

**CROATIA, Europe**

Compiled by Elizabeth Greef; edited by Mihaela Banek Zorica July 2016

Population and literacy levels	<p>4,464,844 (July 2015 est.)</p> <p>Literacy rate: 99.3% Male: 99.7%; Female: 98.9% (2015 est.) Definition: age 15 and over can read and write</p> <p>Languages: Croatian (official) 95.6%, Serbian 1.2% (2011 est.) Source: CIA World Factbook</p>
Overview of education and school library situation	<p>Classbase – Education system in Croatia</p> <p>In the Croatian school system it is prescribed by the law that every school is obliged to have a</p>

school library. The Law on Primary and Secondary Education (2003), stipulates that every school must have a school library. The Standard (Standard za školske knjižnice, 2000) prescribes the conditions that each library must meet regarding the space, collections and set of goals by utilizing three major activities: educational, cultural/public and professional. Currently a new edition of the standard is proposed and waiting for confirmation from Ministry. Furthermore, the State educational standard (Državni pedagoški standard, 2008) stands as another document which defines the school library as a social space and an integral part of the educational system. It is necessary to state that school librarians in Croatia are one of the most educated ones in the school environment. Apart from having a university degree and teacher certificate they need to obtain a university degree in school librarianship. There are three universities offering LIS studies in Croatia: University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Information and Communication Sciences (<http://inf.ffzg.unizg.hr/index.php/en/>), University of Zadar, Department of Information Sciences (<http://www.unizd.hr/iz/Fotogalerija/tabid/6953/language/en-US/Default.aspx>), University of Osijek, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Information Sciences (<http://web.ffos.hr/infoznanosti>).

Still, continuous education of all participants of teaching and professional staff is required and enabled through Education and Teacher Training Agency (<http://www.azoo.hr>). This public institution is responsible for the provision of professional and advisory support in the area of general education in Croatia. It is an Agency of the Ministry responsible for educational issues. The main scope of the Agency lies in providing professional and advisory assistance in education, monitoring and improvement of education, the participation in the preparation of the national curriculum, organising and implementing in-service training of pre-school, primary and secondary-school teachers, school counsellors and principals etc.

The Agency provides a systematic continuous professional training of school librarians on two levels:

- County level - the organization of training in counties organized by the school librarian elected as the head of the county council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Level – together with the Department of Information Sciences, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb it organizes a Spring School of Croatian school librarians. The first one was organized in 1988 and it presents an organized form of professional development based on both the theoretical and practical level. Secondly, the Agency regularly organizes gatherings and continuous education, workshop and seminar based, of the head council librarians <p>Furthermore, school libraries as part of the Croatian library network also have support from the National and University Library which has a dedicated school library adviser coordinating the network of public librarians from each county whose main task it is to provide support for school librarians in each county.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Banek Zorica, M. Špiranec, S. Incorporating information literacy in the Croatian school environment // <i>Proceedings of the 40th International Association of School Librarianship Annual Conference</i> / Paulette Kerr, Judith Rao, Myrtle Harris (ur.). IASL, 2011.</p> <p>In 2014 the Croatian Association of School Librarians was involved in developing Standards for School Libraries and they are also involved in developing a new Strategy of Croatian Librarianship 2015-2020. CASL actively cooperates with school library colleagues in neighbouring countries of Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. CASL also organises a round table at Interliber, the biggest book fair in the region. Professional training workshops are held for school librarians; examples are on Prezis as a means of presenting and creativity in the Library. Source: IASL Communique Report from CASL 2014</p> <p>There is a project underway to establish a repository of school-librarian works in Croatia called UDK 02. Source: Building repository of school-librarian works on Croatian Network of School Librarians</p>
Links to important associations/contacts	<p>Croatia has two professional associations of school librarians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Croatian Association of School librarians (http://www.husk.hr/) and • Croatian network of school librarians

	<p>(https://sites.google.com/a/knjiznicari.hr/knjiznicari/).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section for School libraries under the Croatian library association (http://www.hkdrustvo.hr/en/strucna_tijela/38/clanovi/) <p>Universities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Information and Communication Sciences (http://inf.ffzg.unizg.hr/index.php/en/) • University of Zadar, Department of Information Sciences (http://www.unizd.hr/iz/Fotogalerija/tabid/6953/language/en-US/Default.aspx) • University of Osijek, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Information Sciences (http://web.ffos.hr/infoznosti). <p>National and University Library, Zagreb – in English</p> <p>Zagreb City Libraries / Knjižnice Grada Zagreba</p> <p>IBBY Croatia</p>
Particular issues and needs of the country	<p>Stateless persons, transshipment of illicit drugs, air pollution, acid rain, landmine removal, reconstruction of infrastructure after civil unrest, high youth unemployment</p> <p>Source: CIA World Factbook</p>
Famous authors	<p><i>Adults:</i> Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić, August Cesarec, Slavenka Drakulić, Zoran Ferić, Miljenko Jergović, Vjekoslav Kaleb, Slavko Kolar, Mirslav Krleža, Ranko Marinković, Marko Marulić, Julijana Matanović, Josip Novakovich, Antun Šoljan, Ante Tomić, Marija Jurić Zagorka</p> <p>Sources: Britannica: Croatian literature and From Marulić to Krežla: Croatian Literature across the Centuries</p>

	<p><i>Children:</i> Miro Gavran, Luko Paljetak Source: Astrid Lindgren shortlist</p> <p><i>Picture Books:</i> Ludwig Bauer, Želimir Hercigonja, Svjetlan Junaković, Sanja Lovrenčić, Stanislav Marijanović, Dubravka Pađen-Farkaš, Sunčana Škrinjarić, Grigor Vitez, Pika Vončina, Sonja Zubović Source: World through picture books - IFLA</p>
Links to literature of the country	<p>E-lectire</p> <p>Britannica: Croatian literature</p> <p>From Marulić to Krežla: Croatian Literature across the Centuries</p> <p>Croatian Literature in English</p> <p>International Children's Digital Library: Croatia</p> <p>Children's literature, Croatian</p> <p>Croatian picture books: Traditional and modern expression</p> <p>World through picture books - IFLA</p> <p>How did fairytales become a genre of Croatian children's literature?</p> <p>An overview of Croatian children's literature with respect to changes in children's literature of the world</p> <p>Croatian children's literature on the verge of a new period</p>

Links to SL programs or advocacy tools	<p><i>Ow(l)etter party</i> – national project to promote reading for pleasure</p> <p><i>Let's read together, let's read aloud</i> – started in Krapina- Zagorje County in 2010 and has spread to other Croatian counties Source: IASL Communique Report from CASL 2014</p>
News/Reports	<p>UNESCO International Bureau of Education – Europe and North America links including world data on the education in Croatia and contacts</p> <p>For information literacy resources and links related to Croatia in Hrvatski, see pages 135-137 of UNESCO Overview of information literacy resources worldwide, 2nd edn.</p> <p>Croatian Association of School Librarians Communique Report, 2014</p> <p>Building repository of school-librarian works on Croatian Network of School Librarians</p> <p>Building repository of school librarian works on Croatian Network of School Librarians (PPP)</p>

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