

The Human Fertility Collection: Data Resource Profile

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INTRODUCTION

The **Human Fertility Collection (HFC)** is a part of the **Human Fertility Data Project**, a joint endeavour of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) in Rostock, Germany and the Vienna Institute of Demography (VID) in Austria, which aims at providing free and user-friendly access to a variety of fertility data.

Main HFC features and advantages:

- Designed to supplement the **Human Fertility Database (HFD)** (www.humanfertility.org);
- Incorporates fertility data that often do not meet the quality standards of the HFD;
- Features estimates from diverse data sources, including survey data and data estimated by individual researchers;
- Includes alternative indicators to official fertility estimates;
- Provides data in a standardized format;
- Allows flexibility in geographical and time coverage by including less developed countries and historical data.

The database is being updated on a rolling basis: adding new data and countries when they become available.

The HFC includes the following period fertility data (specified by birth order if available):

- Age-specific fertility rates (ASFR)
- Cumulative fertility rates (CPFR)
- Total fertility rates (TFR)
- Mean ages at birth (MAB)

HFC

100
1751-2015
Discontinuous
ASFR published by national statistical agencies or provided by individual researchers
Existence of vital registration / population surveys / census
Limited checking for basic internal /external consistency
Data provider/author
Period ASFR, CPFR, TFR, MAB
No
On a rolling basis
110-140 countries
Regional data; additional fertility dimensions

HFD

27
1891-2014
Continuous
Official data on live births and population counts originating from national statistical agencies
Full coverage of vital statistics, high quality of official data
Exhaustive data quality checking and documentation
HFD-team
Period and cohort birth counts, ASFR, fertility tables, and aggregated fertility indicators
Comparable across countries and time
Annual/biannual
45-50 countries
Australia, Croatia, Denmark, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Luxembourg, Poland, South Korea, Spain

HFC WEBSITE: www.fertilitydata.org



HFC COUNTRY DATA PAGE

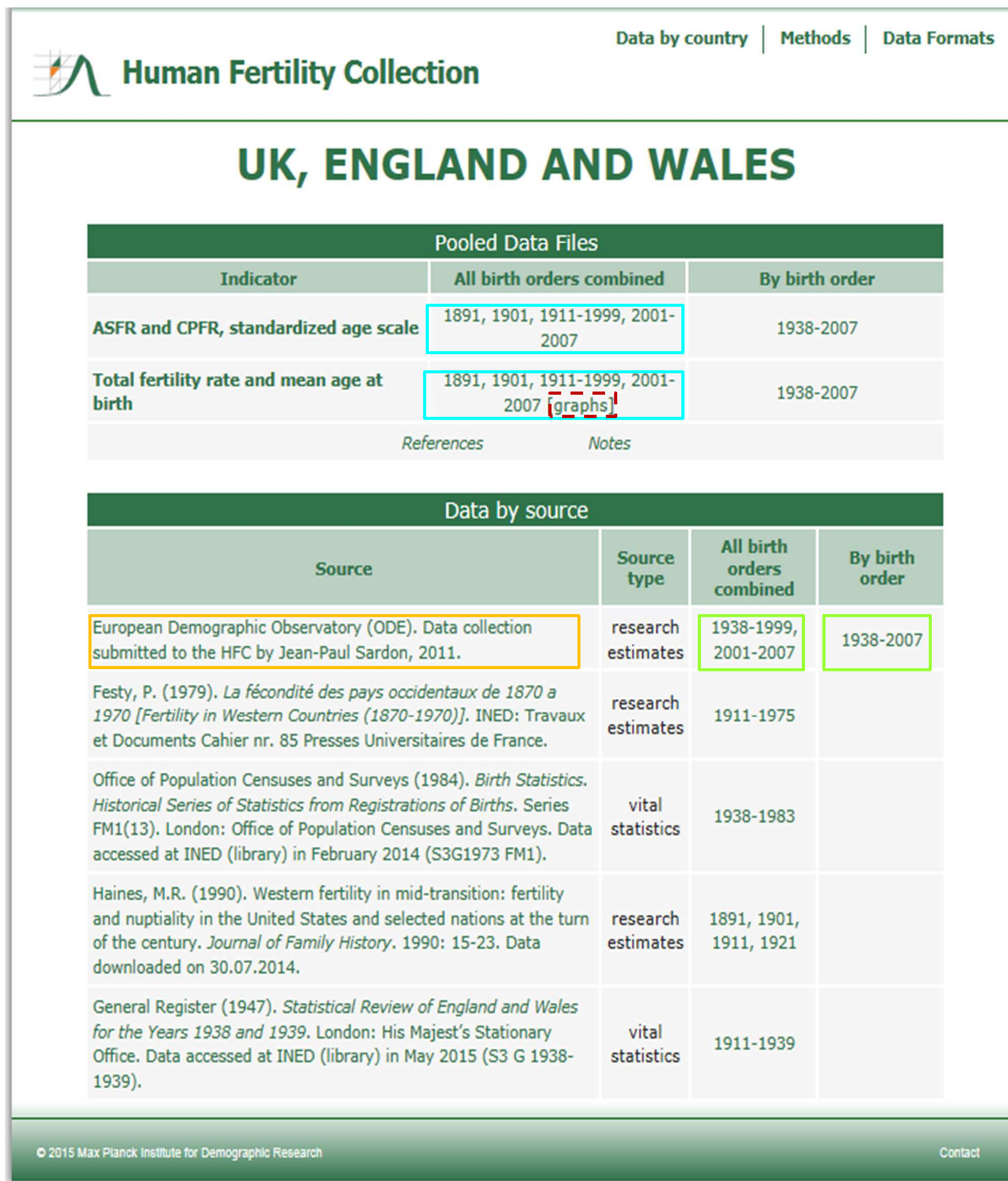
Three types of **data files** are available on the country data page:

- Pooled (multiple-source) data files** (standardized ASFR and CPFR, with a fixed age scale; TFR and MAB);

- Single-source data files** include original ASFR, with an original age scale;

- Raw data files** present data as they were published in the original data source. These files are based on different formats, including downloadable Excel tables and PDF files.

The **graphs** with TRF and MAB are provided to graphically illustrate the trends in these indicators.



HFC DATA SOURCES AND DATA AVAILABILITY

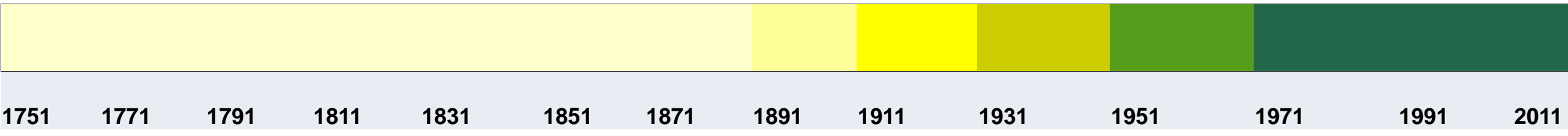
The HFC provides fertility data assembled from various sources:

- National statistical offices;
- Statistical and other scientific publications;
- Data collections of individual researchers and research organizations (e.g., ODE - European Demographic Observatory collection);
- Large surveys (e.g., Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Pakistan, Philippine, Thailand);
- Data constructed by other researchers from various sources (Austria, Brazil, India, Italy, USA).

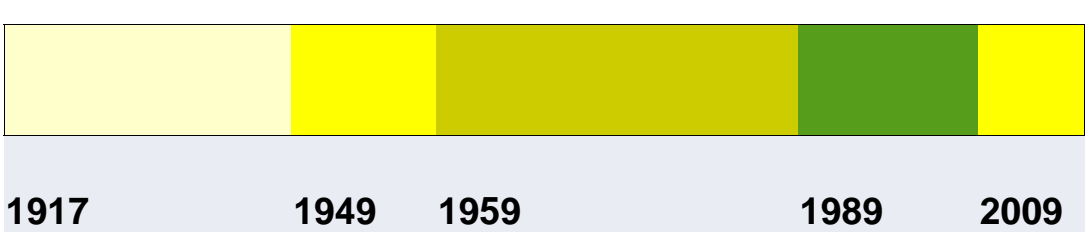
Data for **100 countries and areas** are currently provided in the HFC. Data for all birth orders combined can be found since 1751 (Sweden), and the earliest year for which birth order-specific data are available is 1917 (USA).

