

# The effect of unemployment experience on fertility timing



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# How unemployment matters?

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## Unemployment experience → postponement of fertility

long-term unemployment, high educated women

(e.g.: Adsera, 2005; Adsera, 2011; Kreyenfeld, 2009; Andersen and Ozcan, 2013; Inanc, 2015)



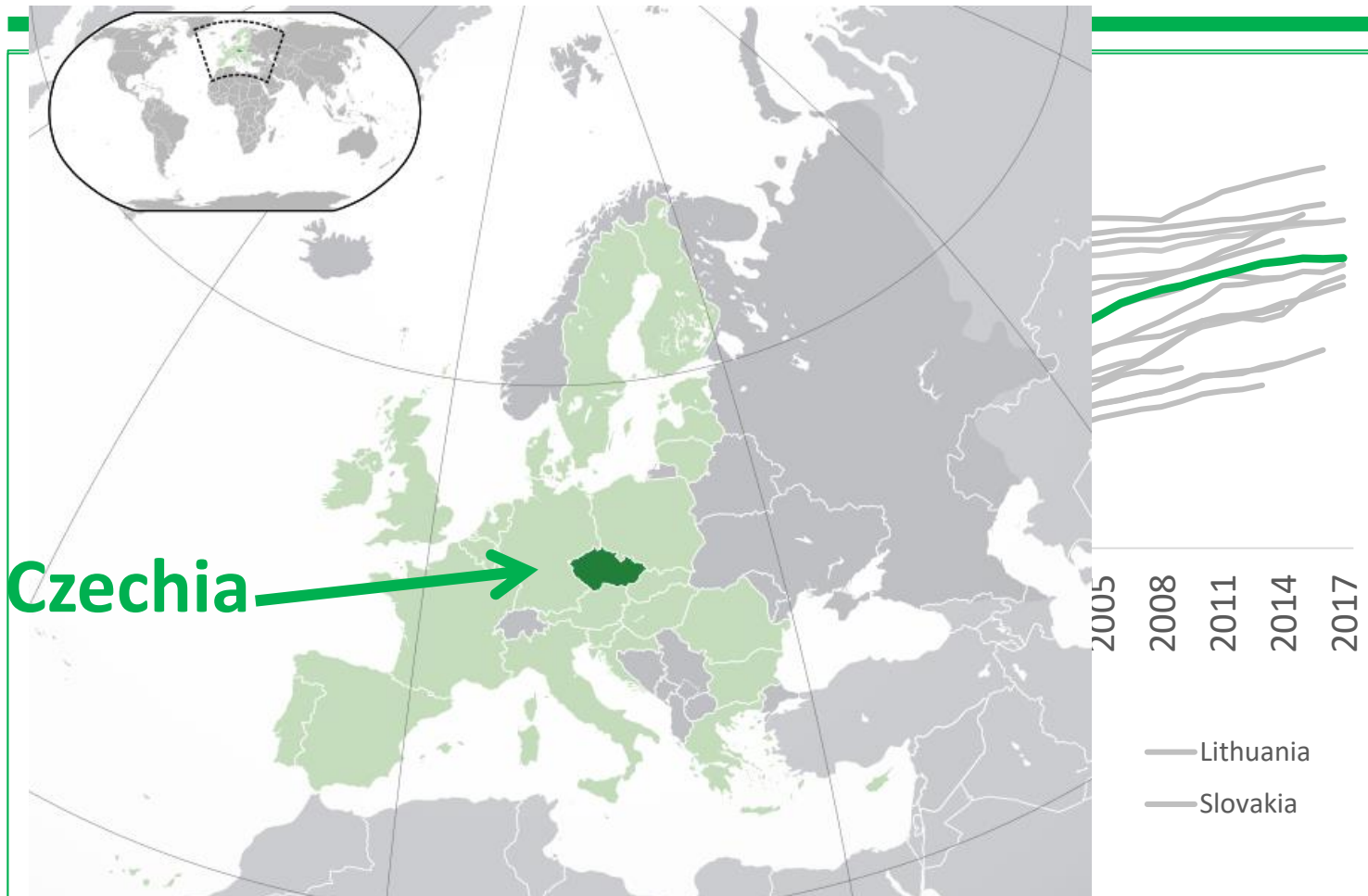
## Unemployment experience → realisation of fertility

