

Country presentations on bilingual/multilingual learning context

Switzerland

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COST 22nd June 2015

Overview

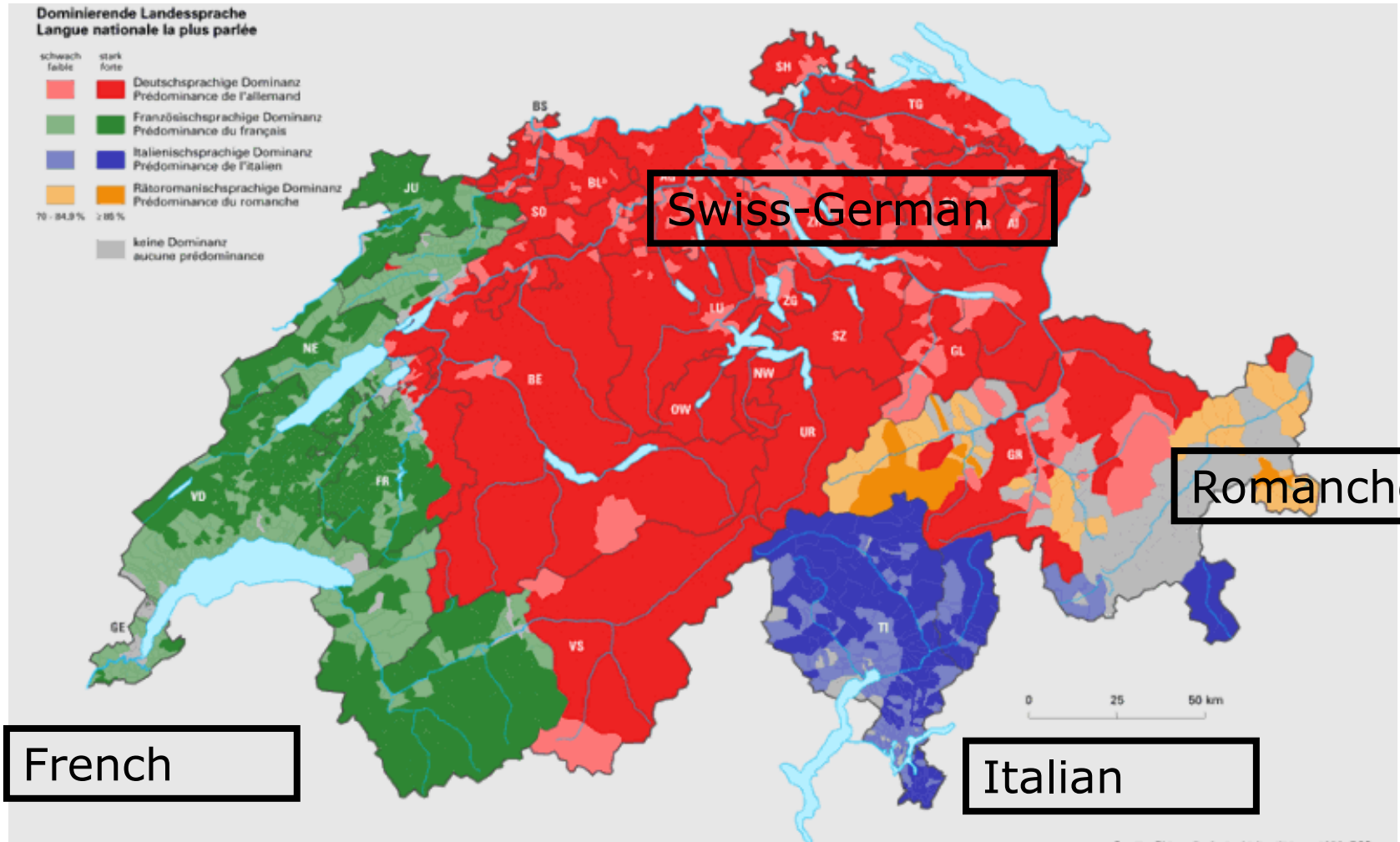
- ① Language policy in multilingual Switzerland
- ② Immigration and multilingualism



