

GENDER, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN ALBANIA

THE CASE OF GJIROKASTRA REGION

Sinani A.¹ and Dhromaj A.¹

*1 Department of Geography, Faculty of Education and Social Sciences "Eqrem Çabej" University, 6001, Albania, Gjirokastrë
sinanialbina@yahoo.com, adela.qalliaj@yahoo.com*

Abstract

Gender structure is a key factor in the demographic and socio-economic development (reproduction of the population, education, health, services, labor, etc), and the result of long-term demographic and social-economical development. Deeper changes are seen for the age group 0-14 years, the working age group, especially the 15-29 year. From 1989 up to 2011, the regional differences have been deepened as a result of differences of natural movement, migration and gender of the population, economic development level, social and cultural level and lifestyle which are reflected in the differentiation of life. Social policy and rural development strategies must support and protect rural family ensuring a gender balance needed. It should be realized in the framework of the sustainable development of rural society should co-ordinate the demo-social and economic development at the local, regional and national levels. Creating optimal gender opportunities for a normal life in the rural area would limit immigration and increase rural family cohesion. During the period 1979-1989, in the prefecture of Gjirokastrë, role of 0-14 years age group was decreased by 6.5%, while the role of age group over 60 years was increased by 15.9%, role of age group over 60 years in 2001 was increased 43.2% compared to 1989. At this age group prevails male element, while in the age group of 15-59 years, which consist in 59.7% of the population, prevails male element. These factors have led to the decline of reproductive relative rates aging population. Reducing the role of age group 0-14 years after 1989 was associated with socio-cultural consequences. The increase of the retirement age, which came into force in 1990, does not encourage the working age population and stressed demographic labor age, which was aggravated by the emigration of the young workforce. This was followed with the acute problem of gender imbalance, combined with migration and with a variety of effects in the demographic development of our prefecture.

Keywords: sex ratio, gender balances, south region, period 32 years old, INSTAT publications, mathematical - statistical method of analyzes.

Περίληψη

Η περίοδος αλλαγής του κοινωνικό-οικονομικού συστήματος και η μετάβαση από την επικεντρωμένη οικονομία στην οικονομία της ελεύθερης αγοράς επέφερε μεταξύ άλλων τις εγκαταλείψεις ολόκληρων αγροτικών περιοχών και την αλλαγή της φυλετικής δομής του Αλβανικού πληθυσμού. Υπήρχε μείωση του αριθμού γεννήσεων, κυρίως στον αστικό πληθυσμό παρά στον αγροτικό πληθυσμό, με αλλαγές στην βιολογική και την κοινωνικό-οικονομική του δομή και στη δομή των διανοομένων. Πριν από το έτος 1990, ο μέσος αριθμός παιδιών που γεννούσε μια μητέρα στην Αλβανία ήταν πολύ μεγάλος και σε κάποια έτη έφτανε και 6-7 παιδιά, ενώ μετά το 1990 και στη συνέχεια ο αριθμός των παιδιών που μια μητέρα γεννάει είναι 2.2. Παρ'όλη αυτή τη μείωση, η Αλβανία κατέχει ξανά την πρώτη θέση στην Ευρώπη όσον αφορά την τεκνοποίηση. Το τονίζουμε αυτό επειδή σε πολλές χώρες της Ευρώπης αυτή την περίοδο δεν υπάρχει φυσική αύξηση του πληθυσμού, υπάρχουν μάλιστα περιπτώσεις που ο αριθμός του πληθυσμού μειώνεται. Κατά τη σύγκριση της τωρινής κατάστασης με την κατάσταση της προηγούμενης καταγραφής, 12 χρόνια πριν, η επίδραση της μετανάστευσης γίνεται πιο σαφής: κάποτε, στον πληθυσμό

