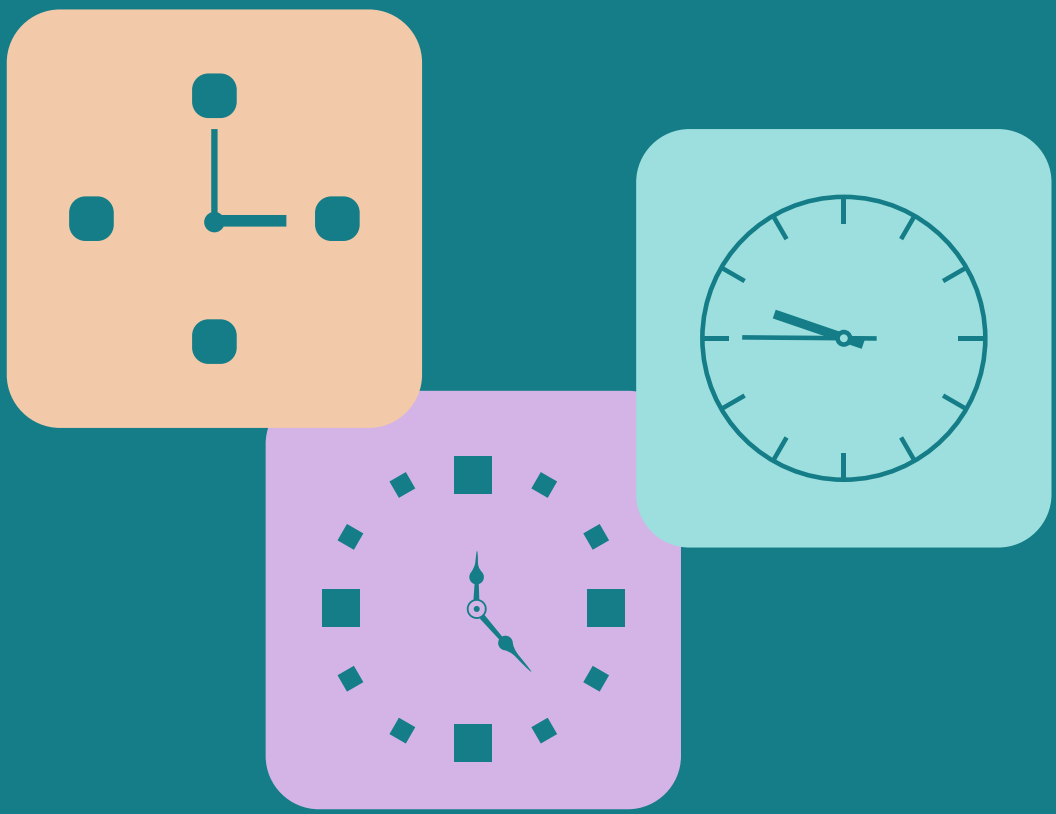
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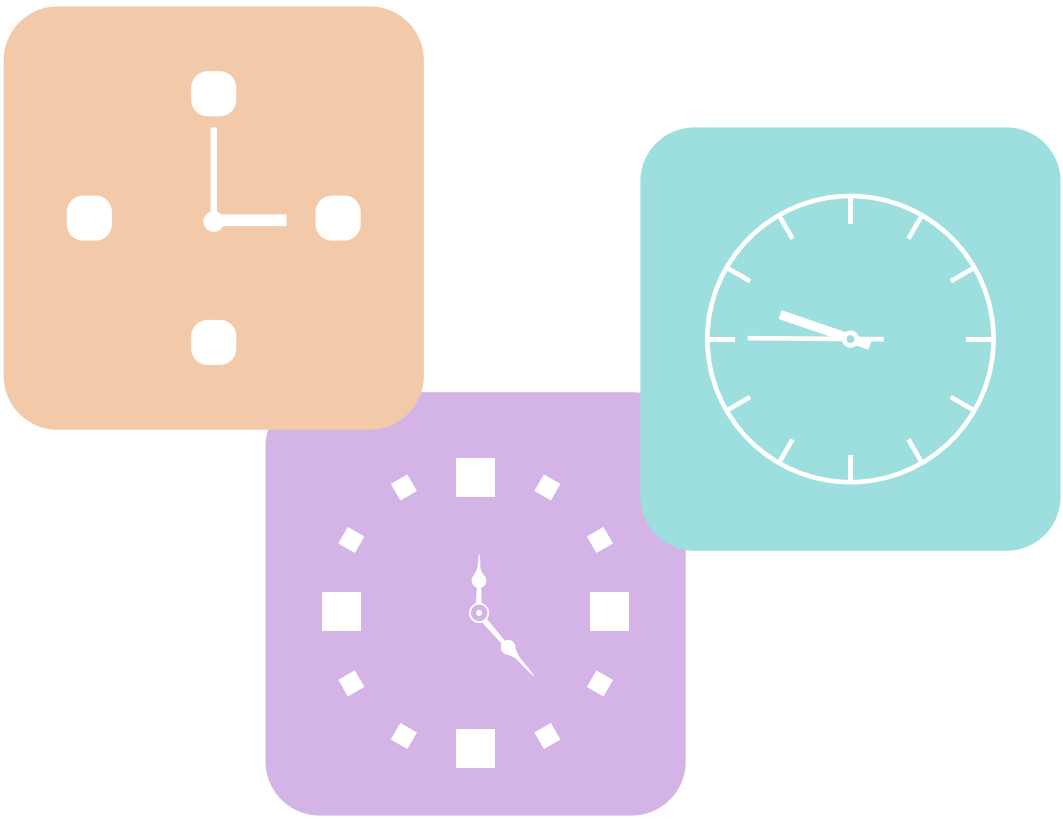
How Three Generations Use Their Time in the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022



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PREFACE

The publication *How Three Generations Use Their Time in the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022* is based on data collected in a Time Use Survey (TUS) which was carried out after a gap of 11 years. The Survey was conducted throughout the territory of the Republic of Serbia over a one-year period from 5 April 2021 to the end of April 2022. Since 1999, certain relevant data for the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija have not been available to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS), so they have not been included in the total data coverage for the Republic of Serbia.

The subject of this Survey is to evaluate how men and women spend their time across and between generations, where the biggest and the smallest differences lie according to factors of age and gender, which populations perform unpaid housework and to what degree, which populations earn money for a living and which work at home without pay, and what is the average amount of time spent by women and men on some common daily activities at particular times of life.

The Time Use Survey yielded a large amount of data that may be processed and analysed in many different ways. The processing of these data makes it possible to create a picture of how certain population groups and categories in the Republic of Serbia use their time. This and other various pertinent information emerged from the Survey and the analysis of this data presents both an opportunity and challenge for analysts, researchers, journalists, students, and statisticians.

The collected data is a valuable source of information that should help in developing and implementing social policies related to labour and the division of labour, culture, sport, and the living conditions of young people and elderly people, among other fields. Awareness of the potential of Time Use Surveys is increasing due to their representing a unique tool in measuring unpaid work and in actualizing more complete labour statistics.

The Survey is also very important from the perspective of gender equality because it contains data on the participation of women and men in common daily activities. In this regard, over recent decades, the Time Use Survey has evolved into a research instrument for observing and evaluating a wide range of social phenomena in many countries, and especially for analysing the unpaid work of women in the household.

The purpose of the guidelines on the Harmonised European Time Use Survey — HETUS from 2018 was to secure a unified approach to the process of collecting, processing and presenting data. The Time Use Survey data in Serbia are comparable with surveys in other European countries since the survey was conducted in accordance with the recommendations of Eurostat. With this second survey and additional analysis, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia confirms that it remains persistent in its efforts to harmonize and improve national statistics.

Acting Director,
Branko Josipović

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We owe an immense debt of gratitude to consultant Klas Rydenstam, one of the founders of the Harmonised European Time Use Survey (HETUS) approach, and to Richard Öhrvall, who generously shared their knowledge and skills with employees in the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia during a series of seminars devoted to the methodological preparation, processing and analysis of data.

Jovanka Stojanović, with her expert knowledge of survey methodology, field experience and willingness, selflessly participated in the preparations and field implementation of the second Time Use Survey, for which we are immensely grateful.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all TUS interviewers and controllers, all engaged activity coders and all SORS employees who participated in the implementation of the survey, as well as to household members throughout the Republic of Serbia, whose completed diaries ensured that the results of this survey could be achieved.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABBREVIATION	FULL NAME
SORS	Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia
TUS	Time Use Survey
HETUS	Harmonised European Time Use Surveys
Eurostat	European statistics

GLOSSARY

Three Generations:

Young
The young population comprises persons aged 15 to 29 years.

Middle-Aged
The middle-aged population comprises persons aged 30 to 64 years.

Older
The older population comprises persons aged 65 years and over.

Main Activities:

Paid Work
Time spent on a main or secondary job, including breaks, commuting to and from work, and other work-related activities for which remuneration is received.

Unpaid Work
Time spent performing unpaid activities, including cooking, cleaning and household maintenance, laundry and ironing, household repairs, shopping, caring for children and adults, caring for pets, travel related to unpaid work, and other household unpaid tasks.

Study
Study includes time spent attending classes at school or university, doing homework, studying during free time, traveling for learning-related purposes, and engaging in other learning-related activities.

Personal Care
Basic life activities, including sleeping, eating, personal hygiene, dressing, napping, resting in bed due to illness, and other personal activities.

Free Time
Time spent socializing with family or friends, participating in entertainment, cultural, or sports activities, watching television, resting or relaxing, reading books or newspapers, computing, as well as time spent on similar activities and travel related to these activities.

Other Activities
Activities and travel that cannot be classified into the main categories.

Basic Statistical Measures:

Average Time
The average duration of an activity calculated for all surveyed persons.

Participation Rate
The percentage of persons who performed a particular activity in the course of a day.

Average time spent by participants in the activity
The average duration of an activity calculated only for those persons who actually performed that activity.

Other Terms:

Diary (Survey Diary)
A data collection instrument in which respondents record their activities in short time intervals (e.g., every 10 minutes) over a 24-hour period.

Type of Settlement
Breakdown into urban and other (rural) settlements by place of residence.

Level of Education
The highest completed level of formal education (primary or lower, secondary, tertiary/higher education).

Productive Work (Total Work)
Total time spent in paid and unpaid work.

Travel
Time spent moving between activities (walking, using public transport, cycling, driving a car, etc.).

Daily Rhythm
The distribution of activities throughout a single day (24 hours).

Tempogram
A graphical representation of the distribution of activities over a 24-hour period, showing the proportion of the population engaged in a particular activity during a given time interval.

Data Comparison
The boxed text contains a comparison of data from two surveys conducted in the Republic of Serbia in 2010/2011 and 2021/2022.

INTRODUCTION

The publication *"How Three Generations Use Time in the Republic of Serbia"* was produced as a result of the *Time Use Survey*, which was conducted fully in accordance with Eurostat recommendations and the *Harmonised European Time Use Surveys (*HETUS*) Guidelines* of 2018, ensuring a uniform approach to the collection, processing and presentation of data.

The Time Use Survey was carried out for the second time in the Republic of Serbia in 2021/2022 and is fully comparable with the results of the first survey conducted in 2010/2011.

The survey was originally scheduled to begin in spring 2020 but was postponed for a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The coronavirus pandemic in the Republic of Serbia was declared on March 19, 2020, and the last measures were lifted in spring 2023. The interviewers who conducted the survey from spring 2021 to spring 2022 complied with all legally required measures, as the SORS provided protective masks for interviewers, prescribed distance was maintained with the relevant respondents, hand hygiene was maintained, etc.

OBJECTIVE OF THE SURVEY

The objective of the Time Use Survey is to determine how people allocate their time during a day or a week, the extent to which they use it productively – whether through paid or unpaid work and the amount of time they devote to leisure activities.

The Survey also aims to present the structure of the population's daily activities, including paid work, unpaid work, learning, personal care, and free time, as well as to identify differences by sex, age, level of education, and other socioeconomic characteristics. Of particular importance is the survey's ability to measure unpaid work, which often remains invisible in traditional economic analyses but is essential for understanding gender equality.

The data provide a basis for measuring unpaid work, particularly that performed by women, and support the development of policies in the fields of labour, gender equality, education, culture and health. In the time period during which this Survey was conducted, it is important to note that the COVID-19 pandemic also affected the structure of daily life, as more time was devoted to personal needs, including illness, vaccination, and visits to healthcare providers.

The ultimate objective is to use the information obtained to improve the quality of life, increase productivity, and achieve a better balance between work and private life.

SURVEY METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK DATA

The Time Use Survey collects a wide range of data that can be used to present information on the amount of time spent on various activities according to different socioeconomic characteristics, such as sex, age, level of education, employment status, etc.

Each person uses time in their own way, and there are numerous factors that influence this. The daily routine of a single mother is completely different from that of a pensioner, just as the day of an unemployed person differs from that of an employed person, or the day of a young person from that of an older person.

Survey Instruments:

- Household Questionnaire;
- Individual Questionnaire; and
- Time Diary (Diary).

A sample of 2,340 households in the Republic of Serbia was selected for both surveys conducted in 2010/2011 and 2021/2022.

Interviewers were instructed to administer the Household Questionnaire to the household member who was best informed about the household's situation and who was at least 15 years of age. The same age requirement applied to all household members who were eligible to complete the Individual Questionnaire and the Time Diary.

TIME DIARY AS THE MAIN SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Each respondent aged 15 years and over was required to complete two diaries for two pre-selected days: one weekday and one weekend day.

The diary was to be completed for every ten-minute interval over a 24-hour period, starting at 4:00 a.m. The diaries recorded the time when each activity began and ended. Respondents described, in their own words, the activities they performed, so that the diaries contained information on the start and end times of all activities. Based on this data, it is possible to calculate the duration of each recorded episode and identify who performed it.

Using the time diary, information was collected across six domains:

1. Time: ten-minute intervals from 04:00 a.m. to 03:50 a.m. the next day.
2. Main activity: what did you do?
3. Parallel activity: did you do anything else?
4. Computer use: Did you use a computer, the internet, a smart device, or something similar for this activity?
5. Location or mode of transport: where were you and how did you travel?
6. Who was with you? Were you alone or with someone you know?

For the purpose of easier data presentation, activities were grouped into six main activities: paid work, unpaid work, study, personal care, free time, and other activities, which include unspecified travel and unspecified activities.

Based on these data, it is possible to calculate the duration of each recorded episode and identify the person who performed it.

Picture 1. Time diary sample 2021/2022

DIARY TO FILL IN

1/8		What were you doing? Record your main activity for each 10-minute period from 04.00 to 07.00! Only one main activity on each line! Distinguish between travel and the activity that is the reason for travelling.	What else were you doing? Record the most important parallel activity.
R. n.	Time		
01	**04.00** – 04.10		
02	04.10 – 04.20		
03	04.20 – 04.30		
04	04.30 – 04.40		
05	04.40 – 04.50		
06	04.50 – **05.00**		
07	**05.00** – 05.10		
08	05.10 – 05.20		
09	05.20 – 05.30		
10	05.30 – 05.40		
11	05.40 – 05.50		
12	05.50 – **06.00**		

Did you use a computer, internet, smartphone or similar device? Put the sign x, + or ✓	Where were you? Record the location or the mode of transport. e.g. at home, at friend's home, at school, at workplace, on foot, on bus, in car, on bicycle, on motorbike...	Where you alone or together with somebody you know? Put the sign x, + or ✓					
		Alone (or with unknown persons)	With other household member				Other persons that you know
			Partner	Parent	Children (up to 17 years)	Other house-hold member	

Picture 1 presents a blank diary template covering the time period from 4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Respondents recorded, at ten-minute intervals and in their own words, the activity they were performing as their main activity and any parallel activity, whether they used a computer, where they were (or which means of transport they were using), and with whom they were spending their time. The activities were subsequently coded and entered into the data entry application.

Basic Statistical Measures of the Survey

There are three basic statistical measures used in the survey, which should be carefully interpreted:

1. Average time — represents all time for all persons in the survey — spent on the activity / the number of persons in the survey;
2. Proportion of "doers" — represents the number of persons who spent some time doing the activity / the number of persons (Participation rate);
3. Average time for "doers" — represents all time for all persons in the survey — spent on the activity / the number of persons who spent some time doing the activity.

All these measurements can be calculated for many different population groups based on the data collected from the household questionnaire and the individual questionnaire.

Using the example of the paid work activity for women, we can demonstrate how the average time is calculated. For all diaries filled in by women, the duration of all episodes of paid work was added up. Some women contributed many hours of paid work, while others who did not work at all during the diary day did not contribute to the total.

The total time all women spent doing paid work was divided by the total number of

diaries filled in by women, regardless of whether or not they performed any paid work.

This measure contains no information on the distribution of the number of hours of

paid work within the population group. Entirely different distributions of activities may produce the same average values. Take, for example, paid work for a period of four hours a day. If all women work four hours a day, the result will be four hours a day.

The result will be the same if half of the women work eight hours, and the other half

do not work at all. If the average values for two population groups are different, this indicates that individuals from one population group spend more time in paid work than the others.

Some information on the distribution within the respective groups is contained in the participation rate, which indicates the proportion of individuals who spend some time on the activity. If the proportion is 100 percent, everyone carried out some paid work, if it is 50 percent, half of them did. If two population groups have the same average time, but the participation rates are different, it can be concluded that individuals belonging to the population group with the lowest participation rate worked longer.

Finally, there is a third measure, the average time for "doers." This is an average time that refers only to those performing the activity.

For example, as is shown in Table A, the average time (first measure) and the average time for "doers" (third measure) are the same for sleep because all respondents wrote down this activity. This means that the value of the second measure is 100 percent.

Table A. Presentation of data according to basic survey measures: population 15 years and over, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

Measurement	Sleep		Paid work	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Average time				
(All time — for all persons in the study — spent on the activity / number of persons in the study)	08:24	08:18	02:23	03:56
Proportion of "doers"				
(The number of persons who spent some time doing the activity / the number of persons in the study)	100	100	33%	48%
Average time for "doers"				
(All time for all persons in the survey — spent on the activity / the number of persons who spent some time doing the activity)	08:24	08:18	07:18	08:08

In paid work, for example, women spent an average time of two hours and 23 minutes. The activity of paid work was recorded in the diary by every third woman (33%), and the average time women spent on paid work was seven hours and 18 minutes.

HOW DOES AN AVERAGE CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA USE THEIR TIME?

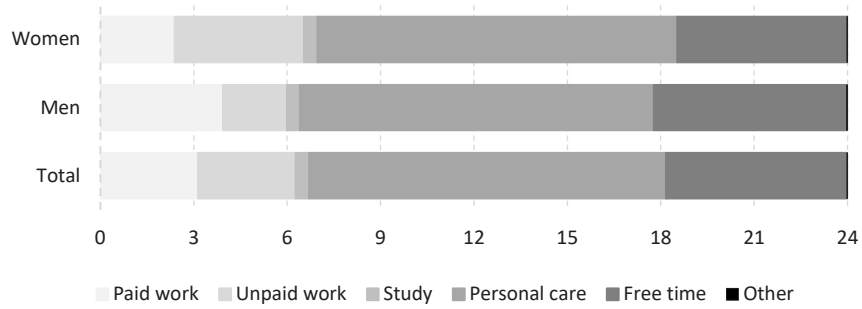
This publication presents a comprehensive analysis of how the residents of Serbia allocate their time throughout the day, with a particular focus on the differences between young people (aged 15–29), the middle-aged population (aged 30–64), and older persons (aged 65 and over).

In examining the entire population according to the six main activity categories (paid work, unpaid work, studying, personal care, free time and other), the respondents, regardless of gender or age, were seen to spend, on average, more than six and a half hours a day on some kind of work (6:41), a little more than three hours on paid work (3:08), the same amount on unpaid work (3:08), and a little less than half an hour on learning (0:25).

The greatest amount of time documented was devoted to personal care activities, accounting for almost eleven and a half hours per day (11:28 hours).

The respondents were found to spend nearly one quarter of the day on leisure activities, amounting to almost six hours (5:48 hours), while very little time (0:01 hours) was spent on other activities, which include unspecified travel and unspecified activities, and these will therefore not be further analysed.

Graph A. Average time spent on activities: population 15 years and over, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When these activities are analysed by the gender of the respondent, in the category of paid work, women were seen to spend on average more than two hours per day (2:23), while men were documented as spending just under four hours (3:56). However, women were found to spend a little more than four hours (4:09) on average in unpaid activities, with men recorded as spending a little more than two hours (2:03).

Gender differences in study activities were documented as very small, with the duration of these activities also short (women 0:26, men 0:24).

In the category of personal care activities, women were seen to spend on average 11 minutes more than men per day (11:33 for women, 11:22 for men).

In regard to free time, women were found to devote almost five and a half hours (5:27) per day to these activities, while men were seen to spend a little more than six hours (6:11). The remaining activities accounted for only one minute per day on average for both women and men.

When the 2021 data are compared with the data from the previous survey for the highest categories, it can be seen that all respondents on average reported performing paid work 13 minutes longer in 2021 than in 2010 (2:55 in 2010; 3:08 in 2021). Comparing the data for paid work by gender, women in the new survey were documented as working 13 minutes longer than in the first survey (2:09 in 2010; 2:23 in 2021), with men found to work nine minutes longer (3:47 in 2010; 3:56 in 2021).

As for unpaid work, the recorded time spent on unpaid activities decreased for women by 42 minutes (4:51 in 2010; 4:09 in 2021), while for men it decreased by 13 minutes (2:16 in 2010; 2:03 in 2021).

Regarding time reported for personal care, a little more than 11 hours were spent on these activities on average in 2010, with this the duration increased by 18 minutes in 2021 (11:10 in 2010; 11:28 in 2021). Women reported spending 20 minutes less on these activities in 2010 compared to the new survey (11:13 in 2010; 11:33 in 2021), while men indicated spending slightly under 20 minutes less (11:05 in 2010; 11:22 in 2021). The 2021/2022 fieldwork period coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic, and activities such as resting due to illness, doctor visits, vaccination, etc., were reported as personal care activities.

In 2010, time spent on learning was found to last three minutes less than in 2021 (0:22 in 2010; 0:25 in 2021), while the gender differences were negligibly small.

On average, almost six hours were indicated as being spent on free time activities in the first survey (5:52, 2010), and only four minutes less were documented in 2021 (5:48, 2021). Looking at the data by gender, women were seen to spend nine minutes less on leisure activities in the first survey than in the second (5:18 in 2010; 5:27 in 2021), against men spending 18 minutes more in the first survey (6:29 in 2010; 6:11 in 2021).

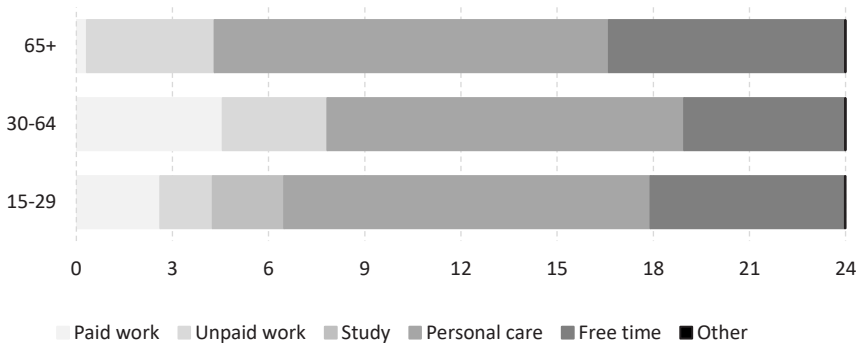
HOW THE THREE GENERATIONS USE THEIR TIME?

In this publication, the way in which three generations (young people, middle-aged people and elderly people) use their time within a 24-hour period will be presented, based on data obtained from a second Time Use Survey conducted in 2021/2022 and compared with the results from the first survey conducted in 2010/2011.

For the purposes of this Survey, the young generation refers to persons aged between 15 and 29, the middle-aged category to persons between 30 and 64 years, and the older population to persons aged 65 years and over.

To compare the daily activities of the three generations mentioned, i.e., to show how much time they spent on average doing the six activities listed (paid work, unpaid work, study, personal care, free time, and other), the data is presented in Graph B below.

Graph B. Average time spent on activities: population 15 years and over, by age group, all days, the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Based on the survey, young people in the Republic of Serbia, i.e., individuals aged 15–29, were documented as spending on average a little more than two and a half hours per day on some form of paid work (2:37), a little more than an hour and a half on unpaid work (1:38), and more than two hours on learning (2:13). In summation, the reported time dedicated to these activities indicates that young people spend, on average, over six and a half hours (6:28) engaged in some work-related tasks.

