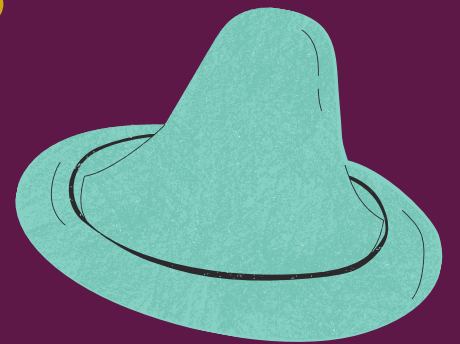
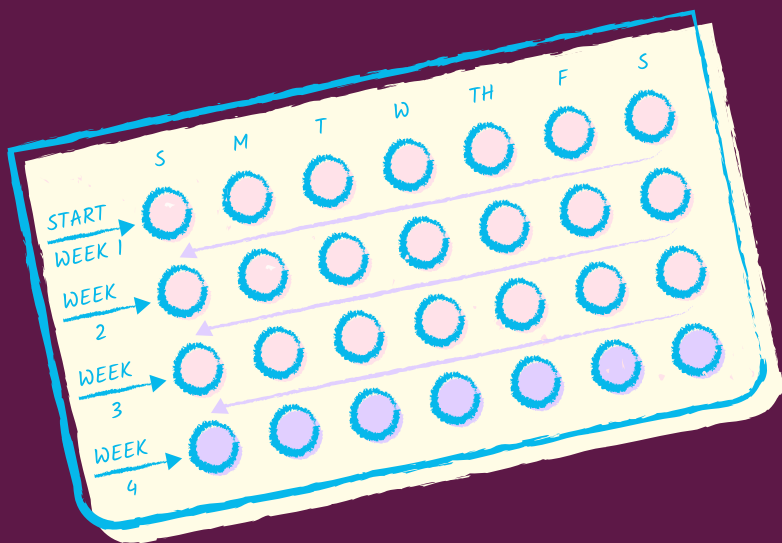


# differences in contraceptive practices



Czech Womxn vs. Roma Womxn



Homogeneous Czech  
population since  
separation of  
Czechoslovakia  
in 1993

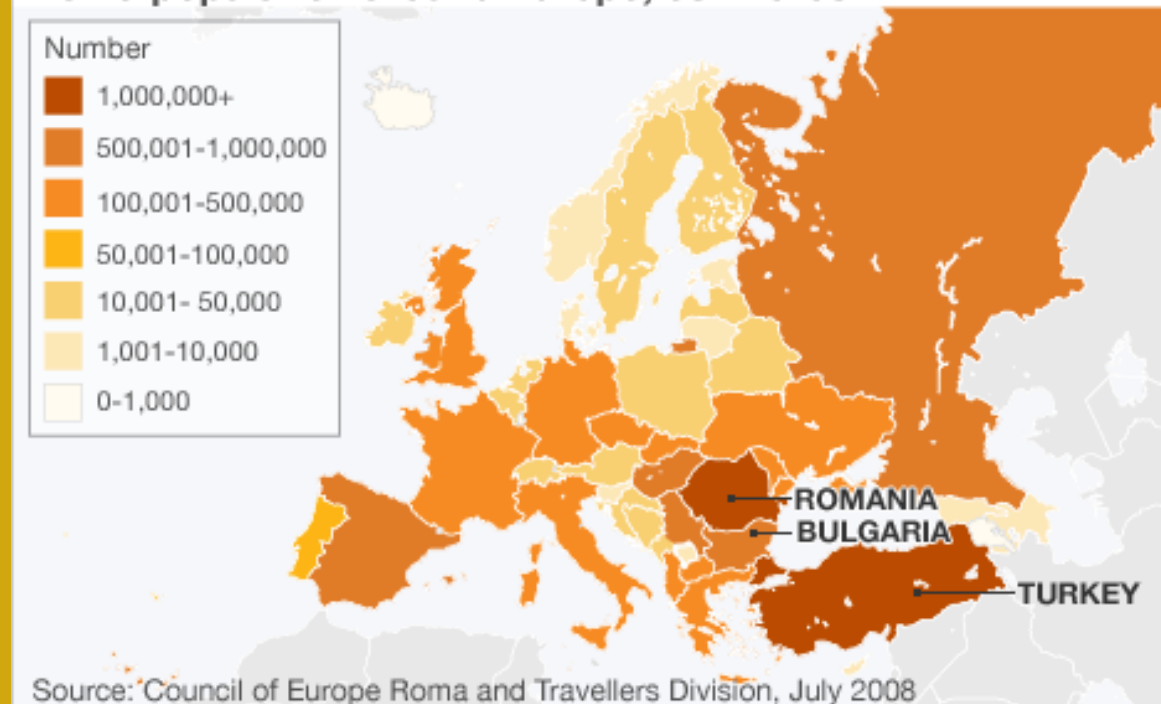
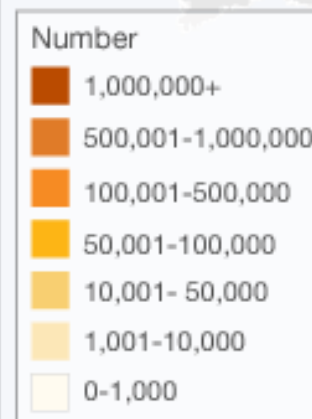
## Czech Population

## Roma Population

Spread across  
Europe due to:

- \*Nomadic background
- \*Impacts of Holocaust
- \*Widespread discrimination

Roma population around Europe, estimates



# Czech Contraception

- \*Under Communist regime 1948-1989, abortion most common method
- \*Today, most use contraception 82%
- \*Hormonal contraception most common 40%
- \*Barrier Methods 13%
- \*Withdrawal Methods 9%
- \*Intrauterine Devices 4%

# Roma Contraception

\*Majority rely on traditional methods rather than modern methods

\*Withdrawal Method 58%

\*Hormonal, oral, & IUDs <1%

\*No contraceptive method 24%

# Socio-Cultural Factors

Czech Republic:

- \*Low fertility rate (1.6)



- \*Peak age for childbirth is 29

- \*Contraceptives widely available

- \*Low religious faith = little stigma

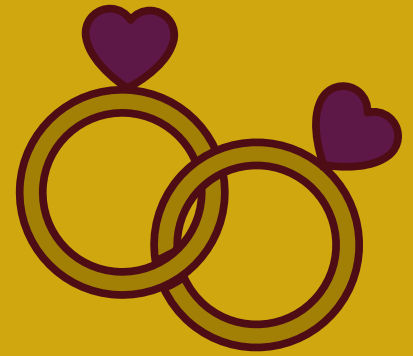
surrounding contraception

- \*Accessible healthcare



# Socio-Cultural Factors

Roma Population:



- \*Early marriages - 54% by age 18
- \*Expectation for women to bear children soon after marriage
  - \*High Fertility Rate (2.7)
- \*Lack of accessible sex education
- \*Widespread discrimination in healthcare & society overall



# Why the Disparity?

- \*Romani people face extreme barriers to accessing effective birth control
- \*One of the most disadvantaged groups in Europe
- \*Hesitant or unable to seek out medical care for more modern methods that might require prescription/insertion
- \*Tradition of women leaving school upon menarche to be married--no need for birth control

# Implications

- \*Declining Czech population, growing Roma population

- \*Racism & discrimination towards Roma people will continue, due to negative stereotypes about their large families and economic class

- \*Persistent stigma around traditional contraception methods as are used by the Roma people



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