

# **NON-RESPONSE IN THE 6<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN WORKING CONDITIONS SURVEY**

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2<sup>nd</sup> 3MC Conference  
Chicago, 25-29 July 2016

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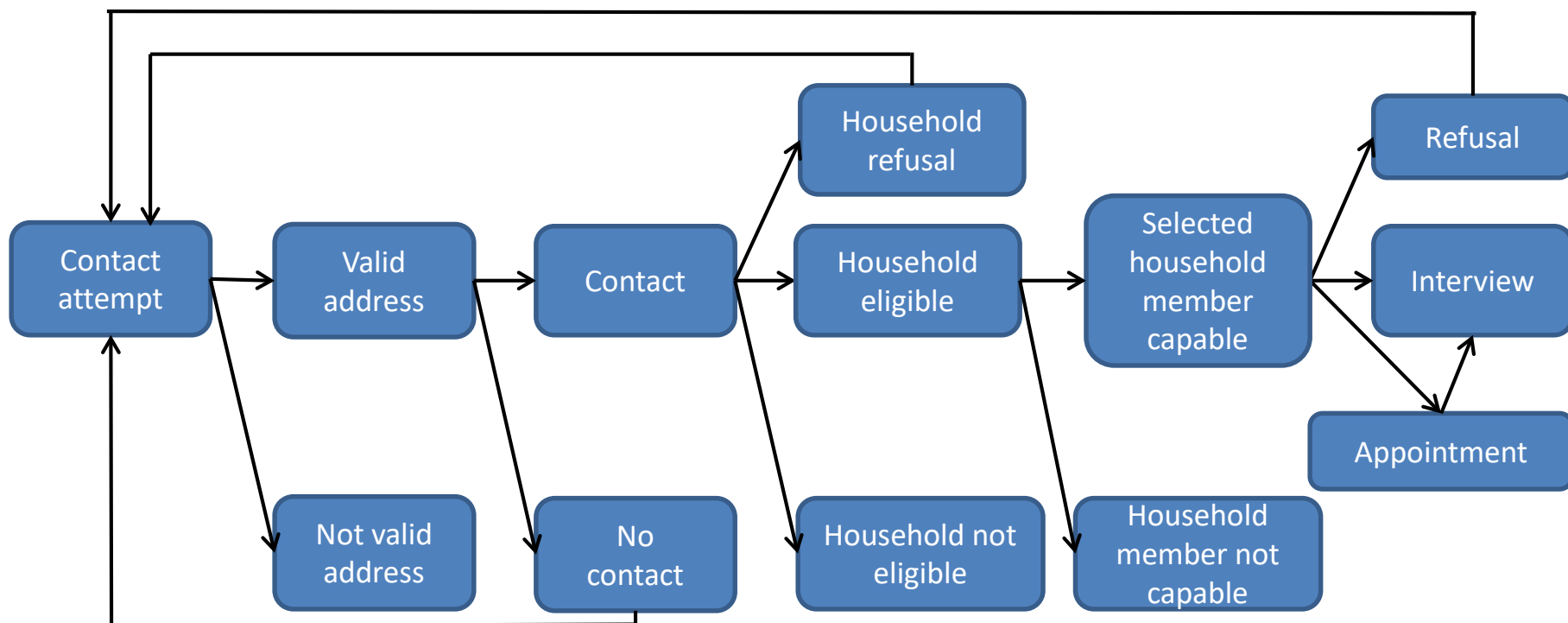
- European Working Conditions Survey
- Contact strategy and contact data
- Response rates
- Assessing response bias
- Comparing respondents to non-respondents
- Comparing different types of respondents
- Conclusions and discussion

# 6<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN WORKING CONDITIONS SURVEY

- Repeated cross-sectional face-to-face survey of workers
- Commissioned by Eurofound since 1991
- Sixth edition implemented in 2015 by Ipsos MORI
- 35 countries
  - EU28, NO, CH, AL, MK, MO, RS, TR
- 49 languages or language versions
- 45 minute CAPI interviews

# CONTACT STRATEGY

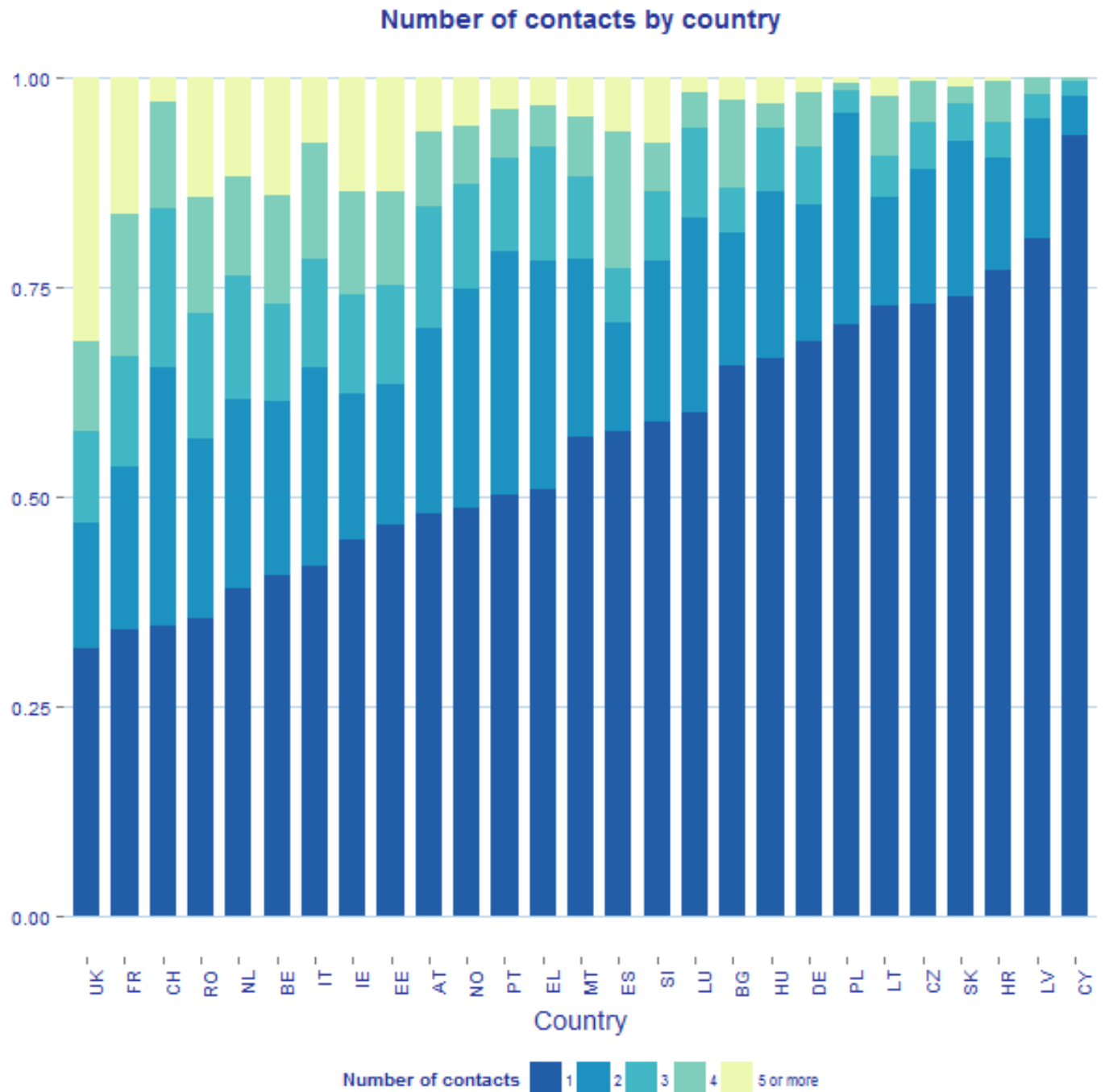
- Face-to-face contacting, except DK, FI, SE where phone contacting was applied
- At least 4 contact attempts (10 in case of phone)



