

Fertility and assisted reproduction from the perspective of migrant women in Germany

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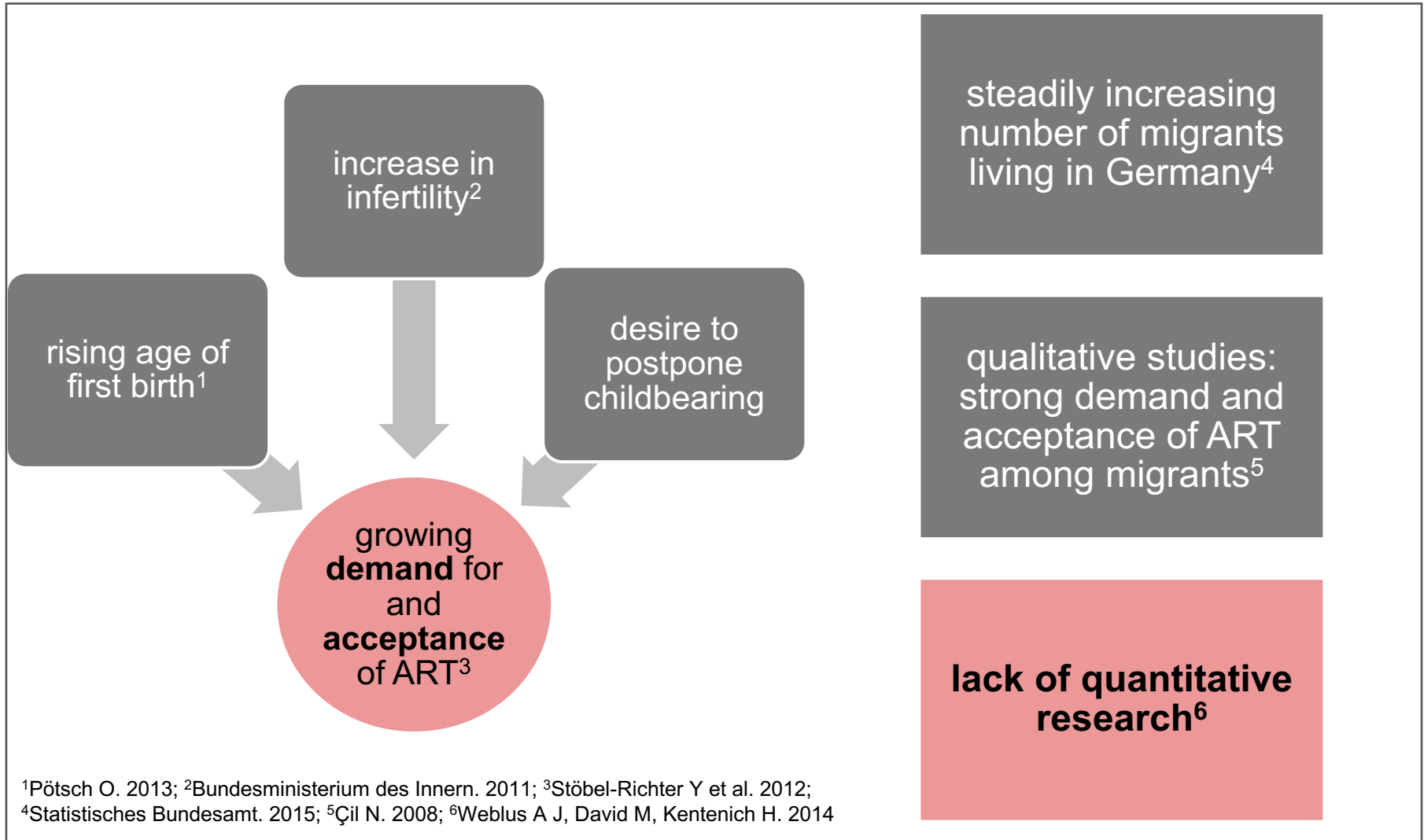
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1. Context and Research question