I. Language Policy in Multilingual Switzerland

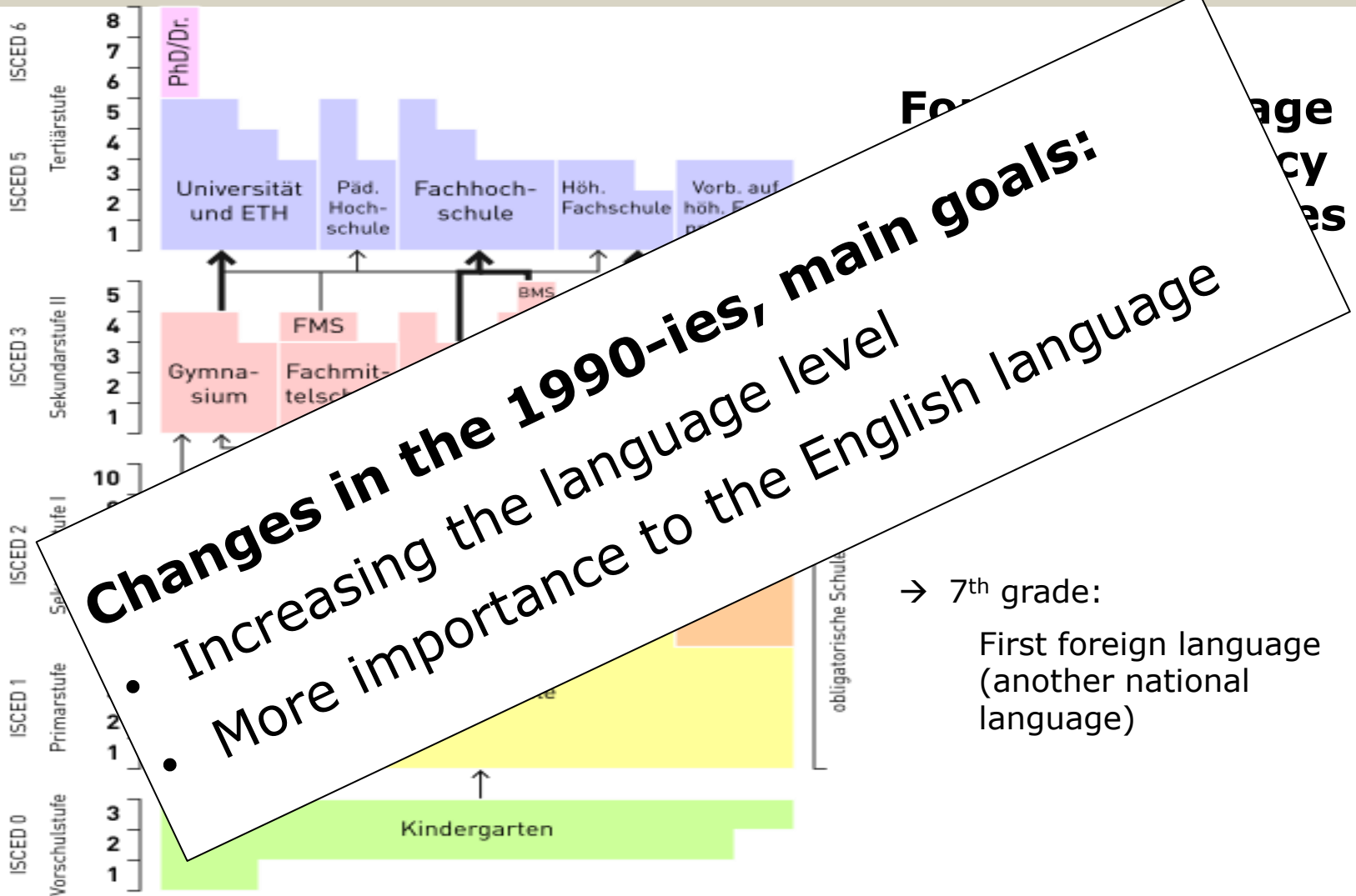
Swiss National Languages

German, French, Italian, and Romansh



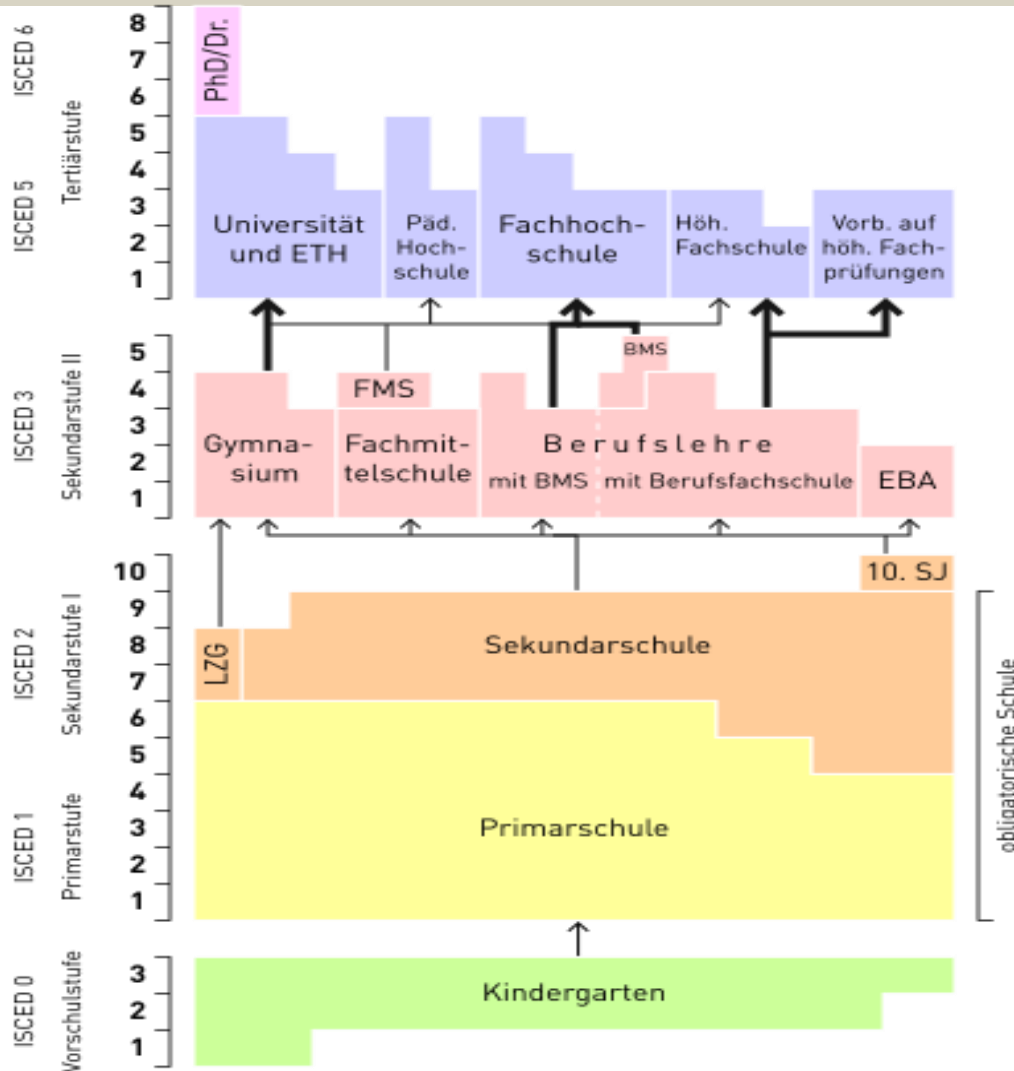
Basel

Educational System in Switzerland before the 1990-ies



Basel

Educational System in Switzerland



Foreign language teaching policy **after 1990-ies**

Language level at the end of compulsory school:

B1/B2 in the first language

A2/B1 in the second language at the end of compulsory school

→ 3rd and 5th grade:

First and second foreign language (English and another national language)

Challenges I

- “Swiss German” or “High-German” in kindergarten
- English as a first or a second foreign language
- Concurrence between English and the national languages: negative effects on the social cohesion?