ηλικίας 15 μέχρι 40 χρόνων υπήρχαν περισσότεροι άρρενες παρά θηλείες, ενώ τώρα η κατάσταση έχει ανατραπεί. Παρ'όλα αυτά, διαπιστώνονται δύο αισθητές διακρίσεις μεταξύ του πληθυσμού που διαμένει σε πόλεις και του πληθυσμού που διαμένει σε χωριά. Η πυραμίδα των ηλικιών είναι ευρύτερη στη βάση της όσον αφορά τον αγροτικό πληθυσμό επειδή η γεννητικότητα ήταν μεγαλύτερη για μακρύ χρονικό διάστημα και αυτό έχει επιφέρει μια "πιο νέα" ηλικιακή δομή. Οι συνέπειες της μετανάστευσης φαίνεται πως είναι λιγότερα αισθητές στα μικρά χωριά παρά στις πόλεις: η έλλειψη ενηλίκων και θηλαίων δεν αποτελεί μέρος του αγροτικού περιβάλλοντος στο ίδιο βαθμό με το αστικό περιβάλλον. Η κύρια αιτία της διαφοροποίησης στην φυλετική δομή μεταξύ πόλεων και χωριών είναι η μεταναστευτική μετακίνηση από τις μακρινές ορεινές περιοχές προς τις χαμηλές λοφώδεις-πεδινές περιοχές ή τις πόλεις. Οι μεταναστεύσεις και οι άλλοι εσωτερικοί και εξωτερικοί παράγοντες τονίζουν την φυλετική ανισότητα και στην αγροτική κοινωνία της περιφέρειας Αργυροκάστρου. Η φυσική αναπαραγωγή του πληθυσμού είναι στάσιμη, η φυσική αύξηση χαμηλή (μέχρι μηδενική), πράγμα που σημαίνει ότι ο πληθυσμός έχει εισέλθει στη διαδικασία της δημογραφικής γήρανσης. Στην αστική περιοχή (κυρίως στην πόλη του Αργυροκάστρου), η βάση της πυραμίδας είναι πιο στενή από την αγροτική περιοχή, επειδή η μείωση της γεννητικότητας στην αγροτική περιοχή έχει αρχίσει σχετικά αργότερα από την αστική περιοχή. Η ανάλυση της μορφής της ηλικιακής πυραμίδας αποκαλύπτει τις ιδιαιτερότητες της σημερινής ανάπτυξης του πληθυσμού της περιφέρειας, τα χαρακτηριστικά και τις τάσεις της φυσικής μετακίνησής του. Η ανάλυση της αναλογίας μεταξύ των φύλων σε έναν βιολογικό πληθυσμό είναι ιδιαίτερα σημαντική για την εξέταση της σύστασης των ζευγαριών, των κοινωνιολογικών αναλύσεων, των κοινωνικών πολιτικών, κτλ. Από τα αποτελέσματα των καταγραφών τονίζουμε μερικές από τις σημαντικότερες προκλήσεις που αναμένουν λύσεις από την Αλβανική κοινωνία τόσο σε εθνική κλίμακα όσο και στην ευρύτερη περιοχή για μια πιο ισορροπημένη ανάπτυξη της ευρείας περιοχής με κύριο σκοπό την αναχαίτιση της μετανάστευσης που βεβαιώνεται στον πληθυσμό των ορεινών περιοχών της χώρας.

Introduction

Gender structure is the first indicator of a population biological structure with a long evolution in time and space (the role of females and males, not only in general level, but also in specific age groups). It is result of a mutual development that have between them different demographic processes, internal limits (fertility, mortality) and external limits (migratory movements, composition of population according to the age groups and other economic-social processes that have affect it in the past, wars, intensive development that have affected Albanian society in different period of times, social, health, historical and religious factors. Gender composition inherited nowadays is the result of the action, during the previous long term periods of time, most important processes that have characterized the demographic development of our country. In a specific way, a special role is played from economic factors which affect the increase of population wellness conditions, making possible in this way the growth of solid gender generations. Social factors from their part motivate through their impact different ways of population gender development, as in the case of developing facility conditions for the females. Development of the health, the progress of medicine science, the increase of hygiene level, is some other factors that have affected the gender structure of the population bringing continuing changes for the gender balances.

Materials and Methods

The methods used during this research are methods of consulting the documents and existing research, methods of survey and field data gathering, historical-comparative methods, panorama analyses, graphical introduction of social demographic indicators, mathematical-statistical analyze, mapping of occurrences and computer methods.

Results and Discussion

There is a statistical law, which expresses a biological law well known in early times. It is a well known fact since in the birth process, the value of the birth rapport is 105-106 males vs. 100 female so it is over the unit, because the total infant fertility of the population there is a prevail of males. In case all the factors will remain unchanged, then the gender structure will be defined only from the male multiplier during the birth process. In such conditions, there is prevail of males and the rapport male-female for all age groups and for the general population should be preserved as unchangeable. Besides the fertility, for the closed type populations, such an important effect is also done from mortality, which under normal conditions of demographic development; it is for every age group higher for the males which make possible the decrease of the male rapport. During the very first years of life as the result of multiple births is created a natural surplus of male number, but as the result of high male mortality this surplus is reduced gradually till it is reached a gender balance (in normal conditions this kind of balance it is reached between age group 20-30). Since even after this age group the male mortality rate is higher than a female one, it is created a surplus of female population which is deepening with the passing of the time especially during the third age group. In cases when we have to do with a population of open type, the male rapport varies depending on emigration and immigration. Leaves in early age or old age are accompanied with the decrease of marriage number and later with the decrease in a continuous way of the birth number. In some cases, immigration is more evident for the male population, for a specific age group and with a specific educative level. Meanwhile in developed regions as in Tirana, Shkodër, Durrës and Vlora there is a male rapport lower than the unit, in northeast regions the value of this indicator is higher than the unit. The explanation for the first category it is related to the high rate of mortality and the consequences of internal migration. At undeveloped regions it is found that the hope of (average life or the extension of average life) is higher for male than for females, differently from the developed regions where it is evident a contrary situation (Tab. 1)

Table. 1. Sex ratio according to Prefecture data based on population census of 1989, 2001 and 2011.

