

Extended Migration Profile of Transnistria



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International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

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Деятельность соответствующего проекта была реализована в рамках мер доверия, направленных на продвижение урегулирования приднестровского конфликта путем повышения доверия между Кишиневом и Тирасполем посредством совместных инициатив с участием местных властей, организаций гражданского общества и других заинтересованных сторон с обеих сторон. Ни один из терминов/определений, используемых в этом документе, не предвещает принципиального решения о будущем статусе Приднестровья, которое должно быть принято соответствующими субъектами в рамках всеобъемлющего мирного урегулирования приднестровского конфликта.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BS	Border Service of Transnistria
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CSO	national Civil Society Organizations
DAR	Data Assessment Report
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HBS	Household Budget Surveys
IARC	Independent Analytical Research Centre
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LFS	Labour Force Survey
MM	Mass Media
NGO	Nongovernmental Organizations
PUS	Public Utilities Service
PUSC	Public Utilities Service Company
RF	Russian Federation
RM	Republic of Moldova
SRL	Scientific-Research Laboratory
SS	Supreme Soviet / legislative body of Transnistria
TB	Transnistrian Bank
BMI	Bureau of Migration Issues of the internal affairs bodies of Transnistria
UMT	Union of Moldovans of Transnistria
UNO	United Nations Organization
URCT	Union of Russian Communes of Transnistria
UUT	Union of Ukrainians of Transnistria "A. Buta"

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to create the migration picture of Transnistria. In order to reach this goal, it was necessary to collect and systemize data about the accessible source of information on migration in general and on labour migration in particular, as well as to make an overview of the main priorities and problems in this complex and controversial sphere.

This is the first experience with creating the migration profile of a territory with an undetermined international-legal status. Consequently, the Extended Migration Profile of Transnistria must contribute to a general understanding of the migration situation in Transnistria.

The Extended Migration Profile (EMP) is meant to reflect the situation of the collection and systematizing of information about migration in Transnistria as well as to determine the level of its comparability with the analogous information of similar reports. The findings and conclusions of the Profile may serve as basis for developing an effective migration policy.

It also noteworthy to mention that the term “citizenship” may be used throughout the text as it is the term used within the contemporary Transnistria. Its usage also helps avoid cluttering the text with constant references to terms such as “de facto” before each mention of this legal term that has developed and is in use in contemporary Transnistria.

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Table 1. Administrative-territorial organization of Transnistria, 2015

	Districts	Cities	Towns	Villages
Total	5	8	4	156
including:				
City of Tiraspol	–	1	1	1
City of Dnestrovsk	–	1	–	–
City of Bender	–	1	–	3
Râbnîța district	1	1	–	47
Dubăsari district	1	1	–	28
Slobozia district	1	1	2	25
Grigoriopol district	1	1	1	29
Camenca district	1	1	–	23

Source: Data of the Statistics Service of Transnistria. [Statistical Yearbook of Transnistria. Statistical Collection (for 2011–2015), 2016].

Size of population – 475,665 people (preliminary data of the population census of Transnistria of 2015). In the inter-census period (2004–2015), the number of Transnistria's population decreased by 14.3% (Table 2, Figure 2).

Table 2. Dynamics of the total number (stock) of Transnistria's population (at the beginning of the year), 1989–2016 (thousand persons)*

Year	Thousand persons	Year	Thousand persons	Year	Thousand persons	Year	Thousand persons
1989**	680.9	1996	629.6	2003	571.6	2010	522.5
1990	688.8***	1997	616.8	2004****	562.0	2011	518.0
1991	693.0***	1998	608.7	2005	554.4	2012	513.4
1992	683.5***	1999	603.6	2006	547.5	2013	509.4
1993	685.5***	2000	597.9	2007	540.6	2014	505.2
1994	683.6***	2001	589.8	2008	533.5	2015*****	475.7
1995	639.0	2002	580.5	2009	527.5	2016	458.5*****

Notes:

*In the settlements of Transnistria.

**According to the data of the All-Union Population Census (as at 12 January 1989).

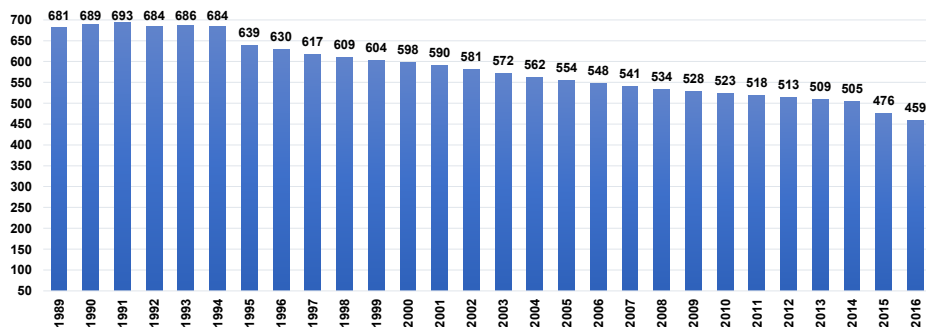
***Including the settlements of the administrative districts of MSSR, in the jurisdiction of the Republic of Moldova.

****According to the Population Census of Transnistria (as at 11–18 November 2004).

*****According to the data of the Population Census of Transnistria (as at 14 October 2015).

*****Calculated as at 1 September 2016.

Figure 2. The total number (stock) of the permanent population of Transnistria (at the beginning of the year), 1989–2016, (thousand persons)



Source: Data of the Statistics Service of Transnistria [Report on the scientific-research work of SRL "Regional Research," 2016].

GDP per capita – 1,828 US dollars (2015); in 2013 – 2,076 US dollars.¹

Net International Migration Coefficient, to 1,000 residents: –4.1.

¹ Statistical Yearbook of Transnistria. Statistical Collection (for 2011–2015), Tiraspol, 2016.

OVERVIEW

The EMP is a statistical report prepared in accordance with a standard template that, in a structured manner, combines the existing information from various sources related to the record-keeping of different aspects of migration and its trends. Indicators related to migration and information about the policies in different areas that, directly or indirectly, relate to migration have been considered. In addition, an attempt has been made to analyse the influence of migration on the social-economic development of Transnistria and the welfare of its population, which plays an important role in contributing to the development of relevant policies.

The Profile is made up of four informative and analytical parts: Part A. Migration Trends; Part B. Influence of Migration; Part C. Migration Management Mechanism; and Part D. Conclusions and Recommendations.

Today, practically the only sources of data on migration registration is the Bureau of Migration Issues (BMI) of the internal affairs bodies and the Statistics Service. The data on the entry into/exit from Transnistria are not accessible to researchers. Therefore, it is reasonable to complete the analysis of the existing administrative statistics with materials on sociological research².

Transnistria's negative net migration further play a deciding role in the formation of both the demographic and the social-economic situation. Hence, a complex analysis of sizes, quotas, factors, and geography of flows are exclusively important for forecasting and planning for the social-economic development of Transnistria.

An analysis of the migration situation in Transnistria proves that the driving factors for Transnistria's residents to emigrate are its undetermined legal status, the unclear political and economic perspectives, the complex moral-psychological climate, and the contemporary crisis of the social-economic situation. They are aggravated by the difficult transition of Transnistrian business operators to the external markets. Unemployment and the low living

² Кривенко А. В., Оставная А. Н. Проблемы учета миграционного движения в Приднестровье // Материалы научно-практической конференции «Управление и маркетинг: тенденции и перспективы развития в условиях экономики Приднестровья». Приднестровский университет им. Т. Г. Шевченко. Тирасполь, 2013, с. 43 – 46 [Krivenko A. V. Ostavnaya A. N. Problems of recording migration movement in Transnistria // Proceedings of republican scientific-practical conference "Management and marketing: tendencies and perspectives of development in conditions of Transnistrian economy". T. G. Shevchenko Transnistrian University. Tiraspol, 2013. – p. 43–46].

standards throw the Transnistria's population out. During quarter of a century's, Transnistria has been characterized by a significant negative migration balance – a negative net migration of the population.

The share of documented migration, registered by the official statistics, holds an important share in the general scale of migration of the residents of Transnistria. It implies one's deregistration from their place of residence and exit from Transnistria for permanent stay i.e. virtually "unreturnable migration". The main share of the temporary or circular migration is made up of the labour and education migrants.

It is mainly the youth and qualified specialists, in demand abroad, who leave Transnistria. This leads to the aging of the Transnistria's population, a reduction of its reproductive potential, and a deficit of qualified specialists in some economic fields.

The EMP analyses external (international) migration. International migration shall mean one changing their country of usual residence for a period of not less than 12 months. If such period is from 3 to 12 months, it is considered to be "temporary migration". In general, the information about external migrants is collected by the passport control bodies at the place of permanent residence and the Transnistrian Bureau of Migration Issues of the internal affairs bodies upon one's entry into/exit from Transnistria. However, issues of information legal relationships among various institutions and services arise in this area.

The exact size of labour migration is difficult to estimate as Transnistria is not a subject of international law, which does not enable it to participate in international agreements in the area of labour migration and, besides, migrants from Transnistria are registered in the destination country as arrived from Moldova. Many residents of Transnistria possess documents certifying their Moldovan, Ukrainian or Russian citizenship, and when leaving for the territory of Moldova, Ukraine and Russia, Transnistrian structures consider them international migrants, whereas these are internal migrants according to the international legal regulations. Upon arrival in Moldova, Ukraine and Russia as labour migrants, often they are not registered as such by the national statistics.

On average, around one-third of residents of Transnistria of working age (men – from 15 to 60, women – from 15 to 55) exit Transnistria for temporary employment each year. Over three-quarters of them choose Russia for temporary employment. The share of those leaving for the Russian Federation (RF) prior to 2014 accounted for circa two-thirds of the total number of people leaving Transnistria. After Ukraine entered a political and economic crisis, its

receiving role decreased from one-fourth to less than 10%. Belarus, Romania, Bulgaria and Poland also remain priority destinations for labour migrants.

When characterizing the education migration, one must recall the residents of Transnistria – who hold documents certifying their Moldovan and Ukrainian citizenship who study in the Transnistrian higher education institutions, as well as the quotas issued by Russia and Ukraine for the graduates of the general education institutions of Transnistria.

Currently, migration matters are being regulated by the package of normative acts, approved on 19 June 2017 (i.e. *On the migration registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons; On the entry into Transnistria and exit from Transnistria; On the right of residents of Transnistria to freedom of movement and to choosing the place of stay and residency within the limits of Transnistria; On the legal situation of foreign citizens and stateless persons*). However, it does not provide for the extension of Transnistria's legal framework on its labour migrants by means of international agreements. Transnistria's regulatory framework only determines the status of persons who enter the territory for work purposes.

The external migration of Transnistria's population determines the depopulation character of the current demographic situation. In the past years, a realization has been growing of the role of emigration as a destructive phenomenon in Transnistria's life, requiring an operative and targeted intervention. However, Transnistria lacks sufficient regulatory and institutional frameworks for managing the migration situation. The dynamism of external factors and the complex situation in Transnistria itself require setting up effective migration management institutes as well as developing a migration policy. Based on the current migration situation, the Transnistrian authorities are trying to develop a social-economic mechanism for retaining the potential emigrants on medium term.

Thus, this development in Transnistria is a unique possibility to improve the situation in view of analysing the most accurate and reliable indicators, and supporting the migration policy in Transnistria. In this way, several important indicators may be developed by binding together the information collected by various institutional structures of Transnistria.

PART A. MIGRATION TRENDS

A.1. Brief History and Main Push and Pull Factors

In 1990–1991, Transnistria still had a positive net migration. However, the breakup of the USSR, the 1992 military-conflict, the lack of a determined international political-legal status for Transnistria, the proliferation of multiple economic crisis situations, external limitations, and the impossibility for the persons having the citizenship of countries with a higher level of development (Russia, Ukraine) to fully exercise their civil rights triggered an intense emigration of its population, as well as a contraction of its migration potential.

The following types of migration developed chronologically: forced migration (due to the 1992 military conflict), shuttle migration (traveling to bring goods of daily demand), labour migration (traveling for temporary employment), migration aimed at family reintegration, and education migration. But afterwards, and currently, a prevailing role has been played by temporary (circular) labour migration³.

One must especially point out the year 1992 when, as a result of the military conflict, the highest population's negative net migration in the modern history of Transnistria was recorded in all its administrative-territorial units. In 1993, a positive net migration was recorded, which had a recurrent character after the events of the previous year. Starting with 1994, the number of persons exiting (emigrants) each year exceeded the number of persons entering (immigrants), which led to a steady negative net migration of Transnistria's population⁴.

According to our calculations for 1994–2012, the total negative net migration of the population constituted –82248 people, with an annual negative net migration of –4,3 00 people⁵. The negative net migration of the population

³ Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования». Тема: Комплексная экономико-географическая характеристика населения Приднестровья. Этап V. Численность и размещение населения Приднестровья. Перспективная демографическая политика. Тирасполь: Кафедра социально-экономической географии и регионоведения Приднестровского университета, 2016 [Report on scientific-research work SRL "Regional researches". Topic: Complex economic and geographical profile of Transnistria's population. V phase. Number and distribution of population. Perspective demographic policy. Tiraspol: Department of social-economic geography and regional studies of Transnistrian university, 2016].

⁴ Бурла М. П., Гушан В. А., Казмалы И. М. Экономика Приднестровья на переходном этапе. – Тирасполь: «Шериф», 2000, с. 45 [Burla M. P., Gushan V. A., Kazmaly I. M. Economy of Transnistria in a transition phase. – Tiraspol: "Sherif", 2000, p. 45].

⁵ Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования». Тема: Комплексная

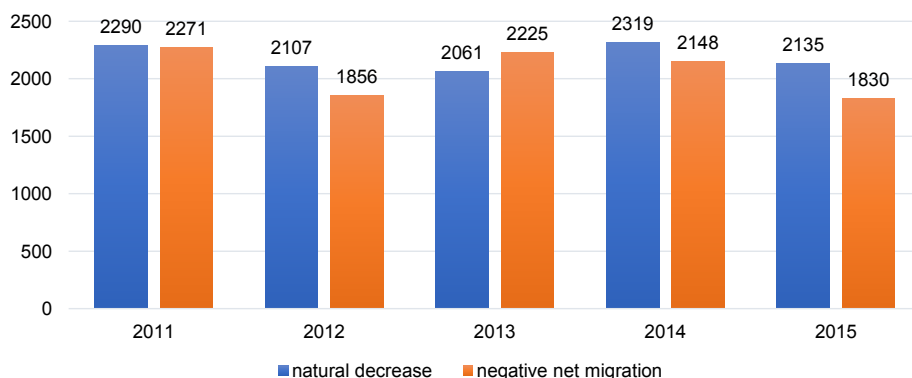
is a classic indicator that reflects the crisis situations in the political and social-economic development of Transnistria. Migration influences the change in the stock of Transnistria's population; however, the size of the negative net migration in the official data significantly differs from the calculated data. If including the unrecorded losses in the migration balance, one can say that, between 2004 and 2015, the territory of Transnistria was left (not on a permanent basis) by around 185,000 residents versus the official data of 56,200 people (Figure 3).

As seen at the end of the 1990s, the absolute indicators of negative net migration steadily increased and exceeded 6,000 people in 2001. From 2005 onwards, they significantly decreased to 4,000–2,000 people, reaching the minimum figure in 2012. After that, one noted an insignificant increase in negative net migration, e.g., the absolute number of immigrants (stock) in 2014 (7,185 people) was 4.9 times lower than the number of immigrants in 1990 (36,029). An analogical situation happened with the emigrating population, whose number decreased from 32,926 in 1990 to 9,333 people in 2014, i.e. 3.4 times. For more objectivity, one may compare the five-year period of 1990–1994 to 2008–2012. Between 1990 and 1994, 128,850 people immigrated to Transnistria, while between 2008 and 2012, this figure was 34,669 people (3.72 times fewer). From 1990 to 1994, 135,986 people emigrated from Transnistria, while from 2008 to 2012 – 46,918 people did so (2.9 times fewer). Henceforth, one notes a decline in the absolute size of the negative net migration. The immigration in Transnistria rose twice – from 12,100 people in 2000 to 6,100 people in 2015. The emigration fell more than twice – from 17,400 people in 2000 to 7,900 people in 2015. If the negative net migration accounted for 5,400 people in 2000, its size fell three times, to 1,800 in 2015⁶ (Figure 3).

экономико-географическая характеристика населения Приднестровья. Этап I. Миграционное движение населения Приднестровья (промежуточный). Тирасполь: Кафедра социально-экономической географии и регионоведения Приднестровского университета, 2013 [Report on scientific-research work SRL "Regional researches". Topic: Complex economic and geographical profile of Transnistria's population. I phase. Migration movement of Transnistria's population (intermediate). Tiraspol: Department of social-economic geography and regional studies of Transnistrian university, 2013].

⁶ Бурла М. П., Кривенко А. В., Фоменко В. Г. Миграции населения: социально-экономическое и территориальное измерение // Вестник Приднестровского университета. № 3, 2014, с. 136–144; Фоменко В. Г. Миграционная ситуация в Приднестровье: факторы, механизм, проблемы анализа и тренды // Сборник «Миграционные мосты в Евразии»: материалы VII международной научно-практической конференции «Роль трудовой миграции в социально-экономическом и демографическом развитии посылающих и принимающих стран». Москва-Ставрополь. 13–18 октября 2015 г. М.: Изд-во «Экон-Информ», 2015, с. 489; Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования». Тема: Комплексная экономико-географическая характеристика населения Приднестровья. Этап V. Численность и размещение населения Приднестровья. Перспективная демографическая политика. Тирасполь: Кафедра социально-экономической географии и регионоведения Приднестровского университета, 2016; Предварительные результаты Переписи населения Приднестровья 2015 г. Тирасполь: Служба статистики Ведомства Экономического Развития, 2016 [Burla M. P., Krivenko A. V., Fomenko V. G. Migration of population of Transnistria: socio-economic and territorial dimension // Gazette of Transnistrian university. 2014. № 3, p. 136–144; Fomenko V. G. Migration situation in Transnistria: factors, mechanism, challenges of analysis and trends // Collection

Figure 3. Dynamics of the natural decrease and negative net migration, 2011–2015 (persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

However, the decline in the absolute size of migration was brought about by a reduction of its demographic base – the number of the population. Between 2000 and 2015, the number of Transnistria’s population fell from 651,800 people to 475,700 people, according to the official sources. The size of Transnistria’s negative net migration is more representatively shown by relative indicators. E.g. in 2000, the intensity of immigration represented 19.6‰, of emigration was of 26.7‰, and the intensity of net migration was of – 8.3‰. According to the 2004 Population Census of Transnistria, the situation had relatively improved and these indicators represented 15.5, 23.0 and 7.6‰, respectively. According to the 2015 census, the negative trends had remained, while the named indicators had plummeted to, respectively, 12.8, 16.6 and 3.8‰; according to independent experts, in 2015, the intensity of immigration accounted for 15.6‰, emigration – for 14.2‰, and the negative net migration rate – for 4.4‰⁷.

“Migration bridges and Eurasia”: proceedings of VII international research to practice conference “Role of labour migration in social-economic and demographic development of sending and receiving countries”. Moscow-Stavropol. 13–18 October 2015. M.: Publishing House “Econ-Inform”, 2015, p. 489; Report on scientific-research work SRL “Regional researches”. Topic: Complex economic and geographical profile of Transnistria’s population. V phase. Number and distribution of population. Perspective demographic policy. Tiraspol: Department of social-economic geography and regional studies of Transnistrian university, 2016; Preliminary results of Transnistria’s population Census in 2015. Tiraspol: Statistical Service of the Institution of Economic Development, 2016].

⁷ Фоменко В. Г. Миграционная ситуация в Приднестровье: факторы, механизм, проблемы анализа и тренды // Сборник «Миграционные мосты в Евразии»: материалы VII международной научно-практической конференции «Роль трудовой миграции в социально-экономическом и демографическом развитии посылующих и принимающих стран». Москва-Ставрополь. 13–18 октября 2015 г. М.: Изд-во «Экон-Информ», 2015, с. 489; Ibidem, Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования», 2016 [Fomenko V. G. Migration situation in Transnistria: factors, mechanism, challenges of analysis and trends// Collection “Migration bridges and Eurasia”: proceedings of VII international research to practice conference “Role of labour migration in social-

The following stages of development of the migration situation in Transnistria stand out: 1) the migration crisis of 1992; 2) an increase of the negative net migration in 1990s; 3) a reduction of the relative value of the negative net migration between 2004 and 2008; 4) a stabilization of the absolute value of the negative net migration as from the end of 2000s.