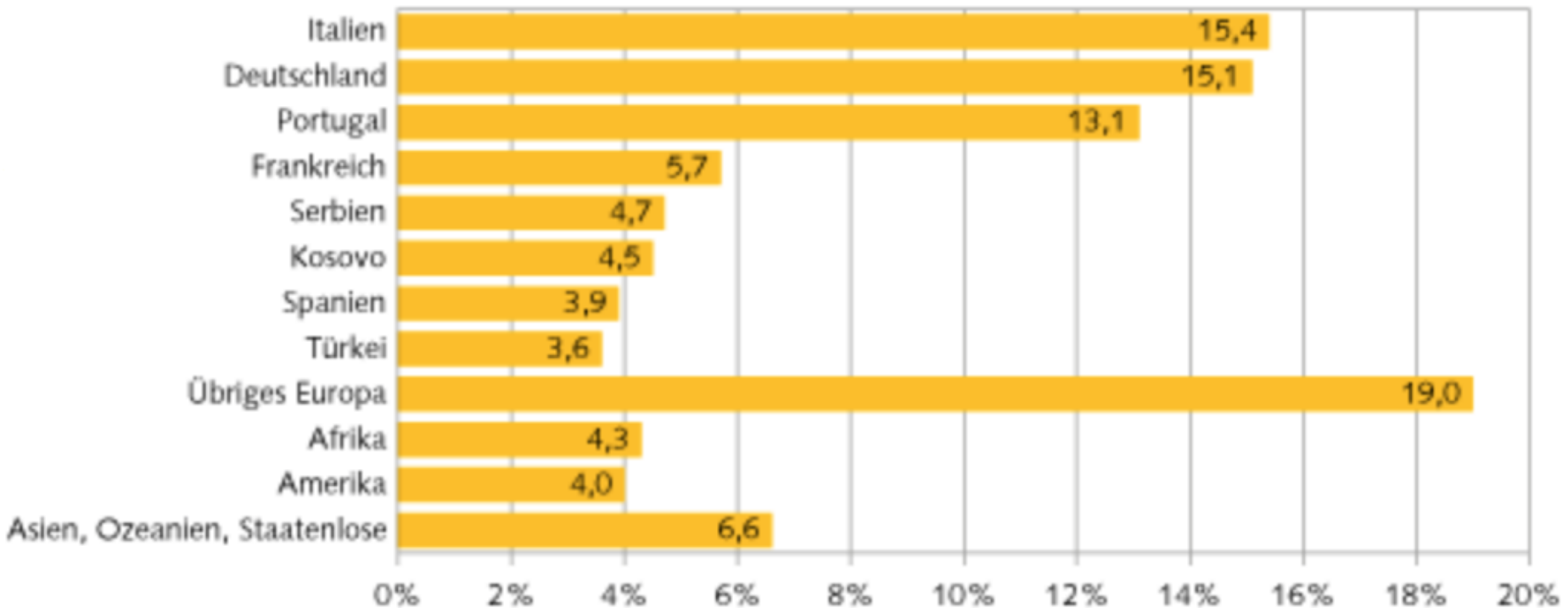


II. Immigration and Multilingualism

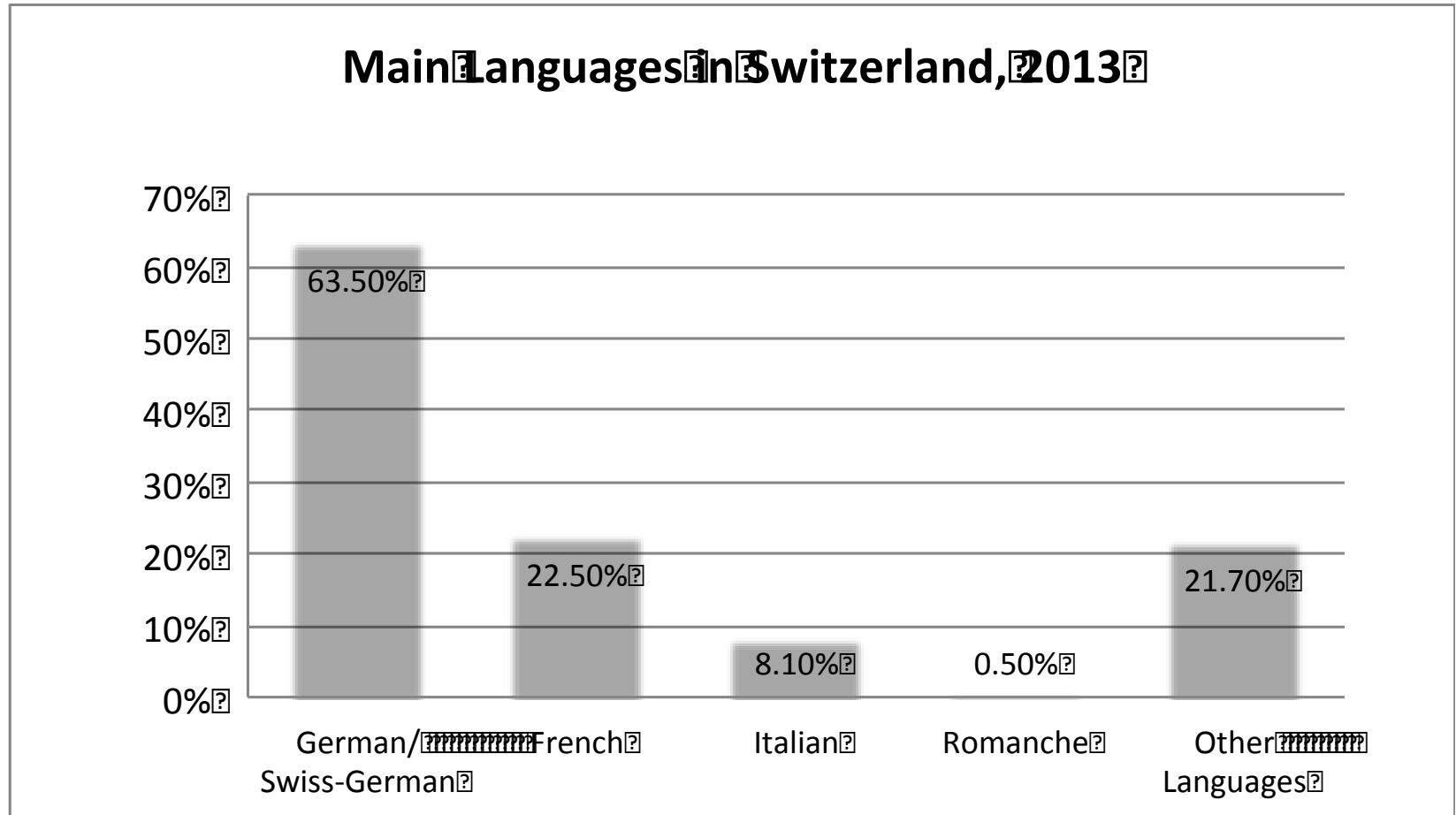
Nationalities

Nationalities (in 2013)

- 76.2 % Swiss
- 23.8 % non-Swiss (mainly from Europe)