Sex ratio	1989	2001	2011
Total	106.1	99.5	100.4
Berat	107.1	101.8	101.4
Dibër	106.9	100.5	103.9
Durrës	105.6	96.2	101.4
Elbasan	106	102.6	101.2
Fier	106.2	100.3	102.3
Gjirokastrë	107	101.6	102.6
Korçë	105.4	101.7	102.1
Kukës	108.7	100.2	101.7
Lezhë	106.9	96	100.3
Shkodër	107	97.1	98.5
Tiranë	102.9	98.1	97.8
Vlorë	106.8	98.3	101.2

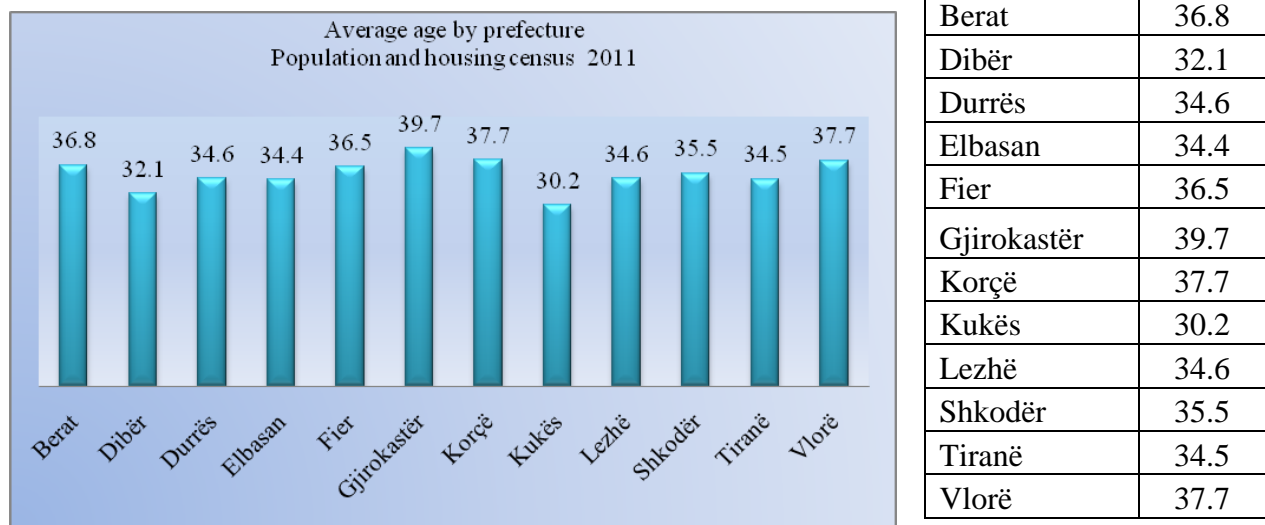
Complete information for this issue it can be given in case the aging rapport will be seen according to the different age groups with different demographic histories. Distribution of population according to gender and age, make evident important aspects, between which they are connected through the elimination of discrimination toward the female rights and realization of an identical balance between two genders, which is a primary objective in the agenda of UNO. From the demographic point of viewing the content of "female status," it is introduced first of all in family and fertility. The researchers up to now have concluded to a very negative conclusion for more of the populations which are affected from the migration of population phenomena, as it is the population of our country, since the highest rate of immigrants come from young ages for both genders, which oblige the population to have a trend toward its aging. Such a fact is very present for example in many of rural areas in the south of our country especially to Ionian coastline territories from Vlora to Saranda in which as the result of massive immigration which has affected the young age labour force, it is evident the presence of third age group population, or old age population in this area Misja, Vejsiu and Bërxfholi (1987). During the period of time 1945-1990, there was high rate fertility 30-40 per thousand, at the same time when in other European countries it was 8-15 per thousand. During those years, it was forbidden emigration of people and it was limited the internal migration (from the village into the city or toward different areas of our country) INSTAT (1991). After 1990, number of population in our country not only it was not increased but also in 2003, which means after 14 years, it was 55 thousand inhabitant less than in 1989, where it was done population census Bërxfholi (1992). Data of general registration of 1979, show that in every 100 females of our population belong 106.7 males so in this sense Albania it was one of the unique countries of Europe, where number of males it was higher than that of females. Data of the census in 2001 and 2011 show the decrease of this indicator. So, in 2011, every 100 females of our population belong to 100.4 males. If we refer to the legitimacy of the changes, the gender structure depends on the age, and this is a little bit specific for our population. In young ages, up to 14 years old, male specific multiplier have a little bit higher values compared with the average of general population, where prevail is in the limit 1% up to 2%, later the multiplier from 15 years old up to 30 years old is extended in a progressive way to reach the maximum in the age group 30- 44 years old, and going further is reduced especially between the age 60-75 years old and later to 75 years old, where females prevail in different levels of percentages year by year in an interval of 10%. In a much summarized way, variation of the male multiplier, for some age groups of population, is given according to the data of censuses along the years 1979, 1989, 2011, (in table 2 it is shown)

Table. 2. Male multiplier according to main age groups according to census 1979, 1989 and 2011.

