

AGE AND PERIOD EFFECTS ON LEVELS OF SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING:

EVIDENCE FROM THE TREE PROJECT IN SWITZERLAND

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SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

- LEVELS OF SWB ARE A COMBINATION OF ONE'S PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL WELLBEING WHICH ARE INFLUENCED BY PERSONAL, COMMUNITY AND SOCIETAL FACTORS (DIENER ET AL. 2013)
- THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF GOVERNMENT POLICY IS TO CREATE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS THAT ARE MORE CONDUCTIVE TO THE WELL-BEING OF INDIVIDUALS [SHIROKA-PULA ET AL 2023]

SWB CONT.

- LEVELS OF SWB VARY ACCORDING TO LIFE STAGE [AGE]; SEX, MIGRANT STATUS, EMPLOYMENT STATUS, MARITAL STATUS, HEALTH STATUS
- SWB MEASURED USING A GLOBAL LIFE SATISFACTION INDICATOR DERIVED FROM SURVEY QUESTIONS ASKING RESPONDENTS HOW SATISFIED THEY ARE WITH THEIR LIFE OVERALL

CONTEXT IN 2000/05 AND 2016/21

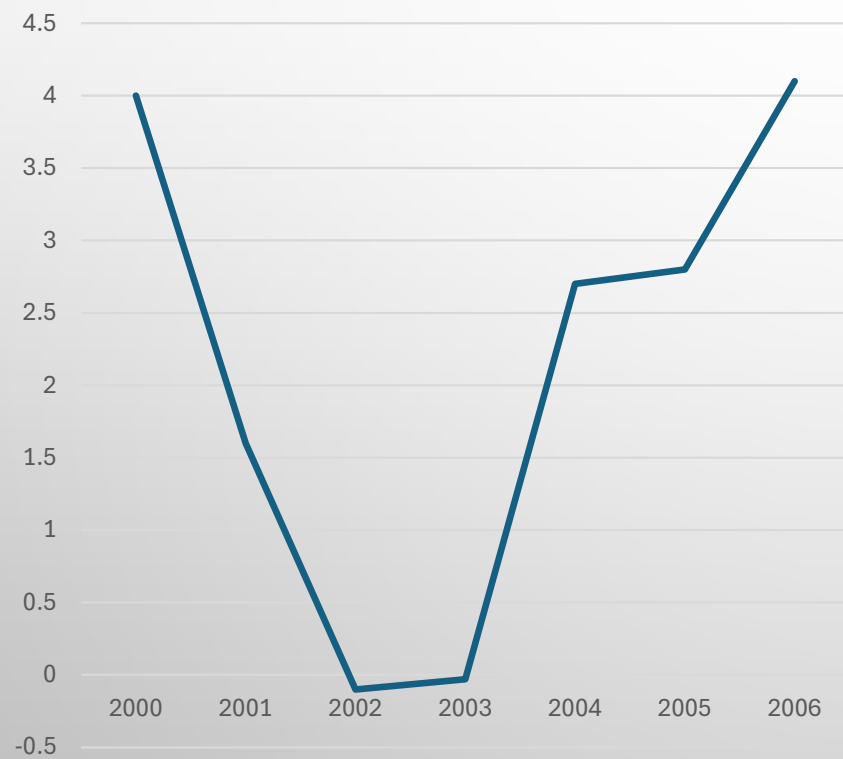
2000-2005

- UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INCREASED FROM 2.7% IN 2000 TO 4.4% IN 2005
- INCOME GINI INDEX STABLE- 33.4 IN 2000; 33.9 IN 2005

