

# Population in Slovakia 2004

**Bratislava, December 2005**

**Analytical publication, which assesses the population development in the Slovak Republic for the recent time period focusing on the years 2003 - 2004. The publication covers the assessment of all aspects of the reproductive process including the international comparison.**

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## Introduction

The publication „Population in Slovakia 2004“ follows the similar publications released by the Demographic Research Centre in previous years. It is focused on the population development in the SR during 1995-2004 with the emphasis on the demographic situation in the years 2003 and 2004. The time period, which followed after the period of dramatic demographic changes in the first half of nineties, is in question. This time period is usually marked as the period of demographic stabilisation, to which also several processes compensating the development closely after 1989 are related.

Population development in the SR is a complex analytical publication, which serves as the base for the detailed assessment of the actual demographic situation in Slovakia. The complexity of this analytical publication lies in the description of all aspects of the reproductive process as well as in the punctuality of the description of particular demographic events.

The core of publication is formed by the basic analyses, however, the significant part is represented also by facts and figures – time series of all basic and many analytical demographic characteristics.

Traditionally, one chapter is devoted to each demographic process. The analysis is thoroughly focused on the time period on recent 10 years (1995-2004) and references to older periods are presented only in those parts of wording, where it is required by the analytical context. Unlike the previous publications, this publication does not contain any regional assessment of the demographic development but deals rather with the demographic situation at the national level. The chapter International comparison is devoted to the demographic situation in the European Union. In addition to the internal situation after the enlargement to 25 member countries, it deals also with the comparison of the EU with other world regions.

From the aspect of time, all data presented in publication cover the period of 1995 - 2004. Data since 1980 are presented in graphs, by which it is possible to compare the observed time period with the period being related to the previous reproductive regime before 1989, as well as to the period of significant demographic changes in the 1st half of 90-ties. The international comparison contains data for 25 EU member states for 1995 and 2003. Thus, it is possible to compare the situation in particular countries at the beginning and at the end of the observed time period.

All figures for the Slovak Republic, which were used within the preparation of publication and which are to be found in tables and graphs in particular chapters, become from the data sources of the Statistical Office of the SR. In the chapter on migration, also the data from the Ministry of Interior of the SR were used. Data on other countries, which are presented within the chapter “International comparison”, are taken over from the data sources of both, Eurostat and Council of Europe. Some data mentioned in this publication do not entirely match the data which are presented in the previous publications. The specific cases are in question, in which we have adjusted or specified the calculation and recalculated the data also backwards for the previous years.

The publication is intended mainly for those, who are dealing with population problems in several spheres of the social life from the central government through the local government up to science, research and universities. However, it is dedicated also to those, who just want to be informed on the current demographic development in Slovakia and are not specifically dealing with demography.

The publication „Population in Slovakia 2004“ has been released in a restricted edition in both, the Slovak and English versions. Both versions are fully available on the web page of Demographic Research Centre ([www.infostat.sk/vdc](http://www.infostat.sk/vdc)).



# 1. Nuptiality

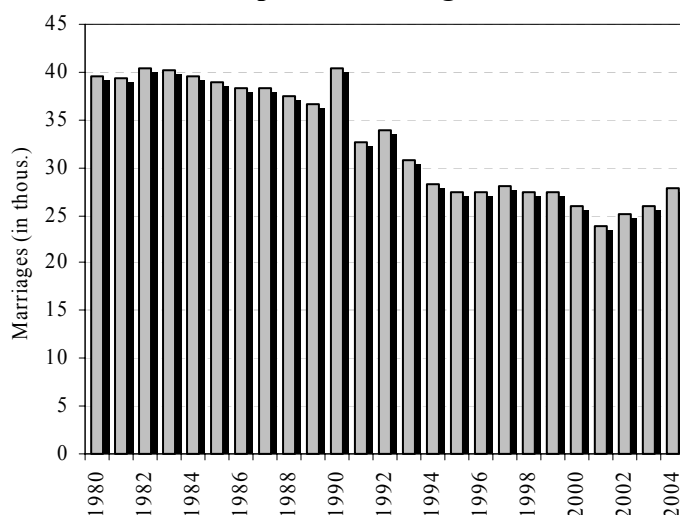
**Tab.1.1 Basic characteristics of nuptiality**

		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Marriages		27 489	27 484	27 955	27 494	27 340	25 903	23 795	25 062	26 002	27 885
Total first marriage rate	Males	0,588	0,570	0,569	0,555	0,544	0,511	0,465	0,484	0,498	0,543
	Females	0,590	0,575	0,581	0,563	0,555	0,524	0,478	0,502	0,522	0,567
Mean age at marriage	Males	26,28	26,76	27,16	27,29	27,70	28,19	28,57	29,09	29,52	29,60
	Females	23,52	23,92	24,28	24,42	24,77	25,19	25,60	26,04	26,46	26,68
Mean age at 1. marriage	Males	24,71	24,99	25,30	25,58	25,88	26,41	26,63	27,12	27,53	27,90
	Females	22,31	22,59	22,87	23,08	23,43	23,87	24,13	24,58	24,99	25,33
First marriages v %	Males	89,4	88,2	87,8	88,3	88,0	87,9	87,2	86,6	86,4	88,5
	Females	91,2	90,1	89,4	89,9	89,9	89,7	89,1	88,7	88,9	90,0

Partnership relations between the people of opposite sex, permanent or temporary, legal or formal, create the basic conditions for the process of birth. From this standpoint, the nuptiality is crucial for the reproduction of population, because in Slovakia the major part of fertility is on a long term basis feasible exactly in wedlock.

While in the period of communist regime the nuptiality intensity reached relatively high levels and marriages were contracted at a relatively low age, at the turning point of 80-ties and 90-ties the significant changes in the nuptiality behaviour occurred, especially in terms of young population. Typical examples of the new nuptiality behaviour are: a lower intensity of nuptiality, increase of the age at marriage, an increasing of cohabitations. Despite the fact that young people impute a high significance to family, when deciding on marriage and family constitution they require the fulfilment of certain economic assumptions (resolution of housing problem, permanent job with a sufficient income). Whereas in 90-ties an appropriate environment was formed in the society, which supported the increase of individualism and prioritisation of self-assertion, the fulfilment of family values was more often postponed to a later stage – a model of youthful and frequent nuptiality disappeared. The reduction of nuptiality intensity, as a reaction to changes in social relations, most remarkably appeared in the first half of 90-ties, mainly after 1992.

**Graph 1.1 Marriages**



The last decade is from the nuptiality development standpoint especially important. A long time falling trend in nuptiality had deepened during this time period, consequently ceased and approximately in the last third of this time period it changed into growth.

During 1995-1999 the number of marriages stabilised approximately at the level of 27,5 thousand annually, except for 1997, in which the number of marriages achieved the level of nearly 28 thousand. Since 1998, the number of marriages had been slowly falling. However, the most significant fall was recorded only in 2001. This year can be considered as a record-breaking one, while in 2001 a second historically lowest number of marriages was recorded since 1920. From 2002 onwards, a positive break-point in the nuptiality development occurred – the

number of marriages began to rise. The year 2004 was a third year, in which an increase of marriages was recorded. Their number being 27,9 thousand therefore slightly overcame the values from the beginning of the observed time period. The increase of marriages during last three years has to be considered since 1980 as a singular, however not random, – the realisation of postponed marriages from previous years has taken place.

## Marital status

The number of marriages is to a great extent dependent on the size and structure of the marriageable part of population<sup>1</sup>. The most exposed group, is formed by single men and women. During 1995-2004 the share of first marriages of men moved above the level of 86 %, in case of women it was 89-91 % from the total number of marriages. A slightly decreased interest of singles to enter the marriage appeared in the reduction of mutually first marriages at the break-point of centuries. From 1995 up to 2001, the number of marriages of mutually single couples fell by 3,9 thousand. During last two years of the observed time period, a re-growth of the number of marriages occurred and in 2004 the number of such marriages reached the level of 23,5 thousand (84,2 %), by which it approached the level being valid one decade ago.

**Tab. 1.2 Marriages by marital status, 1995-2004**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total marriages	27 489	27 484	27 955	27 494	27 340	25 903	23 795	25 062	26 002	27 885
	First marriages of both sexes									
Marriages	23 503	23 036	23 206	23 003	22 834	21 592	19 631	20 474	21 183	23 475
%	85,5	83,8	83,0	83,7	83,5	83,4	82,5	81,7	81,5	84,2
	Marriages of single man and divorced or widowed woman									
Marriages	1 068	1 218	1 330	1 281	1 214	1 176	1 116	1 234	1 294	1 208
%	3,9	4,4	4,8	4,7	4,4	4,5	4,7	4,9	5,0	4,3
	Marriages of divorced or widowed man and single woman									
Marriages	1 575	1 721	1 776	1 712	1 734	1 651	1 567	1 764	1 419	1 612
%	5,7	6,3	6,4	6,2	6,3	6,4	6,6	7,0	5,5	5,8
	Remarriages of both sexes									
Marriages	1 343	1 509	1 643	1 498	1 558	1 484	1 481	1 590	2 106	1 590
%	4,9	5,5	5,9	5,4	5,7	5,7	6,2	6,3	8,1	5,7

In the development of remarriages of men and women no specially significant shifts were recorded in the observed time period. The share of marriages of a single man with a divorced or widowed woman moved in scope of 4-5 %. The marriages of a single woman and a divorced or widowed man were more frequent; during 1995-2004 their share reached 5,5-7 % of all marriages, with the maximum in 2002. In case of mutually remarriages, their increased number was recorded in 2003, when it overcame the level of 2 thousand, i.e. more than 8 % of all marriages. Until 2004, the share of mutually remarriages fell again by 2,4 percentage points, down to 5,7 %.

A long-time decrease of the nuptiality level, which continued in relation to the falling trend from the end of 80-ties, together with the shift of numerously powerful age groups born within the natality wave of 70-ties up to the age of higher nuptiality, caused an increase of the number and share of singles in the population. During the observed time period the share of single men and women aged 20 - 35 increased. The shares of single men aged 25-29 and of single women aged 20-24 increased most remarkably, i.e. exactly of those age groups, in which currently the singles most frequently contract a marriage. The number of single men aged 25-29 increased from 1995 until 2004 by as much as 121% up to 140,3 thousand. The number of single women aged 20-24 increased by 68 % up to 70,8 thousand. At the beginning of 2004, there were 37% men and 23% women still single at the age of 30 and 22% and 13% women at the age of 35.

Changes in the nuptiality behaviour of young people, which appeared in a form of the postponement of marriage or even in its rejection, occurred also in the development of particular indicators of the nuptiality intensity of singles.

According to nuptiality tables<sup>2</sup>, the share of single men and women, who entered the marriage at least once until the age of 50, had been continuously decreasing up to 2001. While in 1996, 69,9 % of single men had contracted marriage, in 2001 it was by 9 percentage points less. In case of women the first marriage rate decreased in the same time period from 75 % down to 65,5 %. In scope of an year-on-year comparison the first marriage of men and women decreased mainly between 2000 and 2001. In case of women, the visible reduction of first marriage rate occurred even earlier – during 1998 and 1999.

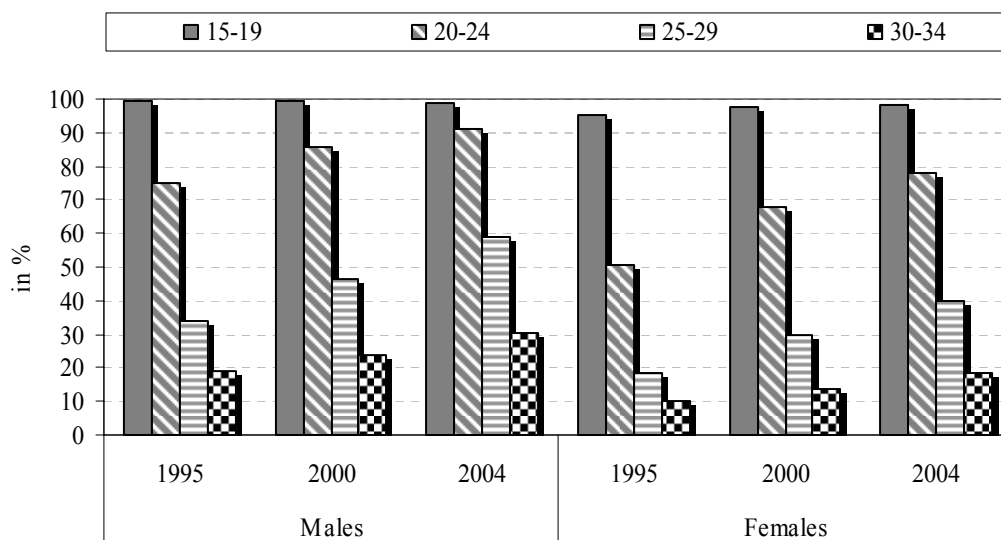
<sup>1</sup> A part of population fulfil the conditions for marriage contracting. Under the conditions of the SR, the single, divorced or widowed persons, who achieved a minimal age required for the contraction of marriage, who are „*sui juris*“, and between whom there are no direct blood relations (predecessors, children, siblings) are in question.

<sup>2</sup> From the methodological point of view, the nuptiality tables serve as the best tool for the assessment of nuptiality intensity of singles. The presented data are taken over from the two-decrement nuptiality tables calculated by a direct method.



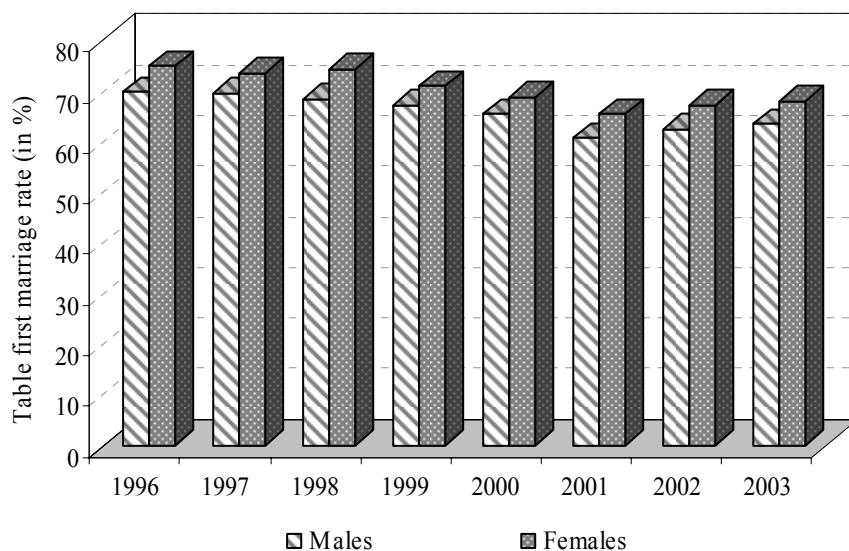
Since 2002, when the intensity of nuptiality started to raise again, also the values of table first marriage rate have been increasing. The slow, but evident, increase of nuptiality intensity of singles during 2002- 2003 was in question<sup>3</sup>. This turning point in the development was most likely caused by an ongoing realisation of the part of postponed marriages from 90-ties, what consequently contributed to the positive turning-point also in the development of fertility (see chapter on natality). The share of singles entering marriage had increased until 2003 to the level of 63,6 % in case of men, and to 68,2 % as regards women.

**Graph 1.2 Singles aged 15-34 (on 1 January)**



On the other hand, the share of permanently single people is increasing. In addition to people, who fully reject the partnership, also those belong to this group, who prefer cohabitation, rather than marriage. However, direct statistical data on the number of cohabitations do not exist. Part of them is captured by population census. If only the time period between the last two censuses (1991-2001) was taken into account, an increase of cohabitations by 46 %

**Graph 1.3 First marriages**



would be found out. The share of never married men, until age of 50, increased in the observed time period from 23,2 % in 1996 up to 29,6 % in 2003. In case of women the situation was similar – the share of never married women, who never contracted marriage, increased as compared to 1996 by 6,2 percentage points up to 29,9 % in 2003. Just to compare, at the beginning of 90-ties, still approximately 15 % of men and 9 % of women remained single until they achieved age up to 50.

A similar development was recorded also in terms of total first marriage rate,

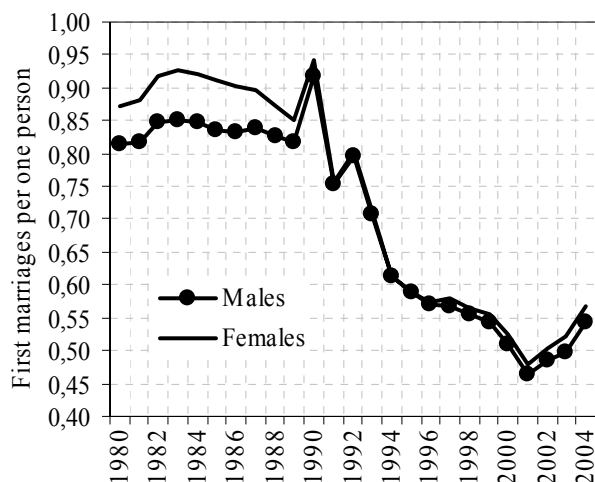
which had been decreasing in the long-run already from 80-ties. Until the beginning of 90-ties, the total first marriage rate had been reaching the levels for men and women from 0,80 up to 0,95. At the break-point of millenniums, these values decreased approximately to a half. The historically lowest values of the total first marriage rate were recorded

<sup>3</sup> From technical reasons it was not possible to calculate the tabular first marriage rate for 2004, due to the missing data on age structure of population by marital status. It can be assumed that also in 2004 an increase of this indicator occurred.

similarly as in case of other nuptiality indicators in 2001 (0,465 for men and 0,478 for women). Consequently, during 2002-2004 a positive increase of total first marriage rate occurred, which was caused by an increased nuptiality intensity of single men and women. In 2004, the total first marriage rate for men increased up to 0,543, in case of women to the level of 0,567.

Despite the fact that the potential of single men and women was sufficiently high in the observed time period, and as it has already been indicated, it has still been increasing, by the influence of changes in the nuptiality behaviour a decrease of the probability of marriage of single men until the age of 29 (in case of women up to 25) occurs. The postponement of marriage by singles is reflected also in the decrease of probability of marriage at younger age. At the same time a shift of maximal values towards the older age is obvious. In 1996, the highest probability of the marriage was recorded in case of single men aged 24 (0,098); in 2003 single men aged 27 and 28 (0,077).

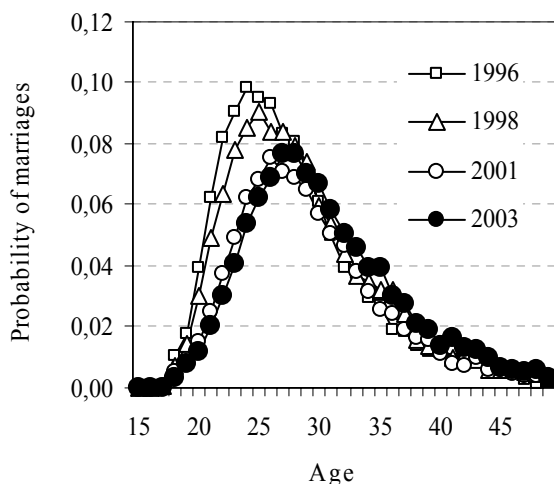
**Graph 1.4 Total first marriage rate**



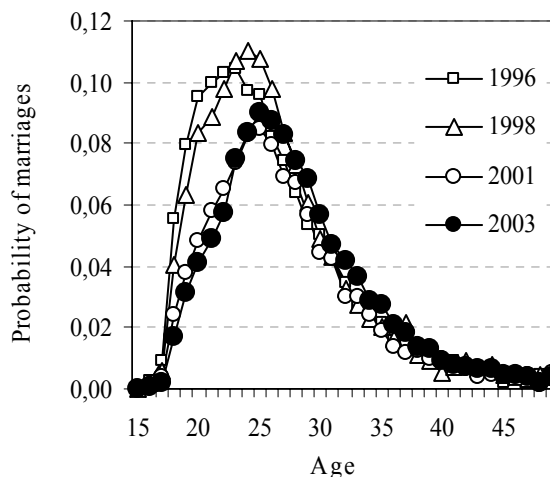
In case of single women the highest probability of the marriage decreased during the observed time period from 0,104 (single women aged 23) to 0,009 (single women aged 25). Currently, the increase of nuptiality intensity occurs in case of single men around 30, in case of single women aged 26 and over. The intensity of youthful nuptiality of singles, i.e. of the youngest age groups of single men (until 22 years) and women (up to 20) has significantly decreased in the observed time period. At the average, a decrease by 65 % for men and 60 % for women is concerned. Although a low frequency of this event is in question, the long-time decrease of probability of marriage of the youngest single men and women is visible.

With regard to frequency of marriages by marital status, the marriages of divorced ranked at the second place. From the total number of marriages, the marriages of divorced men represented in 2004 10,6% and the marriages of divorced women 9,4 %. As compared to 1995, the share of divorced men increased approximately by 10% and the share of divorced women by 21%. The majority of divorced couples belonged in 2004 to the age category of 30-34 but relatively numerous were also the marriages of divorced men a women aged 25-29 and 35-39 respectively. The mean age at marriage for divorced reached in 2004 the level of 41,4 years for men and 38,1 years for women. The number of widowed represents the lowest share from the total number of marriages. The nuptiality of widowed people does not have any significant impact on the total nuptiality and from the demographic standpoint it is nearly negligible. In 1995, the share of marriages of widowed grooms and brides from the total number of marriages was the same (0,9 % at both sex) and reached approximately the same levels as nowadays, in case of widowed women, their share in 2004 was even lower, 0,6% only. In 2004, the highest number of marriages of widowed men aged 65 and over was recorded, the majority of widowed brides belonged into the age category of 45-49. The mean age at marriage of widowed men was 58,1 years, in case of widowed women it achieved 48,9 years.

**Graph 1.5 Probability of first marriage, men**



**Graph 1.6 Probability of first marriage, women**



**Tab. 1.3 Marriages by marital status and age, 2004**

Age	Males			Females		
	singles	divorced	widowed	singles	divorced	widowed
-19	724	0	0	2 354	1	0
20-24	6 750	22	0	10 778	96	2
25-29	10 985	319	5	9 042	531	11
30-34	4 182	619	10	2 020	618	12
35-39	1 199	579	11	507	444	15
40-44	439	436	16	179	314	18
45-49	197	361	25	111	233	40
50-54	97	292	34	64	182	26
55-59	55	161	40	22	123	17
60-64	34	82	36	8	45	11
65+	21	77	77	2	40	19
Mean age	27,90	41,42	58,10	25,33	38,12	48,89

### Order of marriage

Divorced and widowed people increase the number of marriageable population, by which they contribute to the increase of nuptiality. The maximum of nuptiality is realised by the means of first-order marriages, mainly of mutually first marriages. With the increasing order the number of marriages logically falls. In 2004, there were 4,4 thousand marriages in Slovakia, where at least one of the spouses was not single. Relatively it represents a 15,8% share from all marriages in 2004. In terms of marriages of higher order, according to the marital status the second order marriages of divorced men and women are the most frequent ones, followed by the second order marriages of widowed men and women. Generally speaking, men contract further marriages more often than women. The highest number of marriages of second and third order was recorded in case of divorced people aged 30-39 in 2004. With the increasing order the maximal numbers of marriages shift to an older age category. The highest number of marriages of fourth and higher order of divorced spouses was contracted by men and women aged 45-49 in 2004. The widowed people usually contract additional marriage at older age. In 2004, the share of second marriages of widowed men aged 55-59 and women aged 50-54 was the highest. The third, fourth and higher-order marriages of widowed people are due to the low frequency of the given event statistically negligible, they were most frequently contracted by men and women after achieving 60.

**Tab. 1.4 Marriages by order, 2004**

Order of marriage - males	Order of marriage - females				Total
	1	2	3	4+	
1	23 475	1 157	45	6	24 683
2	1 509	1 312	95	9	2 925
3	98	116	35	1	250
4+	5	12	7	3	27
Total	25 087	2 597	182	19	27 885

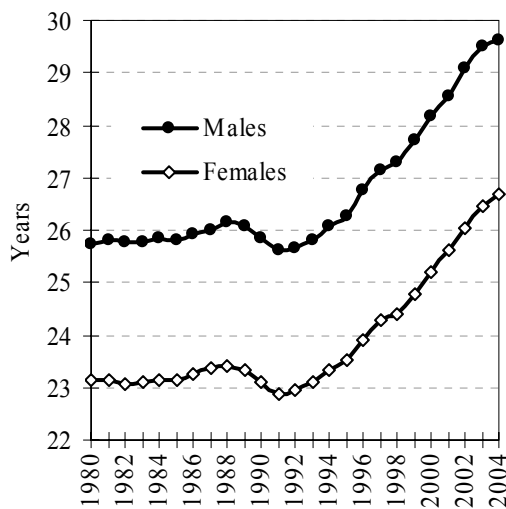
The majority of second marriages is contracted until one year from the dissolution of the previous marriage. In case of remarriages of men it was 17 % from all remarriages of men, in case of women it was 21,5 %, with the majority at the age of 30-34. They are followed by remarriages realised after one year from dissolution of the previous marriage (13,2 % for men and 17,2 % for women). The remarriages contracted after 10-14 years from the dissolution of the previous marriage represent approximately a 10% share (at both sexes). In this group of marriages, the marriages of men aged 45-49 and women aged 35-39 prevail. Marriages of higher order falls gradually with the prolonging time from the dissolution of the previous marriage. The share of these marriages moved in 2004 in scope of 0,3-2,5 % from the total number of marriages.

### Age and sex

Until the half of 80-ties, the mean age at marriage for men was closely below of 26 years, for women it oscillated around 23. Those times the earlier marriage was nothing unusual in the SR. By the means of broad pro-natality measures the government created favourable conditions for the family development. The social insurance system and the entire living style stimulated young people to enter the marriage and to establish a family. At the beginning of 90-ties a single-shot slight decrease of the mean age at marriage occurred, however, from 1992 the mean age at marriage

has been continuously increasing at both genders. Especially important is the increase of values of the mean age at marriage from the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In 2004, the mean age at marriage was 29,6 years for men and 26,7 for women, what represented an increase by almost 4 years at both sexes from the time when this indicator started to report an increasing tendency. Also the mean age at first marriage has been developing in the same way. Even at the half of 90-ties, the mean age at first marriage was in case of men and women by three years lower as compared to the current values. Currently, the single men contract marriage at the age of 27,9 at the average and single women at the age of 25,3. The long-time increase of mean age values at first marriage is another reflection of changes in the behaviour of young generation in relation to marriage. Marriages, or the postponement of marriages, lie unambiguously in the personal attitude and priorities of young generation. As it has been mentioned at the beginning of this chapter, the marriage of young people is conditioned by several factors, which force the young generation to consider the marriage in a purely pragmatic way.

**Graph 1.7 Mean age at marriage**

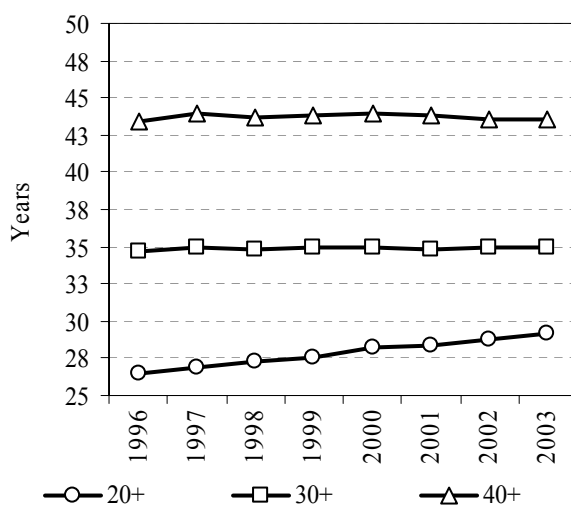


slightly increased up to 2,9 years. The highest difference in age of man and woman was recorded in 2000, i.e. 3,1 years. Until 2004, the difference in age at marriage decreased to the same level as in 1992, thus, currently the groom is older than the bride by 2,7 years at the average.

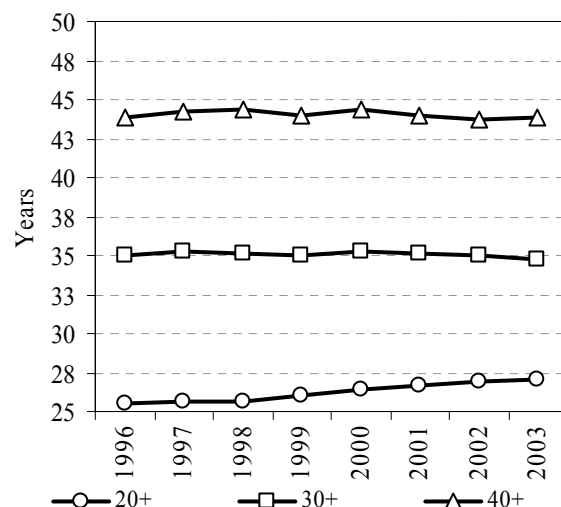
The output of nuptiality tables gives an interesting result in connection to the postponement of marriage – the mean age at first marriage at the given age. The comparison of values of this indicator for single men and women aged 20 and over, 30 and over and 40 and over shows that a real increase of age at marriage occurs mainly in the category of younger men and women. During 1996-2003 the mean age at first marriage of single men and women aged 30 and over and 40 and over practically did not change and moved at approximately the same level; in case of single men and women aged 20 and over an evident increase occurred. The single men, who in 1996 reached at least 20 years of age, got married at the age of 26,5 at the average, in 2003 already as 29,1. The same tendency is also in terms of single women aged 20 and over, in case of whom the shift from 25,5 years (in 1996) to 27 years (in 2003) took place.

At the beginning of 80-ties, the average difference between the age of men and women was 2,5 years. Until the end of 90-ties, the difference in age of spouses

**Graph 1.8 Mean age at first marriage at given age, males**



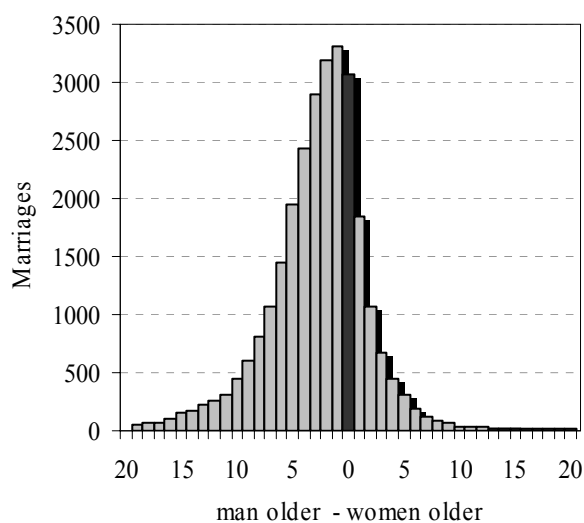
**Graph 1.9 Mean age at first marriage at given age, females**



Until the end of 80-ties a relatively stable nuptiality behaviour persisted in the Slovak population, what can be documented by relatively stable values of marriage rates. During the first half of 90-ties, under the influence of the falling nuptiality intensity, their decrease occurred at all age categories. From 1995, the reduction of marriage rates at youngest age groups of men and women aged 15-19 a 20-24 had been ongoing, which lasted until the end of 2003.

During this time period the marriage rates of men aged 15-19 decreased by 50,6 %, in case of women aged 15-19 by 64,9 %.

**Graph 1.10 Age differentials at marriage, 2004**



The marriage rates of men aged 20-24 decreased by 55,1 %. In terms of men belonging to the same age category, a decrease of marriage rates by 24,5 % occurred. In 2004, the fall of marriage rates of population aged 15-24 ceased and their values slightly increased. In case of men and women aged 25 and over, the marriage rates had been increasing from 1995 until the end of observed time period, with an insignificant break in 2001. This increase can be considered as the demonstration of a so-called compensation effect where the increase of nuptiality intensity occurs in case of older spouses, who make feasible their postponed marriages from preceding years.

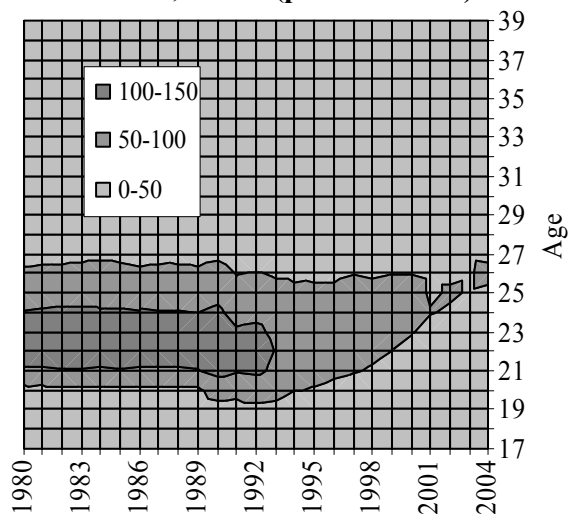
During 1995-2004 the marriage rates of men aged 30-34 increased most significantly - by 102,6 % and of women aged 25-29 - by 115 %. A remarkable increase of marriage rates can be seen at both sexes up to the age of 44. Until the end of 1999, the maximal levels of marriage rates were kept by men aged 20-24. Starting with 2000, a shift of the highest marriage rates towards the older category of people aged 25-29 occurred. In case of women such shift did not happen and in the

entire observed time period the highest marriage rates were recorded in case of women aged 20-24.

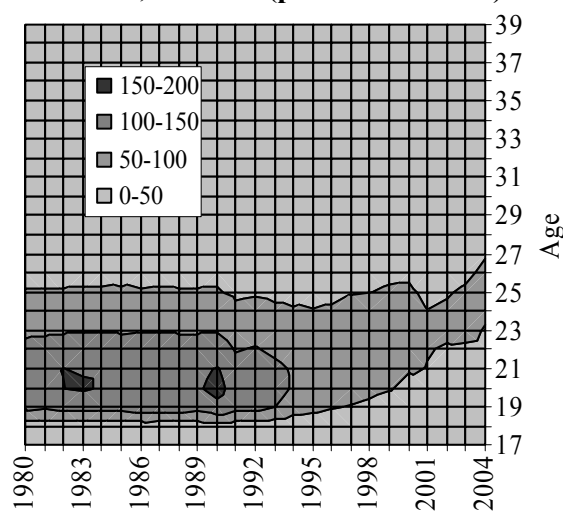
**Tab. 1.5 Age-specific marriage rates (per 1000 persons)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Males</b>										
15-19	6,81	5,88	4,98	4,63	4,05	3,23	2,70	2,52	2,27	3,36
20-24	65,04	59,89	56,19	51,42	46,79	39,47	33,13	30,53	28,50	29,19
25-29	36,22	38,33	40,88	41,84	43,30	42,60	40,73	43,45	45,18	47,32
30-34	11,64	12,59	13,25	14,06	14,80	16,44	16,02	18,69	20,86	23,58
35-39	5,10	5,14	6,40	6,47	6,65	6,72	6,64	7,98	8,96	9,73
40-44	2,81	3,26	3,29	3,22	3,62	3,41	3,31	3,97	4,57	4,62
45-49	2,35	2,21	2,63	2,38	2,58	2,62	2,29	2,72	2,59	2,87
50-54	1,61	2,20	2,18	2,10	2,21	2,09	2,04	2,01	2,30	2,23
55-59	1,28	1,52	1,64	1,42	1,53	1,64	1,45	1,61	1,85	1,86
60-64	0,73	1,03	1,11	0,98	0,91	1,14	1,29	1,33	1,44	1,47
<b>Females</b>										
15-19	32,35	28,32	24,96	22,41	19,76	15,65	12,98	12,13	10,15	11,37
20-24	64,74	63,52	64,23	62,02	60,31	55,16	48,75	48,00	48,28	48,89
25-29	19,35	21,39	23,92	26,02	27,65	29,82	29,29	34,02	37,54	41,61
30-34	6,25	7,24	7,56	7,39	8,10	8,37	8,58	10,22	11,71	13,34
35-39	2,95	3,34	3,48	3,38	3,68	3,72	3,48	4,02	4,55	5,31
40-44	2,00	2,22	2,24	2,15	2,06	2,00	2,19	2,41	2,53	2,66
45-49	1,47	1,51	1,86	1,72	1,80	1,68	1,76	1,82	1,76	1,86
50-54	0,99	1,02	1,17	1,16	1,19	1,16	1,00	1,16	1,30	1,36
55-59	0,70	0,68	0,68	0,48	0,60	0,59	0,63	0,73	0,83	1,03
<b>Single males</b>										
15-19	6,79	5,88	4,98	4,63	4,05	3,23	2,70	2,52	2,27	3,36
20-24	64,49	59,35	55,75	51,03	46,51	39,25	32,92	30,37	28,39	29,09
25-29	33,66	35,50	38,29	39,30	41,04	40,55	39,04	41,81	43,60	45,97
30-34	8,63	9,39	9,81	10,63	11,53	13,07	12,92	15,25	17,27	20,50
35-39	2,69	2,65	3,42	3,73	3,84	4,14	3,77	4,70	5,43	6,52
40-44	0,84	0,97	0,99	1,19	1,21	1,31	1,21	1,60	1,96	2,27
45-49	0,41	0,30	0,46	0,45	0,53	0,59	0,48	0,55	0,64	0,97
<b>Single females</b>										
15-19	32,32	28,29	24,94	22,38	19,75	15,63	12,98	12,12	10,15	11,37
20-24	63,41	62,10	62,67	60,93	59,29	54,34	48,15	47,35	47,74	48,45
25-29	16,37	18,23	20,51	22,61	24,55	26,77	26,64	31,22	34,92	39,26
30-34	3,96	4,31	4,44	4,46	5,17	5,43	5,67	7,00	8,48	10,17
35-39	1,24	1,30	1,47	1,37	1,50	1,73	1,41	1,70	2,15	2,79
40-44	0,52	0,61	0,50	0,53	0,48	0,54	0,54	0,73	0,65	0,93
45-49	0,27	0,22	0,33	0,26	0,30	0,30	0,30	0,29	0,29	0,54

**Graph 1.11 Age-specific marriage rates, males (per 1000 men)**



**Graph 1.12 Age-specific marriage rates, females (per 1000 women)**



## Education

The development of the marriage structure by education lingeringly shows two basic trends. The former is the increasing homogeneity of marriages according to the achieved education between man and woman. From the total number of marriages in 2004, 62,8 % were marriages with the same education. Since 1995 the share of marriages of the spouses with the same education increased almost by 11 %. Marriages between spouses with the same education does not have any direct impact on the nuptiality, however, it can contribute to the stability of the wedlock. In 2004, the marriages of spouses with the secondary education, including a leaving exam, represented nearly 33 % of the total number of marriages. In 1995 it was 25 %. The second highest share, i.e. 12,6 %, was represented by the marriages of men with the secondary education, including the leaving exam. In 2004, from marriages of spouses with the same education level, there were 11,2 % marriages with the secondary education (including the leaving exam), 10,5 % with the university degree and 8,2 % with the primary education.

**Tab. 1.6 Marriages by education, 2004**

Males	Females				
	Total	Primary	Secondary without a leaving exam	Secondary with a leaving exam	University
Total	27 885	3 255	4 866	14 754	5 010
Primary	2 842	2 273	325	221	23
Secondary without a leaving exam	7 669	647	3 135	3 518	369
Secondary with a leaving exam	12 484	305	1 284	9 196	1 699
University	4 890	30	122	1 819	2 919
			%		
Total	100,0	11,7	17,5	52,9	18,0
Primary	10,2	8,2	1,2	0,8	0,1
Secondary without a leaving exam	27,5	2,3	11,2	12,6	1,3
Secondary with a leaving exam	44,8	1,1	4,6	33,0	6,1
University	17,5	0,1	0,4	6,5	10,5

The latter development trend in nuptiality in connection to education is represented by an increase of marriages of with the secondary education, including the leaving exam, and with the university degree. It seems that this trend is related to the entire rise of the education level in society. During 1995-2004 of marriages of men and women with the secondary education (including a leaving exam) increased by one third and the number of spouses with university degree increased by more than twofold. In 1995 the share of marriages of spouses with university degree had represented only 5 %, in 2004 it was 10,5 %. With the prolongation of the time of studies the postponement of marriages occurs and by that also the age of potential spouses increase. The highest mean age at marriage in connection to education is reached by men and women with university education. In 2004, the mean age at first marriage of university educated men was 31,4 years and in case of women it was 28,3 years.

