

WHY DO HOUSEHOLDS CHOOSE TO LIVE (IN A) CAR-FREE (HOUSING)?

PROFILES, MOTIVATIONS AND VALUES



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Unil

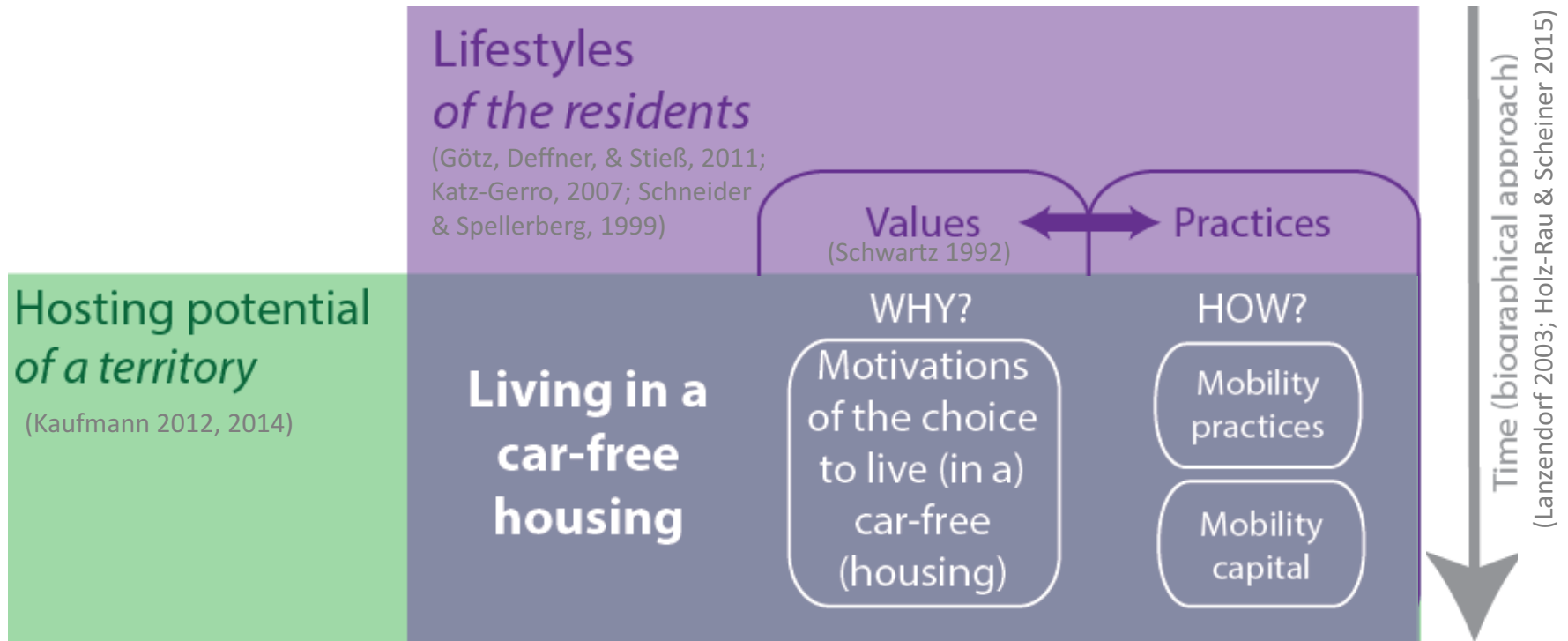
CONTEXT

- Increase in households living deliberately car-free (BFS / ARE 2017; Haefeli & Arnold 2015) and in car-free housing developments in Switzerland
➔ but little knowledge about their motivations
- Necessity of an ecological transition
- Car-centred society
 - "system of automobility" (Urry 2004)
 - "automobile dependence" (Newman & Kenworthy 1999)

