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*Derkach S.S., Kyiv*

## **MODERN DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN THE KYIV REGION**

*The article analyzes modern demographic trends in the Kyiv region. The thesis is based on historical data of the Main Statistical Office in the Kyiv region and the results of field research conducted by the author, who highlights the dynamics and characteristics of demographic processes in the Kyiv region in the second half of the XX - early XXI century.*

*Based on a wide range of sources the gender, age, educational and professional structure and attracting people to migration were studied. The study analyzes the dynamics of the age and sex structure of the population of the Kyiv region indicates the predominance of the number of women over men in the general population, and this advantage is typical for most age groups. For the Kyiv region is also characterized by a process of population aging. Changing rural population is directly connected with the natural movement of the population and migration, as well as the transformation of rural areas into the city.*

*With regard to the educational and occupational structure of the population, it should be noted first and foremost a permanent increase in the level of education of the population of the Kyiv region throughout the study period. Due to the changes in the demographic situation in Ukraine, particularly in the Kyiv area has increased the number of pensioners and other persons on the content state. Substantial transformation during the study period has also undergone a structure of the population by income and employment sources. One of the notable trends during the study period is the increase in the proportion of the population of the Kiev region,*

*engaged in mental work, by a corresponding reduction in the number of employed in manual labor.*

*According to the All-union census of years 1959–1989 the author studied the dynamics of ethnic and linguistic situation in the territory of the Kyiv region in Soviet times. The composition of the population among the ethnic groups dominated by Ukrainians and Russians. This thesis displays the influence and negative effects of russification of Ukrainian speakers in the region. It is shown how the ethnic composition and language situation of the Kyiv region changed after Ukraine gained its independence. Reduction of the total population of the Kyiv region was reflected in almost all ethnic groups, recorded as a numerical increase in certain ethnic groups. The features of marital and reproductive behavior of the population of the Kyiv region. The features of marital and reproductive behavior of the population in the Kyiv region are considered.*

*In general, it should be noted that the population of the Kyiv region during the study period experienced a phenomenon of demographic transition, which is characterized by a decrease in the birth rate, small in comparison with Western Europe, the increase in life expectancy, the weakening of the institution of marriage, the intensification of migration processes, the transformation of ethno-national composition. These processes require further study, particularly in the new socio-political and economic realities.*

*The article describes the features and the latest trends of the natural population movement and their influence on the prospects for its further changes. It also suggests the ways of solving the demographic situation not only in the Kyiv region but in Ukraine as a whole.*

**Keywords:** *Kyiv region, All-union censuses of population (195–1989 gg.) Census population (2001), gender and age, marriage, divorce, reproductive behavior, educational and professional structure, migration, ethnic and linguistic composition.*

**Problem statement generally and its relation to the important scientific and practical tasks.** The Kyiv region holds a special place among other Ukrainian regions in the context of the population ethno-demographic development. The ethnographic diversity of this region, one part of which belongs to Polesia, and the other one to Dnieper Ukraine, depends on its location along one of the biggest European waterways on the border of the forestal and forest-steppe zones. The region, historically formed in an agricultural way, experienced some fundamental transformational shifts connected with the rural population traditional lifestyle destruction caused by the urban and global processes. In this context, the special place of the Kyiv region is determined by its close position to the biggest Ukrainian metropolis, the capital of the country, Kyiv.

The population of the region was greatly reduced during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was caused by the Bolsheviks totalitarian retaliatory regime, forced collectivization and industrialization, three forced famines, and Nazi's military crime. All these events caused deep structural changes in the ethno-lingual structure of the Kyiv region, and its age-sex, educational and professional structure. The results of Chernobyl accident and deep socio-economic crisis during the late 80s in the 20<sup>th</sup> century highly influenced the ethno demographic development of the Kyiv region.

At the same time, Ukrainian state formation challenged a range of major problems in the last decades. One of the most serious problems is the demographic crisis, which goes along with falling birth rates and population life expectancy, excess mortality, especially among productive age men, skilled workforce migration percentage (mainly young people), deterioration of health etc.

The thematic justification of the socio-demographic society structure dynamics primarily stems from the fact that these days we have a tendency for population ageing. It happens not only in separate countries but on the whole planet, and the number of town dwellers is increasing while the

number of rural people is rapidly decreasing; family and marital relations are also becoming unsustainable. The population growth problem is now as relevant as ever, and its solution needs some political decisions at the country level in the field of social policy and development of the evidence-based guidelines about the demographic situation improvement in Ukraine.

