



Maternal age



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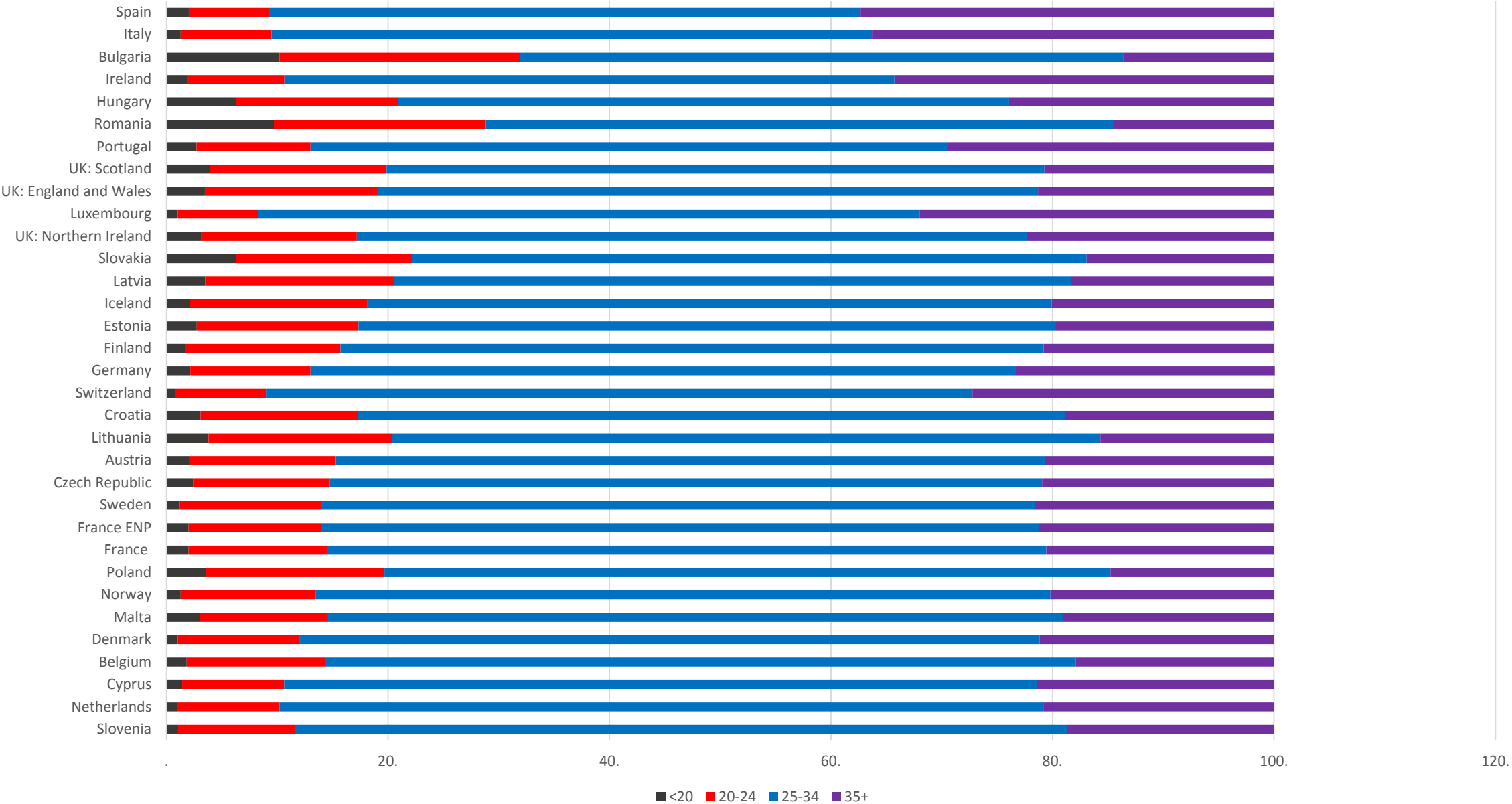
Why the indicator is important and its exact definition

- Definition based on year of birth or exact birth date
 - Usual classification in 5year-age groups
- Usefulness of the indicator
 - Low maternal age
 - Usual definition: under 20
 - Associated with unplanned pregnancies and unfavorable social conditions
 - High maternal age
 - Usual definition 35+ (or 38+ or 40+)
 - Associated with infertility treatments, multiple pregnancies, maternal complications, preterm delivery, ...
- Link between age and parity: eg women 35+
 - High % of primiparae in women 35+ in countries with low fertility rates
 - High % of multiparae in women 35+ in countries with high fertility rates

