

# SPORT PARTICIPATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA AND ITS RELATION TO SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

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## Abstract:

The level of participation in sport and its relation to some socio-demographic variables was investigated on a sample of 1768 adults from the Republic of Slovenia. The following socio-demographic variables were investigated: gender, age, level of education, occupation and family status. In order to determine the association between the participation level and the socio-demographic variables, contingency tables were produced (with  $\chi^2$  and Cramer's V) and direct discriminant analysis was performed. Participation in sport was high and comparable to that found in the United States and Finland. However, some social groups with low levels of participation were identified, especially the elderly, less educated and married individuals with children. Although females exhibit lower participation rates than males, the differences were smaller than in the majority of other countries. Also, employment status does not seem to have an important influence on participation in sport.

**Key words:** *socio-demographic variables, sport participation rates, social stratification, Slovenia, sport*

## BETEILIGUNG AN SPORT IN DER REPUBLIK SLOWENIEN UND DEREN ZUSAMMENHANG MIT DEN AUSGEWÄHLTEN SOZIO-DEMOGRAPHISCHEN VARIABLEN

### Zusammenfassung:

Der Grad der Beteiligung an Sport und deren Zusammenhang mit einigen sozio-demographischen Variablen wurde auf einer Stichprobe von 1768 Erwachsenen aus der Republik Slowenien untersucht. Die folgenden sozio-demographischen Variablen wurden betrachtet: Geschlecht, Alter, Ausbildung, Beruf und Familienstand. Um den Zusammenhang zwischen dem Beteiligungsgrad und den sozio-demographischen Variablen festzustellen, wurden Kontingenztafeln (mit  $\chi^2$  und Cramers V) geschildert und die direkte Diskriminanzanalyse durchgeführt. Die Beteiligung an Sport war hoch und mit den Ergebnissen in den Vereinigten Staaten und Finnland vergleichbar. Jedoch wurden einige Sozialgruppen mit dem niedrigen Beteiligungsgrad identifiziert, vor allem die älteren, weniger ausgebildeten und verheirateten Leute mit Kindern. Obwohl unter den Frauen die Sportbeteiligung etwas niedriger ist als unter den Männern, ist dieser Unterschied kleiner als in meisten anderen Ländern. Der Arbeitsstatus scheint keinen bedeutenden Einfluss auf die Beteiligung an Sport zu haben.

**Schlüsselwörter:** *sozio-demographische Variablen, Sportbeteiligungsraten, soziale Stratifikation, Slowenien, Sport*

## Introduction

Sport participation represents one of the most important components of the quality of life in modern society, with many implications on a person's health, productivity, social relations and overall well-being. Nevertheless, most of the positive effects can be expected only with regular participation in sport activities. In Slovenia, government and civil sport bodies have taken actions to motivate adults to participate in sport at least two times per week. Although enormous progress has been achieved and reported over the last twenty years, only a small part of the population has reached the advised participation level. It seems that the lowest levels have been achieved in the social groups, which may benefit most from regular sport activity. In order to identify these under-active groups and offer them adequate programs and services, it is of vital importance to find out their social structure and the reasons for their (non)participation.

Many researchers have found that socio-demographic variables greatly relate to sport participation levels. Claeys (1985), Matheson (1991), Stockdale et al. (1996), Alexsandris and Caroll (1998), Barber and Havitz (2001) have found a significant relation between the participation level and age. Age was also found to relate, not only to the level, but also to the type of activity (Gratton & Tylor, 1985; McCarty, 1994). Beside age, the level and type of education was also found to be the most significant predictor of participation (Torkildsen, 1992; Alexandris & Carroll, 1998). Males were found to have higher participation rates than females (Bunuel, 1991; Howard, 1992; Robinson & Godbey, 1993; Green et al., 1995; Samuel, 1996; Barber & Havitz, 2001). Higher socio-economic status positively relates to the level of participation (Matheson, 1991). Marital status has a strong influence especially on sport activity of women (Doupona & Petrović, 1999). A review of recent studies in Germany (Opper, 1998) has confirmed the above mentioned relations of sport activity to socio-demographic variables, and has also shown a close relationship between those variables with morbidity and different diseases (e.g. psoriasis, heart attack, bronchial diseases, caries etc.). In a research of her own, Opper (ibid.) confirms the positive effects of sport activity on different aspects of health even when controlled for social status (which by itself has a positive relationship with health on the one hand and sport activity on the other). However, although social distinctions in sport participation in specific sport activities still persist, they can – at least in the developed Western countries (Belgium) – no

longer be explained by the economic variable (price of sport), but rather by the educational level and the socio-economic status ("habitus", taste) of participants (Taks, Renson and Vanrensel, 1995).

