



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

OBSERVATOIRE
DE LA VIE ÉTUDIANTE

Early factors of success and failure in the University of Geneva

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University drop out as a new social question

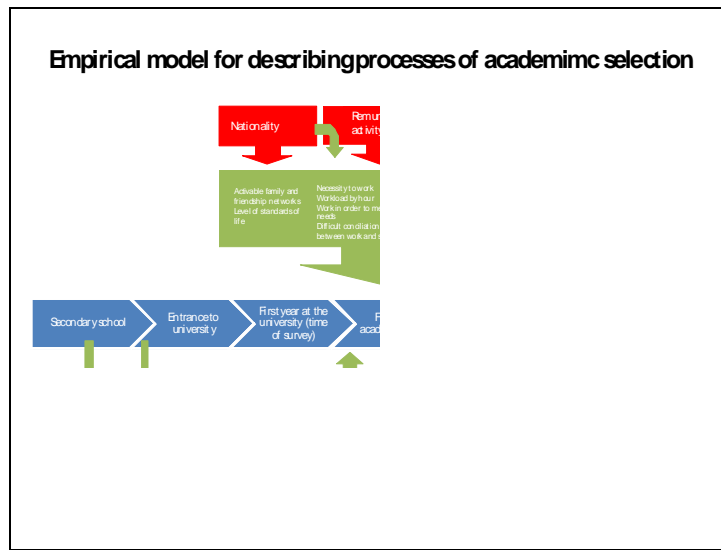
- More and more discourses
- More and more studies
- More and more measures

Let's notice that this problem is not a new one. In fact, stability of these rates.

But massification of universities products also massification of academic failures.

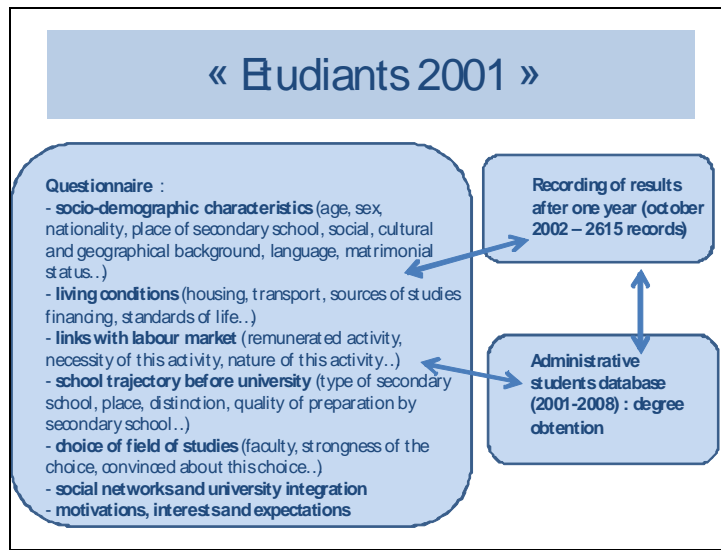
Our research try to understand :

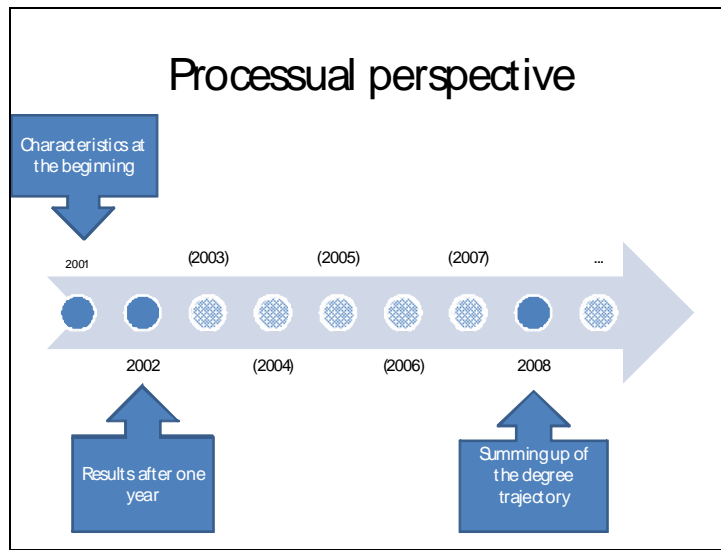
- Which factors play a role
- By which processes they play this role



