

**Family Sizes in Europe:  
Evidence from the 2011 Eurobarometer Survey**

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## **Abstract**

A major concern among many European policy makers in recent years has been the perception that a sizeable proportion of couples in low-fertility countries fail to realise their desired fertility. In this study, based on data from the 2011 Eurobarometer on Fertility and Social Climate, I examine different family size preferences and their link with actual fertility with the aim to see whether there is a correspondence between the number of children Europeans would like to have and the number they are actually having. The data reveal that around 30% of women and men end their reproductive career with fewer children than they previously considered ideal and that the difference between their mean ideal and actual family size is around 0.3 children. This measure can be higher in some countries, like Italy, and in some social groups, like highly educated persons. The preference for a two-child family is still pervasive in Europe and it has even been growing in the EU-15 countries over the decade 2001-2011. This result holds true for Greece and Portugal as well, the two countries which showed a clear decline in their mean family size ideals over the past 5-year period (2006-2011). Social climate is rather negative in Europe. The most optimistic people about both their own life and their country's socio-economic situation are, on the one hand, childless persons and, on the other, those who have or would like to have large families with three or more children. This result, which contains an intrinsic contradiction, needs to be studied more thoroughly in further research.

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*European Demographic Research Papers* are working papers that deal with all-European issues or with issues that are important to a large number of countries. All contributions have received only limited review.

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## INTRODUCTION

A major concern among many European policy makers in recent years has been the perception that a sizeable proportion of couples in low-fertility countries fail to realise their desired fertility. Indeed in low-fertility contexts modern contraception methods make it easy for people and couples not to have any children while people who do want to have children may face a series of constraints which impede them from reaching their goals. As a consequence, people usually end their reproductive career with fewer children than they would have liked to have had.

In this study, based on data from the 2011 Eurobarometer, different family sizes are examined with the aim to see whether there is a correspondence between the number of children Europeans would like to have and the number they are actually having. The analysis is carried out at the aggregate level, by looking at the EU-27 as a whole, as well as in a cross-country perspective, by highlighting the differences across countries. While the main emphasis is on the most recent EB data (2011), the trend in the mean ideal family size over the past decade (2001-2011) is also examined. The aggregate analysis of the temporal changes is conducted separately for the first 15 European Member States and the 12 New Member States of the European Union because for the latter group data are available only for the period 2006-2011.

The Eurobarometer surveys are designed for comparative analysis among national populations. Stratified sampling assured nearly equal probability samples of about 1,000 respondents in each of the nations (with the exception of: Cyprus, Malta, Luxembourg and eastern Germany for which the sample size is 500). The national sample sizes are rather small but allow equally precise estimates for small and large countries, as well

as some comparisons between sub-groups broken down by sex, age, and educational attainment. The surveys use a single uniform questionnaire design, with particular attention being paid to equivalent question wording across languages. Question wording is of great importance in measuring fertility intentions, as responses depend significantly on how the questions are phrased, with even small differences in wording leading to considerable differences in stated intentions. The comparability of the results across nations is also enhanced by the use of a single multilingual survey collection team. Moreover, the questions on ideal and actual family size asked in 2011 used exactly the same wording as the previous rounds (2001 and 2006) which allows for comparisons through time of each of the childbearing measures.

I focus on four broad age groups: 15-24 years, which includes people born between 1987 and 1996, 25-39 years, which refers to the cohorts born between 1972 and 1986, 40-54 years, which encompasses people born between 1957 and 1971, and 55 or above, which includes men and women born in 1956 or earlier. It is worth noting that the age differences may roughly approximate but do not correspond to those of the same individuals observed over different stages of life. While framing the results in a cross-sectional perspective, it should be kept in mind that reproductive ideals and intentions, as well as actual fertility, are developmental by nature and change over the individual's life course. As well known in the literature, the adjustments of the fertility goals over the life course tend to occur mainly downward in response to different factors and events, one of which is of particular importance, i.e., the transition to a first or a higher birth order child.

The analysis is organised in short sections which are aimed at describing specific aspects related to the ideal, intended and actual family size, as well as to the level of correspondence between them. The last two sections are reserved for the study of social climate in Europe and its link to actual and ideal fertility. Individuals' satisfaction with their own life and individuals' evaluation of their country's socio-economic situation are also investigated in relation with both their ideal and their actual family size. Although the sections are connected to each other, each of them can be read and understood independently and contains ideas for further close examination.

The investigation presented in the main text is supplemented by material provided in two Appendixes. The first one contains several figures and tables that are commented on in the main text but could not be included without interrupting the reading flow. The second one includes several tables with the mean values and the full distribution of the ideal, intended and actual family size by gender, age and country. These tables should facilitate and deepen the understanding of the figures and tables reported in the main text.

This analysis of the 2011 EB findings on childbearing preferences and family size in Europe is by no means exhaustive but only aimed at outlining some of the main results and pointing out the most interesting areas for further in-depth research.

## 1. DEFINITIONS OF FAMILY SIZES AND SURVEY ITEMS

The questions on childbearing included in the 2011 round of the Eurobarometer survey are reported in Table 1. Most of them are asked in exactly the same way during the previous two rounds (2001 and 2006), which allows for comparisons through time.

General ideal family size reflects childbearing preferences at the normative level, i.e., the societal ideal or norm. Personal ideal family size reflects childbearing preferences at the individual level but in absence of any possible obstacle, that is, under ideal conditions. The concept is close to that of desired family size which expresses wishes and emotional feelings without containing any commitment to act. These two concepts or measures supply complementary information about fertility decision-making: while a society's ideal refers to the society as a whole, a personal ideal is an expression of one person's fertility desires. The two survey items offer several numerical answers ranging from zero to more than six, and also explicitly consider the two options 'there is no number' and 'don't know' (Table 2). In this study more emphasis is given to the personal ideal family size, considered to be the most direct measure

of the respondent's own attitudes (Goldstein et al. 2003).

Actual family size reflects the number of children already born. In the Eurobarometer survey the construct refers only to biological children and does not consider any adopted or step-children. The survey item offers a series of response options ranging from 'zero' to 'more than six' children and provides also the option 'don't know' (Table 2).

Additionally intended family size reflects the number of children individuals plan to have over the entire reproductive span (also known in the literature as lifetime fertility intentions). The survey item offers a series of numerical answers ranging from 'zero' to 'more than ten' children and provides also the option 'don't know' (Table 2). Unlike the ideals, which are linked to more enduring individual's characteristics and genetic endowments, this construct takes into account the various external and internal constraints (of different nature) that people may face when trying to achieve their fertility goals. In the demographic literature lifetime fertility intentions are considered as goal-related actions, the most proximate determinants of childbearing behaviour.

**Table 1** Wording of the questions on family size. Eurobarometer survey 2011.

<i>Order</i>	<i>Family sizes</i>	<i>Survey items:</i>
1	General ideal	Generally speaking, what do you think is the ideal number of children for a family?
2	Personal ideal	And for you personally, what would be the ideal number of children you would like to have or would have liked to have had?
3	Actual	How many children, if any, have you had?
4	Additionally intended	How many (more) children do you intend to have?

Note: With the exception of the intended family size measure, all the questions were worded in exactly the same way as in the previous EB rounds conducted in 2001 and 2006. The intention question was addressed in 2001 and 2006 as follows: "How many children do you (still) intend to have?" Unlike the 2001 and 2006 rounds, the 2011 EB survey did not contain a question on the fertility desires at the beginning of the reproductive career, which was placed in the previous rounds between the personal ideal family size item and the actual family size item, and the question on the age at the birth of the first child, which was placed between the items on actual family size and additionally intended family size.

**Table 2** Response options to the different family size items

Response Options	<i>Family sizes</i>		
	Ideal	Actual	Intended
None	×	×	×
One	×	×	×
Two	×	×	×
Three	×	×	×
Four	×	×	×
Five	×	×	×
Six	×	×	×
Seven (or more)	×	×	×
Eight		×	
Nine		×	
Ten or more		×	
No ideal	×		
Don't know	×	×	×

Note: Ideal family size refers to both general and personal ideal. The option ‘no ideal’ provided in the items on general and personal ideal family size corresponds to the following answer “there is no number, it depends”. This option was offered also in the 2006 EB round where it was phrased as follows: “There is no ideal number, it depends”.

Ultimately intended family size is a construct computed by summing up the actual and the additionally intended number of children. Because of the developmental nature of both components, actual and additionally intended family size, the ultimately intended family size takes a different composition at different ages: at the beginning of the reproductive span it reflects mainly the intended family size; at the end of the reproductive span it reflects mainly the actual family size. One could expect to see a progressive narrowing of the difference between ultimately intended and actual family size until the end of the reproductive span not only because of people’s transitions to higher parities but also because of people’s (reiterated) adjustments of lifetime fertility intentions due to internal and external constraints and competing preferences. At the

end of the reproductive span, given that no one can intend to have fewer children than they already have, ultimately intended family size completely overlaps actual family size. For the purpose of guiding public policy, this construct is most useful as an estimate of the final parity.

Family size ideals are relatively stable over the individuals’ life, being influenced by enduring motivational traits and genetic factors. By contrast, actual family size increases and intended family size decreases over the childbearing ages as people progress to higher parities.

The difference between ideal and actual family size, termed ideal-actual gap, gives us an approximation of how much reproductive wishes have been realised. The difference between ideal and intended family size, so called ideal-intended gap, reflects the extent to which individuals have modified their family size intentions away from their desires as a result of constraints and competing activities. This kind of gap might indicate the problem areas at which social policy should be directed to help individuals realise the family size they intrinsically desire. The difference between ultimately intended and actual family size, intended-actual gap, is just the number of additional children individuals plan to have for the future. By definition, it tends to be null at (near) the end of the individuals’ childbearing years.

In the reproductive ages, 15-24 and 25-39, when people do not have yet a complete family size, the ideal-actual gap is examined by looking separately at its two components, namely the ideal-intended and the intended-actual gap. At ages 40 and above only the ideal-actual gap is relevant.

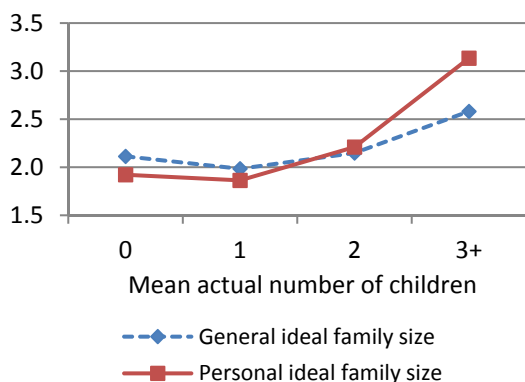
For a more detailed discussion of measurement and definition issues, see Morgan et al. 2011.



## 2. GENERAL AND PERSONAL IDEAL FAMILY SIZE: ARE THERE DIFFERENCES?

In 2001 a distinction between general and ideal family size was introduced in the EB questionnaire. Respondents were asked to report not only their ideal number of children for a family in general, but also the ideal number of children that they themselves would like to have, or would have liked to have had. Note that the question on personal ideals, unlike the one on general ideals, contains two different expressions for those who are in the reproductive ages (*would like to have*) and those who are no longer in the reproductive ages or have stopped childbearing (*would have liked to have had*). The item takes a prospective or a retrospective connotation depending on whether individuals are still able (or plan) to have children or not. This circumstance might have pushed individuals to think about their personal ideals as being more closely related to their own reproduction than their general ideals. Figure 1 supports this interpretation in part, showing that the mean personal ideal family size is higher than the mean general ideal family size at parity three or above.

**Figure 1** Mean general and ideal family size by actual number of children. EU-27

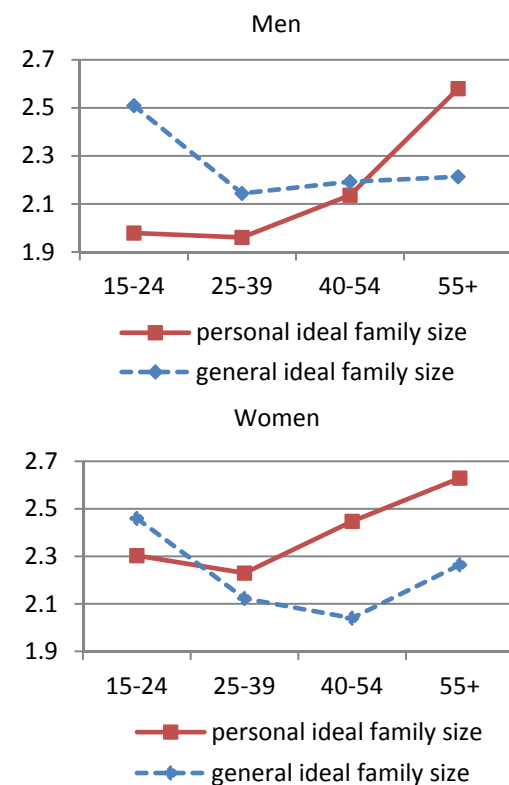


Since the wording of the two questions is quite similar, the extent to which respondents might have understood the

difference between general and personal ideal family size is unknown.

At the EU-27 level, the mean general and personal ideal family sizes are very close to each other, the absolute difference range from 0.02 to 0.14. Furthermore, there is a high cross-country correlation between them (0.9). Two out of three respondents report the same answer to the two items (on average 2.1 children) and the other one third is equally subdivided between those having personal ideals higher than general ideals and those for whom the opposite is true. If general and ideal family sizes are discrepant, personal ideals tend to be higher than general ideals among women and persons aged 40 or above, while for men and young people it is the other way around (Figure 2).

**Figure 2** Mean general and mean personal ideal family size among respondents reporting different answers to the two items. EU-27



### 3. THE PREFERENCE FOR A TWO-CHILD FAMILY

The preference for a two child-family is still pervasive in Europe (Figure 3). This is the most frequently reported answer not only for the general but also for the personal ideal family size, selected by more than 50% of the respondents. The second most frequent answer is ‘three or more children’ reported by 22% and 26% of interviewed people as a general or personal ideal, respectively. The third most frequent answer is ‘one child’: 7% and 9% of respondents choose this option for their general and personal ideal family size, respectively. Moreover, 10% of respondents say that there is no number for the general ideal and 5% declare that there is no number of the personal ideal.

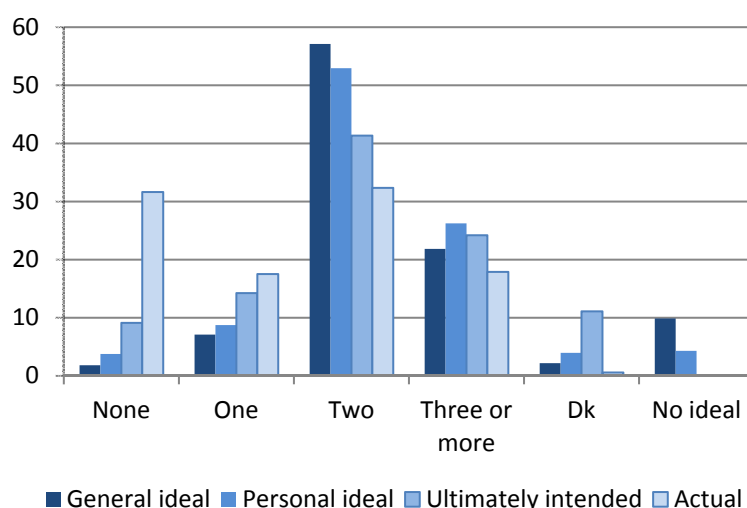
The distribution of respondents by their own ultimately intended family size is less concentrated around the two-child option, with 41% of people indicating this as an answer. Moreover, a non-marginal proportion of women and men report ‘no child’ intended

(9%) or is ‘unsure’ about the number of children intended (11%). The share of those reporting a no child preference or who are undecided are much lower in the items on general ideal family size, 2%, and personal ideal family size, 4%.

The distribution of interviewed people by actual number of children is different from those of ideal or ultimately intended family size. First, the same share of people report to have ‘two children’ and ‘no child’, 32%; second, large families (three or more children) are as frequent as small families (only one child), 18% of the respondents. In this context one should note that the sample includes a relatively high proportion of young people who have not yet started a family.

The preference for a two-child family has been growing in the 15-EU countries over the last decade (Figure 4).

**Figure 3** Distribution of Europeans by different family sizes. EU-27



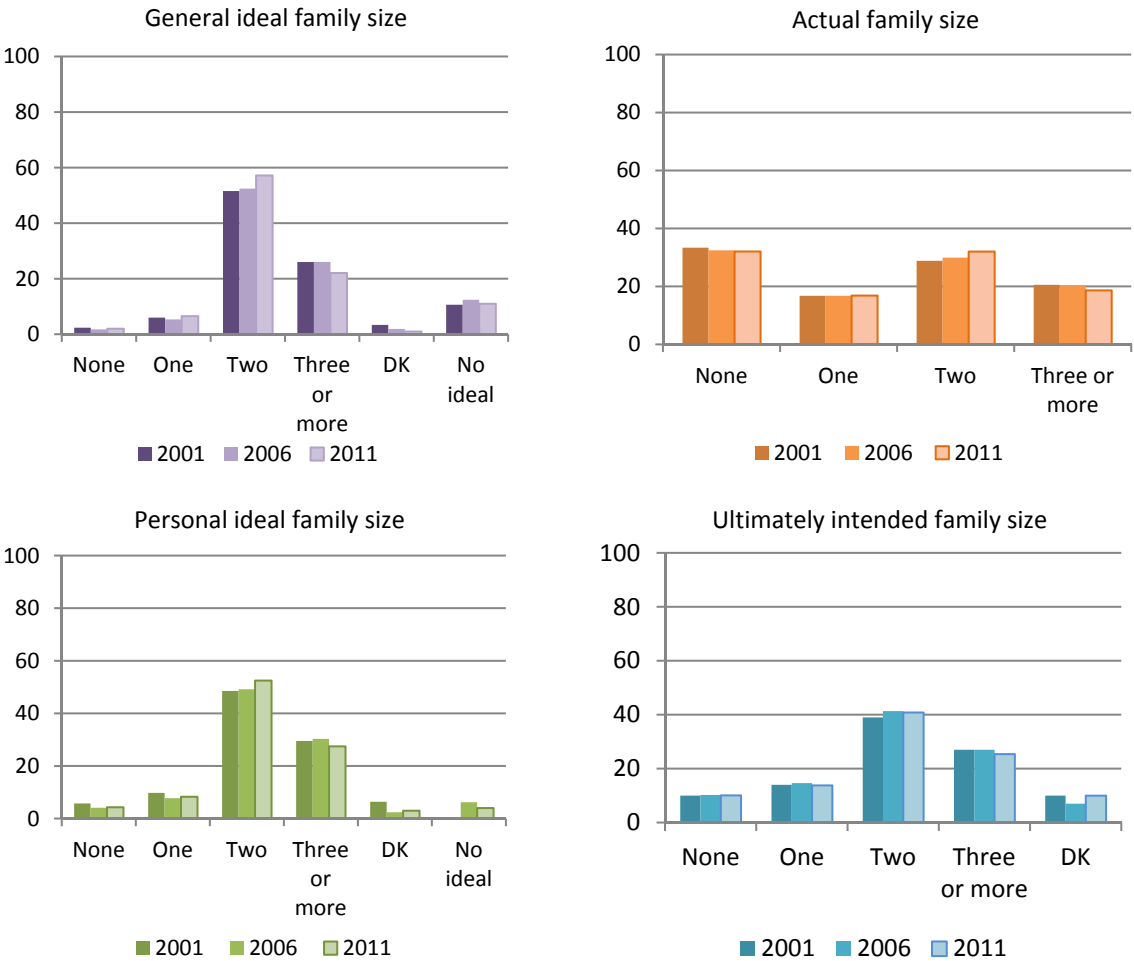
One can observe a raise in the concentration of people reporting two children as their general or personal ideal family size over the decade 2001-2011: from 52% to 57% for the general ideal and from 49% to 52% for the personal ideal (Figure 4, first and second graph), a stability in the preference for small families (less than two children), and a decrease in the preference for large families (three or more children) from 26% to 22% for the general ideal and from 30% to 27% for the personal ideal.

The share of people reporting two children as their own actual family size also increases from 29% to 32% (Figure 4, third graph), while temporal changes in the

ultimately intended family size are characterised by a slight decline in the option for large families, from 27% in 2001 to 25% in 2011, and a boost of uncertainty about reproductive plans, from 7% in 2006 to 10% in 2011 (Figure 4, fourth graph).

In the 12-NMS the temporal changes over the five-year period 2006-2011 are characterised by a substantial stability in the two-child norm and a slight increase in the share of people who have a family with exactly two children at the time of the survey (Figure A.1.8). Uncertainty about fertility plans almost doubles from 6% to 10% in the 5-year period 2006-2011.

**Figure 4** Ideal, ultimately intended and actual family size over the period 2001-2011. EU-15



**4. PERSONAL IDEAL, ULTIMATELY INTENDED AND ACTUAL FAMILY SIZES: PATTERNS BY AGE AND GENDER**

The mean personal ideal family size increases with age in the EU-27 as a whole. Considering the changes from the youngest to the oldest ages, the mean values go from 2.1 to 2.4 children among women and from 2.0 to 2.3 children among men. Women’s ideals are higher than men’s ideals in each age group (Figure 5).

As expected, the mean actual number of children shows a rising path with age: values go from 0.2 to 2.2 children among women and from 0.1 to 2.2 children among men (Figure 5). Here, again, women’s mean actual number of children is higher than men’s one for each age group.

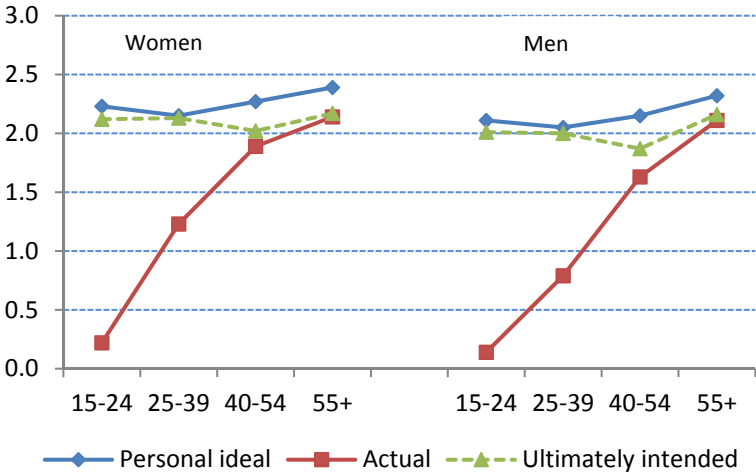
The mean ultimately intended number of children is above two children for women and at around two children for men in all but ages 40-54 (Figure 3). This measure is very close (only slightly lower than) to the mean ideal family size at ages 15-24 and tends to overlap the values of the mean actual family size at ages 40-54 among women but not

among men who still intend to have children at these ages. At ages 55 or above, people have usually completed their family. Hence, their ultimately intended coincides with their actual family size.

At ages 15-24, the difference between the mean ideal and the mean actual family size takes its maximum value of about two children, while the difference between mean ideal and mean intended family size is only marginal. At age 55 or above, the ideal-actual gap corresponds to the ideal-intended gap which is equal to 0.3 and 0.2 children for women and men, respectively (Figure 5). This suggests that European women and men would have liked to have had, respectively, 0.3 and 0.2 children more than those they have actually had by the end of their reproductive career.

This measure might be, however, an underestimation of the children that Europeans have definitively given up, as will be explained in the next section.

**Figure 5** Mean family sizes by gender and age. EU-27



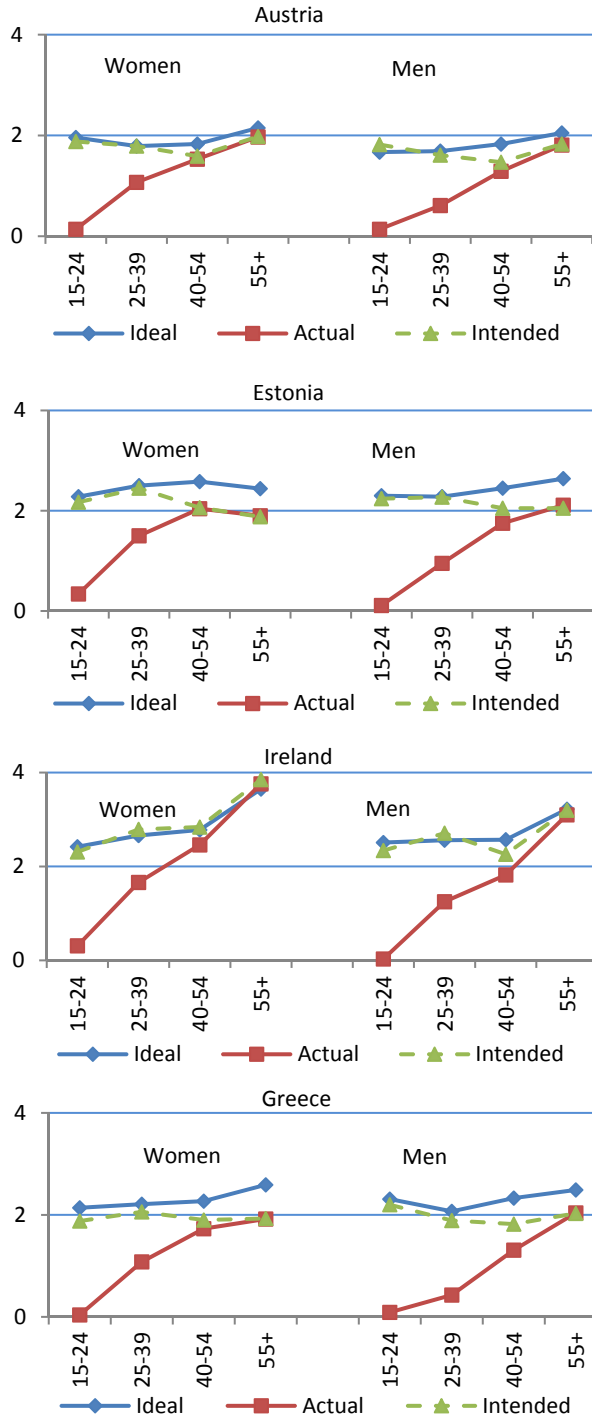
Typically, the same age pattern observed at the EU-27 level is replicated in each of the 27-EU countries, for both women and men (Figure A.1.1). The mean ideal family size is at around or above two children in most of the countries. Exceptions are provided, on one hand, by Austria, which shows below-replacement ideals in each age group up to the ages 40-54 and, on the other hand, by Ireland and Cyprus, where the rising path of ideal size with age is particularly steep and ends with values of three or more children at age 55 or above (Figure 6 and Figure A.1.1).

The mean actual family size goes from no child at ages 15-24 to 2 children or more at ages 55 or above. Values clearly above 2 are observed in Ireland (3.7 and 3.2 for women and men, respectively) and Cyprus (slightly less than 3 for both women and men). The mean actual family size tends to converge with the values of the mean ideal family size without completely overlapping them, even at the oldest ages, in most of the countries (see, for example, Estonia and Greece in Figure 6).

The age pattern of the mean ultimately intended family size varies from country to country: it is quite stable in Bulgaria, Belgium (men) Czech Republic, Finland (men), France, Italy (men), Luxembourg (women), the United Kingdom and Romania (men); it takes a U-shape in Austria, Denmark, Germany (men), Greece (men), Italy (women), Portugal, Slovakia (women) and Spain; it decreases in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands (women) and Slovenia; it increases in Cyprus, Malta and Ireland. Generally, the mean ultimately intended family size is equal or slightly lower than the mean ideal family size at ages 15-24 and 25-39 and is very close to the mean actual family size at ages 40-54. In France and Hungary the mean ultimately intended family size is higher than the mean ideal family size at these ages (Figure A.1.1).

In three countries, the Czech Republic, Malta and the United Kingdom, the values of the mean ideal and mean ultimately intended family sizes overlap each other for both women and men in each age group (Figure A.1.1).

**Figure 6** Mean ideal, ultimately intended and actual family size. Several EU countries.



**5. CHANGES IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF IDEAL FAMILY SIZE ACROSS AGES**

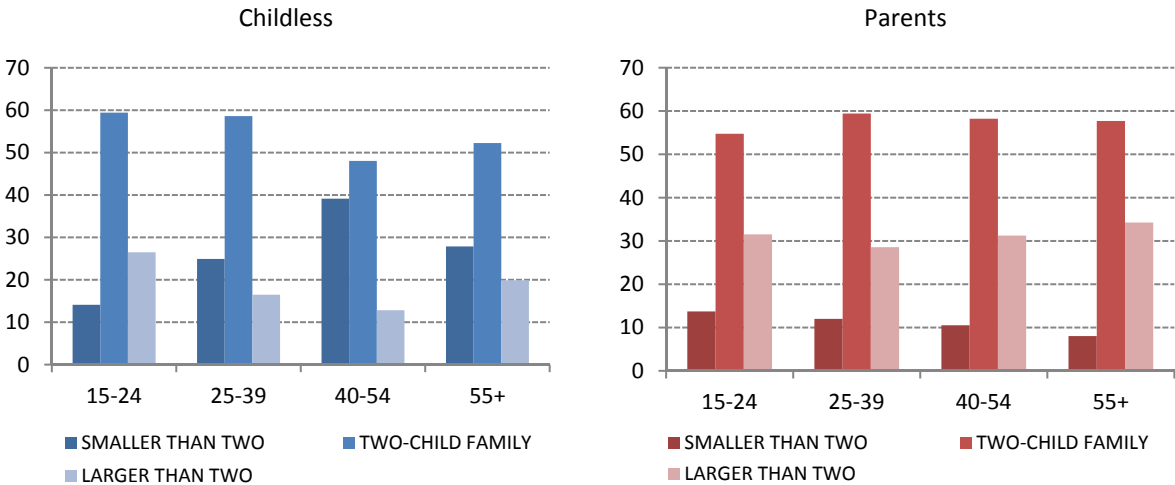
The difference between the mean ideal and mean actual family size observed at age 55 or above may not truly reflect the real number of children missed by Europeans because individuals might have adjusted their ideals in order to match them with their own actual family size.

