

CHANGES OF POPULATION BY AGE STRUCTURE OF THE REGIONS OF MACEDONIA

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ABSTRACT

In this research paper is dealt about the age structure of the population in regions of the Republic of Macedonia. A special importance is dedicated to the changes of age structure, during the period of 1981-2012 in regions and country. The aim of study is to identify the aging phenomenon of population in state level and regions.

Key words: regions, population, age grading, age pyramids.

INTRODUCTION

Age structure is most important for both of the development of demographic process and same for the development of region process. The age composition plays an important role in planning for health care needs and other services to the socio-economic and cultural character. The age structure of population directly affects the performance of demographic processes (births, deaths, marriages, etc.) and is the result of bilateral relations fertility, mortality, migration movements and other socio-economic processes. The age structure of population in the regions shows today's demographic development and factors affecting the performance of socio-economic development in the future. It helps in identifying the dynamics of structural changes in time and space.

STRUCTURE OF POPULATION BY AGE

In regions of the R. of Macedonia, changes and migratory movement of population, together with the level and potential development and overall socio-economic development, have determined the age structure or

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biological composition of population. Taken during the study were changes in the number of population and its age structure. Over recent years at the state level there has been little growth population, compared with previous periods which is explained by the decline of fertility (low birth rate) and migratory movements between regions. This has negatively affected the age structure of the population at level state. Review of official records data (1981, 1994, 2002) and the year 2012 on the age composition of the population, it appears that the population of the state's regions is in the process of demographic aging.

Table 1. The structure of population according to age in the Republic of Macedonia

Republic of Macedonia	Census Years			
	1981	1994	2002	2012
Age 0-14	555.177	483.923	425.280	351.154
Age 15-59	1.172.922	1.205.080	1.293.526	1.347.114
Age 60 and over	176.494	253.626	302.538	363.634
Unknown	4.543	3.303	1203	392
Totally	1.909.136	1.945.932	2.022.547	2.062.294
<i>Structure</i>				
Age 0-14	29,10	24,90	21.04	17.03
Age 15-59	64,40	61,90	64.00	65.32
Age 60 and over	9,20	13,00	14.90	17.63
Unknown	0,20	0,20	0.06	0.02
Totally	100,00	100,00	100,00	100.00

Resource: Statistical Office of Macedonia (processed data by author)

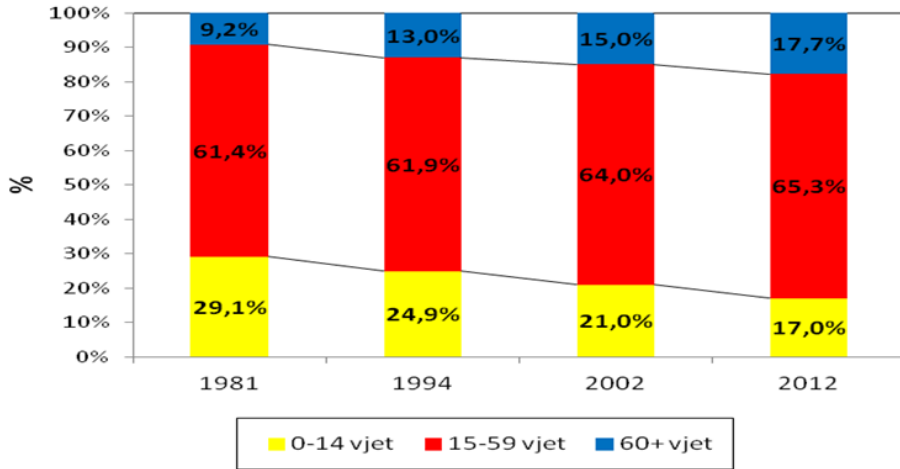


Fig.1. Age structure of the population in R. of Macedonia

The table above shows that the young population (0-14 year) in 1981 has been accounted 29.1% of the population, while in 2012 has fallen to 17.04%. In 2012 the ages of population over 60 year constitute 17.6% of the population in Macedonia, against 9.2 % in 1981. Referring to data on population structure according to three age groups in recent records, observed decrease of 8.4% to a new age, increasing by 64.4% to 65.3% (0,9%) of the working age population (active) and increased by 9.2% to 17.6% aged 60 years and above, (8,4%) indicating the phenomenon of demographic aging.

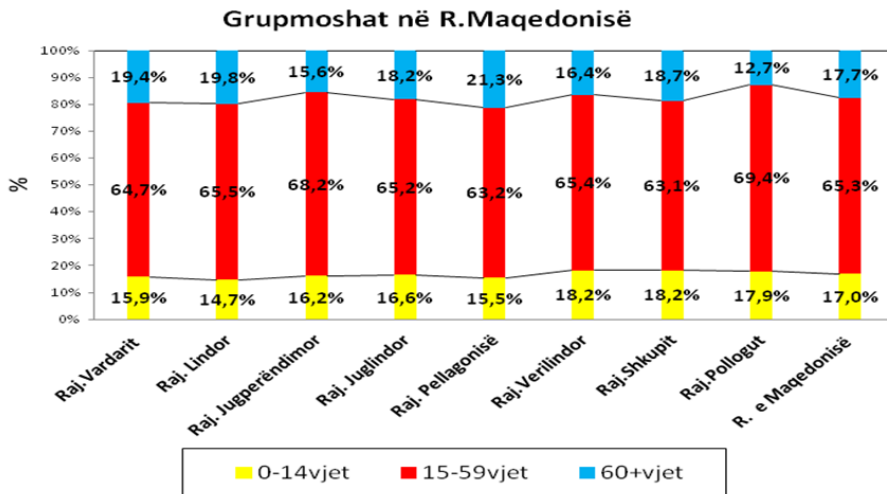
Table 2. Age structure of the population and the average age in the regions of Macedonia

