

Fertility Trends and its' Ethnic Dimensions in Russia During the Last Three and Half Decades



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Sergei V. Zakharov
Institute of Demography
Higher School of Economics
Moscow, Russia

szakharov@hse.ru

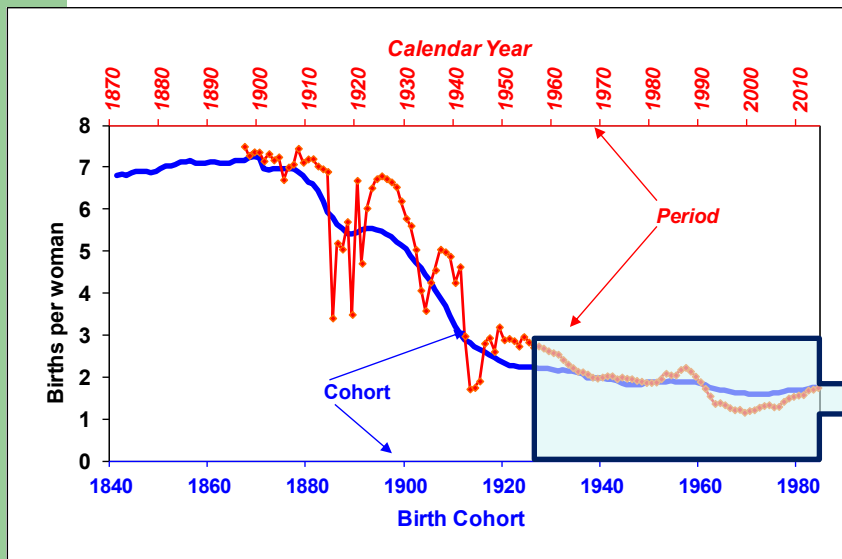
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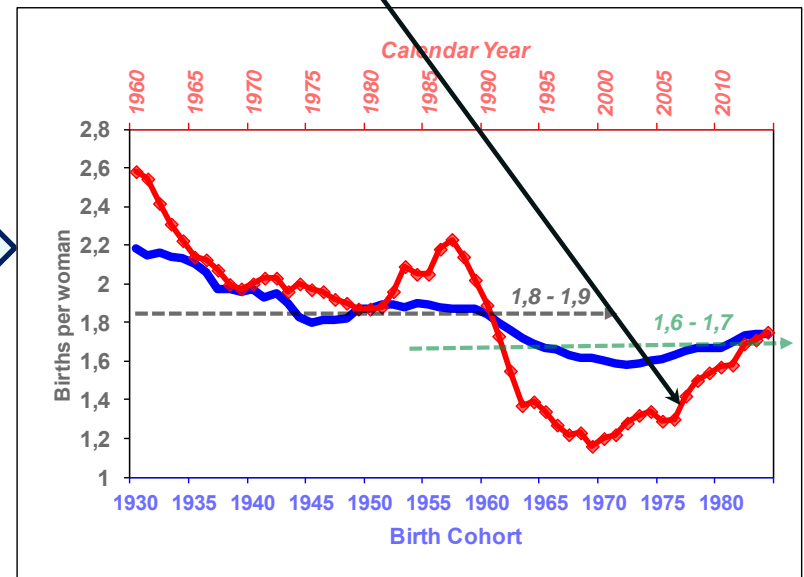
Contents

- **Data:** Seven the most representative population surveys in Russia when women were asked about the number of live children ever born: name, date, sample size
- **General trends:** Average number of children born by age groups for the total population of Russia (all nationalities) according to all 7 surveys
- **Interethnic differentials in fertility by age:** 34 most numerous nationalities in 1979, 1989, 2002, 2010, 2015
- **Conclusions and discussion:** The historical trends versus recent changes (Does the Putin's pronatalist policy interrupt the fertility decline and reduction in ethnic diversity?)

Completed Cohort and Period Total Fertility in Russia (average number of births to a woman by age 50): birth cohorts 1841-1983 (extrapolation with fixed ASFR as of 2014), period 1897-2014