One can get an idea of this readjustment process by comparing the distribution of childless people and parents by the ideal family size in different age groups (Figure 7). Little changes of ideal family size are observed across ages in the parents sub-sample. The preference for a two-child family is reported by almost 60% of parents at each age. Considering the changes between the youngest and the oldest people, the percentage of those preferring smaller families decreases from 14% to 8% and the share of those preferring larger families slightly increases from 32% to 34%. By contrast, the distribution of childless people by ideal family size clearly changes with age. The preference for small families (less than two children) doubles from 14% at ages 15-24 to 28% at ages 55+, and the

preference for large families (more than two children) is cut in half from 26% at ages 15-24 to 13% at ages 40-54. These different age patterns in each of the sub-samples might provide a sign for a downward adjustment of ideal to the actual fertility, although they do not prove that these people have revised their family size ideals through their lives. Importantly, an analogous change in the distribution of people by ideal family size across age is not observed if the whole sample is stratified between those who have large families (three or more children) and those who have up to two children. Almost 20% of people in this latter group and 80% of people with large families indicate three or more children as an ideal family size at each age (results are not shown but can be provided upon request).

This finding supports the evidence found in several longitudinal studies (Liefbroer 2009) that downward adjustments of childbearing ideals occur more frequently than upward adjustments.

**Figure 7** Distribution of Europeans by ideal family size in different age groups. EU-27



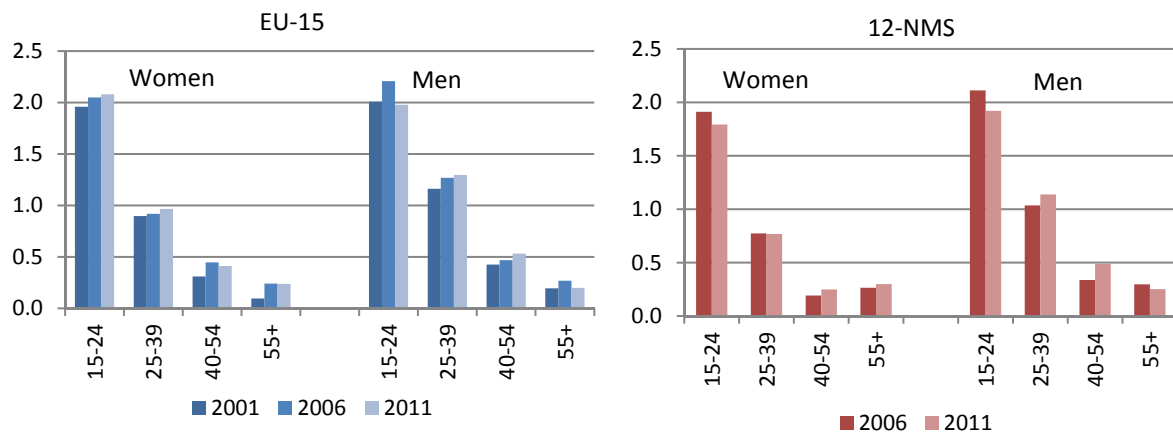
## 6. THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN IDEAL AND ACTUAL FAMILY SIZE

In Figure 8 the difference between the mean ideal and the mean actual family size is reported for different age groups in several years. As expected, the size of the ideal-actual gap decreases with age as people progress to higher parities. The difference goes from around two children at ages 15-24 to 0.25 children at ages 55+. In the prime reproductive ages the difference is slightly below (women) or above (men) 1 child. For younger people (age groups 15-24 and 25-39), the discrepancy between ideal and actual family size is particularly high because people still have to get (some or all of) the children they would

like to have. At these ages only a measure of temporary discrepancy between actual and desired fertility can be computed. The size of this measure is strongly influenced by the timing of childbearing, and especially by the moment at which people start their family.

A slight increase of the difference between ideal and actual family size is registered over the period 2001-2011. The increase concerns women and men of all ages in the EU-15 and only women aged 40 or above and men aged 25-54 in the 12-NMS (Figure 8).

**Figure 8** Difference between the mean ideal and the mean actual family size by age and gender.



There is broad cross-country variation in the correspondence between the mean ideal and the mean actual family size. In Figure 9 the mean ideal family size of women aged 25-39 by country is reported. The mean ideals are decomposed into the mean actual number of children, the mean additionally intended number of children, and the mean children of children needed to reach the family size that people ideally would like to have. Countries are ordered according to the final estimated parity, i.e., actual plus intended number of children. Labels are shown only for these two variables while, for the sake of simplicity, the

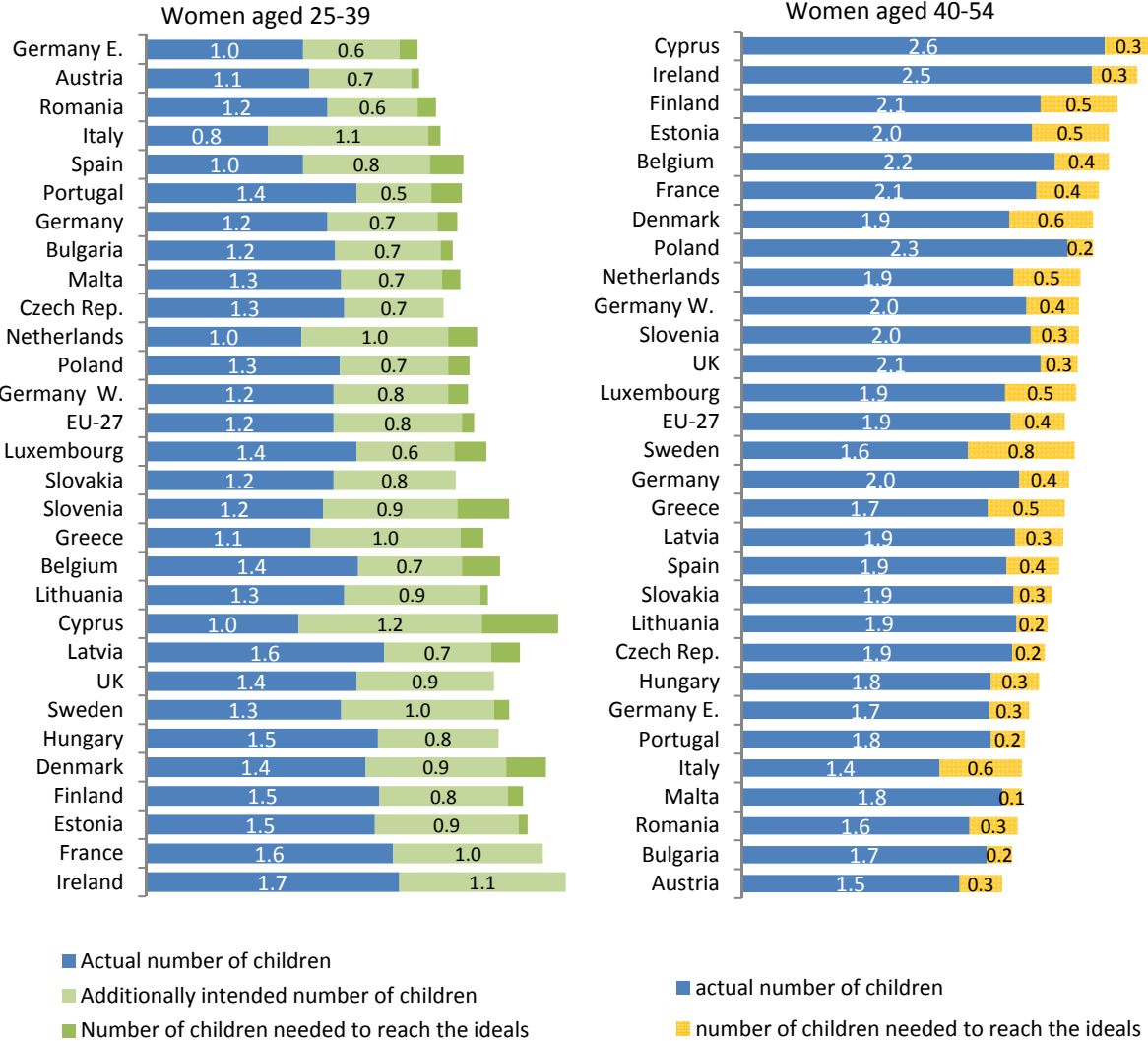
figures related to the number of children needed to reach the family size ideals beyond those additionally planned for the future are not shown.

As we can see, in the EU-27 as a whole, women aged 25-39 have on average 1.2 children and plan to have, on average, 0.8 or more children. Hence, the completed family size estimated for these female cohorts born between 1972 and 1986 is exactly two children. If they would manage to have all the children they plan to have, which is an unrealistic assumption (Testa and Philipov 2011), about 0.1 children would still be needed

to reach their ideal family size. These values range from 0 (the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic) to 0.5 children (Cyprus) across the EU-27 countries (Figure 9). In Hungary, France and Ireland the number of children needed to reach the family size ideals is negative: Hungary (-0.3), France (-0.1) and Ireland (-0.1). For the sake of simplicity, these negative values are not shown in Figure 9. In the Appendix results for men aged 25-39 are also reported. (Figure A.1.2). The rank of the countries by the estimated completed family size is similar to that observed for the women:

Austria and eastern Germany are at the bottom and France and Ireland at the top of it. For women aged 40-54, the size of the ideal-actual gap is 0.4 for the EU-27 as a whole and it ranges from 0.1 (Malta) to 0.6 (Denmark and Italy) and 0.8 (Sweden) across the EU countries (Figure 9). The values for men of the same age category are slightly higher: 0.5 for the EU-27 as a whole and the range across countries goes from 0.1 (eastern Germany) to 1 child (Greece) (Figure A.1.3)

**Figure 9** Mean ideal family size obtained by summing up different components of family sizes. EU-27



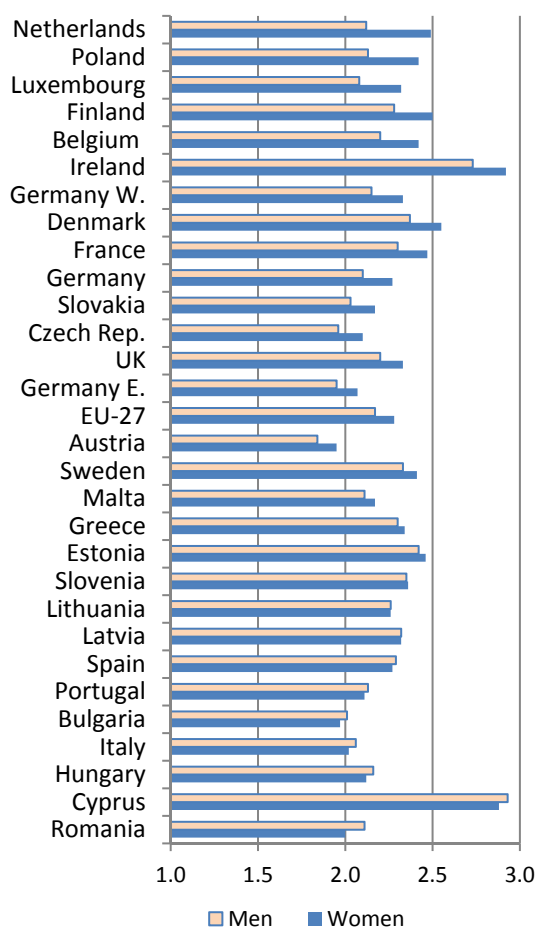


## 7. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN FAMILY SIZE IDEALS

Women's mean personal ideal family size exceeds the ideals of men in most of the EU countries. If one considers all age groups, only seven out of 27 countries show men's mean ideal family sizes higher than women ones and the differences are rather small ranging from 0.1 (Romania) to 0.02 (Spain and Portugal). By contrast, the women's ideals are up to 0.4 children higher than those of the men (Figure 10).

Since men start a family later in life than women, women do also have larger actual family size than men at each age (Figure A.1.1). Hence, one could have expected to see the same degree of difference between ideal and actual family size among women and men.

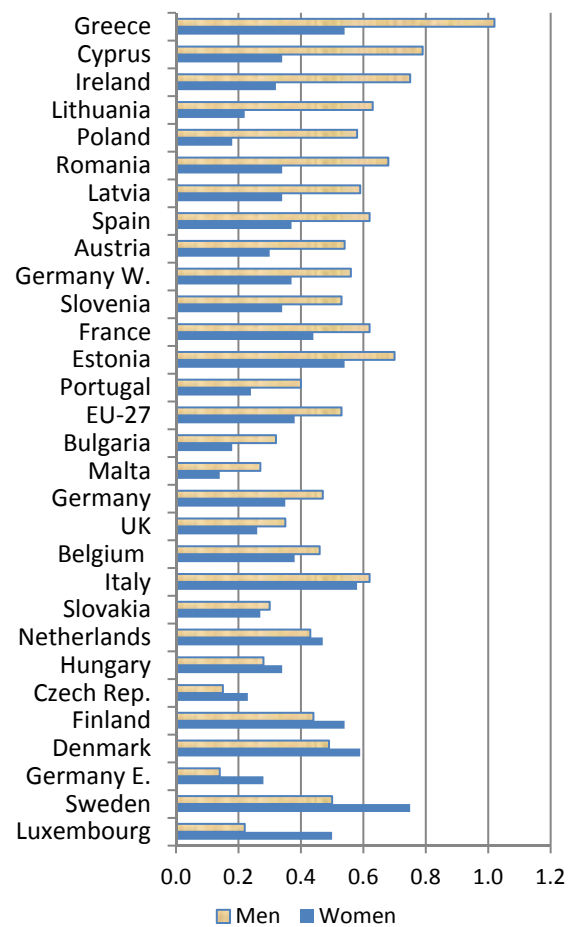
**Figure 10** Mean personal ideal family size by gender. All ages



By contrast, the difference between ideal and actual family size is larger among men than among women (figure 11). Women differences are below 0.5 children, with the exception of Sweden, Finland and Denmark. Men's differences are at 0.5 or above with the exception of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Germany Hungary, Slovakia, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

A reversal of these gender differences is observed at ages 40-54 for Finland, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and eastern Germany (Figure 11).

**Figure 11** Difference between mean ideal and mean actual family size by gender. Ages 40-54



## 8. HOW MANY EUROPEANS REALISE THEIR FAMILY SIZE IDEALS?

The correspondence between mean ideal and mean actual family size does not inform us about the share of people that has realised their reproductive wishes.

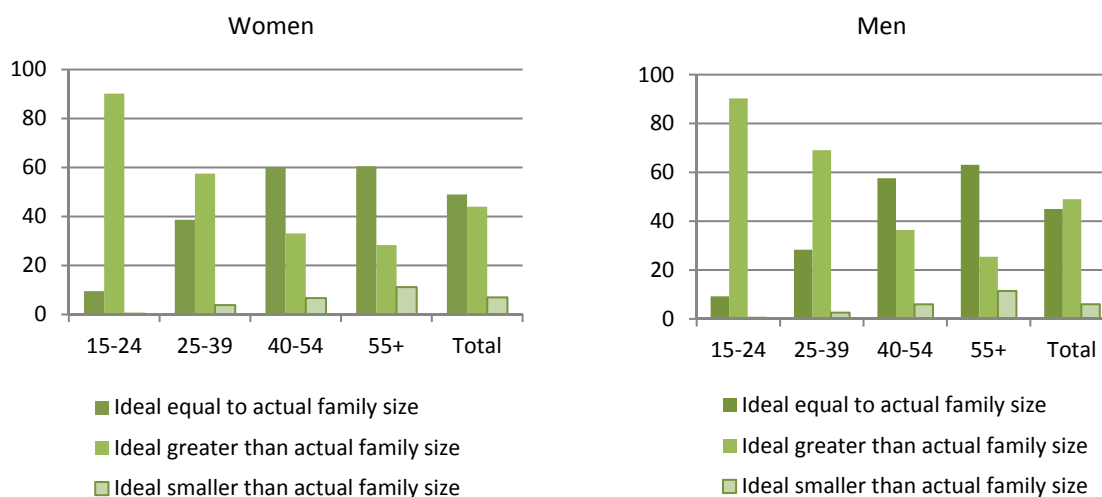
To know the prevalence of those who realise their reproductive wishes one can look at the distributions of women and men by different combinations of ideal and actual family size (Figure 12). The distributions are given for each age group as well as for the total. In each of these categories the sum of the proportion by different combinations of ideal and actual family size should sum up 100.

Overall, almost half of the Europeans declare to have an actual family size equal to the ideal one, 49% of women and 45% of men. A similar share of people, 44% of women and 49% of men, show an ideal family size greater than an actual family size and only a tiny

minority, 7% of women and 6% of men, have ideal family sizes smaller than actual family sizes (Figure 12).

This pattern changes across ages. At ages 15-24 almost all the respondents have an ideal higher than an actual family size, about 90%; at ages 25-39, around two out of three respondents show the same gap; at ages 40-54, the share is around one out of three respondents and at age 55 or above it is one out of four, for both women and men. The share of women and men with their ideal equal to their actual family sizes increases from 10% at ages 15-24 to around 60% at ages 55 or above. The percentage of those who have an ideal smaller than their actual family size slightly goes up to 10% in the oldest ages (Figure 12).

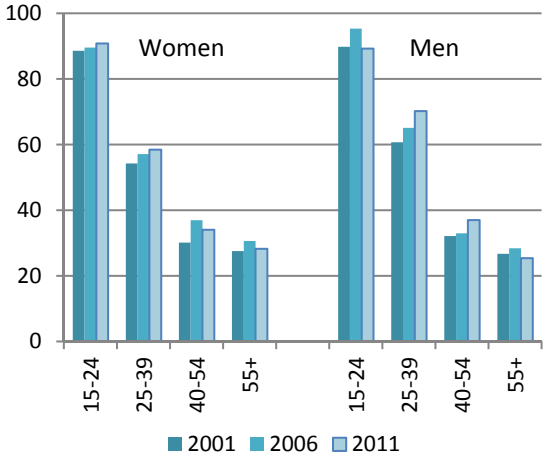
**Figure 12** Distribution of Europeans by different combinations of ideal and actual family size. EU-27



There is an increase over time (2001-2011) in the share of people who harbour ideals greater than their actual family size in the EU-15 (Figure 13). Such a time trend is observed for men aged 25-39 and 40-54 and for all women irrespective of their age.

Similarly, in the 12 NMS the proportion of women and men with fewer children than those considered ideal increases in the central ages, 25-39 and 40-54, and decreases in the extreme ages 15-24 and 55+ between 2006 and 2011 (Figure 14).

**Figure 13** Proportion of women and men who have fewer children than those considered ideal by gender and age. EU-15



**Figure 14** Proportion of women and men who have fewer children than those considered ideal by gender and age. 12-NMS

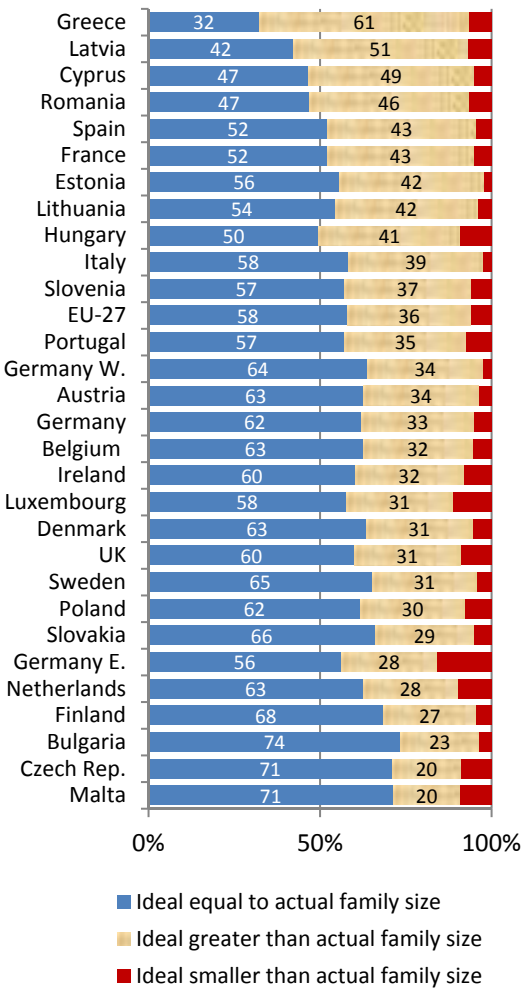


As more and more women and men postpone childbearing to older ages in life, one could have expected a temporal increase in the share of women and men who have fewer children than those considered ideal in the prime reproductive ages, 25-39. An increase over time of those with fewer children than those considered ideal, however, is observed also among women and men aged 40-54 who have presumably completed their reproductive career. This suggests that the temporal trend described in Figures 13 and 14 is not only due

to the increasing postponement of childbearing.

There is broad cross-country variation in the share of people who end their reproductive career with fewer children than those considered ideal. The percentages range from 20% (Malta and Czech Republic) to 61% (Greece) for men (Figure 15) and from 18% (Bulgaria) to 45% (Denmark) for women (Figure A.1.5).

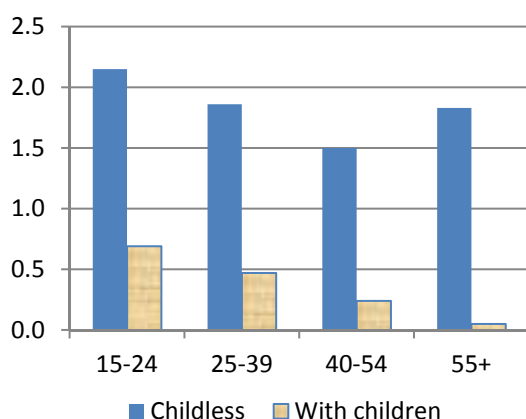
**Figure 15** Distribution of men aged 40-54 by different combinations of ideal and actual family size



## 9. THE CONTRIBUTION OF CHILDLISSNESS TO THE (LACK OF) CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN IDEAL AND ACTUAL FAMILY SIZE

Figure 16 looks at the size of the difference between the mean ideal and the mean actual family size by age among childless people and parents separately. The difference goes from 0.7 children at ages 15-24 to 0.2 at ages 40-54 and almost disappears at age 55 or above among parents. By contrast, it decreases only from 2.2 to 1.5 and 1.8 in the childless group. Given that in the two first age groups, 15-24 and 25-39, there is a high proportion of people who are childless, 89% and 46%, respectively, temporary childlessness makes a significant contribution to the ideal-actual gap in the reproductive ages. At ages 40-54 and 55 or above the share of childlessness is only 17% and 10%, respectively. Hence, definitely childlessness is not contributing much to the ultimate size of the gap. Importantly, the mean ideal family size is relatively high, 1.5 and 1.8 children, for childless people aged 40-54 and 55 or above, respectively, suggesting that a family with children is still considered an ideal by many of them.

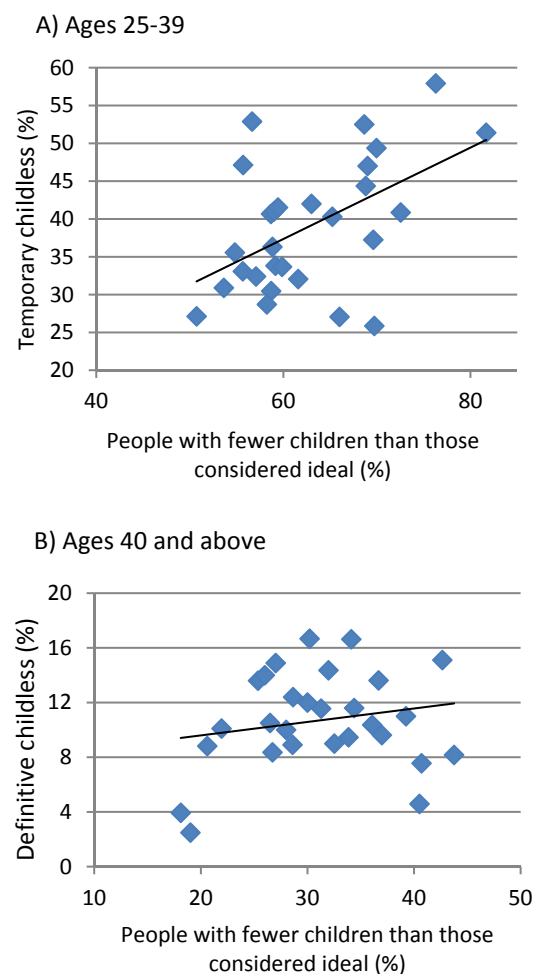
**Figure 16** Difference between the mean ideal and the mean actual family size by age. EU-27



There is a high and statistically significant cross-country correlation ( $r=0.51$ ) between the share of women and men with actual families smaller than the ideal ones and

the share of childless women and men at ages 25-39, signalling that temporary childlessness due to childbearing postponement might be an important contributing factor to the share of the ideal-actual gap at these ages. By contrast, at ages 40 and above the correlation decreases substantially ( $r=0.19$ ), suggesting that definitive childlessness is not the major explanation for the ultimate discrepancy between ideal and actual family size (Figure 17 and Figure A.1.10).

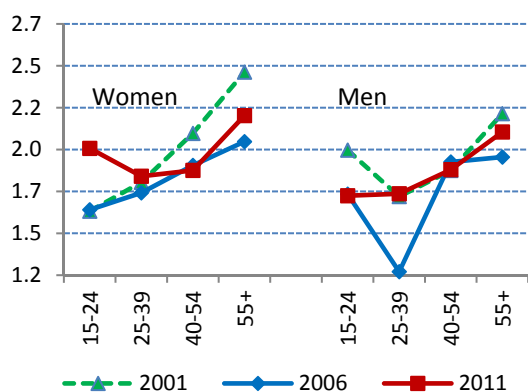
**Figure 17** Cross-country relationship between childlessness and the share of people with fewer children than those considered ideal



## 10. BELOW-REPLACEMENT FAMILY SIZE IDEALS IN AUSTRIA

Below-replacement family size ideals were observed in Austria for the first time in 2001 (Goldstein et al. 2003). They have been stable over the period 2001-2011 (Figure 18), suggesting that small families with less than two children have become the norm in this country (Testa 2012). The 2011 EB data, however, reveal an increase in the mean values for women aged 15-24, 25-39 and 55+ and for men aged 25-39 and 55+.

**Figure 18** Mean personal ideal family size in Austria over the period 2001-2011.

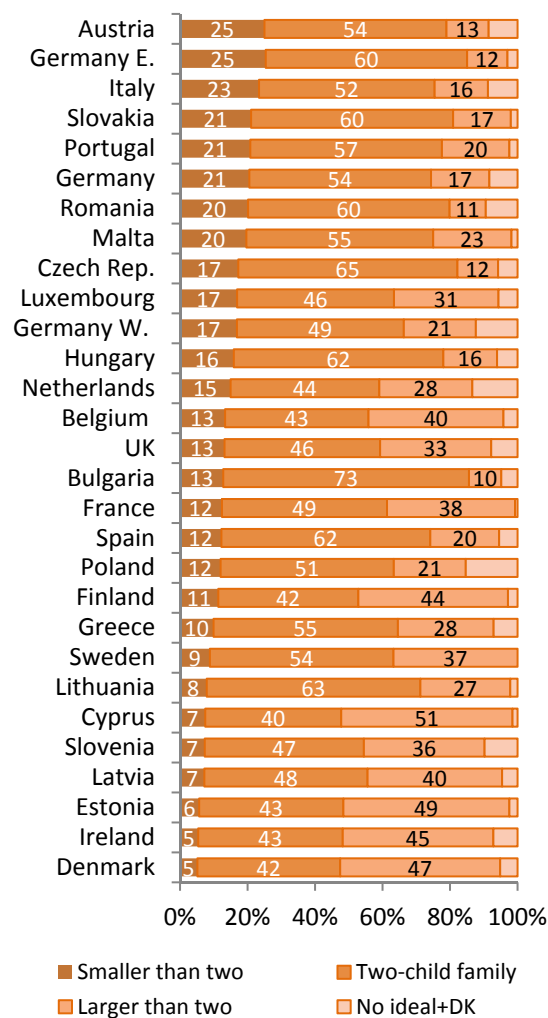


This recent increase brings the ideals of the old generations back to replacement levels, but does not change the differences between young and old cohorts in the preference for small and large families, as observed in the previous EB round (Testa 2006). Comparing the oldest (55+) with the young generations (15-39), the share of the preference for no children doubles from 4% to 9%, while the share of the preference for large families is almost cut in half from 24% to 13% (Table A.1.1).

The very low Austrian family size ideals are due to the higher proportions of young women and men preferring smaller families and the lower proportions of those who prefer large families as compared to those of other EU countries (Table A.2.2). Around one in four women aged 25-39 years reports a family with

less than two children as an ideal and only 13% prefer families with three or more children (Figure 19).

**Figure 19** Distribution of women aged 25-39 by ideal family size. 27-EU countries. EB 2011



More in-depth analysis is needed to reconcile these findings with those coming from a different Austrian data source (GGS 2008, see Buber and Neuwirth 2009) which shows values slightly above replacement level. None of these data sources, however, seem to suggest that people in Austria are having as many children as they would like to have (see section 6).

## 11. CHANGES OVER TIME: 2001-2011

A substantial stability in the mean ideal, intended, and actual family size is observed in the EU-15 over the decade 2001-2011 (Figure 20).

