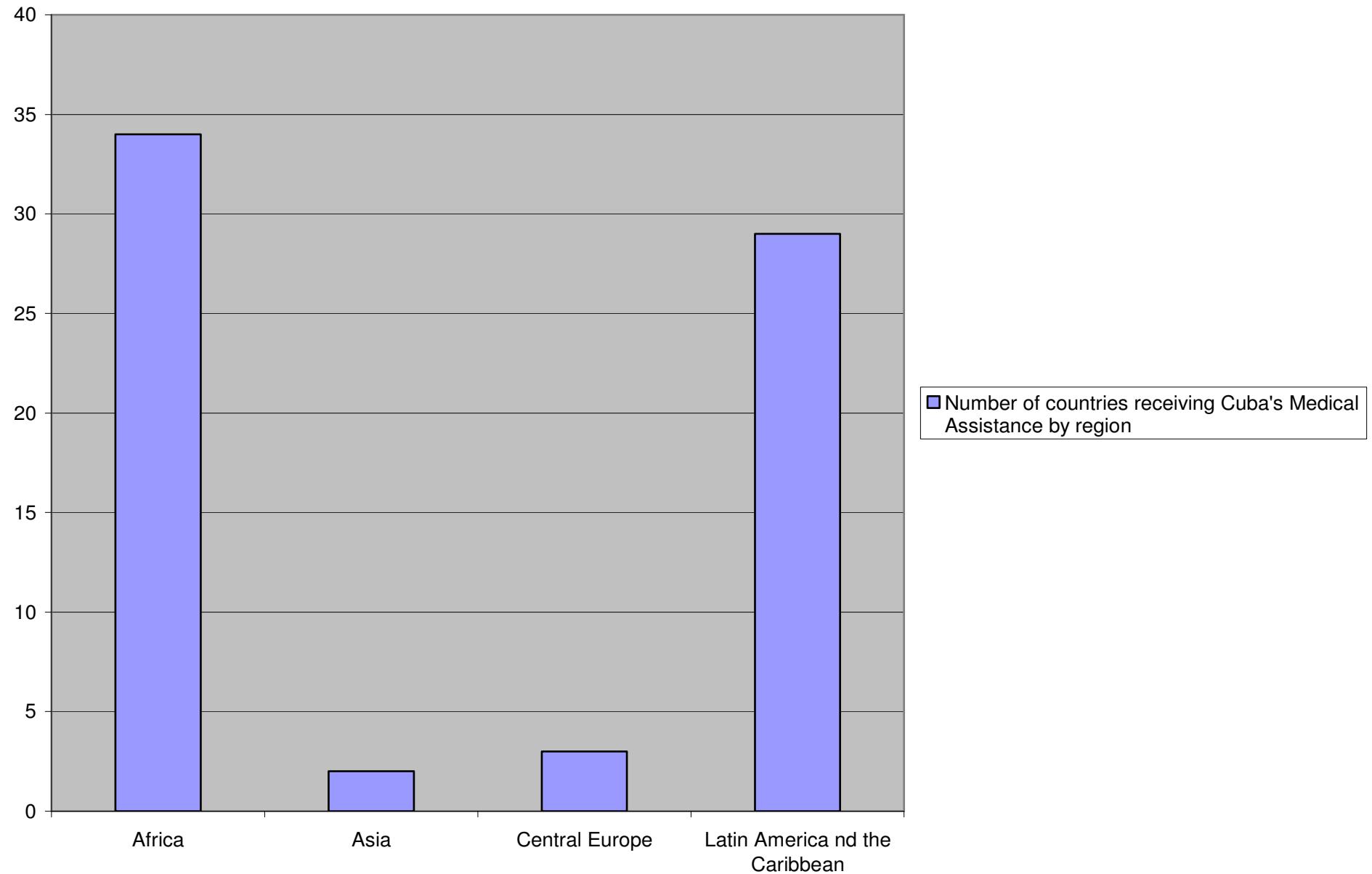
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# Comparison between the numbers of local Physicians and those living abroad for Guyana from 1991 to 2004



