# Longitudinal Analysis of Basic Motor and Functional Abilities of Elementary School Pupils

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of the research was to conduct a longitudinal study of motor and cardiorespiratory fitness of 5th to 7th grade elementary male and female pupils in the period from 2005 to 2020. The pupils (1649) were divided into 3 generation groups: the older (2005–2009), the middle (2010–2015) and the younger group (2016–2020). There is a noticeable decrease in flexibility among all pupils and grades of younger generations. Results indicate poorer performance of younger generation of 5th graders in speed and power. The 7th grade female pupils who were tested in the 2015–2020 period, showed a significant decline in all motor and cardiorespiratory fitness compared to the other two generation groups, except for upper body power. Every four years, an evaluation of test results should be carried out so that each Physical Education teacher in a particular school can accurately compare and standardise the obtained values.

Key words: longitudinal study, pupils, standardisation, teaching process, testing

# Introduction

The teaching process in school education is an organised system of methodical and methodological procedures that aims to upgrade the pupils' knowledge and skills. School can be defined as a social institution whose basic task is to conduct organised educational work for members of a particular society<sup>1</sup>. Pajić Papak and Vidulin define school as an institution which delivers organised education of pupils2. Organised monitoring and observation of changes in motor and cardiorespiratory fitness in the Physical Education teaching is an important precondition for active syllabus planning. In their professional paper, Mraković et al. established a system of recording the physical condition and important anthropometric, motor, and functional characteristics of male and female pupils during their education<sup>3</sup>. Such a continuous approach to observing the physical condition of pupils enables a precise control of the teaching process. Longitudinal studies of this kind generally involve multiple measurements including the same group of respondents. Their aim is to record and describe a certain change that occurs over time and determine the direction and strength of the relationship between the tested variables. Findak defines motor abilities as latent motor structures responsible for an infinite number of manifest reactions that can be measured and described4. Other experts, such as Kondrič5, describe motor abilities as a set of interrelated dimensions responsible for successfully overcoming motor ability problems, while Zatsiorsky defines them as aspects of intensity (strength or speed) and extensity (duration or number of repetitions) of motor activities that can be described by the same parametric system, measured and evaluated by an identical set of measures, with analogous operation of physiological, biochemical, morphological and biomechanical mechanisms<sup>6</sup>. Motor abilities cannot be effectively described by only one general dimension which requires a breakdown into several quantitative (strength, speed, stamina, and flexibility) and qualitative motor abilities such as coordination, balance, agility and precision<sup>7,8</sup>. Therefore, in this research, almost all motor abilities were observed in order to obtain a more quality overall perception of pupils. In addition to motor abilities, this scientific research also included the condition of functional abilities of 5th grade male pupils. According to Milanović, functional abilities are related to the efficiency of oxygen transport systems (aerobic capacity) which ensure a constant supply of muscles and other organs with the necessary amount of energy required for the proper functioning and moderately intensive work9. Recently, there has been a noticeable decline in motor and cardiorespiratory fitness in school children<sup>10-12</sup>. Therefore, longitudinal studies of this kind are necessary in order to ensure a proper validation of the testing results of the observed abilities and to create the

preconditions for precise syllabus planning. Syllabus planning is considered to be a process of designing the class, and teaching is considered a process of achieving changes in which the pupil is transferred from one state to the next altered state with a higher level of educational values<sup>13</sup>. Every kinesiologist has a responsibility to set up a quality framework of work based on precisely measured motor and cardiorespiratory fitness of their pupils. In order to achieve a precise syllabus planning, a population in a designated micro-area must be longitudinally observed to obtain relevant data that can be used for the purpose of standardising the observed abilities. The aim of this research is to conduct a longitudinal study of motor and cardiorespiratory fitness of 5th to 7th grade elementary male and female pupils in the period from 2005 to 2020 in the city area of Kaštela in the Split-Dalmatia County of Croatia.

