HISTORICAL TRENDS IN THE SEX RATIO AT BIRTH

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ABSTRACT

This study of historical trends in the sex ratio at birth is based on national vital registration data for eight large populations (Sweden, France, England and Wales, U.S. whites, U.S. blacks, Japan, Taiwan and Australia). Trends in the sex ratio at birth are examined in the light of the changing quality of the birth registration data in each country. For four of these populations (Sweden, England and Wales, Japan, Taiwan), secular upward trends in the sex ratio at birth are detected. For two other populations (France, American blacks), some evidence of trends exists. These trends cannot be explained by deficiencies in the registration of births. Their causes must then be related to secular variation in factors found to determine the sex ratio at birth, such as the decline in prenatal mortality and the changing composition of births by birth order and parental age.

INTRODUCTION

The sex ratio of live births in human populations usually varies between 104 and 107 boys per 100 girls. The disparity between the number of male births and the number of female births was observed for the first time in 1662 by John Graunt, and has been the object of scientific curiosity ever since. A number of demographic studies of the sex ratio at birth (SRB) are available. They have revealed that the apparent homogeneity across populations and over time has to be qualified in at least two instances.

First, while the usual SRB for white populations is estimated to be about 106 males per 100 females, the SRB for black populations is significantly lower and ranges from 102 to 104 (see, for example, Visaria, 1967). The second case of departure from the usual levels is the rise in the SRB of belligerent countries during and after wars. Marked increases (of 1 to 2 percent) were observed in France and England and Wales at the time of World War I and World War II (see, for example, Houdaille, 1973; James, 1987a; Aubenque, 1989).

A third pattern of variation in the SRB will be the focus of this paper. The pattern consists of secular increases, of up to 2 percent, in the SRB. Such trends have been previously reported in a few studies. Lampe (1954, 1955) finds an increase in consecutive five year values of the SRB in the Netherlands between 1900 and 1949. Imaizumi and Murata (1981) describe a significant linear increase in the yearly values of the SRB of Japan between 1901 and 1977. Schtickzelle (1981a) examined the yearly values of the SRB since the beginning of the century in five countries. He concludes that statistically significant upward linear trends exist in the SRB of Belgium, Sweden, and England and Wales, but finds no trend in the SRB of Australia and the US. Ulizzi (1983) and De Bartolo (1985) find an increase in the Italian SRB since the 1930s. Lastly, Aubenque (1989) describes the declining secular trend in France between the beginning of the 19th century and the middle of the 20th century and finds that fluctuations in the SRB are more closely associated with variations in the male birth rate than in the female birth rate.

In this paper, historical data on the number of live births by sex are described and compared for eight populations. In all cases, national vital registration data are used and annual values are calculated. The series extend back to the earliest periods for which births were recorded by sex. In addition to providing a unique opportunity to compare a variety of large populations, this paper focuses on some aspects of the study of historical variation in the SRB which have not been developed previously. First, this paper discusses some typical problems in the recording of births by sex and the estimation of the SRB. Such problems may lead to systematic patterns of distortion and therefore must be examined (Part 1). Second, the variation over time in the SRB of each of the eight populations is examined in the light of the changing quality of the birth registration data (Part 2). Lastly, the contributions to the secular increase of the main factors usually believed to determine the SRB are discussed (Part 3).

1. SOURCES OF DATA AND ESTIMATION OF THE SEX RATIO AT BIRTH

This study is based on national vital registration data. The registration of vital events by each country is indeed the major source of data for estimating the SRB. Vital registration is also the most reliable source, even though the quality of such registration varies from country to country. In the case of unsatisfactory registration, the distortions can be expected to follow certain patterns which will be briefly reviewed. Most patterns of distortion are linked to the prevailing preference for a particular sex or sequence of sexes.¹

¹See Freedman and Coombs (1974) for a discussion of parental preferences about the sex of children in several developed and developing countries.

²In addition to the registration of vital events, surveys constitute a primary source of data for the estimation of the SRB. Surveys are subject to the same types of error and distortions as are vital statistics. In the case of retrospective surveys, such errors and distortions may be relatively larger for more remote periods. Moreover, in surveys, independently of the accuracy of the overall sex ratio, the sex ratios of children of the various birth orders may be distorted. For example, a tendency, in some societies, to report the first son

Differential reporting of live births by sex is one common cause of distortions of the SRB. Female births are more likely to be underreported than male births. Such underreporting would tend to raise the observed SRB. Another source of distortion lies in the underreporting of a live birth rapidly followed by the death of the child. Since neonatal mortality rates are higher for boys than for girls, it is often believed that such underreporting could lead to relatively higher underreporting of male live births, which would lower the observed SRB, although the effect would be small (Visaria, 1967; Becker and Chowdhury, 1981; Rehan, 1982). However, in some societies, it is likely that the underreporting of female babies who die soon after birth is higher than that of male babies who die soon after birth. Such differential omissions would tend to increase the observed SRB. Sex selective infanticide is more likely to affect girls than boys and hence to increase the observed SRB through the omission of the corresponding births.

Misclassification of births as either live births or stillbirths may also be a source of error in the SRB. Because the sex ratio of stillbirths is higher than that of live births, the registration of stillbirths as live births would raise the SRB. By contrast, the registration of live births as stillbirths is likely to lower the SRB, since such misclassified live births would most probably include a relatively high number of boys (who have a higher probability of dying in the first days of life than girls). Such distortions should however remain small in view of the small proportion of stillbirths.

Lastly, subtle speculations are offered by Goodman (1961), Stern (1973), Keyfitz (1977), and Toro (1981) about the effect of family planning on the SRB when a particular sex is preferred. If the likelihood

as older than the first daughter has been observed (Pakrasi and Halder, 1971; Kang et al., 1981). It should also be noted that hospital data are subject to distortions in countries where only a fraction of the births occur in hospitals. Indeed, such births are likely to include a relatively high number of difficult births, which generally involve high proportions of boys. Hence the sex ratio of hospital births is likely to be higher than the overall SRB of the population (James, 1975; Toivanen and Hirvonen, 1970).

of a male birth is the same for all couples, parents cannot influence the proportion of boys in the population by a stopping rule. If the couples were heterogeneous in their probability of male births, then the SRB in the population could be altered, a preference for boys leading to a lower SRB.

Given the multiplicity of the possible biases in the data on live births by sex, it is clear that only in a few countries is the registration of vital events of a sufficient quality to permit the study of the SRB. An additional difficulty in the estimation of the SRB is the size of the random error. Visaria showed that "one needs a surprisingly large number of births to obtain an observation of a sex ratio within a narrow confidence range" (1967, p.133). For example, Table 1 shows the 95 percent confidence limits for a SRB of 106, according to sample size. As a consequence of the variation, only national level statistics can be considered in this study of trends in the SRB.

TABLE 1: NINETY-FIVE PERCENT CONFIDENCE LIMITS
FOR A SEX RATIO AT BIRTH OF 106

Number of	Lower	Upper
observed births	limit	limit
100	73 /	350 3
100	71.4	158.1
1,000	93.6	120.0
10,000	101.9	110.2
100,000	104.7	107.3
1,000,000	105.5	106.4

Source: Visaria, 1967, p. 133.

Figures 1 to 8 illustrate the evolution since 1900 of the SRB in eight populations or countries: Sweden, France, England and Wales, Australia, US (whites), US (blacks), Japan, and Taiwan. These countries have had high quality vital statistics for most of the period considered.

Figures 1 to 8 present the observed annual values of the SRB. Note that the scales are identical and that Figures 1 to 8 are thus directly comparable. The magnitude of the annual fluctuations in the SRB is due, in part, to the random factor. Data for the three European countries are also available for earlier periods and are presented in Figure 9. Tenyear averages (Sweden, 1750 - 1900; England and Wales, 1841 - 1900) or five-year averages are used in Figure 9.

