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First results of the demographic data collection for 1997 in Europe

The population of most countries in Europe grew slightly in 1997, though there continued to be some decreases in certain central and eastern European countries. The population of the countries of the European Union grew by just 0.2 per cent, about half the rate of increase in, for example, 1980.

Fertility rates are tending to level off, albeit at well below replacement level, with some small increases in a few countries. In contrast, births outside marriage continue to increase virtually everywhere, basically reflecting the growing popularity of cohabitation.

Infant mortality has shown significant declines in Europe over the last twenty years to 4 to 6 infant (under one year of age) deaths per 1000 live births in many countries, particularly in the north, south and west. Live expectancy at birth has also increased with levels currently for women above 80 years in at least 12 countries. Mortality rates, particularly for men, have also improved in a number of eastern European countries, particularly the former Republics of the Soviet Union, which saw mortality rates rise in the early 1990s - a period of transition.

In general, the incidence of marriage has decreased and that of divorce has increased.

A joint demographic data collection has started

This publication contains some basic information on the demographic situation in Europe in 1997. It is based on a joint data collection exercise by the Council of Europe and Eurostat. A rapid questionnaire was sent to all the member states and non-member states of the Council of Europe with observer status (46 in total), which embraces the geographical coverage of the European Union and the European Free Trade Association.

The questionnaire was sent out in May (1998) with a return date of early June, so that first results could be presented to the Council of Europe Population Committee in mid-June. Given the timetable, certain countries were not able to provide 1997 figures, while in some instances the figures are estimated or provisional. Additional and/or more definitive information will be published in the annual reports of the Council of Europe ('Recent demographic developments in Europe 1998') and Eurostat ('Demographic Statistics 1998').

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Table 1: Population change in 1997



(1 000)

COUNTRY/REGION	Population 1.1.1997	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 1.1.1998
European Union	373 713.4^p	4 033.8^e	3 699.5^e	334.2^e	518.1^e	852.3^e	374 565.7^e
Economic and Monetary Union	290 205.4^p	3 046.9^e	2 812.8^e	234.1^e	392.5^e	626.7^e	290 832.0^e
Belgium	10 170.2	116.2 ^p	104.2 ^p	12.1 ^p	10.0 ^p	22.0	10 192.3
Denmark	5 275.1	67.6 ^p	59.9 ^p	7.7 ^p	12.0 ^p	19.7	5 294.9
Germany	82 012.2	813.5	860.4	- 46.9	94.9	48.0	82 060.2
Greece	10 486.6	102.0	101.0	1.0	20.0	21.0	10 507.6
Spain	39 298.6	358.2	356.3	1.9	47.4	49.3	39 347.9
France	58 491.6 ^p	725.0 ^p	534.0 ^p	191.0 ^p	40.0 ^p	231.0 ^p	58 722.6 ^p
Ireland	3 652.2 ^p	52.3 ^p	31.6 ^p	20.7 ^p	20.0 ^p	40.7 ^p	3 692.9 ^p
Italy	57 461.0	528.9 ^{1p}	553.1 ^{1p}	- 24.2 ^p	126.0 ^p	101.8	57 562.8
Luxembourg	418.3	5.5	3.9	1.6	3.8	5.4	423.7
Netherlands	15 567.1	191.0 ^p	136.0 ^p	55.0 ^p	28.0 ^p	83.0 ^p	15 650.1 ^p
Austria	8 067.8	84.0	79.4	4.6	2.6	7.2	8 075.0
Portugal	9 934.1	112.9	104.8	8.2	15.0	23.2	9 957.3
Finland	5 132.3	59.3	49.1	10.2	4.8	15.0	5 147.3
Sweden	8 844.5	90.4 ^p	93.3	- 2.9 ^p	6.0 ^p	3.1	8 847.6
United Kingdom	58 901.8 ^p	726.8 ^p	632.5 ^p	94.3 ^p	87.5	181.8	59 083.6
<i>Other Council of Europe Member States</i>							
Albania	:	61.7	18.2	43.5	:	:	:
Andorra	64.5	0.7	0.2	0.5	- 1.1	- 0.6	64.0
Bulgaria	8 340.9	64.1	121.9	- 57.7	0.0	- 57.7	8 283.2
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cyprus	741.0	10.5	5.9	4.7	0.4	5.1	746.1
Czech Republic	10 309.1	90.7 ^p	112.7 ^p	- 22.1 ^p	12.1 ^p	- 10.0	10 299.1
Estonia	1 462.1	12.6	18.6	- 5.9	- 2.3	- 8.3	1 453.8
Hungary	10 174.4	100.5 ^p	139.5 ^p	- 39.0 ^p	- 0.4 ^p	- 39.4 ^p	10 135.0 ^p
Iceland	269.9	4.2	1.8	2.3	0.2	2.5	272.4
Latvia	2 479.9	18.8	33.5	- 14.7	- 6.8	- 21.5	2 458.4
Liechtenstein	31.1	0.4 ^p	0.2 ^p	0.2 ^p	0.1 ^p	0.2 ^p	31.4 ^p
Lithuania	3 707.2	37.8	41.1	- 3.3	0.1	- 3.3	3 704.0
Malta	374.0	4.8	2.9	1.9	0.6	2.6	376.5
Moldova ²	3 657.3	45.6	43.0	2.6	- 9.9	- 7.3	3 650.0
Norway	4 392.7	59.7 ^p	44.6 ^p	15.1 ^p	9.8 ^p	24.9	4 417.6
Poland	38 639.3	412.6	380.2	32.4	- 11.8	20.7	38 660.0
Romania	22 581.9	226.9	279.3	- 52.4	- 3.3	- 55.8	22 526.1
Russian Federation	147 502.4	1 259.9	2 015.8	- 755.8	358.0	- 397.8	147 104.6
San Marino	25.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	25.9
Slovak Republic	5 378.9 ^p	59.1 ^p	52.1 ^p	7.0 ^p	1.7 ^p	8.7 ^p	5 387.7 ^p
Slovenia	1 987.0	18.2	18.9 ^p	- 0.7 ^p	- 1.4 ^p	- 2.1	1 984.9
Switzerland	7 081.3	80.6 ^p	62.8 ^p	17.8 ^p	- 5.6 ^p	12.2 ^p	7 093.5 ^p
the former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1 991.4	29.5	16.6	12.9	1.0	13.9	2 005.3
Turkey	63 221.5	1 377.0	412.0	965.0	79.0	1 044.0	64 265.5
Ukraine	50 609.6 ^e	481.8 ^e	820.3 ^e	- 338.5 ^e	15.3 ^e	- 323.2 ^e	50 286.4 ^e
<i>Council of Europe non-Member States with observer status</i>							
Armenia	3 780.7	43.9	24.0	19.9	- 9.5	10.5	3 791.2
Azerbaijan	7 574.5	132.1	47.0	85.1	- 28.0	57.1	7 631.6
Belarus	10 236.1	89.6	136.7	- 47.1	14.8	- 32.3	10 203.8
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 727.4 ^e	46.0	27.9	18.0	- 195.7 ^e	- 177.7 ^e	3 549.7 ^e
Georgia	5 382.2	52.0	37.7	14.3	- 0.5	13.8	5 396.0
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	10 594.2	131.8 ^p	111.3 ^p	20.6 ^p	0.0 ^p	20.6	10 614.7
<i>Other countries/regions</i>							
United States of America	266 676.7	3 911.4	2 330.7	1 580.6	849.0	2 429.6	269 106.3
Japan	125 572.0	1 258.1	974.1	284.1	- 45.9	238.1	125 810.1
Other more developed countries	52 082.2	:	:	:	:	556.4	52 638.7
India	958 661.5	25 580.3	8 597.7	16 982.6	- 83.3	16 899.3	975 560.7
China	1 220 631.1	20 074.1	8 583.9	11 490.2	- 526.6	10 963.6	1 231 594.7
Other less developed countries	2 376 196.5	:	:	:	:	47 799.4	2 423 995.9