New policy measures declared in 2006, and adopted in 2007

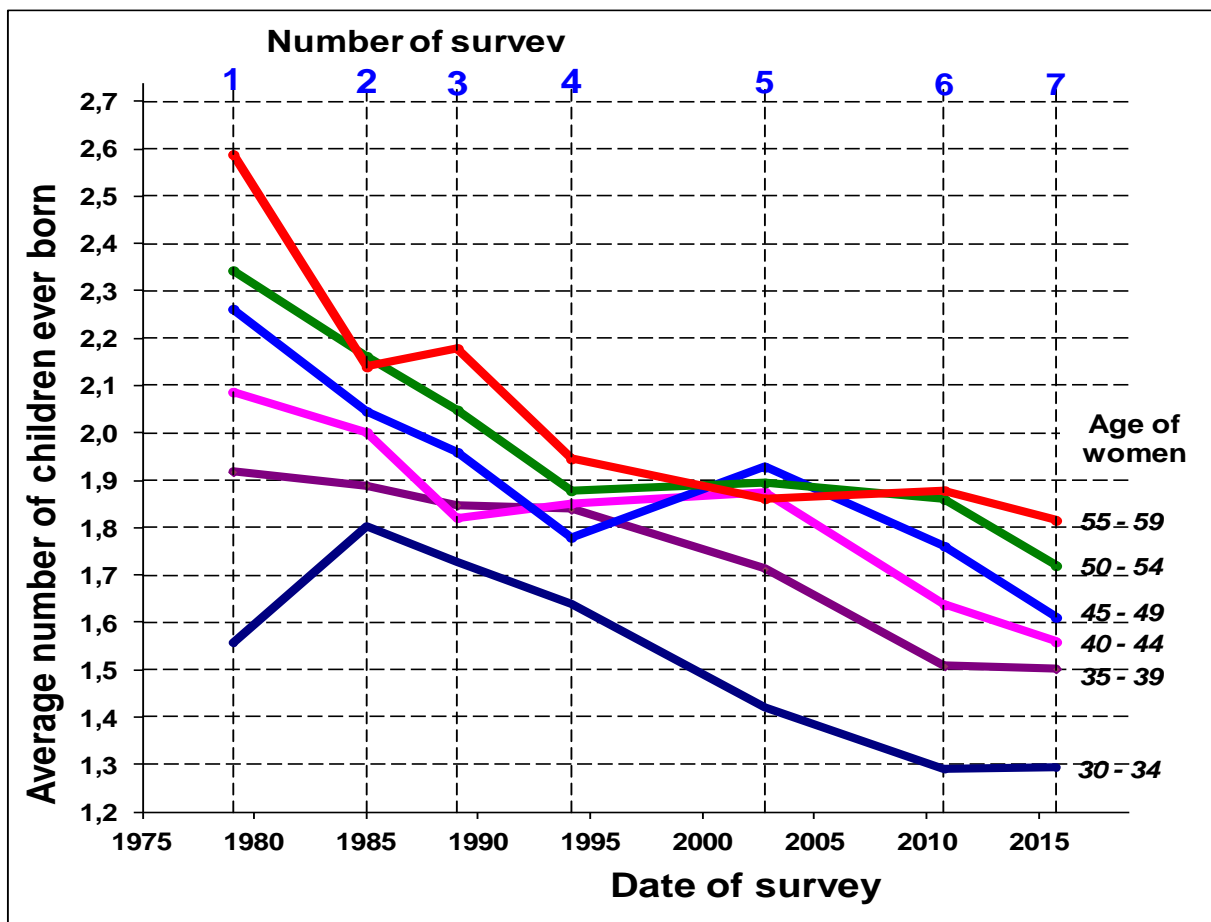


Source: Zakharov S.V. (2008). Russian Federation: From the first to second demographic transition. *Demographic Research*. Vol. 19, p.910 (<http://www.demographic-research.org/Volumes/Vol19/24/>). (Updated)

The most representative population surveys in Russia when women were asked about the number of live children ever born, 1979-2015

No. of Survey	Official name of Survey	Sample size	Date of Survey
1	All-Union 1979 Population Census	25%	17 January 1979
2	All-Union 1985 Socio-demographic Sample Survey of Population	5%	2 January 1985
3	All-Union 1989 Population Census	25%	19 января 1989
4	1994 Socio-Demographic Sample Survey (Microcensus)	5%	14 February 1994
5	All-Russia 2002 Population Census	25%	9 October 2002
6	All-Russia 2010 Population Census	100%	14 October 2010
7	2015 Socio-Demographic Survey (Microcensus)	1.5%	1 October 2015

Average number of children ever born alive per woman in ages 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 и 55-59 years according to 7 Surveys, conducted in 1979-2015, Russia



