

Fertility

The absolute number of births in 2010 decrease compared to 2009. There are 76 105 births registered and 75 513 (99.2%) of them are live born. Compared to the previous year, the number of live born children decreases by 5 443 and compared to 2008 - by 2 199 children. Despite the decrease registered compared to the last two years, the number of live born children remains at the level of 2007 and is bigger compared to each of the years within the period 1995-2007.

The crude birth rate¹ in 2010 is e 10.0%, compared to 10.7% and 10.2% in 2009 and 2008 respectively.

The number of live born males (38 836) is by 2 159 higher than of live born females (36 677), or to 1 000 males correspond 944 females.

There are 57 077 live born children in urban areas and 18 436 - in rural. The younger age structure of the urban population and the higher number of fertile contingents define the higher natality of urban population – 10.6 live born children per 1 000 urban population, compared to 8.6 live born children per 1 000 population in rural areas. The respective coefficients in 2009 are 11.2 и 9.3%.

1. Crude birth rate and natural increase rate

Years	Birth rate (per 1000 population)	Natural increase (per 1000 population)	Total fertility rate
1990	12.1	-0.4	1.81
1995	8.6	-5.0	1.23
2001	8.6	-5.6	1.24
2005	9.2	-5.4	1.31
2006	9.6	-5.1	1.38
2007	9.8	-5.0	1.42
2008	10.2	-4.3	1.48
2009	10.7	-3.5	1.57
2010	10.0	-4.6	1.49

The highest is the crude birth rate in the following districts: Sliven - 12.4%, Sofia cap. - 11.9%, Varna - 11.5%, Burgas - 10.7%, Targovishte - 10.5% and Kardzhali - 10.4%. The lowest fertility in 2010 is observed in districts Kyustendil and Vidin - 7.6 and 7.8% respectively.

The natality in Bulgaria during the last five years is at the level observed in number of European countries² like Greece, Switzerland, Romania, Malta and Hungary. Lowest natality is observed in

¹ Number of live born children per 1 000 persons of the average annual population during the year.

² In international comparisons, data on the other countries concern 2009; source: Eurostat web page - <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/>.