^p provisional data; * national estimate (including in small instances projections); ^e Eurostat estimate

¹ data refer to 'de facto' population

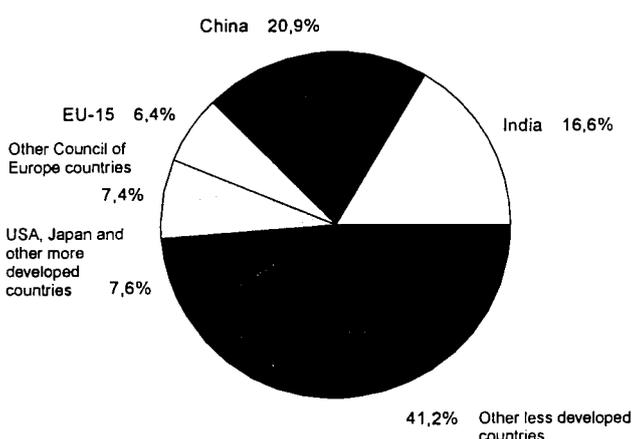
² without Transnistria and S. Bender

One out of every seven of the world's population lives in Europe

The 46 countries comprising the Council of Europe (including 6 non-member states) had a total population in 1998 of some 810 million people, representing about 14 per cent of the world's population. This is two thirds the size of the population of China, about 15 per cent less than India and about three times the population of the United States. Just under a half of Europe's population lives in the fifteen countries of the European Union (Figure 1).

The seven countries with the largest population (over 50 million) were the Russian Federation, Germany, Turkey, the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Ukraine. The population of these seven countries constitutes about two-thirds of the whole Council of Europe population. In contrast, seven countries had populations of less than one million - Andorra, Cyprus, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta and San Marino; the latter with a population of just 25 thousand.

Figure 1:
World population, 1998



Total world population: 5 886,9 million

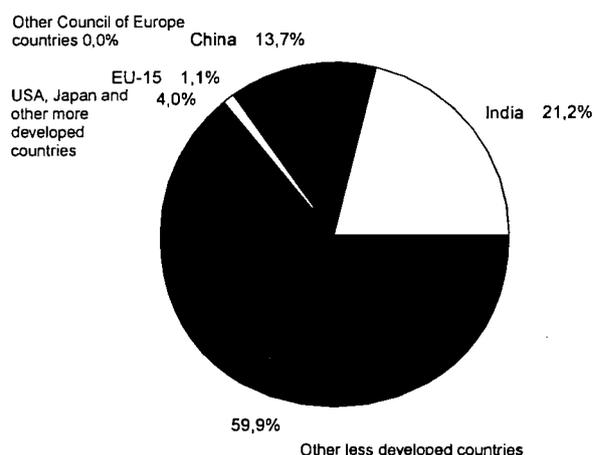
A decreasing role in world population growth

The countries in the Council of Europe contributed just over one million of the world population increase of 80 million in 1997. Particularly in India and other less developed countries the rate of population increase is still relatively large (Table 1, Figure 2).

Less net inward migration

EU population growth in 1997 was smaller than in 1996 (850 thousand against more than 1 million), while natural increase was similar, there was a decline of net migration (immigrants less emigrants): with 214 thousand fewer net inflow (from 732 thousand in 1996 to 518 thousand in 1997), the role of international migration in the EU population increase declined from 70% to 61% in one year.

Figure 2:
World population increase, 1997



100% total population increase (79,7 million)

