

Recent mortality trends in Croatia

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In the last few decades, very little research has been published concerning mortality in Croatia. This paper discusses mortality trends in Croatia in the last two decades with particular emphasis on age-specific death rates, causes of death, and life expectancy. The aim of the research is to determine the changes in mortality trends, discuss the underlying causes and their impact. The analysis will rely on the official mortality data provided by the Croatian Bureau of Statistics and Human Mortality Database. The results show that life expectancy at birth has increased (particularly for men), but it is still below the EU average. Significant positive changes were observed in age-specific death rates and infant mortality rates. As for the causes of death, there has been a notable decrease in the share of deaths caused by circulatory system diseases, and an increase in the share of deaths caused by neoplasms.

Key words: mortality, Croatia, age-specific death rates, causes of death, life expectancy