

## II. SOCIETY IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES

### State forms and elections

After remaining practically unchanged for centuries, the state apparatus was fundamentally transformed several times in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At the beginning of the century, there was a constitutional monarchy under the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy that had been formed under the Compromise of 1867. The ruler was the Hungarian king and the Austrian Emperor unified in one person. At the end of the First World War, the October Revolution in 1918 brought an independent Hungarian republic, and the rearrangement of 1919 the Republic of Councils. After the revolution had been suppressed, the state system was restored to a kingdom, but the King – Charles (Habsburg) IV – was not permitted to return. The office of head of state was filled by the Regent, Miklós Horthy.

The kingdom came to an end after the Second World War and a republic was proclaimed in 1946, replaced by a people's republic in 1949, led by a "collective head of state", the Presidium. The operation of political parties, with one exception, ceased. The next constitutional change came in 1989, when Hungary once more became a republic, at first with a temporary president, and from the next year a president elected by Parliament. Political parties also regained their place in the political life of the country.

### Parliamentary elections

Year	Electorate		Number of voters, thousands	Proportion of votes percentage of	
	thousands	percentage of population		electorate	population
1920	3 133	39.2	2 531	80.8	31.7
1922	2 382	29.3	1 813	76.1	22.3
1926	2 230	26.5	1 713	76.8	20.4
1931	2 553	29.2	1 851	72.5	21.2
1935	3 004	33.6	2 403	80.0	26.9
1939	4 627	50.9	3 614	78.1	39.8
1945	5 167	59.7	4 775	92.3	55.1
1947	5 408	59.6	5 031	93.0	55.4
1990	7 824	75.4	4 911	65.1	49.1
1994	7 959	77.4	5 486	68.9	53.3
1998	8 063	79.9	4 536	56.3	44.9

In the elections between the wars, a quarter or a half of the population had the right to vote. After the Second World War, this proportion rose to 60%, and grew steadily in the following decades to 75–80% in the period following the change of system.

In the pre-war years, a higher proportion of the electorate took part in elections than in the last decade. The highest turnouts were in the 1945 and 1947 elections. In these years (and in 1994) more than one-half of the country's population were involved in the assignation of mandates among the parties.

**Turnout of electorate by region, %  
(on first round figures)**

Region	1990	1994	1998
Central Hungary	68.7	71.7	60.5
Central Transdanubia	66.7	70.2	57.0
Western Transdanubia	74.3	72.2	60.5
Southern Transdanubia	64.2	68.1	55.5
Northern Hungary	62.4	69.7	55.2
Northern Great Plain	56.1	64.1	50.0
Southern Great Plain	62.7	64.7	52.4
<b>Total:</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>56.3</b>

**Distribution of votes for regional lists, %**

Partyt	1990	1994	1998
Fidesz-Hungarian Civic Party	9.0	7.0	29.5
Hungarian Socialist Party	10.9	33.0	32.9
Independent Smallholders, Farm Workers and Civic Party	11.7	8.8	13.2
Federation of Free Democrats	21.4	19.7	7.6
Hungarian Truth and Life Party	–	1.6	5.5
Hungarian Democratic Forum	24.7	11.7	2.8
Christian Democratic Party	6.5	7.0	2.3
Of the above:			
Parties entering Parliament	84.2	87.2	91.5
Other parties	15.8	12.8	8.5

In all three elections since the change of system, there were higher than average turnouts in Central Hungary and Central and West Transdanubia. The lowest turnout in every case was in Northern Great Plain.

Turnouts are higher in most European countries than in Hungary, at between 70 and 90%.

Seats in Parliament are won by individually elected representatives and by parties that received at least 5% of the vote. The proportion of votes not represented has reduced significantly, but even in the last elections was 8.5%

All three elections have resulted in 6 parties returning representatives. Five parties were successful every time, and the other party was first the Christian Democratic Party, and then, in 1998, the Hungarian Truth and Life Party. (The Hungarian Democratic Forum was supported by 2.8% of list voters, and it was through individual election winners that the party gained representation in Parliament.)

## The two world wars

For the people of Hungary, the decisive events of the 20<sup>th</sup> century were the two world wars. Both inflicted enormous material and human loss, and the country came out the loser in both, with severe and far-reaching social, political, demographic and economic consequences. Statistical data can only express a fraction of the wars' effects.

In the *First World War*, the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy suffered fatal casualties estimated at 1.2 million. The war deaths of Hungary at that time numbered some half a million, of which about 200,000 were from the present territory of the country. Apart from direct loss of life, it must also be taken into account that in the four years of the war, 1915–1918, nearly half a million (485,000) fewer children were born than in the previous four years.

The peace treaty following the war assigned 190,000 km<sup>2</sup>, two-thirds of the country's territory, and 10.6 million people, 58% of the population, to neighbouring countries. The areas detached were inhabited mostly by non-Magyar nationalities. Nine-tenths of the 8.3 million people of mother tongues other than Hungarian living in the old Hungary, 7.5 million people, lived in Transylvania, Upper Hungary, etc. In addition, out of a total of some 10 million, more than 3 million Magyars lived in these areas and so became subject to foreign authority, citizens of another country. Although more hundred thousands of them fled to, or resettled in, the mother country, the number of Magyars remaining there was nearly 3 million. This fact remains to this day a sensitive point in relations between Hungary and the neighbouring countries.

The economy was torn apart by the war and the civil war that followed, a situation aggravated by the territorial changes. In addition, Hungary was obliged to pay 200 million crowns in reparations. The direct consequence of these developments was devastating inflation that went on for many years, a stable new currency, the pengő, only being introduced as legal tender on 1 January 1927.

The *Second World War* was even more destructive than the first both for humanity and for Hungary. For Hungary, too, the human losses of the war were greatly exacerbated by the mass extermination of Jews. Unlike in the First World War, the destruction was further intensified by fighting on the territory of the country for an extended period, including air attacks and major ground operations lasting several months.

Hungarian loss of life in the Second World War – calculated for its present area – approached half a million. The greater part of this was the death of deportees – mainly Jews, but also Gypsies and political. Hardly fewer were the military casualties, civilian victims, and those taken away after the war.

The direct material losses – according to calculations based on 1945 loss assessments – amounted to 22 billion pengős. This was equivalent to about 40% of the national assets in 1944, and more than four times the pre-war national income. Of this, 17 billion pengős was the amount taken West and 5 billion was the amount destroyed in place.

### War damage in the Second World War

Denomination	Million pengős (1938 values)	Distribution, %
Agriculture	3 682	16.8
Manufacturing industry	2 042	9.3
Artisan industry	727	3.3
Mining and metallurgy	65	0.3
Trade	1 365	6.2
Banking and insurance	987	4.5
Transport	3 689	16.8
Private households	5 248	23.9
Houses	1 854	8.4
Small commercial and industrial buildings	213	1.0
Health, welfare and cultural institutions	564	2.6
Other losses	1 514	6.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 950</b>	<b>100.0</b>

More than one-half of the country's livestock perished or was taken away. Some 3 million tonnes of grain were lost. One-quarter of manufacturing capacity was destroyed. It was Budapest factories that suffered most. 17% of road bridges (1404 bridges) including all Danube and Tisza bridges were ruined. More than a half of the main railway lines were laid waste. 13% of rolling stock was destroyed or written off, and 70% was taken away. 120,000 houses were damaged, schools and hospitals were impaired, as were monuments and art works. Of Budapest's 76 churches, 10 were completely shattered, and 32 seriously damaged.

As well as more severe losses than the previous war, even higher reparation, 300 million dollars, had to be paid. The level of inflation that followed the war exceeded any before, but for a relatively short period, up to 1 August 1946.

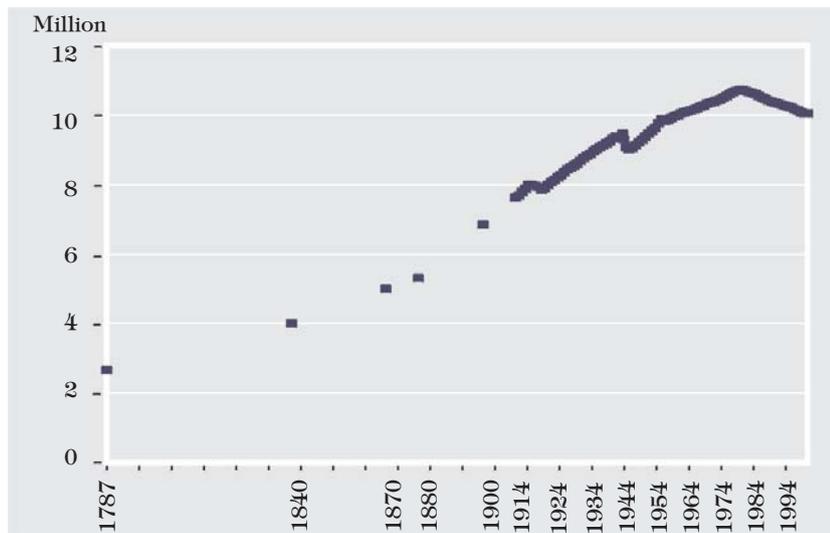
The peace treaty restored the Trianon (pre-1938) borders. The 78,000 km<sup>2</sup> territory re-annexed in 1938-1941 had a population of 5.4 million, of which one half was Magyar. These people again passed out of Hungary's authority.

### Population

Estimates prior to the 18<sup>th</sup> century are based on contemporary royal documents, military levy duties, and bishops' income – i.e. tithes and property titles (estates and customs duties). The rise in population was slowed down by epidemics, wars, falling numbers of births and migration losses, and accelerated by improving mortality and, in past centuries, immigration and settlement.

At the time of the first census, under the reign of Joseph II, 8.1–8.2 million lived in the territory of the country at the time (not counting Croatia), and 2.7 million in the modern territory. This number approximately doubled over the next century and doubled again over the following century. The rise of population was broken in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by wars and population migration, and in the last two decades by natural decline. On 1 February 2001, the number of inhabitants of the country was 10.2 million.

### Population (on the present territory of the country)



Population density also doubled between 1880 and 1980, and has fallen since then. The number of inhabitants per square kilometre in Hungary is now similar to that in Portugal, France and Yugoslavia. In the Netherlands and Belgium, where population density is highest, the figure is several times as high (388, 333).

### Population density

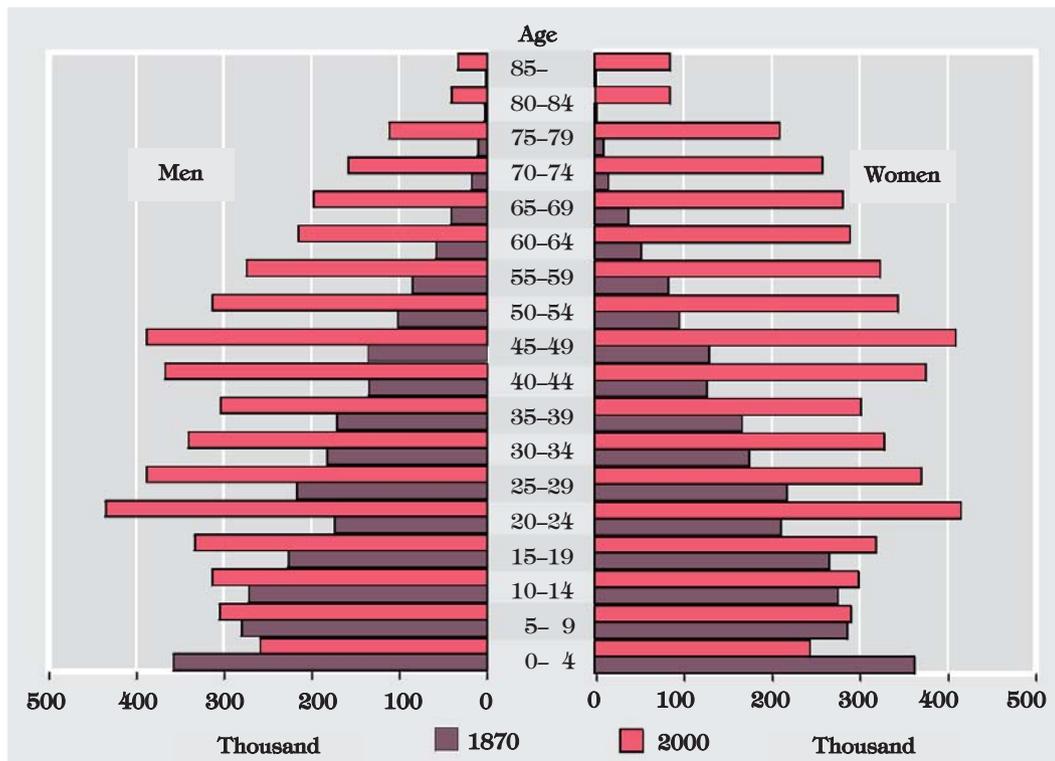
Year	1880	1900	1941	1949	1980	2001
Inhabitants/ km <sup>2</sup>	57,3	73.7	100.1	98.9	115.1	109.6

## Men, women, young and old people

At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, 52% of the population were women. The number of women per thousand men rose from 1019 in 1870 to 1096, determined by the higher male birth rate and the sex-differentiated mortality rates, wars and migration.

Proportions in other parts of the world are less balanced. More than half the population is male in Asia, where there are 954 women for each thousand men.

### Age pyramid, 1 January



In 1870, 37% of Hungary's population were children, and 5% were over 60 years old. These proportions are now 17% and 20%. The age pyramid typical of a young population has, by dint of migration, wars, changing rates of birth and death, now – like in many European countries – given way to one indicating an ageing population.

## Ethnic diversity

The proportion of the Magyar population in Europe at the time of the Conquest is estimated as less than 1%, and grew to 4–5% in the 14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The population density of the Kingdom of Hungary at the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century was 9–11 per km<sup>2</sup>.

In the Middle Ages, the Pechenegs and Jazygians came to the Carpathian Basin from the East, and the Germans and Walloons from the West. Most immigrants were conferred privileges on settling. *“Nowhere else in the states of Europe could a servus, i.e. a person of servant status, to rise to another class during his lifetime. Here even bonded servants were mounted on stallions or mares.”* During the Turkish occupation “the cruel enemy... depopulated broad areas and laid them waste”<sup>x</sup> Charles III, Maria Theresa and Joseph II later settled several hundred thousand working immigrants – mainly Germans and Slovaks – into the depopulated areas, promising freedom of religion, land, six- or ten-year tax exemptions and other –occasionally exaggerated – advantages: *“... Hungary is a land of milk and honey where the fertility of the land permits of two crops, and the rivers are only two parts water, the third being fish...”*<sup>xx</sup> Most immigrants were young farmers, with two or three children, mostly from German provinces, one-third Protestant, mostly without wealth.

The settlements changed the already diverse national composition of the country’s inhabitants. At the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, some 40–44% of the population were Magyar, under one-fifth Romanian, 15% Slovak, one-tenth German, and the rest Croat, Serb, Ruthene and members of other ethnic groups. In 1792, the law provided for teaching the Hungarian language in secondary schools and colleges. From 1836, Hungarian became the language of drafting laws and preaching in church. In 1840, the King was greeted in Hungarian, and births, deaths and marriages were registered in Hungarian. It became the state language in 1844, and Hungarian-language teaching was made compulsory in public schools by the 1868 Eötvös school reform.

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century – as a result of natural assimilation – the majority of the population declared its mother tongue to be Hungarian.

<sup>x</sup> Source: Mátyás Bél: Szabolcs County in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>xx</sup> Quoted without precise source citation: István Tarsoly Kollega: German immigrants in the time of Joseph II. KSH, Population Research Institute, Historical Demography series. 12. p. 35.



The two world wars interrupted the natural ethnic co-existence (division and assimilation) and brought external interference in the national composition. Discussions of ethnic affiliation took on rising political overtones and there was an increasing tendency to discriminate on ethnic grounds. Population exchanges were made between countries, and people of different ethnicity were expelled and resettled.

### Nationalities of Hungary at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> century

#### Legend:

Hungarian (Magyar)  
 German (Német)  
 Roumanian (Román)  
 Croatian (Horvát)  
 Serbian (Szerb)  
 Wendic (Vend)  
 Slovak (Szlovák)  
 Ruthenian (Rutén)  
 Gipsy (Cigány)  
 Unpopulated area (Lakatlan terület).

### Mother tongue and ethnic affiliation, thousands (in the modern territory of the country)

Year	German		Slovak	
	mother tongue	ethnic affiliation	ethnic affiliation	mother tongue
1900	605	..	192	..
1910	553	..	165	..
1941	476	302	76	17
1949	23	3	26	8
1960	51	9	31	14
1990	38	31	13	11

By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the number of inhabitants of Hungary whose mother tongue was German or Slovak had fallen to a fraction of that at the beginning. In 1941, 64% of ethnic Germans declared themselves as German-speaking, and 22% of ethnic Slovaks as Slovak-speaking. These figures fell to 1 and 12% respectively in 1949. In 1990, when there were no longer any disadvantages attaching to ethnic affiliation, two-thirds more people than in 1949 declared their mother tongue to be German, and 12 times as many claimed German ethnic affiliation. In addition to as the approximately forty thousand whose mother tongue is German, 410,000 speak the language. In contrast to the Germans, the number of people whose mother tongue is Slovak fell by half over these 41 years, but those declaring themselves as ethnically Slovak rose in number by one-third. It was these ethnic groups that underwent the most marked assimilation. Almost one-half of German-speaking and ethnically-German women married non-German husbands. This figure was even higher for Slovak women.

The Jews in Hungary were the subject of several laws made by King Ladislaus I at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> century, and their position in the 12<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> centuries improved with manufacturing and money-lending. Their services were honoured by Béla IV, who placed them under protection. In 1361, Louis the Great first banished them, and then, when the state coffers were empty, recalled them. In 1421, they were obliged in Buda to wear red cloaks with yellow patches and pointed caps, and they were forbidden to engage in horse and felt trading. In the time of Matthias, Jewish quarters grew up in Buda, Esztergom, Győr, Tata and Kőszeg. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century they were subject to double taxation, head tax, military service exemption tax and blood-fine. Under the protection of the Eszterházys, Kismarton became the centre of Hungarian Jewry. They were emancipated in the last third of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Their number exceeded 900,000 in 1910, when 78% declared themselves Magyar. Between the two world wars, they constituted the most populous religious or religion-based minority in Hungary. The number of people of the Judaist faith fell from 401,00

## Changes in the number of Hungarian Jews, 1941–1945

Number and reason for change	Total, thousand	Of which non-Budapest, %
People of Judaist faith according to the 1941 census	401	56
Not of Judaist faith, but deemed to be Jew (Act IV: 1939, Act XV: 1941)	90	30
<b>Total numbers in 1941</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>49</b>
Losses during forced labour, from 1941 till – 19 March 1944	25	50
The July 1941 deportation	5	40
Those deported, killed or died during the German occupation	328	68
Those fleeing abroad during the German occupation	3	33
Returnees from deportation up to 31 December 1945	65	69
Difference between those removed and those who returned	263	67
<b>Number of Jews on 31 December 1945</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>26</b>

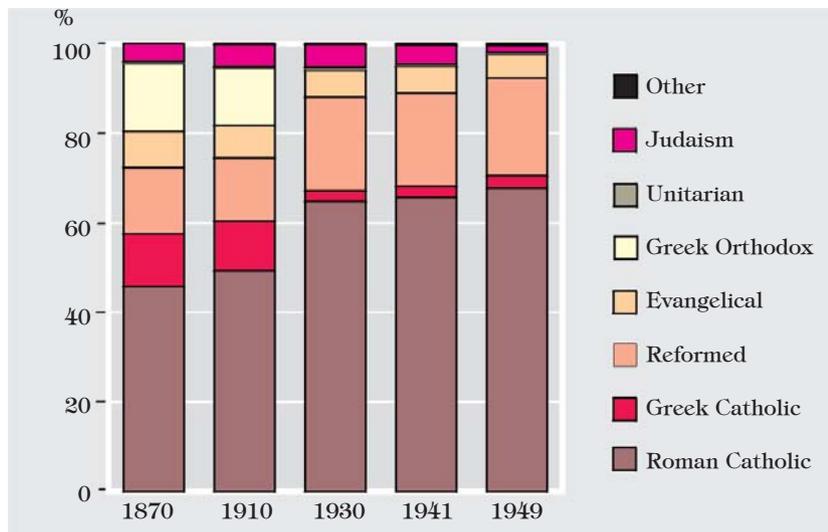
to 134,000 between 1941 and 1949, mainly through deportation, executions in concentration camps and eaths during forced labour.

The appearance of the Gypsies can be traced back to the time of King Sigismund, when the King permitted them to cross the southern border of the country. A document of 1489 first mentions Queen Beatrice's Gypsy musicians, and much later, Maria Theresa issued decrees in an attempt to restrict their nomadic way of life. Census figures put the number declaring their mother tongue as Romany to be 5,600 at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, nearly 15,000 in 1941, and 48,000 in 1990, when 143,000 declared themselves to be ethnically Gypsy. By another method, the Roma population was estimated in 1970 as 320,000, and in 1993 as more than 400,000. They are the most populous ethnic minority in Hungary.

### Religious affiliation

Figures for religious affiliation in Hungary have been available since 1870, when they showed the country to have a Catholic majority. The pre-First World War religious heterogeneity matched the ethnic diversity. Most Roman Catholics were Magyars and to lesser extents Germans, Croats and Slovaks. Most Reformed Church followers were Magyars, but a large proportion of Evangelicals were ethnically German and Slovak. Greek Orthodox and Greek Catholic religionists were generally Romanians, but there were also Serbs among the former and Magyars among the latter. The number of people of the Judaist faith doubled between 1870 and 1910. The religious map of Hungary changed with the Trianon Treaty, becoming more homogeneous together with ethnic affiliation. The proportions with Catholic and Reformed Church affiliation grew, and the number of Evangelists fell. The proportions of people affiliated to the Greek Orthodox and Greek Catholic faiths fell, as did that of people of the Jewish faith, by consequence of the Holocaust. By the figures of a representative survey made in 1992, there was hardly any change in the religious composition of the population in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The overwhelming majority declared themselves as either Catholic, Reformed Church or Evangelist. Denominational affiliation does not, however, always mean practising religion. More than half of those declaring affinities to denominations do not

practice their religion, 10% in their own way, and the rest by greater or lesser regularity via the church.



