

Marginalized elders in Nyíregyháza, Hungary

compiled by
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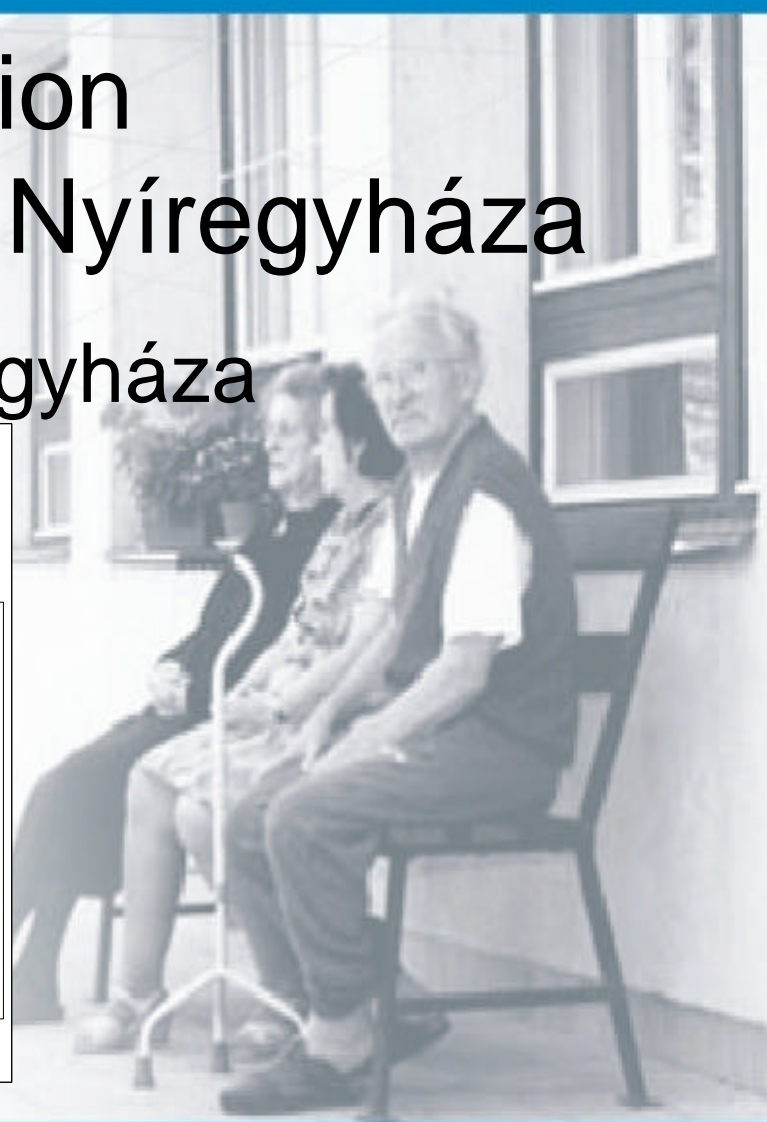
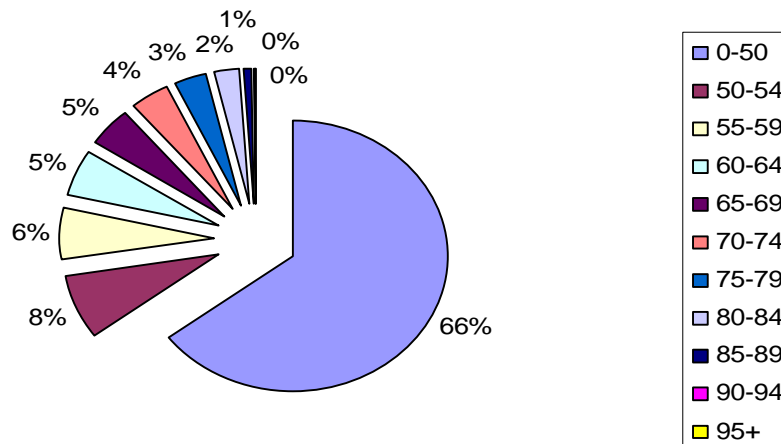
Nyíregyházi Főiskola
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Intézet

Introduction

Elderly situation in Nyíregyháza

- Age distribution in Nyíregyháza

Distribution of the population in Nyíregyháza (%)



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What is marginalized?

