|  |
| --- |
| Table 1. Socio-demographic characteristics of the study population (N=1237)  |
|  |  | AllN (%) | Women (N=1000)N (%) | Men (N=237)N (%) | Chi-squareP-value | DK (N=682)N (%) | UK (N=555)N (%) | Chi-squareP-value |
| Age | 18-24 | 253 (22) | 207 (22) | 46 (21) | 0.10 | 188 (28) | 65 (13) | <.0001 |
|  | 25-34 | 504 (43) | 422 (44) | 82 (38) |  | 322 (47) | 182 (37) |  |
|  | 35-44 | 292 (25) | 236 (25) | 56 (26) |  | 125 (18) | 167 (34) |  |
|  | 45+ | 128 (11) | 95 (10) | 33 (15) |  | 47 (7) | 81 (16) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *60*  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Education | GCSE/A-levels | 164 (14) | 110 (11) | 54 (23) | <.0001 | 30 (5) | 134 (25) | <.0001 |
|  | Undergraduate | 417 (35) | 332 (34) | 85 (36) |  | 203 (31) | 214 (40) |  |
|  | Postgraduate | 544 (45) | 457 (47) | 87 (37) |  | 365 (56) | 179 (33) |  |
|  | Vocational training | 71 (6) | 64 (7) | 7 (3) |  | 58 (9) | 13 (2) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *41* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Working status | Employed full time | 541 (45) | 406 (42) | 135 (58) | <.0001 | 242 (37) | 299 (56) | <.0001 |
|  | Employed part time | 159 (13) | 148 (15) | 11 (5) |  | 67 (10) | 92 (17) |  |
|  | Student | 356 (30) | 297 (31) | 59 (25) |  | 267 (41) | 89 (17) |  |
|  | Not employed | 134 (11) | 106 (11) | 28 (12) |  | 76 (12) | 58 (11) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *47* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Marital status | Married | 540 (45) | 415 (43) | 125 (54) | 0.00 | 200 (30) | 340 (63) | <.0001 |
|  | Cohabitating | 320 (27) | 285 (29) | 35 (15) |  | 225 (34) | 95 (18) |  |
|  | Not cohabitating | 108 (9) | 85 (9) | 23 (10) |  | 75 (11) | 33 (6) |  |
|  | Single | 227 (19) | 180 (19) | 47 (20) |  | 159 (24) | 68 (13) |  |
|  | Widowed | 3 (0) | 3 (0) | 0 (0) |  | 1 (0) | 2 (0) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *39* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Have children | Yes | 585 (48) | 477 (49) | 108 (46) | 0.49 | 286 (42) | 299 (56) | <.0001 |
|  | No | 629 (52) | 503 (51) | 126 (54) |  | 392 (58) | 237 (44) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *23* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Want (more) children in the future | Yes | 664 (68) | 587 (68) | 77 (67) | 0.75 | 420 (68) | 244 (67) | 0.28 |
|  | No | 223 (23) | 198 (23) | 25 (22) |  | 132 (22) | 91 (25) |  |
|  | Don't know | 92 (9) | 79 (9) | 13 (11) |  | 63 (10) | 29 (8) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *258* |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Table 2. Family intentions and family formation among childless participants (N=629) and participants having children (N=585). |
| *Questions for those without children (N=629)* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | AllN (%) | Women (N=1000)N (%) | Men (N=237)N (%) | Chi-squareP-value | DK (N=682)N (%) | UK (N=555)N (%) | Chi-squareP-value |
| Want to have children | Yes | 471 (85) | 411 (86) | 60 (76) | 0.00 | 344 (89) | 127 (75) | <.0001 |
|  | No  | 33 (6) | 22 (5) | 11 (14) |  | 12 (3) | 21 (12) |  |