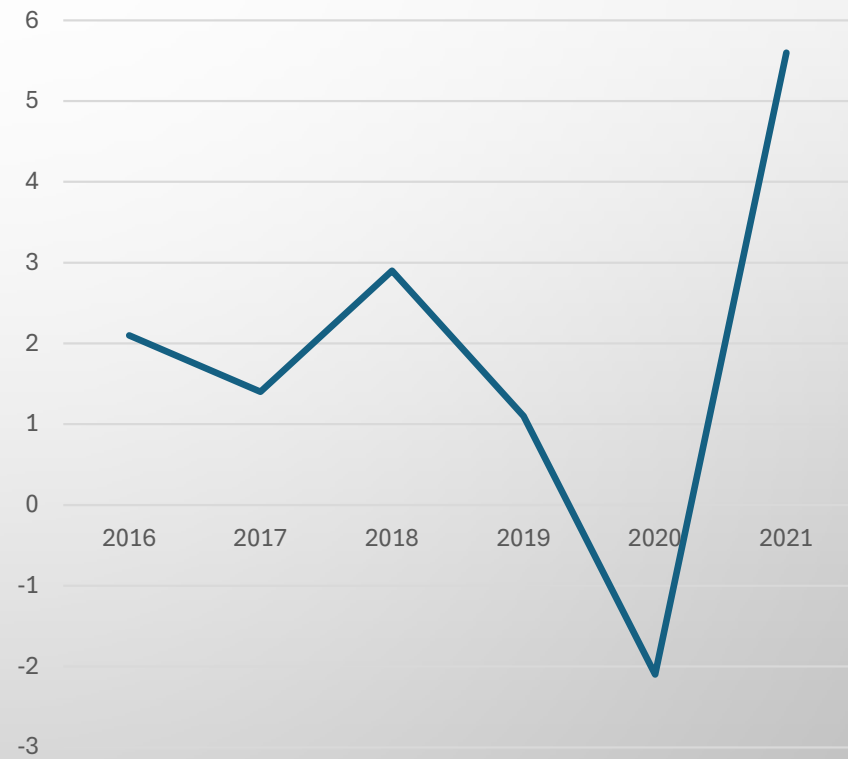
2016-2021

- UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STABLE 4.9% IN 2016 TO 5.0% IN 2021
- INCOME GINI INDEX STABLE- 33 IN 2016; 33.8 IN 2021

2000-2006 ANNUAL GDP GROWTH [%]

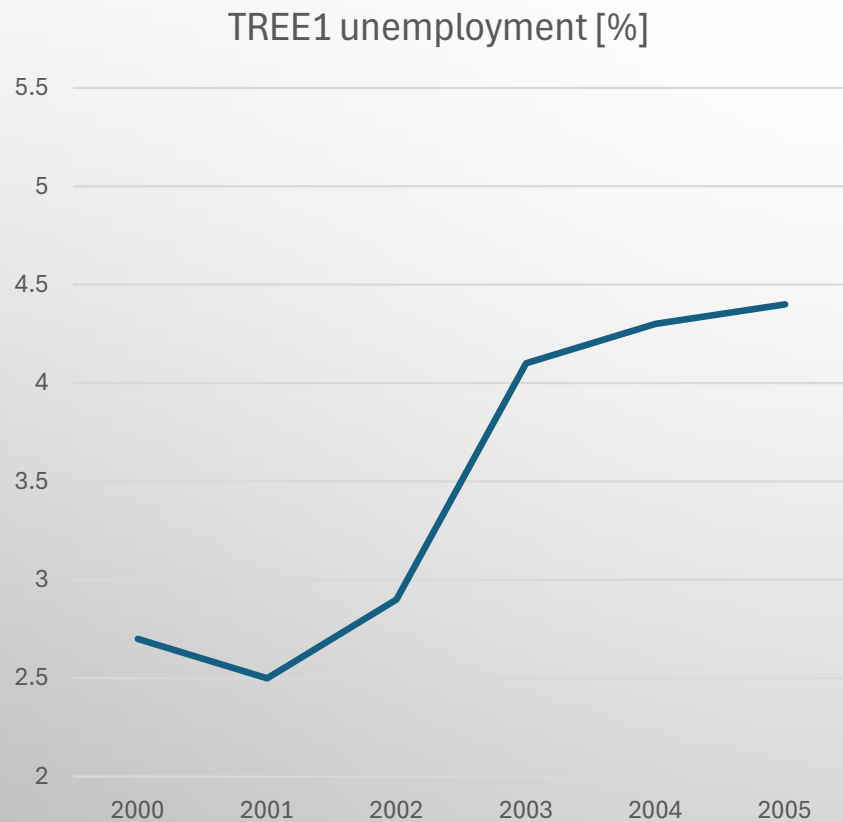


2016-2021 ANNUAL GDP GROWTH [%]

