

Supplementary material

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S1. ISCED educational classification

ISCED 0 refers to pre-primary school, while ISCED 1 typically consists of six years of general primary education, and ISCED 2 generally continues the basic program of level 1. Level 2 typically ends after nine years of schooling since the beginning of primary education. ISCED 3 corresponds to the final stage of secondary education in most OECD countries, and typically requires completion of level 2. The typical duration of ISCED 3 programs ranges from two to five years of schooling, with substantial variation both between and within countries. Education can be both terminal, i.e. preparing for working life, and/or preparatory for higher education. ISCED 4 covers programs that are significantly more advanced than level 3 programs, but aim to broaden the knowledge of participants who have already completed a level 3 program. ISCED 4 programs typically involve six months to two years of full-time education. Level 5 refers to a range of tertiary education programs that have more advanced educational content than those offered at lower levels, and that require the completion of programs at level 3 or 4. Level 5 programs are either largely theory-based or more practically oriented, and generally involve two to four years of full-time education. These programs confer both lower (e.g. bachelor's) and higher tertiary (master's) degrees. Level 6 programs (e.g. licentiate, doctorate degree) confer advanced research degrees. These programs have a theoretical component lasting three years in most countries, and typically require a cumulative total of at least seven years of training at the tertiary level.

This study utilises the ISCED classification because it is more systematically and comprehensively documented than any other cross-national classification of educational attainment available. Moreover, the necessary data are available for all the studied countries, even if the application of the ISCED classification to actual data from different countries is not always straightforward, and some difficulties in the comparability of the measures across countries remain (Schneider and Kogan, 2008). The alternative measures of education that were available were considered less well suited for this study. For instance, the number of enrolled years was considered an inferior indicator because it would mask qualitative differences between different attainment levels (Connelly et al., 2016; Adsera, 2017). Its quality in cross-national assessments would also be hampered by the cross-country differences in the extent to which students study on a full-time or a part-time basis (OECD, 2018).

However, some challenges in ensuring the cross-country comparability of the chosen indicator, ISCED97, remain due to country-specific characteristics of the educational systems and their development over time, as well as to country-specific data collection and classification practices, particularly at higher levels of education (Schneider and Kogan, 2008). The six northern and western European countries studied exhibit numerous detailed differences not only in terms of their higher education systems (e.g. the educational categorisation of nursing degrees), but also in terms of their schooling systems. Given the persistently cumbersome nature of comparisons of ISCED97 levels across countries, it is noteworthy that this study addresses subnational regional variation within countries, which presumably limits bias resulting from between-country discrepancies in the educational systems and in registration.

S2. Sample size by educational attainment

Table S.1: Sample size by educational attainment (person-years), 2002-2005¹, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

		First birth				Second birth				Third birth			
		Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	total	Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	total	Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	total
Belgium	Brussels	19	25	56	251,168	35	28	37	118,812	36	24	40	123,879
	Antwerp	16	39	45	381,549	31	44	25	222,981	26	40	34	323,725
	Limburg	19	38	42	192,197	35	41	24	112,151	32	38	30	178,217
	East Flanders	17	36	47	317,108	33	41	26	210,568	28	36	36	280,447
	Flemish Brabant	13	33	54	231,227	26	40	33	142,791	20	35	45	207,139
	West Flanders	18	37	45	224,047	36	40	24	151,396	30	37	33	238,941
	Walloon Brabant	16	29	55	67,105	28	31	41	45,748	23	27	50	68,401
	Hainaut	24	36	41	236,012	38	37	26	209,741	38	33	29	235,279
	Liège	23	34	44	202,995	36	36	28	145,495	36	32	33	185,621
	Luxembourg	20	35	46	44,900	32	36	32	26,524	31	36	33	50,990
	Namur	21	36	44	84,045	34	37	29	60,997	31	34	35	84,378
Denmark	Hovedstaden	23	45	32	373,898	25	43	33	191,443	22	43	35	310,992
	Sjælland	31	49	20	121,953	28	48	24	85,658	25	49	26	181,420
	Southern Denmark	31	48	22	185,761	30	45	25	105,156	27	47	26	258,726
	Midtjylland	27	49	24	208,200	27	45	28	102,930	24	47	29	250,604
	Nordjylland	30	49	21	86,746	30	45	25	49,191	26	48	25	123,496
Finland	West Finland	44	33	23	35,747	16	47	37	12,695	14	44	42	24,054
	Helsinki-Uusimaa	37	30	33	50,529	25	34	41	17,083	19	34	47	26,065
	South Finland	44	33	23	31,855	19	45	36	11,734	16	44	40	21,435
	North & East Finland	48	31	21	33,964	16	47	37	12,833	12	48	40	23,180
France	Région parisienne	22	38	40	43,163	30	42	29	17,207	29	43	28	14,223
	Bassin parisien	29	46	25	30,369	35	48	17	16,607	39	46	15	16,695
	Nord	30	45	25	12,937	35	46	19	5,875	40	44	16	4,873
	Est	25	49	26	17,796	31	50	18	8,308	34	49	17	7,110
	Ouest	22	49	29	19,930	27	52	21	10,676	31	51	17	12,893
	Sud-Ouest	22	48	30	18,624	26	52	22	9,834	28	51	21	9,448
	Centre-Est	24	45	32	21,081	28	48	24	10,491	31	49	20	11,306
	Méditerranée	28	44	29	21,857	30	48	23	11,573	34	46	20	9,818
Netherlands	Groningen	19	48	33	139,923	33	51	16	57,371	38	47	15	117,584
	Friesland	20	55	25	130,473	31	54	15	51,467	35	51	14	135,302
	Drenthe	24	57	19	97,144	37	50	13	41,295	36	50	14	113,253
	Overijssel	20	55	25	253,946	37	49	14	92,416	38	50	13	244,059
	Gelderland	22	51	27	472,620	37	47	16	180,485	38	47	15	433,453
	Flevoland	24	53	23	74,443	38	48	14	41,857	39	47	14	88,263
	Utrecht	17	44	39	328,006	32	44	24	110,186	31	44	25	240,091
	Noord Holland	19	45	36	720,305	33	46	21	292,687	35	46	19	517,977
	Zuid Holland	23	48	29	890,581	40	44	16	393,224	40	44	16	734,735
	Zeeland	27	55	18	75,817	42	48	10	38,425	37	52	12	85,584
	Noord Brabant	22	51	26	581,941	41	44	14	226,918	39	47	14	564,172
	Limburg	25	53	23	260,682	42	47	11	132,195	40	49	12	275,633
Norway	Akershus	22	47	32	95,747	26	42	32	55,936	23	42	35	118,416
	Hedmark og Oppland	24	49	27	63,190	30	48	23	36,514	28	49	23	80,219
	Sør-Østlandet	24	48	28	158,433	31	46	24	97,903	29	47	25	200,699
	Agder og Rogaland	22	47	31	115,974	29	45	27	57,071	26	47	26	126,468
	Vestlandet	21	45	34	136,349	25	44	30	68,530	25	46	29	143,275
	Trøndelag	20	45	35	64,213	26	44	30	39,461	23	47	30	83,846
	Nord-Norge	26	41	33	76,284	29	42	30	48,949	27	45	28	91,228
	Oslo	16	35	49	193,268	24	35	41	66,713	23	34	43	79,270
Sweden	Stockholm	12	47	41	420,328	13	49	37	162,525	11	50	39	296,206
	East Middle Sweden	14	55	31	209,062	14	58	28	104,796	11	59	30	250,832
	Småland and the islands	15	59	27	101,413	15	60	26	48,555	12	61	27	132,811
	South Sweden	13	53	34	195,014	14	55	31	94,548	12	56	32	208,567
	West Sweden	13	54	32	282,224	15	55	30	128,672	12	57	32	297,852
	North Middle Sweden	16	60	24	102,845	14	62	24	57,332	10	62	28	133,219
	Middle Norrland	14	58	28	48,820	12	60	29	25,650	8	61	31	58,366
	Upper Norrland	13	55	31	68,284	10	58	32	33,671	7	59	34	80,398

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (SSD), NO (national registers), SE (national registers).

