



INTERESTING POINTS

Movember- the month dedicated to men

Did you know that men have their own month? "Movember ", a derivative of English words *mustache* and *November*, celebrated since 2003, when in the distant Australia the first mustache was grown in order to raise the awareness on male health problems. The purpose of this movement, which has evolved from a local into a global one over the past ten years, is to influence early detection of male diseases, establishing a proper diagnosis and timely implementation of medical treatment. Today this movement has more than 5 million followers, and more than \$ 600 million have been raised, which were used to finance about a thousand programs aimed at the prevention and treatment of diseases affecting the male population.

Permanent transformations of society have indirectly influenced the transformation of roles men and women have had during different historic periods. Both have changed through time and adapted to the social requirements and needs, hence the need to monitor their characteristics through the prism of historical periods and social orders. The transition from a traditional agrarian society to an urban industrial society was certainly an important milestone. These new changes are mainly reflected in the role of women, which had until then been limited to their role as wives/mothers/housewives. Women's movements during that period became more and more assertive, women gradually entered the labor market and men were slowly losing their exclusive role of the breadwinner. Today, women are independent, acquire knowledge and skills that make them competitive in the labor market and have moved away from their traditional roles. But how has this process influenced men and what are the statistical features that best describe them?

If we look at the share of live-born male children in the period from 2000 to 2014 we notice that this share was the highest in 2012 and 2013 and amounted to 51.9%. The smallest share of live births of boys in the total number of live births was recorded in 2005 and 2007 when it amounted to 51.2%. An average of 106 boys were born per 100 girls in the observed period.

Life expectancy at birth is one of the best indicators of the development of a society and includes the expected number of years that an individual at a certain age can be expected to achieve considering the current mortality rates. Thanks to the advance of medicine and the activities that are more focused on prevention as well as the improvement of social and economic life conditions, it is not surprising that this number has increased over the years. The 2005 life expectancy at birth for men was 71.8 years, and in 2014 as much as 74.6 years.

If we look at the average age at first marriage, it is evident that men generally marry later than women. So in 2000, the average age at first marriage for men was 28.6 years. And in the next nine years, it is evident that men had, on average, entered into their first marriage in their twenties and in 2010 exceeded the threshold of thirty years. Specifically speaking, that year the average age at first marriage was 30.1 years. According to the latest available data, the data for 2014, men have on average entered their first marriage at 30.9 years of age.

The share of men in the total population has not substantially changed over the last fifteen years and is constantly about 48%. Thus, for example, the proportion of men in the total population in 2000 was 48.1%, as well as in the following year, in the period between 2007 and 2011 it rose to 48.2% and in the last three years to 48.3%. Although according to the aforementioned data more male children are born, women live about seven years longer than men on average and therefore it is not surprising that the proportion of women in the total population is somewhat higher than the proportion of men. What has increased over the years is the average age of the population. Specifically, the average age for men in 2001 was 37.5 years; in 2011 it rose to 40.0 and in 2014 to 40.5 years.

As for education, most males finish industrial or vocational secondary schools, as a rule more than 63% of them, and the least of them, less than 30%, finish an art school. If we observe the individual years within the fifteen-year period from 2000 to 2005, most males completed industrial and vocational schools, in the period from 2006 to 2014 most of them have obtained a high school diploma from technical and related schools. With regard to male students who have graduated in the period from 2004 to 2014, the largest proportion of male students graduated in the field of Computing and Engineering and engineering trades, as a rule more than 80% of them each year.

If we look at the data for men in the area of employment and wages, most men in 2014 were employed in manufacturing, 128 143 of them, and the smallest number of men were employed in real estate, 3 991 of them. That same year, the largest share among employed men was in construction, 88.5%, and the smallest in human health and social welfare, 21.3%. In the previous year, that is in 2013, the highest share of men were also employed in construction, and it is interesting that men in the construction industry earned 1.6% less in that year than the total number of employees and their gross wages were lower by 12.6% than the average gross earnings of women employed in that industry. On the other hand, even though they had the lowest share in human health and social welfare regarding the number of employees, they earned 25.9% more than all employees and their salaries were by 35.9% higher than the average pay for women in that industry. Therefore, it can be concluded that in the activities in which there are fewer employed men, men have higher wages than women, and where there are many men, they have lower wages than women. If we look at the average net pay of men employed in legal entities, it amounted to 5 773 kuna in 2013. Observing the activities individually, men had the highest average net pay in all the years in the period from 2009 to

2013 in financial and insurance activities and the lowest average net salary for men was recorded in the administrative and support service activities in the aforementioned five-year period.

