

Trend of Number of Newborns (1950-2020)

Trend Analysis

The trend data from 1950 to 2020 reveals interesting patterns in the birth rates of Germany and its neighboring countries.

1. Germany: Post-war Germany in the 1950s saw a significant baby boom, reflecting a period of recovery and growth. This trend plateaued going into the 1970s and onwards as economic stabilization and societal changes, such as increased female workforce participation and shifts in family planning, led to lower birth rates.
2. Austria and Switzerland: Similar to Germany, Austria and Switzerland experienced a baby boom in the 1950s and 1960s. The birth rates for these countries also declined from the 1970s, indicative of broader Western European trends of declining birth rates due to modernization and changing social norms.
3. France: France maintained a relatively higher and more stable birth rate compared to other European countries over the same period. Factors contributing to this include pro-family policies like child allowances and parental leave which helped sustain birth rates.
4. Poland and Czechia: In contrast to Western Europe, the birth rates in Poland and Czechia remained relatively higher during the Communist era, partly due to social policies favoring larger families. Post-1990, these rates saw a drop with the socioeconomic changes post-Communism.
5. Scandinavian Countries (Denmark): Denmark's birth rates displayed a revival in the late 1980s and early 1990s, likely due to improved family welfare programs and economic stability encouraging

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higher birth rates.

6. BeNeLux Countries (Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg): These countries saw trends similar to those of Germany, characterized by a mid-century boom followed by a gradual decline, impacted by increased urbanization and shifts in societal values towards smaller families.

Across the board, we observe a distinct pattern: the immediate post-war period experienced much higher birth rates, while modernization, economic changes, and social policies in the subsequent decades led to a gradual and sustained decline.