2. SECULAR TRENDS IN THE SEX RATIO AT BIRTH

Figures 1 - 9 reveal several instances of secular trends in the SRB. For each country or population, the quality of the data has to be assessed in order to distinguish any real trends in the SRB from patterns of distortion due to the long-term variation in the quality of the vital registration statistics.

In Sweden, the registration of births was regulated by law in 1686. Regular and systematic population statistics have been kept since 1749 (Larsson, 1965; Sweden. Statistiska Centralbyran, 1969). The Swedish data are of a very high quality, and it is likely that the upward trend observed between 1750 and the beginning of the 20th century is real and not an artifact of the data collection. No trend is detected in the 20th century.

In France, the tradition of birth registration was already established when the Napoleonic administration organized the official registration of vital events (van de Walle, 1969, 1974). The annual values of the SRB in France are available since 1820 and are presented in Figure 10. The long decline throughout the 19th century is remarkable. Evidence gathered by van de Walle (1974) seems to indicate that misreporting or underregistration of infants deaths, stillbirths, and female births are likely to explain the downward trend. In fact, a

³All data are given in Appendix.

specific problem characterizes the birth registration data in France. It lies in the fact that an unknown, variable proportion of the children born alive but deceased before the registration of their birth were recorded as stillbirths, in conformity with the Napoleonic Code's provisions in matters of inheritance (van de Walle, 1974, p. 48). van de Walle estimates the resulting underestimation of the number of live births to be of the order of only 1 percent. The expected effect of a misclassification of live births as stillbirths is an underestimation of the SRB, because of the boys' higher probability of dying in the first days of life. However, in the case of France, such misclassification may have been systematically linked to sex and birth order, with unpredictable effects on the SRB. It is likely that such potentially distorting effects have diminished over time, and become negligible since the end of World War II. Although no trend is evident in the SRB of France in the 20th century, it appears that the average level after World War II is higher than that before World War II. The high level of the SRB after World War II may or may not be explained by the improvement in the registration of live births. The rise in the SRB during and after World War I and World War II appears clearly.

In England and Wales, birth registration was established in 1836. Registration was deficient, but decreasingly so, until the decade from 1871 to 1880, when it is estimated to have been essentially complete (Teitelbaum, 1974). It has probably remained complete since then. The marked decline observed in the SRB prior to 1870 may be related, at least in part, to the increasing completeness of birth registration (as is the case for France). There is a notable increase in the SRB of England and Wales between the two world wars. This increase does not seem to be due to any known deficiencies of the birth registration. As in France, the SRB increased markedly during and after the two world wars. Since the early 1970s, the SRB seems to have declined slightly.

In the US, the completeness of the birth registration varies by race. For American whites, birth registration was estimated to be 95 percent complete by 1942 (US Department of Health and Human Services, 1984, Vol. 1, p. 45). No marked trend appears in the SRB of American

whites between 1915 and 1979, except for a slight decrease during the years of the baby boom. It is unlikely that such a decline could be due to changes in the quality of the birth registration (essentially complete during that period). A slight decline is also observed since the mid-1970s.

The quality of the birth registration for American blacks is questionable for the earlier years since it was only in 1947 that the estimated completeness reached 90 percent and in 1953 that it reached 95 percent (US Department of Health and Human Services, 1984, Vol. 1, p. 45). In the US, births that occur in hospitals are almost completely registered, while home deliveries are much less fully recorded. The increase, for the black population, in the proportion of hospital births may have contributed to the decline observed in the SRB between the early 1920s and the early 1950s. Hence, as is the case for France and England and Wales, this decline could be related to the increasing completeness of birth registration and may not indicate a real trend in the SRB. Since the early 1960s, the SRB of American blacks appears to have been increasing, but no systematic variation in the registration of births was noted for the same period.

In Japan, the family registration system was established in 1872. Major improvements were made in the 1920s and birth registration has been virtually complete since the late 1940s (International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics, 1979). The systematic short-term

According to traditional belief in Japan, the year of birth influences the future character and life of the child. Such influences may differ by sex. The Japanese calendar consists of series of five cycles of twelve years each. Each year corresponds to one of twelve symbolic animals which are repeated in the same sequence. Hence the superstitions associated with the date of birth may be expected to reappear every twelve years, or every sixty years. The Japanese sex ratio at birth reveals two striking patterns of distortion. First, particularly high peaks preceded and followed by low points are observed in 1906 and 1966. These two years correspond to the symbolic Fire Horse. A strong traditional belief in Japan, is that girls born in the year of the Fire Horse tend to kill their husbands and become widows. This belief apparently motivated many parents of girls born in 1906 and 1966 to misreport the date of birth and to attribute

distortions that are due to the influence of certain traditional beliefs do not mask a marked increase in the SRB between the 1920s and the end of the 1960s. The exceptionally high values observed in the years 1968 to 1970 may have been brought about by coding errors due to the introduction of computerized data analysis in 1968 (Imaizumi and Murata, 1981, p. 78). However, a decline seems to have occurred between the mid-1970s and the late 1980s.

In Taiwan, reliable birth registration data are available between 1910 and 1940, and since 1949. The high values observed in the SRB before 1910 and between 1940 and 1943 are due to the lower quality of the birth registration for those periods. The distortions can most probably be attributed to the relatively higher underreporting of girls, in this country where a preference for boys prevails. A marked increase in the SRB is observed since the early 1950s. No systematic distortion in the birth registration data over the same period seems to explain this trend in Taiwan.

In Australia, a tradition of registration of vital events initiated in the 19th century (Australia. Bureau of Statistics, 1977) contributed to the high quality of birth registration data. No marked secular trend is observed in the 20th century SRB.

To sum up, secular upward trends, which cannot be explained by deficiencies in the data, seem to exist in the SRB of four out of eight populations (Sweden, England and Wales, Japan, Taiwan). In Sweden the

it either to the preceding or to the following year. It should be added that the demographic consequences of the belief associated with the Fire Horse include significant drops in fertility and significant increases in the number of abortions during those years (Japan. Ministry of Health and Welfare, 1982, Vol. 1, p. 45). The other pattern of distortion is also linked to a negative superstition. According to traditional belief, girls born in the year of the Tiger tend to be to aggressive. Although this superstition is weaker than that associated with the Fire Horse, it has also brought about high values in the SRB of the Tiger years (1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974 and 1986). The magnitude of these peaks decreases with time, probably as the strength of the superstition fades.

upward trend in the SRB was most marked in the 19th century. In England and Wales, it was particularly marked between the two world wars. In Japan, the upward trend started in the 1920s, and lasted until the late 1960s. In Taiwan, the same trend has been observed since World War II. Some evidence of similar trends appears in two other populations. In France, the average levels of the SRB are higher after than before World War II. The SRB of American blacks appears to have been increasing since the 1960s. No particular trend appears in the evolution of the SRB of Australians. Downward trends are observed in 19th-century France and England and Wales, as well as in the black population of the US between 1920 and 1950. These downward trends correspond to periods of incomplete but improving birth registration and are unlikely to reflect actual changes in the SRB. A relatively short and unexplained downward trend is observed for the American white population during the years of the baby Since the early 1970s, three instances of declines are observed (England and Wales, US whites and Japan).

3. POSSIBLE CAUSES OF SECULAR INCREASES IN THE SEX RATIO AT BIRTH

The determinants of the SRB have been studied extensively since the first observation of a disparity between the number of male and female births. Physiological characteristics of the reproductive tract seem to influence the SRB through their effects on the sex ratio at conception, and may explain the racial variation. A behavioral factor, coital frequency, is also thought to determine the SRB, through the relationship between the timing of intercourse during the menstrual cycle and the probability of a male conception. In addition, research has revealed that some individual characteristics such as age of parents and parity may also affect the probability of a male birth. Finally, socioeconomic conditions have been thought to affect the SRB through their influence on prenatal mortality.

