

Some Characteristics of Last Emigration Wave of Young People From Croatia

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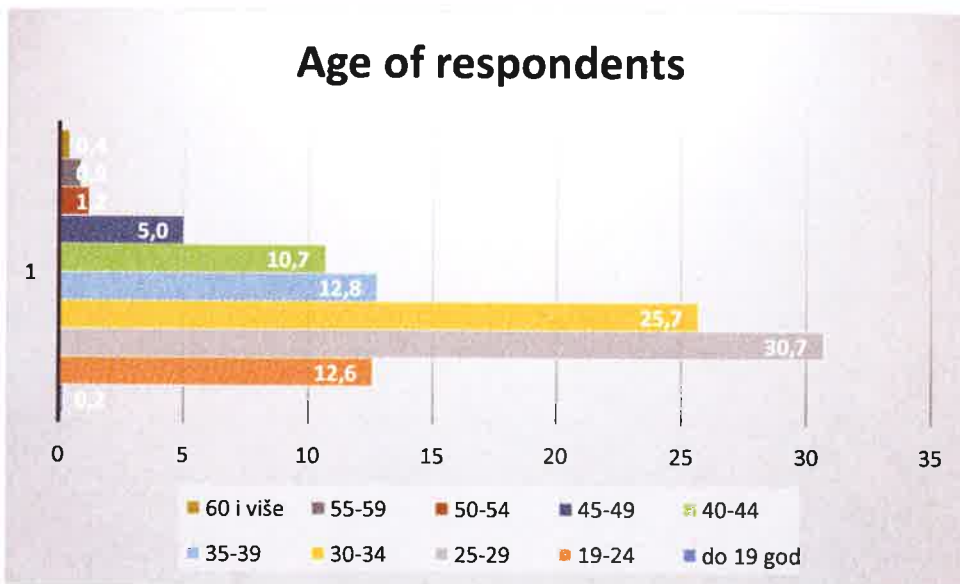
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Zagreb, 2017.

Methodological remarks

Research was carried from April to July 2017, in which time span we acquired over 650 answers, but after consistency check we excluded around 60 survey entries. Data were gathered using nonprobabilistic convenient sampling through online survey distributed among virtual social networks (among Facebook groups like Croats in Canada, Croats in Germany, Croats in Ireland). Scope of research is accordingly limited to young emigrants active on social networks, which potentially leaves out large unknown population.

1.Respondent characteristics



Graphs of sex and age structure shows slight representation of women over men, with most of the respondents between age of 19 to 44 (92,4%). Most represented is the age cohort between 25 and 29 years with 30,7 %, followed by 30 – 34 cohort with 25,7%. Having in mind the methodological

exclusion of non-users, we speculate that this sample represents average emigrant active on social networks

Counties of growing up and emigration

	County where they grow up (%)	County residence before immediately before emigration (%)	Mobility difference (%)
Bjelovarsko-bilogorska županija	2,1	2,6	0,5
Brodsko-posavska županija	4,6	4,1	-0,5
Dubrovačko-neretvanska županija	1,9	1,5	-0,4
Grad Zagreb	22,0	27,9	5,9
Istarska županija	1,2	2,2	1,0
Karlovačka županija	2,3	2,2	-0,1
Koprivničko-križevačka županija	3,3	3,4	0,0
Krapinsko-zagorska županija	0,8	,9	0,1
Ličko-senjska županija	0,4	,2	-0,2
Međimurska županija	0,8	,7	-0,1
Osječko-baranjska županija	9,8	9,1	-0,6
Požeško-slavonska županija	2,3	1,7	-0,6
Primorsko-goranska županija	5,0	5,0	0,0
Sisačko-moslavačka županija	7,5	6,3	-1,2
Splitsko-dalmatinska županija	9,1	7,4	-1,7
Šibensko-kninska županija	1,7	1,7	0,0
Varaždinska županija	2,3	1,7	-0,6
Virovitičko-podravska županija	1,2	1,1	-0,1
Vukovarsko-srijemska županija	6,7	5,2	-1,4
Zadarska županija	3,1	2,6	-0,5
Zagrebačka županija	11,9	12,3	0,4

It is interesting to see that City of Zagreb, Istarska županija, Bjelovarsko-bilogorska and Zagrebačka županija represent counties with higher percentages of leaving than early living, but for the Zagreb this is expected since it reflects concentration of population and mobility preference. The 5,9 % mobility differential could represent intermediate emigration step. Counties with highest negative mobility differential are Splitsko-dalmatinska županija, with highest negative mobility of -1,7%, Vukovarsko-srijemska and Sisačko-moslavačka.