Among the factors determining the size, structure and geography of migration flows of Transnistria's residents, the following stand out:

- **economic**, related to seeking places with better living and working conditions and, hence, with higher income. An example of this is the international migration of labour force, including the "brain drain" i.e. the leak of intellectual potential (of people with a high level of education and qualification);
- **geopolitical**, caused by the events on the boundary of 1980s-1990s – the breakup of the USSR, the confrontation of the interests of the Great Powers, or the political crisis in the neighbouring Ukraine in 2014;
- **military**, related to the military actions of 1992, which caused a mass outflow of civilians from the towns of Bender and Dubăsari, and attached the status of a "hotspot" to Transnistria for a long time;
- **natural** – the favourable natural conditions in Transnistria attract migrants but its geopolitical and social-economic problems play a more significant role in building up a negative image thereto;
- the **ethnic** factors are favourable, as inter-ethnic tensions have never historically characterized the residents of Transnistria;
- **historical**, determined by an aspiration of a significant part of the residents for reunification with their historical homeland i.e. Moldova, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Germany, etc.

A.2. The Characteristics of Contemporary Migration Processes

Sources of information and accessible statistics on migration are extremely insufficient and limited. The development of the report on the EMP Transnistria, a territory with an undetermined international political-legal status, is the first experience with a complex analysis of migration processes in such territorial formations. The work related to preparing the Extended Migration Profile of

economic and demographic development of sending and receiving countries". Moscow-Stavropol. 13–18 October 2015. M.: Publishing House "Econ-Inform", 2015, p. 489; Ibidem, Report on scientific-research work SRL "Regional researches", 2016].

Transnistria consists in assessing the amount and accessibility of migration data that exists in Transnistria, emphasizing the most important sources of information and migration indicators, and revealing and analysing the positive and negative influences of migration on the demographic and social-economic processes.

In order to obtain complex and reliable data on migration, the actions and responsible authorities have been determined. The report also contains an analysis of the data obtained from sociological studies carried out during the period considered.

A.2.1. International migration flows of residents of Transnistria and the number of residents of Transnistria residing abroad

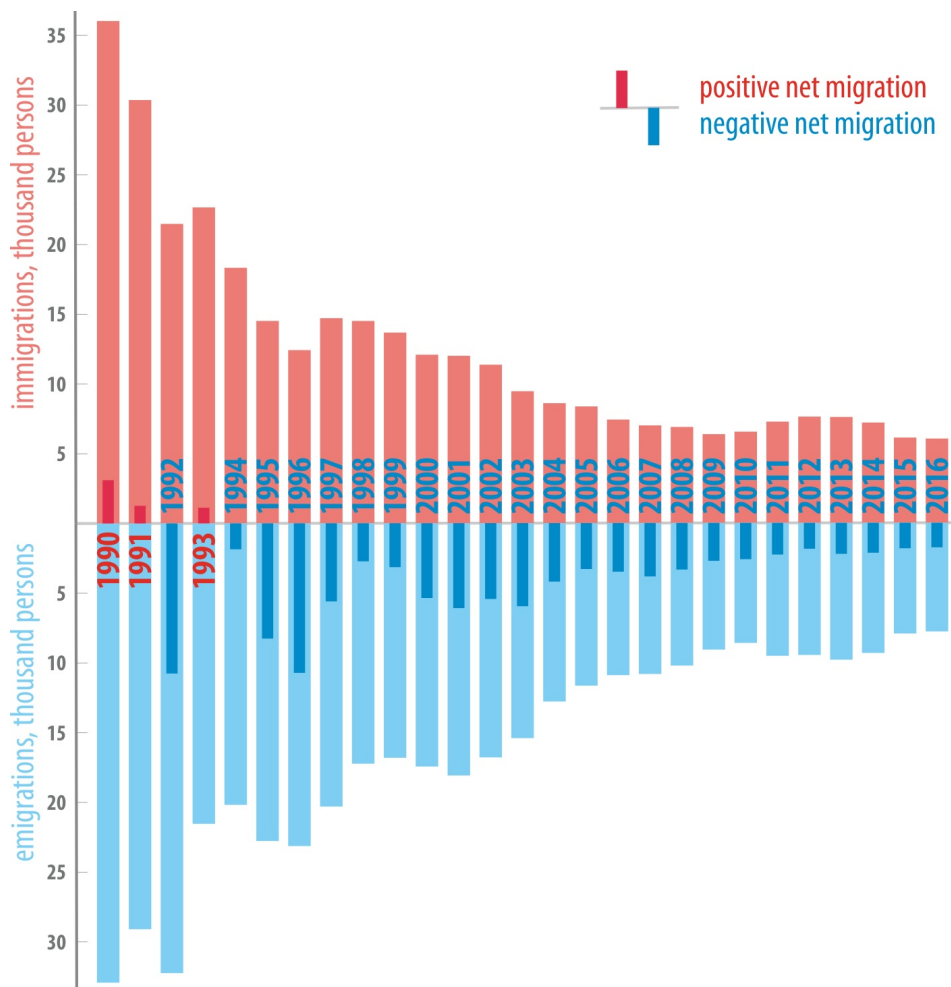
This section will show the key data present in Transnistria on the stocks and flows of emigrants. Given the precision of this type of migration, emigration data are much harder to obtain than immigration data. Often, in order to obtain data about migrants originating from Transnistria residing abroad, it is necessary to use the methods and evaluation data of destination countries or special research studies. Therefore, one must pay special attention to the description of the methods used to obtain the data presented, as well as to the description of the possible shortcomings and errors.

Emigration. In the context of the analysis of emigration of residents of Transnistria, there are data available on the annual flow of international emigration, the gender structure of the international emigration flow, the ratio of international emigrants from rural areas to those from urban areas, and the annual flow of international emigration of Transnistria's residents by the level of their education. Provided there are data available, one may produce other classifications by such groups as age, duration of absence, citizenship, country of birth, country of previous stay, and the country of origin of parents.

The BMI of the internal affairs bodies points out the following types of migration flows: internal, external, work, forced, legal and illegal. For a quarter of a century, the size of the emigration of Transnistria's population has significantly exceeded the size of immigration, which determines a negative net migration of the population. Most of the immigrants come to Transnistria from Russia, Ukraine and Moldova. Emigration basically targets these same countries. One must note that the decline in the absolute value of the negative net migration in the past years has been caused by the reduction of the demographic base i.e. of the number of Transnistria's population. According to the data of the

Statistics Service, the size of emigration from Transnistria had dropped nearly three times – from 22,800 in 1995 to 7,900 in 2015 (Table 3; Figure 4).

Figure 4. Dynamics of Transnistria's population migration, 1990–2016



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria [Report on the Scientific-Research Work of SRL "Regional Research", 2016].

Table 3. Dynamics of absolute indicators of negative net migration of Transnistria's population, 2000–2015 (persons)

Year	Immigration	Emigration	Rate
2000	12081	17448	-5367
2001	12000	18090	-6090

Year	Immigration	Emigration	Rate
2002	11360	16797	-5437
2003	9457	15418	-5961
2004	8597	12793	-4196
2005	8364	11660	-3296
2006	7418	10908	-3490
2007	6996	10826	-3830
2008	6883	10226	-3343
2009	6366	9083	-2717
2010	6544	8606	-2062
2011	7260	9531	-2271
2012	7616	9472	-1856
2013	7588	9813	-2225
2014	7185	9333	-2148
2015	6109	7939	-1830

Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

The issue of citizenship / legal affiliation. At present, measuring the migration of Transnistria's residents takes place at the border crossing and migration registration points of Moldova at the Moldovan-Ukrainian and Moldovan-Romanian borders, and in the International Chisinau Airport through the registration of international passports of Russia, Ukraine and other countries, and of the residence permits and national ID cards of Moldova. First, these are residents of Transnistria with documents identifying them as citizens of Moldova (20%), of Russia (15%) and of Ukraine (10%), and to a lesser extent (between 1 and 5%) – of Belarus, Bulgaria and Romania. In principle, dual citizenship of Moldova and other countries is allowed but it requires one to notify the passport services of both countries (Moldova and other countries) using those documents on citizenship that the subject possesses. It is not possible to keep full records of the citizenships of Transnistria's residents. The Moldovan experts acknowledge that a significant problem in regulating the migration flows is the open Transnistrian segment of the border with Ukraine. Consequently, the persons exiting Moldova through this segment of the border with Ukraine remain unregistered. This partly explains the desire of Moldovan authorities to set up joint customs and border-crossing points on the Transnistrian segment of the Moldovan-Ukrainian border, together with the Ukrainian authorities, in Ukraine's territory. Due to the lack of possibility to cross the borders of the Republic of Moldova (RM) for Transnistria's residents who do not have a residence permit issued by Moldova or Moldova's ID card, the share of residents of Transnistria who register with the passport control bodies of Moldova has dramatically increased. At present,

the recording and registration of migration-active residents of Transnistria by various forms in Moldova is increasing⁸.

One must note that the presence of documents on the citizenship of one or another country is by far correlated with the person's ethnicity. The Russian passport is the preferred one. This fact as a whole reflects the population's migration tendency of choosing Russia as the country for their future temporary or permanent stay⁹.

In the area of securing human rights, the presence of citizenship documents is crucial to exercise the right to choose the place of stay and of residency. The Commissioner for Human Rights Transnistria notes that, according to the data of the BMI of the internal affairs bodies of Transnistria, there is registered a decline in the number of applications for permanent registration, permanent residence permits and Transnistrian documents.

In 2015, the Commissioner received 91 applications for permanent and temporary registration (deregistration) (98 in 2014); 39 applications

⁸ Чеснокова Н. Улучшение качества и полноты сбора информации о миграции, проведение миграционного мониторинга и межгосударственного обмена информацией. Опыт Республики Молдова. Материал тематич. семинара, Москва, 3–4.06.2010 г. Доступно: http://mirpal.org/material/conference/day3/7_1.ppt; Чеснокова Н. Совершенствование существующих методов сбора данных о миграции в рамках реализации расширенного миграционного профиля. Гендерные перспективы. Записка Нац. бюро статистики Республики Молдова // Economic Commission for Europe. The Conference of European Statisticians. December 21, 2011; Кривенко А. В., Оставная А. Н. Проблемы учета миграционного движения в Приднестровье // Материалы научно-практической конференции «Управление и маркетинг: тенденции и перспективы развития в условиях экономики Приднестровья». Приднестровский университет им. Т. Г. Шевченко. Тирасполь, 2013, с. 43–46; Фоменко В. Г. Миграционная ситуация в Приднестровье: факторы, механизм, проблемы анализа и тренды // Сборник «Миграционные мосты в Евразии»: материалы VII международной научно-практической конференции «Роль трудовой миграции в социально-экономическом и демографическом развитии посылающих и принимающих стран». Москва-Ставрополь. 13–18 октября 2015 г. М.: Изд-во «Экон-Информ», 2015, с. 492 [Chesnokova N. Improvement of quality and completeness of migration data collection, carrying out migration monitoring and interstate exchange of information. Experience of the Republic of Moldova. Proceedings of thematic workshop, Moscow, 3–4 June 2010. Available: http://mirpal.org/material/conference/day3/7_1.ppt; Chesnokova N. Improvement of existing data-collection methods related to migration in the framework of application of extended migration profile. Gender perspectives. Notes of the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova// Economic Commission for Europe. The Conference of European Statisticians. December 21, 2011; Krivenko A. V. Ostavnaya A. N. Problems of recording migration movement in Transnistria // Proceedings of republican scientific-practical conference “Management and marketing: tendencies and perspectives of development in conditions of Transnistrian economy”. T. G. Shevchenko Transnistrian University. Tiraspol, 2013. – p. 43–46; Fomenko V. G. Migration situation in Transnistria: factors, mechanism, challenges of analysis and trends// Collection “Migration bridges and Eurasia”: proceedings of VII international research to practice conference “Role of labour migration in social-economic and demographic development of sending and receiving countries”. Moscow-Stavropol. 13–18 October 2015. M.: Publishing House “Econ-Inform”, 2015, p. 492].

⁹ Волкова О. А., Оставная А. Н. Приднестровская трудовая миграция: штрихи к потенциальной социальной политике // Актуальные проблемы экономики и менеджмента. 2014. – № 1 (1), с. 98 [Volkova O. A., Ostavnaya A. N. Transnistrian labor migration: strokes on potential social policy // Relevant issues of economy and management. 2014. – № 1 (1). p. 98].

for Transnistrian documents, certifying legal affiliation to Transnistria (and permanent residence permits) (56 in 2014); 35 applications for identity documents (42 in 2014); and 7 applications on freedom of movement (5 in 2014).

These data confirm the decline in the general migration potential of Transnistria as well as the toughened rules for the migrants entering those countries that accept immigrants. Transnistria has also become actively involved in the intensified migration processes in the post-soviet space and the entire world due to its relative geographic proximity to both Russia and the European Union. At the beginning of the 1990s, its participation in international migration took place through a manifestation of several forms of migration (forced, “shuttle”, labour, and education) but subsequently, and especially at present, it is labour migration that plays a prevailing role.

The age-sex composition of migrants. Among the residents of Transnistria going abroad in search of a job, the share of men is usually lower than the share of women. However, the rate of women does not significantly exceed the rate of men, as is the case of right-bank regions (around 20%) – it is only 5–7%. As a rule, men find jobs in construction, as drivers or programmers. Women mainly work in the social sphere – care of children and of elderly, educators or sales women (Table 4).

Table 4. Number and rate of men in the composition of migrants, 1998–2012

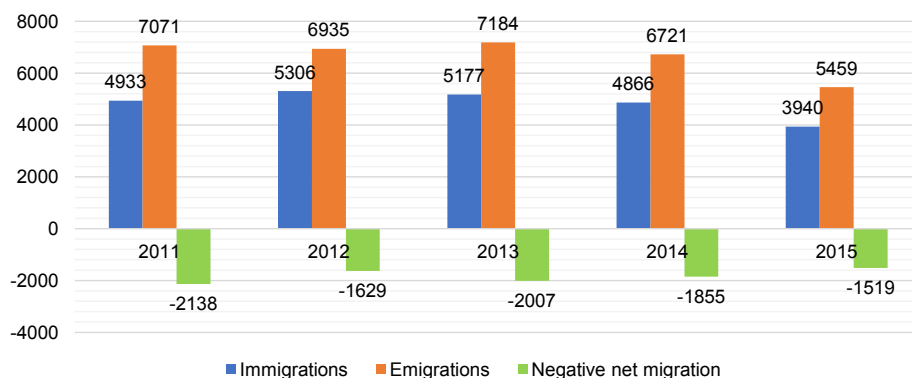
Year	Immigrated		Emigrated	
	Men		Men	
	Persons	%	Persons	%
1998	6989	48.2	8259	47.9
1999	6351	46.5	7640	45.4
2000	5678	47.0	8071	46.3
2001	5290	44.1	7990	44.2
2002	4999	44.0	7652	45.6
2003	4073	43.1	7102	46.1
2004	3787	44.1	5662	44.3
2005	3807	45.5	4962	42.6
2006	3498	47.2	4974	45.6
2007	3251	46.5	5110	47.2
2008	3276	47.6	4812	47.1
2009	2973	46.7	4377	48.2
2010	2951	45.1	4111	47.8
2011	3300	45.5	4488	47.1
2012	3560	46.7	4519	47.7

Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria [Report on the Scientific-Research Work of SRL “Regional Research”, 2013].

In the migration of Transnistria's population, urban settlements play a domineering role. The larger social-economic possibilities of urban settlements determine their attractiveness for both internal migrants and immigrants. It is urban people who account for the larger share of labour migrants. The urban population prevails in emigration, with a share of two-thirds to three-quarters of the total number of emigrants. For instance, in 2015, urban people constituted 5,459 of the total number of 7,939 emigrants.

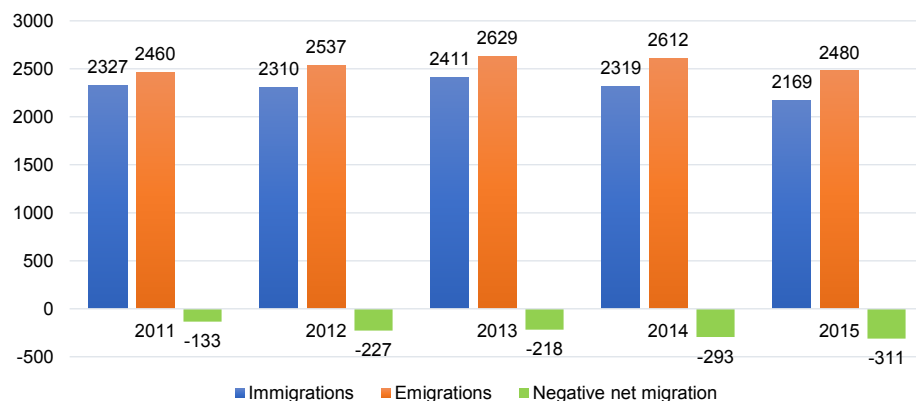
However, in an absolute calculation, despite the emigration of the urban population being many times higher than the migration of the rural population, the depopulation consequences of the negative net migration in the rural areas are more significant. In rural areas, the aging of the population and the reduction of the reproductive potential of the population take place more intensely. During the past decade, the negative net migration rate of the rural population has 5–7 times exceeded the negative net migration rate of urban settlements. Nevertheless, the negative net migration in rural areas are practically irreplaceable, while Transnistrian cities and towns are the main poles for attracting immigrants. Therefore, their emigration abroad is partially compensated by the internal migration of the inhabitants from the rural area (Figure 5, Figure 6; Table 5).

Figure 5. Dynamics of negative net migration in urban population, 2011–2015 (persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

Figure 6. Dynamics of negative net migration in rural population, 2011–2015 (persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

Table 5. Migration movement of Transnistria's population, by area of residence, 1990–2015 (persons)

Year	Immigrations			Emigrations			Negative (Positive) Net Migration		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
1990*	36029	25936	10093	32926	22883	10043	3103	3053	50
1991*	30359	21781	8578	29095	21391	7704	1264	390	874
1992	21478	15877	5601	32242	25491	6751	-10764	-9614	-1150
1993	22658	16489	6169	21539	16142	5397	1119	347	772
1994	18326	13187	5139	20184	15118	5066	-1858	-1931	73
1995	14513	10161	4352	22777	18118	4659	-8264	-7957	-307
1996	12416	8724	3692	23139	18675	4464	-10723	-9951	-772
1997	14707	10283	4424	20311	15913	4398	-5604	-5630	26
1998	14507	10008	4499	17239	13326	3913	-2732	-3318	586
1999	13669	9411	4258	16820	12918	3902	-3151	-3507	356
2000	12081	8298	3783	17448	13520	3928	-5367	-5222	-145
2001	12000	8134	3866	18090	13942	4148	-6090	-5808	-282
2002	11360	7894	3466	16797	12644	4153	-5437	-4750	-687
2003	9457	6457	3000	15418	11644	3774	-5961	-5187	-774
2004	8597	5842	2755	12793	9383	3410	-4196	-3541	-655
2005	8364	5490	2874	11660	8488	3172	-3296	-2998	-298
2006	7418	4986	2432	10908	8058	2850	-3490	-3072	-418
2007	6996	4892	2104	10826	7955	2871	-3830	-3063	-767
2008	6883	4856	2027	10226	7426	2800	-3343	-2570	-773

Year	Immigrations			Emigrations			Negative (Positive) Net Migration		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
2009	6366	4430	1936	9083	6595	2488	-2717	-2165	-552
2010	6544	4545	1999	8606	6485	2121	-2062	-1940	-122
2011	7260	4933	2327	9531	7071	2460	-2271	-2138	-133
2012	7616	5306	2310	9472	6935	2537	-1856	-1629	-227
2013	7588	5177	2411	9813	7184	2629	-2225	-2007	-218
2014	7185	4866	2319	9333	6721	2612	-2148	-1855	-293
2015	6109	3940	2169	7939	5459	2480	-1830	-1519	-311

Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

Note: *Data include the settlements on right side of the Nistru River and the settlements on left side that remained outside Transnistria's control in 1992.