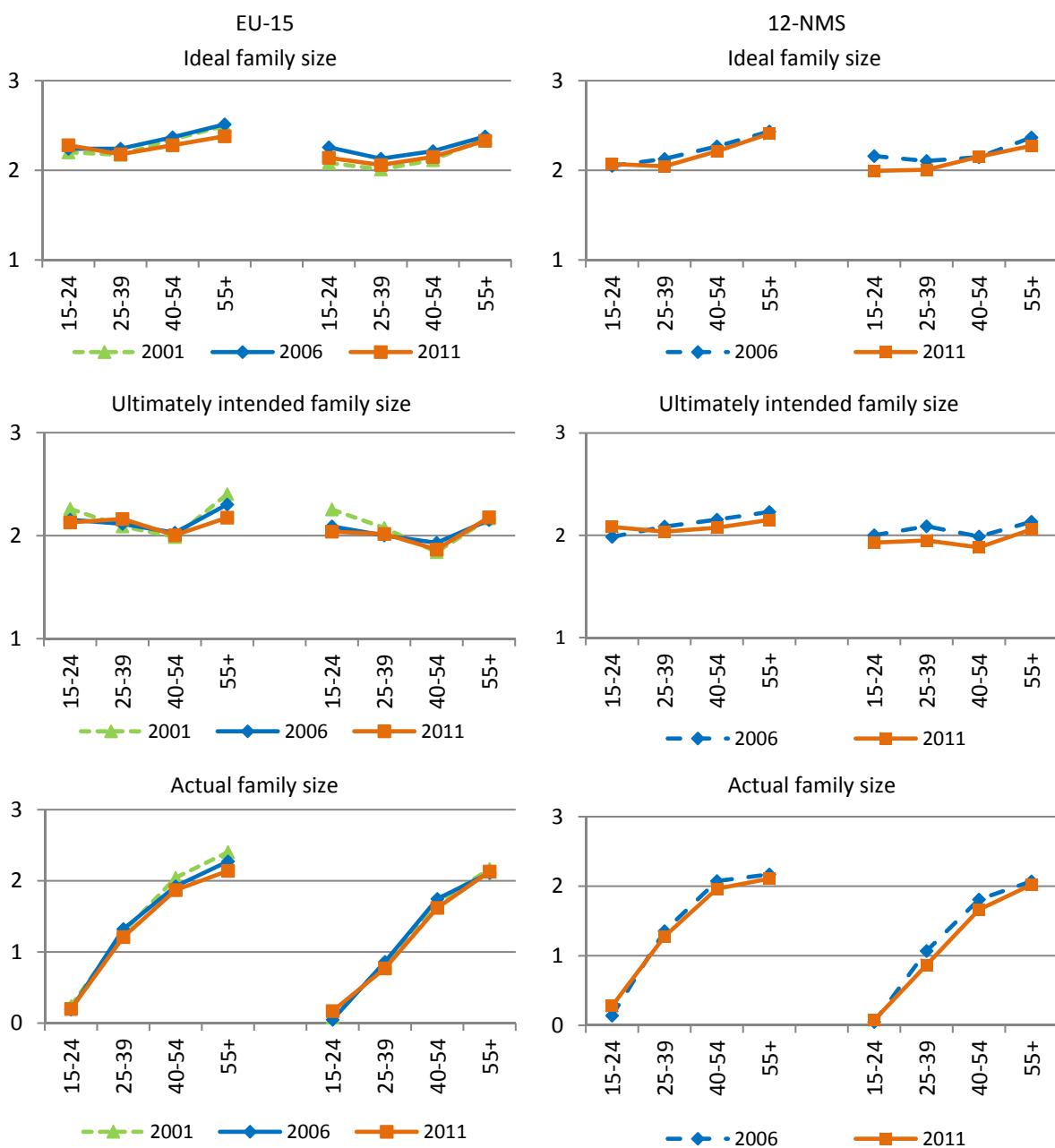
In 2011 the mean ideal family sizes are slightly lower than in 2006 (men) or 2006 and 2001 (women and men).

A decrease of mean ultimately intended family size affects only women aged 55 or above and men aged 15-24.

55 or above and men aged 15-24. A slight decline of mean actual family size concerns only women aged 40 or above (Figure 20).

The temporal stability of the different family size indicators is confirmed also for the 12-NMS (Figure A.1.7) where a slight decline is registered in each of them, especially among men, between 2006 and 2011.

**Figure 20** Mean personal ideal, ultimately intended and actual family size. EU-15 and NMS-12.



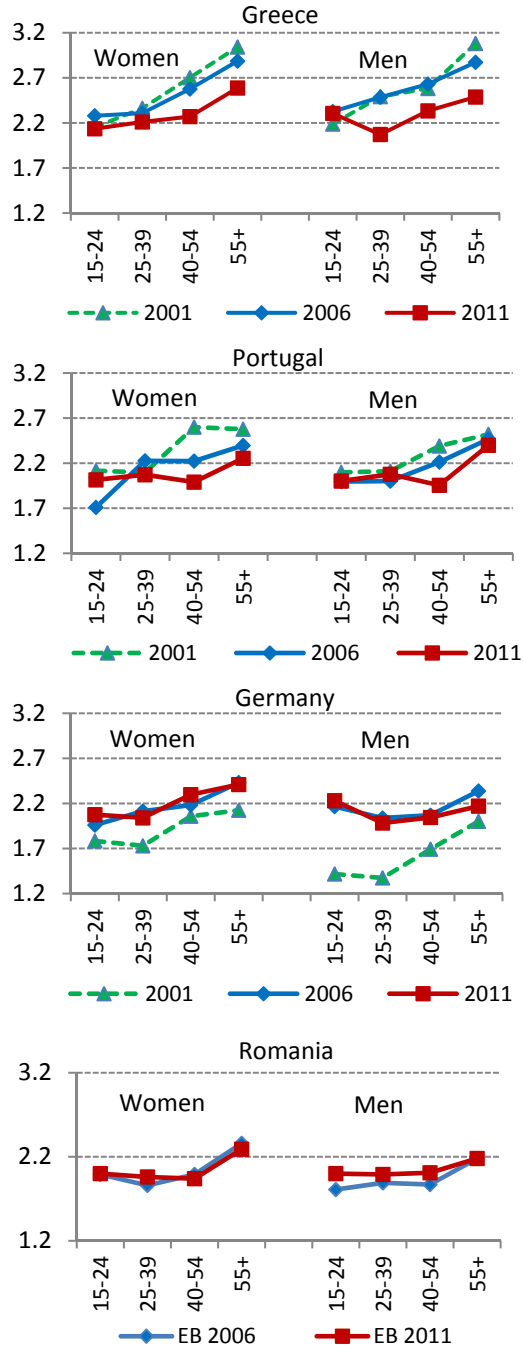
Greece is the only country showing a clear decline of the mean ideal family size between the 2006 and the 2011 EB rounds: the values go down from 2.3 to 2.1 and from 2.9 to 2.6 for women aged 15 to 24 and 55 or above, respectively; and from 2.5 to 2.1 children and from 2.9 to 2.5 children among men aged 25 to 39 and 55 or above, respectively. In no other EU country there has been such a pervasive and sizeable decline. In Cyprus a decrease of a smaller size is recorded. In most of the other countries, if a decrease is observed, this involves either only women or men, or only people in specific age groups: Belgium (men), Finland, (women), France (men mainly), Malta (women and men in the central age groups), Poland (men) and Slovakia (mainly women), Sweden (women), Portugal (women above age 24 and men aged 40-54). (Figures 21 and Figure A.1.9). In Portugal a decline of the general ideal family size is observed which is indeed more pronounced than that concerning the personal ideal family size. Both Greece and Portugal do experience a decline in the mean ultimately intended family size over the period 2006-2011.

In some countries a temporal increase of the mean personal ideal family sizes is registered (see the previous section for the case of Austria). In Germany the personal ideals observed in 2011 and 2006 are considerable higher than those of the previous round conducted in 2001 (Figure 21). This result, which raises doubts on the reliability of the 2001 data, may be partly due to the different sample design adopted for this country in the 2001 and in the two successive rounds with the size of the eastern Germany sample being halved in the 2006 and 2011 rounds as compared to that of the 2001 (Testa 2006). The family size ideals of women and men aged 25-39 observed in the 2011 EB round are still lower (around -0.2) than those found in a

comparable group, ages 25-37, in a recent German longitudinal study (pairfam 2008/09) (Buhr and Huinink 2010).

In Romania personal family size ideals are higher in 2011 than in 2006 but only for men while for women a slight increase is registered only in the age group 25-39 (Figure A.1.9).

**Figure 21** Mean personal ideal family size by gender and age. Several countries.



## 12. CORRELATES OF IDEAL, ACTUAL AND ADDITIONALLY INTENDED FAMILY SIZES

In Table 3 the marginal effects of three different ordered logistic regression models are reported. The outcome variable, coded 0, 1, 2, 3 or more, is the ideal family size in the first model, the actual family size in the second model and the additionally intended family size in the third model.

**Table 3** Association of socio-demographic characteristics with ideal, actual and additionally intended number of children.

	FAMILY SIZES					
	Ideal		Actual		Intended	
<u>Age</u> (Ref.25-39)						
15-24	0.5	***	-1.6	***	0.5	***
40-54	-0.4	***	1.0	***	-2.6	***
55+	-0.2	***	1.1	***	-4.7	***
<u>Gender</u> (Ref. Woman)						
Men	-0.1	*	-0.2	***	0.3	***
<u>Partnership</u> (Ref. Married)						
Cohabiting	0.0		-1.0	***	0.3	***
Single	-0.1		-2.8	***	0.2	**
Separated	-0.1		-0.2	***	-0.3	**
<u>Education</u> (Ref. Low)						
Medium	0.1	*	-0.2	***	0.1	
High	0.5	***	-0.6	***	0.4	***
Enrolled	0.7	***	-2.9	***	-0.5	***
First cut	-3.7	***	-1.9	***	1.9	***
Second cut	-2.3	***	-0.4	***	3.3	***
Third cut	1.0	***	2.13	***	6.2	***
N. cases	23002		23002		23002	

Marginal effects of ordered logistic regression models. Models for ideal family size and additionally intended family size are controlled for actual family size. Models for actual family size are controlled for ideal family size.

\* p<0.05; \*\* p<0.01; \*\*\* p<0.001.

As already seen, men have a lower ideal and actual family size than women. The sign of the coefficient reverses for the intended family size suggesting that men are only in a later reproduction phase than women but do not necessarily plan to have a smaller family than women.

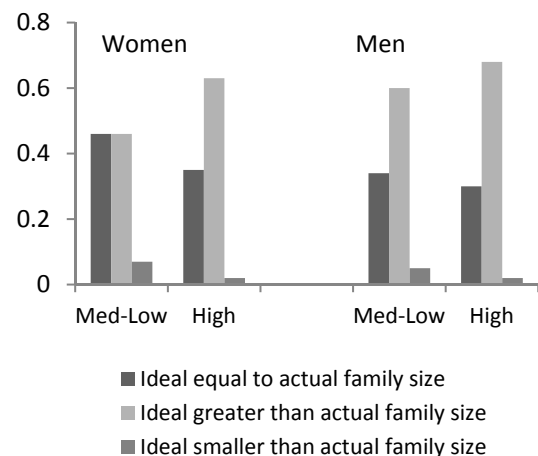
Cohabiting, or being single or separated are negatively associated with actual family size. But only separation is negatively

correlated also with additionally intended family size, suggesting that cohabitation does not have a depressing effect on completed family size.

Being highly educated is positively associated with both ideal and intended family size but negatively associated with the actual family size. This result suggests that people with a high level of education are presumably those with the biggest difference between ideal and actual fertility. The effect is also gendered: as compared to their less educated counterparts, highly educated women face more challenges in realising their reproductive ideals than men.

Figure 22 shows the predicted probabilities of different combinations of ideal and actual family size by level of education coming from multinomial regression models whose estimates are not shown in the paper but available upon request. The outcome variable has three categories: 'ideal equal to actual family size', 'ideal greater than actual family size' and 'ideal smaller than actual family size'.

**Figure 22** Predicted probabilities of different combinations of ideal and actual family size by level of education. Ages 25-39.





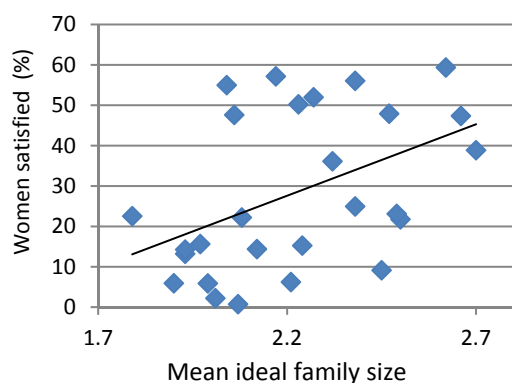
### 13. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS' SATISFACTION WITH THEIR OWN LIFE AND FAMILY SIZES

In the 2011 EB rounds respondents are asked to report the level of satisfaction about the life they lead (“*On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?*”). Response options are: ‘very satisfied’, ‘fairly satisfied’, ‘not very satisfied’, and ‘not at all satisfied’. A rank of the countries according to the proportion of people very satisfied with their own life is given in Figure A.1.11.

Figure 23 shows the cross-country relationship between women’s mean ideal family size and the women’s share of life satisfaction for the age group 25-39. As can be seen, there is a positive correlation between the two variables ( $r=0.45$ ): countries with higher proportions of satisfied women are also those in which women prefer larger families. Here satisfied women are those who selected the answer ‘very satisfied’ in the related item.

A similar positive association is observed among women at older ages (40-54 and 55+). Interestingly, the cross-country relationship mentioned above appear weak and not statistically significant in the men sub-sample irrespective of the age group

**Figure 23** Cross-country relationship between the mean ideal family size and the share of women aged 25-39 satisfied with their own life.

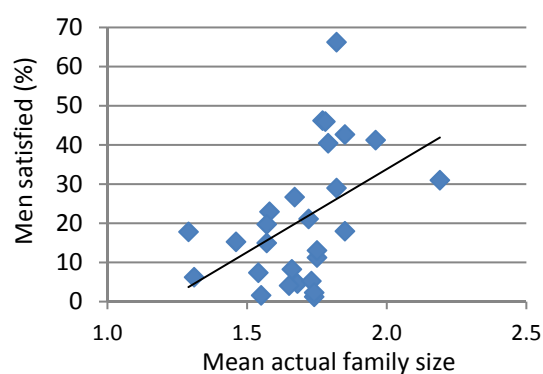


considered (results are available upon request). This finding suggests that for women ideal family sizes and life satisfaction are more closely related each other than for men.

An analogous positive cross-country relationship between mean actual family size and life satisfaction could not be observed for women (or men) aged 25 to 39. This does not mean that a relationship does not exist but only that it does not take a linear shape. Indeed, a positive and significant cross-country correlation is found between the share of women satisfied with their own life, on one hand, and both the share of childless women and that of women with three or more children, on the other hand.

If people aged 40-54 are selected, for whom family size is (almost) completed, a positive cross-country association is detected between the mean actual family size and people’s life satisfaction. The relation is statistically significant for men ( $r=0.46$ ) but not for women ( $r=0.19$ ) (Figure 24). In the next section these different relationships are investigated in a multivariate setting.

**Figure 24** Cross-country relationship between the mean actual family size and the share of men aged 40-54 satisfied with their own life.



#### 14. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS' PERCEPTION OF THEIR COUNTRY'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION AND THEIR FAMILY SIZES

In the 2011 EB survey interviewed people were asked to report their assessment on several socio-economic aspects of the country they live in. 15 different items are included in the survey question (see the full list in Tables A.1.3, A.1.4 and A.1.5). These assessments are made with reference to the time of the survey, the next twelve months, and the past five years (see Table A.1.2 for question wording).

As shown in Table A.1.3, response options range from 'very good' to 'very bad'. Most of the interviewed people evaluate the current situation either 'rather good' or 'rather bad'. A very tiny minority give a 'very good' evaluation, below 10% for most of the items. 30% of the respondents selected this option when they assess the area they live in and 14% and 13% of the interviewed people chose it when they evaluate the health care provision and their own job situation, respectively. Almost one out of three respondents evaluate rather bad the cost of living and the employment situation (44%), the affordability of housing (43%) and energy (45%) and the way inequality and poverty are addressed in the country they live in (48%). There are only very few 'don't know' answers, the only exception being items related to the country's unemployment benefits (15%) and the individual's job situation (20%).

Most Europeans have an outlook that is neither optimistic nor pessimistic of the short-term future, i.e., they think that for most of the aspects the situation of their country will stay the same in the next twelve months (Table A.1.4). A future worsening is perceived especially in the cost of living (59%) and affordability of housing and energy (43% and 53%, respectively).

Most Europeans think that their country's socio-economic situation has been

stable or worsening over the past five years. Their pessimism is particularly pronounced when it comes to the provision of pensions (52%), cost of living (80%), affordability of energy and housing (70% and 65%, respectively) and the economy and employment situation (68% and 64%, respectively) (Table A.1.5).

In Table A.1.6 the marginal effects of several ordered regression models are reported in which the response is, alternatively, the individuals' satisfaction with their own life (Model 1), the individual's evaluation of: their job situation and their household's financial situation (Model 2); the economy and employment situation in their country (Model 3); the provision of pensions, unemployment benefits and health care in their country (Model 4); and the affordability of energy in their country (Model 5). These items are selected out of the 15 included in the satisfaction question because they seemed more closely related to childbearing and family size issues in a preliminary exploratory analysis. While for Model 1 and Model 5 the item itself is the response, for models 2, 3 and 4, two or three different items are grouped together. The internal consistency of these different items is estimated with Cronbach's Alpha and relatively high values for the reliability coefficients (above 0.70) are obtained, which supports the choice to group them in one single variable. A rank of the countries according to a compiled scale of all 15 items is given in Figure A.1.12.

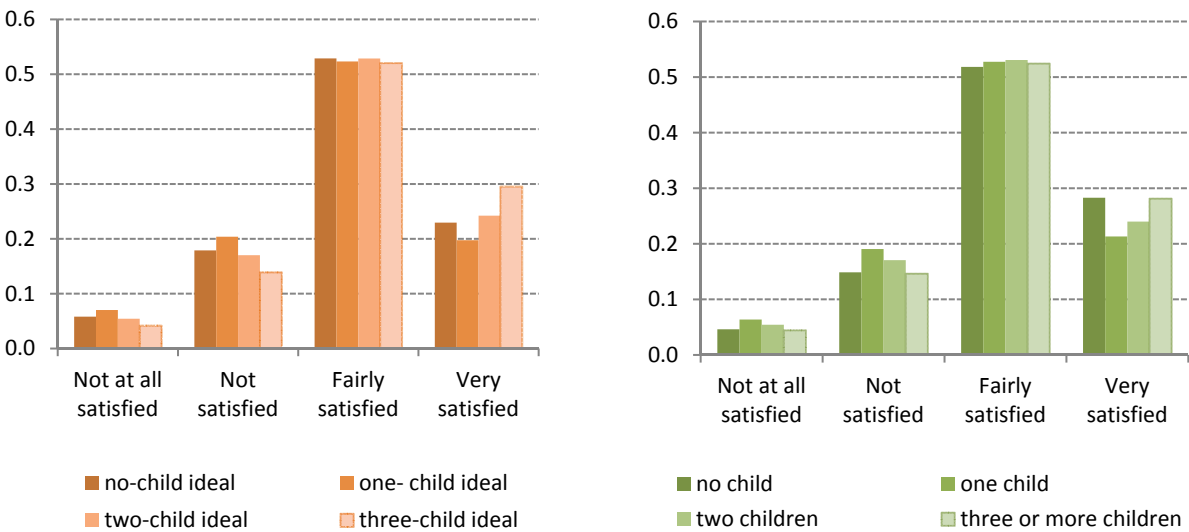
As can be seen in Table A.1.6, older people, highly educated people and people enrolled in education have a more optimistic view of their own life, their household's financial situation, the country's economy and employment situation, the provision of

pension, health and unemployment benefits and the affordability of energy in their country. With the exception of their own life, men evaluate the aspects mentioned above more positively than women. With the exception of their life and their job situation, cohabiting partners assess more positively the various aspects mentioned above than married couples (Table A.1.6).

People with higher ideals are more satisfied with their own life than those who have lower ideals (Figure 25). Moreover, those who prefer large families give a more positive evaluation of their own job and their household’s financial situation, the country’s economy and employment situation, and the country’s health, pension and unemployment benefits (Table A.1.6). As suggested in the previous section, the positive relation between family size ideals and life satisfaction is gendered: men with large family size ideals are more satisfied with their life than those with lower ideals and to a lesser degree than their female counterparts (Table A.1.6).

People who have large families (three or more children) are more concerned about their own job situation and their household’s financial situation and about affordability of energy in their country than those who are childless, or have two children or smaller families, respectively. By contrast, they are more satisfied with their own life and more optimistic about the provision of pension, health and unemployment benefits in their country than those with smaller families (Table A.1.6). The relationship between actual family size and satisfaction in life seems to be U-shaped with those childless and with three or more children being more likely to be very satisfied with the life they lead (Figures 25). The positive relation between being childless and being satisfied with their own life is gendered: childless men are more satisfied with their lives than those with children and to a lesser degree than their female counterparts (Table A.1.6).

**Figure 25** Individuals’ predicted probabilities of being satisfied with their life by ideal or actual family size. Estimates from Model 1 shown in Table A.1.6.



## SUMMARY

This paper uses the 2011 Eurobarometer survey on Fertility and Social Climate to examine the correspondence between personal family size ideal and actual family size. The issue is of highly relevant for social policy making since the persistence of high ideals in a context of declining actual fertility has been identified as a window of opportunity and a justification for the recent attempts to close the gap between fertility ideals and fertility behaviour in Europe.

The EB 2011 data highlighted the following results:

- In Europe, 58% and 69% of women and men, respectively, in their prime reproductive ages, 25-39, have a family smaller than that they *would like* to have. The difference between ideal and actual fertility is 0.9 children for women and 1.3 children for men. At older ages of 40 and above, when family size should be almost completed, around 30% of women and men have a smaller family size than the one they *would have liked to have had*, and their mean ideal-actual gap is at around 0.4 and 0.5 children, respectively.
  - Men have lower ideals than women but the discrepancy between ideal and actual family size is greater for men than for women in most EU countries. This is in part due to the circumstance that men start building a family later in life than women and, consequently, they have smaller actual family sizes than women at comparable ages. Men's delay in family formation is more than compensated by their lower ideal family sizes in the following countries: Finland, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, eastern Germany, the Czech Republic and Hungary. As a result, in these countries the sign of the gender differences in the ideal-actual gap reverses, with women showing a greater difference between ideal and actual fertility than men at ages 40-54. Interestingly, the Netherlands and the Scandinavian countries are also known for their high gender equality systems. Further research is needed to clarify the reasons for men's lower family size ideals in Europe which are confirmed also in the multivariate analysis.
  - Education does matter. People with high level of education have fewer children than those with low or medium educational level, but they would like to have more children than their less educated counterparts. This result, which could be caused by the selection process reflecting the fact that early childbearing and large families prevent the achievement of high levels of education, should be further researched. It is worth emphasising that the highest level of discrepancy between ideal and actual family size is observed among the highly educated which makes them an important target group for family-friendly policy measures aiming at closing the ideal-actual gap.
  - A substantial stability or a slight increase over time is observed in the share of people who report a two-child family as an ideal family size. An analogous trend is observed in the share of people who are satisfied with their two-child family size (i.e., those who report this number as their ideal and their actual family size). The reasons for the desirability of this size as well as the hypothesis of a possible future convergence around this two-child norm deserve to be further investigated.
- Austria is the only EU country with below-replacement family size ideals. Other

countries, like Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and eastern Germany show below-replacement levels either only for women (Bulgaria), or only for men (the Czech Republic and eastern Germany), and in both cases only for specific age groups. The reasons for Austria's exceptionally low fertility ideals are due to a higher proportion of young people preferring families with less than two children than observed in the other EU countries, which suggests that the below-two-children norm is now most prevalent in Austria. The age differences in the preferences for small (none or one child) and large families (three or more children), which are bigger than those observed in the other EU countries, remained constant over the years 2006-2011. However, the temporal trend in the period 2006-2011, which was actually increasing for both the young and the old generations, might raise doubts on the interpretation of these age differences as a time trend of declining ideals by cohorts. Most importantly, the particularly low levels of ideal family size do not imply a correspondence between ideal and actual fertility in Austria. At age 40 or above the ideal-actual gap, 0.3 children, is only slightly lower than the one registered in the EU-27 as a whole, 0.4 children, but much lower than that computed on the Austrian GGS survey data, 0.7, for a comparable age group.

- Greece is the only EU country experiencing a pervasive decline of family size ideals in the period 2006-2011. In the other EU countries, the decrease is either of a smaller magnitude, like in the United Kingdom and Cyprus, or involves either only women or men of specific age groups, like in Belgium, Finland, France, Portugal, Sweden and Malta. With the decline of the ideal family size the ideal-actual gap goes down from 2 to 1.6 children among men aged 25-39, and from 1 to 0.7, and 0.8 to 0.6

children, for men and women, respectively, aged 40 or above, in the same temporal framework (2006-2011).

- Overall, the current social climate is negative in Europe. Many Europeans give a negative assessment of their country's socio-economic aspects considered in the surveys. The cost of living, the affordability of housing and the situation of economy are badly evaluated by most of the interviewed people. Particularly negative is the perception on how the socio-economic situation has been developing over the past five years: between 64% and 80% of the people formulate a retrospective negative assessment of the cost of living, affordability of housing and energy, and employment and economic situation. Cost of living and affordability of energy are also seen as the most problematic areas for the next short-term future. Europeans tend to be more optimistic about their own life, their personal job situation and their household's financial situation than about their country's socio-economic conditions. The most optimistic people are, on the one hand, the childless ones and, on the other, those who have or would like to have large families with three or more children. This result, which contains an intrinsic contradiction, needs to be studied in depth in further research.

To conclude, the 2011 EB data on Fertility and Social Climate suggest that there is still room for action by policy makers willing to reduce the gap between ideal and actual family size. When searching for the most effective policies one should take into account that:

- 1) The discrepancy between ideal and actual family size should be considered not only by comparing the mean ideal and the mean actual fertility but also by examining the

share of people who actually realise their reproductive wishes;

- 2) Both the size and the prevalence of the ideal-actual gap vary not only across countries but also by gender, age and education as well as by partnership status and other socio-demographic characteristics. Hence, policy measures aimed at helping people to realise their reproductive wishes should not only take into account the level and the share of correspondence between ideal and actual family size in the country and the different institutional, social and demographic contexts in the various countries but, within each of them, they should target the specific sub-groups of people for whom the gap is found to be biggest;
- 3) In the prime reproductive ages the ideal-actual gap is driven by the proportion of people who have not yet started a family suggesting that all measures which facilitate the transition to adulthood (finishing education, leaving the parental home, entering the labour market, etc.) might also help to close the ideal-actual gap;
- 4) The cross-country similarities in the magnitude of the gap between ideal and actual family size may hide substantial differences in the level of each of its two components, suggesting that policy interventions aimed at filling the same amount of the ideal-actual gap might be preferably targeted towards childless couples or couples who already have children depending on the level of the ideal and actual fertility that have generated it;
- 5) A decline over time in the size of the discrepancy between ideal and actual family size may also be due to a substantial decrease of the ideals, like in Greece, and does not necessarily signal the

absence of a need to help couples in forming their family. By contrast, given the unfavourable situation that caused such abrupt changes, family-friendly policy measures could be particularly recommended in this context;

- 6) There are two sets of constraints that people face when forming their family: those that people might have already incorporated into their plans (which act through their attitudes, norms and perceived behaviour control, as suggested by the Theory of Planned Behaviour, TPB, proposed by Ajzen 1991; Fishbein and Ajzen 2010), which could be reflected in the ideal-intended gap; and constraints that are related to unexpected events and circumstances that impede people from realising their previously stated fertility plans (the so-called enablers and constraints, according to the TPB). Each of these two sets of factors may require a different kind of policy intervention.

One major shortcoming of this study is related to the small national sample sizes which allow only a breakdown of the national populations by broad age groups. The group of people aged 25-39 mixed up those who may be well into their childbearing years with those who have not yet found a partner and for whom family size ideals remain abstract. Hence, the discrepancy between ideal and actual family size at these ages is based on a family size measure which is incomplete and mixes up the timing with the quantum of fertility. Given that more and more women and men in Europe postpone childbearing, it may be likely that there is no ultimate difference between ideal and actual fertility but only a delay which induces individuals to realise their reproductive wishes later in life. The real correspondence between ideal and actual

family size can indeed only be investigated in a longitudinal setting in which individuals' birth outcomes may be linked to their earlier childbearing wishes. The span of this longitudinal study should be large enough to allow people to complete their family size. Unfortunately, there are no such international long-span longitudinal studies in Europe yet. The Eurobarometer data, which are cross-sectional and cannot follow up individuals over time provide a valuable piece of evidence showing that the discrepancy between ideal and actual family size is not only temporary since it does not disappear among women and men at (or near) the end of their reproductive life. The results demonstrate that the observed delay in childbearing, rather than only biasing the measure of the correspondence between ideal and actual fertility, is one of the reasons for the gap between ideal and actual family size. This finding was also found in a recent qualitative study conducted in the US (Diamond-Smith and Astone 2012). The rise over time in the share of people who are uncertain about their childbearing plans, as revealed by the 2011 EB data, is in line with this interpretation as well since uncertainty might just be a reflection in people's minds that delayed childbearing could lead to childbearing forgone (Morgan 1982).

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I am grateful to Richard Gisser, Wolfgang Lutz, Julius op de Beke, Dimiter Philipov and Tomáš Sobotka for their useful comments given on an earlier draft of the paper. A special thank goes to Ani Minassian and Lisa Janisch for their helpful suggestions and assistance with the layout and formatting of the document.

