

DEMOGRAPHIC SECURITY AS PART OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

Moyseenok O.,

ME, Senior Lecturer,

EI «Institute of Entrepreneurial Activity», Minsk, Republic of Belarus,

e-mail: oksana.moyseenok@inbox.ru

Today, the biggest challenges that public administration has to face are caused by changes in the very way of life – where we live, how well we live, what we expect, what we believe in, what our basic values are, what we want and what others want. The conditions under which micro - and macro-level management takes place are constantly changing. This includes the level of education, migration and demographic processes, life expectancy, gender component, etc.

In our opinion, special attention should be paid to demographic changes that relate to environmental factors and have a serious impact on building a management model both at the state level and at the enterprise level.

The demographic situation has a clear social significance. Two areas are most relevant: the birth rate and the aging of the population.

According to data from the population censuses of 1999 and 2009 and studies on demographic processes, Belarus currently has all the problems of a developed, urbanized, aging, shrinking society. Material resources to compensate for such processes in our country are low, especially when compared with European countries.

According to the October 2019 census, the population of Belarus was 9,413,446 (5,061,973 women, 4,351,473 men). From figure 1, we can see that the population continues to decline.

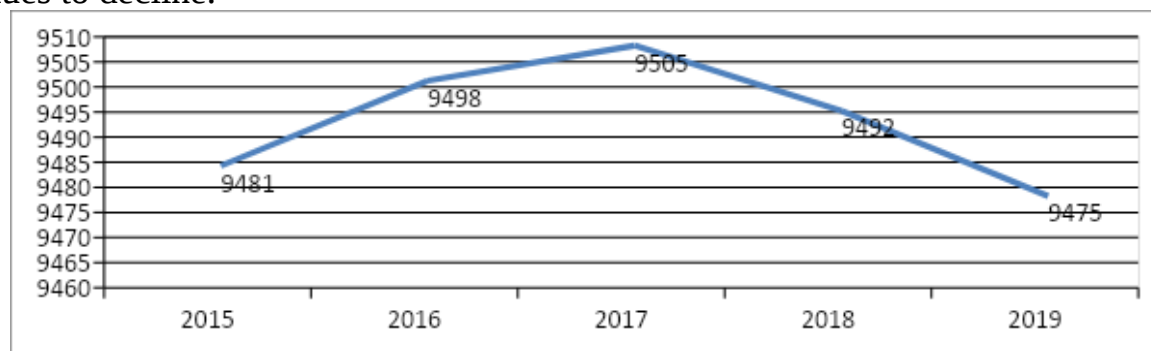


Figure 1. Population Dynamics Of The Republic Of Belarus For 2015-2019

Source: [<https://www.belstat.gov.by/>]

Belarus has developed the State program «People's Health and demographic security of the Republic of Belarus» for 2016-2020. Through the implementation of the program, by 2020 Belarus planned to increase life expectancy to 74.6 years, reduce child mortality in the age from 0 to 18 years to 40.5 per 100 thousand people, increase the total birth rate to 1.75, and reduce the prevalence of tobacco use among people aged 16 years to 24.5 %. It was supposed to increase the physical activity of the adult population to 40 %, reduce the mortality rate of the working-age population

to 3.8 per 1 thousand people, reduce alcohol consumption per capita, and reduce the incidence of tuberculosis.

At the end of 2020, we have summed up some results on its implementation.

There is a steady downward trend in the mortality rate of the working-age population in the country. So, according to 2018 data, it was about 3.8 cases per 1000 people, which corresponds to the program's indicators.

Infant mortality in 2019 reached a historic low of 2.4 ppm. This is 2.4 cases per 1000 births [2]. However, the total birth rate in 2018 was 1.448, while in 2019 only 87,851 children were born in Belarus. The total birth rate in 2019 was 1.388 (and in some cities - 1.2). This is the historical minimum for the period since 1945 [3].

According to the calculations of specialists of the labor research Institute of the Ministry of labor, by 2030, in accordance with the average version, the population will decrease to 9 million 458 thousand 700, and the lower one – to 9 million 83 thousand 500 people. At the same time, according to the high version, the number will increase to 9 million 543 thousand 600 people [4]. In turn, the UN report «World population Prospects» forecasts that Belarus will have a population of 8 million 571 thousand people in 2050 [5].

The prospects for demographic growth of the country's population are far from rosy. Unfortunately, the measures developed for demographic security do not bring the expected effect. We need to develop new levers of motivation, especially for the millennial generation, taking into account their attitude to life, to their career, the choice of value systems, life priorities, and the level of education.

Migration policy could somewhat correct this situation in Belarus, but recent political events taking place in the country are more likely to contribute to the outflow of young people from Belarus, and immigrants will choose to move to other countries.

It is obvious that the main goal of the demographic policy of Belarus-to stabilize the population - is not being fulfilled.

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