

POPULATION

METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS

Sources and methods of data collection

Sources of data are:

- censuses of the population, households and housing,
- annual statistical surveys on births, deaths, acknowledgement and ascertainment of paternity, child adoption, marriages, divorces and migration conducted by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia,
- the Central Population Register kept by the Ministry of the Interior,
- the Mortality Database kept by the Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia,
- records on foreigners and on persons under temporary protection in Slovenia provided by the Administrative Internal Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior.

Population censuses are used to compile data on the size and basic structure of the population and households. Nine censuses have been carried out on the territory of Slovenia after the First World War: 31 January 1921, 31 March 1931, 15 March 1948, 31 March 1953, 31 March 1961, 31 March 1971, 31 March 1981, 31 March 1991 and 31 March 2002. During the censuses in 1971, 1981 and 1991 a housing census was also carried out, in 1991 a census of agricultural holdings and in 2002 for the first time a census of buildings.

The basic data from the censuses of population are shown first by the territory at the time of the census and then for the present territory of Slovenia. At the time of the censuses in 1921 and 1931 the Slovenian coast belonged to Italy so the population of this region was registered in Italian population censuses. These censuses did not coincide with the censuses in Slovenia; therefore, the data for these territories are estimated for both years. At the time of the censuses in 1948 and 1953 the Free Territory of Trieste was outside the current borders of Slovenia and divided into Zone A and Zone B. On 15 December 1948 a partial population count was carried out in Zone B connected with the registration for food coupons. Zone B was incorporated into Slovenia in 1954. The first registration of population on this territory was carried out on 25 April 1956.

Data on population are published on the basis of:

- balance calculation of the size of the population (from 1920 to 1953),
- municipal registers of permanent population (from 1954 to 1984),
- Central Population Register (from 1985 to 1994),
- modified definition of population (from 1995).

Ways of obtaining data for vital statistics and migration statistics:

- Data on births, acknowledgement of paternity, ascertainment of paternity and marriages are collected on forms filled in by employees of the administrative internal affairs departments at administrative units based on entries and records in the registry books. Since 1 May 2005 entries and records are being filled in the Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages where facts on civil status are electronically recorded. Data are taken over from the Central Population Register.
- Data on divorces are collected on forms filled in by district court judges based on legally effective sentences on divorces.
- Data on deaths have been taken over on electronic media from the Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia since 1 January 2000. The Institute of Public Health collects these data according to the Mortality Database.
- Data on migration of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia are transmitted on electronic media by the Ministry of the Interior – Central Population Register to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, based on information on registrations, departure notices, and changes of permanent residence in Slovenia and also on registrations of temporarily residing abroad and returning from abroad. Data on immigration of foreigners are since 1995 based on the records on foreigners in Slovenia supplied by the same Ministry.

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia collects these data according to the place of event, and the results are published by permanent or temporary residence:

- residence of mother or father at child birth,
- residence of child at acknowledgement and ascertainment of paternity,
- the last residence of dead person at death,
- at marriage residence of groom or bride before marriage,
- at divorce the last common residence of husband and wife before divorce.

Comparability of migration data

Data for certain periods are not entirely comparable. Until 1992 data on migration included migration of citizens of all republics of former Yugoslavia who immigrated to Slovenia, emigrated from Slovenia or migrated within Slovenia.

Between 1992 and 1994 only the migration of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia is included. According to legal regulations of the Republic of Slovenia concerning personal conditions, the ex-citizens of the SFR Yugoslavia who did not accept or fulfil conditions for acquiring citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia became foreigners.

Since 1995 data on immigration and emigration in Slovenia include also the data on migration of foreigners. Data on emigration of foreigners are estimated on the basis of the size and natural changes of foreigners in Slovenia.

Since 1999 data on international migration of citizens of Slovenia also include temporary absence from Slovenia because of departure abroad (for more than 3 months) and arrivals after temporary residing abroad.

