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Macedonia Demographic Aging

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Abstract: In this paper, it explained the process of demographic aging in Republic of Macedonia. There is relevant information for the gradually process of aging. At the end of the text, there are few charts. Macedonia gained independence in 1991, in the course of transition from planned to market economy, many socio-economic parameters changed: Demography become evident that fertility rate dropped significantly. In the previous 20 years, number of infants born decreased somewhat 5-6 times compared to 1980. Number of divorce grew rapidly. Also, in the Republic of Macedonia, there followed a parallel process of immigration to western countries, especially western Europe, USA and Australia as well as other countries from the developed world. This migration happened as a result of mainly economic reasons, i.e., countries in which Macedonians migrate have much higher real incomes when compared with Macedonia, and comparatively much higher living standard. One also can find reason for migration in political reasons also, and family reunification. Low fertility is associated with low income and unemployment. People in Macedonia had suffered greatly in transition times with high unemployment, low wages, and corruption, which largely derogated their chances of better future and career and contributed to the demographic aging and low fertility rates.

Key words: The Republic of Macedonia, population, statistic information, demographic aging.

1. Introduction

Macedonia is ideal habitat—geographical areas of the country are suitable for various life activities. Throughout the long history of human on the space of Macedonia numerically increased, declined, or even coming up to the limit of survival. Certainly, it was a result of various natural disasters, earthquakes, diseases, epidemics and thousands of wars, uprisings, mass killings and the like. Today, the population of Macedonia as well as many European countries is facing perhaps one of the most complicated demographic problems, and that is the problem of intensive aging population. Thus, according to the demographic forecasts in old continent—Europe "dying", the population of Europe will be less than 100 million in 2050! Only seven countries will show continued growth in population in the period to 2050, among which are Ireland, Albania, Britain, Norway, France, the Netherlands and Macedonia. Of these three countries are former colonial metropolises, so their positive migration balance will play an important role in the growth of their population, and young people from their former colonies will replenish them. Of all European countries, Albania is the only one that still has a demographic explosion that is expected to continue in the future. Albanian, who live in the territories of several Balkan states through high birth rates contribute to higher participation in the overall demographic growth in the Republic of Macedonia. Macedonia, despite the phenomenon of aging, is directly conditioned by the low fertility rate, and is loaded with various forms of migration movement on a population that is not easy and there are no precise parameters for their unified "read", but some trends are still recognizable. Just phenomenal economic development of the country and most income per capita can stop the displacement of the population, and then begin with the process of revitalizing or rejuvenating the Macedonian population. Macedonia has entered the aging process and demographers warn for 20 years. Only 42 of them (50%) were in stage of

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age old demographic or population dominates over 65 years. The youth dominate in only a dozen municipalities inhabited by Muslims. These municipalities are Arachinovo, Lipkovo Centar Zupa, Zhelino and Studenicani Plasnica, and more than 40% population are age of 19 years old, while in municipalities Debarca Old Nagorichane Vranestica Novaci, more than 25% residents are 65 years or older. National population aging is confirmed by data of continuous reductions in young and increases in old population. Because of the low fertility rate and mortality, Macedonia has already faced with major aging and reducing of the number of Macedonian national population in the first decade of the 21st century. Thus, if, in 1953, the average age of the population in the country was 25.9, according to the latest census of 2002, the average age of the population has already reached 34.5 years old. By comparison, European demographers estimate that average age of the world's population is less than 27 years old today, and in 2050, it will increase for over ten years, and it will be 37 years old. Certainly, it is the result of major changes in the age and sex structure of the world's population. More women come to birth compared to men, so there will be more women in the elderly population. However, the demographic aging of the population in Macedonia is a relatively new process from 1991. The general regional demographic indicators as shown in Tables 1 and 2.

2. Materials

Analysis and determination of the stages of aging is based on the following criteria: average age, ratio of the elderly and young people, the share of age groups in 39 years old and index. Demographers in Macedonia crossings under the age composition of the 1948-2002 year are differentiated stages:

Table 1 Selected demographic indicators, the Republic of Macedonia.

