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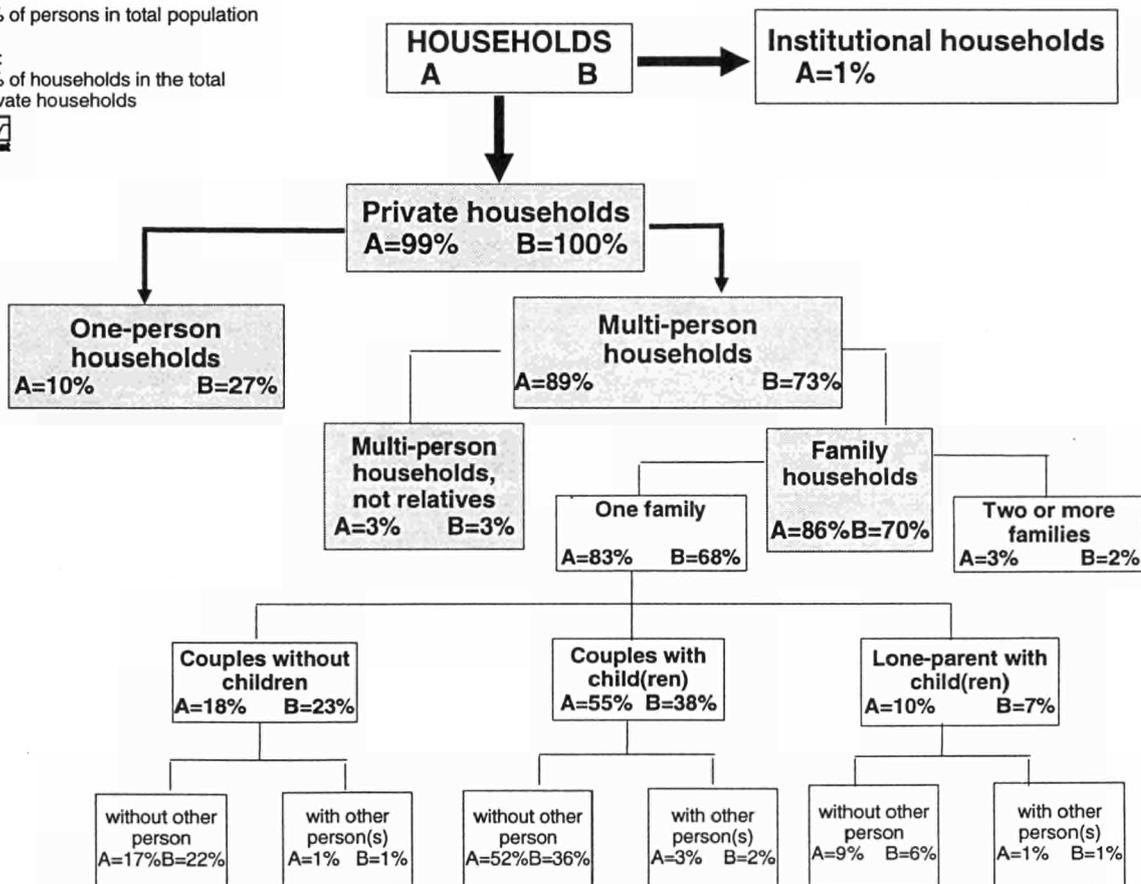
HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES IN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

Recent developments in marriage and divorce, and also in fertility and mortality, have led to significant changes in household composition; cohabiting unmarried couples and lone-parent families are more frequent, traditional family structures are in decline, and more and more people are living alone. In this report, the definitions used in the 1990/91 censuses carried out in the EEA are briefly discussed and a number of basic tables are presented. The following diagram shows the incidence of different types of households in the EEA.

LEGEND

Left:
A = % of persons in total population

Right:
B = % of households in the total of private households



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DEFINITIONS

Data on households and families are still far from comparable, despite the recommendations drawn up by the United Nations (1974, 1980 and 1988) and the Economic Commission for Europe (1978 and 1988). It is planned that these recommendations should be revised for the Censuses in the year 2000.

The following definitions were recommended for use in the 1990 Censuses.

Institutional households

"The segment of the population living in institutional households and other communal establishments (...) comprises groups of persons living together, usually sharing their meals, bound by a common objective and generally subject to common rules, e.g. groups of persons living together in dormitories of schools and universities, hospitals, old age homes and other welfare institutions, religious institutions, military and police installations, correctional and penal institutions. etc." (United Nations Statistical Commission and Economic Commission for Europe, 1988).

Private households

"A private household is either:

(a) a one-person household, i.e. a person who lives

alone in a separate housing unit or who occupies, as a lodger, a separate room (or rooms) of a housing unit but does not join with any of the other occupants of the housing unit to form part of a multi-person household as defined below; or

(b) a multi-person household, i.e. a group of two or more persons who combine to occupy the whole or part of a housing unit and to provide themselves with food and possibly other essentials for living. The group may pool their income to a greater or lesser extent. The group may be composed of related persons only or of unrelated persons or of a combination of both, including boarders and excluding lodgers (...). Boarders take meals with the household and generally are allowed to use all the available household facilities. Lodgers, however, are sub-tenants who have hired part of the housing unit for their exclusive use." (United Nations Statistical Commission and Economic Commission for Europe, 1988).

