

Generations and Families in Swedish Data Registers

Elizabeth Thomson

Stockholm University Demography Unit
Department of Sociology

**Swedish Interdisciplinary Graduate School in
Register-Based Research (SINGS)
Karolinska Institutet
18 September 2012**

Swedish Family Forerunners

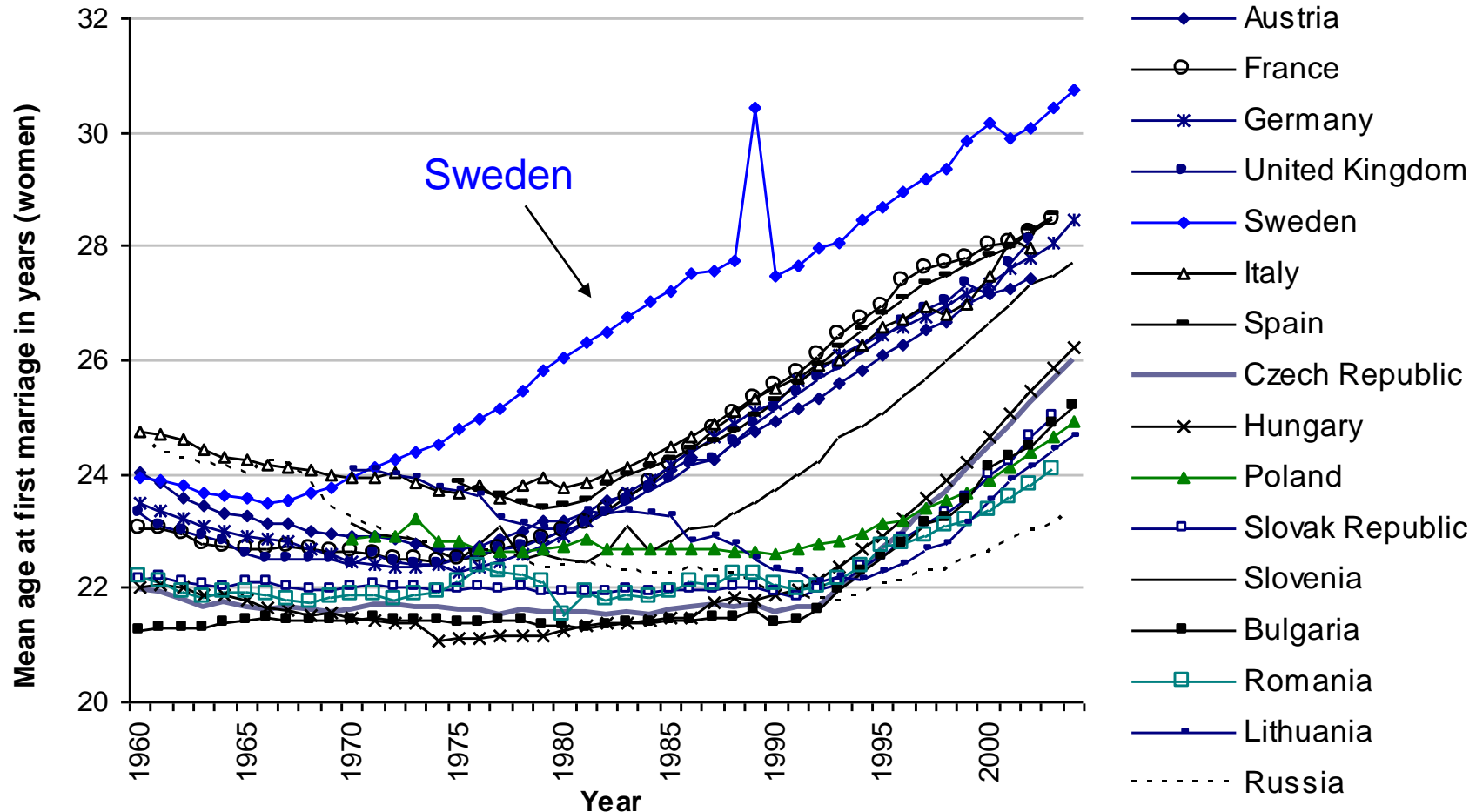
- Delayed marriage
- Cohabitation
- Divorce and separation



