



COVID-19 and living conditions in Switzerland (SILC)

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How does the pandemic affect the living conditions of the Swiss population?

- Need for timely information due to COVID-19 pandemic
- Survey of income and living conditions (SILC) provides detailed and representative information for Switzerland and Europe
- Field period of SILC-20 covers the beginning of the pandemic in Switzerland
→ comparison of the indicators before and during the partial lockdown
- But: preparation of regular statistics needs a lot of time
(approx. 20 months from completion of the survey to publication of results)



Challenges and solutions

- Income registers for SILC are not available before March t+1
→ Limitation to subjective questions (hardly any processing necessary)
- Cross-sectional weighting is not available until about 10 months after completion of the field phase
→ Development of simplified weightings for SILC-20 and SILC-21
- Precision does not quite meet the usual requirements of the FSO
→ Publication as experimental statistics



Challenges and solutions

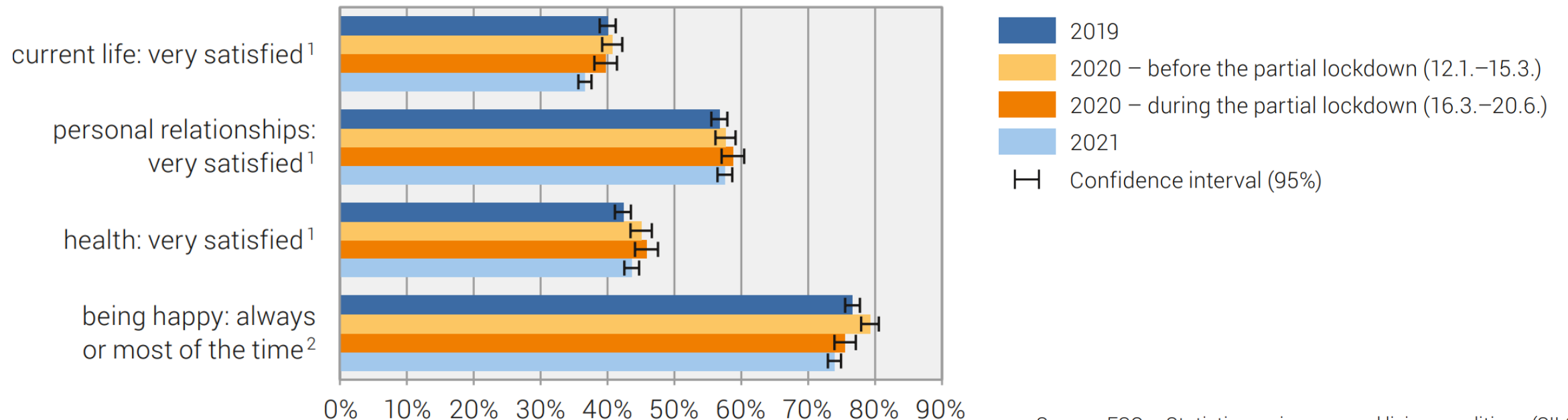
- Four comparable points in time:
 - SILC-19 with standard weights
 - SILC-20 before lockdown with (separate) experimental weights
 - SILC-20 during lockdown with (separate) experimental weights
 - SILC-21 with experimental weights

- Analysis of subjective variables and special variables of the Covid-19-Module:
 - adequate home schooling
 - possibility to work from home
 - impact on morale
 - subjective change in household income



Satisfaction in different areas of life

Percentage of people aged 16 or over with very high satisfaction / happy always or most of the time



¹ Percentage of people with very high satisfaction (score of 9 or 10 on a scale of 0 to 10)