Among the religious there are more women, people over 50 years old, village inhabitants and agricultural manual workers.

At the turn of the millennium, one-third of the world's population was Christian, one-fifth Islam, approximately 13% Hindu and 6% Buddhist. One-sixth to one-fifth of humanity is not affiliated to a religious denomination.

### Partnership forms

It is estimated that in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, 15–20% of demographic events were registered, and by the 18<sup>th</sup> century all of them were. Exclusive church registration was taken over by state administration in 1895. The high proportion of marriages puts Hungary on the boundary of “Central Europe” in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There were 8-10 marriages for every 1000 of population. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the figure rose perceptibly after the wars, but from the second half of the seventies the tendency has been downward. A slight rise took place over the last two years, when there were 4.8 marriages per thousand, which puts us at lower boundary of

### Average marriage age, years

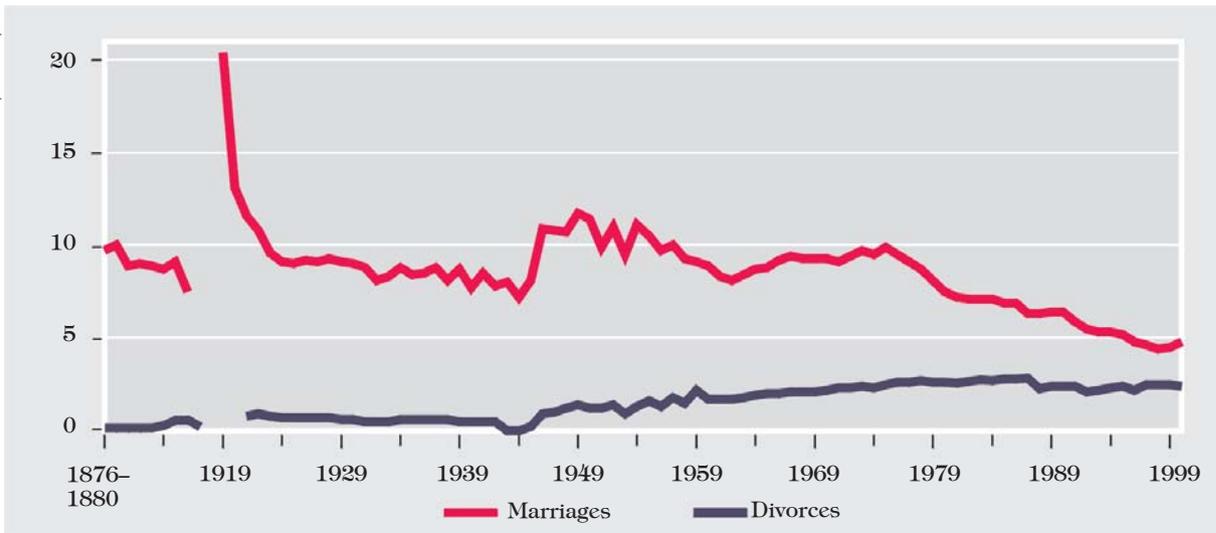
	1777	1876	1921	1948	1970	1999
Men	22.5	24.5	29.3	28.8	27.1	30.2
Women	20.5	21.0	25.1	24.5	23.6	27.1

the European middle range.

In previous centuries, couples started families much younger. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, following the two world wars, the average age of marriage rose, and then went down again up till 1970. In the last decade of the century, couples again tended to wed at more mature ages.

In the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there were increasing numbers of couples and families living together without marrying. In 1970, 2% of couples were co-habiting, this figure rising to more than 7% in 1996. The figure was about 8% in the member states of the then 12 member European Union, but 21% in Denmark alone and over

one-tenth in France. In



Hungary, 5.5% of women between 15 and 49 live in co-habiting relationships. This form of partnership is most common among divorced women.

## Distribution of the over-15 – year –population by marital status, %

Marital status	1869		2000	
	men	women	men	women
Bachelor, spinster	30.1	21.3	32.2	21.7
Married	65.1	63.7	55.8	49.7
Widow	4.3	14.2	3.9	18.3
Divorced	0.5	0.8	8.2	10.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In the seventies and eighties of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the divorce rate was 0.07 per thousand of population, but rose significantly around the turn of the century. In 1907, the law made it easier to dissolve marriages, and the rate increased to around 0.4. During the First World War, the number of divorces greatly decreased, and then rose again in the 1920s. The guilt-based grounds of dissolution of were replaced in court practice in 1952 by “serious and fundamental grounds”, which, together with many other factors, made it easier to dissolve marriages, and caused the rate to rise. Further change was brought by the procedural law of 1987. The highest figure in the 20<sup>th</sup> century was registered in the second half of the 1980s, and although there has been a reduction in the last decade, it is still high by international comparison.

With marriages becoming rarer and divorced more common, there are relatively fewer people living in marriage and relatively more widows and even more divorcees. The relative number of divorcees is similarly high as in Finland, the Czech Republic, the United States and Sweden, and the numbers of bachelors and spinsters are in the lower categories. The percentage of widows in Hungary is one of the highest for any country.

<sup>x</sup> Source: Dezső Dányi : *The beginning of population growth statistics in Hungary.*

## Demographic processes

### Births and deaths

The number of live births per thousand of population in Hungary in the last third of the 1700s was 48-51, and the death rate was around 40. *“There are hungry people with no money even for bread, doctors do not visit the sick, and bad hygienic conditions, epidemics and misplaced beliefs are serious barriers to improvement”*<sup>x</sup>. In the free royal burghs – of which there were 48 at this time including Banat – the birth rate was somewhat lower than average, but the death rate was similar. Fertility within marriage was so low in 1870 that only in France can a lower European figure be found. Fertility differed between ethnic groups of varying traditions and cultures. In the last third of the 19th century, the practice of having single-child families in Ormányság and Sárköz started out mainly in the areas inhabited by Magyars. Birth restrictions on a national scale first started up in France prior to the Revolution. In Britain and the Scandinavian countries, the birth rate started to fall in the 1890s, some 15 years before the death rate did the same. In the 20th century, the process continued. In Hungary in 1920, 250,000 children were born, and in 2000, not quite 98,000.

#### Live births and deaths per thousand of population

Year	Live births	Deaths
1823	30.6	23.2
1831	29.3	48.5
1876	46.7	34.9
1900	39.7	26.3
1925	28.4	17.1
1950	20.9	11.4
1975	18.4	12.4
2000	9.7	13.5

There are marked features of mortality in different age groups. The mortality of babies and children has steadily and substantially fallen.

<sup>x</sup> Source: Dezső Dányi: *The beginnings of population and population growth statistics in Hungary*.

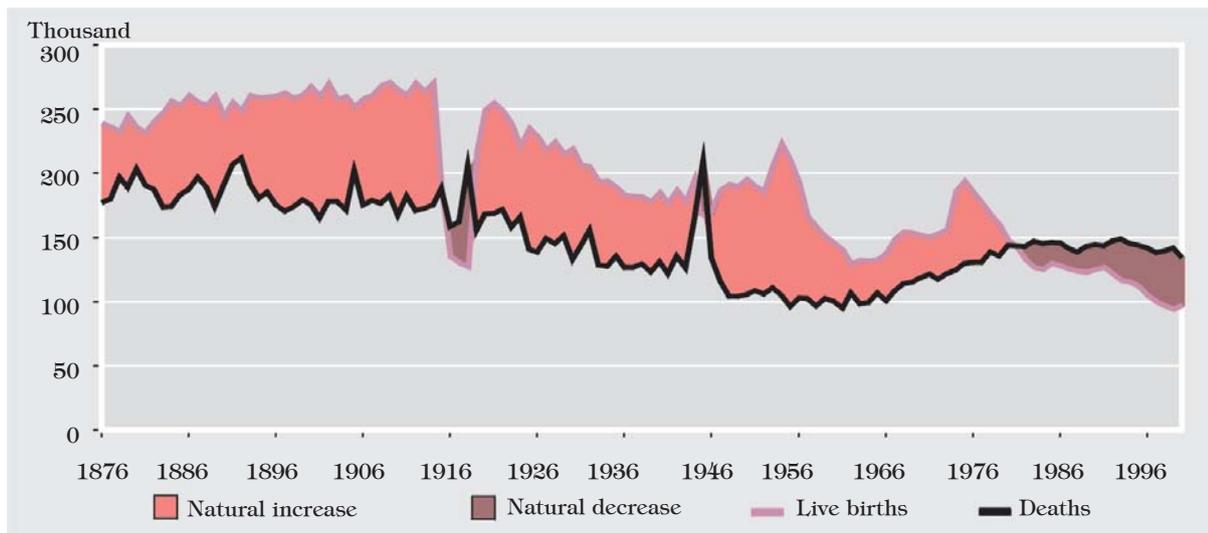
The latest statistics on the number of children born in families based on marriage and co-habitation have shown a sharp decline in the number of children born in families.

Year	Children
1920-1921	63 439
1938	29 914
2000	1 058

### The average age at deaths

Year	Average age (years)
1920	32.89
1960	62.24
2000	69.85

### Natural increase and decrease



A similar tendency has been followed in the other age groups of youth, although at lesser rates. Of late, changes in the death rate (deterioration, followed by some improvement) have chiefly been a function of mortality among older age groups.

**Number of people per hundred families**

Year	Number
1747-1748	400
1843	540
1949	339
1996	294

**Families by number of children, %**

Family type	1949	1996
Childless	27	33
One child	31	34
Two children	22	26
Three and more children	20	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

After the last great epidemic of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and after the two World Wars up to the 1960s, mortality declined, and in 1966 there were 10 deaths per thousand of population. The figure was 10.6 for men and 9.5 for women. Since 1966, the improving mortality trend reversed, and chronic non-infectious diseases became increasingly frequent causes of death, raising the average mortality level. The process was reinforced by the ageing of the population and reached 14.3 per thousand by 1994, followed by a slight improvement, another deterioration and again an improvement. The basic trend of births is reducing, and that of deaths in the last four decades has been increasing, so that in the last two decades the number of deaths exceeded that of births. Hungary is now a country of falling population.

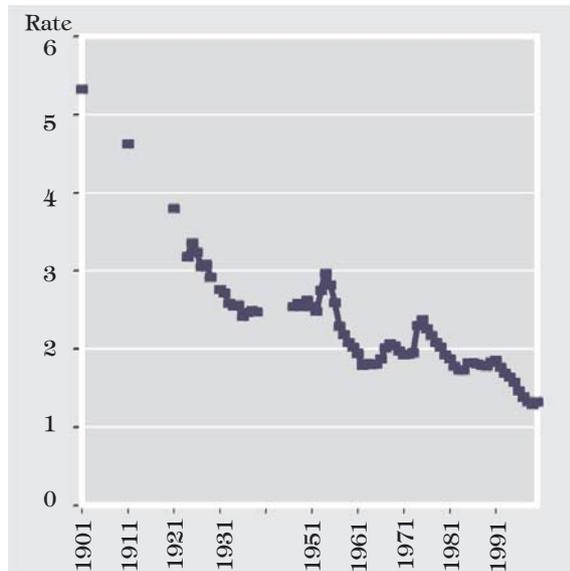
**Family size and fertility**

The average size of families has reduced with time.

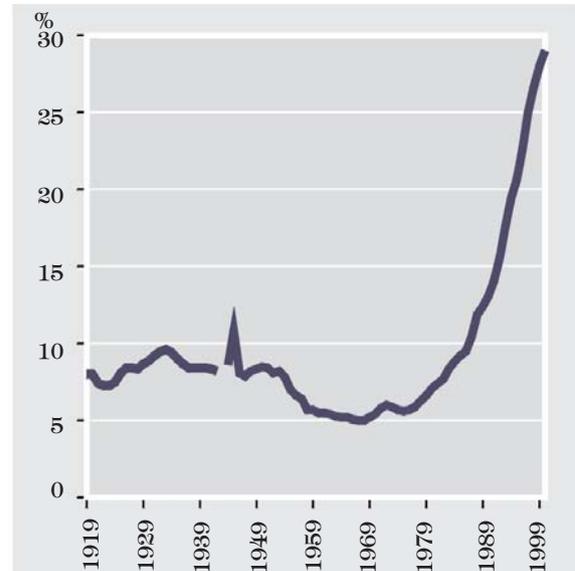
In the last fifty years or so, there have been rising proportions of families without children or with one or two children, and falling proportions of families with more children.

x Expressing the average number of children that a woman will bear during her life in the fertility conditions of that year.

Total fertility rate



Rate of births out of wedlock

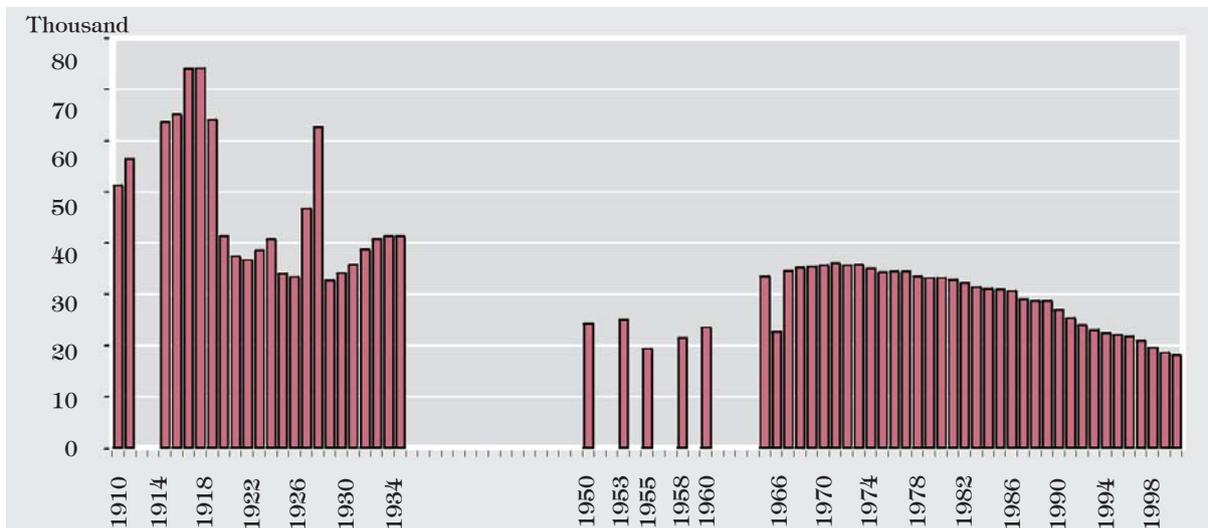


At the end of the 19th century, an average of 5 children were born to each family,

which ensured the natural replacement of the population given the mortality levels of the time. By the nineteen thirties, this figure had halved, and women of that time were not giving birth to enough children to ensure simple population replacement at the mortality rate of that time. More than 70% of women who married at that time gave birth to four or fewer children. In the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the two-child family became common. Less than 2% of women getting married in the 1970s and 80s planned 4 or more children.

By the end of the century, the total fertility rate<sup>x</sup> had fallen to one-fifth of its value at the beginning. The size of growing generations – if all children would reach adulthood – was some 40% short of their parents. By international comparison, Hungary lies on the lower boundary of the middle field in the ranking of European countries by fertility

Number of children in state care



The rate of children born out of wedlock in 1876-80 was between 7.3 and 7.9%, similar to the figures in France and Austria at the time, and more than twice those in England and Wales.

The illegitimacy rate in the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century fell to 5% in 1967-68, but grew to 29% by 2000, a tendency close to the average in the European Union.

Proportion of people living at their place of birth,\* %

	1880	1900	1920	1949	1996
Proportion	75	70	63	57	more than half

\* On the present territory of the country

Parents of illegitimate children, and even many married parents, were often unable to provide for their children, especially in the early decades. There were also children that were brought up outside families owing to the loss of their parents or for other reasons.

Care for abandoned children in Hungary has a tradition dating back over a century. Legislation was passed in 1898 providing, via the National Sickness Fund, for state protection of children in the most extreme situations. Foundlings' hospitals were set up from 1901 onwards, at which time there were 18

child refuges operating in the contemporary territory of the country. After the border adjustments, in the 1920s, their number fell to 8. There were refuges in Budapest, Kecskemét, Debrecen, Gyula, Pécs, Szeged,

Szombathely and Veszprém. Most children (87%) were placed with foster parents, and the age limit for state care was raised at that time from 7 to 15 years. In the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the term equivalent to "abandoned child" was replaced with "child in state care", and children were increasingly looked after in children's homes. One-quarter of children in care were living with foster parents in 1960. As the result of a major shift in outlook in the last decade of the century, over 43% were placed with foster parents at the turn of the millennium, and a system of children's homes based on small family-like communities, admitting a maximum of 40 children each, had been set up.

### Distribution of population by type of settlement,\* %

Year	Budapest	Other towns	Villages	Total
1910	12	21	67	100
1941	13	22	65	100
1949	17	20	63	100
1980	19	34	47	100
1990	19	43	38	100
2001	17	47	36	100

\* In the contemporary administrative territory.

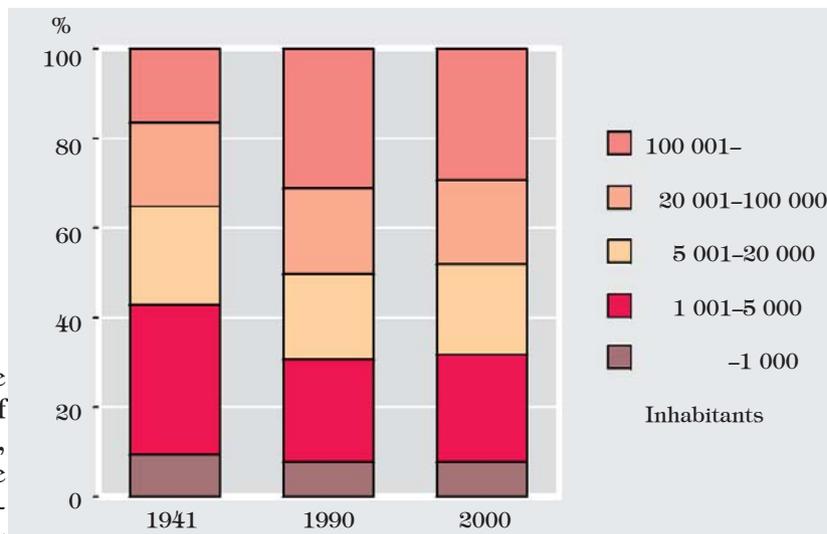
### Population of the largest cities

Year	Budapest	Debrecen	Miskolc	Pécs
1840	105 414*	49 277	33 147	33 307
1900	881 434	70 377	61 160	68 099
1910	1 110 439	87 221	76 207	79 058
1920	1 232 008	97 933	85 151	83 868
1930	1 441 601	111 778	93 877	90 409
1941	1 712 451	119 608	114 674	92 019
1949	1 590 264	110 963	109 124	86 640
1960	1 804 606	129 834	143 903	98 942
1970	1 940 212	155 122	172 952	118 490
1980	2 059 347	198 195	208 103	164 437
1990	2 016 774	212 235	196 442	170 039
2001	1 755 203	211 038	184 129	162 502

\*Combined population of Pest and Buda.

family-like communities, admitting a maximum of 40 children each, had been set up.

### Distribution of population by settlement size



In 1990, with the tacit approval of those responsible, 210 young people remained in protective after-care after reaching maturity, up

to the age of 24. Support for starting autonomous life up to this age was set into law in 1997, and the number affected in 2000 was 3937.

### Population movements within the borders

In 1880, 8% of the population had been born outside the national borders. By 1949, the number had risen to 17%, but at the end of the century it was less than 3%.

Inland population movements prior to the First World War made the central and southern regions of the country more populous, but the direction shifted from north-south to east-west. In the second half of the century, up to 1990, the population tended to move from agricultural areas to industrial, mining and service centres and from smaller to larger settlements. The urban proportion grew steadily and the village population declined. Between 1955 and 1959, some 100,000 people became town-dwellers every year. After the nineteen-sixties, this movement moderated, but then declined following 1989. In the nineteen nineties, there was a perceptible drift to towns and developing economic centres – industrial parks and greenfield developments.

### Daily commuters\*

Year	Number, millions	Proportion of active earners, %	Proportion of women among commuters, %
1960	0.6	13	19
1970	1.0	20	28
1980	1.2	24	32
1990	1.1	25	35
1996	0.9	25	35

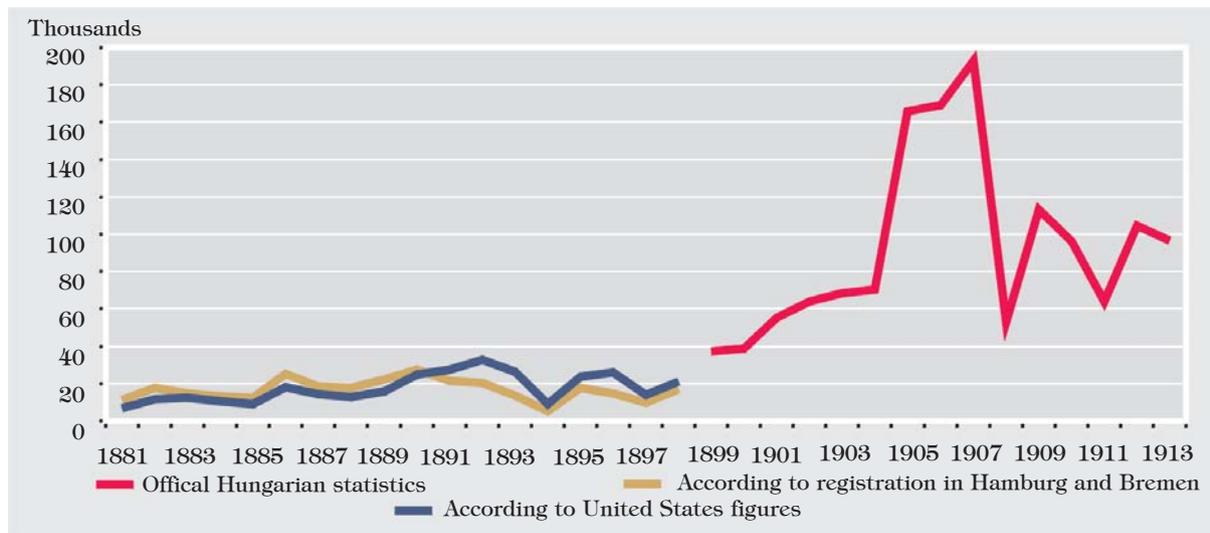
The proportion of town dwellers in Hungary is similar

\* At the start of the year.

to the average for European countries (73%). The proportions are highest in Belgium, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, and lowest in Albania and Portugal.