Diversity in family forms
Complex kin relations

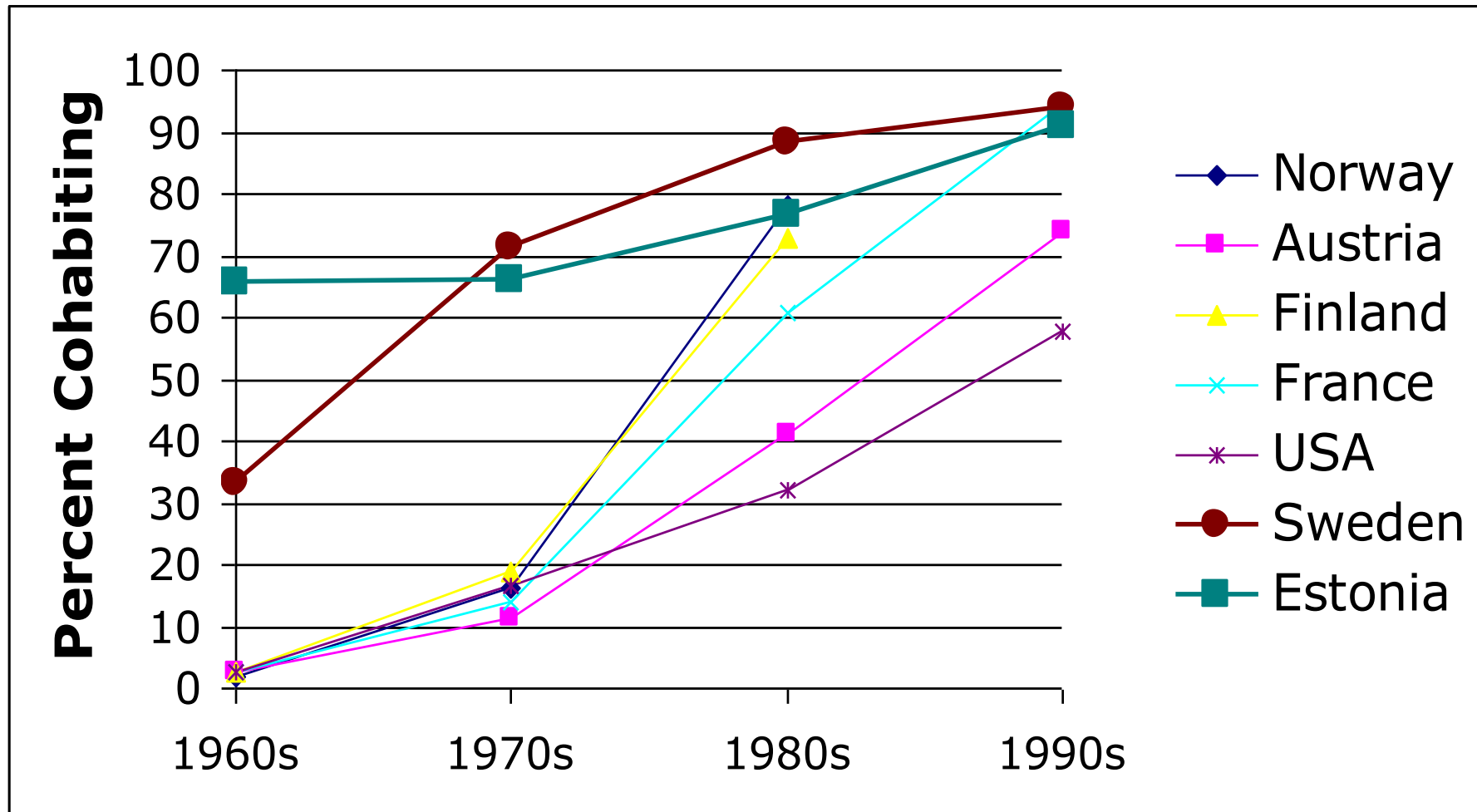
Swedish Family Forerunners

Mean Age 1st Marriage

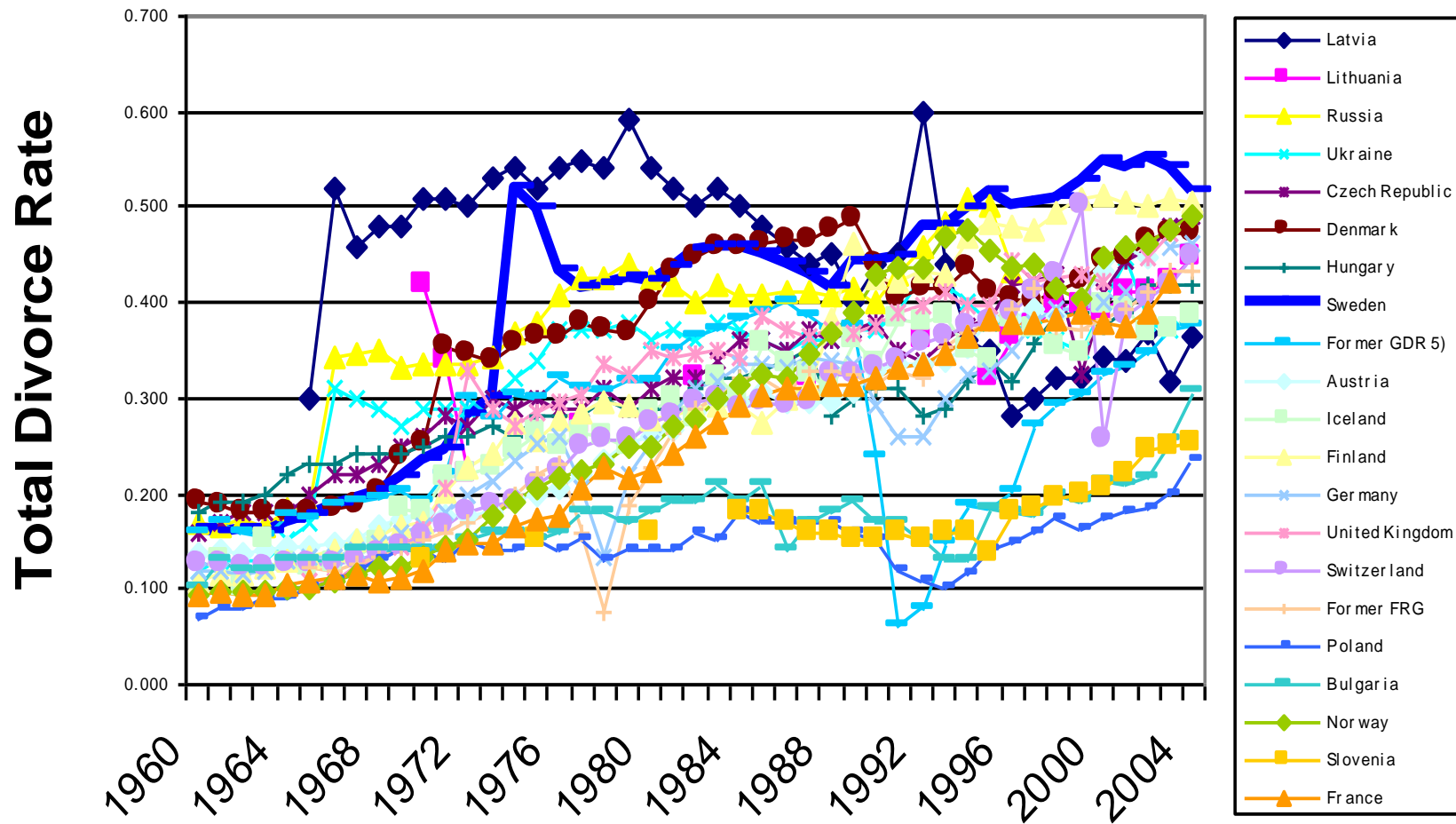


Swedish Family Forerunners

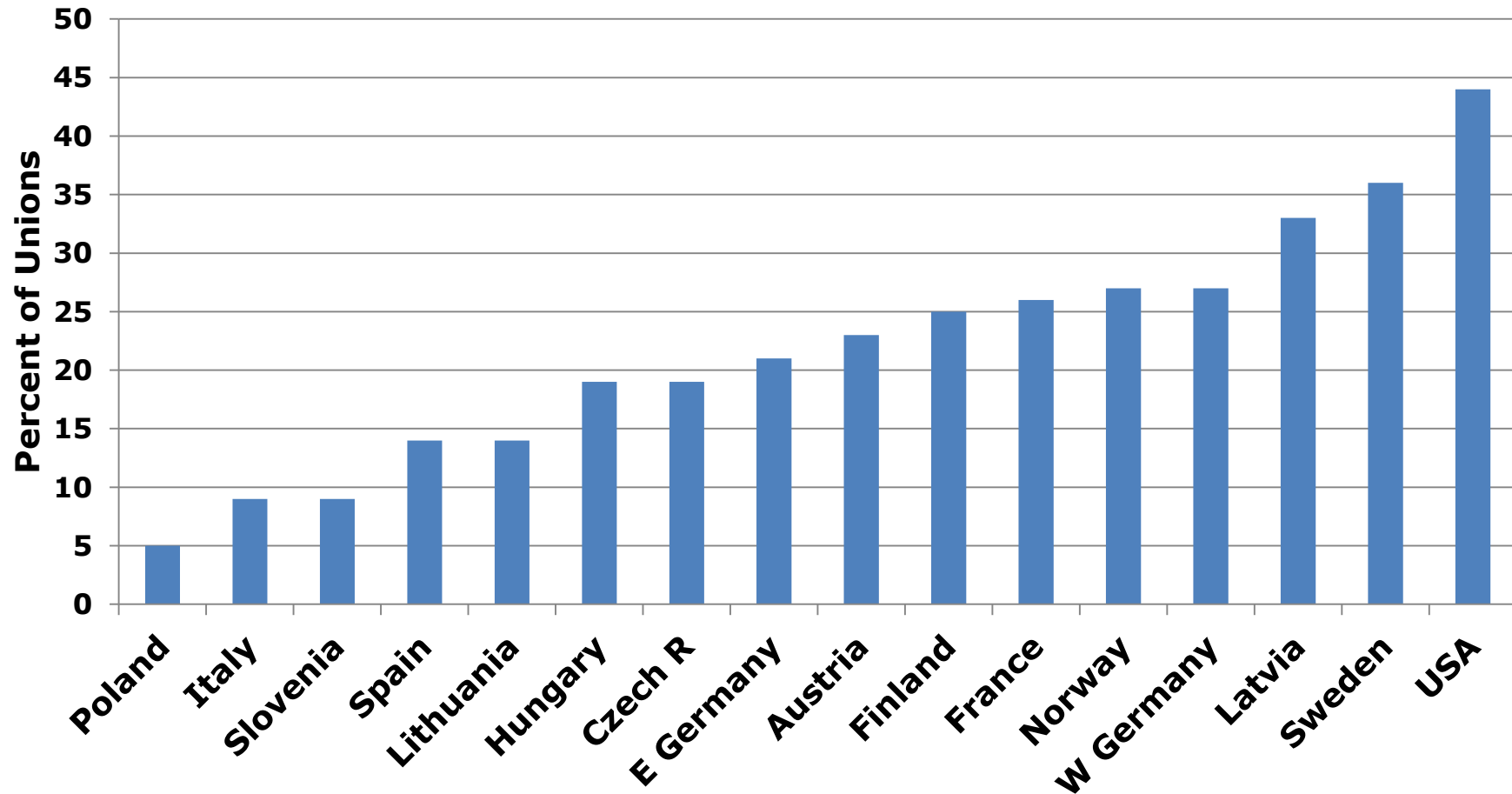
1st Unions Cohabitation



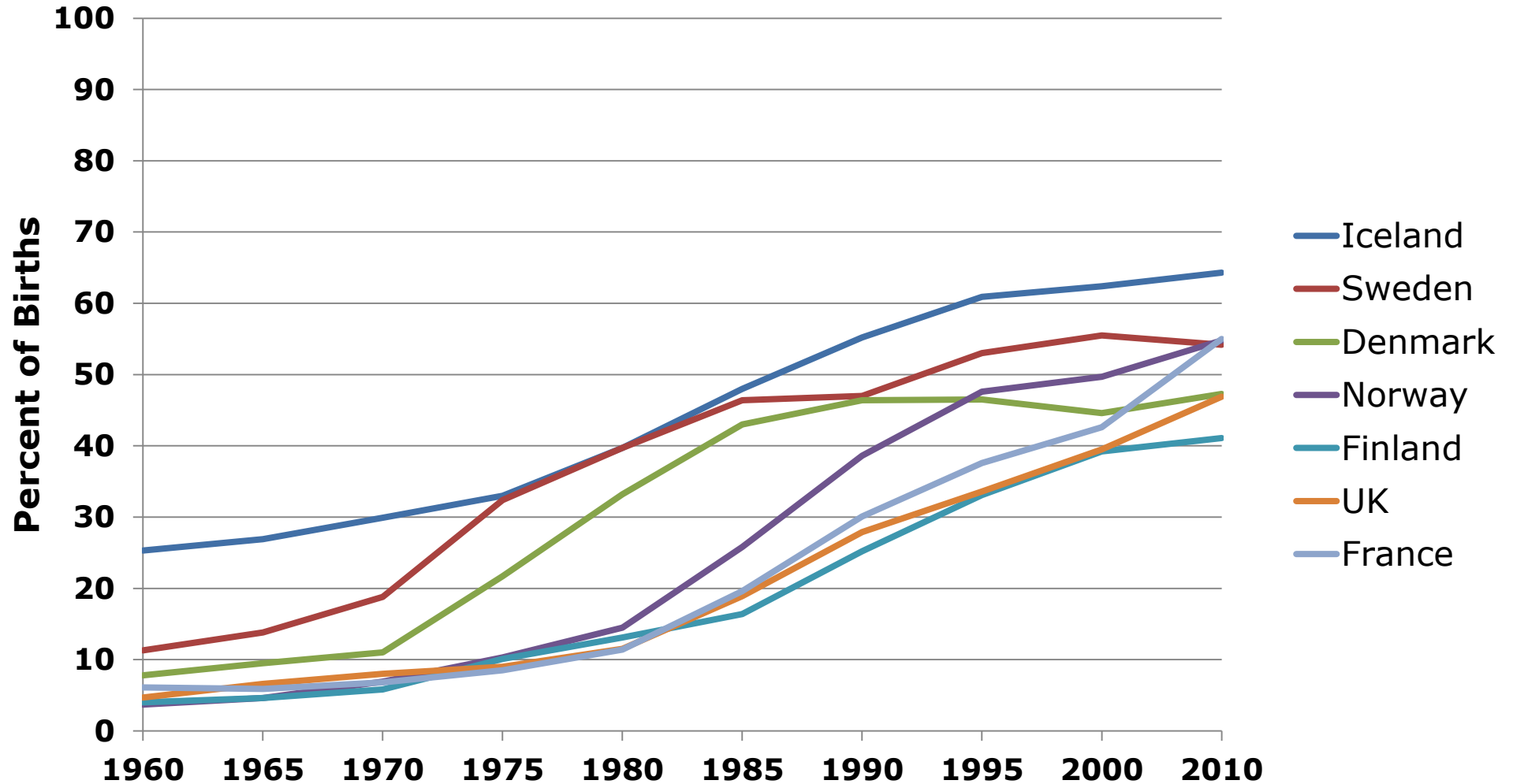
Swedish Family Forerunners Divorce



Swedish Family Forerunners Separations in 5 Years



Percent Births out of Marriage 1960-2010



SCB

Statistiska centralbyrån Statistics Sweden

Flergenerationsregistret 2007

En beskrivning av Innehåll och kvalitet

2008:1