Time coverage in the HFC:

All birth orders combined



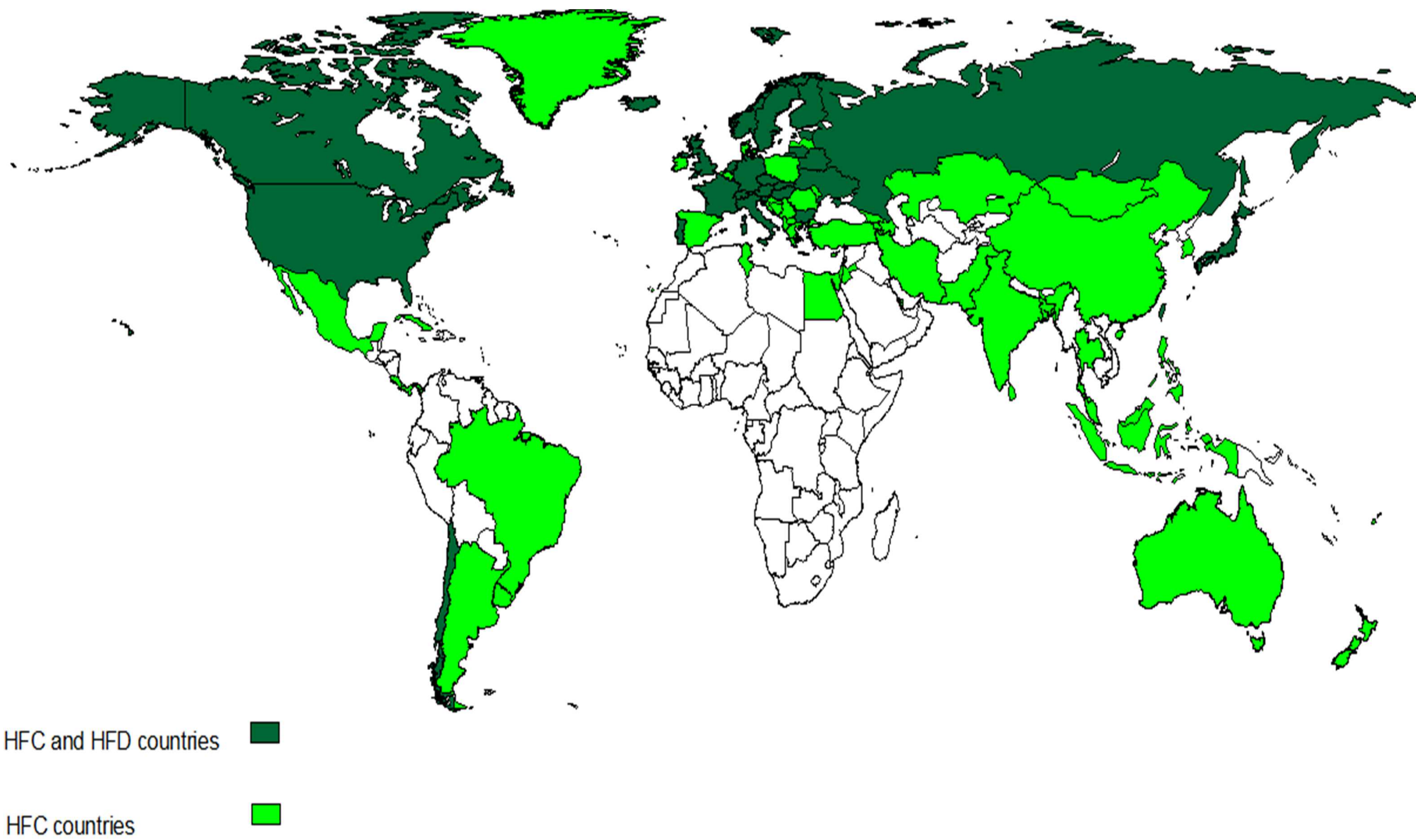
By birth order



Number of countries



GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR DEMOGRAPHIC
RESEARCH



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