United Nations • Department of Economic and Social Affairs • Population Division

World Fertility Policies 2011

www.unpopulation.org

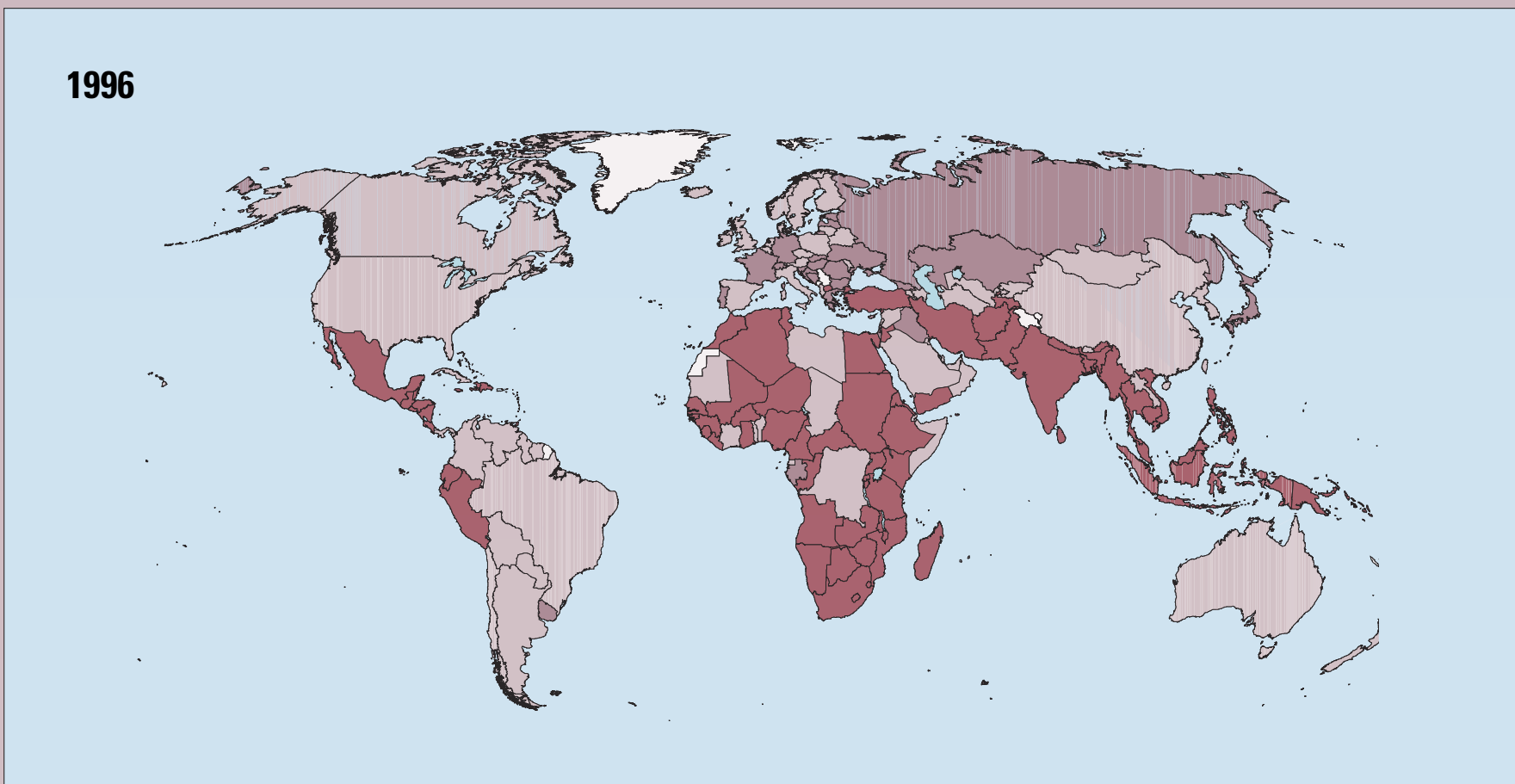| Country or area	View on fertility 2009	Policy on fertility 2009	Government support for family planning 2009	Index of family planning effort (percentage of maximum score) 2009	Legal age at marriage 2010 — Without parental consent or approval by pertinent authority (Women)	(Men)	With parental consent or approval by pertinent authority (Women)	(Men)	Government concern about adolescent fertility 2009	Policies to reduce adolescent fertility 2009	Number of women aged 15-49 (thousands) 2010	Total fertility (children per woman) 2005-2010	Contraceptive prevalence — Year	Any method (percentage)	Any modern method (percentage)	Unmet need for family planning — Year	Percentage	Adolescent birth rate (births per 1,000 women aged 15-19) 2005-2010
World	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 779 809	2.5	2009	63	56	2009	11	56
More developed regions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	294 973	1.7	2009	72	61	2009	—	24
Less developed regions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 484 836	2.7	2009	61	55	2009	11	60
Least developed countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	204 650	4.4	2009	31	25	2009	24	105
Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	247 724	4.6	2009	29	22	2009	23	101
Eastern Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76 483	5.1	2009	28	23	2009	28	102
Burundi	Too high	Lower	Direct	40.2	18	21	<18[1]	<21[1]	No concern	No	2 202	4.7	2005/06	9	8	2002	29[7,7]	19
Comoros	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	22	<18[1]	<22[1]	Major	Yes	175	5.1	2000	26	19	1996	35	58
Djibouti	Too high	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Minor	Yes	233	4.0	2006	18	17	..	..	23
Eritrea	Too high	Lower	Direct	37.9	18[3]	18[3]	16[3]	..	Major	Yes	1 330	4.7	2002	8	5	2002	27	67
Ethiopia	Too high	Lower	Direct	45.3	18	18	..	..	Major	No	20 027	4.6	2005	15	14	2005	34	72
Kenya	Too high	Lower	Direct	48.7	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	9 809	4.8	2008/09	46	39	2008/09	26	100
Madagascar	Too high	Lower	Direct	64.0	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	4 875	4.8	2008/09	40	28	2008/09	19	134
Malawi	Too high	Lower	Direct	47.8	18[3]	18[3]	15[3]	15[3]	Major	Yes	3 310	6.0	2006	41	38	2004	28	119
Mauritius	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	60.6	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	363	1.7	2002	76	39	2002	4[1,7]	35
Mozambique	Too high	Lower	Direct	39.2	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	5 559	5.1	2003/04	17	12	2003/04	18	149
Rwanda	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	21	21	<21[1]	<21[1]	Major	Yes	2 622	5.4	2007/08	36	26	2005	38	39
Seychelles	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	15	<18	Major	Yes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Somalia	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	16	..	..	..	2 142	6.4	2005/06	15	1	..	..	70
Uganda	Too high	Lower	Direct	50.4	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	7 298	6.4	2006	24	18	2006	41	150
United Republic of Tanzania	Too high	Lower	Direct	47.0	18	18	14	14	Major	Yes	10 200	5.6	2010	34[4]	26[4]	2004/05	22	130
Zambia	Too high	Lower	Direct	44.6	21	21	<21	<21	Major	Yes	2 893	6.2	2007	41	27	2007	27	147
Zimbabwe	Too high	Lower	Direct	59.9	16	18	..	..	Minor	No	3 160	3.5	2005/06	60	58	2005/06	13	65
Middle Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29 156	5.7	2009	19	7	2009	23	174
Angola	Too high	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	15[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	4 336	5.8	2001	6	5	..	..	171
Cameroon	Too high	Not intervene	Direct	41.4	18	18	<18	<18	Major	Yes	4 764	4.7	2006	29	12	2004	20	128
Central African Republic	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	22	..	..	Minor	Yes	1 066	4.8	2006	19	9	1994/95	16	107
Chad	Too high	Not intervene	Direct	36.7	15[5]	18[6]	..	..	Major	Yes	2 538	6.2	2004	3	2	2004	21	165
Congo	Too high	Lower	Direct	44.8	18	21	<18[1]	<21[1]	Major	Yes	978	4.6	2005	44	13	2005	16	119
Dem. Republic of the Congo	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	34.3	15[5]	18[6]	..	..	Major	Yes	14 881	6.1	2007	21	6	2007	24	201
Equatorial Guinea	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	166	5.4	2000	10	6	..	..	123
Gabon	Too low	Raise	No support	..	21	21	15	18	Major	Yes	386	3.4	2000	33	12	2000	28	90
Sao Tome and Principe	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	14	16	Major	Yes	41	3.9	2008/09	38	33	2008/09	37	66
Northern Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55 874	3.0	2009	50	45	2009	14	35
Algeria	Too high	Lower	Direct	63.6	19	19	..	..	Minor	No	10 259	2.4	2006	61	52	..	..	7
Egypt	Too high	Lower	Direct	60.9	16[5]	18[6]	..	..	Major	Yes	21 089	2.9	2008	60	58	2008	9	47
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Satisfactory	Maintain	No support	20.4	20	20	<20	<20	Minor	Yes	1 785	2.7	1995	45	26	..	..	3
