

Volunteer Report Cité-Unis

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Abstract

This report analyses surveys for four different cohorts of Cité-Unis volunteers who did their service civique (2020-2024).

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In this report, we evaluate three main questions regarding young volunteers who do their service civique in France:

1. Who are the volunteers? (Section)
2. How does the service civique change their attitudes and views? (Section)
3. Are there trends between different cohorts of volunteers? (Section)

We rely on questionnaires collected by Cité-Unis for four different cohorts of volunteers who did their service civique for a year (2020-2024). These questionnaires are very extensive. For the present analyses, we selected a subset of key questions (a full list can be found [?@tbl-codebook](#)). Note that this selection of variables was based only on the questionnaire of the first cohort (2020/21). As a result, potentially interesting variables that only appear in later questionnaires will not appear here.

Who are the volunteers ?

Volunteers came from 80 different departments (see Figure 1). On average, across the different cohorts, most volunteers came from Bouches-du-Rhône ($n = 404$), followed by Nord ($n = 350$) and Seine-Saint-Denis ($n = 316$).

Overall, there has been a steady increase in volunteers, from 6386 in 20-21 to 7848 in 23-24, and an average increase of 490.4 per year. Since the 20-21 cohort, each department has on average increased by 26.7. There were 51 departments who saw an increase, and 14 who saw a decrease (see Figure 2). For details on the trend of each department, see [?@tbl-trend-departements](#).

A summary of several other sample demographics across the different cohorts can be found in [?@tbl-demographics](#).

How have volunteers changed their attitudes?

First, this analysis is restricted by attrition, i.e. volunteers dropping out of the surveys over time (see Figure 3). Second, there are only two questions that volunteers of the same promo have

been asked at different time points ([?@tbl-within-variables](#)). Figure 4 shows all volunteers who answered at both time points (q1 and q2), with either “yes” or “no”. This descriptive analysis suggests that the service civique did not have an impact on voting behavior, on average. However, this analysis is pooled across different cohorts, not all of which would have had the chance to change their voting behavior during their year volunteering, simply because there were no elections. Figure 5 shows changes in volunteers perception on whether their individual action can contribute to changing society. Descriptively, there is no clear positive or negative trend either.

Are there trends between different cohorts of volunteers?

There are many possible variables to look at regarding between-cohort differences. As an example, Figure 6 shows how different cohorts evaluated their satisfaction with the service civique.

Who are the volunteers ending a contract early (rupture)?

Not all volunteers work until the end of their contract. In fact, 22.9% of volunteers have a “rupture”, i.e. terminate the contract early. There are various motives for ending one’s contract early (see Table 1). Not all of them are necessarily bad, e.g. “Embauche en CDD d’au moins 6 mois ou CDI”, and some are outside of the influence of the volunteers, e.g. “Fin de validité du Titre de Séjour”. For our analyses, we focus only on volunteers who ended their contract early for apparently negative reasons.

To see whether there are differences in different groups, we ran separate logistic regressions for a selection of variables. The results are shown in Figure 7. Because the magnitude of the odds ratios (OR) are not straightforward to interpret, Figure 8 shows descriptive differences in contract terminations for some groups.

How to make sense of the odds ratios? Take the example of the type of volunteers (type_volontaire). Table 2 shows the count, odds and share for rupture vs. no rupture for a negative motive.

In this case the OR is odds of “CŒUR” divided by odds of “RELAIS” (OR = 1.5114392).

How about non-demographic variables?

For non-demographic variables, investigating their relationship with rupture is not possible—simply because, by definition, for questions that have been only asked at “q2” and “q3”, volunteers who had ended their contract early were not available anymore (see Table 3). Only for the two variables that have been asked at “q1” (`perception_avenir` and `action_individuelle_societe`) we can look at their relationship with rupture (Figure 7).

However, for the two variables that have been asked at “q1”, `perception_avenir` and `action_individuelle_societe`.

This suggests that volunteers who abandon either do so (i) before filling out the “q1” questionnaire, or already can’t be bothered filling out the questionnaire even while still enrolled in the program.

