

## Daily time use of the population, 2010 (comprehensive data of the time use survey of 2009/2010)

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### Summary

- Between 2000 and 2010, the decrease in time spent on activities fixed by social aspects, though at a lower rate than earlier, continued.
- Performing income producing work was indicated in the time use survey by 52.7% of men and 41.1% of women aged 15–74 years, and the daily average time spent on this was altogether 374 minutes, just as many as 10 years earlier. At the same time, while in 2000 men spent by 87 minutes more time on this activity than women, the difference diminished to 59 minutes by 2010.
- The decrease in time spent on socially fixed activities was counterbalanced by the increase in time spent on meeting physiological needs; within this, along with the invariable hegemony of sleeping, the proportion of the time needed for eating and passive rest significantly increased.
- People aged 15–74 years spent 57% of time which can be used freely in front of the monitor both in 2000 and in 2010. Within this, internet accounted for 8%. Time spent on reading, which was already very moderate, daily 24 minutes on the average in 2000, fell by 4 minutes.

### Introduction

In Hungary, time use surveys are performed by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office roughly in every 10 years in order to trace the changes in the time use of the population. The last (hereafter referred to as the 2010 survey) time use survey spanned the period between 1 October 2009 and 30 September 2010, and its methodology corresponded to the relevant EU recommendations, thus ensuring the analysis of the changes of processes over time and the international comparability of data. In the interest of comparability with earlier similar surveys, the present study is based on the results of time use diaries of 3,420 men and 4,169 women aged 15–74 years recorded with interview method. The survey itself covered a wider age group, i.e. people aged 10–84 years. The data can be considered preliminary, and they may change to some extent after refining the weighting.

The time use survey uses traditionally three main indicators: the first and most important one is the daily average time use (in minutes) of the total population spent on a certain activity (indicator "A"). The further ones are the proportion of those performing the activity on the given day to the total population (indicator "B") and the daily average time spent on the given activity by those performing it (indicator "C"). In case of aggregated categories, the values of indicators "A" and "C" are obviously similar, while in case of less general activities, they may differ considerably. In addition to these three indicators, in respect of working for pay, the time use of the total population on such activities is an important indicator as well.

### Time spent on main activities

The three main groups of activities traditionally distinguished in time use surveys are:

- socially determined/fixed activities,
- activities meeting physiological needs,
- leisure activities.

In a longer run, time spent on socially fixed activities shows a decreasing, while that spent on leisure activities shows an increasing trend, similarly to the time need of meeting physiological needs amounting to about half a day.

The daily average time spent on socially fixed activities was 460 minutes in 2010, 17 minutes less than a decade earlier and an hour and a half less than in 1986/1987. Within this main group, the proportion of time spent on income producing work fell from the 51% in 1986/1987 to 45% by 2001 and to 38% by 2010.

In 2010, people aged 15–74 years spent on an average day 712 minutes on sleeping, eating and meeting other physiological needs. Thus, 268 minutes remained on the average for the so-called leisure activities, some minutes less than in 2000, but even so, nearly daily 40 minutes more than at the end of the 1980s.

Table 1  
Daily average time use of the population aged 15–74 years by main activity groups

Main activity group	1986/1987		1999/2000		2009/2010	
	minute	%	minute	%	minute	%
Socially fixed activities	540	37.5	478	33.2	460	32.0
of which: income producing work	280	19.4	215	14.0	174	12.1
Activities meeting physiological needs	671	46.6	683	47.4	712	49.4
Leisure activities	230	15.9	280	19.4	268	18.6
Total	440	100.0	1 440	100.0	1 440	100.0

Note: The sum of partial data may differ from the totals due to rounding.

### Socially determined/fixed activities

In 2010, income producing work represented 38% within socially fixed activities as opposed to the 45% a decade earlier. The main reason for the decrease in the proportion was, as it is proved by other surveys, e.g. the Household Budget and Living Conditions Survey as well, that agricultural activities serving basically self-consumption lost ground. In 2000, people aged 15–74 years spent on average 40 minutes on agricultural work not in main job, and it belonged to the daily routine for 23.5% of the population. By the gradual decrease in the number of the elderly generation, who considered farming work at home natural, as well as by the easier availability of foods with dumping price, the proportion of those performing such activities decreased to 14.6% by 2010, while the average time spent on these activities by the population aged 15–74 years fell to 20 minutes. (The sphere of people performing paid agricultural work for others is much more narrow and concentrated than of those farming for self-consumption, but the accurate survey of the changes in this is not possible due to the limits of the sample size.) The time spent on learning and self-education hardly changed compared to that a decade earlier, which confirms that in Hungary, learning is mainly limited to the forms of formal education. Thus, more significant positive changes occurred only after the expansion of education, an example for which were just the 1990s (the time use survey of 2000 recorded a nearly 60% increase in the time spent on learning compared to the one in 1986/87).

