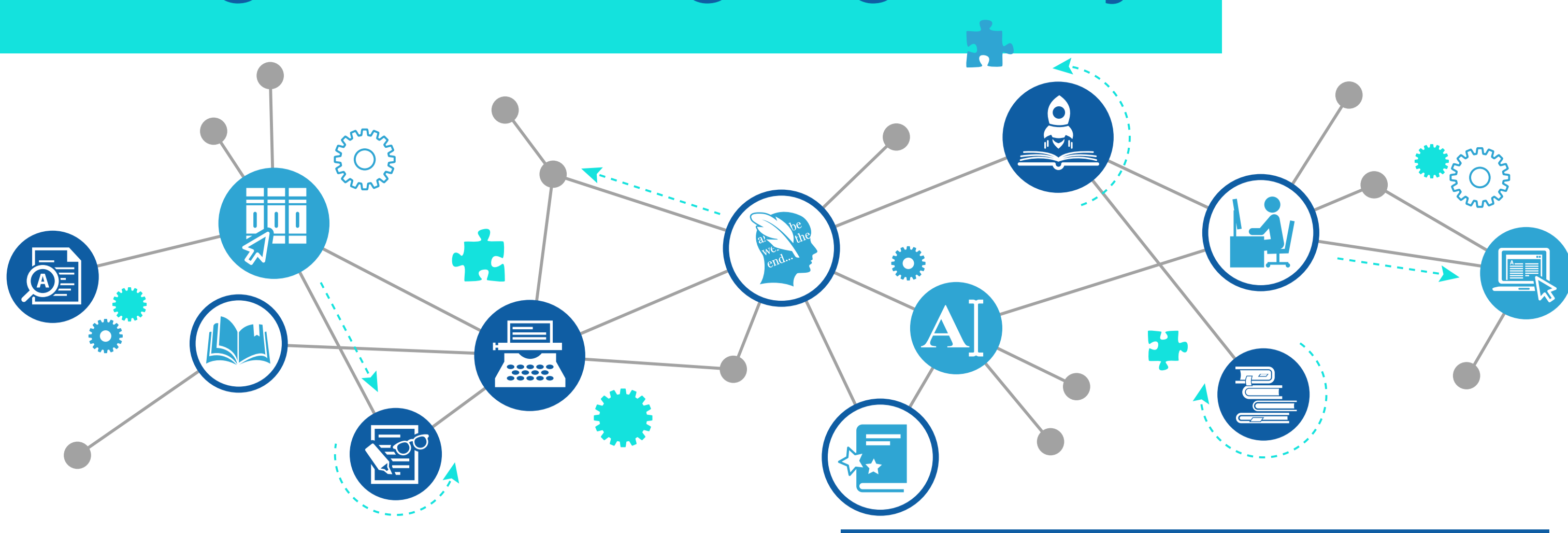


Hungarian Language Day



13 November 2024

Did you know?



– Hungarian became an official language 180 years ago, on **13 November 1844**.



– The vocabulary of an average Hungarian person consists of nearly **10,000 words**.
– **János Arany** used **22 thousand different words** in his poems.*
– In the works of **Mór Jókai**, **45 thousand different words** appear.



– Thanks to the 18-19th century **language reform**, around **10 thousand new words** took root in the Hungarian language.



– There are only **52 languages** in the world that are **spoken by more than 10 million people**, and one of them is Hungarian.
– You can study Hungarian at **80 universities in 23 countries** around the world.

*The number of words in János Arany's oeuvre refers only to the unique words without suffixes in his poems.

Source: <https://e-nyelvmagazin.hu/2017/02/28/arany-janos-szokincse-koltoi-szotara>, <https://irodalomora.hu/a-nyelvujitas>.

Our data related to the cultivation and preservation of the Hungarian language, 2023



