

1989 □ 1

### 325 MILLION EUROPEANS in the Community

*On the 1st January 1989, the number of inhabitants in the European Community exceeded 325 million according to EUROSTAT estimates. With the entry of Spain and Portugal, the Community is now the "third country" in the world in terms of its population size after China (1100) and India (800), exceeding the USSR (286), the USA (245) and Japan (123).*

#### POPULATION CHANGES

In 1988, there were slight increases in both the numbers of births and deaths (Table 1). Whilst the change in the number of deaths (+0.1%) can be put down to normal fluctuations from year to year, the increase in births (+1.8%) is mostly explained by women born in the boom years at the beginning of the 1960s reaching the age of motherhood and by an increase in fertility of women aged between 30 and 35.

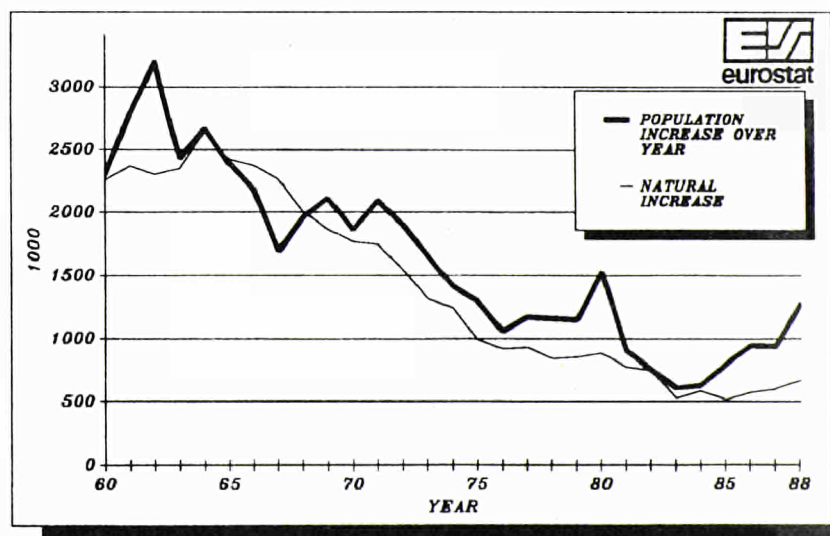
Consequently, and despite the persistence of low fertility insufficient for generation replacement, the Community's population increased in 1988 because of a natural growth of 669,000 persons.

In 1988 net migration to the Community from other countries

rose to 608,000 persons. The Federal Republic of Germany alone accounted for almost 450,000 of these, the majority coming from eastern countries.

In total therefore, the Community's population increased by 1,277,000 during 1988, half of which due to the excess of births over deaths.

Diagram 1 : Population Changes - EUR 12



**Table 1 : Population Change - EUR 12 (1)**

Year	Population on 1 January	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase	Net Migration	Total Increase	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1960	278,629	5,184	2,948	2,251	+40	2,291	18.5	10.5
1965	292,007	5,488	3,095	2,422	-35	2,387	18.7	10.6
1970	302,354	4,974	3,215	1,766	+92	1,858	16.4	10.6
1975	311,276	4,303	3,324	991	+305	1,296	13.8	10.7
1980	317,110	4,133	3,270	876	+654	1,530	13.0	10.3
1985	321,528	3,793	3,303	519	+276	795	11.8	10.3
1986	322,323	3,811	3,277	576	+365	941	11.8	10.1
1987	323,264	3,821	3,216	605	+326	931	11.8	9.9
1988(2)	324,195	3,889*	3,220*	669*	+608*	1,277*	12.0*	9.9*
1989(2)	325,472							

(1) Slight discrepancies possible between columns 3, 4 and 5 due to revisions

(2) Provisional \* including 1987 figures for Spain

Absolute figures in thousands, rates in "per thousand head of population"