The causes of the secular trends detected in the SRB of several populations must be related, at least in part, to some of the determinants that have been identified to date. Have some of these factors undergone

secular changes parallel to those observed in the SRB, which could explain the trends? A rapid examination of the changes over time in the presumed determinants of the SRB reveals that no definite answer can be given to this question, in part due to the lack of documentation, but that some interesting insights may be gained.

Studies of the physiology of the sperm and research on the chemical balance of the female genital tract have produced some evidence that these factors could influence the probability of a male conception. In fact, differences in the levels of maternal gonadotrophin have been thought to explain the racial differentials in the SRB, lower levels implying a higher SRB (James, 1984a, 1984b). The likelihood of secular changes in some populations' physiological characteristics is difficult to assess. The populations under study here being fairly homogeneous with respect to their racial composition and having remained so over the period of interest, racial composition can safely be ruled out as a possible cause of the secular trends. It seems possible, however, that the physiological factors likely to affect the SRB could be related to other individual characteristics such as parental age or parity. Long-term changes in the age or parity composition of the reproductive population could then produce long-term changes in the SRB.

High coital frequency has been invoked to explain the rising SRB during and after wars. James (1983, 1987b) suggests that the chance of a male conception is higher early and late in the menstrual cycle because of rapid variation in maternal hormone levels. Women exposed to high coital rates conceive, on the average, earlier in their menstrual cycle than other women, and thus have a higher chance of having boys, according to James. The likelihood of secular increases in coital frequency in the populations for which secular increases in the SRB are observed is unknown. Since coital frequency may be related to individual characteristics such as age, for example, it could be argued that a secular variation in the age composition of the parents' population could produce a secular variation in the SRB of the children. It should be noted, however, that changes in the composition of births by parental age

and parity fail to explain fully the rise observed in the SRB of belligerent countries during war time (MacMahon and Pugh, 1953, 1954).

Parental age and parity have often been thought to affect the SRB, even though the causal mechanisms (such as, possibly, hormonal or behavioral changes) of such effects have rarely been discussed. A large number of statistical studies of the relationships between parental age and parity, on the one hand, and the SRB, on the other, are available. Such studies are generally based on samples of millions of births taken from the national vital statistics of countries with high quality registration. A review of their findings reveals that parity and paternal age appear to be negatively correlated with the SRB. Births to younger fathers and births of lower orders seem to have a higher chance of being male. These effects seem difficult to quantify, but appear to remain very small (Chahnazarian, 1988). The fertility transition of western countries has been characterized by changes in the average age at childbearing as well as by changes in the distribution of families by size. The female mean age at childbearing varies from country to country but a general and significant decline has been observed since the beginning of the fertility transition. The proportions of large families have decreased significantly over the same period (see, for example, Festy, 1984). With the presumed increase in the proportion of births to younger fathers, and the increase in the proportion of children of lower birth orders, the expected effect on the long-term trend in the SRB of western countries would indeed be an increase. The question of whether the changes in the age and parity composition of the population of parents could be sufficient to explain the observed increases in the SRB of some countries remains open. As an illustration of the magnitude of some of those compositional changes, Figures 11 and 12 present the annual values of the SRB and the annual proportion of first births in the U.S (whites) and Japan, respectively. The proportion of first births varies from levels close to 25 percent of all births (around 1920 and 1960 in the U.S. and around 1950 in Japan) to

 $^{^{5}}$ See Chahnazarian (1988) for a discussion of various hypotheses regarding the rise in the SRB during and after wars.

over 40 percent (since the mid-1970s in the U.S. and since the mid-1960s in Japan). The expected relationship between the proportion of first births and the SRB is positive. While there are some indications of concomitance in the trends of the two variables, it is clear from these figures that multivariate modelling is needed to explain the levels observed in the SRB.

Because of the higher male mortality during most of the gestation period, factors affecting prenatal mortality rates and patterns can be expected to affect the sex ratio of surviving fetuses eventually to be born alive. Since better socioeconomic conditions and medical care have been associated with lower rates of prenatal mortality, it is easy to speculate that improving socioeconomic conditions and medical care could have produced a secular increase in the sex ratio at birth. The decline in the stillbirth rates of western countries has been considerable. For example, the ratio of stillbirths to live births dropped from the estimated levels of 30 to 40 per thousand in the second half of the 19th century in Sweden and Belgium to values closer to 10 per thousand in the 1970s (Schtickzelle, 1981b). Simultaneously, the sex ratio of stillbirths has been decreasing, dropping from values as high as 130 in Sweden and Belgium at the beginning of the century to levels closer to 110 in the 1970s (Teitelbaum, 1971; Schtickzelle, 1981b, Ulizzi, 1983). The effect, on the SRB, of changes in the stillbirth rate and in the proportion male among stillbirths was examined for various countries by Schtickzelle (1981b), Imaizumi and Murata (1981), and Chahnazarian (1986), using different methods. All results indicate that the change in the rate and sex ratio of stillbirths has contributed to the secular increase in the sex ratio of live births, but fails to fully explain the trends. Because of the scarcity of data, the impact on the SRB of the variation over time in early prenatal mortality remains unknown.

SUMMARY

This study of historical trends in the SRB is based on national vital registration data for eight populations with a long tradition of high quality birth registration. For four of these populations (Sweden, England and Wales, Japan, Taiwan), secular upward trends in the SRB are detected. For two other populations (France, American blacks), some evidence of trends exist. These trends cannot be explained by deficiencies in the registration of births. Their causes must then be related to secular variation in factors found to determine the SRB.

Clearly, improvements over time in socioeconomic conditions and medical care have caused a marked decline in prenatal mortality. In turn, such a decline seems to have contributed to the long-term increase in the SRB. Another source of secular variation may lie in the characteristics of the fertility transition of western countries. Significant declines in the mean age at childbearing and in the proportion of large families were observed during the transition. Such changes could have contributed to the secular increase in the SRB. The association between changes in the composition of births by birth order and by age of the parents needs to be fully modelled. Yet, it would not be surprising to discover that a model taking full account of the two factors most strongly related to the SRB fails to explain a large part of the variation observed. mechanisms through which parental age and parity operate on the probability of having a boy or a girl are unknown. The relationship between parental age and parity, on the one hand, and the unknown intermediate variables, on the other, may also change over time, in ways that may or may not be related to the prevailing composition by age and parity of the population of parents. This would be particularly true if such intermediate variables were essentially behavioral, as would be the case if coital frequency was among them.