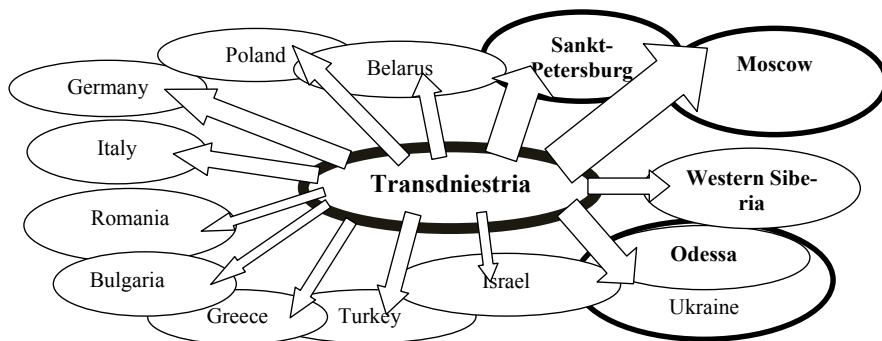
Transnistria's residents living abroad. Data on residents of Transnistria living abroad on a temporary or permanent basis may be accessible either from the statistics of countries receiving migrants or may be obtained via special sociological surveys of diasporas. It is valuable to determine the number of Transnistria's residents living abroad; the number of Transnistria's residents working abroad based on legal employment agreements; and of those studying outside Transnistria.

Labour migration. For over a quarter of century, Transnistria has been supplying labour migrants to CIS and EU countries.

On average, each year, around one-fourth of Transnistria's residents of working age (men – between 15 and 60, women between 15 and 55) exit the territory in search of temporary work. Of them, over three-quarters choose Russia for temporary employment. The share of people leaving for Russia before 2014 accounted for about two-thirds of the total number of those leaving Transnistria. After Ukraine entered a political and economic crisis, its receiving share decreased from one-quarter to 10%. The priority destination countries for labour migrants of Transnistria remain as Belarus, Romania, Poland and Bulgaria (Figure 7)¹⁰.

¹⁰ Кивачук А. А. Демографическая картина Приднестровья // Демоскоп Weekly. № 591–592, 24 марта – 6 апреля 2014 г.; Фоменко В. Г. Миграционная ситуация в Приднестровье: факторы, механизм, проблемы анализа и тренды // Сборник «Миграционные мосты в Евразии»: материалы VII международной научно-практической конференции «Роль трудовой миграции в социально-экономическом и демографическом развитии посылающих и принимающих стран». Москва-Ставрополь. 13–18 октября 2015 г. М.: Изд-во «Экон-Информ», 2015, с. 491 [Kivachuk A. A. Demographic picture of Transnistria // Demoscope Weekly. № 591–592, 24 March – 6 April 2014; Fomenko V. G. Migration situation in Transnistria: factors, mechanism, challenges of analysis and trends// Collection "Migration bridges and Eurasia": proceedings of VII international research to practice conference "Role of labour migration in social-economic and demographic development of sending and receiving countries". Moscow-Stavropol. 13–18 October 2015. M.: Publishing House "Econ-Inform", 2015, p. 491].

Figure 7. Geography of emigration networks of Transnistria, 2015



Source: According to the data from the research studies: Demographic Figure of Transnistria (Kivachuk, 2014) and The Migration Situation in Transnistria: Factors, Mechanisms, Analysis Issues and Trends (Fomenko, 2015).

Note: Thickness of arrows reflects the intensity of migration flows.

Information about the countries to which residents of Transnistria emigrate is fragmented and controversial. This is caused by the fact that migrants do not always indicate the country of their destination when departing or transiting, and many stay in Moldova and Ukraine temporarily. The frontier migration of residents of Transnistria to Ukraine for work, trade and education purposes has been resumed. In terms of emigration, the overwhelming majority of residents of Transnistria focuses on Russia (around two-thirds in 1995; nearly three-quarters in 2005 and 2010, and nearly 80% in 2015). A part of labour migrants from Transnistria get temporary jobs in Germany, Italy, Turkey, and USA (Table 6)¹¹.

According to the surveys of the SRL “Sociology,” 9 out of 10 migrants of Transnistria today get a job in Russia. Its attractiveness as a country of emigration is related to the commonness of culture and language; to the presence of Russian

¹¹ Ibidem, Фоменко, 2015, 490–491; Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования». Тема: Комплексная экономико-географическая характеристика населения Приднестровья. Этап I. Миграционное движение населения Приднестровья (промежуточный). Тирасполь: Кафедра социально-экономической географии и регионоведения Приднестровского университета, 2013; Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования». Тема: Комплексная экономико-географическая характеристика населения Приднестровья. Этап V. Численность и размещение населения Приднестровья. Перспективная демографическая политика. Тирасполь: Кафедра социально-экономической географии и регионоведения Приднестровского университета, 2016 [Ibidem, Fomenko, 2015, 490–491; Report on scientific-research work SRL “Regional researches”. Topic: Complex economic and geographical profile of Transnistria’s population. I phase. Migration movement of Transnistria’s population (intermediate). Tiraspol: Department of social-economic geography and regional studies of Transnistrian university, 2013; Report on scientific-research work SRL “Regional researches”. Topic: Complex economic and geographical profile of Transnistria’s population. V phase. Number and distribution of population. Perspective demographic policy. Tiraspol: Department of social-economic geography and regional studies of Transnistrian university, 2016].

citizenship in a significant part of Transnistria's population; to the "Russian" self-identification of residents of Transnistria regardless of their nationality; to the absolute domination of the Russian education standards in Transnistria's education system; to the presence of a powerful Russian language segment in the media; to the presence of relatives, friends and acquaintances of the labour migrants in the territory of Russia; and to the relatively good social attitude to the immigrants from Transnistria there – no discrimination or conflict. The Russian labour market is widely represented by professions in construction and repairs, community services, transportation, and housekeeping.

Table 6. Structure of answers of the respondents of SRL "Sociology" survey, conducted in 2013, to the question: *Which states are most attractive to you in terms of employment?* (%)

The country in which...	...your relatives have been working in the past 10 years?	...a family member is working now?	...you would like to work most of all?
Russia	75.3	66.0	61.4
Ukraine	7.5	6.8	4.1
Germany	2.3	2.0	8.1
USA	0.6	0.7	5.6
Turkey	1.1	0.7	1.0
Italy	2.3	3.4	7.6
No answer	4.0	12.2	1.5
Not sure	6.9	8.2	10.7

Source: According to the materials from the SRL "Sociology", 2013.

In Russia, only 61.4% of residents of Transnistria get employed legally (with filled in employment record book), while 38.6% are employed illegally (based on verbal agreement). Each fourth respondent indicated that the illegal character did not complicate their situation. The others noted that it worsened their situation to a certain degree. In fact, the legal position of labour migrants from Transnistria having their residence in Moldova or an internal Moldovan passport is regulated by the internal legal norms and the international agreements of Moldova with other countries¹².

¹² Миграция населения и миграционная политика России // Демографические перспективы России = Demographic perspectives Russia: [сб. ст.] / Фонд ООН в обл. народонаселения [и др.]; под ред. Осипова Г. В., Рязанцева С. В. – М.: Экон-Информ, 2008, с. 545–766; Оставная А. Н., Волкова О. А., Замалетдинова Л. Р. Трудовые мигранты из Приднестровья на территории страны-реципиента: качество жизни и особенности занятости // Вестник экономики, права и социологии. – 2015. – № 3, с. 254 [Migration of population and migration policy of Russia//Demographic perspectives of Russia: [collection of articles]/United Nations Population Fund [and others]; edited by Osipova G. V., Ryzantseva S. V. – М.: Econ-Inform, 2008, p. 545–766; Ostavnaya A. N., Volkova O. A., Zamaletdinova L. R. The labor migrants originating from Transnistria on the territory of recipient country: quality of life and peculiarities of employment // Gazette of economy, law and sociology. – 2015. – № 3, p. 254].

For migrants from Transnistria, the traditional employment areas are: constructions (38.2%), trade (22.5%), transportation (12.7%), communication (8.8%), public catering (7.8%), industry (5.9%), and medicine (2.9%). Of them, 51% work as labourers; 38.2% as specialists; and 10.8% as employees engaged in the services sector. Forty nine point four percent of the respondents worked full-time; 37.6% – part-time; 7.1% – were involved in a business with employed staff; 3.5% were individual entrepreneurs; and 2.4% – one-off jobs¹³.

In 2014, based on the SRL “Sociology”, the Transnistrian University T. G. Shevchenko conducted a sociological survey of 270 people on the topic “Migrants in the New Community: Adaptation and Integration”. The survey results quite representatively reflected the existing trends of the (labour) migration of Transnistria’s population. In the residents of Transnistria exiting for work, the share of men is usually significantly higher than the share of women and accounts for 63% and 37% accordingly. The youth are most prone to migration (around one-half of the respondents). The ethnicity of labour migrants basically reflects the structure of the make-up of Transnistria’s population – Ukrainians account for nearly 40%; Moldovans – 31%; Russians – one-quarter; and the rest are mainly Gagauzians and Bulgarians. The attractiveness of working in Russia for migrants of Transnistria is determined by the fact that more than 46% of them have Russian citizenship; 32% – have Moldovan citizenship; 21% – Ukrainian citizenship; and the rest have the citizenship of other countries. About one-third of the migrants have higher education; 14% – incomplete higher education; 41% – general specialized education; and 10% – general education. According to expert estimations, the share of emigrants with higher education is steadily decreasing¹⁴.

Migration for family reintegration is one of the consequences of mass labour emigration and it has controversial evolution trends. On the one hand, the temporary labour migrants (mostly youth capable to work), “having settled” in the destination country for permanent stay, bring over their parents from Transnistria. On the other hand, many of them strive to keep the relation with Transnistria, having left their parents there. Today, these are behavioural trends

¹³ Оставная А. Н. Модели занятости трудовых мигрантов из Приднестровья // Научные ведомости Белгородского государственного университета. Серия: Философия. Социология. Право. Выпуск № 3 (224) / том 35 / 2016, с. 54 [Ostavnaya A. N. Models of employment of labor migrants from Transnistria // Scientific journal of Belgorod State University. Series: Philosophy. Sociology. Law. Edition № 3 (224) / volume 35 / 2016, p. 54].

¹⁴ Оставная А. Н., Волкова О. А., Замалетдинова Л. Р. Трудовые мигранты из Приднестровья на территории страны-реципиента: качество жизни и особенности занятости // Вестник экономики, права и социологии. 2015. № 3, с. 336; Ibidem, Оставная, 2016, с. 49 [Ostavnaya A. N., Volkova O. A., Zamaletdinova L. R. The labor migrants originating from Transnistria on the territory of recipient country: quality of life and peculiarities of employment // Gazette of economy, law and sociology. – 2015. – № 3, p. 336; Ibidem, Ostavnaya, 2016, p. 49].

and the reasons determining them are especially topical. The significantly more attractive conditions of the Russian pension security in the past either stimulated the movement to this country or allowed one to receive their Russian pension in Transnistria. According to the data of the Unitary Social Security Fund of Transnistria, there are about 120–140,000 pensioners in Transnistria, and about one-third of them receive Russian pensions. However, the recent devaluation of the Russian rouble has significantly depreciated its buying power. At the same time, one must consider the rather large package of social guarantees for Russian pensioners, which retains a certain attractiveness of Russia for immigrants-pensioners. In addition, this type of migration may also include the consecutive shrinkage of the 14th Guard Army of the Military Forces of the USSR to a task force of Russian troops in Transnistria – from 22,000 in 1992 to 3,000 militaries in 1997. The further withdrawal of the Russian military units from Transnistria was accompanied by the movement of their families to the new place of service. Today, the total number of the task force of Russian troops in Transnistria, including the peacekeeping forces, represents 1,700 militaries. Furthermore, 90% of the staff is recruited from the local population.

Transnistria is a highly urbanized region – about 70% of the population lives in cities and towns (a study of the Statistics Service, 2016); therefore, the urban population plays a determining role in forming the migration flows, since the migration potential of rural areas is completely exhausted. Here one must consider the fact that cities and towns have a more highly skilled, and hence better paid, labour force. In the rural areas of Transnistria, the emigration of the population has a powerful depopulation effect. It leads to a distortion of the sex-age structure of the population in the direction of its “aging” and to a sharp drop in the reproductive and economic potential of the rural periphery¹⁵.

An important indicator that may be considered proof of the negative net migration in cities and districts is the share of the temporarily absent population. No special large-scale studies of Transnistria’s population have been conducted, while the current population record-keeping does not enable one to construct a complete picture of the international migration, especially the labour one. Sociological surveys convey a certain image of the labour migration of the

¹⁵ Влэдическу Н., Времиш М. Социальные последствия эмиграции и сельско-городской миграции в Центральной и Восточной Европе. Final Country Report. Moldova. VT/2010/001; Фоменко В. Г. Трудовая эмиграция как фактор депопуляции сельской местности Приднестровья // Современные миграционные процессы: состояние и основные формы: Материалы Международного научно-исследовательского семинара. Тирасполь. 17 декабря 2015 г. Кишинев: MOM, 2016, с. 139–140 [Vladicescu N., Vremish M. Social consequences of emigration and rural-urban migration in Central and Eastern Europe. Final Country Report. Moldova. VT/2010/001; Fomenko V. G. Labor emigration as a factor of depopulation of rural area in Transnistria // Contemporary migration processes: status and main forms. Proceedings of the international scientific conference, Tiraspol, 17 December 2015. Chişinău: IOM, 2016, p. 139–140].

population. They provide a snapshot of some of the most important aspects of labour migration of residents of Transnistria – sex, age, education, ethnicity, citizenship, legality of their exit from/entry into Transnistria, employment and stay in the territory of the destination country.

A real picture of the situation is rendered only by the population censuses of 2004 and 2015 which take into account the permanent population. The permanent population is the number of persons whose permanent place of residence is located in the respective territory, including the temporarily absent persons. Census statistics have a category which records the “temporarily absent population”. This is an indirect source of information about migrants. The 2004 census recorded 6.5% of people in this category, while the 2015 census recorded twice as high a number – nearly 15%. Of the total share of the temporarily absent population, 11% have been absent for less than 1 year, and 3.8% have been absent for more than 1 year. If the first category of persons exited Transnistria for temporary employment, this was most likely to the nearby foreign countries where the migration legislation limit their stay to 3 to 6 months, the second category may be included in the group of the so-called “potentially unreturnable emigrants” (Table 7).

Table 7. Permanently and temporarily absent population of Transnistria in 2004 and 2015

	Popu- lation, persons (2004)	Temporari- ly absent, persons (2004)	Temporarily ab- sent, in % of the total number (2004)	Popu- lation, persons (2015)	Temporari- ly absent, persons (2015)	Temporarily ab- sent, in % of the total number (2015)
Transnistria	555347	36312	6.54	475665	70587	14.84
City of Tiraspol	146781	3669	2.50	129477	18808	14.53
City of Dnestrovsk	12382	879	7.10	9756	1686	17.28
City of Bender	105010	11916	11.35	91298	18298	20.04
Râbnîța district	82699	5277	6.38	69560	10747	15.45
Dubăsari district	37449	3092	8.26	31222	5110	16.37
Slobozia district	95742	4640	4.85	83863	7520	8.97
Grigoriopol district	48000	4299	8.96	39819	6345	15.93
Camenca district	27284	2540	9.31	20670	2073	10.03

Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria. [Preliminary results of the 2015 Population Census of Transnistria, 2016; Report on the Scientific-Research Work of SRL “Regional Research”, 2016].

It is most likely that the population that has been temporarily absent for more than 1 year is the category of persons who have exited Transnistria for permanent residence abroad and for further employment there. In the inter-census period (2004–2015), the number of temporarily absent population increased in cities especially: in Tiraspol – almost 7 times; in Dnestrovsk – 2.5

times; Bender – nearly twice; and in the Râbnița district – 2.5 times. In the rural areas of Transnistria, the increase in the size of temporarily absent population is less significant, as the majority of rural settlements has exhausted its demographic potential for a growing scale of labour emigration (see Table 7, Table 8; Figure 8)¹⁶.

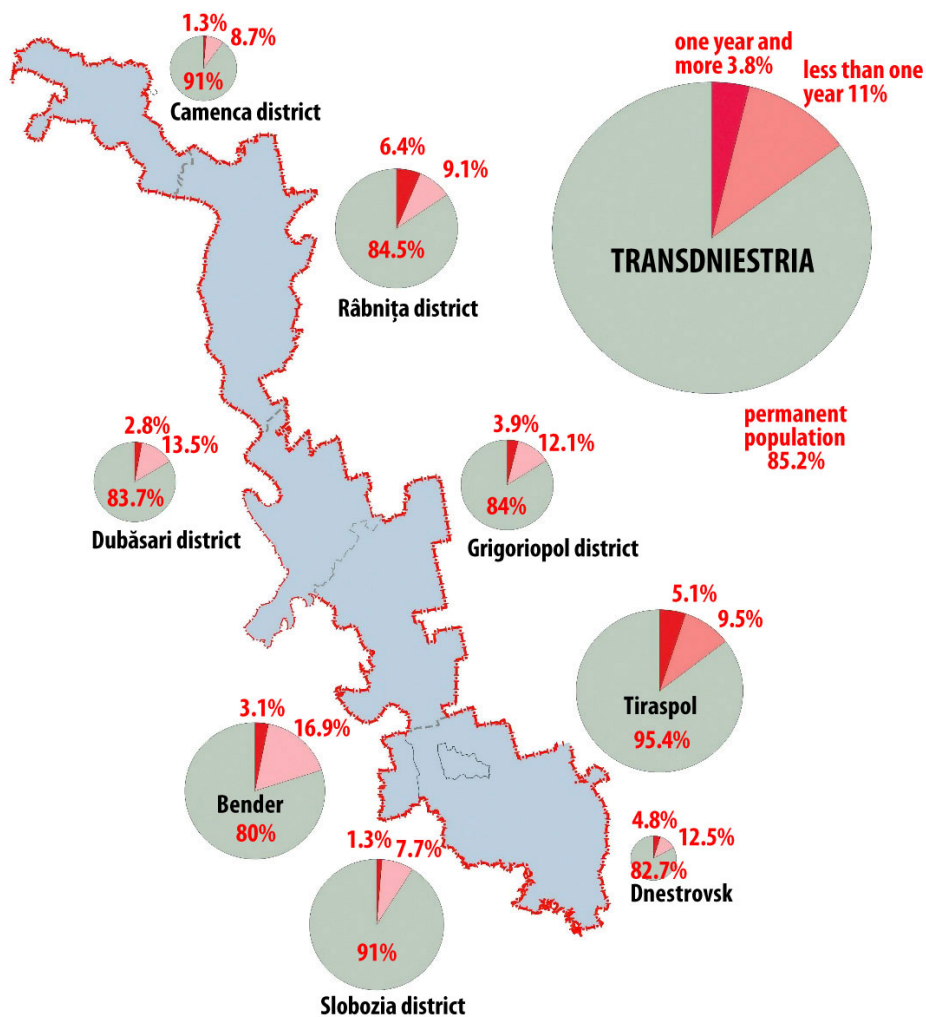
Table 8. Temporarily absent population of Transnistria in 2015 (persons)

	Permanent population	Temporarily absent for less than one year	Temporarily absent for one year and more
Transnistria	475665	52558	18029
City of Tiraspol	129477	12263	6545
City of Dnestrovsk	9756	1216	470
City of Bender	91298	15468	2830
Râbnița district	69560	6319	4428
Dubăsari district	31222	4225	885
Slobozia district	83863	6455	1065
Grigoriopol district	39819	4809	1536
Camenca district	20670	1803	270

Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria. [Preliminary results of the 2015 Population Census of Transnistria, 2016; Report on the Scientific-Research Work of SRL "Regional Research", 2016].

¹⁶ Отчет о научно-исследовательской работе НИЛ «Региональные исследования». Тема: Комплексная экономико-географическая характеристика населения Приднестровья. Этап V. Численность и размещение населения Приднестровья. Перспективная демографическая политика. Тирасполь: Кафедра социально-экономической географии и регионоведения Приднестровского университета, 2016 [Report on scientific-research work SRL "Regional researches". Topic: Complex economic and geographical profile of Transnistria's population. V phase. Number and distribution of population. Perspective demographic policy. Tiraspol: Department of social-economic geography and regional studies of Transnistrian university, 2016].

Figure 8. Temporarily absent population in Transnistria's cities and districts, 2015



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria. [According to the preliminary results of the 2015 Population Census of Transnistria].

Emigration for studies. The education migration plays a significant role in forming migration flows and stocks. Each year, from 50 to 100 applicants register with the Transnistrian University T. G. Shevchenko; based on the CIS countries quota the applicants are mainly citizens of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus, and there are separate quotas allocated for the residents of the Gagauz-Yeri.

As high a number of foreign citizens gets enrolled each year with the branches of Russian and Ukrainian economic higher education institutions located in the territory of Transnistria.

