



Covid-19 in Society
National Research Programme



THE COVID GENERATION

Identifying risks and protective factors for young people's pathways through the COVID-19 pandemic in Switzerland



Project Team



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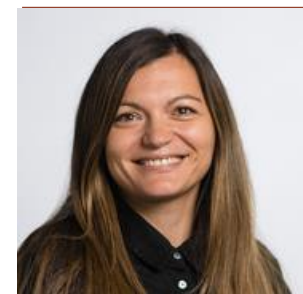
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Background & relevance

Wellbeing of young people

Issues relating to **young people's wellbeing** and mental health are key to the **public debate** in Switzerland.

Young people reported lower wellbeing during the Covid-19 pandemic, but we do not know the **long-term consequences** or **risk groups**.

Policy response during pandemic

The onset of the pandemic required a **quick policy response**, with limited scope for **detailed diagnoses** or reflection on **lessons to be drawn** for **future crises**.

To draw lessons for future crises, a critical **assessment** of the pandemic **policy response** supporting youth in the Swiss context is required.

The COVID generation project will provide insights that will help in designing policies aimed at supporting young people's well-being.

Research questions

Work Package 1

To what extent did the COVID-19 pandemic affect **wellbeing of young people** in the short and medium term, what were the main **drivers**, the **groups most at risk** and which **protective factors** mitigated negative consequences for wellbeing?

Work Package 2

Were **policy initiatives** to support young people during the pandemic focusing on the **groups most at risk**, and what can we learn from the **design and implementation** of those initiatives for **future crises**?



Research design

A collaborative effort

COVID Generation Research team

Project partners: Pro Juventute and Pro Familia

Policy Advisory Board: FOPH, Eidg. Kommission für Kinder- und Jugendfragen, Federal Social Insurance Office, Die Konferenz der kantonalen Sozialdirektorinnen und Sozialdirektoren, Gesundheitsförderung Schweiz

A mixed methods research design

WP1 Understanding young people's wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic

Longitudinal analyses of survey data from the Swiss Household Panel:

- Compare wellbeing trajectories of different age groups, and by SES, in different time periods
- Assess importance of social support and school and work trajectories

WP2 Inventory and assessment of policies and programmes targeting young adults during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Selection of cantons
- Policy inventory: CovidGen database
- 10-15 initiatives examined in greater detail
- 25-30 expert interviews

Outcome, outreach & knowledge transfer

Scientific output

- Four **scientific articles** in WP1
- One **scientific article** in WP2
- **Conference** presentations

Implementation

- CovidGen **database**
- **Policy briefs** and **non-academic publications**
- **Policy report** containing policy recommendations based on project findings
- Final **open symposium**
- **Workshops** at cantonal bodies
- **Project website** and **social media** updates
- **Dissemination** of results through project partners