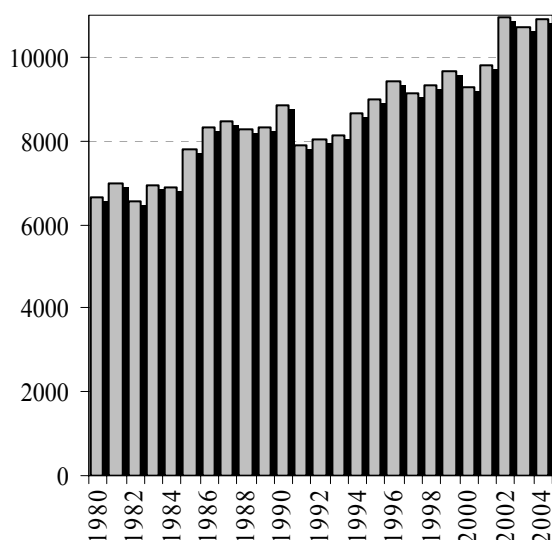
## 2. Divorce

**Tab. 2.1 Basic characteristics of divorce**

		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Divorce petitions		11 765	12 222	11 838	12 116	12 457	12 027	12 443	13 752	13 606	13 857
Divorces		8 978	9 402	9 138	9 312	9 664	9 273	9 817	10 960	10 716	10 889
Realised petitions (%)		76,3	76,9	77,2	76,9	77,6	77,1	78,9	79,7	78,8	78,6
Divorce index		32,7	34,2	32,7	33,9	35,3	35,8	41,3	43,7	41,2	39,0
Total divorce rate		0,241	0,257	0,254	0,262	0,277	0,269	0,287	0,328	0,326	0,336
Mean age at divorce	Males	36,47	36,81	37,31	37,58	37,87	38,15	38,56	38,53	38,88	39,31
	Females	33,89	34,24	34,72	35,12	35,34	35,66	36,08	36,00	36,33	36,74
Average marriage duration at dissolution		11,19	11,30	11,79	12,11	12,35	12,73	13,12	13,06	13,34	13,59
Divorces with under-aged children (%)		75,5	74,5	73,0	72,5	70,7	70,2	70,1	70,2	69,7	67,3

Divorce is the only demographic process, which on the long term basis records an unchanged increasing tendency. In 80-ties the number of divorces moved from 6,5 up to 8,5 thousand annually, with the maximum level in 1987. Approximately in the half of 90-ties the number of divorces had exceeded the threshold of 9 thousand and in 1999 it approached the level of 10 thousand. In 2002, the utmost number of divorces was recorded in Slovakia, i.e. 10 960 divorces. Since this year the number of divorces has been sustaining at the level closely below the level of 11 thousand. Even the change in social relations after 1989 did not reverse the development of divorce, conversely, it seems, that the model of high divorce is in Slovakia quite stable. During 80-ties the number of divorces had increased by 1,7 thousand (by 25 %). In 90-ties, as compared to the previous decade, the number of divorces grew only moderately, by 797 (by 9 %), however, during the last five years the number of divorces has increased even by 1,6 thousand (by 17,4 %).

**Graph 2.1 Divorces**



The high divorce rate is caused by several reasons. The ongoing liberalisation of the divorce practise allowed the facilitation of divorce proceeding and the divorce itself became a socially acceptable solution of matrimonial problems. The new Law on Family<sup>4</sup>, which had entered into force in 2005 and replaced the 40-years old legal standard<sup>5</sup>, would bring a further „facilitation“, or shortening of the divorce proceedings, by the means of a so-called „mutual agreement divorce“ (a deal between the partners getting divorced on the property compensation, child-care, etc.). To the factors leading to the increase of divorce, the following can be attributed: growth of economic activity of women which leads to their higher economic and social independence, prevalence of burden of women when ensuring the running of household, lack of financially acceptable available dwellings at the market, which forces part of young couples to a joint living with the parents, de-tabooed sexual life etc.

The high level of divorce is reflected also in the growing share of divorced people in the population. At the beginning of 2004, there were approximately 5 % of men and nearly 7 % of women who got divorced. As compared to 1995, their number increased likewise at both genders – by 38 %. The shares of divorced are in case of women higher because men more frequently contract another marriage. The share of divorced men and women begins more remarkably to raise after getting 30 years, while the highest number of divorced is at the age of 40-49. Currently, each 8-th woman and each 11-th man at the age of 40 is divorced. Despite the fact that divorce is from social point of view a negative phenomenon, the divorced men and women expand the potential of marriage-able population and by repeated marriages they contribute to the more intensive reproduction.

<sup>4</sup> Law No. 36/2005 on family, incl. changes and amendments

<sup>5</sup> Law No. 94/1963 Coll.

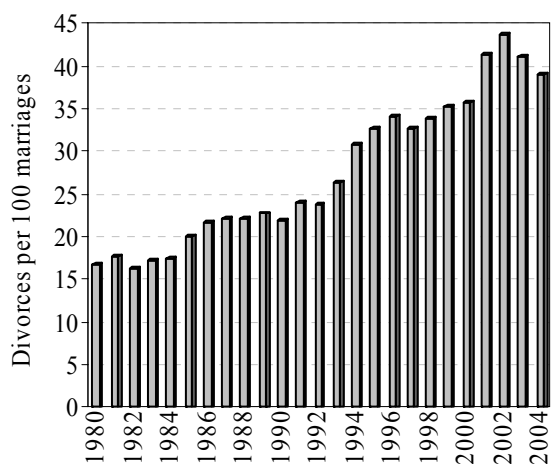
A crude information on the development of divorce is given by the number of divorces per new marriage (divorce index), i.e. number of divorces per 100 marriages contracted in the same year. In principal, the proportional distribution of the number of marriages and divorces in the same time period is in question.

At the beginning of 80-ties less than 17 divorces fell on 100 marriages. Approximately from 1985 the divorce index started, in connection to the increasing number of divorces and the falling number of marriages, more continuously to grow. In the first half of 90-ties it had reached the threshold of 30 divorces per 100 marriages. Since 2001 more than 40 divorces had been falling per 100 marriages, except for 2004, when the value of this indicator decreased slightly down to 39 %, however, it was still more than twofold the value from 1980.

**Tab. 2.2 Divorced people (on 1 January in %)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Age group										
	Males									
0-14	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
15-19	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,1
20-24	0,5	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,4	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,3
25-29	2,7	2,9	3,0	3,0	2,9	2,9	2,7	2,5	2,5	2,3
30-34	4,5	4,8	5,2	5,5	5,8	6,0	6,1	5,5	5,8	6,0
35-39	5,8	6,1	6,4	6,7	7,1	7,4	7,8	7,2	7,7	8,2
40-44	6,7	7,1	7,4	7,7	8,1	8,4	8,6	8,1	8,6	9,1
45-49	6,9	7,2	7,5	8,0	8,2	8,7	9,1	8,9	9,3	9,6
50-54	6,1	6,4	6,8	7,1	7,5	7,8	8,1	8,2	8,7	9,0
55-59	5,1	5,3	5,6	5,8	5,9	6,2	6,5	6,9	7,3	7,6
60-64	3,9	4,1	4,2	4,4	4,5	4,7	4,9	5,3	5,4	5,6
65-69	3,1	3,2	3,3	3,4	3,4	3,3	3,3	3,9	4,1	4,2
70+	2,0	2,1	2,2	2,3	2,1	1,9	1,6	2,4	2,3	2,2
Total 15+	3,8	4,0	4,2	4,4	4,5	4,7	4,8	4,8	5,0	5,2
	Females									
0-14	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
15-19	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,1
20-24	1,3	1,4	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,0	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,8
25-29	4,4	4,6	4,8	4,9	4,8	4,7	4,6	4,5	4,4	4,3
30-34	6,2	6,6	6,9	7,3	7,7	8,0	8,1	8,0	8,2	8,4
35-39	7,7	8,0	8,3	8,6	9,0	9,3	9,7	9,7	10,3	10,7
40-44	8,6	9,0	9,3	9,7	10,0	10,3	10,7	10,6	11,0	11,6
45-49	8,6	8,9	9,3	9,7	10,1	10,5	11,0	10,9	11,4	11,7
50-54	7,5	7,9	8,4	8,8	9,1	9,6	10,0	10,1	10,6	11,1
55-59	6,0	6,4	6,6	7,1	7,6	7,9	8,3	8,5	9,0	9,3
60-64	5,0	5,2	5,5	5,6	5,8	6,1	6,4	6,4	6,8	7,4
65-69	4,1	4,3	4,5	4,7	4,8	4,9	5,1	5,1	5,3	5,4
70+	2,2	2,4	2,5	2,7	2,7	2,8	2,8	3,2	3,2	3,3
Total 15+	4,9	5,2	5,4	5,6	5,8	6,0	6,2	6,2	6,5	6,7

**Graph 2.2 Divorce index**



However, the divorce intensity does not depend on the number of marriages in the observed year but rather on the number of marriages contracted in the previous years and on the distribution of divorces by the duration of marriage. With regard to the percentage structure of divorces by the duration of wedlock it is interesting that during 1995-2004 the share of divorces of marriages lasting less than 10 years had continuously been falling, and conversely, the share of divorces of marriages lasting 10 years and over had been gradually increasing. In the half of 90-ties, from the total number of divorces, there had been 50,1 % divorces of marriages lasting less than 10 years, in 2004 it was 38 %.

The highest share in the total number of divorces is formed by the divorces of marriages lasting 10-14 years, while from 1999 onwards this share has been moving around 19,5-21 %. The most remarkable increase of divorces has been recorded in the group of divorces of marriages lasting 25 years. In 1995 the share of these divorces of marriages had represented 6 %, in 2004 it was even 12,7 %. The increase of divorces of marriages lasting more than 10 years was reflected also in the prolongation of the average marriage duration at



dissolution, which had lengthen since 1995 by 2,4 years. In 2004, the divorces of marriages lasted 13,6 years at the average.

The positive fall of the share of divorces of marriages lasting less than 10 years had been reflected during 1995-2004 most significantly in marriages getting divorced after 2 and 3 years. In this group of divorces the highest share was represented by divorces after 5 years from the marriage. Also in 2004 the highest number of divorces was represented by divorces after 5 years from the marriage (597 divorces), the second most significant maximal number of divorces was recorded after 13 years from the marriage contraction (507 divorces).

**Tab. 2.3 Divorces by duration of marriage**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Until 1 year	63	81	75	86	88	50	0	74	74	69
1-3	1 415	1 348	1 205	1 134	1 185	1 132	1 110	1 241	1 127	1 090
4-6	1 739	1 870	1 642	1 574	1 570	1 412	1 437	1 644	1 541	1 619
7-9	1 339	1 422	1 432	1 474	1 471	1 418	1 410	1 474	1 405	1 352
10-14	1 642	1 742	1 769	1 839	1 940	1 804	2 078	2 253	2 274	2 324
15-19	1 390	1 394	1 336	1 397	1 390	1 387	1 506	1 758	1 752	1 718
20-24	855	915	973	1 038	1 135	1 088	1 190	1 297	1 316	1 329
25+	535	630	706	770	885	982	1 086	1 219	1 227	1 388
Total	8 978	9 402	9 138	9 312	9 664	9 273	9 817	10 960	10 716	10 889
Average marriage duration	11,19	11,30	11,79	12,11	12,35	12,73	13,12	13,06	13,34	13,59

**Tab. 2.4 Divorces by duration of marriage (in %)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
0	0,7	0,9	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,5	0,0	0,7	0,7	0,6
1	3,1	3,3	3,1	2,8	2,7	2,9	1,4	2,4	2,3	2,2
2	6,0	5,1	4,6	4,2	4,6	4,2	4,6	4,2	3,6	3,6
3	6,7	5,9	5,5	5,2	4,9	5,1	5,4	4,8	4,6	4,2
4	6,8	6,5	6,0	5,3	5,4	5,1	4,7	5,3	4,6	4,6
5	7,1	7,2	6,2	6,2	5,4	5,2	5,2	5,0	5,1	5,5
6	5,5	6,2	5,9	5,4	5,5	5,0	4,7	4,7	4,6	4,8
7	5,3	5,6	6,0	5,8	5,2	5,2	4,7	4,6	4,8	4,7
8	5,0	4,9	5,0	5,4	5,2	5,3	4,9	4,3	4,2	4,1
9	4,6	4,7	4,7	4,7	4,8	4,8	4,8	4,6	4,1	3,6
10-14	18,3	18,5	19,4	19,7	20,1	19,5	21,2	20,6	21,2	21,3
15-19	15,5	14,8	14,6	15,0	14,4	15,0	15,3	16,0	16,3	15,8
20-24	9,5	9,7	10,6	11,1	11,7	11,7	12,1	11,8	12,3	12,2
25+	6,0	6,7	7,7	8,3	9,2	10,6	11,1	11,1	11,5	12,7

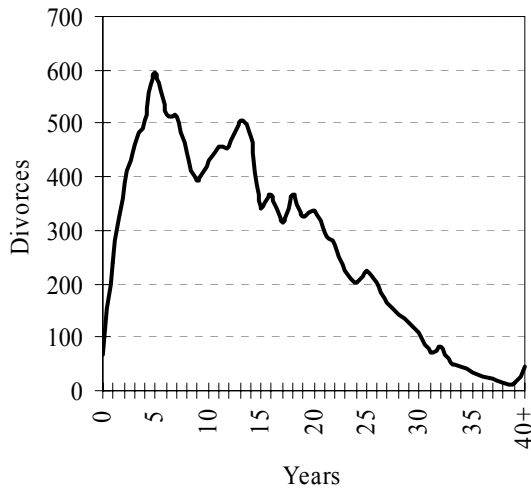
**Tab. 2.5 Divorces by duration of marriage (per 1000 initial marriages)**

Duration of marriage (in completed years)	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
0	2,3	2,9	2,7	3,1	3,2	1,9	0,0	3,0	2,8	2,5
1	9,7	11,3	10,2	9,3	9,5	9,8	5,2	10,8	9,9	9,3
2	17,5	17,0	15,4	14,2	16,1	14,3	16,5	17,6	16,1	15,6
3	17,8	18,1	17,8	17,6	17,3	16,8	19,1	19,3	19,1	19,3
4	18,6	18,0	17,7	17,5	18,9	17,2	16,6	21,2	18,1	19,5
5	15,7	20,8	16,6	18,8	18,5	17,4	18,7	19,6	20,0	21,8
6	13,6	14,4	16,4	14,8	17,2	16,4	16,6	18,6	17,8	18,8
7	12,7	14,4	13,5	16,4	14,7	15,7	16,3	18,2	18,6	18,4
8	11,7	12,2	12,5	12,3	15,5	14,5	15,5	16,6	16,4	16,2
9	10,8	11,4	11,4	12,0	11,5	13,5	14,0	16,5	15,7	14,3
10-14	8,3	8,8	9,1	9,5	10,2	9,4	11,2	12,4	13,0	14,0
15-19	6,5	6,6	6,5	6,9	7,0	7,0	7,6	9,0	9,1	9,1
20-24	4,2	4,3	4,5	4,7	5,2	5,1	5,7	6,3	6,5	6,7
25+	3,2	3,6	3,9	4,0	4,5	4,8	5,1	5,6	5,6	6,3
Total divorce rate	0,241	0,257	0,254	0,262	0,277	0,269	0,287	0,328	0,326	0,336

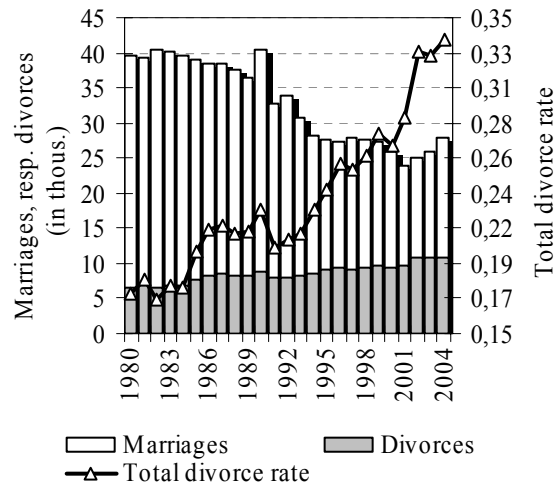
The objective indicator of the intensity of divorce is the total divorce rate, which expresses the number of divorces per one marriage. At the beginning of 80-ties the total divorce rate had reported the value of 0,176, until 2004

the level of total divorce rate was nearly twofold and reached the value of 0,336. It means that per 100 contracted marriages fall less than 34 divorces or that each third marriage is getting divorced. In the development of the total divorce rate a remarkable decrease during 1990-1991 can be observed; the number of divorces year-on-year fell down by nearly one thousand (approximately by 11 %). However, it was only a single-shot shift of otherwise in long term basis increasing divorce intensity. In the second half of 90-ties the total divorce rate moved in scope of 0,241-0,277 and during the last three years of the observed time period it has been exceeding the threshold of 0,3. Since 1995 the total divorce rate has increased by 40 %.

**Graph 2.3 Divorces by duration of marriage, 2004**



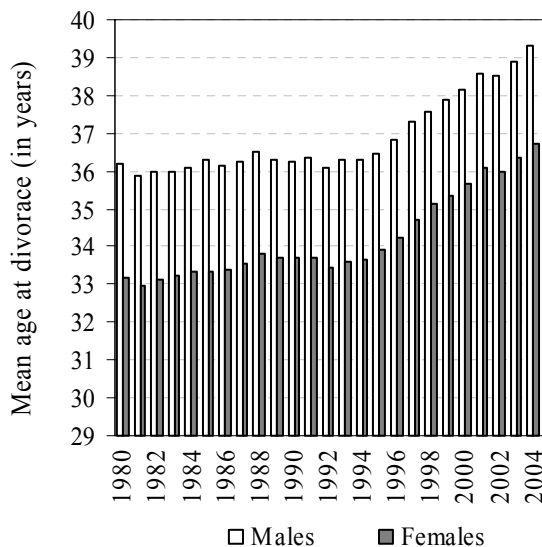
**Graph 2.4 Marriages, divorces and total divorce rate**



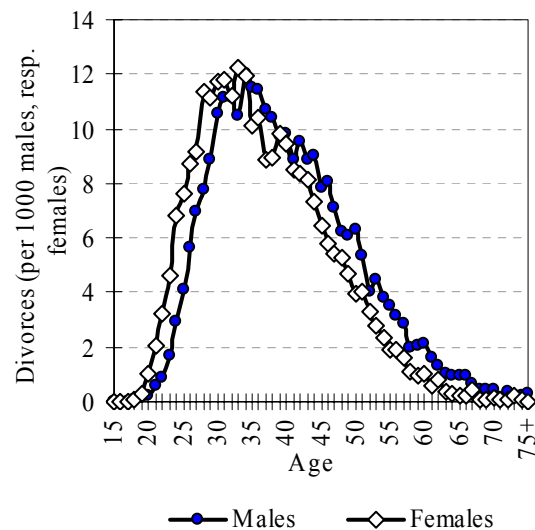
## Age and sex

During 80-ties the mean age at divorce of men and women sustained at the relatively stable values (36 years for men and 33 years for women), or had been increasing only very moderately. Approximately from 1993 the mean age of men and women at divorce had begun significantly to grow, while especially remarkable increase of the mean age at divorce in case of both sexes was recorded at the break of millennium. In 2004, the mean age of man at divorce was 39,3 years, of woman 36,7 years. It was the highest value of this indicator recorded until now. As compared to 1980, the mean age of man and woman at divorce increased roughly by three years. The increase of the mean age at divorce is an entirely natural and logical consequence of changes in the nuptiality behaviour of population. The increasing age of husbands at divorce is directly related to the postponement of marriage towards the older age.

**Graph 2.5 Mean age at divorce**

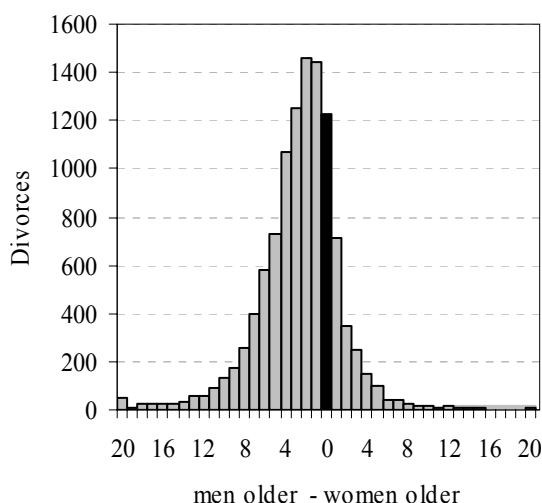


**Graph 2.6 Age-specific divorce rate, 2004**



The difference in age of husbands at divorce did not show in the observed time period any interesting development tendencies. This indicator in principle copies the difference in age of husbands at marriage. From 1995 onwards, the difference in age of husbands at divorce has been sustaining at the level of approximately 2,5 years. In 2004 the average difference in age of divorced slightly increased up to 2,6 years. From the total number of divorces in 2004, 72,5 % were divorces in which the man was older and in 16,2 % cases it was the woman who was older. The remaining part was formed by divorces of marriages with husbands of the same age. The most numerous part of all divorces was formed by divorced marriages in which the man was older than the woman by 1-3 years (in 2004, it was 38,2 %).

**Graph. 2.7 Age difference at divorce, 2004**



The lowest intensity of divorce is typical for younger age of men and woman. The divorce rates of men aged 15-19 in the entire observed time period did not exceed the level of 0,05 %, in case of women aged 15-19 the divorce rates had been step-by-step decreasing from 0,29 % in 1995 down to 0,08 % in 2004. The age groups of 20-24 and 25-29 of both sexes recorded a fall in the divorce intensity. The positive development in the divorce intensity in case of people aged 20-24 can be related to the decrease of nuptiality in this age group. In the latter case, i.e. age group of 25-29, such age group is in question in which currently the majority of marriages is contracted. If we take into account the development tendency of the postponement of marriage towards the older age, also divorces will be „delayed“ and the highest divorce intensity will be shifted towards the older age.

**Tab. 2.6 Age-specific divorce rates, males (per 1000 men)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
15-19	0,05	0,03	0,02	0,02	0,03	0,01	0,02	0,02	0,01	0,04
20-24	3,46	3,23	2,81	2,42	2,42	1,91	1,64	1,69	1,44	1,28
25-29	9,30	9,66	8,75	8,32	8,35	7,65	7,71	8,35	7,37	6,65
30-34	9,19	9,71	9,42	9,56	9,69	9,88	10,24	11,26	11,03	11,06
35-39	8,12	8,03	8,27	8,64	8,59	8,25	8,95	10,63	10,56	10,77
40-44	6,75	7,34	6,71	7,46	7,57	6,99	7,94	8,81	8,92	9,22
45-49	5,05	5,17	5,36	5,35	5,96	5,65	6,28	6,90	6,87	7,07
50-54	2,76	3,45	3,19	3,61	3,95	4,07	4,28	4,48	4,50	4,82
55-59	1,56	1,73	2,11	1,99	2,36	1,91	2,34	2,74	2,57	2,77
60-64	0,84	0,93	1,09	0,89	1,02	1,18	1,12	1,12	1,22	1,45
65+	0,97	0,93	1,09	0,99	0,92	1,17	1,20	1,17	1,13	1,22

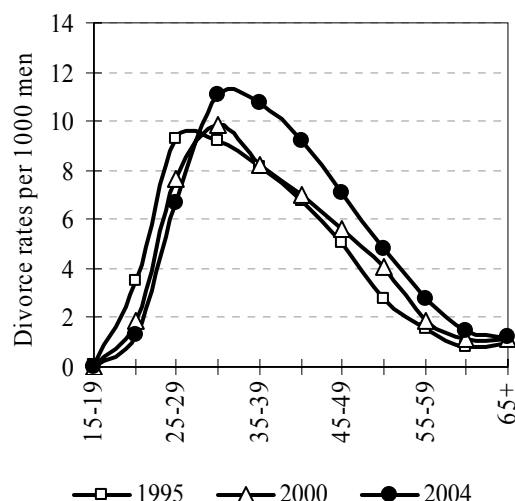
**Tab. 2.7 Age-specific divorce rates, females (per 1000 women)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
15-19	0,29	0,28	0,18	0,20	0,18	0,12	0,12	0,10	0,09	0,08
20-24	7,29	7,00	5,87	5,33	5,41	4,46	4,15	4,61	3,91	3,60
25-29	10,35	10,87	10,42	9,87	10,08	9,99	9,81	11,03	10,01	9,60
30-34	8,90	9,16	9,40	9,79	9,80	9,25	10,25	11,23	11,57	11,77
35-39	7,41	7,81	7,47	8,19	7,89	7,52	8,66	9,77	9,66	9,63
40-44	5,79	6,17	6,03	6,13	6,84	6,23	6,91	7,70	7,91	8,36
45-49	3,50	3,86	4,07	4,23	4,53	4,80	4,87	5,49	5,21	5,52
50-54	1,71	1,82	2,01	2,37	2,57	2,63	3,01	2,97	3,18	3,32
55-59	0,77	0,94	0,97	0,93	1,14	1,06	1,21	1,51	1,45	1,55
60+	0,65	0,73	0,75	0,73	0,70	0,80	0,83	0,74	0,80	0,95

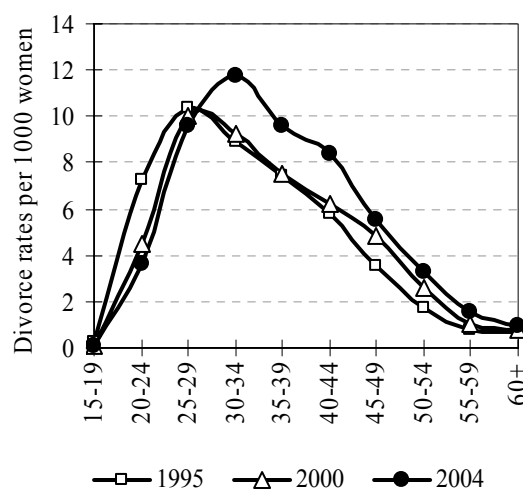
As it has been already mentioned, two significant changes had occurred during 1995-2004 in connection to age. Firstly, it is a shift of maximal divorce rate towards older age. In 1995 the highest divorce rate of men was related to the age category of 25-29. However, already in the following year (1996) the maximal divorce rate shifted towards

the older age category of 30-34, in which it has been maintained until now. In terms of women the shift of maximal divorce rate occurred with a certain delay. Until 2000, women aged 25-29 had got divorced most frequently, since 2001, similarly as in case of men, the highest intensity of divorce was recorded in relation to women aged 30-34. The second change in the development of divorce by age is an evident increase of divorce rate values after 30 years of age at both sexes. From 1995 until the end of 2004 the divorce rate of men aged 35-54 and of women 35-49 increased in a most remarkable way.

**Graph 2.8 Age-specific divorce rates by age groups, males**



**Graph 2.9 Age-specific divorce rates by age groups, females**



### Number of under-aged children

Keeping the under-aged children without daily contact with one of the parents is the most remarkable social problem being brought by divorce. Approximately two thirds of divorces are represented by divorces with under-aged children. During the last decade nearly 70 thousand children lost one of parents (mainly father) due to divorce. The number of divorces of marriages with under-aged children had been moving during 1995-2001 in scope of 6,5-7 thousand annually. The highest number of divorces of marriages with under-aged children was recorded in 2002, their number exceeded the threshold of 7,5 thousand. In 2004, the number of divorces of marriages with under-aged children slightly decreased down to 7,3 thousand, what was reflected also in a moderate, but visible, decrease of the average number of children in the divorcing marriage.

**Tab. 2.8 Divorces by under-aged children**

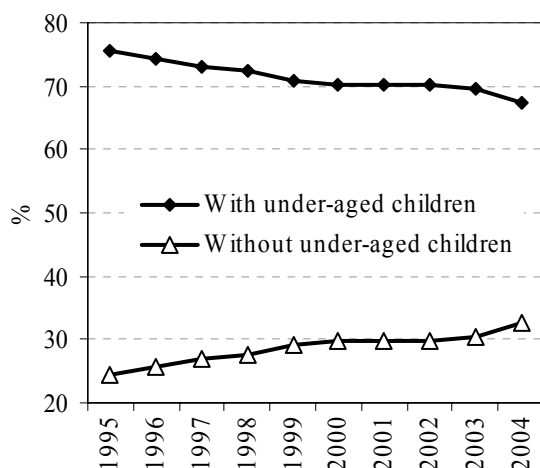
Number of under-aged children	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
0	2 204	2 400	2 468	2 557	2 828	2 759	2 937	3 269	3 246	3 560
1	3 570	3 766	3 611	3 730	3 855	3 771	3 965	4 464	4 391	4 297
2	2 604	2 618	2 498	2 454	2 415	2 235	2 375	2 618	2 543	2 536
3+	600	618	561	571	566	508	540	609	536	496
total	8 978	9 402	9 138	9 312	9 664	9 273	9 817	10 960	10 716	10 889
in %	75,5	74,5	73,0	72,5	70,7	70,2	70,1	70,2	69,7	67,3
Average number of children – total divorces	1,19	1,17	1,14	1,13	1,09	1,07	1,07	1,07	1,05	1,01
Average number of children – divorces with under-aged children	1,58	1,57	1,57	1,57	1,55	1,52	1,52	1,52	1,51	1,50

During 1995-2004, the structure of divorces by the number of under-aged children had been slightly changing - the number of divorces of marriages without children was gradually increasing. The preceding fall of fertility, the expansion of interval between the marriage and the birth of children and the prolongation of the average duration of marriage partially contributed also to the growth of the share of divorced marriages without under-aged children.

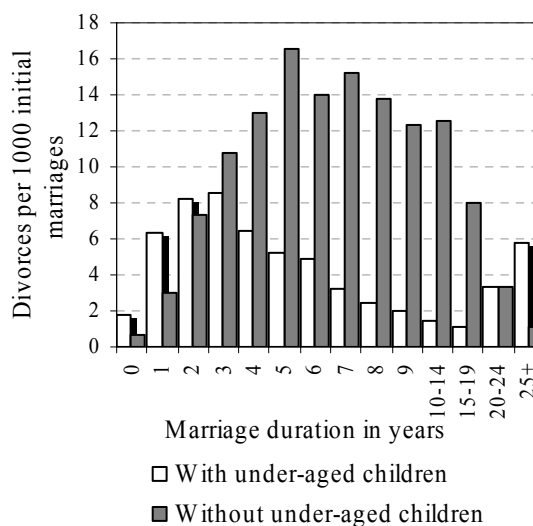
Among divorces immediately after wedding, the marriages less children prevail. The highest divorce intensity of such marriages is in the first up to third year of marriage duration. On the contrary, marriages with under-aged children get divorced later - the highest divorce rate is recorded after 5-7 years. If expressed relatively, 17,5 % of total number of divorced marriages without children fall currently on divorces until three years after wedding, the highest share (33%) fall on divorces after 25 years from wedding.

In terms of marriages with under-aged children nearly 39 % from them break until ten years from wedding. A relatively significant part of divorces of marriages with under-aged children (28,5 %) is formed by divorces after 10-14 years from marriage.

**Graph 2.10 Divorces of marriages with resp. without under-aged children (in %)**



**Graph 2.11 Divorce intensity, 2004**



## Causes of divorce

**Tab. 2.9 Divorces by causes**

Cause of divorce	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Males										
infidelity	1 101	1 044	971	987	1 052	946	998	1 125	1 118	1 251
personality differences	4 109	4 616	4 640	4 962	4 947	4 883	5 586	6 235	6 187	6 334
alcoholism	1 240	1 200	1 109	1 069	1 159	1 100	1 043	1 159	1 117	1 168
lack of interest in the family	984	947	858	847	1 006	893	865	884	708	617
court did not find the fault	350	336	311	286	309	323	286	318	287	300
other causes	1 194	1 259	1 249	1 161	1 191	1 128	1 039	1 239	1 299	1 219
total	8 978	9 402	9 138	9 312	9 664	9 273	9 817	10 960	10 716	10 889
Females										
infidelity	807	740	662	661	591	625	531	604	660	747
personality differences	4 127	4 616	4 640	4 962	4 947	4 883	5 586	6 235	6 187	6 334
lack of interest in the family	488	428	385	358	424	433	369	369	278	235
court did not find the fault	2 144	2 142	2 030	2 025	2 359	2 095	2 096	2 294	1 881	1 932
other causes	1 412	1 476	1 421	1 306	1 343	1 237	1 235	1 458	1 710	1 641
total	8 978	9 402	9 138	9 312	9 664	9 273	9 817	10 960	10 716	10 889

Structure of divorces by the causes of divorce had stabilised approximately until the half of 80-ties, when personality differences were most frequently recorded as causes of divorce for both sexes. In the past the most frequent cause of divorce for men was alcoholism, for women infidelity. The number of divorces caused by moved in 1995 around 4 thousand, in 1998 divorces reached the level of 5 thousand (53 %). Until 2004 the share of divorces caused by personality differences got closer to 60 %. In total, the increase of divorces by the mentioned cause represented 54 % as compared to 1995. The high frequency of divorces caused by personality differences is underlined by the fact that the general term allows to include also other concrete causes of divorce. During 1995-2004 the divorces caused by alcoholism and infidelity of men prevailed at next ranking places; in terms of women, the causes of divorce where the court did not find any fault and other causes prevailed. This structure of divorces by the cause of marriage breakdown was kept also in 2004. More than a half of divorces (58,2 %), in which the fault was on the man's part, was made by divorces caused by personality differences. Divorces caused by women due to the same reason made the same sized share. In 2004 in terms of men the divorces caused by the following reasons were quite often: infidelity (11,5 %) and alcoholism (10,7 %). On the man's part, the other causes and lack of interest in family represented nearly 6 %. From the divorces caused by men, less than 3 % were divorces, in case of which the court did not find any fault (2,8 %), the over - hasty marriages (2,5 %) and ill - treatment (1,9 %). In case of women, the second most frequent cause of divorce was this, in which the court did not find the fault (17,7 %), followed by other causes (10,6

%) and alcoholism (6,9 %). An over – hasty marriage on the woman’s part was considered as the cause of divorce in 2,5 % cases and 2,2 % were represented by the lack of interest in family. The share of divorced marriages due to other causes from both sexes reached less than 1 %.

**Tab. 2.10 Divorces by cause, 2004**

Cause on man’s part	Cause on woman’s part										total	%	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
court did not find the fault	0		30	200	49	1		13		7	300	2,8	
over-hasty marriage	1	267									267	2,5	
alcoholism	2	732	33	108	37	2				256	1 168	10,7	
infidelity	3	690	12	211	27	2		4		305	1 251	11,5	
lack of interest in the family	4	322	5	48	92			1		149	617	5,7	
ill-treatment	5	108	2	20	9	9		1		53	202	1,9	
personality differences	6						6334				6 334	58,2	
health reasons	7	13		6		1		11		9	40	0,4	
sexual incompatibly	8								63		63	0,6	
other causes	9	67	22	154	21	1		12		370	647	5,9	
total		1 932	267	104	747	235	16	6 334	42	63	1 149	10 889	100,0
%		17,7	2,5	1,0	6,9	2,2	0,1	58,2	0,4	0,6	10,6	100,0	

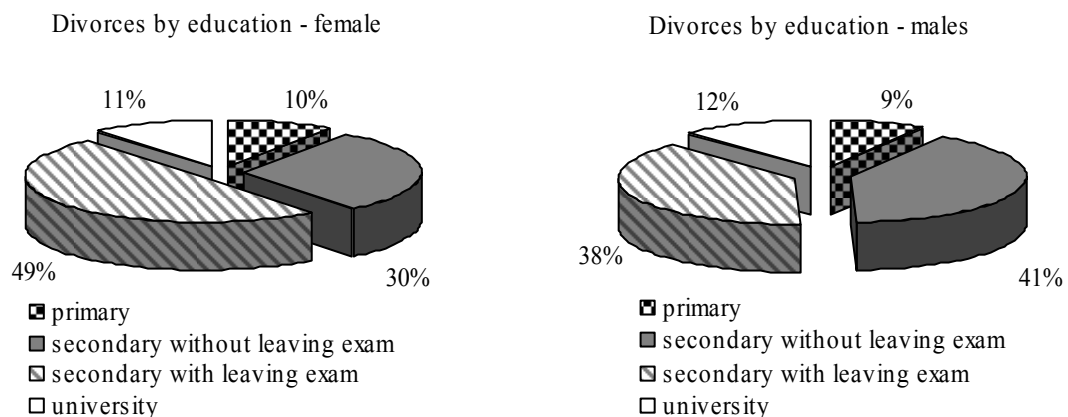
## Education

The divorce intensity does not depend only on education of divorcing husbands, however, the structure of divorces by education brings some interesting results. In 2004, in the most frequent cases men and woman with the secondary education got divorced (40,5 % and 49,4 % respectively), while in case of men it was without a leaving exam and in case of women including a leaving exam. The share of divorces of partners with university and primary education was at both sexes similar and moved from 9 up to 12 %. The highest share of all divorces is made by divorces of husbands with the same education (5,2 % primary, 22 % secondary without a leaving exam, 28,6 % secondary with a leaving exam and 6,4 % university degree). It has a connection with the current trend in nuptiality - marriages of spouses with the same education level.

**Tab. 2.11 Divorces by education, 2004**

Males	Females					
	total	primary	secondary without a leaving exam	secondary with a leaving exam	university	
total	10 889	1 065		3 223	5 376	1 225
primary	959	561		229	157	12
secondary without a leaving exam	4 415	385		2 398	1 520	112
secondary with a leaving exam	4 175	112		545	3 119	399
university	1 340	7		51	580	702

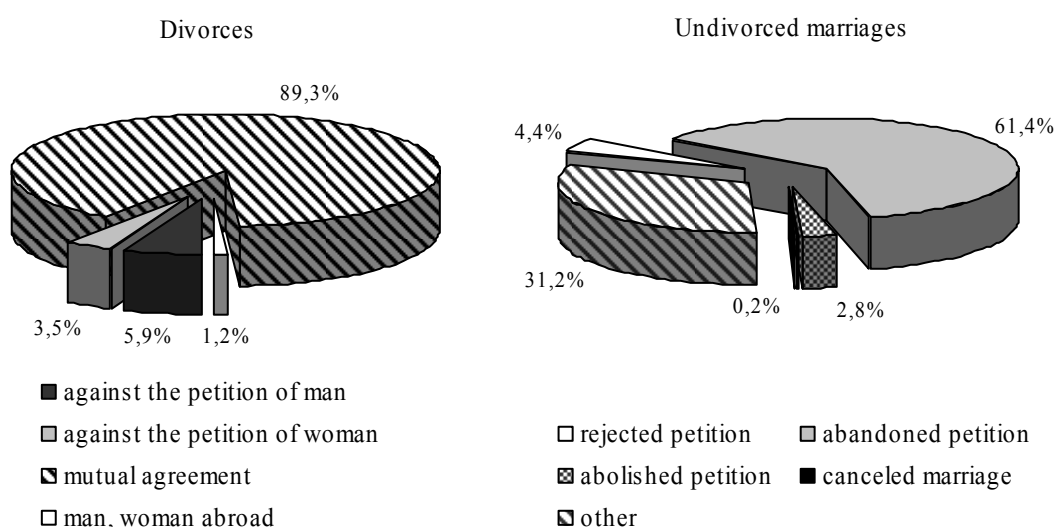
**Graph 2.12 Divorces by sex and education, 2004**



## Results of divorce proceedings

Until the end of 80-ties approximately two thirds of all divorce petitions ended by divorce, roughly from the half of 90-ties it was more than three fourths. Currently approximately 79 % of all divorce petitions end by divorce. The rest can be attributed to the abandoned petitions. The divorce petitions are prevailingly filed by women. On a long-time basis nearly two times more petitions are submitted by women. In 2004, 66,3 % from the total number of divorce petitions were filed by women. The increasing divorce activity of women is influenced mainly by the increase of their economic and social independence and by advantaging of women in certain social-legislative consequences of divorce (e.g. children, dwelling etc). From the total number of divorces in 2004, the majority was based on the agreement of both partners (89 %), against the petition of man 6 %, against the petition of woman 3,5 % and in 1,2 % of cases one of the husbands was abroad. From the total number of undivorced marriages, the abandoned petitions prevailed (61 %), petitions in which the court has decided alternatively (31 %) and rejected petitions (4,4 %). The most frequent causes rejection petition were, as in other years, the frivolousness relation to marriage, a short not serious violation and the interest of under-aged children. The duration of the divorce proceedings in 2004 was 7,8 months at the average, regardless of its result.

**Graph 2.13 Results of divorce proceeding, 2004**



In accordance to the current trend of marriage postponement towards the older age, together with the change in the structure of people getting married, would be expected that the young people are getting prepared for marriage, contract it only if more matured, reliable and that they will get divorced in less cases. The experience from Scandinavian countries do not confirm this hypothesis, conversely, it can be expected that also in the forthcoming years the divorce intensity in Slovakia will be gradually increasing.





