#### SEMINAR 3 FERTILITY

Chen Luo (l.chen7@uw.edu.pl)

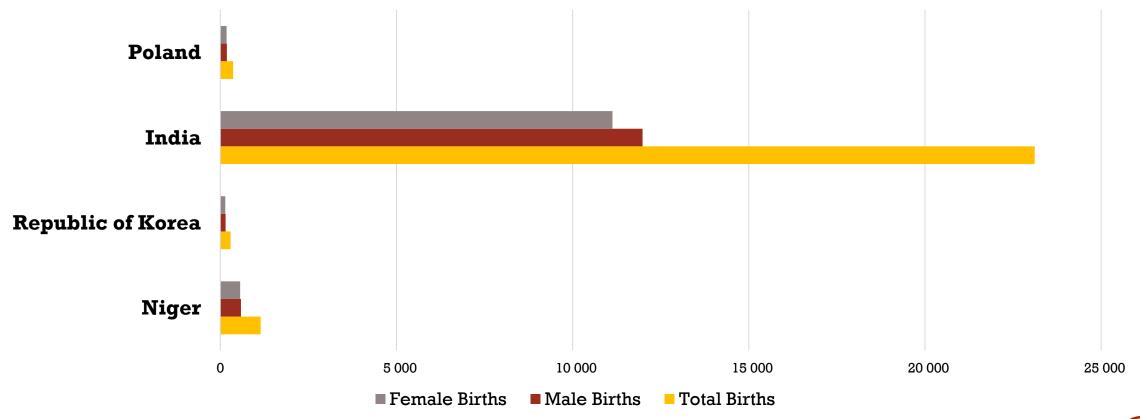
Interdisciplinary Centre for Labour Market and Family Dynamics (LABRAM)
Faculty of Economic Sciences
University of Warsaw



# MEASURING FERTILITY INTERPRETING KEY FERTILITY INDICATORS

## BIRTHS

Figure 1. Births (thousands), by country and sex, 2021







## BIRTHS - CRUDE BIRTH RATE

• We need to measure fertility based on the **demographic features** of a country

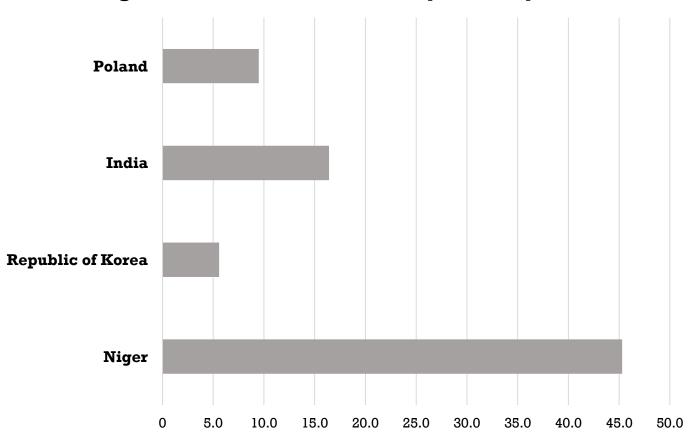
- We need to take the *population size* into account
  - The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) captures the number of births per 1,000 population

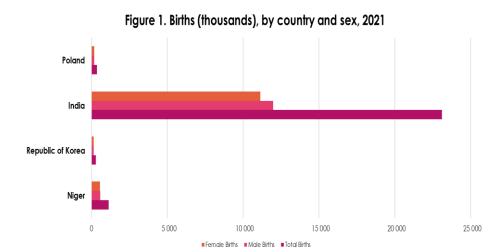
• 
$$CBR = \frac{Number\ of\ live\ births\ in\ a\ year}{Average\ population\ in\ that\ year}*1000$$