# CONTACT DATA

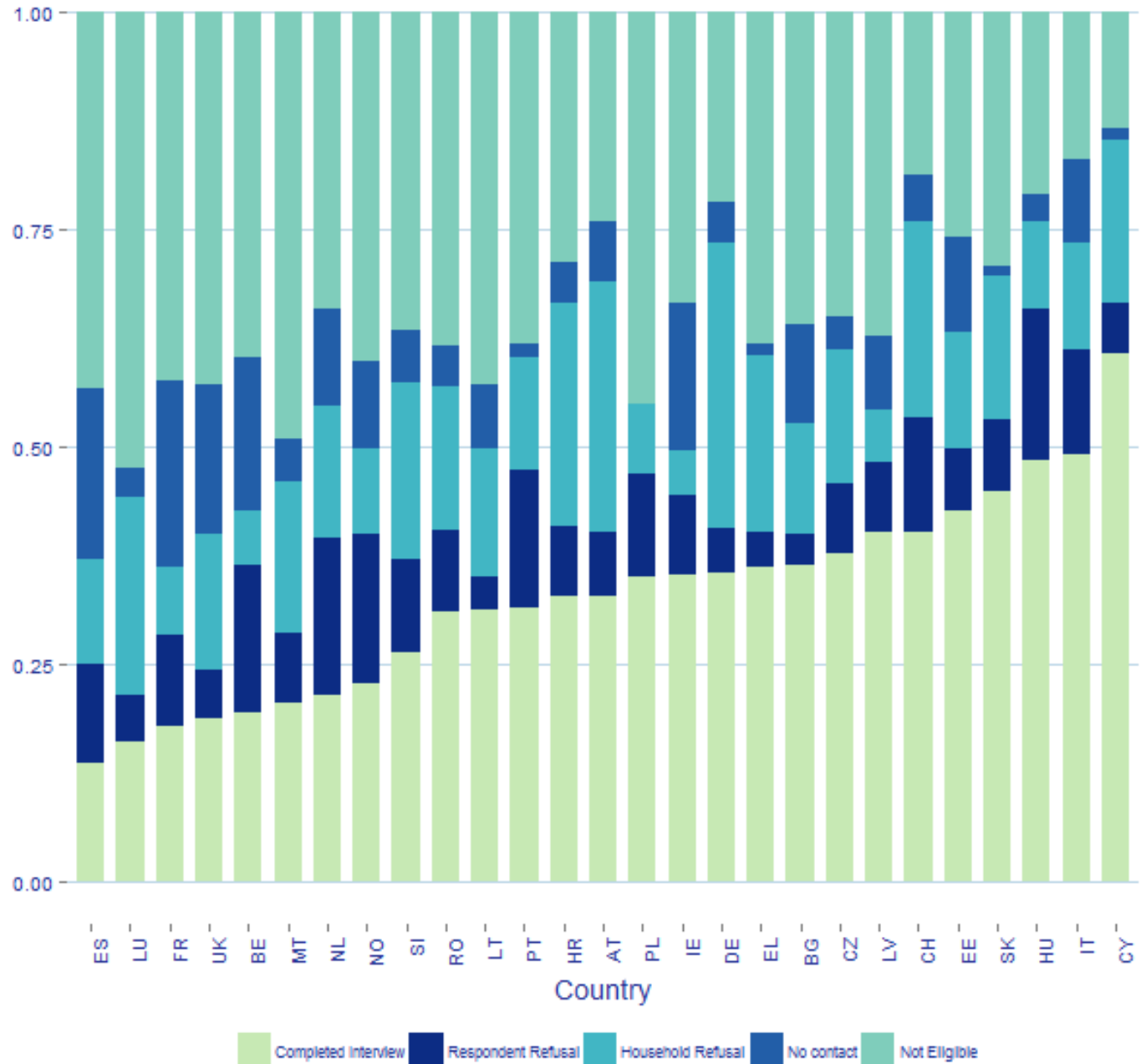
- Detailed disposition outcome recorded for each attempt
- Interviewer observations
  - gender and age of final refusal (respondent or household)
  - type and state of dwelling

