REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY

Birth Statistics (DEM-1)
for 2025

Organisation unit: Demography and Social Statistics Directorate / Vital Statistics and Migrations Unit
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0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal and subject of the survey

  The purpose of the statistical survey on births is to obtain data on the total number of children born as a basic component of natural change in population, especially on the number of live born child.

- Reference period

  Calendar year

- Legal acts and other agreements

  At the national level:

  - Official Statistics Act (NN, Nos 25/20, 155/23, 124/25 – corr. and 69/26)
  - Annual Implementation Plan of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia 2025 (NN, No. 29/25)
  - Programme of Statistical Activities of the Republic of Croatia 2021 – 2027 (NN, No. 29/22).

  At the European level:

  - Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013 on European demographic statistics
  - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 205/2014 od 4 March 2014 laying down uniformed conditions for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European demographic statistics, as regards breakdowns of data, deadlines and data revisions

- Classification system

  National classification of occupations 2010 (ISCO-08)
  International Standard Classification of Education-1997 (ISCED 1997)
  Codelist of schools
  Codelist of countries
  Codelist of citizenship
  Codelist of ethnicities
  Codelist of mother tongues
  Codelist of religions

- Statistical concepts and definitions

  A live born child (live birth) is every child who exhibits signs of life at birth, such as breathing, beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movements of voluntary muscles. If a child dies soon after the birth, it is first registered as live born and then as a dead infant.

  A stillborn child (stillbirth) is considered every child that, after a complete expulsion or extraction from its mother, does not show any evidence of life, that is, who neither breathed nor showed any other evidence of life, providing that the pregnancy lasted for 22 weeks or longer and that the child weighted 500 grams or more. Extraction of a dead foetus with 22 weeks or less gestation who weighted 499 grams or less is considered an abortion, irrespective of whether it was spontaneous or induced termination of pregnancy. It is neither registered in state registers nor are such data included in the total number of stillborn children.

Professional assistance at birth is considered the assistance by a medical doctor or a qualified midwife. The total data on live births with medical assistance includes the number of children born "in medical facility" and those born "in some other place but with medical assistance".
A legitimate child is considered every child born in marriage or within three hundred days since the end of marriage. In establishing birth order all children are taken into account, irrespective of whether born in or out of wedlock.

Natural increase is a difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths in a given period.
Vital index is the ratio between the number of live-born children and the number of deceased persons, that is, the number of live-born children in relation to 100 deceased persons.

- Statistical units

  Births in the Republic of Croatia.

- Statistical population

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1. Relevance

1.1 Data users

Data users in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics: Population Statistics Department (for calculating population projections and population estimates) and other departments (for calculation many statistical indicators).

External data users (national and/or international): ministries, state organisations and institutes, scientific organisations, individual users, international organisations.

1.1.1 User needs

Departments within the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, as well as various national and international users, use data on births to calculate various indicators, conduct research and analyze.

1.1.2 User satisfaction

The first user satisfaction survey of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics was carried out in 2013, and since 2024, the survey has been conducted annually. The survey results are available on the Croatian Bureau of Statistics website under User satisfaction surveys.

1.2. Completeness

Full coverage.

1.2.1 Data completeness rate

Not applicable.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Not applicable.

2.1.1 Sampling error indicators

Not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

Not applicable.

2.2.1. Coverage error

Not applicable.

2.2.2. Over-coverage rate

Not applicable.

2.2.3. Measurement error

Not applicable.

2.2.4. Non-response error

Not applicable.

2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

Not applicable.

2.2.6. Item non-response rate

Not applicable.

2.2.7. Processing error

Not applicable.

2.2.8. Imputation rate

Not applicable.

2.2.9. Model assumption error

Not applicable.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, on the link – General Revision Policy of the CBS.

2.3.2. Data revision – practice

The provisional data are published monthly in the Statistics in Line. After the end of the year and after the final data processing is carried out, data are disseminated as final and are not subject to any revision.

2.3.3. Data revision – average size

Not applicable.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Not applicable.

3. Timeliness and Punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

First results: 30 days after the end of month.
The first release of the final results: 30 June for the previous year.

3.1.1. Time lag – first results

Timeliness - first results is T + 30 days.

3.1.2. Time lag – final results

Timeliness – final results is T + 6 months.

3.2. Punctuality

Data on births are published according to the Publishing Programme and the Calendar of Statistical Data Issues.

3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication

Delivery and publication is 1.

4. Accessibility and clarity

Data and Notes on Methodology are available in statistical publications in electronic format on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics Natural Change in Population | Državni zavod za statistiku.

All additional information regarding the results and the survey can be found at the e-mail address stat.info@dzs.hr.

4.1. News release

Statistics records on births are released in the First Release "Natural Change in Population in the Republic of Croatia, 2025" at the following link STAN-2026-1-1 Natural Change in Population in the Republic of Croatia, 2025

4.2. On-line database

Data are available in the PC-Axis databases at the following link PX-Web - Select table.

4.3. Micro-data access

The conditions under which certain users can access microdata are regulated by the Ordinance on Conditions and Terms of Access and Use of Confidential Statistical Data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for Scientific Purposes (NN, No. 5/23).

4.4. Documentation on methodology

Methodological explanations are available in the First Release "Natural Change in Population in the Republic of Croatia" and in the Statistical Report „Natural Change in Population“.

5. Comparability over time

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not applicable.

5.2. Comparability - over time

Since 1998, data on births have been collected and processes in line with the definition of the usual residence. Until 1997, data on births were processed according to a mother's permanent residence.

5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is 28.

5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

Not applicable.

5.3. Coherence – subannual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

5.4. Coherence – national accounts

Not applicable.

5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

Not applicable.

6. Cost and burden

6.1. Cost

Not applicable.

6.2. Burden

Not applicable.