



“I cannot even put into words the freedom that the 9-Euro Ticket has given me”

How the low-income in the hvv used the 9-Euro-Ticket and why the “Deutschlandticket” falls short
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hvv: Hamburger Verkehrsverbund

- 3.8m people in three states
- 28 operators, ~10k stops
- relatively high fares



Basemap: EuroGeographics and UN-FAO
hvv area: hvv (2022)

30 Respondents: urban, poor, mainly female, elderly

Gender

8 men



22 Women

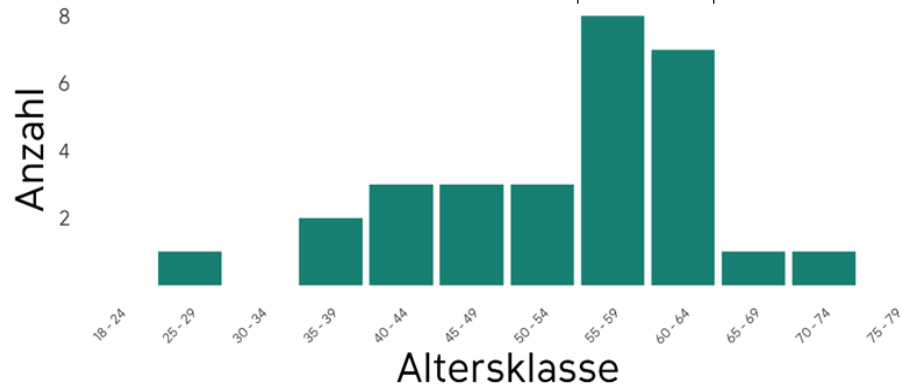
Economic status

According to National Transport Survey



21 x very low
9 x low

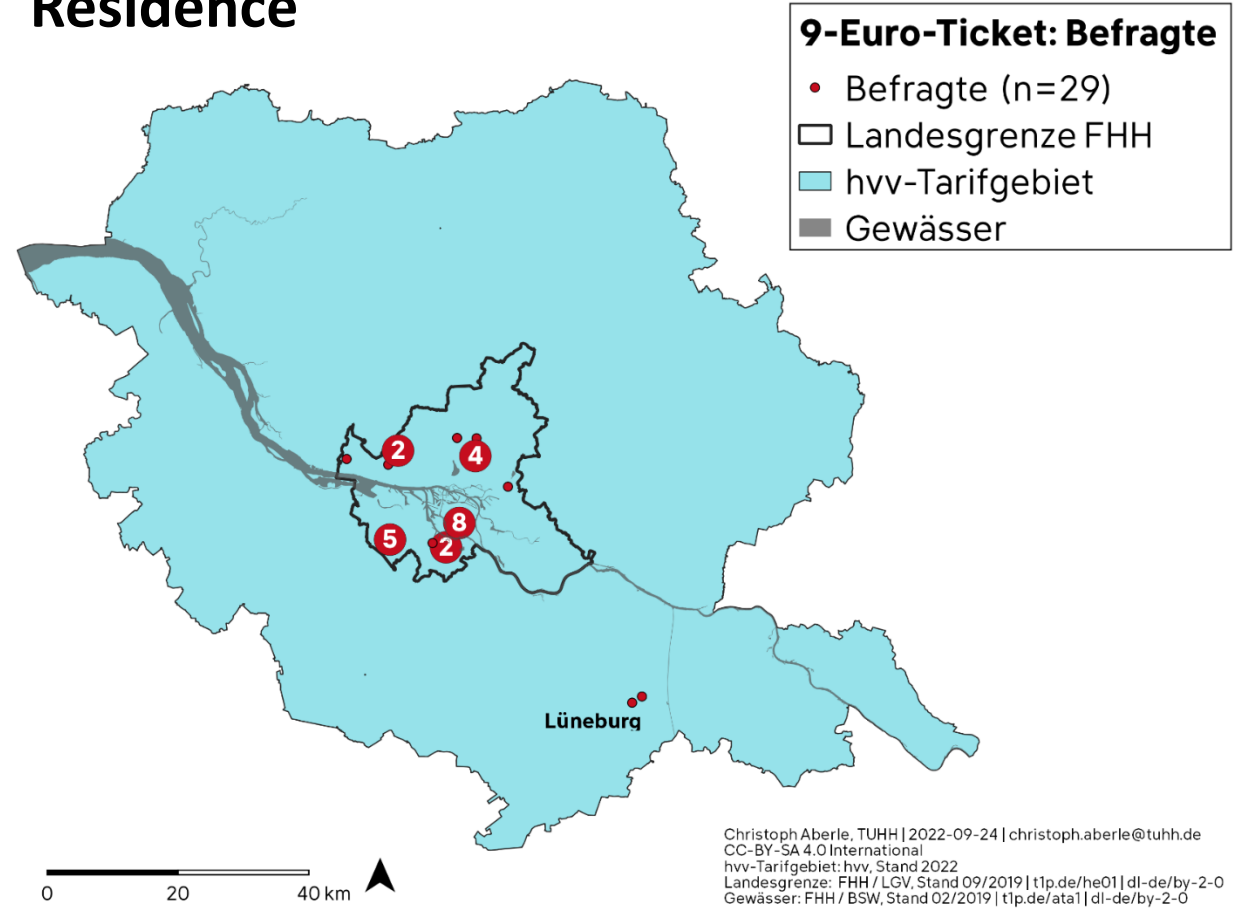
Age



55-64 years

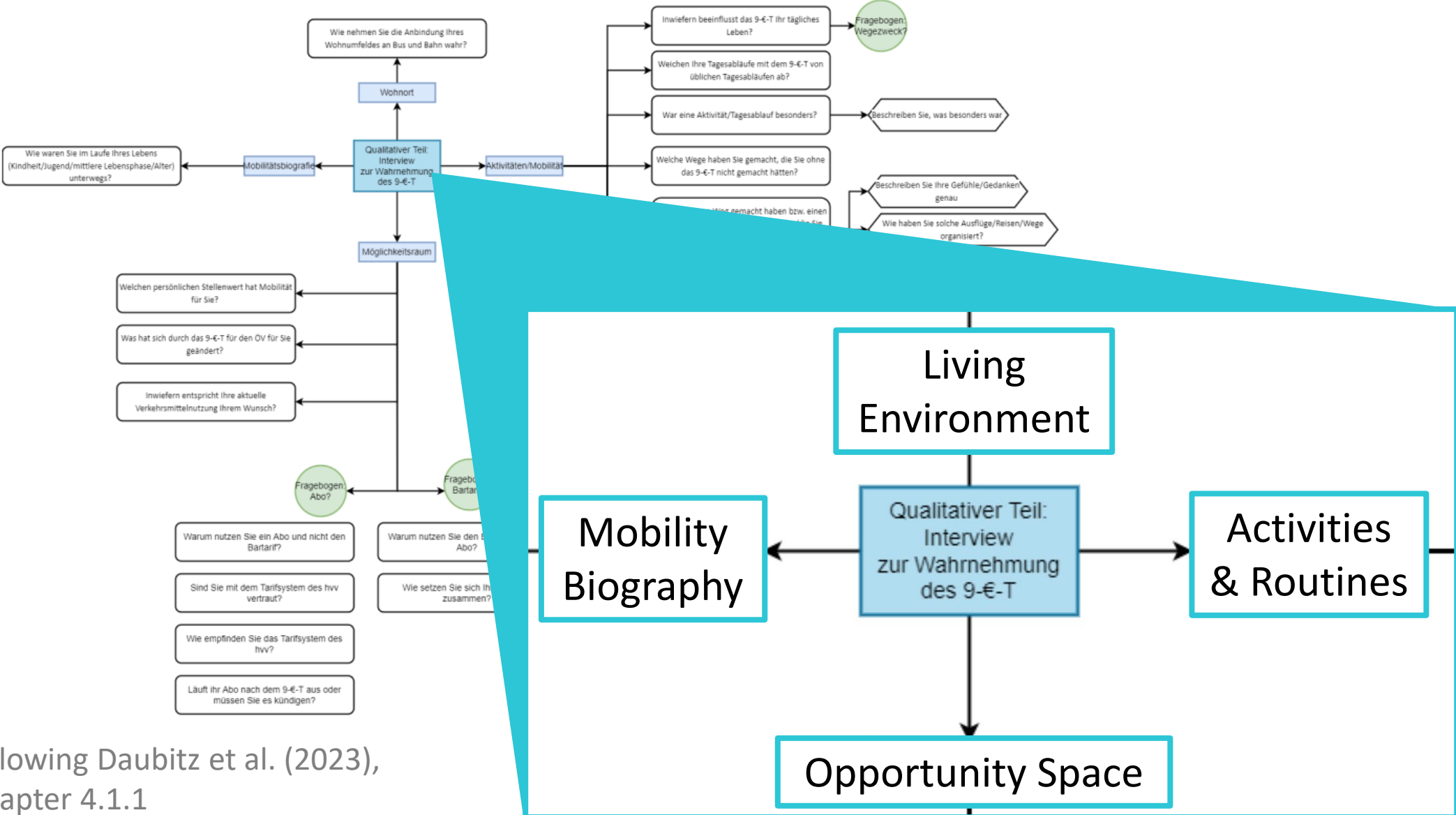
n = 29 einkommensarme Personen im hvv

Residence