Table 2: Crude rates of population change



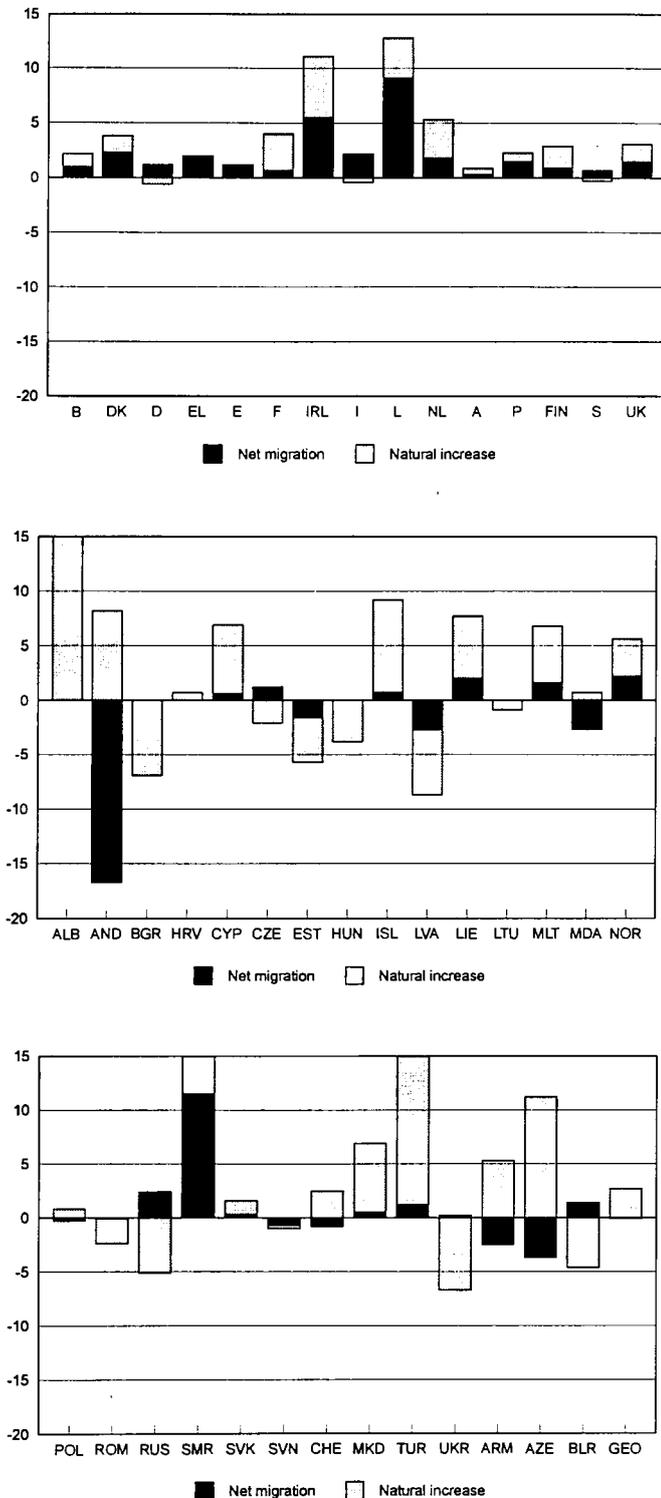
COUNTRY/REGION	<i>(per 1 000 population)</i>								
	Natural increase			Net migration			Total increase		
	1980	1996	1997	1980	1996	1997	1980	1996	1997
European Union	2.5	0.8 ^P	0.9 ^e	1.7	2.0 ^P	1.4 ^e	4.2	2.8 ^P	2.3 ^e
Economic and Monetary Union	2.7	0.7 ^P	0.8 ^e	2.0	2.0 ^P	1.4 ^e	4.7	2.7 ^P	2.2 ^e
Belgium	1.1	1.1 ^P	1.2 ^P	- 0.2	1.6 ^P	1.0 ^P	0.8	2.7	2.2
Denmark	0.3	1.3	1.5 ^P	0.1	3.3	2.3 ^P	0.4	4.6	3.7
Germany	- 1.1	- 1.1	- 0.6 ^e	3.9	3.4	1.2 ^e	2.8	2.4	0.6
Greece	6.3	0.0	0.1 ^e	5.2	2.1	1.9 ^e	11.5	2.1	2.0
Spain	7.5	0.2 ^P	0.0 ^e	3.0	1.2 ^P	1.2 ^e	10.5	1.4	1.3
France	4.7	3.4 ^P	3.3 ^P	0.8	0.6 ^P	0.7 ^P	5.5	4.0 ^P	3.9 ^P
Ireland	11.9	5.2 ^P	5.6 ^P	- 0.2	3.7 ^P	5.5 ^P	11.8	8.9	11.1 ^P
Italy	1.5	- 0.4 ^P	- 0.4 ^P	0.1	2.6 ^P	2.2 ^P	1.6	2.2	1.8
Luxembourg	0.2	4.3	3.7	3.7	8.9	9.1	3.8	13.2	12.8 ^P
Netherlands	4.7	3.3	3.5 ^P	3.6	1.4	1.8 ^P	8.3	4.7	5.3 ^P
Austria	- 0.2	1.0	0.6	1.2	0.6	0.3	1.0	1.6	0.9
Portugal	6.5	0.3	0.8	4.3	1.0	1.5	10.8	1.3	2.3
Finland	3.9	2.3	2.0	- 0.5	0.8	0.9	3.4	3.0	2.9
Sweden	0.6	0.1	- 0.3 ^P	1.2	0.7	0.7 ^P	1.8	0.8	0.4
United Kingdom	1.6	1.7	1.6 ^P	- 0.6	1.7 ^P	1.5 ^e	1.0	3.4 ^P	3.1
<i>Other Council of Europe Member States</i>									
Albania	20.1	15.5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Andorra	11.6	7.9	8.2	102.7	2.7	- 16.7	114.2	10.6	- 8.5
Bulgaria	3.4	- 5.4	- 6.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	3.4	- 5.2	- 6.9
Croatia	3.9	0.7	:	0.2	:	:	4.1	:	:
Cyprus	11.1	7.2	6.3	0.4	- 0.3	0.6	11.5	6.9	6.9
Czech Republic	1.8	- 2.2	- 2.1 ^P	- 4.0	1.0	1.2 ^P	- 2.2	- 1.2	- 1.0
Estonia	2.7	- 3.9	- 4.1	4.1	- 5.7	- 1.6	6.8	- 9.6	- 5.7
Hungary	0.3	- 3.7	- 3.8 ^P	- 0.7	0.0	0.0 ^P	- 0.4	- 3.7	- 3.9 ^P
Iceland	13.1	9.1	8.5	- 2.7	- 2.0	0.7	10.4	7.1	9.3
Latvia	1.4	- 5.8	- 6.0	1.0	- 2.9	- 2.7	2.3	- 8.7	- 8.7
Liechtenstein	8.5	5.6	5.7 ^P	- 31.8	1.4	2.0 ^P	- 23.2	7.1	7.6 ^P
Lithuania	4.7	- 1.0	- 0.9	0.6	- 0.2	0.0	5.3	- 1.3	- 0.9
Malta	7.4	5.8	5.2	- 19.1	1.6	1.6	- 11.8	7.5	6.8
Moldova	9.8	0.5	0.7 ¹	1.4	- 3.8	- 2.7 ¹	11.1	- 3.3	- 2.0 ¹
Norway	2.4	3.9	3.4 ^P	0.9	1.3	2.2 ^P	3.3	5.2	5.6
Poland	9.6	1.1	0.8	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.3	9.0	0.8	0.5
Romania	7.5	- 2.4	- 2.3	- 0.8	- 0.9	- 0.1	6.7	- 3.3	- 2.5
Russian Federation	4.9	- 5.3	- 5.1	0.4	2.1	2.4	5.3	- 3.2	- 2.7
San Marino	3.4	4.3	4.2	70.2	15.5	11.5	73.6	19.8	15.8
Slovak Republic	8.9	1.7	1.3 ^P	- 2.3	0.4	0.3 ^P	6.6	2.1	1.6 ^P
Slovenia	5.8	0.1	- 0.3 ^P	2.9	- 1.7	- 0.7 ^P	8.7	- 1.6	- 1.0
Switzerland	2.3	2.9	2.5 ^P	2.7	- 0.2	- 0.8 ^P	5.0	2.7	1.7 ^P
the former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	13.9	7.7	6.4	0.1	0.6	0.5	14.0	8.4	6.9
Turkey	22.1	15.5	15.1	0.3	1.3	1.2	22.4	16.8	16.4
Ukraine	3.5	- 6.4 ^e	- 6.7 ^e	0.2	0.0 ^e	0.2 ^e	3.6	- 6.3 ^e	- 6.5 ^e
<i>Council of Europe non-Member States with observer status</i>									
Armenia	17.2	6.2	5.3	- 2.7	- 2.4	- 2.5	14.5	3.8	2.8
Azerbaijan	18.2	:	11.2	- 3.2	:	- 3.7	15.0	:	7.5
Belarus	6.1	:	- 4.6	1.5	:	1.4	7.6	:	- 3.2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	11.0	:	5.0	- 16.4	:	- 53.4 ^e	- 5.5	:	- 48.8 ^e
Georgia	9.1	3.6	2.7	- 1.1	- 2.0	- 0.1	8.0	1.6	2.6
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	8.6	2.5	1.9 ^P	6.2	0.0	0.0 ^P	14.9	2.5	1.9
<i>Other countries/regions</i>									
United States of America	7.5	6.0	5.9	3.6	3.3	3.2	11.1	9.3	9.1
Japan	7.6	2.2	2.3	0.2	- 0.4	- 0.4	7.8	1.8	1.9
Other more developed countries	:	7.3	7.0	:	2.8	2.8	:	10.1	9.7
India	21.2	17.9	17.6	0.0	- 0.1	- 0.1	21.2	17.8	17.5
China	:	10.0	9.4	:	- 0.4	- 0.4	:	9.5	9.0
Other less developed countries	:	20.6	20.2	:	- 0.4	- 0.4	:	20.1	19.7

^P provisional data; * national estimate (including in small instances projections); ^e Eurostat estimate

¹ without Transnistria and S. Bender

Sources: Eurostat; Council of Europe; US Bureau of the Census - International Program Center

Figure 3:
Components of population change, 1997
(per 1 000 population)



Population in the north, west and south of Europe continues to grow slowly but declines again in the east

Table 2 shows that the population in most countries in the north, west and south of Europe increased in 1997, with both natural increase and net migration contributing to the growth. The exceptions to this pattern were Germany, Italy and Sweden where there were more deaths than births. Also Spain and Greece were very close to this situation. With the exception of Andorra and Switzerland, all countries in these regions for which figures are available showed a greater volume of immigration than emigration in 1997.

In some of these countries the population increase was relatively high - more than 9‰ (while the EU level was 2.3‰) - due to the natural increase (Iceland, Turkey), net migration (Luxembourg, San Marino) or both components (Ireland).

In contrast, many eastern European countries continued to lose population in 1997 (though in some the rate of loss was smaller than in 1996). Such countries include Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Romania, Russian Federation and Slovenia. Exceptions were Poland, the Slovak Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which experienced population growth.