This concept was applied by 10 EEA countries and Switzerland. The other countries applied either a somewhat restricted housekeeping concept where members of household must be related by blood or marriage (housekeeping concept with kinship relationship) or the dwelling concept. The latter concept corresponds to the UN recommendation defined as the aggregate number of persons occupying a housing unit.

Table 1: Household and family concepts used at national level

	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL
HOUSEHOLDS										
Dwelling concept	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Housekeeping concept	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+
Housekeeping concept with kinship relationship	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
FAMILY										
Age limit to be considered as child	none	< 18	none	none	none	none	none	none	< 25	none
Consensual unions regarded as family nuclei	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Family nuclei can consist of grand-parents with grandchildren	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Single-person regarded as family unit	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(1) Iceland does not apply a household concept. Some estimates are provided in this publication according to the number of occupied dwellings



Family nuclei and families

"For census purposes, the family should be defined in the narrow sense of a family nucleus, that is, the persons within a private or institutional household who are related as husband and wife or as parent and never-married child by blood or adoption. Thus, a family nucleus comprises a married couple without children or a married couple with one or more never-married children of any age or one parent with one or more never-married children of any age. The term "married couple" (...) should include whenever possible couples who report that they are living in consensual unions." (United Nations Statistical Commission and Economic Commission for Europe, 1988).

Lone-parent and reconstituted families

Although the term "lone-parent families" is not used, the UN recommends that fathers and mothers living alone with a child or children be placed in a specific category. The majority of countries more or less follows this concept. In Belgium, Germany and Greece, lone-parent families are included with cohabiting couples. With respect to children a variety of age limits are used.

Reconstituted families and the status of children in such families can be observed only through specific surveys.

There is no UN recommendation concerning the statistics on reconstituted families. Social science researchers use a variety of definitions, such as: "union of two parents from lone-parent families or of one parent from a lone-parent family and one single person or a family in which a couple are bringing up a child who is the child of only one member of the couple".

As the result of different definitions used at national levels (table 1), international differences are not always easy to explain.

Data used

The main statistical sources are the population censuses carried out in 1990 and 1991. In most countries, censuses take into account the usual place of residence. In Ireland and in Greece, the censuses describe the *de facto* situation: the members of a household are all those present in the household on the census reference date.

In Denmark, Finland and Iceland, the figures are taken from the population registers. In the Netherlands, the Housing Demand Survey and the Labour Force Survey are used.

A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS(1)	FL	N	CH	
									HOUSEHOLDS
-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	Dwelling concept
+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	Housekeeping concept
-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Housekeeping concept with kinship relationship
									FAMILY
none	none	< 18	< 18	none	< 15	none	< 18	none	Age limit to be considered as child
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Consensual unions regarded as family nuclei
-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	Family nuclei can consist of grand-parents with grandchildren
-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	Single-person regarded as family unit

HOUSEHOLDS STRUCTURES IN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

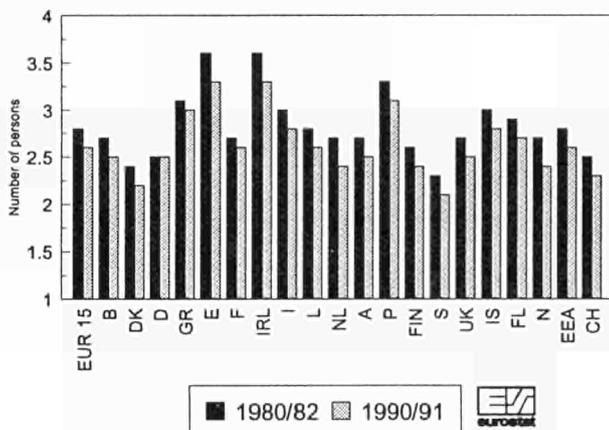
Almost all inhabitants (98.6 %) of the European Economic Area live in private households.

Private households are getting smaller

The average size of the private household differs between the regions. The countries in southern Europe and Ireland have the largest average household - a feature apparent since the 1960's.

In both the south and the north, the average size of households has fallen over the past few decades (Graph1).