Table 1

Different motives for “rupture” and whether they were coded as negative, positive, or external reasons.

motif_rupture	rupture_valence	n
01 - Abandon de poste	negative	1444
02 - Faute grave d'une des parties	negative	455
03 - Force majeure	raisons externes	280
04 - Embauche en CDD d'au moins 6 mois ou CDI	positive	621
05 - Embauche en CDD moins de 6 mois	positive	383
06 - Commun accord entre les parties	negative	2761
07 - Le volontaire n'a jamais pris son poste	negative	13
08 - Retrait de l'agrément de la structure d'accueil	negative	3
09 - Reprise d'études	negative	412
10 - Fin de validité du Titre de Séjour	raisons externes	39
NA	NA	21549

Table 2

Count, odds and share for rupture vs. no rupture for a negative motive, according to which type of volunteer.

type_volontaire	pas de rupture negative	rupture negative	odds	share
CŒUR	19931	877	22.726	0.042
RELAIS	6706	446	15.036	0.062

Table 3

Candidate variables to evaluating their association with rupture.

variable	source
perception_avenir	q1
action_individuelle_societe	q1
projet_avenir_concret	q2
comparaison_utilite_autres	q2
fierté	q2
confiance_en_soi	q2
confiance_avenir_personnel	q2
action_individuelle_societe	q3
impact_situation_actuelle	q3
integration	q2

Table 4

Occurrences of negative rupture, depending on perceptions of one's future

perception_avenir	rupture_negative	n
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Assez confiant(e)	pas de rupture negative	9433
Assez confiant(e)	rupture negative	400
Pas du tout confiant(e)	pas de rupture negative	1135
Pas du tout confiant(e)	rupture negative	45
Peu confiant(e)	pas de rupture negative	5998
Peu confiant(e)	rupture negative	225
Très confiant(e)	pas de rupture negative	2038
Très confiant(e)	rupture negative	124
NA	pas de rupture negative	75
NA	rupture negative	5

Figure 1

Répartition des volontaires en France à travers le temps.

