

Migrant fertility in Europe: Accelerated decline during the recession period?

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This study gives an overview of fertility trends among migrant women in Europe. It covers about 30 countries, representing well the broader regions in Europe. I focus especially on fertility rates of women born abroad and contrast them with fertility of the “native-born” women. I look at both long-term changes in migrant fertility rates since 1980 and at more recent trends, especially during and after the recent period of economic recession (2008-15). This analysis indicates that migrant fertility fell in most countries during the recession period. The fall in fertility among migrant women has often accelerated a long-term convergence in fertility between native and migrant women. However, migrant women contribute strongly to the number of births in Western, Northern and Southern Europe and they also give a modest boost to period fertility rates in most of the analysed countries.