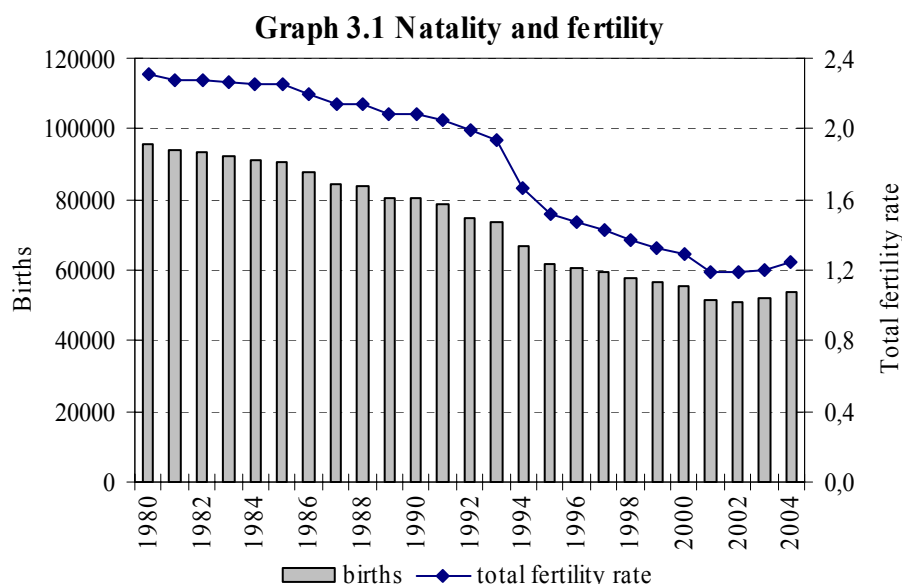
### 3. Natality

**Tab. 3.1 Basic characteristics of natality and fertility**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Births	61 668	60 363	59 356	57 863	56 482	55 366	51 343	51 035	51 930	53 958
Live births	61 427	60 123	59 111	57 582	56 223	55 151	51 136	50 841	51 713	53 747
Stillbirths	241	240	245	281	259	215	207	194	217	211
Live-births out of wedlock	7 747	8 430	8 923	8 827	9 480	10 069	10 105	10 984	12 073	13 319
Live-births out of wedlock (%)	12,6	14,0	15,1	15,3	16,9	18,2	19,7	21,6	23,3	24,8
General fertility rate	43,60	42,30	41,30	40,00	38,90	38,03	35,40	35,30	35,87	37,34
Total fertility rate	1,523	1,470	1,427	1,374	1,329	1,292	1,194	1,187	1,199	1,240
Mean age at childbirth	24,9	25,0	25,7	25,8	26,0	26,2	26,5	26,7	27,0	27,2
Mean age at first childbirth	22,2	22,4	23,1	23,3	23,6	23,9	24,1	24,5	24,9	25,3
Net reproduction rate	0,730	0,700	0,685	0,661	0,641	0,625	0,566	0,569	0,575	0,594

From the beginning of 90-ties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a significant decrease of natality is visible in the SR. The period of baby boom and a relatively high natality of 70-ties had been replaced since 80-ties by a period of continuous decrease of natality and fertility, which was the most intensive especially in the first half of 90-ties (during 1993-1995, when the fall of the number of live-birth by nearly 12 thousand was recorded and the decrease of total fertility rate represented 21,2 %). The decline of fertility continued also in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 90-ties and at the turning-point of millenniums. Historically the lowest number of child-births was recorded in 2002, when 51 035 children were born in the SR and 1,19 children fell per one woman during her reproductive period.

Long-awaited break-point in the development of natality and fertility occurred in 2003; from this year onwards the number of births, after a more than 20-years decrease, has begun again to raise. The growing tendency was confirmed also in 2004, when nearly 54 thousand children were born, what was more by 2000 children as compared to the previous year. Slightly increasing tendencies are reported also by the indicator of total fertility rate, currently 1,24 children fall per one woman during her reproductive period, what is, however, still a very low value (the fertility level below 1,3 ‰, i.e. lowest-low fertility)



level below 1,3 ‰, i.e. lowest-low fertility)

The sharp decrease of natality and fertility in Middle and East European countries is caused mainly by the change in the political and economical situation of particular countries in 90-ties as well as by the overall changes in the impact of environment on the population reproduction.

During the recent time period (2003- 2004) we can talk about the positive turning-point in the development of natality and fertility. Despite this moderate increase, the current level of fertility still does not achieve

the fertility level from 2000. Slovakia, together with the Czech Republic, currently ranks among countries with the lowest fertility within the whole Europe. To a great extent, the reproductive processes can be measured by the net reproduction rate, because it indicates the number of potential mothers in particular populations. The level of net reproduction rate is nowadays equal to 0,59, what means that during one generation, if the current level of fertility and mortality of women is kept, 41% of potential mothers would disappear by the natural changes in population.

The population of Slovakia (similarly as populations of many other countries of Middle and East Europe) changes its reproductive behaviour and more often it reaches the pattern of West European populations, for which the following features are typical: postponement of marriages and births towards older age, increase of the mean age of mothers at birth, more effective and more often used contraception, less numerous families, wanted or planned childlessness

and higher level of fertility outside marriage. Some of the mentioned features already have appeared and are visible also in the population development of Slovakia.

## Age of mother

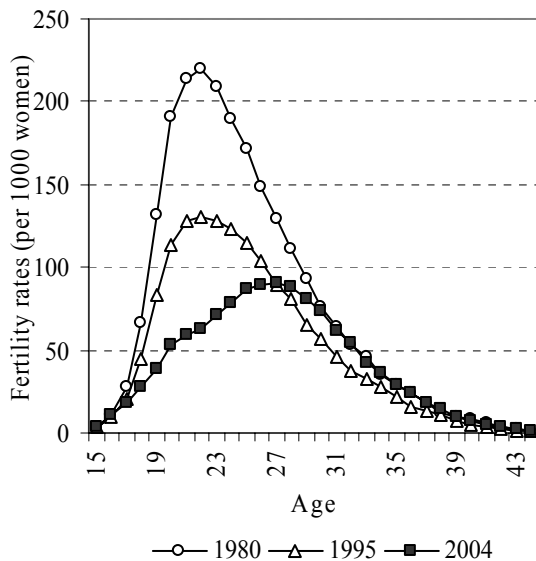
**Tab. 3.2 Age-specific fertility rates (per 1000 women)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
15	3,56	3,47	3,64	3,86	4,00	3,42	3,40	3,58	3,67	3,61
16	9,52	9,67	10,99	9,66	10,35	9,40	9,14	8,78	9,59	10,88
17	20,49	20,82	20,15	20,58	20,25	18,78	19,48	17,24	16,97	18,50
18	44,89	40,95	37,80	35,87	33,84	33,42	29,26	29,84	26,91	27,23
19	83,25	75,32	66,83	60,23	56,81	53,14	44,62	45,68	43,43	38,81
20	112,95	99,61	89,44	80,36	71,55	68,64	56,76	54,75	52,97	53,34
21	128,42	115,87	101,78	92,97	85,94	76,14	68,57	62,61	58,73	59,09
22	130,27	121,55	113,19	100,86	93,67	86,72	74,07	68,32	61,23	62,55
23	128,12	121,01	116,26	110,03	99,60	91,38	82,04	75,65	71,92	70,73
24	123,17	117,89	118,07	112,08	102,17	97,69	86,59	80,57	77,69	78,22
25	114,48	113,01	108,54	109,42	105,30	100,92	92,49	90,37	87,16	87,40
26	103,79	103,29	106,02	100,09	97,91	98,87	91,18	87,83	90,56	89,73
27	89,57	92,48	91,65	89,32	88,81	89,86	84,62	86,84	87,62	90,20
28	80,53	79,09	79,24	77,29	83,75	79,47	76,16	80,03	85,88	88,31
29	65,22	67,69	66,20	71,72	69,82	69,18	67,55	70,76	74,31	80,40
30	56,77	55,22	58,08	58,16	60,27	61,07	59,40	62,71	68,52	73,89
31	45,78	47,34	48,39	49,81	49,21	52,48	48,00	55,21	56,83	61,92
32	37,83	39,61	39,69	39,25	43,61	42,73	42,91	43,12	49,06	54,02
33	32,39	31,76	33,16	34,39	32,68	34,68	35,32	36,84	40,28	42,62
34	27,19	26,43	27,41	28,78	28,29	29,26	29,34	29,78	33,30	35,92
35	21,65	23,83	23,25	21,64	23,32	24,23	24,73	24,21	26,51	28,71
36	16,25	17,40	18,87	19,10	19,01	18,91	18,82	20,00	22,33	23,66
37	13,54	14,38	14,80	14,81	14,20	15,61	14,16	16,13	16,43	17,56
38	11,11	10,60	11,38	10,83	11,80	11,65	11,26	11,50	11,78	13,94
39	7,23	8,27	8,00	7,94	8,22	8,99	8,64	9,54	9,46	10,21
40	5,32	5,65	6,16	6,00	5,48	6,50	6,51	6,40	6,29	7,40
41	3,94	2,80	3,35	3,43	4,09	3,71	4,02	4,18	4,02	4,71
42	2,35	2,23	2,45	2,75	2,54	2,76	2,42	2,49	2,66	3,34
43	1,74	1,38	1,05	1,41	1,43	1,53	1,41	1,04	1,92	2,22
44	0,71	0,69	0,64	0,52	0,54	0,60	0,84	0,83	0,74	0,75
TFR	1,523	1,470	1,427	1,374	1,329	1,292	1,194	1,187	1,199	1,240

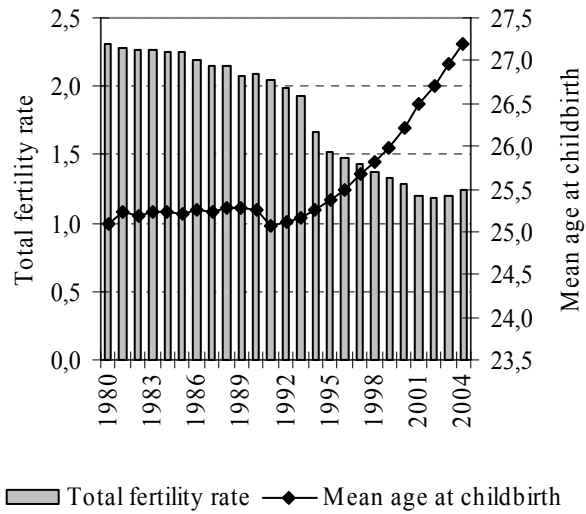
Fertility is to a great extent determined by the age of population. For the SR it was typical, that the majority of fertility was concentrated to the beginning of the reproductive period of women. While in the half of 90-ties, the highest number of children was born to women aged 22, currently the maximum of fertility moved to the age of 27. At the same time it can be seen, that the fertility curve does not have such a remarkable peak as it used to have in the past and is still more and more rounded. The shift of fertility towards the older age is evidenced also by the fact that women aged 27 and over report currently a higher level of fertility as compared to women of the same age in the half of 90-ties and women aged 30 and over match by their current level of fertility the women from 80 –ties. It is caused mainly by the postponement of marriages and births towards older age.

The postponement of births towards the older age can be confirmed also by a continuous growth of the mean of women at birth. During the analysed time period the mean age of women at birth increased by more than 2 years, i.e. from 24,9 up to 27,2 years. The mean age of women at first birth has increased even more remarkably. While in 1995 women in the SR delivered their first child at the age of 22 at the average, currently their first birth is feasible at the age of 25 at the average.

**Graph 3.2 Age-specific fertility**

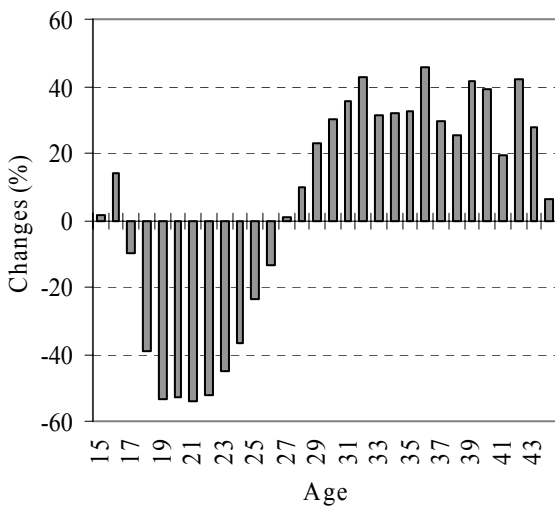


**Graph 3.3 Fertility and mean age at childbird**

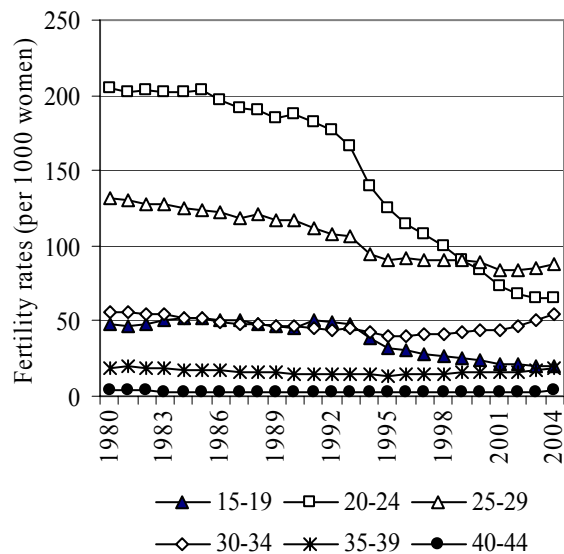


The concentration of fertility into the older age of women has often such consequence that the realised fertility is at the end lower than the expected one. The move of fertility towards the older age seems to be an important factor for the decrease of the overall fertility level because the older population is not able at full extent to ensure the required or expected level of reproduction. A change in timing of births is pointed out also by the graph on changes in the fertility level of women depending on age, from which it can be seen that the decrease of the fertility level is diminishing with the increasing age.

**Graph 3.4 Changes in age-specific fertility, 1995 vs. 2004**



**Graph 3.5 Fertility by age groups**



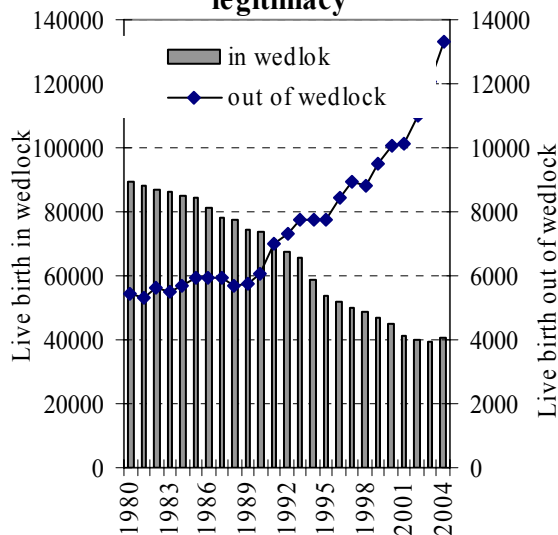
From the age point of view, the highest number of births was recorded in case of women aged 25-29, who in 2000 ranked at the first place prior to the category of women aged 20-24. We can assume that those were women who have postponed their pregnancy and make it feasible right now. The postponement of births to older age can be confirmed also by increasing level of fertility of women aged 25-34. In all other age categories we can see a decrease or a stagnation of fertility. The category of women aged 30-34 ranked with its fertility level in 1994 before the age category of women aged 15-19, currently the curves of both these categories show reversal development tendencies. Women belonging to the youngest age group 15-19 years indicate for the last decade a decrease of the fertility level, which was caused by the mentioned timing of births as well as by better unwanted pregnancy prevention. The decrease of fertility of women in the youngest age group can be assessed positively because it indicates that young women prefer contraception rather than abortion or unplanned pregnancy.

## Marital status

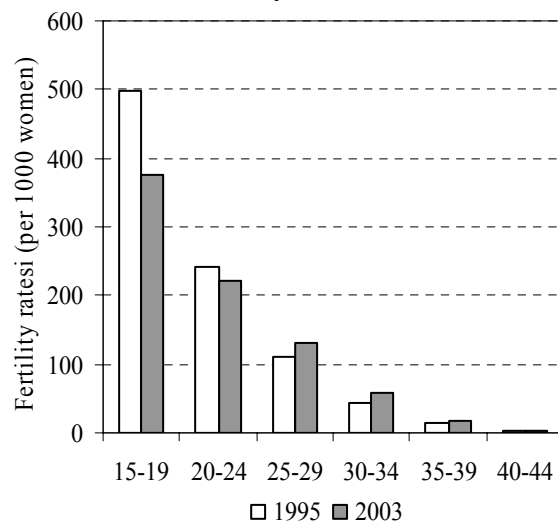
**Tab. 3.3 Age-specific fertility rates by marital status (per 1000 persons)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Married women									
15-19	498,9	524,7	512,5	528,8	530,9	580,6	330,7	350,5	374,3
20-24	242,3	238,8	239,9	238,4	233,8	246,8	223,4	223,1	221,5
25-29	110,8	113,8	116,1	119,5	121,3	123,3	119,2	122,9	130,8
30-34	44,3	44,2	45,6	46,9	48,3	50,7	50,1	53,1	58,3
35-39	14,7	15,5	16,0	15,9	16,1	17,0	16,7	17,6	18,7
40-44	2,9	2,6	2,9	2,9	3,0	3,0	3,2	3,1	3,3
45-49	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
Unmarried women									
15-19	12,1	12,2	13,1	12,8	13,4	13,8	13,5	14,4	15,0
20-24	23,1	23,5	22,7	21,3	21,1	20,9	20,9	21,7	23,5
25-29	27,7	28,9	28,3	25,3	27,0	25,2	24,7	25,6	27,0
30-34	20,3	22,2	22,9	21,6	21,5	22,9	22,4	23,1	25,2
35-39	9,5	11,4	11,4	10,1	12,0	11,6	11,1	11,7	12,5
40-44	2,6	2,3	2,2	2,3	2,0	2,7	2,3	2,7	2,6
45-49	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,1
Married men									
15-19	578,3	628,1	601,5	618,8	613,4	677,5	121,4	128,0	137,1
20-24	304,7	302,7	301,8	298,6	298,3	313,7	274,0	267,1	254,7
25-29	166,6	164,6	164,0	166,8	164,3	168,0	158,2	161,3	169,9
30-34	73,4	75,0	77,0	78,5	79,2	82,1	81,7	84,1	87,8
35-39	28,0	29,2	30,0	30,7	31,6	33,0	33,3	34,7	37,3
40-44	9,3	8,7	9,8	9,7	10,1	10,5	10,7	11,3	12,5
45-49	2,2	2,6	2,4	2,4	2,4	2,5	2,4	2,9	2,8

**Graph 3.6 Live births by legitimacy**



**Graph 3.7 Age-specific marital fertility, females**

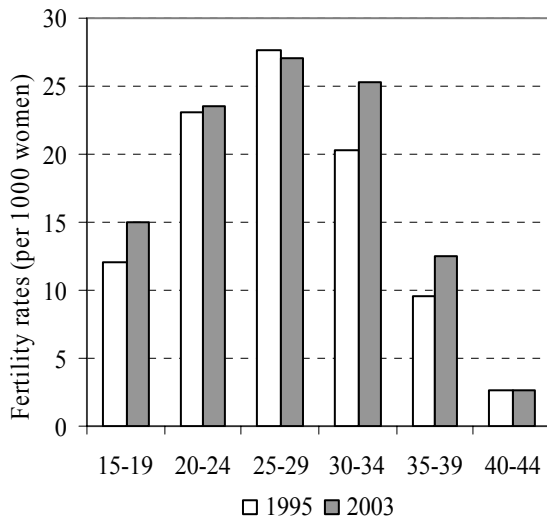


The most remarkable decrease of fertility of married women is reported by women in the youngest age group 15-19, in which the decrease in fertility during 1995-2004 represented even 25 %. The change in reproductive model is confirmed also by the increasing fertility tendencies of married women aged 25 and over. The variant differentiation of fertility by age is recorded also in case of unmarried women. The fertility of these women has always been realised mainly at older age. The fertility of unmarried women in all age categories (except for the category of women aged 25-29, in case of whom a slight decrease of the fertility level is recorded) records increasing tendencies. The most outstanding increase of the extra-marital fertility is recorded in case of women in two age groups, i.e. 30-34 and 35-39.

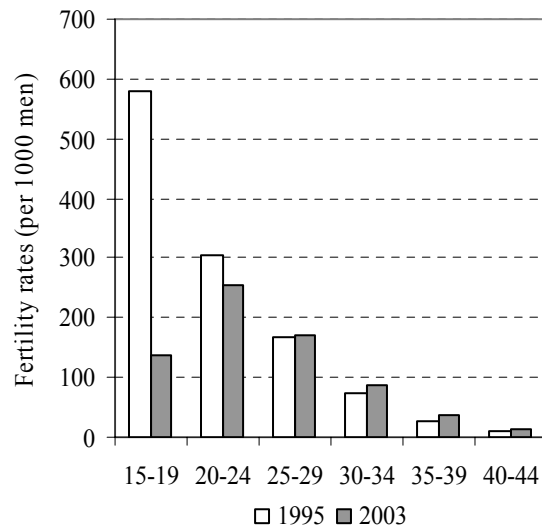
A change in timing of fertility can be seen also in terms of married men. The fertility of married men in the youngest age category of men aged 15-19 years decreased in 2003 nearly five-fold against 1995. Such an excessive fall of fertility is caused mainly by the postponement of marriages, to which also the postponement of births is

related. On the contrary, in case of men aged 25 and over a moderately increasing fertility tendencies can be seen as compared to the fertility from the half of 90-ties, what is the same trend as in terms of women.

**Graph 3.8 Age-specific extra-marital fertility, females**



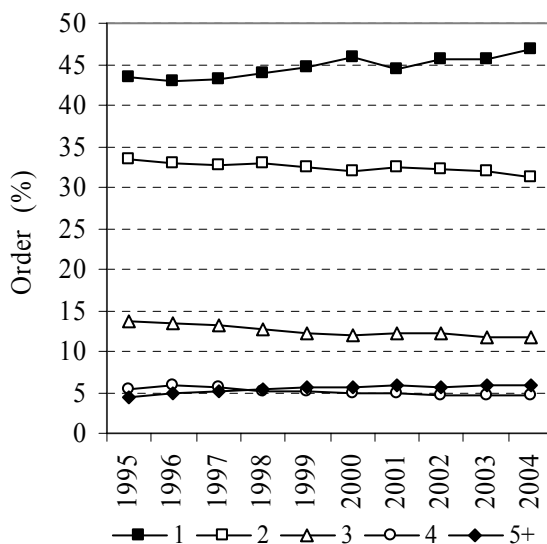
**Graph 3.9 Age-specific marital fertility, males**



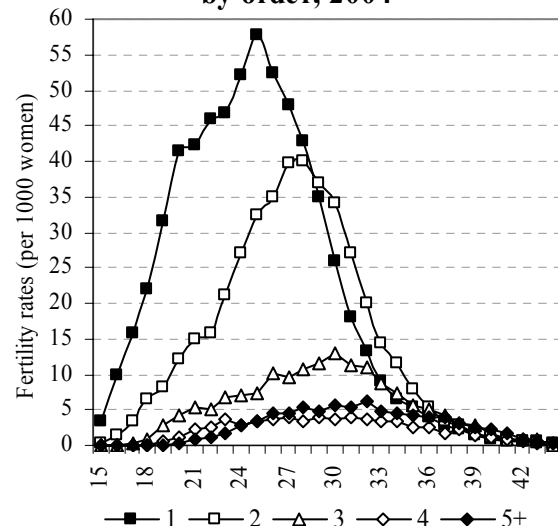
**Order**

The structure of live-births by order to a great extent tells about the level natality and fertility. Traditionally the highest number of children is born at first order, i.e. more than 40 % during the whole observed time period. Currently, the live-births in first order represents the share of 46,8 %, in second order it is approximately one third and in third order around 12 %. Only the share of live-births of first order reports increasing tendencies, the other orders record decreasing or stagnating tendencies. And exactly the fall of the second and third order probably leads to a low current fertility level in the SR. The highest fertility of women at first birth is at the age of 25, in case of live-births in the second order the age of mother is shifted towards the age of 28 and in terms of live-births in third order the maximum fertility is reached at the age of 30.

**Graph 3.10 Live births by order**



**Graph 3.11 Age-specific fertility by order, 2004**



**Tab. 3.4 Live births by order and marital status**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total										
1	26 604	25 786	25 559	25 274	25 143	25 240	22 751	23 131	23 622	25 156
2	20 582	19 768	19 401	18 961	18 194	17 601	16 621	16 331	16 577	16 769
3	8 343	8 108	7 765	7 325	6 926	6 554	6 167	6 098	6 036	6 239
4	3 241	3 483	3 325	2 942	2 889	2 709	2 582	2 414	2 456	2 452
5+	2 657	2 978	3 061	3 080	3 071	3 047	3 015	2 867	3 022	3 131
Total	61 427	60 123	59 111	57 582	56 223	55 151	51 136	50 841	51 713	53 747
Total (%)										
1	43,3	42,9	43,2	43,9	44,7	45,8	44,5	45,5	45,7	46,8
2	33,5	32,9	32,8	32,9	32,4	31,9	32,5	32,1	32,1	31,2
3	13,6	13,5	13,1	12,7	12,3	11,9	12,1	12,1	11,7	11,6
4	5,3	5,8	5,6	5,1	5,1	4,9	5	4,7	4,7	4,6
5+	4,3	5	5,2	5,3	5,5	5,5	5,9	5,6	5,8	5,8
In wedlock										
1	22 311	21 397	20 970	20 550	20 021	19 813	17 478	17 263	17 029	18 051
2	18 907	17 914	17 436	16 972	16 109	15 410	14 371	13 875	13 956	13 833
3	7 426	7 013	6 626	6 293	5 827	5 392	4 990	4 783	4 735	4 764
4	2 803	2 941	2 744	2 401	2 368	2 131	1 946	1 816	1 774	1 681
5+	2 233	2 428	2 412	2 539	2 418	2 336	2 246	2 120	2 146	2 099
Total	53 680	51 693	50 188	48 755	46 743	45 082	41 031	39 857	39 640	40 428
In wedlock (%)										
1	41,6	41,4	41,8	42,1	42,8	44	42,6	43,3	43,0	44,6
2	35,2	34,7	34,7	34,8	34,5	34,1	35	34,8	35,2	34,2
3	13,8	13,6	13,2	12,9	12,5	12	12,2	12	11,9	11,8
4	5,2	5,7	5,5	4,9	5,1	4,7	4,7	4,6	4,5	4,2
5+	4,2	4,7	4,8	5,2	5,2	5,2	5,5	5,3	5,4	5,2
Out of wedlock										
1	4 293	4 389	4 589	4 724	5 122	5 427	5 273	5 868	6 593	7 105
2	1 675	1 854	1 965	1 989	2 085	2 191	2 250	2 456	2 621	2 936
3	917	1 095	1 139	1 032	1 099	1 162	1 177	1 315	1 301	1 475
4	438	542	581	541	521	578	636	598	682	771
5+	424	550	649	541	653	711	769	747	876	1 032
Total	7 747	8 430	8 923	8 827	9 480	10 069	10 105	10 984	12 073	13 319
Out of wedlock (%)										
1	55,4	52,1	51,4	53,5	54	53,9	52,2	53,4	54,6	53,3
2	21,6	22	22	22,5	22	21,8	22,3	22,4	21,7	22,0
3	11,8	13	12,8	11,7	11,6	11,5	11,6	12	10,8	11,1
4	5,7	6,4	6,5	6,1	5,5	5,7	6,3	5,4	5,6	5,8
5+	5,5	6,5	7,3	6,1	6,9	7,1	7,6	6,8	7,3	7,7

From the standpoint of fertility differentiation by order and marital status we can say that the majority of children, either in marriage or outside marriage, is born in first order. However, the lapse between the first and second order of live-births is in marriage lower; nevertheless, the lapse between the first and second order is much more remarkable outside wedlock.

The share of live-births of first-order in marriage represents 45 %, second-order amounts to 34 % and third-order gives 12 %. The first order records an increasing tendency, while the other orders the decreasing ones. Also outside wedlock the highest number of children is born in first order, even more than 50 %, with a significant lapse followed by the second order with 20 %, and finally the third one with 11 %. The shares of births in particular orders maintain more or less the stable values during the whole observed time period, except for the birth in fifth and higher orders. While the share of live-births outside marriage in fifth and higher order represented in 1995 5,5 %, recently it has increased up to 7,7 %. The high share of first births in marriage can be considered as an evidence of the lower level of non-marital fertility as compared to marital fertility.

It is interesting to trace the number of live-births in marriage by the time from the wedlock because the time between the birth and wedlock allows to recognise the reproductive intentions and behaviour of population.

In 2004, until 8 months from wedlock, 21% of children were born, i.e. nearly one quarter of children comes from premarital conceptions. Until one year 27% of children were born and nearly half (47,4%) was born until two years from the marriage. We can say that the fertility in Slovakia is still very closely linked to the contraction of marriage, although not so much as it used to be during the old reproductive model.

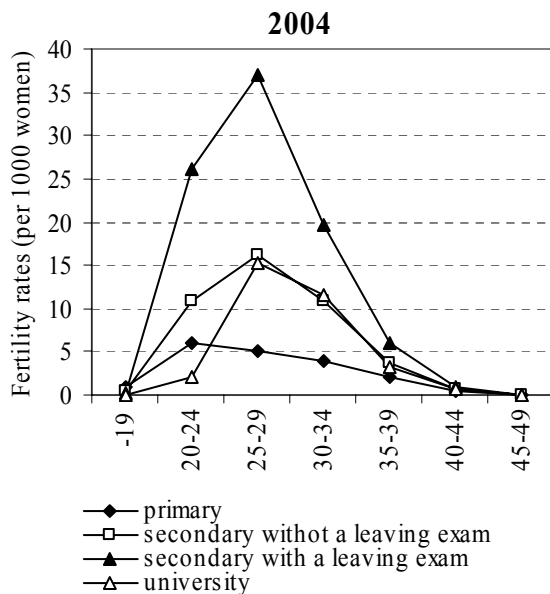
The indicator on live-births in second and higher order from the time passing from the previous birth expresses the time intervals, i.e. the time lapse between the successive births. The highest number of second births is delivered

until 6 years from the previous birth, their share represents almost 16 %. Approximately 10% of children is born until 1-2 years from the previous birth.

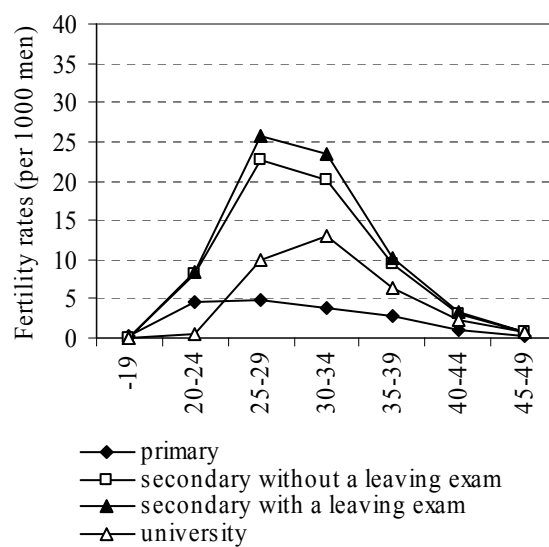
### Education

Education is a factor, which has been recently (mainly in advanced countries) more influencing the reproduction of population. The highest level of fertility is reported by women who graduated the secondary school with a leaving exam; these women are prevailingly represented also in the population. The peak of fertility of secondary educated women with a leaving exam is in the age group 25-29, followed by women aged 20-24 and 30-34. In the age category of 25-29 years, the highest fertility rate is recorded in case of women with the secondary education without a leaving exam, together with the university educated women. The fertility of women with primary education is concentrated to younger age, the maximum fertility of women with this education is in the age group 20-24.

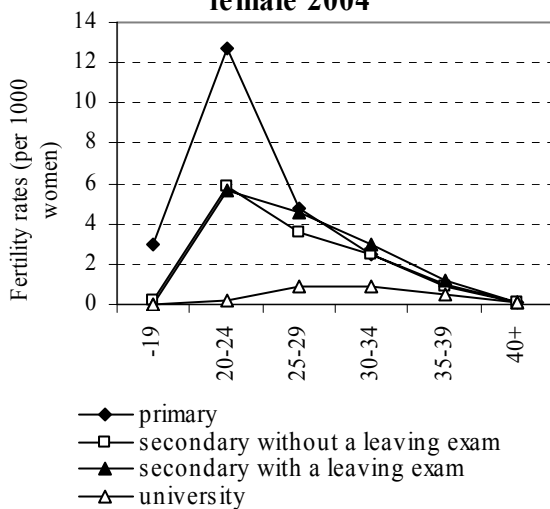
**Graph 3.12 Age-specific marital fertility by education, females**



**Graph 3.12 Age-specific marital fertility by education, males 2004**



**Graph 3.14 Age-specific extra-marital fertility by education, female 2004**



The fertility of married men by education and age has a slightly distinct differentiation. In general we can say that fertility of women is shifted towards the older age. The highest fertility rate is also reported by men with the secondary education, including a leaving exam, followed closely by men without a leaving exam. In case of women this gap is more remarkable. The fertility peak of men with primary education is shifted as compared to women up to the age group 20-25. Similarly the peak of fertility of married men with the university education is shifted towards the category of 30-34 years, what only evidences that men enter marriage later than women and probably also the fact that in majority cases men are older than their wives.

The interesting differentiation of fertility by age and education can be seen in terms of unmarried women, in case of whom the highest fertility is recorded by women with the primary education aged 20-24. Conversely, the lowest fertility is recorded by women with the university education.

It means that unmarried mothers are prevailingly younger women with lower education. The structure of fertility of unmarried women is influenced also by married women, who deliver their child (children) before the contraction of marriage, i.e. at a relatively young age.

The highest number of children in terms of all women is born in first order. Generally speaking, the higher education level women have achieved, the higher is the share of their first births. It means, that in case of women with university education the share of first birth represents 55,2 %, and conversely, in terms of women with the primary education it is only 32,4 %. On the other hand, women with lower education degree have a significantly higher share of third births (and higher) as compared to women with secondary education including a leaving exam, and to university educated women. This confirms the tendency that women with lower education have more children at the average than woman with higher education degree.

**Tab. 3.5 Live births by education of mother and birth order**

	Primary	Secondary without a leaving exam	Secondary with a leaving exam	University	Total
Live births					
1	3 536	4 842	12 627	4 151	25 156
2	2 379	4 262	7 520	2 608	16 769
3	1 616	2 031	2 007	585	6 239
4	1 139	696	492	125	2 452
5+	2 242	560	279	50	3 131
Total	10 912	12 391	22 925	7 519	53 747
In %					
1	32,4	39,1	55,1	55,2	46,8
2	21,8	34,4	32,8	34,7	31,2
3	14,8	16,4	8,8	7,8	11,6
4	10,4	5,6	2,1	1,7	4,6
5+	20,5	4,5	1,2	0,7	5,8

The achieved education (especially of women but also of men) often influences the timing of birth as well as the total number of children, i.e. the family size, and thereby also the total fertility. In general we can say that the negative link between the education and the number of children is valid. It means that the higher education of woman, the less number of children and vice-versa. The education process of population has been recently prolonging. The timing of birth is shifted and the mean age of parents is increasing (mainly the age of mothers), due to which the realised fertility is lower than the expected one.



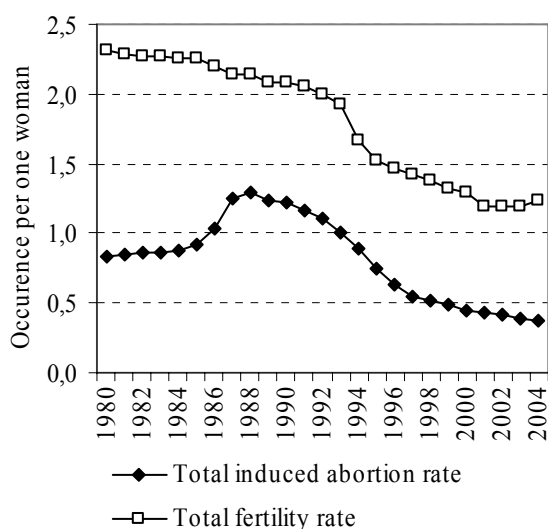
## 4. Abortion

**Tab. 4.1 Basic characteristics of abortion**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total										
Abortions	35 879	30 885	27 798	26 658	25 557	23 593	22 792	22 141	21159	20075
Abortion ratio	58,20	51,20	46,80	46,10	45,20	42,61	44,39	43,38	40,75	37,20
General abortion rate	25,50	21,70	19,40	18,50	17,70	16,27	15,79	15,36	17,17	16,28
Abortions per 100 terminated pregnancies	36,80	33,80	31,90	31,50	31,10	29,88	30,74	30,26	28,95	27,12
Mean age at abortion	28,2	28,3	28,3	28,2	28,8	28,8	28,8	29,0	29,2	29,3
Total abortion rate	0,895	0,766	0,684	0,652	0,622	0,560	0,552	0,536	0,510	0,482
Spontaneous										
Abortions	6 470	5 712	5 480	5 549	5 608	5 125	4 766	4 759	4 937	4 768
Share on the total abortion (%)	18,0	18,5	19,7	20,8	21,9	21,7	20,9	21,5	23,3	23,8
Abortion ratio	10,50	9,50	9,20	9,60	9,90	9,30	9,30	9,30	9,51	8,80
General abortion rate	4,60	4,00	3,80	3,90	3,90	3,50	3,30	3,30	4,01	3,87
Abortions per 100 terminated pregnancies	6,60	6,30	6,30	6,60	6,80	6,49	6,43	6,50	6,75	6,44
Mean age at abortion	26,6	26,8	27,0	27,0	27,1	27,8	27,0	28,3	28,6	28,9
Total abortion rate	0,141	0,140	0,134	0,134	0,135	0,120	0,114	0,114	0,117	0,113
Induced										
Abortions	29 409	25 173	22 318	21 109	19 949	18 468	18 026	17 382	16 222	15 307
Share on the total abortion (%)	82,0	81,5	80,3	79,2	78,1	78,3	79,1	78,5	76,7	76,2
Abortion ratio	47,70	41,70	37,60	36,50	35,30	33,40	35,10	34,10	31,24	28,40
General abortion rate	20,90	17,70	15,60	14,70	13,80	12,70	12,50	12,10	13,16	12,42
Abortions per 100 terminated pregnancies	30,10	27,60	25,60	25,00	24,30	25,00	25,90	25,40	23,80	22,10
Mean age at abortion	28,5	28,6	28,6	28,5	28,6	29,0	29,0	29,2	29,3	29,4
Total abortion rate	0,750	0,623	0,548	0,515	0,487	0,449	0,438	0,422	0,392	0,368

Abortions are to be considered as negative features of reproduction. The level of abortion influences the reproductive process directly by termination of pregnancy and also indirectly through the unfavourable impacts on the psychical and health status of women.

**Graph 4.1 Fertility and induced abortion**



From the beginning of 90-ties a new model of reproductive behaviour has got on in the SR, which is marked by a significant decrease of the abortion rate, mainly in induced abortion. The decrease of abortion was caused mainly by more efficient and easily available contraception, as well as by a more reliable behaviour of women, who already less rely on induced abortion as on the additional contraception (so-called contraception ex post), which was wide-spread before 1989. Also the decision on the introduction of a higher payment for the induced abortion might contributed to the change in the level of abortion. The induced abortions are no more economically advantageous as compared to contraception.

Also the relation between the development of fertility and induced abortion has changed. Until 2002, both processes reported a decreasing trend, after this year the fertility started slightly to grow, while the induced abortion has kept the decreasing tendencies, i.e. the curves show the contradictory development trends.

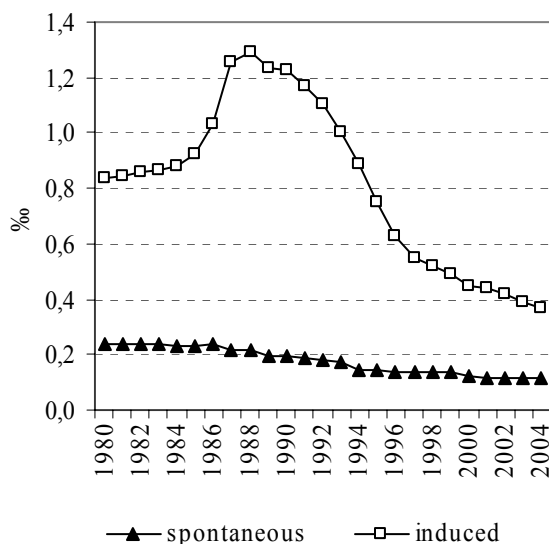
The abortion rate culminated in 1988, when nearly 60 thousand abortions were recorded, of which, 51 thousand were induced abortions and the rest fell on spontaneous abortions. Since this year a period of continuous decrease of abortion has started in Slovakia. The declining rate of

abortion had been the most intensive in the first half of 90-ties, later, from 1997 the decrease slowed down and the shortages were stabilised (currently they represent approximately one thousand abortions per year).