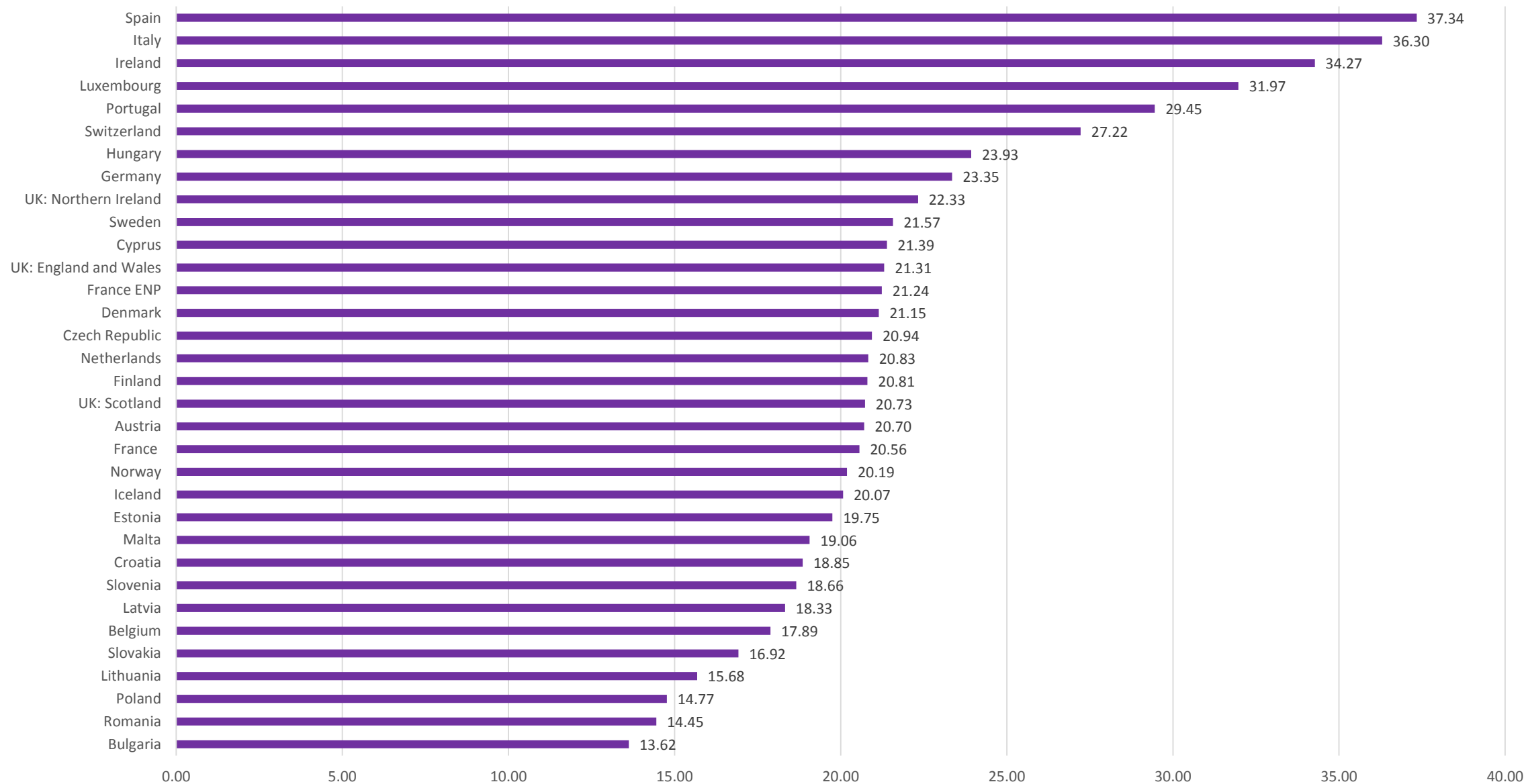
Quality questions

- 33/34 countries provided the indicator
- Missing data <1% in all countries
- It is difficult to identify outlying values