Albania (net migration not available), Croatia (net migration not available: 1996; Bosnia and Herzegovina (natural increase 5.0‰, net migration -53.4‰ as estimate) not enclosed

Table 3: Fertility



COUNTRY/REGION	Crude birth rate			Total fertility rate			Live births outside marriage		
	(per 1000 population)			(children per woman)			(as % of total live births)		
	1980	1996	1997	1980	1996	1997	1980	1996	1997
European Union	13.0	10.8 ^P	10.8 ^e	1.82	1.44 ^e	1.44 ^e	9.6	24.3 ^e	:
Economic and Monetary Union	13.0	10.5 ^P	10.5 ^e	1.79	1.39 ^e	1.40 ^e	8.4	20.9 ^e	:
Belgium	12.6	11.4 ^P	11.4 ^P	1.68	1.55	1.55	4.1	15.0 ¹	:
Denmark	11.2	12.9	12.8 ^P	1.55	1.75	1.75	33.2	46.3	:
Germany	11.1	9.7	9.9	1.56	1.32	1.36	11.9	17.1	18.0
Greece	15.4	9.6	9.7	2.21	1.30	1.32	1.5	3.3	3.3
Spain	15.3	9.1	9.1	2.20	1.15	1.15	3.9	11.1 ¹	:
France	14.9	12.6 ^P	12.4 ^P	1.95	1.72 ^P	1.71 ^P	11.4	38.8 ^P	39.0
Ireland	21.8	13.9	14.2 ^P	3.25	1.88 ^P	1.92 ^P	5.0	24.8	26.5 ^P
Italy	11.3	9.2	9.2 ^P	1.64	1.21	1.22 ^P	4.3	8.3	8.3 ^P
Luxembourg	11.4	13.7	13.1	1.49	1.76	1.71	6.0	15.0	16.8
Netherlands	12.8	12.2	12.2 ^P	1.60	1.53	1.57 ^P	4.1	17.0	18.6 ^P
Austria	12.0	11.0	10.4	1.82	1.42	1.36	17.8	28.0	28.8
Portugal	16.2	11.1	11.4	2.18	1.43	1.46	9.2	18.7	:
Finland	13.2	11.8	11.5	1.63	1.76	1.75	13.1	35.4	36.5
Sweden	11.7	10.8	10.2 ^P	1.68	1.60	1.52 ^P	39.7	53.9	:
United Kingdom	13.4	12.5	12.3 ^P	1.90	1.72	1.71 ^P	11.5	35.5	36.7 ^P
<i>Other Council of Europe Member States</i>									
Albania	26.5	20.8	:	3.62	2.70	:	:	:	:
Andorra	15.7	10.9	11.2	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	14.5	8.6	7.7	2.05	1.24	1.09	10.9	28.1	30.0
Croatia	14.9	12.0	:	1.93	1.67	:	5.1	7.1	:
Cyprus	20.4	14.9	14.2	2.46	2.08	2.00	0.6	1.5	1.4
Czech Republic	14.9	8.8	8.8 ^P	2.10	1.18	1.17	5.6	16.9	17.8 ^P
Estonia	15.0	9.0	8.7	2.02	1.30	1.24	18.3	48.1	51.6
Hungary	13.9	10.3	9.9 ^P	1.92	1.46	1.38 ^P	7.1	22.6	24.8 ^P
Iceland	19.8	16.1	15.3	2.48	2.12	2.04	39.7	60.7	65.2
Latvia	14.1	7.9	7.6	1.90	1.16	1.11	12.5	33.1	34.8
Liechtenstein	15.4	13.0	12.6 ^P	1.75	:	:	5.3	10.4	:
Lithuania	15.2	10.5	10.2	2.00	1.42	1.40	6.3	14.3	16.5
Malta	17.3	13.3	12.9	1.99	2.10	1.95	1.1	5.8	7.4
Moldova	19.8	12.0	12.5 ²	2.39	1.60 ²	:	7.4	14.6	17.3 ²
Norway	12.5	13.9	13.6 ^P	1.72	1.89	1.85 ^e	14.5	48.3	48.6 ^P
Poland	19.6	11.1	10.7	2.28	1.58	1.51	4.7	10.2	11.0
Romania	18.0	10.2	10.1	2.45	1.30	1.32	:	20.7	22.2
Russian Federation	15.9	8.8	8.6	1.90	1.28	:	10.8	23.0	25.3
San Marino	11.2	11.1	11.2	1.46	1.25	1.24	:	:	:
Slovak Republic	19.1	11.2	11.0 ^P	2.32	1.47	1.43 ^P	5.7	14.0	15.5 ^P
Slovenia	15.7	9.4	9.1	2.11	1.28	1.25	13.1	31.9	32.7 ^P
Switzerland	11.7	11.7	11.4 ^P	1.55	1.50	1.48 ^P	4.7	7.3	8.0 ^P
the former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	21.1	15.8	14.8	2.45	1.90	:	6.1	8.2	8.9
Turkey	31.7	22.0	21.6	4.36	2.55	2.48	2.9	:	:
Ukraine	14.8	9.6 ^e	9.6 ^e	1.95	1.38 ^e	1.36 ^e	8.8	:	:
<i>Council of Europe non-Member States with observer status</i>									
Armenia	22.7	12.8	11.6	2.34	1.60	1.45	4.3	:	:
Azerbaijan	25.2	:	17.4	3.20	2.06	2.07	3.0	6.8	7.4
Belarus	16.0	:	8.8	2.00	1.32	1.20	6.4	14.9	16.2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	17.3	:	12.6	1.90	:	:	5.4	:	:
Georgia	17.6	10.0	9.7	2.21	:	:	4.7	30.9	33.4
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	17.7	13.0	12.4 ^P	2.26	1.83	:	10.1	:	:
<i>Other countries/regions</i>									
United States of America	16.0	14.8	14.6	1.84	2.04	2.06	18.4	32.4 ^P	:
Japan	13.8	9.8	10.0	1.75	1.41	1.44	0.8	:	:
Other more developed countries	:	14.3	14.0	:	1.87	1.85	:	:	:
India	34.8	27.0	26.5	4.70	3.37	3.31	:	:	:
China	:	17.0	16.4	:	1.80	1.80	:	:	:
Other less developed countries	:	30.4	29.9	:	3.98	3.91	:	:	:

^P provisional data; * national estimate (including in small instances projections); ^e Eurostat estimate

¹ 1995

² without Transnistria and S. Bender

Sources: Eurostat; Council of Europe; US Bureau of the Census - International Program Center

Fertility levels steady but births outside marriage continue to increase

While, in general, annual fertility rates have been falling throughout Europe, there has been a steady and even a small up-turn in the total fertility rate over the last few years in some countries. Thus, for example, a small increase was observed in Germany (1.36 in 1997 compared with 1.32 in 1996) and Ireland (1.92 in 1997 compared with 1.88 in 1996), with very little change, for example, in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Italy, the Slovak Republic and United Kingdom (Table 3).

The total fertility rate is a period indicator, reflecting both the timing and average family sizes of different generations of women. Replacement level fertility is approximately 2.1 children per women.

In 1980, some 18 countries had a total fertility rate of 2.1 or above; the highest rates were seen in Turkey (4.5), Albania (3.6), Ireland (3.2), Azerbaijan (3.2), Iceland, Romania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2.5). In 1997, only Turkey, with a fertility rate of 2.5, was above replacement level (Figure 4).

The proportion of births outside marriage continues to increase. Two out of every three live births in Iceland, and about one out of every two live births in Denmark, Estonia, Norway and Sweden were outside marriage. The proportion exceeded 30 percent in seven other countries (Bulgaria, Finland, France, Georgia, Latvia, Slovenia and the United Kingdom). These figures reflect changes in the types of partnership, in particular the growth in the incidence of cohabiting couples.