#### Methodology

Sample of respondents

The study was conducted on a total sample of n = 1649 pupils in the 2005-2020 period in the city area of Kaštela in the Split-Dalmatia County. It included n = 876 male pupils and n = 766 female pupils from  $5^{th}$  to the  $7^{th}$  grade. The pupils were divided into three groups according to the time they attended one of the tested classes in the school year: the older group (2005-2009), the middle group (2010-2015), and the younger group (2016-2020).

The following variables were observed: HEIGHT and WEIGHT were objectively measured in light clothing by using stadiometer and digital scale (Seca, Germany) with a precision of 0.1 cm and 0.1 kg. CIRCUMFERENCE-the forearm girth circumference of each subject was measured using a flexible measuring tape (Seca, Germany) at a point 3cm below the cubital fossa. TAPPING-for plate tapping the table height should be adjusted so that the subject is standing comfortably in front of the two yellow discs which are placed with their centres 60 cm apart on the table. The rectangle is placed equidistant between both discs. The non-preferred hand is placed on the rectangle. The subject moves the preferred hand back and forth between the discs over the hand in the middle as quickly as possible. This action is repeated for 25 full cycles (50 taps). LJUMP-in standing long jump each participant was instructed to stand on the starting line and perform standing long jump. The jumped distance was measured between the starting line and the closer heel upon touch-down. POLYGON - in polygon backwards subject had to crawl backwards and cover a 10-m distance. The starting position for the children was behind the starting line as the children faced backwards on all fours. The tester gave the starting signal. The test included backward crawling over and under the 35 cm high obstacles that were placed at 3 m and 6 m from the starting line. The task was measured in tenths of a second (0.1 s). SITUP60 – sit-ups in 60 seconds children were seated on the floor, backs straight, hands clasped behind their neck, knees bent at 90° with heels and feet flat on the mat. They then lay down on their backs, shoulders touching the mat, and returned to the sitting position with their elbows out in front to touch their knees, keeping the hands clasped behind their neck the whole time. FORWARD BEND seated wide-legged forward bend by sitting on the floor or a mat, legs straight under the angle of 90°, the child being tested reached forward with the arms (hands overlapping). The distance of reach was measured in centimetres using a measuring non-elastic tape attached on the floor. CHINUPH – static chin up hold – The child, with hands shoulder-width apart, grabs the bar. The teacher helps the kid to lift by holding him by the legs so that the chin reaches over the height of the bar. The child's body and legs are stretched vertically and his task in this position is to last as long as he can, and a maximum of 120 seconds. RUN\_30 - running at 30 meters and RUN\_60 - running at 60 meters - Children was instructed to stand on the starting line, one foot in front of the other, and run as fast as possible over finish line. The task was measured in tenths of a second (0.1 s), HJUMP – scissors high jump - children run in towards the mats and attempt to scissor up over the rubber band onto the mats, landing in an upright, standing position. MED BALL - throwing a 2 kg medicine ball - participants were required to sit on a chair with their shoulders in contact with the chair-back. They were then required to throw the medicine ball as far as possible, using chest pass technique. Metric characteristics of above-mentioned tests were confirmed by Findak et al.14

Statistical analysis included the computation of descriptive statistical parameters, while the normality of distribution was tested by the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. After that, a multivariate variance analysis (MANOVA) was computed among three groups of respondents divided into older, middle, and younger group for each class. In addition, a univariate variance analysis (ANOVA) was conducted for male and female pupils to determine which variables show differences of results among the generational groups. All statistical computations were performed for both male and female pupils of 5th, 6th and 7th grade. Software package STATISTIKA for Windows version 10 was used for statistical data processing.