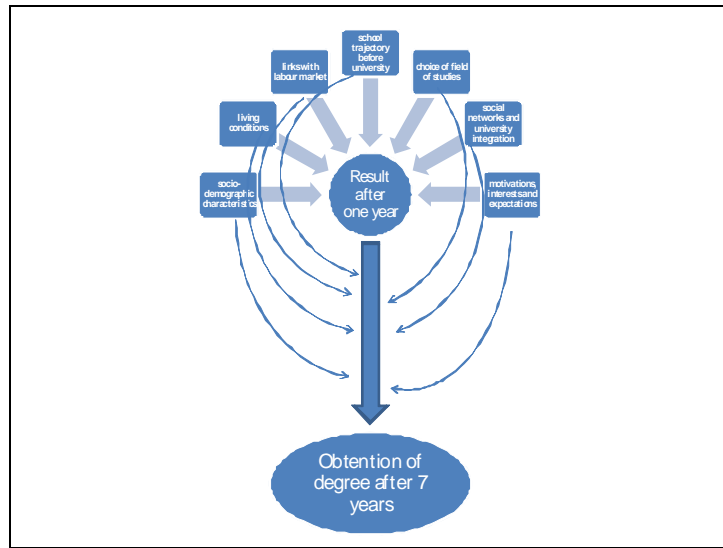
« Etudiants 2001 »

- New students at the university of Geneva (students in their first year)
- The entire targeted-population (not a sample)
- 2724 students concerned
- 1686 respondents (response rate : 62%)
- After one year (2002) : recording of each academic result (promotion, repeating, still in course, elimination, dis-registration)
- After seven year (2008) : recording whether each student obtained a degree (which degree and when)





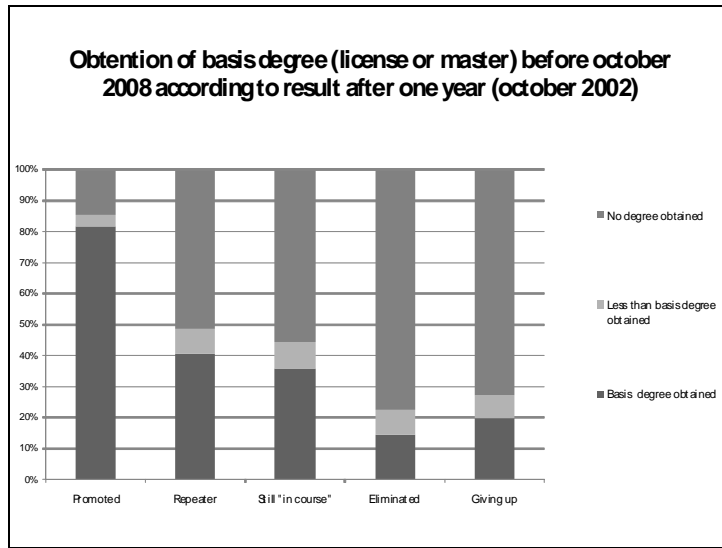
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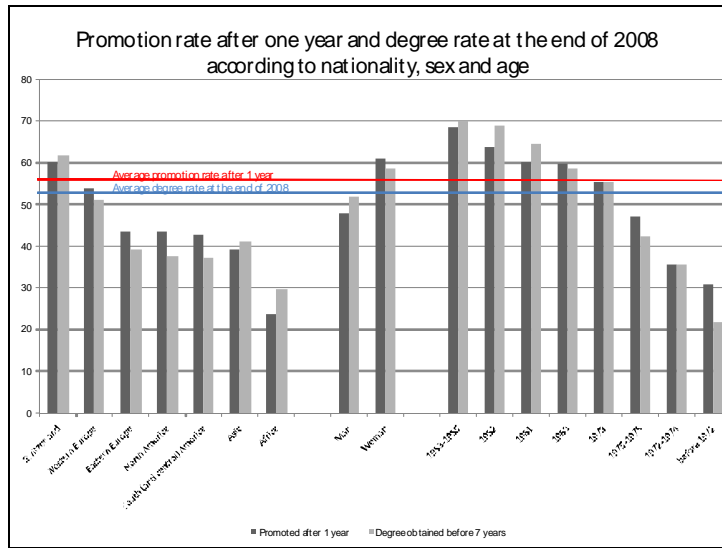


