

# Demographic Outlook

National reports on the demographic developments in 2007

2008 edition

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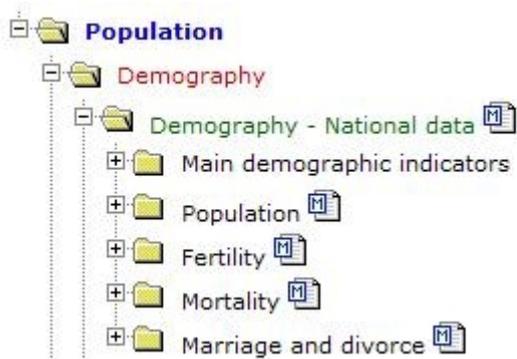
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## FOREWORD

This publication presents the recent demographic developments in the European countries and the reports are produced by the corresponding national statistical authorities. These reports are part of a regular demographic data collection that is carried out every year by Eurostat where 50 countries and territories are consulted. The coverage in this publication is however limited to those countries that have provided a report on their demographic developments in 2007 and includes EU Member States and candidate countries as well as other Council of Europe Member States.

The views expressed in this publication are of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Commission.

Data on demography can be found on Eurostat's website on the link described below:



# BELGIUM

*Michel Willems, Nicolas Perrin, Leïla Bellamammer*

## **Population**

On 1 January 2008, 10 666 866 people were officially registered in the National Register of Natural Persons of Belgium (the central population register). This means a total growth of 82 332 people (0.8%) in comparison with 1 January 2007. This is the highest growth recorded in Belgium since 1964. This growth is in line with the regular upward trend since the mid-nineties. It results for the most part from the migration balance and for a smaller but not negligible part from the natural balance. In 2007, the births exceeded the deaths by 20 005.

The proportion of women (51.0%) in the total resident population remains approximately at the same level. The proportion of people aged under 15 years (16.9%) keeps on declining while that of people aged 65 and over is going up (17.1%). In 1990, they accounted for respectively 18.1% and 14.8%. As a result, the ageing coefficient (persons of 65 years or over per 100 people under 15 years) amounts now to 101.1. It was 95.0 on 1 January 2000 and 81.8 on 1 January 1990. The ageing of the population is thus progressing considerably.

The foreign population on 1 January 2008 amounted to 971 448 people, or 9.1% of the total resident population. This share has been constant for two decades (8.8% on 1 January 1990 and 8.8% on 1 January 2000). This relatively stagnating proportion does not adequately reflect the growing impact of immigration on the population of the country, mainly because of the important number of people changing their nationality. Indeed, as from 1985, with the changes in the nationality legislation, the acquisition of the Belgian nationality gained considerable importance in the evolution of the foreign population. Since the beginning of the 2000s, from 20 000 to 60 000 foreigners acquire Belgian nationality every year. In 2007 for example, 36 063 foreigners obtained the Belgian nationality (whilst only 118 persons having the Belgian nationality acquired a foreign nationality). This is the reason why Belgium recently started to produce new statistics on the population with foreign background. This expression covers the residents of foreign nationality and the residents who are foreigners by birth but who acquired the Belgian nationality. The detailed data on 1 January 2008 are not available yet. However, on 1 January 2007, the population with foreign background amounted to 1 703 589 people against 932 161 residents of foreign nationality or 16.1% of the total resident population against 8.8% when only considering the foreign nationals. It should also be noted: that the majority (51.9%) of the Belgians with foreign background were born in Belgium and are therefore not immigrants in the strict sense of the word; that five nationalities (in order : Italian, Moroccan, French, Dutch and Turkish) represent nearly 60% of the total population with foreign background; and finally that the population with foreign background accounts for 48.2% of the population of the Brussels-Capital Region, 17.4% of population of the Walloon Region and 10% of the population of the Flemish Region.

## **Fertility**

The fertility statistics of Belgium are based on the Civil Registry for which the last available year is 1999. In 1999 there were 114 170 live births and the total fertility rate (TFR) amounted to 1.62 child per woman. This rate is below the replacement level and is also lower than the historical peak of 1964 (2.71 children per woman). However, this rate makes a significant step forward compared to the historical low of 1.51 recorded in 1985 and has been going up slightly for some years. There is a continuing postponement of motherhood towards older ages as demonstrated by the mean age at childbirth which evolved from 28.70 years in 1998 to 28.75 years in 1999 (in 1990 it was 27.86 years for the same fertility level).

The National Register also makes it possible to count the live births but not to calculate the corresponding fertility rates. In 2007, 120 663 live births have been recorded in the National Register (113 469 in 1999). On this basis, estimates have been made for the Belgian population forecasts for the period 2007-2060 (see below). They result in a total fertility rate of 1.81 children per woman and imply a continuing postponement of motherhood towards older ages with a mean age of childbirth close to 30 years. However, it should be remembered that these values are not observed values but forecasts to be confirmed.

Since the mid-70s, the proportion of live births outside marriage has been increasing continuously: from 3.1% in 1975 to 25.5% in 1999, it is estimated at 30% for 2007.

## **Mortality**

The number of deaths recorded in the National Register in 2007 amounts to 100 658 or a decline of about 1 000 in comparison with 2006. Despite some fluctuations, this downward trend has been observed since many years (the peak of deaths has been reached in 1968 with 121 275 deaths).

Given the positive evolution of the age-specific death rates, life expectancy at birth is on the rise for both sexes. According to the 2004-2006 life table, life expectancy is 82.46 years for women and 76.71 years for the men or an increase by respectively 0.32 and 0.39 year in comparison with the 2003-2004 life table. The trend towards a slower increase of women's life expectancy has been confirmed for several years and the difference between both sexes continues to decline. The difference in life expectancy at birth between both sexes, in favour of women, reached a peak of 6.74 years in the 1994-1996 life tables. Since then, the discrepancy has been declining and amounted to 5.75 years in 2004-2006.

Infant mortality, measured from the number of deaths recorded in the National Register, no longer reduces. In 2007, the infant mortality rate was 3.4 deaths per thousand live births for girls and 4.7 deaths per thousand live births for boys, or a slight improvement for girls and a very slight worsening for boys in comparison with 2006. However, it should be noted that progress has been very fast in the previous years considering that in 1994, the infant mortality rate was still 6.6 and 8.6 per thousand live births of respectively girls and boys.

## **Migration**

In 2007, 146 409 persons immigrated to Belgium and 91 052 emigrated from Belgium. Belgium had therefore a positive migration balance of 55 357 persons.

The international migratory movements, in terms of immigration, emigration and migration balance, reach an unprecedented extent. 2007 was a record year for those three indicators. The most remarkable evolution concerns international immigration. Indeed, the number of immigrations is continuously increasing since 1984. It exceeds the number of emigrations since 1988 and even exceeds the levels recorded for the massive recruitments of foreign labour force that took place between the post-war period and the early 70s. Admittedly, the number of emigrations grows at a regular, but much slower pace than the number of immigrations.

This migratory movements concern four population groups with rather different behaviours: 1/ the Belgian citizens, 2/ the EU-citizens having full freedom of movement, establishment and work in the EU (EU-15 + Cyprus and Malta), 3/ the EU-citizens who are still submitted to a limited access to the labour market (member states which entered the EU between 2004 and 2007, except Cyprus and Malta), 4/ the non-EU citizens.

Contrary to the other groups, the number of Belgians leaving Belgium exceeds the number of returns. In spite of this negative migration balance for the Belgian nationals, the total migration balance is largely positive because of the strongly positive migration balance of the foreigners. For the EU-nationals having a full access to the labour market, the number of immigrations strongly increased over the last two decades but the emigration partially compensates this movement. Indeed, a large part of these immigrations of European citizens are not permanent and should be characterized as intra-EU mobility of short duration, from which Brussels largely benefits, instead of permanent immigration. The major part of these flows concerns citizens of bordering countries like France and The Netherlands but an increase in the immigrations from the whole EU can be observed at various levels.

The last decade has been characterized by a steady immigration from the new EU member states despite the restrictions on their access to the labour market and sometimes much before the enlargement of the EU. This phenomenon is especially marked for the Poles and, to a smaller extent, for the Romanians, but an increase is also recorded for all nationalities. Until now, the emigrations or returns of this kind of migrants are limited.

The increase of the immigrations of non-EU citizens has also been quite sharp over the last two decades and has not been compensated by noticeable re-emigrations. As in the past, the Moroccans are by far the most represented nationality among the non-EU immigrants, followed by the nationals of Turkey and of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. However, the rapid development of the immigrations from China, India, Russia, Pakistan and Brazil is remarkable and is a forerunner of emerging migration flows.

## **Marriage and divorce**

The last available data on marriages and divorces cover 2006 but provisional data (based on the first 6 months) are also available for 2007: 45 275 marriages and 29 881 divorces.

A slight increase of the number of marriages is observed since 2002 when the number of marriage reached its lowest level (40 434 or 3.9 per 1 000 inhabitants). However, the general trend remains that the nuptiality rate has strongly declined since the peak of the early 70s: 74 584 marriages in 1972, or 7.7 per 1 000 inhabitants. Marriage is not only less frequent but it is also postponed towards older ages hence the mean age at first marriage for women is now (in 2006) 28.7 years whereas it was 22 years in 1974 after a period during which the age at marriage had been declining.

As regards the divorces, the 2007 figures confirm the stagnation observed since 3-4 years but at a higher level than in the early seventies when the number of divorces started to explode (7 972 divorces in 1972). At that time the total divorce rate was close to 100 per 1 000 marriages (114 in 1972); it was 578 in 2004 (the calculations for the last years still have to be made). The number of divorces will probably go up again in 2008, because of the recent modifications in the divorce legislation.

## **Demographic Projections**

In May 2008, Belgium produced a new set of population projections by age, sex and district, for the period 2007-2060. They follow the projections for 2000-2050 and have as a basis the observations on 1 January 2007.

They are based on a single set of hypotheses. Mortality continues to decline at all ages and life expectancy at birth is supposed to reach 85.3 years for men and 90.9 years for women in 2060, or an increase by almost 8 years in both cases. After the continuing growth observed in the recent years, the total fertility rate would return to its average level of 2004-2006 and stabilize at 1.77 children per woman until 2060. The greatest evolution in comparison with 2001 concerns the hypotheses regarding international migrations, which have been changed according to the observations. These hypotheses distinguish the EU-15 nationals from those of the 12 new member states and the non-EU immigrants. They use for the last two groups an indicator of standard of living that is supposed to reflect the relative attractiveness of the Belgian economy in the whole of Europe. On this basis, the external migration balance increases until 2012 (to a maximum of 56 600 people) and then decreases until 2035 (to less than 20 000 people) and finally slightly goes up and stabilizes in 2050 (at about 26 000 people).

On the basis of these hypotheses, the population would reach 12.7 million people on 1 January 2060, or an extra 2 million. The average age of the population would considerably go up (45.0 years against the current 40.6 years) as well as the share of people aged 65 or over (26.3%). The ageing ratio would increase up to 166.6 (against 101.1 today) while the dependence ratio (the number of people younger than 15 and people aged 65 or over per 100 people aged between 15 and 64) would be 72.5.

## **Government decisions and developments in legislation**

The law of 27 April 2007, which reforms the divorce procedures, is undoubtedly a measure that will influence the behaviour of the couples in this matter. Its purpose is to make the divorce procedures less complicated and less painful for the families. The new law abolishes the concept of fault and limits the types of divorce to two situations: “mutual consent” and “irremediable separation”. The irremediable separation is established after 6 months de facto separation when both spouses make a request or after one year separation if one spouse makes a request. The observers think that this modification will induce a sharp increase in divorce cases. The available statistics do not allow testing this hypothesis yet.

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# BULGARIA

## Population

The population data as of 31.12.2007 was calculated on the basis of the population of the previous year updated with the natural and migration increase of the population in 2007. At the end of 2007 the country's permanent population was 7 640.2 thousand persons of whom 70.7% lived in urban areas. Over the last year as a result of the significantly greater number of deaths compared to that of births and the negative international migration balance, the number of the population has decreased by 39 thousand persons or 0.5%.

The relative share of females in the total population (51.6%) remains higher than that of males. In 2007 there were 1 000 males to 1 065 females, while in 1997 the number of women in this ratio was 1 048, in 2000 and 2001 - 1 054, and in 2006 - 1 064.

The changes in the age structure include the continuous decrease of the number and share of the population up to 15 years of age and the increase of the share of persons over 65 years. While in 1997 the relative share of young people up to 15 years of age was 16.8%, and that of persons over 65 years - 15.6% of the total population, in 2001 these relative shares were 15.0% and 16.9% respectively. In 2007, the relative share of young people was 13.4%, while that of the older population already represents 17.3% of the total population. The aging of the population is more strongly expressed among females than males. The relative share of women over 65 years of age is 19.8% and that of men - 14.6%. The difference is due to the higher mortality rate among men, and its consequence - lower life expectancy at birth.

The ageing of the population naturally leads to higher values of the mean age indicator. This indicator in 1997 stood at 39.2 years, rose to 40.4 years in 2001, and reached 41.4 years in 2006. In 2007, the mean age of the population was already 41.5 years. The mean age in villages (45.4 years) is higher than that in cities (39.9 years).

Since 1990, the natural increase is negative; as a result, the population of Bulgaria has been decreasing. In 2007 the absolute number of the natural increase was -37 655 persons. This decrease of the population is registered as the smallest one after 1995 as a result of the natural increase.

The negative value of the natural increase rate (i.e. the difference between births and deaths during the year per 1 000 persons of the average annual population) increased from -0.4‰ in 1990 to -5.0‰ in 1995, reaching its highest value in 1997 (-7.0‰). Over the following years the negative value of the natural increase rate has decreased and dropped until -5.6‰ in 2001, -5.1‰ in 2006 and in 2007 it already was at the level of 1995 (-5.0‰).

## **Fertility**

The process of increase of the number of births and fertility rate continues in 2007 as well. 75 915 children were born in Bulgaria in 2007, of which 75 349 (99.3%) live-born. In comparison with the preceding year the number of live-born children was higher by 1 371. The number of live births in 2007 is the biggest for the entire period after 1995.

The crude birth rate decreased from 12.1‰ in 1990 to 8.6 ‰ in 1995, reaching its minimal value of 7.7‰ in 1997. After 1998, the crude birth rate begins increasing and in the last years it stabilized around 9.0‰. In 2007 this indicator reaches 9.8‰.

The tendency of increase of birth rate in the last four years is due largely to the increasing fertility and natal contingents, measured by the total fertility rate. The average number of children born by a woman in 2001 is 1.24 children, in 2006 it reaches 1.38 and in 2007 - 1.42 children. It is the highest fertility observed after 1993, when the total fertility rate was 1.45 children. However, this value is far from the rate of two children for ensuring even simple family reproduction.

In 2007, a concentration of births was recorded among women aged 20-29 years (57.8% of total live births). The births are concentrated primarily on first and second births, which represent approximately 88.3% of all live births. In practice, the birth of fourth or even third child is very rare in Bulgaria today.

The tendency of an increase of the mean age of the mother at first birth has set in - from 22.7 in 1997 to 23.8 in 2001 and 25.3 years in 2007.