## CRUDE BIRTH RATE

Figure 2. Crude Birth Rate by country, 2021





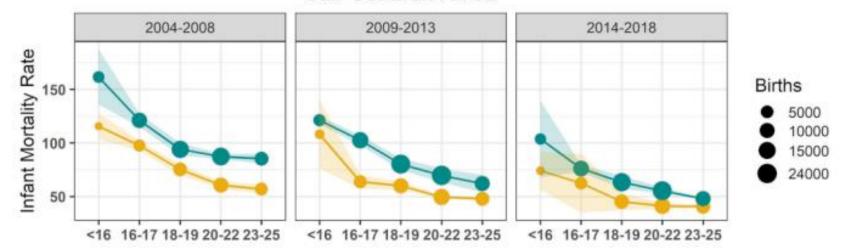


## AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE

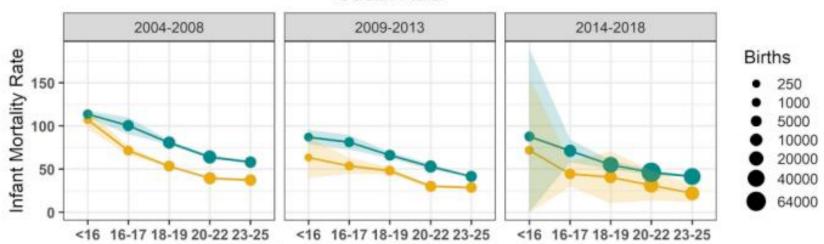
- Any other factors than population size?
- We also need to consider the *population structure*, *particularly for mothers* 
  - The Age-Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR) and Total Fertility Rate (TFR) capture the number of births per woman, taking into account variations in fertility patterns across different age groups
  - The ASFR measures the annual number of births to women of a specified age or age group
  - $ASFR_i = \frac{Number\ of\ births\ to\ women\ in\ age\ group\ i\ in\ a\ given\ year}{Number\ of\ women\ in\ age\ group\ i\ in\ that\ year}$



#### Sub-Saharan Africa



#### South Asia



Maternal Age at First Birth (Years)

Notes: infant mortality: death within the first year of life

Green: rural area; Yellow: urban area

## ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY AND CHILD MORTALITY

Figure 3. Infant mortality rate in Sub-Saharan Africa, by period and maternal age at first birth

Source: Noori N, et al. BMJ

Global Health

2022;7:e007681.

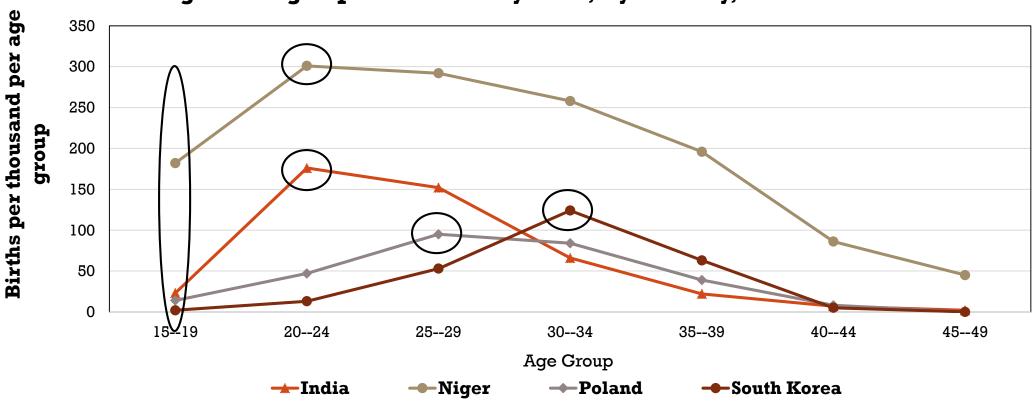
doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2021-

007681



## AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE

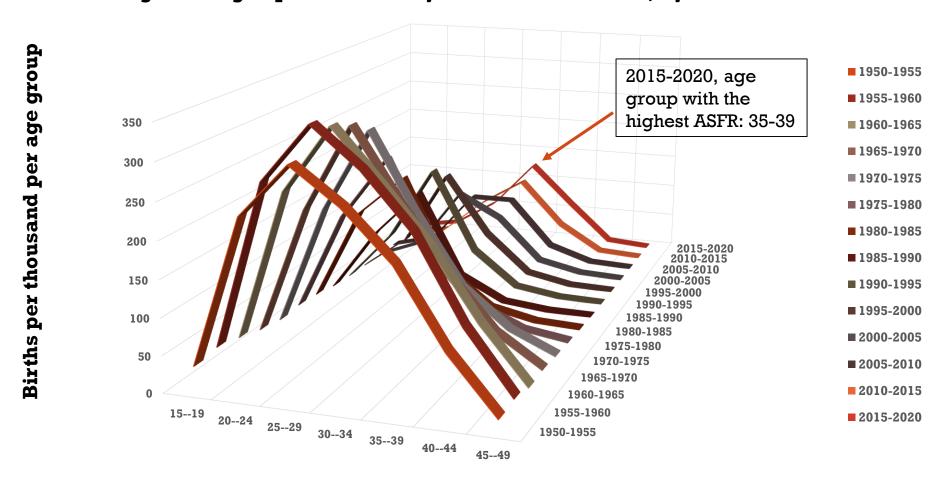
Figure 4. Age-Specific Fertility Rate, by country, 2015-2020





## AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE

Figure 5. Age-Specific Fertility Rate in South Korea, by Period



- From Age-Specific Fertility Rate to Total Fertility Rate (TFR):
- TFR: the average number of live births a hypothetical cohort of women would have at the end of their reproductive period if they were subject during their whole lives to the fertility rates of a given period and if they were not subject to mortality. It is expressed as live births per woman. (UN (2022), World Population Prospects)
- Briefly, it captures the number of children a woman would have if she survived the end of her reproductive age and experienced the ASFRs of the period in question throughout her reproductive life

TFR =  $5 * \sum_{i=1}^{n} ASFR_i$  when ASFR is measured for age group (per 5 year)

TFR =  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} ASFR_i$  when ASFR is measured per age



#### Exercise 1. Calculate age-specific fertility rate, TFR, and crude birth rate

<b>37</b>		Age Group							
Year		15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44		
2010	Number of births	50	390	660	720	400	140		
	Number of women	5000	5200	5500	6000	6400	7000		
	Average population	175500							
	ASFR								
	CBR								
	TFR								

$$CBR = \frac{Number\ of\ live\ births\ in\ a\ year}{Average\ population\ in\ that\ year}\ x1000$$

$$TFR = 5 * \sum_{i=1}^{n} ASFR_{i}$$



#### **Answer:**

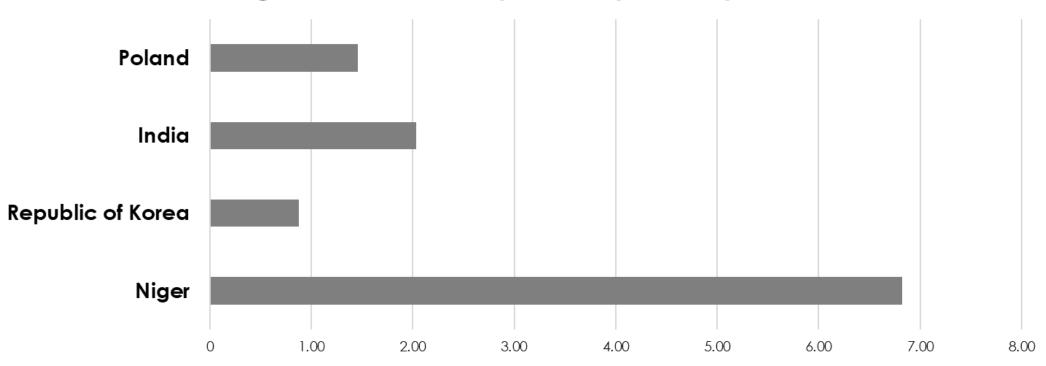
Year		Age Group								
iear		15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44			
2010	Number of births	50	390	660	720	400	140			
	Number of women	5000	5200	5500	6000	6400	7000			
	Average population	175500								
	ASFR	0.01	0.075	0.12	0.12	0.0625	0.02			
	CBR	13.45								
	TFR	2.0375								

$$CBR = \frac{Number\ of\ live\ births\ in\ a\ year}{Average\ population\ in\ that\ year}\ x1000$$