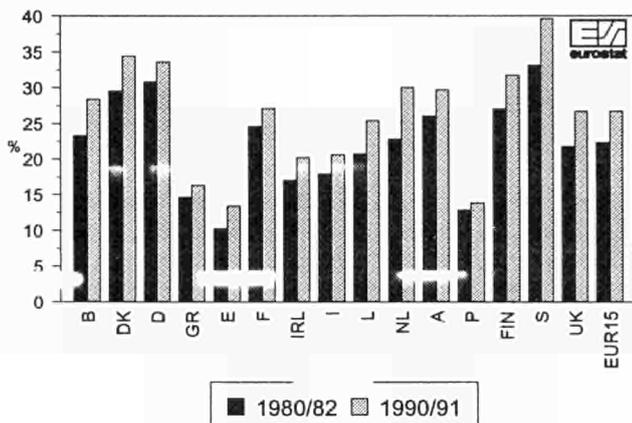
Graph 1:
Trend in average size of households



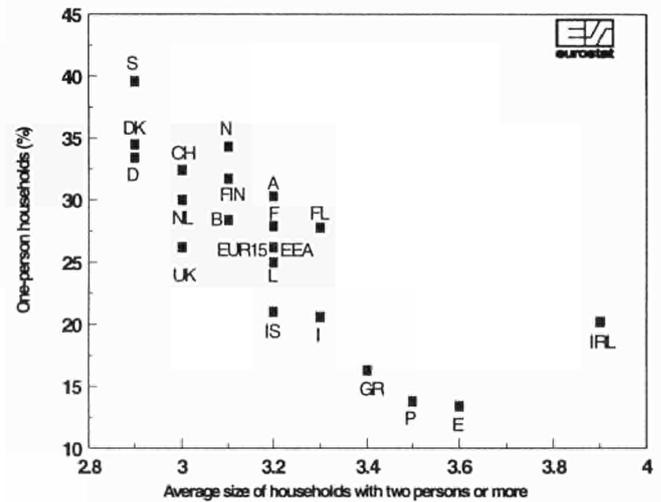
This trend is related to two developments: the increase of percentage of one-person household (Graph 2) and the decrease in the average size of households with two persons or more.

These developments result from radical socio-cultural and demographic changes, such as a later age at leaving the parental home, the drop in fertility, the rise of divorce and ageing.

Graph 2:
Trend in percentages of one-person households



Graph 3:
One-person households and average size of households with two persons or more - 1990/1991



A comparison of the percentage of one-person households and the average size of households with two persons or more (Graph 3) shows that countries with a high proportion of one-person households also tend to have smaller households with two persons or more. Only in Ireland is the average size of households consisting of two or more persons particularly large. This relationship reflects the tendency of households to become increasingly nuclear and individual. However, not all countries are at the same stage of this development; the north-south regionalization described above is repeated here.

In all countries, women are over-represented in one-person households due mainly to differences in life expectancy.

Family households are the majority

Two thirds of the households comprise at least one family. About 2% consist of two or more families. The general trend is towards family nuclei living alone (63%); families which include persons other than those forming part of the strict nucleus are tending to become rarer. 27 % of all households consists of only one person.

In term of persons, it becomes even clearer that the family household is still the dominant type of living arrangement: 86 % of the EEA population lives in a family household, whereas just 10 % lives in a one-person household.

Table 2: Population, households and families in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

	Population			Private households		Families			
	Total (1000)	In private households		Total (1000)	Average number of persons	Total ⁽⁴⁾ (1000)	With children ⁽⁵⁾ (1000)	Number of children ⁽⁵⁾ (1000)	Average number of children per family
		(1000)	%						
EUR 15	364 207	360 205	98.6	139 758	2.6	98 486	64 884	117 310	1.8
B	9 979	9 851	98.7	3 953	2.5	2 740	1 813	3 195	1.8
DK	5 146	5 062	98.4	2 274	2.2	1 389	655	1 075	1.6
D	79 829	80 152 ⁽²⁾	99.6 ⁽²⁾	35 256	2.5	22 032	13 638	22 388	1.6
GR	10 260	10 013	97.6	3 204	3.0	2 527	1 764	3 135	1.8
E	38 872	38 620	99.4	11 836	3.3	9 700	7 578	15 115	2.0
F	56 652	55 397	97.8	21 542	2.6	15 391	9 899	18 488	1.9
IRL	3 526	3 433	97.4	1 029	3.3	758	613	1 524	2.5
I	56 778	56 322	99.2	19 909	2.8	15 538	11 415	19 910	1.7
L	385	378	98.4	145	2.6	102	70	118	1.7
NL	15 070	14 797	98.2	6 162	2.4	3 838	2 445	4 528	1.9
A	7 796	7 660	98.3	3 013	2.5	2 145	1 434	2 504	1.7
P	9 863	9 804	99.4	3 146	3.1	2 764	1 937	3 561	1.8
FIN	4 998	4 927	98.6	2 037	2.4	1 364	874	1 537	1.8
S	8 587	8 181 ⁽³⁾	95.3	3 830	2.1	2 217	1 040	1 836	1.8
UK	56 467	55 606	98.6	22 422	2.5	15 981	9 709	18 396	1.9
IS	256	256	100.0	93	2.8	62	38	67	1.8
FL ⁽⁶⁾	29	28	97.6	11	2.7	7	5	10	2.0
N	4 248	4 206	99.0	1 751	2.4	1 116	597	:	:
EEA	368 740	364 696	98.6	141 613	2.6	99 672	65 524	:	:
CH ⁽⁶⁾	6 874	6 635	96.5	2 842	2.3	1 830	1 064	1 874	1.8

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

The reference dates are: F: 5.3.90; S: 1.11.90; N: 3.11.90; IS: 1.12.90; CH,FL: 4.12.90; FIN: 31.12.90; DK: 1.1.91; B, E, L: 1.3.91; GR: 17.3.91; P: 15.4.91; IRL, UK: 21.4.91; D: 4.91; A: 15.5.91; NL: average 1991; I: 20.10.91.