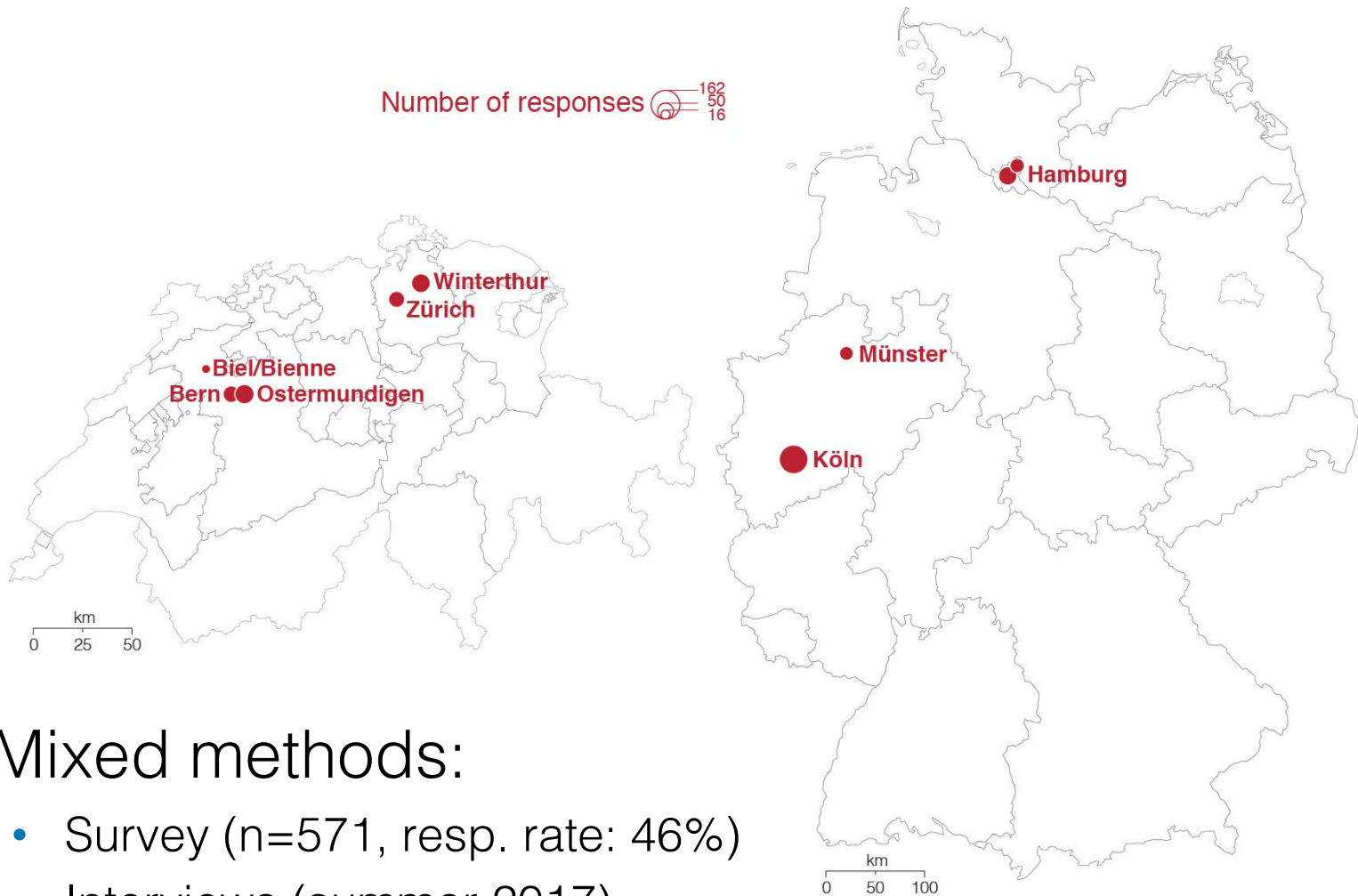
CAR-FREE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

- “New-build housing developments of any size where the residents commit to living without a private car.”
- No parking for residents but a context enabling car-free living: alternative mobilities, proximity to shops and services...
- Long-term commitment to live car-free
- Positive effects on personal life and common welfare