Befolknings- och välfärdsstatistik

- Opportunities!
 - Family links
 - Households
 - Intergenerational

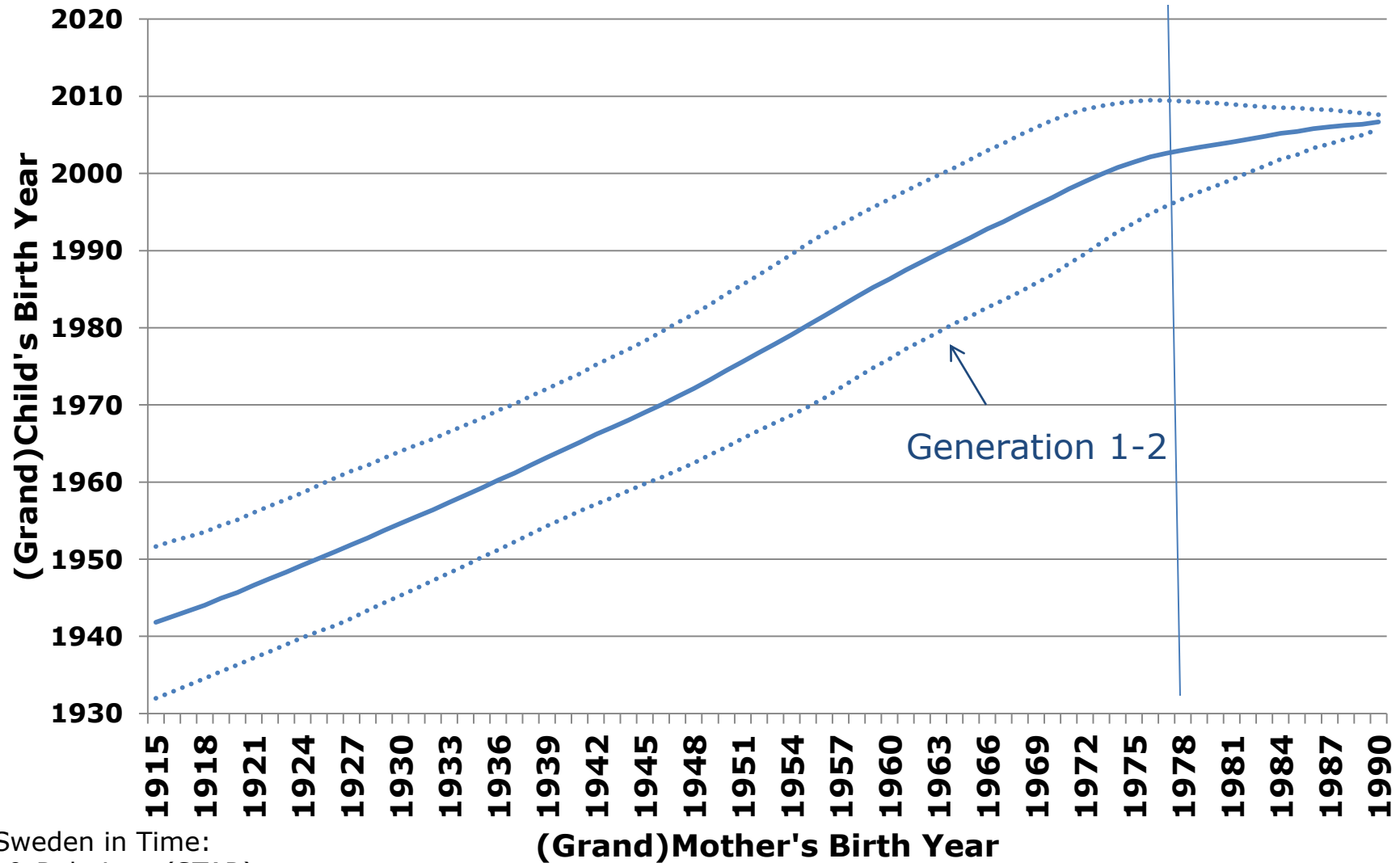


- Opportunities!
 - Family links
 - Households
 - Intergenerational
- Se upp!
 - Cohorts
 - Life courses

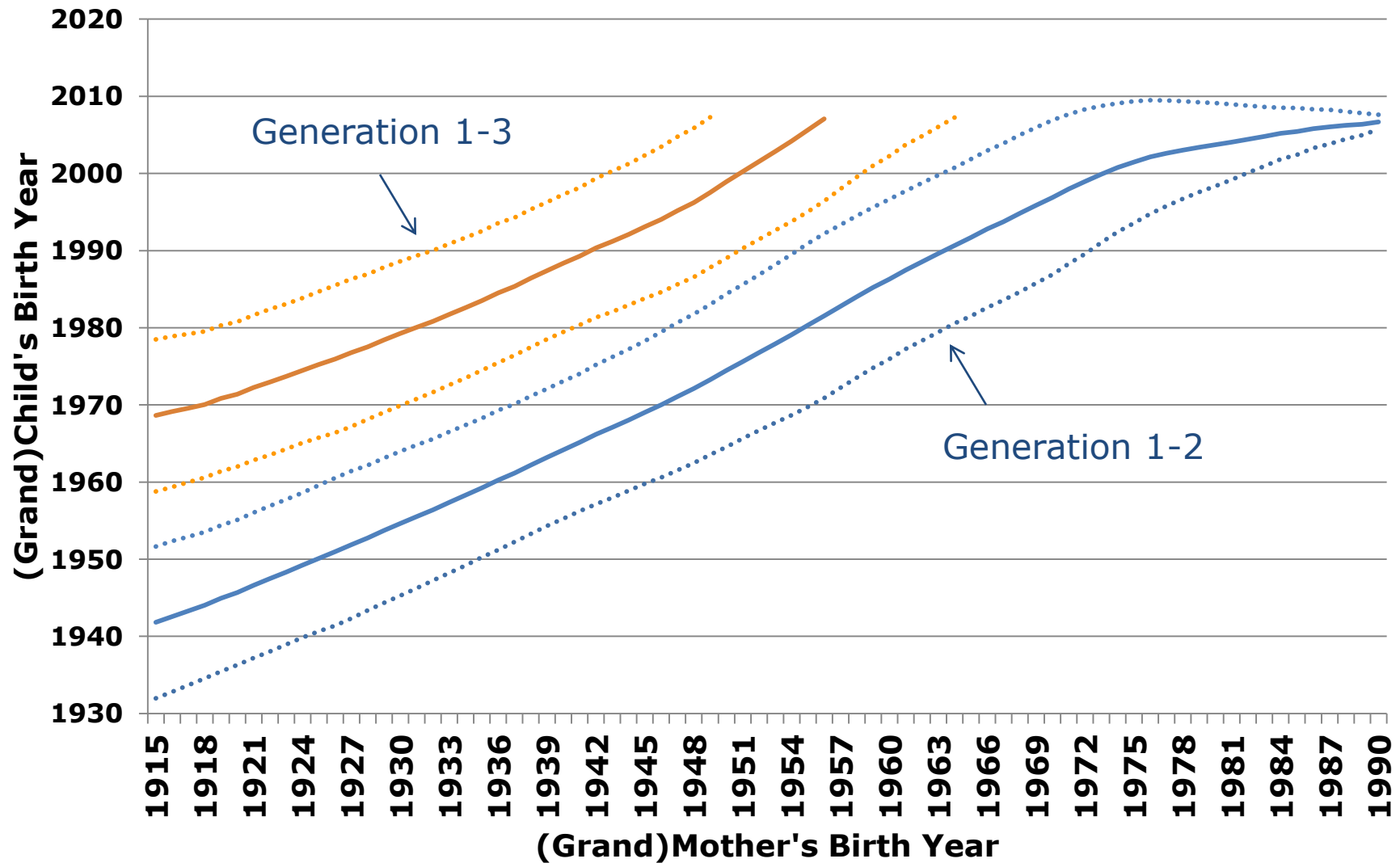
Multigenerational Register

- 1947: Children under 16 linked to parents
- 1961: Parent and child still registered in Sweden (digitized)
- Birth histories
 - Complete if Swedish-born 1915+
- Sibships
 - Complete if parent Swedish-born 1915+
- Immigrants
 - Family vs. individual, age at immigration