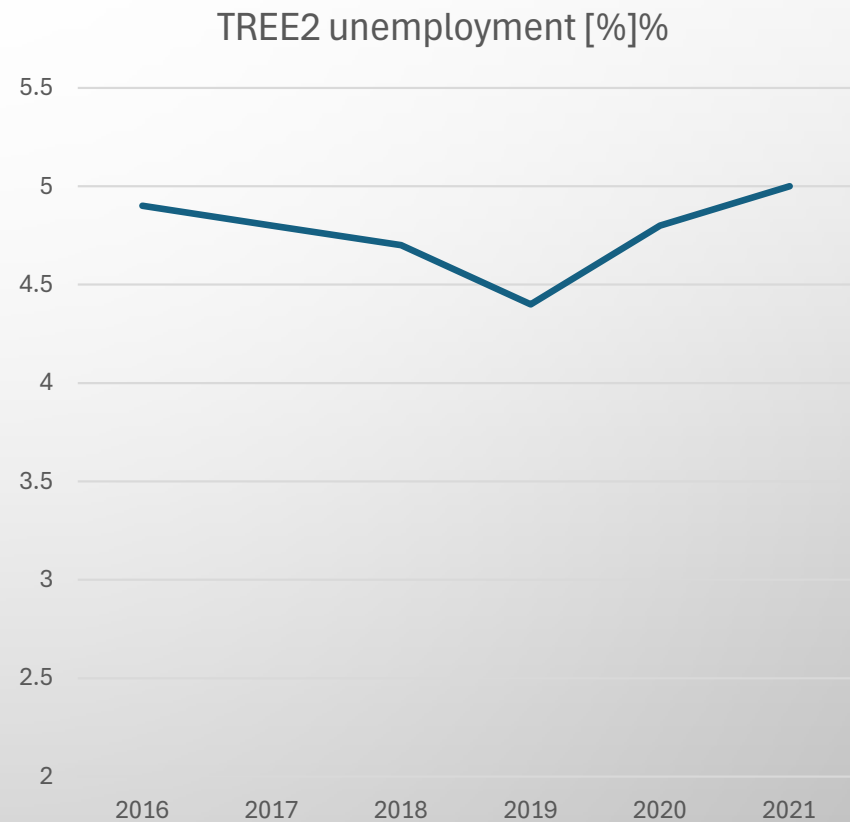


UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

2000-2006 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



2016-2021 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



AGE EFFECTS

- PARTICULAR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EVENTS ARE EXPERIENCED DIFFERENTLY ACCORDING TO LIFE COURSE STAGE
- EXPERIENCES AT AGE 17 MAY DIFFER FROM THOSE AT AGE 21 OR 30 EG A RECESSION MAY HAVE DIFFERENT IMPACTS FOR THOSE AGED 17 AND THOSE AGED 30

PERIOD EFFECTS

- SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES RELATED TO EVENTS THAT OCCUR DURING A PARTICULAR PERIOD OF TIME
- ENTERING THE LABOUR MARKET IN 2001-2003 MAY HAVE BEEN MORE DIFFICULT THAN ENTERING THE LABOUR MARKET IN 2017-2019

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- RQ1 'HOW DO LEVELS OF SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING DIFFER ACCORDING TO AGE?' (AGE EFFECTS)
- RQ2 'HOW DO LEVELS OF SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING DIFFER ACCORDING TO TIME?' (PERIOD EFFECTS).

