



INSTITUTE FOR EMPLOYMENT  
RESEARCH  
The Research Institute of the Federal Employment Agency

# INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES IN GERMANY: (SOME) RESULTS BASED ON THE IAB-BAMF-SOEP SURVEY OF REFUGEES

Policy dialogue webinar series

„Surveys to understand asylum related migration“, 29 June 2021

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# GERMANY'S ROLE IN THE GLOBAL REFUGEE MIGRATION PROCESS

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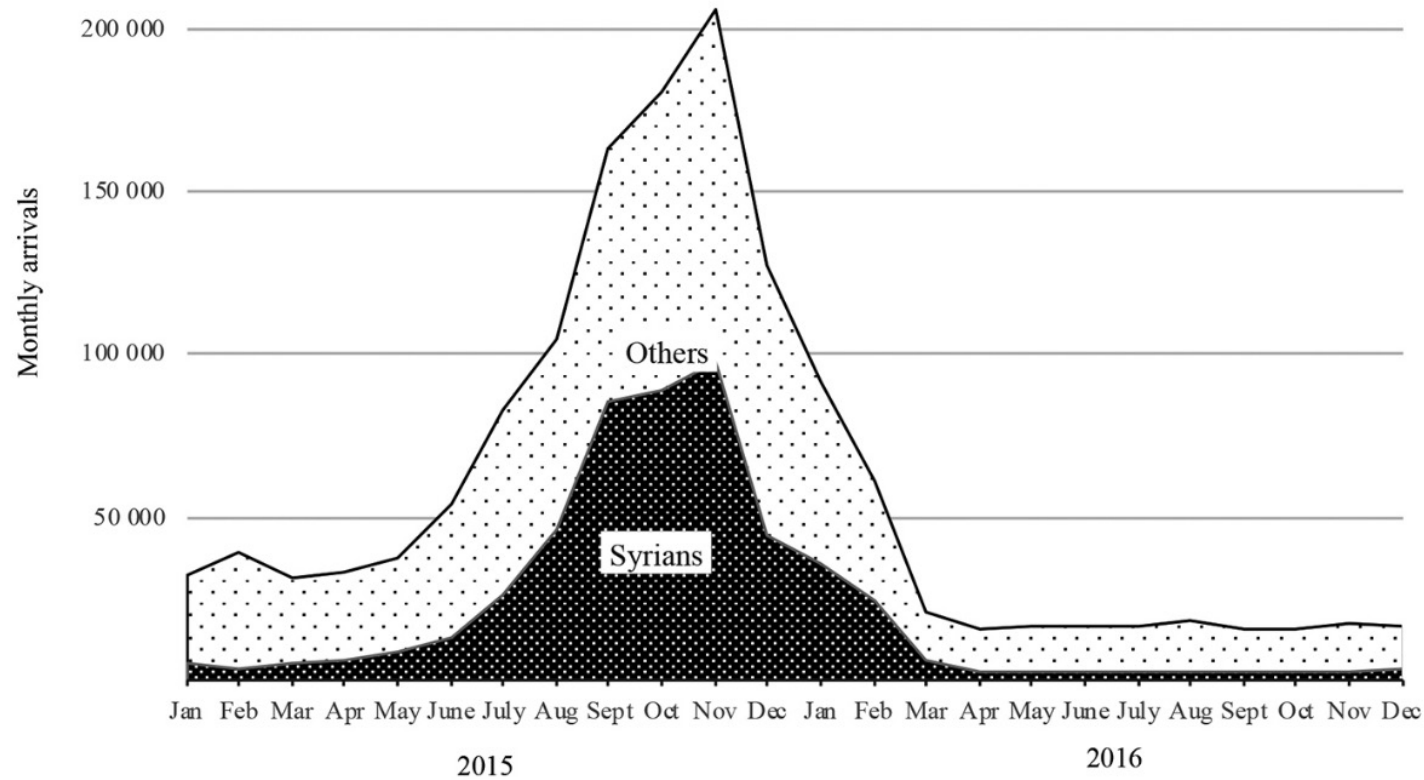
Germany as the **main destination** for refugees among the high-income countries