# CONTACT ATTEMPTS

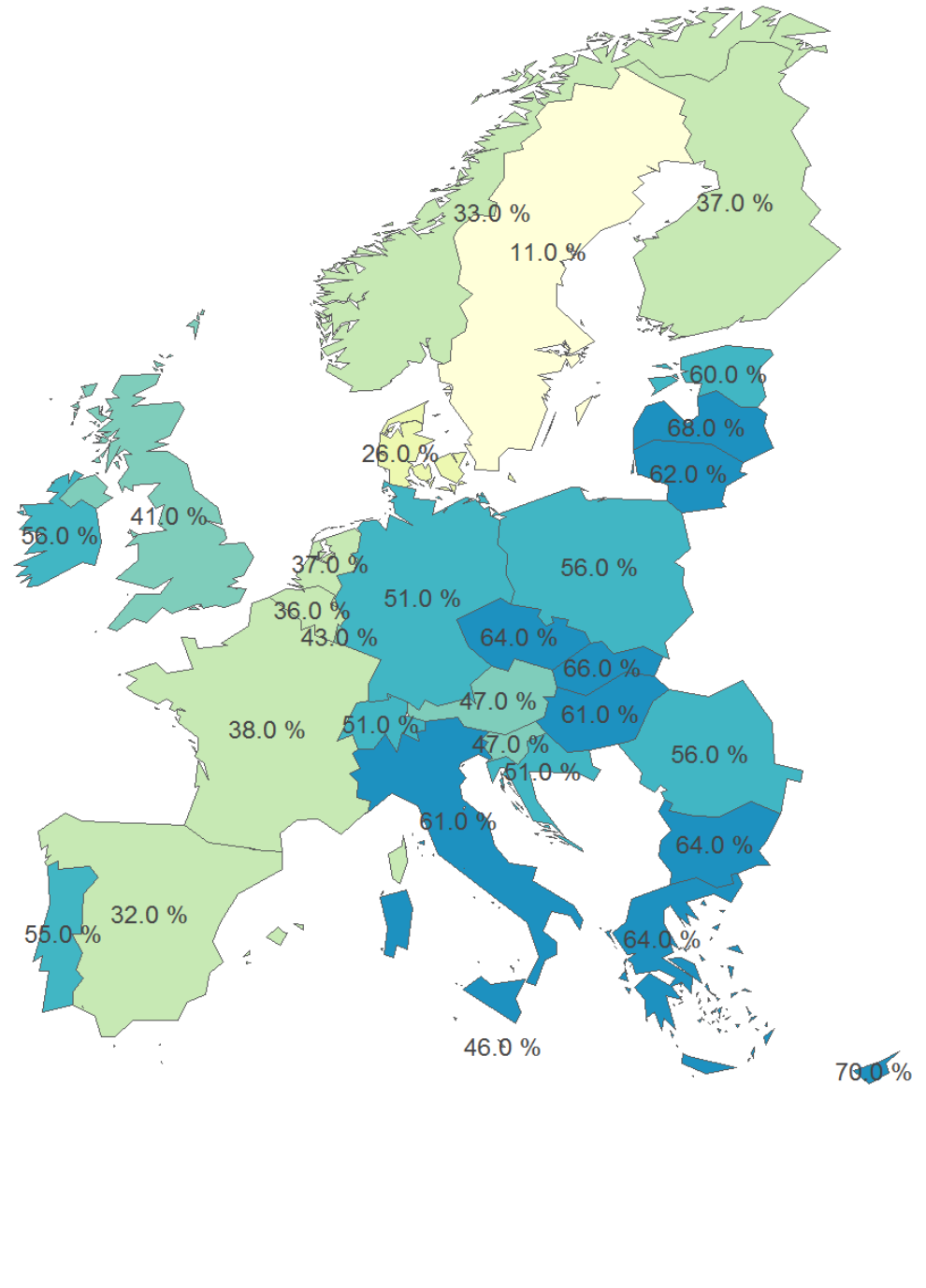
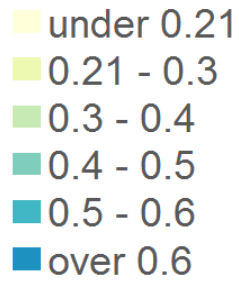


# CONTACT OUTCOMES

Last contact outcome by country



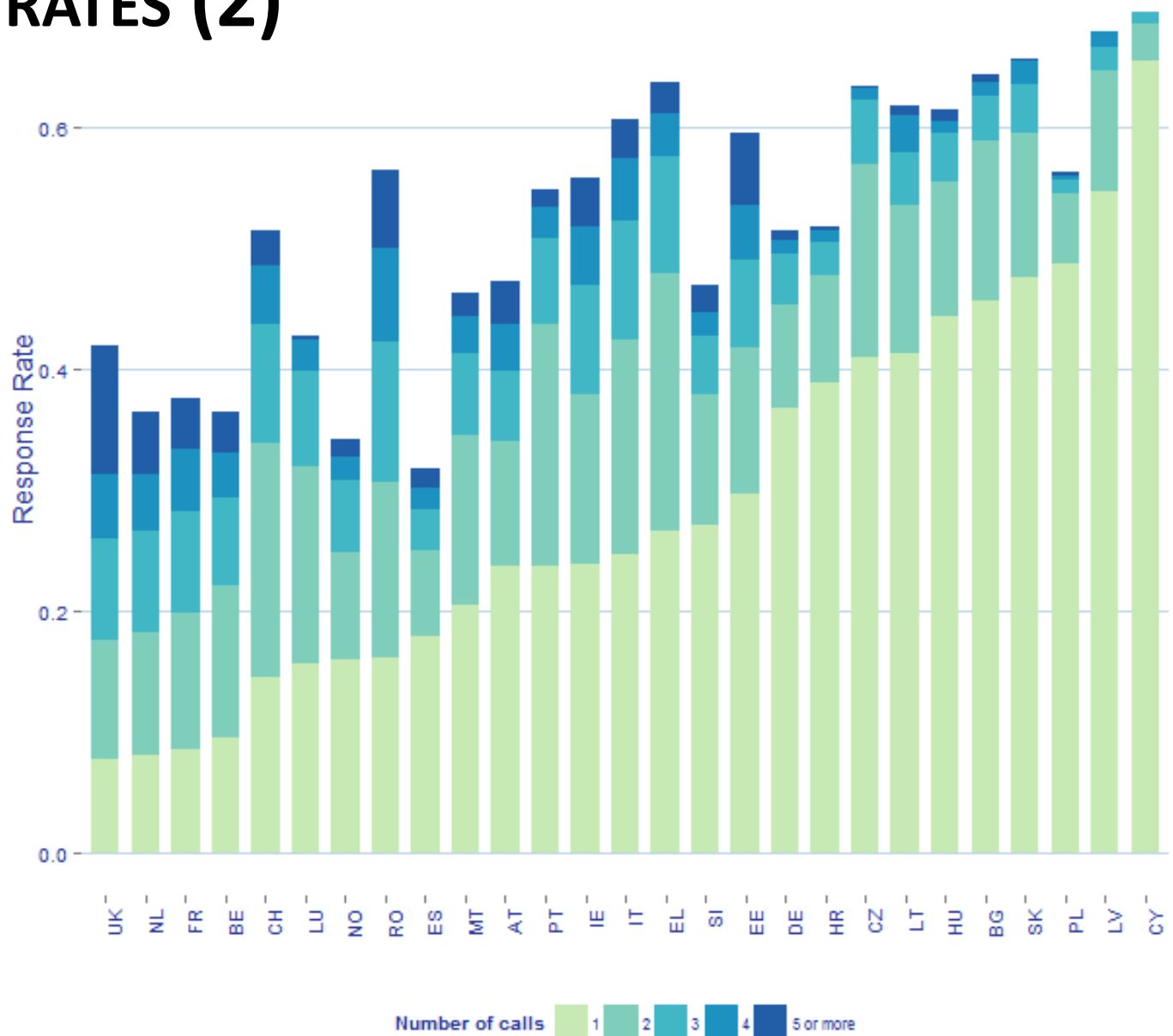
# RESPONSE RATES (1)