DATA

- TREE (TRANSITIONS FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT) PROJECT
- TREE1 N= 6343 PARTICIPANTS AGED 16 YEARS IN 2000 [PISA COHORT]
- SURVEYED 10 TIMES ACROSS 20 YEARS.
- TREE2 N=8429 PARTICIPANTS AGED 16 YEARS IN 2016 [AES COHORT].
- SURVEYED 7 TIMES

VARIABLES

- SWB SCALE 1-6
- TREE1 SWB WAVES 1 [2001], 5 [2005], 9 [2014]
- AGED 17, 21 AND 30
- TREE2 SWB WAVES 1 [2017], 5 [2021]
- AGED 17 AND 21
- SEX
- MIGRANT STATUS
- PARENT EDUCATION
- FAMILY TYPE
- HEALTH SCALE 1-5

MEAN SWB TREE1 AND TREE2

	TREE1	TREE2
age 17	4.65	4.96
age 21	4.64	4.73
age 30	4.85	

AGE EFFECTS

TREE1 SWB AGE 17

SWB wave 1	Coef.	Std. Err.
Sex [ref. = female]		
Male	0.07	0.04
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]		
2nd gen. migrant	-0.08	0.04
1st gen. migrant	-0.15*	0.06
Parental education [ref. = university]		
Missing	-0.12	0.11
not university	-0.05	0.03
Family type [ref.= two parents]		
Missing	-0.11	0.18
Single parent	-0.06	0.05
Other	-0.12*	0.06
Health [ref. = medium]		
Missing	1.99**	0.71
Very poor	-0.43	0.27
Bad	-0.29*	0.12
Good	0.44***	0.06
Very good	0.83***	0.06
Constant	4.11***	0.06
n=	3229	
Adj R2	0.1093	

TREE1 SWB AGE 21

	Model 1		Model 2	
SWB wave 5	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.
SWB wave 1			0.28***	0.02
Sex [ref. = female]				
Male	-0.15***	0.04	-0.19***	0.04
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]				
2nd gen. migrant	0.0002	0.04	0.03	0.04
1st gen. migrant	-0.06	0.06	-0.01	0.06
Parental education [ref. = university]				
not university	-0.03	0.03	-0.01	0.03
Family type [ref.= two parents]				
Single parent	-0.08	0.05	-0.06	0.05
Other	0.14*	0.05	0.16***	0.05
Health [ref. = medium]				
Very poor	-0.89**	0.31	-0.75*	0.30
Bad	-0.39*	0.16	-0.37*	0.15
Good	0.36***	0.07	0.31***	0.06
Very good	0.75***	0.06	0.63***	0.06
Employment status [ref. = employed]				
unemployed	-0.48***	0.08	-0.41***	0.08
NILF	0.10*	0.04	0.12**	0.04
constant	4.12***	0.07	2.91***	0.10
n=	3229		3229	
adj r2	0.0869		0.1603	

TREE1 SWB AGE 30

	Model 1		Model 2	
SWB wave 9	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.
SWB wave 1			0.16***	0.02
Sex [ref. = female]				
Male	-0.16***	0.04	-0.18***	0.04
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]				
2nd gen. migrant	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.05
1st gen. migrant	-0.01	0.07	0.02	0.07
Parental education [ref. = university]				
not university	-0.03	0.04	-0.03	0.04
Marital status [ref. = single]				
married	0.42***	0.04	0.42***	0.04
Health [ref. = medium]				
Very poor	-0.80*	0.37	-0.82*	0.37
Bad	-0.54**	0.18	-0.55**	0.17
Good	0.34***	0.08	0.31***	0.07
Very good	0.78***	0.07	0.72***	0.07
Employment status [ref. = employed]				
unemployed	-0.57***	0.11	-0.52***	0.11
NILF	-0.19**	0.07	-0.18**	0.07
constant	4.24***	0.07	3.56***	0.11
n=	2356		2356	
adj r2	0.1514		0.1756	

TREE2 SWB AGE 17

SWB wave 1	Coef.	Std. Err.
Sex [ref. = female]		
Male	0.11***	0.02
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]		
2nd gen. migrant	-0.06**	0.02
1st gen. migrant	-0.19***	0.03
Parental education [ref. = university]		
missing	-0.05	0.07
not university	0.01	0.02
Family type [ref.= two parents]		
Other	0.00	0.05
Single parent	-0.15***	0.03
Health [ref. = medium]		
Missing	0.33***	0.04
Very poor	-0.72***	0.17
Bad	-0.16	0.08
Good	0.27***	0.04
Very good	0.48***	0.04
Constant	4.65***	0.04
n=	4348	
Adj R2	0.0823	