Russia, in turn, issues quotas for general vocational education, bachelor, master or specialist degrees, as well as the places reserved by its Ministry of Economic Development, Russian Federal Financial Monitoring (Rosfinmonitoring), and Customs Service. According to the data from the Agency for Education of Transnistria, in 2016, Russia provided about 200 quota spots for Transnistria: for master's degree – 29 quota places, specialist's degree – 46, and bachelor's degree – 121. Until 2014, Ukraine each year had secured around 100 places for applicants from Transnistria in its higher education institutions. In this way, based on the quotas of the Department of Education for 2016, 151 graduates of Transnistrian general education schools were recommended for studying in Russian higher education institutions, of whom 105 persons for bachelor programs, 27 – for specialist programs, and 19 persons – for master programs¹⁷.

This mechanism of quotas for places in Russian and Ukrainian higher education institutions for the graduates of Transnistrian secondary schools has provoked the effects of a “brain drain” in Transnistria. The graduates enjoying such benefits display a high migration tendency and, as a rule, do not return to Transnistria after finishing the respective education institutions. Alongside those enrolling in foreign higher education institutions on a quota basis, a significant number of secondary school graduates apply to foreign higher education institutions independently and do not show a tendency of returning to Transnistria either. For a more complete picture of the education migration, one must consider the data of the destination country.

Legal emigration. The phenomenon of illegal migration does exist but the question is whether there are data available on this category of migrants. Illegal migration is mainly characterized by a legal entry into the country of destination and carrying out of an illegal activity without the necessary permits. Over one-third of labour migrants from Transnistria fit in this category. A generalized image of the illegal labour migrants from Transnistria may be obtained via sociological surveys and it looks like this: women prevail; youth and pre-pension and pension age persons; predominantly with general vocational education or unfinished

¹⁷ Квоты-2016 // Официальный сайт Ведомства просвещения. Доступно: http://minpros.info/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogsection&id=25&Itemid=72; Аналитические материалы ЕГЭ. Аналитический отчет ЕГЭ-2016 // ГУ «Центр экспертизы качества образования» Ведомство просвещения. Доступно: <http://ceko-pmr.org/uploads/sitemenu/82-2016.pdf> [Quotas-2016 // Official site of the Ministry of Education. Available: http://minpros.info/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogsection&id=25&Itemid=72 cbpmr.net/data/ddp_12_02_18.pdf, dated on 25 February 2018].

higher education; an absolute majority of Moldovans and Ukrainians without Russian citizenship¹⁸.

The legal protection of residents of Transnistria working abroad requires special attention from the authorities. Many residents of Transnistria work outside Transnistria and their rights are often not protected. Not rare are the incidents of residents of Transnistria becoming victims of modern slavery. Therefore, it is appropriate to regulate the employment of residents of Transnistria abroad. The issue of licenses and the permanent monitoring by the management of organizations employing workforce from Transnistria abroad would be an efficient mechanism for securing the protection of rights of residents of Transnistria¹⁹.

There are currently no data publicly available on these categories of migrants of Transnistria.

A.2.2. Resident Population with Foreign Background

Stock of Population with Foreign Background. Official statistics may classify the permanent population either by citizenship or by the country of birth, or both types of data are analysed. It is important to pay special attention to data based on the country of birth criterion in those regions where political transformations have recently taken place and borders have changed, which may have entailed including in the number of international migrants persons having moved within the country when the country was still unitary and then broke up into several sovereign states. Foreign citizens and stateless persons having arrived for permanent stay with their close relatives (parents, children, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren) are registered in the territory of Transnistria for 1 year. This term may be extended by 2 years provided they have worked for not less than 9 months or have been studying in the territory of Transnistria.

The sources of data on population migration are as follows: the administrative (current) record keeping – a system of population record keeping or registration of foreigners; other administrative sources (residence permits,

¹⁸ Оставная А. Н. Модели занятости трудовых мигрантов из Приднестровья // Научные ведомости Белгородского государственного университета. Серия: Философия. Социология. Право. Выпуск № 3 (224) / том 35 / 2016, с. 51 [Ostavnaya A. N. Models of employment of labor migrants from Transnistria // Scientific journal of Belgorod State University. Series: Philosophy. Sociology. Law. Edition № 3 (224) / volume 35 / 2016, p. 51].

¹⁹ Карамышева К. Трудовая миграция: правовые основы для создания общего рынка труда в Евразийском Союзе. Доступно: <http://smdip.mid.gospmr.org/index.php?newsid=97.2016> [Karamysheva K. Labour migration: legal basis for creation of a common labour market in the Eurasian Union. Available: <http://smdip.mid.gospmr.org/index.php?newsid=97.2016>].

work permits, or asylum seeking applications); data received from crossing and check points and collected upon the exit from/entry into Transnistria (types of visas for entry into/exit from Transnistria); general population censuses and special population studies (of households and labour force)²⁰. Applications for the issue or cancelation of permanent residence permits are considered by the Commission for the Permanent Registration of Foreign Citizens and Deregistration of the Residents of Transnistria under the internal affairs bodies, with the involvement of security and justice bodies, based on the package of normative acts adopted on 19 June 2017.

The long-term registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons takes place upon submission of documents proving employment or education in the territory of Transnistria; fulfilled tax payment or other obligatory payment duties; presence of housing for proof of residence; and other documents needed for the Commission for the Permanent Registration of Foreign Citizens and Deregistration of the Residents of Transnistria under the internal affairs bodies to issue a decision.

A permanent registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons in the territory of Transnistria takes place based on the permanent residence permit issued by the BMI of the internal affairs bodies. The permanent residence permit is a document issued in accordance with the legal acts to a foreign citizen or stateless person as confirmation of their right to a permanent stay and to a free exit from or entry into Transnistria.

The databases of BMI of the internal affairs bodies and of the Passport Service (PS) of security bodies as well as the materials of the 2004 and 2015 Population Censuses of Transnistria contain information about the total number (stock) of foreigners and stateless persons living in Transnistria; the share of foreigners in the total number of the population; and the number of the permanent population of foreign origin by countries of citizenship. Provided there are more complete data on the population of foreign origin available, one may make an additional classification by other subcategories – age, country of origin of parents, professional status, type of activity, and level of education.

At present, there are no data publicly available by such categories of persons.

²⁰ Чудиновских О. С. Статистика трудовой миграции в странах сети МИРПАЛ. Report for Migration and Remittance Peer-Assisted Learning network. Секция «Республика Молдова» 2011. Национальное Бюро Статистики РМ, с.18 [Chudinovskih O. S. Labour migration statistics in the countries of the MIRPAL network. Report for Migration and Remittance Peer-Assisted Learning network. Section “Republic of Moldova”, 2011, National Bureau of Statistics of the RM p. 18].

International Migration of Population with Foreign Background. One must find answers to the following questions: How mobile is the population and is the number of entries higher than the number of exits? What are the main goals pursued by the incoming foreigners (provided their reason for entering into/exiting from Transnistria is registered)? Are the migration flows primarily voluntary or are they dictated by external or internal factors (social-economic hardship, political instability, worsened environment conditions etc.)? What are the typical migration routes; i.e. the country from which foreigners come and to which the local residents go? May one claim that the flows primarily appear in a certain region or that they are equally distributed among various countries? How have the routes of the main “migration corridors” changed? To the extent possible, one must resort to the factors described in section A.1 (for instance, freedom of movement, the issue of citizenship, economic relations with certain countries/regions, tourism etc.). By “international migration”, one must understand a change of the country of habitual residence for not less than 12 months. If this period is of 3 to 12 months, then we are dealing with “temporary migration”.

There are currently data no publicly available by these categories of persons.

Legal Immigration. The entry into Transnistria by foreign citizens may be classified by the degree of legality and purpose of stay. Access to data is available about the number of foreigners with permanent residence permits; share of foreigners having received a residence permit for family reintegration; share of foreigners having received a temporary residence permit for work or entrepreneurial activities; share of foreigners having received a temporary residence permit for education purposes; and share of foreigners having received a permit for local border traffic.

International protection. This module contains a description of the total number (stock) and flows of immigrants who arrive in Transnistria in a forced manner or already reside in it. Involuntary migration – or “forced migration” – may occur for several reasons, including due to conflicts or political persecution, or to a fast or consecutive worsening of the condition of the natural or technological environment.

The Foreign Policy Unit and the BMI of the internal affairs bodies collect data about the annual number of applications for asylum (first-time applications) and countries of origin of applicants seeking asylum in the territory of Transnistria.

Refugees. In 2014, there were a number of sporadic applications registered with the BMI of the internal affairs bodies, by Ukrainian citizens in relation with the political and economic crisis in Ukraine. No social welfare was provisions provided for the refugees. One also noted the temporary stay in the territory of Transnistria of Ukrainian citizens of military age – potential participants in the Donbas conflict.

In exceptional cases, persons carrying out political or diplomatic activities or holding public positions in various countries or in international organizations, persons displaying a special attachment, respect for and interest in Transnistria, and other distinguished persons who are prosecuted in their countries may apply for political asylum with the head of Transnistria. There are currently no data publicly available by these categories of persons.

Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings. An Interinstitutional Commission for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings was set up in 2013. The following aspects of this problem are indicated: the overall number of residents of Transnistria who have become victims of human trafficking; the number of victims of human trafficking by target countries; and the share of women among the victims of human trafficking. The main forms of human trafficking are trafficking for sexual exploitation, trafficking for work exploitation, and trafficking for organ extraction. The most frequent victims of human trafficking are women and children who are taken abroad for sexual exploitation to Turkey, Russia and the Middle East. Several dozens of attempts of human trafficking are registered in Transnistria each year. However, these statistics have a fragmentary character and do not enable one to judge fully the scope of this phenomenon.

General Cross-Border Mobility. This situation may be depicted using two indicators: the number of exits of residents of Transnistria registered upon exit and the number of entries of foreign citizens in Transnistria, registered upon entry.

For Transnistria, due to its nature as a transit territory, of exceptional importance is the temporary stay of foreign citizens for the time interval of 24 hours to several days. A certain picture is built up by the data on the exit from/entry into Transnistria by foreigners possessing documents issued by recognized states; however, most of them are migrants in transit (Table 9).

Table 9. Registration of entries into the territory of Transnistria by foreign citizens possessing identity documents of recognized countries for the period between 2010 and 2012 (persons)

Country	Number	Country	Number	Country	Number
2010					
Australia	23	Yemen	2	Servia	65
Austria	84	Kazakhstan	401	Sierra Leone	1
Azerbaijan	385	Cameroon	2	Syria	72
Albania	3	Canada	284	Slovakia	52
Algeria	1	Cyprus	124	Slovenia	76
Arab Emirates	3	Kyrgyzstan	60	Sudan	29
Argentina	7	China	8	Surinam	11
Armenia	277	Congo	1	Tajikistan	178
Afghanistan	1	Korea	15	Turkmenistan	21
Belize	1	Cote d'Ivoire	1	Turkey	723
Belarus	3340	Kuwait	1	Uzbekistan	399
Belgium	83	Stateless persons	49	Ukraine	154188
Bulgaria	303	Latvia	254	Finland	46
Bosnia	8	Lebanon	65	France	221
Brazil	10	Lithuania	236	Croatia	28
Great Britain	233	Luxembourg	4	Czech Republic	105
Hungary	64	Macedonia	1	Chad	1
Venezuela	1	Mali	1	Switzerland	83
Haiti	1	Malta	1	Sweden	78
Guinea	6	Morocco	15	Sri-Lanka	23
Germany	3798	The right bank of the Nistru River (holders of documents of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova)	367127	Ecuador	7
Greece	133	Mongolia	47	Estonia	127
Georgia	233	Mexico	1	South Africa	1
Denmark	63	Nigeria	12	Japan	15
Egypt	4	The Netherlands	172	TOTAL	609995
Israel	891	New Zealand	2		
India	29	Norway	71		
Jordan	8	Pakistan	10		
Iraq	16	Poland	428		
Iran	12	Portugal	65		
Ireland	55	Russia	71468		
Iceland	2	Rwanda	3		
Spain	55	Romania	910		
Italy	804	USA	680		

Country	Number	Country	Number	Country	Number
2011					
Australia	24	Italy	728	USA	787
Austria	101	Yemen	7	Serbia	42
Azerbaijan	424	Kazakhstan	445	Senegal	3
Albania	15	Cameroon	4	Sierra Leone	2
Algeria	1	Canada	195	Syria	118
Arab Emirates	2	Cyprus	106	Slovakia	52
Argentina	19	Kyrgyzstan	50	Slovenia	77
Armenia	325	China	9	Sudan	17
Afghanistan	3	Columbia	2	Surinam	9
Belarus	3075	Korea	16	Tajikistan	173
Belgium	115	Cote d'Ivoire	3	Turkmenistan	23
Bulgaria	445	Stateless persons	25	Turkey	904
Bosnia	8	Latvia	314	Uzbekistan	352
Brazil	21	Lebanon	101	Ukraine	170704
Burkina Faso	1	Lithuania	289	Philippines	2
Great Britain	277	Luxembourg	1	Finland	30
Hungary	59	Macedonia	7	France	180
Venezuela	1	Malta	2	Croatia	38
Vietnam	1	Morocco	2	Czech Republic	128
Guinea	13	The right bank of the Nistru River	438493	Chili	1
Guatemala	1	Mongolia	402	Switzerland	85
Ghana	1	Nepal	1	Sweden	82
Germany	3774	Nigeria	23	Sri Lanka	12
Greece	140	The Netherlands	158	Ecuador	9
Georgia	243	New Zealand	4	Estonia	89
Denmark	54	Norway	65	Japan	9
Egypt	9	Paraguay	1	TOTAL	712141
Israel	1037	Pakistan	11		
India	40	Peru	39		
Jordan	12	Poland	424		
Iraq	10	Portugal	95		
Iran	8	Russia	84709		
Ireland	37	Romania	1089		
Spain	65	Somali	1		

Country	Number	Country	Number	Country	Number
2012					
Australia	15	Italy	894	Ossetia	7
Austria	86	Iceland	4	USA	765
Azerbaijan	321	Kazakhstan	448	Serbia	70
Albania	8	Cameroon	6	Senegal	1
Angola	1	Canada	210	Sierra Leone	2
Argentina	10	Cyprus	146	Syria	111
Armenia	224	Kyrgyzstan	41	Slovakia	32
Afghanistan	9	China	8	Slovenia	68
Belarus	2595	Congo	2	Sudan	16
Belgium	91	Korea	17	Surinam	15
Bulgaria	446	Kenia	1	Tajikistan	134
Bolivia	3	Stateless persons	18	Turkmenistan	17
Bosnia	4	Latvia	831	Turkey	830
Brazil	5	Lebanon	36	Uzbekistan	324
Burkina Faso	1	Libya	4	Ukraine	122967
Great Britain	269	Lithuania	212	Philippines	22
Hungary	36	Luxemburg	10	Finland	26
Vietnam	4	Macedonia	9	France	221
Guinea	20	Malta	6	Croatia	30
Ghana	7	Morocco	1	Czech Republic	84
Germany	3573	The right bank of the Nistru River	449516	Chad	2
Greece	151	Mongolia	18	Switzerland	85
Georgia	170	Mexico	66	Sweden	93
Dagestan	1	Nigeria	16	Sri Lanka	5
Denmark	63	The Netherlands	200	Ecuador	7
Dominican Republic	3	New Zealand	3	Estonia	138
Egypt	17	Norway	80	Ethiopia	1
Israel	813	Paraguay	1	South Africa	2
India	24	Pakistan	10	Japan	24
Jordan	8	Panama	1	TOTAL	666755
Iraq	4	Poland	394		
Iran	11	Portugal	90		
Ireland	48	Russia	77009		
Spain	62	Romania	1245		

Source: According to the BMI of the internal affairs bodies.

Applying the Regulatory Framework on Migration and Migrant Return. The normative act *On the migration registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons* of 19 June 2017 regulates the registration of the movements of foreign citizens and stateless persons in connection with their entry into or transit through Transnistria, their movement within the territory of Transnistria when choosing or changing the place of (temporary) stay or residence within Transnistria, or with their exit from Transnistria.

This regulation determines and uses the following key concepts: a) the migration registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons – the recording and aggregating of data on foreign citizens and stateless persons and on the movement of foreign citizens and stateless persons; b) the body for the migration registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons – is an executive administration authority in charge of migration issues; c) the place of residence of the foreign citizen or stateless persons in Transnistria – a residential house, apartment, room, space in the specialized housing stock, or another residential space in which the foreign citizen resides permanently or predominantly as owner, based on a lease (sub-lease) agreement, or on other grounds stipulated by the normative framework in force, and at the address at which the foreign citizen or stateless person is registered according to the rules established by this legal provision; d) the place of (temporary) stay of the foreign citizen or stateless person in Transnistria – hotel, wellness centre, rest home, pension, tourist centre, medical organization, or another similar facility, a criminal enforcement detention facility executing the sentence of deprivation of freedom, or a residential space that is not the domicile of a resident of Transnistria in which the foreign citizen or the stateless person is located and/or at whose address the foreign citizen or the stateless person is registered upon arrival as provided in this regulatory act; e) the registration of the foreign citizen or stateless person at their place of residence – recording of data about one's residence as established by the migration registration bodies (i.e. permanent registration); f) the registration of the foreign citizen or stateless person by their place of (temporary) stay – recording the data about the stay of the foreign citizen or stateless person by the authorities in accordance with this legal provision (i.e. temporary registration). Article 12 of the said document determines the status, purpose and function of the Central Bank of Migration Registration Data, based on the list of data recorded upon the migration registration.

Return migration is a phenomenon that may take different forms. By its name, it is already clear that this means a person's movement back to the place where they resided previously, which may be or may not be the migrant's country of citizenship. This process may be voluntary or involuntary, and the return may

take place for the purpose of temporary stay (undertaken at international level with a duration of 3 to 12 months) or long-term stay (over 12 months).

The migration registration has an informative character, except when otherwise provided by the legal framework, and is based on the principles of the freedom of movement of foreign citizens and of their choice over the place of (temporary) stay and of residence within Transnistria based on the legality and observance of international law; a combination of interests of the person, community and official bodies; ensuring the security of Transnistria and protection of other interests of Transnistria; accessibility of actions needed for the migration registration; and unification of the rules of migration registration.

Migration registration includes one's registration by the place of their residence and by the place of their (temporary) stay, as well as the recording of other data; processing, analysis, storing, protection and use of information about the quality and quantity social-economic and other characteristics of migration processes; and keeping of the Central Bank of Migration Registration Data.

One's permanent residence in the territory of Transnistria is confirmed by the presence of the permanent registration. The grounds for receiving a permanent residence permit implies one's stay in the territory of Transnistria for long-term registration, of three years, issued by the internal affairs bodies. A permanent residence permit is issued to a foreign citizen or to a stateless person for a period of 5 (five) years, taking into account the validity of their passport, allowing for the possibility to apply for permanent registration. Upon expiry of the five-year validity of the permanent residence permit, it may be extended for a longer term.

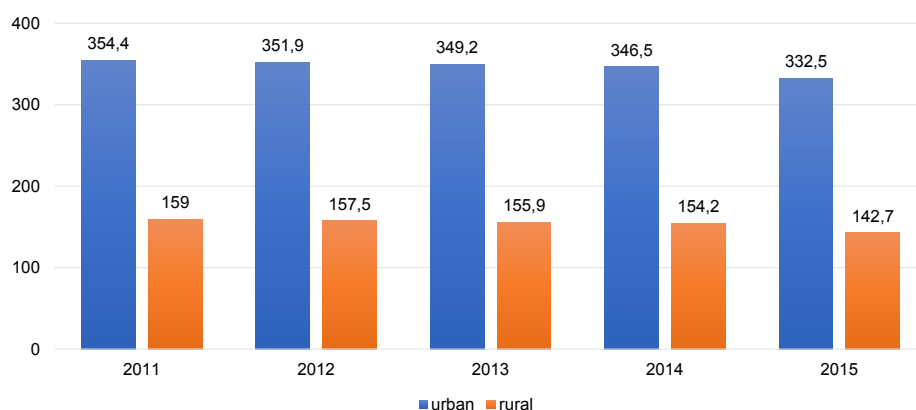
PART B. IMPACT OF MIGRATION

External migration has a controversial, and generally negative, influence on the demographic and economic situation in Transnistria. On the one hand, emigration reduces the pressure on the local labour market and emigrants are an important source of remittances. On the other hand, emigration contributes to a decline in the demographic potential of Transnistria.

B.1 Migration and the Demographic Situation

The demographic situation in Transnistria has a critical depopulation character. Between 2011 and 2015, the main negative trends of the natural and migratory movements remained the same, while the demographic situation worsened. According to the Statistics Service, the natural decrease and negative net migration in the population virtually determines the reduction of the number of the population of Transnistria (Figure 9). The absolute size of the negative net migration in the population of Transnistria for the considered period remains high – each year, those who emigrate are by 1,800–2,300 more than those who immigrate (Figure 10). The labour emigration of youth leads to the aging of the population, and the emigration of women of reproductive age leads to a decline in the reproduction of the population.

