

## Vital events, January–December 2008

### Summary

On 1 January 2009, the population number of the country was 10,031 thousand, 14 thousand less than one year before. The main vital events contributing to the population size changed as follows: the number of births increased, the number of deaths decreased and the positive balance of international migration exceeded that of the previous year. According to preliminary data, in 2008, 99,200 children were born, 130 thousand inhabitants died, and the surplus of international migration amounted to 16,800 persons.

### Main data of vital events

Vital event	2007	2008 <sup>+) </sup>	2008 <sup>+) </sup> /2007 2007 = 100.0
Live birth	97 613	99 200	101.6
Death	132 938	130 000	97.8
Infant death	577	555	96.2
Marriage	40 842	40 100	98.2
Divorce	25 160	25 300	100.6
Induced abortion	43 870	44 300	101.0
Natural increase/decrease	-35 325	-30 800	87.2
Actual increase/decrease	-20 757	-14 000	67.4

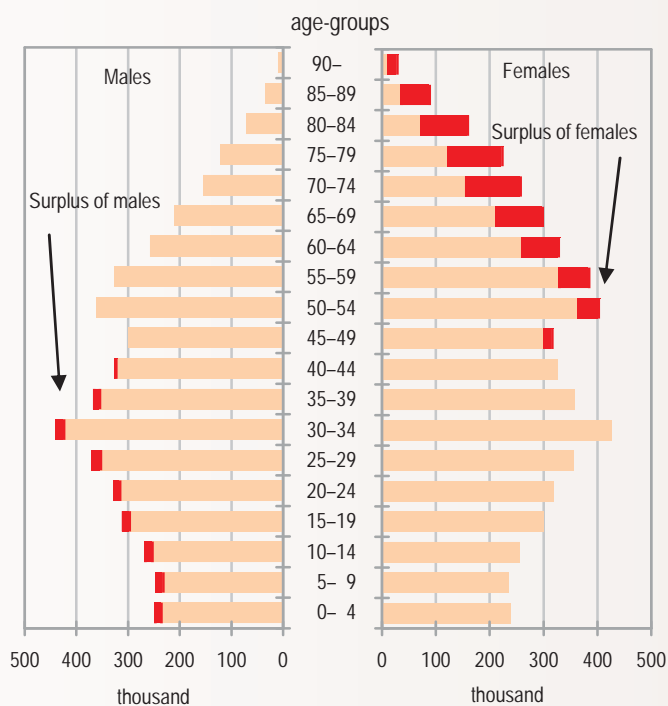
<sup>+)</sup>  Preliminary, partly estimated data.

The number of births increased by 1.6 percent, which meant nearly 1,600 more newborn children than in the previous year. Despite the increase, the birth number of 99,200 hasn't reached the level two years earlier. It is in line with the trend of the last ten years, which was characterized by the low level birth rate constantly under 100 thousand birth number with some fluctuation.

In 2008, the death number of 130,000 was 3,000 less than one year before, which meant a fall of 2.2 percent. The basically decreasing trend of death number in the last fifteen years seemed to stop temporarily in the previous years, but in 2008 the decrease resulted in the lowest value in the last three decades. The decline of death number happens in parallel with the gradually ageing population, indicating the improving conditions of mortality and the further increase of life expectancy. After the temporary balking in 2007, the improving tendency of infant mortality continued in 2008. The number of infant deaths was 5.6 per thousand live births, which was the lowest value so far.

The declining tendency of marriage movement did not change in 2008. During the years after the turn of the millennium, the number of marriages fluctuated on a low level, or rather stagnated, however in 2007 it dropped significantly. The 40,100 marriages for 2008 meant a fall of 1.8 percent (700 less couples) even compared to the low level of the previous year. In the last decade, the yearly number of divorces fluctuated around 24–25 thousand, however during the previous years it increased slowly but constantly. The 25,300 divorces for 2008 exceeded slightly that of the previous year, but it was the highest value in the last five years. The yearly change of the absolute number of divorces decreasingly expresses the stability of partnerships, because the number of divorces refers to less and less marriages and married couples.

### Population by sex and age-groups, 1 January 2009<sup>+)</sup>



<sup>+)</sup>  Preliminary, partly estimated data.

Due to the increase in births and decrease in deaths, the degree of natural decrease was moderated. As a consequence of the balance of births and deaths in 2008, the natural decrease was 30,800, 13 percent lower than in 2007. The positive balance of international migration could just moderately compensate the declining population number deriving from natural

decrease. In 2008, the immigration surplus of 16,800 exceeded by 2,600 persons, 18 percent that of the previous year. Due to the lower degree of natural decrease and the higher immigration surplus than in the previous year, the actual decrease of population was 14,000 people in 2008 in contrast to the number of 21,000 in 2007. Almost two thirds of the lower degree of actual decrease was due to the more live births and less deaths, while one third can be attributed to the increasing immigration surplus. The structural change tendencies of the previous decades in the composition of the population by age have continued. The ageing process of the population accelerated. In 1992, the number and proportion of people

aged 60 years and over exceeded for the first time that of the 0–14 year-old child population, and from 2005 even people aged 65 years and over were more than the child population. On 1 January 2009, there were 110 old people aged 65 years and over per hundred child-age population. There are essential changes in the composition of the population by marital status. The proportion of married people kept on falling, and the proportion of never married and divorced people continued to rise. Therefore, on 1 January 2009, among people aged 15 years and older there were 47 married, 32 never married, 11 widowed and 10 divorced persons per hundred people.

#### Information, links:

[Tables](#)

[StADAT-tables](#)

[Methodology](#)

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