

**GEODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS REGARDING THE  
POPULATION FROM THE SOUTHERN OLTENIA**

**CARACTERISTICILE GEODEMOGRAFICE ALE  
POPULAȚIEI DIN OLTENIA DE SUD**

Anca CEAUȘESCU<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** The analysed geographic region knew an uninterrupted autochthon dwelling, starting with the Neolithic era and until nowadays. The numeric evolution of the rural population from this region, beginning with the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was similar to that from the national level. After a continuous ascendant evolution until 1956, when it was reached the maximum value (155,992 dwellers), the numeric dynamic of the population followed a descendant curve. The analysis of the demographic indicators (1977-2006) evidences the next situation: decreasing birth rate, increasing mortality rate and migration, the installation of a slow but continuous process of demographic aging, higher share of the feminine gender population, the growing demographic and economic dependence ratio, the lowering of the population's activity rate.

**Key words:** population, numerical evolution, demographic indicators, depopulation, demographic ageing.

**Cuvinte cheie:** populație, evoluție numerică, indicatori demografici, depopulare, îmbătrânire demografică

The human component is the main element in the development of civilization and culture in each territory. Its dynamics represents the materialization of the rapports between the economic development and the social structure, two important factors that continuously acted in different ways from one age to another.

Until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the field regions (landform that characterizes the south of Oltenia), a result of their open character, exposed in front of the invasions and plunders, offered less favourable conditions for dwelling. The density of the settlements and the number of people from here were much lower to the mountain, piedmont, hilly and plateau regions that offered a more appropriate natural environment, as a shelter (massive afforestation, accentuated degree of relief fragmentation, less available ways of access etc.). This phenomenon is evidenced, at least in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, by Schwartz's map (1722) that shows an area of maximum concentration of the settlement at the mountain's foot and in the

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<sup>1</sup> Institute of Socio-Human Research „C. S. Nicolaescu Ploșor” of the Romanian Academy, Craiova, Romania

sub-Carpathian depressions, followed by a gradually decreasing of their number towards the Danube.

Yet, it must be mentioned the fact that in the field regions also, with a high degree of afforestation (the north of the Wallachian Plain and the valleys of the main rivers, the last being considered real “natural citadels”), the human communities established durable settlements, where they created a civilization and a specific traditional culture.

In the first part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, after the retreat of the Ottoman power and the signing of the Treaty of Adrianopole (1829), when the commerce along the Danube and the Black Sea was liberalized, the field regions started to be more intensely populated. Through their content, the actions of extension of the agricultural lands by afforestation and fallowing of the steppe “led to changes, greater than in all the anterior periods”.

Although the Băilești Plain (sub-unit of the Oltenia Plain, studied in the present paper) known, along time, an uninterrupted autochthon dwelling, starting back in the Neolithic era and continuing until nowadays, a more clear and exact geodemographic analysis can be done no later than the beginning the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the informational sources, the written and cartographic documents have a more precise content. As in this geographic area the rural population represents the majority (56 villages and only 2 towns) we aimed at rendering its geodemographic characteristics.

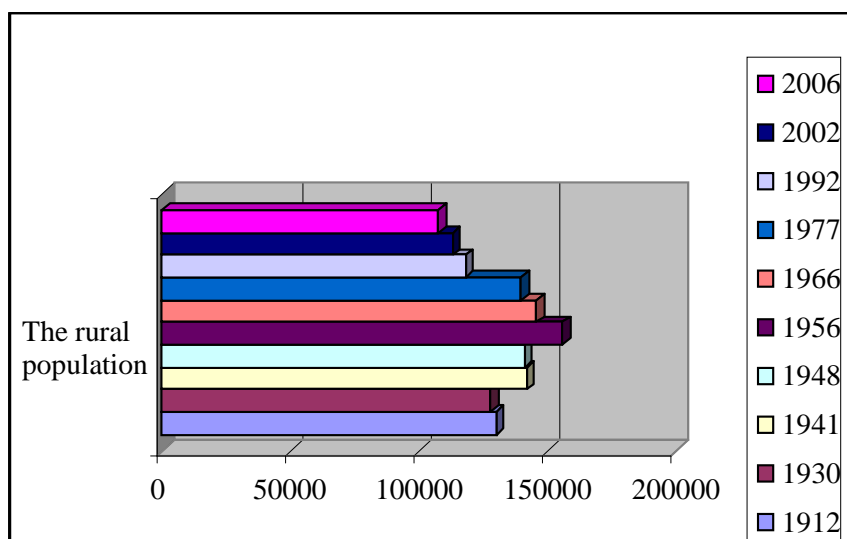
In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the social, political and economic events (The Union of the Principalities from 1859, The Independence War from 1877-1878, The Rural law from 14/26 of August 1864 etc.) produced important economic-social transformations, but also changes as regarding the population fluxes. In the entire country it was registered a positive dynamics in the population’s number in the region that we studied as well, where the population had reached (in 1892) a number of 98,912 dwellers, from which 96,142 dwellers were in the rural region. Later, during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the next century, the field population registered a dynamics determined by the political and socio-economic events, following the demographic tendencies that existed at the national level. Among the rural population, the analysis of the statistic data shows a positive dynamic until the 5<sup>th</sup> decade of the last century, followed by a negative trend that had been lasting up until now (Table no. 1).

