

## GENDER ASPECTS OF DEMOGRAPHY

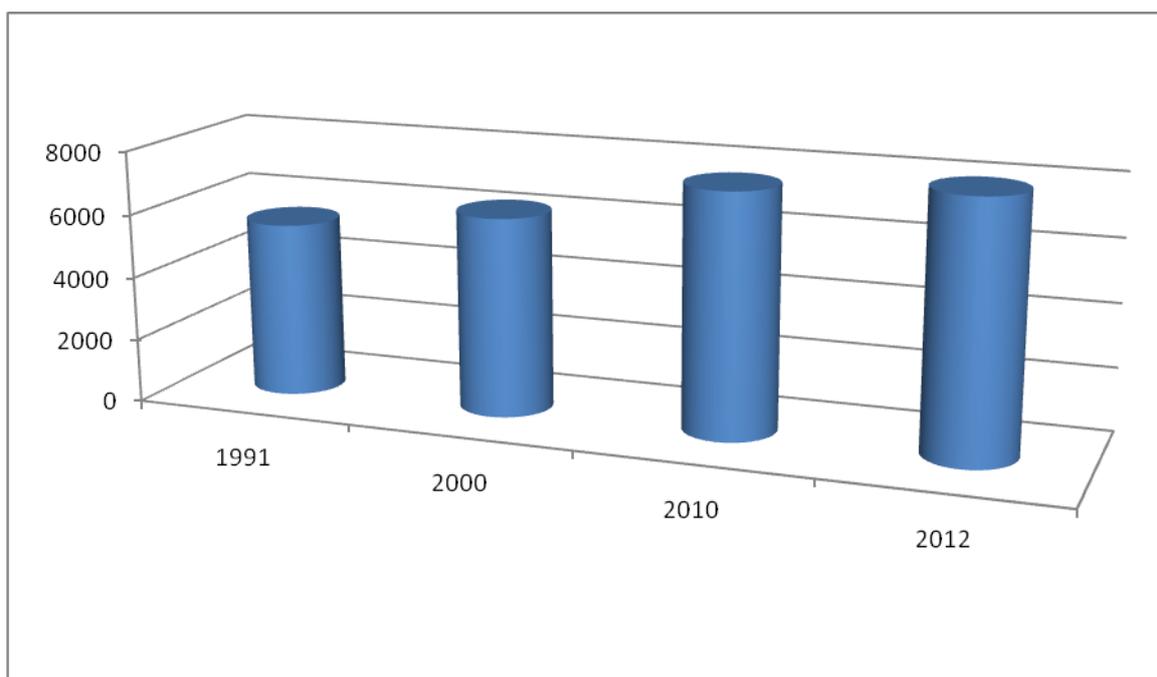
*Author: Kulov A. - Head of Demography Statistics, Employment and Social Services of Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan*

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Global population demographic growth issue at all times and at the modern stage of development worried and is worrying scientists, experts - demographers around the world. Just a few decades ago we were told that soon our planet will be filled with people, that there will be problems with the settlement. It took several decades, and the situation has drastically changed in another direction. Now, scientists around the world are sounding the alarm that the birth rate began decrease sharply. Soon there will be much more older people than younger ones. These issues in one form or another relate to the Republic of Tajikistan, as it is also an integral part of the global community.

According to the data the Statistical Agency under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the country has witnessed the growth of the population (see Diagram 1).

Diagram 1 Growth of of the population for 1991 – 2012



In 2013 the total population was 8100 000, which is 47% and 29% more than in 1991 and 2000. Natural population growth rate in 2012 was 47%. Taking into account the natural increase of the population by 2030, the total population could reach 10,480, thousands people.

According to the Statistics Agency in 2008 from the total population 3656.1 thousand were men and 3594 thousand were women i.e. men are registered at 62, 1000, or 1.7% more than women. In 2010, this gap was 67.94 thousand or 1.8%., and in 2012, the number of women was 80 thousand or less than 2 percent.