# RESPONSE RATES (2)

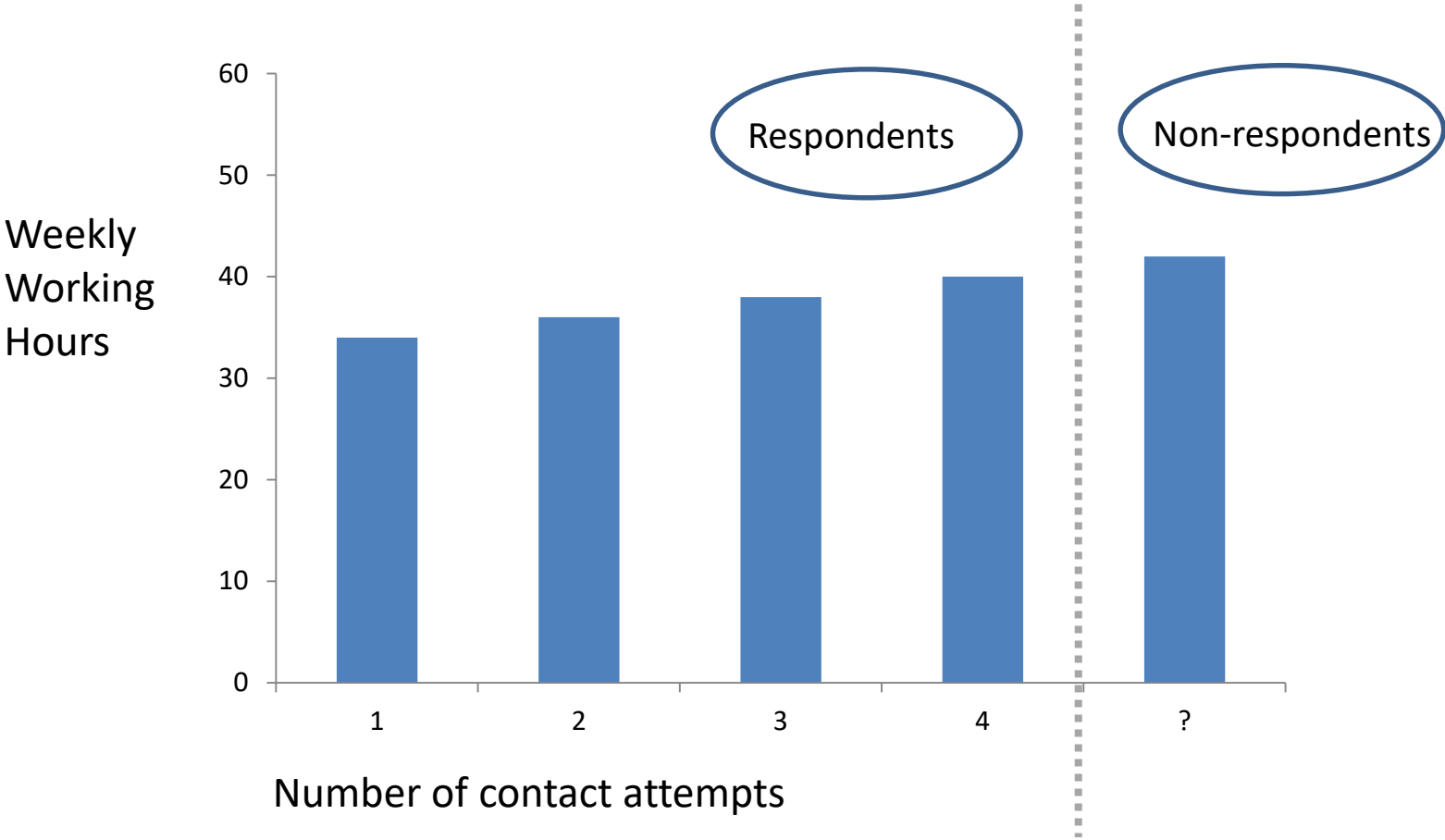
Response rate after one, two, three, four, five or more contacts