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



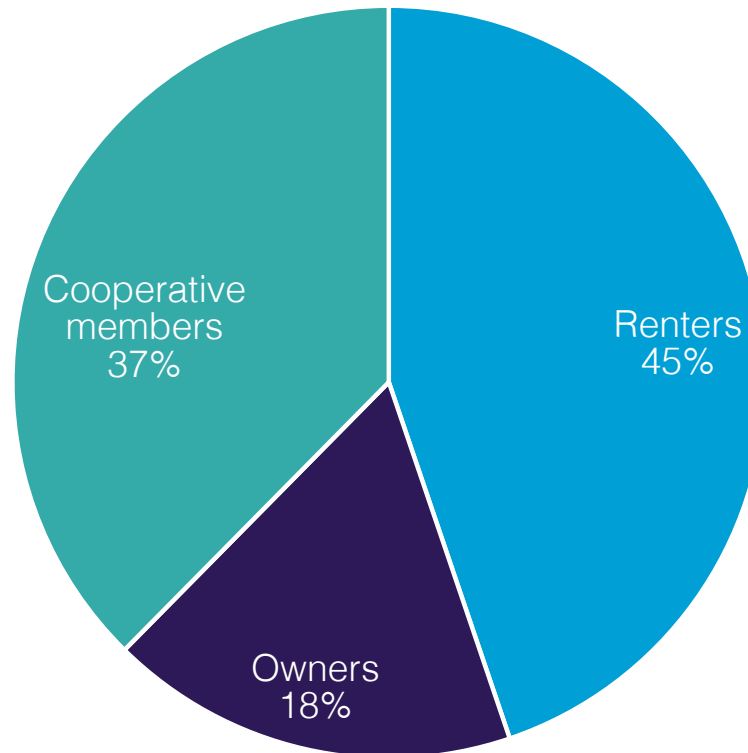
CASE STUDIES & METHODOLOGY



- Mixed methods:
 - Survey (n=571, resp. rate: 46%)
 - Interviews (summer 2017)

