



Employment and Family Trajectories of Immigrants and their Descendants and their Social Identities and Political Participation

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Employment and Family Trajectories of Immigrants and their Descendants and their Social Identities and Political Participation

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We-ID Identities - Migration - Democracy is a three-year project (2025-2028) that analyses the transformation of individual and collective identities, social cohesion and democracy in the midst of migration, demographic change and current crises in Europe. The consortium includes eight partners: Georg August University of Göttingen, the University of St Andrews in Scotland, the Bocconi University, the Institute for the Study of Population and Human Studies (Bulgaria), the Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar (Croatia), Max Planck Society (Population Europe), the Council of the Baltic Sea States, and The Civics Innovation Hub.

Website: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/We-ID>

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2. Control Sheet

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3. List of Participants

Participant No.	Participant Organisation Name	Country
1 (Coordinator)	University of Goettingen (UGOE)	Germany
2	Bocconi University (UB)	Italy
3	University of St. Andrews (USTAN)	Great Britain
4	Institute for Population and Human Studies (IPHS)	Bulgaria
5	Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar (IPI)	Croatia
6	Max Planck Society (MPG)/Population Europe	Germany
7	Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS)	IGO, Sweden
8	THE CIVICS Innovation Hub (CIVICS)	Germany

4. Objectives

The European Union's promise of prosperity and security is based on the principle of "unity in diversity" and the guarantee of fundamental freedoms, rights and democratic participation of its citizens. The vast majority of EU citizens share these values. At the same time, democracies are in crisis. Populist parties are fuelling fears and spreading the narrative that migration leads to a loss of identity. There is no doubt that migration always raises the question of identity and belonging. How do we organize integration and participation in such a way that cohesion is created despite diverse identities? The project "Identities - Migration - Democracy" (We-ID) is therefore concerned with the transformation of individual and collective identities, social and territorial cohesion and democracy under the conditions of demographic change, particularly with regard to migration and growing population diversity. We-ID follows an innovative research path by a) analysing the impact of migration on identities, belonging, cohesion and democracy, taking into account both the impact on host communities and the changes in the identities of migrants and their descendants, and b) elaborating the interrelationship between identities, cohesion, resilience and democracy. In addition to quantitative data analysis, we will use qualitative methods at the local level (e.g. pilot study in a border region, content analysis, case studies) to look for factors that strengthen resilient democratic communities. By consistently pursuing a transdisciplinary approach within our Policy, Advocacy and Research Lab (We-PARL) throughout the project, we will create a platform for mutual learning between different stakeholders from the European to the local level, while at the same time contributing to evidence-based and thoroughly discussed policy recommendations. In addition, based on our findings, we will develop materials such as toolboxes that can be used by practitioners and local actors (We-SCOUTS).

In detail, We-ID pursues the following objectives:

- Objective 1:** Revise and evaluate the relevant conceptual issues concerning identities, belonging and cohesion, and establish their relationship with resilience and democracy, with a particular emphasis on migration.
- Objective 2:** Map trends and patterns of identities, belonging and cohesion together with their drivers, including geographic differences, gender, age and education, as well as immigrant status and employment.
- Objective 3:** Investigate how the social identities and political participation of immigrants and their descendants differ across European countries, what factors influence identity and participation of immigrants, and what assumptions can be made for the future.
- Objective 4:** Extending objectives 2 and 3 through a regional pilot study in a Bulgarian border region. To analyse, how migration flows affect both the migrant communities themselves and their identities, and the communities exposed to new and large-scale immigration.
- Objective 5:** Development of an inclusive concept for resilient democratic communities (ReDeCos), through the identification (five case studies) of local factors that hinder or strengthen belonging.

- Objective 6:** In addition, development of a Civic Competences Toolbox (CCT) for local actors (We-SCOUTS) equipped with civic skills and competences to support local communities, moderate conflicts and controversies and create spaces for participation.
- Objective 7:** Establish the We-PARL - Policy, Advocacy and Research Lab - transdisciplinary platform, the tool which supports all thematic research areas foreseen in the project.
- Objective 8:** To disseminate We-ID findings, drawing on the outcomes and findings from the We-PARL, communicating them to a broader audience.
- Objective 9:** The project will identify factors at both national and local level that hinder social and political participation and at the same time develop policy recommendations on how to achieve equality and mitigate discrimination against women, LGBTIQ+ and ethnic minorities.

5. Purpose of Milestone

This technical report provides an overview of data from longitudinal studies from the UK (UK Household Panel Survey), Germany (German Socio-economic Panel), and Italy (Families, Social Subjects and Life Cycle survey & Aspects of Daily Life Survey), which are used to investigate employment and family trajectories of immigrants and their descendants and their social identities and political participation.

6. Introduction

6.1 Context and Objectives

The objective of this Technical Report is to outline the data and methodology used in the We-ID WP4.2 which aims to study feelings of belonging, identity, and social and political attitudes and participation among migrant groups, and how this varies by employment and family status and trajectories. We use data from the UK Household Longitudinal Study and the German Socio-Economic Panel Study, two longitudinal panel datasets which allow us to follow individuals over time and construct employment, childbearing and partnership histories. Previous output from this project (WP4.1) has demonstrated that levels of satisfaction and trust in democratic institutions and processes, civil engagement and social trust all vary by migrant background and generation. In this next phase of the analysis, we explore whether differences between migrant groups is moderated by employment status or family structure.

6.2 Employment

Experiences of employment, and unemployment, have a strong capacity to influence political and social attitudes, with the workplace acting as a crucible in which political views are shaped. Within workplaces, social connections, working conditions and local and national policies all effect individuals' experiences and, in turn, influence political engagement and wellbeing (Selenko et al., 2025). Unemployment and exclusion from the labour market can have a similar effect, with issues such as the economic climate, welfare support from governments, and back to work programmes also affecting wellbeing and political engagement.

For migrants, employment can act as a key pathway for forming social connections and provide a source of regular contact with the host society which can reduce both potential marginalisation and isolation (Kearns and Whitley, 2015). As with the wider workforce, employment may promote political engagement, while also aiding integration through socialisation and the forming of social networks.

6.3 Family and Parenthood

The relationship between family structure and political engagement and wellbeing varies by country context depending upon national policies such as levels of gender equality, childcare policies and overall standard of living (Pollmann-Schult, 2018). The influence of partnership

and parental status on political engagement and wellbeing among migrant groups remains relatively underexplored, and little is known about how migrant background interacts with family structure. Family ties may support integration, as partners and children can provide opportunities to develop social connections and strengthen engagement with the host society. Parenthood may also encourage greater political interest and participation by increasing contact with local and national institutions, including healthcare, social services and education. However, the additional demands associated with parenting (such as the time spent on childcare) may compete with aspects of one's social life which may, in turn, have an impact on wellbeing and the ability to partake in social and civic activities. This may be more acutely felt among migrants who face these challenges of parenthood while simultaneously experiencing challenges associated with adapting to and integrating into the host society (Kim, 2018). Migrant parents may also experience greater challenges due to a lack of resources which further increase parenthood pressures, particularly for newly arrived migrants due to a lack of support due to the absence of close family and fewer social contacts (Lim et al., 2022). This may further limit individuals' capacity to form social ties and take part in activities which could encourage integration.

Overall, we would expect that both family structure and employment will impact upon individuals' wellbeing and political engagement, and that this will vary across migrant groups. Our anticipation is that employed migrants will be more politically engaged, have higher levels of satisfaction than their unemployed counterparts, and show patterns that are more similar to natives and descendants. While barriers, such as discrimination, may continue to exist our anticipation is that the social aspect of employment and the links to the host society made in the workplace will result in higher levels of integration for this group. In contrast we expect that individuals, particularly women, with children may be more limited in their political engagement due to constraints and demands associated with parenthood. This may be particularly apparent for migrants who face these parental demands in conjunction with the barriers they face as migrants.

7. Data

7.1 UK Longitudinal Household Survey

The UK Longitudinal Household Survey (UKHLS) is the UK's largest longitudinal panel survey, comprising of around 30,000 households. Beginning in 2009, the annual survey covers a nationally representative sample of the UK population including boost samples for immigrant and ethnic minority groups. These boost samples make the UKHLS particularly valuable for studying migrant and descendant populations. The longitudinal nature of this study allows us to follow individuals over time and construct detailed life course histories including employment, partnership and childbearing transitions. As well as biographical data, the survey also collects data related to social attitudes, political views and participation, and sense of identity.

7.2 German Socio-Economic Panel Survey

The German Socio-Economic Panel Survey (GSOEP) is the largest longitudinal study in Germany, running since 1984. Like the UKHLS, the GSOEP consists of a large, representative sample of the German population, with each wave collecting data from around 30,000 individuals and covering a range of topics related to living conditions, political attitudes and participation, and social values. Repeated observations again allow us to follow individuals over multiple waves, enabling us to construct detailed employment and family histories including partnership formation and dissolution and changes in employment status.

7.3 Italian Data

We also plan to use two datasets from Italy. Italian National Institute of Statistics' (Istat) Families, Social Subjects and Life Cycle survey (Famiglie e soggetti sociali, FSS) is a nationally representative household survey. The 2016 edition serves as a key source of research microdata, while a more recent round was collected in 2024, although its data release date remains unknown. The survey collects detailed retrospective information on partnership formation and dissolution, fertility, and employment histories, alongside household composition, family relationships, and support networks. Its retrospective design enables the reconstruction of individual life-course trajectories. Although it includes some attitudinal questions, it is not designed to measure political orientation or participation. Its coverage of the resident population includes foreign-born residents and foreign citizens, and the 2016 questionnaire records both citizenship and place of birth, providing scope to identify migrant background.

Italian National Institute of Statistics' (Istat) Aspects of Daily Life survey (Aspetti della vita quotidiana, AVQ) is an annual, nationally representative, repeated cross-sectional survey of households in Italy, with the public-use microdata series currently covering 2013–2024. It combines information on political and social participation and institutional trust with employment status, household composition, and family circumstances. Its political measures primarily concern participation and trust. The survey includes foreign citizens but records citizenship rather than country of birth, allowing comparisons between Italian and foreign citizens while limiting the identification of broader migrant backgrounds. AVQ supports comparisons across social groups and survey years but does not follow the same individuals over time or reconstruct detailed migration and family histories.

8. Variables

In this section, we describe the main variables used in this analysis, including the construction of the employment and family structure variables, demographic controls, and outcome variables.