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increase in
infertility²

steadily increasing
number of migrants
living in Germany⁴

rising age
first birth¹

Research question

Are there differences between non-migrant and migrant women's knowledge of and attitude towards ART? If yes, why?

es:
and
ART
ts⁵

acceptance
of ART³

lack of quantitative
research⁶

¹Pötsch O. 2013; ²Bundesministerium des Innern. 2011; ³Stöbel-Richter Y et al. 2012;
⁴Statistisches Bundesamt. 2015; ⁵Çil N. 2008; ⁶Weblus A J, David M, Kenterich H. 2014

Research question

Are there differences between non-migrant and migrant women's knowledge of and attitude towards ART? If yes, why?

nationwide survey (CATI) of 1.001 women of Polish, Turkish, frmr. Yugoslav, frmr. Soviet and German (non-migrant) descent (ages 18 to 50)

Population sample drawn from German telephone directory using an onomastic method

Survey period:
October 29th, 2014 – January 24th, 2015

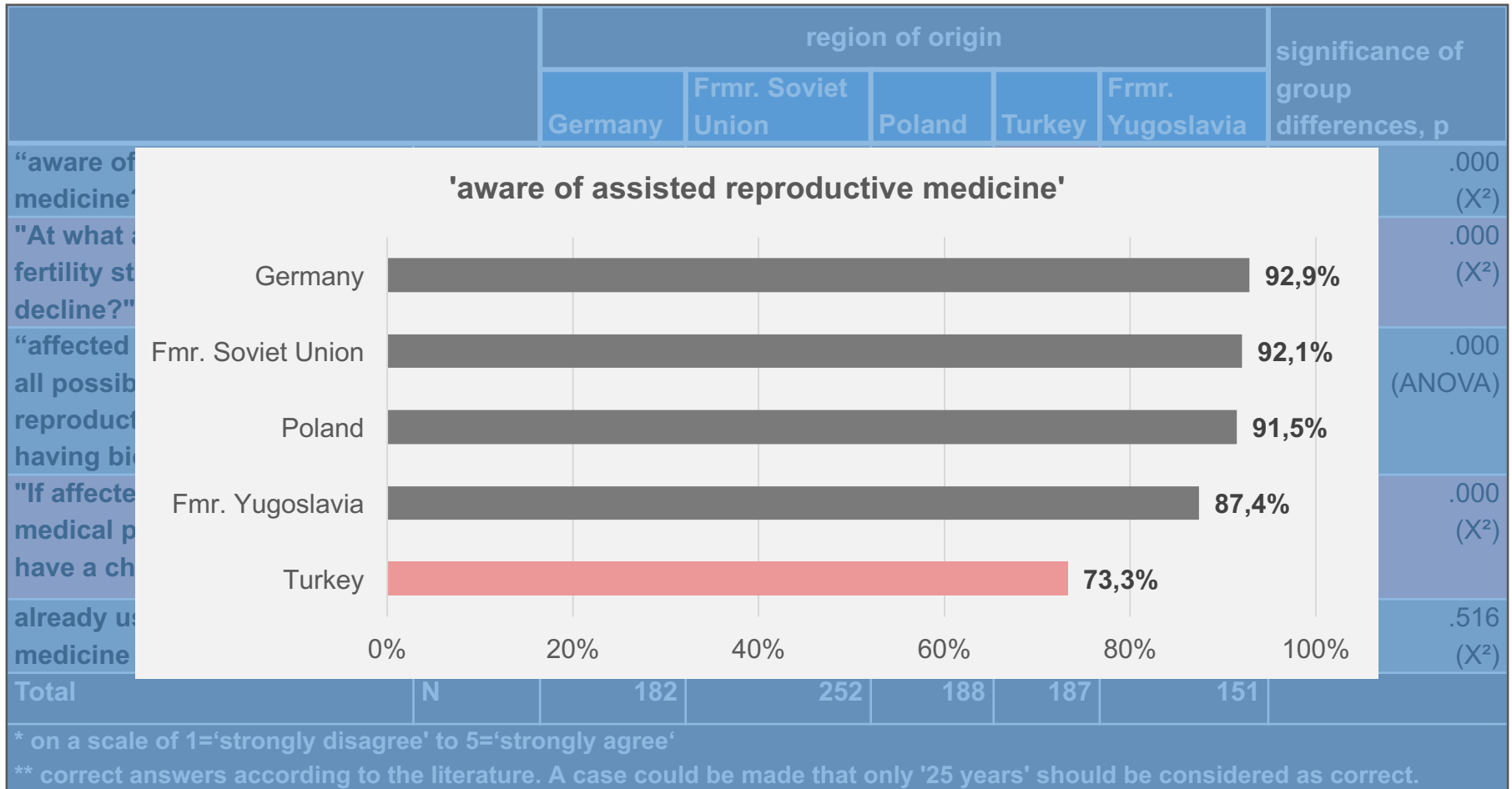
	region of origin				
	Germany	Fmr. Soviet Union	Poland	Turkey	Fmr. Yugoslavia
married	64,6%	81,3%	72,9%	77,5%	80,1%
mother of biological children	74,2%	91,3%	79,3%	79,7%	86,8%
educational degree					
Hauptschule/Pflichtschule (compulsory)	8,8%	10,3%	3,7%	29,0%	18,1%
secondary school level	42,3%	57,5%	31,6%	33,3%	38,9%
Hochschulreife (higher education entrance)	47,3%	30,2%	57,2%	27,4%	39,6%
religion					
roman catholic	40,6%	11,6%	93,5%	,5%	34,7%
protestant	29,4%	38,2%	,5%	1,1%	1,3%
muslim	2,2%	0,4%	0,0%	92,5%	40,0%
orthodox christian	0,0%	24,3%	0,0%	1,1%	12,7%
none	23,3%	17,9%	4,8%	1,6%	9,3%
N*	182	252	188	187	151