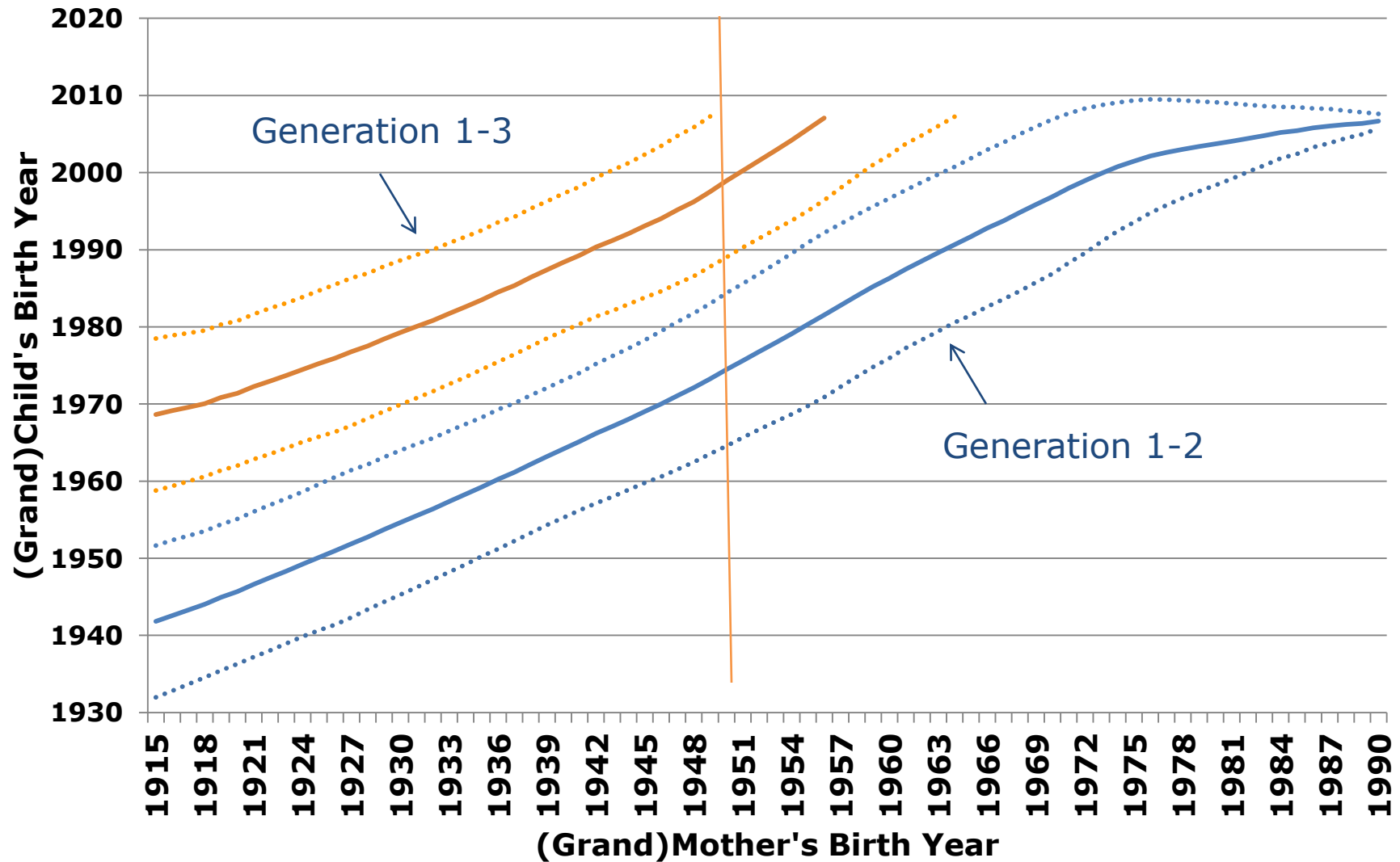
Year of First Births to Swedish Women Born 1915-1990



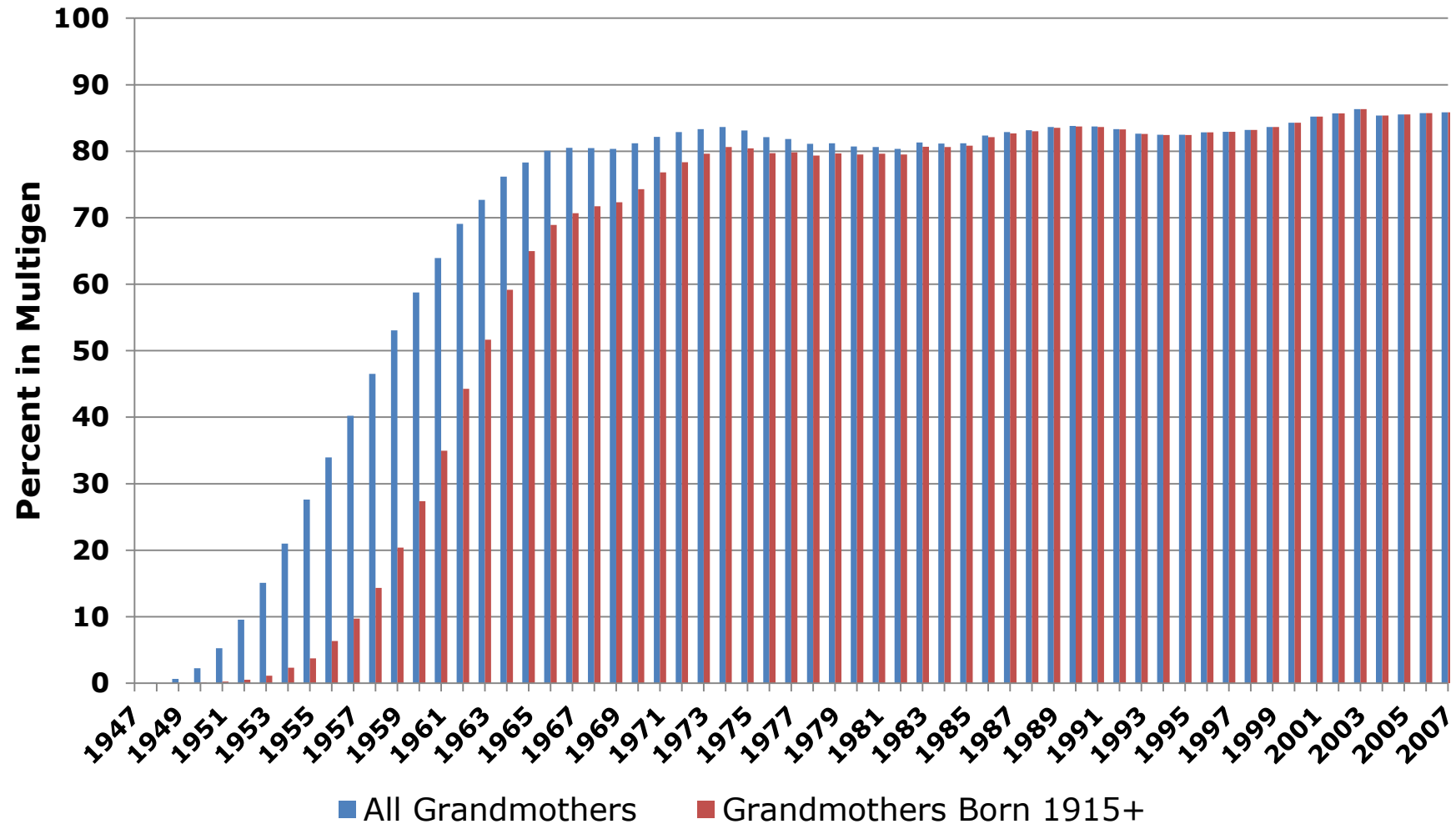
First Births and First Grandchildren Swedish Women Born 1915+