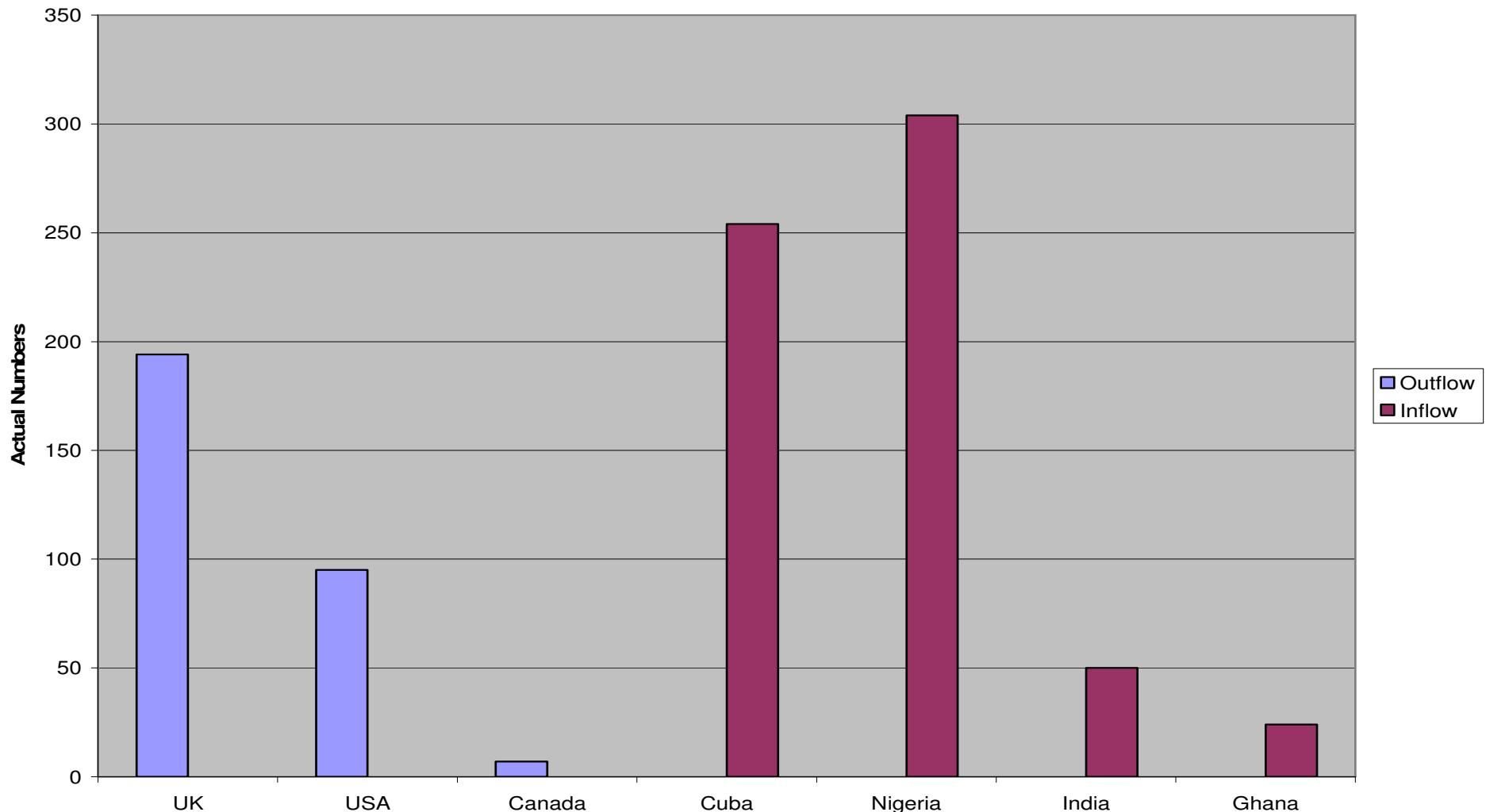
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# Movement of Cuban Health Professionals to other countries by region