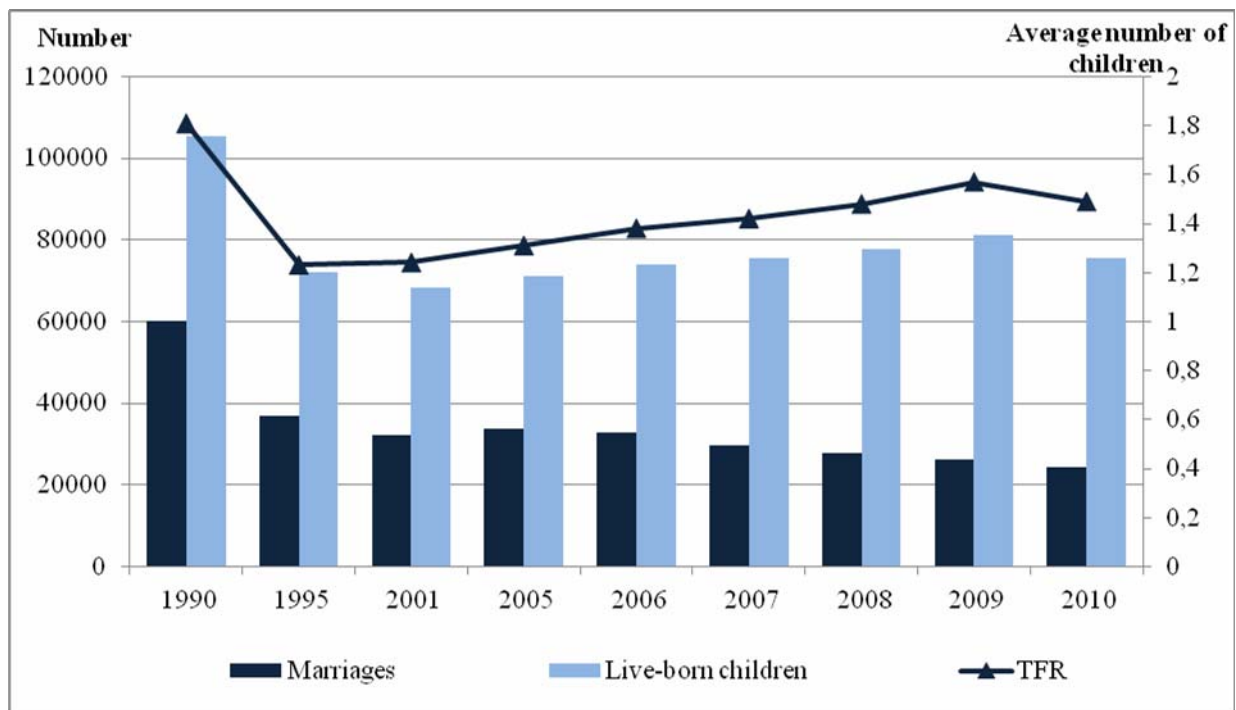


Germany, Austria, Italy and Portugal – less than 10.0%. The highest natality level amongst the European countries is observed in Ireland (16.7%), France and Great Britain (12.8%).

Crude birth rate for the European Union (27) is 10.7% according to the 2009 Eurostat data.

The higher fertility level during the last years is mainly due to the increase of the total fertility rate³. The TFR in 2005 is 1.31 children, compared to 1.48 - in 2008, 1.57 - in 2009 and 1.49 - in 2010. **The values of the TFR during the last three years are the highest since 1991 when it is 1.65 children.** It should be taken into account that the number of women in fertile age decrease and the TFR increase, which means that the increased number of births is mainly due to the postponed births as well as to births of children of a higher rank.

Figure 1. Marriages and live born children; TFR



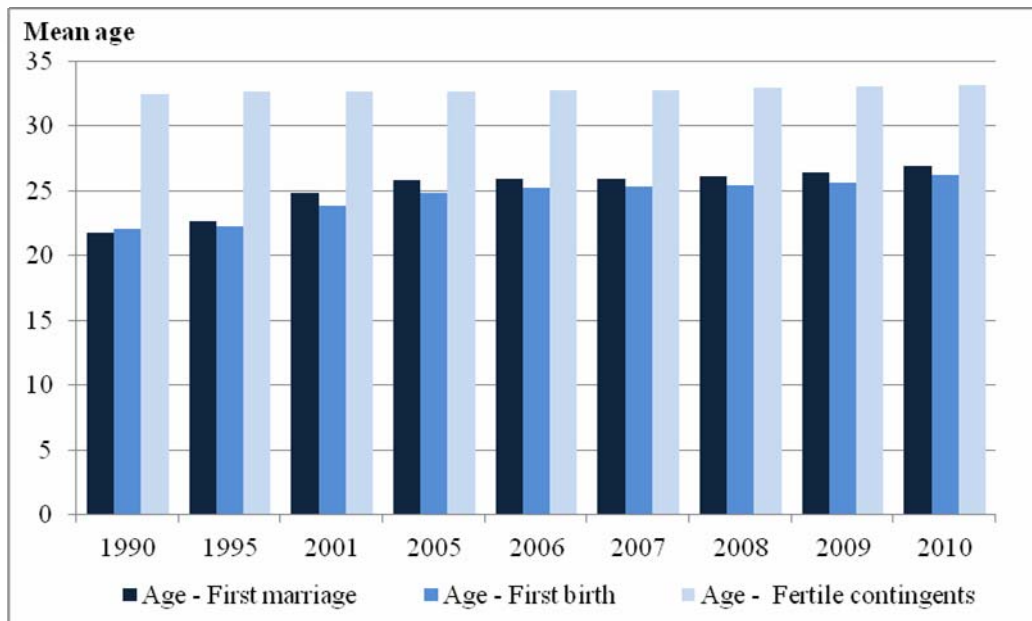
The TFR for the European Union (27) is 1.60 children in 2008.

The tendencies of increase of the mean age of women at birth of a first child and at first marriage continue in 2010 - 26.2 and 26.9 years respectively. The respective values in 1995 are 22.2 and 22.6 years and in 2001 - 23.8 and 24.8 years.

³ Average number of live born children, whom a mother would give birth to during her entire fertile period according to the age specific fertility rates during the reporting year.



Figure 2. Mean age of women at first marriage, at birth of first child and of fertile contingents



Highest number of multi-foetal births since 1960 is registered in 2010 - 1 244 births. In 1 191 cases, there are two children born and in 53 – three children. Compared to 2009, there are 24 multi-foetal births more.