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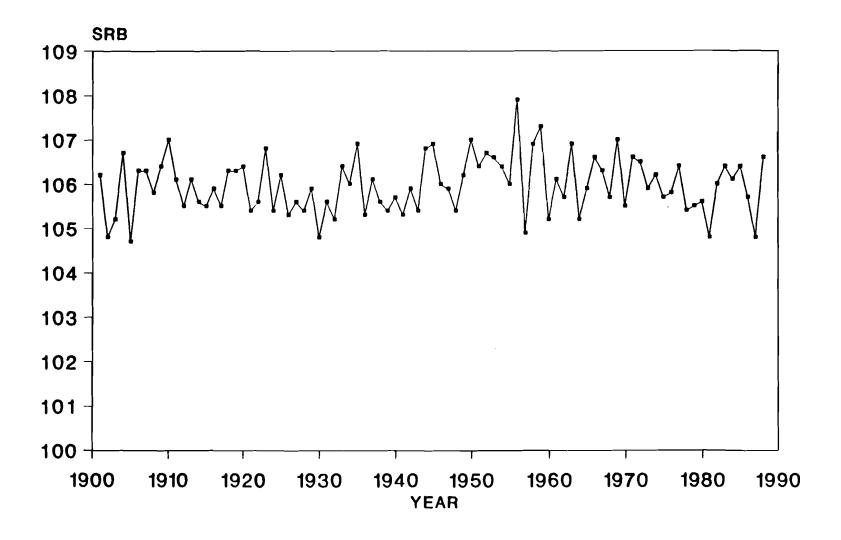
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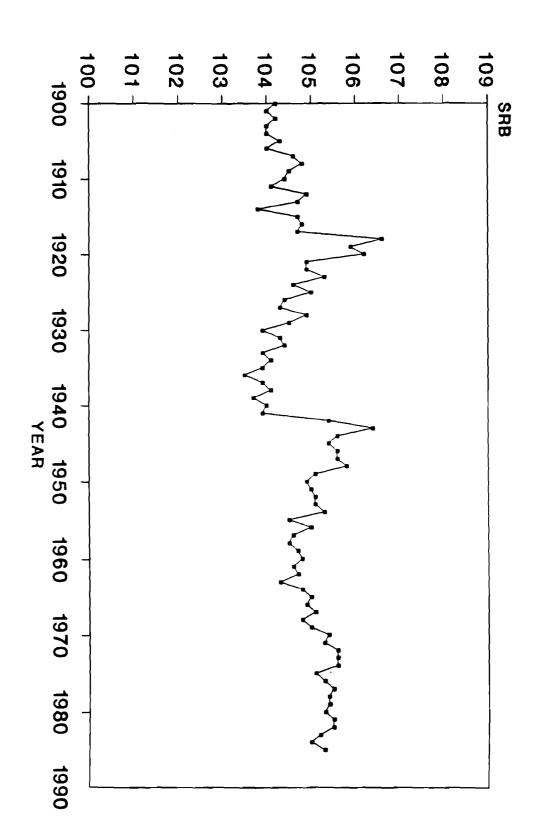
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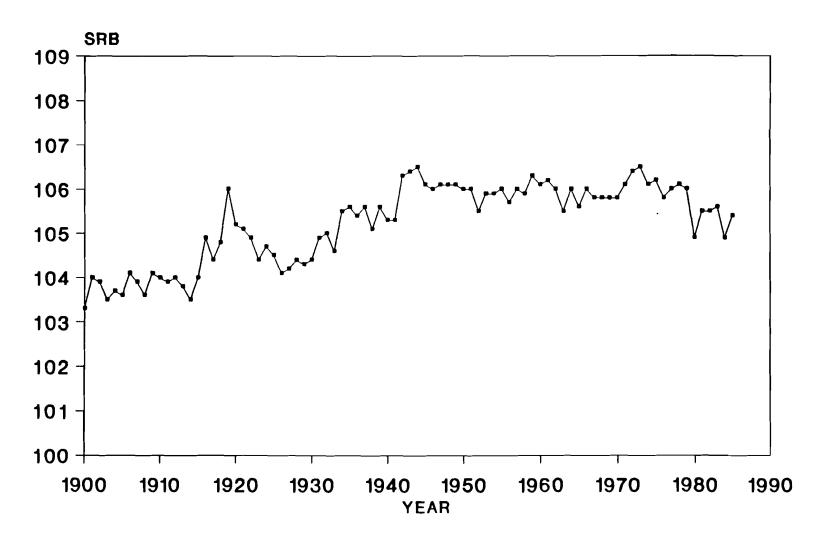
SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 SWEDEN



SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 FRANCE



SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 ENGLAND AND WALES



1910 1920 SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 U.S. (WHITES) FIGURE 4 1950 1960

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103 -

105 -

104 -

106 -

107 -

100 -

1900

1930

1940

1970

1980

1990

YEAR

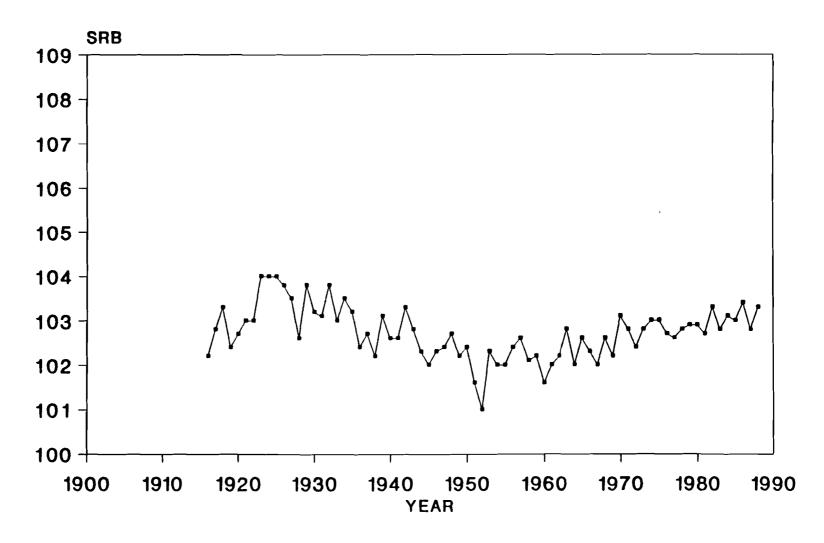
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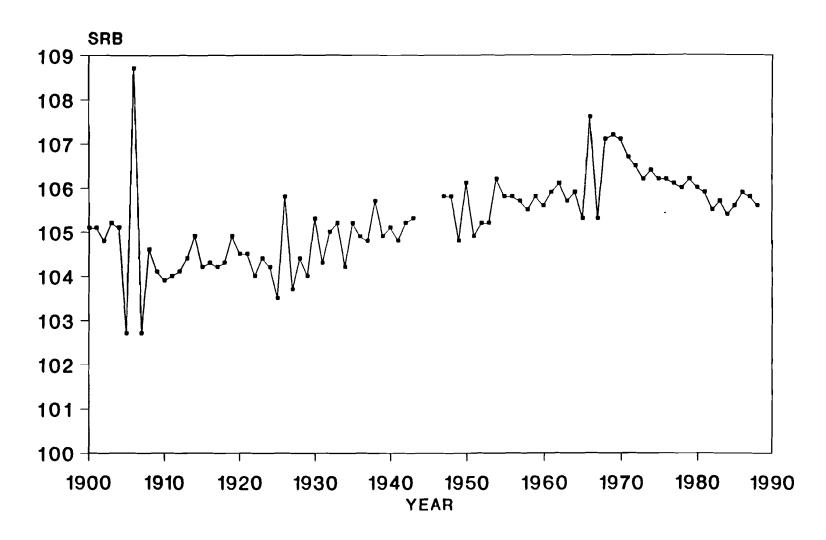
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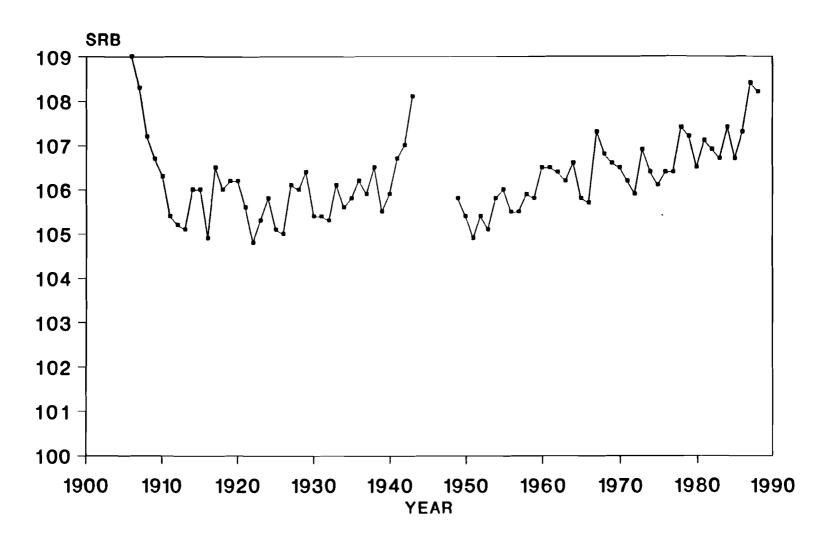
SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 U.S. (BLACKS)



