THE SPORTS SECTOR IN CROATIA

The Republic of Croatia, as a Mediterranean country and a part of the Balkans, is one of the most dynamic countries in the Southern part of Central Europe. That is visible especially after 2013, i.e. when Croatia entered the European Union. Since then, Croatia has emphasized its interest in the European market.

The most important sectors of the Croatian economy are wholesale and retail, transport, accommodation and catering, industry and public administration, defense, education, health care and social work. EU countries account for 68% of Croatia's exports (Italy, Germany and Slovenia). When it comes to non-EU countries, 9% go to Bosnia-Herzegovina and 4% to Serbia. Imports account for 78% of EU Member States (Germany, Italy and Slovenia). Concerning non-EU countries, 3% of Croatia's imports come from Bosnia-Herzegovina and China.

The characteristics of household consumption were calculated, based on data collected by the Household Budget Survey. The Survey is carried out on a random sample of private households.

The selected sample for 2017 included 4 212 dwellings occupied by private households. According to the 2017 Household Budget Survey, consumption expenditures amounted to 82 530 kuna per household on average.

The household expenditures are structured in twelve major groups of products and services according to the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP).

Clothing and footwear account for 7.3%, recreation and culture 5.5%.

In this 7.3 % of expenses on clothing and footwear, clothing takes 72,4% and footwear 27,6%. The most of clothing expenses go on garments (98.2%) and the smaller part consists of clothing material, other articles of clothing, clothing accessories, cleaning, repair and rent of clothing. Footwear expenses include 99.9% of buying shoes and other footwear, while the rest makes cleaning, repair and rent of footwear.

Recreation and culture make 5.5% of total household expenses of which audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment make 10.4%, other recreational equipment, gardens and pets 23%, recreational and cultural services 41.3%, newspapers, books and stationery 17.9% and package holidays 5.4%.

Comparing the share of appropriations for sports and recreation in the EU and Croatia, the appropriations are only 0.2%, making Croatia last in the European Union. The EU spends, on average, around €100 per capita, while Croatia is also at the bottom when looking at the investments per capita (€13.3 from the budget).

Expenditures for sports and recreation include a wide range of grants from central and local budgets, from subsidies to sports clubs and individual athletes, through coverage of sports competitions, to grants for infrastructure (playgrounds, athletic fields, halls, playgrounds).