Age groups		Male multiplier		
Years	Census	1979	1989	2011
Number	General population	106.7	106.1	100.4
1	0-14 years old	107.5	108.9	109
2	15-29 years old	109	107.4	106.2
3	30-44 years old	114.3	108.3	91.3
4	45-59 years old	104.8	110.3	98.8
5	60-74 years old	89.3	88.8	100.1
6	75 years old & over	69.2	61.7	80.4

In census of 1989, for the age group 15-44 years old there were more males than females, while 12 years later, in 2001 was the contrary situation, there were more females than males; so the rapport of female vs. males it was higher in favor of females. The surplus of females over the males in adult ages is another general tendency; the life of females is longer than the life of males. In order to understand features of our population structure according to the genders, to this panorama with a lot of varies for the male-specific multipliers should be added even the fact that in 2001, Albanian population was still a young one, most of the population was concentrated on the base of the age pyramid. According to the census of 2001, our population is actually in a demographic aging and the male rapport has a tendency to be decreased (Fig. 1)

Figure. 1. Average age according to prefecture data focused in population and housing census 2011.



The average age for our Region in 2011 is 35.3 years old. The surplus of females in adult age has such a role that can overturn the structure of the general population, according to the gender. This show at the same time that gender structure of population reflects changes not only on the national or regional framework but also in the case of a narrow framework such it can be a specific city of a specific village. This kind of reasoning urges us to find out the main causes even of that differences that are visible between city and villages, sometimes even between regions in the structure of population according to the genders. In fact in the city the male multiplier is 98.3 males per 100 females while in the villages this indicator is 103.0 male per 100 females Demographic Explicator (1996). When we started to study the problem for specific age groups, it is noticed not only the aging impact, relatively higher than that of city population, but the role that have played mechanical movement, as it is now evident, bring more priorities from the villages to the cities with a high number of females. This impact it is clearly evident especially for the age group 15- 29 years old and over 30 years old, which is distinguished for an evident rapport between females and males in mechanical movement Dumani and Stringa (1997). In a summarized way, the panorama of gender rapport in the city and in the villages, it is given from the following table, where for some age groups is introduced the male multiplier calculated according to some data about census of 1979, 2001, 2011 (Tab. 3).

Table. 3. Male multiplier according to age groups and dwelling place in Albania based on census of 1979, 1989 and 2011.

Age groups		Sex ratio					
Dwelling places		In the city			In the village		
Census		1979	1989	2011	1979	1989	2011
Number	General population	104	103	98.3	108	108	103
1	0-14 years old	107	109	110	108	109	108
2	15-29 years old	102	99.3	99.6	113	112	114
3	30-59 years old	111	106	94.6	110	111	95.8
4	60 years old & over	76.9	83.3	92.6	87.1	80.4	96.4

As it is showed in the table, the differences between the population structure according to the genders, between the city and the village it comes from the rapports created in the more active part of the labor age group forces and from the changes in the rapport males-females between the city and the village for the old age groups of population. It is quite clear that the last fact it express in a way or another life level, social position and the life average for the females. The long-term impact of mechanical movement from the village to the city and the role played from the demographic aging are visible even in that legitimacy which express the dependence of the rapport male-female from the numeric size of the city. With the increase of the numeric size of the city population, the structure according to the gender became more balanced on Bërxfholi (2001). A tendency of natural movement of the population, mechanical movement of demographic development show that in the future population structure according to the genders in our country will be improved. In this process, a primary role will be played the quick decrease of the infant mortality rate and increasing average age of the population (Tab. 4).

