

DRŽAVNI ZAVOD ZA STATISTIKU  
REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE  
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

**INTERESTING POINTS**

Zagreb, 14 June 2017

## June – Children's Month

The month of June is dedicated to children, parents and the fight for children's rights. Specifically, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 1 June the Global Day of the Parents in 2012, in honour to parents all around the world. The first week in June was proclaimed the European Week of Children, for children whose parents were imprisoned. The International Day of Children Victims of Violence is marked on 4 June, while the World Day Against Child Labour is celebrated on 12 June.

In addition to world days dedicated to children, June is also marked with the end of a school year for children in Croatia and this article deals with all school children who are looking forward to an idle summer.

### ***Both in Croatia and in the European Union most families have one child***

In 2016, a total of almost 80 million children and youth under 15 years of age lived in the European Union.<sup>1</sup> Croatia saw a decrease in children younger than 15 in 2016, as compared to the year before, which amounted to as much as 1.5%.

According to the 2011 Population Census, there were 867 680 families with children, a half of which had one child. Eurostat<sup>2</sup> data for last year say that, out of a total of 220 million households in EU Member States, more than one third were households with children. Among EU Member States, the largest share of households with children was recorded in Ireland (41%), followed by Cyprus and Poland (38% each), and Malta, Portugal and Slovakia (36% each). Only one fifth of households were with children in Germany and Finland (22% each), followed by Sweden (25%), Austria (26%) and Greece (27%). According to Eurostat data for 2016, the largest share of households (47%) had one child, 40% had two children and 13% had three or more children. Within the total number of households in the European Union, 15% of households with children were composed of single parents. Croatia measures

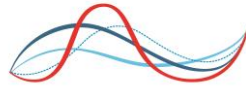
---

<sup>1</sup> Eurostat, Child and youth population on 1 January by sex and age:

[http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=yth\\_demo\\_010&lang=en](http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=yth_demo_010&lang=en)

<sup>2</sup> Eurostat, Families with children in the EU:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/-/EDN-20170531-1>



DRŽAVNI ZAVOD ZA STATISTIKU  
REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE  
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

## INTERESTING POINTS

Zagreb, 14 June 2017

the lowest share of households composed of single parents (5% of all households with dependent children), followed by Romania (7%), and Greece and Slovakia (8% each).

### ***Ivan and Gordana once, Luka and Lana today***

The most frequent name given to boys until 1962 was Ivan. In the period from 1963 to 1970 it was Željko, in 1971 Damir was a popular name, while in next two years it was a variant of the name Ivan – Ivica. After the name Ivica, in '70s, the most frequent boys' names were Mario and Tomislav, while from '80s until 2003 it was Ivan again. Since 2004 until today, boys have most often been named Luka.

Until 1966, the most frequent name for girls was Marija and since 1967 Snježana. In the early '70s, girls were most often been named Gordana and Mirjana, while in 1973 the most frequent name was Marija again. Since 1974, Ivana became the most popular name for more than two subsequent decades.

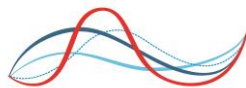
At the beginning of the millennium, Ana came as the most frequent name, all until 2005 when the most popular name was Petra. Since 2006 until today, Lana has been the most frequent girls' name.

### ***The number of children in kindergartens rises...***

At the beginning of the 2016/2017 pedagogic year there were by 29.1% more children in kindergartens than in 2006/2007. According to the methodology of statistical data monitoring, at the beginning of the 2016/2017 pedagogic year there were 1 727 reporting units that realised preschool education programmes.

The total number of children included in a certain preschool education programme amounted to 143 878, out of which there were 69 216 (48.1%) girls. The regular programme was attended by 123 120 children, the preschool programme by 12 956 children and the shorter programme by 7 802 children.

The number of children in preschool education at the beginning of the 2016/2017 pedagogic year was the biggest in the City of Zagreb, where it increased by 4 135 children compared to the year before, while a decrease was recorded in four counties: Virovitica-Podravina, Krapina-Zagorje, Požega-Slavonia and Bjelovar-Bilogora.



DRŽAVNI ZAVOD ZA STATISTIKU  
REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE  
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

## **INTERESTING POINTS**

Zagreb, 14 June 2017

### ***... but the number of basic school children drops***

At the beginning of the 2016/2017 school year, the number of basic schools and the number of pupils did not change much compared to the year before. Slightly less than 320 thousand pupils attended basic school. Comparison with the 2006/2007 data shows that the number of pupils decreased by 16.5%.

Out of the total of slightly more than two thousand schools with classes conducted in one language, 1987 of them were conducted in Croatian, 17 in Serbian, 12 in Italian, 8 in Czech and 4 in Hungarian. In addition to Croatian, classes in 26 schools were conducted in languages of ethnic minorities: in 15 schools in Serbian, in 5 schools in Italian and in 1 school in German. Concerning foreign languages, English was learned as the first foreign language by 90.7% of pupils, followed by German, French and Italian.

### ***More children's plays***

There are 29 professional children's theatres in Croatia, of which 9 are puppet theatres. The number of professional children's theatres has not been changed for two subsequent seasons, but the number of plays increased. Thus, in the 2015/2016 season there were a total of 113 plays more than in the previous season. The attendance also rose, by as much as 0.5%, i.e. 2 341 spectators.