While agricultural work diminished, the average time spent on household work increased by nearly 20 minutes; in this surplus, care for children accounted for 11 minutes. Time spent on transport slightly increased as well (by 6 minutes on the average, from 60 to 66 minutes), in which travel by passenger car accounted for one third.

Table 2

### Time use data characteristic of socially determined activities

Activity	Daily average time use of the population aged 15–74 years, minutes		Proportion of those performing the activity, %	Daily average time use of those performing the activity, minutes
	1999/2000	2009/2010		
Income producing activity	215	174	46.6	374
of which: in main job	157	152	34.4	442
Learning, self-education	33	29	9.2	311
Household works, works around the house, administration <sup>a)</sup>	170	191	..	..
of which:				
household work, works around the house	119	137	82.2	167
shopping	15	17	38.8	44
care for children	20	31	22.6	139
Transport	60	66	80.7	82
Socially determined activities, total	478	460	98.8	466

<sup>a)</sup>In 2010, such breakdown about people performing these activities was not available.

### Activities meeting physiological needs

In 2010, people aged 15–74 years spent 712 minutes on meeting physiological needs, nearly half an hour more than a decade earlier. Within this, on the average, 13 minutes more were spent on eating, 18 minutes more on personal hygiene and getting dressed, but 7 minutes less on sleeping. This is essentially the only activity group, where the time use of

men and women is nearly the same, though women need, contrary to the common view, 4 minutes less on the average for personal hygiene and getting dressed than men, while in return, they sleep 4 minutes more. Compared to the population aged 15–74 years, employed people have a deficit of 37 minutes in sleeping and in passive rest.

Table 3

### Time spent on meeting physiological needs by the population aged 15–74 years, and within them, by employed people

(minutes)

Activity	Population		Of which: employed	
	1999/2000	2009/2010	1999/2000	2009/2010
Sleeping	515	507	491	481
Eating	86	99	82	98
Personal hygiene	56	74	51	77
Passive rest, lying in bed because of sickness	26	31	17	21
Physiological needs, total	683	712	641	676

### Leisure activities

The daily quantity of time spent freely hardly changed in the past decade, so, at present, the daily average time spent on leisure activities by an adult is nearly four and a half hours. The larger part of this time, 58% in 2000 and 57% in 2010, is spent in front of the monitor. Since the middle of the 1990s, essentially all other leisure activities have been pushed into the background by activities connected to the monitor. In 2009/2010, on the examined day, 87.4% of people aged 15–74 years sat in front of the TV or the computer. The proportion of TV viewers to people belonging to a certain age group is increasing along with the progress in age, and in case of the 60–74 year-old population it is nearly 95%; they spend the longest time, 208 minutes on daily average, on watching screen. Both the average time spent on reading and the proportion of readers decreased in the past decade. 26% of people aged 15–74 years, who read at all, spent somewhat more time on it than earlier. As earlier, sports and walking were characteristic of less than 16% of the observed age group, and it was even more unfavourable that the time spent on these activities decreased significantly as well.

Table 4

### Time use data characteristic of leisure activities

Activity	Daily average time use of the population aged 15–74 years, minutes		Proportion of those performing the activity, %	Daily average time use of those performing the activity, minutes
	1999/2000	2009/2010		
Leisure activities, total	280	268	97.7	274
of which:				
Social leisure activities	51	46	54.2	85
Reading	24	20	25.9	76
Television, video, internet	161	152	87.4	174
Sports, walking	19	15	15.3	96

