

### Slight decrease in life expectancy

After the all-time highs in 1994, life expectancies at birth in the EU decreased slightly in 1995 (a reduction of about 0.3 years). For 1995 it is estimated that a woman would live on average 80.1 years, and a man for 73.7 years.

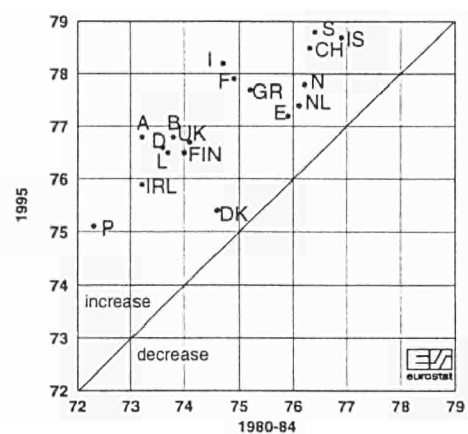
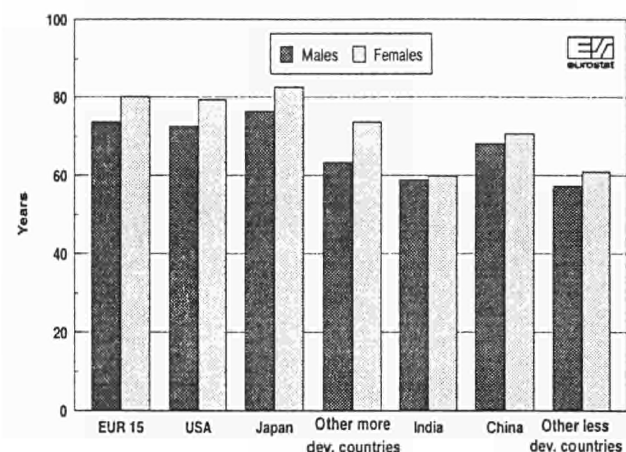
Japan reported somewhat higher life expectancies than those observed in the EU, the USA estimated more or less similar levels (Figure 7). In most other developed countries average life spans are shorter than in the EU. The extreme case seems to be the Russian Federation, where men currently live on average around 15 years less.

Similar, or even greater, differences can be found for most less developed countries, though in China life expectancies are 'only' about 8 years lower than those in the EU.

During the last 15 years the average annual gain in life expectancy in the EU amounted almost 0.2 years. Improvements of close to 0.3 years were observed for Austria and Italy (Figure 8), and since 1990 large gains were also recorded for Finland, Germany and Luxembourg. Moderate increases of 0.1 years or less took place in Denmark, Netherlands and Spain.

**Figure 7:**  
Life expectancy at birth, 1995

**Figure 8:**  
Life expectancy at birth, both sexes combined, 1980-84 and 1995 - years



### Glossary

- Natural increase:** the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths.
- Net migration:** the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants. Here it is computed by taking the difference between total population increase and natural increase.
- Life expectancy at birth:** the average number of years a person would live if current mortality rates were to continue.
- Total fertility rate:** the average number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if current fertility rates were to continue.
- More developed countries:** all countries in Europe (including European members of the CIS-Commonwealth Independent States), Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and USA.
- Less developed countries:** all countries excluding more developed countries.
- European Economic Area (EEA):** EUR 15, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

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# STATISTICS IN FOCUS

## Population and social conditions

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### Decline in migration stopped in 1995 Principal demographic trends in the EU in 1995

During the period 1992-1994 the net inflow of international migrants to the European Union decreased drastically. After the 1992 peak of 1.3 million persons, net migration dropped to 1.0 million in 1993 and 0.8 million in 1994. For 1995 it is estimated that the contribution of migration to overall population growth will again be 0.8 million people.