A tendency started since 1991 of an increase of the absolute number and share of extramarital births. Share of extramarital births continuously increase from 18.5% in 1992 to 42.1% in 2001 and 53.4% in 2009. The number of children born outside marriage in 2010 is 40 850 or 54.1%.

The high extramarital fertility is due to the considerable increase of the number of cohabiting without legal marriage young people.

In 68% of the cases of extramarital birth, there are data on the father, which means that most probably these children are grow up in families, by parents living in consensual union, without marriage.

Mortality

Mortality in 2010 increase compared to the previous year. Number of dead persons is 110 165 or 2 097 higher than in 2009. **The crude mortality rate⁴ (14.6‰) has increased by 0.4‰.**

Mortality continues to be higher amongst male population (15.8‰) than amongst female (13.5‰) and higher in rural areas (20.7‰) than in urban (12.2‰).

2. Mortality, infant mortality and premature mortality coefficients

Years	Mortality - ‰	Infant mortality - ‰	Premature mortality coefficients - ‰
1990	12.5	14.8	29.7
1995	13.6	14.8	28.3

⁴ Number of deaths per 1 000 persons of the average annual population during the same year.



2001	14.2	14.4	25.2
2005	14.6	10.4	24.6
2006	14.7	9.7	24.6
2007	14.8	9.2	24.1
2008	14.5	8.6	24.1
2009	14.2	9.0	24.4
2010	14.6	9.4	23.4

The highest mortality is observed in districts Vidin (22.4‰), Montana (20.5‰) and Vratsa (18.6‰), while the lowest in districts Kardzhali - 11.1‰, Sofia cap. - 11.8‰ and Blagoevgrad - 12.0‰.

Mortality in Bulgaria is still higher compared to the European countries. Lowest mortality is observed in Cyprus and Ireland - 6.5‰ and in Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, France and Spain – below 9.0‰. In the bigger number of the European countries the mortality varies between 9.0 and 10.4‰. In Romania, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania and Latvia the mortality is between 12.0 and 13.3‰.

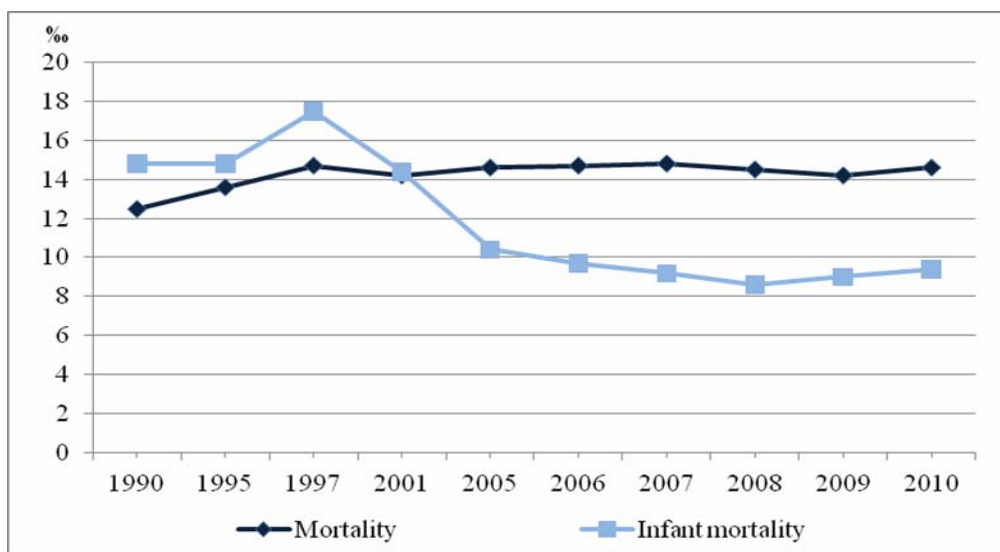
Mortality for the European Union (27) is 9.7‰ according to the 2009 Eurostat data.

The premature mortality decreases⁵ to 23.4% in 2010. During the previous years it is higher - 28.3% in 1995, 25.2% in 2001 and 24.4 % in 2009. **Premature mortality in Bulgaria is twice higher amongst male - 30.9%, than amongst female - 15.2%. High mortality level in the country is mainly due to the deaths of people over 65 years of age.**

Premature mortality for the European Union (27) is nearly 22% in 2008.

A stable tendency of decrease of the infant mortality started after 1997. There are 708 deaths of children up to 1 year in 2010. Compared to the previous year their number decreases by 21. **The infant mortality coefficient is 9.4‰⁶**, or 0.4‰ higher than in 2009 due to the lower number live births. The infant mortality level during the last four years is the highest in the country demographic development.