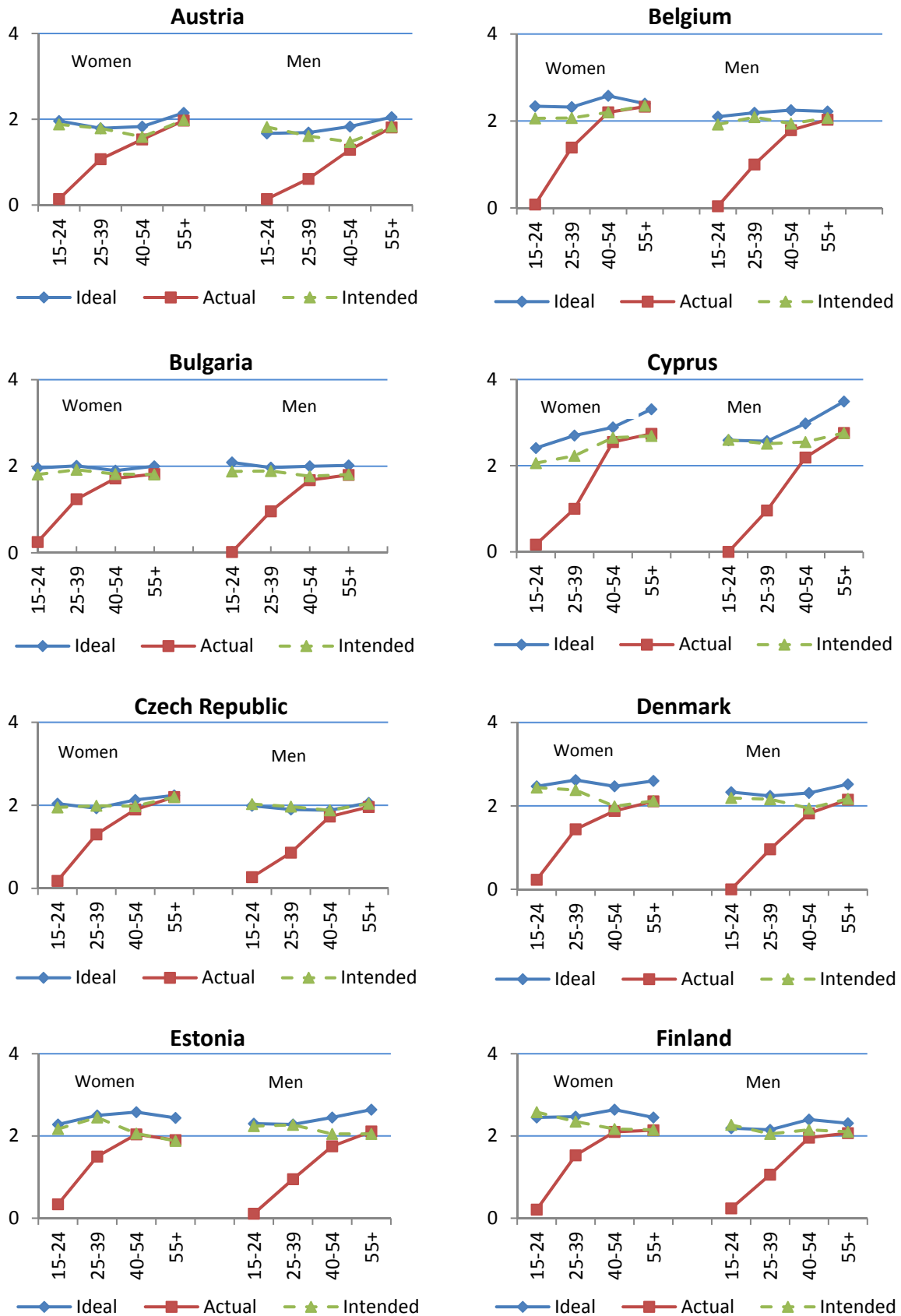
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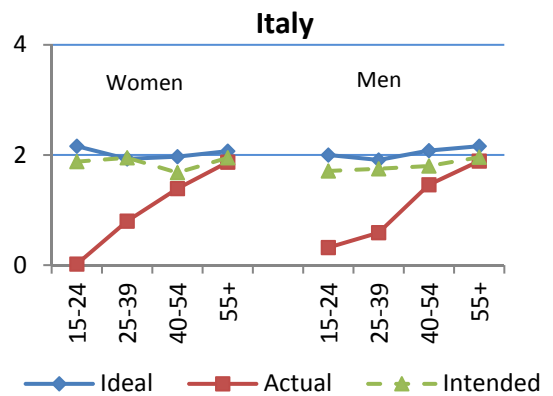
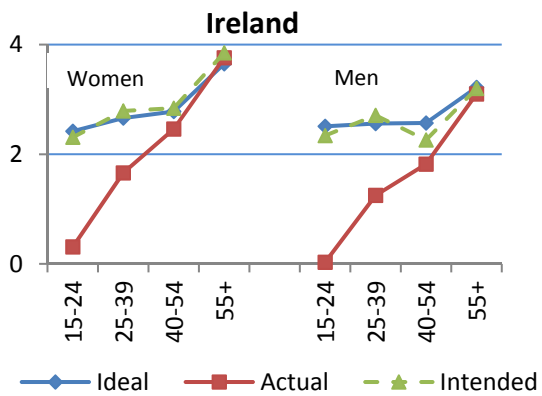
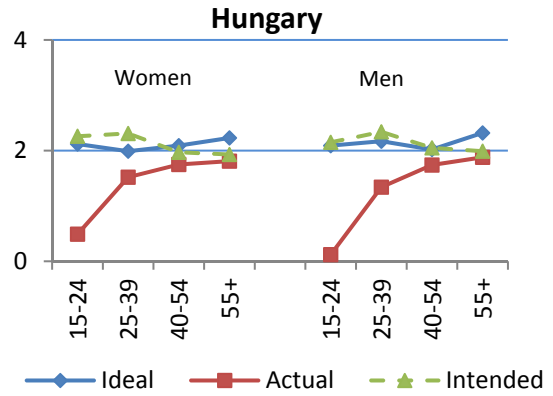
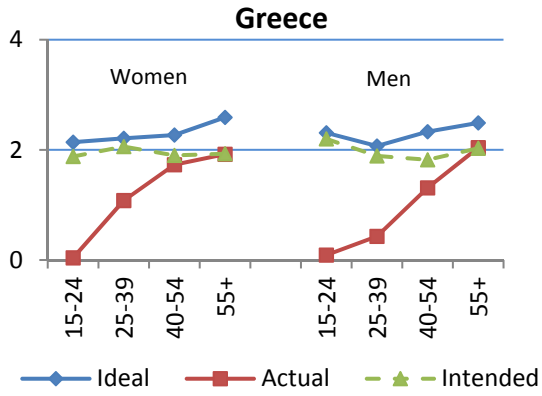
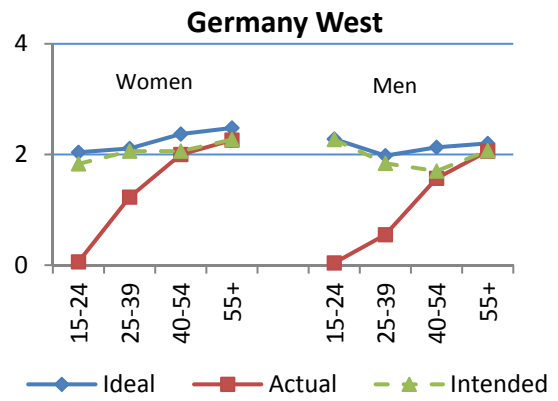
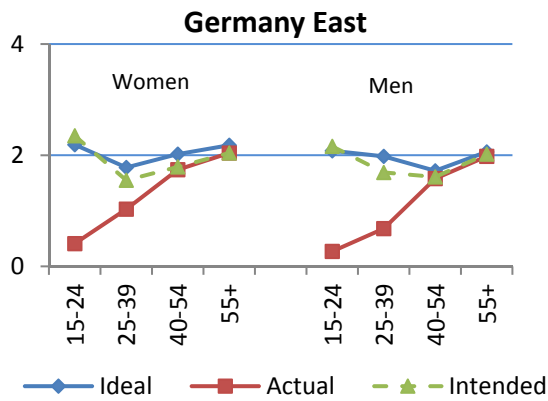
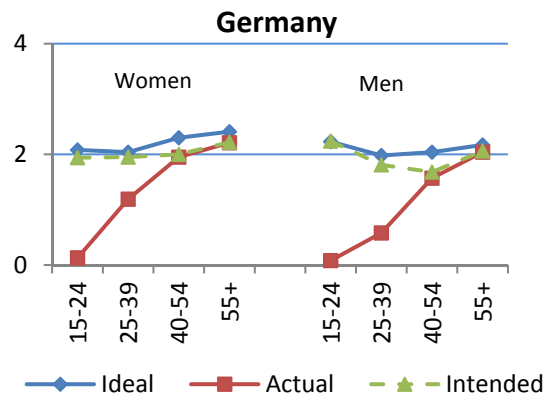
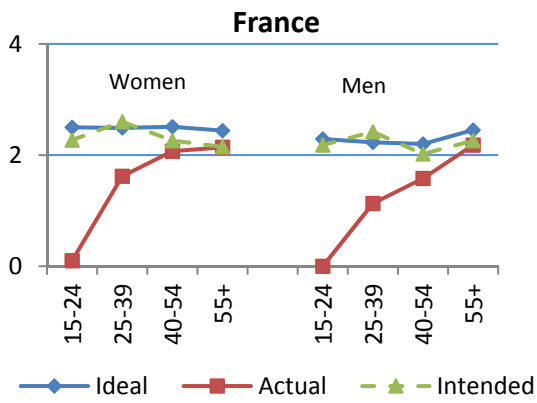
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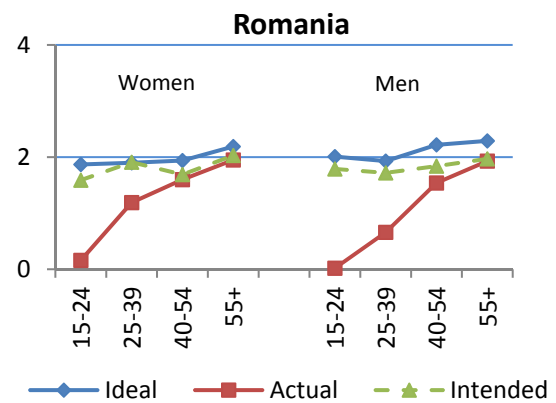
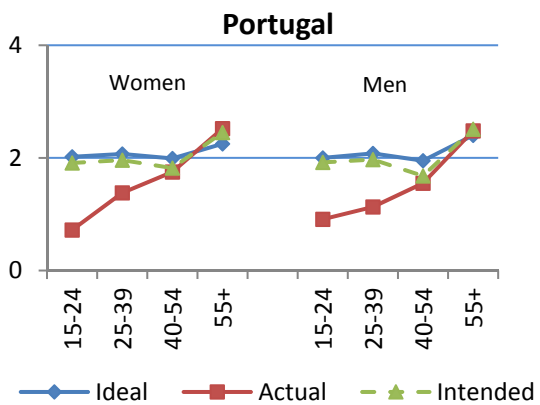
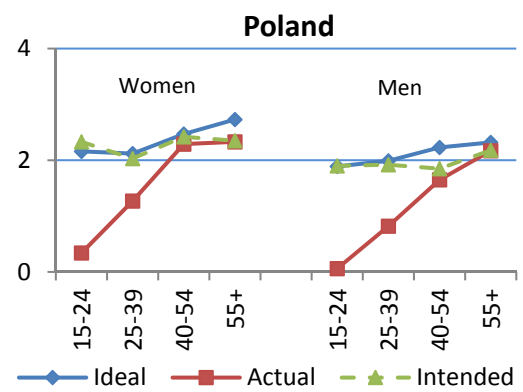
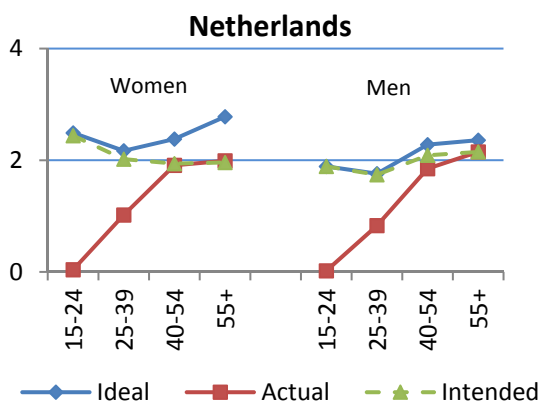
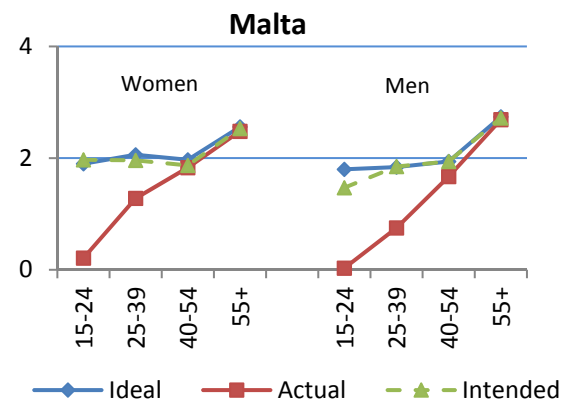
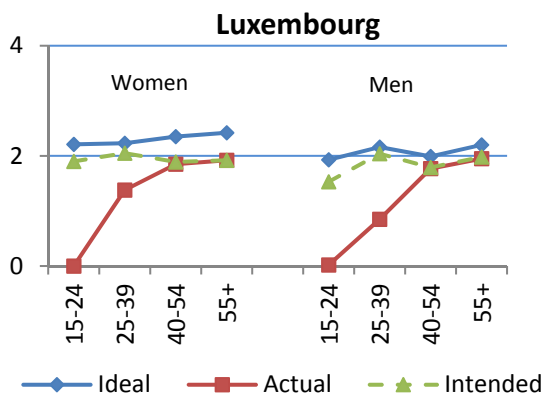
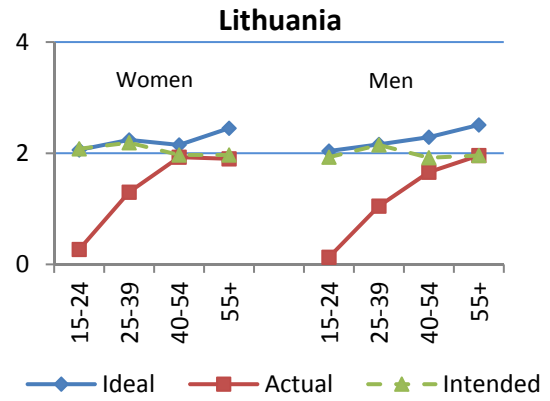
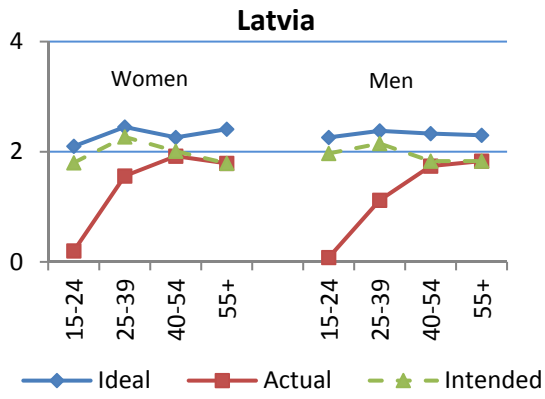


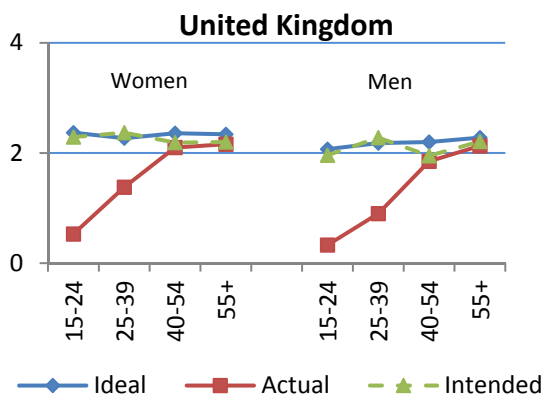
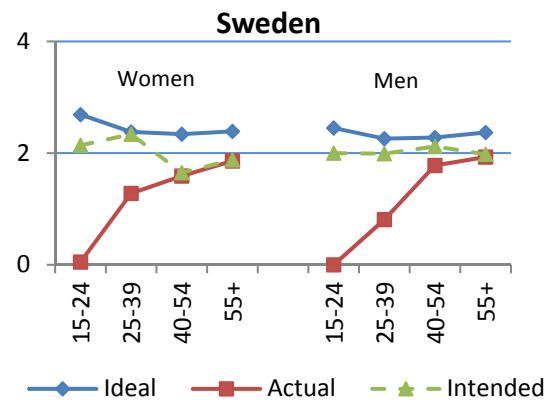
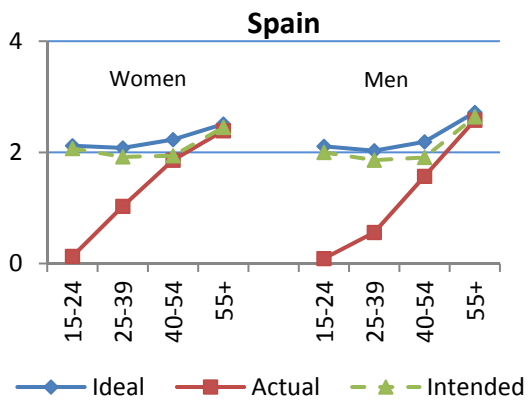
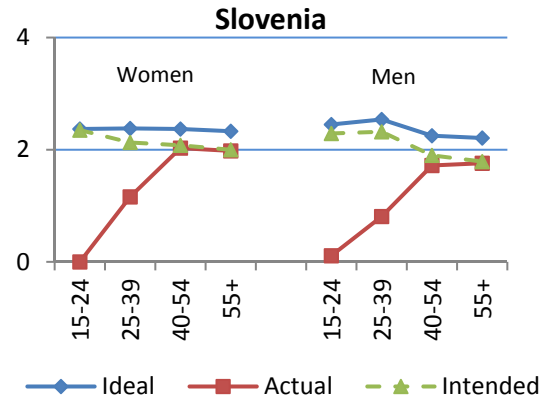
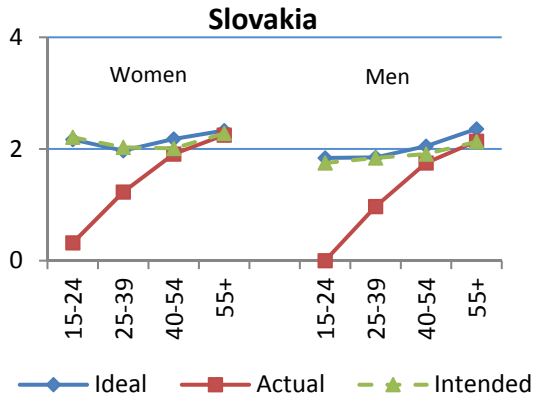
APPENDIX 1

Figure A.1.1 Mean family sizes by gender, age and country.

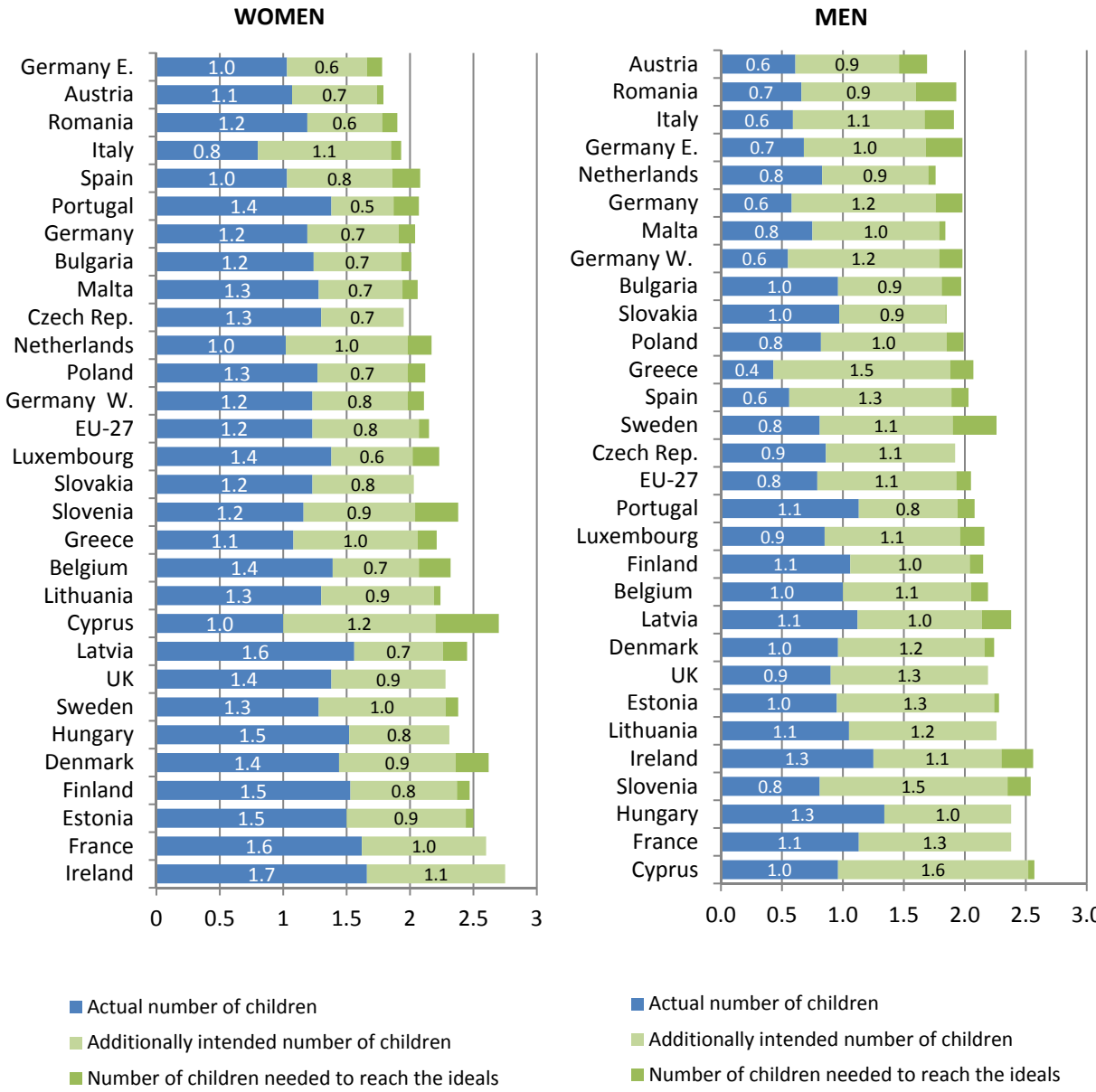




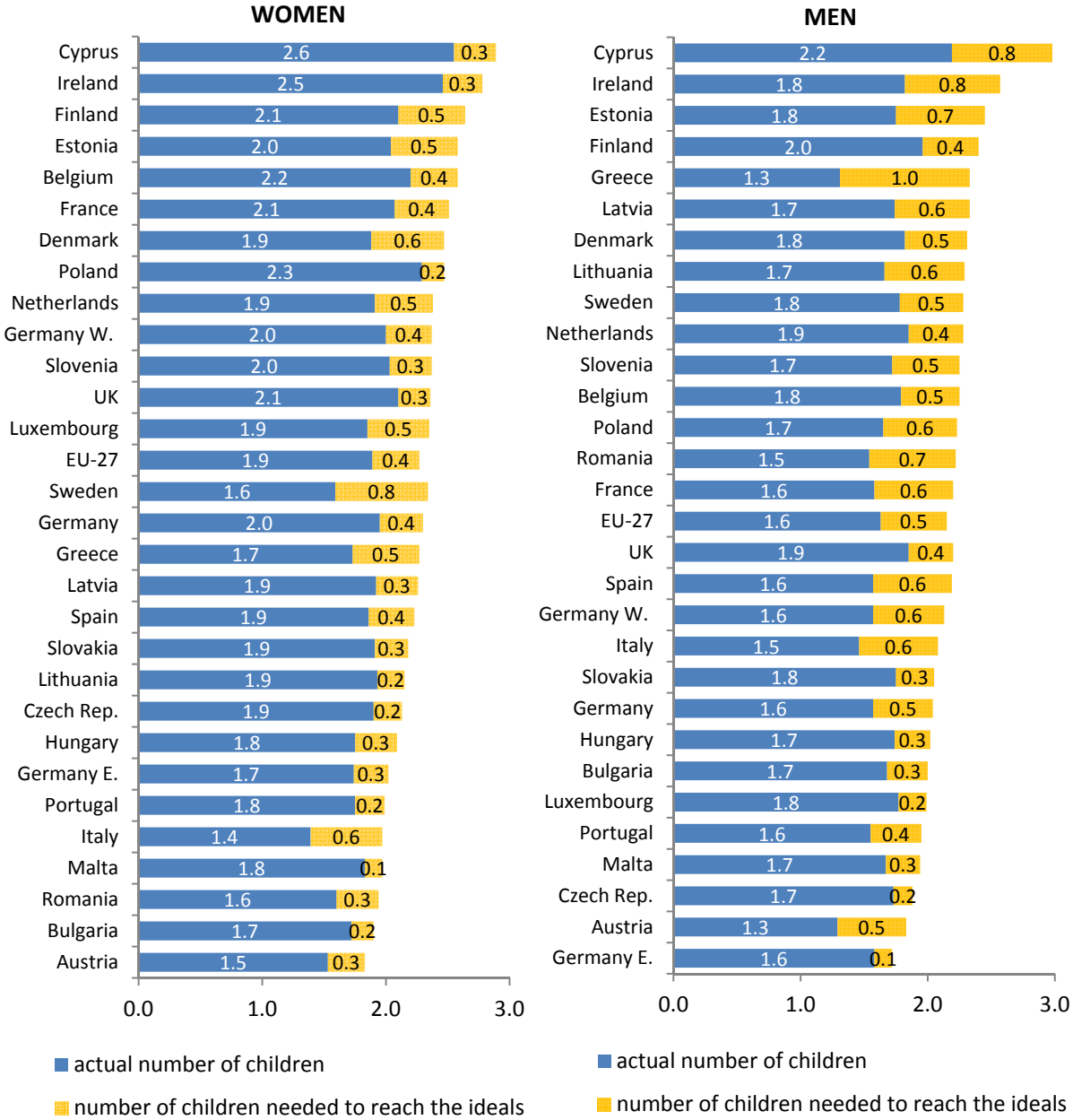




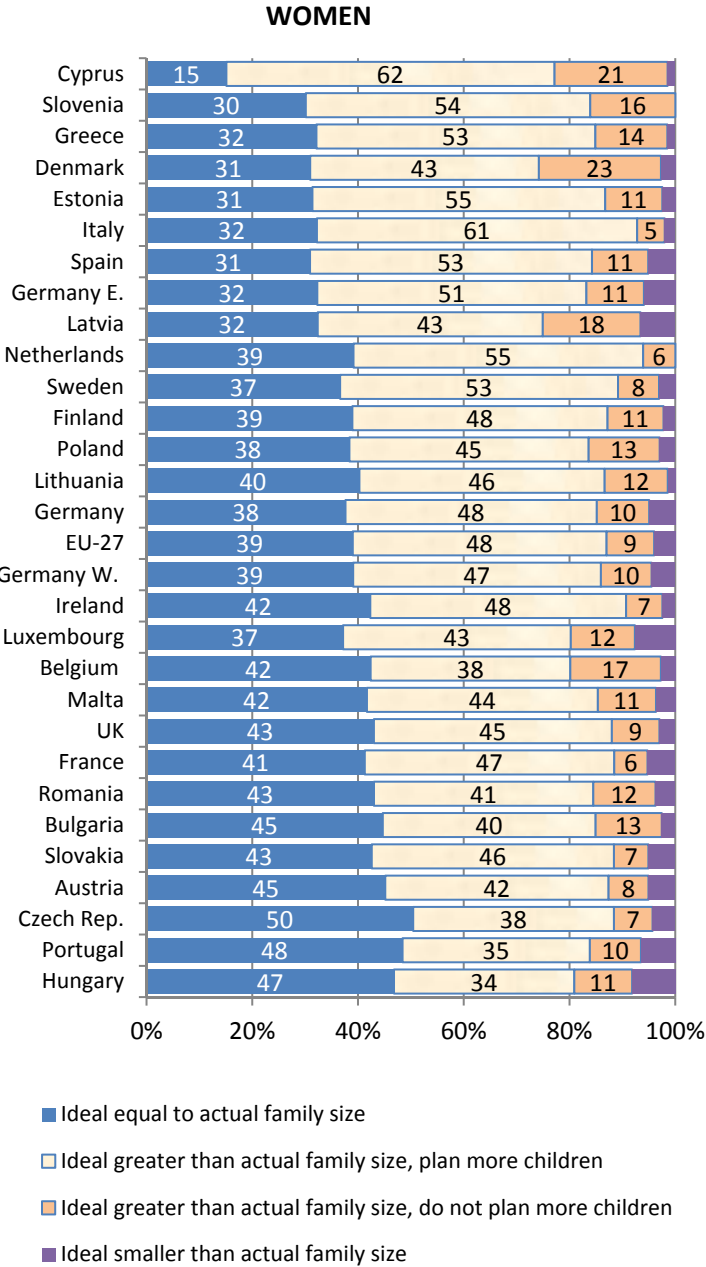
**Figure A.1.2** Ideal family size obtained by summing up the actual number of children, the additionally intended number of children and the number of children needed to reach the personal ideals. Women and men aged 25-39 years.