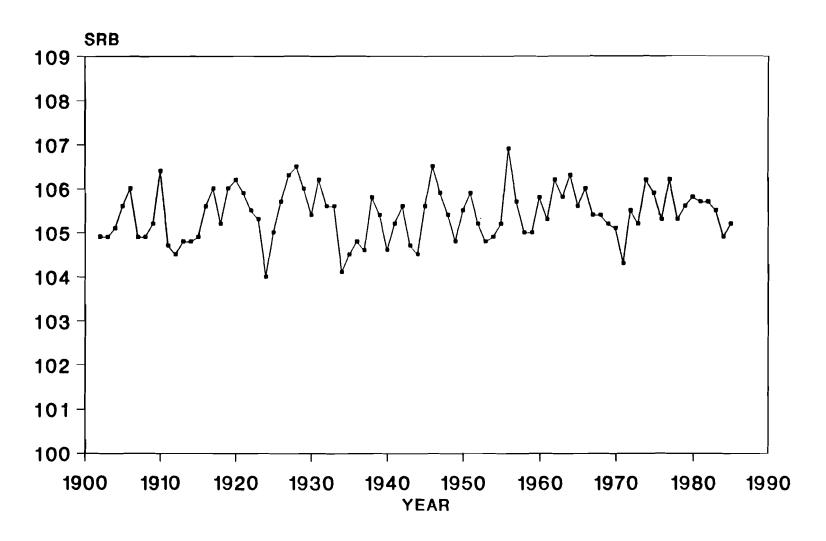
SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 JAPAN



SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 TAIWAN



SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1900 AUSTRALIA



SWEDEN, FRANCE, ENGLAND AND WALES
SEX RATIO AT BIRTH SINCE 1750

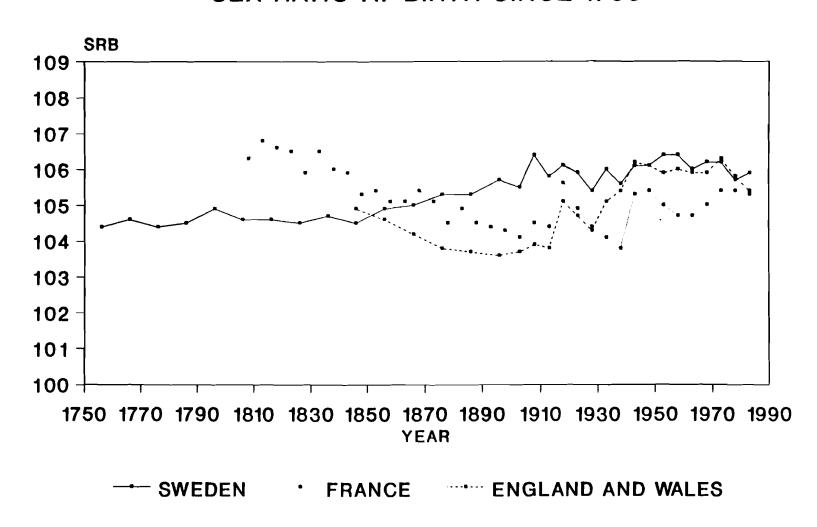
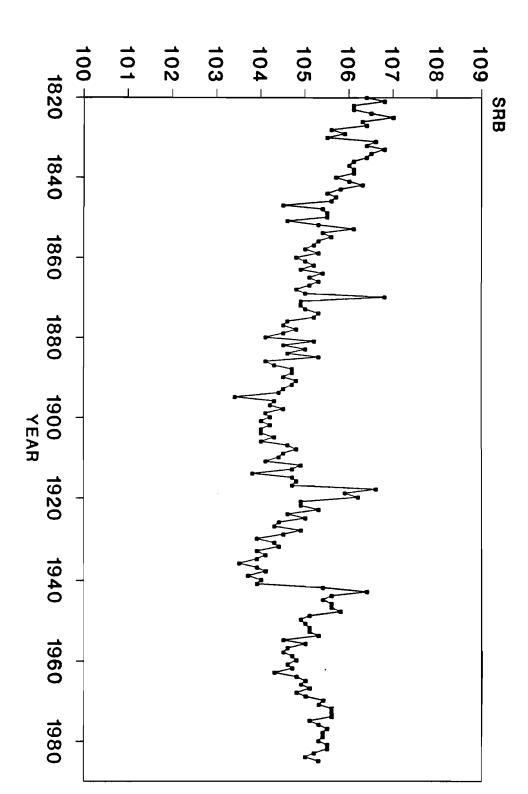
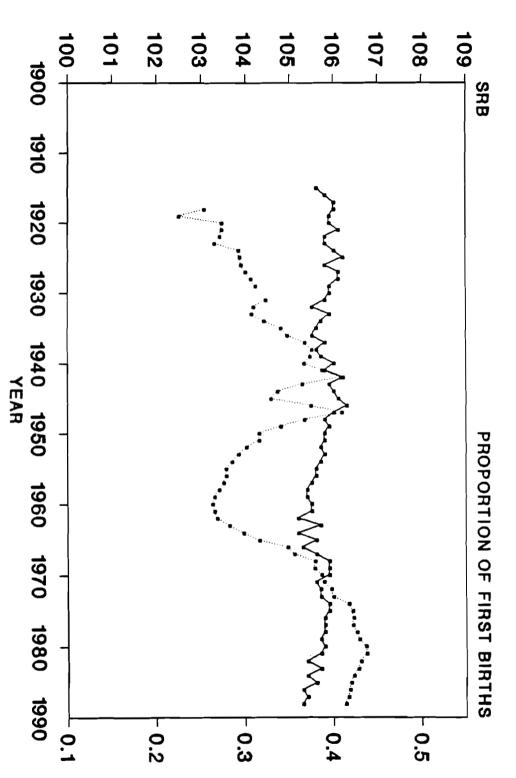


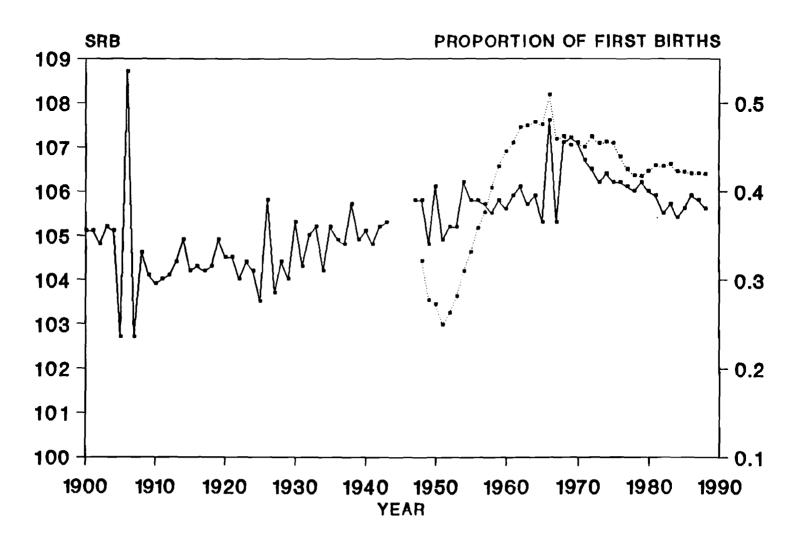
FIGURE 10 FRANCE SEX RATIO AT BIRTH 1820-1985



SEX RATIO AT BIRTH AND PROPORTION OF FIRST BIRTHS - U.S. (WHITES) FIGURE 11



SEX RATIO AT BIRTH AND PROPORTION OF FIRST BIRTHS - JAPAN



VALENDIX

TABLE A1: SEX RATIO OF LIVE BIRTHS IN EIGHT SELECTED POPULATIONS.

