



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

FERTILITY AND FAMILY SURVEYS



Survey Design

Introduction

During the 1990s, 24 UNECE countries progressively joined the FFS project. National representatives were responsible for the survey sampling and for launching the fieldwork in their country. As of 1992, a standard FFS Questionnaire was available. Countries complied in different degrees to this standard questionnaire in their national instruments. Some standard information on the survey design is available for all countries. Some countries prepared more elaborated national reports on methodological issues.

Participating Countries

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe comprised in the 1990's 54 countries.

Since the late 1980's UNECE countries progressively joined the FFS project. By the end of the project 24 countries participated in the project.

The table below gives an overview of the 24 countries that participated in the FFS project. Moreover, it spells out some characteristics of the samples and the timing of the national fieldwork.

Country	Sample Design			Fieldwork	
	Women	Men	Age Range	Start	End
Austria	4500	1500	20-54	Dec-95	May-96
Belgium	3200	2200	21-40	Mar-91	Dec-92
Bulgaria	2500	None	18-40	Nov-97	Mar-98
Canada90	4900	4100	15-54	Jan-90	Mar-90
Canada95	4200	3700	15-54	Jan-95	Dec-95
Czech Republic	1700	700	15-44	Oct-97	Dec-97
Estonia	5000	2500	20-69	Jan-94	Aug-94
Finland	4200	1700	22-51	Aug-89	Jan-90
France	2900	1900	20-49	Jan-94	Apr-94
Germany	6000	4000	20-39	Jul-92	Jul-92
Greece	3000	1000	18-50	Jan-99	Jul-99
Hungary	3600	1900	18-41	Nov-92	Dec-93
Italy	4800	1200	20-49	Nov-95	Jan-96
Latvia	2700	1500	18-49	Sep-95	Oct-95
Lithuania	3000	2000	18-49	Oct-94	Dec-95
Netherlands	4500	3700	18-42	Feb-93	Jun-93
New Zealand	3000	None	20-59	Oct-95	Oct-95
Norway	4000	1500	20-43	Oct-88	May-89
Poland	4200	4300	18-49	Dec-91	Dec-91
Portugal	6000	3000	15-54	Apr-97	Jun-97
Slovenia	2800	1800	15-45	Dec-94	Dec-95

Spain	4000	2000	18-49	Nov-94	Nov-95
Sweden	3300	1700	23-43	Oct-92	May-93
Switzerland	3900	2100	20-49	Oct-94	May-95
United States	10500	None	15-44	Jan-95	Oct-95
24	102400	48000	15-69	Oct-88	Jul-99

Sampling

Details on the sampling procedure, the data collection, the non-response, the weighting and post-stratification are given for each country in the Technical Annex of the Standard Country Report.

A critical evaluation of the sampling can be found in the FFS Evaluation Report written by P. Festy and F. Prioux.

FFS Model Questionnaire

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, an FFS model questionnaire was developed. In the course of 1989-90 the Center for Population and Family Studies (CBGS) in Brussels prepared and tested several drafts of an FFS model questionnaire. This model was discussed and amended during the course of various meetings with members of the FFS Informal Working Group in 1990-1991. The outcome of this process was a minimal core questionnaire and optional modules.

The Institute for Research Development, Columbia, Maryland (USA) pre-tested the FFS core and module questionnaires in January 1992. More information on this pre-test can be read in the FFS Newsletter 2.

The final model questionnaire contains 9 Core sections and 4 Optional Modules:

- Section 0: Household Characteristics
- Section 1: Parental Home
- Section 2: Partnerships
- Section 3: Children
- Section 4: Other pregnancies
- Section 5: Fertility regulation
- Section 6: Views on having children
- Section 7: Other views
- Section 8: Education and occupation
- Section 9: Partner characteristics

- Module 1: Migration History
- Module 2: Contraception History

- Module 3: Values and Beliefs
- Module 4: Population Policy Acceptance

Two versions of the FFS model questionnaire have been developed: one for men and one for women. The two questionnaires differ mostly with respect to questions on abortion and contraception. The questionnaire for women has been included for access here.

