GENERATIONS & GENDER PROGRAMME NO. 06/ NOVEMBER 2012

GGP AT A GLANCE

Did you know?

In addition to providing individual-level survey data, the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP) offers contextual data on demographic, social and economic conditions at the national and regional levels for up to 60 countries. These data are available in the GGP Contextual Database, which is integrated into the GGP web page. The GGP Contextual Database enhances the analytical potential of the Generations and Gender Survey by enabling users to link individual-level behaviour with information about the context in which the individual is embedded. The database is designed to support research into micro-macro links at the intersection of demographic and social science research. In addition, researchers interested in studying macro-level trends can also benefit from the data available in the GGP Contextual Database. The database is co-ordinated by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany.

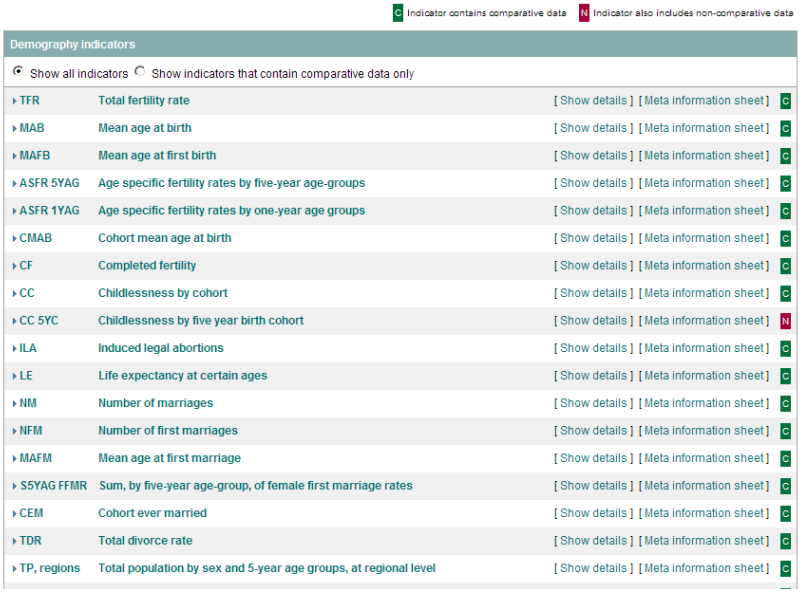
Main Contextual Database interface: Example

GGP Contextual Database

Motivation

Demographic behaviour is shaped not only by individual choices, but also by the context in which individuals are embedded. These contexts include welfare state characteristics (such as family policies), educational systems, labour and housing markets, as well as national and regional economic conditions. The GGP has acknowledged these important micro-macro links from the outset, and therefore not only conducts a programme of national surveys, but also simultaneously collects data on contextual conditions at the national and the sub-national regional levels. The collection of contextual data is a challenging task, as no cross-country comparative data are readily available for many indicators. The collection and harmonisation of these data are thus important services to the scientific community.

Choosing Indicators (Section Demography): Example



C Indicator contains comparative data N Indicator also includes non-comparative data

Demography indicators

Show all indicators Show indicators that contain comparative data only

TFR	Total fertility rate	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
MAB	Mean age at birth	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
MAFB	Mean age at first birth	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
ASFR 5YAG	Age specific fertility rates by five-year age-groups	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
ASFR 1YAG	Age specific fertility rates by one-year age groups	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
CMAB	Cohort mean age at birth	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
CF	Completed fertility	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
CC	Childlessness by cohort	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
CC 5YC	Childlessness by five year birth cohort	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] N
ILA	Induced legal abortions	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
LE	Life expectancy at certain ages	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
NM	Number of marriages	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
NFM	Number of first marriages	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
MAFM	Mean age at first marriage	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
S5YAG FFMR	Sum, by five-year age-group, of female first marriage rates	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
CEM	Cohort ever married	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
TDR	Total divorce rate	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C
TP, regions	Total population by sex and 5-year age groups, at regional level	[Show details] [Meta information sheet] C

What does the Contextual Database offer?

The Contextual Database is a dynamic database system that currently offers around 100 indicators covering up to 60 countries in Europe, North America, Asia and Oceania. The contextual indicators available in the GGP Contextual Database are conceptually linked to the GGS questions. In order to match the longitudinal dimension of the GGS, the Contextual Database aims to provide, whenever possible, long time series of data. Data for the indicators are derived from a variety of sources. The collection of data for the GGP countries is carried out in co-operation with national experts in these countries, who provide data that are not available in other international databases. Other important sources of data include the online databases of international organizations (Eurostat, OECD, WHO), national statistical offices and academic consortiums (e.g. Human Mortality and Human Fertility Database). The indicators may contain data from different sources, which are checked for comparability in the harmonisation process.