AVAILABLE DATA SINCE 1900. ANNUAL VALUES

YEAR	SWEDEN	FRANCE	ENGLAND AND WALES	U.S. (WHITES)	U.S. (BLACKS)	JAPAH	TAIWAN	AUSTRALIA
1900		104.2	103.3			105.1		
1901	106.2	104.0	104.0			105.1		
1902	104.8	104.2	103.9			104.8		104.9
1903 1904	105.2 106.7	104.0 104.0	103.5 103.7			105.2 105.1		104.9 105.1
1904	104.7	104.3	103.7			102.7		105.6
1906	106.3	104.0	104.1			108.7	109.2	106.0
1907	106.3	104.6	103.9			102.7	108.3	104.9
1908	105.8	104.8	103.6			104.6	107.2	104.9 105.2
1909 1910	106.4 107.0	104.5 104.4	104.1 104.0	•		104.1 103.9	106.7 106.3	105.2
1911	106.1	104.1	103.9			104.0	105.4	104.7
1912	105.5	104.9	104.0			104.1	105.2	104.5
1913	106.1	104.7	103.8			104.4	105.1	104.8
1914	105.6	103.8	103.5			104.9	106.0	104.8
1915	105.5	104.7 104.8	104.0 104.9	105.6 105.8	102.2	104.2 104.3	106.0 104.9	104.9 105.6
1916 1917	105.9 105.5	104.7	104.4	106.0	102.2	104.3	106.5	106.0
1918	106.3	106.6	104.8	106.0	103.3	104.2 104.3	106.0	105.2
1919	106.3	105.9	106.0	105.9	102.4	104.9	106.2	106.0
1920	106.4	106.2	105.2	105.9	102.7	104.5	106.2	106.2
1921 1922	105.4 105.6	104.9 104.9	105.1 104.9	106.1 105.8	103.0 103.0	104.5 104.0	105.6 104.8	105.9 105.5
1923	106.8	105.3	104.4	105.8	104.0	104.4	105.3	105.3
1924	105.4	104.6	104.7	106.0	104.0	104.2	105.8	104.0
1925	106.2	105.0	104.5	106.2	104.0	103.5	105.1	105.0
1926	105.3	104.4	104.1	105.8	103.8	105.8	105.0	105.7
1927 1928	105.6 105.4	104.3 104.9	104.2 104.4	106.1	103.5 102.6	103.7 104.4	106.1 106.0	106.3 106.5
1928	105.4	104.5	104.4	106.1 105.9	102.8	104.4	106.4	106.0
1930	104.8	103.9	104.4	105.9	103.2	105.3	105.4	105.4
1931	105.6	104.3	104.9	105.8	103.1	104.3	105.4	106.2
1932	105.2	104.4	105.0	105.5	103.8	105.0	105.3	105.6
1933	106.4 106.0	103.9 104.1	104.6 105.5	105.9 105.7	103.0	105.2 104.2	106.1 105.6	105.6 104.1
1934 1935	106.0	103.9	105.6	105.6	103.5 103.2	104.2	105.8	104.5
1936	105.3	103.5	105.4	105.5	102.4	104.9	106.2	104.8
1937	106.1	103.9	105.6	105.8	102.7	104.8	105.9	104.6
1938	105.6	104.1	105.1	105.6	102.2	105.7	106.5	105.8
1939 1940	105.4 105.7	103.7 104.0	105.6 105.3	105.7 106.0	103.1 102.6	104.9 105.1	105.5 105.9	105.4 104.6
1941	105.7	103.9	105.3	105.8	102.6	104.8	106.7	105.2
1942	105.9	105.4	106.3	106.2	103.3	105.2	107.0	105.6
1943	105.4	106.4	106.4	105.9	102.8	105.3	108.1	104.7
1944	106.B	105.6	106.5	106.0	102.3			104.5
1945 1946	106.9 106.0	105.4 105.6	106.1 106.0	106.1 106.3	102.0 102.3			105.6 106.5
1947	105.9	105.6	106.1	106.0	102.4	105.8		105.9
1948	105.4	105.8	106.1	105.8	102.7	105.8		105.4
1949	106.2	105.1	106.1	105.9	102.2	104.8	105.8	104.8
1950 1951	107.0 106.4	104.9 105.0	106.0 106.0	105.8 105.8	102.4	106.1 104.9	105.4 104.9	105.5
1952	106.4	105.1	105.5	105.7	101.6 101.0	104.9	104.9	105.9 105.2
1953	106.6	105.1	105.9	105.8	102.3	105.2	105.1	104.8
1954	106.4	105.3	105.9	105.7	102.0	106.2	105.8	104.9
1955	106.0	104.5	106.0	105.6	102.0	105.8	106.0	105.2
1956 1957	107.9 104.9	105.0 104.6	105.7 106.0	105.6 105.5	102.4 102.6	105.8 105.7	105.5 105.5	106.9 105.7
1958	106.9	104.5	105.9	105.4	102.5	105.7	105.9	105.0
1959	107.3	104.7	106.3	105.4	102.2	105.8	105.8	105.0
1960	105.2	104.8	106.1	105.5	101.6	105.6	106.5	105.8
1961 1962	106.1 105.7	104.6 104.7	106.2	105.5 105.2	102.0	105.9	106.5	105.3
1962	105.7	104.7	106.0 105.5	105.2 105.7	102.2 102.8	106.1 105.7	106.4 106.2	106.2 105.8
1964	105.2	104.8	106.0	105.2	102.0	105.9	106.2	106.3
1965	105.9	105.0	105.6	105.6	102.6	105.3	105.8	105.6
1966	106.6	104.9	106.0	105.3	102.3	107.6	105.7	106.0
1967 1968	106.3 105.7	105.1 104.8	105.8	105.6 105.9	102.0	105.3	107.3	105.4
1968	105.7	104.8	105.8 105.8	105.9	102.6 102.2	107.1 107.2	106.8 106.6	105.4 105.2
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SINCE 1120. TEN-YEAR OR FIVE-YEAR AVERAGES TABLE A2: SEX RATIO OF LIVE BIRTES IN SWEDEN, FRANCE AND ENGLAND AND WALES

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TABLE A3: SEX RATIO OF LIVE BIRTHS IN FRANCE 1820-1980. ANNUAL VALUES

YEAR	<u>SRB</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SRB</u>	YEAR	SRB	<u>YEAR</u>	SRB	YEAR	<u>SRB</u>	YEAR	SRB
1820	106.4	1850	105.5	1880	104.1	1910	104.4	1940	104.0	1970	105.4
1821	106.8	1851	104.6	1881	105.2	1911	104.1	1941	103.9	1971	105.3
1822	106.1	1852	105.3	1882	104.5	1912	104.9	1942	105.4	1972	105.6
1823	106.1	1853	106.1	1883	105.0	1913	104.7	1943	106.4	1973	105.6
1824	106.5	1854	105.4	1884	104.6	1914	103.B	1944	105.6	1974	105.6
1825	107.0	1855	105.6	1885	105.3	1915	104.7	1945	105.4	1975	105.1
1826	106.3	1856	105.3	1886	104.1	1916	104.8	1946	105.6	1976	105.3
1827	106.4	1857	105.2	1887	104.3	1917	104.7	1947	105.6	1977	105.5
1828	105.6	1858	105.0	1888	104.7	1918	106.6	1948	105.8	1978	105.4
1829	105.9	1859	105.3	1889	104.7	1919	105.9	1949	105.1	1979	105.4
1830	105.5	1860	104.8	1890	104.5	1920	106.2	1950	104.9	198 0	105.3
1831	106.6	1861	105.0	1891	104.8	1921	104.9	1951	105.0	1981	105.5
1832	106.4	1862	105.2	1892	104.7	1922	104.9	1952	105.1	1982	105.5
1833	106.B	1863	104.9	1893	104.5	1923	105.3	1953	105.1	1983	105.2
1834	106.5	1864	105.4	1894	104.4	1924	104.6	1954	105.3	1984	105.0
1835	106.4	1865	105.1	1895	103.4	1925	105.0	1955	104.5	1985	105.3
1836	106.1	1866	105.3	1896	104.3	1926	104.4	1956	105.0		
1837	106.0	1867	105.1	1897	104.2	1927	104.3	1957	104.6		
1838	106.1	1868	104.8	1898	104.5	1928	104.9	1958	104.5		
1839	106.1	1869	105.0	1899	104.1	1929	104.5	1959	104.7		
1840	105.7	1870	106.8	1900	104.2	1930	103.9	1960	104.8		
1841	106.0	1871	104.9	1901	104.0	1931	104.3	1961	104.6		
1842	106.3	1872	104.9	1902	104.2	1932	104.4	1962	104.7		
1843	105.8	1873	105.0	1903	104.0	1933	103.9	1963	104.3		
1844	105.5	1874	105.3	1904	104.0	1934	104.1	1964	104.8		
1845	105.7	1875	105.2	1905	104.3	1935	103.9	1965	105.0		
1846	105.6	1876	104.6	1906	104.0	1936	103.5	1966	104.9		
1847	104.5	1877	104.5	1907	104.6	1937	103.9	1967	105.1		
1848	105.4	1878	104.8	1908	104.8	1938	104.1	1968	104.8		
1849	105.5	1879	104.5	1909	104.5	1939	103.7	1969	105.0		

Sources: Annuaire Statistique de la France, 1966; United Nations, Demographic Yearbook, 1981, 1986.