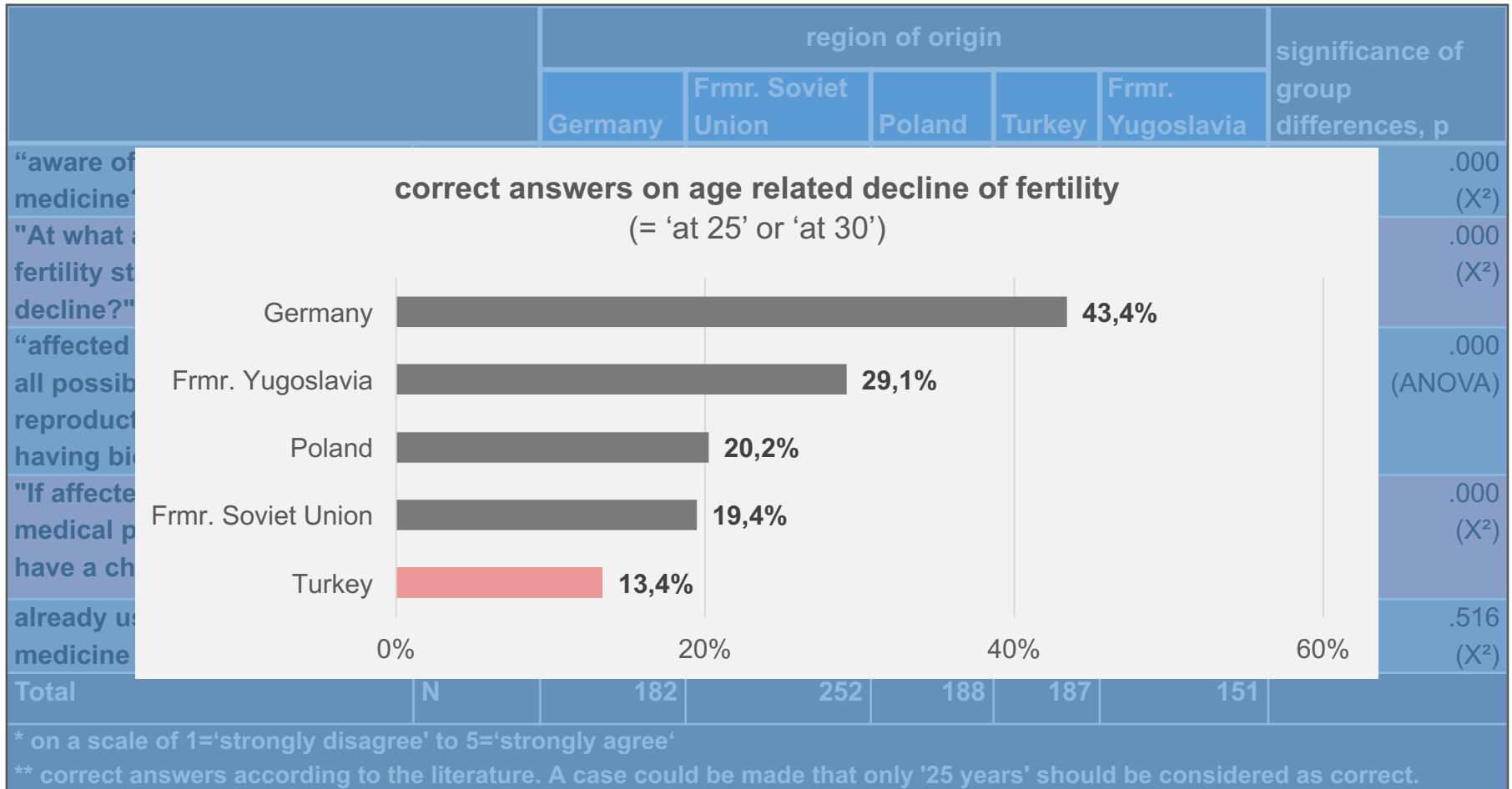
*total number per country of origin. Slight deviations on some variables due to missing values.