**Recent research and publications analysis.** Works of many scientists are dedicated to the study of Ukrainian demographic development general issues. A lot of Ukrainian scholars like E.M. Libanova [1], O.A. Malynovska [2], V.P. Piskunov [3], S.I. Pyrozhkov [4], V.S. Steshenko [5], O.U. Khomra [6], F.D. Zastavnyi [7] etc. made a great contribution into research and decision making for these issues. We pay a lot of attention to demographic processes dynamics and structure study. Health, mortality, and life expectancy issues are of priority concern for demographers. However, emerging demographic trends in the Kyiv region remain understudied; therefore, they need to be studied in detail.

**On the assumption of the problem statement, the purpose of the article** is to analyze the current demographic processes dynamics and the aspects of birth rate, mortality, population growth and migration geographical distribution in the Kyiv region. The **primary targets** are to focus on the analysis of the natural population movement rate, population base dynamics and its demographic structure. We also have some oblast current demographic development concerns on account of exploring the common and distinctive features about the demographic situation in Ukraine for further research on the ground of population demographic rate of the target area. Nowadays the global trend is defined by the rapid growth of the Earth population. The Kyiv region as part of Ukraine experiences the same disturbances in the field of the socio-demographic structure as most Ukrainian regions.

**Presentation of basic material of the research with complete received scientific results justification.** The Kyiv

region is an area with a rather dense population. Natural population growth in the Kyiv region has been observed since 1959-1976, and population decline has been observed since 1977 because the mortality level was higher than the birth rate at that time. In the Kyiv region towns the population has begun declining since 1994. This trend remains today. It has been proved by statistics and field study findings.

According to the Main Department of Statistics in the Kyiv region, the population of 1959 numbered 1707955 people, and in 1970 there were 1826335 people. According to the next population census of 1979, the population numbered 1923905 people, and in 1989 in comparison with the previous population census increased up to 1939973 people. According to the All-Ukrainian census of 2001, the population numbered 1827894 people. From 1959 to 2001 the urban population went up 2,5 times, and the rural population declined more than 1,5 times.

The Kyiv region is one of the most densely populated area oblasts of Ukraine. According to the All-Ukrainian census, the population of the Kyiv region (without notice of Kyiv population) numbered 1827894 people by 5<sup>th</sup> December 2001. 1053486 of them were town dwellers, and 774408 people were rural. The number of people in the Kyiv region slightly declined after carrying out the census.

According to the Main Department of Statistics in the Kyiv region by 1<sup>st</sup> February the Kyiv region population numbered 1722052 people, 1064773 of them were urban dwellers, and 657279 were rural people. The number of people in the Kyiv region reduced by 105842 people from 2001 till 2013. The declining trend generally remains around Ukraine. The Kyiv region is characterized by low population density. According to the All-Ukrainian census, oblast population density is generally about 65 people/m<sup>2</sup> [8].

The peculiarities of the Kyiv region population reproduction can be observed with the following chart. The birthrate value depends on many factors.

*Chart 1*

**The Kyiv region natural population movement dynamics of 1989-1998 [9]**

Years	Born people number		Dead people number		Natural growth and decline	
	town	village	town	village	town	village
1989	15373	10800	8798	14985	6574	-4185
1990	14230	9707	9412	15995	4818	-6288
1991	13420	9233	10255	17164	3165	-7931
1992	12685	8853	11029	17054	1656	-8201
1993	12162	8231	11921	18290	241	-10059
1994	11104	8009	11931	18474	-827	-10465
1995	10685	7615	12992	18503	-2307	-10888
1996	10329	7233	12399	18168	-2070	-10935
1997	9769	6701	12225	17831	-2456	-11130
1998	8681	6192	12081	17047	-3400	-10855

During 10 years, from 1989 till 1998, the number of born people in the Kyiv region was 201012: urban – 118438, rural – 82574. However, the number of dead people was 286554: urban – 113043, rural – 173511. Natural growth by 16454 people in the area was visible only in an urban area from 1989 until 1993. After this growth there was a decrease by 11060 people. In a rural area the population number reduced by 90937 people at that time (chart 1).

The significant difference of population migration activity at this stage is that temporary circular migration predominates permanent migration. It forces the Kyiv region rural population to decline at a slower pace than generally around Ukraine.

During 5 years, from 2009 until 2013, the number of born people in the Kyiv region was 101913: urban – 63563, rural – 38350. The number of dead people was 138481: urban – 65127, rural – 73354. There was a decrease by 36788 people. It should be noted that there was a population decrease by 1784 people in an urban area, and only in 2012 there was natural population growth by 220 people while in a rural area there was a decrease by 35004 people (chart 2).