8.1 Migrant Groups

In this analysis, we compare four migrant groups:-

- **Natives** - individuals born in the host country with two non-migrant parents
- **1G Migrants** - individuals born overseas who arrived in the host country as adults
- **1.5G Migrants** - individuals born overseas who arrived in the host country as children (before age 16)
- **2G Descendants** - individuals born in the host country with at least one foreign-born parent (when both parents are foreign-born and differ in country of origin, the mother's country of birth is used to assign a specific country of origin)

In cases where data and sample sizes allow, we also disaggregate the 1G migrant group by time since arrival and compare outcomes for more recently arrived migrants (less than 10 years) to more established migrants (10 or more years).

We also aim to study differences between migrant groups by country of origin to further understand how feelings of belonging, social integration, and social and institutional trust vary across migrant groups. In each country, we identify the largest migrant groups. In Germany, these groups include migrants from Turkey, Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Southern Europe, Eastern Europe, the Former USSR, and Other Western Countries. In the UK, migrant groups include those from Europe and Western Countries, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, Africa, and the Caribbean. Full details regarding how these groups are constructed and specific countries included can be found in Appendix A.

8.2 Family Structure

A key aim of this analysis is to examine the effect that family structure has on political engagement, identity and belonging. Family structure is defined using a combination of partnership status and parental status. This results in four categories: -

- Unpartnered/No Children
- Unpartnered/ At least 1 child
- Partnered / No Children
- Partnered / At least 1 child

'Unpartnered' categories include those who are never married, are separated, divorced and widowed while 'Partnered' includes those both married and cohabiting. Full information regarding the coding of the partnership variable can be found in Appendix C.

8.3 Employment Status

As well as family structure, we also study the influence of employment status. For this analysis employment status has been coded into three broad categories: -

- Employed – includes full time and part-time employment, irregular employment
- Unemployed – out of work, looking for work
- Inactive – includes students, retirees, long-term sick or disabled, looking after family

Full coding of employment categories can be found in Appendix B.

8.4 Outcome Variables – Belonging, Identity, Trust and Political Engagement

Both the UKHLS and GSOEP contain a range of data related to feelings of identity, belonging and political engagement. These cover topics such as:

- Interest in politics
- Life satisfaction
- Social isolation
- Frequency of voluntary work

Details regarding the wording of the survey questions in each dataset and the availability of the variables can be found in Table 1. Further information regarding the harmonisation of life satisfaction and satisfaction in democracy variables can be found in Appendix F.

Table 1: Variables

Variable	Country	Question Wording	Waves/Years Available	Responses
Interest in Politics	UK	How interested would you say you are in politics?	15,12, 11, 10, 9, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	• Very interested • Fairly interested • Not very interested • Not at all interested
	Germany	Generally speaking, how interested are you in politics?	2000-2023	• Very Interested • Interested • Not Very Interested • Not Interested at All
Satisfaction in Democracy	UK	On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, a little dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the way democracy works in this country?	15, 12, 9, 6, 3, 2	• Very satisfied • Fairly satisfied • A little dissatisfied • Very dissatisfied
	Germany	How satisfied are you today with the following areas of your life? ... With democracy as it exists in Germany.	2005, 2010, 2016, 2020, 2021	0-10 scale (0 Completely dissatisfied – 10 – Completely satisfied)

Life Satisfaction	UK	Please choose the number which you feel best describes how dissatisfied or satisfied you are with the following aspects of your current situation. Your life overall?	15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	1. Completely dissatisfied 2. Mostly dissatisfied 3. Somewhat dissatisfied 4. Neither sat nor dissat 5. Somewhat satisfied 6. Mostly satisfied 7. Completely satisfied
	Germany	In conclusion, we would like to ask you how satisfied you are with your life overall. Please answer on a scale from 0 to 10.	2000-2023	0-10 scale (0 Completely dissatisfied – 10 – Completely satisfied)
Lack of Companionship	UK	How often do you feel you lack companionship?	15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9	• Hardly ever or never • Some of the time • Never
	Germany	How often do you feel that you miss other people's company?	2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022	• Very often • Often • Sometimes • Seldom • Never

8.5 Demographics

All models also include basic demographic control variables, these include:

- Age – categorised into broad five-year age groups (16-19 to 70+)
- Period – Five-year groups (Germany 2000-2023, UK 2009-2023)
- Education – categorised as high, medium and low
- Sex – Male/Female

9. Sample

Our sample consists of a total of 64,035 individuals from the UK and 100,415 from Germany. These samples differ in their distributions of migrant groups, with the UK having a greater proportion of Natives and 2G descendants, and a smaller sample of 1G migrants compared to Germany. Overall, our German sample contains around twice the number of adult migrants compared to the UK. We follow individuals aged 16 and over until 2026 or final observation, with repeated annual observations. In our German dataset, the number of observations per individual ranges from 1 to 24 with an average of 5.5 observations per person. For the UK, this number ranges from 1 to 15, with an average of 6.5 observations per person.

For our models focusing on family and employment, we restrict our sample to those aged between 16 and 49.

Table 1: Sample size by migrant group in UKHLS and GSOEP

	UKHLS		GSOEP	
	N	%	n	%
Native	41,092	65%	62,596	62%
1G	10,549	16%	25,214	25%
1.5G	4,193	7%	6,992	7%
2G	8,201	13%	5,613	6%
Total	<i>64,035</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>100,415</i>	<i>100%</i>

Table 2: Analytical Sample: Age: 16-49

	UKHLS		GSOEP	
	n	%	n	%
Native	31,151	62%	41,831	57%
1G	8,563	17%	20,435	28%
1.5G	3,409	7%	6,163	8%
2G	7,124	14%	5,167	7%
Total	<i>50,247</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>73,596</i>	<i>100%</i>

Further information regarding the age distribution of these migrant groups can be found in Appendix E, while the distribution of employment status, family structure and parity within migrant groups at time of their first observation can be found in Appendix D.

10. Methods

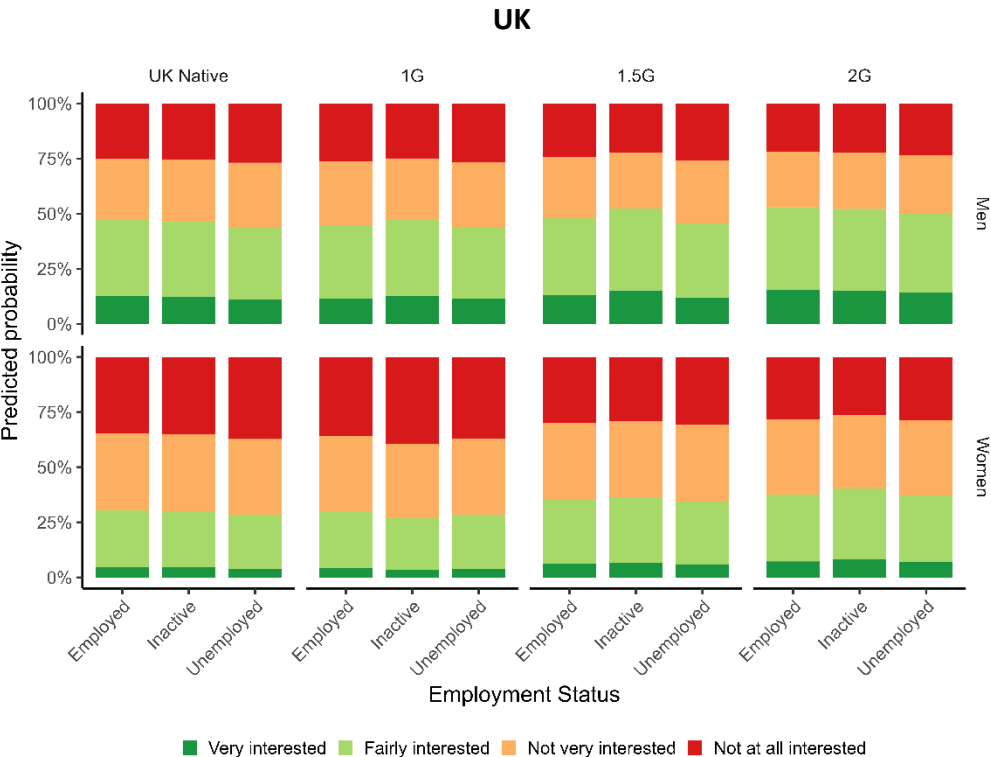
This analysis uses multilevel ordinal logistic regression models to study how ordinal outcomes vary by employment status and family structure. A multilevel approach is used due to multiple observations of individuals within the data.

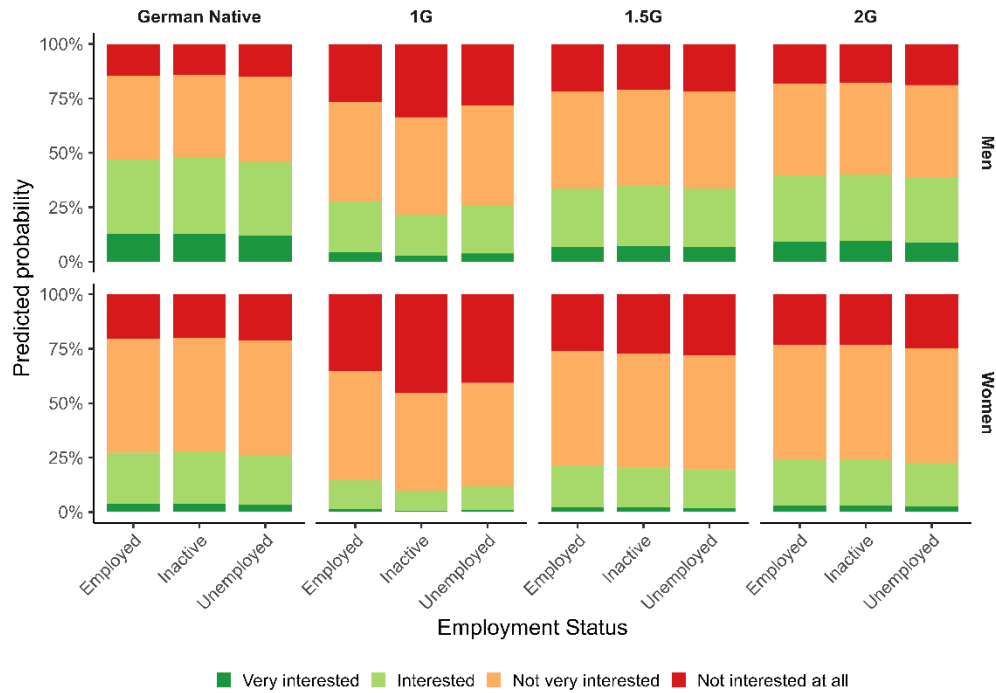
11. Results

In this section, we present some initial findings from this analysis for Germany and the UK. We focus on three variables: Interest in Politics, Satisfaction in Democracy, and Life Satisfaction.

