



Next Frontier Debate Refugees with Résumés

Prof. Dr. Herbert Brücker

Berlin Institute for Integration and Migration Research (BIM)
Institute for Employment Research (IAB)

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1. New challenges require novel methods

- Understanding refugee migration and integration needs biographical data: **résumés**
- Key Features of **IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey**
 - Survey of **4,816 refugees** (18+) plus **5,600 children**
 - **Longitudinal household design** with refreshment samples
 - Retrospective **biographical perspective**
 - Sampling frame: Central Foreigner Register (**AZR**)
 - **Representative** for refugees arriving from 1.1.2013 to 1.31.2016
 - **Personal-biographical-, household-, family** (+interviewer) **Qs**
 - **Comparative design** and **record linkage** with social-security data



New challenges require novel methods: details

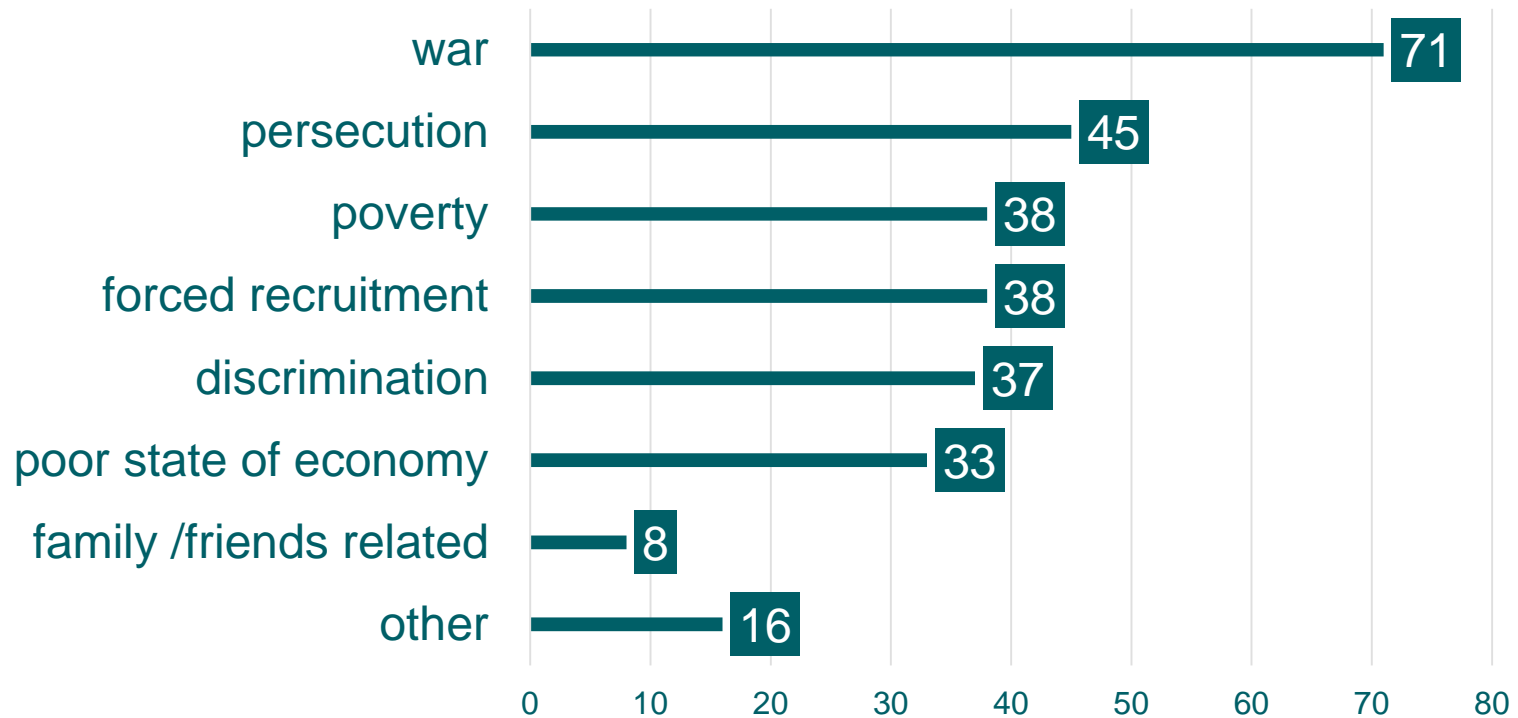
- **Equal access** irrespective of housing situation, legal status, education, language proficiency, personal situation etc.
- **Face-2-Face-interviews (CAPI), 7 languages**, translators
- **Auditive instruments** e.g. for surveying illiterates
- Survey covers inter alia
 - Migration-, employment-, education **biography**
 - **Human capital-** & behavioural characteristics, **values** & attitudes
 - Labour market **integration**, education, program participation
 - Family & partnership, social **networks**, health, life satisfaction
 - **Asylum, housing**, welfare benefits