Research into recreational sports activity of adults in Slovenia showed that education of an individual and social group or class, to which someone belongs are very important factors for sport activity participation of women or men. Research also showed the influence of age, place of residence and gender, when comparing the sports activity of individuals. People with a higher educational level are much more active than people with a lower educational level. The least active people are those between 30 and 50 years of age and residents in rural local communities. Family status does not substantially affect the sport activity of men. Important turning points (such as loss of a partner or superannuation) lead women to increase their sport activity participation (Petrović et al., 1999).

## Materials and Methods

### Questionnaire

A self-administered checklist designed specifically for the Slovene adult population was used to collect the data. Participation rates were measured annually in order to account for infrequent participation and seasonal participants (Matherson, 1991). Frequency of participation was measured on the following scale: none, a few times per year, 1 to 3 times per month, once per week, 2 to 3 times per week and 4 or more times per week. All classical sport disciplines as well as dance, exercise walking, cycling and swimming, mountaineering and fitness training were considered as sport activities.

Five socio-demographic variables were used: gender, age (18-25, 26-35, 36-45, 46-55, 56-65, 66 years and above), level of education (primary school – 8 years or less, secondary level 1 – 2 or 3 years, secondary level 2 – 4 years, tertiary – non-university college or university), occupation (employed, unemployed, retired, student) and "family status" (single living alone, single living with their parents, married with no children, married/divorced/widowed with at least one child).

### Sample

In May 1998, 1768 people out of 3000 (58.9% response rate) from a proportional sample (with gender, age groups and election regions representing the quotas) of the adult Slovenian

Table 1. Socio-demographic characteristics of the sample (% , n=1768).

Gender		Age groups		Educational level		Occupation		Family status	
Male	52	18-25	25.5	Primary	8.1	employed	70.7	single-alone	7.4
Female	48	26-35	26.0	secondary 1	19.1	unemployed	3.7	single-parents	34.4
		36-45	21.2	secondary 2	31.7	student	19.6	family, no children	8.2
		46-55	18.1	tertiary	41.1	retired	6.0	family with children	50.0
		56-65	6.6						
		66+	2.7						
	100		100.0		100.0		100.0		100.0

population completed the questionnaire. The socio-demographic characteristics of the sample are presented in Table 1. Some differences between the sample and the structure of the Slovenian adult population are mentioned in the Discussion.

## Results

Sport participation levels are presented in Table 2. Less than 10% of the sample never participate in sport and over one third of them have already reached the frequency which has been suggested by the government and sport bodies (i.e. at least two times per week).

Table 2. Sport participation level (% , n=1768).

Frequency of participation	
Never	9.6
A few times per year	16.2
1 to 3 times per month	14.0
Once per week	23.0
2 to 3 times per week	21.9
4 or more times per week	15.3
	100.0

Participation level has a fairly strong (Cramer's V between 0.19 and 0.25) and statistically significant ( $p < 0.001$ ) association with all the socio-demographic variables (Table 3).

Further examination of the relationship between participation level and socio-demographic variables was conducted using control groups (with all socio-demographic characteristics taken as control variables). In order to satisfy the assumptions for  $\chi^2$  and Cramer's V (last column of Table 3) computation with only two levels of participation were used: irregular (and non-participants) - IP group - and regular participants (participating at least once per week) - RP group. Cross-tabulating participation with gender was not statistically significant (at  $p < 0.05$ ) in the following groups: persons of 45-55 and more than 65 years of age, tertiary educated persons, retired persons

and all family status groups except persons living in their own families with children.

Cross-tabulating participation with age is statistically significant (at  $p < 0.05$ ) for all control groups, except for students and the retired. Cross-tabulating participation with education shows non-significant results for elderly people (over 65 years of age) and all working status groups except employed persons. Cross-tabulation of participation with working status was statistically significant for all groups, except the persons in the oldest two groups (55-65, and over 65 years of age). Finally, cross-tabulating participation with family status was statistically significant for all groups, except for age groups from 35-45 and older, students and the retired.