11.1 Interest in Politics

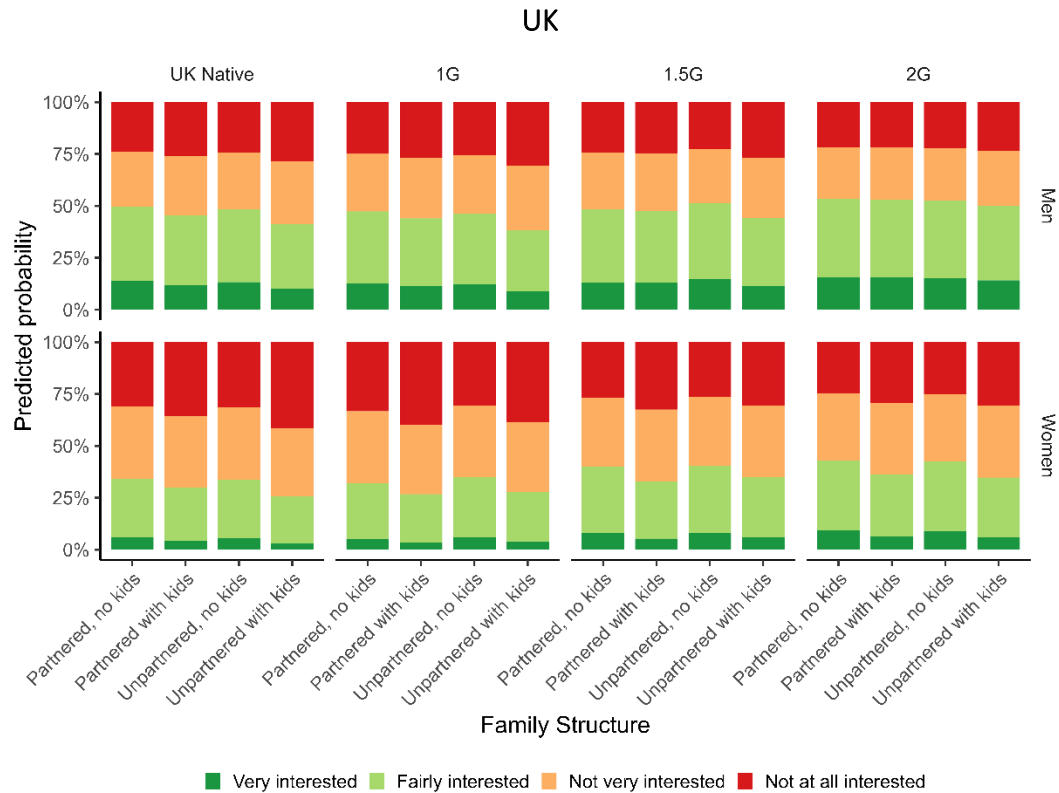
Figure 1: Political Interest by Employment Status



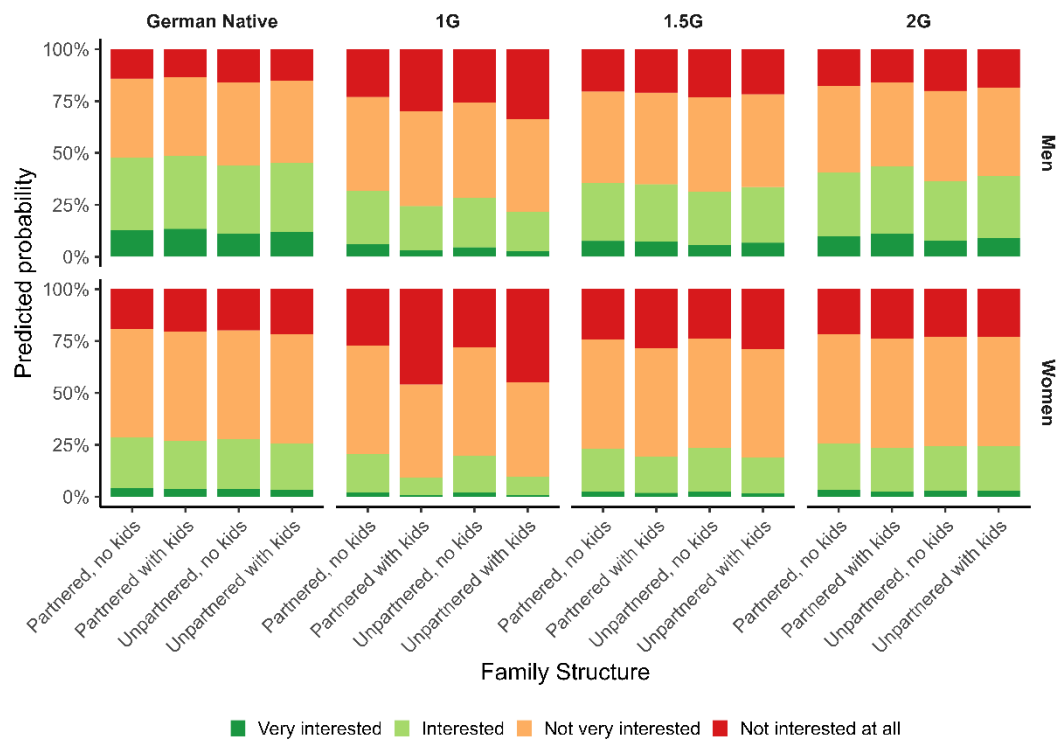


Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figure 2: Political Interest by Family Structure

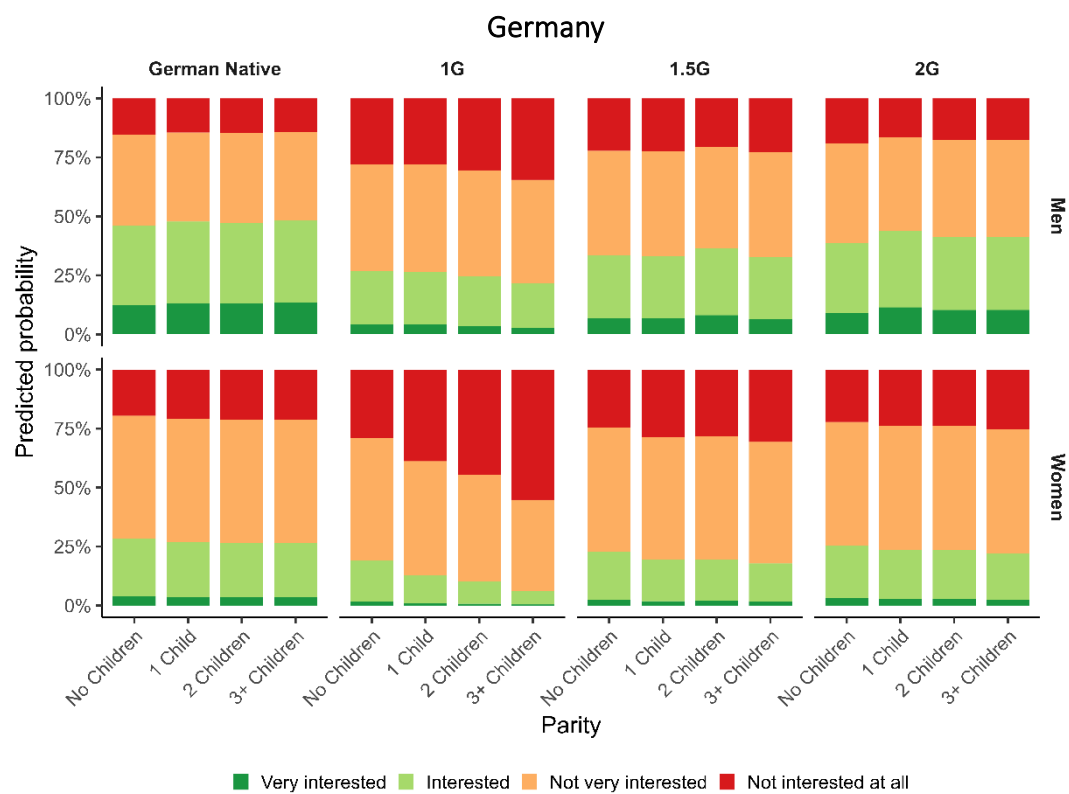
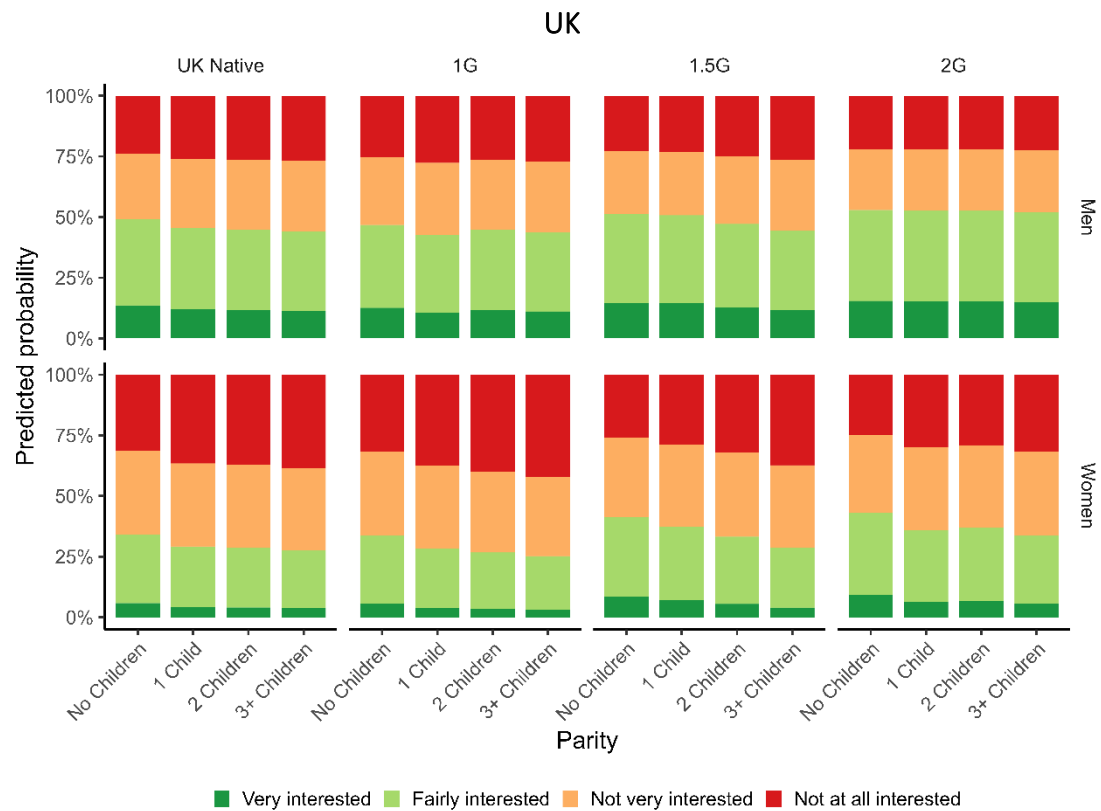