# **Results and Discussion**

The results in Table 1 indicate that the average height of 5th grade male pupils is 149.28 cm, while the average weight of male pupils is 44.06 kg. Such results are correlated with the current literature review<sup>15</sup>. The mean value for the variable (LJUMP) is higher than the results obtained by Kocić et al. where the average value of the standing long jump was 145.3 cm for 5th grade male pupils<sup>16</sup>. Exceptionally good results were achieved by 5th grade male pupils in the variable (TAPPING) – plate tapping, where an average value of 29.99 was recorded, which is significantly more than reported in the research conducted by Mraković et al.<sup>3</sup>. The results obtained for the

 TABLE 1

 DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICAL PARAMETERS FOR BOYS FROM 5TH TO 7TH GRADE

WADIADI E	$5^{ m th}$ §	grade	6 <sup>th</sup> §	grade	$7^{ m th}$ §	grade
VARIABLE	AM	Std.Dev.	AM	Std.Dev.	AM	Std.Dev.
HEIGHT	149.28	7.66	156.14	8.08	163.16	9.33
WEIGHT	44.06	8.28	49.99	11.39	55.04	11.85
CIRCUMFERENCE	21.43	2.18	22.05	2.33	23.32	1.93
TAPPING	29.99	4.26	31.10	4.16	32.39	4.19
LJUMP	154.97	21.75	162.19	28.10	173.02	25.61
POLYGON	15.49	5.59	16.88	10.06	15.26	6.78
SITUP60	34.83	8.28	39.06	9.17	42.27	8.88
FORWARD BEND	53.10	10.61	58.82	11.67	64.35	14.38
CHINUPH	23.48	19.00	22.39	18.24	29.46	20.69
RUN_30	5.95	0,62	6.00	0.69	5.67	0.61
RUN_60	11.56	1.21	11.59	1.27	10.75	1.42
HJUMP	96.02	11.82	98.13	12.53	105.19	12.02
MED BALL	7.65	1.68	8.30	1.76	8.87	4.03

HEIGHT – body height, WEIGHT – body weight, CIRCUMFERENCE – forearm circumference, TAPPING – plate tapping, LJUMP – standing long jump, POLYGON – polygon backwards, SITUP60 – sit-ups in 60 seconds, FORWARD BEND – seated wide-legged forward bend, CHINUPH – static chin up hold, RUN\_30 – running at 30 meters, RUN\_60 – running at 60 meters, HJUMP – scissors high jump, MED BALL – throwing a 2 kg medicine ball, n = 883.

variable (POLYGON) for 6th grade male pupils indicated poorer coordination compared to 5th and 7th grade male pupils. The research conducted by Badrić et al. did not indicate such results, hence it can be concluded that there is a decrease in coordination of male pupils due to entering puberty, a period which is marked by declining results in this motor ability<sup>17</sup>. Coordination as a motor ability is best developed in female pupils in the period from 1st to 3rd grade, while the peak is reached at the age of 11. In male

pupils, the process of peak coordination occurs between the ages of 12 and  $13^{18}$ .

The results in Table 2 descriptively explain the average values obtained from 5<sup>th</sup> grade female pupils. The obtained results indicate the recorded average values for the variable (SITUP60) – sit-ups in 60 seconds, with the recorded 32.32 sit-ups. Such a substantial deviation of results is anticipated because today there are increasing differences

 ${\bf TABLE~2} \\ {\bf DESCRIPTIVE~STATISTICAL~PARAMETERS~FOR~GIRLS~FROM~5TH~TO~7TH~GRADE}$ 

VARIABLE	$5^{ m th}$ §	grade	$6^{ m th}$ §	grade	$7^{ m th}$ §	grade
	AM	Std.Dev.	AM	Std.Dev.	AM	Std.Dev.
HEIGHT	150.02	8.16	156.50	7.48	161.98	6.22
WEIGHT	42.58	8.48	47.80	9.65	53.25	8.54
CIRCUMFERENCE	21.09	3.35	24.08	24.18	22.38	1.61
TAPPING	30.41	4.30	33.11	9.23	33.44	4.35
LJUMP	146.05	22.05	151.80	22.94	159.30	20.86
POLYGON	18.54	6.43	16.87	7.61	15.11	5.13
SITUP60	32.32	8.01	37.18	10.54	39.10	7.82
FORWARD BEND	69.00	13.11	71.17	13.93	75.50	14.65
CHINUPH	18.80	14.36	19.27	14.72	21.31	14.37
RUN_30	6.21	0.64	6.19	0.60	5.89	0.67
RUN_60	11.92	1.18	11.91	1.21	11.41	1.35
HJUMP	88.40	10.45	93.18	11.54	96.10	12.86
MED BALL	7.02	1.49	7.36	1.50	7.87	4.51