2. War & persecution drives refugee migration

„Why did you leave your home country?“

Multiple answers possible, shares in %

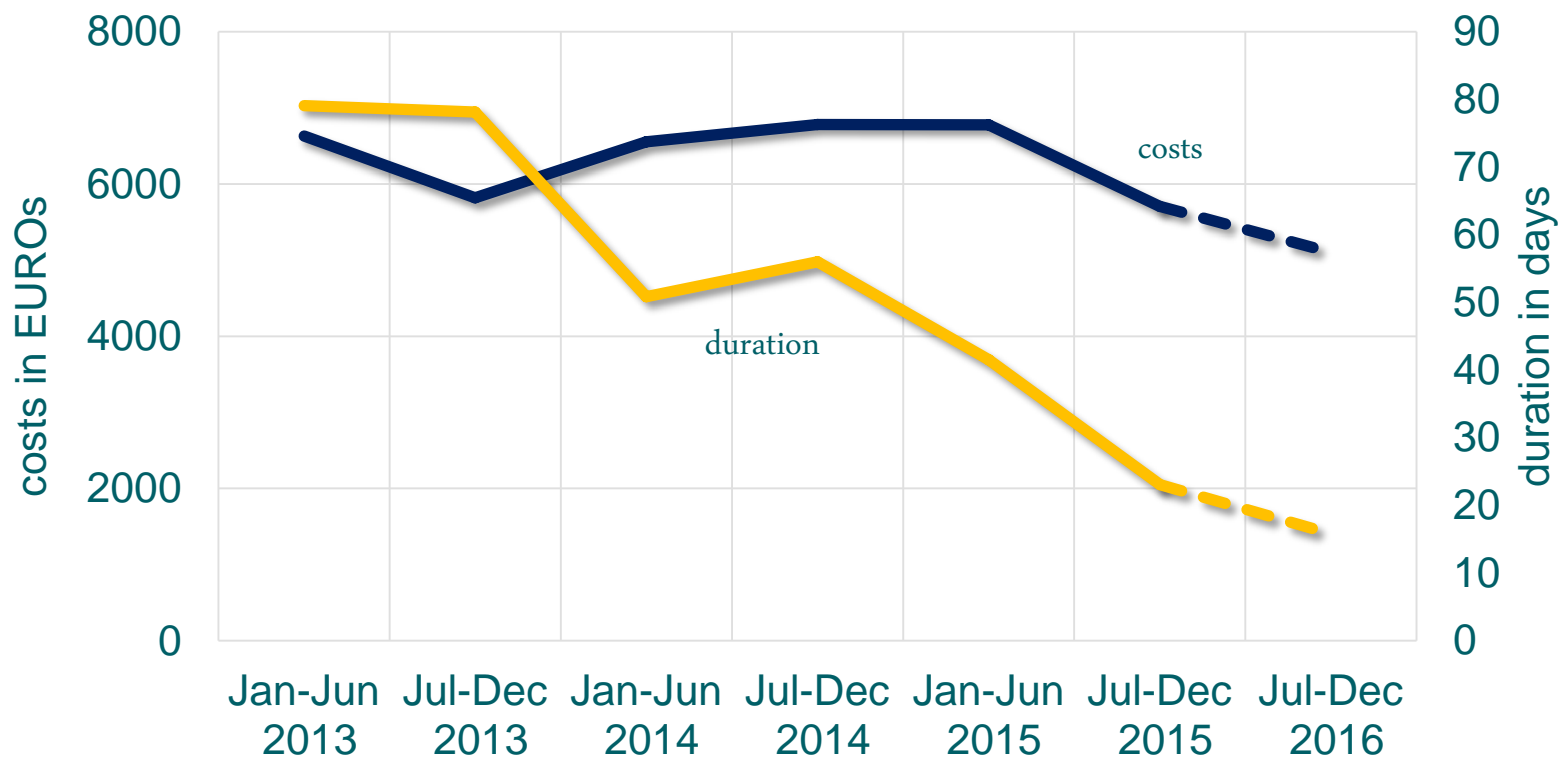


Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



3. Refugee migration involves high costs & risks

Mean total costs of getting to Germany in EUROS and duration in days

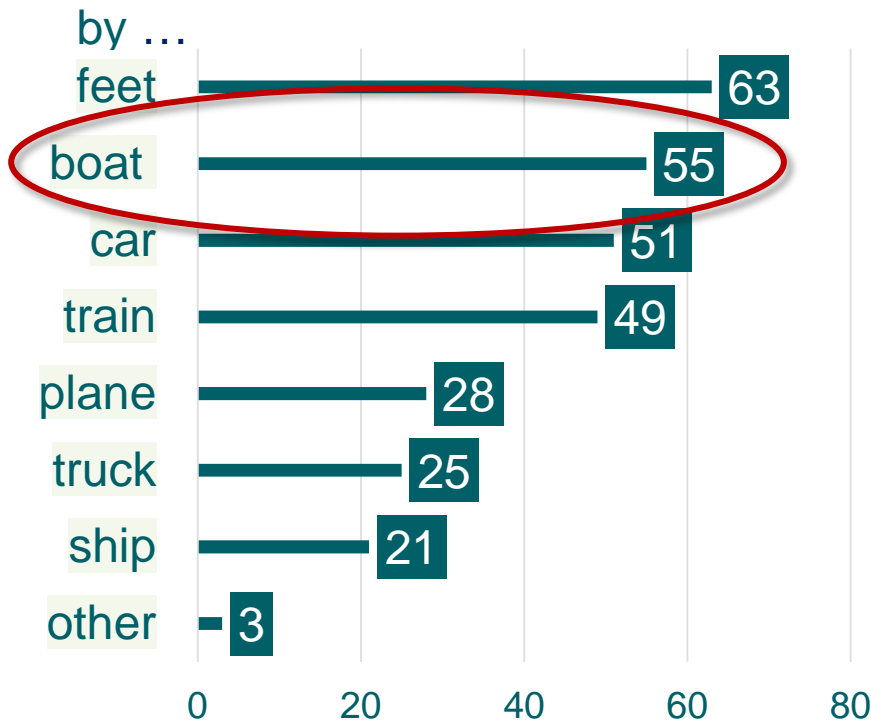


Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.