Germany



Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figure 3: Political Interest by Parity



Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figures 1 to 3 show the predicted probabilities of political interest by migrant generation and gender, examining variation by employment status, family structure, and parity in the UK and Germany. Across all figures, men consistently report greater political interest than women, with a larger proportion of men predicted to be very interested or (fairly) interested in politics, while women are more likely to report that they are not very interested or not at all interested, regardless of migrant generation.

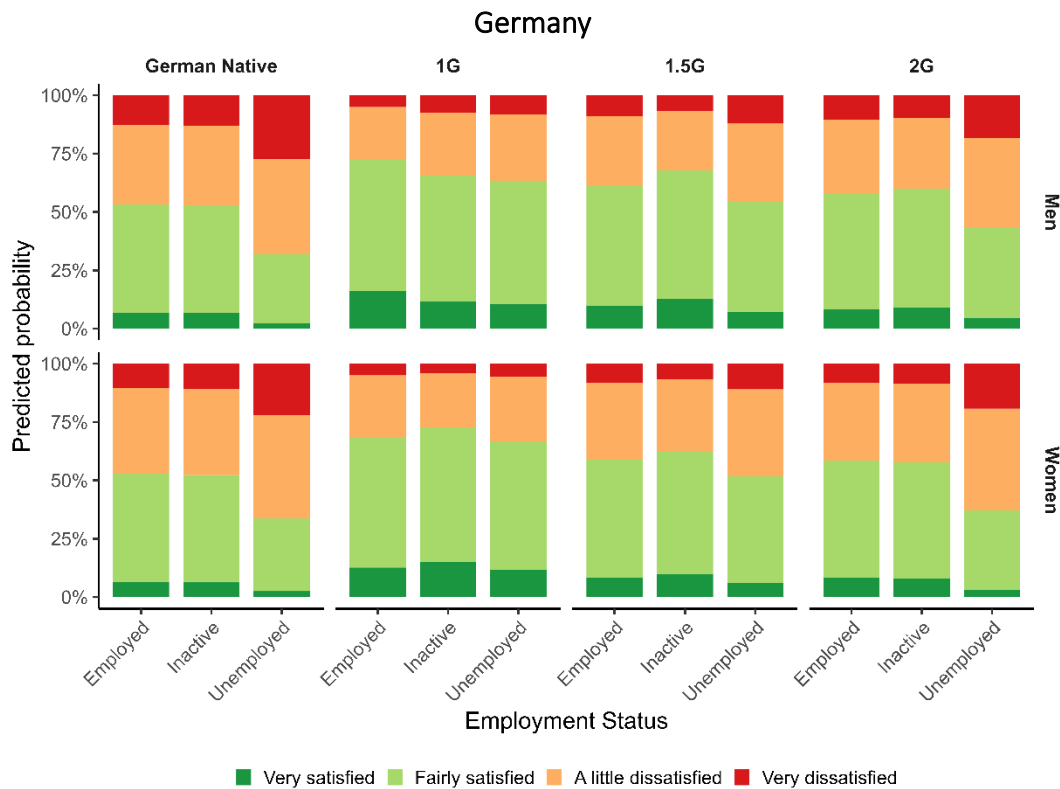
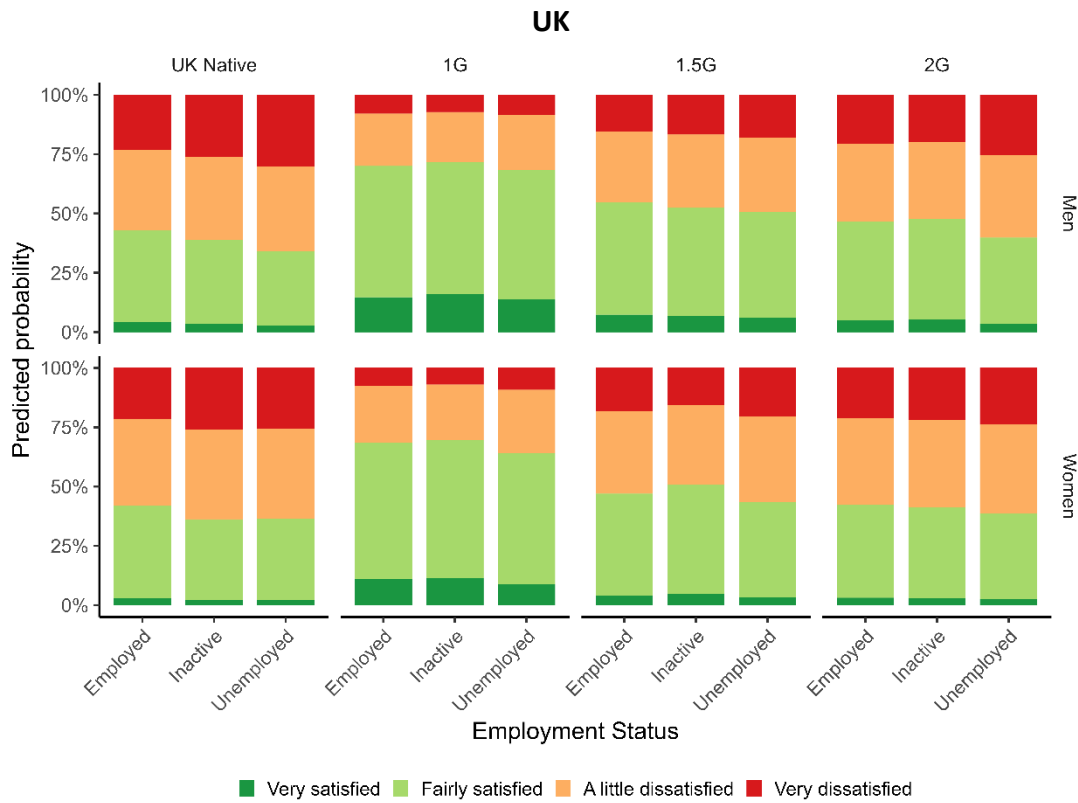
Figure 1 examines political interest by migrant generation and employment status. In the UK, there is relatively little variation by migrant generation or employment status, although migrants appear to report lower levels of political interest than the other groups. In Germany, differences by migrant generation are more pronounced. 1G, and to some extent 1.5G, show lower levels of political interest than natives and descendants for both men and women. We observe only small differences by employment status for most migrant groups; however, for 1G in Germany, unemployed and inactive respondents appear more likely than employed respondents to report that they are not interested in politics.

Figure 2 explores political interest by migrant generation and family structure. Political interest appears to vary by family structure, although the extent of variation differs by migrant generation and gender. In both the UK and Germany, differences by family structure are smaller among men than women. In the UK, women with children, whether partnered or unpartnered, display lower levels of political interest than women without children for all migrant groups. In Germany, variation by family structure is most apparent among migrant women, particularly 1G. 1G women who are with children appear less politically interested than those who are childless, regardless of partnership status.

To explore the role of parenthood in more detail, we also explore the effect of parity (Figure 3). Number of children appears to have a stronger effect on the political interest of women than men. In the UK, political interest appears highest among childless women for all migrant groups; however, a gradient is observed among 1.5G women, where political interest declines as the number of children increases. Among native, 1G and 2G women, differences by parity are more modest. In Germany, parity appears to have little influence on political interest among natives and descendants, although a clear gradient is found for 1G, particularly women, whose predicted political interest declines as parity increases. Among first-generation women with three children, we estimate that around half report that they are not interested at all in politics, compared with around a quarter of childless 1G women.

