



# Intergenerational discrepancies in fertility preferences in immigrant and Dutch families

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- **Aims**

1. What fertility preferences (timing and family size) are predominant among immigrant and Dutch young adults and their parents?
2. To what extent do intergenerational differences in preferences exist in immigrant and Dutch families?
3. What conditions are related to larger or smaller intergenerational discrepancies in preferences?



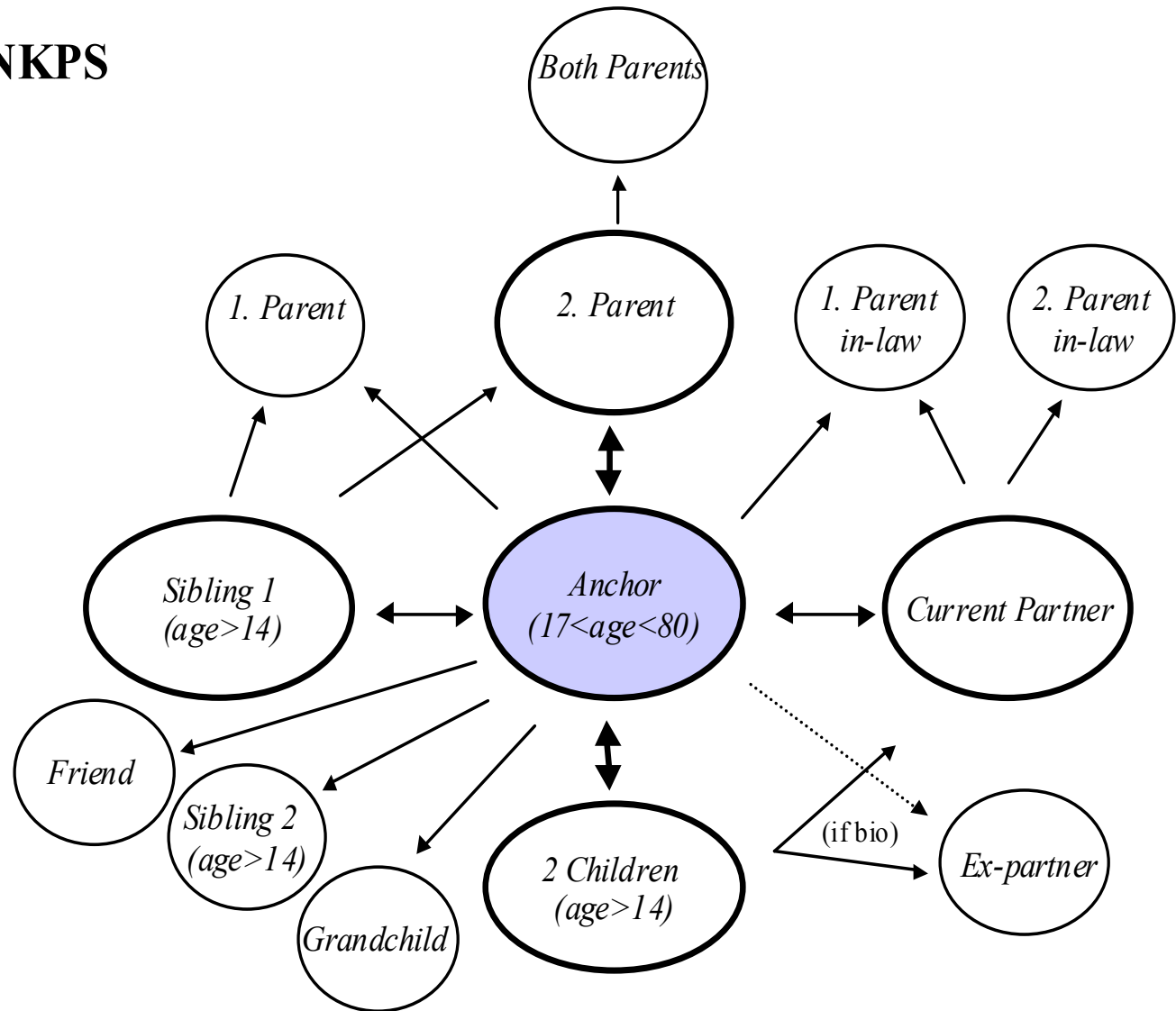
- Fertility patterns in immigrants' countries of origin differ from the Netherlands
- Overall differences in fertility preferences between generations
- Larger intergenerational discrepancies in immigrant families:
  - Due to different levels of acculturation between the generations