Thus, at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, at the census from December 19<sup>th</sup> 1912, in the Băilești Plain, there were 136,897 dwellers, from which the rural population represented 129,889 dwellers (94.9% from the plain’s population). By comparing it with the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (1892) we notice an important numeric growth, in only 20 years the rhythm of growth being of 26%. The absolute growth, for the entire field region, was of 38,685 dwellers, and for the rural population, of 33,747. Between 1912 and 1930, the rural population registered a numeric diminishing, with 1,954 persons (the growth rate being of -1.5%) which was caused, among others, by the human lives loses from the First World War and

by the transformation of some rural localities in urban communes: Plenița (in 1925) and Băilești (in 1926) – Fig. 1.

**Table no. 1**  
**The numeric evolution of the rural population from the Băilești Plain (1912-2006)**

Year	Rural population (total)	Absolute growth (no. of persons)	Growing rate (%)
1912	129,889	-	-
1930	127,935	-1954	-1.5
1941	141,931	+13,996	+10.9
1948	141,147	-784	-0.5
1956	155,992	+14,845	+10.5
1966	145,938	-10,054	-6.4
1977	139,867	-6,071	-4.1
1992	118,200	-21,667	-15.4
2002	112,877	-5,323	-4.5
2006	107,684	-5,193	-4.6



**Figure 1. The numeric evolution of the rural population from the Băilești Plain (1912-2006)**

It follows a stage (1930-1941) of flourishing in terms of the number of dwellers, with a growth rate of 10.9%, the absolute growth being of 13,996 dwellers. The maximum number, of 155,992 dwellers (86.5% from the field's population), was reached in 1956, the growth rate, as compared with 1948, registered the value of 10.5%, while at the entire country's level was of 1.1%. The relative political and economic stability, the surpassing of the famishing years, the straightening out of the birth rate and the reducing of the mortality can explain the

high demographic rate. A special contribution to the numeric growth of the population also had the definitive migrations from other regions of the country, as a consequence of the appropriation process, the extension of the arable land and the development of agriculture.

In the next period, in the field's rural environment it appeared an obvious demographic decrease, in the same time with the growing of the urban population. Thus, between 1956 and 1966, it was registered a diminishing of the rural population with 10,054 dwellers, 6,071 dwellers during 1966-1977, 21,667 dwellers between 1977-1992 and 10,516 dwellers in the next interval, until 2006. To the numeric decrease of the population it contributed both the dynamics of the demographic indicators (regressing birth rate, mortality rate and increasing migration) and especially the administrative-territorial reorganization from 1968, when 4 rural settlements (Basarabi, Golenți, Ciupercenii Vechi, Balasan) were included in the administrative area of the towns Calafat and Băilești. In addition, the agricultural profile of the area, the attracting of the labour from the rural regions towards the heavy industrialized cities, determined a negative migratory result. Even if after 1997 it can be observed a migration from the urban area to the rural one and a diminishing of that from the village to the city, the rural population continues its decrease. In the same time, the feminization phenomenon of the population, the demographic ageing and the modifications in the socio-economic structure of the country after 1990 also constitute important factors that contributed to the descending of the demographic curve. The number of the dwellers from the villages decreased from 129,889, in 1912, to 107,684 dwellers in 2006, when it is registered the lowest number of the rural population from the field region.