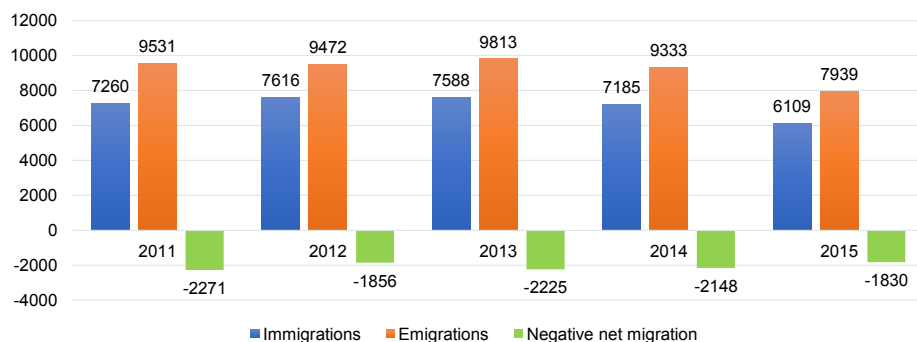
Figure 9. Dynamics of the total number of Transnistria's population (stock), 2011–2015 (thousand persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

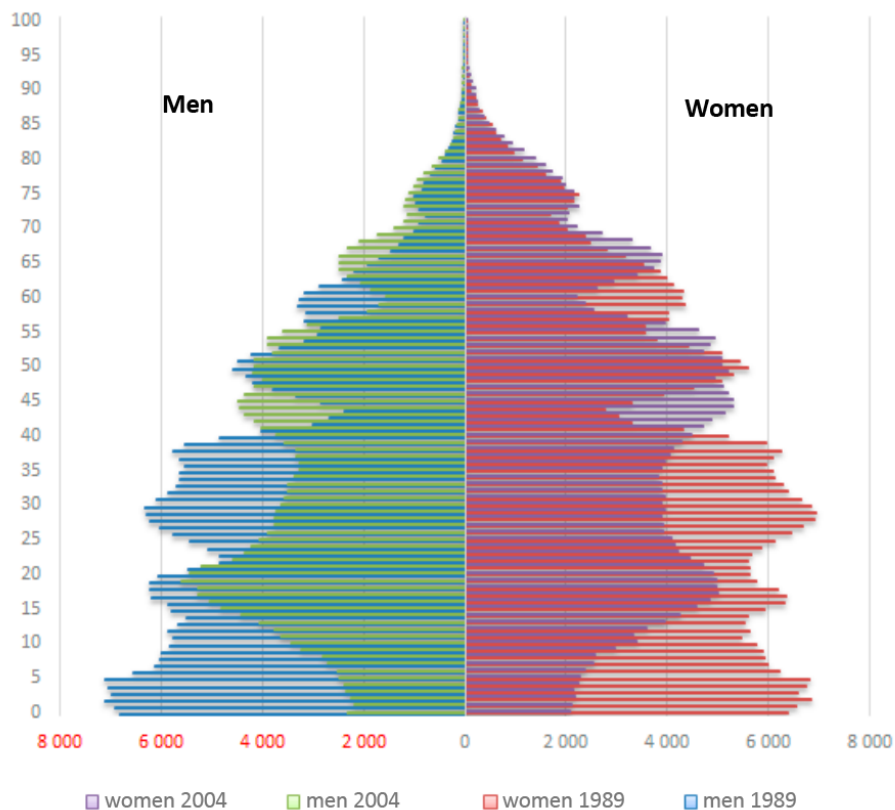
Note: The calculation is made based on the preliminary data of the 2015 Population Census of Transnistria, 2016.

Figure 10. Dynamics of the negative net migration of the population, 2011–2015 (persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

Figure 11. Age-sex structure of the population based on the 1989 and 2004 censuses (persons)



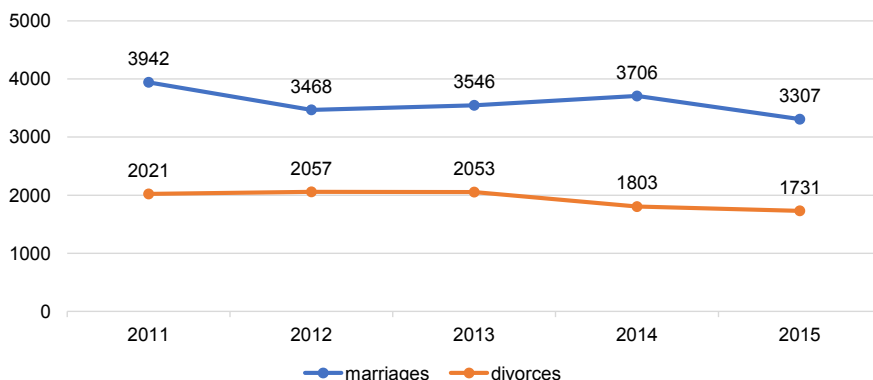
Source: According to the data from the research study The Demographic Figure of Transnistria (Kivachuk, 2014).

Note: The data presented are smoothed data.

Emigration significantly distorts the configuration of the age-sex pyramid of Transnistria, especially for the working age category (15 to 55 for women and 15 to 60 for men (Figure 11).

Emigration has a negative impact on the marriage rate of the Transnistria's population. The number of marriages had significantly decreased, by 16% between 2011 and 2015, while the number of divorces in the same period decreased by 14%. The lengthy emigration of one or of both spouses is a threat to family integrity and creates conditions for increase in number of children left behind. The trend of the divorce rate remains high; about one-half of the total number of registered marriages end in divorce. The relative indicators of the divorce rate had insignificantly decreased (from 3.9‰ in 2011 to 3.6‰ in 2015) (Figure 12).

Figure 12. Dynamics of the number of marriages and divorces, 2011–2015

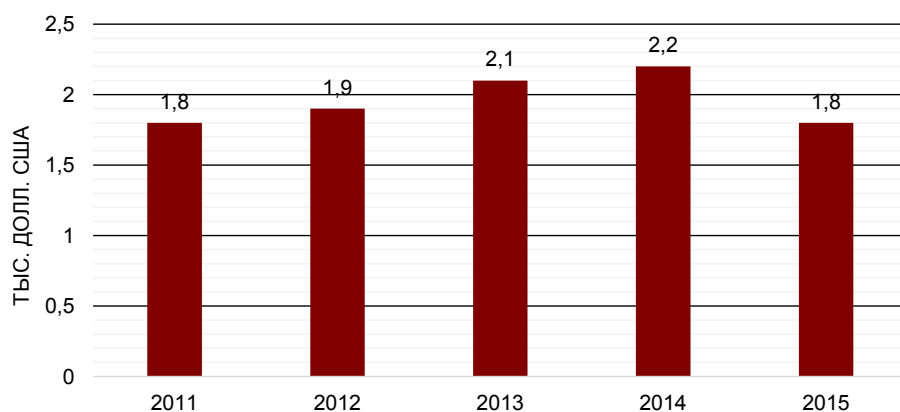


Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria, 2016.

B.2 Migration and the Economic Development

The external migration of Transnistria's residents is a major factor in its economic development. Despite the decline in the total number of the Transnistria's population for the reporting period, one notes a return of the per capita indicators to the level of 2011. Thus, the GDP per capita rose between 2012 and 2014, while in 2015, it fell to the level of 2011 and constituted USD 1,800 (Figure 13).

Figure 13. Dynamics of the GDP per capita in Transnistria, 2011–2015 (thousand USD)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria, 2016.

If prior to 2011, the share of remittances from abroad accounted for 15–18% of Transnistria's GDP, the dependence of the Transnistrian economy on the inflows of foreign currency has significantly increased in the past five years (2012–2016) and, according to the experts, accounted for one-quarter of Transnistria's GDP in 2015.

According to the estimations of the Transnistrian Bank (TB) based on the amount of remittances, around 150,000–170,000 residents of Transnistria are involved in labour migration, which accounts for about one-third of Transnistria's population²¹. This is comparable to the number of the employed population of Transnistria – 136,400 people (as at 1 January 2016)²². However, these figures are not quite accurate as they also include the persons exiting Transnistria for temporary work several times during the reporting year.

²¹ Рынок денежных переводов: тенденции, потенциал и вклад в экономическое развитие Приднестровья // Вестник Приднестровского Банка. – 2013. – № 3, с. 13. Доступно: <http://www.cbpmr.net/resource/prbvd166-3.pdf> [Remittances' market: tendencies, potential and contribution to the economic development of Transnistria. // Gazette of Transnistrian Republican Bank. 2013. № 3. Available: http://www.cbpmr.net/resource/prbvd166new_2.pdf].

²² Социально-экономическое развитие Приднестровья (окончательные данные), 2015 г. Тирасполь, 2016, с. 43. Доступно: <http://mer.gospmr.org/gosudarstvennaya-sluzhba-statistiki/informacziya/o-soczialno-ekonomicheskom-polozenii-pmr/socialno-ekonomicheskoe-razvitie-pmr-za-2015-god-okonchatelnye-dannye.html>, от 22 декабря 2016 [Social-economic development of Transnistria (final data) for 2015, Tiraspol, 2016, p. 43. Available: <http://mer.gospmr.org/gosudarstvennaya-sluzhba-statistiki/informacziya/o-soczialno-ekonomicheskom-polozenii-pmr/socialno-ekonomicheskoe-razvitie-pmr-za-2015-god-okonchatelnye-dannye.html>, dated on 22 December 2016].

According to expert estimations, more than half of the money sums are sent in by labour emigrants working in Russia, Italy, Czech Republic, and Spain. In 2012–2013, the average wage in Transnistria was USD 330–350. In 2012, the nominal money income per capita in Transnistria increased by 19%. On average, this represented USD 195 or 2,155 roubles (according to the exchange rate of the TB) per person. By the aggregate value of goods and services produced, the remittances from migrants of Transnistria account for more than 50%. For instance, the share of income from currency sale (31.7%) in 2012 was nearly equal to the income received by the local population under the item “work remuneration” (33.9%). By 2016, this indicator decreased by a half. Consequently, the dependence of Transnistria on the labour migrants’ remittances is exceptionally high (Table 10).

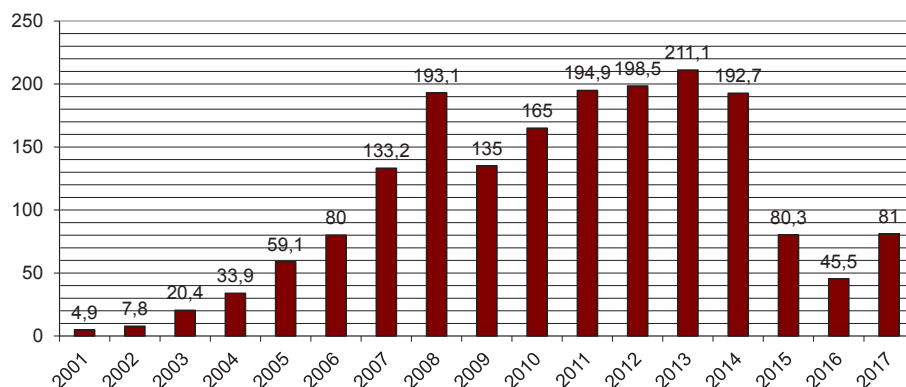
Table 10. Most dependent countries/territories on remittances, 2011 (%)

Place in international ranking	Countries/territories receiving remittances	Remittances share of GDP, %	Place in international ranking	Countries/territories sending remittances	Remittances share of GDP, %
1	Tajikistan	46.9	1	Luxemburg	19.2
2	Liberia	31.0	2	Lebanon	11.3
3	Kyrgyzstan	29.1	3	Maldives	10.6
4	Lesotho	26.8	4	Oman	10.1
5	Moldova	23.0	5	Solomon islands	7.4
6	Nepal	22.3	6	Kuwait	6.7
7	Samoa	21.4	7	Butane	5.8
8	Haiti	21.1	8	Kyrgyzstan	5.7
–	Transnistria	18.3	9	Saudi Arabia	4.9
9	Lebanon	18.0	–	Transnistria	2.8
10	Kosovo	17.7	38	Moldova	1.4

Source: According to the data from the Transnistrian Bank.

Many residents of Transnistria capable to work go abroad in search of a better life for themselves and their relatives. One may judge the size and role of labour emigration from Transnistria by the trends of remittances from emigrants. According to the TB data, a significant reduction of money transfers was noted in the period after the beginning of the financial-economic crisis of 2008–2009, while the volume of remittances was registered between 2012–2014 (Figure 14). As a whole, between 2002 and 2012, the amount of USD 1 billion 230 million was transferred to Transnistria, which exceeded the direct investments of foreign investors three times. Seasonal fluctuations usually appear in the form of increases in the amounts of remittances towards autumn.

Figure 14. Dynamics of remittances to Transnistria from abroad, 2001–2017 (million USD)

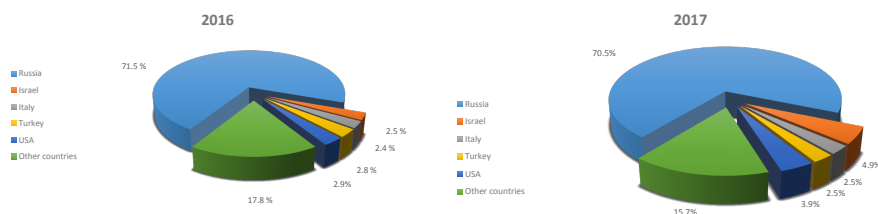


Source: According to the data from the Transnistrian Bank [Dynamics of remittances to/from Transnistria in 2017. Available: cbpmr.net/data/ddp_12_02_18.pdf, dated on 25 February 2018].

According to the TB data, the greatest part of remittances in 2017 was made from the CIS countries (75.0%), mainly from Russia – 70.8% of the aggregate measure (US 57.1 million). The share of remittances from the right bank of the Nistru River accounted for 2.0% (USD 1.7 million), from Ukraine – 1.2% (USD 0.9 million). Of the more distant countries, the main remitting countries were Israel (4.9%, or USD 4.0 million (3.9%, or USD 3.1 million), Turkey (2.5% or USD 2.1 million) and Italy (2.5%, or USD 2.0 million) (Figure 15).

As of last year, 27 countries dropped off and 9 new ones appeared in the list of countries from which individuals send remittances to Transnistria. In general, the geography of remittances includes 131 countries of the world.

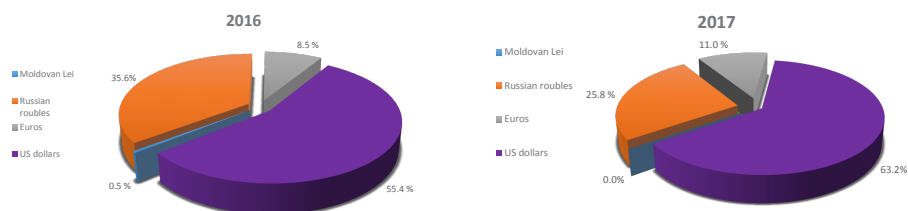
Figure 15. Geography of remittances by residents of Transnistria, 2016–2017 (%)



Source: According to the data from the Transnistrian Bank [Dynamics of remittances to/from Transnistria in 2017. Available: cbpmr.net/data/ddp_12_02_18.pdf, dated on 25 February 2018].

An overwhelming amount of remittances to Transnistria are sent from abroad in US dollars; while the weight of the European currency grows and the share of the Russian rouble and Moldovan Leu decreases (Figure 16).

Figure 16. Structure of remittances sent to Transnistria by currencies, 2016–2017 (%)



Source: According to the data from the Transnistrian Bank [Dynamics of remittances to/from Transnistria for 2017. Available: cbpmr.net/data/ddp_12_02_18.pdf, dated in 25 February 2018].

According to the generalized expert data, the current negative trend is related to the social-economic crisis in the countries of the region, especially in Russia which accounts for the highest number of remittances sent to Transnistria. The devaluation of the Russian rouble has changed the total amount in a USD equivalent; the rouble fell by more than a half in 2014 and the amounts of remittances, when converted to USD, changed accordingly.

After the political and social-economic crisis in Ukraine in 2013–2014, remittances sent by labour migrants from this country decreased more than ten times.

Another factor for the reduction of remittances in the past months became the deficit of foreign currency in the commercial banks of Transnistria. Credit organizations offer to cash the money transfers in parts and in different currencies. Therefore, individuals prefer to send money to the banks on the right side of the Nistru River and to those of Ukraine, which do not have foreign currency cash deficits.

According to the TB data, remittances are a bigger source of income than the official international assistance or the direct foreign investments. Between 2002 and 2012, the residents of Transnistria who had gone abroad in search of work (estimated at 150–170,000 people) sent nearly USD 1 billion 230 million home, which exceeded the direct investments of foreign investors by three times. By 2012, the money transfer amount accounted for 20% of Transnistria's GDP. According to the experts, at this time, they had become the "main engine of

consumption". Starting in 2015, the amount of remittances sent to Transnistria rapidly decreased. According to the TB data, this became one of the reasons for the foreign currency deficit in Transnistria. During 2016, the specialists of the TB recorded a decline of 3–4 times in the amounts of remittances sent by labour migrants from Transnistria. Such a serious drop is explained by the complication of the economic situation in Russia and the devaluation of the Russian rouble.

Due to the political crisis in Ukraine (2013/2014), the circular labour migration from Transnistria to Russia was significantly troubled by the restrictions on the exit from/entry into Transnistria by men of military age having Russian citizenship. Therefore, many had to resort to the services of the Chisinau Airport instead of the ground transportation. However, the speculatively high cost of air-travel led to the "unprofitability" of the circular labour migration. The drop of the exchange rate of the Russian rouble significantly influenced the decline of the rotational labour migration of residents of Transnistria. The structure of remittances sent by the migrants from Transnistria was made up as follows: over two-thirds – USD, almost one-quarter – Russian roubles, and the rest was mainly Euro²³.

As experts say, an indirect indication of the shrinkage of this category of migrants is the statistics of remittances and the income from foreign currency sales. In 2014, compared to 2013, the amount of remittances sent by labour migrants from Transnistria fell by 7%, while the income from the sale of foreign currency, primarily earned by labour migrants, fell by one-quarter²⁴.

B.3 Migration, Employment and the Labour Market

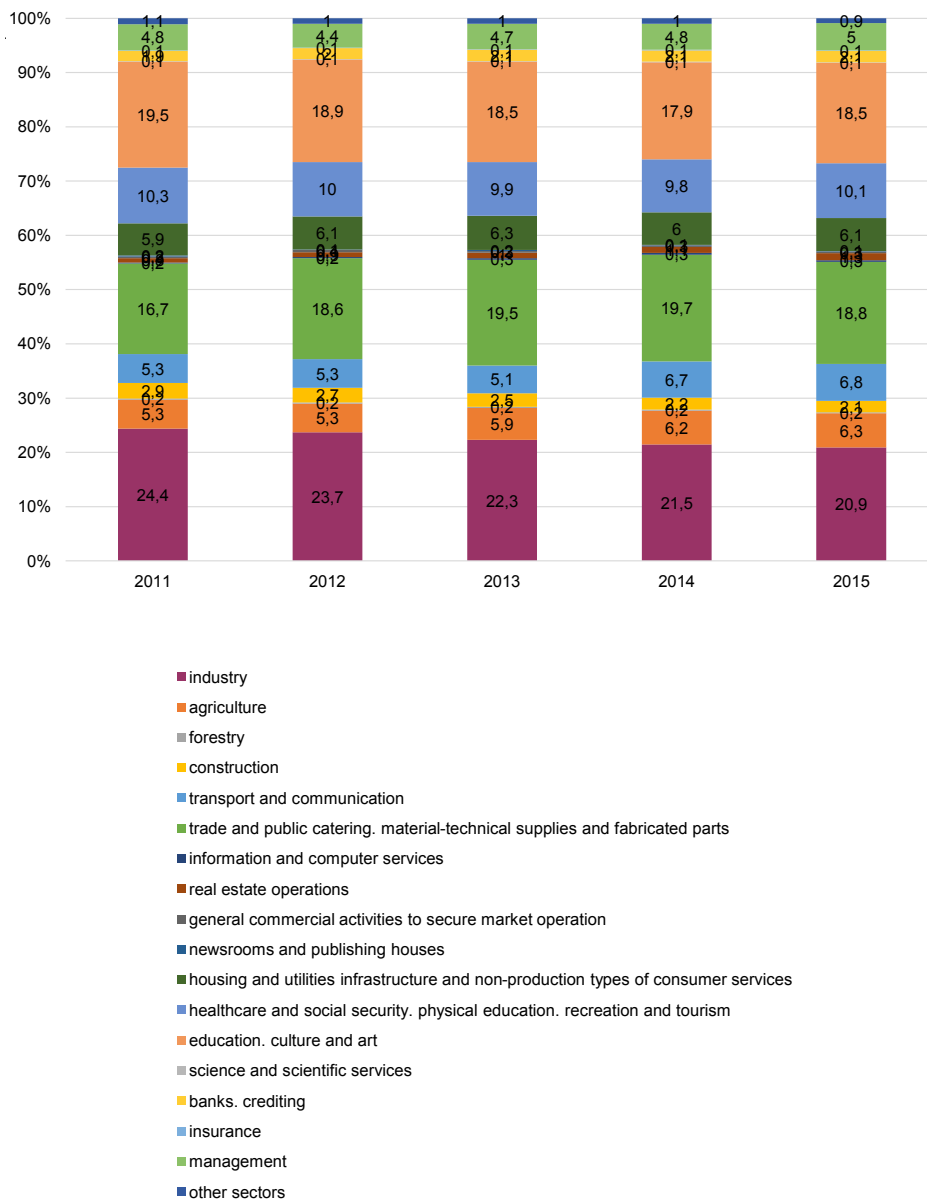
According to the generalized data of the Agency for Economic Development and the Agency for Social Protection and Labour for the period considered (2011–2015), one notes a significant decline in the number of people of working age (by 9,500 people) and an increase in the number and share of

²³ Рынок денежных переводов: тенденции, потенциал и вклад в экономическое развитие Приднестровья // Вестник Приднестровского Банка. – 2013. – № 3, с. 14. Доступно: <http://www.cbpmr.net/resource/prbvd166-3.pdf> [Remittances' market: tendencies, potential and contribution to the economic development of Transnistria. // Gazette of Transnistrian Republican Bank. 2013. № 3, p. 14. Available: http://www.cbpmr.net/resource/prbvd166new_2.pdf].