low educated women, women older than 30

(e.g.: Kreyenfeld, 2009; Fahlén and Oláh, 2018; Schmitt, 2012; Inanc, 2015)



# European growth of the MAB1



- West x East countries
- **Case of Czechia:**
  - Quick transition from low MAB1 (1990: 22 years → 2017: 28 years)
- **Women 2016** (Ženy 2016) survey
  - N=1257
  - women born between 1966 and 1990
  - representative for age, education and region

Mean age of mother at first birth, selected European countries, 1960–2017

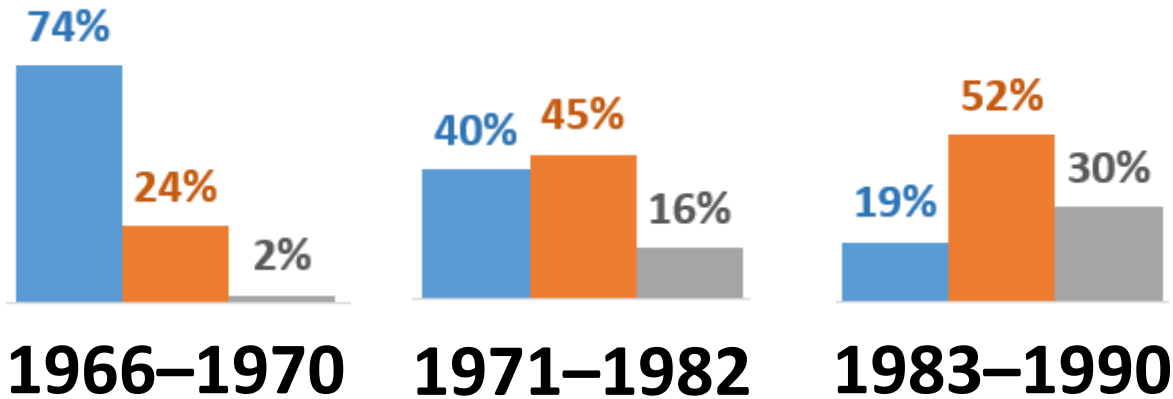
Data source: Human Fertility Database

# Unplanned and planned postponement



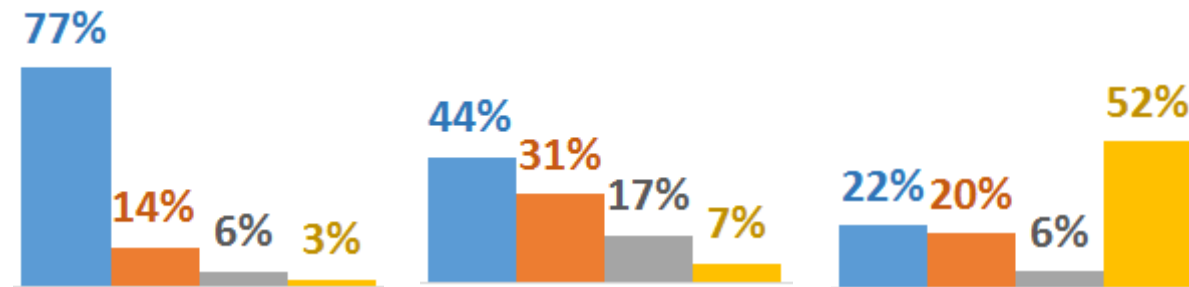
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## PLANNED AGE AT FIRST BIRTH (N=1222)