Demographic characteristics and indicators	Year	Value (per km^2)
Total population	2002	2,022,547
	2006	2,040,228
Population density (persons on km^2)	2002	78.7
Fertility rate	2002	3.1
	2006	1.8
Urban population (%)	2002	57.8
Masculinity coefficient (male on 100 female)	2002	100.8
Average age of population	2006	36.2
Population age 0-14 (%)	2006	19.2
Population age 15-64 (%)	2006	69.6
Population age 65+ (%)	2006	11.2
General fertility rates (birth on1,000 population)	2006	11.1
Total fertility rate(birth by women 15-49 years)	2006	1.46
General death rates (deaths on 1,000 population)	2006	9.1
Expected lifetime (in years)		
Male	2003	71.44
Female	2005	75.88
Mortality rate(on 1,000 life birth)	2006	11.5
Child's mortality(on 1,000 life birth)	2006	12.9
Mothers mortality (on 100,000 life birth)	2006	3.7
Birth with the expert aid (%)	2006	99
General rate of marriages (on 1,000 pop.)	2005	7.1
General rate of divorced marriages (on1,000 pop.)	2005	0.8
Net migrations	2005	-758
Abortion (on 100 births)	2005	28.3

Source: state statistical office.

Table 2 Total population and density to region, the Republic of Macedonia: 1994-2006.

Country/region	1994		2006	
	Total population	Population density (persons on km^2)	Total population	Population density
Republic of Macedonia	1945,932	75.7	2,040,228	79.3
Pelagonija region	242,614	51.4	236,088	50.0
Vardar region	131,035	38.6	133,184	39.3
North east region	163,841	71.0	173,982	75.3
South west region	212,856	63.7	222,385	66.6
Skopje region	545,228	301.1	590,455	326.0
Southeast region	168,481	61.5	171,972	62.8
Poloski region	280,352	116.0	310,178	128.4
East region	201,525	48.1	201,984	48.3

Source: State statistical office.

(1) Youth demographic, census 1948 and 1953;

(2) Demographic maturity, Census 1961, 1971 and 1981;

(3) Process the threshold of old age demographic, census 1991;

(4) Threshold demographic age, Census 1994;

(5) Demographic age, 2002.

According to the 1994 census, the population of the country was on the transition from IV to V stage. While, according to the 2002 census, the population of the country had already entered in V-th stage, i.e., the stage of demographic aging. The review noted regional geography is major differences in the temporal dynamics and the modern state. Namely, the heterogeneous ethnic and religious communities (in the western regions of the state), because of high population fertility features and slow aging, are in the stage of demographic maturity. On the other hand, municipalities with heterogeneous Macedonian Orthodox religion experience rapid and intensive declining birth rate mainly in the stage of demographic threshold of old age. In theory, there are several demographic population types to study demographic development of the age structure of the population, and the most famous population types are progressive, stationary, regressive, open, stable, etc.. The population of the Republic of Macedonia in the modern period of development (after World War II) spent quite experienced major demographic structural changes. The basic factors that determine these demographic trends were closely connected with the changes in society, historical relations and socioeconomic status. In these relationships, the total population of the country was affected by the exhibition, and it was almost spontaneous uncontrolled movements in demographic development. Some favorable structural changes appeared in these developments, but also imposed a series of specific issues that will determine global demographic processes in the country in the future. Age composition of the population belongs to the most important categories of demographic characteristics. The fact is that the analysis of this topic objectively determines the time dimension (past, present and future), and the development of each population. From this point of view, this structural feature can be seen separate from the natural movement of the population that is actually living meter of the population in general. The age structure of the population with natural growth reflect not only the achieved level of complex demographic development, but general social and social situation in the country as a whole through which we can see the future and the same demographic[1]. However, it is fair to be believed that the increase of old population 60 years and over in total best determine this issue. However, it is necessary to mention that biological

[1]The theoretical framework adopted practical definition of the process of demographic aging in the literature do not exist.

aging, i.e., the extension of the useful life is a consequence of the improvement of living standards, progress and application of modern achievements in health and hygiene conditions are matters within the scope of interest of other sciences (gerontology, gediatry, sociology, social policy, and others). Scientists from this area in cooperation with the demographics in a certain way can argue and raise the criteria for determining the age of the old population that can raise the limit from 65 to 70 years old. The general conclusion to this is the fact that the demographic aging given the factors that cause and their effects on the overall demographic development are subject to demographic research. Namely, to mention just one example, in the fifties, the average life expectancy of the population in the country was around 60 years old and now (2010) it climbed to 76 years old for women and 72 years old for men and therefore demographic criteria age population moves to 60 years old.