## FERTILITY

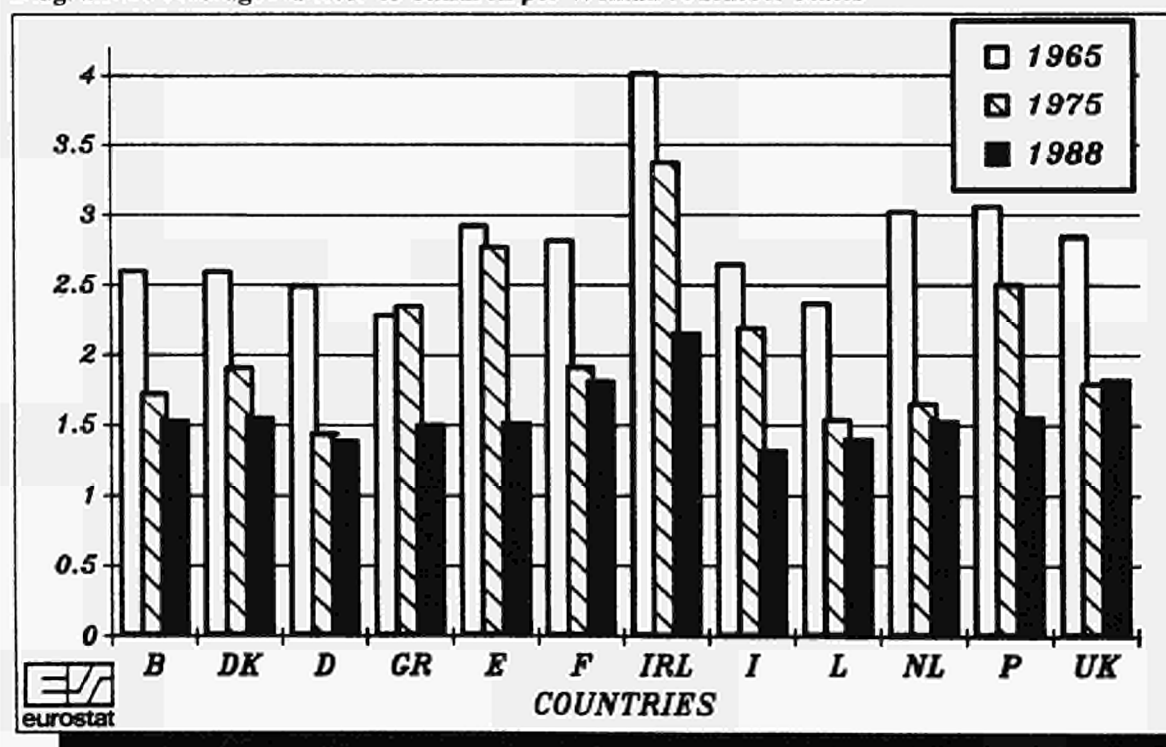
Total fertility, expressed as the average number of children per woman, stabilised during 1988 for the European Community as a whole and even began to show a slight recovery.

On the other hand, Ireland experienced an extremely sharp fall in its fertility (2.17 children per woman in 1988 as against 2.35 in 1987) which consequently could lead to its joining the other Member States at a level below that of

generation replacement (2.1 children per woman) from 1989.

One of the major occurrences of these last thirty years has been the considerable fall in fertility, unprecedented during peace-time (Diagrams 2 and 3).

**Diagram 2 : Average Number of Children per Woman : Member States**



Between 1965 and 1975, total fertility fell sharply in all the countries of northern Europe (Belgium, Denmark, France, the FRG, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom).

By way of contrast, the following decade was one of stagnation or only moderate decline for these countries. During this period the countries of southern Europe (Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain) in their turn entered into a phase of rapid diminuation which, by the end of the 1980s, puts their fertility at levels more comparable with the other Community countries, especially Italy which now has the lowest rate of all.

Diagram 3: Average Number of Children per Women - EUR 12

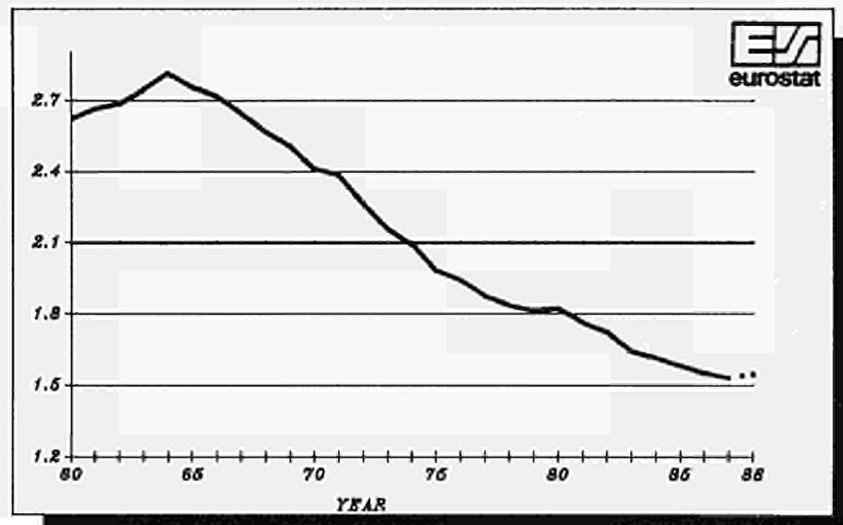
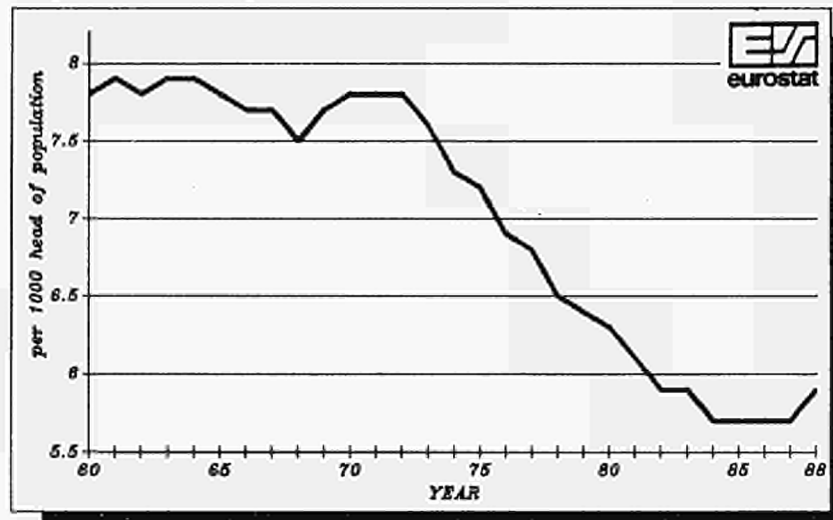