### PLANNED POSTPONEMENT

24 and under; 25-29 year;  
30 and over; childless  
(group of women by year of birth)

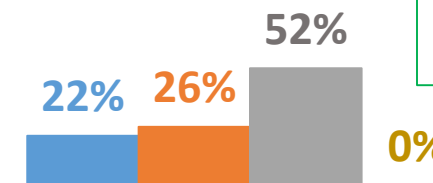


## REAL AGE AT FIRST BIRTH (N=1211)

1983-1990



estimate  
(the earliest possible plan)



### UNPLANNED POSTPONEMENT

underestimated  
↑  
0%

# Unplanned postponement of a first child



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## How many women?

**32 %** of women (born 1966–1990) unplannedly postpone a first child (declared)

## Why?



Is it possible to predict unplanned postponement?

# Data selection: Women 2016 survey



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- Survey collected **socio-economic history** of respondents from 2005/2008 to 2016

- Uncompleted history
- unprecise dating (Month, Year)

- Selection:** Women who had their first child or planned their first child in 2004+ (**N=687**)


Timing of unemployment - before birth of order X				
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Irrelevant	580	84.4	84.4	84.4
Before 1st child	64	9.3	9.3	93.7
After 1st child	23	3.3	3.3	97.1
After 2nd child	14	2.0	2.0	99.1
After 3rd child	2	0.3	0.3	99.4
Unspecified	4	0.6	0.6	100.0
Total	687	100.0	100.0	















# UNEMPLOYMENT “TYPOLOGY”

Who became unemployed?

What women do after the unemployment?

## Types of Socio-economic activity:

-  1) Student
-  2) Employed
-  3) Self-employed
-  4) Unemployed
-  5) Housewife
-  6) On maternity/parental leave
-  7) In disability pensions
-  8) Other

TOT % (N=687)*		Step X+1							
									
Step X			25.3	1.8	2.3	0.1	0.9	0.0	1.1
		0.3		2.0	6.2	0.9	18.1	0.9	3.2
		0.0	1.5		0.4	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.5
		0.3	8.1	0.8		0.5	1.2	0.0	0.4
		0.0	0.5	0.2	0.2		0.5	0.1	0.0
		0.0	10.2	1.4	2.6	0.6		0.0	0.8
		0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.1
	8	0.3	2.8	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.0	

\*990 transitions

# Logistic regression: Unplanned postponement and unemployment experience?



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- Does experience of unemployment before first birth impact unplanned postponement?
- N=687
  - **314** women postpone unplannedly first child

	Exp(B)	SE
<b>Education</b>		
Basic and vocational	0.473 <sup>+</sup>	0.428
Secondary with school leaving exam	ref	
Tertiary	1.694**	0.165
<b>Unemployment experience before first birth</b>		
Yes	2.728***	0.281
No	ref	
Nagelkerke R <sup>2</sup>	0.056	