In order to determine the discriminatory power of the demographic variables, a direct discriminant analysis was performed (Table 4). To satisfy the linearity assumption, educational level, working status and family status variables were recoded into dummy variables (with all values except the highest one representing a new dichotomous variable). The function fairly strongly (canonical  $R = .45$ ), correctly (72.2% of cases were correctly classified) and significantly ( $p < 0.001$ ) discriminates between the irregular and regular participants in sport.

## Discussion and Conclusions

Some differences between the sample structure and structure of the Slovenian adult population, as reported by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (Slovenia in Figures, 1999), were found. More specifically, the sample has a lower proportion of women (51% in the population), a lower proportion of elderly people, higher educational level, different occupational status (more employed persons and students, fewer unemployed and retired persons) and different family status (fewer singles living alone, fewer couples without children). Most of these differences may be explained by the fact that the whole population is included in the national statistics, while the sample consisted only of persons willing to

Table 3. Row percents and Cramer's V coefficient for crosstabulation of sport participation level with socio-demographic characteristics.

		Frequency of sport participation						Cramer'sV
		never	a few times per year	1 to 3 times per month	once per week	2 to 3 times per week	4 or more times per week	
Gender	male	7.0%	12.9%	14.3%	22.0%	23.2%	20.7%	0.19
	female	12.4%	19.7%	13.7%	24.1%	20.6%	9.5%	
Age group	<=25	0.7%	8.0%	10.0%	21.1%	28.2%	32.0%	0.22
	26-35	4.1%	15.0%	14.3%	26.1%	24.6%	15.9%	
	36-45	9.1%	17.9%	16.0%	25.6%	22.9%	8.5%	
	46-55	16.6%	24.4%	18.1%	21.6%	15.9%	3.4%	
	56-65	31.9%	20.7%	12.9%	20.7%	6.0%	7.8%	
	66+	48.9%	25.5%	6.4%	6.4%	8.5%	4.3%	
Educ. level	primary	34.3%	19.6%	8.4%	14.7%	10.5%	12.6%	0.19
	secondary 1	13.9%	22.8%	16.9%	17.8%	16.3%	12.4%	
	secondary 2	6.8%	18.2%	16.0%	21.4%	21.9%	15.7%	
	tertiary	4.8%	10.9%	12.1%	28.4%	26.9%	16.9%	
Work. stat.	employed	9.3%	18.8%	15.8%	23.8%	21.4%	10.9%	0.25
	unemployed	13.6%	21.2%	15.2%	21.2%	15.2%	13.6%	
	student	0.6%	2.6%	8.4%	24.3%	29.8%	34.4%	
	retired	39.6%	26.4%	9.4%	11.3%	6.6%	6.6%	
Fam. stat.	single-alone	13.8%	12.3%	13.1%	23.1%	25.4%	12.3%	0.23
	single-parents	2.3%	7.9%	10.7%	21.7%	26.9%	30.5%	
	family, no children	14.5%	15.9%	9.0%	23.4%	24.1%	13.1%	
	family with children	13.1%	22.5%	17.2%	23.9%	17.6%	5.7%	

All V coefficients are statistically significant at  $p < 0.001$ .

participate in the research (fill in the questionnaire and return it by post). Additionally, higher levels of participation were found in this sample than in a similar sample, collected by Petrović et al. (1998). This fact may be at least partly explained by the different methods of collecting the data (by post vs. by interviewer) and that the latter questionnaire

consists not only of data about sport activity, but also of many other questions related to public opinion. It seems that younger, more educated people exhibit not only higher levels of sport participation, but also higher levels of willingness to fill out the questionnaire. In addition, it seems that a higher level of sport participation *per se* implies higher response rates in the survey.

Table 4. Results of direct discriminant function analysis of socio-demographic variables and sport participation.

	b	r	p
gender	0.36	0.24	<.001
age	0.46	0.73	<.001
primary	0.36	0.28	<.001
secondary 1	0.45	0.28	<.001
secondary 2	0.34	0.04	0.45
employed	-0.13	0.27	<.001
unemployed	-0.04	0.08	0.08
student	-0.44	-0.59	<.001
single-alone	-0.05	-0.01	0.91
single-parents	-0.21	-0.58	<.001
family w/o children	-0.14	-0.01	0.92

Canonical  $R = .45$ , Eigenvalue = 0.25, Wilk's  $\lambda = 0.80$  ( $p < 0.001$ )

Legend: b-standardised discriminant function coefficients; r-correlation of predictor with discriminant function along with significance (p) of univariate F test of the equality of group means.

