



**WORLD
STATISTICS
DAY**
20.10.2020
CONNECTING
THE WORLD
WITH DATA
WE CAN TRUST

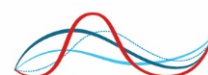
WORLD NETWORK OF STATISTICAL DATA

Croatian Bureau of Statistics celebrates World Statistics Day

Although we are probably not aware of it, from the first day of our lives, we are part of statistics. Birth, kindergarten, elementary school, graduation, marriage, employment, retirement – all these are important stages of life recorded by statistics. While some will wonder why our personal experiences are part of some data set, it is exactly the point. Every individual is part of a bigger system, community or nation. Data on each of us create a bigger picture, give context to a story, and remain recorded forever as a witness to a time. Thus, official statistics in Croatia has been a witness to economic and demographic trends for 145 years.

However, this is not just a national story. Data on population, economic and sociocultural indicators are collected by countries around the world. These data are exchanged and compared with each other. At the global level, they are brought together by the United Nations (UN Statistical Commission), which celebrate World Statistics Day every five years. The first World Statistics Day was celebrated in 2010, and this year, when it is celebrated on 20 October together with European Statistics Day, it is marked under the slogan *Connecting the world with data we can trust*. We are witnessing that the importance of recording statistics and connecting the world through data at this moment may be greater than ever. This year has shown that latest data are a guidance and a basis for many decisions and actions. Therefore, let us have a look at what or who is behind these data, thousands and thousands of numbers that are released to the public every year.

Over 145 years of official statistics, plenty of various data have been collected, processed and made available to users. Those of earlier dates are kept by the library of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, which is also one of the oldest specialised libraries in Croatia and home to about 30 thousand books and publications. It is the source of many useful statistical data, which depict the time in which they were created. Interestingly, the oldest specimens in this sea of numbers date back to the 19th century, which is also the period when the oldest preserved Census of Population was conducted, the one from 1857.



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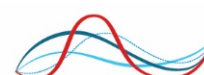
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Although there is a small part that is still printed and archived today, the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, as the main producer of official statistics in the Republic of Croatia, publishes most of the data on its website, which recorded more than half a million visits in the first nine months of 2020. Therefore, in only a few clicks, users can access a lot of useful data, which are the result of statistical surveys and projects, more precisely, 276 of them, which are planned to be conducted in 2020. Data are processed and published on a daily basis in various publishing formats and media, such as in First Releases, 333 of which are planned to be published in 2020, in comprehensive Databases, Statistics in Line and Statistical Reports, but also in specially prepared publications, such as Croatia in Figures or Women and Men in Croatia.

Although a large number of surveys is carried out every year, surely the most popular is the one that is carried out every ten years. It is the Census of Population, the most comprehensive survey used to collect various data on population, households and dwellings, which is the basis for numerous decisions and planning for a ten-year period. The Census will be carried out in the coming 2021, when the inhabitants of Croatia will be able to self-enumerate for the first time. There is another important Census, which was completed a few days ago. In the Agricultural Census 2020, more than 174 thousand private family farms were enumerated and data were collected from approximately 4 thousand business entities, which will help determine the actual state of Croatian agriculture.

There is a whole range of other different projects conducted by the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, and we are particularly proud of those aimed at our youngest users. The aim of the Statistical Competition and the statistical educational portal Stedy is to increase statistical literacy of our users from adolescent age.

Exactly user orientation is a part of the vision of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics. In order to provide unbiased data on social and economic processes, as well as the factual basis needed to monitor and analyse the situation in the Croatian economy, it is necessary to listen to the user needs and meet their requests for diverse data. Through various channels, we are available every day to pupils and students, professors, the scientific community, government and public institutions, but also to any, figuratively



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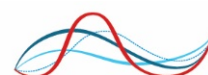


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speaking, ordinary person who shows interest in statistics. In the first nine months of 2020, our users were most interested in data on population, labour market and trade in goods.

We also try to meet user needs on social networks, on which we have been active since 2015. With almost daily publication of interesting infographics and videos, as well as communication tailored to the target audience, in five years we have created a small virtual community with more than 14 thousand Facebook followers, almost two thousand Instagram followers and about 5 700 Twitter followers, where we have a profile both in Croatian and English language.

The focus on end-users of statistical data will continue to be a priority in our work. A great help in this comes from our reporting units, without which data collection would be almost unimaginable. Their questions and suggestions, as well as user comments are always welcome. That is why we would like to thank you for every compliment, but also for every critique, which encourage us to be better, to build trust and to connect the world with data. The official statistics produced by the Croatian Bureau of Statistics do not serve only the inhabitants of Croatia. It is also delivered to Eurostat and UN, thus forming a world network of statistical data, which are useful to millions of people – millions of users, as well as statisticians and fans of statistics, who use statistics for various purposes. To all of them, as well as to our employees, we wish a happy World and European Statistics Day!



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