Christoph Aberle, TUHH | 2022-09-24 | christoph.aberle@tuhh.de
 CC-BY-SA 4.0 International
 hvv-Tarifgebiet: hvv, Stand 2022
 Landesgrenze: FHH / LGV, Stand 09/2019 | tlp.de/he01 | dl-de/by-2-0
 Gewässer: FHH / BSW, Stand 02/2019 | tlp.de/ata1 | dl-de/by-2-0

Semi-structured interviews



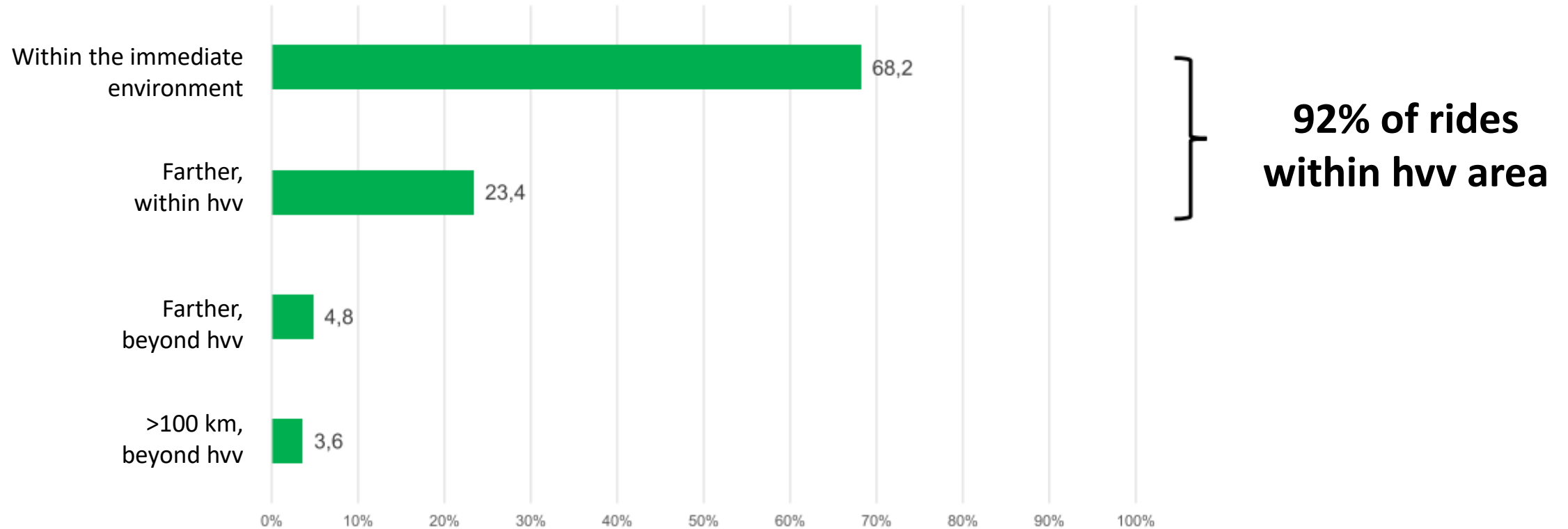
following Daubitz et al. (2023),
 5 Chapter 4.1.1