Nevertheless, the rate of participation of the Slovenian adult population seems to be much higher than in most of the other countries, with the possible exception of the United States and Finland. For the United States, the Miller Lite Report (1983) suggested that 71% of all Americans, 14 years of age or older, engage in sport or physical activity at least once a week. In Finland 70% women and 60% men regularly (at least twice per week) participate in sport activities (Equality, 2000). The high participation rates in Slovenia may probably be explained by the fact that physical education is obligatory in primary and secondary schools, sport is highly valued and an important part of national culture, there are excellent resorts for outdoor activities (e.g. mountains, rivers, woods). Also, many actions have been taken by the government and private organisations in the last twenty years in order to facilitate mass participation in sport.

Association between demographic variables and participation in sport is similar to those found in England (Gratton & Tice, 1994; Coalter et al., 1995), Ireland (McCarthy, 1994), France (Samuel, 1996), Spain (Bunuel, 1991; Maiztegui-Onate, 1996) and Greece (Alexandris & Carroll, 1998). With the exception of Finland (Equality, 2000) Slovenian males are more frequent participants, although the differences between the genders tend to be smaller than in above-mentioned countries and the highest difference was found in the top category (4 times or more per week), where the proportion of males was more than two times higher than the proportion of women. This finding probably does not reflect just cultural differences between males and females, but also the difference in motivation, with males being more competitive (as can be seen in many mass sporting events, organised in Slovenia) and females being more health (well-being) oriented (McCarthy, 1994). The social awareness regarding the participation of women in sport is still far below the actual needs and possibilities. Analysis has shown that the limited access of certain social categories to cultural values, goods and services of leisure time (in our case sport activity), is not limited only by their educational and financial status, but also by the numerosness and type of the family to which they belong. It is therefore not only an economic, but also a cultural aspect. In addition, people from different types of family have specific physical habits and according to this they differently use their spare time for sport.

The participation level drastically decreases with age, with almost all of the young people being (regular) participants and three thirds of persons above 65 years of age being non-participants or infrequent participants (participating only a few times per year). The fact that the elderly, who may benefit most from (health-related) sport activities, participate the least, merits special consideration by sport authorities and recreational services in the country.

Higher education relates positively with participation, although greater differences were found within the "non-participant" category than in the "frequent sport activity" categories.

In accordance with the relation between participation level and age, retired persons were much less active than the employed. Although lack of leisure time is believed to inhibit participation (Alexandris & Carroll, 1998), employed persons are almost as active as the unemployed. Students were found to be the most active group, which may be explained by other social-demographic variables included in the research (age, educational

level, family status), but also by the fact that physical education is obligatory for some of them.

Single persons living with their parents are much more active than single persons living alone, which may be at least partly explained by their lower age and higher education level, but probably also by higher intensity and frequency of social relations, demanding and resulting from a great number of (team, group) sport activities. Married individuals without children were more frequent participants than married individuals with children, but almost as frequent as the single persons living alone, which indicates that the high level of non-participation of married individuals can be explained not by the fact that they are married, but that they do have children with all its consequences - limited leisure time and additional commitments (Torkildsen, 1992; Alexandris & Carroll, 1998). The activity of people in a certain area (e. g. sport) and also in the broad social context reciprocally links up to the specific family conditions and vice versa, the family circumstances are linked to a specific life-style. In light of this connection, it is obvious that we should study life-style activities in leisure time – taking into consideration also the family and not apart from the family.

Results of discriminant analysis indicate that socio-demographic variables have a fairly high and statistically significant power to discriminate between infrequent and frequent participants, either when taken together (canonical  $R=0.45$ ) or in their unique (partial) contribution to discriminant function scores. Again, gender, age, educational level and working status were all found to be strong predictors with males, younger, tertiary educated and student groups having lower values on the function, meaning a higher possibility of belonging to the "frequent participants group".

Previous studies (Petrović et al., 1998, Chogahara & Yamaguchi, 1998) have also confirmed the importance of education and the resultant membership in certain social groups for the participation of an individual in sport. It is, however, still not clear whether this influence acts through the education level – income – leisure time connection or more through the cognisance of the positive effects of sport.