- 2015-2018, 1.6 Mio. asylum applications
  - 3.9 millions in the EU-28 (Eurostat, 2019)
- by the end of 2017, 1.4 Mio. asylum-seeker and refugee population
  - 3 Mio. in the EU-28, 5 Mio. in all high-income countries (UNHCR, 2019; BAMF, 2019)
- still moderate share in the global population of concern (UNHCR, 2019)
  - 2 percent of 71.4 Mio. of global population of concern (in 2018)
  - 6 percent of 23 Mio. of the population of concern living abroad

# REFUGEE ARRIVALS IN GERMANY

BRÜCKER, KOSYAKOVA, VALLIZADEH 2020

**Figure 1:** Refugee Arrivals in Germany, 2015 and 2016



- unprecedented challenge for integration
- understanding refugee migration and integration needs biographical data

Source: BAMF (2017 b), authors' calculations.

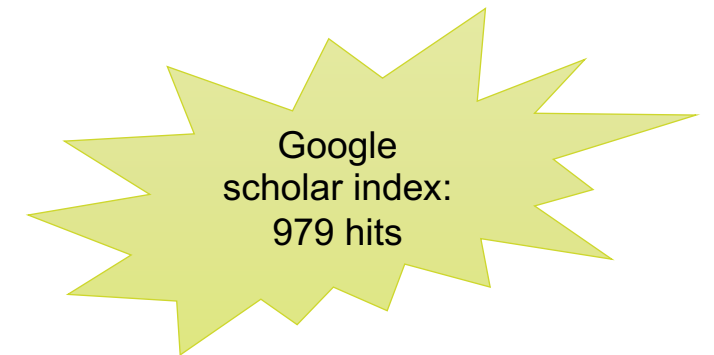
# IAB-BAMF-SOEP SURVEY OF REFUGEES IN GERMANY

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# IAB-BAMF-SOEP SURVEY OF REFUGEES: KEY FEATURES

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- Longitudinal household design with refreshment samples
  - launched in 2016
  - of meanwhile 8,300 refugees (18+) plus some 5,600 children
- Sampling frame: Central Foreigner Register (AZR)
  - representative for refugees arriving between 2013–2016
- Retrospective biographical perspective
- Personal-biographical-, household-, family (+interviewer) Qs
- Integration with SOEP -> comparative design
- Record linkage with social-security data



see Brücker, Rother, Schupp (2017); Kroh et al. (2016); Kühne, Jacobsen, Kroh (2019)

# IAB-BAMF-SOEP SURVEY OF REFUGEES: DETAILS

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- **Equal access** irrespective of housing situation, legal status, education, language proficiency, personal situation etc.
- **Face-2-Face**-interviews (CAPI), **7 languages**, translators
  - Arabic, English, Farsi/Dari, German, Kurmanji, Pashtu, and Urdu
  - Auditive instruments, e.g., for surveying illiterates
- Survey covers inter alia
  - Migration-, employment-, education biography
  - Refugee migration motives and refugee migration process
  - Human capital- & behavioral characteristics, values & attitudes
  - Labor market integration, education, program participation
  - Family & partnership, social networks, health, life satisfaction
  - Asylum, housing, welfare benefits
- **Quality control**: identifying interviewer falsification (see Kosyakova et al. 2020; Schwanhäuser, Sakshaug, Kosyakova 2021)

# IAB-BAMF-SOEP SURVEY OF REFUGEES: NOVEL INSTRUMENTS

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- Foreign degrees
  - CAMCES tool
- Causal inference design
  - vignettes, experiments
- Consequences of COVID-19Pandemic
  - CORONA additional survey
  - antigen test