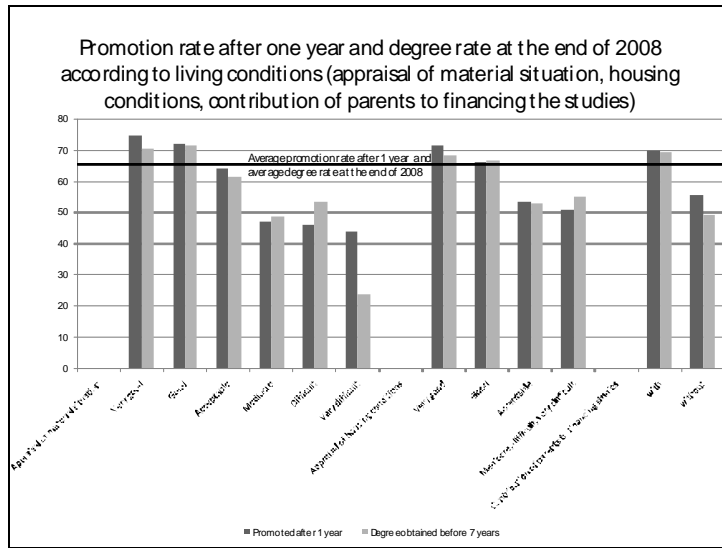
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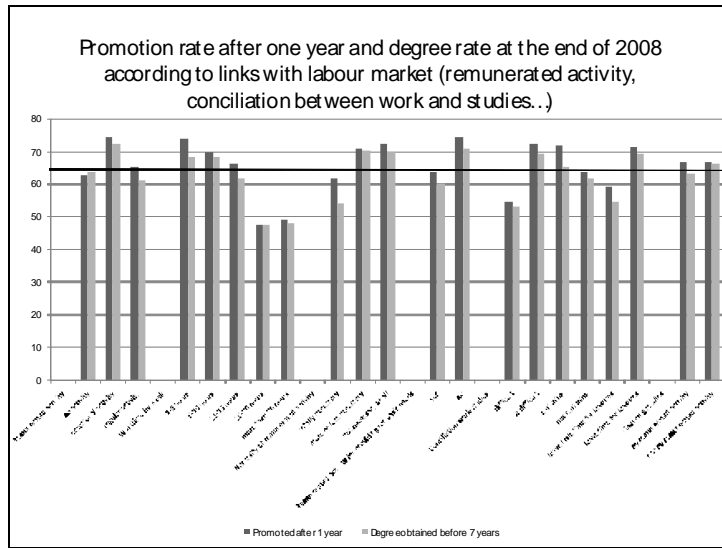
First year academic results

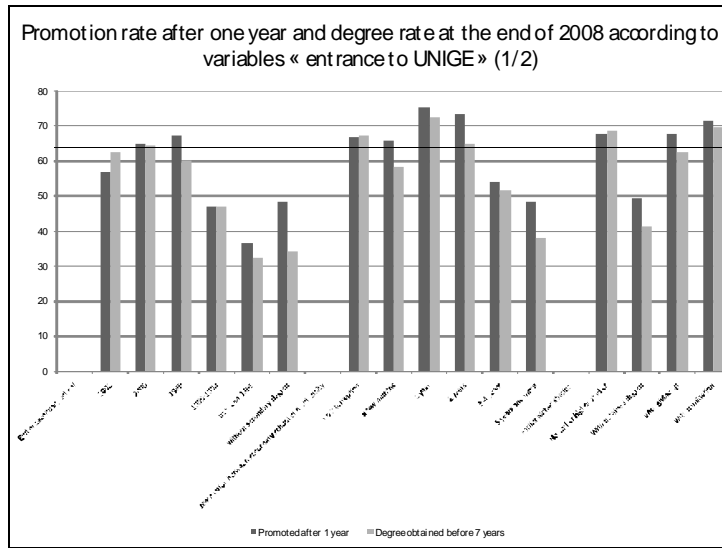
	N	%	Responses rate for the survey
Promotion	1458	55.8	74.8
Repeating	348	13.3	60.3
Still « in course »	162	6.2	57.4
Elimination	233	8.9	48.5
Giving up	414	15.8	32.1
Total	2615	100	62.7