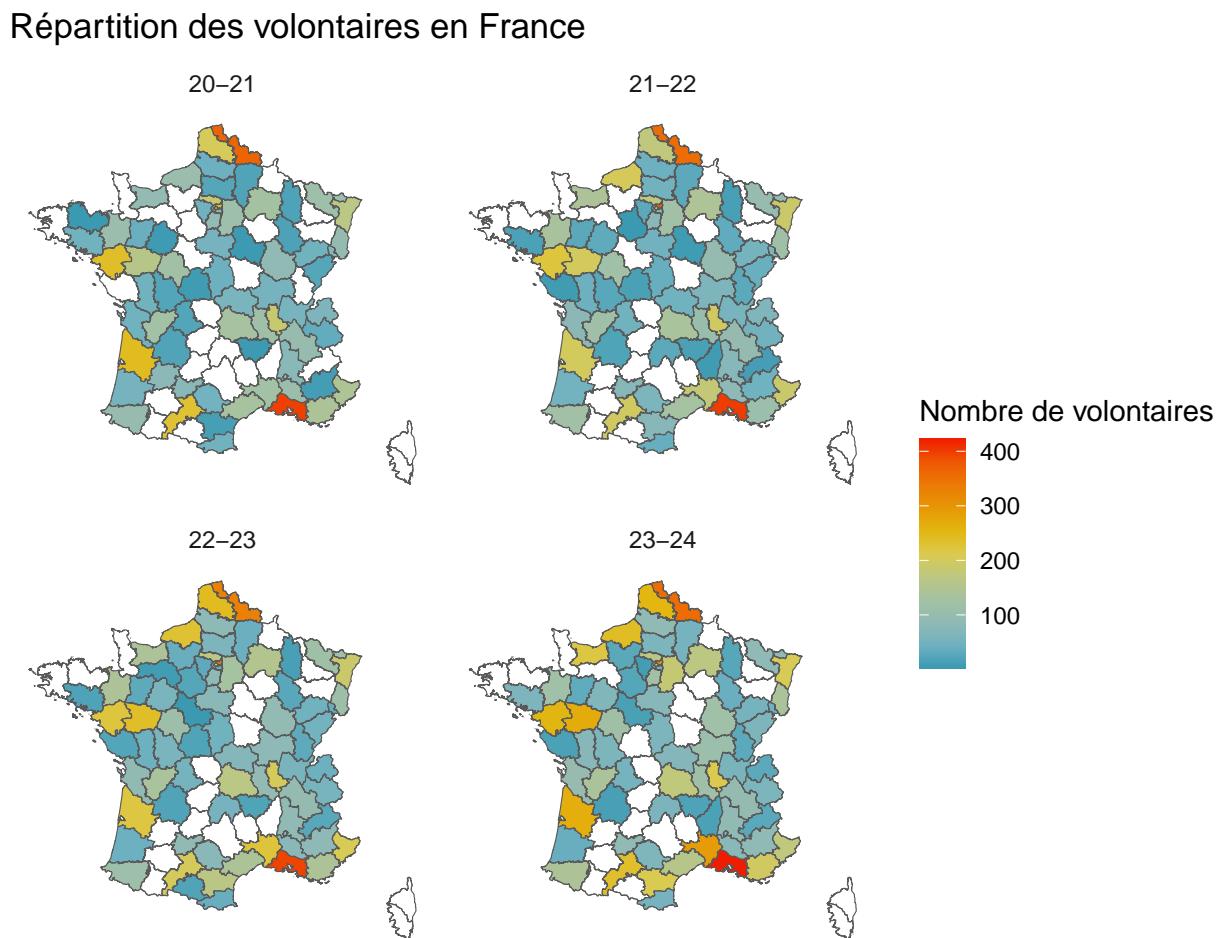


Figure 2

Evolution de recrutement pour la promo de 2023-24 par rapport à 2020-21.

Difference Récrutement entre 2023 et 2020

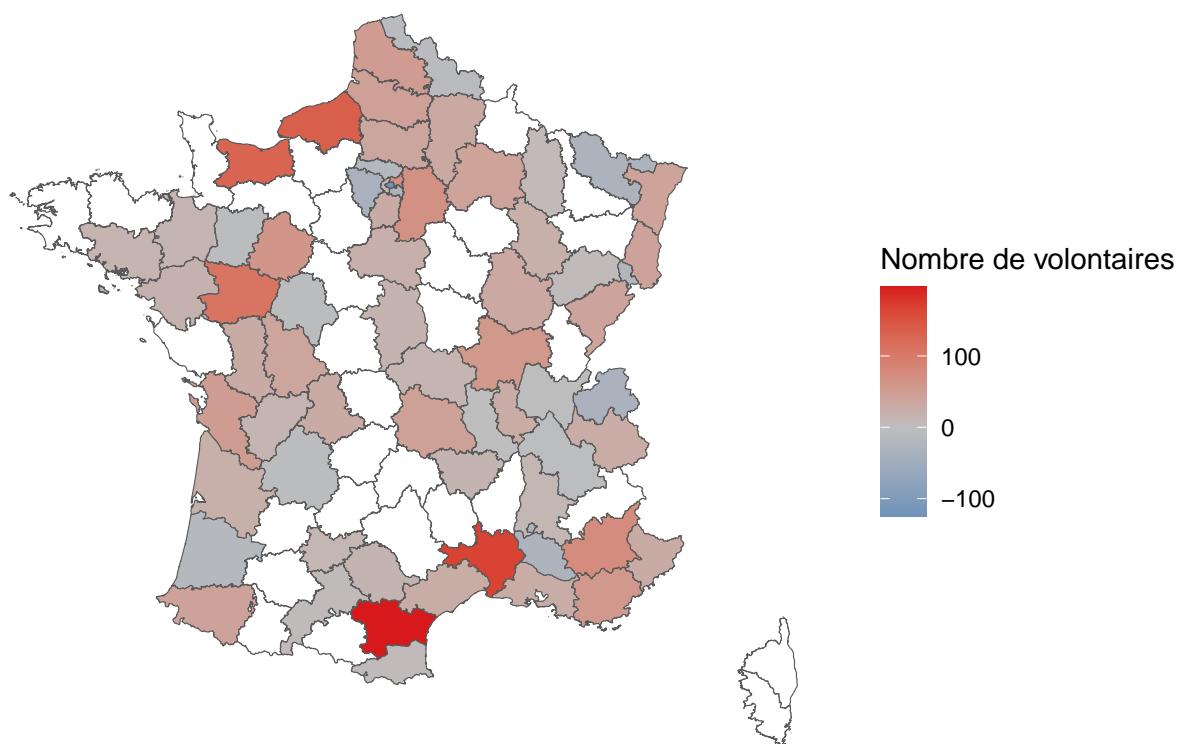
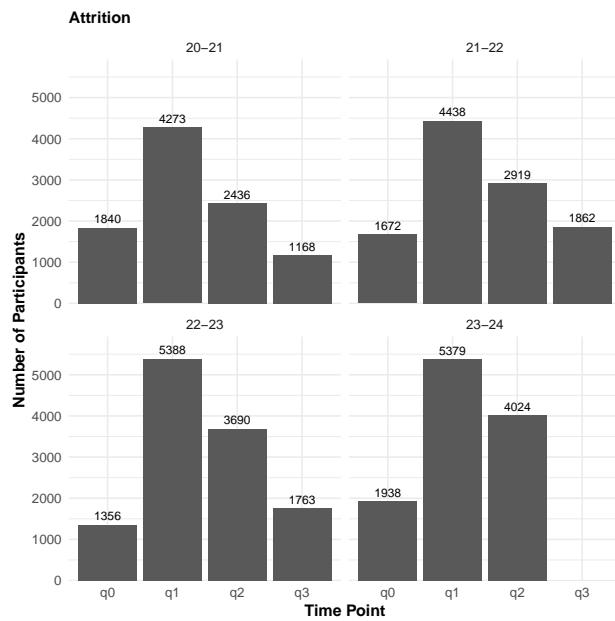