Coefficients, structures and other relative figures are calculated by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia. Some values of indicators, published also by the Federal Statistical Office until 1989, differ from the calculations of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia. In the calculation of the size of the population the Federal Statistical Office did not take into account population growth through migration which has had a positive effect on the size of the Slovenian population since 1957. Therefore, the figures calculated by the Federal Office are higher.

In its calculations the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia took into account the size of the population by age and sex as of 30 June:

- until 1980 estimations of the Federal Statistical Office (for indicators calculated on the basis of age structure), or data of the Statistical Office of Republic of Slovenia (for indicators calculated on the basis of the total number of population),
- from 1981 to 1985 estimations of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia,
- from 1986 to 1994 data of the Central Population Register,
- since 1995 data according to the modified definition of the population.

For some calculations (e.g. life expectancy at birth) we also used population census data.

Explanations on population

1. Population censuses

Census data in the period before the Second World War took into account present (*de facto*) population, i.e. the population that actually lived on the territory of Slovenia.

Comparing the 2002 Census data with the data collected with previous censuses, one needs to take into account that the definition of the population changed. Data after the Second World War (from 1948 to 1991) took into account population with permanent residence in Slovenia (*de iure*). Taken into account were people who declared that they have permanent residence in the place of enumeration, irrespective of whether they were temporarily absent at the time of the census. Temporarily absent people were those who were absent for a short time and also those who were working abroad and family members who were living with them abroad (migrant workers), irrespective of the duration of their work or stay abroad.

At the 2002 Census we took into account international recommendations for population censuses according to which a country's population are only those people who actually live on its territory. At the 2002 Census people who have permanent or temporary residence in Slovenia but have been living abroad for over a year are no longer considered to be the population of Slovenia. We have recalculated the 1991 Census data according to this methodology.

In addition, at the 2002 Census we took into account for the first time the duration of stay in Slovenia, so that the population of Slovenia are also those immigrants who have been living in Slovenia for at least a year, irrespective of whether they have a registered residence in Slovenia or not.

2. Municipal registers of population

Between 1954 and 1984 data on the population of Slovenia were calculated and published on the basis of data from municipal registers of permanent population. They were calculated in such a way that data on natural changes and migration of the population within the area of the community, together with corrections in the municipal register of permanent residence that might have affected the number of residents, were added or subtracted from the population of the community at the beginning of the month.

Data on the population of Slovenia according to municipal registers of permanent population include residents registered as permanent residents of Slovenia irrespective of whether they were temporarily living abroad.

3. The Central Population Register

The Central Population Register has been the source for the number of population and the number of the citizens of Slovenia since 1985. It is a collection of data on persons with registered residence in the Republic of Slovenia.

Until 25 June 1991 the number of residents had included those who were registered as permanent residents in Slovenia. These were citizens of former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (citizens of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia and citizens of other republics of former SFR Yugoslavia).

After 25 June 1991 the number of residents includes:

- citizens of the Republic of Slovenia with permanent residence in Slovenia,
- persons who until 25 June 1991 were citizens of former SFR Yugoslavia and were registered as permanent residents of Slovenia at the time but did not acquire citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia or citizenship of any other country.

Due to corrections made in municipal registers of permanent population and those made in the Central Population Register, calculations of the number of population at the beginning of the year and data on natural and migration movements of residents for the whole year are not the same as the number of population calculated at the end of the year.

4. Modified definition of population

Preparing population data, since 30 June 1995 the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia partly considers modified definition of the population from 1996 (see: *Development Issues of Statistics, Population of Slovenia, Ljubljana 1996*). By definition that was valid until the end of 1994, the population of Slovenia were all persons with registered permanent residence in Slovenia, irrespective of the fact that they were temporarily (more than three months) absent from Slovenia.

The present definition differs from the definition that was used for the data published until 31 December 1994 according to the Central Population Register in two things:

- citizens of the Republic of Slovenia who have permanent residence in Slovenia but are temporarily residing abroad for more than three months are no longer included in the population of Slovenia,
- data on the number of foreigners with permanent or temporary residence in Slovenia and the data on refugees are taken into account.