The 9-Euro Ticket

How did it benefit people in poverty?

Mobility beyond their immediate environment

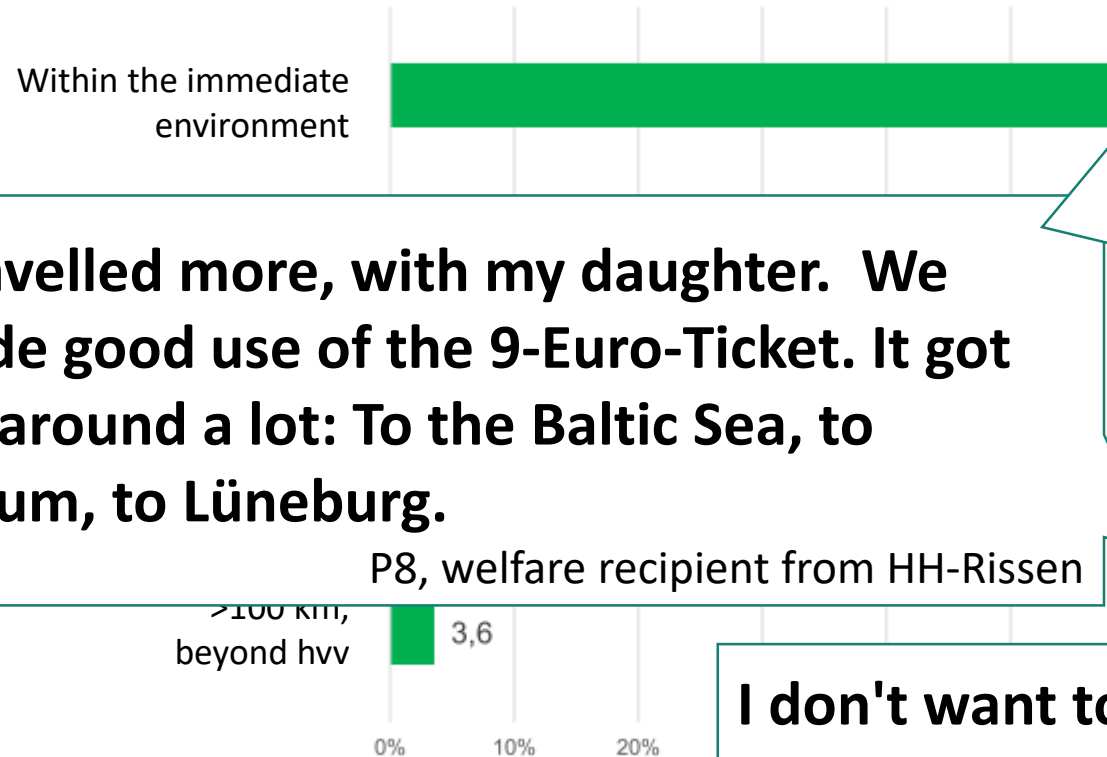
Where 9€ rides were made (hvv users, all income groups)



n = 945 users in hvv in June/July, all income groups,
representative survey / Auzins (2022a, F. 8)

Mobility beyond their immediate environment

Where 9€ rides were made (hvv users)



A hvv ticket to my son is 16 euros back & forth. Without the 9-Euro ticket, I would visit him less often. Now, finally, I can see my grandchildren more frequently.