In post-Compromise Hungary, Budapest was consciously developed as a priority. In terms of population, after the unification of Pest and Buda to form the city in 1873, it became a counterweight to the other great cities in the region: Vienna, Bratislava and Prague. Budapest's rise, with some minor setbacks, continued until the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The population decline starting in 1990 is the result, apart from natural decline, of shifts to settlements in the area of the city, i.e. migration within the region.

### Emigration overseas from the territory of historical Hungary



The process of urbanization halted several times in Hungary during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the second half of the century the number of towns rose from 54 to 252. Conferment of town status was very frequent in the last decade, extending to 86 settlements. The greater part of those assuming town status in the 1990s are small towns. Under present administrative classification, apart from the capital, there are 22 cities, 214 towns and 2898 villages in the country.

The heyday of setting up tanyas (“homesteads”) was the twenties and thirties, and went through a revival following the post-Second World War land redistribution in 1945. 1.9 million people lived in outlying areas beyond the borders of settlements in 1930, 1.6 million in 1949, and 443,000 in 1980. In the 1990s, mainly in the area between the Danube and the Tisza, some infrastructural development has taken place in these inhabited outlying (tanya) areas.

The country has lost its past character based on hamlets, small and large villages, and market towns. In the last half century, settlements of under 5000 have undergone considerable depopulation, medium towns and villages have largely retained their overall numbers, and cities of over-100,000 population have grown substantially. The most significant change brought by the last decade has been a new trend of moving out of large cities.

## Home and workplace

Varying levels of economic and cultural development influence settlement in different areas. The large-scale road- and railway-building and river regulation that was completed in the 80s of the 19<sup>th</sup> century brought seasonal migrant workers for the construction industry, the emerging manufacturing industry, and agriculture. These were the forerunners of today’s commuters. In 1900, some 80,000 harvest workers came to work on the Great Plain every summer from neighbouring parts of the country.

A commuter zone formed around Budapest between the two world wars. In 1930, 4% of the workforce throughout the country lived and worked in different places.

Year	Together	Men	Women
Number, thousands			
Active earners	3 053.0	2 377.8	675.2
Maintained	4 471.3	1 380.2	3 091.1
Of which: under 14	2 645.5	1 328.3	1 317.2
over 14	1 825.8	51.9	1 773.9
Inactive earners	87.8	34.4	53.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 612.1</b>	<b>3 792.3</b>	<b>3 819.8</b>
Distribution, per cent			
Active earners	40.1	62.7	17.7
Maintained	58.7	36.4	80.9
Of which: under 14	34.8	35.0	34.5
over 14	24.0	1.4	46.4
Inactive earners	1.2	0.9	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In the last half century, the structural changes of the economy – the regional pattern of industrial development, the collectivization of agriculture, etc. – led to commuting on a larger scale, in which there was little change in the nineties, when the level of employment was declining.

At the end of the century, one-quarter of employees daily travelled to work in a settlement other than where they lived, most of them men.

**Distribution of population by activity and source of living, 2000**

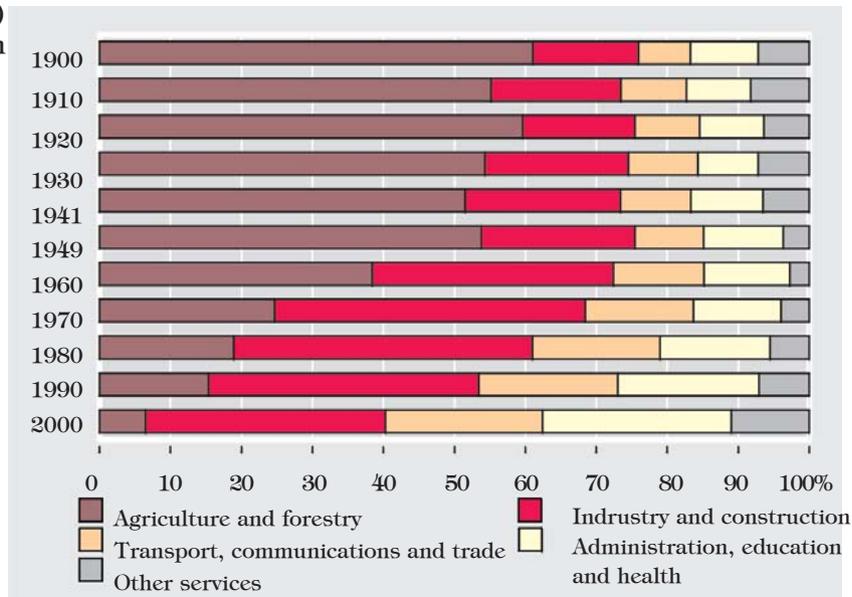
Activity, source of living	Per cent
Employed	38.9
Unemployed	2.7
Pensioners and other inactive earners	34.0
Students	16.7
Other maintained	7.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Every other village-resident active earner commutes daily. This proportion has always been high in the vicinity of Budapest, and in the last decade has risen percepti-

bly around the newly-established industrial-service parks and greenfield investment sites in Székesfehérvár, Győr, Zalaegerszeg and elsewhere.

**Workforces of principal sectors**

In 1996, two and half thousand Hungarian workers legally commuted over the national border. Most of them (over 90%) were working in Austria.



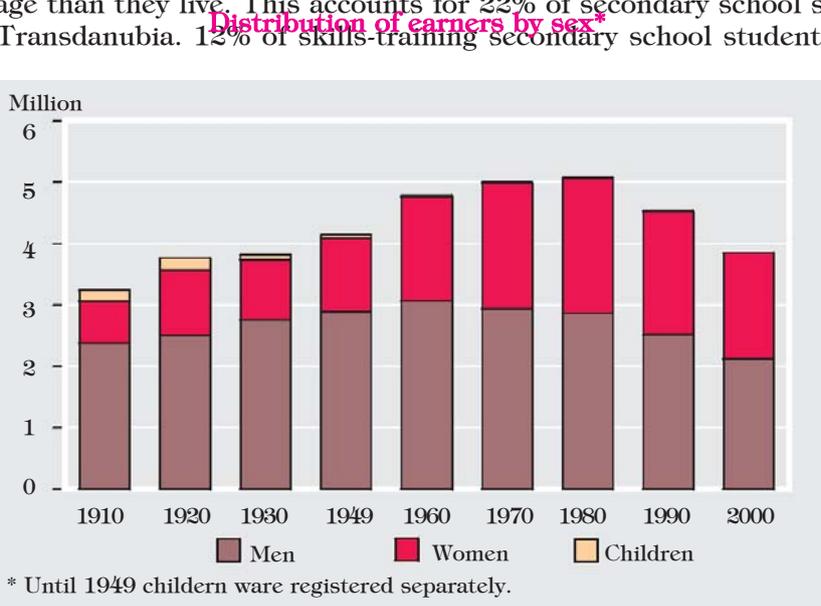
The reduction in sustained (weekly and monthly) commuting that started in the nineteen eighties speeded up throughout the nineties. In the seventies and eighties, around 300,000 earners, half living in workers' hostels, travelled for greater or longer periods to work, but their number in the nineties fell to under 100,000.

At the turn of the millennium, some 200–300,000 full-time students were studying remote from their permanent place of residence. More than one-third of secondary school students daily travel to school in different town or village than they live. This accounts for 22% of secondary school students in Budapest and 45% in Central Transdanubia. 12% of skills-training secondary school students, 15% of other secondary school students and 28% of college and university students live in student residences.

### Cross-border migration

In former centuries, migration mainly affected Hungary in the form of immigrants from other countries – P e c h e n e g s , C u m a n i a n s , Germans and Serbs.

Some groups of varying size did occasionally leave the country, such as after failed wars of independence. Mass migration out of the country started in the 1880s. 90% of emigrants sought their fortunes in America. The exodus peaked between 1905 and 1907, at the annual rate of 170-190,000, and then fell until the outbreak of the First World War. The destination countries' statistics registered 1.8 million immigrants from Hungary between 1871 and 1913, of which actual non-returning migrants accounted for 1.3–1.4 million.



### Distribution of earners\* by highest educational qualification, %

Year	Higher	Secondary	Elementary or without qualification
1920	1.8	2.6	95.6
1949	1.9	4.3	93.8
1980	8.1	38.0	53.9
2000	17.2	65.4	17.4

\* Since 1992, people in employment.

The main attraction of the “land of promise“ was the better standard of living. Emigration was highest in the north-east counties: Szepes, Sáros, Zemplén, Ung, Abaúj-Torna, Bereg, Szabolcs, Borsod, Gömör-Kishont. Some 30% of migrants were Hungarian-speaking, but the majority belonged to the country’s other ethnic groups.

### Distribution of earners \* by form of employment, %

Form of employment	1981	1993	2000
Employee	80.0	81.9	85.0
Cooperative member	14.9	3.6	1.0
Member of partnership	–	5.2	3.3
Self-employed	2.4	8.2	10.0
Assisting family member	2.8	1.1	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\* Since 1992, people in employment..

After the First World War, 350,000 people fled to the country from the detached territories. The immigrants were mainly professionals and members of the state apparatus and middle class. Emigration fell considerably during this period. Limiting measures by the United States resulted in rising prominence as destination countries of Canada, Argentina, Brazil, Australia and some Western European countries. The social background of emigrants also changed, with more industrial and trade workers and professionals changing their home country.

In 1944 and the following years, 100–110,000 people moved out of the country. In addition, 280,000 ethnically German Hungarian citizens were resettled in Germany in 1946 and 1948. It is estimated that some 200,000 people left the country illegally in 1956, and a further 71,000 between 1963 and 1988.

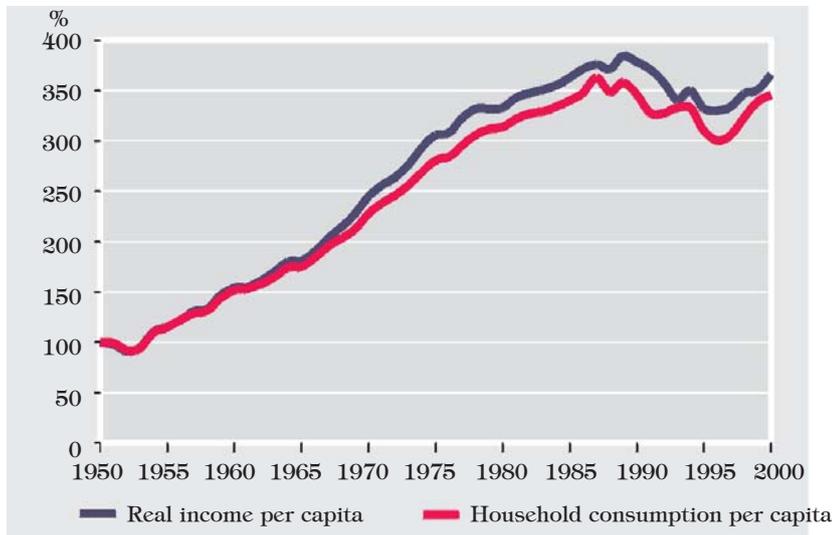
The nature of migration changed in the nineties. Hungary became a destination and transit country. Over 60,000 emigrated from the country, and the number of immigrants surpassed 200,000. In 2000, 64% of them were between 15 and 49, and most of them had come from the neighbouring countries – Romania, Yugoslavia and the Ukraine.

### Maintainers and the maintained

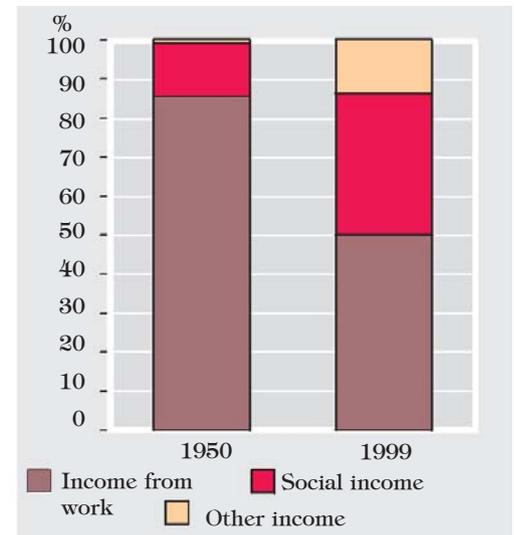
In former centuries, right up the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the population of the country could be divided into two groups as regards source of living: the economically active, or earners, and the maintained. 1900 and 1910 census figures show the maintained to have been in the great majority. Active earners made up 40–41% of the population. The large number of maintained can partly be explained by the populous child age groups. 35% of the population was under 14. The other large group was of maintained adult women, who made up 22–23% of the population at that time. However, since three-fifths of active earning males worked in agriculture, a large proportion of “maintained” women lived on peasant farms, where housewives’ duties, in addition to raising children, often included productive work at a level equivalent or very close to that of men.

**Earners and maintained people, 1910**

**Real income and consumption of the population (1950=100)**

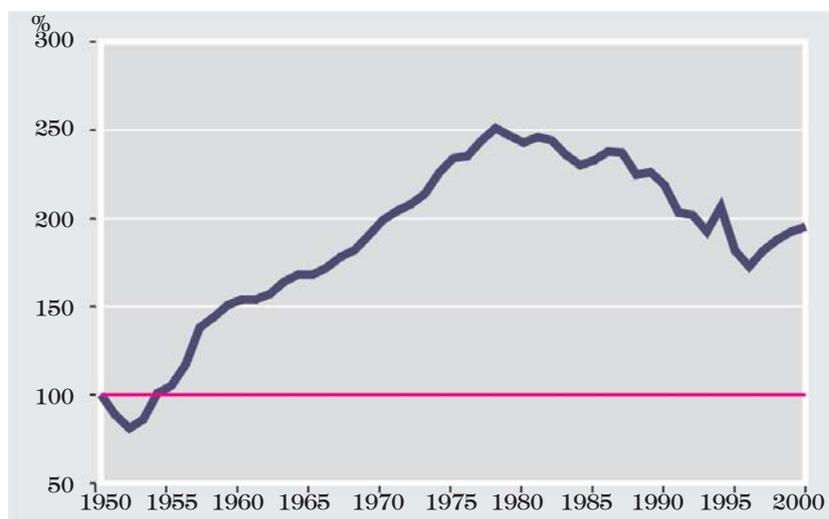


**Income structure of the population**



The number and percentage of inactive earners was still very low at the beginning of the last century, comprising a small number of pensioners and a larger number of people that lived from their property (landowners, people on annuities, etc.). In the second half of the century, the number of inactive earners swelled considerably, mainly due to the spread of the pension system and the extension of social benefits, mainly for child care. At the end of the century, more than one-third of the population belonged to this category, nine-tenths of them pensioners

**Real wages per earner  
(1950=100)**



**Annual income of manufacturing industry workers in 1938**

	Pengő		Pengő
Factory leader	7 671	Skilled worker	1 680
Staff member	3 415	Semi-skilled worker	1 052
Foreman	3 609	Labourer (casual)	885

At the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the overwhelming majority of earners worked in agriculture. The source of labour for the development of industry, trade and other sectors was the agricultural population.

Women had a more visible working role in non-agricultural sectors than on peasant farms. Their proportions among earners grew steadily, approaching 30% in the nineteen forties, and surpassing 48% in 1980. Since then, this proportion has fallen slightly, and women now account for 44–45% of people in work.

### Monthly average earnings of workers and employees, HUF

Sector	1950	1960	1970	1990
State and cooperative sector	678	1 547	2 129	10 108*
Of which:				
Industry	738	1 610	2 104	10 273
of which mining	794	2 235	3 009	13 615
Construction	681	1 635	2 352	10 586
Agricultural branches	414	1 357	2 133	8 808
Transport and communication	631	1 503	2 243	9 974
Trade	597	1 401	1 991	10 310
State administration, and cultural, health, etc. institutions	695	1 541	2 048	10 428**
Note: In 1990, net earnings. * Total national economy. ** Non-material sectors.				

The appearance and spread of new activities and occupations gave impetus to, and was helped along by, the general education and training of working people. More highly-qualified labour enabled the spread of new and often more complicated occupations, and the new trades required better-trained workers and engineers

## Net monthly earnings of people in employment

Sector	Net average earnings, HUF		Average in per cent	
	1992	2000	1992	2000
Agricultural branches	11 710	40 774	75	73
Mining and quarrying	18 907	69 567	121	125
Manufacturing industry	14 976	55 995	96	100
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	18 498	72 490	118	130
Construction	14 332	42 658	92	76
Trade and repair	15 656	50 292	100	90
Hotels and catering	13 844	38 676	89	69
Transport, post and telecommunications	16 403	61 812	105	111
Financial intermediation	26 329	110 259	168	198
Real estate, renting	17 546	63 040	112	113
Public administration, social security	19 513	63 916	125	115
Education	15 479	53 003	99	95
Health and social care	14 580	45 983	93	82
Other community and personal services	15 729	51 647	101	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 628</b>	<b>55 785</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

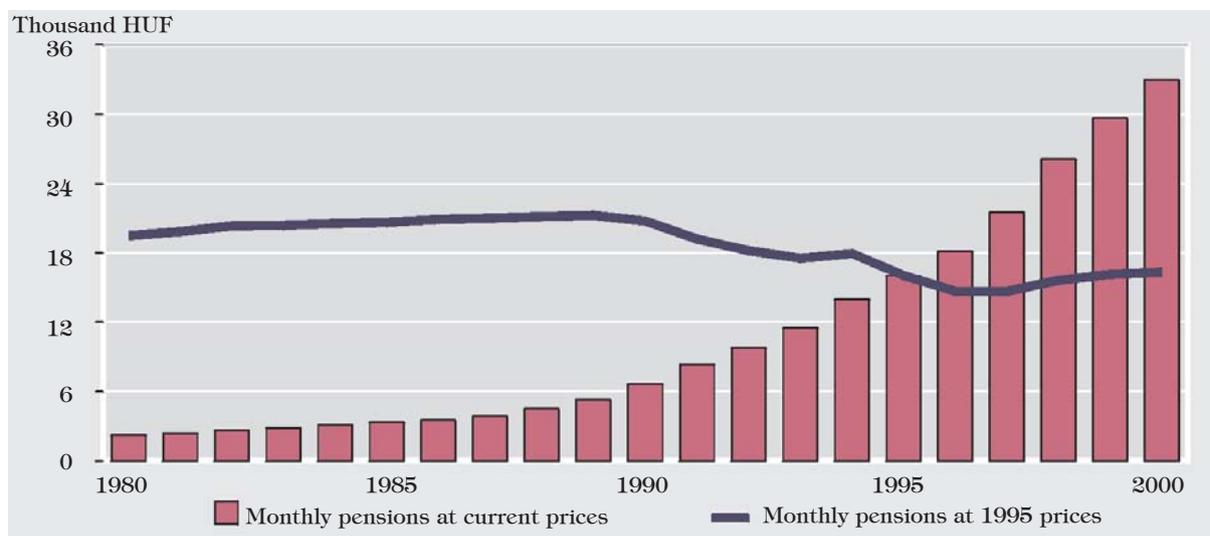
In past centuries, independent earners formed the majority, but even in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century they constituted a large proportion: 1.2 million in 1941, 26.5% of total earners. By this time, however, it was people in employment who were in the majority. Public administrators constituted 8.1%, workers 51.8%, and the total, including assisting family members, made up 65.4%.

In the decades following the war, the number of independent workers continued to fall quite steeply, as the numbers of both employees and cooperative members grew. In the last decade, the number of cooperative members fell, and that of independent workers grew.

## Pension and pension-like benefits

Pensioners and pensions	1950	1960	1980	2000
Average number of pensioners, thousands	527	723	2 050	3 103
as percentage of population	5.6	7.2	19.1	31,0
as percentage of active earners	12.8	15.3	40.4	79.5
Amount paid as pensions, billion HUF	0.9	4.4	56.0	1 228.5
as percentage of GDP	..	3.9	7.8	9.5
Monthly average pensions and pension-like benefits, HUF	147	510	2 276	32 986
as percentage of average earnings	22	32	56	59

## Average pensions



In 1924, the Social Democratic and Christian Socialist trade unions registered a total of 35,000 unemployed people. In the following years, this figure declined to 15-20,000, and then rose again in 1931-32 to over 30,000. When the crisis passed, unemployment lessened, and in 1938 was hardly over 17,000.

The transitional post-Second World War unemployment came to an end relatively quickly, and for several decades shortages were a common feature on the Hungarian labour market. Labour management gradually led to over-employment, and “unemployment within the gates”.

As the result of redundancies and company closures following the change of system, the number of unemployed grew rapidly, peaking in 1993 at over half a million, after which, slowly but steadily, it turned downward. In 2000, there were 253,000 people unemployed and actively seeking work. This constituted 6.4% of the economically active population. The percentage of men (7.0) was somewhat above this, and that of women (5.6) below.

Year	Lowest-	Highest-	Inequality ratio
	income tenths of the population, %		
1972	4.0	19.7	4.9
1977	4.5	18.6	4.1
1982	4.9	18.6	3.8
1987	4.5	20.9	4.6
1995	3.3	25.0	7.5
1997	2.9	26.7	9.2

**Income,  
consump-  
tion, hous-  
ing**

In 1938, the last year of

\* On the basis of per capita net income. The inequality ratio expresses how many times higher the upper tenth's income is than the lower tenth's.

peace, the per capita income was 40-50 pengős. In 1947, the real income of the population of the country as a whole, by the calculations of the time, was some 60% of the pre-war level. Per capita real income in 1950 surpassed the pre-war level by 8-9%, and consumption by a somewhat more modest amount. Income and consumption rose at largely equal rates up to the second half of the fifties, after which the rise in income usually exceeded that of consumption. The rise lasted until the last third of the 1980s, followed by a decline. After nearly a decade, the slide of living standards stopped in the last third of the nineties, and growth started in 1997. The level of income and consumption by the turn of the millennium reached that of 15-16 years previously.