Refugee migration involves high costs & risks

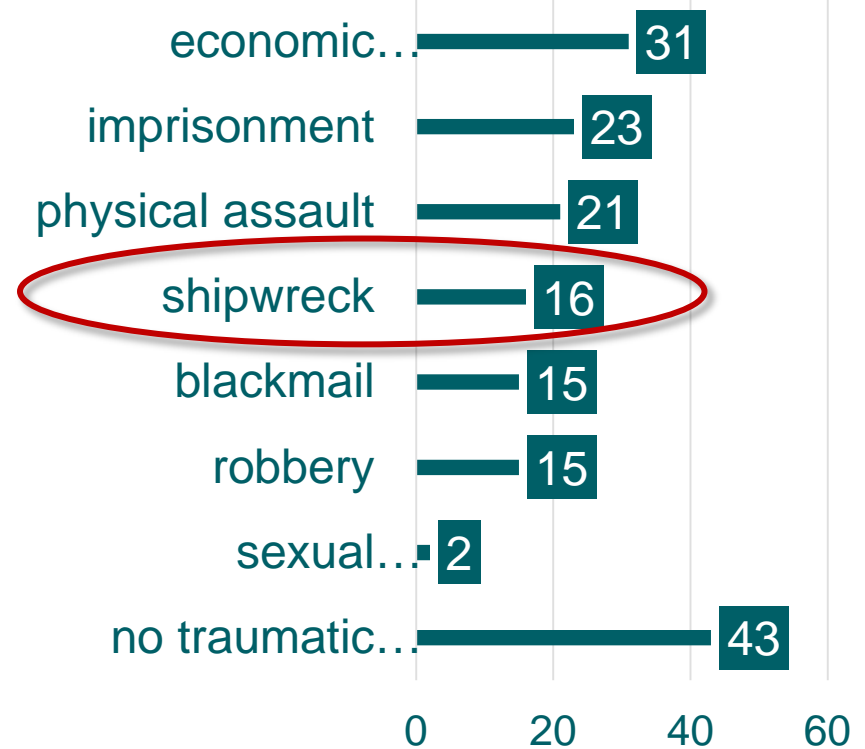
Modes of transport

Multiple answers possible, shares in %



Traumatic events

Multiple answers possible, shares in %



Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



4. Refugees are heavily self-selected in different dimensions

■ Demographic selection

- Disproportionately young cohort (55% of asylum seekers are <25) and high shares of males (>70%)

■ Behavioral selection

- High positive reciprocity, low self-confidence and locus of control

■ Value selection

- Strong support for democratic values and civil rights
- Gender values more similar to German than to source population

■ Skill selection

- Favorable selection relative to source countries, but large skill-gap relative to German population