*Chart 2*

**The Kyiv region natural population movement dynamics 2009-2013 [10]**

Years	Born people number		Dead people number		Natural growth and decline	
	town	village	town	village	town	village
2009	12767	7849	13351	15518	-584	-7669
2010	12269	7468	13326	15080	-1057	-7612
2011	12524	7559	12611	14236	-87	-6677
2012	13124	7842	12904	14257	220	-6415
2013	12879	7632	12935	14263	-56	-6631

Statistic data analysis shows that there are more women in the total population in the Kyiv region, and it is generally common for the whole country. During the censuses of 1989–2011 the male to female ratio practically did not change. In the same way according to the latest data from the Main Department of Statistics in the Kyiv region, the population of 2013 numbered 1719699 people, among them: 795631 – men (46%), 924068 – women (54%). Consequently, the difference between the number of men and women from 1989 to 2013 remained unchanged, and it was 8% (Chart 3).

*Chart 3*

**The number of men and women in the Kyiv region. Comparative data of 1959, 1970, 1979, 1989, 2001, 2013 [11]**

Year	Population at large thous. (mln)	Of which		Percentage, %	
		male	female	male	female
1959	1707955	733153	974802	43	57
1970	1826335	808294	1018041	44	56
1979	1925174	861556	1063618	45	55
1989	1934369	883461	1050908	46	54
2001	1821061	841463	979598	46	54
2013	1719699	795631	924068	46	54

The same processes are typical for the population in the Kyiv region as for most other regions of Ukraine during 1959–2018, although it can be said that in some areas there is a

regional specificity. During this period there were radical changes in the sex-age and educational-professional structure of the population, as well as in its migration activity. One of the specific trends which are common for the whole studied period is the predominance of women over the number of men. In general, the ratio of men and women is uneven in different age groups: if the difference in the youngest age groups is almost imperceptible, then the population of a mature and especially elderly population is already significantly higher. We are able to observe the prevalence of women among citizens over the age of 27. The causes of this phenomenon are, above all, higher mortality of men due to accidents, as well as diseases caused, among other things, by an unhealthy lifestyle.

Another modern demographic processes sign is population aging caused by falling birth rates and decrease in the number of children. It was observed throughout the exploration period, that is, from 1959 to 2018. Population aging increases the demographic burden on able-bodied citizens, which is especially noticeable in rural areas. Here the burden on the able-bodied population, carried out by people older than the able-bodied, highly exceeds the burden on children. It shows that working population is forced to focus its efforts on supporting mainly people of retirement age.

The censuses data of 1959–2001 shows that the constant prevalence of women in the total population was observed in the Kyiv region during the studied period, and it is corresponding to the situation in Ukraine generally. The prevalence of the number of women over men can be explained, on the one hand, by lower mortality among women, and on the other hand, by the consequences of war, migrations abroad which affect the number of men the most. A special feature of modern age structure of the Kyiv population is a decline in the proportion of children in the total population number. According to the census of 1959, the percentage of children under 15 among the population was 27.8%, in 1970 – 26.5%, in 1979 – 23.5%, in 1989 – 22.9%, and according to the

All-Ukrainian Census of 2001, it was only 18.1%. At the same time due to the demographic situation changes in Ukraine, in particular in the Kyiv region, the number of pensioners and other people supported by the state increased. According to the All-Union Census of 1959, they numbered 4% in the Kyiv region, and then 22.4% in 1989, that is, more than five times. In urban settlements there were 21.8% of retirement age people while in rural areas they numbered 35.7% which was noticeably more [11].

The study made it possible to establish a relatively high level of education of the Kyiv region population. According to the 1959 All-Union Census, 507 out of 1000 people at the age of 10 and older were educated while according to the All-Ukrainian Census of 2001, there were 878 out of 1000 people with education. So, there is a large number of educated people in the Kyiv region, and most of them have higher education or special secondary education, or they study at higher education institutions. Men have a lower educational level, they are more likely to receive secondary specialized education mainly of technical branches of study, and women receive higher education mainly in the humanities. In recent decades women tend to have a higher educational level than men.

The population professional structure underwent significant changes during the studied period. The analysis of 1959–1989 of the Kyiv region population censuses data gave an opportunity to note that the number of workers and employees increased with each census. It was observed around the Kyiv region rural population the best. Thus, according to the 1959 census, the percentage of workers was 18.3% while it reached 53.4% in 1989. On the contrary, the number of collective farmers decreased, as this was supported by a high level mechanization in agriculture [12]. Thus, according to the All-Union Census of 1989, collective farmers in the countryside numbered 30.2% of the employed population, and almost none of them were from the urban area – only 1%. At the same time the percentage of workers and employees grew due to the

opening of new enterprises, social and cultural institutions in the region. In the period of independence, the tendency towards a decrease in the number of employed in agriculture held on while the number of industrial and service workers also increased.