HEIGHT – body height, WEIGHT – body weight, CIRCUMFERENCE – forearm circumference, TAPPING – plate tapping, LJUMP – standing long jump, POLYGON – polygon backwards, SITUP60 – sit-ups in 60 seconds, FORWARD BEND – seated wide-legged forward bend, CHINUPH – static chin up hold, RUN\_30 – running at 30 meters, RUN\_60 – running at 60 meters, HJUMP – scissors high jump, MED BALL – throwing a 2 kg medicine ball, n = 766.

in the results of children who attend any kind of professional training practice compared to those who do not engage in any sports activity. The average result of 7th grade female pupils for the variable (FORWARD BEND) – seated wide-legged forward bend is 75.50 cm, which is significantly higher than the average result of male pupils – 64.35 cm. With regard to gender, male pupils achieve better results in all tests compared to female pupils in the higher grades of elementary school, except for the flexibility test, which is confirmed by scientific research of this type conducted by Mladineo<sup>19</sup> and Idrizović<sup>20</sup>.

Multivariate variance analysis of three groups of respondents in Table 3 indicates that there is a statistically significant difference between all groups of respondents within each class. The values thus obtained can be compared to the results obtained by Findak et al. and Badrić et al. where a decrease in motor and cardiorespiratory fitness of male pupils from younger generations was noted 14.17. The genesis of the problem may be described by the fact that children today are less and less engaged in sports activities and are left to modern technologies that occupy a significant portion of the free time they once spent playing or training. Two teaching hours per week is too little time to encourage positive processes in the bodies of the pupils. Therefore, physical education teachers should en-

courage children to enrol in extracurricular activities in order to accumulate the amount of time of engagement in sports-related activities, which ultimately yields significantly better results. The research conducted by Granić et al. and Džibrić et al. showed certain improvements in motor and cardiorespiratory fitness of male pupils engaged in extracurricular activities<sup>21,22</sup>.

The results of the univariate variance analysis of three groups of 5th grade male pupils indicate that there is a statistically significant difference between these three observed groups for variables (TAPPING) - plate tapping, (HJUMP) - high jump, (MED BALL) - throwing a 2 kg medicine ball, (RUN\_60) - running at 60 metres, and (CIRCUMFERENCE) - forearm circumference. The male pupils from the older generation who attended the 5th grade in the period between 2005 and 2009 showed better results in the variable (HJUMP) – scissors high jump compared to the younger generation. On average, they were more successful by 4.54 cm, whereas the male pupils of the younger generation (2013 - 2020) were more successful in the variable (LJUMP) – standing long jump by 2.68 cm. Prskalo and Sporiš explain that the purpose of the standing long jump is to estimate the explosive power that indicates the ability to activate the maximum number of motor units per unit of time in the realisation of simple

 $\begin{tabular}{l} \textbf{TABLE 3}\\ \textbf{MULTIVARIATE AND UNIVARIATE VARIANCE ANALYSIS OF THREE GROUPS OF MALE RESPONDENTS}\\ \textbf{(OLDER GENERATION 2005-2009, MIDDLE GENERATION 2010-2014, AND YOUNGER GENERATION 2015-2020)}\\ \end{tabular}$ 