In regard to personal care activities, young people indicated spending on average almost eleven and a half hours (11:26), and to free time six hours (6:03). The activities classified under the category "Other" will not be further analyzed in this report, as the documented time spent on them was very limited.

The middle-aged generation surveyed was found to spend on average a little more than four and a half hours (4:34) per day on some form of paid work, more than three hours on unpaid work (3:15), and about one minute on learning. When the time spent on these activities is added up, it indicates that the middle-aged generation spends just under eight hours (7:50) engaged in some form of work.

In regard to personal care activities, the population aged 30 to 64 reported spending on average a little more than eleven hours (11:06), while spending five full hours on free time (5:01).

In consideration of relative relevance, for the purposes of this survey, study activities will not be analyzed for members of the middle-aged and older population.

The older generation was documented as spending on average less than half an hour (0:19) per day on some form of paid work, four hours on unpaid work (3:58), and not a single minute on learning.

In totaling the time spent on paid and unpaid work activities, the older generation was shown to spend just under four and a half hours (4:19) engaged in some form of work.

In regard to personal care activities, older individuals were documented as spending almost twelve and a half hours on average (12:17), against more than seven hours in their free time (7:22).

A comparison of the results from the two Time Use Surveys indicate that a decade ago young people spent a little more than two hours doing paid work, while in 2021 they spent a little more than two and a half hours (2:14 in 2010; 2:37 in 2021). In regard to unpaid work, young people were seen to spend just under two hours in 2010, and 16 minutes less in the second survey (1:54 in 2010; 1:38 in 2021).

When comparing learning-related activities, the new survey shows a slight increase in the time spent on learning (2:01 in 2010; 2:13 in 2021), as well as in personal care activities (11:11 in 2010; 11:26 in 2021). In free time activities, young people spent less time in 2021 than in the first survey (6:36 in 2010; 6:03 in 2021).

As for the middle-aged generation, its members were documented as spending half an hour less on paid work in the survey a decade ago than in the 2021 survey (3:52 in 2010; 4:34 in 2021). On unpaid work, the middle-aged generation was found to spend more time at the time of the first survey than in the second (4:00 in 2010; 3:15 in 2021).

On personal care activities, the middle-aged generation was recorded as spending just under eleven hours in the first survey, and twenty minutes more in the second (10:47 in 2010; 11:06 in 2021). On free time activities, the middle-aged generation indicated spending more than five hours on average in the first survey, and approximately five hours in the second iteration (5:17 in 2010; 5:01 in 2021).

Regarding the older generation, the population was found to spend on average the duration of a school class period on paid work in 2010, but less than half as much time in the second survey (0:46 in 2010; 0:19 in 2021). On unpaid work, the third generation indicated spending about four hours in both surveys, with a five-minute advantage in the first survey (4:03 in 2010; 3:58 in 2021).

On personal care activities, the older generation was seen to spend a little more than half a day in both surveys (12:13 in 2010; 12:17 in 2021).

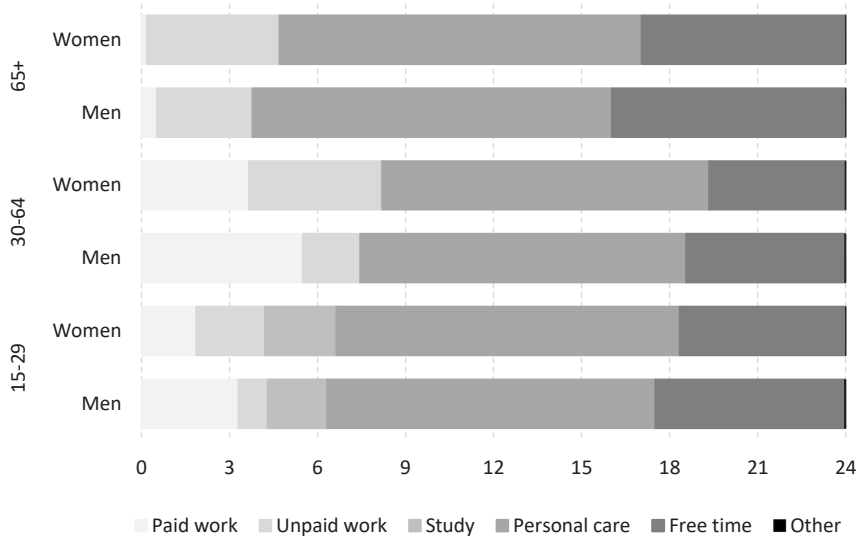
As for free time activities, the older population was documented as spending just under seven hours in the first survey, while in the second survey the indicated total was almost half an hour more (6:54 in 2010; 7:22 in 2021).

The focus of further analysis in this survey will be on gender differences, as well as on the differences between the two surveys conducted.

The Time Use Survey represents a virtually inexhaustible source of data that can be used for decision-making, planning and developing guidelines, as well as for monitoring changes in the everyday activities of citizens by gender, age, activity, etc., and over time.

In Graph C, the activities of the three generations according to gender are presented, along with their corresponding daily activities observed through the six listed activity categories.

Graph C. Average time spent on activities, population by age group and sex; all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Data from the new survey indicate that the middle-aged generation (30 to 64) spends the most time in paid work: men working on average five and a half hours (5:30), and women a little more than three and a half hours (3:40). Young men were documented as spending a little over three hours in paid work (3:18), with young women spending just under two hours (1:51). In contrast, older men were found to spend on average half an hour in paid work (0:31), and older women only about ten minutes (0:11).

Women were seen to dominate in unpaid work, both in the middle and older generations, with four and a half hours (4:31 in both age groups), while young women reported spending on average more than two hours on unpaid work (2:21).

The survey data confirms particular stereotypes common in this region. Regardless of whether they are employed and which generation they belong to, the results indicate that women seem to spend twice as much time as men on unpaid household work, with men spending nearly twice as much time in paid work. Here, it can be logically assumed that women, regardless of employment status, perform the vast majority of household duties – thus, for employed women, such unpaid activities become the so-called "second shift."

When looking at learning activities, the young generation was found to dominate, with women respondents spending just under two and a half hours (2:25), and men spending two hours (2:02). Contrastingly, the middle-aged generation indicated spending very little time on learning (women less than one minute), with men in the middle-aged and older generations not reporting any learning activities.

On personal care — which includes basic and essential activities such as sleeping, eating or drinking, and personal hygiene — people over the age of 65 recorded spending the most time: more than 12 hours, with this applying to both women and men (12:19 for women, 12:14 for men). It should also be noted that this survey was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, and activities such as lying down due to illness, visiting a doctor, or receiving a vaccination were also listed as personal care activities.

Young persons were the next highest in this category, with men spending a little more than 11 hours (11:11) on these activities, and young women just over 11 and a half hours (11:42). The middle-aged generation of both genders were seen to spend the least time on these activities — barely more than 11 hours (11:07 for women and 11:05 for men).

Free time refers to time spent with family or friends, engaging in sports, going to the cinema or theatre, watching TV, reading, etc.

As was expected, people aged 65 and over indicated having the most free time: men just under eight hours (7:57), and women one hour less — just under seven hours (6:56). They were followed by young people, with young men reporting about six and a half hours (6:26), and young women a little more than five and a half hours (5:38). The middle-aged respondents were documented to have the least amount of free time: men around five and a half hours (5:24), and women a little more than four and a half hours (4:38). For all three generations, it can be concluded that men have, on average, almost one hour more free time per day than women.

Comparing the first survey with the second, both the young and middle-aged generations recorded an increase in time spent in paid work. This increase was more pronounced in the middle-aged generation, as women's paid work increased by almost a full school class (2:57 in 2010; 3:40 in 2021), and men's by more than half an hour (4:52 in 2010; 5:30 in 2021).

When it comes to unpaid work, a decrease in time was recorded among all three generations of women, most notably among middle-aged women — almost a full hour (5:29 in 2010; 4:31 in 2021). A slight increase in time spent on unpaid work was recorded among the youngest men (0:50 in 2010; 0:59 in 2021) and the oldest men (3:10 in 2010; 3:15 in 2021).

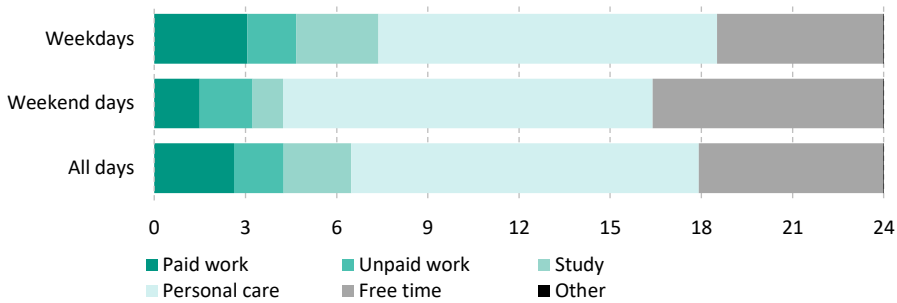
Activities related to personal care increased across all three generations for both genders, most significantly among middle-aged men — by 20 minutes (10:45 in 2010; 11:05 in 2021), and least among older women — by three minutes (12:16 in 2010; 12:19 in 2021).

When it comes to free time, young men indicated having less free time in the repeated survey — by the duration of a school class (7:16 in 2010; 6:26 in 2021) — as did members of the middle-aged generation, who reported having half an hour less (5:55 in 2010; 5:24 in 2021). Young women recorded about twenty minutes less — 24 minutes (6:02 in 2010; 5:38 in 2021) — while middle-aged women reported only four minutes less (4:42 in 2010; 4:38 in 2021). Compared to the first survey, the only group that were seen to have more free time in the second survey was the older generation, specifically women, with just beyond half an hour more (6:23 in 2010; 6:56 in 2021) while men reported just under half an hour more (7:29 in 2010; 7:57 in 2021). Both surveys show that women of all age groups had, on average, approximately one hour less free time per day than men.

HOW THE YOUNGER GENERATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA USE THEIR TIME?

In this chapter, young people and their activities will be examined, including how, when, where and with whom they spend their time during the day.

Graph 1.1. Average time spent on activities: population aged 15–29, weekdays, weekend days and all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In regard to paid work, young people were found to spend on average a little more than three hours (3:03) on weekdays, and almost an hour and a half (1:29) on weekends. On average, young people in Serbia recorded spending a little more than two and a half hours (2:37) in paid work.

On unpaid work, young people documented spending on average a little more than an hour and a half (1:38), with slightly more time spent on weekends (1:44) than on weekdays (1:36).

Young people in the Republic of Serbia indicated spending more time learning on weekdays — more than two and a half hours (2:42), and less on weekends — one hour. On average, young people were seen to spend a little more than two hours learning (2:13).

As for personal care, young people reported spending less time on weekdays - just over 11 hours (11:08), than on weekends - slightly more than 12 hours (12:09). On average, young people were found to spend slightly less than 11 and a half hours (11:26) daily on personal care activities.

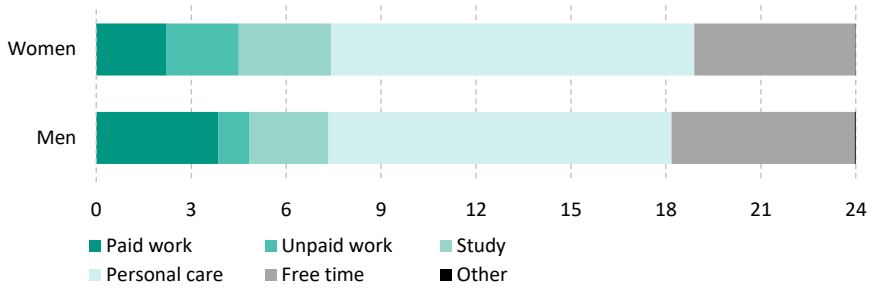
When it comes to free time, young people recorded spending about five and a half hours (5:27) on average on free time activities during the week, and just over seven and a half hours on the weekend (7:34). On average, overall, young people were found to spend a little more than six hours (6:03) on free time activities.

Comparing the data from the first and second surveys for all days — noting that the second survey was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic — young people in the follow-up survey were documented as spending more time in paid work (2:14 in 2010; 2:37 in 2021) and less in unpaid work (1:54 in 2010; 1:38 in 2021). Studying (2:01 in 2010; 2:13 in 2021) and personal care activities (11:11 in 2010; 11:26 in 2021) were seen to increase, while a decrease was recorded in free time activities (6:36 in 2010; 6:03 in 2021).

How do young people use their time?

In considering the recorded activities of young people by sex on weekdays only, young women were seen to spend more than two hours doing paid work (2:12), with young men spending just under four hours (3:51). In contrast, in examining unpaid work young women reported spending a little more than two hours doing so on weekdays (2:17), against young men spending just short of an hour (0:58).

Graph 1.2. Average time spent on activities, population aged 15–29, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In regard to learning activities, young women were shown to spend just under three hours studying in 2021 (2:55), while young men documented as spending two and a half hours (2:30).

Regarding personal care, young women were found to spend half an hour more (11:28) than young men, at almost eleven hours (10:50).

When it comes to free time, young women were recorded as spending a little over five hours daily (5:05), with young men spending just under six hours (5:47).

When comparing the data from the first survey with those from the second, young respondents spent slightly less time on paid activities during weekdays in the first survey than in the second (1:43 for young women and 3:45 for young men in 2010; 2:12 for young women and 3:51 for young men in 2021).

In unpaid activities, young women recorded a decrease of half an hour in 2021 compared to 2010 (2:48 in 2010; 2:17 in 2021), while young men showed an increase of about ten minutes compared to 2010 (0:49 in 2010; 0:58 in 2021).

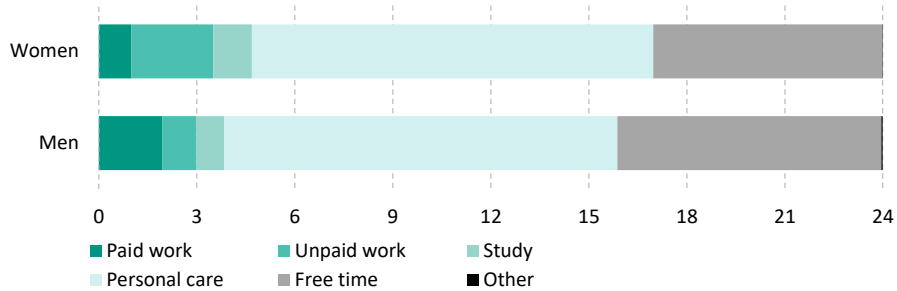
When it comes to learning, young people indicated spending more time on this activity than in the first survey — young men by about twenty minutes (2:11 in 2010; 2:30 in 2021), and young women by ten minutes (2:45 in 2010; 2:55 in 2021).

Both young men and young women were found to spend less time on personal care activities in the first survey than in the second — young men by almost 20 minutes (10:32 in 2010; 10:50 in 2021), and young women by about ten minutes (11:07 in 2010; 11:28 in 2021).

When it comes to free time, young people reported having less in the second survey than in the first one — almost a full hour less for young men (6:40 in 2010; 5:47 in 2021) and half an hour less for young women (5:34 in 2010; 5:05 in 2021).

Regarding the main activities of young people on non-working days, i.e. weekends, relatively notable gender differences were observed. Young women were documented as spending an average of one hour on paid work during weekends (0:59), with young men spending twice as much (1:57). On unpaid work, young women reported spending two and a half hours (2:30), whereas young men reported just one hour (1:01).

Graph 1.3. Average time spent on activities, population aged 15–29, by sex, weekends, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Graph 1.3. shows significant differences in the duration of paid and unpaid work, indicating that gender differences in performing paid and unpaid work are evident even among the younger generation.

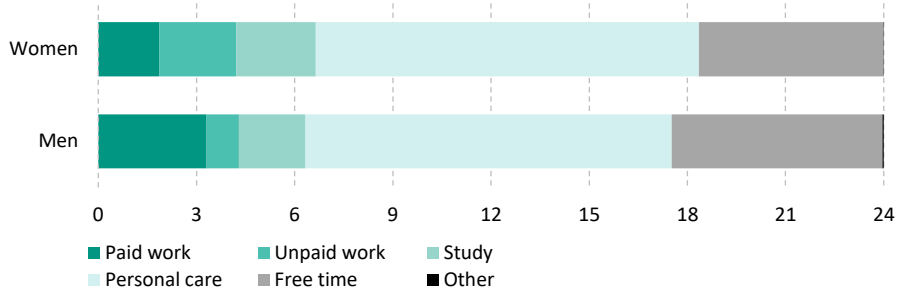
When it comes to learning during weekend days, young women reported being slightly more active (1:10) than young men (0:51). Regarding personal care, young women were found to spend more than half a day (12:17), and young men slightly less - half a day (12:02).

As for free time, young men were documented as spending the equivalent of a full working day on weekends (8:04), while young women were seen to spend an hour less (7:01).

When comparing the data from the first and second surveys, paid work had slightly lower values in 2010 compared to 2021 for both young women (0:48 in 2010; 0:59 in 2021) and young men (1:45 in 2010; 1:57 in 2021). In contrast, young women's time spent on unpaid work in the first survey was half an hour longer on average compared to 2021 (2:51 in 2010; 2:30 in 2021), while for young men this increased by around ten minutes (0:50 in 2010; 1:01 in 2021).

Graph 1.4. presents data on how young people use their time across all days of the week, by gender. Young men reported spending on average a little more than three hours in paid activities (3:18), with young women spending just under two hours (1:51). When it comes to unpaid work, young women were recorded as spending almost two and a half hours (2:21), whereas young men were found to spend just under one hour (0:59).

Graph 1.4. Average time spent on activities, population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Overall, young women indicated spending on average more than two and a half hours on learning activities (2:25), while young men reported spending two hours (2:02). Regarding personal care, young women were found to spend more than eleven and a half hours (11:42), whereas young men recorded spending a little over eleven hours (11:11).

In regard to free time, young women were documented as having a little more than five and a half hours daily (5:38), while young men indicated having almost an hour more (6:26).

When comparing data from the first and second surveys, young men were found to spend slightly less time on paid work in the first survey than in the second (3:10 in 2010; 3:18 in 2021), with young women almost half an hour less (1:27 in 2010; 1:51 in 2021). Young men were recorded as spending somewhat more time on unpaid work in the second survey than in the first (0:50 in 2010; 0:59 in 2021), while young women were shown to spend half an hour less on unpaid work in the second survey (2:49 in 2010; 2:21 in 2021).

Time spent studying was analysed only among the category of young people, and the data show that in the first survey they studied slightly less than in the second — both for young men (1:44 in 2010; 2:02 in 2021) and young women (2:15 in 2010; 2:25 in 2021).

On personal care, less time was indicated as spent in the first survey than in the second, both among young men (10:57 in 2010; 11:11 in 2021) and young women (11:24 in 2010; 11:42 in 2021).

Somewhat more free time was reported in the first survey for both young men (7:16 in 2010; 6:26 in 2021) and young women (6:02 in 2010; 5:38 in 2021).

Table 1.1. contains data for individuals aged 15–29 for all days of the week, across selected activities. The data are presented through three basic survey measures: average time, proportion of "doers," and the average time for "doers."

Already in the first activity, differences by gender are evident: young women were found to spend just under two hours on paid work (1:51), while young men were shown to spend more than three hours (3:18). According to the table, almost one in four young women (24%) and four in ten young men (39%) participated in paid work. On average, the young women engaged in paid activities spent a little more than seven and a half hours on them (7:36), while young men spent almost eight and a half hours (8:26).

On average, young women were documented as performing unpaid work for more than two hours (2:21), while young men were recorded as spending one full hour (0:59). Unpaid activities were performed by 86% of young women respondents and 62% of young men respondents.

Overall, the high participation of young women in these activities resulted in an increase in the average time spent by those who performed them — just under three hours (2:44). Young men who engaged in unpaid activities spent a little more than an hour and a half on them (1:35).

Table 1.1. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on basic activities and average time for doers, population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Paid work	1:51	3:18	24	39	7:36	8:26
Unpaid work	2:21	0:59	86	62	2:44	1:35
Study	2:25	2:02	44	36	5:29	5:42
Personal care	11:42	11:11	100	100	11:42	11:11
Free time	5:38	6:26	99	100	5:40	6:28
Other	0:00	0:02	3	7	0:18	0:31

Young women were found to spend on average nearly two and a half hours learning across all days (2:25), with young men spending approximately two hours (2:02). Almost every second girl (44%) and every third young man (36%) reported engaging in learning activities. As for the time spent on learning among those who indeed performed this activity, young women were shown to spend an average of five and a half hours (5:29), and young men slightly more (5:42).

All surveyed young people engaged in activities related to personal care and free time, seen in that there is no difference between the first and third measures of average time spent on these activities (Average time spent in the activities and Average time of those who performed the activities).

When comparing the data from the first and second surveys, both the average time spent in paid work and participation in paid work increased among young women, with the amount of time spent by those who performed these activities also increasing.

Regarding young men, a slight increase was recorded in the average time spent in paid activities compared to the first survey, but a decrease in participation. In other words, fewer young men reported engaging in paid activities in 2021 compared to 2010, but they spent more time in these activities.

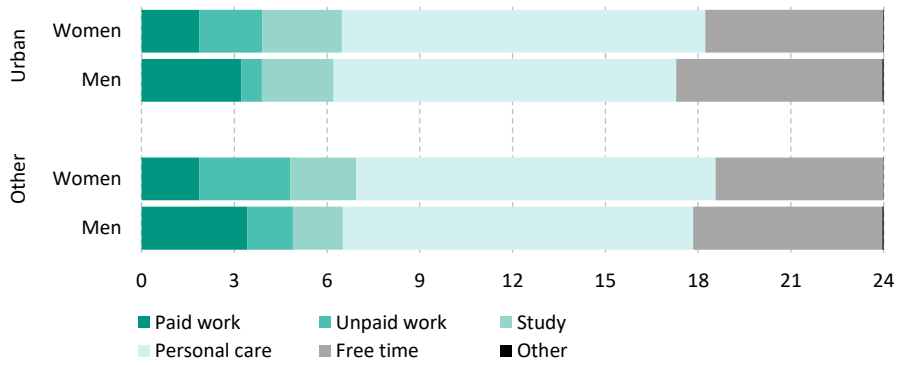
When it comes to the unpaid work of young women, slightly lower participation was registered in the first survey than in the second, with the average time spent on unpaid activities among those who performed them decreasing. On the other hand, while a lower rate of participation in unpaid work in the first survey was documented for young men than in the second, a slight increase was shown in the average time spent by those who performed these activities.

More detailed time use by the younger generation

Time Use Survey data provide opportunities to analyse populations according to the type of settlement in which persons live, whether they live alone or with other members of their household, and by level of education.

Graph 1.5. presents data on the average time that young people aged 15 to 29 were documented as spending on selected activities by type of settlement. Overall, young women recorded spending on average just under two hours in paid work, while the difference between young women from urban areas (1:51) and other settlements (1:52) being very small. Young men, in contrast, registered spending a little more than three hours on paid work in urban areas (3:13), and slightly more in other settlements (3:25). This small difference may be attributed to activities related to agriculture, which are classified as paid work.

Graph 1.5. Average time spent on activities, population aged 15–29, by type of settlement and by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Regarding unpaid activities, young women from urban areas indicated spending a little over two hours on unpaid work (2:02), against those from other settlements spending just under three hours (2:56). Young men from urban areas were documented as performing unpaid work for a little more than half an hour (0:39), whereas those from other settlements reported spending almost an hour and a half (1:28).

When it comes to learning activities, young women from urban areas were found to spend more than two and a half hours on them daily (2:35), while those from other settlements were seen to spend slightly less (2:08). Young men in urban areas reported a little over two hours on average engaged in these activities (2:19), with young men from other settlements spending a little more than an hour and a half (1:37). These data suggest that both young women and young men from urban areas are more engaged in studying, while young people from other settlements spend more time in unpaid work.

Regarding personal care, young women from urban areas indicated spending slightly more time daily(11:45) compared to those from other areas (11:36), while among young men the situation was reversed (urban 11:05, other 11:19). Young people from urban areas — both young women (5:45) and young men (6:40) — also reported having more free time than those from other settlements (young women 5:26, young men 6:07).

