

# Women's Partnership and Labour Trajectories and Transitions to First and Second Births in Spain. The Role of Stability Over the Life Course on the Recuperation of Births

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## MOTIVATION

1. Trend of **motherhood postponement** in Europe.
2. Some women are able to **recuperate births** after a late entry into motherhood.
3. **Highly educated women** are more likely to experience delays in motherhood and recuperation of births.
4. Highly educated women are more likely to experience **more stable partnership and labour trajectories** than the lower educated.

What is the role of **partnership and labour stability** on the **occurrence and timing** of transitions to the first and the second child?

## THE CONTEXT

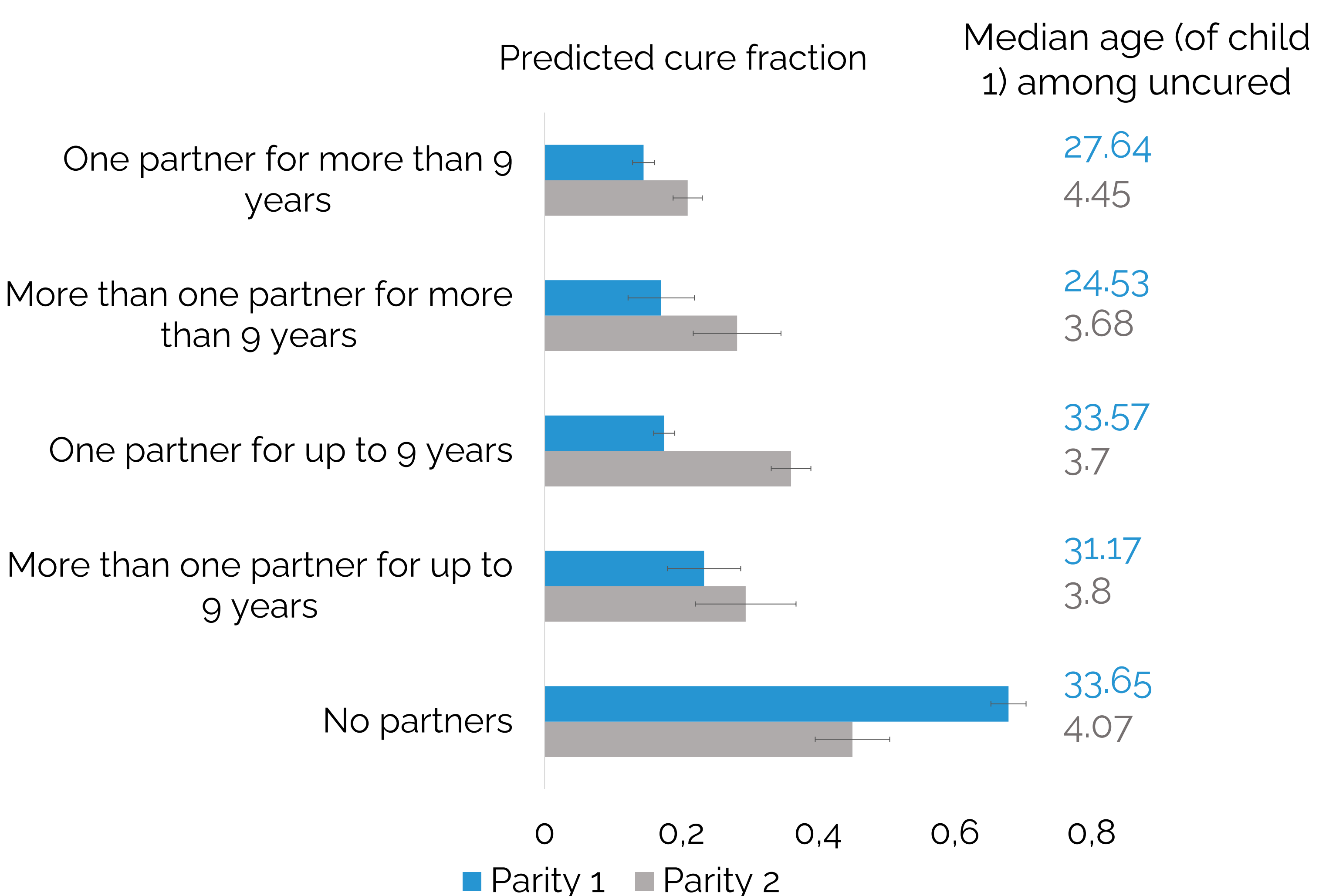
1. Women's **age at first birth**: 31. in 2018.
2. Births over the maternal age of 40: 9.8%
3. Instability in the **labour market** -> contracts of limited duration among young individuals (50% among 25-29 years).
4. Increasing proportion of **women with high education** (50% among women aged 25-34).

## DATA AND METHODS

2018 **Spanish Fertility Survey** (INE) -> longitudinal retrospective survey with information about women's partnership and labour history.