Morocco	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	66.7	18	18	<18	<18	Minor	Yes	9 086	2.4	2003/04	63	52	2003/04	10	15
Sudan	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	..	..	10[5]	10[5]	No concern	No	10 506	4.6	2006	8	6	1992/93	26[8]	62
Tunisia	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	<18	<18	Minor	No	2 999	2.0	2006	60	52	2001	12	6
Southern Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15 404	2.6	2009	58	58	2009	16	61
Botswana	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	21[3]	21[3]	18[3]	18[3]	Major	Yes	528	2.9	2000	44	42	1988	27	52
Lesotho	Too high	Lower	Direct	50.0	21	21	16	18	Major	Yes	554	3.4	2009	47	46	2004/05	31	73
Namibia	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	590	3.4	2006/07	55	54	2006/07	21	74
South Africa	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	48.0	18	18	<18	<18	Major	Yes	13 425	2.6	2003/04	60	60	2003/04	14	59
Swaziland	Too high	Lower	Direct	46.7	21	21	16	18	Major	Yes	307	3.6	2006/07	51	47	2006/07	24	84
Western Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70 796	5.5	2009	14	9	2009	24	123
Benin	Too high	Lower	Direct	35.1	18[3]	18[3]	<18[3]	<18[3]	Major	Yes	2 094	5.5	2006	17	6	2006	30	112
Burkina Faso	Too high	Lower	Direct	45.6	18	20	16	18	Major	Yes	3 875	5.9	2006	17	13	2003	29	125
Cape Verde	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	133	2.6	2005	61	57	2005	17	82
Côte d'Ivoire	Too high	Lower	Direct	54.4	18	21	<18	<21	Major	Yes	4 590	4.6	2006	13	8	1998/99	28	129
Gambia	Too high	Lower	Direct	50.3	*	*	*	*	Major	Yes	431	5.1	2001	18	13	..	..	77
Ghana	Too high	Lower	Direct	46.4	18[3]	18[3]	16[3]	16[3]	Major	Yes	5 971	4.3	2008	24	17	2008	35	70
Guinea	Too high	Lower	Indirect	46.2	17	18	..	..	Major	Yes	2 292	5.5	2005	9	4	2005	21	157
Guinea-Bissau	Too high	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	17	17	Major	Yes	362	5.3	2006	10	6	..	..	111
Liberia	Too high	Lower	Direct	34.8	18[3]	21[3]	..	..	Major	Yes	935	5.4	2007	11	10	2007	36	143
Mali	Too high	Lower	Direct	61.4	18	21	16	18	Major	Yes	3 482	6.5	2006	8	6	2006	31	186
Mauritania	Too high	Lower	Direct	21.0	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	859	4.7	2007	9	8	2000/01	32	79
Niger	Too high	Lower	Direct	55.0	15[3]	18[3]	<15[2]	<18[3]	Major	Yes	3 659	7.2	2006	11	5	2006	16	207
Nigeria	Too high	Lower	Direct	33.6	18[3]	18[3]	<18[3]	..	Major	Yes	36 410	5.6	2008	15	8	2008	20	126
Senegal	Too high	Lower	Direct	47.5	18	18	16	..	Major	Yes	3 035	5.0	2005	12	10	2005	32	106
Sierra Leone	Too high	Lower	Direct	41.1	21	21	<21	<21	Major	Yes	1 454	5.2	2008	8	6	2008	28	144
Togo	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	17	20	<17[1]	<20[1]	Minor	Yes	1 514	4.3	2006	17	11	1998	32	65
Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 103 048	2.3	2009	66	60	2009	9	46
Eastern Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	419 240	1.6	2009	83	81	2009	2	8
China	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	72.9	20[3]	22[3]	..	..	No concern	No	363 764	1.6	2006	85	84	2001	2[1,7]	8
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	Too low	Not intervene	Direct	..	17	18	..	..	No concern	No	6 442	2.1	2002	69	58	..	..	1
Japan	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	20	20	16	18	Major	Yes	26 983	1.3	2005	54[7]	44[7]	..	..	5
Mongolia	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	824	2.5	2005	66	61	2003	5[1,7]	21
Republic of Korea	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	20	20	16	18	Major	Yes	12 730	1.3	2009	80[7]	70[7]	..	..	2
South-central Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	460 147	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	75
Afghanistan	Too high	Not intervene	Direct	50.7	16	18	15	..	Major	Yes	6 829	6.6	2006	19[7]	16[7]	..	..	119
Bangladesh	Too high	Lower	Direct	56.4	18[3]	21[3]	..	..	Major	Yes	41 060	2.4	2007	56	48	2007	17	79
Bhutan	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	..	-	Major	Yes	188	2.6	2000	31	31	..	..	46
India	Too high	Lower	Direct	53.5	18[3]	21[3]	..	..	Major	Yes	314 542	2.7	2005/06	56	49	2005/06	13	86
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Too high	Lower	Direct	57.9	13[5]	15[5]	..	..	Major	Yes	22 558	1.8	2002	73[7]	59[7]	..	..	29
Kazakhstan	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	37.5	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Minor	Yes	4 442	2.5	2006	51	49	1999	9	30
Kyrgyzstan	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	42.0	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	1 506	2.7	2005/06	48	46	1997	12	34
Maldives	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Minor	Yes	96	1.9	2009	35[4]	27[4]	..	..	13
Nepal	Too high	Lower	Direct	56.8	20	20	18	18	Major	Yes	7 796	2.9	2006	48	44	2006	25	103
Pakistan	Too high	Lower	Direct	45.7	16	18	..	..	Major	Yes	44 584	3.7	2007/08	27	19	2006/07	25	32
Sri Lanka	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	55.4	18[3]	18[3]	16[3]	..	Major	Yes	5 462	2.4	2006/07	68[4,6]	53[4,6]	2006/07	7[6]	28