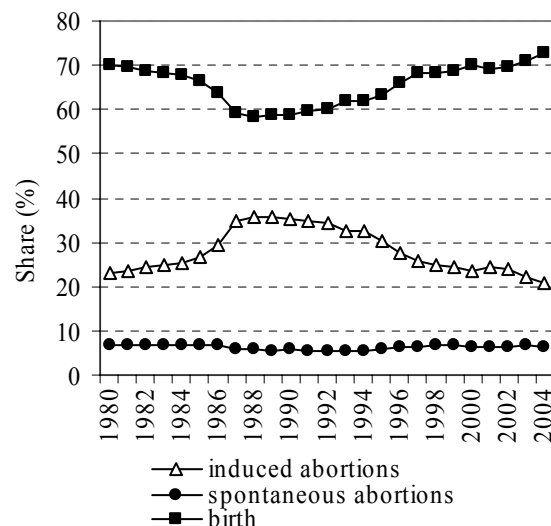
In 1995, there were 35 879 abortions registered in the SR, until 2004 their number decreased down to 20 075, what represented a shortage by 44 %. Also the total abortion rate shows a decreasing tendency. While in the half of 90-ties nearly one abortion fell per one woman during her reproductive period, currently it is only 0,5 abortions. The abortion ratio was in 1995 at the level of 58 %, currently it is 37 %. The only indicator, which shows opposite – increasing tendencies, is the mean age of women at abortion. The mean age at abortion is slightly increasing, from the level of 28,2 years in 1995 up to the level of 29,3 years in 2004. In terms of spontaneous abortions, but partially also in case of induced abortions, it is the consequence of the postponement of marriages and pregnancies to the older age.

Traditionally, a smaller part is formed by spontaneous abortions, on which currently fall approximately one quarter from total number of abortions (23,8 %); the remaining part is represented by induced abortions. The spontaneous and induced abortions report not only different values but also different growth rates. The number of spontaneous abortions decreased during the observed time period from 6 470 down to 4 768. The share of spontaneous abortions in the total number of abortions is increasing. In 1995, the share of spontaneous abortions had reached 18,0 %, until 2004 it increased up to 23,8 %. This increase is caused by a lower number of realised pregnancies as well as by a continuous decrease of induced abortions. In total we can say that the spontaneous abortion falls more moderately and its development curve is more stable as compared to induced abortion.

**Graph 4.2 Total abortion rate**



**Graph 4.3 Structure of terminated pregnancies**

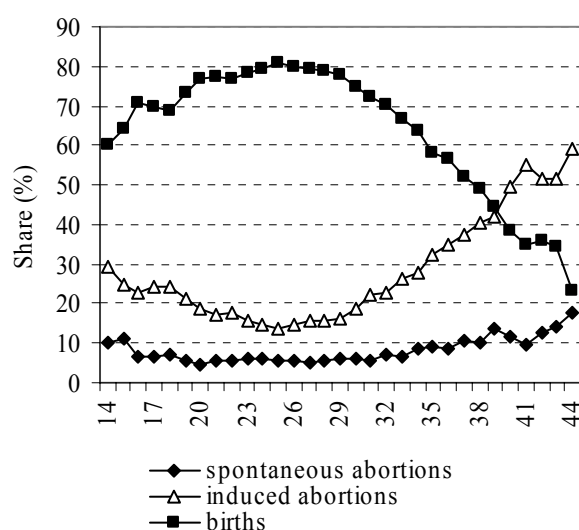


The total spontaneous abortion rate fell in 1989 below the level of 0,2 %, since this year until now it has been recording a slightly decreasing tendencies. In 2004, its value was 0,113 %. The spontaneous abortion ratio decreased from 10,5 % in the half of 90-ties to the current level of 8,8 %. Due to the fact that the induced abortion has been decreasing more slower, the share of spontaneous abortions in the terminated pregnancies has increased. In 1995, 6,6 spontaneous abortions fell per 100 terminated pregnancies. Until 2004, their number increased up to 8,1. The mean age of women at spontaneous abortion has been increasing only slightly, currently it achieves nearly 29 years.

More significant changes can be seen in the development of induced abortion. In 1995, there were 59406 induced abortions, until 2004 their number fell down to 15307. Also the share of induced abortions in the total number of abortions is falling, from 82,0% in 1995 to 76,2% in 2004. In the half of 90-ties, 0,75 induced abortions fell per one woman during her whole reproductive period, currently only 0,37, what is a twofold decrease.

The induced abortion ratio records a decrease too; in the half of 90-ties nearly 48 induced abortions fell per 100 births, currently their number has decreased down to 28. A favourable trend of continuous fall of induced abortion can be evidenced also by the fall of another indicator, i.e. number of abortions per 100 terminated pregnancies. While in half of 90-ties the value of this indicator was 30,1 %, recently it has decreased to 22,1 %. The mean age of women at induced abortion has been moderately increasing during the whole observed time period, i.e. from 28,5 years to 29,4 years.

**Graph 4.4 Structure of terminated pregnancies by age, 2004**



From the fall of abortion a positive fact results, i.e. the number of pregnancies which end by birth is continuously increasing, despite the decreasing number of the births. Currently, from 100 terminated pregnancies, 73 end with birth and 27 end due to abortion (of which approximately 21 by induced abortion and 6 by spontaneous abortion). Thus, we can say that currently approximately one fourth of pregnancies ends by abortion, while in the past it was even one third.

From the standpoint of structure of terminated pregnancies by age of women, in 2004 births prevailed over abortions until the age of 40. After this age the induced abortions start to grow to the prejudice of births. The share of births is decreasing rapidly after the age of 43, the share of spontaneous abortions sharply increases after the age of 41 and approaches the level of the share of births.

## Type and age

**Tab. 4.2 Age-specific abortion rates (per 1000 women)**

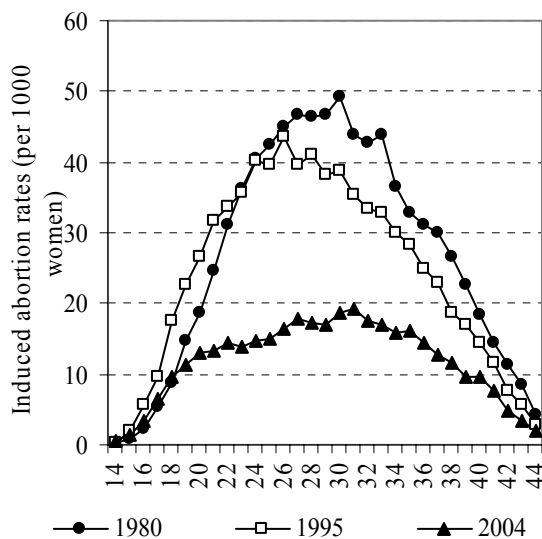
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Induced										
15-19	11,50	10,17	8,86	8,83	8,22	8,41	7,83	7,55	7,05	6,63
20-24	33,29	25,96	23,78	21,78	19,43	17,44	17,53	16,45	14,76	13,83
25-29	40,48	32,89	27,92	26,15	24,85	22,08	21,17	20,15	18,04	16,69
30-34	34,08	28,85	24,44	23,27	22,46	20,71	20,31	19,40	18,83	17,70
35-39	22,14	19,08	17,36	15,99	15,63	14,72	14,16	14,39	13,58	12,88
40-44	8,52	7,60	7,21	6,98	6,37	5,85	6,05	5,83	5,71	5,46
45-49	0,76	0,63	0,58	0,55	0,47	0,44	0,49	0,41	0,44	0,43
Spontaneous										
15-19	3,04	2,79	2,63	2,65	2,44	2,21	2,13	1,95	1,96	1,82
20-24	8,95	8,69	7,75	7,63	7,21	6,35	5,24	5,08	5,10	4,68
25-29	7,48	7,28	7,46	7,40	7,88	7,13	6,76	6,65	6,71	6,12
30-34	4,82	4,96	4,74	4,81	5,21	4,65	4,73	4,86	5,05	5,14
35-39	2,77	3,05	2,89	3,09	3,08	2,91	2,80	2,89	3,26	3,52
40-44	1,12	1,14	1,14	1,13	1,04	1,06	1,10	1,14	1,25	1,26
45-49	0,15	0,12	0,15	0,12	0,13	0,15	0,09	0,15	0,14	0,15

The abortions, especially spontaneous, are partially determined and substantially differentiated by the age of women. The induced abortion curve by age of women is currently more rounded as compared to the past and does not have any remarkable maximum. The majority of induced abortions is reported by women aged 31, while in the half of 90-ties it was the case of women aged 26. Mainly the fact that all women in the reproductive age record lower values of induced abortion as it used to be in 1995 can be assessed positively.

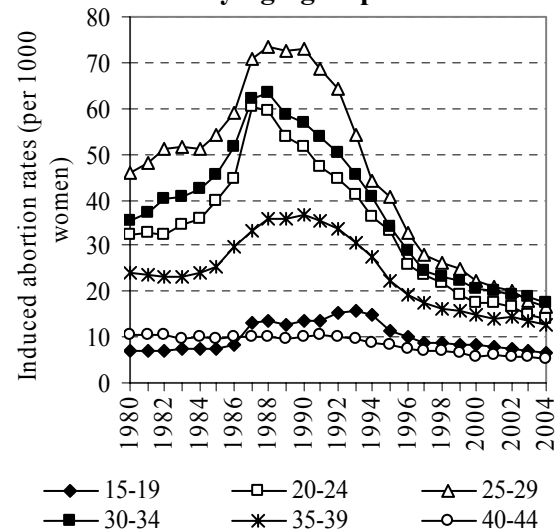
From the standpoint of age groups, from 1980 until 2001 the majority of induced abortions fell on women belonging to the age group of 25-29, however, from 2003 women aged 30-34 reached the first place by their level of induced abortion.

Currently we can positively evaluate also the fact that the induced abortion rates of women in all age groups are lower than 20 %, while even in 1995 four age groups of women (20-39 years) recorded the values of specific induced abortion rates above 20 %.

**Graph 4.5 Induced abortion by age**

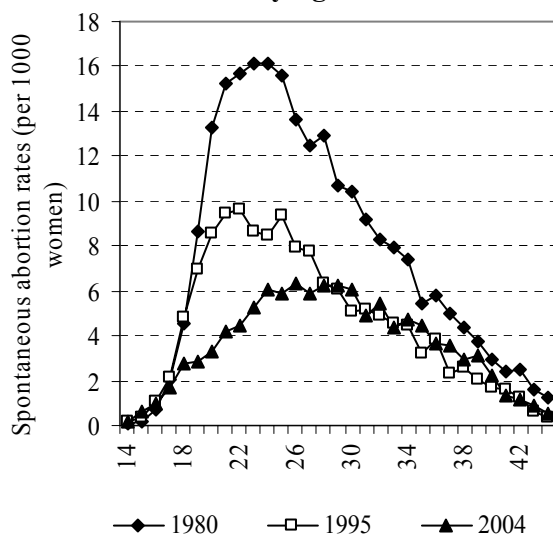


**Graph 4.6 Induced abortion by age groups**

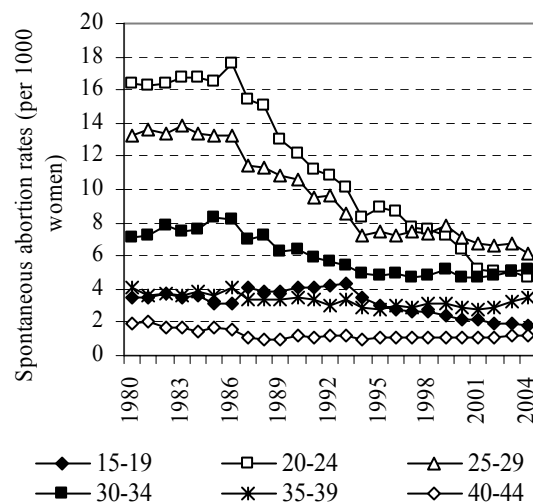


Different development can be seen in case of spontaneous abortions by age. In 1995 the curve of spontaneous abortion of women showed an increasing trend until aged 21 and from the age of 25 it was decreasing with the same intensity. Nowadays the increase and decrease of spontaneous abortion towards maximal values does not have such a sharp course. The spontaneous abortion is growing approximately up to age 25 and from 30 it slowly decreases. An interesting fact is to be observed, i.e. women aged 30 and over report currently a higher level of spontaneous abortion as compared to women in the half of 90-ties. This increase of spontaneous abortion in case of women aged 30 and over is caused by the total change in timing of births or their postponement into older age. The births of women at older age are often accompanied by health complications, what might result in abortion.

**Graph 4.7 Spontaneous abortion by age**



**Graph 4.8 Spontaneous abortion by age groups**



Spontaneous abortion was in the past concentrated into younger age categories of women. On a long-term basis, the highest number of spontaneous abortions was recorded in case of women aged 20-24, however, from 1999 they were replaced by women aged 25-29. In comparison with 1995, two categories of women aged 30-34 and 35-39 report the tendencies of spontaneous abortion as the only increasing ones, what is the consequence of feasibility of already mentioned postponed births in case of these women.

The increase of the level of spontaneous abortion of women aged 30-34 is confirmed also by the fact that in 2000 they ranked at the second place, if the level of their spontaneous abortion is taken into account, followed by the category of women aged 25-29. Since 1996, women in the age group of 35-39 have been showing a higher level of spontaneous abortion than women belonging to the youngest age category of 15-19.

The fall of spontaneous abortion in terms of youngest women aged 15-19 is caused, on the one hand, by the postponement of birth to older age and, on the other hand, by the change of the entire attitude to the sexual life. This change is reflected mainly in a more frequent use of contraception as well as in the more reliable sexual behaviour of these women, thus, in an entirely better prevention before the unwanted pregnancy.

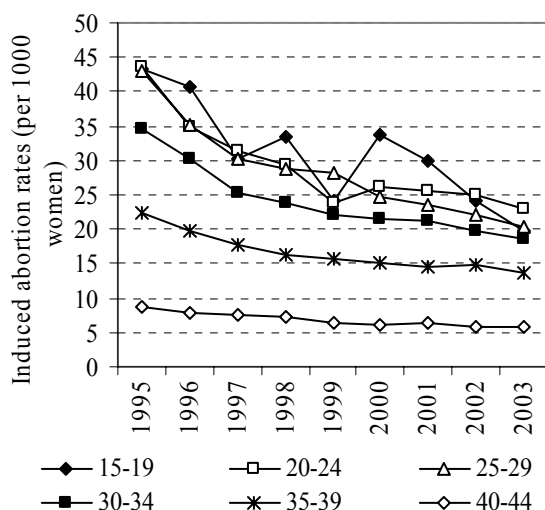
## Marital status and number of children

**Tab. 4.3 Age-specific induced abortion rates by marital status (per 1000 women)**

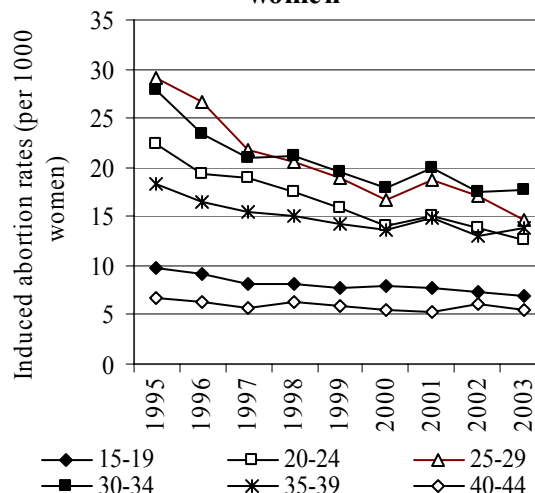
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Married women									
15-19	43,2	40,7	30,2	33,4	24,2	33,7	29,9	24,2	19,8
20-24	43,5	34,8	31,4	29,3	23,8	26,2	25,5	25,1	23,0
25-29	43,0	35,1	30,3	28,7	28,1	24,6	23,5	22,0	20,4
30-34	34,7	30,1	25,3	23,8	22,2	21,6	21,2	19,7	18,7
35-39	22,4	19,7	17,8	16,2	15,6	15,0	14,4	14,9	13,7
40-44	8,8	7,9	7,6	7,2	6,4	6	6,4	5,8	5,8
45-49	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,6	0,5	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,5
Unmarried women									
15-19	9,8	9,1	8,2	8,1	7,7	8	7,7	7,3	6,9
20-24	22,3	19,4	18,9	17,6	15,9	14,1	15,1	13,9	12,7
25-29	29	26,6	21,8	20,5	19,0	16,7	18,8	17,0	14,7
30-34	27,9	23,4	21,0	21,2	19,5	18,0	19,9	17,5	17,7
35-39	18,3	16,4	15,5	15,0	14,3	13,7	14,9	13,0	13,8
40-44	6,8	6,3	5,7	6,3	5,8	5,4	5,3	6,2	5,6
45-49	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,3	0,3

Abortions are differentiated not only by age but also by marital status. Married women still prevail among the applicants for induced abortion, however already not so unambiguously as in the past. While in the half of 90-ties, 73 % of induced abortions fell on married women and only 27 % on unmarried women, currently this ratio has changed, 56 % fall on married women and remaining 44 % on unmarried.

**Graph 4.9 Age-specific induced abortion rate of married women**



**Graph 4.10 Age-specific induced abortion rate of unmarried women**



The prevailing part of induced abortions of married women is concentrated into the younger age. The fall of induced abortion is recorded in all age groups of married women. At the same time the highest decrease – more than twofold (from 43,2 % in 1995 down to 19,8 % in 2004) – is recorded in the youngest age group of women aged 15-19. It is positive that prevention before the unwanted pregnancy has touched mainly this youngest reproductive group

of women. The highest induced abortion of married women is during the observed time period related to the age group of 20-24.

In terms of unmarried women, the induced abortion is shifted into older age categories. The highest induced abortion is currently recorded in case of unmarried women in the age group of 30-34 (17,7 %), in 1995 those were women belonging to the age group of 25-29 (29,0 %). The categories of women aged 30-34 and 35-39 record as the only ones a slightly increasing tendencies of the induced abortion levels.

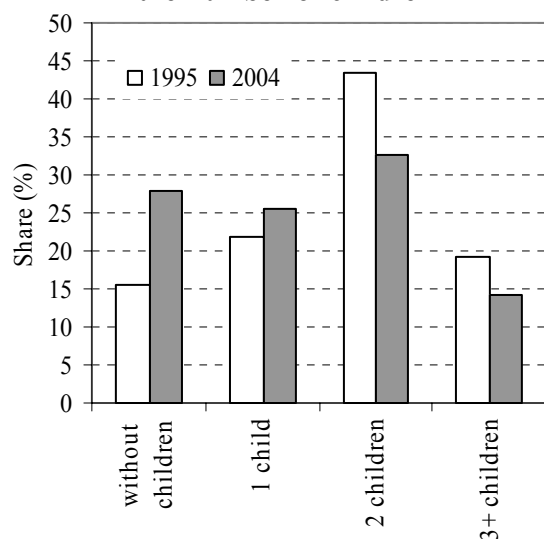
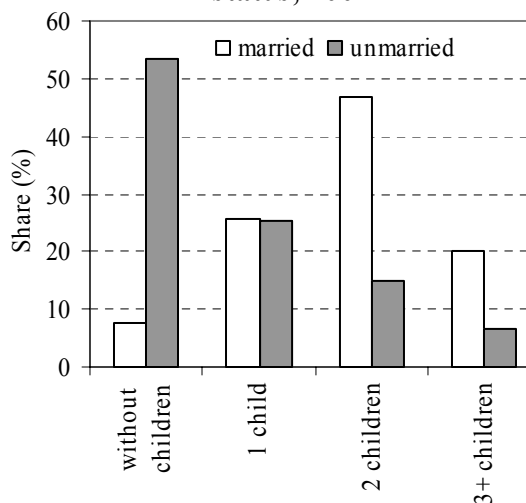
In the past, mainly women having two children and not wanting another one, asked for induced abortion. It might be partially caused also by the fact that in Slovakia a model of two-children family prevailed in 70-ties and 80-ties. In the recent time the number of childless women and women with one child, who apply for an induced abortion, is growing, although still the highest number of induced abortions fall on women with two children (32,5 %).

The share of childless women applying for an induced abortion increased from 15,6 % in 1995 up to 27,9 %, what represents nearly a twofold increase. Also the share of women with one child asking for induced abortion increased moderately, i.e. from 21,8 % in 1995 up to 25,5 % in 2004.

In the category of married women, the women with two children decide on the induced abortion most often. Their share in 1995 represented 53,8 %, currently it has slightly fallen to 46,7 %. We can assume that prevalingly women having two children and not wanting another one are in question. The highest number of applicants for the induced abortion among unmarried women falls on childless women, who often have different interests and targets than child. The family establishment is postponed by these women due to several reasons to a later time. The share of these women during the entire observed time period has been reaching around 50 %, currently it represents 53,3 %, i.e. more than a half of unmarried women asking for induced abortion is childless.

**Tab. 4.4 Induced abortions by number of children and marital status**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total										
0	4 578	4 841	4 565	4 719	4 508	4 493	4 558	4 539	4 374	4 265
1	6 397	5 571	5 078	4 800	4 716	4 387	4 301	4 204	4 060	3 896
2	12 805	10 267	8 627	7 844	7 287	6 494	6 086	5 786	5 255	4 978
3+	5 629	4 494	4 048	3 746	3 438	3 094	3 081	2 853	2 533	2 168
Total	29 409	25 173	22 318	21 109	19 949	18 468	18 026	17 382	16 222	15 307
Total (%)										
0	15,6	19,2	20,5	22,4	22,6	24,3	25,3	26,1	27,0	27,9
1	21,8	22,1	22,8	22,7	23,7	23,8	23,8	24,2	25,0	25,5
2	43,5	40,8	38,6	37,2	36,5	35,2	33,8	33,3	32,4	32,5
3+	19,1	17,9	18,1	17,7	17,2	16,7	17,1	16,4	15,6	14,2
Married women										
0	336	553	516	596	556	536	603	643	598	639
1	4 517	3 901	3 472	3 164	3 137	2 857	2 682	2 511	2 397	2 176
2	11 542	9 202	7 568	6 793	6 279	5 477	5 037	4 708	4 220	3 975
3+	5 073	4 026	3 546	3 257	2 927	2 612	2 536	2 276	2 012	1 715
Total	21 468	17 682	15 102	13 810	12 899	11 482	10 858	10 138	9 227	8 505
Married women (%)										
0	1,6	3,1	3,4	4,3	4,3	4,7	5,6	6,3	6,5	7,5
1	21	22,1	23	22,9	24,3	24,9	24,7	24,8	26,0	25,6
2	53,8	52	50,1	49,2	48,7	47,7	46,4	46,4	45,7	46,7
3+	23,6	22,8	23,5	23,6	22,7	22,7	23,3	22,5	21,8	20,2
Unmarried women										
0	4 242	4 288	4 049	4 123	3 952	3 957	3 955	3 896	3 776	3 626
1	1 880	1 670	1 606	1 636	1 579	1 530	1 619	1 693	1 663	1 720
2	1 263	1 065	1 059	1 051	1 008	1 017	1 049	1 078	1 035	1 003
3+	556	468	502	489	511	482	545	577	521	453
Total	7 941	7 491	7 216	7 299	7 050	6 986	7 168	7 244	6 995	6 802
Unmarried women (%)										
0	53,4	57,3	56,1	56,5	56	56,6	55,2	53,8	54,0	53,3
1	23,7	22,3	22,2	22,4	22,4	21,9	22,6	23,4	23,8	25,3
2	15,9	14,2	14,7	14,4	14,3	14,6	14,6	14,8	14,8	14,7
3+	7	6,2	7	6,7	7,3	6,9	7,6	8	7,4	6,7

**Graph 4.11 Induced abortions by the number of children****Graph 4.12 Induced abortions by number of live-births and marital status, 2004**

With regard to the order of abortion in case of both types of abortion (spontaneous and induced), the most frequent are first-order abortions. In case of spontaneous abortion the first-order spontaneous abortions represent more than 80 % in the whole observed time period. With a significant gap they are followed by further orders – second-order abortions (11 %) and third-order abortions (4 %).

The share of first-order induced abortions increased from 58,8 % in 1995 to 67,1% in 2004. Further orders report decreasing tendencies.

**Tab. 4.5: Induced abortions by order and marital status**

	Married	Married in %	Unmarried	Unmarried in %	Total	Total in %
1	5 340	62,8	4 936	72,6	10 276	67,1
2	1 987	23,4	1 233	18,1	3 220	21,0
3	794	9,3	415	6,1	1 209	7,9
4+	384	4,5	218	3,2	602	3,9
Total	8 505	100	6 802	100	15 307	100

### Abortions by education

Women with the primary education represent the only education population group, which contributes to the total number of abortions less than its representation in population is. In terms of university educated women both shares are roughly the same and the share of abortions of women with secondary education is substantially higher than their representation in population. The mentioned declarations are valid for spontaneous as well as for induced abortions.

The highest number of abortions (43 % spontaneous and 46 % induced) falls on women with the secondary education including a leaving exam, who form approximately 34% of female population aged 15 and more. They are followed by women with secondary education without a leaving exam (share in population less than 22 %, share in the total number of abortions 25 % or 27 %) and at the third place there are women with primary education (share in population 31,5 %, share in the total number of abortions 20 % or 17 %). The lowest number, 9 % or 8 % from the total number of abortions falls on women with the university education, whose share in population is less than 9 %.

The differences in the level of abortion by education are undoubtedly related to the specificity of particular education groups of women, which are reflected in the different reproductive behaviour. However, also the age structure plays its role, which differs in relation to education.

**Tab. 4.6: Abortions by education**

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total	30 885	27 798	26 658	25 557	23 593	22 792	22 141	21 159	20 075
Spontaneous									
Total	5 712	5 480	5 549	5 608	5 125	4 766	4 759	4 937	4 768
Primary	1 266	1 208	1 270	1 228	1 158	1 187	1 145	1 124	976
Secondary without a leaving exam	1 811	1 849	1 807	1 709	1 521	1 358	1 239	1 212	1 230
Secondary with a leaving exam	2 186	2 053	2 025	2 156	2 001	1 790	1 918	2 095	2 089
University	449	370	447	515	445	431	457	506	473
Spontaneous in %									
Primary	22,2	22,0	22,9	21,9	22,6	24,9	24,1	22,8	20,5
Secondary without a leaving exam	31,7	33,7	32,6	30,5	29,7	28,5	26,0	24,5	25,8
Secondary with a leaving exam	38,3	37,5	36,5	38,4	39,0	37,6	40,3	42,4	43,8
University	7,9	6,8	8,1	9,2	8,7	9,0	9,6	10,2	9,9
Induced									
Total	25 173	22 318	21 109	19 949	18 468	18 026	17 382	16 222	15 307
Primary	4 253	3 814	3 700	3 458	3 310	3 359	3 298	3 014	2 699
Secondary without a leaving exam	7 819	7 133	6 748	6 396	5 817	5 563	5 250	4 709	4 226
Secondary with a leaving exam	11 201	9 725	9 081	8 708	8 018	7 866	7 672	7 355	7 146
University	1 900	1 646	1 580	1 387	1 323	1 238	1 162	1 144	1 236
Induced in %									
Primary	16,9	17,1	17,5	17,3	17,9	18,6	19,0	18,6	17,6
Secondary without a leaving exam	31,1	32,0	32,0	32,1	31,5	30,9	30,2	29,0	27,6
Secondary with a leaving exam	44,5	43,6	43,0	43,7	43,4	43,6	44,1	45,3	46,7
University	7,5	7,4	7,5	7,0	7,2	6,9	6,7	7,1	8,1



## 5. Mortality

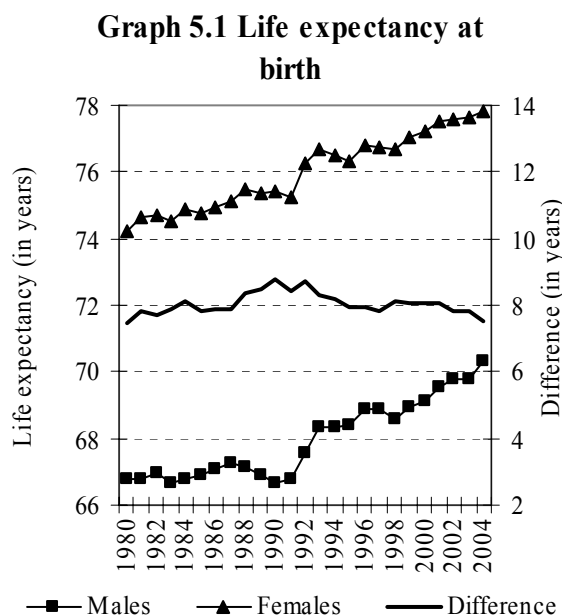
**Tab. 5.1 Basic characteristics of mortality**

		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Deaths	males	28 128	27 535	27 788	28 630	28 102	28 157	27 705	27 415	27 702	27 304
	females	24 558	23 701	24 336	24 526	24 300	24 567	24 275	24 117	24 528	24 548
	total	52 686	51 236	52 124	53 156	52 402	52 724	51 980	51 532	52 230	51 852
Standardized mortality rates <sup>6</sup>		9,82	9,46	9,49	9,57	9,25	9,17	9,13	8,92	8,96	8,70
Life expectancy at birth	males	68,39	68,87	68,89	68,61	68,95	69,14	69,51	69,77	69,77	70,29
	females	76,33	76,80	76,72	76,70	77,03	77,22	77,54	77,57	77,62	77,83
	total	7,94	7,93	7,83	8,09	8,08	8,08	8,03	7,81	7,84	7,54
Life expectancy at age 50	males	22,66	22,90	22,98	22,81	22,91	23,04	23,19	23,44	23,51	23,81
	females	28,59	29,04	28,92	28,93	29,14	29,18	29,39	29,60	29,60	29,75
	total	5,93	6,14	5,94	6,12	6,23	6,14	6,20	6,16	6,09	5,94
Life expectancy at age 65	males	12,68	12,86	12,91	12,76	12,89	12,91	13,00	13,19	13,17	13,33
	females	16,07	16,41	16,37	16,28	16,47	16,38	16,64	16,82	16,77	16,90
	total	3,39	3,55	3,46	3,52	3,58	3,47	3,64	3,62	3,60	3,57
Infant mortality rate		10,99	10,23	8,70	8,79	8,31	8,58	6,24	7,63	7,85	6,79

The decreasing trend in the number of deaths after 1998 indicates the positive tendencies in the mortality development. Whether this is the case or it is just the result of change in the age structure will require a more detailed exploration of mortality characteristics.

The standardised mortality rate<sup>6</sup> decreased during 1995-2004 from 9,82 ‰ down to 8,70 ‰. It means that, if the population structure did not change during the last decade, in 2004 46,9 thousand people would die, what would be by 10,9 % less than in 1995. At the same time, it is by 4,9 thousand people less as compared to the number of people who actually died in 2004, what can be attributed to the change in population age structure. Having said that, the general decrease of mortality appears as a result.

### Life expectancy



In 2004, the life expectancy at birth of men exceeded for the first time the value of 70 years (70,29). Women approached 78 years (77,83). It is the continuation of the trend of mortality improvement from 1998, being slowed down by the development in 2002 and 2003. Also the diminishing of the difference between the values of indicator for men and women is confirmed. This diminishing indicates a faster decrease of mortality of men against women. In 2004 this difference was 7,54 years.

The similar development is also in older age categories. In 2004 life expectancy at age 50 for men was 23,81 years, for women 29,75 years. The difference between sexes is getting lower in this age, currently it is 5,94 years.

At the pensionable age (65 years) the life expectancy of men is 13,31 years and in terms of women it is 16,90 years. It means that men would enjoy the retirement less by 3,59 years provided the mortality relations will not change for a sufficiently long time.

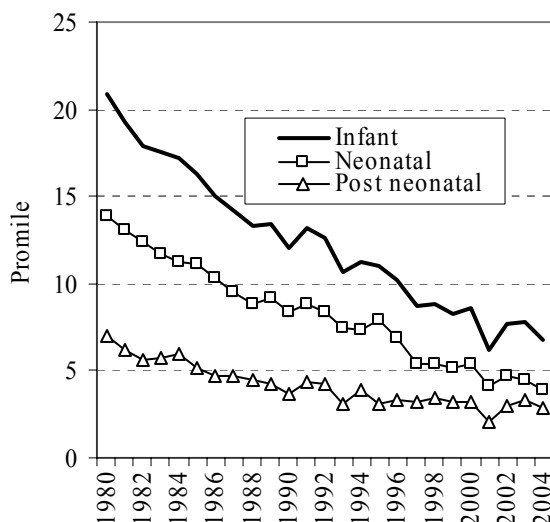
<sup>6</sup> standard – age structure of population on 1 July 1995

## Mortality during the first year of life

**Tab. 5.2 Mortality during the first year of life**

		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
		Deaths									
Up to 1 year	males	388	338	285	278	259	280	185	189	230	200
	females	287	277	229	228	208	193	134	199	176	165
	total	675	615	514	506	467	473	319	388	406	365
Up to 28 days	males	280	236	186	173	166	173	125	109	135	110
	females	203	179	135	137	123	124	86	129	99	101
	total	483	415	321	310	289	297	211	238	234	211
Up to 7 days	males	199	160	117	108	118	114	91	79	104	80
	females	137	117	88	102	78	84	72	91	75	70
	total	336	277	205	210	196	198	163	170	179	150
		Mortality rates									
Infant	males	12,35	10,89	9,38	9,41	9,02	9,92	7,00	7,27	8,67	7,23
	females	9,56	9,53	7,97	8,13	7,56	7,17	5,43	8,02	6,99	6,32
	total	10,99	10,23	8,70	8,79	8,31	8,58	6,24	7,63	7,85	6,79
Neonatal	males	8,91	7,60	6,12	5,86	5,78	6,13	4,73	4,19	5,09	3,98
	females	6,76	6,16	4,70	4,89	4,47	4,61	3,48	5,20	3,93	3,87
	total	7,86	6,90	5,43	5,38	5,14	5,39	4,13	4,68	4,52	3,93
Early neonatal	males	6,33	5,15	3,85	3,66	4,11	4,04	3,44	3,04	3,92	2,89
	females	4,56	4,02	3,06	3,64	2,84	3,12	2,92	3,67	2,98	2,68
	total	5,47	4,61	3,47	3,65	3,49	3,59	3,19	3,34	3,46	2,79
Post neonatal	males	3,44	3,29	3,26	3,55	3,24	3,79	2,27	3,08	3,58	3,26
	females	2,80	3,37	3,27	3,25	3,09	2,56	1,94	2,82	3,06	2,45
	total	3,13	3,33	3,27	3,40	3,17	3,19	2,11	2,95	3,33	2,87
Perinatal	males	10,56	9,11	8,46	8,12	8,53	8,12	7,61	6,78	8,44	6,31
	females	8,10	7,98	6,66	8,87	7,56	6,77	6,78	7,50	6,77	7,09
	total	9,36	8,56	7,58	8,49	8,06	7,46	7,21	7,13	7,63	6,69

**Graph 5.2 First year of life mortality**



compared to the previous year by 47,7%. It was caused mainly by the mortality of girls until 28 days, which increased by 49,4% up to the level of 5,2 ‰, what was the highest level from 1997. In 2002, for the first time the higher infant and also neonatal mortality rate of girls than of boys was recorded. In this year the infant mortality rate was getting worse in case of boys, however, unlike the girls, it was caused by the post-neonatal mortality rate with annual increase of 35,7%.

The mortality decrease is reflected already in the first year of life. The infant mortality rate fell from 10,99 ‰ in 1995 down to 6,79 ‰ in 2004, however, the current value is not the lowest in the last decade. The lowest value was recorded in 2001, i.e. 6,24 ‰; this is true also for the infant mortality rate of boys (7,00 ‰) as well as for the infant mortality rate of girls (5,43 ‰). The similar tendency is reported in case of post-neonatal mortality rate, which achieved the lowest values in 2001, i.e. for boys 2,27 ‰ and for girls it was 1,94 ‰; in 2004, the values of 3,26 ‰ and 2,45 ‰ were recorded for boys and girls respectively. On the other hand, the neonatal mortality rate recorded the lowest level in 2004, i.e. 3,93 ‰ for both sexes. The similar value was reached in case of boys, with the lowest one being 3,98 ‰ in 2004, however, in case of girls the lowest value being 3,48 ‰ was reached in 2001.

The year 2002 was the year of worsening of the mortality during the first year of life, mainly in terms of girls. The infant mortality rate of girls increased as

The year 2003 had brought for boys a further worsening of infant mortality rate as well as of its components – neonatal and post-neonatal mortality rate. On the contrary in case of girls, the infant mortality rate began to improve due to the fall of neonatal mortality rate of girls.

Finally the year 2004 brought a general improvement of mortality in the first year of life in all its components.

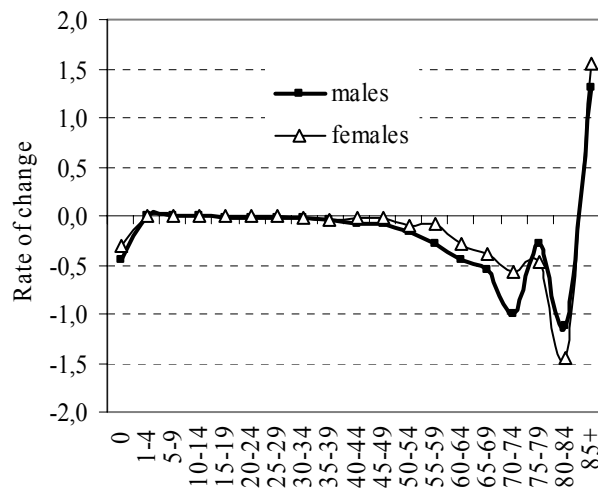
The mortality of children in the perinatal age is reflected also in the decreasing tendency during the last decade. In 2004 the lowest value of perinatal mortality rate, i.e. 6,69 ‰, was recorded. In case of boys, the lowest value was also recorded in this year, despite a relatively high value in the previous year. However, the situation in terms of girls was different; the lowest value was achieved in 2002 and in 2004, the perinatal mortality rate of girls was even higher than the perinatal mortality rate of boys.

## Age and sex

**Tab. 5.3 Age-specific mortality rates (per 1000 men, resp. women)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Males										
0	12,01	10,92	9,36	9,35	8,95	9,91	6,87	7,24	8,80	7,42
1-4	0,44	0,54	0,50	0,57	0,50	0,48	0,54	0,34	0,40	0,50
5-9	0,31	0,26	0,29	0,29	0,27	0,21	0,30	0,30	0,18	0,22
10-14	0,28	0,27	0,31	0,27	0,31	0,30	0,30	0,19	0,26	0,17
15-19	0,75	0,65	0,77	0,70	0,59	0,58	0,54	0,61	0,61	0,58
20-24	1,10	1,14	1,20	1,20	1,13	1,09	0,92	1,03	0,91	0,94
25-29	1,32	1,29	1,25	1,26	1,23	1,26	1,22	1,16	1,15	1,14
30-34	1,66	1,59	1,70	1,79	1,67	1,71	1,69	1,53	1,41	1,37
35-39	2,74	2,44	2,71	2,69	2,53	2,37	2,45	2,40	2,46	2,31
40-44	4,85	4,31	4,58	5,08	4,76	4,21	4,25	4,34	4,33	3,96
45-49	7,58	7,44	7,36	7,93	7,34	7,34	7,12	7,27	7,29	6,52
50-54	12,63	12,13	12,56	12,23	12,36	12,19	11,42	11,60	11,31	10,92
55-59	19,10	18,31	18,42	18,94	18,43	17,57	17,50	17,52	17,18	15,94
60-64	29,79	29,10	27,43	28,47	28,75	28,08	28,20	26,04	25,42	25,19
65-69	42,33	42,16	41,06	42,11	40,79	41,20	40,47	38,94	38,89	36,52
70-74	62,63	63,40	63,46	63,09	60,20	60,63	59,90	55,74	55,61	55,68
75-79	88,79	82,60	86,20	89,59	90,02	87,56	83,73	84,53	85,16	84,57
80-84	133,29	136,33	131,04	137,36	127,31	126,82	127,78	123,88	126,34	127,74
85+	221,12	203,97	202,51	197,80	192,61	195,27	219,13	217,54	224,38	213,33
Females										
0	9,25	9,44	7,97	8,08	7,53	7,13	5,25	8,07	7,08	6,46
1-4	0,44	0,30	0,41	0,56	0,33	0,30	0,32	0,33	0,49	0,41
5-9	0,19	0,23	0,22	0,19	0,23	0,19	0,14	0,18	0,11	0,19
10-14	0,18	0,17	0,12	0,21	0,20	0,15	0,14	0,17	0,16	0,19
15-19	0,30	0,29	0,34	0,31	0,23	0,33	0,31	0,28	0,28	0,26
20-24	0,25	0,26	0,33	0,28	0,34	0,27	0,24	0,29	0,34	0,28
25-29	0,42	0,29	0,33	0,40	0,39	0,38	0,40	0,36	0,29	0,31
30-34	0,66	0,62	0,58	0,64	0,50	0,39	0,52	0,49	0,48	0,40
35-39	0,98	0,98	1,06	1,03	0,98	0,86	0,82	0,75	0,90	0,73
40-44	1,61	1,56	1,66	1,66	1,50	1,53	1,55	1,45	1,40	1,46
45-49	2,58	2,71	2,71	2,56	2,79	2,54	2,67	2,49	2,47	2,60
50-54	4,76	4,08	4,59	4,24	4,32	3,96	4,03	3,75	3,82	3,81
55-59	7,04	6,75	7,28	6,90	6,77	6,22	6,52	6,47	6,41	6,45
60-64	12,20	11,55	11,10	11,13	10,68	10,65	10,33	9,99	9,60	9,23
65-69	20,35	19,56	19,24	19,11	18,25	17,84	17,21	17,33	17,10	16,87
70-74	34,44	32,25	33,28	31,82	30,56	31,27	30,51	29,44	29,19	28,88
75-79	56,71	55,58	55,97	57,33	57,88	56,30	55,08	53,40	53,35	52,12
80-84	105,12	99,42	102,02	103,64	95,25	97,86	91,71	90,11	92,83	93,78
85+	190,85	182,80	181,69	182,17	180,29	182,48	197,38	195,84	201,07	187,67

**Graph 5.3 Age-specific mortality changes between 1995 and 2004**



During 1995 - 2004, the mortality by age had been recording in general a decreasing tendency<sup>7</sup>, despite the perturbing influences in the years 2002 and 2003. The average annual growth rates for 5-year age groups give the negative value, thus, indicate a decreasing trend. The exception is to be seen only in case of people aged 85 and over (for both sexes), where the opposite tendency is recorded, what can be attributed to the increase of mortality in this age group in 2001. This tendency did not improve too much in the years 2002 and 2003. A moderate improvement is indicated only in 2004.

