The CBS follows the WHO’s definition of live birth and defines a live-born child (live birth) as a child who exhibits signs of life at birth, such as breathing, beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movements of voluntary muscles. If a child dies soon after the birth, it is first registered as live-born and then as dead. A stillborn child (stillbirth) is considered every child that, after a complete expulsion or extraction from its mother, does not show any evidence of life, that is, who neither breathed nor showed any other evidence of life, providing that the pregnancy lasted for 22 weeks or longer and that the child weighted 500 grams or more.

Up to 2000, a stillborn child was a child that was expelled or extracted from its mother and did not show any evidence of life, that is, if it did not breathe or show any other evidence of life, with the duration of pregnancy of more than 28 weeks gestation. From 2001, according to international recommendations, a stillborn child is considered a child with 22 weeks or more gestation and weighting 500 grams or more that was expelled or extracted from its mother and did not show any evidence of life, that is, if it did not breathe or show any other evidence of life.

Population exposure data in the 2001-2010 period refer to usual resident population. Definition of usual residence has been adjusted with one, which was applied in 2011 Census. In addition, migration data in that period have been harmonized with the EU standards. These revised population numbers ensure full comparability with post-censal population estimates.

Annual post-censal population estimates by age and sex following the 2011 Census.

Until 1997, data on deaths (and births as well) were processed according to a deceased person’s permanent residence (including Croatian citizens living abroad). Since 1998, the official statistics include only deaths when the place of usual residence of the deceased was in Croatia.