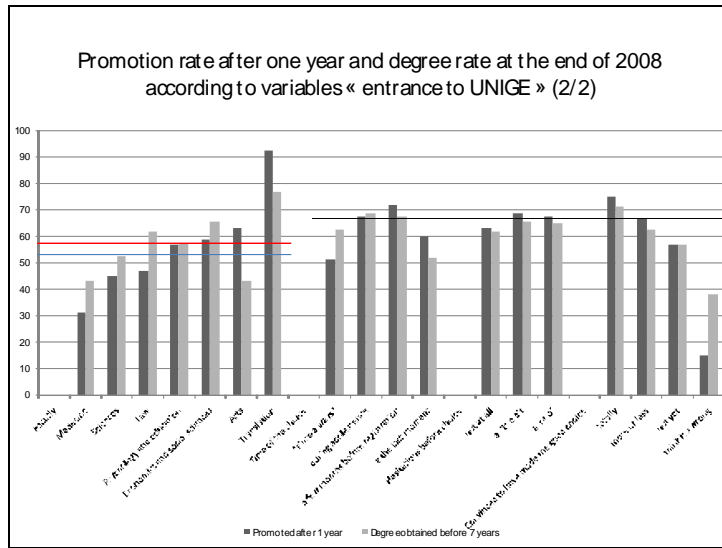


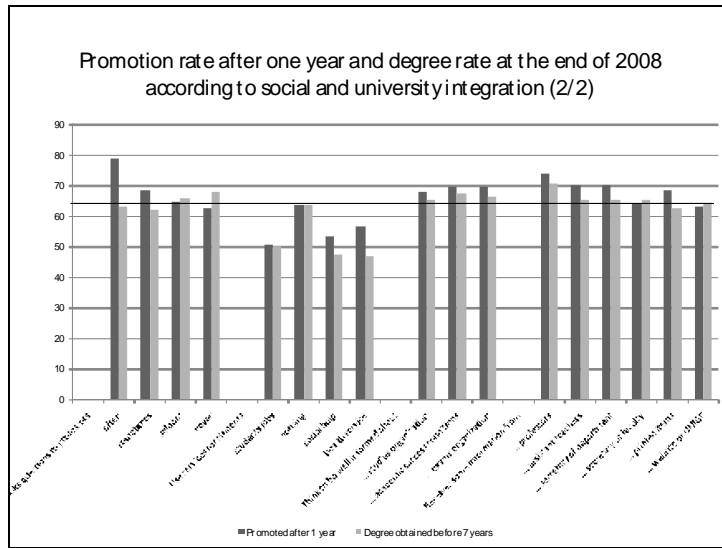


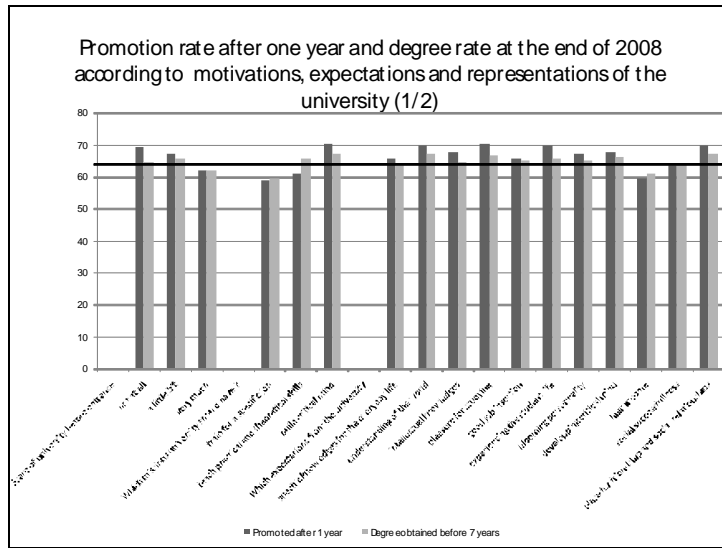


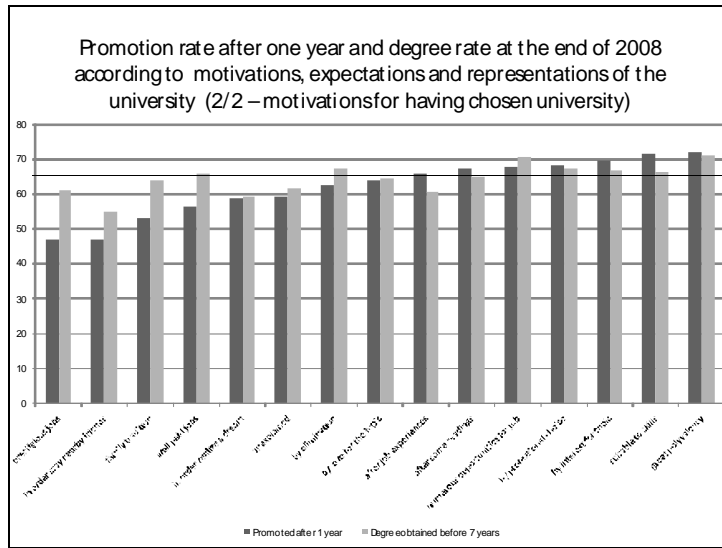












Which kind of factors are influent ?

- Nationality
- Year of birth
- Living conditions
- Remunerated activity
- Secondary school
- Interruption
- Previous university degree
- Faculty
- Conviction of having made the good choice
- Commitment in « student job » (particularly contacts with professors)
- To have diverse social insertions (relational, activities, leisure, job, institutional..)
- To aim polyvalency

Which factors are influent after 1 year
..but no longer (or less) influent after 7 years ?

- Interruption
- Entrance to UNICEvariables
- Social activities
- Job of student (« métier d'étudiant »)
- Motivations and expectations for university

Logistic regression :
probability of having
been promoted after the
first university year

	Coef.	Sig.
Year of birth		
1983-85	1.890	.000***
1982	1.456	.000***
1981	1.235	.000***
1980	1.180	.000***
1979	.538	.092
1975-78	.546	.080
1972-74	.625	.103
before 1972	---	---
Nationality		
Switzerland	1.347	.000***
WesternEurope	1.006	.004**
EasternEurope	.164	.719