## Data

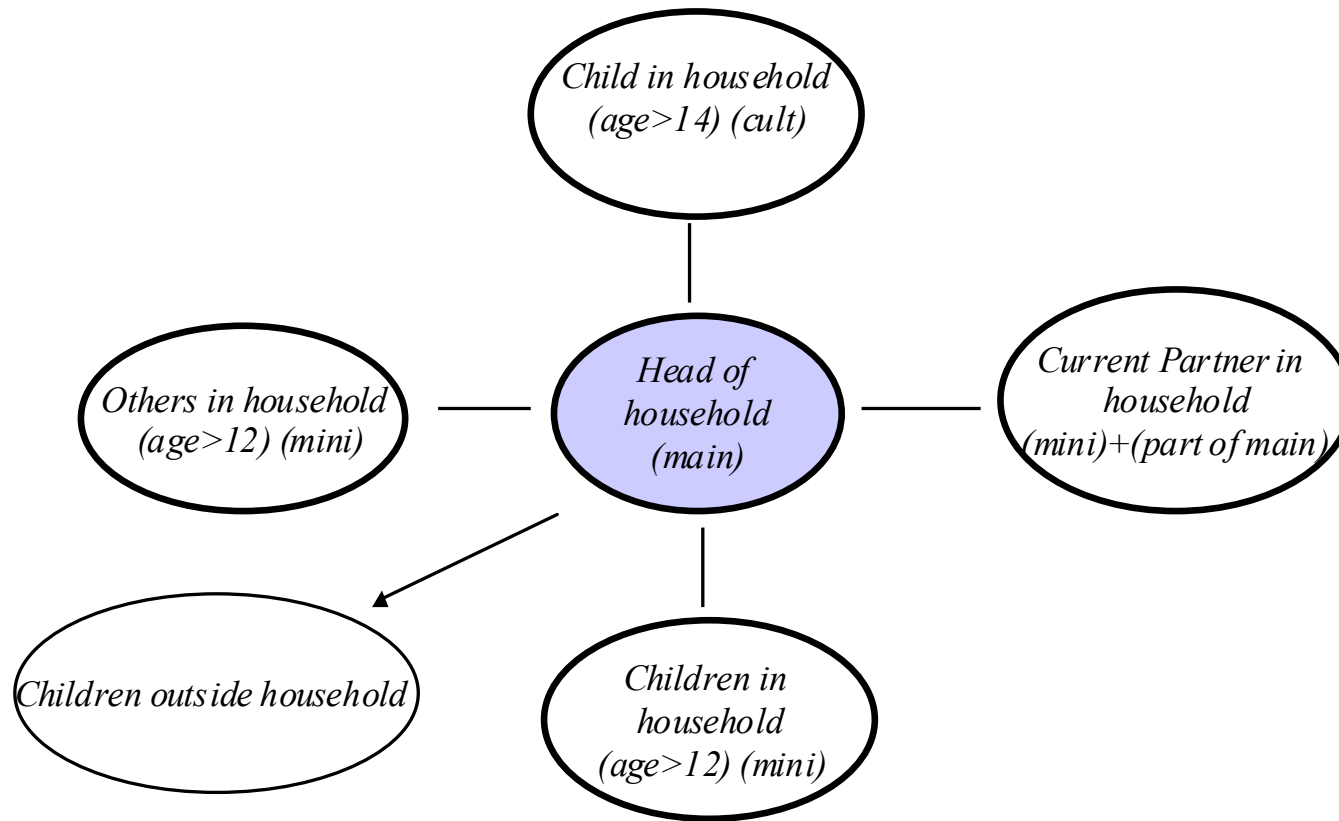
- Netherlands Kinship Panel Study (NKPS main sample)
  - first wave 2002-2003
  - 8,200 Dutch
  - Multi-actor (partner, children or other family members)
- Social Position and Provisions Use of Migrants (SPV)
  - 2002 wave
  - 4,200 migrants
  - heads of household and members of household (partner, children or others)

