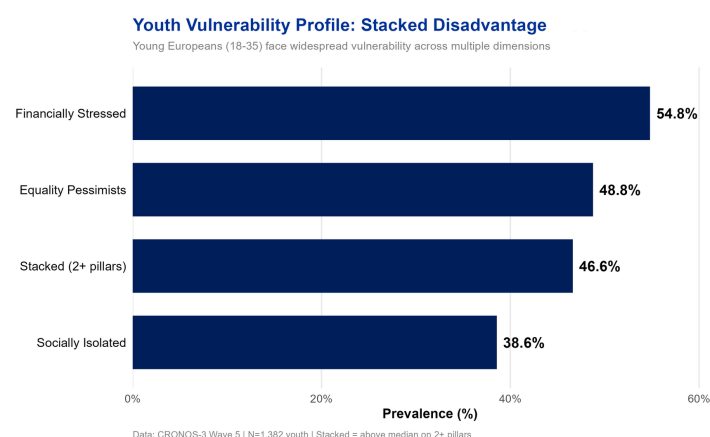


STACKED DISADVANTAGE AMONG YOUNG EUROPEANS

STACKED DISADVANTAGE REFERS TO THE CO-OCCURRENCE OF MULTIPLE FORMS OF VULNERABILITY. IN THIS STUDY, INDIVIDUALS ARE CONSIDERED “STACKED” IF THEY SHOW HIGH VULNERABILITY IN AT LEAST 2 OF 3 DIMENSIONS:

- FINANCIAL STRESS
- SOCIAL ISOLATION
- PESSIMISM ABOUT EQUALITY

Nearly 1 in 2 young Europeans faces multiple vulnerabilities



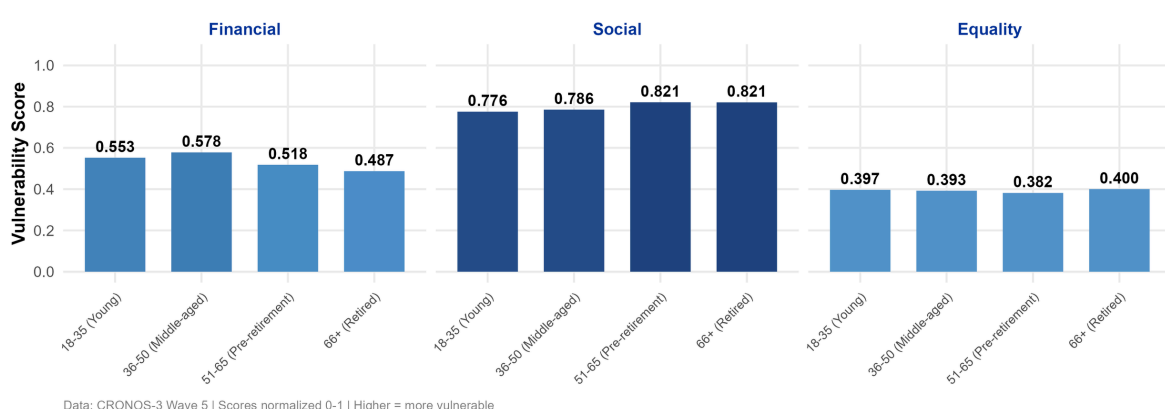
46.6% of youth experience stacked disadvantage. Financial stress is the most widespread dimension, but vulnerabilities frequently overlap.

Disadvantage is multi-dimensional

- Financial stress and social isolation show the largest gaps
- Pessimism about equality is widespread across groups
- Vulnerabilities reinforce each other rather than occur in isolation

Pillar-Specific Vulnerability Across Age Groups

Mean vulnerability score by pillar (0=best, 1=worst)



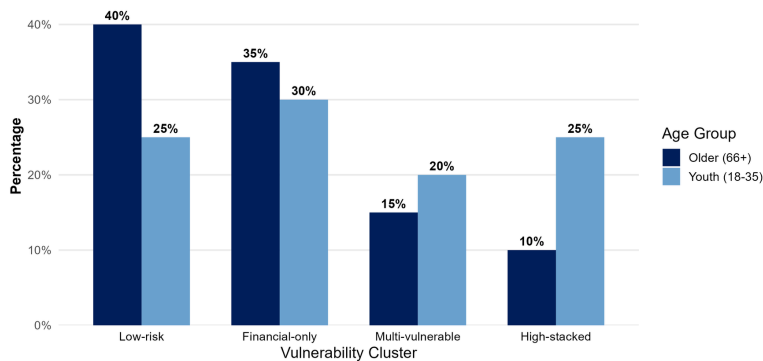
Youth are overrepresented in high-risk profiles

Young people are more likely to belong to multi-vulnerable and high-stacked groups, and less likely to be in low-risk profiles.

Disadvantage is not only widespread – it is concentrated.

Youth Over-Represented in High-Risk Clusters

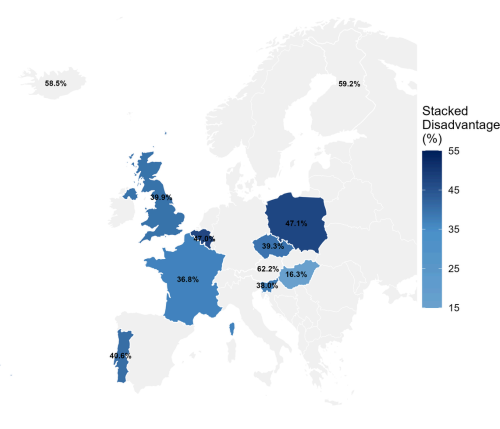
Distribution across vulnerability profiles



Stacked disadvantage varies across Europe

Geography of Stacked Disadvantage in Europe

with high vulnerability on 2+ pillars (CRONOS-3 countries, all ages)



- Strong cross-country variation in prevalence
- Indicates the role of economic and institutional context
- Suggests that one-size-fits-all policies may be ineffective

Policy implications

Universal policies

- Address widespread financial stress
- Reduce social isolation among youth
- Improve perceived fairness and opportunity

Targeted policies

- Focus on multi-vulnerable groups
- Identify high-risk profiles early
- Combine economic and social interventions

Youth disadvantage in Europe is:
WIDESPREAD • MULTI-DIMENSIONAL • STRUCTURED

METHODS

Data: CRONOS-3 Wave 5
Youth sample: N = 1,382

Approach:
• Stacked indicator (≥2 vulnerabilities)
• Cluster analysis (k-means, k=4)

Results are descriptive (not causal).

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