The substantial increase in the proportion of births outside marriage in recent years continued in 2007. Their relative share from 18.5% in 1992 has increased to 30.0% in 1997 and 50.2% in 2007. The high share of extra-marital births can be explained by the considerable increase of the number of cohabitations among young people (living in partnership without juridical marriage). Considering that for 62.4% of illegitimate births the name of the father has been registered, we can assume that these are children born in a “de facto” marriage and living in a family environment with two parents. In remaining illegitimate births the name of the father has been listed as unknown, their relative share off all births is 18.9%, and we can thus assume that this represents the de facto number of illegitimate births.

## **Mortality**

There are no considerable changes observed in the coverage and level of mortality. In 2007 the number of deaths was 113 004 and it was near that in the preceding year (113 438). The crude death rate (the number of the deaths per 1 000 persons of the average annual number of the population) stood at 14.8‰ and its value was 0.1‰ higher compared to that in 1997, when the biggest number of deaths through the second middle

of the last century was registered. This higher value of the crude death rate is due to the decrease of total population number.

For the period 2001 - 2007 life expectancy at birth for men increased by 0.7 years and for women – by 1.1 year. For the 2005-2007 period the life expectancy at birth for men was 69.24 years, while for women it was approximately 7.1 years longer – 76.30 years.

Since 1997 (26.9%) the premature mortality indicator, namely the ratio between deaths of persons under the age of 65 and the total number of deaths has been on the decline with a value of 25.2% in 2001, reaching 24.6% in 2006. In 2007 this indicator was 24.1%. Therefore, the stable high death rate is mainly due to deaths in the older age group, though the decrease in the population in the younger age group must also be taken into account.

After reaching the level of 17.5‰ in 1997, the highest value for the last 20 years, the infant mortality rate decreases continuously. The number of children up to the age of 1 year per 1 000 live births in 2001 was 14.4‰ and in 2006 - 9.7‰. In 2007, 690 children up to the age of 1 year died in Bulgaria, and the infant mortality rate decreased to 9.2‰. This value of the infant mortality rate is the lowest one in general so far.

## **Migration**

From the beginning of 2007, the migration of population includes people who have changed their current address within or outside the country.

2 960 persons have declared at the civil registration offices that have changed their current address in Bulgaria with a new address abroad in 2007. During the same year 1 560 persons have declared a change of their current address abroad with a new one in Bulgaria. As a result of the international migration, the country population decreased by 1 400 persons. It has to be taken into account that the international migration consists of much more persons. In accordance to the European Parliament and the Council Regulation N 862/2007 in order to cover better and to estimate the international migration, the National Statistical Institute has started a specialized statistical survey.

## **Marriages and divorces**

The number of marriages has fallen. In 2007 the total registered number of marriages was 29 640 and the marriage rate was 3.9‰. The number of marriages decreased by 3 thousand in comparison to the preceding year and it was the same as in 2002, when the lowest marriage rate was registered - 3.7‰.

The decrease in the number of marriages is due to a decrease in country's population of marriage age and the increase of the number of cohabitations. Young people increasingly prefer to live together without having officially married. It could be assumed that young

couples generally tend to postpone marriage. Such an assumption is backed by the tendency towards an increase of the mean age at first marriage. Among men in 2001 it was 28.1 years and in 2007 it reaches 29.0 years. The indicator for females is 24.8, and 25.9 years respectively.

The number of divorces in 2007 was 16 347 which represent about 552 divorces per 1 000 marriages or 2.1 divorces per 1 000 inhabitants. The number of divorces stood stable in the last 3 years until 2006 (between 14.6 and 14.8 thousand), but in 2007 it reached its absolute maximum so far.

The mean duration of marriage in 2007 stands at the level of 14 years, typical for the last four years, but compared to previous years shows a tendency towards an increase with 1.5 years from 2001 so far.

# GERMANY

## Population

Germany had a population of 82 217 900 on 31.12.2007. This represents a loss of 97 000 persons against the previous year (82 314 900). In 2006 the decline in population size amounted to 123 000 persons. The ground for these population decreases was that the surplus of deaths over births, amounting to 148 900 in 2006 and 142 300 in 2007, was not compensated by the positive migration balance of 22 800 in 2006 and 43 900 in 2007.

Around 7 257 000 foreigners lived in Germany on 31.12.2007. The share of foreigners as against the total population is 8.8%. The size of the foreign population was constant in comparison to 2006 (7 256 000). These data come from the current statistical update of population. A second source of data on the foreign population is based on the Central Register of Foreigners, according to which the number of foreigners was 6 744 900 at the end of 2007. The notable difference in comparison with the results of the current population update is due to a different coverage of the foreign population and to different reporting paths.

## Fertility

The fertility rate in Germany remains low. For 2007 a total fertility rate of 1.37 was recorded. Whilst 767 000 births were registered in 2000 the number of live births fell to 684 900 in 2007 due to the lower number of women in childbearing age.

In 2007, 31% of all children in Germany were born to women who were not married at the time of the birth of their child. This trend has undergone a marked increase since the start of the nineties. In the eastern part of Germany 60% of all children are born to unmarried mothers.

The trend towards starting the family formation phase at a later age has continued. In 2007 women were 31.2 years old on average when their child is born. The mean age at birth of the first child within the current marriage reached 29.9 years in 2007.

## **Mortality**

The results of the 2005/2007 life table show an average life expectancy of 82.25 years for newborn girls and of 76.89 years for newborn boys. Life expectancy is still increasing for newborns and also for the elderly. Women's' further life expectancy at age 60 is 24.61 years and men's 20.75 years. A slight increase is observed in the number of children who died before the age of one. It was 2 700 in 2007. The infant mortality rate hence rose from 3.8 to 3.9 in comparison to the previous year.

## **Migration**

Germany also had a positive migration balance of 43 900 persons in 2007 (2006: 22 800).

680 800 persons, of which 574 800 foreigners, moved to Germany in 2007 and 636 900, of which 475 800 foreigners, left the country. The highest numbers of foreign immigrants came from Poland, Romania and Turkey. There were considerable emigration flows of foreigners back to Poland, Turkey, Romania and Italy. The main countries of destination for German citizens were Switzerland, the United States and Austria.

## **Marriage and divorce**

368 900 marriages were registered in 2007. Compared with 2006 the number of marriages decreased by 4 800.

The number of divorces (187 100) was nearly constant in 2007 compared with previous years. The total divorce rate amounted to 0.4. The divorce rate increased between 1999 and 2004 and has been decreasing since 2005.

49.0% of divorced couples had children in 2007; this share decreased again in 2007. A total of 145 000 children were affected by their parents' divorce.

## **Government decisions and developments in legislation**

The Act to Expand Day-care for Children under three (*Gesetz zum Ausbau der Tagesbetreuung für Kinder unter drei Jahren*), also known as the Day-care Expansion Act (*Tagesbetreuungsausbaugesetz - TAG*), has been in force since 2005. The intention pursued with the Federal Act is to define the framework for vital improvements in state-run child-care. The goal is to:

- create 230 000 additional places in kindergartens and crèches, and in full day-care, by 2010;
- improve the quality of child-care by developing children's' abilities early, and
- offer parents options between a variety of care arrangements. Day-care is to be expanded and improved by means of skill-building measures.

# ESTONIA

## Population

In 2007, the tendencies, which have been in progress for quite some time, continued. The population continued to decline, however, due to the increasing number of births and stable mortality the decrease has slowed down. As of 1 January 2008, the estimated population number of Estonia was 1 340 935 persons. In 2007, the population number fell by 1 634 persons or 0.11% because of natural increase.

On 1 January 2008, the percentage of under 15-year-olds was 14.8 and over 65-year-olds was 17.2. During recent years the percentage of persons aged 15-64 has been stable.

## Fertility

The number of births is increasing. In 2007, 15.775 children were born. The crude birth rate increased up to 11.8 and the total fertility rate up to 1.64 in 2007. The fertility increased especially among the 30–44-year-old women. The mean age of mother at childbirth keeps rising. In 2007, the mean age of mother at the birth of the first child was 25.4 years. Slightly less than half of the children born (47.7% at 2007) are firstborn, however, the percentage of them has declined in the last years due to the rising number of second and third born children. In 2007, compared to 2006, the number of second born children increased by 5.8% and third born children even by 11.2%.

The number of induced abortions keeps declining. In 2007, 26 abortions were induced per 1 000 women of fertile age. The number of abortions per 100 live births also keeps decreasing — 56 abortions were induced per 100 live births in 2007.

## Mortality

In 2007, the number of deaths was slightly higher than in 2006 — 17 409. For both, men and women, the main causes of death were the diseases of circulatory system and malignant neoplasms. For men, injuries and poisonings constitute the third main cause of death. The crude death rate was 13.0.

The number of infant deaths has increased to 79 in 2007, the infant mortality rate was 5.0. The number of late foetal deaths has increased to 65, which still remains below the level of 2005.

The life expectancy slightly increased in 2006, mainly due to the life expectancy figures for women. The life expectancy of males was 67.4, and females - 78.5 years. With a bit more than 11 years, Estonia has one of the biggest differences among the EU countries in the life expectancy at birth for men and women. However, at the age of 65, a woman can expect to live further 18 years and a man - further 13 years, which makes the difference of 5 years.

## **Migration**

The migration data for the period 2000-2007 are not published as the data on registered changes of the place of residence do not cover all the migration events and the recommended definitions on migration statistics cannot be used for these data.

## **Marriage and divorce**

The number of marriages kept growing and the number of divorces kept declining. In 2007, the crude marriage rate was 5.2 and the crude divorce rate was 2.8, as in 2006. For the first time after 1995, the number of marriages exceeded 7 000 (7 022 marriages in 2007). The growth in the number of marriages was primarily due to the figures concerning first marriages; the number of remarriages decreased in 2007.

The mean age at first marriage keeps rising. In 2007, the mean age of women at first marriage was 27 years and the mean age of men was 29.4 years, which is respectively 0.5 and 0.4 years higher than in 2006. 27% of couples going to marry had common children; thereof 7% of the couples had more than one common child.

In 2007, there were two divorces less than a year before – 3 809. The rate of divorces, where the couple has no common under-aged children, is growing, but still more than a half of all divorced couples (53%) have at least one under-age child.

## **Government decisions and developments in legislation**

Starting from 1 January 2004, the Aliens Law includes the obligation of an alien having a residence permit in Estonia to register his/her place of residence in the Population Register during one month from arrival in Estonia. Starting from 27 May 2005, the Population Register Act includes the obligation of any person who changes his or her place of residence in Estonia to register the new place of residence in the Population Register. A person should inform the municipality within 30 days from arrival to the new place of residence. In 2004, the Parental Benefit Act came into force. The purpose of this Act is to compensate for the loss of income arising from the raising of a child and to support the combination of work and family life. Since 2004, 455 days of the total leave are fully compensated at a rate of 100% of the mother's or father's salary for the previous calendar year; this period has increased to 575 days in 2008. However, the current parental leave scheme forces a parent – usually the mother – to make a clear-cut choice between work and parental leave. Although working while on parental leave is allowed, the leave benefit is reduced depending on the amount of income earned.

# GREECE

*Konstantinos Voulgaris*

## **Population**

At the beginning of 2007, the estimated total population of Greece amounted to 11 171 740 persons. The annual growth rate in 2007 was 3.8 per thousand population, equal to the rate of natural increase of 0.2 (resulting from a birth rate of 10.0 and a death rate 9.8 in 2007), plus a rate of 3.6 of net migration. On 31/12/2007, the estimated population was 11 213 785 persons.

During the last decade (1995-2004) and until 2007 there have been substantial changes in the age composition, based on the total of the estimated population. The proportion of children (0-14 year of age) dropped from 17.4% in 1995 to 14.3% in 2007, while the group of persons at pension age (65 years and over) increased to 18.6% in 2007, from 15.1% in 1995. The active population (15-64 years of age) share has fallen from 67.5% in 1995, to 67.1% in 2007. In absolute figures, the age group of children (0-14 years) shows a decrease of 13.5% in 2007, as compared with 1995, while the active population of 15-64 years of age shows a corresponding increase of 4.6% and the population aged over 65 years increased by 29.5%, respectively.

It is obvious, therefore, that the age composition presented a shift towards older ages and the ratio of ageing has showed a sharp upward trend since 1995, reaching in 2007 at the level of 130 persons aged 65 years and over, for every 100 persons aged 0 -14 years, compared with 87 persons in 1995.

## **Fertility**

In 2007, fertility in Greece showed a slight increase compared with the previous years. Generally, the crude birth rate showed an upward trend between 1995 and 2005, going up from 9.5 births per 1 000 head of population in 1995 to 10.1 births in 2006 and 10.0 in 2007.

The total fertility rate declined steadily over the past decade and until the end of 2005. From 2.09 births per mother in 1981 - just below the replacement level (2.1) - it decreased to 1.32 in 1995 and after following an upward trend reached at 1.40 in 2006 and at 1.41 in the year 2007, remaining well below the replacement level. The net production rate, which corresponds to the overall fertility rate, was 627 daughters in 1995, 632 in 2005, 664 in 2006 and 686 in 2007 continuing the upward trend in this index.

The evolution of the fertility trend had an adverse effect on the country's natural population increase, the birth surplus having fallen steadily from 1 337 in 1995, to 6 566 in 2006 and 2 031 individuals in 2007.

The age specific fertility index for the last ten years (1995-2005) shows a shift away from the 20-24 age group (which has been the most fertile group from the beginning of the decade until 1988)

to the older age groups and particularly the 25-29s and to the 30-34s from the year 2005. This is related to the increase by some three years in the average age of women at first marriage. The mean age of mother at the birth of first child having stabilized at 23 years at the beginning of the eighties, started to rise from 1985 and on, reaching 28.8 years in 2005, 28.9 years in 2006 and 29.2 in 2007.

The number of births by birth order has decreased proportionately over the years 1995-2007, meaning that the ration of birth by order has remained about the same.

Births outside marriage showed a considerable increase in 2007 at 6 507, the ratio of births outside marriage rising to 58.1 per 1 000 live births, as compared with 5 914 (52.8) in 2006 and 3 083 (30.4) in 1995.

## **Mortality**

The crude mortality rate rose moderately yet steadily during the eighties and nineties from 8.9 deaths per 1 000 head of population in 1981 and 9.4 in 1995 to 9.8 in 2007. This slight increase was due mainly to the rise in the number of deaths amongst the over 75s, caused by the ageing of the population. The specific by age and sex mortality rates showed a stable downward trend except for women aged 80 years and more.

The average age of death, which in 1995 was 71.8 for men and 77.6 for women, increased steadily by almost two years over the last decade, to 73.5 years for men and 79.7 years for women in 2007, as compared with 73.2 and 79.2 respectively in 2005 and 73.5 and 79.6 in 2006.

The infant mortality rate gradually declined, the steady annual decrease bringing the figure down from 8.2 deaths per 1 000 live births in 1995, to 3.8 deaths in 2005, 3.7 deaths in 2006 and 3.5 in 2007.

Life expectancy at birth showed an increase for men, from 75.0 years in 1995, to 77.0 in 2007 and for women from 80.2 years to 82.0 years in 2007, thus decreased the gap between men and women from 5.2 to 5.0 years.