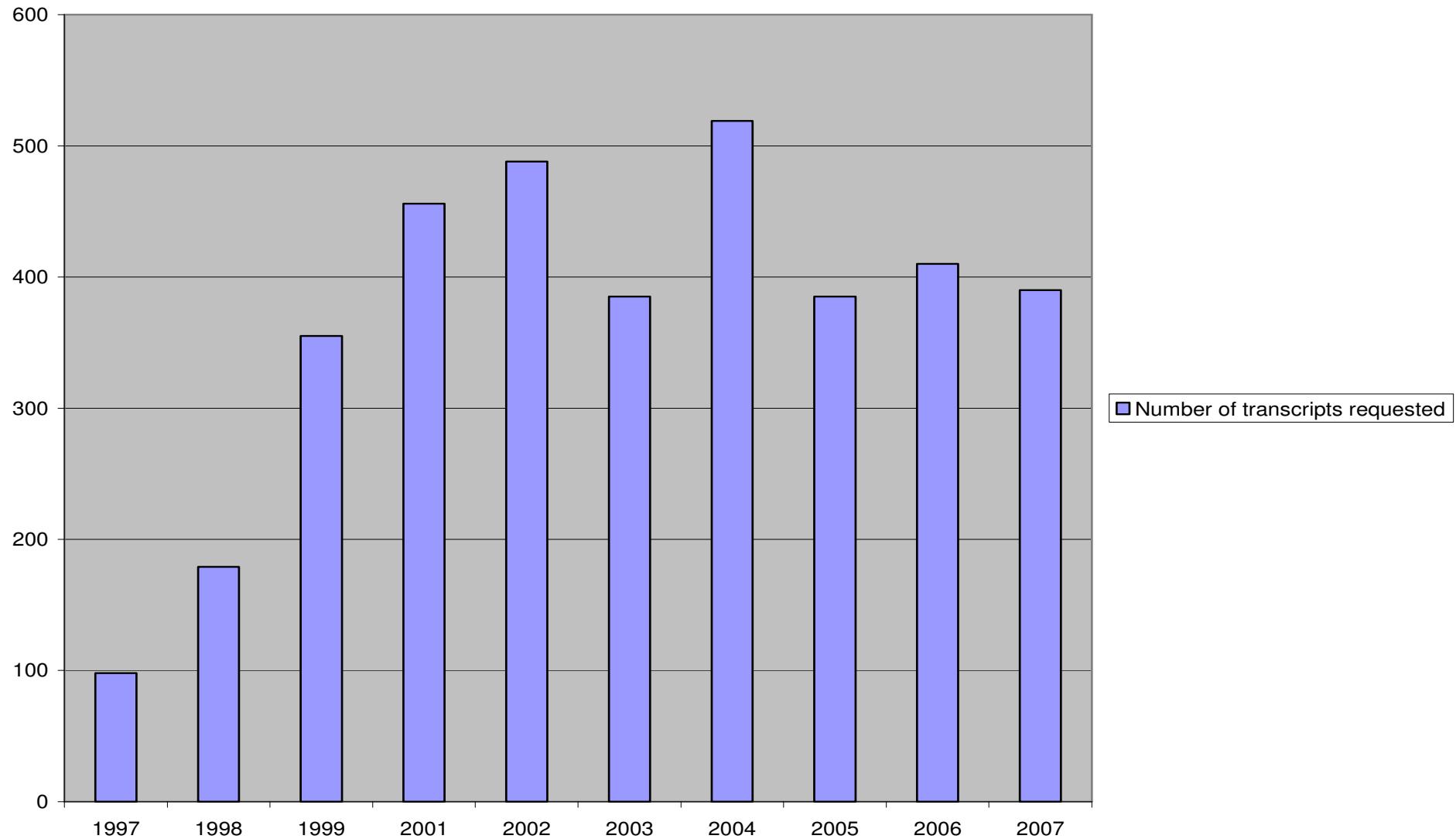
- Outflows and inflows of nurses

# Outflow and Inflow of Nurses from 1999-2005 for Jamaica



Source: Hermit Hewitt (2005) International nursing migration, Jamaica case study  
[http://www.academyhealth.org/international/nursemigration/256,1,International Nursing Migration](http://www.academyhealth.org/international/nursemigration/256,1,International%20Nursing%20Migration)

# Number of nurses requesting transcripts from the Nursing Council of Jamaica (April 1996 to March 2007)



Source: Nursing Council of Jamaica

## Nurse Vacancy Rates (July 2005)

Antigua & B	17.5%
Barbados	20.6
Dominica	6
Grenada	4
Jamaica	58.3
St Kitts & Nevis	26
St Lucia	4
St Vincent & G	15.7
Trinidad & T	53.2

# **Factors contributing to Nurse Migration**

(Jamaica & St Lucia study)

- Conditions of Work
- Salary & Remuneration
- Opportunity for Career Development
- Educational Opportunities

# **Implications of Nurse Migration**

- Remittances ?
- Return +/-
- Knowledge & Skill transfers +/-
- Changes/Efficiencies +
- Staff Shortages -
- Losses of specializations -
- Low morale -
- Undervalued profession +