(2) Germany does not apply the residence criteria strictly, which can lead to double counting of persons away from home and occupying

another dwelling as a (sub-) tenant. This explains why the number of persons in private households is greater than the estimated total population.

(3) The total number of persons in private households is underestimated because some are not classified as belonging to a specific household and because some questionnaires were not returned.

(4) Belgium, Germany and Greece do not count couples living in consensual unions as a family nuclei.

(5) In this context, children are of any age except for Denmark, Sweden and Norway (under 18), Luxembourg (under 25) and Iceland (under 15).

(6) At Eurostat's request, Switzerland and Liechtenstein processed their data in a manner to ensure better compatibility with international standards.

Figures might differ slightly from the national publication due to the differences in definitions.

Table 3: Private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

(1000)

	EUR 15	B	DK	D	GR	E ⁽⁶⁾	F	IRL	I	L	NL
Family households	97 352	2 708	1 407	21 963	2 527⁽⁵⁾	9 837	15 254	751	15 192	100	3 841
One-family households	:	2 676	1 334	21 195	:	9 701	15 117	744	14 851	98	3 838
Couples without children	32 635	904	606	8 201	761	2 122	5 372	141	3 853	31	1 387
Couples with child(ren)	52 447	1 410	597	10 762	1 573	6 605	8 200	493	9 299	56	2 062
Lone-parent families	10 343	362	131	2 232	193	974	1 544	110	1 700	11	388
Fathers with child(ren)	1 807	73	21	418	38	136	225	19	406	2	92
Mothers with child(ren)	8 537	289	110	1 814	155	838	1 320	91	1 294	9	296
Households with two or more families	:	32	73⁽³⁾	768	:	136	137	7	341	2	3
Non-family households	42 396	1 243	867	13 283	677	1 999	6 288	278	4 717	45	2 322
One-person households	37 384	1 124	782	11 858	520	1 585	5 845	208	4 100	37	1 846
Men	13 756	466	330	4 376	186	449	2 171	98	1 256	14	771
Women	23 628	658	452	7 481	335	1 136	3 674	109	2 844	22	1 075
Multi-person households	5 012	120	86	1 425	157	414	443	71	617	8	476
Total	139 758	3 953⁽²⁾	2 274	35 256⁽⁴⁾	3 204	11 836	21 542	1 029	19 909	145	6 162

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

In this context, children are of any age except for Luxembourg (under 25), Finland, Sweden and Norway (under 18) and Iceland (under 15).

(2) Including 2 000 private households of undefined type.

(3) Including one-family households with other persons whose number may be estimated at 29 000.

(4) Including 10 000 households which consist of grand-parents and their grandchildren.

(5) Couples with or without children and lone-parent families may belong to one-family households or to households with two or more families.

This may lead to an over-estimation of the number of family households.


Table 4: Population living in private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

(1000)

	EUR 15	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL
Family households	310 999	8 468	4 071	65 176	8 615	36 003	48 555	3 048	50 795	324	11 980
One-family households	:	8 298	3 752	62 099	:	:	47 780	3 003	48 863	311	11 973
Couples without children	:	1 848	1 212	16 487	1 773	:	11 051	301	8 064	64	2 798
Couples with child(ren)	:	5 478	2 225	39 990	6 317	:	32 663	2 357	36 118	216	8 119
Lone-parent families	:	969	316	5 622	525	:	4 066	346	4 680	31	1 056
Fathers with child(ren)	:	202	46	1 079	106	:	570	58	1 286	7	255
Mothers with child(ren)	:	767	269	4 543	419	:	3 496	287	3 394	25	801
Households with two or more families	:	170	319	3 077	:	:	775	44	1 932	12	7
Non-family households	48 691	1 374	991	14 944	916	2 617	6 841	385	5 527	55	2 817
One-person households	37 384	1 124	782	11 858	520	1 585	5 845	208	4 100	37	1 846
Men	13 756	466	330	4 376	186	449	2 171	98	1 256	14	771
Women	23 628	658	452	7 481	335	1 136	3 674	109	2 844	22	1 075
Multi-person households	11 308	250	209	3 086	396	1 032	996	178	1 427	18	972
Total	360 205	9 851⁽²⁾	5 062	80 152⁽³⁾	10 013⁽⁴⁾	38 620	55 397	3 433	56 322	378	14 797

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

In this context, children are of any age except for Luxembourg (under 25), Finland, Sweden and Norway (under 18) and Iceland (under 15).

(2) Including 9 000 persons in private households of undefined type.