$$TFR = 5 * \sum_{i=1}^{n} ASFR_{i}$$



Figure 6. Total Fertility Rate, by country, 2021





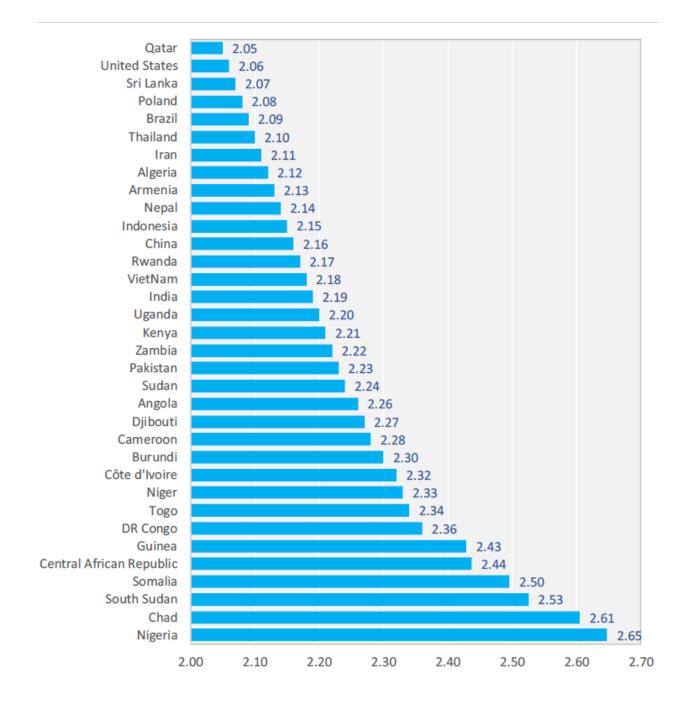


## REPLACEMENT LEVEL FERTILITY

- A level of TFR that implies a generation produces enough children to replace itself (TFR(R))
- It also depends on the sex ratio at birth, mortality rate and migration
- In the absence of mortality
  - Female birth rate (FBR): ratio of female births in the population:
    - FBR = female births/(female births + male births)
  - To maintain a constant generation size: TFR(R) \* FBR = 1
  - $\frac{Births}{Nr.women} * \frac{Nr.women}{(Nr.women+Nr.men)} = 1 \text{ (births = women + men)}$
  - Therefore, TFR(R) = 1/FBR
- If the sex ratio is 105:100, then  $TFR(R) = \frac{1}{FBR} = 1/(\frac{100}{(100+105)}) = 2.05$
- If the sex ratio is 110:100

$$TFR(R) = \frac{1}{FBR} = \frac{1}{100/(100+110)} = 2.10$$





#### REPLACEMENT LEVEL FERTILIY

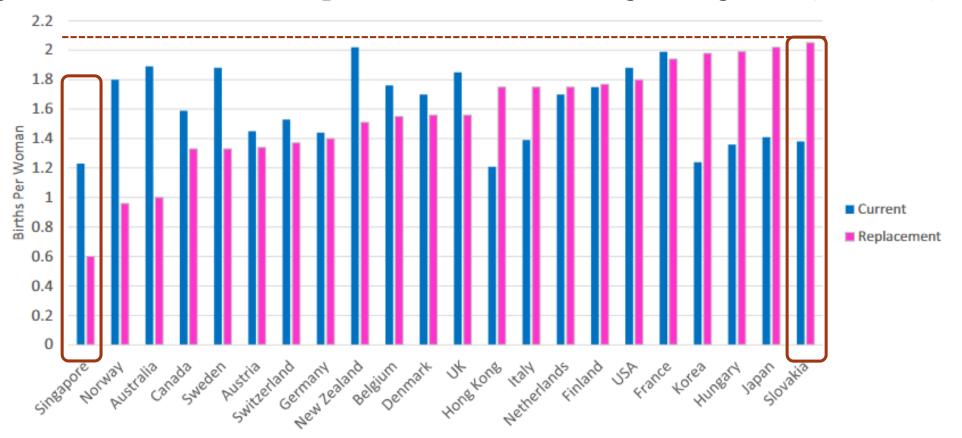
Figure 7. Estimated level of replacement TFR in 2010, accounting for mortality

Source: Sobotka (2023)



## REPLACEMENT LEVEL FERTILITY

Figure 8. Estimated level of replacement TFR accounting for migration (2010-2015)





## MEASURING FERTILITY

- TFR depicts a quite comprehensive picture of the fertility of a given period, but it can be misleading
  - The TFR is a **hypothetical** measure and does not represent real individuals directly.
  - Sometimes people just postpone their fertility plan, instead of giving it up
  - Most countries experienced a decline in TFR during COVID-19, but will we have more babies after COVID-19 to compensate for the short-run fertility decline?
- TFR reflects the interplay of two components: *tempo* (timing) and *quantum* (level) of fertility. The tempo component affects the TFR when the timing of childbearing over the life cycle changes. However, we don't know if the change in TFR is the consequence of tempo and/or quantum effect. We might observe a very high TFR of a given year because women of all age groups decide to have children at the same time.

• 
$$TFR_t = 5 * \sum \frac{Number\ of\ births\ to\ women\ in\ age\ group\ i\ in\ year\ t}{Number\ of\ women\ in\ age\ group\ i\ in\ year\ t}$$



## ACCOUNTING FOR TEMPO EFFECTS

- A **cohort** refers to a group of individuals who share a common characteristic within a specific time period.
- Completed Cohort Fertility (CCF): the average number of children born to women belonging to a certain cohort over the whole of their reproductive lives
  - Completed Cohort Fertility by birth order  $(CCF_i)$ :  $CCF = \sum_{i=1}^{n} CCF_i$