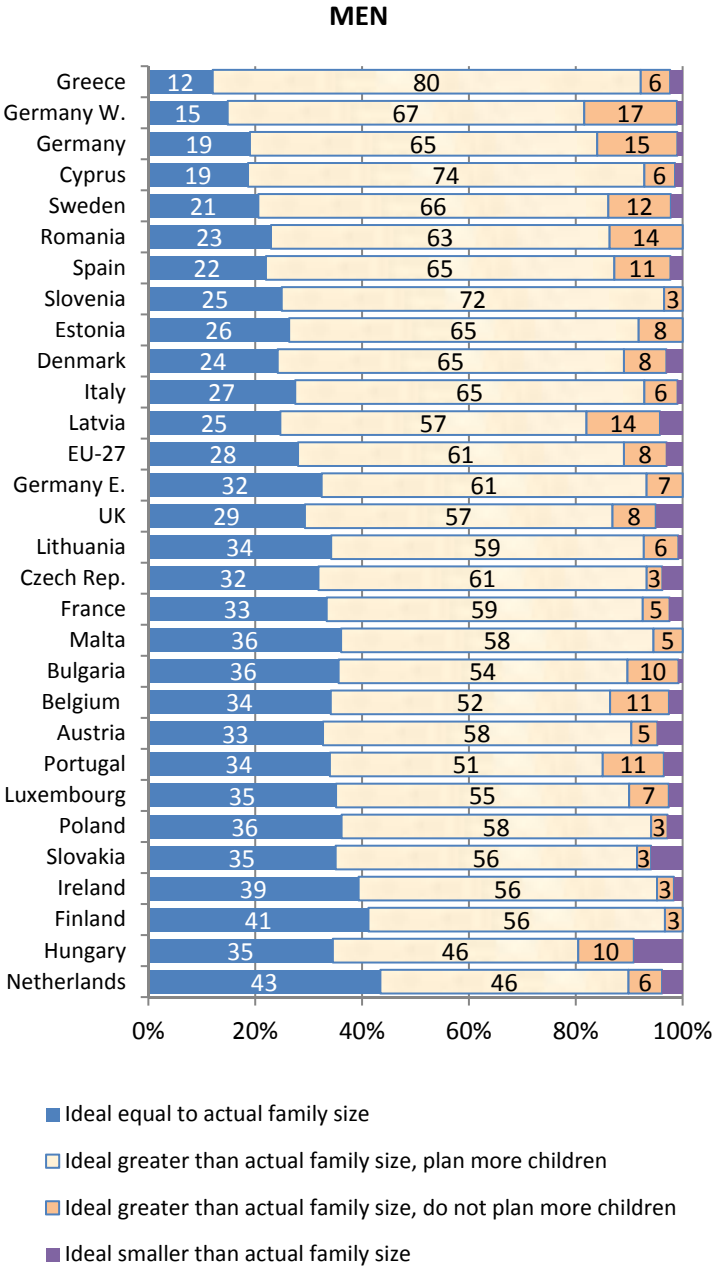
**Figure A.1.3** Ideal family size obtained by summing the actual number of children and the additional number of children needed to reach the personal ideals. Women and men aged 40+.



**Figure A.1.4** Distribution of women and men aged 25-39 by different combinations of ideal and actual family size.

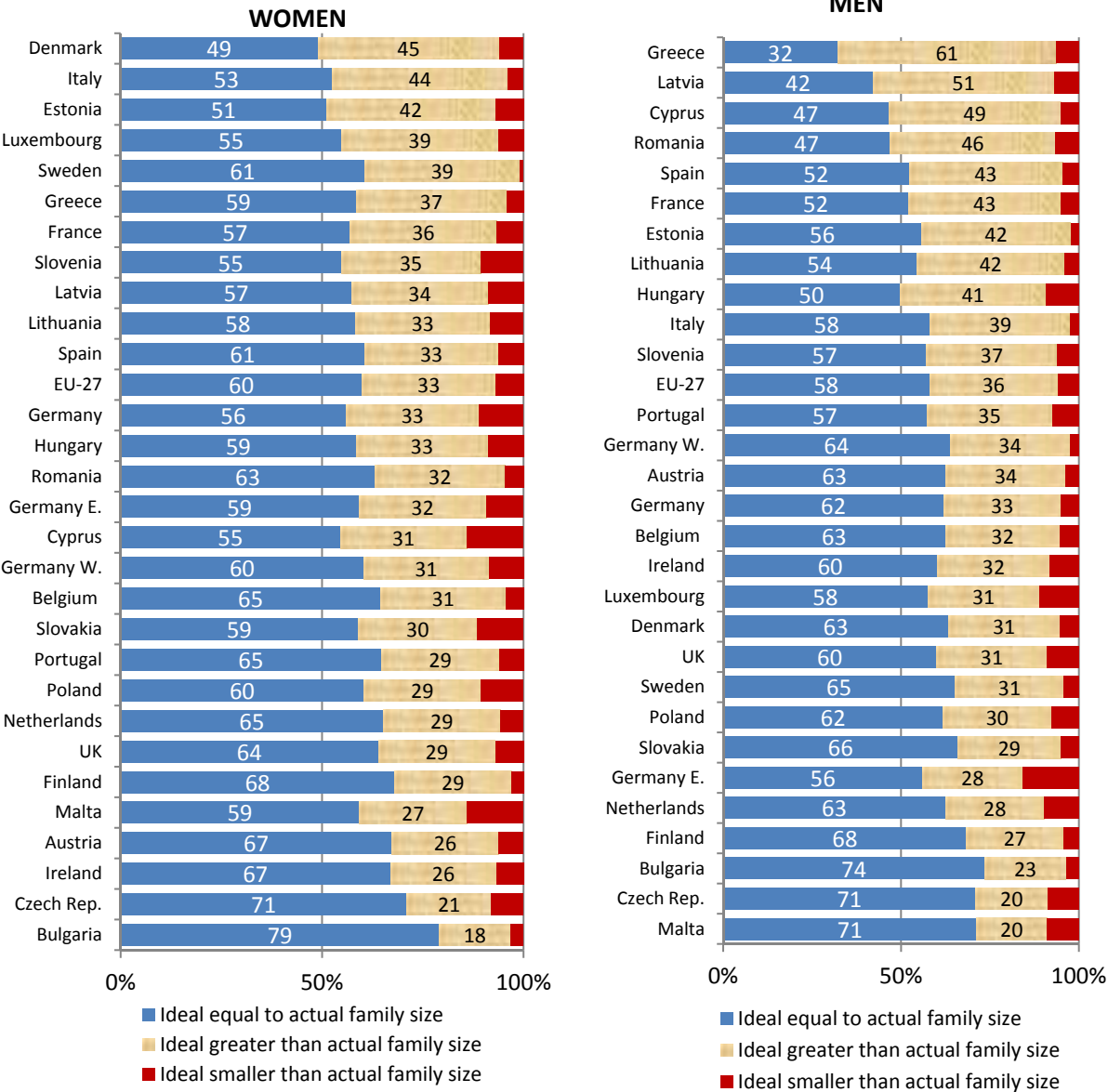


**Figure A.1.4 (Continued)** Distribution of women and men aged 25-39 by different combinations of ideal and actual family size.

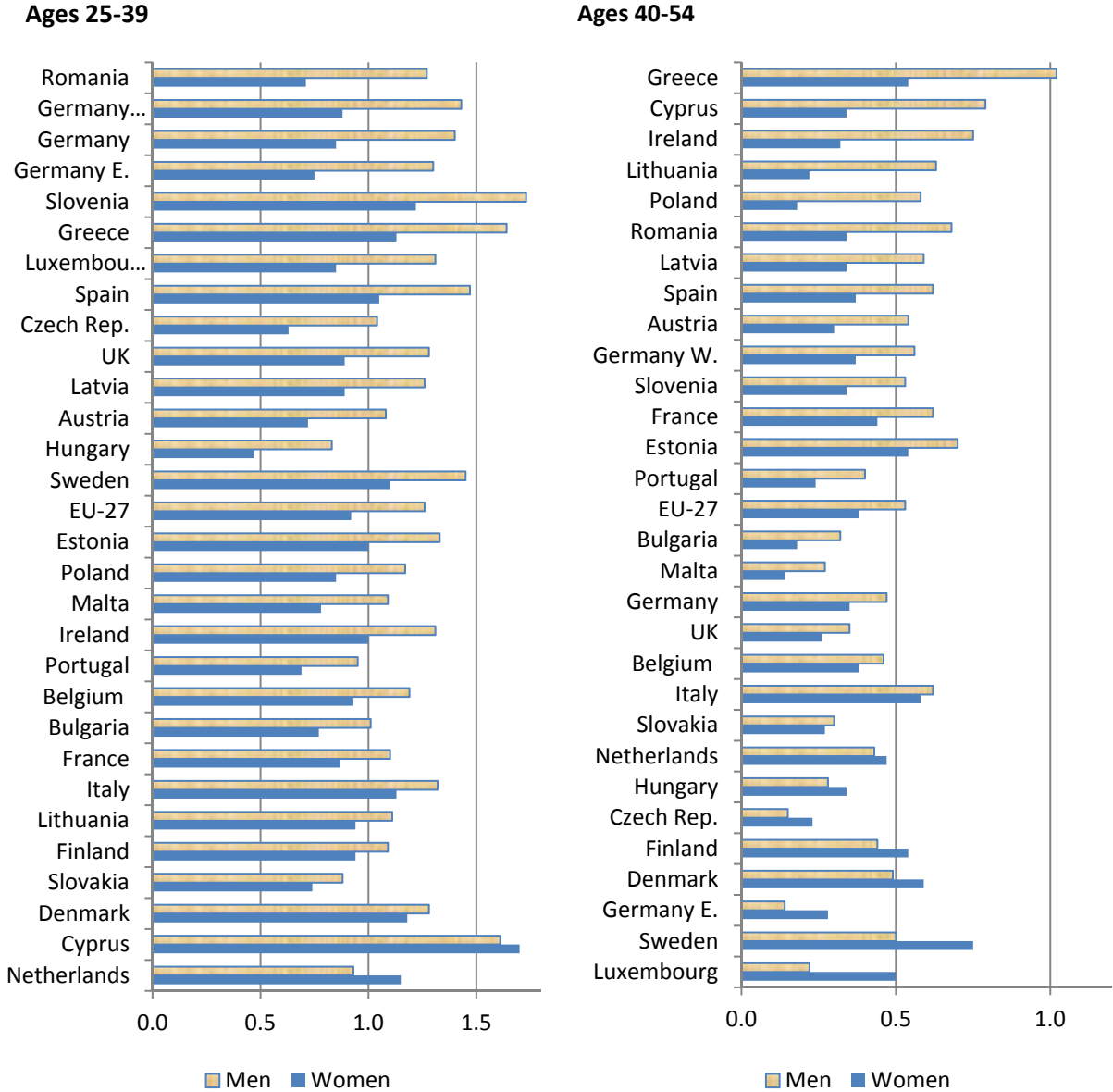




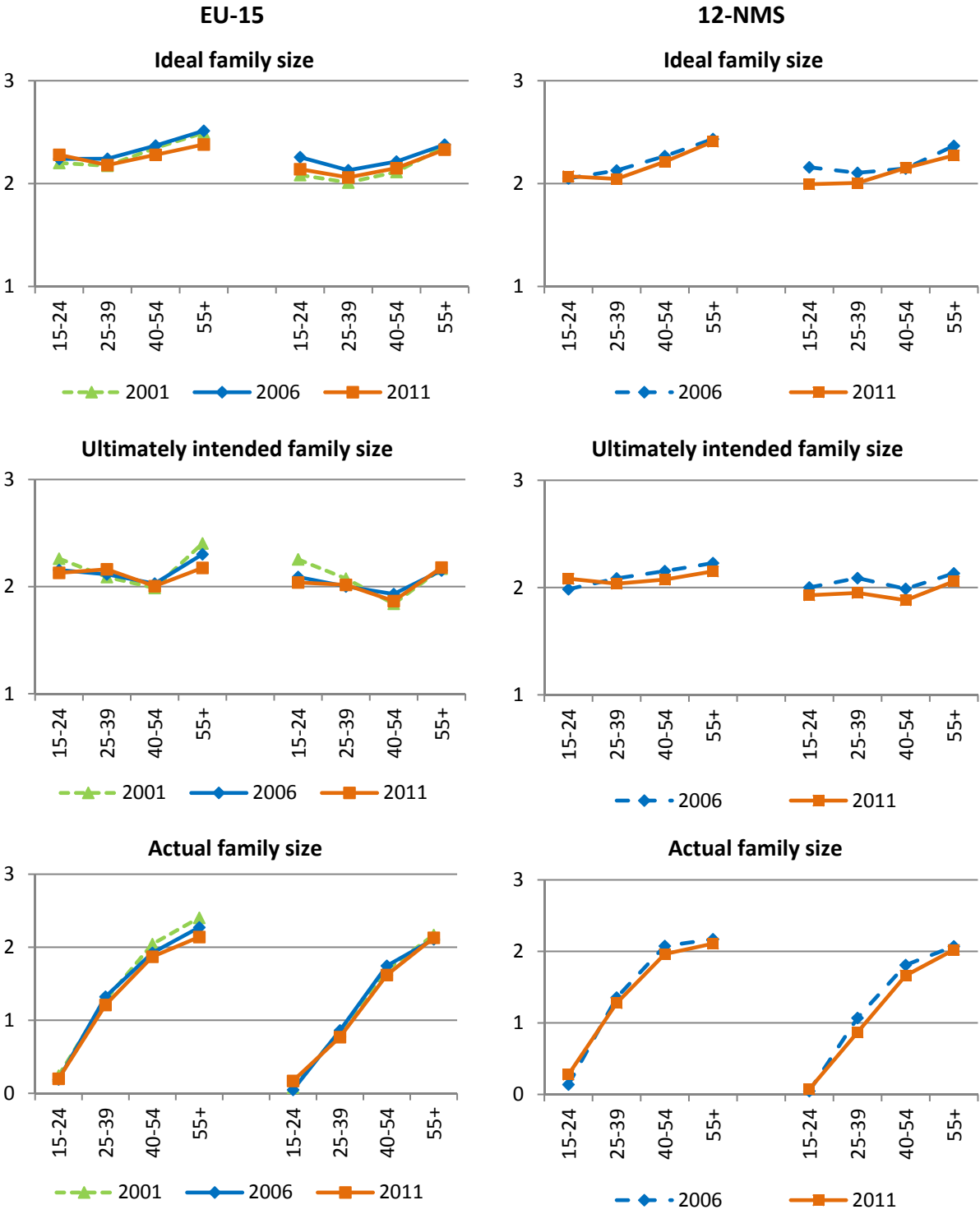
**Figure A.1.5** Distribution of women and men aged 40-54 by different combinations of ideal and actual family size.



**Figure A.1.6** Gender differences in the correspondence between mean ideal and mean actual family size. Selected age groups.



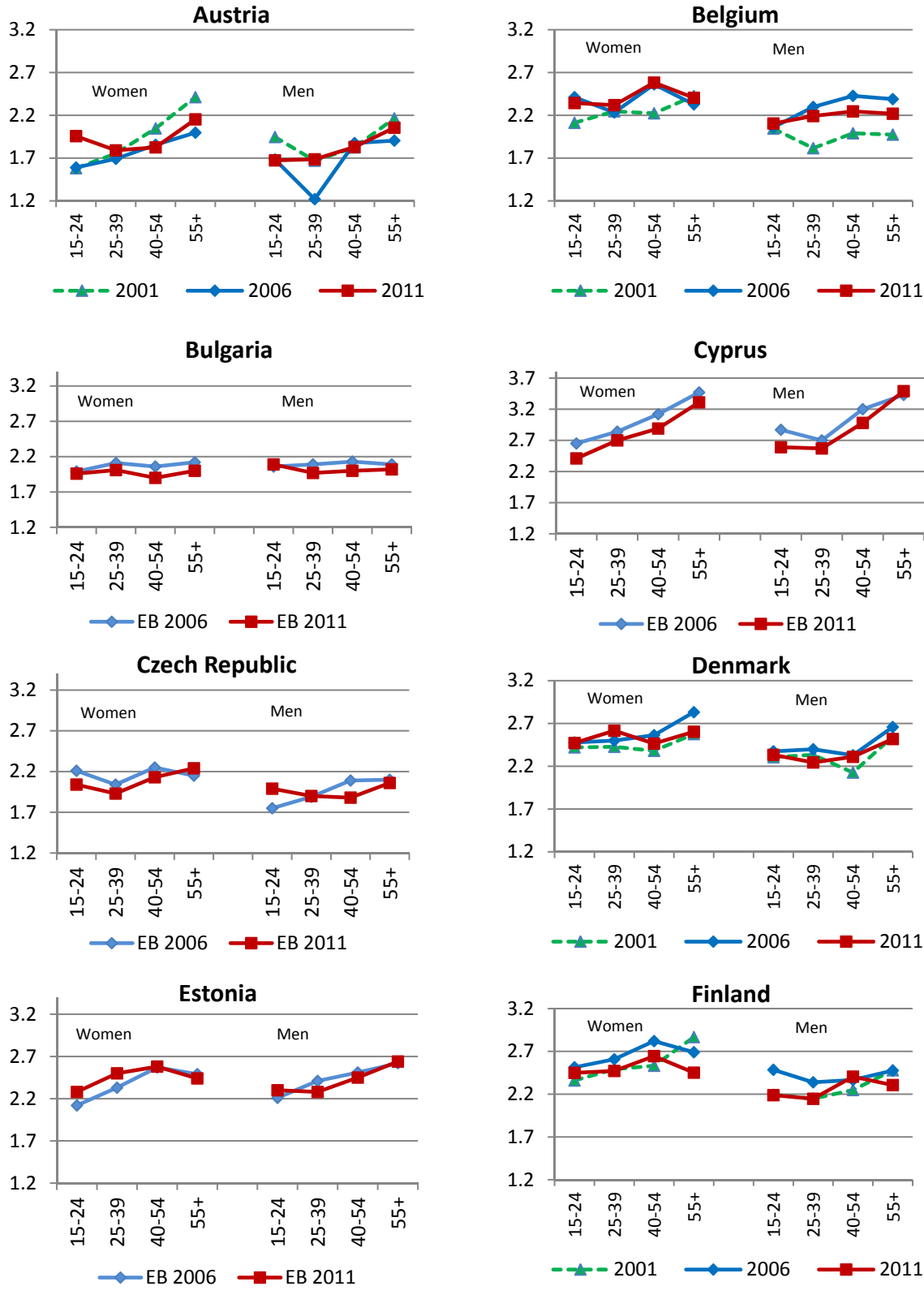
**Figure A.1.7** Mean personal ideal, ultimately intended and actual family size. EU-15 and 12-NMS. Several years.

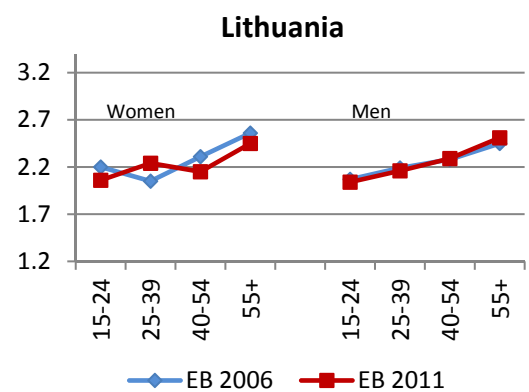
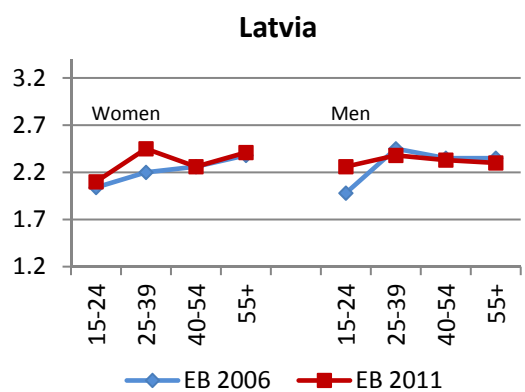
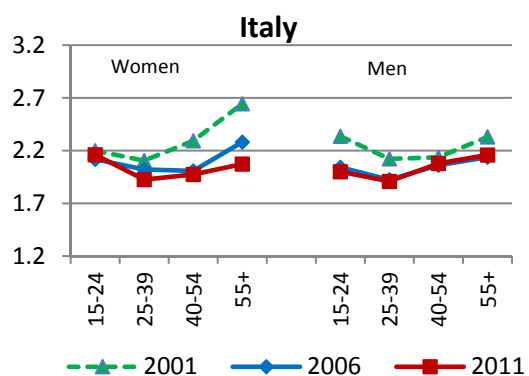
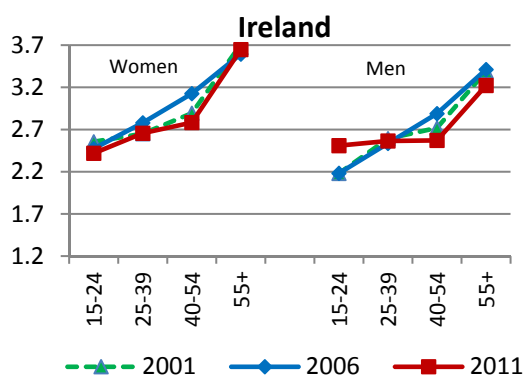
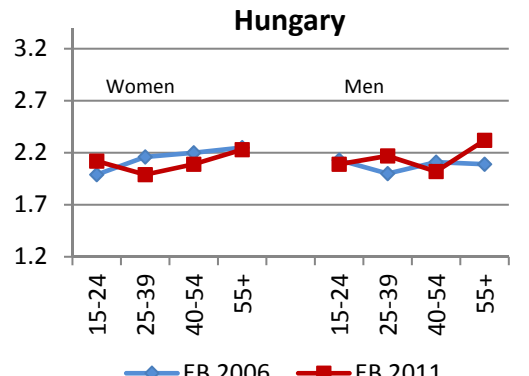
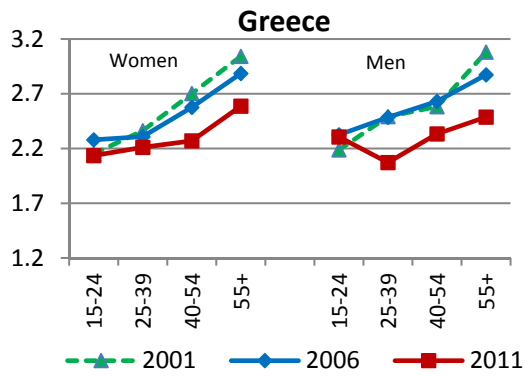
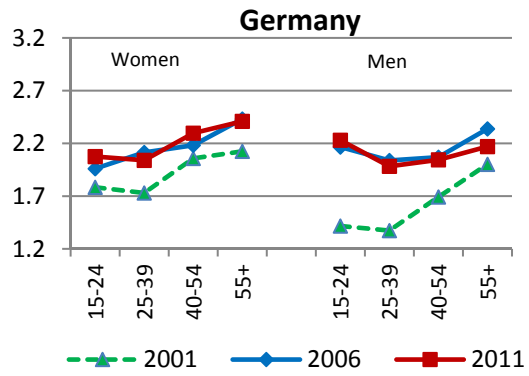
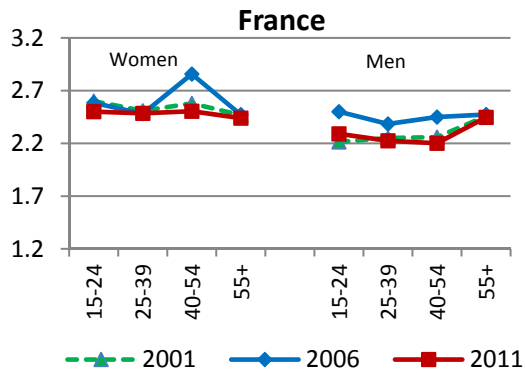


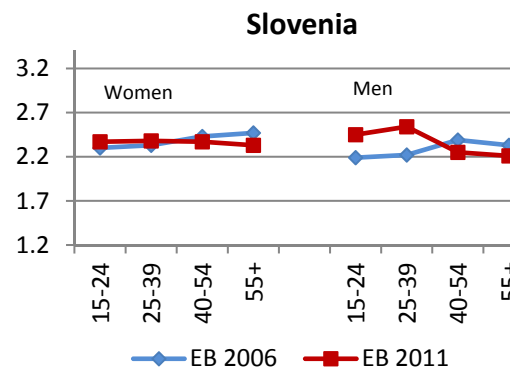
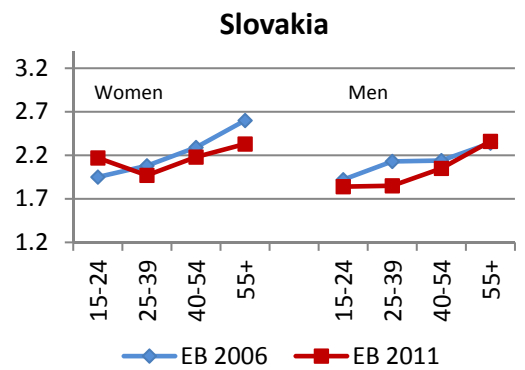
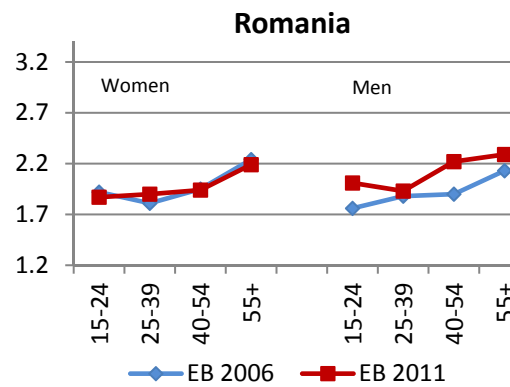
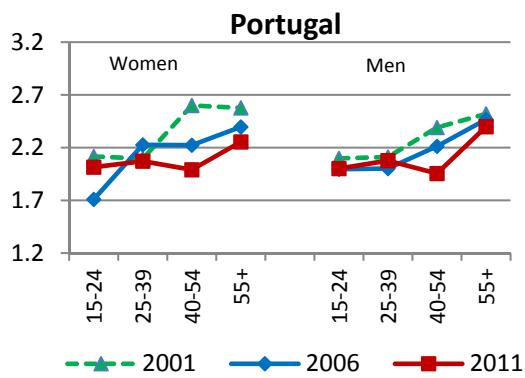
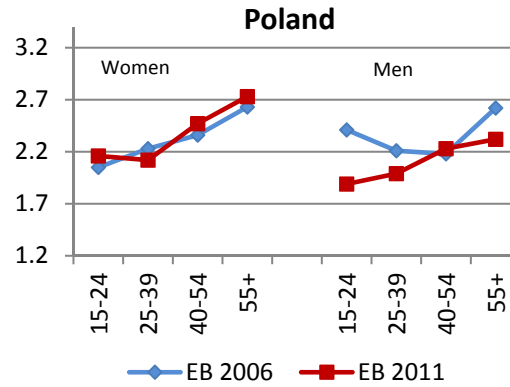
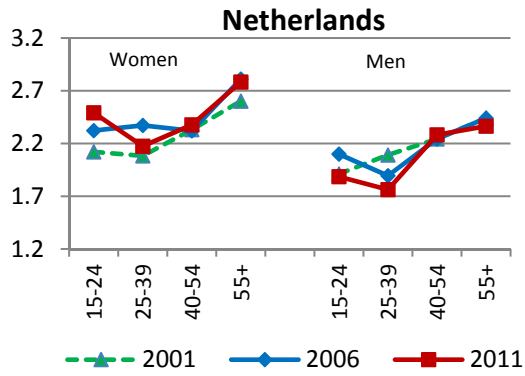
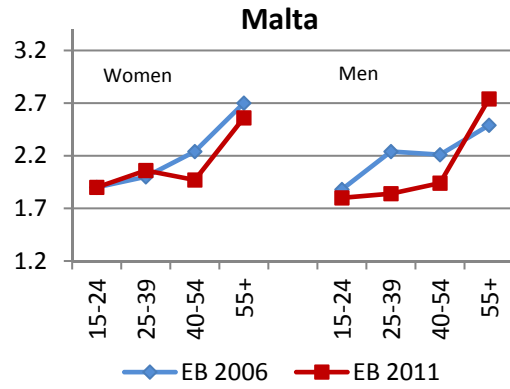
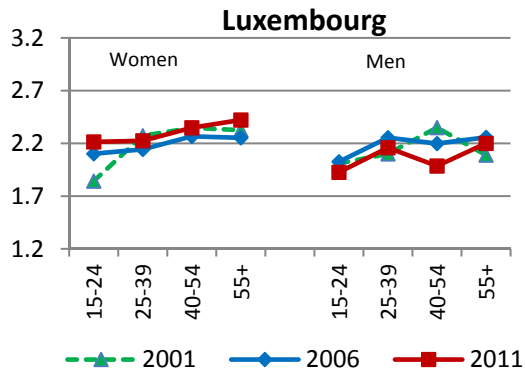
**Figure A.1.8** Distribution of people by personal ideal, ultimately intended and actual family size. EU-15 and 12-NMS. Several years.

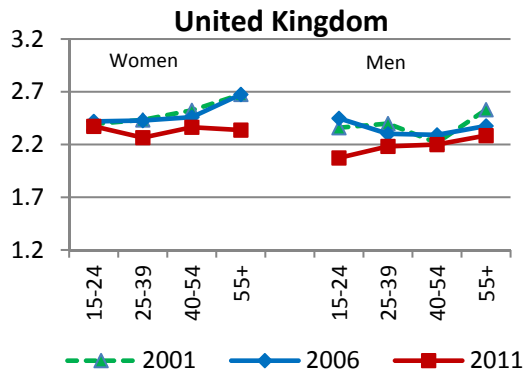
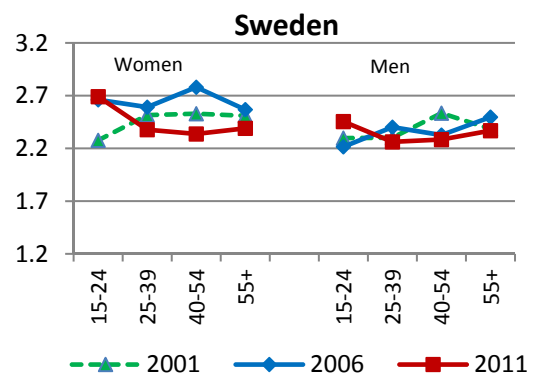
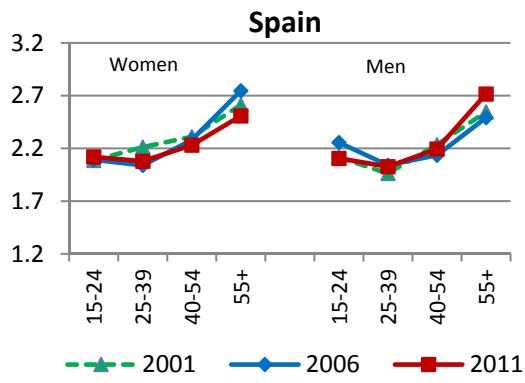


Figure A.1.9 Mean personal ideal family size by gender, age, and country. Several years.