P1, elderly welfare recipient from HH-Billstedt

I travelled more, with my daughter. We made good use of the 9-Euro-Ticket. It got me around a lot: To the Baltic Sea, to Büsum, to Lüneburg.

P8, welfare recipient from HH-Rissen

I don't want to travel nationwide because I see how crowded the trains are. Trips up to one or two hours are fine, but what's further away is too crowded and too stressful for me.

P1, elderly welfare recipient from HH-Billstedt

An intuitive tariff logic

The 9-Euro Ticket ...

... is a good way to get to know public transport better.

☐ ... has a very attractive price.

... is a good reason to leave the car at home.

... makes me use public transport more often than before.

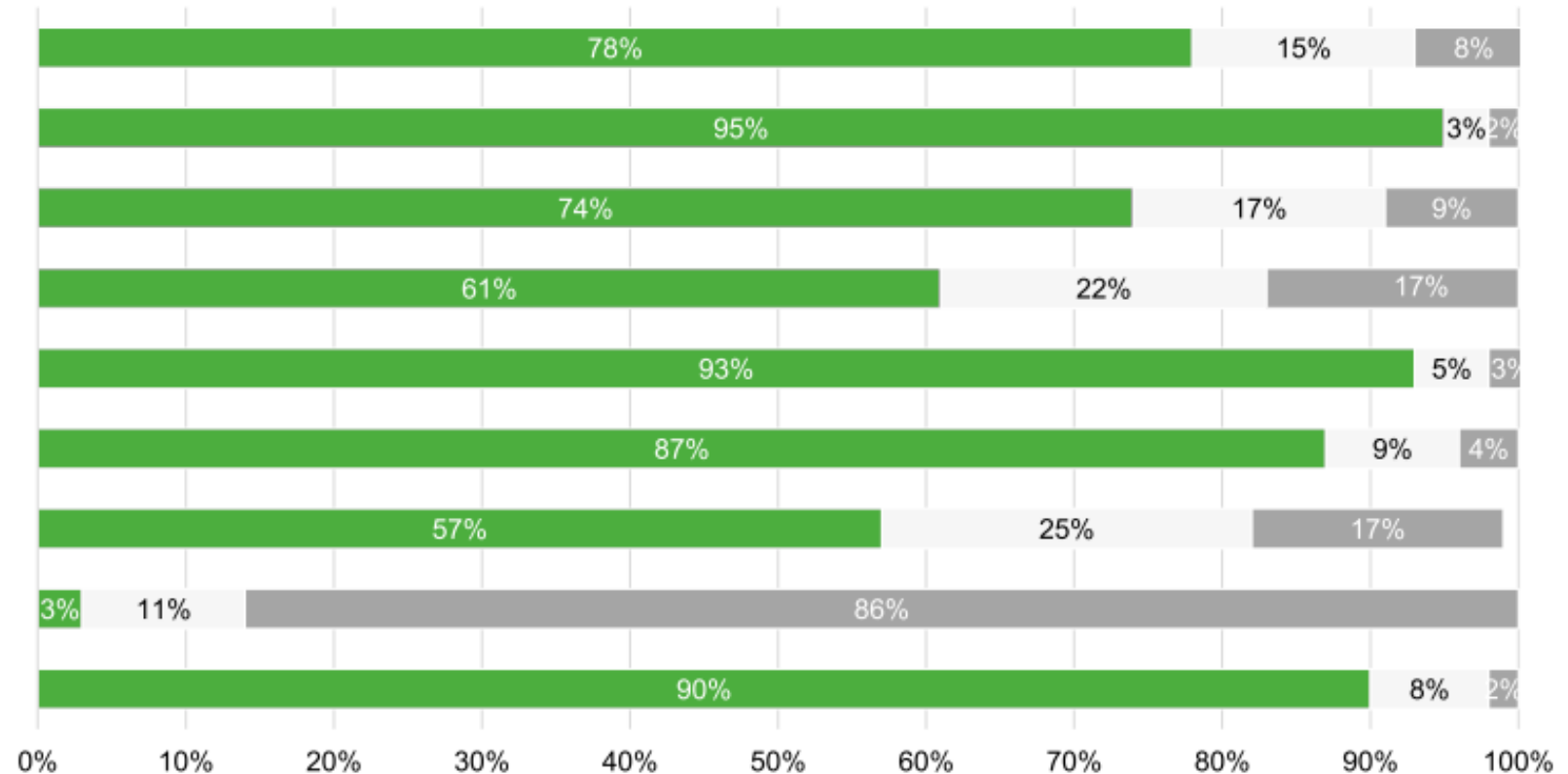
☐ ... is easy and uncomplicated to buy.

