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THE NATIONAL ATLAS OF HUNGARY PROJECT

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NATIONAL ATLAS OF HUNGARY

- I. THE HUNGARIAN STATE AND ITS PLACE IN THE WORLD
- II. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT *(published in 2018)*
- III. SOCIETY *(published in 2021)*
- IV. ECONOMY
BASE MAP – SCALE SERIES

- Carpathian Basin:
  1 : 1,800,000; 1 : 2,800,000; 1 : 4,000,000; 1 : 6,000,000

- Hungary:
  1 : 1,500,000; 1 : 2,000,000; 1 : 3,300,000; 1 : 7,000,000; 1 : 4,500,000
BASE MAPS – ADMINISTRATIVE LEVELS

[Image: Map showing administrative levels]
BASE MAPS – ADMINISTRATIVE LEVELS
I. HUNGARY AT A GLANCE

Hungary at a Glance

I. HUNGARY AT A GLANCE

Hungary on a map highlighting its borders and major cities.

Administrative Division

Hungary is divided into 19 counties, which are further divided into districts. The capital, Budapest, is a separate county.

Population: 10.5 million

Economy:

- Service sector: 70%
- Manufacturing: 25%
- Agriculture: 5%

Natural Resources:

- Coal
- Natural gas
- Water

Transportation:

- Airports: 11
- Railroads: 1,500 km
- Roads: 200,000 km

Climate:

- Temperate
- Average temperature: 10°C (50°F) in winter, 22°C (72°F) in summer

History:

- Hungary has a rich history dating back to the 9th century.
- It was once part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Facts:

- Budapest is the capital and largest city.
- Lake Balaton is the largest lake in Europe.
- The Hungarian Parliament Building is a significant landmark.

Environment:

- Forests: 20%
- Wetlands: 5%
- Grasslands: 25%

Tourism:

- Popular destinations: Budapest, Lake Balaton, Hortobágy National Park.

Economy:

- GDP: $300 billion
- Per capita GDP: $25,000

Currency:

- Hungarian Forint (HUF)

Energy:

- Oil: 70%
- Gas: 30%

Livestock:

- Cattle: 8 million
- Pigs: 5 million

Main Exports:

- Machinery
- Vehicles
- Food products

Main Imports:

- Crude oil
- Chemicals
- Plastic products

Trade partners:

- Germany
- Austria
- Italy

Education:

- Literacy rate: 99%
- Public universities: 5

Healthcare:

- Hospitals: 1,200
- Doctors: 1 per 1,000 people

Tourism:

- Number of visitors: 10 million
- Average stay: 4 days

Sports:

- Domestic teams: 20
- International teams: 10

Culture:

- Traditional music: Hungarian folk music
- Festivals: Sziget Festival

Language:

- Hungarian

Religion:

- Christianity
- Judaism

Cuisine:

- Goulash
- Palacsinta
- Paprika

Travel Tips:

- Best time to visit: Spring or Autumn
- Safe areas: Downtown Budapest
- Popular activities: Shopping at the Great Market Hall

City Guides:

- Budapest City Guide
- Lake Balaton City Guide

Hungary Overview

Hungary, officially the Republic of Hungary, is a landlocked country in Central Europe. It is bordered by Slovakia to the north, Ukraine and Romania to the east, Serbia, Macedonia, and Bulgaria to the south, and Austria and Switzerland to the west. Budapest, its capital and largest city, is known for its rich history, cultural heritage, and stunning architecture. Hungary is home to about 10.5 million people, making it the 23rd largest country in the European Union. The economy is diversified, with the service sector being the largest contributor to GDP. Hungary is a significant player in Central Europe, hosting numerous international conferences and events. The country is well-connected by road, rail, and air, making it a popular destination for both business and leisure travelers. With its diverse landscapes, rich history, and vibrant culture, Hungary offers a unique travel experience for visitors.
II. HISTORY OF POPULATION

The difference between the crude birth and death rates is the natural increase (or decrease). In addition to the increasing unplanned decrease in mortality, differences in fertility and the birth rates are the main causes of spatial differences in natural increase. Thus, the lowest values were recorded in areas with the highest death rates and the lowest birth rates. The main causes of death were traditional causes of death, such as birth control. All these suggest that the period of demographic transition began to be observed in Hungary, which gradually moved from an earlier mortality-based demographic structure to a modern fertility-based one. In the southernmost region, this process began to regularize the number of children and the timing of their births.