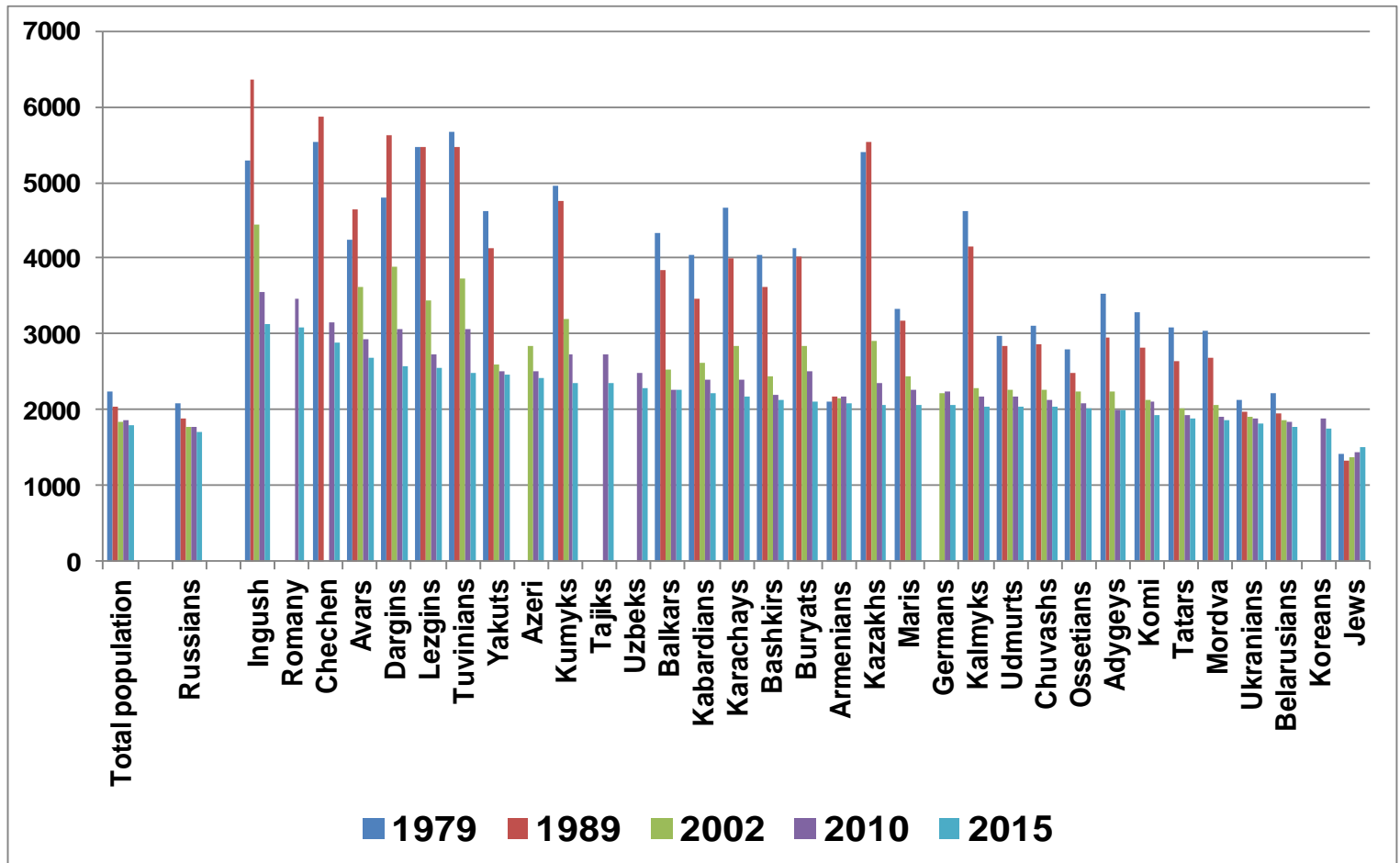
Average number of children ever born alive per 1000 women aged 50-54 of 34 selected nationalities according to surveys conducted in 1979, 1989, 2002, 2010 и 2015, and population size in 2010 (Census)

Nationality*	1979	1989	2002	2010	2015	Population size in 2010**	
						Thousands	Per cent of Russia's population
Total population	2232	2042	1845	1859	1792	142856.5	100
Russians	2098	1877	1770	1783	1714	111016.9	77.71
Ingush	5296	6358	4439	3553	3132	444.8	0.31
Romany	-	-	-	3467	3097	205.0	0.14
Chechen	5543	5869	-	3148	2898	1431.4	1.00
Avars	4234	4634	3614	2933	2682	912.1	0.64
Dargins	4802	5617	3892	3057	2569	589.4	0.41
Lezgins	5467	5461	3438	2729	2560	473.7	0.33
Tuvinians	5661	5476	3739	3057	2491	263.9	0.18
Yakuts	4619	4141	2600	2503	2462	478.1	0.33
Azeris	-	-	2849	2505	2419	603.1	0.42
Kumyks	4965	4765	3206	2743	2365	503.1	0.35
Tajiks	-	-	-	2729	2357	200.3	0.14
Uzbeks	-	-	-	2479	2293	290.0	0.20
Balkars	4325	3853	2531	2271	2258	112.9	0.08
Kabardians	4044	3463	2616	2401	2225	516.8	0.36
Karachays	4668	4007	2845	2396	2166	218.4	0.15
Bashkirs	4037	3628	2434	2194	2136	1584.6	1.11
Buryats	4132	4029	2840	2505	2104	461.4	0.32
Armenians	2116	2187	2161	2175	2098	1162.4	0.81
Kazakhs	5403	5526	2900	2358	2069	647.7	0.45
Maris	3331	3179	2435	2257	2065	547.6	0.38
Germans	-	-	2214	2247	2064	394.1	0.28
Kalmyks	4627	4158	2287	2178	2050	183.4	0.13
Udmurts	2977	2847	2268	2166	2037	552.3	0.39
Chuvashs	3118	2876	2255	2136	2032	1435.9	1.01
Ossetians	2797	2484	2253	2089	2021	528.5	0.37
Adygeys	3524	2951	2250	2001	1990	124.8	0.09
Komi	3298	2830	2127	2103	1926	228.2	0.16
Tatars	3087	2647	2014	1932	1886	5310.6	3.72
Mordva	3052	2693	2065	1916	1859	744.2	0.52
Ukrainians	2138	1967	1908	1891	1830	1928.0	1.35
Belarusians	2223	1956	1869	1850	1772	521.4	0.36
Koreans	-	-	-	1891	1750	153.2	0.11
Jews	1410	1332	1373	1453	1519	156.8	0.11