First Births and First Grandchildren Swedish Women Born 1915+



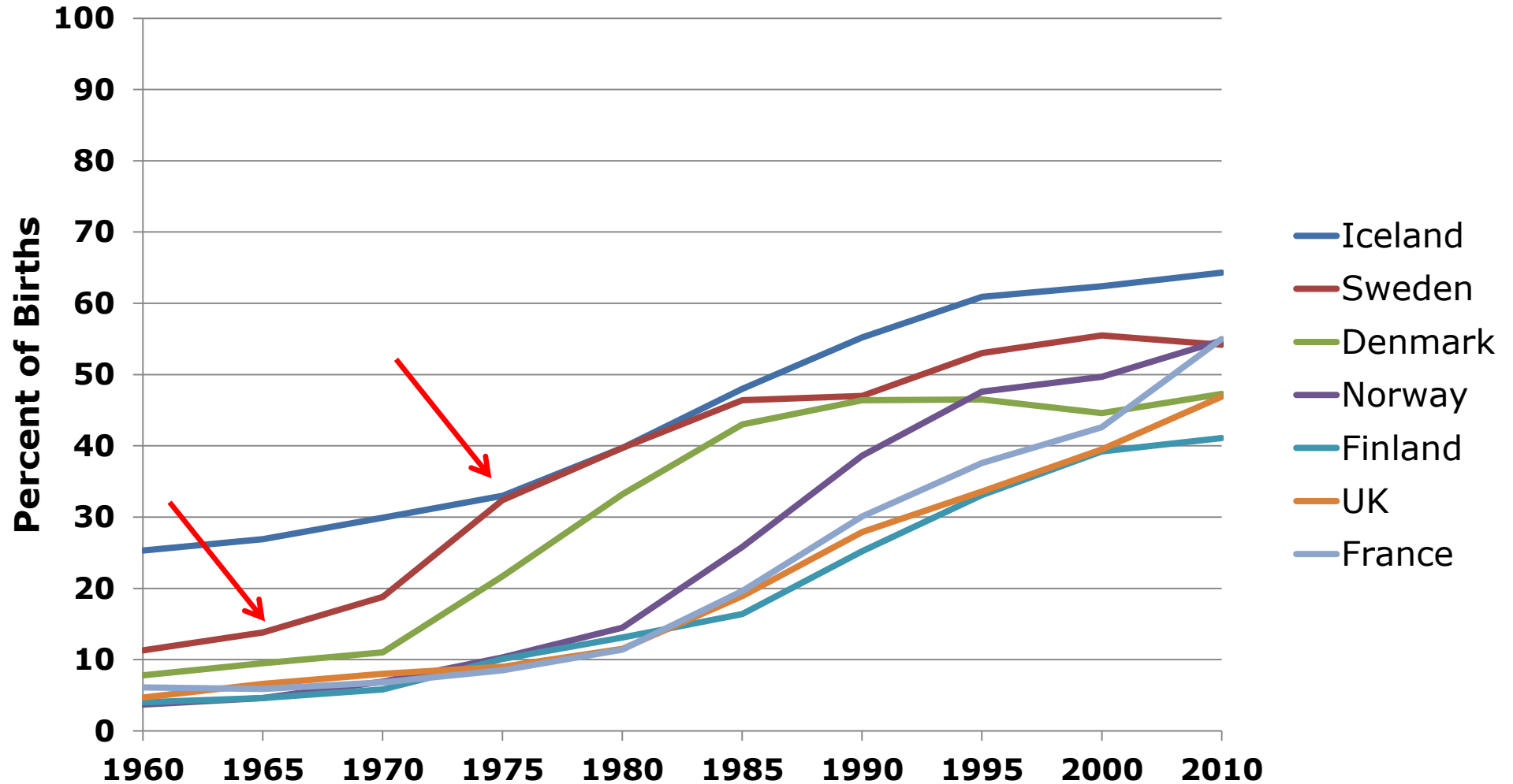
Maternal Grandmothers of First-Born Children



Using MultiGen

-
- Forerunners of the Forerunners: Cohabiting births in Sweden 1960-2006
 - Mother & maternal grandmother education
 - Childbearing across Partnerships in Sweden and Norway
 - Half-siblings from maternal grandmother or maternal grandfather

Percent Births out of Marriage 1960-2010



First Births in Sweden 1960-2006

- Identify mothers and fathers from Multigenerational Register
 - Complete for those born 1932 or later
- Parental coresidence
 - 1960 and 1965 Censuses: dwelling #
 - 1968-2006 Population Register: building #
- Mother's marriage
 - 1960 and 1965 Censuses: marital status
 - Population register: marital status at end of year: 1968, at immigration
 - Register of civil changes: year/month marriage, divorce from 1968

Population Covered

- Mothers whose first registered child was born in 1960, 1965, 1968-2006
- First child not adopted (98%)
- First child born in Sweden (90%)
- All of mother's biological children found in register = first birth (88%, 98% first child Swedish born)

1,757,747 mothers and children

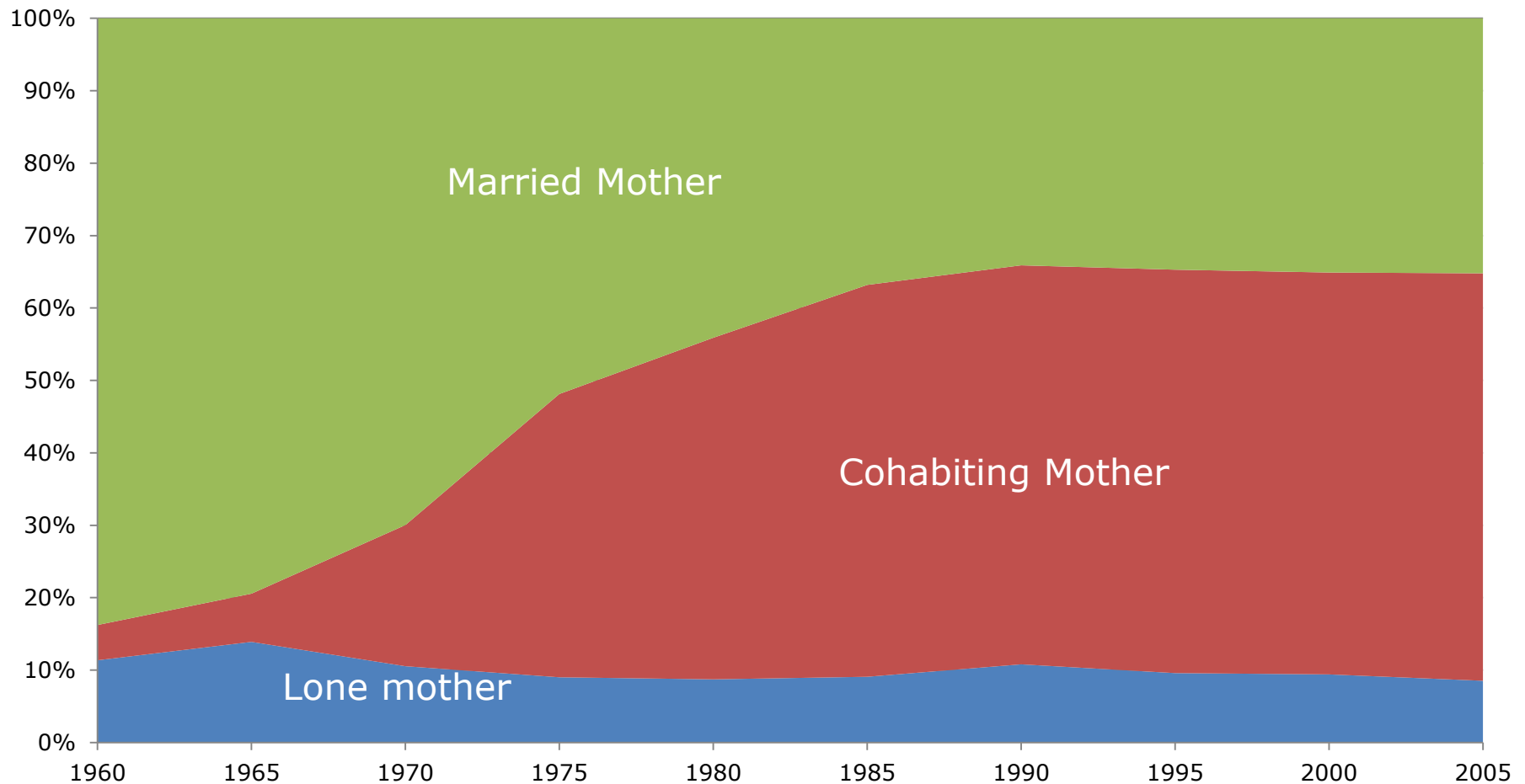
Parents' Coresidence

- Parents living together
 - Births 1960, 1965: census reports same dwelling unit
 - Births 1968-2006: population register reports same building end of birth year
- Parents living apart
 - Both parents in Census/Register but different dwelling unit/building
 - One parent not in Census/Register