The total number of live births in the EU continued to decrease. For the first time since 1945, less than 4 million babies were born. The total number of deaths rose slightly to a level of 3.7 million. All together it is estimated that in 1995 the population of the EU grew by almost 1.1 million people or 2.9%, bringing the total EU population on 1 January 1996 to 372.7 million persons.

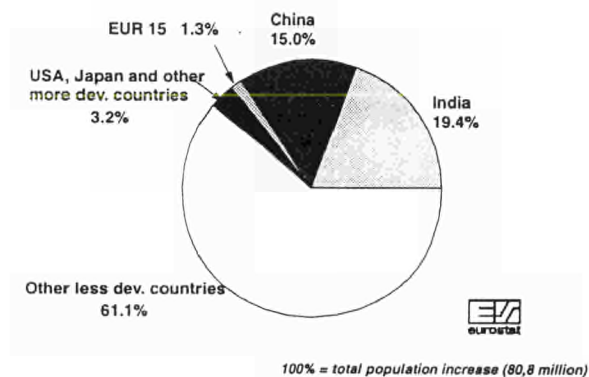
#### Population increase in most parts of the world is much stronger than in the EU

The EU shelters well over 6.5% of the world population. Its contribution to the world population growth in 1995 was only 1.3% (Figure 1). Without international migration, the contribution would have been less than 0.4%.

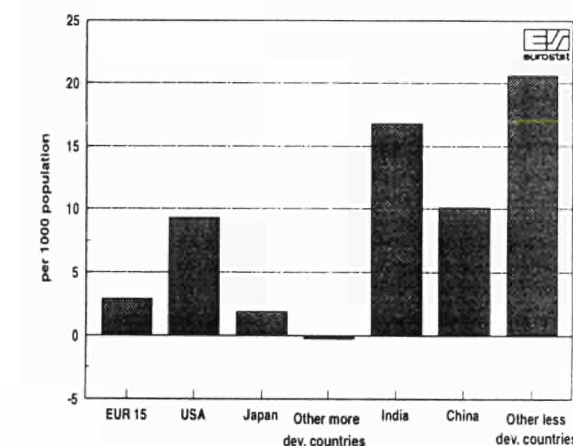
The USA reported population growth rates which are three times higher than those in the EU (Figure 2).

Both natural increase and net migration in the USA are substantially higher (Tables 1 and 2). In most of the other 'more developed' countries, population growth was somewhat lower than in the EU, and in some cases was negative (e.g. Russian Federation). The population in most 'less developed' countries continued to grow rapidly: for example, in India the increase was seven times higher than in the EU.

**Figure 1:**  
World population increase, 1995



**Figure 2:**  
Population increase, 1995



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**Table 1:**  
**Population change in 1995<sup>1</sup>**