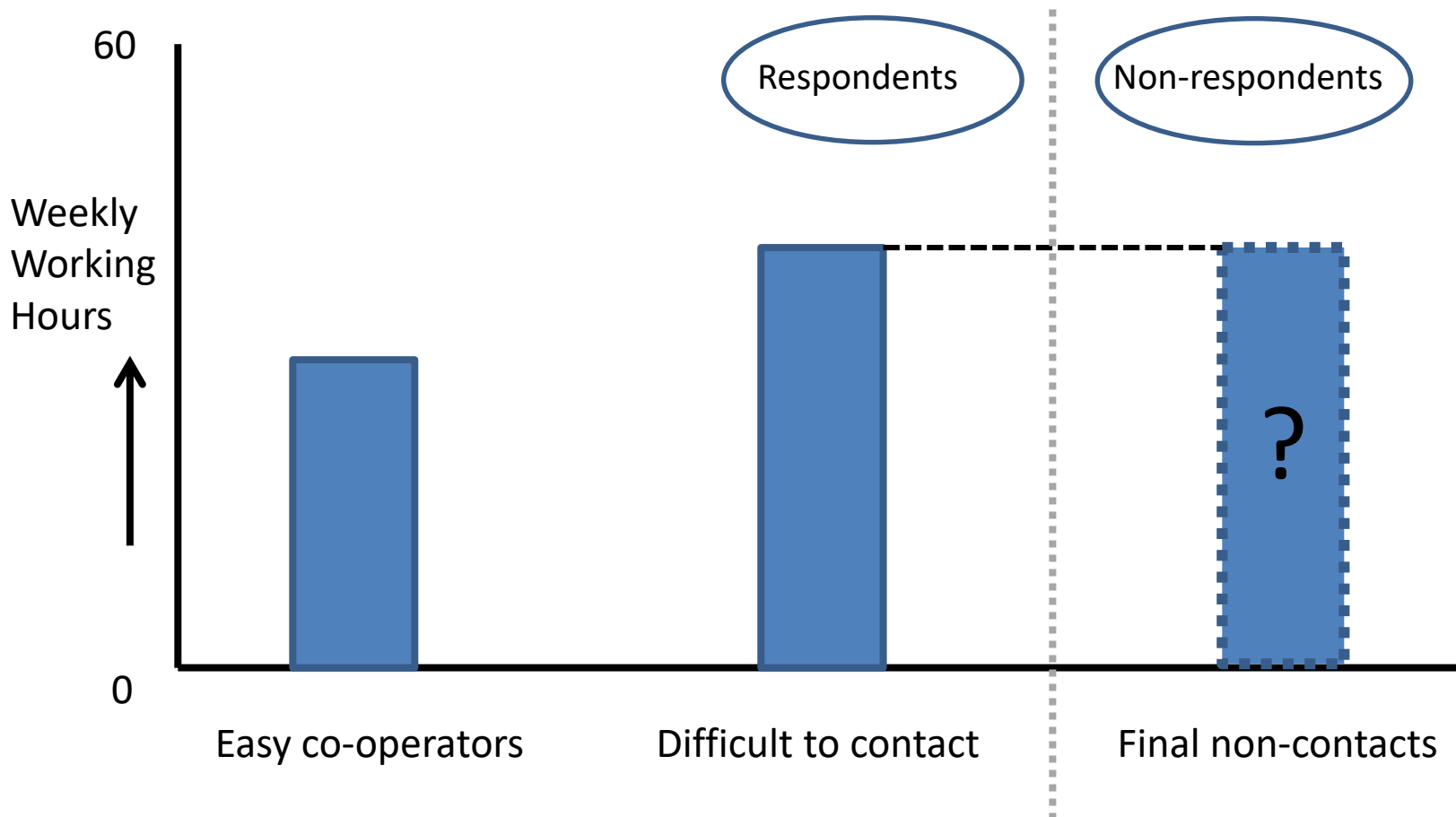
# ASSESSING RESPONSE BIAS

- Non-response bias occurs when some personal characteristics are related both to survey participation and to substantive variables of interest included in the survey (Stoop, Matsuo, Koch & Billiet, 2010)
- Comparisons between respondents and non-respondents
- Comparisons within respondents
  - Continuum of resistance (cf. Lin and Schaeffer, 1995)
  - Classes model (cf. Olsen, 2013)