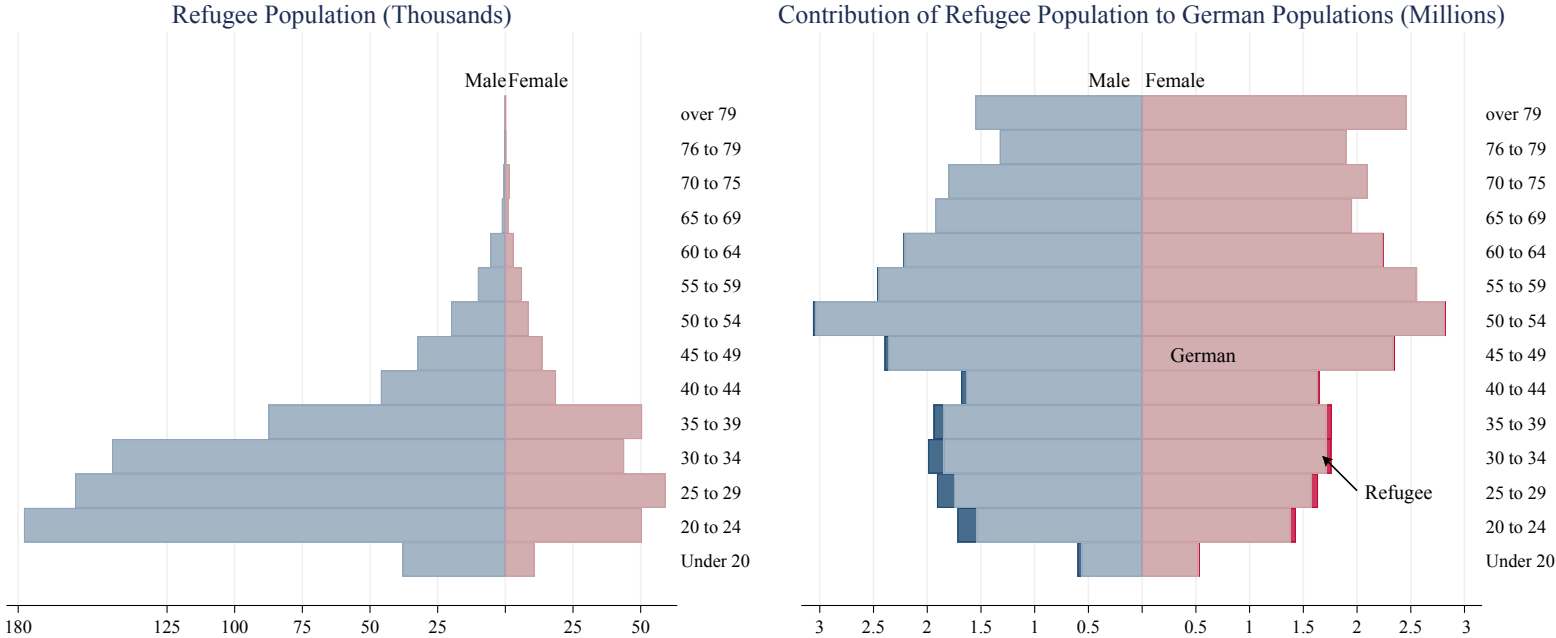
# SOME KEY RESULTS

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# DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION

## Demographic composition of refugees and total population in 2017



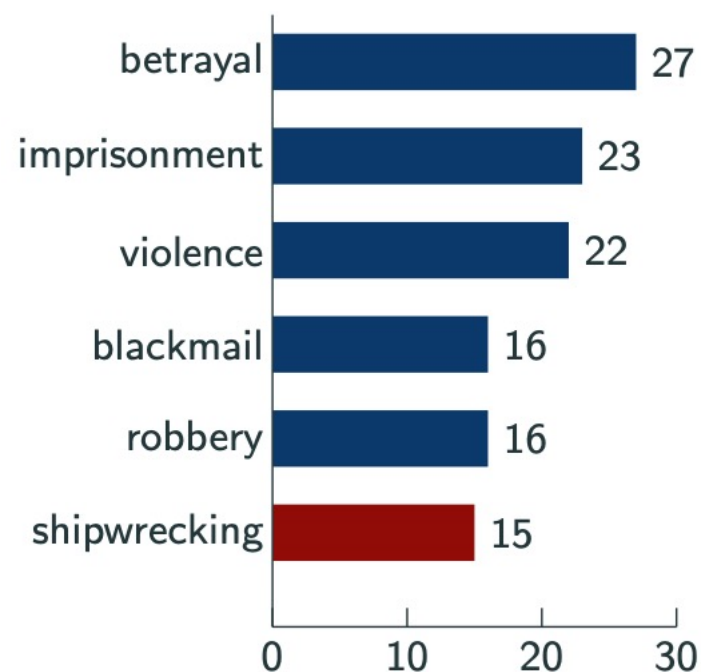
- Countries of origin
- 2/3 arrived from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Eritrea, and Iran