3. Results and Discussions

For quantification and explanation of the demographic aging of the population in the country, we will use five basic criteria:

(1) Average age (Average age is expressed as the arithmetic mean of age groups);

(2) Coefficient of Youth;

(3) Cumulative participation of the young and young middle-aged population;

(4) Coefficient of age;

(5) Index of aging (aging).

Through analytical and comparative approach to the study of the composition of the population, according to age at the time sections in censuses from 1948 to 2002 (Table 3), one can determine actual conditions and movements of the age population, contingent on the age structure. Stage of demographic youth involves young people under 19 years old in the total population has participated over 42%, elderly population has ash are of under 8% and the rest of the population in total population accounts for 50%. The average age of the population, according to this criterion, is below 28 years old. So, in accordance, the aging index is less than 0.20. In Macedonia, these municipalities, according to the censuses of 1948 and 1953, were the largest number of municipalities, and in 2002; their number was 7 municipalities. Stage of demographic maturity implies young people under 19 years old in the total population has participated from 38%-42%, elderly population has a share of 8%-10%, and the rest of the population in total population accounts for 50%-48%. The average age of the population according to this criterion varies from 28 to 30 years. So, the aging index of 0.20 increased to 0.30. On the other hand, the participation of young people under 19 years was over 40%, according to the census of 2002 and it included municipalities: Arachinovo (42%), Centar Zupa (41.7%), Lipkovo (41.7%), Studenicani (40%, 8%) and Plasnica (40.3%). According to the 2002 census, and administrative division of 2004, these municipalities with demographic stage of maturity had been 35 in total. Stage process of demographic aging involves participation of young people aged under 19 in the total population has participated from 35-38%, elderly population has a share of 10-12%, and the rest of the population in total population accounts for 55%-50%. The average age of the population according to this criterion varies from 30 to 32 years[2]. In Macedonia stage process of demographic aging municipalities began from in 1991 and the municipality of Demir Hisar, ships, and other Resen. Stage of the threshold of old age demographic means young people under 19 in the total population has participated from 30%-35%, elderly population has a share of 12%-20%, and the rest of the population in total population accounts for 48%-50%. The average age of the population, according to this criterion, varies from 32 to 35 years old, and the aging index is from 0.40 to 0.50. In Macedonia, the intensity of these municipalities are

[2]The aging of indexes is from 0.30 to 0.40.