Table S.2: Sample size by educational attainment (persons), 2002-2005¹, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

		First birth				Second birth				Third birth			
		Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	total	Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	total	Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	total
Belgium	Brussels	19	25	56	71,892	34	27	38	36,257	36	24	40	35,754
	Antwerp	16	39	45	106,150	31	42	27	65,791	27	39	34	89,839
	Limburg	19	38	43	53,681	35	40	25	33,190	33	37	30	49,196
	East Flanders	17	35	48	88,322	33	39	28	61,280	28	36	36	77,306
	Flemish Brabant	13	32	55	64,515	26	39	35	42,439	20	35	45	57,735
	West Flanders	18	36	46	63,078	35	39	26	44,611	30	37	33	65,784
	Walloon Brabant	16	28	55	18,968	28	30	42	13,713	23	27	50	19,231
	Hainaut	24	36	41	66,660	37	36	26	61,176	39	32	28	65,957
	Liège	23	33	44	57,342	36	35	29	42,926	37	31	32	51,833
	Luxembourg	19	34	46	12,934	31	35	34	8,225	32	35	33	14,255
Denmark	Namur	21	35	44	23,746	34	36	30	18,057	32	33	35	23,614
	Hovedstaden	22	44	33	110,015	23	42	35	60,944	22	42	36	87,709
	Sjælland	30	49	21	35,686	27	47	25	27,012	26	47	27	51,003
	Southern Denmark	30	47	23	54,681	29	44	27	34,229	28	46	26	73,209
	Midtjylland	26	48	25	61,184	25	44	30	34,103	25	46	29	71,400
Finland	Nordjylland	29	48	23	25,434	28	45	27	16,029	27	47	26	35,008
	West Finland	42	33	24	9,004	15	47	38	3,291	13	44	43	5984
	Helsinki-Uusimaa	34	31	35	12,382	22	35	44	4,218	18	34	48	6323
	South Finland	42	34	24	7,957	18	46	36	2,977	15	44	41	5286
France	North & East Finland	47	31	21	8,580	15	47	38	3,332	11	49	40	5790
	Région parisienne	17	40	43	9,605	24	44	31	4,046	26	45	29	3252
	Bassin parisien	28	47	25	8,177	33	48	18	4,664	39	46	15	4500
	Nord	29	45	26	3,524	35	46	19	1,719	41	43	16	1391
	Est	23	49	28	4,556	30	50	20	2,249	34	49	17	1837
	Ouest	21	50	29	5,552	27	52	21	3,060	32	51	17	3575
	Sud-Ouest	20	49	30	4,708	25	52	23	2,637	28	50	21	2463
	Centre-Est	21	46	33	5,246	25	48	26	2,831	29	50	21	2894
Netherlands	Méditerranée	25	45	30	5,152	27	49	24	2,851	32	46	21	2419
	Groningen	26	47	27	99,139	34	47	19	34,084	37	46	17	59415
	Friesland	28	53	19	98,984	31	52	17	33,551	35	48	16	70722
	Drenthe	32	53	16	69,604	36	49	15	26,940	36	48	16	58036
	Overijssel	26	52	22	182,782	34	48	18	59,922	36	48	16	125698
	Gelderland	28	49	23	329,044	35	46	19	112,249	36	45	19	222434
	Flevoland	29	50	21	53,829	37	46	17	25,206	36	46	18	44537
	Utrecht	22	43	35	215,584	29	42	29	68,686	28	42	29	124141
	Noord Holland	24	43	32	499,049	31	44	24	170,828	33	45	23	261249
	Zuid Holland	28	46	26	620,153	37	43	19	231,623	37	43	20	370927
	Zeeland	31	52	17	54,596	38	49	13	22,622	35	50	15	43375
	Noord Brabant	27	48	24	412,725	37	45	18	140,117	36	46	18	287513
Norway	Limburg	31	48	21	186,959	39	46	14	76,830	38	46	16	138744
	Akershus	26	46	27	65,765	24	43	33	34,350	21	43	36	60,754
	Hedmark og Oppland	28	51	20	47,691	29	51	20	22,818	27	52	21	41,056
	Sør-Østlandet	29	49	22	115,972	29	49	23	60,027	26	50	24	102,399
	Agder og Rogaland	25	50	24	87,248	25	49	26	37,029	23	51	26	66,835
	Vestlandet	26	48	26	105,979	24	48	28	45,026	23	50	27	76,124
	Trøndelag	24	48	28	49,558	23	48	29	25,176	22	51	28	43,752
	Nord-Norge	32	44	24	60,201	28	46	26	30,810	26	49	26	47,466
Sweden	Oslo	18	35	46	121,927	23	35	42	39,886	22	35	43	41,893
	Stockholm	10	48	42	101,123	9	48	42	98,393	8	49	43	122980
	East Middle Sweden	13	56	31	53,837	11	58	31	58,293	10	58	32	91439
	Småland and the islands	13	59	28	26,571	11	60	29	28,586	9	61	29	48376
	South Sweden	12	53	35	49,332	10	55	35	51,894	9	56	35	76524
	West Sweden	12	55	33	72,075	10	56	34	75,226	9	57	34	113132
	North Middle Sweden	15	60	25	27,571	12	62	26	30,805	10	62	28	48945
	Middle Norrland	13	58	28	13,197	11	59	30	14,623	8	60	32	22661
	Upper Norrland	13	56	31	17,924	10	57	33	18,776	7	58	34	30110

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (SSD), NO (national registers), SE (national registers).