| COUNTRY                                     | Population 1.1.1995 | Live births    | Deaths         | Natural increase | Net migration  | Total increase   | Population 1.1.1996 |
|---|---------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
|   |                     |                |                |                  |                |                  |                     |
| <b>EUR 15</b>                               | <b>371 575.1 *</b>  | <b>3 989.5</b> | <b>3 699.4</b> | <b>290.1</b>     | <b>796.8 *</b> | <b>1 086.9 *</b> | <b>372 662.1 *</b>  |
| Belgium                                     | 10 130.6            | 115.6          | 105.9          | 9.7              | 2.8            | 12.5             | 10 143.0            |
| Denmark                                     | 5 215.7             | 69.8           | 63.2           | 6.6              | 28.7           | 35.3             | 5 251.0             |
| Germany                                     | 81 538.6            | 759.5          | 875.1          | -115.5           | 421.9          | 306.4            | 81 845.0            |
| Greece                                      | 10 442.9            | 104.0          | 98.5           | 5.5              | 26.2           | 31.7             | 10 474.6            |
| Spain                                       | 39 177.4            | 357.2          | 344.0          | 13.2             | 51.3           | 64.6             | 39 241.9            |
| France <sup>2</sup>                         | 58 020.4            | 729.0          | 529.0          | 200.0            | 45.0           | 245.0            | 58 265.4            |
| Ireland                                     | 3 579.6             | 48.5           | 31.5           | 17.0             | -5.4           | 11.6             | 3 591.2             |
| Italy                                       | 57 268.6            | 514.9          | 547.0          | -32.1            | 94.0           | 61.9             | 57 330.5            |
| Luxembourg                                  | 406.6               | 5.4            | 3.8            | 1.6              | 4.6            | 6.2              | 412.8               |
| Netherlands                                 | 15 424.1            | 189.4          | 136.2          | 53.2             | 15.5           | 68.7             | 15 492.8            |
| Austria                                     | 8 039.9             | 88.7           | 81.2           | 7.5              | 7.4            | 14.9             | 8 054.8             |
| Portugal                                    | 9 912.1             | 109.0          | 99.2           | 9.9              | -1.2           | 8.6              | 9 920.8             |
| Finland                                     | 5 098.8             | 63.1           | 49.3           | 13.8             | 4.3            | 18.1             | 5 116.8             |
| Sweden                                      | 8 816.4             | 103.3          | 93.9           | 9.4              | 11.7           | 21.1             | 8 837.5             |
| United Kingdom                              | 58 503.6 *          | 732.1          | 641.7          | 90.3             | 90.0 *         | 180.3 *          | 58 684.0 *          |
| Island                                      | 267.0               | 4.3            | 1.9            | 2.4              | -1.4           | 1.0              | 268.0               |
| Liechtenstein                               | 30.6                | 0.4            | 0.2            | 0.2              | 0.2            | 0.4              | 31.0                |
| Norway                                      | 4 348.4             | 60.3           | 45.3           | 15.0             | 6.6            | 21.5             | 4 370.0             |
| <b>EEA</b>                                  | <b>376 221.2 *</b>  | <b>4 054.5</b> | <b>3 746.9</b> | <b>307.6</b>     | <b>802.2 *</b> | <b>1 109.8 *</b> | <b>377 331.0 *</b>  |
| Switzerland                                 | 7 019.0             | 82.5           | 63.4           | 19.1             | 22.3           | 41.4             | 7 060.4             |
| USA   | 261 810.9           | 3 945.5        | 2 314.7        | 1 630.8          | 815.5          | 2 446.2          | 264 257.1           |
| Japan                                       | 125 080.0           | 1 247.0        | 944.0          | 303.0            | -62.6          | 240.4            | 125 320.4           |
| Other more developed countries <sup>3</sup> | 404 455.6           | 4 504.9        | 5 335.6        | -830.7           | 729.6          | -101.1           | 405 354.4           |
| India                                       | 928 609.3           | 24 844.3       | 9 177.3        | 15 667.0         | 37.5           | 15 704.5         | 944 313.8           |
| China                                       | 1 192 018.5         | 20 858.3       | 8 362.5        | 12 495.8         | -407.3         | 12 088.5         | 1 204 107.0         |
| Other less developed countries              | 2 365 394.9         | 73 782.6       | 23 607.5       | 50 175.1         | -843.4         | 49 331.7         | 2 414 726.6         |

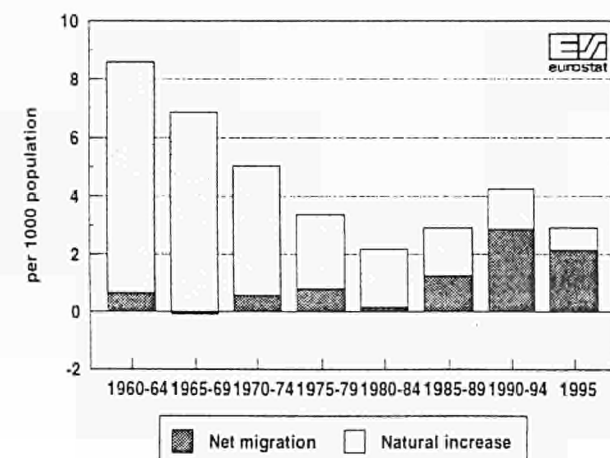
<sup>1</sup> Provisional data  
<sup>2</sup> Metropolitan France  
<sup>3</sup> More developed countries excluding EUR 15, USA and Japan  
 \* Eurostat estimate  
 Sources: Eurostat; US Bureau of the Census