The model questionnaires were designed with the Integrated System for Survey Analysis (ISSA), the software first used in the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) project of Macro International, Inc.

Full version of the Questionnaire and its Codebook is available as well as FFS Standard Recode Files and Standard Country Reports.

In the FFS project, this ISSA software has also been used for data entry and for generating the standard tables to be included in each FFS Standard Country Report.

The Institute for Resource Development (IRD), Columbia, Maryland (USA) has provided training in the use of ISSA at an FFS workshop, which took place in February 1992 in Warsaw (Poland). More information on this training can be read in the FFS Newsletter 2.

FFS National Questionnaires

In actual practice, few countries stick to the exact FFS model questionnaire. For instance, when designing their national FFS questionnaires, some countries have:

- deleted one or more model questions;
- phrased one or more model questions differently;
- added one or more questions that are not part of the FFS model questionnaire;
- followed different skip patterns for one or more model questions;
- used different coding scheme for one or more model questions.

Moreover, several countries had to and/or wanted to take into account national traditions and national priorities.

Hence, the national FFS questionnaires quite differ from each other. There are important differences between the participating countries in the degree to which they have complied with this model questionnaire. More information on the links between the model questionnaire and the national questionnaires can be found in Comparative Research.

If available, the national questionnaire in the **original language** and the translation of the national questionnaire into **English** are included in the table of country specific documents.

Publications on Methodological Issues

Some countries have prepared a separate Methodological Report on their FFS project. Some of these reports are available in English; others are only available in the national language. Bibliographical references to these reports are as follows:

Austria

1. Family & Fertility Survey. Methodenbericht. Mai 1996. Studie 966/95 im Auftrag des Bundesministeriums für Umwelt, Jugend und Familie, Sektion Familie, sowie des Österreichischen Instituts für Familienforschung. Wien. 1996, pp.21 + annex.

Belgium

1. Callens, Marc. De 'Fertility and Family Survey' in Vlaanderen (NEGO V, 1991). De gegevensverzameling. Ministerie van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap. CBGS Document, 1995, 4. pp.78 + annex.

Bulgaria

Czech Republic

Canada

1. Technical documentation for GGS
2. Footnotes for GGS10

Estonia

1. Katus Kalev, Puur Allan, Sakkeus Luule, Silver, Brian, Eesti Pere - Ja Sündimusuuring. Metodoloogiaülevaade (Estonian Family and Fertility Survey. Methodological Report). Eesti Kõrgkoolidevaheline Demouuringute Keskus (Estonian Interuniversity Population Research Centre). RU Seeria A No. 39. Tallin. 1995.
2. Katus Kalev, Pungas Enel, Puur Allan, Sakkeus Luule, Eesti Pere - Ja Sündimusuuring. Meesküsitluse metodoloogiaülevaade (Estonian Family and Fertility Survey. Methodological Report of Male Survey). Eesti Kõrgkoolidevaheline Demouuringute Keskus (Estonian Interuniversity Population Research Centre). RU Seeria A No. 40. Tallin. 1999.
3. Population Statistics of Estonia. Estonian Family and Fertility Survey. Methodological Report. RU Series A, No. 39. Tallin. 1995.
4. Katus Kalev, Pungas Enel, Puur Allan, Sakkeus Luule, Eesti Pere. Population Statistics of Estonia. Estonian Family and Fertility Survey. Methodological Report of Male Survey. RU Series A, No. 40. Tallin. 1999.

Finland

1. Nikander, Timo. Naisen elämäkulku ja perheellistyminen (The woman's life course and the family formation). Väestö 1992: 1.

Population. Tilastokeskus Statistikcentralen (Statistics Finland). Helsinki. 1992.