Number of libraries per 100,000 inhabitants, pieces **73**



Number of archives, pieces **95**



Television broadcasting time, thousand hours **136**



Radio broadcasting time, thousand hours **53**

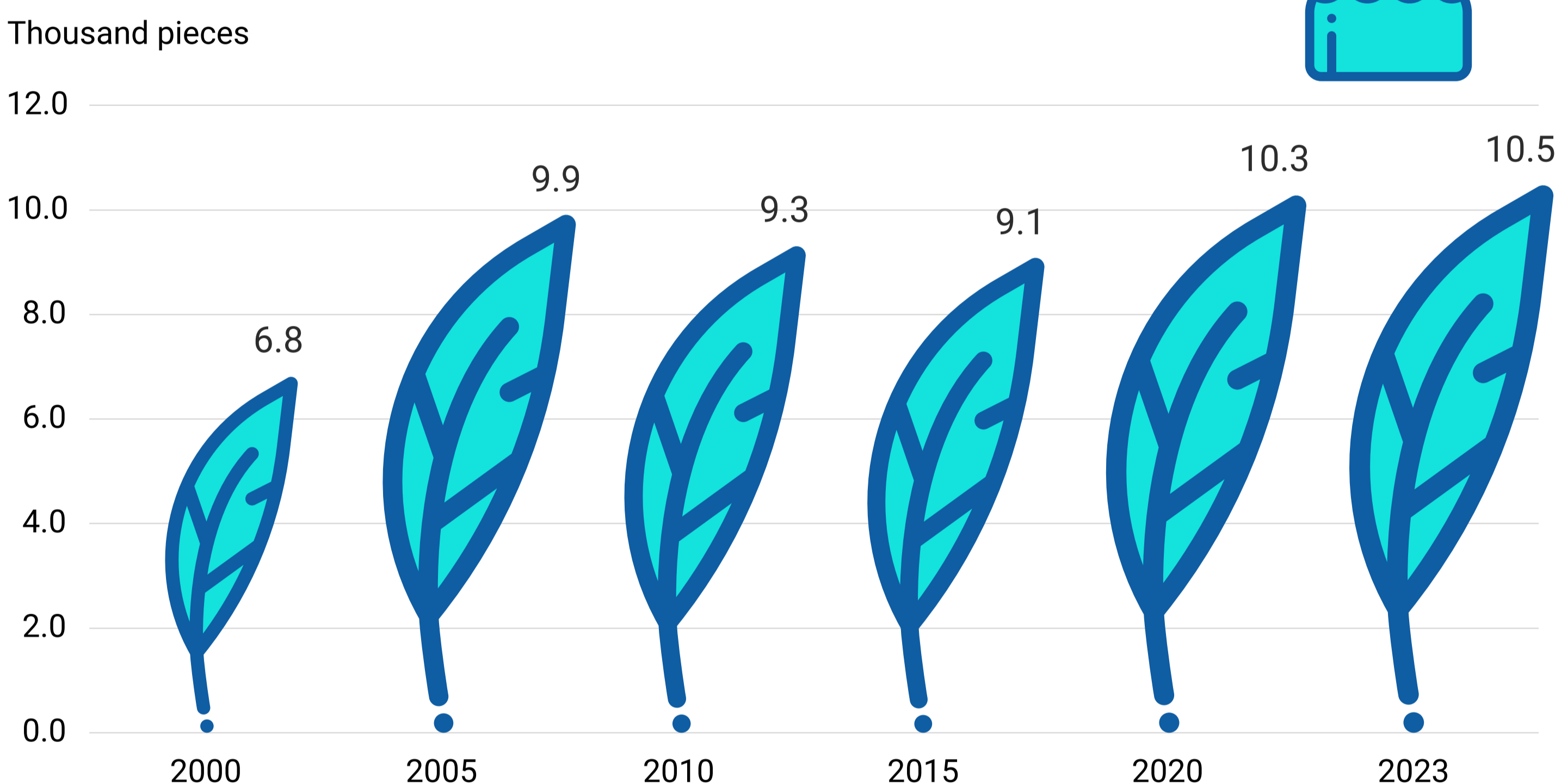


Number of theatres, pieces **240**



Number of theatre visits, thousands **6,890**

Number of works by Hungarian authors published in Hungary (book and booklet publishing)



Source: HCSO.

How many words are in the Hungarian language?

If we take into account all the words that occur in the different varieties of the language (e.g. dialects, technical vocabulary, archaisms), **there are hundreds of thousands of Hungarian words**. Of these, the *Hungarian Interpretative Dictionary* contains about **75 thousand** entries and **150 thousand** expressions. On the other hand, *The Comprehensive Dictionary of the Hungarian Language*, which is currently being published, will process the Hungarian vocabulary in about **110 thousand headings**, making it the largest dictionary project in Hungarian linguistics to date. The first volume of the series, which is planned for more than **20 volumes**, was published in 2006 and the publication is currently on its 8th volume.

Source: <https://nagyszotar.nyud.hu/index.html>.