Tajikistan	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	62.8	17	17	16[1]	16[1]	Minor	Yes	1 845	3.5	2007	37	32	..	..	26
Turkmenistan	Too low	Raise	Indirect	64.3	18[5]	18[5]	..	..	Major	Yes	1 445	2.5	2000	62	45	2000	10	20
Uzbekistan	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	60.2	17	18	16[1]	..	Major	Yes	7 793	2.5	2006	65	59	1996	14	14
South-eastern Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	164 524	2.3	2009	62	55	2009	11	39
Brunei Darussalam	Too low	Not intervene	No support	..	18[3]	18[3]	14[3]	14[3]	Major	Yes	120	2.1	..	..	..	..	..	25
Cambodia	Too high	Lower	Direct	55.8	18	20	<18	<20	Major	Yes	3 915	2.8	2005	40	27	2005	25	42
Indonesia	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	59.9	21	21	16	19	Major	Yes	67 437	2.2	2007	61	57	2007	9	45
Lao People's Dem. Republic	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	15[1]	15[1]	Major	Yes	1 663	3.0	2000	32	29	2005	27	19
Malaysia	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	62.2	18[3]	18[3]	16[1,2]	..	Major	Yes	7 420	2.7	1994	55[6]	30[6]	..	..	14
Myanmar	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	28.1	20	20	14	..	Major	Yes	13 807	2.1	2007	41	38	2001	19[1,7]	16
Philippines	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	29.8	21	21	18	18	Major	Yes	23 873	3.3	2008	51	34	2008	22	54
Singapore	Too low	Raise	..	..	21	21	18	18	Major	Yes	1 340	1.3	1997	62[7]	55[7]	..	..	5
Thailand	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	17	17	13	<17	Major	Yes	18 930	1.6	2006	81	80	2006	3[7]	43
Timor-Leste	Too high	Not intervene	Direct	..	15[5]	16[6]	..	..	Major	Yes	239	6.5	2009/10	22[4]	21[4]	2003	4	66
Viet Nam	Too high	Lower	Direct	71.1	18	20	..	..	Major	Yes	25 780	1.9	2007	79	68	2002	5	27
Western Asia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59 137	3.0	2009	55	36	2009	14	48
Armenia	Too low	Raise	Indirect	38.1	17	18	16[1]	16[1]	Minor	Yes	858	1.7	2005	53	19	2005	13	36
Azerbaijan	Satisfactory	Raise	Direct	49.0	17	18	16[1]	16[1]	Minor	Yes	2 746	2.2	2006	51	13	2006	23	34
Bahrain	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	15	15	<15[1]	<18[1]	No concern	No	297	2.6	1995	62[10]	31[10]	..	..	15
Cyprus	Too low	Raise	..	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	284	1.5	..	..	..	..	..	7
Georgia	Too low	Raise	Direct	46.6	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	1 149	1.6	2005	47[7]	27[7]	2005	16[1,7]	43
Iraq	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	15	15	Major	Yes	7 446	4.9	2006	50	33	..	..	98
Israel	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	17	17	14	14	Major	Yes	1 764	2.9	1987/88	68[1,11]	52[1,11]	..	..	14
Jordan	Too high	Lower	Direct	51.3	18	18	15	15	Major	Yes	1 552	3.3	2009	59	42	2009	11	26
Kuwait	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	17	17	15	..	Major	Yes	651	2.3	1999	52[1,10]	39[1,10]	..	..	14
Lebanon	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	53.5	17[3]	18[3]	9[3,12]	17[3]	Major	Yes	1 196	1.9	2004	58	34	..	..	16
Oman	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	668	2.5	2000	32	25	..	..	9
Qatar	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	<16	<18	No concern	No	276	2.4	1998	43[9]	32[10]	..	..	16
Saudi Arabia	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	*	*	*	*	Major	Yes	6 620	3.0	2007	24[1,10]	..	..	..	12
Syrian Arab Republic	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	5 106	3.1	2006	58	43	..	..	75
Turkey	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	52.7	18	18	17[1]	17[1]	Major	Yes	20 134	2.2	2008	73	46	2008	6	39
United Arab Emirates	Satisfactory	Maintain	No support	..	18	18	..	..	No concern	No	1 563	1.9	1995	28[10]	24[10]	..	..	27
Yemen	Too high	Lower	Direct	38.8	*	*	*	*	Major	Yes	5 658	5.5	2006	28	19	1997	39	79
Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	179 609	1.5	2009	73	59	2009	—	19
Eastern Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	75 856	1.4	2009	75	54	—	—	29
Belarus	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	15[1]	15[1]	Major	Yes	2 522	1.4	2005/06	73	56	..	..	22
Bulgaria	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	16	16	Major	No	1 766	1.5	1997/98	63[7]	40[7]	1997/98	30[1,7,10]	43
Czech Republic	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	No concern	No	2 388	1.4	1997	72[7]	63[7]	1997	11[1,7,13,14]	11
Hungary	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	2 388	1.3	1992/93	81[7]	71[7]	1992/93	7[1,7,13,14]	17
Poland	Too low	Raise	No support	..	18	18	16	..	No concern	No	9 527	1.3	1991	73[7]	28[7]	..	..	15
Republic of Moldova	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	16	18	..	16[1]	Major	Yes	962	1.5	2005	68	43	2005	7	34
Romania	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	16	18	15[1]	..	Major	Yes	5 394	1.3	2004	70[7]	38[7]	2004	12[1,7]	37
Russian Federation	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	37 656	1.4	2007	80[7]	65[7]	..	..	30
Slovakia	Too low	Raise	No support	..	18	18	16	16	No concern	No	1 430	1.3	1997	80[7]	52[7]	..	..	20