Figure 3. Coefficient of mortality and infant mortality



⁵ Share of people who die below 65 years of age of the total number of dead

⁶ Number of dead children at the age below 1 year per 1 000 live born children.



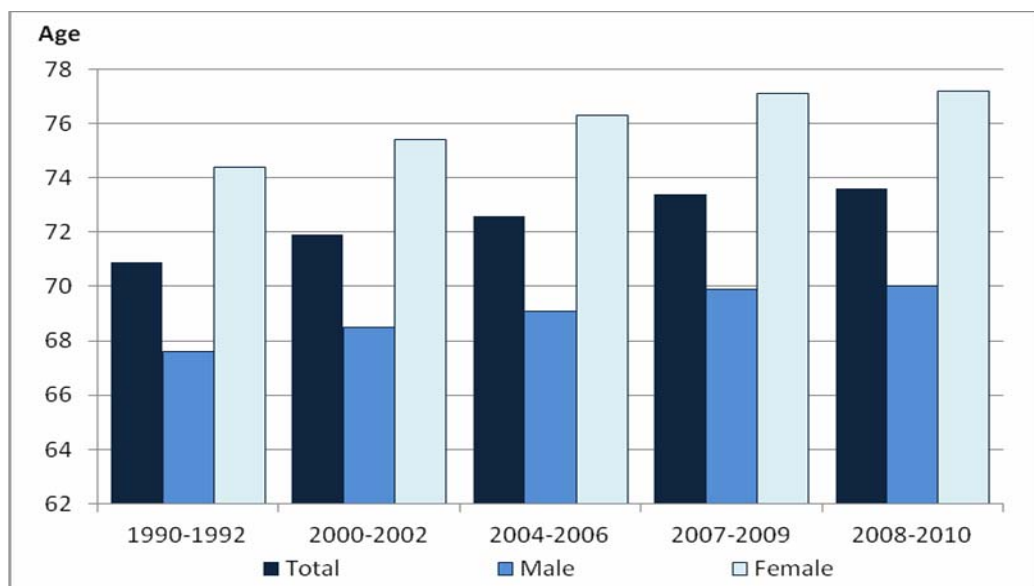
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No matter the positive tendency of decrease of the infant mortality it stays **higher than in the European countries**. In most of the European countries the infant mortality is below 7.0‰ and the lowest is in Slovenia - 2.4‰, Luxembourg and Sweden - 2.5‰, Finland - 2.6‰ and Check Republic - 2.9‰. Higher than in Bulgaria is the infant mortality in Romania only (10.1‰).

Infant mortality for the European Union (27) is 4.3‰ according to the 2009 Eurostat data.

Life expectancy at birth within the period 2008-2010 is 73.6 years or 0.2 years higher than within the period 2007 – 2009. Life expectancy for male population is 70.0 years and seven years higher for female - 77.2 years.

Figure 4. Life expectancy by sex and periods



Life expectancy for urban population is 74.0 years and for rural - 72.3 years.

In some European countries like Latvia and Lithuania, the life expectancy **for male population** is lower; in Hungary, Romania and Estonia it is almost equal to the calculated for Bulgaria. The life expectancy is higher in the rest countries and reaches 79 years. Life expectancy **of female population** in Romania only is close to the Bulgarian. The life expectancy of female population in Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Slovakia, Estonia, Poland and Check Republic is between 78 and 80 years. In all the rest European countries the life expectancy is over 80 years and in France, Spain and Switzerland - over 84 years.