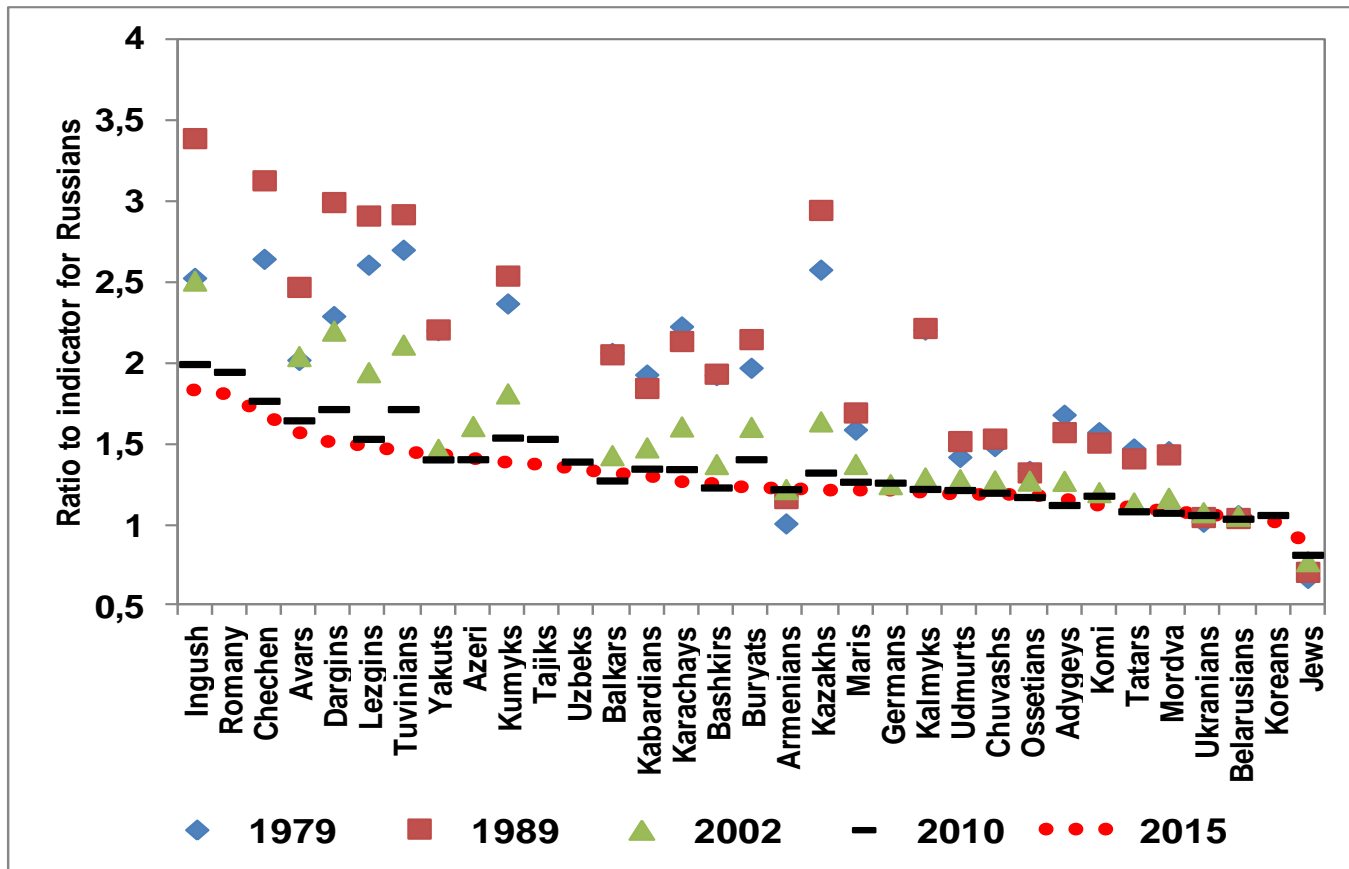
*Nationalities are listed in descending order by average number of children born according to the 2015 Survey.