The migration processes of the Kyiv region differed fundamentally from the population migration of other Ukrainian regions. Both male and female population participated in the Kyiv region migration processes. Mainly people at the age of 20–34 arrived to the regional urban settlements in 1959–1986. This was due to the possibility of better employment in the towns of the Kyiv region. According to the survey, the migration of the Kyiv region population was also affected by the Chernobyl accident. The migration rate was growing in urban settlements between 1971 and 1993, and since 1994 the number of people grew. As for the rural areas, there was a decrease in the number of people during the Soviet period. The migration gain happened only since 2010. An important difference in the migration activity of the population at the present stage is the predominance of temporary circular migration over a permanent one. It is the reason why the rural population of the Kyiv region is shrinking at a much slower pace than in Ukraine generally.

The study of the ethnic aspects of the socio-demographic processes in the Kyiv region suggested that the Kyiv region was relatively monoethnic during the studied period. The ethnic structure of the region mainly consisted of Ukrainians, and their percentage in the studied period changed from 93.2% in 1959 to 89.4% in 1989. It should be noted that despite the intensive Russification during the years of Soviet power the vast majority of Ukrainians in the Kyiv region kept their native language. There was an increase in the proportion of Russians and Russian-speaking population in the Kyiv region from 1959 to 1989. Thus, it was 4.8% in 1959, 6.1% in 1970, 7.6% in 1979, 8.7% in 1989.

As for other ethnic groups, their percent in the population was constantly decreasing. In particular the total number of Jews decreased significantly. Most representatives of ethnic minorities lost their native languages and switched to Russian. According to the 1959 census, 57% of Jews in the Kyiv region spoke Russian, 11% Ukrainian, 32% the language of their nationality, while according to the 1989 census, only 9% of Jews spoke Russian, 77% Ukrainian and 13% their national language. The proportion of Ukrainians decreased at that time while the Ukrainian population of the Kyiv region generally managed to preserve its native language.

According to the 1989 and 2001 population census data, the reasons for the ethnic structure changes were found, and they influenced the population reproduction in general. The total population reduction of the Kyiv region was reflected in almost all the ethnic groups, however, there was also a quantitative increase in the Caucasian origin ethnic groups: Azerbaijanis, Armenians, and Gagauzians. The number of Jewish, Polish, German, Bulgarian, Greek and other ethnic groups decreased significantly.

Obviously the significant increase in the proportion of Ukrainians with a decrease in the percentage of Russians in the Ukrainian ethno-national structure was the most interesting ethno-demographic process. Thus, the number of the Russian ethnic group representatives decreased by 34.9%. At the same time the percentage of Ukrainians in the population increased to 92.5%. According to the All-Ukrainian Census of 2001, 96.8% of people considered their national language to be a mother tongue, 1.2% Ukrainian, and 1.9% Russian. At the same time it should be noted that the Russian language sphere use is decreasing rather slowly. In the Kyiv region towns they speak mostly Russian, and, on the contrary, they use Ukrainian or surzhyk (mixed Ukrainian and Russian) in villages.

According to the survey of three districts in the Kyiv region (Kyiv-Svyatoshynskyi, Makarivskyi, Vasylykivskyi), the vast majority of Ukrainians speak Ukrainian. There are also

Russians, Belarusians, Jews, Poles, Georgians, Armenians, and Azeris in Ukraine. They understand Ukrainian, they speak their native language but more often they speak Russian or so-called surzhyk. The vast majority of marriages are those within the Ukrainian ethnic group. However, there are also mixed marriages between Ukrainians and men of other nationalities or vice versa.

Having analyzed the marriage and divorce dynamics, it should be noted that almost the same number of marriages was registered both in the rural area and in the urban one. Among all the age groups 20–24 years old people marry the most frequently. The highest level of divorce falls on the age group of 25–29. According to the statistics, marriages which last 5–9 years break up most often. However, marriages in rural areas are stronger while in urban areas almost half, and sometimes more than half of marriages break up. Only one third of marriages in the rural area are of short duration. There is a tendency for the number of early marriages to increase. There are also high divorce rates in the region.