Table 3: Private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

(1000)

A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	FL	N	EEA	CH	
2 039	2 623 ⁽⁷⁾	1 264	2 145 ⁽⁸⁾	15 701	63	7	1 081	98 502	1 823	Family households
1 964	2 499	1 240	:	15 496	:	7	983	:	1 816	One-family households
659	715	623	1 159	6 102	:	2	300	:	759	Couples without children
1 062	1 570	533	836	7 387	:	4	540	:	911	Couples with child(ren)
243	214	84	150	2 007	:	1	143	:	146	Lone-parent families
37	29	11	22	279	:	0	22	:	23	Fathers with child(ren)
206	185	73	128	1 728	:	1	121	:	123	Mothers with child(ren)
75	123	23	:	205	:	0	98	:	7	Households with two or more families
974	523	773	1 685	6 721	30	3	670	43 099	1 019	Non-family households
894	436	646	1 516	5 988	:	3	601	:	920	One-person households
284	131	242	685	2 296	:	1	274	:	376	Men
610	305	404	831	3 692	:	2	327	:	544	Women
80	88	127	169 ⁽⁸⁾	733	:	0	69 ⁽⁹⁾	:	98	Multi-person households
3 013	3 146	2 037	3 830	22 422	93	11	1 751	141 612	2 842	Total

(6) Source: 1991 Socio-demographic Survey.

(7) Including 21 000 households which consist of grandparents and their grandchildren.

(8) The Swedish classification does not follow the UN recommendations. These households should be classified as "other private households" rather than multi-persons households.

(9) Including 66 413 households of two single persons and 2 910 households of three or more single persons.


Table 4: Population living in private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

(1000)

A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	FL	N	EEA	CH	
6 593	9 167	3 993	6 269	47 942	183	25	3 463	314 670	5 495	Family households
6 143	8 429	3 853	:	46 827	:	24	3 075	:	5 454	One-family households
1 359	1 532	1 472	2 543	12 485	:	4	600	:	1 554	Couples without children
4 165	6 279	2 160	3 342	28 927	:	18	2 126	:	3 532	Couples with child(ren)
620	618	221	384	5 415	:	2	350	:	369	Lone-parent families
99	83	28	53	715	:	0	53	:	60	Fathers with child(ren)
521	535	192	331	4 700	:	2	297	:	309	Mothers with child(ren)
450	738	140	:	1 115	:	0	388	:	40	Households with two or more families
1 067	637	935	1 921	7 664	73	4	743	49 511	1 141	Non-family households
894	436	646	1 516	5 988	:	3	601	:	920	One-person households
284	131	242	685	2 296	:	1	274	:	376	Men
610	305	404	831	3 692	:	2	327	:	544	Women
174	201	288	405 ⁽⁵⁾	1 675	:	1	142	:	220	Multi-person households
7 660	9 804	4 927	8 181	55 606	256	28	4 206	364 695	6 635	Total

(3) Including 32 000 persons living in private households which consist of grand-parents and their grandchildren.

(4) Including 482 000 persons not included in the breakdown of households by type.

(5) The Swedish classification does not follow the UN recommendations. These 405 000 persons should be classified as living in "other private households" rather than living in "multi-person households".



Table 5: Proportion of private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

	(%)											
	EUR 15	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	
Family households	69.7	68.5	61.9	62.3	78.9	83.1	70.8	72.9	76.3	69.1	62.3	
One-family households	:	67.7	58.7	60.1	:	82.0	70.2	72.3	74.6	67.5	62.3	
Couples without children		23.4	22.9	26.6	23.3	23.8	17.9	24.9	13.7	19.4	21.2	22.5
Couples with child(ren)		37.5	35.7	26.3	30.5	49.1	55.8	38.1	47.9	46.7	38.4	33.5
Lone-parent families		7.4	9.2	5.8	6.3	6.0	8.2	7.2	10.6	8.5	7.9	6.3
Fathers with child(ren)		1.3	1.8	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.8	2.0	1.6	1.5
Mothers with child(ren)		6.1	7.3	4.9	5.1	4.8	7.1	6.1	8.8	6.5	6.4	4.8
Households with two or more families	:	0.8	3.2⁽³⁾	2.2	:	1.1	0.6	0.7	1.7	1.5	0.0	
Non-family households	30.3	31.4	38.1	37.7	21.1	16.9	29.2	27.1	23.7	30.9	37.7	
One-person households	26.7	28.4	34.4	33.6	16.2	13.4	27.1	20.2	20.6	25.5	30.0	
Men		9.8	11.8	14.5	12.4	5.8	3.8	10.1	9.5	6.3	10.0	12.5
Women		16.9	16.6	19.9	21.2	10.4	9.6	17.1	10.6	14.3	15.5	17.4
Multi-person households	3.6	3.0	3.8	4.0	4.9	3.5	2.1	6.9	3.1	5.5	7.7	
Total	100.0	100.0⁽²⁾	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

In this context, children are of any age except for Luxembourg (under 25), Finland, Sweden and Norway (under 18) and Iceland (under 15).