Country or area	View on fertility 2009	Policy on fertility 2009	Government support for family planning 2009	Index of family planning effort (percentage of maximum score) 2009	Legal age at marriage 2010 — Without parental consent or approval by pertinent authority (Women)	(Men)	With parental consent or approval by pertinent authority (Women)	(Men)	Government concern about adolescent fertility 2009	Policies to reduce adolescent fertility 2009	Number of women aged 15-49 (thousands) 2010	Total fertility (children per woman) 2005-2010	Contraceptive prevalence — Year	Any method (percentage)	Any modern method (percentage)	Unmet need for family planning — Year	Percentage	Adolescent birth rate (births per 1,000 women aged 15-19) 2005-2010
Ukraine	Too low	Raise	Indirect	47.9	17	18	14[1]	14[1]	No concern	Yes	11 675	1.4	2007	67	48	2007	10	31
Northern Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23 429	1.9	2009	80	77	—	—	23
Denmark	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	<18	<18	Minor	Yes	1 259	1.9	1988	78[7]	72[7]	..	..	6
Estonia	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	15	15	No concern	No	326	1.6	1994	70[7,15]	56[7,15]	..	..	23
Finland	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Minor	Yes	1 169	1.8	1989	77[7]	75[7]	..	..	9
Iceland	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	78	2.1	..	..	..	..	..	15
Ireland	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	1 126	2.1	2004/05	65[7]	61[7]	..	..	18
Latvia	Too low	Raise	No support	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	564	1.4	1995	68[7]	56[7]	1995	17[1,7,13,14]	18
Lithuania	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	<15[1]	<15[1]	Major	Yes	852	1.5	1994/95	51[7]	33[7]	1994/95	18[1,7,13,14]	20
Norway	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Minor	Yes	1 132	1.9	2005	88[7]	82[7]	..	..	9
Sweden	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	<18	<18	Minor	Yes	2 124	1.9	1996	75[7,16]	65[7,16]	..	..	6
United Kingdom	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18[3]	18[3]	16[3]	16[3]	Major	Yes	14 733	1.8	2008/09	84[1,17]	84[1,17]	..	..	30
Southern Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36 959	1.4	2009	64	46	2009	12	12
Albania	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	856	1.6	2008/09	69	10	2008/09	13	18
Andorra	Satisfactory	Maintain	No support	..	16	16	14	14	Major	Yes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Too low	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	16[1]	..	Major	Yes	996	1.2	2005/06	36	11	..	..	16
Croatia	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	1 027	1.4	..	..	..	..	..	13
Greece	Too low	Raise	No support	..	18	18	<18	<18	Major	Yes	2 662	1.5	2001	76[7]	46[7]	..	..	12
Holy See[18]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Not permitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italy	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	No concern	No	13 838	1.4	1995/96	63[7]	41[7]	1995/96	12[1,7,13,14]	7
Malta	Too low	Not intervene	No support	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	99	1.3	1993	86[7]	46[7]	..	..	17
Montenegro	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	157	1.7	2005/06	39	17	..	..	18
Portugal	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	2 560	1.4	2005/06	87[7]	83[7]	..	..	17
San Marino	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	No concern	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Serbia	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	2 376	1.6	2005	41	19	..	..	22
Slovenia	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	482	1.4	1994/95	79[7]	63[7]	1994/95	9[7,13,14]	5
Spain	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	12	16	Minor	Yes	11 351	1.4	2006	66	62	1995	12	13
TFYR Macedonia	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	528	1.5	2005/06	14	10	..	..	22
Western Europe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43 365	1.6	2009	72	69	—	—	8
Austria	Too low	Raise	No support	..	18	18	16[1]	16[1]	Minor	No	2 037	1.4	1995/96	51[7]	47[7]	..	..	13
Belgium	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	2 448	1.8	2004	75[1,19]	73[7,19]	1991/92	3[7,13,14,20]	14
France	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	14 254	2.0	2004	77	75	2004/05	2[13]	7
Germany	Too low	Raise	No support	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	18 786	1.4	1992	70[7]	66[7]	..	..	8
Liechtenstein	Satisfactory	Maintain	..	..	18	18	..	..	No concern	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Luxembourg	Satisfactory	Maintain	Indirect	..	18	18	..	..	No concern	No	127	1.6	..	..	..	..	..	10
Monaco	Satisfactory	Maintain	..	..	21	21	15	18	No concern	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	3 839	1.7	2008	69[7]	67[7]	..	..	5
Switzerland	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	No concern	No	1 858	1.5	1994/95	82[7]	78[7]	..	..	5
Latin America and the Caribbean	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	158 570	2.3	2009	73	67	2009	10	73
Caribbean	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 924	2.4	2009	62	57	2009	20	64
Antigua and Barbuda	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18	18	15	15	Minor	Yes	..	..	1988	53[7]	51[7]	..	..	..
Bahamas	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	16	17	Major	Yes	97	1.9	1988	62[7]	60[7]	..	..	32
Barbados	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	69	1.5	1988	55[7]	53[7]	..	..	43
Cuba	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	14	16	Major	Yes	2 984	1.5	2006	73	72	..	..	45
Dominica	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Minor	Yes	..	..	1987	50[7]	48[7]	..	..	..
Dominican Republic	Too high	Lower	Direct	46.3	18	18	15	16	Major	Yes	2 587	2.7	2007	73	70	2007	11	109
Grenada	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	21	21	16	16	Minor	Yes	28	2.3	1990	54[7]	52[7]	..	..	42
Haiti	Too high	Lower	Direct	33.2	18	18	15	15	Major	Yes	2 588	3.5	2005/06	32	24	2005/06	38	46
Jamaica	Too high	Lower	Direct	62.5	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	721	2.4	2002/03	69	66	2002/03	12[1,7]	77
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	16[5]	16[5]	..	..	Minor	Yes	..	..	1984	41[7]	37[7]	..	..	..
Saint Lucia	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	Minor	Yes	50	2.0	1988	47[7]	46[7]	..	..	62
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	15[5]	16[5]	..	..	Minor	Yes	29	2.1	1988	58[7]	56[7]	..	..	59
Trinidad and Tobago	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	57.1	18	18	12	14	Major	Yes	392	1.6	2006	43	38	1987	16	35
Central America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41 945	2.6	2009	68	63	2009	13	78
Belize	Too high	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	84	2.9	2006	34	31	1999	21[1,7]	79
Costa Rica	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	53.1	18	18	15	15	Major	Yes	1 274	1.9	1999	80[7]	72[7]	1992/93	5[7,7]	66
El Salvador	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	47.5	18	18	<18[1]	<18[1]	Major	Yes	1 712	2.3	2008	73[7]	66[7]	2002/03	9[1,7]	83
Guatemala	Too high	Lower	Direct	42.7	18	18	14	16	Major	Yes	3 547	4.2	2002	43	34	2002	28	107
Honduras	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	50.3	21	21	18	18	Major	Yes	1 964	3.3	2005/06	65	56	2005/06	17	93
Mexico	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	52.4	18	18	14	16	Major	Yes	30 891	2.4	2006	71	67	2006	12[1,7]	71
Nicaragua	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	47.4	18	21	15	15	Major	Yes	1 555	2.8	2006/07	72	69	2006/07	8[1,7]	113
Panama	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	54.9	18	18	14	16	Major	Yes	918	2.6	1984/85	58[7]	54[7]	..	..	83
South America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	105 701	2.2	2009	76	70	2009	8	72
Argentina	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	21	21	16	16	Minor	Yes	10 194	2.3	2001	65[7]	64[7]	..	..	57
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Too low	Raise	Direct	48.8	21	21	14	16	Major	Yes	2 497	3.5	2008	61	34	2008	20	78
Brazil	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	39.3	21	21	16	16	Major	Yes	53 783	1.9	2006	80	77	2006	6	76
Chile	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	64.7	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	4 559	1.9	2006	64[7,14,21]	..	..	..	62
Colombia	Too high	Lower	Direct	50.0	18	18	12	14	Major	Yes	12 604	2.5	2005	78	68	2004/05	6	74
Ecuador	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	52.8	18	18	12	14	Major	Yes	3 798	2.6	2004	73	59	2004	7[1,7]	83
Guyana	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	196	2.3	2009	43[4]	40[4]	..	..	68
Paraguay	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	46.4	20	20	16	16	Major	Yes	1 650	3.1	2008	79[7]	70[7]	2008	5[1,7]	72
Peru	Too high	Lower	Direct	41.0	18	18	14[1]	16[1]	Major	Yes	7 718	2.6	2009	73	50	2009	7	55
Suriname	Satisfactory	Maintain	Indirect	..	20	20	15	15	Minor	Yes	138	2.4	2006	46	45	..	..	39
Uruguay	Satisfactory	Raise	Direct	..	18	18	12	14	Major	Yes	815	2.1	2004	77[7,14,16]	75[7,14,16]	..	..	61
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18	18	14	16	Major	Yes	7 689	2.5	1998	70	62	1998	19[1,7]	90
Northern America	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	81 832	2.0	2009	78	73	2009	7	39
Canada	Too low	Not intervene	Indirect	..	18[3]	18[3]	16[3]	16[3]	Major	Yes	8 256	1.6	2002	74[7]	72[7]	..	..	14
United States of America	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Direct	..	18[3]	18[3]	13[3]	14[3]	Major	Yes	73 544	2.1	2006/08	79[7]	73[7]	2006/08	7[1,7]	41
Oceania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9 026	2.5	2009	60	57	—	—	33
Australia/New Zealand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6 550	2.0	2009	72	71	—	—	16
Australia	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	18	18	16	16	Minor	Yes	5 466	1.9	2001/02	71[7]	71[7]	..	..	16
New Zealand	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	20	20	16	16	Minor	Yes	1 084	2.1	1995	75[7]	72[7]	..	..	25
Melanesia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 168	3.9	—	—	—	—	—	63
Fiji	Satisfactory	Lower	Direct	..	21	21	16	16	Minor	Yes	226	2.8	..	..	..	..	..	45
Papua New Guinea	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	21	21	16	18	Major	Yes	1 688	4.1	2006	36	..	..	..	67
Solomon Islands	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	15	15	Major	Yes	129	4.4	2006/07	35	27	2006/07	11	70
Vanuatu	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	21[3]	21[3]	16[3]	18[3]	Major	Yes	63	4.0	2007	38	37	..	..	54
Micronesia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	140	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	35
Kiribati	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	21	21	16	16	Major	Yes	..	..	2000	36[7]	31[7]	..	..	..
Marshall Islands	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	..	..	Major	Yes	..	..	2007	45	42	2007	8	..
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	<16	<16	Major	Yes	27	3.6	..	..	..	..	..	25
Nauru	Satisfactory	Maintain	Direct	..	18	18	<16	<18	..	..	..	..	2007	36[4]	23[4]	..	..	..
Palau	Satisfactory	Not intervene	Indirect	..	*	*	*	*	Minor	Yes	..	..	2003	33[7]	30[7]	..	..	..
Polynesia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	168	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	37
Cook Islands	Too low	Raise	Direct	..	21	21	16	16	Major	Yes	..	..	1999	43[7]	38[7]	..	..	..
Niue	Too low	Raise	Indirect	..	19	21	15	18	Major	Yes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Samoa	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	19	21	16	18	Major	Yes	42	4.0	2009	29	27	2009	46	28
Tonga	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	18	18	16	16	Major	Yes	25	4.0	..	..	..	..	..	22
Tuvalu	Too high	Lower	Direct	..	21	21	16	16	Major	Yes	..	..	2007	31	22	2007	24	..