A major consequence of the universal pension system was that the majority of the population thereafter had a permanent income (wages or benefits). With the spread of social security and the introduction of various kinds of social care, the proportion of social-benefit income steadily grew. In the nineteen-nineties, "other" income became more prominent (e.g. interest, income from abroad, etc.). At the end of the century, therefore, the greater part of households had permanent sources of income

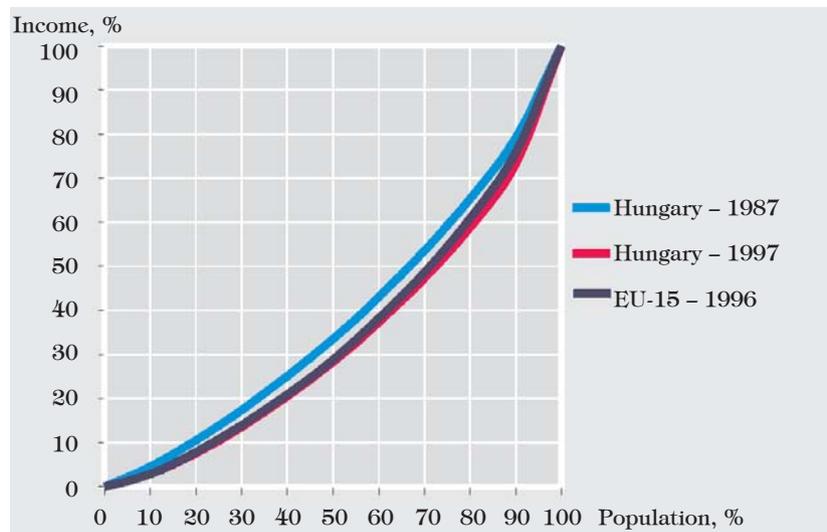
About two-fifths of income is constituted by earnings, nearly one-fifth monetary social benefits and one-sixth social benefits in kind. Pensions make up the majority of social benefits in cash. The largest part of benefits in kind are educational and health services.

## Earnings

### Concentration of net per capita personal income

As well as forming a large fraction of income, the statistical importance of earnings is enhanced by their

being the most variable component of income, fluctuations in earnings usually dominating those of income as a whole.



### Income structure in the lower and upper tenths of the income scale

Income	In the bottom tenth		In the top tenth	
	1989	1999	1989	1999
Income from work	51.6	39.4	78.0	85.6
Social income	45.1	58.9	16.7	12.2
Other income	3.3	1.7	5.3	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

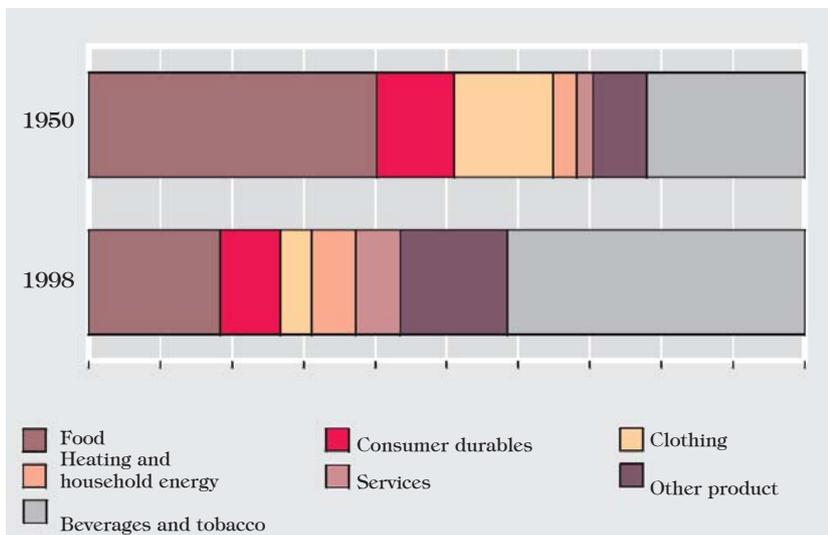
The monthly average earnings of workers and employees was 678 forints in 1950. This can roughly be compared with 2000 figure of 55,785 forints (net). With only a few exceptions, earnings rose higher than consumer prices, i.e. real wages increased, every year for nearly 30 years. However, after 1978, rises in real earnings became the exception, and there was an overall declining trend until 1996.

In single-child families	73
In two-children families	64
In families with three or more children	50

In the last four years of the century, the real value of earnings rose steadily by a total of 13%, thus reaching the level of 1969–70, and some 20% short of 1978 earnings.

ings.

Structure of consumption



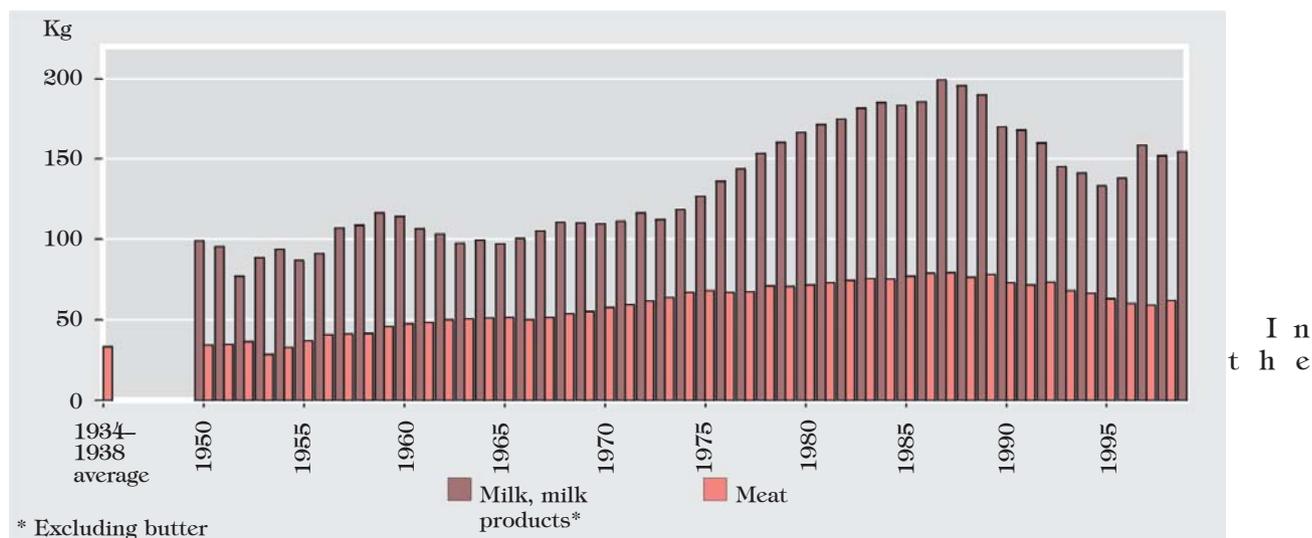
Relative earnings data for the pre-war era are available for manufacturing industry.

<sup>x</sup> Loan debts here include the following types: housing construction, housing purchase, housing refurbishment, goods purchase, agricultural, enterprise, personal and mortgage loans, as well as money borrowed from private individuals and various arrears (rent, electricity, etc.)

In the basis of male skilled workers' hourly rates, the best-paid branches of industry included rubber and garments, with rates 24–25% above the industrial average. The lowest wages were earned in the building materials and food industries, in both of which rates were 17% lower than average.

In the post-war years, earnings for some time were highest in industry, and from 1960 in the construction industry. At the end of that decade, transport and communications overtook industry to take second place. In mining, to an increasing extent, earnings exceeded those in other branches of industry and the averages of other sectors. Between 1970 and 1990, relative earnings among sectors changed little, with trade advancing and construction losing ground.

### Per capita consumption of milk, milk products and meat



nineties, for which sectoral figures were produced in a new, more detailed breakdown, the highest-earning sector, financial activities, greatly raised its advantage over the others. Public administration workers steadily lost their earnings advantage over the decade, and were overtaken by the electricity and mining sectors before the end of the decade. The earnings advantage in the construction industry gave way to a rising shortfall. Hotel and catering earnings also suffered a deepening shortfall, monthly earnings fell to

## Average annual per capita consumption of foods

the

Food, kg	1880–1884	1924–1928	1934–1938	1950–1955	1987	1999
Meat and fish	40	30	33	35	81	64
Eggs, (number)	55	55	93	85	328	256
Milk and milk products	80	103	102	92	199	154
Fats	28	14	17	20	38	35
Cereals	150	137	147	150	113	92
Potatoes	110	92	130	110	51	69
Sugar	3	11	11	21	40	38
Fruit and vegetables	131	80	95	104	154	164
Dry pulses and oilseeds	14	5	..	6	4	5

lowest of all economic sectors in 2000.

## Food consumption in households of different income levels, 1999

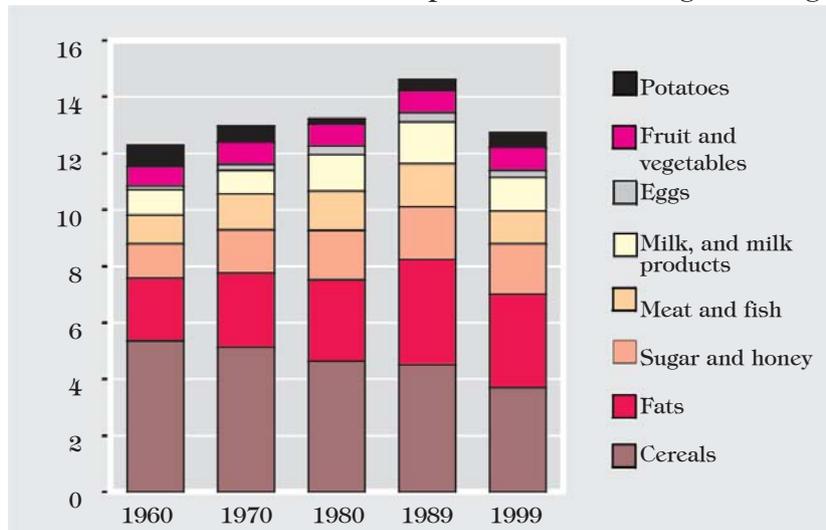
## Pensions

Before	Food	Lower tenth	Upper tenth	Inequality ratio
		as percentage of average income		
	Meat, fish and derivatives	72	125	1.7
	Milk	77	105	1.4
	Cheese	36	196	5.5
	Vegetables	59	128	2.2
	Fruit		167	3.7

the Second World War, there was no uniform pensions system in Hungary.

There were three forms of benefit: those for public service and corporate employees, and the “social insurance” pensions system for industrial and agricultural workers. The average pensions of employees was fourteen times that of workers. In 1952, a uniform system was introduced with the basic principle that the pension was based on wages and time spent in work. The conditions were changed several times over the years. Several attempts were made during the 1960s to relieve the recurring tensions between long-time pensioners and those newly retired, and during the 1970s to update the value of pensions.

State pensions were received by 95,000 people in 1934/35 and 135,000 in 1937/38, which meant that 1–2% of the population received social security. On the introduction of the uniform pension system, the number of pensioners increased to several times its pre-war level. Owing to the ageing of the population



and the change in the nature of the labour market, the section of the population receiving pensions comprised some 3 million people by the turn of the millennium. The proportion was higher than in the CEFTA countries, but similar to that in many advanced European countries. The real value of pensions fell in the

period between 1987 and 1997 faster even than earnings. The decline was not

Daily average per capita nutrient consumption

Energy, nutrient	Average in 1934-1938	Average in 1950-1955	1999	Physiologically recommended amount for adults engaging in medium physical activity
KJoule	11 745	11 777	12 746	11 300
Kcal	2 805	2 813	3 044	2 700
Protein, g	91	89	91	80
Fat, g	76	81	135	90
Carbohydrate, g	409	433	370	392

steady: 15% between 1990 and 1994, some 20% between 1995 and 1997, levelling out in 1998 and subsequently recovering at a rate higher than that of earnings. At the turn of the millennium, the real value of pensions was lower than it had been twenty years previously.

## Number of household machines to each hundred households, 1960

Household machine	Electric refrigerator	Vacuum cleaner	Electric washing machine
Number	1,2	3,5	14.7

Number of consumer durables  
(per hundred households)

	1970	1987	2000	
	number	number	number	rate, %
Refrigerator	35	100	85	82
Refrigerator-freezer	..	..	20	20
Microwave oven	-	..	49	49
Washing machine	70	102	103	96
Of which: automatic	..	28	59	59
Boiler	14	60	74	72
Vacuum cleaner	45	88	90	88
Radio cassette	..	44	66	58
Television	75	115	124	97
Of which: colour	..	35	110	92
Video player/recorder	-	..	49	48
Personal computer	-	2	14	14
Mobile telephone	-	..	27	22

## Relative incomes

Data is sparse on inequality of income in pre-Second World War Hungarian society. Using the Budapest housing census of 1911, J. Gyula Pikler has estimated that three-quarters of the population owned no property or were poor. Between the two world wars, the village research movement mentioned “three million beggars”. According to calculations by Mátyás Matolcsy, 44% of the population, nearly 4 million people, lived on less than half the average income, most of them agricultural workers, domestic servants, smallholders and tenant farmers of 1–10 holds (1 hold = 0.57 hectares), and casual workers. Erdei also claims that the peasantry and the agricultural working population lived “beneath society”. At the other end, 19% of the population received income higher than three times the average.

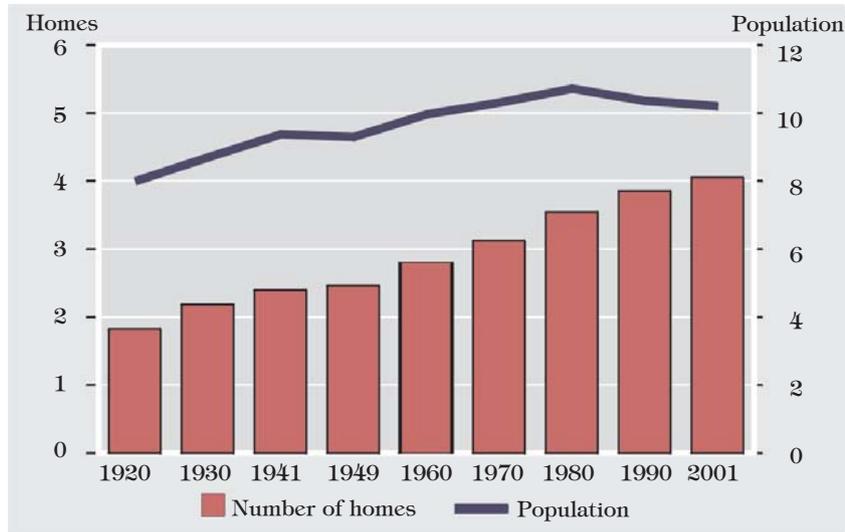
After the war, several measures were taken to reduce inequality of income. Over time, the social income aimed at reducing differentials was unable to keep pace with the rise in market income. Differences declined until the nineteen eighties, and have been rising since then. One of the most commonly-used indicators of this is the comparison of the percentage share of income taken by the lowest- and highest-income tenths of the population

### Inequality of income\*

Within Hungary, there are wide differences between different points on the hierarchy of settlements. In Budapest, the inequality indicator is 11–12, and in villages, 7.5. In the last ten years, the differences between the two extreme tenths has doubled, and are now similar to the European Union average. The process has been more pronounced than at any time in nearly half a century, and the rearrangement has been accompanied by a major decline in real terms. The highest income differentials in the European Union are to be found in Portugal, Greece and Spain, and the lowest in Denmark and the Netherlands. Within Europe as a whole, the figure is highest in Russia, Turkey and Estonia.

In the last decade of the century, the realignment of the income structure showed marked differences by income level. Among the poorest, there was a reduction in incomes from work and a rising proportion of social income, and at the upper level of the income scale the process was reversed.

### Housing stock and population (million)



The chief determinants of income differential are still position in the labour market, level of education and training and – above all – number of maintained children. In 2000, taking the income of active childless households as 100, per capita income was:

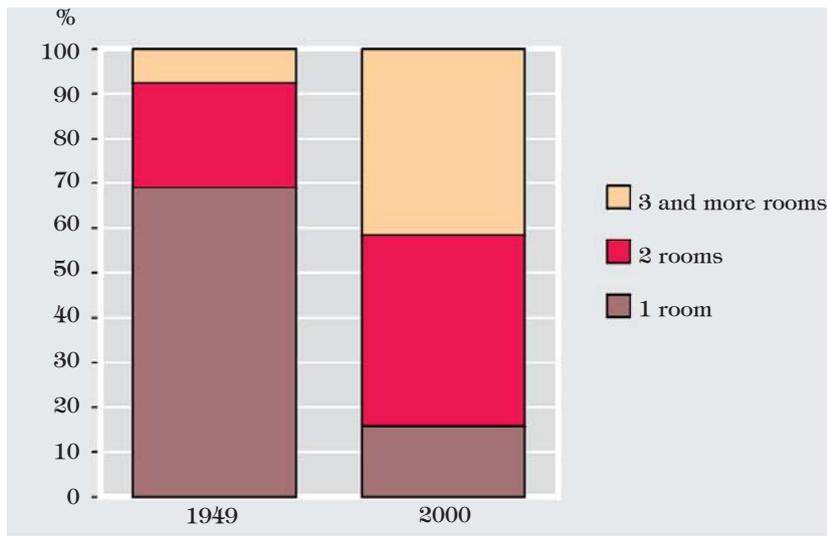
Since May 1998, *child care benefit* (formerly family benefit, in place since 1948) has been fixed at a monthly nominal amount, and so its real value is declining steadily. In combination with *family tax benefit*, its amount was equivalent to 13% of net earnings in 1999. (At the end of the nineteen eighties, the family benefit was 20% of net earnings.)

### Household economics

In the use of disposable income, long-term thinking in the second half of the century up to the beginning of the nineties involved *financial savings and housing accumulation*. In the nineties, the change in living standards, in property ownership and in capital and money markets caused the savings habits of the public to change.

**Composition of homes by number of rooms, %**

The proportion of households capable of saving did not change between 1993 and 2000. In both of these



years, 36% of the families surveyed stated that they could set aside money after providing for their daily needs. In the period before that, between the mid-1980s and the first half of the 1990s, there was a striking fall-off in the proportion of families capable of saving. (In 1986, 70% of households were capable of putting aside money on a more or less regular basis.)

At the beginning of 2000, some 18% of households had some loan debts<sup>x</sup>. This proportion was lower than that of both the 1986 survey, when 47% of households stated that they were repaying some loan, and the 1993 survey, when the figure was 31%.

**Number of households consuming piped gas**

	1952	1970	1990	2000
Households, thousand	190	525	1 630	2 823

Overall per capita consumption has risen by a factor of 3.5 over the last half century. In parallel with this, the structure of consumption has changed considerably. In line with international tendencies, foods, luxury goods and clothes have declined in importance in favour of manufactured goods and most of all services.

### Food consumption

In the eighties of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a large proportion of the public's food consumption was of vegetable origin (cereals, potatoes, fruit and vegetables, pulses), although it is striking that meat consumption was higher than in the first half of the following century. In 1945–46, in the wake of the Second World War, consumption of meat fell to a half, milk to a quarter and fat to a third of the pre-war levels. In the first half of the fifties – when the food situation had consolidated somewhat, less milk was still being consumed than in 1924–28, but more of other foods. From then until the end of the eighties, the consumption of physiologically more valuable animal protein rose substantially, and above the level of one hundred years previously, while consumption of fruit and vegetables, sugar, cereals and potatoes fell.

<sup>x</sup> A home is cramped if the density of occupation is higher than 2 per room, or the occupation density is two, but the occupants are not partners or

## Intellectual life

### Education

The beginnings of popular education in Hungary stretch back to the early Middle Ages. In the first half of the 16th century, there were 275 church schools in towns and villages. The religion of school maintenance authorities was changed frequently until freedom of religion was enshrined in law, and later the main controller and inspector of education was the state: *“The function of the school is to transmit the generalisation of knowledge and to spread the results of scientific research as wide as possible, and its purpose is to raise the level of culture of the people.”*<sup>x</sup>

Compulsory education was first ordered by the Catholic Council of 1611: *“the parishes shall keep a list of children capable of attending school”*, and later, in 1723, the law provide that *“parents negligent in their children’s education shall be admonished by the Royal Council”*<sup>x</sup>. Joseph II instituted strict punishment for parents of 6-11 year-old children if they failed to send them to school. Under the Ratio Educationis, the upkeep of public schools was the responsibility of the villages, and the compulsory language of education was German. Textbooks were written in both the children’s mother tongue and in German. Decrees and exhortations were not sufficient, however, to actually make children’s schooling universal.

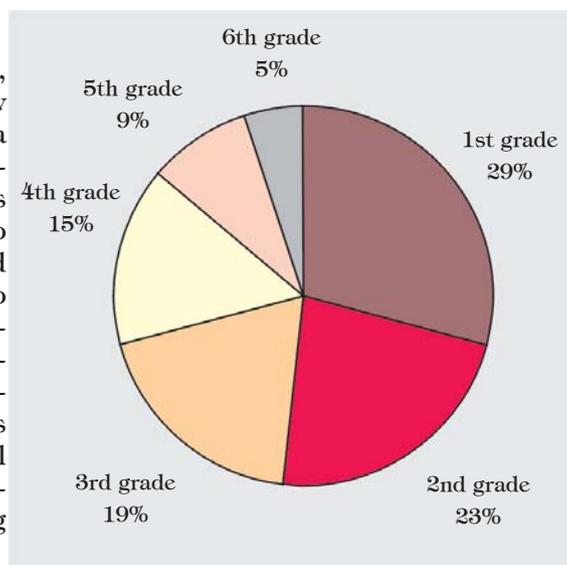
Fundamental changes in education were brought by the Eötvös Act of 1868, *“drafted in the spirit of obligatoriness of learning and freedom of teaching.”*<sup>x</sup> In 1876, the registration of those subject to compulsory education was decreed. In the post-Compromise decades, there was a great increase in the number of state elementary schools and of students. There were more than one thousand new schools for rural people not living in villages. Through the work of Mór Kármán, *gimnáziums* were founded in large numbers, based on German, English and French secondary schools. Instrumental in attaining a high standard of science teaching was the Hungarian Science Association, founded in 1841, and the Science Gazette, launched in 1869, in which study competitions were first announced.

The academic year was adapted to life, and the present starting time in September was introduced in 1907. Teaching of the Hungarian language (in addition to the mother tongue) was again made compulsory. The number of state schools increased steadily, and public education became free. Most pupils attending elementary school were in the lower classes.