							MA	NOVA									
5th grade						6th grade						7th grade					
Λ	Rao's r	Df 1	Df 2	P	$\Lambda$	]	Rao's r	Df 1	Df 2	P	Λ	Rao's r	D	f 1	Df 2	P	
0.80	4.71	13	244	0.00	0.63 5.34			26	528	0.00	0.64	6.38	2	26	662	0.00	
							AN	NOVA									
Variables 5th grade							6t	h grade			7th grade						
		older	middle	younger	F	p	older	middle	younger	F	p	older	middle	younger	F	p	
HEIGH	Т	148.94	149.38	149.59	0.45	0.50	156.78	155.58	156.31	0.50	0.58	164.00	162.09	162.04	1.83	0.16	
WEIGH	Т	43.47	44.21	44.57	1.14	0.29	50.44	50.57	48.77	0.69	0.50	54.61	56.94	53.35	1.93	0.14	
CIRCUI	MFERENCE	21.12	21.50	21.70	4.58	0.03	21.94	22.28	21.84	0.97	0.38	23.03	24.06	23.05	10.30	0.00	
TAPPIN	IG	31.26	30.88	28.86	22.15	0.00	30.89	31.92	30.18	4.51	0.01	32.47	31.85	33.04	1.48	0.22	
LJUMP		153.55	154.29	156.23	0.98	0.32	154.33	168.23	161.39	6.04	0.00	173.15	174.61	169.89	0.60	0.54	
POLYG	ON	15.35	15.41	15.60	0.13	0.72	21.89	14.43	15.46	15.68	0.00	16.95	12.73	13.67	15.45	0.00	
SITUP	60	35.81	34.12	33.96	3.25	0.07	40.35	39.21	37.62	1.86	0.15	42.66	42.20	41.06	0.70	0.49	
FORWA	RD BEND	53.46	53.18	52.78	0.26	0.61	65.19	56.23	56.31	18.85	0.00	68.58	59.43	57.96	21.92	0.00	
CHINU	PH	25.52	23.68	21.68	2.63	0.11	25.62	21.33	20.77	1.79	0.16	30.80	29.06	25.46	1.48	0.22	
RUN_3	)	5.98	5.95	5.93	0.36	0.55	5.85	5.98	6.16	4.28	0.01	5.64	5.76	5.62	1.48	0.22	
RUN_6	)	11.39	11.55	11.72	4.90	0.03	11.32	11.57	11.88	4.17	0.01	10.36	11.35	11.10	19.20	0.00	
HJUMI	)	98.43	95.11	93.89	9.80	0.00	99.50	98.22	96.70	1.03	0.36	104.69	104.42	108.21	2.15	0.11	
MED B	ALL	7.39	7.55	7.89	5.73	0.02	8.64	8.58	7.57	10.85	0.00	9.00	8.81	8.52	0.33	0.72	

HEIGHT – body height, WEIGHT – body weight, CIRCUMFERENCE – forearm circumference, TAPPING – plate tapping, LJUMP – standing long jump, POLYGON – polygon backwards, SITUP60 – sit-ups in 60 seconds, FORWARD BEND – seated wide-legged forward bend, CHINUPH – static chin up hold, RUN\_30 – running at 30 meters, RUN\_60 – running at 60 meters, HJUMP – scissors high jump, MED BALL – throwing a 2 kg medicine ball, n=883.

motor structures with constant resistance or resistance proportional to body mass<sup>23</sup>. The results thus obtained may be explained by the fact that a higher number of repetitions is required for a more successful performance of the scissors high jump. A quality scissors high jump requires a good technical training of movement in order to achieve the maximum result. The results obtained among the 6th grade male pupils indicate that the middle group (2010 - 2014) was more successful in the variables (TAP-PING, LJUMP and POLYGON). The analysis of the results shows that there is a significant decrease in the flexibility of male pupils from younger generations (2015 - 2020). Currently, there is an unfavourable trend among the younger generations of lesser engagement in kinesiological activities. The research conducted by Jureša et al. indicates that there is an increasing prevalence and insufficient physical activity among both male and female pupils in Croatian schools<sup>24</sup>. Accordingly, there is a decline in motor abilities due to inactivity, which greatly affects the development of motor abilities.

