

Additional file 2: Socio-demographic characteristics of the study population and general birthing population on individual country

Table 2a: Socio-demographic characteristics in Western European countries (United Kingdom (UK), Italy and Switzerland)

	Study sample in the UK n=1,120 (%)	General birthing population in UK* LB=723,165 [1] (%)	Study sample in Italy n=926 (%)	General birthing population in Italy LB=546,606 [2] (%)	Study sample in Switzerland n=618 (%)	General birthing population in Switzerland LB=80,808 [2] (%)
Mean Age +/- sd	30.5 +/- 5.2	29.6 [1]	32.3 +/- 5.0	31.3 [3]	31.6 +/- 4.3	31.4 [4]
Marital status						
In marriage	63.3	53.2 [1]	68.8	75.1 [2]	80.0	80.7 [4]
Outside marriage	36.7	46.8 [1]	31.2	31.5 [2]	20.0	19.3 [4]
Parity						
No previous children	48.0 [†]	41.9 [1] [†]	59.7	48.7 [5]	53.2	-
Educational level						
Less than high school	0.6	16.5 [1]	7.0	25.2 [6]	11.0	11.7 [6]
High school	27.9	37.2 [1]	47.2	49.2 [6]	13.6	49.2 [6]
More than high school	52.1	46.3 [1]	44.3	25.6 [6]	47.2	39.1 [6]
Other	19.3	-	1.5	-	28.2	-
Women smoking before pregnancy	25.2	25.7 [7]	34.2	33.3 [3]	25.1	25.4 [7]
Women smoking during pregnancy	7.1 [‡]	13.2 [8] [‡]	10.5	22.7 [9]	5.5	6.6 [10]
Use of alcohol during pregnancy	28.3	24.0 [11] [§]	17.9	17.7 [9]	20.7	29.9 [10]
No. of respondents/No. live births ^{**}	0.9%		1.0%		4.6%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*The figures shown here are statistic estimates for England and Wales. Scotland and Northern Ireland have separate statistical reports. Since more than 85% of the study population in UK were resident in England and about 8% in Wales, we are only showing national statistic data for these two parts of the UK.

[†]Among married women only – as provided by the Statistics Bureau in the UK.

‡Among women resident in England only (as provided by the Statistics Bureau in the UK, data on 4th Quarter of 2011).

§Women reporting at least one occasion during pregnancy of consuming more than four drinks in a day.

**The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

Table 2b: Socio-demographic characteristics in Western European countries (France, The Netherlands and Austria)

	Study sample in France n=374	General birthing population in France LB=824,263 [2]	Study sample in Netherlands n=81	General birthing population in Netherlands LB=180,060 [2]	Study sample in Austria n=82	General birthing population in Austria LB=78,109 [2]
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Mean Age +/- sd	29.6 +/- 4.9	30.1 [12]	32.0 +/- 6.4	31.0 [13]	30.6 +/- 4.6	30.0 [14]
Marital status						
In marriage	48.9	45.0 [2]	69.1	58.2 [13]	48.8	59.6 [15]
Outside marriage	51.1	55.0 [2]	30.8	41.8 [13]	51.2	40.4 [15]
Parity						
No previous children	52.9	44.2[16]	38.3	46.4 [13]	63.4	47.9 [15]
Educational level						
Less than high school	1.6	15.4 [6]	9.9	15.9 [6]	9.8	13.3 [6]
High-school	25.1	37.4 [6]	66.7	40.2 [6]	32.9	64.1 [6]
More than high school	57.0	47.2 [6]	23.5	43.9 [6]	40.2	22.7 [6]
Other	16.3	-	-	-	17.1	-
Women smoking before pregnancy	39.3	39.0 [16]	34.6	29.5 [7]	31.7	32.1 [17]
Women smoking during pregnancy	14.2	28.0 [16]	14.8	17.1 [18]	4.9	-
Use of alcohol during pregnancy	11.5	52.0 [19]	11.1	16-35 [13]	13.4	-
No. of respondents/No. live births *	0.3%		0.3%		0.6%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

Table 2c: Socio-demographic characteristics in Northern European countries (Norway, Sweden and Finland)