According to the survey, mostly the elderly register their marriage, and there is a small number of young people who have officially married. Among the respondents there are many young couples living in civil marriage. The Kyiv region population of reproductive age is characterized by a limiting birth rates trend. Insufficient material support remains the main reason for limiting the desirable number of children for the Kyiv region residents. The difficult socio-economic situation in Ukraine affects the well-being of the rural community, in particular, residents of the capital suburbs, despite the advantages of being close to Kyiv.

**The study findings and prospects for further exploration in this direction.** Consequently, low birth rates and growing mortality rates show an unfavorable demographic situation in the Kyiv region. The reasons for this vary; they cannot be expressed only through the Ukrainian economic situation deterioration. The natural growth is gradually

decreasing in all Ukrainian regions, most of all this is noticeable in villages where a significant proportion of the population lives. The reason for this is, first of all, a fairly high proportion of older people in the countryside. The comparison of observations, recorded among the rural population with data relating to Ukraine, gives grounds to assert that not only the Ukrainian village population inhere these processes but also the whole Ukrainian population.

The Ukrainian demographic policy in the present conditions should be aimed not only at stimulating the birth rate, but also at strengthening the family, raising the material well-being of the people, reducing the morbidity and mortality. However, measures to manage the population reproduction processes do not show fast results. The results of the demographic policy are developed through many years and even decades.

Much attention should be given to the creation of conditions for improving the financial situation of families with children, the development of the family social service system, increasing the types of services provided to families, reducing maternal and infant mortality, and strengthening the prevention of diseases. The Ukrainian demographic situation crisis requires a revision of its specific demographic policy areas. The demographic policy of Ukraine is aimed at increasing the natural population growth at the expense of fertility. So, mothers who give birth to a child are given assistance, an additional leave, etc. The demographic situation requires constant control of the government. Only the effective regional demographic and economic state policy can ensure the solution of these problems.

In general, it bears mentioning that the Kyiv region population of the studied period experienced a demographic transition phenomenon which is characterized by a fertility decline, small, in comparison with the Western European countries, increased longevity, weakening of the marriage institution, migration processes intensification, ethnic

composition transformation. These processes require further in-depth study, in particular, in the latest socio-political and economic environment.

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*Деркач С.С. Новітні демографічні тенденції в Київській області. У статті проаналізовано новітні демографічні тенденції в Київській області. Розкрито проблеми розвитку демографічних процесів Київщини за даними Головного управління статистики в Київській*

області й результатів польових досліджень. На основі широкого кола джерел досліджено статево-вікову, освітньо-професійну структуру та залучення населення до міграційних процесів.

За Всесоюзними переписами 1959–1989 рр. вивчено динаміку чисельності етносів і мовну ситуацію на території Київщини за радянських часів. З'ясовано, як змінився етнічний склад і мовна ситуація Київської області після здобуття Україною незалежності. Розглянуто особливості шлюбної та репродуктивної поведінки населення Київщини.

Визначені специфічні риси і новітні тенденції природного руху населення, їх вплив на перспективи його подальших змін. Запропоновані шляхи розв'язання демографічної ситуації не лише на Київщині, а й в Україні.

**Ключові слова:** Київська область, Всесоюзні переписи населення (1959–1989 рр.), Всеукраїнський перепис населення (2001 р.), статево-віковий склад, шлюбність, розлучуваність, репродуктивна поведінка, освітньо-професійна структура, міграційні процеси, етнічний і мовний склад.

**Деркач С.С. Новейшие демографические тенденции в Киевской области.** В статье проанализированы новейшие демографические тенденции в Киевской области. Раскрыты проблемы развития демографических процессов Киевской области по данным Главного управления статистики в Киевской области и результатов полевых исследований. На основе широкого круга источников исследована поло-возрастная, образовательно-профессиональная структура и привлечение населения к миграционным процессам.

По Всесоюзной переписи 1959–1989 гг. изучена динамика численности этносов и языковая ситуация на территории Киевской области в советское время.

*Выяснено, как изменился этнический состав и языковая ситуация Киевской области после обретения Украиной независимости. Рассмотрены особенности брачного и репродуктивного поведения населения Киевской области.*

*Определены специфические черты и новейшие тенденции естественного движения населения, их влияние на перспективы его дальнейших изменений. Предложены пути решения демографической ситуации не только в Киевской области, но и в Украине.*

**Ключевые слова:** *Киевская область, Всесоюзные переписи населения (1959–1989 гг.), Всеукраинская перепись населения (2001 г.), поло-возрастной состав, браки, разводы, репродуктивное поведение, образовательно-профессиональная структура, миграционные процессы, этнический и языковой состав.*