S3. Odds ratios

Table S.3: Odds ratios (OR) for medium levels of educational attainment (low is the reference category) by parity and age/exposure, 2002-2005¹, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

		1st birth				2nd birth			3rd birth		
		age 15-21	age 22-28	age 29-35	age 36-45	exp 1-4	exp 5-9	exp 10-30	exp 1-4	exp 5-9	exp 10-30
Belgium	Brussels	0.50	0.67	1.12	1.38	1.01	0.81	0.83	0.86	0.73	0.77
	Antwerp	0.60	0.81	1.36	1.67	1.19	0.96	0.99	0.72	0.62	0.65
	Flemish Brabant	0.63	0.85	1.42	1.74	1.11	0.89	0.92	0.78	0.67	0.71
	East Flanders	0.65	0.89	1.48	1.82	1.21	0.97	1.00	0.78	0.66	0.70
	West Flanders	0.78	1.06	1.77	2.16	1.51	1.21	1.25	1.00	0.86	0.91
	Hainaut	0.65	0.89	1.48	1.82	1.23	0.98	1.01	0.94	0.80	0.85
	Limburg	0.65	0.88	1.47	1.81	1.26	1.01	1.04	0.83	0.70	0.75
	Walloon Brabant	0.63	0.86	1.44	1.76	1.20	0.96	0.99	0.96	0.82	0.87
	Liège	0.59	0.79	1.33	1.63	1.16	0.93	0.96	0.91	0.77	0.82
	Namur	0.72	0.98	1.63	2.00	1.41	1.13	1.16	1.00	0.85	0.90
	Luxembourg	0.78	1.05	1.76	2.16	1.45	1.16	1.20	1.05	0.90	0.95
Denmark	Hovedstaden	0.65	0.89	1.48	1.82	1.29	1.03	1.06	0.69	0.59	0.62
	Sjælland	0.77	1.04	1.75	2.14	1.33	1.07	1.10	0.65	0.55	0.59
	Southern Denmark	0.82	1.11	1.86	2.27	1.47	1.18	1.21	0.78	0.67	0.70
	Midtjylland	0.77	1.04	1.74	2.13	1.37	1.10	1.13	0.81	0.69	0.73
	Nordjylland	0.76	1.03	1.72	2.11	1.43	1.14	1.18	0.82	0.70	0.74
Finland	Helsinki-Uusimaa	0.67	0.90	1.51	1.85	1.11	0.89	0.92	0.78	0.66	0.70
	South Finland	0.83	1.13	1.88	2.31	1.16	0.93	0.96	0.88	0.75	0.80
	West Finland	1.20	1.62	2.71	3.32	1.28	1.03	1.06	1.05	0.90	0.95
	North & East Finland	1.07	1.44	2.42	2.96	1.30	1.04	1.08	0.79	0.67	0.71
France	Région parisienne	0.58	0.79	1.32	1.62	1.32	1.06	1.09	0.64	0.55	0.58
	Nord	0.60	0.82	1.37	1.67	1.04	0.83	0.86	0.63	0.54	0.57
	Est	0.69	0.94	1.57	1.92	0.80	0.64	0.66	0.64	0.54	0.57
	Méditerranée	0.64	0.86	1.45	1.77	1.29	1.03	1.07	0.70	0.59	0.63
	Centre-Est	0.70	0.94	1.58	1.93	1.24	1.00	1.03	0.72	0.62	0.65
	Ouest	0.76	1.02	1.71	2.10	1.15	0.92	0.95	1.36	1.16	1.23
	Bassin parisien	0.68	0.92	1.54	1.89	1.01	0.81	0.84	0.76	0.65	0.68
	Sud-Ouest	0.67	0.91	1.52	1.86	1.08	0.87	0.89	1.31	1.12	1.18
Netherlands	Zuid Holland	0.54	0.73	1.23	1.50	1.24	1.00	1.03	0.80	0.68	0.72
	Noord Holland	0.55	0.75	1.25	1.53	1.24	0.99	1.02	0.82	0.70	0.74
	Utrecht	0.57	0.77	1.29	1.58	1.29	1.03	1.06	0.73	0.62	0.66
	Limburg	0.58	0.79	1.32	1.62	1.12	0.90	0.93	0.70	0.60	0.64
	Noord Brabant	0.54	0.73	1.22	1.50	1.63	1.31	1.35	0.94	0.80	0.85
	Gelderland	0.65	0.87	1.46	1.79	1.53	1.23	1.27	1.00	0.85	0.90
	Overijssel	0.55	0.74	1.24	1.52	1.37	1.10	1.14	0.99	0.84	0.89
	Groningen	0.72	0.97	1.63	2.00	1.12	0.90	0.92	1.04	0.89	0.94
	Flevoland	0.45	0.61	1.03	1.26	1.47	1.18	1.21	0.75	0.64	0.68
	Zeeland	0.58	0.78	1.31	1.61	1.44	1.16	1.19	1.62	1.38	1.46
	Friesland	0.72	0.98	1.64	2.00	1.58	1.26	1.30	1.02	0.87	0.92
	Drenthe	0.78	1.06	1.77	2.17	1.59	1.28	1.32	0.87	0.74	0.78
Norway	Oslo	0.58	0.79	1.32	1.62	1.24	0.99	1.02	0.63	0.54	0.57
	Akershus	0.61	0.82	1.38	1.69	1.49	1.19	1.23	0.82	0.70	0.74
	Agder og Rogaland	0.72	0.97	1.63	1.99	1.62	1.30	1.34	1.07	0.91	0.97
	Sør-Østlandet	0.65	0.88	1.47	1.80	1.43	1.15	1.19	0.93	0.79	0.84
	Vestlandet	0.69	0.93	1.55	1.90	1.50	1.21	1.24	1.12	0.96	1.01
	Trøndelag	0.65	0.88	1.47	1.80	1.79	1.44	1.48	1.11	0.95	1.00
	Hedmark og Oppland	0.70	0.95	1.60	1.96	1.40	1.13	1.16	0.99	0.84	0.89
	Nord-Norge	0.67	0.91	1.51	1.86	1.47	1.18	1.21	0.94	0.80	0.85
Sweden	Stockholm	0.69	0.94	1.57	1.92	1.34	1.07	1.10	0.74	0.63	0.67
	South Sweden	0.74	1.00	1.67	2.05	1.37	1.10	1.13	0.69	0.59	0.62
	West Sweden	0.80	1.08	1.80	2.21	1.44	1.15	1.19	0.66	0.57	0.60
	East Middle Sweden	0.82	1.10	1.85	2.26	1.34	1.08	1.11	0.69	0.59	0.62
	Småland and the islands	0.84	1.13	1.90	2.32	1.53	1.23	1.27	0.82	0.70	0.74
	North Middle Sweden	0.82	1.11	1.86	2.28	1.48	1.19	1.23	0.78	0.66	0.70
	Middle Norrland	0.80	1.08	1.81	2.22	1.43	1.15	1.18	0.70	0.60	0.64
	Upper Norrland	0.81	1.09	1.83	2.24	1.44	1.16	1.19	0.79	0.67	0.71

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (System of Social Statistical Datasets (SSD)), NO (national registers), SE (national registers).