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TABLE A5: TOTAL NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS IN EIGHT SELECTED POPULATIONS.

AVAILABLE DATA SINCE 1900. ANNUAL FIGURES

YEAR	SWEDEN	FRANCE	ENGLAND AND WALES	U.S. (WEITES)	U.S. (BLACKS)	JAPAN	TAIWAN	AUSTRALIA
1900		879,000	927,062			1,420,534		
1901	139,370	910,700	929,807			1,501,591		100 776
1902 1903	137,364 133,896	89 8,100 8 78,300	940,509 948,271			1,510,835 1,489,816		102,776 98,443
1904	134,952	871,000	945,389			1,440,371		104,113
1905 1906	135,409	859,000	929,293			1,452,770	121,067	104,941 107,890
1905	136,620 136,793	858,80 0 823,8 00	935,081 918,042			1,394,295 1,614,472	124,091	110,347
1908	138,874	843,100	940,383	•		1,662,815	122,322	111,845
1909	139,505	819,100	914,472			1,693,850	130,084	114,071
1910 1911	135,625 132,997	822,5 00 788,1 00	89 6,962 88 1,138			1,712,857 1,747,803	135,297 139,333	116,801 122,193
1912	132,868	7 96,10 0	872,737			1,737,674	140,498	133,088
1913	130,200	790,400	881,890			1,757,441	141,379	135,714
1914 1915	129,458 122,997	593,8 00 387, 000	879,096 814,614	763, 8 89		1,808,402 1,799,326	146,136 142,505	137,983 134,871
1916	121,679	313,000	785,520	799,817	18,619	1.804.822	133,717	131,426
1917	120,855	342,500	668,346	1,280,288	71,139	1,812,413 1,791,992	148,209	129,965 125,739
1918 1919	117,955 115,193	399,500 403,500	662,661 692,438	1,288,711 1,269,363	72,351 95,516	1,778,685	145,162 142,310	122,290
1920	138,753	833,500	957,782	1,395,523	103,796	2,025,564	147,308	136,406
1921	127,723	811,800	848,814	1,565,446	138,495	1,990,876	161,987	136,198
1922 1923	116,946 113,435	759,700 761,300	780,124 758,131	1,629,387 1,644,034	134,824 137,654	1,969,314 2,043,297	161,829 154,079	137,497 135,222
1924	109,055	753,500	729,933	1,762,872	156,947	1,998,520	166,183	134,927
1925	106,292	770,100	710,582	1,731,669	136,499	2,086,091	166,091	135,792
1926 1927	102,007 97,994	767,500 743,8 00	694,653 654,172	1,707,034 1,925,585	139,181 202,672	2,104,405 2,060,737	183,360 185,195	133,162 133,698
1928	97,868	749,300	660,267	1,982,246	240.863	2,135,852	191,839	134,078
1929	92,861	730,100	643,673	1,924,475	235,133	2,077,026	197,967	129,480
1930 1931	94,220 91,074	750,000 733,900	648,811 632,081	1,946,841 1,848,293	239,275 234,203	2,085,101 2,102,784	206,732 217,136	128,399 118,509
1932	89,779	722,400	613,972	1,805,155	239,796	2,182,742	214,192	110,933
1933	85,020	678,700	580,413	1,794,946	246,277	2,121,253	221,350	111,269
1934 1935	85,092 85,906	677,900 640,500	597,642 598,756	1,866,231 1,888,012	257,106 255,124	2,043,783 2,190,704	228,676 235,945	109,475 111,325
1936	88,938	630,800	605,292	1,881,883	251,098	2,101,969	234,057	116,073
1937	90,373	618,100	610,557	1,928,437	262,462	2,180,734	247,666	119,131 120,415
1938 1939	93,946 97,380	612,200 612,400	621,204 614,479	2,005,955 1,982,671	267,700 270,060	1,928,321 1,901,573	244,840 254,153	122,891
1940	95,778	559,000	590,120	2,067,953	278,869	2,115,867	257,471	126,347
1941 1942	99,727 113,961	520,000 573,000	579,091 651, 5 03	2,204,903 2,486,934	294,554	2,277,283	253,305 255,404	134,525 136,708
1942	125,392	613,000	684,334	2,486,934	307,777 324,865	2,233,660 2,253,535	260,663	149,295
1944	134,991	627,000	751,478	2,454,700	324,184	_,,	,	153,344
1945 1946	135,373 132,597	643,000 840,2 00	679,937 820,719	2,395,563 2,913,645	324,264 358,114			160,560 176,379
1947	128,779	866,6DD	881,026	3,274,620	406,957	2,678,792		182.384
1948	126,683	867,100	775,306	3,080,316	434,174	2,681,624		177,976
1949 1950	120,947 115,211	868,600 858,100	730,518 697,097	3,083,721 3,063,627	453,235 466,718	2,696,638 2,337,507	300,843 323,643	181,261 190,591
1951	110,168	822,800	677,529	3,237,072	489,282	2,137,689	385,383	193,298
1952	110,192	818,500	673,735	3,322,658	497,8 80	2,005,162	372,905	201,650
1953 1954	110,144 105,096	801,100 807,200	684, 3 72 673,651	3,356,772 3,443,630	517,576 544,288	1,868,040 1,769,580	374,536 383,574	202,235 202,256
1955	107,305	802,300	667,811	3,458,448	558.251	1,730,692	403,683	207,677
1956	107,360	803,100	700,335	3,545,350	584,572	1,665,278	414,036	212,133
1957 1958	107,168	812,600	723,381 740,715	3,621,456	596,050 594,500	1,566,713 1,653,469	394,870 410,885	220,358 222,504
1959	105,502 104,743	808,600 825,600	748,501	3,572,306 3,597,430	605,962	1,626,088	421,458	226,976
1960	102,219	816,300	785,005	3,600,744	602,264	1,606,041	419,442 420,254	230,326
1961 1962	104,501 107,284	835,200 828 900	811,281 838,736	3,600,864 3,394,068	611,072 584,610	1,589,372 1,618,616	420,254 423,469	239,986 237,081
1963	112,903	828,900 865,300	854,055	3,326,344	580,658	1,659,521	424,250	235,689
1964	122,644	874,200	875,972	3,369,160	580,658 607,556 581,126	1,716,761	410,926	229,149
1965 1966	122,806 123,354	863,100 863,500	862,725 849,823	3,123,860 2,993,230	581,126 558,244	1,823,697 1,360,974	406,604 415,108	2 22,854 222,626
1967	121,360	840,600	832,164	2,922,502	543,976	1,935,647	374,282	229,296
1968	113,087	835,800	819,272	2,912,224	531,152	1,871,839	374,282 394,260 390,728	240,906
1969	107,622	842,200	797,538	2,993,614	543,132	1,889,815	390,728	250,176