(2) Including 0.1% of private households of undefined type.

(3) Including an estimated 1.3 % of one-family households with other persons .


Table 6: Proportion of population living in private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

	(%)										
	EUR 15	B	DK	D ⁽³⁾	GR ⁽⁴⁾	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL
Family households	86.3	86.0	80.4	81.3	86.0	93.2	87.7	88.8	90.2	85.5	81.0
One-family households	:	84.2	74.1	77.5	:	:	86.3	87.5	86.8	82.2	80.9
Couples without children		18.8	23.9	20.6	17.7	:	19.9	8.8	14.3	16.9	18.9
Couples with child(ren)		55.6	44.0	49.9	63.1	:	59.0	68.6	64.1	57.0	54.9
Lone-parent families		9.8	6.2	7.0	5.2	:	7.3	10.1	8.3	8.3	7.1
Fathers with child(ren)		2.1	0.9	1.3	1.1	:	1.0	1.7	2.3	1.7	1.7
Mothers with child(ren)		7.8	5.3	5.7	4.2	:	6.3	8.4	6.0	6.6	5.4
Households with two or more families	:	1.7	6.3	3.8	:	:	1.4	1.3	3.4	3.3	0.0
Non-family households	13.5	13.9	19.6	18.6	9.1	6.8	12.3	11.2	9.8	14.5	19.0
One-person households	10.4	11.4	15.4	14.8	5.2	4.1	10.6	6.0	7.3	9.7	12.5
Men		3.8	4.7	6.5	5.5	1.9	1.2	3.9	2.2	3.8	5.2
Women		6.6	6.7	8.9	9.3	3.3	2.9	6.6	3.2	5.9	7.3
Multi-person households	3.1	2.5	4.1	3.9	4.0	2.7	1.8	5.2	2.5	4.8	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0⁽²⁾	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

In this context, children are of any age except for Luxembourg (under 25), Finland, Sweden and Norway (under 18) and Iceland (under 15).

(2) Including 0.1% of persons living in private households of undefined type.



Table 5: Proportion of private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾
(%)

A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	FL	N	EEA	CH	
67.7	83.4	62.0	56.0	70.0	67.7	68.5	61.7	69.6	64.2	Family households
65.2	79.4	60.9	:	69.1	:	68.1	56.1	:	63.9	One-family households
21.9	22.7	30.6	30.3	27.2	:	19.1	17.1	:	26.7	Couples without children
35.3	49.9	26.2	21.8	32.9	:	41.9	30.8	:	32.1	Couples with child(ren)
8.1	6.8	4.1	3.9	9.0	:	7.1	8.2	:	5.1	Lone-parent families
1.2	0.9	0.5	0.6	1.2	:	1.2	1.3	:	0.8	Fathers with child(ren)
6.8	5.9	3.6	3.3	7.7	:	5.9	6.9	:	4.3	Mothers with child(ren)
2.5	3.9	1.2	:	0.9	:	0.4	5.6	:	0.2	Households with two or more families
32.3	16.6	38.0	44.0	30.0	32.3	31.5	38.3	30.4	35.8	Non-family households
29.7	13.8	31.7	39.6	26.7	:	27.8	34.3	:	32.4	One-person households
9.4	4.2	11.9	17.9	10.2	:	12.3	15.7	:	13.2	Men
20.2	9.7	19.9	21.7	16.5	:	15.5	18.7	:	19.1	Women
2.7	2.8	6.2	:	3.3	:	3.7	4.0	:	3.5	Multi-person households
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Total



Table 6: Proportion of population living in private households by type in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾
(%)

A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	FL	N	EEA	CH	
86.1	93.5	81.0	76.6	86.2	71.5	86.5	82.3	86.3	82.8	Family households
80.2	86.0	78.2	:	84.2	:	85.5	73.1	:	82.2	One-family households
17.7	15.6	29.9	31.1	22.5	:	14.9	14.3	:	23.4	Couples without children
54.4	64.0	43.8	40.9	52.0	:	63.5	50.5	:	53.2	Couples with child(ren)
8.1	6.3	4.5	4.7	9.7	:	7.1	8.3	:	5.6	Lone-parent families
1.3	0.8	0.6	0.6	1.3	:	1.3	1.3	:	0.9	Fathers with child(ren)
6.8	5.5	3.9	4.0	8.5	:	5.9	7.1	:	4.7	Mothers with child(ren)
5.9	7.5	2.8	:	2.0	:	1.0	9.2	:	0.6	Households with two or more families
13.9	6.5	19.0	23.5	13.8	28.5	13.5	17.7	13.6	17.2	Non-family households
11.7	4.4	13.1	18.5	10.8	:	10.4	14.3	:	13.9	One-person households
3.7	1.3	4.9	8.4	4.1	:	4.6	6.5	:	5.7	Men
8.0	3.1	8.2	10.2	6.6	:	5.8	7.8	:	8.2	Women
2.3	2.1	5.9	5.0	3.0	:	3.1	3.4	:	3.3	Multi-person households
100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Total

(3) Including 0.1% of persons living in private households which consist of grand-parents and their grandchildren.