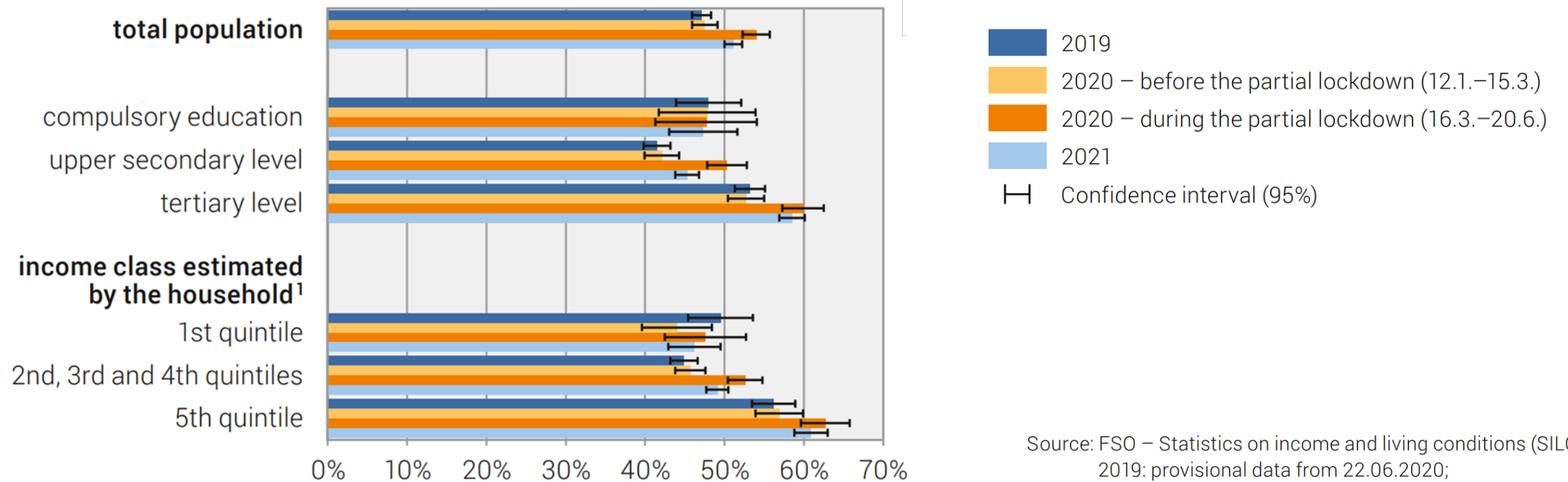
² Being happy: always or most of the time (score of 1 or 2 on a scale of 1 «always» to 5 «never»)

Source: FSO – Statistics on income and living conditions (SILC)
2019: provisional data from 22.06.2020;
2020: experimental data from 24.6.2020;
2021: experimental data from 16.06.2021



Trust in Switzerland's political system

Percentage of people aged 16 or over with high or very high level of trust (score of 8, 9 or 10 on a scale of 0 to 10)



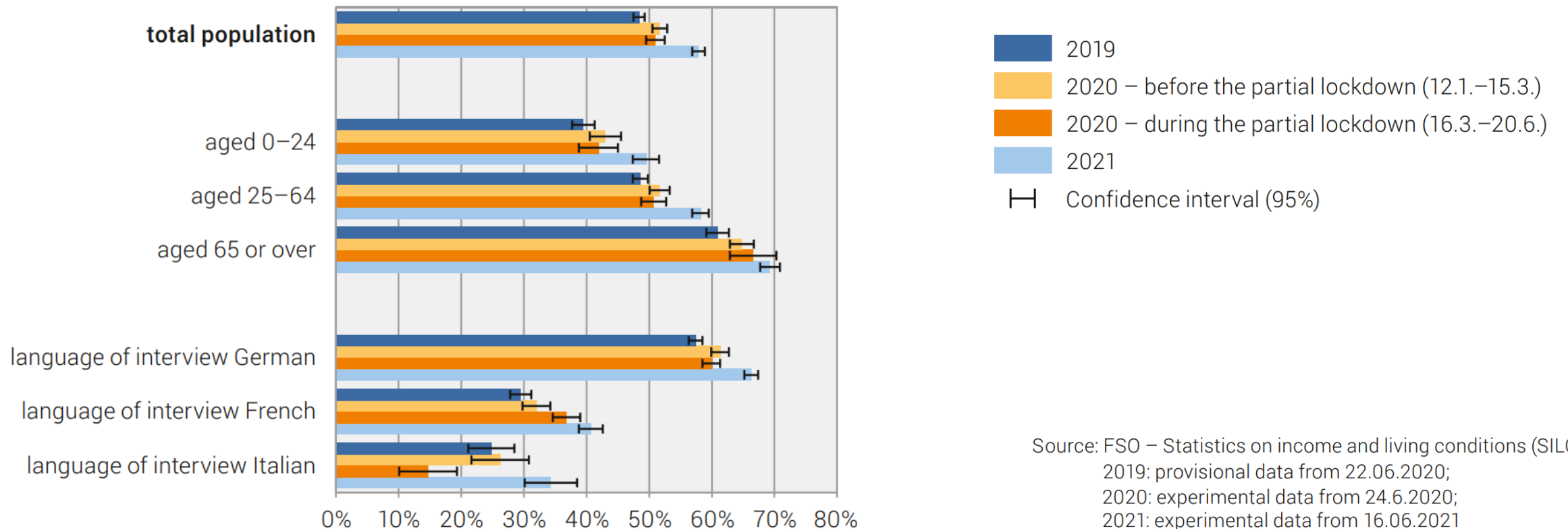
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¹ According to the estimation of the total household income at the moment of the interview



Subjective assessment of the household's financial situation

Percentage of people living in a household for which it is easy or very easy to make ends meet

