

## FAMILY STRUCTURES THROUGH THE LIFE CYCLE

*István Harcsa – Judit Monostori*

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### Introduction

Factors which have had a significant impact on family formation and structure:

- **social processes**
  - the expansion of higher education
  - longer time spent in study
  - growing job insecurity
  - the rigidity of the housing market
- **demographic phenomena**
  - population ageing
  - low fertility
  - the widespread cohabitation of unmarried couples
  - the frequent separation and divorce of partners
  - the large number and proportion of births out of wedlock
  - the high proportion of childless women in their thirties
  - and the postponement of marriage and parenthood

## Introduction

### Changes in family composition and living arrangements:

- ▣ shrinking family size
- ▣ a further move away from the extended to the nuclear family
- ▣ growing numbers of one-person households among the elderly
- ▣ a decreasing share of families with children
- ▣ a shift away from the two-children family model

- ▣ This study analyses changes in the family structure of the Hungarian population

- ▣ *by age group*
- ▣ *between 1990 and 2011,*
- ▣ *identifies specific features at successive stages of the life cycle*

- ▣ *by level of education*

- ▣ Data:

- ▣ 2 per cent samples of the Hungarian 1990 and 2001 censuses; the microcensus of 2005 and Labour Force Survey of 2011

## Transition from childhood to adulthood: young people aged 20-39

		1990	2001	2011	
Living without parent(s)	<b>1. Single</b>	5,8	6,3	5,3	
	Couple only	<b>2. Married</b>	5,8	4,9	4,5
		<b>3. Cohabiting</b>	1,1	4,0	7,4
	<b>4. Couple with children</b>	56,1	43,0	37,3	
	<b>5. Lone Parent</b>	5,7	4,7	3,9	
<b>6. Living with parent(s)</b>		21,3	33,8	36,6	
<b>7. Other</b>		4,2	3,3	4,9	
<i>Total</i>		<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>	

### 1. Living arrangements of young people aged 20-39

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

## Young people living on their own

- an increasing proportion of those who had never been married
  - 1990: 54 per cent, 2001: 79 per cent, 2011: 96 per cent
- a decreasing proportion of those who had at least one child
  - 1990: 33 per cent , 2001: 14 per cent, 2005: 10 per cent
- a growing rate of students

		1990	2001	2011	
Living without parent(s)	1. Single	5,8	6,3	5,3	
	Couple only	2.Married	5,8	4,9	4,5
		3.Cohabiting	1,1	4,0	7,4
	4.Couple with children	56,1	43,0	37,3	
	5. Lone Parent	5,7	4,7	3,9	
6. Living with parent(s)		21,3	33,8	36,6	
7. Other		4,2	3,3	4,9	
<b>Total</b>		<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	

### 1. Living arrangements of young people aged 20-39

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

Educational level	1990	2001	2011
1. 0-8 classes	82,1	72,6	71,0
2. Vocational school	75,9	68,7	69,1
3. Secondary education	81,0	66,7	63,5
4. Higher education	84,1	72,8	69,7
<i>Total</i>	<i>79,9</i>	<i>69,6</i>	<i>67,6</i>

**2. Young people (non-students) living without parent(s) by educational level**

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

Living arrangements	Highest educational level				Total
	0-8 classes	Vocational school	Secondary education	Higher education	
1. Single	2,8	3,2	5,3	9,0	5,2
2. Married couple without children	2,1	4,0	5,0	8,3	5,1
3. Cohabiting couple without children	5,2	6,2	8,8	10,8	8,0
4. Married couple with children	30,6	35,9	30,2	33,1	32,5
5. Cohabiting couple with children	19,7	12,0	7,2	3,2	9,6
6. Lone parent	6,9	4,3	4,4	2,8	4,4
7. Living with parent(s)	27,6	29,4	35,0	29,2	30,9
8. Other	5,1	5,0	4,1	3,6	4,4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>	<i>100,0</i>

**3. Living arrangements of young people by educational level, 2011**

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

## Young families with children

Number of children aged 0-18	1990	2001	2011
1. One child	18.6	16.4	15.1
2. Two children	17.4	12.2	10.3
3. Three or more children	4.8	4.3	3.9
<i>Total</i>	40.8	32.9	29.3