Most of the findings in this study correspond to the findings of studies conducted on similar populations in other countries. These findings are of value to policy makers in governmental and civil sport organizations, especially when they need to identify groups with no or insufficient sport activity. However, it should be stressed that sport activity constitutes only one part of daily physical activity and that the individual's entire physical activity can

often account for his/her being prone to many diseases, including diseases of the cardiovascular system, which are by far the primary cause of death in Slovenia (contributing to more than 40% of all deaths in 1999; see Slovenia in Figures, 2001). This statement seems particularly important when applied to women, as it appears that the female population - when taking into account the entire physical activity, i.e. including household and family care activities, gardening, etc. - is, in general, even

more physically active than the male population (Ainsworth, 2000). This may, at least partly, explain the difference in life expectancy (78.75 and 71.37 years for women and men respectively; Slovenia in Figures, 2001) and the incidence of many diseases, which are much lower in women than in men. Therefore, any future research made with the intention to supply relevant data to public health policy makers should record not only the sport activity but also all other types of physical activity.

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## RELACIJE SUDJELOVANJA U SPORTSKIM AKTIVNOSTIMA U REPUBLICI SLOVENIJI S IZABRANIM SOCIO-DEMOGRAFSKIM VARIJABLAMA

### Sažetak

Sportska aktivnost danas je jedna od najvažnijih sastavnica kvalitetnoga života u suvremenom društvu. Utječe na zdravlje, produktivnost, društvenost i na ukupno blagostanje donoseći dobrobit u život svakog pojedinca. No, većina pozitivnih učinaka može se očekivati tek nakon dugotrajnijeg redovitog bavljenja izabranom sportskom aktivnošću. Mnogi su istraživači dosad već ustanovili kako su neke socio-demografske varijable povezane s razinom aktivne uključenosti, pa su tako potvrđene znatne relacije između životne dobi i aktivnosti, ali i između dobi i vrste sportske aktivnosti. Nadalje, razina i vrsta obrazovanja pokazale su se, uz dob, značajnim prediktorima sudjelovanja u sportskim aktivnostima. Muškarci su više i češće sportski aktivni od žena. Viši, bolji socio-ekonomski status pozitivno je povezan s razinom bavljenja sportom, a bračno stanje snažno utječe na sportsku aktivnost, osobito žena.

U radu je za prikupljanje podataka korišten kontrolni list koji su sudionici istraživanja sami popunjavali, a koji je oblikovan ciljano za slovensku odraslu populaciju. Veličina i učestalost sportske aktivnosti mjerena je u godišnjem intervalu kako bi se obuhvatili i podaci o neredovitoj (povremenoj), ali i o sezonskoj sportskoj aktivnosti. Učestalost (frekvencija) bavljenja sportskom aktivnošću mjerila se na sljedećoj ljestvici: nikada (uopće se ne bavim sportskim aktivnostima), nekoliko puta godišnje, 1 – 3 puta mjesečno, jednom tjedno, 2 - 3 puta tjedno te 4 i više puta tjedno. Izmjeren je pet socio-demografskih varijabli: spol, životna dob (18-25, 26-35, 36-45, 46-55, 56-66, 66 i više godina), obrazovna razina (osnovna – 8 razreda, srednja – 1-2 ili 3 godine, srednja 2-4 godine, viša i visokoškolska – najmanje dvije godine), zanimanje (zaposlen/a, nezaposlen/a, umirovljen/a, student/ica) te obiteljski status (samac koji živi sam, samac koji živi s roditeljima, oženjeni/udate bez djece, bračnost/rastavljenost/ udovištvo s najmanje jednim djetetom).

Uzorak ispitanika sastojao se od 1768 ljudi izabranih iz proporcionalnog uzorka (prema spolu, dobnim skupinama i glasačkim regijama koje su predstavljale kvote) odrasle slovenske populacije.

Rezultati pokazuju vrlo visoku razinu sportske aktivnosti uzorka. Manje od 10% ispitanika

nikada ne sudjeluje ni u kakvoj sportskoj aktivnosti, a više od jedne trećine ispitanika sudjeluje u redovitim sportskim aktivnostima (najmanje dva puta tjedno). Iz dobivenih podataka o sportskoj aktivnosti odrasle slovenske populacije čini se da su Slovenci aktivniji od stanovnika većine ostalih zemalja, osim možda od Amerikanaca i Finaca.