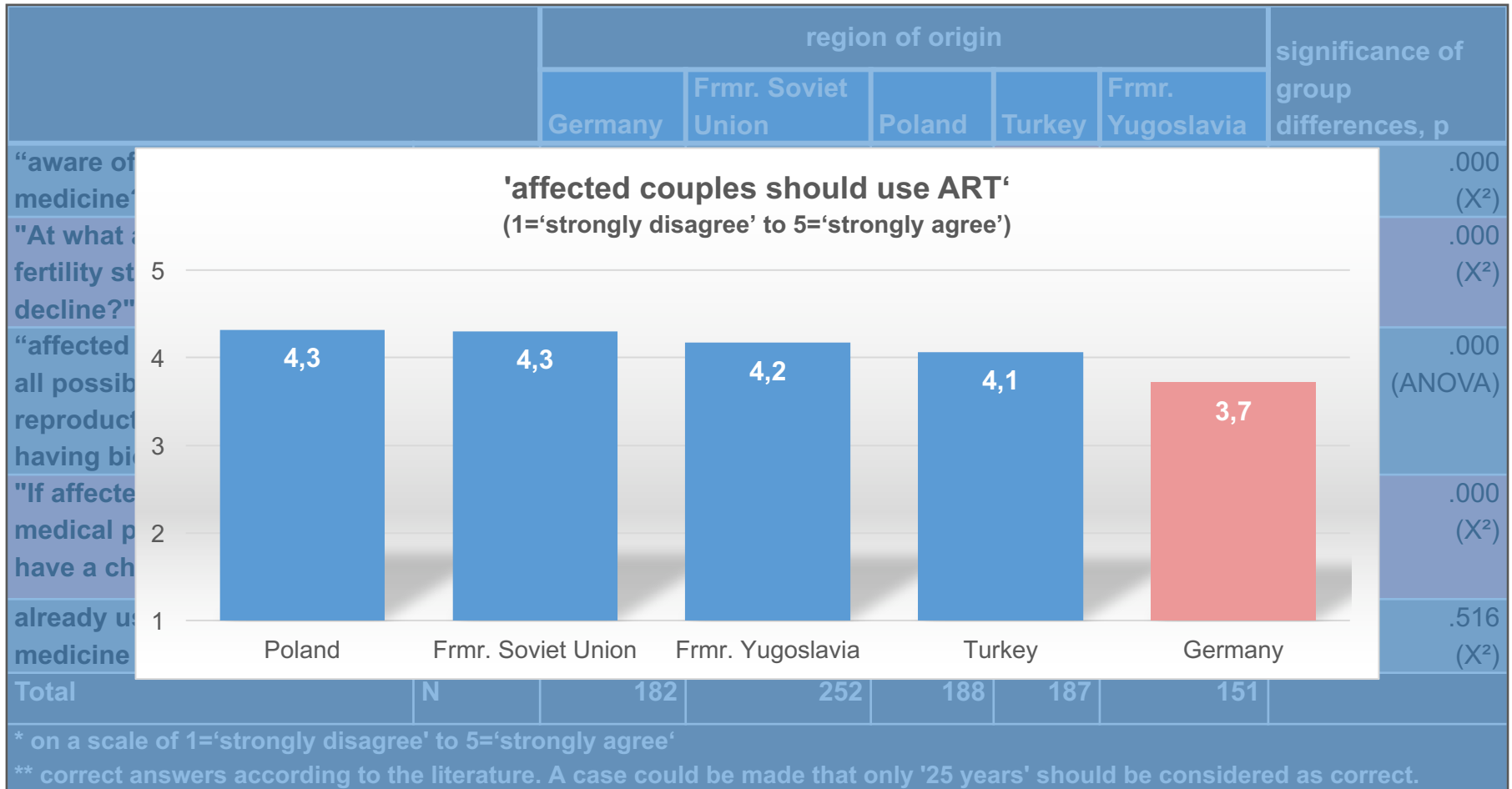
		region of origin					significance of group differences, p
		Germany	Fmr. Soviet Union	Poland	Turkey	Fmr. Yugoslavia	
"aware of reproductive medicine?"	Yes	92,9%	92,1%	91,5%	73,3%	87,4%	.000 (X ²)
"At what age does female fertility start to gradually decline?" **	correct answers	43,4%	19,5%	20,2%	13,4%	29,1%	.000 (X ²)
"affected couples should use all possibilities of reproductive medicine for having biological children."**	mean	3,72	4,30	4,32	4,06	4,17	.000 (ANOVA)
	SD	1,061	0,910	0,983	1,287	1,035	
"If affected, I would use medical procedures to still have a child of my own."	Definitely	55,5%	71,0%	78,7%	75,4%	63,6%	.000 (X ²)
	Maybe.	30,2%	22,6%	11,7%	16,6%	22,5%	
already used reproductive medicine	Yes	8,2%	6,0%	8,5%	6,4%	7,9%	.516 (X ²)
Total	N	182	252	188	187	151	