... is clear and easy to understand.

... improves my satisfaction with the hvv.

... I don't care, I don't use public transport anyway.

... is overall very attractive.



Scale from "1 - strongly agree" to "5 - strongly disagree".

n = 945 users in hvv in June/July, all income groups, representative survey / Auzins (2022a, F. 7), colouring adapted

An intuitive tariff logic

The 9-Euro Ticket ...

... is a good way to use public transport better.

... has a very attractive price.

... is a good reason to use public transport.

... makes me use public transport more often than before.

... is easy and useful.

... is clear and easy to understand.

... improves my satisfaction with public transport.

... I don't care, I don't use public transport anyway.

... is overall very attractive.

Yes, you don't worry so much. I don't need to worry. For these 9 euros, I really do ride around Hamburg. Of course I take what I can get, because it will be gone later.

P8, welfare recipient from HH-Rissen

I can't even put into words the freedom that the 9-Euro-Ticket has brought me! For three months I've been on the road almost every day without a second thought! That was very important for my body and my psyche.

P29, Lüneburg, Refugee and welfare recipient



"1 - strongly disagree".

... fully, all income groups,

representative survey / Auzins (2022a, F. 7), colouring adapted

What comes after the 9-Euro Ticket?

Back to the question: Eating or taking the bus?

The 9-euro ticket was a great offer for everyone. Only, now we're faced with the question again: Do I have to buy my expensive ticket again?

P1, elderly welfare recipient from HH-Billstedt

Wenn you open your cash envelope, there's 8€ a day, which you can use to buy food, and if you then have to buy a ticket for 3.40€, that's really tight. You think twice about that.

P8, welfare recipient from HH-Rissen

Of course I buy tickets again, even if they are expensive! I'm much too afraid of being checked and that the police will come.

P30, Lüneburg, Refugee, without papers

The 49€ Deutschlandticket

The 49€ Deutschlandticket

- 49€/month, only as a subscription
- local and regional PT all over Germany
- Since May 2023



The 49€ Deutschlandticket

- "Vacuum cleaner" that sucks out fare revenue (Werner 2022)
- renders ~85% of hvv subscription fares obsolete (Auzins 2022b, F. 32)
- "Without additional funding we see **at most the maintenance of the current PT level, no expansion, let alone a turnaround in transport**" (Werner 2022, mutatis mutandis)