The role of HCSO in language cultivation



All HCSO publications are linguistically demanding, with the involvement of copy editors, but the employees of the Office have also contributed to the cultivation of the Hungarian language throughout history.

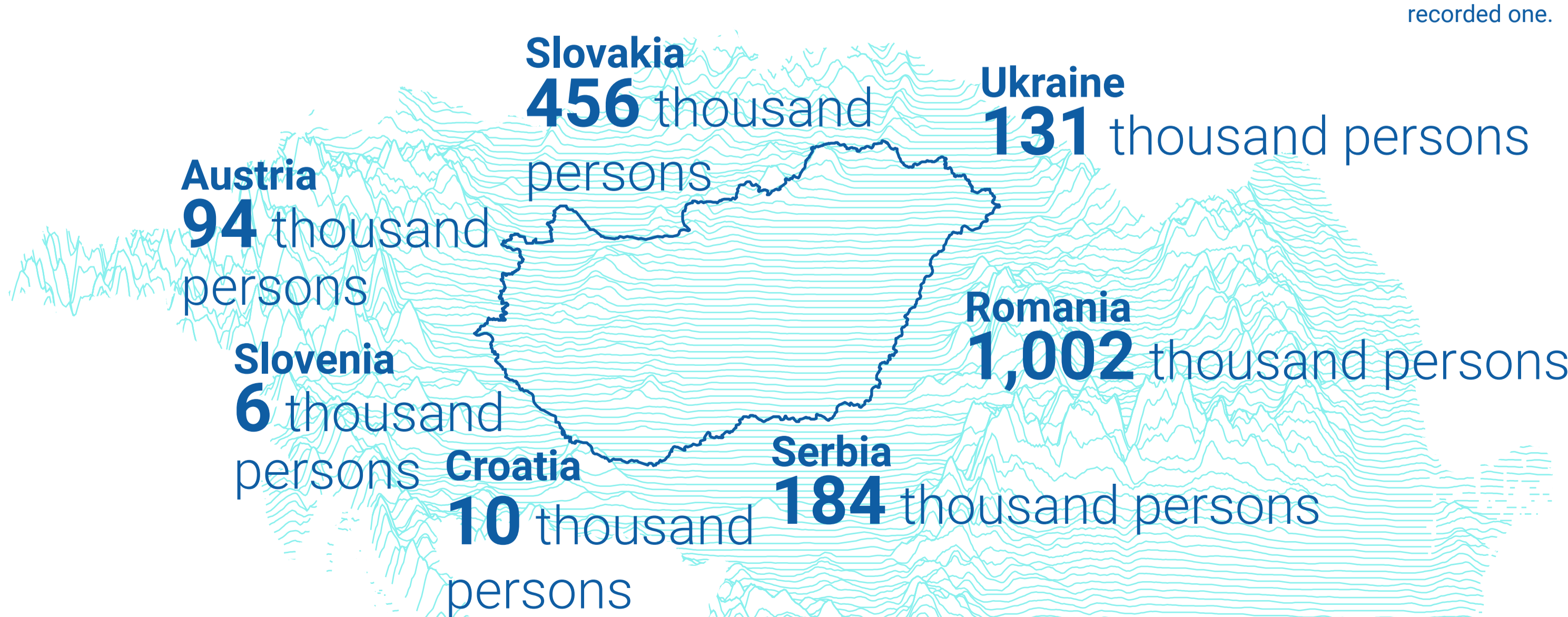
Gyula Vargha's name is **known** to the general public not for his activities as **President** of HCSO, but for **his poems**. He was a regular member of Kisfaludy Society from 1883 and its secretary general from 1900. His work also **received the most prestigious honour, the academic grand prize** in recognition.

HCSO also contributes to the up-to-dateness of the Hungarian language by maintaining the *Localities Nomenclature* (a directory of names and data of the localities of Hungary).

Number of the Hungarian population in some priority countries*

United States of America **1,247** thousand persons
Canada **316** thousand persons
Germany **213** thousand persons
United Kingdom **172** thousand persons

* Responses on nationality are not mandatory in the censuses, so the actual number of Hungarians may be higher than the officially recorded one.



As a result of negative demographic trends, emigration and assimilation, the number of Hungarians living across the border in the Carpathian Basin has decreased significantly since the turn of the millennium. **The most important condition** for the **preservation of Hungarians** living across the border is that Hungarian **parents enrol their children in Hungarian schools**, thus **ensuring the preservation** of Hungarian culture and identity.

Source: Census and register data.