Figure 3

Number of volunteers per survey time point. Volunteers who appear under ‘q0’ have participated in the program but have not even filled out the first questionnaire. Note that in the percentage plot, the percentages are relative to all volunteers from the respective promo.

(A) (absolute numbers)



(B) (percentages)

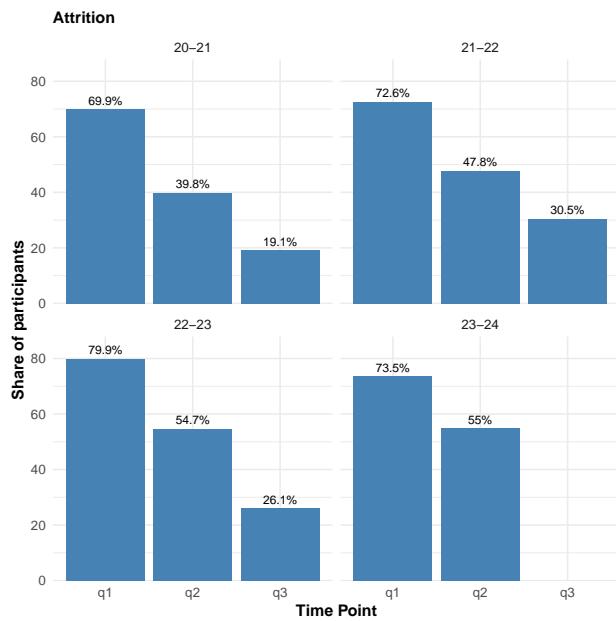
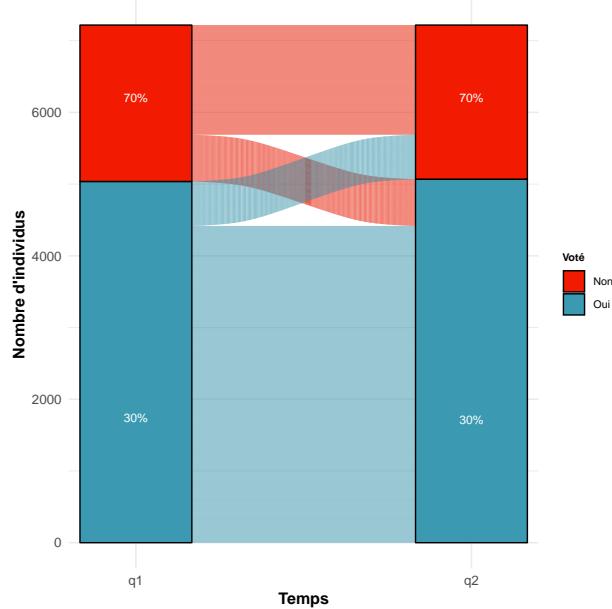


Figure 4

Change in volunteers reporting whether they voted or not during the last elections, between Q1 and Q2. Note that this analysis considers only answers of volunteers who answered either yes or no at both time points.