Countries of immigration

	Cases	%
Germany	243	41,9
Ireland	127	21,9
Canada	60	10,3
Sweden	22	3,8
Italy	19	3,3
Austria	15	2,6
Czech republic	12	2,1
USA	12	2,1
Denmark	9	1,6
Netherlands	7	1,2
Switzerland	6	1,0
United Kingdom	14	2,4
Other	34	5,9
Total	580	100,0

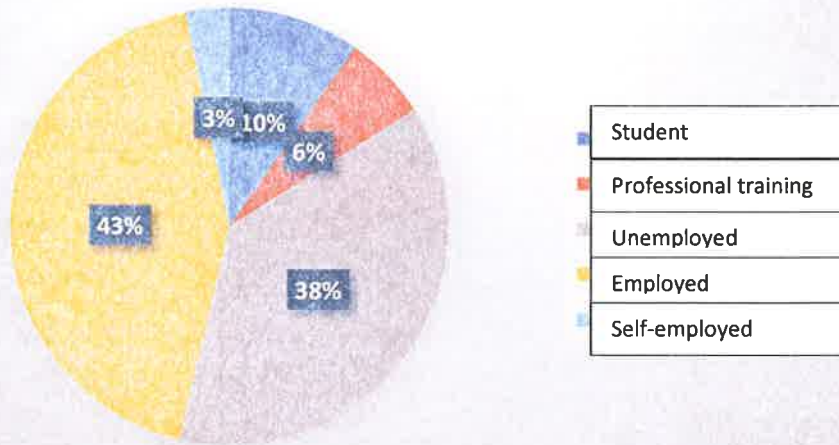
Data shows majority of respondents migrated to 'popular' receiving countries, Germany (41,9%) and Ireland (21,9), followed by Canada (10,3%), Sweden and Italy. Statistics on years of migration fits 92,9% of respondents (539) between 2011 and 2017, while sample included only 7,1% of people that emigrated in period from 1986 – 2010.

2. Emigration of young

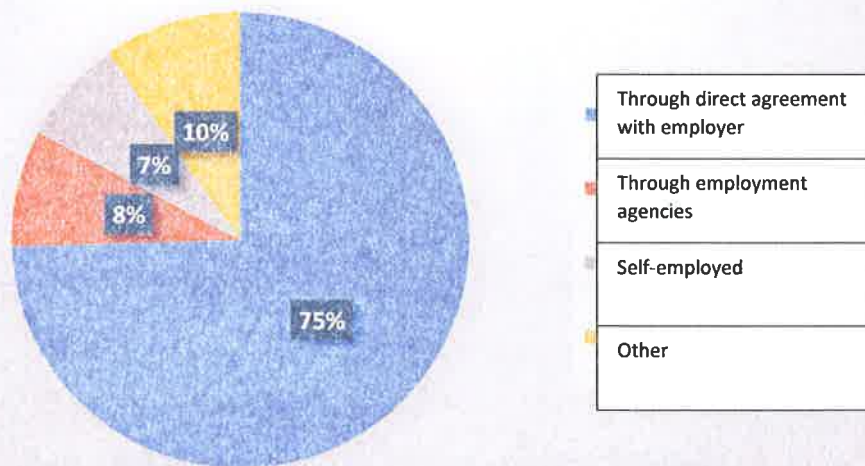
Our usage of youth category is somewhat stretched from 19 to 30 years of age, which represents 69% (400) in sample. Among this age cohort 59,3% (237) are women and 40,7% (163) are men. 1% of respondents has only primary education, 52% have high school diploma, 18,8% university baccalaureate, 27,8 university diploma and 0,5% have completed doctoral studies. In our research data on young do not differ drastically from aggregate data on receiving countries, both are dominated by Germany (43,8%) and Ireland (20,3%), followed by Canada(9,8) and Sweden(3,5%).