Fifth, sixth and seventh grade female pupils were divided into three generational groups, and the results of the multivariate analysis (MANOVA) showed that there are differences between the groups. Table 4 indicates that the statistically most significant difference between the groups of 5th grade female pupils was recorded for the variables (TAPPING) – plate tapping, (FORWARD BEND) - seated wide-legged forward bend, (POLYGON) - polygon backwards, and (RUN\_60) - running at 60 meters. Older generations of female pupils have, on average, achieved better results compared to the younger ones, except for the variable (POLYGON) - polygon backwards. Such results were not expected because the research conducted by Prskalo et al. showed that the younger generations had poorer performance compared to the older ones in this motor ability<sup>25</sup>. The reason for such results may be found in fatigue during testing performed at the end of the lesson, which ultimately affected the test results. In terms of 7th grade female pupils who were tested in the 2015 – 2020 period, the results showed a significant decline in all

 $\begin{tabular}{l} \textbf{TABLE 4}\\ \textbf{MULTIVARIATE AND UNIVARIATE VARIANCE ANALYSIS OF THREE GROUPS OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS}\\ \textbf{(OLDER GENERATION 2005-2009, MIDDLE GENERATION 2010-2014, AND YOUNGER GENERATION 2015-2020)}\\ \end{tabular}$ 

							MA	NOVA										
5th grade							6th grade					7th grade						
Λ	Rao's r	Df 1	$\mathrm{Df}2$	P	1	1	Rao's r	Df 1	Df 2	P		Λ	Rao's r	Df 1	Df 2	P		
0.63	4.86	26	494	0.00	0.0	34	4.12	26	424	0.00	0	.69	4.07	26	524	0.00		
							Al	NOVA										
5th grade			oth grade				6	th grade			7th grade							
Variables		older	middle	younger	F	p	older	middle	younger	$\mathbf{F}$	p	older	middle	younger	F	p		
HEIGHT		150.40	149.13	150.64	0.92	0.40	154.84	158.03	156.78	1.50	0.23	161.87	161.43	163.23	1.50	0.23		
WEIGHT		41.44	42.98	43.04	0.89	0.41	44.26	51.77	47.74	3.37	0.03	51.85	54.28	54.82	3.37	0.03		
CIRCUM	FERENCE	21.32	21.07	20.94	0.27	0.76	25.33	25.41	21.72	0.50	0.00	22.28	22.48	22.43	0.50	0.60		
TAPPING	<del>}</del>	30.31	31.54	29.33	6.59	0.00	35.36	33.14	30.91	7.36	0.00	34.49	32.48	32.60	7.36	0.00		
LJUMP		146.79	146.52	144.99	0.17	0.84	153.25	148.60	153.21	2.37	0.09	160.57	160.68	153.72	2.37	0.09		
POLYGO	N	21.16	16.05	19.08	15.02	0.00	19.21	14.26	16.89	6.83	0.00	14.58	14.54	17.40	6.83	0.00		
SITUP60		33.42	33.21	30.57	3.57	0.03	39.64	38.01	34.09	0.90	0.40	38.66	39.97	38.60	0.90	0.40		
FORWAR	D BEND	75.43	65.80	67.34	13.44	0.00	71.73	70.03	71.63	2.48	0.08	77.32	72.94	75.66	2.48	0.08		
CHINUP	Н	20.11	20.09	16.47	1.94	0.15	20.51	18.89	18.39	1.07	0.34	22.58	20.61	19.44	1.07	0.34		
RUN_30		6.14	6.31	6.15	2.08	0.13	6.10	6.35	6.13	11.35	0.00	5.70	5.99	6.17	11.35	0.00		
RUN_60		11.59	11.86	12.23	6.62	0.00	11.77	12.07	11.91	19.42	0.00	10.91	11.76	12.00	19.42	0.00		
HJUMP		88.47	87.81	88.94	0.28	0.76	94.68	91.93	92.83	3.63	0.02	98.06	93.42	96.13	3.63	0.02		
MED BA	LL	7.13	6.82	7.16	1.48	0.23	7.57	7.54	7.00	1.53	0.21	7.46	7.94	8.73	1.53	0.21		