As regards to the causes of death over the 1995-2007 period, first position was held by heart diseases, followed (in decreasing order) by neoplasm's, cerebrovascular diseases and diseases of the respiratory system, the fifth position being held by accidents.

## **Migration**

The external migration changed the population age pyramid by increasing proportion of the elderly people. First, the emigration reduced the active population in the country, while the immigration added population to the elderly. During the decade 1951-1960, our Country had a loss of 211 000 people and during the decade 1961-1970 a size of 435 000 individuals because of the emigration. In the decade 1971-1980, the immigrants showed an increase that amounted to 272 000 people. During the above decade, the internal migration of the population to the big urban areas, contributed to the increase of the elderly people. The movement of population from

the country to the big urban areas caused the phenomena of decrease in fertility because they adopted the habits and the circumstances those who lived in the urban areas.

During the decade of 1990, political changes took place in Eastern Europe that changed our Country to a reception Country of foreign immigrants. This population reached 762 000 persons in the Census of 2001 from 138 000 persons in the Census of 1991 and constituted the main cause for the increase of population during the nineties.

## **Marriage**

The crude marriage rate in 2007, decreased and reached at the level of 5.5 marriages per 1 000 head of population, while at the beginning of the eighties the crude marriage rate was 7.3 marriages per 1 000 head of population.

The cumulated first marriage frequency for women aged under 50 showed a downward trend during the eighties, reaching 0.65 in 2006 and 0.70 in 2007, from 0.87 in 1980. This trend has adversely affected the number of births.

The mean age of women at first marriage gradually increased during the decade, from 25.3 years in 1995, to 28.4 years in 2006 and 28.6 in 2007.

## **Demographic projections**

According to the last available population projections (which were based on the last population census), the total population of Greece will be 11.500.000 people in the year 2050 (main variant). The age structure will be different than in year 2000: The proportion of children (0-14 year of age) will drop from 15.3% in 2000 to 13.0% in 2050, while the group of persons at pension age (65 years and over) will increase to 32.1% in 2050, from 16.6 in 2000. The active population (15-64 years of age) will decrease 13.2 percentage points from 68.1% in 2000, to 54.9 in 2050. To product these projections used three variants (high, main, low) and period approach. In the low variant low fertility (TFR=1.38 in 2050) is considered, slow increase in life expectancy (Life expectancy at birth 80.1 for males and 84.4 for females in 2050) and a reduction of migration. In the high variant high fertility (TFR=1.94 in 2050) is considered, fast increase in life expectancy (Life expectancy at birth 86.6 for males and 89.6 for females in 2050) and further migration increase. The main variant is the average of the other two variants.

# ITALY

## Population

### *Total population*

At the end of 2007 the total resident population was 59 619 290; the annual growth amounted to 490 thousand (+ 0.8% per cent). The increase was due to the net migration that, following a long established trend, is strongly positive +494 871 (492 823 if we consider only foreign migration). The natural balance, even if it was positive in 2006, shows a surplus of deaths on births (-6 868).

### *Foreign population*

The number of foreigners counted in the resident population is continuously increasing: at the end of 2007 they were 3 432 651 (5.8% of total population). In relative terms the increase has been of +16.8 per cent in the last year, +122 per cent in the last 6 years. During this period, an important regularization process has taken place.

The main factor of increase of foreign population is the immigration flow (515 201 in 2007) leading to a net migration of +494 885, the highest ever registered in the last decade. More of a half of this growth is due to the resident Romanian population that almost doubled in the last year. The natural balance is positive as well, on much lower but not negligible numbers (+60 379), due to an increase of births and a very low number of deaths.

With regard to countries of origin, the composition of resident foreigners is such that the three first citizenships (Romania, Albania and Morocco) account for 41% of the total. China and Ukraine are relevant as well (respectively 4.6% and 3.9%). The rest of the foreigners are quite heterogeneous, coming from a wide range of countries: the first ten citizenships account for only 62 per cent of the total.

The number of acquisitions of Italian citizenship is growing: in 2007 it was 45 485 (+29.0%).

It is a flow that displaces population from the “foreign” segment to the “national” one, nevertheless leaving it with the characteristics of immigrant population.

## Fertility

During the last decade fertility has slightly increased from the historical minimum of 1.19 observed in 1995. The TFR in 2007 is estimated to be 1.37, as the result of a converging trend between northern and southern regions. The contribution given by foreign women is not negligible, due to their higher fertility (2.50 in 2006). Their contribution is important in terms of number of births as well: the total number – 563 933 in 2007 - shows an increase of +0.7% (with respect to 2006) which is almost completely due to the increase in the number of foreign new-born, which accounts for 11.4% of total births (it was 10.3% in 2006).

The mean age at childbearing has risen to 31.0 years (in 2006), an augmentation of 3.6 years since 1979, when it was at its minimum (27.4), even though the fertility levels were higher. It indicates that the process of postponement of fertility is still under way, as part of a more general delay in the transition to adult life.

The majority of births occur inside wedlock, even though the number of live births from not married women is growing and in 2006 it reached 18.6% of total births.

## **Mortality**

In 2007 the number of deaths was 573 026, with a slight increase compared to 2006 (+2.2%) and a crude death rate for the resident population of 9.4 per thousand. Life expectancy at birth continues to increase: the latest estimates for 2007 are 78.6 years for men and 84.1 years for women, with an increase in the last decade more marked for men (+3.3 years) than for women (+2.4 years).

Infant mortality rate keeps in 2005 (last available data from the Istat source: Causes of Death Register) the same value calculated for the previous year, 3.7 per thousand, compared to 6.1 per thousand in 1995.

When assessing the main causes of death, data show that deaths due to tumours have slightly increased, the crude death rate changing from 32.6 (per 10 thousand) in 1996 to 34.3 in 2006 (last estimates) for men and from 23.1 (per 10 thousand) in 1996 to 25.0 in 2006 for women. The most frequent cause of death continues to be the diseases of the circulatory system. The crude death rate has reached in 2006 (last estimates) 34.0 (per 10 thousand) for men and 40.8 for women (compared to 39.6 and 45.6 respectively in 1996).

## **Migration**

The net-migration rate amounts to +8.3 per thousand in 2007. It is higher than in the previous period because of the relevant flows of foreign migrants and it is the main cause of population growth. This is due to the regular migration flows of new workers and to the subsequent family reunifications, but also to recent changes in laws concerning entry and stay in Italy for the EU citizens, together with the recent entry (1° January 2007) of Romania and Bulgaria in EU.

Internal migration causes a significant redistribution of population between southern regions and the rest of Italy, following a well-established migration path and is driven by the economic differentials still characterizing the country. A significant part of internal migration flows (about 15%) is due changes of residence of foreigners.

## **Marriage and divorce**

During 2007 the decrease in the number of marriages in Italy stopped: they were 250 041 (about 4 000 more than the previous year) with a marriage rate of 4.2 per thousand. During 2006, first nuptiality rate (per thousand) were 511 for men and 577 for women. First marriages are largely

prevailing, even though the percentage of subsequent weddings is continuously increasing (12.9% of total weddings in 2006, 9.7% in 2000).

There was an increase of the mean age at first wedding, that in 2006, reached 32.6 years for men and 29.4 for women. In 2000 it used to be about 2 years lower.

An emerging phenomenon is the formation of mixed couples, between Italians and foreigners, which are 14.0% of the total (in 2006). They were only 4.3% 10 years before. Usually the groom is Italian and the bride is a foreigner (65% of weddings with spouses of different nationality), more frequently originating from Eastern and Central European countries and from South America. The opposite combination is much less common, and in this case the groom often comes from North African countries or from Eastern Europe.

The number of divorces in 2006 was 49 534, a figure that shows a 5.3% increase compared to 2005. During the last eleven years, the total number of divorces grew of about 83% (27 038 in 1995).

### **Government decisions and development in legislation**

The main legislative measures about population relate to immigration. Legislative decree 30/2007 implementing Directive 2004/38/EC stated new criteria for entry and stay in Italy for EU citizens. Following it residence permit is no more necessary for an EU citizen to stay in Italy for more than three months, provided that the person is registered in the population register.

The law 189/2002 established the rules for a regular entry to Italy of foreign workers, at the same time allowing the clarification of the position of those irregularly present on the territory, who could eventually obtain a residence permit. It contained measures to prevent illegal entry and to contrast illegal stay as well.

The legislative procedure to fix a three years basis flow of immigrant workers was established in 1998, and then partially revised with the law 189/2002. The procedure involves governmental bodies and social actors.

As for naturalization, the law 91/1992 establishes as main requisite 10 years of continuative residence in Italy. For Italians who emigrated abroad and for their descendants the procedure is eased, recognizing citizenship as a right that can be handed down. It is possible to acquire Italian citizenship also by marriage and, for foreigners born in Italy, after having the legal age.

# LATVIA

## Population

At the beginning of 2008, the resident population of Latvia stood at 2 270 894. Since 2000, Latvia's population has decreased by 110 000 persons, or by 4.7%, including 10 411 persons in 2007.

In 2007, the average age of the population increased by 0.1 years and was 40.5 years at the beginning of 2008. The average age of men was 37.5 years and that of women 43.0 years. Data on the age structure of the population show that the population of Latvia continues to age.

At the beginning of 2008, only 13.8% of the population were aged 0-14, 20.6% was of post-productive age (62+ for men and 61+ for women), and 65.6% was of working age. The latter category - the share of population of working age - was 58.9% at the beginning of 2000. The increase in the proportion of the working age population is the result of a change in the retirement age by Latvia's legislation.

Nowadays, the proportions of men and women in the population are almost equal. At the beginning of 2008 the proportion of men was 46.1%. They outnumbered women in all age groups up to 35 years. In age groups 36 years and above they were in a minority, with the most pronounced female surplus in age groups over 70.

Statistical data show a change in the ethnic composition of the population in recent years. During the last five years, the percentage of ethnic Latvians has increased from 58.5% to 59.0% at the beginning of 2008. However, in Riga - the capital city - the percentage of ethnic Latvians is less than a half - 42.3%.

The population density is 35.2 inhabitants per square kilometre.

## Fertility

The number of live births was 23 273 in 2007, which is equal to a total fertility rate of 1.41. After the peak in 1986-1987 (2.21), the total fertility rate fell to 1.11 in 1998 to slightly increase again in 1999-2000 and in 2004-2007. At present it is slightly over a half of the replacement level (2.1 - 2.2).

An increase of fertility in the last year has been observed for females aged 30 - 34 (by 5% compared with the year 2006), aged 35 - 39 (by 11%) and aged 40 - 44 (by 12%).

The mean age of mothers of new-borns is 28.2 years, which represents an increase of 0.9 years since 2000, but the mean age of mothers at first birth (25.4) has gone up by 1.0 year.

It is envisaged that the number of females in the fertile age will not decrease in the coming years as women born in the 80s - when fertility observed was the highest in the post-war period - are now of fertile age.

## **Mortality**

The number of deaths in 2007 was 33 042 (33 098 in 2006). The crude death rate was 14.5 ‰ in 2007, including 13.9 ‰ for urban population and 15.7 ‰ for rural population. The overall mortality rates for men exceeded the indicators of women 1.1 times on average.

The mortality trends in Latvia are rather different from those of the developed European countries. 54.6% of all deaths in 2007 were caused by diseases of the circulatory system (793 per 100 000 population), followed by 18.1% from neoplasms (264 per 100 000 population), and 8.6% from external causes (125 per 100 000 population).

Life expectancy at birth was 65.8 years for men and 76.5 for women (64.9 and 76.0 in 2000, respectively).

In 2007, 203 infant deaths were recorded in the first year of life; infant mortality rate equalled 8.7 deaths in the first year of life per 1 000 live births.

## **Migration**

According to Recommendations of the United Nations in the first place, data on **long-term migrants** have been compiled and published. This category includes persons arriving into the country for a permanent settlement or for a stay period of one year or more and persons departing from the given country to another with an aim to change the permanent place of residence or to stay in this destination country for one year or more. The criteria of time allow separating the long-term migrants from another flows of border crossing persons - tourists, excursionists, and short-term migrants.

The data compiled on long-term migration of the Latvian population in 2007 show evidence of a notable decrease in the high number of departures observed in early 1990s.

In 2007, 3541 persons arrived in Latvia from 66 countries for a permanent stay, while 4183 persons left Latvia for a permanent stay in 80 other countries. The resident population of Latvia decreased by 642 persons in 2007 due to international migration.

The majority of emigrants who left for Western countries went to Germany (449), United Kingdom (393), USA (206), Ireland (182), Italy (94), and Sweden (81). Emigrants to our neighbouring countries Lithuania and Estonia were 120 and 59, respectively. The majority of emigrants who left for Eastern European countries went to the Russian Federation (1414), Belarus (300) and Ukraine (192).

The Declaration of Place of Residence Law had a major impact on the national internal migration with volumes in 2007 reaching 1.6 times more those of 2000 comprising 55 089 and 34 989 persons respectively.

The proportion of internal migration to the total migration volume in 2007 was 93%, while international migration constituted 7%.

The number of foreigners in the country is currently 43 583 persons, or 1.9% of the total population. Among the residents of Latvia there are 371 659 non-citizens of Latvia, which according to the national legislation cannot be counted as foreigners.

### **Marriage and divorce**

In 2007, 15 486 marriages were contracted in Latvia representing an increase 1.7 times compared to 2000, and 6.0% increase compared with the previous year. Between 2000 and 2007 the crude marriage rate increased essentially - from 3.9 to 6.8.

The average age at first marriage is currently 26.4 years for brides and 28.5 years for bridegrooms, which is by 1.5 years higher than in 2000 for brides and by 1.6 years higher for bridegrooms.

In 2007, 20.5% of the grooms and 20.1% of the brides with Latvian ethnicity married a partner of a different ethnicity.

Roughly one half of the population aged 18 and over (50.6% of males and 42.6% of females) is legally married. The share of married persons has decreased in 2007 if compared with the previous year. As in other European countries, cohabitation has become more common in recent years.

7403 divorces were registered in 2007. Since 2000, divorces have increased by 1269, or by 20.7%. The number of divorces in 2007 was 478 per 1 000 marriages and the crude divorce rate was 3.3 compared with 2.6 in 2000.

### **Demographic projections**

In compliance with requests of ministries and other governmental agencies, as well as international organisations, a new set of demographic projections for the period up to the year 2050 has been developed by the Statistical Office of the European Communities - Eurostat in co-operation with the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia and with the Department of Demography at the University of Latvia. The 2000 Population and Housing Census data and recent statistical data on demographic development and migration served as a background for these projections. On this basis, the in-country demographic projections will be carried out for the 7 largest cities under the state jurisdiction, and 26 rural districts.

### **Government decisions and developments in legislation**

The Parliament of Latvia adopted amendments to the Law on State Statistics of the Republic of Latvia. The law states that the Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia is responsible for the organisation of the work of official statistics in the Republic of Latvia and for the correctness of data it has obtained, compiling the information received from respondents.