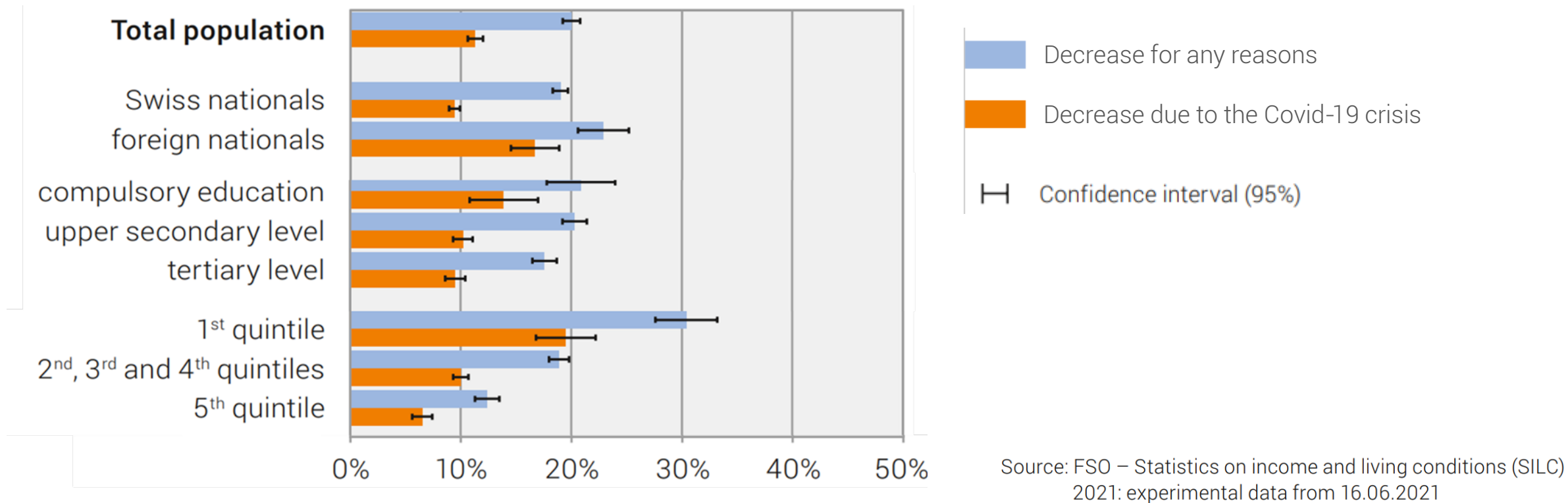


Source: FSO – Statistics on income and living conditions (SILC)
2019: provisional data from 22.06.2020;
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Self-assessment of a decrease in household income

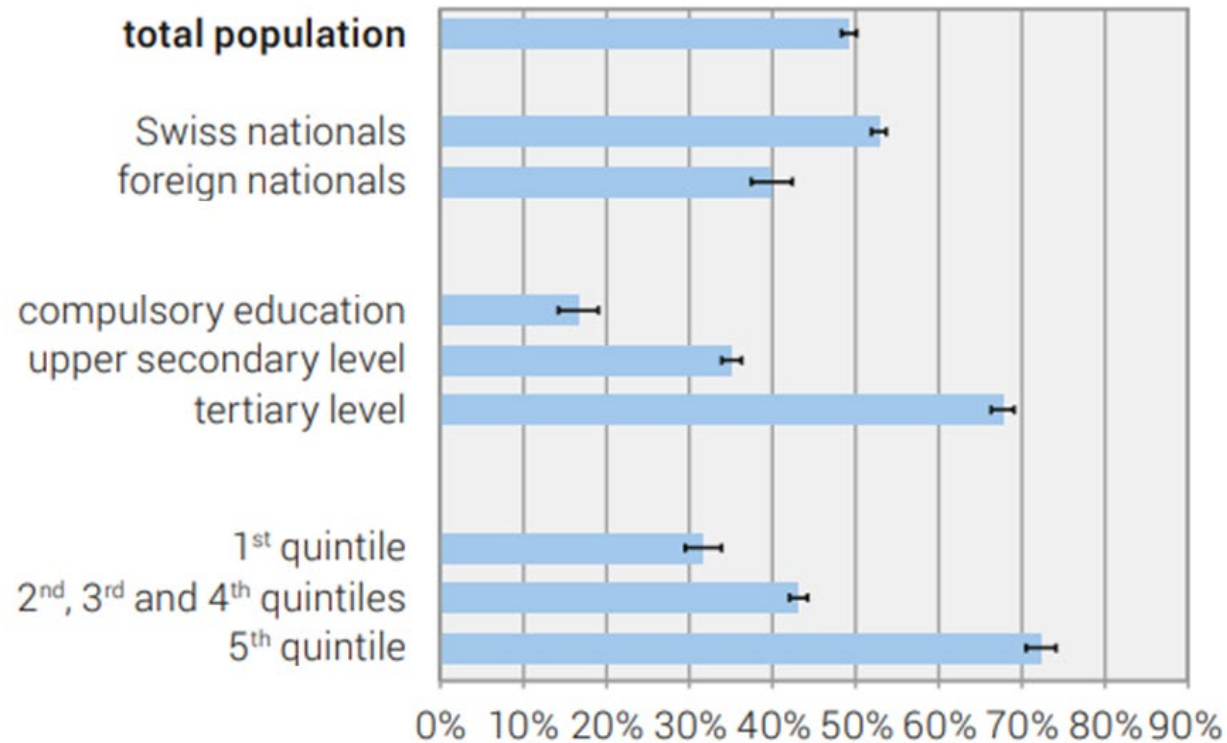
Percentage of people living in a household where total household income has decreased