**Migration plays an increasingly important role**

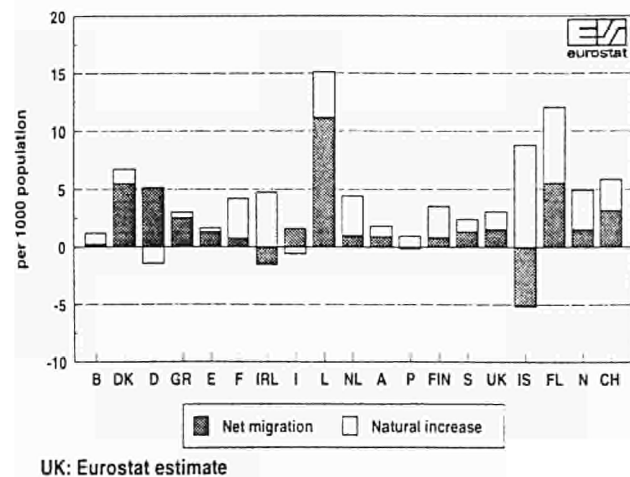
Since the mid-1980's international migration has rapidly gained importance as a component of population change. In 1995, its contribution to EU population growth was close to 75%, a new postwar record high (Figure 3).

However, there are striking differences between EU countries. Germany and Italy would lose population without international migration, whereas Belgium, Finland, France and the Netherlands reported net migration levels substantially lower than natural increase (Figure 4).