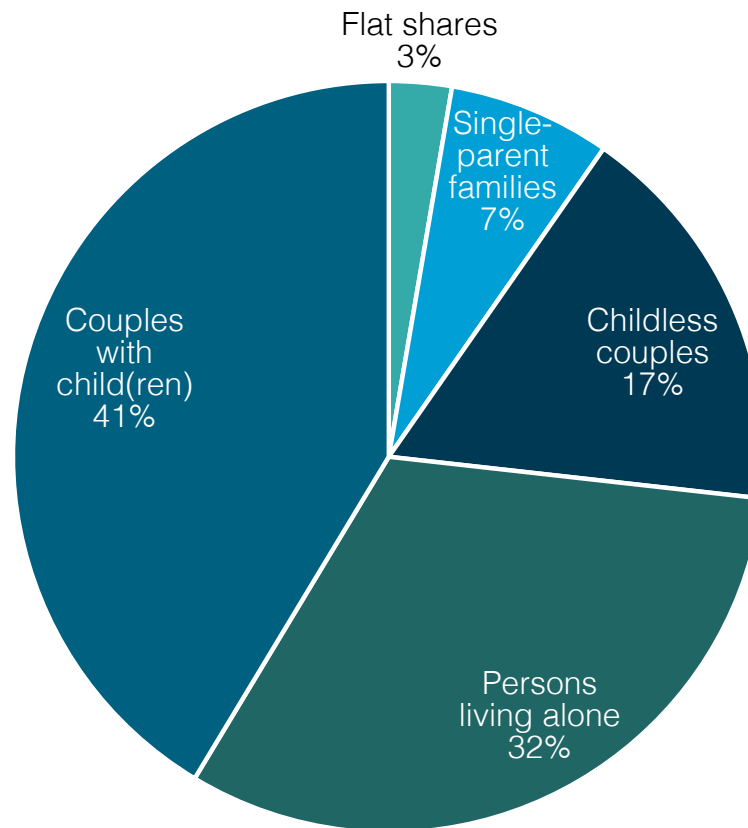
PROFILES OF THE HOUSEHOLDS

- Types of residents



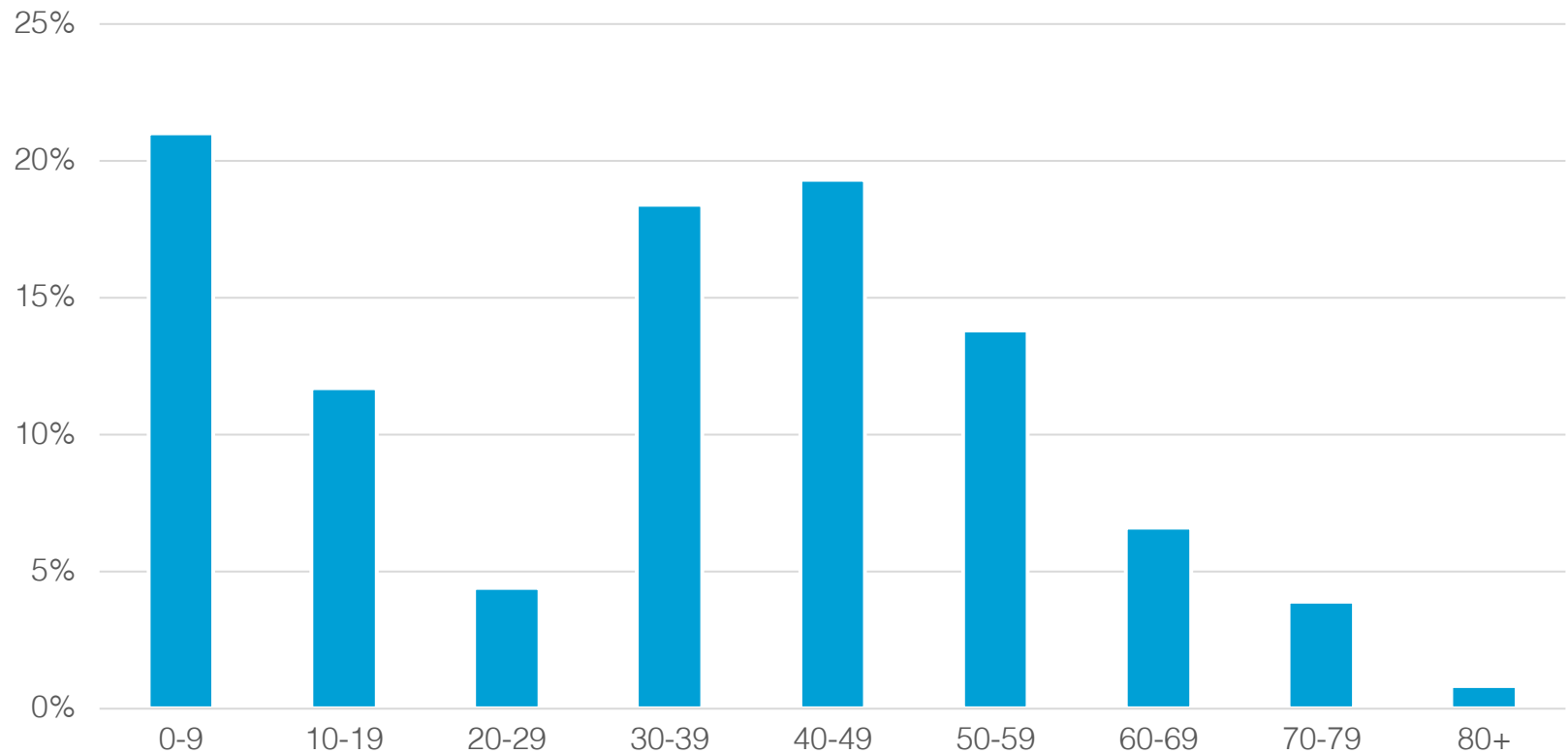