|  | Don't know | 52 (9) | 45 (9) | 7 (9) |  | 31 (8) | 21 (12) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *72* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Desired number of children a  | 1 | 39 (8) | 30 (7) | 9 (15) | 0.10 | 21 (6) | 18 (15) | 0.03 |
|  | 2 | 261 (56) | 226 (55) | 35 (59) |  | 193 (56) | 68 (55) |  |
|  | 3 | 131 (28) | 120 (29) | 11 (19) |  | 101 (29) | 30 (24) |  |
|  | 4+ | 36 (8) | 32 (8) | 4 (7) |  | 28 (8) | 8 (6) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *4* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Desired age first child | 25 | 155 (28) | 133 (30) | 22 (23) | 0.02 | 104 (30) | 51 (26) | 0.00 |
|  | 30 | 282 (52) | 239 (53) | 43 (45) |  | 190 (55) | 92 (46) |  |
|  | 35 | 95 (17) | 68 (15) | 27 (28) |  | 49 (14) | 46 (23) |  |
|  | 40 | 13 (2) | 10 (2) | 3 (3) |  | 4 (1) | 9 (5) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *108* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Desired age last child | 25 | 10 (2) | 6 (1) | 4 (4) | 0.02 | 2 (1) | 8 (4) | 0.00 |
|  | 30 | 73 (13) | 58 (13) | 15 (16) |  | 48 (14) | 25 (13) |  |
|  | 35 | 335 (62) | 289 (64) | 46 (49) |  | 228 (66) | 107 (55) |  |
|  | 40 | 125 (23) | 96 (21) | 29 (31) |  | 69 (20) | 56 (29) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *110* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Questions for those with children (N=585)* |
| Number of children | 1 | 216 (37) | 179 (38) | 37 (35) | 0.57 | 120 (42) | 96 (33) | 0.00 |
|  | 2 | 241 (42) | 192 (41) | 49 (46) |  | 99 (35) | 142 (48) |  |
|  | 3+ | 121 (21) | 101 (21) | 20 (19) |  | 66 (23) | 55 (19) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *7* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Want more children | Yes | 236 (50) | 214 (50) | 22 (52) | 0.35 | 117 (43) | 119 (60) | 0.00 |
|  | No | 190 (41) | 176 (41) | 14 (33) |  | 120 (44) | 70 (35) |  |
|  | Don't know | 42 (9) | 36 (8) | 6 (14) |  | 33 (12) | 9 (5) |  |
|  | *Missing* | 117 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Additional number of children wanted b  | 1 | 79 (62) | 70 (64) | 9 (53) | 0.03 | 73 (63) | 6 (55) | 0.48 |
|  | 2 | 29 (23) | 27 (25) | 2 (12) |  | 27 (23) | 2 (18) |  |
|  | 3+ | 19 (15) | 13 (11) | 6 (35) |  | 16 (14) | 3 (27) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *109* |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | AllN (%) | Women (N=1000)N (%) | Men (N=237)N (%) | Chi-squareP-value | DK (N=682)N (%) | UK (N=555)N (%) | Chi-squareP-value |
| Total number of children wanted c | 1 | 26 (8) | 22 (8) | 4 (13) | 0.02 | 15 (6) | 11 (14) | 0.01 |
|  | 2 | 141 (45) | 130 (46) | 11 (35) |  | 98 (42) | 43 (54) |  |
|  | 3 | 262 (30) | 112 (39) | 9 (29) |  | 99 (42) | 22 (28) |  |
|  | 4+ | 65 (7) | 21 (7) | 7 (23) |  | 24 (10) | 4 (5) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *269* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age attempting to get first child | 24 | 145 (27) | 126 (30) | 19 (18) | 0.00 | 64 (25) | 81 (30) | <.0001 |
|  | 25-29 | 222 (42) | 183 (43) | 39 (38) |  | 134 (52) | 88 (32) |  |
|  | 30-34 | 117 (22) | 88 (21) | 29 (28) |  | 47 (18) | 70 (26) |  |
|  | 35+ | 46 (9) | 30 (7) | 16 (16) |  | 12 (5) | 34 (12) |  |
|  | *Missing* | *124* |  |  |  |  |  |  |

