

Journal Contents

SEARCH

Current Volume

Volumes

Articles

Special Collections

General Information

About the Journal

Information for Authors

Copyright Information

Register for e-mail alerts

Submit a Paper

On the tempo and quantum of first marriages in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland Changes in mean age and variance

Maria Winkler-Dworak
Henriette Engelhardt

VOLUME 10 - ARTICLE 9

Date Received: 2 Dec 2003

Date Published: 18 May 2004

<http://www.demographic-research.org/volumes/vol10/9/>

- ▶ [Bookmark this page](#)
- ▶ [Send this article to a friend](#)



Click the icon to view and/or download the PDF file.

Once you are in the PDF file, use your browser back button to return to this page.

Abstract

Period marriage rates have been falling dramatically in most industrial societies since the beginning of the 1970s. As has been shown in the literature, part of this decline is due to the postponement of marriage to later ages. However, the change in variance has been ignored so far. In the case of Austria, Germany, and Switzerland, this paper explores how much of the change in female first marriage rates can be attributed to tempo effects caused by changes in the mean age and variance, and how much of it is due to quantum effects, i.e., the proportion of women who ever marry from 1970 to 2000. In all three countries we find a significant share of the decline in first marriage rates due to tempo distortions, though on different levels.

Author's affiliation

[Maria Winkler-Dworak](#)
Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria
[Henriette Engelhardt](#)
Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany




Keywords

[age-period interactions](#), [Austria](#), [first marriages](#), [Germany](#), [marriage](#), [mean age and variance changes](#), [tempo and quantum effects](#)

Word count (Main text)

8173

Other Articles by the same author/authors (in *Demographic Research*)

-  [\[19-12\] Austria: Persistent low fertility since the mid-1980s](#)
-  [\[8-5\] Pathways to stepfamily formation in Europe: Results from the FFS](#)
-  [\[6-11\] Differences in Family Policies and the Intergenerational Transmission of Divorce: A Comparison between the former East and West Germany](#)

Similar Articles (in *Demographic Research*)

-  [\[7-18\] Cohabiting unions in France and West Germany: Transitions to first birth and first marriage \(marriage, Germany\)](#)