All calculations account for sample weights (see Data). Source: Brücker, Kosyakova, Vallizadeh (2020) based on the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Sample, V34, and Socio-Economic Panel v34

# TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES AND HEALTH

## Refugee migration risks, in %

multiple answers possible



Source: Brücker, Jaschke, Kosyakova (2019) based on the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Sample, 2017

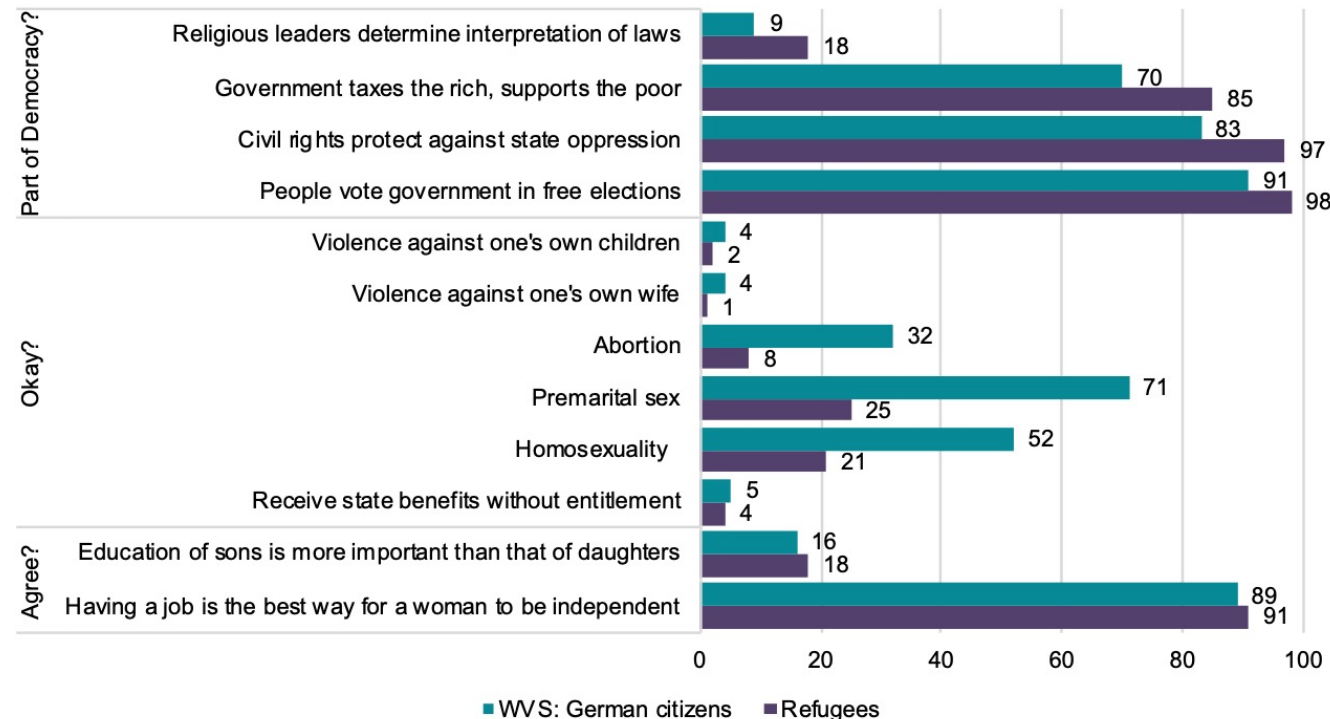
## Health indicators of refugees and the general population in Germany, by gender and age groups