Behavioral selection

Identification with behavioral item on a 0 to 10-scalar

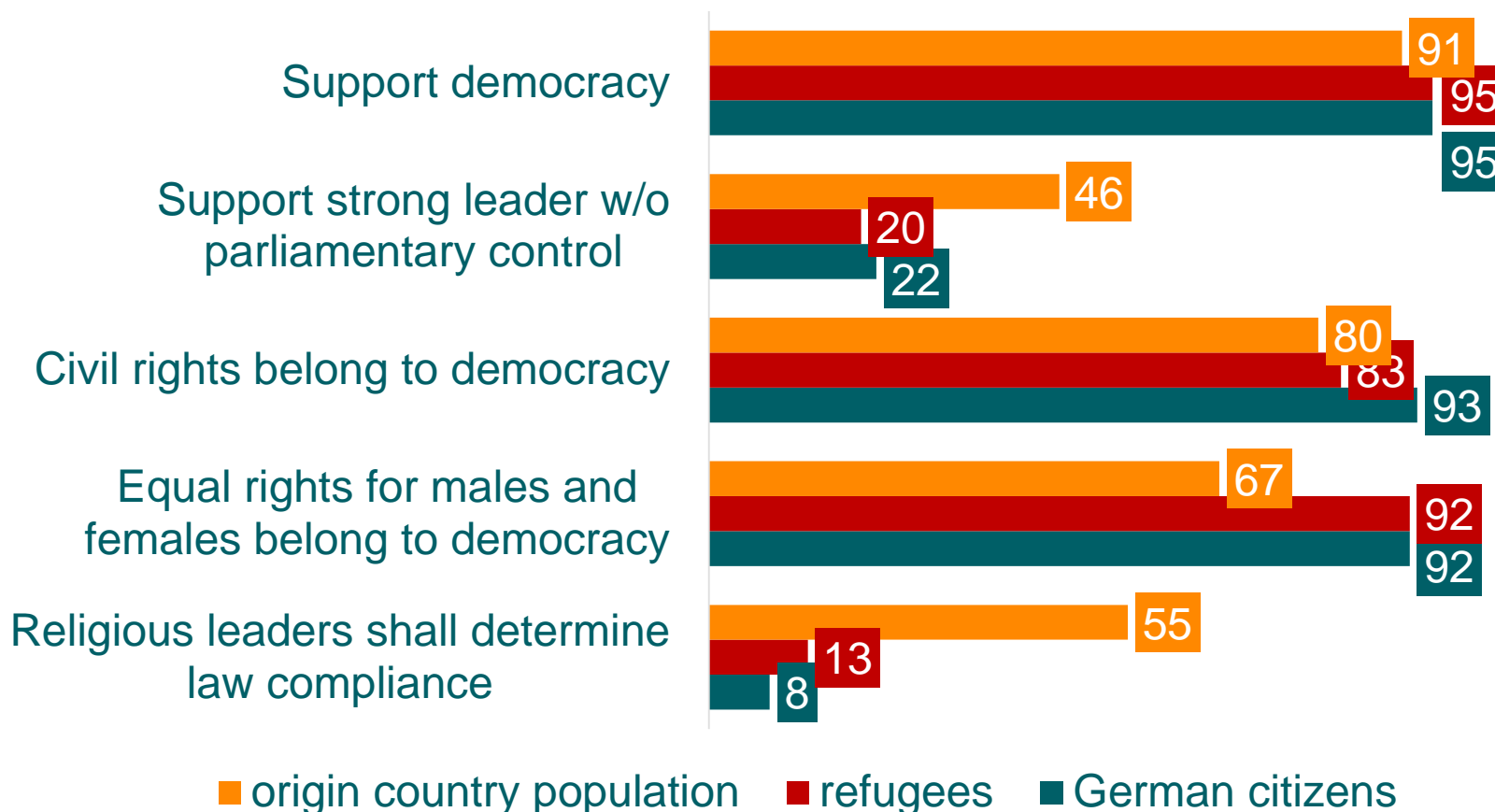


Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



Value selection

Agreement to statement in % of population

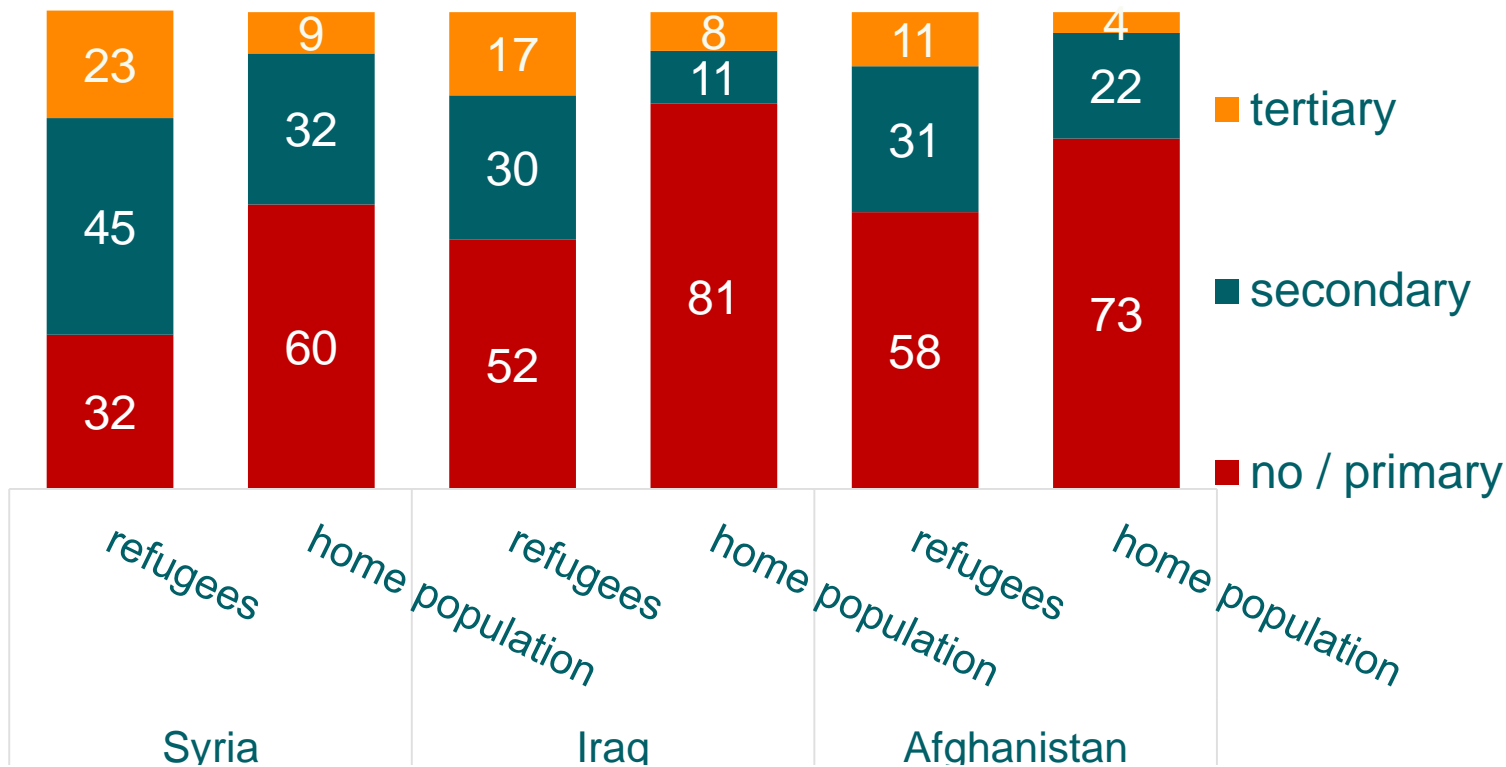


Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



Skill-selection

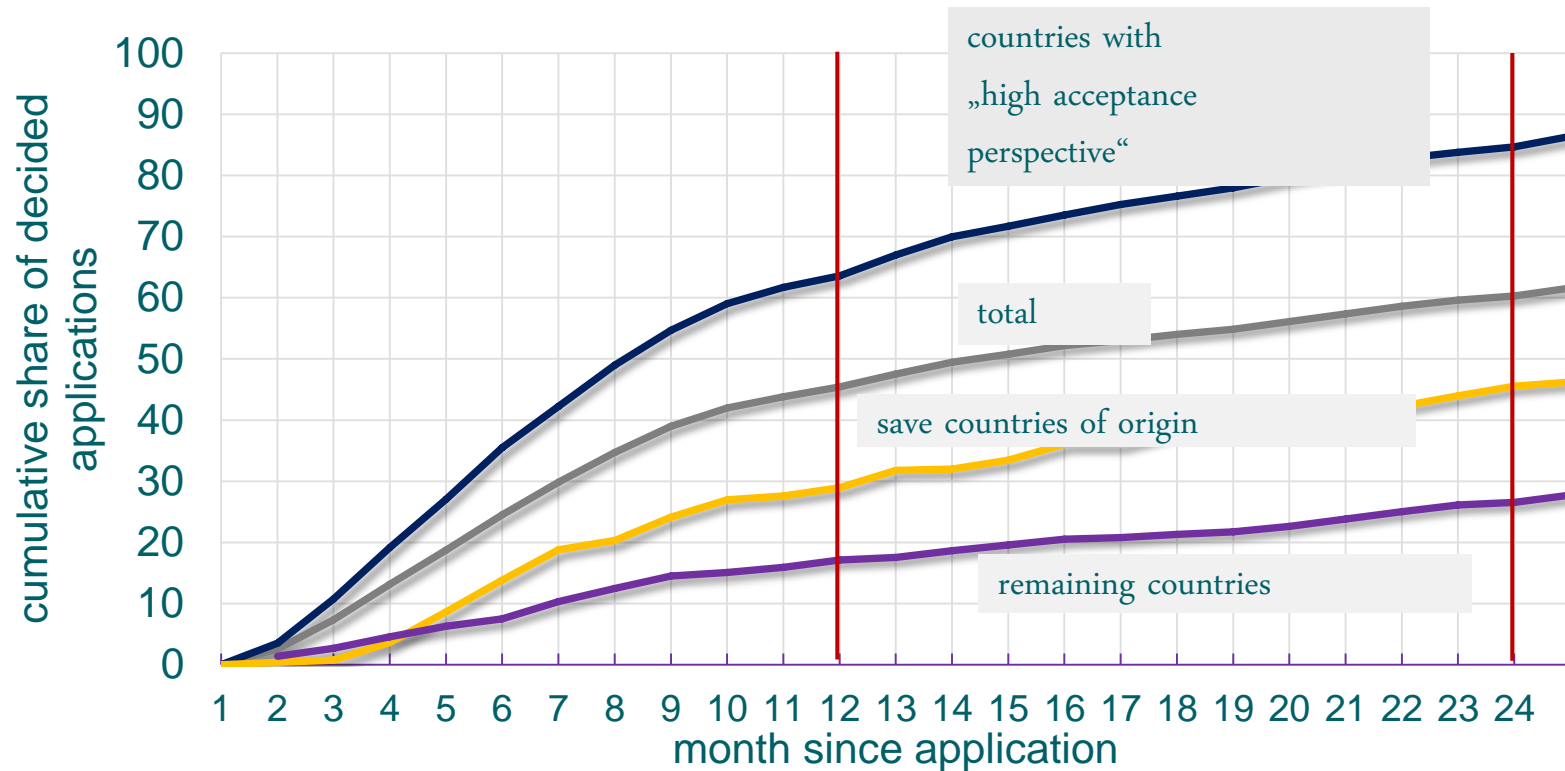
Highest educational level of refugees and home population, shares in %



Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.

