



UNITED NATIONS
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Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies



Future Trends Series - GR:REEN Project

Title of the report

Fertility

Area

Demography

Reporter

European Commission

Type of the Reporter

International Organisation

Periodically updated?

No

First issued year

2012

Latest update

/

Official website

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>

Language available

English

Short summary

The report looks at the development of a range of indicators concerning the number of births and fertility across the European Union (EU). In 2011, 5.2 million children were born in the EU-27, which equated to a crude birth rate (the number of live births per 1 000 inhabitants) of 10.4. Fertility steadily declined from the mid-1960s through to the turn of the century in those countries which form the EU. However, in recent years the total fertility rate in the EU-27 has shown some signs of rising again.

As noted above, another reason that partly explains the downward development of fertility rates within the EU Member States is the decision of many parents to delay starting a family. While only a relatively short time series is available for the EU-27 aggregate, The mean age of women at childbirth continued to rise between 2002 and 2009, when it stood at 29.8 years.

Key trends

- The mean age of women at childbirth continued to rise between 2002 and 2009, when it stood at 29.8 years.
- Fertility steadily declined from the mid-1960s through to the turn of the century in those countries which form the EU.
- Common demographic themes are apparent across the whole of the EU, such as a reduction in the average number of children being born per woman and an increasing mean age of mothers at childbirth.

Suggestions

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Methodology

Survey

Reference to other trends reports? If yes, which reports?

European Perinatal Health Report: <http://www.europeristat.com/reports/european-perinatal-health-report-2010.html>