** Proportion of Russian people in total population of Russia in 1979 was 82.6%, in 1989 was 81.5%, in 2002 was 79.8%

Average number of children ever born alive per 1000 women of selected nationalities aged 50-54, Russia, 1979, 1989, 2002, 2010, 2015

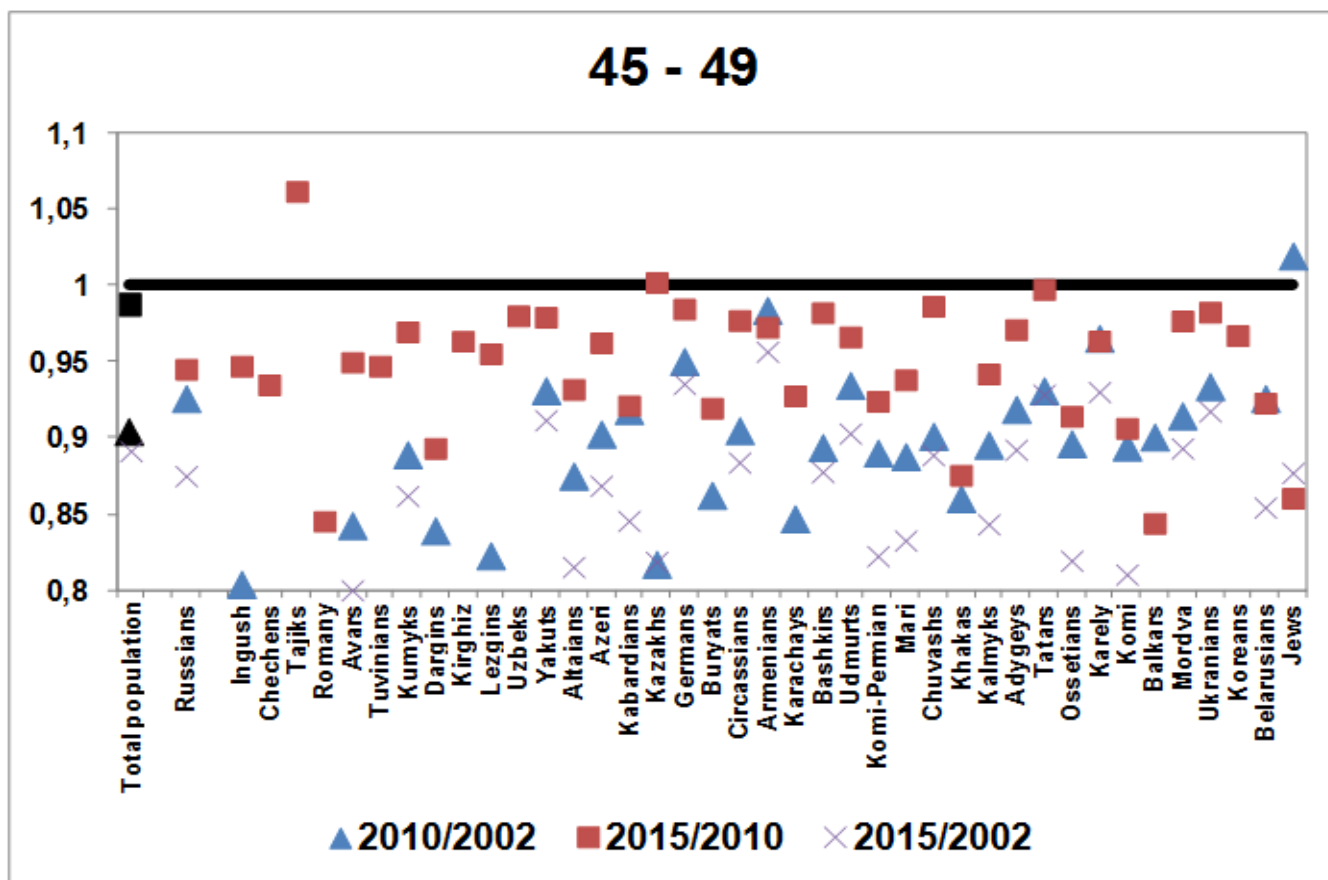


Ratio of the number of children ever born to women aged 50-54 of selected nationalities to that for Russians, 1979, 1989, 2002, 2010, 2015