	Refugees		Population average	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
<b>Physical well-being<sup>2)</sup> (normalized index PCS, 50 = population average)</b>				
Age 18–24	59	56 *	56	55
Age 25–34	57	53 *	55	54
Age 35–44	51	50	52	52
Age 45–54	49	45	49	48
Observations	1,452	798	10,967	12,971
<b>Mental well-being<sup>2)</sup> (normalized index PCS, 50 = population average)</b>				
Age 18–24	48 *	46	52	48
Age 25–34	48 *	46 *	52	49
Age 35–44	47 *	43 *	51	49
Age 45–54	47 *	42 *	52	50
Observations	1,452	798	10,967	12,971
<b>Depressive symptoms<sup>2)</sup> (sumscore of PHQ-4)</b>				
Age 18–24	2,8 *	3,6	2,0	2,7
Age 25–34	3,1 *	3,3 *	2,2	2,3
Age 35–44	3,2 *	4,2 *	2,1	2,4
Age 45–54	4,0 *	4,9 *	2,2	2,5
Observations	1,454	782	11,096	13,181

Source: Brücker et al. (2019) based on the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Sample, 2016-2017

# VALUES

## Support for Democratic and Other Values among Refugees and Citizens in Germany, 2017

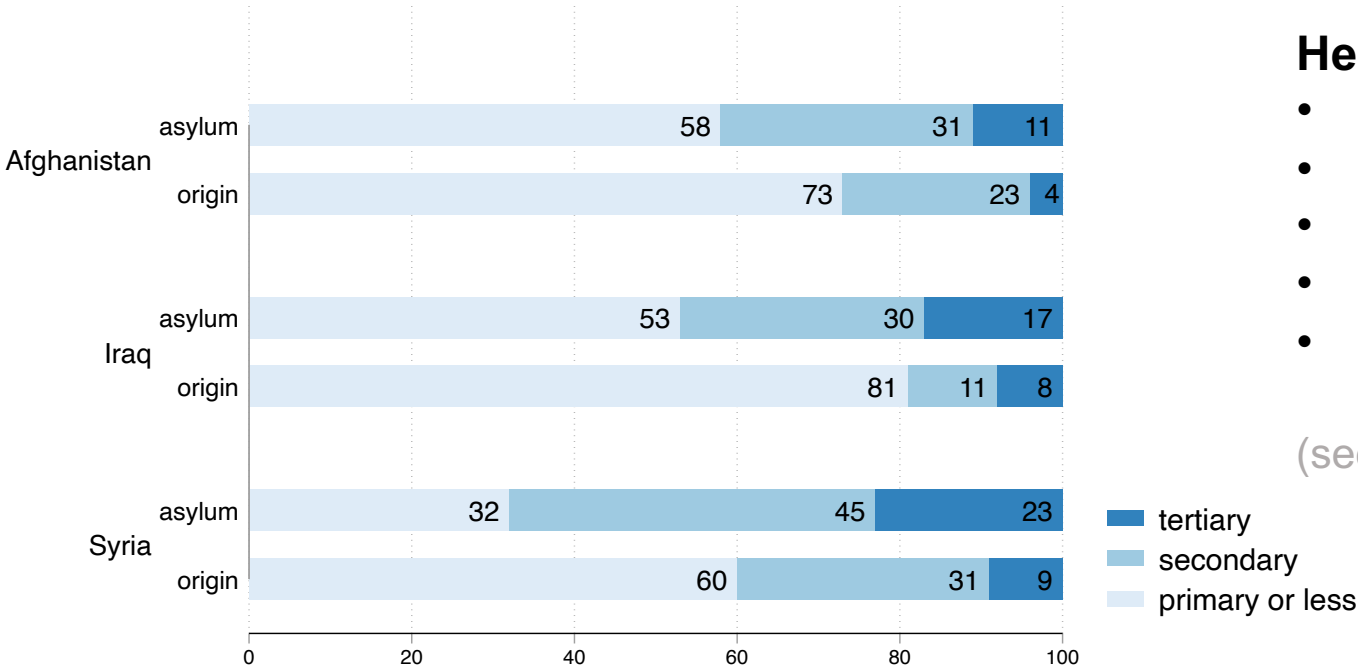


Notes: The answer scales vary depending on the question and data set. Those that offered survey takers an even number of response options had these options divided into an upper “support” category and a lower “reject” category. If there was an odd number of response categories, a neutral middle category was coded as “no answer.”