## PERIOD VS. COHORT PERSPECTIVES

Figure 9. Total fertility rate by country (by age 40),

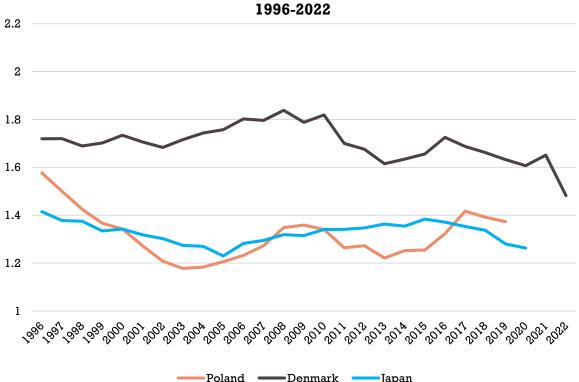
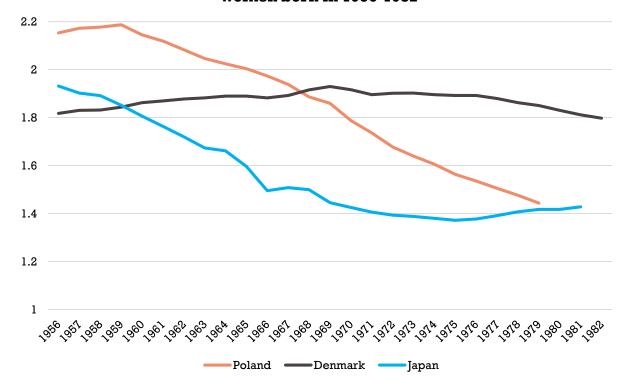


Figure 10. Cohort completed fertility by age 40 by country, women born in 1956-1982

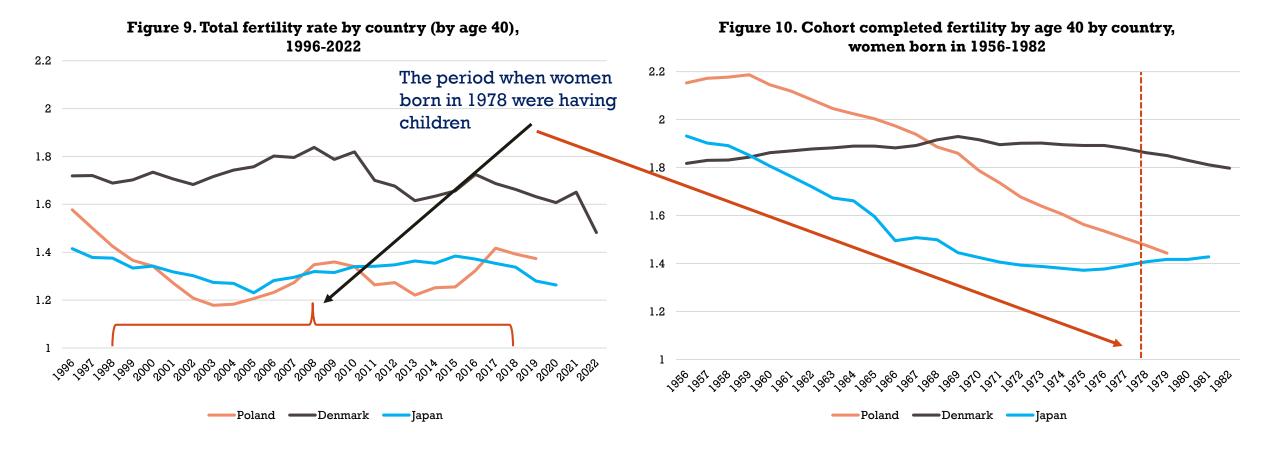


Which country, Poland or Japan, experienced a lower level of fertility over this period?

Source: Own calculation based on Human Fertility Database



## PERIOD VS. COHORT PERSPECTIVES





Source: Own calculation based on Human Fertility Database

## Completed fertility (family size) 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 Family size (mothers) Completed fertility 0.5 0.0 1959 1964 1969 1974 1979

#### Country and year of birth

South Korea

Japan

Singapore

Taiwan

Hong Kong

## CHILDLESSNESS (CHILDFREE)

Figure 11. Completed cohort fertility among all women and among mothers, by cohort and country