Table S.4: Odds ratios (OR) for high levels of educational attainment (low is the reference category) by parity and age/exposure, 2002-2005¹, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

		1st birth				2nd birth			3rd birth		
		age 15-21	age 22-28	age 29-35	age 36-45	exp 1-4	exp 5-9	exp 10-30	exp 1-4	exp 5-9	exp 10-30
Belgium	Brussels	0.17	0.57	1.11	1.58	1.12	0.64	0.63	0.65	0.43	0.35
	Antwerp	0.29	0.98	1.93	2.74	2.10	1.20	1.18	0.84	0.56	0.46
	Flemish Brabant	0.34	1.14	2.24	3.18	2.33	1.33	1.31	1.27	0.84	0.69
	East Flanders	0.33	1.11	2.18	3.10	2.21	1.26	1.24	0.99	0.66	0.54
	West Flanders	0.40	1.34	2.64	3.75	2.80	1.60	1.58	1.41	0.94	0.77
	Hainaut	0.26	0.87	1.72	2.44	1.72	0.98	0.97	0.82	0.55	0.45
	Limburg	0.28	0.95	1.86	2.64	1.99	1.14	1.12	0.92	0.61	0.50
	Walloon Brabant	0.33	1.12	2.19	3.12	2.07	1.18	1.16	1.36	0.91	0.74
	Liège	0.25	0.84	1.65	2.35	1.71	0.98	0.96	0.91	0.60	0.49
	Namur	0.34	1.15	2.25	3.20	2.17	1.24	1.22	1.20	0.80	0.65
	Luxembourg	0.38	1.29	2.53	3.60	2.11	1.20	1.19	1.42	0.94	0.77
Denmark	Hovedstaden	0.34	1.13	2.23	3.17	1.85	1.05	1.04	0.94	0.63	0.51
	Sjælland	0.40	1.36	2.66	3.79	1.80	1.03	1.01	1.00	0.66	0.54
	Southern Denmark	0.41	1.39	2.73	3.89	2.03	1.16	1.14	1.18	0.79	0.64
	Midtjylland	0.40	1.35	2.65	3.77	1.80	1.03	1.02	1.20	0.80	0.65
	Nordjylland	0.45	1.50	2.95	4.20	1.90	1.08	1.07	1.15	0.77	0.63
Finland	Helsinki-Uusimaa	0.38	1.28	2.51	3.57	1.61	0.92	0.91	0.97	0.64	0.53
	South Finland	0.50	1.69	3.31	4.72	1.34	0.76	0.75	0.86	0.57	0.47
	West Finland	0.65	2.19	4.30	6.12	1.69	0.97	0.95	1.02	0.68	0.56
	North & East Finland	0.58	1.95	3.83	5.45	1.62	0.92	0.91	0.80	0.53	0.43
France	Région parisienne	0.24	0.82	1.60	2.28	1.85	1.05	1.04	0.70	0.47	0.38
	Nord	0.26	0.87	1.72	2.44	1.10	0.62	0.62	0.45	0.30	0.25
	Est	0.31	1.05	2.06	2.93	1.17	0.67	0.66	0.65	0.43	0.35
	Méditerranée	0.26	0.89	1.74	2.48	1.59	0.91	0.89	0.59	0.39	0.32
	Centre-Est	0.28	0.95	1.87	2.66	1.65	0.94	0.93	0.66	0.44	0.36
	Ouest	0.28	0.95	1.86	2.65	1.50	0.85	0.84	1.29	0.86	0.70
	Bassin parisien	0.28	0.93	1.83	2.60	1.36	0.78	0.76	0.46	0.31	0.25
	Sud-Ouest	0.31	1.04	2.04	2.91	1.31	0.74	0.73	1.30	0.87	0.71
Netherlands	Zuid Holland	0.19	0.63	1.24	1.76	1.71	0.98	0.96	1.07	0.71	0.58
	Noord Holland	0.18	0.61	1.19	1.70	1.56	0.89	0.88	0.95	0.63	0.52
	Utrecht	0.20	0.67	1.31	1.86	1.87	1.07	1.05	0.85	0.56	0.46
	Limburg	0.21	0.71	1.39	1.98	1.60	0.91	0.90	1.00	0.67	0.54
	Noord Brabant	0.19	0.65	1.28	1.82	1.88	1.07	1.06	1.26	0.84	0.69
	Gelderland	0.19	0.63	1.23	1.76	1.90	1.08	1.07	1.14	0.76	0.62
	Overijssel	0.17	0.58	1.15	1.63	1.76	1.00	0.99	1.47	0.98	0.80
	Groningen	0.22	0.75	1.47	2.09	1.60	0.91	0.90	1.34	0.89	0.73
	Flevoland	0.16	0.52	1.03	1.46	1.73	0.99	0.97	1.04	0.69	0.57
	Zeeland	0.21	0.69	1.36	1.94	1.82	1.04	1.02	1.52	1.01	0.83
	Friesland	0.23	0.78	1.53	2.18	2.00	1.14	1.12	1.16	0.77	0.63
	Drenthe	0.26	0.88	1.73	2.46	2.12	1.21	1.19	1.12	0.75	0.61
Norway	Oslo	0.30	1.02	2.00	2.85	2.08	1.19	1.17	0.85	0.57	0.46
	Akershus	0.31	1.05	2.06	2.93	2.43	1.39	1.37	1.50	1.00	0.82
	Agder og Rogaland	0.36	1.21	2.37	3.37	2.53	1.44	1.43	1.63	1.08	0.89
	Sør-Østlandet	0.32	1.09	2.14	3.05	2.39	1.36	1.34	1.44	0.96	0.79
	Vestlandet	0.33	1.11	2.18	3.11	2.21	1.26	1.24	1.55	1.03	0.85
	Trøndelag	0.31	1.06	2.07	2.95	2.73	1.56	1.53	1.64	1.09	0.89
	Hedmark og Oppland	0.35	1.17	2.31	3.28	2.15	1.22	1.21	1.72	1.15	0.94
	Nord-Norge	0.32	1.07	2.11	3.00	2.32	1.33	1.31	1.37	0.91	0.75
Sweden	Stockholm	0.31	1.05	2.07	2.95	1.82	1.04	1.02	0.88	0.59	0.48
	South Sweden	0.35	1.17	2.29	3.26	1.82	1.04	1.02	0.82	0.55	0.45
	West Sweden	0.38	1.29	2.54	3.61	1.86	1.06	1.05	0.84	0.56	0.46
	East Middle Sweden	0.39	1.32	2.59	3.69	1.89	1.08	1.06	0.83	0.55	0.45
	Småland and the islands	0.43	1.44	2.83	4.02	1.99	1.14	1.12	1.11	0.74	0.60
	North Middle Sweden	0.43	1.45	2.84	4.05	2.07	1.18	1.17	0.98	0.65	0.54
	Middle Norrland	0.44	1.47	2.88	4.10	1.85	1.06	1.04	0.81	0.54	0.44
	Upper Norrland	0.40	1.34	2.62	3.73	2.00	1.14	1.12	0.95	0.63	0.52

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (System of Social Statistical Datasets (SSD)), NO (national registers), SE (national registers).