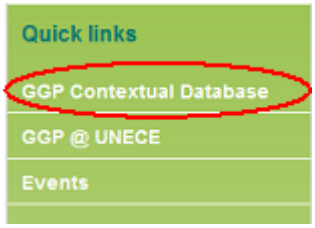
Coherent Geo-Codes allow easy linkage of data

Generations and Gender Survey Dataset			GGP Contextual Database Export Table		
Interviewed person	**Individual characteristic** *(Time of leaving home; union and fertility history)*	**Geocoded place of residence**	**GGS code**	**Region name**	**Unemployment rate 15-24, 2002**
Individual A	...	1511	1511	Île de France	15.0
Individual B	...	1511	1511	Picardie	20.6
Individual C	...	1522	1522	Bourgogne	16.7
Individual D	...	1541	1541	Nord	29.4

In contrast to many other databases, the GGP Contextual Database provides meta-data, such as source information and quality flags, not just for the indicators, but for each individual data entry. This ensures a high degree of transparency with regard to the origin and quality of the data. Another feature of the GGP Contextual Database, that distinguishes it from most of the other international databases, is that it allows users to link dynamically geo-codes to the national and regional data during the extraction process, including geo-codes used in the GGS to denote the place of residence of an interviewed person. Thus, the user can easily link the GSS survey data with the data extracted from the GGP Contextual Databases.

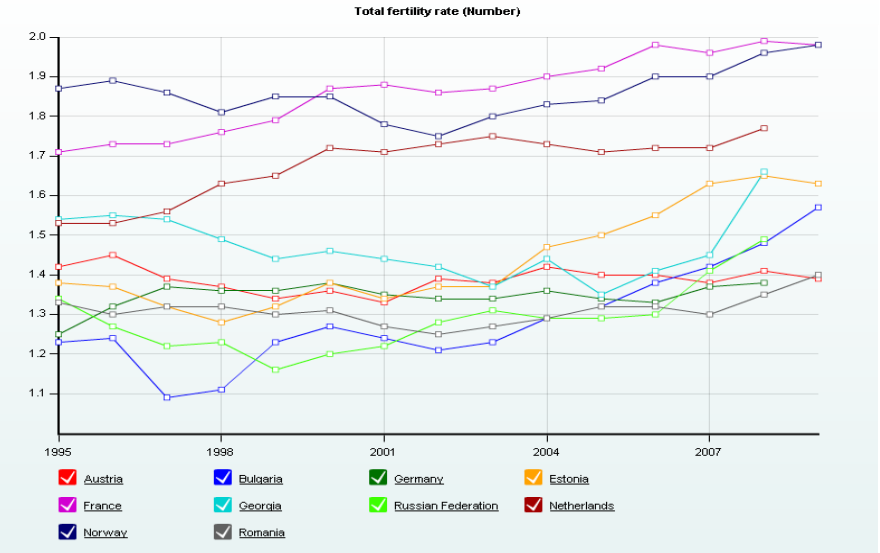
In addition to the Contextual Database, the GGP also offers a Contextual Data Collection. This is a static collection of spreadsheet documents containing detailed national data for the GGP countries collected by national experts. The collection comprises more than 200 indicators. These data are not always harmonised across countries, but might, for example, serve as contextual data for regional analyses within a country.

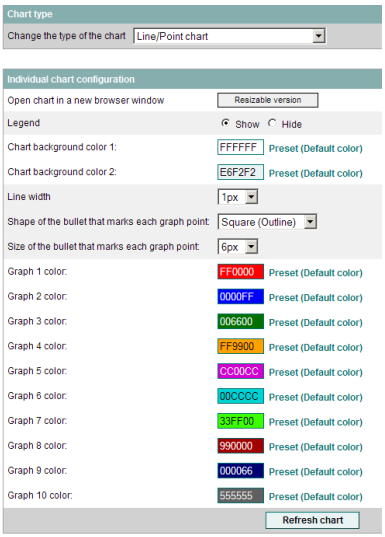
How to access, extract and visualise data