During 1995 - 2004, the probability that a person will die before the age of 15, had been showing a decreasing tendency. In terms of boys the decrease is sharper than in case of girls, while also the difference between the relevant values is diminishing. The increase of this probability of death for girls to the level being higher than for boys in 2002 is peculiar. It is the consequence of already

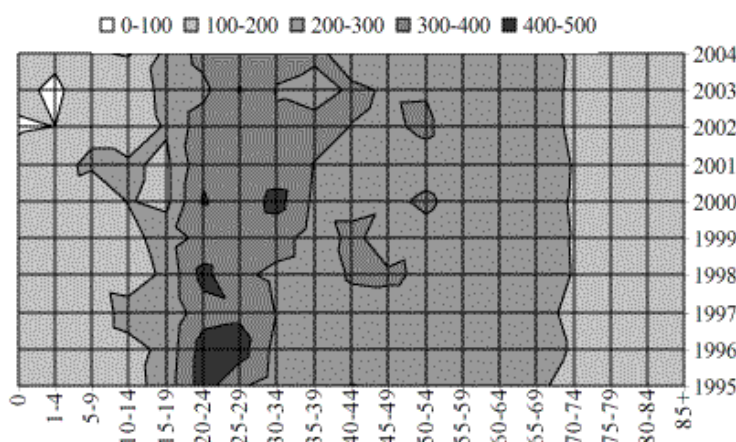
mentioned high infant or neonatal mortality rate of girls in this year.

**Tab. 5.4: Selected probabilities of dying**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Probability that a person will die before age 15										
males	0,0166	0,0156	0,0142	0,0143	0,0138	0,0142	0,0118	0,0109	0,0125	0,0114
females	0,0128	0,0127	0,0114	0,0121	0,0111	0,0100	0,0079	0,0111	0,0104	0,0099
Probability that person who survived to age 15 would die before age 60										
males	0,2290	0,2207	0,2248	0,2296	0,2231	0,2162	0,2115	0,2125	0,2093	0,1974
females	0,0891	0,0848	0,0902	0,0869	0,0854	0,0797	0,0819	0,0790	0,0787	0,0784
Probability that person who survived to age 60 would die before age 85										
males	0,8349	0,8261	0,8255	0,8320	0,8280	0,8265	0,8220	0,8171	0,8164	0,8139
females	0,6862	0,6682	0,6716	0,6749	0,6657	0,6713	0,6560	0,6455	0,6490	0,6414

The probability that a person who survived to age 15 would die before age 60 was also decreasing during 1995-2004 in case of both sexes, while in terms of men the decrease was remarkably sharper than in case of women. However, it is necessary to point out the substantially higher probabilities of death for men than for women at this age, in 2004 it was even 2.5 times higher.

**Graph 5.4 Excess male mortality by age**



The probability that a person, who survived to age 60 would die before age 85 can also be designated as a decreasing one, however, unlike the preceding probabilities in this case the value for women drops down faster than in case of men. With regard to the fact that for men these values are higher, also the differences between sexes are growing.

Excess male mortality by age groups during the observed time period remains practically unchanged. Excess male mortality indices do not indicate a significant improvement. Generally the lowest values are at younger age and at the

oldest age, on the contrary, the highest are at the middle age. In 2004, the highest values were recorded at the age of

<sup>7</sup> If the five-year (or more) intervals are taken into account.

20-39, where the excess male mortality exceeded 300 %. Owing to this year one has to mention the mortality of boys aged 10-14 being even lower than in case of girls. However, this fact can be attributed also to the sensitivity of the calculation of excess male mortality to low values.

## Causes of death

The causes of death represent an important aspect of the mortality analyses. They form the base for the effort aimed to the decrease of mortality by targeted measures in the prevention of illnesses, which cause the majority of deaths. We have traced the causes of death<sup>8</sup> covering 99 % of all deaths in 2004.

**Tab. 5.5 Causes of death**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Males										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	105	106	108	64	86	96	99	117	151	138
Neoplasms	6 657	6 747	6 683	7 352	7 132	7 015	7 025	6 768	6 822	6 812
Malignant neoplasms	6 599	6 698	6 614	7 328	7 114	6 985	6 997	6 729	6 788	6 763
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	320	291	279	312	470	338	347	334	352	322
Diabetes mellitus	288	264	259	293	444	320	331	318	339	305
Diseases of the nervous system	141	131	166	253	328	302	340	334	356	353
Diseases of the circulatory system	13 926	13 475	13 725	14 122	13 553	13 605	13 425	13 181	13 145	13 072
Hypertensive diseases	604	482	549	796	1 233	1 549	1 540	1 457	1 444	1 382
Ischaemic heart diseases	7 469	7 264	7 302	7 066	7 062	7 476	7 275	7 090	7 298	7 218
Cerebrovascular diseases	2 339	2 257	2 279	2 414	2 135	2 140	2 132	2 203	2 182	2 096
Atherosclerosis	2 014	2 090	2 133	1 959	1 718	1 041	1 099	1 045	849	946
Diseases of the respiratory system	1 890	1 978	1 890	1 357	1 491	1 641	1 548	1 622	1 757	1 703
Diseases of the digestive system	1 484	1 385	1 396	1 621	1 687	1 751	1 666	1 751	1 690	1 591
Diseases of the genitourinary system	416	365	358	364	392	363	364	380	370	366
Abnormal findings	170	201	215	221	281	315	240	279	362	333
External causes of deaths	2 617	2 542	2 709	2 694	2 428	2 452	2 431	2 427	2 459	2 388
Transport accidents	709	652	829	857	686	679	654	598	663	610
Intentional self harm	609	566	524	584	590	594	580	617	648	564
Other causes of deaths	402	314	259	270	254	279	220	222	238	226
Total	28 128	27 535	27 788	28 630	28 102	28 157	27 705	27 415	27 702	27 304
Females										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	80	81	82	56	56	72	87	84	111	96
Neoplasms	4 418	4 394	4 613	4 882	4 803	4 915	4 845	4 736	4 794	4 864
Malignant neoplasms	4 348	4 351	4 558	4 858	4 785	4 886	4 818	4 716	4 770	4 819
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	413	356	374	476	607	462	452	430	450	468
Diabetes mellitus	380	326	354	446	571	438	431	412	433	443
Diseases of the nervous system	96	82	102	182	193	197	225	240	271	255
Diseases of the circulatory system	15 097	14 423	14 796	15 607	15 115	15 380	15 269	14 887	15 065	15 056
Hypertensive diseases	875	717	818	968	1 596	1 932	1 989	1 932	1 886	1 871
Ischaemic heart diseases	6 996	6 843	6 975	7 287	7 521	8 212	7 947	7 812	8 081	8 040
Cerebrovascular diseases	3 029	2 692	2 700	2 815	2 511	2 537	2 560	2 560	2 651	2 650
Atherosclerosis	2 671	2 769	2 847	2 464	2 142	1 361	1 391	1 194	1 012	1 023
Diseases of the respiratory system	1 753	1 807	1 857	1 034	1 124	1 271	1 178	1 291	1 367	1 255
Diseases of the digestive system	775	770	797	852	951	879	936	1 040	1 002	1 069
Diseases of the genitourinary system	406	388	359	370	390	308	339	351	381	378
Abnormal findings	178	138	157	141	154	158	135	181	218	217
External causes of deaths	1 025	991	985	669	666	663	608	595	624	674
Transport accidents	214	189	193	218	201	171	176	180	194	159
Intentional self harm	126	106	106	88	102	135	112	100	105	112
Other causes of deaths	317	271	214	257	241	262	201	282	245	216
Total	24 558	23 701	24 336	24 526	24 300	24 567	24 275	24 117	24 528	24 548

<sup>8</sup> Title and code ICD-10 is in the Appendix.

**Tab. 5.6 Causes of death (%)**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Males (in %)										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,4	0,4	0,5	0,5
Neoplasms	23,7	24,5	24,0	25,7	25,4	24,9	25,4	24,7	24,6	24,9
Malignant neoplasms	99,1	99,3	99,0	99,7	99,7	99,6	99,6	99,4	99,5	99,3
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	1,1	1,1	1,0	1,1	1,7	1,2	1,3	1,2	1,3	1,2
Diabetes mellitus	90,0	90,7	92,8	93,9	94,5	94,7	95,4	95,2	96,3	94,7
Diseases of the nervous system	0,5	0,5	0,6	0,9	1,2	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3
Diseases of the circulatory system	49,5	48,9	49,4	49,3	48,2	48,3	48,5	48,1	47,5	47,9
Hypertensive diseases	4,3	3,6	4,0	5,6	9,1	11,4	11,5	11,1	11,0	10,6
Ischemic heart diseases	53,6	53,9	53,2	50,0	52,1	55,0	54,2	53,8	55,5	55,2
Cerebrovascular diseases	16,8	16,7	16,6	17,1	15,8	15,7	15,9	16,7	16,6	16,0
Atherosclerosis	14,5	15,5	15,5	13,9	12,7	7,7	8,2	7,9	6,5	7,2
Diseases of the respiratory system	6,7	7,2	6,8	4,7	5,3	5,8	5,6	5,9	6,3	6,2
Diseases of the digestive system	5,3	5,0	5,0	5,7	6,0	6,2	6,0	6,4	6,1	5,8
Diseases of the genitourinary system	1,5	1,3	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,3	1,3
Abnormal findings	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	1,0	1,1	0,9	1,0	1,3	1,2
External causes of deaths	9,3	9,2	9,7	9,4	8,6	8,7	8,8	8,9	8,9	8,7
Transport accidents	27,1	25,6	30,6	31,8	28,3	27,7	26,9	24,6	27,0	25,5
Intentional self harm	23,3	22,3	19,3	21,7	24,3	24,2	23,9	25,4	26,4	23,6
Other causes of deaths	1,4	1,1	0,9	0,9	0,9	1,0	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,8
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Females (in%)										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,3	0,5	0,4
Neoplasms	18,0	18,5	19,0	19,9	19,8	20,0	20,0	19,6	19,5	19,8
Malignant neoplasms	15,5	15,8	16,4	17,0	17,0	17,4	17,4	17,2	17,2	17,6
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	1,7	1,5	1,5	1,9	2,5	1,9	1,9	1,8	1,8	1,9
Diabetes mellitus	92,0	91,6	94,7	93,7	94,1	94,8	95,4	95,8	96,2	94,7
Diseases of the nervous system	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,0
Diseases of the circulatory system	61,5	60,9	60,8	63,6	62,2	62,6	62,9	61,7	61,4	61,3
Hypertensive diseases	5,8	5,0	5,5	6,2	10,6	12,6	13,0	13,0	12,5	12,4
Ischemic heart diseases	46,3	47,4	47,1	46,7	49,8	53,4	52,0	52,5	53,6	53,4
Cerebrovascular diseases	20,1	18,7	18,2	18,0	16,6	16,5	16,8	17,2	17,6	17,6
Atherosclerosis	17,7	19,2	19,2	15,8	14,2	8,8	9,1	8,0	6,7	6,8
Diseases of the respiratory system	7,1	7,6	7,6	4,2	4,6	5,2	4,9	5,4	5,6	5,1
Diseases of the digestive system	3,2	3,2	3,3	3,5	3,9	3,6	3,9	4,3	4,1	4,4
Diseases of the genitourinary system	1,7	1,6	1,5	1,5	1,6	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,5
Abnormal findings	0,7	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,8	0,9	0,9
External causes of deaths	4,2	4,2	4,0	2,7	2,7	2,7	2,5	2,5	2,5	2,7
Transport accidents	20,9	19,1	19,6	32,6	30,2	25,8	28,9	30,3	31,1	23,6
Intentional self harm	12,3	10,7	10,8	13,2	15,3	20,4	18,4	16,8	16,8	16,6
Other causes of deaths	1,3	1,1	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	0,8	1,2	1,0	0,9
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

It is well-known that the highest share of deaths for men already lingeringly fall on deaths due to circulatory system diseases. In 2004, this cause represented 47,9 % of all deaths of men. Within this category of illnesses the highest share fall on deaths on ischemic heart diseases (55,2 %) and on cerebrovascular diseases (16,0 %). They are followed by hypertensive diseases, the share of which in 1995 was 4,3% and in 2004 even 10,6%. This increase is to the prejudice of deaths due to atherosclerosis, which in 2004 was the reason for 7,2 % of deaths caused by the circulatory system diseases (in 1995 this share was 14,5%).

Deaths caused by neoplasm were the reason for 24,9 % of deaths of men in 2004. They are followed by external causes of death with 8,7%, of which 25,5 % are transport accidents and 23,6 % are intentional self-harm. The next are respiratory system diseases (6,2 %) and the digestive system diseases (5,8 %).

In terms of women, the highest share of deaths is related to the circulatory system diseases; this share in the total number of deaths is even higher than in case of men. In 2004, they represented 61,3 % of all deaths of women, of which 53,4 % were formed by the ischemic heart diseases and 17,6 % were deaths due to cerebrovascular diseases. Furthermore, there were the hypertensive diseases with the increasing share (12,4 %) and deaths due to atherosclerosis with the decreasing share (6,8 %). Deaths due to neoplasm contributed to the total number of deaths of women in 2004 by 19,8 % . At the next place in ranking of the causes of death, there are respiratory system diseases (5,1 %), followed by digestive system diseases (4,4 %) and by external causes of death (2,7 %).

**Tab. 5.7 Standardised mortality rates by causes of death<sup>9</sup>**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Males										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,03	0,03	0,04	0,04	0,05	0,06	0,06
Neoplasms	2,99	3,01	2,94	3,21	3,07	3,01	3,02	2,86	2,83	2,80
Malignant neoplasms	2,97	2,99	2,91	3,20	3,06	2,99	3,01	2,84	2,82	2,78
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	0,15	0,13	0,12	0,14	0,21	0,15	0,15	0,14	0,15	0,13
Diabetes mellitus	0,13	0,12	0,12	0,13	0,20	0,14	0,15	0,13	0,15	0,13
Diseases of the nervous system	0,06	0,05	0,07	0,10	0,13	0,12	0,14	0,13	0,14	0,14
Diseases of the circulatory system	6,73	6,47	6,50	6,66	6,25	6,19	6,26	6,06	6,03	5,93
Hypertensive diseases	0,28	0,22	0,26	0,36	0,54	0,69	0,69	0,65	0,64	0,61
Ischemic heart diseases	3,58	3,45	3,44	3,33	3,26	3,42	3,42	3,30	3,38	3,32
Cerebrovascular diseases	1,13	1,09	1,08	1,14	1,00	0,98	1,01	1,01	1,00	0,96
Atherosclerosis	1,04	1,06	1,06	0,97	0,83	0,49	0,52	0,50	0,41	0,43
Diseases of the respiratory system	0,92	0,96	0,90	0,63	0,69	0,75	0,73	0,74	0,81	0,77
Diseases of the digestive system	0,64	0,60	0,58	0,67	0,69	0,71	0,68	0,70	0,66	0,63
Diseases of the genitourinary system	0,19	0,17	0,16	0,16	0,18	0,16	0,16	0,17	0,16	0,16
Abnormal findings	0,08	0,09	0,09	0,09	0,11	0,12	0,09	0,11	0,14	0,13
External causes of deaths	1,06	1,02	1,07	1,03	0,93	0,93	0,93	0,91	0,91	0,89
Transport accidents	0,28	0,25	0,32	0,33	0,26	0,26	0,24	0,22	0,24	0,22
Intentional self harm	0,24	0,22	0,20	0,22	0,22	0,22	0,22	0,23	0,24	0,20
Other causes of deaths	0,13	0,12	0,10	0,11	0,10	0,12	0,09	0,10	0,10	0,10
Total	13,01	12,65	12,58	12,83	12,40	12,29	12,30	11,96	12,00	11,72
Females										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	0,02	0,02	0,03	0,02	0,02	0,02	0,03	0,02	0,03	0,03
Neoplasms	1,41	1,38	1,43	1,48	1,44	1,46	1,43	1,37	1,36	1,36
Malignant neoplasms	1,39	1,37	1,41	1,47	1,43	1,45	1,42	1,36	1,36	1,35
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	0,13	0,11	0,11	0,14	0,17	0,13	0,13	0,12	0,12	0,13
Diabetes mellitus	0,12	0,10	0,10	0,13	0,16	0,12	0,12	0,12	0,12	0,12
Diseases of the nervous system	0,04	0,03	0,04	0,06	0,06	0,06	0,07	0,08	0,08	0,08
Diseases of the circulatory system	4,45	4,20	4,25	4,42	4,15	4,12	4,16	4,00	4,02	3,94
Hypertensive diseases	0,26	0,21	0,24	0,28	0,44	0,53	0,55	0,52	0,50	0,49
Ischemic heart diseases	2,06	1,99	2,01	2,06	2,05	2,20	2,16	2,10	2,16	2,10
Cerebrovascular diseases	0,90	0,79	0,78	0,80	0,70	0,67	0,69	0,69	0,70	0,69
Atherosclerosis	0,76	0,78	0,79	0,68	0,57	0,35	0,37	0,32	0,27	0,27
Diseases of the respiratory system	0,52	0,53	0,54	0,30	0,31	0,35	0,33	0,35	0,38	0,34
Diseases of the digestive system	0,25	0,24	0,25	0,26	0,29	0,26	0,28	0,30	0,29	0,30
Diseases of the genitourinary system	0,13	0,12	0,11	0,11	0,11	0,09	0,10	0,10	0,10	0,10
Abnormal findings	0,05	0,04	0,05	0,04	0,05	0,05	0,04	0,05	0,07	0,06
External causes of deaths	0,33	0,32	0,31	0,23	0,22	0,22	0,20	0,19	0,20	0,21
Transport accidents	0,08	0,07	0,07	0,08	0,07	0,06	0,06	0,06	0,06	0,05
Intentional self harm	0,04	0,04	0,04	0,03	0,03	0,04	0,04	0,03	0,03	0,04
Other causes of deaths	0,10	0,10	0,08	0,10	0,09	0,10	0,08	0,12	0,10	0,09
Total	7,45	7,10	7,19	7,16	6,91	6,86	6,82	6,71	6,75	6,63

<sup>9</sup> Standard – age structure of population on 1 July 1995

The decreasing tendency in mortality for the whole population has been already mentioned at the beginning of this chapter. During 1995-2004 a decrease was recorded by 9,9 % and 11,0 % for men and women respectively. However, a similar decrease cannot be confirmed for all causes of death.

The deaths due to circulatory system diseases in case of men decreased in the observed time period by 11,9 %. A similar situation occurs also in terms of its components as deaths due to ischaemic heart diseases, cerebrovascular diseases, however, the deaths due to hypertensive diseases increased by 118,4 %. Nevertheless, this increase was significantly influenced by the mortality due to this disease in 2000 and 2001, when the standardised mortality rate reached the highest values in the entire observed time period. However, since this time period a moderate improvement of mortality has appeared, what is reflected also in the slight decrease of this rate.

During the observed time period, an increase of deaths due to diseases of the nervous system, i.e. by 130,9 %, was found out. Also the mortality due to abnormal findings and infectious diseases increased (59,6 % and 15,8% respectively). In other cases a mortality decrease was recorded. The same is true for deaths due to neoplasm, where a 6,5% decrease occurred, deaths due to endocrine diseases (10,2%), respiratory system diseases (16,2 %), digestive system diseases (2,3 %), genitourinary system diseases (17,0 %) and due to external causes of deaths (16,4 %). A decrease of deaths due to transport accidents (20,6 %) and intentional self-harm (16,3 %) was recorded too.

The mortality due to circulatory system diseases in case of women decreased too, i.e. by 11,5 %. However, it cannot be said about all its components. The mortality due to cerebrovascular diseases (23,8 %) and atherosclerosis (64,4 %) decreased, however, the mortality due to hypertensive diseases increased by 87,8 %; similarly also the mortality due to ischaemic heart diseases increased although only by 1,7 %. This increase was, however, influenced by the development of mortality in 2000 and 2001, similarly as in case of men.

Also for women, similarly as for men, the increase of deaths due to diseases of the nervous system was recorded, which achieved even 95,3%. An increase was discovered also in terms of deaths due to infectious diseases (26,3 %), digestive system diseases and the abnormal findings (27,8 %). On the other hand, a decrease was recorded in case of the following causes of deaths: neoplasm (3,6%), respiratory system diseases (34,3 %), genitourinary system diseases (21,7 %) and external causes (35,7 %), including transport accidents, which fell down by 32,0 %.

**Tab. 5.8 Excess male mortality by causes of death**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Infectious and parasitic diseases	250	193	169	154	208	181	170	198	194	229
Neoplasms	212	218	206	217	214	206	212	209	207	206
Malignant neoplasms	214	219	206	217	214	206	212	208	207	206
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	115	121	114	98	120	111	121	116	122	108
Diabetes mellitus	108	120	113	99	120	112	121	115	123	109
Diseases of the nervous system	150	179	180	159	204	192	188	167	166	177
Diseases of the circulatory system	151	154	153	151	151	150	151	152	150	151
Hypertensive diseases	108	105	106	131	122	131	127	126	127	125
Ischaemic heart diseases	174	173	172	162	159	156	158	157	156	158
Cerebrovascular diseases	126	138	138	142	143	145	147	148	144	140
Atherosclerosis	137	136	134	142	148	138	140	156	150	161
Diseases of the respiratory system	177	179	167	213	225	212	223	210	215	226
Diseases of the digestive system	256	246	234	257	242	273	244	229	232	210
Diseases of the genitourinary system	146	141	151	146	159	184	167	170	157	155
Abnormal findings	160	204	184	217	229	266	242	205	215	200
External causes of deaths	321	322	343	455	427	432	464	465	459	417
Transport accidents	350	384	474	433	383	445	420	364	376	409
Intentional self harm	600	604	570	732	650	493	601	717	712	563
Other causes of deaths	130	117	122	110	110	115	122	85	106	112
Total	175	178	175	179	180	179	180	178	178	177

A general excess male mortality is confirmed also by the mortality by the causes of death. The highest is in the category of external causes of death, where the excess male mortality exceeds 400 %, conversely, the lowest is in the group of endocrine diseases, in 2004 it was only 108 % (in 1998, even the moderate excess female mortality was recorded in terms of this cause of death).

The mean age at death indicates the shift of mortality towards the older age. In case of men, the only exception is mortality due to atherosclerosis, where the decrease from the level of 78 years in 1995 down to 73 years in 2004 was recorded and the mortality due to abnormal findings, where the mean age at death fell down from 61 years to 51 years. In terms of women the situation is similar. Mortality due to atherosclerosis reports a fall in the mean age at



death from the level of 84 years in 1995 down to the level of 82 years in 2004 and mortality due to abnormal findings from the value of 75 years to 69 years.

A different development of the mean age at death of men and women is reported in terms of mortality due to external causes of death. For men it oscillates around 46 years but in case of women a decrease from 61 years in 1995 down to 54 years in 2004 was recorded.

**Tab. 5.9 Mean age at death by causes of death**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Males										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	62	60	52	51	50	57	62	60	60	64
Neoplasms	65	65	65	66	66	66	66	66	66	66
Malignant neoplasms	65	65	65	66	66	66	66	66	66	66
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	67	67	67	66	69	67	66	67	68	66
Diabetes mellitus	69	68	68	68	69	68	66	67	69	67
Diseases of the nervous system	42	42	43	43	47	49	50	52	52	54
Diseases of the circulatory system	71	72	72	72	72	72	73	72	73	73
Hypertensive diseases	70	69	70	70	69	70	70	70	71	71
Ischeamic heart diseases	71	71	72	72	73	73	74	73	74	74
Cerebrovascular diseases	72	73	72	72	73	73	74	73	74	74
Atherosclerosis	78	78	77	77	76	76	74	74	74	73
Diseases of the respiratory system	69	70	70	69	71	71	72	71	71	71
Diseases of the digestive system	59	60	59	59	59	59	60	60	60	61
Diseases of the genitourinary system	67	68	67	67	68	69	68	68	68	69
Abnormal findings	61	54	53	52	49	51	51	52	53	51
External causes of deaths	47	46	46	45	46	46	45	46	46	47
Transport accidents	41	40	40	42	40	41	40	41	42	41
Intentional self harm	46	46	47	45	47	46	46	47	47	46
Other causes of deaths	10	8	11	11	10	13	18	18	14	19
Total	65	66	66	66	66	66	67	67	67	67
Females										
Infectious and parasitic diseases	70	71	57	60	67	64	68	68	68	73
Neoplasms	67	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	69
Malignant neoplasms	67	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	69
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	73	72	73	73	74	74	73	73	73	73
Diabetes mellitus	73	73	73	74	74	75	73	74	74	75
Diseases of the nervous system	45	42	40	49	51	53	56	56	56	60
Diseases of the circulatory system	78	79	79	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
Hypertensive diseases	76	77	77	76	77	78	78	78	78	78
Ischeamic heart diseases	78	79	79	80	81	81	82	81	81	81
Cerebrovascular diseases	77	78	78	79	79	80	80	80	79	79
Atherosclerosis	84	84	84	84	84	84	83	83	83	82
Diseases of the respiratory system	74	77	77	78	78	79	78	78	78	76
Diseases of the digestive system	67	67	68	67	67	68	67	68	68	68
Diseases of the genitourinary system	71	71	70	72	72	73	73	73	73	73
Abnormal findings	75	70	67	68	62	65	74	69	67	69
External causes of deaths	61	64	62	49	53	54	52	51	53	54
Transport accidents	45	46	44	43	47	47	47	42	46	43
Intentional self harm	48	51	53	53	50	52	51	52	53	52
Other causes of deaths	15	14	14	20	20	25	30	26	30	27
Total	73	75	75	75	75	76	76	75	75	75

The male life expectancy at birth increased from 1995 up to 2004 by 1,89 years. The decrease of deaths due to the circulatory system diseases, mainly at the age of 35 and over, contributed to this increase most significantly (0,94 years). This contribution might be even higher if it was not hampered by an unfavourable development of deaths due to hypertensive diseases, which caused a reduction in the mentioned increase by 0,25 years. A positive influence can

be attributed to the deaths due to neoplasm (0,33 years), while 0,29 years result from the improvement of mortality at the age of 35-64. The improvement of mortality due to external causes of death contributes by 0,3 years, mainly in the age groups up to 34 years.

**Tab. 5.10 Decomposition of the difference in life expectancy at birth between 1995 and 2004 by causes of death and age (in 100 years)**

	Males				Females			
	0-34	35-64	65+	Total	0-34	35-64	65+	Total
Infectious and parasitic diseases	-1	0	0	-1	1	-1	0	0
Neoplasms	1	29	2	33	3	11	-2	12
Malignant neoplasms	1	29	2	32	3	10	-2	10
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	0	0	1	0	-1	1	0	0
Diabetes mellitus	0	-1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Diseases of the nervous system	-4	-4	-3	-12	-3	-2	-4	-8
Diseases of the circulatory system	5	54	35	94	0	36	54	89
Hypertensive diseases	0	-9	-15	-25	0	-3	-22	-25
Ischaemic heart diseases	2	47	10	58	0	18	3	21
Cerebrovascular diseases	1	12	7	20	0	9	20	30
Atherosclerosis	0	2	29	31	0	5	45	51
Diseases of the respiratory system	5	5	5	15	4	5	16	25
Diseases of the digestive system	1	6	-2	5	1	-5	-4	-8
Diseases of the genitourinary system	1	3	1	6	1	3	1	5
Abnormal findings	-4	-8	1	-11	-3	-1	0	-3
External causes of deaths	18	8	4	30	6	1	10	17
Transport accidents	5	6	1	11	2	2	1	5
Intentional self harm	3	2	2	6	3	0	0	3
Other causes of deaths	30	1	0	31	22	0	0	21
Total	53	94	43	189	30	48	71	149

**Tab. 5.11 Decomposition of the difference in life expectancy at birth between men and women by causes of death and age (in 100 years)**

	1995				2004			
	0-34	35-64	65+	Total	0-34	35-64	65+	Total
Infectious and parasitic diseases	0	2	1	3	2	2	2	6
Neoplasms	3	108	86	198	4	91	93	188
Malignant neoplasms	3	108	86	197	4	90	92	187
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic dis.	1	2	0	4	1	3	-1	3
Diabetes mellitus	0	2	0	3	0	4	-1	3
Diseases of the nervous system	2	3	0	5	4	7	2	12
Diseases of the circulatory system	9	166	118	293	3	143	126	272
Hypertensive diseases	0	6	0	6	1	15	6	22
Ischaemic heart diseases	3	112	77	192	1	78	79	158
Cerebrovascular diseases	1	20	12	32	0	15	19	34
Atherosclerosis	0	12	17	29	0	15	9	24
Diseases of the respiratory system	1	19	21	42	0	19	29	48
Diseases of the digestive system	3	48	12	63	3	40	13	56
Diseases of the genitourinary system	1	4	3	9	0	3	3	7
Abnormal findings	1	2	1	5	3	11	0	15
External causes of deaths	63	82	11	156	51	78	14	143
Transport accidents	24	20	3	46	21	16	3	40
Intentional self harm	13	22	4	39	13	21	2	37
Other causes of deaths	16	1	0	18	5	0	0	5
Total	101	439	254	794	76	398	281	754

The deaths due to diseases of the nervous system negatively influenced the increase of life expectancy at birth of men. They caused the diminishing of the increase by 0,12 years. In case of deaths due to abnormal findings, where the reduction of increase is by 0,11 years, the situation is similar. Among the causes having a negative impact, the deaths due to infectious diseases can be ranked.

In terms of women, the life expectancy at birth increased in 1995-2004 by 1,49 years. The deaths due to circulatory system diseases contributed most significantly to this increase, i.e. by 0,89 years. Similarly as in terms of men, also in this case the deaths due to hypertensive diseases reduced the increase by 0,25 years, with the unfavourable development mainly at the age of 65 and over. The following causes of deaths positively influenced this tendency: deaths due to respiratory system diseases (by 0,25 years), deaths due to external causes (by 0,17 years) and deaths due to neoplasm (by 0,12 years). On the contrary, the negative influence was found out in terms of deaths due to diseases of the nervous system (-0,08 years), digestive system diseases (-0,08 years) and in case of deaths due to abnormal findings (-0,03 years).

The difference between the life expectancy at birth of men and women decreased from 7,94 years in 1995 down to 7,54 years in 2004. In both cases these differences can be explained by a variant mortality due to circulatory system diseases, neoplasm and external causes of death. The reduction of the difference by 0,4 years in 1995-2004 would be even higher if the differences in deaths due to hypertensive diseases, abnormal findings, respiratory system diseases and diseases of the nervous system did not deepen.



## 6. Migration

Migration has a specific position among the demographic processes. It sensitively reacts on the key changes in political and economic situation in the world, what is reflected in the fact that often large group of people migrate. The changes in Middle and East Europe at the end of 80-ties and the beginning of 90-ties influenced the development of all forms of migration too, i.e. not only within the whole Europe but also the migration relations of Europe with other world regions. In 90-ties we witnessed the migration of different groups of people, mainly refugees, due to the conflict in the Balkans. Currently, mainly the migrants from Asia and the Middle East are coming to Slovakia, especially in connection to the war conflicts or instable political and economic situation in countries of their origin. The enlargement of the European Union as of 1 May 2004 has brought new trends into migration processes. The impact of this act on migration will, however, be more visible only in the forthcoming years.

### Migration across the borders of the Slovak Republic

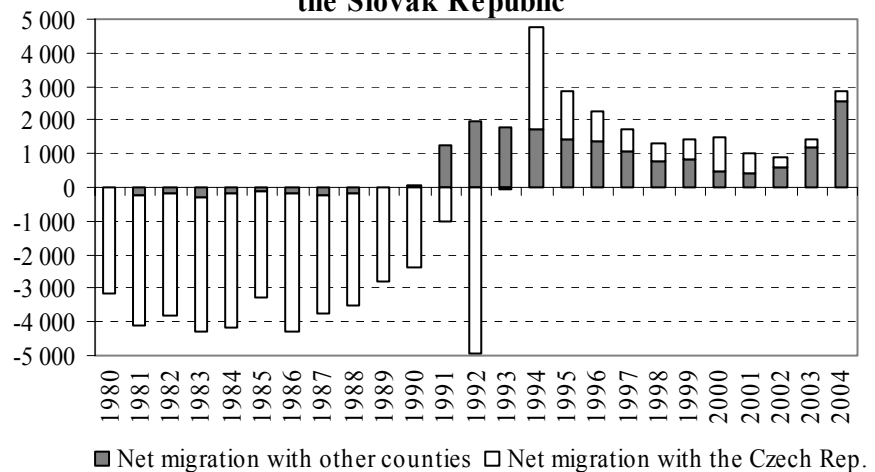
The development of registered migration for recent 25 years can be divided into three phases. The first phase covers the 80-ties. From the migration standpoint, the Slovak Republic was loss - making, the losses were recorded not only from the migration with the Czech Republic but also with other countries. The character of the migration of Slovakia was mostly influenced by the migration with the Czech Republic, which was at those times considered as an internal within the former Czech and Slovak Republic. For example, in 1985 it represented almost 95 % of the migration turnover across the borders of Slovakia.

The second phase was the period from 1990 up to 1993, i.e. the period of political and social changes directly after November 1989, which covered also the split of the common state. The events from this period had a significant impact on the development of migration. The Slovak Republic recorded losses only from the migration with the Czech Republic, in the migration with other countries it recorded migration gains, with the maximum in 1992 at the level of nearly 20 thousand people. However, prevalingly the return migration of former emigrants was in question, in some cases especially due to property restitution reasons. The migration turnover with the Czech Republic reached in 1992 even 18,6 thousand people and was influenced mainly by the split of the common state being under preparation. Consequently, after the split of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic it decreased down to 14,5 thousand people. Except for 1993, it still represented around 90% of the migration turnover of the SR. The negative net migration of the SR for the benefit of the CR at the level of 4917 people in 1992 represented the maximum in the time period after 1968. However, during the first year of an independent state it inevitably fell down to its till then minimal level, when the SR lost only 44 people by the migration for the benefit of the CR.

Within the third phase (1994 - 2004), in accordance to the registered migration the Slovak Republic became a profitable country in terms of both types of migration – in migration with the CR, as well as in migration with other countries. The migration turnover with the CR had been significantly reducing during this period and in the half of 90-ties it reached only around 50 % of the migration turnover of the SR. In the following years the development of the share of migration turnover with the CR was very fluctuate, it moved at the level of 29 % - 51 % of the migration turnover of the SR, however, in 2004 it reached only 27,3 %. It can be said that from 1995 (except for 2000) the development has turned around, when the CR has not most remarkably contributed to the migration turnover of the SR but rather other countries. The development of migration gains from migration with the Czech Republic was variable. It achieved the maximal share at the break-point of millenniums (65,5 % and 58,5 % in 2000 and 2001 respectively), but until 2004 it rapidly decreased down to 11,3%.

However, it has to be mentioned that data on emigrants from the SR (but also from other countries) are incomplete and thus the registered migration does not reflect the real situation at full extent. Apparently, the numbers of emigrants are significantly higher. It can be demonstrated on the mutual migration between the SR and the CR, if the

**Graph 6.1 Migration across the borders of the Slovak Republic**



data on emigrants from the SR to the CR are replaced by data on immigrants to the CR from the SR. The migration gains of the SR from the migration with the CR would change to migration losses and the migration gain of the CR from the migration with the SR would decrease as compared to the data of the Czech Statistical Office (CSO). In the second half of 90-ties the annual migration losses of the SR would move at the level of one half - two thirds of the average annual losses of the SR in 80-ties.

**Tab. 6.1 Migration across the borders of the Slovak Republic**

Migration	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
without the Czech Republic										
immigrants	1 558	1 484	1 436	1 275	1 216	1 006	1 033	1 563	1 953	3 473
emigrants*	105	133	360	495	410	501	613	962	746	924
net migration	1 453	1 351	1 076	780	806	505	420	601	1 207	2 549
With the Czech Republic										
immigrants	1 497	993	867	777	856	1 268	990	749	650	987
emigrants*	108	89	212	251	208	310	398	449	448	662
net migration	1 389	904	655	526	648	958	592	300	202	325
total										
immigrants	3 055	2 477	2 303	2 052	2 072	2 274	2 023	2 312	2 603	4 460
emigrants*	213	222	572	746	618	811	1 011	1 411	1 194	1 586
net migration	2 842	2 255	1 731	1 306	1 454	1 463	1 012	901	1 409	2 874

\* incomplete recording

**Tab. 6.2 Estimate of migration between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic (change in the permanent residence)**

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Immigrants from the SR to the CR	7 674	7 324	6 823	7 232	3 144	1 497	993	867	777	856	1 268
Immigrants from the CR to the SR	10 073	8 334	11 740	7 276	4 076	3 845	3 450	3 088	2 887	3 235	2 826
Net migration	-2 399	-1 010	-4 917	-44	-932	-2 348	-2 457	-2 221	-2 110	-2 379	-1 558
Migration turnover	17 747	15 658	18 563	14 508	7 220	5 342	4 443	3 955	3 664	4 091	4 094

Since 2001, the data on registered migration between the SR and the CR cannot be compared by this approach because the data for the CR cover not only migrants with the change in permanent residence but also the migrants with temporary stay with long-term visa. Whereas this type of migrants contributes to the migration increase of the CR to the greatest extent, data on migration between the SR and the CR reported by the CR are as compared to the Slovak data (here the migrants with permanent residence are in question only) several times higher.

**Tab. 6.3 Migration between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic according to data of the Czech Statistical Office\***

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Immigrants from the CR to the SR	3 235	2 826	3 078	13 326	24 385	15 788
Emigrants from the CR to the SR	336	413	8 711	14 455	18 262	21 152
Net migration	2 899	2 413	-5 633	-1 129	6 123	-5 364
Migration turnover	3 571	3 239	11 789	27 781	42 647	36 940

\*In 1999 and 2000 permanent residence, in 2001-2004 permanent residence and temporary stay of foreigners (on long-term visa)

**Tab. 6.4 Migration between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic according to data of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic \***

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Immigrants from the SR to the CR	856	1 268	990	749	650	987
Emigrants from the SR to the CR	208	310	398	449	448	662
Net migration	648	958	592	300	202	325
Migration turnover	1 064	1 578	1 388	1 198	1 098	1 649

\*Permanent residence

At the same time, from the data on migration of the SR linked to the change in permanent residence in 2004 results that the total number of immigrants was in this year nearly two times higher than in the previous years and it was the highest since 1994. Nevertheless, the number of emigrants in this year was the highest from 1993. Also the migration increase was 2-3 times higher than in the preceding years, its highest level from 1994 was in question.

Although the data on emigrants are incomplete and in general the data on migration record seasonal fluctuation, and at the same time it is obvious that from few observed months one cannot derive generally valid conclusions, it is still interesting whether the situation in the external migration has changed directly after the accession of the SR into the EU. The changes in migration for this short time period are really confirmed by the data of the SOSR. While in the first third of 2004 (during January-April) 954 people immigrated into the SR, in the following two thirds it was 1,7 and 1,9 times more respectively. A more moderate increase was recorded in terms of the number of emigrants (1,3 and 1,5 times more). At the same time the migration gain grew as compared to the first third 1,9 and 2,4 times respectively. It means that while the migration increase for first four months of 2004 reached the level of 534 people, after the accession to the EU, during May - August it increased up to 1040 people and during September - December up to 1300 people. Thus, the assumptions on the massive emigration of the citizens of the new member states, i.e. also the citizens of the SR, to advanced EU member states, were not fulfilled at least for these first 8 months. Conversely, the migration gains of the SR from the registered migration have increased even more.

