UNECE Workshop on Gender Statistics, 13-14 May 2019

Gender-specific differences in attitudes towards diversity and in experience of discrimination

Survey on diversity and coexistence in Switzerland
Project and findings

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Summary

• project
• context
• goals
• sample and survey design
• questionnaire
• main findings
• next steps
The project

- monitoring of racist attitudes in Switzerland
- at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office since 2015
- requested by policy makers (Federal Council)
- in collaboration with the Service for Combating Racism
- in collaboration with the State Secretariat for Migration
The project

- 2016 Main survey
- 2017 Racism against Black people
- 2018 Main Survey
- 2019 Itinerant way of life
- 2020 Main survey
Context

- migratory flows
- diversity, variety of backgrounds
- coexistence
- ethnic, cultural and religious differences
- openness vs. closure
- trust vs. fears
- integration vs. rejection
Goals

• measuring of racist attitudes in Switzerland (monitoring)
• provide information on the opinions and perceptions of the population
• allow for early diagnosis of tensions or areas of conflict
• identify the groups that are victims of discrimination
• analyze the relation between attitudes and various other factors
• contribute to improve existing policies (integration, fight against discrimination)
Key concepts

- racism (1)
- xenophobia (2)
- hostility towards Muslims (3)
- hostility towards Blacks (4)
- hostility towards Jews (anti-Semitism) (5)

+ various explanatory factors (12)

Questionnaire

- contact
- household composition
- racism and attitudes towards foreigners
- policies on integration of migrants
- hostility and stereotypes towards Muslims
- hostility and stereotypes towards Blacks
- hostility and stereotypes towards Jews
- policies to fight against racism
- experience of discrimination
- citizenship and migration
- religion and beliefs
- political affiliation
- education
- position on the labor market
- financial situation
Sample

- representative survey
- 3,000 interviews
- permanent resident population
- private households
- from 15 to 88 years old

Design

- data collection every year
- mixed-mode CAWI and CATI
- priority given to CAWI
- 3-month field phase
- standardized reminder system
Findings

Sense of discomfort, 2018
Proportion that feels uncomfortable by cause

Greater at work for both women and men:
- Overall discomfort: 33.4% for women and 35.0% for men.
Findings

Negative attitudes towards foreigners, 2018
Proportion that agrees with the statements

- should be send back in case of unemployment
- need to abandon their own culture
- strengthen patriarchal ideology
- prevent Swiss children to getting good education
- create a sense of being alien in Switzerland
- responsible for increased unemployment
- take advantage of the social system
- create insecurity on the street
Findings

Positive attitudes towards foreigners, 2018
Proportion that agrees with the statements

- right of political participation
- right of automatic naturalization
- right of family reunification
- necessary for the social system
- necessary for the labor market
Findings

Negative stereotypes toward target groups
Proportion with negative stereotypes

- Muslims
- Black people
- Jewish people

Men
Women
Findings

Hostility towards target groups, 2018
Proportion who shows hostility

- Women
- Men

0% 2% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14% 16% 18% 20%
Jewish people  Muslims  Black people
Findings

Experience of discrimination and violence, 2018
Proportion that feels victimized

- Men
- Women
### Findings

#### Experience of discrimination by grounds, 2018

Proportion that feels victimized

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<tr>
<th>Ground</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Age</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*** indicates statistically significant difference between men and women.
Findings

Experience of discrimination by situations, 2018
Proportion that feels victimized

- other
- family, private sphere
- leisure, sport, association
- access to restaurant, bar, club
- public space
- army
- police
- health care
- social benefit
- public administration
- looking for housing
- studies
- workplace
- looking for a job

**Women**

***Men***

- **: p < .001
- ***: p < .01
- ***: p < .05
Findings
--- Conclusion

- attitudes towards diversity vary according to indicators
- a population between openness and closure
- tensions focus on specific groups or situations
- few differences in attitudes according to gender
- if differences occur: women tend to show more openness
- larger differences according to migration background
Next steps

- survey 2019 about people with an itinerant way of life
- quality tests on the 2020 questionnaire
- launching of the 2020 main survey in September
- report by the Service for Combating Racism
- political analysis of FSO survey results
- upcoming indexes with new methodology
Thank you for your attention.

More information about the survey and its results:
https://www.bfs.admin.ch
https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/fr/home/statistiques/population.html
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Report of the Service for Combating Racism:
https://www.edi.admin.ch/edi/fr/home/fachstellen/slr/actualite.html