Measures adopted by Governments to increase the level of fertility, 2010

Country	Baby bonus	Family allowance	Paternity leave	Parental leave	Subsidized child care	Country	Baby bonus	Family allowance	Paternity leave	Parental leave	Subsidized child care
Armenia	X	X	X			Latvia	X	X	X	X	X
Australia	X	X		X	X	Lithuania	X	X	X	X	
Austria		X		X	X	Mongolia		X		X	
Azerbaijan	X	X	X	X		Montenegro	X		X		
Barbados	X			X		Niue	X				
Belarus	X	X	X	X		Poland	X	X	X	X	X
Bulgaria	X	X	X	X		Portugal	X	X	X	X	
Cook Islands		X				Qatar		X			
Croatia	X	X		X		Republic of Korea	X	X	X	X	X
Cyprus	X			X		Republic of Moldova		X		X	
Czech Republic	X	X		X	X	Romania	X	X		X	X
Estonia	X	X	X	X	X	Russian Federation	X	X		X	
France	X	X	X	X	X	Serbia	X	X		X	X
Gabon		X				Singapore	X	X	X	X	X
Georgia		X				Slovakia	X	X		X	
Germany		X	X	X	X	Slovenia	X	X	X	X	
Greece		X				Spain	X	X	X	X	X
Hungary	X	X	X	X	X	TFYR Macedonia		X		X	
Israel		X	X	X		Turkmenistan		X		X	
Italy	X	X	X	X	X	Ukraine	X	X		X	X
Japan		X	X	X	X	Number of countries (43)	28	40	22	30	9
Kazakhstan	X	X		X							
Kuwait		X									

Government views on the level of fertility

View on fertility
- Too high
- Too low
- Satisfactory
- No data

1996

2009

Government policies to influence the level of fertility

Policy on fertility
- Lower
- Raise
- Maintain
- No intervention
- No data

1996
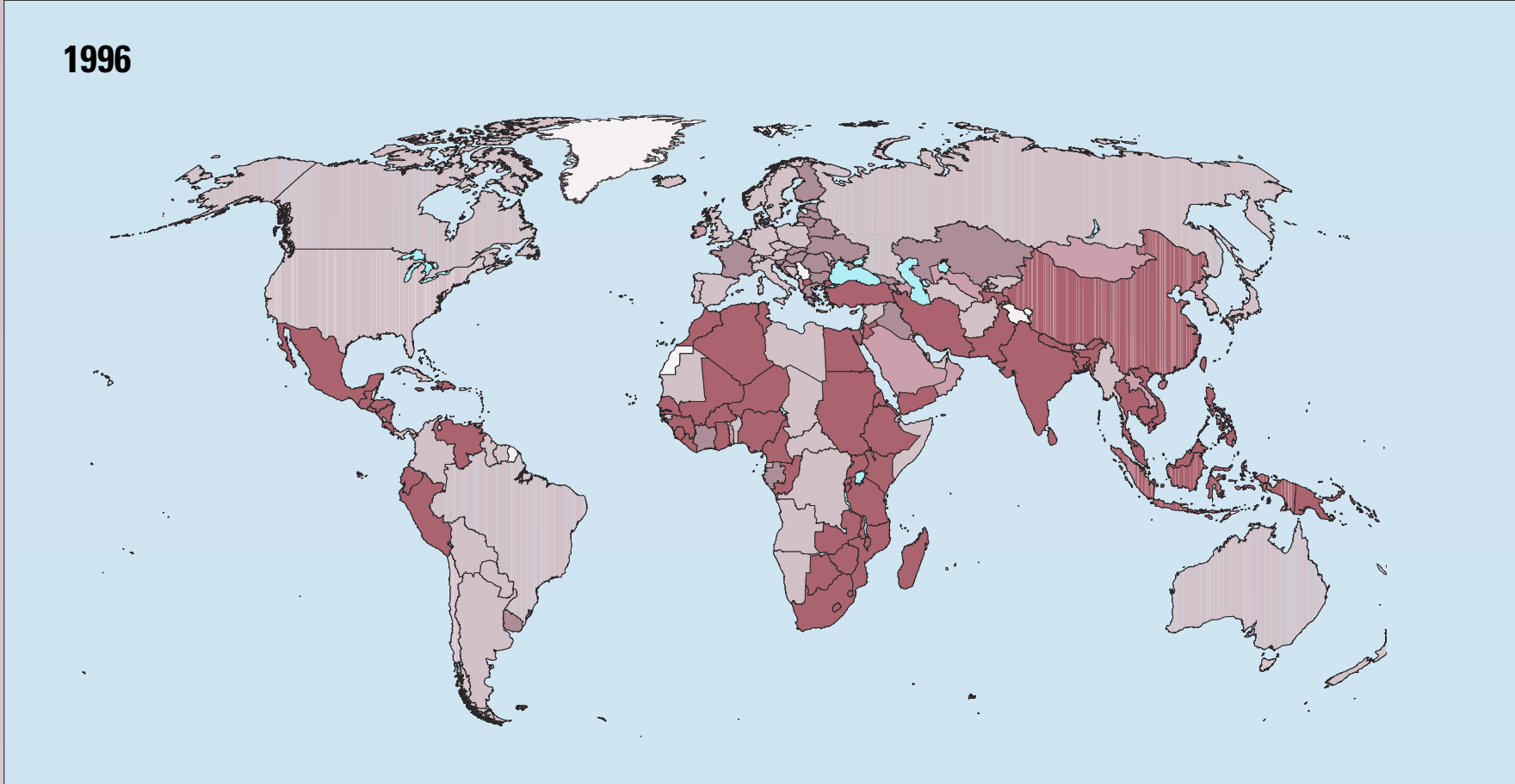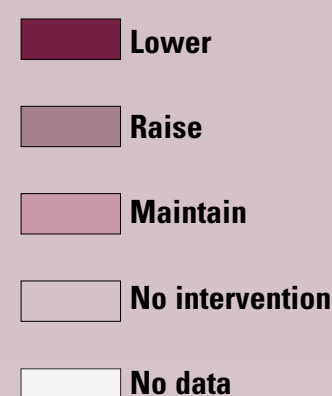
2009
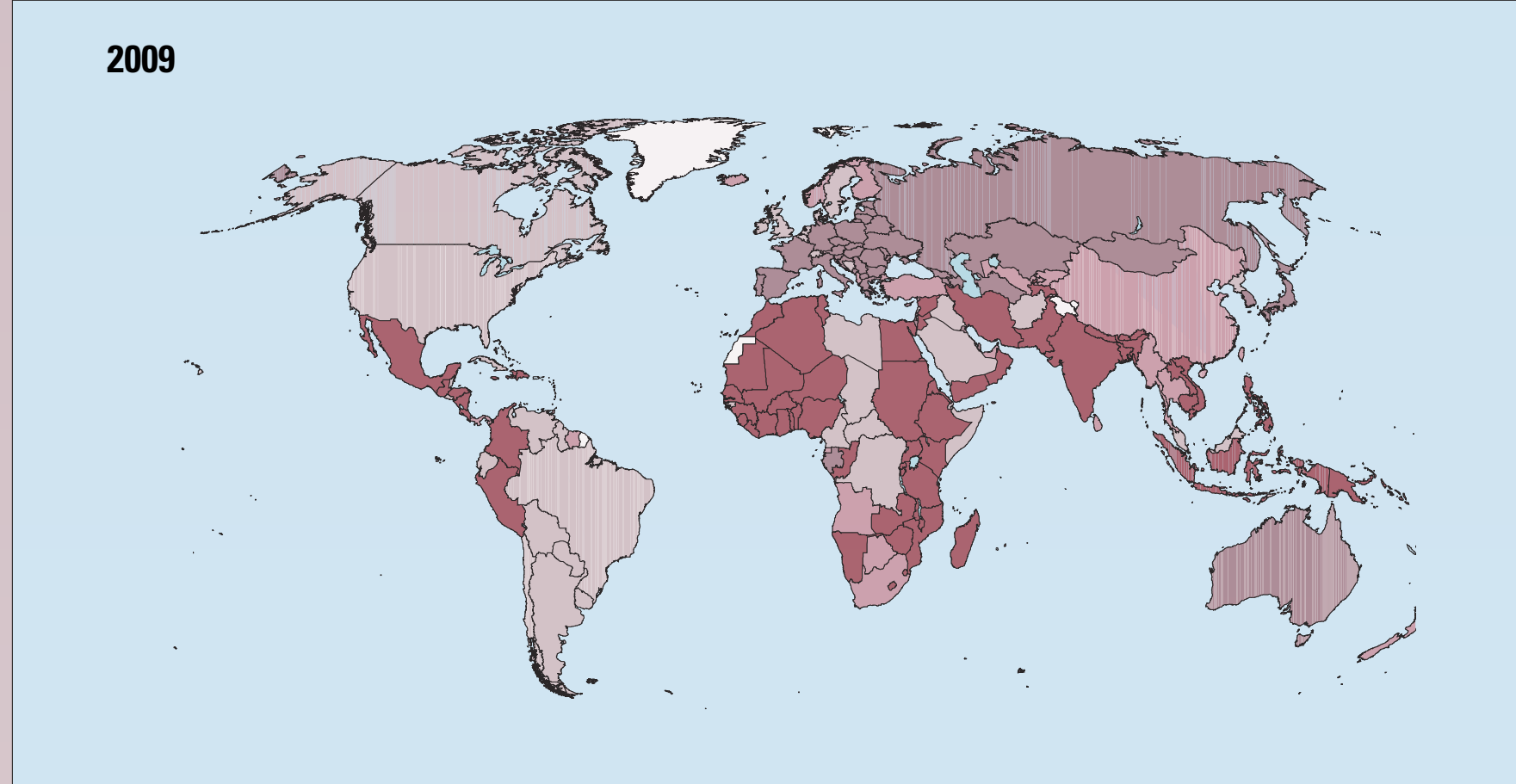
The boundaries on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