The Contextual Database and the Contextual Data Collection can be accessed without restrictions through the home page of the GGP where a link to the data is provided in the left menu bar of the page. After entering the dynamic Contextual Database, the user first chooses the indicator for which data are to be extracted. This is followed by a hierarchical region tree menu, which allows the user to select the countries and regions for which data are sought. At this stage, the user can also choose to link geo-codes to the extracted contextual data in the top menu. In addition to the GGS geo-code for the place of residence of an interviewed person, other geo-code schemes are supported (e.g. NUTS geo-codes). Next, the user defines the time period as well as other selection features, if available (e.g. age, sex). The user can also choose the dimensions of the output (e.g. to organise the data columns by regions, time etc.). Based on the choices made, an output table with the data is generated and displayed. Meta information for each data entry can be accessed by clicking on the data cell in the output. An alternative way to gain access to meta information for all of the extracted data entries is to choose a single column table as the output dimension. The Contextual Database allows users to export the data in different formats (e.g. CSV, XLS and XML). In addition, several dynamic plot options are available (e.g. bar plot, line plot, pie plot). These plots are interactive, allowing the user to zoom in to specific time periods, or to include or exclude countries and/or regions.

Dynamic plot functions: Example





Recently published GGP studies

Beaujouan, E. (2011). Second-union fertility in France: partners' age and other factors. *Population-E*, 66 (2): 239—74.

Abstract. In France, as in the rest of Europe, family trajectories have become increasingly diversified. How does childbearing fit into these more complex conjugal patterns? More specifically, what is the impact of repartnering on men's and women's fertility? This article attempts to answer these questions, drawing on data yielded by the French version of the Generations and Gender Survey (Étude des relations familiales et intergénérationnelles, ERFI, INED-INSEE), conducted in 2005. Although births in reconstituted families have been extensively studied in Europe, scant attention has been paid to differences in the constraints encountered by men and women when they form a second union. We found that the woman's age at repartnering accounts for the difference in the crude ratios of previously childless men to fathers, and previously childless women to mothers, who have a child in their second union. After controlling for woman's age, we also noted that a couple is least likely to have a child after repartnering if both partners are already parents. If only one of them is a parent, the probability of having a child does not differ significantly from that of a childless couple.

de Jong Gierveld, J. Dykstra, P.A., Schenk, N. (2012). Living arrangements, intergenerational support types and older adult loneliness in Eastern and Western Europe. *Demographic Research*. 27, 7: 167—200.

Abstract. BACKGROUND. Previous research has shown that living arrangements (independent households of those living alone or as a couple, versus coresident households encompassing adult children) are important determinants of older adults' loneliness. However, little is known about intergenerational support exchanges in these living arrangements and their associations with loneliness. OBJECTIVE. Our aim is to contribute to the knowledge on associations between living arrangements and loneliness, by taking into account and differentiating intergenerational support types. METHODS. Using data from the Generations and Gender Surveys of three countries in Eastern Europe and two countries in Western Europe, Latent Class Analyses was applied to develop intergenerational support types for (a) co-residing respondents in Eastern Europe, (b) respondents in independent households in Eastern Europe, and (c) respondents in independent households in Western Europe, respectively. Six types resulted, distinguishing patterns of upward support, downward support and get-togethers. Subsequently, we used linear regression analyses to examine differences in loneliness by region, living arrangements and intergenerational support type. RESULTS. Findings show higher levels of loneliness in Eastern than in Western Europe. Older adults living alone are most lonely, older adults living with a partner are least lonely. Coresidence provides protection, but not to the same degree as a partner. In both co-resident and independent households there is a greater likelihood of being involved in support given to adult children than in support received from adult children. In both East and West European countries, older adults who are primarily on the receiving side are most lonely. CONCLUSIONS. A better explanation of older adult loneliness is obtained if the direction of supportive exchanges with adult children is considered than if only living arrangements are considered.

Moor, N., Komter, A. (2011). The impact of family structure and disruption on intergenerational emotional exchange in Eastern Europe. *European Journal of Ageing*. doi: 10.1007/s10433-011-0207-3.

Abstract. Demographic trends across Europe involve a decrease in fertility and mortality rates, and an increase in divorce and stepfamily formation. Life courses and living arrangements have become less standardized and the structure of families has changed. In this article, we examine to what extent contemporary family structure and composition resulting from demographic changes affect emotional exchange between children and their parents, both from adult child to parent and from parent to child. Because the general level of well-being has been shown to be lower in Eastern Europe, thereby potentially affecting emotional exchange within families, we focus our research on Eastern Europe. We use the "conservation of resources theory" to derive hypotheses on how family structure may affect intergenerational emotional exchange. Family ties are assumed to be important resources of affection that people want to obtain and retain throughout their lives. Data from the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) are used to test our hypotheses. In general, our data offer more support for the idea that families are resilient than for the often heard assumption that families are in decline as a consequence of the changed family structure and composition.