In addition to natural increase, actual population changes are influenced by migratory movements. The net migration rate per 1,000 people disables the net in and out movements of internal and international migrants. In areas with low carrying capacity in terms of the agricultural population but inhabited by people with adequate natural increase, groups of migrants can move in areas of Germany and Hungarian populations in Transylvania, and in the southern regions, at the same time, Budapest and its expanding agglomeration, other major cities and the newly forming industrial areas were the primary targets of external migration, accommodating large numbers of newcomers. Transylvania and Transcarpathia, which previously were predominantly inhabited by Serbs, became the most significant population centers in the Carpathian Basin, while some Hungarian populations in Transylvania, in the southern regions, at the same time, Budapest and its expanding agglomeration, other major cities and the newly forming industrial areas were the primary targets of external migration, accommodating large numbers of newcomers. Transylvania and Transcarpathia, which previously were predominantly inhabited by Serbs, became the most significant population centers in the Carpathian Basin. The map on page 23 illustrates the regions and ethnic groups most affected by emigration. The main sources of data on emigration are the Russian census, which recorded a peak of 1.3 million people from the Russian Empire to America, which offered a much more promising future than Hungary.
III. POPULATION NUMBER, POPULATION DENSITY

Population Change in the Carpathian Basin (2001-2018)
IV. NATURAL CHANGE OF POPULATION

The crude death rate in the Carpatho-Pannonian area reached unprecedented levels. The timing of the improvement, which occurred several years after the collapse of communism, varied from country to country. By the early 1990s, the mortality crisis peaked in the majority of central and eastern European countries, with a decrease or stagnation in average life expectancy at birth. Only from the mid-1990s was an improvement registered in Hungary, with life expectancy at birth rising from 73.1 years in 1993 to 76.5 years in the space of almost a quarter of a century. The trends in the countries in the region were not uniform: in Ukraine, as in the other Soviet successor states, the mortality rate fell due to unexpected profound socioeconomic shocks between 1990 and 1995, while life expectancy at birth decreased by 5 years, and after a moderate increase, it remained stagnant until 2007. Only in the last ten years has there been an improvement in mortality in that country. The timeline shows similar trends in two other groups of countries: Austria and Slovenia (the latter is rapidly catching up with the former) are among the forerunners, with life expectancy for the population as a whole being 81.7 and 81.2 years, respectively. The third and most populous group includes slightly growing countries (e.g., Romania, Serbia, Hungary, Slovenia), where life expectancy currently ranges from 76.2 to 78 years.

The infant mortality rate in the Carpatho-Pannonian area is among the highest in Europe. The rate is highest in the new successor states that once had a different cultural and social environment. Western countries and small countries are characterized by significantly lower mortality and high life expectancy. The infant mortality rate is related to social and economic conditions and the health behavior of the mothers. Mortality has a close relationship between a mother’s level of education and the infant mortality of her children. The level of education, race, the nutritional status of the population, and the level of economic development largely explain regional differences in infant mortality. The infant mortality rate varies in the new successor states, with the highest rate occurring in the eastern part of the region. In Hungary, for example, the infant mortality rate is significantly lower than in the neighboring countries. The infant mortality rate is highest in the eastern region, where infant mortality is more concentrated in demographic analyses, this indicator conveys the necessity of attention to the most vulnerable groups and the importance of protecting the health of the mother and child.

Life expectancy at birth in Europe has increased steadily over the past century. The life expectancy at birth in European countries has increased from 35 years in 1900 to 80 years in 2015. The life expectancy at birth is a measure of the average number of years a newborn can expect to live. It is a fundamental indicator of the health status of a country and provides information on the overall level of health and well-being of its population.