S4. Synthetic parity progression ratios

Table S.5: Synthetic parity progression ratios (SPPR₁₋₃) by educational attainment, 2002-2005¹

		SPPR1			SPPR2			SPPR3		
		Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)	Low (%)	Mid (%)	High (%)
Belgium	Brussels	88%	81%	74%	74%	70%	68%	59%	51%	37%
	Antwerp	71%	69%	74%	52%	55%	70%	37%	27%	28%
	Flemish Brabant	65%	65%	76%	50%	50%	71%	30%	23%	30%
	East Flanders	70%	71%	78%	50%	53%	69%	31%	24%	26%
	West Flanders	67%	74%	82%	47%	58%	74%	26%	24%	29%
	Hainaut	80%	79%	77%	59%	61%	66%	41%	37%	29%
	Limburg	72%	73%	76%	55%	60%	70%	29%	23%	23%
	Walloon Brabant	64%	67%	77%	54%	57%	69%	32%	29%	34%
	Liège	79%	75%	76%	59%	60%	67%	39%	34%	30%
	Namur	73%	75%	79%	55%	62%	71%	37%	34%	35%
Denmark	Luxembourg	72%	78%	83%	62%	71%	78%	37%	36%	40%
	Hovedstaden	77%	82%	90%	75%	79%	84%	43%	30%	34%
	Sjælland	78%	86%	93%	76%	81%	84%	41%	27%	33%
	Southern Denmark	77%	87%	93%	76%	84%	88%	40%	31%	39%
	Midtjylland	77%	86%	92%	80%	85%	88%	43%	35%	41%
Finland	Nordjylland	78%	85%	94%	79%	86%	88%	43%	35%	40%
	Helsinki-Uusimaa	64%	70%	85%	75%	74%	80%	49%	39%	40%
	South Finland	60%	72%	87%	76%	77%	76%	48%	42%	36%
	West Finland	51%	76%	87%	74%	78%	81%	47%	46%	40%
France	North & East Finland	56%	77%	87%	73%	78%	79%	53%	43%	38%
	Région parisienne	91%	88%	88%	66%	71%	75%	49%	33%	32%
	Nord	96%	94%	93%	70%	67%	63%	62%	43%	31%
	Est	90%	90%	90%	73%	60%	67%	44%	29%	27%
	Méditerranée	88%	87%	87%	62%	66%	66%	43%	31%	23%
	Centre-Est	89%	90%	89%	70%	73%	75%	50%	37%	31%
	Ouest	91%	94%	91%	76%	76%	77%	33%	39%	34%
	Bassin parisien	93%	93%	91%	76%	72%	75%	51%	39%	23%
Netherlands	Sud-Ouest	90%	90%	90%	66%	64%	65%	28%	32%	27%
	Zuid Holland	85%	84%	82%	77%	81%	85%	42%	33%	36%
	Noord Holland	84%	84%	81%	77%	80%	82%	39%	32%	31%
	Utrecht	82%	84%	83%	79%	83%	88%	43%	32%	33%
	Limburg	83%	84%	84%	75%	76%	82%	31%	22%	26%
	Noord Brabant	86%	85%	85%	74%	86%	85%	30%	27%	31%
	Gelderland	84%	88%	82%	75%	85%	86%	36%	34%	34%
	Overijssel	88%	89%	85%	81%	87%	89%	38%	35%	42%
	Groningen	84%	88%	81%	79%	79%	84%	29%	28%	31%
	Flevoland	94%	89%	86%	75%	83%	83%	38%	28%	31%
	Zeeland	89%	89%	85%	73%	81%	83%	27%	38%	32%
Norway	Friesland	88%	92%	88%	77%	87%	88%	41%	40%	39%
	Drenthe	80%	90%	88%	75%	86%	89%	28%	24%	27%
	Oslo	77%	79%	88%	75%	78%	87%	49%	33%	36%
	Akershus	79%	83%	91%	74%	82%	90%	34%	27%	38%
	Agder og Rogaland	81%	86%	92%	79%	89%	93%	44%	44%	52%
	Sør-Østlandet	81%	84%	90%	75%	82%	90%	35%	30%	37%
	Vestlandet	82%	86%	91%	83%	90%	93%	49%	50%	55%
	Trøndelag	85%	87%	92%	76%	88%	92%	41%	42%	48%
Sweden	Hedmark og Oppland	77%	83%	90%	76%	83%	89%	35%	32%	43%
	Nord-Norge	83%	85%	90%	79%	86%	91%	48%	43%	49%
	Stockholm	75%	83%	89%	78%	83%	86%	51%	38%	37%
	South Sweden	75%	84%	90%	78%	83%	86%	46%	33%	32%
	West Sweden	73%	84%	91%	78%	85%	87%	48%	33%	34%
	East Middle Sweden	73%	84%	90%	79%	84%	88%	50%	35%	35%
	Småland and the islands	74%	85%	92%	79%	88%	89%	45%	36%	39%
	North Middle Sweden	72%	83%	92%	76%	84%	87%	46%	36%	36%
	Middle Norrland	72%	83%	92%	78%	85%	87%	51%	37%	36%
	Upper Norrland	71%	82%	89%	76%	84%	87%	47%	37%	36%

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (System of Social Statistical Datasets (SSD)), NO (national registers), SE (national registers).

Table S.6: Relative synthetic parity progression ratios ($SPPR_{1-3}$), differentials for medium and high levels of educational attainment, 2002-2005¹, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

		$SPPR_{mid} - SPPR_{low}$			$SPPR_{high} - SPPR_{low}$		
		$SPPR_{low}$			$SPPR_{low}$		
		SPPR1	SPPR2	SPPR3	SPPR1	SPPR2	SPPR3
Belgium	Brussels	-8%	-16%	-8%	-5%	-9%	-4%
	Antwerp	-4%	4%	8%	5%	34%	27%
	Flemish Brabant	1%	17%	16%	0%	41%	41%
	East Flanders	1%	11%	10%	6%	38%	30%
	West Flanders	10%	22%	10%	23%	57%	28%
	Hainaut	-1%	-4%	-3%	4%	13%	8%
	Limburg	1%	4%	3%	8%	28%	18%
	Walloon Brabant	3%	20%	16%	4%	28%	23%
	Liège	-4%	-3%	1%	2%	14%	12%
	Namur	4%	9%	5%	14%	30%	14%
	Luxembourg	9%	17%	7%	14%	25%	9%
Denmark	Hovedstaden	6%	16%	10%	5%	12%	6%
	Sjælland	10%	19%	8%	7%	11%	4%
	Southern Denmark	13%	20%	7%	10%	15%	4%
	Midtjylland	11%	19%	7%	7%	10%	3%
	Nordjylland	10%	21%	10%	8%	12%	3%
Finland	Helsinki-Uusimaa	10%	32%	20%	-1%	7%	8%
	South Finland	21%	45%	20%	1%	0%	-1%
	West Finland	50%	73%	15%	6%	10%	4%
	North & East Finland	37%	56%	14%	7%	9%	2%
France	Région parisienne	-3%	-3%	0%	7%	13%	6%
	Nord	-2%	-3%	-1%	-4%	-9%	-6%
	Est	0%	0%	0%	-17%	-8%	11%
	Méditerranée	-1%	-2%	0%	6%	6%	0%
	Centre-Est	1%	0%	-1%	4%	7%	3%
	Ouest	3%	0%	-2%	0%	2%	2%
	Bassin parisien	0%	-2%	-2%	-5%	-1%	4%
	Sud-Ouest	-1%	0%	1%	-3%	-2%	0%
Netherlands	Zuid Holland	-1%	-4%	-2%	4%	9%	5%
	Noord Holland	0%	-3%	-4%	4%	6%	2%
	Utrecht	2%	0%	-1%	5%	11%	6%
	Limburg	2%	1%	-1%	1%	9%	9%
	Noord Brabant	0%	-1%	-1%	15%	15%	0%
	Gelderland	5%	-2%	-7%	12%	14%	2%
	Overijssel	1%	-3%	-4%	7%	9%	2%
	Groningen	5%	-4%	-8%	0%	7%	7%
	Flevoland	-5%	-9%	-3%	11%	11%	0%
	Zeeland	-1%	-5%	-4%	11%	14%	3%
	Friesland	4%	-1%	-5%	13%	15%	2%
	Drenthe	12%	11%	-2%	14%	18%	4%
Norway	Oslo	2%	14%	12%	4%	16%	12%
	Akershus	4%	14%	10%	11%	21%	9%
	Agder og Rogaland	6%	13%	6%	12%	17%	5%
	Sør-Østlandet	4%	12%	8%	9%	19%	9%
	Vestlandet	5%	11%	6%	8%	12%	3%
	Trøndelag	2%	8%	6%	16%	22%	5%
	Hedmark og Oppland	7%	16%	8%	8%	16%	7%
	Nord-Norge	3%	8%	5%	9%	15%	6%
Sweden	Stockholm	11%	19%	7%	6%	10%	4%
	South Sweden	12%	20%	8%	7%	11%	3%
	West Sweden	15%	24%	8%	9%	12%	2%
	East Middle Sweden	15%	24%	8%	6%	12%	5%
	Småland and the islands	16%	25%	8%	11%	13%	2%
	North Middle Sweden	16%	27%	10%	11%	15%	4%
	Middle Norrland	15%	27%	10%	9%	11%	2%
	Upper Norrland	15%	26%	9%	10%	14%	4%

