

Intercultural contexts in Hungary



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National and ethnic minorities in Hungary

- Relatively homogeneous country since 1920. In 1990: 98.5% of the population (around 10 million) is native Hungarian. About 3 million Hungarians in neighbouring countries (previous Austro-Hungarian Monarchy), 2 million more elsewhere in the world.
- National minorities: Germans (~200,000); Slovaks (~100,000); Croats (~80,000); Roumanians (~25,000); Serbians (~5,000); Slovenians (~ 5,000); Polish (~ 10,000); Greeks (~3,000); Armenians (~1,500); Bulgarians (~3,000); Roussins (~6,000); Ukrainens (~2,000)
- Ethnic minorities: Romani (~4-600,000)

Non-native employees in Hungary

- From more than 110 countries. 1996: 20,296 registered; 2005: over 53,000. 2007. From Romania: 31,453; from Slovakia: 16,865; From the Ukraine: 8,091.

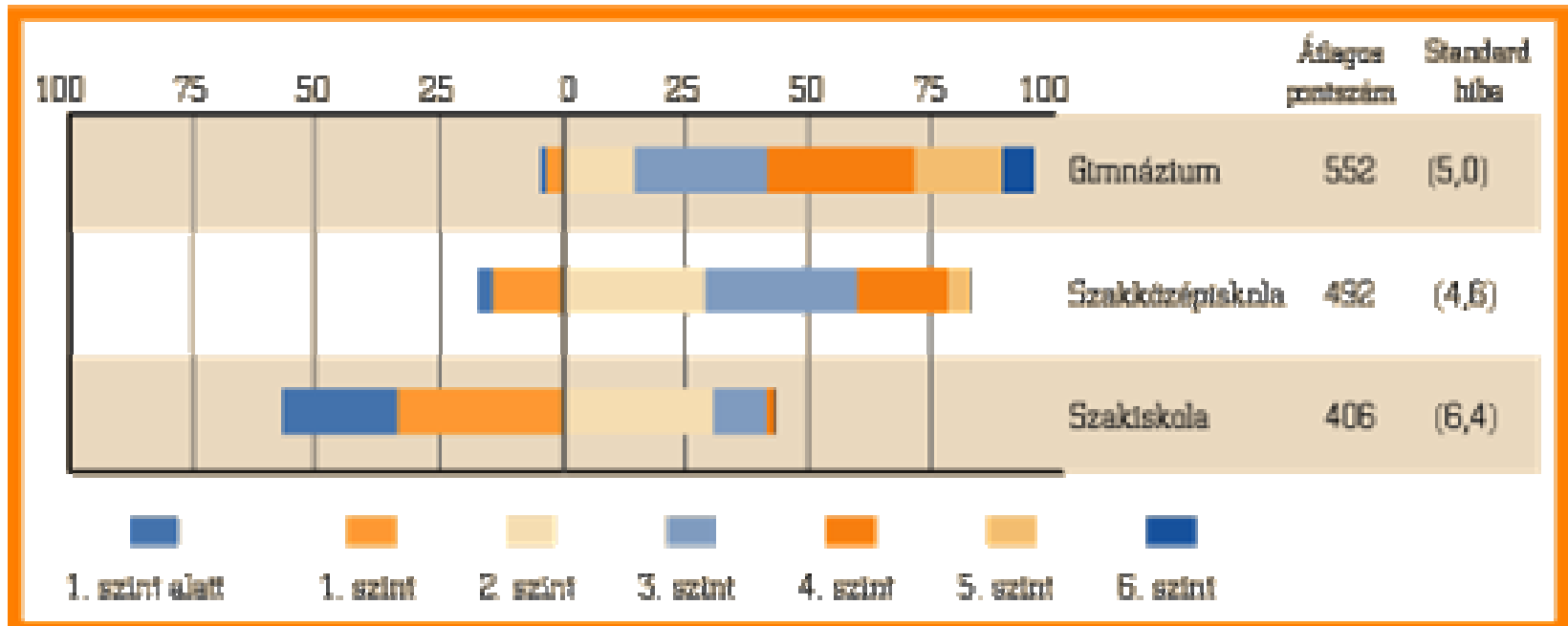
Education and ethnic minorities

- Educational expansion since the early nineties on secondary level (14-18 age group). Growing rate of participation of Romani pupils, in a selective school system
- A growing awareness of equity problems
- A growing awareness of equity-related efficiency problems
- Educational measures introduced, both in public education and in teacher training

The schooling of Romani pupils, finishing general school (after age 14) (%)

	1993/94	2002/03
Finishes schooling	49.8	8.1
In special vocational schools	9.4	6.2
Vocational schools	30.2	63.8
Vocational secondary schools	10.0	15.9
Grammar schools	0.6	5.9
All together	100	100

PISA results in maths, 2003, in different types of secondary schools



Public opinion about integration of the schooling of Romani and non-Romani pupils, 2005 (%)

	Mixed classes	for non-	Romanis	
Mixed classes		Rather bad	Rather good	All together
for Romani	Rather bad	35.2	2.4	37.6
pupils	Rather good	29.2	33.2	62.4
	All together	64.4	35.6	100

Problems identified with teachers teaching in mixed classes

- Little knowledge about the culture of different Romani groups in Hungary
- Little understanding about how socio-economic background of pupils and their school behaviour is related
- Very poor repertoire of teaching, evaluating, and coaching methods

Knowledge, skills, competences needed to be developed

- For teachers on the job, teacher trainees, teacher trainers
 - Knowledge about different cultures of students and their families
 - Experiencing how inefficient ethnocentric approaches in teaching-learning situations are
 - Experiencing how efficient communication helps in teaching-learning situations, with parents and other persons involved in education
 - Understand and practice how to create diverse learning environment
 - To establish and develop skills for individual learning
 - To motivate students
 - To create an atmosphere of co-operation and mutual trust