In contrast, low levels, albeit increasing ones, are seen in many southern European countries, including, for example, Greece (3%), Italy (8%) and Malta (7%). The corresponding proportions in 1980 were 1.5% in Greece, 4% in Italy and 1% in Malta. The proportion of extra-marital births were also low in, for example, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (9%), Switzerland (8%) and Azerbaijan (7%).

The total fertility rate in the EU in 1996 and 1997 was the same (1.44 children per women), while one-quarter of births was outside marriage (estimate for 1996). Since 1980 the percentage of births outside marriage increased from 10% to 25%.

Figure 4:
Total fertility rate, 1980 and 1997
(children per woman)

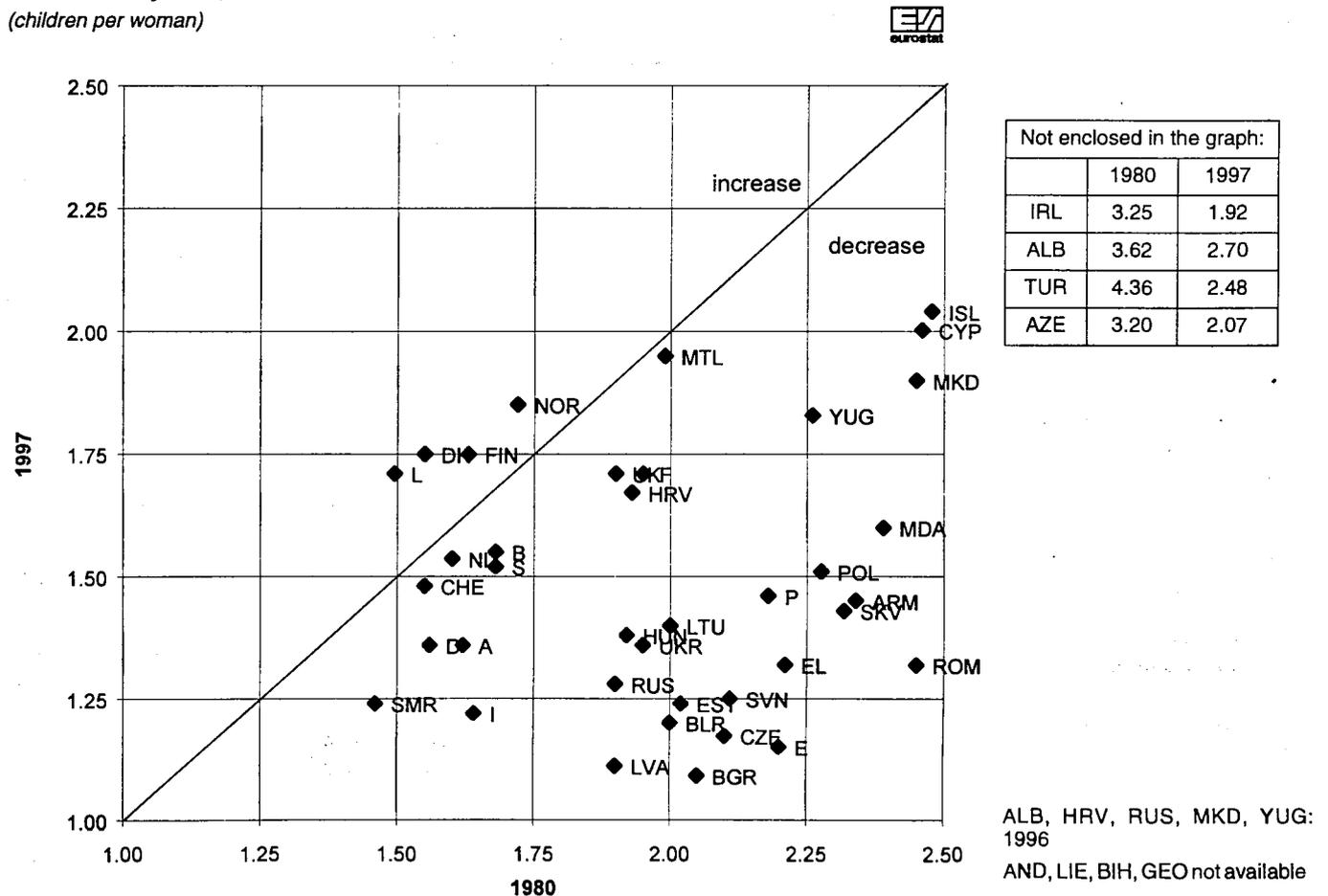


Table 4: Mortality



COUNTRY/REGION	Crude death rate			Infant mortality rate			Life expectancy at birth			
	(per 1 000 population)			(per 1 000 live births)			males		females	
	1980	1996	1997	1980	1996	1997	1980	1997	1980	1997
European Union	10.5	10.0^P	9.9^e	12.4	5.5^P	5.3^e	70.5^e	74.1^{1e}	77.1^e	80.5^{1e}
Economic and Monetary Union	10.3	9.8^P	9.7^e	12.5	5.3^P	5.2^e	70.1^e	74.0^{1e}	77.1^e	80.7^{1e}
Belgium	11.5	10.4 ^P	10.2 ^P	12.1	5.6 ^P	6.1 ^P	70.0	73.8 ¹	76.8	80.5 ¹
Denmark	10.9	11.6	11.3 ^P	8.4	5.6	5.3 ^P	71.2	73.1 ¹	77.3	78.2 ¹
Germany	12.2	10.8	10.5 ^P	12.4	5.0	4.9 ^P	69.6 ^e	73.7 ¹	76.1 ^e	80.0 ¹
Greece	9.1	9.6	9.6 ^P	17.9	7.2	6.3 ^P	72.2	75.1 ¹	76.8	81.4 ¹
Spain	7.7	8.9	9.1 ^P	12.3	6.0	5.7 ^P	72.5	74.4 ^{1*}	78.6	81.6 ^{1*}
France	10.2	9.2 ^P	9.1 ^P	10.0	4.8	5.0 ^P	70.2	74.2 ^P	78.4	82.1 ^P
Ireland	9.8	8.7	8.6 ^P	11.1	5.5	6.2 ^P	70.1	73.3 ¹	75.6	78.7 ¹
Italy	9.8	9.5	9.6 ^P	14.6	5.9	5.5 ^P	70.6	74.9 ¹	77.4	81.3 ¹
Luxembourg	11.3	9.4	9.4	11.5	4.9	4.2	69.1	73.3 ¹	75.9	79.9 ¹
Netherlands	8.1	8.9	8.7 ^P	8.6	5.7	5.2 ^P	72.7	74.7 ¹	79.3	80.3 ¹
Austria	12.2	10.0	9.8	14.3	5.1	4.7	69.0	74.2 ¹	76.1	80.5 ¹
Portugal	9.7	10.8	10.5	24.3	6.9	:	67.7	71.4 ²	75.2	78.7 ²
Finland	9.3	9.6	9.6	7.6	4.0	3.9	69.2	73.3 ¹	77.6	80.3 ¹
Sweden	11.0	10.6	10.5	6.9	4.0	3.6	72.8	76.7 ^P	78.8	81.8 ^P
United Kingdom	11.7	10.8	10.7 ^P	12.1	6.1	5.9 ^P	70.2	74.3 ¹	76.2	79.5 ¹
<i>Other Council of Europe Member States</i>										
Albania	6.4	5.4	:	51.9	:	:	67.7 ⁸	68.5 ¹	72.2 ⁸	75.4 ¹
Andorra	4.2	3.0	3.0	:	2.9	1.4	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	11.1	14.0	14.7	20.2	15.6	17.5	68.7	67.2 ³	74.0	74.4 ³
Croatia	10.9	11.3	:	20.6	8.0	:	66.6	69.9 ^{1e}	74.2	76.8 ^{1e}
Cyprus	9.3	7.7	7.9	12.0	8.3	8.0	72.3	75.3 ⁶	77.0	79.8 ⁶
Czech Republic	13.1	10.9	10.9 ^P	16.9	6.0	5.9 ^P	66.8	70.5 ^P	73.9	77.5 ^P
Estonia	12.3	12.9	12.7	17.1	10.4	10.1	64.1	64.5 ¹	74.1	75.5 ¹
Hungary	13.6	14.0	13.7 ^P	23.2	10.9	10.0 ^P	65.5	66.5 ^P	72.7	75.0 ^P
Iceland	6.7	7.0	6.8	7.7	3.7	5.5	73.4	76.4	80.1	81.3
Latvia	12.8	13.8	13.6	15.3	15.9	15.3	63.6	64.1 ^P	74.2	74.9 ^P
Liechtenstein	6.9	7.4	6.9 ^P	7.6	7.4	:	:	:	:	:
Lithuania	10.5	11.6	11.1	14.5	10.1	10.3	65.5	65.0 ¹	75.4	76.1 ¹
Malta	9.9	7.4	7.7	15.2	10.7	6.4	68.5	74.9	72.7	79.8
Moldova	10.1	11.5	11.8 ¹²	35.0	20.5	19.8 ¹²	:	62.9 ¹³	:	70.4 ¹³
Norway	10.1	10.0	10.1 ^P	8.1	4.0	:	72.3	75.4 ^e	79.2	81.0 ^e
Poland	9.9	10.0	9.8	25.4	12.2	10.2	66.9	68.5	75.4	77.0
Romania	10.4	12.7	12.4	29.3	22.3	23.0	66.5	65.2	71.8	73.0
Russian Federation	11.0	14.1	13.7	22.0	17.5	17.3	61.5	61.0	73.1	73.1