The CSB of Latvia shall perform the following functions:

- Implementation of a unified State policy in the field of the management, compilation, analysis and publication of statistical information;

- Provision of users of statistics with information included in the National Programme for Statistical Information for which the Central Statistical Bureau is responsible;

- Preparation, within the limits of regular annual financial resources, of a national programme for statistical information, official statistical questionnaires. The National Programme for Statistical Information and official statistical questionnaires shall be approved by the Cabinet;

- Taking on responsibility for the development of a unified mandatory system of classification and codification of economic information that complies with international standards. The procedure for preparing (adapting), implementing and using the unified classification system for economic information shall be determined by the Cabinet;

- Co-ordination of the whole flow of statistical information at the national level, as well as the mutual harmonisation of the statistical indicators to be included in State registers and other information systems;

- Co-ordination of the activities of State and local government institutions regarding matters of statistics.

The above mentioned Law also states that the methods used in state statistics and the prepared information shall be impartial and independent of political processes and interest groups, the statistical information shall be available to state and local government institutions as well as to the general public.

If summary statistical data have been collected according to the State Statistical Programme adopted by the Government of Latvia, these data are available for users free of charge.

In 2007, the Cabinet approved a number of regulations necessary for the organisation and carrying out of the 2011 Population and Housing Census. The 1<sup>st</sup> March of 2011 was assigned as the forthcoming Latvian Census date.

# LITHUANIA

## Population

At the beginning of 2008, the estimated population of the Republic of Lithuania was 3 366 357, i.e. 18 522 (or 0.5%) less than at the beginning of 2007. In 2007, due to the natural decrease, the population declined by 13 278, due to the negative net migration – it decreased by 5 244 persons.

At the beginning of 2008, there were 232 369 more women than men (1 799 363 and 1 566 994 respectively). Women made up 53.5% of the total population. There were 1 148 women per 1 000 men.

The population is ageing. At the beginning of 2007, the mean age of the population was 38.6, while at the beginning of 2008 – 39.0 years. The mean age of men was 5 years lower than that of women.

At the beginning of 2008, 20.5% of the total population was aged 60 and older; the proportion of children (aged 0–14) was 15.4% (at the beginning of 2007, 20.4% and 15.9% respectively). At the beginning of 2008, the number of men aged 60 and older amounted to 247 100, that of women – 443 714, i.e. each sixth man and each fourth woman belonged to this age group.

At the beginning of 2008, nationals of the Republic of Lithuania made up 98.7% of the country's population, those of the Russian Federation – 0.4%, Belarus, Ukraine – 0.1% each. Ethnic Lithuanians made up 84.3% of the country's population. Most residents of the country (3 143 910, or 93.4%) were born in Lithuania.

At the beginning of 2008, population density was 51.6 inhabitants per square kilometre.

## Fertility

The total number of live births was 32 346 in 2007, i.e. 1081 more than in 2006. The number of live births per 1 000 population increased from 9.2 in 2006 to 9.6 in 2007. The level of fertility remains low and does not ensure alternation of generations. In 2007, the total fertility rate was 1.35 (1.31 in 2006).

The mean age of mothers at the birth of their first child was 25.4 years in 2007, increasing by 0.2 years as compared with 2006.

The number of first and second live births has been increasing and amounted to 85.8% of all live births in 2007 (85.1% in 2006). However, the share of the third, fourth and higher order live births decreased and in 2007, accounted for 14.2% of all live births (14.9% in 2006).

In 2007, children born outside marriage made up 29.2% of all live births (29.6% in 2006).

## **Mortality**

In 2007, 45 624 deaths were registered which is 1.8% (811 deaths) more than in 2006. The number of deaths per 1 000 population increased from 13.2 in 2006 to 13.5 in 2007. In 2007, age-adjusted death rates for men were more than twice higher than those for women.

The number of infant deaths, children under one year of age, was 190 in 2007, i.e. 23 less than in 2006. In 2007, the number of infant deaths per 1 000 live births was 5.9 (in 2006 – 6.8).

Life expectancy at birth of men was 64.9 years, which is 0.4 year less than in 2006. The life expectancy at birth of women was 77.2 years and 0.1 year more respectively. This quite significant difference between the life expectancy at birth of men and women has been increasing: in 2006, the life expectancy at birth of men was by 11.8 years lower than that of women, while in 2007 – by 12.3 years.

In 2007, 82.9% of the total number of deaths fell within the three main causes of death: diseases of the circulatory system, malignant neoplasms and external causes of mortality. In 2007, 44.5% of men and 63.6% of women deaths was attributed to diseases of the circulatory system. Mortality due to malignant neoplasms accounts for 18.2% of all deaths. Of great concern to society is mortality due to external causes, which accounted for as much as 16.5% of men and 5.6% of women deaths in 2007. The highest number of deaths caused by the external causes of mortality included intentional self-harm – 19.5%, transport accidents – 16.7%, accidental poisoning and exposure to alcohol – 9.2%, drowning and submersion – 7.3%, assault – 4.6%.

## **Migration**

In 2007, 8 609 persons immigrated to the Republic of Lithuania, which is 864 more than in 2006. In 2007, there were, on average, 2.6 immigrants per 1 000 population. The biggest share of immigrants were aged 15–59 (84.2%), children aged 0–14 (11.1%) and persons aged 60 and older (4.7%). Nationals of the Republic of Lithuania, as compared to the total number of immigrants, made up 71.3%.

Based on the data of the declaration of residence and results of the Survey on Undeclared Emigration (a supplementary module within the LFS), the number of residents of the Republic of Lithuania who emigrated in 2007 was estimated. This said survey was carried out in order to measure the volumes of undeclared emigration as precisely as possible. However, its results do not allow correcting retrospective annual population estimates.

In 2007, 26 500 residents of the Republic of Lithuania left the country, i.e. 1 300, or 4.7%, less than a year ago. The largest number (48 100) of emigrants was in 2005. In 2007, more than half (13 853 or 52.3%) of emigrants declared their departure. In 2007, about two-thirds of emigrants left for EU countries: United Kingdom (33%), Ireland (16%), Germany (8%), Spain (4%) and other. Residents were also emigrating to the United States of America (11%), Russian Federation (7%) and Belarus (5%). In 2007, emigrants within the age group of 25–29 made up about 18% of all emigrants, while those within the age groups of 20–24 and 30–34 were 13% (for each group), while in 2006, it was 20, 15 and 12% respectively. In 2007, people aged 60 and older made up just about 4% of all emigrants.

In the I and II quarters 2008, Statistics Lithuania, applying a random sampling method, carried out a pilot Survey on Immigration (a supplementary module within LFS). The survey results will enable the estimation of the volume of undeclared return migration.

### **Marriages and divorces**

In 2007, 23 065 marriages were contracted, that is 1 819 couples more than in 2006. In 2007, the average age at first marriage for men was 27.7 years, for women – 25.5 years in 2007. Women contracting a marriage were, on average, 3.5 years younger than men. In 2007, 24.0% of men and 22.4% of women had been married previously.

The total number of divorces was 11 336 in 2007, i.e. 134 more than in 2006. In 2007, the number of divorces per 1 000 population was 3.4 (3.3 – in 2006). In 2007, the average duration of marriage was 13.1 years. The total divorce rate indicates that 48% of all marriages end in divorce. In 2007, 37.3% of couples who divorced did not have common children, 41.9% had one common child and 20.8% – two and more common children.

# LUXEMBOURG

*Germaine Thill*

## **Population**

The population of Luxembourg continues to grow rapidly. In 2007 a positive natural balance of +1 600 and a positive migration balance of +6 000 pulled an increase of some 7 600 persons (+1.6%) and on 1 January 2008, 483 800 inhabitants were living in Luxembourg.

The percentage of foreign residents continued to grow and was 42.6% in 2007, compared with 41.6% in 2005.

## **Fertility**

After the increase recorded in 2006, the number of births decreased slightly by -0.7% in 2007. From 5 514 in 2006 it fell to 5 477 in 2007. This decrease was due to a reduction of foreign births, their number falling from 3 044 in 2006 to 2 959 in 2007 (-2.9%), whereas births in the native population even increased progressing from 2 470 to 2 518 (+1.9%).

Nevertheless, as already observed in the previous years, the number of foreign births exceeded the number of Luxembourg births and in 2007, they accounted for more than 54% of all births in the country.

The number of births outside marriage, in constant progress, exceeded for the first time the threshold of 30%. In 2007, 30.7% of the children were born outside marriage compared to 28.8% in 2006.

In 2007, the total fertility rate was 1.61 children per woman and the birth rate was 11.4 per 1 000 population.

The mother's mean age at birth was 31.1 among Luxembourg women and 30.6 among foreign women.

## **Mortality**

The number of deaths continued to rise, passing from 3 766 in 2006 to 3 866 in 2007 (+2.5%). This increase was mainly due to the growing number of deaths among foreign residents, where the number went up from 683 in 2006 to 721 in 2007 (+5.2%). This increase is only about 2 percentage among the Luxembourgers rising from 3 083 in 2006 to 3 145 in 2007. In absolute terms however, the number of deaths among the foreign population remains very low because of its very young age structure.

The crude death rate, which was below 8‰ for the last years passed this threshold and was 8.05‰ in 2007.

The decrease of infant mortality (deaths of children below the age of one) recorded in the last years continued also in 2007 where there were 10 infant deaths and the infant mortality rate of 1.8‰ was the lowest ever recorded in Luxembourg.

## **Migration**

Concerning international migration flows, the figures from a file extracted from the general Register of Natural Persons and transmitted by the Centre Informatique de l'Etat to STATEC show a positive migration balance of +6 001 persons (16 675 arrivals and 10 674 departures).

## **Marriage and divorce**

During recent years, the number of marriages has remained more or less steady. In 2007, 1 969 couples married in Luxembourg compared to 1 948 the year before. Due to the continuous rise of the number of inhabitants, the marriage rate is constantly decreasing (4.12‰ in 2006 and 4.10‰ in 2007).

Mean age at first marriage continues to rise, and in 2007, the average age at first marriage was 32.5 years for men and 30.1 years for women.

The first marriage rate was respectively 0.417 for men and 0.451 for women.

The number of divorces also varies only slightly from one year to the next. After a peak reached in 2007 (1 182 divorces compared to 1 046 respectively 1 055 pronounced in 2005 and 2004) their number decrease again and 1 106 divorces were pronounced in 2007. The divorce rate is 2.30 per 1 000 inhabitants and the total divorce rate stands at 0.52. More than half the marriages, which take place in any year, will thus end in divorce, if the frequency of divorce by length of marriage continues at the 2007 rate.

# HUNGARY

## Population

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 the population was estimated at 10 045 401 which is 20 757 less than in the previous year. The natural decrease in 2007 was 3.5 ‰ compared to 3.2 ‰ in 2006. Because of the positive balance of international migration the actual population decrease in 2007 was 2.1 ‰, by 1.1 ‰ more than in the previous year. Population size has been decreasing steadily since 1980, albeit with varying levels of intensity, and represents a decrease of about 664 000 (6.2%) over a quarter of a century. The decrease of the population took place simultaneously with the ageing process of the population. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 the ratio of children under 15 years was 15.0% compared to 16.6% in 2001 and 20.5% in 1990. However, the proportion of persons aged 65 years and over was 16.2%, compared to 15.1% in 2001 and 13.2% in 1990. The composition of the population by marital status changed significantly. At the end of 2007 only 47.2% of the adult population aged 15 and over was married, while in 1990 their ratio was 61.2%. During this period the proportion of never married persons increased from 20.3% to 31.1%, and divorced people rose from 7.4% to 10.3%. There were 1 106 females per 1 000 males at the end of 2007.

## Fertility

After the fertility nadir in 2003, the number of births started a slow, three year long increase. This trend stopped in 2007, because the 97 613 births were by 2.3 percent, i.e. 2258 newborn children less than a year before. The total fertility rate decreased from 1.35 to 1.32 in 2007. The decrease in fertility was mainly attributed to the changing behaviour of young women aged below 25 years. While the fertility level increased among women aged over 30, it continued to decrease among young women. Compared to 1990s, the fertility level in 2007 has decreased by 51% for women below 20 years, by 69% for women aged 20-24. Conversely, compared to 1990, the fertility level increased by 68% for women aged 30-34, and by 80% for women aged 35-39.

The changing age-specific fertility behaviours have contributed to the ageing process of mothers. During the last seventeen years the mean age at childbirth increased by almost 3.5 years and reached 29.1 years in 2007. In the same period the mean age at birth of the first child increased by nearly 4.6 years to 27.6.

Among the total number of births, the number and proportion of extra-marital births continued to increase. For example, while the total number of births was nearly 23% lower in 2007 than in 1990, the number of births outside marriage has doubled. Furthermore, 37.5% of total births were outside marriage in 2007 compared to 13.1% in 1990. The overwhelming majority of the extra-marital births were conceived by single women (86%), while nearly 13 per cent by divorced women. In 2007 the proportion of infants born with a low weight (less than 2 500 grams) was 8.2%, compared to the 8.3% in the previous year.

In the last one and a half decades the number and ratio of induced abortions showed an improving picture. Since 1990 the number of abortions has decreased by 51.5% and in 2007 there were 18.2 induced abortions per 1 000 women aged 15-49 years. The 43 870 induced abortions carried out

in 2007 were by 5.3 per cent, i.e. 2454 less than in the previous year. The total abortion rate measured 0.62 per woman in 2007 is much lower compared to its value of 1.25 in 1990. In the last seventeen years the induced abortions decreased to a higher degree than the number of births. As a result the number of induced abortions per 100 live births decreased from 71.9 in 1990 to 44.9 in 2007 thereby indicating a more responsible contraception.

## **Mortality**

For three decades until the early 1990s death rates increased. Since then a definite improvement can be observed in mortality. However in the past few years the number of deaths seemed to be fluctuant mainly due to the flu epidemic of the spring and winter months. In 2007, 132 938 people died, 1335 (1.01%) more than in the previous year. This represents 13.2 ‰ compared to the 13.1 ‰ in 2006.

The gender aspect of mortality deserves special attention. In the last ten years, the mortality rate for men decreased to a greater extent than for women. The improvement is most significant among middle-aged men.

In 2007 the average life expectancy at birth was 69.19 for men and 77.34 for women. This is an increase of 0.16 years for men and a slight decrease of 0.01 years for women compared to the result of the 2006 life table. Life expectancy at birth for men is now 4.64 years higher than fifteen years ago, for women it is 3.61 years higher. However it is much lower, than the average of industrialized and EU countries.

There are significant differences in mortality by regions, which mainly reflect the diverse social situation in the country: the death rate of adult males is much higher in rural than in urban areas. The geographic differences in mortality are not so pronounced for women.

The infant mortality rate in 2007 was 5.9 per thousand live births, about 0.2 more than in 2006. This is still high on an international scale but shows a definite improvement in the last decades. The relatively high infant mortality can be attributed partly to the relative high proportion of premature birth.

## **Migration**

Hungary is first and foremost a transit and only then a destination country. Officially migration decreased and stabilized after the major international migration movement in the early 1990s.

In 2007 22 607 migrants arrived in Hungary, of whom 76% were Europeans, mostly Romanians, Ukrainians, Serbian, Montenegrins and Germans. 19.3% came from Asia, mostly from China and Vietnam. The number of foreign citizens leaving the country increased in 2007, 4 133 foreigners left the country.