The decrease in infant mortality has led to a significant increase in the life expectancy at birth. This is particularly evident in countries with high levels of socio-economic development and good healthcare systems. In contrast, countries with lower socio-economic development and less effective healthcare systems have higher infant mortality rates and lower life expectancy at birth. The life expectancy at birth in Hungary, for example, is among the highest in Europe, with a life expectancy at birth of 81.4 years in 2015. In Hungary, life expectancy has improved significantly over the past century, with a doubling in life expectancy at birth from 45 years in 1900 to 81.4 years in 2015. This improvement is largely attributed to advances in healthcare, improvements in living standards, and decreases in mortality from infectious diseases.

In summary, the improvement in life expectancy at birth has been a major success story of the twentieth century, with life expectancy at birth doubling in many countries. The life expectancy at birth in Hungary is among the highest in Europe, with a life expectancy at birth of 81.4 years in 2015. This improvement is largely attributed to advances in healthcare, improvements in living standards, and decreases in mortality from infectious diseases.
V. MIGRATION

The migration of people and labor from rural to urban areas, and the movement of goods and services, has been a constant feature of human history. In the 21st century, migration has become even more complex, with the advent of increased mobility, digital communication, and the globalization of economies.

Recent studies have shown that migration patterns have changed significantly in recent decades, with some regions experiencing a decline in migration, while others have seen a surge in migration.

The factors driving migration include economic opportunities, political stability, and environmental conditions. In many cases, migration is a response to economic hardship or natural disasters, and migration policies can have a significant impact on the outcomes.

The impact of migration on societies and economies is complex, with both positive and negative effects. While migration can bring economic benefits, it can also lead to social and cultural tensions.

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the need for coordinated international efforts to address migration issues. This includes the development of policies that promote safe and orderly migration, while also addressing the root causes of migration.

In conclusion, migration is a complex phenomenon that requires a multidisciplinary approach to understand and address its implications. By working together, we can strive to create a more just and equitable world for all.

References:


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VI. POPULATION STRUCTURES

The collapse of communism triggered profound transformations in the Hungarian labor market. For instance, the number of unemployed people was highest in the early 1990s, with unemployment rates reaching 6.0% in 1993. The number of unemployed people then decreased significantly to an average of 3.5% in 2012. The number of unemployed people continued to decrease until 2015, with the unemployment rate reaching 3.3% in 2015. The number of unemployed people then increased slightly to 3.5% in 2016. The number of unemployed people then decreased significantly to an average of 3.5% in 2012. The number of unemployed people continued to decrease until 2015, with the unemployment rate reaching 3.3% in 2015. The number of unemployed people then increased slightly to 3.5% in 2016. The number of unemployed people then decreased significantly to an average of 3.5% in 2012. The number of unemployed people continued to decrease until 2015, with the unemployment rate reaching 3.3% in 2015. The number of unemployed people then increased slightly to 3.5% in 2016.
VII. HISTORY OF SETTLEMENT

The 18th and 19th centuries were marked by significant development in the region. The economic growth and industrialization of the 19th century led to urbanization and the establishment of new settlements. The construction of railways and the expansion of agricultural areas contributed to the growth of towns and cities. The 20th century saw the development of new industrial centers and the growth of the urban population. The political changes of the post-World War II period led to a significant transformation in the region, including the establishment of socialism and the development of new cities and towns. The end of the Cold War and the transition to democracy in the 1990s brought about changes in the political and economic landscape, leading to further development and growth.
VIII. SETTLEMENT SYSTEM

Settlement system of Hungary

In the present-day area of Hungary, the average population density is 710 people per km². In contrast, only 13% of people live in one settlement in Zapadnaya, 1,399 in Tó, 1,273 in Újtelep and only 930 in Köbelepe. The average size of settlements decreases from the lowland area of the Carpathian Basin towards the rim. The size of a settlement and its population affect its development opportunities, the quality of services, the labour market situation of inhabitants, and ultimately the capacity of the settlement to maintain its population. Settlements with less than 100 inhabitants were particularly disadvantaged in the aftermath of World War II and under communism. Since the 1980s, a significant majority of their inhabitants were working in agro-technical activities, the automation of food and the growing trend towards modernizing agriculture made their labour market situation even more unsustainable. Many people of working age either out-migrated or began to commute to towns and industrial centres. The settlement policy aimed at dissolving small settlements (school districts, construction base, etc.) also contributed to this process. After the collapse of communism, the disadvantages due to the size of the settlement were mitigated. Most settlements became administratively independent and acquired their own local government. When considering the settlement system of Hungary, the role of the administrative unit (municipality) should be taken into account. As the dates from municipal and administrative units are generally comparable, this approach is acceptable. However, in some regions or in certain municipalities or administrative units, this coherence does not apply. In the case of smaller settlements, for example, in Gödölföld, which is completely depopulated in 1923, other examples include Feketehalom in Transylvania and Vinnam in Fejpörty. These villages have recently been revived as holiday settlements.

