
THE RESIDENT POPULATION IS SHOWING AN ALARMING DOWNWARD TREND

Prof. Constantin ANGHELACHE PhD (*actincon@yahoo.com*)

Bucharest University of Economic Studies / Artifex University of Bucharest

Assoc. prof. Ana Maria POPESCU PhD (*notariat.dejure@gmail.com*)

Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Iulian RADU PhD Student (*julian@linux.com*)

Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Abstract

The resident population includes all persons of Romanian citizenship, foreign or stateless, who have their habitual residence in Romania for a period of at least 12 months. This means that this population residing in Romania is in fact the population that lives permanently in our country.

In this article, the main objective was the possibility to highlight that the resident population in our country is constantly decreasing. We make here a clarification in the sense that the population registered by domicile is higher than the resident population in the sense that persons who have declared domicile in Romania but declare their residence in other countries cannot be registered as persons permanently residing in our country.

In the analysis of this perspective, of the interpretation of the evolution of the resident population, we started from the level registered in July 2021 and we used an appropriate methodology. In this regard, we used the data series with demographic indicators (resident population, population by household, mortality, birth rate, marriage, divorce, etc.), as well as databases on the structure of the population by age groups, sexes and means. This can be extended by the fact that a comparison can be made in terms of population structure by occupation, qualification, employment, non-employment, employee or unemployed.

At the same time, in highlighting the aspects proposed to be highlighted, we used, on a large scale, the graphic representations, which are also easy to interpret and understand, as well as the data series related to the aspects subject to research.

In the complex part of the resulting calculations, we highlighted the elements that are of interest for understanding the study of the resident population at a fixed date, but compared with the data recorded in previous periods.

Keywords: *demographic indicators, resident population, residence, domicile, emigration, immigration.*

JEL classification: R10, R20.

Introduction

The resident population is the most important demographic indicator according to which one can achieve the perspective of population growth, population structure, labour supply and many other statistical categories that are relevant in an economic analysis.

In this article we started from a reference point, namely the population resident on July 1, 2021 on the basis of which we highlighted that compared to previous periods this population is constantly declining.

We highlighted the fact that the decrease is primarily due to the fact that the stillbirth indicator is increasing. Stillbirth is the difference between new-borns and deceased persons in a given period of time.

At the same time, we deepened the analysis showing that this aspect leads to demographic aging, in the sense that the population aged 65 and over, compared to the young population aged 0-14, is constantly growing in favour of the elderly population.

At the same time, we showed that the balance of long-term temporary international migration is negative in the sense that, day by day, month by month, year by year, especially for economic reasons, a significant number of people in Romania, who can they maintain their domicile, but are no longer residents, they establish their residence in other states.

Highlighting this aspect shows, using age pyramids, how the population is structured by age, both in total and by both sexes, namely men and women, showing that here we have a deficit in the sense that emigrants, and male and female, predominates towards migration.

In this article we have successively analysed, from simple to complex, based on the data we have, the situation registered in Romania regarding the resident population indicator.

Literature review

The population is evolving according to stillbirth, and in Europe it is declining. From a demographic point of view, the population was in the attention of many researchers. Thus, Bijak J. et al (2007) and Headey D., Hodge A. (2009) turned their attention in their studies to the analysis of world population evolution and the role of population in securing labour reserves. Also, Cai J. and Stoyanov A. (2016) were concerned with the analysis of demographic differences that exist between countries. Cheron, A. et al (2013) addressed a number of issues regarding unemployment and equilibrium conditions at the macroeconomic level, and Maestas, et al. (2016) published a study in which they analysed a number of issues regarding the population, its structure by age, as well as by degree of occupation. Melo P.C., Graham D.j.,

Noland R.B. (2009), analysed aspects related to population, labour force and economic growth. Oster, E. et al (2013) analysed the population in terms of the fact that it is the source of labour supply. In 2007, Rossi-Hansberh, E. and Wright, M.L.J. conducted a study on population structure, labour force and economic growth. Walker, A. and Matlby, T. (2012) produced and published an article on the demographic strategy to increase the labour force reserve in the member countries of the European Union.