In accordance to data from the SOSR, in 2004 1586 people emigrated from the SR, what was roughly by 400 people more as compared to the previous year. The emigrants from the SR headed, in addition to the CR, also to other EU countries – to Germany (229 people), Austria (175 people), the United Kingdom (70 people). Besides the EU, people migrated mainly to Switzerland (85 people), Canada (84 people) and the USA (63 people). The share of women in the number of emigrants routed to European countries, America, and Australia is higher. If the number of emigrants headed only to Europe is taken into account, the share of women is even two thirds. At the same time, it is interesting that higher migration losses were recorded in the SR only in connection to the migration with Switzerland (33 people); the SR was loss-making also in relation to Canada (11 people) but not with the EU countries. However, a more significant negative net migration of the SR was recorded in case of migration of women, the highest with Austria, i.e. 75 women, with Germany 62 women, with Switzerland 51 women, etc. The Ukraine, the Czech Republic and Romania contributed to the migration increase of the SR most remarkably and nearly evenly (roughly by 325 people per each country).

The CR still remains the main source country of external migration of the SR, from which in 2004 nearly 1000 people migrated to the SR. Approximately the same number immigrated in total from other three countries – Ukraine, Germany and Romania. During last two years, the number of immigrants from Vietnam and China increased quite remarkably what was related to their working activities in the territory of the SR.

**Tab. 6.5 Hlavné zdrojové štáty zahraničnej migrácie (počet prist'ahovaných)**

		Czech Republic	Ukraine	Germany	Romania	Serbia and Monte Negro*	Vietnam	Poland	Austria	USA	China
2004	rank	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
	num.	987	335	333	325	276	260	216	193	149	123
2003	rank	1.	3.	8.	2.	5.	4.	13.	11.	6.	7.
	num.	650	205	106	216	189	199	36	48	138	128
2002	rank	1.	3.	6.	11.	2.	5.	15.-16.	8.	4.	15.-16.
	num.	749	148	86	56	217	122	29	64	123	29
2001	rank	1.	2.-3.	4.	8.	6.	21.	13.	7.	2.-3.	25.
	num.	990	124	97	44	60	13	26	49	124	9
2000	rank	1.	2.	4.	8.	6.	18.	11.	10.	3.	x
	num.	1 268	161	74	49	66	13	30	37	108	0
1999	rank	1.	2.	4.	11.	3.	13.	6.	10.	8.	55.
	num.	856	180	100	32	110	28	71	39	57	2
1998	rank	1.	2.	3.	7.	5.	15.	14.	12.	11.	27.
	num.	777	268	93	65	87	26	29	39	45	6
1997	rank	1.	2.	3.	7.	6.	16.	15.	9.	12.	35.
	num.	867	363	93	82	84	28	29	51	39	5
1996	rank	1.	2.	4.	3.	8.	19.	14.	9.	10.	48.
	num.	993	267	108	160	72	25	49	64	53	2
1995	rank	1.	2.	3.	9.-10.	5.	25.-26.	12.	7.	8.	x
	num.	1 497	393	145	67	110	8	37	75	72	1

\* In 1995-2002 data of former Yugoslavia

From the regional aspect, the immigrants from Europe prevailed. In 2004 they represented nearly 80 % from all immigrants. At the same time, 64 % of European immigrants (2254 people) were from the EU countries, while in 2003 it was only 52 %, i.e. by 12 percentage points less. The immigrants from new EU member countries represented almost 60 % of immigrants from the EU.

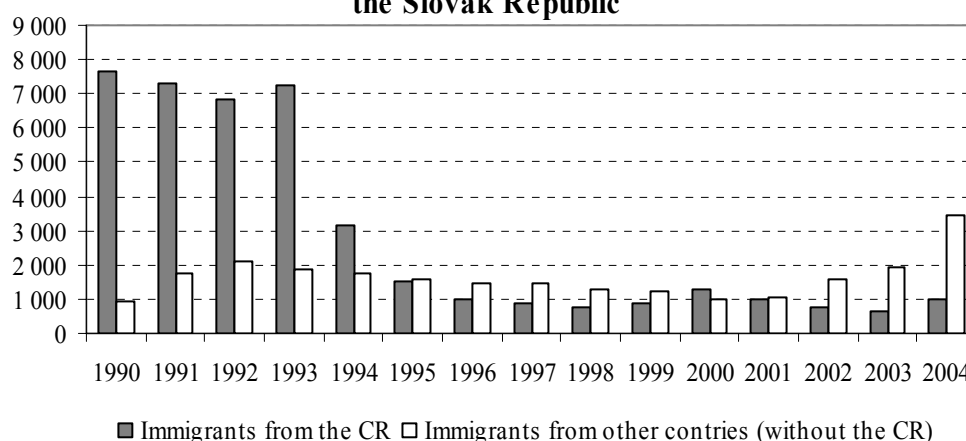
Whereas only data on immigrants to the SR can be considered as reliable, some more detailed characteristics are presented only for immigrants.

**Tab. 6.6 Regional structure of immigrants from abroad**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Africa	28	31	29	25	37	33	21	35	53	55
America	203	173	141	137	127	192	202	235	220	252
Australia and Oceania	35	45	36	46	18	16	22	30	29	43
Asia	82	112	133	133	163	70	118	301	459	574
Europe	2 707	2 115	1 964	1 709	1 716	1 963	1 659	1 711	1 842	3 536
Total <sup>1</sup>	3 055	2 477	2 303	2 052	2 072	2 274	2 023	2 312	2 603	4 460
EU25	1 878	1 344	1 160	1 043	1 171	1 493	1 298	1 053	951	2 254
EU15	304	272	223	199	218	170	243	237	237	924
New EU member states (from 2004)	1 574	1 072	937	844	953	1 323	1 055	816	714	1 330
EFTA states	67	48	54	51	30	41	38	35	51	58
EU candidate states <sup>2</sup>	118	248	138	121	95	85	71	104	251	366
Ukraine and Russia	499	357	455	359	266	217	156	211	234	391

<sup>1</sup>Total number of immigrants is increased by emigrants with unspecified country of origin.

<sup>2</sup>Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey

**Graph 6.2 Structure of the immigrants to the Slovak Republic**

### Age

Although in the entire observed period the highest share in the external migration of the SR was recorded in the age of 20-39, the structure of foreign migrants by age recorded shifts of its maximum towards the older age. Certain differences are also in the age structure of immigrants and emigrants, as well as in the age structure by sex.

In the second half of 90-ties, mainly the immigrants aged 20-34 had contributed to the number of immigrants from abroad, later the maximum shifted to the age of 25-39 and in 2004 it was expanded also by the group of people aged 40-44. With regard to sex, at the beginning of 90-ties women aged 15-29 had still prevailed among the immigrants (40 % of female immigrants), later the maximum gradually shifted towards the age group of 20-34, followed by the group of women aged 20-39. In 2004 they represented even the half of female immigrants. In terms of male immigrants during the entire observed time period the maximum is maintained in the group of men aged 25-44, in which the share around 50 % of male immigrants is concentrated. During the recent years exactly this group of men has been recording the highest growths, e.g. in 2000 even the half of migration increase of men was concentrated just in this age group.

The age structure of emigrants records higher fluctuations (probably due to incomplete registration of emigrants).

In the second half of 90-ties mainly the people aged 20-34 had migrated, from 2000 this category was spread also by the people aged 35-39. In terms of sex, the men reached the maximum in the age group of 20-39, but after 2000 this maximum narrowed to the category of men aged 25-39. In the first half of 90-ties, women aged 20-29 prevailed among the female emigrants. Gradually the maximum had been spreading by the category of women aged 30-34 and after 2000 by the category of women aged 35-39. In terms of five-year age groups on a long-term basis the highest number of female emigrants belongs into the age group of 25-29. In 2004 the women of this age group represented even 29 % of all female emigrants and exactly in this group the highest migration loss is concentrated in the new millennium.



### *Marital status*

In the half of 90-ties in the volume of migration between the SR and foreign countries the married migrants prevailed. In 1995, they represented nearly 58 % of all migrants. The single migrants contributed to migration only by less than one third (31,2 %). Less than 8 % fell on divorced and 3,5 % on widowed migrants. In terms of sex, more married and widowed women migrated and less single women than men.

Until 2004, the share of single migrants had been increasing to the prejudice of married migrants. In 2004, singles represented 38 %, while during 1995-2004 the share of single men had increased from 34 % up to 41 %, i.e. by 7 percentage points and the share of single women increased from 28 % up to 34 %, i.e. by 6 percentage points. The share of married migrants decreased down to 53 %. The shares of widowed and divorced did not record any significant changes.

### *Education*

In 1995, the migrants with the secondary education, including a leaving exam, contributed to the volume of migration by 27 %. However, women with this level of education in this group of migrants represented as much as 31 % of female migrants. Migrants with the primary education, secondary education without a leaving exam and with the university decree contributed to the volume of migrants approximately by the same way, roughly by one fifth. The migrants with the secondary education, including a leaving exam, contributed to the migration increase by 28,5 %.

In the education structure of migrants the changes had occurred already at the break-point of millenniums, i.e. for the benefit of migrants with higher education. The share of migrants with the primary education fell down to 14 %, while the share of other categories increased. From the standpoint of sex, women with secondary education, including a leaving exam, migrated more often (34 %), nevertheless women with university education represented only 19 %.

Until 2004, another shift in the education of migrants occurred. The share of migrants with the primary education had been henceforward decreasing down to 10,6 %, however, the share of migrants with the secondary education, including a leaving exam, increased up to 36 %, i.e. between 1996-2004 this share increased by nearly 9 percentage points. As compared to 2000, in the structure of migrants the share of migrants with university and secondary education (without a leaving exam) decreased. The share of women with secondary education, including a leaving exam, increased up to 39,5 %.

If the structure of immigrants and emigrants (despite the shortcomings in the records of emigrants) is compared, we can say that during 1995-2004 the share of people with secondary education, including a leaving exam, had significantly increased – from 28 % up to 33 % and the share of people with the primary education had fallen – from 19 % to 12 %. In terms of emigrants, even more radical changes occurred. While in the half of 90-ties, one fourth of emigrants were represented by people with primary education, in 2004 only 8% of people with this level of education left. The share of emigrants with secondary education, including a leaving exam, increase radically, up to 44%, however, the share of emigrants graduated university returned, after the increase to 20% in 2000, to the values from half of 90-ties.

From the standpoint of sex, the share of men with secondary education, including a leaving exam, increased from 14 % up to 31% of all male emigrants and in terms of women, this share increased from 25 % up to even 51 % of the total number of female emigrants.

### *Reasons*

Main reasons, for which the population migrates across the borders of the SR, remain without any significant changes for the whole time period 1996-2004. Migrants, similarly as in the case of internal migration, can specify 8 reasons, for which they have changed their place of permanent residence, or to state other elsewhere classified reasons, which are covered by the heading „other reasons“<sup>10</sup>. Exactly this possibility is currently used by as many as the half of migrants<sup>11</sup>. The share of this group was in 2004 by nearly 14 percentage points higher than in 1995.

Following up of the family member appeared in 2004 as the main reason for migration. However, when comparing the data from the half of 90-ties, a fall in the representation of this reason by 12 percentage points occurred, i.e. from more than one third to one fourth, while, at the same time, this reason contributed to the migration gain only by 12 % (in 1996 even 36 %). The migration due to marriage still plays a significant role; in 2004 it was around 12 %. In terms of sex, this reason is, however, represented differently; it is more reported in case of women than in case of men. It is reported by even 30 % of female emigrants and by 10 % of female immigrants. It is interesting that al-

<sup>10</sup> The following reasons are statistically traced: 1. change in workplace, 2. more closely to workplace, 3. studies, 4. health reasons, 5. marriage, 6. divorce, 7. housing reasons, 8. following up a family member, 9. other reasons.

<sup>11</sup> This category probably covers not only reasons, which do not belong into any of the eight groups, but to a certain extent reduces the announcing capability of these characteristics. Migrants only unwillingly report the reason for migration, thus they „hide themselves“ behind the „other reasons“. In addition, the original reason for migration has frequently disappeared, especially if they temporarily have lived for longer time at the place of their new permanent residence.

though the external migration is in question, the housing reasons are reported by 4 % of migrants, more in case of immigrants than in terms of emigrants. Another 4% of migrants report that they are migrating due to getting more closely to their workplace (especially men) and for less than 3 % the change of workplace is the reason for migration.

### *Citizenship*

In the migration by citizenship the citizens of the SR prevail. They participated in the volume of external migration in 2004 by two thirds; in 2000 their share reached almost 73 %, while in 1995 it was only 55 %. However, the share of migrants with Czech citizenship is being decreased. Given that in 1995 the Czech citizens had represented one fifth of the volume of external migration of the SR, until 2004 their share decreased down to less than 8 %. In the migration of Czech citizens currently men prevail, however, in previous years, except for 2002, women prevailed.

Except for the citizens of the CR, the citizens of other countries do not have any significant proportion in the external migration of the SR. Only the share of Poland and Germany was at the level of nearly 4 %. Currently the Czech citizens contributed to the population increase due to migration by almost 15 %, however, as compared to 1995 their share decreased. The citizens of Germany and Poland represented nearly 6 % of the increase.

### *Foreigners with the residence permits*

The accession of the SR into EU has brought several changes into legislation in connection to the stay of foreigners in the territory of the SR<sup>12</sup>. All legislative changes are reflected also in the statistical data, in the flow data (new stays) as well as in the stock data (stays in the given year as of 31 December). The year 2002 was the turning-point, in which the stays were granted according to the Law No. 73/1995 Coll., as well as in accordance to the Law No. 48/2002 Coll.

**Tab. 6.7 New stays of foreigners in the Slovak Republic**

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Permanent (Act of Law No. 73/1995 Coll.)	4 073	3 688	3 506	4 073	4 718	4 428	3 620	3 843	226	0	0
Permanent (Act of Law No. 48/2002 Coll.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	865	1 304	6 248
Long-term	2 392	3 027	1 936	2 101	1 628	1 433	1 002	880	573	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 469	2 379	1 460
Registered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	651	852	154
Tolerated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	39	219
New stays in total	6 465	6 715	5 442	6 174	6 346	5 861	4 622	4 723	4 799	4 574	8 081

After the accession of the SR into EU, the EU-25 citizens are entitled for a permanent residence in the territory of the SR. It has been reflected also in the increased number of new permanent residences and in the decrease of the number of both, the temporary and registered, stays. As compared to 2003, in 2004 a total number of stays increased by 77 % and the total number of new stays increased almost fivefold.

From the total number of 6248 new permanent residences in 2004, the majority fell on the Czech citizens (25 %), followed by Poland (15 %), Germany (9 %), Ukraine and Austria (6 %); in 2003, from 1304 new permanent residences the majority had fallen on the citizens of Ukraine (29 %), the CR and Vietnam (by 12 %).

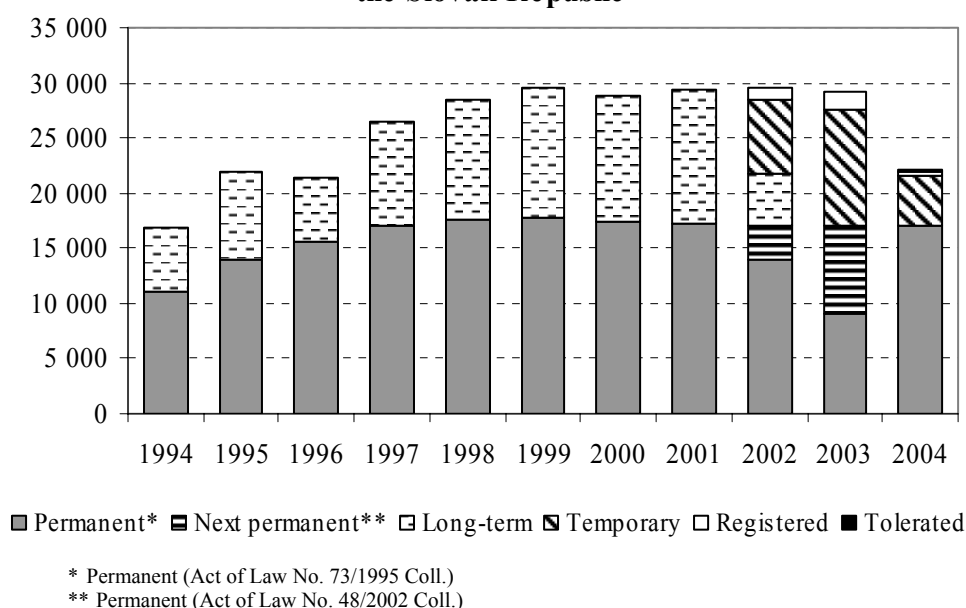
The records of stays of foreigners belong under the competence of the Ministry of Interior of the SR. However, if we compare the data for 2004, the Statistical Office of the SR reports 4460 immigrants to the SR – citizens of the SR as well as foreigners (with the permanent residence), but the Ministry of Interior of the SR records even 6248 new permanent residencies of foreigners in this year. Thus, data from these two sources have to be analysed separately because they are different from the methodological point of view.

<sup>12</sup> New Acts of Law, which step-by step, had entered into force since 1 April 2002 (i.e. starting with the Law No. 48/2002 Coll. on the stay of foreigners) solved the conditions of the entry and the stay of the citizens of the EU-15 and separately for other foreigners. Prior to the accession of the SR into EU, the citizens of the EU-15 did not need a permit for a stay in the SR, the registration was sufficient for them. Thus, the concept of „registered stay“ for the EU-15 citizens was introduced and the long-term stay was replaced by the temporary stay concept in principle (a short-term stay is not statistically reported). The citizens of the Czech Republic had also a specific position; they did not need a residence permit. In addition, a concept of a tolerated stay was introduced. It is related to people who would not stay in the territory of the SR, if they were not hampered by obstacles independent on their will. The Law No. 480/2002 Coll., which entered into force as of 1 January 2003, had brought changes into the asylum proceedings and introduced some new concepts. Some parts of the mentioned Laws entered into force as of the date of accession of the SR into the EU. Both Laws were amended by the Law No. 606/2003 Coll. and the further amendment entered into force on 6 December 2005.

The question on the number of foreigners living in the territory of the SR is frequently asked. According to the data of the Ministry of Interior of the SR, from 1995 until the end of 2004 21,5 thousand foreigners had the permanent residence or a temporary stay (possibly long-term) annually. However, the development of the number of foreigners was uneven. While during 1998-2003 this number was maintained at the level of around 29 thousand people, in 2004 only 22 thousand foreign citizens lived in the territory of the SR. Nevertheless, the number of foreigners with the permanent residence in the SR did not record any changes and in a long-term basis sustained at the level of approximately 17 thousand people.

From the total number of foreigners living in the SR in 2004, 77 % had a permanent residence and 20 % a temporary stay. The rest fell on other types of stays. In 2004, the permanent residence in the SR was granted mainly to the citizens of the CR (3,3 thousand), followed by the citizens of Ukraine (3,2 thousand), Poland (2,4 thousand) and Hungary (1,5 thousand). The highest numbers of foreigners with the temporary stay were represented by the citizens of Ukraine (0,8 thousand), Vietnam (0,5 thousand) and USA (0,4 thousand). The highest numbers of registered stays were recorded in case of citizens of Germany and Austria.

**Graph 6.3 Foreigners by type of stay in the Slovak Republic**



### Asylum

With regard to the geographic location, Slovakia is one of the significant crossings routes of illegal migrants. The east-west route goes from Russia and Ukraine, the south-west from Balkan. Mainly by these routes the mixed groups of legal and illegal migrants, prevalingly refugees, cross the borders of Slovakia.

**Tab. 6.8 Refugees with asylum granted and asylum applicants**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Asylum applicants	359	415	645	506	1 320	1 556	8 151	9 743	10 358	11 395
Refugees with asylum granted	68	129	65	49	27	11	18	20	11	15
Refugees with the SR citizenship granted	0	4	14	22	2	0	11	56	40	15

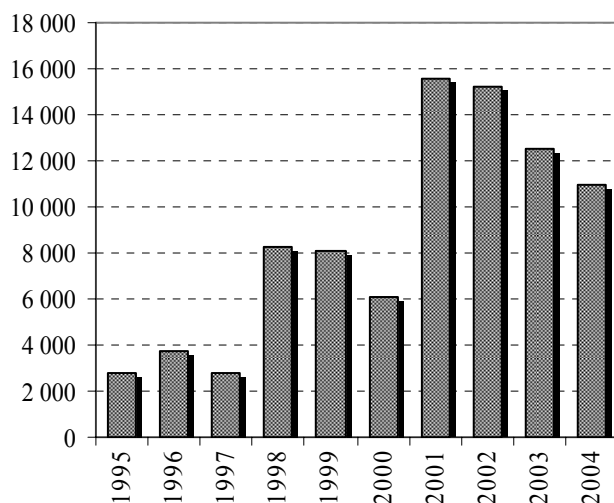
Note: In 1995-2002 data according to the Act of Law No. 238/1995 Coll. , in 2003 - 2004 data according to the Act of Law No. 480/2002 Coll.

Foreigners, who ask the Slovak Republic for protection, are involved among the legal migrants. Since 1992 until the end of May 2005, nearly 46 thousand foreigners had applied for asylum in the SR, while the maximum number, even 11,4 thousands applications, was submitted in 2004. The number of applicants rapidly increased mainly in the first half of 2004, when 6,4 thousand people applied for asylum, what was a higher number as compared to traditionally asylum countries, e.g. Netherlands, Denmark or Norway . Approximately one quarter of all applicants in 2004 was from India (3,0 thous. people), one fifth from Russia (2,4 thous. people, especially from Chechnya), 11 % of applicants were from China (1,3 thous. people). The applicants from Georgia, Pakistan and Moldavia (7-9 %) had also a quite remarkable position. Among the asylum applicants men prevailed, their share moved in scope of 70-85 % (in 2004 it reached 77 %).

However, from 1992 until the end of August 2005 the asylum was granted only to 575 persons, by which Slovakia ranked among countries with the lowest rate of granted asylums in Europe. The decision on refusal of the asylum granting was taken in 3,5 thousand cases and 2,6 thousand cases remained under solution. Actually, the asylum proceeding was terminated in as much as 40,1 thousand cases. This situation was caused mainly by the fact that many applicants were not really interested in living in Slovakia. Those are often economic migrants, whose aim is to continue into countries with better economic conditions. Another group is formed by foreigners, who want to travel to countries with the higher rate of acceptance of refugees and with the more advantageous social system. For example, the refugees from Chechnya, who with nearly a 100% success achieve the asylum in the territory of Austria but their successfulness in the territory of Slovakia is near to zero. Such asylum applicants, as well as refugees with asylum granted, are often not interested in the assistance of various organisations in terms of their integration in the territory of the SR. In addition, also the location of asylum facilities close to Austrian borders facilitates to a certain extent the disappearing of these foreigners. For example, only in first three months of 2005, in 818 cases the asylum proceeding was terminated due to the fact that the applicant has left the territory of Slovakia.

The accession of Slovakia into EU has shifted the east border of the Union, thus, its part is formed also by a 98,5 km segment of the border between Slovakia and Ukraine. The border control has tightened up and at the same time the EU regulation Dublin II has entered into force, which gives the possibility to return the foreigner back to the country of the first registration. It is likely that these events contributed to the situation that the number of asylum seekers in the SR dropped down. During the first eight months in 2005 the foreigners submitted only 2068 applications what, as compared to the same period of the previous year, was a rapid decrease down to one fourth.

**Graph 6.4 Illegal migration in the Slovak Republic**



The lower number of asylum applicants in this year gives a room for the enhancement of the asylum system in the SR and the restriction of possibilities for its misuse. As the UNHCR says, „...Slovakia alone cannot solve the problem of mixed flows of migrants and refugees. Burden sharing mechanisms among the EU countries are needed and the resources (human and financial) now present in western countries receiving less applicants should be transferred to the countries at the border which are facing the brunt of the influx. This coordination will help to defeat racist and discriminatory tendencies<sup>13</sup>. This supports the idea of the creation of a unified European asylum system.

The *illegal migration* does not have a unified world-wide definition. In the SR, it is considered as an unpermitted crossing of state borders in the direction to the SR or outwards the SR by the foreigner or the citizen of the SR or as an illegitimate stay of the foreigner in the territory of the SR (a breach of the residence regime). Also from the standpoint of illegal migration, Slovakia is still a

transit country. The migrants try to get through its territory mainly to the West European countries, in which there are often powerful social networks and the social background being built up. Illegal migrants head to Slovakia mainly from Ukraine and from Slovakia they head mainly to Austria and the Czech Republic. The state border of Slovakia is most frequently crossed by the citizens of Russia, India and China, who in 2004 represented half of all foreigners who illegally crossed the state borders of the SR (the share of citizens from Russia was 23 %, from India 15% and the citizens of China contributed by 12 %).

The maximum of illegal migrants falls on the years 2001 and 2002 and is related to the instable political situation as well as to the low performance of economies and the related social problems in some Asian countries and in the Middle East – in Afghanistan, China, India and mainly in Iraq. Until 2003, the MI SR had been reporting both the illegal stay in the territory of the SR and the illegitimate crossing of state borders in total, since 2004 it has been reported separately. Illegal stay in this year represented almost one quarter of the illegal migration. The incentives of foreigners were as follows: asylum application (approx. 72 %), transit (23 %), but also tourism or wandering. Even 1/3 of foreigners with the illegal stay in the territory of the SR was represented by the citizens from India (34 %) and China (19 %), followed by the citizens from Russia, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

<sup>13</sup> P. M. Natta, representative of UNHCR in Slovakia, in the foreword to UNHCR bulletin. Bratislava, December 2004

## Internal migration

Already from the beginning of 90-ties, the internal migration of the SR has gradually been losing its concentration character and the de-concentration processes have been reinforced, which fully and remarkably appear currently in the hinterland of the biggest cities – Bratislava and Košice. The attraction of small villages and suburban housing has increased, to which also the increase of daily or periodical commuting is connected.

**Tab. 6.9 Volume of internal migration**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Number of migrants	78 466	80 188	82 513	84 513	78 965	76 898	79 881	89 606	84 215	85 020
Migrants per 1000 population	14,6	14,9	15,3	15,7	14,6	14,2	14,8	16,7	15,6	15,8

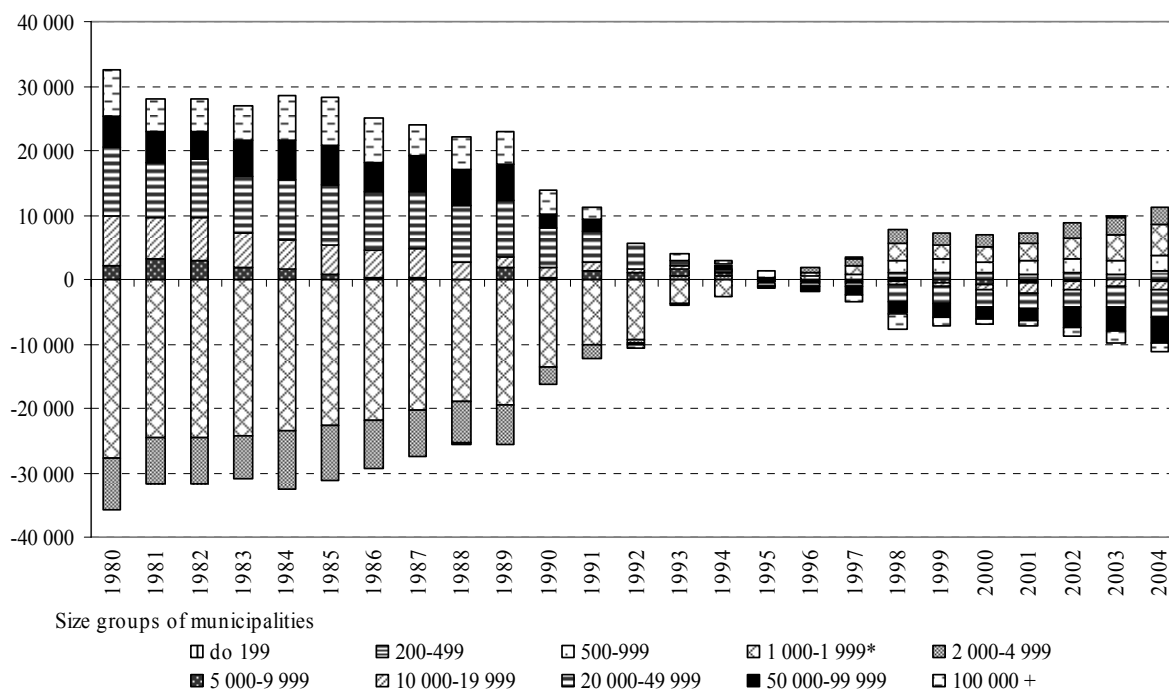
From the half of 90-ties, the number of migrants within the SR was very volatile. The highest number, nearly 90 thousand people, changed their permanent residence in 2002, in other years this number oscillated in scope of 77 - 85 thousand people annually. However, Slovakia is not ranked among the countries with a remarkable internal mobility of population. Currently only 1,4 – 1,6 % of population change the permanent residence annually, while e.g. in the Czech Republic it was 2,1% in 2004.

**Tab. 6.10 Structure of internal migration of population**

Type of migration	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Volume of migration in the SR (in thous.)	78,4	80,2	82,5	84,8	79,0	76,9	79,9	89,6	84,2	85,0
of which:										
Between regions in the SR (v thous.)	14,1	19,1	19,1	19,7	18,2	17,3	18,1	20,3	20,2	20,4
in %	18,0	23,8	23,2	23,2	23,0	22,5	22,7	22,6	24,0	24,0
Between districts within a region (v thous.)	22,2	27,1	27,6	27,8	25,1	24,3	25,0	27,5	25,0	24,7
in %	28,3	33,8	33,5	32,8	31,8	31,6	31,3	30,7	29,6	29,1
Between municipalities within a district (v thous.)	42,1	34,0	35,8	37,3	35,7	35,2	36,8	41,8	39,1	39,9
in %	53,7	42,4	43,4	44,0	45,2	45,8	46,1	46,7	46,4	46,9

The level of migration intensity during the observed time period was influenced by changes in the territorial and administrative arrangement in 1996 as well as by the ongoing, although currently insignificant, disintegration of municipalities. The migration for short distances still prevails – from municipality to municipality within the same district which represents almost one half of migration changes. From 1996, the share of this migration increased by 4,5 percentage points. The systematic moderate decrease is, however, recorded in terms of migration from district to another one within the same region. Its share fell from 33,8 % in 1996 down to 29,1 % in 2004. Migration from region to region during the entire time period records the lowest variations and in 2003-2004 it was at the level of 24 % of all migration changes.

Graph 6.5 Net internal migration by size groups of municipalities



Note:

\*In 1980-1995 for municipalities with population up to 2 thousand.

In 1980-1992 including migration with the Czech Republic.

As it has been already mentioned, until the beginning of 90-ties the concentration tendencies had prevailed in the internal migration. They were related mainly to the centrally planned economy, which concentrated into cities not only the economic activities but also the housing construction. Thus, migration increases were recorded mainly in case of cities with population 10 thousand and over. A weaker migration increase was recorded also in terms of municipalities with the population 5-10 thousand (except for 1987), however, villages with less than 5 thousand inhabitants were loss-making from migration. At the beginning of 90-ties, however, the situation began to change. The losses of smallest municipalities – up to 2 thousand inhabitants - were rapidly reduced and in municipalities from 2 up to 5 thousand inhabitants the migration losses changed into the migration gains already in 1992. From the half of 90-ties also the cities with 10 thousand population and over have been recording systematic losses of population due to migration, most significantly in the category of cities sized from 20 until 100 thousand inhabitants, where the losses in 2004 reached the level of even 8,5 thousand people. It was, for example, an increase recorded in the category of municipalities until 2 thousand inhabitants. The municipalities from 2 up to 5 thousand inhabitants have been recording a continuous increase of population. A temporary type is represented by municipalities from 5 up to 10 thousand inhabitants (increases are alternated by decreases), however, from 1998 the emigration tendencies prevailed. In terms of the biggest cities, the appearance of sub-urban processes is in question, when the population of big cities is moving into the hinterland. This situation is most remarkable in the hinterland of Bratislava and Košice with the permanent migration losses. In 2004, however, the loss in these two cities diminished, thanks to Bratislava, where as compared to 2003 the migration losses diminished to a half.

Nevertheless, the districts close to Bratislava and Košice still record migration increases, although in 2004 the level of benefit from migration was decreasing with the prolonging distance from Bratislava (Malacky, Dunajská Streda and Galanta). The increase in the district Košice-okolie dropped down too. Despite that, the districts in the hinterland of these two cities belong among the districts with the highest relative migration increase. The increase amounting to 3-10 people per one thousand inhabitants is in question.

**Tab. 6.11 Net internal migration in districts<sup>14</sup>**

	Net migration									Crude rate of net migration	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	1996-2004	1996-2004
Districts with the highest relative internal migration increase											
Senec	98	165	260	254	552	523	989	769	916	4 526	9,74
Malacky	232	364	431	276	320	332	514	521	321	3 311	5,74
Pezinok	56	183	217	260	310	348	504	313	353	2 544	5,22
Košice okolie	489	316	498	271	292	406	656	586	336	3 850	4,04
Dunajská Streda	121	244	355	247	162	280	481	735	549	3 174	3,14
Galanta	191	398	325	241	308	163	151	458	271	2 506	2,95
Turčianske Teplice	-2	-19	89	132	-6	47	31	79	60	411	2,72
Banská Štiavnica	-23	96	96	45	13	23	37	7	3	297	1,94
Skalica	151	58	86	57	37	78	102	134	95	798	1,89
Zvolen	85	84	261	-1	148	212	104	81	-97	877	1,44
Districts with the highest relative internal migration decrease											
Medzilaborce	-71	-20	-1	-38	-74	-5	-17	-66	-59	-351	-3,07
<i>Košice</i>	-207	-298	-969	-647	-262	-431	-804	-829	-862	-5 309	-2,47
Svidník	-102	-66	-50	-46	-66	-120	-86	-106	-81	-723	-2,41
Gelnica	-193	-5	-41	-42	-86	-96	-54	-67	-66	-650	-2,37
Poprad	-3	-118	-219	-157	-163	-119	-316	-378	-517	-1 990	-2,14
Tvrdošín	-93	-60	-71	-102	-68	-53	-43	-87	-69	-646	-2,06
Stará Ľubovňa	-32	-81	-47	-57	-173	-125	-59	-129	-225	-928	-2,05
Humenné	-77	-91	-232	-141	-164	-119	-123	-102	-145	-1 194	-2,04
Snina	-79	-33	-1	-52	-65	-66	-101	-119	-94	-610	-1,72
Myjava	-8	-36	-30	-30	-7	-52	-72	-81	-92	-408	-1,55
<i>Bratislava</i>	207	-669	-1 318	-834	-582	-245	-713	-1 116	-583	-5 853	-1,48
Brezno	-154	-75	-37	-69	-28	-145	-51	-155	-157	-871	-1,47

Conversely, Bratislava and Košice rank among the areas with the highest losses of migration. From 1996 each of these cities lost by migration more than 5 thousand inhabitants. The high relative losses are recorded mainly in the traditional emigration districts of the north-east part of Slovakia (Medzilaborce, Gelnica). Among ten districts with highest relative losses only two districts of the Middle Slovakia and one from the West Slovakia belonged. If the districts of Bratislava and Košice are not taken into account separately, but rather the entire cities are taken into consideration, then from the internal migration standpoint during 1996-2004 33 immigration areas were created, 37 emigration areas at the level of districts and additional two remarkable emigration areas were formed by the cities of Bratislava and Košice.

### Age

The age structure of internal migrants is different than in case of external migrants. The migration of young families with children still prevails, although not to such extent as it used to be in half of 90-ties. According to data from 1996, population aged 20-24 and 25-29 prevailed in the internal migration (21% and 15% respectively). At the same time, women aged 20-24 represented even 23 % of female migrants, while men belonging to this age group represented only 18 %. The third group with the highest share was the group of children aged 0-4. Already in 2000, the changes in the age structure of migrants can be observed. The age group of 20-24 years weakened most significantly (16,6 %) for the benefit of people aged 25-29 (17,1 %). Until 2004 another weakening of this age group occurred. Migrants aged 20-24 represented in this year only 13 %, while the share of people aged 25-29 increased up to 17,6 %. Also the share of migrants aged 30-34 increased up to 11,6 %, what is a growth by 3 percentage points as compared to 1996. Also the share of migrants aged 0-4 decreased (8,8 %). This situation is to a certain extent related to the lower number of children in families and to the postponement of births towards the older age.

### Marital status

The largest group of migrants by marital status in 90-ties was represented by married persons (48,8%), followed by single persons (40,4 %). The married migrants prevailed also in migration for short distances but in migration from region to region the singles prevailed (45,1 %), especially men. Until 2004 a change occurred, although not very significant, for the benefit of singles, thanks to men (48 % of all male migrants were single). In terms of women,

<sup>14</sup> Internal migration at the level of districts has been analysed since 1996, i.e. from the date when the new territorial and administrative arrangement of the SR entered into force (Law No. 221/1996 Coll.).

the married women predominated, who formed 43,5 % of the total number of female migrants, the single women represented 41,7 %. The prevalence of single women was recorded in migration to longer distances (from region to region), married women prevailed in migration for shorter distances.

### *Education*

In 1996, 2/3 of migrants aged 15 and over graduated the secondary school, for men the migrants without a leaving exam predominated, conversely, for women including a leaving exam. The migrants with the primary education formed roughly 1/5. The migrants with the university education shared approximately with 13%. They migrate mainly for shorter distances. Even 2/3 of migrants with the university education were formed by men. Changes in the education of migrants – for the benefit of migrants with higher education – had already appeared at the break-point of millenniums and until 2004 they were even deeper. The share of migrants with the primary education and secondary education without a leaving exam decreased and, on the contrary, the share of migrants with higher education increased (in comparison with 1996 by 3-4 percentage points). From the regional standpoint, the lower education in migration for short distances prevails.

### *Reasons*

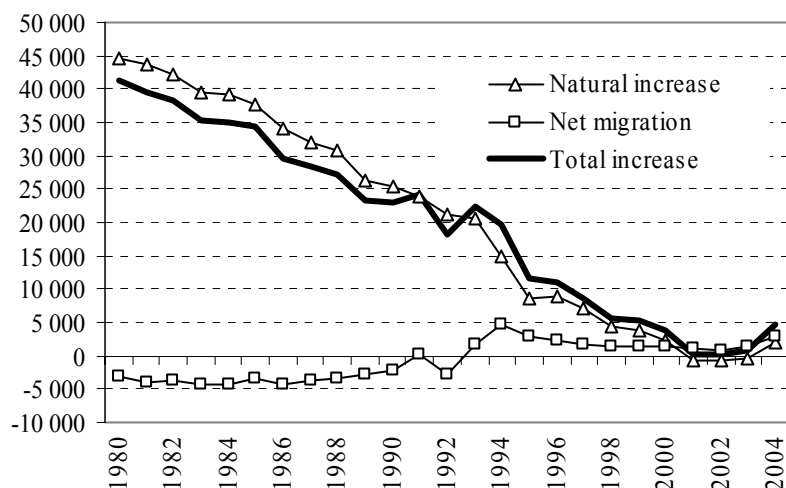
As it results from migration statistics, the main reason for population migration in the territory of the SR is the following up a family member. In 1996, this reason was declared by approximately 1/3 of migrants. The second most frequent reason is housing, which was stated by 28 % of migrants and a relatively high share was attributed to other reasons (15,3 %). Consequently, the next was marriage (12,9 %). With regard to the sex, the housing problems were the main reasons for men, in terms of women it was marriage. A similar representation of reasons can be found also at the regional level, however, in migration for longer distances the share of other reasons is being increased. A shift in the reasons of migration is evident at the turning point of millenniums. The main reasons of migration are housing problems, stated by 1/3 of migrants, and the share of the following up a family member decreased down to 28,7 %. In the migration between regions the main reason is the following up a family member. Until 2004 even the higher reinforcement of housing reasons occurred mainly at the regional level. The share of other reasons increased by 3 percentage points but the migration due to marriage decreased more significantly; it reached only 9 %, for men even lower - 6,4 %. The reasons change in workplace and more closely to workplace form only in 4 - 5 % of migration, especially in migration between regions.



## 7. Increase and number of population

The changes in demographic processes are reflected also in the development of the population number. Already from the beginning of 80-ties the natural increase of the Slovak population had begun to slow down, especially thanks to the decreasing natality. The number of live-births decreased step-by-step from 100,2 thousand in 1979 down to 95,1 thousand in 1980, consequently to 80,0 thousand in 1990 and to 61,4 thousand in 1995.

**Graph 7.1 Population increase**



While in 1979 the natural increase had been oscillating around the level of 52 thousand people, at the end of 80-ties it achieved only a half, i.e. 26 thousand people. The diminishing population increases due to natural changes in 80-ties were weakened even higher by migration, especially with the Czech Republic, for the benefit of which Slovakia lost around 35 thousand people.

On the contrary, it was exactly the migration which prevented the more intensive diminishing of increases in 90-ties. Firstly, the gains from external migration

without the CR were in question, later, since the inception of an independent state, also from the migration with the Czech Republic. The Slovak Republic, despite the natural decrease, hadn't become a country, in which the population number would decrease, although the total population increase in 2001 reached only 168 and in 2002 just 210 people.