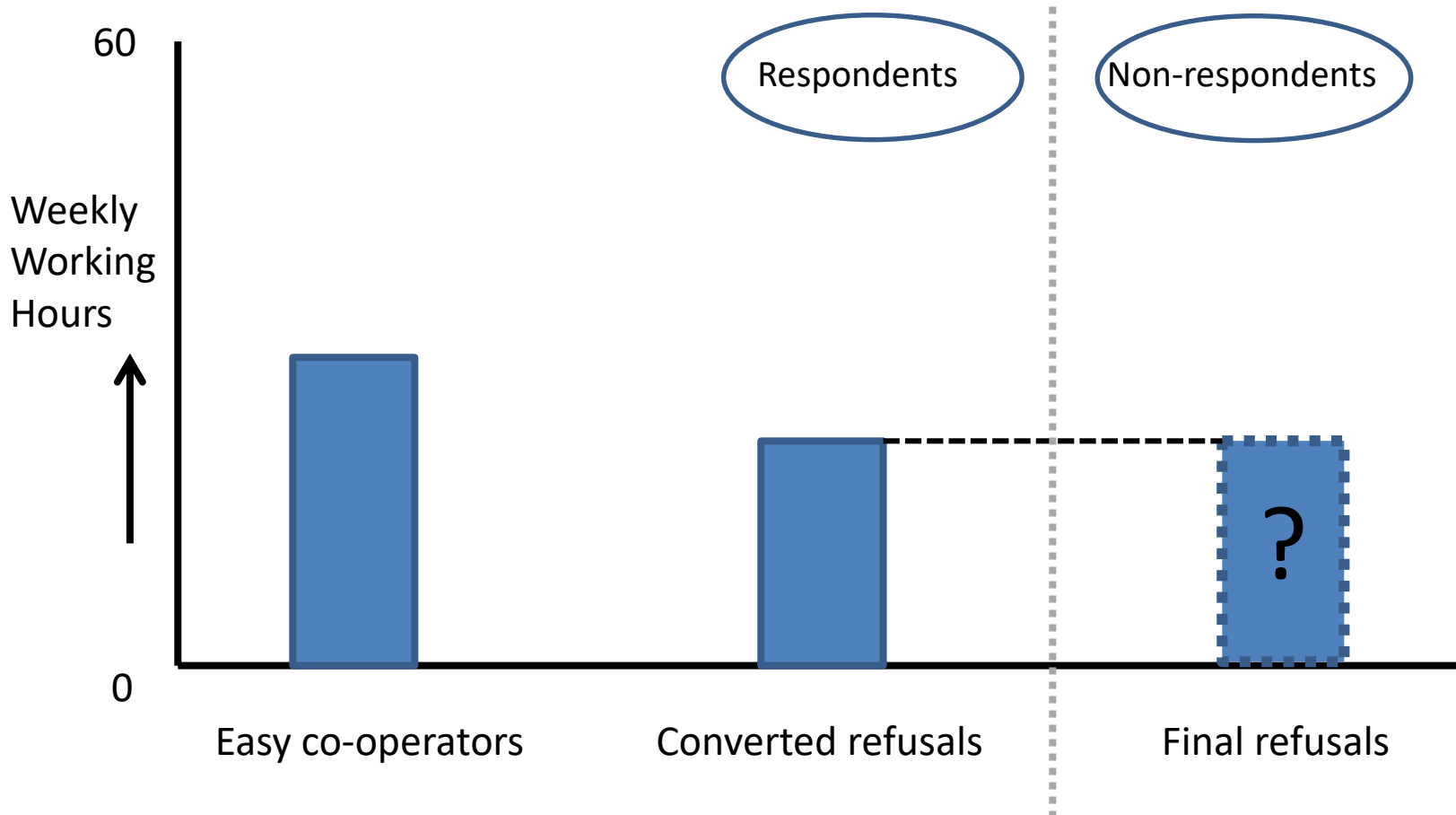
# CONTINUUM OF RESISTANCE



# CLASSES MODEL: DIFFICULT TO REACH



# CLASSES MODEL: DIFFICULT TO RECRUIT



# DISTRIBUTION OF CONTACT ATTEMPTS

	Contacted		Interviewed	
Number of contact attempts	N	%	N	%
1	76994	54.4%	22913	56.1%
2	26018	18.4%	8962	21.9%
3	12938	9.1%	4561	11.2%
4 or more	25537	18.0%	4409	10.8%
Total	141487	100.0%	34794	100.0%

# TYPES OF RESPONDENTS AND NON-RESPONDENTS

		Frequency	%
<b>Respondents</b>	Easy cooperator	25,956	18.1%
	Converted Refusal	493	0.3%
	Difficult to contact	8,345	5.8%
<b>Non-respondents</b>	Household refusal	21855	15.3%
	Respondent refusal	16693	11.7%
	No contact with respondent	1727	1.2%
	No contact with household	16539	11.5%
	Non-response for other reasons	2872	2.0%
<b>Ineligible</b>	No eligible respondent	36058	25.2%
	No household at address	12713	8.9%
<b>Total</b>		143251	

# RESPONDENTS V. NON-RESPONDENTS (1)

	Number of contact attempts:	1	2	3	4 or more	Non-respondents
Urbanity	Urban	43.6%	42.8%	43.7%	50.7%	48.8%
	Intermediate	28.9%	33.8%	34.5%	31.5%	30.6%
	Rural	27.5%	23.4%	21.8%	17.8%	20.6%
Dwelling type	Farm	1.4%	1.0%	.8%	.4%	.7%
	Detached	34.1%	31.8%	29.4%	23.1%	26.7%
	Semi-Detached	8.9%	10.0%	10.9%	10.5%	9.9%
	Terraced	12.0%	16.6%	17.8%	18.7%	15.9%
	Multi-Unit	40.9%	37.7%	38.2%	44.0%	43.9%
	Other Type	2.7%	2.8%	2.9%	3.3%	2.9%
Dwelling state	Very Good	11.7%	12.9%	13.7%	13.0%	12.0%
	Good	64.5%	64.8%	65.2%	63.6%	64.2%
	Neither	21.1%	19.7%	19.0%	21.0%	21.3%
	Bad	2.4%	2.3%	1.9%	2.1%	2.2%
	Very Bad	.3%	.3%	.2%	.2%	.3%
Dwelling condition	Better	10.7%	12.0%	12.7%	9.7%	10.2%
	Same	83.8%	82.8%	82.2%	85.1%	84.6%
	Worse	5.4%	5.2%	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%



# RESPONDENTS V. NON-RESPONDENTS (2)

	Number of contact attempts:	1	2	3	4 or more	Respondent refusal	Household refusal
Sex	Male	48.7%	49.0%	48.8%	50.3%	52.1%	46.4%
	Female	51.3%	51.0%	51.2%	49.7%	47.9%	53.6%
Age	Under 30	16.3%	14.7%	14.1%	15.5%	11.0%	10.8%
	30 up to 50	47.5%	49.8%	53.4%	52.8%	59.1%	54.3%
	Over 50	36.1%	35.5%	32.5%	31.7%	29.9%	34.9%

- Sex and age by contact attempt based on respondent answers
- Sex and age of 'final refusals' based on interviewer observation

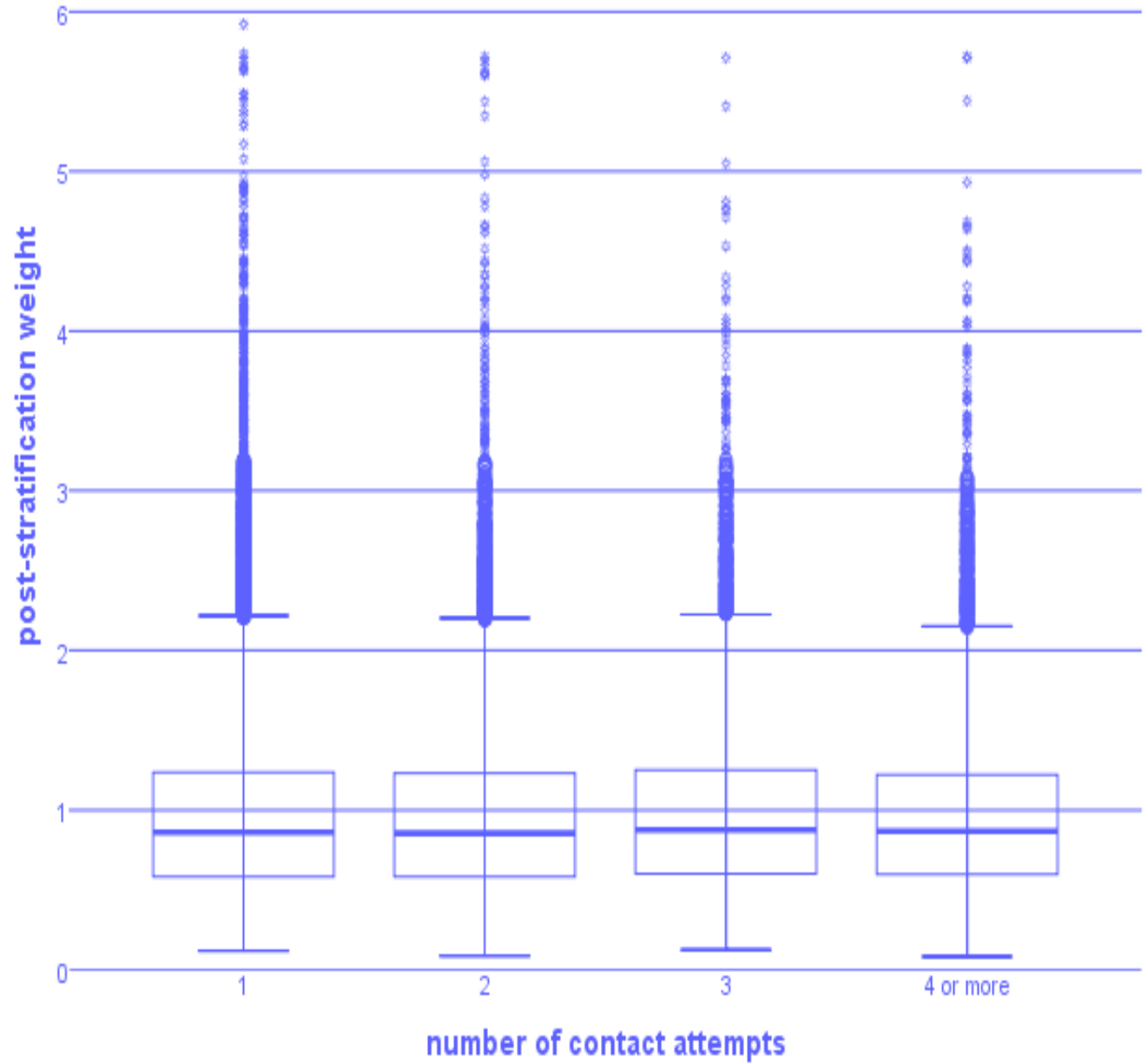
# RESPONDENTS V. NON-RESPONDENTS (3)