Life expectancy of the population continues to grow. In 1991, life expectancy was 67.3 years for men and 72.9 years for women. In 2012 there was a growth of this indicator, which is 71.1 years for men and 74.6 years for women.

As evidenced by the data, the proportion of urban and rural population in Tajikistan in 2012 was 26, 7% and 73, 3. In this regard, there is a tendency in the country moving from the countryside to the city.

Tajikistan's population is relatively young, but the average age continues to grow. There is a slight increase of working-age men. The analysis showed that in 2012 indicators of population of the working-age men (15-63 years) in relation to women (15-59 years) were higher by 3. 1%.

According to official information in the country for the last 5 years recorded growth in the number of marriages however it is also growing number of divorces. According to official data, if in 2012 there were 97,653 marriages, the number of divorces was 7417. For comparison, we can provide data for the last 5 years. According to statistics in 2010 there were recorded 100,678 marriages that are 5.4% lower than in 2008. However, in 2010, recorded the growth of divorces at 16% against the indicators in 2008. Experts believe that this trend is mainly due to the massive labor migration, marriage in the inexorable age, social, domestic difficulties, etc. According to the information in the republic also it has been an increase in the number of unregistered marriages.

In the last five years it has seen the growth of the population engaged in vigorous activity among both men and women<sup>1</sup>. According to official data in 2008, people of working age was registered 4325.6 thousand, including 2185.3 thousand men and 2140.3 thousand women, which is 2, 1% less than the rates among men. In 2012 this indicator amounted to 4855.7 thousand people, including 2465.9 thousand men and 2389.8 thousand women, which is 3.1% less than in this indicator among men. Based on these data we can conclude that the growth of the working age population in the country, both men and women observed and this growth provides additional tension on the labor market of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Experts, scientists, demographers believe that one of the challenges of the new millennium is demographic problem, especially actual for countries with weak social sphere and transition economies. Analysis of the situation shows that currently in Tajikistan access to maternal, child and adolescent is not sufficient, due to several reasons. The main ones are - inadequate funding, weak system of effective health care, low level of awareness and insufficient analysis of the quality of services, low level monitoring and evaluation system.

It is known that the demographic problems of Tajikistan as part of the Central Asian region formed not today. During the transition from one generation (cycle in 20-25 years) the reproduction model of population has changed, primarily due to reducing adult and infant mortality. This process was the most important cultural and social

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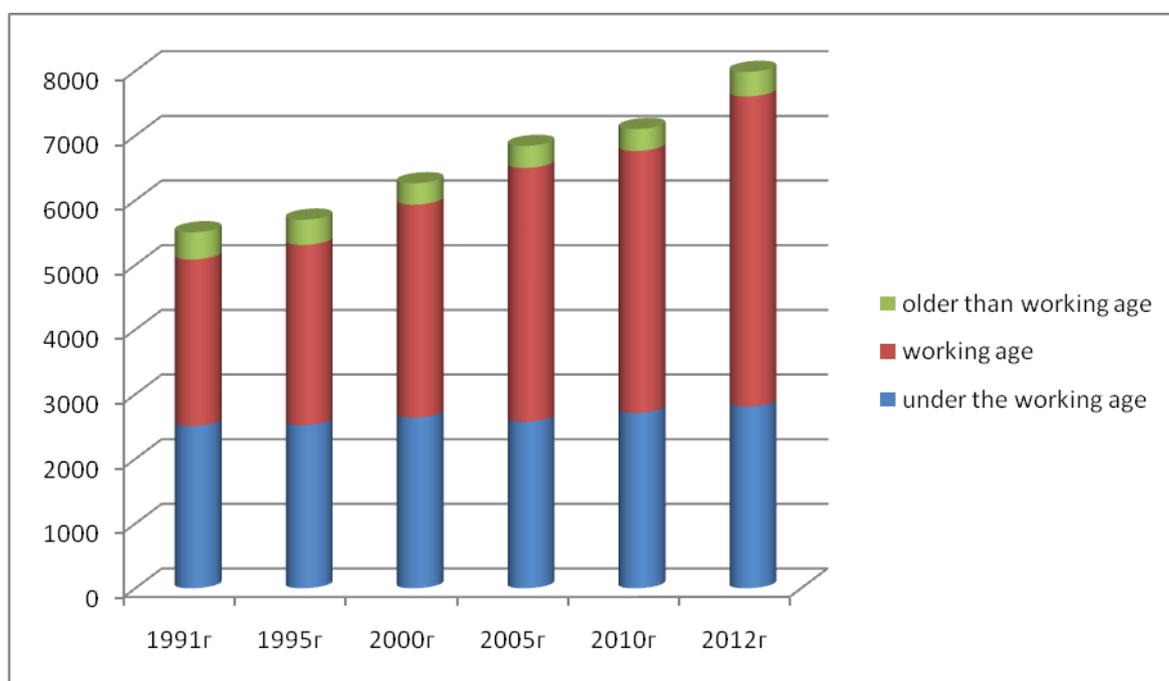
<sup>1</sup> For the analysis was included data on working-age of women 15-59 years and men -15 - 64 years.

