Did you know?

The GGP contain rich data on contraceptive use and reveal stark differences between Eastern and Western European countries. Among partnered individuals age 18-45, the use of traditional contraceptives is higher in Eastern Europe while being close to zero in Western Europe. In contrast, the use of modern contraceptives is much more prevalent in Western Europe. Differences are also observed in the percentage of non-users (here restricted to those not intending to have a child). These differences in contraceptive behavior can be linked to Western Europeans being more ready (i.e. no fertility intentions, high perceived costs of childbearing), willing (i.e. modern family values, not religious), and able (i.e. higher educated, employed, urban residence) to use modern contraceptives as compared to Eastern Europeans. In addition to these individual differentials, prevailing social and cultural expectations concerning fertility, religiosity, and gender equality all help explain differences across countries.

Figure 1: Use of contraception method, by country

Note: Data: Generations and Gender Survey, Wave 1. The subsample includes 17,492 men and 20,712 women in a heterosexual relationship in which the respondent and his/her partner were between 18 and 45 years. In this analysis, the use of traditional contraception includes withdrawal, the rhythm method, etc. while modern contraception include male condom, the pill, implant, etc. The figures for the non-use refer to the subsample not intending to have a child. Source: Rozemarijn Dereuddre, R., Van de Putte, B. and Bracke, P. (2016). Ready, Willing, and Able: Contraceptive Use Patterns Across Europe. European Journal of Population 32:543–573, DOI 10.1007/ s10680-016-9378-0.
Recently published GGP studies


Abstract: This study explores country- and gender-stratified educational differences in depression among older adults from 10 European countries. We examine inequalities in both absolute (prevalence differences) and relative (odds ratios) terms and in bivariate and multivariate models. We use cross-sectional, nationally representative data from the generations and gender survey. The analysis comprises 27,331 Europeans aged 60–80. Depression is measured with a seven-item version of the Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression scale. Findings show considerable between-country heterogeneity in late-life depression. An East–West gradient is evident, with rates of depression up to three times higher in Eastern European than in Scandinavian countries. Rates are about twice as high among women than men in all countries. Findings reveal marked absolute educational gaps in depression in all countries, yet the gaps are larger in weaker welfare states. This pattern is less pronounced for the relative inequalities, especially for women. Some countries observe similar relative inequalities but vastly different absolute inequalities. We argue that the absolute differences are more important for social policy development and evaluation. Educational gradients in depression are strongly mediated by individual-level health and financial variables. Socioeconomic variation in late-life depression is greater in countries with poorer economic development and welfare programs.

Available at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10433-017-0421-8


Abstract: Family systems, as normative frameworks in which family processes unfold, are believed to exert a major influence on fertility. While a number of studies have addressed family system effects on family size and the timing of births, the question of how family systems influence fertility intentions has remained largely unexplored. Because fertility intentions are often not realized, studying the pathways through which these intentions are framed warrants further attention. Addressing this research gap, this paper explores the pathways of influence between family systems and people’s intentions to start or to extend their family in the framework of the theory of planned behaviour. We use a path analysis to analyse data from the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) on fertility intentions of 28,988 individuals from nine European countries that considerably vary in family systems. Regional indicators of family systems were constructed on the basis the Survey of Health, Aging and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and incorporated in the analytical sample. The results demonstrate an important link between family systems and fertility intentions. Family systems frame people’s intentions by influencing their attitudes towards children and their ideas about existing norms regarding fertility. This influence works partly through affecting household size and partly through influencing people’s ideas about the requirements for having children. Family system effects vary between intentions to start and to extend a family. While nearness to kin decreased positive attitudes towards having children of childless respondents, having kin nearby had the opposite effect for those that were already parents.

Available at: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10680-017-9418-4


This study uses the second Wave of the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) to examine young adults’ transition to adulthood in eight European countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Hungary, Lithuania, and the Netherlands). I use reconstructed life courses from age 18 to 34 (N = 21,696) to simultaneously study key life course trajectories employing multichannel sequence analysis. In doing so, I adopt a comparative framework which specifically addresses cross-national differences in young adults’ life course trajectories and cross-national differences in the educational gradient of life course trajectories. The aim of this paper is to provide a holistic picture of young adults’ different pathways out of the parental home and their transition to adulthood in contemporary Europe. The main results indicate that young adults’ life course trajectories differ by education, country and sex, but also that the educational gradient is highly context-specific across European countries.

Available at: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1040260817300023
Announcements

4th GGP User Conference Preliminary Programme

The preliminary programme and online registration form for the 4th GGP User Conference on 6 and 7 July 2017 in Berlin are now online. This biannual international conference, organised by the Generations and Gender Programme, in cooperation with Population Europe and the WZB Berlin Social Science Center and partly funded by the EC’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, brings together researchers working with data from the Generations and Gender Survey and the GGP Contextual Database to present and discuss recent methodological approaches and empirical findings. The conference provides a forum for exchange of ideas among existing as well as new GGP users, policy makers and the research community at large. The venue for the 2017 User Conference is WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Berlin, Germany.


The International Network for the Analysis of Intergenerational Relations (Generationes) have published online the jointly produced compendium “Generations, Intergenerational Relations and Generational Policy”. The easily navigable online design makes this publication a great companion for translating specific concepts and terminology of research into generations and intergenerational relations from one language into another. The online version is available for download in 12 languages including: English, French, German, Hungarian (new), Italian, Lithuanian (new), Polish, Portuguese, Romanian (new), Spanish, Swedish (new) and Turkish (new).

Call for papers: Special Issue of International Journal of Population Studies on the theme of Family Trends and Dynamics and Their Impacts in the 21st Century

Guest editor: Rongjun Sun, Ph.D., Cleveland State University, Ohio, USA

Researchers from the international community of family studies are invited to contribute to this special issue, to shed light on new trends in family or intergenerational relations, and their social, economic, and cultural impacts. As the world enters the 21st century, with socioeconomic transformation and the formation of new cultural norms, families and generational relations are undergoing profound changes and taking on new forms and shapes. With rising longevity, four or more generations living at the same time, though not necessarily living in the same household, has increasingly become commonplace. It is worth exploring the impacts of this new demographic reality on personal relations and individual member’s well-being. These socio-demographic changes may put various strains on families and it is important to understand how families are capable or incapable of responding to these challenges given each society’s own unique experience and dynamics.

IJPS is an open access, multidisciplinary journal that aims to publish high quality original research and reviews of recent advances and emerging issues in population processes, including dynamics of fertility, mortality, and migration, and linkages with socioeconomic and environmental change across time, space, and cultures.