# NKPS



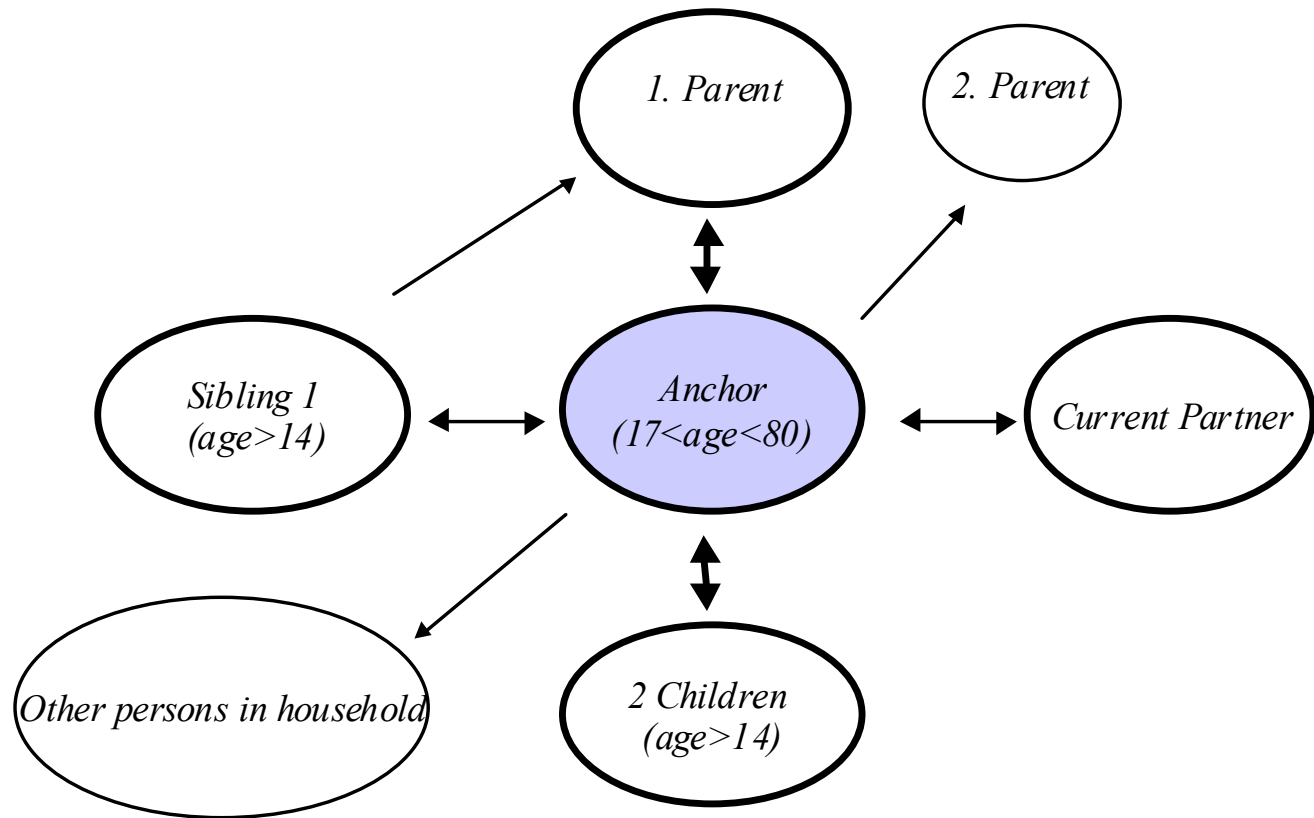


## SPVA





## The NKPS/SPVA Data





- children 15-30 years of age
- living in the parental home
- information on parent and child available