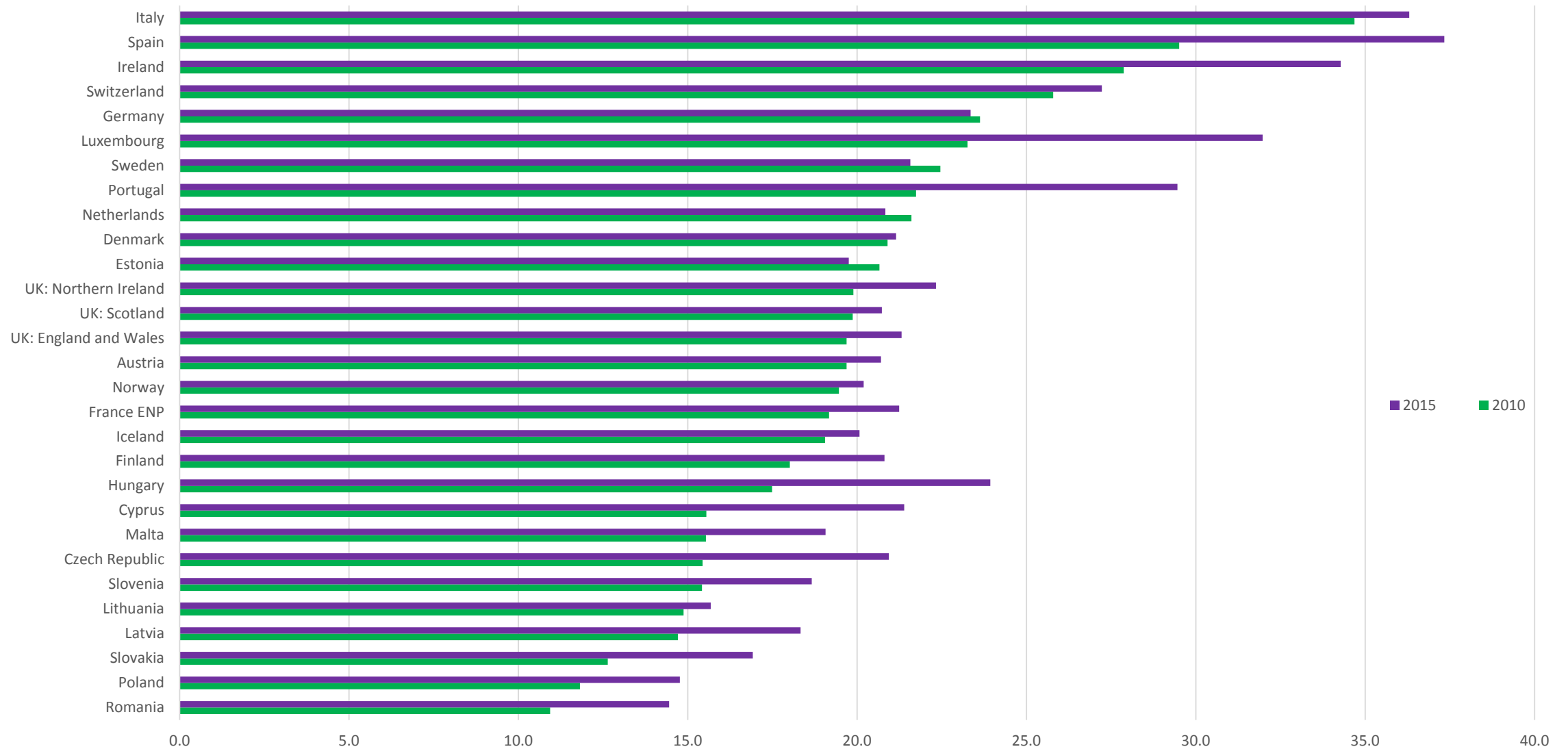
Maternal age in 2015



Maternal age 35+ in 2015



Maternal age 35+ in 2010 and 2015



Summary of findings

- In 2015, wide differences in the distribution
 - Women under 20: under 3% in 19 out of 32 countries, and 10% in 2 countries
 - Women aged 35 +: from 13% to 37%
- Substantial increase in the proportion of women aged 35+ in most countries, even in those which already had many women in this group
 - Exception: slight decrease in Estonia, the Netherlands, Sweden and Germany
- Importance to inform young women and their partners of the consequences to have children late in life
 - To be sure that this is an informed choice
- Next steps to finalize work on this indicator for the report: writing group