When comparing data from the first and second surveys, young women from urban areas were shown to work almost half an hour less in paid jobs in the first survey (1:24) than in the second (1:51). A similar pattern was observed among young women from other areas (1:32 in 2010; 1:52 in 2021).

Young men from urban areas were also recorded as working half an hour less in paid activities in the first survey than in the second (2:40 in 2010; 3:13 in 2021). However, young men from other settlements were seen to spend more than four hours in paid work in the first survey (4:04), while in the second just under three and a half hours (3:25).

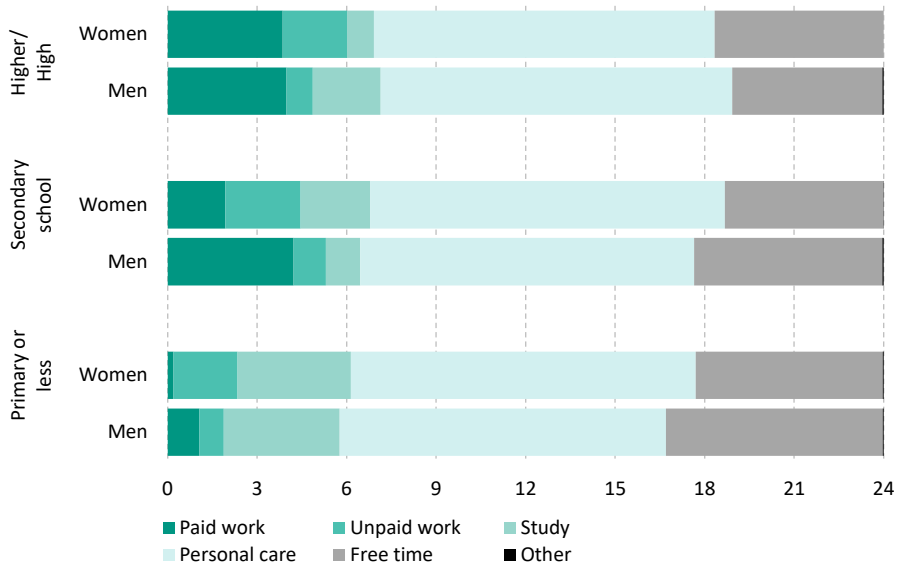
When looking at unpaid work, young women from urban areas reported spending about twenty minutes more on such tasks in the first survey than in the second (2:27 in 2010; 2:02 in 2021), with those from other areas spending half an hour more (3:29 in 2010; 2:56 in 2021).

Young men from urban settlements were documented as performing unpaid work two minutes longer in the first survey than in the second (0:41 in 2010; 0:39 in 2021), whereas those from other settlements were seen to spend about twenty minutes less in the first survey (1:04 in 2010; 1:28 in 2021).

Among young people with the highest level of education, young men reported spending almost four hours in paid work (3:59), and young women only slightly less (3:51). Among those with secondary education, young men were shown to spend a little more than four hours on paid work (4:13), while young women were seen to spend twice as little — just under two hours (1:55).

Those with the lowest level of education were documented as spending the least amount of time in paid work — one hour for young men (1:03) and about ten minutes for young women (0:11).

Graph 1.6. Average time spent on activities, population aged 15–29, by highest completed level of education and sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



For unpaid work, the highest participation was recorded among young women with secondary education, who indicated spending two and a half hours on such activities (2:31), while young man Reported spending a little over one hour (1:04). Young women with higher education (2:09) and those with lower education (2:08) were documented as spending slightly less time on unpaid work than young women with secondary education, whereas the indicated differences among young men were smaller (higher education 0:52; primary or lower 0:49, compared with secondary 1:04).

As expected given the age group being analyzed, the level of education appears to be closely connected to learning activities, which were recorded in the highest degree among those with primary or lower education, with young men learning for almost four hours (3:53), and young women slightly less (3:47). On the other hand, surveyed young men with secondary education reported being engaged in learning a little more than one hour daily (1:08), against young women learning more than two hours (2:19). In examining individuals with higher education, the pattern of data was reversed, with young men in this category recorded as learning for more than two hours (2:16) and young women just under one hour (0:54).

As for time spent on personal care, the amount young men devote to these activities appears to increase with their level of education (primary/lower: 10:55; secondary: 11:12; higher: 11:47). Among young women, this pattern does not seem to fully apply, as those with the highest level of education were shown to deviate from this trend (primary/lower: 11:33; secondary: 11:53; higher: 11:24).

Young men with the lowest level of education indicated having the most free time—more than seven hours (7:16), with the amount of free time observed to decrease as education increases (secondary: 6:18; higher: 5:01). Young women, in contrast, were documented as having about an hour less free time than young men for those with lower (6:15) or secondary education (5:19). Young women with the highest level of education, however, reported having more free time than both young women with secondary education and young men with the highest level of education (5:40).

When comparing paid work between the first and the second survey, it can be seen that in the first survey both young women and young men respondents with higher levels of education spent more time in paid activities. In the second survey, this pattern still applied to young women, but not to young men with the highest level of education, who recorded slightly less time than young men with secondary education.

When comparing unpaid work, in data from both the first and the second survey, both young women and young men showed an increase in time spent from the lowest to secondary education levels, followed by a slight decrease at the highest level of education.

Table 1.2 contains data on the average time spent in various travel-related activities, the share of the population participating in those activities, and the average time spent, by gender and the type of transport used.

According to the table, young women were seen to spend on average one hour walking (0:55), with seven out of ten young women reporting engaging in walking, on average spending slightly more than one hour on this activity in 2021 (1:18). Young men, on average, were shown to spend almost twenty minutes less walking (0:36) than young women, with six out of ten surveyed young men engaging in walking, and the average time among them just over an hour (1:01).

Table 1.2. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on travel activities and average time for doers: population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Travelling on foot	0:55	0:36	70	59	1:18	1:01
Travelling by public transport	0:12	0:12	15	18	1:20	1:09
Travelling by passenger car	0:19	0:24	25	37	1:15	1:06
Travelling by bicycle	0:02	0:05	4	10	1:07	0:55
Other or unspecified private transport mode	0:01	0:03	1	6	1:38	1:00
Travel total	1:31	1:23	85	87	1:47	1:35

In regard to young women's use of public transportation, the data show that they spent about ten minutes on this activity (0:12). Fifteen percent indicated using public transport, averaging slightly more than one hour (1:20) among them. Young men were seen to spend the same average amount of time using public transport (0:12). Eighteen percent of them used such transport, on average spending a little more than one hour doing so (1:09).

In traveling by passenger car, young women indicated spending on average about twenty minutes (0:19), with one in four young women (25%) traveling this way. Those who did report engaging in this activity indicated spending an average more than one hour (1:15) riding in a passenger car daily. Young men were documented as spending five minutes more on average than young women traveling by car (0:24), with more than a third of them (37%) doing so, these spending on average a little more than an hour (1:06).

Data from the first survey show that total travel time for young women respondents at that time was somewhat higher (1:44), as was their participation rate (94%) and the average time among those who travelled (1:50).

For young men, the first survey also recorded higher values for average travel time (1:47), higher participation (95%), and the average time among those who travelled (1:53).

When comparing data from the first and the second survey, participation in walking was ten percentage points higher among young women in the first survey than in 2021, while young men were documented as both walking longer and having a slightly higher participation rate in the first survey than in 2021.

Regarding public transportation, almost every third young woman and nearly every fourth young man reported using public transport in the first survey, while in the second survey this number decreased to almost every seventh girl and every sixth young man.

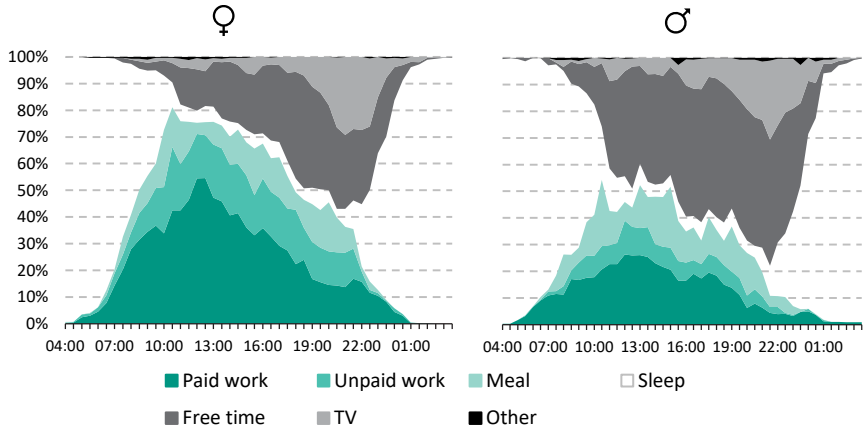
When comparing travel by passenger car, there were no significant differences between the two surveys.

Young people and their daily rhythm

The daily rhythm represents a virtual overview of the daily activities of young people in the Republic of Serbia over a 24-hour period. It shows how the selected activities of a population group are distributed at different times of the day. In the time diaries, respondents recorded the beginning and the end of each activity or episode, which is how information was obtained regarding which activities were performed and when during the day.

The recorded information on activities and their time duration was transferred onto a graph, which illustrates the schedule of activities at different times of the day. The graphical representation begins at 4:00 when the vast majority of the population is asleep.

Tempogram 1.1. Distribution of time spent on activities during the day - weekdays: population aged 15–29, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



On the horizontal axis, the 24 hours of the day are marked, starting from four o'clock in the morning. The vertical axis ranges from 0 to 100 percent and shows participation, i.e. the percentage of the population engaged in each individual activity throughout the 24 hour period.

The time-use charts (tempograms) that illustrate the daily rhythm present seven categories of activities: Paid Work, Unpaid Work, Meals, Sleep, Free Time, TV, and Other. Each coloured area in the chart represents one activity category. For the purpose of these charts, Paid work and study were merged into a single category — paid work. Within free time, watching TV is shown distinctly.

These tempograms indicate how the population of the Republic of Serbia, both female and male, aged 15 to 29, performs daily activities on weekdays over a 24-hour period. The individual activities of each gender can also be visually compared.

These tempograms clearly show the division between paid and unpaid work among genders. During the day, from 06:00 to 18:30, the participation of young men in paid work was documented as higher than that of young women, ranging from four to fifteen percentage points. However, during the evening hours, young women — especially between 20:00 and 00:00 — demonstrated a participation that is four to eight percentage points higher than that of young men, which may be linked to activities in sectors such as retail, healthcare, etc.

On weekdays, the period with the highest observed participation of young men in paid work ranges was from 10:30 to 15:00, at rates of between 48% and 63%, while for young women the period from 12:00 to 13:00 was most prominent, at rates between 47% and 55%.

Throughout the entire day, a higher percentage of young women than young men was observed as engaging in unpaid work — from early morning until late in the evening — with differences reaching up to 16 percentage points in favour of young women. Young men were recorded as exceeding young women in unpaid activities only after 22:30 (by 0.2–1.2 percentage points)

When looking at meal-taking times among young men and young women, the data show that their patterns alternate throughout the day. Notably, however, young men exhibited a higher participation rate in the period from 21:00 until the early morning hours on working days.

Regarding sleep, young women were observed to have higher participation both during the night and during the day, with young men observed as surpassing young women only between 10:00 and 11:30. It is also worth noting that young women appeared to engage in more paid work during evening hours according to the survey.

Interestingly, it was documented that every twentieth boy and every twentieth girl in the Republic of Serbia was asleep at noon on weekdays.

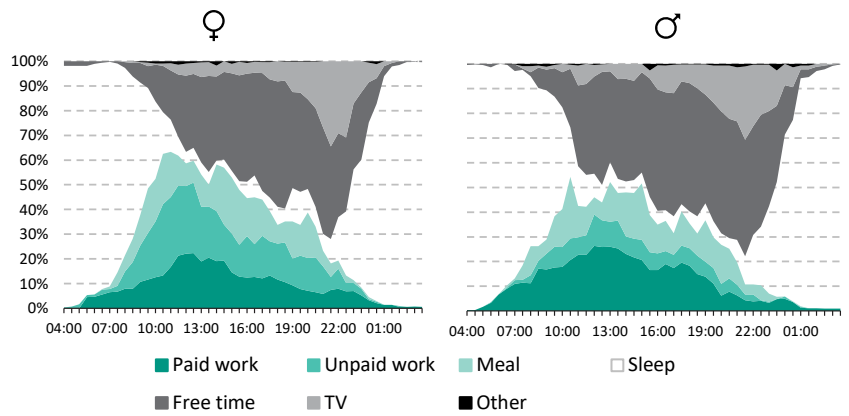
When it comes to free time, young men recorded higher participation levels throughout the entire day, with young women recording higher rates than young men in only five ten-minute intervals, and then only by just one to two percentage points. In this context, the largest differences in favour of young men was found to occur in the evening hours, from 20:30 to 22:00, reaching about 13 to 15 percentage points.

Throughout the day, the percentage of young women and young men was seen to alternate in regard to watching TV, with differences of up to plus or minus five percentage points.

When comparing data from 2010 with those from 2021, time spent on paid work was recorded as shorter in the first survey for both young women and young men, with the difference being greater for young women. Regarding unpaid work, young women were shown to spend more time on such activities in 2010, while young men seen to spend slightly less time on them in the same year.

The following tempograms present data demonstrating how young women and men in the Republic of Serbia, aged 15 to 29, carry out daily activities on weekend days.

Tempogram 1.2. Distribution of time spent on activities during the day - weekends: population aged 15–29, by sex, weekend days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



On weekends, young men appear to start earlier and do paid work more often than young women, with their highest participation, ranging between 20% and 26%, documented in the period from 10:30 to 15:30. The highest participation of young women, between 20% and 23%, was observed in the interval from 11:30 to 14:00.

When it comes to unpaid work, between 20% and 29% of young women were recorded as performing unpaid labour between 10:00 and 14:00, while among young men, between 10% and 13% were documented as engaging in unpaid work between 12:00 and 14:00.

Interestingly, the date indicate that every tenth young man, as well as every twentieth young woman in the Republic of Serbia, is asleep at noon on weekend days.

On weekends, food consumption among young women was recorded as beginning at 7:30 and continuing until 21:30, with a steady participation rate of 5% or more. Among young men, the recorded period was between 7:30 and 22:30, also at rates of around 5% or higher.

Regarding sleep, every second young woman was indicated to be awake by 9:00 and to go to bed at 23:30, while every second young man observed as awake by 9:30 and as going to bed at 00:00.

Throughout the day and night during weekends, young women exhibited higher participation rates in leisure activities (more than 50%) only between 18:30 and 19:00, with young men exhibiting prominence in this regard during all other periods, sometimes by as much as 15 percentage points. When it comes to watching TV, young women and young men were seen to alternate in taking slight leads in percentage share across the day.

Comparing data for young people from the first and second surveys, it is evident that on weekend days in 2010 both young women and young men spent less time on paid and unpaid work. As for leisure activities, young women were documented as spending slightly less time engaged in free time in the first survey, while young men were observed to spend more time then in comparison to 2021.

The younger generation and paid and unpaid work

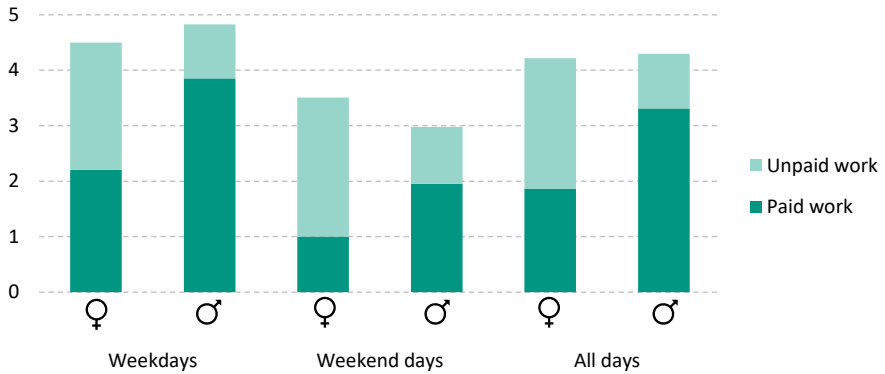
The majority of people perform an everyday activity that could be classified as productive work. For this particular segment of analysis, paid and unpaid work were merged into another category, labelled “total work”. Activities performed at home, such as cooking, cleaning, washing the dishes, etc., were also categorised as a form of productive work.

Graph 1.7. shows data on how many hours young men and women spend in total work. This is divided into paid and unpaid work, according to time spent on weekdays, weekend days, or all days.

In 2021, on weekdays, young women indicated spending a little over two hours on paid and unpaid work (2:12 and 2:17), with young men indicating spending almost four hours on paid work and about one hour on unpaid work (3:51 and 0:58). Overall, young women were observed as working about twenty minutes less than young men in total, but it is important to emphasize that the documented ratio of paid to unpaid work among young women was 49 to 51%, whereas among young men it was 80 to 20%.

On weekend days, young women were seen to spend three and a half hours on total work, of which one hour was paid work and two and a half times more unpaid work (0:59 and 2:30). Young men were shown to spend three hours on total work, consisting of two hours of paid work and one hour of unpaid work (1:57 and 1:01). The recorded ratio of paid to unpaid work on weekend days was 29 to 71% for young women and 66 to 34% for young men.

Graph 1.7. Average time spent on total work: population aged 15–29, by sex, weekdays, weekends, and all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When looking at the data for all days, both young women and young men appear to spend, on average, a little more than four hours per day engaged in some form of work (4:12 for young women and 4:17 for young men). However, the documented ratio of paid to unpaid work was again less favourable for young women (44 to 56%) compared to young men (77 to 23%).

When comparing total work on weekdays in 2010 with data from 2021, it becomes evident that in the first survey young women worked almost the same amount of time as young men. However, the distribution of paid and unpaid work shifted for young women: in 2010, they were shown to spend one third of their work time on paid tasks, whereas in 2021 they were shown to spend nearly half, with increased time spent on paid work and reduced time devoted to unpaid work.

On weekend days, young women in both 2010 and 2021 were found to spend nearly the same amount of time on total work — more than three and a half hours. Young men, however, were documented as spending half an hour less on total work in 2010 compared to 2021.

According to the data from the first survey, on all days, young women were observed as spending slightly more than four hours in total work, which was more than the time for young men, whose indicated time was four hours.

The documented ratio of paid to unpaid work for young women changed between 2010 and 2021: from an observed one third spent on paid work and two thirds on unpaid work in 2010, to a recorded 44% on paid work and 56% on unpaid work in 2021.

For young men, the documented ratio shifted from four fifths spent on paid work and one fifth on unpaid work in 2010, to nearly three quarters on paid work and one quarter on unpaid work in 2021.

Table 1.3 contains data on three basic measures related to paid and unpaid work activities by gender. The data are presented for all days combined, as well as separately for weekdays and weekend days.

When it comes to average time spent, clear gender differences can be observed. Across all days, young women were documented as spending almost two hours on paid work on average (1:51), with young men documented as spending slightly more than three hours (3:18). For unpaid work, young women were recorded as spending more than two hours (2:21), with young men recorded as spending one hour (0:59).

Every fourth girl was found to engage in paid work (24%), and among those who were, the average recorded time spent was seven and a half hours (7:36). Young men exhibited a somewhat higher participation rate in paid work (39%), with those who did so at an average duration of eight and a half hours (8:26).

When it comes to unpaid work, young women were shown to spend on average a little less than two and a half hours performing unpaid, household tasks (2:21), while young men were seen to spend just under on hour (0:59). More than four fifths of young women reported being engaged in unpaid work activities (86%), compared to slightly less than two thirds of young men (62%). Among those who indicated performing unpaid tasks, the documented average time spent was slightly under three hours for young women (2:44) and an hour and a half for young men (1:35).

Table 1.3. Average time, the proportion of doers who spent time on activities of paid and unpaid work and the average time for doers: population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

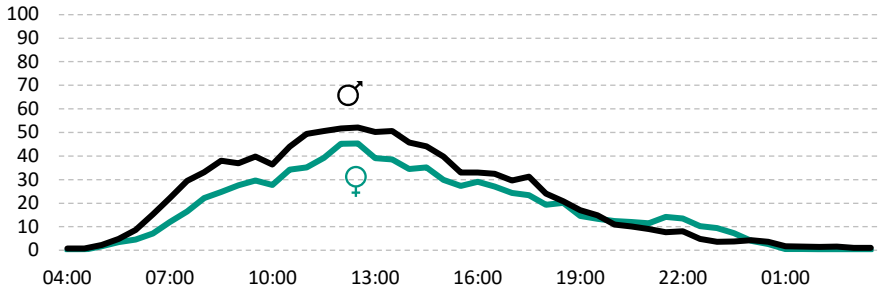
	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Paid work	1:51	3:18	24	39	7:36	8:26
Unpaid work	2:21	0:59	86	62	2:44	1:35

When comparing data from the two surveys, conducted in 2010 and 2021, young women in 2010 were documented as spending half an hour less on paid work, with young men spending about ten minutes less. For unpaid work, young women were seen to spend half an hour more in the first survey but young men around ten minutes less.

The documented participation rate in paid work was slightly lower for young women in 2010, while slightly higher for young men. Overall, among those who reported being engaged in paid activities, young women worked almost one school class less in 2010 and young men worked nearly a full hour less.

Graph 1.8. shows data on the times of day when young people performed paid work and the extent of their participation in paid activities in the Republic of Serbia in 2021. The data indicate that young men had higher rates of participation than young women across the day, with the exception of the evening hours from 20:00 to 24:00, when young women — likely due to employment in sectors such as retail, healthcare, and similar fields — displayed have higher participation rates than young men, by up to seven percentage points.

Graph 1.8. Paid work: population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)

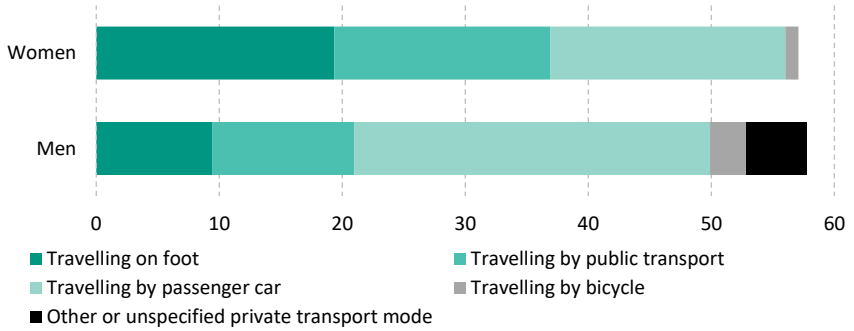


The largest documented disparity in the percentage of young men and young women engaged in paid work was seen to occur at 11:00, with young men having a 14 percentage point advantage over young women. In the period from 11:00 to 14:00, almost every second young man recorded some form of paid activity, as did two out of five young women.

A comparison of the data from the first and second surveys shows that the participation in paid work of both young men and young women across all days was slightly lower than that recorded in the second survey.

This survey also provides insight into how much time individuals and their corresponding populations spend commuting to and from work on weekdays, as well as which modes of transportation they use.

Graph 1.9. Average time spent in travel to and from work: population aged 15–29, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (minutes)



The graph shows that both young women (0:57) and young men (0:58) who reported commuting to and from paid work engagements on weekdays spent on average just under one hour doing so, but differences were observed in the modes of transportation used. Girls spend one third of their commuting time walking (34%) to and from work (0:19) or traveling by passenger car (0:19). Slightly fewer (31%) indicated using public transportation (0:17), while the smallest share (2%) reported using a bicycle (0:01).

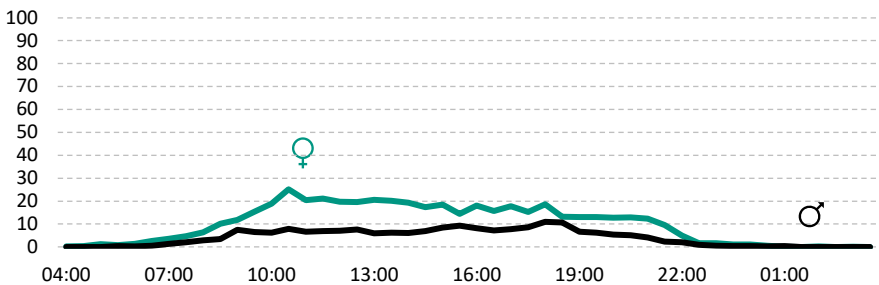
On the other hand, every second young man (50%) was found to use a passenger car to get to paid work on weekdays (0:28), while one in five (20%) reported using public transportation (0:11). A smaller share (16%) was documented as walking (0:09), using other means of transportation (9%, 0:04), or riding a bicycle (5%, 0:02). The category "other or unspecified private transport mode" includes motorcycles, motorboats, or other private vehicles.