**Figure 3:**  
**Components of population change, 1960-1995, EUR 15**



**Figure 4:**  
**Components of population change, 1995**



**Table 2:**  
**Demographic indicators 1995 compared with 1990-94<sup>1</sup>**



| COUNTRY                                     | Natural increase |              | Net migration |              | Total increase |              | Total fertility rate |               | Life expectancy at birth |               |               |               |
|---|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|   |                  |              |               |              |                |              |                      |               | males                    |               | females       |               |
|   | 1990-94          | 1995         | 1990-94       | 1995         | 1990-94        | 1995         | 1990-94              | 1995          | 1990-94                  | 1995          | 1990-94       | 1995          |
| <b>EUR 15</b>                               | <b>1.4</b>       | <b>0.8 *</b> | <b>2.9</b>    | <b>2.1 *</b> | <b>4.3</b>     | <b>2.9 *</b> | <b>1.50 *</b>        | <b>1.43 *</b> | <b>73.3 *</b>            | <b>73.7 *</b> | <b>79.9 *</b> | <b>80.1 *</b> |
| Belgium                                     | 1.8              | 1.0          | 1.9           | 0.3          | 3.6            | 1.2          | 1.61                 | 1.54 *        | 73.0                     | 73.3 *        | 79.7          | 80.2 *        |
| Denmark                                     | 1.1              | 1.3          | 2.1           | 5.5          | 3.1            | 6.8          | 1.73                 | 1.80          | 72.5                     | 72.7 *        | 77.9          | 78.0 *        |
| Germany                                     | -1.0             | -1.4         | 7.0           | 5.2          | 6.0            | 3.8          | 1.32                 | 1.24 *        | 72.5                     | 73.3 *        | 79.0          | 79.8 *        |
| Greece                                      | 0.6              | 0.5          | 5.7           | 2.5          | 6.3            | 3.0          | 1.37                 | 1.40          | 74.8                     | 75.2 *        | 79.8          | 80.2 *        |
| Spain                                       | 1.4              | 0.3          | 0.5           | 1.3          | 1.9            | 1.6          | 1.28                 | 1.18          | 73.5                     | 73.2          | 80.8          | 81.2          |
| France <sup>2</sup>                         | 3.7              | 3.4          | 1.3           | 0.8          | 5.0            | 4.2          | 1.72                 | 1.70          | 73.2                     | 73.8          | 81.4          | 81.9          |
| Ireland                                     | 5.5              | 4.8          | -1.4          | -1.5         | 4.1            | 3.2          | 2.00                 | 1.87 *        | 72.6                     | 73.1 *        | 78.1          | 78.7 *        |
| Italy                                       | 0.1              | -0.6         | 1.9           | 1.6          | 2.0            | 1.1          | 1.29                 | 1.17          | 74.1                     | 74.9          | 80.6          | 81.4          |
| Luxembourg                                  | 3.4              | 4.0          | 10.5          | 11.2         | 13.9           | 15.1         | 1.65                 | 1.68          | 72.3                     | 73.0 *        | 79.0          | 80.0 *        |
| Netherlands                                 | 4.3              | 3.4          | 2.7           | 1.0          | 7.0            | 4.4          | 1.59                 | 1.53          | 74.1                     | 74.5 *        | 80.3          | 80.2 *        |
| Austria                                     | 1.4              | 0.9          | 7.5           | 0.9          | 8.9            | 1.9          | 1.47                 | 1.39          | 72.8                     | 73.5          | 79.3          | 80.1          |
| Portugal                                    | 1.1              | 1.0          | -1.3          | -0.1         | -0.2           | 0.9          | 1.53                 | 1.41          | 70.7                     | 71.5          | 77.9          | 78.6          |
| Finland                                     | 3.2              | 2.7          | 1.8           | 0.8          | 4.9            | 3.5          | 1.82                 | 1.81          | 71.8                     | 72.8          | 79.4          | 80.2          |
| Sweden                                      | 2.9              | 1.1          | 3.7           | 1.3          | 6.7            | 2.4          | 2.04                 | 1.74          | 75.3                     | 76.1          | 80.8          | 81.4          |
| United Kingdom                              | 2.3              | 1.5 *        | 1.3           | 1.5 *        | 3.6            | 3.1 *        | 1.78                 | 1.71 *        | 73.5                     | 74.2 *        | 78.9          | 79.2 *        |
| Island                                      | 11.0             | 8.8          | -0.8          | -5.2         | 10.1           | 3.7          | 2.21                 | 2.08          | 76.2                     | 76.7 *        | 80.9          | 80.7 *        |
| Liechtenstein                               | 6.7              | 6.5          | 8.0           | 5.5          | 14.7           | 12.0         | -                    | -             | -                        | -             | -             | -             |
| Norway                                      | 3.5              | 3.4          | 1.9           | 1.5          | 5.4            | 4.9          | 1.89                 | 1.87          | 74.2                     | 74.9 *        | 80.2          | 80.6 *        |
| <b>EEA</b>                                  | <b>1.4</b>       | <b>0.8 *</b> | <b>2.9</b>    | <b>2.1 *</b> | <b>4.3</b>     | <b>3.0 *</b> | <b>1.51 *</b>        | <b>1.44 *</b> | <b>73.3 *</b>            | <b>73.9 *</b> | <b>79.9 *</b> | <b>80.0 *</b> |
| Switzerland                                 | 3.2              | 2.7          | 6.9           | 3.1          | 10.1           | 5.8          | 1.55                 | 1.48          | 74.5                     | 75.3          | 81.3          | 81.7          |
| USA   | 7.3              | 6.2          | 3.3           | 3.1          | 10.6           | 9.3          | 2.1                  | 2.06          | 72.1                     | 72.6          | 78.9          | 79.3          |
| Japan                                       | 2.8              | 2.4          | 0.0           | -0.5         | 2.8            | 1.9          | 1.5                  | 1.46          | 76.2                     | 76.5          | 82.3          | 82.6          |
| Other more developed countries <sup>3</sup> | 0.9              | -2.0         | 0.5           | 1.8          | 1.4            | -0.2         | 1.7                  | 1.53          | 65.6                     | 63.4          | 75.0          | 73.7          |
| India                                       | 18.2             | 16.7         | 0.2           | 0.0          | 18.4           | 16.8         | 3.5                  | 3.27          | 57.6                     | 58.7          | 58.4          | 59.8          |
| China                                       | 11.7             | 10.4         | -0.4          | -0.3         | 11.4           | 10.1         | 1.9                  | 1.82          | 67.1                     | 68.0          | 69.2          | 70.6          |
| Other less developed countries              | 22.1             | 21.0         | -0.8          | -0.4         | 21.3           | 20.6         | 4.3                  | 4.06          | 56.8                     | 57.2          | 60.4          | 60.9          |