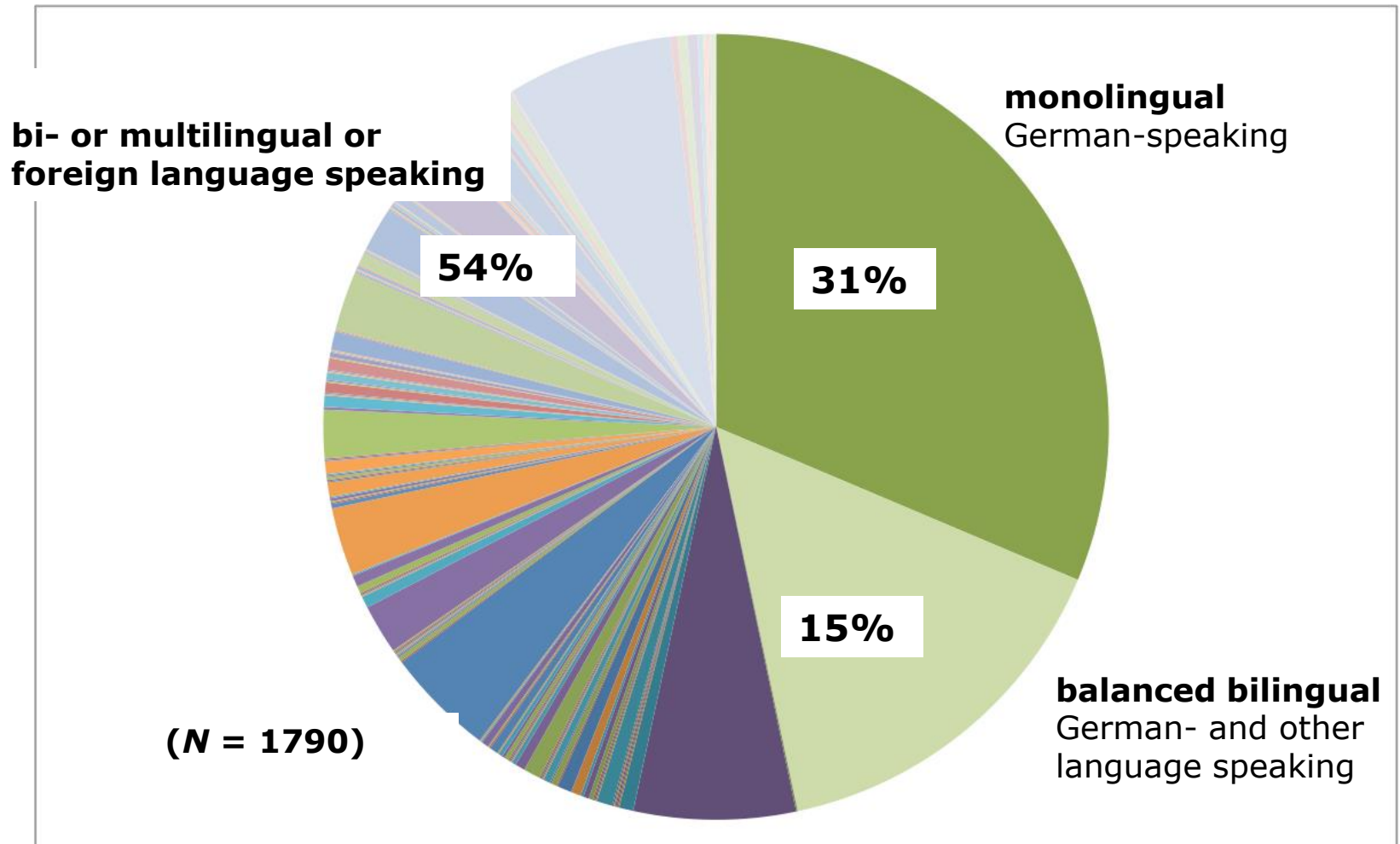
Main Languages



Other Languages: English, Portuguese, Albanian, Serbian/Croatian, others

Languages at the Age of 3 Years

Canton of Basel-Stadt, entire Kindergarten Cohort, 2009/10



Source: Parental survey Canton of Basel-Stadt 2013, Birth cohort 2009/10
N = 1790