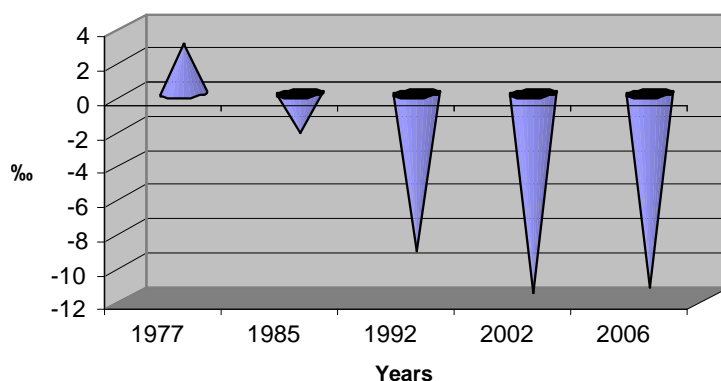
Analysing the numeric evolution of the population *at the village level*, during 1912-2006, there can be identified territorial disparities, manifested, on one side, through the growth in the number of dwellers, in some settlements and, on the other side, through the standstill or the decrease of their number in other settlements. 29 villages from the 52 that existed, for which the statistic information is complete, registered a diminishing regarding the population's number with values encompassed between -2.01% and -49.3%. They represent an area in the northern half of the field and in its southeastern region.

The regions most affected by this phenomenon were the settlements Bistreț and Boureni and few more villages from the north of the field, where the population dwindled, in 2006 as compared to 1912, with 15-40%. A standstill or a lower decrease in the dwellers' number can be noticed in the north of the plain, in the perimeter of the localities Galicea Mare – Perișor – Cioroiași and in its western side, between Cearângu and Maglavit. On the other side, in the south of the plain it started to take shape an area with a positive demographic evolution that includes villages situated along the Danube, in the areas with fertile land and developed agriculture. Here, the growth reached between 10% (Smârdan, Piscu Nou, Rast, Poiana Mare, Negoii) and over 100% (Desa, Catanele Noi).

The modification of the demographic volume was, in a high percentage, the result of the evolutionary direction of the natural moving and of the migratory

one, in tight correlation with the evolution of the society and its socio-economic development during various historical periods.

The natural growth of the population from the Băilești Plain was constantly reduced, having values lower to the national average. If until the beginning of the 1960s it was continuous, later, the technological, cultural, educational, etc. implementations left their marks on the demographic behaviour. Gradually, it begins to be installed the less numerous family model of the urban civilization. From positive values, in 1977, of 2.9‰ (three times smaller than the national one) it passed to negative values, -11.4‰, in 2006 (Fig. 2).



**Figure 2. The dynamics of the population's natural growth (1977-2006)**

The phenomenon was sustained by the ratio between the birth rate and the mortality rate, which knew different evolutions. *The birth rate* had a maximal point in 1977, of 15.7‰ (lower to the country's average, of 19.6‰). Most of the communes had high and medium values of the birth rate (13-19‰), with very high rates also, of 22.2‰ (Punghina) and 22.1‰ (Unirea). After this year, it can be noticed a decreasing tendency of the birth rate that will be accentuated in the next period, reaching 14.3‰ in 1985, 9.6‰ in 2002 and 8.4‰ in 2006 (value lower than the national average, of 9.9‰ and the Dolj district average, of 8.7‰). In 2006, the values of this indicator were between 20.1‰ (Negoi) and 1.7‰ (Galiciuica), no less than 17 communes registering values lower than 8‰. The average value of the birth rate, for the entire studied interval (1977-2006) was of 11.7‰. At the territorial level, the highest indexes were registered in some settlements from the north-west and south of the plain: Negoi (17.3‰), Punghina (15.7‰), Desa (14.7‰), Caraula (14.1‰). The northeastern side (including the communes Cioroiși, Galiciuica, Întorsura, Perișor) and the southwestern one (with the communes Ciupercenii Noi, Maglavit, Seaca de Câmp) are shaped as areas with low values of this parameter (below 10‰).