PROFILES OF THE HOUSEHOLDS II

- Types of households



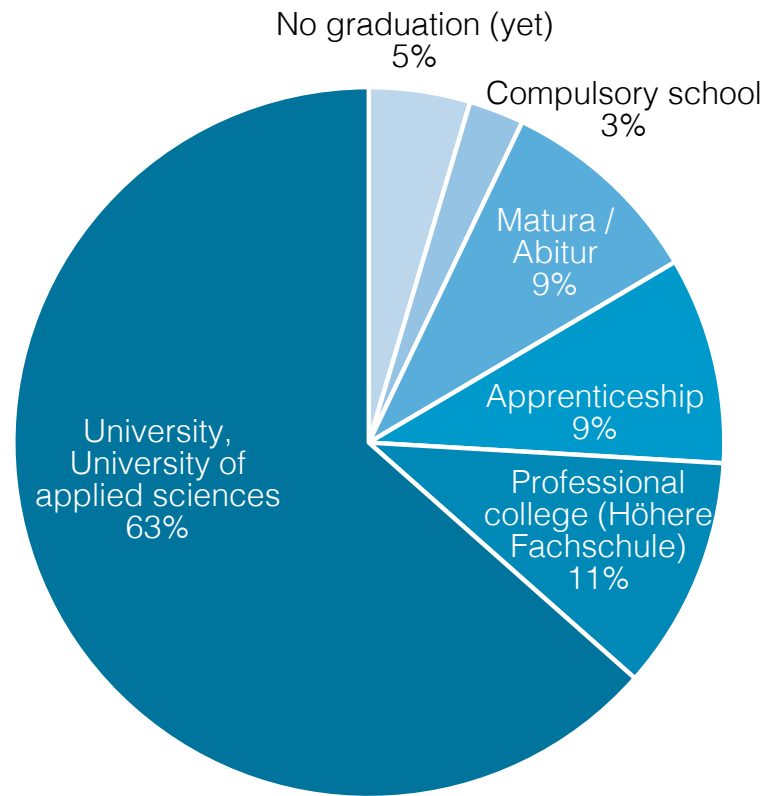
PROFILES OF THE HOUSEHOLDS III