WORLD FERTILITY POLICIES 2011

Introduction: All the United Nations international population conferences held since 1974 have emphasized the need to monitor the achievement of their goals and the implementation of their recommendations. The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo, Egypt, in 1994 reinforced this mandate by recommending that actions be taken "to measure, assess, monitor and evaluate progress towards meeting the goals" of its Programme of Action. To this end, the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat has been providing the international community with timely information on Government views on population issues as well as on the formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies. This wall chart brings together the latest information on Government views and policies related to fertility and associated indicators produced by the Population Division and its partner organizations.

View on fertility: Although total fertility has declined globally from 4.4 children per woman in 1970-1975 to 2.5 children per woman in 2005-2010, fertility levels remain high in many developing countries. In 2009, half of the Governments of developing countries considered their respective fertility levels as too high. Among the least developed countries, the vast majority of Governments (86 per cent) considered their fertility levels as too high. In contrast, 61 per cent of the Governments of developed countries, most of which have fertility well below replacement level, considered their respective fertility levels as too low. The persistence of fertility levels of 1.5 children per woman or below in many developed countries has led to growing concerns about its consequences in terms of, for instance, declining populations of working age, rapidly growing numbers of older persons, and increasing old-age dependency ratios.

Policy on fertility: By 2009, almost all the Governments of developing countries that viewed their fertility levels as too high were intervening to lower fertility by using a variety of measures, some of which affect fertility directly and others indirectly. Those measures include providing access to reproductive health services, including information and access to a wide range of safe, effective, affordable, and acceptable methods of family planning; integrating family planning and safe motherhood programmes into primary health care systems; promoting the responsibility of men in maintaining sexual and reproductive health; raising the minimum legal age at marriage; and improving the education of girls and employment opportunities for women. In 2009, 51 per cent of Governments in developing countries had policies to lower fertility. Among the Governments of developed countries, the policy objectives differed markedly from those of developing countries because of the persistence of low fertility. Thus, in 2009, 55 per cent of Governments of developed countries had policies to raise fertility, up from 33 per cent in 1996.

Measures adopted by Governments to increase fertility: Measures that Governments have been using with varying success to increase fertility include baby bonuses, family allowances based on the number of children, extended maternity and paternity leave, subsidized child care, tax incentives, subsidized housing, flexible work schedules, and campaigns to promote the sharing of parenting and household work between spouses. Among the 47 Governments that considered their fertility to be too low in 2009, 40 had adopted measures to increase fertility. In addition, three Governments (those of Azerbaijan, France, and Qatar) that considered their fertility levels to be satisfactory in 2009 had also adopted measures to increase fertility. In 2010, all the 43 countries that had adopted measures to raise fertility provided maternity leave, 93 per cent provided family allowances, 70 per cent allowed parental leave, 65 per cent provided baby bonuses, 51 per cent allowed paternity leave, and 21 per cent subsidized child care.

Government support for family planning: Having information and access to safe and effective methods of family planning is part of reproductive rights. Therefore, most Governments support activities to provide family planning information, guidance, and services. In 2009, 75 per cent of Governments provided direct support for family planning through government-run facilities or outlets. In addition, 16 per cent of Governments supported family planning indirectly by providing funding or other support to non-governmental providers of family planning. The remaining 9 per cent of Governments (18 in total) did not support family planning, including the Holy See that did not permit family planning. Among developing countries, the percentage of Governments providing direct support to family planning increased from 82 per cent in 1996 to 87 per cent in 2009, whereas the equivalent percentage decreased among developed countries: from 58 per cent in 1996 to 39 per cent in 2009.

Family planning effort: National family planning programme efforts vary greatly in strength and coverage. In 2009, an index reflecting family planning effort was available for 81 countries, covering 93 per cent of the population of the developing world. The average value of that index was 49.3 per cent, about two thirds of the maximum achieved, namely 72.9 per cent. Countries in Asia tended to have the highest values of the index, those of Latin America and the Caribbean tended to have intermediate values, and those in sub-Saharan Africa had the lowest values. Overall, values of the index increased from 1999 to 2004 and again from 2004 to 2009. Most countries scored higher on measures related to policy and stage-setting activities than on measures reflecting access to family planning services.

Legal age at marriage: Because in many societies marriage marks the beginning of the period of exposure to the possibility of childbearing, age at marriage is an important determinant of fertility. Many Governments have enacted laws to prevent early marriage and established minimum legal ages at marriage for both women and men. The minimum legal age at marriage refers to the ages at which women and men can marry without consent from their parents, guardians, or approval by the court or other pertinent authority. In 2010, among the 187 countries with data for both women and men on minimum legal age at marriage without consent or approval, 22 per cent of countries had it lower for women than for men. The minimum age at marriage without consent or approval was 18 years for women in 66 per cent of countries and it was 18 years for men in 70 per cent of countries. In 16 per cent of countries women could marry before age 18 and in 4 per cent of countries they could marry before age 16. The minimum age at marriage without consent or approval was 20 years or higher for men in 25 per cent of countries and for women in 17 per cent of countries.

