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50 Years of Research on Demography

THE INSTITUTE

Inception and history

During the 1950s Hungary experienced a sharp decline in fertility to below the level of replacement. Emergent public and political awareness of population issues created favourable conditions for the establishment of a dedicated centre for population research. As a result, in 1963 a demographic research group was founded within the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO), which then went on to become an independent institute in 1968.

Today, the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute (HDRI) is one of the longest established European demographic research institutes, conducting research in all of the major fields of demography. It is an independent public organisation, supervised by the president of the HCSO. Ever since its foundation, the institution has maintained a close relationship with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and its Committee of Demography, which pays continuous attention to professional and scientific work at the institute.

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Activities

The research activities of the institute cover most of the key issues encompassing contemporary population research. The HDRI:

- Carries out research on fundamental population processes including fertility, nuptiality, marriage, mortality, and internal and international migration;
- Describes and analyses the structural characteristics of the Hungarian population, including changes in family and household structure, ageing, education, economic activity and regional differences within the country;
- Analyses and models the causes and consequences of population processes;
- Studies opinion poll data concerning population and family issues;
- Analyses the interrelationship between social and demographic processes, with a special focus on the labour market, families and households;
- Supports policy decision making by analysing the effects of population, family and migration policies and carrying out background research;
- Analyses migration flows in social, cultural and economic context, and interactions between migrant and non-migrant population;
- Prepares short- and long-term population projections on the number and structure of the Hungarian population and future demographic conditions;
- · Conducts research in the field of historical demograph

Close collaboration with the HCSO facilitates use of differen data sources such as vital statistics and census data, and supports demographic analysis. The HDRI also has a very long tradition of survey-based research.



INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

The institute is an active partner in a wide-range of international activities. It participates in joint research projects and organises bilateral and multilateral conferences with various institutions, centres of international demographic research, university departments and organisations from other European countries. Moreover, HDRI is an affiliated member of the European Association for Population Studies (EAPS) and a founding member of the European Population Network.

The HDRI has been involved and actively contributes to several international research projects funded by the European Union Framework Programmes and by other international organisations.

Recent participation in international research programmes:

- Ageing Europe: An application of National Transfer Accounts for explaining and projecting trends in public finances (AGENTA)
- · Generations and Gender Programme (GGP)
- Socio-economic inequalities in mortality: Evidence and policies in Europe (INEQ-CITIES)
- Recovering surviving census records to reconstruct population, economic, and cultural history (Mosaic)
- Needs for female immigrants and their integration in ageing societies (FEMAGE)
- Reproductive decision-making in a macro-micro perspective (REPRO)
- Managing migration and its effects in South-East Europe Transnational actions towards evidence-based strategies (SEEMIG)
- The timing of life: Understanding the consequences of individualization for the organisation of the life course in Europe (LIFETIMING)



HUNGARIAN SOCIETY IN EUROPEAN CONTEXT

The main objective of the HDRI is to inform policy makers and the general public about Hungarian demographic processes. Describing Hungarian processes in a European context makes it possible to discover general trends and to identify Hungarian specificities. As a result, Hungarian research programmes can focus on important national demographic processes.

Recent Hungarian research projects:

- · The population projections of Hungary
- · Fertility intentions and their realisation
- \cdot The interrelation of family values and family behaviour
- Turning points of the life course, the Hungarian Generation
 and Gender Survey
- · Mapping family transitions: Causes and consequences
- $\cdot\,$ Social inequalities and mortality
- · Spatial differences in causes of death
- Spatial differences of demographic processes and behaviour in 18–19th century Hungary
- The effects of migration-related expectations and life-course events on migration intentions and realisation
- Developing the system of immigration and integration statistics
- · Policy papers on population issues

PUBLICATIONS

Most of the HDRI's publications are in Hungarian. One of the best established is the quarterly journal Demográfia, which has a history going back more than fifty years. The results of research are also published as series of Working Papers. The KorFa newsletter is an important forum for discussion on the very latest population issues in a popular format, reaching the widest possible audience. In addition, the institute has an increasing number of publications in English: the annual Demográfia – English Edition, the Working Papers on Population, Family and Welfare, Research Highlights, and the Demographic Portrait of Hungary.

Demográfia – English Edition

Demográfia – English Edition is the annual journal of the Demographic Committee at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute.

Most recent issue (2013)

- Eva Beaujouan: Counting how many children people want: the influence of question filters and pre-codes
- Isabella Buber-Ennser, Ralina Panova and Jürgen Dorbritz: Fertility intentions of university graduates
- Okka Zimmermann: Temporary destandardisation of partnership formation and continuous standardisation of fertility in three GGS countries



Demographic Portrait of Hungary

The Demographic Portrait of Hungary – Report on the Conditions of the Hungarian Population is published every three years, and provides an overview of recent Hungarian population processes in European comparison in a concise format. The 12 chapters are written exclusively by researchers at the institute. This publication aims to reach a wide audience and strives to



disseminate insights to demographic processes using figures and easily understandable tables.

Most recent issue (2012)

- · Pongrácz: Characteristics of partnership
- · Földházi: Divorce
- · Kapitány-Spéder: Fertility
- · Makay-Blaskó: Family support system childraising employment
- · Kovács: Trends in cause-specific mortality
- · Kovács: Social disparities in health
- · Bálint-Spéder: Ageing
- · Monostori: Pension systems and retirement
- · Murinkó-Földházi: Household and family structure
- · Bálint: Internal migration
- · Gödri: International migration
- Földházi: Structure and future of the Hungarian society

Research Highlights

Research Highlights points a spotlight on the results of important ongoing research projects. It has a one-page format, and a short description of the research results are always complemented by an easily comprehensible graph or chart.