		Easy cooperator	Converted refusal	Respondent refusal	Household refusal	Difficult to contact	No contact: respondent	No contact: household
Urbanity	Urban	38.2%	48.3%	48.2%	48.5%	43.2%	46.4%	51.8%
	Intermediate	31.2%	30.0%	31.0%	29.6%	34.2%	33.0%	30.6%
	Rural	30.7%	21.7%	20.8%	21.9%	22.6%	20.6%	17.5%
Dwelling type	Farm	1.8%	1.0%	.8%	.7%	0.8%	1.3%	0.3%
	Detached	38.2%	28.7%	28.5%	30.5%	30.6%	33.5%	20.6%
	Semi-Detached	8.9%	10.2%	10.2%	10.0%	11.8%	13.5%	8.9%
	Terraced	12.6%	14.6%	15.6%	14.2%	18.6%	18.1%	17.3%
	Multi-Unit	35.5%	43.3%	43.0%	41.7%	35.8%	31.5%	48.7%
	Other Type	3.0%	2.2%	1.8%	2.9%	2.4%	2.1%	4.2%
Dwelling state	Very Good	12.9%	11.0%	12.0%	11.7%	14.7%	13.4%	11.2%
	Good	64.9%	66.9%	65.0%	64.4%	64.2%	62.2%	63.4%
	Neither	19.4%	20.5%	20.7%	21.5%	19.0%	21.6%	22.9%
	Bad	2.5%	1.2%	2.1%	2.2%	1.9%	2.5%	2.3%
	Very Bad	0.3%	0.4%	.2%	.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%
Dwelling condition	Better	12.4%	14.1%	10.6%	10.9%	11.4%	11.1%	8.8%
	Same	82.2%	79.5%	84.7%	83.8%	83.7%	83.3%	85.5%
	Worse	5.5%	6.4%	4.7%	5.3%	4.9%	5.7%	5.7%

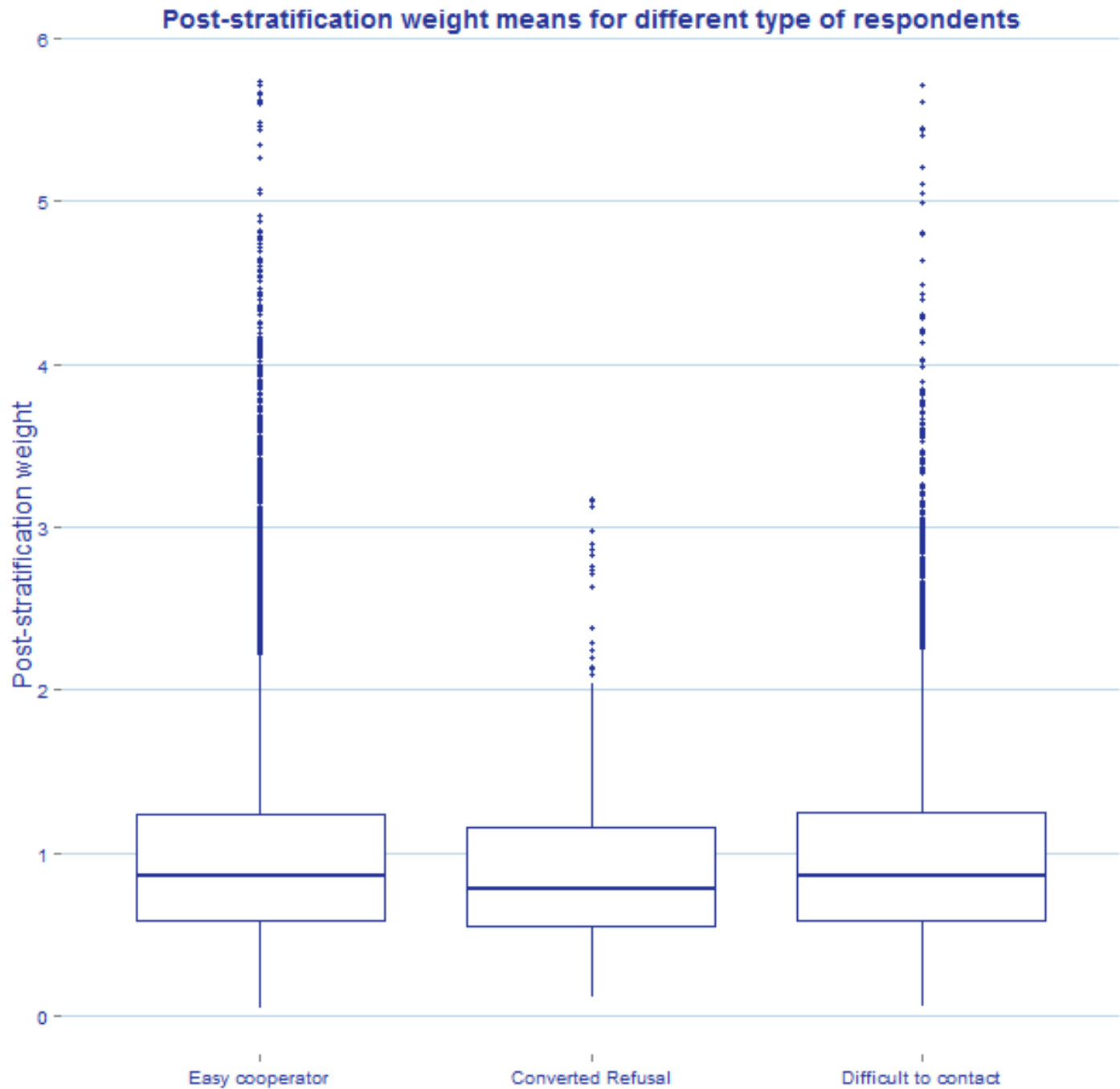
# RESPONDENTS V. NON-RESPONDENTS (4)