San Marino	7.8	6.8	6.9	20.9	10.6	:	73.2 ¹⁰	:	79.1 ¹⁰	:
Slovak Republic	10.1	9.5	9.7 ^P	20.9	10.2	8.7 ^P	66.8	68.9 ^P	74.3	76.7 ^P
Slovenia	9.9	9.4	9.5 ^P	15.3	4.7	5.0	67.4	70.8 ⁴	75.2	78.3 ⁴
Switzerland	9.4	8.9	8.9 ^P	9.1	4.7	4.8 ^P	72.8	76.1 ^P	79.6	82.2 ^P
the former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	7.2	8.1	8.3	54.2	16.4	15.7	68.1	69.6 ⁵	71.8	73.5 ⁵
Turkey	9.6	6.5	6.5	95.4	42.2	:	59.2	66.2	64.8	70.8
Ukraine	11.4	16.0 ^e	16.3 ^e	16.6	:	:	64.6 ⁹	59.9 ^e	74.0 ⁹	71.9 ^e
<i>Council of Europe non-Member States with observer status</i>										
Armenia	5.5	6.6	6.3	26.2	15.5	15.4	69.5 ⁹	70.3	75.7 ⁹	77.2
Azerbaijan	7.0	:	6.2	30.3	20.9	19.7	64.5 ⁸	:	72.2 ⁸	:
Belarus	9.9	:	13.4	16.2	12.6	12.6	65.9 ⁸	62.9	75.5 ⁸	74.3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6.4	:	7.7	31.5	:	12.0	67.9 ⁸	:	72.9 ⁸	:
Georgia	8.5	6.4	7.0	25.4	17.4	16.3	67.0 ⁸	68.7 ⁶	74.8 ⁸	76.1 ⁶
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	9.1	10.6	10.5 ^P	33.3	15.0	12.7 ^P	:	69.9 ¹	:	74.7 ¹
<i>Other countries/regions</i>										
United States of America	8.6	8.8	8.7	12.6	7.2	6.6	70.0	72.8	77.4	79.5
Japan	6.2	7.6	7.8	7.5	4.1	4.1	73.3	76.8	78.8	83.2
Other more developed countries	:	7.0	7.0	:	:	:	:	76.2	:	82.3
India	13.6	9.1	8.9	116.4	67.8	65.5	52.9	61.7	52.1	63.2
China	:	7.0	7.0	:	49.7	47.6	66.7 ¹¹	68.1	68.9 ¹¹	70.6
Other less developed countries	:	9.8	9.7	:	:	:	:	57.5	:	61.2

^P provisional data; * national estimate (including in small instances projections); ^e Eurostat estimate

¹ 1996; ² 1996-97; ³ 1995-97; ⁴ 1995-96; ⁵ 1994-96; ⁶ 1994-95; ⁷ 1990; ⁸ 1980-81; ⁹ 1979-80; ¹⁰ 1977-86; ¹¹ 1980-85

¹² without Transnistria and S. Bender

¹³ 1996 without Transnistria and S. Bender

Sources: Eurostat; Council of Europe; US Bureau of the Census - International Program Center

Infant mortality has declined virtually everywhere

One of the most significant demographic changes has been the decline in infant mortality (deaths of infants under 1), with the rate halving or more than halving in many countries over the last twenty years. For example there were 14 deaths per 1 000 live births in Austria in 1980, but just 5 in 1997. The corresponding figures were 8 and 5 in Denmark, 18 and 6 in Greece, and 11 and 4 in Luxembourg. The lowest figure for 1997 was 3.6‰ for Sweden (Table 4).

The rate has also dramatically declined, albeit from higher levels, in some central and eastern European countries. For example, there were 54 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 1980; in 1997 the corresponding figure was 16. The reduction in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was from 33 to 13 infant deaths. Such a significant decrease has not been observed in Romania where the rate has fallen from 29 in 1980 to 22 in 1997, as in Latvia where the most recent figure corresponds to 1980 levels (15‰).

People are living longer

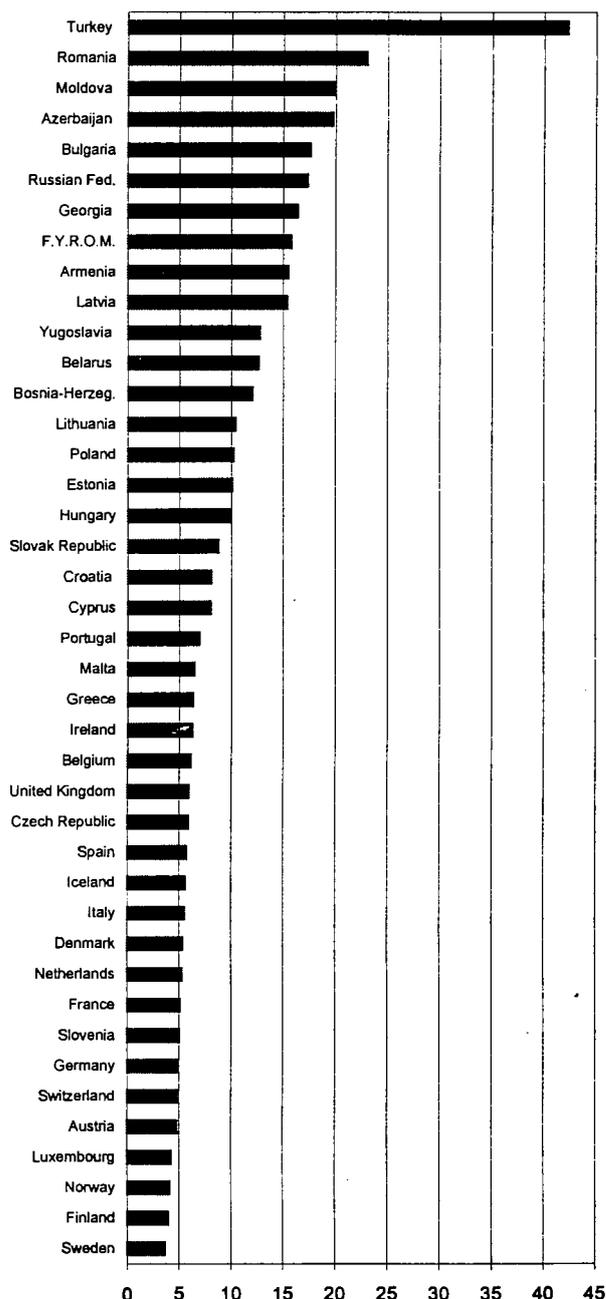
Life expectancy at birth is a main indicator used to measure mortality differences between sexes, and changes over time. The period measure represents the average length of time an individual would live based on prevailing mortality rates. Based on the rates for 1996/97, baby girls in many countries can now expect to live to 80 years or more. In 1980 only Iceland had an expectation of life at birth for women over 80 years.