*Number of parent-child dyads*

- 661 Dutch
- 251 Turks
- 173 Moroccans
- 132 Surinamese
- 76 Antilleans

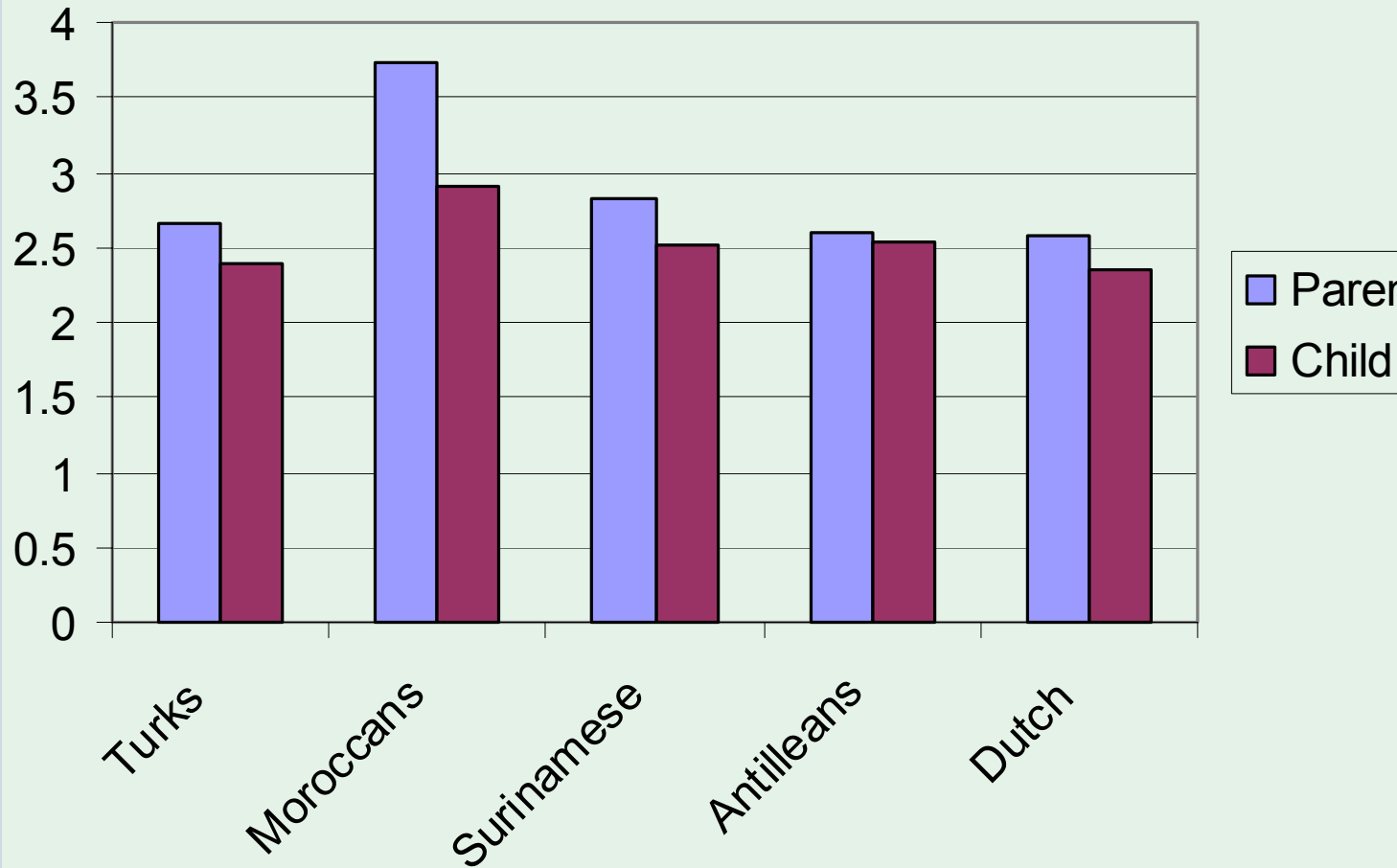


## Fertility preferences

- “What is in your opinion the best number of children for a family?”
- “What do you consider a good age for a woman to have a first child?”
- Absolute scores for parent and child
- Intergenerational difference scores derived by difference between the matched parent-child value on the two measures