5. Certainty on legal status is crucial for integration

Cumulative share of decided asylum claims in % by month since application

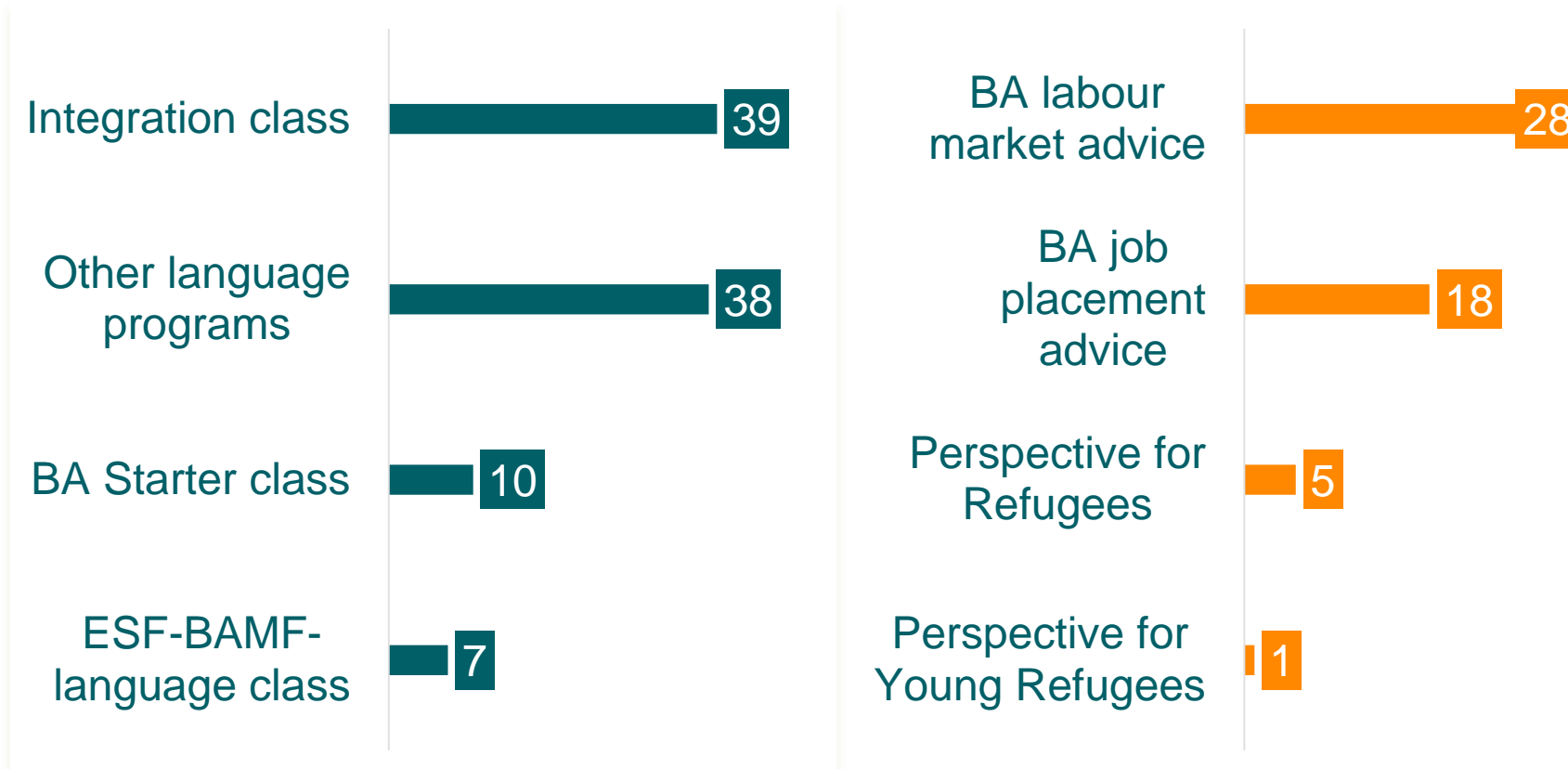


Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



6. Intregation courses and other programs are lagging behind, but seem to help

Program participation in % (2nd half-year 2016)