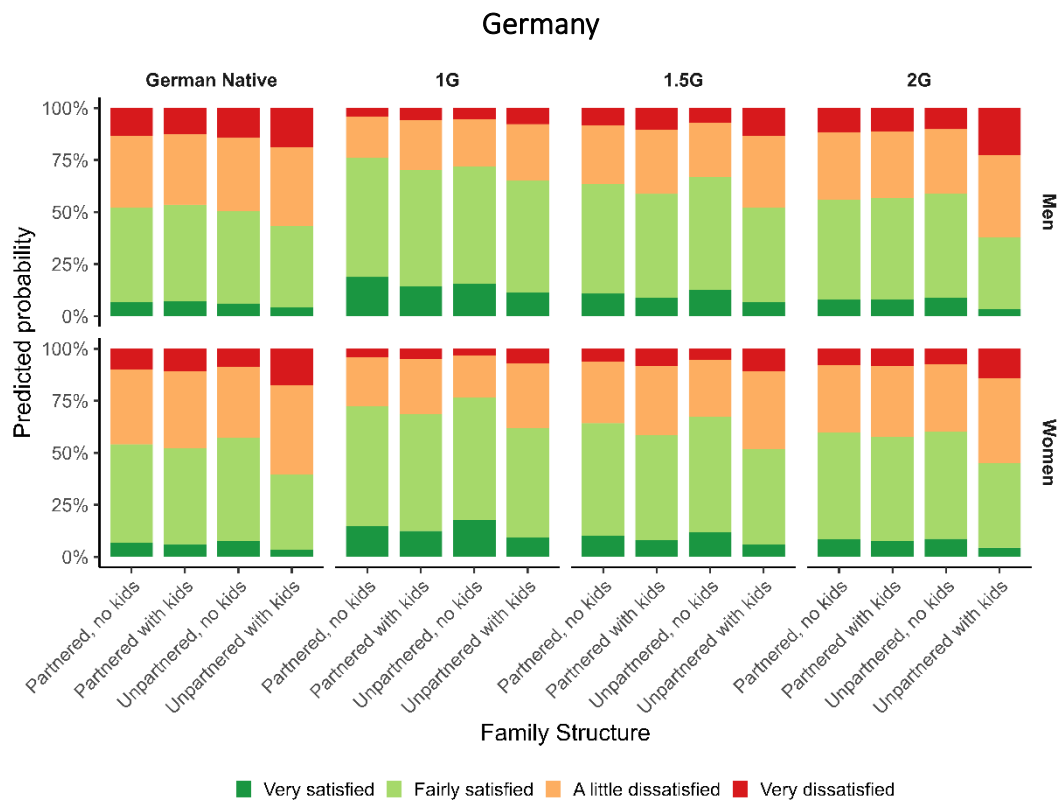
11.2 Satisfaction in Democracy

Figure 4: Satisfaction in Democracy by Employment



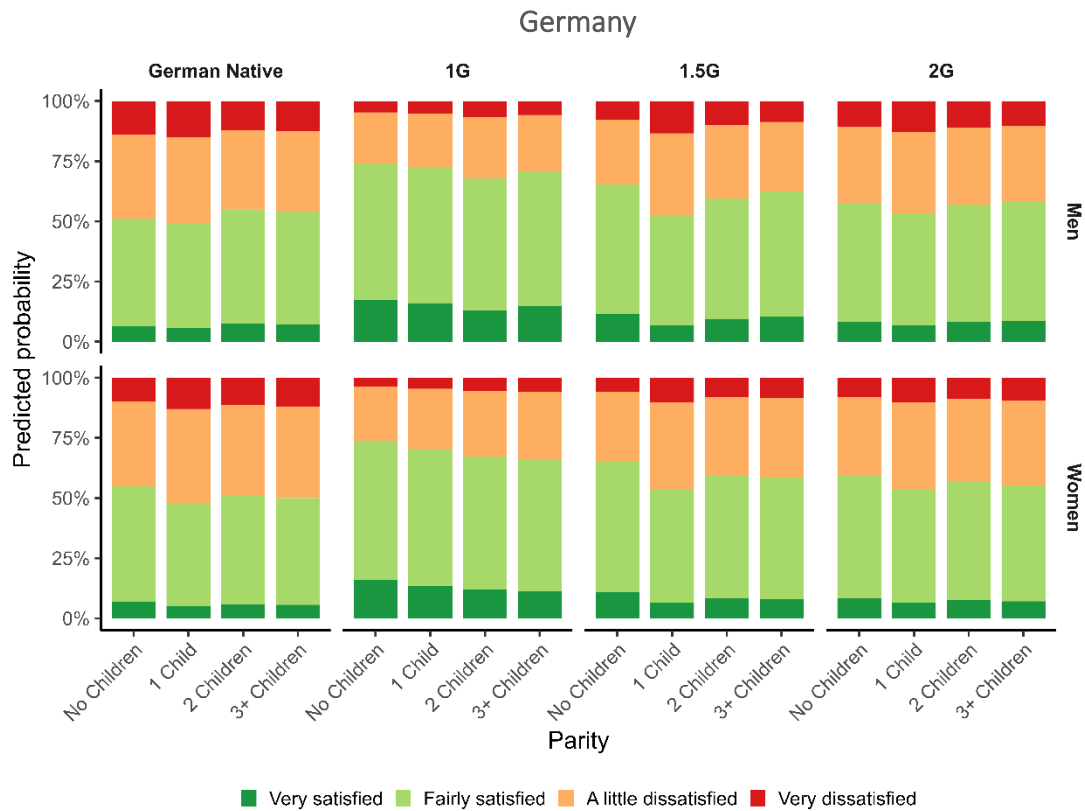
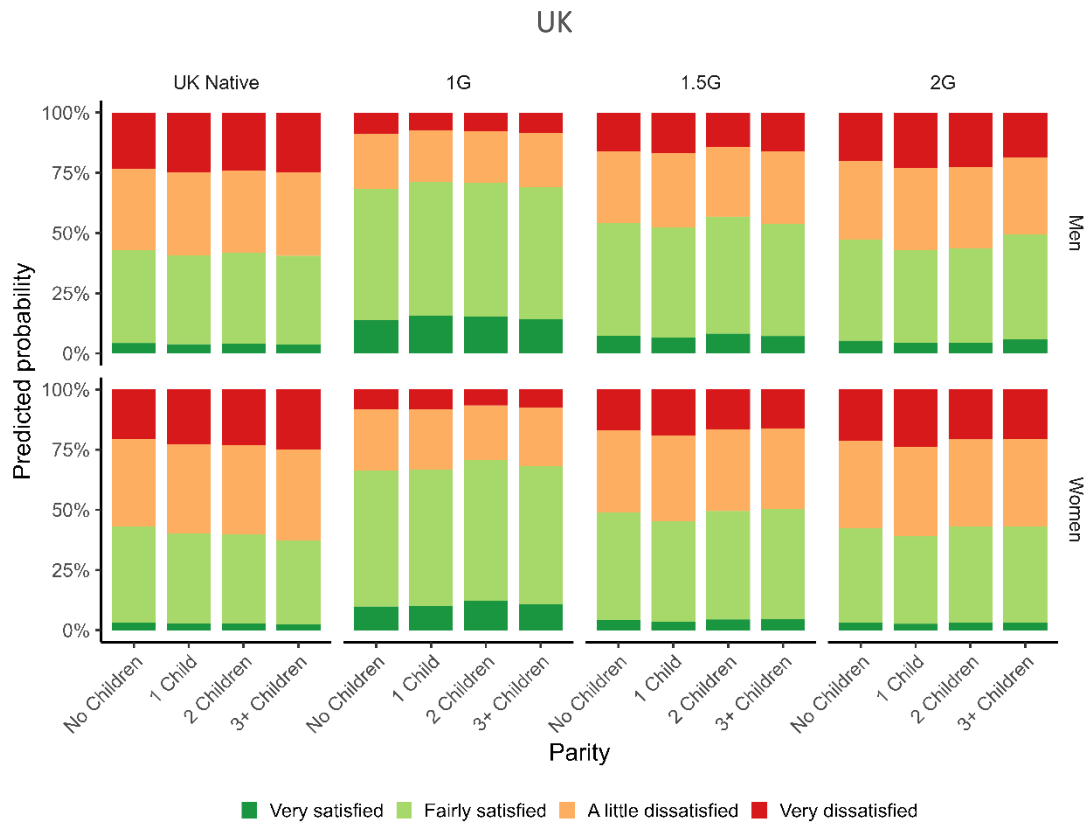
Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figure 5: Satisfaction in Democracy by Family Structure



Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figure 6: Satisfaction in Democracy by Parity



Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

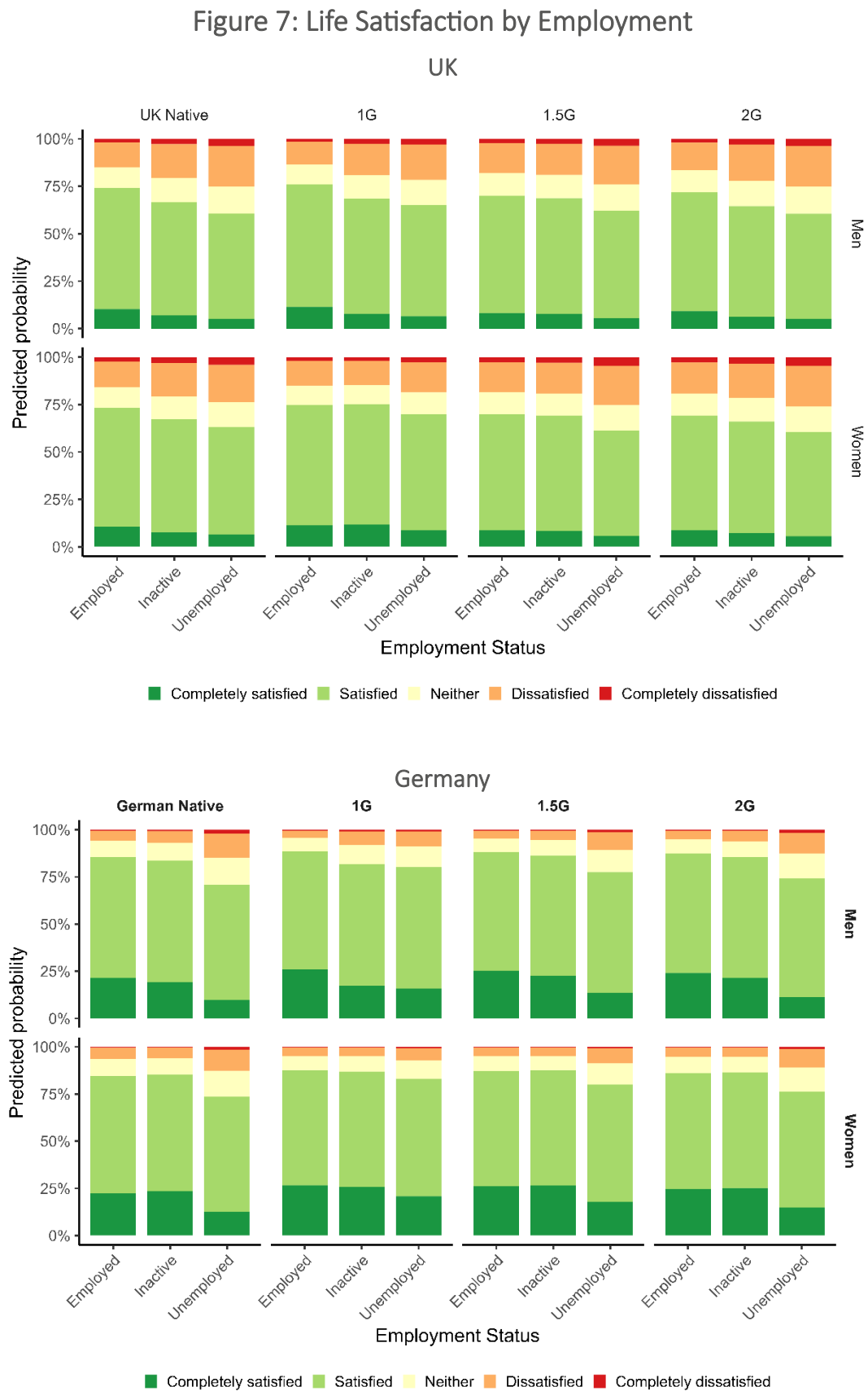
In this section, Figures 4 to 6 explore satisfaction in democracy, again examining variation by migrant group and employment status, family structure, and parity. Results of these models suggest that 1G consistently have the highest levels of satisfaction, followed by the 1.5G. Smaller differences were found between descendants and natives, with the second generation more similar to natives.