The more and more reduced natural growth that installed in the plain rural region after 1975, is also justified through the high numbers of *the mortality rate*. Because of the high and constantly growing values of this indicator, for most of the

communes within the plain, even if it was registered an improvement of the living conditions, the mortality rate, during 1977-2006, continued to have an ascendant trend. Thus, if in 1977, in neither of the field localities there were registered values over 24‰, in 2006, seven localities exceeded this threshold: Afumați (24‰), Cioroiși (24.1‰), Perișor (24.2‰), Obârșia de Câmp (24.5‰), Giubega (25.1‰), Seaca de Câmp (26.2‰), Izvoare (31.1‰). As regarding the average index of the mortality rate, on the entire period (1977-2006), it was of 18.2‰, because of the very high values from 1992 and 2002. From the territorial point of view, the highest average mortality rate was registered in most of the settlements from the north and the east of the plain (over 19‰), all of them being affected by the demographic ageing phenomenon. In the south, the communes located along the Danube (Ciuperceii Noi, Desa, Negoii, Piscu Vechi, Poiana Mare, Rast) evidenced through a lower mortality rate for the last 29 years (below 17‰).

To the numeric diminishing of the population from the Băilești Plain, it also contributed *the territorial mobility of the population*. In the structure of the migratory fluxes, for the interval 1977-2006, it is noticed the numeric preponderance of the persons who left. The reduced capacity of the rural economy to generate working opportunities and a proper remuneration encouraged the labour exodus towards economic developed regions, therefore producing disequilibrium and even depopulations in the territory. The major political and economic changes from the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (the collectivization, the forced industrialization from the sixties and eighties, the urban development) had negative and long lasting consequences on the rural area. As a matter of fact, the profound transformations from the legislative system, such are both the free circulation of people and the collapse of the living standard, constituted the premises in the accentuation of the international migration. After 1995 and especially after 2000, the main motivation becomes the economic one, manifested through the temporary external migration to working. The regaining of the property in the nineties and the economic crisis of the urban centres could be found in the rural region under different presentations and variable relations between departures and arrivals. The demographic decline continued but it diminished in some way.

On the whole, the average rate of the departures had high values, registering two peaks: at the end of the 1970s (19.6‰, in 1977) and in the first years after the revolution from December 1989 (16.6‰, in 2002), once with the reopening of the possibility regarding the establishing of the domicile in a city and with the liberalization of the population general mobility.

“Starting with 1977, the urban-rural component becomes, maybe for the first time in Romania’s contemporary history, the main migration direction”. It is actually about a phenomenon of resettling concerning the migratory fluxes, started in the last decade of the past century and not by a sudden reorientation occurred during the last years.

The statistical data for the interval 1977-2006 show that the rate of the arrivals from the Băilești Plain had an ascendant dynamic, from 8.2‰, in 1977, to 17.6‰, in 2006, with a maxim point in 2002, of 19.1‰ and with a minimum in

1985, of 3.7‰. The rural localities from the analysed space reach the lowest values of the immigration rate in the eighties. 20 communes registered values below 5‰ and among these, 4 were below 1‰: Lipovu (0.8‰), Caraula (0.6‰), Dârvari (0.5‰), Cioroişi (0.3‰). It is the time when the urban localities register very high values of the immigration rate (Calafat 21.1‰).

The year 1990 that was marked by powerful transformations in the political and socio-economical life of the country, constituted the start for a renewal of the arrivals in the rural localities. The loss of the jobs (especially in industry), the more and more expensive city life and the retirements made that the urban-rural migration gain importance in the structure of the migratory fluxes. The phenomenon was also facilitated by the adopting of The Landed Fund, in 1991, many of the city dwellers returning in the rural region, where they had small land properties. The maximum point as regarding the average point of the immigration on communes was reached in 2002 (19.1‰), when three communes registered values over 30‰: Seaca de Câmp (31,9‰), Negoii (32,8‰), Radovan (33,5‰) and other 19 administrative unities, values of over 15‰. The phenomenon is explicable through the massive dismissals in the urban region industry, fact that unleashed an inversed migration (urban-rural), sustained also by the clarification of the landed situation. Soon after 1989, when Romania “opened its frontiers”, allowing the free circulation of the citizens, flourished the abroad migration phenomenon. The main motivation was the economic one. After the accentuation of the unemployment rate, phenomenon generated by the restructuration of the industry, by the lack of opportunities on the internal market of the labour and of an extremely low waging system, this phenomenon, preponderantly circulatory, intensified.

The dynamic of the demographic phenomena determines changes in *the structure of the populations on age and gender groups*, with important implications on the economic activities, the demographic indicators and on the social phenomenon. On the entire rural population from the field, this structure reflects a slow but continuous process of demographic ageing and a greater share of the feminine gender population.