(A) Alluvial plot



(B) Percentages

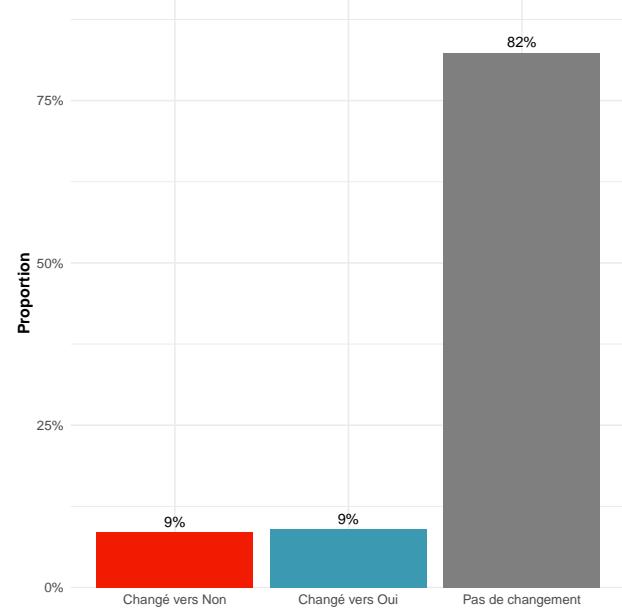
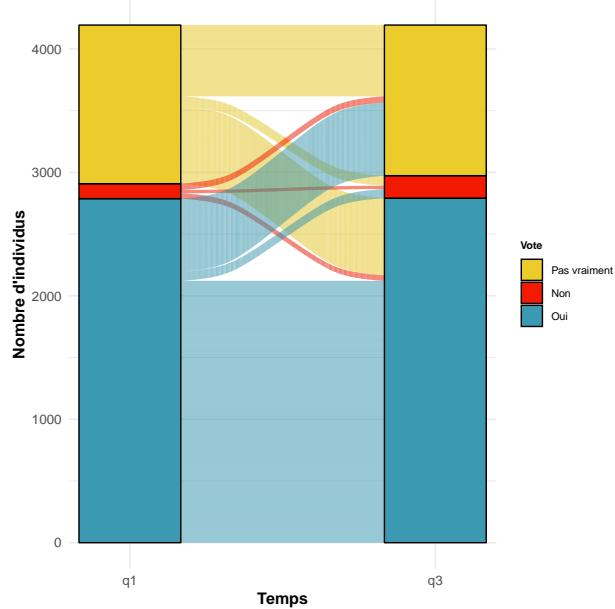


Figure 5

Change in volunteers reporting whether they think their individual action can contribute to changing society, between Q1 and Q2. Note that this analysis considers only answers of volunteers who answered at both time points.

(A) Alluvial plot



(B) Percentages

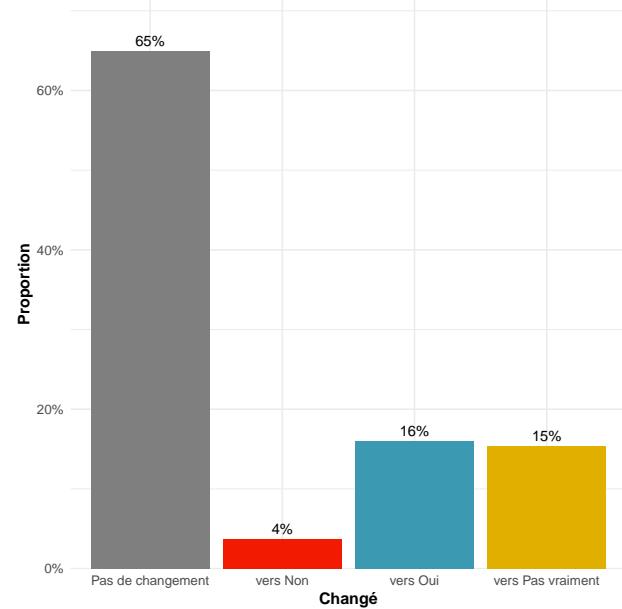


Figure 6

Satisfaction between cohorts.