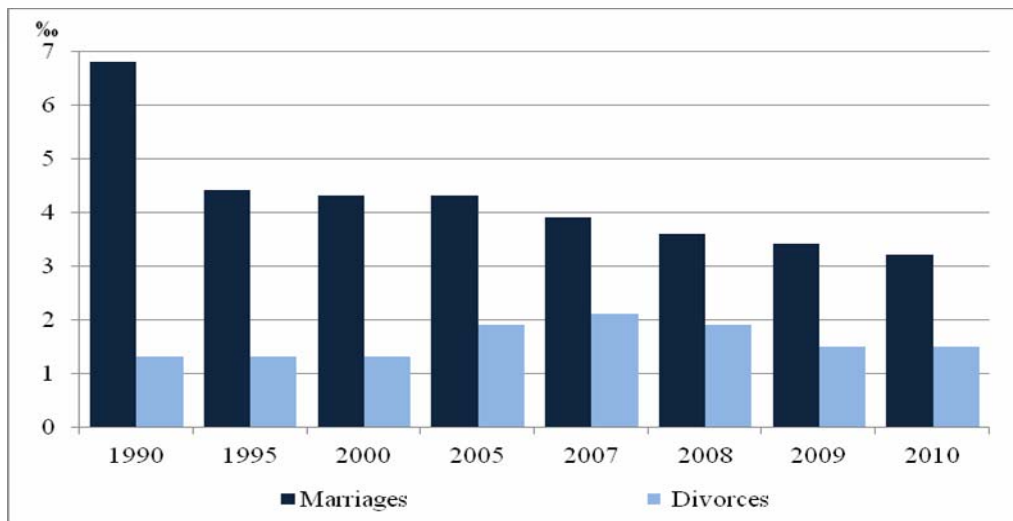
Life expectancy for the European Union (27) is 76.4 years for male and 82.4 years for female according to the 2008 Eurostat data.

Marriages and divorces

Number of marriages continues to decrease in 2010. There are 24 286 juridical marriages registered or 1 637 less than during the previous year. 79.3% (19 262) of them concern the urban population. There are 5 024 marriages in rural areas. The decrease of number of juridical marriages is due to the fact that young people prefer to live in consensual unions, without juridical marriage.



Figure 5. Coefficient of marriages and divorces



Mean age at first marriage continue to increase: amongst male it increases from 28.1 years in 2001 to 29.6 years in 2009 and 30.0 years in 2010. The respective figures for females are: - 24.8, 26.4 and - 26.9 years.

The number of registered in 2010 divorces is 11 012 or 650 less than in 2009. Nearly 84% of them referred to the urban population. Highest is the number of divorces by mutual agreement - 64%, due to incompatibility of temperament - 25% and virtual parting - about 6%. Other reasons refer to 5% of divorces.

For the last seven years, the average duration of the marriage up to the divorce is about 14 years.

Internal and international migration

There are 151 694 persons who changed their residence within the country in 2010 or nearly 16 thousand more compared to the previous year.

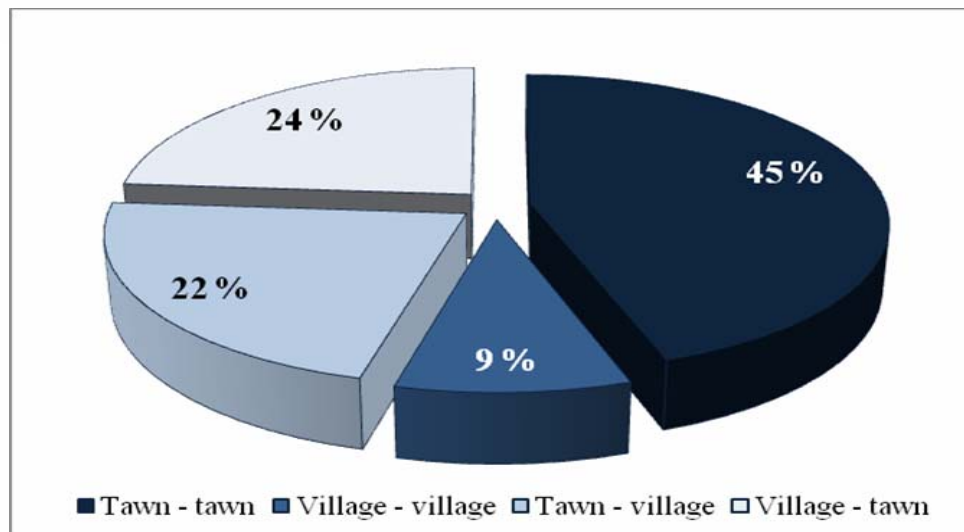
Amongst the migrants within the country 48% are male and 52% - female.

Highest is the share of internal migrants aged 20 – 39 years – 40%, followed by persons below 20 years of age – 25%. Considerably lower (18%) is the share of internal migrants aged 40 – 59 years and 60 years and over – almost 17%.

Highest is the flow directed from one to another city (45%). Considerably lower is the number and share of the flow “village – village” (9%). The number of people who migrated from the villages to the cities (24%) is higher compared to the opposite flow “city – village” (22%).