On 1st January 2008 the number of foreigners staying long-term or permanently in Hungary reached 174 697 persons, which represents 1.74% of the total population. Migrants are distributed not evenly between the different counties. Immigration primarily concerns the capital and large towns. After the capital and Pest County, most foreigners can be found in Csongrád

County. The age composition is characterized by a predominance of young adults (20-39 years old).

Compare to the previous year there was an increase in the number of naturalisations in 2007. According to the preliminary data 8 505 migrants were naturalized in 2007, compared to 6 172 in 2006.

For the time being, 53.2% of the new Hungarian citizens live in Central Hungary, 18.4% on the Southern Transdanubia and 12.2% on the Southern Great Plain.

### **Marriage and divorce**

Since the middle of the 1970s the number of marriages has shown a declining trend. The reduction was significant especially in the last two decades. Between 1990 and 2007 the number of marriages fell by 38.5%, and the total first marriage rate (TFMR) for females decreased from 0.77 to 0.44 during the same period. Marriage movement has touched a bottom again in 2007. The 40 842 marriages for 2007 mean a fall of 8.3 per cent, that is nearly 3700 less couples, than a year before. The crude marriage rate was equal to 4.1 ‰, and the 0.44 value of TFMR for women in 2007 showed a decline of 0.03 compared to the previous year. While the decline in marriages can be observed in all age groups, the fall was much greater in the younger age groups. Thus, the increase in mean age at first marriage continued. Between 1990 and 2007 the mean age for women at first marriage increased by 5.5 years and it reached 27.5 years.

The expansion of cohabitation played the crucial role in the falling number of marriages. In the last two decades the number of cohabiting people increased almost threefold, and according to the results of the 2005 micro census at 15.0% of the partnerships, couples lived in cohabitation.

There has been no substantive change in the number of divorces. The stability of marriages has been however weakening because the same number of divorces concerns less and less marriages and married couples. In 2007, 25 160 marriages ended in divorce, 1.1% more than in the previous year. The crude divorce rate was 2.5 ‰, and the total divorce rate indicates that 45% of all marriages would end in divorce. The most affected age group is 20-34 year olds.

### **Demographic projections**

Population projections are made regularly and provide information on the population by age and sex up to 2050. In addition, the population is also projected by level of education, as well as by categories of economic activity and inactivity. Usually every five years a regional population projection is added to the projection set.

According to the latest national population projection, the total fertility rate will be around 1.3 in the short term and then increase slowly to 1.5. Life expectancy at birth is assumed to increase from 69.0 to 79.7 by 2050 for men and from 77.3 to 86.7 for women. International migration is included into the projection: net migration is assumed to be rather high, +15 000 annually. (These assumptions concern the baseline variant; in the old and the young variants fertility, mortality and net migration are assumed to have lower or higher levels.)

The projections show a further and significant population decline, with a new phase of ageing process and changing size of given age groups as a consequence of fluctuations in the annual number of births in the past. The size of the population is projected to be 9.0 million by 2050 and the proportion of those aged 65 and over is estimated to be 30%. This set of projections is based on the final data of the 2001 census and yearly population estimation afterwards to 2007.

## PORTUGAL

The demographic indicators for 2007 reveal that the main recent demographic trends in Portugal have remained unchanged: slower population growth and demographic ageing.

### Population

On 31 December 2007 the population resident in Portugal was estimated at 10 617 575. The population growth rate has decreased to 0.17% (0.28% in 2006), as a result of a net migration rate of 0.18% (0.25% in 2006) and a negative natural growth rate of -0.1% (0.03% in 2006).

The trend towards demographic ageing has continued. The proportion of young people (under 15 years of age) in relation to the total population went down to 15.3% (15.5% in 2006), at the same time as the proportion of older persons (over 65 years of age) increased to 17.4% (17.3% in 2006). The combination of these two age groups has resulted in a rising of the ageing index to 114 in 2007 (112 in 2006).

### Fertility

In 2007, 102 492 live births of mothers resident in Portugal were recorded (105 449 in 2006) which corresponds to a birth rate of 9.7 live births per thousand inhabitants (10.0 live births per thousand inhabitants in 2006) and to a total fertility rate of 1.33 children per woman, the lowest figure ever recorded in Portugal (1.36 children per woman in 2006).

Women in Portugal not only have fewer children, but they also have them later. These changes in fertility behaviour are reflected in a new increase of the mean age of women at childbearing that went up from 29.0 (2006) to 30.0 years of age by 2007.

The majority of births occur within wedlock, even though the number of live births born out of wedlock is growing and in 2007 it reached 33.6% of total births (31.6% in 2006), split by 27.0% of live births whose parents are cohabiting (25.3% in 2006) and 6.6% of live births out of wedlock and not cohabiting parents (6.3% in 2006).

The percentage of foreign mothers' newborn continues to grow and accounts 9.6% of births of mothers resident in Portugal recorded in 2007 (9.0% in 2006).

### Mortality

There were 103 512 deaths of individuals resident in Portugal recorded in 2007 (101 990 in 2006). This corresponds to a crude death rate of 9.8 deaths per thousand inhabitants (9.6 deaths per thousand inhabitants in 2006). The infant mortality rate remains below 3.5 deaths of children under one year of age per thousand live births, reaching 3.4 deaths of children under one year of age per thousand live births in 2007.

According to the 2005-2007 national complete life tables, life expectancy at birth has reached 75.18 years for men and 81.57 years for women.

## **Migration**

Net migration remained positive, meaning that there was more immigration than emigration, as it has been the case since the 1990s. This indicator reached its high level between 2001 and 2003, after which it has dropped significantly, with net migration for 2007 estimated at 19 500 individuals.

Foreign population resident in Portugal, with a legal status, was estimated at 446 333<sup>1</sup> (437 126 in 2006).

## **Marriage and divorce**

There were 46 329 marriages recorded in Portugal during 2007 (47 857 in 2006) and the marriage rate was 4.4 marriages per thousand inhabitants (4.5 marriages per thousand inhabitants in 2006). The mean age at marriage has standing at 32.2 for men and 29.7 for women (31.7 and 29.2, respectively for men and women, in 2006).

An emerging phenomenon is the marriage between Portuguese and foreigners. In 2007, the percentage of marriages between Portuguese and foreigners has rise to 12.3% (10.3% in 2006).

In 2007, there were 24 968 divorces<sup>2</sup> of residents in Portugal (22 881 in 2006) and the crude divorce rate stood at 2.4 divorces per thousand inhabitants (2.2 divorces per thousand inhabitants in 2006). The average length of marriage at divorce was 14.3 years (14.5 years in 2006).

## **Demographic projections**

The last demographic projections for Portugal, carried out by Statistics Portugal, were published in 2003. Under the assumptions of a slight increase in fertility, a gradual increase on life expectancy and a moderate positive net migration, it was expected that the population would decrease and continues the demographic ageing trend.

## **Government decisions and developments in legislation**

The main Portuguese legislative measures in 2007 that might have impact on demographic components were: the Law n.º 16/2007” of 17 April, that established the exclusion of the illegality in the cases of voluntary interruption of the pregnancy; the Law n.º 23/2007” of 4 July, that approves the legal framework of entry, permanence, exit and removal of foreigners into and out of national territory; and, the Decree-Law n.º 308-A/2007 of 5 September that recognizes the right to the pre-natal family benefit and increased the family benefit for children and young persons.

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<sup>1</sup> Provisional data on May 2008.

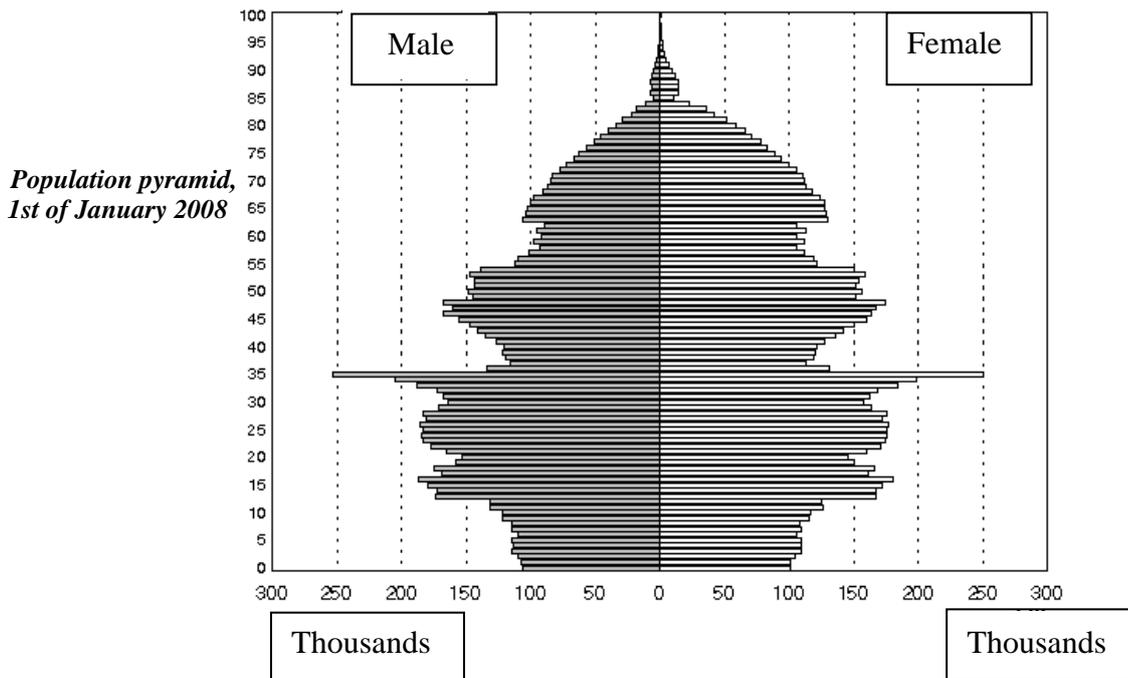
<sup>2</sup> 2007 data includes the number of divorces certified by the Offices of Civil Registration and the number of divorces and legal separations granted in court of law (provisional data, July 2008).

# ROMANIA

## Population

At the end of 2007, the Romanian population amounted to 21529 thousand, 36.5 thousand less than at the end of 2006. From the total population 10491 thousand were men (48.7%) and 11038 thousand were women (51.3%). Since the last Population and Housing Census (March 2002), the population decreased by 152 thousand, due to the natural increase and net outward migration.

The ageing process of the population continues, mainly as a consequence of the decrease of the proportion of young persons. The ageing ratio (persons of 65 years and more per 100 persons below the age of 15) increased from 97 in 2006 to 97.8 in 2007.



The proportion of the population over 65 years slightly increased from 14.8% in 2006, to 14.9% in 2007 (+2 thousands persons), while the population under 15 years decreased from 15.4% to 15.2% in the same period (-39.1 thousands persons).

## Fertility

In 2007 were 214.7 thousand live births recorded, which are 4.8 thousand less than in the previous year. Despite this, the specific crude birth rate of young women (under 20 years) increased.

Most of the newborns had mothers aged 25-29 years and fathers aged 25-34 years. More than 30% of newborns had mothers aged over 30.

Total fertility rate declined steadily over the past decades. Starting with 1995 the value of total fertility rate remained around 1.3, well below the replacement level.

In 2007, the number of children born out of wedlock counted 57.3 thousand (26.7%), one-third of them having mothers under 20 years old.

In 2007, the mean-age of women at first birth was 25.3 years (slightly increased with 0.1 year as compared with 2006). Mean-age at childbirth was 27.0 years, which is 0.1 year more than in 2006.

The fertility rate, 38.9 live births per 1 000 women (aged 15-49 years), increased.

The number of induced abortions has a declining trend. The number of abortions per 100 live births is continuously decreasing – 64 abortions were induced per 100 live births in 2007. Accordingly, total abortion rate reached a total of 0.8 induced abortions per women during the fertile period.

## **Mortality**

252 thousand deaths were registered in 2007, 6.1 thousand less than in 2006. The crude death rate decreased slightly from 12.0‰ in 2006 to 11.7‰ in 2007. Mortality continues to be considered high in the European context.

The phenomenon of “male over-mortality” is present in almost all age groups, with highest values in the age groups 20-69 years. Men’s crude death rates in the age groups 15-64 continue to be more than twice as high as for women.

In the last decade, the most frequent causes of death were diseases of circulatory system (from which 21% ischemic disease and 20.3% cerebral-vascular diseases) and neoplasm which together accounted for 79.3% of the total number of deaths (same percent as in the previous year). Men die more often from ischemic disease, neoplasms, tuberculosis, traumatic lesions and poisonings, infectious and parasitic diseases, and mental and behaviour disorders. Female mortality rates exceeded male mortality rates in diseases of the circulatory system (especially cerebral-vascular diseases), endocrine, nutrition and metabolism diseases.

For the period 2005-2007, life expectancy at birth was 72.61 years. Women’s life expectancy exceeded men’s by 6.97 years, which is less than in the previous period (7.06 years). During 2005-2007 period life expectancy increase slightly for both sexes. Some variation in men’s survival probabilities for those aged 40 and over could be attributed to stress, standard of living, work-place security, unhealthy food, environmental pollution, alcohol and tobacco consumption.

## **Migration**

In the first year after the integration in EU, Romania had, for the first time after the 1989's revolution, a slightly positive migration balance of 745 persons. Even the number of official legal persons that left the country was a little less than the number of those who arrived; Romania continues to be an important "provider" of emigrants. Unfortunately, the official figures are not including the illegal migration, which is considered much higher, but not quantified.

During the last decades, the external migration, in conjunction with the lowering level of fertility, changed the population pyramid by increasing the proportion of the elderly people. In 2007 the main external flows of migrants went to Germany (1902 persons) and Italy (1401 persons). Canada (1787 persons) was on the third place of the Romanian's preferences, followed by USA (1535 persons).

Most of the immigrants continue to come from the Republic of Moldova, although the percentage was in 2007 less than in 2006 (42%, as compared with 56.4% in 2006).

Most of the legal emigrants were highly trained and qualified people.

## **Marriage and divorce**

189.2 thousand marriages were registered in 2007, with 42.6 thousand more as comparing with the previous year. Accordingly, the crude marriage rate rose to 8.8 marriages per 1 000 inhabitants (6.8 marriages per 1 000 inhabitants in 2006). Romania continues to have a high marriage rate as compared to other European countries, where rates are not exceeding 6 ‰.

In 2007, even the number of first marriages increased compared to the previous year, young people continue to postpone marriage. The percentage of single people increased in the younger age groups.

As in previous years, men continue to tend to marry later than women. In 2007 the percentages of married men under 35 fold under 80%. Mean-age at marriage has increased in 2007 too, reaching 29.8 years for men and 26.3 years for women (with 1.3 years and respectively with 1 year more than in 2006).

In 2007, 36.3 thousand divorces were registered, or 1.69 divorces per 1 000 inhabitants – increased as compared with 1.51 divorces per 1 000 inhabitants in 2006. The divorce rate level, which is relatively low compared with other European countries, indicates a relative stability of the family in Romanian society.