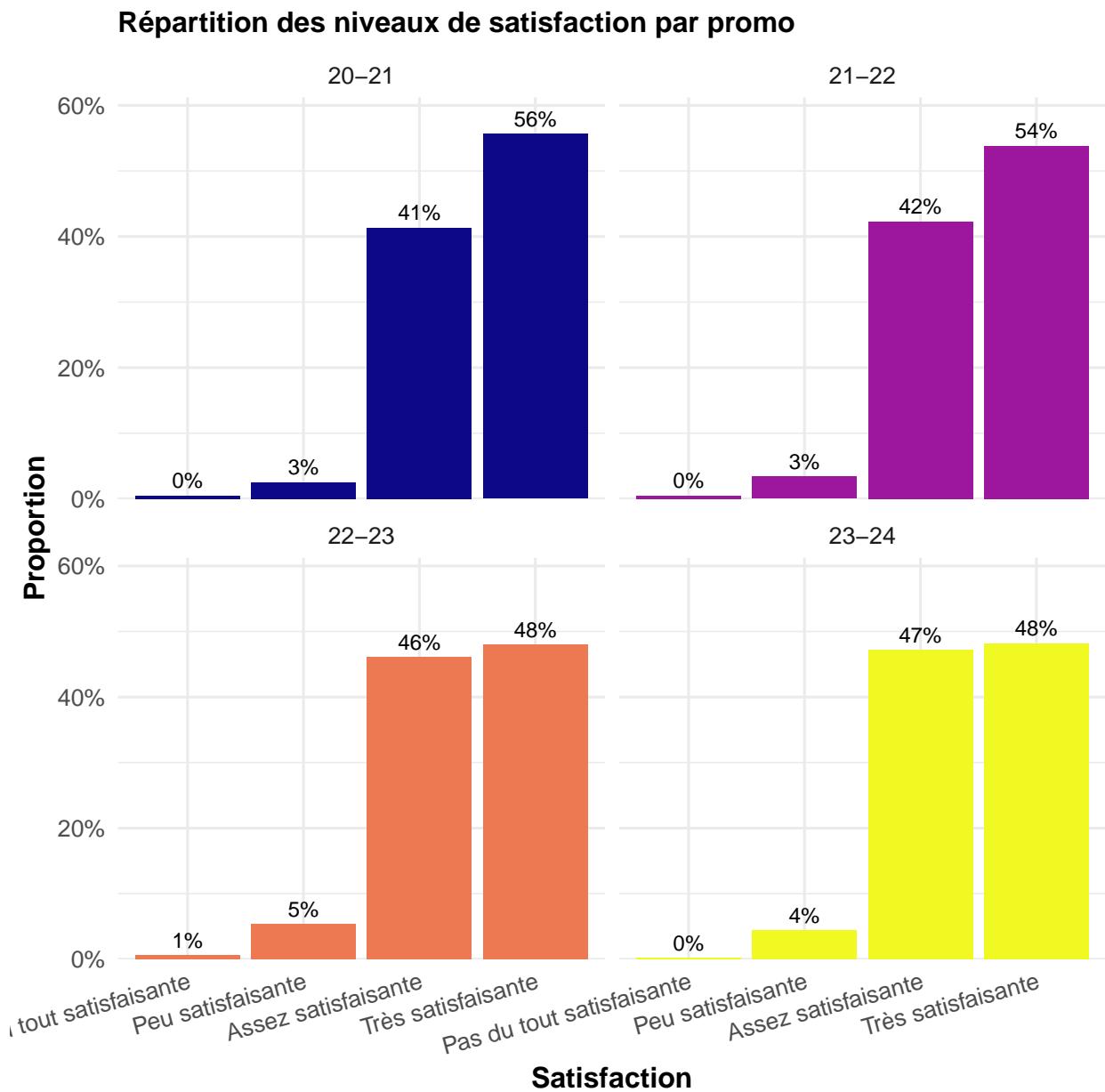


Figure 7

Effects of demographic factors on negative rupture. Coefficients are the results of separate logistic regressions for each variable. For categorical variables, a baseline has been chosen in the model (refer to the codebook to see the omitted baseline category). Each bar or dot in the chart shows how a factor (like age, gender, or education) relates to the chance of a rupture. An odds ratio of 1 means that this group has the same chance of a rupture as the baseline group. More than 1 means that this group is more likely to have a rupture. For example, an odds ratio of 2.0 means twice as likely. Less than 1 means that this group is less likely to have a rupture. An odds ratio of 0.5 means half as likely. The lines show uncertainty (confidence intervals). If they cross 1, the difference might not be meaningful (in this case, the result is not statistically significant). The logarithmic scale is used so that in the visualization for the positive and negative odds ratio's to be symmetric (i.e. that 2 is as far away from 1 as is 0.5).