Figure 6. Direction of the internal migration

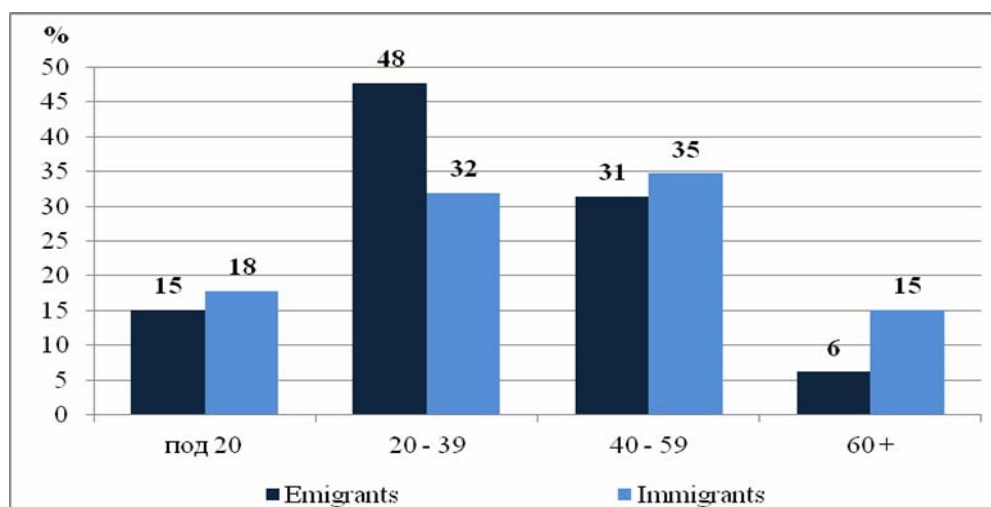


As a result of migration between cities and villages, the rural population decreased by 2 413 persons and the urban one increased with the same number of people.

27 708 persons declare change of their current address in Bulgaria with address abroad in 2010. Nearly 45% of them are male and 55% - female. Nearly 48% of emigrants are aged 20 to 39 years. Emigrants aged 40 - 59 years are 31%. The youngest emigrants (under 20 years) are 15% and the emigrants over 60 years of age are nearly 6%.

According to the Bulgarian legislation, the Bulgarian citizens who predominantly reside abroad declare their current address in the respective country through a Registration form for issuing (respectively reissuing) of Bulgarian identity documents. In this respect, the processed in 2010 notifications for change of the address in Bulgaria with an address abroad concern persons who have leaved the country before 2010, but the term of validity of their identity documents expire during 2010 i.e. these are emigrants.

Figure 7. Structure of emigrants and immigrants by age





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There are 3 518 persons who changed their address abroad with an address in Bulgaria in 2010 - the immigration flow includes Bulgarian citizens who return in the country and citizens of other countries, granted permission for permanent stay in Bulgaria. Male represent 54% of the total number of immigrants and female – 46%. Nearly 32% of immigrants are aged 20 – 39 years and 35% - 40 – 59 years. The youngest immigrants (under 20 years) are 18% and the immigrants over 60 years of age - 15%.

According to the NSI sample survey on passengers across the borders nearly 59% of emigrants leave the country due to permanent employment reasons, 20% - due to continuation of education and 13% - due to marriage, change of residence or other.

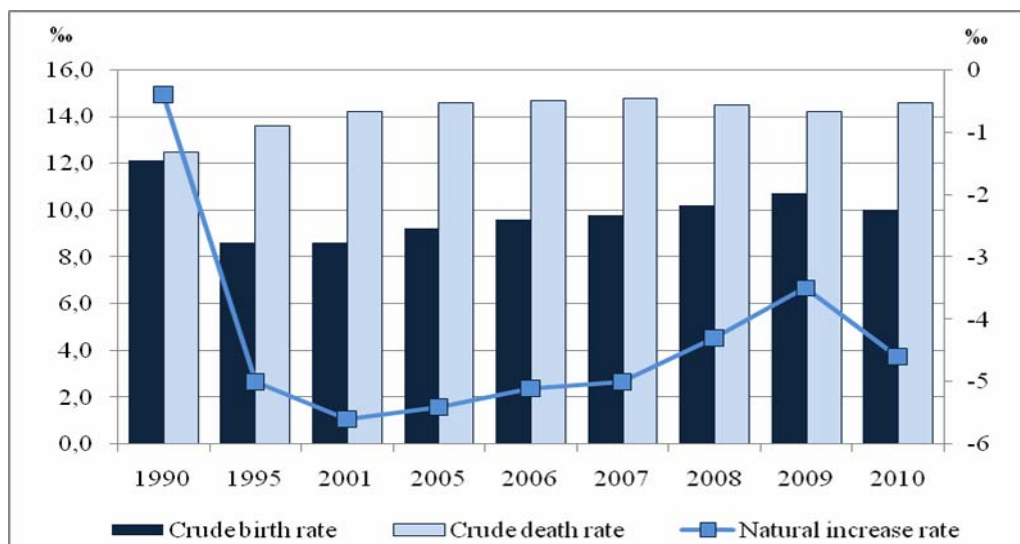
Nearly 16% of immigrants migrate to Bulgaria due to current employment and 12% - due to educational purposes. Considerably higher is the share of persons who migrate to Bulgaria due to change of residence, marriage or other reason – 67%.