intensified from 1994, and in 2002, municipalities are in the process of aging and the demographic age threshold equals 36. Stage of demographic age involves young people under 19 in the total population has participated under the 20%-25%, elderly population has a share of over 20%-27%, and the rest of the population in total population accounts for 50%-55%. The average age of the population, according to this criterion, accounted for more than 35 years old, and the aging index is over 0.50. In Macedonia, there were these municipalities in 1948, 1953, 1961, 1971 and 1981, according to data from 1991 and 1994 that recorded the first municipalities such as Demir Hisar, Brod, Resen, Bitola and others. While, according to the 2002 census, the stage of demographic age were 6 municipalities, that they dominate the population older than 65 years. The development of the process of demographic age of the population in the country was under the direct influence of vital component, i.e., the rapid lowering of the birth rate, and at a certain point and the mechanical component, i.e., the intensive migration processes of foreign immigration and internal migration that selectively impact on the age structure in separate areas in the state. The consequence of such processes is relatively rapid period of development of the demographic transition and its feedback process of demographic aging. Basically, the transition from high birth rates and low mortality to happened short time and dynamically. Thus, while in the period 1948-1952, the average five-year growth rate was 39.2 and marginally characterized the general population as high birth rates in the years before and after the 1994 census, the average five-year rate declined only marginally to 15.9 in 2002 to just 5.2, which is 2-3 percentage points marginally below the countries of Western and Central Europe. Widely acknowledged that Macedonia from 1994 onwards are located in post transition stage of demographic development. Their main feature is the very low birth rate and increasing mortality rate. In the last 20 years the rate of mortality is occasionally higher than the birth rate resulting in biological depopulation or negative natural growth, on condition that aspect of the population expressed deep demographic old age. For illustration, the beginning of the review period (1948-1952 year), average annual birth rate was about 30,000 people, and for the period 1997-2001, average annual birth rate decreased to about 10,000 people. The highest birth rate was registered in 1954 by 34,262 people, and lowest in 2002 by only 9,799 people, or a decrease of 24,463 persons, i.e., 71%. Such a rapid and dramatic decline in the inflow of the contingent of young people directly initiated the process of starting ageing of the total population in Macedonia. Fundamental change of population age structure in the Republic of Macedonia from 1948 to 2002 was shown as below: the first census in 1948, the average age of the population was 26.1 years old, the population up to 19 years old participated with 48.2% from 20 years to 59 years, with 43.1% of the population over 60 years old contributing 8.7% with a age index of 0.18. The second census in 1953, the average age of the population is 25.9 years old, the population up to 19 years participated with 47.3% from 20 years to 59 years, with 44.5% of the population over 60 years old contributed 8.2% with index age of 0.17. The third census in 1961, the average age of the population is 26.6 years old, the population up to 19 years participated with 45.9% from 20 years to 59 years, with 58.2% of the population over 60 years contributing 7.9% with index age of 0.17. The fourth, according to the 1971 census the average age of the population is 27.8, the population up to 19 years participated with 43.0% from 20 to 59 years, with 48.2% of the population over 60 years contributing 8.8% with age index of 0.20. The fifth census in 1981, the average age of the population is 29.6, the population up to 19 years participated with 38.4% from 20 to 59 years, with 52.4% of the population over 60 years contributing 9.2% with index age of 0.24. Sixth, according to the 1994 census, the average

age of the population is 32.8, the population up to 19 years participated with 33.2% from 20 to 59 years, with 53.8% of the population over 60 years participated with 13.0% with aging index of 0.39. Seventh, according to the 2002 census, the average age of the population is 34.5, the population up to 19 years participated with 29.2% from 20 to 59 years, with 55.7% of the population over 60 years participated with 15.1% with age index of 0.44. Based on the data, we can exert several following global conclusions: First, population in the country in 1948 is characterized by youth and more importantly by 1961, almost all indicators indicated a tendency to slow further rejuvenation. Second, as turning point should be considered early seventies, and in the eighties years the initial changes occur, by which essentially began the process of demographic aging. Third, already in 1994 there was being made first record of significantly changing situations of the total population in the state which is affected by the aging process with tendency of the transition to full demographic age. Fourth, according to the latest census of 2002, the total population in the country's age demographic, had a trend of more rapid pace in the coming years within the aging index of over 0.50. Contingent of young people up to 19 years old in the period 1948-1961 year increased from 556,382 people to 645,793 people, or 89,411 people, or 16.1% (or an annual average of 1.24%), while the old population of over 60 years increased from 100,317 people to 109,083 people or 8766 people, is only 8.7% (average 0.7% per year). So young population have seen almost twice as high growth or a double dynamics of growth. In other words, the rejuvenation of the total population is a direct consequence of coming of many young generations in the total population, and very low flows in a group of elderly population, because the overall youth experienced a inecrease in the ratio of the age of 7% to 8.7%, 9%. In the period 1961-1971, censuses year is characterized by a tendency of new quantitative changes. They very clearly illustrate the initiation of relatively slow pace of demographic aging. The factors that determine this development are: declining rate of natural increasing from 20.6 to 15.4 per mil (1968-1972 years), mainly due to the fast decline of birth rate than the rate of mortality[3] [4-7]. At the same time, the growth of the youth group was 9.7%, while the old population increments of 33.6%. These diametrically opposite directions in the dynamic growth of the volume of these two continue, unlike the previous period, lead to further reduction of constant coefficient of youth and increase of the coefficient of age. At the beginning of the seventies, many generations of post war compensation period gradually move into the contingent of young middle-aged population. Its rise from 12.3% only confirms the conclusion of the early major shifts in the age structure. In the context of this moving of people and intensive migration processes from the mid-sixties to the early eighties, external migration was very actual. They will cause a significant impact on the process of aging demography of the total population in the country, especially the regional plan geographically. The Republic of Macedonia, the first symptoms of demographic maturity begins to feel in the period 1971-1981 [9][4]. In this period the average birth rates are within the range 22-20 per mil, the mortality fell from 7.8 to 6.8, and the birth rate fell from 15.4 to 13.6 per mil. The consequence of this is the increase in the percentage of old population of 9.2%, the aging index of 0.24 and an average age of 29.6 years old. Indicators clearly and explicitly impose the conclusion of this period that the process of aging population in the country has already started. The previous statement is fully confirmed by the data on the composition of the population according to age. Namely, in the period 1981-1994, the birth rate dropped from 20% to 17% marginally, mortality ranges in the boundary between 8