²⁴ Денежные доходы и расходы населения в 2014 г. Вестник Приднестровского Банка. 2015. № 4, с. 26–27; Оставная А. Н. Модели занятости трудовых мигрантов из Приднестровья // Научные ведомости Белгородского государственного университета. Серия: Философия. Социология. Право. 2016. Выпуск № 3 (224) / том 35, с. 55 [Cash income and cash expenses of population in 2014. Bulletin of Transnistrian republican bank. 2015. № 4. p. 26–27; Ostavnaya A. N. Models of employment of labor migrants from Transnistria // Scientific journal of Belgorod State University. Series: Philosophy. Sociology. Law. Edition № 3 (224) / volume 35 / 2016, p. 55].

people of the non-working age (by 3,400 people). These trends are determined by the significant rise in the number of pensioners.

Figure 17. Distribution of economically active population by economic sector, 2011–2015 (%)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria, 2016

The further growth of the size of emigration of the working youth outside Transnistria will condition a shrinkage of work resources, loss of a part of qualified specialists, and a drop of pressure on the labour market. The emigration of the residents of Transnistria has a direct influence on the structure of employment of the population in separate branches of the Transnistrian economy. The outflow of highly qualified specialists has brought about a significant drop in the share of those employed in industry and agriculture (Figure 16).

Unemployment. The level of unemployment remains relatively low in the period considered (2.7% in 2015). According to the data of the Unitary Social Security Fund of Transnistria, 2684 persons were officially registered as unemployed at the end of 2015, of whom 46.7% were women.

An analysis of the distribution of the unemployed by age and sex shows that more than 41% of their number is made up of persons aged 41–52 (women) and 41–57 (men), followed by persons aged 30–40 – 22.3% (10.2% women and 12.1% men), and aged 23–29 – 14.4% (7.9% women and 6.5% men). The persons of pre-pension age and youth aged 18–22 account for 13.5% (5.7% women and 7.8% men) and 7.7% (3.5% women and 4.2% men), accordingly (Table 11).

Table 11. Distribution of the number of residents of Transnistria officially acknowledged as unemployed, by sex and age, at the end of 2015

	Number of persons			Percentage of the total		
	Unemployed	Including		Unemployed	Including	
	total	men	women	total	men	women
Total	2684	1430	1254	100	53,3	46,7
including age, years old:						
less than 18	16	6	10	0.6	0.2	0.4
18–22	207	114	93	7.7	4.2	3.5
23–29	386	174	212	14.4	6.5	7.9
30–40	599	324	275	22.3	12.1	10.2
41–52 (women, 41–57 (men)	1113	603	510	41.5	22.5	19.0
pre-pension age	363	209	154	13.5	7.8	5.7

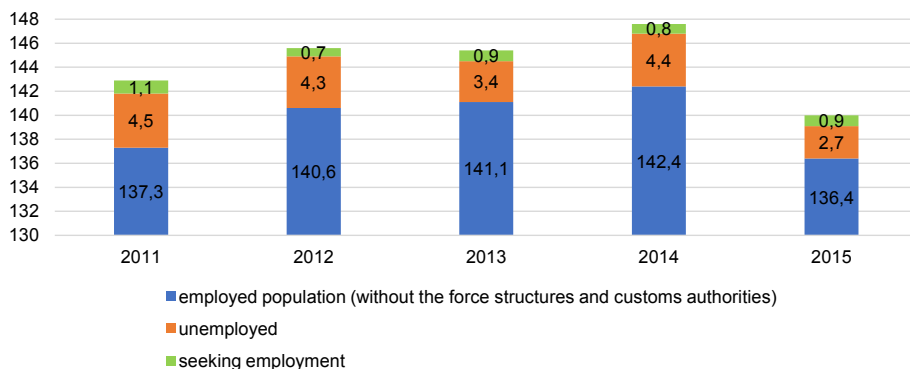
Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

The decline in the number of the employed population and the growth of unemployment is somewhat compensated by labour emigration. Off-the-books employment and the outflow of the working population from Transnistria stand out among the reasons for the recording of the highest rate of unemployment. Unemployment and underemployment directly influence the aggravation of the criminal situation – the unemployed account for two-thirds of the crimes

recorded in Transnistria. At the same time, the data of the Agency for Social Protection and Labour show that the demographic burden on the Transnistria's population of working age steadily grows – the share of pensioners has significantly increased while the share of children has decreased in the recent years (from 105,000 people in 2012 to 140,000 people in 2017) (Figure 17).

Labour Emigration. According to the sociological studies carried out by the SRL “Sociology” of the Transnistrian University T. G. Shevchenko, traveling abroad in search of a job has been the only source of living for 40–50% of Transnistria's families in the past ten years. For 20–25% of respondents, this has been a significant additional income. Over 60% of the surveyed indicated a difficult financial situation; over 50% – employment difficulties; over 25% – wage arrears; and over 20% – wage reductions. Thus, the respondents mainly indicated reasons of economic character as grounds for leaving.

Figure 18. Distribution of labour force resources by the employment situation, 2011–2015 (thousand persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

The sociological surveys carried out by the IARC “New Age” and SRL “Sociology” of the Transnistrian University T. G. Shevchenko obtained the following data. Residents of Transnistria generally approve of labour migration. In the summer of 2009, at the peak of the economic crisis, the attitude to labour migration had a more loyal character. In a few years, the share of those who considered that residents of Transnistria had to seek work in Transnistria and not abroad increased. However, the aggravation of the social-economic situation of Transnistria in 2015 again swung the balance in favour of understanding the circumstances of labour emigration (Table 12).

Table 12. Dynamics of answers of respondents of surveys by SRL “Sociology”, conducted in 2009, 2012, 2013, 2015, to the question: *Many residents of Transnistria are trying to seek a job abroad. What do you think about this?* (%)

Answer options	2009	2012	2013	2015
I understand these people and approve of their attempts	78.6	67.5	66.9	75.0
They should do their best to find their place at home	16.7	24.5	26.0	21.5
I am absolutely against such attempts, I think this is high treason	4.7	7.1	7.1	3.5

Source: According to the sociological surveys of IARC “New Age” and SRL “Sociology” of Transnistria’s University T. G. Shevchenko.

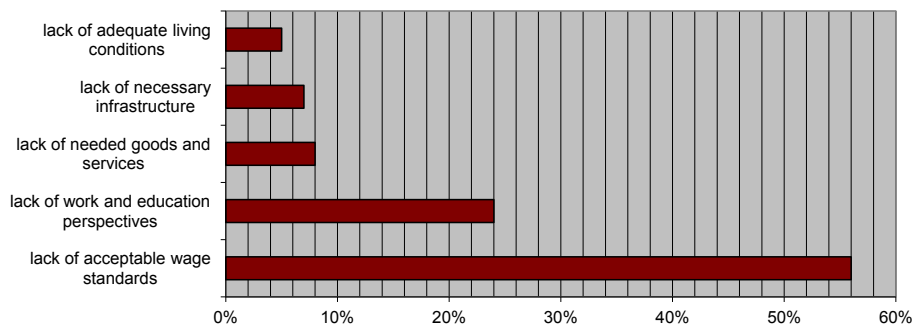
An analysis of the reasons for the emigration of rural residents of working age showed that work abroad had an increased importance to them (Table 13). However, youth pay attention to the fact that, although the lack of a well-paid job is the main reason that pushes them out of their native village, the lack of different perspectives plays a more important role in their decision-making (Figure 18).

Table 13. Structure of answers of respondents of SRL “Sociology” surveys, conducted in 2009, 2012, 2015, to the question: *What is the purpose of your family members going abroad?* (%)

Answer options	2009	2011	2015
All of them (or the only member in the family) have left for education	4.1	5.9	7.8
All of them (or the only member in the family) have left for work	62.1	65.7	70.1
Some for education, some for work	11.8	7.2	8.0
One member is gone, to study and work at the same time	5.9	9.0	9.5
Other	3.0	2.1	1.6
I do not know / do not want to answer	13.0	10.1	3.0

Source: According to the sociological surveys of IARC “New Age” and SRL “Sociology” of Transnistria’s University T. G. Shevchenko.

Figure 19. Push factors contributing to the emigration of youth from the rural areas of Transnistria, 2015



Source: According to the sociological surveys of IARC “New Age” and SRL “Sociology” Transnistria’s T. G. Shevchenko University.

The financial side of labour migration becomes increasingly obvious. Only about one-half of rural respondents (of working age) admitted that their family were currently receiving money from abroad. Over 70% of them said remittances were important for their family's budget. Nearly 90% of respondents indicated that in general it was important to have the possibility to exit freely from Transnistria (Table 14).

Table 14. Structure of answers of respondents of SRL "Sociology" surveys, conducted in 2009, 2011, 2015, to the question: *How important for your family's budget is the money you are sent from abroad?* (%)

Answer options	2009	2011	2015
Very important	40.2	65.2	71.0
Rather important	25.0	21.0	20.0
Not very important	5.4	4.5	2.3
Not important at all	1.8	0.4	0.2
No answer	24.1	8.1	6.1
I do not know	3.6	0.9	0.4

Source: According to the sociological surveys of IARC "New Age" and SRL "Sociology" Transnistria's University T. G. Shevchenko

B.4 Migration and Social Development

External migration has an impact on the system of social guarantees provided by Transnistria to its population, especially on the operation of the education and healthcare systems. The insufficiently high wages in the absolute majority of sectors of the Transnistrian economy forces one to look for alternative and additional sources of income outside Transnistria (Table 15, Figure 20).

Table 15. Dynamics of average wages by the economic sectors of Transnistria, 2000, 2010, 2014 (USD)

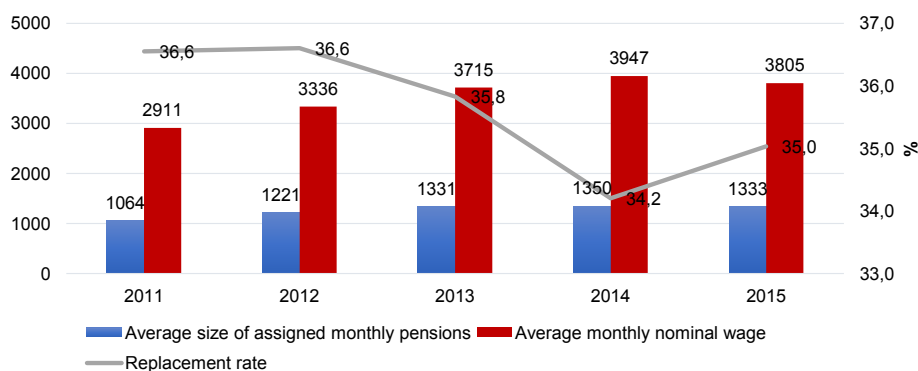
Sector	2000	2010	2014	Sector	2000	2010	2014
Transnistria – total	32	279	364	Housing and utilities	37	276	380
Industry	50	366	463	Public services	16	244	316
Agriculture	11	136	301	Healthcare	21	180	244
Transportation	32	299	396	Education	24	184	241
Postal communication	18	176	190	Culture, art	20	168	217
Telecommunication	71	606	860	Recreation and tourism	19	269	432
Constructions	53	393	467	Science	26	272	257
Trade and public catering	17	371	389	Banks, crediting	72	560	760
Feedstock	22	320	484	Insurance	25	397	510

Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria [Report on the Scientific-Research Work of the SRL "Regional Research", 2013, 2016].

In 1996, the ratio of the size of the population employed in the economy to the number of pensioners was 1.73:1; in 2000 – 1.53:1; in September 2016 – 1:1 i.e. as many employed as pensioners. The pension system of Transnistria is built on the principle of “solidarity of generations” that is efficient only when the number of employed is significantly higher than the number of pensioners. In countries and regions with a stable economy, this ratio is of 2.2 to 2.4. Critical for such a system of pension security is considered the ratio of 1.5 employed to 1 pensioner.

In the past 5 years, the number of economically active population of Transnistria has decreased while the number of pensioners, on the contrary, has increased. Due to the retirement of pensioners and pension scheme restructuring, the number of pension beneficiaries in 2015 decreased by 16,300 people, or by 11.5%, as compared to 2014, and represented 125,000 people at the end of 2015. This also determines the growth of the burden on the pension system: as of 2015, the situation in the Transnistrian economy was such that 100 employed accounted for nearly 92 pensioners. Concerning the size of pensions and possibilities to live in a dignified manner beyond the poverty margins, data show that in 2015, the average size of the pension assigned constituted USD 120, with a replacement rate of 35% in relation to the average wage in the region (Figure 20).

Figure 20. Dynamics of the size of average monthly pension and its relation to the average monthly wage, 2011–2015

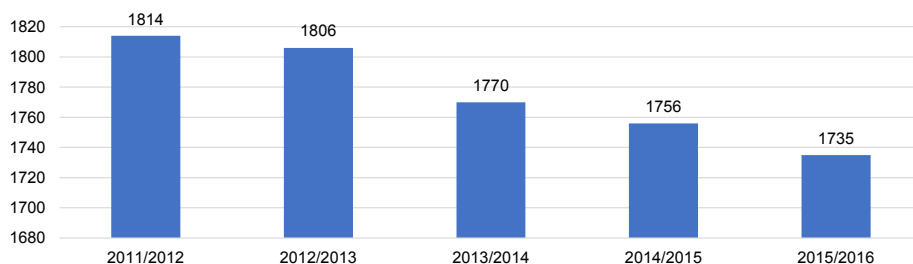


Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service of Transnistria.

International migration, to a large extent, determines the number and structure of activity indicators in the Transnistrian education sphere. Each year, the number of teachers in higher, primary and secondary vocational education

of Transnistria decreases, including due to the emigration of specialists (Figure 21).

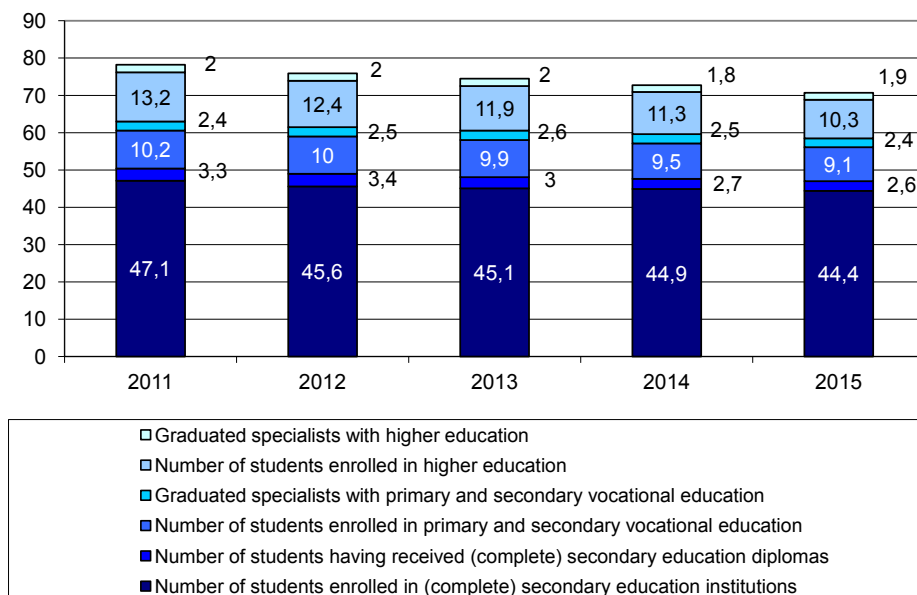
Figure 21. Dynamics of the number of teachers in higher, primary and secondary vocational education, 2011–2016 (persons)



Source: According to the data from the Statistics Service and Department of Education of Transnistria.

One of the main factors that influence this negative trend are the low wages that account for only 69.8% of the average wages in the region. The number of graduates of primary, secondary and higher education institutions of Transnistria steadily decreases. The number of students enrolling in secondary vocational education has especially substantially decreased (Figure 22).

Figure 22. Dynamics of the indicators of the education system, 2011–2015 (thousand persons)



Source: According to the data from of the Statistics Service and Department of Education of Transnistria.

B.5. Migration and Public Health

The number of medical doctors and medical staff to 100,000 people in Transnistria represents 376 and 821 specialists, accordingly. The deficit of medical workers is largely determined by their emigration from Transnistria. In cities and towns, this indicator exceeds 500 medical doctors and 950 medical staff. In the rural areas of Transnistria, 100,000 residents account for more than 100 medical doctors and for around 400 medical staff. Thus, rural areas fall behind with the provision of medical specialists by 5 and 2 times, accordingly. The insufficient wages of rural doctors and the bigger possibilities in cities lead to a redistribution of staff to the latter.

PART C. MIGRATION MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

C.I Normative Framework

Violations of migrants' social-labour rights are widely spread. The most serious problems have arisen with creating the proper conditions and securing the protection of the working migrant rights. This determines the important role of the universalization and unification of the regulation of work relations in the context of international migration. An essential aspect is the legal integration of local legal standards and orientation of legal regulations to international legal acts.

The most adapted to the international legal regulations is the normative act *On combatting trafficking in human beings* of 23 July 2010. It defines the criteria for considering a certain action as human trafficking, the classification of the forms of human trafficking depending on the type of exploitation, the circumstances of human trafficking that pose a high public danger, the organizational-legal grounds of actions aimed at combatting human trafficking; regulates the work of authorities fighting human trafficking and the cooperation with various international subjects competent in this area; and establishes a system of measures aimed at the protection and assistance of victims of human trafficking, as well as the types and scope of liability for human trafficking.

Regulation On recognizing a person refugee and providing temporary asylum, approved by Decree No. 157 of 8 May 2014, defines the term of refugee, the manner of granting the status of refugee to a foreign citizen or stateless person, and the procedure of removing the status of refugee from a person.

The lack of a regulated legal status for Transnistria makes it impossible to conclude interstate bilateral agreements in the area of migration. The right definition of the status of migrants from Transnistria is possible only within the international agreements concluded by the Republic of Moldova with countries receiving Moldovan labour and other migrants. Due to these circumstances, a range of current normative acts regulating this area has a declarative character. In view of the above-mentioned reasons, the current normative framework does not provide for the extension of the legal framework of Transnistria by means of international agreements onto labour migrants of Transnistria. The Transnistrian normative framework only establishes the status of persons having entered for

work purposes as well as regulates the issues of illegal migration to the territory of Transnistria.

Certain aspects of the international migration of Transnistria are touched upon in the normative act *On the employment of the population* (current version as at 1 January 2013). They have a unilateral declarative character. For instance, in article 5 – *The Policy on the Employment of the Population*, – point I) presumes the possibility of realization of international cooperation in settling issues related to the employment of the population, including professional activities of residents of Transnistria abroad and working activities of foreign citizens in the territory of Transnistria. Thus, article 9 – *The Right of residents of Transnistria to Working Activities Abroad* – indicates that they are entitled to independently seek work and become employed outside the territory of Transnistria, and that the legal framework determines the protection of their rights and interests as well as the conditions for facilitating the provision of the relevant assistance for them.