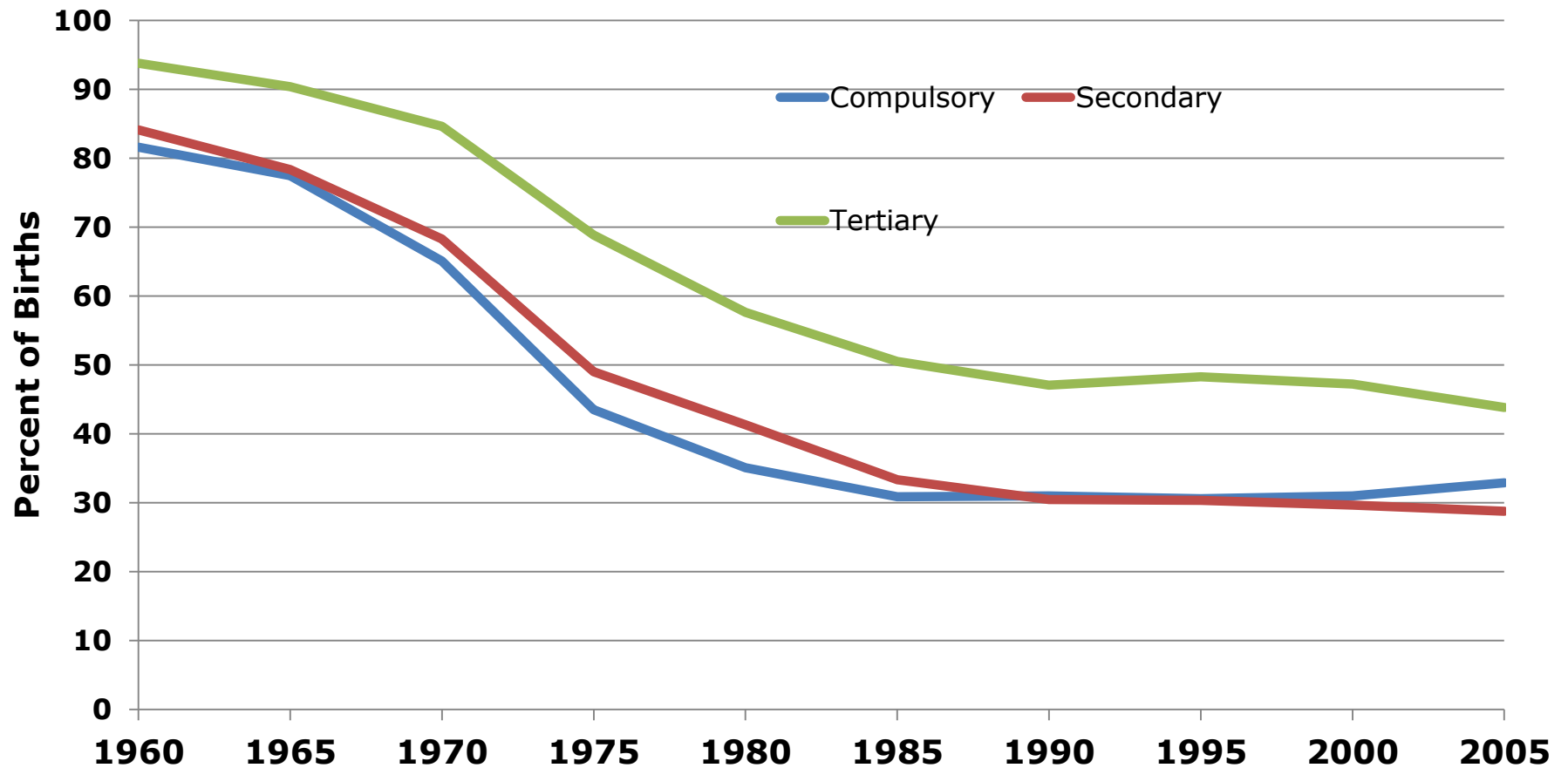
Mother's Marriage

- Births in 1960, 1965: mother is married at time of census
- Births 1968-2006
 - Civil status register: Marriage but not divorce observed before first birth
 - Population register: classified as married in 1968 or first registration after immigration and no subsequent divorce observed before first birth
- Marriage prevails over coresidence

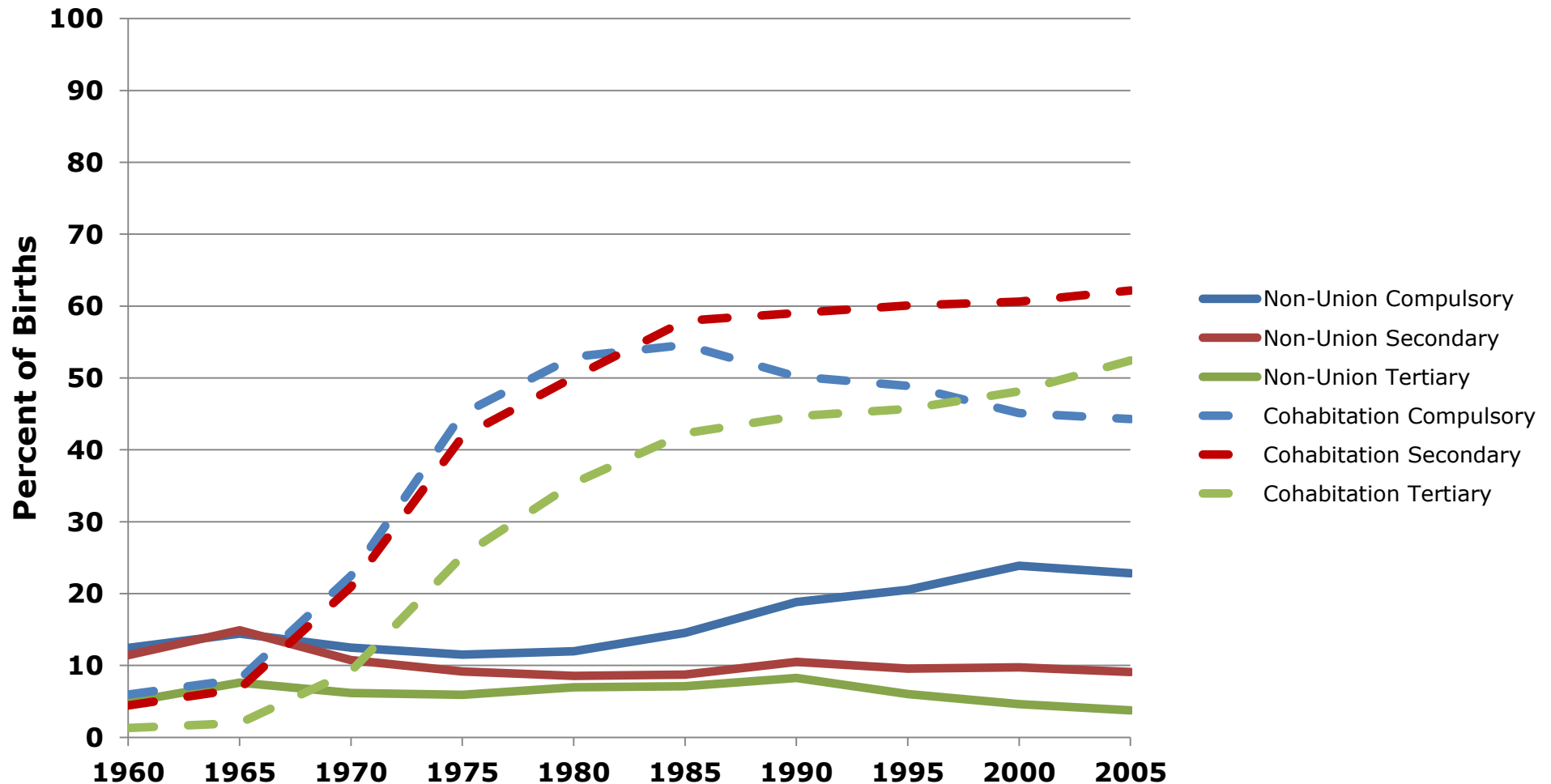
Swedish First Births by Union Status 1960-2005



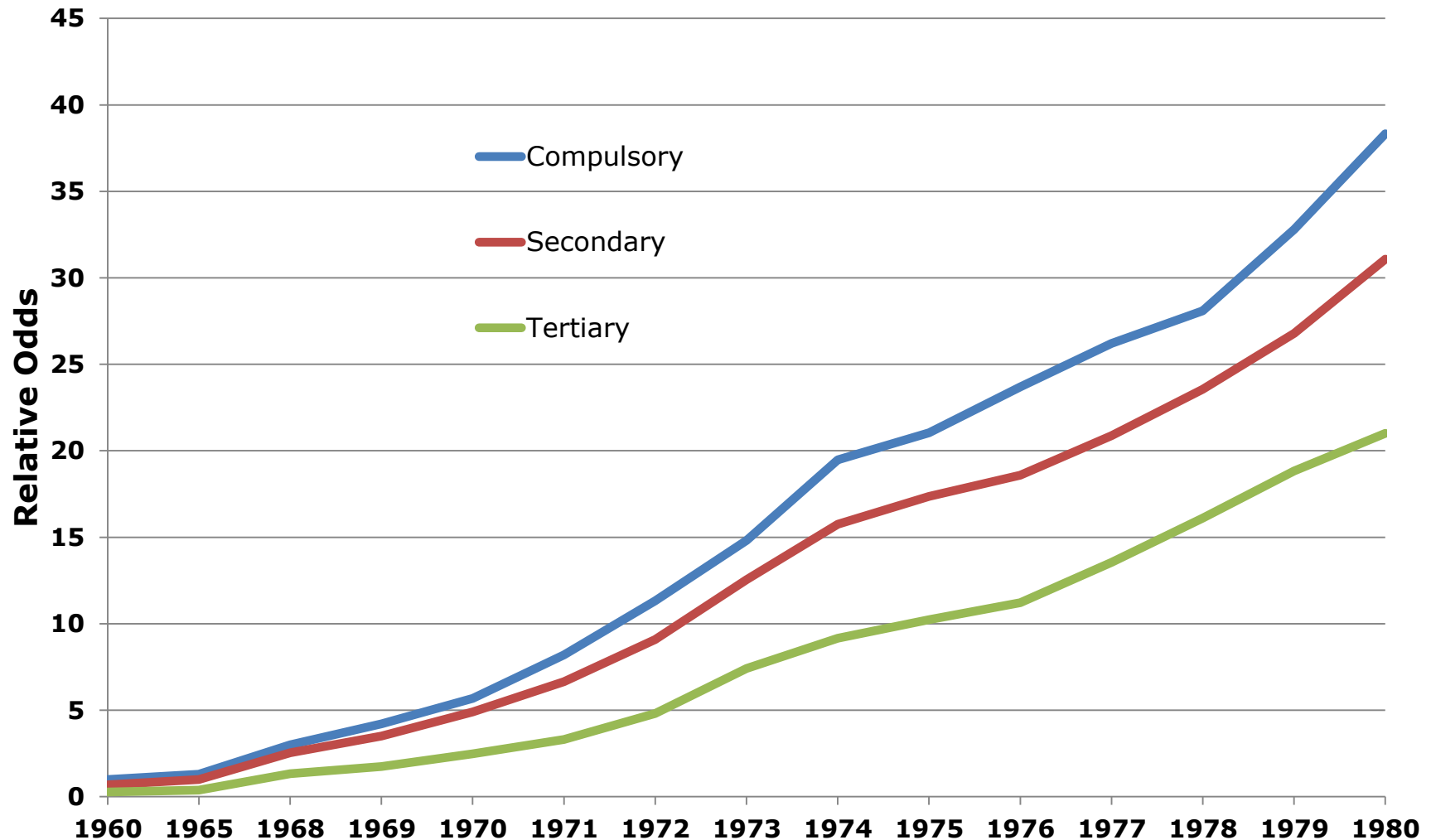
Percent First Births in Marriage by Mother's Education, 1960-2005



