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ANNUAL MEETING

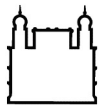
DECEMBER 1-3, 2021 | VIRTUAL

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH
INSTITUTES' EXPERIENCE
RESPONDING TO COVID-19: A
HEALTH EQUITY PERSPECTIVE

A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO TACKLING
COVID-19 HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN FRANCE

Prof. Geneviève Chêne
Chief Executive
Santé publique France

HOSTED BY



Ministério da Saúde

FIOCRUZ

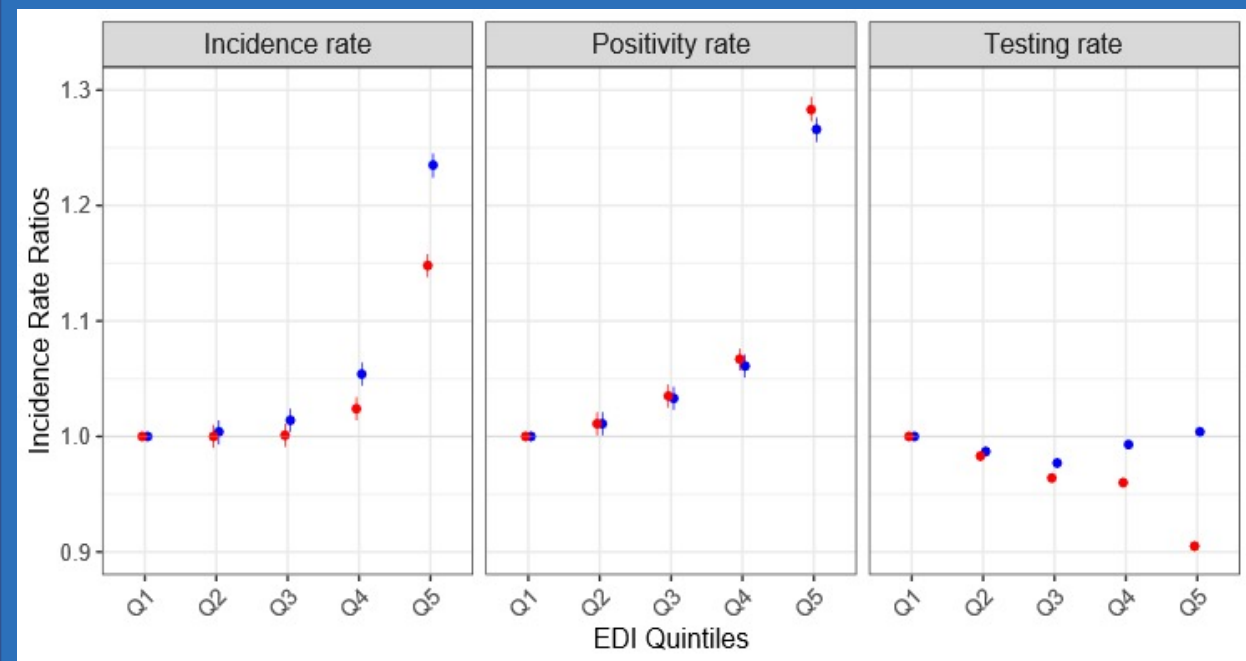
Fundação Oswaldo Cruz

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SOCIAL GRADIENT: COVID-19 INCIDENCE, POSITIVITY & SCREENING RATES

- Positive social gradient for **incidence and positivity rates** along EDI quintiles (May 2020 to 2021, Q1 = ref)
- Densely and moderately populated areas : highest positivity rates and lowest screening rates in Q5
- Stronger social gradient observed after **adjusting** for population density and region
- Negative social gradient for testing rates in the **adjusted model**