TREE2 SWB AGE 21

	Model 1		Model 2	
SWB Wave 5	Coef.	Std. Err.	Coef.	Std. Err.
SWB Wave 1			0.30***	0.02
Sex [ref. = female]				
Male	0.10***	0.02	0.07**	0.02
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]				
2nd gen. migrant	-0.07**	0.02	-0.05*	0.02
1st gen. migrant	-0.04	0.04	0.02	0.04
Parental education [ref. = university]				
not university	0.05*	0.02	0.05*	0.02
Family type [ref.= two parents]				
Single parent	-0.10***	0.03	-0.07*	0.03
Other	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.04
Health [ref. = medium]				
Very poor	-1.29***	0.18	-0.99***	0.18
Bad	-0.63***	0.08	-0.55***	0.08
Good	0.33***	0.04	0.28***	0.04
Very good	0.66***	0.04	0.56***	0.04
Employment status [ref. = employed]				
Unemployed	-0.22***	0.04	-0.18***	0.04
NILF	-0.04	0.03	-0.02	0.03
Constant	4.38***	0.04	2.95***	0.09
n=	4348		4348	
Adj R2	0.1259		0.1917	

PERIOD EFFECTS

life satisfaction age 17	Coef.	Std. Err.
Cohort [ref. =1]		
Cohort 2	0.36***	0.02
Sex [ref. = female]		
Male	0.10***	0.02
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]		
2nd gen. migrant	-0.07**	0.02
1st gen. migrant	-0.18***	0.03
Parent education [ref. = uni.]		
not university	-0.01	0.02
Family type w1 [ref. both parents]		
single parent	-0.11***	0.03
other	-0.09*	0.04
Health status w1 [ref. = medium]		
Very poor	-0.59***	0.16
Bad	-0.24***	0.07
Good	0.35***	0.03
Very good	0.64***	0.03
constant	4.21***	0.03
n=	7577	
adj r2	1269	

Life satisfaction age 21	Coef.	Std. Err.
Cohort [ref. =1]		
Cohort 2	0.15***	0.02
Life satisfaction w1	0.28***	0.01
Sex [ref. = female]		
Male	-0.04*	0.02
Migrant status [ref. = non-migrant]		
2nd gen. migrant	-0.02	0.02
1st gen. migrant	0.00	0.03
Parent education [ref. = uni.]		
not university	0.02	0.02
Family type w5 [ref. both parents]		
single parent	-0.06*	0.03
other	0.10**	0.03
Health status w5 [ref. = medium]		
Very poor	-0.88***	0.16
Bad	-0.50***	0.07
Good	0.30***	0.03
Very good	0.57***	0.03
Employment status w5 [ref. = employed]		
Unemployed	-0.26***	0.04
NILF	0.05*	0.02
constant	2.89***	0.06
n=	7577	

DISCUSSION

- TREE2 COHORT REPORTED HIGHER LEVELS OF SWB THAN TREE1 COHORT AT AGE 17 AND AGE 21
- TREE1 EXPERIENCED THE DOT.COM CRISIS AND RELATED RECESSION IN 2002-2003. TREE2 EXPERIENCED THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN 2020-21
- FOR TREE2, LEVELS OF SWB DECLINED BETWEEN AGE 17 AND 21 WHEREAS FOR TREE1, LEVELS OF SWB WERE STABLE BETWEEN AGE 17 AND AGE 21
- LEVELS OF SWB INCREASED BETWEEN AGE 21 AND AGE 30 FOR TREE1

COVID-19

- ACCORDING TO OECD [2021], SWITZERLAND WAS RANKED LOW IN TERMS OF EXCESS DEATHS AND LOW ON THE STRINGENCY INDEX
- HIGH INFECTIONS INITIALLY BUT EARLY ADOPTION OF CONTAINMENT MEASURES AND QUARANTINE = LOWER RATES OVERALL
- GOVERNMENT TOPPED UP WAGES OF LOW PAID WORKERS AND EXTENDED JOB RETENTION SCHEME TO THOSE WITH TEMPORARY CONTRACTS
- PLAN DEVELOPED AFTER THE GFC WAS QUICKLY IMPLEMENTED WHEN COVID STRUCK

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