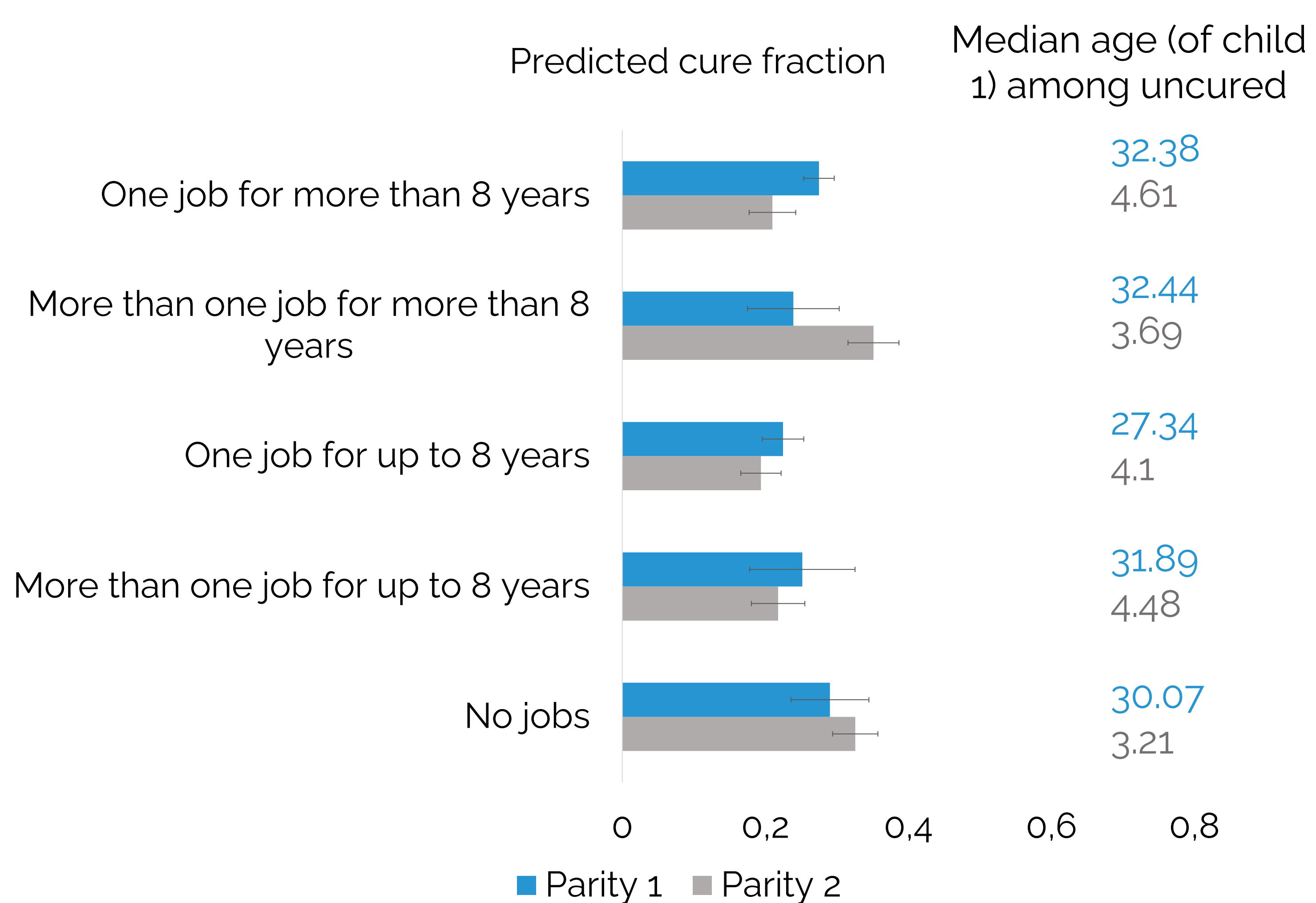
**Cure models** among women aged 35+ (n=9,904).

### Results of the mixture cure models. Partnership stability.



Controls: educational level, (late first birth).

### Results of the mixture cure models. Labour stability.



Controls: educational level, (late first birth).

### By educational level:

1. The effect of **partnership stability** on the probability of having a first child is stronger for highly educated women. No differences in the timing by level of education.
2. The effect of **partnership stability** on the timing of the second child is stronger for highly educated women. Slight differences in the occurrence by level of education.
3. The effect of **labour stability** on the probability of having a first child is stronger for low-educated women. No remarkable differences in the timing by level of education.
4. The effect of **labour stability** on the timing of transitions to the first child is slightly stronger for the lower educated. The effect on the probability of occurrence is higher for highly educated women.

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## TAKE-HOME MESSAGES

1. Women with **stable partnership trajectories** are more likely to **have a first child and have it earlier**. They are also **more likely to have a second child**, although they tend to delay second births.
2. There are no remarkable differences in the likelihood of having a first child by level of labour stability, although women who spent **less time in the labour market become mothers younger**. They are also **more likely to have a second child**.
3. By education, **partnership stability** strongly affects the fertility behaviours of **highly educated women**, but **labour stability** also affects **lower-educated women**.