When comparing data from the first and second surveys, it can be seen that in 2010 young women recorded spending slightly more time using public transportation, with walking ranking second, while bicycles appeared to be very rarely used as a means of transportation.

As for young men, in 2010 they had reported most frequently using passenger cars, followed by public transportation, with walking ranking third.

Regarding unpaid work and the participation of young people, Graph 1.10 shows that throughout the entire day young women were observed to have higher degrees of participation than young men. Interestingly, not a single young woman indicated performing any unpaid work activity at three specific time points (1:30, 2:30, and 3:30), while no young man recorded any unpaid work activities between 1:30 and 5:30.

Graph 1.10. Unpaid work: population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



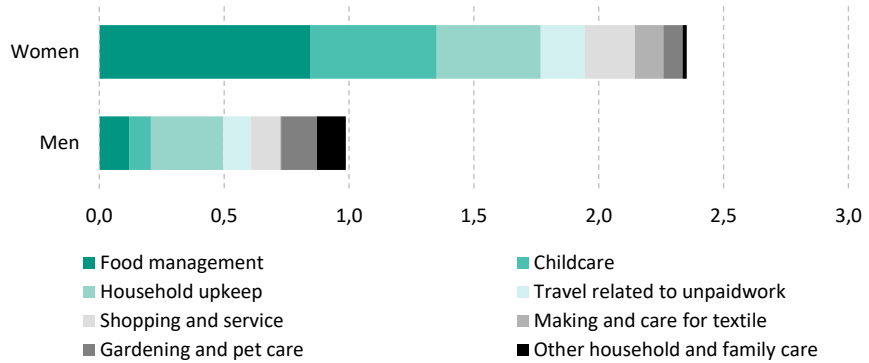
Between 20 and 25% of young women aged 15 to 29 were observed to engage in unpaid work in the period from 10:30 to 14:00, while it was between 9:00 and 19:00, with minor fluctuations, that young men were seen to have their highest rates of participation in these activities — between seven and 11%.

According to the data, the gender disparity in the prevalence of unpaid work throughout the day remained visible in the afternoon and evening hours as well, with documented participation in unpaid work among young women falling below 13% only at 20:00. The largest gap in the recorded participation in unpaid work between young women and young men was shown to occur at 10:30, amounting to 17 percentage points in favour of young women.

When comparing all-day data from the first and second surveys, both show higher participation of young women in unpaid activities. In the first survey, young women displayed slightly higher participation with this also observed as occurring over a longer time span, while young men appeared to maintain a similar level of participation in 2021 as they did in 2010; however, in 2010 the documented period during which they performed these activities was shorter than in 2021.

These data clearly indicate that, young women spend more time than young men performing unpaid work throughout the day.

Graph 1.11. Average time spent on unpaid activities: two-digit level of activities, population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Graph 1.11. presents aggregated data on unpaid work performed by young women and men on all days, as well as the amount of time they spent on these activities, with unpaid activities shown at the second level of activity.

In regard to total unpaid activities, young women indicated spending on average just under two and a half hours per day on them (2:21), while young men recorded spending one hour (0:59).

By category, young women were observed to spend the most time on food management (0:50), followed by childcare (0:30) and household upkeep (0:25). Among young men respondents, the greatest amount of time was spent on household maintenance (0:17). Young men were seen to spend, on average, seven times less time than young women on food management (0:07), and six times less on childcare (0:05).

The only two activities in which the surveyed young men spent more time than the surveyed young women were gardening and pet care (0:08) and other household and family care (0:06), with these young women spending twice as little time on gardening and pet care (0:04), and almost no time on other household and family care activities (0:01).

When comparing data from 2010 and 2021, young women in the first survey were documented as spending almost three hours per day on unpaid work, i.e. half an hour longer than in the second survey. In both surveys young men recorded spending about one hour on unpaid work.

The younger generation and personal care

Personal care covers the following activities: sleeping, meals, personal hygiene, dressing, makeup, shaving, and other personal routines - activities that are performed daily with regularity.

The data in Table 1.4. indicate that almost half of the day is spent on personal needs, with young women respondents spending just under 12 hours on them (11:42) and young men about half an hour less (11:11).

Table 1.4. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on personal care activities and average time for doers: activity levels 1 and 2, population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Personal care	11:42	11:11	100	100	11:42	11:11
Sleep	8:35	8:26	100	100	8:35	8:26
Eating	1:48	1:44	99	100	1:49	1:44
Drinking coffee	0:25	0:19	54	41	0:46	0:48
Other personal care	1:18	1:00	99	99	1:19	1:01

On average, young women were found to sleep about ten minutes longer than young men (8:35 compared to 8:26). The totals of both groups imply that young people spend a little more than one third of the day sleeping. In terms of consuming food and beverages, young people were observed to spend on average more than an hour and a half (1:48 for young women and 1:44 for young men). In all three of these activities — personal care, sleeping, and consuming food and beverages — every surveyed individual reported participation.

Since the Time Use Survey in the Republic of Serbia allowed for the inclusion of some specific national activity, the national habit of drinking coffee was added.

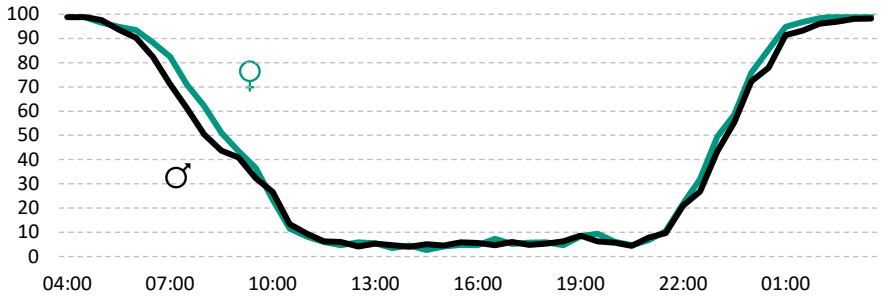
Data from 2021 suggest that young women spend on average 25 minutes per day drinking coffee and that young men spend slightly less — 19 minutes. Interestingly, 13% more young women than young men reported engaging in this activity (54% versus 41%), thought the time spent drinking coffee among young people was not seen to vary significantly by gender (0:46 for young women and 0:48 for young men).

Comparing the results of the first and second surveys, young women were observed as spending about twenty minutes less on personal needs in 2010 than in 2021, while young men were seen to spend around fifteen minutes less. It should be noted that the fieldwork period for the 2021–2022 survey took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the category of sleep also included time spent in bed due to illness.

Slightly smaller differences were reported in 2010 by both young women and men regarding the activity of consuming food and beverages, but the overall trend remained the same — lower values of time spent in this activity were recorded in the first survey.

Graph 1.12. shows the percentage of young men and women who at various times during the 24-hour period recorded spending time sleeping or taking care of personal hygiene.

Graph 1.12. Sleep and personal hygiene: population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



At 04:00, the recording of activities in the diaries began. More than 90% of young women and young men reported being sleep or engaging in personal hygiene activities between 01:00 and 06:30, indicating that the vast majority were asleep in this interval.

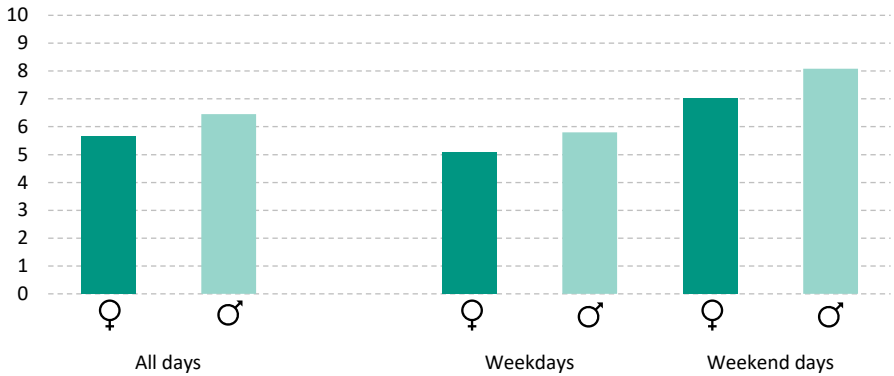
The most pronounced differences in sleep and personal hygiene activity between young women and men were documented as occurring between 6:30 and 9:00, with up to 11 percent more young women reporting these activities during this time.

Comparing the data from both the first and second surveys, young women were observed as going to bed earlier in the evening to a higher percentage than young men in 2021.

The younger generation and free time

Free time is regarded as time without direct obligations, during which an individual decides whether to spend it leisurely, whether watching TV, listening to radio programs, doing sports, going to the cinema, spending time with friends, or other such activities.

Graph 1.13. Average time spent on free activities: population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, weekdays and weekends, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In 2021, young women reported on average spending a little more than five and a half hours (5:38) on leisure activities on all days, while young men reported spending an hour more – six and a half hours (6:26).

When looking only at weekdays, young women were seen to spend a little more than five hours on such activities (5:05), and young men just under six hours (5:47).

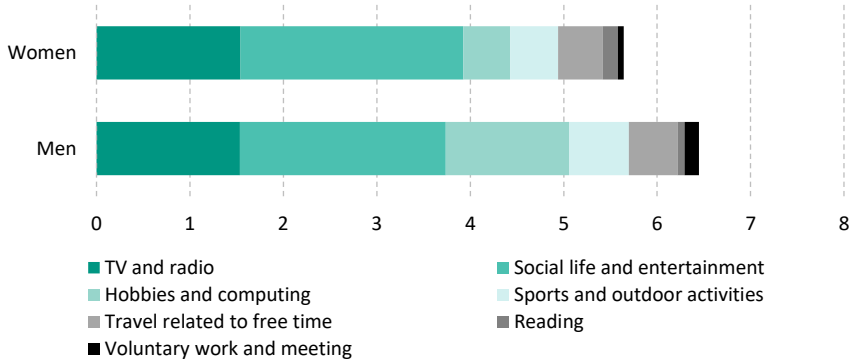
During weekends, young women were documented as spending two hours more on leisure activities than on weekdays (7:01), while young men were found to spend more than two hours more compared to weekdays (8:04).

Young women were observed to spend less time on leisure activities than young men, with the largest differences in leisure time documented on non-working days, when young women indicated having one hour less leisure time than young men.

Comparing leisure time from the first and the second survey for all days, it can be seen that young women respondents in 2010 spent half an hour more on leisure activities than in the repeated survey conducted in 2021, while young men respondents spent one hour more.

Graph 1.14. presents individual leisure activity (activity code levels 1 and 2), showing that, for total free time, surveyed young men spent one hour more on leisure activities than surveyed young women.

Graph 1.14. Average time spent on free activities: activity levels 1 and 2, population aged 15–29, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Among all featured activities, the most common observed for young women was social life and entertainment, in which they indicated spending on average more than two hours per day across all days (2:23), while young men recorded spending slightly less in this regard (2:12). The next most common activity documented for both young women and men was watching TV and listening to radio programs, with both groups seen to spend the same amount of time doing so (young women 1:32, young men 1:32). The third most frequent activity reported by young women was sports and outdoor activities (0:30), while for young men it was hobbies and computer-related activities (1:19).

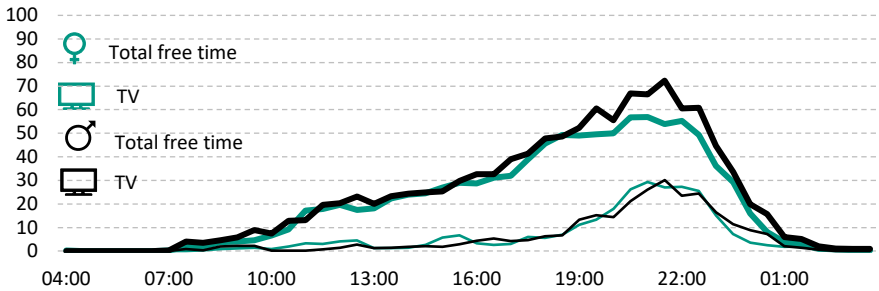
According to the 2021 data, young women respondents spent 11 minutes more than young men respondents on social life and entertainment activities, and five minutes more on reading.

Comparing the 2010 and 2021 data, the first survey showed that watching TV and listening to radio programs was the most common leisure activity, followed by social life and entertainment activities. In 2021, these two activities switched places.

Graph 1.15. contains data on the percentage of young women and men who indicated spending their time on leisure activities during weekdays, as well as the distinct percentage of those who recorded watching TV programs, and at what time of day these activities took place. The data refers to the days from Monday to Friday, and they show when young people use their free time during the weekdays.

The percentage of young women and men indicating time spent on leisure activities on weekdays tended to increase gradually across the day.

Graph 1.15. Total free time and watching TV: population aged 15–29, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



Every second young man reported engaging in leisure activities on weekdays between 19:00 and 23:00, while every second young woman reported engaging in these activities during a slightly shorter interval – from 20:30 to 22:00.

Every fifth young woman and every fifth young man was found to watch TV programs between 20:30 and 23:00.

Comparing the first and the second survey, in the first survey every second young man was seen to begin engaging in leisure activities earlier and finish later than in the second survey, while young women were observed to start slightly earlier but finish at about the same time as in 2021.

The younger generation and health

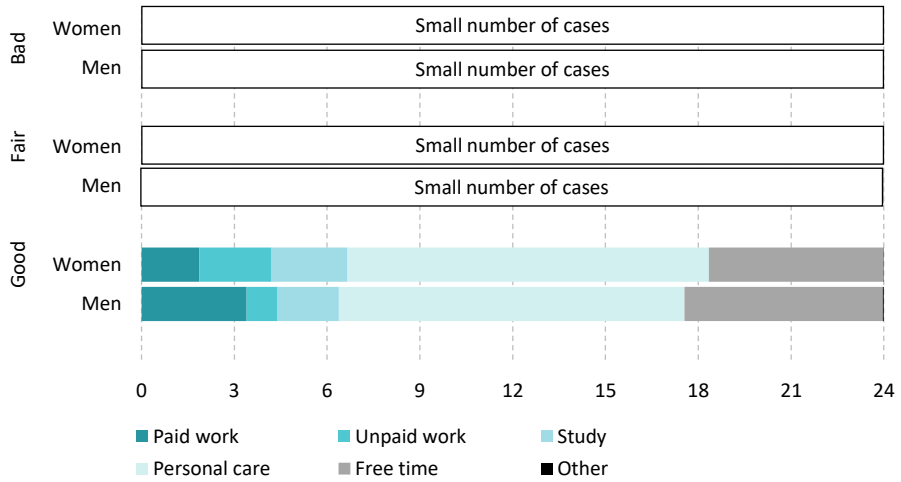
One of the questions in the individual questionnaire in the Time Use Survey was a personal evaluation of the individual's general state of health. For the purpose of this analysis the responses 'very good' and 'good' were merged into the category 'a good state of health' and bad and very bad into 'a bad state of health'.

In Graph 1.16. the data on the average time spent on basic activities are presented according to self-assessed health status categorized as 'good,' 'medium,' and 'bad'.

The graph indicates that the amount of time spent on paid or unpaid work largely depends on young people's self-assessed health status.

In the 2021 Time Use Survey, only a relatively small number of both young women and young men reported their health status as bad or medium, and therefore no data for them are presented in Graph 1.16.

Graph 1.16. Average time spent on activities: population aged 15–29, by self-declared health status and sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



The data indicates a connection between self-assessed health status and the performance of paid work. Specifically, among the surveyed young people who reported being in good health, young women were observed as spending just under two hours (1:52) in paid work, with young men spending just under three and a half hours (3:23).

When unpaid work among the younger generation is considered, young women who rated their health status as good spent more than two hours (2:20) on unpaid work, and young men about one hour (0:59).

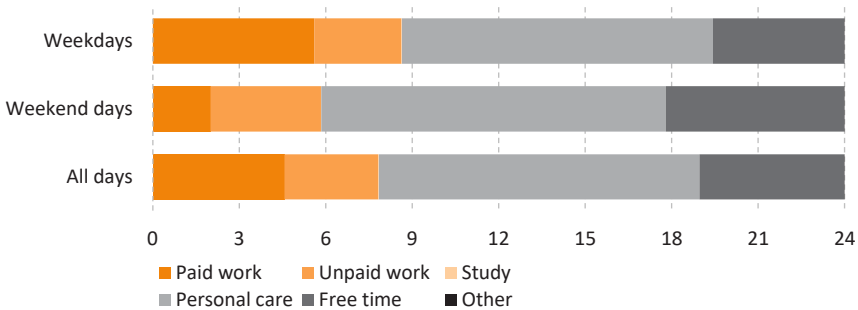
It was deemed that a comparison of data from 2010 and 2021 was possible only for young people who reported being in good health. In regard to paid work engagement of young women from the first and second surveys, the time spent in paid work was found to be slightly longer according to the 2021 data, with the time spent in unpaid work somewhat shorter. Among young men, the recorded time spent doing paid work was also slightly longer in the second survey, with the reported time spent performing unpaid work virtually unchanged.

HOW THE MIDDLE-AGED GENERATION USE THEIR TIME IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA?

In this chapter will be presented the middle-aged generation and their activities, exhibiting how middle-aged people spend their time during the day and at night.

Graph 2.1. shows data for the selected activities on which people aged 30 to 64 were documented as spending their time for weekdays, weekend days and for all days.

Graph 2.1. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, weekdays, weekend days and all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Based on the survey data, middle-aged individuals were found to spend more than five and a half hours (5:35) on paid work during weekdays, and on weekends two hours (2:00), resulting in an overall daily average of four and a half hours (4:34).

In regard to unpaid work, middle-aged people were observed to spending on average more than three hours (3:15), with the difference between weekdays (3:01) and weekends (3:49) amounting to more than the duration of a school class.

As expected, very little time was indicated as spent on learning activities on average (0:01). For personal care activities, the middle-aged population was documented as spending a little more than eleven hours (11:06) across all days, doing so for more than an hour longer during weekends (11:57) compared to weekdays (10:46).

Regarding free time, around five hours per day on average (5:01) was recorded, with weekends showing a little more than six hours (6:10) and weekdays a little more than four and a half hours (4:33).

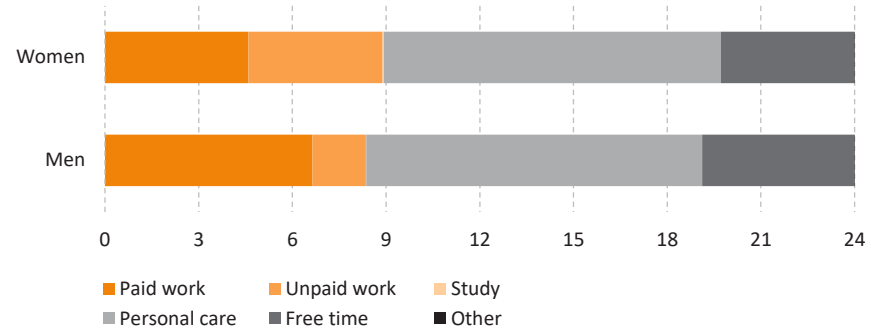
When comparing data from the two surveys conducted, considering all days, in 2021 more than half an hour more was spent by respondents on paid work than in 2010 (3:52 in 2010; 4:34 in 2021), while unpaid work was found to have decreased by about the duration of a school class less in the 2021 survey (4:00 in 2010; 3:15 in 2021).

Within personal care activities, the documented time spent on these activities was also slightly longer in 2021 (10:47 in 2010; 11:06 in 2021), while time spent on leisure-time activity was found to be somewhat shorter compared to the first survey (5:17 in 2010; 5:01 in 2021).

How people aged 30 to 64 spend their time?

Graph 2.2. presents data on the average time spent on the six main activities covered by the survey during weekdays, by respondents' gender. The data indicate that middle-aged women spend about four and a half hours (4:35) on paid work and that men spend two hours more (6:38). Women were seen to spend more than four hours on unpaid work (4:18), whereas men were found to spend on average just under two hours on unpaid work (1:42).

Graph 2.2. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In regard to personal care activities, both women (10:47) and men (10:45) indicated spending just under eleven hours per day. Men reported having almost five hours of leisure time (4:51) on weekdays, with women reporting spent slightly less (4:16).

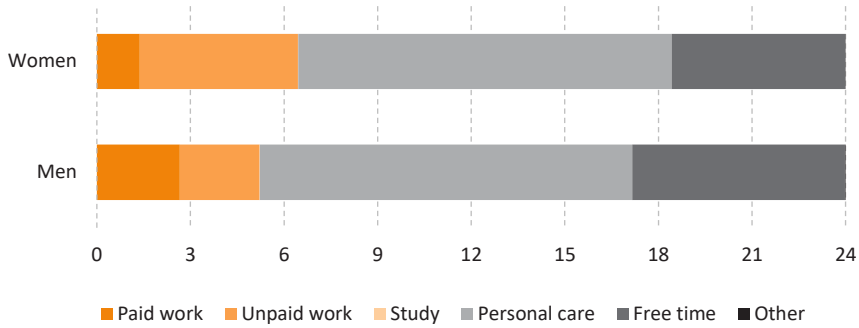
Comparing data from the first and the second survey, the documented time that middle-aged men spent on paid work increased from more than five hours in the first survey (5:40) to one hour longer in the second survey (6:38), with a similar increase also the case for women (3:35 in 2010; 4:35 in 2021).

As for unpaid work, women exhibited a more than one hour decrease from five and a half hours in the first survey (5:26) to 4:18, in the second survey , while men registered a decrease of almost one school class less (2:20 in 2010; 1:42 in 2021).

When personal care activities are compared across the two surveys, the data show that both women respondents (10:34 in 2010; 10:47 in 2021) and men respondents (10:28 in 2010; 10:45 in 2021) spent slightly more time on these activities in the second survey.

In terms of overall free time, men indicating having half an hour more in the first survey (5:27 in 2010; 4:51 in 2021), while women recorded only five minutes more in 2010 than in 2021 (4:21 in 2010; 4:16 in 2021).

Graph 2.3. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekend days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When comparing paid work activities of the middle-aged population during weekends from both surveys, men were seen to spend about ten minutes more on paid work in the first survey than in 2021 (2:51 in 2010; 2:39 in 2021), while women reporting almost the same time (1:24 in 2010; 1:22 in 2021).

Unpaid work among middle-aged women was documented as more than five and a half hours daily in the first survey and almost half an hour less in the second survey (5:34 in 2010; 5:04 in 2021), whereas men were observed as spending nearly the same amount of time on unpaid work (2:29 in 2010; 2:33 in 2021).

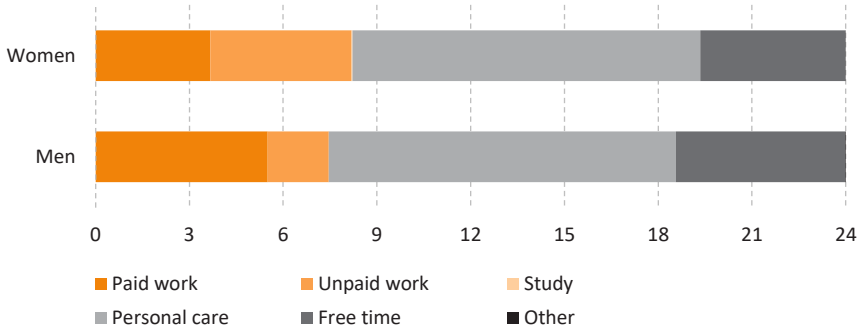
On personal care activities, both men (11:30 in 2010; 11:56 in 2021) and women (11:22 in 2010; 11:57 in 2021) reported spending about half an hour less time in the first survey than in the 2021 survey.

As regards free time during weekends, men indicated having around fifteen minutes more leisure time in the first survey than in the second one (7:05 in 2010; 6:48 in 2021), while women exhibiting the same time in both surveys (5:33 in 2010; 5:33 in 2021).

Graph 2.4. presents data on time use among persons aged 30–64, by gender, referring to all days, i.e., both weekdays and weekends. According to the survey data, men were found to spend on average five and a half hours on paid activities (5:30), while women were seen to spend a little more than three and a half hours (3:40).