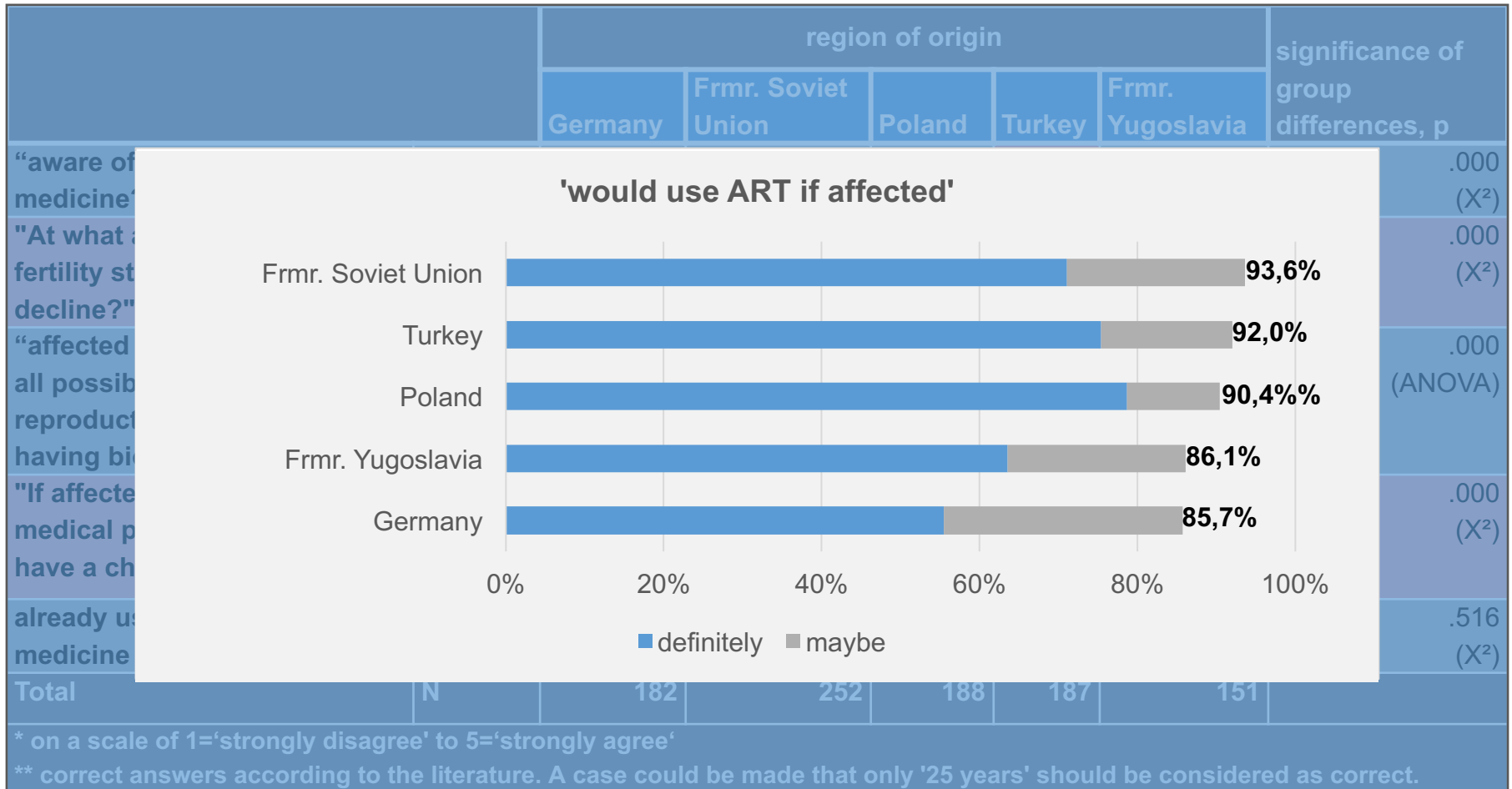
* on a scale of 1='strongly disagree' to 5='strongly agree'