Young generations tend to divorce faster. Most of the young age groups registered an increased divorce rate, especially among those under 20. As in previous years, the highest frequency of divorces was recorded among men aged 35-39 years and women aged 30-34 years, even the values are not very high. Divorces of first rank continue to prevail, for both sexes about 94% of the total number of divorces being first divorces.

The mean-age at divorce was 39.6 years for men and 35.9 years for women, slightly up against previous years. For childless marriages, the highest frequency of divorces was registered after 1

year of marriage, and, for couples with one child, after 5-9 years of marriage. Infidelity remained the main cause of divorce (9.5%), followed by alcoholism (6.7%) and physical violence (5.3%). Divorces caused by men were 3.2 times higher as compared with women.

### **Government decisions and further developments in legislation**

The Government and the local public authorities will have to make a more consistent effort in order to correlate and harmonize the programs by implementing public policies with social and educational impact among youngsters to facilitate their transition in a society in a permanent change, and achieve a balance between generations.

- In this purpose, the Romanian Government has the following objectives:
- Increase of the youngsters' autonomy;
- Youngsters' involvement within public life;
- Continual education and professional training;
- Removal up to the late 2007 of the compulsory military service;
- Prevention of delinquency among youngsters;
- Sustaining the young families.

At present, the medical system is much lagging behind from the point of view of its reform. For this reason, the actual system did not contribute to increasing the quality of health care and of people's access to these services and, more importantly, in a sustainable decreasing of mortality and morbidity. A great majority of the population remains outside the effective access to medical services because of financial and transport difficulties. Many of the health and demographic indicators are placing us on unacceptable positions within the European classification.

The Romanian Government aims to fulfil the following as priority objectives:

- Effective and equal access of all citizens to basic medical care (including those from rural or isolated area);
- Increase the life quality by improving the quality and the security of medical act;
- Move towards the health and demographic indicators of the EU developed countries.

# SLOVENIA

## Population

At the end of 2007 there were 2 025 866 people living in Slovenia. During 2007 the population grew by 0.8%. In 2007 the population growth was not only a result of a positive net migration but also a result of natural increase (there were 1 239 live births more than deaths in Slovenia).

At the end of 2007 the population included 3.4% of foreign citizens. Almost half of them 47.3% were citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 14.9% of Serbia and 10.2% of Croatia. In 2007 foreigners from former Yugoslav Republics represented 83.5% of all foreigners in Slovenia, whereas foreigners from EU-27 countries represented 6.0% of all foreigners in Slovenia.

In the last 20 years the mean age of population grew by 5.8 years and reached 41.1 years by the end of 2007. On average men were 39.4 years old and women were 42.7 years old, which means that since 1987 the mean age of men has increased by 5.9 years and of women by 5.7 years.

In the past two decades there has been a constant decrease in the share of children aged 0-14 and an increase in the population aged 65 or more. At the end of 2007 the population consisted of 13.9% persons aged below 15 years and 16.1% persons aged 65 or more. The ageing index of men was 87.8 and of women 146.4.

## Fertility

In 2007, 19 823 children were born (the most in the past fifteen years), 10 152 boys and 9 671 girls. Compared to the previous year the number increased by 891 (4.3%). After 2003, when the lowest number of live births was registered, the number of births has gradually increased. On average 9.8 children were born per 1 000 population in 2007.

The total fertility rate in Slovenia is among the lowest in Europe. In 2007 it was 1.38. In 1980 it was over 2.1 children per woman for the last time and after that it started to decline. The fertility rate for women under 25 has been decreasing, while for women aged 30-34 it has been increasing. In 2007 most children were born to women aged 29 years.

In 2007 the mean age of mothers at childbirth rose to 29.8 years. The reason is postponing births to later ages. In the past twenty years the mean age of mothers at childbirth rose by more than 4 years.

The share of children born outside marriages exceeded half of all live births. In the mid-1970s 10% of children were born outside marriage, in 2007 the share was 50.8%. The share of first and second order births was slightly more than 85%. First order births represent 48.7% of all live births.

The number of induced abortions is declining in all age groups. In 2007, 5 176 induced abortions were registered, which is 0.26 induced abortions per one live birth.

## **Mortality**

In 2007 18 584 people died (9 473 men and 9 111 women). Compared to 2006 the number of deaths was higher by 2.2% or there were 404 more persons than in 2006. The crude death rate was 9.2 per 1 000 population or 0.1 more than in 2006.

Among deaths, there were 55 deaths of infants under one year of age; 27 boys and 28 girls. In 2007 the lowest number of infant deaths per 1 000 live births ever was recorded (2.8). That means that Slovenia is one the countries with the lowest infant mortality rate among European countries

The mean age at death for men in 2007 was 0.6 year and for women 0.1 year higher than the mean age at death for men and women in 2006. In 2007 the age of men at death was on average 9.1 years lower than the age of women at death. The mean age of men at death was 69.1 years and of women at death 78.2 years. In the last three decades the mean age of men at death rose by a little bit more than 6 years (6.3) and of women by almost 8 years (7.8).

Life expectancy is on the rise. A boy born in 2006-2007 can expect to live 75.0 years and a girl 82.3 years. Compared to 2005-2006, life expectancy for men rose by 0.2 year and for women by 0.4 year. In the last three decades, life expectancy rose by 8.2 years for men and by 7.7 years for women.

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system (cardiovascular diseases) and cancer are the most frequent causes of death. For men and women the most frequent causes of death are diseases of the circulatory system. Per 100 000 men 325 men died due to diseases of the circulatory system and 321 due to cancer, while per 100 000 women 428 women died due to diseases of the circulatory system and 237 due to cancer.

Injuries as results of accidents, suicides and homicides are the third most frequent cause of death. More men than women and more young than old die because of this cause. Among all deaths in 2007, 8.1% (10.6% of men and 5.5% of women) died due to accidents, suicides and homicides. At age 20-44 injuries accounted for 49.1% of all deaths and at age 0-19 years for 36.5% of all deaths.

## **Migration**

In 2007, 29 193 people immigrated to Slovenia; 27 504 (94.2%) of them were foreigners. On the other hand, 14 943 people emigrated from Slovenia, majority of them (11 765 or 78.7% of all emigrants) were foreign citizens.

14 250 more people immigrated to Slovenia than emigrated from it. Positive net migration was recorded among foreigners only (15 739), while net migration of the citizens of the Republic of Slovenia was negative for the eighth consecutive year (-1 489).

Compared to 2006, the number of immigrants to Slovenia increased by 45.8%, while the number of emigrants was up by 8.7%. Net migration was 127.4% higher than in 2006.

In general, the trends of immigration of foreigners to Slovenia didn't change in 2007. The majority of foreign citizens who immigrated to Slovenia in 2007 were citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, followed by citizens of Serbia and citizens of FYR of Macedonia. Among all foreigners who immigrated to Slovenia in 2007, 85.4% were citizens of former Yugoslav Republics, while 9.6% were citizens of EU-27. Most of immigrated foreigners were men (82.7%).

In 2007, 1 689 Slovene citizens immigrated to Slovenia. Most of them returned from Germany (22.1%), which has been the previous residence for the majority of immigrated Slovene citizens since 2000. In 2007, also the highest number of Slovene nationals emigrated to Germany (22.3% of all emigrated nationals), the second most frequent country of their emigration was Austria. In 2007, 15.4% of all Slovene citizens who emigrated abroad went to live in Austria.

### **Marriages and divorces**

After 2005, when the number of marriages dropped below 6 thousand for the first time ever, their number in 2007 again exceeded 6 thousand. 6 373 marriages took place or five more than a year before. In 2007 the number of marriages per 1 000 population was 3.2. 87.4% of grooms and 89.2% of brides were married for the first time.

The mean age of grooms and brides at marriage is on the rise. The mean age of grooms has exceeded 30 years of age since the mid-1990s and it was 33.2 years in 2007. The mean age of brides also exceeded 30 years (30.3).

The mean age of grooms and brides at first marriage is also on the rise. A groom married for the first time in 2007 was 30.7 years old and a bride 28.3. Three decades ago a groom at first marriage was on average almost five years younger (4.9), while a bride was 5.7 years younger.

At the beginning of the 1980s the total female first marriage rate was over 0.70, at the beginning of the 1990s it was over 0.50 and since 2000 onward just over 0.40. In 2005 when the total female first marriage rate reached the lowest rate with 0.37 has grown again in 2007 and reached 0.40.

After one year of drop in the number of divorces their number again grew in 2007. 2 617 divorces took place, which is 12% more than in 2006. The divorce rate per 1 000 population was 1.3, while a year before it was 1.2. There were 411 divorces per 1 000 marriages.

The total divorce rate, which had grown to 0.27 in 2005 due to a large number of divorces, dropped in 2006 to 0.24 and had grown again in 2007 to 0.28.

Marriages tend to last longer. Three decades ago 35.4% of marriages were divorced in the first four years of marriage and only 22.4% were divorced after more than 15 years of marriage. In 2007, only 14.5% of marriages were divorced after 4 years and 49.8% after more than 15 years. Marriages divorced in 2007 lasted on average 13.5 years.

With marriages lasting longer the number of divorces involving dependent children is getting lower. In the mid-1970s, almost a third of divorces did not involve dependent children. In 2007 the share of divorces without dependent children reached 48.5%. Marriages that ended in a divorce in 2007 involved 2 062 dependent children.

# SLOVAK REPUBLIC

*Zuzana Podmanická*

There were 5 400 998 inhabitants in the Slovak Republic on 31 December 2007. In the year 2007, demographic development did not follow all the trends of the previous period. Although a natural increase was reached again, the natural population growth decreased compared to 2006.

The crude mortality rate has remained under 10 per mille. The life expectancy at birth for males was slightly higher and it reached 70.5 years; although it showed a year-to-year decrease by females, it has stayed above the age limit of 78 years.

Increasing intensity of marriage rate after the year 2001 stopped in the years 2005 and 2006. The marriage rate showed an increasing tendency again in 2007 (1.5 thousand marriages more since the last year)

The divorce rate showed a slight year-to-year decrease. There were 44 divorces per 100 concluded marriages.

## **Population**

As a result of a long-term decline of birth rate, the structure of the population by basic age groups shows an ongoing decrease in the pre-productive population (aged 0-14 years). Compared to 2006, the share of the pre-productive population fell by 0.4 points and reached 15.8% of the total population. At the end of 2007, there were 851 thousand persons aged 0-14 years in the Slovak population, which is a year-to-year decrease of 20 thousand. The year-to-year number of the productive population (aged 15-64 years) increased by 20 thousand and reached 3 903 thousand, the share of 72% in the total Slovak population. The age structure of the post-productive population (aged 65 years and over) has gradually changed as well. Compared to 2006, the number of post-productive inhabitants increased to 12% of the total population; in absolute terms that means an increase of more than 7 thousand persons to the figure of 647 thousand persons. As a result of the decrease in the group aged 0-14 –years and the increase in the age group 65-and-over, the aging index continues to rise. Compared to 2006, the aging index increased by 2.5 points, so there were 76 persons aged over 65 years per 100 persons aged 0-14 years in 2007.

Compared to 2006, the average age of inhabitants increased in both males and females; for males it reached 36.3 years, for females 39.5 years.

Although the economic dependency ratio shows still a downward trend, from the long-term perspective this decline gradually drops, and a period when it stops and changes into growth is not far in consequence of a gradually increasing share of the non-productive population compared to the decrease of the productive population. In 2007, the economic dependency ratio reached the value of 38.4, which means there were 38 dependent persons (i.e. those aged 0-14 years and 65 years and over) per 100 persons aged 15-64.

## **Fertility**

In 2007, 54.4 thousand live children were born, almost 520 more than in the year 2006. Since 2006, the crude live-birth rate has increased by 0.1 points and it reached 10.1 per mille.

Age-specific fertility rates of females have also changed: they show a decrease for females aged 20-24 years, and, at the same time, an increase for females aged 30-34 and 35-39 years. The level of fertility rates in women of higher age is also documented by increase of the average age in woman at childbirth. In 2007, the average age of woman at live birth of all children was 28.1 years, i. e., a year-to-year increase of 0.3 years. The average age at live birth of the first child showed a similar rising tendency: it has increased by 0.3 years compared to 2006, and exceeded the level of 26 years.

The total fertility rate of females had decreased until the year 2001, since then it slightly increased but since the year 2000 the Slovak population is considered to be a population with a „very low fertility rate“; in the year 2000, the total fertility rate decreased under the figure of 1.3, which has not been exceeded until today.

In terms of birth order of live births in relation to all previous deliveries of the mother, 47.2% live-born children were born in the first birth while 32% in the second birth.

The share of children born out of wedlock has increased: while in the year 2003 it was 23.3%, in 2007 it rose to 28.8%, suggesting an acceleration when compared to the previous periods.

## *Abortion*

In the year 2007, the tendency from previous years of declining abortion rate continued, but the decline has slowed.

In 2007, 18.3 thousand pregnancies ended by abortions. Induced abortions represented 73.3% of the total abortions.

The crude abortion rate decreased by 0.5 points when compared to the year 2003, and reached 3.4 per mille.

According to the abortion index, there were 34 abortions per 100 births.

## **Mortality**

Since 1993, the crude mortality rate has remained under 10 per mille. There were 53.9 thousand deaths in 2007, i. e. 555 more than in the previous year.

Mortality in the Slovak Republic shows the same pattern as mortality in most countries (except some developing countries): mortality at male population is higher than at female population. In 2007, 52% of deaths occurred in males, while 48% in females. There were 1 101 male deaths per 1 000 female deaths. A long-term tendency of gender-based differences in mortality rates has been evident especially among males and females in productive age. The most unfavourable mortality rates have been among population aged 20-34 years with about 80% of male deaths.

In 2007, the most frequent causes of death at male population were diseases of the circulatory system (47.9%), neoplasms (24.4%) and external causes (i. e. injuries and poisoning 8.3%). The share of the circulatory system diseases was highest also at female population (61.6%); the next causes of death were neoplasms (19.8%) and respiratory diseases (5.2%).

## **Migration**

In 2007, 89.7 thousand persons changed their place of permanent residence within the Slovak Republic; it was almost 1.8 thousand less than in 2006. There were 16 persons per 1 000 inhabitants who changed the municipality of their permanent residence. Females were prevailing in terms of number of migrating persons. In 2007, 48.3 thousand females and 41.4 thousand males changed their municipality of permanent residence; in the long-term perspective, the share of migrating females has stayed at about 53%. Population in productive age (15-64 years) represents more than 70% of the total internal migration.

The prevailing type of internal migration is moving to shorter distances, i. e. from municipality to the other one in the same district; it represents 47% of the total internal migration. Migration from one district to the other one in the same region represents 29% of the total internal migration, and migration from one region to the other one reached 24% of the total internal migration. Main reasons reported by migrants for internal migration are housing (37%) and accompanying relative (27%); 7% persons have been reported to have changed their place of permanent residence for the reason of marriage.

The international migration (migration turnover) between the Slovak Republic and foreign countries reached 10.5 thousand persons in 2007. Number of reported immigrants to Slovakia represented 8.6 thousand persons; number of emigrants was slightly above the 1.8 thousand persons limit in 2007 (in 2006, it was 1.7 thousand persons).