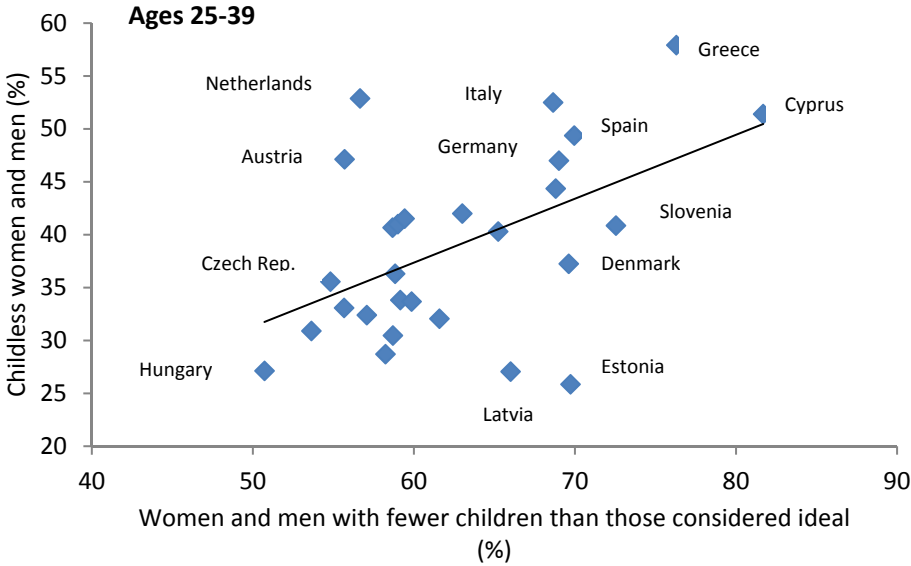




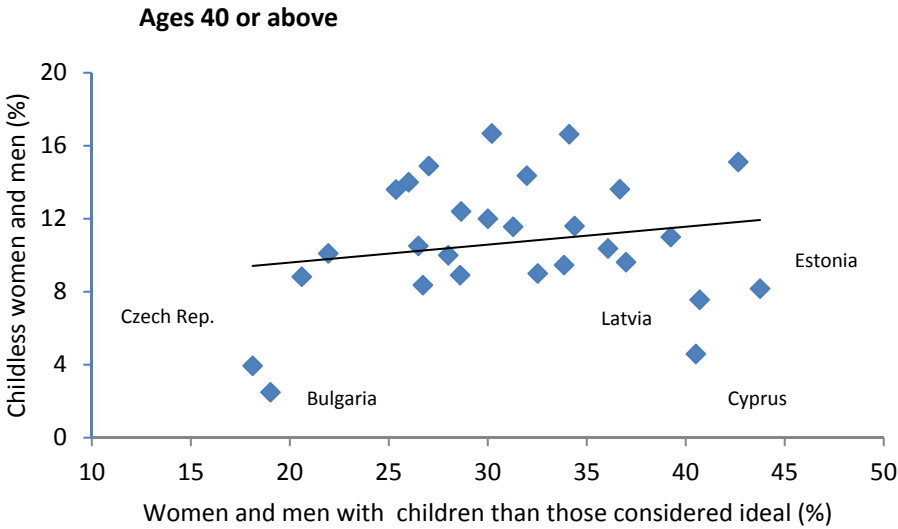




**Figure A.1.10** Cross-country relationship between childlessness and the share of people with fewer children than those considered ideal.

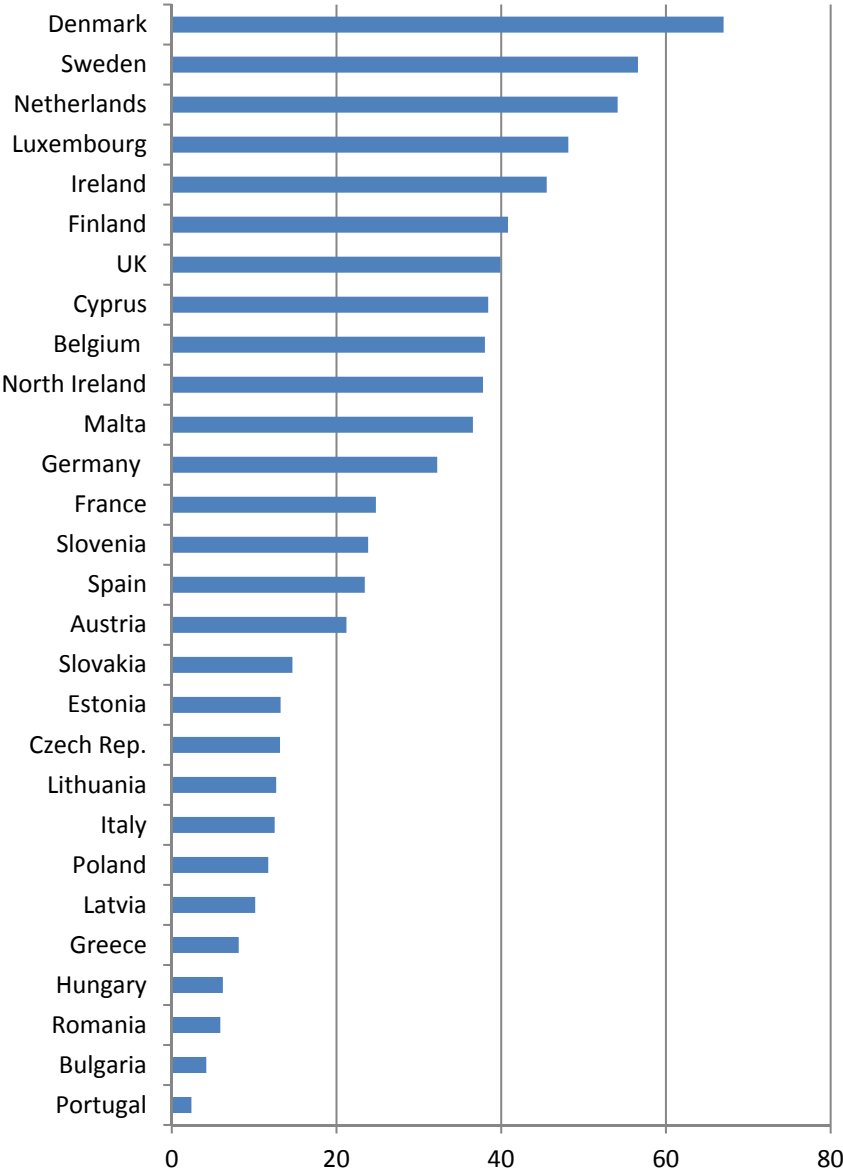


Note: Pearson’s correlation coefficient is equal to 0.51. It goes up to 0.8 by excluding the four outlier countries, namely: Austria, Netherlands, Latvia and Estonia. For the sake of clarity, only some country labels are shown in the graph.



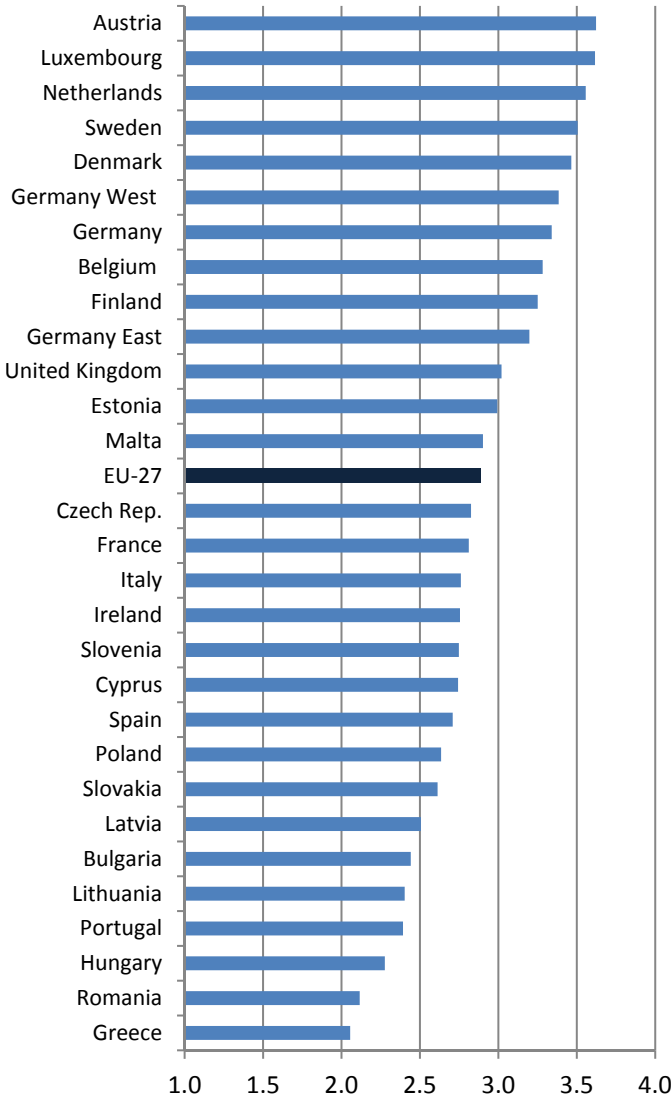
Note: Pearson’s correlation coefficient is equal to 0.19.

Figure A.1.11 Share of people very satisfied with their own life by country.

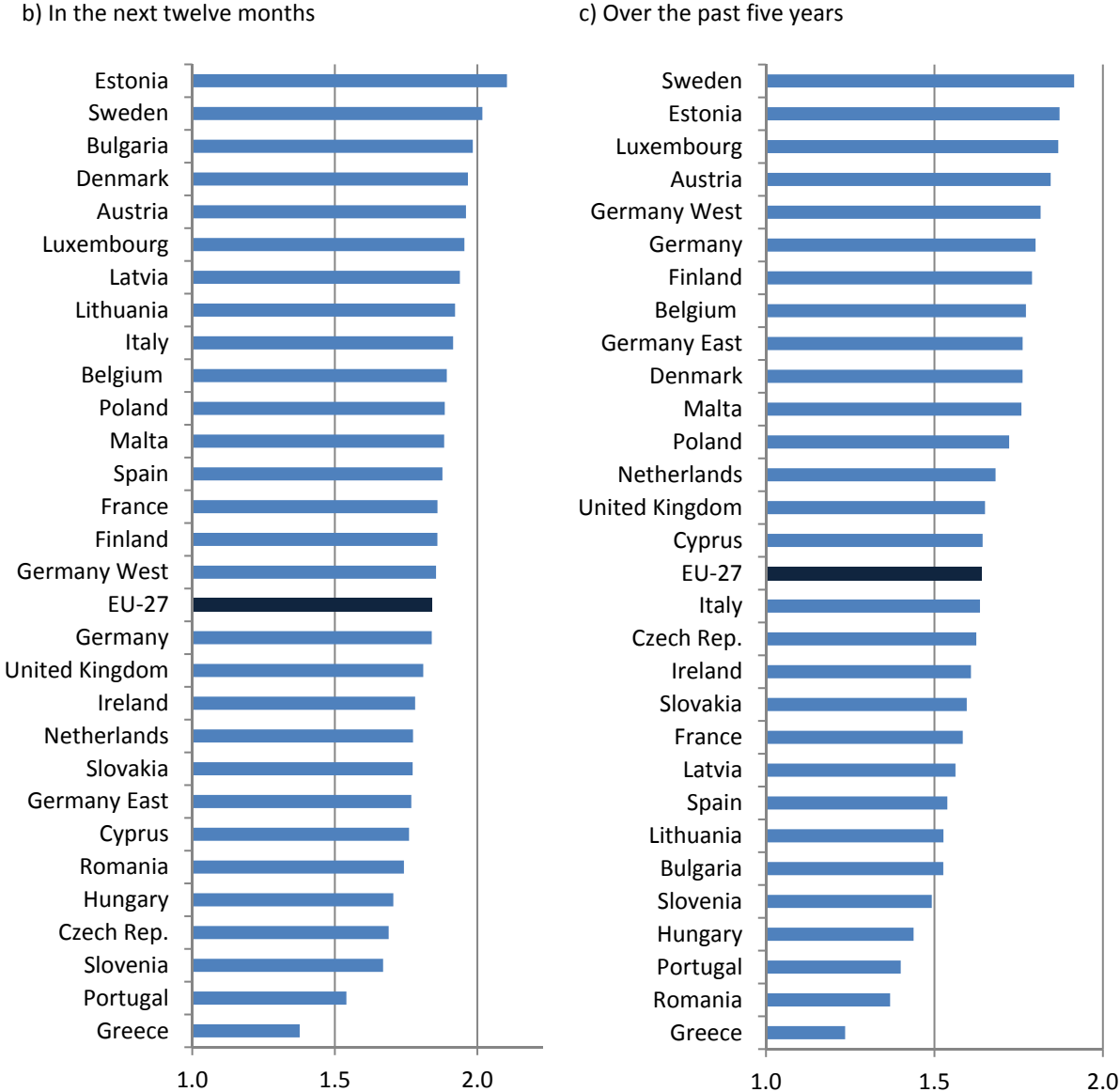


**Figure A.1.12** Social climate in Europe. A compiled scale of all 15 items.

a) At the time of the survey



**Figure A.1.12 (Continued)** Social climate in Europe. A compiled scale of all 15 items.



**Table A.1.1** Women and men with low and high personal ideal number of children by country and age.

COUNTRIES	Personal ideal number of children							
	0	1	2	3+	0	1	2	3+
	Ages 15-39				Ages 55+			
Austria	9	15	45	13	4	13	43	24
Belgium	4	11	49	32	6	11	44	34
Bulgaria	0	11	70	10	0	11	72	11
Cyprus	1	3	48	44	1	0	15	83
Czech Rep.	2	19	57	12	2	7	64	22
Denmark	3	3	52	38	3	4	45	45
East Germany	9	13	56	19	2	9	66	21
Estonia	1	6	52	35	1	6	41	44
Finland	7	8	43	36	5	6	45	40
France	2	7	53	35	4	6	47	39
Germany	6	10	50	21	2	6	60	27
Greece	4	7	57	25	2	3	49	43
Hungary	4	11	58	21	2	10	52	32
Ireland	2	4	39	38	3	2	19	58
Italy	4	15	51	16	3	11	56	21
Latvia	1	9	52	34	2	6	48	37
Lithuania	2	8	64	20	1	5	44	38
Luxembourg	5	9	50	29	3	7	52	31
Malta	4	20	54	14	2	6	42	32
Netherlands	11	7	48	24	5	3	43	43
Poland	3	11	51	17	1	5	45	35
Portugal	2	17	57	16	2	9	52	30
Romania	2	15	59	10	2	7	59	21
Slovakia	2	18	55	14	3	5	54	32
Slovenia	2	7	50	31	2	5	55	27
Spain	5	9	59	20	2	3	51	36
Sweden	4	6	54	35	3	5	51	38
United Kingdom	6	9	50	26	4	4	59	27
West Germany	6	9	48	21	2	6	58	29
EU-27	4	10	58	22	3	6	53	31

**Table A.1.2** Survey's items on social climate. Eurobarometer 2011.

Social climate	Survey's items
At the time of the survey	How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
Prospectively	What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to ...?
Retrospectively	Compared with five years ago, would you say things have improved, gotten worse or stayed about the same when it comes to ...?

Note: Each of the three items contain a battery of 15 specific items which appear in Tables A.1.3, A.1.4 and A.1.5 in the same order as they appear in the 2011 EB survey questionnaire

**Table A.1.3** Europeans' assessment of their own life, their job situation, their household's financial situation and their country's socio-economic situation at the time of the survey. EU-27. Figures in per cent.

Items	Very good	Rather good	Rather bad	Very bad	DK
Your life in general*	25	56	14	4	1
The area you live in	30	57	10	2	0
Health care provision in your country	14	48	27	10	1
The provision of pensions in your country	5	34	36	17	8
Unemployment benefits in your country	6	31	32	16	15
The cost of living in your country	2	24	44	29	1
Relations between people from different religious background in your country	5	47	33	8	7
The way inequality and poverty are addressed in your country	2	26	48	19	5
How affordable energy is in your country	3	27	45	22	3
How affordable housing is in your country	2	23	43	28	4
The way public administration is run in your country	4	37	37	16	6
The situation of the economy in your country	5	26	38	28	3
Your personal job situation	13	43	15	9	20
The financial situation of your household	9	59	23	6	3
The employment situation in your country	2	22	44	29	3

Note\*: This item was asked in a separate question preceding the question on the assessment of the current situation of the other different aspects.

**Table A.1.4** Europeans' assessment of their own life, their job situation, their household's financial situation and their country's socio-economic situation for the next twelve months. EU-27. Figures in per cent.

Items	Better	Worse	Same	DK
Your life in general	26	14	57	3
The area you live in	15	8	74	2
Health care provision in your country	12	30	55	3
The provision of pensions in your country	8	38	48	6
Unemployment benefits in your country	8	33	49	9
The cost of living in your country	9	59	30	2
Relations between people from different religious background in your country	13	24	58	5
The way inequality and poverty are addressed in your country	11	31	53	5
How affordable energy is in your country	9	53	34	4
How affordable housing is in your country	10	43	42	5
The way public administration is run in your country	10	25	60	5
The situation of the economy in your country	20	36	40	4
Your personal job situation	19	10	60	11
The financial situation of your household	19	18	60	3
The employment situation in your country	21	33	42	4

**Table A.1.5** Europeans' assessment of their own life, their job situation, their household's financial situation and their country's socio-economic situation over the past five years. EU-27. Figures in per cent.

Items	Improved	Got worse	Stayed about the same	DK
Your life in general	28	30	41	1
The area you live in	20	18	60	2
Health care provision in your country	11	44	42	3
The provision of pensions in your country	5	52	35	8
Unemployment benefits in your country	7	43	34	15
The cost of living in your country	3	80	15	2
Relations between people from different religious background in your country	12	35	47	6
The way inequality and poverty are addressed in your country	8	44	42	6
How affordable energy is in your country	5	70	22	3
How affordable housing is in your country	5	65	25	5
The way public administration is run in your country	7	38	49	6
The situation of the economy in your country	12	68	17	3
Your personal job situation	19	23	48	10
The financial situation of your household	18	35	45	2
The employment situation in your country	12	64	20	4

**Table A.1.6** Association of socio-demographic characteristics with people’s assessment about 1) their own life, 2) their own job and their household’s financial situation, 3) the employment and economic situation, 4) the provision of social benefits(1) and 5) the affordability of energy in the country they live in, as perceived at the time of the survey.

	Own life		Own Job and household’s financial situation		Country’s employment and economic situation		Country’s provision of health, pensions, and unemployment benefits		Affordability of energy in the country	
<u>Age</u> (Ref. 25-39)										
15-24 years	0.11		-0.02		0.05		-0.07		0.06	
40-54 years	-0.05		0.12	***	0.17	***	0.14	***	-0.04	
55+ years	0.35	***	0.54	***	0.48	***	0.48	***	0.12	**
<u>Gender</u> (Ref. Woman)										
Men	0.01	**	0.26	***	0.18	***	0.23	***	0.11	***
<u>Education</u> (Ref. Low)										
Medium	0.30	***	0.42	***	0.26	***	0.10	**	0.34	***
High	1.02	***	0.29	***	0.93	***	0.65	***	0.62	***
Enrolled	1.38	***	0.90	***	0.70	***	0.65	***	0.73	***
<u>Partnership</u> (Ref. Married)										
Cohabiting	0.01		0.02		0.25	***	0.12	**	0.14	**
Single	-0.22	***	-0.25	***	0.10	*	0.11	**	0.06	
Separated	-0.56	***	-0.33	***	-0.07	*	-0.12	***	-0.01	
<u>Actual family size</u> (Ref. One child)										
No child	0.20	***	0.27	***	0.07		0.12	*	-0.01	
No child * Men	-0.19	***	-0.18	**	-0.12	*	-0.10		0.02	
Two children	0.01	*	0.03		-0.02		0.03		-0.01	
Three or more children	0.25	***	0.03		0.05		0.20	***	-0.13	**
<u>Ideal family size</u> (Ref. Two children)										
No child	-0.04		0.00		0.32	***	0.29	***	0.00	
One child	-0.16	***	-0.08		0.09	*	-0.02		0.00	
Three or more children	0.25	***	0.16	***	0.11	***	0.16	***	0.01	
Three children* Men	-0.13	*	-0.15	**	-0.10		-0.10	*	-0.01	
First cutpoint	-2.31	***	-0.51	***	-0.45	***	-0.10	*	-0.72	***
Second cutpoint	-0.66	***	0.50	***	1.39	***	1.02	***	1.12	***
Third cutpoint	-0.63	***	2.70	***	2.87	***	2.90	***	1.22	***
Fourth cutpoint	1.85	***	-		-		-		3.64	***

Marginal effects of ordered logistic regression models on a compiled scale of 15 different items  
 \* p<0.05; \*\* p<0.01; \*\*\* p<0.001. Social benefits include health, pension and unemployment benefits.



## APPENDIX 2

**Table A.2.1** Mean general ideal number of children by gender, age and country

COUNTRIES	Women					Men				
	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total
Austria	2.07	1.94	1.96	1.97	1.97	1.87	1.73	2.01	2.06	1.93
Belgium	2.31	2.13	2.20	2.19	2.20	2.22	2.17	2.19	2.13	2.17
Bulgaria	1.97	2.11	2.00	2.15	2.08	2.14	2.04	2.01	2.12	2.07
Cyprus	2.29	2.28	2.56	2.80	2.50	2.66	2.41	2.59	2.98	2.66
Czech Rep.	2.02	1.89	1.98	2.07	1.99	1.86	1.87	1.87	2.01	1.91
Denmark	2.53	2.48	2.43	2.49	2.48	2.38	2.33	2.35	2.46	2.39
Estonia	2.32	2.58	2.67	2.68	2.59	2.46	2.54	2.63	2.74	2.59
Finland	2.51	2.43	2.72	2.61	2.58	2.35	2.26	2.40	2.39	2.36
France	2.34	2.33	2.28	2.34	2.33	2.50	2.25	2.22	2.35	2.32
Germany	2.23	1.96	2.05	2.20	2.12	2.30	2.00	2.10	2.11	2.11
Germany East	2.26	1.91	1.93	2.19	2.08	2.45	1.94	1.94	2.07	2.05
Germany West	2.22	1.98	2.09	2.20	2.13	2.26	2.02	2.15	2.12	2.13
Greece	2.23	2.28	2.27	2.44	2.33	2.23	2.13	2.39	2.44	2.30
Hungary	2.19	1.99	2.12	2.19	2.12	2.20	2.15	2.08	2.28	2.18
Ireland	2.81	2.65	2.62	2.91	2.74	2.67	2.53	2.52	2.87	2.63
Italy	1.99	1.93	1.93	2.12	2.01	2.08	1.92	2.10	2.10	2.05
Latvia	2.36	2.42	2.38	2.61	2.45	2.41	2.50	2.44	2.62	2.49
Lithuania	2.21	2.24	2.15	2.47	2.29	2.28	2.26	2.38	2.48	2.35
Luxembourg	2.51	2.24	2.11	2.25	2.25	2.11	2.13	2.07	2.13	2.11
Malta	1.96	1.81	1.96	2.02	1.94	1.99	1.84	1.81	2.00	1.91
Netherlands	2.41	2.22	2.28	2.41	2.33	2.17	2.17	2.28	2.31	2.25
Poland	2.22	2.06	2.23	2.48	2.27	2.32	2.21	2.21	2.25	2.24
Portugal	1.96	1.95	1.98	2.02	1.98	1.94	1.99	1.91	2.11	2.00
Romania	2.00	1.96	1.94	2.29	2.07	2.00	1.99	2.01	2.18	2.05
Slovakia	2.15	2.08	2.08	2.33	2.17	1.94	1.88	1.98	2.26	2.01
Slovenia	2.38	2.38	2.31	2.42	2.38	2.43	2.52	2.32	2.38	2.41
Spain	2.18	2.07	2.04	2.17	2.11	1.94	1.98	2.14	2.11	2.06
Sweden	2.60	2.27	2.46	2.41	2.41	2.45	2.26	2.36	2.40	2.37
United Kingdom	2.68	2.30	2.23	2.22	2.32	2.51	2.25	2.31	2.24	2.30
EU-27	2.27	2.11	2.13	2.26	2.19	2.25	2.10	2.17	2.21	2.18

**Table A.2.2** Mean personal ideal number of children by gender, age and country

COUNTRIES	Women					Men				
	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total
Austria	1.96	1.79	1.83	2.15	1.95	1.67	1.69	1.83	2.05	1.84
Belgium	2.34	2.32	2.58	2.40	2.42	2.10	2.19	2.25	2.22	2.20
Bulgaria	1.96	2.01	1.90	2.00	1.97	2.09	1.97	2.00	2.02	2.01
Cyprus	2.41	2.70	2.89	3.31	2.88	2.59	2.57	2.98	3.49	2.93
Czech Rep.	2.04	1.93	2.13	2.24	2.10	1.99	1.90	1.88	2.06	1.96
Denmark	2.47	2.62	2.47	2.60	2.55	2.33	2.24	2.31	2.52	2.37
Estonia	2.28	2.50	2.58	2.44	2.46	2.30	2.28	2.45	2.64	2.42
Finland	2.45	2.47	2.64	2.45	2.50	2.19	2.15	2.40	2.31	2.28
France	2.50	2.49	2.51	2.44	2.47	2.29	2.23	2.20	2.45	2.30
Germany	2.08	2.04	2.30	2.41	2.27	2.23	1.98	2.04	2.17	2.10
Germany East	2.19	1.78	2.02	2.18	2.07	2.08	1.98	1.72	2.06	1.95
Germany West	2.04	2.11	2.37	2.48	2.33	2.28	1.98	2.13	2.20	2.15
Greece	2.14	2.21	2.27	2.59	2.34	2.31	2.07	2.33	2.49	2.30
Hungary	2.12	1.99	2.09	2.23	2.12	2.09	2.17	2.02	2.32	2.16
Ireland	2.42	2.66	2.78	3.65	2.92	2.51	2.56	2.57	3.22	2.73
Italy	2.16	1.93	1.97	2.07	2.02	2.00	1.91	2.08	2.16	2.06
Latvia	2.10	2.45	2.26	2.41	2.32	2.26	2.38	2.33	2.30	2.32
Lithuania	2.06	2.24	2.15	2.45	2.26	2.04	2.16	2.29	2.51	2.26
Luxembourg	2.21	2.23	2.35	2.42	2.32	1.93	2.16	1.99	2.20	2.08
Malta	1.90	2.06	1.97	2.56	2.17	1.80	1.84	1.94	2.74	2.11
Netherlands	2.49	2.17	2.38	2.78	2.49	1.89	1.76	2.28	2.36	2.12
Poland	2.16	2.12	2.47	2.73	2.42	1.89	1.99	2.23	2.32	2.13
Portugal	2.02	2.07	1.99	2.25	2.11	2.00	2.08	1.95	2.40	2.13
Romania	1.87	1.90	1.94	2.19	2.00	2.01	1.93	2.22	2.29	2.11
Slovakia	2.17	1.97	2.18	2.33	2.17	1.84	1.85	2.05	2.36	2.03
Slovenia	2.37	2.38	2.37	2.33	2.36	2.45	2.54	2.25	2.21	2.35
Spain	2.12	2.08	2.23	2.51	2.27	2.11	2.03	2.19	2.72	2.29
Sweden	2.69	2.38	2.34	2.39	2.41	2.45	2.26	2.28	2.37	2.33
United Kingdom	2.37	2.27	2.36	2.34	2.33	2.07	2.18	2.20	2.28	2.20
EU-27	2.23	2.15	2.27	2.39	2.28	2.11	2.05	2.15	2.32	2.17

**Table A.2.3** Mean actual number of children by gender, age and country

COUNTRIES	Women					Men				
	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total
Austria	0.14	1.07	1.53	1.97	1.38	0.14	0.61	1.29	1.81	1.11
Belgium	0.08	1.39	2.20	2.33	1.76	0.04	1.00	1.79	2.03	1.41
Bulgaria	0.25	1.24	1.72	1.82	1.45	0.02	0.96	1.68	1.80	1.27
Cyprus	0.17	1.00	2.55	2.74	1.75	0.00	0.96	2.19	2.76	1.59
Czech Rep.	0.18	1.30	1.90	2.20	1.61	0.27	0.86	1.73	1.96	1.32
Denmark	0.23	1.44	1.88	2.11	1.62	0.00	0.96	1.82	2.15	1.45
Estonia	0.34	1.50	2.04	1.90	1.58	0.11	0.95	1.75	2.11	1.27
Finland	0.21	1.53	2.10	2.14	1.73	0.24	1.06	1.96	2.07	1.53
France	0.10	1.62	2.07	2.14	1.72	0.00	1.13	1.58	2.18	1.42
Germany	0.13	1.19	1.95	2.21	1.69	0.08	0.58	1.57	2.04	1.34
Germany East	0.41	1.03	1.74	2.04	1.60	0.27	0.68	1.58	1.98	1.38
Germany West	0.06	1.23	2.00	2.26	1.72	0.04	0.55	1.57	2.06	1.33
Greece	0.04	1.08	1.73	1.92	1.36	0.09	0.43	1.31	2.04	1.07
Hungary	0.49	1.52	1.75	1.81	1.55	0.12	1.34	1.74	1.88	1.40
Ireland	0.31	1.66	2.46	3.76	2.23	0.03	1.25	1.82	3.10	1.68
Italy	0.02	0.80	1.39	1.87	1.30	0.32	0.59	1.46	1.89	1.25
Latvia	0.20	1.56	1.92	1.79	1.45	0.08	1.12	1.74	1.83	1.19
Lithuania	0.27	1.30	1.93	1.90	1.51	0.13	1.05	1.66	1.96	1.27
Luxembourg	0.00	1.38	1.85	1.92	1.49	0.02	0.85	1.77	1.95	1.30
Malta	0.21	1.28	1.83	2.48	1.66	0.03	0.75	1.67	2.69	1.45
Netherlands	0.04	1.02	1.91	1.99	1.46	0.02	0.83	1.85	2.15	1.41
Poland	0.34	1.27	2.29	2.33	1.73	0.06	0.82	1.65	2.17	1.27
Portugal	0.72	1.38	1.75	2.52	1.76	0.91	1.13	1.55	2.48	1.59
Romania	0.16	1.19	1.60	1.95	1.36	0.02	0.66	1.54	1.93	1.09
Slovakia	0.32	1.23	1.91	2.25	1.56	0.00	0.97	1.75	2.14	1.27
Slovenia	0.00	1.16	2.03	1.98	1.54	0.11	0.81	1.72	1.76	1.25
Spain	0.13	1.03	1.86	2.39	1.62	0.09	0.56	1.57	2.58	1.39
Sweden	0.05	1.28	1.59	1.86	1.43	0.00	0.81	1.78	1.93	1.35
United Kingdom	0.53	1.38	2.10	2.16	1.71	0.33	0.90	1.85	2.13	1.44
EU-27	0.22	1.23	1.89	2.14	1.6	0.14	0.79	1.63	2.11	1.34