a. Among N=471 that want children b. Among N=236 that want more children

 c. Number of children plus number of planned/wanted children in the future

|  |
| --- |
| Table 3. Fertility awareness among women and men.  |
|  | Categories | AllN (%) | Women (N=974-978)%  | Men (N=235)%  | Chi-squareP-value | DK(N=682)% | UK (N=555)% | Chi-squareP-value |
| At what age, on average, do you think a woman's fertility begins to decline? |
|  | 20 | 120 (10) | 10 | 9 | <.0001 | 0 | 22 | <.0001 |
|  | 25a | 546 (45) | 47 | 38 |  | 53 | 36 |  |
|  | 30a | 431 (36) | 36 | 35 |  | 36 | 35 |  |
|  | 35 | 66 (5) | 6 | 5 |  | 10 | 0 |  |
|  | 40 | 23 (2) | 0 | 10 |  | 0 | 4 |  |
|  | 45 | 27 (2) | 2 | 3 |  | 2 | 3 |  |
|  | *Missing* | *24* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| From what age do you think this decline will make it difficult for a woman to have a child? |
|  | 25 | 48 (4) | 3 | 6 | <.0001 | 3 | 5 | <.0001 |
|  | 30 | 272 (22) | 19 | 38 |  | 20 | 25 |  |
|  | 35a | 633 (51) | 60 | 20 |  | 64 | 38 |  |
|  | 40 | 153 (12) | 10 | 23 |  | 0 | 28 |  |
|  | 45 | 107 (9) | 8 | 12 |  | 13 | 4 |  |
|  | *Missing* | *24* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| What are the chances that a woman of 30 years of age will become pregnant after one year of unprotected sex? |
|  | 10-19 % | 22 (2) | 2 | 2 | 0.00 | 1 | 2 | 0.04 |
|  | 20-39 % | 253 (20) | 22 | 16 |  | 23 | 18 |  |
|  | 40-59 % | 446 (36) | 38 | 32 |  | 38 | 35 |  |
|  | 60-79 %a  | 379 (31) | 31 | 34 |  | 30 | 33 |  |
|  | 80-100 % | 112 (9) | 8 | 15 |  | 7 | 11 |  |
|  | *Missing* | *25* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| And what if she is 40 years of age? |
|  | 10-19 % | 545 (45) | 48 | 32 | <.0001 | 52 | 36 | <.0001 |
|  | 20-39 %a | 376 (31) | 31 | 33 |  | 27 | 36 |  |
|  | 40-59 %  | 177 (15) | 13 | 20 |  | 11 | 19 |  |
|  | 60-79 % | 98 (8) | 7 | 13 |  | 8 | 8 |  |
|  | 80-100 % | 13 (1) | 1 | 3 |  | 1 | 1 |  |
|  | *Missing* | *28* |  |  |  |  |  |  |

a. Correct response according to reproductive epidemiological studies.

|  |
| --- |
| Table 4. Unadjusted and adjusted odds ratio (OR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) for the associations between lower fertility awareness and age of desired/attempted first child (N=1035).  |
|  | Cate-gories | N (%) | Low fertility awarenessN (%)  | Unadjusted OR (95 % CI) | Adjusted for age | Adjusted for age, sex and education |
| Estimates the female fertility decline later than 30 years of age |
| Age desire/attempt | -24 | 275 (28) | 38 (40) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
|  | 25-29 | 468 (47) | 40 (43) | 0.6 (0.4-0.9)a | 0.9 (0.5-1.5)  | 1.1 (0.6-1.8) |
|  | 30-34 | 195 (20) | 12 (13) | 0.4 (0.2-0.8)a | 0.8 (0.4-1.7) | 1.0 (0.5-2.1) |
|  | 35+ | 54 (5) | 4 (4) | 0.5 (0.2-1.5) | 0.7 (0.2-2.3) | 0.9 (0.3-2.9) |
| Estimates female age when it becomes difficult to have a child as later than 35 years of age |
| Age desire/attempt | -24 | 275 (28) | 58 (28) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
|  | 25-29 | 468 (47) | 89 (43) | 0.9 (0.6-1.2) | 1.1 (0.8-1.7) | 1.3 (0.9-1.9) |
|  | 30-34 | 195 (20) | 43 (21) | 1.1 (0.7-1.7) | 1.5 (1.0-2.5) | 1.6 (1.0-2.6) |
|  | 35+ | 54 (5) | 15 (7) | 1.5 (0.8-2.8) | 1.8 (0.9-3.6) | 1.9 (0.9-3.9) |
| Overestimates probability of pregnancy in a woman of 30 years of age |
| Age desire/attempt | -24 | 275 (28) | 12 (13) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
|  | 25-29 | 468 (47) | 46 (51) | 2.7 (1.4-5.2)a | 2.9 (1.5-5.6)a | 2.8 (1.4-5.4)a |
|  | 30-34 | 195 (20) | 26 (29) | 3.6 (1.8-7.3)a | 3.5 (1.7-7.5)a | 3.3 (1.5-7.1)a |
|  | 35+ | 54 (5) | 7 (8) | 3.2 (1.2-8.5)a | 2.8 (1.0-8.0) | 2.5 (0.9-7.3)a |
| Overestimates probability of pregnancy in a woman of 40 years of age |
| Age desire/attempt | -24 | 275 (28) | 64 (28) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
|  | 25-29 | 468 (47) | 105 (46) | 1.0 (0.7-1.4) | 1.2 (0.8-1.7) | 1.2 (0.8-1.8) |
|  | 30-34 | 195 (20) | 46 (20) | 1.0 (0.7-1.5) | 1.2 (0.8-1.9) | 1.2 (0.7-1.9) |
|  | 35+ | 40 (5) | 14 (6) | 1.1 (0.6-2.2) | 1.1 (0.5-2.2) | 1.0 (0.5-2.0) |

a. P-value < 0.05 Also tested in the models: Partner status (married/cohabitant/single and other), have children (yes/no)