France

1. Enquête sur les Situations Familiales et l'Emploi. Instruction aux enquêteurs. INSEE - INED. Enquête complémentaire EMPLOI. Mars 1994.
2. Toulemon Laurent, de Guibert-Lantoine, Catherine. Enquêtes sur la fécondité et la famille dans les pays de l'Europe (région ECE des Nations unies) [Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region]. Résultats de l'enquête française. Dossiers et Recherches. 55: Décembre 1996. INED, Paris.
3. FFS-France Recode: Informations about the French Standard Recode File

Germany

1. Comparison Bib-SRF questionnaire

Greece

Hungary

1. Methodological description: Hungarian Fertility and Family Survey 1993

Italy

1. Italian Fertility Survey 1995-96: Questionnaires. Inf2-Working Paper n. 6, 1999
2. P. De Sandre et al., Matromonia e figli: tra rinvio e rinuncia. Bologna, il Mulino, 1997: Appendice 1: Strategia di campionamento e lavoro sul campo.
3. P. De Sandre et al, Nuzialita e fecondita in trasformazione: percorsi e fattori del cambiamento, Bologna, il Mulino, 1999. Chapter 5: Caratteristiche delle intervistatrici e loro effetto sulla non risposta totale.

Latvia

Lithuania

Netherlands

1. Widdershoven, M. Respons-Analyse Onderzoek Gezinsvorming 1993. March 1994.
2. Netherlands Statistical Office, Comparable data from Fertility and Family Surveys
3. Netherlands Statistical Office, Testing effect of incentives and a condensed questionnaire on response rates.

New Zealand

1. Anyes Marsault et al, New Zealand Women: Family, employment and education Survey. Technical and Methodological Report, Population Studies Centre, Technical Report Series, No 1. December 1997.

Norway

1. Familie- og Yrkesundersøkelsen 1988. [Family- and Occupation Survey 1988]. Norges Offisielle Statistikk B959. Statistisk Sentralbyrå. Oslo. 1991.

Poland

1. Fraczak, Ewa and Irena Kowalska. Polish Family and Fertility Survey. A User's Guide. Arbeitspapier 42, University of Bremen; Institute of Statistics and Demography at the Warsaw School of Economics, 1996.

Portugal

Slovenia

Spain

1. Resultados del Pretest FFS, CIS, Depto de Investigacion, 7 de Septiembre de 1994.

Sweden

1. The Swedish Family Survey of 1992/93. Introduction and Technical Annex. 10 pages.
2. The Family Study 1992. Form for training and discussions. Statistics Sweden. 1992. English version.
3. Family and Work. Education and Employment, Schema. Questions and codes for the education and employment schema. 7 pages. Statistiska Centralbyrån. Stockholm. English version. 1992. English version.
4. Form for training and discussions. Statistiska Centralbyrån. Stockholm. 1992.
5. Familj och Arbete. Utbildnings- och Sysselsättningsschema. Frågor och koder till sysselsättningsschemat. Statistiska Centralbyrån. Stockholm. 1992.

Switzerland

1. Noth, J. The Field Work of the Swiss Family and Fertility Survey: Basic Ideas and Experiences. Work Session on Fertility and Family Surveys. Geneva, 29-31 January 1996. Statistical Commission and Economic Commission for Europe. Conference of European Statisticians. Working Paper No. 7.
2. Mikrozensus Familie in der Schweiz 1994/95. Präsentation, kommentierte Ergebnisse und Tabellen. Statistik der Schweiz. No. 1: Bevölkerung. Bundesamt für Statistik. Bern. 1998

3. L'enquête suisse sur la famille 1994/95. Présentation, résultats commentés et tableaux. Statistique de la Suisse. No. 1: Population. Office fédéral de la statistique. Berne 1998.
4. Beat Hulliger, Haushalterhebung Familie 1994: Stichprobenplan, Stichprobenziehung and Reservestichproben. Office Fédéral de la Statistique, Bern, 1996
5. Beat Fux, Doris Baumgartner, Mikrozensus 'Familie'. Nonresponse-analyse. Darstellung der Befunde und Schlussfolgerungen, Soziologisches Institut der Universität Zürich, 1996

United States of America

1. Codebook