Reproductive plans of women

According to the declarations obtained in CBOS research, 17% of women aged 18-45 plan to have children in the next 3-4 years, and another 15% want them in a more distant perspective.

Do you plan to have children in the future?
Responses of women aged 18-45.

- Yes, in the next 3 or 4 years: 17%
- Yes, in the more distant future: 15%
- I don't plan/I don't know: 68%

Compared to 2017, the share of women aged 18–45 planning to have children fell from 41% to 32%, and the proportion declaring such intentions within 3 or 4 years decreased from 25% to 17%. This decline can be partly explained by the demographic changes that took place at that time. Compared to 2017, the percentage of younger women, aged up to 34, decreased in the analysed group, while the percentage of older women, aged 35–39, and above all those aged 40–45, increased.
Women’s reproductive plans are closely related to their age and the number of children they already have. In general, the percentage of women planning to have children decreases with age, while childbearing intentions in the near future are most often declared by women aged 30–34 (31%), and slightly less often by those aged 25–29 (27%). The intention to enlarge the family is most often declared by childless women (58%), followed by women with one child (33%). Respondents with two or more children relatively rarely intend to expand their family (7%).

Taking into account the combined effect of age and number of children, it can be noticed that the intention to have children, regardless of whether in the short or long term, is most often declared by childless respondents under 30 (67%), and slightly less frequently by women under 35 with one child (64%). On the other hand, short-term childbearing plans are most often noted among respondents aged up to 35 with one child (47%), followed by those without children who are at least 30 years old (32%).

**Reproductive plans of women**
Among women who already have children, plans to enlarge the family, especially short-term ones, are more often declared by respondents with children up to 4 years of age (28% of them plan to have children in the next 3 or 4 years). Respondents whose youngest children are 5 years old or more only rarely have childbearing plans (3% in the short term).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Women’s Reproductive Attitudes", January 2023. Aggregated data from three subsequent monthly surveys fielded from September to November 2022. The total number of women aged 18-45 was N=669.