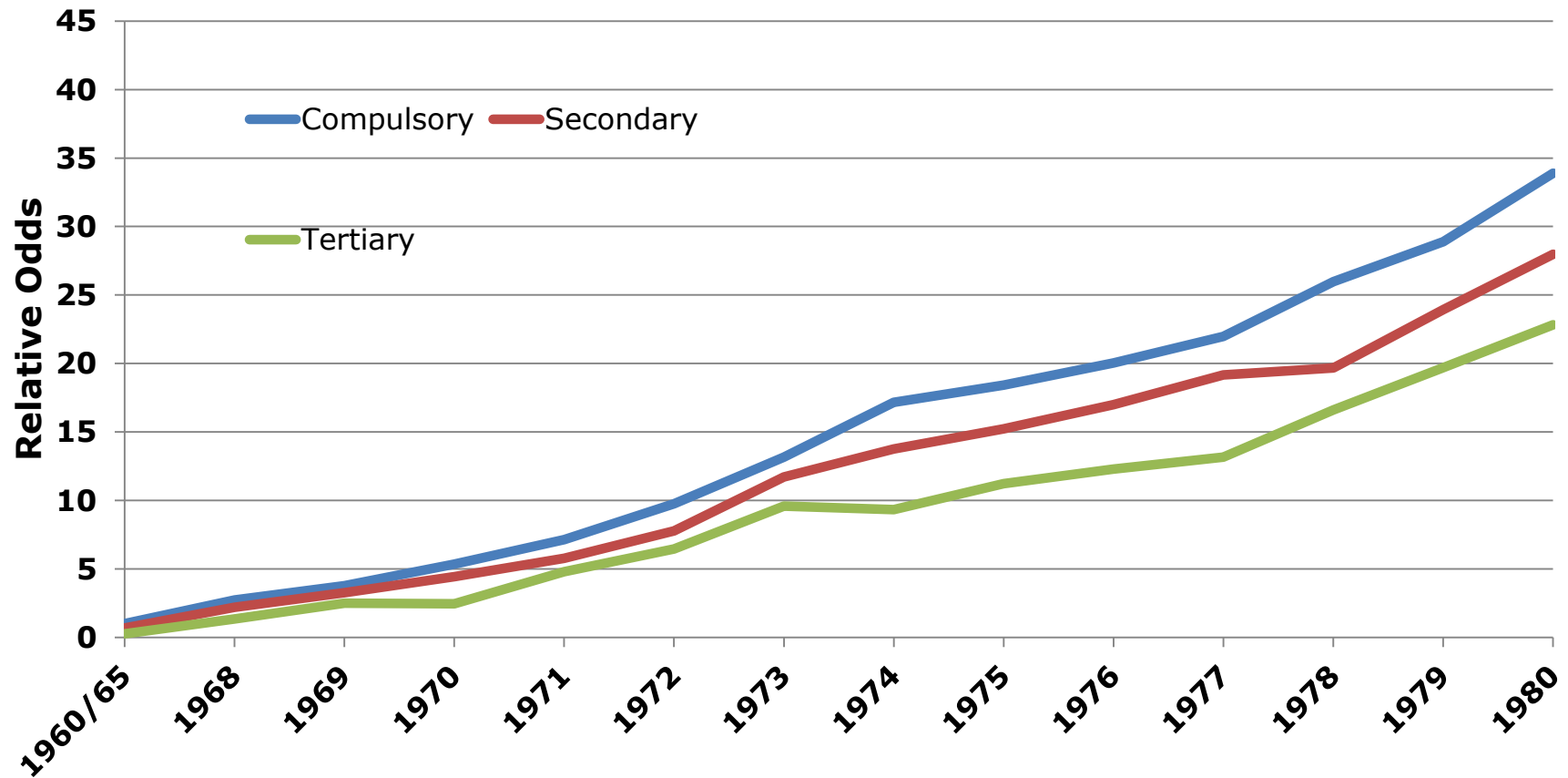
Percent First Births Nonmarital by Mother's Education: 1960-2005



Cohabiting versus Marital Births By Education, 1960-1980



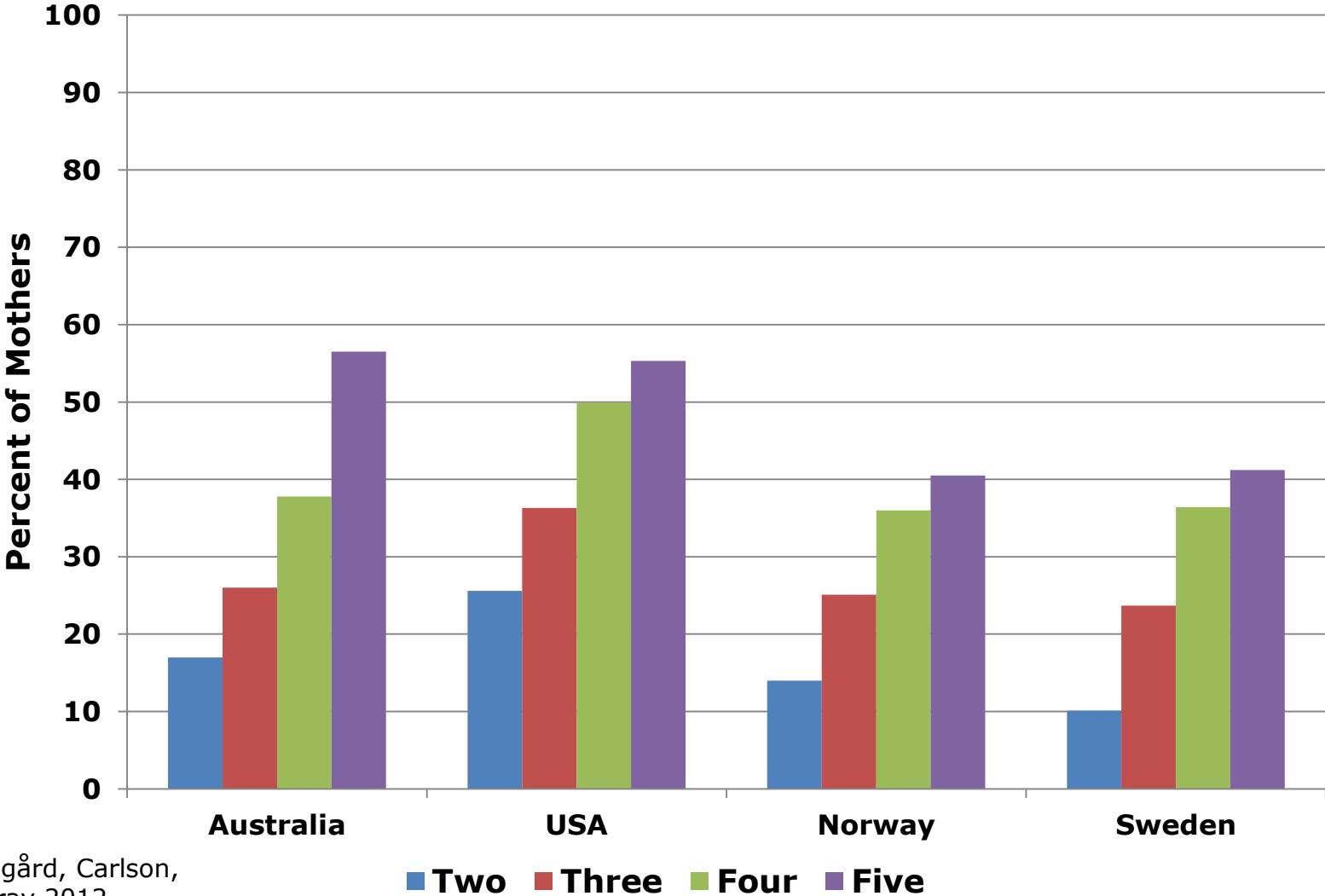
Cohabiting vs. Marital First Birth by Maternal Grandmother Education 1960/65 - 1980