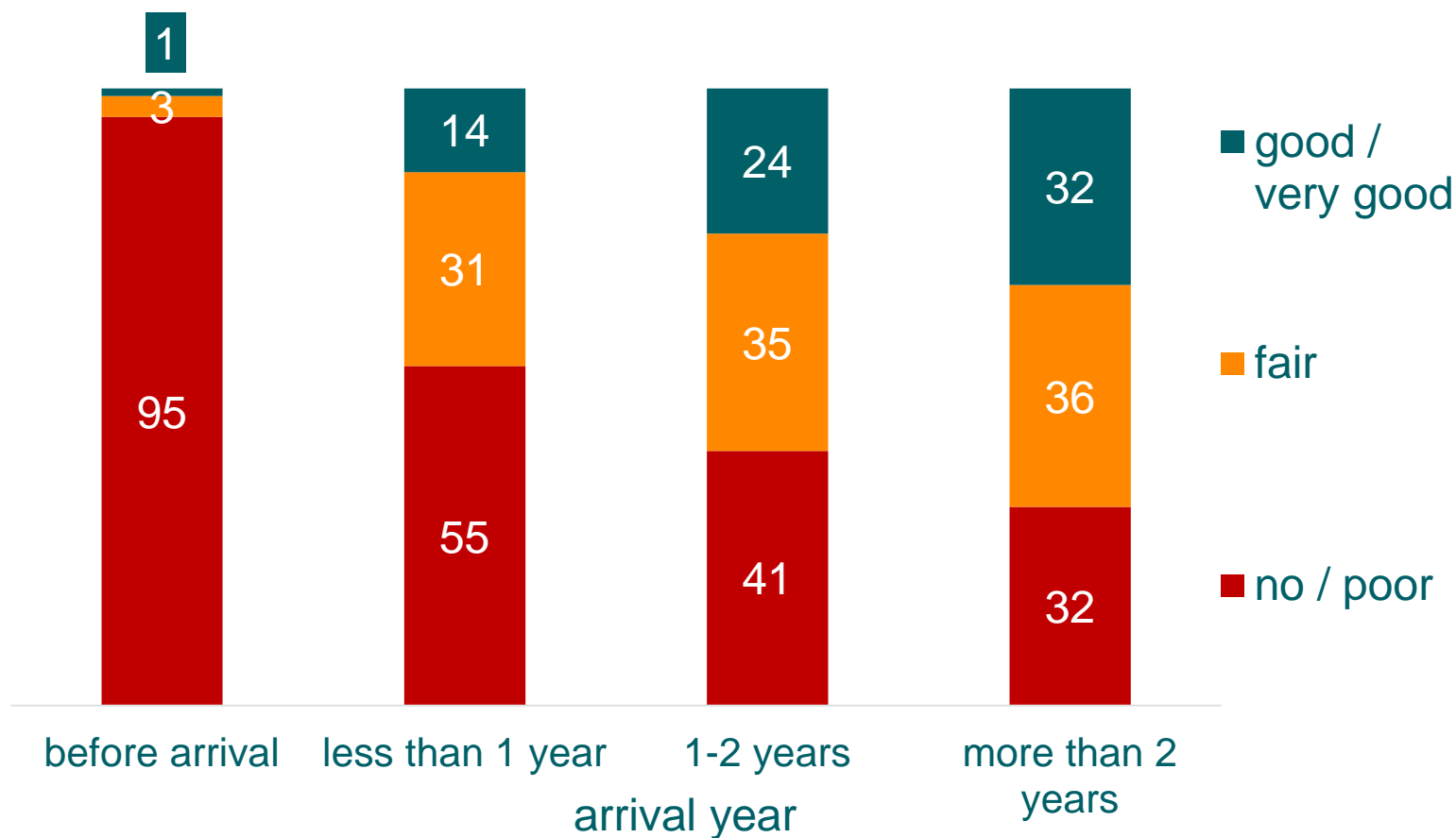


Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



Evolution of German language proficiency

Shares in % by arrival year



Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



What helps? First correlation results

Increase in employment probability in %-points

■ Language programs

- Completed BAMF integration class: + 10%-points
- Completed ESF-BAMF-language program: + 30%-points
- Elementary BA language programs: + 8 %-points

■ Labor market programs

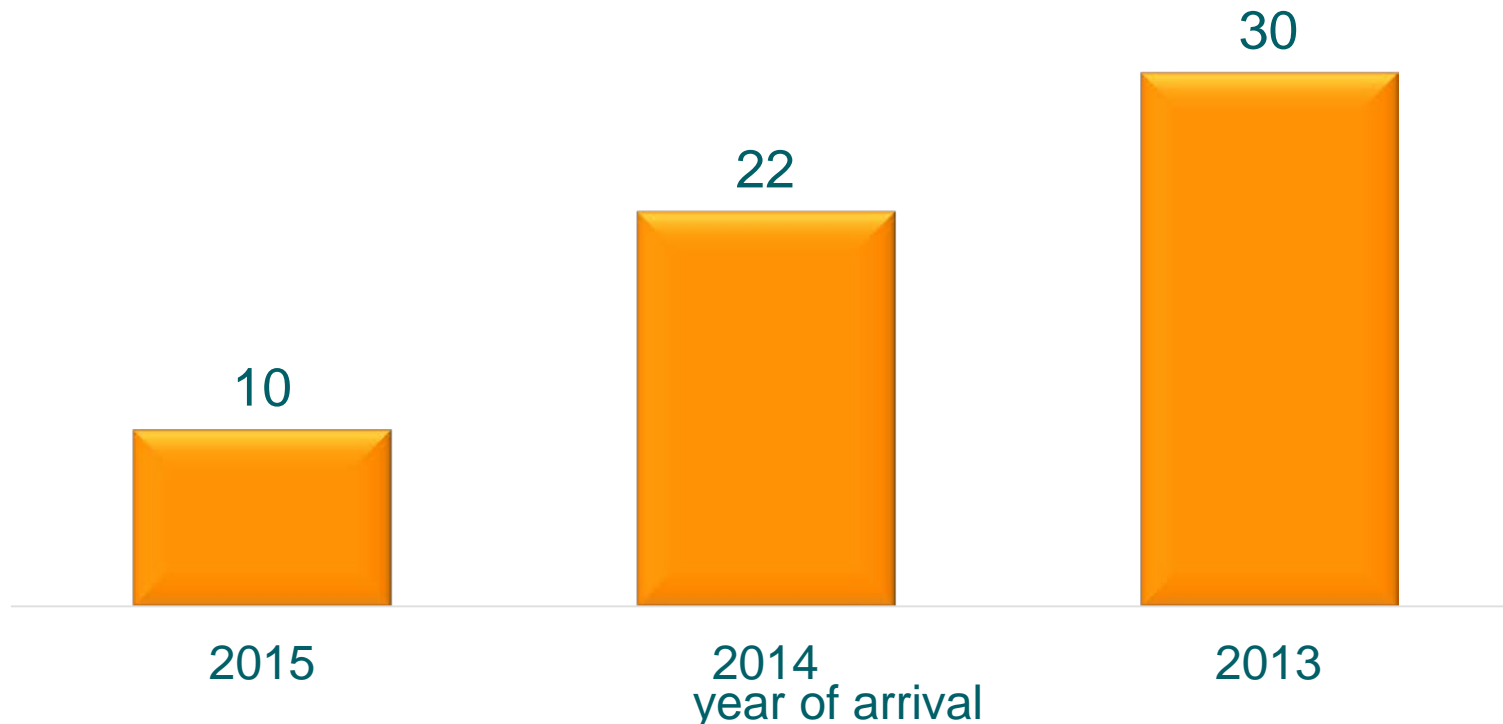
- BA general labor market advice: + 8 %-points
- BA occupational and job-search advice: + 7 %-points
- BA “Perspective for Refugees” program: + 16 %-points

