



# Dynamics of poverty in Switzerland

Current and future analyses by the FSO

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# Contents

- Why study poverty dynamics?
- SILC longitudinal data
- Current longitudinal analyses on poverty in Switzerland
- Future possibilities
- Conclusions and possible strategies



## Why study poverty dynamics?

- Cross-sectional data can only provide snap shots at certain points in time
- A stable poverty rate can result from two very different situations:
  - 1) the same few individuals stay poor all the time
  - 2) many individuals are poor for only a short period
- Persistent or recurrent poverty is more negative than transient poverty
- When poverty is concentrated among the same groups and persons, they face a greater risk of social exclusion and marginalisation



## Research questions

- Is poverty concentrated on few individuals that remain poor for a long time and/or are recurrently poor, or are larger parts of the population concerned with rather short transient poverty spells?
- Are there characteristics or events that are associated with a higher risk of entering poverty?
- Are there characteristics or events that are associated with higher chances of exiting poverty?



## SILC longitudinal data

- 4-year rotating panel for both cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses
- yearly interviews → 4 possible observation points per individual
- Weights for correction of non-response and panel attrition

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Unweighted sample size 2017
W1 2014	W1	W2	W3	W4		T (W1-W4): 18 700
W1 2015		W1	W2	W3	W4	
W1 2016			W1	W2	W3	
W1 2017				W1	W2	

Notes: W1 = first wave, W2 = second wave, W3 = third wave, W4 = fourth wave  
Source: FSO 2019, CH-SILC 2014-2017 (longitudinal data, version from 3.6.2019)



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	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Unweighted sample size 2017
W1 2014	W1	W2	W3	W4		t-1 and t: 12 064
W1 2015		W1	W2	W3	W4	
W1 2016			W1	W2	W3	
W1 2017				W1	W2	

Notes: W1 = first wave, W2 = second wave, W3 = third wave, W4 = fourth wave  
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W1 2015		W1	W2	W3	W4	t-2 and t: 7 400
W1 2016			W1	W2	W3	
W1 2017				W1	W2	

Notes: W1 = first wave, W2 = second wave, W3 = third wave, W4 = fourth wave  
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W1 2015		W1	W2	W3	W4	t-2 and t: 7 400
W1 2016			W1	W2	W3	t-3 and t: 3 175
W1 2017				W1	W2	

Notes: W1 = first wave, W2 = second wave, W3 = third wave, W4 = fourth wave  
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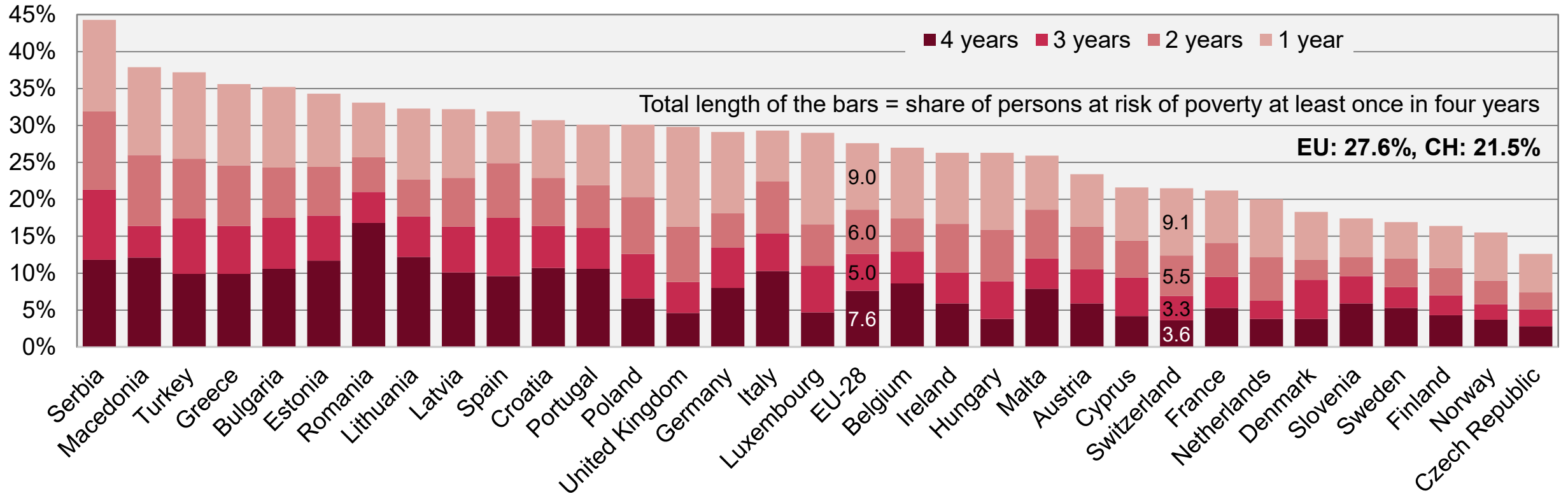
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Unweighted sample size 2017
W1 2014	W1	W2	W3	W4		t-1 and t: 12 064
W1 2015		W1	W2	W3	W4	t-2 and t: 7 400
W1 2016			W1	W2	W3	t-3 and t: 3 175
W1 2017				W1	W2	all four years: 2 957