+ p<0.10

\* p<0.05

\*\* p<0.01

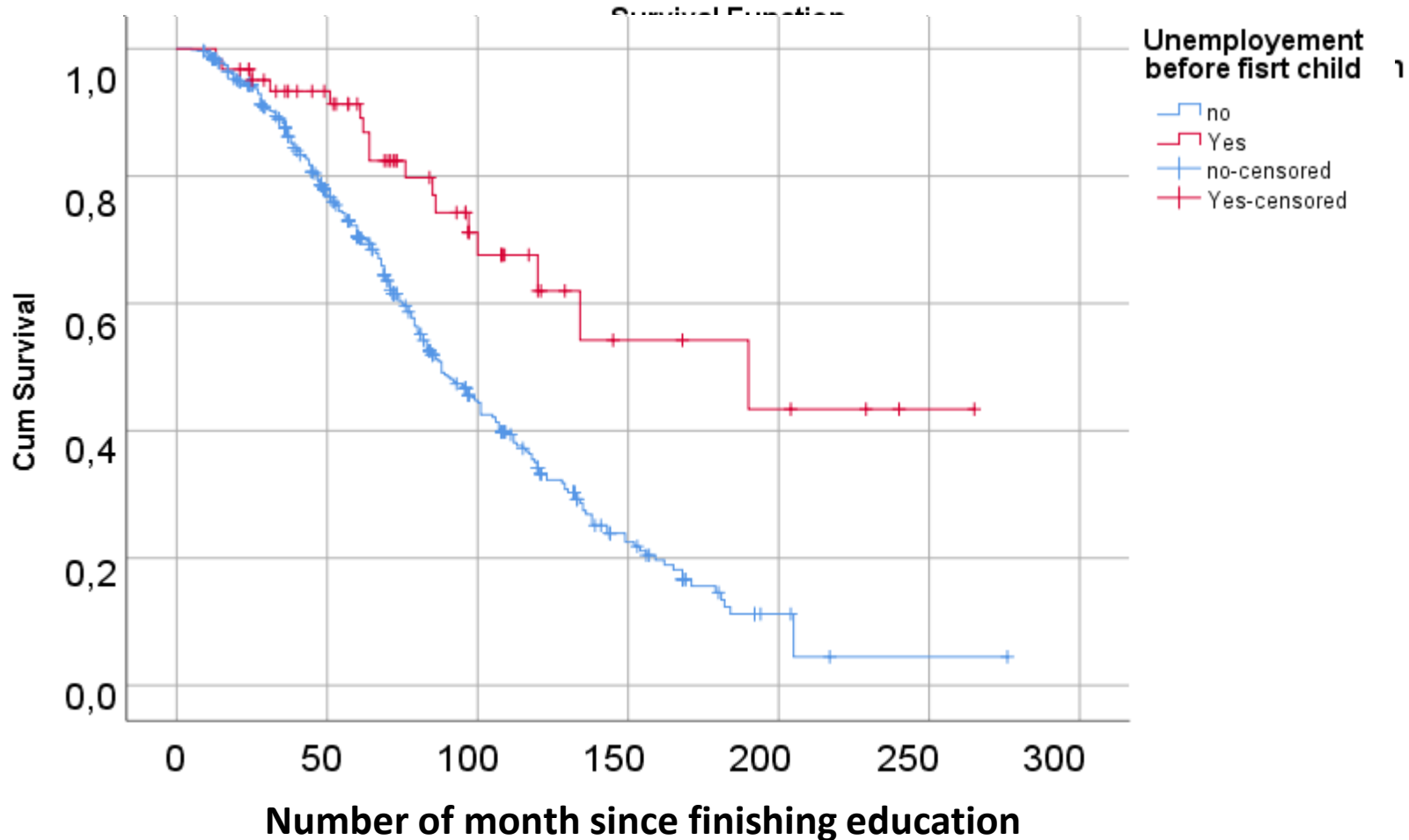
\*\*\* p<0.001



# Kaplan-Meier: Realisation of first birth since the finishing of the education



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## Medium length (month)

- **ALL:** 95 months (85-105)
- **Unplanned postponement:**
  - YES: 133 m. (121-145)
  - NO: 71 m. (64-78)
- **Unemployment experience**
  - YES: 190 m. (95-285)
  - NO: 88 m. (79-97)

# Unemployment experience and reasoning of postponement



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The unplanned postponement of a first child due to (vs. other reasons):

	material conditions	work & study	no partner	health problems
<b>Unemployment experience before first child</b>				
No	ref.	ref.	ref.	ref.
Yes (exp(B))	3.302***	0.897	1.313	1.294
SE	0.307	0.419	0.365	0.425



+  $p < 0.10$

\*  $p < 0.05$

\*\*  $p < 0.01$

\*\*\*  $p < 0.001$

# Conclusion

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The unemployment experience leads to the unplanned postponement of the first birth due to material conditions.