Childbearing across Partnerships

- Australia & U.S.: union histories
 - Born in union, up to 6 months before, 9 months after
 - 1st birth out of union: 2nd birth assumed different father
- Norway & Sweden: father identification #
 - For each birth, father same or different from prior births
 - If father ID missing, assume different father

Children with Two+ Fathers by Number of Children

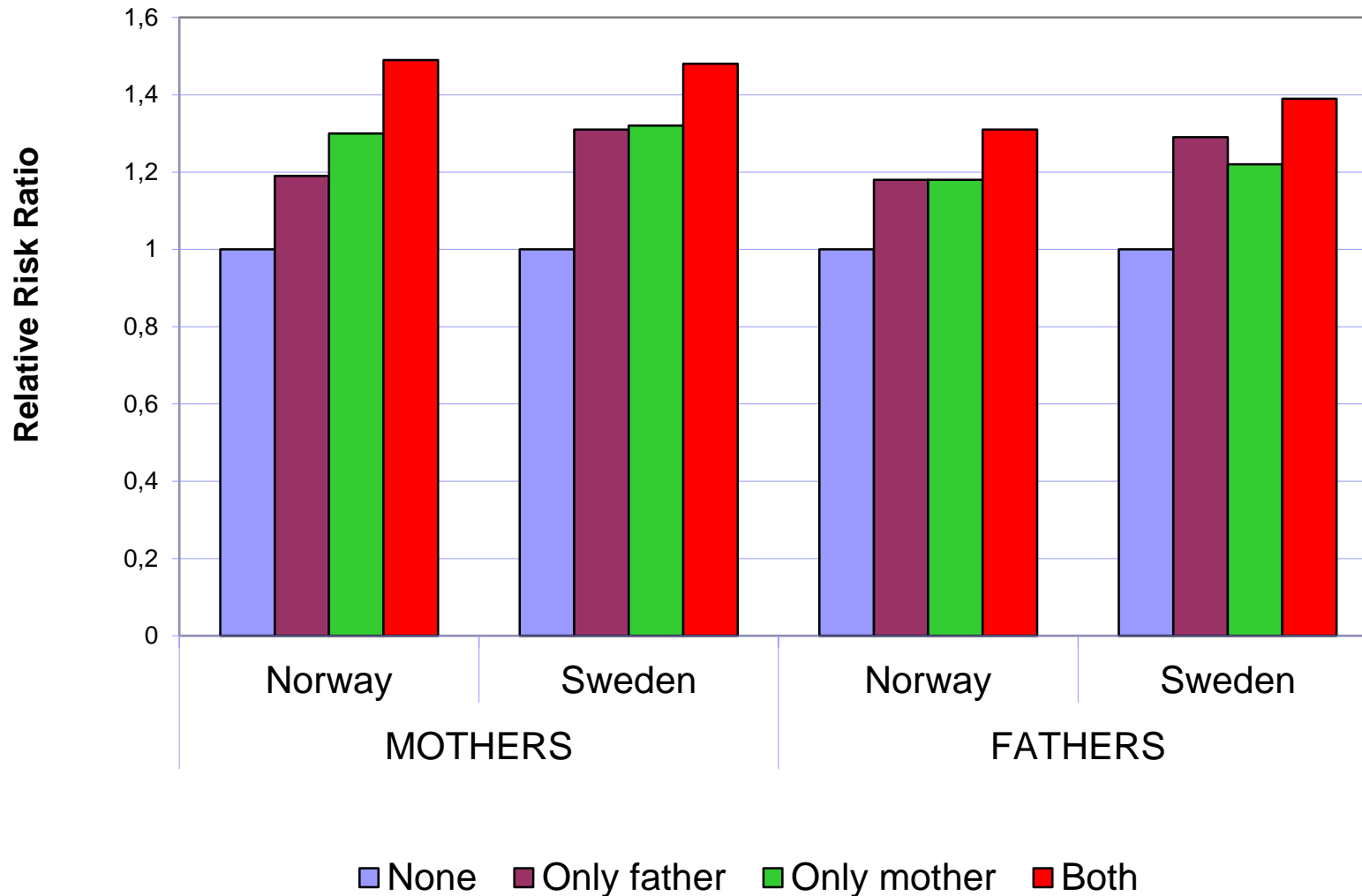


Thomson, Lappegård, Carlson,
Evans & Gray 2012

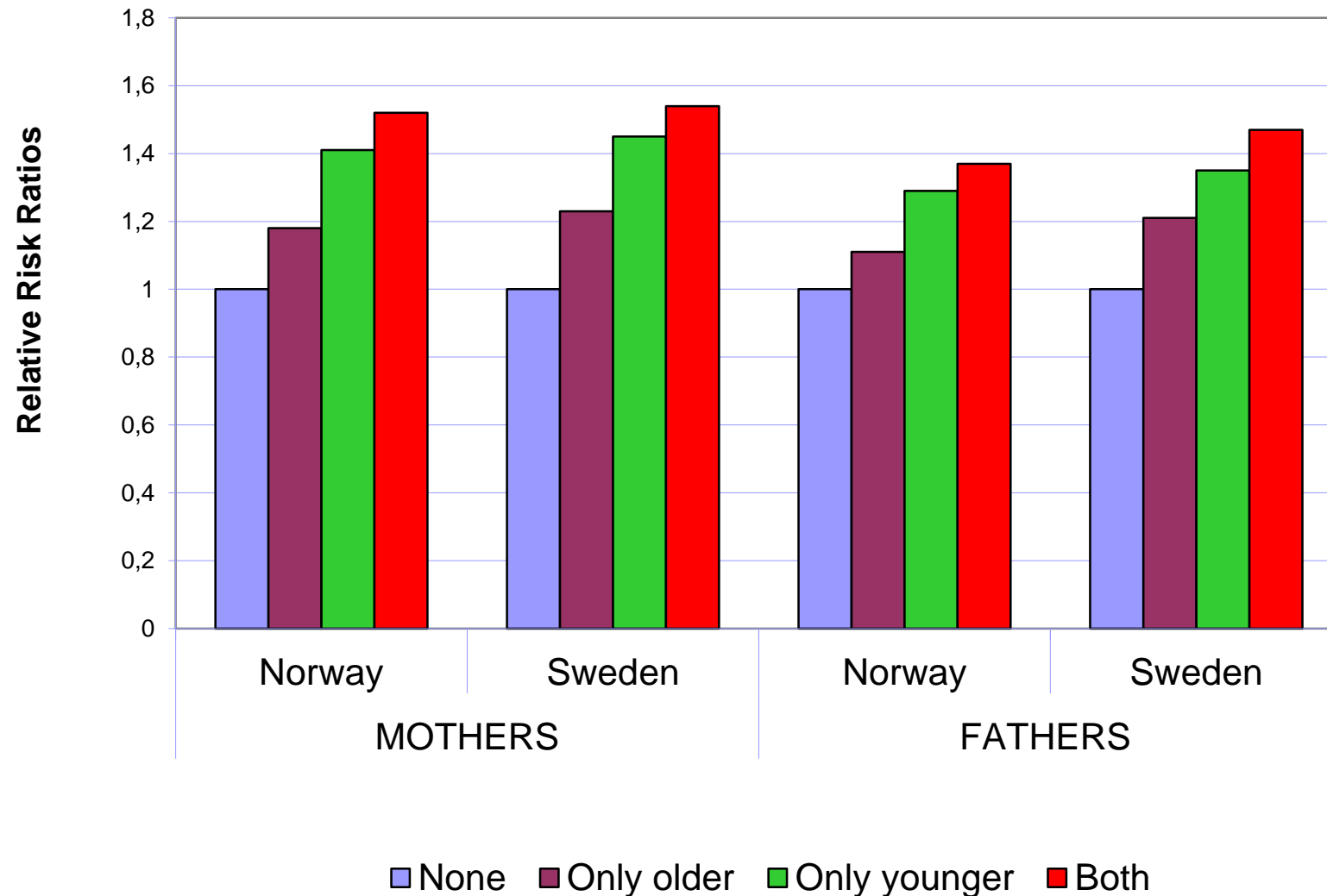
Intergenerational childbearing across partnerships

- Norwegian & Swedish Multigenerational Registers
 - Link *mothers* and *fathers* to their mothers and fathers (grandparents)
 - Therefore linked to all siblings, including half-siblings (aunts and uncles of children)
 - Determine which siblings have same other parent
 - Classify as half-siblings from mother, father, both
 - Classify half-siblings as older, younger or both

Childbearing across Partnership by Half-Siblings from Mothers and Fathers



Childbearing across Partnership by Older and Younger Half-Siblings



Multigenerational Register for Family Research



- Opportunities
 - Family: Parent-child, sibling, and extended kin
 - Household: coresidence, distance
- Caveats
 - Sibship coverage if parents born 1915+
 - Greater generational coverage for early childbearers
 - Limited information for first generation adult immigrants

Future Family Scholarship



- More years of observation
 - Less selection for earlier decades
 - Continuing selection for 'current' behavior
 - Continuing selection for immigrants
- Protect the source!
 - Increasing value, especially Multigen
 - Links to historical registers
 - Vast societal treasure for excellence in family and generational research



Thanks!

Acknowledgements
Swedish Research Council
Helen Eriksson, SUDA
Trude Lappegård, SSB
Marcy Carlson, Wisconsin
Edith Gray & Anne Evans, ANU