

***How do European citizens cope with economic shocks?  
The longitudinal order of deprivation***

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***Abstract***

The recent economic crisis had a dramatic impact on European citizens, leading to more people experiencing poverty and material deprivation. At EU level, the number of people suffering from severe deprivation in 2012 reached more than 49.000.000, i.e. an increase of 8.7 millions people since 2009.

The main contribution of this paper is to understand which items people have to go without as their resources decrease, using the longitudinal component of EU-SILC. By definition, curtailment is a temporal process which to be fully understood necessitates longitudinal data. Although only a subset of deprivation items is available in the longitudinal dataset, this allows us to compare the order of curtailment obtained by using longitudinal and cross-sectional data. An IRT model is also estimated on cross-sectional data and used to confirm and aid the interpretation of the results.

Interestingly, the results suggest a large degree of homogeneity across the EU in how households curtail expenditure, despite the large differences in material and social contexts between Member States.