Some new settlements have also been created (e.g., between 1988 and 1998). In the decades following World War II, a large number of so-called “tackled” villages were formed in the 1950s. The development was viewed as a solution to the problems of urbanization, particularly for rural families. However, the problems associated with urbanization are still present in Hungary today.

The number of settlements has gradually decreased. Hungary had 5,612 administratively independent settlements in 1939, 3,339 in 1949 and 2,870 in 1990. Since 1990, however, their number has been growing slowly. Still, there are ongoing processes that affect the number of settlements. Some settlements have continued to shrink until they have vanished, others have experienced a surge of new residents. For example, in 1950, 24 previously independent municipalities were incorporated into the city of Budapest, and several Molnárka to make up 4 larger settlements. Many municipalities have been merged between 1990 and 2010. 1,144 municipalities were merged with other municipalities. A small number of municipalities have ceased to exist. This was the case, for example, in Gödölföld, which was completely depopulated in 1923. Other examples include Feketehalom in Transylvania and Vinnam in Fejpörty. These villages have recently been revived as holiday settlements.

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Settlements with specific functions have developed in the Carpathian Basin over time. The location of Bukhara (Kuklhom) is a settlement on the northeast edge of the Hungarian Plain, with a population of 1,452 people. Almost all residents are Hungarians, reflecting a largely agro-based settlement environment. The development of the area, the distinct influence of Bukhara and their attachment to the region, have shaped a unique identity. The settlement has become an independent village in 1907. Located at an altitude of 820 (in 1907), and consisting of houses scattered on a hill, the village has an area of 27 m² and is inhabited mainly by Jews from Jewish and German-speaking backgrounds (e.g., making baking). A settlement that developed in the central Tur Abdin Mardin (7,500 residents) in 2008, which is located on a hillside in the southeast of Van County. It was surrounded by the region’s first and most extensive settlement, its growth being facilitated by the development of Van, and the surroundings. In the 1st century, the town of Van was surrounded by numerous small and medium-sized towns and many people up to Van and settled farming. After World War II, a large number of so-called “tackled” villages were formed in the 1950s. The development was viewed as a solution to the problems of urbanization, particularly for rural families. However, the problems associated with urbanization are still present in Hungary today. The number of settlements has gradually decreased. Hungary had 5,612 administratively independent settlements in 1939, 3,339 in 1949 and 2,870 in 1990. Since 1990, however, their number has been growing slowly. Still, there are ongoing processes that affect the number of settlements. Some settlements have continued to shrink until they have vanished, others have experienced a surge of new residents. For example, in 1950, 24 previously independent municipalities were incorporated into the city of Budapest, and several Molnárka to make up 4 larger settlements. Many municipalities have been merged between 1990 and 2010. 1,144 municipalities were merged with other municipalities. A small number of municipalities have ceased to exist. This was the case, for example, in Gödölföld, which was completely depopulated in 1923. Other examples include Feketehalom in Transylvania and Vinnam in Fejpörty. These villages have recently been revived as holiday settlements.

