

Support and well-being of parents and childless people in older age: a gender comparison for three ex-socialist European countries

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TABLES.

Table 1. Childless and parents among old people aged 65+, by gender and living arrangement, in selected countries (%)

| | Bulgaria | | Estonia | | Hungary | | Romania | | Russia | |
|---|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W |
| Childless, living alone | 4 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 4 | 10 | 6 | 11 | 4 | 9 |
| Childless, living with partner | 3 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 1 |
| Living alone, with non-resident children | 15 | 44 | 19 | 52 | 13 | 47 | 16 | 39 | 22 | 63 |
| Living with partner, with non-resident children | 78 | 47 | 70 | 35 | 75 | 40 | 68 | 43 | 70 | 27 |
| % | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| N | 646 | 595 | 414 | 874 | 676 | 1128 | 1004 | 1153 | 495 | 1067 |

NOTE: All calculations are made by the author, based on the GGS databases provided by United Nations (2005): http://www.ggp-i.org/component/option,com_ggpform/Itemid,170/.

Table 2. General health status, needed, received and given help with personal care among parents and childless old people aged 65+, by gender and living arrangement, in selected countries (%)

| BULGARIA | Good health | | Fair health | | Bad health | | Total (%) | | RHNPC ¹ | | RHRPP ² | | RHROP ³ | | RHGPC ⁴ | | Total (N) | |
|--|-------------|----|-------------|----|------------|----|-----------|-----|--------------------|----|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|----|-----------|-----|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| Childless, living alone | 22 | 36 | 47 | 36 | 31 | 29 | 100 | 100 | 8 | - | 3 | - | 6 | - | 3 | - | 36 | 28 |
| Childless, living with spouse/partner | 44 | 20 | 25 | 40 | 31 | 40 | 100 | 100 | 6 | 20 | - | - | 6 | 5 | 19 | 10 | 16 | 20 |
| With non-resident child(ren), living alone | 15 | 27 | 47 | 40 | 38 | 33 | 100 | 100 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 263 | 94 |
| With non-resident child(ren), living with spouse/partner | 18 | 31 | 45 | 46 | 37 | 23 | 100 | 100 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 280 | 504 |

| ROMANIA | Good health | | Fair health | | Bad health | | Total (%) | | RHNPC ¹ | | RHRPP ² | | RHROP ³ | | RHGPC ⁴ | | Total (N) | |
|--|-------------|----|-------------|----|------------|----|-----------|-----|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------|-----|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| Childless, living alone | 10 | 21 | 47 | 47 | 44 | 32 | 100 | 100 | 5 | 5 | - | - | 4 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 126 | 62 |
| Childless, living with spouse/partner | 25 | 26 | 46 | 56 | 29 | 18 | 100 | 100 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 79 | 104 |
| With non-resident child(ren), living alone | 13 | 21 | 46 | 51 | 41 | 28 | 100 | 100 | 4 | 5 | - | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 450 | 156 |
| With non-resident child(ren), living with spouse/partner | 22 | 28 | 47 | 52 | 31 | 20 | 100 | 100 | 3 | 6 | 3 | - | 2 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 498 | 682 |

| RUSSIA | Good health | | Fair health | | Bad health | | Total (%) | | RHNPC ¹ | | RHRPP ² | | RHROP ³ | | RHGPC ⁴ | | Total (N) | |
|--|-------------|----|-------------|----|------------|----|-----------|-----|--------------------|----|--------------------|---|--------------------|----|--------------------|---|-----------|-----|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| Childless, living alone | 2 | 74 | 35 | 21 | 63 | 5 | 100 | 100 | 11 | 21 | 5 | - | 7 | 21 | 2 | 5 | 99 | 19 |
| Childless, living with spouse/partner | - | - | 43 | 63 | 57 | 37 | 100 | 100 | 14 | 5 | 14 | - | 7 | - | 36 | - | 14 | 19 |
| With non-resident child(ren), living alone | 3 | 7 | 33 | 44 | 63 | 49 | 100 | 100 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 667 | 109 |
| With non-resident child(ren), living with spouse/partner | 2 | 10 | 46 | 49 | 51 | 42 | 100 | 100 | 4 | 6 | 1 | - | 3 | 6 | 15 | 6 | 287 | 348 |

Legend: RHNPC¹ - Regular help R needed for personal care; RHRPP² - Regular help R received from a professional (public or private sector); RHROP³ - Regular help R received from other person (from a family member or a non-relative person); RHGPC⁴ - Regular help R given to other person (children under 14 years excluded). *I used the % of R who declared "yes".*

Table 3. Well-being by current experiences among parents and childless old people aged 65+, by gender and living arrangement, in selected countries (% of R who answered “yes”)

| BULGARIA | Childless, living alone | | Childless, living with partner | | With N-R child(ren), living alone | | With N-R child(ren), living with partner | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|------------|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| <i>There are many people I can lean on in case of trouble.</i> | 11 | 7 | 38 | 20 | 23 | 19 | 35 | 29 |
| <i>I experience a general sense of emptiness.</i> | 56 | 18 | 6 | 10 | 42 | 37 | 11 | 6 |
| <i>I miss having people around.</i> | 36 | 21 | 19 | 15 | 40 | 37 | 13 | 11 |
| <i>There are many people that I can count on completely.</i> | 11 | 7 | 38 | 20 | 21 | 13 | 26 | 23 |
| <i>Often, I feel rejected.</i> | 53 | 29 | 25 | 15 | 38 | 51 | 8 | 4 |
| <i>There are enough people that I feel close to.</i> | 19 | 11 | 38 | 30 | 27 | 20 | 43 | 40 |
| TOTAL (N) | 36 | 28 | 16 | 20 | 263 | 94 | 280 | 504 |