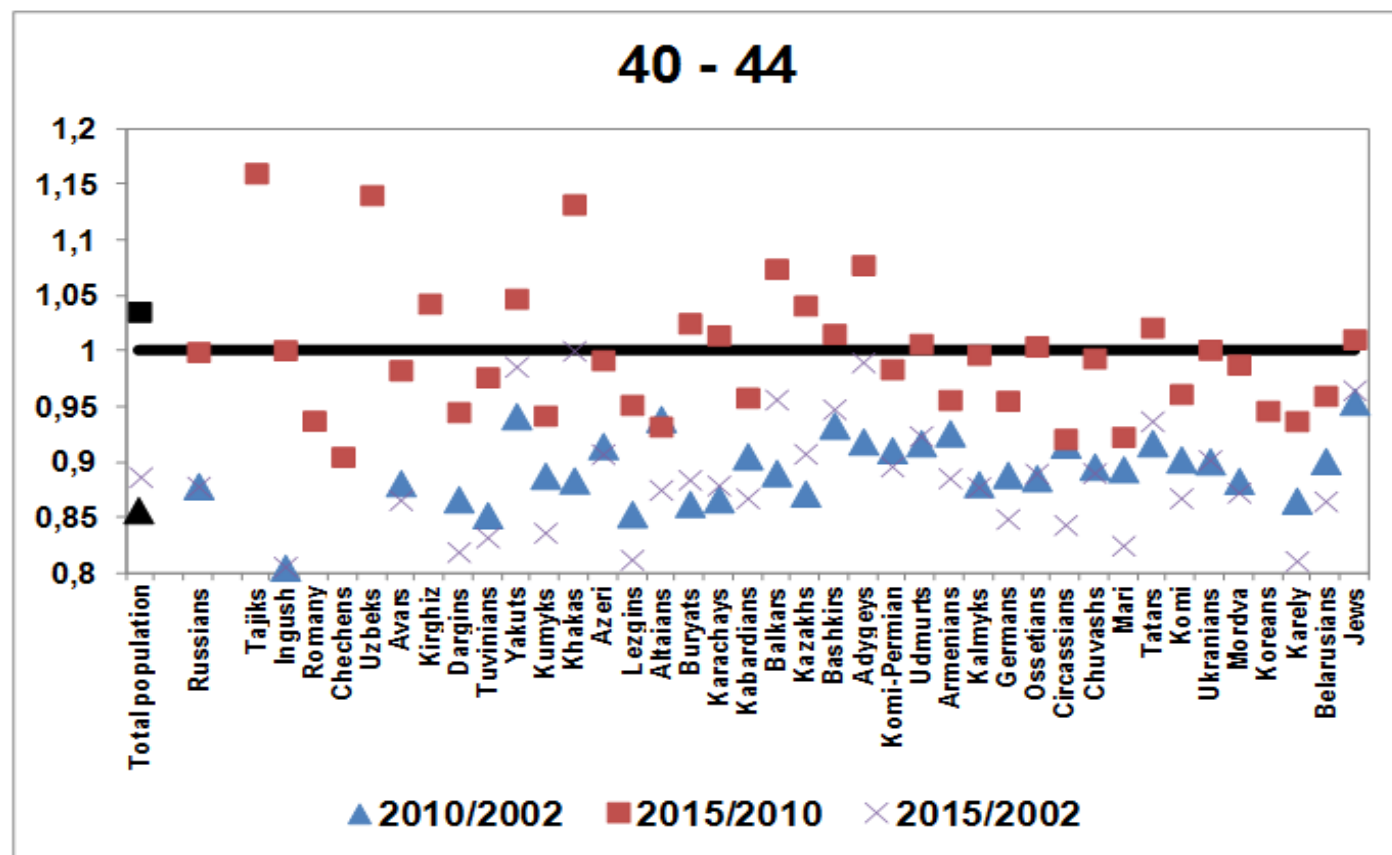
Note: Nationalities are listed in descending order by average number of children born to a woman aged 50-54 in 2015.

Relative changes in the average number of children ever born to women aged 45-49 of selected nationalities between the surveys of 2002 and 2010, of 2010 and 2015, and between the surveys of 2002 and 2015