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IX. CITIES

Types of Urban Settlements (1949)

Types of Urban Settlements (2020)

Development Dynamics of Urban Settlements

Types of cities today

In the intervening years, the economic, social, and settlement systems of Hungarian cities and their classification by type have changed significantly. Urbanization processes is characterized, on the one hand, by the dominance of tertiary-service functions in second half of the settlement-system with urban sprawl, the proportion of tertiary services working locally remains even higher. In other words, the urban system exhibits certain uniformity (at least in terms of the occupational structure of the active population). On the other hand, urban boundaries are becoming less defined, the most spectacular effect of which is the growing number of commuters (those who travel to a place of work outside the administrative border of their place of residence). This means that the occupational structure of the settlement-dwellers does not provide a firm base for the classification of a settlement. Since the dominant role of services is to supply their own inhabitants and the population of their hinterland (i.e., their catchment area with urban-type goods and services), any urban typology must include the position in the settlement hierarchy, the link and type of the city and its relative significance within the settlement system. Thus, the eight urban types in our map are related to settlement hierarchy. Concerning the various types, the mesoregional context supply county-level or half-county level areas, while the macroregional context have districts level functions.

Village towns constitute a transitional group between the rural and urban levels, while Urban towns have few or no urban functions. In some instances, the rural role of a town is not to provide the populace with urban goods, such settlements were classified in types established without regard to their functional rank.

The most important and residential towns that formed part of agglomerations. Relatively few towns were included in the industrial function group, but in recent decades the number of industrial and other centres with lower status, mostly with low hierarchy levels and strong function role, has grown.

Development dynamics of cities

The role and hierarchical rank of cities do not necessarily reflect the quality of life of the local population. Their dynamics tell a much more about their recent socio-economic development and their social reorientation. To determine the development dynamics of cities, indicators were considered that reflect their demographic conditions (i.e., changes in population size, the proportion of elderly, the balance of migration), the social situation (i.e., the proportion of higher education graduates), the extent of economic activity (i.e., employment and unemployment rates, the density of businesses) and real estate market values (the average price of second-hand dwellings) in the period after the collapse of communism. Using the ranking...
X. BUDAPEST AND ITS REGION

dies is uniformly above 200, but there are districts where the density is five times higher than that of others. Evidently, there are also neighborhoods where elderly outnumber young people, but such cases are increasingly rare. The aging of the population of Budapest became more severe between 2013 and 2017. This is clearly indicated by the fact that there were 130 elderly people per 100 children in 2013, but this ratio has since remained constant. Changes in the age pyramid varied within the city. A higher than average increase could be observed in the peripheral areas of Pest and in several smaller neighborhoods in other parts of the city. At the same time, in a few areas of the inner city, the age pyramid was more youthful. Neighborhoods with more youthful populations in 2013 could be found in two belts one by one along the axis of Széchenyi–Ferenciek and the other in the central part of Buda near the Danube.

The age structure of the population of Budapest was also analyzed according to the housing conditions and living environments. In the age composition of the city’s centers, the share of households with children is relatively high (6.6%), and the share of elderly people is significantly lower (2.1%).

In the old city quarter of Buda, the share of elderly people is higher (21.6%), and the share of households with children is significantly lower (2.1%).

In the inner residential zones, the age structure is more balanced, with a higher proportion of children (14.4%) and a lower proportion of elderly people (21.6%).

In the center city, the share of households with children is also lower, while the share of elderly people is significantly higher (21.6%).

This is also true for the outer residential zones, where the share of households with children is significantly lower (2.1%) and the share of elderly people is higher (21.6%).

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The proportion of people aged 20–44 has been increasing for a long time, but the rise in the proportion of people aged 65 and over has been more recent.

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XI. RURAL AREAS

The rural areas of Hungary are characterized by a high number of small villages and settlements. Many of these villages serve as service centers for the surrounding areas. The presence of basic functions in villages is a common feature of these rural areas. The dynamics of rural settlements are influenced by various factors, including the economic activities of the villages.

Some villages are still small, while others have experienced significant growth. The growth of some villages has been driven by the expansion of industrial activities, while others have remained relatively stable. The rural areas of Hungary are home to a diverse range of economic activities, including agriculture, forestry, and tourism.

Service provision in the rural areas is essential for the well-being of the local population. Many small villages in the rural areas are equipped with essential services and facilities, including schools, hospitals, and public transportation. These services are crucial for the survival and development of the rural communities.
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- Retail bookstores (domestic + international)
- Interactive version available: www.nationalatlas.hu