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llard (1969); United Wations, Demographic Yearbook, 1981, 1986.	fog :elfantsuA
istical Office, <u>Statistical Abstract of Talwan, 1894-1946</u> ; Miniatry of the Interior, an Demographic Fact Book, an Demographic Fact Book, blic of China 1972; Jaiwan-Tukien Demographic Fact Book, blic of China 1982-1988.	FATEL
stry of Bealth and Welfare, Vital Statistics, Vol. 1, 1982-1988.	Jepen: Hinis
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istics of the United States, 1970 (Vol. 1); U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2 Statistics of the United States, 1979 (Vol. 1), 1988 (Vol. 1).	12834
hs, States, Part 1, 1927-1939, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Vital	<u>narre</u>
	United States:
Pook, 1981, 1986.	1188
istical Review of England and Wales for the Year 1926, 1973. United Mations, Demographic	;1 = 15
les: Great Britain. Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, The Registrar General's	England and Wal
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istiska Gentralbyran, Befolmings Forandringar. Del. 3. 1968-1988; Befolkmingsrorelsen 1950; Historical Statistics for Sweden, Part I: Population (1969).	Sweden: Stati
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4 800,400 656,234 2,898,616 1,576,989 41,893 225,25,7	790'46 086T
	1979 96,255
	1978 93,248
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SINCE 1120' IEN-KEVE OF LIVE-YEAR AVERACES TABLE A6: TOTAL NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTES IN SWEDEN, FRANCE AND ENGLAND AND WALES

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	tions, Demokraphic	ence, 1966; United Na			
				(6961) uotimindo,	3
	Sweden, Part I:	orical Statistics for			
	3 1868-1883 ·	. For andringer Del.	<u>albyran, Befolknins</u>	ratistiska Centr	eqen: Ş
					nrces:
561989	1961-1962	026,277	7861-1861	861'76	5861-18
8'809	086T-946T	000,227	086T-946T	76 T '96	0861-94
5'589	5161-5161	932,500	5161-1161	706'682	\$26T-T2
91918	0461-9961	000 978	0 46 T-996T	stt†stt	0461-99
5 878	596T-T96T	006,628	596T-T96T	714,032	596T-T9
2,987	0961-9561	813,200	0961-9561	866,801	0961-99
7 549	1821-1822	007'018	5561-1561	185,801	5561-15
6,087	0561-9761	001,098	0561-9761	154,843	056T-91
£'809	5761-1761 0761-9861	902,200 595,200	5761-1761 0761-9661	757'886 63' 583	5761-11 0761-98
5'709	\$61-1661	007,068	5661-1661	775,78	5661-16
2,099	1657-1630	002 009	1656-1630	066'96	0661-97
2,297	1051-1052	005,177	1921-1925	069'711	57-1925
£, £27	1616-1920	007'857	1619-1650	788,521	0261-91
8'598	\$161-116 1	001,178	\$161-1161	704'671	5161-11
6'076	0161-9061	005,558	0161-9061	E87'LET	0161-90
9'866	\$06T-T06T	002, 588	5061-T06T	861'981	506T-T0
	-	00£'66 8	006T-968T		
5'516	00 6T-T69T	008,208	7881-1882	£78, £££	006T-T6
		00T'0E6	0 681-9881		
0,688	1881-1880	008,886	7881-1887	732'8 50	0681-18
		007,566	0 88 1-9 /8 1		
8,828	0 88 T-T /8 T	001,186	2781-1781	067,661	0881-17
		000,866	0181-9981	- •	
0,027	0781-1881	000'500'T	5981-1981	128,107	0781-18
		007'496	0981-9581	4	
I' 479	1921-1980	008,666	1821-1822	617'611	098 t- ts
-1		009 676	1879-1820	4444	
8'875	1841-1820	000 '946	1841-1842	102,833	0581-19
		006 746	0781-9681 9681-1681	968'76	0507.70
		009 726	7881-1681	918 70	0781-18
		008,17 9	1821-1825	928'98	0581-12
		001,559	1816-1820	, 10	0000
		004,059	181-1181	85,531	11-1850
		923,900	0181-9081	102 00	000
				£80,47	01-1810
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				186'89	0641-18
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LIK	<u> </u>	FINE TIME	<u> </u>	TIMIHS TIME	GOIR

Marions, Demographic Yearbook, 1981, 1986.

IVETE V): LOLVE MONGER OF LIVE BIRTES IN FRANCE 1820-1985. ANNUAL FIGURES

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		842,200	6961	972,400	686T	001'618	606 T	008,886	6/8 T	008,289	678T
		008,258	896 T	912,200	1938	001'678	806 T	000'066	878£	002'076	8781
		009'078	496T	001'819	166T	008, 528	406 T	000'866	778I	006 ' T06	478T
		005'898	996 T	008,058	986T	008,828	906 T	1,022,000	948T	006 596	9781
		001'E98	596T	005'079	586T	009'658	506T	004'500'T	278I	985,500	5781
		002,478	796 T	006'449	7 E G T	000,178	706 T	000'600'I	7481	005'656	7781
		008,208	T 8 9 3	007'849	1933	005,878	£061	007'666	£481	007'846	£781
		006'878	796 T	722,400	1932	001'868	Z06 T	001'0Z0'1	7872	000, £89	Z781
		002'588	1961	733,900	1661	004'016	T06 T	009'T/8	t/8t	008, 979	1781
		00£'918	096T	750,000	1630	000,678	006 T	006'566	0781	007'256	0781
		009'528	696T	001'0EL	676T	009'668	668T	008'666	69 8 T	958,200	1836
		009'808	896T	008'674	1928	002'768	868 T	00 T ' 786	898T	002'896	1838
		009'Z18	456T	008'874	126T	004'606	468T	008'E00'T	498T	004' 276	1837
		001'E08	996T	005'494	976T	006'516	968T	1,006,300	998T	004'646	1836
167'894	1982	00E'Z08	1955	001'04L	1925	009'688	568T	008'500'T	598 t	008 ' £66	1832
656,657	786 T	002,708	756T	005,527	776T	007'806	768T	006'500't	798 T	005'986	7887
525'874	1983	001'108	1623	161,300	1923	005'826	1863	008'ZTO'T	1863	00Z'046	1833
£22, 797	7 8 8 T	005'818	7625	004,627	ZZGT	005,509	Z691	002'566	798T	007'486	783Z
£87'508	1861	008'ZZ8	1661	008'TT8	IZSI	915,200	TEST	001'500'1	1981	008, 386	TEBT
007'008	096T	001'858	7950	002,558	7920	005,488	068T	006'956	09 8 T	000'896	088T
005,727	6461	009'898	6761	005,504	616T	004,729	688T	006'4TB'T	65BT	0051596	1829
001,7ET	879£	001'498	8761	005'666	816T	929,800	7888	008'696	1828	006'946	182B
004 774	446 T	009'99#	496 E	242,500	4161	004 476	7881	004'076	728£	00T'086	7281
720,400	926T	840,200	976T	000'ETE	9161	00T'T96	9 88 T	952,100	3882	992,300	1856
001'57L	516T	000'679	SYGT	000,78€	STOT	006'746	2885	005'206	7822	005,876	1872
002,108	7261	000'429	776T	008,562	716T	007'486	788T	923,500	758T	007'786	7281
002,728	EZGT	000'ET9	£96T	007'064	1913	009 ' 986	1883	000'466	1823	008'896	1853
002,778	Z/61	000,572	767	001'964	7161	001,286	ZBBT	000'596	7822	009,276	7822
006,188	1791	000'025	LYGE	001,887	TTOT	002,786	Teet	006'146	ISBI	007'596	TEST
008,748	0/61	000'655	0761	822,500	OTST	970,200	1880	954,200	1820	000'096	1820
FIELES FIAE	AVAX	FIBIRE	XEAR	FIKIH? FIKIH?	XEVE	FIRTHS	₹₹₹	FIKIHS	XEVE	FIRTHS	<u>Year</u>