In accordance with this definition the population of Slovenia are:

- citizens of the Republic of Slovenia with permanent residence in Slovenia, excluding those who have been abroad for more than three months and gave notice of their departure at the administrative unit of their permanent residence,
- foreigners with issued permission for permanent residing in the Republic of Slovenia, who have a registered permanent residence,
- foreigners with issued permission for temporary residing in the Republic of Slovenia, who have a registered temporary residence,
- foreigners with a valid work permit or a business visa, who have a registered temporary residence in Slovenia,
- persons under temporary protection in the Republic of Slovenia,
- persons according to the Asylum Act to whom the asylum and refugee status were granted in the Republic of Slovenia (refugees).

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia publishes data on population up to the level of municipalities. Data on citizens of the Republic of Slovenia are available also at the level of settlements.

Explanations on ethnic affiliation at Censuses

Collecting data on ethnic affiliation at the 2002 Census

Compared to previous censuses, at the 2002 Census collecting data on ethnic affiliation was slightly changed. According to provisions of Article 10 of the Act Regulating the Census of Population, Households and Housings in the Republic of Slovenia (OJ RS 66/2000, 26/2001), all people aged 14 and over had to declare their ethnic affiliation **themselves**. For children younger than 14 the answer could be given by their parents, adopters or guardians.

The question was intended for all persons. The interviewer had to read or show to the respondents the options and warn them that they need not declare their ethnic affiliation. The answer to the question on ethnic affiliation had to be marked or entered exactly as given by the respondent.

For household members who on the census reference date (31 March 2002) were at least 14 years old but were absent from the household at the time of the interview or the interviewer's visit or did not want to declare their ethnic affiliation in the presence of other household members or the interviewer, the data on ethnic affiliation were collected with the **Statement on the Nationality/Ethnicity and Religion (P-3/NV questionnaire)**, which was left by the interviewer together with the envelope in the household. In this way every person could fill in the Statement on the Nationality/Ethnicity and Religion and send it to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia. Sending of the Statement on the Nationality/Ethnicity and Religion was not obligatory. The office took into account only those Statements on the Nationality/Ethnicity and Religion that were signed.

Ethnic affiliation

The question on ethnic affiliation was asked in all censuses after the Second World War. In 1953 and 1961 censuses for children younger than 10 and in 1971, 1981 and 1991 censuses for children younger than 15 the answers were provided by their parents or other representatives (guardians, adopters). For persons who were absent at the time of the interviewer's visit, in the past censuses the answer on ethnic affiliation could be provided by an adult member of the household.

In individual censuses the same classification was used for processing the data on ethnic affiliation, but it was supplemented with new answers on ethnic affiliation. One needs to take into account methodological differences in people declaring themselves as Muslims, Yugoslavs and Bosniacs, and people declaring themselves by regional affiliation.

People who regarded themselves as Muslims in the sense of ethnic and not religious affiliation could declare themselves Muslims for the first time in 1961. Before 1961 they were declared as "Yugoslavs – undeclared". At the 1961 Census people who did not give detailed ethnic affiliation could give the answer "Yugoslavs – ethnically undeclared". The same answer was recorded for those who stated regional affiliation (such as Upper Carniolan, Dalmatian, etc.). In 1971 a classification was adopted which suited constitutional provisions on the equality of all nations and ethnic groups and the right of people to declare their ethnic affiliation, including the right not to do so. According to the classification valid at 1981, 1991 and 2002 censuses, the population is classified into two groups by ethnic affiliation:

- declared;
- undeclared.

With the creation of independent states in the territory of former Yugoslavia, the classification of ethnically declared population includes Bosniacs. This term was introduced by the Constitution of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1994. Among ethnically declared we still show Muslims, who declared so in the sense of ethnic and not religious affiliation.

People shown as ethnically undeclared are:

- Yugoslavs;
- Bosnians (in the past censuses they were shown as regionally declared);
- regionally declared (e.g. Istrians, Dalmatians, etc.);
- others (people who preferred to be ethnically undeclared).