- Marginalized: some social classes or part of the given class are in disadvantageous situation
- How can be somebody marginalized?
 - by age
 - by marital status
 - by health state
 - by lack of every day activity
 - by housing conditions
 - by lack of material resources
 - by income
 - by lack of relations (personal and professional)

By age

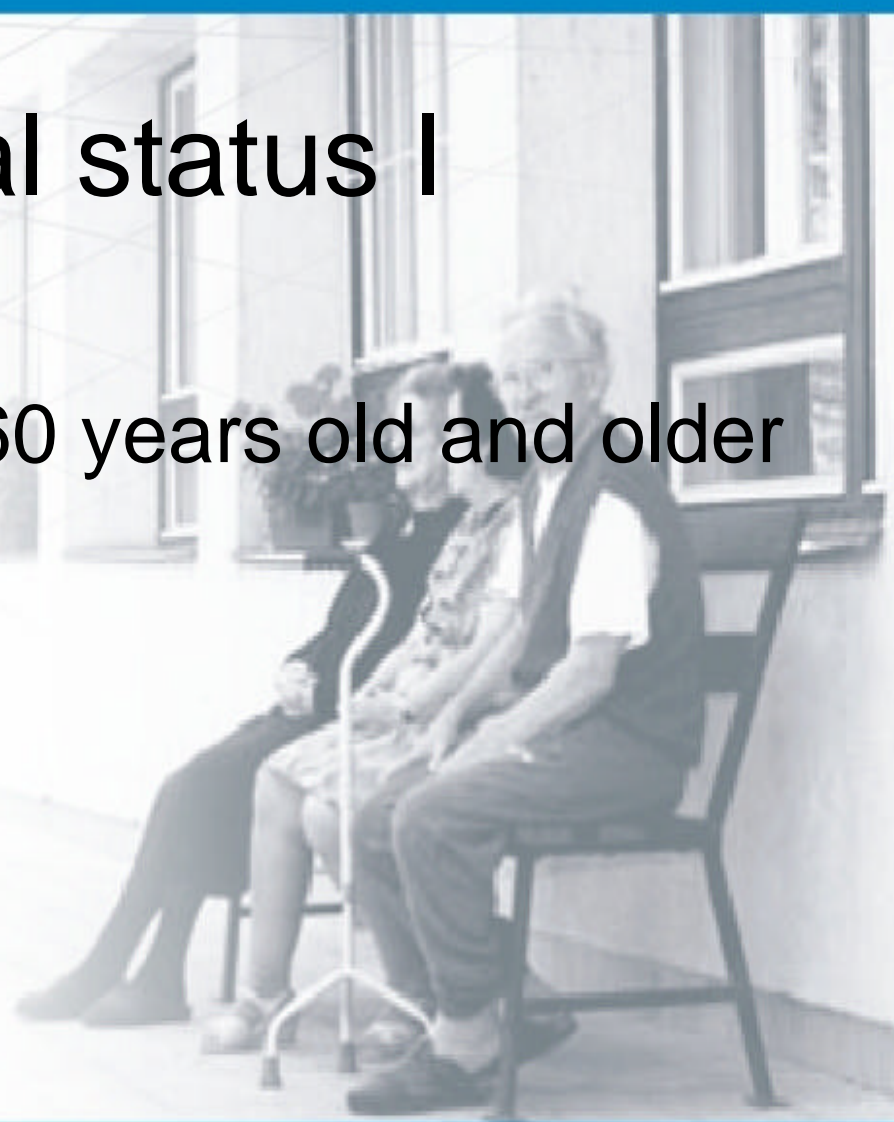
- The general tendency: in the capital and in the villages there are more elderly people BUT in towns (like Nyíregyháza) the rate of the younger generation is higher
- **CONCLUSION:** the elderly are marginalized in Nyíregyháza since they are minority in the society

By marital status I

2001 census:

- 75% are married of 60 years old and older
- 15% widowed
- 6% divorced
- 4% never married

Why is it important?



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By marital status II

Widowed, never married people
have to face with:

- solitary
- the load on the shoulder is heavier if you have to carry alone

CONCLUSION: 20% of the elderly population is in disadvantageous situation because of their marital status

By health state

The most reliable is the self report:

Do you have a health problem that prevent you from doing your every day activity?

Central Statistic Office:

42% of men and 28% of women feel themselves in a good condition

CONCLUSION: in Nyíregyháza about 30% of the elderly population has problem with the every day activities

By lack of every day activity

„Time scale tests”

- Women are more active in looking after the family, grandchildren, but after an age these tasks are not required
- Men like dealing with public affairs

BUT: as time goes by all the tasks are reducing

CONCLUSION: „we are needless”

By housing conditions

- In Nyíregyháza 66% of the elderly live in blocks of flats meaning difficulties to access their home

CONCLUSION: 43% of the elderly feel that their living conditions are medium or worse

By lack of material resources

- Since the 80s the income of the retired families has coming closer to the national average (semi-skilled workers, agricultural workers, civil servants, etc.)

CONCLUSION: in Nyíregyháza the material resources of the elderly are not necessary behind the average

By income

- In Hungary according to 2002 data the elderly had an average income, it was even higher with 2% of the average income

BUT: at that time the unemployment rate was very high

CONCLUSION: the income of the elderly households are around the average though the average is also very low

By lack of relations (personal and professional)

The general tendencies
are true for Hungary:

- after retiring the number
of relations reduce
- there can be difficulties
maintaining the relations with the children



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