<sup>x</sup> Source: *The development of popular education in the lands of the Hungarian Crown, 1913.*

### Distribution of students in public schools in school year, 1907/1908

At the end of the 1990s, consumption of nearly every kind of food was lower than a decade previously. Meat consumption shifted towards poultry, fat consumption to edible oil and margarine, and fruit consumption to Mediterranean fruits. The consumption among lowest-income groups of physiologically more valuable nutrients grew significantly, but was still considerably below the average and far below that among high-income groups.



### Number of primary and secondary school children, 1946/47

School	Primary schools		Civil schools		Secondary schools	
	number	students, thousands	number	students, thousands	number	students, thousands
State and village	1 656	342	238	33	197	46
Church	2 386	458	107	11	165	39
Association and private	66	14	19	1	10	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 108</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>88</b>

By international comparison, meat consumption is three- or four-fifths that of the advanced countries, but fish consumption only a small fraction. Milk consumption is in the lower third of the international scale, and fruit and vegetable consumption is equivalent to the European average.

The energy, protein, carbohydrate and fat content of daily-consumed foods increased over four decades starting in the nineteen fifties, then declined, and in the final years recovered again. The energy content of daily nutrition is 8% higher than 50 years ago. This is due to higher fat intake, carbohydrate intake having shrunk as bread consumption has declined.

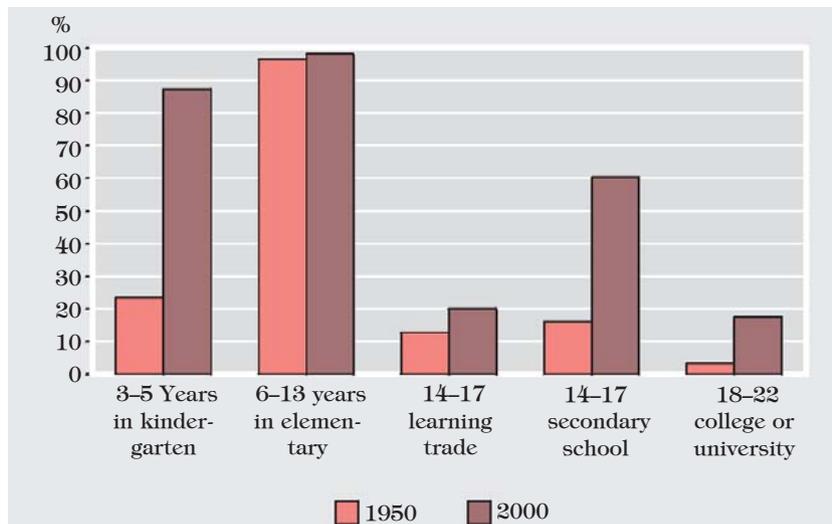
### Full-time and evening-correspondence students

Year	Full-time	Evening/correspondence	Total
secondary education students, thousand			
1950	96	12	108
1975	207	175	382
1999	387	88	475
higher education students, thousand			
1950	27	6	33
1975	64	43	107
1999	172	107	279

### Manufactured goods and services

The rise in consumption of manufactured goods has permitted the modernization of homes, households and daily life. It was technological development and rising incomes following the Second World War that enabled this modernization to take place on a large scale.

**Student proportions in full-time education in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century**



One category of modernization – the first chronologically – aided household management and housework. In the middle of the century, most households

did their washing and cleaned their carpets by hand, and where there was a bathroom, hot water was provided by a special stove; where there was refrigeration, it involved ice blocks delivered from ice plants.

**Proportions of full-time secondary school students by origin, %**

	1937/38	1950/51	1955/56
Worker	1.9	35	47
Peasant	0.3	24	25

## Level of education of the population, %

Age group, level of education	1920	1949	1990	1996
Over 10 years, completed 0 years of school	13.0	4.8	1.2	0.7
Over 15 years, completed at least 8 years of school	11.2	20.6	78.1	85.2
18 years and over, completed at least secondary school	4.2	5.5	30.1	34.7
25 years and over, completed higher education	1.7	1.7	9.4	12.1

The numbers of refrigerators and washing machines are now higher than the number of households, and the equivalent

number of vacuum cleaners is 90, electric or gas boilers 75, gas cookers 93 and electric cookers 9. A relatively new, but rapidly-spreading member of this category is the microwave oven, now found in one-half of households.

The other group of modern household devices is of equipment for education and entertainment. Radio had already appeared in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and television made a rapid conquest after entering the Hungarian market in the second half of the 1950s.

These devices are now to be found in practically every household, indeed the number of colour televisions is higher than that of households. In the last decade and a half, video recorders, personal computers, mobile telephones and similar devices have also passed into common use

High-value durable goods are dominated in terms of value and significance by the private car. Despite the high growth in numbers, the 236 cars per 1000 of population is still around a half of the figure for advanced European countries. In addition the cars running in Hungary include many that are old and technically obsolete.

The rise in services as a proportion of consumption was due principally to the development of transport, communication, housing services and public utilities. Another factor was that education and health services, owing to their nature, did not recede to the same extent as product consumption at the beginning of the nineteen nineties.

Incomplete data indicate that the asset position of households during the nineties did not deteriorate to the same extent as income and consumption.

Ownership of consumer durables improved in every section of society as the result of increasing in supply and the better adjustment of prices to people's means at different levels.

In April 1996, 89% of households lived in their home as owners or relatives of the owner, as against 74% in 1990. With the lifting of restrictions on acquisition of title, and the rising proportion of inherited properties, the possibility opened up of investing some savings in property. There were 279,000 secondary properties in the country, of which 40% are urban or housing-estate houses or flats. 6% of the population had holiday homes (222,000 units). The number of unbuilt holiday and building sites was over 120,000.

In 1996, the number of shop units, workshops and offices owned or rented was 177,300.

## Science

The Hungarian Academic Biographical Dictionary lists some 850 names from 1365 to the 1990s who have left some lasting academic legacy. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences was founded in 1825 at the initiative of Count István Széchenyi, to nurture the Hungarian language and to promote Hungarian-language learning in the arts and sciences. It became the centre of academic life from the 1870s.

After the Compromise, economic and cultural life flourished. The period of excellence in education was the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Hungarian scientists were responsible for a wealth of far-reaching discoveries, and the country's secondary schools benefited from fine teachers capable of properly guiding their talented pupils. Schools ran on the most noble educational principles and with very highly-qualified teachers. *Zoltán Bay*, famous for the moon radar echo experiment, studied in Debrecen College, *Ede Teller* in the Pest Model Gimnázium, *Kornél Lánzos*, theoretical physicist in Dublin and former colleague of Einstein, in Székesfehérvár, and Nobel Prizewinner *György Hevesy* in the Piarist school in Budapest. Students in the Fásor Evangelical Gimnázium included *János (John von) Neumann* and academician *István Kovács*, the pioneer of molecular spectroscopy. Their mathematics teacher was the brilliant *László Rácz*. Mathematician *János György Kemény*, the developer of the programming language BASIC, studied at the Berzsenyi Gimnázium, pupil of mathematics teacher *Árpád Bölcsházy*

### Number of Nobel Prize winners in the world, 1901–2000

Subject	Number
Physiology or Medicine	174
Physics	160
Chemistry	125
Peace Prize	103
Literature	93
Economics	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>702</b>

**The Nobel Prize Committee has honoured 12 Hungarians in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.**

- 1 1904: *Fülöp Lénárd*, for work related to cathode rays (Physics).
- 2 1914: *Róbert Bárány*, for work related to the physiology and pathology of the balance organ (Medicine).
3. 1925: *Richárd Zsigmondy*, for the explanation of the nature of colloids and his research methods, of fundamental significance to modern colloid chemistry (Chemistry).
4. 1937: *Albert Szent-Györgyi*, for his discoveries in the field of biological combustion processes – especially vitamin C and fumaric acid catalysis (Medicine).

5. 1943: *György Hevesy*, for application of radioactive isotopes as indicators in chemical research (Chemistry).
6. 1961: *György Békésy*, for the discovery of the physical mechanism of stimuli in the cochlea (Medicine).
7. 1963: *Jenő Wigner*, shared with Maria Goeppert Mayer and J. H. D. Jensen, in the field of theory of the atomic nucleus and elementary particles, especially the discovery of fundamental symmetries and the results of their application (Physics).
8. 1971: *Dénes Gábor*, discovery and development of holographic methods (Physics).
9. 1986: *Elie Wiesel* awarded the Peace Prize for his role as a leading figure and an intellectual leader in the period when repression and racial hatred was afflicting the world.
10. 1986: *John C. Polányi* for discoveries related to the dynamics of elementary chemical processes (Chemistry).
11. 1994: *György Oláh*, for his contribution to the chemistry of carbo-cations (Chemistry).
12. 1994: *János Harsányi*, for his pioneering work in non-cooperative game theory and the analysis of equilibrium, shared with John Nash and Reinhard Selten (Economics).

1.8 million households disposed over some land. 46% of all households had title to land, and 30% possessed productive livestock. The average area of holdings was 1.3 hectares

## Housing

In the present territory of the country, there were 1.8 million homes registered in 1920 and more than 4 million at the beginning of 2001. The 2.3 times increase of housing stock should be compared with the 1.3 times increase in residents over the 80 year period.

### Outstanding Hungarian inventions in the last century and a half:

János Irinyi: match  
 the Eötvös torsion balance  
 Ányos Jedlik: dynamo  
 Donát Bánki and János Csonka: carburettor  
 Bláthy-Déri-Zipernowsky: transformer  
 Tivadar Puskás: telephone news transmission  
 Kálmán Kandó: electric-traction railway locomotive.

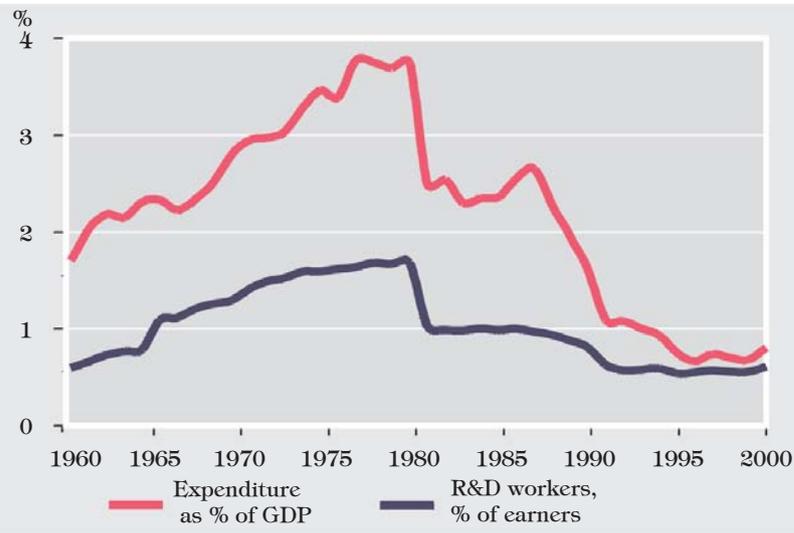
András Mechwart: development of the roller mill  
 Tódor Kármán – Vilmos Zsurowecz – Oszkár  
 Asbóth: the helicopter  
 László József Bíró: ballpoint pen  
 György Jendrassik: high-power diesel locomotive  
 Ernő Rubik: “Rubik Cube” etc.

Between the two world wars, the number of homes rose by more than half a million. After restoring the wartime losses, housebuilding progressed slowly in the nineteen fifties, and then at a gradually increasing rate. To fill the gaps, large-scale housebuilding programmes were instituted. These resulted in 1.7 million homes being built in the two decades from 1967 to 1986, an annual average of more than 83,000. It was during this period that housing estates were established, containing some 650,000 flats. The average floor area of housing estate flats was around 50 m<sup>2</sup>.

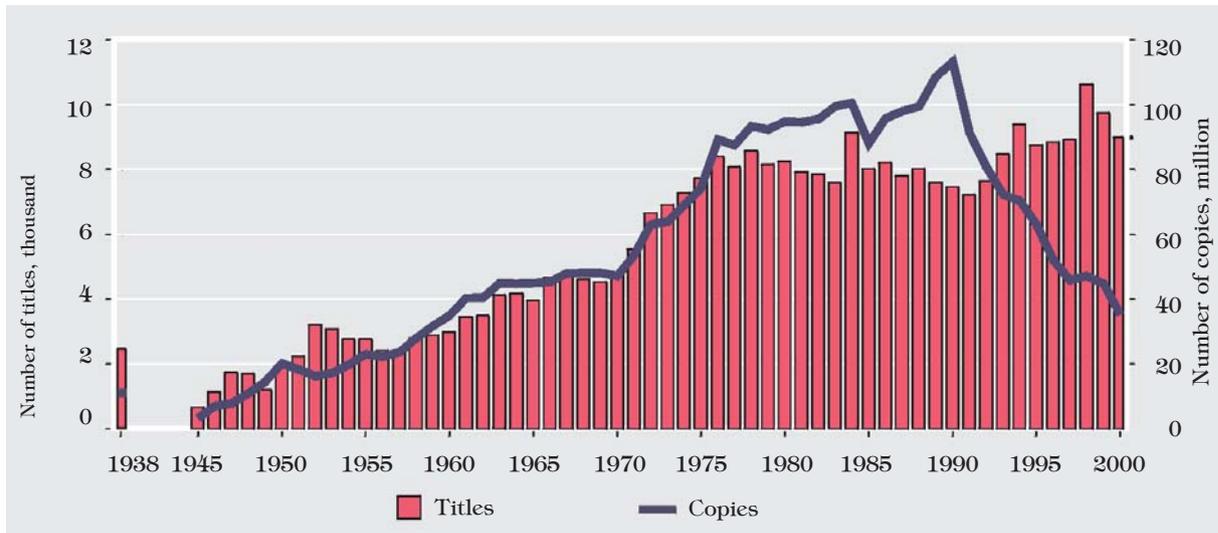
16% of present houses have been standing for more than 80 years, and 14% date from between the wars. 70% were built in the second half of the century, of which more than one-fifth are less than 20 years old.

The housing stock is now dominated by private ownership and private (detached, etc.) houses. Post-war nationalization affected one-fifth of the housing stock. State rented houses were modernized, but their quality fell short of contemporary requirements.

Few resources were expended on their maintenance and upkeep. In the nineties the lifting of the restrictions on property contracts and the transfer of rented homes into private ownership led to the sale of more than half a million homes. At the turn of the millennium, there were some 180,000 local authority rented homes in the country, 4% of housing stock. (Some of these were emergency accommodation and the most of them were deficient to some degree.) Three-fifths of homes are of the private house type



## Number of titles and copies of published books



The housing stock not only expanded, its character also changed: larger homes were built, the number of rooms increasing faster than that of homes. This is the main factor in the increase of living space: there are some 247 occupants in every 100 homes, and 102 for every 100 rooms.

Fifty years ago, one-roomed homes formed the overwhelming majority, while now they constitute one-fifth of the total. Homes with four or more rooms account for a similar proportion.

A further qualitative change is the improvement in amenity of homes. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, one home in every hundred had a bathroom. Thirty years later, there were more than six bathrooms for every hundred homes, rising to 10 by 1949. Subsequently, the expansion of public utilities, above all of water supply, enabled a major improvement of hygiene in both existing and newly-built homes. At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, more than 80% of homes had bathrooms and flushing toilets.

The public sewage system – owing to its much greater complication and expense – expanded much more slowly than water supply. Sewage from a large number of flats still passes into a domestic septic tank, or in better cases a storage tank. 44–45% of homes are connected into the public sewage system, and a further 40% have a domestic drain.

## Items held by the National Széchenyi Library

Description	Number
Books	2 million
Newspapers and periodicals	300 000
Manuscripts	approx.1 million
Maps	approx. 200 000
Pictures and etchings	271 000
Audio materials	16 000
Posters and leaflets	2.5 million
Microfilm copies	220 000

Sewage treated by drying is a serious source of soil contamination. In the recent period, the public sewage system has expanded faster than the water supply system, but there are still only 396 metres of sewer for every kilometre of water pipe.

## Public libraries and museums

Description	1925	1955	1990	2000
Number of libraries	87	10 705	7 350	3 585
Number of library items borrowed per thousand of population	97	2 630	4 112	4 636
Number of museums	39	83	754	812
Museum visits per hundred of population	7	22	135	99

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aspect of housing modernization, besides the expansion of the water supply and drainage systems, has been the application of electricity, primarily for lighting, but also subsequently for many other household purposes. In 1930, there was electricity in only one-quarter of homes, and this had only risen to 50% by the middle of the century. By the end of the century, electrification of homes was practically complete. Between 1960 and 2000, the number of domestic consumers increased by a factor of 2.3, and the electricity consumed by a factor of 18 (from 548 to 9792 million kWh).

The more widespread use of gas – for space and water heating, and not just cooking – became possible when natural gas was made available for domestic use.

In the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, district heating became widespread in large cities. 46,000 homes were connected to the district heating system in 1965, 438,000 in 1980, and 650,000, 16% of the total, in 2000. By the middle of the nineties, half of all homes had centralized heating – district heating or central heating from boilers in individual buildings or homes. (This proportion was under 20% in 1980.)

Despite this great progress, 11% of the country's housing stock lacks one of the basic public utilities. This proportion exceeds 20% in the villages.

There are 1.9 million people living in the lowest-quality 20% of flats.

This category includes one-third of homes in Budapest. Homes in the lower fifth accommodate 28% of people who live alone, 27% of single-parent families and 26% of large families.

Households differ more by wealth than by housing circumstances. One-quarter of survey respondents lived in homes corresponding to their income position, 35% in worse homes, and 38% in better. Housing mobility is traditionally low. 78% of households do not wish to change their home. In 1980, 1.2 million people were living in “cramped” homes<sup>x</sup> in 1980 and 530,000 in 1999. Overcrowded homes account for a falling proportion of those privately owned, but almost the same proportion of local authority-owned houses as in 1980. More than half of the occupants of cramped homes – of necessity – accept their situation, and less than one-quarter see the chance of changing their home within five years.

**The highest numbers of visitors in recent years have been received by:**

the Dobó István Castle Museum in Eger,  
the Hungarian National Museum,  
the National Historical Memorial Park in Ópusztaszer,  
the Museum of the Benedictine Monastery in Tihany,  
the Open-Air Forestry Museum in Szilvássvár

**The journal's editors included:**  
 Miksa Fenyő and Ernő Osváth,  
 Endre Ady and Mihály Babits,  
 Mihály Babits and Oszkár Gellért,  
 Aladár Schöpflin and Gyula Illyés.

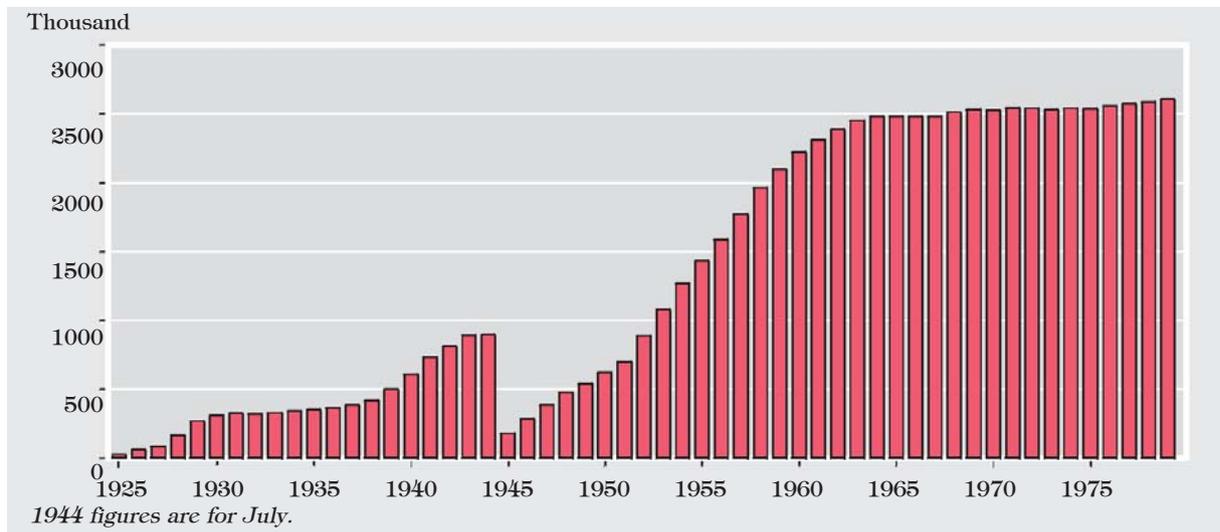
### Newspapers and journals

Year	Newspapers and journals	
	number	number of copies, million
1950	334	475
1955	632	581
1989	1 919	1 242
1999*	344	888

\* Data are not comprehensive.

Schooling of those approaching working age was rarer. “Civil schools”, founded for urban boys and girls who had completed elementary school, became secondary schools in the nineteen twenties. The school reform of that time included a public school building programme that obliged landowners to build schools, teachers’ houses, chapels and libraries.

### Number of radio subscribers at the end of the year



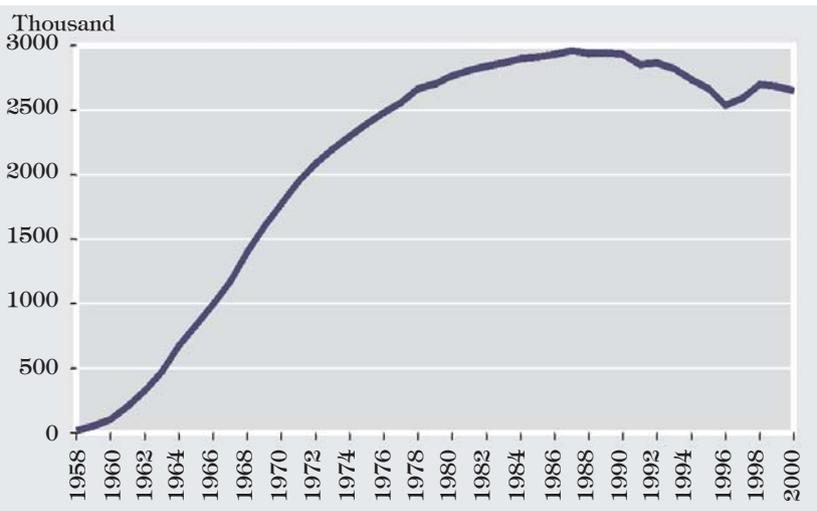
Professional qualifications for trades people became compulsory in 1922, which greatly raised the significance of industrial and commercial training schools. A scholarship system was produced for people in need. Minority schools were set up, and secondary school competitions started. A new aspect of education work was the establishment of parents’ meetings. Career selection advisers started work, and the first book week was held. March 15th was made a national holiday. In the twenties and thirties, three universities, 21 teaching hospitals, three colleges and several thousand public schools were founded. The National Extramural Public Education Board and the Collegium Hungaricum, which performed cultural mission work abroad, were set up. The National Science Council and Fund and the Széchenyi Scientific Society were set up to stimulate scientific and academic life.