The age groups had different evolutions. Thus, the share of the younger population continuously decreased, from 21.1% in 1977, to 16.8% in 2002 (a reduction of 4.4% in 25 years). Concordantly, the share of the old group increased (from 60 years and over) from 20.7% in 1977, to 30.8% in 2002 (growth of 10.1% in 25 years), which reflects in the modification of the general mortality rate (table no. 2, Fig. 3). It can be observed that the growing rhythm of the old group overtook that of the young population decrease.

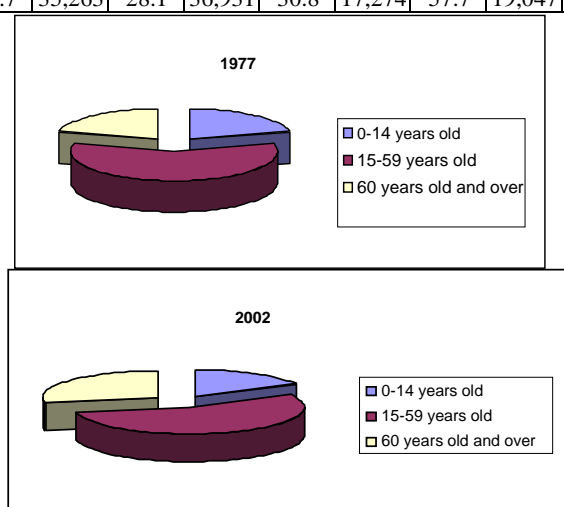
*The demographic ageing index* had a growing general tendency, from 0.7 in 1966, to 1 in 1977, 1.7 in 1992 and 2 in 2002. At the village level, in 2002, the values of this indicator oscillated between 0.8 (Catanele Noi) and 5 (Brânduşa). 9 villages, situated in the east and north-west of the plain, have a high demographic ageing degree, registering values of the index of over 3 and 19 villages, also occupying areas in the east and west of the field, confronted with a moderate demographic ageing (values between 2.1 and 3). A 48.2% percentage from the plain

villages (27 villages), located mainly in the south of the analysed locality, have values of the index between 1.1 and 2, denoting a low demographic ageing, while only one village (Catanele Noi) is not affected by this phenomenon (Fig. 4).

**Table no. 2**

**The evolution of age groups structure of the population from the Băilești Plain**

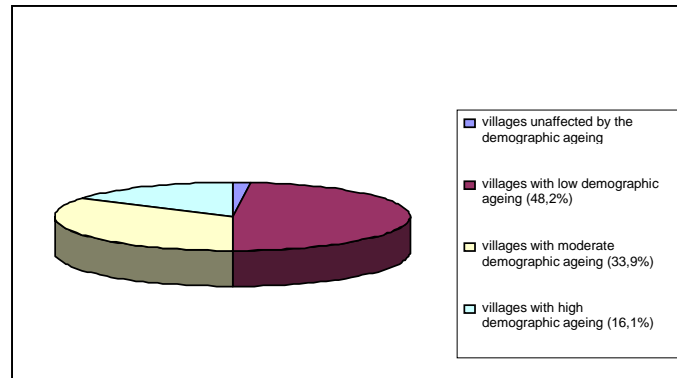
Group	Total population						Total feminine gender population					
	1977		1992		2002		1977		1992		2002	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
0-14	31,439	21.2	21,658	17.3	20,170	16.8	15,169	48.2	11,447	52.8	9,718	48.1
15-59	86,294	58.1	68,499	54.6	62,627	52.3	43,252	50.1	32,500	47.4	30,411	48.5
≥60	30,678	20.7	35,263	28.1	36,931	30.8	17,274	57.7	19,047	54	20,734	56.1



**Figure 3. The structure of the population on age groups in 1977 and 2002**

The ageing of the population leads to the growing of *the demographic dependence ratio*, denoting the pressure exercised by the inactive groups (0-14 years old and over 60 years old) on the active population (the adult population). In 2002, on the village level the values oscillated between 680‰ (Castrele Traiane) and 1.583‰ (Brândușa). High values of the dependence relation (over 1100‰) were registered in 12 concentrated villages, especially in the south-west of the plain; in 17 villages, most of them in the east of the plain, the demographic dependence relation was between 1,000 and 1,100‰ and in other 20 villages from the south and the west of the plain, the values were smaller (800-1,000‰). Only in six villages, dispersed in the north, centre and south-west of the studied unit, this indicator had very low values, under 800‰. Taking into consideration the changes that occur at the level of the population's age groups structure, the future tendency regarding the evolution of the demographic dependence ratio is growing.