		Easy cooperator	Difficult to contact	Converted Refusal	Respondent refusal	Household refusal
Sex	Male	48.8%	49.5%	50.5%	52.1%	46.9%
	Female	51.2%	50.5%	49.5%	47.9%	53.1%
Age	Under 30	15.9%	15.0%	11.2%	10.9%	10.6%
	30 up to 50	51.7%	56.0%	56.1%	58.9%	54.1%
	Over 50	32.4%	29.0%	32.7%	30.1%	35.4%

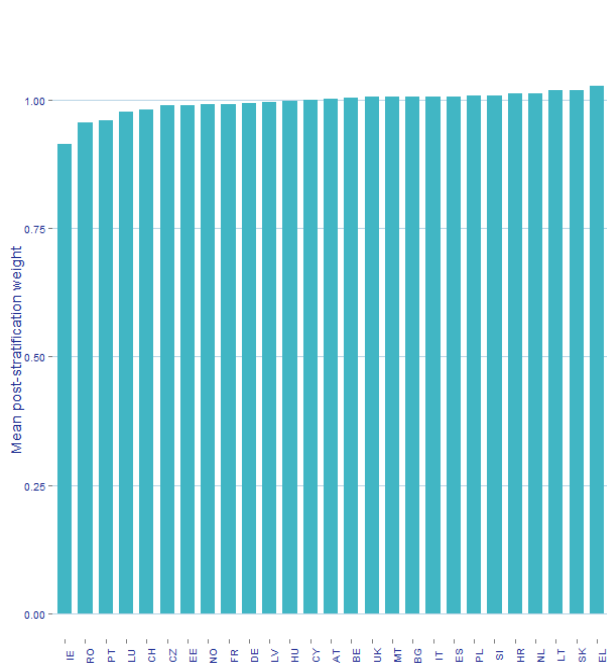
# DIFFERENT TYPES OF RESPONDENTS (1)



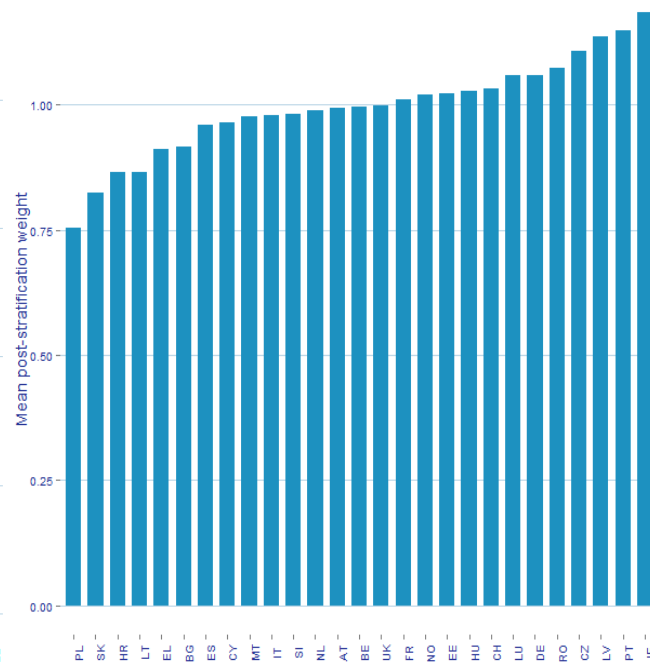
# DIFFERENT TYPES OF RESPONDENTS (2)



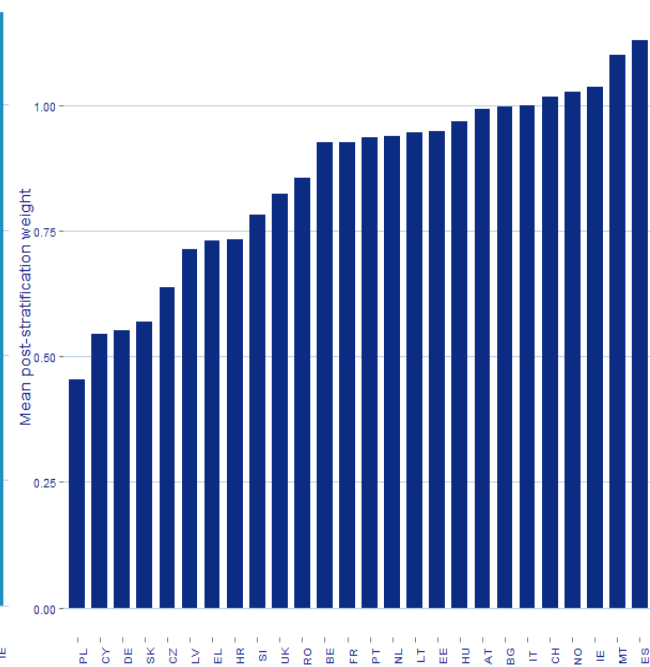
# RESPONSE PATTERNS DIFFER ACROSS COUNTRIES



Easy co-operators



Difficult to contact



Difficult to recruit

# TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSION

- Some support for both the 'continuum of resistance' and the 'classes' models
  - Descriptive analysis only, testing needed
- Those respondents requiring more effort are not necessarily members of underrepresented groups
- Substantial variation in response patterns across countries
  - Countries differ in the need for re-contacting
  - Small number of refusal conversion as this could not be applied consistently across countries
  - Analysis will need to take country variability into account

# QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?

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