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (System of Social Statistical Datasets (SSD)), NO (national registers), SE (national registers).

Table S.7: Relative synthetic parity progression ratios (cf. Table A6) (SPPR1-3), differentials for medium and high levels of educational attainment, **including (Incl.) and excluding (Excl.) foreign-born women** 2002-2005, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

		SPPR1				SPPR2				SPPR3			
		mid-low		high-low		mid-low		high-low		mid-low		high-low	
		Incl.	Excl.	Incl.	Excl.	Incl.	Excl.	Incl.	Excl.	Incl.	Excl.	Incl.	Excl.
Belgium	Brussels	-0.07	-0.03	-0.14	-0.08	-0.04	0.00	-0.07	0.00	-0.08	-0.05	-0.22	-0.16
	Antwerp	-0.03	0.03	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.08	0.18	0.25	-0.10	-0.02	-0.09	0.01
	Flemish Brabant	0.01	0.04	0.11	0.15	0.00	0.04	0.21	0.25	-0.07	-0.04	0.01	0.05
	East Flanders	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.11	0.03	0.08	0.19	0.25	-0.07	-0.02	-0.05	0.01
	West Flanders	0.07	0.09	0.15	0.16	0.11	0.12	0.27	0.29	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.04
	Hainaut	-0.01	0.00	-0.03	-0.03	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.09	-0.04	-0.04	-0.13	-0.12
	Limburg	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.22	-0.06	0.00	-0.06	0.01
	Walloon Brabant	0.02	0.03	0.13	0.15	0.02	0.04	0.15	0.19	-0.03	-0.02	0.02	0.03
	Liège	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.12	-0.05	-0.03	-0.09	-0.07
	Namur	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.16	0.18	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01
	Luxembourg	0.06	0.09	0.12	0.14	0.09	0.07	0.16	0.13	-0.01	-0.02	0.03	0.02
Denmark	Hovedstaden	0.04	0.06	0.13	0.15	0.04	0.08	0.09	0.15	-0.13	-0.08	-0.09	-0.01
	Sjælland	0.08	0.09	0.15	0.16	0.05	0.07	0.09	0.11	-0.14	-0.11	-0.08	-0.04
	Southern Denmark	0.10	0.11	0.16	0.17	0.08	0.10	0.12	0.14	-0.09	-0.07	-0.02	0.01
	Midtjylland	0.09	0.11	0.15	0.18	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.11	-0.08	-0.05	-0.01	0.03
	Nordjylland	0.08	0.09	0.16	0.18	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.11	-0.08	-0.07	-0.03	-0.01
Finland	Helsinki-Uusimaa	0.06	0.06	0.21	0.21	-0.01	-0.01	0.05	0.05	-0.11	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10
	South Finland	0.12	0.12	0.27	0.27	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-0.06	-0.13	-0.12
	West Finland	0.26	0.25	0.37	0.36	0.04	0.05	0.07	0.07	-0.01	-0.01	-0.07	-0.07
	North & East Finland	0.21	0.21	0.31	0.32	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	-0.10	-0.09	-0.15	-0.14
France	Région parisienne	-0.03	-0.01	-0.03	-0.01	0.05	0.11	0.09	0.17	-0.16	-0.16	-0.17	-0.12
	Nord	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.02	-0.06	-0.04	-0.18	-0.18	-0.31	-0.16
	Est	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	-0.12	-0.15	-0.06	-0.03	-0.15	-0.07	-0.17	-0.04
	Méditerranée	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.08	-0.13	-0.08	-0.21	-0.07
	Centre-Est	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.08	-0.13	-0.06	-0.19	-0.07
	Ouest	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.06	-0.01	0.01	-0.01
	Bassin parisien	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.02	-0.04	-0.05	-0.01	0.01	-0.11	-0.11	-0.27	-0.19
	Sud-Ouest	-0.01	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02	0.04	-0.06	-0.01	-0.07
Netherlands	Zuid Holland	-0.01	0.05	-0.03	0.04	0.03	0.09	0.07	0.14	-0.09	0.02	-0.06	0.05
	Noord Holland	0.00	0.06	-0.03	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.05	0.10	-0.08	0.05	-0.08	0.05
	Utrecht	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.10	0.09	0.14	-0.11	0.02	-0.10	0.03
	Limburg	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.07	0.07	0.12	-0.09	0.00	-0.05	0.06
	Noord Brabant	0.00	0.03	-0.01	0.02	0.11	0.16	0.11	0.18	-0.03	0.04	0.01	0.09
	Gelderland	0.04	0.05	-0.02	-0.01	0.09	0.08	0.11	0.10	-0.02	0.04	-0.02	0.05
	Overijssel	0.01	0.03	-0.03	0.00	0.06	0.09	0.08	0.11	-0.03	0.00	0.04	0.05
	Groningen	0.04	0.05	-0.03	-0.01	0.00	0.08	0.06	0.14	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.10
	Flevoland	-0.05	-0.02	-0.08	-0.07	0.08	0.15	0.08	0.14	-0.10	-0.04	-0.07	-0.02
	Zeeland	-0.01	0.02	-0.05	0.00	0.08	0.12	0.10	0.17	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.04
	Friesland	0.04	0.04	-0.01	-0.01	0.10	0.12	0.11	0.14	-0.02	0.03	-0.02	0.03
	Drenthe	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.14	0.13	-0.04	0.00	-0.01	0.04
Norway	Oslo	0.01	0.07	0.11	0.18	0.03	0.11	0.12	0.22	-0.16	-0.05	-0.13	0.07
	Akershus	0.03	0.03	0.11	0.12	0.08	0.10	0.16	0.17	-0.07	-0.06	0.04	0.07
	Agder og Rogaland	0.05	0.05	0.11	0.11	0.09	0.11	0.14	0.16	0.00	0.01	0.08	0.10
	Sør-Østlandet	0.03	0.04	0.10	0.11	0.07	0.08	0.14	0.16	-0.04	-0.02	0.03	0.06
	Vestlandet	0.04	0.04	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.06
	Trøndelag	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.08	0.13	0.13	0.16	0.17	0.00	0.02	0.07	0.08
	Hedmark og Oppland	0.06	0.06	0.12	0.14	0.06	0.08	0.12	0.14	-0.03	-0.01	0.08	0.09
	Nord-Norge	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.12	0.13	-0.05	-0.04	0.01	0.01
Sweden	Stockholm	0.08	0.10	0.14	0.16	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.11	-0.13	-0.09	-0.14	-0.08
	South Sweden	0.09	0.11	0.15	0.18	0.06	0.10	0.08	0.14	-0.14	-0.09	-0.14	-0.10
	West Sweden	0.11	0.13	0.18	0.20	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.13	-0.15	-0.11	-0.14	-0.09
	East Middle Sweden	0.11	0.13	0.17	0.20	0.05	0.06	0.09	0.12	-0.14	-0.10	-0.15	-0.09
	Småland and the islands	0.11	0.14	0.19	0.21	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.12	-0.09	-0.06	-0.05	-0.02
	North Middle Sweden	0.11	0.13	0.20	0.21	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.14	-0.11	-0.09	-0.10	-0.08
	Middle Norrland	0.11	0.12	0.20	0.20	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.09	-0.14	-0.14	-0.15	-0.15
	Upper Norrland	0.11	0.11	0.18	0.19	0.07	0.06	0.11	0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10