- Age of the residents

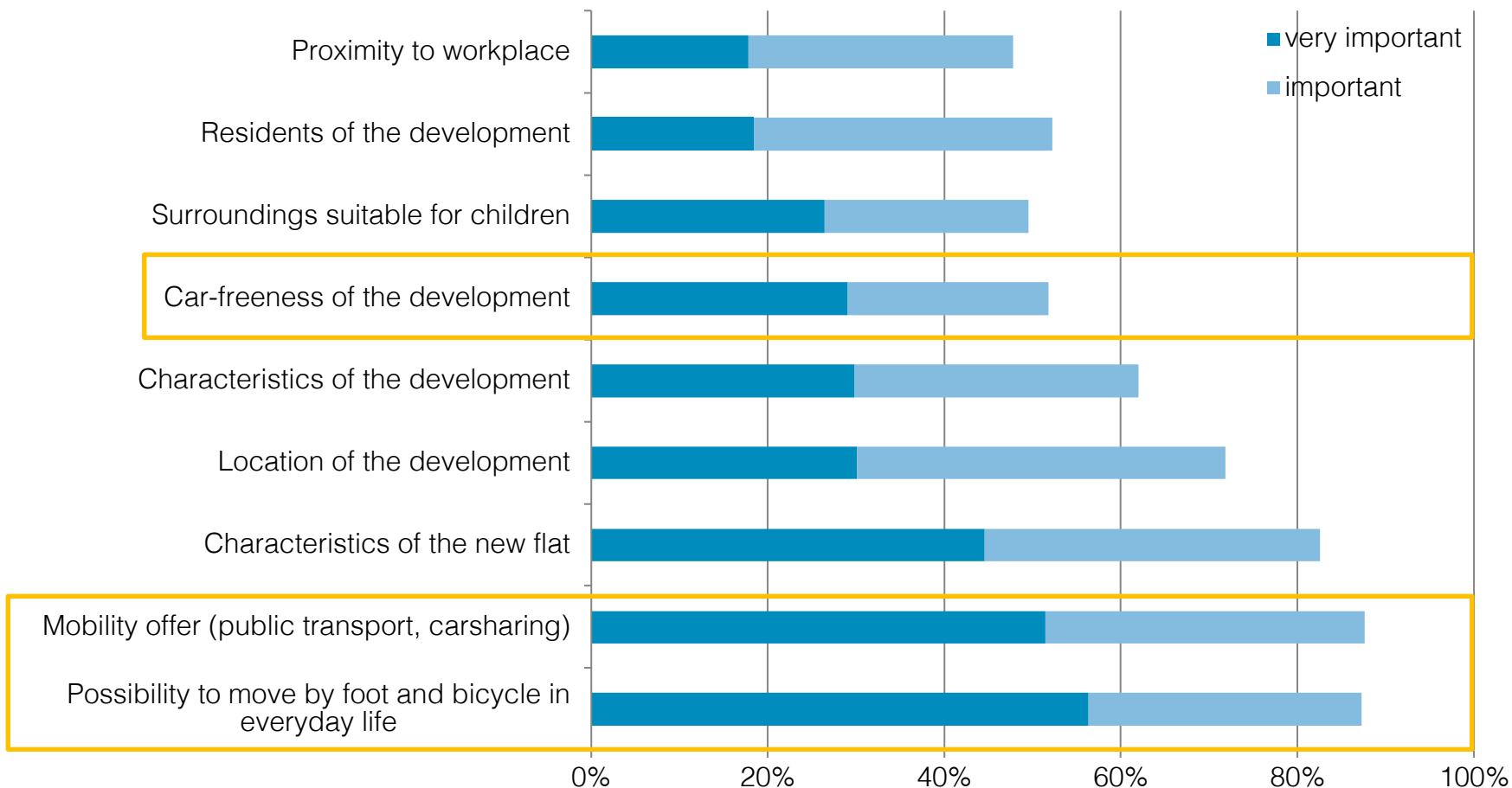


PROFILES OF THE HOUSEHOLDS IV

- Highest level of education (15+ years)