**Fig. 4** The share of the villages according to the demographic ageing index (2002)

After the numeric decrease of the population from the studied unit, it can also be noticed a diminishing of the feminine population in the total number of the population, although the feminine gender continues to represent the majority. *The feminine ratio*, calculated by comparing the total number of women with the number of men, was, for the interval 1977-2006, 105.9, resulting 105.9 feminine gender persons to 100 masculine gender persons. In all the years when the analysis was made, the values remained supraunitary (>100%) in most of the localities, while in 2006, 5 localities were subunitary: Giubega, Moțăței, Rast, Siliștea Crucii, Unirea. The number of the administrative unities where the feminine index registered high values (over 108.1%), reduced gradually, from 10, in 1977, to 3, in 2006, evidencing the tendency of balancing the share of the two genders. In the Băilești Plain it is also confirmed the statistic rule according to which, although there are always born more masculine gender persons (105-106 masculine gender persons to 100 feminine gender persons), depending on time (age), the ratio does not speak in their favour. The higher mortality among the old persons of masculine gender, cumulated with the fact that women live more, leads to the feminization of this group. A feminization can also be found for the group 0-14 years old, in the communes Afumați, Caraula, Cioroiași, Obârșia de Câmp, Plenița and Punghina, and also at the adult group, of 15-59 years old, in the communes Izvoare and Lipovu.

On age groups, this ratio is under 100 to the young and adult groups (97.5 and 95), while at the old group, the values favour the feminine gender population (127.6).

Directly, the demographic indicators (the total population, the structure on age and gender groups, on social environments, etc.) correlated with economic activities, condition the socio-economic structure of the population. At the level of this structure, there were registered important mutations. The active population knew, along the last decades, a continuous decrease, from 81,420 persons (in 1977), representing 54.9% from the entire population, to 58.965 persons (in 1992), representing 47% and 51,960 persons (in 2002), representing 43.4% from the entire population. In the same time, the share of the inactive population had an opposed dynamics: 66,991 persons (in 1977), representing 46.1% from the entire

population, 66,414 persons (in 1992), representing 52.9% and 67,778 persons (in 2002), representing 56.6%.

From the analysis of the distribution and share of the active and inactive population in 2002, we can notice the difference between the two categories of population that grew very much. Generally, the rural localities have low values, below 50% from the active population. There is an exception, 5 communes, where the share of the active population is higher than 50%: Seaca de Câmp (61.3%), Maglavit (54.1%), Desa (54.6%), Ciupercenii Noi (51.4%), Cioroiași (51.2%). Simultaneously, the inactive population registered growths, we might say, explosive, no less than 9 administrative units having values higher than 60%: Pungina (69.5%), Obârșia de Câmp (69.2%), Radovan (67.2%), Siliștea Crucii (66.1%), Urzicuța (61.4%), Caraula (60.9%), Negoii (60.8%), Perișor (60.6%), Poiana Mare (60.5%). Besides the demographic ageing (accentuated more and more by migration) an important contribution to the emergence of this phenomenon had the untimely retiring (due to an illness) of many people, after 1990.

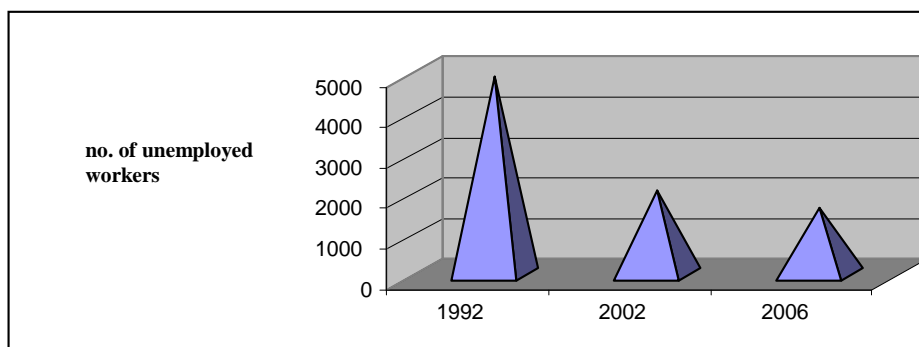
*The activity rate* registered, as it was natural, decreases from values of 54.9% (in 1977) to 47.1% (in 1992) and 43.4% (in 2002). This phenomenon can be explained through the increase of the old population share, which leads to the significant growth of the retired persons' number (the inactive population), phenomenon that was not attenuated when the young generations started to work. At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, for most of the communes, the activity rate registered values below 30%. Only eight communes from the analysed space had over 40%: Unirea (40%), Piscu Vechi (42.5%), Izvoare (44.3%), Ciupercenii Noi (45%), Cioroiași (47.4%), Maglavit (49.6%), Desa (51%), Seaca de Câmp (57.3%).