**Tab. 7.1 Increase of population**

		1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	1995-2004
Natural increase	Total	8 741	8 887	6 987	4 426	3 821	2 427	-844	-691	-517	1 895	35 132
	Males	3 287	3 510	2 580	913	608	67	-1 266	-1 400	-1 159	342	7 482
	Females	5 454	5 377	4 407	3 513	3 213	2 360	422	709	642	1 553	27 650
Net migration	Total	2 842	2 255	1 731	1 306	1 454	1 463	1 012	901	1 409	2 874	17 247
	Males	1 524	1 212	991	774	826	868	675	785	977	2 024	10 656
	Females	1 318	1 043	740	532	628	595	337	116	432	850	6 591
Total increase	Total	11 583	11 142	8 718	5 732	5 275	3 890	168	210	892	4 769	52 379
	Males	4 811	4 722	3 571	1 687	1 434	935	-591	-615	-182	2 366	18 138
	Females	6 772	6 420	5 147	4 045	3 841	2 955	759	825	1 074	2 403	34 241
Natural increase per 1000 population	Total	1,63	1,65	1,30	0,82	0,71	0,45	-0,16	-0,13	-0,10	0,35	0,65
	Males	1,26	1,34	0,98	0,35	0,23	0,03	-0,48	-0,54	-0,44	0,13	0,29
	Females	1,98	1,95	1,60	1,27	1,16	0,85	0,15	0,26	0,23	0,56	1,00
Net migration per 1000 population	Total	0,53	0,42	0,32	0,24	0,27	0,27	0,19	0,17	0,26	0,53	0,32
	Males	0,58	0,46	0,38	0,30	0,31	0,33	0,26	0,30	0,37	0,77	0,41
	Females	0,48	0,38	0,27	0,19	0,23	0,21	0,12	0,04	0,16	0,31	0,24
Total increase per 1000 population	Total	2,16	2,07	1,62	1,06	0,98	0,72	0,03	0,04	0,17	0,89	0,97
	Males	1,84	1,80	1,36	0,64	0,55	0,36	-0,23	-0,24	-0,07	0,91	0,69
	Females	2,46	2,33	1,86	1,46	1,39	1,06	0,27	0,30	0,39	0,87	1,24

However, in terms of sex, during 2001-2003 a total decrease was recorded in case of men. During these three years their number declined by 1 398 people, to which the natural decrease of men, amounting to 3 825 people, contributed. This decrease caused that the Slovak Republic recorded in 2001-2003 also the losses from the natural changes, when the number of deaths was by 2 052 higher than the number of live-births. These three years were exceptional because the natural decrease of population had been never recorded during the whole post-war demographic development in Slovakia. Thus, the SR in these three years ranked among the large group of European countries, in which the number of population had been increasing only thanks to migration.

In 2004, additional changes in the demographic development were recorded. The natural increase achieved again positive values. It was related mainly to the fact that the number of live-births was again higher than the number of deaths, i.e. the natural increase was recorded, to which again also men contributed, approximately by 17 %. The migration contributed to the growth of the total increase too when the increase from migration was in comparison with the previous year two times higher. The total population increase of this year at the level of 4,8 thousand was the highest one in this millenniums, however if measured by crude rate, it did not exceed the increase of one person per 1000 population.

It is interesting that after the years of a long-term continuous decrease of the number of live-births (since 1979) this fall ceased in 2003 (the number of live-births as compared to the previous years increased by 895 people), what, however, did not imply the natural increase of the population. Only the further increase of the number of live-births (by nearly 2 thousand people) and the decrease of the number of deaths (by almost 400 people) ensured the positive values of the natural increase in 2004.

**Tab. 7.2 Number of population**

	Number of population (31.12.)			Number of population (1.7.)		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
1995	5 367 790	2 613 712	2 754 078	5 363 676	2 612 229	2 751 447
1996	5 378 932	2 618 434	2 760 498	5 373 793	2 616 334	2 757 459
1997	5 387 650	2 622 005	2 765 645	5 383 233	2 620 329	2 762 904
1998	5 393 382	2 623 692	2 769 690	5 390 866	2 623 086	2 767 780
1999	5 398 657	2 625 126	2 773 531	5 395 324	2 624 080	2 771 244
2000	5 402 547	2 626 061	2 776 486	5 400 679	2 625 691	2 774 988
2001	5 378 951	2 611 921	2 767 030	5 379 780	2 612 684	2 767 096
2002	5 379 161	2 611 306	2 767 855	5 378 809	2 611 452	2 767 357
2003	5 380 053	2 611 124	2 768 929	5 378 950	2 610 872	2 768 078
2004	5 384 822	2 613 490	2 771 332	5 382 574	2 612 313	2 770 261

As of 1 January 1995, there were 5 356,2 thousand people living in the SR. In two years, since the inception of the SR on 1 January 1993 until 1 January 1995, the number of population of the SR increased by 42 thousand people. Until 31 December 2004 the number of population of the SR increased up to 5 384,8 thousand people. It means that during the decade the number of population of the SR increased only by nearly 29 thousand inhabitants, i.e. by 2,9 thousand people annually. However, the increase of number of the population in this time period was influenced by the fact that data from 2001-2004 follow the 2001 census results<sup>15</sup>. It is nevertheless obvious that the annual population increases had been gradually decreasing until 2001, afterwards a slight increase occurred. In the situation of a weak migration increase, their level to a full extent reflects the changes in the reproductive behaviour of the Slovak population. Firstly, mainly the postponement of births towards the older age was in question; secondly, it is likely that in the new millennium the feasibility of the postponed births would take place.

**Tab. 7.3 Increase of population by the size groups of municipalities**

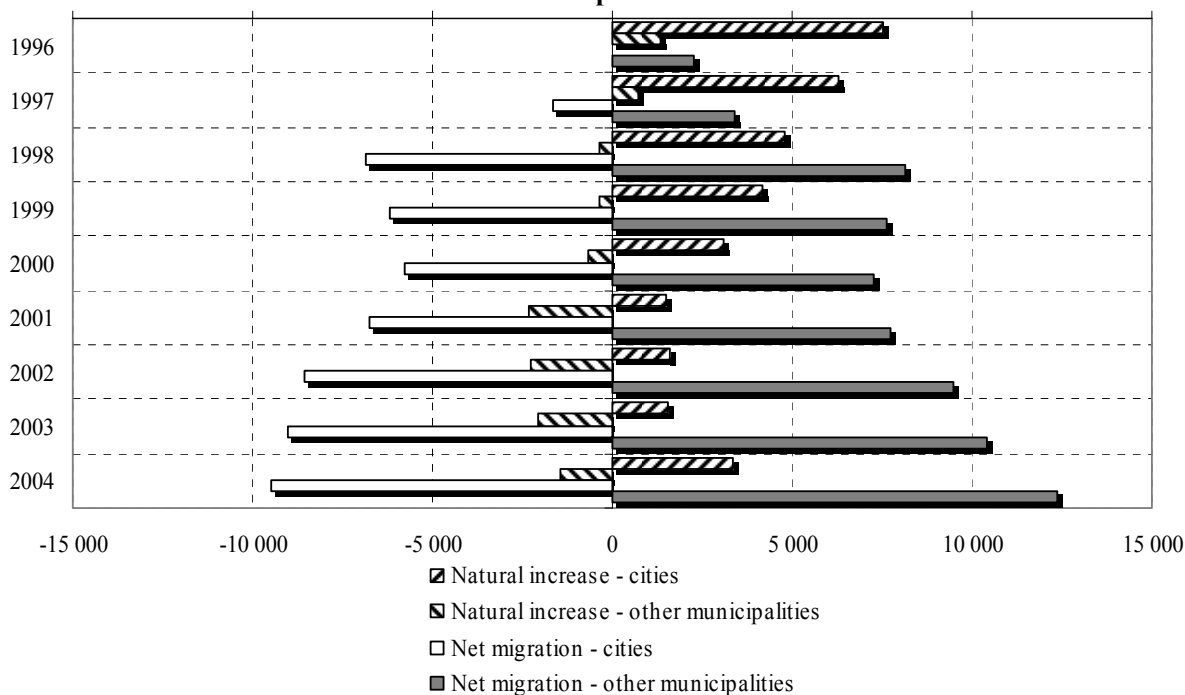
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Up to 199	-830	-517	-565	-76	-429	-388	-457	-212	-269	-201
200-499	-70	-300	-455	91	602	451	-213	-25	-249	317
500-999	1 752	566	738	1 855	1 651	1 326	1 504	1 542	1 443	1 874
1 000-1 999	-2 811	1 595	1 850	2 836	2 642	2 475	2 235	3 004	3 760	4 837
2 000-4 999	12 009	2 387	2 792	3 227	2 890	2 940	2 302	2 726	3 505	3 866
5 000-9 999	-4 312	885	1 062	195	326	-235	-421	-166	433	2
10 000-19 999	816	1 088	1 257	616	51	-266	-1 218	-878	-530	-220
20 000-49 999	198	3 002	1 953	-375	-526	-806	-1 779	-1 813	-2 385	-2 388
50 000-99 999	2 566	1 510	415	-560	-610	-866	-894	-2 396	-3 072	-2 665
100 000 and over	2 265	926	-329	-2 077	-1 322	-741	-891	-1 572	-1 744	-653

The situation regarding the population increase by size groups of municipalities is interesting. While in 1995 the development from the previous period slowly faded out, since 1996 new development tendencies began to appear. The population losses were reported only by the smallest municipalities – up to 500 inhabitants; in 1997 they were

<sup>15</sup> From the comparison of data on the population number at the end of 2000 and 2001 results a significant decrease in the number of population. However, not the decrease of population was in question because the data for 2000 follow the 1991 population census, while data for 2001 are linked to the results of 2001 population census, i.e. the reported data are methodologically different.

accompanied by biggest cities, which until those times had been on a long-term basis reporting only increases. Gradually more size groups of municipalities had been recording the population losses and in 2000 the losses were reported already by all municipalities with the population 5 thousand and over. The development was changed in 2003 and 2004, when municipalities with the population from 5 up to 10 thousand reported increases again. The development of the total increase in this size group, similarly as in the group of municipalities from 200 up to 500 inhabitants, was however instable and was related mainly to the development of migration marked by fluctuation. Until 1999 the municipalities with the population up to one thousand and from year 2000 the municipalities with the population up to 2000 people reported the natural decrease. During 1996-2004 in municipalities up to 2 thousand people the number of deaths was by 14,5 thousand people higher than the number of births. In total, population in municipalities with 200-10 000 inhabitants increased in 1996-2004 by 66,7 thousand people. Conversely, the population in municipalities with the population 10 thousand and over decreased by 22,8 thousand people. At the same time, more than one third of losses fell on Bratislava and Košice. They were losing the population mainly due to the natural change during 1998-2003. In 2004 the development turned around and both cities recorded gains from the natural increase. However, the migration development was not favourable. These two cities which in the past recorded a continuous increase of population since 1997 were loss making due to migration. The migration losses during 1997-2004 reached 8,5 thousand people, although in 2004 the migration loss of Bratislava decreased. If the migration loss of Bratislava is henceforward diminishing, it will possibly imply a start-up of a new development phase – a phase of the weakening of sub-urban processes.

**Graph 7.2 Natural increase and net migration in cities and rural municipalities**



If we look at the development of the population number from the angle of city-country, it is obvious that while in the past the number of population was increasing mainly in the cities, currently the situation is just the opposite. During 1996-2004 the number of inhabitants of cities decreased by 20,4 thousand people, while the number of inhabitants of rural areas increased by 61,3 thousand people. The structure of increases indicates that the growths resulting from the natural changes of population are currently recorded in cities and the migration increases are recorded in case of other municipalities.



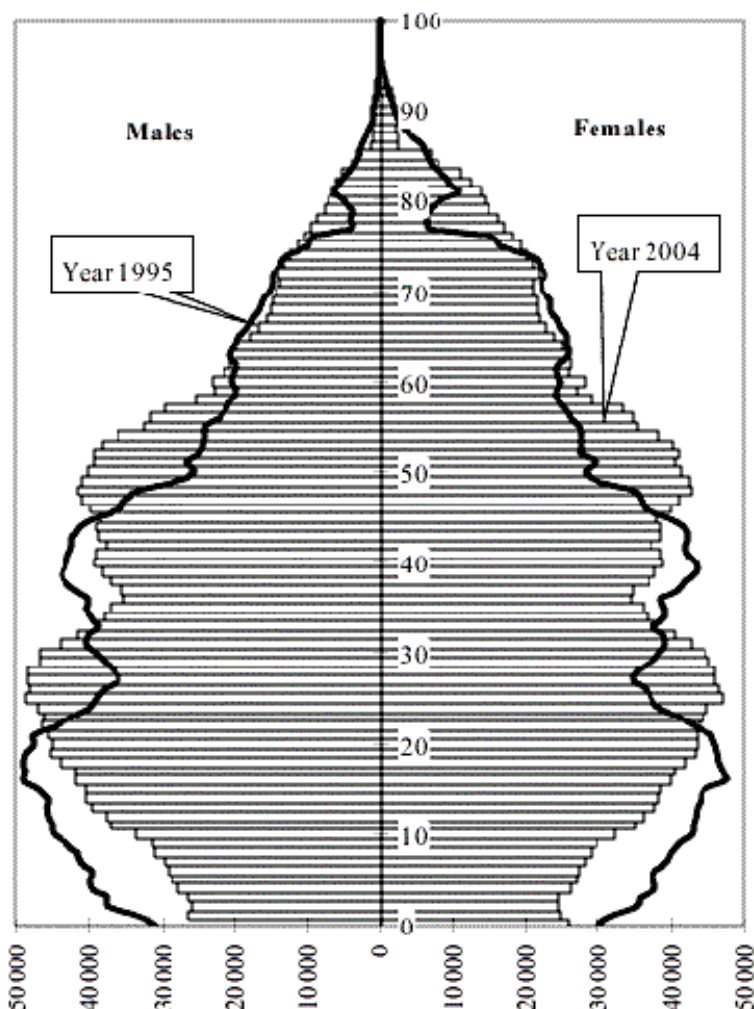
## 8. Age structure of population

**Tab. 8.1 Basic characteristics of the age structure of population**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	Total									
Number of population	5 367 790	5 378 932	5 387 650	5 393 382	5 398 657	5 402 547	5 378 951	5 379 161	5 380 053	5 384 822
Age group 0-14	1 195 288	1 164 897	1 133 678	1 101 841	1 069 375	1 036 426	1 006 970	974 991	944 456	918 911
Age group 15-44	2 507 086	2 512 298	2 515 357	2 517 958	2 519 513	2 519 047	2 504 417	2 500 934	2 500 224	2 501 312
Age group 45-64	1 077 971	1 105 051	1 133 271	1 163 253	1 194 594	1 227 504	1 254 879	1 287 011	1 315 062	1 338 657
Age group 65+	587 445	596 686	605 344	610 330	615 175	619 570	612 685	616 225	620 311	625 942
Age group 0-14 (%)	22,27	21,66	21,04	20,43	19,81	19,18	18,72	18,13	17,55	17,06
Age group 15-44 (%)	46,71	46,71	46,69	46,69	46,67	46,63	46,56	46,49	46,47	46,45
Age group 45-64 (%)	20,08	20,54	21,03	21,57	22,13	22,72	23,33	23,93	24,44	24,86
Age group 65+ (%)	10,94	11,09	11,24	11,32	11,39	11,47	11,39	11,46	11,53	11,62
Mean age	34,53	34,81	35,09	35,38	35,67	35,97	36,16	36,49	36,81	37,12
Ageing index	49,15	51,22	53,40	55,39	57,53	59,78	60,84	63,20	65,68	68,12
	Males									
Number of population	2 613 712	2 618 434	2 622 005	2 623 692	2 625 126	2 626 061	2 611 921	2 611 306	2 611 124	2 613 490
Age group 0-14	610 853	595 837	579 568	563 558	546 979	530 207	515 164	499 103	483 608	470 702
Age group 15-44	1 269 534	1 272 407	1 274 152	1 275 927	1 276 849	1 277 209	1 269 088	1 267 441	1 267 442	1 268 393
Age group 45-64	505 395	519 577	534 363	550 185	566 265	582 897	596 237	612 907	627 568	640 412
Age group 65+	227 930	230 613	233 922	234 022	235 033	235 748	231 432	231 855	232 506	233 983
Age group 0-14 (%)	23,37	22,76	22,10	21,48	20,84	20,19	19,72	19,11	18,52	18,01
Age group 15-44 (%)	48,57	48,59	48,59	48,63	48,64	48,64	48,59	48,54	48,54	48,53
Age group 45-64 (%)	19,34	19,84	20,38	20,97	21,57	22,20	22,83	23,47	24,03	24,50
Age group 65+ (%)	8,72	8,81	8,92	8,92	8,95	8,98	8,86	8,88	8,90	8,95
Mean age	33,01	33,27	33,56	33,81	34,10	34,39	34,56	34,88	35,19	35,49
Ageing index	37,31	38,70	40,36	41,53	42,97	44,46	44,92	46,45	48,08	49,71
	Females									
Number of population	2 754 078	2 760 498	2 765 645	2 769 690	2 773 531	2 776 486	2 767 030	2 767 855	2 768 929	2 771 332
Age group 0-14	584 435	569 060	554 110	538 283	522 396	506 219	491 806	475 888	460 848	448 209
Age group 15-44	1 237 552	1 239 891	1 241 205	1 242 031	1 242 664	1 241 838	1 235 329	1 233 493	1 232 782	1 232 919
Age group 45-64	572 576	585 474	598 908	613 068	628 329	644 607	658 642	674 104	687 494	698 245
Age group 65+	359 515	366 073	371 422	376 308	380 142	383 822	381 253	384 370	387 805	391 959
Age group 0-14 (%)	21,22	20,61	20,04	19,43	18,84	18,23	17,77	17,19	16,64	16,17
Age group 15-44 (%)	44,94	44,92	44,88	44,84	44,80	44,73	44,64	44,56	44,52	44,49
Age group 45-64 (%)	20,79	21,21	21,66	22,13	22,65	23,22	23,80	24,35	24,83	25,20
Age group 65+ (%)	13,05	13,26	13,43	13,59	13,71	13,82	13,78	13,89	14,01	14,14
Mean age	35,98	36,27	36,55	36,86	37,16	37,47	37,65	38,02	38,34	38,66
Ageing index	61,51	64,33	67,03	69,91	72,77	75,82	77,52	80,77	84,15	87,45

The age structure of population significantly influences the functionality of society practically in all areas. Its importance remarkably overcomes the changes in the population number, to which the highest attention is generally drawn. Changes in the age structure, which can be seen during last decades and which can be evaluated as an accelerating process of the population ageing, represent a great challenge for the society which should adapt its entire running to the increasing number and share of older and old people.

Changes in the age structure of population are usually better visible if the longer time period is taken into consideration. As compared to the half of 20<sup>th</sup> century, the reproductive characteristics of population significantly changed – both, the mortality and birth rates, decreased. Due to this development the population in Slovakia has got older. The mean age of population increased by 7 years and the ageing index increased three times. The number of people aged 100 and over represented in 1950 only approximately one tenth of the current number. It is obvious that the population ageing has an accelerating tendency. This fact can be documented also by the development during the last decade. Even 37% from the increase of the mean age of population from 1950 and 42% from the growth of ageing index falls exactly on the time period after 1995.

**Graph 8.1 Age structure of population of the SR in 1995 and 2004**

likely that the number of births will increase during the forthcoming years and by that the age pyramid base will expand. However, in terms of the entire development of fertility the new population wave will not reach the power of the previous two waves. It means that in addition to ageing, it is likely that also the second feature of the age structure, i.e. the unevenness, will remain.

### Main age groups

The representation of main age groups<sup>16</sup> in population is changing only gently because the relatively broad age intervals are in question. However, also by the means of them we can trace the ongoing process of population ageing and its acceleration.

The share of child component was in the half of 90-ties above the threshold of 20% from the total number of population, currently it has approached the level of 17%, what implies a decrease by 33%. We are talking about the historically lowest share of population aged up to 15 in Slovakia. Until 2003, the year-on-year decrease had been moving in scope of 0,6 - 0,8 percentage points. Due to the cessation of fertility decrease, the value of fall for the last year was 0,5 points only.

During the last decade the population at reproductive age has maintained a stable share in the population at the level of 46%, what, if expressed absolutely, represents a decrease after 2000 roughly by 18 thousand people.

The highest increase after 1995 (expressed absolutely as well as relatively), was recorded in the age group of 45-64 (increase by 270 thousand people or by 4,8 percentage points). The size of this group is positively influenced by

<sup>16</sup> Main age groups are delineated with regard to the reproductive process – pre-reproductive (0-14 years), reproductive (15-44 years), post-reproductive – productive (45-64 years), post-reproductive – post-productive (65 years and over).

The unevenness in the age pyramid, caused by the World War I, practically lost its importance and the population aged 60-85 is developing in a relatively even way. The irregularities in the age structure of the Slovak population are linked to the development after the World War II. The age structure of population at the age of 25- 60 is influenced by two population waves ( the post-war and from 70-ties). The time period between these population waves can be characterised by the lower number of births and thus by the weaker population groups at the age of 35- 45.

The consequence of the fall of number of births from the end of 70-ties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is visible in the decreasing numbers of population at the age up to 25. The still more narrower base of the age pyramid reached until now its minimum in 2003. The current indication of the turning point in the development of natality can be assessed as the base for the new population wave, which has come with a certain delay (due to the increasing mean age at birth). The powerful population age groups are currently at the age of 25-29, what is nowadays the age of the highest fertility. Thus, it is very

the numerously powerful generations born after the World War II and in 50-ties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as well as by the fact that the weaker age groups born in 60-ties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century haven't reached yet the post-reproductive age.

Although the process of ageing continues with an accelerated rate, the number as well as the share of population at the age of 65 and over increases only slowly. During the last decade it has increased by 0,7 percentage points or by 38 thousand people, what represents the growth by 6,2 %. The relatively low numerousness of this age group is the consequence of the weak age groups born during the World War I, which currently influence the numerousness of the eldest population aged 85 and over, as well as of the group of people born during the economic crisis in 30-ties, who have caused the low numerousness in the age group of 60-64. Despite the fact that the increase of population in the post-productive age group is relatively low, the current population numbers at the age of 65 and over represent the historical maximums achieved in Slovakia.

## Child component of population

**Tab. 8.2 Age structure of population at the age up to 15**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Number of population										
Total	1 195 288	1 164 897	1 133 678	1 101 841	1 069 375	1 036 426	1 006 970	974 991	944 456	918 911
0	60 843	59 594	58 609	57 157	55 831	54 741	50 861	50 519	51 384	53 451
1-4	289 226	272 537	258 229	244 356	235 808	230 835	223 787	216 754	210 819	206 523
5-9	401 231	394 369	386 592	378 337	366 407	349 770	332 869	316 888	301 123	290 946
10-14	443 988	438 397	430 248	421 991	411 329	401 080	399 453	390 830	381 130	367 991
Share on the total population (%)										
Total	22,27	21,66	21,04	20,43	19,81	19,18	18,72	18,13	17,55	17,06
0	1,13	1,11	1,09	1,06	1,03	1,01	0,95	0,94	0,96	0,99
1-4	5,39	5,07	4,79	4,53	4,37	4,27	4,16	4,03	3,92	3,84
5-9	7,47	7,33	7,18	7,01	6,79	6,47	6,19	5,89	5,60	5,40
10-14	8,27	8,15	7,99	7,82	7,62	7,42	7,43	7,27	7,08	6,83

The child component of population reached in 2004 the historically lowest values (919 thousand people or 17% from the total population). The development of the number of children aged 0 is influenced mainly by the development of the number of live-births, because the mortality rate in the first year of life is relatively stable. Thus, after a long-term decrease in 2003 the number of children aged 0 increased (similarly as the number of live-births). Other age groups in the child component of population could not be until now influenced by the cessation of the fertility decrease, conversely, they were influenced by the fall of fertility after 1990. Therefore their number and share in the total population has been decreasing during the overall observed time period. The permanently decreasing numbers of live-births have caused that the more the age of population approaches zero, the lower is the numerousness of the relevant age group.

## Population at post-productive age

**Tab. 8.3 Age structure of population at the age 65 and over**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Number of population										
Total	587 445	596 686	605 344	610 330	615 175	619 570	612 685	616 225	620 311	625 942
65-69	209 918	210 018	210 824	208 390	205 300	201 881	195 771	191 411	190 646	192 136
70-74	181 378	179 638	177 306	174 666	174 885	176 285	174 766	176 191	174 922	172 768
75-79	83 384	99 971	116 736	132 065	135 335	137 300	135 360	134 082	133 094	133 631
80-84	68 923	61 734	53 813	45 937	48 492	54 563	64 638	75 556	85 596	88 272
85+	43 842	45 325	46 665	49 272	51 163	49 541	42 150	38 985	36 053	39 135
Share on the total population (%)										
Total	10,94	11,09	11,24	11,32	11,39	11,47	11,39	11,46	11,53	11,62
65-69	3,91	3,90	3,91	3,86	3,80	3,74	3,64	3,56	3,54	3,57
70-74	3,38	3,34	3,29	3,24	3,24	3,26	3,25	3,28	3,25	3,21
75-79	1,55	1,86	2,17	2,45	2,51	2,54	2,52	2,49	2,47	2,48
80-84	1,28	1,15	1,00	0,85	0,90	1,01	1,20	1,40	1,59	1,64
85+	0,82	0,84	0,87	0,91	0,95	0,92	0,78	0,72	0,67	0,73

The development at the top of the age spectrum is entirely opposite as compared to the child component of population. The number and the share of population at the post-productive age is continuously increasing. It is caused prevalently by the development of population aged 75 and over because the development in the age group of 70-74 can be designated as stagnation and in the age group of 65-69 the population number has even slightly decreased. More attention is drawn to population aged 85 and over because in this group the share of population with health problems and requiring support has significantly increased.

After 1999 the increasing number and share of the oldest population had been temporarily interrupted, however, since 2004 the growth was ongoing. The reason for this short-time interruption of this raising trend was held in the transition of weak age groups of people born after the World War I to this oldest age group.

## Burden of productive population

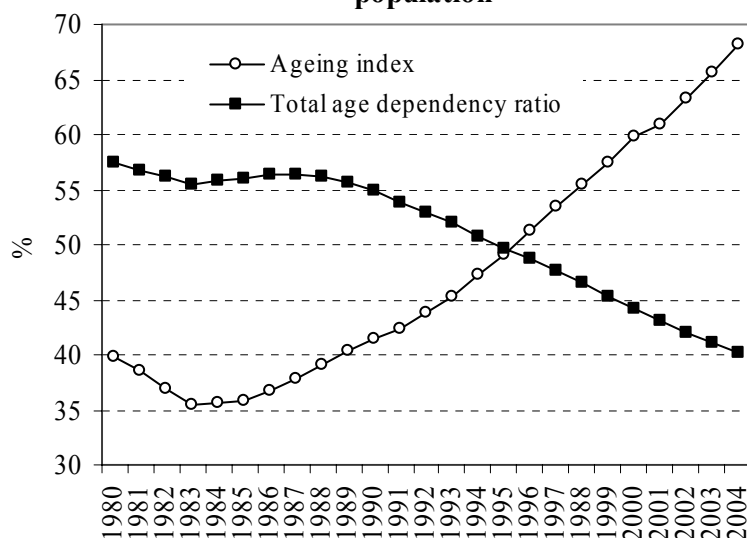
**Tab. 8.4 Burden of productive population**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Young age dependency ratio	33,3	32,2	31,1	29,9	28,8	27,7	26,8	25,7	24,8	23,9
Old age dependency ratio	16,4	16,5	16,6	16,6	16,6	16,5	16,3	16,3	16,3	16,3
Total age dependency ratio	49,7	48,7	47,7	46,5	45,4	44,2	43,1	42,0	41,0	40,2

In 2004, approximately 24 people at the pre-productive age (0-14 years) and 16 people at post-productive age (65 years and over), thus in total 40 non-productive people fell on 100 productive people. It was the lowest value of economic burden in the last decade, which was caused by the decreasing numbers of live-births and by relatively low increase of the older population. Because the proportion of child component of population is higher than the post-productive component, the burden by young population is higher than the burden caused by old people. However the difference is constantly diminishing. It can be witnessed by different trends of dependency ratios of young and old people. In 1995 the burden by young population represented 67% of the total economic burden, the remaining 33% fell on population aged 65 and over. Until 2004 the burden due to young population decreased down to 59% and the dependency of old population increased up to 41%.

## Population ageing

**Graph 8.2 Ageing and total dependency of population**



All changes in age structure, which are currently running, can be included under a common label – population ageing. The process of population ageing is the consequence of development at the bottom and at the top of the age pyramid. The low natality weakens the child component of population and the decreasing mortality prolongs the human life and reinforces the older population component. The convergence of these two factors speeds up the process of population ageing.

The continuous population ageing can be confirmed also by the mean age and ageing index. Both characteristics record a long-term growth which is gradually accelerating. The current values of the mean age and the ageing index are historically the highest in Slovakia. Despite the fact that a decade

is not a sufficiently long time period for the exploration of changes in the age structure of population, the shift in the ageing process is visible. Since 1995 the mean age of population has increased by 2,6 years, i.e. by 7,5%. Currently 68 people aged 65 and over fall on 100 inhabitants up to 15 years (in 1995, it was „only“ nearly 50). It means that the ageing index has during the recent 10 years increased by 38,6%.

Due to the excess male mortality, women prevail in older population, while with the older age their prevalence in population increases. In other words, the female part of population is older than the male part. The mean age of



women in Slovakia is currently by more than 3 years higher than in case of men and the ageing index is higher by 76%, while the differences in both characteristics are continuously increasing.

**Tab. 8.5 Mean age of population in main age groups**

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
0-14	7,95	8,01	8,06	8,10	8,12	8,13	8,19	8,20	8,19	8,14
15-64	37,00	37,04	37,09	37,17	37,27	37,39	37,49	37,65	37,81	37,99
65+	73,65	73,70	73,73	73,86	73,97	74,08	74,08	74,20	74,31	74,39

The process of ageing is running in all age groups of population. The fact that the number of live-births was until 2003 decreasing can be documented by the growing mean age in the child component of population aged 0-14, which ceased only in last two years. In terms of productive population the ageing is caused by the shift of more numerous population age groups towards the older age and their replacement by the weaker population age groups. The powerful post-war population age groups have approached the age of retirement and the powerful population age groups from 70-ties begin slowly to leave the age of the highest fertility. Conversely, the weak population age groups born in 80-ties and 90-ties are entering the productive age. The fact that powerful population age groups, which are currently at the age of 25 and over, are still lesser replaced by the less numerous population age groups causes that the process of population ageing in this age group is continuously speeding up. In terms of the oldest population the mean age is growing until now only due to the mortality decrease and prolonging of the human life because the powerful age groups have not come yet into the post-productive age.



## 9. International comparison

**Tab. 9.1 World-wide basic reproductive characteristics in 2003**

	World	Developed countries	Developing countries	EU 25	EU 15
Population (in mil.)	6228,6	1199,1	5029,5	453,1	378,7
Total fertility rate	2,67	1,59	2,93	1,46	1,50
Infant mortality rate	52,1	8,7	57,2	4,8	4,5
Life expectancy at birth - males*	62,2	72,5	61,0	74,7	75,7
Life expectancy at birth - females*	65,4	79,4	63,8	81,0	81,6

\* year 2001

Due to the differences in historical and cultural traditions, geopolitical development and standard of living, the big differences in reproductive and marital behaviour occur between the particular world regions, which lead to differences in the development of the number and structure of population and families. Big differences in the population development between particular parts of the world cause that from the world-wide point of view Europe seems to be a relatively homogenous region.

If we look at Europe in a more detailed way we shall find out that differences between the individual countries are not negligible and what from the world-wide standpoint seems to be similar, is actually not similar so much. In principle Europe can be divided into 4 regions with similar demographic development – West Europe, North Europe, South Europe and East Europe. In particular European regions the historical and geographical closeness acts as an unifying factor, together with the similarity of political and socio-economic systems. Obviously, each country has its peculiarities, which specify the country also within the particular sub-regions.

**Tab. 9.2: Selected demographic characteristics in the Middle Europe**

	Slovakia	Czech Rep.	Hungary	Poland	Austria	Slovenia
1995						
Total first marriage rate (women)	0,58	0,50	0,56	0,67	0,57	0,51
Mean age at first marriage (women)	22,6	22,7	22,9	23,1	26,1	25,1
Total divorce rate	0,24	0,38	0,34	0,14	0,38	0,14
Total fertility rate	1,52	1,28	1,57	1,62	1,42	1,29
Mean age at first birth	23,0	23,3	23,8	23,8	25,7	24,9
Births out of wedlock (%)	12,6	15,6	20,7	9,5	27,4	29,8
Life expectancy at birth - males	68,4	69,7	65,4	67,6	73,3	70,8
Life expectancy at birth - females	75,4	76,7	74,7	76,3	79,9	78,3
Infant mortality rate	10,9	7,5	10,6	13,4	5,4	5,5
Rate of natural increase (%)	0,16	-0,21	-0,32	0,12	0,09	0,00
Rate of net migration (%)	0,05	0,10	0,17	-0,05	0,03	0,04
Rate of total increase (%)	0,21	-0,11	-0,15	0,07	0,12	0,04
Ageing index (65+/0-14)*	51,2	75,3	80,7	52,4	88,3	73,3
2003						
Total first marriage rate (women)	0,50	0,45	0,47	0,58	0,51	0,42
Mean age at first marriage (women)	25,0	25,7	26,0	24,3	27,7	27,5
Total divorce rate	0,32	0,48	0,42	0,20	0,43	0,24
Total fertility rate	1,20	1,18	1,28	1,22	1,38	1,20
Mean age at first birth	24,9	25,9	26,1	24,9	26,9	27,3
Births out of wedlock (%)	23,3	28,5	32,3	15,8	35,3	42,5
Life expectancy at birth - males	69,8	72,0	68,3	70,4	75,9	73,2
Life expectancy at birth - females	77,8	78,5	76,5	78,7	81,6	80,7
Infant mortality rate	4,5	3,9	7,3	7,0	4,0	7,8
Rate of natural increase (%)	-0,01	-0,17	-0,41	-0,04	0,00	-0,11
Rate of net migration (%)	0,03	0,25	0,15	-0,04	0,45	0,18
Rate of total increase (%)	0,02	0,08	-0,26	-0,08	0,45	0,07
Ageing index (65+/0-14)*	65,7	91,6	97,6	75,2	95,2	103,0

\* year 1996

Slovakia, according to its reproductive behaviour, belongs to the East-European region, which is the less homogenous European region also from the demographic standpoint. It links countries with the Middle-European and

East-European traditions, differently touched by the communist regime and differently involved into the European integration. In accordance to their reproductive behaviour some countries in this region have already approached the West Europe, some countries are however far away from it. Generally speaking, the closer to the East, the higher the differences are. With the ongoing transformation the differences between particular countries are diminishing, although in several post-communist countries the transformation has brought also some extreme values (probably only temporarily), mainly in the development of nuptiality and fertility. A more definitive picture on the demographic situation will be feasible only after the end of transformation and after the running of some compensation demographic processes.

For Slovakia, also the standpoint of the Middle-European region is interesting because it links the countries with the common history, a close mentality and the blended population environment. Here belong Austria, which from the demographic point of view is part of West Europe and five post-communist countries, which according to their reproductive behaviour have approached most closely the West-European demographic model.

When looking at demographic characteristics we can say that in Middle Europe three couples of countries have arisen. Slovenia has mostly approached the West-European reproductive model and together with Austria it forms the first couple. The next couple is formed by Poland and Slovakia, which have maintained the majority of elements from the old reproductive model. The Czech Republic and Hungary are placed somewhere in the middle.

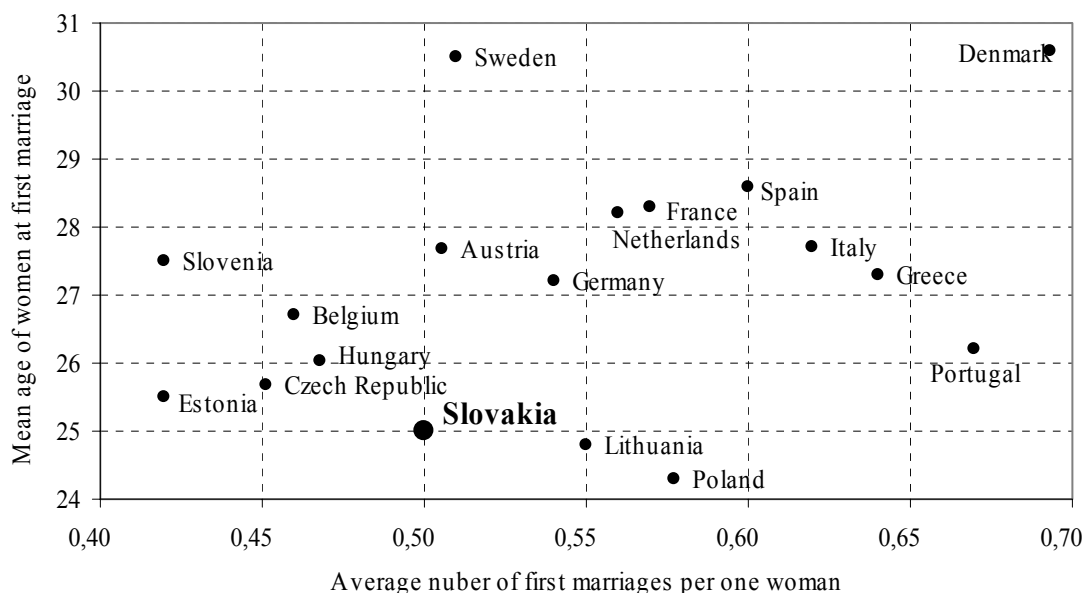
## Demographic situation in the European Union

After expansion to 25 member countries the EU is more heterogeneous. This is true also from the demographic aspect, although as the time is passing the differences in the reproductive behaviour are diminishing. In the current demographic situation the impact of both, the 40-year post-war breakdown of Europe and the consequent transformation process in post-communist countries, which began at the turning point of 80-ties and 90-ties and has been persisting practically until nowadays, is fading out.

## Nuptiality and divorce

The nuptiality and divorce behaviour of population is closely connected to the national cultural traditions and is influenced also by different legal standards in particular countries. The current differences in nuptiality and divorce (especially between the old and the new EU member states) are also the consequence of a different attitude to marriage and divorce, which have existed in the politically divided Europe as an reaction to a different social situation.

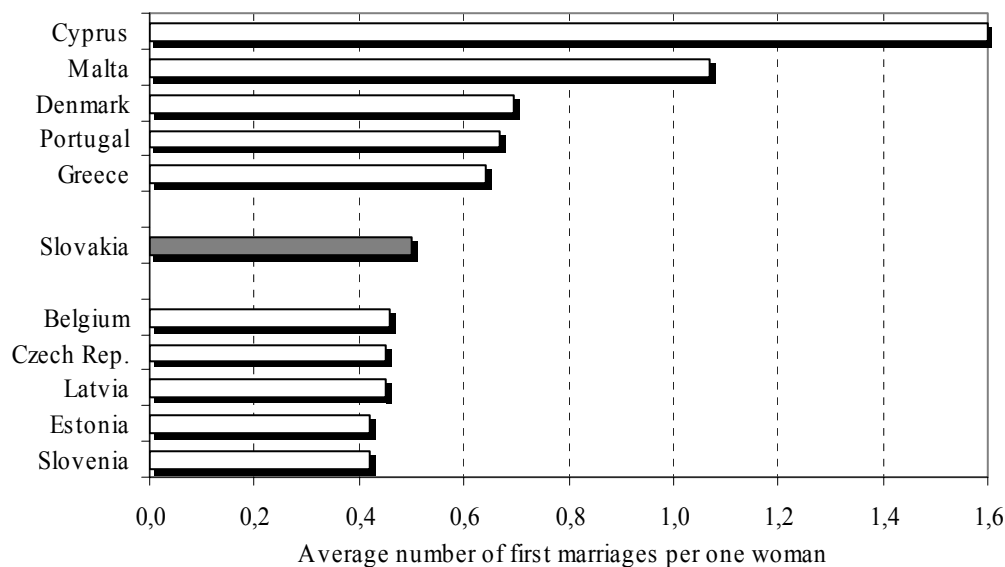
**Graph 9.1 Marital behaviour in selected EU states, 2003**



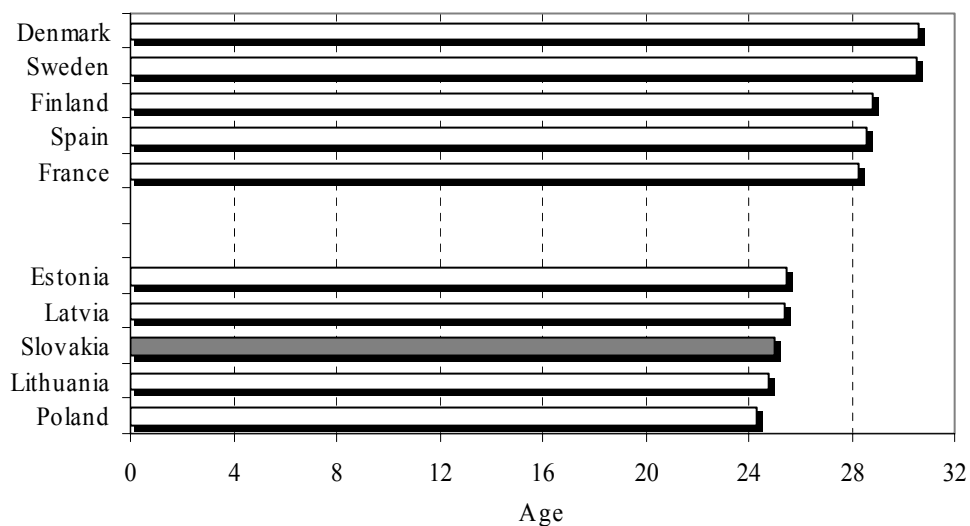
In general we can say that the level of nuptiality in the old EU member states is relatively stable and in the new member states the fall ceased; in majority of cases we are currently the witnesses of a compensation increasing of nuptiality due to the feasibility of postponed marriages. A general trend in the whole EU is the ongoing increase of the mean age at first marriage, which owing to the development in the past and the current level is quite logically more intensive in the new member states. Also nowadays certain differences remain, which origin from the period of politically divided Europe, for which two different models of reproductive and marital behaviour were specific. The prevalence of post-communist countries currently record a low nuptiality level (except for Lithuania and Poland) and

the low mean age at first marriage (except for Slovenia). The old member states record a higher nuptiality level (except for Belgium, Sweden and Austria) and higher mean age at marriage (except for Portugal and Belgium). Among the old member states a group of South-European countries can be separated, which record a relatively high nuptiality and different age at marriage. In Portugal the mean age at first marriage is roughly at the level of Middle-European states, in Greece, Italy and Spain it is at the level of West Europe.