In many countries, marriage among persons younger than the legal minimum age is allowed when there is consent from the parents, guardians, or approval by the court or other pertinent authority. In 2010, data on minimum age at marriage with consent or approval were available in 156 countries for women and 138 countries for men. Of these, data on specific lower minimum ages at marriage with consent or approval were available for 122 countries for women and 102 countries for men. Among countries with data on specific minimum ages at marriage, 93 per cent allowed women and 75 per cent allowed men to get married with consent or approval at ages 16 or younger. Women in 20 per cent of countries and men in 11 per cent of countries could get married with consent or approval at ages 14 or younger. In the remaining 34 countries for women and 36 countries for men, the Governments simply indicated that marriage below the legal minimum age is allowed with consent or approval, without specifying the lower permissible ages.

Government concern about the level of adolescent fertility: Early childbearing increases the risk of maternal death and physical impairment, and children born to young mothers have higher levels of morbidity and mortality. In 2009, 57 per cent of Governments expressed a major concern about their respective levels of adolescent fertility. In addition, 31 per cent expressed a minor concern. All countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and most countries in Africa viewed their respective levels of adolescent fertility either as a major or as a minor cause of concern. Among developed countries, 31 per cent of Governments viewed their respective levels of adolescent fertility as a major concern, whereas 65 per cent of Governments of developing countries did so.

Policies to reduce adolescent fertility: Policies and programmes to reduce adolescent fertility usually focus on supporting public facilities and non-governmental organizations that provide young people, whether in school or out of school, training in life skills and appropriate information and education on reproductive and sexual health. Innovative educational approaches, including peer counselling for young people and orientation for parents, as well as education on reproductive and sexual health provided in non-formal settings, vocational training programmes and youth clubs, have also been promoted. In 2009, 82 per cent of Governments reported having policies to address adolescent fertility, whereas in 1996, just 60 per cent of Governments reported having such policies.

Total fertility: Total fertility is the number of children a woman would bear if she were subject during her lifetime to current age-specific fertility rates. In 2005-2010, total fertility at the world level stood at 2.5 children per woman. Total fertility was estimated to average 2.7 children per woman in developing countries and 1.7 children per woman in developed countries. Total fertility was higher than 4 children per woman in 47 of the 152 developing countries, that is, among 13 per cent of the world population in 2010.

Contraceptive prevalence: The use of contraception has been increasing steadily. In 2009, 63 per cent of women aged 15 to 49 who were married or in a union used some contraceptive method and 56 per cent used a modern method of contraception. Among women aged 15 to 49 who were married or in a union in 2009, contraceptive prevalence averaged 72 per cent in developed countries and 61 per cent in developing countries. Contraceptive prevalence was much lower in the least developed countries, where in 2009, 31 per cent of women aged 15 to 49 who were married or in a union used some contraceptive method and 25 per cent used a modern method of contraception.

Unmet need for family planning: Women having an unmet need for family planning are women aged 15 to 49, married or in a union, who are fecund and sexually active but are not using any method of contraception although they report not wanting any more children or wanting to delay the next pregnancy. Globally, it is estimated that in 2009, 11 per cent of all women aged 15 to 49 who were married or in a union had an unmet need for family planning. Unmet need among women in the least developed countries was markedly higher at 24 per cent.

Adolescent birth rate: In 2005-2010, the adolescent birth rate at the world level was estimated to be 56 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19. The adolescent birth rate was 60 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 in developing countries and 24 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 in developed countries. In the least developed countries, the adolescent birth rate was estimated to be much higher, at 105 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19. The adolescent birth rate ranged from 8 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 in Eastern Asia and Western Europe to 174 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 in Middle Africa.

Definitions and Sources

View on fertility: Refers to the view that the Government has on the level of fertility in the country. Three categories of views on the level of fertility are distinguished: (1) too high; (2) satisfactory; and (3) too low. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Policies 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XIII.14).

Policy on fertility: Refers to the objective of policies or measures adopted by the Government to influence the level of fertility in the country. Three types of objectives are distinguished: (1) to raise fertility; (2) to lower fertility; and (3) to maintain fertility at its current level. In addition, when appropriate, the fact that a Government has no intervention aimed at affecting the level of fertility is also indicated. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Policies 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XIII.14).

Government support for family planning: Indicates the type of support given by the Government for the provision of family planning. Four categories are distinguished: (1) direct support; (2) indirect support; (3) no support; and (4) not permitted. Direct support implies that family planning information, guidance and supplies are provided through government-run facilities or outlets. Indirect support implies that the Government does not provide family planning services through government outlets, but instead supports the private sector, including non-governmental organizations, in providing those services. No support means that the Government allows the private sector to provide family planning services without giving it any material support. Not permitted means that the Government does not allow family planning programmes or services within its jurisdiction. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Policies 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XIII.14).

Index of family planning effort: This index measures the level of effort of national family planning programmes. In 2009, the index was calculated for 81 developing countries, covering 93 per cent of the developing world population. The index is based on 31 measures of family planning effort, organized into four components: (1) policy and stage-setting activities; (2) service and service-related activities; (3) record keeping and evaluation; and (4) availability and accessibility of methods and supplies. Each measure of family planning effort was scored from 1 to 10, where 1 is non-existent or very weak effort and 10 is extremely strong effort, based on a survey questionnaire completed by 10 to 15 expert observers in each country. The overall index for a country is the total score for the 31 measures, expressed as a percentage of the maximum score possible. The index is published as part of the Health Policy Initiative of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) at regular intervals. *Source:* John Ross and Ellen Smith. 2010. *The Family Planning Effort Index: 1999, 2004, and 2009.* Washington, DC: Futures Group, Health Policy Initiative, Task Order 1.

Legal age at marriage: The legal minimum age at which women and men can get married. Two measures are provided: (1) the legal minimum age at which women and men can marry without consent from their parents, guardians, or approval by the court or other pertinent authority and (2) the legal minimum age at which women and men can marry provided they obtain consent from their parents, guardians, or approval by the court or other pertinent authority. In some countries, minimum legal ages vary across states or provinces, ethnic or religious groups, or forms of marriage. *Sources:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *The Ninth and the Tenth United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development;* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, *Statistics and Indicators on Women and Men,* Table 2a (Last update: December 2010); United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for the Advancement of Women, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Periodic reports by States parties; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Committee on the Rights of the Child, Periodic reports by States parties.

Government concern about the level of adolescent fertility: Indicates the extent to which the Government considers the level of adolescent fertility in the country to be a concern. Three categories are distinguished: (1) a major concern; (2) a minor concern; and (3) not a concern. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Policies 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XIII.14).

Policies to reduce adolescent fertility: Indicates whether the Government has implemented any policies or measures to reduce the level of fertility among adolescents (that is, among women aged 15 to 19). *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Policies 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XIII.14).

Number of women: The estimated female population aged 15 to 49 on 1 July, 2010, according to the *2010 Revision* of the official United Nations population estimates and projections, medium variant. *Source:* United Nations,

Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision,* CD-ROM Edition.

Total fertility: The number of children a woman would have if she were subject during her lifetime to current age-specific fertility rates. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision,* CD-ROM Edition.