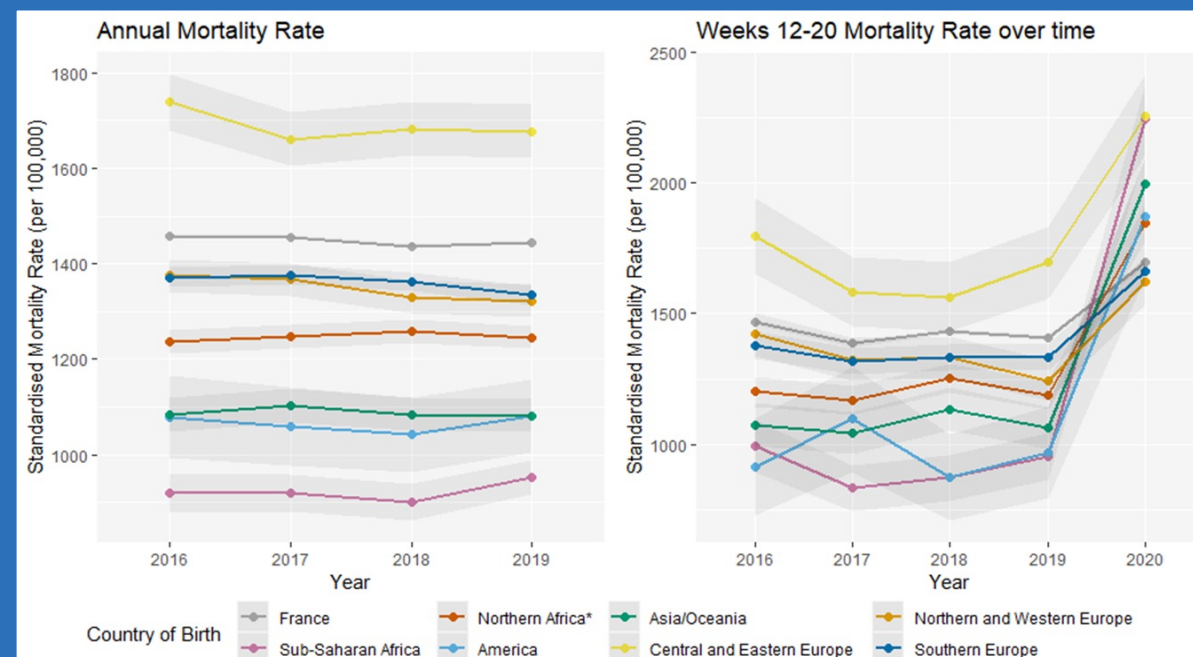
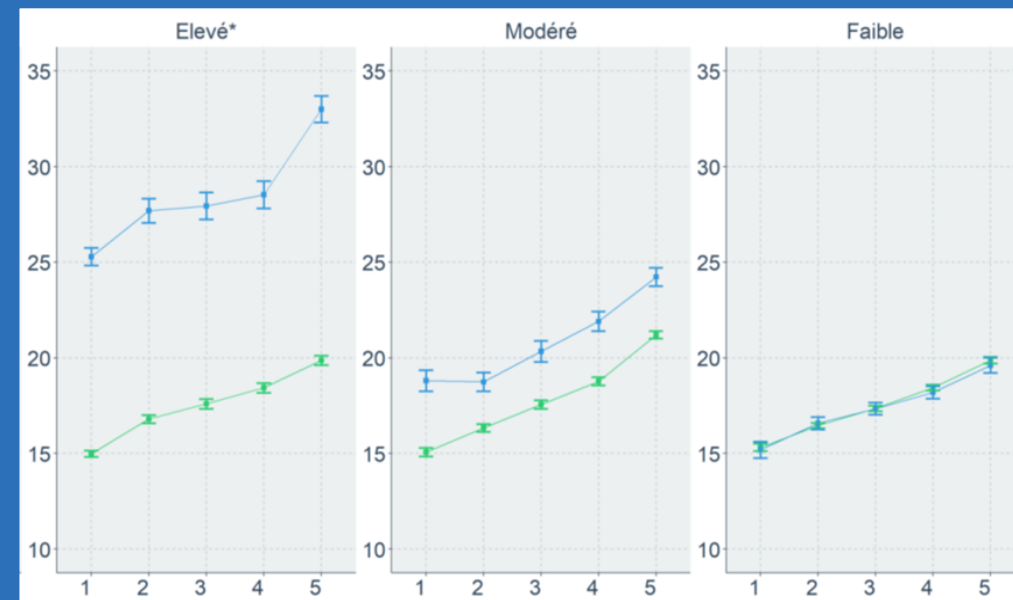
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SOCIAL GRADIENT MORTALITY INDICATORS

- Increased inequalities in mortality during the 1st wave of COVID-19 in France (FDep)
- Excess mortality per 100 000 increased the most in the most deprived index (Q5) in regions with high and moderate levels of infection (CepiDC database) from 2015-2019 vs 2020
- Annual standardised mortality rates show a clear reversal of the **healthy immigrant effect** from 2015-2019 vs 2020 (weeks 12-20)
- Greatest reversal amongst those born in **Sub-Saharan**



SOCIAL GRADIENT: CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCES DURING THE 1ST LOCKDOWN (CONFADO study)

- Children and adolescents aged 9 to 18 years completed an online questionnaire (parents completed separate questionnaire)
- Data on 1) socio-demographic characteristics, 2) living conditions, and 3) **impact of lockdown on emotional well-being**
- Facilitated advocacy for an equitable approach to reopen schools for the emotional well-being of children and adolescents
- Developed an advocacy partnership with **UNICEF France** to reduce health inequities: 1) food insecurities 2) mental health 3) first 1000 days of life

➤ Risks for elevated distress levels:

- history of emotional, affective or developmental disorders
- experiencing food difficulties (food insecurity)
- living in an isolated commune
- not having social support from one's parents
- not getting along with one's parents or one's sibling as well as usual
- having no recreational activities each week
- feeling overwhelmed by one's homework
- watching more than 5 hours of TV every day
- not having the capacity to self-isolate