Methodology

In order to facilitate the understanding of the analysis made in this article, we will present the main methodological guidelines used by the National Institute of Statistics and Eurostat. Thus, the population by domicile represents the number of persons with Romanian citizenship and domicile on the Romanian territory, delimited according to administrative-territorial criteria.

The domicile of the person is the address at which he declares that he has the main residence, entered in the identity card, as it is taken into account by the administrative bodies of the state. In other words, the population by domicile represents the population that can also include emigrants.

In terms of the average age of the population, it is the average age of a population. By age we mean that continuous demographic variable that expresses the time elapsed from the date of birth of a person to a certain moment of observation and is determined by the relationship:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum (x + 0,5) \times P_x}{\sum P_x}$$

where: x = age in full years;

P_x = number of inhabitants aged x ;

0.5 = half a year considered as the average equivalent of the variation of the deviations from the exact date of reaching a certain age.

The median age is an indicator that divides the population of a country into two equal parts, and the aging index of the population represent the number of people aged 65 and over, which amounts to 100 young people less than 15 years.

The resident population represents the totality of persons with Romanian citizenship, foreigners and without citizenship, who have their habitual residence on the Romanian territory. Thus, the resident population represents the population that excludes emigrants, but includes immigrants.

The resident population at a certain date is determined according to the methodology and international regulations in the field.

Ordinary residence is the place where a person usually spends his daily rest period, without taking into account temporary absences for recreation, vacations, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatments or religious pilgrimages. Only persons who have resided in their habitual residence for an uninterrupted period of at least 12 months before the reference time are considered to have their habitual residence in a specific geographical area. The habitual residence may be the same as the domicile or it may differ, in the case of persons who choose to establish their habitual residence in another locality than the one of domicile in the country or abroad.

Emigration means the action by which a person who previously had his habitual residence on the territory of Romania ceases to have his habitual residence on its territory for a period which is or is expected to be at least 12 months.

Immigration means the action by which a person establishes his habitual residence on the territory of Romania for a period which is or is expected to be at least 12 months, after having previously had his habitual residence in another country.

Regarding the method used to calculate the population-by-home indicator, this is the component method and implies equality:

$$P_{t+1} = P_t + N_{t,t+1} - D_{t,t+1} + \Delta M_{t,t+1}^d + C_v$$

where: P_{t+1} = the population domiciled in the country at time $t + 1$;
 P_t = the population residing in the country at time t ;
 $N_{t,t+1}$ = the number of live births in the period between t and $t + 1$, whose mothers were domiciled in Romania at the date of birth;
 $D_{t,t+1}$ = the number of persons who died in the period between t and $t + 1$, who were domiciled in Romania at the date of death;
 $\Delta M_{t,t+1}^d$ = the balance of international migration with change of domicile, in the period between t and $t + 1$;
 C_v = age adjustment coefficient

Data, results and discussions

The population by residence in Romania on July 1, 2021 was 22,047,000 people, down 0.4% compared to July of the previous year. In the urban area, the female population is majority 56.3%, respectively 51.2%.

At the same time, on July 1, 2021, the population by domicile in the urban area was 12,417,000 people, a slight decrease of 0.6% compared to

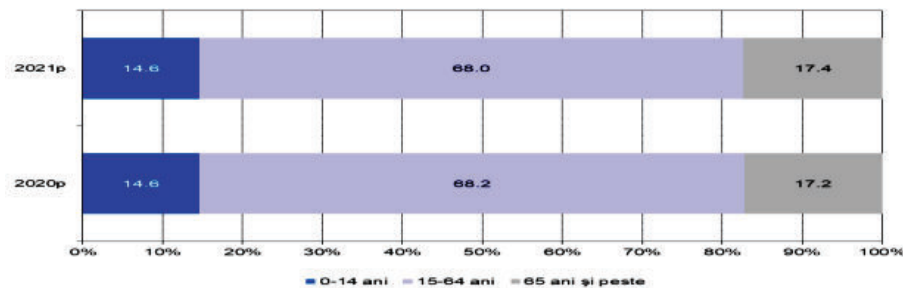
July 1, 2020, and the female population was 11,286,000 people, registering a decrease of 42,000 compared to the same date last year.