Figure 4 shows how satisfaction in democracy varies by migrant group and employment status. In the UK, we find modest differences by employment status. We find that satisfaction is higher for those in employment for natives and descendants. Differences were less apparent for migrant groups, particularly for men; unemployed 1G women were more likely to report being dissatisfied compared to those employed or inactive. We find similar patterns in Germany; however, differences were more apparent. Again, descendants closely resembled natives, with higher levels of dissatisfaction among the unemployed for both men and women. For 1G men, those in employment were more likely to report being very satisfied compared to those unemployed or inactive, whereas for women, it is those who are inactive who are most satisfied. This pattern was seen for both men and women in the 1.5G group, where the highest levels of satisfaction were found for the inactive group, while dissatisfaction was highest for those unemployed.

In Figure 5, we examine the effect of family structure. We find similar results in both the UK and Germany, with lower levels of satisfaction observed for those who are unpartnered with children for native and 2G groups. In the UK, levels of variation were smaller for 1G, while for 1.5G, we see the highest levels of satisfaction for those who are partnered with children and unpartnered with no children. Overall, across all migrant groups in both the UK and Germany, we do not find any large gender differences in the effect of family structure on satisfaction in democracy.

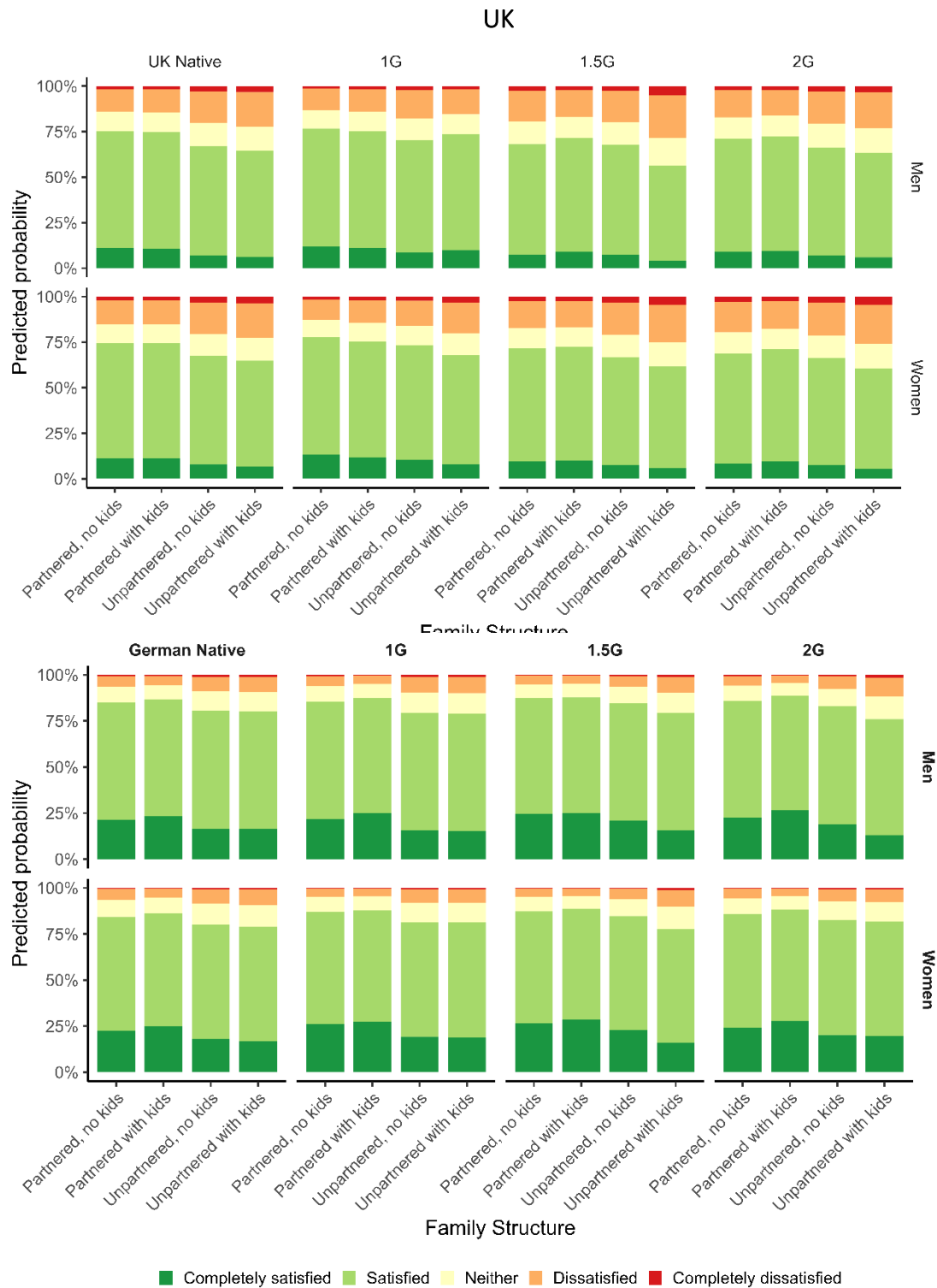
In Figure 6, we examine the role of parity. In the UK, there is little variation by parity. In Germany, there is greater variation by parity, however differences by parity are not consistent across migrant groups or between genders.

11.3 Life Satisfaction



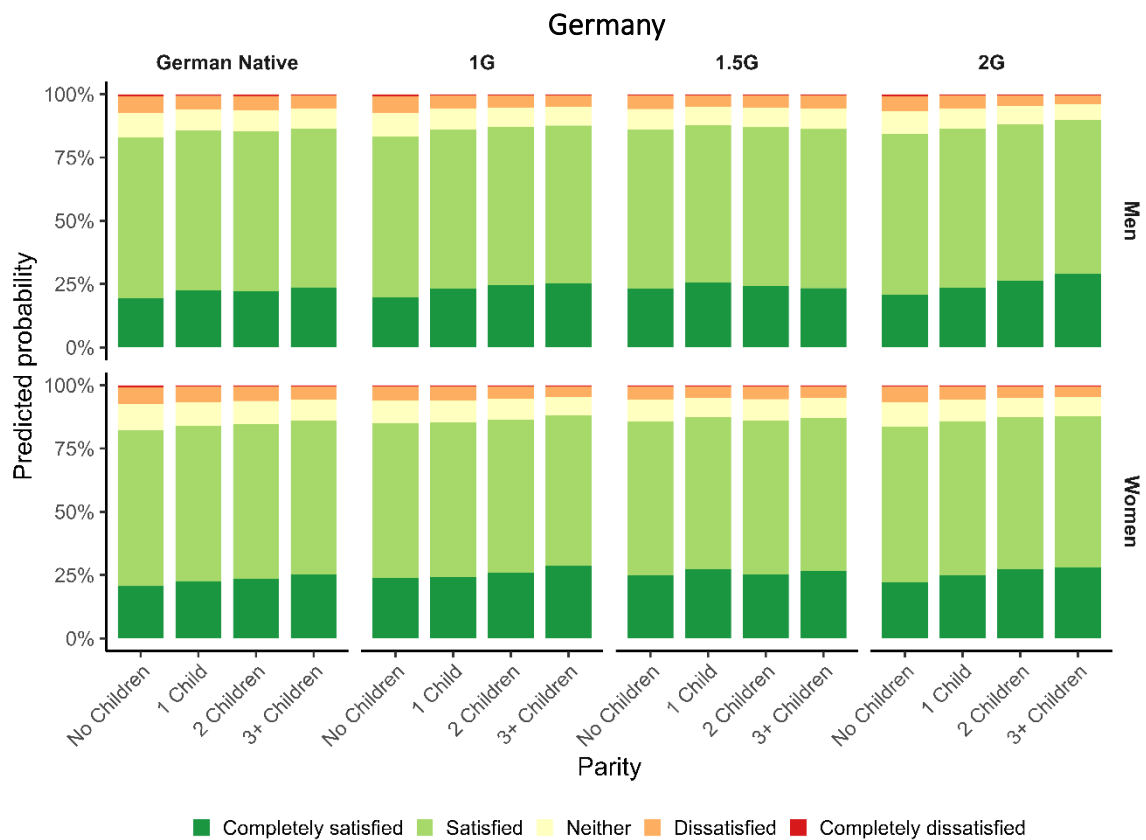
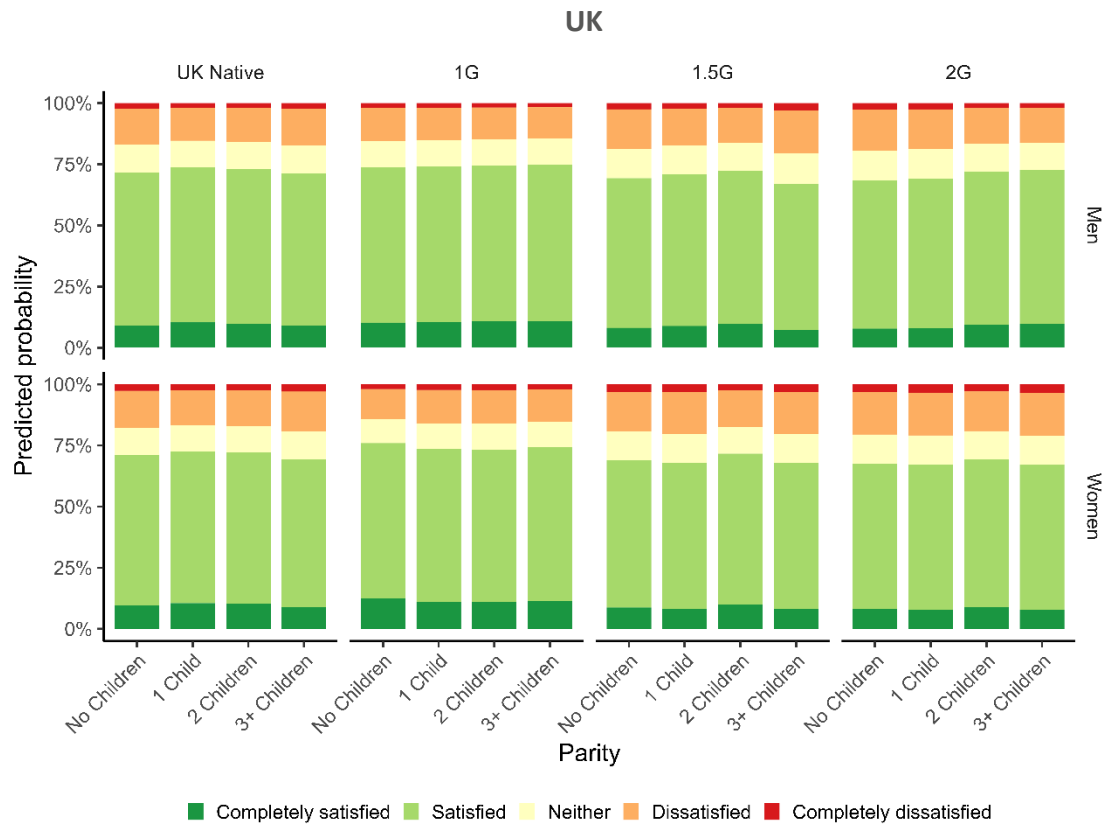
Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figure 8: Life Satisfaction by Family Structure



Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Figure 9: Life Satisfaction by Parity



Sources: UKHLS and GSOEP, authors' analysis
Adjusted for age and year

Finally, we examine life satisfaction by migrant group and how it varies by our three mediating variables (employment, family structure, and parity) in the UK and Germany. Overall, these models suggest that life satisfaction is high across all groups, with a majority of individuals in the UK and Germany reporting feeling satisfied or completely satisfied across all migrant generations.

Figure 7 shows variation in life satisfaction by employment. We observe a consistent pattern of lower levels of life satisfaction among the unemployed group across all migrant groups, with differences between the employed and unemployed larger for men than women. In the UK, we find that for female natives and descendants, life satisfaction was highest for the employed and lowest for the unemployed, with those who are inactive falling in between. For 1G and 1.5G groups, we find no differences between the employed and inactive groups. In Germany, we find that employment status varies more within the native group compared to 1G, particularly for women. Results indicate that, for natives, the proportion of women reporting being satisfied or completely satisfied is 10% higher when employed compared to unemployed. In contrast, for 1G women, reports of being (completely) satisfied were 5% higher compared to those who are unemployed.

In Figure 8, we examine how family structure influences life satisfaction. In the UK, we find somewhat consistent findings, with partnered individuals reporting higher levels of life satisfaction. Parental status appears to have little effect on life satisfaction; however, we consider this further in Figure 9 which explores life satisfaction by parity.

In Figure 9, we again see little variation in the UK, with high levels of satisfaction for all migrant groups and parities. We see some variation for the 1.5G and 2G men, with lower life satisfaction for 1.5G men with 3+ children and 2G men with no children or one child. For women, we see slightly lower life satisfaction for natives with 3+ children, while higher levels of life satisfaction were found for 1.5G women with two children. In Germany, we see that among some groups, having children is associated with higher levels of life satisfaction, with natives, 1G and 2G childless men and women having lower life satisfaction compared to those with children. Our findings for descendants suggest a slight gradient, with life satisfaction increasing as parity increases, with this more apparent for men compared to women.

12. Conclusions

In this report, we explored data available on political engagement, social attitudes, and wellbeing, in the UK Household Longitudinal Study and German Socio-economic Panel, two large national representative longitudinal studies. We identified three key variables that allow us to measure political engagement, social attitudes, and wellbeing, which are present in both datasets, namely Interest in Politics, Satisfaction in Democracy, and Life Satisfaction. We examined how these outcomes varied by employment status and family structure as well as whether the association between these outcome variables and life course states varied by migrant background as well as exploring whether differences were found between the UK and German contexts.

Findings from this initial, exploratory analysis suggest that these relationships vary by outcome, country, migrant generation and gender. Political interest was consistently lower among women and migrants, particularly in Germany. Parenthood was also associated with lower interest in politics, particularly for women, with the effect of parenthood stronger for migrant women. In Germany, we also observed a clear gradient in political interest related to parity, with interest declining as parity increased. Despite lower levels of interest in politics, 1G generally reported greater satisfaction with democracy compared to natives and descendants, although we do observe higher levels of dissatisfaction for the unemployed groups in several cases, with satisfaction lowest among unemployed natives and descendants in Germany. This pattern was not observed for 1G or 1.5G, where satisfaction levels were generally similar across employment groups. Life satisfaction was consistently high for all groups, with a majority reporting being satisfied to some extent, however, unemployment did appear to have a negative impact upon life satisfaction, with unemployed respondents consistently reporting lower satisfaction compared to those who were employed or inactive. Being partnered was also found to be associated with higher levels of life satisfaction, although the presence of children did not appear to impact upon responses. When exploring the role of parenthood further, we did not observe any clear trend, with patterns varying by migrant, country, and gender.

Appendix A – Migrant Groupings

Table A1: Migrant Groupings

UK	
Europe and West	France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Poland, Cyprus, Turkey, Portugal, Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Channel Islands, Australia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Jersey, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Ukraine, Yugoslavia, New Zealand, Canada, USA
India	India
Pakistan/Bangladesh	Pakistan, Bangladesh
Africa	Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Zaire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Caribbean	Jamaica, Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Montserrat, Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago
Germany	
Southern Europe	Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Croatia
Turkey	Turkey
Eastern Europe	Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Bosnia, Serbia, Slovenia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo
Former USSR	Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Belarus, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania
Other Western Countries	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, UK, Ireland, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea
Middle East and North Africa	Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen

Appendix B – Employment Groupings

Table A2: Employment Categories

Germany	
Employed	• Employed • Employed, but not active/working in the last 7 days
Inactive	• Not employed (NE): no further information • Not employed: currently in education/training • Not employed: military or civilian service • Not employed, but has occasional paid side work • Not employed, but performed paid work in the last 7 days • Not employed, but has regular paid side work • Not employed, but has paid side work
Unemployed	• Not employed: registered unemployed
UK	
Employed	• Self employed • Paid employment
Inactive	• Long term sick or disabled • Looking after family • Full-time student • Government training scheme • Furlough • Unpaid family business • Apprenticeship
Unemployed	• Unemployed • Not employed, something else

Appendix C – Partnership Groupings

Table A3: Partnership Categories

Germany	
Partnered	• Married • Married (spouse abroad) • Civil Partner • Cohabiting
Unpartnered	• Single • Separated • Divorced • Civil Partnership Separated
UK	
Partnered	• Married • Civil partner • Living as couple
Unpartnered	• Single, never married • Widowed • Separated • Divorced • Dissolved civil partnership

Appendix D – Distribution of Family Structure and Employment Status by Migrant Group

Table A4: Family Structure at First Observation by Migrant Group Germany

Women					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Partnered, no kids	26.0%	18.6%	25.0%	27.4%	9,142
Partnered, with kids	42.9%	63.6%	40.7%	29.1%	18,154
Unpartnered, no kids	20.2%	8.5%	27.3%	37.7%	7,137
Unpartnered, with kids	10.9%	9.3%	7.1%	5.8%	3,741
Total (n)	21,727	10,710	3,110	2,627	38,174
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Men					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Partnered, no kids	26.3%	22.2%	25.2%	25.9%	8,870
Partnered, with kids	39.1%	62.3%	36.4%	23.1%	15,623
Unpartnered, no kids	31.4%	13.2%	36.4%	49.7%	9,970
Unpartnered, with kids	3.2%	2.3%	2.0%	1.3%	959
Total (n)	20,104	9,725	3,053	2,540	35,422
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Table A5: Family Structure at First Observation by Migrant Group UK

Women					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Unpartnered, no kids	27.9%	15.3%	47.2%	42.6%	8,030
Unpartnered, with kids	14.8%	13.0%	10.7%	14.7%	3,926
Partnered, no kids	16.5%	19.9%	11.2%	12.3%	4,457
Partnered, with kids	40.9%	51.9%	30.9%	30.3%	11,235
Total (n)	17,243	4,718	1,791	3,896	27,648
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Men					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Unpartnered, no kids	37.1%	27.4%	57.5%	54.6%	8,905
Unpartnered, with kids	3.3%	2.3%	2.3%	3.4%	687
Partnered, no kids	21.1%	19.6%	9.6%	14.0%	4,293
Partnered, with kids	38.6%	50.7%	30.6%	28.0%	8,708

Total (n)	13,903	3,844	1,618	3,228	22,593
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Table A6: Employment at First Observation by Migrant Group Germany

Women					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Employed	62.3%	39.7%	50.7%	48.7%	20,641
Unemployed	4.9%	11.4%	6.8%	5.2%	2,641
Inactive	32.8%	48.9%	42.5%	46.1%	14,892
Total (n)	21,727	10,710	3,110	2,627	38,174
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Men					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Employed	76.6%	60.6%	71.8%	62.2%	25,072
Unemployed	4.7%	10.0%	7.7%	6.4%	2,306
Inactive	18.7%	29.4%	20.5%	31.3%	8,044
Total (n)	20,104	9,725	3,053	2,540	35,422
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Table A7: Employment at First Observation by Migrant Group UK

Women					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Employed	66.0%	51.5%	41.8%	54.2%	16,677
Unemployed	26.7%	38.4%	50.4%	36.4%	8,733
Inactive	7.3%	10.1%	7.8%	9.3%	2,238
Total (n)	17,243	4,718	1,791	3,896	27,648
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Men					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
Employed	72.9%	74.0%	51.8%	59.7%	15,750
Unemployed	10.5%	11.0%	10.6%	12.9%	4,382
Inactive	16.6%	15.1%	37.6%	27.4%	2,461

Total (n)	13,903	3,844	1,618	3,228	22,593
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Table A8: Parity at First Observation by Migrant Group Germany