#### Further information, data (links)

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**TABLE**

**Time use of the population aged 15–74 years, 2009/2010**

Activity	Daily average time use, minutes	People performing the activity	
		proportion, %	daily time use, minutes
	indicator "A"	indicator "B"	indicator "C"
I. Socially determined activities	461	98,8	466
1. Income producing work	174	46,6	374
1.1. Main job, total	152	34,4	442
Non agricultural	143	32,0	448
Agricultural	9	3,0	294
1.2. Income supplement, total	23	16,0	142
1.2.1. Non agricultural (for institutions and other households for money)	2	1,2	190
1.2.2. Non agricultural, total (for own household)	1	0,9	65
1.2.3. Agricultural, total (for own household and other households)	20	14,6	137
2. Learning, self-education	29	9,2	311
2.1. In formal education	25	7,6	334
2.1.1. Classes and lectures	16	5,3	310
2.1.2. Homework	9	5,6	161
2.2. Self-education	3	2,3	142
3. Household work and family care	137	82,2	167
3.1. Traditional (women's) household works	107	74,2	144
3.1.1. Cooking, setting the table, serving food	50	64,5	78
3.1.2. Dish washing, drying up	21	47,0	44
3.1.3. Cleaning, tidying up the dwelling	21	38,0	56
3.1.4. Laundry, ironing	12	19,0	61
3.1.5. Care for adults	2	2,6	93
3.2. Works around the house	21	21,7	97
3.2.1. Cleaning garden, pavement	15	16,1	95
3.2.2. Heating, carrying water	6	7,9	73
3.3. Construction, repairs, maintenance	9	6,3	148
4. Shopping and services	23	42,7	54
4.1. Shopping	17	38,8	44
4.2. Personal, administrative and other services	1	1,5	56
4.3. Household management	3	5,5	46
4.4. Health services	2	3,1	74
5. Childcare (own child)	31	22,6	139
5.1. Physical care and supervision	13	13,3	100
5.2. Reading, playing and talking with child	13	15,2	88
5.3. Teaching the child	3	5,3	63
5.4. Transporting, accompanying child	1	2,4	48
6. Transport, total	66	80,7	82
6.1. Travelling on foot	21	44,9	46
6.2. Travelling by bicycle	6	13,0	44
6.3. Travelling by passenger car	20	28,5	70
6.4. Public transport and other forms	16	20,2	78
6.4.1. Local public transport	10	14,9	65
6.4.2. Interurban public transport	5	6,3	82

TABLE

## Time use of the population aged 15–74 years, 2009/2010

Activity	Daily average time use, minutes	People performing the activity	
		proportion, %	daily time use, minutes
	indicator "A"	indicator "B"	indicator "C"
II. Physiological needs	712	100,0	712
7.1. Sleeping	507	100,0	507
7.2. Personal hygiene, dressing	74	99,9	74
Of which: Taking a bath or shower	18	70,5	26
Brushing teeth	3	27,8	12
7.3. Meals, eating-drinking	99	100,0	99
7.3.1. Eating breakfast	20	81,9	24
7.3.2. Eating lunch	33	94,0	35
7.3.3. Eating dinner	28	89,0	31
7.3.4. Other meals	5	18,4	28
7.3.5. Drinking coffee, tea	10	45,4	22
7.3.6. Nibbling other food	3	9,6	32
7.4. Passive rest, lying awake in bed	28	31,4	91
7.5. Lying in bed because of sickness, self healing	3	4,5	58
III. Leisure activities	268	97,7	274
8. Social leisure activities	46	54,2	85
8.1. Conversation	30	42,7	71
8.2. Visiting and receiving visitors	6	9,1	64
8.3. Drinking alcoholic beverages, going to pub	3	3,9	86
8.4. Social entertainment (dancing, playing cards, etc.)	2	1,1	232
8.5. Other family programmes	4	9,8	44
9. Religious, organizational activities	2	2,7	83
10. Attending cultural and sports events	3	2,0	130
11. Reading	20	25,9	76
12. Listening to radio or recordings	2	2,6	67
13. Watching TV, video or DVD, using internet	152	87,4	174
13.1. Watching TV	135	83,2	163
13.2. Watching video	5	3,8	121
13.3. Using internet	12	12,7	93
14. Other hobbies (handicraft, care for pets, etc.)	10	19,0	53
15. Walking, sports, physical training	15	15,3	96
15.1. Walking, looking at shop windows	6	7,9	73
15.2. Hiking, nature walk, being on the beach, fishing	3	1,9	172
15.3. Sports, other physical trainings	6	6,7	85
16. Other leisure activities	2	6,4	37
16.1. Doing nothing, meditating, emotional activities	2	6,2	34
16.2. Entertainment in general, listening to live music	0	0,3	116
17. Unknown activities which cannot be classified	0	0,1	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 440</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>1 440</b>
Number of observations	7 589	7 589,0	7 589
Multiplied sample, thousand people	7 704	7 704,0	7 704