Diagram 4: Marriage Rates - EUR 12



### MARRIAGE

After remaining at 5.7 per thousand for four years, the Community's marriage rate (number of marriages per 1000 population) increased during 1988 to 5.9 per thousand, thus regaining its 1983 level (Diagram 4).

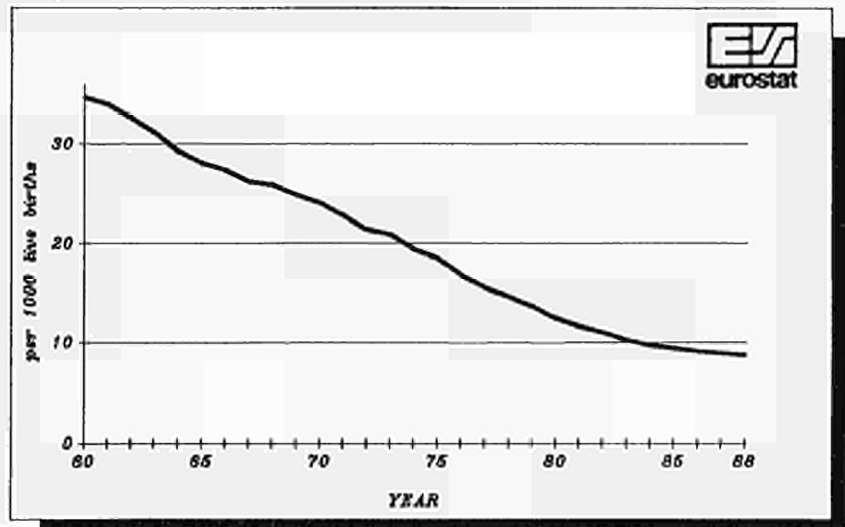
During the last three decades, the marriage rate has experienced a change almost parallel to that of the fertility rate although with a time-lag of 6 to 8 years. In fact, it was not until the beginning of the 1970s that marriage rates fell abruptly.

### MORTALITY

During 1988, the Community's mortality rate (deaths per thousand head of population) was estimated at 9.9 per thousand. Because of the aged structures of their populations, Denmark (11.5), the United Kingdom (11.4) and the Federal Republic of Germany (11.2) have the highest levels.

Infant mortality rates continue to decrease: falling by three quarters during the past 28 years, it has dropped from 33.8 per thousand in 1960 to 8.7 per thousand in 1988. Only Portugal (14.9) and Greece (11.0) have rates higher than 10 per thousand (Diagram 5).

Diagram 5: Infant Mortality Rates - EUR 12



## AGE PYRAMID

Diagram 6 : Pyramid - EUR 12 (calculated on 1 January 1988)

The Community is equally characterized by its degree of aging. Its age pyramid still carries the effects of the two world wars and shows the rounded form of aged countries. Under the effect of the fall in the birthrate, its base is narrowing. Conversely, because of the lengthening of life expectancy, the number of old people is increasing, expanding the top of the pyramid.