Natural and migration growth of population

The population number and structures are defined by the size and intensity of the natural and migration movement.

The difference between births and deaths represents the natural increase of population. The demographic development of the country after 1990 is characterized by negative natural increase. **The natural increase of population in 2010 is minus 34 652 persons.** The population decreased by minus 4.6‰⁷. During the previous year the natural growth rate is minus 3.5‰, or the increase by 1.1‰ is registered. The natural increase rate continue to be quite high in the rural areas – minus 12.1‰, compared to minus 1.6‰ in the urban areas, which means that the decrease of the country population as a result of the natural growth is mainly due to the negative demographic tendencies in the rural areas.

Figure 8. Fertility, mortality and natural increase



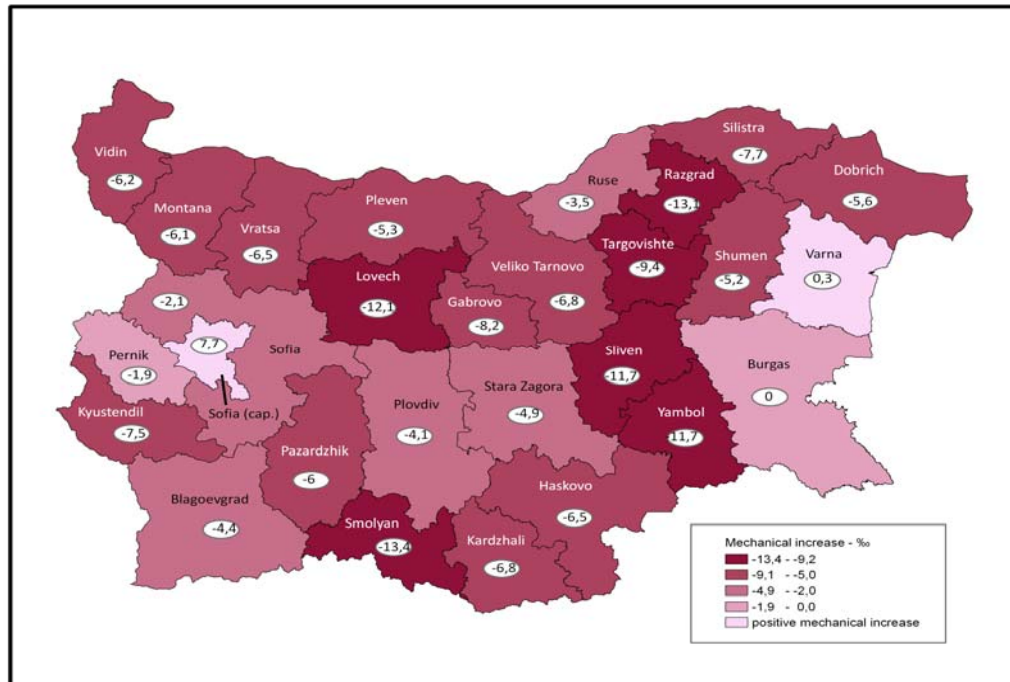
In 2010 the only one district which has a positive natural increase is district Sofia cap. (0.1‰).

Lowest negative values of the natural increase (under minus 2.0‰) are observed in districts Kardzhali (-0.7‰), Varna (-1.1‰) and Blagoevgrad (-1.7‰). Highest population decrease due to the negative natural increase is observed in districts Vidin, Montana and Vratsa, where the respective values are minus 14.6, minus 12.2 and minus 10.3‰.

