

# **Household structure in most of Europe remains fairly traditional; West Europe and US number of private households by country, couples without children, couples with children, lone parents with children and one-person households in 1995**

Market Europe

December 1995

Copyright 1995 Gale Group, Inc.

Tablebase

Copyright 1995 Media Contact Resources, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. 1; Vol. 6; No. 12; ISSN: 1050-9410

**Length:** 591 words

**Highlight:** There some 360 mil Europeans living in about 140 mil private households, with traditional structures being the most common

## **Body**

---

Demographic Statistics 1995 includes data on households and families, drawn from the 1990/1991 population censuses. The data are valuable because they have been made as comparable as possible and include the new member **countries** -- Austria, Finland, and Sweden -- as well as Norway and Switzerland, who have opted not to join the Union. (You will find more-recent data in some individual profiles such as the one on Germany that begins on page 7 of this issue. However, comparative data are not available in a more-recent version.)

Of the 140 million private households, 70.5 percent are families. Nearly two-thirds of the family households have children. The average household size is 2.6, and the average number of children per family is 1.8.

Just as the United States does, most European **countries** categorize households as "family" or "nonfamily." Family households include **couples** with or **without** children and single parents with children. Nonfamily households include one-person households and those that include two or more unrelated individuals such as people who share an apartment but are not related by blood or marriage.

In Europe as a whole, 23.4 percent of households contain a **couple** with no children, 37.5 percent contain a **couple** with dependent children, 1.3 percent contain a lone father with children, and 6.1 percent, a lone mother with children.

Overall, households with two or more families are less than 1 percent of all households.

Thirty percent of all households are considered nonfamily, with the vast majority of these -- 26.7 percent -- one-person households. Women are more likely than men to occupy these households.

### HOW **COUNTRIES** DIFFER

The table on this page shows the total number of households in each **country**, but some variations from the overall pattern are worth noting. In general, the Mediterranean **countries** -- Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain -- have higher shares of family households and fewer one-person households. Scandinavian **countries** are likely to have more nonfamily households and more one-person households.

The greatest shares of households that include married **couples** and no children are in Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland, while Spain tops the list of households made up of **couples** with children.

Household structure in most of Europe remains fairly traditional; West Europe and US number of private households by country, couples without children, couples ....

SOURCE: Demographic Statistics 1995. For more information, or to order, contact any bookseller for the European Union.

### **HOW HOUSEHOLDS ARE DISTRIBUTED BY COUNTRY**

This table shows the proportion of households that fall into each

Household structure in most of Europe remains fairly traditional; West Europe and US number of private households by country, couples without children, couples ....

category, by country, for the major households types in Europe.

Percentages do not add to 100 because they do not include all household categories

<u>Country</u>	Total # of private households (in 000s)	<u>Couples without</u> children	<u>Couples with</u> children
Austria	3,013	21.9%	35.3%
Belgium	3,953	22.9	35.7
Denmark	2,274	26.6	26.3
Finland	2,037	30.6	26.2
France	21,542	24.9	38.1
Germany	35,256	23.3	30.5
Greece	3,204	23.8	49.1
Ireland	1,029	13.7	47.9
Italy	19,909	19.4	46.7
Leichtenste	11	19.1	41.9
Luxembourg	145	21.2	38.4
Netherlands	6,162	22.5	33.5
Norway	1,751	17.1	30.8
Portugal	3,146	22.7	49.9
Spain	11,836	17.9	55.8
Sweden	3,830	30.3	21.8
Switzerland	2,842	26.7	32.1
UK	22,422	27.2	32.9
United States	93,391	30.0	26.0
<u>Country</u>	Lone parents w/children	One-person households	
Austria	8.1%		29.7%
Belgium	9.2		28.4
Denmark	5.8		34.4
Finland	4.1		31.7
France	7.2		27.1
Germany	6.3		33.6
Greece	6.0		16.2
Ireland	0.6		20.2
Italy	8.5		20.6
Leichtenste	7.1		27.8

Household structure in most of Europe remains fairly traditional; West Europe and US number of private households by country, couples without children, couples ....

Luxembourg	7.9	25.5
Netherlands	6.3	30.0
Norway	8.2	34.3
Portugal	6.8	13.8
Spain	8.2	13.4
Sweden	3.9	39.6
Switzerland	5.1	32.4
UK	9.0	26.7
United States	8.0	25.0

SOURCE: European data, Demographic Statistics 1995.

U.S. data

(1993) from The Statistical Abstract, 1994.

Household structure in most of Europe remains fairly traditional; West Europe and US number of private households by country, couples without children, couples ....

## Classification

---

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Document-Type:** Fulltext

**Publication-Type:** Other (Newsletter)

**Journal Code:** MARKEURO

**Acc-No:** 1286825

**Subject:** HOUSEHOLD NUMBERS (90%); FAMILY (90%); POPULATION & DEMOGRAPHICS (90%); DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS (89%); PARENTS (79%); POPULATION SIZE (78%); EUROPEAN UNION (77%); SINGLE PARENTS (72%)

**Organization:** EUROPEAN UNION (59%)

**Industry:** BOOKSTORES (50%)

**Product:** 984000 (Demographic data)

**Geographic:** EUROPE (94%); SWEDEN (92%); SPAIN (92%); FINLAND (90%); UNITED KINGDOM (79%); NORWAY (79%); BELGIUM (79%); EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES (79%); AUSTRIA (73%); DENMARK (71%); UNITED STATES (71%); GERMANY (57%); PORTUGAL (56%); GREECE (56%); United States; European Union (EUCX); Liechtenstein (LIE); Luxembourg (LUX); Netherlands (NET); North America (NOAX); Norway (NOR); Portugal (POR); Scandinavia (SCAX); Spain (SPA); Sweden (SWE); Switzerland (SWI); United Kingdom (UNK); United States (USA); Western Europe (WEEX)

**Load-Date:** June 22, 2005