In regard to unpaid work, women were observed to spend on average of four and a half hours per day on unpaid activities across all days (4:31), more than twice as long as the time recorded for men (1:57).

Graph 2.4. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When observing the documented time spent on personal care activities, men registered about eleven hours on such activities (11:05), with women recording a negligible advantage (11:07).

Regarding leisure-time, men indicated having around five and a half hours on average (5:24), and women one hour less (4:38).

When comparing data from 2010 and 2021, middle-aged men were seen to spend half an hour less on paid work in the first survey than in 2021 (4:52 in 2010; 5:30 in 2021), while women were found to spend almost the duration of one school class period shorter in the earlier period (2:57 in 2010; 3:40 in 2021). The increase in the documented time women spent on paid work in 2021 compared to 2010 was likely influenced by the pandemic circumstances, due to greater involvement of women in healthcare, care services, trade, and similar sectors.

In regard to unpaid work, women were found to spend one hour more engaged in such activity in the first survey than in the second one (5:29 in 2010; 4:31 in 2021), while men were seen to spend half an hour more at the time of the first survey (2:22 in 2010; 1:57 in 2021).

In comparing personal care activities, the differences documented between genders were negligible in both the first and the second survey (women: 10:48 in 2010; 11:07 in 2021; men: 10:45 in 2010; 11:05 in 2021), that is, about fifteen minutes more in the later survey, respectively. These results could be associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, as time spent resting due to illness, visiting doctors, vaccinations, and similar activities can be classified as personal care activities.

Regarding free time, men reporting having just under six hours in the first survey, and half an hour less in the repeated one (5:55 in 2010; 5:24 in 2021), while women indicated having a similar amount of time for leisure activities in both surveys (4:42 in 2010; 4:38 in 2021).

Table 2.1. presents data on selected activities for persons aged 30–64, for all days, by gender.

The middle-aged population was documented to spend one third of the day engaged in work, either paid and/or unpaid. Women were seen to spend on average just under four hours in paid work (3:40), while men were found to spend five and a half hours doing so (5:30). Almost every second woman was observed to perform paid activities (49%), as well as two out of three men (66%). Women who indicated being engaged in paid work spent nearly seven and a half hours doing so on average (7:28), while men reported spending more than eight hours (8:17).

On average, women reported spending four and a half hours on housework or other unpaid activities (4:31). Most women indicated performing these activities (96%), which is why the difference between the first and the third (overall average and average among those who performed unpaid activities) measure is small — only about ten minutes (4:42). As for unpaid work among men, they were found to spend on average just under two hours on unpaid activities (1:57). Four out of five men reported (79%) performing unpaid activities, with the average time among those who performed such activities increasing by half an hour (2:28).

Table 2.1. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on basic activities and average time for doers: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Paid work	3:40	5:30	49	66	7:28	8:17
Unpaid work	4:31	1:57	96	79	4:42	2:28
Study	0:01	0:00	1	0	2:15	2:50
Personal care	11:07	11:05	100	100	11:07	11:05
Free time	4:38	5:24	98	99	4:42	5:29
Other	0:00	0:01	3	4	0:29	0:35

The majority of respondents participated in personal care and free time activities, which explains why there is almost no difference between the average time and the average time for doers.

Comparing the results of the first and the second survey, women's participation in paid work was lower in the first survey than in the second one, while the share of women engaged in paid work increased in the second survey.

Men recorded lower values for paid work in the first survey than in the second one, as well as lower participation in performing paid activities.

Unpaid work among middle-aged women respondents was one hour longer in the first survey than in the second survey, while participation in unpaid activities was almost identical, which contributed to a documented shorter time spent on unpaid activities among those who performed them in the second survey.

Unpaid work among middle-aged men was observed as slightly longer in the first survey than in the second one, while participation rates remained the same.

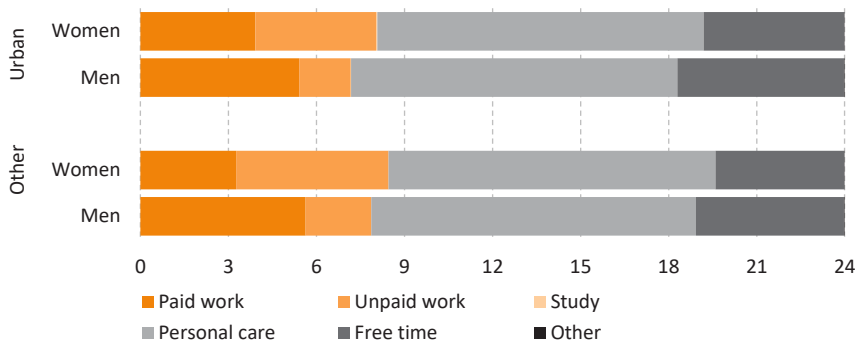
More detailed time use by the middle-aged generation

Graph 2.5. shows data on the average time spent on selected activities by the middle-aged population respondents, by type of settlement.

Women aged 30–64 living in urban areas were found to spend on average just under four hours on paid work (3:55), while women in other settlements seen to spend significantly less time (3:15). Regarding unpaid work, women in urban areas recorded spending a little more than four hours doing so on average (4:06), whereas women in other settlements reported a little more than five hours (5:11).

Men living in urban settlements were documented as spending almost five and a half hours on paid work (5:24), while those in other settlements reported spending more than five and a half hours (5:37). As regards unpaid work, men in urban areas were seen to spend just under two hours (1:44), while men in other settlements were observed to spend about half an hour more (2:14).

Graph 2.5. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, by type of settlement and by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



For personal care activities, no gender differences between urban settlements (men 11:07; women 11:07) and other settlements (men 11:04; women 11:08) were documented.

In regard to free time, women living in urban areas reported having almost five hours (4:47), while women in other settlements recorded having less than four and a half hours (4:23). Similar differences were observed among men, to the disadvantage of men living in other settlements, as the data show that men in urban areas indicated having more than five and a half hours of leisure time (5:40) and men in other settlements five hours (5:02).

When comparing data from the first and the second survey, women living in urban areas were seen to spend significantly less time on paid work in 2010 than in 2021, with the observed difference somewhat smaller among women living in other settlements.

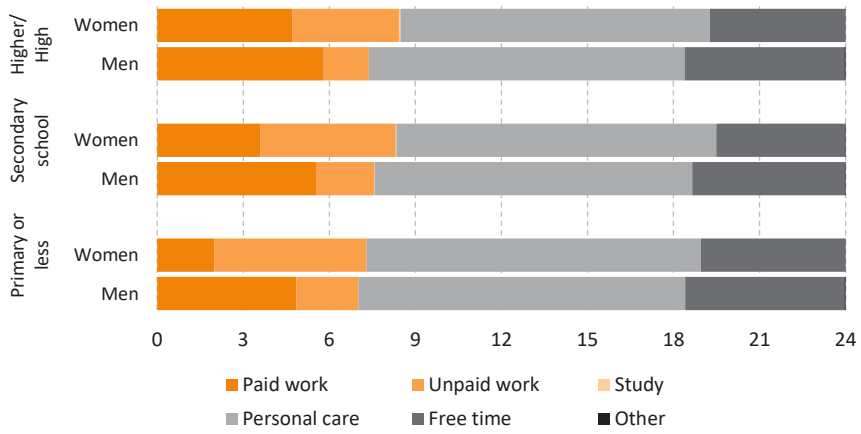
As for men living in urban areas, they were found to spend more than four and a half hours on paid activities in 2010, and almost five and a half hours in 2021. Men living in other settlements reported spending slightly more than five hours on paid activities in the first survey, and more than five and a half hours ten years later.

With regard to unpaid work, men living in urban areas indicated spending more than two hours on unpaid activities in the first survey conducted in 2010, and significantly less time in 2021. Men living in other settlements recorded spending two and a half hours on unpaid work in the first survey, and somewhat less time in the second survey.

Graph 2.6. presents main activities by the highest level of education completed and by gender of the middle-aged population. The data indicate that the time spent on paid activities increases with higher levels of education, both among women (primary or lower 1:59; secondary 3:35; tertiary/higher education 4:43) and among men (primary or lower 4:51; secondary 5:31; tertiary/higher education 5:48).

In examining unpaid work, the opposite situation is evident, as higher levels of education are associated with lower amounts of time spent on unpaid activities, both among women (primary or lower 5:18; secondary 4:42; tertiary/higher education 3:42) and among men (primary or lower 2:09; secondary 2:02; tertiary/higher education 1:34).

Graph 2.6. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, by highest completed level of education and sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Regarding personal care activities, the time spent on these activities also was also seen to decrease with higher levels of education, both among women (primary or lower 11:39; secondary 11:09; tertiary/higher education 10:47) and among men (primary or lower 11:23; secondary 11:04; tertiary/higher education 11:00).

In observing time spent on leisure activities, for both women and men, the time devoted to these activities does not appear to be directly correlated with the level of education (women: primary or lower 5:02; secondary 4:29; tertiary/higher education 4:43; men: primary or lower 5:32; secondary 5:20; tertiary/higher education 5:34).

When comparing the time spent on paid work by the middle-aged population in the earlier and the more recent survey, the data from both surveys show that among women, higher levels of education are associated with longer time spent on paid work. As regards men, paid work in the 2021 survey demonstrated the same pattern, while the data from 2010 slightly deviated from this trend in the case of higher education.

When unpaid work is considered, among middle-aged women and men, both in the first and in the second survey, a clear correlation emerges - higher levels of education are associated with less time spent on unpaid work.

Table 2.2. contains the three basic measures of the Time Use Survey, with time shown by the means of transport used during travel and by gender.

Women in the middle-aged generation were found to spend on average a little more than half an hour walking (0:36). This activity was performed by six out of ten women surveyed (59%), and among those who did it, the average time spent was a full hour (1:01). Men were shown to spend on average half an hour walking (0:30). Every second man performed this activity (49%), and those who did it also spent about a full hour walking (1:02).

Table 2.2. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on travel activities and average time for doers: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Travelling on foot	0:36	0:30	59	49	1:01	1:02
Travelling by public transport	0:10	0:06	13	8	1:15	1:29
Travelling by passenger car	0:19	0:39	30	53	1:03	1:14
Travelling by bicycle	0:03	0:04	6	8	0:57	0:53
Other or unspecified private transport mode	0:00	0:05	1	6	1:04	1:34
Travel total	1:09	1:27	82	91	1:24	1:36

Women were seen to use public transport for only ten minutes per day on average (0:10). Almost every eighth woman (13%) reported using public transport, with those who did spending more than one hour per day on average (1:15). As for men, they were round to spend slightly less time using public transport (0:06). Every thirteenth middle-aged man (8%) reported using public transport, with those who did spending on average one and a half hours per day (1:29).

In regard to travel by passenger car, middle-aged women were observed as spending about twenty minutes per day doing so on average (0:19). Almost every third woman (30%) was documented to use a passenger car, with those who did so averaging one hour per day (1:03). Men indicated spending on average more than half an hour travelling by passenger car (0:39). Nearly every second man reported using a car (53%), with those who did so spending more than one hour on average (1:14).

Among middle-aged women, an average three minutes per day was documented for cycling (0:03). Only one in seventeen women (6%) indicated using a bicycle as a means of transport, but those who did so averaged nearly a full hour per day (0:57). An average of four minutes per day cycling was recorded among men (0:04). Every thirteenth man reported using a bicycle, with those who did spending just under one hour cycling on average (0:53).

The category other means of transport ranked last. Middle-aged women were observed to spend less than one minute per day on average using other means of transport; this activity was reported by only 1% of women, and those who did so spent one hour on average. As for men, middle-aged men indicated spending on average five minutes per day using other means of transport, accounting for 6% of men respondents. The average time spent by men who reported using other means of transport amounted to one and a half hours (1:34).

The overall travel time documented for middle-aged women was the same in the first and the second survey, with participation slightly higher in the first survey, and the average time among those who travelled slightly lower than in 2021. As for middle-aged men, they recorded the same average time in both surveys; participation was seen to be slightly higher in the first survey, and the average time among those who travelled was almost the same.

When comparing the walking data, for middle-aged women, the average time recorded in the first survey was almost the same as in 2021; women's participation was found to be somewhat higher in the first survey, with those who did so spending around one hour. Middle-aged men, however, indicated spending more time walking in 2010, alongside higher participation, and those who walked recorded about the same amount of time doing so as in 2021—around one hour.

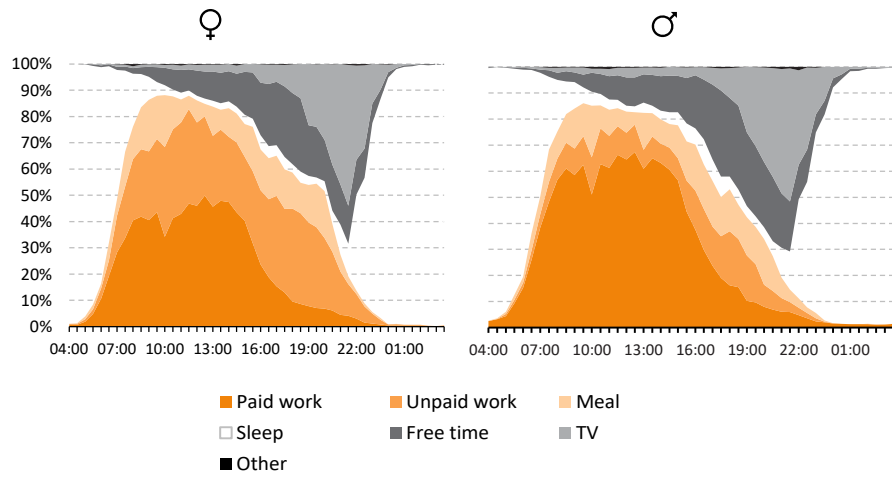
In examining public transport, middle-aged women in 2010 recorded slightly higher values of time spent using public transport, a somewhat higher share of use, and the average time among those who used it was also slightly higher. Men likewise recorded somewhat higher average time spent using public transport, along with slightly higher participation and longer average time among those who used it.

Middle-aged women were documented as spending slightly less time traveling by car in 2010, at rates almost two times less than in the second survey, and the time spent by those who performed these activities was the same (about an hour). Men were found in the first survey to spend considerably less time travelling by car than in the second one; the participation of men in travelling by car was also observed as much lower, while the average time among those who did so remained the same, at around one and a half hours.

The middle-aged generation and their daily rhythm

Tempograms 2.1. and 2.2. describe how the population of the Republic of Serbia aged 30 to 64 used their time in 2021. Tempogram 2.1. presents the daily activities of the female and male population and refers to weekdays, i.e., from Monday to Friday.

Tempogram 2.1. Distribution of time spent on activities during the day: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



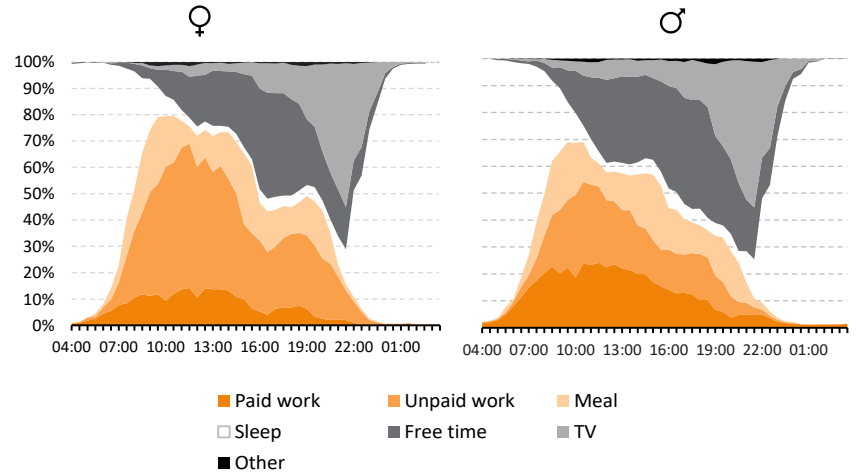
On weekdays, almost every second middle-aged woman surveyed performed paid work in the period from 08:00 to 15:00 (between 40% and 50%), while one third of them carry out unpaid work between 10:00 and 13:00, as well as from 17:00 to 20:00. In contrast, two out of three men surveyed performed paid work on weekdays from 10:30 to 14:30, while unpaid work was carried out by every sixth man, between 16:00 and 19:30.

As for free time activities on weekdays, these were reported by every third man between 17:00 and 19:00, and by every fourth woman between 16:30 and 19:00. TV programs were reportedly watched on weekdays by every second woman and every second man between 21:00 and 22:00.

A comparison of the first and the second survey shows that in the first survey women were 10 percentage points less engaged in paid work, while their participation in unpaid activities was higher by the same margin. Men were also about 10 percentage points less engaged in paid work in 2010 compared to 2021. Notably, in 2021, men maintained the documented pattern of one in five performing unpaid work; however, in 2010 this activity was observed as taking place most often between 09:00 and 12:00, whereas in 2021 this had shifted to the evening hours, from 18:00 to 19:30.

Tempograms were also compiled for selected activities performed by middle-aged respondents on weekends. In 2021, women indicated being engaged in paid activities on Saturdays or Sundays with a participation rate of 10–14% between 08:00 and 15:00, while men recorded almost twice as high participation (20–24%) during a similar time span, from 08:00 to 14:00.

Tempogram 2.2. Distribution of time spent on activities during the day: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekends, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



In regard to unpaid work during weekends, more than half of women (40–55%) indicated performing unpaid activities between 09:30 and 14:00, while the highest participation of men (20–30%) was observed to do so during almost the same period (from 09:00 to 14:00).

Women reported having slightly less free time on weekend days, mainly between 16:00 and 19:30, with participation ranging from 33% to 40%, while men reported engaging in leisure activities between 15:30 and 19:30, with almost the same participation levels (33–41%).

When comparing data from the first and the second survey for paid work, it can be seen that in 2010 the women surveyed worked earlier during weekends and with somewhat lower participation rates than in 2021, while almost every fourth man surveyed worked at the same time as in 2021. Unpaid work was observed to be performed by both women and men in a similar manner as in 2021.

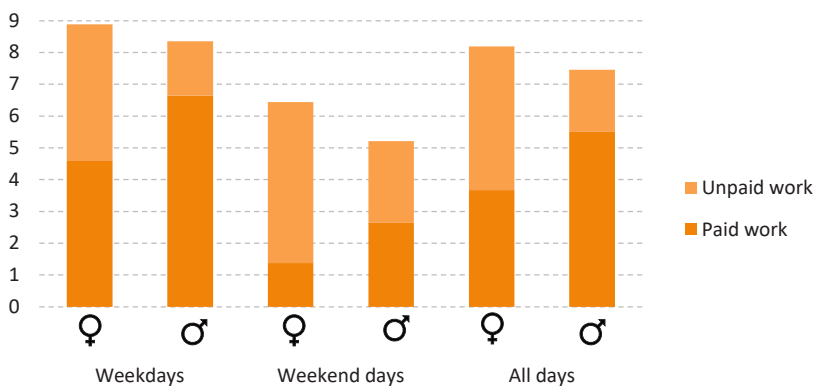
Middle-aged genera ion and paid and unpaid work

Graph 2.7. shows data on paid and unpaid work for the middle-aged generation disaggregated by gender and type of day (weekdays, weekend days, all days).

On weekdays, women were seen to spend a total of nine hours engaged in work, with the ratio of paid to unpaid work at 52% to 48%. Men were observed to spend a total of eight and a half hours working on weekdays, with nearly four fifths of their time devoted to paid work (79% versus 21%).

An analysis of the data for weekend days indicates that women spend more than one hour longer in total work than men (women: 6:26; men: 5:12). A disparity between paid and unpaid work is also evident. On weekends, women indicated spending less than one and a half hours in paid work and around five hours in unpaid work (paid: 1:22; unpaid: 5:04). In contrast, men reported spending approximately two and a half hours in both paid and unpaid work (paid: 2:39; unpaid: 2:33).

Graph 2.7. Average time spent on total work: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekdays, weekends, and all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Considering the data for all days by gender, women were observed to spend approximately 45 minutes more in total work than men (women: 8:11; men: 7:27). The imbalance documented between paid and unpaid work in 2010 was seen to persist for both women (paid: 3:40; unpaid: 4:31) and men (paid: 5:30; unpaid: 1:57) in 2021.

When comparing the data for weekdays from the first and second surveys, it can be observed that women spent nine hours in total work in 2021, the same as in 2010, although the share of unpaid work was one hour higher in 2010. Men, on the other hand, were shown to spend slightly less time in total work in 2010 than in 2021; however, it should be noted that about three quarters of this time was devoted to paid work.

When comparing the weekend data from the first and second surveys, women were found to work almost one hour longer in 2010 than in 2021, with unpaid work accounting for four fifths of their total work time in both years. A comparison of total work across all days in the two surveys indicates that women worked more than eight hours per day in both 2010 and 2021. This amounted to more than one hour longer than was documented for men in 2010, and slightly less than one hour longer in 2021. Overall, men reported spending two thirds of their total work time in paid work in 2010, increasing to three quarters in 2021. Women, by contrast, were seen to devote one third of their total work time to paid work in 2010, increasing to slightly under one half of total work time in 2021.

Three basic measures from the Time Use Survey can be found in Table 2.3. The data indicate that women of the middle generation spend, on average, more than three and a half hours per day in paid work (3:40) and around four and a half hours in unpaid work. Men, by contrast, were observed to spend approximately five and a half hours per day in paid work and less than two and a half hours in unpaid work.

When unpaid work is considered, women reported spending an average of four and a half hours per day (4:31), while men documented spending around two hours (1:57). Almost all women (96%) indicated performing unpaid work, which explains the relatively small difference between the time spent by women engaged in unpaid work and the overall average for women (4:42 hours). In contrast, four out of five men were found to perform unpaid work, with those who did so spending an average of two and a half hours per day on these activities (2:28 hours).

Table 2.3. Average time, the proportion of doers who spent time on activities of paid and unpaid work and the average time for doers: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Paid work	3:40	5:30	49	66	7:28	8:17
Unpaid work	4:31	1:57	96	79	4:42	2:28

In 2021, every second woman respondent was engaged in paid work (49%), spending an average of seven and a half hours per day on these activities, while two out of three men surveyed performed paid work and spent more than eight hours per day doing so.

Compared to 2010, in 2021 women were documented as spending the equivalent of one school class period less time in paid work than, while the recorded time devoted to unpaid work was one hour longer. With regard to men, in 2010 they were observed as spending half an hour less time in paid work and half an hour more time in unpaid work compared to 2021.

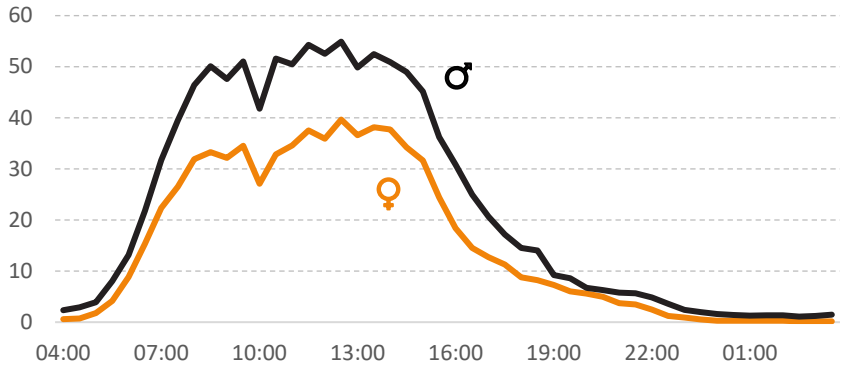
When examining the participation of individuals performing labour activities, the data show that in 2010 there was a slightly lower share of women respondents engaged in paid work, and those who did so spent nearly the same time on it as in 2021. In 2010, the share of men respondents who performed paid work every day was also lower; however, the time spent by those who did engage in paid work was somewhat longer.

In 2010, women were observed to spend one hour more in unpaid work than in 2021, while men were seen to spend half an hour more. The recorded participation rates of women and men in unpaid work did not change significantly over the observed period.

Graph 2.8. presents the 24-hour distribution and participation rates in paid work for the middle-aged generation, by gender.

The data indicate that men's participation rates throughout the day are higher than those of women, with values ranging from 1% to 55% for men, compared to a range of 0.2% to 40% for women.