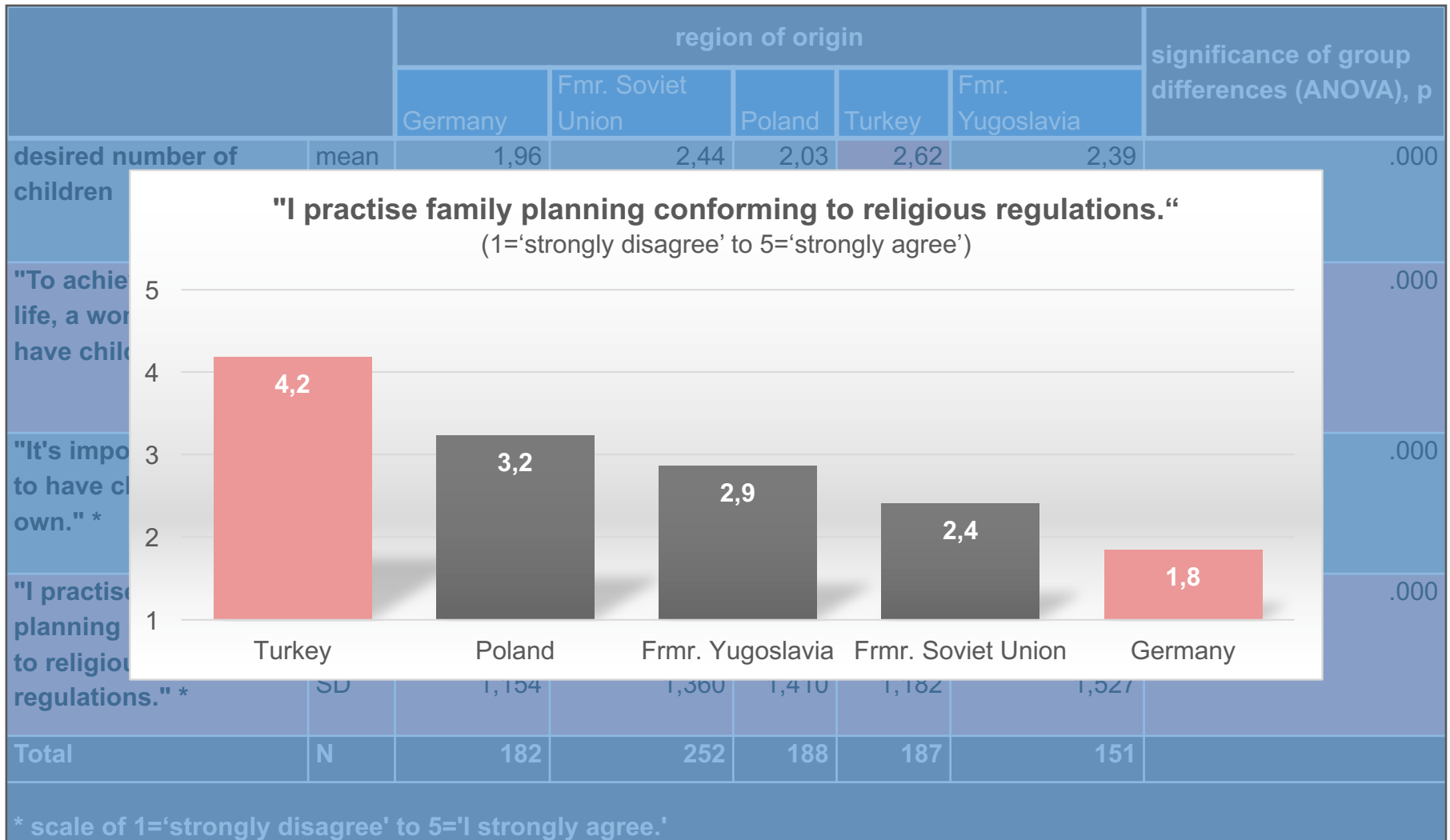
** correct answers according to the literature. A case could be made that only '25 years' should be considered as correct.