In the sectors of the national economy, in the analysed space, it is dominant the population from the primary sector that, during 1977-2002, registered a growth of the share from 77.4% to 87.4%. The reorganization of industry, on one side, and the retrocession of lands, on the other hand, are two of the phenomena that maintained this situation and not only that. They were also felt in the industrial sector, actually weakly represented in the rural space of the plain, knowing important reductions from almost 13% in 1977, to only 3% in 2002. The tertiary sector knew a feeble positive dynamics, the occupied population having higher shares than at the beginning of the transition period.

On genders, the rural space of the Băilești Plain takes part in the general situation of the Romanian rural area, as regarding the share of the active masculine gender population. The reorganization from the economy after 1989 affected the share of the active population, which diminished its number, especially the feminine gender labour. The factories from the textile and food industry from Calafat, with preponderant feminine staff, after the reorganizations following the revolution from December, increased the number of the feminine gender unemployed population. Although "The ready-made clothes factory" was privatized, the action did not prove its viability, the feminine gender persons losing

further on their jobs. So, the values of the activity rate for the feminine gender were surpassed by those of the masculine gender.

For the analysed space, *the unemployment rate* had a descendant course, the number of the registered unemployed workers decreasing with 3.255 persons (66%) – Fig. 5.



**Fig. no. 5 The dynamics of the unemployed workers (1992-2006)**

The period after the revolution from December (1992) was characterized by the highest rate of the unemployment (8.5%), a consequence of the massive dismissals from the textile, food and chemical industry from Calafat. This negative demographic phenomenon led to the increase of the unemployed workers among the feminine population. Seven administrative units registered values of the unemployment rate of over 10% (among these, Cetate, with 16.3%). In 2006, the number registered in the documents and paid was 416 persons lower (20.2%) as compared to 2002 and 3,255 persons (66%) compared to 1992. Yet, this diminishing is more likely a statistical one, contrasting with the reality, because it is actually about pointing out of the specialized institutions, many persons continuing to lack a job. On the other hand, the revitalization of the economy from this region after the privatization of some factories from Calafat and Băilești, the founding of some small trading companies, the increase of the individual workers, showed new directions for the employment in the studied region.

The dynamics of the population's number, the disappearance of some economic activities, the retirement before the age limit are causes that determined modifications of *the economic dependence* in the localities from the studied region. The evolution of this indicator, at the plain level, shows a growth of 57.2% in a time interval of 25 years (from 84.4 inactive persons to 100 active persons, in 1977, to 132.7 inactive persons to 100 active persons, in 2002). The numeric diminishing of the active segment, in parallel with the increase of the population's number that corresponds to the inactive segment determined, in time, modifications of the inactivity degree. If in 1977 it corresponded less than 1 inactive individual (0.8) to an active person, starting with 1992, the situation changes, evidencing a

disequilibrium, the number of the inactive persons to an active individual being of 1.3% (in 2002).

The analysis of the indicator regarding the village, for the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century (2002), evidences quite large discrepancies, between a maximum of 319 (Tunarii Noi) and a minimum of 60.5 (Piscu Nou). For 19 villages, concentrated, most of them, in the east of the plain, the value of the indicator was of over 150, showing an accentuated disequilibrium; for other 12 localities, with a dissimilar repartition, the degree of employment is also reduced (values of 120-150). The situation is good in 17 villages that form two areas, one in the south-west and the other in the north-east of the plain, the values of the indicator being below 100.

On the whole, the numeric evolution of the rural population from the Băilești Plain was similar to that from the national level. After a continuous ascendant evolution until 1956, when it was reached the maximum value, the numeric dynamics of the population followed a descendant curve caused, on one hand due to the administrative reorganizations from 1968, when some villages had been included in the administrative area of the towns and, on the other hand, due to the values of the demographic indicators (the decreasing birth rate, the mortality rate and the growing migration, the accentuated demographic ageing).

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