Disadvantages of Immigrants

Children

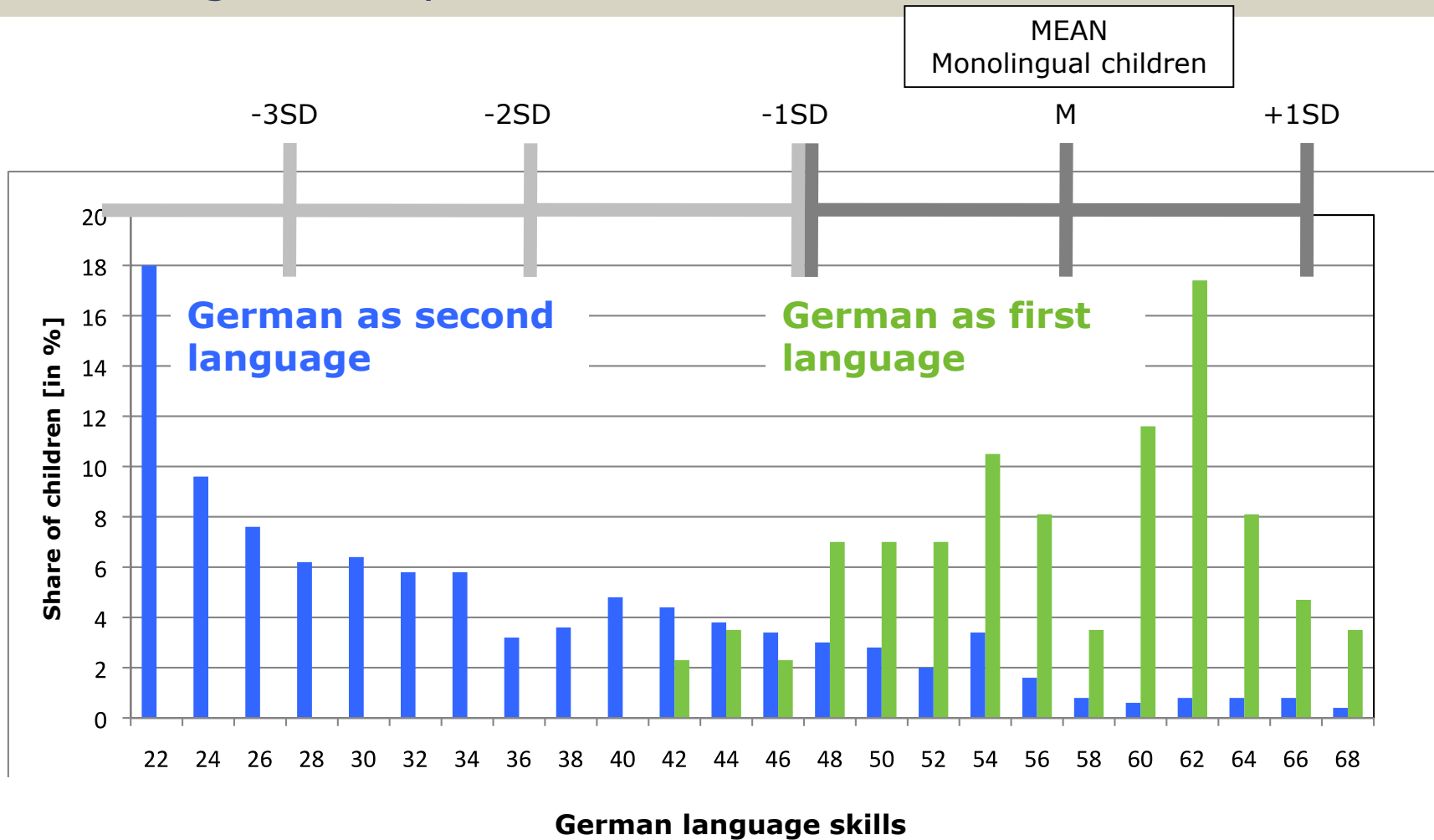
- Lower mathematics, science and language skills (PISA, Baumert & Schuemer, 2001)
- Overrepresentation in classes for children with special needs
-