Regression: 'aware of assisted reproductive medicine.' (0=No, 1=Yes)			
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
	Exp(B)/Sign	Exp(B)/Sign	Exp(B)/Sign
region of origin			
Germany	reference category		
Fmr. Soviet Union	0,939	1,14	1,834
Poland	0,882	0,785	1,262
Turkey	0,211***	0,324***	0,557
Fmr. Yugoslavia	0,534	0,687	0,800
age and formal education			
age		1,041**	1,044**
lower education	reference category		
middle education		3,954***	3,905***
higher education		1,949*	1,996*
personal network and importance of religious regulations			
people with expert knowledge inside the personal sphere (number)			1,128**
"I practise family planning conforming to religious regulations."			0,821*
Nagelkerkes R ²	0,084	0,125	0,182
Constant	13,000***	1,181	1,057
Total (N)	832		
*p<=0,05. **p<=0,01. ***p<=0,001			

Regression: 'aware of assisted reproductive medicine.' (0=No, 1=Yes)			
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
reg			Sign
Ge			
Frn			,834
Pol			,262
Tur			,557
Frn			,800
age			
age			044**
low			
mid			05***
high			996*
per			
ped			
sph			128**
"I p			821*
reg			
Na			,182
Constant	13,000***	1,181	1,057
Total (N)	832		
*p<=0,05. **p<=0,01. ***p<=0,001			

Conclusions on ART awareness

- Lower awareness among women of Turkish descent
- formal education seems to be the most significant factor (+)
- additional contributing factors:
 - *people with expert knowledge inside the personal sphere (+)*
 - age (+)
 - *conformity to religious regulations (-)*

Regression: "If affected, I would use medical procedures." (0=No, 1=Yes)			
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
	Exp(B)/Sign	Exp(B)/Sign	Exp(B)/Sign
region of origin			
Germany	reference category		
Frnr. Soviet Union	3,060**	3,045**	2,063
Poland	2,270*	2,311*	1,622
Turkey	2,284*	3,006**	3,949**
Frnr. Yugoslavia	1,258	1,391	1,075
Education and awareness of reproductive medicine			
low education	reference category		
middle education		1,337	1,435
high education		1,266	1,659
aware of reproductive medicine		2,357**	2,313*
Attitude towards children and reproductive medicine			
"For a fulfilling life, a woman needs to have children."			1,109
"I practise family planning conforming to religious regulations."			0,855
"Involuntarily childless couples should use all possibilities of reproductive medicine for having biological children."			2,209***
Nagelkerkes R ²	0,033	0,053	0,212
Constant	6,208***	2,257	0,132**
Total (N)	887		
*p<=0,05. **p<=0,01. ***p<=0,001			

Regression: "If affected, I would use medical procedures." (0=No, 1=Yes)			
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
			/Sign
Conclusions on willingness to use ART			
Increased willingness among women from...			
➤ frmr. Soviet Union			2,063
➤ Poland			1,622
➤ and <i>especially</i> Turkey			949**
additional contributing factors:			
➤ <i>awareness</i> of ART (+)			1,075
➤ acceptance of ART as <i>social norm</i> (theory of planned behaviour) (+)			1,435
➤ formal education, ideas about womanhood and religious attitudes show <i>no significant effects</i>			1,659
			,313*
			1,109
			0,855
			09***
			0,212
			132**
Total (N)		007	
*p<=0,05. **p<=0,01. ***p<=0,001			

- **Are there differences between non-migrant and migrant women's knowledge of and attitude towards ART? →YES**
- **much lower awareness among women of Turkish descent and...**
- **knowledge on fertility issues is lower among migrant women due to...**
 - ...lower level of formal education among some groups, especially women from Turkey
 - ...less expert knowledge among people inside the personal sphere
 - ...reliance on information in the native language, especially among women from Turkey
- **stronger acceptance of and willingness to use ART among migrant women due to...**
 - ...pronounced desire for children and high importance of having children of their own
 - ...a strong majority seeing fertility as a prerequisite for a woman to lead a fulfilling life
 - ...a strong conformity to religious regulations not necessarily being a hindrance

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publications and further information available at

www.oth-regensburg.de/IST

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