[3]Thus the rate of live births between 1961 and 1971 declined from 31.7 to 22.9 Per mil (i.e. 27.8%), mortality from 10.1 to 7.5 Per milmarginally (or 25.7%).

[4]See the movements of fertility rates from 1994 to 2006 in Table 4. And birth rates throughout the regions in Table 5.

Table 3 Averageage, aging index and stages of demographic aging, the Republic of Macedonia: 1948-2006.

Year	Average age (average years of age of population)	Index of aging	Stadium of aging
1948	25.1	17.0	Demographic youth
1953	25.9	17.0	Threshold of demographic maturity
1961	26.6	17.0	demographic maturity
1971	27.8	20.0	demographic maturity
1981	29.6	24.0	demographic maturity
1994	32.8	39.0	Threshold of demographic maturity
2000	34.2	46.0	Threshold of demographic maturity
2006	36.2	58.1	Demographic maturity

Source: State statistical office.

Table 4 Totalfertility rate by region, Macedonia: 1994-2006 (Annual number of births per thousand population).

Country/region	1994	1996	2000	2006*	2010/2015	2015/2020**	2020/2025**	2045/2050**
Pelagonija region	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.38	1.43	1.48	1.73
Vardar region	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.5	-	-	-	-
Northeast region	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.4	-	-	-	-
Southwest region	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.5	-	-	-	-
Skopje region	2.3	2.0	1.5	1.3	-	-	-	-
Southeast region	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	-	-	-	-
Poloski region	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.4	-	-	-	-
East region	2.5	2.2	1.7	1.4	-	-	-	-
Pelagonija region	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	-	-	-	-

Source: State Statistical Office, demographic statistics by region, 1994-2004; *SSO, Statistical Year Book of the Republic of Macedonia 2006; **United Nations (2006) World Population Prospects, the 2006 revision; R Macedonia data only, and no data regions.

Table 5 Birth rate and natural growth rate of population in the country: 1994-2002.

Region	Indicator (%)	1994	1996	1998	2000	2001	2002	2004	2006
Pelagonija region	Fertility rate	15,772	13,064	10,011	9,083	7,393	6,288	5,417	3,609
Vardar region		8.1	6.6	5.0	4.5	3.6	3.1	2.7	1.8
Northeast region	Fertility rate	721	275	-146	-47	-163	-557	-553	-512
Southwest region		3.0	1.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.7	-2.3	-2.3	-2.2
Skopje region	Fertility rate	599	650	403	355	238	226	195	41
Southeast region		4.6	4.9	3.0	2.7	1.8	1.7	1.5	0.3
Poloski region	Fertility rate	1,376	1,418	1,027	1,060	730	752	693	365
East region		8.4	8.5	6.1	6.2	4.3	4.4	4.0	2.1
Pelagonija region	Fertility rate	2,130	1731	1245	805	706	511	385	283
country/region		10.0	7.9	5.6	3.6	3.1	2.3	1.7	1.3
Pelagonija region	Fertility rate	4,600	3,980	3,445	3,374	3,225	3,059	2,571	2,271
Vardar region		8.4	7.2	6.1	5.9	5.6	5.3	4.4	3.8
Northeast region	Fertility rate	1,289	838	740	690	575	532	484	179
Southwes tregion		7.7	4.9	4.3	4.0	3.3	3.1	2.8	1.0
Skopje region	Fertility rate	4,160	3,571	2,865	2,406	1,898	1,544	1594	1,191
Southeast region		14.8	12.3	9.6	7.9	6.2	5.1	5.2	3.8
Poloski region	Fertility rate	897	601	432	440	184	221	48	-209
		4.5	3.0	2.1	2.1	0.9	1.1	0.2	-1.0