$$\label{eq:height} \begin{split} & \text{HEIGHT-body height, WEIGHT-body weight, CIRCUMFERENCE-forearm circumference, TAPPING-plate tapping, LJUMP-standing long jump, POLYGON-polygon backwards, SITUP60-sit-ups in 60 seconds, FORWARD BEND-seated wide-legged forward bend, CHINUPH-static chin up hold, RUN_30-running at 30 meters, RUN_60-running at 60 meters, HJUMP-scissors high jump, MED BALL-throwing a 2kg medicine ball, n=766. \end{split}$$

motor and cardiorespiratory fitness compared to the other two generational groups, except for the variable MED BALL – throwing a 2 kg medicine ball. As the highest average body weight and height were recorded in female pupils of this generational group, such results are correlated with the research conducted by Winter et al., Neville et al., and Dore et al. who found that strength and power were partially strongly related to body size when the results were expressed in absolute values<sup>26–28</sup>.

#### Conclusion

The younger generations of pupils in both genders perform poorer results in motor abilities and cardiorespiratory fitness tests. Obviously, poorer results are connected with general change of pupils' lifestyle that leads to motor and cardiorespiratory deficiency even in teenage years. Several recommendations could be given accordingly; 1) it is necessary to structure new uniform test values applicable to the entire territory of the Republic of Croatia, 2) kinesiologist working as physical education teachers should periodically, preferably every four years, prepare new standards for their tests due to deviations in results and the deteriorating performance of younger generation pupils, 3) a possible extension of this research would be if these results were compared to studies conducted in other schools on the same population and other geographical areas in the Republic of Croatia. The probability of deviation of results between different geographical regions is quite possible, hence such studies should be conducted in one of the forthcoming research of this type to ensure accuracy, precision and validation of measurements and 4) it would be recommended to prepare new value standards of results every four years because there are discrepancies in test results that were performed several decades ago.

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# LONGITUDINALNALNA ANALIZA REZULTATA DOBIVENIH MJERENJEM BAZIČNIH MOTORIČKIH I FUNKCIONALNIH SPOSOBNOSTI KOD UČENIKA I UČENICA OD 5. DO 7. RAZREDA OSNOVNE ŠKOLE NA PODRUČJU GRADA KAŠTELA

# SAŽETAK

Cilj ovog istraživanja bio napraviti longitudinalno istraživanje motoričkih i funkcionalnih sposobnosti u vremenskom razdoblju od 2005. do 2020. godine nad učenicima i učenicama od 5. do 7. razreda osnovnih škola na području grada Kaštela u Splitsko-dalmatinskoj županiji. Testiranje je provedeno na n=1649 učenika koji su bili podijeljeni po spolu. Prvo je napravljena deskriptivna analiza za sve grupe učenika i učenica. Nakon toga je izračunata multivarijatna i univarijatna analiza varijance. Učenici su podijeljeni u 3 skupine u odnosu kada je obavljeno testiranje: stariju skupinu (2005-2009), srednju skupinu (2010–2015) i mlađu skupinu (2016–2020). Dobiveni izračuni ukazuju da je kod svih učenika, u svim razredima primjetno opadanje fleksibilnosti kod novijih generacija učenika. Dobiveni rezultati ukazuju na nešto lošije rezultate učenika petih razreda mlađe generacije (2015–2020) za varijable TAPING-taping rukom, TRC¬¬\_60- trčanje na 60 metara i SKOK\_VIS-skok u vis prekoračnom tehnikom. Kod učenica sedmog razreda koje su testirane u vremenskom period od (2015–2020) rezultati su pokazali značajno opadanje svih motoričkih i funkcionalnih sposobnosti u odnosu na druge dvije generacijske skupine, osim za varijablu bacanje medicinke od 2kg (MEDICINK). Svako četiri godine trebalo bi provesti evaluaciju dobivenih rezultata testiranjem kako bi svaki nastavnik u određenoj školi mogao precizno komparirati i normirati dobivene vrijednosti. Stoga je i cilj ovog istraživanja bio analizirati testiranja koja su obavljena u dužem vremenskom periodu te postaviti smjernice plana i programa rada kao i preduvjete za kvalitetno normiranje motoričkih postignuća kod učenika.