Notes: W1 = first wave, W2 = second wave, W3 = third wave, W4 = fourth wave  
Source: FSO 2019, CH-SILC 2014-2017 (longitudinal data, version from 3.6.2019)



# Current indicator: Duration of poverty

## Persons at risk of poverty over a four-year period in Europe, 2014-2017

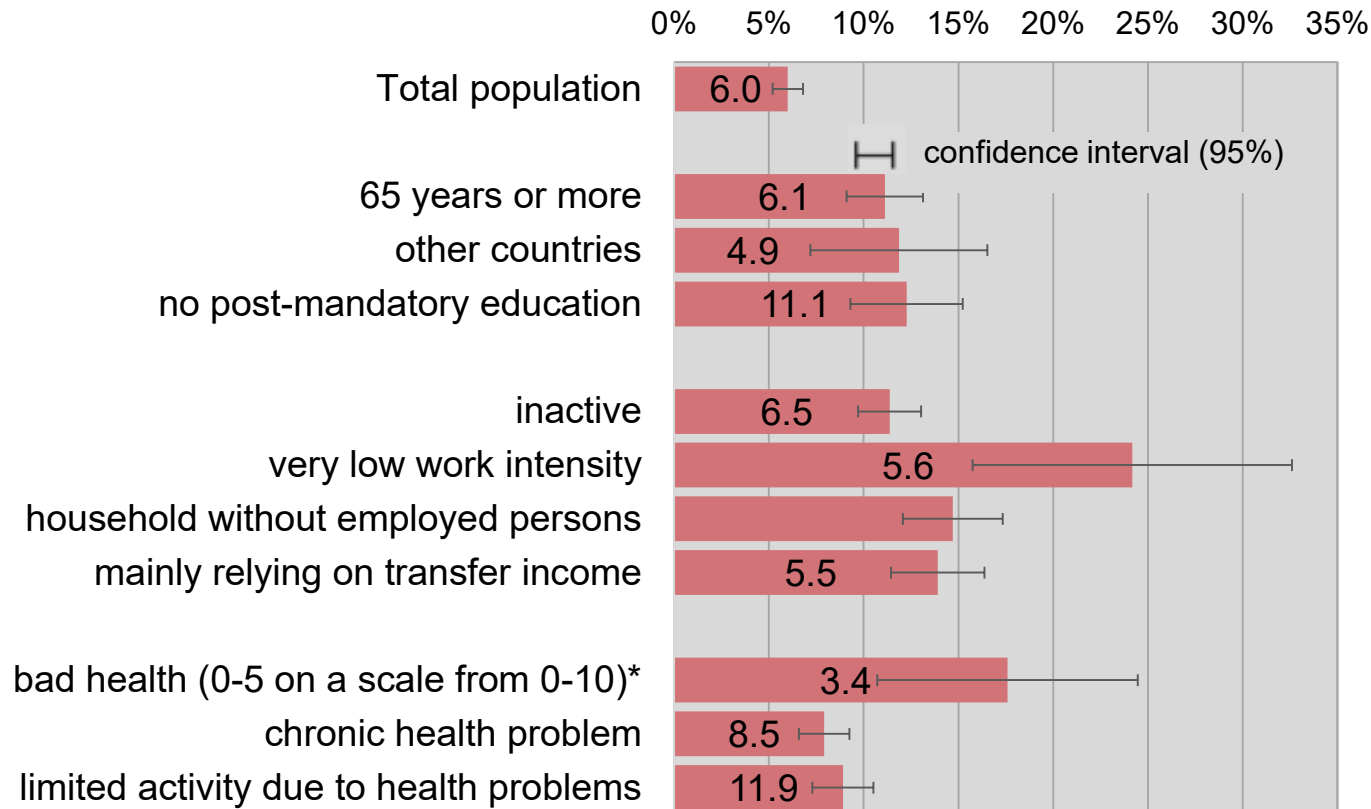


Note: Only individuals that are present in all four years of the survey are considered.