Different aspects of the international migration of residents of Transnistria and foreign citizens on Transnistria are reflected in the normative act *On the entry into Transnistria and exit from Transnistria* of 19 June 2017. For the residents of Transnistria (their legal status is determined by the normative act *On Citizenship* of 19 June 2017), foreign citizens and stateless persons it sets out the manner of realization of the legal stipulations that arise upon the entry into, transit through or exit from Transnistria, the peculiarities of their registration and documentation. This legal act also establishes the obligatory automatized filling in of migration cards by foreign citizens or stateless persons upon entry into Transnistria.

One of the main normative acts in the field of international migration is the one *On the migration registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons* of 19 June 2017. It sets out the goals, main principles, the mechanism and institutional grounds of migration registration (including the creation of the Central Bank of Migration Registration Data). It regulates the relations that appear upon the registration of movements of foreign citizens and stateless persons, related to their entry into Transnistria, transit through Transnistria, moving within the territory of Transnistria when choosing and changing the place of (temporary) stay and residence within the limits Transnistria, or by their exiting from Transnistria.

Based on the above-mentioned legal acts, the legal status of migrants of Transnistria remains at the stage of “declarations of intentions”. The following

stand out among the priorities of the Transnistrian policy on migration, set forth in strategic programs:

1. stimulate return migration and create conditions for strengthening the positive sides of this process;
2. enhance the effectiveness of the administration of migration processes at the level of official structures, including to improve the monitoring of migration flows;
3. secure the rights of migrants of Transnistria abroad and improve their social status.

In this way, the actual legal position of labour migrants of Transnistria with residence in Moldova or a Moldovan ID card is regulated exclusively by the legal provisions of the Republic of Moldova.

C.2 Institutional Framework

The main regulators of the migration mobility of Transnistria's population includes the BMI of the internal affairs bodies, which was set up in 2002 by the Decree No. 745 of 10 December 2002 *On improving the administration in the field of migration policy*. The duties of this official structure include taking measures to prevent and deter illegal migration, and developing short-term and long-term forecasts on internal and external migration.

The Bureau for Migration Issues of the internal affairs bodies of Transnistria performs the following functions (according to the *Regulation on internal affairs bodies* of 7 February 2005): control of the observance of the passport system rules by the residents of Transnistria, holders of Transnistrian documents, and responsible persons; control of the observance of *normative acts On citizenship*, freedom of movement and choice of the place for permanent or temporary residence within the limits of Transnistria, exit from Transnistria and entry into its territory; keeps track, registration and control of foreign citizens and stateless persons coming to Transnistria or transiting its territory.

The Service for Social-Labour Relations of the Agency for Social Protection and Labour of Transnistria realizes the international cooperation in the area of social-labour relations and employment of the population; studies, generalizes and disseminates the local and international experience in the area of employment; cooperates as established with international subjects in its area. It is important to take into account the priorities in the employment of migrants of Transnistria in Russia due to their rather high level of qualification and good knowledge of Russian.

The data on the demographic processes, including migration, are produced and/or systematized and disseminated by the **Statistics Service of Transnistria** under the normative act *On statistics of Transnistria* (the current version as of 1 Jan 2015) and the normative act *On information, information technologies and protection of information* No.57-3-IV of 19 April 2010. In view of registering foreign citizens coming and residing (both temporarily and permanently) in the territory of Transnistria, the Statistics Service of Transnistria creates a functional Central Data Bank that must represent an interinstitutional automatized information system. The manner of creation and functioning of the Central Data Bank is regulated by the executive authority. The Central Data Bank and the information contained therein are subject to protection against unsanctioned access as established by the legal framework. The dissemination of information about a foreign citizen, contained in the Central Data Bank, is allowed as established by the executive authority. However, like today, the perspectives of setting up and operating a Central Data Bank of Transnistria are quite undetermined. Therefore, based on international experience, it would be more appropriate to set up a Register of Transnistria's Population (RTP). The metadata of the Statistics Service of Transnistria in the field of migration are regularly corrected and updated in accordance with the requirements of international statistics. However, the aggregated statistical indicators received by the Statistics Service are widely accessible in the official publications of the Service.

The main sources of statistical information about the international migration of residents of Transnistria remain the data received from population censuses and the current record-keeping of the population. The Statistics Service produces statistics on international migration based on summary data obtained by territorial statistics sections in their interactions with district and city authorities. Such summary tables contain information about the immigrants and emigrants, and indicate their main demographic characteristics (age, sex, civil status, level of education, countries of previous residence or of destination, purpose of arrival, citizenship or, in a simplified manner, the differences between the residents of Transnistria and foreigners). Such yearly statistics is accessible in the Statistical Yearbook, in biannual and annual press releases of the Statistics Service and on its official website. A classification of the categories of the population according to the characteristics indicated as related to international migration (country of birth and country of citizenship) as part of the annual statistics of the population is currently unavailable, while other statistical data are accessible in a limited amount.

The Statistics Service of Transnistria obtains migration data by collecting and compiling the statistical forms filled in by the city and district statistics

sections. The data from statistical forms are then aggregated in statistical tables on population migration. These statistical tables allow establishing the number and the sex-age make-up of migrants (for both entering and exiting ones) by administrative-territorial units – cities, towns and districts of Transnistria, as well as on monthly and quarterly basis. The data shown in the migration-related statistical tables do now mark out labour migrants in the total number of international migrants.

The Supreme Soviet / legislative body of Transnistria holds a special function in the regulation of migration processes. It establishes the normative framework of migration as well as the collection, systematization, analysis, access regime, provision and exchange of statistics data and the results of their analysis among Transnistrian institutions and civil society organizations.

The Border Service of Transnistria, a structure within the security bodies, records the facts and stops the incidents of illegal entries into/exits from Transnistria. The information aggregated by this institution is not freely accessible.

The Agency for Education of Transnistria has exclusively valuable information about education migration. It makes up the database of the Main Directorate of Sciences, Inspection and Vocational Education, of the Main Directorate of General and Additional Education, and Youth Policies, and of the Main Directorate of Legal Groundwork, Documentation and Statistics of Foreign Students studying in the higher education institutions of Transnistria and of students of Transnistria studying in higher education institutions outside Transnistria.

The Transnistrian Bank is the owner of direct and indirect data about the labour migrants' remittances, shown in the Annual Payment Balance Sheet of Transnistria, Methodological Comments to the Payment Balance of Transnistria, Reports, including aggregated indicators.

The justice authorities of Transnistria have intermediary data about migration. They manage information about civil status acts (marriages and divorces) among the residents of Transnistria and among the residents of Transnistria and foreign citizens.

The Agency for Foreign Policy of Transnistria provides the coordination and consular-legal support with obtaining Transnistrian documents and with international labour migration.

The Agency for Healthcare of Transnistria collects and processes the information about the epidemiological situation in Transnistria, including among migrants.

The SRL “Sociology” and “Regional Research” of **the Transnistrian University T. G. Shevchenko** collect, systematize and analyse the aggregated data on the international migration of Transnistria’s population.

C.3 Migration Policy and Program Framework

Transnistria does not have a migration policy on emigrants and, therefore, it applies legal provisions regulating immigration. It is deemed necessary to harmonize the Transnistrian migration normative framework with the analogical normative systems of CIS countries. The return and reintegration of migrants of Transnistria is one of the main tasks of the respective institutional structures of Transnistria. Special attention is paid to the cooperation with the diaspora from Transnistria in Russia.

The fundamental direction of Transnistria’s migration policy is facilitating migration in the territory of Transnistria. Since January 2017, Transnistria has had in force the Decree No. 6 of 9 January 2017 *On the entry into Transnistria and exit from Transnistria, on the (temporary) stay and residence, on the rules of permanent and temporary registration (deregistration) of residents of Transnistria, foreign citizens and stateless persons on the territory of Transnistria*, that has essentially changed the migration policy. A range of requirements has been simplified for the residents of Transnistria, foreigners and stateless persons coming to Transnistria and residing in its territory.

The entire procedure of registration of the incoming foreign citizens, including the people of Transnistrian origin, but not holding Transnistrian documents, takes place in the checkpoints for entering into Transnistria. Foreign citizens and stateless persons may get a migration card for 45 days. Holders of Transnistrian documents who had left for permanent residence in foreign countries and who do not have a permanent or temporary registration in Transnistria must register for 90 days on the spot when entering into Transnistria. In all cases, a migration card may be extended for unlimited times with the passport authority, as necessary. In this way, the limitations on the stay of foreign citizens in the territory of Transnistria have been cancelled as of this year. It used to be 135 days for guests having entered into the territory of Transnistria with documents issued by Moldova, Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. For representatives of other countries, it was 90 days. Upon

the expiration of this interval, people were required to leave Transnistria. At present, foreign guests must only extend their registration.

Beforehand, upon exiting from Transnistria, people had to hand in their migration cards, now they may keep them regardless of how many times they leave Transnistria and come back. The card is valid and does not require a reregistration until the expiry of the term indicated in it. This helps avoid the inconvenience related with additional documentation.

Upon applying for temporary residence permit, the new Decree cancels the need for the foreign citizens to submit a range of certificates, such as criminal records in the country of origin and from the tax authorities, which significantly saves time on documentation. The list of necessary documents now includes only the identity document and the technical domicile passport. The temporary residence permit is issued for three years with the right to extend it for an unlimited number of times i.e. the timeframe for the first registration has been abrogated, with the possibility of a subsequent extension for two years.

In the past, foreigners and stateless persons, applying for permanent residence permit in Transnistria, had to observe the timeframes for temporary stay in the territory of Transnistria for three years. This requirement has now been cancelled. At present, this category of citizens, after receiving a short-term registration, is entitled to go to the territorial passport office where they wish to get registered and apply for a permanent residence permit in Transnistria.

After having undergone the temporary or permanent registration, this category of persons can apply for Transnistrian documents certifying their legal affiliation to Transnistria. The main condition is to live in Transnistria for one year. In fact, there are exceptions when one does not have to wait for this deadline. For instance, this refers to people who were born in a settlement that is part of Transnistria or those who have married a resident of Transnistria.

The changes have touched upon the permanent registration and deregistration of residents of Transnistria who had lost their Transnistrian documents. One needs a minimal number of certificates and documents for this now. For instance, the bureaucratic barriers to the permanent reregistration in the territory of Transnistria of persons liable for military service have been removed. The military deregistration and registration will stay. The passport office performs the permanent reregistration at the new place of residence and sends a message to the territorial military commissariat.

The legislative body, making reference to the problems of the residents of Transnistria caused by the migration processes, prepared and approved, on 19 June 2017, a package of urgent normative acts aimed at modernizing the Transnistrian migration policy.

The package of adopted normative acts includes four documents:

- *On the entry into and exit from Transnistria;*
- *On the legal situation of foreign citizens and stateless persons;*
- *On the migration registration of foreign citizens and stateless persons;*
- *On the right of residents of Transnistria to freedom of movement and to choosing the place of stay and residency within the limits of Transnistria.*

The provisions of the adopted normative acts are based on analogous Russian provisions, taking into account Transnistria's peculiarities. In this way, the normative acts were used to regulate the legal regulations in the area of migration that up until now had been regulated mainly by secondary legislation.

In the recent years, the rules for the temporary and permanent registration of foreigners, including persons originating from Transnistria, but not holding Transnistrian documents, have toughened, which sometimes has brought about situations when relatives could not reintegrate legally with their families; children could not unite with their parents living in different countries and who needed custodianship; persons born in the territory of Transnistria could not get Transnistrian documents due to the lack of either permanent or temporary registration, etc.

The significant positive differences of the adopted normative acts from those in force up to now in this area are as follows:

- replacing the institute of permanent registration by a system of registration record keeping i.e. introducing an informative rather than permissive character for registration at the place of residence;
- establishing an exhaustive and minimum list of mandatory documents for registration;
- offering to the persons originating from Transnistria, either holding or not holding Transnistrian documents, permanently residing outside Transnistria, the possibility to stay in the territory of Transnistria for 90 days without temporary registration;

- removing the need for the residents of Transnistria to collect a departure sheet upon changing the place of residence within the territory of Transnistria;
- securing the possibility for temporary registration by house owners of their close relatives without any requirements to the size of minimal residential area per one occupant.

The new normative acts provide for less restrictive limitations to the entry into and stay of foreign citizens, including the persons originating from Transnistria, but not holding Transnistrian documents, in Transnistria and to their term of stay, as well as they take into account the latest regulatory provisions for temporary registration at their place of stay. The proposed normative acts significantly simplify the procedure for receiving temporary or permanent residence permit by foreign citizens and stateless persons. For example, they are cancelling the requirement for foreign citizens and stateless persons to obtain temporary residence permit in order to receive a permanent residence permit. According to the new normative framework, the receipt of a permanent residence permit will be possible based on one's migration card. Simplifying the procedure for obtaining a permanent residence permit, in its turn, will facilitate the obtention of Transnistrian documents by stateless persons and foreign citizens.

The edited provisions of the normative act *On Citizenship* also propose introducing a range of changes to the matters related to obtaining Transnistrian documents, certifying legal affiliation to Transnistria. In particular, the grounds for obtaining Transnistrian documents in a simplified manner has been extended. Thus, if the applicant has at least one parent holder of Transnistrian documents and who lives in the territory of Transnistria, or they were born in a territory that is part of Transnistria, they may obtain Transnistrian documents.

The following persons may obtain Transnistrian documents without having to meet the requirement of the term of residence:

- were citizens of the former USSR;
- are married to a resident of Transnistria, holder of Transnistrian documents;
- are disabled and have children legally capable to work of at least 18 years old and holding Transnistrian documents;
- obtained professional education in the education organizations of Transnistria and work in Transnistria;
- are individual entrepreneurs and have been carrying out entrepreneurial activities in Transnistria for not less than 6 months;

- are the investors of a legal entity that carry out its activities in the territory of Transnistria etc.

The reforming of the migration policy of Transnistria will require amendments to the normative acts *On the Border* and *On Militia*, as well as to the Housing and Fiscal Codes, and to many other normative acts.

PART D. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

D.I Main findings on Migration and Social-Economic Development Nexus

The modern migration situation in Transnistria is characterized by a negative net migration. Its absolute value has decreased but its relative value remain very significant, which has a negative effect on the demographic and social-economic situation. The political and social-economic crisis in the European Union and Ukraine, the toughened conditions for the stay and employment of migrants in the territory of Russia and other CIS countries reduce the possibilities for emigration of residents of Transnistria. According to various analytical studies, the main obstacles for migrants of Transnistria are economic: the deficit of working places and the low wages on the local labour market.

The institutional structures of Transnistria determine the importance of emigration, including of labour emigration, for the social-economic development. The development of the economy of survival and the constant political pressure have created a negative psychological background in Transnistria, which launched the process of emigration of the population. Today, a series of economic interests conditions Transnistria's direct interest in integrating in the Customs Union of the CIS countries, in reducing its migration losses and attracting the migrants whose qualification and professional experience meet the needs of the Transnistrian economy.

The issues of external migration, to various extents, are in the sphere of interests of the following institutional structures of Transnistria: BMI of the internal affairs bodies, Passport Service of the security bodies, Agency for Economic Development, Agency for Finance, Agency for Social Protection and Labour, Agency for Education, and the Transnistrian Bank. The main source of migration data is the BMI of the internal affairs bodies, while migration statistics are collected by the Statistics Service.

Return, Readmission and Reintegration. This phenomenon does take place, but no statistical registration is underway. The passport service notes a decline in re-emigration. The preliminary materials of the 2015 Population Census of Transnistria registers a growth of unreturned emigration in the form of the category "temporarily absent population for 1 year and more". The likelihood

of return to Transnistria of this category of migrants is minimal. The issues of social security of the persons returned to Transnistria and reintegration of emigrants are the responsibility of the Agency for Social Protection and Labour. The statistical records of the returned persons are kept by housing management organizations, passport services, and the BMI of internal affairs bodies.

For the institutional structures of Transnistria, it is fundamentally important to secure the return of labour migrants of Transnistria. It is desirable for this process to be voluntary; however, its forced character prevails. For example, residents of Transnistria who hold citizenship documents of Moldova and Ukraine are subject to the same procedure of deportation from Russia as other labour migrants i.e. by citizenship (or place of residence). Legally, the readmission of residents of Transnistria takes place in Moldova, since Transnistria is not a subject of international law. In this way, this is legally determined by the binding agreements between Moldova, on the one hand, and bilateral agreements with Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, Romania and other countries, on the other hand, as well as with the EU²⁵. The international experience of regulating the labour market and protection of persons employed abroad may be taken over in Transnistria, as well.

The normative framework provides for Transnistria's agreement to take back into its territory the persons having permanent registration or holding other Transnistrian documents, certifying their identity, who are subject to deportation from various countries, especially for the violation of labour and migration legislation of the country of destination. According to the data of sociological studies, more than three-quarters of returned migrants from Transnistria become adapted in the social and economic life of Transnistria quite painlessly. However, no specific reintegration measures are provided.

Integration. The information about social integration processes can mainly be obtained from sociological survey data. For example, in the recent years, there has been registered an increase in the immigration for permanent residency, education and temporary employment of Gagauzia's residents to Transnistria. This is largely caused by the common Russian-speaking environment of both residents of Gagauzia and of Transnistria, which essentially facilitates the former's integration and adaptation in the Transnistria's society. The 2004

²⁵ Mosneaga V. Moldovan Labour Migrants in the European Union: Problems of Integration Valeriu Mosneaga. CARIM-East Research Report 2012/41. Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, San Domenico di Fiesole (FI): European University Institute, 2012. Available from: <http://www.carim-east.eu/media/CARIM-East-2012-RR-41.pdf>; Mosneaga V. Readmission, return and reintegration: Moldova. Socio-Political Module. CARIM-East Explanatory Note 13/04. Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, San Domenico di Fiesole (FI): European University Institute, 2013. Available from: http://www.carim-east.eu/media/exno/Explanatory%20Notes_2013-04.pdf

Population Census of Transnistria recorded 4,096 Gagauzians, which accounted for 0.7% of the total number of the Transnistria's population. The following census, of 2015, recorded 4,999 Gagauzians, i.e. the share of this ethnicity exceeded 1%²⁶. According to the institutional studies of the ethnic structure of students enrolled in the Transnistrian University T. G. Shevchenko and in the branches of Russian and Ukrainian higher education institutions, the Gagauzian contingent accounts for 5 to 15% of the total number of student groups enrolled (study materials, September 2016). As a whole, the attitude of residents of Transnistria to the immigrants in Transnistria's territory is friendly or neutral.

The organization of the integration of foreign citizens in the Transnistria's society takes places under the direction of the Passport Service and the BMI of the internal affairs bodies, as well as by the Agency for Social Protection and Labour. Transnistria does not have a targeted program for attracting foreign highly qualified specialists. Big companies attract specialists based on the commercial reasonability of a employment agreement basis. Institutional bodies do not participate directly in the integration of foreigners in the territory of Transnistria. The integration of the labour force of Transnistria abroad is in the jurisdiction of destination countries.

Separate bilateral agreements and protocols related to the employment of residents of Transnistria have been signed between separate Russian administrative-territorial units and subjects. In particular, the protocols for commercial-economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation provide for the approximation (in a consultative form) of the standards of activity including in the area of mutual employment of migrants among Transnistria and South Ossetia, Abkhazia, Nagorno-Karabakh, the Russian regions of Vologda and Archangelsk, and the Ukrainian regions of Odessa and Vinita. The listed international-legal acts have a general declarative character and only indirectly touch upon the migration sphere, being rather declarations of intentions.

D.2 Recommendations for Migration Management

There are no ideal systems of registration of migration; not even in the countries where the area of statistics is well-established. All sources of data have certain drawbacks. Well-known drawbacks have been inherent in the current migration registration in Transnistria as well. However, setting up new systems will require a lengthy period of formation and tuning. Therefore, it is important to maintain in a functioning condition those mechanisms that have

²⁶ Предварительные результаты Переписи населения Приднестровья 2015 г. Тирасполь: Служба статистики Ведомства Экономического Развития, 2016.

been working quite well during many decades and may successfully operate for many more years²⁷.

At present, due to the lack of funds, no random surveys of household budgets are conducted in Transnistria. A decree was issued on 16 February 2009, No. 106 *On adjusting a series of legal acts* to stop the collection of statistics on household (family) budgets.

It must be admitted that the further improvement of the statistical tools for assessing migration flows has good prospects. It will especially be viable to use the experience of Russia and other states in estimating the labour force; however, due to the budget deficit in Transnistria, at present it is not possible to finance such organizational-preparatory works.