Source: Refs. [11, 12].

and 7 marginally, while the birth rate from 13 down to 8 marginally [10]. Elderly population increases of 13%, and the index of aging is 0.39. In the period between 1994 and 2002, we record the following values. The birth rate declined marginally to 13.6%, mortality reached 8.8 per mil, and the rate of natural increase of 4.8 per mil. The consequence of this is the increase in the percentage of old population of 15.1%, the aging index of 0.44 and average age of the population in Macedonia is 34.5 years. Sizable movement of live births, deaths and natural population growth in the country during the 20th century has the following values. In 1952, 51,054 individuals were born, the highest number of deaths registered in 1931 is 21,270 people and after the Second World War in 1951 of 20,747 people. While the highest number of natural increase registered in 1954 is 34,262 people. The rate of natural population movement in the country in 1948, recording the highest rates in the 20th century, the birth rate values marginally from 40.7% and 14.4% was marginally mortality or total birth rate [1-3, 8]. The lowest number of births registered in 1998 is 27,309 people, the deaths in 1974 of 12,142 people, while the natural increase of 10,520 people in 1999. The lowest birth rates in 20th century were registered in 1999 of 13.5 per mil, mortality from 6.8% between 1978 and 1979, and the birth rate of 5.2% marginally in 1999. In the Republic of Macedonia in 2002 were recorded 564,237 households, of which families with children has 370,439 or 65.65%, and childless families has 193,798 or 34.35%. Considering the structure of household, conditions are as follows: one member has 53,861 households (previously they were 5% and in 1994 they participated with 8.9%). Single person families were 59,164 households (10.5%), families composed of married couples without children has 145,376 (25.8%), families with married couples with one child have 121,554 (21.5%), and families with two or more children have 184,282 or 32.7%. One in four families in the country live without children, which of course is a serious alarm. In single households dominate the elderly and in rural areas, there is a reverse situation, where one-person households represent young people who are employed and live in larger urban center. The one-person households dominate people of higher age groups, or 57.32% of these households manage people older than 64 years. Most of the persons that make the household are aged 25 years old to 54 years old, or 86.6%, while young carriers of household 25 years old of age occupy only 1.26% of the total households. The average number of persons per household, however, fell in 1994 and it was 3.9, and in 2002 averaged 3.6 persons lived in a household. This data reveals the main reason for the sharp increase in the number of households, compared to 1994 (501,963 or difference of 62,274, or 12.4%), and it is atomization of large households, a process that is particularly characteristic of the Northwest the state. The total population in Macedonia amounted to 2,022,547 residents. The largest municipality with 125,379 people and 37,955 households was Kisela Voda, and the lowest Staravina with only 316 residents and 153 households. The analysis concerns the data for the age structure of the population. Due to the intense decline in the birth rate over the last 30 years, and the large outflow of young people from the state, according to the census of 2002, young people aged up to 15 years were participating in the total population with 21.8%, while the elderly population over the age of 65 years accounts for 10.5%. For illustration, in 1994, the share of young population was 24% and 8.8% of the old. Macedonia aging seriously warn Macedonian and foreign demographers. Aging nation confirmed by data of continuous reductions of the young and old population's increase. Only 1.26% of those under the age of 25 years old are carriers of household. This is confirmation that young people in Macedonia later form their own households, mainly for economic reasons and are still economically dependent on older generations. Only 88.65% of the families have four persons, households aged between 25 and 54 years. The data show that continues a multi-year trend in the