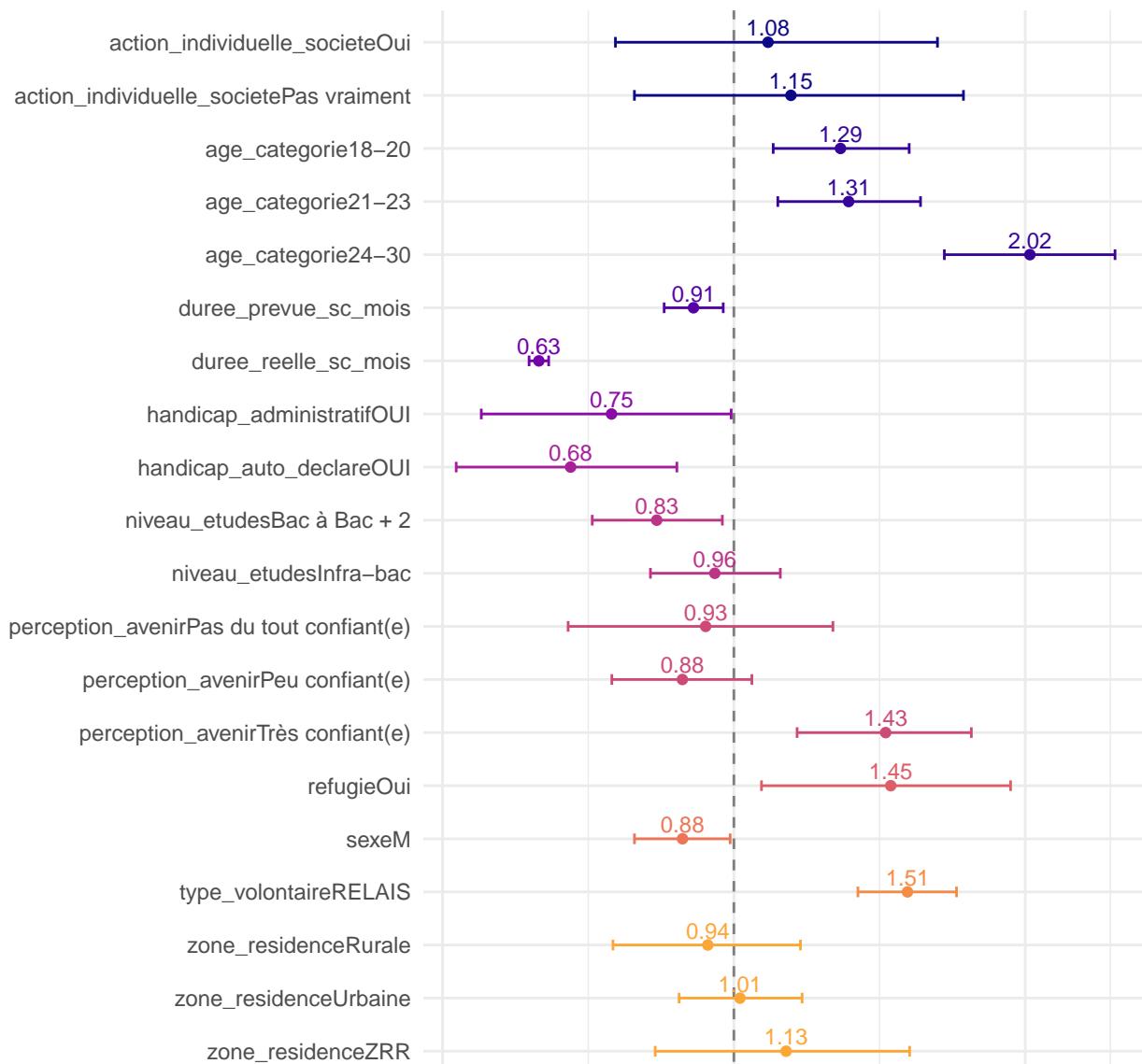


Figure 8

Percentages of rupture for (allegedly) negative reasons for different groups, for different variables.

