

Serbia

Overview

Serbia is a diverse country characterized by population and health issues that are part and parcel of slow reforms and reflect the difficult journey Serbia faces toward European Union integration. An aging nation with a median age of 41.3 years, Serbia has a population growth rate of negative 0.464%.

According to UN estimates, approximately 500,000 Roma live in Serbia and their rights as equal citizens are yet to be fully realized. Serbia also has the largest refugee population in Europe; refugees and internally displaced persons comprise between 7-7.5% of the total population presenting unique challenges for population programming and policy development.

According to non-official sources the highest numbers of abortions in Europe are performed in Serbia - approximately 150,000 - 200,000; a particularly striking figure given that the population is around 7.5 million.

UNFPA Country Programme Focus and Priorities

The government of Serbia lacks data and official reproductive health and family planning strategies, thus, the UNFPA country office prioritizes supporting the Ministry of Health and other institutions to strengthen capacity in this field. The main areas of focus include family planning and HIV/STI prevention among young men and women and vulnerable groups.

The UNFPA country office works to address reproductive health issues across Serbia, particularly focusing on underserved regions and vulnerable populations. The UNFPA partners with the Republic Institute for Social Protection to advance awareness of the ageing process and its' implications on population development. In addition, the UNFPA provides a valuable

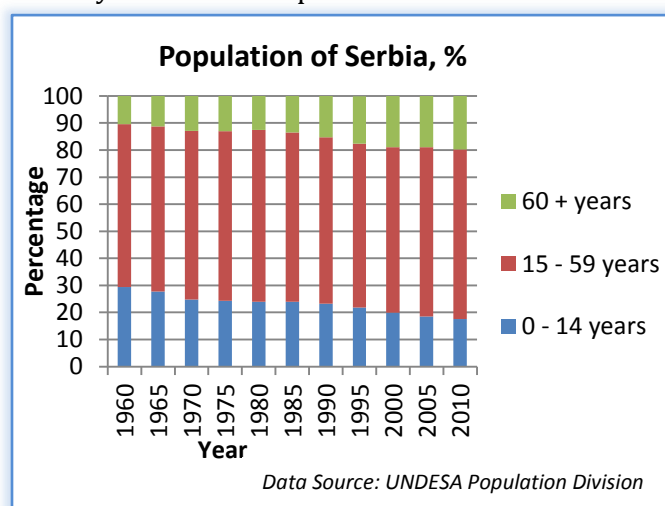


contribution to joint initiatives with other UN agencies in the country in the fields of HIV and Roma Inclusion.

Partnerships

The UNFPA country office has well-developed partnerships with Ministries, NGOs, faith based organizations, Parliamentarians, Academia and local governments. The UNFPA seeks to cultivate private sector partnerships to address national priorities within the UNFPA's mandate in an effort to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Serbia.

In close cooperation particularly with the Ministry of Health, as well as the Decade of Roma Inclusion, a long-term initiative to develop the capacity of Roma Health Mediator personnel has achieved excellent results, particularly for young Roma. The UNFPA also works with the Primary Health Center in Niš, to implement reproductive health research of public health policy interest and carry out online reproductive health education for medical doctors. The Youth Office in Priboj in south-west Serbia, another underserved region, receives capacity development support in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports.



Serbia, similar to many other European countries, is experiencing population ageing and low fertility rates

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Indicators

POPULATION	1990	Most recent	
Total population in thousands	9 569	9 856	2010
Total population in thousands, male	4 755	4 878	2010
Total population in thousands, female	4 814	4 979	2010
Total population, 0-14, %	23.2	17.6	2010
Total population, 15-59, %	61.5	62.7	2010
Total population, 60+, %	15.3	19.7	2010
Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	2.23	1.62	2010
Life expectancy at birth, male, years	68.6	71.7	2010
Life expectancy at birth, female, years	73.7	76.3	2010
Total dependency ratio (0-14+65+/15-64)	48.9	46.9	2010
Net migration rate, per 1000 population	1	0	2010

Data Source: UNDESA Population Division



UNFPA works with young people in Serbia using youth-friendly methods to improve sexual and reproductive health



UNFPA provides technical support to address demographic challenges in Serbia including effective policies on ageing

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH	1990	Most recent	
Births attended by skilled health personnel %	98.1	2002	99.7 2010
Maternal deaths per 100 000 live births	11.8	1998	17.6 2010
Abortion rate per 1000 live births	573.7	2000	323.4 2010
Antenatal care at least 1 visit, % ^	-		97.7 2005
Antenatal care at least 4 visits, % ^	-	-	
Unmet need for family planning, % #	-		6.6 2010
Contraceptive prevalence rate, all, % #	58.7	2000	60.8 2010
Contraceptive prevalence rate, modern, % #	31.8	2000	21.5 2010

Data Source: WHO (HFA-DB) ^WHO (GHO-DR) # UNDESA

GENDER	1990	Most recent	
Seats held by women in national parliament %	20.4	2007	22.0 2012
Share of women in wage employment (non-agricultural sector)	38.7	1993	43.7 2009
Gender parity index in secondary enrolment	1.01	1999	1.02 2010

Data Source: Official UN Millennium Development Goals Indicators website

HIV and other STIs	1990	Most recent	
Percentage of adults aged 15-49 years who are HIV infected	<0.1	2001	0.1 2009
Percentage of sex workers in capital city who are HIV infected	-	-	
Percentage of men who have sex with men in capital city who are HIV infected	-		6.1 2008
Percentage of people who inject drugs in capital city who are HIV infected	-		4.8 2008
Percentage of sex workers reporting the use of a condom with their most recent client	-		91 2009
Percentage of men reporting condom use the last time they had anal sex with a male partner	-		67 2009
Percentage of sex workers with correct knowledge of HIV transmission	-		14 2009
Percentage of men who have sex with men with correct knowledge of HIV transmission	-		65 2009
Percentage of people who inject drugs with correct knowledge of HIV transmission	-		64 2009
Syphilis incidence per 100,000 #	1.15	1998	0.92 2011
Congenital Syphilis incidence per 100,000 #	-	-	

Data Source: UNGASS

WHO (HFA-DB)

YOUTH	1990	Most recent	
Percentage of young people (15-24) with correct knowledge of HIV transmission	-		20 2006
Percentage of young people (15-24) who have had sexual intercourse before the age of 15	-		2 2006
Percentage of all live births to mothers aged under 20 #	12.8	1998	6.1 2010
Adolescent abortions per 1000 live births (aged under 20) #	189.6	2000	228.2 2010

Data Source: UNGASS

WHO (HFA-DB)