## 4. Households with children, by number of children

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

**5. Households by the number of children and mother's education**

Years	Mother's highest level of education	Number of children aged 0-18			Total	Average number of children aged 0-18
		1	2	3+		
1990	0-8 classes	45.9	37.5	16.7	100.0	1.79
	Vocational school	42.2	48.3	9.6	100.0	1.69
	Secondary education	46.4	46.1	7.6	100.0	1.63
	Higher education	46.0	43.4	10.6	100.0	1.67
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>11.9</b>	100.0	<b>1.71</b>
2001	0-8 classes	47.4	28.3	24.3	100.0	1.93
	Vocational school	48.6	38.1	13.4	100.0	1.68
	Secondary education	53.0	39.3	7.7	100.0	1.56
	Higher education	49.3	40.3	10.4	100.0	1.63
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>13.0</b>	100.0	<b>1.68</b>
2011	0-8 classes	44.1	30.8	25.1	100.0	1.98
	Vocational school	50.8	34.3	14.9	100.0	1.69
	Secondary education	53.7	38.0	8.3	100.0	1.56
	Higher education	55.0	36.2	8.9	100.0	1.56
	<b>Total</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>13.4</b>	100.0	<b>1.67</b>

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

The middle aged: 40-64

Living arrangements	1990	2001	2011
1. Single	9.8	10.5	8.3
2. Married couple without children	24.7	20.4	21.2
3. Cohabiting couple without children	1.7	2.6	3.0
4. Married couple with children	43.5	45.5	44.6
5. Cohabiting couple with children	1.7	3.2	3.9
6. Lone parent	7.1	8.7	8.5
7. Other	11.5	9.1	10.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

**6. Living arrangements of the middle aged**

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO

Living arrangements	Highest educational levels				Total
	0-8 classes	Vocational school	Secondary education	Higher education	
1. Single	9.5	7.2	8.3	9.0	8.3
2. Married couple without children	23.1	20.8	21.2	19.9	21.2
3. Cohabiting couple without children	3.9	3.0	3.2	2.0	3.0
4. Married couple with children	33.1	47.2	44.8	53.1	44.6
5. Cohabiting couple with children	5.0	4.1	3.9	2.4	3.9
6. Lone parent	9.9	6.7	10.0	7.5	8.5
7. Other	15.5	11.0	8.7	6.2	10.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

**7. Living arrangements of the middle aged by education, 2011**

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and the Labour Force Survey of 2011 (first quarter), HSCO



## The elderly: 65 and over

Living arrangements	1990	2001	2005
1. Single	25.7	30.6	30.0
2. Couple only	35.3	38.9	37.9
3. Living with children	15.3	14.9	10.7
4. Other	23.6	15.6	21.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

### 8. Living arrangements of people aged 65+

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on 2 per cent samples of Hungarian censuses 1990, 2001 and Microcensus 2005, HSCO

Living arrangements	Highest educational level				Total
	0-8 classes	Vocational school	Secondary school	Higher education	
1. Single	30.9	24.1	30.4	22.9	30.0
2. Couple only	34.6	51.3	44.0	54.4	37.9
3. Living with children	10.1	14.7	12.4	12.5	10.7
4. Other	24.4	9.9	13.2	10.2	21.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

**9. Living arrangements of people aged 65+ by education, 2005**

*Data sources:* Calculations are based on Microcensus 2005, HSCO

## Summary

- Young people leave the parental home later than they used to.
- The transition from childhood to adulthood is not necessarily connected to marriage or having children.
- Compared to twenty years ago, relatively more young people continue to live with their parents after their studies.
- The timing of leaving the parental home has been pushed back at all educational levels.
- Childlessness has increased among young people.
- The two-child family model is losing ground.
- The spread of one-child families has been more pronounced among families with well-educated mothers, while the increase in families with three or more children has been stronger among families where the mothers have few qualifications.

## Summary

- The postponement of adulthood affects the living arrangements of the middle aged: many of them, especially the best educated, live together with their thirty-something children.
- As for partnership, the most conspicuous phenomenon over the past two decades has been the increasing incidence of cohabitation, particularly among the young.
- Cohabitation is more frequent at lower educational levels, both among the young and the middle aged.
- Extended families are rare in Hungarian society. Only the oldest old (85 and over) typically live in an extended family, and then only if they are less well educated.
- Most elderly (65+) live alone or in couple-only households.