**Table A.2.4** Mean additionally intended number of children by gender, age and country

COUNTRIES	Women					Men				
	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total	15-24	25-39	40-54	55+	Total
Austria	1.73	0.67	0.06	0.01	0.35	1.69	0.85	0.11	0.00	0.41
Belgium	1.98	0.68	0.01	0.03	0.45	1.89	1.05	0.15	0.03	0.58
Bulgaria	1.60	0.69	0.10	0.00	0.38	1.86	0.85	0.05	0.01	0.48
Cyprus	1.88	1.20	0.03	0.00	0.66	2.60	1.56	0.18	0.00	0.90
Czech Rep.	1.76	0.65	0.09	0.01	0.42	1.83	1.06	0.12	0.07	0.60
Denmark	2.20	0.92	0.11	0.02	0.55	2.19	1.20	0.12	0.03	0.65
Estonia	1.83	0.94	0.04	0.02	0.57	2.15	1.29	0.22	0.06	0.87
Finland	2.38	0.84	0.07	0.01	0.46	1.95	0.98	0.15	0.04	0.51
France	2.15	0.98	0.20	0.00	0.54	2.18	1.25	0.40	0.10	0.77
Germany	1.83	0.72	0.06	0.02	0.33	2.18	1.18	0.08	0.03	0.48
Germany East	2.03	0.63	0.02	0.02	0.32	2.09	1.00	0.01	0.04	0.47
Germany West	1.77	0.75	0.07	0.02	0.34	2.21	1.24	0.10	0.02	0.49
Greece	1.83	0.98	0.09	0.01	0.53	2.08	1.45	0.37	0.00	0.79
Hungary	1.74	0.79	0.20	0.13	0.52	2.01	1.04	0.35	0.11	0.73
Ireland	1.88	1.09	0.14	0.09	0.62	2.27	1.05	0.29	0.07	0.63
Italy	1.85	1.05	0.16	0.06	0.42	1.21	1.08	0.23	0.06	0.44
Latvia	1.58	0.70	0.08	0.02	0.52	1.90	1.02	0.07	0.00	0.73
Lithuania	1.92	0.89	0.00	0.00	0.48	1.85	1.21	0.15	0.00	0.68
Luxembourg	1.90	0.64	0.04	0.00	0.42	1.50	1.11	0.06	0.04	0.52
Malta	1.66	0.66	0.02	0.05	0.39	1.41	1.04	0.29	0.06	0.51
Netherlands	2.39	0.96	0.04	0.01	0.55	1.86	0.87	0.18	0.00	0.48
Poland	1.93	0.71	0.04	0.00	0.43	1.81	1.03	0.11	0.02	0.57
Portugal	1.16	0.49	0.07	0.01	0.31	0.96	0.81	0.08	0.05	0.42
Romania	1.37	0.59	0.03	0.04	0.33	1.75	0.94	0.25	0.04	0.59
Slovakia	1.82	0.80	0.08	0.01	0.50	1.75	0.87	0.09	0.00	0.51
Slovenia	2.35	0.88	0.03	0.02	0.48	2.29	1.54	0.09	0.00	0.69
Spain	1.92	0.83	0.05	0.13	0.46	1.89	1.33	0.26	0.05	0.67
Sweden	2.08	1.00	0.00	0.01	0.46	2.00	1.09	0.20	0.03	0.56
United Kingdom	1.75	0.90	0.12	0.09	0.51	1.60	1.29	0.16	0.07	0.6
EU-27	1.88	0.84	0.09	0.04	0.45	1.85	1.14	0.19	0.05	0.58

**Table A.2.5** Distribution of women and men by general ideal number of children, age and country

General ideal number of children (%)							
COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
15-24 years							
Austria	5	9	46	24	13	4	54
Belgium	1	2	68	23	5	0	58
Bulgaria	0	11	76	8	5	0	54
Cyprus	0	4	63	29	2	2	51
Czech Rep.	4	14	56	18	4	4	81
Denmark	0	5	36	51	9	0	44
Estonia	0	5	58	31	5	2	66
Finland	6	10	37	42	5	0	57
France	0	0	58	26	13	3	43
Germany	6	4	52	29	10	0	97
Germany East	4	7	47	25	17	0	40
Germany West	6	3	53	30	8	0	57
Greece	6	4	61	27	2	0	51
Hungary	8	0	63	27	2	0	49
Ireland	0	5	28	47	14	6	64
Italy	2	10	53	13	21	2	53
Latvia	0	8	50	40	2	0	102
Lithuania	1	9	55	29	4	1	76
Luxembourg	0	5	46	45	4	0	22
Malta	0	18	61	14	7	0	28
Netherlands	1	3	53	32	11	0	69
Poland	2	10	49	26	8	6	71
Portugal	0	18	71	7	4	0	71
Romania	0	10	70	9	7	5	79
Slovakia	0	15	54	23	1	7	68
Slovenia	0	1	65	31	2	1	65
Spain	2	3	69	22	2	3	62
Sweden	5	5	45	41	0	5	22
United Kingdom	0	2	40	48	10	0	83
EU-27	2	5	54	27	9	2	1640

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
25-39 years							
Austria	4	16	51	17	11	1	152
Belgium	3	10	57	23	6	0	120
Bulgaria	0	6	73	13	6	2	125
Cyprus	0	12	55	30	3	0	67
Czech Rep.	2	16	64	10	9	0	174
Denmark	0	0	48	40	11	1	78
Estonia	0	2	42	53	3	0	124
Finland	0	3	52	37	5	3	106
France	0	4	64	28	3	0	137
Germany	4	10	59	11	14	2	156
Germany East	5	12	58	12	14	0	67
Germany West	4	10	59	11	14	3	89
Greece	0	8	54	29	9	0	141
Hungary	2	15	65	15	1	2	132
Ireland	1	3	32	43	20	2	168
Italy	2	17	53	14	12	2	171
Latvia	0	6	52	39	2	1	153
Lithuania	0	6	65	25	5	0	139
Luxembourg	0	9	53	28	10	0	71
Malta	7	20	57	14	2	0	56
Netherlands	1	3	60	18	16	1	127
Poland	2	10	52	18	10	8	150
Portugal	4	20	56	17	2	0	125
Romania	1	17	59	13	5	5	149
Slovakia	1	12	61	19	7	2	152
Slovenia	0	3	54	28	11	3	123
Spain	1	13	59	20	6	2	147
Sweden	0	6	58	27	9	0	68
United Kingdom	1	5	46	25	21	2	167
EU-27	2	10	56	20	10	2	3478

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
40-54 years							
Austria	2	14	51	15	16	2	166
Belgium	2	10	53	28	6	0	146
Bulgaria	0	9	72	9	7	2	145
Cyprus	2	3	48	48	0	0	65
Czech Rep.	1	12	65	11	10	1	153
Denmark	1	2	51	33	13	1	117
Estonia	0	3	36	56	4	1	121
Finland	0	4	38	50	5	3	126
France	0	7	65	24	5	0	147
Germany	4	7	60	14	14	1	247
Germany East	4	12	63	11	10	0	87
Germany West	4	6	60	15	15	1	160
Greece	3	14	47	32	5	0	139
Hungary	1	14	57	24	1	2	135
Ireland	1	2	35	34	24	5	151
Italy	4	17	52	17	10	0	170
Latvia	1	7	49	41	2	0	141
Lithuania	3	8	54	27	5	2	153
Luxembourg	1	5	70	16	6	1	95
Malta	1	19	57	16	6	1	83
Netherlands	2	4	55	19	18	1	125
Poland	1	10	51	25	6	7	141
Portugal	3	19	58	16	4	0	132
Romania	1	11	67	8	10	3	146
Slovakia	0	15	55	19	10	1	158
Slovenia	3	3	54	27	11	1	124
Spain	3	9	68	14	4	3	131
Sweden	0	2	47	37	12	2	121
United Kingdom	1	7	49	16	25	2	176
EU-27	2	9	57	19	11	2	3754

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
55+ years							
Austria	2	13	48	14	22	2	159
Belgium	2	5	67	21	5	0	197
Bulgaria	1	4	71	18	5	1	206
Cyprus	0	1	36	57	4	1	75
Czech Rep.	0	11	62	16	10	1	195
Denmark	1	0	48	41	9	1	261
Estonia	0	3	30	60	6	1	290
Finland	2	2	38	53	4	1	274
France	2	3	56	35	3	1	281
Germany	2	4	58	22	14	0	321
Germany East	1	6	60	22	10	1	125
Germany West	2	4	58	21	15	0	196
Greece	3	6	45	42	4	0	199
Hungary	0	10	62	26	0	3	240
Ireland	1	0	30	45	20	5	153
Italy	3	10	55	21	12	0	193
Latvia	3	4	36	55	3	0	156
Lithuania	1	4	43	42	9	1	189
Luxembourg	0	3	61	20	16	1	86
Malta	1	13	58	14	13	2	143
Netherlands	2	1	45	29	19	5	171
Poland	1	4	45	37	6	6	263
Portugal	3	11	56	17	11	2	218
Romania	2	5	61	20	8	4	169
Slovakia	1	4	59	28	6	3	188
Slovenia	0	5	49	32	12	2	262
Spain	2	6	64	22	5	2	182
Sweden	0	0	57	36	6	1	290
United Kingdom	1	0	64	15	20	0	321
EU-27	2	5	57	25	10	1	5682



**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
				Total			
Austria	2	7	61	24	5	0	531
Belgium	1	1	47	40	10	1	521
Bulgaria	3	8	50	34	5	0	530
Cyprus	2	8	64	19	5	2	258
Czech Rep.	1	4	41	48	5	2	603
Denmark	1	4	60	29	5	1	500
Estonia	1	2	32	42	20	4	601
Finland	3	13	54	17	12	1	563
France	0	5	59	24	10	1	608
Germany	1	2	52	24	17	2	821
Germany East	3	13	49	16	16	2	319
Germany West	3	16	59	15	6	1	502
Greece	1	2	53	35	7	1	530
Hungary	3	5	58	19	14	1	556
Ireland	3	9	59	18	11	0	536
Italy	1	3	53	22	20	1	587
Latvia	0	1	38	32	28	0	552
Lithuania	0	7	72	14	6	1	557
Luxembourg	0	5	49	42	2	1	274
Malta	1	13	62	13	9	1	310
Netherlands	0	3	39	53	4	1	492
Poland	2	11	62	23	1	2	625
Portugal	1	6	46	44	2	0	546
Romania	1	6	53	32	6	1	543
Slovakia	2	17	58	14	7	1	566
Slovenia	1	8	49	28	7	7	574
Spain	1	11	63	13	7	4	522
Sweden	0	11	58	22	6	3	501
United Kingdom	1	4	53	30	10	2	747
EU-27	2	7	56	23	10	2	14554

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
15-24 years							
Austria	3	15	36	10	19	17	46
Belgium	0	5	69	19	6	2	67
Bulgaria	0	5	67	13	5	10	61
Cyprus	0	2	46	52	0	0	48
Czech Rep.	5	13	59	8	15	0	55
Denmark	0	0	60	26	12	2	47
Estonia	0	3	53	39	4	1	79
Finland	10	0	49	38	0	3	33
France	0	0	56	38	6	0	58
Germany	0	7	45	28	16	4	100
Germany East	2	4	54	33	5	1	40
Germany West	0	8	43	27	18	5	60
Greece	1	8	55	21	15	0	75
Hungary	1	9	54	23	6	6	81
Ireland	0	1	33	31	21	13	62
Italy	6	7	47	21	9	10	48
Latvia	0	8	49	40	2	1	104
Lithuania	0	3	63	26	6	2	92
Luxembourg	3	5	68	20	0	5	42
Malta	0	8	74	7	5	6	37
Netherlands	1	8	68	20	3	0	41
Poland	0	8	51	22	4	16	51
Portugal	4	18	57	12	5	4	76
Romania	1	12	58	13	5	11	83
Slovakia	0	20	56	12	8	5	48
Slovenia	1	1	56	28	10	5	84
Spain	4	13	56	14	6	7	70
Sweden	0	4	52	39	4	0	23
United Kingdom	0	0	51	25	19	4	64
EU-27	2	6	53	24	10	6	1675

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
25-39 years							
Austria	10	10	49	8	22	1	122
Belgium	5	9	56	26	4	0	107
Bulgaria	0	11	66	13	7	3	120
Cyprus	0	7	54	35	3	1	71
Czech Rep.	3	18	55	10	14	0	119
Denmark	0	1	63	30	6	0	101
Estonia	0	4	41	48	5	2	106
Finland	6	5	53	31	3	2	70
France	0	4	69	21	6	1	84
Germany	3	14	56	15	11	2	134
Germany East	2	18	58	14	7	0	58
Germany West	3	13	55	15	12	2	76
Greece	3	7	62	23	5	0	132
Hungary	3	11	59	24	1	2	142
Ireland	1	1	45	35	15	4	137
Italy	2	15	57	11	13	2	126
Latvia	2	3	44	49	2	0	142
Lithuania	0	3	67	22	8	1	130
Luxembourg	5	2	65	24	5	0	44
Malta	3	24	56	12	5	0	37
Netherlands	3	3	63	17	12	2	104
Poland	1	7	60	20	6	5	80
Portugal	2	20	59	14	3	2	121
Romania	1	12	60	12	9	6	138
Slovakia	4	16	55	13	10	2	124
Slovenia	0	5	47	33	13	2	105
Spain	4	11	68	13	4	1	141
Sweden	0	2	68	22	4	3	95
United Kingdom	2	5	55	23	10	5	111
EU-27	2	10	60	18	8	2	2943

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
40-54 years							
Austria	3	13	49	15	17	3	175
Belgium	3	10	60	24	3	0	143
Bulgaria	1	8	75	7	6	3	124
Cyprus	2	3	41	46	8	0	61
Czech Rep.	2	17	55	11	14	1	116
Denmark	0	2	58	31	9	0	132
Estonia	0	1	41	46	9	2	95
Finland	5	3	50	38	5	0	107
France	2	4	61	27	6	0	121
Germany	4	4	59	18	14	0	164
Germany East	4	10	67	13	5	0	52
Germany West	4	3	57	19	17	0	112
Greece	1	7	56	33	3	1	112
Hungary	1	13	56	22	6	2	91
Ireland	1	2	44	32	15	7	119
Italy	1	10	61	16	11	1	143
Latvia	2	7	38	47	6	1	128
Lithuania	1	4	52	35	7	1	131
Luxembourg	3	3	76	10	9	0	69
Malta	3	17	57	7	11	5	42
Netherlands	3	2	60	27	7	1	125
Poland	1	11	42	25	10	10	90
Portugal	3	15	65	11	5	0	125
Romania	2	13	61	13	5	6	134
Slovakia	2	16	58	18	5	2	131
Slovenia	0	0	57	23	16	3	94
Spain	4	8	59	23	5	1	133
Sweden	0	2	60	28	11	0	104
United Kingdom	1	1	58	19	18	3	130
EU-27	2	7	58	21	10	2	3139

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
55+ years							
Austria	3	10	41	17	27	1	131
Belgium	2	4	69	18	7	0	187
Bulgaria	0	4	76	11	8	2	167
Cyprus	0	0	19	77	3	0	66
Czech Rep.	2	8	71	11	6	2	126
Denmark	0	1	52	37	9	1	232
Estonia	0	1	28	58	10	3	120
Finland	2	3	51	39	4	1	235
France	1	2	57	35	4	1	197
Germany	1	6	65	17	10	1	353
Germany East	1	8	69	15	6	2	101
Germany West	2	5	64	17	11	1	252
Greece	4	5	46	40	5	0	151
Hungary	0	9	54	34	1	2	134
Ireland	1	2	30	38	23	5	162
Italy	2	11	53	20	14	1	140
Latvia	1	2	38	55	2	1	93
Lithuania	2	4	40	37	17	1	116
Luxembourg	2	4	69	19	5	1	78
Malta	1	12	59	13	12	3	74
Netherlands	2	2	60	28	7	2	239
Poland	1	4	58	23	6	9	154
Portugal	1	9	66	17	3	3	180
Romania	2	6	60	20	9	2	177
Slovakia	2	9	48	32	8	2	131
Slovenia	1	2	51	29	16	1	162
Spain	4	7	57	20	10	2	138
Sweden	0	2	53	36	8	1	296
United Kingdom	1	1	65	17	14	3	290
EU-27	2	5	59	23	9	2	4529

**Table A.2.5 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
	Total						
Austria	3	7	63	22	5	0	474
Belgium	0	1	58	32	9	1	504
Bulgaria	3	6	54	30	6	0	472
Cyprus	4	9	60	18	6	2	246
Czech Rep.	5	3	51	37	3	1	416
Denmark	1	3	61	30	5	0	512
Estonia	1	1	39	35	18	7	400
Finland	2	11	56	17	12	2	445
France	3	3	70	18	5	1	460
Germany	2	3	62	24	8	1	751
Germany East	5	12	45	13	22	4	251
Germany West	2	15	62	14	4	2	500
Greece	0	2	58	31	7	1	470
Hungary	3	6	57	19	14	2	448
Ireland	2	10	64	17	6	1	480
Italy	1	2	59	20	15	4	457
Latvia	0	3	39	39	17	1	467
Lithuania	0	7	72	11	7	4	469
Luxembourg	0	3	40	53	4	0	233
Malta	3	14	60	10	12	1	190
Netherlands	0	2	40	48	7	2	509
Poland	1	11	56	26	3	3	375
Portugal	1	5	43	48	3	1	502
Romania	1	4	55	30	10	1	532
Slovakia	2	16	60	10	9	3	434
Slovenia	1	8	53	22	7	9	445
Spain	1	11	60	15	7	6	482
Sweden	2	15	54	19	8	2	518
United Kingdom	0	2	52	28	14	2	595
EU-27	2	7	58	21	9	3	12286

**Table A.2.6** Distribution of women and men by personal ideal number of children, age and country

Personal ideal number of children (%)							
COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
15-24 years							
Austria	6	12	39	22	12	8	54
Belgium	5	4	54	35	1	1	58
Bulgaria	0	9	76	6	0	9	54
Cyprus	0	2	63	31	2	2	51
Czech Rep.	3	15	55	16	5	7	81
Denmark	2	5	45	46	2	0	44
Estonia	0	8	60	26	3	3	66
Finland	8	11	35	39	5	2	57
France	0	4	44	47	0	4	43
Germany	6	11	48	22	4	9	97
Germany East	2	16	56	24	2	0	40
Germany West	7	10	46	21	5	12	57
Greece	10	2	63	25	0	0	51
Hungary	6	8	59	23	0	4	49
Ireland	2	14	29	35	5	16	64
Italy	2	10	49	19	10	11	53
Latvia	1	14	60	23	1	1	102
Lithuania	3	6	64	17	7	4	76
Luxembourg	5	0	64	26	4	0	22
Malta	4	26	38	21	7	3	28
Netherlands	6	4	44	37	8	2	69
Poland	3	9	48	20	7	15	71
Portugal	0	17	60	12	6	5	71
Romania	1	13	61	5	6	14	79
Slovakia	0	15	57	16	2	10	68
Slovenia	3	6	52	34	2	3	65
Spain	6	7	58	26	0	3	62
Sweden	5	0	55	36	5	0	22
United	3	6	51	28	9	3	83
EU-27	3	8	51	26	5	7	1640

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
25-39 years							
Austria	7	19	55	11	5	2	152
Belgium	3	10	43	39	4	0	120
Bulgaria	0	13	72	10	2	3	125
Cyprus	1	6	40	51	2	0	67
Czech Rep.	1	17	65	12	4	2	174
Denmark	4	1	42	48	5	0	78
Estonia	1	5	42	50	2	1	124
Finland	4	7	41	46	2	1	106
France	1	12	49	38	0	1	137
Germany	8	9	53	19	6	5	156
Germany East	12	12	60	12	2	2	67
Germany West	7	8	52	20	8	5	89
Greece	3	6	54	28	5	2	141
Hungary	4	12	62	17	0	6	132
Ireland	3	3	43	44	4	3	168
Italy	2	21	52	16	4	5	171
Latvia	2	5	48	40	2	3	153
Lithuania	2	6	63	27	2	0	139
Luxembourg	1	16	46	31	4	1	71
Malta	5	14	56	23	2	0	56
Netherlands	7	8	44	27	9	5	127
Poland	1	12	51	21	8	7	150
Portugal	1	20	57	20	0	3	125
Romania	2	18	60	11	6	3	149
Slovakia	1	18	61	17	1	1	152
Slovenia	2	6	48	35	7	3	123
Spain	4	9	62	20	3	3	147
Sweden	0	9	55	36	0	0	68
United Kingdom	5	10	50	29	5	2	167
EU-27	3	12	53	24	4	3	3478



**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
				40-54 years			
Austria	9	16	53	14	6	2	166
Belgium	4	7	40	45	3	0	146
Bulgaria	1	17	68	9	4	1	145
Cyprus	0	5	28	66	0	2	65
Czech Rep.	1	9	67	17	3	3	153
Denmark	6	2	51	41	0	0	117
Estonia	1	2	47	43	4	3	121
Finland	6	4	40	47	3	1	126
France	2	11	45	40	2	0	147
Germany	4	9	55	28	3	1	247
Germany East	3	16	58	20	2	1	87
Germany West	4	7	55	30	3	1	160
Greece	4	11	51	33	1	0	139
Hungary	1	16	57	20	1	5	135
Ireland	5	2	33	48	9	5	151
Italy	6	13	56	20	3	2	170
Latvia	2	7	58	30	0	3	141
Lithuania	1	11	58	25	2	3	153
Luxembourg	4	10	53	33	0	0	95
Malta	5	12	61	16	5	2	83
Netherlands	7	8	45	32	7	0	125
Poland	1	8	40	39	5	7	141
Portugal	6	18	57	16	2	1	132
Romania	2	16	62	10	5	5	146
Slovakia	2	11	59	23	5	2	158
Slovenia	1	9	54	32	2	2	124
Spain	3	9	58	29	1	1	131
Sweden	6	8	48	34	2	2	121
United Kingdom	6	6	48	31	5	3	176
EU-27	4	10	52	29	3	2	3754

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
55+ years							
Austria	1	14	47	24	7	6	159
Belgium	6	12	42	37	3	0	197
Bulgaria	1	12	71	12	3	2	206
Cyprus	1	0	18	78	0	3	75
Czech Rep.	0	7	62	24	6	1	195
Denmark	2	4	45	46	2	1	261
Estonia	1	7	43	42	5	1	290
Finland	6	5	38	47	2	2	274
France	4	10	46	38	2	0	281
Germany	2	6	56	31	4	1	321
Germany East	1	7	65	24	2	0	125
Germany West	2	6	53	33	5	2	196
Greece	1	3	46	47	3	0	199
Hungary	0	12	56	28	0	4	240
Ireland	2	2	15	63	11	7	153
Italy	3	11	55	21	8	2	193
Latvia	1	6	49	38	2	4	156
Lithuania	1	6	43	39	6	5	189
Luxembourg	3	4	51	35	6	1	86
Malta	4	5	41	34	6	10	143
Netherlands	6	2	35	52	4	2	171
Poland	0	5	40	42	3	10	263
Portugal	3	12	48	30	5	2	218
Romania	2	7	59	20	8	4	169
Slovakia	2	4	59	30	2	3	188
Slovenia	2	6	52	29	5	6	262
Spain	2	2	56	32	5	3	182
Sweden	3	6	49	39	2	1	290
United Kingdom	4	4	60	27	3	2	321
EU-27	3	7	52	32	4	2	5682

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Women							
	Total						
Austria	6	15	50	18	7	5	531
Belgium	5	9	44	39	3	0	521
Bulgaria	1	13	71	10	2	3	530
Cyprus	1	3	35	59	1	2	258
Czech Rep.	1	11	63	18	5	2	603
Denmark	4	3	46	45	2	0	500
Estonia	1	6	46	41	4	2	601
Finland	6	6	39	45	2	1	563
France	2	10	46	40	1	1	608
Germany	4	8	54	27	4	3	821
Germany East	4	11	62	21	2	1	319
Germany West	4	7	52	28	5	3	502
Greece	4	6	52	35	2	1	530
Hungary	2	12	58	23	0	5	556
Ireland	3	4	30	49	7	7	536
Italy	4	14	54	19	6	4	587
Latvia	2	8	53	34	1	3	552
Lithuania	2	7	55	29	4	3	557
Luxembourg	3	8	52	32	4	1	274
Malta	5	13	49	24	5	5	310
Netherlands	6	6	41	38	6	2	492
Poland	1	8	44	32	5	9	625
Portugal	3	16	54	21	3	2	546
Romania	2	13	60	13	7	6	543
Slovakia	2	11	59	22	2	3	566
Slovenia	2	7	52	32	4	4	574
Spain	3	6	58	27	3	2	522
Sweden	3	6	51	37	2	1	501
United Kingdom	5	6	53	29	5	2	747
EU-27	3	9	52	28	4	3	14554

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
15-24 years							
Austria	9	17	36	12	11	15	46
Belgium	4	16	53	23	3	2	67
Bulgaria	0	3	69	10	8	9	61
Cyprus	2	2	46	44	2	4	48
Czech Rep.	2	20	57	10	7	4	55
Denmark	2	0	64	27	4	2	47
Estonia	1	7	54	31	3	5	79
Finland	10	0	50	30	0	10	33
France	4	3	56	33	2	2	58
Germany	2	8	45	24	11	10	100
Germany East	9	9	61	16	6	0	40
Germany West	1	7	41	26	12	12	60
Greece	1	8	48	23	12	7	75
Hungary	2	12	52	20	0	13	81
Ireland	2	1	30	27	22	18	62
Italy	6	7	41	19	13	15	48
Latvia	1	12	52	30	3	3	104
Lithuania	2	12	58	17	4	7	92
Luxembourg	10	5	60	18	2	5	42
Malta	0	22	54	5	5	13	37
Netherlands	11	8	55	18	5	4	41
Poland	6	10	49	12	4	20	51
Portugal	4	12	50	15	7	13	76
Romania	1	12	56	13	4	13	83
Slovakia	0	19	47	7	15	11	48
Slovenia	1	4	60	20	6	10	84
Spain	6	7	52	19	7	10	70
Sweden	4	9	39	43	0	4	23
United Kingdom	9	4	53	20	6	8	64
EU-27	5	8	50	21	7	10	1675

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
25-39 years							
Austria	12	13	44	11	14	6	122
Belgium	6	11	50	30	3	0	107
Bulgaria	0	15	66	11	3	5	120
Cyprus	1	3	48	46	1	0	71
Czech Rep.	2	22	51	12	8	4	119
Denmark	4	4	60	30	2	0	101
Estonia	3	5	55	30	2	6	106
Finland	7	14	45	29	2	3	70
France	2	7	60	27	1	3	84
Germany	7	11	50	19	7	6	134
Germany East	9	14	49	23	2	2	58
Germany West	7	10	50	18	8	8	76
Greece	4	8	62	21	4	1	132
Hungary	3	10	57	24	1	4	142
Ireland	2	2	45	39	4	8	137
Italy	5	15	56	13	6	6	126
Latvia	1	8	51	38	1	1	142
Lithuania	0	9	68	17	4	2	130
Luxembourg	7	9	40	35	0	9	44
Malta	6	22	62	9	0	2	37
Netherlands	18	8	51	16	5	3	104
Poland	3	11	54	15	5	12	80
Portugal	2	18	60	16	2	2	121
Romania	2	15	61	11	5	7	138
Slovakia	5	19	55	14	6	2	124
Slovenia	2	11	46	30	7	5	105
Spain	5	11	60	17	0	7	141
Sweden	6	3	61	27	1	2	95
United Kingdom	6	12	46	26	3	6	111
EU-27	5	11	55	19	4	6	2943