It was intended at the start of the 1940s to introduce 8-year teaching in elementary schools, and this was implemented in 1948. Schools were nationalized, and the school leaving age was raised first to 14 and later to 16. Only a few secondary schools remained in church control. Prior to nationalization, 56% of primary and 44% of secondary school children attended church schools.

Starting in 1951/52, adult-education evening and correspondence courses were developed.

### Television subscriptions

From the sixties, the 4-year secondary school teaching was supplemented by skills training, and in the last decade of the century, 6- and 8-year gymnáziums also appeared. Secondary education became more practice-oriented, and vocational training became increasingly based on the secondary school graduation certificate.



Higher education was reorganized several times in the second half of the century, and its capacity increased substantially in the nineteen nineties. The role of churches and private institutions in education

greatly diminished after the Second World War, and revived again from 1990 onwards. At the end of the millennium, 5.3% of primary and 11% of secondary school children attended church or foundation schools.

**In the final years of the 19th century, after the unification of Pest and Buda, theatre construction began in earnest in the capital city:**

- in 1894, the Somossy Orfeum (Metropolitan Operetta Theatre), and in 1896, the Vígszínház Theatre, designed by architects Fellner and Helmer,
- in 1897, the Hungarian Theatre, designed by Adolf Lang,
- in 1903, the Király (King's) Theatre, destroyed in the Second World War,
- in 1907, Béla Lajta's art nouveau building, the Friedmann Orfeum, and the Academy of Music, built to plans by Flóris Korb and Kálmán Giergl,
- in 1908, the Royal Orfeum (Madách Theatre),
- in 1911, the city's largest theatre building – holding an audience of three thousand – the People's Opera (Erkel Theatre), and in Óbuda, the Kisfaludy Theatre, destroyed in the Second World War,
- The decision to demolish the old National Theatre building, taken in 1908, was carried out in 1914. A competition for a new building was held in 1912. Of the 33 entries, the first prize went to the art nouveau plans by Emil Tóry and Frigyes Pogány, but the building was never constructed.

The main focus of development was on elementary schools in the first half of the century, on secondary schools in the middle, and on higher education in the nineties. In 1869, on the historic territory of Hungary, half of those of compulsory school age actually attended school. The 20<sup>th</sup> century was the age of victory over illiteracy. Half of the 3–22 year old population attended full-time education in 1950, and more than three-quarters in 2000. Availability of secondary and higher education was restricted in the past mainly by wealth, and in the middle third of the century by variously-motivated discrimination on grounds of origin..

### Main theatre figures

In the twenties and thirties, three-quarters of secondary school and college students were

Year	Number of theatres	Full-time theatre staff	Number of performances	Visits per thousand of population	Ticket income per paying visitor, HUF	Ticket price as %-age of net average earnings
1950	..	..	6 604	315	..	..
1975	34	5 142	12 022	593	16,5	0,5
1990	43	6 345	11 534	482	88	0,9
2000	52	4 962	12 682	393	647	1,2

children of upper and middle class families – small landowners, bourgeoisie, professionals and administrators. Before the Second World War, the proportion of those from working-class and peasant families was negligible; in 1955/56 it was more than 70%

Open discrimination on grounds of origin was repealed in November 1962. At the beginning of the century, a fraction of the population went through higher schooling, and only 5% of the more educated young age groups had a secondary school qualification. In 1920, 40% of people over 70 had not attended school at all, and even among the most educated 30–39 age group, only around 2% had university or college degrees. The last survey shows a major reduction in illiteracy, and the level of education has risen greatly at every level.

By international comparison of the 25–64 year old population with at least secondary qualifications, Hungary is in 10th place among the 21 countries of Europe, and in 15th place in terms of people with higher educational qualifications.

### Main cinema data

Year	Number	Performances, thousands	Audience, millions	Annual visits per capita
1935	599	149	19	2
1950	1 549	295	47	5
1960	4 558	846	140	14
1990	1 960	416	36	4
1999	604	296	14	1

<sup>x</sup>The cinema of a German film company making feature films and newsreels.

It says much about the conditions of Hungarian education and scientific research, that only one of these (Albert Szent-Györgyi) received the honour for research conducted in this country

The most patents have been registered in the fields of railways and traction machinery, instruments and electronics, chemistry, agriculture and forestry, and milling.

At the turn of the second and third millennia, there were 1887 research centres operating in Hungary, more than 70% of which were in universities or colleges. Their number rose during the nineteen nineties, as did those of corporate research centres, but the number of research institutes fell. The number of people engaged in research and development, after falling steadily from the start of the decade, started to rise again in 1999–2000, and passed 23,00.

The main source of funding for research and development is the central budget, although the share of this it receives is steadily reducing. Funding from enterprises and foreign organizations, on the other hand, is increasing. The proportion of earners working in this area declined sharply at the start of the nineties and then stagnated.

The proportion of GDP expended on research in economically advanced countries is typically 2–3 or more times that in Hungary, where it is similar to that in transition-economy countries.

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences has 614 members, more than half these being home-based researchers. 12,888 people have academic titles, 80% of them “Candidate’s degrees”.

### **Publishing and public collections**

The *Hungarian Society of Publishers and Book Distributors* was formed in 1878. It organized the eighth international conference of publishers in 1913. It was the first society of its kind in Central Europe, and since 1996 it has been a member of the *European Federation of Book Distributors and Merchants*. In conjunction with the management of the *Frankfurt Book Fair*, it holds the *Budapest International Book Festival*. For over a hundred years, it has been holding the Christmas Book Fair, from 1929 the Book Week, since 1952 the “*Great Hungarian Book*” competition, and for the last five years the Higher Education Specialist and Textbook Fair. It publishes the catalogue Books in Hungary.

The first modern Hungarian encyclopaedia not based on translation, the *Pallas Great Encyclopaedia*, brought out its first volume at Christmas 1897, as the paper-based “*monument to the millennium*”. The Managing Director of Pallas Rt. stated that “*the enterprise rises above the prevailing conditions in Hungary and finds the cultured Hungarian reader.*” The 300-strong team assembled by the editorial committee included nearly every eminent member of academic life, such as Bernát Alexander, Donát Bánki, Jenő Cholnoky, Loránd Eötvös, Gusztáv Thirring, etc. The encyclopaedia was purchased in 1911 by Révai Testvérek Rt., which published it between 1911 and 1935, in revised and extended form, as the *Révai Great Encyclopaedia*. It was published in reprint form in the 1990s.

**Deaths per thousand of population in Hungary  
(including Transylvania)**

1831	1855	1873
50.6	47.2	65.1

Publishers released 1500–2000 books annually from 1920 to 1924, and 3000–4000 up to 1928. In 1937, pure book output in Hungary, not including musical works, maps and other graphical works, totalled 3328 books, containing a total of 486,000 pages. Literary works made up 30% of this.

The number of books published grew for four decades up to the middle of the nineteen eighties, and the number of copies grew up to the end of the decade, and then declined. In the nineties, more titles were published, but in fewer and fewer copies.

At the end of the second millennium, the country was in the middle of the European ranking by the number of works published per thousand of population. In the last 10 years, some 94,000 books were printed, in more than 730 million copies. Specialist literature made up 40% of book publishing, literature 20%, textbooks 15–20% and popular education 13%. Every fourth book was written by a foreign author. This proportion was 20% in 1990.

The National Széchenyi Library collects every work of Hungarian relevance published in Hungary and abroad. It now holds some 7 million items.

#### TB mortality per ten thousand of population

1881–1887	1896–1900	1938	1950	1958	2000
33.1	27.6	14.0	7.9	3.1	0.4

This library holds the oldest continuous Hungarian text, the Death Speech, 32 Corvinas from King Matthias' library, the manuscript of the Hungarian national anthem written by Ferenc Kölcsey, and many manuscripts by Kossuth, Petőfi, Ady and others. Now anybody may access its services by Internet.

In the last century, the number of public libraries was highest in 1955, and their stock was largest in 1989. Circulation (library items borrowed) was highest from the middle of the sixties to the end of the seventies. Interest in libraries is illustrated by the fact that despite the decline in their number at the end of the nineties, there was only a slight fall-off in borrowings and number of borrowers. Every seventh member of the public is a registered reader at some library. Each reader on average borrows one book every two weeks. One-third of readers are 14 years old or younger.

The oldest public collection holdings are in the Hungarian National Archive, which has documents dating back to the House of Árpád. The archiving of national public documents (*publica regni acta*) in the national archive (*archivum regni*) was decreed in 1723. It started operation between 1751 and 1765, and its organization, the “old National Archive”, the core of the future diplomatic archive, was set up 33 years later. During the Second World War, 16% of the archive was destroyed, and in 1956 the collection suffered even more severe damage. The National Archive Centre was set up and centralization remained in place up to 1968. Documents have to be archived within 5–10 years of their production, instead of the former 33 years, and the archive is also involved in the disposal of documents.

The year of foundation of the Hungarian National Museum may be regarded as 1802, when Count Ferenc Széchenyi approached the Emperor to donate his collection to the nation. “... I hereby donate [this collection] in perpetuity and irrevocably for the use and benefit of my beloved country and public,” he wrote in the deed of foundation. It was maintained jointly by the counties and the towns and supported by patrons’ foundations. It moved into the classicist building designed by Mihály Pollack nearly half a century later. Its burgeoning collections spawned as autonomous institutions the Museum of Applied Arts in 1872, and the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Ethnography and Science and the Széchenyi Library in 1896. At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there was a museum, museum collection or museum exhibition space in nearly every town and in more than one-tenth of villages. Museum visits are concentrated on a few towns and museums where tourism is important. The highest numbers of visitors in recent years have been received by:

### Suicide rate

	1820s (on the then territory of the country)	1920	1983	2000
Per hundred thousand of population	19	24	46	33

### Printed press

Between 1832 and 1915, 76 Hungarian daily newspapers were launched. Most of them were short-lived, but the *Pesti Napló* ran for 89 years, the *Budapesti Közlöny* for 77, and *Népszava* is still on the newsstands.

Newspapers have always played a major part in the development of literature and in cultural life. In the 1820s, young literati were drawn to Pest by the journal *Auróra* and its editor, Károly Kisfaludy. They included András Fáy and Ferenc Toldy. Even then, but especially in later years, there was a characteristic writer's lifestyle associated with Pest, the institutions of scholarship and culture, the newspapers, and their editorial staff (Mihály Vörösmarty, József Bajza, Sándor Petőfi). Journalism modernized, leading articles and feuilletons were established, sketches, humour, serialized novels, etc. took shape. Contributors to the *Pesti Hírlap* included József Eötvös, László Szalay, Antal Csengery, Zsigmond Kemény and Imre Madách. Petőfi was assistant editor of the *Pesti Divatlap* and then of *Életképek*, with Mór Jókai. János Arany edited the literary journal *Koszorú* and later became general secretary of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Zsigmond Kemény was on the staff of *Pesti Napló*, which was the newspaper of highest standing at that time.

Jókai edited the *Tizek társasága*, and later *A Hon*. Zsigmond Móricz also produced feuilleton pieces of lasting worth. The 20<sup>th</sup> century movement and journal *Nyugat* looked to progress as its guiding principle. Its first issue appeared on 1 January 1908 edited by Ignotus (Hugó Veigelsberg), and promoted the principle of artistic freedom.

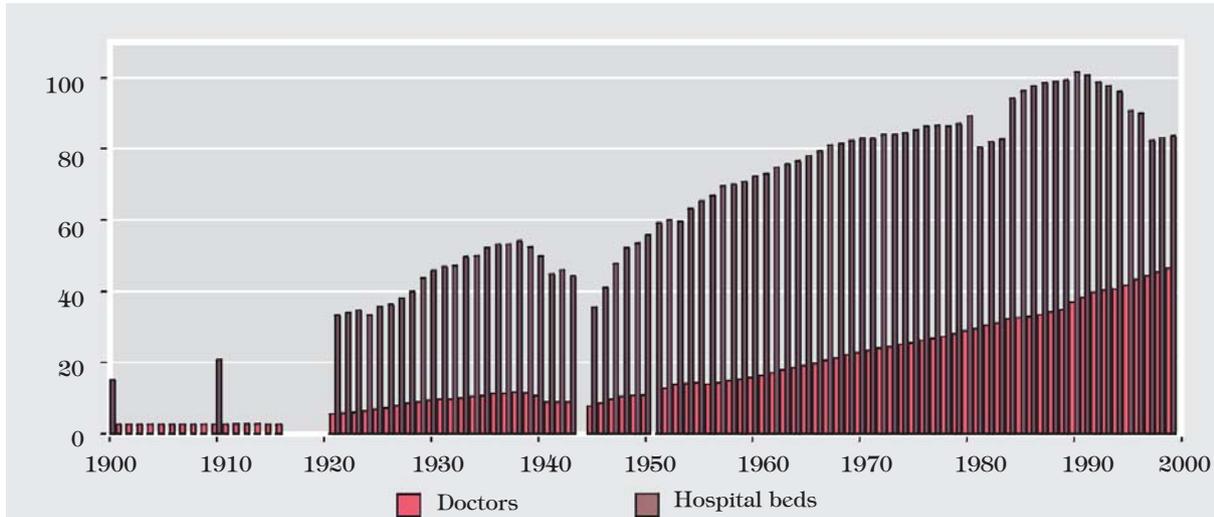
### The most common causes of death

Rank	1948 disease	Rank	2000 disease
1.	Heart diseases	1.	Heart diseases
2.	Malignant tumours	2.	Malignant tumours
3.	Tuberculosis	3.	Cerebrovascular diseases
4.	Pneumonia	4.	Accidents, suicide, murder
5.	Ante- and postnatal mortality	5.	Liver diseases
6.	Cerebrovascular diseases	6.	Bronchitis and asthma
7.	Accidents, suicide, murder	7.	Diabetes
8.	Infectious and parasitic diseases	8.	Kidney disease

In the regularly-published press as a whole, 934 newspapers

and journals were published in 1926 and 1477 in 1934. 92% of them were purely Hungarian-language, and the others employed Hungarian as the main language, or at least as equal-ranking co-language. One-fifth of journals were political in content, 15% social, and 11% religious. The total press covered an area of 68,000 square metres.

### Number of doctors and hospital beds (per ten thousand of population)



From its trade union beginnings in the 19th century, health insurance progressed steadily until it was put under statutory regulation in 1938, when 31% of the population was insured. This proportion reached 95–97% by the beginning of the sixties, and health care has been a citizen's right since 1975. Free provision was replaced by an insurance-based entitlement system in the nineties. In 2000, 97–98% of the population had registered with a general practitioner.

An organization dedicated to disease prevention and influencing lifestyle was set up in 1948, and one to perform public health and epidemiology functions in 1958. Genetic advice, pregnancy care and screening test clinics have been in operation since the beginning of the fifties, and annual X-Ray screening became compulsory in 1960, although this has fallen into neglect as the danger has receded.

### Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth is a good indicator of general living conditions, particularly health conditions. The Hungarian figure increased among men up to 1966, but then went into decline. The modest improvement that started a few years ago has brought the length of life that a new-born boy may expect to around what it was three and half decades ago. For girls, the improvement of life expectancy slowed down after the end of the seventies. This followed a trend which had been observed in the world's economically advanced countries at the start of the sixties, although in these countries a major improvement followed in the seventies. Earlier, and even in the first half of the century, infant and child mortality among boys up to 1941 and among girls up to 1930 was so high that those who survived their tenth birthdays could look forward to surviving beyond children being born at the same time.

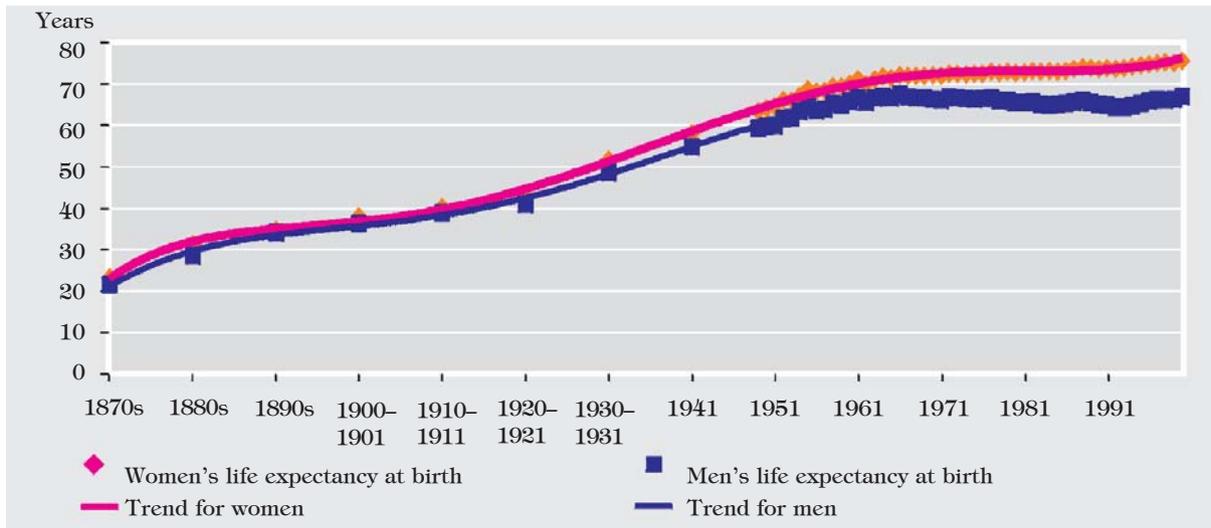
Life expectancy at various ages

Age	1900–1901	1930–1931	1941	1966	2000
Men					
0 years	36.6	48.7	55.0	67.5	67.1
5 years	50.6	57.3	59.6	65.8	62.9
10 years	48.2	53.3	55.3	61.0	58.0
40 years	26.2	29.1	30.1	32.8	29.6
60 years	12.9	14.5	15.0	16.1	15.3
Women					
0 years	38.2	51.8	58.2	72.2	75.6
5 years	49.2	58.3	61.7	70.1	71.3
10 years	46.8	54.3	57.3	65.2	66.4
40 years	26.5	30.7	32.1	36.2	37.2
60 years	12.8	15.4	16.0	18.6	20.0

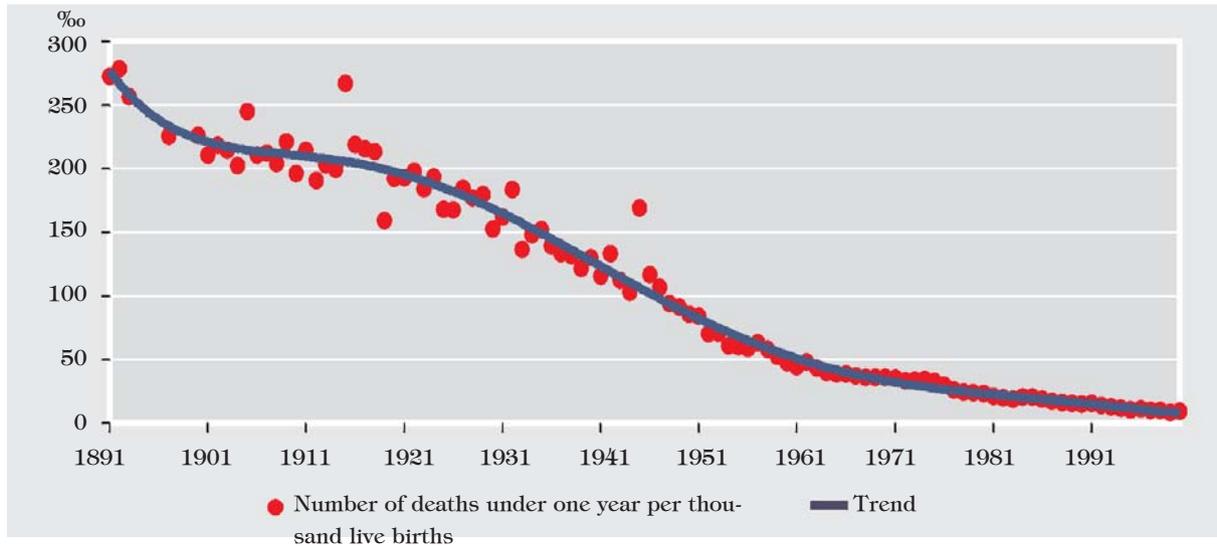
A time balance study made in 1999–2000 showed one-quarter of the population at the turn of the century to be newspaper readers, two-thirds of reading only

daily newspapers. Men spent more than a quarter of an hour reading newspapers daily; women less than 10 minutes.

Average life expectancy at birth



### Infant mortality



The new means of gaining information and knowledge that arose during the century included radio and television. Time spent listening to the radio cannot be measured, but studies show that television takes up a substantial fraction of leisure time (several times that devoted to reading newspapers). The Internet was assuming an ever more prominent role in information flow at the turn of the millennium. By international comparison, Hungary is moderately well supplied with communication devices, but rather less so with personal computers and Internet facilities. The number of documents accessible in Hungary via the “Origo” search engine grew from 304 in 1993 to over 150,000 in 2000.

### Radio

It was one hundred years before the first of January 2001 that Marconi became the first to establish a wireless link between the Isle of Wight and Cornwall, a distance of 299 kilometres. For his epoch-making achievement, he was awarded the Noble Prize for Physics in 1909.

Radio broadcasting in Hungary - unique in Europe - had a predecessor: Tivadar Puszkás' telephone news service, which was launched in the nineteen twenties. At the beginning, the subscriber demand for radio was equal to that in Switzerland, but the majority of the population lay outside the reception area. The number of radio subscribers grew extremely steeply between 1925 and 1929, from 17,000 to 267,000, then growth slowed down. A change came during the Second World War. The resurgence during the war years was probably due to radio's function as a source of news, not least foreign news. In 1944, radio sets were officially confiscated. National broadcasts by Magyar Rádió restarted from Sándor Bródy utca on 1 May 1945, following which the rise in subscriber numbers shows there was a new upswing in radio listening up to the middle of the sixties, when the market saturated. Radio subscription ceased in 1980, but the number of receivers, second and third radios and car radios, continued to expand.