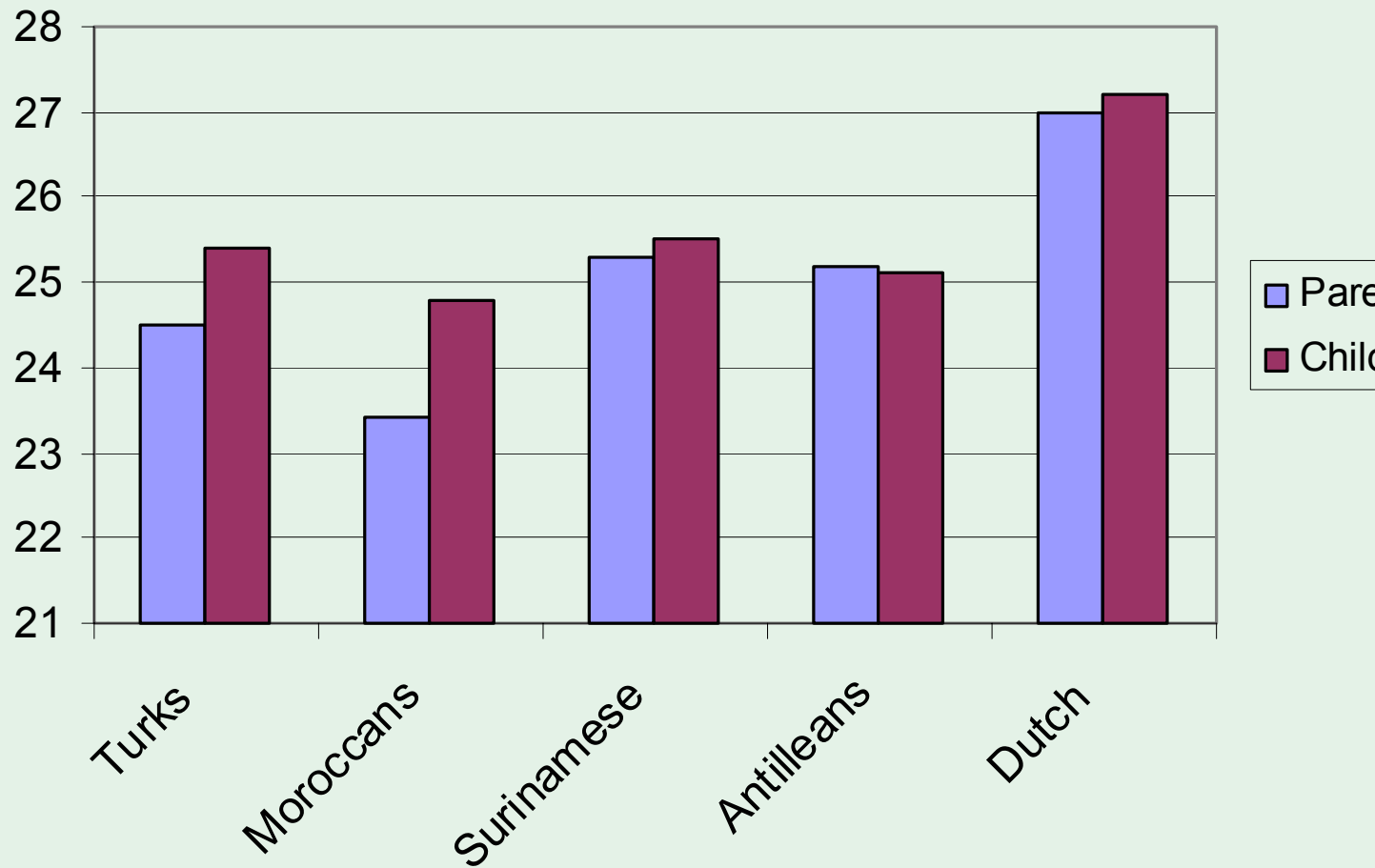


## Preferred number of children for a family, parents & children per ethnic group





## Preferred age for a woman to have a first child, parents & children per ethnic group





## Multivariate analyses

- Dependent variables: level of agreement
- Raw dyadic difference scores grouped in three categories:
  - High agreement
  - Parent prefers older age / larger family size
  - Child prefers older age / larger family size
- Multinomial logistic regression
  - high agreement reference group



## Independent variables

### *Child characteristics*

Age (three age groups: 15-19 (ref.) 20-24, 25-30)

Number of siblings

### *Dyad characteristics*

Mother – daughter (ref.), Mother – son, Father - daughter, Father – son

### *Parent characteristics*

Parent's educational level (low vs. high)

Parent's religious participation (never-at least weekly)

Parent's family status (married ref.)