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
	40-54 years						
Austria	9	15	47	14	8	7	175
Belgium	10	7	50	31	2	0	143
Bulgaria	1	11	71	10	5	2	124
Cyprus	2	3	28	66	0	2	61
Czech Rep.	2	19	65	11	3	2	116
Denmark	6	2	54	31	5	3	132
Estonia	2	5	47	35	4	6	95
Finland	5	6	48	39	2	1	107
France	6	9	49	32	4	1	121
Germany	7	12	54	20	5	2	164
Germany East	11	16	57	12	4	0	52
Germany West	6	11	53	22	5	3	112
Greece	2	10	56	30	3	0	112
Hungary	6	12	55	22	0	5	91
Ireland	2	5	45	33	3	12	119
Italy	2	8	61	18	5	5	143
Latvia	3	5	48	35	7	2	128
Lithuania	3	7	51	33	2	4	131
Luxembourg	3	17	57	17	6	0	69
Malta	2	10	76	7	3	2	42
Netherlands	9	3	48	34	3	3	125
Poland	2	9	49	25	6	9	90
Portugal	5	17	61	14	1	2	125
Romania	1	12	56	21	4	6	134
Slovakia	1	16	48	23	7	3	131
Slovenia	0	2	64	22	6	5	94
Spain	5	7	61	26	1	1	133
Sweden	6	6	57	29	2	1	104
United Kingdom	9	5	48	24	7	7	130
EU-27	5	9	54	24	4	4	3139

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
				55+ years			
Austria	7	13	36	23	17	4	131
Belgium	6	11	46	30	5	1	187
Bulgaria	0	9	73	10	4	4	167
Cyprus	0	0	11	90	0	0	66
Czech Rep.	4	8	66	19	1	2	126
Denmark	3	5	46	43	3	1	232
Estonia	0	4	37	48	6	5	120
Finland	4	6	53	32	3	1	235
France	4	2	47	40	3	3	197
Germany	2	7	64	22	3	1	353
Germany East	2	11	66	18	1	1	101
Germany West	3	6	64	23	4	1	252
Greece	3	3	52	39	1	1	151
Hungary	4	8	46	36	4	3	134
Ireland	3	2	24	52	9	10	162
Italy	2	10	58	22	6	2	140
Latvia	2	6	47	37	5	3	93
Lithuania	2	2	47	38	9	3	116
Luxembourg	3	9	54	28	6	0	78
Malta	0	7	44	31	10	8	74
Netherlands	5	4	53	34	2	3	239
Poland	1	6	53	26	8	6	154
Portugal	1	6	56	30	3	4	180
Romania	2	7	60	23	5	4	177
Slovakia	3	6	48	35	4	3	131
Slovenia	2	4	59	25	3	6	162
Spain	2	4	43	40	5	5	138
Sweden	2	4	53	37	1	3	296
United Kingdom	5	3	58	27	5	3	290
EU-27	3	6	54	29	5	3	4529

**Table A.2.6 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	No ideal	DK	N.cases
Men							
				Total			
Austria	9	14	41	16	13	7	474
Belgium	7	11	49	29	4	0	504
Bulgaria	0	10	70	10	5	5	472
Cyprus	1	2	32	63	1	1	246
Czech Rep.	3	17	60	13	4	3	416
Denmark	4	3	54	34	3	1	512
Estonia	2	5	48	36	4	5	400
Finland	6	7	50	33	2	3	445
France	4	5	52	33	3	2	460
Germany	5	9	56	21	5	4	751
Germany East	7	13	59	17	3	1	251
Germany West	4	8	55	22	6	4	500
Greece	3	7	55	29	4	2	470
Hungary	4	10	53	26	1	6	448
Ireland	2	3	37	39	8	11	480
Italy	3	10	56	18	6	5	457
Latvia	2	7	49	35	4	2	467
Lithuania	2	7	56	27	5	4	469
Luxembourg	5	11	52	25	4	3	233
Malta	2	14	59	14	5	6	190
Netherlands	10	5	51	27	4	3	509
Poland	3	9	52	20	6	11	375
Portugal	3	13	57	19	3	5	502
Romania	2	12	59	17	5	7	532
Slovakia	3	15	50	20	8	4	434
Slovenia	1	5	57	25	5	6	445
Spain	4	7	54	27	3	5	482
Sweden	4	5	54	33	1	2	518
United Kingdom	7	6	51	25	5	6	595
EU-27	4	8	54	24	5	5	12286



**Table A.2.7** Distribution of women and men by actual number of children, age and country

Actual number of children (%)						
	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Women						
	15-24 years					
Austria	91	5	2	2	0	54
Belgium	93	5	1	0	0	58
Bulgaria	81	14	5	0	0	54
Cyprus	90	2	8	0	0	51
Czech Rep.	87	8	5	0	0	81
Denmark	79	18	2	0	0	44
Estonia	70	21	6	0	3	66
Finland	87	6	5	2	0	57
France	90	10	0	0	0	43
Germany	91	7	1	1	0	97
Germany East	80	11	3	6	0	40
Germany West	94	6	0	0	0	57
Greece	96	4	0	0	0	51
Hungary	69	23	4	4	0	49
Ireland	73	20	5	0	2	64
Italy	98	2	0	0	0	53
Latvia	82	16	2	0	0	102
Lithuania	84	7	6	1	1	76
Luxembourg	100	0	0	0	0	22
Malta	83	7	7	0	3	28
Netherlands	98	0	2	0	0	69
Poland	78	7	8	3	3	71
Portugal	59	18	17	6	0	71
Romania	85	12	2	0	1	79
Slovakia	79	9	9	2	2	68
Slovenia	100	0	0	0	0	65
Spain	90	7	3	0	0	62
Sweden	95	5	0	0	0	22
United Kingdom	63	28	6	3	0	83
EU-27	85	11	3	1	0	1640

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Women						
25-39 years						
Austria	40	23	26	10	2	152
Belgium	27	25	33	15	1	120
Bulgaria	22	40	34	5	0	125
Cyprus	51	15	24	10	0	67
Czech Rep.	24	32	36	8	1	174
Denmark	31	22	31	17	0	78
Estonia	16	34	36	14	0	124
Finland	28	16	31	23	2	106
France	23	26	31	21	0	137
Germany	37	25	28	11	0	156
Germany East	37	40	14	9	0	67
Germany West	37	21	31	12	0	89
Greece	42	18	28	10	1	141
Hungary	24	26	34	15	1	132
Ireland	26	25	23	25	1	168
Italy	48	27	19	5	2	171
Latvia	16	36	34	15	0	153
Lithuania	23	32	39	7	0	139
Luxembourg	29	24	29	17	1	71
Malta	36	19	35	10	0	56
Netherlands	45	20	23	12	1	127
Poland	26	33	30	10	1	150
Portugal	24	31	31	14	0	125
Romania	31	36	25	9	0	149
Slovakia	25	35	33	7	1	152
Slovenia	32	29	31	8	0	123
Spain	35	29	30	4	1	147
Sweden	31	30	26	14	0	68
United Kingdom	32	23	25	19	1	167
EU-27	33	27	28	12	1	3478

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Women						
40-54 years						
Austria	21	24	39	15	1	166
Belgium	10	15	39	37	0	146
Bulgaria	3	29	61	7	0	145
Cyprus	5	12	29	54	0	65
Czech Rep.	3	20	61	15	1	153
Denmark	12	15	52	21	0	117
Estonia	9	19	42	29	0	121
Finland	16	14	35	35	0	126
France	8	19	47	26	0	147
Germany	8	22	48	22	0	247
Germany East	6	31	49	14	0	87
Germany West	9	20	47	24	0	160
Greece	14	19	51	15	1	139
Hungary	15	26	38	20	1	135
Ireland	16	10	26	49	0	151
Italy	25	25	40	10	1	170
Latvia	7	26	44	23	1	141
Lithuania	5	28	51	17	0	153
Luxembourg	13	18	47	22	0	95
Malta	11	25	43	21	0	83
Netherlands	18	13	46	23	0	125
Poland	8	20	30	38	4	141
Portugal	15	29	40	17	0	132
Romania	12	33	45	9	1	146
Slovakia	10	17	49	23	0	158
Slovenia	6	21	53	20	0	124
Spain	10	20	48	22	0	131
Sweden	20	25	37	18	0	121
United Kingdom	13	17	38	30	2	176
EU-27	12	21	43	22	1	3754

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Women						
55+ years						
Austria	10	27	34	29	0	159
Belgium	12	16	30	42	0	197
Bulgaria	2	24	67	8	0	206
Cyprus	8	5	27	59	0	75
Czech Rep.	2	12	56	30	0	195
Denmark	11	13	42	34	0	261
Estonia	9	28	39	23	0	290
Finland	14	12	38	37	0	274
France	15	17	31	37	0	281
Germany	9	18	42	30	0	321
Germany East	6	28	42	24	0	125
Germany West	10	15	43	32	0	196
Greece	11	12	58	20	0	199
Hungary	9	24	50	16	1	240
Ireland	9	6	10	75	1	153
Italy	11	16	54	18	0	193
Latvia	10	28	46	16	0	156
Lithuania	15	21	38	25	1	189
Luxembourg	11	25	38	26	0	86
Malta	18	8	29	44	0	143
Netherlands	22	11	32	35	0	171
Poland	9	14	37	39	1	263
Portugal	10	19	33	38	0	218
Romania	9	20	49	22	1	169
Slovakia	6	16	45	33	0	188
Slovenia	6	21	52	21	0	262
Spain	13	9	44	34	0	182
Sweden	13	21	39	26	0	290
United Kingdom	13	10	47	30	0	321
EU-27	11	15	43	30	0	5682

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Women							
			Total				
Austria	31	22	29	17	1	531	
Belgium	26	16	29	29	0	521	
Bulgaria	17	28	49	6	0	530	
Cyprus	34	9	23	34	0	258	
Czech Rep.	20	19	45	17	0	603	
Denmark	26	16	36	22	0	500	
Estonia	21	26	34	19	1	601	
Finland	28	13	31	28	0	563	
France	26	18	30	26	0	608	
Germany	24	19	36	21	0	821	
Germany East	19	29	35	17	0	319	
Germany West	25	16	36	22	0	502	
Greece	33	14	39	13	1	530	
Hungary	22	25	37	15	1	556	
Ireland	26	15	17	41	1	536	
Italy	33	19	36	11	1	587	
Latvia	25	27	34	14	0	552	
Lithuania	26	23	36	15	0	557	
Luxembourg	29	19	33	19	0	274	
Malta	31	15	30	23	1	310	
Netherlands	37	12	29	21	0	492	
Poland	24	20	29	26	2	625	
Portugal	22	24	32	22	0	546	
Romania	28	26	33	12	1	543	
Slovakia	25	20	37	18	1	566	
Slovenia	24	20	40	15	0	574	
Spain	27	17	37	19	0	522	
Sweden	29	22	31	18	0	501	
United Kingdom	25	18	34	23	1	747	
EU-27	27	19	34	20	0	14554	

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Men							
			15-24 years				
Austria	86	6	0	2	6	46	
Belgium	97	1	1	0	1	67	
Bulgaria	95	2	0	0	3	61	
Cyprus	100	0	0	0	0	48	
Czech Rep.	91	5	2	2	0	55	
Denmark	100	0	0	0	0	47	
Estonia	90	5	3	0	3	79	
Finland	87	3	4	3	3	33	
France	100	0	0	0	0	58	
Germany	96	3	0	1	0	100	
Germany East	94	2	0	4	0	40	
Germany West	96	4	0	0	0	60	
Greece	96	1	1	1	0	75	
Hungary	91	5	3	0	1	81	
Ireland	97	3	0	0	0	62	
Italy	83	6	2	7	2	48	
Latvia	91	8	0	0	1	104	
Lithuania	90	6	0	2	2	92	
Luxembourg	98	2	0	0	0	42	
Malta	95	3	0	0	2	37	
Netherlands	98	2	0	0	0	41	
Poland	94	2	2	0	2	51	
Portugal	67	8	12	12	1	76	
Romania	96	0	1	0	2	83	
Slovakia	100	0	0	0	0	48	
Slovenia	97	1	0	1	1	84	
Spain	92	6	1	0	1	70	
Sweden	100	0	0	0	0	23	
United Kingdom	86	8	4	2	0	64	
EU-27	92	4	2	2	1	1675	

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Men							
			25-39 years				
Austria	62	19	13	5	1	122	
Belgium	43	20	27	8	1	107	
Bulgaria	39	32	24	5	0	120	
Cyprus	53	13	25	8	0	71	
Czech Rep.	52	19	23	6	0	119	
Denmark	46	22	27	6	0	101	
Estonia	37	35	22	4	2	106	
Finland	43	22	20	13	2	70	
France	41	21	28	10	0	84	
Germany	62	20	11	5	2	134	
Germany East	56	22	20	2	0	58	
Germany West	64	20	8	6	3	76	
Greece	74	17	8	2	0	132	
Hungary	35	21	26	17	1	142	
Ireland	42	13	26	18	1	137	
Italy	62	19	16	3	1	126	
Latvia	39	25	24	12	0	142	
Lithuania	40	24	29	6	1	130	
Luxembourg	54	21	13	12	0	44	
Malta	49	27	24	0	0	37	
Netherlands	60	9	24	8	0	104	
Poland	50	21	25	4	1	80	
Portugal	40	26	23	11	0	121	
Romania	54	27	16	2	1	138	
Slovakia	42	23	30	3	2	124	
Slovenia	52	20	22	5	2	105	
Spain	66	16	15	3	0	141	
Sweden	58	17	15	10	0	95	
United Kingdom	57	11	20	11	0	111	
EU-27	55	19	19	6	1	2943	

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Men							
			40-54 years				
Austria	29	24	35	10	2	175	
Belgium	16	18	44	22	0	143	
Bulgaria	9	25	58	7	0	124	
Cyprus	10	13	33	44	0	61	
Czech Rep.	9	20	61	9	0	116	
Denmark	17	15	47	21	0	132	
Estonia	17	20	43	18	2	95	
Finland	17	14	38	31	0	107	
France	23	20	38	18	0	121	
Germany	20	21	47	12	0	164	
Germany East	23	16	45	16	0	52	
Germany West	19	22	48	11	0	112	
Greece	32	20	33	14	0	112	
Hungary	16	24	37	19	3	91	
Ireland	22	14	35	28	0	119	
Italy	19	22	54	5	0	143	
Latvia	12	30	38	19	1	128	
Lithuania	19	17	45	16	2	131	
Luxembourg	9	32	39	20	0	69	
Malta	12	19	60	9	0	42	
Netherlands	19	14	38	29	0	125	
Poland	18	20	44	16	2	90	
Portugal	15	37	38	10	1	125	
Romania	19	27	38	15	1	134	
Slovakia	12	20	52	15	1	131	
Slovenia	17	17	45	20	1	94	
Spain	21	22	42	15	0	133	
Sweden	24	9	43	24	0	104	
United Kingdom	25	14	31	25	5	130	
EU-27	20	20	43	16	1	3139	



**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Men						
			55+ years			
Austria	14	25	34	27	0	131
Belgium	13	20	34	33	0	187
Bulgaria	3	23	65	8	0	167
Cyprus	1	8	41	50	0	66
Czech Rep.	4	20	57	20	0	126
Denmark	11	14	43	32	0	232
Estonia	5	21	42	30	3	120
Finland	11	14	47	28	0	235
France	11	19	34	35	1	197
Germany	7	21	45	27	0	353
Germany East	4	27	44	24	0	101
Germany West	8	19	46	28	0	252
Greece	10	9	57	24	1	151
Hungary	8	24	50	18	1	134
Ireland	17	3	17	62	1	162
Italy	11	17	51	21	0	140
Latvia	9	23	48	19	1	93
Lithuania	9	23	45	23	1	116
Luxembourg	7	31	38	24	0	78
Malta	12	6	31	52	0	74
Netherlands	14	9	44	33	0	239
Poland	11	10	46	33	0	154
Portugal	8	15	40	36	1	180
Romania	7	27	46	19	1	177
Slovakia	12	9	49	30	0	131
Slovenia	13	16	54	15	1	162
Spain	11	11	30	48	0	138
Sweden	16	13	44	27	0	296
United Kingdom	12	12	40	33	3	290
EU-27	10	16	43	30	1	4529

**Table A.2.7 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Men						
			Total			
Austria	41	20	24	13	2	474
Belgium	34	17	30	19	1	504
Bulgaria	28	23	42	6	1	472
Cyprus	37	9	27	27	0	246
Czech Rep.	33	18	39	10	0	416
Denmark	35	14	33	18	0	512
Estonia	35	21	28	13	2	400
Finland	32	14	31	22	1	445
France	36	17	28	19	0	460
Germany	34	18	33	14	0	751
Germany East	32	20	34	15	0	251
Germany West	35	18	32	14	1	500
Greece	48	12	27	12	0	470
Hungary	31	20	32	15	1	448
Ireland	39	9	22	29	1	480
Italy	35	18	37	10	0	457
Latvia	38	22	27	13	1	467
Lithuania	36	18	32	13	1	469
Luxembourg	34	24	26	16	0	233
Malta	36	14	31	18	0	190
Netherlands	40	9	31	21	0	509
Poland	39	14	32	14	1	375
Portugal	29	22	30	19	1	502
Romania	41	22	26	9	1	532
Slovakia	38	14	35	12	1	434
Slovenia	37	15	35	12	1	445
Spain	40	15	25	20	0	482
Sweden	40	12	30	18	0	518
United Kingdom	39	12	27	20	2	595
EU-27	37	16	30	16	1	12286

**Table A.2.8** Distribution of women and men by additionally intended number of children, age and country

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Women						
15-24 years						
Austria	10	11	35	12	31	54
Belgium	10	9	54	25	1	58
Bulgaria	8	17	55	0	20	54
Cyprus	20	0	49	26	6	51
Czech Rep.	9	17	52	11	11	81
Denmark	9	5	48	34	4	44
Estonia	9	15	53	15	8	66
Finland	7	14	24	33	22	57
France	7	11	31	33	18	43
Germany	8	14	39	15	24	97
Germany East	2	18	48	16	16	40
Germany West	10	13	37	15	26	57
Greece	14	10	40	18	19	51
Hungary	13	16	48	17	6	49
Ireland	16	6	20	15	43	64
Italy	5	6	32	9	47	53
Latvia	16	22	37	14	12	102
Lithuania	4	12	50	13	21	76
Luxembourg	18	0	46	23	13	22
Malta	11	18	21	17	32	28
Netherlands	9	4	38	36	13	69
Poland	9	3	45	14	30	71
Portugal	34	11	36	4	15	71
Romania	9	17	25	1	48	79
Slovakia	4	25	39	11	20	68
Slovenia	2	6	47	30	16	65
Spain	10	8	40	20	22	62
Sweden	18	5	32	27	18	22
United Kingdom	18	23	28	20	10	83
EU-27	11	12	36	18	23	1640

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Women							
			25-39 years				
Austria	46	23	16	1	14	152	
Belgium	58	19	14	6	3	120	
Bulgaria	54	14	19	3	9	125	
Cyprus	36	13	27	13	11	67	
Czech Rep.	52	23	15	2	8	174	
Denmark	50	13	22	9	6	78	
Estonia	40	30	18	8	4	124	
Finland	43	18	17	6	16	106	
France	46	21	20	10	4	137	
Germany	43	23	17	1	16	156	
Germany East	46	36	8	2	8	67	
Germany West	42	19	20	1	18	89	
Greece	41	16	28	6	9	141	
Hungary	51	14	22	4	9	132	
Ireland	38	16	16	12	18	168	
Italy	29	25	20	6	20	171	
Latvia	54	25	12	6	3	153	
Lithuania	42	18	17	7	16	139	
Luxembourg	55	23	18	1	3	71	
Malta	53	21	18	2	6	56	
Netherlands	40	19	20	7	13	127	
Poland	43	12	14	4	27	150	
Portugal	59	15	10	2	14	125	
Romania	52	17	15	1	15	149	
Slovakia	43	17	15	6	19	152	
Slovenia	39	17	15	6	22	123	
Spain	42	16	21	3	17	147	
Sweden	46	16	16	14	7	68	
United Kingdom	47	14	22	6	11	167	
EU-27	44	18	19	5	14	3478	

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Women							
			40-54 years				
Austria	94	4	1	0	1	166	
Belgium	99	0	0	0	0	146	
Bulgaria	86	2	1	1	10	145	
Cyprus	92	3	0	0	5	65	
Czech Rep.	92	3	1	1	3	153	
Denmark	94	0	2	2	2	117	
Estonia	90	3	0	0	7	121	
Finland	96	2	1	1	0	126	
France	86	5	4	2	3	147	
Germany	95	1	2	0	2	247	
Germany East	94	0	1	0	4	87	
Germany West	95	1	3	0	1	160	
Greece	85	7	1	0	7	139	
Hungary	85	6	3	2	4	135	
Ireland	78	1	2	2	17	151	
Italy	75	6	2	1	16	170	
Latvia	92	1	2	1	3	141	
Lithuania	87	0	0	0	13	153	
Luxembourg	98	0	2	0	0	95	
Malta	98	0	1	0	1	83	
Netherlands	98	1	1	0	0	125	
Poland	83	1	0	1	15	141	
Portugal	93	0	1	1	5	132	
Romania	87	3	0	0	10	146	
Slovakia	91	1	4	0	5	158	
Slovenia	92	2	1	0	6	124	
Spain	93	2	1	0	4	131	
Sweden	96	0	0	0	4	121	
United Kingdom	88	4	3	1	5	176	
EU-27	88	3	2	1	6	3754	

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Women						
55+ years						
Austria	98	0	0	0	1	159
Belgium	99	0	1	0	0	197
Bulgaria	91	0	0	0	9	206
Cyprus	97	0	0	0	3	75
Czech Rep.	97	0	0	0	3	195
Denmark	99	0	0	1	1	261
Estonia	80	0	1	0	19	290
Finland	99	0	0	0	1	274
France	96	0	0	0	3	281
Germany	95	1	0	0	4	321
Germany East	96	0	1	0	3	125
Germany West	94	1	0	0	4	196
Greece	98	0	1	0	1	199
Hungary	86	0	5	0	8	240
Ireland	88	0	1	2	9	153
Italy	93	0	3	0	5	193
Latvia	91	1	1	0	8	156
Lithuania	87	0	0	0	13	189
Luxembourg	99	0	0	0	1	86
Malta	96	0	0	1	3	143
Netherlands	93	0	1	0	6	171
Poland	95	0	0	0	5	263
Portugal	98	0	1	0	2	218
Romania	92	1	0	0	6	169
Slovakia	96	0	1	0	3	188
Slovenia	97	0	0	0	2	262
Spain	94	0	3	2	2	182
Sweden	99	0	1	0	1	290
United Kingdom	95	0	3	0	2	321
EU-27	95	0	1	0	4	5682

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Women							
			Total				
Austria	73	8	9	2	8	531	
Belgium	77	6	11	5	1	521	
Bulgaria	70	6	12	1	11	530	
Cyprus	65	4	16	8	6	258	
Czech Rep.	72	9	12	2	5	603	
Denmark	73	4	13	8	3	500	
Estonia	61	11	13	4	11	601	
Finland	73	7	7	6	7	563	
France	70	8	10	7	5	608	
Germany	75	6	9	2	8	821	
Germany East	76	8	7	2	6	319	
Germany West	74	6	9	2	9	502	
Greece	67	7	14	4	8	530	
Hungary	67	7	15	4	7	556	
Ireland	58	6	9	7	19	536	
Italy	64	8	10	3	16	587	
Latvia	66	12	11	4	6	552	
Lithuania	64	6	12	4	15	557	
Luxembourg	76	6	12	4	3	274	
Malta	72	8	8	4	8	310	
Netherlands	70	5	11	7	7	492	
Poland	65	4	11	3	17	625	
Portugal	76	6	9	1	8	546	
Romania	66	8	8	1	17	543	
Slovakia	65	9	12	4	11	566	
Slovenia	70	5	10	6	10	574	
Spain	70	6	12	4	9	522	
Sweden	76	4	8	7	5	501	
United Kingdom	71	8	11	5	6	747	
EU-27	70	7	10	4	9	14554	

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Men						
15-24 years						
Austria	9	13	30	11	36	46
Belgium	8	16	54	16	7	67
Bulgaria	5	8	48	9	30	61
Cyprus	2	2	40	38	19	48
Czech Rep.	7	15	54	8	17	55
Denmark	8	0	58	25	8	47
Estonia	4	10	40	22	24	79
Finland	8	4	48	14	25	33
France	8	5	46	30	11	58
Germany	4	8	35	22	31	100
Germany East	9	8	58	16	10	40
Germany West	3	8	30	24	36	60
Greece	5	10	37	21	27	75
Hungary	3	16	48	19	14	81
Ireland	3	3	26	16	52	62
Italy	27	2	24	8	38	48
Latvia	12	11	37	24	16	104
Lithuania	8	12	40	14	26	92
Luxembourg	24	7	44	11	13	42
Malta	5	19	18	3	54	37
Netherlands	8	7	43	12	30	41
Poland	7	9	42	9	32	51
Portugal	41	11	31	2	15	76
Romania	7	11	35	9	39	83
Slovakia	0	15	38	2	44	48
Slovenia	4	2	53	18	23	84
Spain	10	6	50	10	24	70
Sweden	22	4	22	35	17	23
United Kingdom	19	10	34	14	24	64
EU-27	12	8	39	16	26	1675



**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Men						
25-39 years						
Austria	33	17	16	3	31	122
Belgium	42	23	21	11	3	107
Bulgaria	40	19	22	3	16	120
Cyprus	17	20	25	15	23	71
Czech Rep.	30	25	25	5	15	119
Denmark	33	25	30	11	2	101
Estonia	23	23	28	6	21	106
Finland	36	21	19	7	17	70
France	30	22	31	11	6	84
Germany	29	16	27	6	22	134
Germany East	36	22	25	4	13	58
Germany West	27	14	27	7	25	76
Greece	17	20	43	7	13	132
Hungary	42	17	24	9	8	142
Ireland	32	10	11	10	37	137
Italy	28	16	26	4	26	126
Latvia	36	19	23	8	14	142
Lithuania	26	17	32	4	21	130
Luxembourg	39	13	21	14	14	44
Malta	40	14	27	6	14	37
Netherlands	50	13	21	7	9	104
Poland	23	24	17	4	33	80
Portugal	42	23	22	1	13	121
Romania	31	18	19	4	29	138
Slovakia	36	22	20	3	19	124
Slovenia	19	20	16	16	29	105
Spain	26	15	31	9	19	141
Sweden	32	19	25	6	17	95
United Kingdom	31	14	29	10	16	111
EU-27	30	18	26	7	19	2943

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Men						
40-54 years						
Austria	81	4	3	0	12	175
Belgium	92	4	3	1	0	143
Bulgaria	87	2	2	0	10	124
Cyprus	77	2	2	3	17	61
Czech Rep.	88	6	3	0	3	116
Denmark	92	2	5	0	2	132
Estonia	76	4	4	2	13	95
Finland	87	4	4	1	4	107
France	74	8	7	4	7	121
Germany	89	5	1	0	5	164
Germany East	98	1	0	0	1	52
Germany West	86	6	1	0	6	112
Greece	70	8	10	2	10	112
Hungary	70	11	9	1	9	91
Ireland	73	4	7	3	14	119
Italy	76	5	4	2	13	143
Latvia	88	5	1	0	6	128
Lithuania	78	5	2	1	14	131
Luxembourg	94	3	1	0	2	69
Malta	86	2	3	3	7	42
Netherlands	90	2	2	2	4	125
Poland	76	4	2	0	17	90
Portugal	84	5	0	1	9	125
Romania	80	3	6	1	10	134
Slovakia	83	5	1	0	10	131
Slovenia	79	4	0	1	16	94
Spain	72	6	7	1	14	133
Sweden	82	5	2	3	8	104
United Kingdom	86	0	4	1	10	130
EU-27	81	5	4	1	9	3139

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases	
Men							
			55+ years				
Austria	96	0	0	0	4	131	
Belgium	98	0	2	0	1	187	
Bulgaria	90	1	0	0	10	167	
Cyprus	100	0	0	0	0	66	
Czech Rep.	96	0	3	0	1	126	
Denmark	98	0	0	1	1	232	
Estonia	73	1	2	0	24	120	
Finland	98	0	2	0	1	235	
France	92	0	3	1	4	197	
Germany	95	0	1	0	4	353	
Germany East	92	0	2	0	6	101	
Germany West	96	0	0	0	3	252	
Greece	98	0	0	0	2	151	
Hungary	90	1	2	2	4	134	
Ireland	89	0	1	1	9	162	
Italy	95	0	3	0	2	140	
Latvia	96	0	0	0	4	93	
Lithuania	92	0	0	0	8	116	
Luxembourg	97	1	1	0	0	78	
Malta	99	0	0	1	0	74	
Netherlands	98	0	0	0	2	239	
Poland	95	0	1	0	4	154	
Portugal	96	0	0	1	3	180	
Romania	95	0	0	1	5	177	
Slovakia	97	0	0	0	3	131	
Slovenia	96	0	0	0	4	162	
Spain	96	0	1	1	2	138	
Sweden	97	0	1	0	2	296	
United Kingdom	93	0	1	1	5	290	
EU-27	94	0	1	1	3	4529	

**Table A.2.8 (Continued)**

COUNTRIES	None	One	Two	Three or more	DK	N.cases
Men						
			Total			
Austria	63	8	9	2	18	474
Belgium	69	9	15	5	2	504
Bulgaria	63	7	14	2	15	472
Cyprus	52	6	15	12	14	246
Czech Rep.	61	11	17	3	8	416
Denmark	67	6	17	7	3	512
Estonia	45	10	18	7	21	400
Finland	66	7	14	4	9	445
France	59	8	18	9	6	460
Germany	67	6	11	5	12	751
Germany East	71	6	13	3	6	251
Germany West	66	6	10	5	13	500
Greece	52	9	21	6	11	470
Hungary	57	11	18	6	8	448
Ireland	53	4	10	7	26	480
Italy	64	6	12	3	16	457
Latvia	56	10	16	8	11	467
Lithuania	54	8	17	4	17	469
Luxembourg	69	6	13	6	6	233
Malta	64	8	11	3	15	190
Netherlands	70	5	13	4	8	509
Poland	54	10	13	3	21	375
Portugal	68	10	12	1	10	502
Romania	55	8	14	3	20	532
Slovakia	56	11	14	1	18	434
Slovenia	57	7	12	7	17	445
Spain	58	7	18	4	13	482
Sweden	67	7	10	7	9	518
United Kingdom	63	5	14	5	12	595
EU-27	62	7	14	5	13	12286