North America	.817	.255
South (and central) America	.254	.652
Asia	1.164	.033*
AFrica	---	---
Remunerated activity		
No activity	-.915	.002**
Regular activity (part time)	-.331	.033*
Regular activity	-1.428	.018*
Occasional activity	---	---
Faculty		
Medicine	-4.803	.000***
Sciences	-3.041	.000***
Economics	-2.728	.000***
Social sciences	-3.352	.002**
Law	-2.970	.000***
Psychology	-2.615	.001**
Education	-2.793	.000***
Art	-1.909	.012*
Transkript	---	---
Considned to have made good choice		
Totally	3.316	.000***
More or less	2.829	.000***
Not yet	2.204	.000***
Thinks choice may be wrong	---	---

**Logistic regression :
probability of having
obtained a basis degree
after seven year at the
university**

	Coef.	Sig.
Year of birth		
1983-85	1.656	.000***
1982	1.711	.000***
1981	1.586	.000***
1980	1.194	.000***
1979	1.082	.000***
1975-78	.840	.001**
1972-74	.898	.002**
before 1972	---	---
Faculty		
medicine	-.811	.029**
sciences	-.325	.338
economics	.204	.552
social sciences	.242	.457
law	.516	.143
psychology	-.565	.097
education	-.035	.921
arts	-1.219	.000***
translation	---	---
First year academic result		
promoted	2.995	.000***
repeater	.828	.000***
eliminated	-.541	.023**
giving up	---	---