(4) Including 4.9% of persons living in private households not included in the breakdown of households by type.



Table 7: Families by type and number of children in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾

(1000)

	EUR 15	B	DK	D	GR	E ⁽²⁾	F	IRL	I	L	NL
Couples without children	33 568	929	734	8 394	761	2 122	5 493	145	4 124	32	1 387
Couples with child(ren)	53 672	1 428	537	11 098	1 570	6 605	8 297	499	9 575	57	2 062
1 child	21 779	613	243	5 195	594	2 177	3 294	118	4 033	25	711
2 children	21 925	548	230	4 452	747	2 712	3 166	152	3 996	23	942
3 children	7 243	191	54	1 118	183	1 150	1 301	116	1 189	7	310
4 children or more	2 725	76	11	332	46	565	536	113	357	2	99
Lone-parent families	11 216	385	118	2 540	193	973	1 602	113	1 840	13	388
Fathers with child(ren)	1 880	83	16	394	38	136	233	19	442	3	92
1 child	1 251	57	13	293	24	77	160	10	256	2	69
2 children	460	19	3	80	11	39	52	5	131	1	20
3 children	124	5	0	18	2	13	15	3	40	0	3
4 children or more	44	2	0	3	1	7	6	2	16	0	0
Mothers with child(ren)	9 335	302	102	2 146	155	837	1 369	94	1 398	10	296
1 child	5 948	193	67	1 525	96	475	853	47	922	7	177
2 children	2 418	79	29	490	47	227	352	25	350	2	90
3 children	694	22	5	101	10	92	112	12	92	1	22
4 children or more	277	8	1	31	3	43	52	10	34	0	7
Total	98 486	2 740	1 389	22 032	2 527	9 700	15 391	758	15 538	102	3 838

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

In this context, children are of any age except for Luxembourg (under 25), Denmark, Sweden and Norway (under 18) and Iceland (under 15).

(2) Only family nuclei included in one-family households. This could explain under-estimation of the number of families.

**Table 8: Proportion of families by type and number of children in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾**

(%)

	EUR 15	B	DK	D	GR	E ⁽²⁾	F	IRL	I	L	NL
Couples without children	34.1	33.9	52.8	38.1	30.1	21.9	35.7	19.2	26.5	31.8	36.1
Couples with child(ren)	54.5	52.1	38.7	50.4	62.1	68.1	53.9	65.9	61.6	56.1	53.7
1 child	22.1	22.4	17.5	23.6	23.5	22.4	21.4	15.5	26.0	24.6	18.5
2 children	22.3	20.0	16.5	20.2	29.6	28.0	20.6	20.1	25.7	22.8	24.5
3 children	7.4	7.0	3.9	5.1	7.2	11.9	8.5	15.2	7.7	6.9	8.1
4 children or more	2.8	2.8	0.8	1.5	1.8	5.8	3.5	14.9	2.3	1.8	2.6
Lone-parent families	11.4	14.1	8.5	11.5	7.6	10.0	10.4	15.0	11.8	12.7	10.1
Fathers with child(ren)	1.9	3.0	1.2	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.4
1 child	1.3	2.1	0.9	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.8
2 children	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5
3 children	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
4 children or more	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Mothers with child(ren)	9.5	11.0	7.3	9.7	6.1	8.6	8.9	12.4	9.0	9.6	7.7
1 child	6.0	7.0	4.8	6.9	3.8	4.9	5.5	6.2	5.9	6.6	4.6
2 children	2.5	2.9	2.1	2.2	1.9	2.3	2.3	3.3	2.3	2.4	2.3
3 children	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.7	1.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
4 children or more	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) Source: 1990/1991 Community programme of population censuses.

In this context, children are of any age except for Luxembourg (under 25), Denmark, Sweden and Norway (under 18) and Iceland (under 15).



Table 7: Families by type and number of children in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾
(1000)

A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	FL	N	EEA	CH	
710	797	490	1 177	6 272	23	2	519	34 112	766	Couples without children
1 156	1 682	704	852	7 549	31	4	454	54 161	917	Couples with child(ren)
484	737	285	343	2 929	:	1	183	:	365	1 child
457	655	290	356	3 199	:	2	191	:	396	2 children
158	186	100	124	1 056	:	1	66	:	123	3 children
56	105	29	31	366	:	0	14	:	33	4 children or more
279	254	169	188	2 160	8	1	143	11 368	147	Lone-parent families
41	35	24	28	296	1	0	22	1 903	23	Fathers with child(ren)
28	22	18	20	202	:	0	:	:	16	1 child
9	8	5	6	72	:	0	:	:	6	2 children
3	3	1	1	17	:	0	:	:	1	3 children
1	2	0	0	5	:	0	:	:	0	4 children or more
238	219	145	160	1 864	7	1	121	9 464	124	Mothers with child(ren)
170	128	99	101	1 090	:	0	:	:	82	1 child
52	60	36	46	533	:	0	:	:	34	2 children
13	20	8	11	174	:	0	:	:	7	3 children
4	12	2	3	68	:	0	:	:	1	4 children or more
2 145	2 764 ⁽³⁾	1 364	2 217	15 981	62	7	1 116	99 672	1 830	Total

(3) Including 30 000 family nuclei with one or two grand-parents and one or more grandchildren.