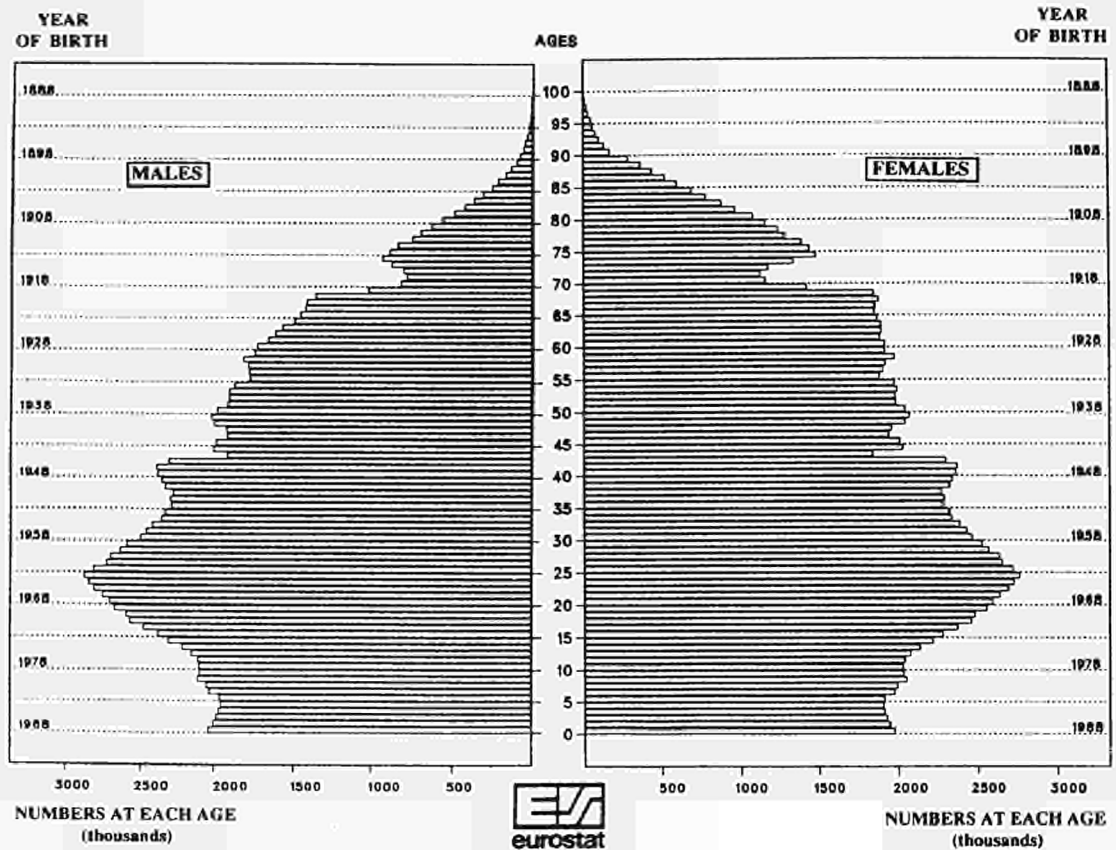


Table 2: Principle Demographic Indicators for 1988: - Member States and EUR 12 (1)

Country	Total Population on 1.1.1989	Birth rate	Death rate	Natural-growth rate	Net migration	Total-growth rate	Marriage rate	Average number of children per woman	Infant mortality rate
BELGIUM	9.891	12,1	10,6	1,5	0,0	1,5	6,0	1,54(2)	9,1
DENMARK	5.130	11,5	11,5	0,0	0,1	0,1	6,3	1,56	7,8
GERMANY	61.700	11,1	11,2	-0,1	7,6*	7,5	6,5	1,40	8,2*
GREECE	10.006	10,8	9,1	1,7	0,0	1,7	5,6	1,52(2)	11,0
SPAIN	39.078	10,8(2)	8,0(2)	2,8(2)	:	:	5,4(2)	1,53(3)	9,0(2)
FRANCE	55.996	13,8	9,4	4,4	0,0	4,4	4,9	1,82	7,7
IRELAND	3.522	15,4	8,9	6,5	-9,0	-2,5	5,1	2,17	9,2
ITALY	57.505	10,1	9,4	0,7	1,1	1,8	5,5	1,33	8,9
LUXEMBURG	377*	12,4	10,3	2,1	11,3	13,4	5,6	1,41(2)	8,7
HOLLAND	14.805	12,7	8,4	4,3	2,4	6,7	6,0	1,54	7,6
PORTUGAL	10.304	11,9	9,6	2,3	1,0*	3,3	6,9	1,57(2)	14,9
UN. KINGDOM	57.158	13,8	11,4	2,4	0,0	2,4	6,8	1,83	9,0
<b>EUR 12*</b>	<b>325.472</b>	<b>12,0</b>	<b>9,9</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>3,9</b>	<b>5,9</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>8,7</b>

(1) Provisional (2) 1987 figures (3) 1986 figure \* EUROSTAT estimation

Absolute figures in thousands, rates in "per thousand" (births, deaths, natural growth, net migration, total growth and marriage rates expressed per thousand head of population, infant mortality rates expressed per thousand live births).

*For further information :*

- *Demographic Statistics 1989 - EUROSTAT*
- *CRONOS Database - EUROSTAT*