Working from home during the COVID-19 crisis

Percentage of employed persons who were able to work from home during the Covid-19 crisis

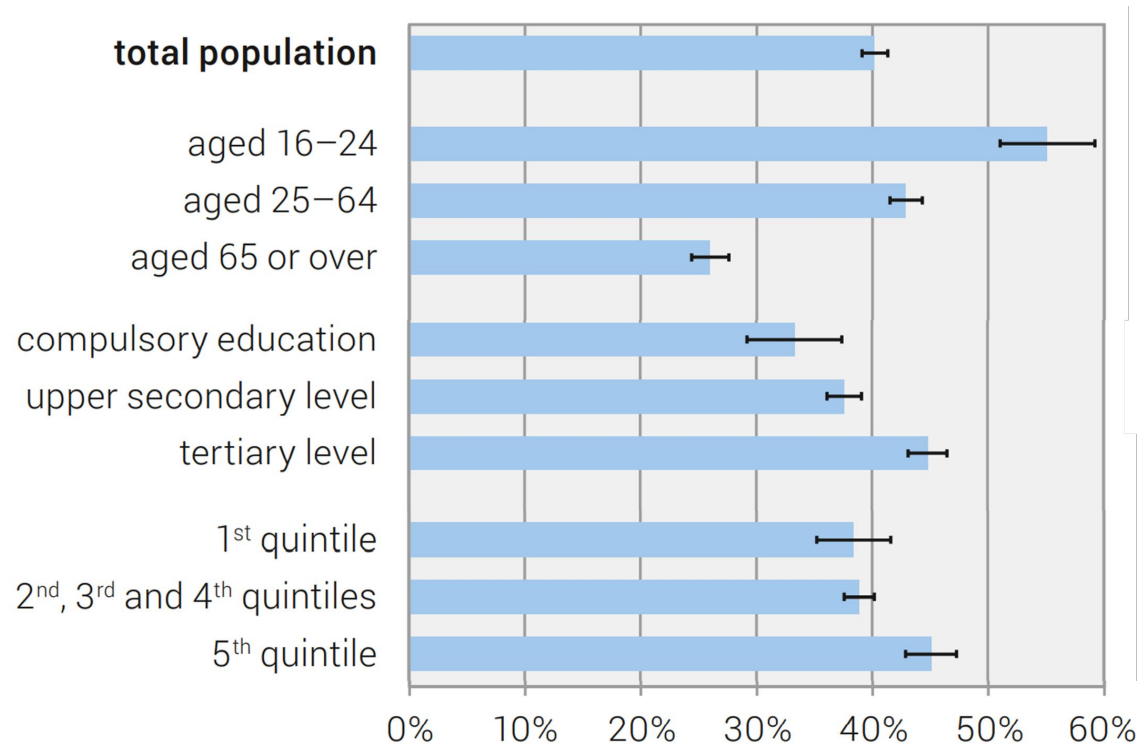


Source: FSO – Statistics on income and living conditions (SILC)
2021: experimental data from 16.06.2021



Impact of the Covid-19 crisis on morale

Percentage of people aged 16 or over who reported that the Covid-19 crisis had impacted negatively on their morale in the last 12 months (score of 0 to 4 on a scale of 0 "much worse" to 10 "much better")



Source: FSO – Statistics on income and living conditions (SILC)
2021: experimental data from 16.06.2021



Conclusions

- Little impact on the generally high level of satisfaction with personal relationships and one's own state of health
- More than 10% of the population faced income losses due to the pandemic; especially those who were already disadvantaged before the crisis
- Increase in share of people making ends meet easily or very easily
→ general decline in consumption and a more frequent abandonment of leisure activities during this period
- Young people in particular reported a negative impact on their mood.



Thank you!



Further information:

[Covid-19 and living conditions in Switzerland \(SILC\) | FSO - Experimental statistics \(admin.ch\)](#)

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