Razina sudjelovanja u sportskim aktivnostima vrlo je snažno (Cramerov  $V$  između 0,19 i 0,25) i statistički značajno ( $p < 0,001$ ) povezana sa svim socio-demografskim varijablama. Kada se u analizu uključila i kontrolna skupina, onda se u presječnoj usporedbi sportske aktivnosti sa spolom statistička značajnost (na razini od  $p < 0,05$ ) nije pojavila u slijedećim grupama: dob 45-55 te 65 i više, više i visokoškolski obrazovane osobe, umirovljenici te u svim grupama obiteljskog statusa, osim za obitelji s djecom koje žive samostalno. Ukrižena usporedba sportske aktivnosti i dobi dala je statističku značajnost (na razini od  $p < 0,05$ ) za sve kontrolne grupe, osim za studente i umirovljenike. Ukrižena analiza sudjelovanja u sportskim aktivnostima s obrazovnom razinom dala neznačajne rezultate za starije ljude (iznad 65 godina starosti) te za sve grupe radnog statusa, osim za zaposlene. Usporedba s radnim statusom bila je statistički značajna za sve grupe, osim za starije sudionike (dob 55-65 te 65 i više). I, konačno, ukrižena usporedba sudjelovanja u obiteljskim statusom dala je statističku značajnost za sve grupe, osim za dobne skupine 35-45 i starije, studente i umirovljenike.

Rezultati ovog istraživanja o povezanosti između demografskih varijabli i sudjelovanja u sportskim aktivnostima slični su nalazima drugih istraživanja provedenih u Engleskoj (Gratton&Tice, 1994; Coalter et al., 1995), Irskoj (McCarthy, 1994), Francuskoj (Samuel, 1996), Španjolskoj (Bunuel, 1991; Maiztegui-Onate, 1996) i Grčkoj (Alexandris&Carroll, 1998).

Sudjelovanje u sportskim aktivnostima drastično opada s godinama života – tako su gotovo svi mlađi ljudi (redoviti) vježbači, a ukupno tri trećine ljudi iznad 65 godina ili uopće ne sudjeluju u sportskim aktivnostima ili su neredoviti sudionici (nekoliko puta godišnje).

Viša obrazovna razina i sportska aktivnost u pozitivnom su odnosu, premda su dobivene veće razlike u grupi "neaktivnih", negoli u kategoriji učestale sportske aktivnosti.



Analiza relacija između sportske aktivnosti i životne dobi pokazala je da su umirovljenici izrazitije manje aktivni od zaposlenih osoba. Premda se ponekad smatra da nedostatak slobodnog vremena može onemogućiti sportsku aktivnost, ipak se pokazalo da su zaposlene osobe gotovo jednako tako aktivne kao i nezaposleni.

Samci koji žive s roditeljima aktivniji su od samaca koji žive samostalno, što se djelomično može objasniti njihovom mlađom životnom dobi i višom obrazovnom razinom, no možda i intenzivnijim i učestalijim društvenim vezama, što traži, ali i proizlazi iz mnogobrojnih (momčadskih i grupnih) sportskih aktivnosti. Ožენjene i udate osobe bez djece češće sudjeluju u sportskim aktivnostima od oženjenih i udatih s djecom, ali je ta njihova aktivnost podjednaka kao i aktivnost samaca koji žive sami. Zato se ne bi smjelo zaključivati kako je na nešto nižu razinu sportske aktivnosti u spomenutoj skupini utjecao bračni status, već prije činjenica da su to roditelji s djecom, pa su onda, sukladno tome, to osobe s ograničenom

količinom slobodna vremena i dodatnim životnim obvezama.

Direktna diskriminacijska funkcija snažno (kanonički  $R=.45$ ), ispravno (72,2% slučajeva bilo je ispravno klasificirano) i značajno ( $p<0.001$ ) razlikuje redovite i neredovite sudionike sportskih aktivnosti. Rezultati diskriminacijske analize ukazuju na to da socio-demografske varijable imaju vrlo snažnu i statistički značajnu moć razlikovanja između redovitih i neredovitih vježbača, i to i onda kada ih se promatra u njihovoj sveukupnosti (kanonički  $R=.45$ ) i u njihovim pojedinačnim (djelomičnim) udjelima u rezultatima diskriminacijske funkcije. I ovdje su se spol, životna dob, obrazovna razina i radni status pokazali snažnim prediktorima (veća vjerojatnost da će se pojedinac naći u skupini redovitih sudionika sportskih aktivnosti) za muškarce, mlađe ljude te za više i visokoobrazovane osobe i studente.

**Ključne riječi:** socio-demografske varijable, sportska aktivnost, socijalna stratifikacija, Slovenija, sport