Assets of subnational outlook to study spatial variations in fertility timing
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Theoretical framework

Local level : acknowledgement of a metropolitan pattern

Fertility distribution through ages of 7 north-western European types

Fertility timing structured by urbanisation context

Individual characteristics

Employment context

Social context

Housing context

Fertility ideals and realisation

Fertility behaviours

Social context

- Urbanisation context
- Historical context
- Political context
- Migration
- Move in/out

Individual level

- Housing context
- Employment context
- Urbanisation context
- Social context
- Theoretical framework

Local level

- Individual level

Individual aspirations

- Social aspirations

Auto legitimation

Fertility ideal distribution through ages of 5 urban types

European Social Survey data, 2006

Typology of fertility timing in Brussels region

Based on contribution of five years age groups to TFR 2000-2001 average
Mapped in cartogram

10% Median

30% Blue

30% Green

30% Red

30% Grey

30% Purple

30% Yellow

10% Black

10% Orange

• Spatial structure of fertility timing reproduce geography of urbanisation contexts
• Dense working class neighbourhoods : high fertility of youngest and oldest age groups
• Latest fertility in well-off central areas
• Upper-class suburbs : fertility timing mostly centred on 30-35 age group
• Such geography remits cleavages in composition of the local population and material characteristics (housing stock, amenities, etc.)