Parent's value attached to children (agree-disagree)

Parent's female family orientation (agree-disagree)



Predictor	Group 1 Child prefers larger family size	Group 3 Parent prefers larger family size
<i>Child characteristics</i>		
Ethnic origin (Dutch ref.)		
Turkish	0.47	
Moroccan	0.27	
Surinamese	0.53~	
Antillean	0.45	
Age (15-19 ref.):		
20-24	-0.05	
25-30	-0.30	
Number of siblings	0.20**	
<i>Dyad (mother – daughter ref.)</i>		
Mother – son	-0.41~	
Father - -daughter	0.00	
Father – son	-0.27	
<i>Parent characteristics</i>		
Parental educational level	-0.02	
Parent’s religious part.	0.06	
Parent’s family status	0.30	
Parent’s value of children	0.19*	
Parent’s female family orientation	-0.10	
Nagelkerke R 0.10		



Predictor	Group 1 Child prefers larger family size	Group 3 Parent prefers larger family size
<i>Child characteristics</i>		
Ethnic origin (Dutch ref.)		
Turkish	0.47	-0.29
Moroccan	0.27	0.32
Surinamese	0.53~	0.21
Antillean	0.45	-0.25
Age (15-19 ref.):		
20-24	-0.05	-0.04
25-30	-0.30	0.02
Number of siblings	0.20**	0.20***
<i>Dyad (mother – daughter ref.)</i>		
Mother – son	-0.41~	0.09
Father - -daughter	0.00	0.00
Father – son	-0.27	-0.01
<i>Parent characteristics</i>		
Parental educational level	-0.02	0.23
Parent's religious part.	0.06	0.20**
Parent's family status	0.30	0.08
Parent's value of children	0.19*	-0.10
Parent's female family orientation	-0.10	-0.01
Nagelkerke R 0.10		



Predictor	Group 1 Child prefers older ages	Group 3 Parent prefers older ages
<i>Child characteristics</i>		
Ethnic origin (Dutch ref.)		
Turkish	0.19	
Moroccan	0.63*	
Surinamese	-0.47~	
Antillean	-0.16	
Age (15-19 ref.):		
20-24	-0.07	
25-30	-0.04	
Number of siblings	-0.03	
<i>Dyad (mother – daughter ref.)</i>		
Mother – son	0.19	
Father - -daughter	0.10	
Father – son	0.08	
<i>Parent characteristics</i>		
Parental educational level	0.17	
Parent's religious part.	-0.05	
Parent's family status	0.05	
Parent's value of children	0.03	
Parent's female family orientation	-0.07	
Nagelkerke R 0.07		



Predictor	Group 1 Child prefers older ages	Group 3 Parent prefers older ages
<i>Child characteristics</i>		
Ethnic origin (Dutch ref.)		
Turkish	0.19	0.05
Moroccan	0.63*	0.12
Surinamese	-0.47~	-0.07
Antillean	-0.16	0.62*
Age (15-19 ref.):		
20-24	-0.07	-0.34*
25-30	-0.04	-0.36
Number of siblings	-0.03	-0.03
<i>Dyad (mother – daughter ref.)</i>		
Mother – son	0.19	0.04
Father - -daughter	0.10	-0.25
Father – son	0.08	-0.25
<i>Parent characteristics</i>		
Parental educational level	0.17	0.15
Parent's religious part.	-0.05	-0.03
Parent's family status	0.05	-0.01
Parent's value of children	0.03	0.13
Parent's female family orientation	-0.07	0.14*
Nagelkerke R 0.07		



## Conclusions

- Fertility preferences of immigrant and Dutch do differ for both parents and children
  - Most pronounced for preferred timing
- Intergenerational discrepancies are found for
  - Preferred family size among all groups
  - Timing but limited to Turks and Moroccans
- Only limited evidence that intergenerational discrepancies are larger in immigrant families compared to Dutch