consequences for the local population, as manifested in the impact on traditional life-support systems in many regions.

In the republic for the past decade there is population growth, especially among pensioners and people older than working age. Under the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan retirement age defined among women aged 59 years and men aged 63 years. According to the UN classification, the elderly population is considered, if the proportion of people aged over 65 in the total population is more than 7%. In the last five years from 2009 to 2013 the number of pensioners increased by 58,900 persons ie 11%. Currently officially registered 596.6 thousand persons of retirement age, which is 7 percent of the total population (including 3% men and 4% women).

In 2013, from the total number of pensioners 240.5 thousand or 40.3% are men and 356.1 thousand or 59.7 % are women. Women are accordingly 19, 3% more than men.

Diagram 2. The ratio of the population taking into account the working age.



As shown in the diagram - 3 in 2000 the population of older than working age was 329.3 thousand, this digit in 2010 was 338, 2 thousand people or 13% more. If we compare the natural growth of the working age population between 2000 and 2012. it will be 49,000 people. or 14.8% of the total population of the country. Natural growth of this segment of the population in a specified period of time was accordingly 1.2%. The analysis shows that in the case of such developments by 2025 the natural increase of the population older than working age could be around 30% compared to 2000. This trend makes us to think about inevitable problems in the future in the field of labor, pension and social security.

It should be noted that among other for today remains an open question of pensions and social security of persons who are in illegal migration. According to official

information, the number of people of retirement age who are in labor migration in 2013 was 9511 people, including women 1486 or 15.6% of the total population.

It is important to note that, without an early solution of demographic problems, coordination of national plans and strategies taking into account the demographic characteristics of the development of the scale of social problems in the country will increase more and more and eventually will be much sharper than at present.

Population growth as a whole is progressing, but at the same time raises issues related to the employment of the working age population, social protection and access to quality health care and education.

Proportional reduction of marriages and in divorces, which can lead to low birth and natural increase of the population accordingly, deterioration of the psychological climate in the family affects the mental health of children and their upbringing in connection with the destruction of the family, also require an integrated multi-sectoral approach, design and implementation of special government programs. The issue of increasing the amount of unregistered marriages is also very serious and creates a lot of problems, especially among wives of migrant workers.

Questions to aging of society in the near future also can create serious problems for the state associated with pensions, social insurance and the provision of social benefits, particularly in connection with mass illegal migration. Therefore it is very important to solve issues of legalization of all migrant workers in importing countries of labor resources.

In this regard, our country needs along with other priorities for which allocate more funds, demographic processes were also considered priority and allocated funds for the development of state programs on the complex solution of above mentioned problems.