

6. TECHNICAL ANNEX

The sample for the 1995 Spanish Fertility and Family Survey was designed following the standard sampling procedures employed by the Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas (CIS). Separate samples were designed for men and women, taking as universe the population aged 18 or older. The fieldwork for the male sample was carried out between November 1994 and February 1995. The women were interviewed between June and October 1995.

Multi-stage, stratified cluster sampling was used. The strata were defined within each of the 17 autonomous regions according to town size, divided into seven categories: up to 2,000 inhabitants, from 2,001 to 10,000, from 10,001 to 50,000, from 50,001 to 100,000, from 100,001 to 400,000, from 400,001 to 1,000,000 and over 1,000,000 inhabitants. A total of 119 theoretical strata resulted from this cross-tabulation, although some of the regions did not have towns corresponding to all the seven categories.

Primary sampling units (towns/cities) and secondary sampling units (sections) were selected on a random proportional basis. This yielded 309 sections for the male sample and 572 sections for the female sample. The sample size at the section level was established as 14 individuals, which yielded a total sample of 4,326 men and 8,008 women.

Systematic sampling was used to select households, and the ultimate units (individuals in a given household) were selected using tables of random numbers. To conduct systematic sampling as described, a complete sketch of each section was drawn to establish a route, which was made to pass by each and every one of the dwelling units. The beginning of the path for the route thus established, i.e., the household where the first interview was to be held, was chosen randomly, with the remaining thirteen being set in terms of such starting point. The distance between households selected was determined on the basis of sampling frequency, in which empty flats or those used for purposes other than housing were not counted. Each household was visited up to three times on different dates in order to conduct the personal interview.

Since the sample was designed for the total population aged 18 or older but the target population was the population aged 18 to 49, the distribution of the actual interviews resulted as follows:

	Population sample	Respondents aged 50 +	Respondents aged 18-49	Numbers of interviews	Percentage of responses
Men	4326	1739	2587	1991	77.0
Women	8008	3196	4812	4021	83.6

The actual number of valid interviews was 4,021 for women and 1,991 for men. Appendix table 36 displays the non-response rate by age groups.

The Spanish questionnaire was a translation of the questionnaire developed by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the UN

Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Two optional modules, one on migration history and one on population policy acceptance, were not used in the Spanish questionnaire; the latter topic had been covered by a similar survey in 1992. Both the content and form of the PAU model questionnaire were respected; the questionnaire and codebook provided by the PAU were translated for interviewers who had been specially trained to conduct the interviews. Female respondents were interviewed by women, and male respondents by men.

Some of the FFS results are comparable to other surveys previously conducted in Spain. The National Statistical Institute conducted two nationwide fertility surveys: one in 1977 in the framework of the World Fertility Survey and the other in 1985. The first survey was conducted under rather difficult circumstances, as only married women could be interviewed because the questions were considered too delicate. It may be recalled that contraceptives had not yet been decriminalised in Spain at that time. The universe was ever-married women 15 to 49 years old.

The universe for the 1985 Fertility Survey consisted of women between the ages of 18 to 49, regardless of their marital status. Therefore, the results — primarily those relating to the use of contraceptive methods — are comparable to FFS results. Nonetheless, similar questions were formulated in different ways in the two surveys, introducing certain subtle differences that render some parts of the surveys incomparable. Men were neither interviewed in the 1985 nor in the 1977 survey.

In 1991, the National Statistical Institute conducted the Socio-demographic Survey, which collected retrospective information on, *inter alia*, the parental home, partnership formation, the respondents' number of children and his or her migratory, educational and professional background. It included no inquiry into the use of contraceptives. The universe was the Spanish population over 10 years old, excluding those living in institutional households. The sample consisted of 160,000 interviews. The results of this survey are comparable to FFS results on only a limited range of topics.