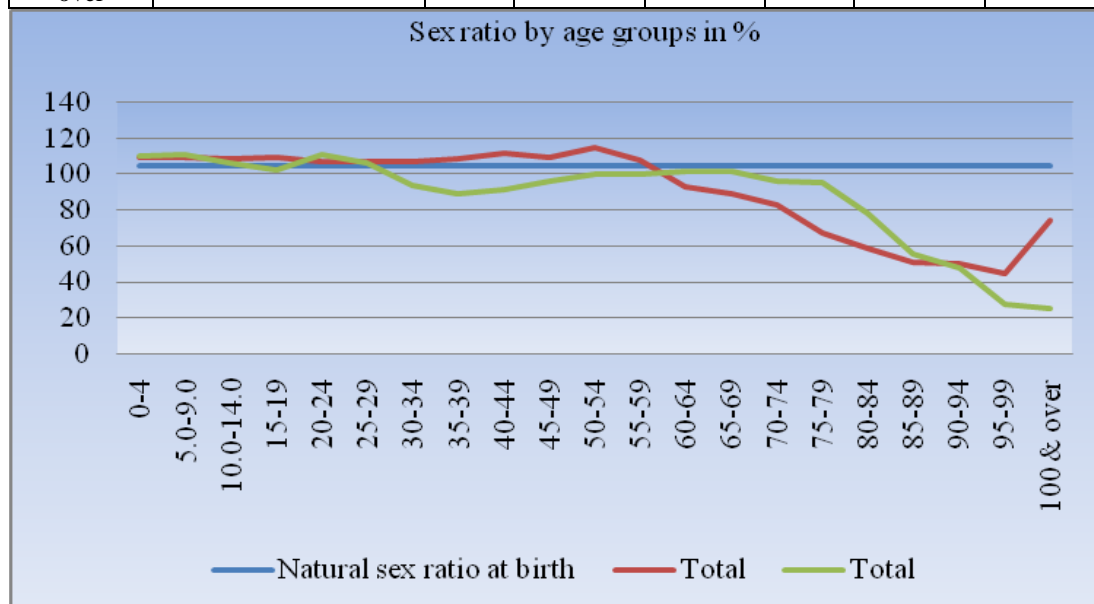
So for the general population in Albania (according to registration of 1989) for the age group 0-4 years old the male multiplayer is higher, in every 100 females there were 109.2 males. For the age group 55-59 years old this over passing of the male number is decreased up to a balancing point 107.4, while for the age group 65-69 years old is over passed in the prevalence of female multiplayer where for every 100 females there are 88.4 males. This multiplayer it became deeper for the age group 85-89 years old was for 100 females there were 51.0 males. It is to be noticed that differently from other European countries the male multiplayer in our country for the age group 20-40 years old is lower than that in the age group 40-44 years old, which is a result of fertile female mortality as the result of obligatory pro-birth by the state. While in the city prevail the number of females (per 100 females 98.3 males) in the village is dominant especially the male multiplayer (per 100 females over 103.0 males). This is a consequence of migration especially of the females married in the city. Naturally, balancing of gender structure of our population, as in other countries, cannot be reached in a very short time. For example during the period of time 1979- 1985, male multiplayer is decreased from 106.7 to 106.5 males per 100 females, while during the period of time 1989-2011 is decreased from 106.1 to 100.4 INSTAT (2002) and INSTAT (2004). Anyway, till this multiplayer will have the same value over 100, cannot overturn the rapport male-females of a general population (Fig. 2).

Table. 4. Sex ratio by age groups and residence, urban and rural area according to the census of 1989 and 2011.

Sex ratio by age groups	Total sex ratio		Urban area		Rural area	
	1989	2011	1989	2011	1989	2011
Total	106.1	100.4	103	98.3	107.8	103
0-4	109.3	110.2	109.1	111	109.4	109.4
5.0-9.0	109.1	111	109.6	112.3	108.9	109.7
10.0-14.0	108.2	106.6	108.5	106.8	108	106.4
15-19	108.9	102.1	107.8	98.5	109.4	106
20-24	106.8	110.9	95.8	101.6	112.7	122.8
25-29	106.5	106	95.6	98.7	113.9	115.6
30-34	106.6	94	102.1	91.6	110.2	96.9
35-39	108.4	89	103.4	89.4	112.8	88.5
40-44	111.1	91.2	110.4	91.6	111.5	90.7
45-49	108.9	96.3	108.7	95.7	109	97
50-54	114.4	100.1	112.9	100.8	115.4	99.2
55-59	107.4	100.2	104.2	97.6	109.6	103.8
60-64	92.5	101.7	98	100.4	88.8	103.3
65-69	88.4	101.5	93.3	96.7	85.6	107.6
70-74	82.6	96.3	77.7	94.4	85.2	98.5
75-79	67.4	95.4	62.1	92.3	70.2	99.3
80-84	58.3	78.5	48.8	76.3	63	81
85-89	51	55.6	47.1	60.7	52.7	50.3
90-94	49.6	47.5	46.1	55.2	51	41.4
95-99	44.5	27.4	33.6	25.1	48.5	29.2
100 & over	73.9	25.2	80.2	22.4	71.8	27.8

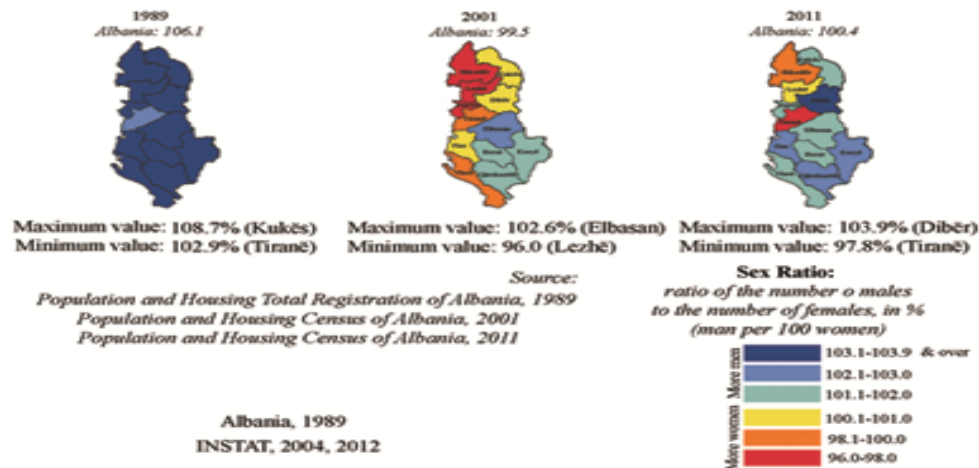
Figure. 2. Male rapport curve according to fifth ages in Albania based on the census of 1989 and 2011.