⁷ Difference between the number of live births and number of deaths per 1 000 of the average annual population.



**Figure 9. Natural increase of the population
(Per 1 000 of the population)**



There are number of countries in Europe, where the natural increase rate is negative, but the values are lower compared to Bulgaria. In Austria, Estonia, Italy, Portugal, Rumania, Lithuania, Germany and Hungary the values vary from minus 0.1‰ to minus 3.4‰. All the rest European countries have positive natural increase. Values vary from 0.9 to 1.5‰ in Greece, Poland, Check Republic, Denmark, Slovenia and Slovakia; from 2.0 and 3.7‰ in Finland, Sweden, Belgium, Spain, Nederland and Great Britain. Comparatively higher positive natural increase is observed in Luxembourg (4.0‰), France (4.1‰) and Cyprus (5.5‰). Highest is the natural increase in Ireland (10.2‰).

Natural increase rate for the European Union (27) is 1.0‰.

Net migration (growth due to international migration) influences considerably the population number and structures. Net migration in 2010 is negative – minus 24 190 persons. The last is the difference between the number of persons who declared current address abroad and number of persons who declared current address in Bulgaria. Population decrease due to the international migration measured through the coefficient of net migration is 3.2‰⁸.

Due to the internal and international migration the urban population decreased by 17 463 persons and the rural – by 6 727.

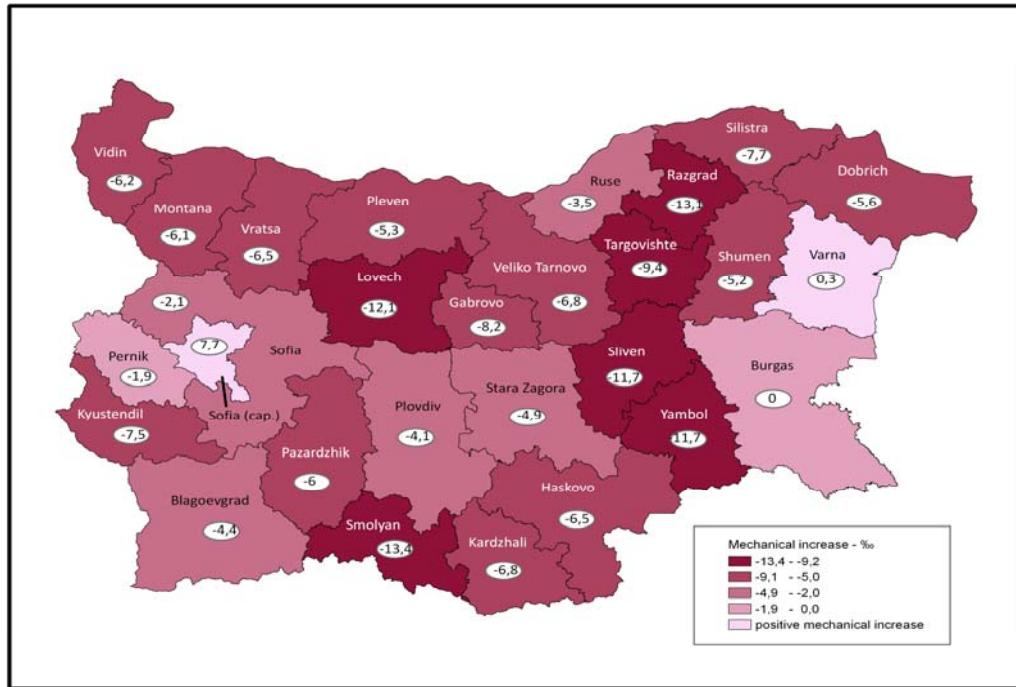
In 2010 districts Sofia cap. and Varna only have positive migration growth - 7.7 and 0.3‰ respectively.

Highest population decrease due to the negative migration growth have the following districts: Smolyan (-13.4‰), Razgrad (-13.1‰) and Lovech (-12.1‰). Lowest is the decrease in districts Burgas (0.0‰), Pernik (-1.9‰) and Sofia (-2.1‰).

⁸ Ratio of the net migration to the average annual population.



**Figure 10. Mechanical increase of the population
(Per 1 000 of the population)**



The overall analysis of the development of demographic processes shows that the main problems of the country demographic developments still are the high mortality rate and comparatively lower life expectancy compared to the other European countries, as well as the negative international migration growth.