Zeitkarten	Monatskarten				Wochenkarten	Abonnementskarten			
	Vollzeit	Studierende / Auszubildende	Teilzeit	Senioren		Vollzeit	Studierende / Auszubildende	Teilzeit	Senioren
1 Zone *	56,40 €	41,40 €	41,30 €	39,10 €	14,80 €	46,30 €	34,00 €	33,80 €	32,10 €
2 Zonen	73,70 €	54,20 €			19,40 €	49,00 €	44,50 €		
3 Zonen	102,90 €	75,80 €	47,50 €		27,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	38,90 €	
AB / 4 Zonen	118,20 €	87,00 €	69,20 €	65,80 €	31,10 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €
AB + 1 / 5 Zonen	148,50 €	109,50 €			39,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €		
AB + 2 / 6 Zonen / 3 Ringe	178,80 €	131,50 €	95,30 €	90,40 €	47,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €
AB + 3 / 7 Zonen	209,10 €	154,00 €			54,90 €	49,00 €	49,00 €		
4 Ringe	222,30 €	163,70 €			58,40 €	49,00 €	49,00 €		
5 Ringe	236,40 €	174,00 €	114,80 €	109,10 €	62,10 €	49,00 €	49,00 €		49,00 €
6 Ringe	254,90 €	187,80 €			67,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €		
7 Ringe	259,00 €	191,00 €			68,10 €	49,00 €	49,00 €		
Gesamtnetz	262,00 €	193,40 €	155,00 €	147,40 €	68,90 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €	49,00 €

Entfallende Abos
Monatskarten teurer als



Photo: "Baby Boy With Vacuum Cleaner" by AquaMechanical via Flickr / CC-BY 2.0 / optional

Deutschlandticket with a social discount?

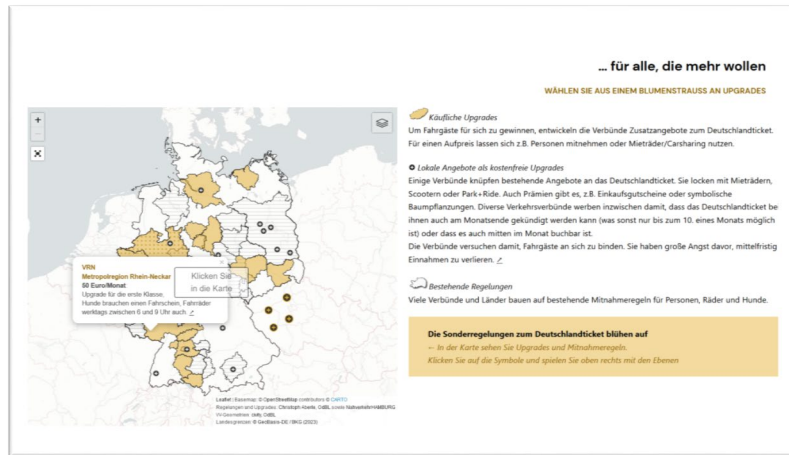
- Ongoing debates regarding the future funding of the Deutschlandticket (currently ~3bn €/yr)
- Willingness/Ability to pay among low-income populations: **~25€**
(Aberle et al. 2022, Hille & Gather 2022)
- 29-euro social fare was discarded by the coalition (Kröber 2022)
- Transport Minister Wissing (Liberals/ FDP):
„We want to keep it simple –
the social tickets should be offered and paid for by the Länder" (2022)

Conclusion

- The 9-euro ticket brought poor people an unknown **freedom**:
To move confidently also beyond their local environment
- Respondents in Hamburg used the offer mostly **at home + region**, only sparsely for long-distance travel
- For low-income populations, **the 49-Euro Deutschlandticket is too costly**, but there is a variety of social fares
- The **future funding is unclear**, the gov't might even roll back the offer



Read more mostly in German



Landingpage
about the
Deutschlandticket

WasBringt49.de

→English t1p.de/wn49_en



Voices on the
9-Euro-Ticket

doi.org/10.15480/882.4562



Article in the
DWVG Journal

doi.org/10.15480/882.4558

mobileinclusion.de/material

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