Definitions

A family is a community of persons within a private household. It is a:

- community of parents (one or both) and unmarried children living with them or with one of the parents. The age of children in such a community is not limited; however, they must not have their own families or live in consensual unions;
- community of a married man and woman;
- community of partners who live in a consensual union.

A citizen of the Republic of Slovenia is a person with Slovenian citizenship and registered permanent residence in Slovenia.

A household is a group of people living together and sharing their income for covering the basic costs of living (accommodation, food, other consumer goods, etc.) or a person living alone.

Ageing index is the ratio between the old population (aged 65 years and over) and the young population (aged 0-14 years).

A stillborn is a child born or extracted from its mother's body without signs of life (no breathing, no movement, no beating of the heart) and at birth weighted at least 500 grams or pregnancy lasted less than 22 weeks or its body was at least 25 centimetres long.

Natural increase is the difference between the number of live-born children and the number of deaths for a given area in the calendar year.

Ethnic affiliation is being a member of a nation or an ethnic group. In accordance with the constitutional principles of the equality of nations and ethnic groups, a person has a right to declare his/her ethnic affiliation (Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, OJ RS, No. 33/91-I, Article 61).

Internal migration is a change of the settlement of permanent residence of a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia on the territory of Slovenia.

An emigrant is a resident of Slovenia who:

- in Slovenia gave notice of leaving his/her residence with the intention of emigrating abroad,
- emigrated temporarily abroad for more than three months and gave notice of his/her departure at the administrative unit,
- emigrated to another settlement or municipality in Slovenia.

Mean age is a weighted arithmetic mean of the age of a given group of population.

A resident (see the methodological explanations on population).

Life expectancy is the average number of years to be lived by a person, aged exactly x years, if the mortality by age during his/her lifetime remains the same as the values of the life tables for the observed year.

An immigrant is a resident of Slovenia who:

- immigrated from abroad and registered his/her permanent residence in Slovenia,
- gave notice of his/her arrival at the administrative unit after returning from temporarily residing abroad,
- immigrated to another settlement or municipality in Slovenia and registered his/her residence there.

Acknowledgement of paternity is a procedure in which a man in accordance with the valid legal regulations acknowledges a child to be his own.

Divorce is a procedure in which a court with its final judgement terminates the existing marriage of two people of opposite sexes.

Migration is the change of settlement or residence of a person.

Net migration is the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants for a given area in the calendar year.

Marriage is a procedure in which two persons of opposite sexes settle a marriage in accordance with the valid legal regulations.

Age is the period of time a person has lived from his/her birth to the moment of observation (census, time cross-section) or until the observed event (birth of the first child, marriage, migration). It is expressed by completed years of age, and infant mortality also by months, days and hours.

A foreigner is:

- a person with foreign citizenship and permission for permanent or temporary residing in Slovenia, who registered residence in Slovenia;
- a person with foreign citizenship and valid work permit or business visa, who registered temporary residence in Slovenia;
- a person without established citizenship or without citizenship, who was citizen of the former countries: SFR Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Soviet Union and some other countries, but has permanent or temporary residence in Slovenia.

A dead person is one whose evidence of life permanently disappeared any time after he/she was live-born.

A dead infant is a child whose evidence of life permanently disappeared any time after he/she was live-born and has not yet completed the first year of age.

Causes of death are all illness or injuries which caused death or contributed to death, and the circumstances of the accident or violence which caused such injuries.

Basic cause of death is:

- the illness or injury which caused the outbreak of disease or an injury, which led directly to death, or
- circumstances of the accident or violence, which caused the fatal injury.

Between 1979 and 1996 causes of death were classified according to the International Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 9th Revision. Since 1996 they have been classified according to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision, which is recommended by the World Health Organisation and came into force in 1993. The two classifications are not directly comparable.

A live-born is a child who immediately after birth showed signs of life (breathing, beating of the heart, muscle twitch), even though only for a short period. Duration of pregnancy is not important.

Publishing

Monthly:	Some Important Statistics on Slovenia
Semi-annually:	Rapid Reports. Population
Annually:	Results of Surveys. Population
	Slovenia in Figures
	Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Slovenia
	SI-STAT database
Occasionally:	Methodological Material