	Study sample in Norway n=1,228 (%)	General birthing population in Norway LB=60,220 [2] (%)	Study sample in Sweden n=887 (%)	General birthing population in Sweden LB=111,770 [2] (%)	Study sample in Finland n=574 (%)	General birthing population in Finland LB=59,961 [2] (%)
<i>Mean Age +/- sd</i>	29.0 +/- 4.6	29.8 +/- 5.3 [20]	29.8 +/- 5.3	30.3 [21]	29.0 +/- 5.1	30.1 [22]
<i>Marital status</i>						
In marriage	39.1	46.0 [20]	40.7	45.8 [2]	59.4	57.8 [22]
Outside marriage	60.9	53.4 [20]	59.3	54.2 [2]	40.6	42.0 [22]
Unknown	-	0.6 [20]			-	0.2 [22]
<i>Parity</i>						
No previous children	41.4	42.4 [20]	63.1	44.9 [21]	35.5	42.2 [22]
<i>Educational level</i>						
Less than high school	4.5	14.7 [6]	5.2	11.1 [6]	8.2	7.1 [6]
High-school	28.0	31.4 [6]	30.0	38.2 [6]	36.4	44.5 [6]
More than high school	46.9	53.9 [6]	60.6	50.6 [6]	52.6	48.4 [6]
Other	20.7	-	4.2	-	2.8	-
<i>Women smoking before pregnancy</i>	33.5	36.5 [7]	25.0	27.2 [7]	36.7	19.7 [7]
<i>Women smoking during pregnancy</i>	6.8	7.0 [20]	5.4	6.5 [21]	11.7	15.2 [22]
<i>Use of alcohol during pregnancy</i>	4.1	7.4 [23]	7.2	5.9 [24]	13.9	-
<i>No. of respondents/No. live births</i> *	12.2%		4.8%		5.7%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

Table 2d: Socio-demographic characteristics in Northern European countries (Iceland)

	Study sample in Iceland n=70 (%)	General birthing population in Iceland LB=4,492 [2] (%)
<i>Age range (years)</i>		
15-20	11.3	5.1 [25]
21-25	16.9	19.3 [25]
26-30	42.3	34.2 [25]
31-35	15.5	27.3 [25]
36-40	12.7	11.7 [25]
≥41	1.4	2.4 [25]
<i>Marital status</i>		
In marriage	31.0	35.0 [25]
Outside marriage	69.0	65.0 [25]
<i>Parity</i>		
No previous children	47.9	38.1 [25]
<i>Educational level</i>		
Less than high school	25.4	21.4 [6]
High-school	18.3	30.5 [6]
More than high school	43.7	48.1 [6]
Other	12.7	-
<i>Women smoking before pregnancy</i>	40.8	35.5 [7]
<i>No. of respondents/No. live births</i> *	9.3%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

Table 2e: Socio-demographic characteristics in Eastern European countries (Russia and Poland)

	Study sample in Russia n=1,008 (%)	General birthing population in Russia LB=1,796,629 [2] (%)	Study sample in Poland n=679 (%)	General birthing population in Poland LB=388,416 [2] (%)
<i>Mean Age +/- sd</i>	27.7 +/- 4.8	27.4 [26]	27.1 +/- 4.1	28.6 [27] *
<i>Marital status</i>				
In marriage	85.3	73.9 [26]	85.0	79.4 [27]
Outside marriage	14.7	26.1 [26]	15.0	20.6 [27]
<i>Parity</i>				
No previous children	57.9	-	40.6	50.1 [27]
<i>Educational level</i>				
Less than high school	1.6	-	1.9	8.7 [27]
High-school	9.3	-	31.1	49.6 [27]
More than high school	75.1	-	65.1	41.6 [27]
Other	14.0	-	1.9	-
<i>Women smoking before pregnancy</i>	46.1	30.8 [28]	49.2	25.0 [29]
<i>Women smoking during pregnancy</i>	9.6	4.3-6.5 [30, 31]	12.8	22-30 [29]
<i>Use of alcohol during pregnancy</i>	26.0	60.0 [32]	9.6	15.3 [33]
<i>No. of respondents/No. live births</i> †	0.3%		1.0%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*Median age of women at birth, not mean age.

