Subject: Public statement in regards with the inadequate interpretation of MONSTAT data

Today, on 26 September 2012, 15:00 (building of MONSTAT, conference room, I floor, IV Proleterske 2 street, Podgorica) representatives of MONSTAT made the statement for the public on topic: Inadequately interpretation of population census data.

The statement on behalf of MONSTAT was made by:

Assistant Director, IT and Social Statistics Sector, Bozidar Popovic, PhD
Advisor, Demography and Census Department, Biljana Sekulovic

The statement regarding the inadequate interpretation of MONSTAT data

I would like to point out that the data from the Census available in MONSTAT are inadequately interpreted in media during last days. Data were compared with the data from the Central Voter Registration List. In addition to the fact that these are not comparable data, because they were collected by using different methodologies and for different purposes, we would like to point out that, contrary to the statements given in the media, number of persons born in 1951 and earlier is actually higher (for 1 207 persons) according to the Census data, than according to the Central Voter Registration List.

I would like to point out once more that methodology and purpose of data collection for the Central Voter Registration List and Census cannot be compared, and that it is not possible to make a relevant conclusion based on the comparison of number of adult persons in the Census and number of voters from the Central Voter Registration List.

EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENCE IN THE COMPARISON

MANS compared the number of citizens by reached years of age from the Census with the number of citizens from the Voter Registration List. Since that the reference moment of the Census was 31 March 2011, a person that on that date was 60 years old could be born in 1950 or 1951. Thus, by comparing this kind of data from the Census with the data on number of citizens by year of birth from the Central Voter Registration List, MANS made a wrong conclusion that the number of citizens older than 60 years by the Census is less than according to the Voter Registration List.

MONSTAT presented today statistical data that can be compared to a certain degree with the data from the Central Voter Registration List which was used by MANS – thus the number of citizens by year of birth from the Census and the number from the Central Voter Registration List was compared, and there was concluded that, contrary to the statement of MANS, according to the Census there are 1 207 citizens born in 1951 and earlier, more than according to the Central Voter Registration List.