Adolescents/adults

- High School: Overrepresentation in classes with lower levels
- Underrepresentation at universities
- Less job opportunities
-

Local Language Skills (German)

At the age of 3.5 years, Canton Basel-Stadt

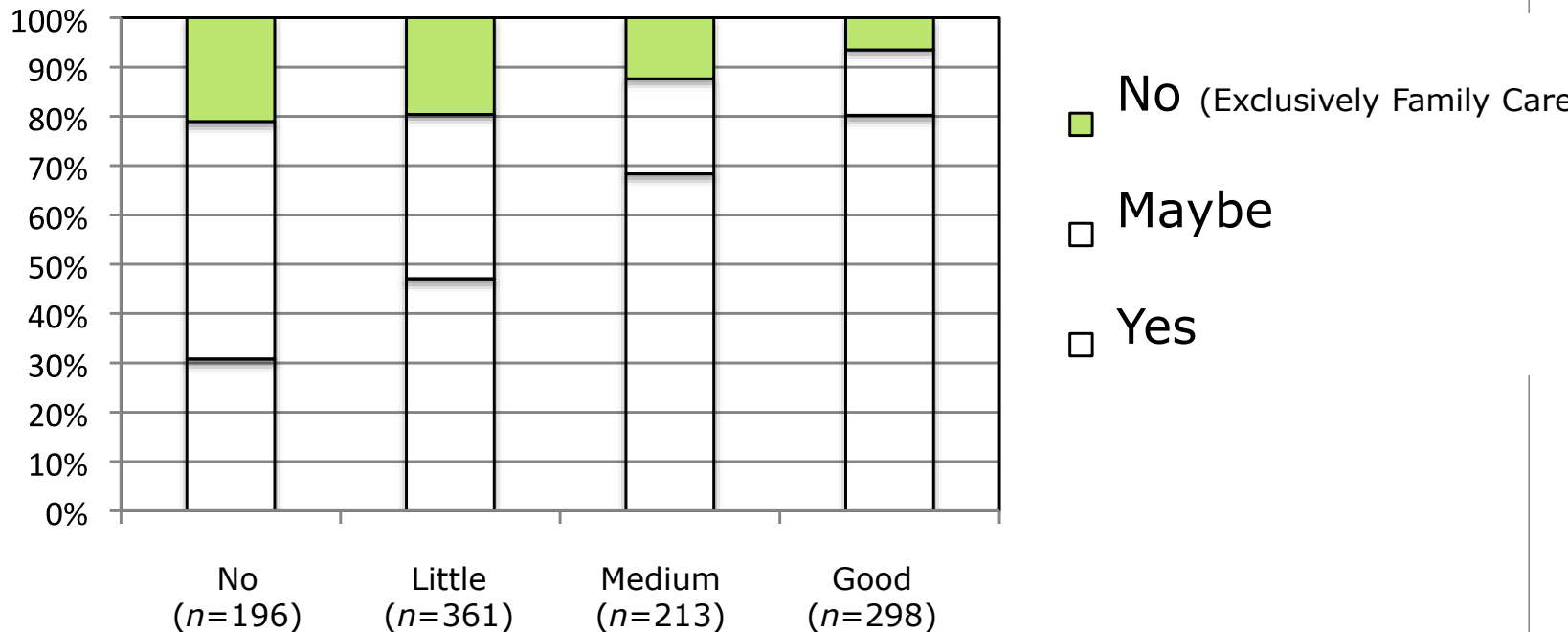


Source:
Research Project ZWEITSPRACHE
N = 582

Basel

Selective Participation in Early Childhood Education

Will your child attend a playgroup or a child care center after summer break? (Age: 3 years)



German language skills

Keller et al. 2010

Challenges II

- First languages of immigrants are not well respected
- Academic discrepancies between immigrant and non-immigrant children
- Private child care system is not compatible with the idea of multilingualism



Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!