Graph 2.8. Paid work: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)

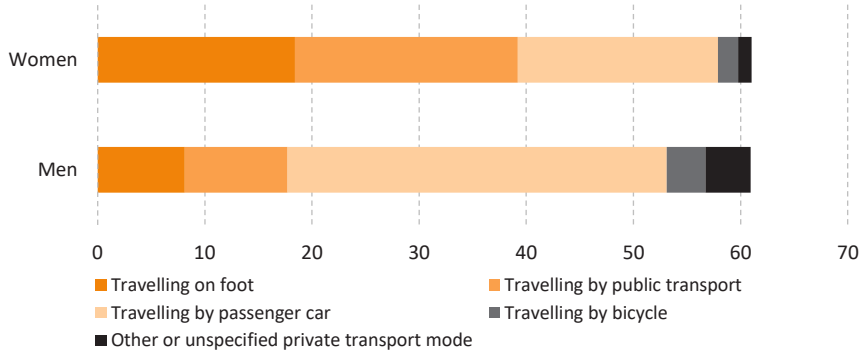


On average, across all days, during the period from 8:30 to 14:30, a 15 to 19 percentage point advantage in engagement in paid work for men over women. The largest difference of 19 percentage points was recorded at 10:30.

A comparison of the first and second surveys shows that both women and men worked less in 2010.

Graph 2.9. contains information indicating how much time and by what means of transport the middle-aged population of the Republic of Serbia spends travelling to and from work.

Graph 2.9. Average time spent travelling to and from work: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (minutes)



Both women and men spend, on average, were observed to spend around one hour on weekdays in transport (women: 1:00; men: 0:57), although differences were observed in the mode of transport used.

Women of the middle-aged generation reported spending more than one third of their commuting time using public transport (34%, 0:20), and slightly less than one third travelling by passenger car (30%, 0:18) or walking (30%, 0:18). Cycling was reported with a small share and a short average duration (3.1%, 0:01).

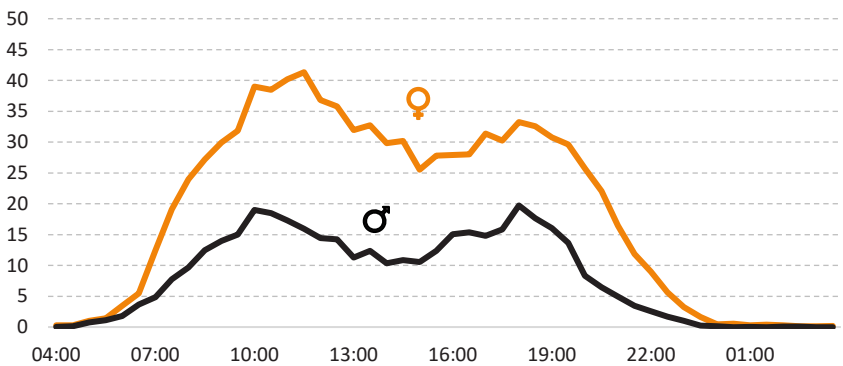
Men most frequently reported travelling by passenger car (58%, 0:35), followed by public transport (16%, 0:09) and walking (13%, 0:08). Cycling was reported by 6% of male respondents, with an average duration of four minutes (0:04).

Compared with data from 2010, women at that time were seen to spend slightly more time using public transport than in 2021, while the time spent walking, ranked as the second most common mode of transport, remained almost unchanged. Passenger cars were found to be used less frequently by women in the first survey than in the second.

Among men, passenger cars were also the most frequently used mode of transport reported in 2010, although to a somewhat lesser extent and for a shorter duration than in 2021. Public transport and walking ranked second, both with slightly higher shares and longer durations than in 2021. Cycling was reported with low participation and short duration among the middle-aged generation in 2010.

The figure indicates that participation of women in unpaid activities is significantly higher than that of men over the full 24-hour period.

Graph 2.10. Unpaid work: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



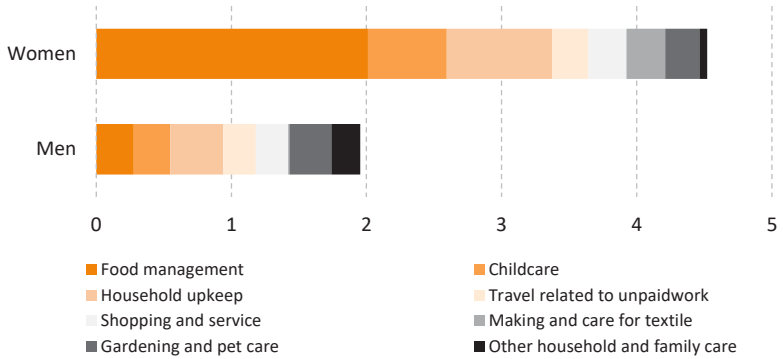
During the period from 9:00 to 19:30, across all days, the documented participation rate of women of the middle-aged generation in unpaid activities ranged between 30% and 41%.

Women's participation was observed to decline to below 5% during the evening and night hours, from 23:00 to 6:00. Throughout the entire day, women consistently exhibited higher participation in unpaid work than men. The largest gender differences were observed between 10:00 and 14:00, when women's documented participation exceeded that of men by up to 25 percentage points.

In both surveys, middle-aged women's participation in unpaid labour was seen to fall below 5% during nearly the same time intervals. Notably, in 2010 there were a few time points at which men's reported participation slightly exceeded that of women, whereas no such instances were recorded in 2021.

Graph 2.11. presents the average documented time spent on unpaid activities as shown at activity level 2.

Graph 2.11. Average time spent on unpaid activities: two-digit level of activities, population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



With regard to total unpaid activities, women were observed to spend an average of four and a half hours per day in unpaid work (4:31), with men at around two hours per day (1:57).

Women of the middle-aged generation indicated spending the greatest amount of their unpaid work time on food preparation (2:00), household maintenance (0:46), and childcare activities (0:35). Men reported spending the largest share of their unpaid work time on household maintenance activities (0:23), while equal amounts of time used for food preparation (0:16) and childcare (0:16).

The only two activity groups in which men of the middle-aged generation were seen to spend more time than women were gardening and care for pets (0:18), and other household and family-related care activities (0:12). Women were found to spend slightly less time than men on gardening and pet care (0:15), with very little time documented for other household and family-related care activities (0:03).

When comparing data from 2010 and 2021, women of the middle-aged generation were found to spend one hour more in unpaid activities in the first survey, and men half an hour more.

The middle-aged generation and personal care

Women of the middle-aged generation indicated spending, on average, nearly the same time on personal care activities (sleep, meals, personal hygiene, etc.) as that reported by men of the same generation (women: 11:07; men: 11:05).

Table 2.4. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on personal care activities and average time for doers: activity levels 1 and 2, population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doer	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Personal care	11:07	11:05	100	100	11:07	11:05
Sleep	8:03	8:02	100	100	8:03	8:02
Eating	2:03	2:02	100	100	2:03	2:02
Drinking coffee	0:42	0:35	82	72	0:51	0:49
Other personal care	1:01	1:01	98	98	1:02	1:03

Given that participation in personal care activities (sleep, food consumption, and other personal care) among all surveyed individuals of the middle generation was documented as 100%, the average recorded time spent on these activities was equal to the average time spent by those who performed them.

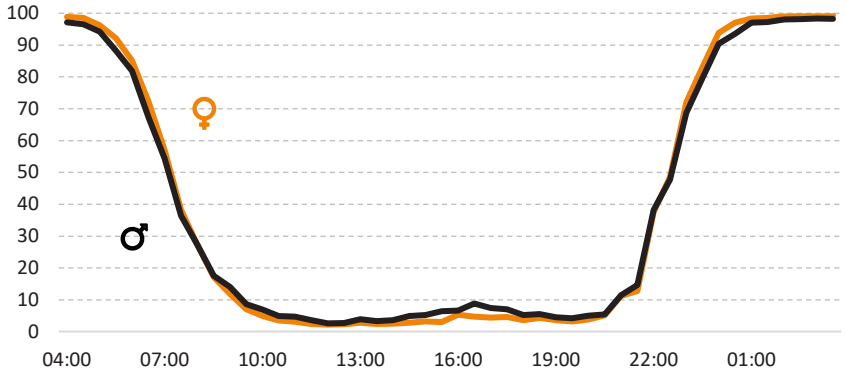
Regarding coffee drinking, which is classified as a specific national activity at activity level 2, women were found to spend on average slightly less than one school class period per day (0:42), while men were seen to spend slightly more than half an hour (0:35). As this activity was reported by 82% of surveyed women of the middle-aged generation and 72% of men, the average time among those who consumed coffee amounted to 0:51 for women and 0:49 for men.

When comparing the documented time spent in personal care activities in the first and second Time Use Surveys, women and men of the middle-aged generation were found to spend, on average, around twenty minutes less time in 2010.

Activities related to food and beverage consumption accounted for approximately ten minutes less time for both women and men respondents in the first survey than in 2021.

The documented rates of participation of women and men of the middle-aged generation in sleeping and personal hygiene activities at different times over the 24-hour day is illustrated in Graph 2.12.

Graph 2.12. Sleep and personal hygiene: population aged 30–64 by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



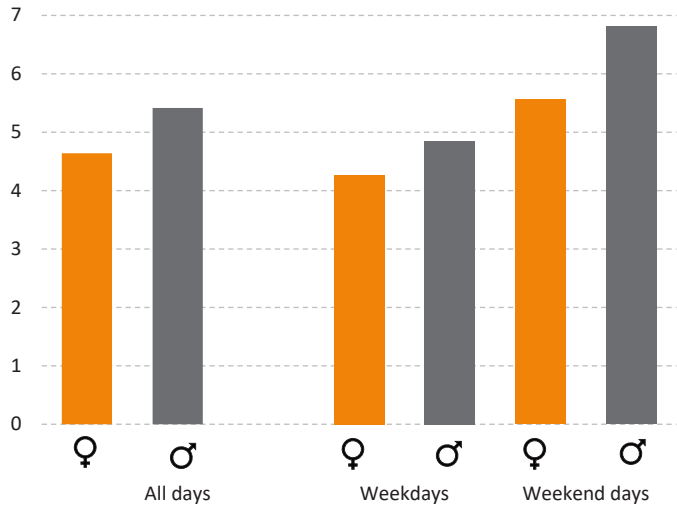
A large majority of women of the middle-aged generation, over 90% — reported sleeping and engaging in personal hygiene activities during the period between midnight and 5:30 in the morning, while the same proportion of men of the same generation reported doing so between midnight and 6:00. Between 4:00 and 8:00, a slightly higher percentage of women of the middle-aged generation (up to 5%) than men reported sleeping and personal hygiene activities. A similar trend was observed during the evening hours — from 22:30 to 4:00 — when participation reached up to 3%.

Comparison of data from the first and second surveys indicates that there are no major differences in the behaviour of women and men of the middle-aged generation in regard to time spent on sleeping and personal hygiene.

The middle-aged generation and free time

Middle-aged women appear to have less free time than men. Considering all days, women reported spending less time than did men on leisure activities – middle-aged women 4:38, and middle-aged men 5:24.

Graph 2.13. Average time spent on free activities: population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, weekdays and weekends, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)

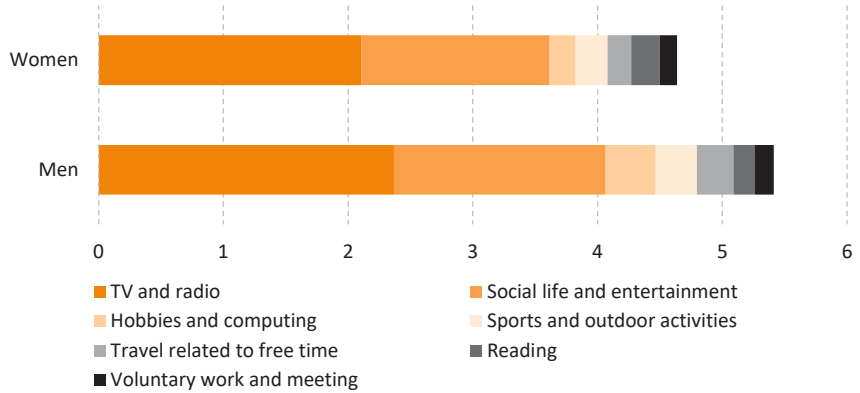


When considering working days only, middle-aged women indicated spending slightly more than four hours on leisure activities (4:16), while middle-aged men reported spending about half an hour longer (4:51). In contrast, on weekends, middle-aged women were found to spend five and a half hours on leisure activities (5:33), whereas men were observed to spend almost seven hours (6:48), i.e., more than one hour longer than women.

When examining data on time spent on free time activities across all days from the two surveys conducted, it can be observed that women spent a similar time on leisure activities in both surveys, while men recorded somewhat more leisure time in the first survey than in the second.

The individual activities (at levels 1 and 2) in which middle-aged women and men indicated most frequently spending their time are presented in Graph 2.14. Also shown here is that in 2021, middle-aged men appeared to spend one hour more on total leisure activities than women.

Graph 2.14. Average time spent on free activities: activity levels 1 and 2, population aged 30–64, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



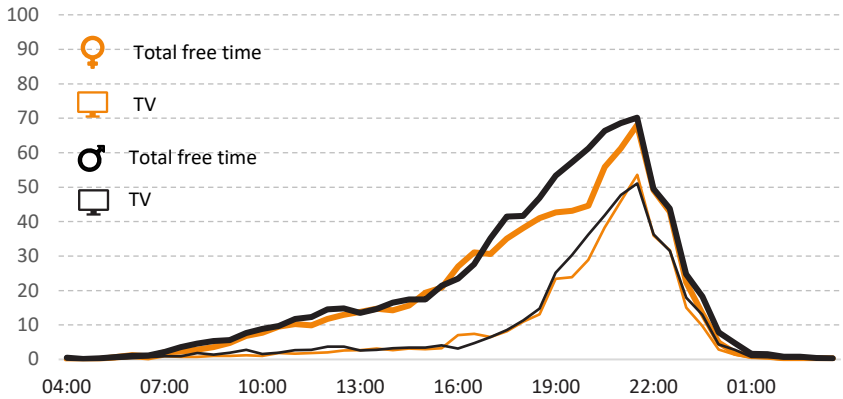
Among the middle-aged generation, the most prevalent free time activity was documented to be watching TV and listening to radio programs (women 2:06, men 2:22). In activities related to social life and entertainment, middle-aged women indicated spending one and a half hours (1:30), while men reported spending slightly more time (1:41). On hobbies and computer-related activities, men were observed to spend just under half an hour daily (0:23), whereas women were found to spend around fifteen minutes on sports and outdoor activities (0:15).

The only activity in which middle-aged women were shown to spend more time than men was reading, with women spending three minutes longer on average than men.

A comparison of data from the first and the second survey shows that, in both surveys, watching television and listening to radio programs were documented as the most common leisure activities, followed by activities related to social life and entertainment. According to data from 2010, it can be observed that men spent half an hour more time in total leisure activities compared to 2021, while women of the middle-aged generation spent almost the same amount of time.

Graph 2.15. presents gender-disaggregated data on the use of free time during weekdays, as well as distinctly on watching TV.

Graph 2.15. Total free time and watching TV: population aged 30–64, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



Reportedly, every second middle-aged man engaged in free time activities between 19:00 and 22:00 on weekdays, while every second middle-aged woman carried out the same activities within a somewhat shorter time interval, from 20:30 to 22:00. Watching TV programs was recorded among every fourth middle-aged woman and every fourth middle-aged man, during the period from 20:00 to 23:00.

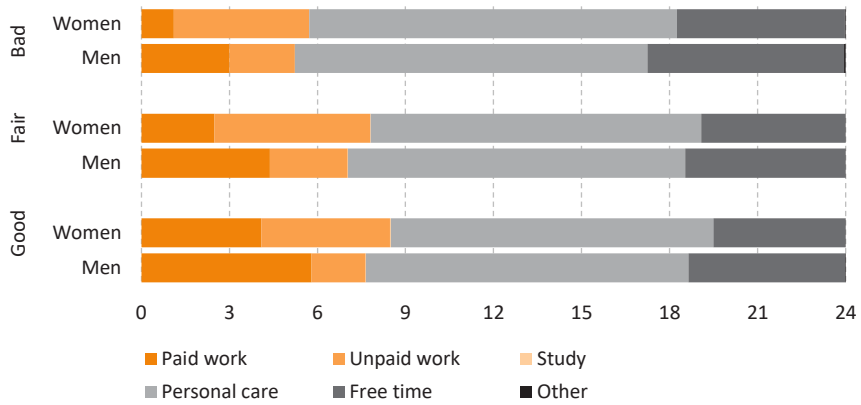
A comparison between the first and the second survey indicates that, in the first survey, every second middle-aged man started engaging in free time activities slightly later than in the second survey and finished at the same time, whereas middle-aged women started at the same time in both surveys but finished somewhat later in the second.

The middle-aged generation and health care

Regarding the personal evaluation of general state of health among persons aged 30–64, Graph 2.16. presents their main activities by self-evaluated health status.

Time spent in paid work among both middle-aged women and men was seen to decrease with lower self-evaluated health status, as shown in the graph 2.16. (women: 4:05, 2:29 and 1:06; men: 5:47, 4:22 and 3:00).

Graph 2.16. Average time spent on activities: population aged 30–64, by self-declared health status and sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When unpaid work is considered, middle-aged women who assessed their health status as fair were seen to reported spend the most time on such activities (5:19), followed by women who reported bad health (4:37), while the least amount of time was recorded among women who assessed their health as good (4:22). A similar pattern was observed among middle-aged men: those with fair health status were found to spend the most time in unpaid activities (2:39), followed by those with bad health (2:13), and finally those with good health (1:51).

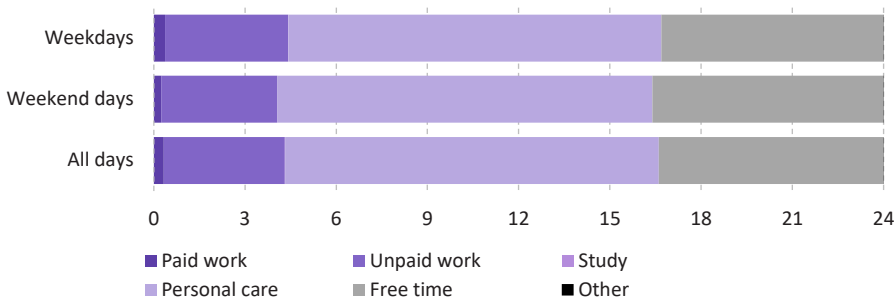
A comparison of data from 2010 and 2021 surveys indicates that in 2010 women who reported good health spent less time in paid work than in 2021, while the other two health-status categories recorded higher values of time spent. Across all categories of self-evaluated health status, middle-aged men were observed to spend slightly less time in paid work in the first survey. With regard to unpaid work, both women and men were found to spend more time on these activities in 2010 than in 2021.

HOW THE OLDER GENERATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA USE THEIR TIME?

In this third chapter of the Time Use Survey, how older residents of the Republic of Serbia use their time during the day will be presented, including an analysis of the time use of people aged 65 and over and their daily activities. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that most people over the age of 65 are retired and, consequently, organize their daily activities differently when compared with members of other age groups.

Graph 3.1. shows data for documented activities on which the over 65s spend their time on weekdays, weekend days and all days.

Graph 3.1. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, weekdays, weekend days and all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



As expected, the older population was shown to spend less time on paid work than the other age groups. According to data from 2021, on average across all days, respondents spent around twenty minutes per day on paid work (0:19), slightly more on weekdays (0:22), and somewhat less on weekend days (0:14).

Regarding unpaid work, older people were seen to spend around four hours per day on these activities across all days (3:58), slightly less on weekend days (3:48), and somewhat more on weekdays (4:03).

In activities related to personal care, that is, sleeping and personal hygiene, older people were documented to spend more than half of the day on average across all days (12:17), while the difference between weekdays (12:16) and weekend days (12:20) was very small.

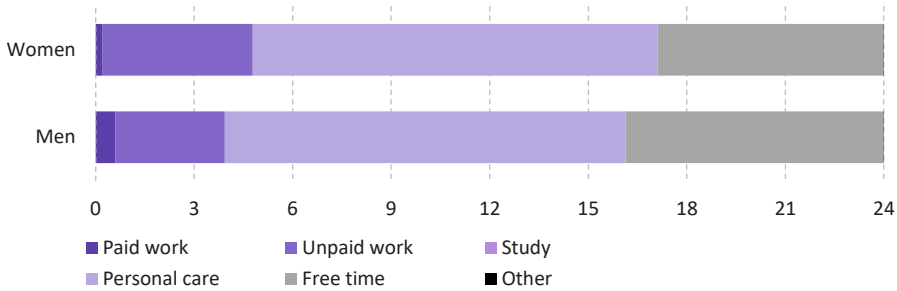
On average, older people reported spending almost seven and a half hours per day on free time activities across all days (7:22), slightly less on weekdays (7:17), and more on weekend days (7:35).

A comparison between the first and the second survey shows that those in the older generation were observed as spending almost twice as much time on paid work a decade earlier (0:46 in 2010; 0:19 in 2021). Differences in time spent on unpaid work between the two surveys were relatively small (4:03 in 2010; 3:58 in 2021). Time spent on activities related to personal care was found to be slightly longer in the more recent survey (12:13 in 2010; 12:17 in 2021), with more time also reportedly spent on leisure activities in the latest survey (6:54 in 2010; 7:22 in 2021).

How the older generation spend their time?

In examining the recorded activities on weekdays only, by gender, among persons aged 65 and above, presented in Graph 3.2., noticeable differences in the performance of paid and unpaid work can be observed.

Graph 3.2. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In 2021, older women recorded spending around ten minutes per day in paid work (0:11), and older men three times as much (0:35). On the other hand, on weekdays women indicated spending four and a half hours on unpaid work (4:35), compared with around three and a half hours reported by men (3:20).

Considering personal care activities, both women (12:19) and men (12:12) were found to spend slightly more than half of the day on these activities. More time was allocated to free time activities among older men respondents (7:51) than among older women surveyed (6:52).

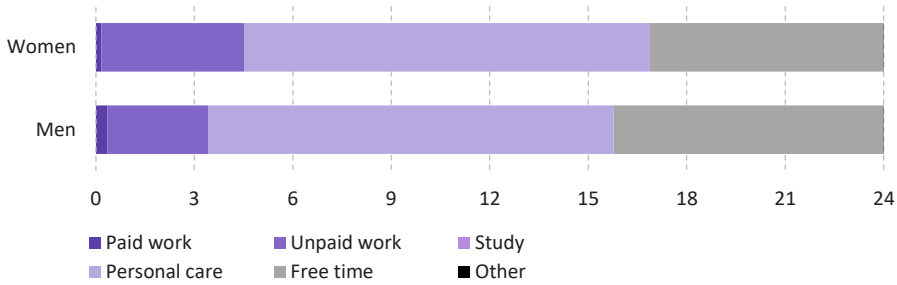
Compared with the first survey conducted in 2010, older women indicated spending half an hour per day in paid work at that time, while in the more recent survey they reported spending almost three times less time on paid work. A similar pattern was observed among men.

In 2010, older women were seen to spend almost five hours per day on unpaid work, which was about half an hour more than in the second survey. Older men, however, were observed to spend the same amount of time on unpaid work in both surveys.

When comparing time spent on personal care activities on weekdays, in the repeated survey both men and women were observed to spend almost the same time on these activities. Regarding free time, older men were documented as spending slightly more than seven hours per day in 2010 and about half an hour more in 2021, with older women reporting around six and a half hours per day in 2010 and half an hour more in 2021.

When focusing on the main activities of the older generation on non-working days, i.e. weekends, relatively pronounced gender differences are evident, with men recorded as spending one hour in paid work on weekends in 2010, and in 2021 three times less (1:02 in 2010; 0:21 in 2021), a pattern that was also recorded among women (0:24 in 2010; 0:09 in 2021).

Graph 3.3. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, by sex, weekend days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Graph 3.3. also reveals differences in the duration of unpaid work, as these activities occupied surveyed women more than four hours daily (4:21) against slightly more than three hours among men (3:03). This indicates that gender differences in the performance of unpaid work are also evident among the older population.

The smallest gender differences among older people were observed in activities related to personal care. On weekends, women (12:20) reported spending almost the same amount of time as men (12:21) on activities such as sleeping, personal hygiene, and eating. On the other hand, men were observed to spend more than eight hours on leisure activities during weekends (8:13), against women recording slightly more than seven hours (7:06).