Work, marital status and satisfaction with life in emigration

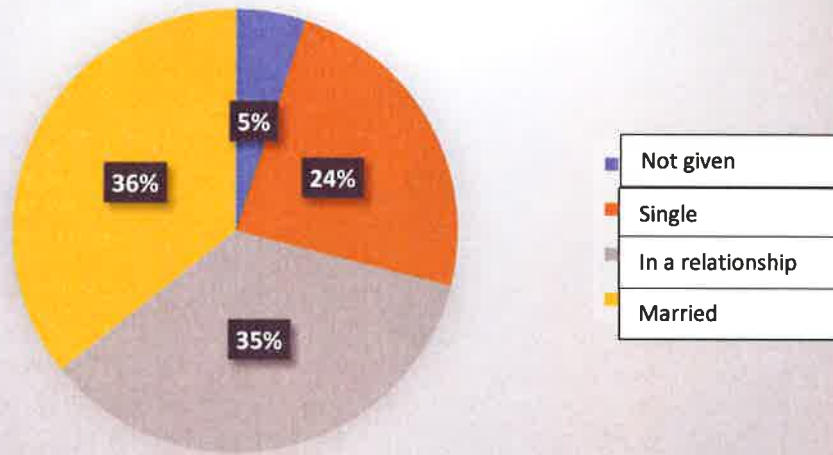
Work status before emigrating



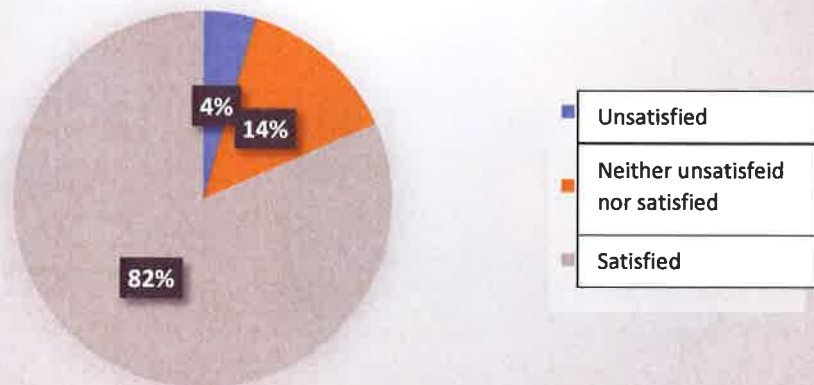
How did you find job in your destination



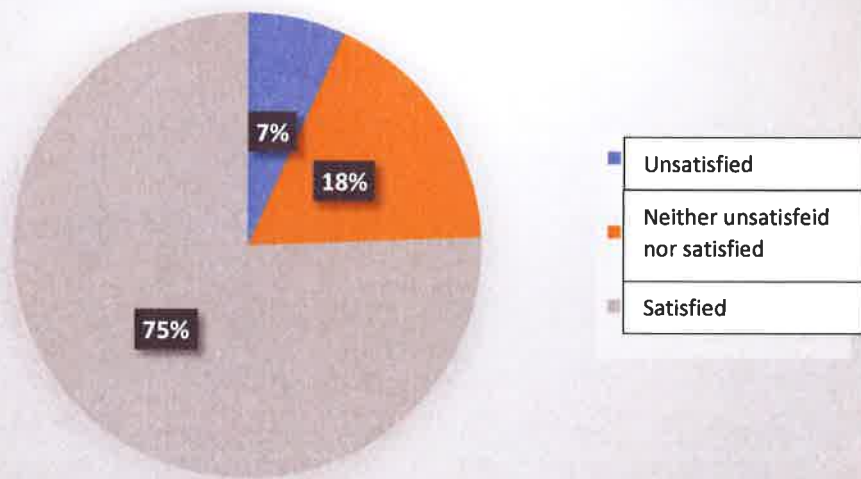
Marital status



How satisfied are you with your life in the current country?