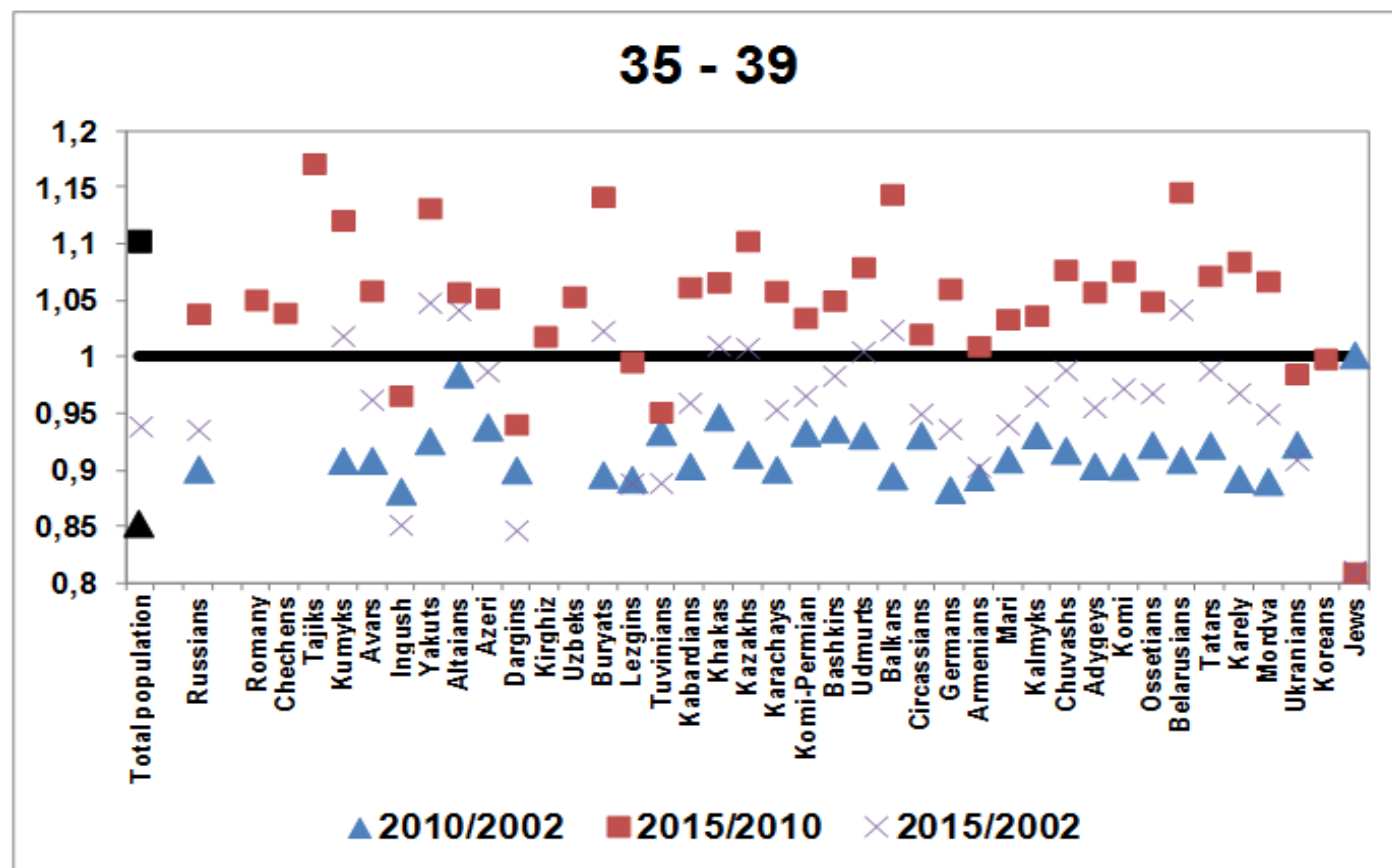


Note: Nationalities are listed in descending order by average number of children born to a woman aged 45-49 in 2015.

Relative changes in the average number of children ever born to women aged 40-44 of selected nationalities between the surveys of 2002 and 2010, of 2010 and 2015, and between the surveys of 2002 and 2015