### *Increases and number of inhabitants*

In 2001, for the first time in the history of the Slovak Republic, a natural decrease was reached. The tendency of natural decrease had persisted during two subsequent years. Since 2004, a natural increase has been reached again; in 2007 it represented 568 persons; in absolute terms it was a year-to-year decrease by 35 persons. The crude rate of the natural increase reached the figure of 0.1 per mille.

In 2007, the net migration reached almost 6.8 thousand persons; it has increased almost five times since 2003. In terms of sex, males represented more than 70% of the total net migration.

The total increase, which is a result of vital statistics and foreign migration, increased between the years 2006 and 2007 as a consequence of a positive net migration; the crude rate of total increase reached 1.4 per mille, what is an increase by 2.9 thousand persons.

On 31 December 2007, 2 623 127 males and 2 777 871 (51.4%) females with permanent residence lived in the Slovak Republic. There were 944 men per 1 000 women.

The number of municipalities has not changed; as of end of the year 2007, in Slovakia, there were 2 891 municipalities including 4 military districts and 138 cities. There were 1 868 inhabitants per 1 municipality. 2 981 974 inhabitants lived in urban area, i.e. 55.2% of the total population, and 2 419 024

inhabitants lived in rural area, i.e. 44.8%. The Slovak Republic area was 49 034 km<sup>2</sup>, population density 110 persons per 1 km<sup>2</sup>.

## **Marriages and Divorces**

The development of the marriage rate showed a record in 2001 when the lowest number of marriages (23 795) was reached in Slovakia since the end of the 30s of the 20th century. The highest number of marriages in the history of the Slovakia was reached in the year 1977 (i.e. 44 474 marriages). In the year 2007, the number of marriages was in 40% lower than in the year 1977. In the year 2007, there were 27.4 thousand new marriages concluded in Slovakia; it is 1.5 thousand more than in the year 2006. The crude marriage rate increased to 5.1 per mille, representing the same figure as at the end of the 90s.

A decline in marriages since the 90s has been mainly influenced by a decline in intensity of marriage rate amongst younger generations.

The tendency of postponing marriages by women and men to higher age has continued; it has become evident by a decrease of marriages among younger ages, (namely among up-to-30-year old males and up-to-25-year old females), accompanied by an increase of marriages amongst males and females of higher age. The most marriages occurred amongst 25-29-year old fiancés. The number of marriages has considerably risen among 30–34 years old males and females; the figure has tripled since 1993.

An increase in the average marriage age provides further evidence of the tendency of concluding marriages in higher age. In 2007, the average marriage age reached 31.2 years for males and 28.2 years for females. The average age of the first marriage has been on the rise too.

The tendency of a long-term increase of divorce rate is lasting with some exceptions from the year 1954. In the year 2007, almost 12.2 marriages ended in divorce. The crude divorce rate was represented by the figure of 2.3 per mille. According to the divorce index, there were 44 divorces per 100 concluded marriages.

The average divorce age has been slightly rising as a consequence of an increased average age of fiancés as well as increased average marriage duration. Already, for the last two years, the average divorce age for males has slightly exceeded the age limit of 40 years; for females it reached 37.5 years, what is a year-to-year increase by 0.1 year.

In 2007, the average marriage duration reached 14.2 years, i. e., almost a one year rise when compared with the year 2003. The rise was caused by a divorce increase among couples with marriage of longer duration.

In the long perspective, a difference of characters, attitudes and interests is by both sexes being given as the most often cause of divorce; it has stayed about 60% of the overall recorded divorce causes. For men the next causes of divorce are adultery (11%) and addiction to alcohol (9%), for women cases where no infliction was found by court (15%), and other reasons (11%).

Divorces have unfavourable consequences on the well-being of under-age children who thus loose one parent. Two thirds of all divorced marriages have children of minor age. Of the total

divorced marriages with minors, marriages with one minor child have been prevailing, representing almost 60%. Since 1999, the average number of children of divorced couples has stayed at the level of 1.5.

# FINLAND

## Population

At the end of 2007, the population of Finland totalled 5 300 484. This represents an increase of 23 529 persons, i.e. 0.4%, on the year before. In the previous year, population growth was 21 375 persons.

Of the population, 16.9% were aged under 15, 66.6% were between 15 and 64 and 16.5% over 65. The proportion of children in the total population decreased by 0.15 percentage points from the previous year, whereas the proportion of elderly people rose by 0.05 percentage points. The mean-age of the population was 40.9 years. From the beginning of the 1990s the mean-age has risen by 3.4 years.

## Fertility

In 2007, 58 729 births occurred, which was 111 less than the previous year. The total fertility rate was 1.83, which was a little lower than the year before. The fertility rate was highest for women aged 30 to 34.

During the last 35 years, the birth rate has gone either up and down. The total fertility rate has varied between 1.50 in 1973 and 1.85 in 1992 and 1994.

## Mortality

The number of deaths totalled 49 077 in 2007, that was 1 012 more than the year before. As measured by the 2007 mortality rate, the life expectancy of males at birth was 75.8 years and that of females 82.9 years. Life expectancy of females was slightly longer than the year before. From the early-1990s, the life expectancy of males has extended by almost 4 years and that of females by about 3 years.

Infant mortality was 2.7 ‰ in 2007. In year 2001 infant mortality was 3.2, and the figure has varied between 2.8 ‰ and 3.3 ‰ during the past few years.

## Migration

In 2007, a total of 26 029 persons immigrated to Finland and 12 443 persons emigrated from Finland. Net immigration was thus 13 586, exactly 3 242 more than the year before. Immigration increased over the previous year by 3578 persons and emigration increased by 336 persons.

The majority of immigrants were from Sweden, 3 353 persons. Most of them were Finnish citizens. The second highest number of immigrants came from Estonia, 3 145 persons. The

highest emigration occurred to Sweden, 2 833 persons, and the second most to United Kingdom, 1 221 persons.

At the end of 2007, 132 708 foreign citizens were living in Finland, which means 2.5% of the total population. The number of foreign citizens was 10 969 higher than the previous year. Finnish citizenship was granted to 4 824 foreigners in 2007, which was 391 more than year before.

### **Marriage and divorce**

In 2007, the number of marriages was 29 497, which is 1 261 more than the year before. 13 224 couples divorced, which is 31 less compared to previous year.

At the end of 2007, there were 1 437 709 families in Finland. The number is 6 333 higher than the previous year. As many as 304 032 couples were cohabiting, i.e. 21.1% of families. There were 4 629 more cohabiting couples than the year before.

### **Demographic projections**

Latest population projection by municipality up to the year 2050 and a projection for the whole country up to the year 2050 were made in spring 2007. According to the projection, the population of Finland will grow until the end of the projection period, when it will be over 5.7 million.

The large age groups born after the Second World War will reach the age of 65 from 2010 onwards. The number of pensioners and their proportion in the total population will go up sharply at that time. In 2030 the number of over 65-year-olds will be 60% more than now. Pensioners will then account for 26% of the total population, 0-14 year-olds for 16% and 15 to 64 year-olds for 58%. In 2030 the mean age of the population will be 44.1 years.

According to the projection, the annual number of births will fluctuate around the level of 60 000 until year 2050: the annual number of births will be at its highest during the late-2010s (61 000) and lowest around the early-2030s (57 500). The annual number of deaths will increase until 2045; the number will then be over 67 000, i.e. 40% more than now. According to the projection, the annual number of deaths will exceed that of births in 2030.

The fertility rates were kept constant when calculating the projection. The total fertility rate is 1.84. Mortality is expected to go down in accordance with the trend calculated from the early 1980s to the early 2000s. The projection predicts that the life expectancy of men will be 82.0 years and that of women 87.0 years in 2030. Annual net immigration is expected to be 10 000 persons.

# UNITED KINGDOM

## Population

The population of the United Kingdom has grown by around 4.6% over the last ten years, to an estimated 61.0 million by mid-2007. Both natural increase and net inward migration have contributed to population growth in the last year, with natural increase contributing 187 000 and net inward migration and other changes around 201 000 in the year to mid-2007.

The population age structure is changing, reflecting past trends in annual births, and the increasing life expectancy. The proportion of the population over the state retirement age (currently 60 years for women and 65 years for men) rose from 17% in 1977, to 19% in 2007. In the last 10 years, the population aged over 75 has increased steadily. In 2007, 4.7 million persons were aged 75 or over, an increase of 0.5 million compared with 1997. The proportion of the population aged under 16 years was 19% in 2007, compared with 21% in 1997 and 24% in 1977.

## Fertility

There were 772 200 live births in 2007, an increase of 23 700 compared with 2006. The crude birth rate has increased to 12.7 live births per thousand population in 2007, from 12.4 in the previous year. In 2007 the total fertility rate (TFR) in the UK reached 1.90 children per woman. UK fertility has not been this high since 1980.

The UK TFR has increased each year since 2001 when it dropped to a record low of 1.63. The current level of fertility is relatively high compared with that seen during the 1980s and 1990s. However, the TFR was considerably higher in the 1960s, peaking at 2.95 children per woman in 1964, the height of the 'baby boom'.

The fertility of UK women in their thirties and forties has continued the upwards trend seen over the last three decades. In 1977, women aged 25-29 were twice as likely to give birth as women aged 30-34. However, in 2007, women aged 30-34 had the highest fertility of any age group. Consequently, the average age at childbearing has continued to increase slowly. The mean age for giving birth in the UK was 29.3 years in 2007, compared with 28.6 years in 2001 and 26.6 in 1977.

The fertility rate for women aged 30-34 first overtook that of women aged 25-29 in 2004 and remains higher in 2007 at 109.8 births per thousand women. In 2007, fertility increased fastest for women aged 40 and over, rising to 11.8 births per thousand women, compared with 7.5 in 1997 and 5.0 in 1981.

The long-term rise in the proportion of births outside marriage has continued: 44.4% of live births were outside marriage in 2007, compared with 43.7% in 2006, 20.4% in 1986 and 9.0% in 1976.

## **Mortality**

There were 574 700 deaths registered in 2007, a small increase of 0.4% from 2006 (572 224). The crude death rate in 2007 has remained unchanged at 9.4 deaths per thousand population.

Infant mortality rates have fallen by around two-thirds over the last four decades. However, they levelled out at around 5.0 deaths under one year per 1 000 live births for the three successive years prior to 2007 before reaching its lowest level in 2007 at 4.8 deaths under one year per 1 000 live births.

Life expectancy continues to rise steadily. Based on 2004-2006 mortality rates, life expectancy at birth was 76.9 years for men, and 81.3 years for women. Based on the same rates, men aged 65 years could expect, on average, to live a further 16.9 years, while women of the same age could expect to live a further 19.7 years.

## **Migration**

Estimates for the year to mid-year 2007 showed there was a net migration into the UK of 198 000 people. This Total International Migration figure is based mainly on data from the International Passenger Survey, which provides estimates based on respondents' intended length of stay. It also includes adjustments for (1) those whose intended length of stay changes so that their migrant status changes; (2) asylum seekers and their dependants not identified by the IPS; and (3) flows between the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

The average estimate of the population of foreign citizenship in the UK in 2007 was 3.9 million, about 347 000 more than in 2006. An increase in the number of citizens of the May 2004 European Union accession countries accounted for around 45% of this increase.

## **Marriage and divorce**

There were provisionally 275 140 marriages in the UK in 2006. This is 4 per cent fall from 2005 when there were 286 826 marriages, and is the third successive annual decrease. However, there has been a long-term decline from the peak number of 480 285 marriages in 1972. The crude marriage rate has declined from 8.2 marriages per thousand population in 1971 to 4.5 in 2006. However evidence has recently been published that suggests there may be around 20 000 to 40 000 marriages a year to British residents that take place outside the United Kingdom.

The average (mean) age at first marriage in England and Wales has risen steadily over the same period, reaching 29.7 years for women and 31.8 years for men in 2006.

Between 2006 and 2007, the number of divorces granted in the UK fell by about 3 per cent to 144 220, from 148 141. This is the third consecutive fall in the number of UK divorces and the lowest number since 1977 (138 445). The figure is 20 per cent lower than the highest number of divorces, which peaked in 1993 (180 018).

In part this reflects the long-term decrease in the number of marriages. In England and Wales, the divorce rate declined from a peak of 14.3 divorces per thousand married men and women in

1993, to 11.9 in 2007, although there was initially a rise in divorce rates at the start of this decade.

Since 1997 the average age at divorce in England and Wales has risen from 40.2 to 43.7 years for men and from 37.7 to 41.2 years for women, partly reflecting the rise in age at marriage.

The decline in the number of marriages is associated with changing patterns of family types, in particular, the increase in the number of cohabiting couples. For example, the proportion of non-married women under the age of 60 in Great Britain who were cohabiting in 1986 was 13%. By 2006 this proportion had risen to 25%, one quarter of non-married women aged 16-59 were cohabiting.

### **Legislative changes**

Bulgaria and Romania (the A2) acceded to the European Union on 1 January 2007. As Member States cannot restrict freedom of movement within the Union, all Bulgarian and Romanian nationals have an initial right of residence in the UK for three months and a right to remain indefinitely if they are students, self-employed persons, or self-sufficient persons. Member States do, however, have discretion to restrict migration of workers for up to seven years. The UK Government chose to impose restrictions for an initial two-year period, to be reviewed on an annual basis. Low-skilled Bulgarian and Romanian nationals may only apply to work as seasonal agricultural workers or on sector-based schemes (currently limited to food processing); highly skilled Bulgarian and Romanian workers and workers with specialist skills are admitted, as previously, on the basis of work permits.

Note: All 2007 UK births, fertility, deaths, mortality, marriages and divorces data are provisional.

# CROATIA

## Population

According to 2007 mid-year estimate Croatia had about 4 436 000 inhabitants (48.2% men and 51.8% women).

The average age of population is constantly increasing and in 2007 it reached 40.8, i.e. 39.0 for men and 42.4 for women.

Demographic ageing of population continues. In 2007 the share of the population aged 0-14 was 15.5% and those aged 65 and more was 17.2%. The share of working age population (15-64 years) was 67.3%.

The ageing index was 81.7 for men and 125.5 for women. Life expectancy at birth was 72.3 years for men and 79.2 years for women.

The population density is 78.4 inhabitants per square kilometre.

## Fertility

In 2007 there were 41 910 live births which is 1.1% more than in the previous year. The crude birth rate was 9.4 and the total fertility rate was 1.40, well below replacement level.

The vital index (live births per 100 deaths) in 2007 was 80.0.

In 2007 the average age of a woman at childbirth was 28.7 years and at the first childbirth 26.8 years.

First birth order amounts 47.1%, second order 34.1%, third order 12.7% and the fourth and higher birth orders 6.1% of the total number of live births.

The children in Croatia are mainly born inside marriage (88.5% in 2007).

The number of legally induced abortions has been decreasing and in 2007 amounted 4 573, which is 10.9 per 100 live births.

In 2007 the proportion of infants born with a low weight (less than 2 500 grams) was 5.1%.

## Mortality

In 2007 there were 52 367 deaths which is 3.9% more than in previous year. The crude death rate was 11.8.