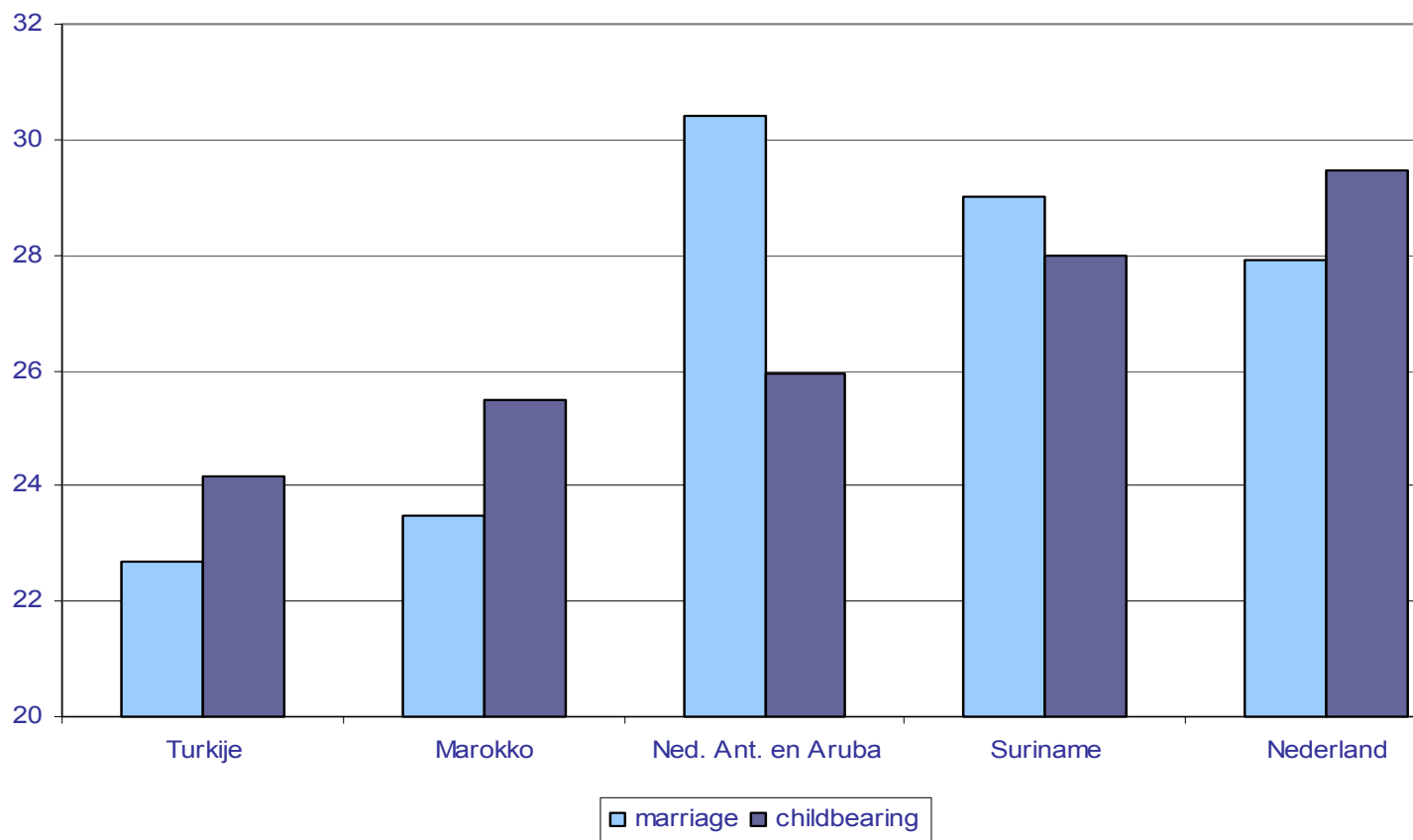


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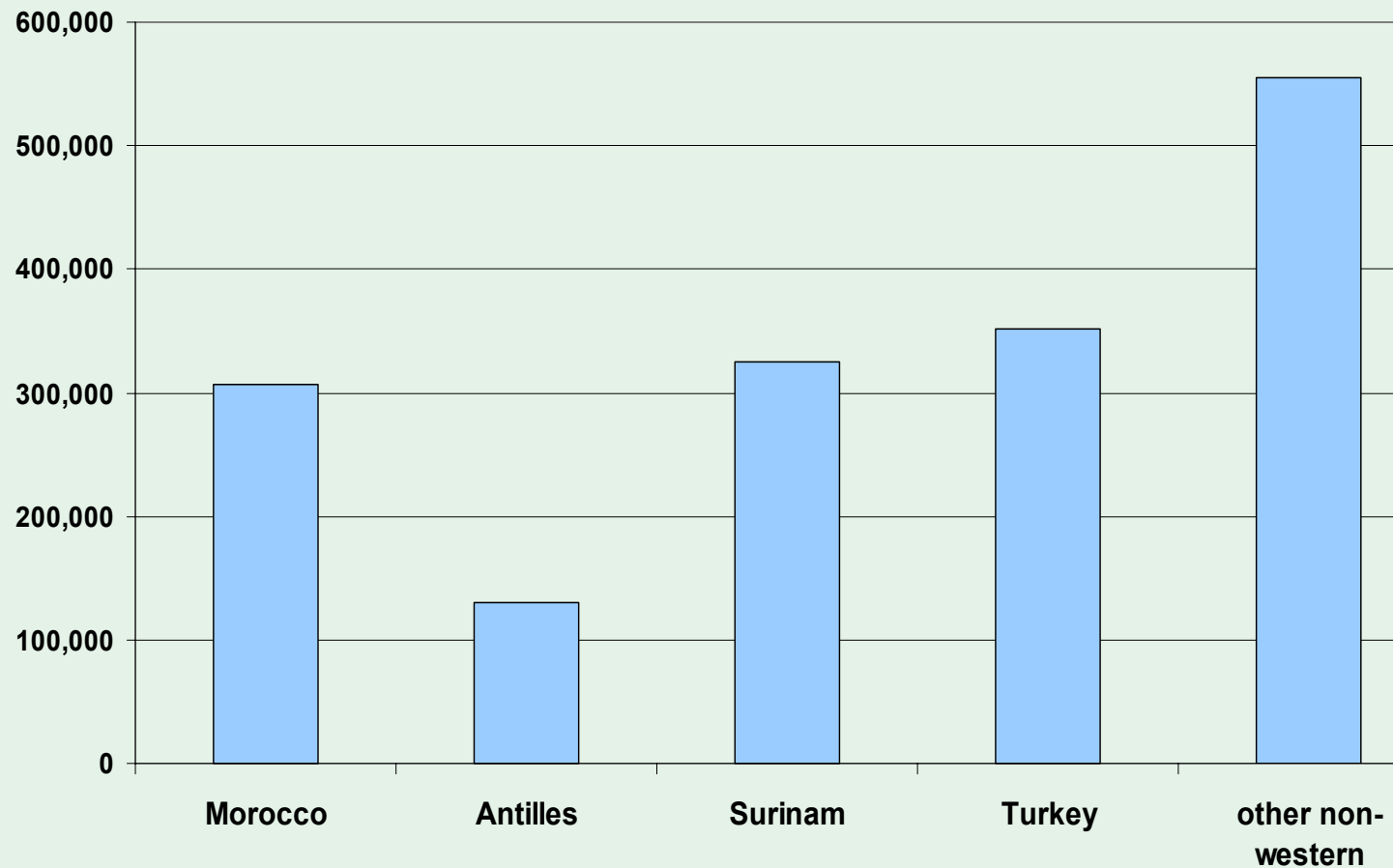
## Mean age woman at first marriage and first birth, by country of birth of the mother, 1995-1999/1999



Source: Statistics Netherlands



## Non-western migrants in the Netherlands, 1-1-200



Source: Statline






- *Turks and Moroccans*

- originate from specific (rural) regions
- low education
- low labor force participation in the Netherlands (men and women)
- live in the larger Dutch cities
- substantial number of marriage migrants in last decade



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- *Surinamese*
    - mixed educational level
    - high labor force participation (of women)
    - residence in western part of the Netherlands
  - *Antilleans*
    - mixed educational level
    - substantial number of migrants in recent years (no migrati  
restrictions)
    - among recent migrants many young with low education