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Determinants of fertility intentions of Polish women: the role of local childcare institutions

Extended Abstract for the European Population Conference 2014

Background and the aim of the research (article)

Poland has the third lowest TFR (1,3) in the European Union and for the past twenty years the drop in TFR in Poland was one of the most significant in our region (EUROSTAT 2011). According to the results of Polish Generations and Gender Survey (GGS-PL 2010/2011) most women at age 20-40 do not intend to have children in the nearest future. There has been little research on the determinants of fertility intentions among Polish women (see. e.g. Muszyńska, Styrc 2013). Particularly, to the best of our knowledge, there is no research that would explore the impact of the availability of local childcare institutions for children less than 6 years old on fertility intentions in Poland. The aim of our research is to explore the role of the availability of local childcare institutions on fertility intentions of Polish women in the broader context of work-family reconciliation factors. We observe a very high variability in the access to formal childcare in Poland at the local level (Federowicz 2011, Swianiewicz 2012). We expect that the lower the availability of institutional childcare, the higher will be the risk for a women to have no childbearing plans in future.

Data and methods

Our analysis is performed on the data gathered during the first round of the GGS-PL 2010/2011 supplemented with the information on the local institutional childcare provided by the Ministry of Education. Basic descriptive statistics and correlations will be presented to support the conclusions drawn from the estimation of relevant logit model.

Preliminary results

The research is in progress now. Preliminary results will be provided no later than in January 2014.

Cited references (only):

Swianiewicz P. (red.) (2012), Edukacja przedszkolna. Polityka samorządów gminnych w zakresie edukacji przedszkolnej, ORE, Warsaw

Federowicz M. (2011), Społeczeństwo w drodze do wiedzy. Raport o stanie edukacji 2010, Warszawa.

Muszyńska M., Styrc M. (2013), Childbearing intentions in Poland. What factors encourage a decision to have a child in Poland?, paper presented at the IX Conference of Young Demographers, Cracow, Poland 18-19 September 2013.

EUROSTAT (2013), Demographic Database:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/data/database.