Table 8: Proportion of families by type and number of children in 1990/1991⁽¹⁾
(%)

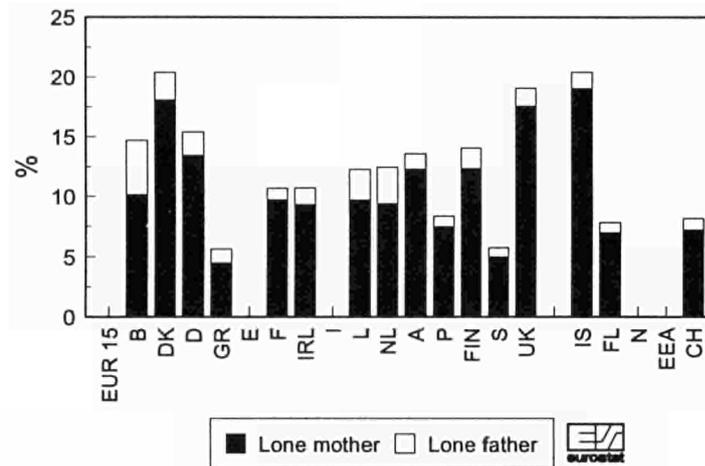
A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	FL	N	EEA	CH	
33.1	28.8	36.0	53.1	39.2	37.7	28.3	46.5	34.2	41.9	Couples without children
53.9	60.9	51.6	38.5	47.2	:	61.3	40.7	54.3	50.1	Couples with child(ren)
22.6	26.6	20.9	15.5	18.3	:	20.1	16.4	:	19.9	1 child
21.3	23.7	21.2	16.1	20.0	:	25.6	17.1	:	21.7	2 children
7.4	6.7	7.4	5.5	6.6	:	12.0	5.9	:	6.7	3 children
2.6	3.8	2.2	1.4	2.3	:	3.3	1.3	:	1.8	4 children or more
13.0	9.2	12.4	8.5	13.5	12.6	10.4	12.8	11.4	8.1	Lone-parent families
1.9	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.9	0.9	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.3	Fathers with child(ren)
1.3	0.8	1.3	0.9	1.3	:	0.9	:	:	0.9	1 child
0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	:	0.6	:	:	0.3	2 children
0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	:	0.2	:	:	0.1	3 children
0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	:	0.0	:	:	0.0	4 children or more
11.1	7.9	10.6	7.2	11.7	11.7	8.8	10.8	9.5	41.9	Mothers with child(ren)
7.9	4.6	7.3	4.5	6.8	:	5.2	:	:	4.5	1 child
2.4	2.2	2.6	2.1	3.3	:	2.7	:	:	1.9	2 children
0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.1	:	0.7	:	:	0.4	3 children
0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	:	0.2	:	:	0.1	4 children or more
100.0	100.0 ⁽³⁾	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Total

(2) Only family nuclei included in one-family households. This could explain under-estimation of the number of families.

(3) Including 1.1 % of family nuclei which consist of one or two grand-parents and one or more grandchildren.



Graph 4:
Proportion of lone-parent families with at least one child aged under 15 years



Note: In the total of the families with at least one child aged under 15 years

Development of new family models

The recent changes confirm the development of new family models closely linked to the fall in the number of marriages, the increase in the number of divorces and the low level of fertility. These models are known as cohabitation, reconstituted families and one-parent families.

Bearing in mind the methodological difficulties, an appreciable increase in the percentage of lone-parent families with at least one child under 15 is apparent in almost all the countries. In Denmark, this phenomenon was already very widespread in 1981; in 1991, lone-parent families made up more than 20% of all families with at least one child under 15 (Graph 4). The increase in the proportion of lone-parent families is particularly significant in the other northern countries of the European Union.

Definitions, abbreviations and symbols:

EUR 15: Belgium (B), Denmark (DK), Germany (D), Greece (GR), Spain (E), France (F), Ireland (IRL), Italy (I), Luxembourg (L), Netherlands (NL), Austria (A), Portugal (P), Finland (FIN), Sweden (S) and United Kingdom (UK).

Other countries in the EEA: Iceland (IS), Norway (N) and Liechtenstein (FL). Switzerland (CH) is not included in the EEA.

EEA: EUR 15 + other countries in the EEA.

: No further breakdown available

0 Figure below 500

Other Eurostat publications:

Demographic Statistics 1995 (forthcoming)

1990/1991 Population Censuses in the EU and EFTA countries (to be issued at the end of 1995)

INFORMATION

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