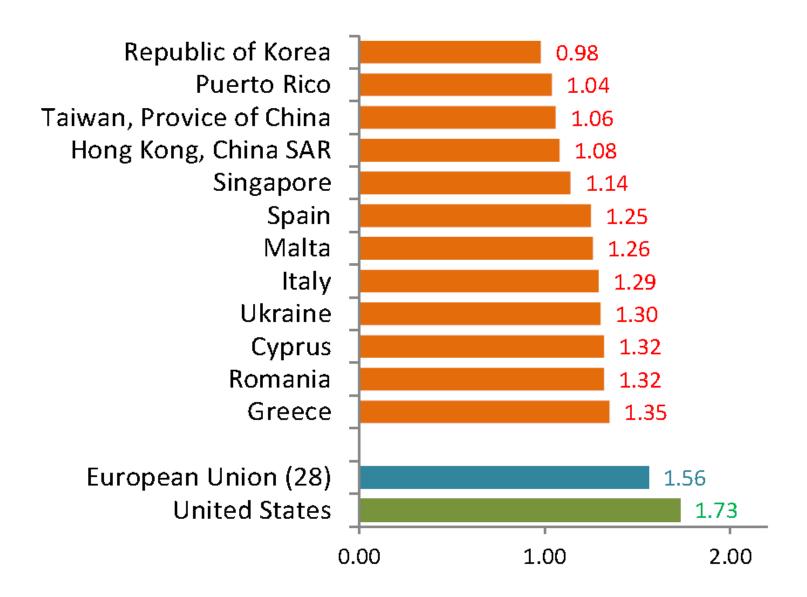
Source: Sobotka, T., 2021. World's highest childlessness levels in East Asia. Population Societies, 595(11), pp.1-4.





A problem or not?

#### **Period Total Fertility Rate (2018)**



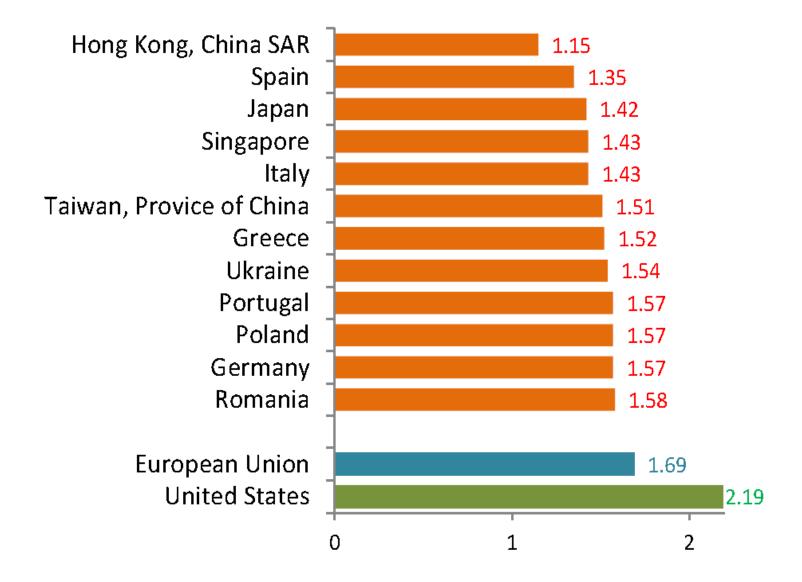
#### LOW FERTILITY

Figure 12. Period Total Fertility Rate, 2018

Source: Sobotka, T., A.
Matysiak, Z. Brzozowska. 2019.
"Policy responses to low
fertility: How effective are
they?" New York: UNFPA,
Working Paper No. 1, May
2019 Technical Division
Working Paper Series,
Population & Development
Branch



#### Completed fertility (children per woman born in 1976)



#### LOW FERTILITY

Figure 13. Completed Fertility for women born in 1976

Source: Sobotka, T., A.
Matysiak, Z. Brzozowska. 2019.
"Policy responses to low
fertility: How effective are
they?" New York: UNFPA,
Working Paper No. 1, May
2019 Technical Division
Working Paper Series,
Population & Development
Branch