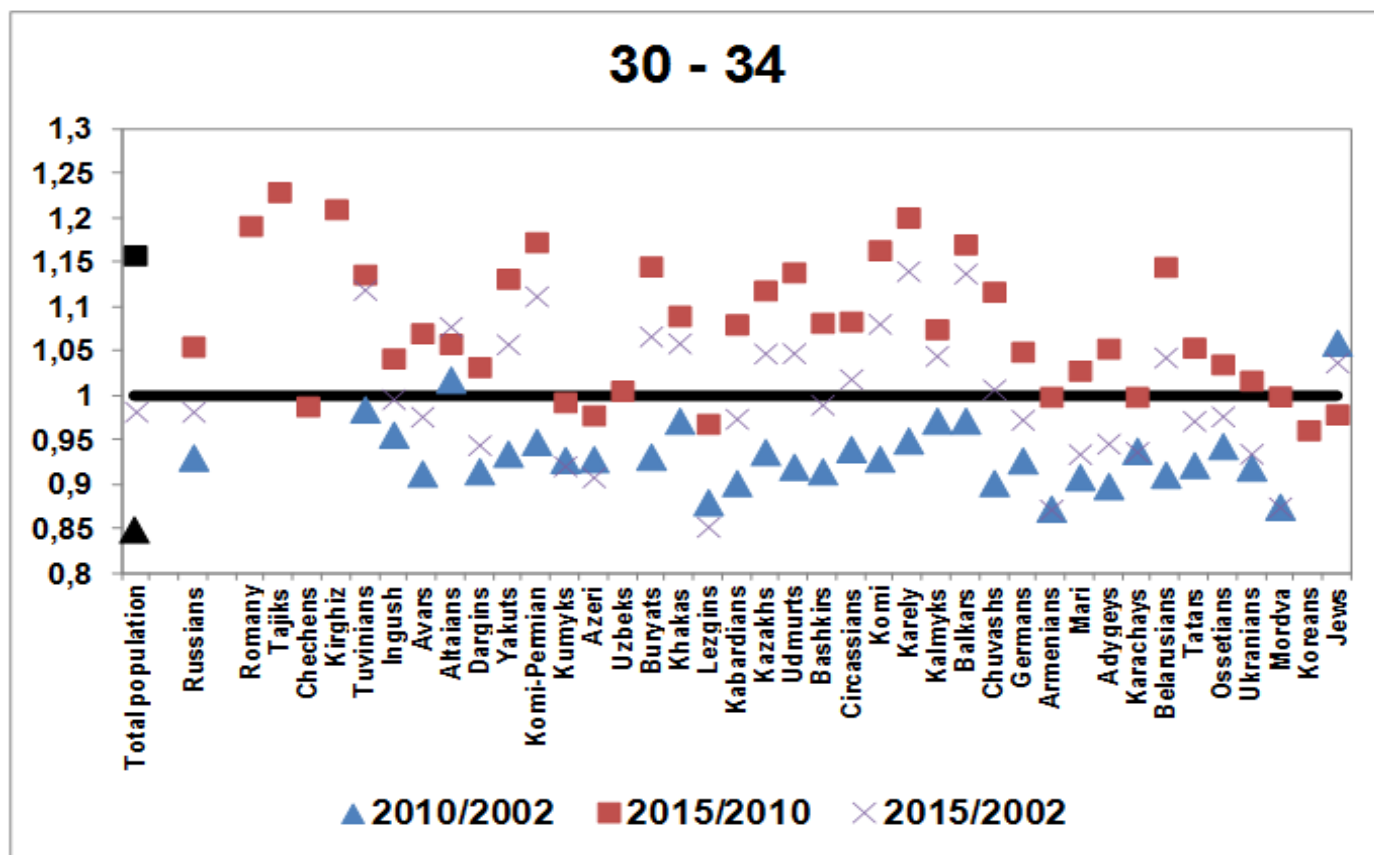


Relative changes in the average number of children ever born to women aged 35-39 of selected nationalities between the surveys of 2002 and 2010, of 2010 and 2015, and between the surveys of 2002 and 2015



Note: Nationalities are listed in descending order by average number of children born to a woman aged 45-49 in 2015.

Relative changes in the average number of children ever born to women aged 30-34 of selected nationalities between the surveys of 2002 and 2010, of 2010 and 2015, and between the surveys of 2002 and 2015



Note: Nationalities are listed in descending order by average number of children born to a woman aged 45-49 in 2015.



CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSION

General conclusions (1):

- **the historical downward trend of fertility for 32 of 34 nationalities is still valid**
- **the fertility decline occurred most rapidly among ethnic groups who were undergoing through an active phase of the First Demographic Transition**
- **there is the on-going reduction in ethnic differentiation in fertility in Russia for women in their forties and fifties (completed cohort fertility)**

General conclusions (2):

- **There was an increase, although not significant, between 2015 and 2010 surveys of ethnic differentiation in the number of children born to women younger than 45 years**
- **Moreover, the younger is the women, the stronger is the relative variation in rates among different ethnic groups**
- **Russia has already experienced a similar situation of the growing inter-ethnic differences in fertility in the 1980s, also in a situation of strengthening of the state family policy**

Discussion:

- It is not excluded that the current population policy, at least for a time, again slowed the unification process in fertility levels and in the age pattern of fertility of the Russia's population
- In recent years, the process of increasing age of motherhood braked sharply and is likely that the mother's age at birth of second and subsequent children started to decline.
- There is no doubt that the pronatalist policy accelerates the appearance of a second child in the family and has fueled a third and subsequent children in certain social strata and in some ethnic groups which still have ideals and illustrative examples of large families
- At the same time it is very likely that the results of these changes will not be stronger, as generations get older, and we will not see any growth in their ultimate fertility

Key question

Does Demographic Modernization in Russia make one step back?

- **Pronatalist policy has a positive response first of all among the social and ethno-demographic groups that either have not yet forgotten the historical experience of high fertility, or for whatever reasons (religious, in particular) continue to be guided by the ideals of a large family**
- **In the long run we can hardly rely on a such mechanism for increasing or maintaining the birth rate in the country**
- **Strengthening the demographic heterogeneity of the regions, social and ethnic groups has more negative than positive points. It is well known that the growing confrontation between the poor regions with high fertility and rich regions with low birth rates is always a great challenge for society and the economy**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!