Source: BE (2001 Census and National Register), DK (Statistics Denmark), FI (Finnish register dataset), FR (EDP 2016), NL (System of Social Statistical Datasets (SSD)), NO (national registers), SE (national registers)

Figure S.1: Map of absolute percentage point educational differences in SPPR₁, 2002-2005, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

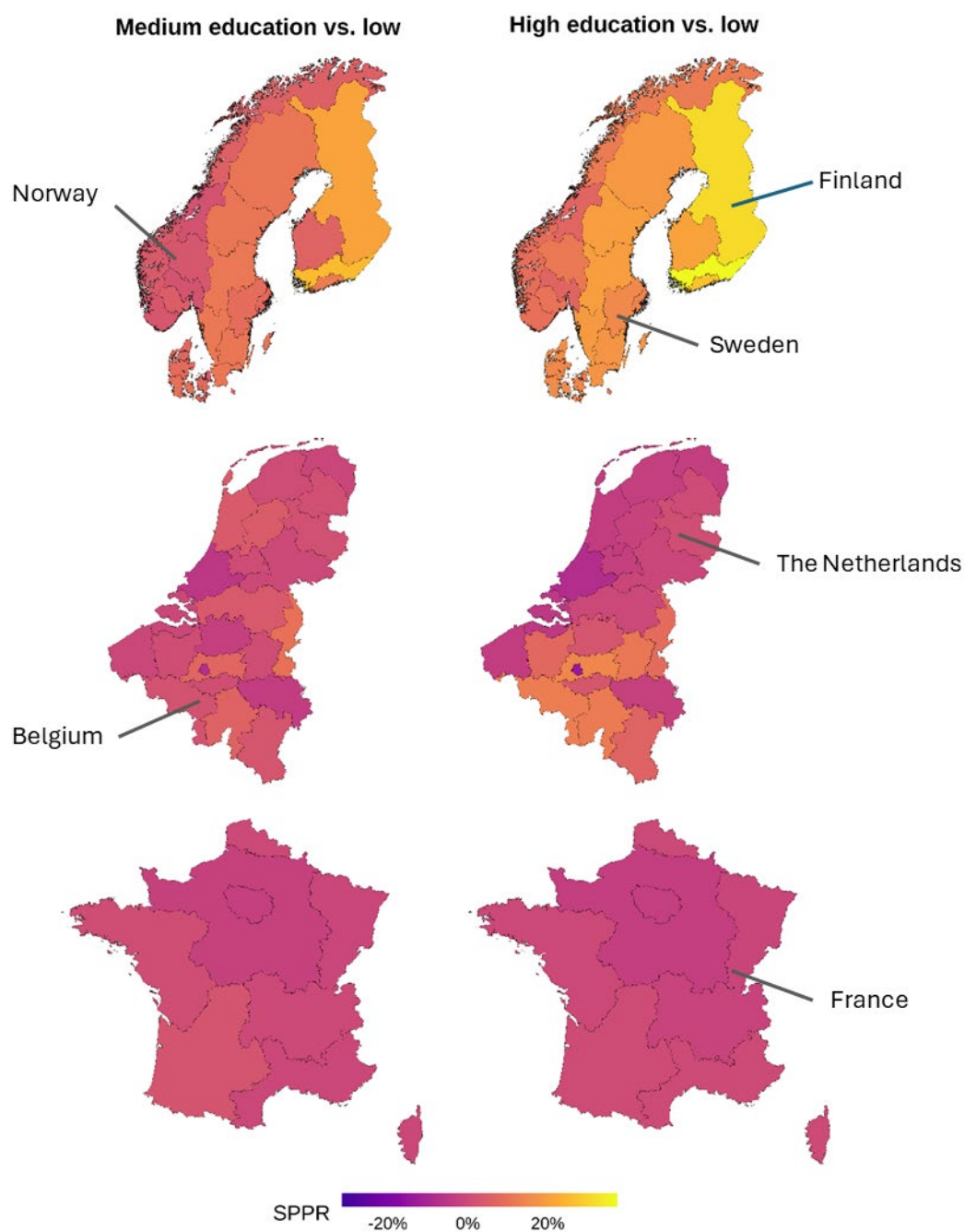


Figure S.2: Map of absolute percentage point educational differences in SPPR₂, 2002-2005, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE

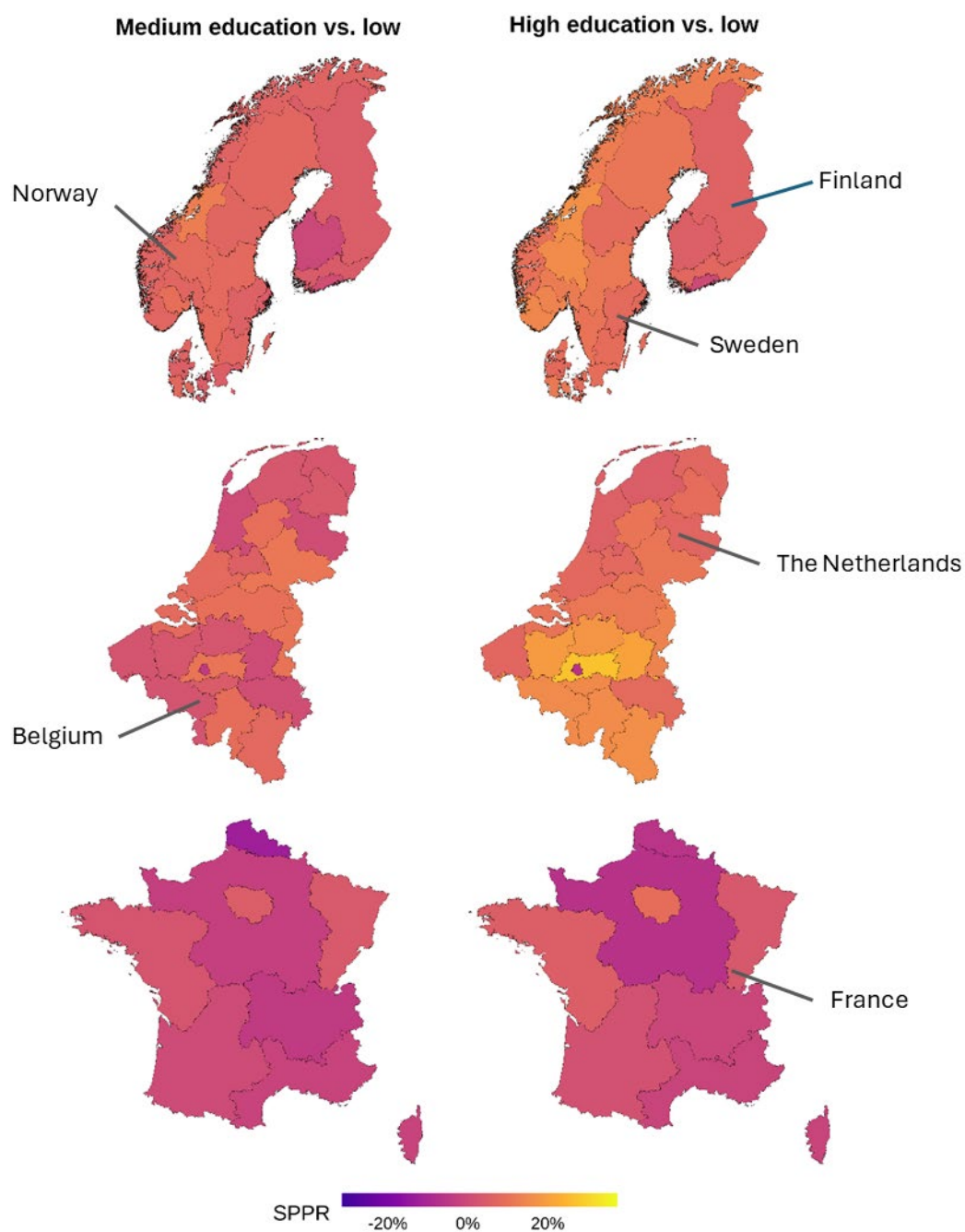
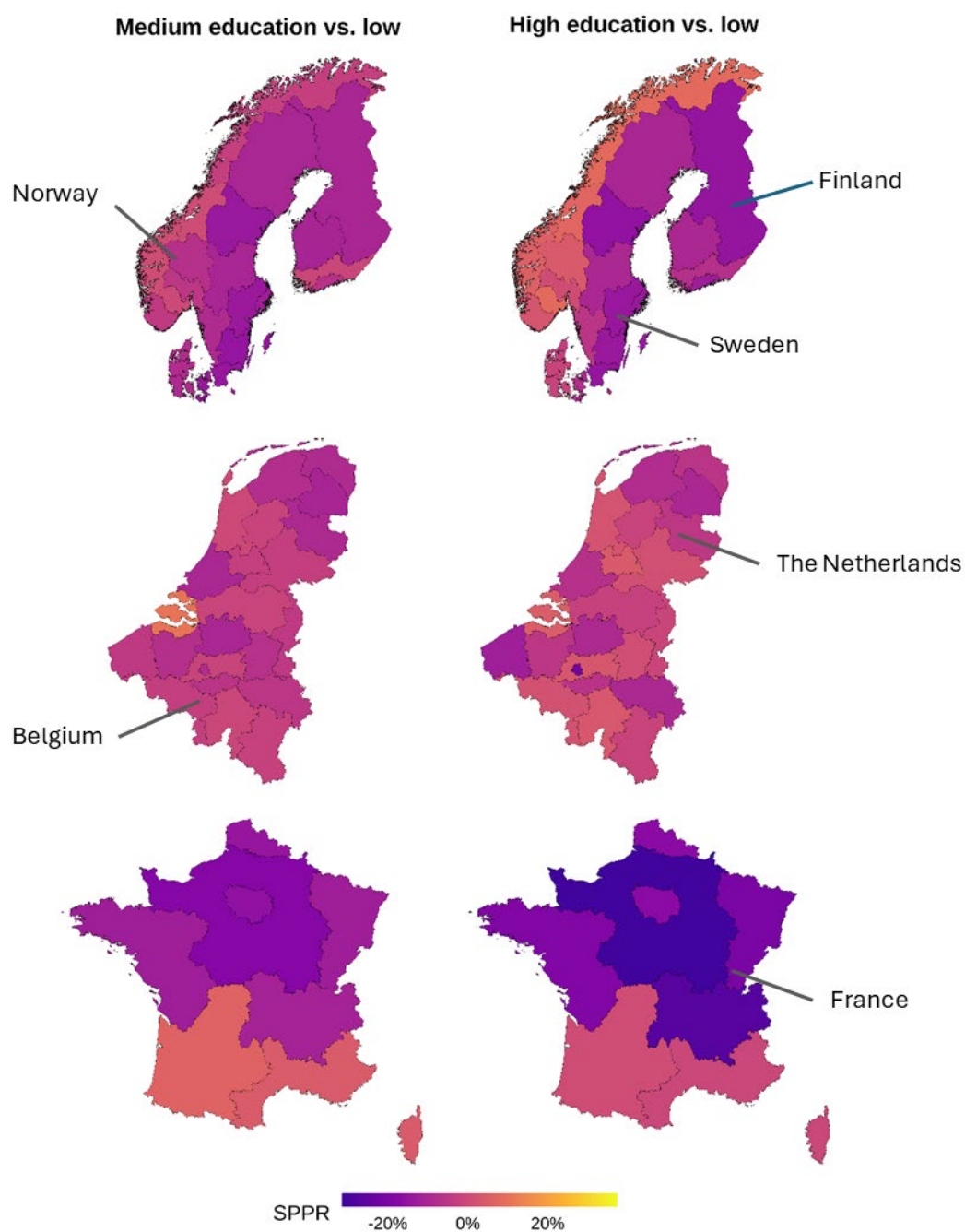


Figure S.3: Map of absolute percentage point educational differences in SPPR₃, 2002-2005, BE, DK, FI, FR, NL, NO, SE



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