# Poverty entry rate

## Entry rates into poverty between 2016 and 2017, by selected characteristics



### Poverty entry rate

proportion of non-poor in t-1 and poor in t  
**2017: 6.0%**

### Poverty exit rate

proportion of poor in t-1 and non-poor in t  
**2017: 36.5%**

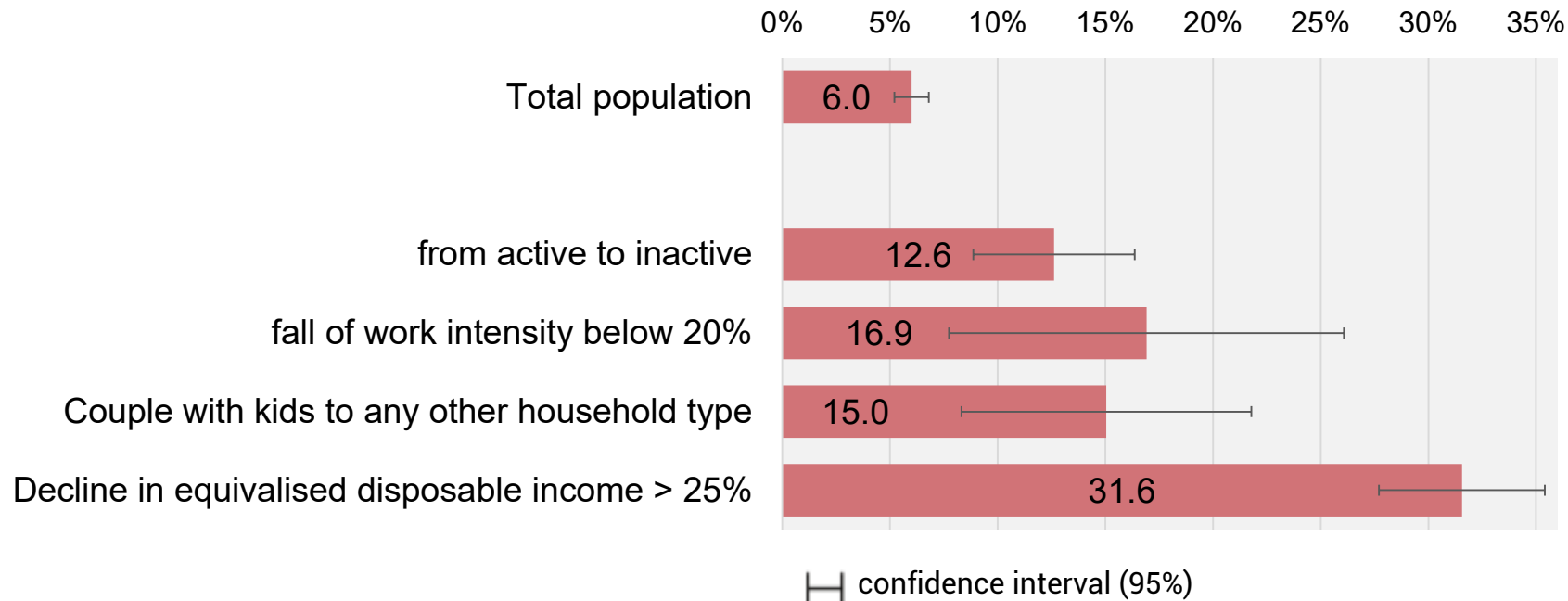
\* low sample size

Note: only individuals present in the last two data waves and not poor in 2016 are considered (N=10,684). Subgroups comprise only individuals where the respective characteristics did not change between 2016 and 2017.