No	Regions of Macedonia	Age %						Average age	
		0-14		15-59		60+		2007	2012
	Year	2007	2012	2007	2012	2007	2012	2007	2012
1.	Vardar Region	16.8	15.9	66,1	64.7	17.1	19.4	38	39
2.	Eastern region	16.1	14.7	66.9	65.5	17.0	19.8	38	40
3.	Western region	19.6	16.2	66.3	68.2	14.1	15.6	35	37
4.	Southeastern region	17.7	16.6	66.1	65.2	16.2	18.2	37	38
5.	Pelagonija region	16.2	15.5	62.8	63.2	20.0	21.3	39	40
6.	Northeast region	20.3	18.2	64.9	65.4	14.8	16.4	35	37

7.	Skopje region	18.8	18.2	65.0	63.1	16.2	18.2	36	38
8.	Polog region	21.8	17.9	66.6	69.4	11.6	12.7	33	35
*	R. of Macedonia	18.7	17.0	65.6	65.3	15.7	17.7	36	38

Resource: Statistical Office of Macedonia (processed data by author)

Data in the table 2 indicate that the population of Macedonia has an average age of 38 years while the population of the region showing the youngest average age (35 year), compared with other regions of the state. On average state has it Pelagonija region of Eastern with 40 and Vardar of 39 year. All regions are in demographic aging only Polog is in the process of demographic aging. This shows that Polog is in the process of demographic aging (III group, the classification of age according to Rosseti).

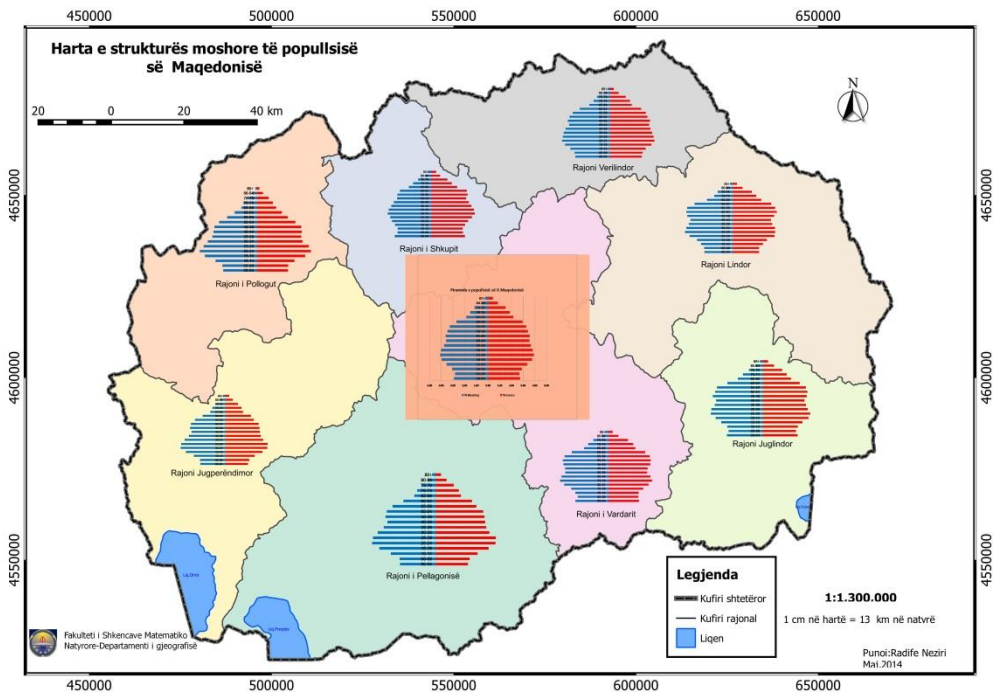


Graphic 1. Age structure in regions of Macedonia

According to the data of Table 2 show that in 2007 , in the region of Pollog and Northeastern (Albanian population) young population (0-14 years) constituted 21.8 % , is above 20.3 while in 2012 , the region Skopje with 18.2 % . Concluded that in this period the decline is significant in regions with dominating Macedonian population. Compared to the state average , this age group is 3.1 % higher Pollog region . Population 60 years and older constitute 12.7 % of the population of Pollog , against 21.3 % in Pelagonija region . Referring to data on population structure according to three age groups in recent records , observed decrease of 1.7 % of the new age , slightly down 65.6 .0 % to 65.3 % (0.3 %) of the active population and increase of 15,7.0 % to 17.7 % (2 %) aged 60 years and above .

Differences in the age structure of the population in different regions of Macedonia is the chart showing 1.

Changes in the age structure of the population in Macedonia Regions Map 1 expressed in narrowing the base of the pyramid, which shows the level of fertility and emigration intensified in some areas in recent years.



Map 1. Age structure in the regions of Macedonia

Changes in the age structure of the population in the last period in the Republic of Macedonia expressed in narrowing the base of the pyramid, which shows the level of fertility decline in recent years .

CONCLUSIONS

This paper analyzes the structure of the population by age in Macedonia in the period 1981-2012, which is important in the process of demographic development. Composition age plays an important role in planning the needs

for health care and other services of social - economic and cultural character. The data show that only Pollog region is on the verge of demographic aging and other regions in demographic aging. Changes in population structure in all regions expressed in narrowing the base of the pyramid, which shows the level of fertility in recent years. The aging of the population and the increasing number of people over working age is associated with increased spending on social security, and promotes the opening of centers for elderly accommodation for the elderly and integration, expansion of spaces for relaxation and recreation.

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