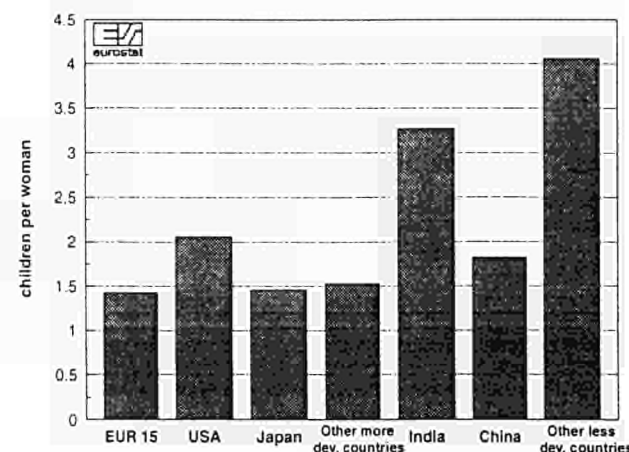
<sup>1</sup> Provisional data for 1995; average of the period for 1990-1994  
<sup>2</sup> Metropolitan France  
<sup>3</sup> All more developed countries excluding EUR 15, USA and Japan  
 \* Eurostat estimate  
 Sources: Eurostat; US Bureau of the Census

**Fertility still falling**

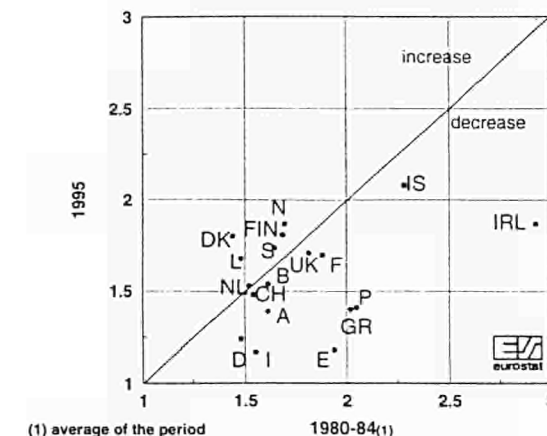
In 1995 the total fertility rate in the EU reached a new postwar record low: 1.43 children per woman. In Japan, and in most other more developed countries, similar low levels were estimated (Figure 5). The USA, however, differs with a rate of above 2. Most of the less developed countries experienced levels of well above 3.

During the last 15 years fertility decreased in most EU countries. In Southern Europe and Ireland the total fertility rate dropped by more than 30% (Figure 6). Only Denmark, Finland, Luxemburg and Sweden reported some recovery. However, Sweden was the country that showed the strongest fertility decline in 1995 (-0.14 children per woman), probably a response to the relatively steep increases around 1990.

**Figure 5:**  
**Total fertility rate, 1995**



**Figure 6:**  
**Total fertility rate, 1980-84 and 1995**



UK: Eurostat estimate

(1) average of the period 1980-84(1)