state, declining numbers of young people, and old growth or decline in the intensity of births and accelerating the pace of mortality. A growing number of young people are working hard, some lost their jobs or there are very young people who work as new "businessmen" not sure of their work, no solution, no health and social insured, poorly paid, etc.. And, therefore, they choose to form a family, not financially capable of buying an apartment and starting an independent life. Therefore, demographers point socio-economic factors as the main reasons for inadequate demographic picture of the Macedonian population, which is aging with a high index of 50.7. According to these values, the Republic of Macedonia during the 20th century has undergone all stages of c demographic youth, maturity to old age. This situation is an indicator that the process of intensive aging of the population in Macedonia will continue in the first two decades of the 21st century. As values comparable to most developed European countries where they are moving about 10% births marginally, to around 7% mortality marginally and natural growth around 3% marginally, we are witnessing the Macedonian population is deeply affected by the process of demographic aging and age pyramid is more like a tree whose trunk thins and lengthens, and the crown is constantly expanding. It is the result of intense decline in the birth rate over the last 30 years and the outflow of young people, thus reducing the reproductive potential.

4. Conclusion

All mentioned analyzes and observations arise following general conclusion that the total population in the country with all the features are located in the stage of demographic age. Demographic aging of the population in the country is evident and relevant population demographic and socio-economic process. It was initiated by several demographic, social economic and social factors. The main feature in this respect is very dynamic and intense restructuring of the population under the age composition. Certainly, the dominant factor is very rapid deterioration in the volume of births, expressed through the birth rate. In this sense, the comparison of the speed of aging of the overall population environments developed in Europe, where birth and secular retreats have significantly different effects on the characteristics of their and our demographic development. While in countries with developed market economy, demographic development was in significant extent compatible with the formation of the active working population, and in our country, we experience opposite conditions, high unemployment rates, which greatly burdens the active population and the huge dependence between unemployed and employed population. This leads to reduction in life standard, which in turn has a significant impact on the trend of signing marriage and planning on the number of members in the family. The major factor for further aging will continue to be the continuation of the decline in birth rate, especially in areas that are in process or on the threshold of old age demographic. In contrast, the population in areas that are in the stage of demographic maturity in a relatively long time interval will get to phase low fertility features. Thus, the population of the state of demographic maturity significantly affect the overall demographic aging and the maintenance of regional geography. It is quite certain that commenced declining participation of young people in total remains constant will decrease. Simultaneously array generations born in the compensation period from the beginning of the next century will start growing in scope to change the age limit of 65 years old. Practically speaking, it should not cause acceleration of the aging process. Regional geographic differences observed in the intensity and dynamics of demographic aging are highly expressed. The population of the municipalities, mainly from western areas of the state, shows significantly slower restructuring in the composition according to age marks. It is now located in the demographic stage of maturity. Thus, it is characteristic progressive demographic development, i.e., dynamic population growth. This situation is directly determined

by the highly slower declining birth rate. Viewed solely from the demographic point of view, relatively moderate process of transition from high birth rates to low birth population in these areas of the state is the main factor is still high volume of natural growth. However, it is necessary to bear in mind that such a volume of natural increase is also a result of the significant reduction in overall mortality rate. The weather on the long-term nature of the reduction in the rate of fertility in these areas globally will slow the aging process and simultaneously dictate the dynamics of the total population growth. Within the general population, which cost 2/3 of the total process of demographic aging will continue with the same intensity or acceler at with expanding population and rooms will enter the so-called profound demographic age. However, in 2008, at the last moment, the Republic of Macedonia adopted the practice and began to realize consequential laws, incentives, and benefits and so on, towards pro-fertile population policy. Thus, more legal acts came into force: Family Law, Law on Child Protection, Law on Social Protection, Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, National Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, National Strategy for Demographic Development of the Republic Macedonia 2008-2015, as well as other documents, regulations, laws and the like. If the above is successfully implemented in the next one or two decades, it is certain that it will significantly slow the aging demographic Macedonian will produce its stabilization and regulation of future demographic development.

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