➤ Protection from elevated distress levels:

- being male / not living in an urban centre / not spending time on social media every day

COVID-19 AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- **MobCo**: Knowledge mobilisation with actors and researchers
- Prisma-Scr (Jan 2021): **Structural factors** play a consistent role, while **individual factors** (age, gender, previous incarceration, drug-use, ethnicity) vary by disease and vaccine
- Factors facilitating or inhibiting vaccination vary based on **vaccine initiation vs vaccine completion**

	Facilitators	Inhibitors
Initiation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site vaccination after screening • Proximity of vaccination centre • Little to no waiting time at the vaccination centre • Community engagement and mobilisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material needs: food, water, housing/shelter
Completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving screening results • Accelerated vaccination calendar • Being accompanied by a dedicated nurse throughout the vaccination process • Convenience: associate vaccination centres with other services (Ex. needle exchange) • Financial incentives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threats of eviction • Expulsion

The screenshot shows the website interface for Santé publique France. The main navigation menu on the left includes: Maladies et traumatismes, Déterminants de santé, La santé à tout âge, Coronavirus (COVID-19), Publications, Espace Presse, Etudes et enquêtes, and A propos. The search bar at the top contains the text 'Rechercher une actualité, une publication, un document...'. The main content area features a large image of people wearing colorful headscarves. Below the image, the article title is 'Apport de la médiation en santé auprès des Gens du Voyage en Nouvelle-Aquitaine pendant l'épidémie de Covid-19'. The article text states: 'Santé publique France publie les résultats d'une étude menée en 2020 dans 6 départements de Nouvelle-Aquitaine et le plan de lutte mis en place par l'ARS contre la Covid-19 auprès des Gens du voyage.' The article was published on 21 September 2021. A sidebar on the right highlights a thematic dossier: 'Les inégalités sociales et territoriales de santé', dated 17 May 2021, with a sub-headline: 'Les inégalités de santé concernent toute la population sur l'ensemble du gradient social et peuvent apparaître dès le plus jeune âge. Des mesures favorisant l'égalité...'. At the bottom of the article, there is a red text box: 'L'épidémie de Covid-19 a eu des conséquences directes ou indirectes au sein des populations en situation de vulnérabilité. C'est pourquoi, compte tenu des difficultés de recours au dépistage et d'accès aux soins pour les Gens du voyage et des difficultés de réalisation du contact tracing à distance, l'Agence régionale de santé (ARS) Nouvelle-Aquitaine a élaboré, dès le 30 mars 2020, un plan de lutte contre la Covid-19 spécifique à cette population.'

COVID-19 ACTION PLAN FOR TRAVELLERS

- Explored the contribution of health mediation when investigating complex COVID-19 clusters
- The Action Plan helped guide the implementation of COVID-19 contact-tracing, screening, and prevention for Travellers
- Deployed by the regional health authority (ARS) : facilitating coordination and cooperative public action at a local level
- First steps towards a COVID-19 care pathway adapted to the living conditions of Traveller populations
- Health promotion and prevention communications adapted and supported via a community-centred approach

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
Santé publique France

Vaccins Covid - Pour comprendre

Vaccins Covid-19, les infos à connaître

À quoi servent les vaccins ?

Grâce aux vaccins, votre corps apprend à reconnaître la Covid et à se défendre.

Les vaccins Covid sont très efficaces pour se protéger des formes graves de la Covid.

Pour le moment, même vaccinés, nous devons continuer les gestes barrières (masque, lavage de mains, distance).

Qui peut se faire vacciner ?

Le vaccin est proposé aux adultes et certains sont prioritaires :

- personnes âgées
- personnes avec une santé fragile (par exemple cancer, maladies rares)
- personnes qui ont plus de risque d'attraper la Covid. Par exemple celles qui vivent en foyer, en hébergement collectif et les professionnels de santé.

STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATIONS

SPFrance's focus on an equitable response has :

- Facilitated **knowledge mobilization** around innovative approaches in the field and generating new (adapted) research and studies for highly vulnerable populations (PEH, migrants, travellers, etc.)
- Helped initiate and support an **applied research collaboration** (PREVAC project with MSF/Epicentre) to identify conditions for effective COVID-19 vaccination
- Provided a collective overview of the **interdependent social and health issues** amongst highly vulnerable populations, notably via a collective consultation process to better understand difficulties vaccinating populations without social security numbers
- Facilitated the co-development of COVID-19 information tool accessible to social workers and health mediators and its evaluation (process + impact)

PERSPECTIVES

- Strong evidence of ethnic inequalities when it comes to COVID-19 case and mortality rates
- Children and adolescents were strongly affected by lockdown measures, specifically school closures
- Socially and economically disadvantaged populations (people experiencing homelessness, gypsies, travellers, etc.) were also strongly impacted
- Findings from early and ongoing studies at SpFrance have facilitated our role in advocating for equitable health measures and developing collaborative interventions