- **Controls:** education, age, gender, other human capital variables, legal status, length of stay, etc. **But:** Selection bias on unobservable characteristics nevertheless biases all results upwards and **does not allow causal inference**



7. Labor market integration patterns resemble past refugee immigration episodes

Employment rates by arrival years, shares in %



Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



8. With a little help of my friends: networks matter

■ Existing networks at arrival facilitate integration

- Q: “Have you received support for migration and at arrival from family members, relatives and friends?”
- Qs distinguish between different type of family members and friends
- More distant ties (friends) are more important for integration

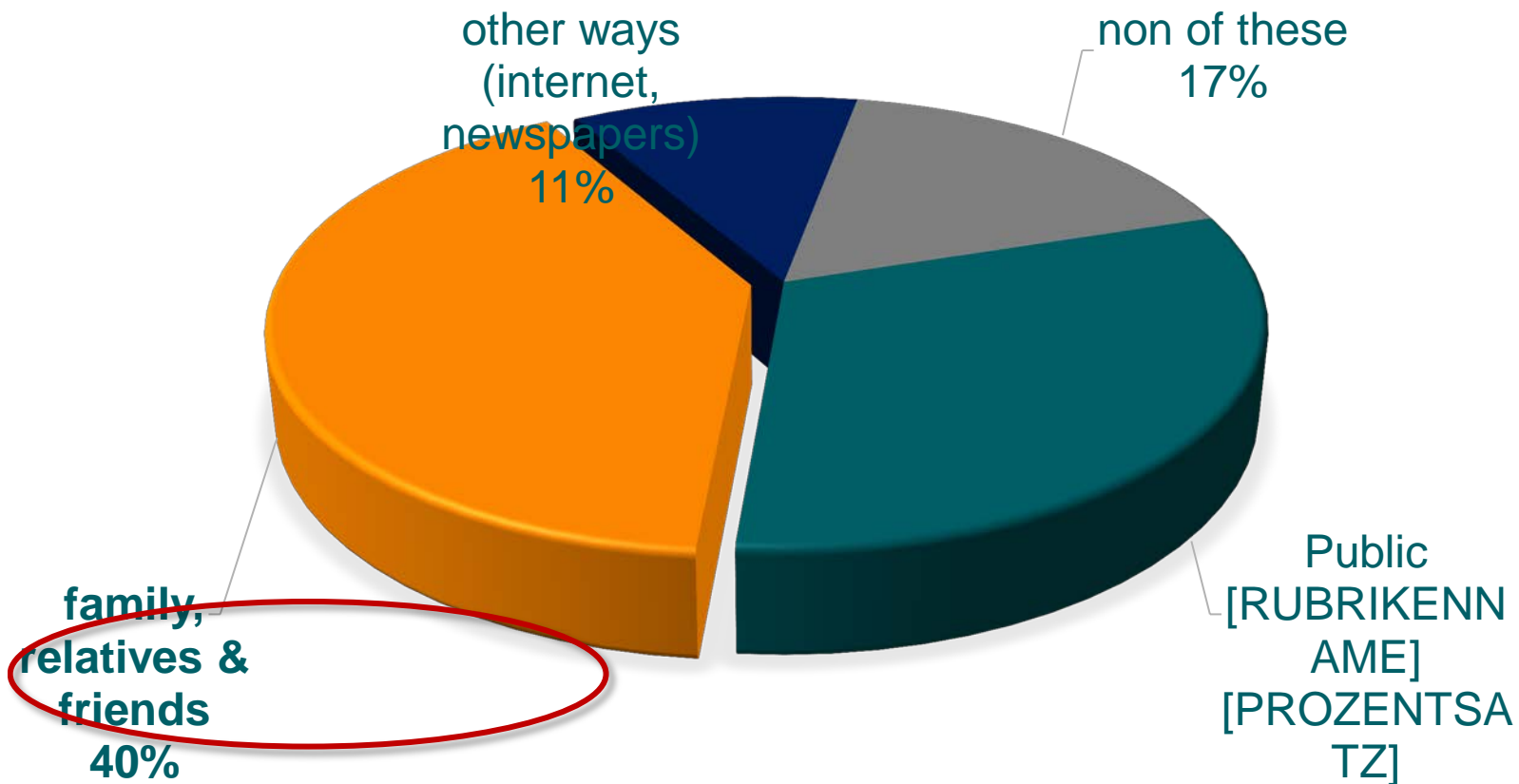
■ Positive correlations are found between networks and ...

- outcomes and duration (!) of **asylum process**
- participation in **integration classes** and **labor market programs**
- duration until **first job** is found and **current employment**



Social networks and job search

“How did you find your current job?” Answers in %



Source: IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Refugee Survey, first wave, own calculations.



Refugees with résumés: summing-up

1. **New challenges require novel methods**
2. **War and persecution drives refugee migration**
3. **Refugee migration involves high costs and risks**
4. **Refugees are heavily self-selected in different dimensions**
5. **Certainty on legal status is crucial for integration**
6. **Integration and language programs are lagging behind, but seem to help**
7. **The patterns of labor market integration resemble those of past refugee immigration episodes**
8. **With a little help of my friends: networks matter**