A comparison of data from the two surveys suggests that in 2010 older persons spent three times more time in paid work than in 2021.

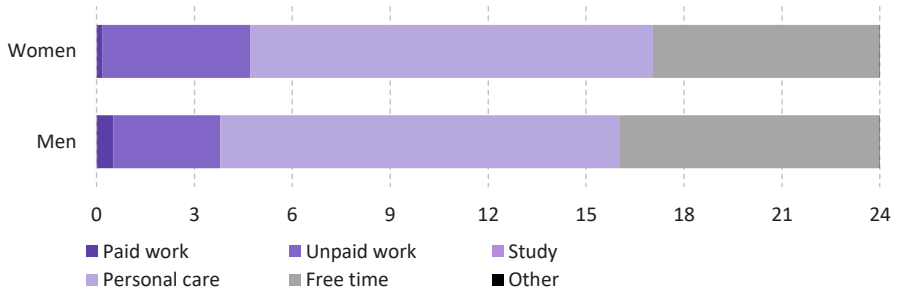
On unpaid work activities, women were seen to spend around twenty minutes more on weekend days in 2010 than in the second survey, a pattern that was also observed among men.

With regard to personal care, men were documented as spending slightly less time on these activities in the first survey than in the second, while the opposite trend was observed among women. When free time among older persons is compared across the two surveys, the data indicate that both women and men spent somewhat less time on leisure activities in 2010 than in 2021.

Graph 3.4. presents data on time use among persons aged 65 and over for all days. On average, men were observed to spend around half an hour per day in paid activities (0:31), while women reported three times less (0:11).

Relatedly, women indicated spending just under five hours per day on unpaid work (4:31), whereas men recorded just under three and a half hours (3:15).

Graph 3.4. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Differences between men and women in time spent on personal care activities appear relatively small, as older respondents spent more than 12 hours per day on these activities — 12:19 among women and 12:14 among men.

Men reported spending just under eight hours per day on free time activities (7:57), while women recorded spending about one hour less (6:56).

When comparing data from the two surveys for older persons, it can be observed that in the first survey older men spent twice as much time in paid activities than in the repeated survey, a pattern that also applied to women. Unpaid work among women was somewhat more time-consuming in the first survey than in the later one, whereas among men unpaid work was slightly less time-consuming in the first survey.

With regard to personal care activities, the time spent on these activities was marginally shorter in the first survey for both men and women.

Table 3.1. presents data for persons aged 65 and over for selected activities for all days. The data are shown by gender, using the three main measures of the Time Use Survey.

On average, older women were observed to spend around ten minutes per day in paid work (0:11), while men reported spending about half an hour (0:31). Participation in paid work was recorded for 6% of women and 11% of men. When considering the average time for doers, women worked almost three and a half hours per day (3:23), whereas men worked just under five hours (4:51).

Table 3.1. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on basic activities and average time for doers: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Paid work	0:11	0:31	6	11	3:23	4:51
Unpaid work	4:31	3:15	93	85	4:53	3:49
Study	0:00	0:00	0	0	2:10	2:00
Personal care	12:19	12:14	100	100	12:19	12:14
Free time	6:56	7:57	100	100	6:57	7:57
Other	0:00	0:00	2	2	0:37	0:35

On average, women were documented as spending four and a half hours per day on unpaid work activities (4:31), while men reported slightly more than three hours (3:15). In total, 93% of women and 85% of men indicated engaging in these activities; consequently, the average time among those who performed it was somewhat increased (women 4:53, men 3:49)

Since personal care and leisure activities were recorded by a very large percentage of both women and men, there was almost no difference between the first and the third measure for these activities.

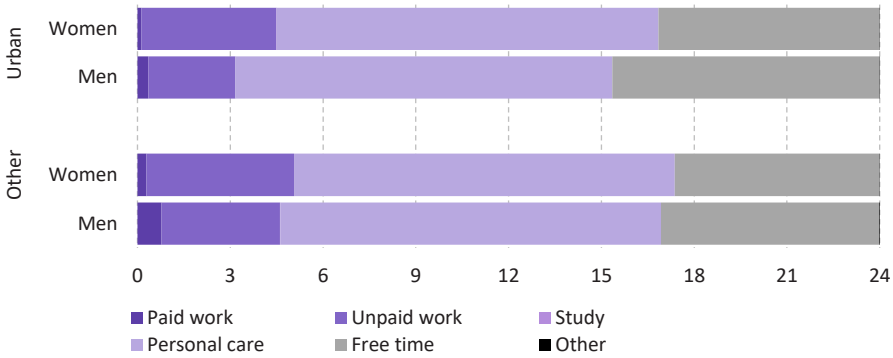
More detailed time use by the older generation

In this chapter will be examined how elderly people of the Republic of Serbia use their time depending on the type of settlement in which they live.

Graph 3.5. indicates that older residents living in urban settlements (women 0:17, men 0:46) spend twice as much time in paid work than older persons from other settlements (women 0:07, men 0:20).

More time was documented as spent on unpaid work by residents of other settlements (men 3:50, women 4:46) than by residents of urban settlements (men 2:49, women 4:22).

Graph 3.5. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, by type of settlement and by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When comparing personal care activities among older women, women from urban (12:20) and other settlements (12:18) were seen to spend almost the same time, while men from other settlements (12:19) were found to spend slightly more time than men from urban settlements (12:11).

When it comes to free time, both women (7:08) and men (8:38) from urban settlements indicated having more free time than their counterparts in other settlements - women (6:37) and men (7:03).

When comparing data from the two surveys with regard to women's paid work, older women from urban settlements were observed to work only seven minutes in both surveys, while women from other settlements were found to work almost one full hour in the first survey and less than twenty minutes in 2021.

As for men from urban settlements, they also reported working longer in the first survey conducted in 2010 than in the second one. The same applies to men from other settlements, as they indicated spending one and a half hours in paid work in the first survey, and the equivalent of one school class period in the second survey.

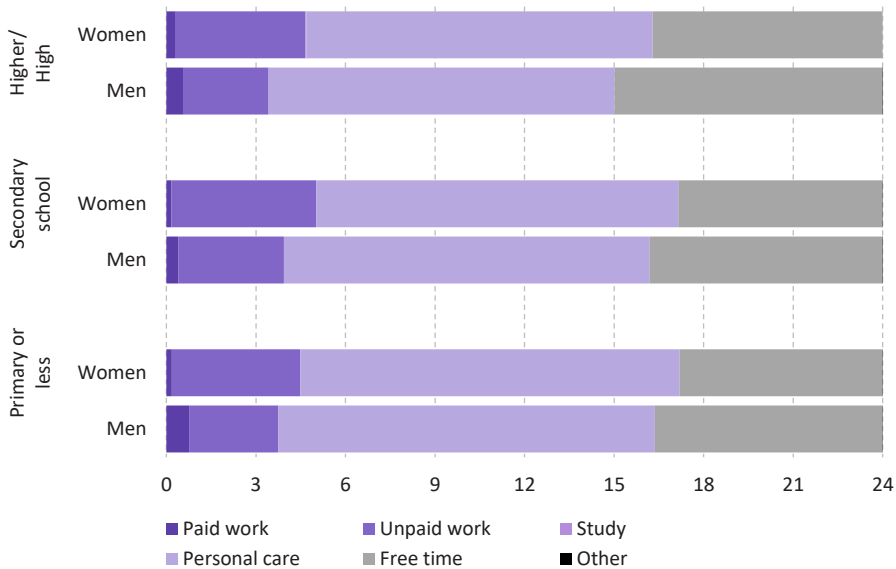
Unpaid work performed by women from urban settlements amounted to slightly more than four and a half hours in the first survey, and somewhat less in the second survey. Women from other settlements also documented spending slightly more time in unpaid work in the first survey than in the second one.

Unpaid work among men from urban settlements was somewhat higher according to the results of the first survey than the second one, while for men from other settlements the indicated time spent on unpaid work was lower in 2010 than in 2021.

According to the data presented in Graph 3.6, it can be observed that among older women, those who have completed high/higher education appear to spend the most time in paid work (primary or lower education 0:10; secondary education 0:09; high/higher education 0:17). When it comes to men, those who have completed primary or lower education were seen to spend the most time in paid work, followed by those with high or higher education (primary or lower education 0:45; secondary education 0:23; high/higher education 0:33).

With regard to unpaid activities, there was no clear pattern documented in regard to the relationship between the level of education and time spent, as women with secondary education were observed to spend the most time on unpaid activities, while those with primary or lower and high/higher education indicated spending about half an hour less (primary or lower education 4:18; secondary education 4:51; high/higher education 4:22). The same pattern was observed among men (primary or lower education 2:58; secondary education 3:32; high/higher education 2:52).

Graph 3.6. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, by highest completed level of education and sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



When personal care activities are examined by level of education, the same pattern appears to apply to both women (primary or lower education 12:42; secondary education 12:07; high/higher education 11:35) and men (primary or lower education 12:37; secondary education 12:15; high/higher education 11:34) – the higher the level of education, the shorter time spent on personal care activities.

When comparing time spent on free time activities by level of education, for both women (primary or lower education 6:47; secondary education 6:50; high/higher education 7:43) and men (primary or lower education 7:37; secondary education 7:47; high/higher education 8:58), time spent on leisure activities was observed to increase with the level of education.

Data from the first and second surveys for the older generation indicate that, with regard to women and paid work, higher levels of education are associated with more time spent in paid work. It is surprising that in the first survey conducted in 2010, not a single older woman with secondary education reported performing any paid work. In the second survey, however, no clear relationship between paid work and level of education can be confirmed for either women or men.

When it comes to unpaid work, the first survey from 2010 documented that for surveyed men, time spent decreased as the level of education increased. Among surveyed women, time spent on unpaid work was recorded as about half an hour higher for those with secondary education compared to women with lower and higher levels of education. The newer survey from 2021 indicates that the same trend applies to both men and women, with women having completed secondary education reportedly spending the most time performing unpaid work.

In terms of time spent on personal care activities, both men and women with primary education were seen to spend the most in the first and the second surveys. In both surveys, the higher the level of education, the less time was documented as spent on these activities, for both older women and older men.

Free time among both women and men from the older generation was found to increase with higher levels of education.

Table 3.2. contains data on three basic measures (average time spent, population participation in performing activities, and average time spent by those who performed the activities), by means of transport used during travel and by gender. Older women indicated spending on average slightly more than half an hour per day walking (0:36); with every second woman reporting engaging in walking (54%), those who did so for an average of slightly more than one hour (1:07). Older men were observed to spend on average just under one hour walking (0:48); walking was reported by six out of ten men (62%), and the average time among those who walked exceeds one hour (1:18).

The use of public transport was documented as minimal among the older generation, with both women and men reportedly spending an average of only two minutes per day doing so (0:02), and with a very low level of participation recorded (5% of women and 4% of men). The recorded average time spent by those who did indicate using public transport was around one hour (women 0:57, men 1:12).

Table 3.2. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on travel activities and average time for doers: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Travelling on foot	0:36	0:48	54	62	1:07	1:18
Travelling by public transport	0:02	0:02	5	4	0:57	1:12
Travelling by passenger car	0:05	0:12	9	18	1:01	1:09
Travelling by bicycle	0:00	0:02	1	5	0:48	0:54
Other or unspecified private transport mode	0:00	0:02	1	3	0:55	1:02
Travel total	0:45	1:08	61	76	1:14	1:29

Travel by passenger car was documented by older women at an average of five minutes per day (0:05), while men indicated spending twice as much time doing so (0:12). Every tenth woman reported travelling by passenger car (9%), whereas this was the case for every fifth older man (18%). Overall, both older women and older men were observed to spend around one hour travelling by car (women 1:01, men 1:09).

When total travel time for older women is compared with data from the first survey, older women recorded almost the same average time; women's recorded rate participation was slightly higher in 2010, while the average time of those who engaged in travel activities was shorter in the first survey. When comparing documented total travel time for men, the average time was slightly longer in the first survey, as were the indicated rates of participation of older men and the average time spent by those who travelled.

Compared with the first survey, overall time spent walking was documented as slightly longer in 2010 than in 2021 and at a higher participation rate.

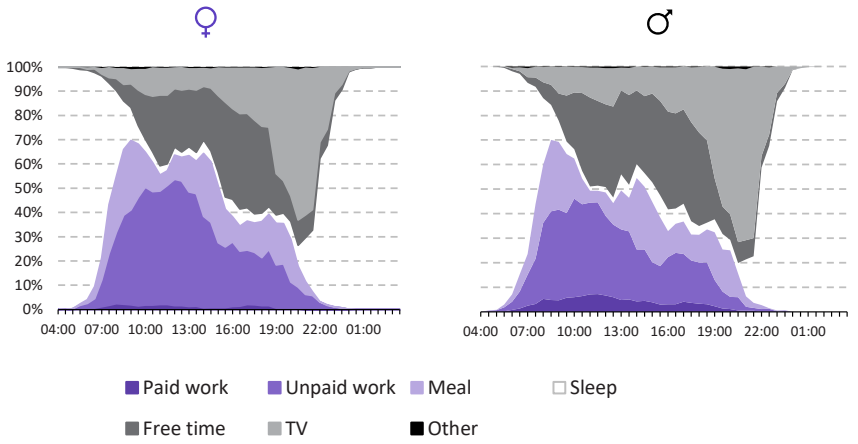
When comparing data on travel by passenger car, the recorded average time and participation of the older population were somewhat lower in the first survey than in the second one, resulting in a slightly longer average time among those who engaged in these activities.

The older generation and their daily rhythm

The daily rhythm means an overview of the daily activities of the older generation in the Republic of Serbia over a 24-hour period, and it is presented using tempograms.

The data indicate that only one in fifty women aged 65 and over engaged in paid work on weekdays (around 2%), and only to a very small extent . When unpaid work is considered, every second woman was found to perform such activities in the period between 10:00 and 13:00.

Tempogram 3.1. Distribution of time spent on activities during the day: population aged 65+, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



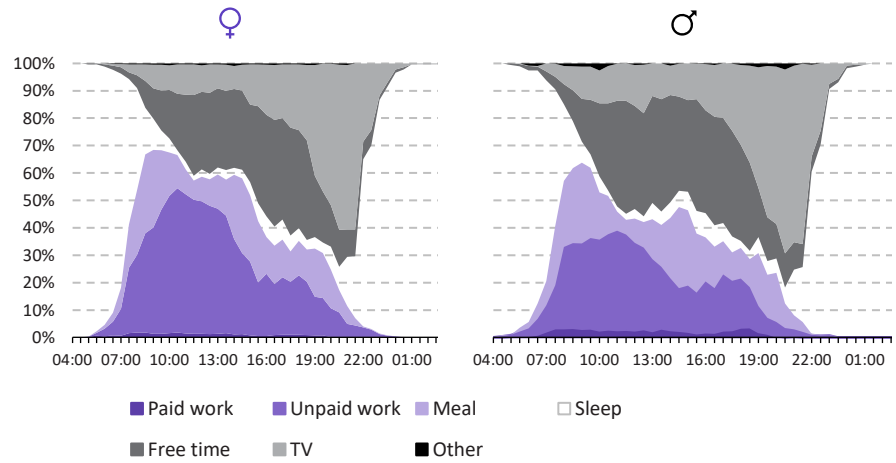
When paid work among older men is considered, between five and seven percent of them were observed to perform paid work in the period between 8:00 and 14:00. Unpaid work was reportedly carried out by every third man between 8:00 and 12:00.

When free time activities are observed, every third woman reported leisure activities between 15:00 and 18:30, and every third man in the period from 10:30 to 19:00.

Data from 2010 indicate that both older women and older men performed paid work on weekdays to a greater extent, while the older population in both surveys were observed to maintain almost the same level of participation in unpaid work.

On weekends, every fiftieth older woman in 2021 reported performing some form of paid work between 8:00 and 10:00, while every second woman reported performing unpaid work between 10:00 and 12:30.

Tempogram 3.2. Distribution of time spent on activities during the day: population aged 65+ years, by sex; weekend days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



Men exhibited slightly higher rates of participation, with every thirtieth older man reporting paid work activities between 8:00 and 10:00, as well as in the late afternoon hours (from 17:00 to 19:00). When it comes to unpaid work, in the period between 8:30 and 12:30 unpaid activities were reported by every third man and every second women in the period between 10:00 and 11:30.

When observing free time activities among older women, between 30% and 40% of them reported leisure activities in the period from 11:30 to 19:00, while the same percentage of older men reported leisure time between 10:30 and 19:00.

When comparing data from the first and second surveys for weekend days, data from 2010 indicate that older women performed paid work at slightly higher rates of participation than in 2021, and that every second woman performed unpaid work during the same time period as in 2021. With regard to free time, older women were observed to spend less time doing so and to participate to a lesser extent than in 2021.

Older men were seen to perform paid work to a greater extent in 2010 than in 2021, both in the morning and afternoon hours, while the same proportion of men indicated performing unpaid work. Every third man was seen to engage in leisure activities throughout the day, with higher participation rates in 2010 than in 2021.

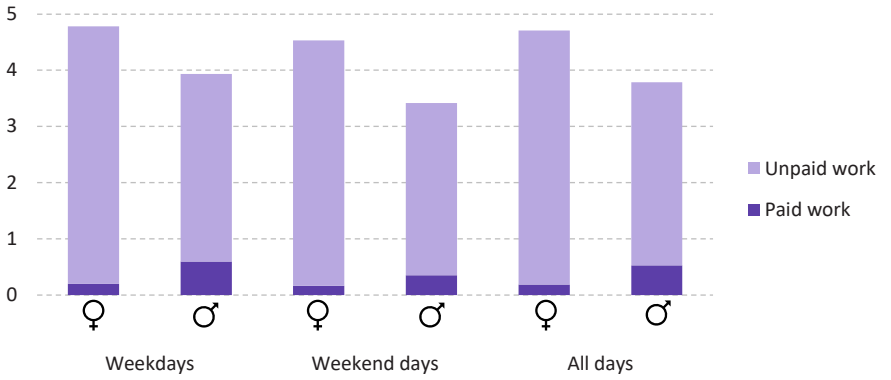
The older population and paid and unpaid work

Graph 3.7. presents data on how much time elderly men and women reportedly spend on total work, which is divided to paid and unpaid work, and according to weekdays, weekend days or all days.

In 2021, on weekdays, women were observed to work just under five hours (4:46), while men were found to work four hours (3:56). Women indicated spending only 4% of this time on paid work (0:11), compared to 15% among men (0:35). The data also show a very high share of unpaid work among surveyed women (96%).

On weekends, women reported spending four and a half hours in total work (4:31), while men recorded one hour less (3:25). The documented structure of paid and unpaid work among women remained the same as on weekdays (4% versus 96%), whereas among men the observed ratio was 10% paid work to 90% unpaid work.

Graph 3.7. Average time spent on total work: population aged 65+, by sex, weekdays, weekends, and all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



Both on weekdays and weekend days, women were found to spend one hour more in total work than men (women 4:42, men 3:47), while the documented share of paid work remained the same for women regardless of the type of day (women 4%, men 14%).

When comparing all days, both women and men indicated spending more time on total work activities about half an hour longer in 2010 than in 2021.

Table 3.3. contains data on the three basic measures relating to the activities of paid and unpaid work of elderly people, by gender. Data are shown for all days, i.e., cumulatively for weekdays and for weekend days.

Table 3.3. Average time, the proportion of doers who spent time on activities of paid and unpaid work and the average time for doers: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Paid work	0:11	0:31	6	11	3:23	4:51
Unpaid work	4:31	3:15	93	85	4:53	3:49

Regarding the measure of average time, in 2021 women were seen to spend ten minutes per day in paid work (0:11), while men were found to spend half an hour (0:31). As for unpaid work, women indicated spending an average of four and a half hours (4:31), while men reported spending slightly more than three hours (3:15).

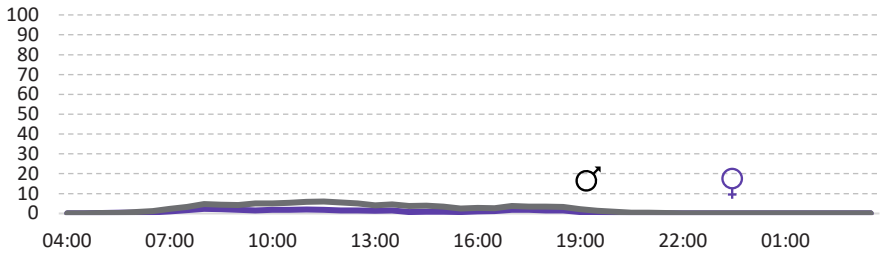
Every seventeenth woman reported engagement in paid work (6%), compared to every ninth man (11%). Women who reported paid activities spent on average just under three and a half hours on them (3:23), and such men just under five hours (4:51).

Unpaid work was reported by almost every older woman (93%), as well as by four out of five men (85%). Women who performed unpaid work spent on average just under five hours on these activities (4:53), while their male counterparts spent just under four hours (3:49).

When comparing data from 2010 and 2021, both women and men were observed to spend twice as much time in paid work in 2010. As for unpaid work, older women were seen to spend twenty minutes longer in unpaid work in the first survey than in the second one, while older men were found to spend a shorter amount of time.

In terms of the time of day during which older persons performed paid work, as well as their level of participation, the documented values were low for both older men and older women.

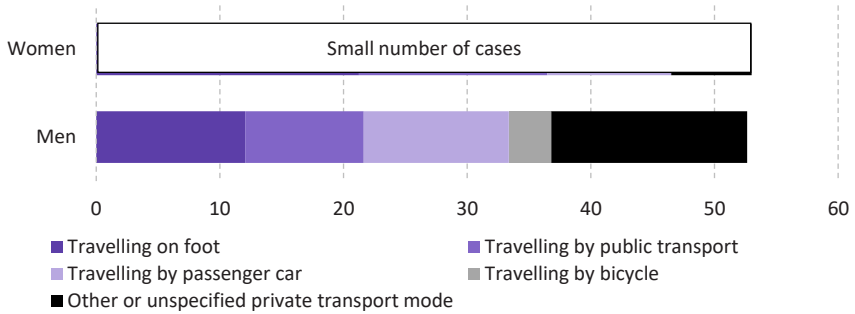
Graph 3.8. Paid work: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



There was a slightly higher rate of participation of older men reporting engagement in paid work compared to older women throughout almost the entire day, with differences of up to four percentage points in favour of men. Only in the period from 5:00 to 6:00 did women appear to work longer, by 0.2 percentage points.

When comparing data about paid work from the first and second surveys, it can be seen that in 2010 surveyed men participated at levels of up to 10%, and surveyed women up to 5%, and that these values were halved in the second survey.

Graph 3.9. Average time spent in travel to and from work: population aged 65+, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (minutes)



On weekdays, men were observed to spend on average less than one hour per day on transport to and from work (0:53), though with notable differences in the means of transport used.

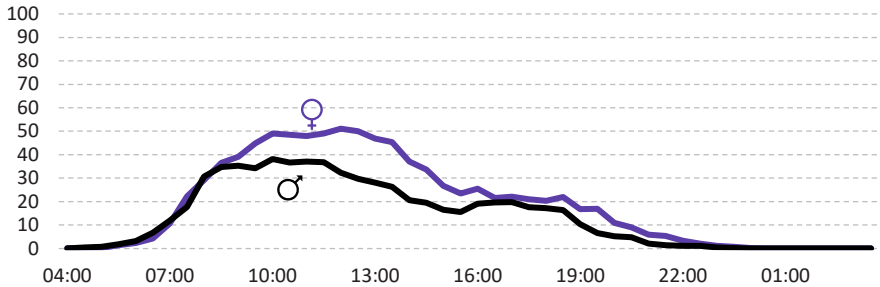
Almost every third man reported using other means of transport (30%, 0:16), with nearly every fifth walking (23%, 0:12) or travelling by passenger car (22%, 0:12). Public transport was reportedly used by a slightly smaller share of men (18%, 0:09), with the smallest share of transport options by bicycle (7%, 0:03).

The number of responses for older women was not sufficient to analyse data related to commuting to and from work in either of the surveys.

When unpaid work and the participation of the older generation by gender in 2021 are considered, Graph 3.10. indicates that a higher participation of older women compared to older men were engaged in such activities throughout the entire day, as was also the case for the other two generations analysed.

Between 10:00 and 13:00, every second woman reported being engaged in unpaid work, while this was the case for every third man. Gender differences during the day were documented as up to 20 percentage points in favour of women; however, it is noteworthy that men were observed as more active in unpaid work between 4:30 and 8:00, as also illustrated in the graph.