# Poverty entry rates by events

## Entry rates into poverty, by selected events between 2016 and 2017



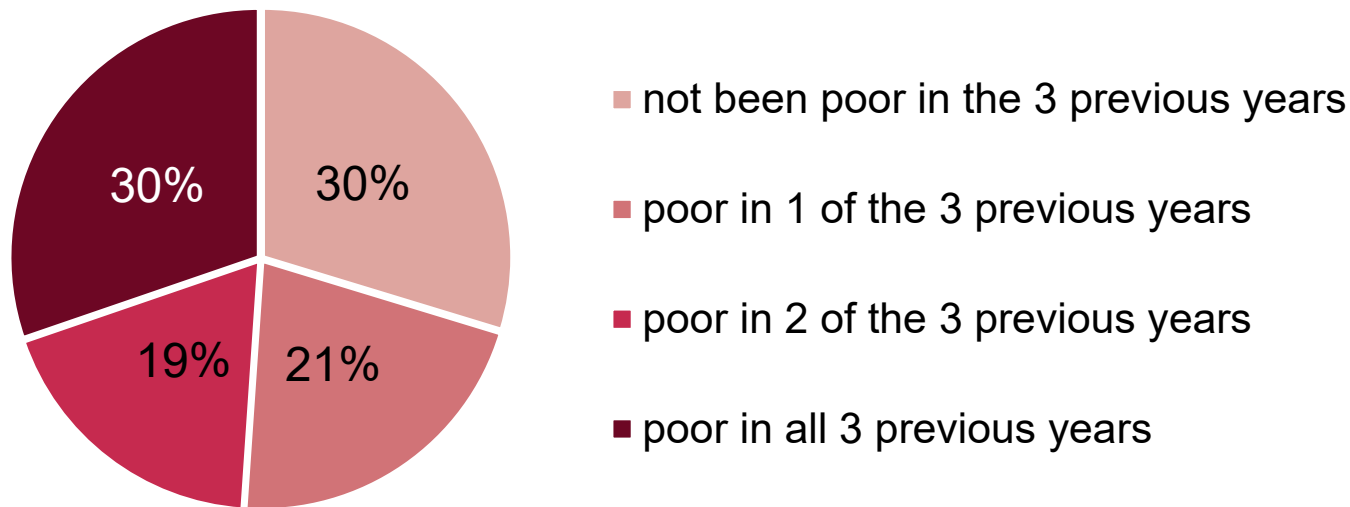
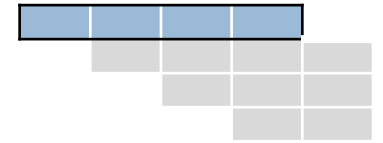
unweighted sample size 2017	
non-poor 2016	poor 2016
10 684	1 380
350	38
210	43
240	11
1 565	123

Note: only individuals present in the last two data waves and not poor in 2016 are considered (N=10,684). Events refer to changes in individual characteristics between 2016 and 2017.



# Previous poverty experience

## Individuals at risk of poverty in 2017 by previous poverty experience



Note: only individuals that were present in all four years of the survey are considered (N=2,957).

Source: CH-SILC 2014-2017 (longitudinal data, version 3.6.2019)



## Conclusions

- Current longitudinal poverty analyses provide some information, but possibilities are by far not exhausted
- Results should be broken down by subgroups and events
- Sample size should be increased
  - extend panel duration to 6 years (as planned by Eurostat)
  - pool several data waves and/or longitudinal datasets (weights!)
  - use analytical models less sensitive to sample size
- Learn from others!



# Thank you for your attention!

## ➤ Swiss poverty statistics:

[www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Look for statistics → 20 - Economic and social situation of the population → Social situation, well-being and poverty  
→ Poverty and material deprivation

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