Women					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
No Children	46.2%	27.1%	52.3%	65.1%	16,279
1 Child	20.6%	21.1%	16.8%	16.0%	7,664
2 Children	22.2%	26.1%	18.3%	12.8%	8,520
3+ Children	11.1%	25.7%	12.6%	6.1%	5,711
Total (n)	21,727	10,710	3,110	2,627	38,174
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Men					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
No Children	57.7%	35.4%	61.6%	75.6%	18,840
1 Child	16.1%	17.1%	12.7%	10.2%	5,543
2 Children	17.8%	23.1%	15.1%	10.2%	6,548
3+ Children	8.4%	24.4%	10.6%	4.1%	4,491
Total (n)	20,104	9,725	3,053	2,540	35,422
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Table A9: Parity at First Observation by Migrant Group UK

Women					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
No Children	44.3%	35.1%	58.4%	55.0%	12,487
1 Child	20.7%	25.5%	15.2%	18.6%	5,762
2 Children	23.4%	22.0%	14.6%	15.9%	5,959
3+ Children	11.6%	17.4%	11.8%	10.5%	3,440
Total (n)	17,243	4,718	1,791	3,896	27,648
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Men					
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total

No Children	58.2%	47.0%	67.1%	68.6%	13,198
1 Child	17.7%	20.7%	9.6%	12.0%	3,793
2 Children	17.1%	18.2%	12.5%	12.4%	3,683
3+ Children	7.0%	14.1%	10.7%	7.0%	1,919
Total (n)	13,903	3,844	1,618	3,228	22,593
Total (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Appendix E – Distribution of Migrant Groups

Table A10: Age Distribution of Migrants at first observation UK

	Women					Men				
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
16-19	1.1%	23.4%	15.3%	9.5%	3,077	9.9%	1.6%	24.3%	17.7%	3,077
20-24	7.3%	15.0%	14.4%	11.3%	3,296	11.1%	7.8%	13.6%	15.7%	3,296
25-29	14.7%	11.3%	13.2%	12.1%	3,374	11.1%	13.8%	8.6%	12.6%	3,374
30-34	18.6%	9.4%	12.4%	12.0%	3,343	10.3%	16.6%	8.2%	12.5%	3,343
35-39	16.7%	8.9%	10.7%	11.8%	3,276	10.6%	15.5%	8.8%	10.1%	3,276
40-44	13.3%	7.4%	11.5%	11.9%	3,293	11.1%	14.5%	7.6%	10.2%	3,293
45-49	10.2%	7.5%	9.3%	10.7%	2,934	10.6%	10.4%	8.5%	8.1%	2,934
50-54	7.5%	7.6%	6.1%	8.8%	2,531	9.2%	8.6%	9.0%	6.1%	2,531
55-59	5.5%	6.2%	4.8%	6.7%	2,001	7.7%	5.7%	7.1%	4.1%	2,001
60-65	3.1%	2.5%	1.6%	3.3%	1,439	6.0%	3.7%	3.5%	2.2%	1,439
65-70	0.8%	0.2%	0.5%	1.0%	398	1.7%	1.1%	0.7%	0.5%	398
70+	1.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.9%	178	0.7%	0.6%	0.1%	0.2%	178
Total (n)	18,599	4,791	2,034	3,716	29,140	18,599	4,791	2,034	3,716	29,140
Total (%)	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Table A11: Age Distribution of Migrants at first observation Germany

	Women					Men				
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Total
16-19	13.2%	0.7%	16.5%	33.8%	3,077	13.1%	0.3%	17.1%	34.4%	3,077
20-24	7.2%	6.6%	14.4%	14.6%	3,296	6.4%	4.0%	14.2%	16.0%	3,296
25-29	7.7%	15.6%	16.4%	13.2%	3,374	6.9%	13.4%	13.9%	13.1%	3,374
30-34	9.8%	19.5%	16.2%	12.5%	3,343	8.7%	18.7%	14.5%	11.3%	3,343
35-39	10.8%	17.3%	12.3%	8.0%	3,276	9.7%	18.4%	12.2%	8.4%	3,276
40-44	11.2%	13.3%	8.6%	6.0%	3,293	10.4%	13.8%	8.8%	5.5%	3,293
45-49	9.3%	9.8%	4.9%	3.8%	2,934	9.1%	10.5%	6.3%	3.6%	2,934
50-54	7.9%	6.9%	3.2%	2.8%	2,531	8.6%	7.7%	4.6%	2.8%	2,531
55-59	6.8%	4.4%	2.9%	1.8%	2,001	7.4%	5.2%	3.4%	2.3%	2,001
60-65	6.2%	3.0%	1.6%	1.9%	1,439	7.2%	4.1%	2.0%	1.3%	1,439
65-70	4.6%	1.8%	1.3%	1.2%	398	5.5%	2.4%	1.3%	1.0%	398
70+	5.4%	1.0%	1.6%	0.4%	178	7.0%	1.5%	1.6%	0.4%	178
Total (n)	31,391	12,923	3,485	2,859	50,658	31,205	12,291	3,507	2,754	49,757
Total (%)	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Appendix F –Harmonisation of Life Satisfaction and Democratic Satisfaction

	German Data	UK Data	Harmonised Responses
Life Satisfaction	0 – Completely Dissatisfied 1	Completely dissatisfied	Completely dissatisfied
	2 3 4	Mostly dissatisfied Somewhat dissatisfied	Dissatisfied
	5	Neither Sat nor Dissat	Neither
	6 7 8	Somewhat satisfied Mostly Satisfied	Satisfied
	9 10 – Completely Satisfied	Completely Satisfied	Completely Satisfied
Satisfaction in Democracy	0 – Completely Dissatisfied 1 2	Very dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
	3 4 5	A little dissatisfied	A little dissatisfied
	6 7 8	Fairly satisfied	Fairly satisfied
	9 10 – Completely Satisfied	Very satisfied	Very satisfied

Appendix G –Model Results, Including Missings¹

Political Interest UK

	Women				Men			
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Native	1G	1.5G	2G
Very interested	4.33%	2.44%	4.25%	5.34%	10.32%	6.49%	8.15%	10.39%
Fairly interested	25.87%	19.07%	25.64%	28.64%	32.37%	26.45%	29.35%	32.47%
Not very interested	29.73%	27.65%	29.70%	29.90%	23.27%	23.37%	23.55%	23.25%
Not at all interested	28.30%	33.07%	28.47%	26.19%	18.41%	21.32%	20.00%	18.36%
Missing	11.77%	17.76%	11.94%	9.92%	15.64%	22.37%	18.95%	15.53%

Satisfaction in Democracy UK

	Women				Men			
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Native	1G	1.5G	2G
Very satisfied	2.65%	2.25%	2.47%	2.30%	3.67%	3.17%	3.27%	2.95%
Fairly satisfied	27.16%	24.66%	26.10%	24.98%	26.68%	24.53%	24.99%	23.52%
A little dissatisfied	22.63%	22.21%	22.47%	22.27%	20.59%	20.23%	20.32%	20.01%
Not at all dissatisfied	13.12%	13.46%	13.28%	13.42%	13.66%	13.95%	13.89%	14.06%
Missing	34.43%	37.42%	35.68%	37.03%	35.40%	38.12%	37.53%	39.47%

Life Satisfaction UK

	Women				Men			
	UK	1G	1.5G	2G	UK	1G	1.5G	2G
Completely dissatisfied	2.65%	0.86%	1.80%	2.29%	2.01%	0.68%	1.09%	1.50%
Dissatisfied	14.58%	6.47%	11.18%	13.20%	13.26%	6.06%	8.62%	10.84%
Neither	10.68%	6.15%	9.06%	10.06%	10.36%	6.05%	7.82%	9.13%
Satisfied	54.04%	51.73%	54.66%	54.47%	52.65%	48.76%	51.68%	52.63%
Completely satisfied	8.04%	12.65%	9.74%	8.69%	7.45%	10.52%	9.34%	8.39%
Missing	10.02%	22.15%	13.55%	11.28%	14.28%	27.93%	21.44%	17.51%

¹ Missing category includes responses: 'Missing', 'Proxy', 'Refusal', 'Not Applicable' and 'Don't Know',

Political Interest Germany

	Women				Men			
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Native	1G	1.5G	2G
Very interested	3.91%	0.99%	2.25%	3.03%	11.73%	4.11%	6.45%	8.72%
Fairly interested	24.28%	10.99%	18.17%	21.37%	35.57%	22.98%	28.23%	31.90%
Not very interested	51.70%	48.38%	51.73%	51.93%	39.00%	44.18%	43.43%	41.73%
Not at all interested	19.88%	38.35%	27.32%	23.32%	13.43%	27.51%	21.23%	17.22%
Missing	0.24%	1.29%	0.52%	0.35%	0.27%	1.23%	0.66%	0.42%

Satisfaction in Democracy Germany

	Women				Men			
	Native	1G	1.5G	2G	Native	1G	1.5G	2G
Very satisfied	12.64%	20.86%	16.15%	14.96%	13.34%	23.89%	16.97%	15.19%
Fairly satisfied	45.77%	50.59%	48.63%	47.82%	45.83%	50.31%	48.41%	47.32%
A little dissatisfied	30.75%	22.74%	27.06%	28.27%	28.43%	19.77%	25.15%	26.72%
Not at all dissatisfied	9.09%	5.00%	6.93%	7.57%	10.86%	5.41%	8.39%	9.49%
Missing	1.75%	0.82%	1.23%	1.38%	1.54%	0.62%	1.08%	1.28%

Life Satisfaction Germany

	Women				Men			
	UK	1G	1.5G	2G	UK	1G	1.5G	2G
Completely dissatisfied	0.64%	0.49%	0.46%	0.54%	0.73%	0.63%	0.55%	0.63%
Dissatisfied	6.03%	4.90%	4.71%	5.32%	5.99%	5.32%	4.79%	5.35%
Neither	9.36%	8.05%	7.82%	8.55%	8.82%	8.09%	7.48%	8.12%
Satisfied	61.61%	60.68%	60.45%	61.12%	63.49%	63.07%	62.55%	63.09%
Completely satisfied	22.14%	25.57%	26.24%	24.19%	20.70%	22.57%	24.27%	22.50%
Missing	0.23%	0.30%	0.32%	0.27%	0.27%	0.32%	0.36%	0.31%