Sex ratio by age group	Natural sex ratio at birth	Year 1989			Year 2011		
		Total	Urban area	Rural area	Total	Urban area	Rural area
Total	105	106.1	103	107.8	100.4	98.3	103
0-4	105	109.3	109.1	109.4	110.2	111	109.4
5.0-9.0	105	109.1	109.6	108.9	111	112.3	109.7
10.0-14.0	105	108.2	108.5	108	106.6	106.8	106.4
15-19	105	108.9	107.8	109.4	102.1	98.5	106
20-24	105	106.8	95.8	112.7	110.9	101.6	122.8
25-29	105	106.5	95.6	113.9	106	98.7	115.6
30-34	105	106.6	102.1	110.2	94	91.6	96.9
35-39	105	108.4	103.4	112.8	89	89.4	88.5
40-44	105	111.1	110.4	111.5	91.2	91.6	90.7
45-49	105	108.9	108.7	109	96.3	95.7	97
50-54	105	114.4	112.9	115.4	100.1	100.8	99.2
55-59	105	107.4	104.2	109.6	100.2	97.6	103.8
60-64	105	92.5	98	88.8	101.7	100.4	103.3
65-69	105	88.4	93.3	85.6	101.5	96.7	107.6
70-74	105	82.6	77.7	85.2	96.3	94.4	98.5
75-79	105	67.4	62.1	70.2	95.4	92.3	99.3
80-84	105	58.3	48.8	63	78.5	76.3	81
85-89	105	51	47.1	52.7	55.6	60.7	50.3
90-94	105	49.6	46.1	51	47.5	55.2	41.4
95-99	105	44.5	33.6	48.5	27.4	25.1	29.2
100 & over	105	73.9	80.2	71.8	25.2	22.4	27.8



Natural sex ratio at birth is 105. This is explained from the genetic factors. In most important regions of our country the male rapport is higher than 1 and its lowest value is decreased regularly in function of age and in higher ages, its values are very low ones, under the impact of high male mortality rates (Fig. 3).

Figure. 3. Sex ratio for Albania according to general population census of 1989-2001 and 2011.



In a biological population, rapport of males for different groups express age effects (rapport of males in the birth process and rapport of higher mortality rate in different age groups) and of generation (history of generates and migratory movements). During the period of time 1950-2000, the indicator of births was decreased from 38 per 1000 inhabitants to 15 per 1000 inhabitants while the mortality indicator was decreased from 14 per 1000 inhabitants in 5 per 1000 inhabitants. With the decrease of fertility and the improvement of life average in the future years, but it counts many persons for the adult age groups. Two most important issues should be mentioned in relation to the distribution of the population according to the age groups in 2001. Firstly the immediate decrease of fertility is reflected in the decrease of the number of persons under 10 years old in the population pyramid, from 22.7% in 1989, up to 12.3% in 2011. Secondly, what is evident is the considerable decrease of persons who belong to age groups 20-40 years old from 32.8% in 1989, up to 27.4% in 2011.

Until 1990 Laçi and Sheme (2005) in Albanian population have prevailed males, which consisted in 51.3 % of it. Later as the result of intensive migration of males, gender structure had changes and actually is dominated from the females, which consist in 50.6 % of an inhabiting population in Albania. This comes mainly as the result of emigration outside in huge numbers in 1990, which affected indirectly in the fertility rate (making a difference between the genders in the reproduction age). It is known that happened a massive migration or a massive return of emigrants, male rapport is sensitive toward migrations and it change its value. As a conclusion, we can say that Albanian population is a young one since the fertility has been the main factor for the population changes till 1990. Anyway during 1990, emigration got a big role while defined the age gender section of the Albanian population. After 1990, the first factor was migration. After the collapse of the communist period, it was approved the law for free movement of people within and outside the country. Despite there are no proper data for the number of those who emigrated , comparing the data from the census and population assessment that will have if we based on natural growth is showed that after 1990 have emigrated around 1 million people. After