Generally speaking, the amount of information collected by the Statistics Service and a range of institutions through their administrative procedures is significant. Special attention has been paid to assessing the level of international migration alongside with the number and characteristics of the persons who have emigrated and now reside abroad. Despite this success, there are a few aspects of the data collection process that require improvement, which may be achieved in short-term, medium-term or long-term in view of bringing them in compliance with the CIS standards. The following recommendations derive directly from the general international practice. They must be considered as constructive assistance with improving the system of data collection in the area of international migration.

Transnistrian authorities pay great attention to the interaction with the migrants originating from Transnistria, residing in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. They coordinate the efforts aimed at supporting the dissemination of the Russian language and education in Russian, at supporting Russian language media abroad, at introducing a simplified procedure for obtaining citizenship for children of the residents of Transnistria with Russian citizenship residing abroad, at cooperation in the field of employment abroad and in matters of issuing quotas for Transnistria's higher education students, as well as in matters of influence by the migrants originating from Transnistria in the Russian elections.

The amendments to the migration policy that came into effect in 2017 pursue the simplification of the procedure and reducing the terms for obtaining Transnistrian documents. The "one-stop shop" system must be implemented,

²⁷ Чудиновских О. С. Причины и последствия кризиса российской миграционной статистики // Отечественные записки. Выпуск № 4 (19) 2004 [Chudinovskikh O. S. Causes and consequences of the crises of Russian migration statistics// National notes. Edition № 4 (19) 2004].

which implies that, upon submitting the documents, one receives their temporary and permanent registration and related identification documents. The creation of electronic queuing is planned for the proximate future, which implies online application for documents. This system will record the exact time and date of receipt, and if any documents are missing, the applicant will be notified about this via the Internet.

D.3 Recommendations for Including Migration in the Development Policy

The terms and concepts in the area of international migration must be studied in detail and brought in compliance with the recommended international terminology and definitions or, more precisely, with the standards adopted by the UN Agency for Migration, the International Organization for Migration. The legal framework in the field of international migration must be adapted to the existing culture-specific elements of registration and regulation, while the application rules must be followed more strictly (this problem is also widely spread in the EU and CIS countries).

Ensuring the demographic security of Transnistria requires developing a migration policy that would focus on enhancing the migration attractiveness and on seeking social-economic and legal tools for reducing the size of emigration and the irreplaceable loss caused by the negative net migration. In addition, when developing migration programs, one must take into account the decisive input of labour migration into such a negative phenomenon as children left behind by one or both of the migrant parents, which requires regularly collecting data on the number of minor children left behind, on the marriage and divorce situation in migrant families, as well as on the number of children of migrants residing abroad.

Simplifying the migration regime of Transnistria would allow creating more favourable conditions for entrepreneurial activities in its territory. Transnistria faces a sharp deficit of highly qualified specialists in various sectors of the economy and in the social sphere. It is necessary to work out new instruments for regulating circular migration, secure the return of labour or education migrants, and activate the research of the issue of their further social, psychological and economic reintegration. The issue of cross-border movement of residents remains topical for the social-economic development of boundary settlements.

D.4 Recommendations for Improving Migration Statistics

The categories of migrants subject to registration, the procedures of collection of primary data, their collection, processing and distribution must be determined by special normative acts. The main task is to bring in order the legal grounds for migrant record-keeping. It is not only necessary to revise the existing acts but also to create new ones that would allow setting up a more effective system of statistics collection.

The tried-and-tested for many decades system using migrant statistical recording sheets has allowed obtaining rather versatile information, useful not only for describing but also for analysing the migration processes in Transnistria. This system has currently been transferred to an electronic format.

Statistical data must be disseminated with detailed metadata, including information about the source of primary data, definitions used, scope, periodicity, as well as an assessment of their reliability. These metadata are especially necessary when statistical developments are based on primary information.

In order to secure support with working out a strategy and developing the Migration Profile of Transnistria one must secure not only the regular publication and full access to data but also strive to enhance their reliability and to reach compliance with the international standards. This would allow us to significantly enhance the comparability of statistical data.

The functions of the Statistics Service and other official bodies of producing data on international migration must be extended. It is necessary to enhance the coordination of actions among the main data producers, firstly with the BMI of the internal affairs bodies and with the Unitary Social Insurance Fund of Transnistria. These institutional structures have the biggest potential and methods of working with databases in the field of international migration. However, the international requirements in migration statistics are not always followed consistently.

The 2004 and 2005 Population Censuses of Transnistria. Often, censuses and studies are considered sources of one type, perhaps due to the prevailing method of data collection through questioning of the respondents. Some countries with advanced population registers have already switched to register-based censuses. They do not require the personal participation of the population in the poll. The information, including on migration, is automatically collected by integrating data about the person from various registers in which the person is present through their single personal code, i.e. censuses are based

on administrative sources. In an overwhelming majority of countries, the census is yet carried out in the traditional manner of interviewers touring households and questioning the population based on special questionnaires. Censuses and polls have their peculiarities regarding the possibility to collect statistics on migration.

Migration is one of the “sensitive” demographic indicators and the population census is commonly considered the most important source of data on the number (stock) of international and internal migrants in Transnistria. Combining various characteristics of migration with other variables gives a wealth of information about migrants and the possibility to compare the local and incoming population.

The population count takes place in compliance with the normative framework. It reflects the most important social-economic and political changes due to which certain migration flows may quickly undergo a metamorphosis of their direction, amount and composition. Therefore, the population count program, list and formulation of questions must be determined according to Transnistria’s interests and the need for one piece of information or another.

For the comparability and representativeness of statistics, the population census in Transnistria must take place every ten years. The last population census took place back in the USSR, in 1989; however, its results showed the migration statistics in the administrative-territorial boundaries of the Moldovan SSR, which essentially differed from the contemporary realities of the territorial administration of the right and left banks of the Nistru River. In this way, the first population census of Transnistria took place in 2004 i.e. the time interval between the censuses was of 15 years. The following population census of Transnistria took place in 2015. Despite such a low frequency, the census is the most important source of statistics on the population as a whole and on migration of the population in particular. With the limited possibility to collect data about the international migration flows, the census remains an important source of data on the population encompassed in international migration, since it may bring up the specific characteristics of a subgroup within the general composition of the population.

At present, in Transnistria, the population census is the only source of data on the number, trends and structure of the permanent population, according to the general demographic characteristics as well as to the specific characteristics of international migration, such as citizenship and country of birth. In addition, the census is the departure point for annual specifications of population numbers and has direct influence on the production of annual statistical data

not only on the demographic situation but also on labour force and other social-economic areas. Consequently, census data must be considered important for the Migration Profile, regardless of the fact that these data cannot be updated consistently and annually.

According to the normative act of Transnistria of 9 February 2004 No.391-3-III *On the Population Census of Transnistria*, the census applies to all residents of Transnistria, foreign citizens and stateless persons, permanently residing in Transnistria, regardless of whether they are in Transnistria or have gone abroad temporarily at the time of the census, as well as to the foreign citizens who are temporarily present in Transnistria.

During the 2004 census, measurements were made of the number of the population permanently residing in Transnistria and of the number of persons temporarily present in Transnistria but permanently residing abroad. The persons having lived abroad for several years but who count themselves as members of households and maintain their permanent place of residence in Transnistria were included in the permanent population. And vice versa, most of the foreigners having a permanent place of residence abroad and residing temporarily in Transnistria, even for over one year, were excluded from the permanent population.

As a result, the data of the 2004 census refer to the permanent population that includes the population having a permanent place of residence in the territory of Transnistria, regardless of whether they actually resided in Transnistria at the time of the census or not. This population (including the temporarily incoming one but permanently residing abroad and excluding the permanent residents of Transnistria, temporarily residing abroad at the time of the census) was also identified.

The 2015 census of the Transnistria's population was also designed to count the population available i.e. all the population that at the critical time of the census was present in the survey territory, including the temporary population, the permanent population permanently residing in the survey territory (over 6 months or 1 year) and the legal population i.e. the population legally registered at the respective place of residence according to their permanent registration (annexes 1, 2, 3).

The census had to consider, as far as possible, the permanent, the available and the temporary population of Transnistria. It applied to all the residents of Transnistria, foreign citizens and stateless persons permanently residing in Transnistria, regardless of whether they were in the territory of Transnistria or

had temporarily gone abroad. It also took into account all categories of foreign citizens temporarily residing in the territory of Transnistria.

A great number of statistics tables with census data are disseminated by electronic media or will be posted for free access on the website of the Statistics Service. At the same time, one may apply for the additional multiaxial tables for the Migration Profile. However, a substantial mass of materials on population census related to the migration of the residents of Transnistria become available for analysis only after some time, which requires a certain correction of the conclusions and recommendations applied.

During the preparatory stage, the population census requires a great deal of promotional work – explaining the importance of this action to the broad layers of the population as well as its goals and tasks, methods of conduction and the social-economic results that the authorities and the society will obtain from the census. Such work will allow avoiding a significant share of errors, omissions and deliberate hiding of information, which is exceptionally valuable when studying the international labour migration of the population.

The international experience of population census in relation to external migration is very controversial. Most of the countries include in the census program the question about the country (place) of birth and citizenship but occasionally use other questions, related to the key characteristics. As a rule, for the countries of Eastern European and CIS, the temporary migration, especially the short-term and labour migration take primary importance. A significant number of citizens of these countries undertake shuttle trade, education or seasonal trips outside their countries for a time interval of 1 to 3–6 months. In order to measure the number of such migrants present in the destination country, certain countries (Russia and Kazakhstan) use special, short questionnaires during their censuses.

Countries that export labour force usually use the census to measure the long-term and short-term emigration if other systems of collection of emigration data do not provide an adequate presentation of those leaving. During the census, such countries try to collect information about the absent population using a few questions of the so-called “emigration module”.

The significant statistical shortcomings of population censuses directly covering the population of Transnistria include the irregularity of how they were conducted (1989, 2004 and 2015), discrepancies in the boundaries of the administrative-territorial units, insufficiently full coverage of some population contingents, and the incompatibility of the data obtained. Respectively, the

data collected during the census may quickly age. The census does not allow observing the continuous changes in the migration environment. Nor does one ever practically collect in a census data the-cause-and-effect relations of migration. Specialized random surveys partially help compensate for such drawbacks.

Recommendations for Transnistria's Population Censuses. It is necessary to develop elaborate data of population censuses by the social-economic and demographic characteristics of the migrants. When preparing for the following population censuses, one must essentially revise the Census Program to extend the circle of questions and introduce new formulations for obtaining more varied and adequate information about one's place of residence (the exact address of the place of residence (the second dwelling), work, education), number, origin, the composition of migrants and geography of movements made as well as about the local movements of the population; it is necessary to improve the system of storage and processing of census results, organize a selection (1%) of census data for the wide circle of users.

The census may be a unique possibility to assess the coverage and completeness of data in the Register of the Population (RP) by comparing data to the data indicated in the census, which would contribute to introducing the term of permanent population into the annual demographic statistics, as recommended in the international practice, after carrying out the census of the Transnistria's population. In addition, the combination of RP and census data may serve as a point of counting in the creation of the statistical population register, which would better satisfy the needs for annual statistics and would serve as basis for further, register-based, censuses. For this, specific information must be included in the census survey sheet in which one's personal identification number would have crucial significance.

Recommendations on Surveys. It is necessary to introduce in practice Household Budget Surveys (HBS), one of the four quarterly surveys, as well as the annual survey, an additional program to include identifiers of migrants and to extend the selection in order to form a representative aggregate within the scope of Transnistria or of its major regions. The HBS data must be accessible to a large circle of surveyors, including in the form of microdata.

The employment survey program must also include a range of questions identifying the migrants, in particular the duration of their residing in the given place, of the place of their previous residence, and the reasons for changing residence.

The additional program must include questions about citizenship, number of years the respondent has resided outside Transnistria, the duration of their residing in the given place, place of residence one (or five) year(s) prior to the survey, reasons for changing residence, migration intentions, local migration movements.

Recommendations on Current Record-Keeping of Migration Based on Registration at the Place of Residence. It is necessary to introduce an extended period of temporary registration to avoid registering the same person twice, to emphasize in the reports the totality of long-term migrants and to update the forms of statistical reports on the persons registered at the place of (temporary) stay (i.e. temporary registration) and those registered at the place of residence (i.e. permanent registration).

It is important to extend the list of information collected in migration charts by completing it with the question about the succession of trips during one calendar year, and to extend the circle of indicators made up based on employers' reports, by including in the variables the timeframe of work and stay outside Transnistria.

Any statistical data, produced based on administrative databases, must be corrected by using stricter rules for processing statistical data, including a check of their reliability. In such statistical data, one must pay more attention to describing various aspects of the process of migration as such, and less to the monitoring of actions taken by institutions.

Organizing the Collection and Exchange of Information on Migration. The main collector of information on migration may become the automatized information system RP of Transnistria that is meant to become the key database for providing statistical items on international migration, regarding both the migration flow and the number of the population, including data on emigration and immigration.

The Statistics Service, in addition to the population census once in 10 years, is recommended to carry out two important analyses including information about international migration: LFS and HBS. Emigration is an especially sharp migration problem in Transnistria, therefore, the Statistics Service, on a regular basis – once a year – may include an important module on emigration in its statistical analyses (LFS and HBS). In addition, more specific data on the children left behind may be collected as well as data on the amounts of remittances using such analysis on a permanent basis.

Certain summary data must be sent by various institutions to the Statistics Service for creating and disseminating the statistical tables. The presentation of such data must be supported to extend the number of statistical tables already accessible to the experts and the public at large, as well as to include additional topical issues.

The issue of absence of a general methodology for defining and assessing the migration process may be compensated by separate targeted legal acts and decrees at the level of the executive authorities and separate institutions.

There is a need to enhance the qualification of Transnistria's public sector employees and experts dealing directly with the production and analysis of statistics on international migration.

It is necessary to develop the coordination of activities of the Statistics Service with those of various countries receiving labour, study and other migrants of Transnistria.

Transnistria is in need of further structuring, filling in of current statistical gaps, and developing of a strategy for further renovation and improvement.

Annex I. Survey Sheet A I for the Population Census of Transnistria, 2015

[illegible]

Annex 2. Survey Sheet A 2 for the Population Census of Transnistria, 2015

A2

Образцы заполнения: Образцы заполнения: Образцы заполнения:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 Образцы заполнения: 5 Образцы заполнения:

10 ИСТОЧНИКИ СРЕДСТВ К СУЩЕСТВОВАНИЮ

10.1 Укажите все имеющиеся у Вас источники средств к существованию
Покажите опрошиваемому карточку
Число ответов не ограничено

1.....трудова́я де́ятельность, ☐ 7.....посо́бие по безработице ☐
включая работу по совместительству

2.....личное подсобное хозяйство ☐ 8..... другой вид государственного обеспечения ☐
проценты

3.....стипендия ☐ 9.....сбережения; дивиденды; ☐
проценты

4.....пенсия (кроме пенсии по инвалидности) ☐ 10.....сдача внаем или в аренду имущества; доход от патентов, авторских прав ☐

5.....пенсия по инвалидности ☐ 11.....исключение; помощь других лиц; алименты ☐

6.....посо́бие (кроме посо́бия по безработице) ☐ 12.....иной источник ☐

↓
Запишите какой

10.2 Если Вы имеете несколько источников, укажите, какой считаете для себя основным

Запишите номер этого источника из вопроса 10.1

Вопросы 11.1 - 11.5 для лиц в возрасте 15-72 лет
Для остальных - переход к вопросу 12.1

11 ЗАНЯТОСТЬ И БЕЗРАБОТИЦА

11.1 Имели ли Вы какую-либо работу, приносящую заработок или доход с 7 по 13 октября 2015 года?
да ☐ нет ☐ → Переход к вопросу 11.5

Вопросы 11.2 - 11.4 для лиц, имевших работу с 7 по 13 октября 2015 года (ответивших "да" на вопрос 11.1)

11.2 Кем Вы являлись на основной работе?

работавшим по найму (по договору, контракту или устной договоренности) ☐ работающим не по найму (на собственном предприятии или в организации, в собственном деле) ☐

↓

с привлечением наемных работников ☐
без привлечения наемных работников ☐
иное ☐

11.3 Ваша работа находилась на территории того же населенного пункта, где Вы проживаете?
да ☐
нет ☐ → На территории Вашего города (района)?

да ☐
нет ☐ → Укажите наименование города (района) ПМР или только наименование иностранного государства, где Вы работали

11.4 Имели ли Вы в этот период вторую работу?
да ☐ нет ☐

Вопрос 11.5 для лиц, ответивших "нет" на вопрос 11.1

11.5 Искali ли Вы работу в течение последнего месяца?
да ☐ нет ☐ → Укажите одну главную причину:

получил(а) работу и приступаю к ней в ближайшие 2 недели ☐
нашел(ла) работу и ожидаю ответа ☐
ожидаю начала сезона ☐
занимаюсь ведением домашнего хозяйства ☐
иная причина ☐

↓
Запишите какая

12 МИГРАЦИЯ

12.1 С какого года Вы непрерывно проживаете в этом населенном пункте?
с рождения ☐ → Для женщин - переход к вопросу 13
Для мужчин - конец опроса по форме Л

→ Для переехавших с ноября 2014 по октябрь 2015 года, задайте вопрос 12.2

12.2 Где Вы проживали в октябре 2014 года?
Укажите наименование города (района) ПМР или только наименование иностранного государства

В каком населенном пункте Вы проживали?
городском ☐ сельском ☐

13 Для женщин в возрасте 15 лет и более

13.1 Сколько детей Вы родили?
Записать общее число рожденных детей, не считая мертворожденных

13.2 Дата рождения первого ребенка

месяц год

Служебная зона

10.1 ☐ 10.2 ☐ 11.1 ☐ 11.2 ☐ 11.3 ☐ 11.4 ☐
11.5 ☐ 12.1 ☐ 12.2 ☐ 13.1 ☐ 13.2 ☐

Конфиденциально (гарантируется получателем информации)

2015 г. ГУИПП «Бенд. тел. «Полиграфист», з. 1545, т. 550000

ПЕЧАТЬ
НАСЕЛЕНИЯ ПМР
2015 ГОДА

☐ Образец
наклейки
на паспорт

№ перписного
участка

№ инструкторского
участка

B1

№ счетного
участка

№ бланка

5

Образец
определения
цифры

Изначальная
квота на
зачисление

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

№ п.п.				
1 Ваш пол	мужской <input type="checkbox"/> женский <input type="checkbox"/>	мужской <input type="checkbox"/> женский <input type="checkbox"/>	мужской <input type="checkbox"/> женский <input type="checkbox"/>	мужской <input type="checkbox"/> женский <input type="checkbox"/>
2 Год Вашего рождения				
3 Страна Вашего постоянного проживания				
4 Цель Вашего приезда в ПМР	работа <input type="checkbox"/> учеба <input type="checkbox"/> служебная или деловая поездка <input type="checkbox"/> лечение <input type="checkbox"/> туризм, отдых <input type="checkbox"/> транзитная миграция <input type="checkbox"/> другая цель <input type="checkbox"/> ↓ запишите какая	работа <input type="checkbox"/> учеба <input type="checkbox"/> служебная или деловая поездка <input type="checkbox"/> лечение <input type="checkbox"/> туризм, отдых <input type="checkbox"/> транзитная миграция <input type="checkbox"/> другая цель <input type="checkbox"/> ↓ запишите какая	работа <input type="checkbox"/> учеба <input type="checkbox"/> служебная или деловая поездка <input type="checkbox"/> лечение <input type="checkbox"/> туризм, отдых <input type="checkbox"/> транзитная миграция <input type="checkbox"/> другая цель <input type="checkbox"/> ↓ запишите какая	работа <input type="checkbox"/> учеба <input type="checkbox"/> служебная или деловая поездка <input type="checkbox"/> лечение <input type="checkbox"/> туризм, отдых <input type="checkbox"/> транзитная миграция <input type="checkbox"/> другая цель <input type="checkbox"/> ↓ запишите какая
Для приехавших с целью работы, учебы				
5 Продолжительность Вашего проживания на территории ПМР	месяцев	месяцев	месяцев	месяцев
6 Страна Вашего рождения				
7 Ваше гражданство	без гражд. д-ства <input type="checkbox"/>	без гражд. д-ства <input type="checkbox"/>	без гражд. д-ства <input type="checkbox"/>	без гражд. д-ства <input type="checkbox"/>

Служебная зона

Несчитывание
зоны ☐ А ☐

1 2 3 4

Несчитывание
зоны ☐ А ☐

1 2 3 4

Несчитывание
зоны ☐ А ☐

1 2 3 4

Несчитывание
зоны ☐ А ☐

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Конфиденциально

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