### Occupation of the population,\* 1720, %

Occupation	Taxpayers as percentage of households
Serf	63
Cottar	13
Market town burger	11
Taksás, freeman**	6
Nobles	4
Other	3

\* Without Croatia-Slavonia, with Transylvania.

\*\* A *taksás* was a smallholder nobleman who paid tax to maintain the army. A freeman was a taxpayer who was exempted from serf's duties temporarily or in perpetuity

**Structure and income of Hungarian society, 1930/31**

Occupation	Population		Per capita annual income, pengős
	number, thousand	distribution, %	
Agricultural worker	1 250	14.4	183.4
Farm hand	600	6.9	204.6
Smallholder and tenant of 1-10 holds	1 750	20.1	227.2
Smallholder and tenant of 10-100 holds	746	8.6	431.7
Mining and metallurgy worker	112	1.3	427.3
Industrial, transport and other worker	1 903	21.9	376.4
Low-income independent artisans	468	5.4	319.5
Casual workers, military, unknown	224	2.6	250.0
Remainder of population	1 634	18.8	1 587.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 688</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>533.6</b>

Regional radio started in 1952. The first commercial station was Danubius Rádió, which started in July 1986, followed by Calypso, Juventus, Bridge and many others.

Broadcasting employed amplitude modulation (based on differences in signal strength) starting in the twenties, joined by FM (frequency-modulated) broadcasting half a century later. Since 1995, the Magyar Rádió channels have been broadcast on an experimental basis on the “Digital Audio Broadcasting” standard.

The development of the Internet has offered new outlets and opportunities for radio broadcasting, such as interactive radio.

**Social stratification of active earners, %**

Social strata	1949	1960	1970	1990
Managers and professionals	1.8	3.0	5.1	11.0
Middle-ranking white collar and office	8.0	13.7	20.7	22.4
Self-employed artisans and small merchants	8.1	2.4	1.6	4.2
Skilled workers	11.2	15.5	19.5	25.7
Semi-skilled workers	5.2	13.1	16.6	18.1
Labourers	12.1	14.0	13.0	5.9
Independent peasants	46.7	19.9	1.6	1.1
Agricultural manual	6.9	18.4	21.9	11.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The proportion of information programs has increased in recent decades, and now occupy 34.5% of air time. There are more cultural programmes (9%) and low air-time religious programmes and advertisements (1.1 and 1.7% respectively). The air time of educational programmes has fallen below one and a half per cent, and the proportion of entertainment programmes has also fallen, although they still fill more than half of all air time (52%).

## Television

The beginnings of television date back to the start of the twenties. In June 1923, Charles F. Jenkins set up the first wireless phonovision between an Anacosta ship radio station and the Washington laboratory. The GE TV company started operations in May 1928. In Germany, Denes von Mihaly presented the 30-line system called Telehor. NBC TV started up in 1930. Radio shows were transmitted in 1931, and electronic television made its debut at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Colour television started in 1953, and since 1966, all of NBC's broadcasts have been in colour.

The start of regular television in Hungary was in 1957. The number of subscriptions peaked in the middle of the eighties, and then declined, with some fluctuations, up to 1996. In recent years, probably because of the stricter enforcement of subscriber discipline, it rose between 1996 and 1998, and then fell in 2000.

### Distribution of 20-69 year-old occupational groups, %

Occupational group	1983	1992	2000
Men			
Senior and middle manager, upper-level professional	9.6	9.0	9.8
Junior manager, low-level professional and low-level administrator	9.6	10.7	10.2
Routine white collar	2.8	1.9	2.2
Routine services	1.9	2.4	3.8
Non-agricultural self-employed	2.0	4.7	8.4
Agricultural self-employed	1.0	1.1	2.0
Skilled worker	34.3	36.0	32.6
Unqualified worker	28.8	26.0	24.3
Agricultural worker	10.1	8.3	6.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Women			
Senior and middle manager, upper-level professional	4.2	4.2	6.8
Junior manager, low-level professional and low-level administrator	17.3	19.3	21.1
Routine white collar	14.0	16.5	14.9
Routine services	6.2	7.8	11.0
Non-agricultural self-employed	1.0	2.3	4.5
Agricultural self-employed	0.2	0.3	0.5
Skilled worker	15.0	13.4	13.6
Unqualified worker	28.4	28.5	23.4
Agricultural worker	13.5	7.6	4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

As the number of subscribers has fluctuated, the number of sets used by the population has grown steadily. The weekly average air time in the last decade – that of the public service stations plus Duna TV – grew to 402 hours. Two-fifths of the public service broadcasters' air time is made up of entertainment and nearly one-third news and information programmes. The internal proportions of air time are subject to change, but the presence of cultural programmes is clearly growing. The proportion of – expanding – air time given to films has grown, and totalled 4839 hours in 1999, up by a factor of nearly six from 1988.

Television has changed round cultural habits outside the home. By the turn of the millennium, television watching had become predominant among leisure pastimes. Adult men currently spend an average of 2 hours and 40 minutes daily watching television every day, and women 10 minutes less.

### Theatre and music

The first permanent theatre in modern Hungary opened in Miskolc 175 years ago. In Pest, the building by public subscription of the Pest Hungarian Theatre was completed in August 1837, and conferred the

#### Full mobility rate, %

	1983	1992	2000
20–69 years			
Men	73	72	66
Women	78	76	74
20–34 years			
Men	66	66	60
Women	74	72	73

title National Theatre, under the direction of József Bajza, in 1840. As well as prose productions, the theatre also presented operas. The Hungarian Opera House opened its doors in

September 1884. The young conductor was Ferenc Erkel. The rise of opera was followed by ballet. The Italian-born Frigyes Campilli was invited from Vienna.

Theatre construction also progressed outside Budapest, led by Fellner and Helmer: Szeged (1883), Bratislava (1886), Tata (1889), Kecskemét (1896), Nagyvárad (Oradea, 1900), Kolozsvár (Napoca-Cluj, 1906). Adolf Lang was responsible for the theatres in Pécs (1895) and Kassa (Kosice, 1899). Medgyaszay's reinforced concrete built art nouveau theatres are still running in Veszprém (1908), Sopron (1909) and Nagykanizsa (1925). The statistics of the 1929/30 season gives a cross-section of theatre life between the wars. 18 of the country's 77 theatre buildings were in Budapest. Elsewhere performances were given in

<sup>x</sup> 20–34 years old.

<sup>xx</sup> Simple work in office, trade, catering and other service branches, mostly that can be done without qualification.

<sup>xxx</sup> This figure expresses the percentage of respondents whose occupational group was different from their situation of origin

<sup>xxxx</sup> The immobility rate expresses how many children of fathers in different occupational strata remain in their fathers' strata.

45 towns. The total number of seats nationally was 82,000. Theatre staff numbered 3892, and put on 11,780 performances. There were 1599 plays performed, of which one-eighth were premieres.

The theatres were nationalized in 1949, and tour productions were organized, then in 1951 the traveling State Village Theatre was set up (later the State Déryné Theatre). There are now fewer theatres running than before the Second World War, but they present as many performances as seventy years ago.

In the nineteen nineties, theatres saw great changes in their finance, the actors' "company affiliation", their operation, and their artistic philosophy. Several different companies, involving different branches of the theatre arts, could belong to one theatre, and only a few theatres conduct tours. The number of performances held has not changed over the 1990 figure, but audiences, particularly in Budapest, have contracted. More than 30% of theatregoers and 60% of operagoers have season tickets, one-third buy their tickets through agents, and the rest go direct to the box office or have complementary tickets.

Between theatre seasons, outdoor performances are regularly held in Dóm tér (Cathedral Square) in Szeged, on Margit Island, in the Miskolc Summer Theatre, in the Outdoor Theatre in Bakáts tér, in the Castle Theatre in Gyula, in the Városmajor Theatre in Budapest and in the Gyula Lake Theatre. The majority of events were theatrical performances, but there were also concerts of classical or popular music.

The number of concerts arranged by the national Philharmonia was 507 in 1950, 1723 in 1990 and 1281 in 2000. All concerts were of classical music at the beginning, and now several hundred concert organization agencies large and small arrange musical events. Concert audiences numbered 426,000 at the turn of the millennium, 43% fewer than ten years previously. One reason for the decline in interest is the spread of high-quality music reproduction. For every hundred households, there were 10 CD players and 26 hi-fi systems at the end of the century.

## Cinema

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, moving pictures meant a series of spectacles like Punchinello and the man with no arms and legs. The first regularly-presented projektográfia opened in June 1896. In the *Kosmograph* built on occasion of the Millennium in the "Ancient Buda Castle Entertainment Park" in 1898, Gyula Décsi presented "moving photographs". In 1902, Mrs Márton Fényes was permitted by the Mayor to set up the *Cinematograph*, which operated until 1942. This was when the City Park's other long-lived

cinema, “*The Royal Vio*”, was established.

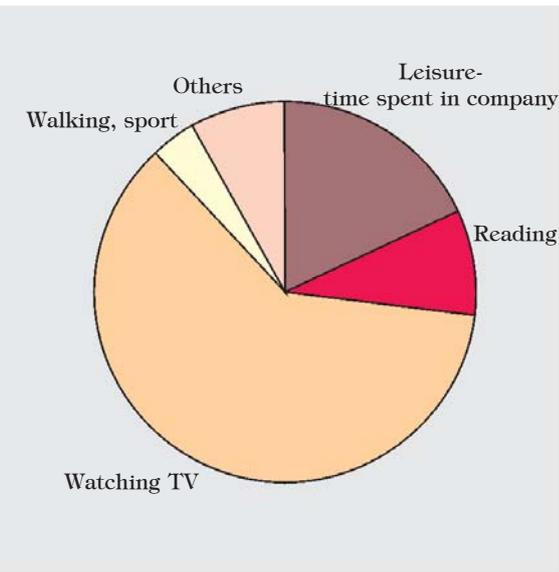
Apart from these large popular entertainment venues, moving pictures were projected in a coffee house in Rákóczi út in 1899, by proprietor Mór Ungerleider and József Neumann. In 1908, *Projectograph Rt.* was set up, the first film distribution cinema company. There survives from 1902 an application for a tent cinema in Buda. In 1906, the first independent moving picture theatres were opened, *Projectograph (Odeon)* and the *Apolló Theatre*, where

the royal court (Joseph, Augusta, Frederick, Eugene, Isabella) were constant attenders. In 1910 Budapest was written about in the press as, “the city not of coffee houses, but of cinemas”. In 1913, there were 114 cinemas in the Hungarian capital, 260 in Berlin and 400 in London. In large Western European cities, cinemas had on average 500–600 seats, in Budapest, 278. At this time all large towns outside Budapest apart from Miskolc had cinemas. The theatrical profession was forced to take note of the new competition. The *Vasárnapi Újság* (Sunday News)

wrote, “between 7 and 10 p.m., attending a performance has a touch of refinement,

after 10 o’clock come the cinema-mass, after dinner and theatre, etc... in the Tisza Kálmán tér porno-cinema, “piquant pictures” were shown to the elegant audience”.

It was during and after the First World War that “cathedrals to film”, with a wide range of services, were opened on the foreign model. The Royal Apolló (after 1948, the Red Star), which also had a ballroom with a capacity of 1000, opened in 1915. The UFA<sup>x</sup> and the Fórum (Puskin) opened in 1915, and the Uránia in



The daily schedule of the population

Activity	1977	1986	1999
Personal physiological needs	11 hrs. 10 mins.	11 hrs. 12 mins.	11 hrs. 15 mins.
Remunerative work	4 hrs. 41 mins.	4 hrs. 50 mins.	3 hrs. 54 mins.
Transport	1 hrs. 06 mins.	1 hr.	1 hr. 02 mins.
Self-supporting work in the household	3 hrs. 19 mins.	2 hrs. 16 mins.	2 hrs. 10 mins.
Leisure time	3 hrs. 20 mins.	3 hrs. 38 mins.	4 hrs. 17 mins.

1930. The first talking picture was presented in the Fórum in 1929. In 1931, the continent's third news-reel service was launched, and its projection was compulsory. Increasing attention was paid to comfort and quality in cinema construction. The cinemas, after the model of theatres, held summer breaks, and open air cinemas appeared. From 1939, the showing of informative, educational and propaganda films was prescribed, and the airing of opinions and comments in the auditorium was banned. After 1937, cinema construction mainly became upgrading. The events of the time and the public hunger for news led to the opening of the first news cinema, the New York, where from morning to midnight, 45-minute newsreels were shown. After the war, the cinemas were nationalized, a situation that remained until privatization in the last decade of the century.

### Hungarian placings in the summer Olympic Games

Olympiad venue and year		Hungarian competitors' placings		
		I.	II.	III.
Athen	1896	2	1	2
Paris	1900	1	2	3
St. Louis	1904	2	1	1
London	1908	3	4	1
Stockholm	1912	3	2	3
Paris	1924	2	4	4
Amsterdam	1928	5	5	-
Los Angeles	1932	6	5	5
Berlin	1936	10	1	5
London	1948	10	5	13
Helsinki	1952	16	10	16
Melbourne	1956	9	10	7
Rome	1960	6	8	7
Tokyo	1964	10	7	5
Mexico City	1968	10	10	12
Munich	1972	6	13	16
Montreal	1976	4	5	13
Moscow	1980	7	10	15
Seoul	1988	11	6	6
Barcelona	1992	11	12	7
Atlanta	1996	7	4	10
Sydney	2000	8	6	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>149</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>154</b>

In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, films for long constituted the only moving-picture medium of culture and information. Hungarian film-making developed, but the largest sup-

plies of films came from Germany and the United States. In the second half of the century, its monopoly was swept away by television, followed by video, DVD, and the Internet. Its history in the first half of the century was forged by the market. Starting out as "just" a branch of entertainment, it became a means of popular education. At the end of the century, with the weakening of state patronage, market-orientation

**Aggregate Olympic medals table, 1896-2000**  
(the first ten countries in order of gold medals won)

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1. United States	851	666	575	2 092
2. Russia, Soviet Union, CIS	499	410	362	1 271
3. Germany	376	391	418	1 185
4. United Kingdom	181	233	230	644
5. France	174	187	200	561
6. Italy	173	138	154	465
7. Hungary	149	131	154	434
8. Sweden	139	154	170	463
9. Australia	105	110	137	352
10. Finland	101	81	113	295

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**Hungary's Olympic champions, 1896-2000**

**I. Winners of gold medals at more than one Olympics**

6 Olympics: *Gerevich, Aladár* sabre, 7 gold medals from 1932 to 1960, team wins at every Olympics and individual win in 1948.

5 Olympics: *Kovács, Pál* sabre, 6 gold medals from 1936 to 1960, team wins at every Olympics and individual win in 1952.

4 Olympics: *Kárpáti, Rudolf* sabre, 6 gold medals from 1948 to 1960, team wins at every Olympics and individual wins in 1956 and 1960.

3 Olympics: *Balczó, András* modern pentathlon, 3 gold medals: team wins in 1960 and 1968, and individual win in 1972.

*Berczelly, Tibor* sabre, 3 gold medals: team wins in 1936, 1948 and 1952.

*Egerszegi, Krisztina* swimming, 5 gold medals: winner of 200 m backstroke in 1988, a 100 and 200 m backstroke and 400 m medley in 1992, 200 m backstroke in 1996.

*Gyarmati, Dezső* water polo, 3 gold medals in 1952, 1956 and 1964.

*Kárpáti, György* water polo, 3 gold medals in 1952, 1956 and 1964.

*Kulcsár, Győző* épée, 4 gold medals: team wins in 1964, 1968 and 1972, and individual win in 1968.

*Papp, László* boxer, 3 gold medals: middleweight champion in 1948, and light middleweight in 1952 and 1956.

*Rajcsányi, László* sabre, 3 gold medals: team wins in 1936, 1948 and 1952.

- 2 Olympics: *Bolvári, Antal* water polo, 2 gold medals 1952, 1956.  
*Boros, Ottó* water polo, 2 gold medals 1956, 1964.  
*Bródy, György* water polo, 2 gold medals 1932, 1936.  
*Tamás, Darnyi* swimming, 4 gold medals: winner of the 200m and 400 m medley in 1988 and 1992.  
*Elek, Ilona* foil, 2 gold medals: individual winner of foil in 1936 and 1948.  
*Fenyvesi, Csaba* sabre, 3 gold medals: team wins in 1968 and 1972, also individual winner in 1972.  
*Földes, Dezső* sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1908 and 1912.  
*Fuchs, Jenő Dr* sabre, 4 gold medals: team and individual victories in 1908 and 1912.  
*Gerde, Oszkár Dr* sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1908 and 1912.  
*Glykais, Gyula* sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1928 and 1932.  
*Halassy, Olivér* water polo, 2 gold medals 1932, 1936.  
*Homonnai, Márton* water polo, 2 gold medals 1932, 1936.  
*Jeney, László* water polo, 2 gold medals 1952, 1956.  
*Kabos, Endre* sabre, 3 gold medals team wins in 1932 and 1936, also individual winner in 1936.  
*Kanizsa, Tivadar* water polo, 2 gold medals 1956, 1964.  
*Keleti, Ágnes* gymnast, 5 gold medals: team win in 1956 in combined exercises and floor exercises, and individual win in 1956 in asymmetric bars and balance beam.  
*Kolonics, György* canoeing, 2 gold medals: win in 500 m canoe pairs team in 1996, and 500 m individual canoe win in 2000.  
*Kozma, István* wrestling, 2 gold medals: Graeco-Roman, heavyweight, in 1964 and 1968.  
*Kőbán, Rita* kayak, 2 gold medals: 500 m kayak fours in 1992, 500 m individual kayak in 1996.  
*Magyar, Zoltán* gymnastics, 2 gold medals: pommel horse in 1976 and 1980.  
*Markovits, Kálmán* water polo, 2 gold medals 1952, 1956.  
*Mayer, Mihály* water polo, 2 gold medals 1956, 1964.  
*Nemere, Zoltán* épée, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1964 and 1968.  
*Németh, János* water polo, 2 gold medals 1932, 1936.  
*Novák, Dezső* football, 2 gold medals 1964, 1968.  
*Papp, Bertalan* sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1948 and 1952.  
*Petschauer, Attila* sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1928 and 1932.  
*Sárkány, Miklós* water polo, 2 gold medals 1932, 1936.  
*Schmitt, Pál* épée, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1968 and 1972.  
*Szabó, Bence* sabre, 2 gold medals: team win in 1988 and individual in 1992.  
*Szívós, István* water polo, 2 gold medals 1952, 1956.

*Takács, Károly* shooting, 2 gold medals 1948, 1952, five-position rapid-fire pistol, 25 m.

*Tóth, Péter* Dr sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1908 and 1912.

*Ferenc, Török* Dr modern pentathlon, 2 gold medals: individual win in 1964 and team win in 1968.

*Werkner, Lajos* sabre, 2 gold medals: team wins in 1908 and 1912.

## II. Winners of more than one gold medal at one olympics

(Other than those already mentioned among winners at several Olympics – Gerevich, Kovács P. Kárpáti, Egerszegi, Kulcsár, Darnyi, Fenyvesi, Fuchs, Kabos, Keleti)

*Gyulai, Zsolt* kayak, 2 gold medals: 500 m individual kayak and 1000 m kayak fours in 1988.

*Hajós, Alfréd* swimming, 2 first places in 1896: 100 and 1200 m freestyle.

*Halmay, Zoltán* swimming, 2 gold medals: 50 and 100 yard freestyle in 1904.

*Kammerer, Zoltán* kayak, 2 gold medals: 500 m kayak pairs and 1000 m kayak fours in 2000.

*Martinek, János* modern pentathlon, 2 gold medals: individual and team win in 1988.

*Németh, Ferenc* modern pentathlon, 2 gold medals: individual and team win in 1960.

*Pelle, István* gymnastics, 2 gold medals, horse and freestyle exercises in 1932.

*Piller, György* sabre, 2 gold medals: individual and team win in 1932.

*Storcz, Botond* kayak, 2 gold medals: 500 m kayak pairs and 1000 m kayak fours 2000.

*Szóke, Katalin* swimming, 2 gold medals 100 m freestyle and 4x100 m relay in 1952.

*Tersztyánszky, Ödön* sabre, 2 gold medals: individual and team win in 1928.

*Rejtő Újlaky, Ildikó* foil, 2 gold medals: individual and team win in 1964.

## III. Other Hungarian olympic champions by sport

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Athletics | <i>Bauer, Rudolf</i> discus, 1900; <i>Csermák, József</i> hammer, 1952; <i>Gyarmati, Olga</i> long jump, 1948; <i>Csák Kádár, Ibo</i> lya high jump, 1936; <i>Kiss, Balázs</i> hammer, 1996; <i>Németh, Angéla</i> javelin, 1968; <i>Németh, Imre</i> hammer, 1948; <i>Németh, Miklós</i> javelin, 1976; <i>Zsivótzky, Gyula</i> hammer, 1968;  |
| Wrestling | <i>Bóbis, Gyula</i> freestyle heavyweight, 1948; <i>Farkas, Péter</i> Graeco-Roman 82 kg, 1992; <i>Hegedűs, Csaba</i> Graeco-Roman 82 kg, 1972; <i>Hódos, Imre</i> Graeco-Roman bantamweight, 1952; <i>Kárpáti, Károly</i> freestyle lightweight, 1936; <i>Keresztes, Lajos</i> Graeco-Roman lightweight, 1928; <i>Kocsis, Ferenc</i> Graeco-Roman 74 kg, 1980; <i>Lőrincz, Márton</i> Graeco-Roman bantamweight, 1936; <i>Növényi, Norbert</i> Graeco-Roman 90 kg, 1980; |

*Polyák, Imre* Graeco-Roman featherweight, 1964; *Repka, Attila* Graeco-Roman 68 kg, 1992; *Sike, András* Graeco-Roman 57 kg, 1988; *Szilvásy, Miklós* Graeco-Roman light welterweight, 1952; *Varga, János* Graeco-Roman bantamweight, 1968; *Weisz, Richárd* Graeco-Roman heavyweight, 1908; *Zombori, Ödön* freestyle bantamweight, 1936.