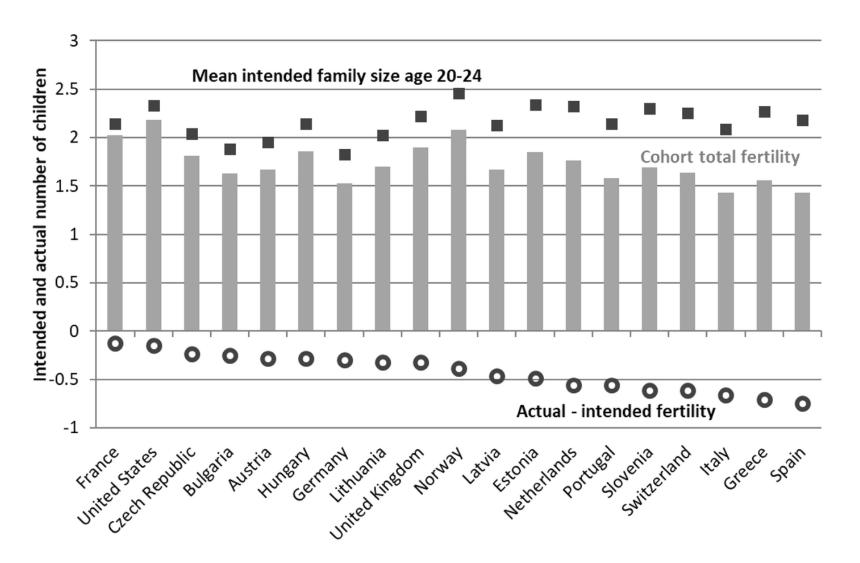


Figure 14. Intended and realized fertility in Europe



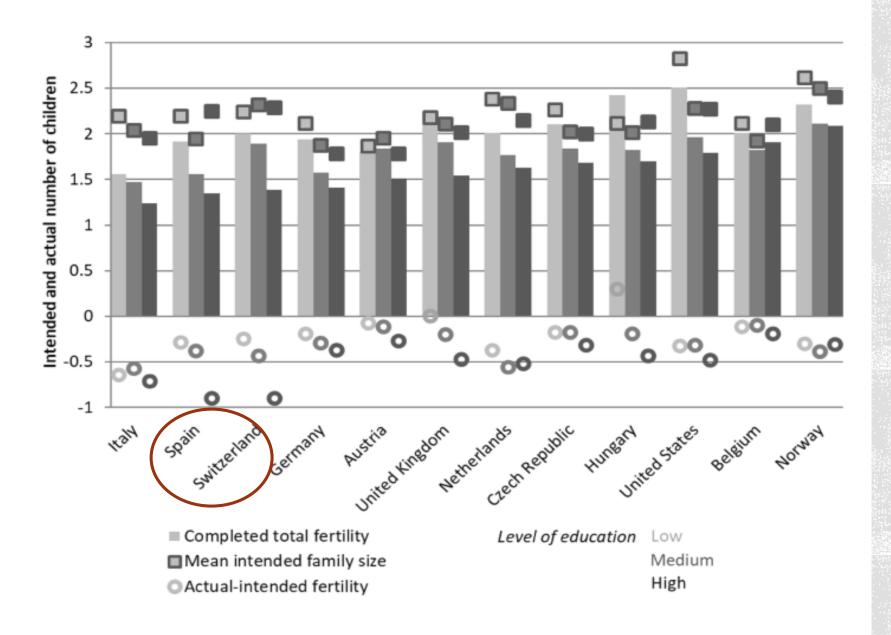


Figure 15. Intended and realized fertility in Europe by education



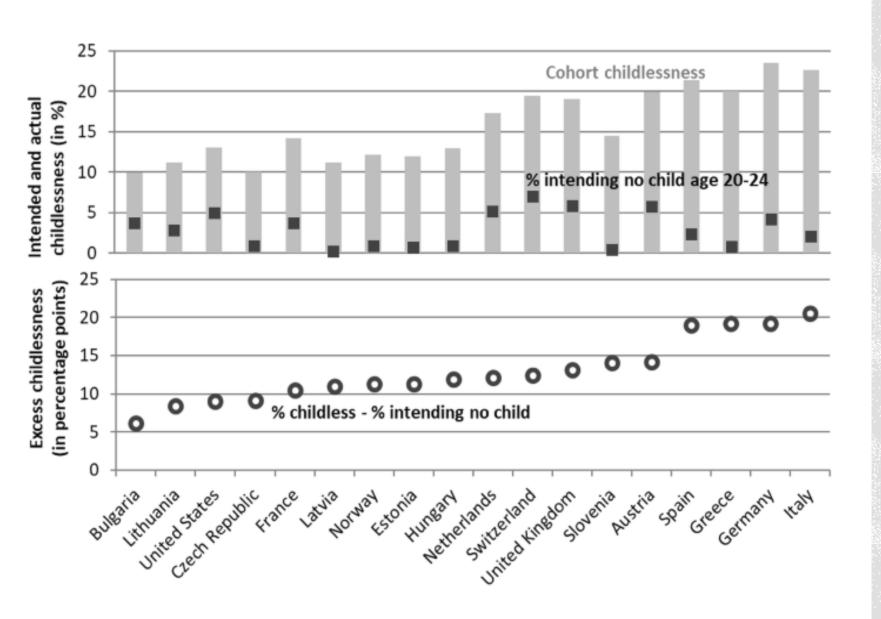


Figure 16. Intended and actual childlessness in Europe



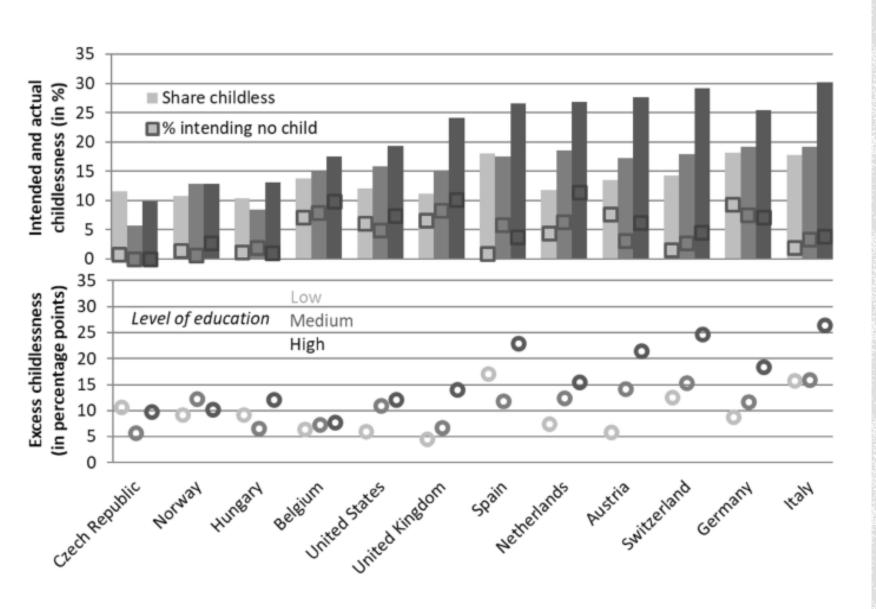
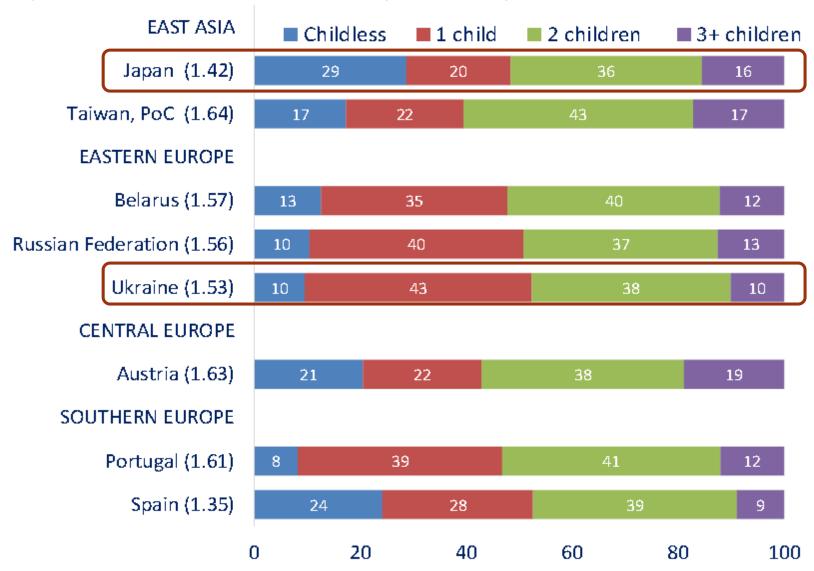


Figure 17. Intended and actual childlessness in Europe by education



#### a) countries and territories with very low fertility



#### LOW FERTILITY

Figure 18. Women by number of children ever born (%) and completed fertility rate (in brackets), women born in 1971-75

Source: Sobotka, T., A.
Matysiak, Z. Brzozowska. 2019.
"Policy responses to low
fertility: How effective are
they?" New York: UNFPA,
Working Paper No. 1, May
2019 Technical Division
Working Paper Series,
Population & Development
Branch



#### Mean age at first birth (years) 2020

[31,32] [30,31)

[29,30) [27,29) [24,27)



European Demographic Datasheet 2022

#### LOW FERTILITY

Figure 19. Mean age at first birth in Europe, 2020

Source: Vienna Institute of Demography (VID) 2022. European Demographic Datasheet 2022. Wittgenstein Centre (IIASA, VID/OEAW, University of Vienna), Vienna. Available at www.populationeurope.org