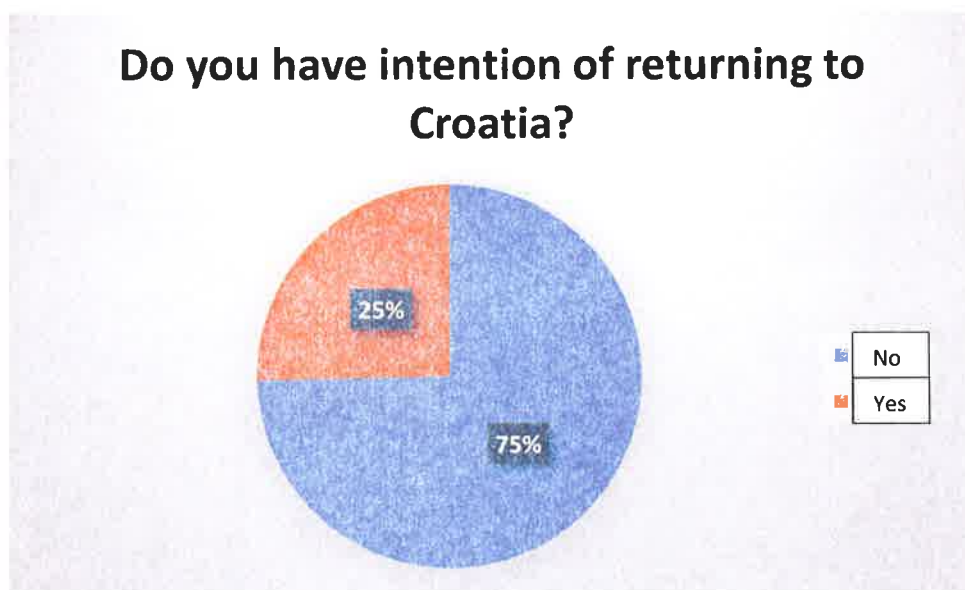
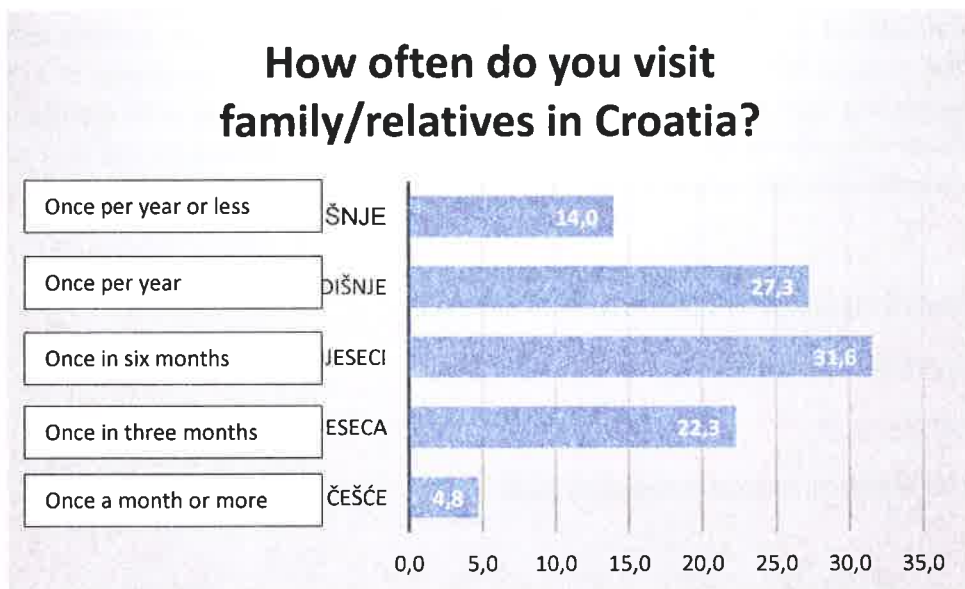


Satisfaction with current salary



Graphics clearly shows half of young emigrants have previously worked in Croatia (43% employed, 3 % self-employed and 6% in professional training), while other half was unemployed (38%) or was in university (10%). 3/4 of respondents found job in receiving country through contact with employer, while only 8% used employment agencies and 7% are self-employed. The Other category comprised further education or internship, unemployment (0,75%), maternity leave (1%), while in 3,5 % cases answers were unreported. Regarding marital status, 36% of immigrants are married, 35 % are in a relationship while 24% are single. When it comes to life satisfaction, 82% of young report they are satisfied in emigration, while only 4% are unsatisfied. 75 % of young are satisfied with their income, 7% are unsatisfied an 18% are unsure.

Contacts with Croatia and intention of return



41,3% of young visits their family or relatives once a year or less, 54 % once in three to six months and 5% once or more per month. 75% reports no intention of return!

2.1. Patterns in intention to return Somewhat greater intention to stay in emigration is reported among women, married respondents, employed and self-employed.¹

3. Conclusion

Emigrants in Germany and Ireland were most represented, regardless of age group. Prevailing age groups are young (19-34), and most represented counties of emigration are Grad Zagreb, Zagrebačka županija, Osječko-baranjska and Splitsko-dalmatinska županija. Majority of respondents have emigrated during the last six years (93%). City of Zagreb emerged as intermediate step for large number of respondents. Youngs are more educated than older emigrants (more have university degrees, less high school). Majority is in marriage or relationship, they are extremely satisfied with their life and salary abroad and 90% is in some form of employment. It should be noted that half of young were employed in Croatia, which suggests they were unhappy with working conditions or salary, or that reasons for emigration are not directly connected with possibility of finding work. Around 60% of young visits their family and relatives in Croatia one or more in six months, and 75% if them reports no intention to return in Croatia. In regard to this, intention to stay abroad is mostly reported by women, married, employed and self-employed.

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¹ These are not statistically significant differences but merely ones showing in cross tabulation.