Contraceptive prevalence: The percentage of women aged 15 to 49 who are married or in a union and are using a contraceptive method. Two different measures are provided: (1) percentage of women using any method of contraception, whether modern or traditional and (2) percentage of women using a modern method of contraception, that is, sterilization, the pill, IUD, injectable, implant, condom or a vaginal barrier method. A union covers a marriage or a woman regularly cohabiting in a marriage-like relationship. Estimates for the world and its regions are weighted averages derived by weighting the indicators for each country, extrapolated as needed to 2009, by the estimated number of women who, in 2009, were aged 15 to 49 and were married or in a union. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Contraceptive Use 2010* (United Nations publication, POP/DB/CP/Rev.2010). The estimated weights were derived from data on the proportion of women who were married or in a union in each country as presented in *World Marriage Data 2008* (United Nations publication, POP/DB/Mar/Rev.2008) and from estimates of the number of women by age group obtained from *World Population Prospects: The 2008 Revision,* CD-ROM Edition (United Nations publication, Extended Dataset, Sales No. E.09.XIII.6).
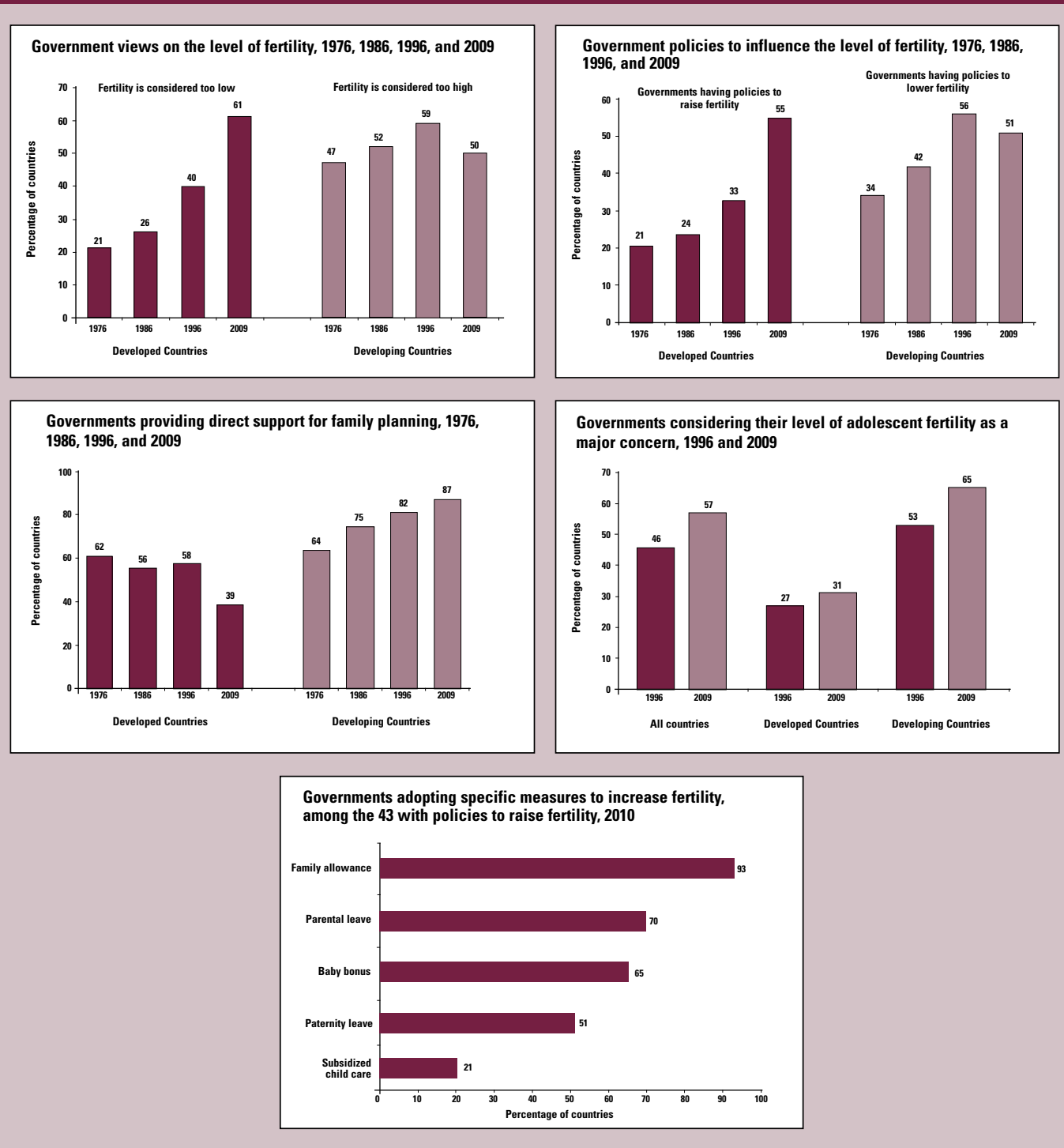
Unmet need for family planning: Women with an unmet need for family planning are those aged 15 to 49, married or in a union, who are fecund and sexually active but are not using any method of contraception although they report not wanting any more children or wanting to delay the next pregnancy. Estimates for the world and its regions are weighted averages derived by weighting the indicators for each country, extrapolated as needed to 2009, by the estimated number of women who, in 2009, were aged 15 to 49 and were married or in a union. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Contraceptive Use 2010* (United Nations Publication POP/DB/CP/Rev.2010). The estimated weights were derived from data on the proportion of women who were married or in a union in each country as presented in *World Marriage Data 2008* (United Nations publication, POP/DB/Mar/Rev.2008) and from estimates of the number of women by age group obtained from *World Population Prospects: The 2008 Revision,* CD-ROM Edition (United Nations publication, Extended Dataset, Sales No. E.09.XIII.6).

Adolescent birth rate: The annual number of births to women aged 15 to 19, divided by the number of women aged 15 to 19. It is expressed as births per 1,000 women. The estimated adolescent birth rates refer to 2005-2010 and were derived from the *2010 Revision* of the official United Nations population estimates and projections, medium variant. *Source:* United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision,* CD-ROM Edition.

Measures adopted by Governments to increase fertility:

- *Baby Bonus:* A lump sum paid to the parents at or around the time a child is born. It is also called a maternity or birth grant. Conditions for eligibility vary across countries.

- *Family allowance:* Either cash or in-kind benefits designed to facilitate the constitution and development of families. The term encompasses cash allowances, tax rebates and subsidies. Conditions for eligibility vary across countries.

- *Maternity leave:* Leave of absence for employed women at around the time of childbirth, which ensures that women can return to their jobs. It includes both paid and unpaid leave. The leave period and the duration of paid maternity leave vary across countries.

- *Paternity leave:* Leave of absence for employed fathers at around the time of childbirth, which ensures that men can return to their jobs. In some countries, the entitlement to paternity leave is part of the parental leave scheme instead of being a separate right. The paternity leave period is usually shorter than maternity leave period and varies across countries.

- *Parental leave:* Leave of absence for employed parents, which assures them the possibility of returning to their jobs. This leave is often supplementary to specific maternity and paternity leave periods. It includes both paid and unpaid leave. Parental leave periods vary across countries.

- *Subsidized child care:* Includes access to subsidized or free early education programmes, child care institutions, kindergartens, or other care and support services for children under school age. Conditions for eligibility vary across countries.

Sources: The data on measures to increase fertility at the country level are derived from various sources, most of which are governmental sources or databases maintained by United Nations agencies and regional organizations.

Figures

Government views on the level of fertility, 1976, 1986, 1996, and 2009

Government policies to influence the level of fertility, 1976, 1986, 1996, and 2009

Governments providing direct support for family planning, 1976, 1986, 1996, and 2009

Governments considering their level of adolescent fertility as a major concern, 1996 and 2009

Governments adopting specific measures to increase fertility, among the 43 with policies to raise fertility, 2010

WORLD FERTILITY POLICIES 2011

Economic & Social Affairs

UNITED NATIONS
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Population Division