The corresponding average for men, using 1996/97 rates, in west, north and southern Europe is around 5-7 years lower, the highest averages occurring in Sweden (76.7 years) and Iceland (76.4 years) with many other countries having a figure above 74 years.

In contrast life expectancies at birth for men, based on 1996/97 mortality rates, in many central and eastern European countries are considerably lower, and in some instances not much different from the figures based on mortality rates in the early 1980s. Examples include Estonia (64.1 years for 1980 and 64.5 years for 1996/97), Hungary (65.5 and 66.5 respectively), Latvia (63.6 and 64.1 respectively), Lithuania (65.5 and 65.0 respectively) and Romania where the expectation of life is now lower (66.5 and 65.2 years respectively). This situation reflects the increase in adult male mortality in the early 1990s, which saw increases in, for example, alcohol and stress related deaths. However the rates have declined in most recent years, and this can be detected in the decreases in the crude death rates for 1996 and 1997, shown in Table 4.

Life expectancy at birth in the EU in 1996 reached the all-time highs: 74.1 and 80.5 years for men and women respectively. Since 1980 average duration of life has increased with about 3.5 years.

Figure 5:
Infant mortality rate, 1997
(deaths under one year per 1000 live births)



Portugal, Croatia, Norway, Turkey: 1996; the graph is based on the countries with at least 250 000 inhabitants

Table 5: Nuptiality



COUNTRY/REGION	Marriages		Crude marriage rate			Divorces		Crude divorce rate		
	(1 000)		(per 1 000 population)			(1 000)		(per 1 000 population)		
	1980	1997	1980	1996	1997	1980	1997	1980	1996	1997
European Union	2 247.9	1 889.2^e	6.3	5.1^p	5.0^e	503.3	682.8¹	1.4	1.8^e	:
Economic and Monetary Union	1 703.1	1 445.4^e	6.2	5.0^p	5.0^e	303.4	470.4¹	1.1	1.6^e	:
Belgium	66.4	47.8 ^p	6.7	5.0	4.7 ^p	14.5	21.8 ^p	1.5	2.8	2.1 ^p
Denmark	26.4 ²	34.2 ^{2p}	5.2	6.8	6.5 ^p	13.6	12.8 ^p	2.7	2.4	2.4 ^p
Germany	496.6	422.6	6.3	5.2	5.1	141.0	175.6 ¹	1.8	2.1	:
Greece	62.4	62.7	6.5	4.3	6.0	6.7	9.5	0.7	0.9	0.9
Spain	220.7	189.6	5.9	4.9	4.8	-	32.6 ¹	-	0.8	:
France	334.4	284.5 ^p	6.2	4.8 ^p	4.9 ^p	81.1	119.7 ¹	1.5	2.1 ^p	:
Ireland	21.8	15.6 ^p	6.4	4.5	4.3 ^p	-	:	-	:	:
Italy	323.0	273.1 ^p	5.7	4.7	4.8 ^p	11.8	32.7 ¹	0.2	0.6	:
Luxembourg	2.1	2.0	5.9	5.1	4.8	0.6	0.8 ¹	1.6	2.0	:
Netherlands	90.2	85.3 ^{3p}	6.4	5.5	5.5 ^p	25.7	33.9 ^p	1.8	2.3	2.2 ^p
Austria	46.4	41.4	6.2	5.2	5.1	13.3	18.1 ¹	1.8	2.2	:
Portugal	72.2	63.7 ¹	7.4	6.4	:	5.8	13.4 ¹	0.6	1.4	:
Finland	29.4 ⁴	23.4 ⁴	6.1	4.8	4.6	9.5	13.5	2.0	2.7	2.6
Sweden	37.6 ⁴	32.0 ⁴	4.5	3.8	3.6 ^p	19.9	20.9 ^p	2.4	2.4	2.4 ^p
United Kingdom	418.4	317.5 ¹	7.4	5.4	:	159.7	168.9 ¹	2.8	2.9	:
<i>Other Council of Europe Member States</i>										
Albania	21.7	24.1	8.1	8.4	:	2.0	1.4	0.8	0.6	:
Andorra	0.2	0.1	4.9	1.9	2.2	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	69.7	34.8	7.9	4.3	4.2	13.1	9.4	1.5	1.2	1.1
Croatia	33.3	24.6 ¹	7.3	5.5	:	5.3	3.6 ¹	1.2	0.8	:
Cyprus	4.9	7.9 ^p	7.9	8.5	10.6 ^p	0.2	1.1	0.3	1.1	1.4
Czech Republic	78.3	57.8 ^p	7.6	5.2	5.6 ^p	27.2	32.5 ^p	2.6	3.2	3.2 ^p
Estonia	13.0	5.6	8.8	3.8	3.8	6.1	5.3	4.1	3.9	3.6
Hungary	80.3	47.0 ^p	7.5	4.8	4.6 ^p	27.8	24.0 ^p	2.6	2.2	2.4 ^p
Iceland	1.3	1.5	5.7	5.0	5.4	0.4	0.5	1.9	2.0	1.8
Latvia	24.6	9.7	9.8	3.9	3.9	12.7	6.1	5.0	2.4	2.5
Liechtenstein	0.2	0.4 ^p	7.1	14.1	12.5 ^p	0.0	0.1 ^p	0.8	1.4	1.6 ^p
Lithuania	31.5	18.8	9.2	5.5	5.1	11.0	11.4	3.2	3.0	3.1
Malta	2.8	2.5	8.6	6.4	6.7	-	-	-	-	-
Moldova	46.1	22.1 ⁶	11.5	6.0	6.1 ⁶	11.3	10.2 ⁶	2.8	3.1	2.8 ⁶
Norway	22.2 ⁵	23.2 ^{1,2}	5.4	5.3	:	6.6	10.0 ¹	1.6	2.3	:
Poland	307.4	204.9	8.6	5.3	5.3	39.8	42.5	1.1	1.0	1.1
Romania	182.7	147.1	8.2	6.6	6.5	34.1	34.8	1.5	1.6	1.5
Russian Federation	1 464.6	928.4	10.6	5.9	6.3	580.7	555.2	4.2	3.8	3.8
San Marino	0.1	0.2	6.2	7.5	9.1	:	0.0	:	1.7	1.3
Slovak Republic	39.6	28.0 ^p	7.9	5.1	5.2 ^p	6.6	9.1 ^p	1.3	1.7	1.7 ^p
Slovenia	12.4	7.5	6.5	3.8	3.8	2.3	2.0	1.2	1.0	1.0
Switzerland	35.7	39.1 ^p	5.7	5.7	5.5 ^p	10.9	17.1 ^p	1.7	2.3	2.4 ^p
the former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	16.1	14.1	8.5	7.1	7.0	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.5
Turkey	366.4	:	8.2	:	:	15.9	:	0.4	:	:
Ukraine	463.3	:	9.3	:	:	181.7	:	3.6	:	:
<i>Council of Europe non-Member States with observer status</i>										
Armenia	32.2	12.5	10.4	3.8	3.3	3.4	2.3	1.1	0.7	0.6
Azerbaijan	60.1	47.0	9.8	:	6.2	7.1	5.8	1.2	:	0.8
Belarus	97.5	69.7	10.1	:	6.8	31.2	47.3	3.2	:	4.6
Bosnia and Herzegovina	35.0	22.8	8.6	:	6.1	2.6	1.2	0.6	:	0.3
Georgia	50.5	17.1	10.0	3.6	3.2	6.8	2.3	1.3	0.4	0.4
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	74.6	56.0 ^p	7.6	5.4	5.3 ^p	11.4	7.2 ^p	1.2	0.7	0.7 ^p
<i>Other countries</i>										
United States of America	2 390.3	2 344.0 ¹	10.5	8.8	:	1 189.0	1 150.0 ¹	5.2	4.3	:
Japan	774.7	:	6.7	:	:	141.7	:	1.2	:	:

^p provisional data; * national estimate; ^e Eurostat estimate

¹ 1996

² Marriages in which at least one spouse was resident in the country

³ Marriages referring to "de jure" population

⁴ Marriages of women resident in the country

⁵ Marriages of men resident in the country

⁶ without Transnistria and S. Bender

Sources: Eurostat; Council of Europe; US Bureau of the Census - International Program Center

Still fewer marriages

The decline in the marriage rate is a common trend in Europe, with only a few exceptions for a number of small countries (Liechtenstein, San Marino and Cyprus) and Denmark, where the crude rate moved from 5.2 marriages per 1 000 inhabitants in 1980 to 6.8 in 1996 and 6.5 in 1997 (Table 5). Among the other EU countries, during last year Sweden again recorded the lowest value (only 3.6‰) while Greece showed a peak (6‰, this is 38% higher than in 1996) reflecting views about not marrying in a leap year. In the EU today there are just five marriages per year for every 1 000 inhabitants, compared with more than six at the beginning of the 1980s.

In central and eastern Europe the rate of marriages per 1 000 population has fallen dramatically between 1980 and 1997, by about half or more in Armenia, Latvia, Estonia and Bulgaria. The last observed rates vary from around 3.5‰ (Armenia, Estonia and Slovenia) to 6-7‰ (Belarus, Romania, Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Two different patterns on divorce

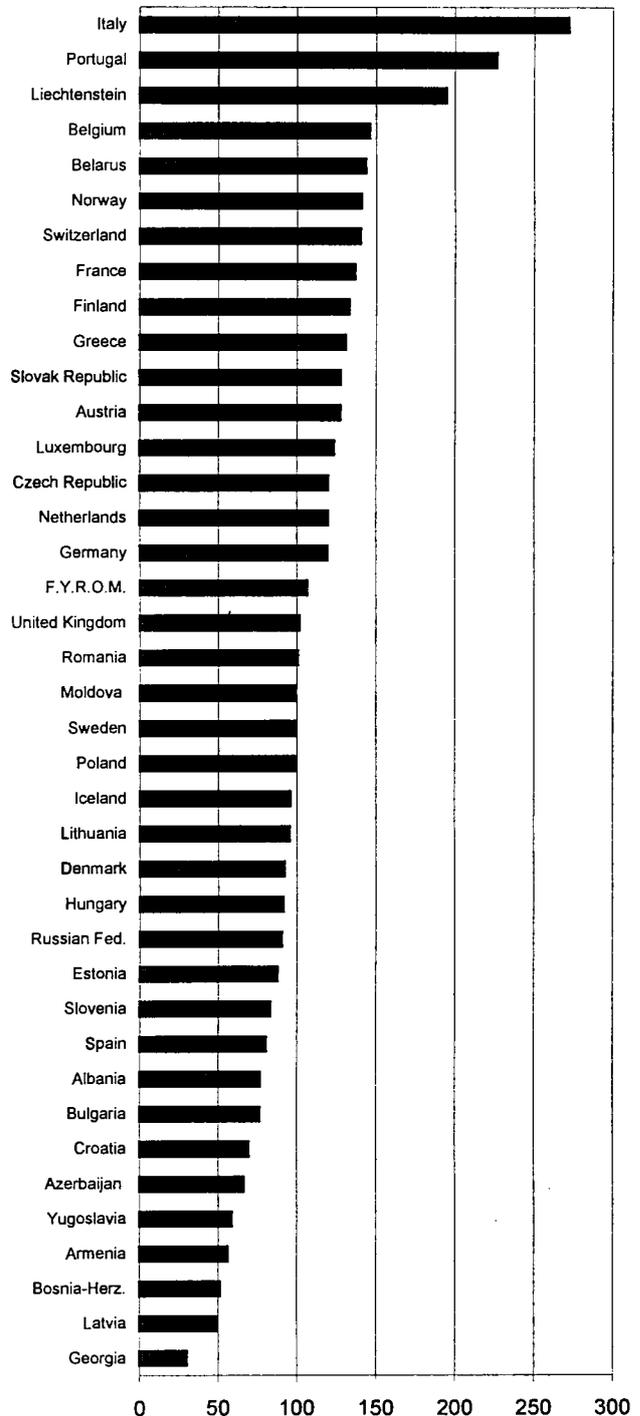
Alongside the common decline of marriage, the frequency of divorce has substantially increased in the West and decreased in the East of Europe, with only a few exceptions.

For the first region the increase has marked time or declined to its earlier level in those countries where the crude rates were higher (the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark); Norway and Finland are progressively converging with the rest of northern Europe, but many other countries today have more than 2 divorces every 1 000 inhabitants. The southern countries continue to record lower rates than the Union as a whole: less than 1‰ (except Portugal) against 1.8‰ for the EU in 1996.

Due to a reform introduced which simplified the divorce procedure, Belgium has recorded the highest rate within the EU in 1995, with effects still visible in 1996 but not by 1997. As Ireland legalised divorce in 1996, Malta is now the only country where divorce is not allowed.

During the transition period of the early 1990s, the central and eastern European countries have showed a drastically fall in divorce levels, which is more prominent in Latvia, Estonia, Hungary, Russian Federation, Armenia and Yugoslavia and often still visible between 1996 and 1997 (Table 5). According to the most recent data available the rates overtake the 1980 levels only in Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Belarus (Figure 6).

Figure 6:
Crude divorce rate, change between 1997 and 1980 (1980=100)



Germany, Spain (where divorce was not allowed yet in 1980), France, Italy, Luxembourg, Austria, Portugal, United Kingdom, Albania, Croatia: 1996-1980; Ireland, Andorra, Turkey, Ukraine and Georgia not available; Latvia (-2.6‰) not enclosed

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. In this publication, it is calculated by taking the difference between total population increase and natural increase.

Crude rate: the ratio of the number of events to the mean population in a given year.

Total fertility rate: the average number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if current age specific fertility rates were to continue.

Infant mortality rate: the ratio of deaths of children under one year of age to the live births in a given year.

Life expectancy at birth: the average number of years a person would live if current age specific mortality rates were to continue.

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EUROSTAT

Directorate E: Social and regional statistics and geographical information system

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