1990, it was increased the mechanical movement of population within the country from the village to the city but also from the mountainous areas to coastline areas. Migratory movements within the country brought the change of the population structure, according to the gender. Second factor it was a decrease of the fertility. Last years, fertility multiplier it was reduced in half and was decreased under the limit of 20 born people per 1000 inhabitants. On 1 October 2011, the usually resident population in Albania was 2821977. The population has declined around 8.0 percent, compared to the 2001 census, where the enumerated population was 3069275. During the inter-censal period 2001-2011 the number of births per year has decreased significantly, from about 53 thousand in 2001 to about 34 thousand in 2011, while the number of deaths per year has remained stable at around 20 thousand. This means a positive natural increase which is characterized by a declining trend. Under these conditions, the decline of fertility is supposed to be one of the factors that were involved in the population decline. The population of Albania started to decline from 1990, as a consequence of a massive emigration. During the inter-censal period, 2001-2011 is estimated that around 500 thousand persons emigrated. This fact is also supported by available migration data obtained from some of the main destination countries of Albanian emigrants, in terms of both stocks and flow data. The figure also shows that the number of children aged 0-9 that has been added to the population in ten years before the 2011 census is much smaller than the corresponding number that was born in the ten years before the 2001 census. The natural sex ratio at birth (the number of males per 100 females) is worldwide 105 while for Albania was 107.8. In 2001 for the very first time in the census history of Albania, a number of females were higher than the number of males. Females consisted in 50.1 % of the whole population in the country and the rapport of males it was 99.5 males per 100 females. In the young ages 15-40 years old, rapport of males was under 1, a fact which is related and explained from the migration process outside the country of the young ages; even ages over 70 years old this multiplier are under 1, this is explained by the fact of higher multipliers of mortality for males of all ages; this makes possible to have more females in older ages. According to some data taken from the census of general population in 1989, our country had 394 males more than females, meanwhile, according to the data taken from census of 2001, our country had 9 thousand females more than males Hana and Telo (2005), meanwhile in 2011 had 5980 males more than females. The main role in this big change is played from emigration. Round $\frac{3}{4}$ of migrants are males and only $\frac{1}{4}$ are females. The third consequence was the young age of the population. Data related to the role of different age groups of population in 1989 and 2001 are introduced as following (Tab. 5).

Table. 5. Composition of different age groups for population of Albania in percent for years 1979, 1989, 2001 and 2011.

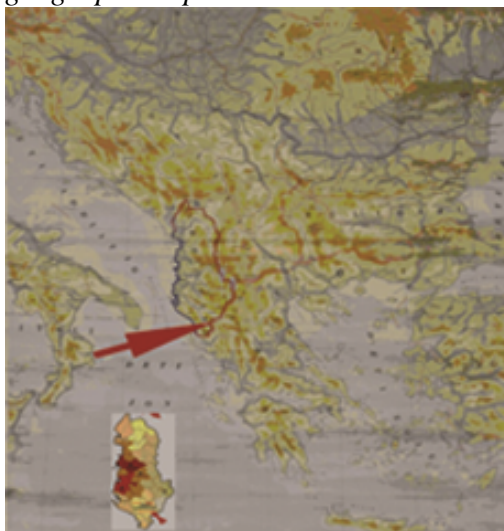
Composition of different age groups in percent					
Census		Years			
Number	Age groups	1979	1989	2001	2011
1	First age up to 15 years old	35.7	33	29.3	20.7
2	Second age 15-60 years old	57	59.2	59.5	63.3
3	Third age over 60 years old	7.3	7.8	11.2	16

All these data show how it was changed the composition of our population according to the age groups, it is decreased the role of first age group of population and it is increased the second and third age groups of population Albanian Association of Demographers (2005). In 2001, for the

very first time in the census history of Albania, the number of females over passed the number of males. In the young ages of infants, between 15- 40 years old there are more females than males (number of males for 100 females, which mean the multiplier of the aged population, over 70 years old. This happened because the adults in young age are those affected from the immigration process outside the country, where there is an evident prevail of males compared with the number of females. Surpluses of females in these two age groups compensate (let's say overpass) high number of boys toward girls during the birth process. In 2001, the role of population 0- 14 years old was 31.4% in rural areas and 26.4% in urban areas; the role of the population over 65 years old is respectively 7.1 % and 8.1 %. The rapport of young people toward adult people is deeply affected from the immigration process and is still 1, 1 with 1 for the rural area and only 0.8 with 1 for the urban areas. For the same reasons, the imbalance between males and females in adult ages is very evident in urban population than in rural population: around age 25 years old there are only 8 males per 10 females in the urban areas, in a time when for the rural population we still have the rapport 10 males per 10 females. Rapport infant vs. females of the age group 20 – 49 years old is affected more from the fertility level which is 0.48 in the villages and 0.35 in the cities Sheri (2006).

Gender Rapport of population in Albania in 1989 was 106.1 (so there were 106 males per 100 females –a young population) gender rapport in the birth process was 110.3 while gender rapport for the age group 60-64 years old was 92.5 Axhemi (2007). The major decrease of the sex ratio is after age 80, which is a common phenomenon as women have a higher life expectancy than men Dumani and Stringa (2009). The average age of the population increased from 30.6 years in 2001 to 35.3 in 2011. The old-age index, the proportion of population 65 years and over divided by total population, is higher than in any previous Albanian censuses; this value increased from 8.0 percent in 2001 to 11.0 percent in 2011. The substitution index, the proportion of the population under 15 years old divided by the total population, is reduced from 29.0 percent in 2001 to 21.0 percent in 2011. The prefecture of Gjirokastrë has the highest value in terms of old-age-dependency ratio, population 65 and over years old divided by the population 15-64 years old, which is 23.8 percent. For the first time, the population living in urban areas has exceeded the population living in rural areas. The resident population in urban areas was 53.5 per cent while 46.5 per cent of the population lived in rural areas. This shows that internal population movements have continued at high levels during the Census period 2001-2011 mainly from rural areas to urban areas. In comparison to the previous census, about 10.6 percent of the resident population has changed the place of usual residence within the country, while 4.0 percent declared that at the date of the previous census they were abroad. The prefecture of Gjirokastrë has the lowest figure of the number of private households with 3.4 household members. Structure of population according to gender in Gjirokastrë region. The area it is situated in the South East of Albania (Fig. 4).