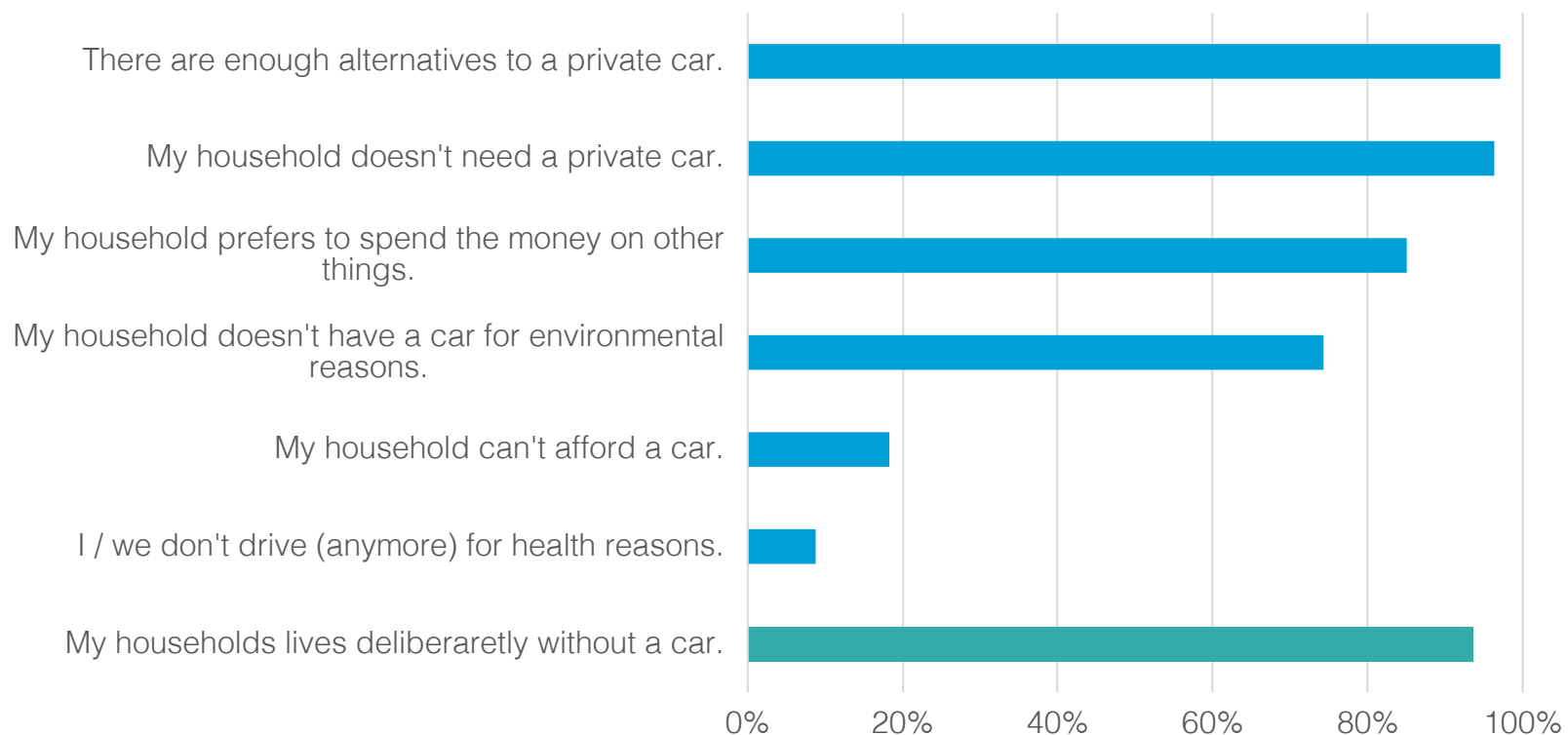


MOTIVATIONS TO LIVE IN A CAR-FREE HOUSING



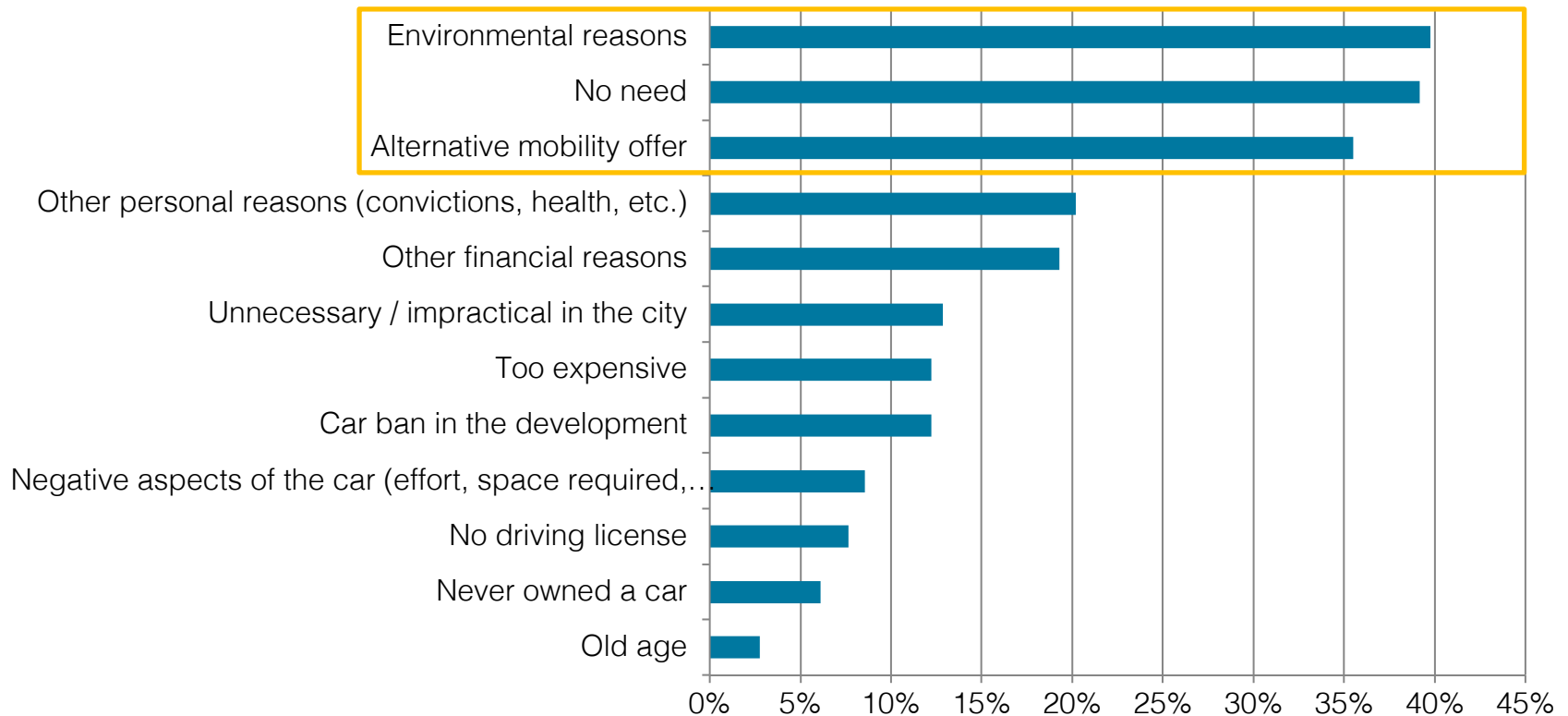
MOTIVATIONS TO LIVE WITHOUT A PRIVATE CAR