**Graph 9.2 EU states with the highest and lowest nuptiality, 2003**

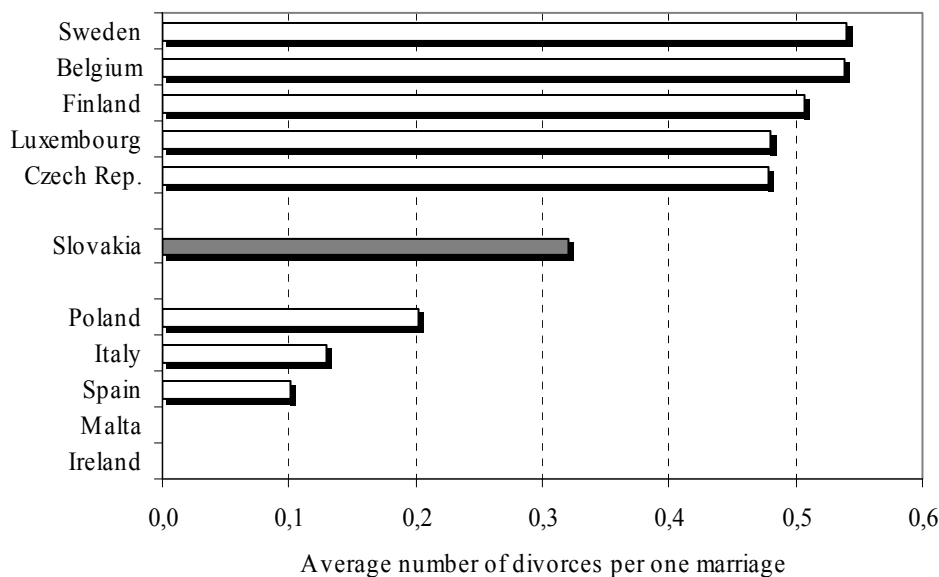


**Graph 9.3 EU states with the highest and lowest mean age at first marriage, 2003**



If we do not take into account the extremely high nuptiality in Malta and above all in Cyprus, in other EU countries the differences are not too high. Between Denmark ranked at the third place and Slovenia ranked at the last place is the difference in the nuptiality level 64%, what as compared to other demographic processes is not a big difference. In addition to Denmark, also Portugal, Greece and Italy can be placed into the group with relatively high nuptiality (but substantially lower than in two mentioned countries). The lowest nuptiality in the EU is recorded in addition to Slovenia, also in Estonia, Latvia and in the Czech Republic. In general we can say that the highest nuptiality in the EU is currently in the south and north (except for Sweden) and the lowest in the east (except for Poland and Lithuania). Belgium and Luxembourg, together with several East-European countries, ranked among the countries with the lowest level of nuptiality in the EU.

**Graph 9.4 EU states with the highest and lowest divorce, 2003**



The international comparison of data on divorce is complicated not only by different legislation but also by the changing system of values of population, together with the increasing share of cohabitations without marriage, on the breakdowns of which no records exist. The high divorce rate in the majority of EU member states can be assessed as the part of processes of assertion of a free choice in each spheres of life; the same is true for reproductive and marital behaviour. These processes are corrected or weakened in some countries mainly by the religiosity of population and the higher impact of church, which are reflected also in the corresponding legislation.

The divorce behaviour in Europe is stable despite the moderately increasing level and the changes in the political development at the end of 20<sup>th</sup> century did not have any significant impact. There are great differences in the level of divorce between the particular EU countries, substantially higher than in case of nuptiality. On the one hand there are countries like Sweden, Belgium and Finland, where more than half of marriages are getting divorced, on the other hand there are Malta and Ireland, where no divorces exist. The Czech republic, Estonia and Denmark can be ranked among countries with high divorce rate, where more than 0,45 divorce fall on one marriage. On the contrary, the low divorce rate (below 0,25 divorces per one 1 marriage) is in all South-European EU member states and in Poland.

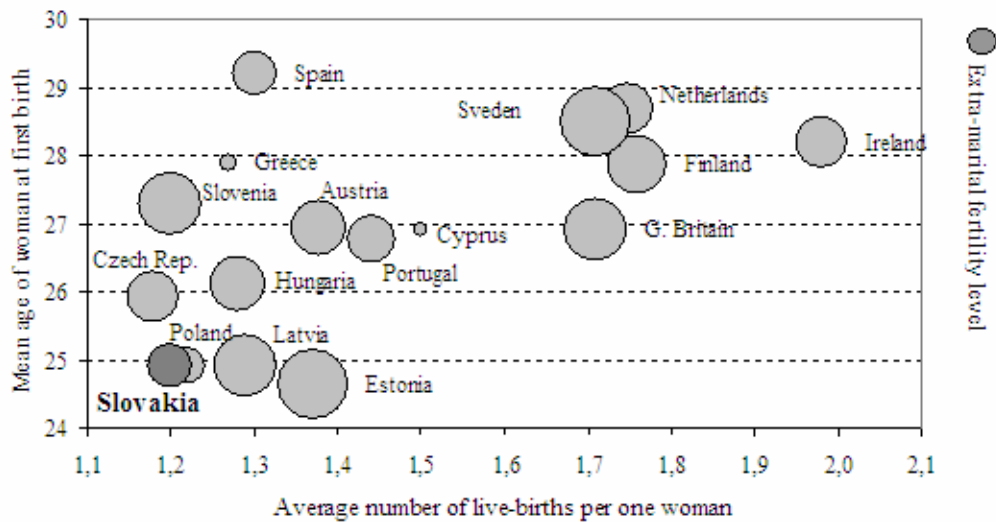
## Nativity

Currently, the development of natality is drawing attention in the advanced countries mainly due its low level. In none of the EU member states the natality does not reach the replacement level. Differences in the level of fertility and timing of births between the EU member states are most of all the consequence of the political breakdown of Europe in the second half of 20<sup>th</sup> century and the resulting different social relations and the standard of life. The social transformation, which in the post-communist countries had begun after the fall of iron curtain, only finalised the different fertility development in the former political blocks.

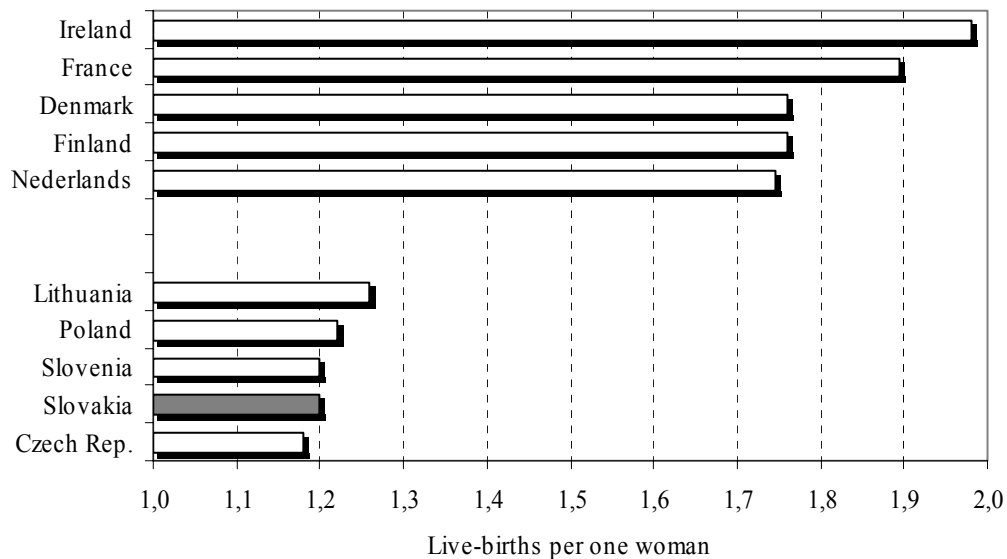
With regard to the level of fertility we can divide the member states into two groups – North and West European countries with the total fertility rate above 1,5 children per one women during her entire reproductive period and the South-European and East-European countries with the fertility below this level. The group with lower fertility level is more numerous, in addition to member states from South and East Europe, also Austria and Germany belong here. The lowest fertility in the EU is recorded in the post-communist countries; Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Slovenia belong to the last triplet too. The less numerous groups of countries with the total fertility rate from 1,5 up to 1,9 is led by Ireland, followed by France, which still remains a country with the highest fertility increase during the recent years. With a certain distance, the northern countries, together with Netherlands and Great Britain, are placed.

If the age at first birth is in consideration, we can also form two groups of countries, being aware that the increase of the mean age at birth is the Europe-wide trend. The post-communist countries (including Slovakia, however, less Slovenia) belong into the group with lower mean age of women at first birth (less than 26 years). In all other EU countries the mean age of women at first birth is 26 years and over, while in some countries (Spain, Netherlands, Luxembourg) the level of mean age has approached the age of 30. The difference between countries with the highest and lowest mean age of women at first birth (Spain, Estonia) is more than 4,5 years.

**Graph 9.5 Fertile behaviour in selected EU states, 2003**

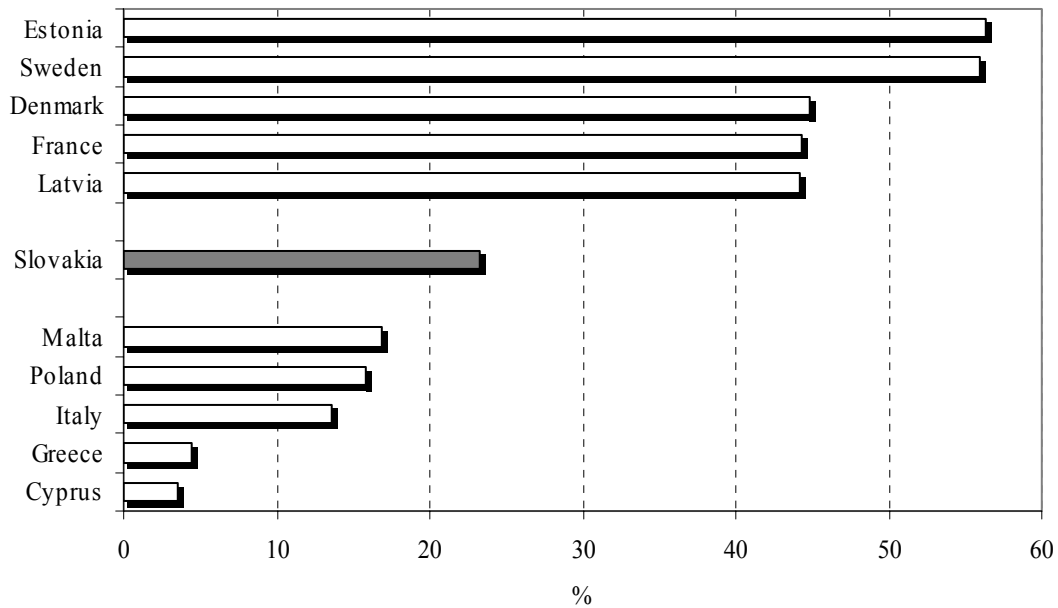


**Graph 9.6 EU states with the highest and lowest fertility, 2003**



With only minor exceptions, we can say that the share of children born outside marriage is increasing in the EU member states. The differences between particular countries are significant, while the political breakdown of Europe from the past plays in this case a less important role. Rather the impact of cultural and religious factors is in question. The low fertility outside marriages is recorded in the countries with high level of religiosity and traditionally with the great influence of church, i.e. in Poland and Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Malta. In these countries the share of children born outside marriage does not exceed 17%. However, in the majority of Middle-European countries and in some West-European countries the share of births outside marriage moves in scope of 20%-35%. From the group of South-European countries, Spain and Portugal belong into this group. Traditionally the highest fertility outside marriage is in the Northern and Baltic countries (except for Lithuania). Also France and Slovenia belong into this group. A deep gap between the countries with the highest and lowest share of births outside marriage (16 times more in Estonia than in Cyprus), is caused by a very low level of fertility outside marriage in Cyprus.

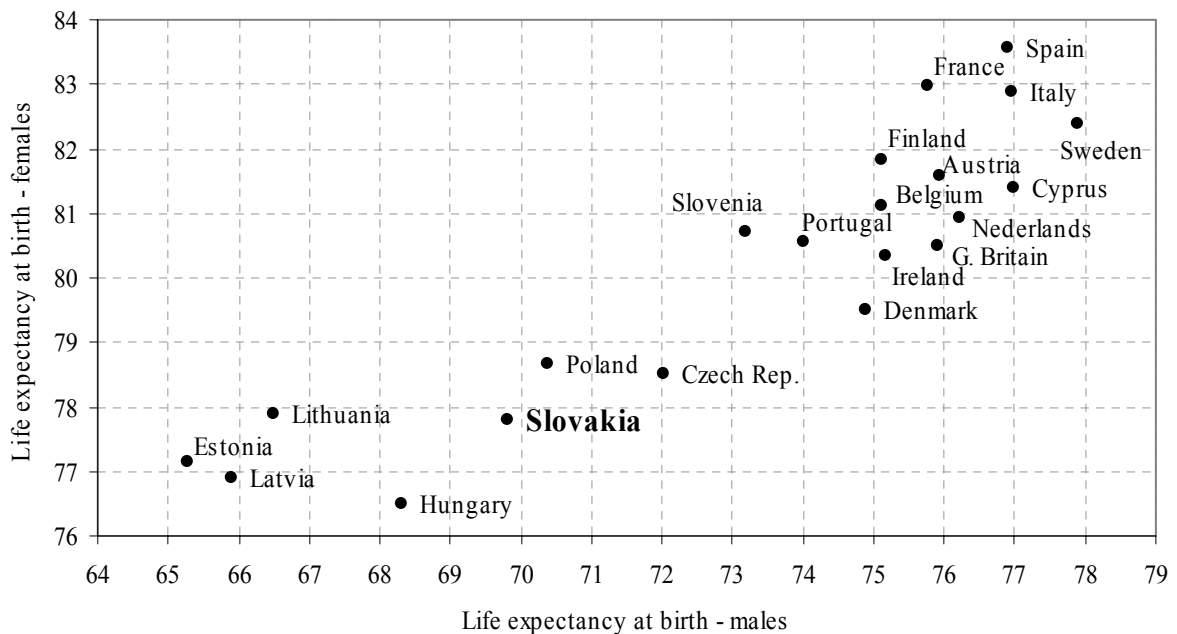
**Graph 9.7 EU states with the highest and lowest share of births out of wedlock, 2003**



## Mortality

The differences between the „west“ and „east“ remained mainly in mortality. The higher mortality and the consequent shorter life expectancy at birth in case of both sexes is recorded in the post-communist countries. The only exception is Slovenia, which has succeeded in ranking among the countries of West, North and South Europe (especially in terms of the mortality of women). The mortality has a remarkable persistence and big differences, which arose in the second half of 20<sup>th</sup> century, are compensated only step-by-step.

**Graph 9.8 Mortality in selected EU states, 2003**

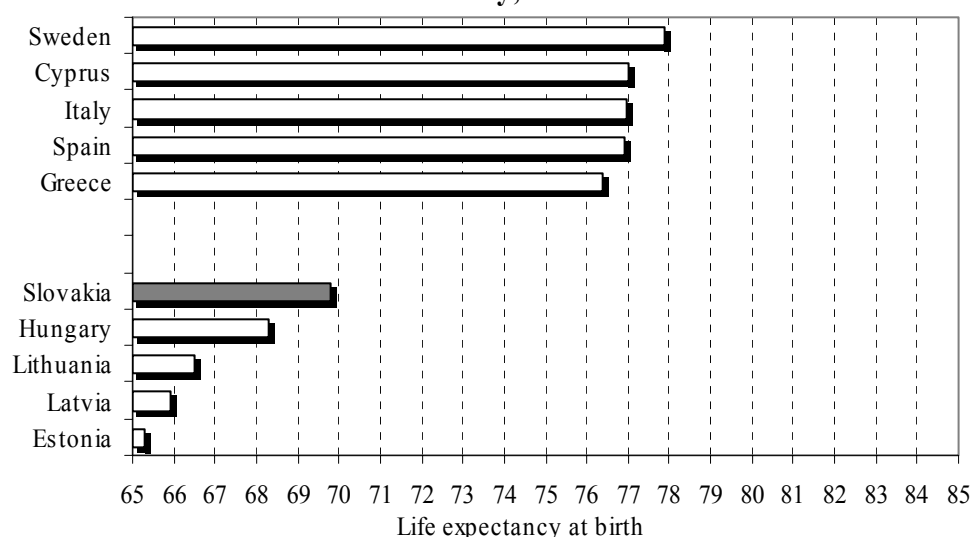


The less favourable situation in the mortality development at both sexes is in Baltic countries, Hungary and in Slovakia. The situation in Poland and the Czech Republic is a bit more favourable, however, also these countries keep visibly behind the European average. From the post-communist countries only Slovenia ranked among the group of advanced countries, although it records the highest mortality of men among the countries belonging into this group. The lowest mortality in the EU is in the north and south. In terms of men, among the seven countries with the

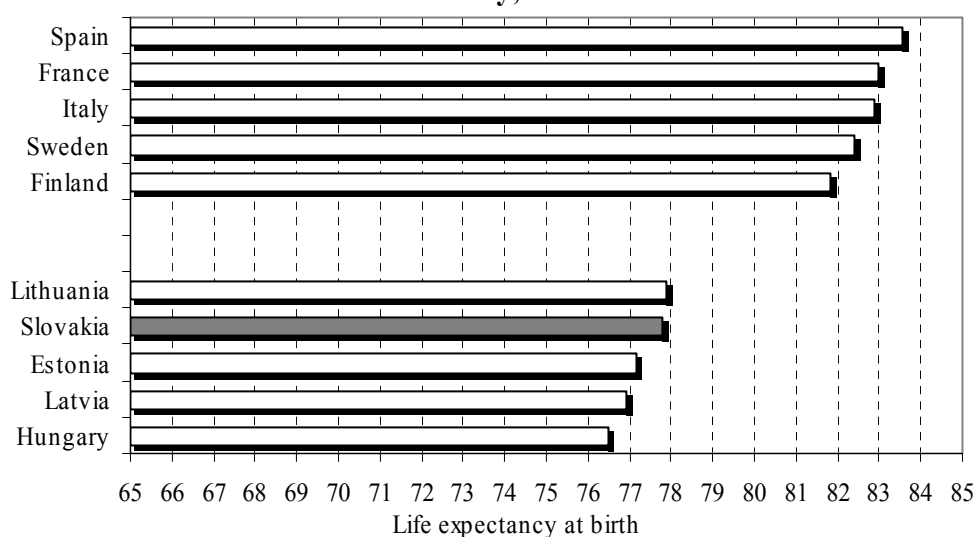


lowest mortality (the life expectancy at birth is above 76 years), there are five South-European countries, together with Sweden and Netherlands. In case of women, four countries record the life expectancy at birth higher than 82 years – Spain, France, Italy and Sweden. The favourable situation in mortality in the north and south of Europe can be confirmed by Finland ranking at fifth place. The difference between the EU member countries with the highest and lowest mortality is remarkable. In case of men the newly-born child in Sweden will live by 12,6 years more at the average than in Estonia. In case of women, the difference in life expectancy at birth between Spain and Hungary is 7,1 years. It is obvious that in post-communist countries the situation is unpleasant especially in terms of mortality of men.

**Graph 9.9 EU states with the highest and lowest male mortality, 2003**



**Graph 9.10 EU states with the highest and lowest female mortality, 2003**



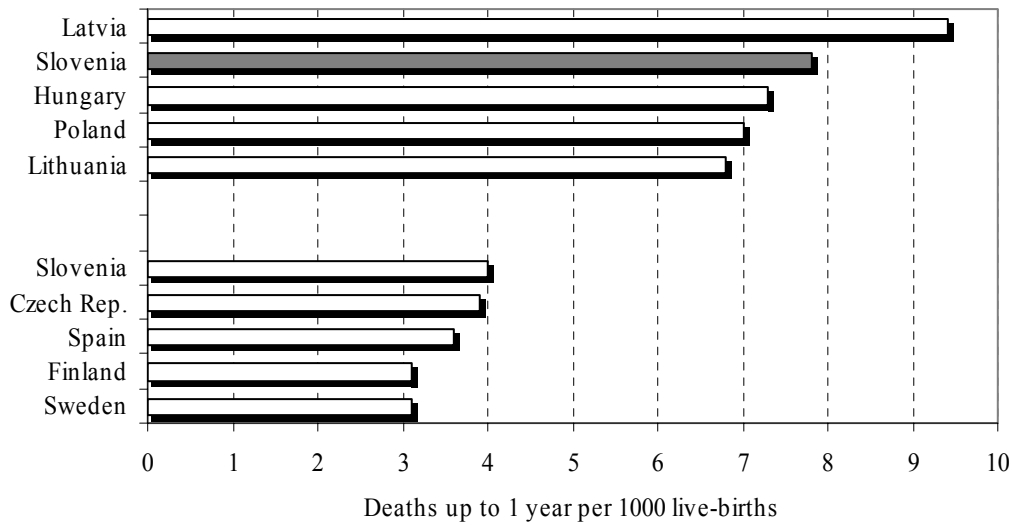
In all EU member states women experience an older age than men. In the old member states the difference in life expectancy at birth is 4-5 years for the benefit of women, in member states from the former east block it is 8-12 years (consequence of already mentioned high excess male mortality in the former east block). The greatest differences are in the three Baltic countries (more than 11 years).

The situation in infant mortality does not differ significantly from the situation in overall mortality. The highest mortality of children up to 1 year is in Baltic countries, as well as in Hungary, Slovakia and Poland. The lowest mortality up to 1 year is in Sweden, Finland and Spain. Among the EU member states with the lowest infant mortality has ranked also the Czech Republic (4th place) and Slovenia (5th place).

**Graph 9.11 EU states with the highest and lowest mortality differences by sex, 2003**



**Graph 9.12 EU states with the highest and lowest infant mortality rate, 2003**



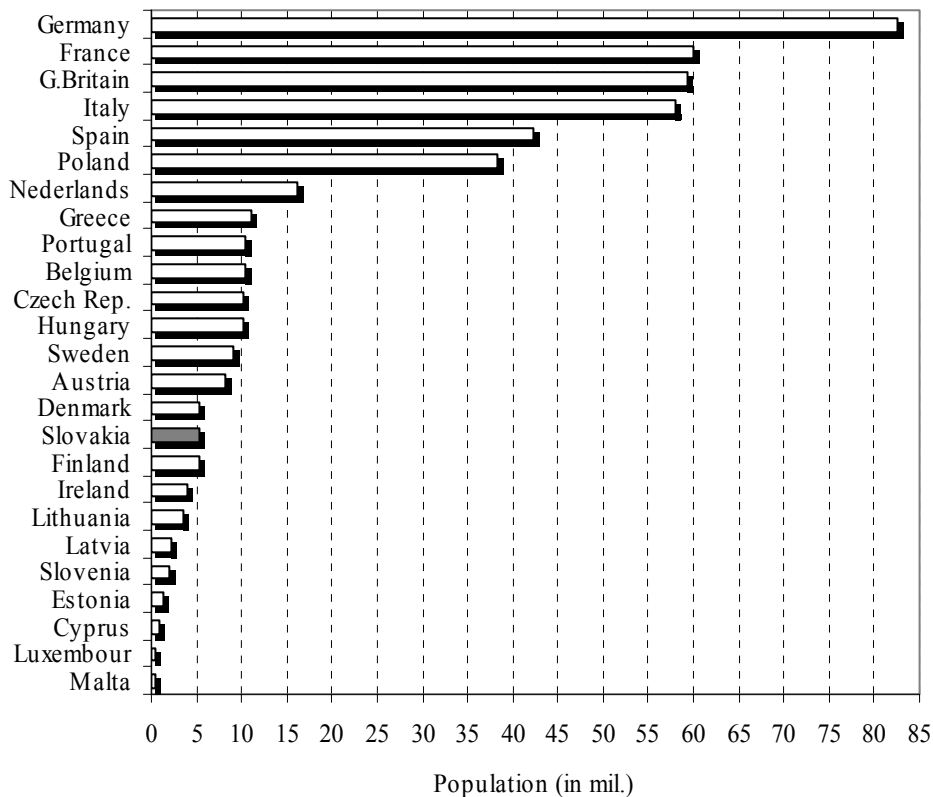
It is well known that mortality is prevalingly the reflection of the standard of living, to which also the health-care and life style are connected. Therefore, even the relatively high differences in mortality between the particular EU member states do not sufficiently characterise the mortality situation in Europe because they do not capture the deep gaps between the most advanced European countries and the non-member states in the East Europe. Just to mention some interesting facts – at the average, the men in Ukraine and Russia live roughly by 17 or 20 years shorter than men in Sweden. In the life expectancy at birth they keep behind the last EU country – Estonia by 2,7 or 6,5 years respectively. The Turkish and Russian women are in the life expectancy at birth behind the Spanish women by 12 years and are more by 4 years behind Hungary, which records the highest mortality of women in the EU.

### Number and increase of population

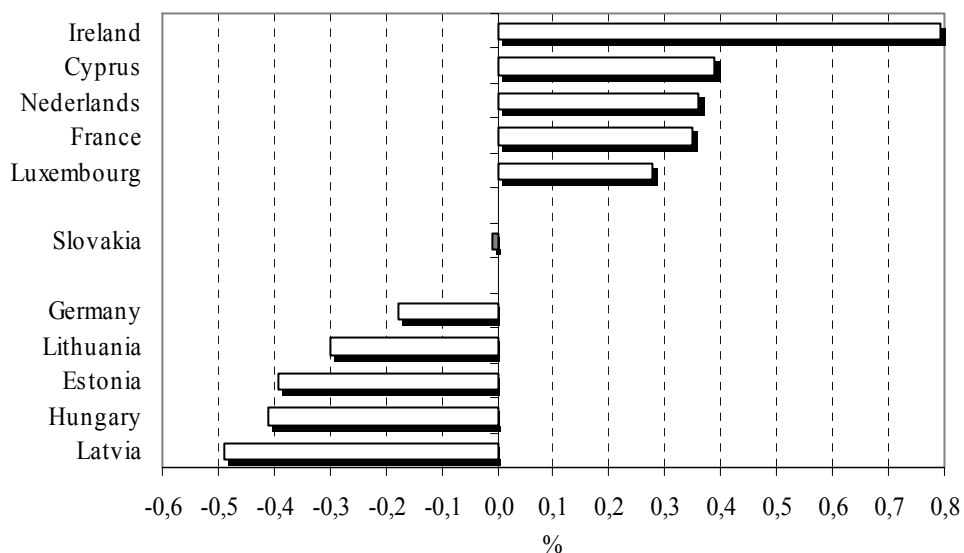
In 25 EU countries there were more than 455 million inhabitants at the end of 2003. The biggest EU country is Germany with more than 80 million inhabitants, followed by France, Great Britain and Italy with the population number closely below 60 million. The biggest new EU member state is Poland with 38 million inhabitants. Slovakia belongs among the small EU countries. Also Denmark and Finland record approximately the same number of popula-

tion as Slovakia. In the EU there are 8 countries with the number of population lower than 5 millions, while Cyprus, Luxembourg and Malta record less than 1 million inhabitants.

**Graph 9.13 EU states by population, 2003**



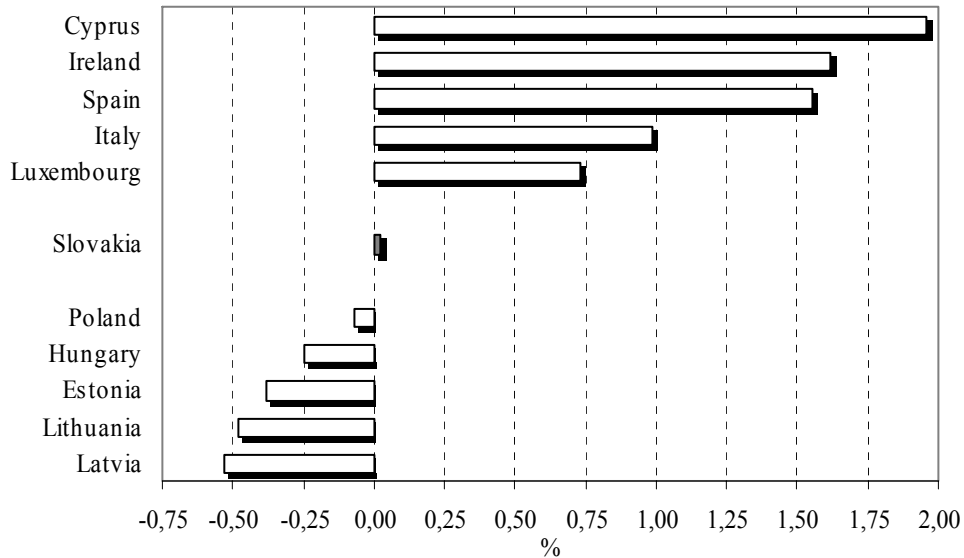
**Graph 9.14 EU states with the highest and lowest natural increase, 2003**



In 2003, 13 EU countries recorded the natural increase of population, i.e. the number of live-births exceeded the number of deaths. In Austria and Greece the natural increase was roughly zero and in the remaining 10 member countries the number of deaths was higher than the number of births. Among countries with the natural decrease of population are all member states from the former eastern block, together with Italy and Germany. In 2003 the lowest natural decrease of population was recorded in Slovakia (0,01%), the highest in Baltic countries and in Hungary

(more than 0,3%). The highest natural increase was reported by Ireland (0,8% in 2003), followed by Cyprus, Netherlands and France with the annual natural increase by more than 0,3%.

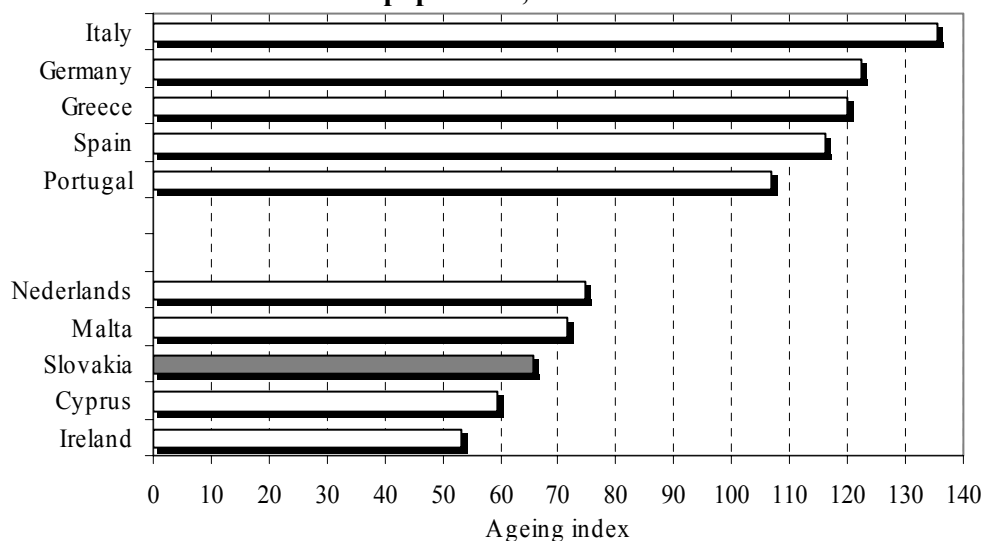
**Graph 9.15 EU states with the highest and lowest total increase, 2003**



The EU member states record prevailing benefits from migration, i.e. in the majority of countries the gains from migration compensate the unfavourable demographic development<sup>17</sup>. Thus, there is a lower number of countries recording total decrease than of those, who report natural decrease – only 6. The unpleasant situation is especially in Baltic countries (total decrease of population is in the range of 0,38 - 0,53% annually). Here the effect of the low natality with the high migration losses is combined. The number of population is reduced also in Hungary, Poland and Germany. Other EU countries have recorded until now a total population increase. In 2003, Slovakia belonged into the group of countries, which recorded the total population increase only thanks to the positive net migration (together with the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Italy). The highest total increase of population (more than 1,5% annually) is recorded in Cyprus, Ireland and Spain. Italy is closely below the level of 1% .

### Age structure of population

**Graph 9.16 EU States with the oldest and youngest population, 2003**



<sup>17</sup> The well-known problems with records of emigrants are to be found in each EU member state.

Typical feature of all EU member states is the population ageing. The population is getting older in all member states with no exception. The significant differences between the particular countries are in the progress and the rate of this process. Population ageing is caused by the fall of fertility and mortality. The youngest population is in the countries with the highest fertility (Malta, Cyprus and Ireland) and also in some post-communist countries, which in the past belong to countries with the highest fertility in Europe and in which the changes in the reproductive behaviour began later than in the old member states (Slovakia, Poland, Lithuania). From West European countries the youngest population is in Luxembourg and Holland. In all these countries the ageing index is at the level being lower than 80, what means that less than 80 people at the post-productive age (65 and over) fall per 100 children aged up to 15.

In the countries of West and South Europe the ageing process has progressed to the greatest extent. The fertility and mortality had been decreasing from the half of 60-ties of the previous century what was reflected also in the age structure of population. Currently there are 7 countries in the EU, in which the seniors prevail above the child component of population. The oldest population is in the South of Europe (Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal and Slovenia). Also Germany and Latvia belong into this group of countries with the highest ageing index. Italy, as the country with the oldest population in the EU, has recorded the ageing index being 2,5 times higher as compared to Ireland, which has the youngest population. While in Italy 135 people aged 65 and over fall on 100 people aged 0-14, in Ireland this number equals only to 53 inhabitants.



## Conclusion

The analysed time period from 1995 until 2004 follows the period of dramatic demographic changes from the first half of 90-ties. The last decade can be marked from the demographic standpoint as the period of stabilisation. The radical changes in the development of some demographic processes from the beginning of the transformation period ceased. Gradually a stabilisation of this trends goes on, the part of which is formed also by several compensation processes. The fact, that with the ongoing transformation the population is gradually getting used to the changed social conditions and is adapting its reproductive behaviour to them, contributes to the stabilisation of the demographic situation too. In practise, mainly the postponed marriages and births, which are the most remarkable demonstration of compensation processes, are in question.

The turning point in the development of nuptiality and fertility was undoubtedly a most significant demographic event in the last decade. The very low level of nuptiality and mainly fertility has drawn high attention to these demographic processes. A change in trends in both cases has been generally expected, however, as compared to the initial assumptions, it has occurred with the delay of 2-3 years. The current development of mortality and abortion can also be designated as a positive feature. The falling tendency in mortality is ongoing, which especially in case of men reaches an unprecedented rate, by which at least partially the significant excess male mortality is reducing.

Conversely, the fall of induced abortion continued slower, what was a quite comprehensible development after the period of radical changes. The migration remains insignificant and among all demographic processes it is less stabilised and profiled. The problems with registration lingeringly persist, especially in the case of emigration. The external migration was marked by the ongoing integration processes in Europe as well as by the legislative changes related to the accession of the SR into the EU. In the internal migration the first reactions on the social changes are the following: a decreased intensity of migration and the change of a concentration character of migration into a de-concentration one. The low mobility of population is the consequence of a traditionally careful attitude of population to a change of the place of residence as well as of many restrictions related to migration. The divorce and the spontaneous abortion thus remain the only demographic processes with the lingeringly unchanged trend – divorce is growing and the spontaneous abortion is slightly decreasing.

Due to the most recent demographic development the natural decrease of populations has changed after 3 years into a natural increase. Together with the growing gains from migration at the end of the observed time period it led to the situation where the total population increase in 2004 moved slightly more away from zero. However, in the context of a long-term development of the number of population this stage can be considered only as stagnation close to the zero threshold. Unlike the development of the number of population, the age structure of population is changing in a substantially more dynamic way and the process of population ageing is accelerating. The ageing thus becomes the most visible and most serious consequence of the current demographic development.

The continuation of social transformation, together with the European integration, should support the social stabilisation and hand to hand also the reinforcement of demographic trends from the last decade. It is likely that in relation to the current change in the trend of nuptiality and fertility development, no short-term fluctuation but rather the beginning of a longer-range change is in question. In addition to postponed marriages and births, the increasing intensity of both processes, based on the tradition of more-children families, social stability and the growing prestige of family and children in society, should more and more contribute to this trend.

Until the half of this century the nuptiality should exceed the level of the European average and fertility should approach the replacements level, which would likely result into a high level of fertility owing to the European relations. The increase of standard of living, a stronger feeling of responsibility for own health as well as the potential formed by an unfavourable development in the past should be the main reasons for the continuation of the current favourable development of mortality. It is likely that the divorce and abortion should approach the values when they would not be remarkably changed, however also the change in the trend is not unlikely. The stagnation close to the current values can be expected.

The irreversible consequence of the expected demographic development in the forthcoming decades will be the decrease in the population number and the accelerating process of population ageing. The particular variants of the possible reproductive behaviour of population in the future can influence only the rate of the decrease and ageing of population, however, they cannot cause an entire change of this trend. Exactly the development of age structure will lead in the closest decades to two demographic paradoxes. Despite the decreasing mortality the number of deaths will increase and despite the increasing fertility the number of births will decrease. The reason for these two paradoxes have to be sought in the age structure of population. The higher numbers of population will be at the age of the highest mortality because the powerful age groups born since the end of the World War II until the half of 60-ties will shift into the post-productive age.

Conversely, the less numerous age groups influenced by the low fertility from the end of the previous and the beginning of this century will move to the age of highest fertility. Even the changing intensity of mortality and fertility cannot compensate the mentioned impacts of the age structure.

The impact of the current demographic development on the social development is very significant and the consequences touching practically all areas of social life will be more and more serious. The most visible are the impacts on economy, mainly on the number and structure of the labour force, social security system, health-care system, education and housing. The ageing of population will be more and more reflected also in the entire social relations, where the interests of more and more numerous older generation will be achieving a higher weight. The trappiness of situation lies in the fact that the consequences of the demographic development do not appear immediately and directly, the people feel them indirectly and after a longer time. However, during the forthcoming decades these processes are irreversible and possible changes of current trends can be taken into the consideration at the end of 21<sup>st</sup> century at the earliest. Nevertheless, the horizon of political decisions and solution of social problems is substantially shorter and usually does not exceed the period of several years. The consequences of demographic development, however, cannot be involved among the urgent problems in terms of short-term solutions. It is necessary to prepare society and react in advance. This is often a real problem because in the competition of numerous urgent problems, the solution of which usually brings an immediate effect, the solution of problems with the long-term horizons is enforced only very hardly.



## Appendix

### Selected ICD-10 titles and code

Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	A00-B99
Neoplasms	C00-D48
Malignant neoplasms	C00-C97
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	E00-E90
Diabetes mellitus	E10-E14
Diseases of the nervous system	G00-G99
Diseases of the circulatory system	I00-I99
Hypertensive diseases	I10-I15
Ischaemic heart diseases	I20-I25
Cerebrovascular diseases	I60-I69
Atherosclerosis	I70
Diseases of the respiratory system	J00-J99
Diseases of the digestive system	K00-K93
Diseases of the genitourinary system	N00-N99
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	R00-R99
External causes of deaths	V01-Y98
Transport accidents	V01-V99
Intentional self-harm	X60-X84



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