**Judo**

*Kovács, Antal* 95 kg, 1992;

**Kayak-canoe**

*Ábrahám, Attila* kayak fours 1000 m, 1988; *Csipes, Ferenc* kayak fours 1000 m, 1988; *Czigány, Kinga* kayak fours 500 m, 1992; *Dónusz, Éva* kayak fours 500 m, 1992; *Fábián, László* kayak pairs 10 000 m, 1956; *Foltán, László* canoe pairs 500 m, 1980; *Hesz, Mihály* kayak 1000 m, 1968; *Hódos, Sándor* kayak fours 1000 m, 1988; *Horváth, Csaba* canoe pairs 500 m, 1996; *Horváth, Gábor* kayak fours 1000 m, 2000; *Mészáros, Erika* kayak fours 500 m, 1992; *Novák, Ferenc* canoe pairs 500 m, 2000; *Parti, János* canoe 1000 m, 1960; *Pulai, Imre* canoe pairs 500 m, 2000; *Tatai, Tibor* canoe 10 000 m, 1968; *Urányi, János* kayak pairs 10 000 m, 1956; *Vaskúti, István* canoe pairs 500 m, 1980; *Vereckei, Ákos* kayak fours 1000 m, 2000;

**Football**

*Básti, István* 1968, *Bene, Ferenc* 1964, *Bozsik, József* 1952; *Budai, László* 1952; *Buzánszky, Jenő* 1952; *Csernai, Tibor* 1964; *Csordás, Lajos* 1952; *Czibor, Zoltán* 1952; *Dalnoki, Jenő* 1952; *Dunai, Antal* 1968; *Dunai, Lajos* 1968; *Farkas, János* 1964; *Fatér, Károly* 1968; *Fazekas, László* 1968; *Gelei, József* 1964; *Grosics, Gyula* 1952; *Hidegkúti, Nándor* 1952; *Ihász, Kálmán* 1964; *Juhász, István* 1968; *Katona, Sándor* 1964; *Keglovich, László* 1960; *Kocsis, Lajos* 1968; *Kocsis, Sándor* 1952; *Komora, Imre* 1964; *Kovács, Imre* 1952; *Lantos, Mihály* 1952; *Lóránt, Gyula* 1952; *Menczel, Iván* 1968; *Nagy, László* 1968; *Nógrádi, Ferenc* 1964; *Noskó, Ernő* 1968; *Orbán, Árpád* 1964; *Palotai, Károly* 1964; *Palotás, Péter* 1952; *Páncsics, Miklós* 1968; *Puskás, Ferenc* 1952; *Sárközi, István* 1968; *Szalai, Miklós* 1968; *Szarka, Zoltán* 1968; *Szentmihályi, Antal* 1964; *Szepesi, Gusztáv* 1964; *Szűcs, Lajos* 1968; *Varga, Zoltán* 1964; *Zakariás, József* 1952;

**Artistic contest**

*Mező, Ferenc* Dr literature, epic works, 1928

**Boxing**

*Csík, Tibor* bantamweight, 1948; *Énekes, István* bantamweight, 1932; *Gedó, György* light flyweight 1972; *Harangi, Imre* lightweight; 1936; *Kocsis, Antal* bantamweight, 1928; *Kovács, István* bantamweight, 1996; *Török, Gyula* flyweight, 1960;

**Modern Pentathlon**

*Benedek, Gábor* team, 1952; *Fábián, László* team, 1988; *Kovácsi, Aladár* team, 1952; *Mizsér, Attila* team, 1988; *Móna, István* Dr team, 1960; *Nagy, Imre* team, 1960; *Szondy, István* team, 1952;

- Shooting** *Halasy, Gyula* Dr clay pigeon, 1924; *Hammerl, László* small-bore rifle (prone), 50 m, 1964; *Prokopp, Sándor* large-bore rifle 300 m, 1912; *Varga, Károly* event small-bore rifle, prone, 1980;
- Weightlifting** *Baczakó, Péter* light heavyweight, 1980; *Földi, Imre* bantamweight 1972;
- Gymnastics** *Borkai, Zsolt* pommel horse, 1988; *Csollány, Szilveszter* rings, 2000; *Köteles, Gulyás Erzsébet* combined exercises team, 1956; *Kertész, Aliz* combined exercises team, 1956; *Korondi, Margit* asymmetric bars, 1952; *Tass Lemhényi, Olga* combined exercises team, 1956; *Bodó Molnár, Andrea* combined exercises team, 1956; *Ónody, Henrietta* vault, 1992; *Pataki, Ferenc* freestyle exercises, 1948; *Korondi Plachy, Margit* combined exercises team, 1956;
- Swimming** *Csík, Ferenc* 100 m freestyle, 1936; *Czene, Attila* 200 m medley, 1996; *Gyenge, Valéria* 400 m freestyle, 1952; *Kovács, Ágnes* 200 m breaststroke, 2000; *Littomeritzky, Mária* 4x100 m relay, 1952; *Novák, Éva* 4x100 m relay, 1952; *Novák, Ilona* 4x100 m relay, 1952; *Rózsa, Norbert* 200 m breaststroke, 1996; *Szabó, József* 200 m breaststroke, 1988; *Székely, Éva* 200 m breaststroke, 1952; *Temes, Judit* 4x100 m relay, 1952; *Wladár, Sándor* 200 m backstroke, 1980;
- Fencing** *B. Nagy, Pál* épée team, 1968; *Bárány, Árpád* épée team, 1964; *Berty, László* sabre team, 1912; *Bujdosó, Imre* sabre team, 1988; *Csongrádi, László* sabre team, 1988; *Delneky, Gábor* sabre team, 1960; *Erdős, Sándor* épée team, 1972; *Gábor, Tamás* épée team, 1964; *Garay, János* sabre team, 1928; *Gedővári, Imre* Dr sabre team, 1988; *Gombos, Sándor* Dr sabre team, 1928; *Hámori, Jenő* sabre team, 1956; *Horváth, Zoltán* sabre team, 1960; *Juhász, Katalin* foil team, 1964; *Kausz, István* Dr épée team, 1964; *Keresztes, Attila* sabre team, 1956; *Magay, Dániel* sabre team, 1956; *Marosi, Paula* foil team, 1964; *Mendelényi, Tamás* sabre team, 1960; *Ágoston Mendelényi, Judit* foil team, 1964; *Mészáros, Ervin* sabre team, 1912; *Nagy, Ernő* sabre team, 1932; *Nagy, Tímea* foil individual, 2000; *Nébald, György* sabre team, 1988; *Osztrics, István* épée team, 1972; *Pézsza, Tibor* sabre individual, 1964; *Pósta, Sándor* Dr sabre individual, 1924; *Rády, József* sabre team, 1928; *Rajczy, Imre* Dr sabre team, 1936; *Dömölky Sákovics, Lídia* foil team, 1964; *Schenker, Zoltán* sabre team; 1912; *Tordasi, Ildikó* foil individual, 1976;
- Water polo** *Ambrus, Miklós*, 1964; *Antal, Róbert*, 1952; *Barta, István*, 1932; *Benedek, Tibor*, 2000; *Biros, Péter*, 2000; *Bodnár, András*, 1964; *Bozsi, Mihály*, 1936; *Brandi, Jenő*, 1936; *Csapó, Gábor*, 1976; *Cservenyák, Tibor*, 1976; *Dömötör, Zoltán*, 1964; *Fábián, Dezső*, 1952; *Faragó, Tamás*, 1976; *Felkai, László*, 1964; *Fodor, Rajmund*, 2000; *Gerendás, György*, 1976; *Hasznos, István*, 1952; *Hazai, Kálmán*, 1936; *Hevesi, István*, 1956; *Horkai, György*, 1976; *Ivány, Sándor* Dr, 1932; *Kásás, Tamás*, 2000; *Kenéz, István*, 1976; *Keserű, Alajos*, 1932; *Keserű, Ferenc*, 1932; *Kiss, Gergely*, 2000; *Konrád, Ferenc*, 1976; *Konrád, János*, 1964; *Kósz, Zoltán*, 2000; *Kutasi, György*, 1936; *Lemhényi, Dezső*, 1952; *Márcz, Tamás*, 2000; *Martin, Miklós*, 1952;

*Molnár, Endre, 1976; Molnár, István, 1936; Molnár, Tamás, 2000; Pócsik, Dénes, 1964; Rusorán, Péter, 1964; Sárosi, László, 1976; Steinmetz, Barnabás, 2000; Sudár, Attila Dr, 1976; Szécsi, Zoltán, 2000; Székely, Bulcsú, 2000; Szittyá, Károly, 1952; Szívós, István Dr, 1976; Tarics, Sándor, 1936; Varga, Zsolt, 2000; Vári, Attila, 2000; Vértesy, József, 1932; Vízvári, György, 1952; Zádor, Ervin, 1956.*

when 16mm and video cinemas closed, is little greater than in 1935, and the frequency of visits was only a half of that in 1990 and one-tenth of that forty years previously. Operators include limited companies, community centres, individual proprietors, single-person companies and foundations.

There was one cinemagoer among every 20 inhabitants in Budapest, every 50 in the county capitals and every 100 in other towns. Three new films per week were premiered in recent years, down from five at the beginning of the nineties. Most films shown are American. In 1990, products of the American industry made up half of films in 1990 and more than two-thirds today.

In 1990, 31 Hungarian films were premiered, 9 in 1995 and 16 in 1999. The lowest level of interest in Hungarian films was in 1995, since when the situation has improved slightly.

### Olympic placings of Hungarian fencers

Weapon, participants	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Total medal places
	place			
Male team				
sabre	10	3	3	16
foil	–	–	4	4
épée	3	2	–	5
Male individual				
sabre	12	6	8	26
foil	–	2	1	3
épée	2	1	3	6
Female team				
foil	1	3	3	7
Female individual				
foil	4	3	2	9
épée	1	–	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>78</b>

## Health

### Epidemics and health

The most common epidemics throughout the centuries were plague, cholera, malaria, smallpox, typhus, dysentery, infectious colitis, diphtheria, scarlet fever, whooping cough, petechial typhus and trachoma.

### Hungary in football world championships

Year	Venue	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals scored.	Goals conc.	Result
1930	Uruguay	did	not enter					
1934	Italy	2	1	–	1	5	4	1/4 final
1938	France	4	3	–	1	15	5	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
1950	Brazil	did	not enter					
1954	Switzerland	5	4	–	1	27	10	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
1958	Sweden	4	1	1	2	7	5	2 <sup>nd</sup> in group
1962	Chile	4	2	1	1	8	3	1/4 final
1966	England	4	2	–	2	8	7	1/4 final
1970	Mexico	did	not qualify					
1974	Germany	did	not qualify					
1978	Argentina	3	–	–	3	3	8	4 <sup>th</sup> in group
1982	Spain	3	1	1	1	12	6	3 <sup>rd</sup> in group
1986	Mexico	3	1	–	2	2	9	3 <sup>rd</sup> in group
1990	Italy	did	not qualify					
1994	United States	did	not qualify					
1998	France	did	not qualify					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>57</b>	

*Plague* was recorded in the 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> centuries around the Mediterranean, first in the port cities and along the great trading routes. At this time, a third to a half of the population of Constantinople perished. It reappeared in Europe in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and took as its victims more than 30% of the population, and in Florence, for instance, some 45–65%. The catastrophe was variously blamed on beggars, lepers, Arabs, and Jews. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century plague, one-third to two-fifths of the European population perished. Its victims were mainly town dwellers, and the most affected were babies and those over 60 years of age and living in bad social circumstances. The dead comprised twice as many men as women. Hungary was stricken by the first wave, which was less severe than the epidemic that reached Western Europe in 1349. The King (Louis the Great) was also infected, and the list of victims included János Hunyadi. It took its greatest toll during the Rákóczi War of Independence and afterwards, when its victims numbered over 600,000. Subsequently, plague attacked in fifty larger and 9 minor epidemics up to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Cholera took its largest number of victims during the Crimean War between Turkey and Russia, and the (Prussian) War of the Austrian Succession, and measles during the Franco-Prussian War. The main record of its effects is preserved by the death rate. The overall death rate in these years was highest in the three German states, and in Serbia, Hungary, Russia, Croatia-Slavonia, and lowest in Scandinavia and Ireland. In August 1869, after heavy rain and widespread floods (and a bad harvest), malaria broke out over a large

**The Hungarian national football team's matches against countries, 1902-2001**

Country	Match	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals scored	Goals conc.
Austria	135	65	30	40	295	251
Germany	47	19	14	14	90	78
Switzerland	43	30	5	8	126	56
Yugoslavia	32	15	9	8	58	54
Italy	32	8	9	15	53	61
Poland	28	19	3	6	84	35
France	21	12	2	7	46	29
England	20	5	2	13	28	51
Romania	18	11	5	2	45	17
Greece	13	3	5	5	25	18
Netherlands	12	5	2	5	23	24
Belgium	11	2	2	7	16	24

part of Hungary, contracted by 14% of the population. After this, in 1872-73, cholera attacked again with greater virulence than ever, causing

nearly half a million extra deaths. The last great cholera epidemic set back population growth, and while it lasted there were more deaths than births.

**Hungary's place on the FIFA world rankings  
(December 1993 – June 2001)**



Three-quarters of victims die within 3 days; 18% within 24 hours, and the chances of survival are small. The death rate in counties with majority Magyar populations exceeded the average. Women fell victim 7% more frequently than men, and the epidemic was most severe among the poor and the uneducated. The greatest loss of life was beside the river Tisza. In Pest, the death rate in Kőbánya was more than 20 times, and in Ferencváros about six times, that of the city centre, where the inhabitants were largely well-off.

By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the great epidemics receded to their areas of origin, but other diseases continued to decimate the population.

In the 1890s, there were some 30,000 instances registered of diphtheria in the territory of Hungary at that time. Following the introduction of inoculations in 1938, incidence fell off.

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, some 10,000 children fell victim to whooping cough every year, but with the spread of immunization, the number of cases fell to a handful by the end of the century.

Between 1881 and 1923, scarlet fever was the cause of 8,000 deaths on average, but receded completely following the appearance of penicillin.

The first mass incidence in Hungary of hepatitis was observed in 1705, during the Rákóczi War of Independence.

The variants of the disease (hepatitis A and B) are now vaccinated against. In the last half century, the least infections were reported in 2000, and the figure was good even by international comparison.

Prior to the discovery of antibiotics, tuberculosis, which was less recognized and treated at the time, caused 12–13% of deaths at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There were some 400,000 cases in 1894. The turning point was the BCG vaccination, made compulsory in 1954. The present rate of TB in Hungary is lower than in many advanced countries

### Modern Pentathlon Olympic medallists, 1912-2000

Country	Gold		Silver		Bronze		Total
	indiv.	team	indiv.	team	indiv.	team	
Sweden	9	–	6	1	4	1	21
<b>Hungary</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>
Russia, Soviet Union, CIS	2	4	4	3	6	–	19
United States	–	–	2	3	2	1	8
Italy	1	1	1	1	2	1	7
Finland	–	–	1	–	1	3	5
Poland	2	1	–	–	–	–	3
Germany	1	–	–	–	1	–	2
Great Britain	–	1	–	–	–	1	2
Czechoslovakia	–	–	–	1	1	–	2
France	–	–	–	–	–	2	2
Kazakhstan	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Belarus	–	–	–	–	1	–	1

At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the number of new TB cases in Hungary and the former socialist countries, with the exceptions of Romania, Ukraine and Russia, was declining. The highest rate is in Romania and the lowest rates are in Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Italy.

At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the incidence of non-TB *lung diseases* – caused by environmental stress, excessive medicine consumption, etc. – stood at 350,000, the highest figures being recorded in the nineties. The incidence of hay fever increased fourfold between 1994 and 1999, and asthma by more than one-and-a-half.

*Influenza*-like diseases were first identified in Europe in the 16th century. The best-known world epidemics were the “Spanish flu” of 1889-90 and 1918-19, the “Asian” of 1957 and the “Hong Kong” of 1968. Since then, there have been epidemics of varying magnitudes every two or three years, caused by different viruses. The most

### The most successful countries in the modern pentathlon world championships

Country	Gold			Silver			Bronze			Total
	indiv.	team	relay	indiv	team	relay	indiv	team	relay	
Hungary	10	13	5	11	13	1	12	4	1	70
Russia										
Soviet Union	14	14	1	14	8	2	10	5	2	70
Poland	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	2	1	19
Italy	3	1	–	3	2	1	2	4	2	18
Sweden	4	4	–	–	1	–	3	2	1	15
United States	1		2	1	1	–	2	5	1	15
France	3	2	–	1	–	2	2	3	1	13
Finland	–		–	4	5	–	2	1	–	12

fatal victims were taken by the “Spanish flu” at the beginning of the century, when more than 50,000 influenza deaths

were recorded annually. Some half of those who died were young adults.

Many “medieval” or even 20<sup>th</sup> century epidemics, such as polio myelitis, have been eliminated by the development of medicine and pharmaceuticals and via action of international organizations, but others, such as influenza, hepatitis, AIDS, and other as-yet unknown diseases that devastate various parts of the world are still a threat.

In Hungary, 98–99% of children are vaccinated obligatorily and without charge at the appropriate ages against virulently infectious diseases. The most common epidemic diseases among children are now chickenpox and scarlet fever. The health service recommends vaccination against influenza, tick infections and hepatitis B, for the avoidance of complications. Among the population as a whole, the most frequently-occurring infections, apart from chickenpox, are acute respiratory diseases and food poisoning (enteritis, salmonella), which in present circumstances are largely treatable.

Health is strongly influenced by lifestyle – nutritional habits, smoking, alcoholism, and more recently drugs and physical culture. Deaths attributable to smoking and alcoholism are now some twice as frequent as were those due to tuberculosis, the “morbus hungaricus” of the time, one hundred years ago. Diseases associated with these risk factors caused 31% of all deaths in the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, an annual average of 45,000. Both phenomena were more common among men. In 1999, smoking and alcoholism caused 60% of deaths among men in middle age, i.e. between 35 and 64. Nine-tenths of the 57% rise in the death rate of this age group between 1970 and 1999 can be attributed to these addictions.

At the end of the twentieth century, one-third of the population smoked, ahead of the European Union average (29%). Annual

### Most successful Olympic water polo teams

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Hungary	7	3	3	13
Great Britain	4	–	–	4
Yugoslavia	3	4	4	11
Italy	3	1	2	6
Soviet Union	2	2	3	7

5th highest among countries in the European region of the World Health Organization.

At most 5–5.5%

of alcoholics and alcohol-related patients are registered in care institution records, but their number is estimated as around 850–900,000, 8–9% of the population. Per capita alcohol consumption is high: the country was in 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> place on the scale of European countries. The structure of alcoholic drink consumption has greatly changed over the period. Distilled drinks and beer now account for higher proportions of consumption, and wine for a lower proportion.

The number of drug addicts was estimated at 30–50,000 at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, that of regular drug users at 80–100,000, people who have tried out drugs at 300–400,000, and weekend occasional drug consumers at 100–150,000. A survey carried out among Budapest teenagers show that only a minority of the age group – 30–40% – had heard an educational presentation in school about the harmful effects of alcohol and drugs, even though a relatively high number of them smoked and drank alcohol.

In the last twenty years in Hungary, 7–11% of deaths were by accidents, suicide, murder or other – possibly undetected – external violent cause. The dominant external causes of death were accidents and suicides. In 2000, 3269 people committed suicide in the country.

average (29%). Annual average cigarette consumption was 2372 cigarettes,

The suicide rate is traditionally high in the Great Plain regions and lowest in Győr-Moson-Sopron county, the capital and Veszprém county. The rate per hundred thousand of population is higher in the East European region than in Hungary, but in Western European and several central and Southern European countries, it is lower.

Accidental mortality has been greatly influenced by motorization. Road accidents became ever more numerous as motoring spread, and caused 666 deaths in 1961. Over the following three decades, this figure rose with some fluctuation to 2432 in 1990. A significant improvement took place in the last decade of the century, and the number of road-accident fatalities in 2000 was 1200. Similar figures relative to population are found in Austria, Belgium and France, but the rates are lower in the Scandinavian countries, Britain and the Netherlands.

The order of the most common causes of death has changed through better recognition of diseases, more effective treatments, and improvements in public health. Whereas the most common cause of death registered in 1892 was unknown or “other” badly-defined condition, this proportion is now under one per cent. The structure of cause of death now corresponds with that in countries with advanced health cultures. More than one-half of deaths are caused by diseases of the circulatory system, one-quarter by tumours, and there are also large proportions due to external causes and respiratory system diseases. The higher mortality than in more advanced countries is due to more people dying of the leading causes of death, and at earlier ages, than elsewhere.

The availability of medical facilities and staff improved in the 20<sup>th</sup> century up to the nineteen sixties, resulting in better health among the population. The relative economic backwardness of the country prevented the people’s health and mortality rates from being as good as in the most advanced countries at any time, but by the middle of the sixties, the gap between Hungary and the Northern and Western European countries had narrowed considerably. Since then, life expectancies in advanced market economies have become even longer for all age groups, whereas in the (former) socialist countries, they have shortened.

Life expectancy at birth is now 30-31 years longer for men than it was one hundred years ago, and 37 years longer for women. Even so, expected lifetimes for Hungarian men born at the end of the millennium were 9.4 years shorter than in those European countries with the longest life expectancies, and for women, 6.6 years shorter.

### Five-number records

Description	Game week	Numbers drawn	Prize (for one coupon) thousand forints
First Five-Lotto coupon	1957, week 6	23; 26; 33; 37; 66	855
Highest number of five-number winners 13 (of which 10 were by one player)	1990, week 21	9; 21; 46; 57; 69	2 849
Second highest 4	21 June 1991	7; 13; 27; 56; 83	64 844
Highest prize (nominal)	2001, week 47	8, 23, 25 54, 79	1 152 054

The long-term rise in life expectancy at birth is mainly due to the reduction in mortality among under-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
135	112	158	127	117	131	142	129	126	158	128	150	156	131	143
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
128	128	146	139	137	134	141	148	137	138	125	121	120	157	112
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
114	138	128	145	142	136	129	134	111	118	134	151	133	126	138
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
140	153	130	146	132	146	130	127	138	126	148	130	121	124	138
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
128	127	109	159	136	141	140	125	149	119	134	139	136	122	163
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
132	160	141	133	129	138	129	133	134	130	156	126	110	125	137

5 year-old children, and especially infants.