- Answers to the closed question:



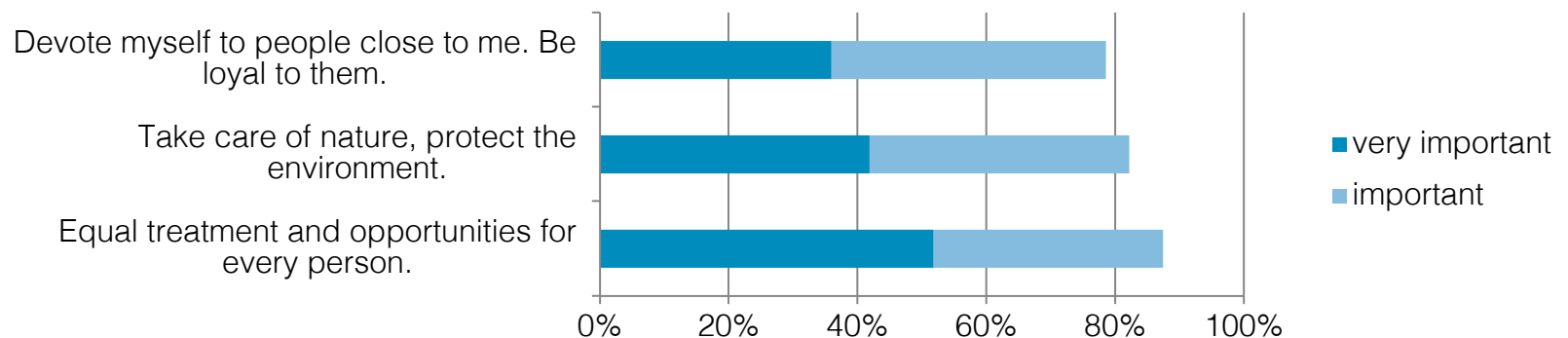
MOTIVATIONS TO LIVE WITHOUT A PRIVATE CAR II

- Answers to the open question:



VALUES

- Items adapted from the European Social Survey (Schwartz 2001)
- Most important value groups:
 - self-transcendence (universalism, benevolence)
 - openness to change (hedonism, self-direction, stimulation)
- Most important values (among 21):



PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

- **Profiles:** overrepresentation of families and highly educated people
- **Motivations:**
 - Environmental reasons
 - Practical reasons (alternatives, no need)
- **Values:**
 - Ethical: “self-transcendence”
 - Personal: “openness to change”

➔ Typology of car-free households