The infant mortality rate was 5.6. Analyses of infant mortality during a longer period show a significant fall.

The most common causes of death in 2007 were diseases of the circulatory system (43.4% of men and 57.9% of women) and neoplasms (28.9% of men and 20.2% of women).

## **Migration**

In 2007, there were 14 622 persons that immigrated to the Republic of Croatia, and 9 002 persons that emigrated from it. Out of the total number of migrants, there were 93.7% Croatian citizens and 6.3% foreigners that immigrated into the Republic of Croatia, while 89.8% Croatian citizens and 3.0% foreigners emigrated abroad.

The Republic of Croatia had a positive net migration as well as in the previous years and in 2007 the net migration amounted to 5 620 persons. However, this figure cannot be considered fully reliable because of incomplete registration of emigrants.

The most intensive migration flows in 2007 were with neighbouring countries, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. Out of the total number of immigrants, there were 71.3% persons who arrived from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. Out of the total number of emigrants from the Republic of Croatia, 58.4% persons departed to those two countries. Migrations with the EU countries follow (out of the total number of immigrants and emigrants, there were 17.6% persons who arrived from, and 25.6% persons who departed to the EU countries).

## **Marriage and divorce**

There were 23 140 marriages in 2007. The marriage rate per 1 000 inhabitants was 5.2. The average

age at first marriage is constantly increasing. In 2007 it was 26.7 years for women and 29.7 years for men. The total first marriage rate was 0.68 for men and 0.71 for women. The proportion of remarriages in total number of marriages was 9.4% for men and 8.6% for women. The proportion of religious marriages was 63.4% in 2007.

The number of divorces was 4 785 in 2007, which is 207 per 1 000 marriages. The total divorce rate was 0.19. The average duration of a marriage ending in divorce was about 14 years. The number of divorces without dependent children was 41.8%, with one dependent child 32.5% and with two or more dependent children 25.7%.

# THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

## Population

The last Census of the Population, households and dwellings was carried out on 31 October 2002. According to the census data, the total population was 2 022 547 persons (1 015 377 male and 1 007 170 female). At the end of 2007 the population totalled 2 045 177 persons which is an increase of 0.16%.

The age structure at the end of 2007 showed that 18.7% of the total population is aged under 15;

70.0% aged 15-64; 11.3% aged over 65 and 0.04% of unknown age. The average age is 36.5 years and the life expectancy is 73.78 years for men and women.

## Fertility

In 2007 the number of live births was 22 688 which is 103 (0.5%) more than in 2006.

The total number of births outside marriage continued to rise. In 2007 it was 12.6% of the total live birth compared with 12.5% in 2006.

The structure of live births by age of the mother shows that 36.4% of live births were born to mothers aged 25-29. The percentage of live births born to mothers aged 20-24 was 28.4% while the percentage of those born to mothers aged 15-19 years 7.0%.

The mean age of women at childbirth continued to rise and reached 27.2 years in 2007 while the mean age at first birth was 25.4 years.

The TFR in 2007 was 1.46

## Mortality

The number of deaths in 2007 was 19 594 which is 964 (5.2%) more than in 2006. In 2007, 234 children died before they reached their first birthday. The infant mortality rate was 10.3 ‰.

The main causes of death in 2007 were circulatory diseases (57.7%), neoplasms (18.0%) and undefined symptoms, signs and conditions (7.6%).

## Migration

Net migration in 2007 was as positive (987 persons) as in previous years. However, this figure cannot be considered fully reliable because of incomplete registration of emigrants. The highest net migration in 2007 was from immigrants of Serbia 376 (or 30.64%), followed by Albania (333 or 27.14%).

The majority of immigrants (88.43%) came from European countries.

The total number of emigrants has changed considerably during the years. The total number of emigrants in 2007 was 240. The majority of emigrants also went to European countries.

The data for asylum seekers and refugees are not included

### **Marriage and divorce**

The number of marriages in 2007 was 15 490 which is 582 (3.9%) more than in 2006.

The number of divorces was 1 417 which is 58 (3.9%) less than in 2006. There were 91.5 divorces per 1 000 marriages, which are 7.4 less than in 2006.

In 2007 age at first marriage continued to rise; the mean age at which women contracted their first marriage was 24.7 and for men 27.7 years.

# LIECHTENSTEIN

## **Population**

The permanent resident population at the end of 2007 was 35 356, the highest population total ever recorded in Liechtenstein. This represents an increase of 188 persons or 0.5%; compared to an increase of 263 persons or 0.8% in the previous year. The number of foreigners living in Liechtenstein on 31 December 2007 was 11 862 persons or 33.6% of the population. This was a decrease of 45 persons compared to a decrease of 10 persons in the previous year. The proportion of foreigners from German speaking countries was 57.8% of all foreign residents: 30.4% of the foreigners living in Liechtenstein were Swiss, 17.2% Austrian, and 10.2% German nationals. Residents from Italy contributed 9.9%, followed by Turkey with 7.2% and Portugal with 4.9%. Altogether, there were 92 different nationalities living in Liechtenstein.

The proportion of children and adolescents (under 20 years) has decreased from 25.5% in 1995 to 22.9% in 2007. On 31 December 2007 the number of people under 20 years was 8 086 compared to 7 889 in 1995. The working-age population (ages 20 - 64) increased from 19 846 persons or 64.2% of the permanent resident population in 1995 to 22 882 or 64.7% in 2007. The number of retired people (age 65 and older) was 4 388 or 12.4% of the permanent resident population. In 1995 the number of retired persons was 3 188 or 10.3%.

### *Naturalisation*

In 2007, 211 foreigners obtained the Liechtenstein citizenship compared to 169 in 2006, 159 in 2005 and 174 in 2004. The highest number of naturalisations ever recorded was in 1997 with 1129 due to the revision of the respective legal act. The total for the ten years period was 3 092 persons or 26.1% of the actual foreign population. Most of the new citizens either had a Liechtenstein mother or had been living in Liechtenstein for many years.

## **Fertility**

The number of births in 2007 was 351, compared to 361 in 2006 and 381 in 2005. Since 1999, the number of births has decreased continuously from 430 to 351 with the exception of 2004 and 2005 when an increase of 7.2% and 2.4% was registered. The total fertility rate was 1.40 in 2007 and 1.45 births per woman in 2006. In 2007, 51.6% (53.7%) of the mothers had the Liechtenstein citizenship. The number of births outside marriage was 17.1% in 2007 and 16.3% in the previous year.

## **Mortality**

The total number of deaths was 227 in 2007 and 220 in the previous year. 48% of those who died in 2007 were 80 years or older. About 60% of the persons who died in this age group were women.

## **Marriage and divorce**

In 2007 (2006) 182 (151) permanent resident men and 183 (139) women had married. This resulted in 261 (226) marriages with at least one partner living in Liechtenstein. The average age of the men for the first marriage in 2007 was 32.8 (31.7) years and for women 30.4 (29.8) years.

In 2007 (2006) 97 (81) permanent resident men and 100 (85) women had divorced. The number of divorces with at least one partner living in Liechtenstein was 110 in 2007 and 92 in 2006. The average age at divorce was 43.3 (44.8) years for men and 40.8 (40.8) years for women (2007: preliminary data).

## **Government decisions and developments in legislation**

There were no major government decisions in legislation, which have an impact on demographic components.

# SWITZERLAND

## Population

At the end of 2007 the population of Switzerland stood at 7 593 500 permanent residents, including 1 602 100 foreigners. This increase of 84 800 persons (allowing for statistical discrepancies) represents a demographic growth rate of 1.1%, i.e. four tenths of a percentage point more than in 2006. One reason for the increase in the total permanent resident population was the net migration gain of 75 500; in addition, births outnumbered deaths by 13 400. Immigration thus constitutes the main factor in demographic growth in Switzerland.

The population continued to age in spite of the moderate demographic growth in recent years. Between 1990 and 2007, the proportion of people aged 65<sup>1</sup> or over went up from 14.6% to 16.4%. Over the same period the proportion of people aged under 20 fell slightly from 23.4% to 21.5%, as did the proportion of those aged between 20 and 39 (from 31.2% to 26.8%).

The ratio of people aged 65 or over to those aged between 20 and 64 continues to rise (1970: 20%, 1990: 23.5%, 2007: 26.4%), whereas the ratio of young people aged under 20 to those aged between 20 and 64 has stabilized since 1990 at between 35% and 38% after a period of steady decline (1970 : 53.9%). Longer life expectancy and lower fertility are the main factors contributing to the ageing of the population, which will become even more pronounced in the next few years when large numbers of the baby boom generations born in the 1960s move into the older age groups.

## Fertility

In 2007 there were 74 500 live births, 1 100 more than in 2006. This is the highest number of births in the last seven years. However, it is too soon to talk about a real upward trend in the birth rate. In fact, since 2001 the number of births has been relatively stable at between 71 800 and 74 500.

The total fertility rate (TFR), which indicates the average number of children per woman aged between 15 and 49 years resident in Switzerland, followed a similar pattern to the birth rate in the 1990s and the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Whereas in 1990 a woman had 1.59 children on average, this figure stood at 1.50 per woman in 2000 before declining rapidly to 1.38 in 2001. Thereafter the TFR showed slight increases nearly every year, reaching 1.46 in 2007. If women are considered according to their nationality, we can see fairly significant differences in fertility. In 2007 a Swiss woman had on average 1.33 children, whereas the average figure for a foreign woman was 1.86. In 1990 these figures had been 1.55 for Swiss women and 1.78 for foreign women. The TFR of Swiss women thus declined sharply during the 1990s, while that of foreign women increased as a result of the arrival of people who were nationals of non-EU member states, reaching a peak in 1999 and 2000 with 2.14. However, since 2003 the TFR of non-nationals has been practically stable while that of Swiss nationals shows a slight increase.

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<sup>1</sup> The percentage figures relating to the different age groups in the population were calculated in relation to the total number of permanent residents at the end of the year in question.

## **Mortality**

In 2007 there were 61 100 deaths: 29 600 men and 31 600 women.

In 1990, the average life expectancy was estimated at 80.8 years for women and 74.0 years for men. In 2007, these figures were 84.2 years and 79.4 years respectively. Although the increase is more or less identical for both sexes, the life expectancy gap between men and women is narrowing a bit more every year. In 1990, women lived on average 6.7 years longer than men did, whereas in 2007 the gap was down to only 4.8 years. The number of children who died in the first year of life was practically the same in 2007 as in the year before (293 cases against 291 in 2006). However, the infant mortality rate has remained stable at a very low level for several years. In 2007 3.9 children out of every 1 000 born alive died before their first birthday.

## **Migration**

### *International migration of Swiss nationals*

Compared with 2006, there were more Swiss citizens who returned to the country (21 800) and fewer who emigrated (29 500). The emigration surplus thus decreased from 10 100 to 7 700, a decline of 23.5%. Men and women account for roughly equal proportions of these migration flows (50.2% male and 49.8% female). In addition, more than half (60%) of the Swiss citizens leaving or returning to the country are aged between 20 and 39.

### *International migration of foreigners*

The immigration of foreign nationals is governed by the legislation on aliens and the right of asylum. It is also limited by Federal Council policy aimed at stabilizing the number of foreigners in Switzerland and facilitating their integration.

Since the agreement between Switzerland and the European Union on the free movement of persons entered into force on 1 June 2002, Switzerland has made a distinction between authorizations for EU/EFTA citizens and other nationalities. The annual variations in the number of immigrants and emigrants are to a large extent influenced by the situation on the labour market.

Since 1979, the number of those entering Switzerland with residence permits or establishment permits (which confer more extensive residence rights) or as officials of international organizations has exceeded the number of those leaving. The migration balance of the foreign population was considerably higher in 2007, standing at 83 200 compared with 49 400 in the previous year.

Apart from the movements of foreigners among the permanent resident population, account must be taken of the movements of those with short-term residence permits, asylum seekers and cross-border workers. In 2007 the stock of persons granted a short-term residence permit (less than 12 months) fell by 13 500 persons, reaching 61 000 (compared with 74 500 in 2006 and 65 200 in 2005).

The number of asylum seekers (applications being considered, provisional admissions and expulsions blocked for technical reasons), which had reached a peak in 1999 (107 000), fell again in 2007 compared with the previous two years. There were 48 200 asylum-seekers present in 2005, 44 900 in 2006 but only 40 700 at the end of 2007. Migration flows of cross-border workers increased from 219 200 in 2006 to 236 500 in 2007, a rise of 7.9%.

## **Marriage and divorce**

The number of marriages<sup>2</sup> increased slightly from 39 800 in 2006 to 40 300 in 2007.

Out of those unions, 26 600 were marriages between persons marrying for the first time and 13 700 (33.4%) were remarriages, i.e. unions in which at least one of the two partners was divorced or widowed. The Federal Registered Partnerships Act enabling same-sex couples to formalize their relationships went into effect on 1 January 2007. 2000 couples (71% of them male) registered their relationship in 2007.

The total first marriage rate showed a slight increase over the last year. It can be stated that, in 2007, 63% of single women under the age of 50 could be expected to marry one day, provided that the rate recorded in 2007 remains unchanged in the coming years. In the case of single men under the age of 50, the figure for 2007 was 59%.

The average age at first marriage rose significantly in the last decades. In 1990, a single woman married at the age of 26.7 years, compared with 28.9 years in 2007. In the case of men, the figure went up from 29.1 years in 1990 to 31.2 years in 2007. This shows that on average men and women are getting married for the first time two years later than they did seventeen years ago.

The number of divorces fell by 5.2% from 21 000 in 2006 to 19 900 in 2007. This was the second consecutive annual decrease since the new law on divorce was introduced in 2000. In absolute terms, there was a slight increase in the number of divorces in which only one party initiated proceedings (1 500 cases in 2007 compared with 1 400 cases in 2006). On the other hand, there were fewer divorces by mutual consent with comprehensive settlement (17 200; -6.4%) and partial settlement (1 000). Despite this slight fall, the former still accounted for almost 87% of all divorces granted in 2007.

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<sup>2</sup> Since 1 January 2001 the figures all marriages in which at least one of the partners (male or female) was permanently domiciled in Switzerland before the marriage.

# **RUSSIA**

## **Mortality**

The past year (2007) was characterized by a visible improvement of the demographic situation. Life expectancy at birth for males in 2007 came to 61.4 years and has increased in comparison with 2006 by 1 year and for females came to 73.9 years (in 2006 -73.2).

## **Fertility**

During 2007 there were 130.5 thousand more births than in 2006. In 2008 a continuity of the birth increase trend is observed

## **Migration**

Migration inflow has increased by 104 thousand people (or by 67%) in comparison with 2006 and compensated for more than a half (54.9%) of the natural decline in population (in 2006 – 22.5%). Decrease in the number of population in 2007 was the least during the last 13 years – 212 thousand people or 0.15%; in 2006 – 533 thousand people and 0.37%.

## **Demographic projections**

However, one cannot talk about a radical turn of negative trends of the demographic situation of Russia. From 2010, a decrease in the number of women aged 20-29 years will begin, which will negatively reflect on the fertility dynamics. As a result of the changes taking place in the age composition, there will be an intensification of ageing of the population and a natural decline of the population of working age will be observed.



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