Source: Brücker, Jaschke, Kosyakova 2019, based on IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Survey of Refugees 2017 (for data on refugees), and World Values Survey (WVS), Wave 6, 2010–14 (for data on German citizens), weighted

# HUMAN CAPITAL SELECTION

## Education of refugees compared to sending country average Highest educational degree (ISCED), share in %



### Heavily polarized education levels

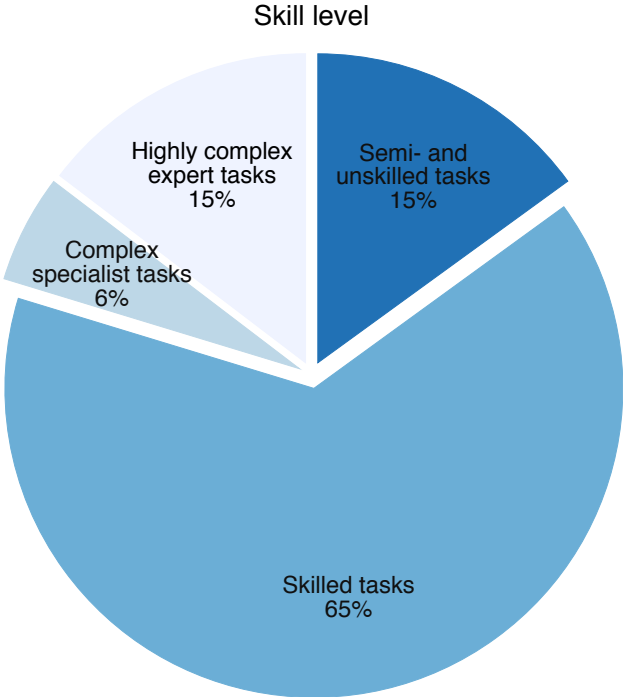
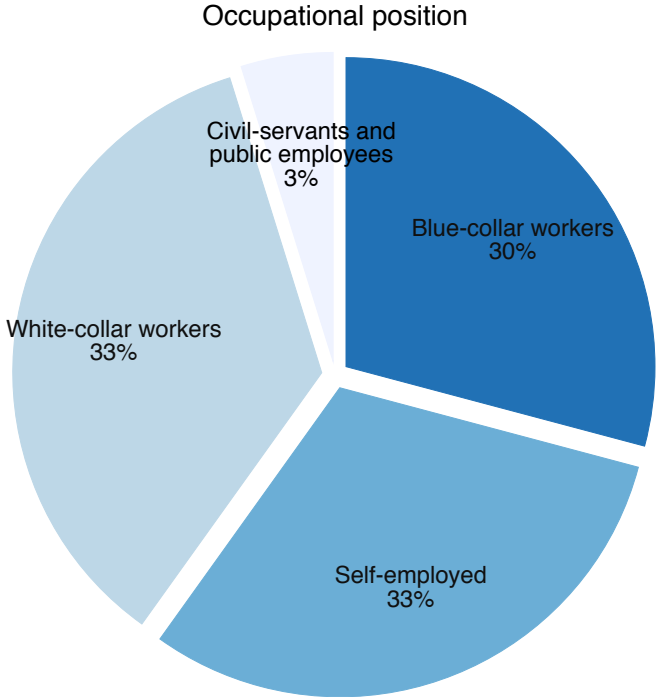
- ISCED 0: 20 percent
- ISCED 1: 20 percent
- ISCED 2: 24 percent
- ISCED 3/4: 25 percent
- ISCED 5/6/7: 11 percent

(see Kosyakova et al. 2021)

Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey of Refugees 2017, weighted, authors' calculations; Guichard, 2020.

# LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE

## Occupational position of refugees before arrival in Germany



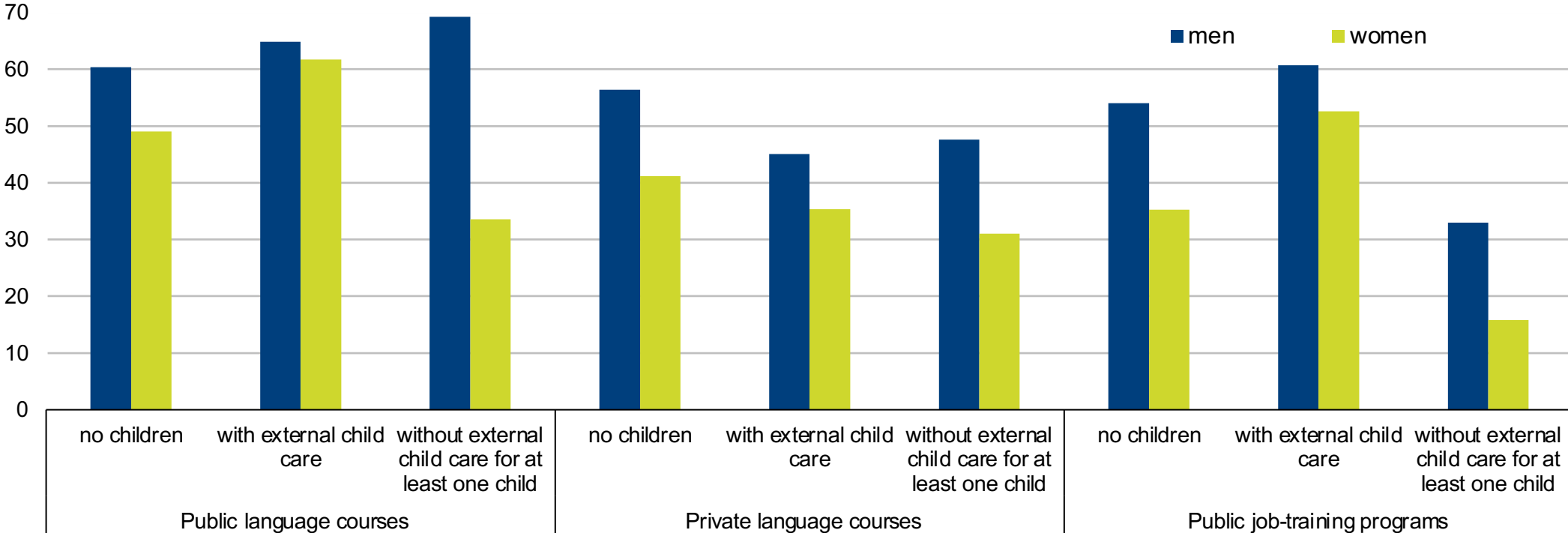
### With previous work experience

- 35 percent of male refugees
- 77 percent of female refugees
  
- 9 years, on average

Only individuals between 18 and 65 are considered. Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey of Refugees 2017, weighted; Brücker et al. (2019); Brücker, Jaschke & Kosyakova (2019).