| ROMANIA | Childless, living alone | | Childless, living with partner | | With N-R child(ren), living alone | | With N-R child(ren), living with partner | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|------------|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| <i>There are many people I can lean on in case of trouble.</i> | 21 | 32 | 25 | 24 | 33 | 33 | 39 | 43 |
| <i>I experience a general sense of emptiness.</i> | 25 | 19 | 20 | 12 | 18 | 24 | 10 | 10 |
| <i>I miss having people around.</i> | 38 | 39 | 33 | 32 | 43 | 40 | 34 | 34 |
| <i>There are many people that I can count on completely.</i> | 19 | 26 | 28 | 22 | 32 | 32 | 37 | 38 |
| <i>Often, I feel rejected.</i> | 16 | 16 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 6 |
| <i>There are enough people that I feel close to.</i> | 31 | 23 | 41 | 31 | 48 | 41 | 48 | 53 |
| TOTAL (N) | 126 | 62 | 79 | 104 | 450 | 156 | 498 | 682 |

| RUSSIA | Childless, living alone | | Childless, living with partner | | With N-R child(ren), living alone | | With N-R child(ren), living with partner | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|------------|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| <i>There are many people I can lean on in case of trouble.</i> | 27 | 37 | 21 | 47 | 41 | 35 | 44 | 38 |
| <i>I experience a general sense of emptiness.</i> | 35 | 42 | 14 | 5 | 29 | 35 | 11 | 9 |
| <i>I miss having people around.</i> | 24 | 21 | 21 | - | 22 | 32 | 8 | 8 |
| <i>There are many people that I can count on completely.</i> | 16 | 26 | 21 | 47 | 35 | 29 | 38 | 34 |
| <i>Often, I feel rejected.</i> | 18 | 37 | - | 11 | 11 | 11 | 6 | 3 |
| <i>There are enough people that I feel close to.</i> | 25 | 21 | 36 | 63 | 48 | 43 | 61 | 54 |
| TOTAL (N) | 99 | 19 | 14 | 19 | 667 | 109 | 287 | 348 |

Table 4. Well-being - Experiences R had previous week among parents and childless old people aged 65+, by gender and living arrangement, in selected countries (% of answers "often" and "most or all of the time")

| BULGARIA | Childless, living alone | | Childless, living with partner | | With N-R child(ren), living alone | | With N-R child(ren), living with partner | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|------------|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| <i>I felt I could not shake off the blues even with help ...*</i> | 36 | 25 | 6 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 12 | 5 |
| <i>I felt depressed.</i> | 28 | 25 | - | 20 | 19 | 19 | 10 | 4 |
| <i>I thought my life had been a failure.</i> | 20 | 21 | 6 | 15 | 9 | 12 | 4 | 2 |
| <i>I felt fearful.</i> | 25 | 21 | 6 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 11 | 4 |
| <i>I felt lonely.</i> | 50 | 36 | 13 | 15 | 35 | 38 | 7 | 3 |
| <i>I had crying spells.</i> | 39 | 11 | 6 | 15 | 23 | 12 | 14 | 4 |
| <i>I felt sad.</i> | 56 | 14 | 13 | 20 | 28 | 30 | 15 | 8 |
| TOTAL (N) | 36 | 28 | 16 | 20 | 263 | 94 | 280 | 504 |

| ROMANIA | Childless, living alone | | Childless, living with partner | | With N-R child(ren), living alone | | With N-R child(ren), living with partner | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|------------|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| <i>I felt I could not shake off the blues even with help ...*</i> | 25 | 21 | 14 | 9 | 16 | 15 | 9 | 8 |
| <i>I felt depressed.</i> | 25 | 18 | 17 | 9 | 15 | 17 | 8 | 8 |
| <i>I thought my life had been a failure.</i> | 17 | 15 | 13 | - | 6 | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| <i>I felt fearful.</i> | 25 | 10 | 9 | 2 | 16 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| <i>I felt lonely.</i> | 42 | 55 | 10 | 8 | 38 | 37 | 5 | 5 |
| <i>I had crying spells.</i> | 24 | 5 | 9 | 15 | 20 | 5 | 7 | 3 |
| <i>I felt sad.</i> | 36 | 29 | 23 | 9 | 25 | 24 | 10 | 7 |
| TOTAL (N) | 126 | 62 | 79 | 104 | 450 | 156 | 498 | 682 |

| RUSSIA | Childless, living alone | | Childless, living with partner | | With N-R child(ren), living alone | | With N-R child(ren), living with partner | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|------------|
| | W | M | W | M | W | M | W | M |
| <i>I felt I could not shake off the blues even with help ...*</i> | 23 | 16 | 21 | 5 | 20 | 13 | 11 | 5 |
| <i>I felt depressed.</i> | 31 | 21 | 36 | 5 | 21 | 18 | 13 | 7 |
| <i>I thought my life had been a failure.</i> | 25 | 16 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 11 | 6 | 5 |
| <i>I felt fearful.</i> | 18 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 13 | 9 | 6 | 2 |
| <i>I felt lonely.</i> | 41 | 37 | 7 | 5 | 27 | 32 | 8 | 3 |
| <i>I had crying spells.</i> | 23 | - | 29 | - | 20 | 7 | 10 | - |
| <i>I felt sad.</i> | 32 | 21 | 36 | 11 | 27 | 24 | 14 | 4 |
| TOTAL (N) | 99 | 19 | 14 | 19 | 667 | 109 | 287 | 348 |

* ... from my family or friends.