Regarding the phenomenon of demographic aging, it has intensified, the elderly population aged 65 and over exceeding by over 621,000 people the young population aged 0-14 years, respectively 3,835,000 compared to 3,214,000 people. We note the maintenance at the same level of 14.6% of the share of young people aged 0-14 and an increase of 0.2% of the share of the population aged 65 and over.

The data regarding the structure of the population by domicile by large age groups on July 1, 2021 are presented in figure number 1.

Population structure by household by large age groups on July 1, 2021

Figure 1



P provisional data to be reviewed in the second half of 2022

Source: INS release number 278/29 October 2021

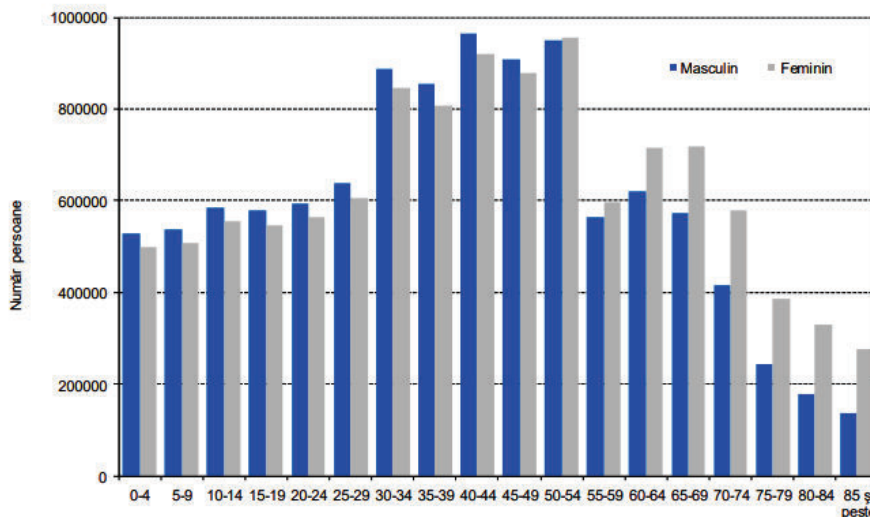
The demographic aging index increased from 118 elderly people to 100 young people on July 1, 2020, to 119.3 elderly people per 100 young people on July 1, 2021.

Regarding the average age of the population, it was 42 years on July 1, 2021, practically 0.1 years older than on July 1, 2020. At the same time, the median age was 42.4 years, also increasing on July 1, 2021 by 0.3 years compared to July 1, 2020.

Figure number 2 shows the structure of the population by domicile by age groups and sexes on July 1, 2021.

Population by household by age groups and sexes as of July 1, 2021

Figure 2



Source: INS release number 278/29 October 2021

We find that the largest share in the total population on July 1, 2021 was held by the age group 50-54 years, respectively 8.7%. Among males, the share of this age group was 8.8%, and for females 8.5%. The share of the group of 0-4 years was 4.7%, lower than that of the age groups 5-9 years, respectively 4.8% and 10-14 years, respectively 5.2%.

Conclusions

A series of theoretical and practical conclusions can be drawn from the study of this article. First of all, the resident population in Romania is constantly decreasing. At the same time, due to aging, the population domiciled in Romania decreases at the same rate.

Another conclusion is that, not ensuring the conditions for carrying out the activity in the country, a number of people, often those with high qualifications, emigrate for purely financial-economic reasons. Hence the idea, that we must find those means and resources by which the incomes of the employed population to increase.

Investments must also ensure jobs that provide better living conditions for the population, which, compared to the way of remuneration abroad, chooses the path of temporary emigration, which turns into permanent emigration.

At the same time, it must be borne in mind that the employed population is declining, the number of unemployed is increasing and, in this way, as there is no correlation between training and retraining of the workforce, we are experiencing an increase in unemployment, but especially, of emigration and in this way we find the paradox that in Romania, although an alarmingly large number, over 3 million citizens have their residence abroad and there is unemployment of about 420,000 people, not taking into account the unemployed population, still not found workforce in those areas that require this.

So, by way of comparison and antithesis, Romania has become for some Asian countries (Thailand, Pakistan, Malaysia, etc.), which is for Romanians Western European countries, ie the need for labour is supplemented by foreign labour who declares his residence in Romania.

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