Graph 3.10. Unpaid work: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)

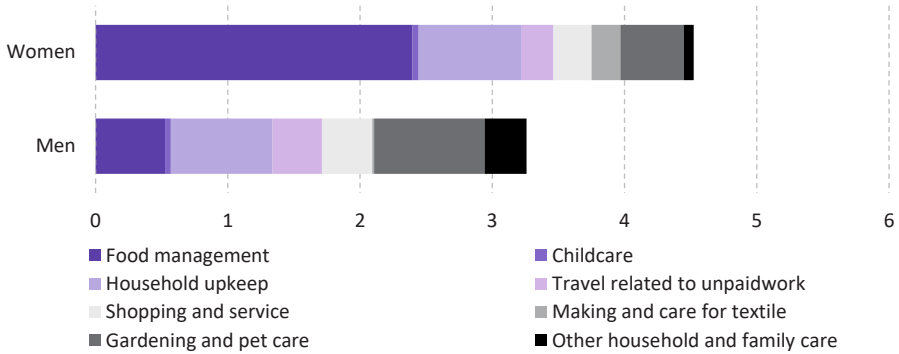


Between 1:30 and 3:30, none of the surveyed respondents indicated performing unpaid work.

When comparing data from 2010 and 2021, the observed trend of women spending considerably more time on unpaid work than men was sustained, with every second older woman documented as performing unpaid work somewhat earlier in the day, while men were seen as slightly more active than women in unpaid activities late in the evening and early in the morning according to 2010 survey data.

Graph 3.11. shows data on unpaid work at activity level 2. The data refer to women and men of the older generation and cover all days.

Graph 3.11. Average time spent on unpaid activities: two-digit level of activities, population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In the 2021 survey, the total amount of documented unpaid work performed by older women was four and a half hours (4:31), while older men found to spend slightly more than three hours (3:15).

Older women were observed to spend most of their unpaid working time on food-related activities (2:23), followed by household maintenance (0:46) and gardening and pet care (0:28). Among unpaid activities, older men were seen to spend the most time on gardening and caring for pets (0:50), followed by household maintenance (0:46) — the same amount of time as older women — and around half an hour on food-related activities (0:31).

The unpaid activities in which men were documented as dominant were those related to gardening and pet care (22 minutes longer), followed by other household and family care (15 minutes longer), travel related to unpaid work (eight minutes longer), and shopping and services (five minutes longer).

In the first survey conducted in 2010, older women were seen to spend slightly more time on total unpaid work than documented in 2021, while men were observed to spend almost the same time in both surveys. Looking at activities at the second activity level, older women were found to spend the greatest amount of time on food management in both surveys, whereas older men indicated spending the most time on gardening and pet care.

The older generation and personal care

Persons aged 65 and over appear to spend almost half a day on personal care, and from the data in Table 3.4. it can be seen that this is about twenty minutes more than 12 hours for older women (12:19), and about fifteen minutes more than 12 hours for older men (12:14).

Table 3.4. Average time, proportion of doers who spent time on personal care activities and average time for doers: activity levels 1 and 2, population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours and %)

	Average time		Proportion of doers		Average time for doers	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Personal care	12:19	12:14	100	100	12:19	12:14
Sleep	8:59	8:53	100	100	8:59	8:53
Eating	2:17	2:23	100	100	2:18	2:23
Drinking coffee	0:42	0:41	77	78	0:55	0:53
Other personal care	1:02	0:57	97	95	1:04	1:00

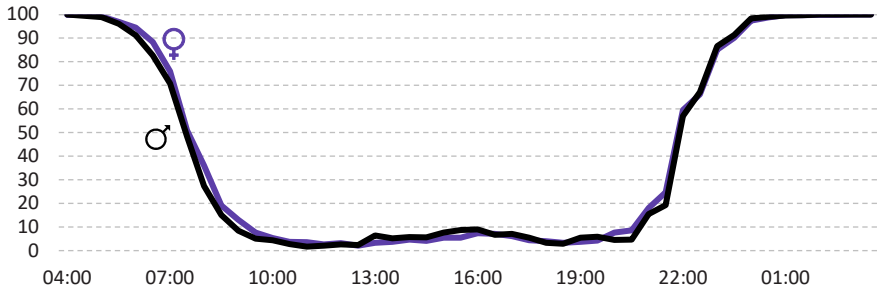
Both older women (8:59) and older men (8:53) were documented as spending just under nine hours on sleeping activities, and slightly more than two hours on the consumption of food and beverages (older women 2:17, older men 2:23).

The recorded time spent drinking coffee was nearly the same for older women (0:42) and older men (0:41).

Comparing the results from 2010 and 2021, it is evident that in 2010 both older women and older men respondents spent slightly less time on activities related to total personal care and the consumption of food and beverages, while somewhat more time sleeping.

Graph 3.12. shows the documented percentage and variance of older men and women's time sleeping or taking care of personal hygiene over a 24-hour period.

Graph 3.12. Sleep and personal hygiene: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



As with the other two generations, at 4:00 a large proportion of older respondents were observed to be asleep. The data indicate that more than 90% of both older women and older men are sleep from the times 23:30 to 6:00. The graph also shows that during the day older women and older men's participation in sleeping activities and personal hygiene care fluctuated.

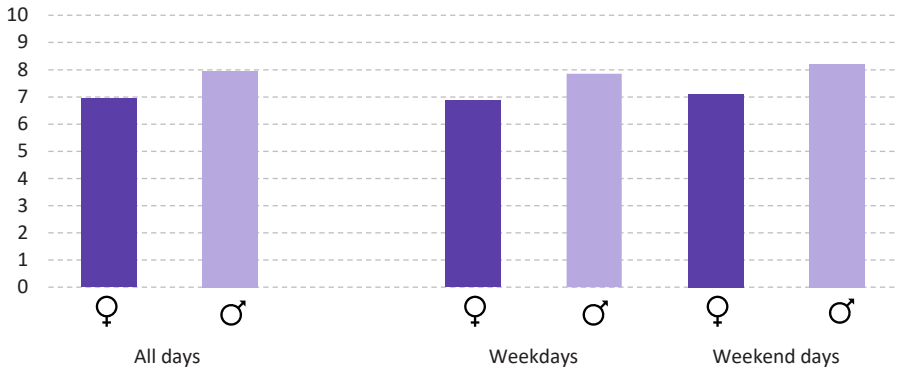
In the period from 2:00 to 4:00, all surveyed older men reported that they were either sleeping or maintaining personal hygiene, meaning that their participation in these activities was 100%.

Comparing the data from 2010 and 2021, it can be seen that in the first survey older men reported participation rates of up to four percentage points higher in sleeping and personal hygiene activities than older women during the period from 9:00 to 16:00.

The older generation and free time

We can all choose how we spend our free time: watching television or listening to radio programmes, or spending time with family and friends. It is assumed that people aged 65 and over have the most time for leisure activities, and the data shown in the graph below (3.13.) indicate that male members of the older generation spent one hour more of their total time in leisure across all days than their female counterparts.

Graph 3.13. Average time spent on free activities: population aged 65+, by sex, all days, weekdays and weekends, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)

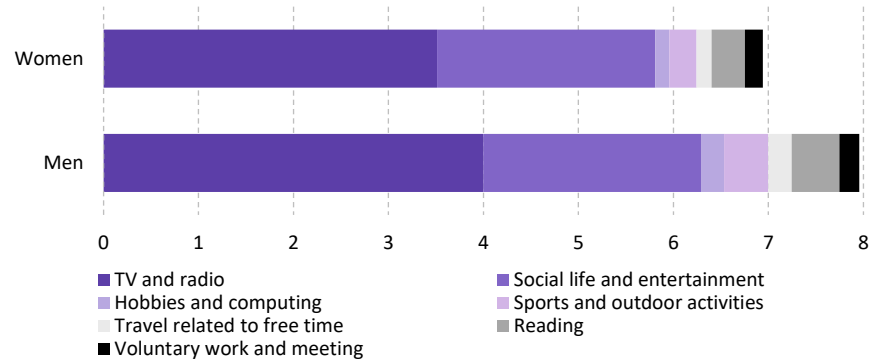


Older women were observed to spend, on average, nearly seven hours per day engaging in leisure activities in 2021 (6:56), while older men were seen to spend almost eight hours (7:57). Given that older individuals are generally no longer economically active, it is not surprising that only small differences were observed in the duration of free time between weekdays and weekends for this generation (women: weekdays 6:52, weekends 7:07; men: weekdays 7:51, weekends 8:13).

When comparing time spent on free time activities across all days for the older generation in 2010 and 2021, it can be seen that in 2010 both older women and older men surveyed spent less time on leisure activities than they did in 2021.

Graph 3.14. presents individual leisure activities (activity levels 1 and 2) and it would appear that members of the older generation in the Republic of Serbia spend most of their free time watching TV.

Graph 3.14. Average time spent on free activities: activity levels 1 and 2, population aged 65+, by sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)

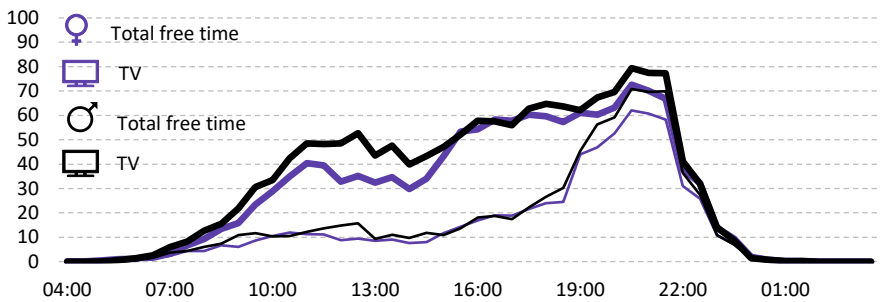


Older women were seen to spend on average three and a half hours per day watching TV (3:30), while older men were observed to spend about half an hour more (3:59). The same time was found to be spent on social life and entertainment activities by older women (2:17) and older men (2:17). Reading ranked as the third most common leisure activity for both groups, with older men (0:30) documented as spending ten minutes more on reading than older women (0:20). Overall, across all leisure activities, older men were found to have more free time than older women.

A comparison of the data from 2010 and 2021 shows that in both surveys the largest share of documented free time was spent watching TV, followed by activities related to social life and entertainment.

Graph 3.15. presents data on the documented percentage of older women and men engaged in leisure activities on weekdays, such as how many of them watch TV at certain times and how long they engage in these activities.

Graph 3.15. Total free time and watching TV: population aged 65+, by sex, weekdays, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (time and %)



The participation of older women and older men spending time on free time activities and watching television was seen to gradually increase during the day.

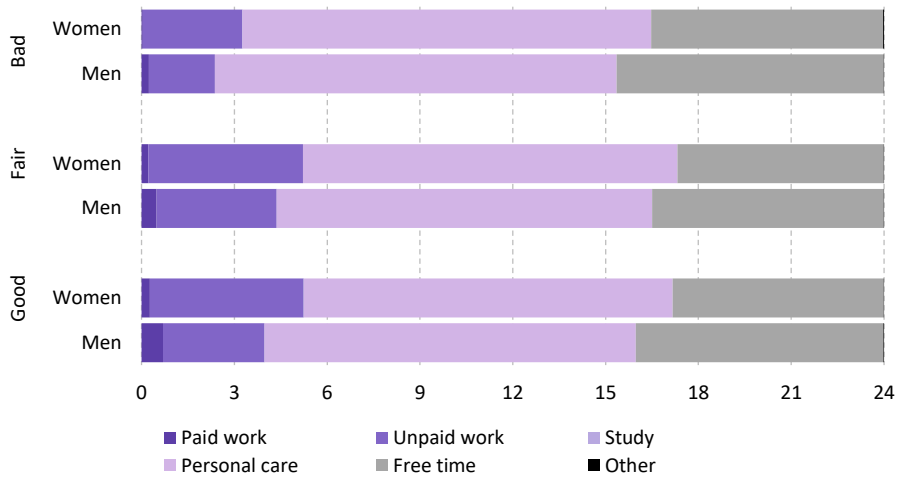
During weekdays, every second older man and every second older woman reported engaging in some form of leisure activity between 15:30 and 22:00. Every second older person reported watching television, with men doing so between 19:30 and 21:30, and women between 20:00 and 21:30.

A comparison of the first and second surveys indicates that in the first survey every second older person, regardless of gender, started their leisure activities a full hour earlier than in the second survey.

The older generation and health care

Graph 3.16. shows the main activities of the elderly alongside a personal evaluation of their general state of health, which were classified as 'good,' 'medium,' and 'bad.'

Graph 3.16. Average time spent on activities: population aged 65+, by self-declared health status and sex, all days, Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022 (hours)



In analysing paid work among the older generation in 2021, the time spent on such activities was found to decrease in parallel with changes in self-assessed health status — older women in good health (0:15), medium health (0:13), and bad health (0:02), and older men in good health (0:41), medium health (0:28), and bad health (0:14).

In regard to unpaid work among the older generation, the data show that women who reported being in good (4:58) and medium (4:59) health were observed to spend the same time on unpaid activities, while women indicating being in bad health were seen to spend more than three hours on unpaid work (3:13). As for unpaid activities among older men, those who reported medium health indicated spending almost four hours in such activities(3:53), with those who reported good health reporting slightly less (3:17), and the least amount of time was recorded by those who reported bad health (2:08).

Comparing the data from 2010 with those from 2021, it can be seen that in 2010 both older women and older men surveyed spent somewhat more time in paid work than in 2021, and that men in good and medium health reportedly spent less time on unpaid work in 2010 than in 2021, while women indicated spending more time overall.

Conclusion

One of the most significant findings of the survey relates to differences in the distribution of time between women and men. Women, regardless of age group, were observed to spend more time in unpaid work, especially in activities related to the household and family care. On the other hand, men were seen to spend more time in paid work.

This distribution indicates that traditional gender roles are still present. However, the results also show certain positive developments, particularly in terms of the greater participation of men in unpaid activities compared to the previous period. The survey data also provide insight into the schedule of activities during the day. Paid work was found to be most prevalent in the morning and forenoon hours, with unpaid work documented as most common in the afternoon and evening hours. Free time was recorded as dominant in the evening hours, especially among the younger and older population. Reportedly, young people use evening hours for social activities and digital content, while the older population spends more time watching television and on family activities.

The analysis of free time is of particular importance, as it is an important indicator of quality of life. The results indicate that the older population has the most free time, but it is often used for passive activities, such as watching television or resting. In contrast, the younger population appears to use free time more often for social activities, sports and using the Internet. In the middle generation, free time was observed to be limited due to work obligations, which can impact the balance between work and private life. These results indicate the need to develop policies that would enable better coordination of work and private obligations.

The Time Use Survey is an important tool for creating social policies, especially in the areas of gender equality, labour policy, and support for different generations. The data analysis was carried out using three basic indicators: average time spent in an activity, population participation in an activity, and average time spent by those who performed the activity. This approach allows for a comprehensive understanding not only of the duration of the activity, but also of the prevalence of certain behavioural patterns. These data can complement labour statistics by measuring unpaid work and help in understanding social changes.

Based on the analysis conducted, it can be concluded that the way in which time is used is an important indicator of social and economic relations. Differences in the distribution of time indicate the existence of different social roles and obligations, but also of changes that are gradually occurring.

Overall, the survey indicates that:

- Gender differences in the distribution of time remain significant: women spend more time in unpaid work, men more in paid work and free time.
- Young people are the generation that study and use digital technologies the most.
- The middle generation is the most burdened with work, especially women.
- Older people have the most free time, but they spend it mostly passively.

Taken as a whole, the survey provides valuable information about the daily lives of the population of the Republic of Serbia and represents an important basis for future surveys and analysis, as well as for policy development and strategic decision-making.

How Three Generations Use Their Time in the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022

SUMMARY

Introduction and Methodology

The Time Use Survey (TUS) was conducted by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS) from April 2021 to April 2022 as the second survey of its kind in the Republic of Serbia. The first survey was carried out in 2010/2011. Based on the data from the 2021/2022 survey, the publication '*How Three Generations Use Time in the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022'* was produced in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Serbia. The publication is primarily based on the results of the second wave of the survey, while certain sections also provide comparisons with data from the first survey conducted in 2010/2011. The publication presents a comprehensive analysis of how Serbian residents allocate their time during the day, with a particular focus on differences between young people (15–29 years old), middle-aged people (30–64 years old) and older people (65 years and older).

The methodology is aligned with European methodological standards (HETUS 2018), which allows for comparability with other countries. The aim of the *2018 Harmonised Recommendations for Time Use Surveys (HETUS)* was to provide a uniform approach to the process of data collection, processing and presentation.

The aim of the survey is to present the structure of the population's daily activities, including paid work, unpaid work, study, personal care and free time, as well as to identify differences by gender, age, education and other socioeconomic characteristics. The special importance of the survey is reflected in its capacity to measure unpaid work, which often remains invisible in traditional economic analyses, and is particularly important for understanding gender equality.

Data for this survey were collected using time diaries as the main survey instrument. Respondents aged 15 and over kept time diaries for two pre-selected days (one weekday and one weekend day), recording their activities at ten-minute intervals. They wrote down the activities they performed in their own words, so that the diaries recorded the times at which they started and finished their activities. The respondents filled out time diaries by recording the main and parallel activities, location, use of technology and the company they were with.

Based on these data, a detailed summary and precise insights into the structure of time over a 24-hour period were made possible, with the ability to calculate how long each of the recorded episodes lasted and who performed it.

Basic Statistical Measures

Three basic statistical measures were used in the analysis:

- **Average time** — Total time spent on an activity divided by the total number of respondents;
- **Participation rate** — Percentage of persons who performed the activity;
- **Average time of those who performed the activity** — The average time spent on an activity, calculated only for those who engaged in that activity.

The third measure allows an approach to distinguish between groups that do not participate in certain activities at all from those that do so and at what degree of intensity.

Main survey findings

One of the most significant findings of the survey relates to the differences between men and women in the distribution of time. Women, regardless of age group, were found to spend more time in unpaid work, especially in work related to the household and family care. On the other hand, men were observed to spend more time in paid work.

The observed patterns are consistent with a traditional gender division of paid and unpaid work. However, the results also show certain positive developments, especially in terms of the greater documented participation of men in unpaid activities compared to the previous surveyed period. The survey data also provide insight into the schedule of activities during the day. Paid work was reported as most prevalent in the morning and forenoon hours, while unpaid work was recorded as most common in the afternoon and evening hours. Free time was indicated to be dominant in the evening hours, especially among the younger and older population. Young people were observed to use evening hours primarily for social activities and digital content, while the older population were seen to spend more time watching television and on family activities.

The analysis of free time is of particular importance, as it is an important indicator of quality of life. The results indicate that the older population has the most free time, but it is often used for passive activities, such as watching television or resting. In contrast, the younger population appear to use free time more often for social activities, sports and using the Internet.

In the middle generation, free time was found to be more limited, likely due to work obligations, which can impact the balance between work and private life. These results indicate the need to develop policies that would enable better coordination of work and private obligations.

General findings for the total population

When all respondents over 15 years of age are considered, the following structure of the average resident's day was obtained:

Work (paid + unpaid + study): 6:41 per day - a total of more than 6.5 hours per day (3:08 paid, 3:08 unpaid, study 0:25):

- Paid work: three hours (3:08),
- Unpaid work: three hours (3:08),
- Study: an average of 25 minutes per day (0:25).

Personal care: most of the day, almost 11.5 hours for sleep, meals, hygiene, etc. (11:28).

Free time: slightly less than six hours (5:48).

Other activities: negligible (0:01).

Gender differences documented in the survey results were significant:

- Women, on average, did less paid work (2:23) than men (3:56), but more unpaid work (4:09 vs. 2:03).
- Men had an advantage in free time (6:11 vs. 5:27).
- Personal care was approximately equal, with a slight advantage for women.
- Compared to the 2010 survey:
- Paid work was slightly extended (by about 13 minutes).
- Unpaid work decreased by 42 minutes among women, and by 13 minutes among men.
- Personal care was extended by about 20 minutes.
- Free time remained approximately the same, but with changes by gender (women longer, men shorter).

General findings for three generations

❖ **Youth (15–29)**

The young generation appears to spend the most time studying, as well as engaging in free activities.

- **Study:** an average of 2 hours and 13 minutes per day, a significantly longer amount of time compared to other generations.
- **Free time:** over 6 hours per day, mostly in socializing, entertainment and using digital devices.
- **Paid work:** a relatively short amount of time, likely due to a large part of young people still studying or unemployed.
- **Unpaid work:** shorter than among older people, but with women still bearing the greater burden of housework.

Compared to 2010, young people in 2021 were found to spend 12 minutes more per day studying in 2021, but more on digital activities and entertainment.

❖ **Middle-aged (30–64)**

This generation was observed to be the most work-intensive.

- **Paid work:** an average of 4–5 hours per day, the longest among generations.
- **Unpaid work:** significant, especially for women (over 4 hours).
- **Free time:** limited, about 5 hours per day.
- **Personal care:** approximately 11.5 hours.

Middle-aged women were seen to have more of a double burden – paid and unpaid work - than their male counterparts, leaving them less time for rest and free time activities. Thus, men were found to spend more time in paid work and free time.

Compared to 2010, unpaid work was found to decrease among women, but still remained significantly longer than was documented among men.

❖ **Older (65+):**

The elderly population was seen to have the most free time, but also specific activity patterns.

- **Free time:** over 7 hours a day, mainly in watching TV, socializing and resting.
- **Personal care:** more than 12 hours, likely due to longer sleep and health needs.
- **Paid work:** almost negligible.
- **Unpaid work:** about four hours per day (3:58), mainly in housework and household care.

Compared to 2010, older people in 2021 were found to spend more time on personal care (due to health activities during the COVID-19 pandemic) and less on unpaid work.

Importance of the survey

The survey indicates that:

- Gender differences in the distribution of time remain significant: women spend more time in unpaid work, men more in paid work and free time.
- Young people are the generation that study and use digital technologies the most.
- The middle generation is the most burdened with work, especially women.
- Older people have the most free time, but they spend it mostly passively.

The obtained data serves as the basis for measuring unpaid work, especially of women, and allows for the creation of policies in the areas of work, gender equality, education, culture and health. Due to the timing of the survey, the COVID-19 pandemic also affected the structure of the day, as more time was spent on personal care - illness, vaccinations, doctor visits.

Conclusion

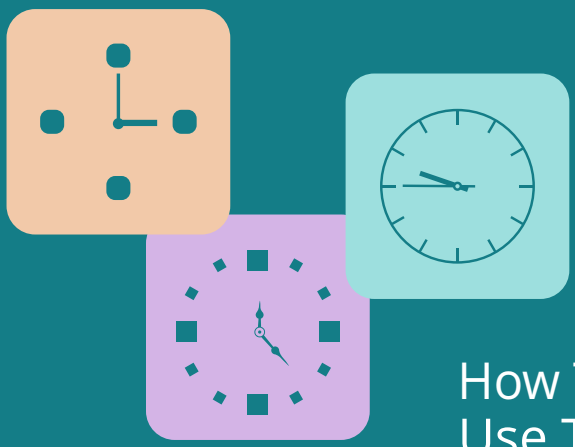
The Time Use Survey is an important tool for creating social policies, especially in the areas of gender equality, labour policy, and support for different generations. The data analysis was carried out using three basic indicators: average time spent in an activity, population participation in an activity, and average time spent by those who performed the activity. This approach allows for a comprehensive understanding not only of the duration of the activity, but also of the prevalence of certain behavioural patterns. These data can complement labour statistics by measuring unpaid work and help in understanding social changes.

Based on the analysis conducted, it can be concluded that the way in which time is used is an important indicator of social and economic relations. Differences in the distribution of time indicate the existence of different social roles and obligations, but also of changes that are gradually occurring.

- The survey indicates clear generational and gender differences in the use of time and the division of labour, the influence of education on the organization and way of spending time, the importance of free time for the quality of life, etc.

- Women were observed to continue to bear a greater burden of unpaid work, while men were found to have more free time.
- Young people appear to be focused on study and socializing, the middle generation on work, and the elderly on rest.

Overall, the survey provides valuable information about the daily lives of the Serbian population and represents an important basis for future surveys and analysis, as well as for policy development and strategic decision-making.



How Three Generations Use Their Time in the Republic of Serbia, 2021/2022

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