# LANGAUGE TRAINING

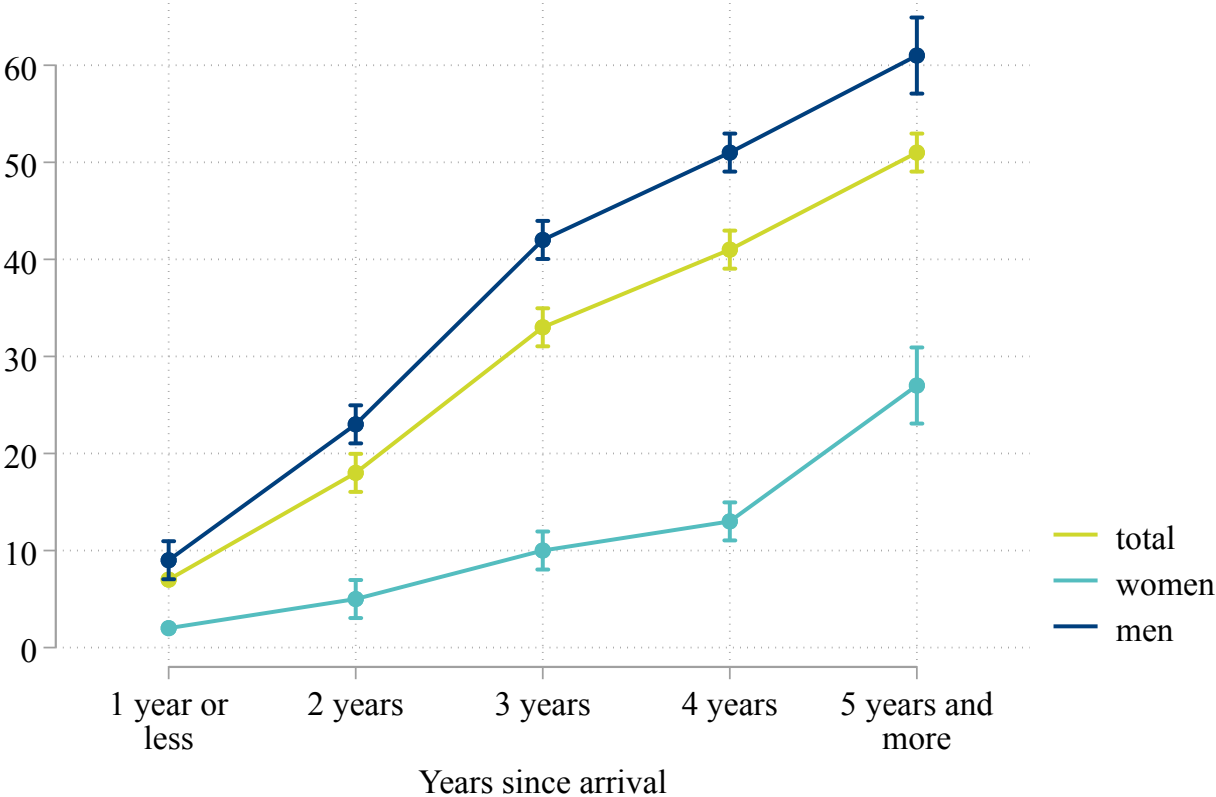
Language and Job-training Program Participation, by Gender (in Percent)



Source: Brücker, Kosyakova, Vallizadeh 2020, based on IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Survey of Refugees v34, weighted

# LABOR MARKET INTEGRATION

## Employment rates of refugees by gender and years since arrival



Employment rate as percentage of population aged 18 to 64. Following the definition of the Federal Statistical Office, persons are considered as gainfully employed if they receive remuneration for their work. The definition also includes trainees, interns, and marginally employed persons.

Source: Kosyakova et al. (2021) based on IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Survey of Refugees 2016-2019.

# IAB-BAMF-SOEP SURVEY OF REFUGEES: RESEARCH OUTPUT

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- Google scholar: 981 hits
- ~ 40 publications in peer-reviewed international journals
  - i. a., demographics, economics, educational studies, political science, psychology, sociology, survey methodology
- > 150 other research output (reports, discussion papers, working papers, non-peer reviewed publications)



# DATA ACCESS

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- Currently available waves: 2016-2019
- Access via
  - the German Institute for Economic Research: SOEP v36, doi: [10.5684/soep-core.v36](https://doi.org/10.5684/soep-core.v36).
  - the Research Data Centre (FDZ) of the German Federal Employment Agency (BA) at the Institute for Employment Research (IAB). DOI: [10.5684/soep.iab-bamf-soep-mig.2019](https://doi.org/10.5684/soep.iab-bamf-soep-mig.2019)

# GET IN TOUCH

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