†The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

Table 2f: Socio-demographic characteristics in Eastern European countries (Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia)

	Study sample in Croatia n=286	General birthing population in Croatia LB=41,197 [2]	Study sample in Serbia n=220	General birthing population in Serbia LB=65,598 [2]	Study sample in Slovenia n=149	General birthing population in Slovenia LB=21,947 [2]
	n (%)	(%)	n (%)	(%)	n (%)	(%)
<i>Mean Age +/- sd</i>	29.1 +/- 4.5*	27.7 [34]	29.2 +/- 3.9*	28.7 [35]	31.7 +/- 4.5	30.4 [36]
<i>Marital status</i>						
In marriage	83.9	86.7 [34]	90.1	76.1 [35]	47.0	43.2 [36]
Outside marriage	16.1	13.3 [34]	9.9	23.9 [35]	53.0	56.8 [36]
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Parity</i>						
No previous children	50.7	46.9 [34]	46.8	51.1 [35]	45.6	48.5 [36]
<i>Educational level</i>						
Less than high school	1.0	3.1 [34]	0.9	15.9 [37]	2.0	8.5 [36]
High-school	36.7	52.5 [34]	33.6	54.9 [37]	24.8	48.5 [36]
More than high school	61.2	44.4 [34]	61.8	29.2 [37]	69.1	43.0 [36]
Other	1.0	-	3.6	-	4.0	-
<i>Women smoking before pregnancy</i>	50.0	34.4 [34]	49.1	29.9 [38]	32.9	34.4 [7]
<i>Women smoking during pregnancy</i>	18.8	23.1 [39]	18.2	18.4 [40]	6.7	9.6-11.2 [41]
<i>Use of alcohol during pregnancy</i>	12.6	15.5 [42]	15.0	-	32.2	-
<i>No. of respondents/No. live births</i> †	4.2%		2.0%		4.1%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*Mean age for first child (as it is available from the Statistics Bureau reports in Croatia and Serbia).

†The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

Table 2g: Socio-demographic characteristics in North American countries (USA, Canada) and Australia.

	Study sample in The USA n=297	General birthing population in USA LB=3,999,386 [43]	Study sample in Canada n=236	General birthing population in Canada LB=377,636 [44]	Study sample in Australia n=217	General birthing population in Australia LB=301,617 [45]
	n (%)	(%)	n (%)	(%)	n (%)	(%)
<i>Age range (years)</i>						
15-19	4.7	9.3 [43]	2.1	3.9 [44]	2.3	3.8 [45]
20-24	18.2	23.8 [43]	25.0	14.6 [44]	8.8	13.8 [45]
25-29	28.3	28.3 [43]	30.1	30.2 [44]	31.8	27.9 [45]
30-34	29.3	24.1 [43]	30.5	32.2 [44]	27.6	31.7 [45]
35-39	15.2	11.6 [43]	11.0	15.6 [44]	22.1	18.4 [45]
40-44	4.0	2.7 [43]	1.3	3.1 [44]	6.9	4.0 [45]
≥45	0.3	0.2 [43]	-	0.2 [44]	0.5	0.2 [45]
<i>Mean Age +/- sd</i>	29.3 +/- 6.1	-	28.3 +/- 5.2	29.6 [44]	31.1 +/- 5.7	30.7 [45]
<i>Marital status</i>						
In marriage	67.0	59.2 [46]	42.4	60.4 [44]	70.5	65.8 [45]
Outside marriage	33.0	39.9 [46]	57.6	28.8 [44]	29.5	34.2 [45]
Unknown	-	0.9 [46]	-	10.8[44]	-	-
<i>Parity</i>						
No previous children	41.1	40.1 [43]	48.3	43.3 [44]	47.9	43.8 [45]
<i>Educational level</i>						
Less than high school	2.7	17.4 [47]	1.3	8.4 [48]	0.5	20.6 [49]
High-school	25.3	24.4 [47]	24.6	-	29.0	
More than high school	62.0	58.2 [47]	67.8	69.6 [48]	63.1	56.0 [50]

	Study sample in The USA n=297	General birthing population in USA LB=3,999,386 [43]	Study sample in Canada n=236	General birthing population in Canada LB=377,636 [44]	Study sample in Australia n=217	General birthing population in Australia LB=301,617 [45]
	n (%)	(%)	n (%)	(%)	n (%)	(%)
Other	10.1	-	6.4	-	7.4	-
<i>Women smoking before pregnancy</i>	28.3	21.5 [51]	29.2	22.0 [52]	29.1	29.9 [53]
<i>Women smoking during pregnancy</i>	8.1	10.2 [54]	16.1	13.4 [48]	14.3	14.5 [55]
<i>Use of alcohol during pregnancy</i>	17.5	15.5 [51]	16.1	10.5 [48]	27.2	29.0 [56]
<i>No. of respondents/No. live births*</i>	0.04%		0.4%		0.4%	

Abbreviations: LB: Number of live births per year.

*The ratio “No. of respondents/No. live births” is calculated as the proportion (%) of pregnancies included in the study among live births in the country in two months (period of data collection).

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