Figure. 4. Map of geographical position in Albania and Gjirokastra region.



In 1989, Gjirokastra Region had 155998 inhabitants, consisting in 4.9% of the whole population in the country, in 2001, had 112831 inhabitants, consisting in 3.7% of the whole population in the country, meanwhile in 2011 Gjirokastra Region had 72176 inhabitants, consisting in 2.6% of the whole population in the country. Male multiplier is reduced from 107.0 % in 1989, up to 102.6% in 2011. It draws attention, reducing the role for the age group 0-14 years old and the increase of the role for the age groups 15-59 and over 60 years old, accompanying it with social-cultural consequences (minimizing of request for nursery and kindergartens, reduce of pupils number in the schools, the need for teachers etc.) (Tab.6).

Table. 6. Specific role of total urban and rural population according to the age groups in Gjirokastra Region according to the census of 1979, 1989 and 2001.

Years	Age groups in %	Prefecture		
		Total	Urban	Rural
1979	0-14	33.7	31.7	35.7
	15-59	58.1	61.5	54.7
	60 & over	8.2	6.8	9.6
1989	0-14	31.5	29.9	32.2
	15-59	59	62.1	57.6
	60 & over	9.5	8	10.2
2001	0-14	26.7	25.3	27.7
	15-59	59.7	62.1	58.2
	60 & over	13.6	12.6	14.1

During the period of time 1945-1989, in the conditions of a closed population , without impact of emigration, the pyramid of ages it was of progressive type with a wide base (population under 15years old consisted in 40%) narrow top (population over 50 years old consisted in 10%) (Fig.5).

Figure. 5. Histogram of vital ages pyramids in the rural area of the whole country and Gjirokastra region.



The population of the Region it was increased in a dynamic way, as the result of high fertility rate and low mortality rate (mainly for the districts of Tepelena and Përmet) (Fig. 6).

Figure. 6. Pyramid of Albanian age according to population and housing census 2011.

Year 2011	Rural population	
Age grup	Males	Females
0-4	-41868	38266
5.0-9.0	-47020	42851
10.0-14.0	-60693	57031
15-19	-68462	64592
20-24	-62515	50903
25-29	-46582	40295
30-34	-36572	37750
35-39	-35494	40101
40-44	-40096	44204
45-49	-43130	44449
50-54	-43336	43700
55-59	-34994	33705
60-64	-28878	27962
65-69	-24567	22838
70-74	-20934	21255
75-79	-14404	14506
80-84	-7276	8981
85-89	-2348	4665
90-94	-985	2378
95-99	-187	641
100+	-47	169

multiplier for the age group 20-24 years old, which in the table shows the decrease with 9.2% toward that of 1989. Gender structure varies depending in altitude above the sea level: in rural dwelling places of high altitudes the male multiplier is high (110.9%, because the population is younger and the average age is lower. (Fig. 8)

Figure. 8. Map of gender structure in Gjirokastra region.



Conclusions

The starting point of all strategies is the population, because there it is the source of labor forces according to the age, gender etc, and from one point and from the other points its needs for products and services. Gender structure of population, with its balances or imbalances, affect the whole economic life of the country, in the volume of labor forces resources, since the increase of male multiplier it increase the economic activity level of population, in the mass of loading from the most active economically part of the population, in setting and distribution of branches or economic objects and in social organization, related to the role of males and females in family and social life. In 1989, Albania it was a close society with a pre-planned economy and a totalitarian political system. Twelve years later in the moment of a census for the general population and dwelling places in 2001, Albanian it was introduced as an open country. Transition process it was very difficult. It was overloaded from the crises of a financial system and the Kosovo crises, which brought huge fluxes of refugees. Nowadays, Albania, it is progressing in a quite situation, the process of changes it is on its way and still show many challenges for the entire country and at the same time its population. Data taken from the census of 2001 show such change together with other respective consequences for Albanian population, the economy, and society. One of the most distinguished features it was emigration outside the borders as the result of opening the borders. Hundred thousand Albanians left their country to look for a better job and better life conditions in neighborhood countries and other European countries and overseas. Immigration brought reducing of Albanian population in the period of time between two censuses in the mass of -3.6%, despite the fact that natural growth it remained in high rates, balancing strongly the gender structure of population.

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