Recent issues

- · Asymmetric socialization in inter-age transfers
- · Changing partnership behaviour
- $\cdot\,$ Children's experience of parental separation
- $\cdot\,$ Emigration from Hungary: increasing tendency
- · Contraceptive use in Hungary
- · Hungarian population projections, 2013
- $\cdot\,$ The perception of his and her middle age in Europe
- $\cdot\,$ Desired family size and fertility in Hungary and France
- Creating a sample of census-type micro-data (Kingdom of Hungary, 1896)
- Suicide in the Hungarian Kingdom at the beginning of the 20th century a spatial eigenvector approach
- · Facts and opinions about marriage

Working Papers on Population, Family and Welfare

The Working Papers on Population, Family and Welfare periodically highlight the empirical research of the HDRI's researchers and other involved authors.

Recent issues

 Őri, Péter – Pakot, Levente (2014): Residence patterns in nineteenth century Hungary: Evidence from the Hungarian MOSAIC sample



- Gödri, Irén Soltész, Béla Bodacz-Nagy, Boróka (2014): Immigration or emigration country? Migration trends and their socio-economic background in Hungary: A longer-term historical perspective
- Gál, Róbert Iván Szabó, Endre Vargha, Lili (2013): The ageprofile of invisible transfers: The true size of asymmetry in interage reallocations
- Melegh, Attila (2013): Diverging historical development of migration in Southeastern Europe since 1950
- Faragó, Tamás (2013): Historical demography in Hungary: A history of research
- Spéder, Zsolt Kapitány, Balázs (2012): Realising birth intentions in European comparison – Understanding the post-communist fertility transition
- Kapitány, Balázs Spéder, Zsolt (2011): Factors affecting the realisation of child-bearing intentions in four European countries

KEY INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS OF HDRI RESEARCHERS

- Bálint, Lajos Döme, Péter Daróczi, Gergely Gonda, Xenia Rihmer, Zoltán (2014): Investigation of the marked and longstanding spatial inhomogeneity of the Hungarian suicide rate: A spatial regression approach. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 155, 180–185.
- Bartus, Tamás Murinkó, Lívia Szalma, Ivett Szél, Bernadett (2013): The effect of education on second births in Hungary: A test of the time-squeeze, self-selection and partner-effect hypotheses. *Demographic Research*, 28(1), 1–32.
- Borrell, Carme Marí-Dell'olmo, Marc Palència, Laia Gotsens, Mercè - Burström, Bo - Domínguez-Berjón, Felicitas - Rodríguez-Sanz, Maica - Dzúrová, Dagmar - Gandarillas, Ana - Hoffmann, Rasmus - Kovács, Katalin - Marinacci, Chiara - Martikainen, Pekka - Pikhart, Hynek - Corman, Diana - Rosicova, Katarina -Saez, Marc - Santana, Paula - Tarkiainen, Lasse - Puigpinós, Rosa - Morrison, Joana - Pasarín, M Isabel - Díez, Èlia (2014): Socioeconomic inequalities in mortality in 16 European cities. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 42(3), 245-254.
- Joubert, Kálmán Molnár, Dénes Gyenis, Gyula Zsakai, Annamária (2013): The relationship between neonatal developmental status and post-natal nutritional status in Hungarian children. *Annals of Human Biology*, 40(5), 435–443.
- Kapitány, Balázs Spéder, Zsolt (2012): Realization, postponement or abandonment of childbearing intentions in four European countries. *Population (English Edition)*, 67(4), 599–629.
- Letablier, Marie-Thérèse Makay, Zsuzsanna (2012): Insécurité économique et décisions de fécondité en France et en Hongrie. *Politiques sociales et familiales*, 107(1), 5–21.

- Melegh, Attila Thornton, Arland Philipov, Dimiter Young-DeMarco, Linda (2013): Perceptions of societal developmental hierarchies in Europe and beyond: A Bulgarian perspective. *European Sociological Review*, 29(3), 603-615.
- Pakot, Levente Őri, Péter (2012): Marriage systems and remarriage in 19th century Hungary: A comparative study. *The History of the Family*, 17(2), 105–124.
- Rihmer, Zoltán Gonda, Xenia Kapitány, Balázs Döme, Péter (2013): Suicide in Hungary – epidemiological and clinical perspectives. *Annals of General Psychiatry*, 12(1), 21.
- Spéder, Zsolt Kapitány, Balázs (2014): Failure to realize fertility intentions: A key aspect of the post-communist fertility transition. *Population Research and Policy Review*, January.
- Spéder, Zsolt Murinkó, Lívia Settersten, Richard A. (2014): Are conceptions of adulthood universal and unisex? Ages and social markers in 25 European countries. *Social Forces*, 92(3), 873–898.
- Stickley, Andrew Leinsalu, Mall Kunst, Anton E. Bopp, Matthias – Strand, Bjørn Heine – Martikainen, Pekka – Lundberg, Olle – Kovács, Katalin – Artnik, Barbara – Kalediene, Ramune – Rychtaříková, Jitka – Wojtyniak, Bogdan – Mackenbach, Johan P. (2012): Socioeconomic inequalities in homicide mortality: A population-based comparative study of 12 European countries. *European Journal of Epidemiology*, 27(11), 877–884.



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